

Vacuum Science and Technology for Accelerator Vacuum Systems

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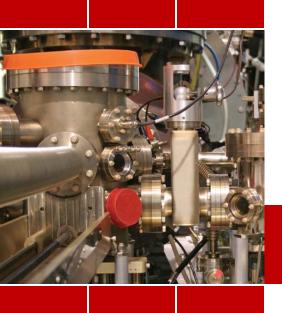


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- Sources of Gases
- Vacuum Instrumentation
- Vacuum Pumps
- Vacuum Components/Hardware
- Vacuum Systems Engineering
- Accelerator Vacuum Considerations, etc.

SESSION 4.2-4.4: CAPTURE PUMPS

- As named, these types of pumps operate by capturing gas molecules and binding them to a surface.
- The captured gases may be chemically bonded (chemisorbed), condensed (physisorbed), and/or buried.
- Capture pumps are naturally very clean. There are no moving parts, thus no lubrications, no noises. (But there may be particulates!)
- Most capture pumps have finite pumping capacity. After reaching the capacity, a pump has to be regenerated, or/and replaced. As such, a vacuum system needs to be 'roughed' down before a capture pump become functional.
- A good reference: Kimo M. Welch, "Capture Pumping Technology", 2nd Ed. Elsevier, North-Holland, 2006

Capture Pumping - Category



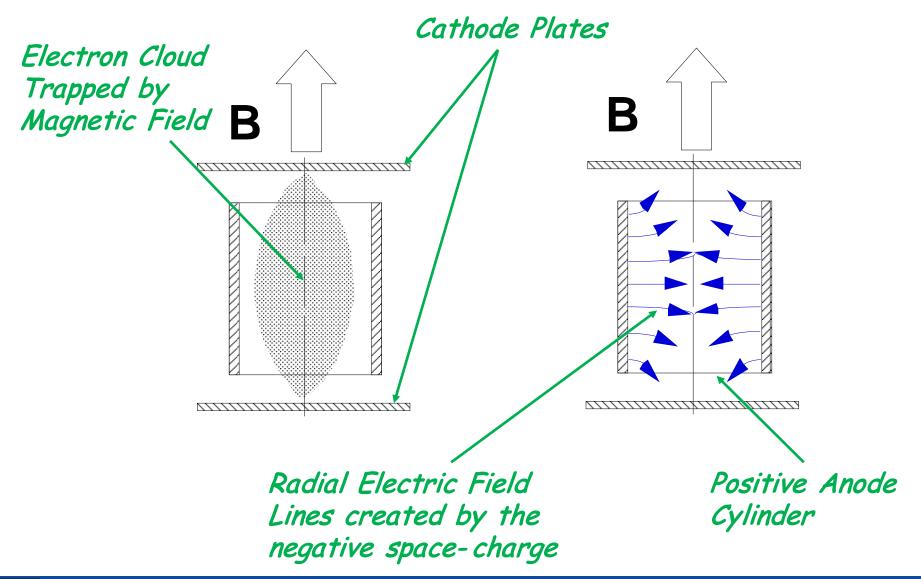
	Pumps	Properties
Active Pumping	Sputtering Ion Pumps	 Pump all gases, including noble gases Working range: 10⁻⁵ ~ 10⁻¹¹ torr Very high lifetime capacity
Passive Pumping Physi- sorption	Sorption pumps	 Pump most air gases Limited capacity Working range: atm. ~ 10⁻⁴ torr
	Cryo-pumps	 Pump all gases (except helium) Working range: 10⁻⁵ ~ 10⁻¹¹ torr Very high capacity
Passive Pumping Chemi- sorption	Titanium sublimation pumps (TiSPs)	 Pump chemically active gases only Working range: 10⁻⁶ ~ 10⁻¹¹ torr Capacity limited by Ti-covered surface area
	Non-evaporable getter pumps (NEGs)	 Pump chemically active gases only Working range: 10⁻⁶ ~ 10⁻¹¹ torr Higher capacity than TiSPs, very high capacity for H₂.

SESSION 4.2: SPUTTER-ION PUMPS

- Sputter-ion pumps were first commercialized by Varian Associates (now Agilent Technologies, Vacuum Division) as VacIon pumps
- Ion pumps are made of a cluster of Penning cells, thus the pumping speed scales with number of cells.
- Advantages of ion pumps:
 - → Very clean (UHV or chemically speaking)
 - → Wide working pressure range, and for all gases
 - → (Almost) unlimited pumping capacity
- Some concerns of ion pumps:
 - → May generate particulates (metallic particles from cathodes)
 - → Stray magnetic field may affect low energy particle beams
 - → Space and weight
 - → Radiation hardness of HV cables and controllers

Penning Cell and Penning Discharge





Penning Cell Sensitivity



$$S = \frac{I^+}{P^n}$$

Where I^+ = ion current (Amps) P = pressure (Torr) n = 1.05 ~ 1.50

Parameters Affecting Penning Cell Sensitivity



Anode Voltage

V

3.0 - 7.0 kV

Magnetic Field

B

0.1 - 0.2 T

Cell Diameter

d

1.0 - 3.0 cm

Cell Length

/

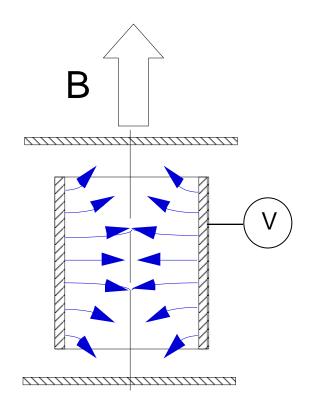
1.0 - 3.2 cm

Anode-Cathode

Gap

a

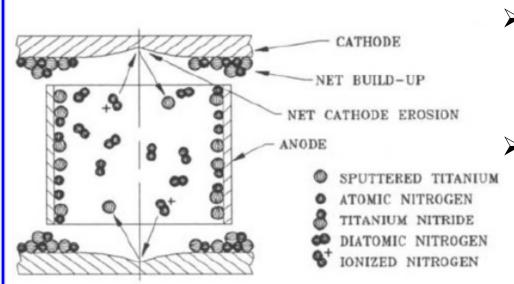
0.6 - 1.0 cm



SIP Pumping Mechanism – General



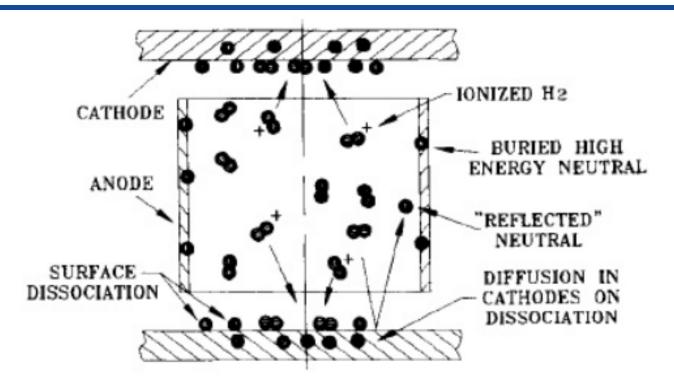
- ☐ An electron 'cloud' build up inside anode cell in the cross-field. The electron cloud may be started with field-emitted electrons, photoelectrons or radiations.
- The electrons gain kinetic energy in orbiting trajectories, ionize gas molecules by impact.
- ☐ While electrons from ionization contribute to the e-cloud, ions are accelerated towards cathode plates, and sputter off cathode materials.



- Gas molecules may be bonded to the 'fresh' cathode material, that is, chemi-sorption
- Or may be buried by the sputtered cathode atoms, that is, physical embedment. This is the main pumping mechanism for noble gases.

SIP Pumping Mechanism – Hydrogen





Sputtering Ion Pumps pump hydrogen gas differently. Hydrogen pumping is a two-step process:

- Hydrogen molecules dissocatively chemisorb on fresh metallic cathode surface
- Adsorbed H atoms then diffuse into the bulk of the cathodes



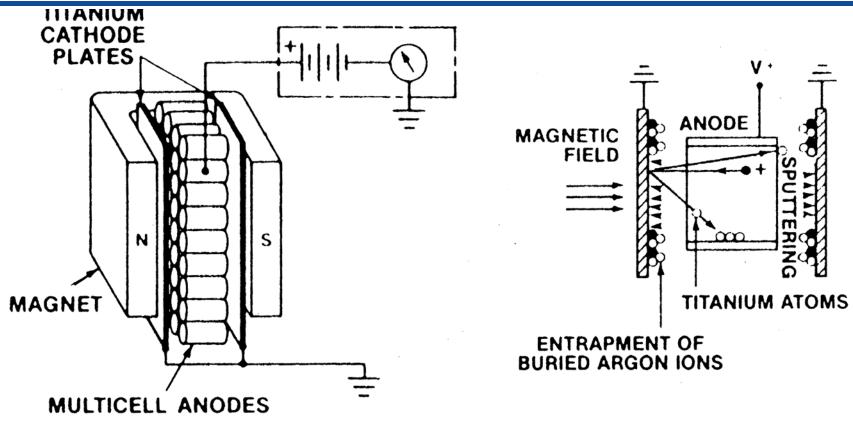
Types of Ion Pumps



- Diode Most commonly used. Best for UHV systems where 98% of the gas is hydrogen. Diodes have the highest hydrogen pumping speed.
- Differential (Noble Diode) Optimized for pumping noble gases, with a compromise for hydrogen pumping speed. This pump has reduced hydrogen pumping speed.
- Triode/Starcell good hydrogen pumping speed, also pumps argon well. Good choice for pumping down from higher pressures often.

Diode sputter-ion pump



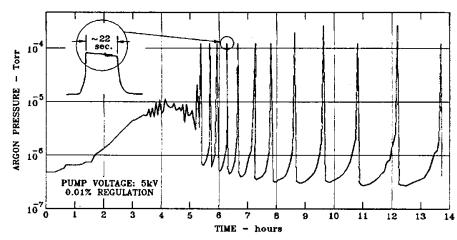


In a diode ion pump, both cathode plates are commonly made of titanium, due to its high sputtering yields and chemical reactivity

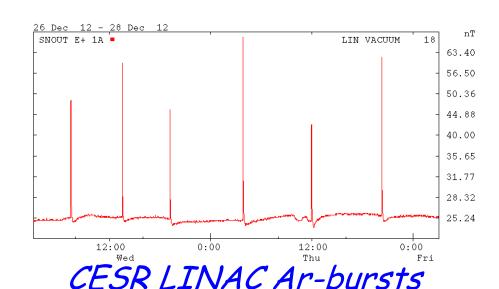
Argon Instability of Diode Ion Pump



- Periodic pressure bursts observed for diode ion pump while pumping air or gas mixtures containing inert gases.
- This phenomena is usually referred as "argon instability", and the burst gas is mostly Ar.
- The sources of the argon bursts are believed from buried argon (or other noble gases) in the cathode, and then release by sputtering processes.



SLAC Ar-bursts



Differential Ion (Noble Diode) Pumps

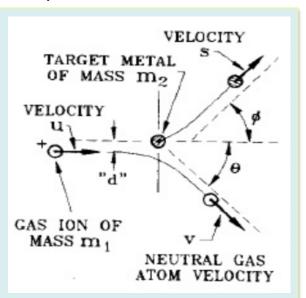


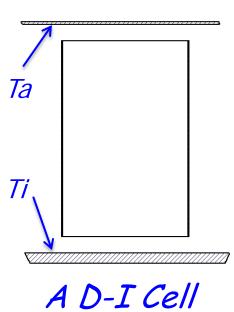
- ☐ In the so-called differential diode pumps, one of the Ti cathode plates is replaced with a heavy metal (commonly tantalum). The argoninstability is no longer an issue in the DI pumps.
- The enhanced noble gas pumping performance has been explained by a so-called fast neutral theory. The theory claims that the Ar+ neutralized on cathode surface, and Ar scatters and buried in anode surface. When this occurs on heavier metals, Ar neutral maintains higher velocity, thus buried deeper.

Fast Neutral Theory

$$\frac{v}{u} = \frac{\cos\theta + \left(R^2 - \sin\theta\right)^{1/2}}{R+1}$$

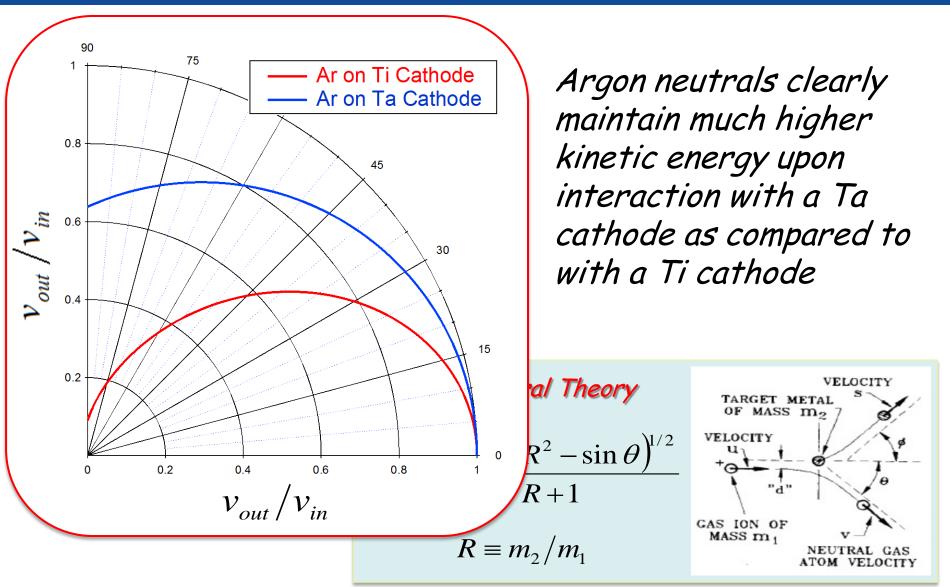
$$R \equiv m_2/m_1$$





Neutral Ar Kinetic Energy - Ti vs. Ta Cathode





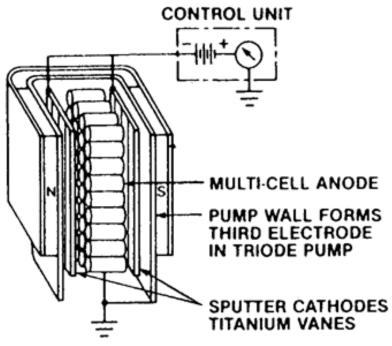
Noble Diode vs. Diode Pumps



Gas	Noble Diode	Diode	
H ₂	160%	220%	
CO ₂	100%	100%	
N ₂	85%	85%	
O ₂	70%	70%	
H ₂ O	100%	100%	
Ar	20%	5%	
He	15%	2%	
Light Hydrocarbons	90%	90%	

Triode Ion Pump

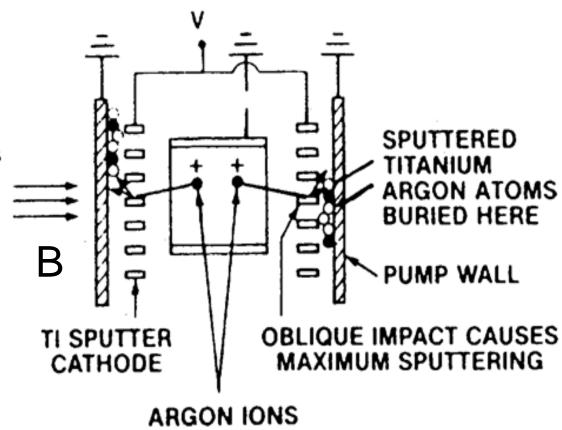




Disadvantages:

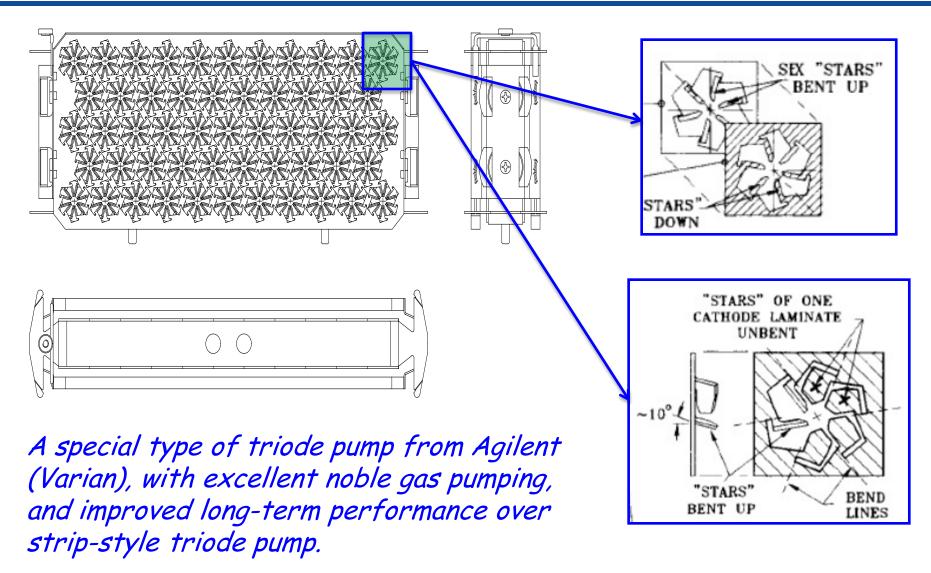
- * Reduced pumping speed for all other gases.
- Expensive (due to complex assembling process)
- Cathode strips may cause short circuit.

Another type of ion pumps handle noble gases well. Usually the triode pumping elements exchangeable with diode elements.



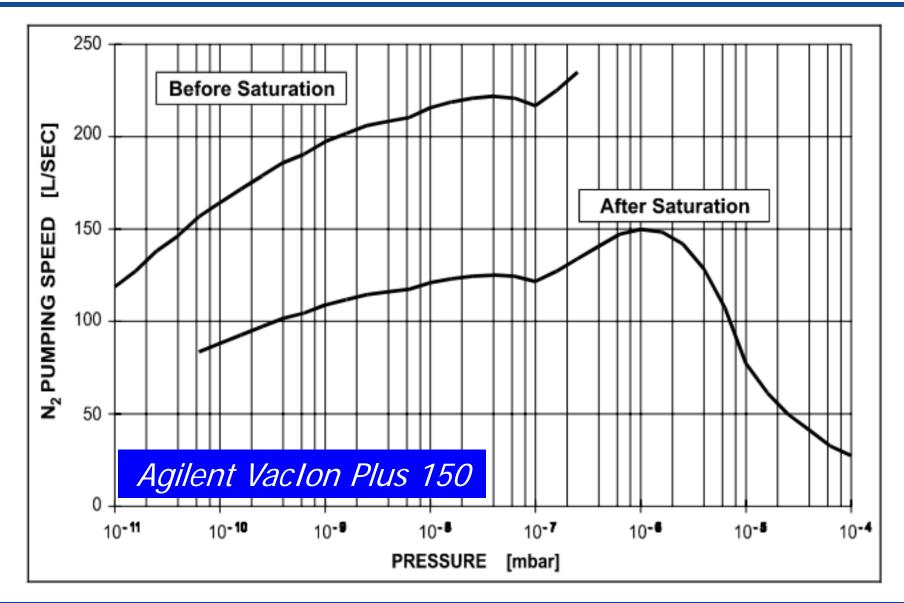
Triode Ion Pump – StarCell Pumps





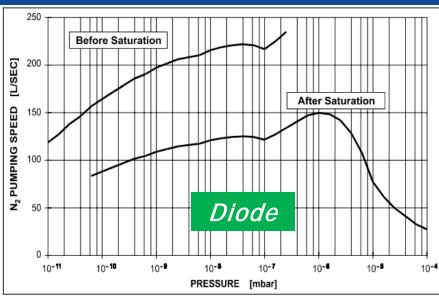
Diode Ion Pump – Pumping Speed

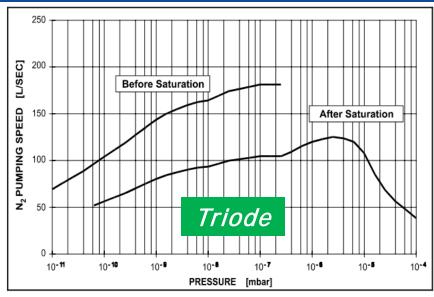


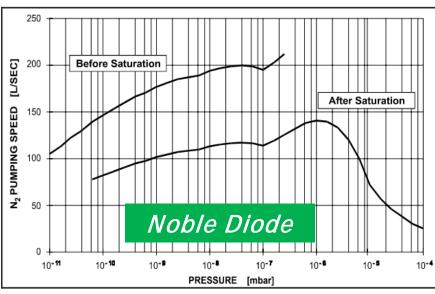


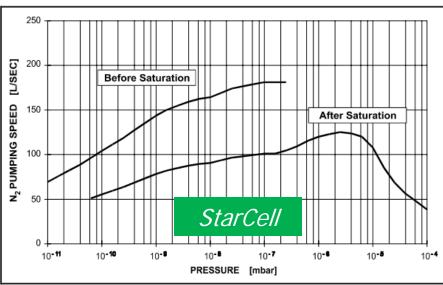
N₂ Pumping Speed of Different Styles







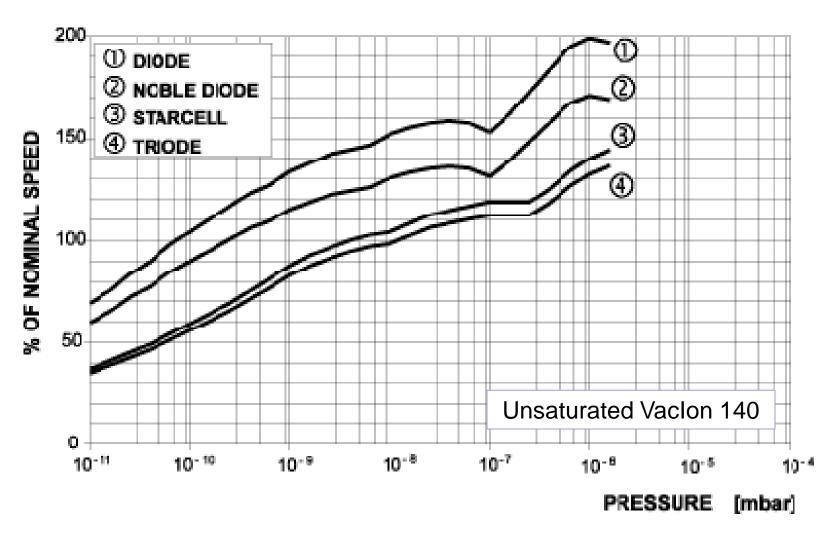






N₂ Pumping Speed of Different Styles

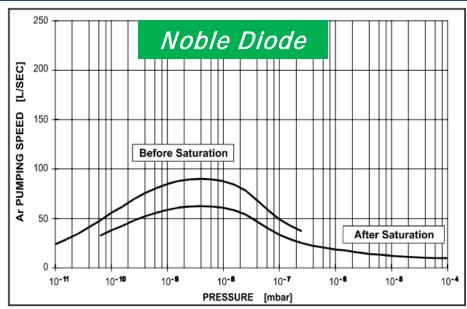


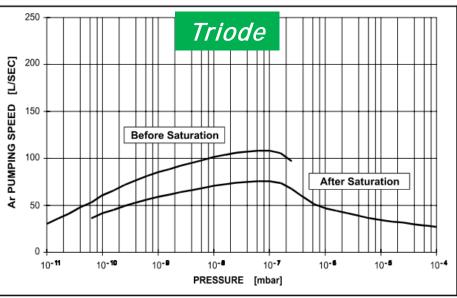


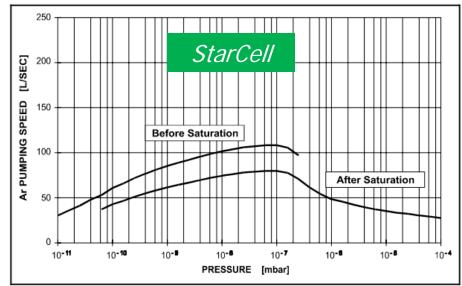
(Ref. Varian Vacuum)

Argon Pumping Speed of Different Styles











Ion Pump Performance for various gases



Gas	Diode	Noble Diode	Triode	Starcell	TSP	NEG
H ₂	3	1	1	2	3	4
He	1	3	3	4	0	0
H ₂ O	3	2	2	2	3	3
CH ₄	2	3	3	3	0	0
N ₂	3	3	2	2	3	3
O ₂ ,CO,C O ₂	3	3	2	2	4	3
Ar	1	3	3	4	0	0

None	0
Poor	1
Good	2
Excellent	3
Outstand.	4

(Ref. Varian Vacuum)

Commercial Ion Pumps – Agilent (Varian)





- Brand-named: VacIon (old) and VacIon Plus
- Pump sizes from 2 l/s up to 500 l/s nominal speed
- Diode, noble-diode, triode and StarCell styles are available
- > Combination with NEG available

Commercial Ion Pumps – Gamma Vacuum



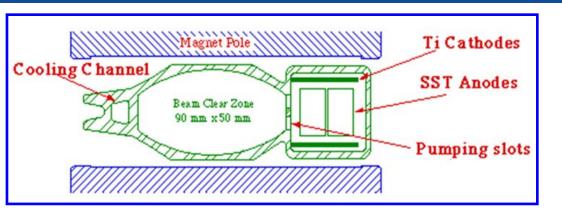


- Formerly Perkin-Elmer, brand-named: TiTan Pumps
- > Pump sizes from 2 l/s up to 1600 l/s nominal speed
- > Diode, noble-diode and triode styles are available
- > Combination with NEG available



Distributed Ion Pumps (DIPs)







At CESR, ~120 lumped VacIons installed together with DIPs in 74 dipole magnets. DIPs are the main pumping.

A CESR Arc Section

Lumped VacIon

→ Utilize dipole magnetic field

→ Usually home designed and build pumping elements, in diode style

Both cylindrical and planar style anodes were constructed for storage rings

→ Pumping speed: 80~120 l/s-m



DIPs in dipole

Ion Pump Selection and Operation



- For lumped ion pumps, noble gas pumping should be incorporated. Noble diode pumps are usually the best option, as the operating voltage polarity is same to regular diode pumps.
- In dipole magnet with sufficient field (> 0.1 T), DIPs are economical and reliable distributed pumping (as compared to NEGs).
- Extreme cares must be taken to protect HV electric feedthroughs of the ion pumps, both mechanically and environmentally (such as condensations and corrosions).
- For very long duration operations (30+ years in CESR), 'whiskers' may develop on anodes that cause partial shorting. These whiskers may be 'burnt' out by temporarily operating a pump at high pressure (~10⁻⁵ torr)

Ion Pump Controllers



- ➤ Ion pump controllers provide DC high voltage needed for the ion pump operation.
- There are many suppliers for ion pump controllers.
 These are generally in two basic designs: the linear power controllers with transformers, and switchers. The formers are more robust, often with higher output power, but bulky and heavy. The switcher controllers are more commonly used nowadays.
- Important parameters in selection ion pump controllers:
 - ✓ Output power and current (ranging from < 1W to 100s W)
 - ✓ Pump ion current read-out precision (down to μ A or even nA) and response time (for interlocking etc.)
 - √ Programmability and computer interface features
 - ✓ Radiation hardness



Commercial Ion Pump Controllers





Agilent 4 UHV

Output Power: 400 W Output HV: 3, 5, 7 kV Current: up to 200 mA

Ion Current: 10 nA ~ 100 mA



Agilent MiniVac

Output Power: 20~40 W

Output HV: 5 kV

Current: up to 20 mA

Ion Current: 10 μA~20 mA



Gamma Vacuum LPC

Output Power: 200 W Output HV: 5.6/7.0 kV Current: up to 100 mA Ion Current res: 10 nA



Gamma SPC

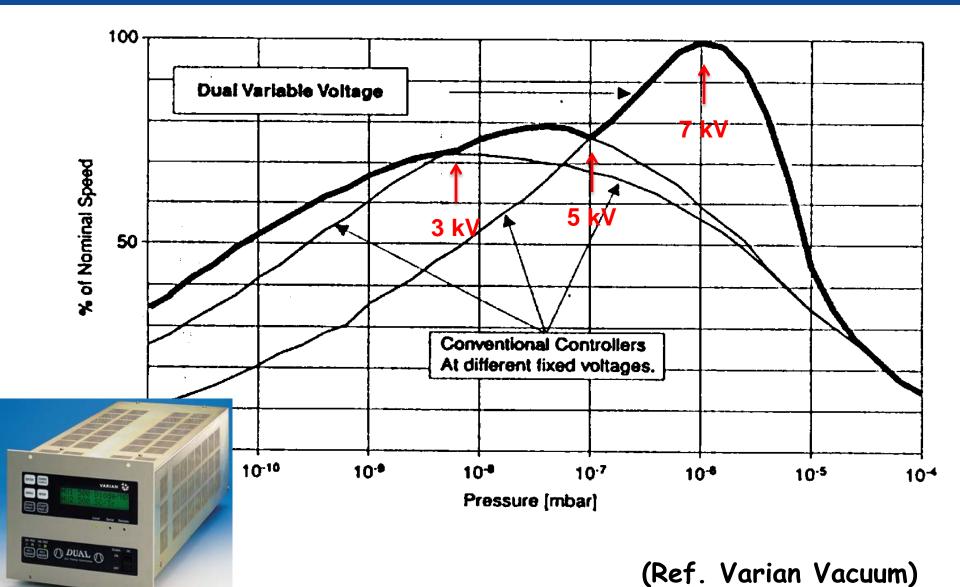
Output Power: 40 W Output HV: 3.5~7.0 kV Current: up to 50 mA Ion Current res: 1 nA





"Step-Voltage" May Improves Pump Performance





Summary Notes



- 1) Sputter-ion pumps are the primary UHV pumps for most modern accelerators, due to their cleanness and very high pumping capacity.
- 2) SIPs are most suitable at vacuum pressure < 10⁻⁷ torr. At these low pressures, their most efficient pumps, drawing almost no power.
- 3) As a capture pump, SIP has limited lifetime capacity. At extreme cases, ions may drill holes through cathode plates, resulting much poor performance and pressure spikes.
- 4) Starting SIPs should be done by experts, who understand the risk of thermal run-away in the pumping elements, especially in triode pumps.
- 5) Aged SIPs tend to have reduced H_2 pumping speed, at UHV conditions. Thus combination with NEGs is recommended.
- 6) Glow charge at high pressure may extend throughout a SIP, and potential metallic coating of sensitive surfaces may occur.