



The mechanical structure for the new SDHCAL Prototype

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General overview

Final objective :

To design and build a mechanical absorber SHDCAL structure with ~4 long (3m) plates using beam welding capable to accommodate the largest ILD GRPC chambers .



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Welding vs screwed

Mechanical (absorber) structure of sampling calorimeters must be robust and compact with as less as possible dead spaces (lateral and longitudinally)

It can be built by assembling together **absorber plates and spacers** that guarantee the space needed to insert the GRPC detectors (GRPC thickness = 11mm).

The assembly of absorber plates and spacers can be done using:

→ Bolts

Big bolts are needed to support the big weight of the structure

→ biggest lateral size of the spacer

→ Increase lateral dead zones between prototype modules

→ Welding

→ Allows to decrease the lateral size of the spacer → Less dead zone

→ Could introduce deformations

Different possible welding methods can be considered

The most precise

Electron beam welding:

The **best** but it **needs vacuum conditions** and not clear how affordable it is for big modules



rooines

General working plan & protocol

Working plan

- Optimization of assembly procedures using electron beam welding with smaller structures
- II. Design of the final structure and associated handling tools
- III. Construction of the handling tools
- IV. Assembly of the final structure and Verification

Assembly protocol

- 1.- Plates production and verification of dimensions
- 2.- The structure is **pre-assembled at CIEMAT** using smaller bolts (to fix the position of the plates) and some pieces for ridigity the structure before welding for transport and manipulation
- 3.- Verification of the dimensions of the structure
- 4 .- Electron beam welding at CERN
- 5.- Verification of the dimensions of the structure at CIEMAT to check the deformations



Optimization using electron beam welding with small structures - First prototype





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Electron beam welding machine @ CERN

Collimate electron beam

Very narrow welding
Less deformations

Vacuum conditions needed







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4(1m2) plates prototype welding @ CERN

The welding sequence has been the following:





Example of deformations measured

Measurements have been done AFTER REMOVING the PIECES FOR RIDIGITY (the picture includes them)



Differences with respect to the initial status of the plate in Z. Differences with respect to the initial status of the distance between plates

Deformations found (~1mm) bigger than expected in X-axis. O.K in Y-axis

Probably due to the welding sequence used



Welding optimization with new small prototypes

After discussing latest results from the EBW process with the CERN people, (distortions of the module were bigger (~1mm) than expected) we conclude **that it will be necessary more tests to optimize the method for minimizing deformations.**

Three new smaller prototypes ~1000x400 cm2 to be built and welded to optimize the procedure

before assembly the final one

First small prototype:

Repeat the same process to verify the results



Second small prototype

Optimize the process by:

- 1.- Using a more symmetric welding sequence (ABFDEC instead of ABCDEF)
- 2.- Changing parameters to weld with a more focalized beam

Third small prototype

Repeat the same processes of the second prototype to confirm the method



Production of plates

Till now (1m3 and small prototypes) the required plate flatness has been obtained by machining the plates but this process is very time consuming and expensive for the final production.

Roller leveling could be the solution (already used by the HCAL for ~2m long plates)

Last week we (E.Calvo & MC Fouz) have performed some tests at ARKU at Baden-Baden (Germany) <u>www.arku.de/</u> for several plates:



8 small plates (~1000x400 mm2) for 2 small prototypes (4 plates each) 5 plates (~2900 x 1010 mm2) for the final prototype (4 plates + 1 spare)







Roller level machine – FlatMaster 120





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Leveling Procedure

The plate enters 3 times in the machine in two different orientations





Steps 1 & 2: mainly for stress relief Step 3: mainly for final flatness

Stress relief helps on decreasing deformations during the welding

➔ Another advantage vs plate machining



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Quality control measurements of plates

A fast quality control has been performed during the tests at ARKU → More precise tests will be done at CIEMAT (setup still to be prepared)

The measurements have been done using feeler gauges





The larger plates were tested over the leveling machine (1mm planarity) and the smaller plates over a precision table (too small for the big plates)

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1 Data sheet per plate - Example





Results for all plates



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The electron beam welding test shows reasonable results but more tests and optimization is needed

The first measurements of the plate flatness seems well bellow the 1mm but precise measurements of the flatness are still pending

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