Off-momentum cleaning simulations and measurements at the Large Hadron Collider

Hector Garcia Morales^{a,b,d}, Roderik Bruce^b, Stefano Redaelli^b, Belen Salvachua^b, Joel Wretborn^b, Kyrre Ness Sjobak^{b,c}

^aRoyal Holloway University of London, Egham, United Kingdom
 ^bCERN, Geneva, Switzerland
 ^cDepartment of Physics, University of Oslo, 0316 Oslo, Norway
 ^dcurrently at University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom

Abstract

The Large Hadron Collider is designed to collide proton beams with unprecedented energy in order to extend the frontiers of high-energy physics. Particles that have an energy different from the nominal one follow dispersive orbits and, if the energy offset is large enough, could be lost on the cold aperture and cause quenches of superconducting magnets. Therefore, particles with large energy offsets must be removed from the beam by the collimation system. Although the dynamics of such particles is well understood and the efficiency of the momentum cleaning is evaluated in measurements, in the past, there were not general simulations tools available for predicting the efficiency of the collimation system in scenarios where off-momentum particles are involved. In this paper we present a new set of tools to simulate off-momentum losses, the benchmarking of these tools with measurements and the evaluation of off-momentum losses in the future LHC upgrade, the HL-LHC. These new simulation tools are applied for simulating two of the main scenarios where off-momentum particles play an important role in the LHC: particles lost at the start of the energy ramp and simulations of the momentum cleaning at 6.5 TeV energy. In this study, the collimation process during dynamic changes in the machine is simulated, as opposed to previous studies in static conditions. This is the first time that this

Email address: hector.garcia.morales@cern.ch (Hector Garcia Morales)

sort of comparison between different simulation methods and measurements is performed. The results are used to provide a better understanding the dynamics of such particles and, finally, these tools are used to estimate the influence of off-momentum losses in the future High-Luminosity LHC.

1 1. Introduction

The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) [1, 2] is designed to collide 7 TeV protons and heavy ions with equivalent magnetic rigidity. The total stored energy 3 in the proton beam reaches about 362 MJ. For the upgrade of the LHC, the high-luminosity LHC (HL-LHC) project [3], an increase of the stored energy 5 to almost 700 MJ is foreseen. Even a small fraction of particles lost in the 6 superconducting aperture could quench a magnet. Therefore, all beam losses need to be tightly controlled. For this purpose, a multi-stage collimation sys-8 tem [4, 5, 6, 7, 8] was installed in order to intercept unavoidable beam losses in 9 a safe way. Unlike other high-energy colliders, where the main purpose of the 10 collimation system is to reduce experimental background, the LHC requires col-11 limation during all stages of operation to protect its elements. Out of the eight 12 Insertion Regions (IRs) of the LHC, two are used for beam collimation, also 13 known as beam cleaning: IR3 is devoted to momentum collimation and IR7 is 14 devoted to betatron cleaning. In both sections a multi-stage system is installed. 15 The multi-stage system is based on carbon-fiber-composite (CFC) primary col-16 limators (TCP) to intercept the primary halo. Three TCPs are installed in 17 IR7 (one per transverse plane and one skew) and one in the horizontal plane 18 in IR3. In both cases, TCPs are followed by a series of secondary collimators 19 (TCSGs), also made of CFC and installed downstream to absorb the secondary 20 halo particles produced by the interaction of the primary halo with the primary 2 collimator. Particles scattered by the TCSGs are directed to tungsten-based 22 absorbers (TCLA). Finally, additional protection is installed around the exper-23 imental insertions where tungsten collimators (TCTs) offer extra protection to 24 the inner triplet magnets [9, 10] and background control [11]. Identical colli-25

²⁶ mation setups are implemented on both counter-rotating beams, called Beam 1 (D1) = 1.D = -2. (D2)

 $_{27}$ (B1) and Beam 2 (B2).

The momentum cleaning section in IR3 is designed to intercept particles with large enough momentum deviation before they reach momentum bottlenecks anywhere else around the ring like, for instance, locations with high dispersion such like arcs. For that reason, the TCP is located at a high dispersion location in the horizontal plane while keeping a relatively low β -function as can be seen in Fig. 1 for B1.

34

The cleaning performance of the LHC has been excellent in the first two 35 runs up to 6.5 TeV. Before high-intensity beam is allowed in the machine, the 36 collimation cleaning performance is qualified by inducing controlled beam losses 37 on a safe low-intensity beam and observing the resulting loss distribution at the 38 beam loss monitors (BLMs) around the ring [12, 13]. This is called a loss map. 39 This essential validation is done at the different stages of the operational cycle. 40 In addition to the qualification of the betatron collimation cleaning inef-41 ficiency (via exciting beam particles to large transverse amplitudes), the off-42 momentum cleaning performance is qualified by off-momentum loss maps, where 43 losses are induced via a shift on the RF frequency. Contrary to betatron clean-44 ing, off-momentum cleaning in the LHC has never been simulated in detail before 45 apart from the studies of losses from synchrotron radiation damping shown in 46 [14].47

In this paper, we consider two relevant scenarios where off-momentum losses 48 are involved. In the first scenario, losses occurring during the first seconds at 49 the start of the energy ramp of the beams in the LHC are simulated via a dy-50 namic change in the reference energy of the particles. We evaluate the impact 51 of off-momentum losses in the LHC as well as its future upgrade the HL-LHC. 52 In the second scenario, we simulate induced off-momentum losses using an RF 53 frequency shift as it is applied in the real machine to obtain off-momentum loss 54 maps to validate the performance of the LHC momentum cleaning. This also 55 represents what happens in case of RF errors which the momentum cleaning 56



Figure 1: Optical function β_x and horizontal dispersion D_x at the momentum collimation insertion IR3 (top) and betatron collimation section IR7 (bottom) for the LHC 2017 B1 flattop optics configuration. Similar optics are found for B2. The red line represents the location of the primary collimator in each insertion.

system protects against. In general, for the first time, we simulate the collimation process during dynamic changes in the machine, as opposed to previous studies in static conditions. These simulations provide essential information about the momentum cleaning performance not only of the present LHC but also for future configurations and upgrades.

The paper is divided in four main sections. In Sec. 2, we describe the simula-62 tions tools developed for off-momentum simulation studies and their capabilities 63 as well as the details of the different scenarios considered later in the paper. In 64 Sec. 3, we present studies related to the losses observed at the start of the ramp, 65 following a detailed analysis of the recorded operational losses from the 2016 66 run. The off-momentum distribution at the start of the ramp was empirically 67 fit using measured data from beam loss monitors and simulations. In Sec. 4 we 68 present the results of applying the new set of tools to off-momentum cleaning 69 simulations. These simulations are essential to understand the behavior and 70 the abundance of off-momentum particles in the LHC at the different stages. 71 In Sec. 5 simulations and projections of off-momentum related losses in the 72 HL-LHC are presented. 73

74 2. Simulation tools

In order to reproduce with enough accuracy the dynamics of the particles 75 circulating in the ring, realistic tracking simulation tools are required. The 76 SixTrack code [15, 7, 16, 17] is extensively used to study the beam dynamics 77 in the LHC. It is a multi-turn tracking code, which takes the 6D phase space 78 into account in a symplectic manner. SixTrack performs a thin-lens element-by-79 element tracking through the magnetic lattice, including high-order multipoles. 80 When a particle enters a collimator, a built-in Monte Carlo code is used to 81 simulate the particle-matter interaction. Multiple Coulomb scattering and ion-82 83 ization energy loss are accounted for, as well as several point-like processes such as nuclear elastic scattering, nuclear inelastic scattering, single diffractive scat-84 tering and Rutherford scattering. A particle is considered lost either when it 85

hits the aperture or when it interacts inelastically inside a collimator. The particle trajectories are checked for possible impacts using an aperture model with
10 cm longitudinal resolution along the 27 km circumference.

Extensive simulation campaigns are carried out for evaluating the cleaning 89 performance of the LHC collimation system using SixTrack. In the past, beta-90 tron losses have been studied in detail and the simulation output, containing loss 91 locations around the ring, have been compared and benchmarked to measure-92 ments [7]. Other applications of SixTrack are the simulation of LHC extraction 93 failures [10], beam-induced experimental backgrounds [18] and recent studies on 94 beam induced background during high- β^* run at injection [19]. For simulations 95 of beam cleaning, the starting conditions are particle coordinates in the halo, 96 which have already an amplitude large enough to hit a collimator. Typically, at 97 least 6.4×10^6 halo protons are tracked for 200 turns. The simulation output 98 contains the coordinates of all loss locations, which can be used either to di-99 rectly assess the loss pattern and the cleaning efficiency, or as inputs to further 100 simulation studies, e.g. of energy deposition. 101

To simulate the different scenarios involved in the study, namely losses at the 102 start of the energy ramp and off-momentum cleaning, a turn-by-turn variation 103 of the parameters of different machine elements is required. Using the DYNK 104 module [20] in SixTrack, these parameters can be easily modified. The goal 105 of the DYNK module is to make it possible to change ring element settings 106 on a turn-by-turn basis. Many different parameters can be changed, such as 107 magnet strengths, accelerating cavity parameters or global parameters such as 108 the reference energy. The processes we want to reproduce would require the 109 simulation of a large number of turns and thus a large amount of computing 110 time. For this reason, we have considered different approaches with the aim to 111 speed up the simulation process without losing accuracy in the prediction. 112

113 2.1. Full simulation

In this first approach, simulations reproduce the same amount of turns the procedure takes in the actual machine. Both losses at the start of the ramp

and off-momentum cleaning simulations aim at reproducing the order of 10-15 116 seconds in the machine. This time correspond to more than 10^5 turns in the 117 LHC. This amount of turns represents a factor 1000 the amount of turns used 118 for betatron cleaning simulations. Machine parameters described above in each 119 case are modified accordingly on the same timescale as in the real machine. 120 This approach is the closest in accuracy to the actual process that takes place 121 in the machine, but at the same time is computationally expensive and, in some 122 cases, prohibitive. New developments in parallelization using GPUs are being 123 implemented and could be used in the future to reduce the computation time 124 required, which are not considered in this study. 125

126 2.2. Reduced simulation

In this second approach, we have reduced the number of simulated turns to 127 a maximum of 10^4 , a factor 10 less than the previous case. The purpose of this 128 change is to gain computation time. In this case the reference energy or the RF 129 frequency is still changed dynamically but over a smaller number of simulated 130 turns, i.e. parameter variations in one simulation turn are equivalent to several 131 real turns around the machine. All modified parameters are scaled down to the 132 reduced number of turns. Therefore, the change per turn is larger than in the 133 previous case. Since we are altering the physics involved, we have checked that 134 the results are still compatible with those obtained in a more realistic scenario. 135 Therefore, this was found to be a good compromise between simulation speed 136 and accuracy of the results. The details on the implementation are described in 137 the next sections. 138

139 2.3. Pencil-beam simulation

In this case, the increase in momentum offset over many turns is not simulated. Instead, the initial beam is sampled directly at the face of the primary momentum collimator in IR3, following the regular phase-space distribution matched with the machine optics. The sampling is done taking into account

a realistic momentum shift in order to introduce an off-momentum orbit cor-144 responding to an impact parameter¹ of about 1 μ m at the collimator, where 145 all particles interact in the first turn. The main advantage of this method is 146 that it is very fast. Only a maximum of 200 turns are tracked and turns where 147 no losses occur are avoided. The main drawback is that the dynamics as well 148 as the losses produced while the beam is approaching the collimator cut are 149 simplified. In addition, effects from non-linearities are highly suppressed for 150 particles impacting on primary collimator. A dependence of the losses on the 151 impact parameter would not be seen. 152

153 2.4. Tracking map

In addition to the full SixTrack simulations, we use for some purposes a very fast simplified tracking, using a tracking map (TM). The TM model is used mainly for scanning a large parameter space to determine which configuration should be simulated in more detail with SixTrack. The TM model is implemented as a 2+2D tracking code simulating the longitudinal phase space of the LHC. It uses a one-turn map to simulate synchrotron oscillations given by the expression [21],

$$\delta_{n+1} = \delta_n + \frac{eV}{\beta^2 E} (\sin \phi_n - \sin \phi_s)$$

$$\phi_{n+1} = \phi_n + 2\pi h \eta (\delta_{n+1}) \delta_{n+1},$$
(1)

where h is the harmonic number, $\eta(\delta)$ is the slip factor, E is the energy of the reference particle, V is the RF voltage applied, β the reference particle speed in c units, e the electron charge, ϕ is the phase coordinate of the particle and ϕ_s is the synchronous phase that we take equal to zero for simplicity. The subscript n indicates the iteration number that corresponds to the turn number. In the transverse plane a linear one-turn map of the horizontal motion is used. For simplicity, coupling between the transverse and the longitudinal planes is

¹The impact parameter is defined as the distance between the particle's impact and the surface of the collimator.

neglected. The interaction of particles with collimators is simplified so every time a particle reaches a the collimator jaw this particle is considered to be automatically lost. Although this is a simplified model, as it will be shown later, it represents the dynamics of the beam in the LHC required for these studies accurately enough. In this model, both IR3 and IR7 primary collimator apertures are represented.

A check of losses on the TCP is implemented through a comparison of the collimator half gap with the total particle amplitude as the sum of the betatronic and off-momentum components. Here we define the collimator half-gap by x_{cut} , which represents the maximum aperture allowed to circulate in the LHC. From the solution of the Hill's equation, the trajectory of a particle with momentum pwill cross the cut x_{cut} if its momentum deviation from the reference momentum p_0 is,

$$|\delta| \ge \frac{x_{\rm cut} - \sqrt{\epsilon_x \beta_x}}{|D_x|},\tag{2}$$

where $\delta = (p - p_0)/p_0$, β_x and D_x are the horizontal β -function and dispersion function at the location of the collimator respectively and ϵ_x is the single particle emittance.

¹⁸⁴ 3. Off-momentum losses at the start of the energy ramp

In this section, we show measurements and simulations of the losses at the start of the energy ramp. Before showing the loss distributions around the ring, we discuss the qualitative behavior of the losses as well as the time structure.

The common operational sequence for the LHC is to inject particles at an 188 energy of 450 GeV from the Super Proton Synchrotron (SPS). Then, the energy 189 is increased up to its top value (so far 6.5 TeV) over about 20 minutes. Just two 190 seconds after the start of the energy ramp, particle losses are observed at the 191 momentum collimators in IR3. These losses, caused by unbunched beam [22], 192 are one of the motivations for the off-momentum collimation system. A particle 193 outside of the RF bucket follows the phase space trajectory where the ΔE 194 compared to the reference energy decreases. In high-dispersion regions, such as 195

Collimator	IR	Half gap $[\sigma]$	
TCP	3	8.0	
TCSG	3	9.3	
TCLA	3	12.0	
TCP	7	5.7	
TCSG	7	6.7	
TCLA	7	10	
TCT	1/5	13	

Table 1: Nominal collimator settings in beam size units used at injection energy in 2016 and $3.5 \ \mu m$ normalized emittance.

the momentum collimation area, the energy offset will translate into a horizontal
displacement, and the particle will eventually be lost on the machine aperture
with the smallest energy cut, which is the off-momentum TCP.

In a simplified scenario where only the longitudinal motion is considered, a 199 particle lost during the ramp can come from two different sources. Either it is 200 outside of the bucket already at the start of the ramp or it is initially stable, but 201 due to some process, such like a change in chromaticity [23], it jumps outside the 202 bucket at a later stage (e.g. by the shrinkage of the bucket area when applying 203 an accelerating phase). A consequence is that the total amount of losses is 204 defined by the amount of unbunched beam during the injection process and the 205 maximum ramping rate, while the rate of the losses is dependent on the rate 206 of change of the main beam energy. In practice, the ramping function, which 207 defines the evolution of the beam energy with time, is initially a parabola that 208 later turns into a linear function. This particular distribution distributes the 209 initial losses over a longer time interval than if the maximum ramp rate had 210 been applied directly. In this section, an analysis of LHC data connected to the 211 losses at the start of the ramp is shown and then simulations are presented in 212 order to reproduce the observations. 213

Table 2: Collimator settings in beam size units, normalized to an emittance of 3.5 μ m, used for the acquisition of the off-momentum loss maps (2015 LHC operational settings) during the MD with only one beam in the machine at a time. HL-LHC collimator settings have also been included for comparison.

Collimator	IR	Half gap $[\sigma]$	
		LHC	HL-LHC
TCP	3	15	15
TCSG	3	18	18
TCLA	3	20	20
TCP	7	5.5	5.7
TCSG	7	8.0	7.7
TCLA	7	14	10
TCT	1/5	13.7	10.9

In Table 1 the nominal collimator settings at injection are shown. These parameters vary along the 20 minutes-long energy ramp. However, the change during the time scale considered in this study is small enough to consider them as constant. For the simulations shown in this section, we therefore consistently use the settings in Table 1.

219 3.1. Time profile of losses

The analysis of the off-momentum losses at the start of the ramp was performed using 117 LHC physics fills from the 2016 run. The data set was pruned to only include fills with a total beam intensity of more than 1.8×10^{14} protons, in order to exclude fills in the commissioning and intensity ramp-up. The selected fills are representative of high-intensity fills for physics.

To understand the time evolution of losses, the BLM time profile signal from the TCP in IR3 and the horizontal TCP in IR7, for both beams, is taken. They can be compared in absolute since all four locations have comparable geometry: all collimators are in the horizontal plane, the collimators have identical design



Figure 2: Measured losses of the aggregated fill as a function of the time since the start of the ramp.

and the BLM response per lost proton is expected to be very similar as the 229 downstream placement of the BLMs in relation to the collimators is the same. 230 The simulations shown later are performed for the period when off-momentum 231 losses dominate, from the start of the ramp until the crossover point. The aver-232 age of the different fills is used to compare simulation results with data and to 233 avoid possible bias in choosing a specific fill. In Fig. 2, the resulting aggregate 234 fill is shown. As can be seen, the collimator losses are consistent between fills. 235 In addition, the peak of losses for the aggregate fill occurs 11.8 seconds after the 236 start of the ramp for both beams at the TCP in IR3, just a couple of seconds 237 after the peak of losses at the location of the TCP in IR7. 238

Only the collimator losses are shown in Fig. 2, but an analysis has been done also for the losses on cold magnets. It is interesting to consider future cases such as the upgrade of the LHC, the HL-LHC [3], which is discussed in the last section of the paper.

243 3.2. Starting distribution of unbunched beam

Before simulating the losses around the ring, the initial conditions for the 244 simulation have to be determined. They depend on the amount of unbunched 245 beam and its distribution in energy and phase. This distribution cannot be 246 measured easily and we therefore use a simplified simulation with the TM model 247 to estimate it through a fit to the measured time profile of losses. The initial 248 longitudinal phase-space coordinates for a particle at the start of the ramp 249 will determine if it is lost and, if so, at what time. The main requirements 250 are that the distribution is continuous and monotonically decreasing from the 251 bucket center outwards for increasing $|\Delta E|$. Here we present an algorithm for 252 estimating, from the LHC data and simulations, the longitudinal distribution 253 at the start of the ramp. The majority of losses is believed to be caused by 254 unbunched particles, but also particles initially inside the bucket but close to 255 the separatrix can contribute. 256

To estimate the initial distribution, particles were placed on a grid in the longitudinal phase space, outside above (OA), outside below (OB) the bucket, and also inside (IN) the bucket close to the edge of the separatrix. The resulting probability distribution should thus also be a function of the longitudinal action of the particle J, and in the initial grid used for tracking, the density of particles was kept constant along the lines in phase space of constant J.

All particles were tracked and the time of loss on the momentum TCP was recorded. In a second step, a weight was calculated for each value of the action J using the least-square method, in order to fit the measured time profile in Fig. 2. This weighted distribution in phase space was then tracked again and the measured time profile was obtained. Further details on the method can be found in Ref. [24].

The obtained distribution P(J), given for the regions OB, OA, and IN, is

given by:

$$P(J) = \begin{cases} \exp\left(-20.98\frac{J}{J_{\text{max}}} + 0.32\right) & \text{for OA,} \\ -1.16 \times 10^{-4}J + 7.14 \times 10^{-5} & \text{for IN,} \\ \exp\left(-13.03\left[\frac{J}{J_{\text{max}}}\right]^{0.70} + 0.49\right) & \text{for OB,} \end{cases}$$
(3)

where J_{max} is the maximum available collimator aperture in action-value units, 269 $J_{\rm max} = 3.2 \times 10^7 {\rm eV}$. The probability function P(j) is valid for the action range 270 $J \in [J_s - 7000 \text{eV}, J_s + J_{\text{max}}]$, and J_s is the action value at the separatrix. 271 The inner bound of the distribution at $J_s - 7000$ eV is somewhat arbitrary, 272 but it is chosen to cover the full range inside the bucket where particles can 273 get lost during the acceleration. The asymmetry of the distribution outside the 274 separatrix above and below might be due to some mechanism that induces some 275 energy loss, like impedance [25]. This point should be extended and understood 276 in future studies, that go beyond the scope of this paper. 277

The likelihood α for a particle to start within one of the three regions was found to be

$$\alpha_{\rm oa} = 0.32, \qquad \alpha_{\rm in} = 0.2, \qquad \alpha_{\rm ob} = 0.48.$$
 (4)

In practice, for each particle to sample, the region was first sampled, and then Eq. (3) was used to sample its action value J. A uniform distribution of the phase ϕ between 0 and 2π was used. The final distribution, converted to units of energy deviation ΔE , is shown in Fig. 3. More details about the exact implementation of this methodology to extract the longitudinal beam distribution can be found in [24].

286 3.3. Loss distribution at start of ramp

Using the initial distribution shown in previous sub-section, we carry out detailed tracking simulations representing the first 11 seconds of the ramp. We have used more realistic SixTrack simulation while varying the machine parameters in order to reproduce the loss distribution around the ring. The DYNK module in SixTrack was extended to allow for simulation of an energy ramp,



Figure 3: Input energy distribution outside of the RF bucket obtained from Eq. (3).

and it is now possible to specify a turn-by-turn value for the synchronous en-292 ergy. Magnet strengths in SixTrack are calculated relative to the synchronous 293 energy, and will increase accordingly. The approach of changing the energy of 294 the synchronous particle is different from the conventional way to describe a 295 ramp by an accelerating RF phase combined with a change in magnet strength. 296 The methods, however, are equivalent, except for the fact that in DYNK the 297 reference energy is updated only once per turn, usually when the particles start 298 a new turn in the ring. 299

In Figs. 4 and 5 a comparison of measured and simulated loss maps using the full SixTrack simulation are compared. In general, we can see that simulations and measurements are in good qualitative agreement. All main loss locations are well reproduced by the simulation, with the main loss peak at the off-momentum TCP in IR3, clearly dominating over losses at the second highest peak at the betatron TCP in IR7. Since the RF trim is applied in both beams, any BLM may intercept losses from both beams, therefore, losses from both



Figure 4: Comparison of simulated (top) and measured (bottom) loss map at the start of the ramp for the full LHC ring with both beams in the machine.



Figure 5: Comparison of simulated (top) and measured (bottom) loss map in IR3 region at the start of the ramp for the LHC with both beams in the machine.

B1 and B2 are superimposed in the measurements and are not easily distinguishable. For an easier comparison, simulations are also shown for B1 and B2 together. Additionally, all values have been normalized by the maximum BLM signal. In the measurements, the obtained losses on B1 were slightly higher, hence introducing an asymmetry between the losses at the TCPs at the right and left extremities of IR3.

When comparing the results of the simulations with the measured data we 313 have to take into account that the measured BLM signal is accounting mainly 314 for secondary particles generated in the interaction between primary protons 315 and the collimator or aperture materials, while simulations only counts the 316 primary protons lost. Experience gained in the past [7] tells us that there 317 might be up to a factor 10 difference in the magnitude of the normalized losses 318 between measurement and simulation. Within these uncertainties, we find a 319 good agreement between simulations and measurements in the losses in cold 320 sections such like in the dispersion suppressor downstream of IR3, which are 321 3–4 orders of magnitude lower than the primary losses on the TCP. 322

In Fig. 6 a comparison of the simulated loss maps using different methods 323 described in Sec. 2 is shown in the IR3 region. The top plot is the result of 324 the simulation using the full SixTrack simulation. The middle plot shows the 325 same result for the simulation with the reduced number of turns. The bottom 326 plot is obtained using the pencil beam method. The two first cases show almost 327 identical loss patterns. In the third case, although the structure of the losses 328 in the collimation section is almost the same preserving always the collimator 329 hierarchy as for the previous cases, there is a significant reduction of the losses 330 in the second cluster in the dispersion suppressor, just upstream of s = 7100 m 331 from IP1 in clockwise sense. 332

Therefore, the two first methods are judged to be equivalent for this case. We can conclude that the accuracy of a faster simulation with reduced number of turns is not strongly affected. On the other hand, the third and simplest method, although being much faster, gives a consistent distribution of losses in the collimators but underestimates the losses in the dispersion suppressor. This is a difference that might be important in further studies for the HL-LHC.

In order to illustrate the effect of the collimator cuts and the sharing of 339 losses between IR3 and IR7, together with the dynamics of particles in the LHC 340 during the start of the ramp, we show in Fig. 7 the density of particles in a 341 space consisting of normalized betatron amplitude and energy offset. This is 342 similar to the observations found in [26]. We show a simulated snapshot of the 343 particle distribution after 20 s. As the ramp starts, particles outside of the 344 bucket lose energy and drift towards the left, while performing both horizontal 345 betatron (up-down) and synchrotron oscillations (left-right). When a particle 346 hits a collimator, its coordinates are frozen at the turn of impact. The left-most 347 particles in the plot have impacted the lower IR3 TCP jaw, while the particles 348 in the centre are still stable inside the RF-bucket. The few particles in between 349 have been lost from the RF-bucket, but have not yet reached the collimators. 350

The cuts of the TCPs in IR7 and IR3 in this space are also shown in Fig. 7 as 351 colored areas. For zero energy deviation, they cut the beam at their respective 352 setting in betatron σ (5.7 σ in IR7 and 8 σ in IR3). At zero betatron amplitude, 353 the dispersion function was used to determine the energy cut. Using linear op-354 tics, the space would be cut by straight lines between these points. However, we 355 have used MAD-X [27] instead to determine the chromatic optics for a range of 356 different energies. This causes the cuts introduced by the collimators to bend 357 slightly and introduces a small asymmetry between positive and negative en-358 ergy offsets. Since all particles perform betatron oscillations with a much faster 359 frequency than the synchrotron motion, we have also included the mirrored cuts 360 of both collimators (dashed lines). No particle can be outside of either of these 361 lines, since they otherwise would be lost almost immediately when their ampli-362 tude changes sign. The allowed space for particle motion is thus constrained 363 to be inside all physical and mirrored collimator cuts. If an unbunched particle 364 close to the limit of the RF bucket performs betatron oscillations, moving up 365 and down in Fig. 7, it will hit the IR7 TCP if the amplitude is large enough. If, 366 on the other hand, it stays within the cut of this collimator, and starts moving 367 to the left when its energy decreases during the ramp, it could hit either the 368







Figure 6: Simulated loss map at the start of the ramp for B1 compared for the different simulation techniques: SixTrack full (top), SixTrack reduced (middle) and using the pencil beam configuration (bottom).



Figure 7: Two-dimensional scatter plot over particle positions after a 20 s simulation with the simplified model on top of the collimator cuts. The color of the point represents the amount of particles at the location, where a lighter colors means higher density.

IR7 or the IR3 TCP, depending on its betatron amplitude. Protons on the tails 369 of the distribution with betatron amplitudes just inside the IR7 cut would be 370 lost on the IR7 TCP before moving away significantly from the bucket, while 371 protons with smaller betatron amplitudes stay longer. After a crossover point 372 around $\delta = -10^{-3}$ the IR3 TCP takes over as limitation. Protons with the 373 smallest betatron amplitudes will travel the longest to the left before they are 374 lost, and it is seen that the highest density at the IR3 collimator cut is found 375 close to a zero betatron amplitude. 376

377 4. Flat-Top off-momentum simulations

In this section we study off-momentum losses at top energy. In operation, such losses could be caused by a number of different processes, e.g. RF failures or unbunched beam losing energy through synchrotron radiation. During the off-momentum loss maps needed to qualify the collimation performance, all such losses are represented by generic off-momentum losses caused by an RF frequency shift. These loss maps have a very well defined loss source and the background noise very low, which makes them ideal for simulation benchmarks.

³⁸⁵ Therefore, in the following, we show simulations of these loss maps.

386 4.1. Simplified RF frequency shift model

In the LHC, a dynamic change in the RF frequency is applied to introduce 387 an off-momentum orbit to the whole beam, thus approaching it to the TCP 388 in IR3. The applied RF frequency shift, typically introduced over about 10-389 15 s and reaching about -500 Hz at the end, induces a phase shift in the RF 390 voltage seen by the synchronous particle. Then, the reference particle is not 391 synchronous any longer for the new RF settings, creating an oscillation around 392 the new RF bucket. If the frequency shift is applied adiabatically, i.e. with a 393 much larger period than the period of the synchrotron oscillation ($\Omega_s = 0.0059$), 394 the variation in the longitudinal phase space from one turn to the next is small 395 enough to keep the entire beam captured inside the RF bucket. In this way, 396 the full distribution is displaced towards the collimator cut. When the beam is 397 intercepted by the collimator, losses are observed around the LHC ring using the 398 BLMs, allowing to evaluate the efficiency of the momentum collimation system. 399 The RF frequency trim can be modeled adding a constant term $\Delta \varphi$ to the 400 mapping of Eq. (1), 401

$$\delta_{n+1} = \delta_n + \frac{eV}{\beta^2 E} (\sin \phi_n - \sin \phi_s)$$

$$\phi_{n+1} = \phi_n + \Delta \varphi + 2\pi h \eta \delta_{n+1},$$

(5)

where the new term $\Delta \varphi$ represents a phase shift and is a function of the turn number (or a function of time) that represents the adiabatic change of the phase. As can be seen, the extra term shifts the reference particle and the bucket towards higher or lower values of δ . In operations, for simplicity, a linear frequency shift is applied to generate the off-momentum loss maps.

407 We calculate the shift in RF phase $\Delta \varphi$ as

$$\Delta\varphi(t) = \int_0^t \Delta\omega(t')dt',\tag{6}$$

where $\Delta \omega$ is the change of the RF frequency. Assuming a linear frequency change

$$\Delta\omega(t) = at,\tag{7}$$

410 we obtain finally

$$\Delta\varphi(t) = \frac{1}{2}at^2.$$
(8)

⁴¹¹ The adiabatic phase shift thus needs to be modeled as a quadratic function of ⁴¹² time to represent a linear shift in the frequency. The coefficient of the quadratic ⁴¹³ term is given by the maximum frequency shift $\Delta \omega_{\text{max}}$ and the number of turns ⁴¹⁴ N_{turns} during which the shift is applied,

$$a = \frac{\Delta\omega_{\max}}{N_{\text{turns}}T_{\text{rev}}},\tag{9}$$

415 with $T_{\rm rev}$ being the revolution time.

Inserting this value of a in Eq. (8), and changing the independent variable to the number of turns n, we obtain finally

$$\Delta \varphi_{\rm cav}(n) = \frac{\Delta \omega T_{\rm rev}}{2N_{\rm turns}} n^2.$$
(10)

Eq. (10) is taken in tracking simulations using SixTrack to change dynamically the RF cavity phase. In the next sections we apply this formalism to set up a realistic simulation model.

To test this description of the dynamics of the particles during the frequency 421 shift, a simplified analytical model has been created where the longitudinal 422 motion of the beam is computed using Eq. (5). The motion of the particles in 423 the phase space is studied to get an approximate idea of the key observations 424 involved. We tested the simple model for a total RF frequency shift of $\Delta f_{\rm RF} =$ 425 $2\pi\Delta\omega_{\rm RF} = -500$ Hz. This corresponds to a maximum phase shift of about 426 $\Delta \varphi_{\rm max} \approx 0.28 \, {\rm rad.}$ The maximum momentum deviation for the maximum shift 427 is about $|\delta| = 3.8 \times 10^{-3}$. This simple model shows that, for the nominal 428 collimator half-gap of the primary momentum collimator at 15σ (Table 2), we 429 are able to predict that the core of the bunch will cross the collimator cut 430 when the $\Delta f_{\rm RF} \sim 300$ Hz. This corresponds to a momentum deviation of 431

 $|\delta| = 1.6 \times 10^{-3}$. Therefore, it is expected that the full beam will be intercepted by the IR3 TCP for frequency shifts significantly beyond that.

434 4.2. Cleaning simulation setup

The model described above has been implemented using the more realistic tracking in SixTrack.

To implement the RF frequency shift, we have used the DYNK module, also described previously, which allows to dynamically change some parameters of the simulation. For our purposes, the goal is to dynamically change the cavity phase turn-by-turn accordingly to Eq. (10). Then, particles are tracked around the ring while the phase shift is carried out and the hits in the aperture and particles absorbed by the collimators are recorded. From this, we can reconstruct the off-momentum loss maps.

In the result of the simulation of an off-momentum loss map, the main 444 losses occur in the momentum collimation section (IR3). Nevertheless, as it is 445 also observed during the loss maps acquisition, one can observe some losses in 446 the betatron cleaning section (IR7). These losses are due to the fact that, on 447 one hand, for low frequency shifts the primary bottleneck is still the betatron 448 primary collimator. On the other hand, there is also leakage of secondary and 449 tertiary halo particles out of IR3 that is likely to impact in IR7. In Fig. 8, the 450 losses at the primary betatron collimator in IR7 and the primary momentum 451 collimator in IR3 as a function of the frequency shift after SixTrack simulations 452 are shown. One can see that, beyond 200 Hz, the momentum collimator in 453 IR3 becomes the primary collimator intercepting most of the lost particles. As 454 predicted from the simple model described previously, the full beam distribution 455 is scraped completely by the collimation system when the frequency shift is 456 above 300 Hz. 457

Having the evolution of losses during the frequency shift at the different collimators is important. During the off-momentum loss map acquisition in the machine, the losses around the ring are integrated for a short time (usually 1.3 seconds) when losses at the momentum collimator are around their maximum



Figure 8: Evolution of the losses at the primary betatron collimator in IR7 and the primary momentum collimator in IR3 as a function of the frequency shift $f_{\rm RF}$ of -500 Hz during 10⁴ turns. Losses are normalized to the peak losses in IR3.

value. Therefore, in order to compare more accurately to the observations, 462 simulated losses spanning the equivalent of 1.3 seconds are integrated around the 463 time intervals with higher losses in the momentum primary collimator. Taking 464 into account that the full trim of -500 Hz is carried out in about 15 seconds, 465 an integration time of 1.3 sec would correspond to a change in frequency of 466 about 43 Hz. Therefore, the resulting loss map is obtained taking into account 467 integrated losses from the frequency corresponding to the time of the largest loss 468 in IR3, integrated around it over a time interval during which the RF frequency 469 shift by 43 Hz. 470

During the actual off-momentum loss map acquisition, protons in the LHC 471 perform more than 1.5×10^5 turns. In order to reduce the simulation time, 472 simulations with a smaller number of turns were performed, as discussed in 473 Sec. 2. The risk of decreasing the number of turns is that if the RF frequency 474 shift between two consecutive turns is large enough, further particles that are 475 captured might eventually be lost from the bucket. To investigate this effect 476 on the final loss pattern around the ring, different simulations using different 477 number of turns have been performed. 478

The total number of lost particles on the aperture or collimators at the end of the simulation as a function of the number of turns was simulated. A clear reduction of the number of lost particles is observed when the frequency shift is performed during a small number of turns. For above 10⁴ turns, more than 99% of the particles are always within the RF bucket and are lost either in the magnet aperture or the collimators.

485 4.3. Results

During Run 1 and Run 2, several measurements of the off-momentum loss maps using the RF trim were taken during machine commissioning, always with both beams present in the machine. In order to disentangle the contributions of losses coming from both beams, specific machine development sessions with only one beam in the machine were carried out and off-momentum loss maps for each beam were taken [28]. These results are used for benchmarking the new

set of simulation tools described above. In Fig. 9 the off-momentum loss maps 492 obtained with only one beam in the machine and with the collimation settings 493 in Table 2 are shown for B1 (top) and B2 (bottom) at flat top energy. For both 494 cases, a negative frequency shift was applied during approximately 15 seconds 495 with a maximum frequency shift of -500 Hz. Losses generated by the frequency 496 shift are usually above the safety limits set for the BLM readings and the beam 497 was dumped when the frequency shift was around 250–300 Hz, before reaching 498 the maximum frequency shift. Simulations show that the beam is, in any case, 499 fully scraped by the collimator at a frequency shift slightly below 300 Hz. This 500 is in line with the predictions from simulations presented above. 501

In Fig. 10 and Fig. 11 the measured loss maps (top plots) are compared to 502 the simulated loss maps for B1 using the two methods explained in previous 503 sections (middle and bottom plots). In the reduced simulation with 10^4 turns, a 504 -500 Hz total frequency shift was applied. In the pencil-beam method, the beam 505 was sampled directly at the TCP in IR3 using a reference energy of 6513 GeV, 506 which represents an energy deviation of $\delta = 0.2\%$. This value was found to 507 represent an impact parameter at the TCP of about 1 μ m. One can see that 508 one difference between the results of the two simulation methods is in the ratio 509 of losses between IR3 and IR7 primary collimators. When using the reduced 510 simulation, the difference is about one order of magnitude, while it is slightly 511 smaller with the pencil beam. When we look at the details of the loss map in 512 IR3 (Fig. 11) we can see that the differences are almost negligible. Therefore, 513 these two methods can be considered equivalent as far as local IR3 losses are 514 concerned. 515

As for the comparison with BLMs at the start of the ramp, it should be pointed out that some differences are expected, possibly up to around a factor 10 [7]. This is because the simulation accounts only for the number of protons lost locally, while the BLMs are sensitive to the secondary showers resulting from the impacts. On the other hand, longitudinal locations where losses occur should be well comparable.

522

Furthermore, we note that the BLM response is slightly different for different



Figure 9: Measured off-momentum loss maps at 6.5 TeV for B1 (top) and B2 (bottom) for a frequency shift of -500 Hz, obtained with only one beam in the machine and with the collimation settings in the Table 2.

BLMs. Therefore, we can only compare quantitatively the magnitude of the 523 signal between those BLMs which we know have a similar response. This is the 524 case of, e.g., the BLMs installed close to the TCPs in IR3 and IR7, although even 525 for those BLMs, differences may occur due to differences in impact parameter 526 distribution. One can see that the ratio of losses measured at these TCPs is in 527 good agreement with simulations, in particular when we consider the simulation 528 scenario with reduced number of turns. In both cases we observe a ratio of about 529 one order of magnitude. 530



Concerning loss locations, all plots show a similar distribution of losses. In

particular, in the regions were collimators are located, the measurements and 532 simulations agree quite well and the key loss locations reproduced. Losses pro-533 duced in the aperture are well represented in particular in IR4, were we can 534 observe losses in all the cases following a similar pattern. On the other hand, 535 betatron losses do typically not impact in IR4. In terms of loss magnitudes, we 536 observe some discrepancy in IR6 where measured losses at the collimators are 537 significantly higher than in simulations. Similar discrepancies were observed in 538 IR6 for betatron losses, and detailed energy deposition studies should be per-539 formed to quantify if they can be explained by the showering and BLM response. 540 Nevertheless, this discrepancy does not affect the most important comparison 541 at the cleaning insertions, where the comparison is more reliable. From these 542 results, we can conclude that the simulation procedure describes the observa-543 tions and, therefore, can be used for future analysis of other configurations and 544 upgrades. 545

546 5. HL-LHC

The new set of tools presented in previous sections can be used to evaluate the impact of off-momentum losses in the future upgrade of the LHC, the HL-LHC project [3]. In this section we present simulations of the two scenarios described above using HL-LHC optics v1.3. This is an important input for the future LHC upgrade since it will provide essential information for the understanding of the cleaning performance of the collimation system after the intensity increase and the optics changes in the high luminosity interaction points.

554 5.1. Losses at the start of the ramp

A bunch intensity increase by a factor 2 [3] is foreseen for the HL-LHC. Assuming the same capture efficiency, this would double the energy deposited in downstream magnets at the start of the ramp with respect to the LHC. In this case we also assume that the beam distribution in the longitudinal plane is not significantly affected for the purpose of these studies.

Simulations of the start of the ramp for the HL-LHC injection optics have 560 been performed, using the same setup as in Sec. 3. We assumed that the energy 561 ramp follows the same time function as the LHC ramp at the start. Since the 562 change from the LHC injection optics to the HL-LHC injection optics is minor, 563 it is expected that the results in both cases are comparable. This is confirmed 564 by simulations as one can see in Fig. 12, where the loss map obtained is shown 565 for B1. This loss map can be compared to the one obtained for the LHC and 566 shown in Fig. 4 and Fig. 5. No significant difference is appreciated. 567

In addition to the simulations performed, measured peak losses at the start 568 of the ramp have been analyzed for several fills in 2017 run and compared to the 569 beam dump thresholds. The fills with a full machine, i.e. with around 3×10^{14} 570 protons per beam, were selected. The analysis of losses reveals that the peak 571 losses in cold magnets downstream of momentum cleaning section are of the 572 order of 4×10^{-5} Gy/s while the dump threshold is about 1×10^{-2} Gy/s, i.e. 573 more than two orders of magnitude higher. Only in some cases 1% of the beam 574 dump threshold was reached for integration times (also known as running sums) 575 of 1.3 seconds. Losses for larger and smaller running sums were also checked 576 and in all cases the same trend was found. In the rest of the fills the value 577 was below that number. Therefore, extrapolating to HL-LHC beam intensities, 578 expected to be twice the LHC beam intensity, the expected maximum will be 579 about 2% of the beam dump threshold, provided that the cleaning efficiency in 580 IR3 does not change significantly. As seen by comparing Figs. 12 and 4, this is 581 indeed the case. This analysis confirms that the losses at the start of the ramp 582 will not impose any limitation for the future LHC upgrade unless unexpected 583 issues occur. In addition, recent plans to reduce the RF voltage to 5 MV to 584 cope with limitations during transients may have some impact on the amount of 585 losses produced at the start of the ramp in the HL-LHC. However, the impact 586 on losses is expected to be small. 587

Fill	Peak Losses	HL losses	Threshold	Dump Ratio
	$[10^{-4} \mathrm{~Gy/s}]$		$[\mathrm{Gy/s}]$	[%]
5433	1.27	2.6	0.10	0.13
6643	275	550	2.68	1
6646	216	432	2.68	0.8
7124	4.65	9.3	0.1	0.04

Table 3: Peak losses during the start of the ramp using BLM signal with a running sum of 1.3 seconds.

588 5.2. Off-momentum loss map simulations

Off-momentum cleaning simulations have been performed at 7 TeV for the 589 HL-LHC optics v1.3 and 15 cm collision optics. The simulation settings used 590 are those shown in Table 2. The RF voltage is set to the nominal value of 591 8 MV, and an RF frequency shift of ± 500 Hz is simulated for 10^4 turns and 592 losses around the ring are recorded. In Fig. 13 the evolution of losses in the 593 primary collimators in IR3 and IR7 as a function of the negative frequency trim 594 is shown. If we compare this result with the result obtained for the LHC shown 595 in Fig. 8, although losses in IR7 seem to start a bit later probably due to the 596 more relaxed collimator setting (for frequencies above 100 Hz), losses in IR3 597 overtake losses in IR7 around the same frequency shift (200 Hz). In addition, 598 the beam is fully scraped just after 250 Hz, earlier than the 300 Hz observed 599 for the LHC. This is due to the fact that for HL-LHC we used an RF voltage 600 of 8 MV while for the LHC 12 MV was used instead. A modification of the 601 RF voltage modifies the topology of the longitudinal phase space and thus the 602 properties, such as the bunch length and dynamics of the bunch. In this case, 603 the voltage reduction is translated into a smaller bucket height and thus the 604 beam is compressed in a smaller area (considering the same frequency shift). 605 For that reason, the beam is scraped faster when lower voltages are used. 606

In Fig. 14 the simulated off-momentum loss map for B1 is shown. In general one can see that distribution of losses in the different collimators around the ring is similar to the one obtained for the LHC. An interesting result is that no

losses leaking from IR7 are observed. This is due to the addition of the new 610 collimators in the dispersion section (TCLDs). Furthermore, higher losses in 611 cold aperture are found in IR4 compared to the LHC. In IR3 (Fig. 14 bottom), 612 the distribution of losses is similar to the distribution observed for the LHC 613 although both the peak losses and integrated loss in the two clusters of the 614 dispersion suppressor are slightly higher in the HL-LHC. This level of losses 615 should be within the tolerances margins. A more detailed study, beyond the 616 scope of this paper, of the energy deposited in these magnets should be carried 617 out to quantify the amount of losses in IR3 that would cause a quench. 618

Nevertheless, we conclude that the current design of the momentum cleaning
insertion of the HL-LHC is efficient enough to remove off-momentum particles
without imposing any hazard to the machine.

622 6. Conclusions

A new set of simulation tools based on a realistic particle tracking code 623 (SixTrack) has been developed to study different scenarios where losses of off-624 momentum particles are involved after a benchmarking with measurements. 625 Two main scenarios have been considered: losses produced at the start of the 626 ramp and off-momentum loss maps at 6.5 TeV using an RF frequency shift. 627 These cases are relevant for studying potential limitations for LHC and HL-628 LHC and for detailed benchmark to measured data. This is a new methodology 629 that is very useful in particular when the actual impact parameter is unknown. 630 On top of that, we simulate the collimation process during dynamic changes in 631 the machine, as opposed to previous studies in static conditions. 632

More than one hundred fills were used to analyze the loss pattern observed in the LHC during the start of the ramp. The analysis reveal that the behavior from fill to fill is very reproducible. It was also shown that the most important contribution of off-momentum losses occur within the first 12 seconds after the start of the ramp. Simulations show a very good agreement with the measurements. From the data extracted, the beam distribution was fitted and used

in tracking simulations. The loss maps obtained from these simulations are in 639 good agreement with the measurements and could be used for predicting losses 640 for future LHC configurations. These tools have allowed to fit the longitudinal 641 distribution on the ramp losses. This provided an understanding of the number 642 of particles populating the RF bucket close to the separatrix and the fitted semi-643 analytical model can be used in the future for different machine configurations. 644 In the second scenario, we have simulated the cleaning of off-momentum 645 particles in the LHC at 6.5 TeV during the measurement of off-momentum loss 646 maps. We can now evaluate the efficiency of the momentum cleaning of the LHC 647 in any possible configuration. These tools also provide essential information 648 about the population of the off-momentum halo and for the optimization of the 649 momentum cleaning insertion. 650

In the two scenarios considered above, we have demonstrated that it is not 651 needed to simulate the full process taking into account the total amount of turns. 652 A significant reduction of the number of turns in the simulation, to about 10^4 653 turns, is enough to reproduce with enough accuracy what is observed in the real 654 machine. Even further, a simple simulation method using a pencil beam sampled 655 directly at the collimator surface has been proven to be almost as accurate in 656 the case of reproducing off-momentum cleaning losses, although losses at the 657 start of the ramp in the dispersion suppressor are slightly underestimated. 658

Losses along the ring were also computed finding a qualitative agreement 659 with measured loss maps for both the LHC but also for its future upgrade, 660 the HL-LHC. Losses for the two scenarios considered have been evaluated for 661 HL-LHC. Slightly higher losses were found with respect to the LHC but always 662 below tolerances. It was also found that, due to the change in the RF voltage, 663 the bunch is fully scraped at lower frequencies with respect to the LHC. This 664 will need to be further investigated in case the RF voltage is further reduced to 665 5 MV. In general, we have seen that off-momentum losses are not expected to 666 be a limiting factor for neither the Run 3 of the LHC nor for the HL-LHC as 667 injection time is kept at similar levels as in Run II. 668

669

⁹ This new set of tools will be also useful to optimize the collimation system

⁶⁷⁰ in future larger machines, such as the Future Circular Collider [29, 30].

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Figure 10: Comparison of the different loss maps obtained using a negative RF frequency shift (positive δ) of -500 Hz in measurement (top) and from simulation using 10⁴ turns (middle) and using the simplified model with the initial distribution sampled at the collimator location for a positive dp/p (bottom).



Figure 11: Zoom in IR3 of the different loss maps obtained using a negative RF frequency shift (positive dp/p) of -500 Hz in measurement (top) and during 10⁴ turns (middle) and using the simplified model with the initial distribution sampled at the collimator location for a positive dp/p (bottom).



Figure 12: Off-momentum loss map simulated at the start of the ramp for the HL-LHC B1 using the full number of turns. Full ring (top) and IR3 region (bottom).



Figure 13: Evolution of the losses at the primary betatron collimator in IR7 and the primary momentum collimator in IR3 as a function of the frequency shift of -500 Hz during 10^4 turns for the HL-LHC. Losses are normalized to the peak losses in IR3



Figure 14: Off-momentum loss map simulated using the method of the RF frequency shift of -500 Hz for 10^4 turns for the HL-LHC B1. Full ring (top) and IR3 region (bottom).