Virgo Vacuum System

INFN LASA - Jun 13, 2024

A. Pasqualetti on behalf of the team that realized and operates the Virgo Vacuum System

EGO - Virgo Collaboration

VIRGO experiment



a Gravitational Waves Detector designed, built and operated by a collaboration made up of 20 laboratories from 6 countries.

wiener

Vniver§itat d València

Institute of Mathematics Polish Academy of Sciences

... others coming

VIRGO experiment



Gli interessati sono invitati a visitare il sito



SUMMARY



- Virgo Vacuum System
 - Overview
 - Part. Pressure Requirements
 - Chambers
 - Pumping systems
 - Materials compatibility
 - 'Cryotraps'
 - Selected Experiences
- Prospettiva per ET
 - Key figures: layout, size, vacuum levels

Interferometro laser Rivelatore GW



Le parti sensibili dell'interferometro, inclusi gli specchi principali, i sistemi meccanici e il fascio laser, sono mantenute sotto vuoto per ridurre vari disturbi a livelli accettabili.

VACUUM LAYOUT



- 2 x 3 km UHV arms
- Large chambers and cryogenics at extremities



Partial Pressure limits

3 km UHV tubes: low E-9 mbar (H_2 dominant) to lower the statistical fluctuation of the optical path (fluctuaction of residual gas density)

Towers: shall operate down to **low E-8 mbar** (TMs ones) **unbaked**. Molecules hitting the mirrors produce the so-called 'gas damping'

effect [*Cavalleri et al. (2009). Gas damping force noise on a macroscopic test body in an infinite gas reservoir*]

Mirror contamination: Low-volatile molecules < 1E-13 mbar ('one-monolayer' conventional approach). The build-up of deposits on optical surfaces can increase 'absorption and scattering'. [S. Tanioka et al. Optical loss study of molecular layer for a cryogenic interferometric gravitational-wave detector, Phys. Rev. D 102 (2020)]



In principle all present gas species are to be accounted [1]. Noise level $\propto \sim \sqrt{P_i} * \sqrt[4]{m_i} * \alpha_i$

Example, common species wrt N_2 at same pressure: $CO \approx x \ 1.1$, $CH_4 \approx x \ 1.2$, $CO_2 \approx x \ 1.8$, $\sim (\sqrt[4]{m_i} * \alpha_i)/(\sqrt[4]{m_{N_2}} * \alpha_{N_2})$

Contamination of heavy organics ('Hydrocarbons') shall be required as very low: challenging.

^[1] G. Cella et al., Residual pressure noise evaluation, 2008

M. Zucker, S.Whitcomb, Measurement of Optical Path Fluctuations due to Residual Gas in the LIGO 40 Meter Interferometer LIGO Project internal document

VACUUM SNAPSHOT

EUROPEAN

GRAVITATIONAL







VACUUM SCHEMATIC





VACUUM CHAMBERS





TOWERS: two (three) vacuum levels





IVC



Allows the suspension wire passing through in a small pipe with a few mm of clearance. Possible pumping with external ion pump (not used).

Equivalent 'conductance' evaluated from 1.5 l/s to 0.1 l/s N2 if pumping. Field tests: bypass effects in some towers increase Ceq up to 4-5 l/s.

TOWERS: mechanical features

- Ø = 2m, up to 11m high, > 20 ton;
- House complex mechanics (chambers frequencies > 15 Hz, within seismicattenuator range);
- When in air, they works as a cleanroom: allow clean and 'easy' access of personnel to work close to inner optics;



Flanges and seals

- Helicoflex[®] for not-accessed flanges, 20+ years 'welded-like' lifetime.
- Double o-ring (any experience? e.g. wrt residual water permeation)
- Single o-ring (upper parts)



3 km UHV TUBES



- 24000 m² walls!
- They contain "only" optical baffles and the laser beam



TUBE DESIGN: THE MODULE



- Prefabricated modules 15 m long, joined by welding ;
- Raw material 304L, plain walls 4 mm thick + stiffeners every 1.2 m;
- Bellows to allow heating up to 160°C (80 kgf/mm);
- Flanges: only a few on 3 km for pumps and gauges;



AIR-BAKE OUT



Base material conditioning was required to meet vacuum goals (24000 m² walls).

heating at ~ 400°C in air involved a "simple" oven and reduced the hydrogen outgassing by a factor ~ 100; our result: $q(H_2) \leq 3E-14 \text{ mbar.l.s}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-2} @ 20°C$

The industrial specification was: $q(H_2) = 5E-14 - NOT CONTRACTUAL -$



- Applied to finished modules
- Electrical oven, 'sealed' modules
- 410°C +20/-10, plateau 72h
- Hot air purge 8 m³h⁻¹
- 5 days long cycle
- H content raw mat. ≤ 2 ppm wt -CONTRACTUAL -

Past results about 'air bake-out'



FAT tube modules

 RGA test in factory (non contrattuale TBC) ma che ha aiutato a correggere il processo (risciacquo) ed controllare qualità dei moduli.



TUBES: BAKE-OUT in situ



- \circ Chamber at 150°C uniform and at a controlled rate (~1 week for SAT stage)
- o 1 Mwatt to heat one tube (15 cm thick thermal insulation)
- $\,\circ\,$ Joule effect: 2000 A flowing through tube walls
- $\,\circ\,\,$ diesel generators: \sim 10^5 litres of fuel to bake one tube

Normally to be performed just one time.





CNRS INFN				INDEX	DATE	MODIFICATIONS	
	тирг		CIDCUIT		1	NAME/SIGN.	
	IUBE	DAKE	CIRCUII	DRAW	NG		
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SOME DATA of BAKED TUBES





Typical RGA on 'tube' after bake-out



Accumulated gas over 2+ years on a 'tube prototype'

time (hr)



PUMPING SYSTEM



Main requirements: oil free pumps against contamination risk, low acoustic / seismic / magnetic emissions, long maintenance intervals to preserve duty cycle.



Statistic (not updated)

- Roughing/backing dry pumps 22
 - Turbo-molecular pumps
 - Ion pumps
 - Residual gas analyzers
 - Angle valves
 - Gate valves
 - Large valves ø=1000 mm

Gauges

Remote backing pumps



A more recent upgrade: Turbo-molecular pumps permanently running on each tower upper compartment (typical size 1000 l/s) are backed remotely to limit acoustic/seismic disturbances (or discontinuously , this not optimal for hydrogen)

CONTROL SYSTEM HW & SW



- Local or remote operation
- Logic of operation is managed by a PLC
- Interlocks by Supervisor SW



• Data fully integrated in Virgo DAQ (5000 channels @ 1 Hz , < 0.1 % of the total)



Main optics and critical systems concentrated in this area. The challenge is to limit environmental emissions such as mechanical, acoustic, and magnetic vibrations. Turbomolecular pumps: bellows and separate base, shielding of the cable. Not ideal choice. Alternatives? Ion pumps? Dispersed charges... Cryogenics? Noise ... NEG? High load... All of them are present, in different positions.



LIVELLO DI VUOTO DELLE TORRI



The gas load is largely due to the added inner materials!

Increasing along detector upgrades (from V -> V+ -> AdV -> AdV+) while aiming to improve the vacuum in the tubes...

Beyond the 'steady state' level, the recovery time is also important for the duty cycle.







IN-VACUUM COMPONENTS



<u>In-tower components</u> are checked for vacuum compatibility to obtain a sufficiently low overall outgassing (i.e. of water vapor, air species, hydrogen). Partial pressure of potentially contaminating species are to be kept under control as well.



IN-VACUUM CONTAMINATION CONTROL



Deposition of low-volatile species = crucial risk for Virgo optics.

we qualify materials checking the:

- 1. residual gas analysis
- 2. optical losses on dedicated samples







IN-VACUUM CONTAMINATION CONTROL







TUBE PUMPING STATIONS



Every 600 m, taking advantage of the 'enormous' conductance compared to typical ducts in other applications

- Turbomolecular pump 1000 ls⁻¹ for the intermediate phase
- TSP/IP pumps 2000 Is⁻¹ H_2 for the permanent phase
- Valves: "Viton" for the gates ('evacuated' to limit permeation)
- spares @ 300m
- requires a 'clean' and protected area, UPS mains and network.



CRYOGENIC PUMPS & EQUIPMENT



Installed between 'unbaked towers' and 'baked tubes' (added in a second stage) LN2 consumption 2000 l/day from 3 'horizontal tanks, 50 m³ total capacity. Refill operations affect the scientific duty cycle.



Function is to pump water vapor coming from towers





CRYOGENIC PUMPS & EQUIPMENT



a 2m long cylindrical section cooled at 77K pumping the water vapor coming from 'towers' chambers (*originally used by LIGO*).







LARGE VACUUM VALVES





4 DN1000 Valves to isolate the 'tubes' from the 'towers'

- Stainless steel body, air-baked
- Metal sealed(the only large flanged joint)
- Viton o-ring on the gate (single)
- \circ Bakeable at 150°C
- o Expensive

Outgassing data *(old, meas. in factory):* < 5E-8 mbar.l.s⁻¹ - stainless steel body, H₂ < 5E-7 mbar.l.s⁻¹ - Viton[®] seal on the gate , baked;

7 DN650/400 Valves to isolate the 'towers' from each other



Selected Experiences

Operation

• Frequent access to 'towers' during 'Commissioning phases' (not optimal for the TSPs).



 Super-quiet operation in 'Observing phases': long-time data taking with undisturbed vacuum along ≈ 1y, with maintenance breaks of 4 h / week.

'3 km Tubes' Venting

- **Recovery richiederebbe mesi di fermo ITF** La procedura di bake-out richiede l'interruzione delle operazioni per diversi mesi, complicando notevolmente il ripristino.
- Massima attenzione a non compromettere il vuoto durante le operazioni e gli interventi in torre. Per garantire la sicurezza e l'efficienza delle operazioni.
- Impianto di venting con N2 (LN2): utile in caso di manutenzione straordinaria?
 - L'uso di LN2 per il venting riduce la presenza di acqua, ma la percentuale esatta è sconosciuta.
 - È possibile quantificare il tempo di ripristino associato a questa procedura?

Monitoraggio del vuoto con RGA

- Several RGAs (old) normally OFF, used for maintenances (1 per tower + 1 per tube station)
- Some RGAs, 'in pairs', online 24/7 . Mostly in 'Faraday mode', 50 uma or 200 uma range. Installed close to pumps or 'in the middle'.
- Long term stability? Aging ? Spurius peaks build-up ?



"Calibration" checks ?

Gauges are installed in a 'attached chamber' (with a gate valve). Pros: easy maintenance; Cons: possible influence on measurements (even if baked).

Gauges are initially 'checked' in lab, then left in-situ for years.

A possible 'check' in-situ: 1 point with a calibrated leak of N2 (H2) and a "known" speed at a relatively high pressure ?







TUBE PUMPING STATIONS

- Varie turbo-molecolari sono in funzione 24/7 anche sui tubi, specialmente vicino alle torri.
- Affidabilità delle backing pumps meccaniche e della loro manutenzione.
- Stiamo testando piccole pompe ioniche, che sembrano funzionare bene.
- Esperienze in merito?





TSPs pumps



- 1 sublimation every 2 months or similar.
- Those near the towers saturate after a few days (all gas species) and are not used.
- The ones in the middle of the tube appear saturated with other species but still pump H2 (different sites?!).
- Unable to replicate this in the lab.
- Effects of gas release ?







'WINDOW' SEPARATIONS



 Vacuum tight glass separation are in use to allow beam passage between chambers at different vacuum levels. May become limiting for the experiment (or for vacuum when removed). Not a valid solution for critical areas.





VIEWPORT RISKS



Order of 90 viewports needed, mostly standard ones. Dedicated policy against breaking risks in force. Further mitigation actions shall be implemented (external screen).



Breaking event of a viewport, 2008 **Risk = defect + stress x time** Glass/KOVAR joint design was the origin of the stress (SSV)

LN2 BUBBLING



LN2 boiling inside cryostats is a possible source of noise (mechanical vibrations): accurate design to avoid 'heat concentration spots', seismic isolation of the cryostat, large walls opening.



Increase of the seismic vibrations of cryostat walls due to LN2 bubbling

DUST PARTICLES vs QUARTZ FIBERS



Dust particles of a few μ m and travelling at some m/s inside chambers has been recognized as the main cause of failure of quartz fibers

- Venting circuit re-designed
- Primary pumps (scroll type) replaced
- Guards added to fibers





Electrostatic forces may play a role...

CHARGES ACCUMULATION



 Static charge can build-up on TMs after months of service under vacuum (in Virgo estimated at level of E-9 C) = neutralization device needed.





ET PROJECT VACUUM SYSTEM



Six independent (nested) systems of 10 kilometer-scale

Huge **Pipes** (volume, length, surface) for the circulation of the laser beam: **world-largest UHV !**

Towers chambers, hosting the scientific equipment.

Combined together by very large **cryogenic pumps**.

Cryostats housing 10K mirrors and cryogenic payloads .

To be realized **underground** (bake-out, installation, operation).

Size (Costs): a primary challenge.



ET LAYOUT



• Two different layouts:



ET Conceptual Design 3 x (HF+LF) 10 km arms (+ filter cavities)

120+ km long UHV tubes

Virgo 3 km arms (+ 300m FC)

6 km long UHV tubes

ET L_case 1 x (HF+LF) 15 km arms (+ filter cavities)

60+ km long UHV tubes

ET PROJECT VACUUM SYSTEM





VACUUM CHALLENGES



- Chambers realization costs
- Chambers realization schedule
- Vacuum Systems installation schedule
- Vacuum Systems performances

VACUUM CHALLENGES



Not to mention cryogenics:

Cryopumps up to $\approx 30 \text{ m x} \notin 1 \text{ m}$ at 4K or below

VACUUM CHALLENGES - 1



Outgassing database

Buildup & maintenance requires a <u>wide effort</u> *Possibly useful for the whole vacuum community*

I		() Compone	nt		Q Op measur	otical rements	2 Vacuum measurements																			
	Item	Hanufacturer	Main	History	Optical	Optical	Test				mb	ar-I/s			Q_НС	Q_HC Preparation peaks (highlight) I>44) E m/z)	Preparation	Preparation	Proparation	Preparation	Pre-baking			Notes	Installation	Reference
			material		Check	losses (ppm)	procedure	0_H2O @24h	Q_Н20 ⊕100Н	Q_H20 @1000H	<u>о</u> на	Q_N2+OTHERS @24h	Q_N2+OTHERS @100h	Q_HC (level>44)	(peaks N>44) (m/z)		Done?	Temperature (°C)	Hours	s	scenario					
1	Baffle PCB#10-21	IFAE	Pyralux AP		Absolute losses @LMA	0.50	throughtput method	1.03e-8	5.43e-9	1.94e-9			3.31e-11	5.00e-13		IPA cleaning	Yes	70	168	After pre-baking, one day in a clean room 1905.	Mirror compartment	IMC Instrumented Baffle, Ref. IFAE- <u>PC8#10-21</u>				
1	AI EN Aw~6061	N.A.	Al EN AW-6061		No		throughtput method	4.86e-10	1.17e-10	1.17e-11	5.50e-14					Factory Cleaning	No			Q_H2O : Q=Qo ^x t^-alpha, with Qo=4.2er3(Pa L sr1 cmr2) and alpha=1	Lower compartment	NIST: DOI: 10.1116/6.0000657				
1	A151 316L Vacuum Fired	N.A.	AISI 316L		No		throughtput method	8.64e-11	2.43e-11	3.21e-12	5.10e-14					Factory Cleaning	No			Vacuum fire process: 950°C for 24h Q_H2O ; Q=Qo°t^-alpha, with Qo=3.30a-4(Pa L s-1 cm-2) and alpha=0.91	Lower compartment	NIST: DOI: 10.1116/6.0000657				
1	A151 316L	N.A.	AISI 316L		No		throughtput method	1.20e-10	3.09e-11	3.48e-12	1.000-12					Factory Cleaning	No			Q_H2 : conventional outgassing rate Q_H20 : Q=Qo*t^-alpha, with Qo=7.25e+4(Pa L s-1 cm-2) and alpha=0.95	Lower compartment	NIST: DOI: 10.1116/6.0000657				
1	A151 304L	N.A.	AISI 304L	8	No		throughtput method	2.680-10	4.190-11	2.10e-12	1.00e-12					Factory Cleaning	No			Q_H2 : conventional outgassing rate Q_H20 : Q=Qo+tr~alpha, with Qo=7.00e-2(Pa L s-1 cm-2) and alpha=1.3	Lower compartment	NIST: DOI: 10.1116/6.0000657				

Chambers realization



A new specification for GW vacuum chambers:

- limits for particle concentration on walls to be included for • chambers realization
- A standard to refer -> ISO 14644-9:2022
- Need to define wanted limits and measurement tools •

Solutions are to be found both to control the surfaces during the fabrication process and to monitor the tower chambers when in service



• Backup slides

Viewports



- Large number of viewports, e.g. 1000, large dimensions, of different base materials and possibly exposed to high power beams .
- Policy and solutions against breakage risks must be foreseen already during the design phase.
- In addition, they are a possible source of disturbance for the ITF



Current observing plans



TUBE MODULES JOINTS





Detector Sensitivity

amplitude spectral density of the interferometer main signal (expressed in strain). The detector sensitivity improves as the curve is lowered. The best sensitivity achieved in the frequency range of 100 - 1000 Hz. The residual gas in the 3 km tubes and in the towers contributes minimally to the interferometer signal.



Fig. 1 Estimate of the noise due to the residual gas in the 3 km arms for the present configuration (O3). The AdV goal is added for comparison. The partial pressures in the computation are reported in tab.1.

Gas specie	Partial Pressure	Noise
	[mbar]	[E-25 Hz-4.3]
Total	1E-8	26
H ₂	2E-9	3
H ₂ O	3E-9	11
$N_2 + O_2 + others$	5E-9	19
Hydrocarbon 100 uma	1E-12	3
Hydrocarbon 300 uma	1E-12	10
PFPE lubricant	1E-12	10



Fig.1 Strain equivalent noise amplitudes for the two considered scenarios, compared with some sensitivity predictions. The parameters used in the computation are reported in tab.1.

Case	Total pressure	N2 Pressure	H2O Pressure	R ETM	h ETM	M ETM	R ITM	h ITM	M ITM
	[mbar]	[mbar]	[mbar]	լոյ	լոյ	[kg]	լոյ	լոյ	[kg]
03/04	2E-8	1E-8	1E-8	0.175	0.2	50.2	0.175	0.2	50.2
O5	1E-8	5E-9	5E-9	0.25	0.2	80.0	0.175	0.2	50.2

ARM TUBE BAFFLES





- make the modules non-interchangeable
- a few of different type at arms extremities



Cleanroom service



Credits: M.Perciballi

- Towers lower compartments are a 'classified' environment for dust particles concentration (airborne)
- Flushed with HEPA filtered air and kept monitored







IN-VACUUM COMPONENTS



• Pre-bake of non-metal components (sometimes of large size) for conditioning and cleaning step (motors, magnets, cablings, PEEK)



Known Leaks Register

ld	LR (mbar.l/s)	position	detection date
Tower NE UP	5E-4	upper Virole (viton set?)	Dec 2017
Tower NE LP	2E-7	port DN62, position = DN1000_Southface_Wside_upper	Jan 2018
2700W	closed ?		2017
Tower MC	1E-5	first virole bottom joint	< 2017
Cryotrap WE	high	V31 - likely seal compressione set	2018
Cryotrap NE	high	V21 - likely seal compressione set	2018
Tower IB	1E-6?	inner box (Indium sealed, possibly becoming hot)	< 2017
Tower SR	?	P71 side bypass	< 2017
Tower WE	3E-6	joint above the technical ring (new o-ring)	Mar 2018
Tower BS	1E-6	DN250CF flange joint of new venting circuit, upper part	Mar 2018

PUMPING SYSTEM

General Requirements: cleanliness from HC, large throughput

Permanent service:

mech. vibration free, pressure stability, and long maintenance interval

3 successive stages	Vacuum level	Choices
1. TRANSIENT viscous pumpdown)	1 atm to 0.1 mbar	Dry pumps system 80h for one tube, 24h for one tower
2. TRANSIENT "molecular" pumpdown & baking	0.1 mbar to 1E-7 mbar	Turbopump + scroll stage (gas is evacuated from chamber)
3. PERMANENT UHV	UHV	Titanium Getter Ion for noble gases (gas is "trapped") A few regenerations/year
3. PERMANENT HV	HV	Magnetic turbopump + scroll stage 2 interventions/year



3 km ROUGHING DOWN



ACTUAL TUBE GEOMETRY

Due to GROUND SUBSIDENCE, tube foundations are sinking at a speed of the order of 1mm/month. Tubes are surveyed and periodically realigned to avoid mechanical stress.



DUST PARTICLES vs QUARTZ FIBERS



The last stage of seismic attenuator is realized with fibers made of fused silica (0.4 mm diameter).







ET – Arm tubes: pumping stations

Concentrated pumping stations is the 2G solution. Enough?

EINSTEIN

Distributed pumping: is an option to be explored:

- normally needed to push the vacuum limits.
- implementation in a 'big' GW pipe is to be studied.





Design linked to civil infrastructure

Option 1: dedicated 'enlargements' @ 500 m (spares every 250 m)

Option 2: a larger tunnel (or a better arranged space and good environment).

'SQUEEZING' VACUUM LINE

2.14e-07 mbar) 🌗

SOLDETT

SQZ300N



Recently added: 300 m long pipe, ø = 250 mm. Residual pressure $\approx 10^{-6}$ mbar

