

# Development of femtoAmpere photo-current measurement facility in preparation of LISA Charge Management System end-to-end discharge test

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## Laser Interferometry Space Antenna (LISA)





## Gravitational Reference Sensor(GRS)



- Test Mass: free-falling geodesic reference
- Electrode Housing: capacitive position sensing(nm/ $\sqrt{Hz}$ ) and force actuation(nm/s<sup>2</sup>)
- Charge Management system: discharges the test mass shining UV light
- Caging systems: keep the test mass in place during lunch and release it with  $\mu m/s$  residual velocity
- Vacuum chamber: provide controlled environment

## Capacitive Sensing and Actuation





## LISA Noise Requirements

Strain equivalent noise PSD

$$S_{strain}(\omega) = rac{2}{c^2 \omega^2 \sin^2 \omega T} \left[ 4 S_g + \omega^4 S_{IFO} 
ight] + 4 S_{\delta 
u/
u}$$





numbers from LISA Red Book

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 $S_g^{1/2} \leq 3 \,\mathrm{fm/s^2/\sqrt{Hz}} \times \left[1 + \left(\frac{0.4 \,\mathrm{mHz}}{f}\right)^2\right]^{1/2}$  $\times \left[1 + \left(\frac{f}{8 \,\mathrm{mHz}}\right)^4\right]^{1/.}$ Interferometer(IFO)  $S_{IFO}^{1/2} \leq 10 \,\mathrm{fm}/\sqrt{\mathrm{Hz}} \times \left[1 + \left(\frac{2\,\mathrm{mHz}}{f}\right)^4\right]^{1/2}$ 

Test Mass acceleration noise

## Stray Electric Fields and Test Mass Charge

The total Test Mass charge  $Q_{TM}$  couples with the residual stray  $\sim V_2$  electrostatic fields from the electrods  $\Delta_x$  into a force(acceleration) noise.

$$= F_{x,noise}^{Q_{TM}} = -\frac{Q_{TM}}{C_{TM}} \left| \frac{\partial C_x}{\partial x} \right| \Delta_x \qquad \Delta_x = V_1 + V_2 - V_3 - V_4$$

$$\int_{g}^{0} S_g^{\Delta_x} = \left( \frac{1}{M_{TM}} \frac{Q_{TM}}{C_{TM}} \left| \frac{\partial C_x}{\partial x} \right| \right)^2 S_{\Delta_x}(f) = \left[ 2 \frac{fm}{s^2 \sqrt{Hz}} \times \left( \frac{Q_{TM}}{2.4 \, \text{pC}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{S_{\Delta_x}^{1/2}}{200 \, \mu \text{V} / \sqrt{\text{Hz}}} \right) \right]^2$$

$$\downarrow$$

 $|Q_{TM}| \le 2.4 \,\mathrm{pC} \Leftrightarrow |V_{TM}| \le 70 \,\mathrm{mV}$ 

f [Hz]

10-3

10-2

TM

10-1

[ZH/25/m]215 10<sup>-14</sup> 10<sup>-14</sup> 10<sup>-15</sup>

 $10^{-16}$ 

10-5

 $C_3$ 

Total Acceleration Noise Allocat Stray Electrostatics Noise Stray Electric Fields Noise Actuation Noise

## Charge Management System

Particles from cosmic ray and solar wind with  $E \ge 100 \text{ MeV}$  produce a **net positive charging** of the TMs with rate  $\lambda_{net} = 1 - 100 \text{ e/s}.$ 



from Charging of free-falling test masses in orbit due to cosmic rays: Results

from LISA Pathfinder, Physical Review D 107, 062007(2023)

The Charge Menagment System(CMS) counters the charging by discharging the TMs via the photoelectric effect. LISA CMS will shine UV light at  ${\sim}250\,\text{nm}({\sim}4.9\,\text{eV})$ . Two possible discharge strategies are aviable:

- Fast Discharge: light is shone for 600 s when  $Q_{TM} = 2.4 \,\mathrm{pC}$  to discharge it to  $-2.4 \,\mathrm{pC}$ , corresponding to a 4 fA photocurrent
- Continuous Discharge: shining light while the TM is around the equilibrium point(possibly at  $Q_{TM} = 0 \text{ pC}$ ), the TMs is kept below the noise requirement, corresponding to a continuous 4 aA photocurrent



## Why a new facility?



- LPF demonstrated in-flight operability of the system, but with variability of the yield properties for different surfaces
- Yield stability is needed for continuous discharge
- Yield change explanations are qualitative
- Try to replicate the worrying "0-Yield" measurement of LPF testing
- Test with integrated GRS

from Davide Dal Bosoco Ph.D thesis, and Peter Wass et

al. work at Imperial College

## End-to-end discharge facility



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## Photocurrent Measurements



- Modulation of V<sub>TM</sub>
- Actually  $i_m = i(V_{TM}) i(0V)$
- Need to measure darkcurrent  $R_{\textit{leakage}} \approx 12\,\text{T}\Omega$



- Modulation of light source
- V<sub>TM</sub> is fixed
- Only one measurement needed

## Experimental Discharge Curves

- $V_{TM} = -V_{EH} \alpha V_{inj}$
- $\alpha = \frac{C_{inj}}{C_{tot}} = 0.12$
- Yield  $Y = (I/e)/(P_{UV}/E_{UV})$



#### end-to-end facility



## Experimental Discharge Curves



from Davide Dal Bosco Ph.D. thesis

end-to-end facility



## Experimental Discharge Curves



4TM Torsion Pendulum

from Davide Dal Bosco Ph.D. thesis

#### end-to-end facility



- Verify ability to predict discharge curves for any  $V_{INJ}$  applied, knowing the curve for  $V_{INJ} = 0 V$
- Transfer the measurement technique to OHB-I for testing on EM, QM and FM of LISA from next year
- make the facility bake-out capable to repeat the conditions that led to yield disapperance during LPF testing



## References



#### 🛸 Francesco Venturelli, William Joseph Weber

Development of femtoAmpere photoelectric measurement facility for testing UV test mass discharge for the LISA mission

Master Thesis, University of Trento, 2023



Davide Dal Bosco Torsion Pendulum Testing of the LISA Charge Managemnet System

PhD thesis. University of Trento. 2023.

📎 LISA Science Study Team, ESA Study Team LISA Definition Study Report - LISA Red Book) Avaiable at https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/lisa/documents

#### M Armano et al.

Charging of free-falling test masses in orbit due to cosmic raysL Results from LISA Pathfinder Phys. Rev. D. vol. 107, 2023.

#### Peter J. Wass *et al.*

Effective decrease of photoelectric emission threshold from gold plated surfaces Review of Scientific Instruments, 2019.

## **Backup Slides**

## Noise PSD



$$S_i^{1/2}(10 \text{ mHz}) = 16.3 \text{ fA/Hz}^{0.5}$$
  
 $\sigma_i(10 \text{ mHz}) = rac{S_i^{1/2}(10 \text{ mHz})}{\sqrt{300} \text{s}} = 0.9 \text{ fA}$