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Summary of SSC Collaring Press Finite Element Analyses

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INTRODUCTION

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The following is a summary of several finite element analyses performed following the failure of the upper main beam on the SSC coil collaring press. The intent of these analyses was to determine the cause of the failure of the center web of the upper longitudinal beam, to determine if other components of the press are near their failure point, and to estimate the effectiveness of planned temporary and permanent reworks and repairs.

Failure occurred in the upper longitudinal beam while collaring a completed long magnet. The mode of failure was buckling of about 3 feet of the center web of the beam. As evidenced by paint flaking off the center web, yielding appears to have occurred at other places in the center web along the length of the same beam as well as in the cross beams where they contact the center web of the longitudinal beam although the latter is to a lesser extent than on the longitudinal beam. Finally, the faceplate of the lower beam appears to be dished in places indicating it too may be close to failure. Failure occurred at a hydraulic pressure of 6,000 psi in the press jacks. This corresponds to 240,000 lb_f acting on each section of the press through two 3 inch tie rods. A section is defined as a single cross beam pair. Sections are spaced on 12 inch centers.

The analyses for the 'as built' press sections were performed at a pressure of 6,000 psi. Analyses for estimating the effectiveness of the temporary fixes were performed at 7,850 psi which is the pressure to which the hydraulic system is limited by safety reliefs. Analyses for estimating the effectiveness of the permanent fixes were performed at 10,000 psi which is the full capacity of the press.

ANALYSIS DESCRIPTIONS

File prefix Analysis description

UPRPRS_1 Upper cross beam and main beam as built loaded to 6000 psi hydraulic pressure (60% of capacity). This is the point at which the buckling failure occurred in the web of the upper main beam and at which some deformation was noted in the face plate of the bottom beam

UPRPRS_2 Upper press and main beam with a single row of 1 inch jack bolts installed between the main beam flanges. This is the proposed fix for the upper main beam. The applied load is 7850 psi hydraulic pressure which is the setting of all safety reliefs on the hydraulic system.

- UPRPRS_3 Identical to UPRPRS_2 with an additional row of jack bolts. This will determine whether a second row of bolts represents a notable decrease in beam stresses over a single row of bolts.
- UPRPRS_4 Upper cross beam and new design for upper main beam loaded to 10000 psi hydraulic pressure (100% of capacity).
- UPRPRS_5 Identical to UPRPRS_3 without the main beam center web. This will determine whether one option for fixing the failed section will be effective.
- UPRPRS_6 Identical to UPRPRS_4, but with the upper main beam bolted to the cross beam instead of welded. This is the planned attachment scheme for the permanent repair
- UPRPRS_7 Upper main beam with grout rather than bolts with the center web removed. This simulates repair of the failed section of the upper beam by grouting rather than through the use of jack bolts.
- LWRPRS_1 Lower cross beam and main beam as built loaded to 6000 psi hydraulic pressure (60% of capacity). This is the point at which the buckling failure occurred in the web of the upper main beam and at which some deformation was noted in the face plate of the bottom beam.
- LWRPRS_2 Lower cross beam and main beam after filling the lower main beam with epoxy grout. The modulus of the grout is 3.5M psi (EMBECO 885). This is the proposed fix for the lower main beam. The applied load is 7850 psi hydraulic pressure which is the setting of all safety reliefs on the hydraulic system.
- LWRPRS_3 Identical to LWRPRS_2 but with the 1/4 inch faceplate of the lower main beam removed. This will give an upper limit on the stresses in the grout in the event that the faceplate fails.

LWRPRS_4 Lower cross beam and new design for lower main beam loaded to 10000 psi hydraulic pressure (100% of capacity).

File prefix	Maximum von <u>Cross beam</u>	Mises stresses <u>Main beam</u>	Compressive stresses <u>Grout/jack bolts</u>
UPRPRS_1	88962	114140	na*
UPRPRS_2	32610	41409	~450001
UPRPRS_3	26385	44392	~30000
UPRPRS_4	37957	21677	na
UPRPRS_5	29090	52614	~40000
UPRPRS_6	37084	23186	na ²
UPRPRS_7	29737	16329	~4000 ³
LWRPRS_1	48242	84723	na
LWRPRS_2	30656	32129	~20004
LWRPRS_3	29686	31646	~2000
LWRPRS_4	38560	20559	na^5

MAXIMUM STRESS SUMMARY

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Notes:All stresses are in psi.

- *: not applicable
- 1: upper beam temporary rework
- 2: upper beam permanent rework
- 3: upper beam temporary rework of buckled section
- 4: lower beam temporary rework
- 5: lower beam permanent rework

DISCUSSION

From inspection of the failed section of upper beam and from the stresses predicted by these analyses, buckling of the center web of the upper longitudinal beam and yielding of the cross beam webs was caused by compressive stresses in these members considerably above the yield point of the materials. Tensile tests on samples cut from the upper longitudinal beam indicated a yield strength of approximately 42,000 psi. For the 'as built' case, the stresses in upper and lower main and cross beams exceed this value.

The root of the problem lies in the inability of the cross beam and main beam flanges to distribute the applied load over their contact surfaces. This is the result of the low bending stiffness of the flanges when compared to the compressive stiffness of the vertical webs.

Bear in mind that all of these analyses assume elastic material properties. Clearly many of the predicted stresses are beyond the elastic limit of the materials used, particularly in the case of the 'as built' geometries. The actual maximum stresses in these cases would be lower than those predicted here and would be distributed across a larger area due flanges. Rather, the plan is to fill the entire inner volume of this beam with EMBECO 885 grout. This material has a compressive strength of 7,000 psi after 7 days, a compressive modulus of 3.5x10⁶ psi, and an estimated shrinkage of +0.02% (i.e. slight expansion). LWRPRS_2 simulates the addition of this material. The addition of this grout decreases the stresses everywhere in the main and cross beams to values well below their yield strengths. The compressive stress in the grout is below 4,000 psi except in a very small area under the web of the cross beam. LWRPRS 3 is identical to LWRPRS 2, but neglects the front faceplate on the lower beam. This is an attempt to predict the effect on the beams and grout should the faceplate fail. Stresses in the cross beam are well below yield. In the main beam, the stresses directly under the cross beam web are just at the yield point. Peak compressive stresses in the grout increase to approximately 6,000 psi although the compressive stress throughout the bulk of the grout is approximately 2,000 psi. Some local yielding might occur in this configuration. In reality even a failed faceplate would provide some compressive strength. Failure of the main beam or grout would be unlikely.

TEMPORARY REWORK - SUMMARY

In summary, the planned fixes for both longitudinal beams appear to be viable repairs for short term use of the press. The focus of the rework is twofold. First, it must enable operation of the presses to the limits of the safety system. Second, it must ensure that no damage occurs to the cross beams so they may be used as-is in the permanent repair. The effectiveness of these reworks is due not to the strength of the added elements directly, but rather to their ability to distribute the applied load over a larger surface area. Both drastically reduce stresses in the center webs of the cross and main beams and introduce stresses in the added materials within their allowed values. The limits on the hydraulic system prevent pressurization to more than 7,850 psi. The repairs are not likely to be effective for long term use of the press at full hydraulic capacity (10,000 psi).

PERMANENT REPAIR

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The permanent repair of the collaring press amounts to replacement of both upper and lower longitudinal beams. The planned replacements are the same width and height as the existing units, but with 2 inch thick flanges and 1 inch thick webs and faceplates. UPRPRS_4 and LWRPRS_4 simulate the addition of these two beams. The only difference between the two analyses is the placement of the vertical restraints which simulate the collaring tooling (the lower mandrel is wider than the upper). For both cases the maximum stress in the redesigned longitudinal beams is between 21,000 and 22,000 psi. In both upper and lower cross beams the maximum stress is approximately 38,000 psi. This latter value is higher than one would like to see, however, this analysis simulates the effect on the beams of 10,000 psi hydraulic pressure. At the current operating maximum (7850 psi) the maximum cross beam stress would be more like 30,000 psi. Further investigation is warranted to determine if an effective way can be found to strengthen the cross beams during the repair program.

Rather than welding the new upper beam to the cross beam, the plan for the permanent repair is to hang the upper beam from the cross beam with bolts. My initial concern was that any bending in the cross beam would tend to unload the contact surfaces in this scheme. UPRPRS_6 simulates the bolted connection by allowing separation of the contact surfaces. The analysis indicates that the bolted connection is as effective as the welded connection in distributing the applied load across the entire contact surface between the cross beam and main beam flanges (compare with UPRPRS_4).

As with the planned rework for continuation of the 40mm program, the two new beams are effective due to their ability to transfer the applied vertical load over a large surface area. The bending stiffness of the 2 inch flanges is considerably greater than their 'as built' counterparts. Coupled with the compressive stiffness of the 1 inch webs, the high stress concentrations seen at the web crossing points in the existing design are reduced substantially.

There is every reason to believe replacement of the longitudinal beams with the new design will allow the press to be utilized throughout the 50mm coil development program. If strengthening the cross beams is feasible, it could be done as well and would serve as insurance against future deformation of these beam sections.

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ANSYS 4.4 JUN 16 1990 00:30:19 PLOT NO. 1 POST1 STRESS STEP=1 ITER=1 SIGE (AVG) DMX =0.045198 SMN =136.631 SMX = 88962XV = -3=4 =5 ZV DIST=12.419 XF =9.25 =9.25 =3.5=5071 =14941 =24810 =34680 =44549=54419=64288 =84027



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FIGILE 31



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