

ET Coating R&D @UniSa/UniSannio

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Summary



UniSa/UniSannio Team

Scientific Case and Goals of UniSa/UniSannio group Coating noise relevance, and the quest for cryo-friendly coating materials Design and Fabrication of optical coatings based on amorphous nano-layered oxides

Optical Coating -Our Deposition Facility Ion-Assisted Electron Beam from OptoTech

Optical Coating – Our Characterization Facility Scanning probe microscopes, X-Ray diffractometers, Scanning Electron Microscopes

Collaborations

Preliminary results, on-going work, and future plans

UniSa/UniSannio Team

| Name | Affiliation | Specialization |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Fabrizio Bobba | UniSa - INFN | Material Science |
| Giovanni Carapella | UniSa - INFN | Material Science |
| Francesco Chiadini | UniSa - INFN | Optics/Metamaterials |
| Cinzia Di Giorgio | UniSa - INFN | Material Science |
| Ofelia Durante | UniSa - INFN | Ph.D. Student |
| Rosalba Fittipaldi | CNR-SPIN - INFN | Material Science |
| Vincenzo Fiumara | UniBas - INFN | Optics/Metamaterials |
| Joshua Neilson | UniSannio - INFN | Ph.D. Student |
| Vincenzo Pierro | UniSannio - INFN | Optical Modelling |
| Innocenzo Pinto | UniSannio - INFN | Optics, OSA Fellow |
| Maria Principe | UniSannio - INFN | Optical Engineering |





7 permanents2 Post-Docs2 Ph.D. students



Noise Spectrum of Virgo GW interferometer



Power spectrum of mirror thermal noise: Temperature

$$S_B(f) = \frac{2 k_B T}{\pi^{3/2} f} \frac{(1 - \sigma_s^2)}{w Y_s} \varphi_c$$



Noise Spectrum of Virgo GW interferometer Advanced Virgo Noise Budget Quantum noise 10-21 Gravity gradient Suspension thermal noise Coating Brownian noise 5 Coating thermo-optics noise Visibility volume Substrate Brownian noise $\propto PSD_{floor}^{-3/2}$ & event rate 10 Excess gas Sensitivity [1/IHz] Total noise 4 10-2 Mechanical loss 10-2 behavior in nowadays used coating materials! 10^{2} 10⁴ 10 10 Frequency [Hz]

Power spectrum of mirror thermal noise: Temperature

$$S_B(f) = \frac{2 k_B T}{\pi^{3/2} f} \frac{(1 - \sigma_s^2)}{w Y_s} \varphi_c$$





Cryo-friendly coating materials exist..



Power spectrum of mirror thermal noise: Temperature

$$S_B(f) = \frac{2 k_B T}{\pi^{3/2} f} \frac{(1 - \sigma_s^2)}{w Y_s} \varphi_c$$





..but they crystalize very soon upon annealing!

2593.9 Hz

200

150

250

300

Power spectrum of mirror thermal noise: Temperature

$$S_B(f) = \frac{2 k_B T}{\pi^{3/2} f} \frac{(1 - \sigma_s^2)}{w Y_s} \varphi_c$$









Design, production & characterization of innovative optical coatings

Starting point: Bragg Reflector



Condition of highest Reflectivity

 $t_{\rm H} = t_{\rm L} = -$

Modified Bragg Reflector

Low Refractive Index . n

High Refractive Index . nu

UniSa/UniSannio group research line

Optimized design with minimum thermal noise [PRD 81 (2010) 122001]

Replace homogeneous layers with *stratified nano-composites*

Background of UniSa/UniSannio group : Nanolayered

Composites



Prescribing the nanolaminate index n_{eff} determines uniquely the thickness ratio of the low / high index materials

 $\frac{\delta_{L}}{\delta_{H}} = \left(\frac{{n_{H}}^{2} - {n_{eff}}^{2}}{{n_{eff}}^{2} - {n_{L}}^{2}}\right)$

Prescribing the optical thickness z of the nanolaminate (in units of λ_0/n_{eff}) and a fiducial minimum thickness of the nanolayers yields all feasible (N, δ_H, δ_L) designs, from $N(\delta_H + \delta_L) = z\lambda_0 n_{eff}^{-1}$

Equivalent TiO_2/SiO_2 subwavelength doublet based, QWL thick composites with n_{eff} =2.09

 $\delta_{SiO_2}[nm]$

3.51549

3.28112

3.076052.89511

 $\begin{array}{r} 2.73427 \\ 2.59036 \\ 2.46084 \\ 2.34366 \\ 2.23713 \end{array}$

2.13986

2.0507

1.96867

| N | $\delta_{TiO_2}[nm]$ | $\delta_{SiO_2}[nm]$ | N | $\delta_{TiO_2}[i]$ |
|-----|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 78.0559 | 49.2168 | 14 | 5.5754 |
| 2 | 39.0279 | 24.6084 | 15 | 5.2037 |
| 3 | 26.0186 | 16.4056 | 16 | i 4.8784 |
| 4 | 19.514 | 12.3042 | 17 | 4.5915 |
| 5 | 15.6112 | 9.84337 | 18 | 4.3364 |
| 6 | 13.0093 | 8.20281 | 19 | 4.1082 |
| 7 | 11.1508 | 7.03098 | 20 |) 3.9027 |
| 8 | 9.75699 | 6.1521 | 21 | . 3.7169 |
| 9 | 8.67288 | 5.46854 | 22 | 2 3.548 |
| 10 | 7.80559 | 4.92168 | $\overline{23}$ | 3.3937 |
| 11 | 7.09599 | 4.47426 | 24 | 3.2523 |
| _12 | 6.50466 | 4.1014 | 25 | 5 3.1222 |
| 13 | 6.0043 | 3.78591 | | |

Many equivalent designs, with different N, δ_L, δ_H



 TiO_2 does not crystallize upon annealing up to 300°C when stack with SiO₂, in multilayers structure (10 nm each layer).

 TiO_2 does not crystallize upon annealing up to 700 ° C when stack with SiO₂, in multilayers structure (3 nm each layer).



Main Advantage: ...thus resulting into lower losses even at cryo-T!



Main Advantage of nano-layering strategy:

Higher crystallization temperature.

guaranteeing

Higher temperature of post-deposition annealing.

leading to

 Reduction of optical absorption and/or mechanical losses;
Smoother surfaces and interfaces.
Material stress and strain release.





Ion Assisted Deposition Facility

- □ High-vacuum deposition chamber (10⁻⁷ mbar)
- Electron-beam source equipped with 6 crucibles
- Plasma source (IAD)
- Multiple samples deposition
 - Sample size (from 1 to 5 inches)
 - Ceramic lamp for possible high temperature depositions (up to 350°C)
 - Rotary substrate holder for enhanced uniformity with sub-nm accuracy/repeatability
 - Fully programmable via GUI



Ion Assisted – Electron Beam

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- In ion-assisted deposition, high energy ion beam (Ar, O₂) is focused toward the substrate
- Thermally evaporated atoms adsorb kinetic energy by hitting the ions, thus increasing their own energy when reaching the substrate, giving rise to a more dense coating.

Optical Coatings – Characterization Facility



Scanning Probe Microscopes





X-Ray Diffractometers

Optical Coatings – Characterization Facility



Recent addition: Annealing Facility

- Adjustable annealing temperature from room temperature up to 900°C;
- PID Feedback controlled power supply heater with stability of 0.05°C;
- Adjustable annealing pressure from room pressure down to 3x10⁻⁴ mBar;
- Controllable annealing atmosphere.



Optical Coatings – Characterization Facility



Main Tasks: Contribute to structural and morphological characterization of coatings, before and after heat treatment.

Collaborations



Besides structural and morphological analysis, our group collaborates with:



.. for optical characterization and mechanical loss measurements.

Results and Future Plans



Characterization of new samples

Preliminary Tests





Preliminary Tests





Preliminary Results: Fabrication



Deposition of 200-nm single materials

| Material | Plasma | Total Thickness (nm) |
|------------------|--------|-------------------------|
| SiO ₂ | Yes | 200 |
| TiO ₂ | Yes | 200 |
| ZrO ₂ | Yes | 200 |
| HfO ₂ | Yes | 200 |



Temperature (K)

What do we know about these materials?

TiO₂ and HfO₂ do not show cryo-peak in mechanical losses BUT crystalize upon annealing at low temperature (200-300°C) with consequent blowup of optical properties!



Preliminary Results: Fabrication



| Sample | Plasma | n. Layers | Single layer thickness (nm) | Total Thickness (nm) |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| TiO ₂ /ZrO ₂ | Yes | 8 | 25.6 | 205 |
| TiO ₂ /ZrO ₂ | Yes | 16 | 12.6 | 202 |
| TiO ₂ /ZrO ₂ | Yes | 32 | 6.4 | 205 |
| TiO ₂ /ZrO ₂ | Yes | 64 | 3.2 | 205 |
| TiO ₂ /ZrO ₂ | Yes | 122 | 1.6 | 195 |
| TiO ₂ /ZrO ₂ | Yes | 128 | 1.6 | 205 |

TiO₂ and HfO₂ do not show cryo-peak in mechanical losses BUT crystalize upon annealing at low temperature (200-300°C) with consequent blowup of optical properties!



Before Annealing – as deposited:

■ We measured the AFM topography to qualify the morphology and quantify surface roughness and uniformity of top-most TiO₂ surface



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- We performed X-Ray diffraction and checked the amorphic nature of our samples;
- We performed SAXS on multilayered samples and confirmed the presence of segmentation;



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- □ We found a reduction of surface roughness as the layer thickness decreases (increased segmentation);
- We performed X-Ray diffraction and checked the amorphous nature of our samples;
- We performed SAXS on multilayered samples and confirmed the presence of segmentation;
- We cross-sectioned the multilayered samples and imaged the layers by profiting of advances scanning probe techniques.

Friction Force Microscopy Ultrasonic Force Microscopy TiO₂ 400nm ZrO Low High Colour contrast is representative of different friction coefficient. TiO₂ ZrO TiO₂/ZrO₂ TiO₂ surface 8-layer Substrate High Colour contrast is representative of different stiffness.

Low

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- Granular morphology is preserved after heat treatment.
- A decreasing trend of surface roughness is observed.
- XRD demonstrate that T-crystallization is higher than 300C, given the used annealing conditions.







Annealing at higher temperatures, AFM and XRD analyses on annealed TiO_2/ZrO_2 are on-going!



Results and Future Plans



Characterization of new samples



Thank you for the attention.