

# Low-Alpha Operation of the IOTA Storage Ring



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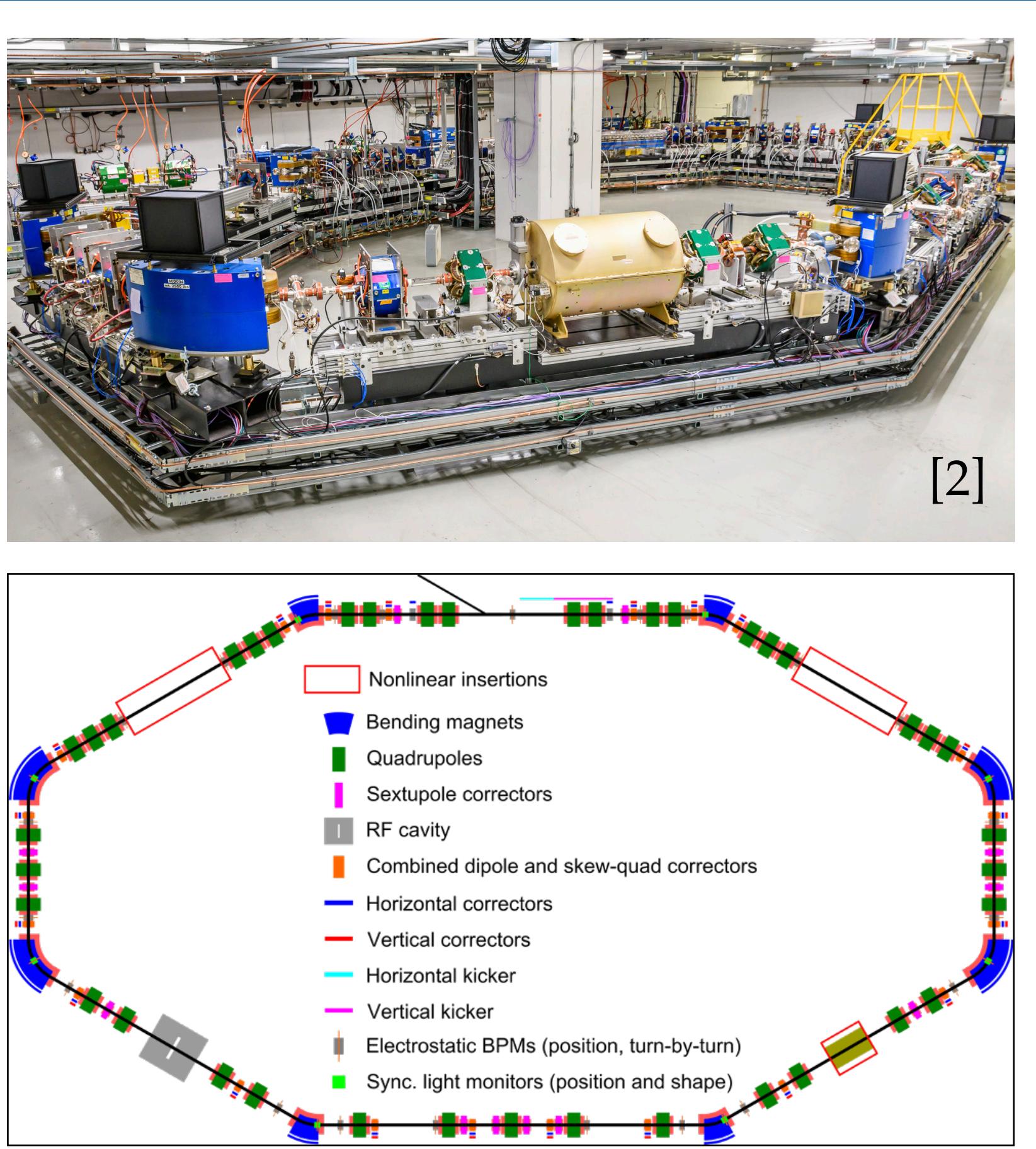
Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory

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## IOTA

- The Integrable Optics Test Accelerator (IOTA) is a 40m storage ring located at the Fermilab Accelerator Science & Technology (FAST) facility [1].
- Injection of electrons from a superconducting linac (50–150 MeV) or protons (2.5 MeV) from a duoplasmatron source (undergoing commissioning).
- Rich science program in non-linear integrable optics, beam cooling, space-charge effects, single-electron, AI/ML controls etc [3].
- First demonstration of Optical Stochastic Cooling (OSC) [4].

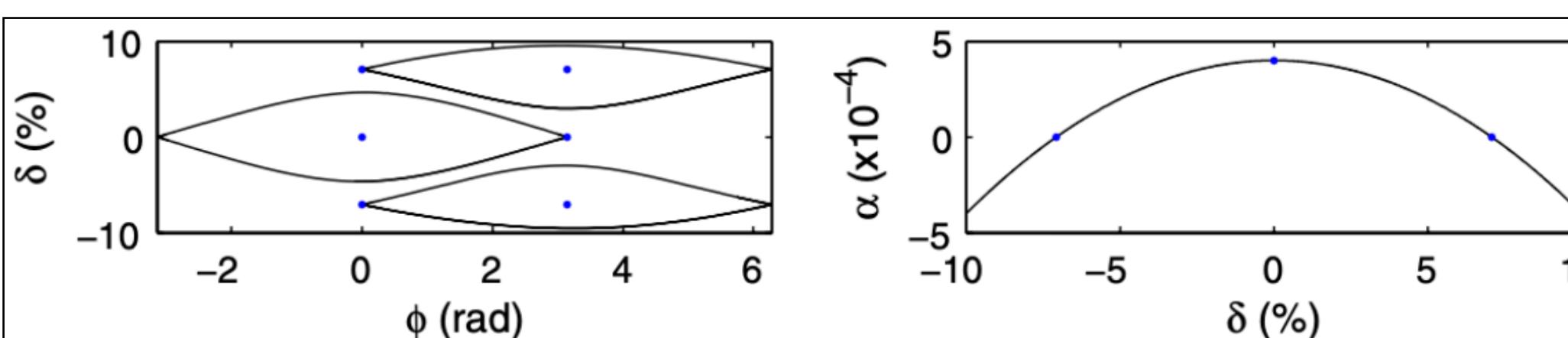


## Low-Alpha Storage Ring Motivations

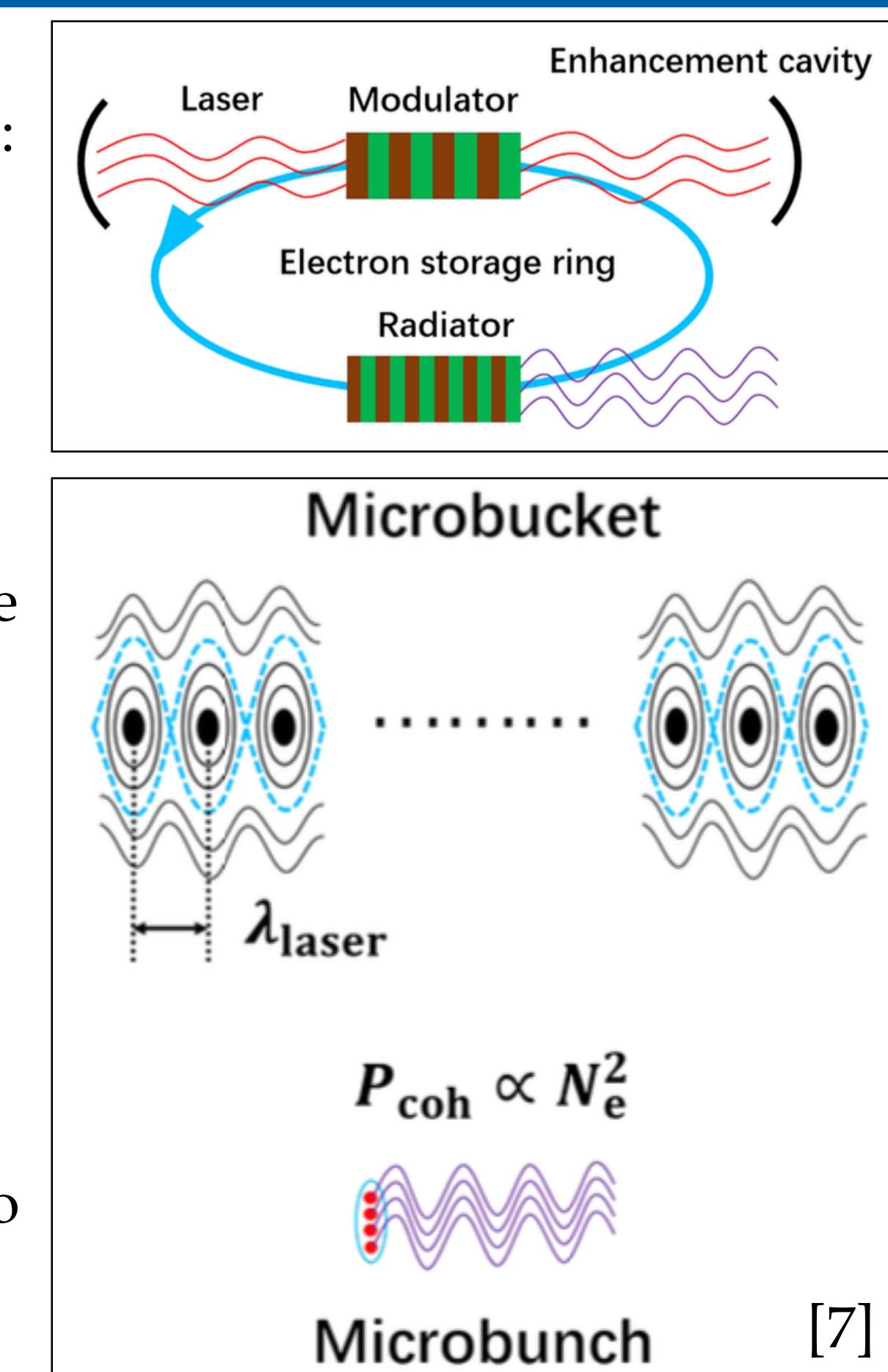
- The momentum compaction describes the variation in orbit length as a function of the momentum deviation  $\delta$  of the particles:

$$\Delta C/C_0 = \alpha_1 \delta + \alpha_2 \delta^2 + \alpha_3 \delta^3 + \dots$$

- Reducing the momentum compaction, as in a low-alpha storage ring, results in an overall decrease in the longitudinal spread of particles with respect to the reference over a complete orbit.
- Additionally allows for new areas of stable phase space at a phase of  $\pi$  from RF buckets: alpha buckets [5].

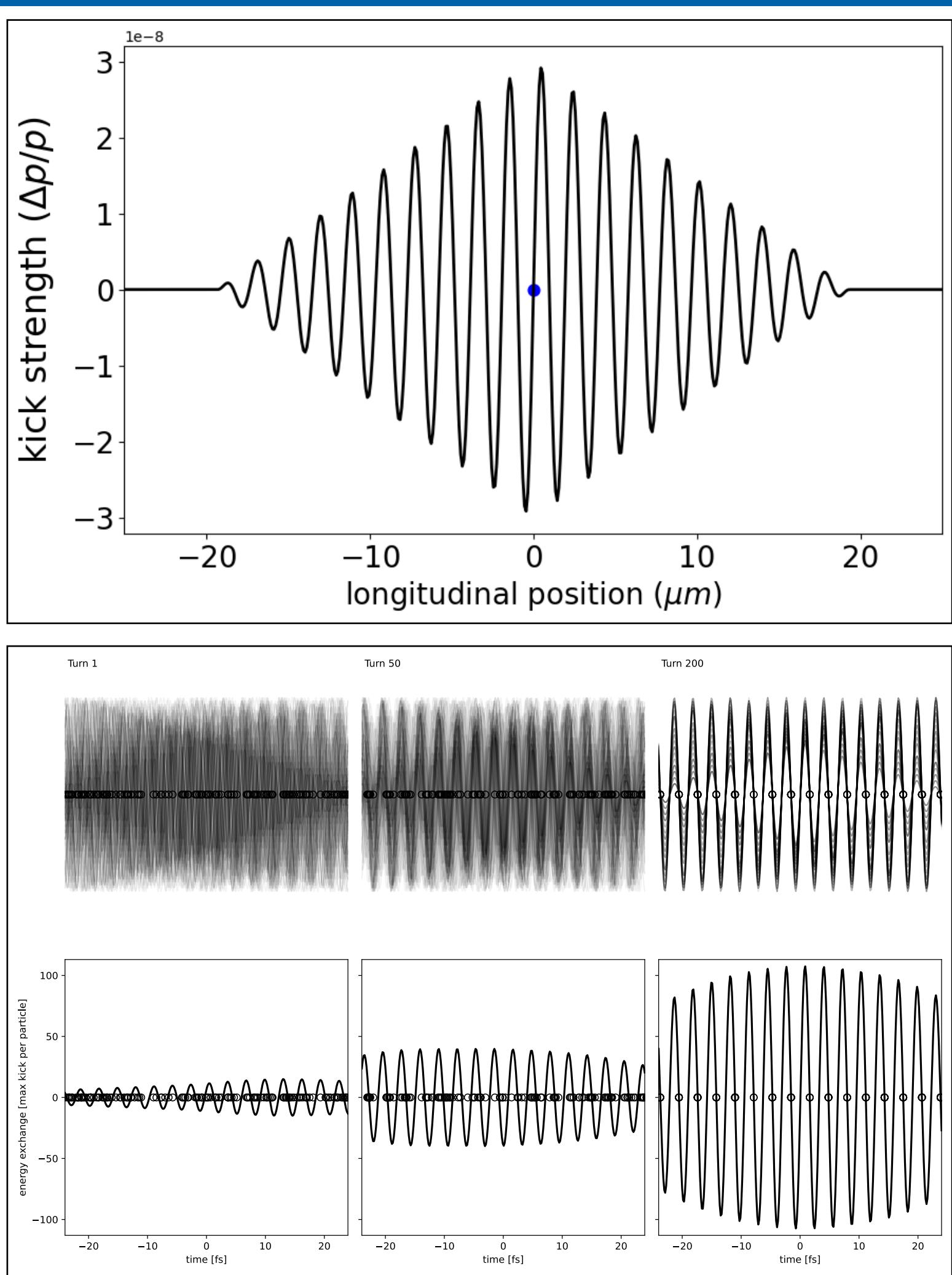


- Steady-State Microbunching (SSMB) is a potential application of low-alpha lattices and a highly active area of research: potential to make a storage-ring based light source with the brightness of an FEL but with a much higher rep rate [6].

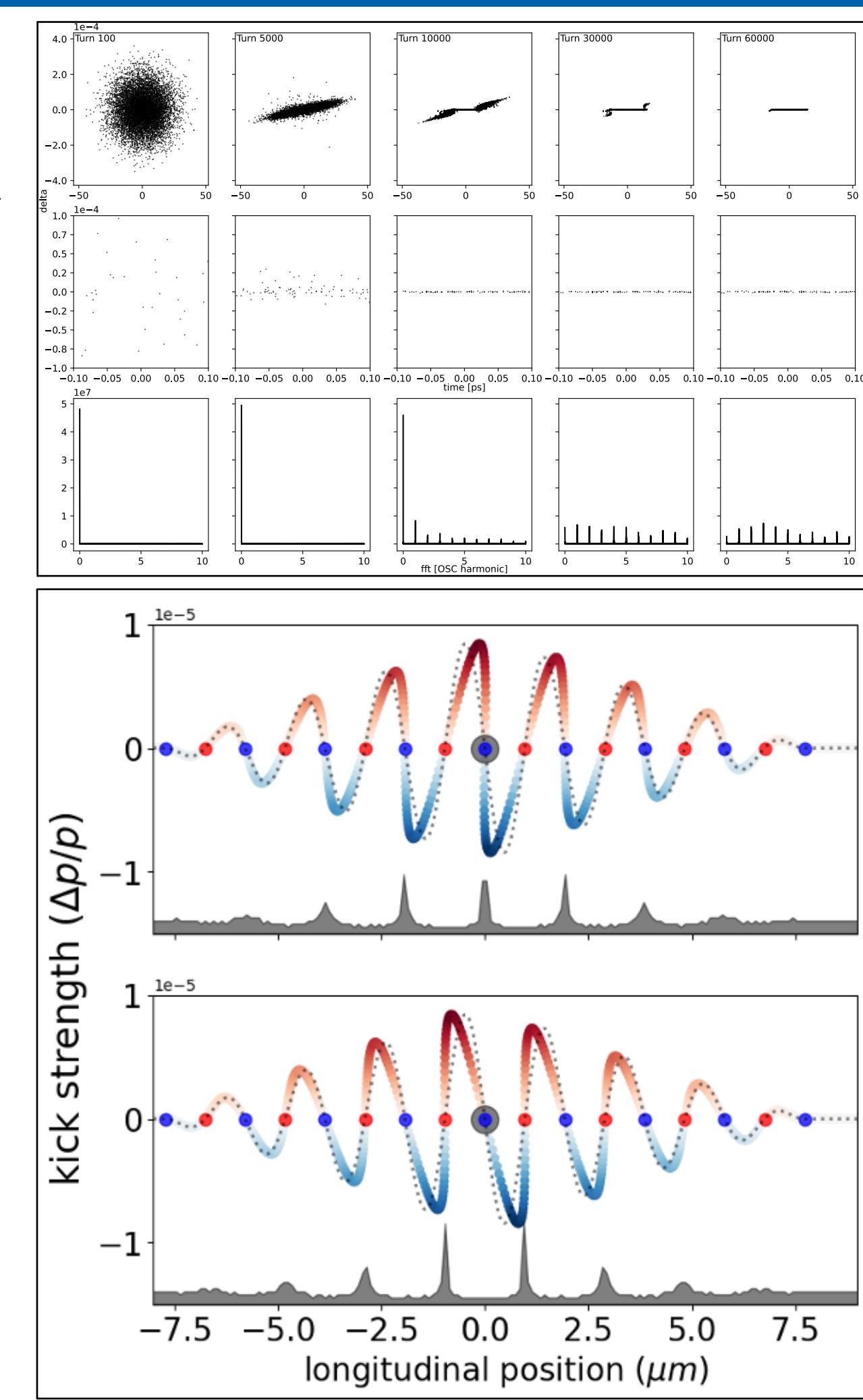


## Optical Stochastic Crystallization

- OSC is an advanced beam cooling technique, with bandwidths  $\sim O(10^4)$  greater than stochastic cooling.
- Longitudinal particle positions are encoded in radiation from the 'pickup' undulator; converted to momentum deviation via dispersive bypass.
- Corrective energy exchanges applied in 'kicker' undulator.

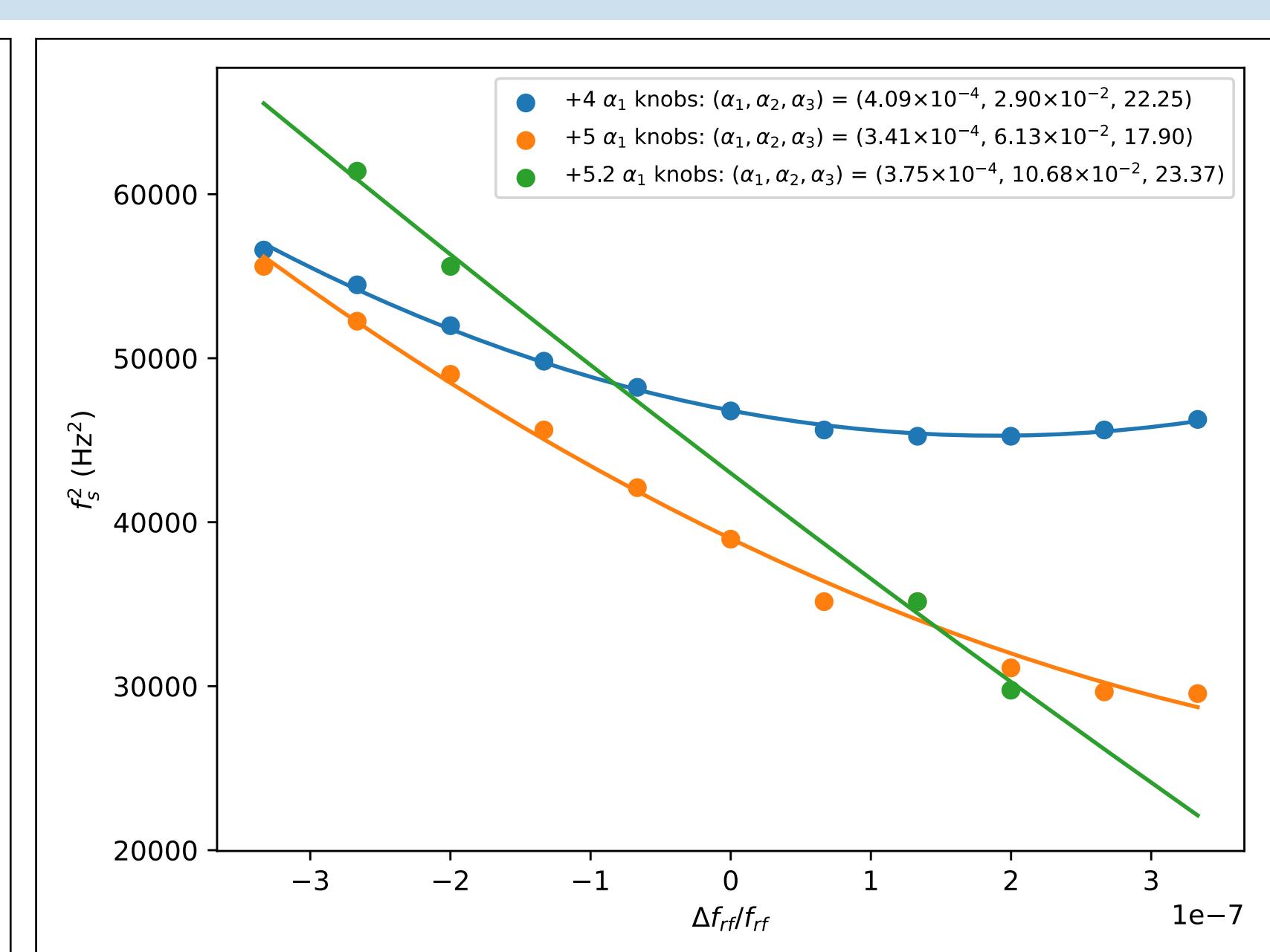
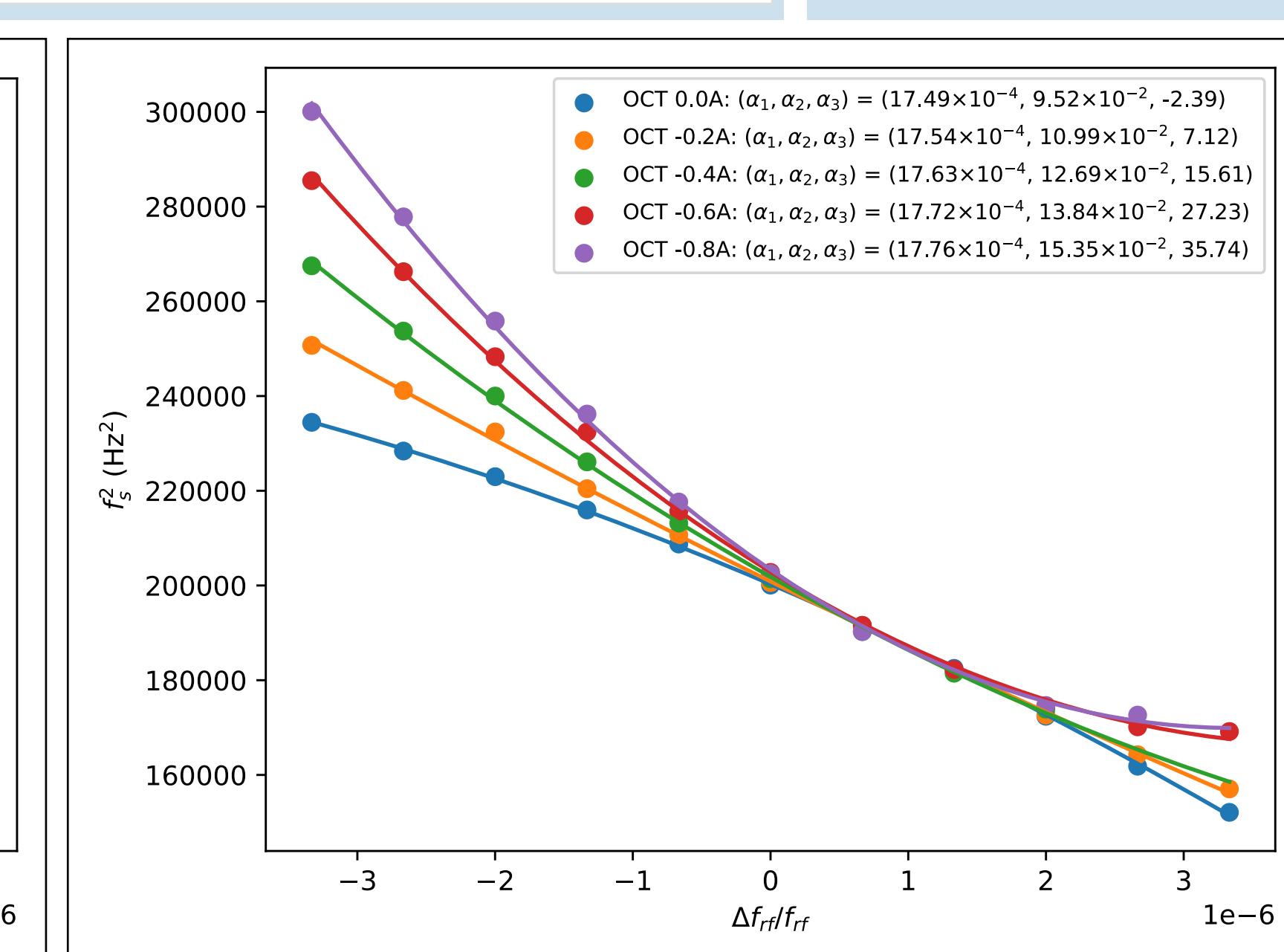
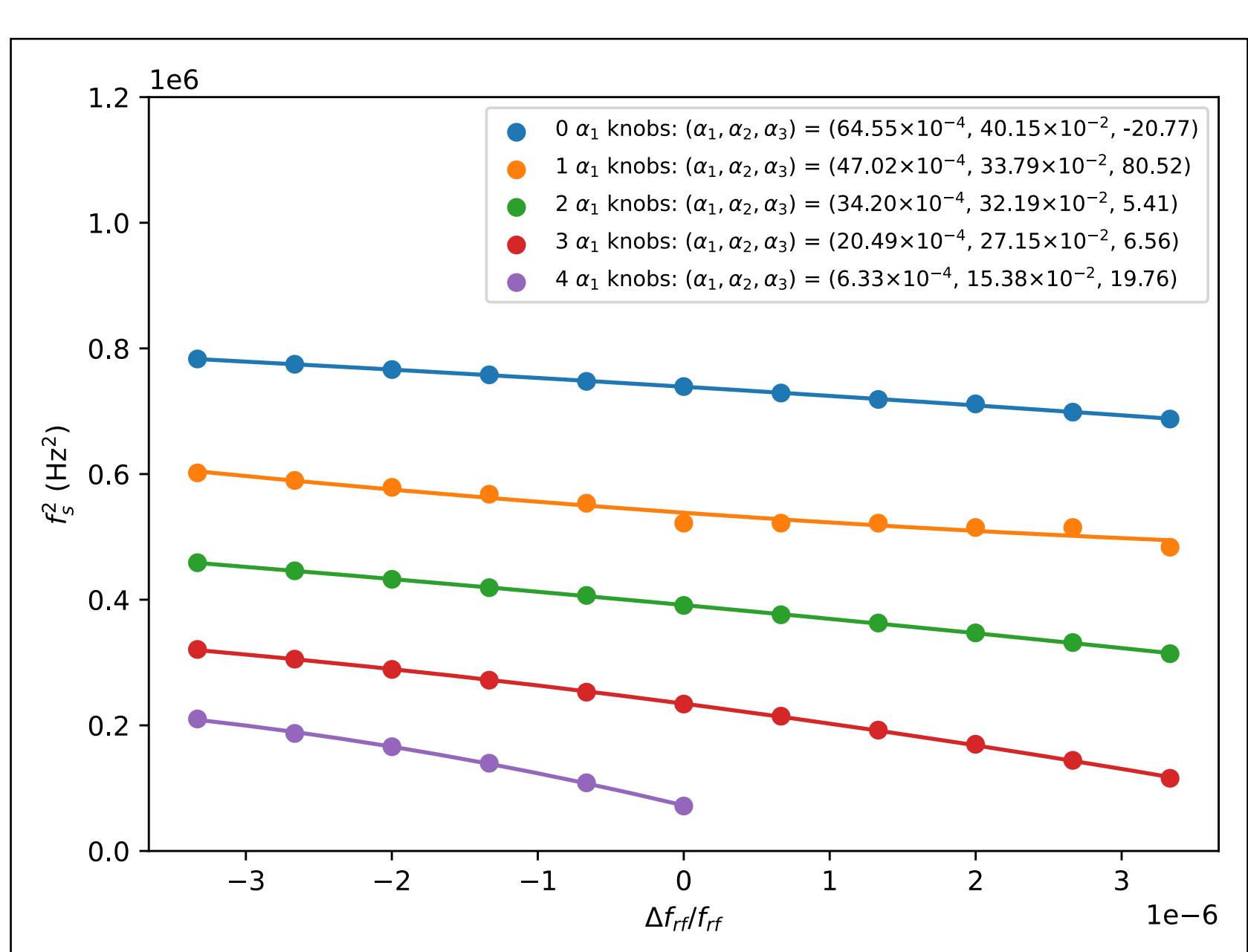
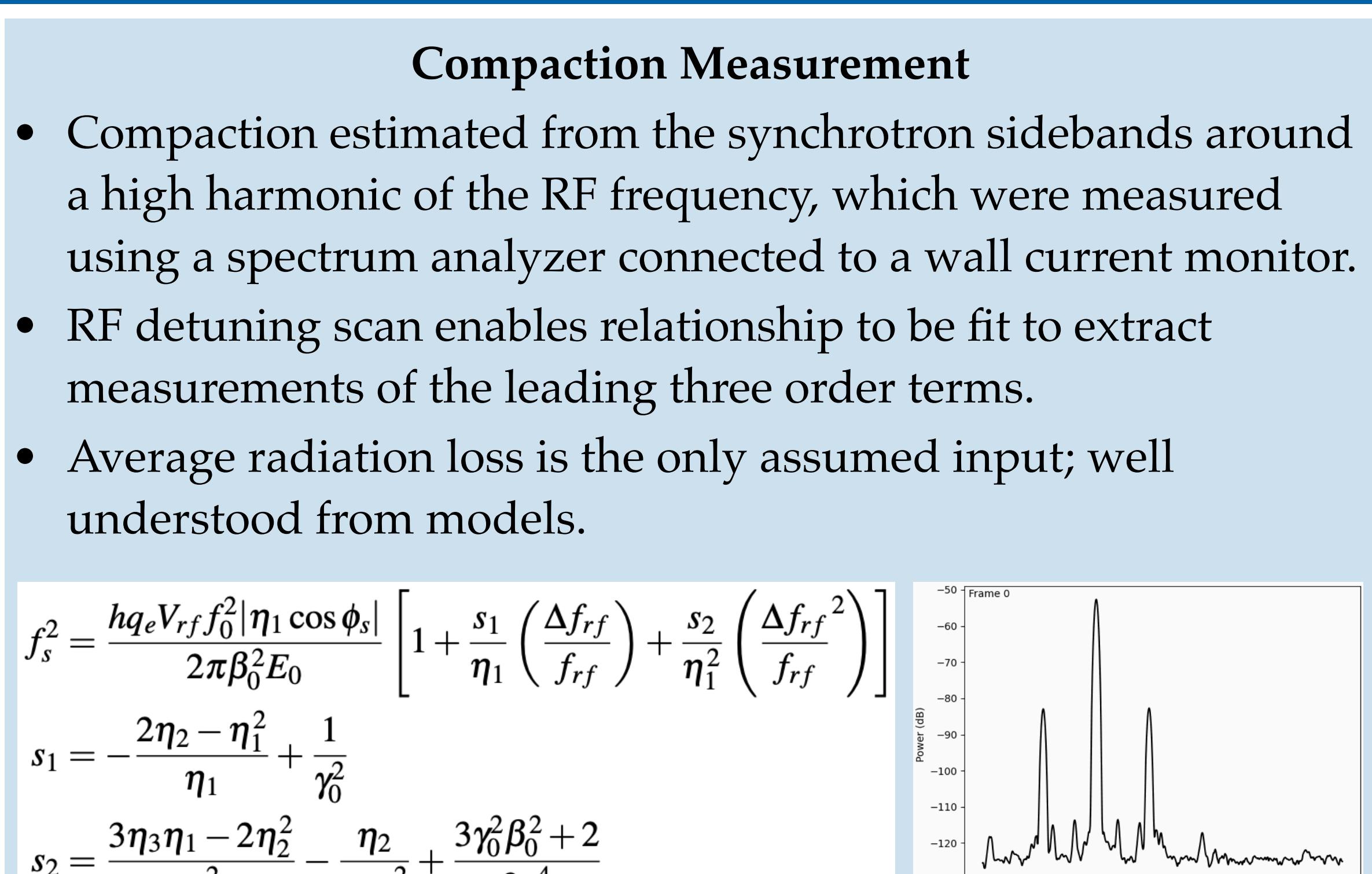
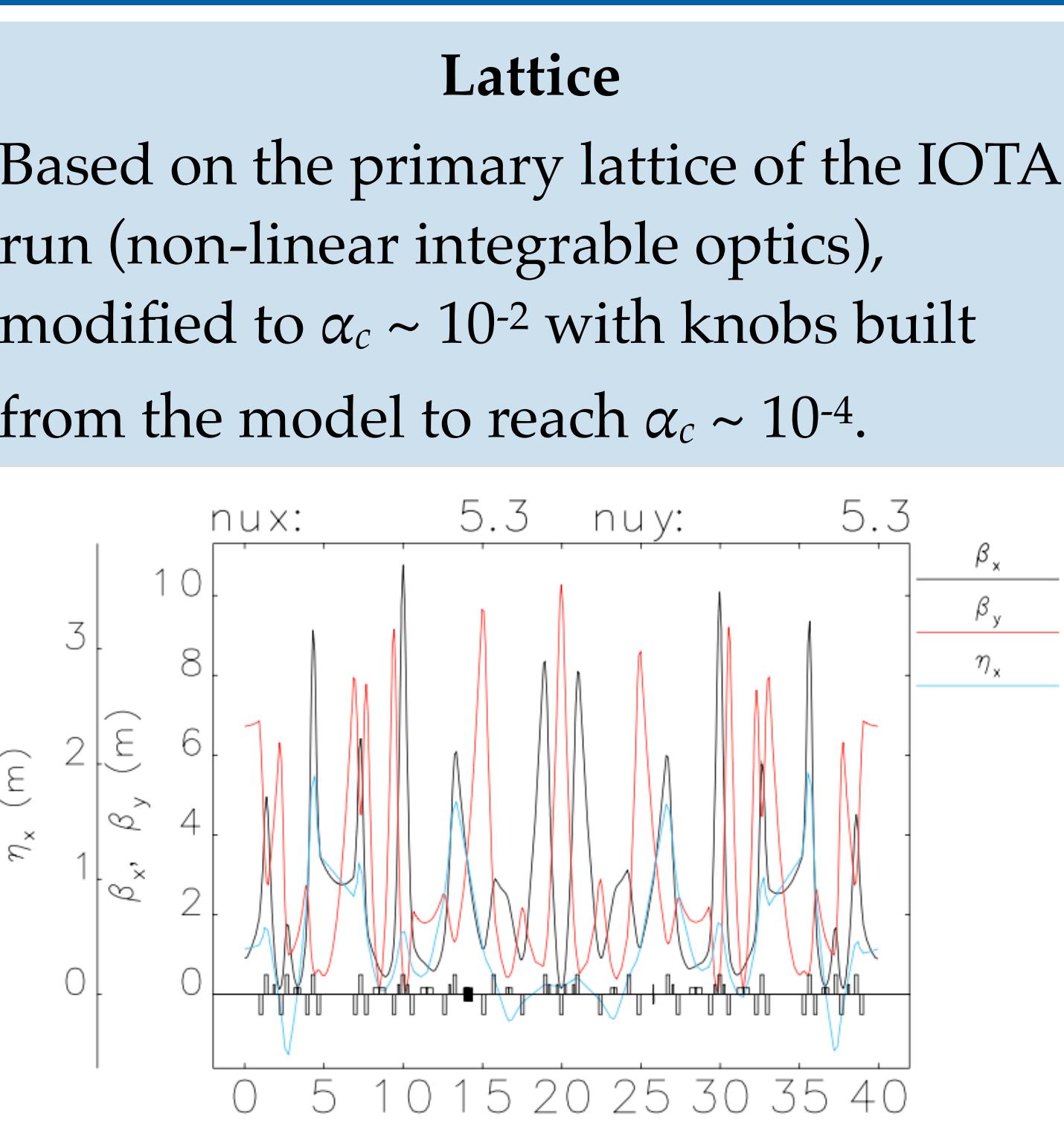


- An OSC system can be operated to produce longitudinal structure at the optical wavelength, which can lead to SSMB with a mutually configured storage ring: Optical Stochastic Crystallization (OSX).
- Ensuring insufficient randomization of particles leads to strong, self-reinforcing collective effects due to each particle feeling the wake of all neighbors within the system bandwidth.
- To promote and sustain SSMB:
  - sufficient gain in the OSC system from optical amplification;
  - sufficiently low momentum compaction with the same sign as the OSC bypass;
  - transverse-longitudinal coupling minimized at the undulators, for example by ensuring the dispersion invariant is sufficiently small.
- First demonstration of OSX planned for the next OSC experiment run.



## Low Alpha Demonstrations at IOTA

- A short experimental program in Fall 2023 aimed to demonstrate the feasibility of low-alpha operation at IOTA as a first step in realizing these potentials.
- Successfully demonstrated control over the leading three terms  $\alpha_1$ ,  $\alpha_2$  and  $\alpha_3$  using linear optics, sextupoles and octupoles respectively, including scanning  $\alpha_2$  and  $\alpha_3$  through zero for different values of  $\alpha_1$ .
- Developed technique for reaching lower compactions and established low-alpha operations as a potential standard operations mode.
- Achieved lowest compaction of  $3.4 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $\sim 15$  times lower than previously operated in IOTA.
- Reaching lower compactions and transitioning to alpha buckets was not possible due to the end of the experimental run, though remain feasible.



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## Notes & References

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 [3] JINST 12 T03002 (2017)  
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[5] Phys. Rev. Accel. Beams 14 040705 (2011)

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