

Low Energy Electrons significance in gravitational wave detector technology

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Gravitational wave detectors



Gravitational wave detectors

The forthcoming 3rd generation of GW detectors aims to <u>extend and increase the detection sensitivity</u>



ET Steering Committee Editorial Team, Design Report Update (2020)

10⁻²¹

Auriga

Electrostatic charging on test masses of GW detector

- Unclear in origin, quantity and even sign
- Effects of charging:
- Interferers with optical position control
- Accumulation and motion of charges can generate fluctuating electric fields that could move the test mass at frequencies in the interferometer's sensitive band
- Attracts dust, reducing reflectance, increasing scattering and absorption

Potentially limiting noise source



Charging mitigation at a-LIGO (Room Temperature)

Mirror exposure to some tenth of mbar of a N₂ plasma for a long time (~1 h)



D. Ugolini et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum., 82, 046108 (2011)

FIG. 4. Contour plots of charge density before (left) and after (right) discharging. Each contour corresponds to 2×10^{-13} C/cm².

Can this method be applied at Cryogenic Temperature?

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For T~10 K and p<10⁻¹⁰ mbar, the most common residual gas species in a UHV chamber (except H_2 and He) will be adsorbed, forming a molecular ice ("frost") on the surface

Cryosorption depends on:

- surface temperature
- gas partial pressure

If the LIGO neutralization method will be applied at cryogenic temperature, a significant layer (~mm) of the injected N₂ will be cryosorbed on the mirror surface

Dramatic effects on optical properties and thermal noise



From KAGRA experience (Cryogenic Temperature)





99.4

10-9

FIG. 1. Schematic drawing of the optical loss in the test mass mirror. The scattering and absorption lead to less arm cavity power, which decreases the sensitivity of GWDs. Furthermore, the optical absorption introduces an additional heat load to a cryogenic mirror.

K. Hasegawa et al., Phys Rev. D, 99, 022003 (2019)

10⁻⁷

Water Layer Thickness [m]

10⁻⁸

10⁻⁶

10-5

S. Tanioka et al., Phys Rev. D, 102, 022009 (2020)

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From KAGRA experience (Cryogenic Temperature)



S. Tanioka et al., Phys Rev. D, 102, 022009 (2020)

Langmuir (L) unit:

1 L = 1.33 x 10⁻⁶ mbar x 1s

gas exposure of a surface (or dosage)



For sticking coefficient S_c = 1: **1 L ~ 1 Monolayer (ML) cryosorbed** for H₂O, 1 ML ~ 0.3 nm

 \rightarrow If P_{H20} ~ 1x 10⁻¹⁰ mbar, it takes 10.000 s (~3h) to build up a ML



→ If P_{H2}O ~ 1x 10⁻¹² mbar, it takes 1.000.000 s (~300 h) to build up a ML → Timescale compatible with continuous data taking!



Possible if a charging mitigation method compliant with cryogenics is proved!

Low energy electrons to both mitigate charging issues and to remove frost from mirrors' surface of future GW detectors

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Charging mitigation and SEY

On a dielectric, the charge left on the surface depends on the energy of the impinging electrons



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This can very well explain the mirrors electrostatic charge, its inhomogeneity and sign uncertainty

Charging mitigation and SEY



We suggested to use **electrons** of variable but **low energy** (between 10 to 100 eV) to **neutralize** unwanted **electrostatic charge on test mass mirrors**. Low energy selected electrons can indeed compensate charges of both polarity on mirror optics.

Low energy electrons to neutralize electrostatic charging



0 250 500 750 1000 Electron energy (eV) The energy of the incident electrons can be opportunely tuned to neutralize positive and negative charges on the mirror's dielectric surface



Low energy electrons to neutralize electrostatic charging

Fundamental detailed SEY investigation of specific materials (as the ones composing optics in GW detectors) ——

- SEY measurements on insulators (critical from the measuring point of view) → useful comparison with simulations
- Understanding of charging mechanisms and charge distribution in such kind of materials
- Taking into account environmental conditions and external interactions



S. C. Tait et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 011102 (2020)

Each layer has a thickness of the order of hundreds of nm



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SEY at cryogenic temperatures



Residual gas in a vacuum at cryogenic temperature

SEY of cold surfaces influenced by gas physisorption



SEY at cryogenic temperatures



Fundamental SEY investigation of gas condensed on a cryogenic surface



1000

10 L

0 L

Low energy electrons to mitigate frost by electron Stimulated Desorption (ESD)



Electrons efficiently induce molecular ice nonthermal desorption!





Low energy electrons to mitigate frost by electron Stimulated Desorption (ESD)

In the limit of low-energy electrons, the desorption yield is almost proportional to the total energy of the electron, since all of the energy is deposited near the surface



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- ESD measurements critical from the measuring point of view (fine RGA) → useful comparison with simulations
- ESD is a complex matter → the study of the process and its interpretation is of fundamental importance

Low energy electrons to mitigate frost by electron Stimulated Desorption (ESD)

If $P_{eff} \sim 1x10^{-10}$ (H₂O,CO,CO₂, etc) mbar;

sticking coefficient = 1

→ 1 monolayer (~ 10^{15} mol/cm² ~ 0.3 nm) will be cryosorbed in 10.000 s. (~ 2.5nm/day ~ 10 times less than in KAGRA)

If we assume a mean ESD η= 0.1 mol./electron (as for H₂O) @ 100eV. (R. Dupuy et al. J. Appl. Phys. 128, 175304, 2020)

To remove **1** ML we need an el. current of: **~ 1 mAmps/cm² in one second**

... depositing less than 100 mW/ML/cm² (not all el. energy goes in thermal heat!)

All in UHV, with marginal heating up of the mirrors and (possibly) reduced downtime. Deserves further investigation!



Low energy electrons and defects formation



Low energy electrons do not significantly penetrate into the mirror surface due to their low mean free path, so that **minimal effects on mirror quality are expected**.

Any defects formation could spoil the mirrors' sensitivity.

→ The accurate investigation of the effects induced by electrons irradiation is mandatory

Summary and conclusion

 Low energy electrons may have great significance in gravitational wave detector technology since they can contribute to solve charging and frost issues at cryogenic temperature

 A huge effort is mandatory from the fundamental point of view to go deep into the basic aspects of the electron-matter interaction

Thank you for your attention

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