

# Non-evaporable getter (NEG) technology for HV and UHV applications

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## **OUTLINE**

- 01.** A few words about SAES Group and the High Vacuum Division (HVD)
- 02.** What is a Non-Evaporable Getter (NEG): main chemico-physical properties
- 03.** NEG pumps:
  - Key features
  - Main models
- 04.** Introduction to Sputter Ion Pumps (SIPs): working principles
- 05.** NEG-SIP combination: the NEXTorr® concept
- 06.** Application of NEG pumps:
  - Reactivation and outgassing
  - Procedures
  - Particle release
  - Pump-down with no auxiliary pumps
  - Applications
- 07.** Distributed pumping: NEG coating

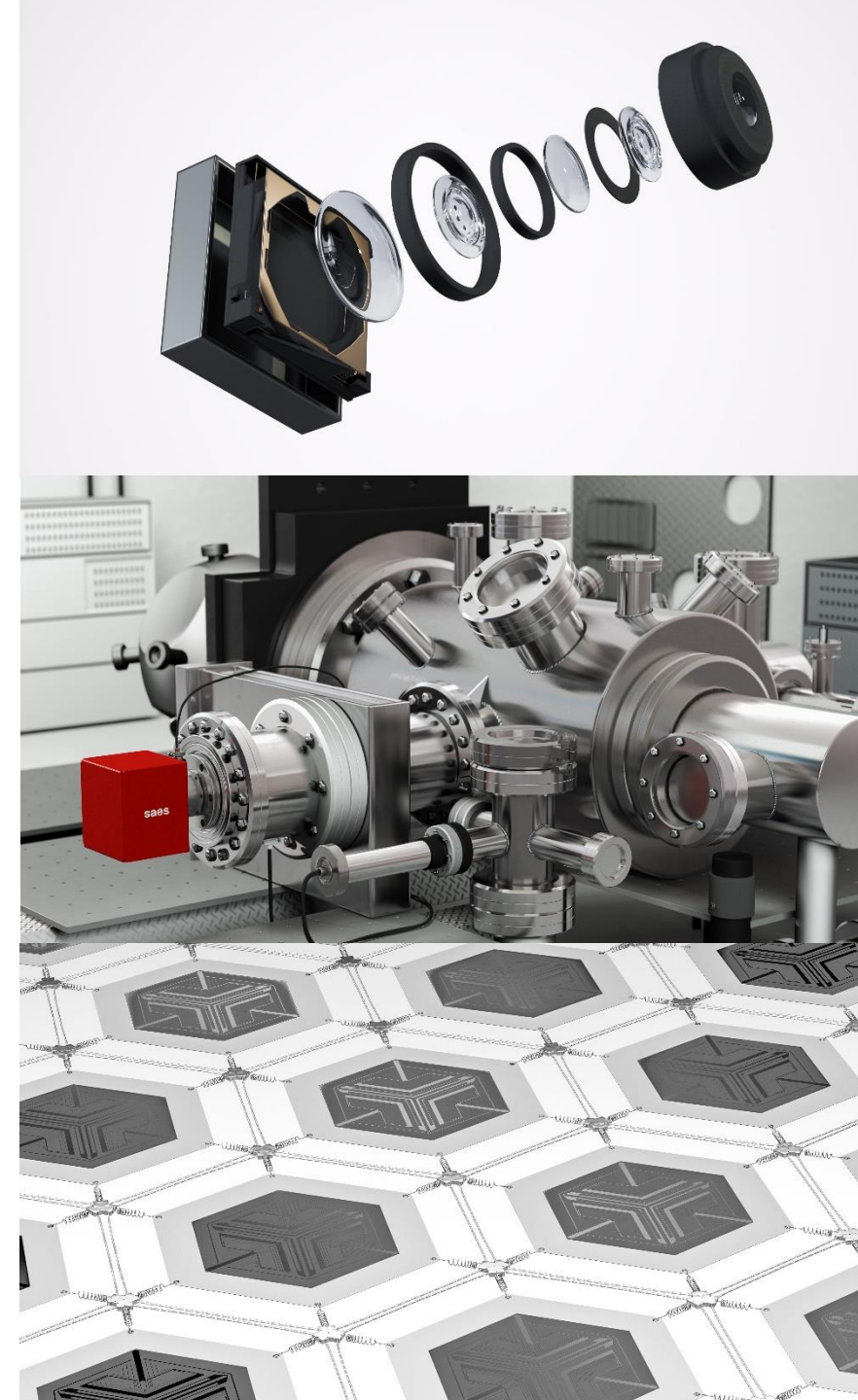
**Appendix** SAES®, SRV, Cinel: integrated solutions for vacuum applications

# **SAES Group and the High Vacuum Division**

## SAES® Core Business

SAES® is an **advanced functional materials** Group, focusing its business on the development and production of proprietary and specifically engineered solution (components and systems) for many industrial and scientific applications.

- **Getters components and pumps** to guarantee high and Ultra-High Vacuum conditions in a variety of applications such as :
  - > Particle Accelerators and High Energy Labs
  - > Analytical Instrumentation
  - > Processing Tools for semiconductor
  - > Vacuum Systems
  - > Consumer electronics
- **Shape memory components and systems** like SMA wires , springs, actuators and valves for consumer electronics, automotive and white goods industries
- **Functional composites and coated films** to protect goods for the packaging industry



# SAES Group worldwide coverage



## High Vacuum Division facilities:

- HQ in Milano;
- SRV in Parma;
- CINEL in Padova;
- SAES Getters (NEG pumps) in Avezzano

## Our Research and Innovation

A high percentage of revenues (7-10%) allocated to R&D every year

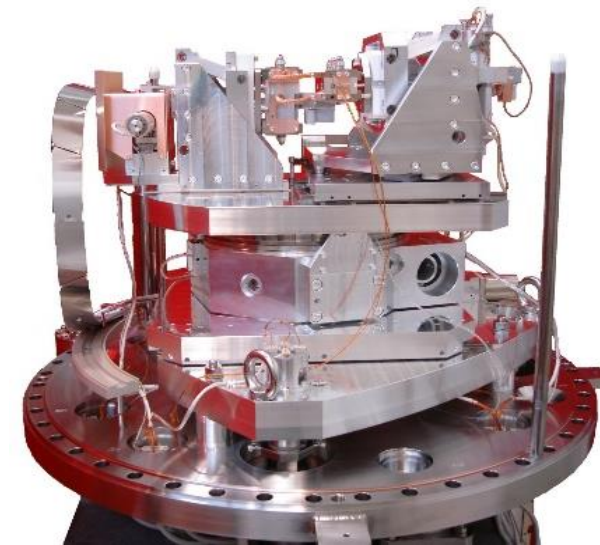
- State-of-the-art corporate laboratories covering a surface of over 3,300 sqm
- More than 150 highly skilled people engaged in R&D activities world-wide. Almost 17% of the total workforce of the Group, about 50% are graduated (mainly in Physics, Chemistry, Engineering and Material Science) -> 20% of graduated are PhD
- 233 Scientific Papers and Conference Proceeding published in the last 20 years
- Strong cooperation with Universities and R&D centers.



## High Vacuum Division: 3 pillars

- 1970-2024 : Pumps and getter solutions per high and ultra-high vacuum for accelerators, synchrotrons, research and industry.
- 2015: Vacuum chambers and components for the synchrotron ring through **SAES RIAL Vacuum** (Parma)
- 2021: vacuum chambers, monochromators, mirror systems, front end, beamlines and scientific instrumentations for synchrotrons through **Strumenti Scientifici Cinel** (Vigonza).

With 4 manufacturing sites (Parma, Vigonza, Lainate, Avezzano) and 100 headcounts, the High Vacuum Division is well positioned to provide integrated solutions to new accelerator facilities.

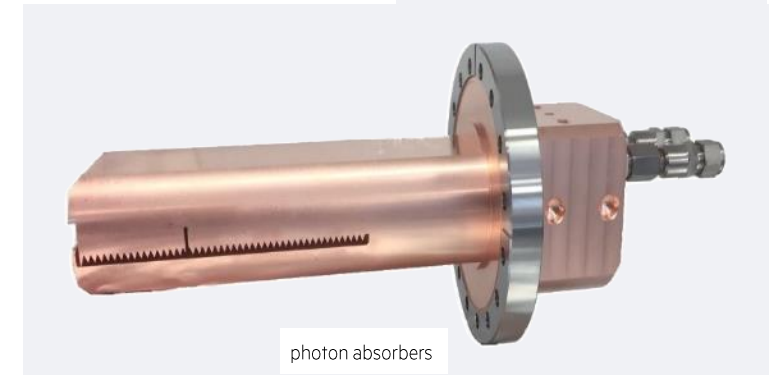


## The role of SAES®, SRV and Cinel

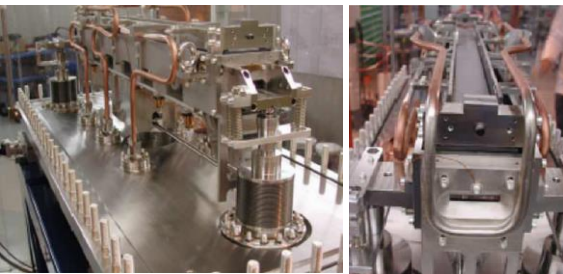
- **Even though formally independent** the three companies are actually working in close cooperation with each other
- They do share equipment and provide each other with the following services:
  - **SAES®** provides NEG coating, broad R&D support, analytical services, mathematical/physical tools
  - **SRV**: cleaning services, welding technologies, metrological testing
  - **Cinel**: EDM machining, brazing, CNC machining, metrology
- This allows to
  - Significantly increase the amount of technical competences and expertise within the Division
  - Increase type and number of equipment and their availability
  - Increase overall manufacturing capacity and throughput



RF Bellows



photon absorbers



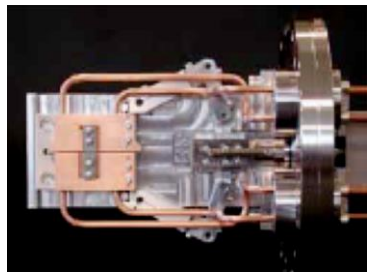
Mirror chamber for Protein Cristallography Beamline (M1)  
XOoDA Swiss Light Source SLS Villigen (Switzerland)



Vacuum Chamber  
Elettra Synchrotron Laboratory Trieste (Italy)



Mirror chamber for X-ray Deimos Beamline  
Synchrotron Soleil Saint-Aubin (France)



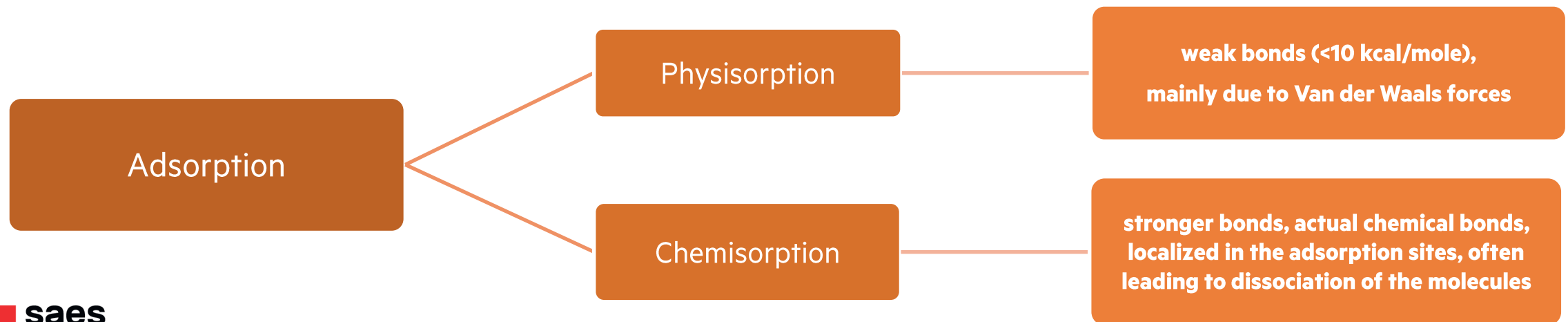
High Precision Water Cooled Slit  
Canadian Light Source-CLC  
Saskatchewan University (Canada)



# **WHAT IS A NON-EVAPORABLE GETTER (NEG): main chemico-physical properties**

## Main characteristics of a getter

- Getters are solid materials able to **pump chemically-active gases** ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CO}$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{O}_2$ ,  $\text{N}_2$ ) through the formation of **stable chemical bounds on their surface**
- This reaction generates chemical compounds (carbides, nitrides, oxides) on the getter surface: gases are **permanently removed** from the vacuum system
- Unlike other gases, **hydrogen** cannot react and produce chemical compounds, but it **can diffuse inside the bulk**, where it forms a **solid solution**
- Due to their nature, **noble gases cannot react** with a getter surface. **Methane also cannot be pumped** by a getter
- To be able to provide adsorption on its surface, a getter should have an **active surface layer** with free sites available to form bonds with gas molecules; by adsorbing particles on its surface the number of vacant sites decreases, until a **reactivation** of the material becomes necessary

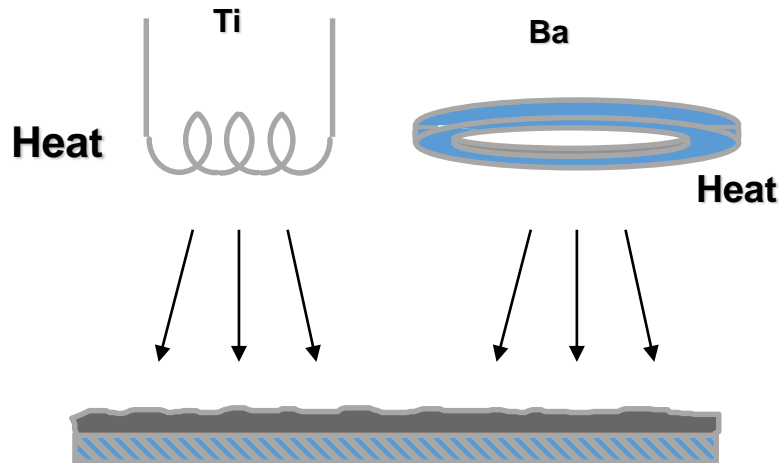


## Families of getters

Getters can be of two types, according to the method adopted to achieve their activation:

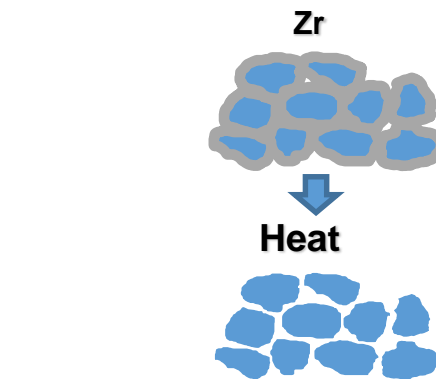
- > **evaporable getters** are obtained by in-vacuum **sublimation and deposition** of a fresh getter film on a metallic surface;
- > the active surface of a **non-evaporable getter (NEG)** is obtained by **thermal diffusion** of the surface oxide layer, which contains adsorbed gas molecules, into the bulk of the material itself.

Evaporable  
Ca, Sr, **Ba**, Ti\*



Evaporation → TSP

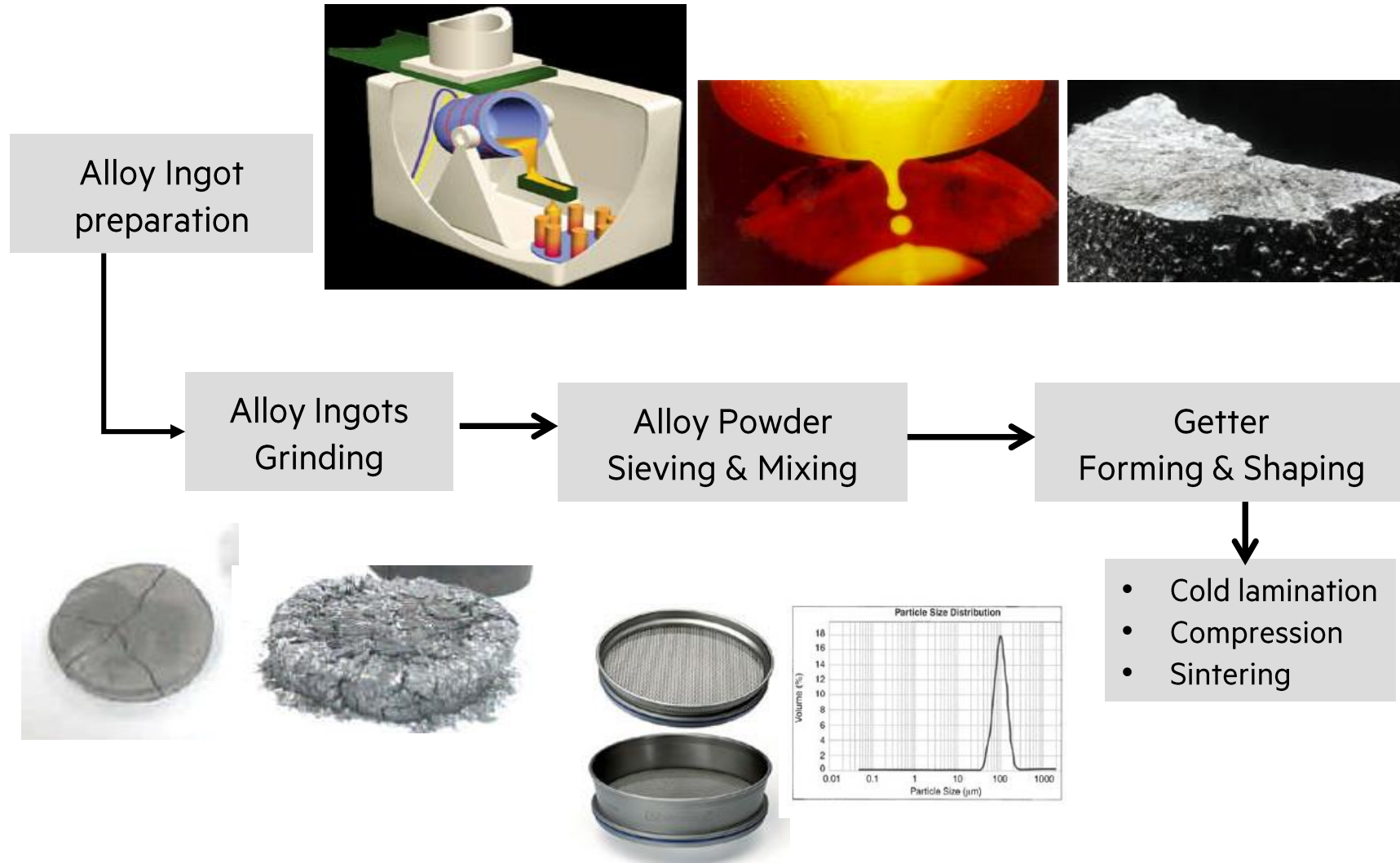
Non-evaporable  
Ti\*, **Zr**, Th



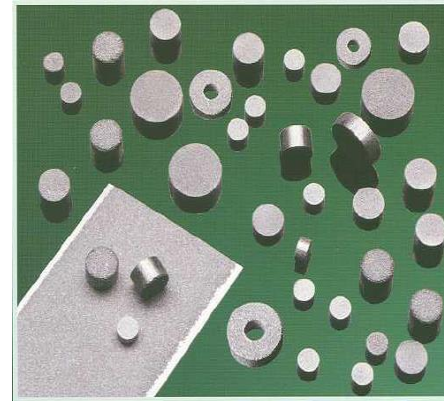
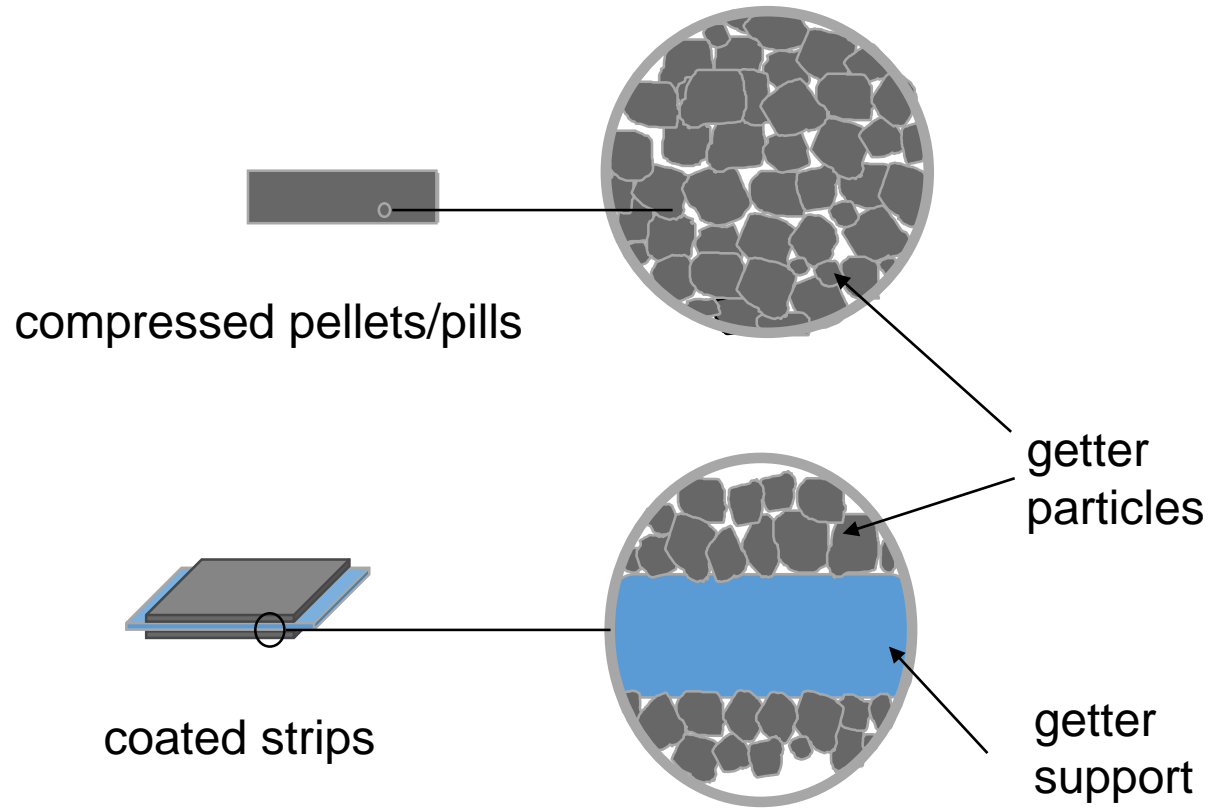
Active getter material

Activation → NEG

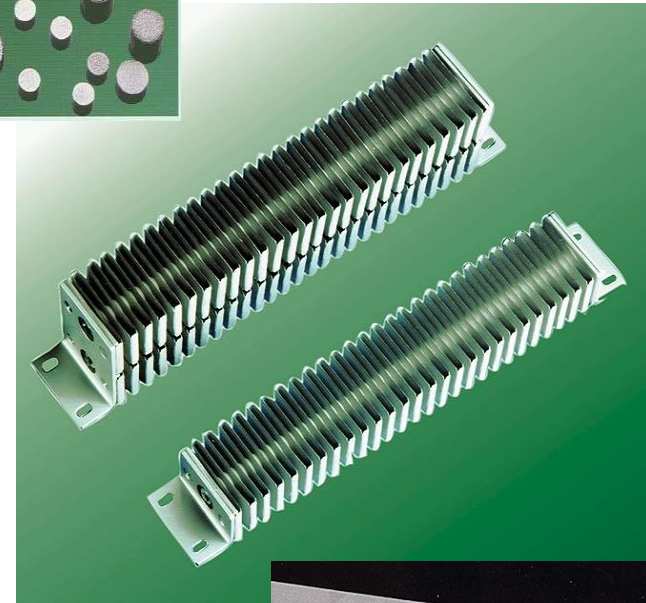
# GETTER MANUFACTURING PROCESS



# COMPRESSED GETTER CONFIGURATIONS



PILLS, TABLETS, RINGS



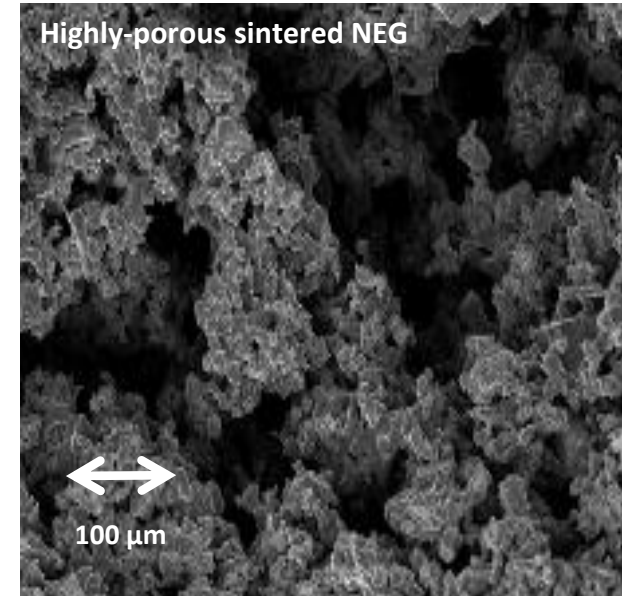
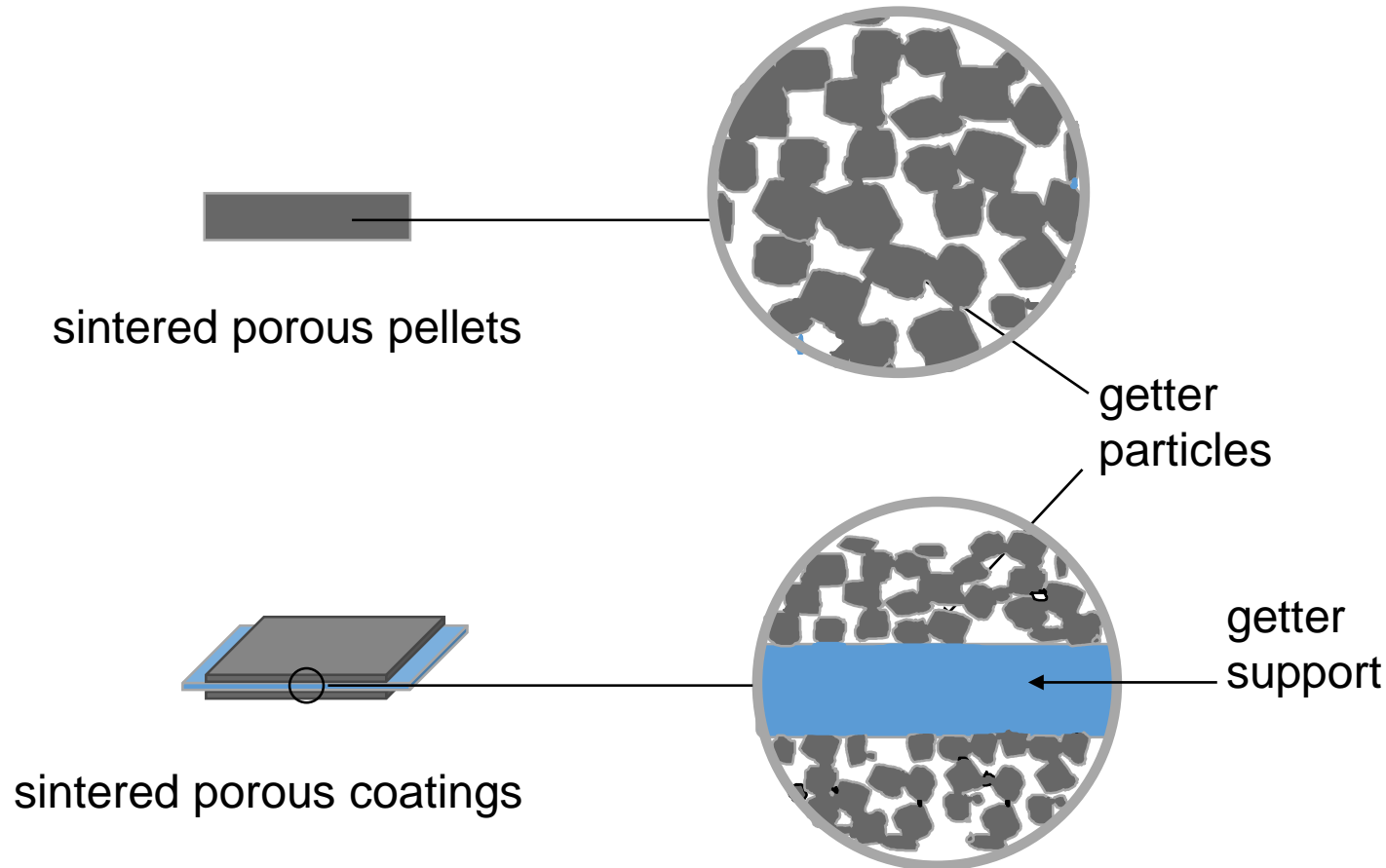
MODULES

COATED STRIP

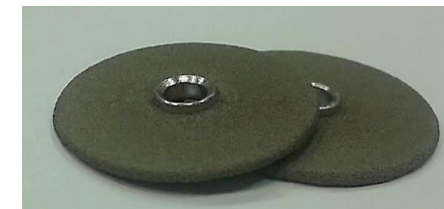


## SINTERED GETTER CONFIGURATIONS

Sintering is a high-temperature process carried out in high vacuum. During sintering, adjacent grains bond together by surface melting, creating a **single network** not prone to release particles.



Large porosity  
=  
High conductance  
=  
Large sorption speed



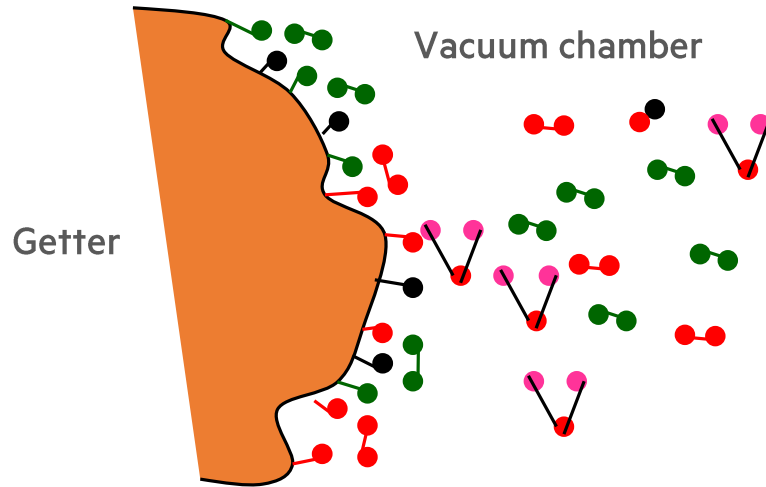
## PRINCIPLES OF NEG OPERATION

- NEGs need to be heated under vacuum: **ACTIVATION**
  - Moderate activation temperature : **400–500 °C**
  - Short time: **≈ 60 min**
- After activation, the pump sorbs gases at room temperature without requiring power (**surface adsorption**).
- When the surface capacity is reached (or after a venting), the pump must be reactivated. This can be done many times (>100).

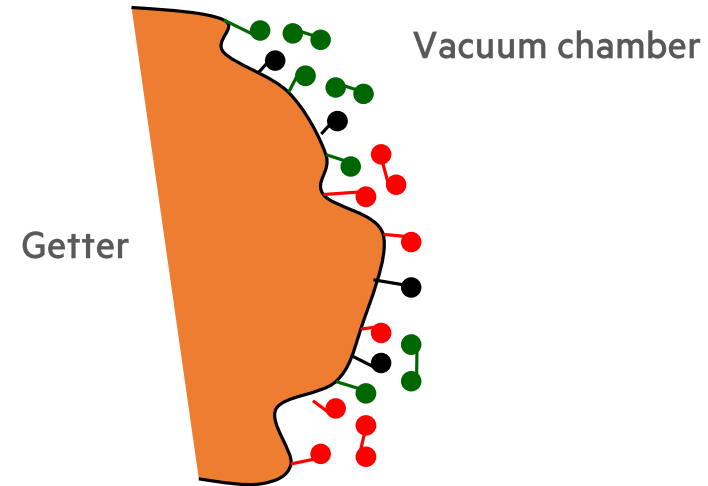
# NEG activation and sorption mechanisms

● C   ● N   ● O   ● H

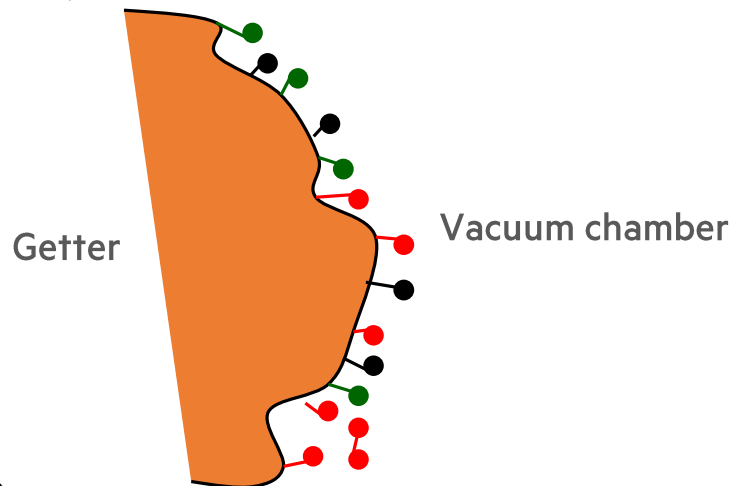
1) Before evacuation



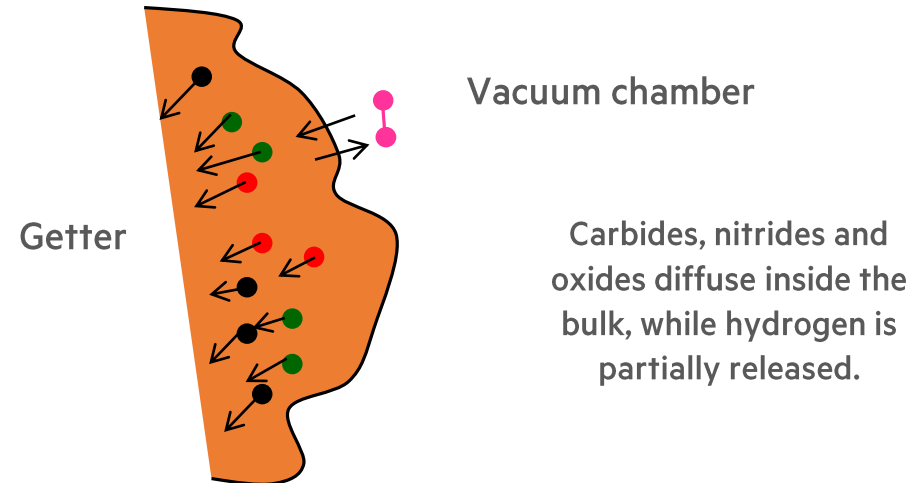
2) After evacuation



3) After bake-out at 100-200 °C



4) During NEG activation (1 h at 400-500 °C)

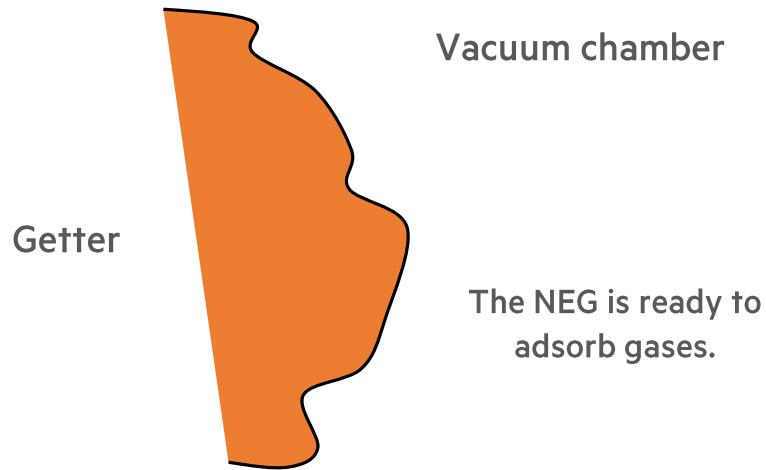




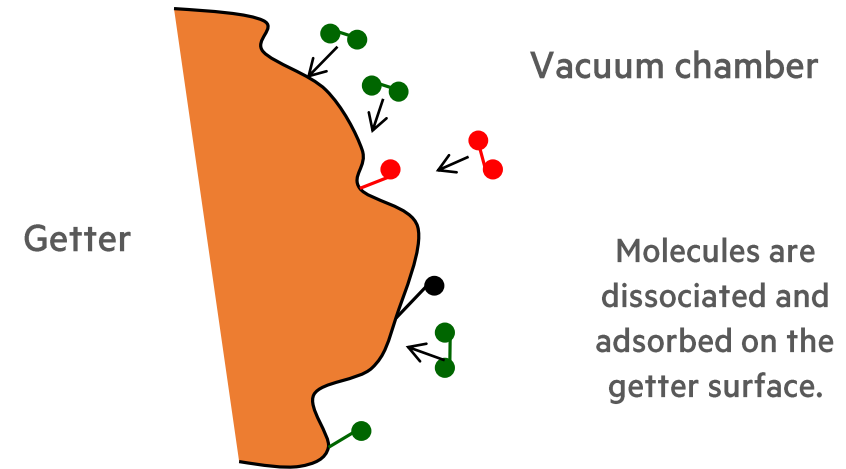
# NEG activation and sorption mechanisms

● C   ● N   ● O   ● H

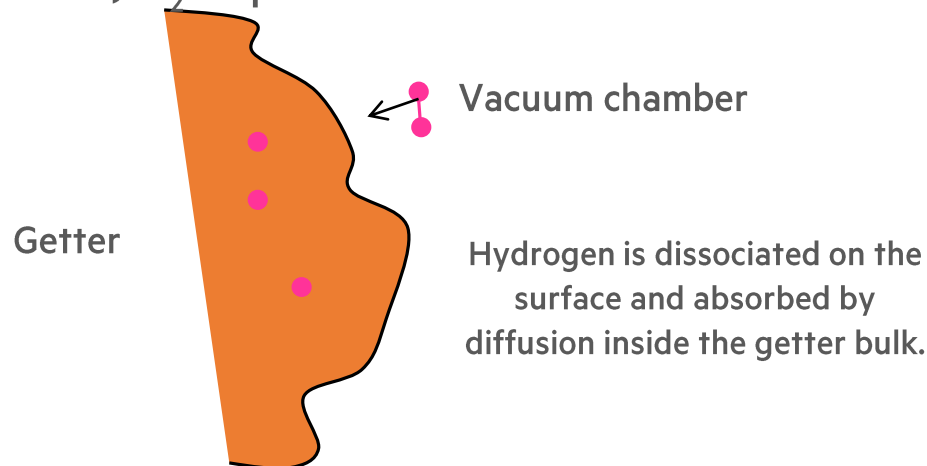
## 5) After NEG activation



## 6) H<sub>2</sub>O, CO, CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, and O<sub>2</sub> sorption mechanism



## 7) H<sub>2</sub> sorption mechanism



**Following saturation, a getter can be reactivated more than 100 times throughout its lifetime!**

## NEG ACTIVATION PROCESS

### Activation:

- Diffusion of surface protective layer

### Diffusion phenomena:

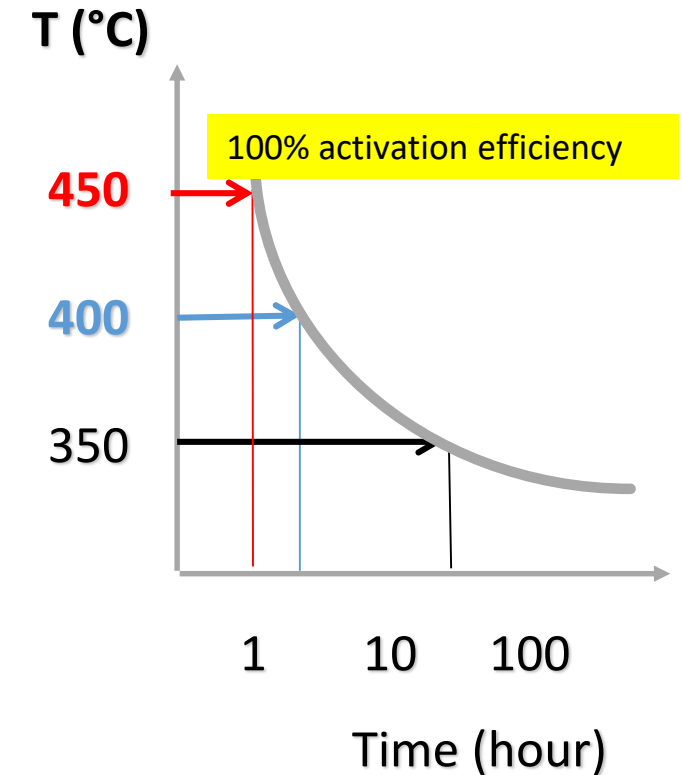
- Depend exponentially on temperature:  $D = D_0 \exp(-E/KT)$
- Depend on the square root of time

Thus, the same effect can be obtained with the increase of temperature or with the increase of time :

$$\text{e.g. } 450^{\circ}\text{C} \times 1 \text{ h} \approx 400^{\circ}\text{C} \times 4 \text{ h} \approx 350^{\circ}\text{C} \times 24 \text{ h}$$

In some situations it is not possible to achieve 100% activation efficiency due to time or temperature constraints.

A “partial” activation can however be sufficient in some cases.



## Why NEG's are so effective for H<sub>2</sub>: Sieverts' law

H<sub>2</sub> goes in solid solution in the getter lattice. Equilibrium is established between the H<sub>2</sub> concentration in the getter volume and the partial pressure of H<sub>2</sub> in the gas phase. The equilibrium depends on temperature:

$$\log P = A + 2 \log Q - B/T$$

P = H<sub>2</sub> equilibrium pressure

Q = H<sub>2</sub> concentration

T = Getter temperature (K)

A, B = Sieverts' parameters

The process is reversible: H<sub>2</sub> is preferentially sorbed or emitted depending on temperature.

At RT, estimated H<sub>2</sub> eq. pressure of St172™ is  
**<10<sup>-15</sup> mbar.**

The getter is a perfect **sink** for H<sub>2</sub>.

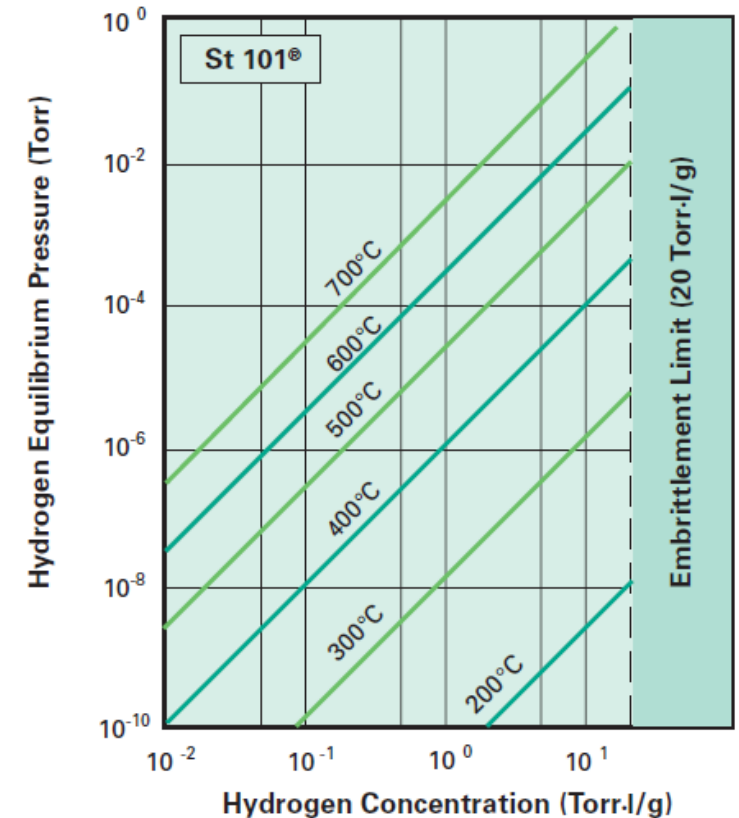
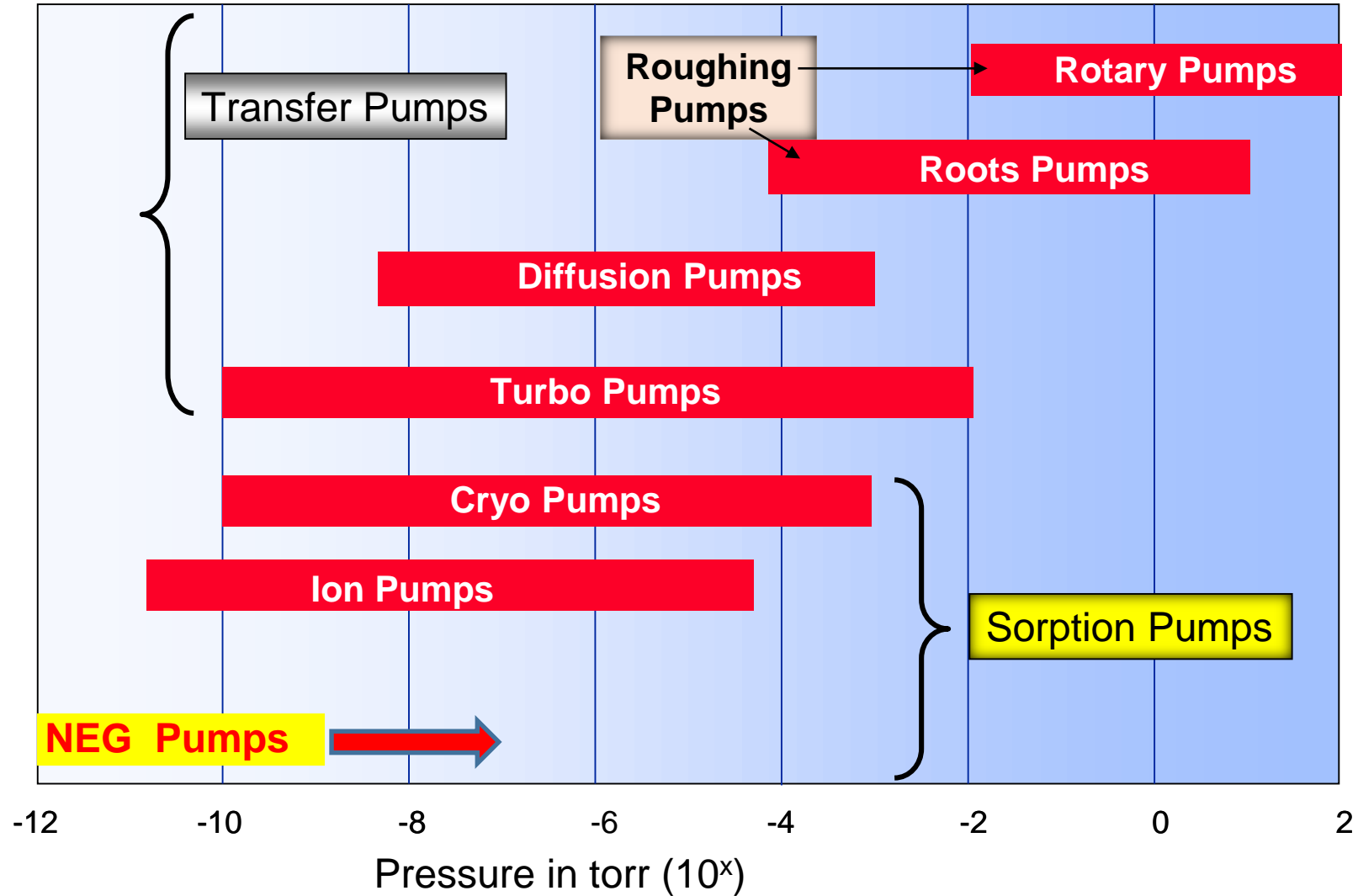


Figure 3 - Hydrogen Equilibrium Pressures of St 101 Alloy

## **NEG PUMPS: key features**

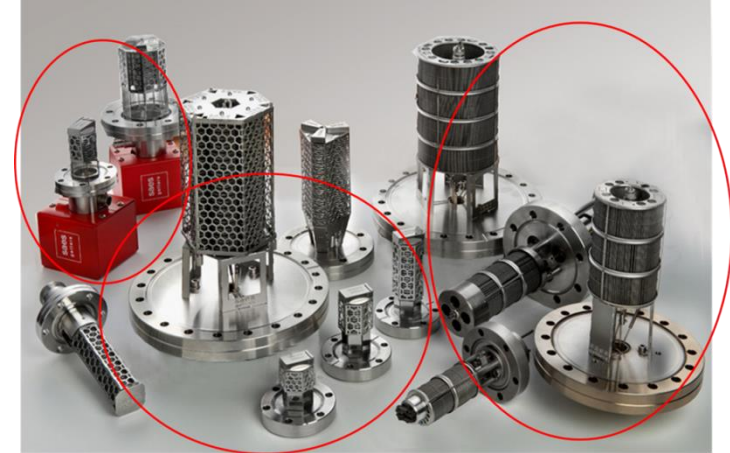
## Pressure ranges of vacuum pumps



## From NEG to NEG pumps: key features

NEG pumps are extremely suitable for UHV applications as they provide :

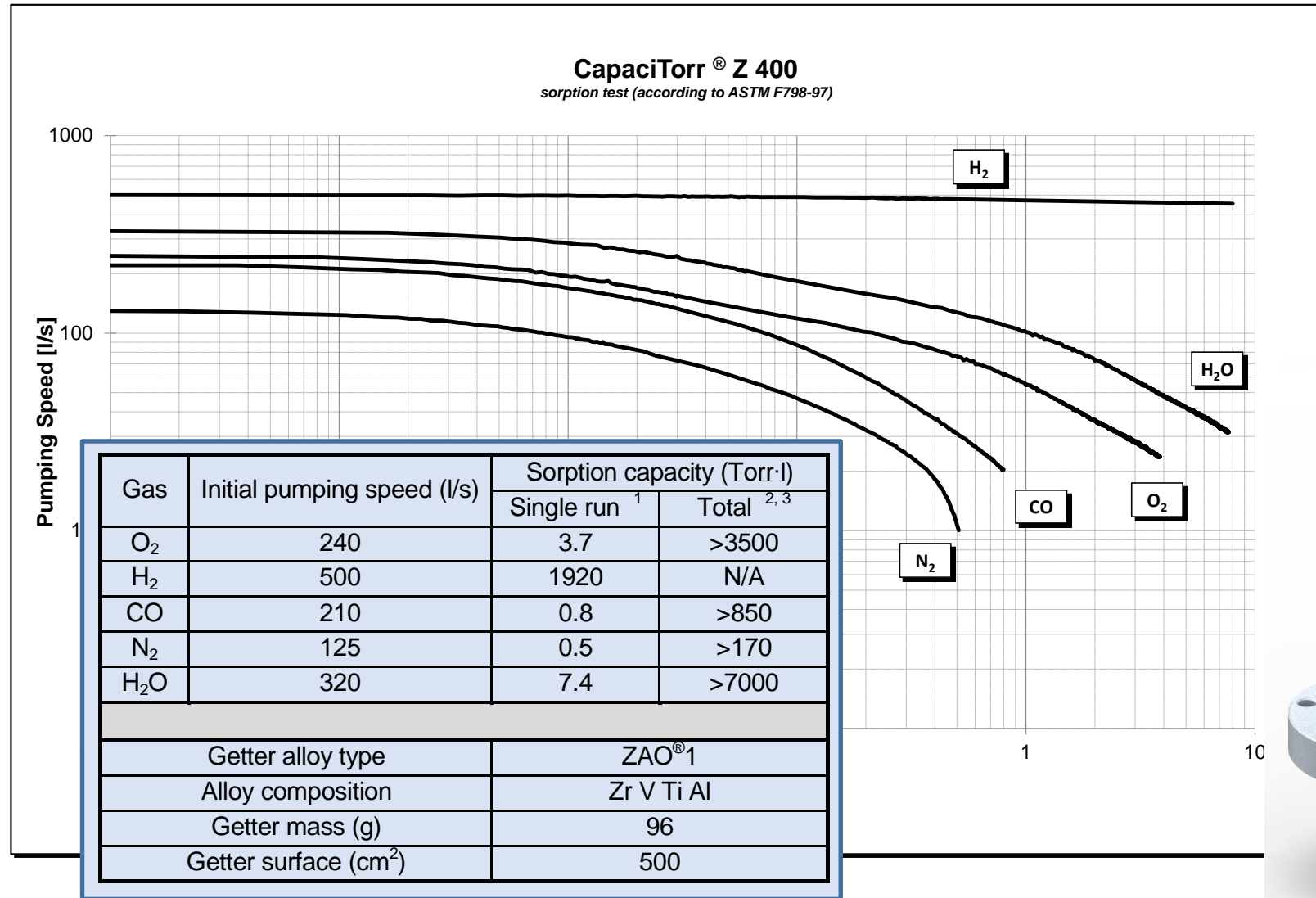
- **very large pumping speed** -> better vacuum level
- **compact and light package** -> miniaturization and compactness
- high trapping efficiency **for H<sub>2</sub>** ( they main UHV-XHV residual gas)
- **powerless** operation
- **vibration free** operation
- **reliability in case of power outage** as vacuum will be preserved by NEG
- **no maintenance**
- **negligible magnetic interference**
- best vacuum on earth ( 10<sup>-12</sup> Pa, Benvenuti et al.)



NEG pumps are a smart choice in those applications where light weight, compact package, high pumping speed, no vibration, no magnetism and reduced power consumption are the key.

NEG pumps do not sorb noble gases, thus they are generally used in combination with TMP, Cryo or SIP.

# TYPICAL SORPTION CURVES FOR NEG<sub>s</sub>



# **NEG PUMPS OVERVIEW: from alloys to main models**



# NEG ALLOYS AND PUMPS OVERVIEW

1960                      1970                      1980                      1990                      2010                      2015

St707®  
compressed

St172™  
sintered

**ZAO® UHV and HV  
sintered**

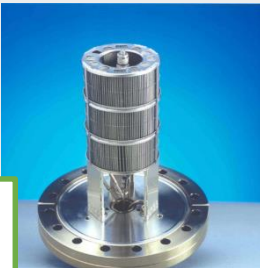


Laminated St707® strip

Wafer modules



Wafer modules  
300 to 900 I/s for H<sub>2</sub>



GP cartridges:  
200 to 2000 I/s for H<sub>2</sub>



Porous sintered disks

CapaciTorr® series:  
50 to 3600 I/s for H<sub>2</sub>



NEG pumps extended from UHV to HV

Negligible particle emission  
Ultra-low degassing  
Increased pumping speed



The NEXTorr® family:  
100 to 2000 I/s for H<sub>2</sub>



ZAO® porous sintered disks



ZAO® pumps for HV and  
UHV applications



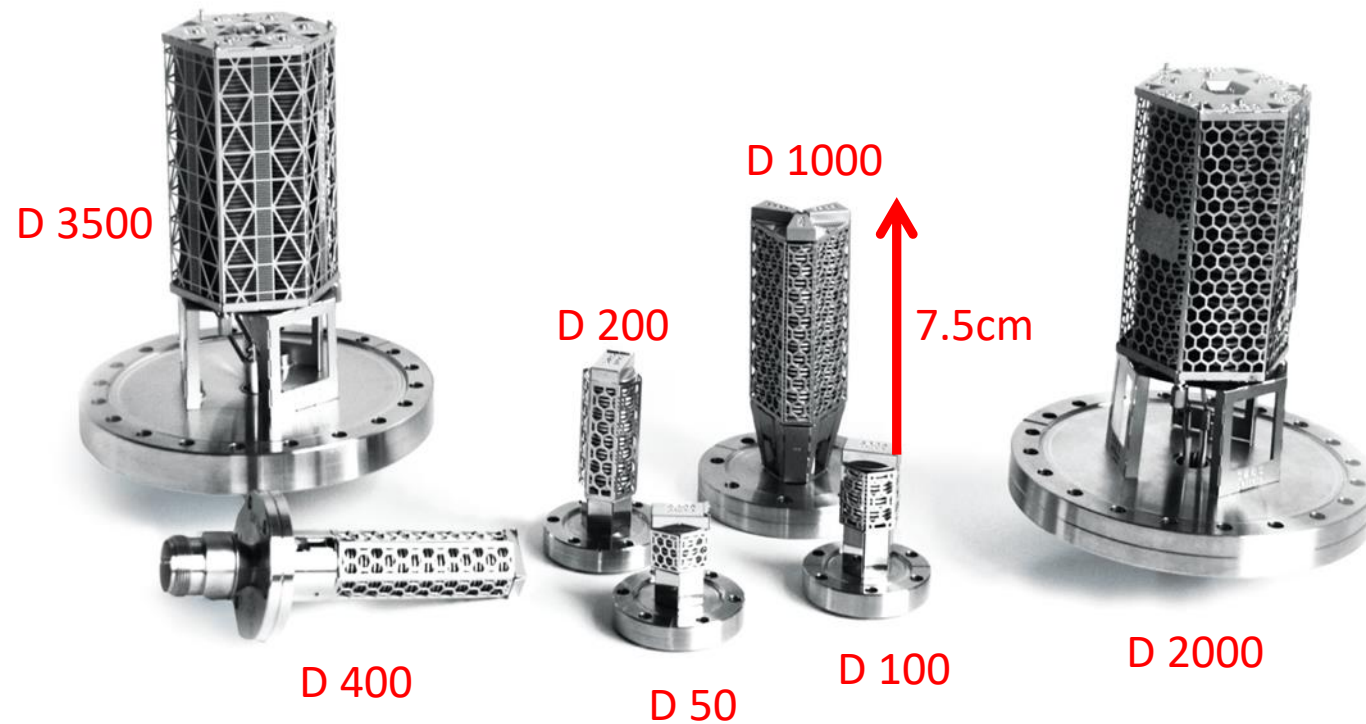
NEG pumps

MEGA ZAO® pump for Fusion Energy



## The CapaciTorr® family: D NEG pumps

- Made of sintered, highly-porous St172™ NEG disks, which ensure high pumping speeds and sorption capacity in a small space.
- 7 models are available, with H<sub>2</sub> pumping speeds ranging between 50 l/s and 3500 l/s.

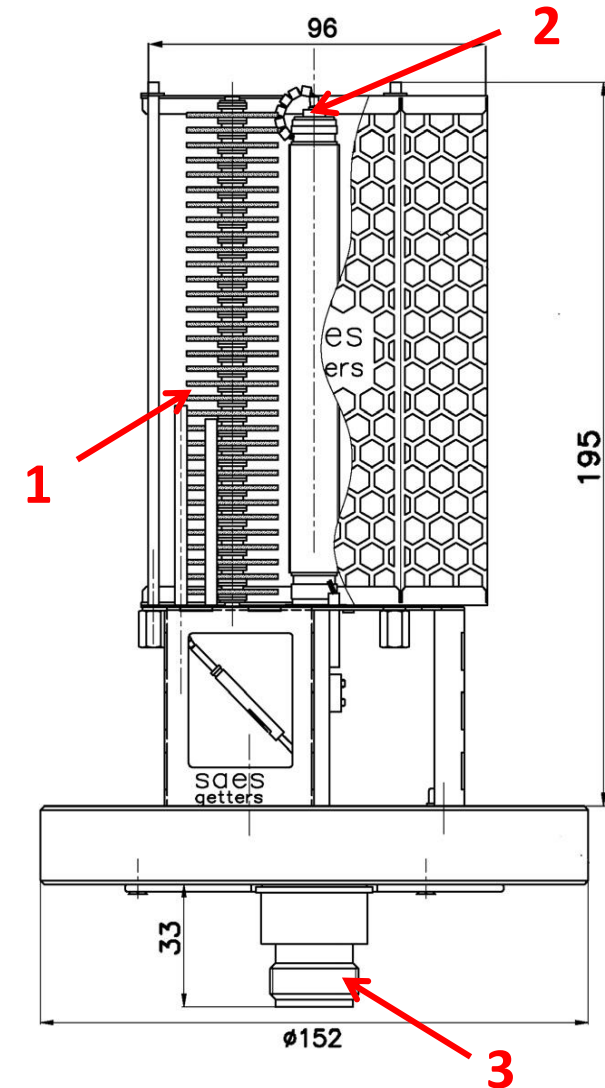


## The CapaciTorr® family: characteristics

- very compact and light weight
- no vibrations
- no need for electric power, except during activation
- no magnetic interference
- work in UHV conditions

### CapaciTorr® D2000 :

1. NEG disks
2. Heater
3. Electrical feedthrough



## ZAO<sup>®</sup>: another family of NEG materials

ZAO<sup>®</sup>, a relatively new (2014) alloy, made of Zr-V-Ti-Al, has got the following advantages:

- a **lower hydrogen equilibrium pressure**, even at high temperature;
- a **larger capacity** for every active gas;
- the ability to undergo **several reactivation cycles**, without compromising the performance of the material;
- **better mechanical properties**: disks are intrinsically more resistant, also from the H<sub>2</sub> embrittlement point of view.

### ZAO<sup>®</sup> UHV disks

- high pumping speed for H<sub>2</sub> and all active gases
- strong mechanical properties
- extremely low particle emission

### ZAO<sup>®</sup> HV disks

- ability to pump large gas quantities
- ability to work at ~200 °C
- strong mechanical properties
- extremely low particle emission

## The CapaciTorr® family: Z NEG pumps

These UHV pumps are made of sintered, highly-porous ZAO® NEG disks, which ensure:

- lower particulate emission than St172™ disks
- higher pumping speed for hydrogen



Z 100



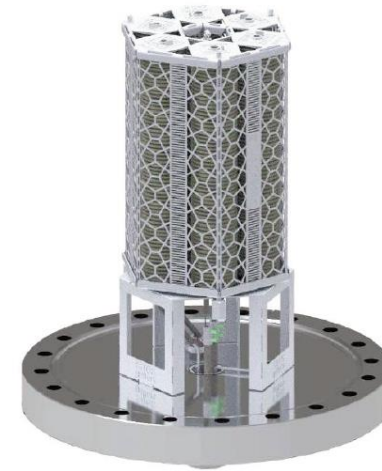
Z 200



Z 400



Z 1000

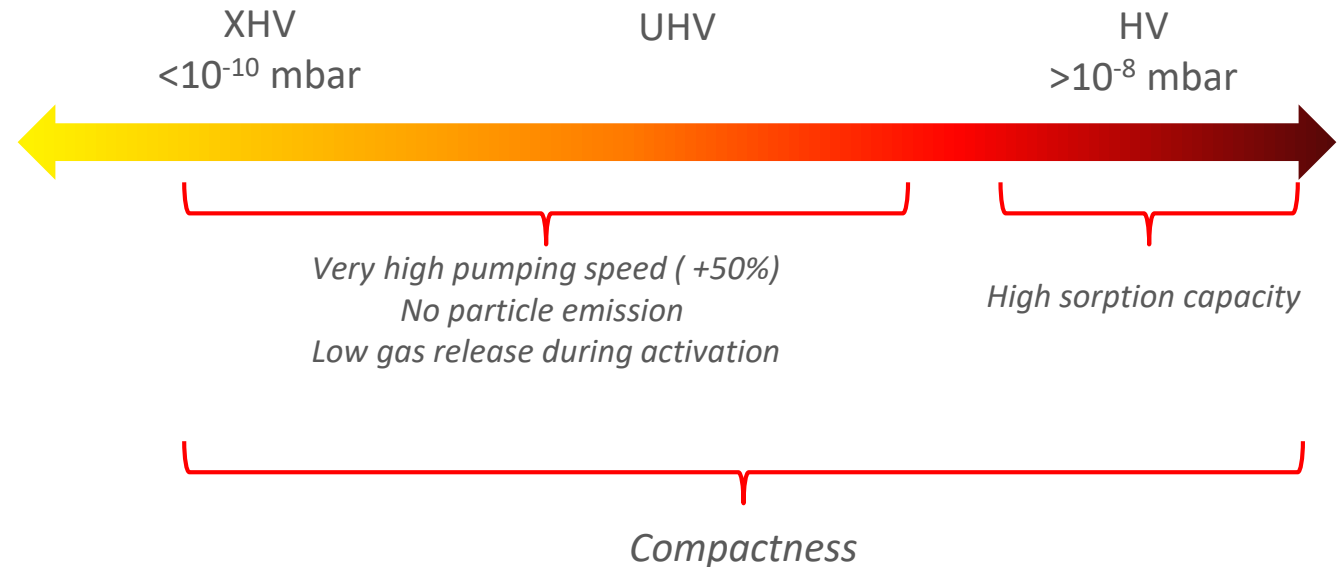


Z 3500

## High Vacuum applications

Lots of vacuum systems operate in HV:

- **Analytical equipment** : mass spectrometers, gas analyzers, focused ion beam systems...
- **Medical accelerators** for cancer therapy, cyclotrons and a variety of industrial accelerators used for material irradiation and surface engineering
- **High-energy physics accelerators** (e.g., some FELs, LINACs, boosters, neutron spallation sources, Beam lines) or large physics experiments (e.g., VIRGO for gravitational waves)
- **Semiconductor processing equipment** (PVD, CVD, ion implantation...)
- One of the main limitations of NEG pumps working at RT is the **limited gas sorption capacity**
- When exposed to high gas load, NEG surface gets saturated in a relatively short time (weeks-months). NEG use is therefore limited mainly to **UHV-XHV** ( $P < 10^{-9}$  mbar)



## NEG pumps in UHV vs HV

**CapaciTorr® D 400**

### Gas to sorb : CO at $10^{-10}$ mbar

- Average pumping speed : 100 l/s
- Pump capacity (CO) : 1,2 mbar l
- CO sorbed in 1 year:  $100\text{l/s} \cdot 10^{-10}\text{mbar} \cdot (365 \cdot 24 \cdot 3600\text{s}) = 0,37\text{ mbar l}$
- Time between reactivations:  $1,2\text{ mbar l} / 0,37\text{ mbar l} = \mathbf{1100\text{ days } (\approx 3\text{ years})!!}$

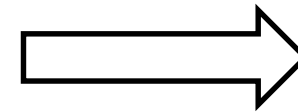
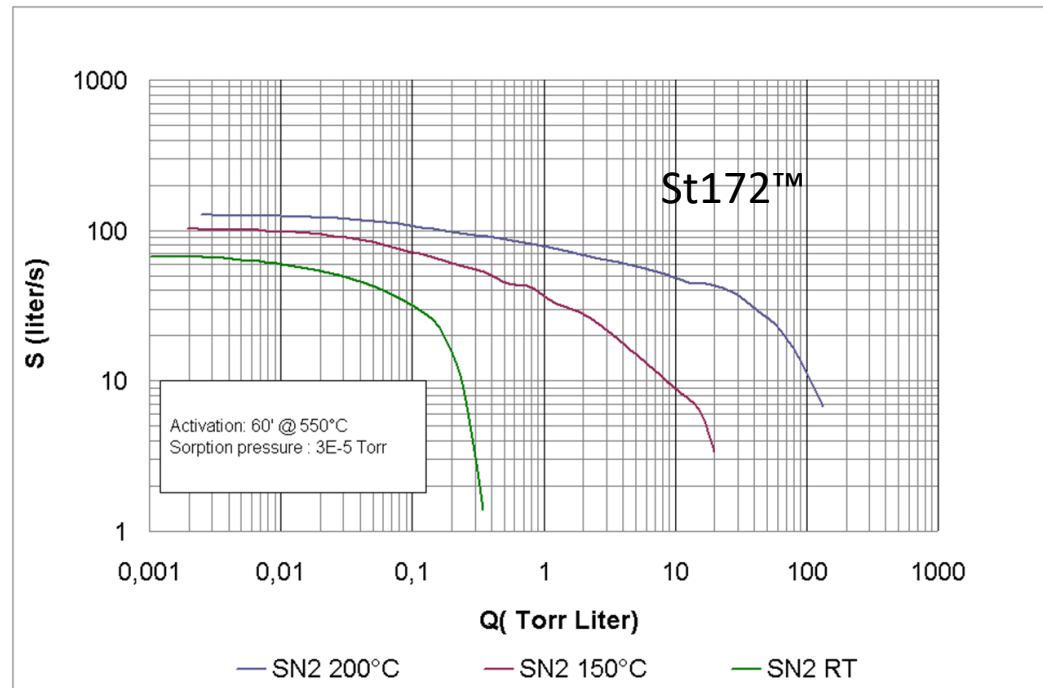
### Gas to sorb : CO at $10^{-8}$ mbar

- Average pumping speed : 100 l/s
- Pump capacity (CO) : 1,2 mbar l
- CO sorbed in 1 year:  $100\text{l/s} \cdot 10^{-8}\text{mbar} \cdot (365 \cdot 24 \cdot 3600\text{s}) = 37\text{ mbar l}$
- Time between reactivations:  $1,2\text{ mbar l} / 37\text{ mbar l} = \mathbf{11\text{ days!}}$

**Conclusions:** even considering the most difficult gas to sorb (CO), under UHV conditions, SAES® CapaciTorr® pumps based on St172™ can operate for years before needing reactivation. They would require frequent activations at  $10^{-8}$  mbar.

## ZAO<sup>®</sup> HV pumps

- It is known that the capacity of NEG's increases with temperature. Temperature activates diffusion of carbides, oxides etc., so that it takes much longer than at RT to saturate superficial adsorption sites.
- However, for St172<sup>™</sup>:
  - H<sub>2</sub> eq. pressure at 200 °C is too high → **ineffective pumping of H<sub>2</sub>O and H<sub>2</sub>**
  - Pumping performances decay after few sorption cycles at high pressure → **short-lived pump**



**ZAO<sup>®</sup> HV alloy** is the solution for HV applications, providing, among main benefits of ZAO<sup>®</sup> alloy:

- lower equilibrium pressure
- ability to sorb large gas quantities



## The CapaciTorr® HV pumps

- CapaciTorr® HV pumps are based on the ZAO® alloy
- Starting from 1E-2mbar in pump-down
- Down to 1E-7mbar (or even lower pressure)
- Very large pumping speed for getterable gases
- Very large capacity
  - Work at 1E-8 mbar of CO or N<sub>2</sub> for more than 1 year without reactivation
  - Work at 5E-8 mbar of H<sub>2</sub>O for more than one year without reactivation
- Operation at Moderate temperature (180-200°C)
- Ability to pump at room temperature for a limited time
- NEG material with the lowest particulate release



CapaciTorr® HV200



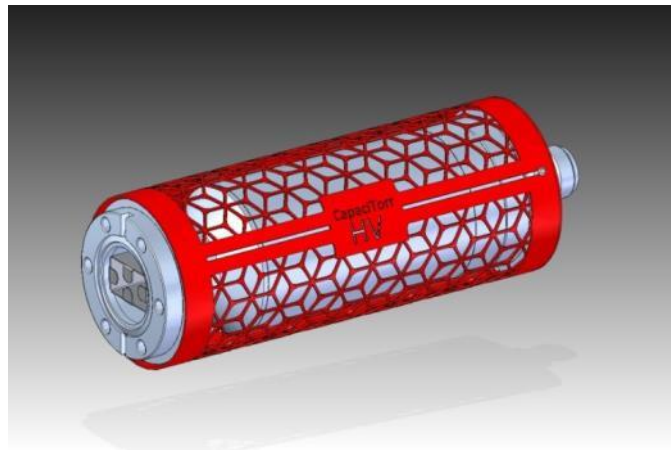
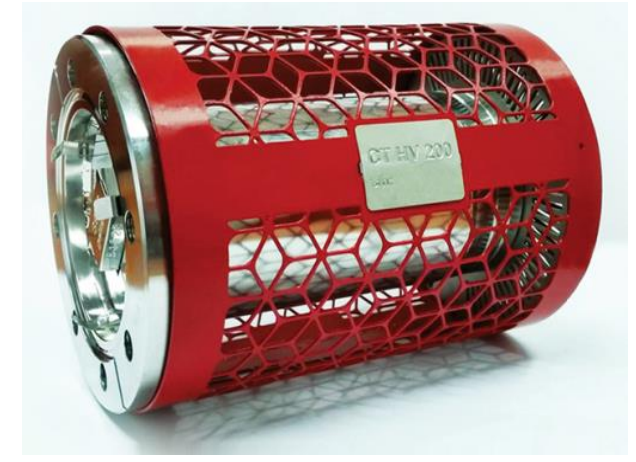
CapaciTorr® HV2100



CapaciTorr® HV1600

## An example of ZAO<sup>®</sup>-based HV pump: CapaciTorr<sup>®</sup> HV 200

- Pump placed inside a nipple, which allows a more efficient thermal management
- Available on CF35 or CF63
- 8 W necessary to keep the pump at ~200 °C
- Initial H<sub>2</sub> pumping speed: 210 l/s
- Can work in the 10<sup>-8</sup> Torr range for 1 year
- At least 20 sorption-reactivation cycles are possible



NEG cartridge

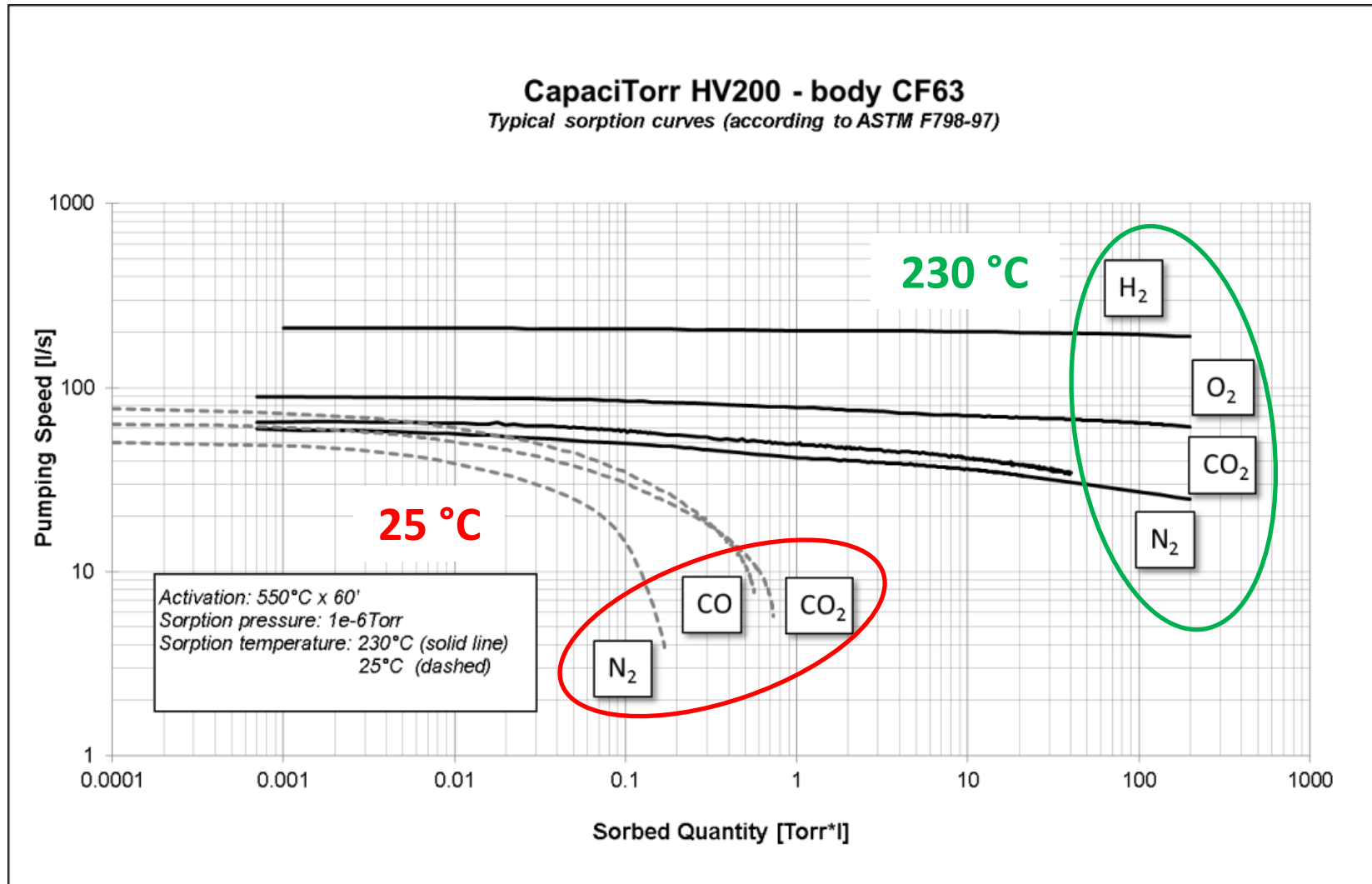
146 mm



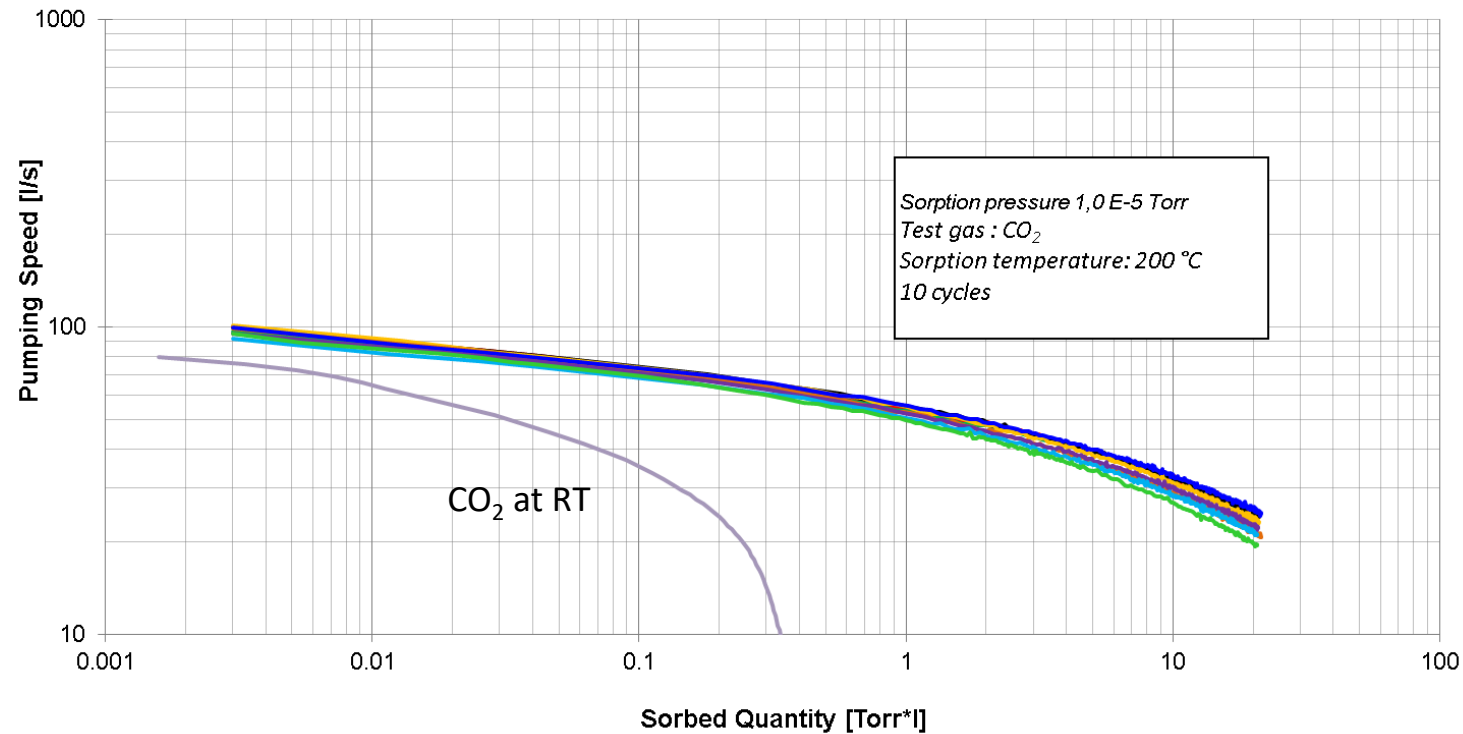
Nipple

Screen

## CapaciTorr® HV 200



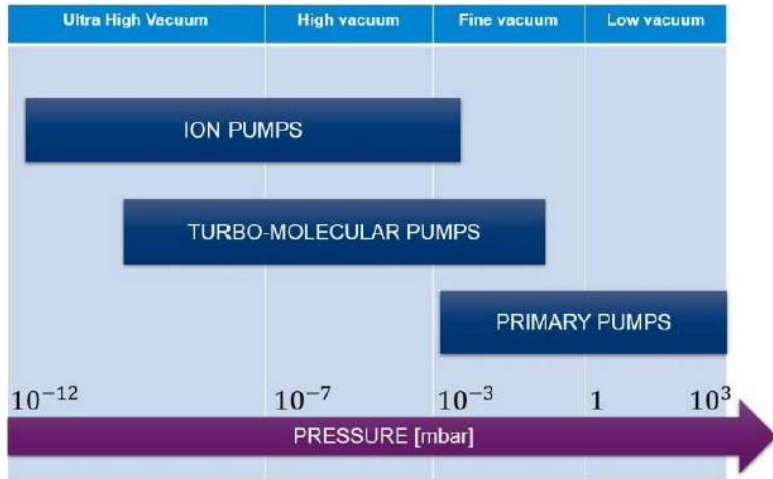
## CapaciTorr® HV 200



- Series of 10 accelerated pumping tests at 200 °C at 10<sup>-5</sup> Torr (CO<sub>2</sub>)
- After each reactivation, the performances decay is very small

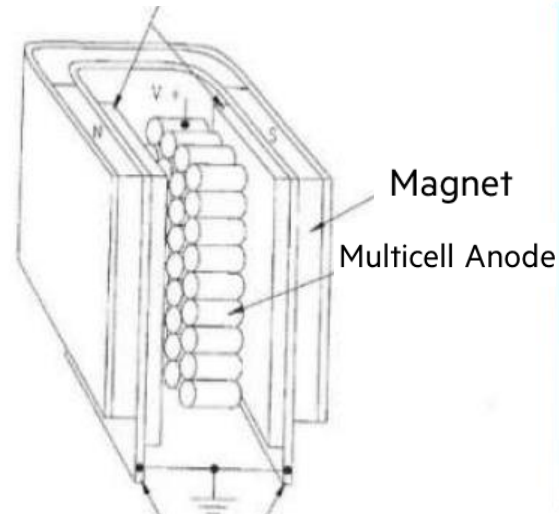
# **INTRODUCTION TO SPUTTER ION PUMPS (SIPs): working principles**

## SPUTTER ION PUMPS: structure

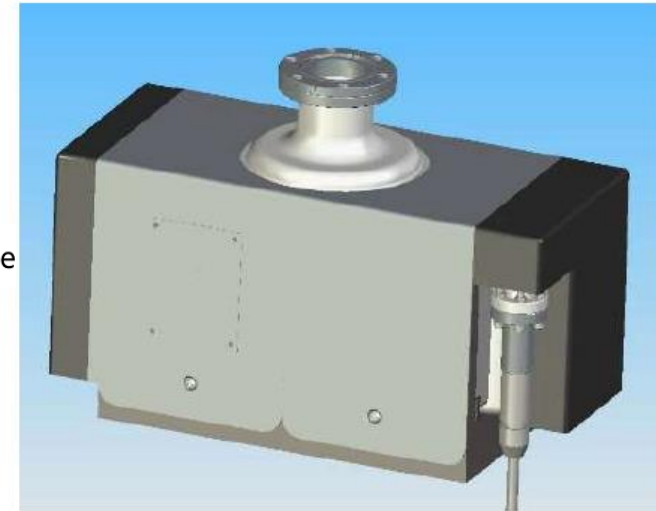


- **Element:** one or more Penning cells, by which gas is pumped. Standard Diode is made of cylindrical cells (anode) and two titanium plates (cathode).
- **Magnets:** axial magnetic field (typical range 1200-1400 G).
- **Feedthrough** used to feed the pump with high voltage (~kV).
- **Inlet flange** to connect the pump and the vacuum chamber.

Cathode Titanium

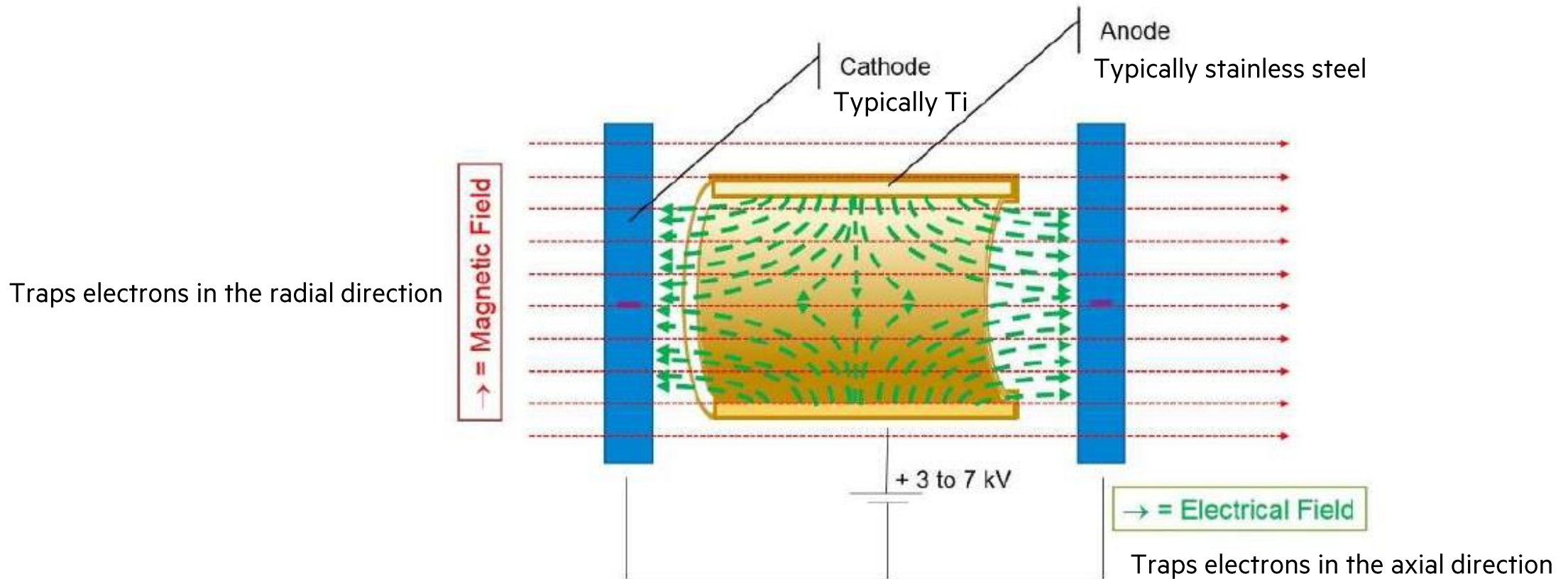


Pump wall

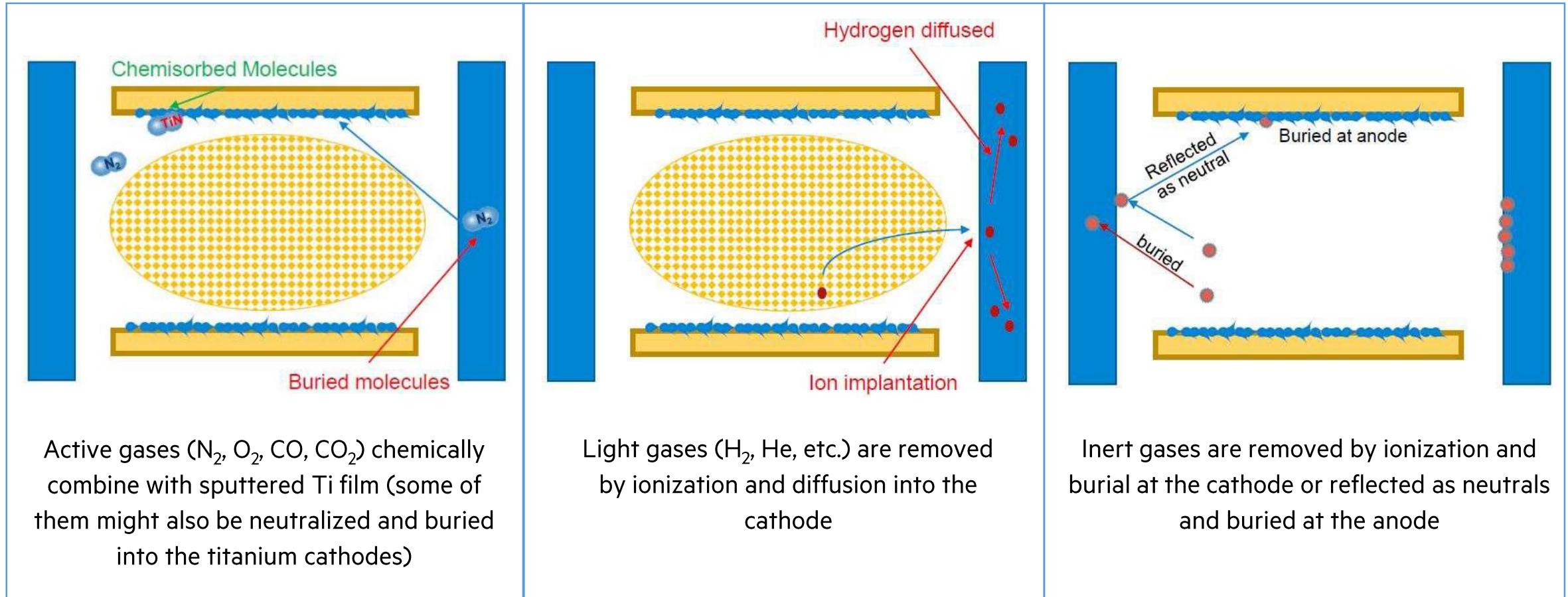


## SPUTTER ION PUMPS: Penning cell - principles of operation

A high voltage combined with a magnetic field force electrons to travel along a helical path, with an energy sufficient to ionize gas molecules; accelerated ions strike and sputter a cathode plate: titanium atoms are emitted from the cathodes and cover the anode surfaces, creating an active film which chemically traps gas molecules.



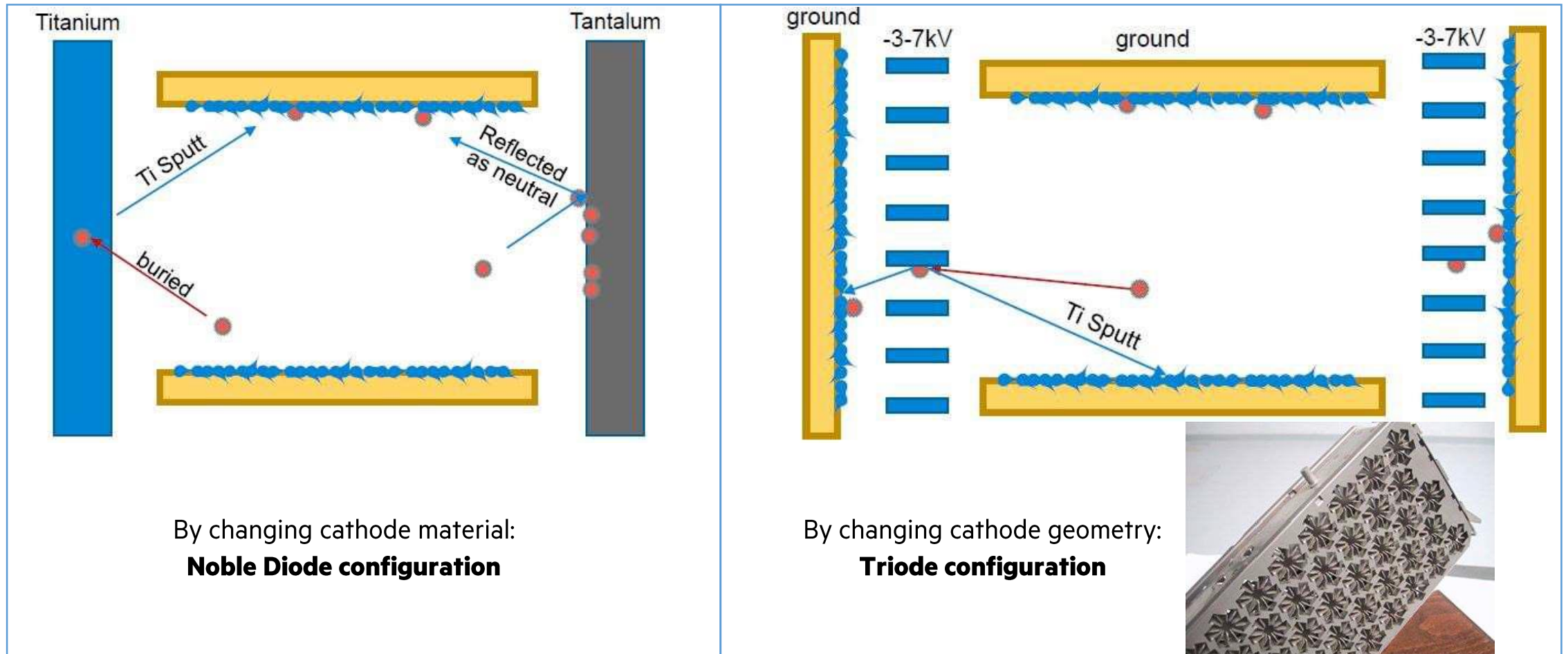
## SPUTTER ION PUMPS: pumping mechanisms





## SPUTTER ION PUMPS: different pumping solutions

- Achieving higher pumping speed for noble gases
- Preventing noble gas instability



## SPUTTER ION PUMPS: saturation and leakage current

### **Saturation concept**

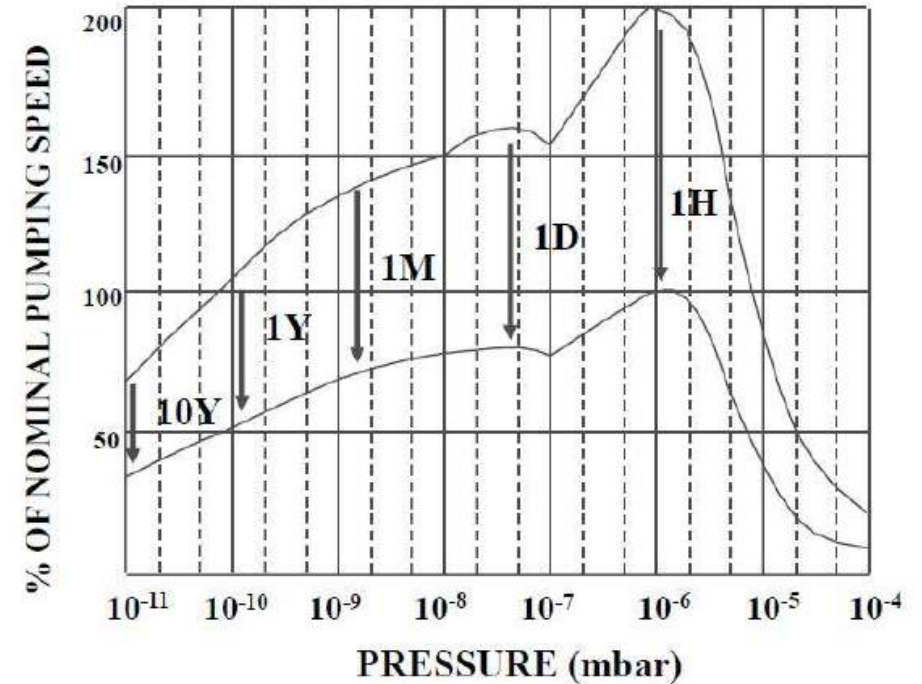
As the sputtering of Ti atoms from the cathodes goes on, cathodes are eroded and the previously implanted atoms can be released: net pumping speed decreases until an equilibrium condition between ion implantation and gas re-emission is reached.

### **Lifetime**

- *Erosion* of the cathode along its whole thickness: titanium film cannot be refreshed.
- *Short circuit*: in case of complete metallization of the ceramics.

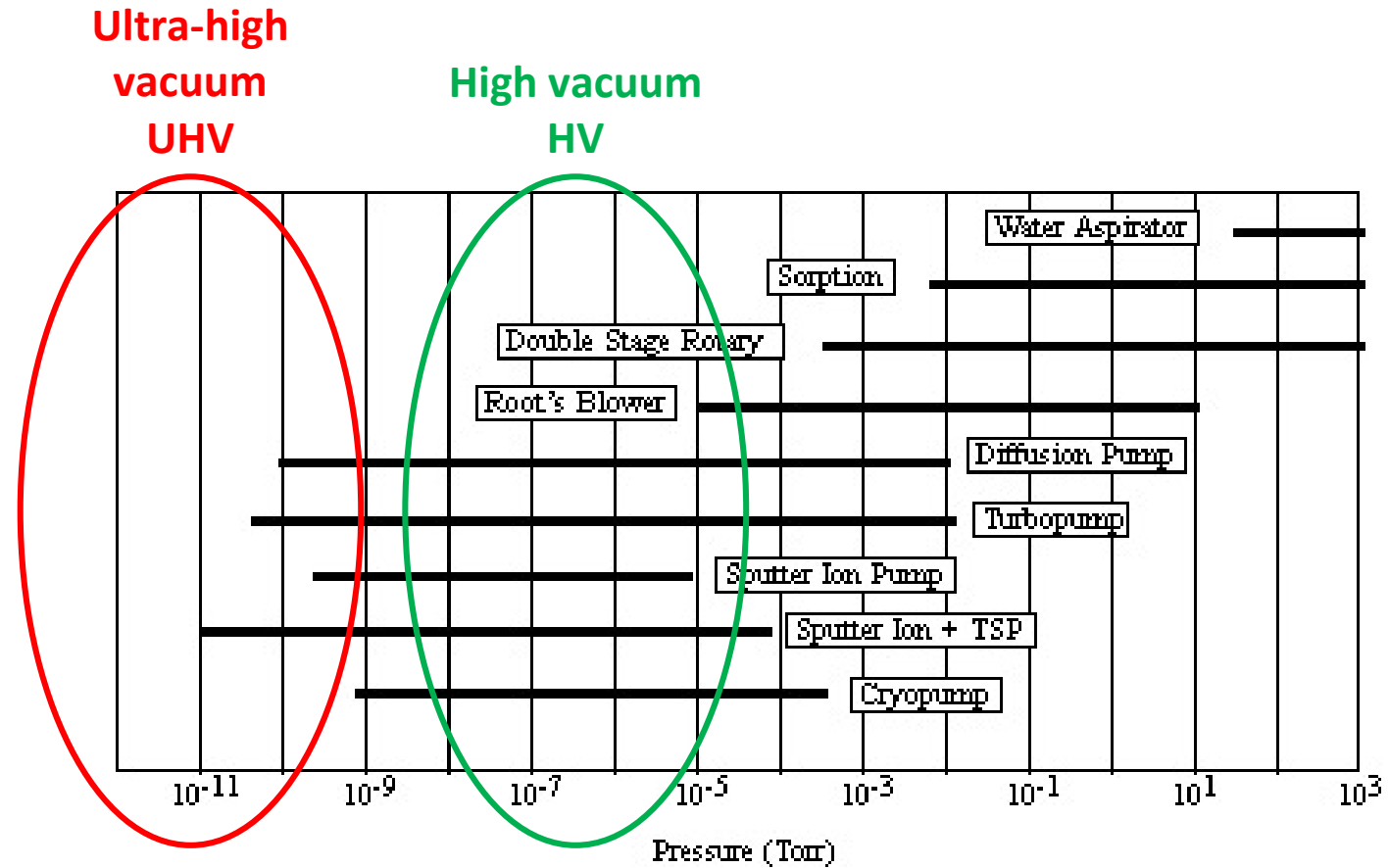
### **Leakage current**

At low pressures, such current can be comparable or much higher than the pressure-dependent ion current. It can arise from both external sources, such as power supply, the connecting cable or the high-voltage feedthrough, and internal sources. Among internal sources, the metallization of ceramic insulators during operation. The main cause is the emission of free electrons from the titanium surface when strong electric field is applied.



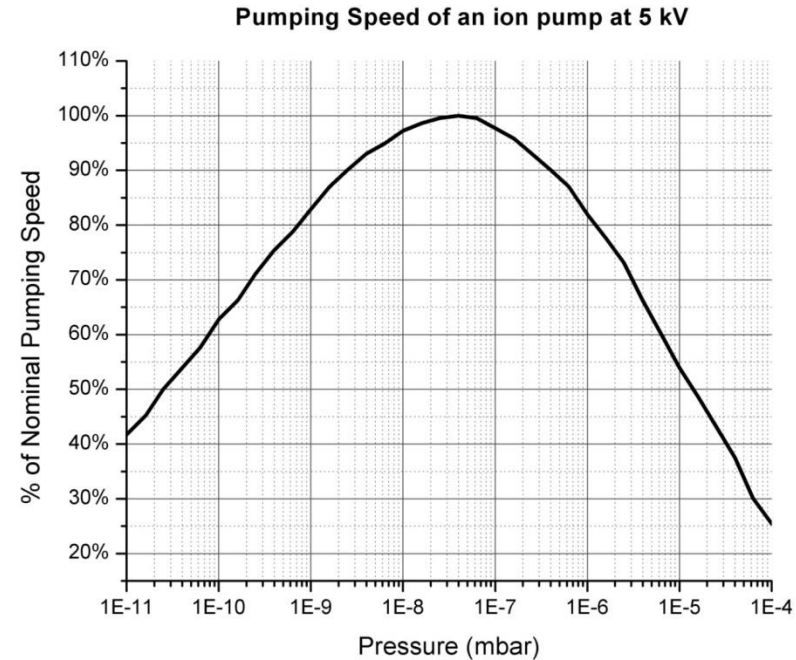
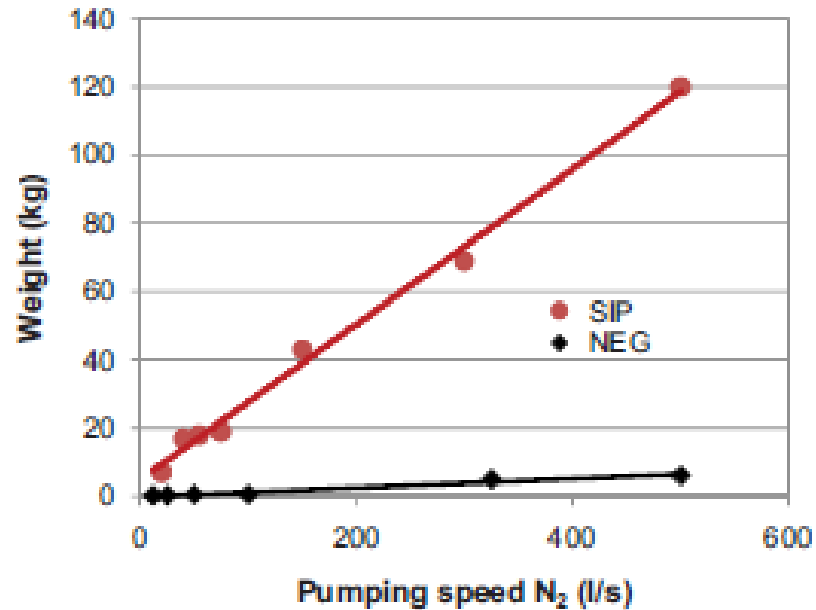
# **NEG – SIP COMBINATION: the NEX Torr® concept**

## PUMPING SYSTEMS VS PRESSURE RANGE



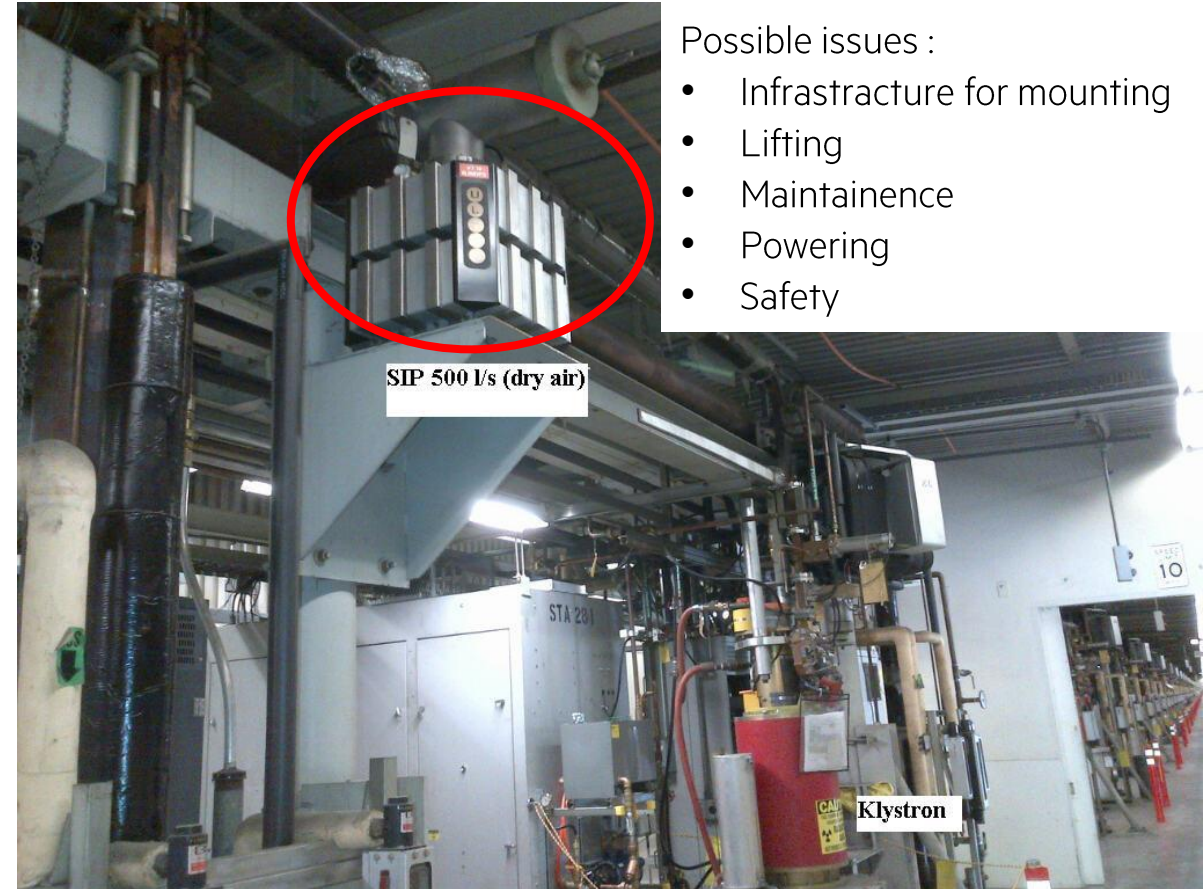
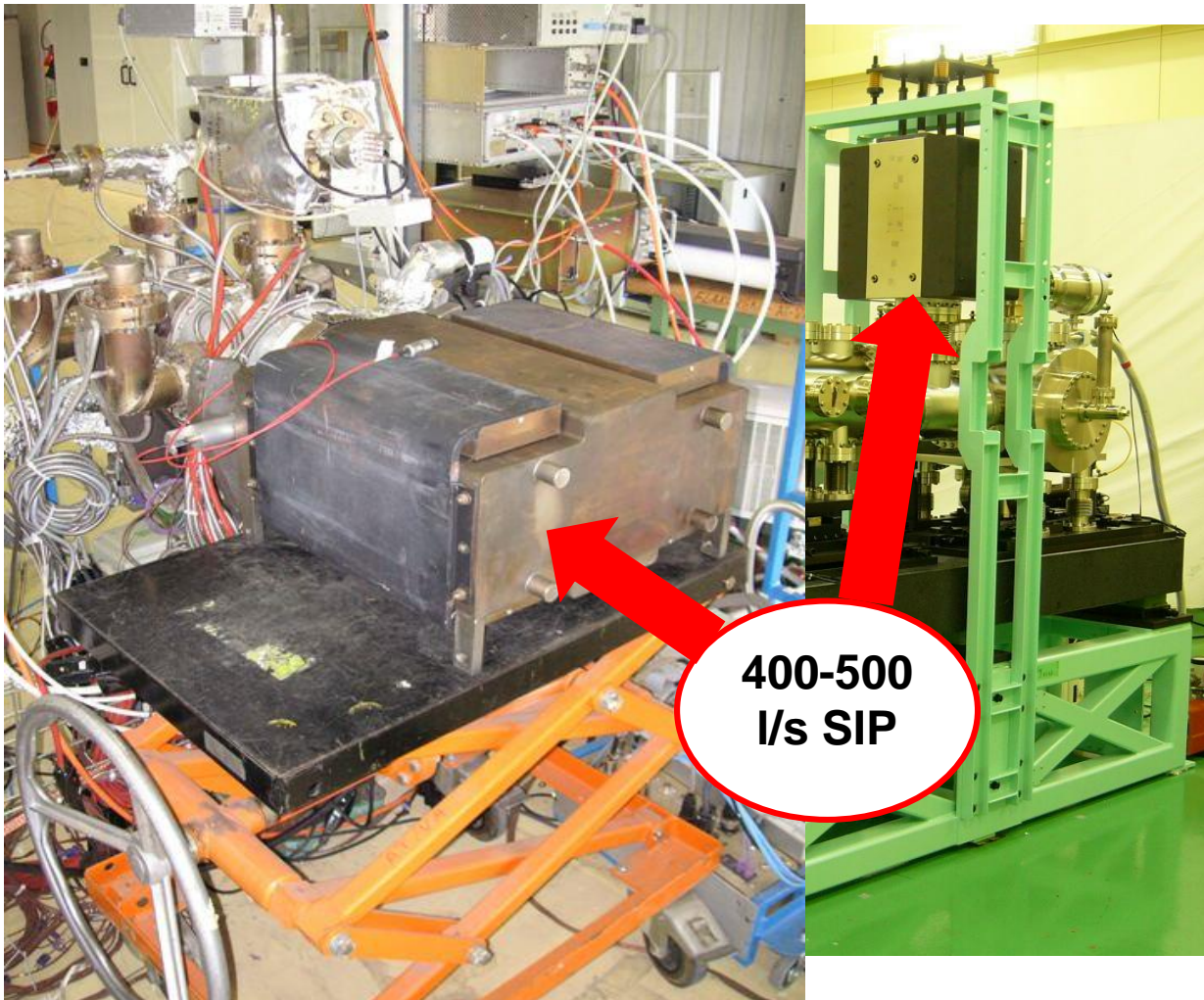
How to get the most effective combination of pumps, in order to achieve UHV-XHV conditions?

## SPUTTER ION PUMPS VS NEG PUMPS



- In principle, a lower pressure can be obtained ensuring a higher pumping speed.
- SIPs and turbomolecular pumps (TMPs) can thus become **very large and heavy**.
- In UHV-XHV, moreover, the sputtering and compression processes of SIPs and TMPs, respectively, are less effective, resulting in a lower pumping speed compared to chemical pumps with the same dimensions.

## SIPs may need space and weight support



Possible issues :

- Infrastructure for mounting
- Lifting
- Maintenance
- Powering
- Safety

## SPUTTER ION PUMPS VS NEG PUMPS

Ion pumps have some limitations:

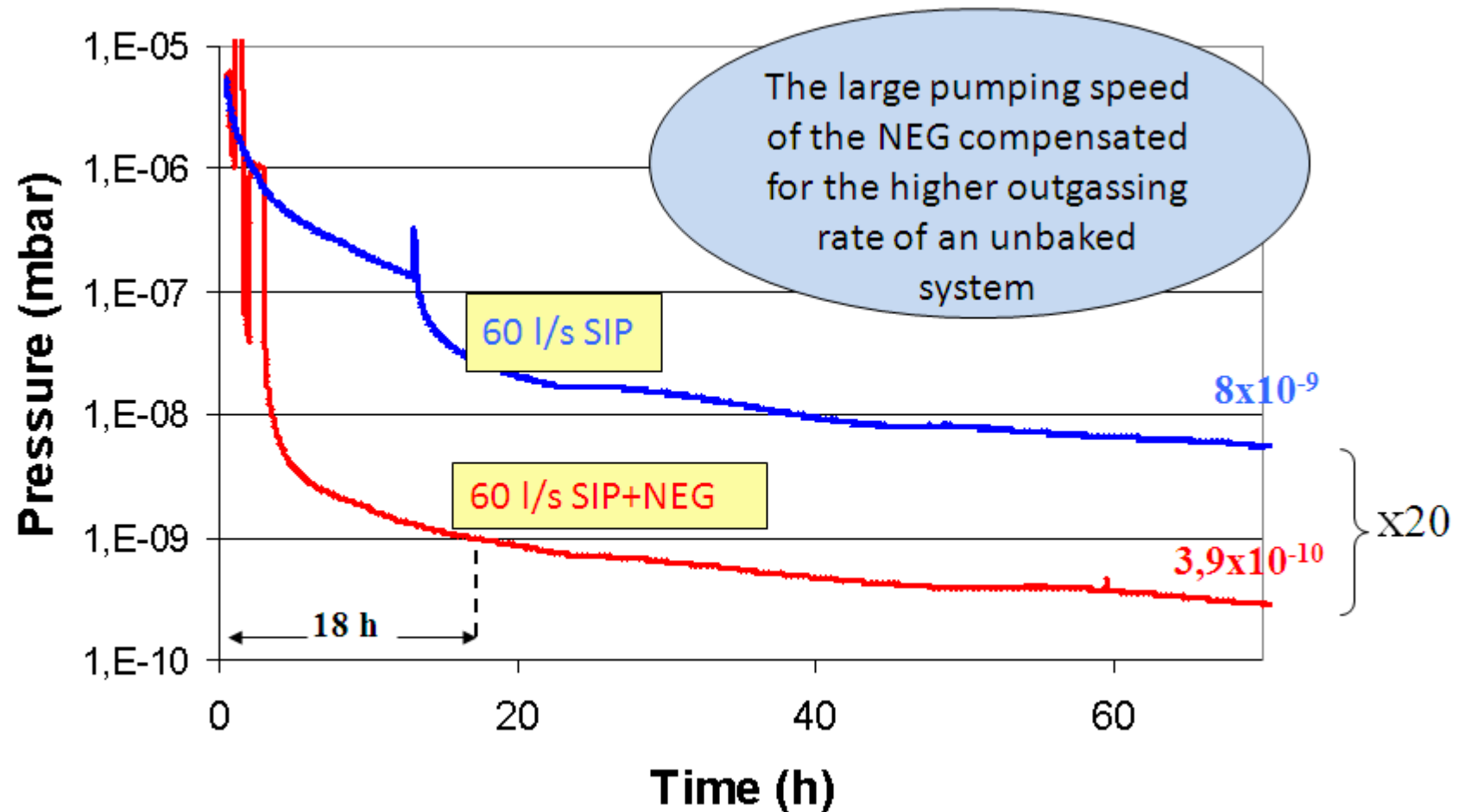
- large weight and size
- Ti particle emission
- instability effects
- decrease in the pumping efficiency below  $10^{-8}$  mbar
- low pumping efficiency for  $H_2$  (main residual gas in UHV-XHV systems)

This implies that to achieve  $10^{-10}$  -  $10^{-12}$  mbar range, very large SIP have to be used

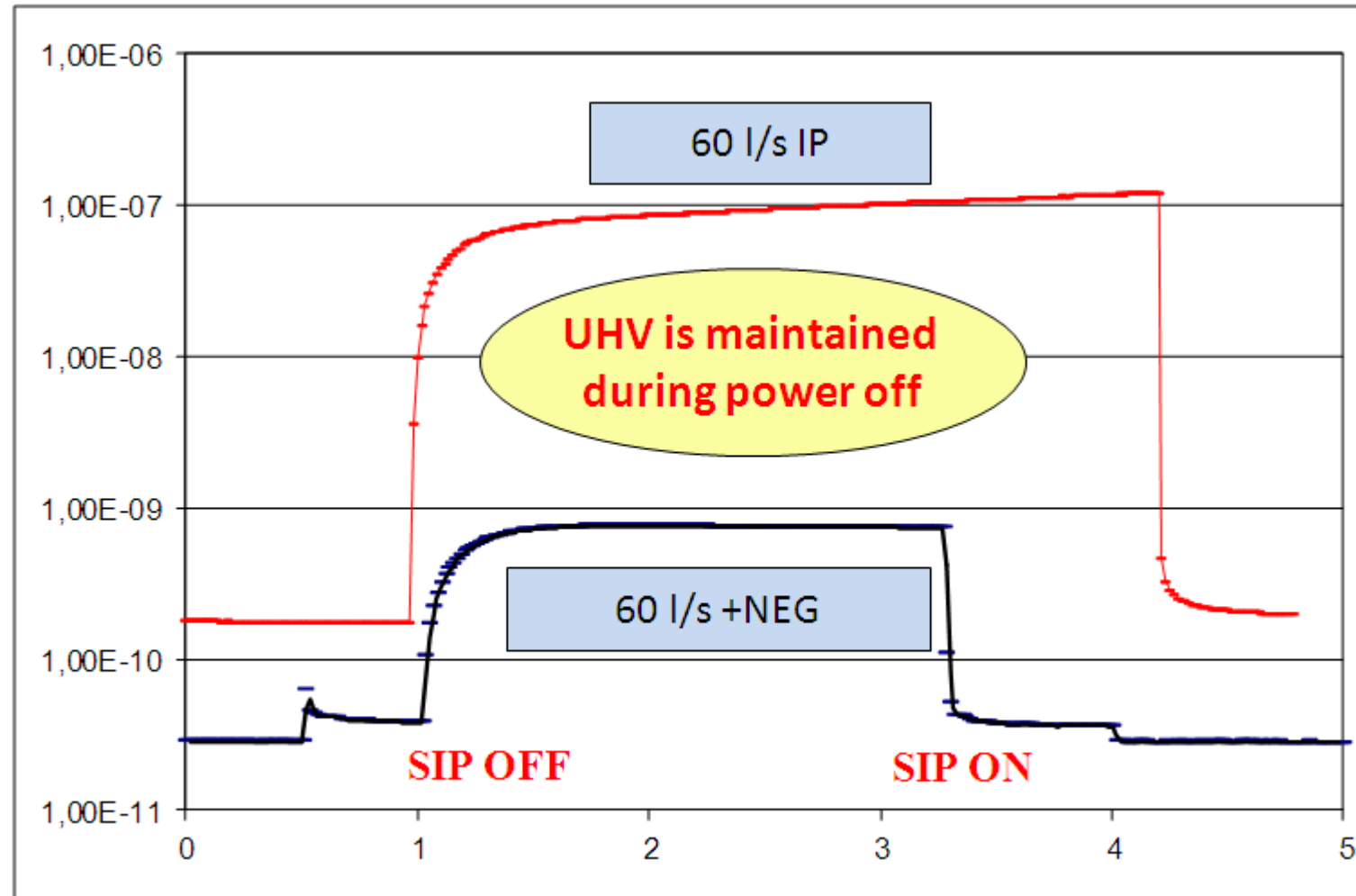
On the other hand...

- NEG pumps do not sorb noble gases and methane, thus they are generally used in combination with other UHV pumps.
- **SIP technology is the most suitable to be *integrated* with NEGs**
  - It's a capture pump
  - Very popular technique to achieve UHV in vacuum systems

## SIP+NEG: shorter pump-down

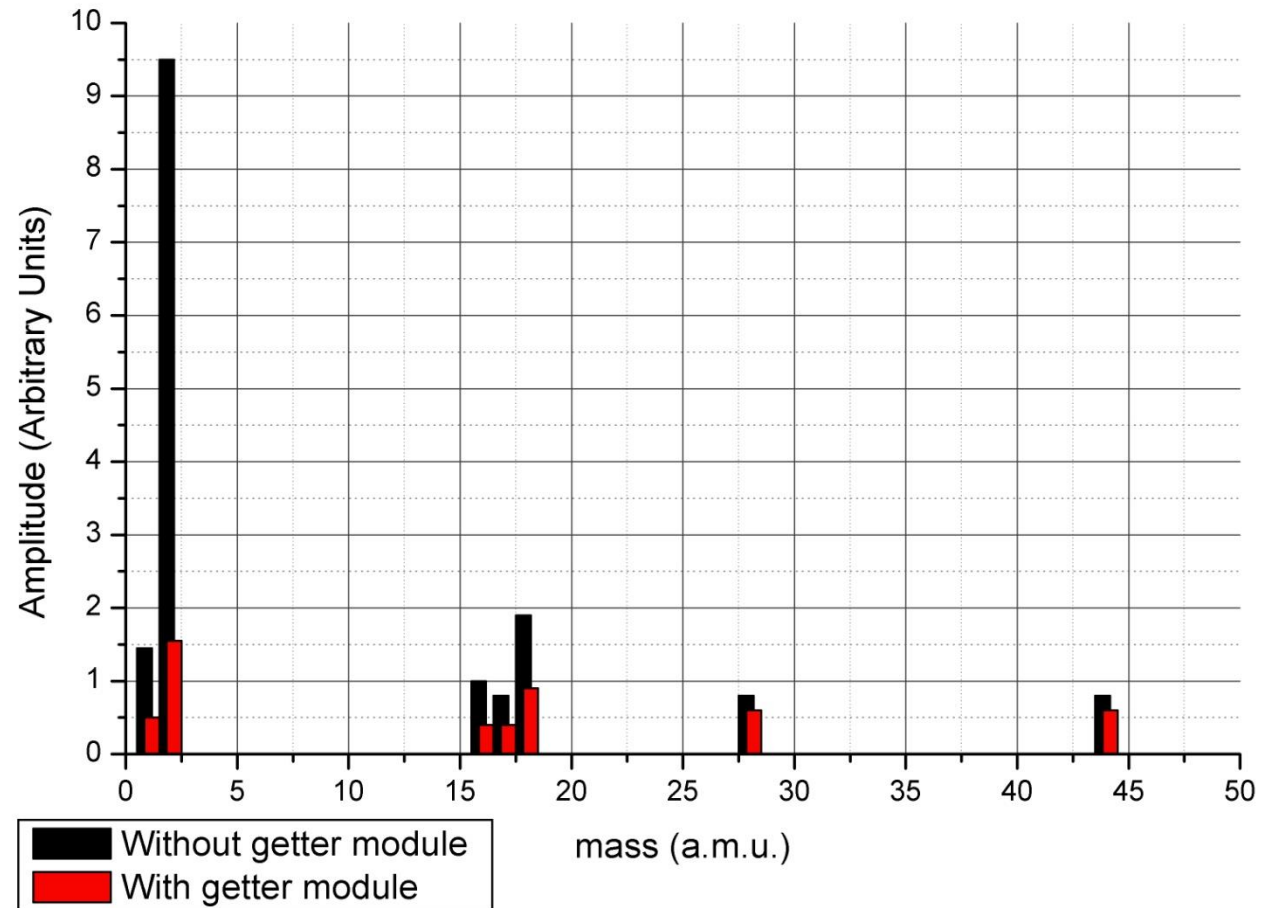




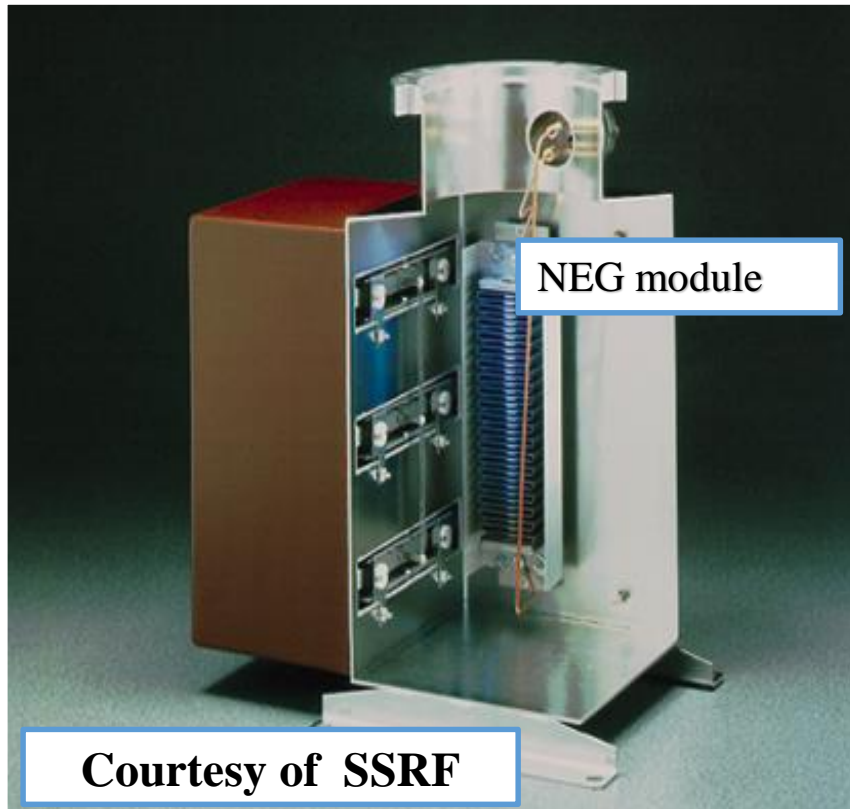
**SIP+NEG: pressure rate of rise (SIP off)**

## SIP+NEG: residual gas

Typical RGA spectrum of a Vaclon Plus at  $10^{-11}$  mbar



## MINIATURIZATION: a key requirement in vacuum

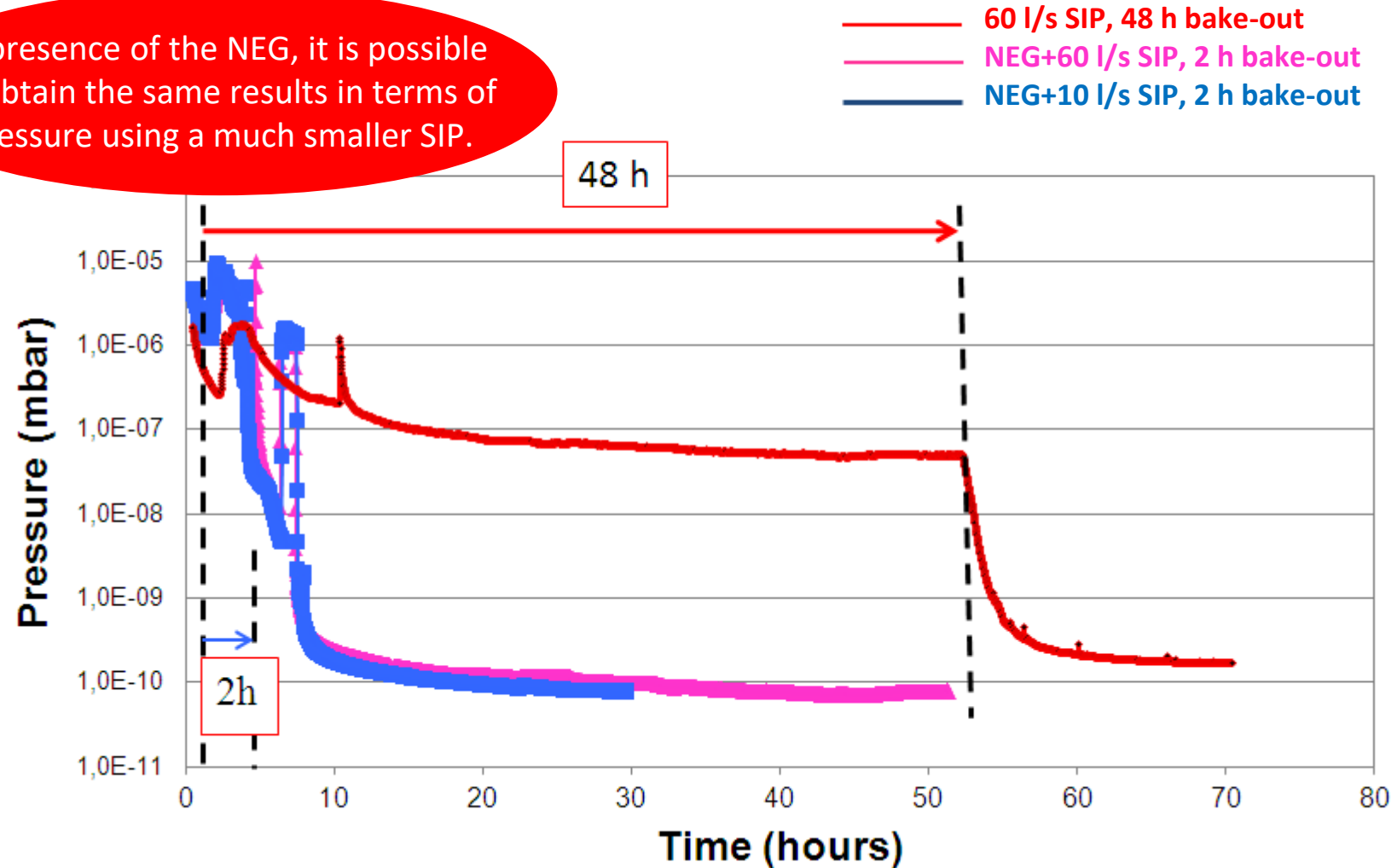


- NEGs are commonly mounted inside mid-size or large SIPs through dedicated ports
- However this approach:
  - Does not solve space / weight issues
  - The NEG effective speed is reduced
- Equipment are more and more **complex and “packed”**. The demand to reduce the size and weight of vacuum systems is increasing for industrial and scientific applications: even in very large research vacuum systems, like accelerators and synchrotrons, magnets, diagnostic tools and diversified instrumentations limits the space available for pumps
- **Better vacuum and more effective pumping** is on the other hand required

**Compactness and performance -> conflicting issues**

## SIP+NEG: reducing SIP size

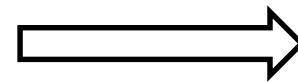
In presence of the NEG, it is possible to obtain the same results in terms of pressure using a much smaller SIP.



## SIP+NEG: reducing SIP size

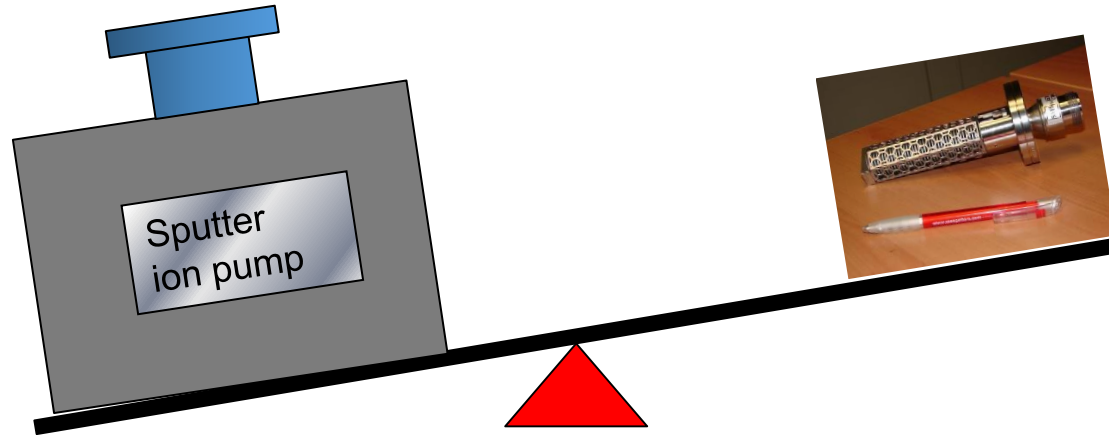
- In this study, no pressure difference was measured when reducing the SIP pumping speed from 60 l/s to 10 l/s, the NEG being the main factor to achieve ultimate vacuum.
- This is in agreement with Benvenuti and Chiggiato, who show that  $<10^{-13}$  mbar can be achieved using NEG as the main pump and leaving to small SIPs the ancillary task of removing  $\text{CH}_4$  and argon, which cannot be pumped by the getter [1].
- The same authors also estimated that an ion pump with about 10 l/s for  $\text{CH}_4/\text{Ar}$  is sufficient to achieve  $10^{-13}$  mbar in a  $1 \text{ m}^2$  leak tight and well conditioned vacuum system [2].

A vacuum system can be kept in UHV-XHV conditions by NEG pumps assisted by small SIPs only



**NEX Torr® concept**

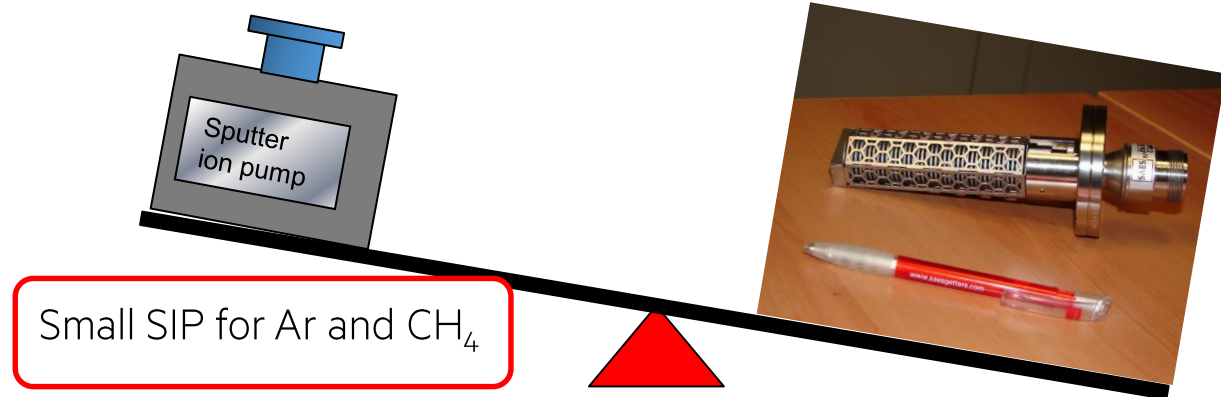
## New approach in UHV systems



Traditional approach

Large pumping speed provided by the NEG as main pump (still compact)

Innovative approach

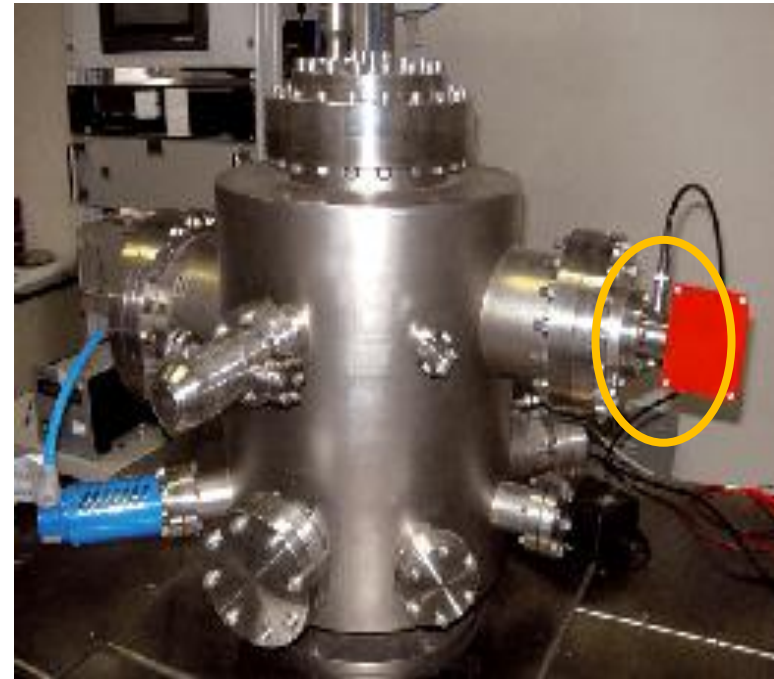
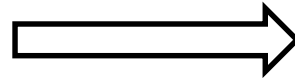


Small SIP for Ar and CH<sub>4</sub>

## NEXTorr® pumps



SIP 120 I/s (H<sub>2</sub>)



NEXTorr® 100 I/s (H<sub>2</sub>)

## The NEXTorr® family

- NEXTorr® is a patented (US 8,287,247 B) generation of pumps which combines, in a single, very compact and light package, a NEG element and a very small SIP.
- NEXTorr® pumps are available with St172™ (D series) and **ZAO® UHV** (Z series) disks, providing higher pumping speed and even lower particle release.
- Models featuring **ZAO® HV** for high vacuum are available too (HV series).
- Each NEXTorr® pump has a dedicated power supply and cables to activate the NEG and control the ion pump.



The NEXTorr® design **provides remarkable pumping synergies:**

- The ion part pumps gases that the getter does not, so that the NEXTorr® pumps all gases
- Getter capacity is increased
- The getter element intercepts most of the emitted Ti particles
- Gases released by the ion pump during the operation are intercepted and removed by the getter element
- Increased pumping efficiency for H<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub> and Argon
- Methane is dissociated in the plasma and a significant amount of H<sub>2</sub> released into the vacuum system is intercepted by the NEG.



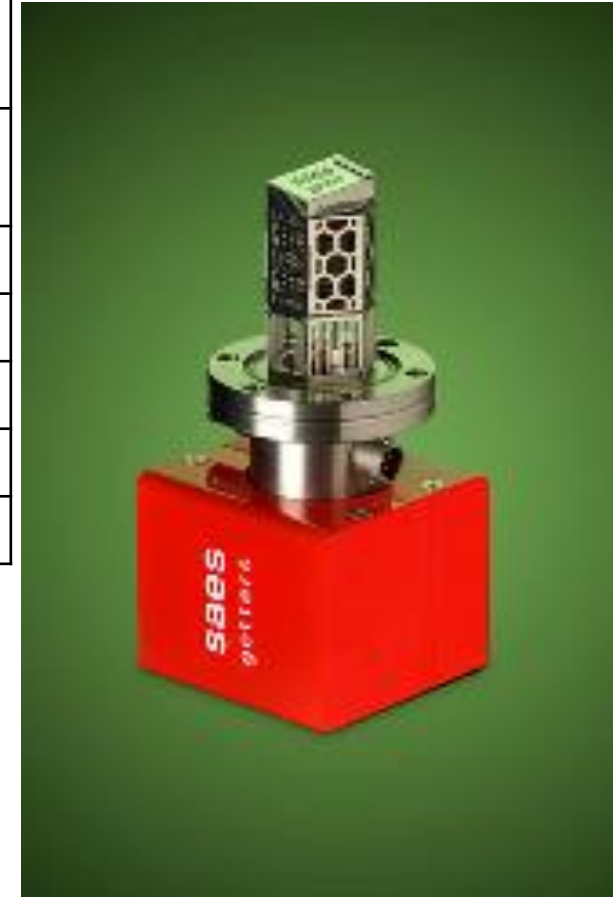
## How it looks like: NEX Torr® D 100-5 pump

<b>Total weight</b> (magnets included)	<b>2,2 kg</b>
<b>Volume</b>	<b>0,5 l</b>

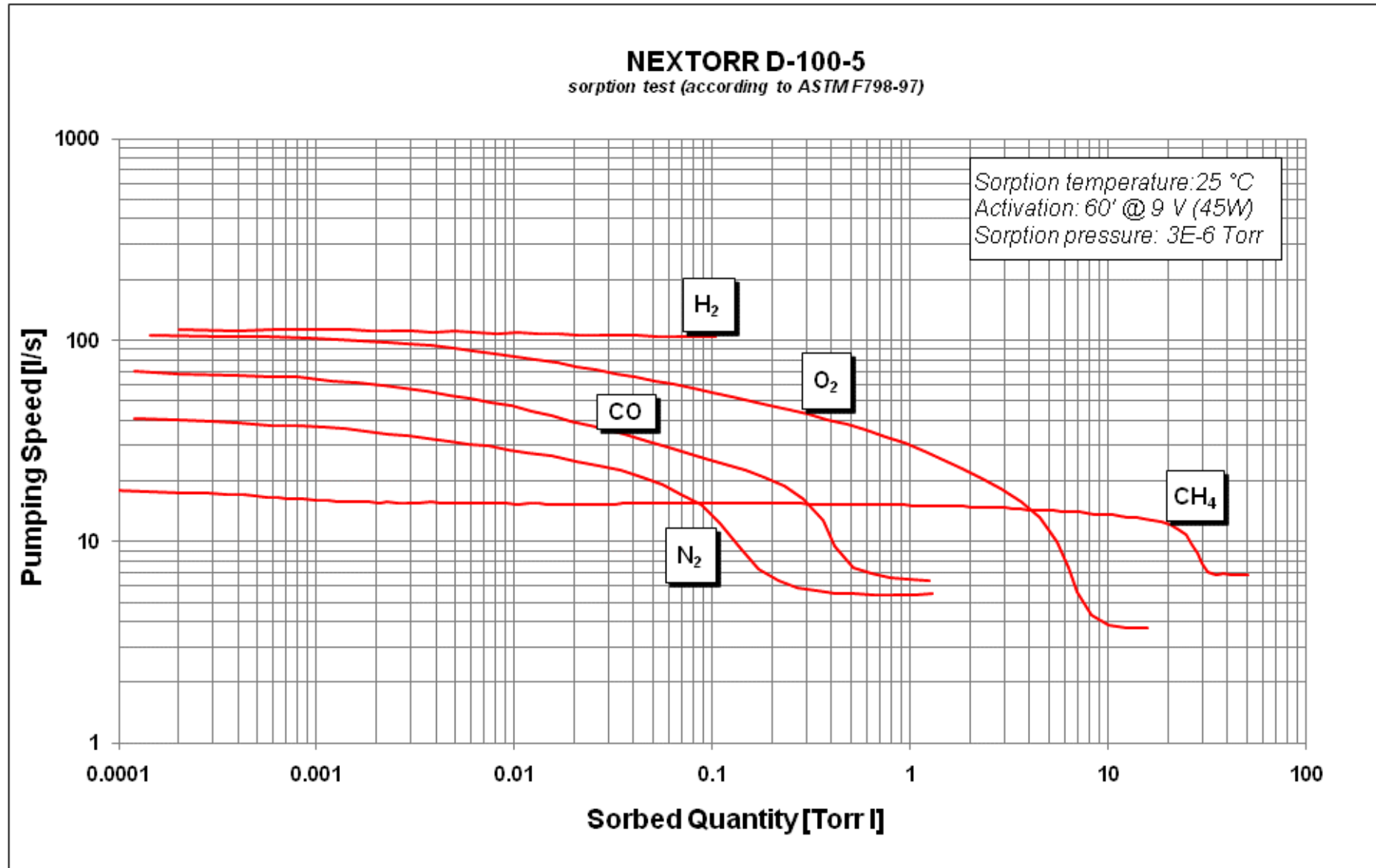
Gas	Initial pumping speed (l/s)	
	NEG activated	NEG saturated
H <sub>2</sub>	<b>100</b>	<b>6</b>
CO	<b>70</b>	<b>6</b>
N <sub>2</sub>	<b>40</b>	<b>5</b>
CH <sub>4</sub>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>
Argon	<b>6 (0,3)</b>	<b>6 (0,3)</b>



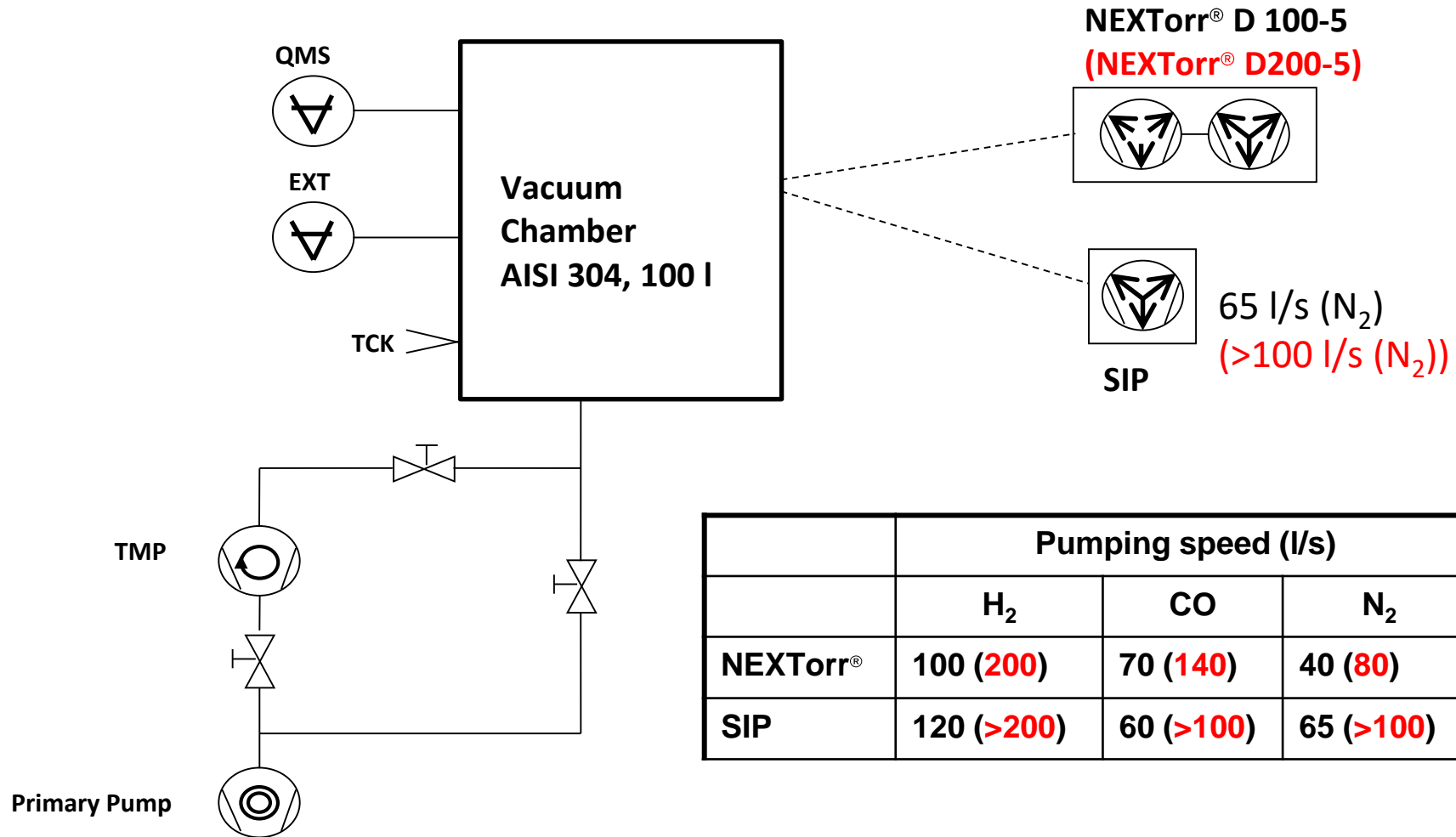
2012-2014 © SAES Getters S.p.A



## How it looks like: NEX Torr® D 100-5 pump - typical sorption curves



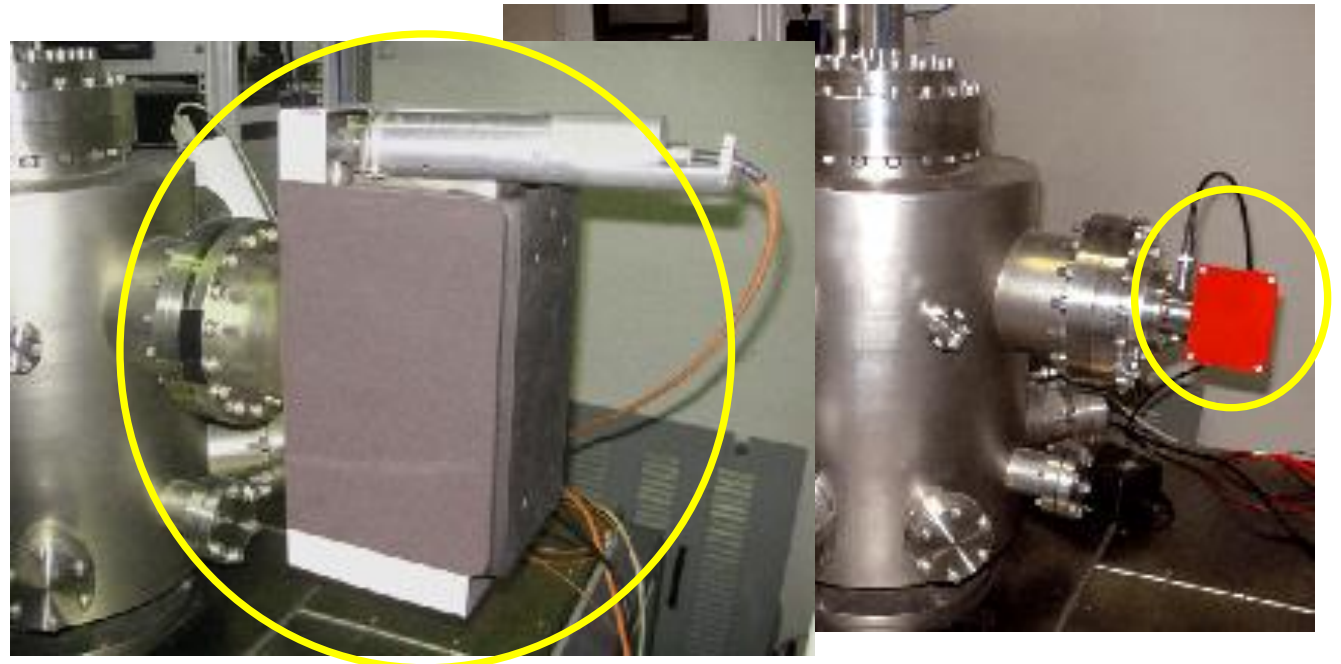
# NEXTorr® vs SIP: experimental setup



	Pumping speed (l/s)		
	H <sub>2</sub>	CO	N <sub>2</sub>
NEXTorr®	100 (200)	70 (140)	40 (80)
SIP	120 (>200)	60 (>100)	65 (>100)

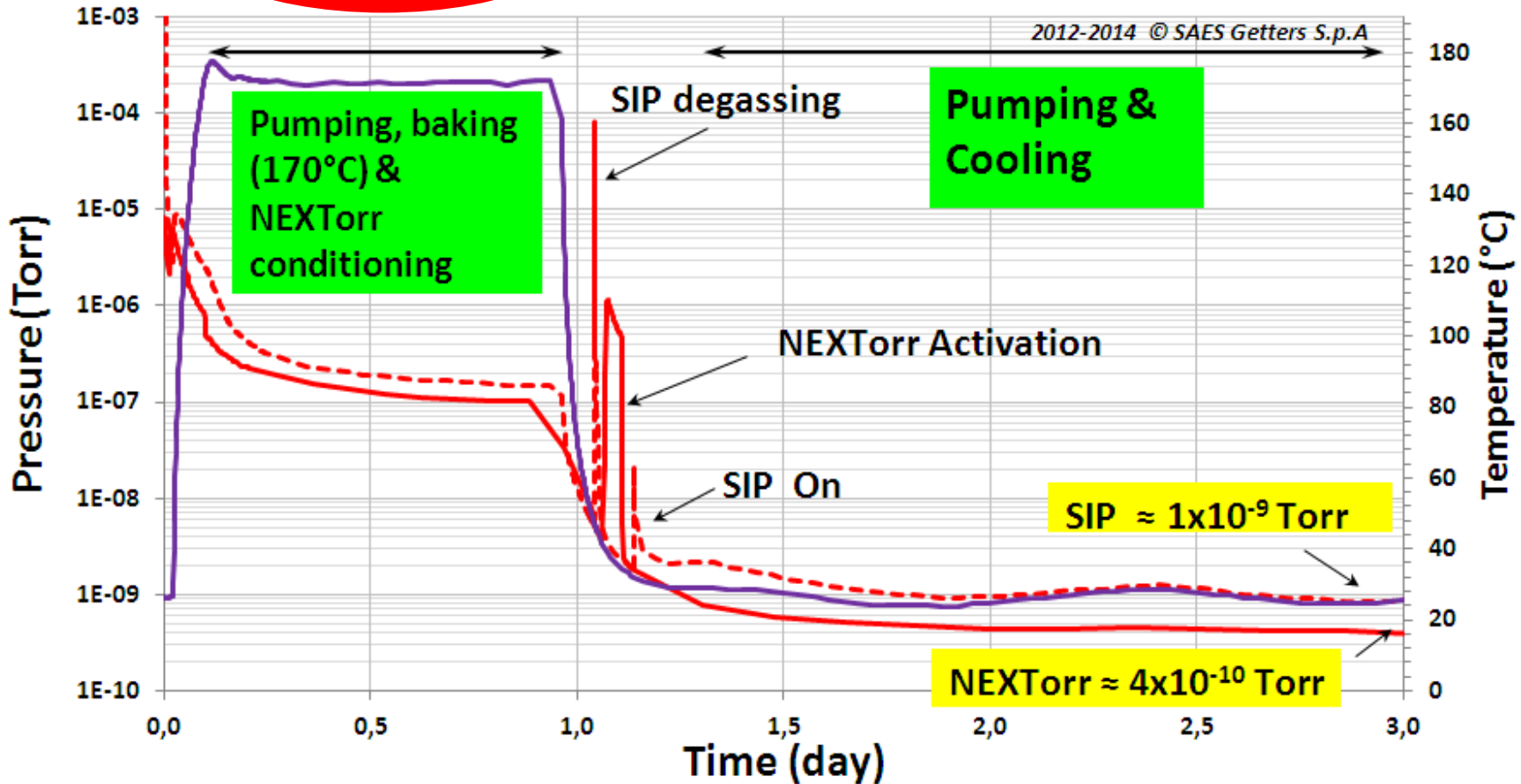
## NEXTorr® D100-5 vs SIP: experimental setup and procedures

- Bench baked at 170 °C for 24 h under pumping. NEG element of the NEXTorr® pump kept hot (300°C) during the bake out.
- After bake, pressure recorded for several days.
- Rate of rise test (RoR) carried out to measure the pressure build up in both systems in absence of power.
- Two blank runs carried out to measure pressure evolution without the SIP or the NEG.
- Total and partial pressures recorded with a QMS.

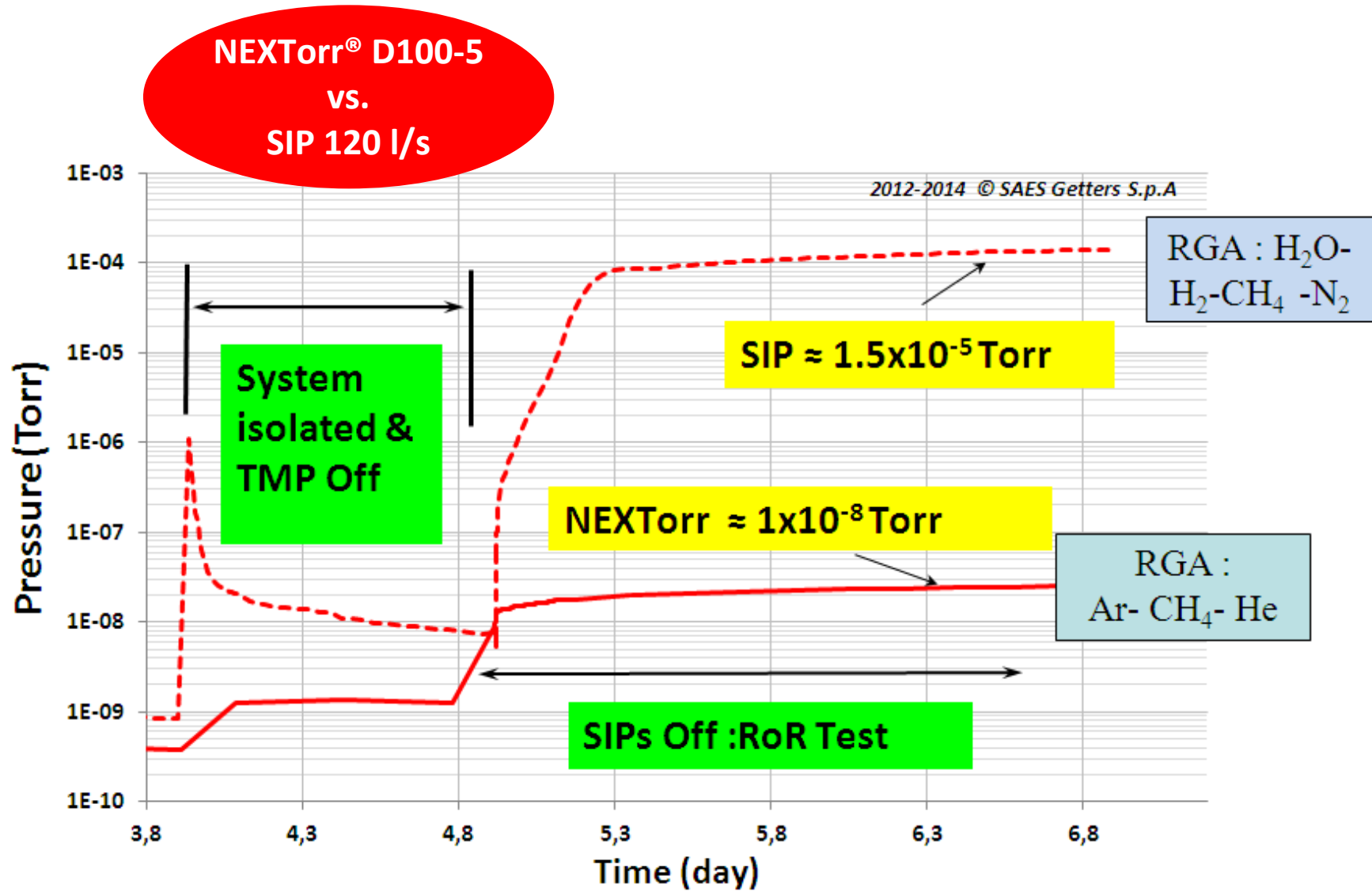
SIP - 120 L/s (H<sub>2</sub>)NEXTorr® - 100 L/s (H<sub>2</sub>)

# NEXTorr® vs SIP: pump-down time

**NEXTorr® D100-5  
vs.  
SIP 120 l/s**



# NEXTorr® vs SIP: pressure rate of rise (SiPs off)



## NEXTorr® D200-5 vs SIP: experimental setup

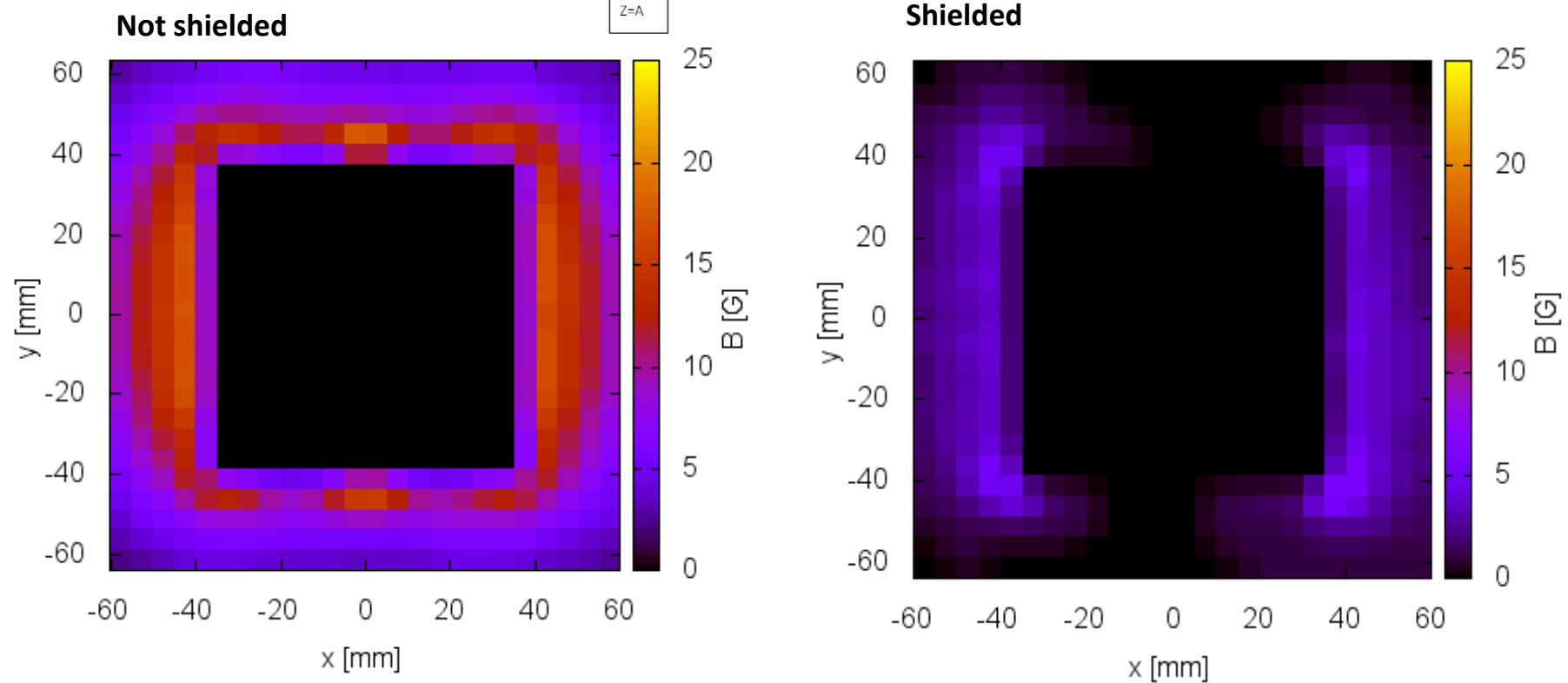
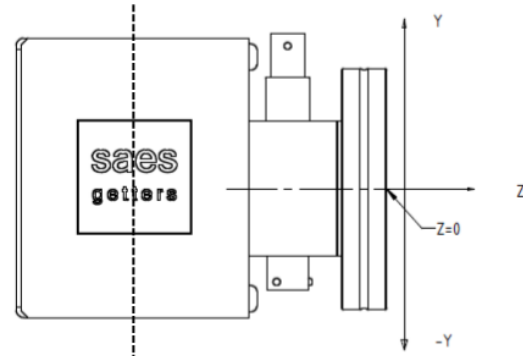


SIP - 200 l/s (H<sub>2</sub>)



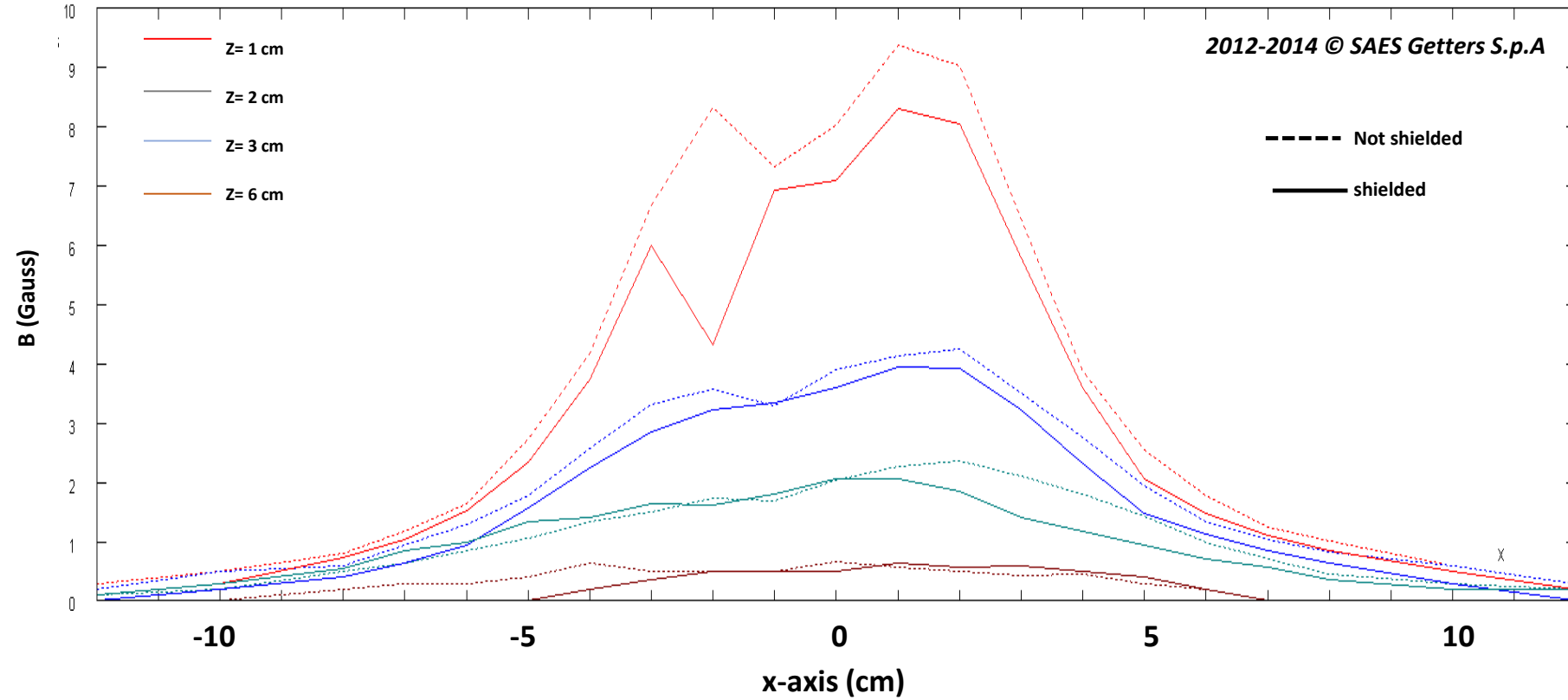
NEXTorr® D200-5 - 200 l/s (H<sub>2</sub>)

## Stray magnetic field in NEXTorr® SIPs





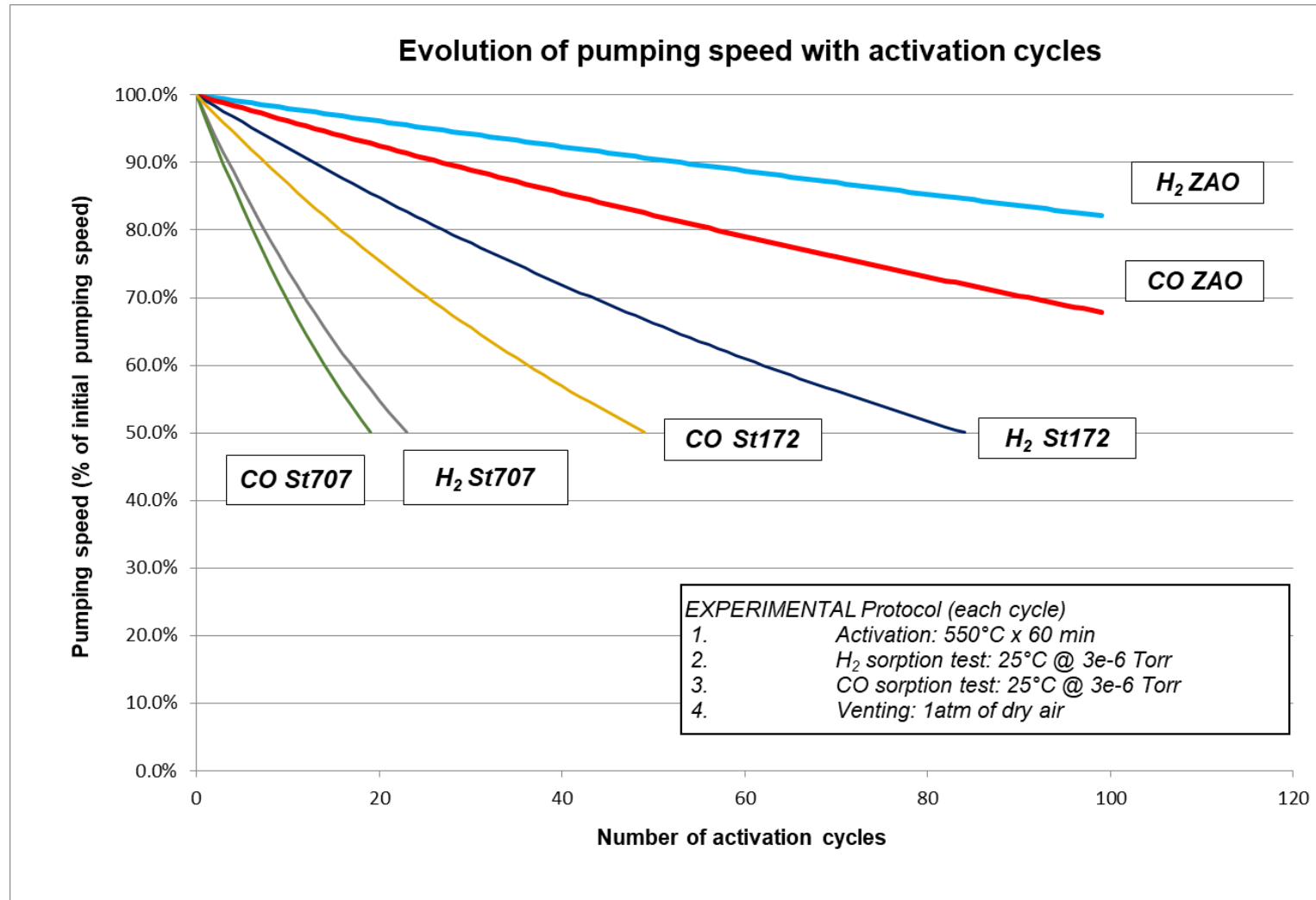
## Stray magnetic field in NEXTorr® SIPs



## **APPLICATION OF NEG PUMPS:**

- 1. Reactivation and outgassing**
- 2. Procedures**
- 3. Particle release**
- 4. Pump-down with no auxiliary pumps**
- 5. Applications**

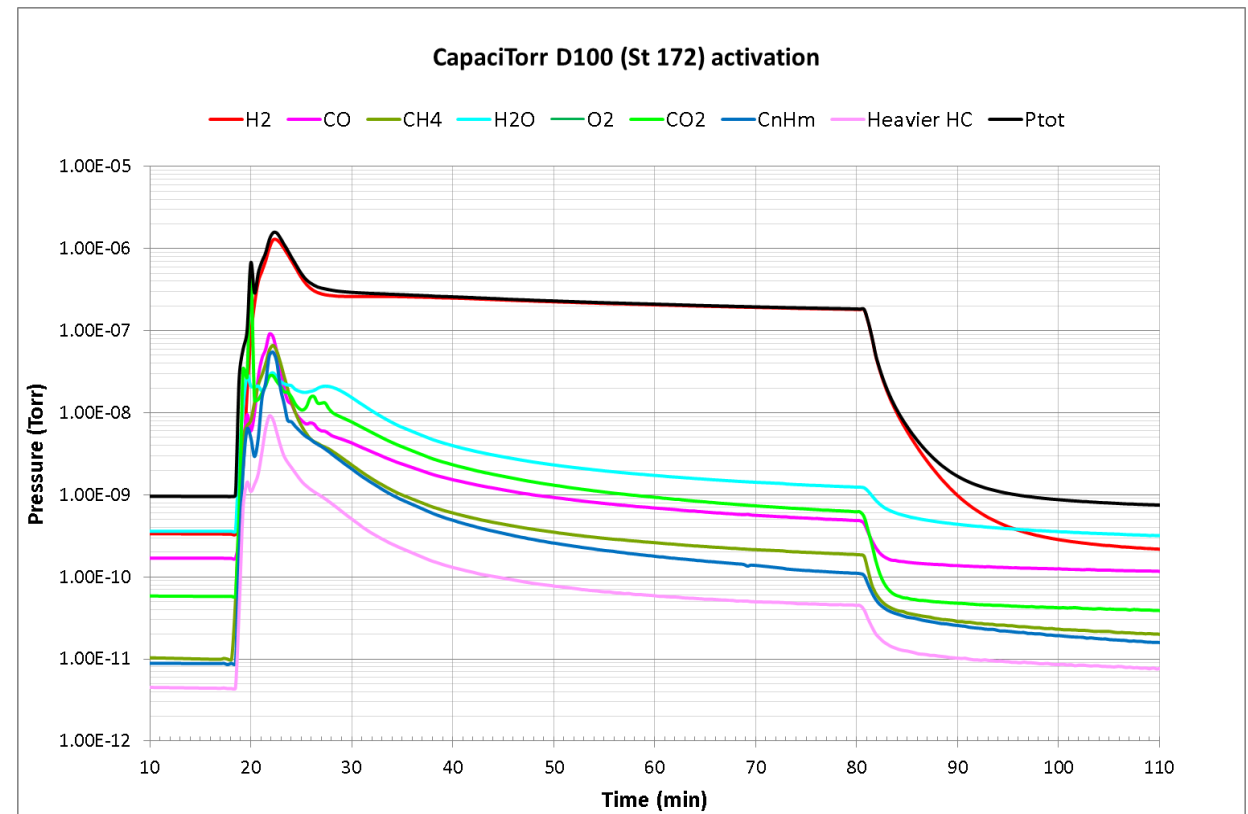
## RESISTANCE TO REACTIVATION CYCLES



- ZAO® is much robust to reactivation cycles with venting (>100 cycles with less than 40% of pumping speed reduction on CO).
- In any case, the progressive pumping-speed reduction can be compensated by slightly increasing the activation temperature (e.g., 450→550 °C).

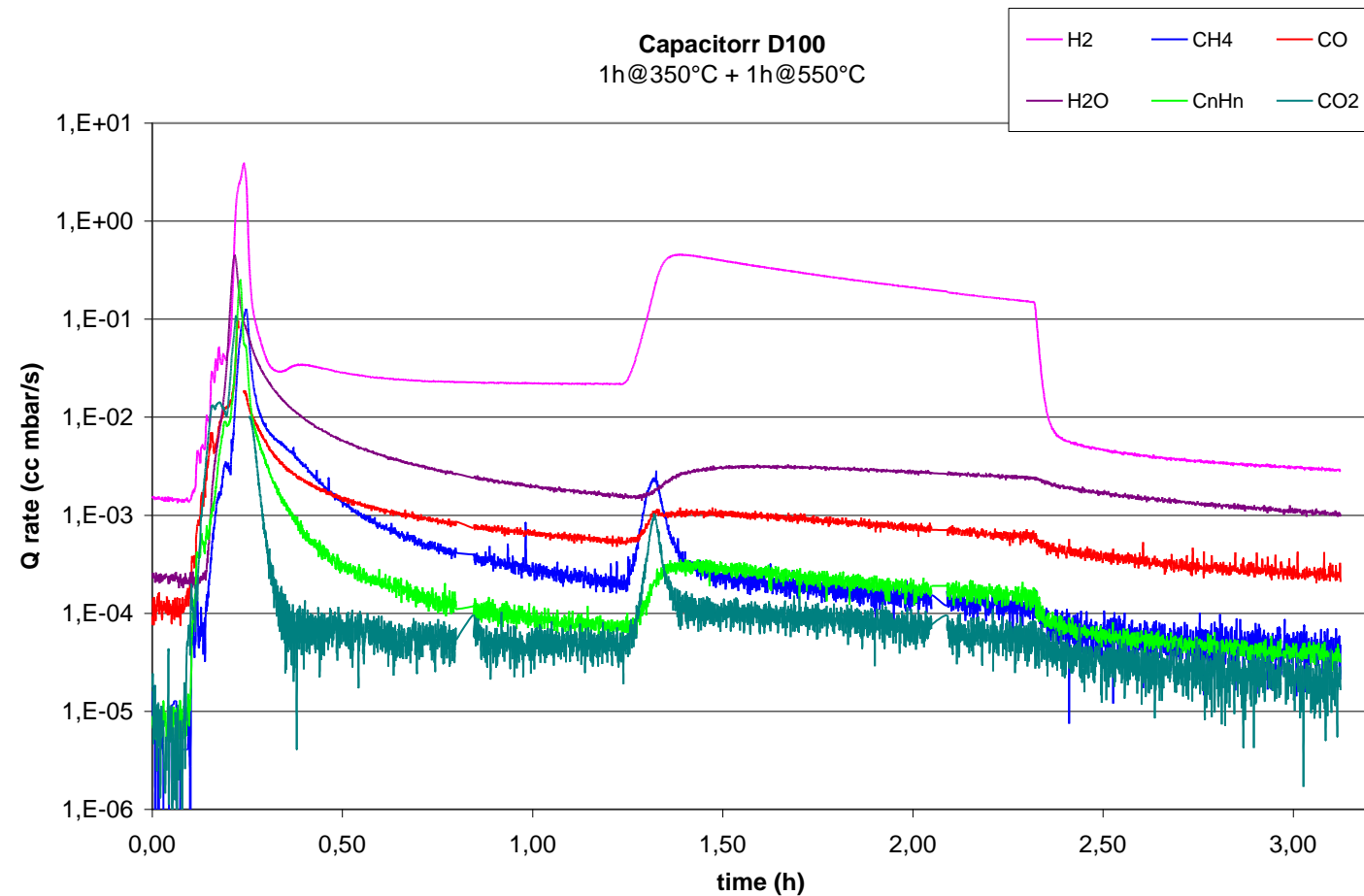
## NEG OUTGASSING PROPERTIES: residual gases during activation

- *First desorption peak at 250°C - 300°C and approaching full activation temperature*  
 Most of the physisorbed species are released. H<sub>2</sub> peak followed by CO, CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>4</sub> 10 times lower (or more).
- *Reaching full activation temperature*  
 Within a few minutes, species other than hydrogen start to decrease rapidly.
- *H<sub>2</sub> plateau*  
 Depends on:
  - 1) Equilibrium pressure
  - 2) Dynamic equilibrium between auxiliary pumping and H<sub>2</sub> desorption rate (diffusivity & recombination rate on the surface).
- *H<sub>2</sub> re-pumping*  
 Within minutes after the end of the activation, emitted H<sub>2</sub> is completely re-adsorbed.

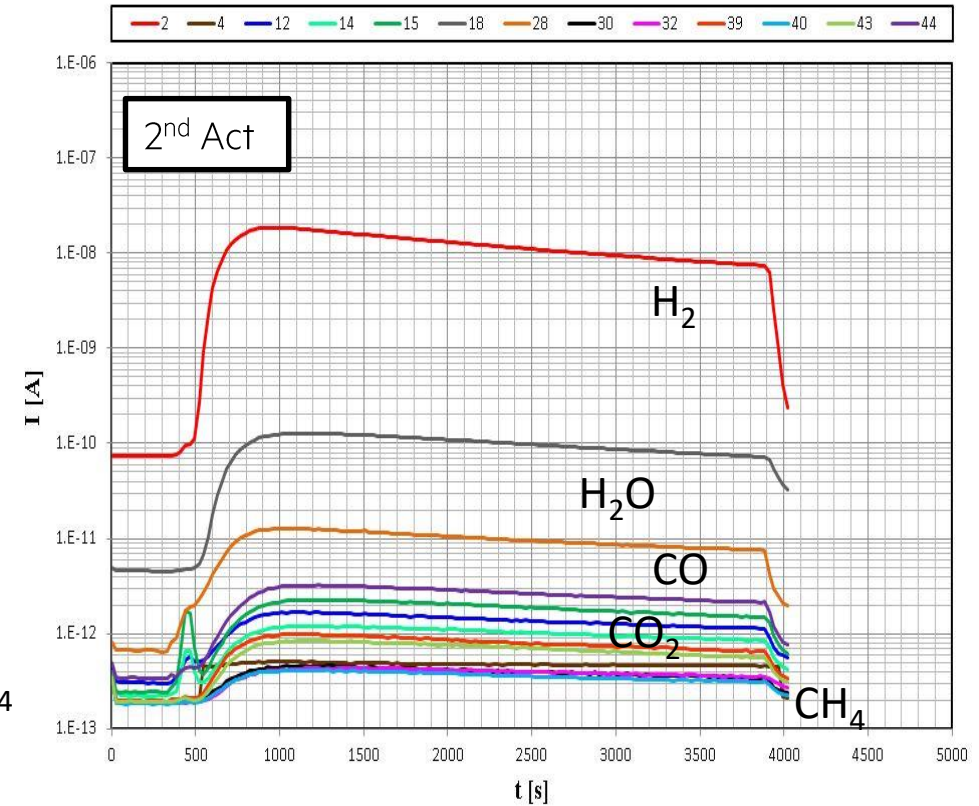
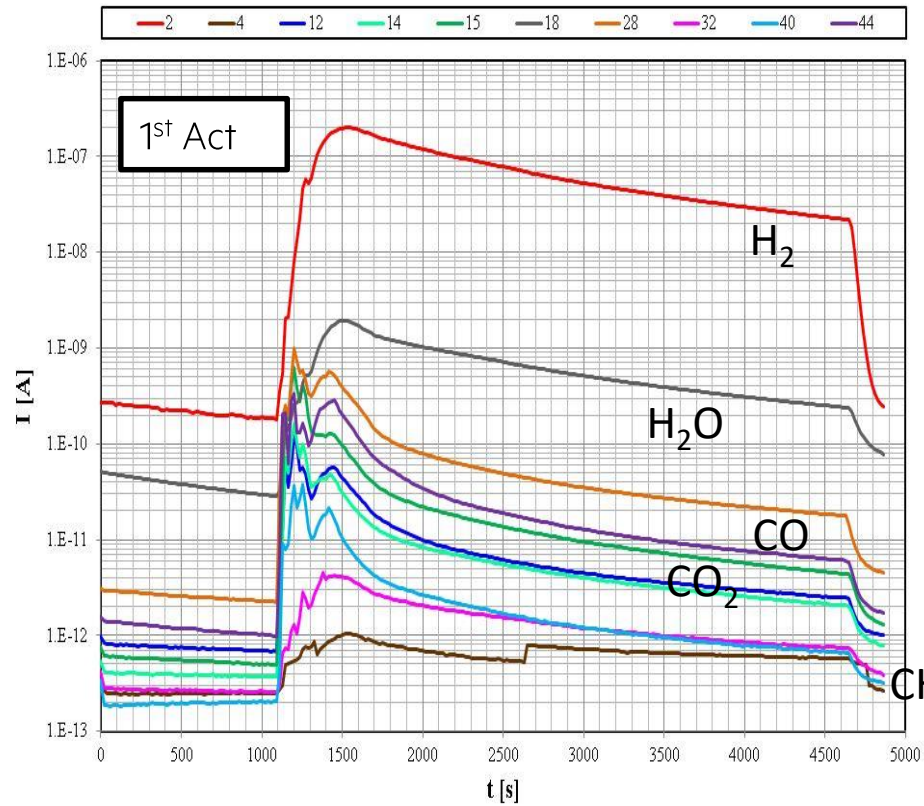


## NEG OUTGASSING PROPERTIES: a few hints

If possible, apply a pre-conditioning step at 150-250 °C before the full activation, to remove physisorbed species and reduce the amount of released gases. This is possible using the “conditioning” mode of the power supply. If this is not possible, a standard bake out is acceptable.



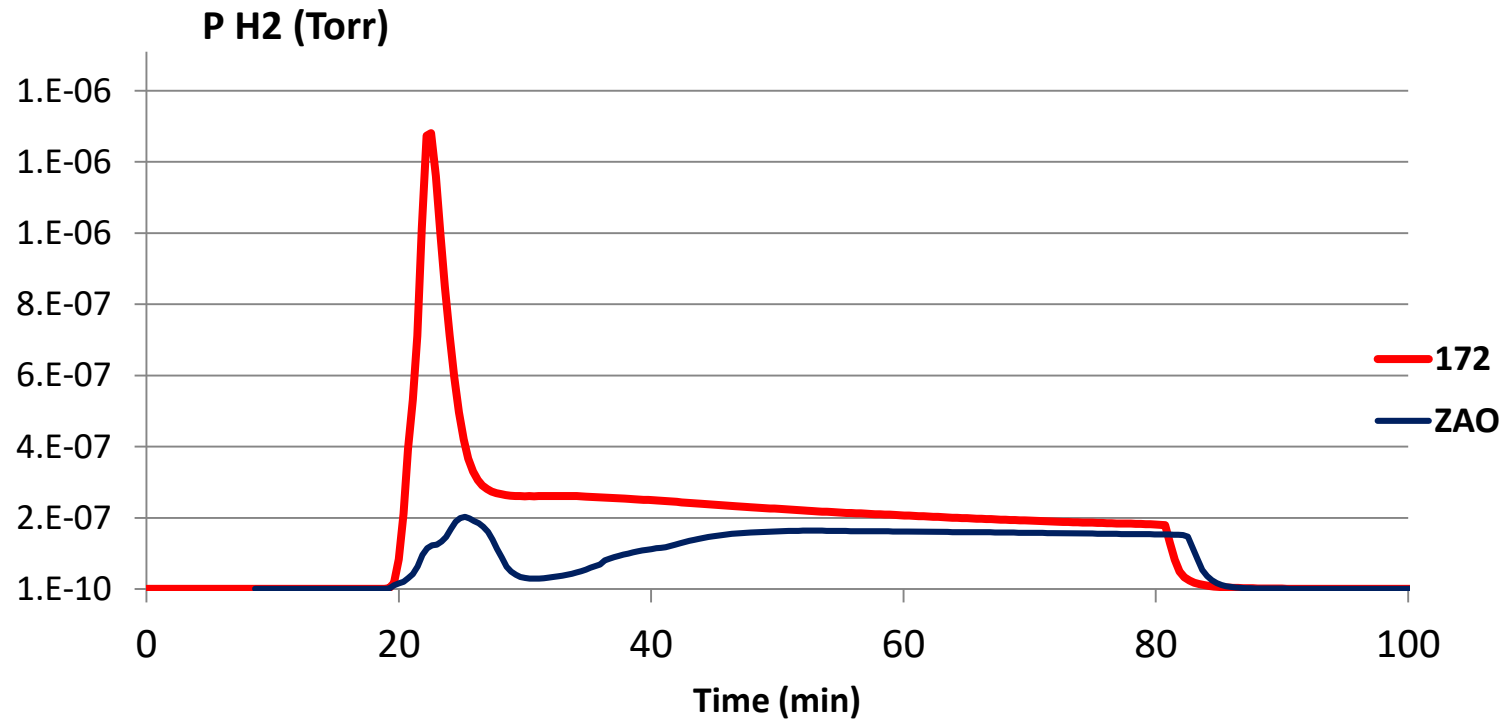
## NEG OUTGASSING PROPERTIES: Gas desorption after the first activation



Gas emission is about a factor 10-20 smaller after the first activation.  
Slightly lower ultimate pressure is expected.

## NEG OUTGASSING PROPERTIES: ZAO® vs St172™ alloy

- H<sub>2</sub> evolution during activation is about 5 times smaller for ZAO® compared to St172™.
- The total amount of released H<sub>2</sub> is also a factor 2 smaller.



## ACTIVATION PROCEDURES: practical hints

### During the NEG pump **activation**:

- **any ion pump should be off**
- **TSPs** (if present) should be **operated after** the NEG pump **activation**: if TSP are operated before, due to the partial release of hydrogen by NEG pump activation, TSP will sorb a large amount of hydrogen which will be released during normal operation

Two **activation processes** will be described

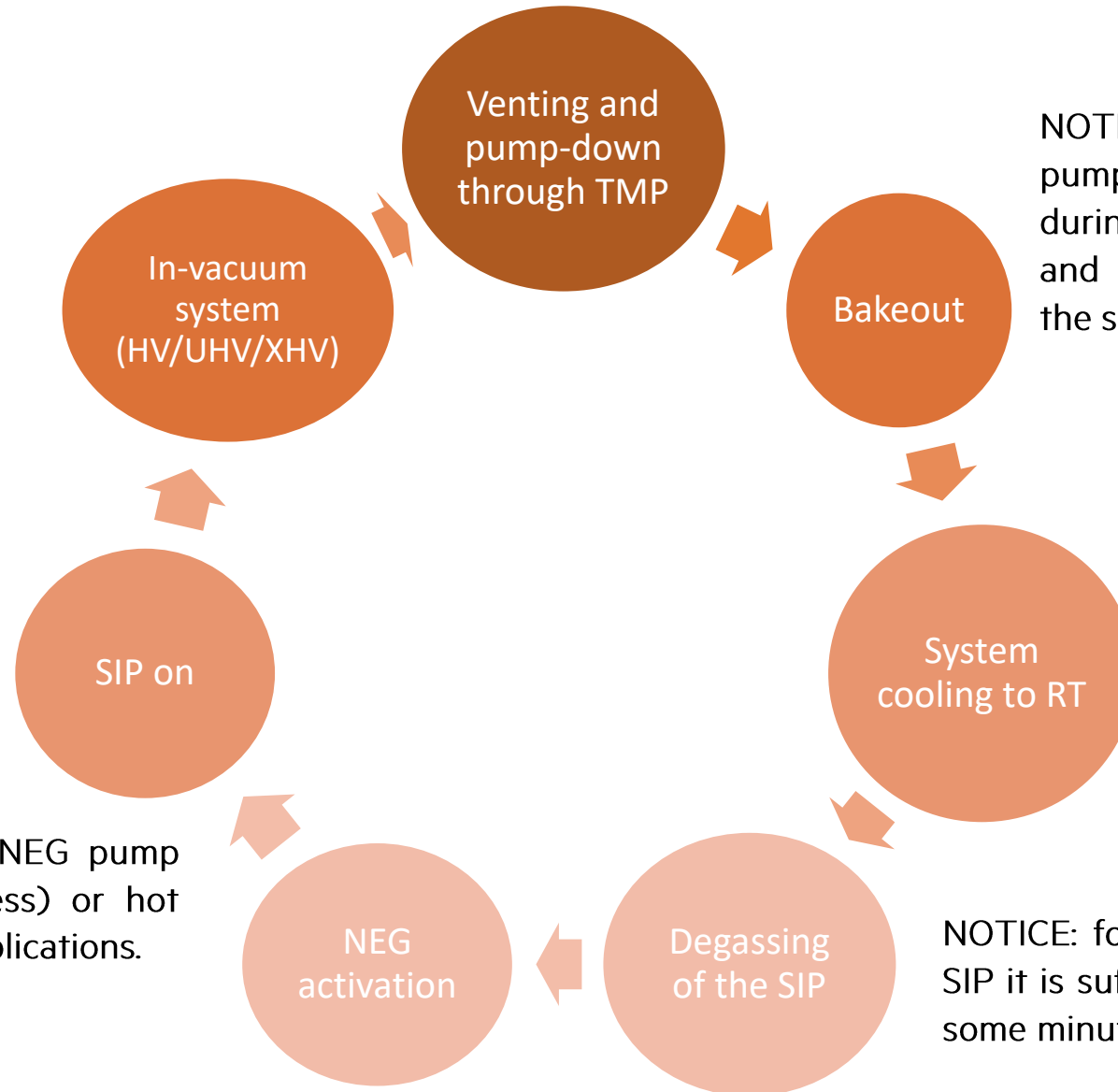
- Baked vacuum system after venting
- Unbaked vacuum system after venting

All described procedures are **considered best-practice**, but they can be adjusted depending on:

- System characteristics (surface/volume)
- Needs (time and pressure target)
- Expected outgassing species from the system...



## Procedures: baked vacuum system after venting



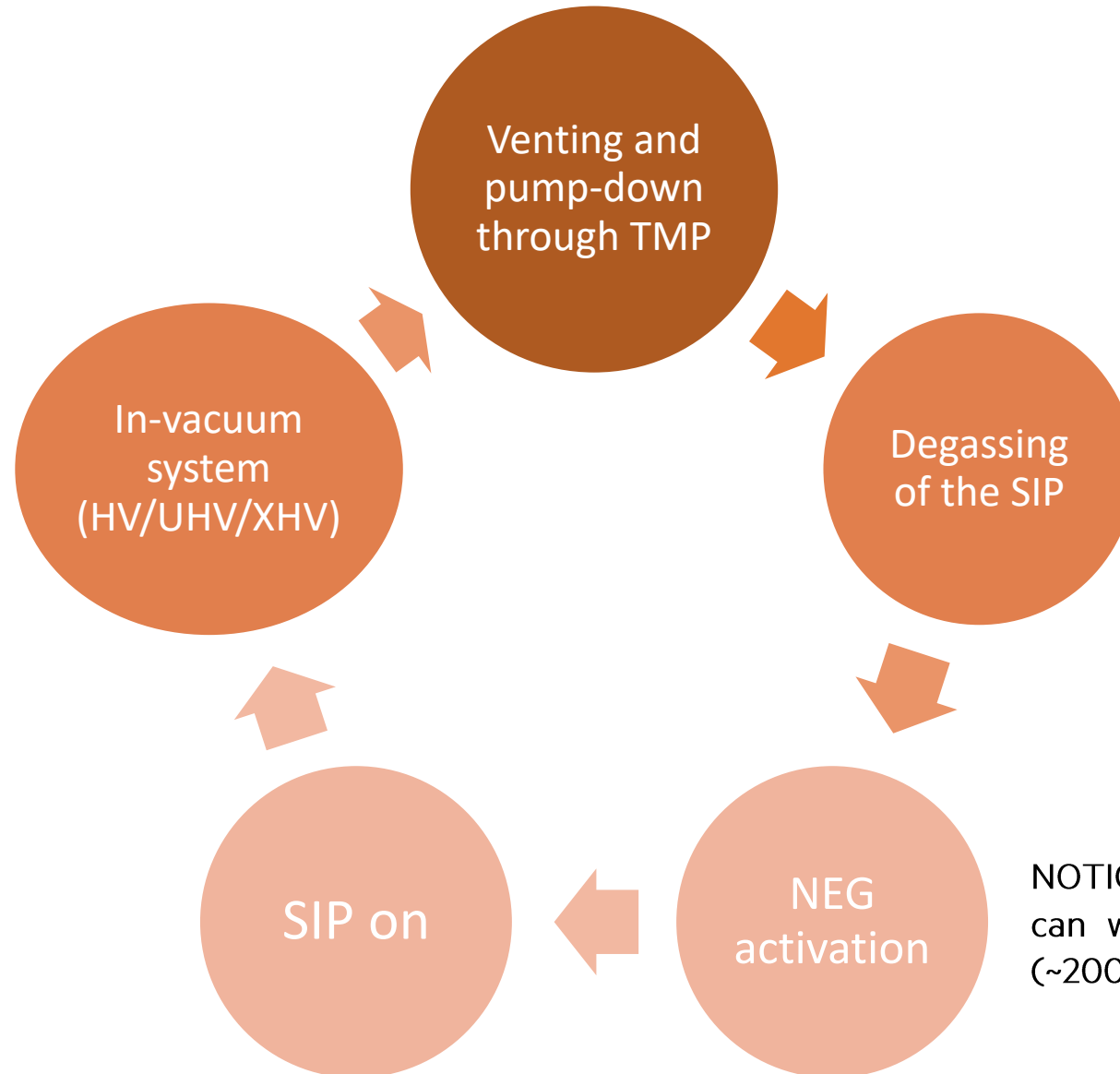
NOTICE: in principle, the NEG pump can be activated also during the bakeout process and possibly reactivated after the system has reached RT.

NOTICE: also SIPs should be baked (check compatibility with max. magnets temperature or remove them). If it's not possible, it's better to keep it on during the bakeout.

NOTICE: after activation, NEG pump can work at RT (powerless) or hot (~200°C) in case of HV applications.

NOTICE: for the degassing of the SIP it is sufficient to keep it on for some minutes, then switch it off.

## Procedures: unbaked vacuum system after venting



NOTICE: for the degassing of the SIP it is sufficient to keep it on for some minutes, then switch it off.

NOTICE: after activation, NEG pump can work at RT (powerless) or hot (~200°C) in case of HV applications.

## **NEG in particle-sensitive systems: why particles might be an issue?**

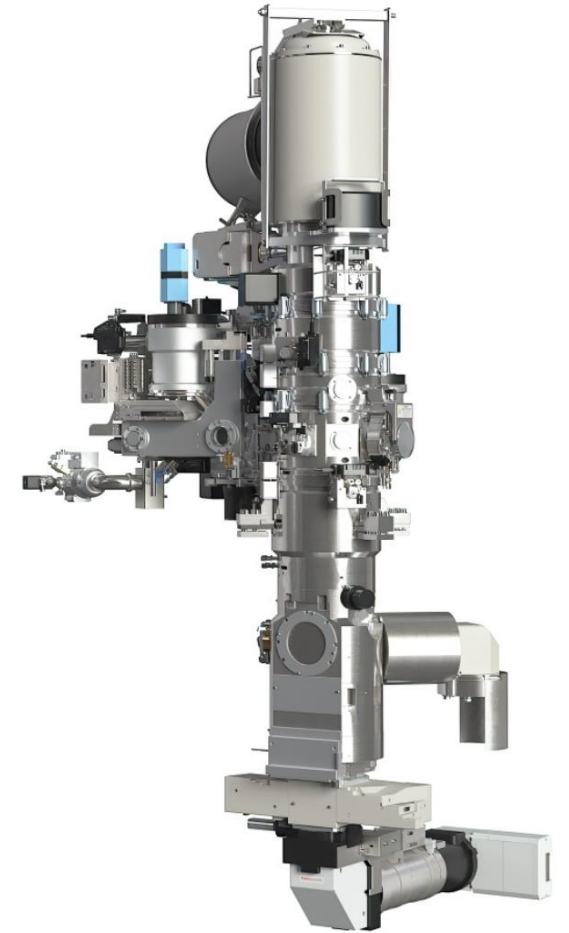
Particles can create severe mechanical, electromagnetic and optical issues:

- They can generate electric shorts, sparks and act as field emitter tips under high electric fields.
- On silicon wafers they can change properties of the deposited layers, create opens, breaks, morphological defects.
- They can contaminate masks and optical systems, in EUVL or electron beam masking tools, reducing resolution and introducing optical artifact.
- Particles can create abrasion, loss of tightness in load lock systems.

## Particle-sensitive systems: some examples

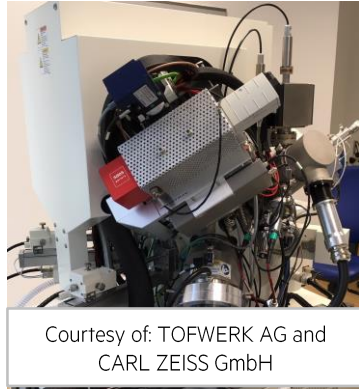
A variety of industrial and scientific applications is particle-sensitive:

- X-ray inspection systems and tubes.
- Metrological and inspection tools (SEM, CD SEM, TEM).
- Photolithographic equipment (e-beam equipment...).
- Load lock and transportation vessel.
- Portable analytical systems (e.g. mass spectrometers).
- Large research facilities (particle accelerators, synchrotrons, fusion machines...).

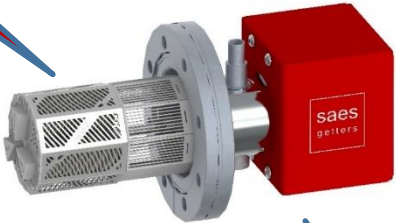
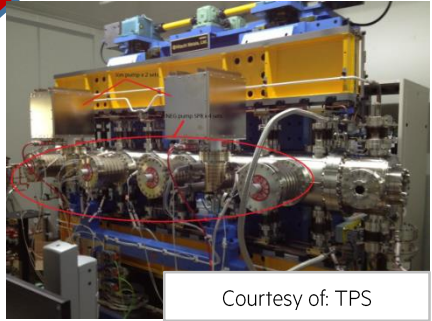


# NEG pumps are widely used in particle-sensitive systems

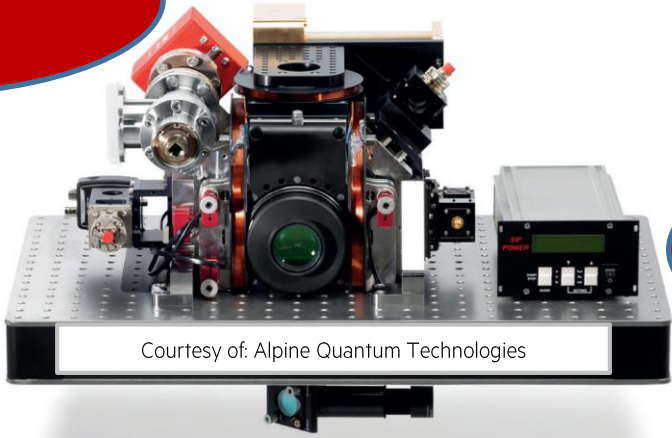
No maintenance nor vibrations



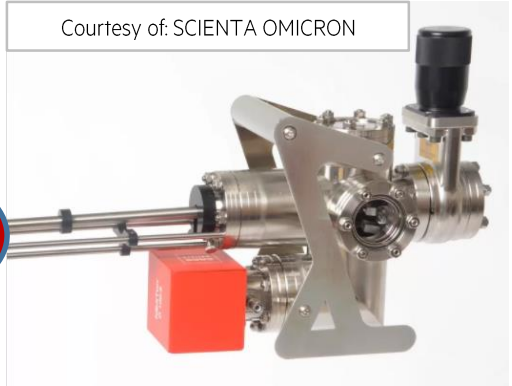
High pumping speed and trapping efficiency for H2



No power supply in working conditions



Extreme compactness



Negligible magnetic interference

## **St172™: tests with particle counters in air/in vacuum (DESY)**

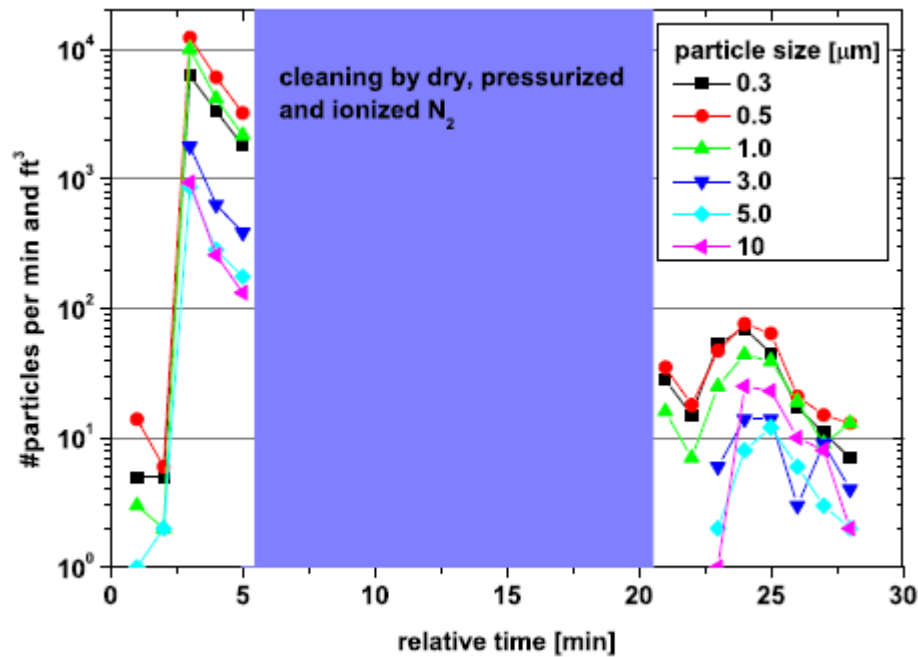
A dedicated test to qualify Capacitorr® D 400 (St 172™) for SRF cavities and particle sensitive applications was carried out at DESY.

Tests were carried out :

- With a particle counter in air to assess compatibility of the pump to ISO classes
- With a particle counter under vacuum to measure particle emission during the real operation of the pump (e.g. conditioning and activations)

## St172™ particle tests in air (DESY)

- The pump was cleaned by blowing dry ionized Nitrogen at 3 bar, inside a clean room of class ISO5.
- Particles were measured by the MetONE 2400-6 counter, able to detect particles ranges of 0.3, 0.5, 1.0, 3.0, 5.0 and 10.0  $\mu\text{m}$ , operating with an air flow of 1 cfm.

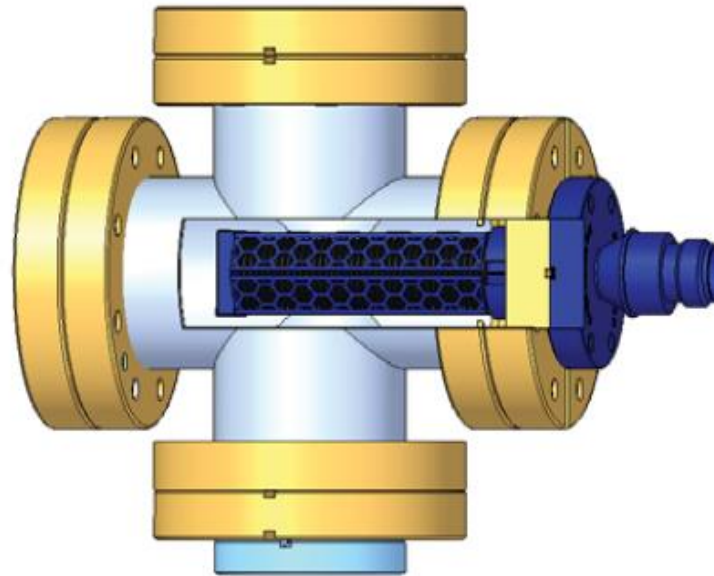


**Compatibility with particle-free systems and superconducting accelerator modules**

- After about 15 min cleaning, the number of emitted particles is strongly reduced, and compatible with a ISO4 clean room.

## St172™ particle tests in vacuum (DESY)

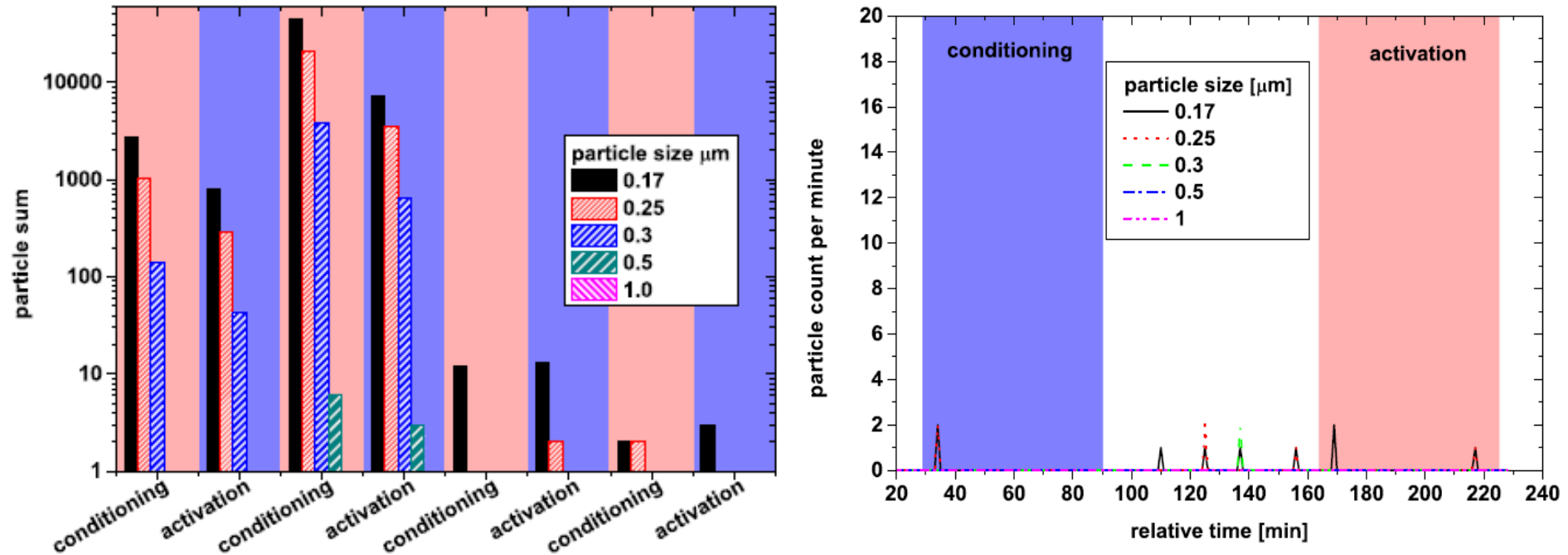
- Particle creation during conditioning and activation of the D-400 pump was monitored by the in-vacuum counter XYT 70XE. The detectable particle size ranges are 0.17, 0.25, 0.3, 0.5 and 1  $\mu\text{m}$ .
- Particle release was monitored in continuous during the 1 h conditioning at 200°C followed by 1 h activation at 450°C (pressure was below  $10^{-5}$  mbar).
- The NEG pump was mounted horizontally into a DN63CF cross. The in-vacuum particle counter is connected to the bottom port of the cross.





## St172™ particle tests in vacuum (DESY): results

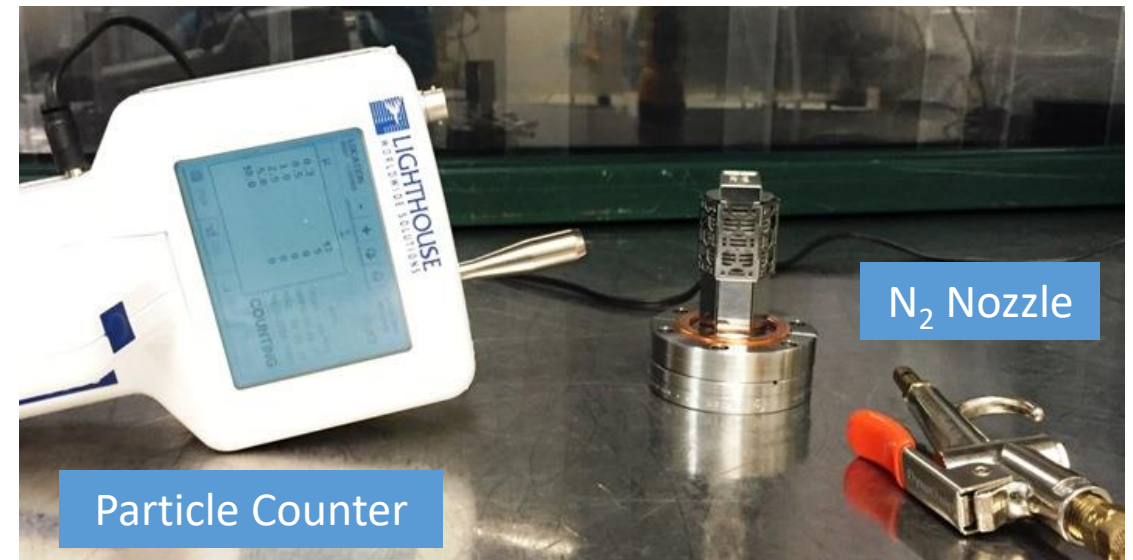
After a proper treatment on the pump, the measured numbers are in the order of the detector noise.



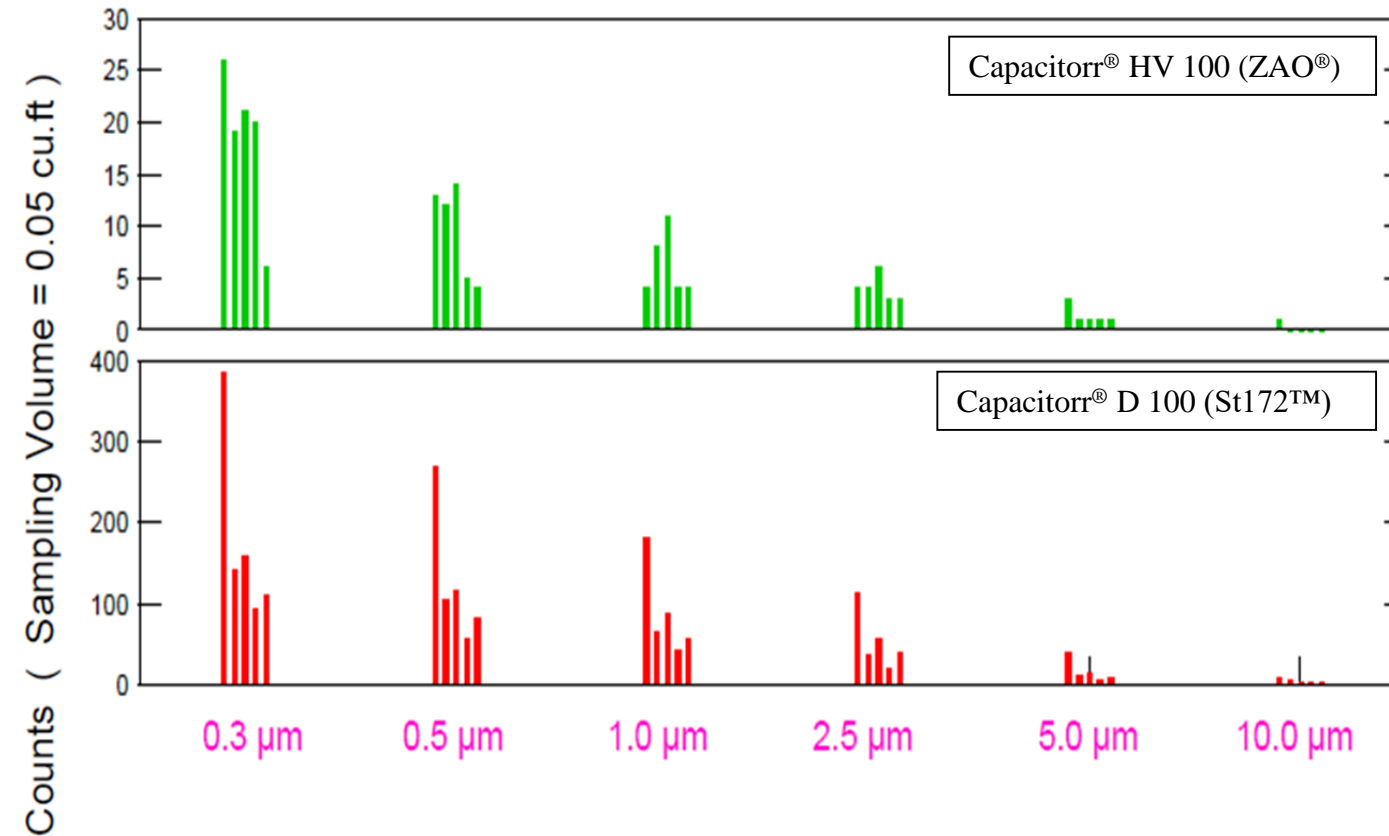
**NEG pumps based on St172™ can be properly conditioned for usability in particle-free systems**

## St172™ vs ZAO®: tests at Wilson Laboratory , Cornell

- A comparison between St172™ and ZAO® sintered disks was carried out at Cornell.
- A Capacitorr® D100 (St 172™) and a Capacitorr® HV 100 (ZAO®) went through multiple activation/saturation (with CO) cycles during the vacuum pumping tests and were particle tested immediately after removal from the vacuum test setup.
- The particle tests were done in a clean hood, by blowing clean nitrogen around the pumps.
- A background particle count was measured with N<sub>2</sub> blowing, and showed very low particle counts.
- All pump particle counts were done with 30-sec sampling time, with a sampling volume of ~ 0.050 ft<sup>3</sup>.



## St172™ vs ZAO®: tests at Wilson Laboratory , Cornell

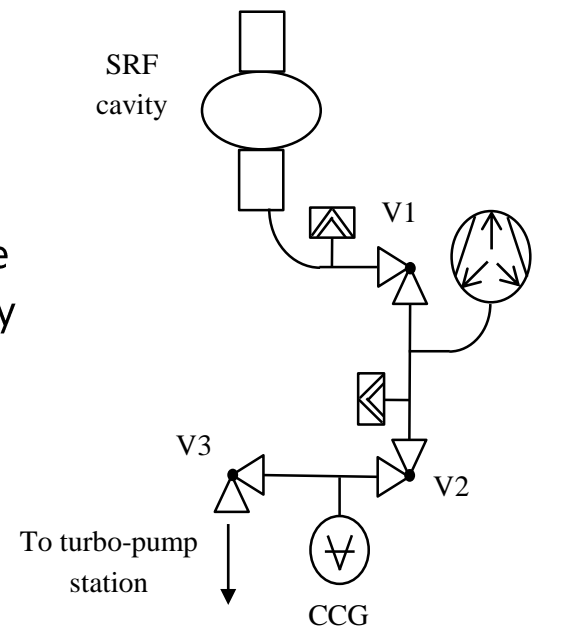


These results show that both alloys can be conditioned and that ZAO® is cleaner than St 172™. Based on these findings, a ZAO® based pump was installed at Cornell close to a SRF cavity with very good results.

## ZAO® HV: tests in a SRF cavity (Jlab, USA)

- A Capacitorr® HV 200 (ZAO®) pump was tested at JLab to check for compatibility with high gradient SRF.
- The NEG pump was first sprayed for about 1 minute with ionized nitrogen to pre-clean it and then transferred in a ISO 5 clean room and connected to the SRF cavity manifold.

Schematic of the vacuum circuit attached to the single cell cavity (a) and picture of the assembly hanging from a test stand (b).



(a)



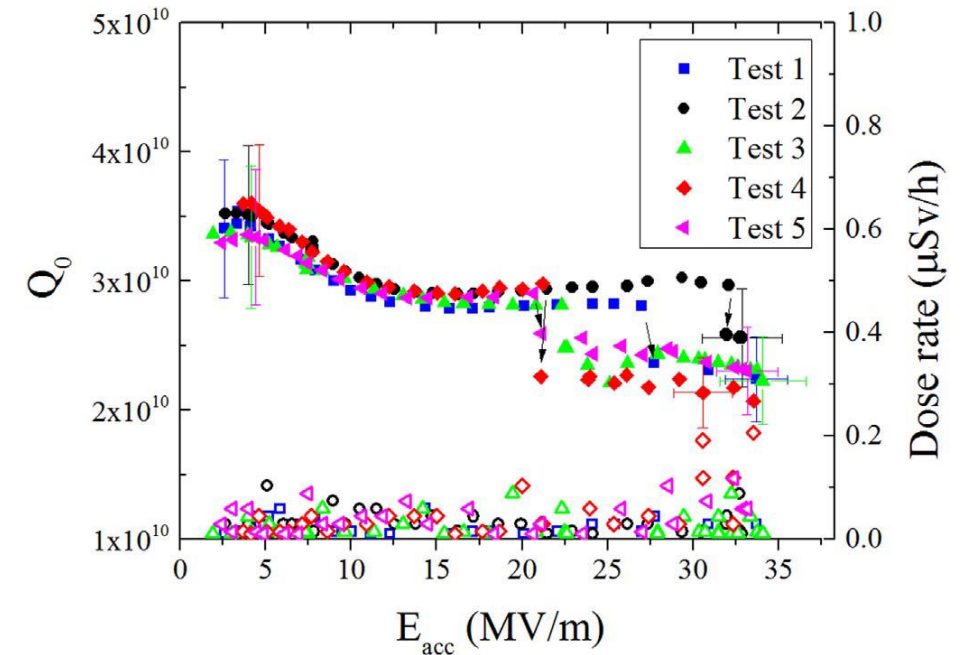
(b)

## ZAO® HV: tests in a SRF cavity (Jlab, USA)

Summary of evacuation conditions prior to each RF test.

Test number	Cleaned and assembled prior	Evacuation	NEG activation
1	Yes	Turbo-pump	No
2	yes	Turbo-pump	No
3	No	NEG, 3 days	Yes, 1 h
4	No	NEG, 5 h	No
5	No	NEG, 6 days	Yes, 2 h

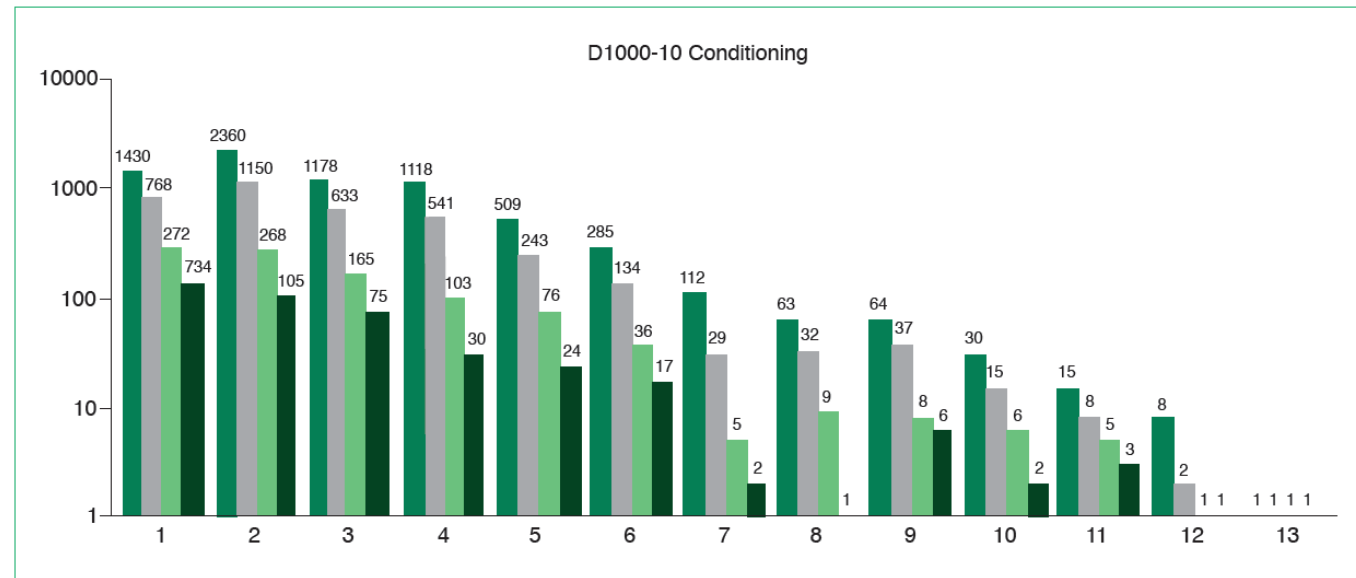
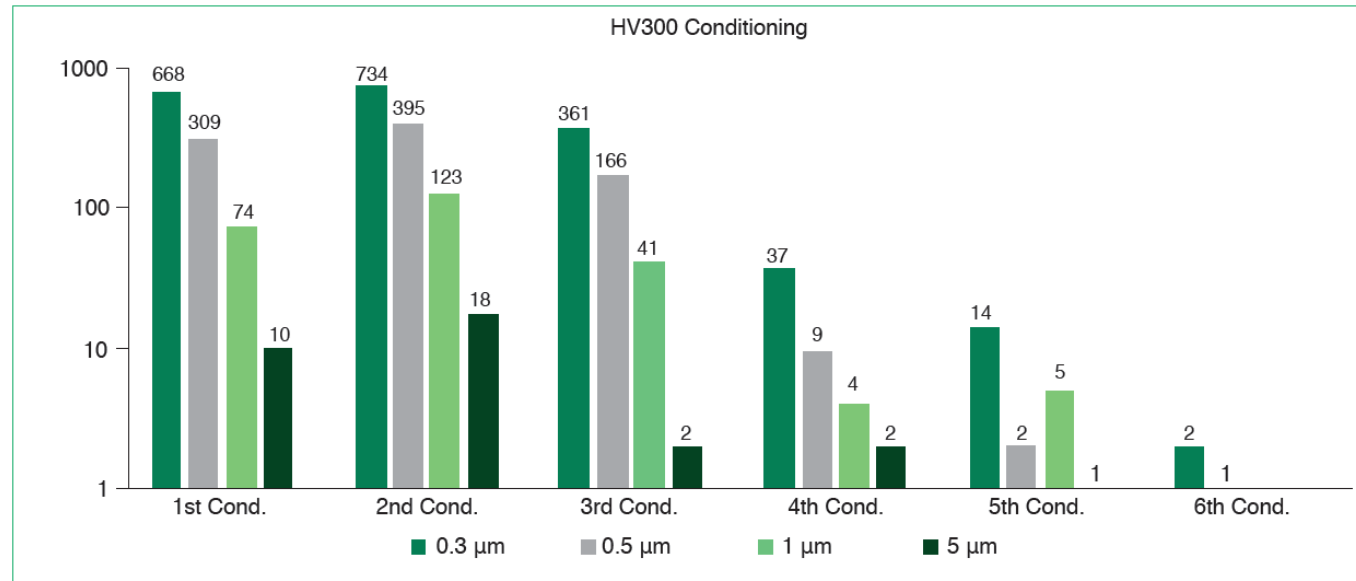
- The cavity was pumped under different conditions, without activating the NEG pump (baseline) and with the NEG pump activated and kept under continuous pumping at 200°C. After each evacuation cycle the cavity performances were measured.
- No performance degradation, in terms of field emission onset, resulted from the activation and operation of the pump to an accelerating gradient of 34 MV/m, corresponding to a peak surface electric field of 63 MV/m.



**Fig. 3.**  $Q_0$  vs.  $E_{acc}$  (solid symbols) and x-rays dose rate vs.  $E_{acc}$  (empty symbols) measured at 2 K for the 1.3 GHz single-cell cavity with the NEG pump. Please refer to the text and Table 2 for evacuation procedures and pump operation before each test. The dose rate threshold corresponding to the onset of field emission is 0.3  $\mu\text{Sv/h}$ . The drop of  $Q_0$  between 20–30 MV/m during all the tests resulted from the processing of multipacting.

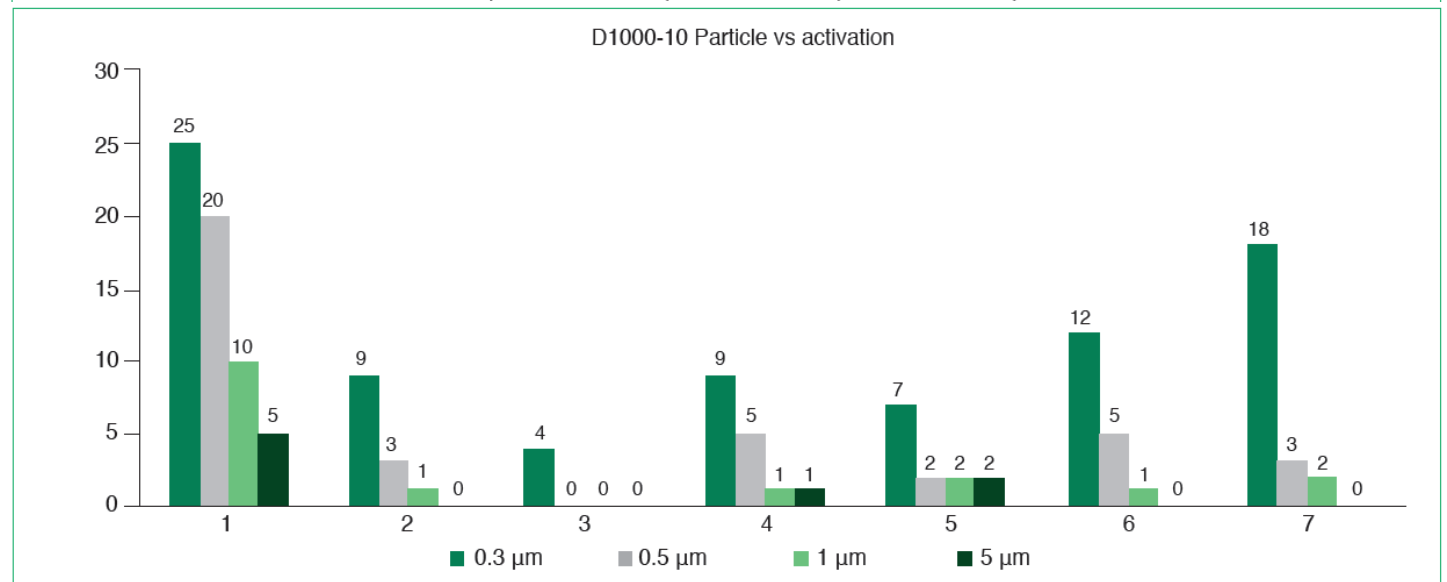
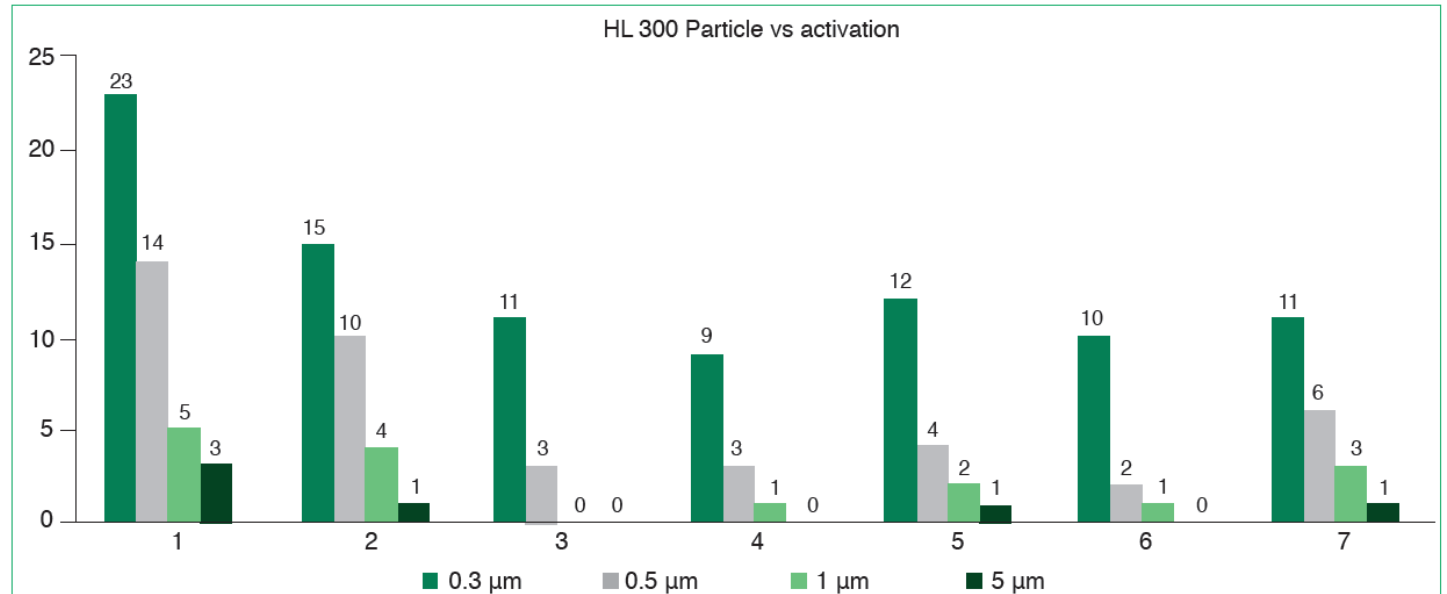
## NEXTorr® HV 300 and D1000-10: Jarrige-Ravelli (European Spallation Source)

- **NEXTorr® D1000-10 (St172™) and HV300 (ZAO®)** have been tested to check compatibility with the machine.
- **ESS acceptance criteria:** at most 10 particles in the 0.3 to < 5 μm range and no particles larger than 5 μm after 1 minute of ionized and filtered nitrogen gas throughput at 3 bars, 28 l/min capacity.
- **Conditioning tests** show that 6 and 13 blowing treatments for HV300 and D1000 respectively are sufficient to meet ESS acceptance criteria.



## NEXTorr® HV 300 and D1000-10: Jarrige-Ravelli (European Spallation Source)

- **After 7 activations** particle test results demonstrate that pumps are qualified.
- SAES® getter pumps installed on the machine have been particle tested and fulfill ESS requirements.
- Testing indicates that the quantity of particles released fulfills **ISO class 5 standard**.



## Compatibility of NEG pumps with particle-sensitive systems: SAES® efforts across the years

- SAES® research activities have always been oriented in making getter pumps the solution to more and more demanding particle-sensitive applications.
- SAES® High Vacuum Division across the years tested different methods for particle detection, from dipping to blowing. Both methods have shown that compressed disks release more particles than sintered ones.
- There is not a standard particle counting procedure shared by the scientific community.
- An experimental campaign in SAES® HVD was carried in 2021 with the aim of setting a new procedure for particle counting, with a focus on ZAO® UHV disks, in a ISO 6 cleanroom.





## SAES® HVD particle detection system

- A robust **particle-detection system** has been implemented in order to collect reliable data on particle release and minimize background effects.
- Ionized and filtered nitrogen is blown on the continuously rotating sample.

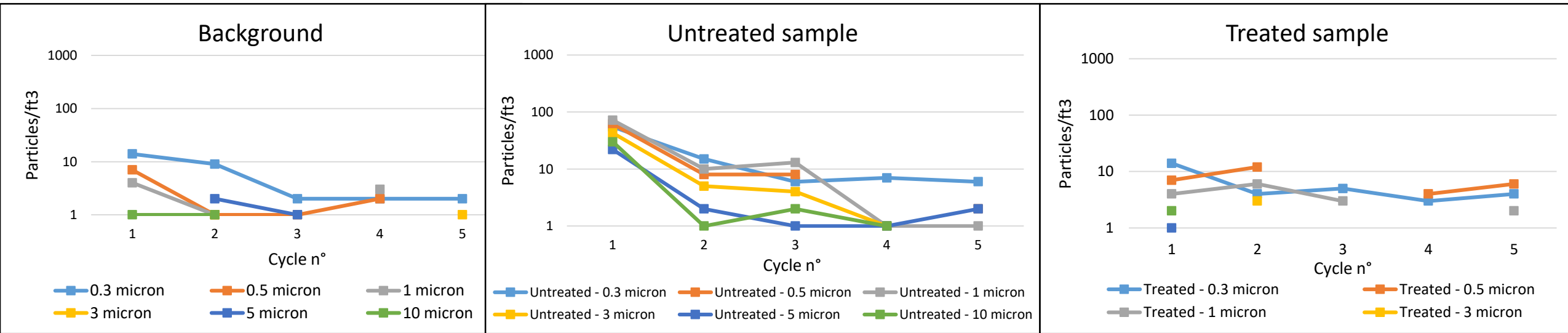


Particle counter (TSI AeroTrak®) specifications:

- > size range 0.3 to 25  $\mu\text{m}$ ,
- > particle sizes 0.3, 0.5, 1, 3, 5, and 10  $\mu\text{m}$ ,
- > counting efficiency 50% at 0.3  $\mu\text{m}$  (100% >0.45),
- > concentration limit  $4 \cdot 10^5$  particles/ $\text{ft}^3$ ,
- > flow rate 28.3 l/min (i.e., 1  $\text{ft}^3/\text{min}$ )

## SAES® HVD particle detection system

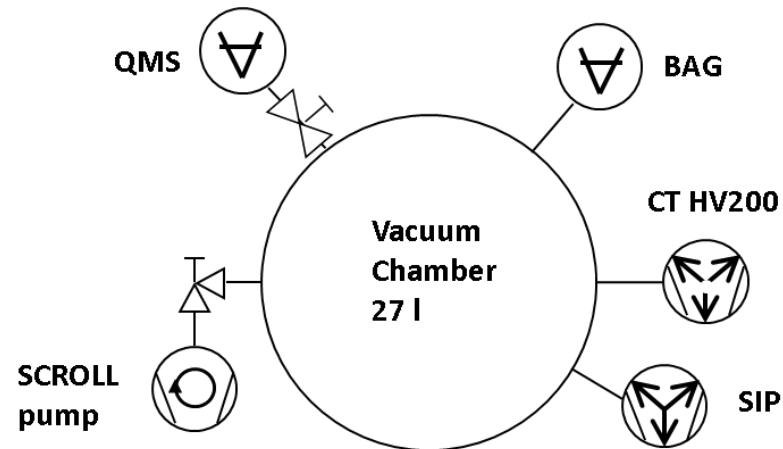
- Different pump-cleaning procedures were investigated and the detection system allowed researchers to select the most effective solution for a deep cleaning of getter pumps (SAES® proprietary information).



- The results of countings made in an ISO 6 cleanroom on ZAO® UHV getter alloy samples of 11-disks stacks show the repeatability of the process and the effectiveness of the investigated treatment.

## Pump-down with no auxiliary pumps: experimental setup

- Additional series of tests have been performed to demonstrate the feasibility of a pumpdown without the use of a TMP, using only a scroll pump, the CapaciTorr® HV200 and a small SIP.
- The pumpdown has been repeated 30 times to check the pump robustness and possible performance degradation.



### Equipment

- SIP noble diode 20l/s
- CapaciTorr® HV200 CF63
- Scroll pump 15 m<sup>3</sup>/h
- Full range gauge (pirani+penning)
- BAG

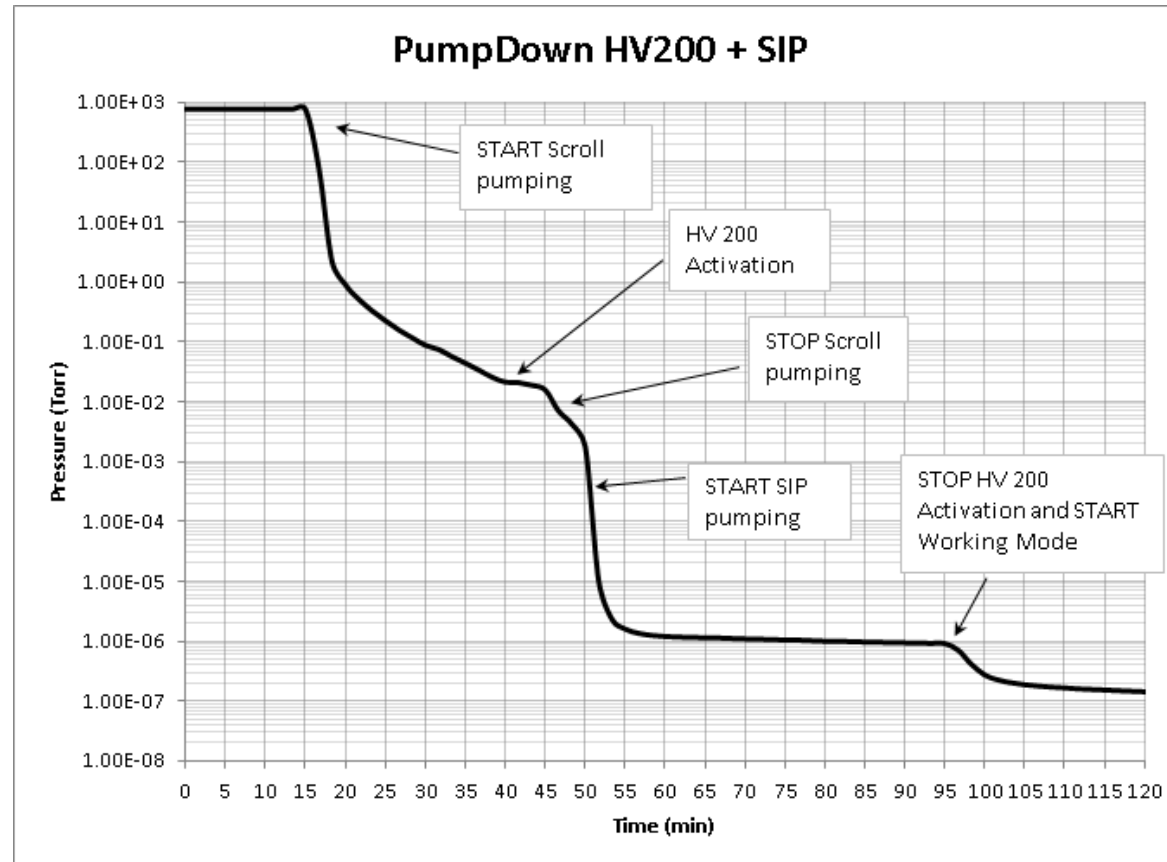
### Procedure

- Venting ambient air 16 h
- Pumpdown with scroll pump to 3e-2 Torr
- Start NEG activation 1h
- Isolate scroll at 9e-3 Torr
- Turn SIP ON at 4e-4 Torr
- At the end of activation bring the NEG at HV working temperature (~230°C)

## Pump-down with no auxiliary pumps: results

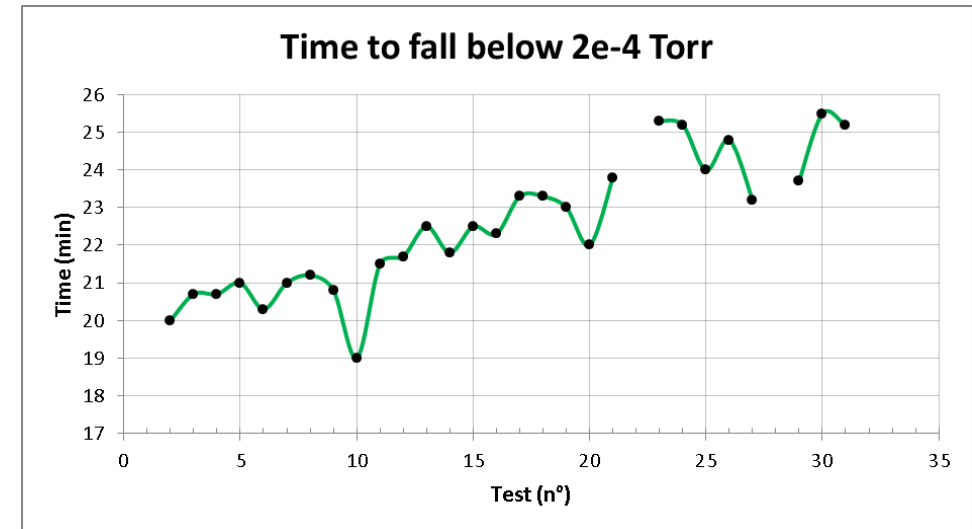
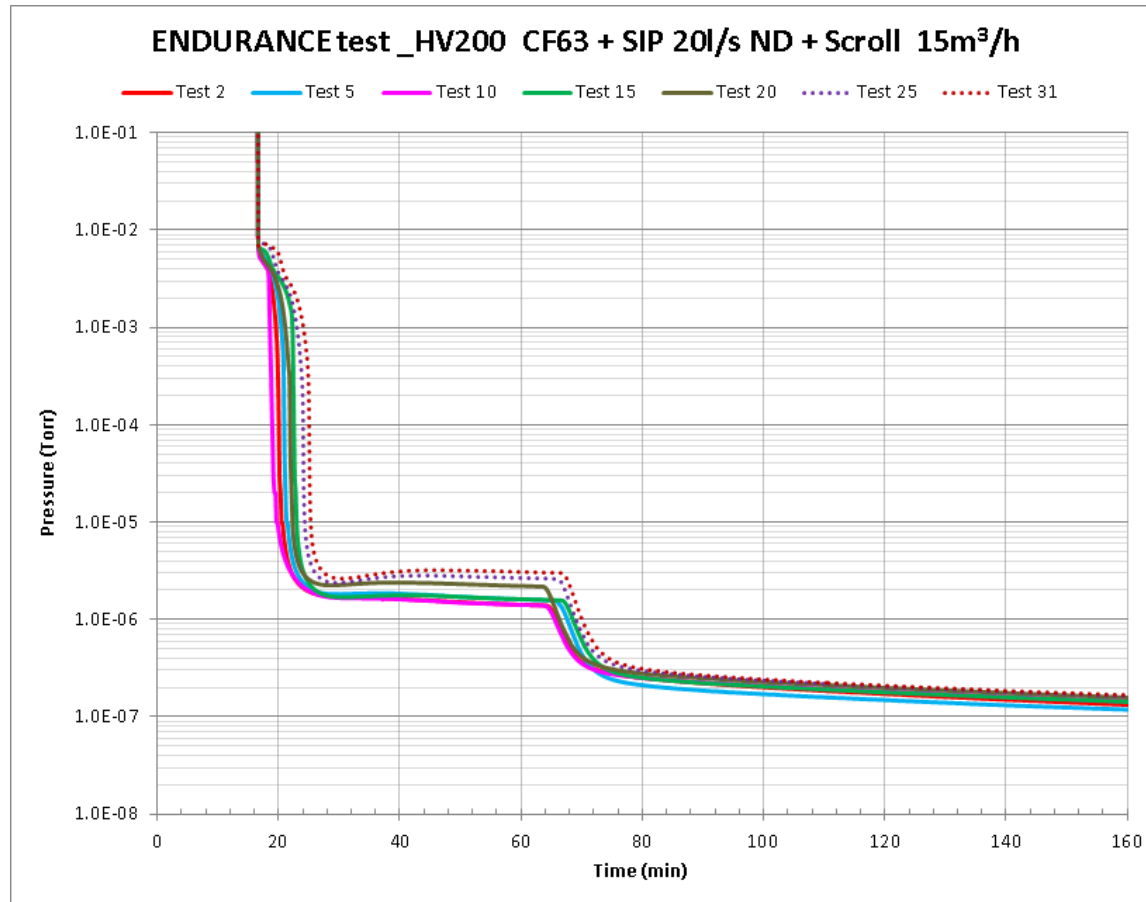
Pressure evolution read by the full-range gauge

- About 25 minutes are necessary to reach  $2 \times 10^{-2}$  Torr: this time depends on the actual mounting configuration of the scroll pump and its throughput
- About 85 minutes are required to reach the low  $10^{-7}$  Torr vacuum level



## Pump-down with no auxiliary pumps: endurance test

- The pump-down process was repeated several times (31 cycles) to investigate possible performance degradation and heater drift
- The pressure evolution after activation is very similar, within about 50%



- The time needed to reach 2e-4 Torr (SIP turned ON) shows a progressive but slow increase.
- About 5 minutes from the first to the last cycles.

## Use of NEG pumps in UHV-XHV systems

### In the industry

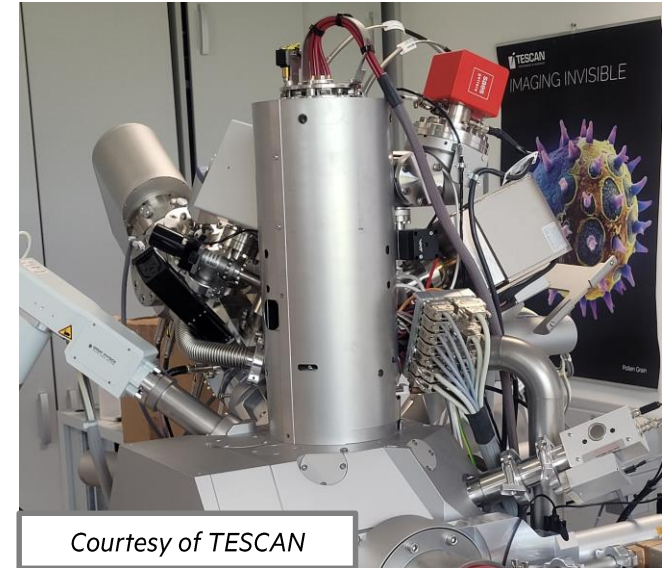
- Scanning/Transmission electron microscopes
- Portable mass spectrometers
- Semiconductor lithographic & metrological tools
- X-ray inspection equipment, EDX analyzers .....

### In large physics projects

- Synchrotron Light sources, FEL, ERL
- Colliders and accelerators
- Fusion devices
- Gravitational experiments....

### In Scientific Laboratories

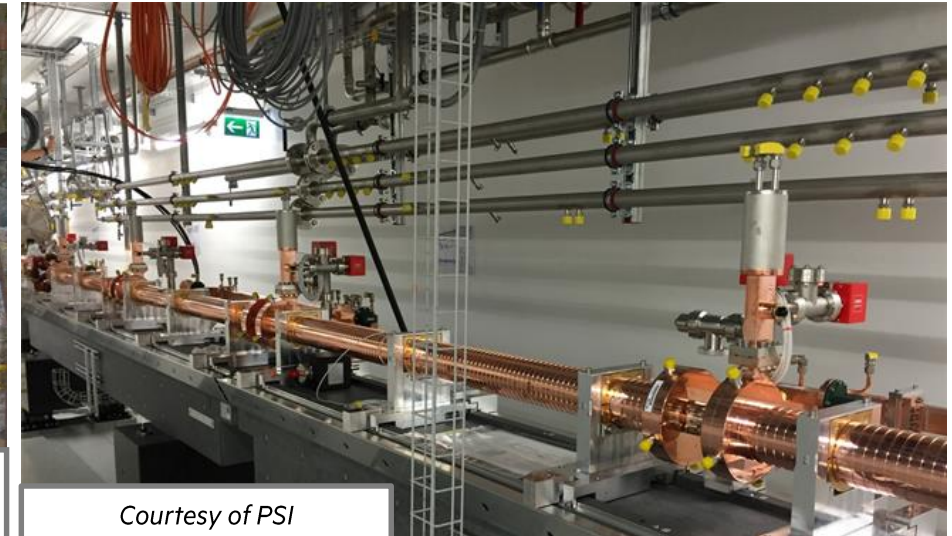
- Cold atom /ion trapping
- Atomic clocks
- Surface science, STM, MBE
- Vacuum suitcases



Courtesy of TESCAN



Portable Mass Spec HAPSITE GC-MS, Courtesy of INFICON



Courtesy of PSI

## NEXTORR® Z in E-BEAM UHV GUNS

### Only 2.2 Kg pump weight

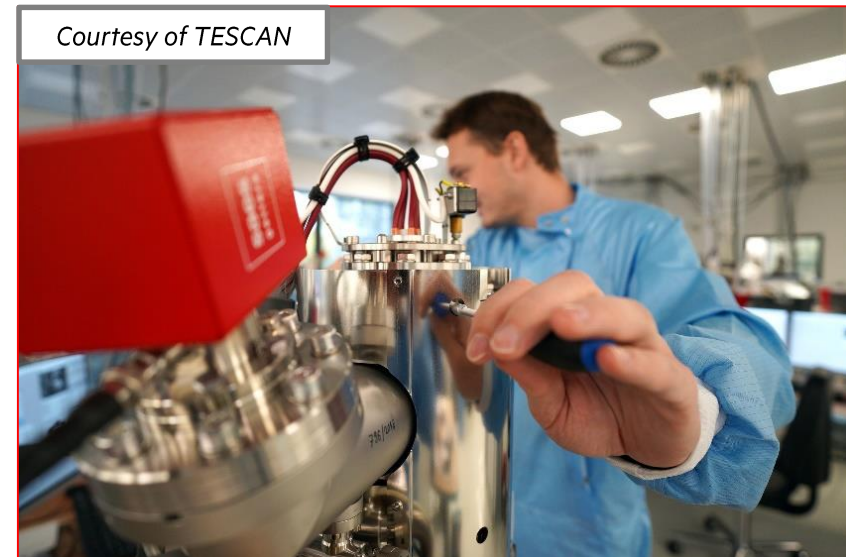
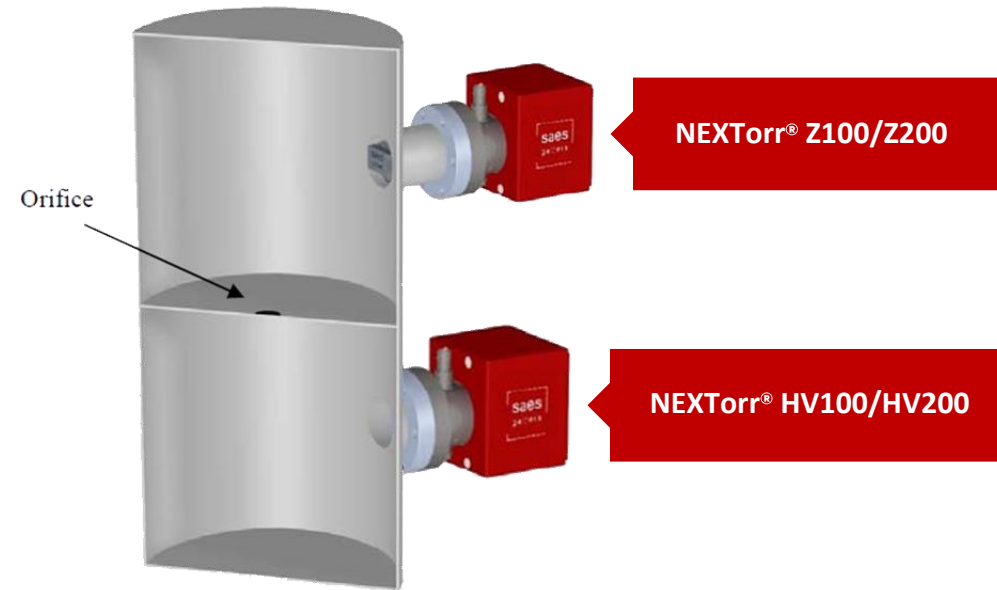
- easy to handle and to install
- no vibrations

### High pumping rate for H<sub>2</sub> and all gas species

- lower bottom pressure
- high brightness source
- longer source lifetime

### The NEXTorr® keeps pumping **without power**

- transport the column in vacuum
- no need to bake again the gun at user site
- faster system installation
- quick recovery in case of accidental power cutoff



## NEXTorr® pumps in RAITH EBPG PLUS

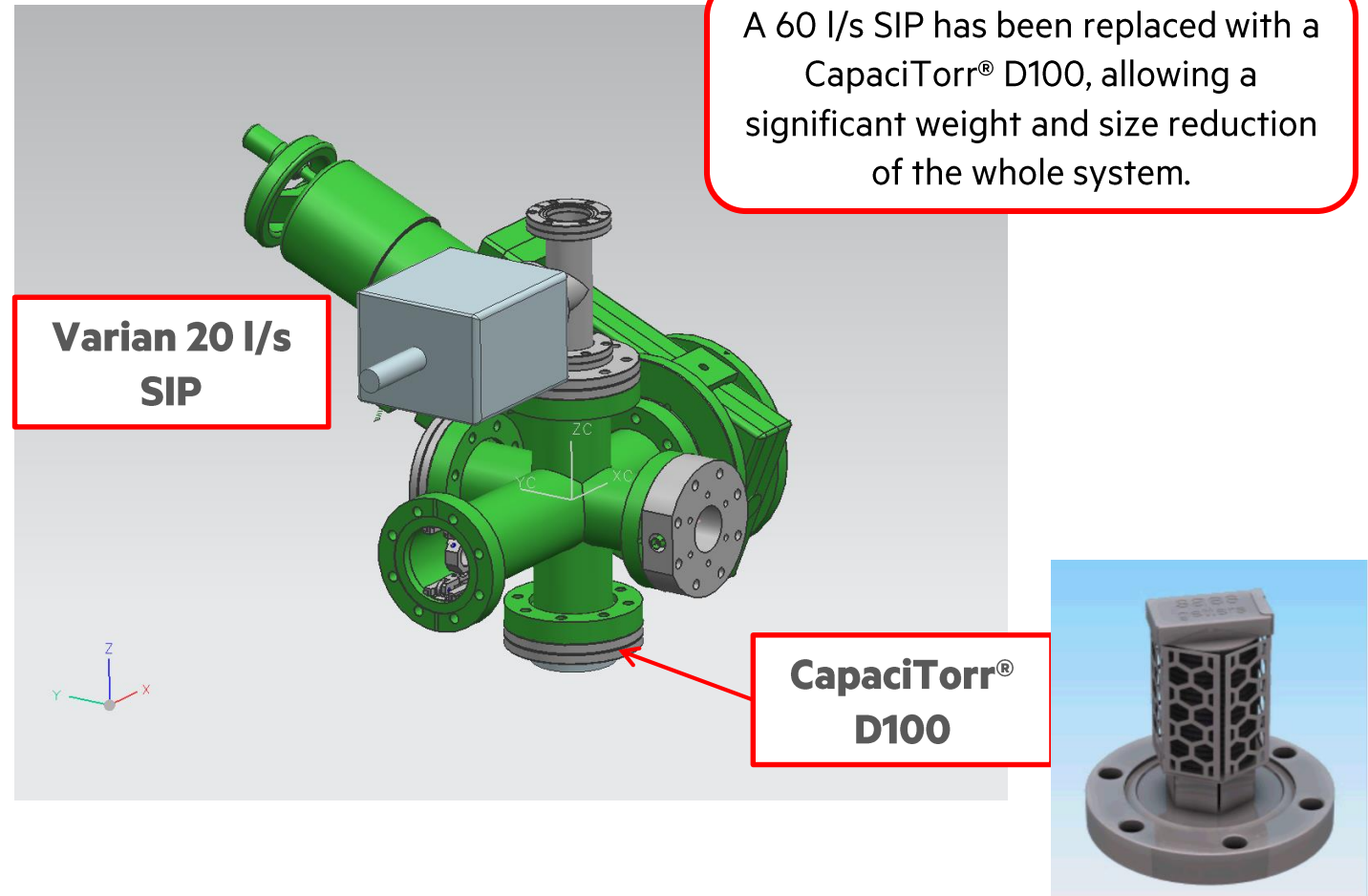
RAITH GROUP, a leading precision technology solution provider for electron beam lithography, has launched its new EBPG Plus e-beam lithography tool incorporating NEXTorr® pumps



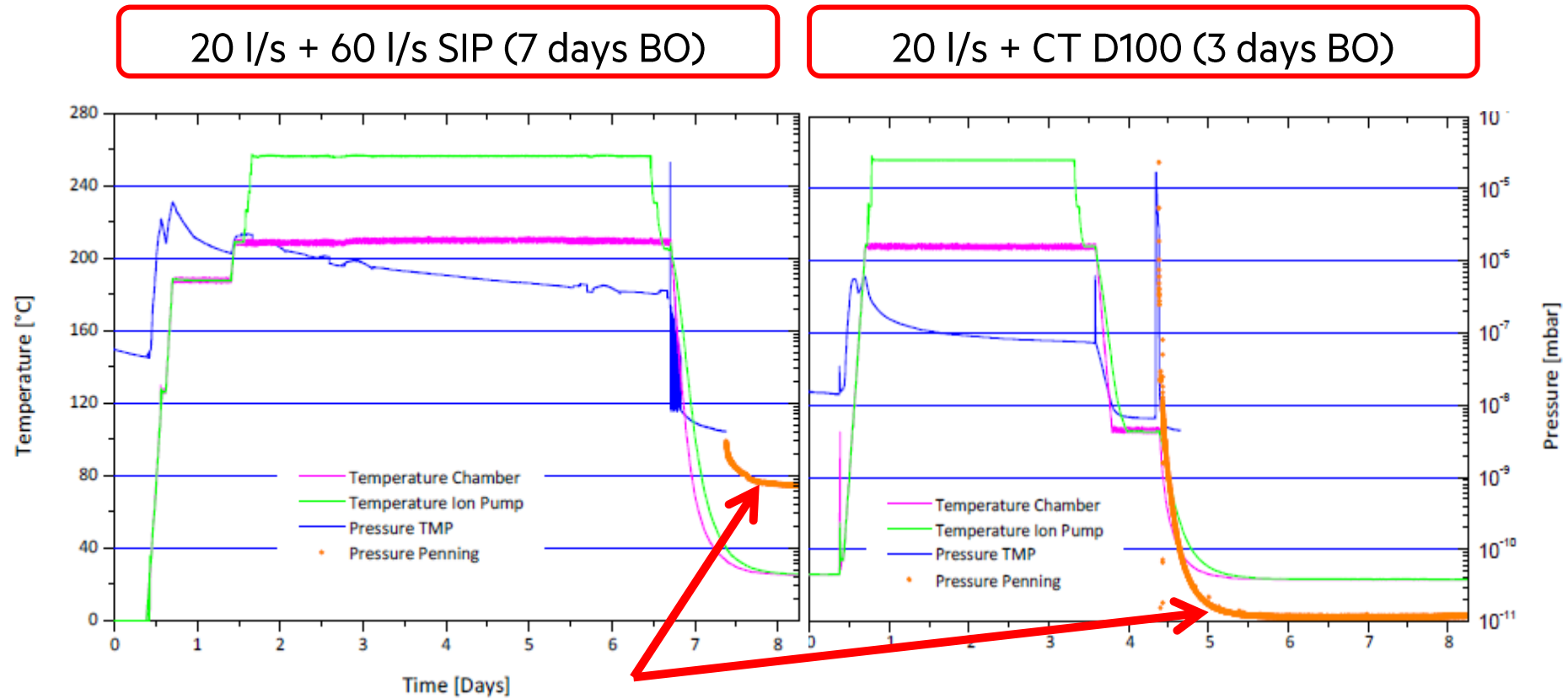


## NEXTorr® and CapaciTorr® in UHV suitcases and transfer tools

- Results obtained by INFN-LASA replacing a 60 l/s ion pump with a small CapaciTorr® D 100 pump (200 g weight) in a photocathode transportation vessel.
- The vessel was baked **7 days** using the SIP and the vacuum achieved was **8E-10 mbar**.
- Using the CapaciTorr® D 100, after **3 days** bake-out, a pressure of **2E-11 mbar** was achieved.
- Such pressure could be maintained over one month, even without any power.

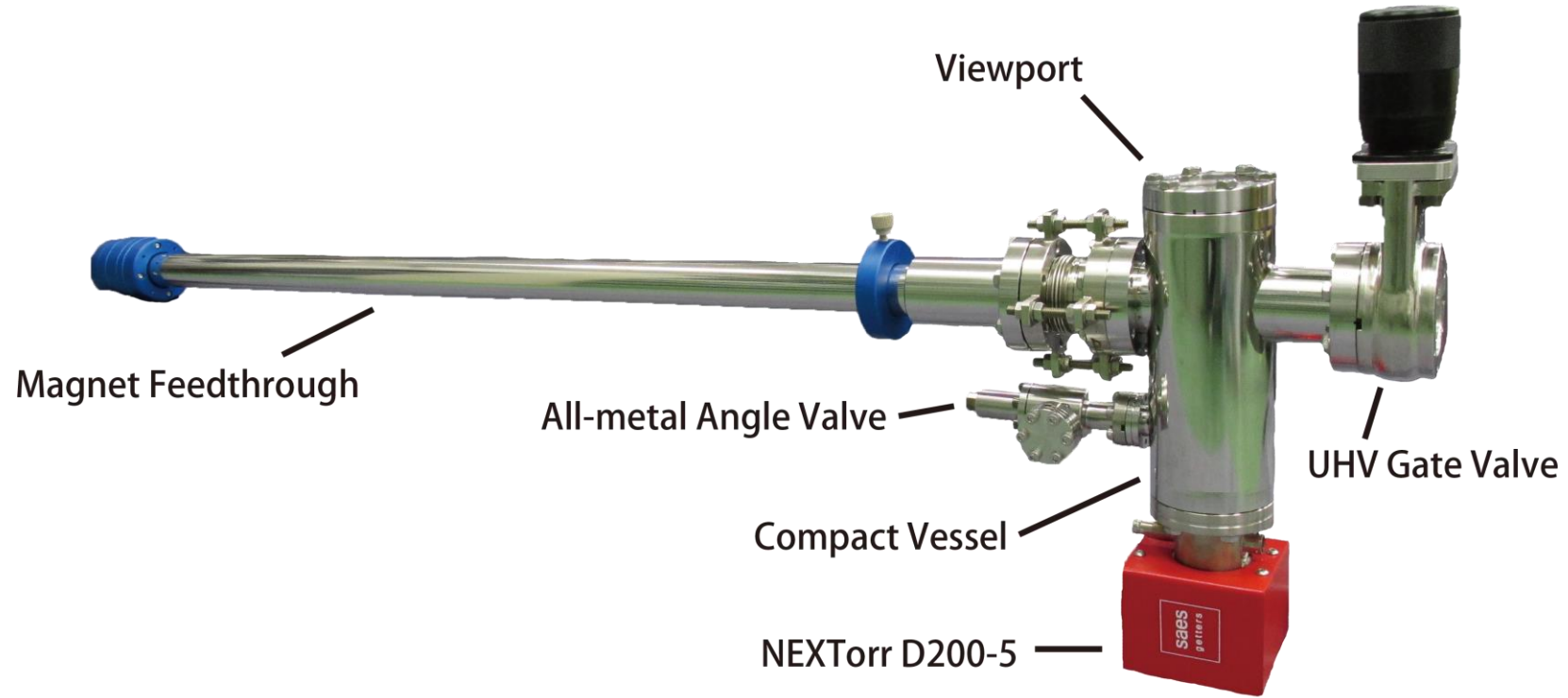


## NEXTorr® and CapaciTorr® in UHV suitcases and transfer tools



Vacuum 50 times better achieved in half of the time!

## NEXTorr® and CapaciTorr® in UHV suitcases and transfer tools

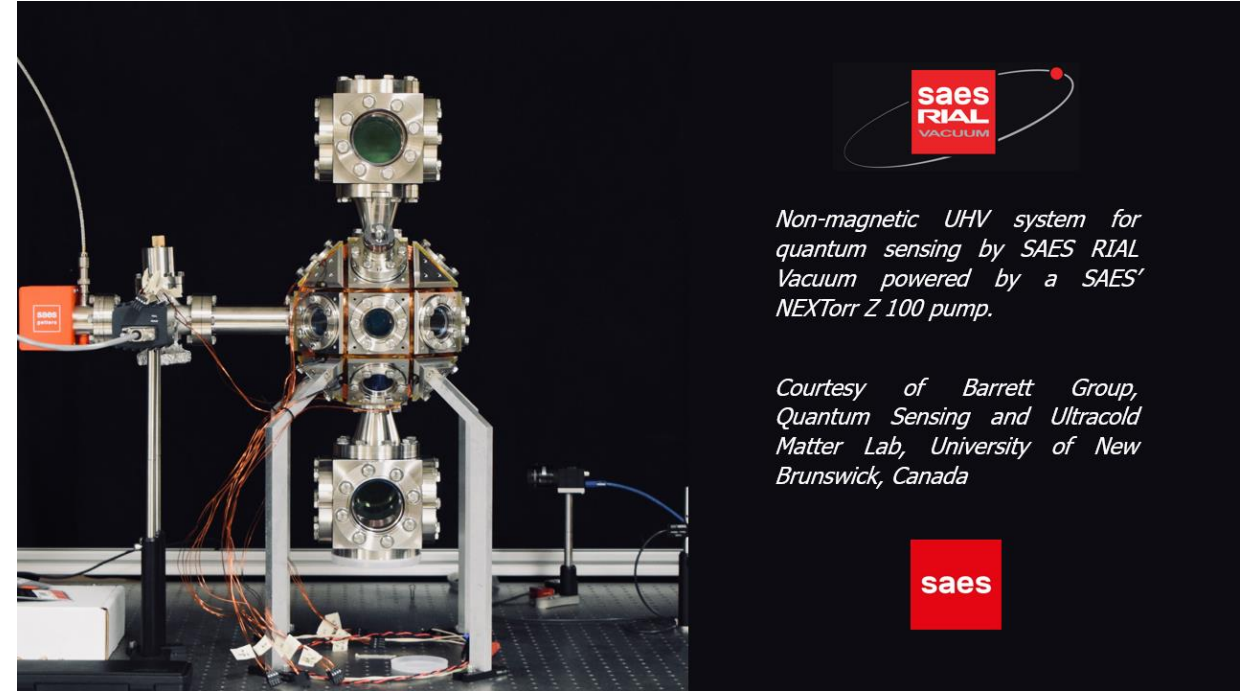
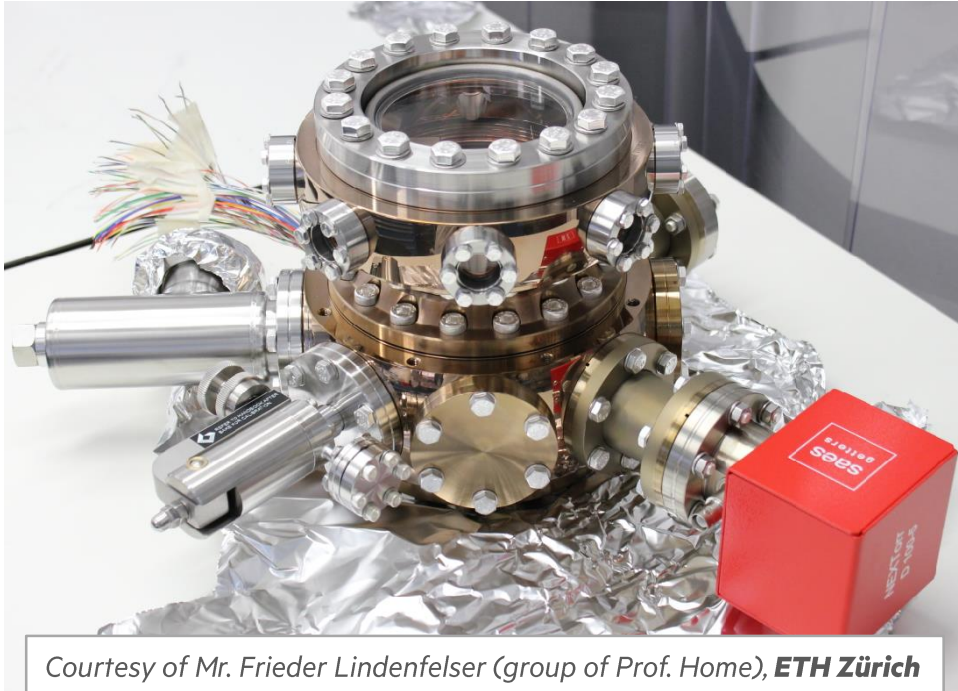


### UHV Transfer Vessel

Maintain  $1.7 \times 10^{-8}$  Pa for three days with NEXTorr Ion Pump turned on!  
Maintain  $1.5 \times 10^{-7}$  Pa for three days with NEXTorr Ion Pump turned off!

ATV-200/NS/275/800/TEP/  
AVC Co.,LTD

## Ion trap - quantum computing applications



Quantum Computing systems based on ION TRAPS require:

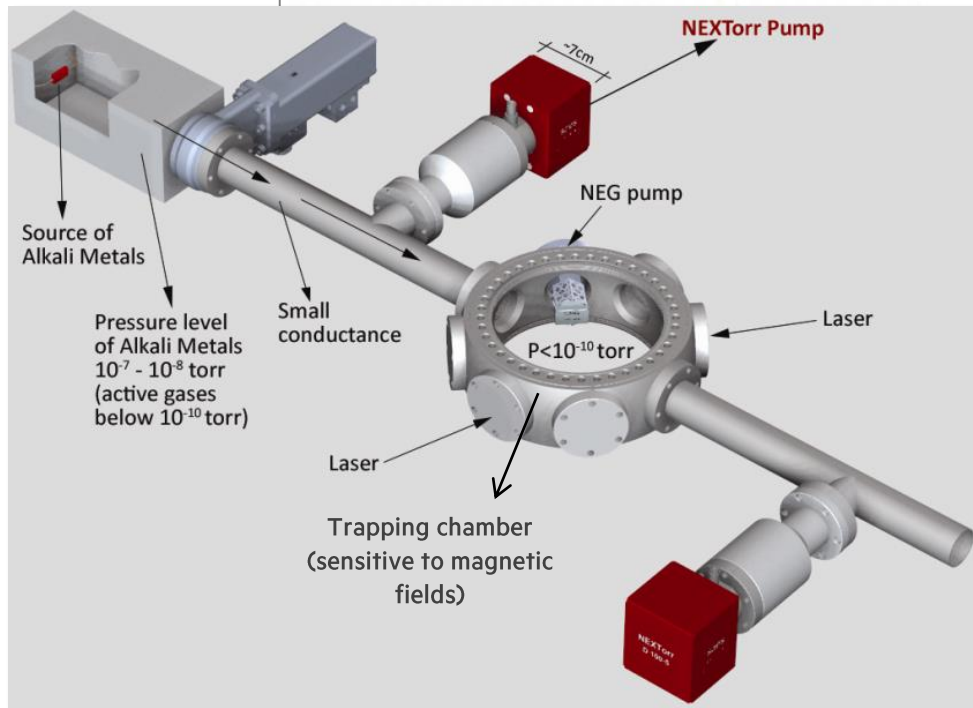
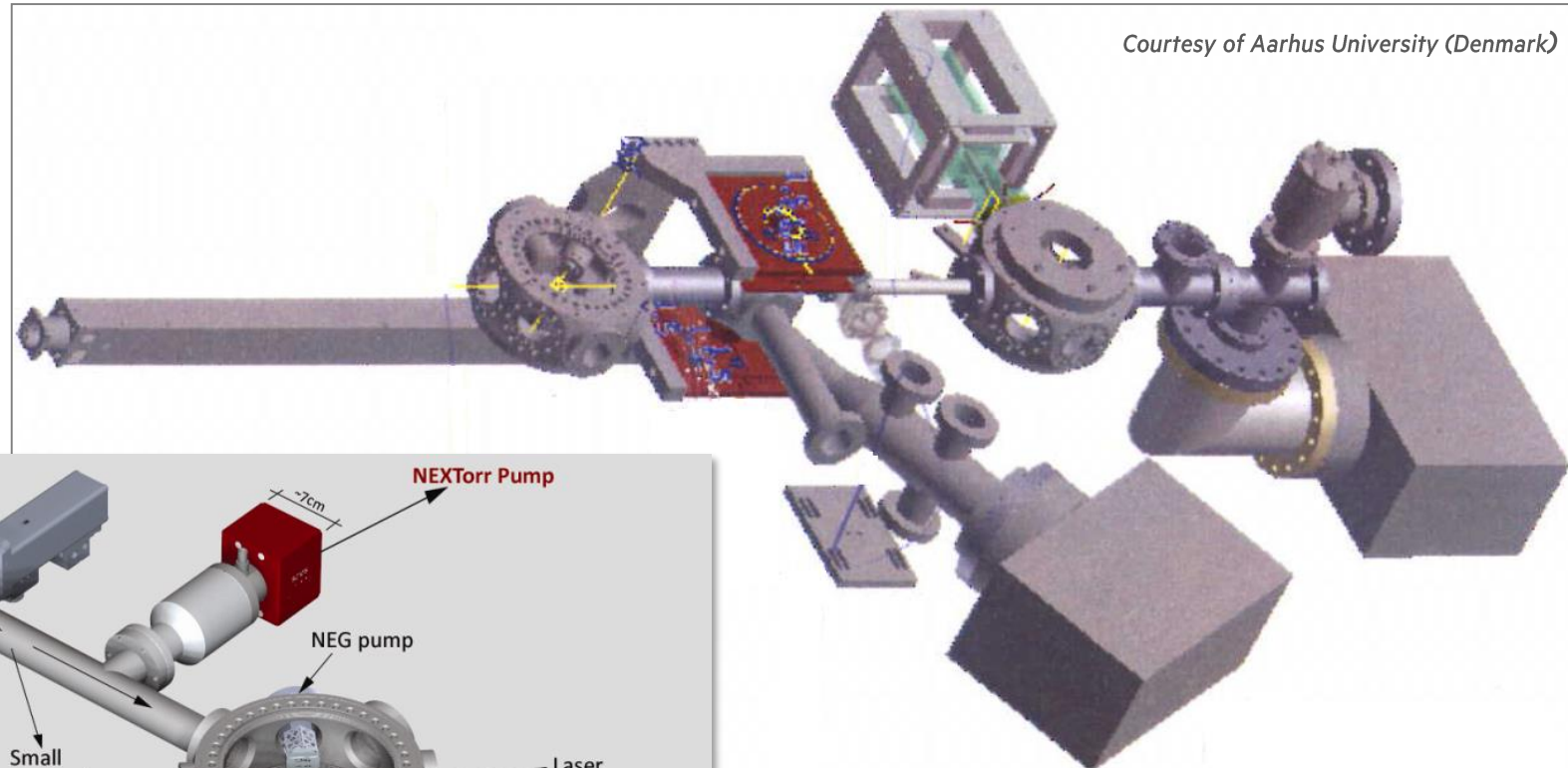
- XHV levels ( $10^{-12}$  mbar)
- no vibrations nor magnetic interference
- extreme compactness

**NEX Torr® pumps are the best solution**

In few years NEX Torr® has become a benchmark in the field, with impressive design improvements!

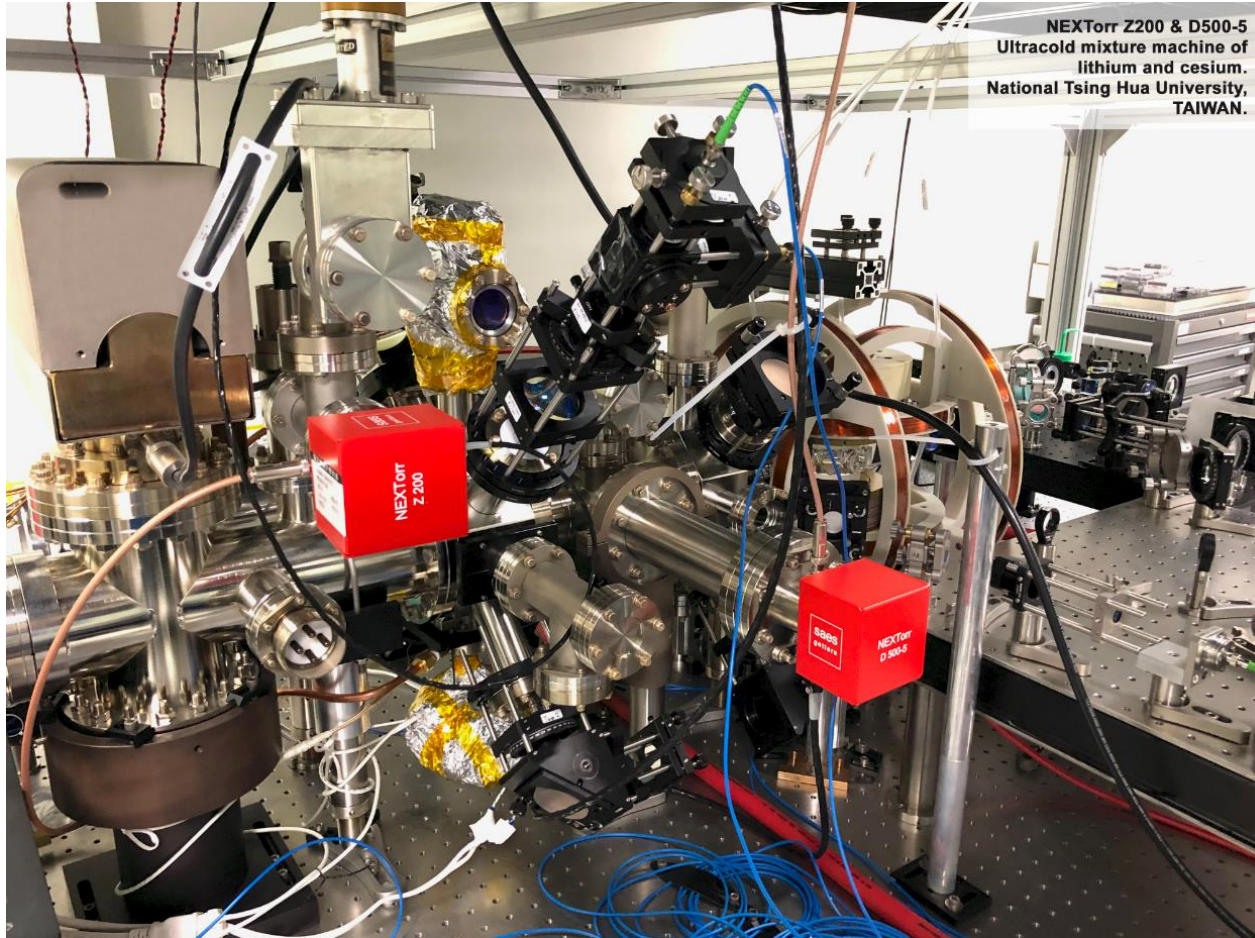
## Cold traps systems – new design

From this....  
with bulky SIP far from the chambers

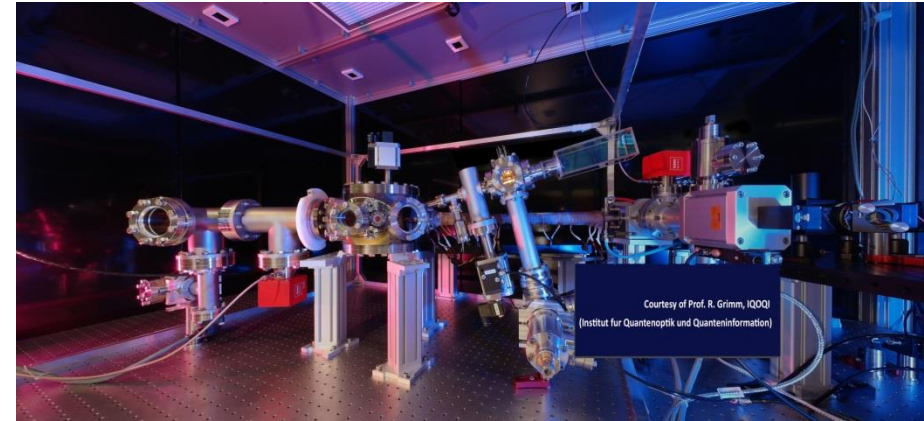


.... to this  
with NEXTorr® pumps close or even into the chamber

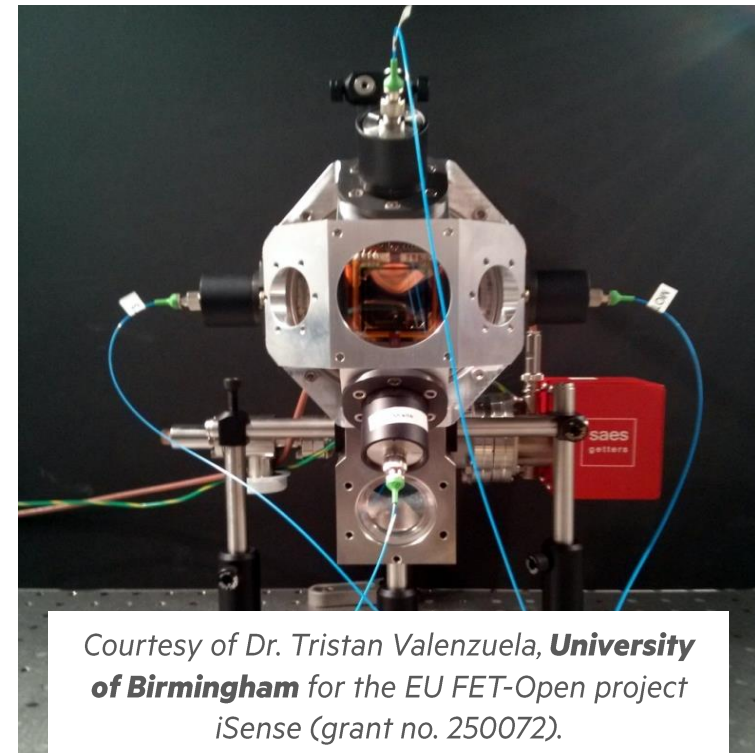
## Further examples of NEX Torr® in trapping systems



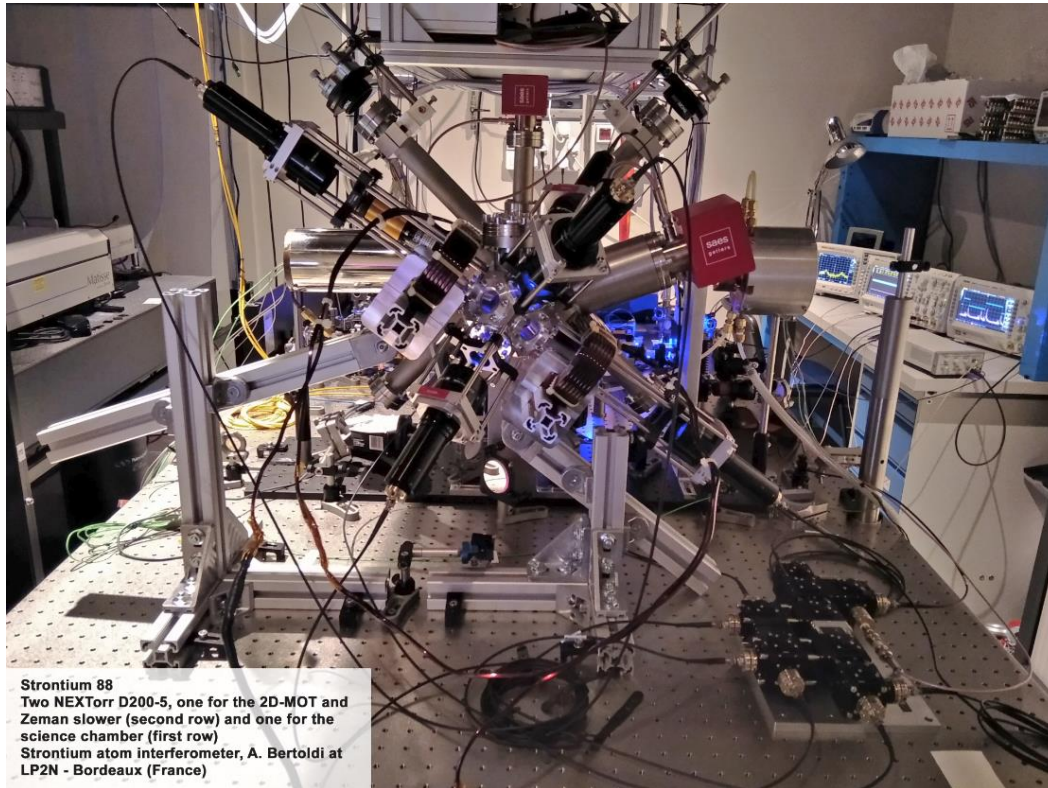
**Li – Cs trapping system with NEX Torr® Z200 and NEX Torr® D500**



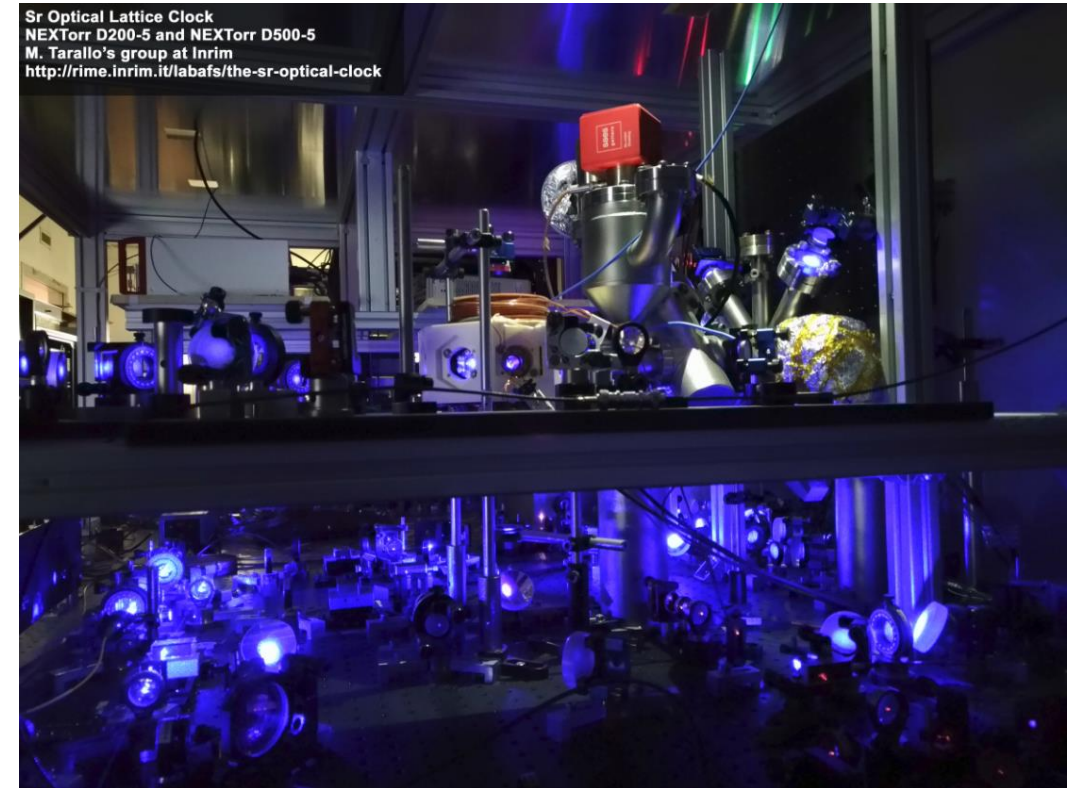
Courtesy of Dr. Rudolf Grimm, **University of Innsbruck**



## Further examples of NEX Torr® in trapping systems



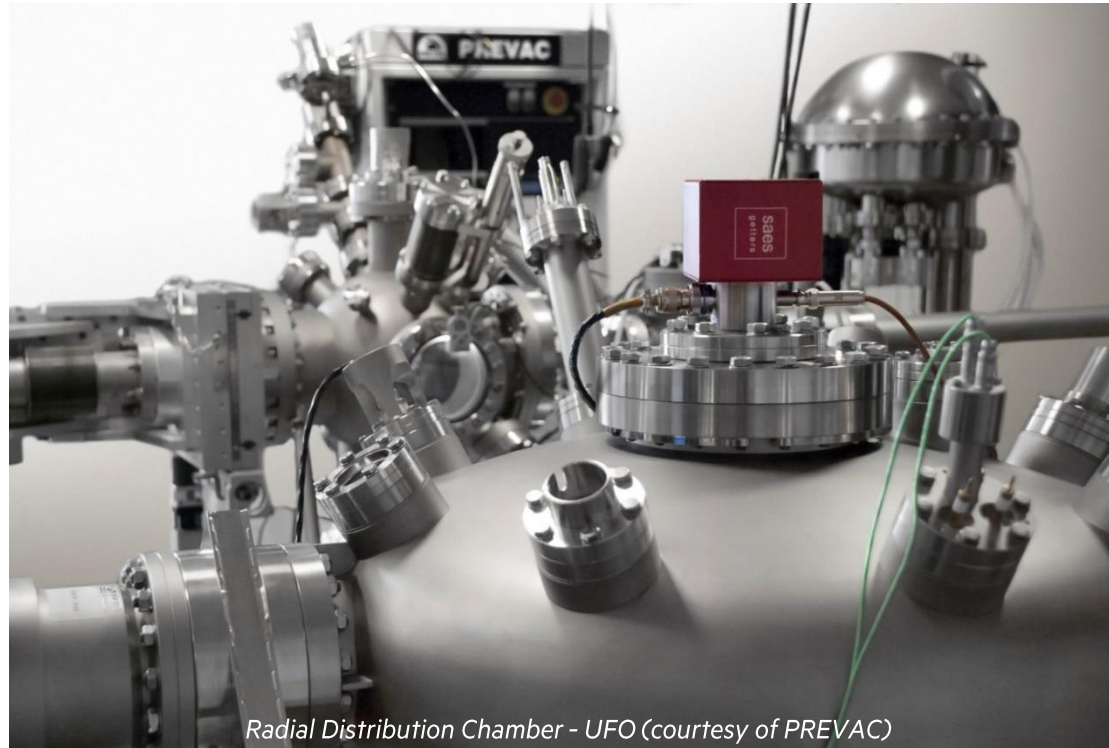
**Sr Atom Interferometer with NEX Torr® D200**



**Sr Clock with NEX Torr® D200 and NEX Torr® D500**

## NEXTorr® in Surface Science systems

- Extremely compact and light -> **easy to handle and to install**
- High pumping rate for H<sub>2</sub> and all gas species -> **lower bottom pressure**
- Keeps pumping **without power** -> **quick recovery in case of accidental power cutoff**
- No parts in motion -> **total absence of any vibrations**
- Ideal for STM, SPM, ARPES, AES, XPS, LEEM/PEEM,....



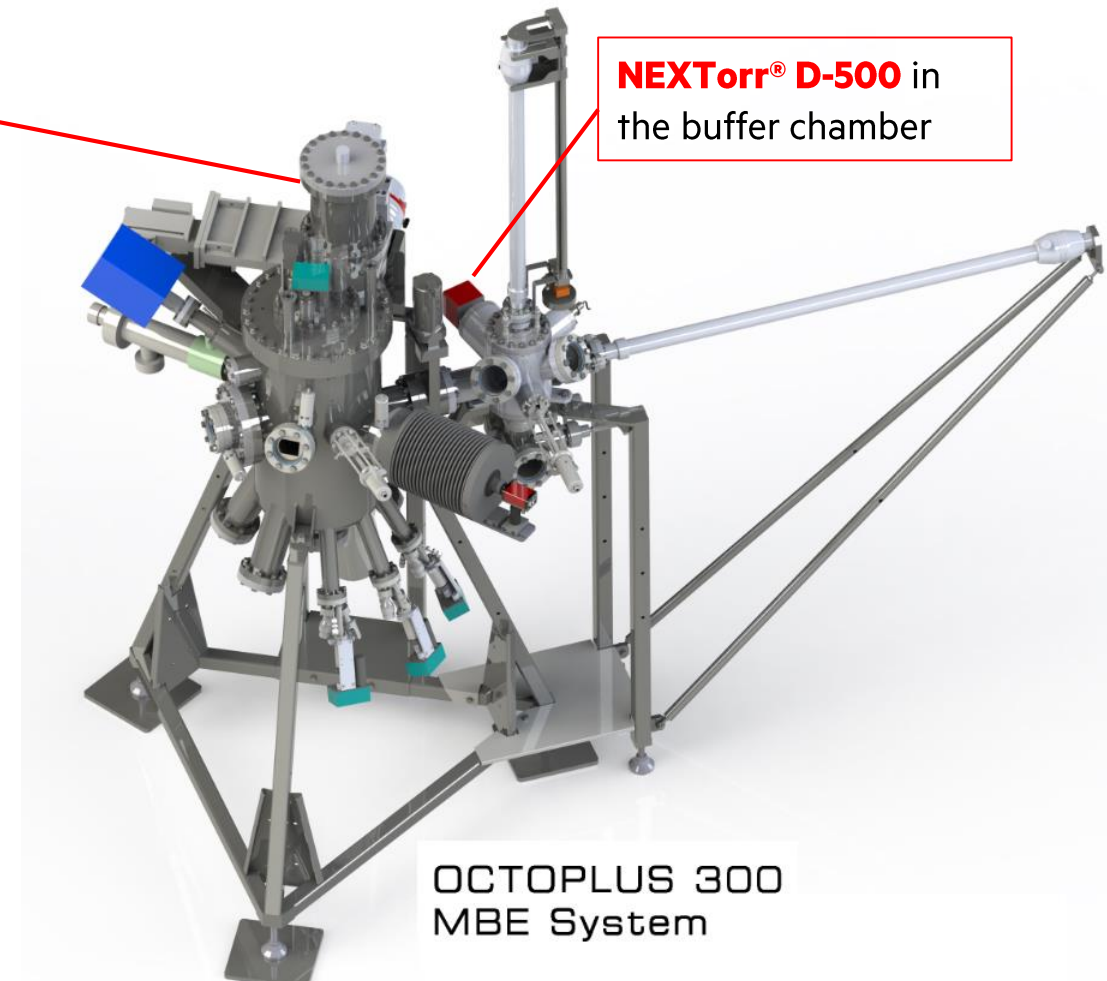


## SAES® NEG pumps in MBE systems (deposition chamber)

**CapaciTorr® D 2000** in  
the main chamber

**NEXTorr® D-500** in  
the buffer chamber

- In a MBE system with cryo-cooled walls during the deposition, a 300 l/s ION pump has been replaced by a **CapaciTorr® D-2000** (CF150 flange), added to a Turbo pump
- Huge pumping speed vs pump size lower bottom pressure for cleaner deposition process
- The NEG pumps without power vacuum is preserved in case of accidental power cutoffs

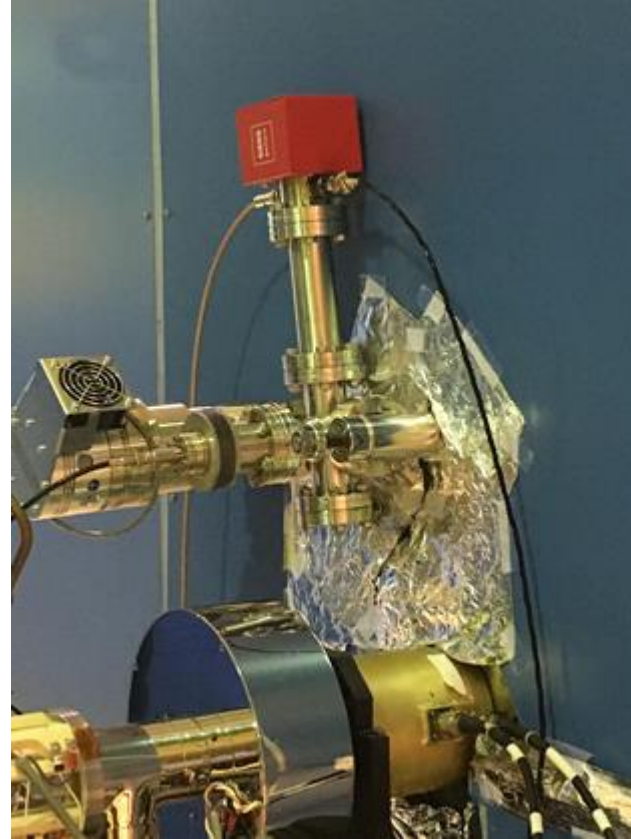


*Courtesy of Dr. Eberl MBE-Komponenten GmbH*

**P in the  $10^{-11}$  mbar before cryo-cooling the chamber walls**

*Courtesy of Mr. Frank Roesthuis (University of Twente)*

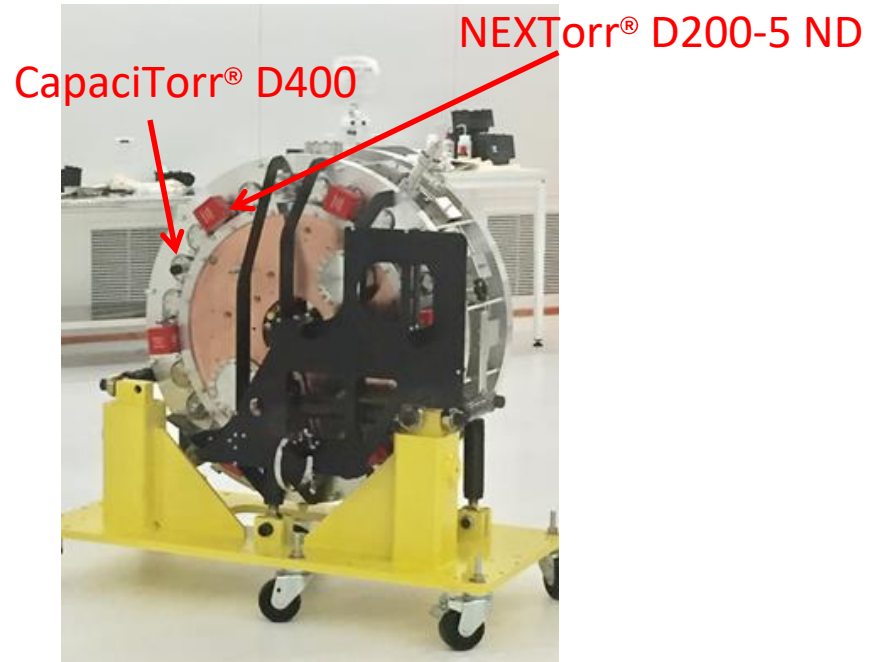
## DC electron gun in the X-band cell LINAC at Taiwan Light Source



*Courtesy of LINAC Group at NSRRC – Dr. Ching-Lung Chen and Dr. Kuang-Lung Tsai*

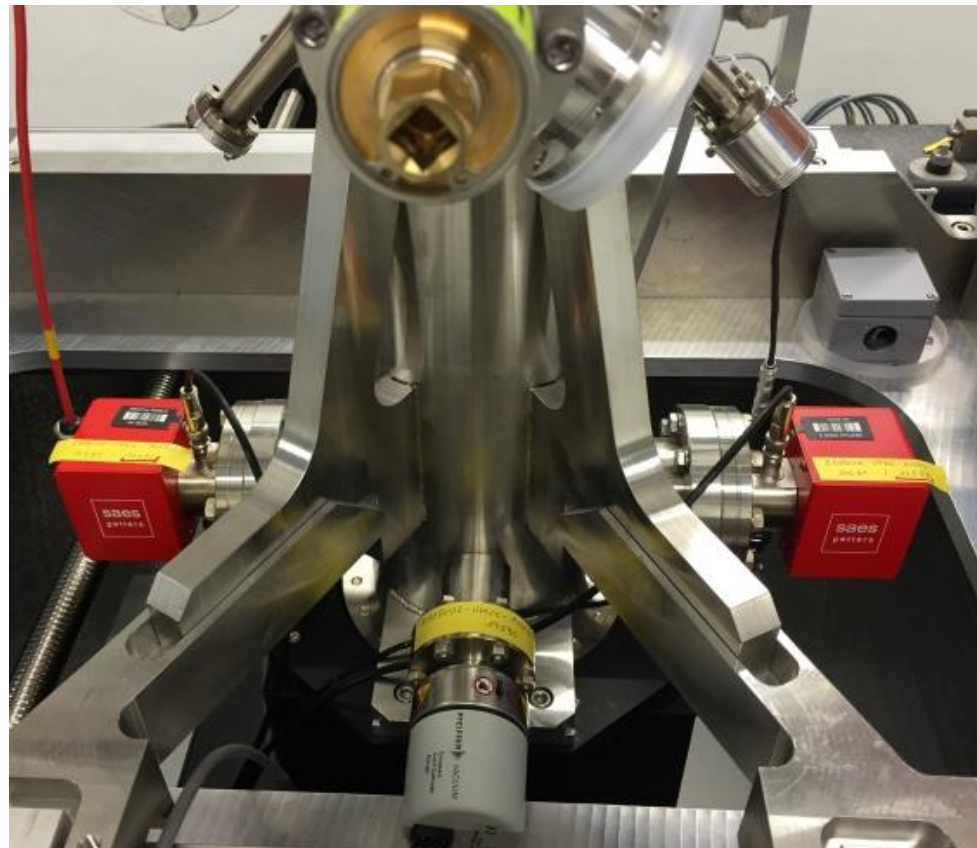
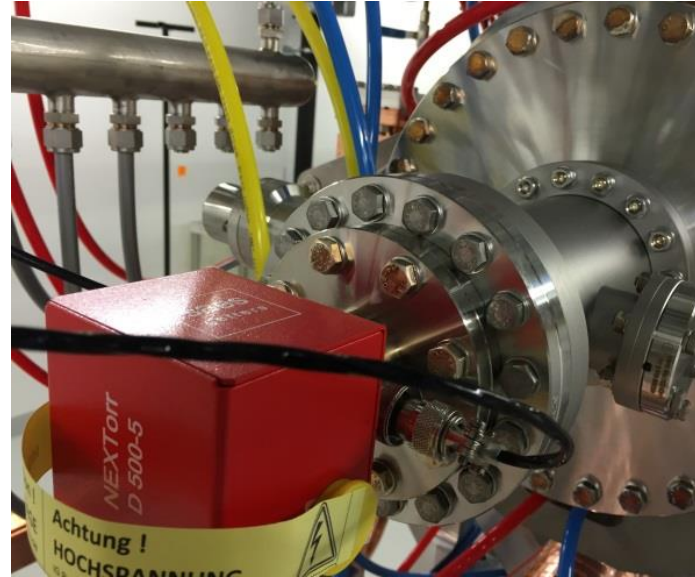
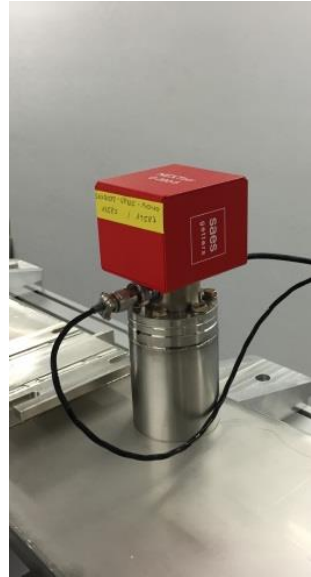
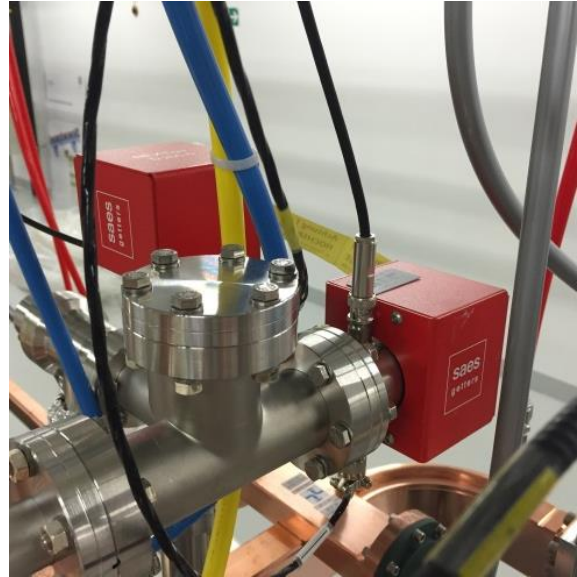
- NEX Torr<sup>®</sup> D200-5 has been used
- Pressure 1E-9 Torr
- Using NEX Torr<sup>®</sup>, lifetime of e-gun is doubled

## LCLS-II Injector source gun



- 6 NEXTorr® D200-5 ND and 6 CapaciTorr® D400 are distributed around the LCLS-II injector source gun
- The pumps have been installed in a class 100 (ISO 5) and 1000 (ISO 6) rated cleanrooms

## NEXTorr® in Accelerators: SWISS-FEL Linac

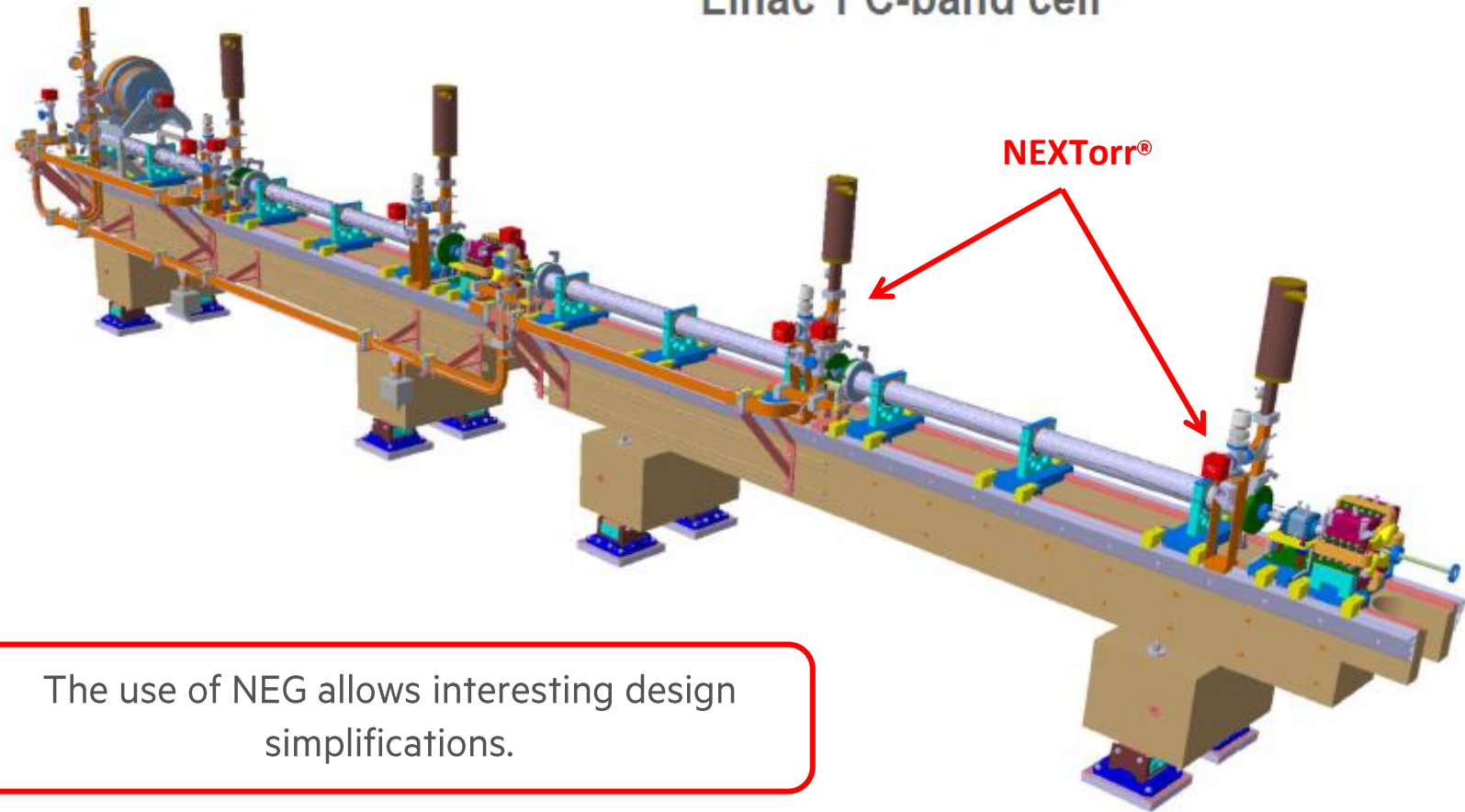




# SwissFEL Linac

## NEXTorr® in Accelerators: SWISS-FEL Linac

Linac 1 C-band cell

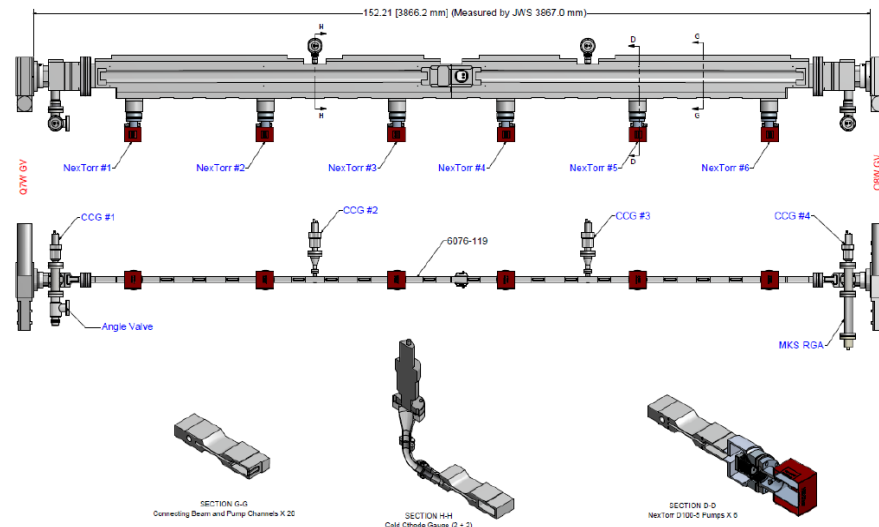
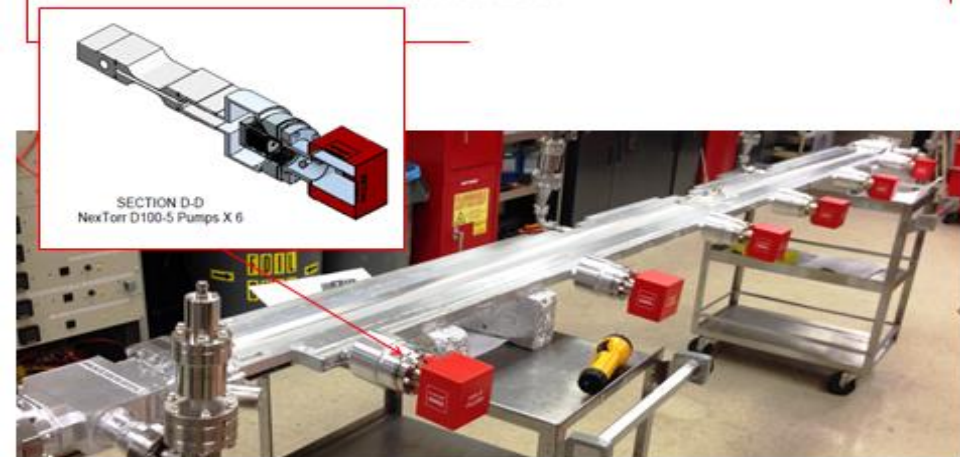


The use of NEG allows interesting design simplifications.

## Undulator vacuum test chamber

- NEX Torr® pumps are distributed along the undulator
- Compared to strip, NEX Torr® distribution could provide easier installation and maintenance
- If issues are generated in the pumping system
  - With strip all the chamber must be uninstalled and changed
  - With NEX Torr® only a 2 kg pump must be replaced

### Six NEX Torr® D100-5 Pumps on Undulator Chamber



- This layout allows also the distribution of compact ion elements instead of big Ion pumps at the end of undulator
- The distribution of the ion element through NEX Torr® allows also a distribution of the pressure indication in the undulator to better monitor the pressure evolution during beam circulation and commissioning phase
- The pump is immersed in the high magnetic field close to the in-vacuum undulator (i.e., same plane of the circulating beam)
- Vacuum level  $10^{-10}$  Torr

## RF cavities - ELETTRA



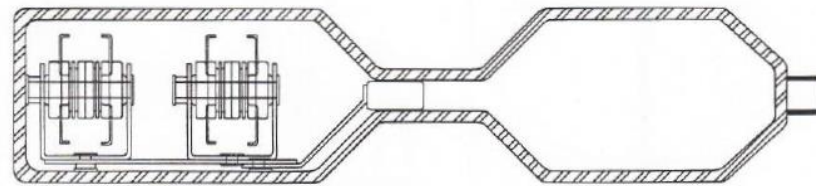
NEXTorr® D500-5



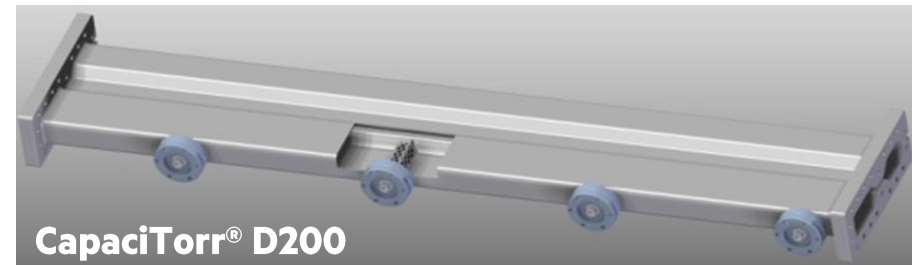
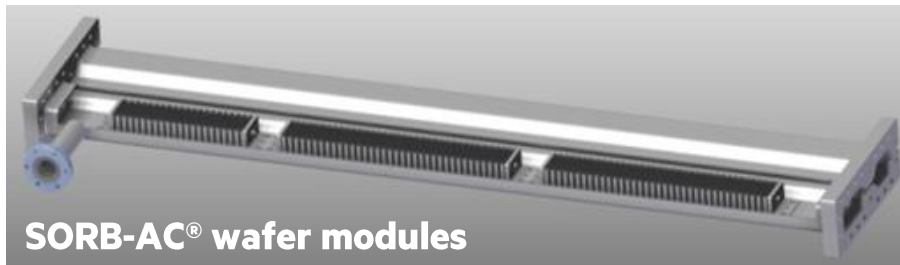
- NEXTorr® has been used in the RF cavity at ELETTRA, Italy, reducing of a factor 4 the pressure compared to a standard ion pump
- The better pressure was achieved because the NEXTorr could be installed close to the cavity without affecting its performances, while the ion pump should be installed far from the cavity, for the interference with the magnetic field generated by the cavity

## DELTA: distributed vs discrete pumps

- Replacement of St707<sup>®</sup> NEG strips placed in the antechambers of DELTA storage ring.
- Installation of strips is rather complex (heaters, positioning, space constraints) and it is difficult to achieve full activation.



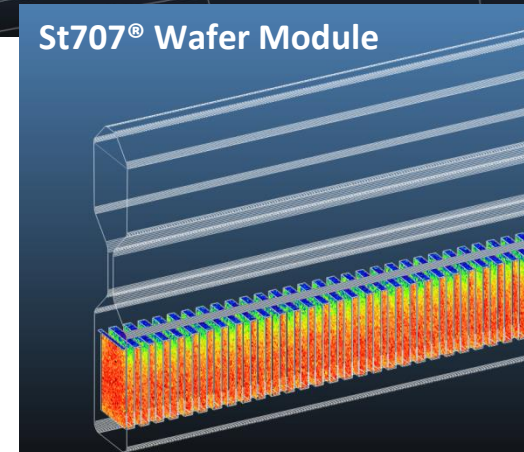
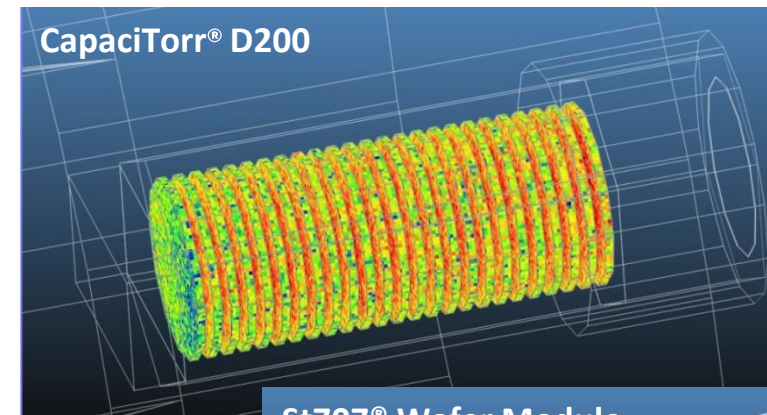
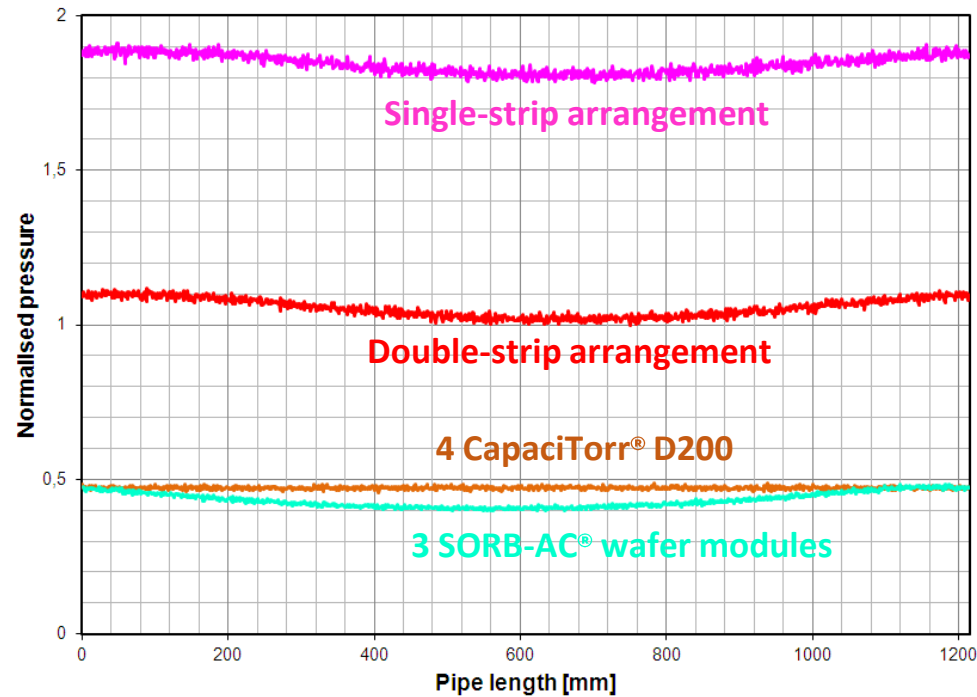
- Possible alternative solutions for 1.2 m long straight chambers:
  - SORB-AC<sup>®</sup> NEG wafer modules,
  - CapaciTorr<sup>®</sup> D200 NEG pumps.





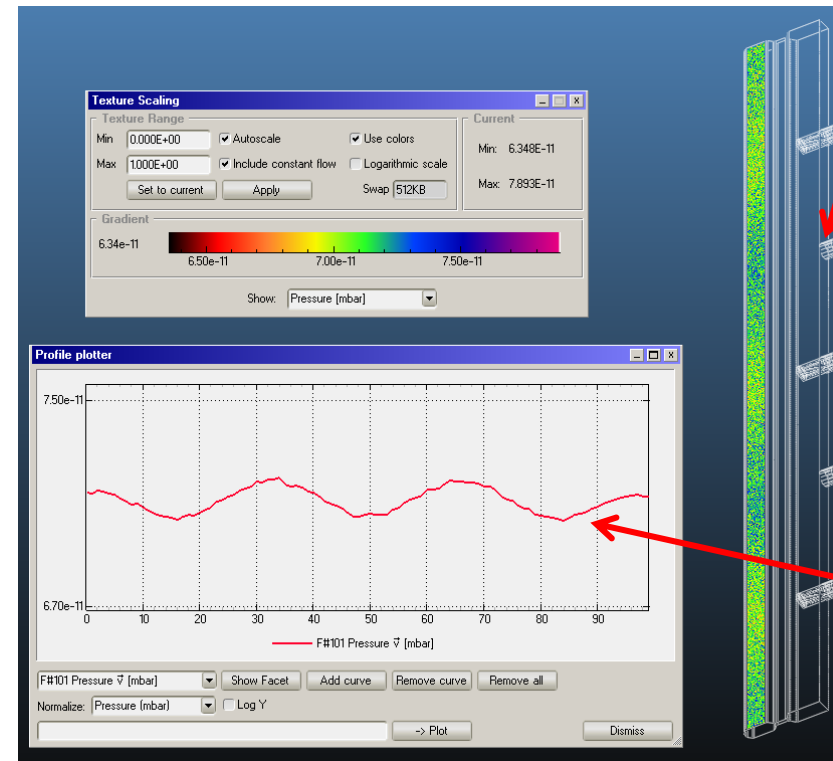
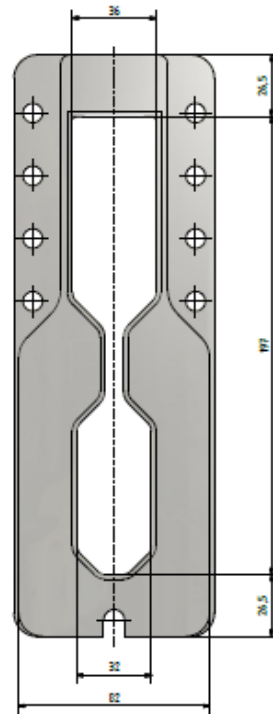
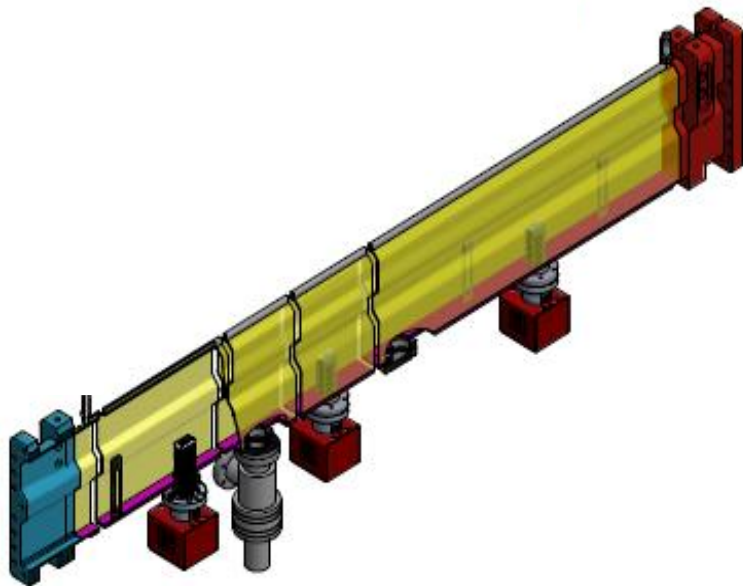
## DELTA: distributed vs discrete pumps

- MolFlow+ simulations run for every pumping configuration, in order to make a comparison against the same H<sub>2</sub> outgassing rate
- Getter pumping surfaces were included in the chamber model
- H<sub>2</sub> pressure profile simulated along the beam chamber
- The layout based on discrete pumps is competitive with the distributed-pumping designs



## DELTA: modulator chamber

- Total length: ~2 m.
- 3 **NEXTorr® D200-5** installed in CF35 flanges along the modulator chamber and protruding inside the antechamber.

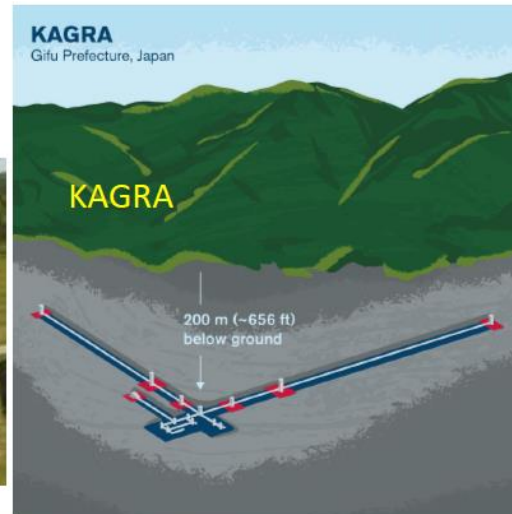


Pressure reading by  
UHV gauge:  
**6.8E-11 mbar**

Pressure along the  
beam channel is  
quite uniform.

# Integration of NEG pumps in gravitational wave detectors (GWDs)

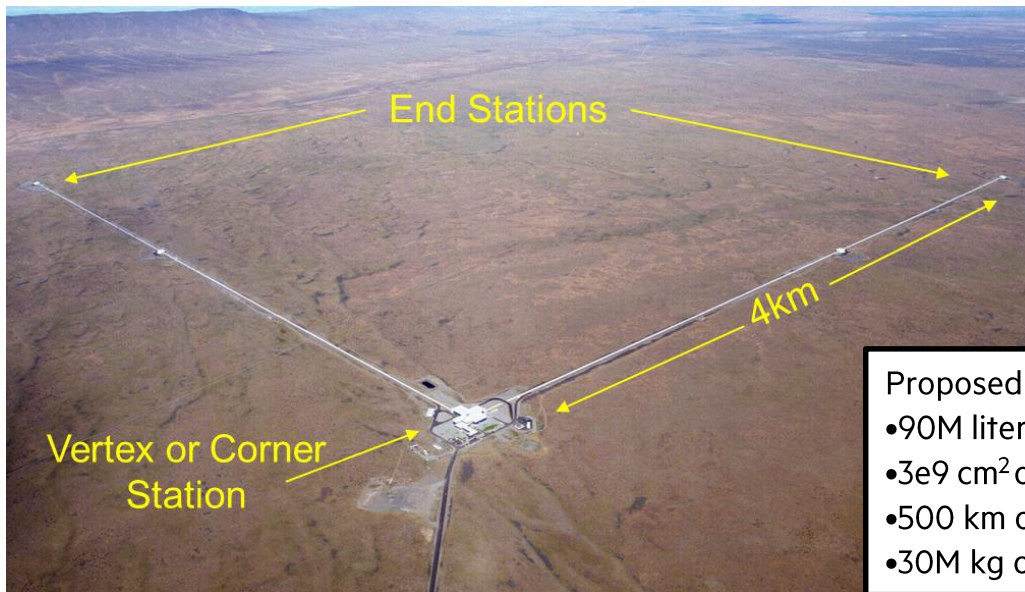
Operating Interferometric  
Gravitational Wave Detectors



## Integration of NEG pumps in GWDs: Cosmic Explorer

CE would be a “3<sup>rd</sup> generation” GW detector:

- Major upgrade vs LIGO, 10x increase arm length 4 km -> 40 km
- 10x increase in strain sensitivity (scales with L). See farther back in time.
- Larger “volume” of observation. Potential 1000x increase in detection frequency.
- Ground based detector similar to LIGO, leverages > 20 yrs. of operational experience.
- Minimal reliance on “new” technologies that may not become available.
- Minimal increase in noise sources, same overall design as LIGO.



Proposed CE beamtube 80 km

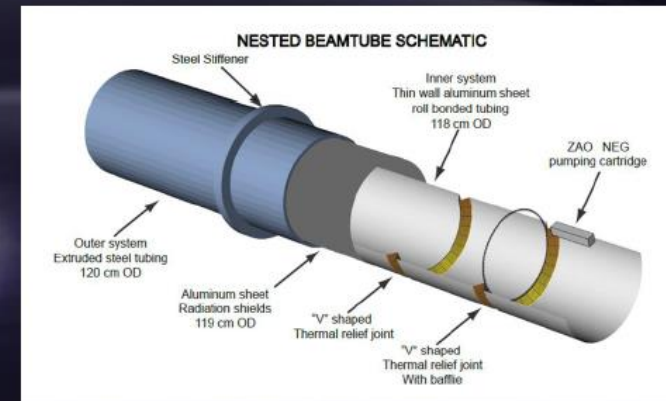
- 90M liter  $\times 10^{-9}$ Torr
- $3e9$  cm<sup>2</sup> of surface area
- 500 km of welds
- 30M kg of material (1.27 cm wall)

## Integration of NEG pumps in GWDs: Cosmic Explorer

# Nested System

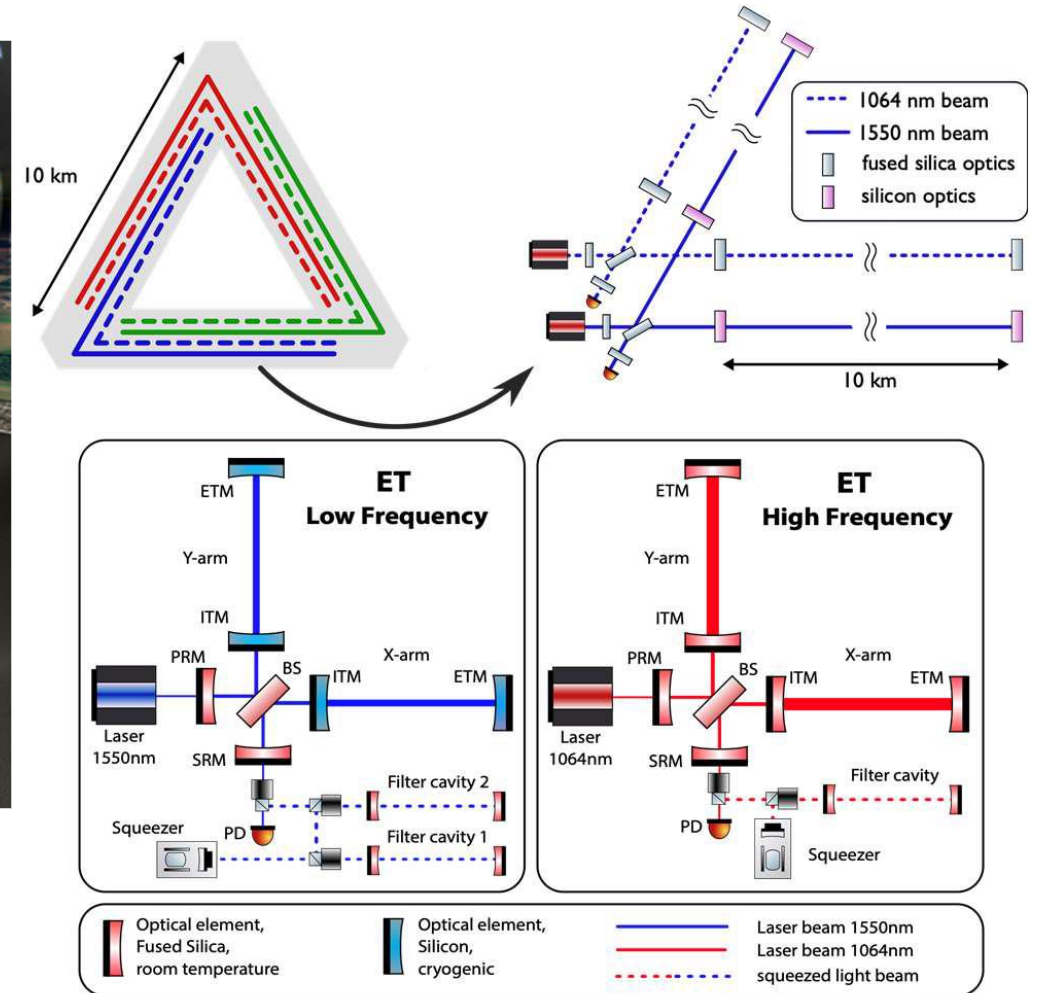
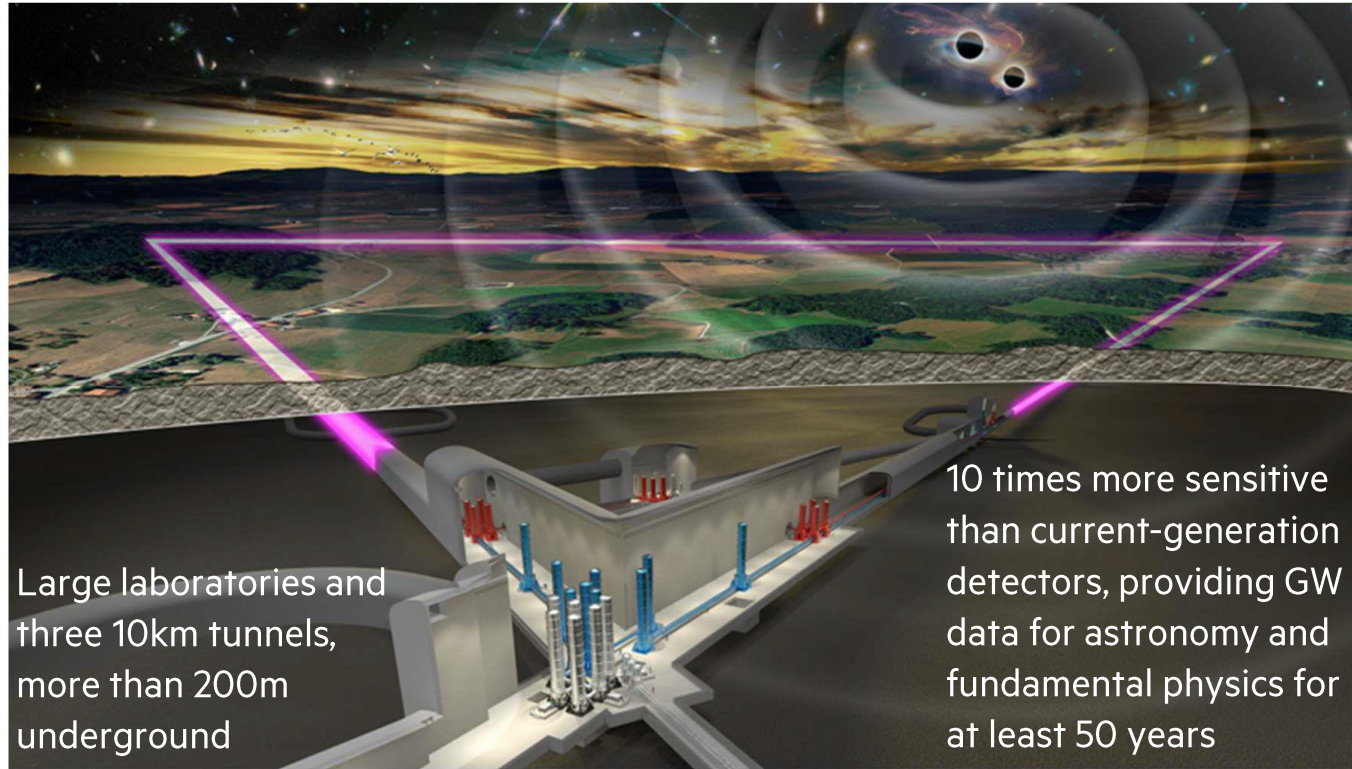
- **Complex but has several unique features**

- Steel outer pipe (thickness TBD) with thin (1/2 mm) aluminum inner pipe (could also be thin steel).
- Modest vacuum ( $10^{-4}$  Torr) in annular gap.
- Thin inner liner resistively heated to bake (same as LIGO).
- Aluminum is excellent vacuum material. Reflectivity at  $1\mu$ ?
- Spiral formed and cold welded (new technology).
- Gap vacuum: Thermal insulation, crush of inner tube, allows some leaks in inner liner.
- Complex thermal/electrical isolation, valves need to be developed, unique feedthroughs and ports, manage  $2\times$  CTE mismatch between inner and outer systems.
- Updated design (May 2022) both tubes are steel.
- ZAO Getter pumps-require feedthroughs to heat. Water speed?
- Hide ZAO getter behind baffle.



Proposed by R. Weiss

# Integration of NEG pumps in GWDs: Einstein Telescope





# Integration of NEG pumps in GWDs: Einstein Telescope

## HV pumping: NEG pump distribution

**Parameters:**

**D = 1.2 m**

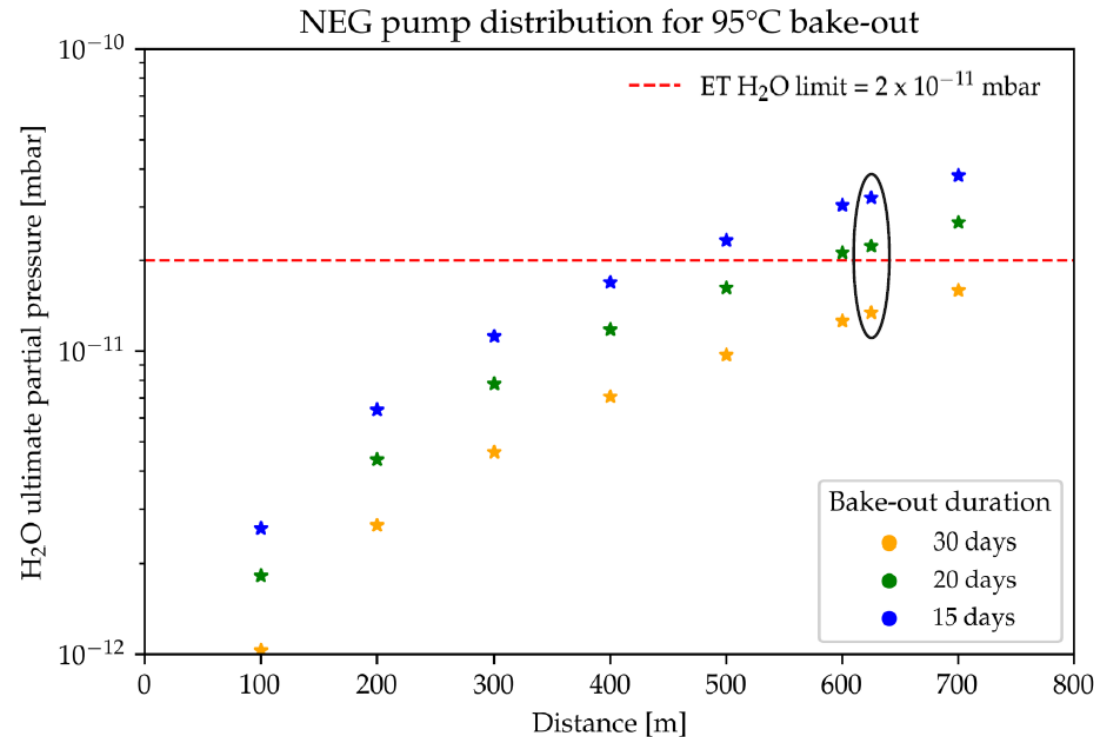
**L = 1250 m** (distance between two turbos)

**TMP pump-down duration: 7 days**

**S<sub>TURBO</sub> = 700 ls<sup>-1</sup>**

**S<sub>NEG</sub> = 1500 ls<sup>-1</sup> (H<sub>2</sub>O)**

**One NEG pump every 625 m to assist the bake-out cycle**

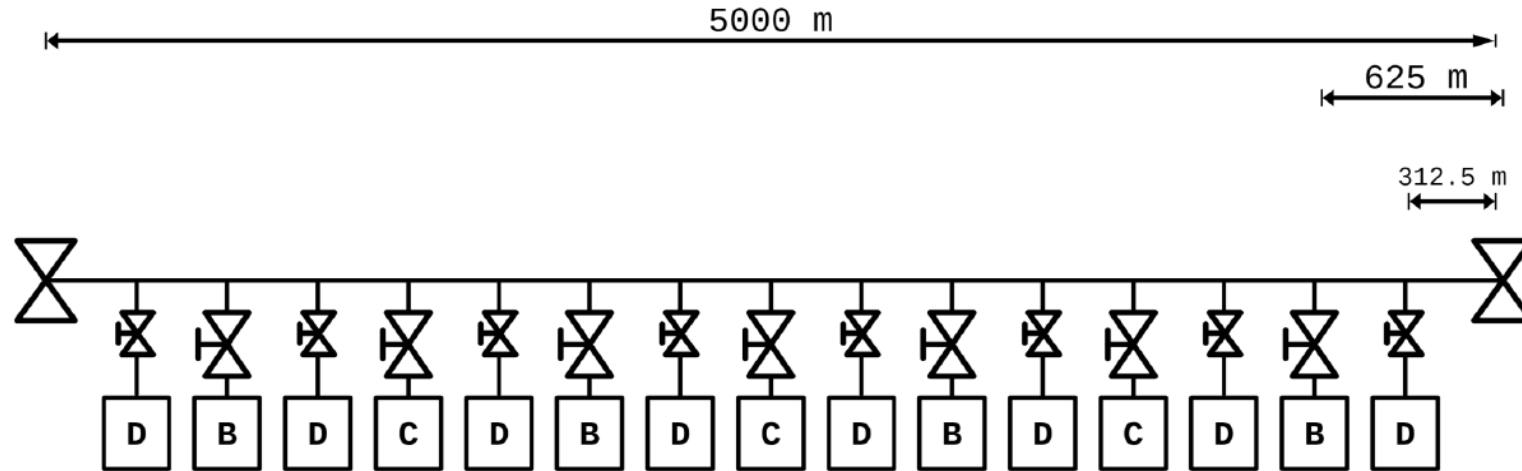


- SAES® HVD has been involved in the design of the pumping system along ET tubes
- First vacuum layout has been conceived for both HV and UHV pumping phases
- The boosted pumping performances given by the presence of the NEG helps in reducing time needed for bakeout



# Integration of NEG pumps in GWDs: Einstein Telescope

## UHV pumping at RT: vacuum layout



From intermediate phase → **B** 2000 l/s NEG **D** 1000 l/s NEG **C** 2000 l/s NEG + 500 l/s IP

Gate valve DN100 (C = 1400 l/s)

Gate valve DN160 (C = 3700 l/s)



Carlo Scarcia | Sectorisation, pumping system, commissioning and operation of ET beampipes





# Integration of NEG pumps in GWDs: Einstein Telescope

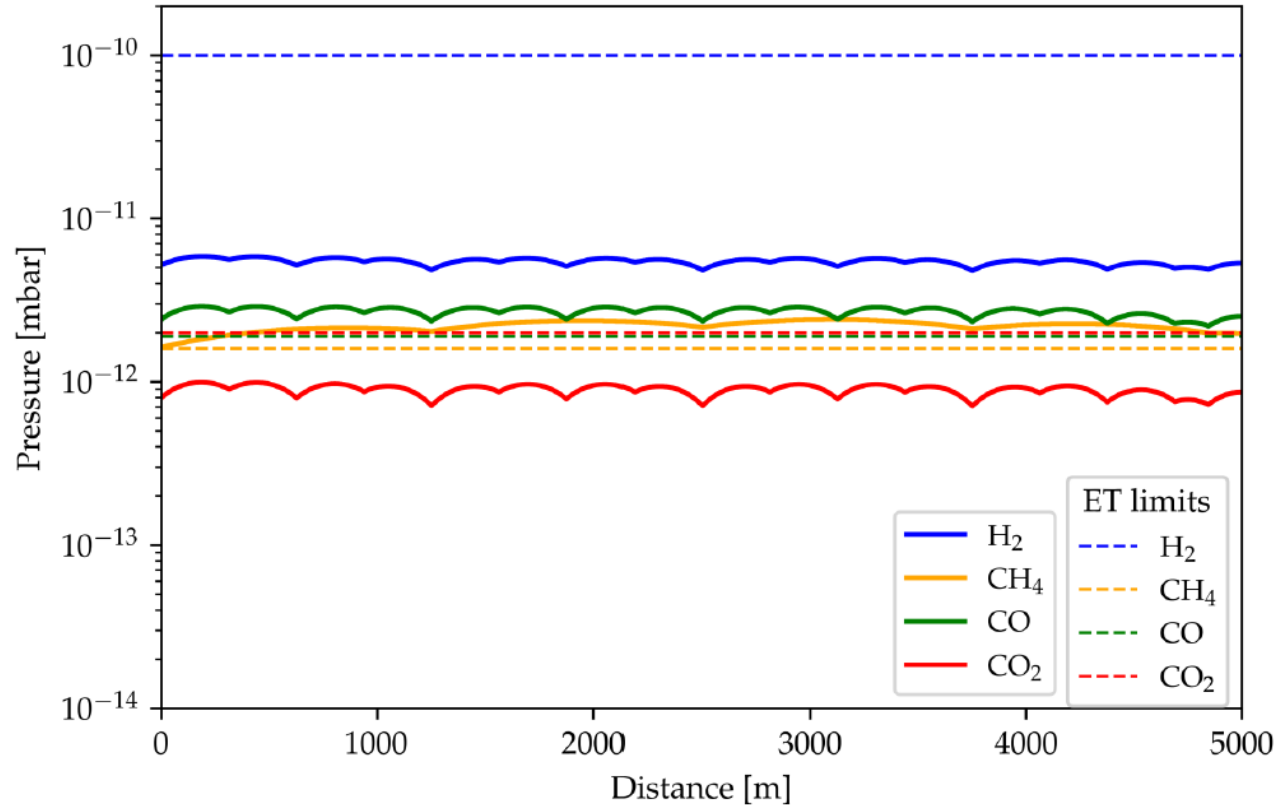
## UHV pumping at RT: ultimate pressures

Gas	Pressure from sim. [mbar]
H <sub>2</sub>	6 x 10 <sup>-12</sup>
CH <sub>4</sub>	2.5 x 10 <sup>-12</sup> *
CO	3 x 10 <sup>-12</sup> *
CO <sub>2</sub>	1 x 10 <sup>-12</sup> *



• Upper limit (measurement background limited)

- Distance 0 m = Pressure are going to be much lower due to cryogenics
- Distance 5000 m = DN1250 GV outgassing contribution not considered (a special module is in study to cope with it)
- Gate valves DN150/DN100 needs extra care, their outgassing rate could be harmful!



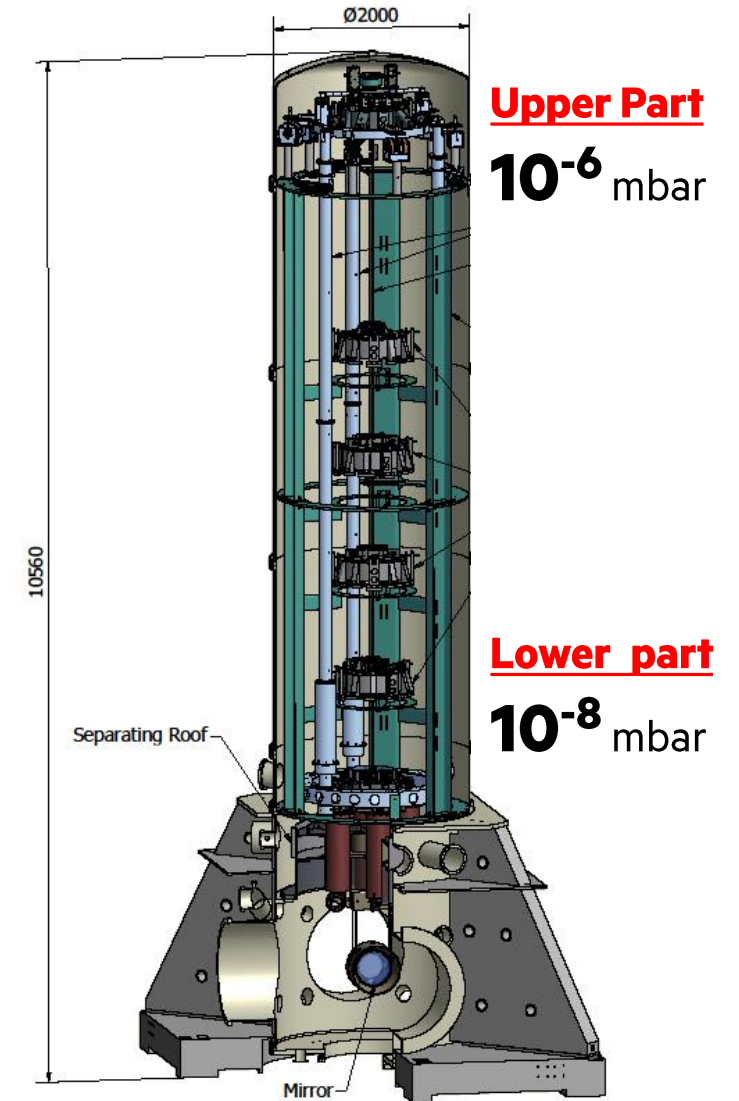
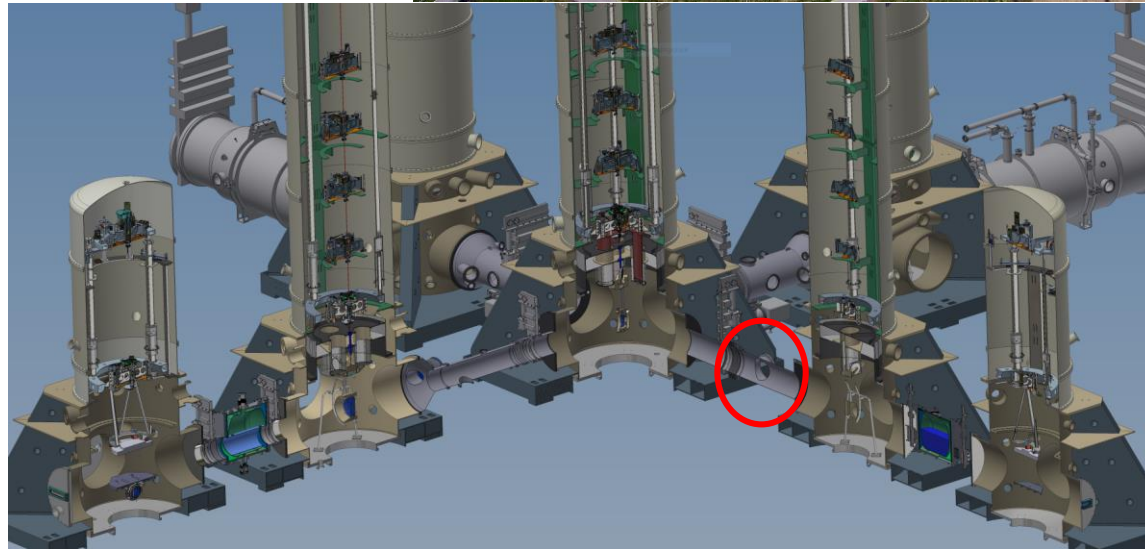
- Preliminary studies on the first conceived pumping system show that a distributed NEG pumping along the tubes meet ET pressure requirements



Carlo Scarcia | Sectorisation, pumping system, commissioning and operation of ET beampipes

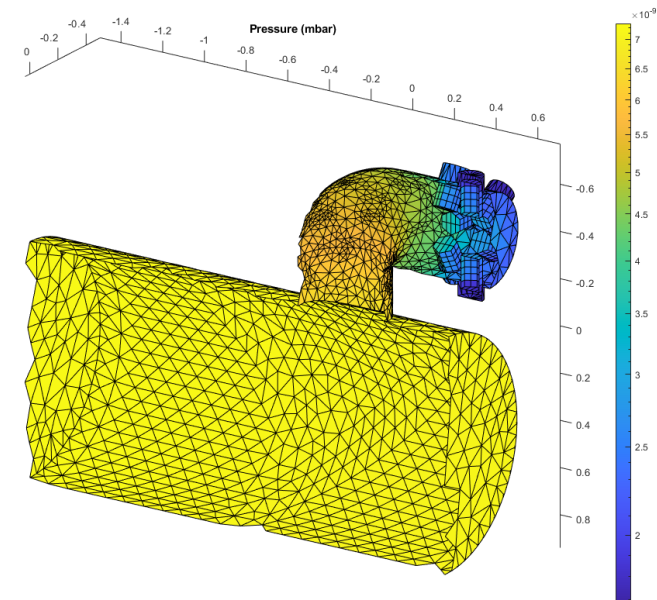
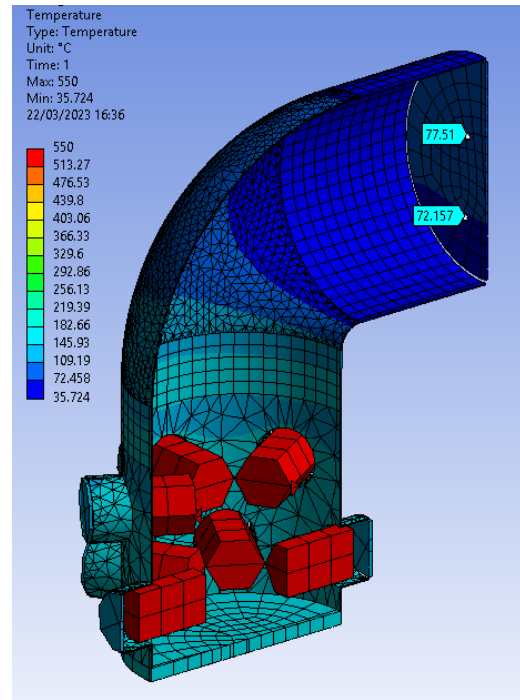
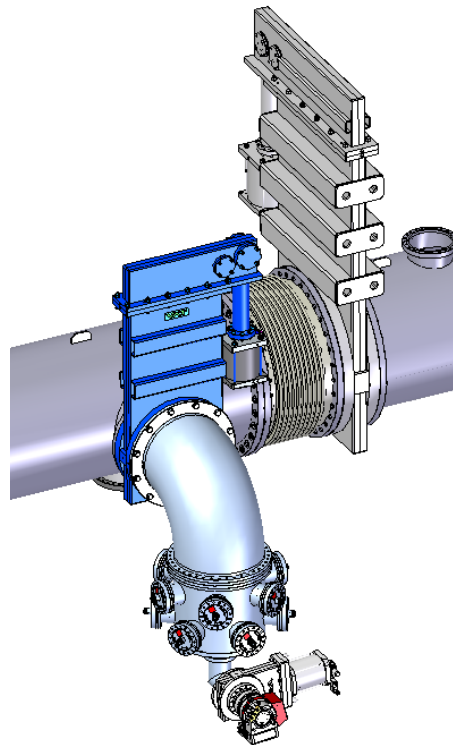
## Integration of NEG pumps in GWDs: VIRGO

- Collaboration for the integration of NEG pumps, exploiting their compactness, pumping performance and absence of vibrations
- Main active gases  $N_2$ ,  $O_2$
- Reactivation constraints
- Possible customized solutions



## Integration of NEG pumps in GWDs: VIRGO

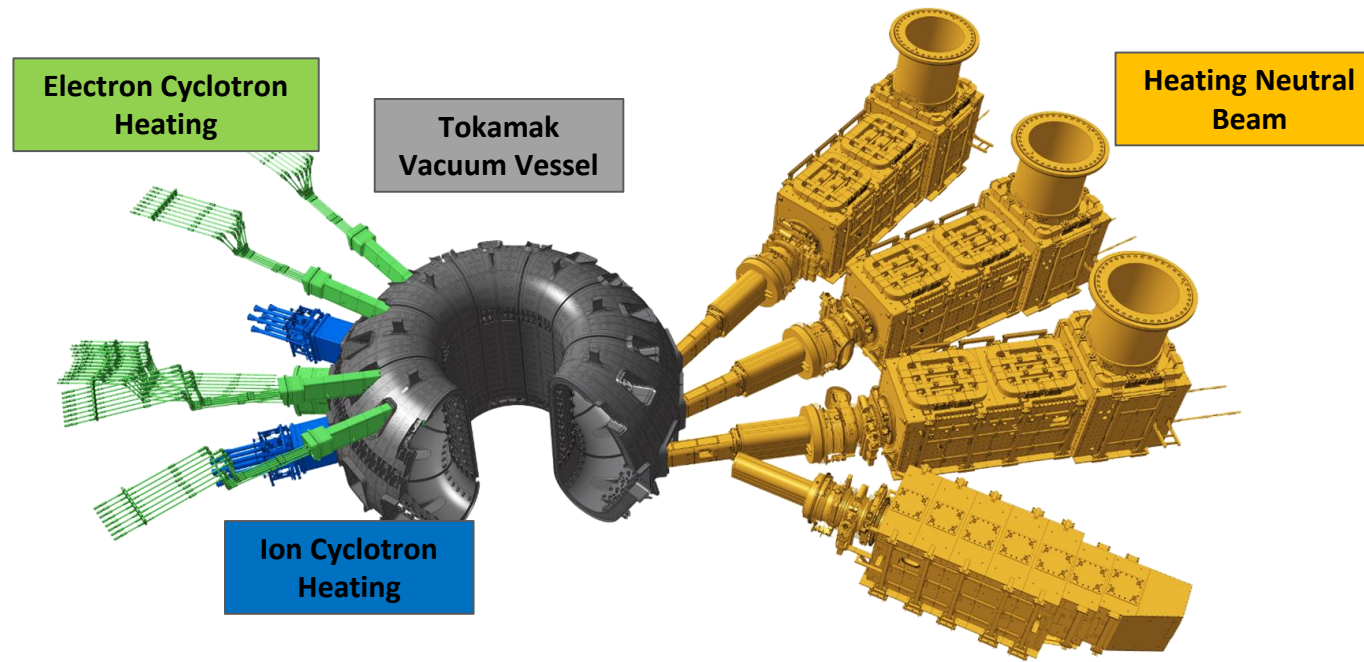
- Pumping enhancement module for VIRGO
- CAD project, thermal and vacuum simulation closely linked in iterative process
- Various configurations tested (straight tube, angled elbow, continuous, Tee, etc.)
- Best solution is chosen as the ideal compromise between gate valve, temperature and maximized pumping speed



## SAES® long history in fusion energy (most recent)

- **2017 Kyushu University – Tokamak QUEST:** CapaciTorr® HV200 used in diagnostic
  - **2018 Tsinghua University – SUNIST Tokamak:** CapaciTorr® HV 2100 used in the divertor
  - **2018 IPP:** HV 800 wafer module is under test in the divertor
  - **2018 – LHD at NIFS:** installation 42 NEG HV 400 wafer modules in the divertor
  - **2018 ITER:** NEXTorr® HV 200 in the transfer line of ECRH
  - **2014 → DEMO NBI<sup>(1)-(4)</sup>**
  - **2021 → Mega NEG pump for SPIDER**
1. M. Siragusa et al, Conceptual design of scalable vacuum pump to validate sintered getter technology for future NBI application, Fusion Engineering and Design, 146, 87 (2019)
  2. F. Siviero et al, Characterization of ZAO® sintered getter material for use in fusion applications, 146, 1729 (2019)
  3. Siviero F. et al, Robustness of ZAO® based NEG pump solutions for fusion applications, 166, 112306 (2021)
  4. E. Sartori, Design of a large nonevaporable getter pump for the full size ITER beam source prototype, JVSTB, 41, 034202 (2023)
  5. M. Baquero-Ruiz et al, Non-evaporable getter pump operations in the TCV tokamak, 165, 112267 (2021)
  6. Alternative solution for the MITICA/HNB vacuum pumps jointly developed by SAES® and RFX, private document (2013)

## Neutral Beam Injectors



- Essential plasma-heating device in fusion facilities, both existing (JET, ASDEX, JT-60SA, W7-X, LHD etc.) and under construction/design (ITER, DTT, DEMO...)
- Produces a highly energetic and *neutral* H<sub>2</sub>/D<sub>2</sub> beam
- Example ITER NBIs : 1MV acceleration, 16 MW power D<sub>2</sub> beam

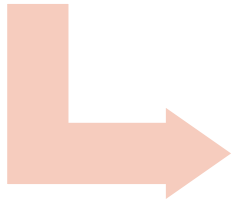
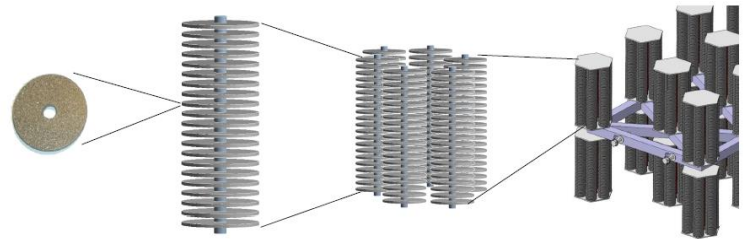
- In 2014-2021 SAES® has been involved to develop a NEG pump for the Neutral Beam Injector (NBI) of DEMO
- The NEG technology validation has been accomplished and the results have been published in more papers and accepted from the fusion community

- DEMO pre-conceptual design – Tritium Fuelling Vacuum (TFV) WorkPackage
- activity 3.6 “Development of a NEG-based pumping concept for NBI pumping”

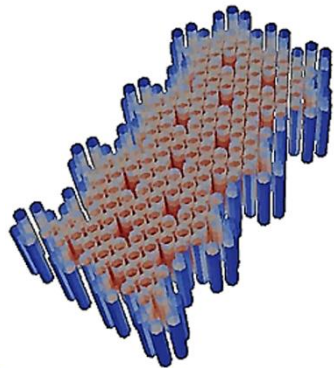
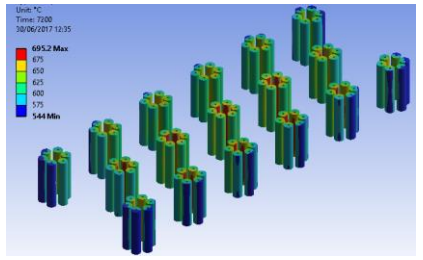


# The way to a NBI-scale NEG pumping system

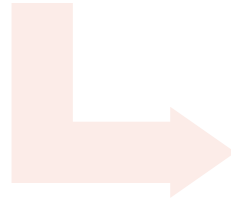
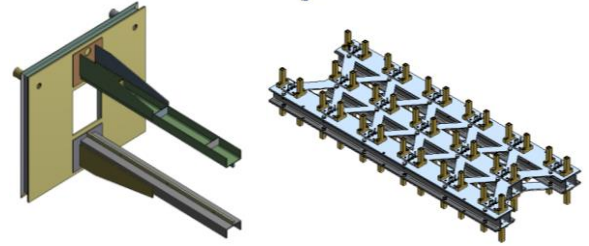
From ZAO® disk to multi-stack cartridge



Vacuum and thermal simulations



Design and construction

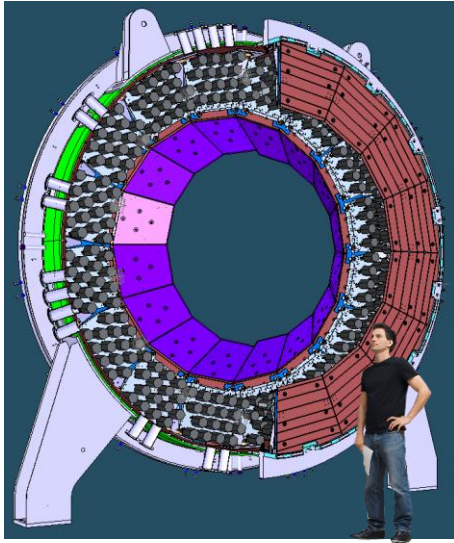


Assembling and characterization

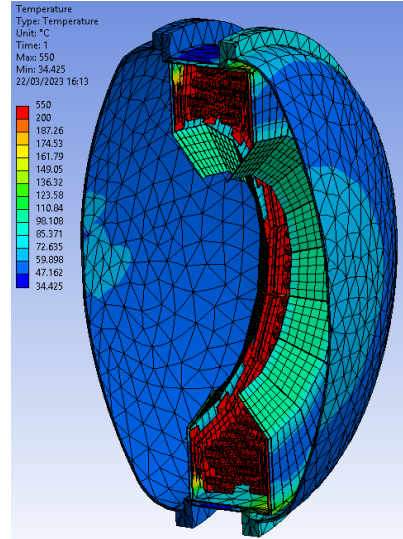
40.000 l/s (H2) pump tested at TIMO facility at KIT



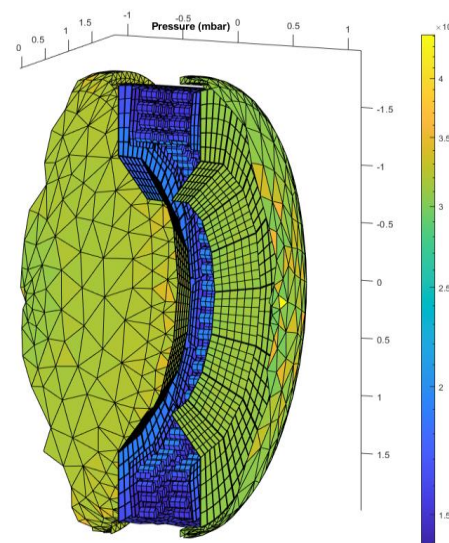
## Coming next: SPIDER Vacuum system upgrade (Consorzio RFX, Padova)



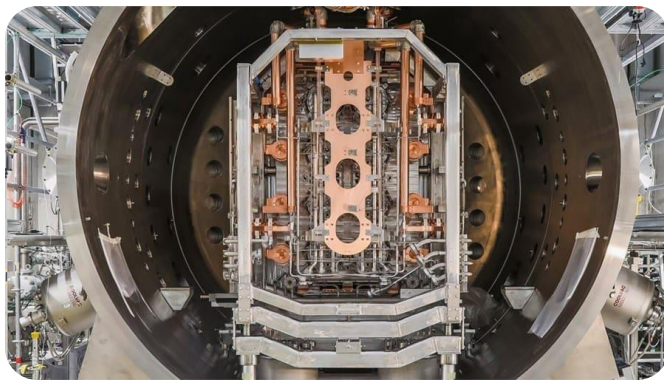
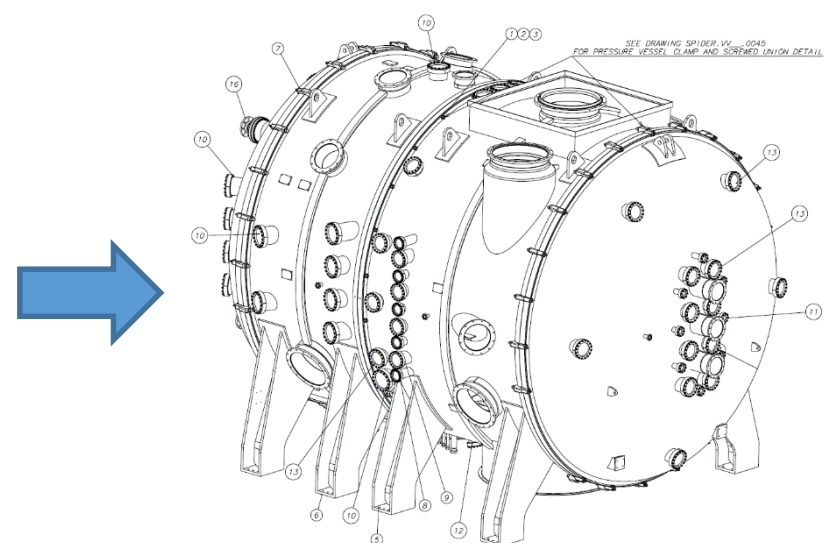
CAD model



Thermal analysis



Vacuum analysis



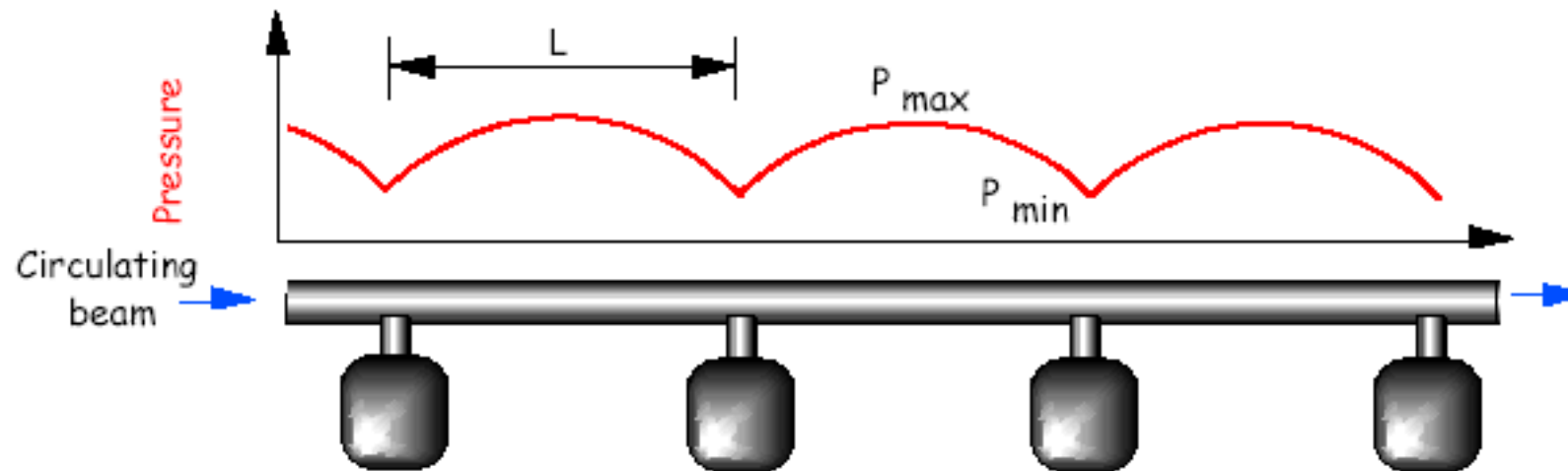
- The testing facility of the NBI of ITER is under test at Consorzio RFX (MITICA)
- In the source of the NBI (SPIDER), RFX is integrating a ZAO® NEG pump of 340.000 l/s (H<sub>2</sub>) @10<sup>-4</sup> mbar
- This solution integrates 384 NEG cartridges (upgradable to 512): largest NEG pumping system in the world
- Thermally shielded pumping system: thermal and vacuum studies closely linked
- Power supply, electronics and SW integrated within the overall experiment control system

# **DISTRIBUTED PUMPING: NEG COATING**



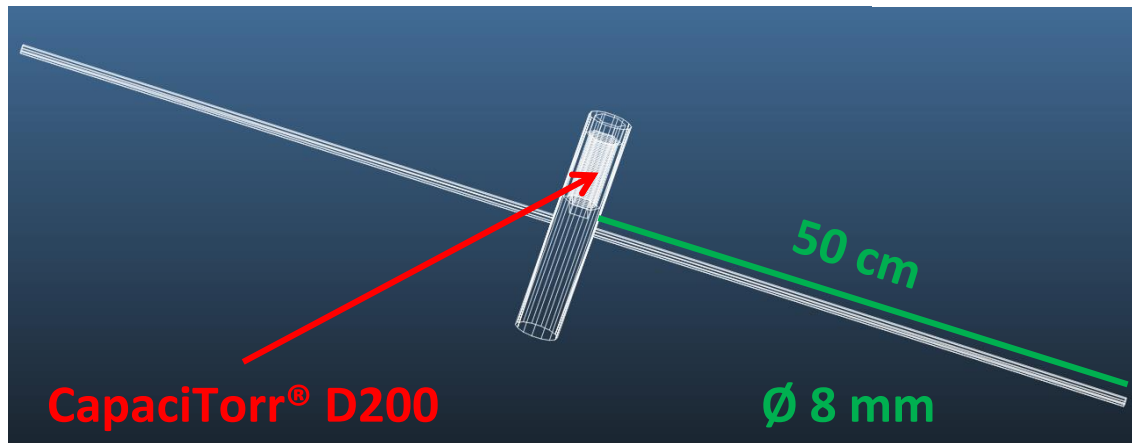
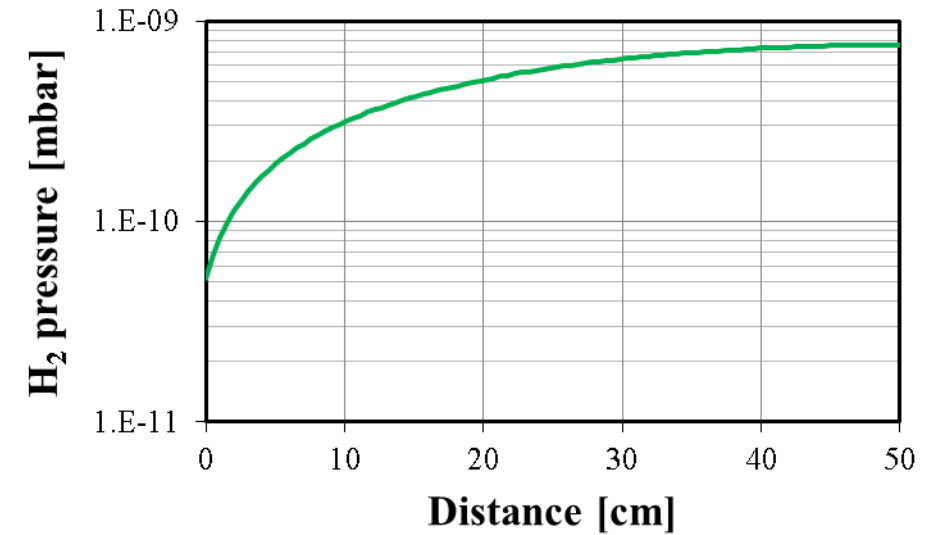
## TRADITIONAL PUMPING APPROACH FOR STORAGE RINGS

- The required beam-on pressure for machine operation in a storage ring should be at least in the  **$10^{-9}$  mbar range** or lower, in order to guarantee the design beam lifetime, which is typically of several hours.
- To meet the required **ultra-high vacuum** (UHV) conditions, the traditional approach is based on a distribution along the ring of **discrete pumps** (SIP, NEG, TSP) installed on appropriate side flanges.
- The resulting pressure profile along the beamline is **parabolic**.



## PUMPING SOLUTIONS FOR NARROW-GAP BEAM PIPES

- When dealing with small-aperture beam pipes and narrow-gap IDs, discrete pumps in principle are not the best solution.
- Pumping speed is severely affected by the strong conductance limitations given by the geometry.
- Big pumps cannot be used due to the space constraints given by the compact magnet lattice.



**Distributed pumping** is the most suitable solution for conductance-limited systems.

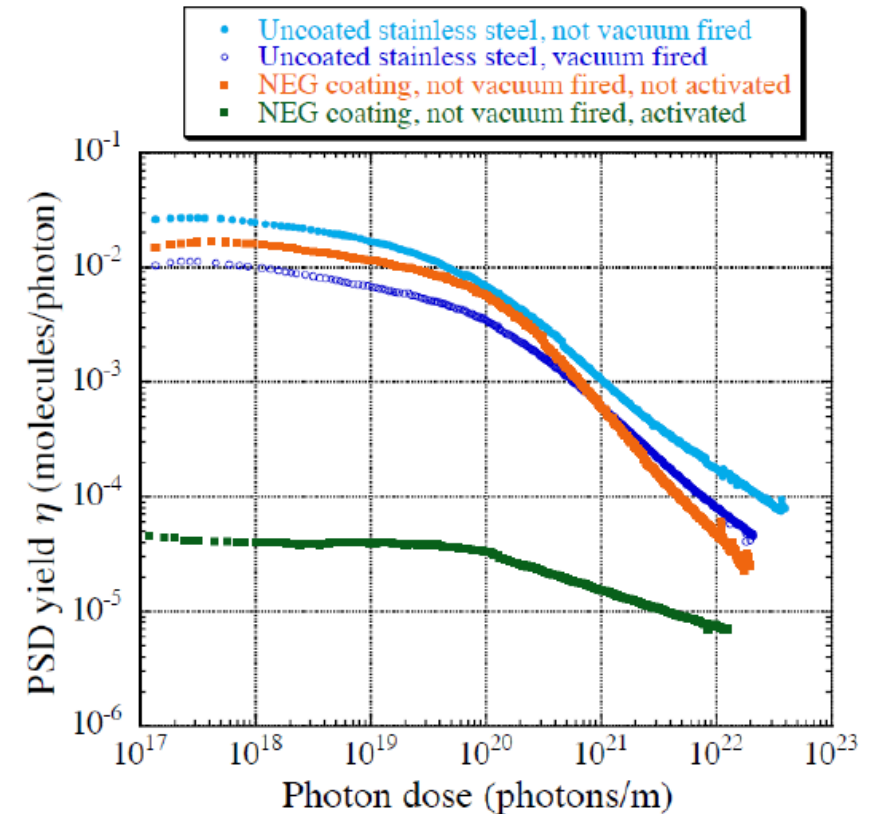
## NEG COATING FOR NARROW-GAP BEAM PIPES



NEG coating becomes the best way to provide distributed pumping and to ensure the required UHV level and beam lifetime.

NEG coating:

- Provides a distributed pumping solution
- Mitigates the effect of small conductance on pumping speed
- Transforms the pipe wall, from a source of gas to a pumping surface
- Has a low SEY, mitigates PSD and ESD
- Can effectively pump most gases ( $H_2$ ,  $H_2O$ ,  $CO$ ,  $N_2$ ,  $O_2$ ,  $CO_2$ ), except for noble gases and hydrocarbons



## NEG COATING: main features

- NEG coating: as a vacuum pump for particle accelerators was developed and patented at CERN and widely used in the LHC (Large Hadron Collider)
- Typical NEG coatings are ~1 μm TiZrV, deposited by magnetron sputtering
- NEG coating can be activated at low temperature (e.g., 180 °C x 24 hours) during machine bake-out
- Several machines worldwide have already implemented this technology to boost machine performance & design

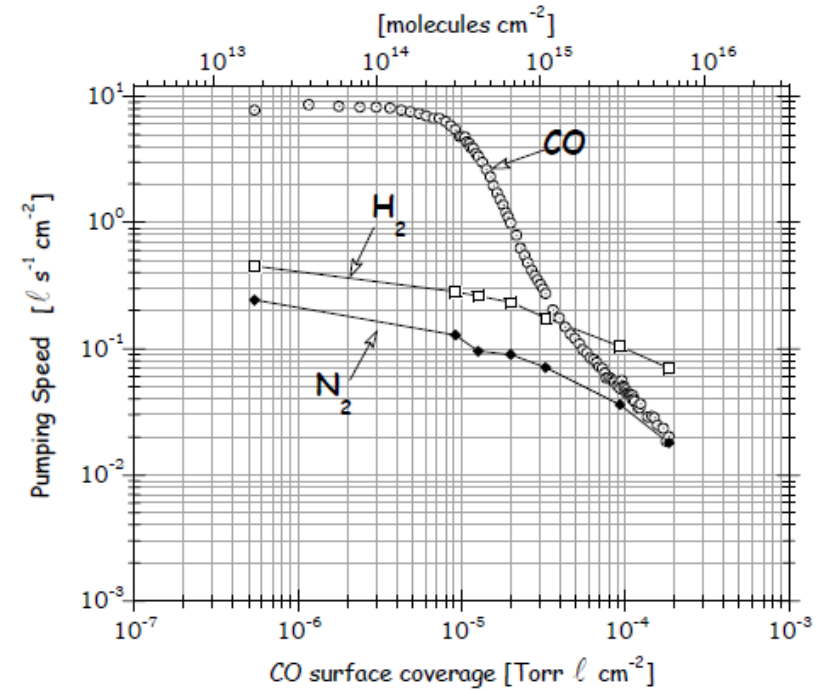
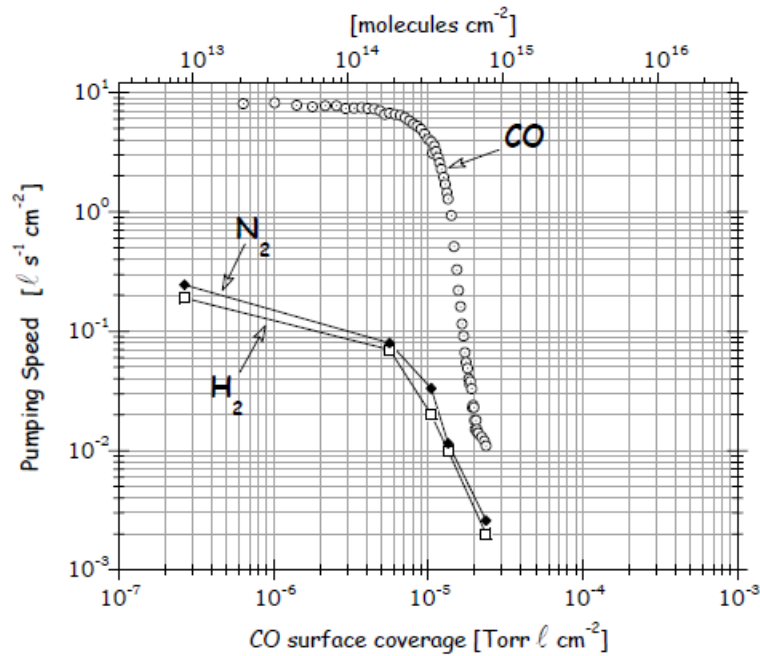
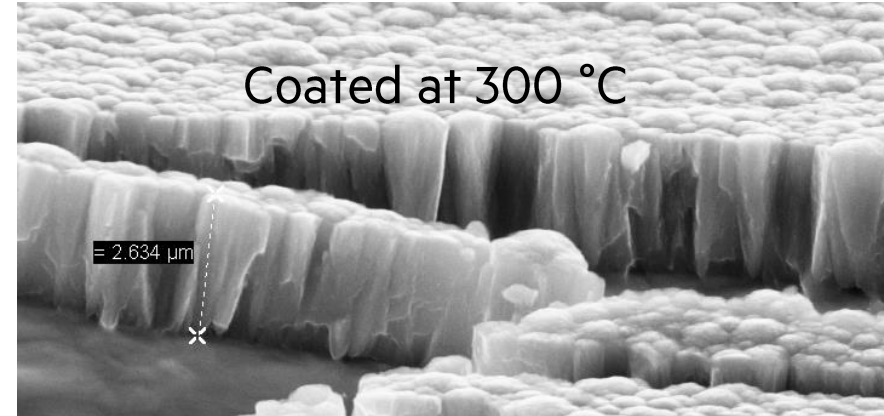
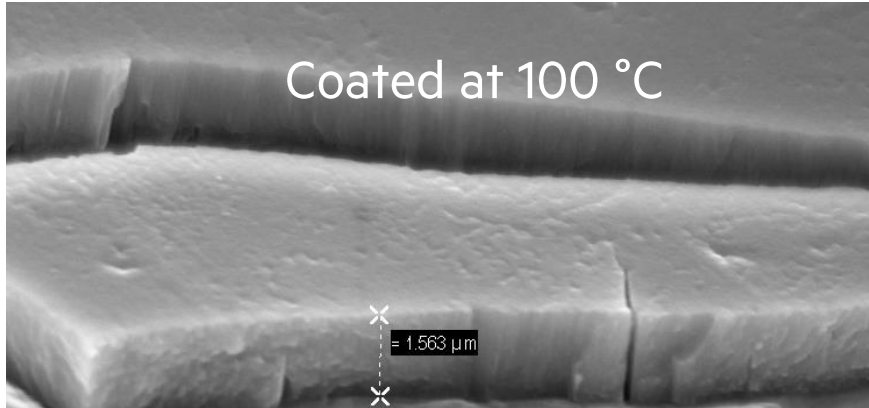
$$S = \frac{1}{4} \cdot \langle v \rangle \cdot \alpha \cdot A$$

**STICKING FACTOR  $\alpha$**

[1]	NEG surface	$\alpha$ H <sub>2</sub>	$\alpha$ CO	$\alpha$ N <sub>2</sub>
	Smooth	$8 \cdot 10^{-3}$	0.7	$1.5 \cdot 10^{-2}$
	Rough	$3 \cdot 10^{-2}$	0.9	$3 \cdot 10^{-2}$

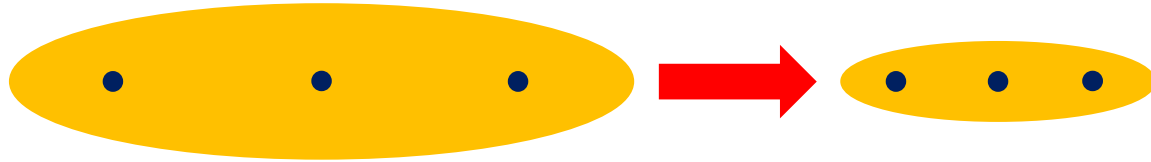


# NEG COATING: pumping properties

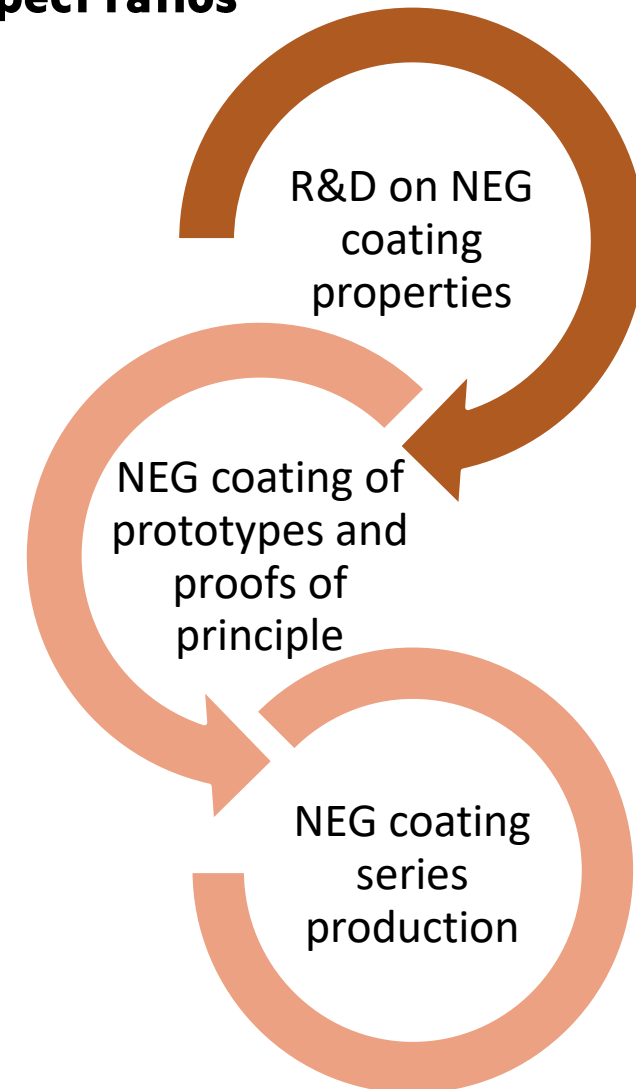


## NEG COATING critical issues of complex shapes and high aspect ratios

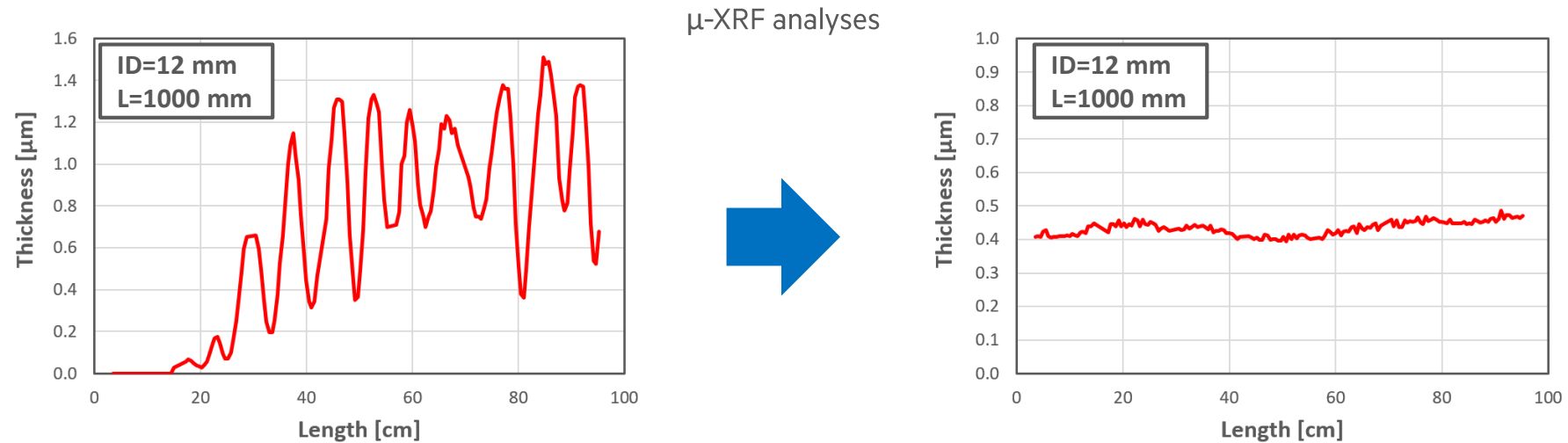
- **Inserting** and **positioning** the cathodes
- **Plasma volume** is very limited



- Risk of cathode **misalignment**
- **Cleaning** is not straightforward
- **Controlled NEG thickness** in electron beam pipes
- Presence of **delicate components** (BPMs, bellows, beam screens, RF fingers, ...)
- **Pumping characterization** is very challenging



## NEG COATING properties and fine tuning

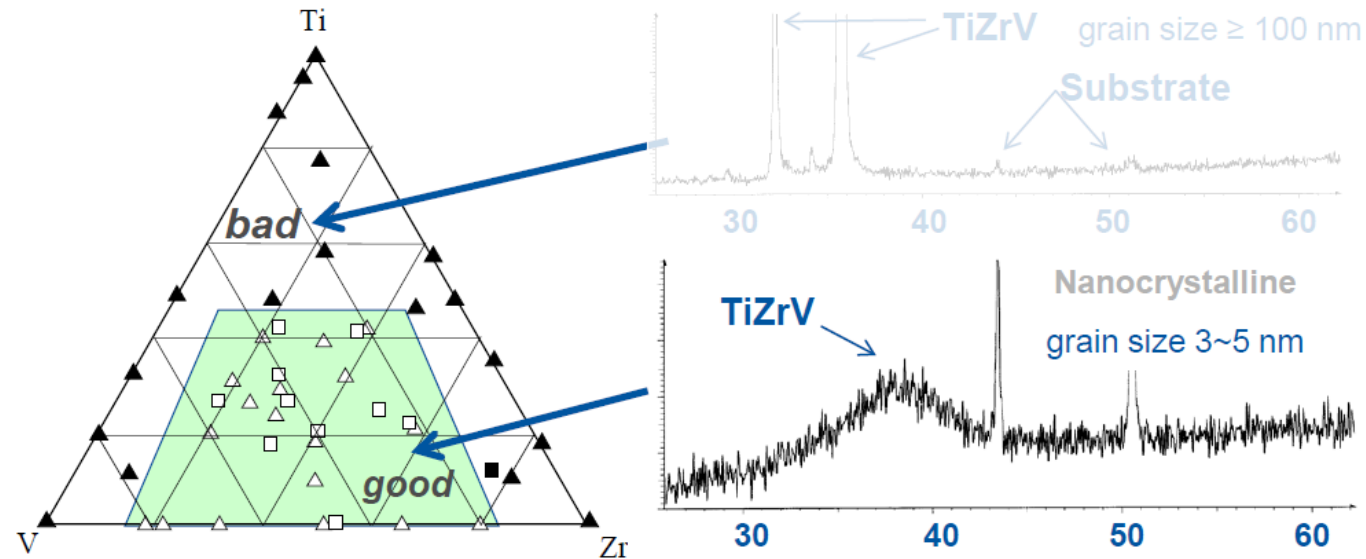


### SAES proprietary process --> NEG film thickness control

- **Low impedance** is a key requirement of new synchrotron light sources
- A **thin** and **uniform** NEG film is need to meet such requirement
- It is necessary to fine tune the sputtering process
- When coating chambers with complex shapes and high aspect ratios, this is **not straightforward**

## NEG COATING properties and fine tuning

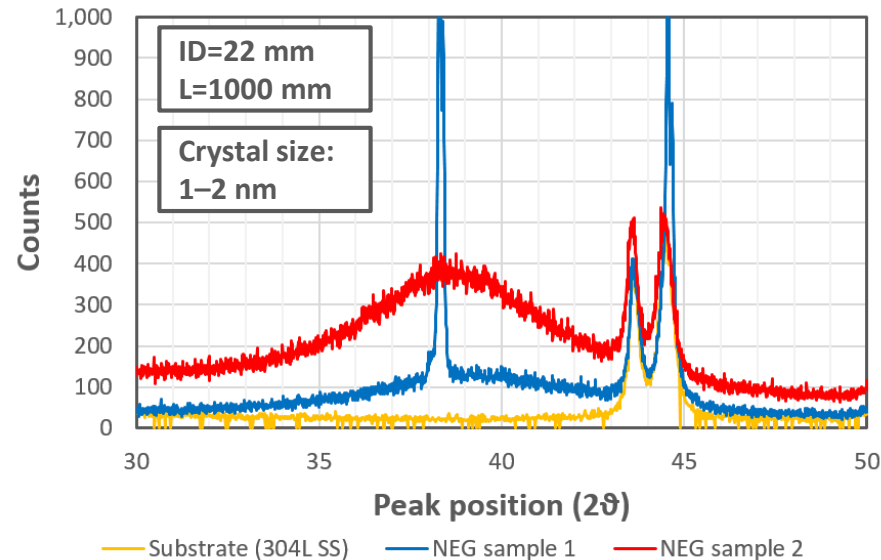
*P. Costa Pinto, 80<sup>th</sup> IUVSTA Workshop, 2016, Taiwan*



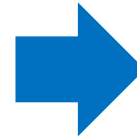
- Activation temperature should be low enough to be compatible with UHV materials and components (e.g., aluminium)
- The low activation temperature of TiZrV coating is influenced by the crystalline structure of the film [1]
- Grains of nanometric size (3–5 nm) --> oxygen transport increase through grain boundaries --> low activation temperature
- XRD analysis can be used to monitor the crystalline structure of deposited films



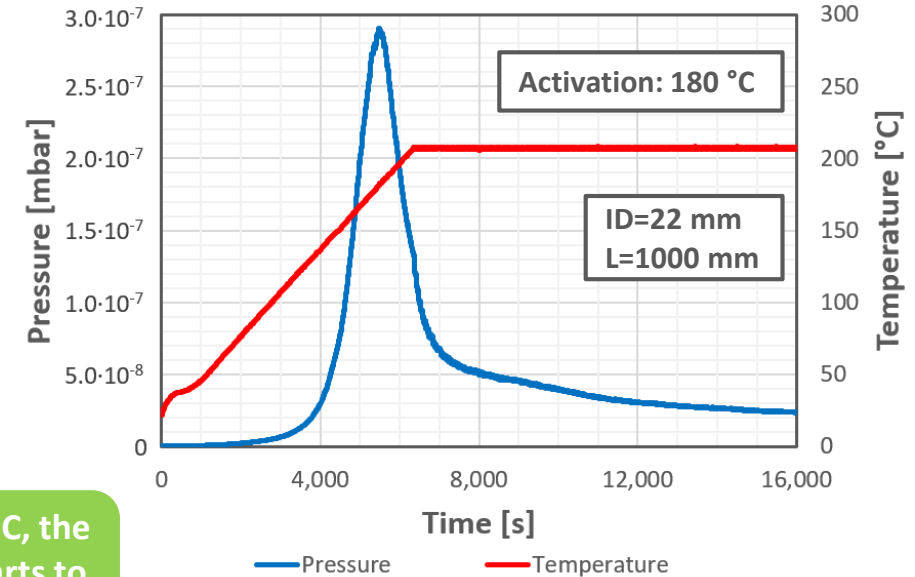
## NEG COATING properties and fine tuning



XRD analysis of a NEG film



At 180 °C, the  
NEG starts to  
pump

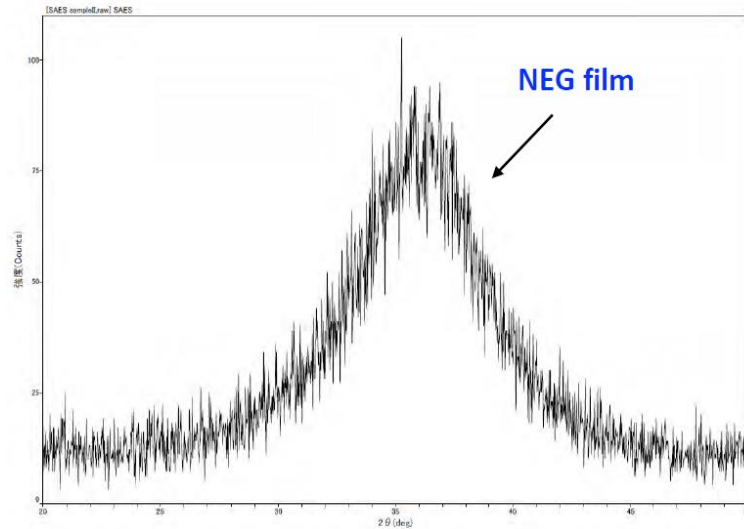


Pressure profile during NEG activation

- Activation temperature should be low enough to be compatible with UHV materials and components (e.g., aluminium)
- The low activation temperature of TiZrV coating is influenced by the crystalline structure of the film [1]
- Grains of nanometric size (3–5 nm) --> oxygen transport increase through grain boundaries --> low activation temperature
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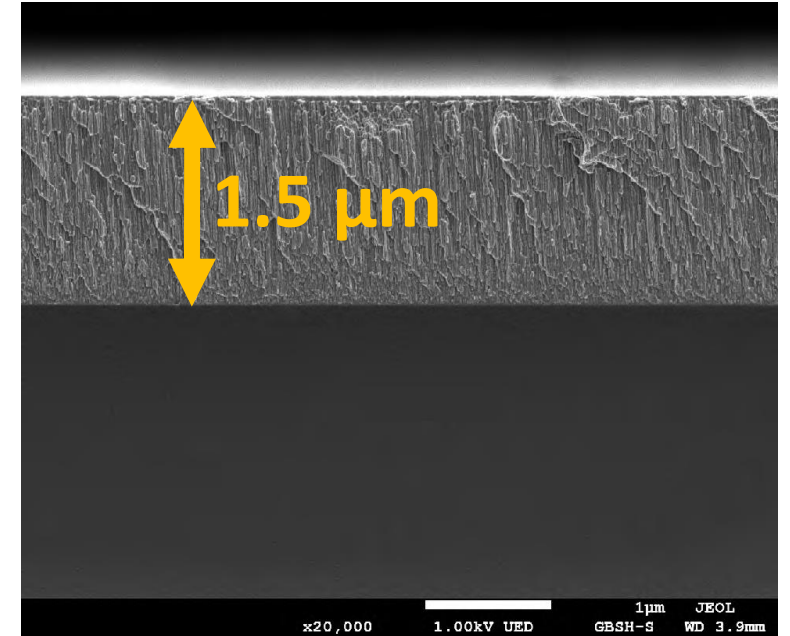
## PF-ring Undulator #19 (KEK, Japan)

- 90x15 mm elliptical cross-section
- Chamber length: 4100 mm
- NEG film thickness is well controlled and in accordance with calculations
- NEG activation: 48 h at 160 °C [1]



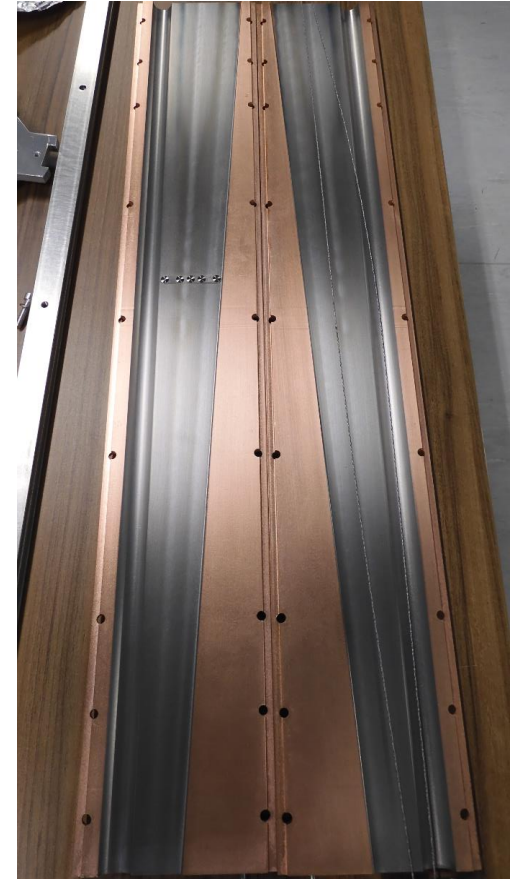
Crystallite size: **1.6 nm** (from Scherrer equation)

--> Good NEG activation at 160 °C [2]



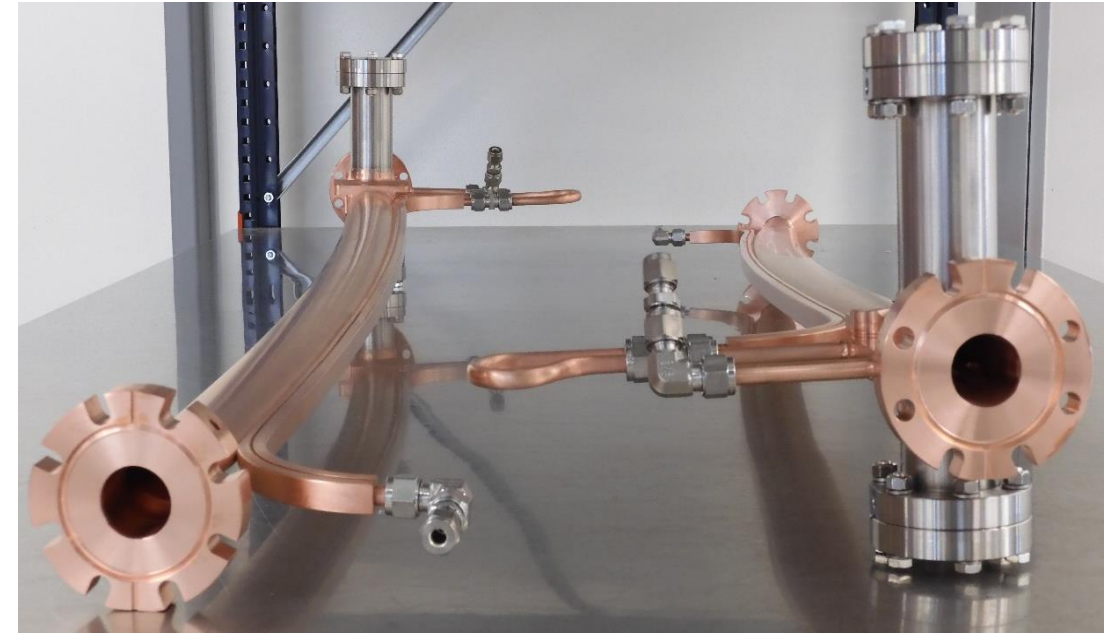
## ALS-U storage ring VC03 (LBNL, USA)

- Many critical aspects:
  - 5 mm gap keyhole
  - Variable horizontal section
  - Need for several cathodes
  - Plasma ignition everywhere
  - Spacing between cathodes is very important to achieve a uniform deposited thickness
- NEG coating fine tuning on a two-shells prototype
- NEG coating of the complete vacuum chamber



## ALS-U Accumulator-Ring dipoles (LBNL, USA)

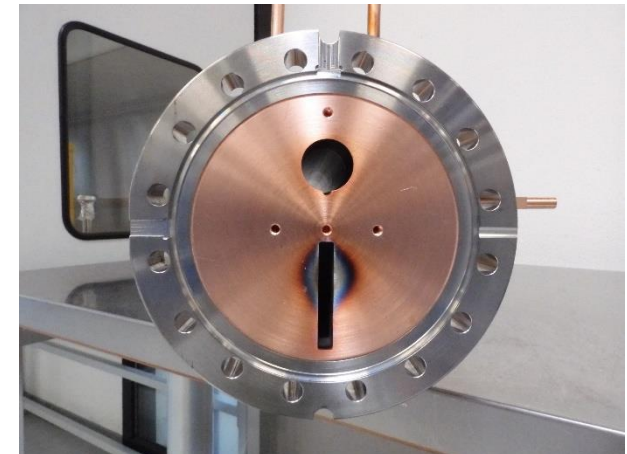
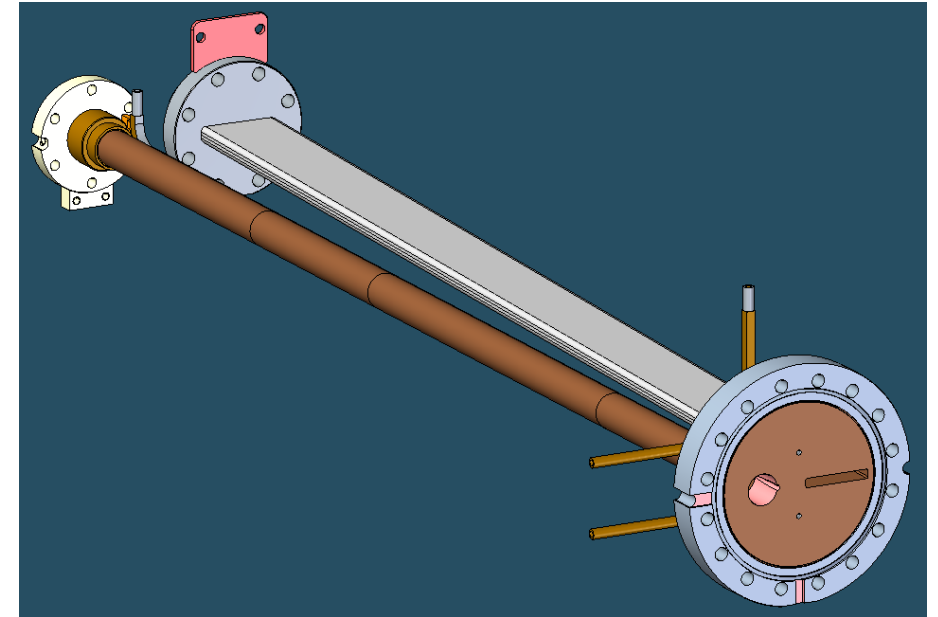
- Many critical aspects:
  - Strong curvature
  - Section transitions (circular-elliptical-circular)
  - No direct visual through the end
  - Need for special cathode holders
- 1<sup>st</sup> article coated in 2022
- Series of 30 chambers coated in 2023



## LM Girder Vessel 3 (DIAMOND, UK)

Two separate channels diverging from the same flange:

- DN20 circular electron beam pipe (OFS Cu)
- 45x6 mm rectangular photon beam pipe (SS 316L)



# **Appendix**

## **SAES<sup>®</sup>, SRV, Cinel: integrated solutions for vacuum applications**



## SAES RIAL Vacuum

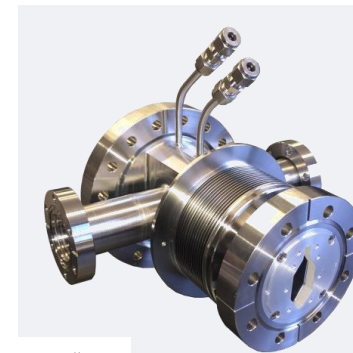
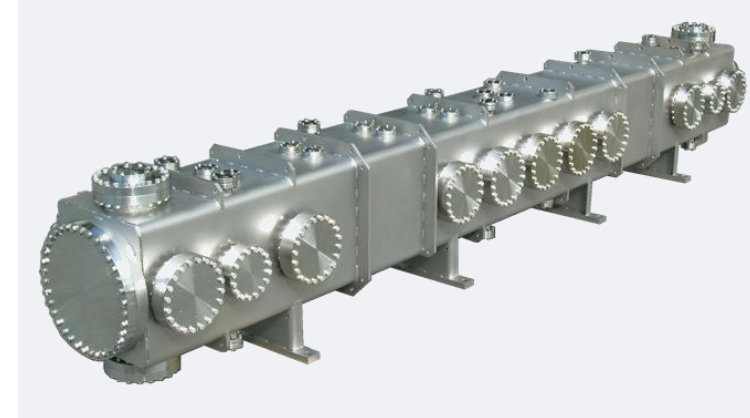
- Established in December 2015 in Parma with the aim to design manufacture, test and supply vacuum systems to the industry and research.
- Since May 2022 is 100% part of the SAES® Group
- Strong increase of sales thanks to the acquisition of large contracts for accelerators ( APS, LBLN, ESRF, CERN...)



## Technology for the accelerator community

- SAES RIAL Vacuum serves both the light sources and colliders communities..
- Typical products/solution for synchrotrons are
  - Chamber for in vacuum & in air-undulator
  - Chambers for the storage rings and special chambers
  - Crotch absorbers, BPM, taper, RF bellows
  - Bunch compressors...

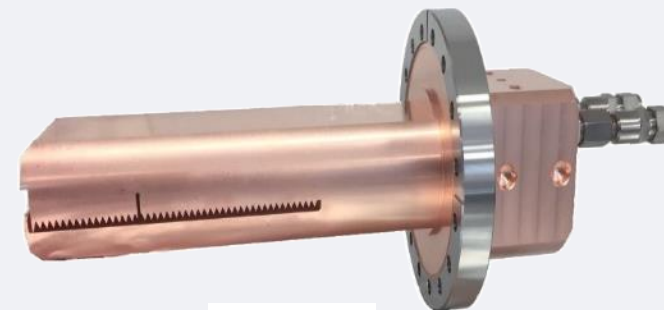
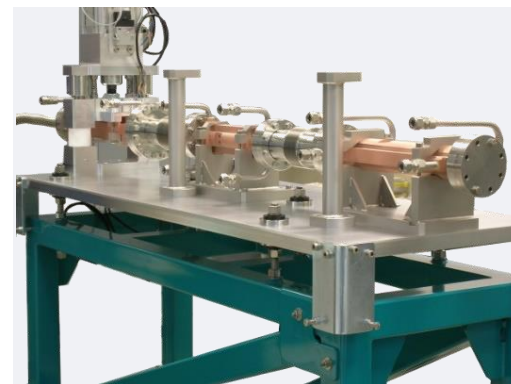
In vacuum undulator chambers



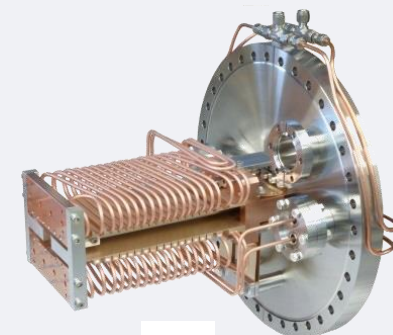
RF Bellows



In air insertion devices



photon absorbers

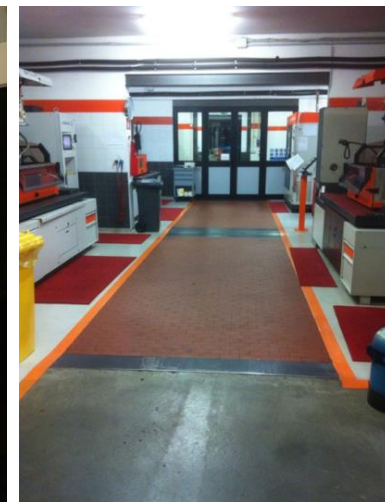
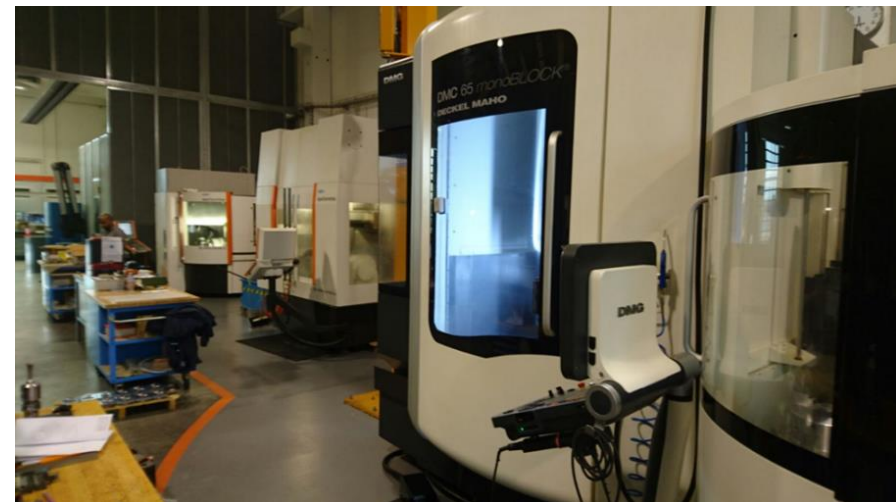


Taper



## SAES RIAL Vacuum manufacturing expertize

- Drilling, turning, CNC machining
- Wire, die sink e micro-hole EDM (electrodischarge machining)
- Laser and TIG/MIG and plasma Welding and marking
- Metrology (faro arm, Zeiss contura...)
- Component /Chambers cleaning and NEG coating (through SAES®)
- Degassing ovens
- CAD/CAM systems



## Recent projects: APS-U @Argonne (2020-2023)

- APS (Argonne Photon Source) the largest US synchrotron upgrade
- SRV has been awarded multiple large contracts for the manufacturing of
  - IDVC 5,5 m long aluminum chamber
  - Photon absorbers
  - Inconel chambers (NEG coated)
  - RF fingers
  - Horizontal collimator chambers
- All the projects are now concluded and chambers delivered



IDVC



IDVC

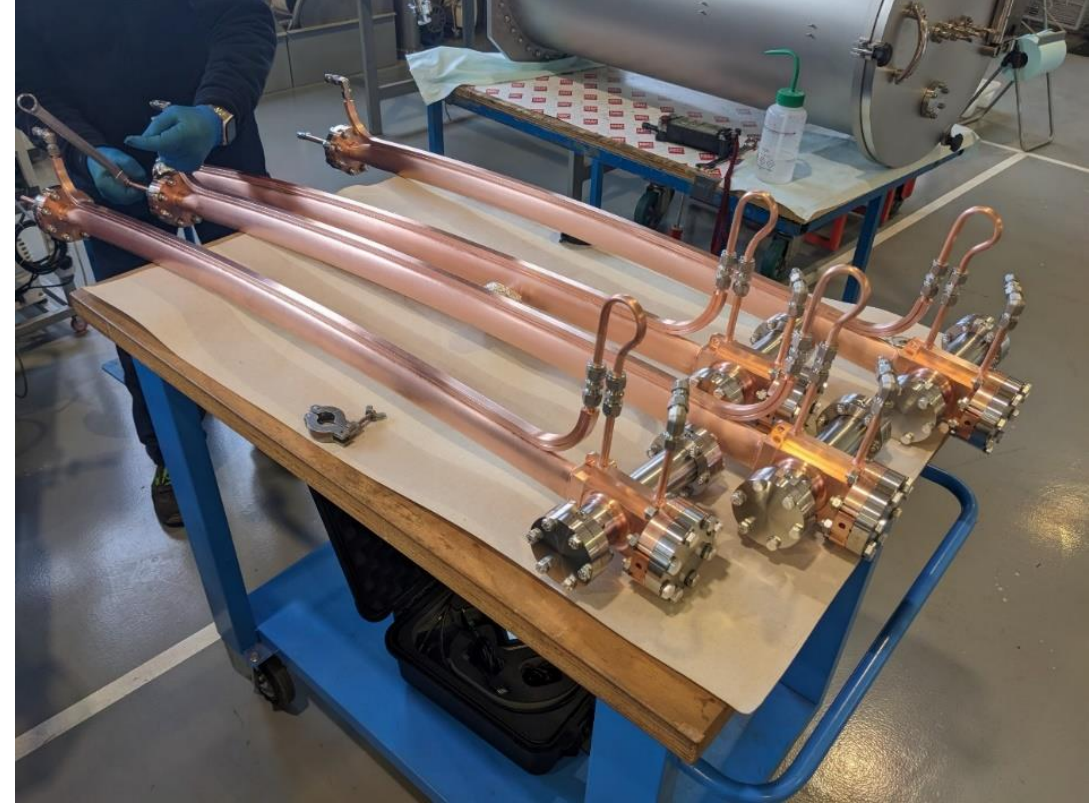


INCONEL

## Recent projects: ALS upgrade@Berkeley (2022-2023)

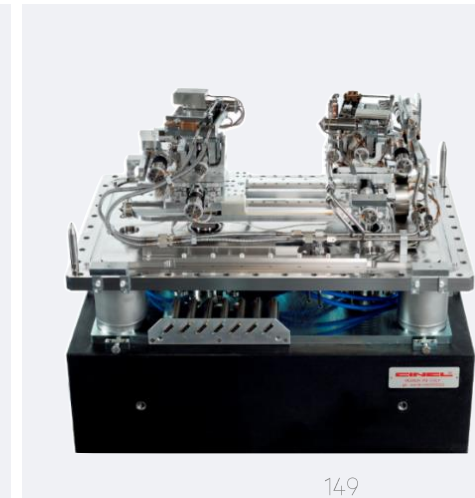
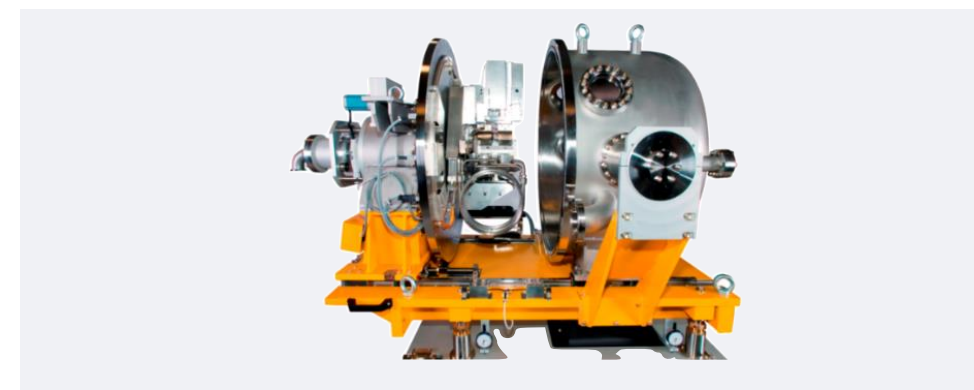
SRV has been awarded multiple contracts for the manufacturing of

- NEG coated Dipole copper chambers
- Multipole copper chambers
- Complex chambers

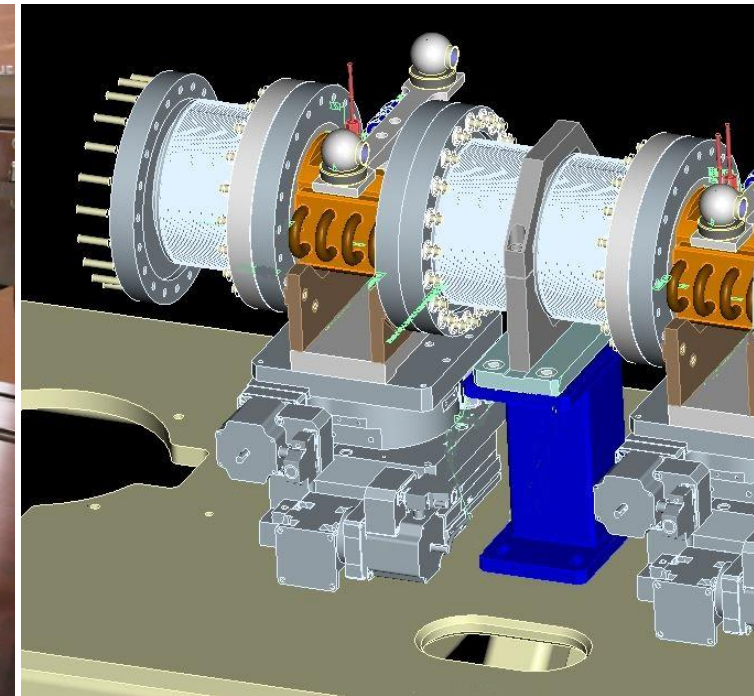
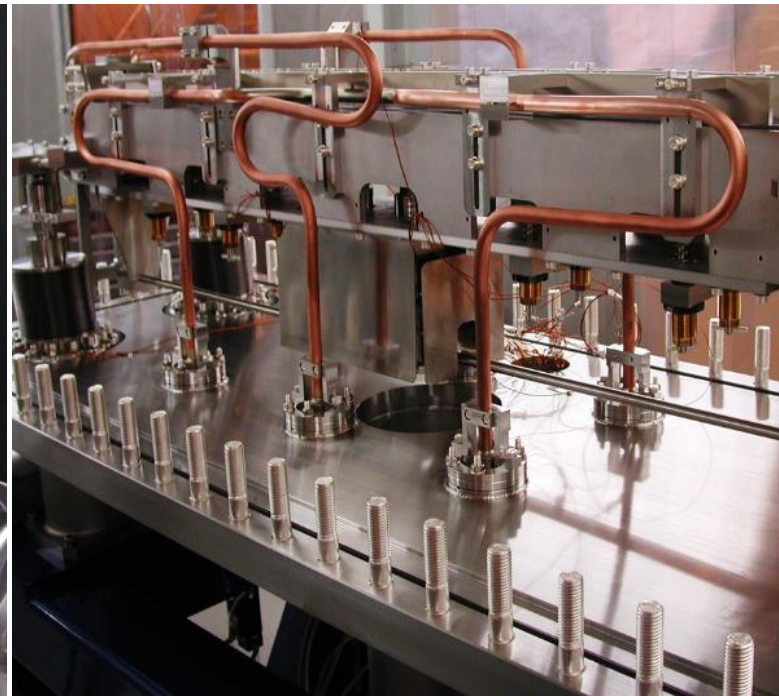
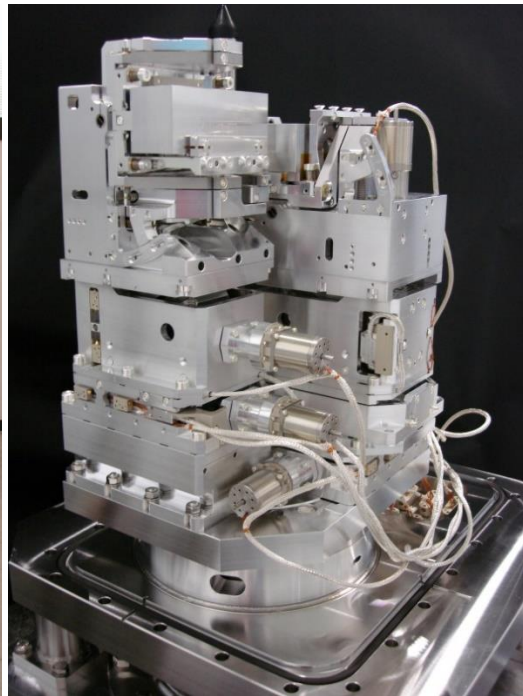
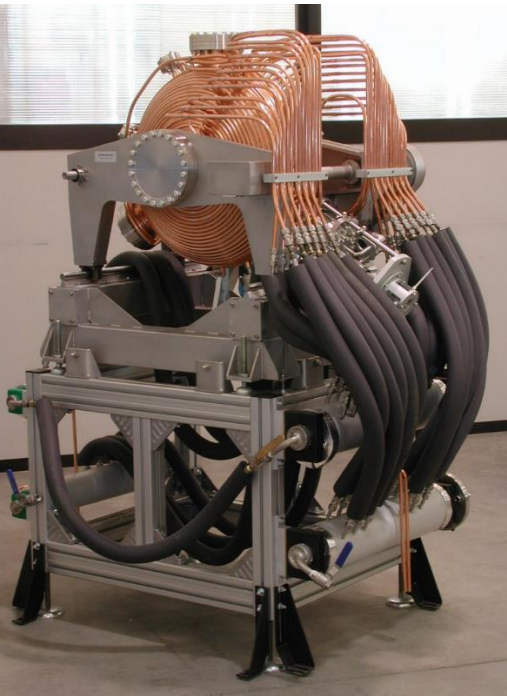


## Strumenti Scientifici Cinel

- Established in Vigonza (PD) in the 70s. Cinel quickly becomes a leading company in the design and manufacturing of components, systems and scientific instrumentation for accelerators.
- Based on 3 plants for a total of 3500 m<sup>2</sup> with distinctive competences:
  - 3D CAD mechanical design and system integration
  - High precision CNC machining
  - EDM machining
  - TIG, MIG & MAG welding, brazing oven
  - Cleaning baths
  - Clean area for assembly
  - Metrology
  - Vacuum testing
  - **Since July 2021 it fully belongs to SAES® Group**

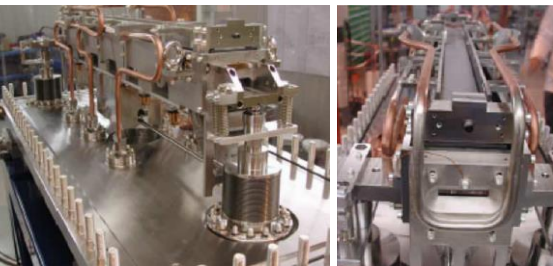
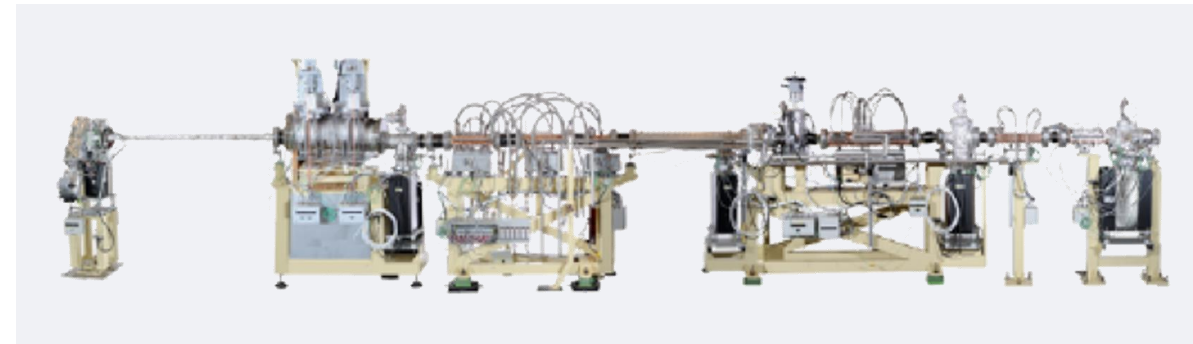


## Cinel: BL and instrumentations for accelerators



## Cinel: BL and instrumentation for synchrotrons

120 Canted Wiggler Front-end  
Diamond Light Source Didcot (UK)



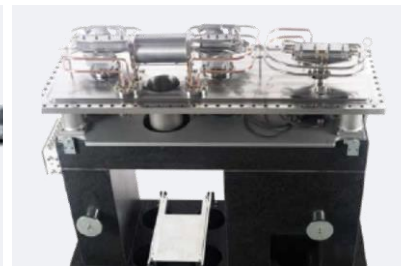
Mirror chamber for Protein Cristallography Beamline (M1)  
X0oDA Swiss Light Source SLS Villigen (Switzerland)



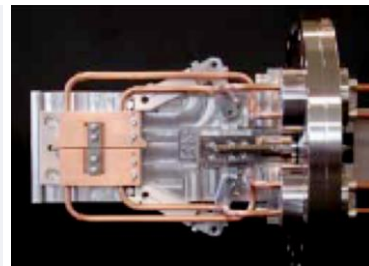
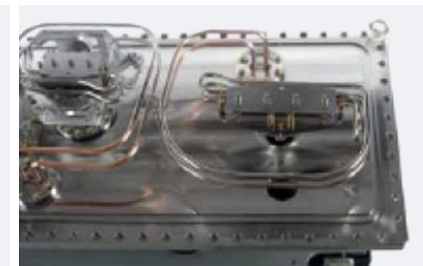
Vacuum Chamber  
Elettra Synchrotron Laboratory Trieste (Italy)



Mirror chamber for X-ray Deimos Beamline  
Synchrotron Soleil Saint-Aubin (France)

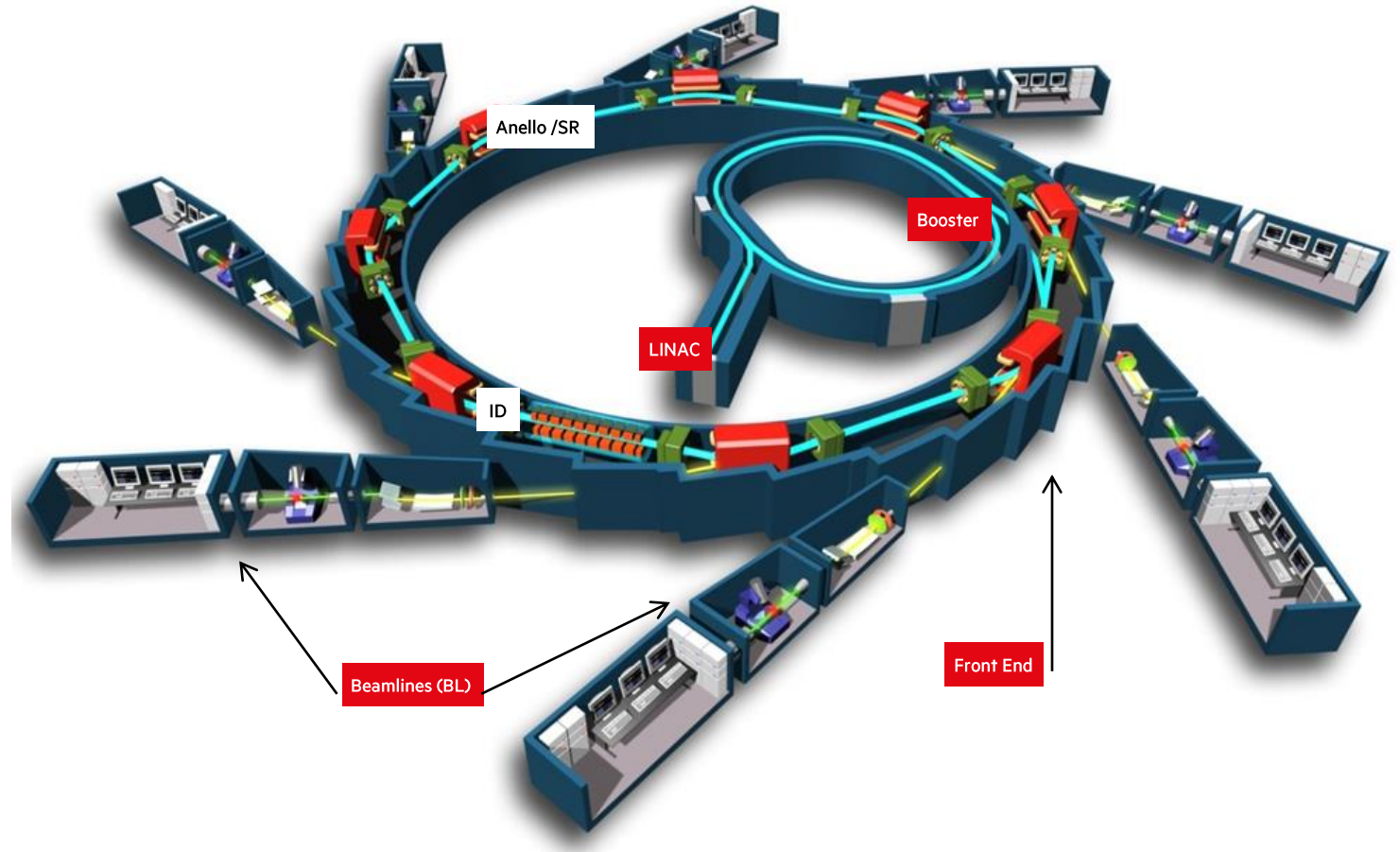


High Precision Water Cooled Slit  
Canadian Light Source-CLC  
Saskatchewan University (Canada)



## The accelerator market

- Through
  - NEG and Vacuum technologies
  - SRV
  - Strumenti Scientifici Cinel
- SAES Group can offer
  - Broad product and solutions portfolio
  - NEG pumps
  - Vacuum chambers
  - Single instruments
  - Complete beamlines



## Integration process

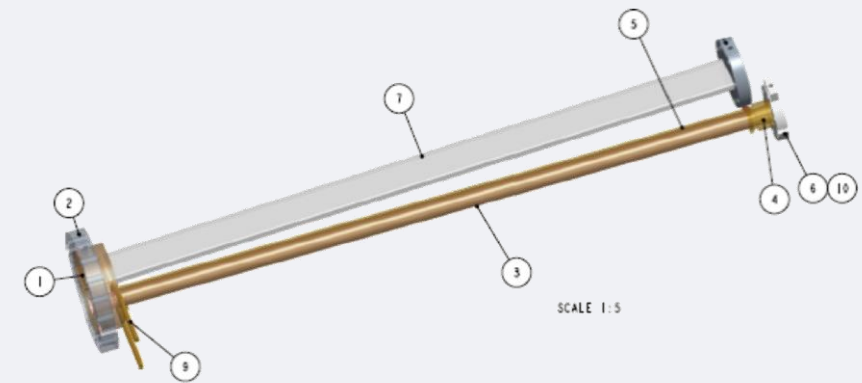
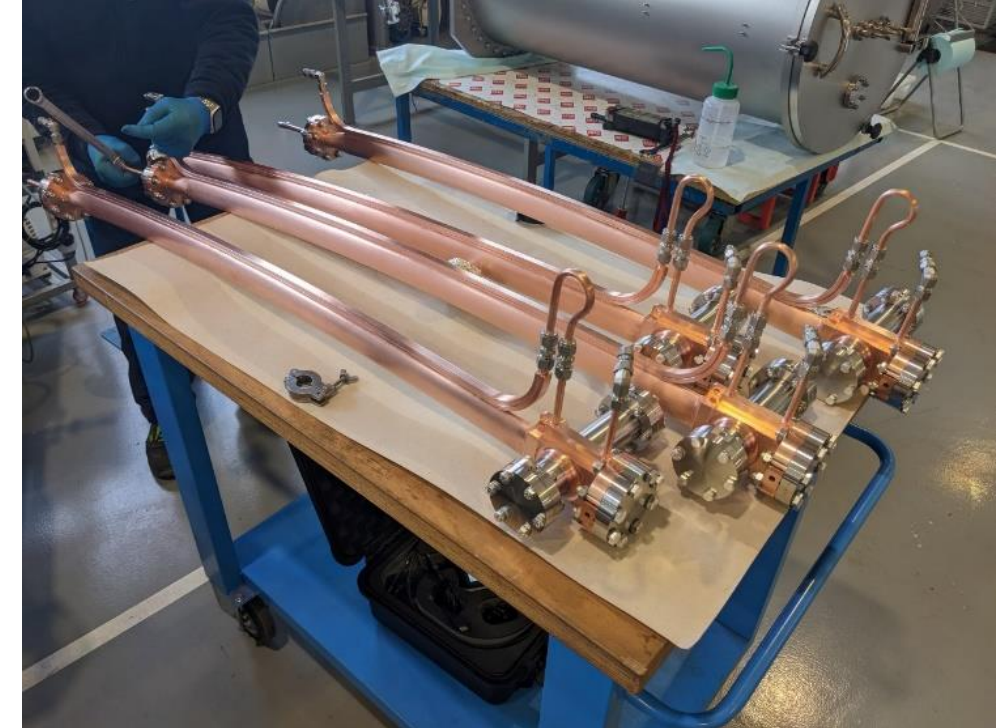
To improve alignment and synergies within the Division a significant number of actions were already taken since the past year

- Cinel and SRV are implementing the same ERP system
- Investment for capital equipment are evaluated at the Division level
- Periodic meetings are held within the Division to align all parties' activities
- In case of tenders only one company within the Division will submit an offer
  - For the supply of pumps: SAES Getters®
  - For vacuum chambers Cinel or SRV, depending on the specific expertise, core technologies, past experience, available capacity and overall competitiveness
  - For beamline instrumentation: Cinel
  - When requested, SAES Getters® will provide the NEG coating to SRV or Cinel at I/C prices



## Past examples

- 200 NEG coated Inconel chambers delivered to APS U
  - Chambers produced and cleaned by SRV
  - NEG coating by SAES®
- Multipole and dipole chambers for LBNL
  - Manufacturing and cleaning by SRV
  - Fine machining and brazing of the pumping block by Cinel.
  - NEG coating done by SAES®.
- Prototypes chambers 3-4 & 6 for DLS II
  - Manufacturing by Cinel
  - Cleaning for NEG coating by SRV
  - NEG coating by SAES®
- Many Others supply and collaborations (SOLEIL, PSI, ELETTRA, KEK, GSI, EIC, TRIUMF, ...)



# **Thank you for your attention**

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**[www.saesgroup.com](http://www.saesgroup.com)**