



# Reaching ultra-high vacuum for a large vacuum vessel in an underground environment

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FOR THE MIGA CONSORTIUM



# Outline

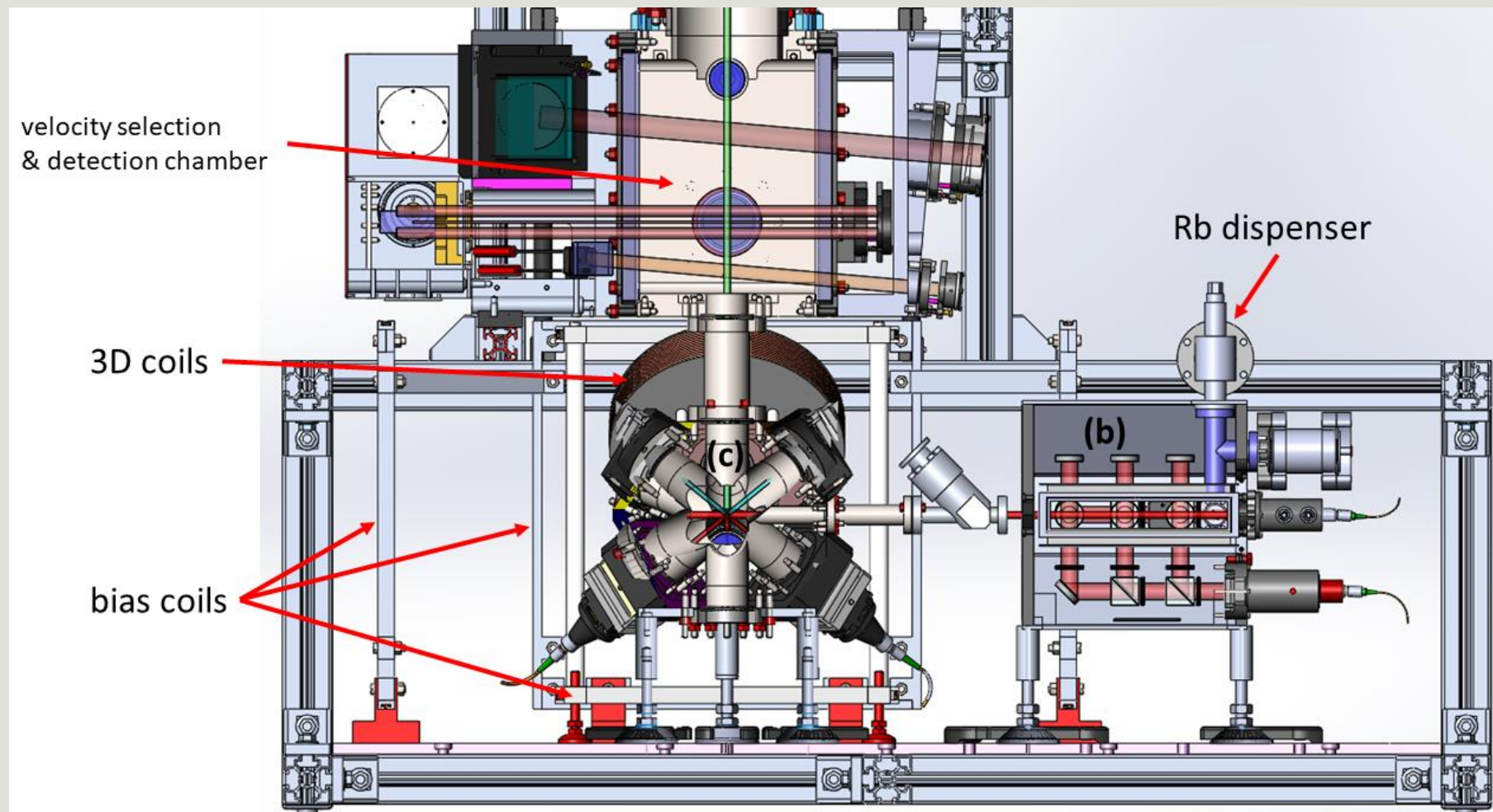
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- MIGA @ LSBB – the various subsystems
- Generating Ultra-high vacuum (UHV) in a large volume system
- Moving forward with MIGA @ LSBB

# MIGA @ LSBB – the various subsystems

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BRIEF COVERAGE OF MAJOR SUBSYSTEMS



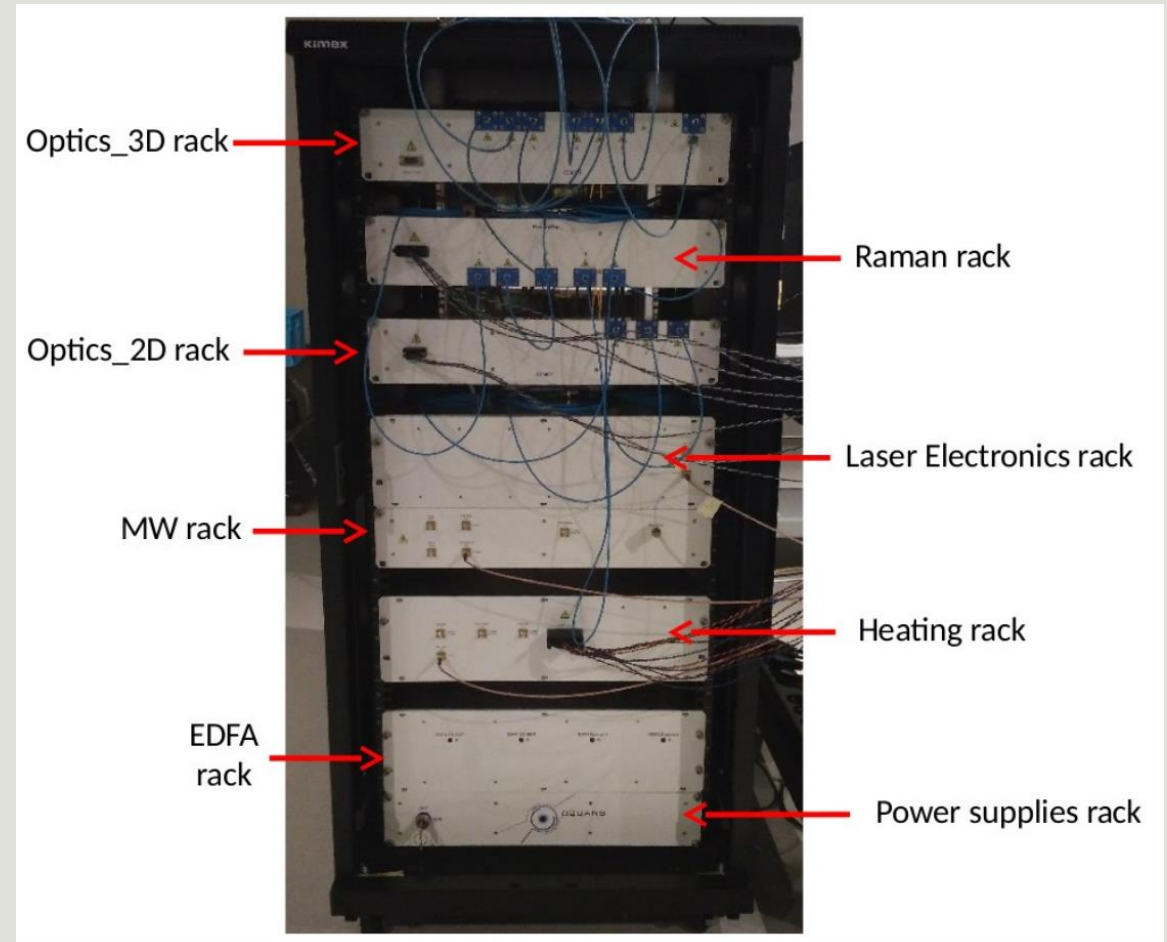
# Atomic Source – Rb87 cold atom production and detection

Beaufils *et al.* Cold-atom sources for the Matter-wave laser Interferometric Gravitation Antenna (MIGA). 2022. ([hal-03643088](#))

Joseph Junca. Progress of the MIGA project toward gravity strain measurements with atom interferometry. Université de Bordeaux, 2022. English. ([NNT:2022BORD0150](#)). (tel-03669058)

# Laser System – Rb87 laser cooling and manipulation

Sabulsky *et al.* A fibered laser system  
for the MIGA large scale atom  
interferometer. *Sci Rep* **10**, 3268  
(2020).

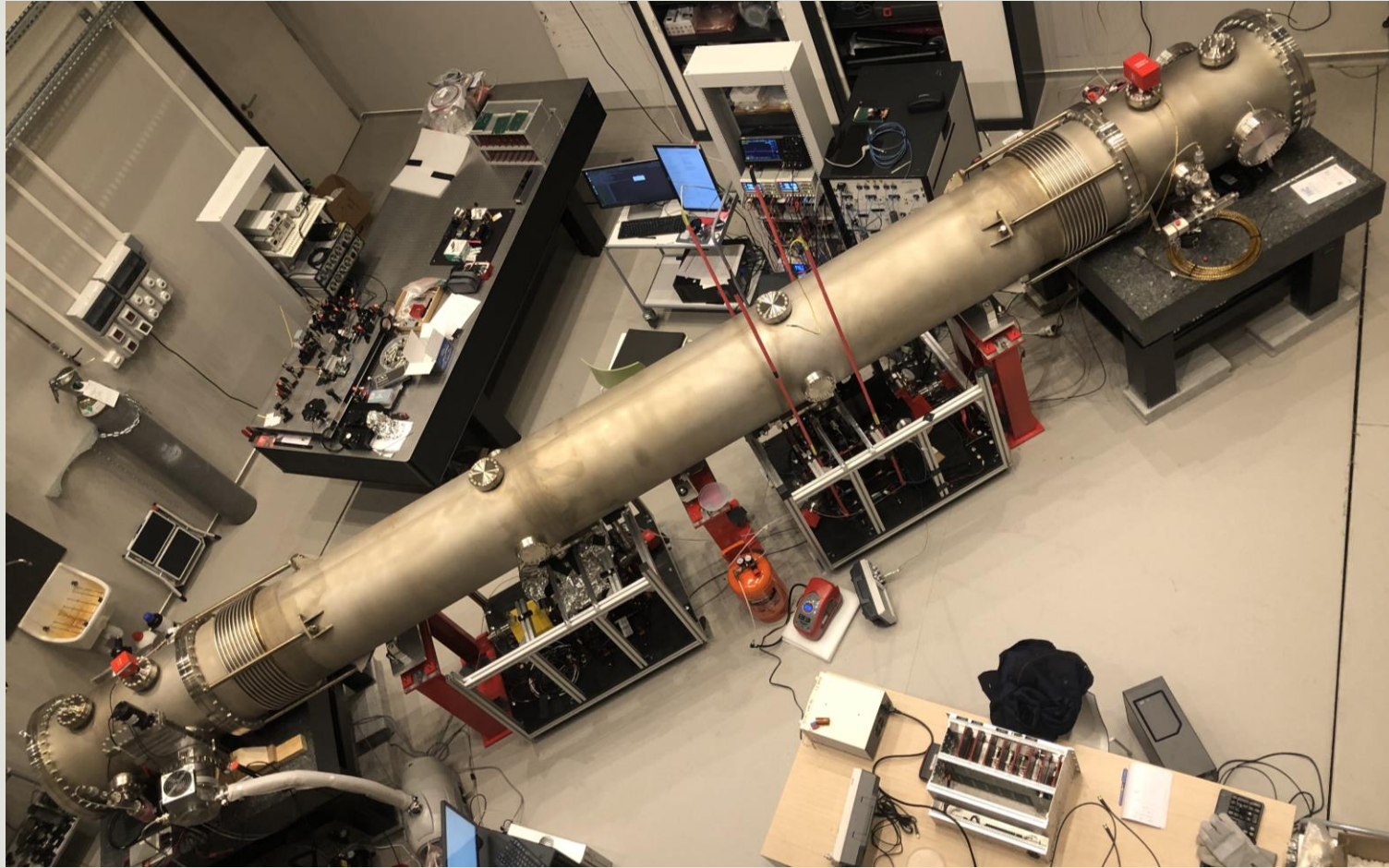


<<Specifically designed to operate at LSBB>>

# Generating Ultra-high vacuum (UHV) in a large volume system

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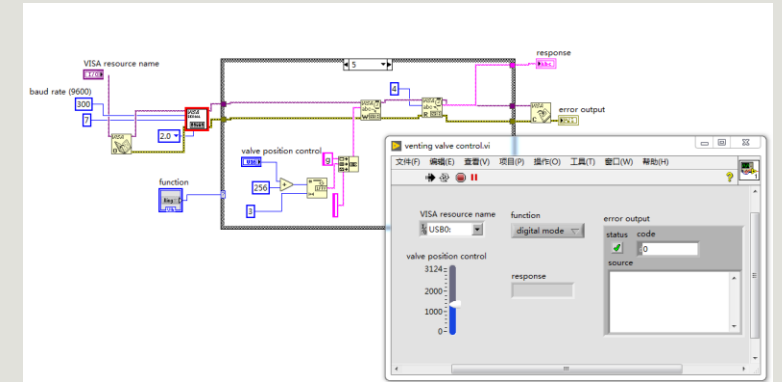
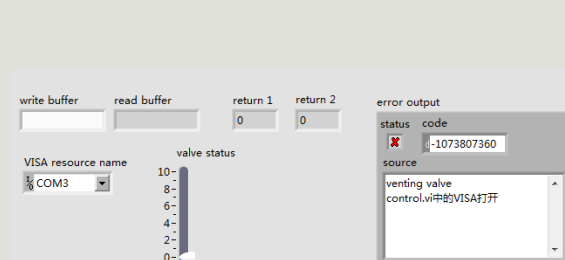
# Assembled atom gradiometer at LP2N

~8 m vacuum system, ~1.6 m<sup>3</sup>

Pumped by Dry scroll (4.3 L/s), turbomolecular pump (920 L/s, 10<sup>6</sup> compression ratio), multiple NEG's (~2150 L/s) and two ion pumps (~20 L/s)

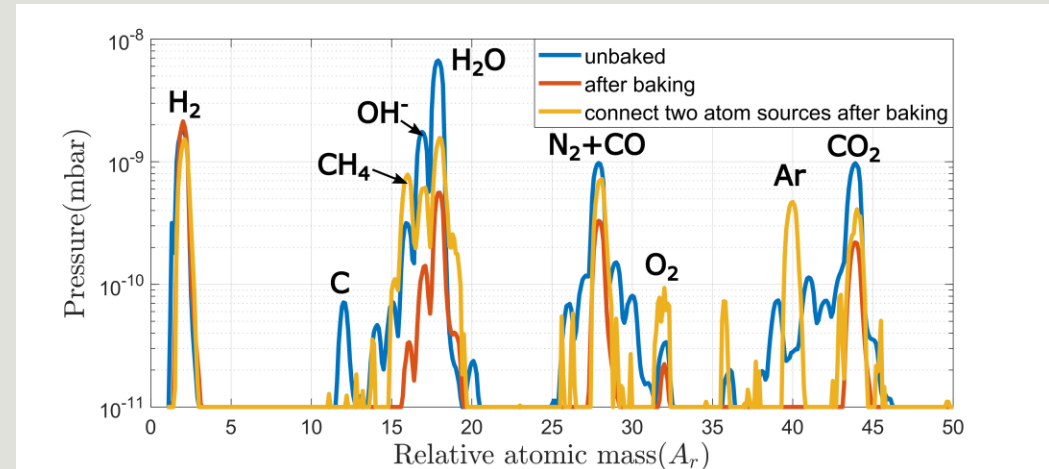
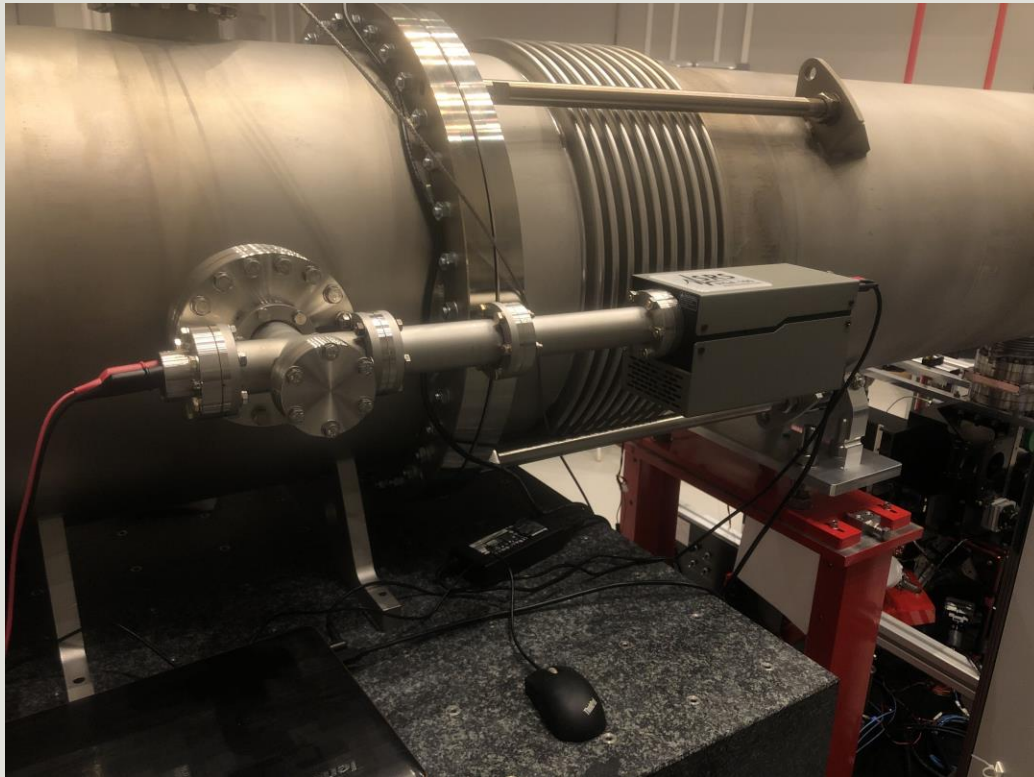
# Safe, automated, and clean venting of the vacuum vessel

- Venting tests involving a series of valves and filters
- Successfully prevents infiltration of contaminants





# Spotlight on: Residual Gas Analyzer (RGA)



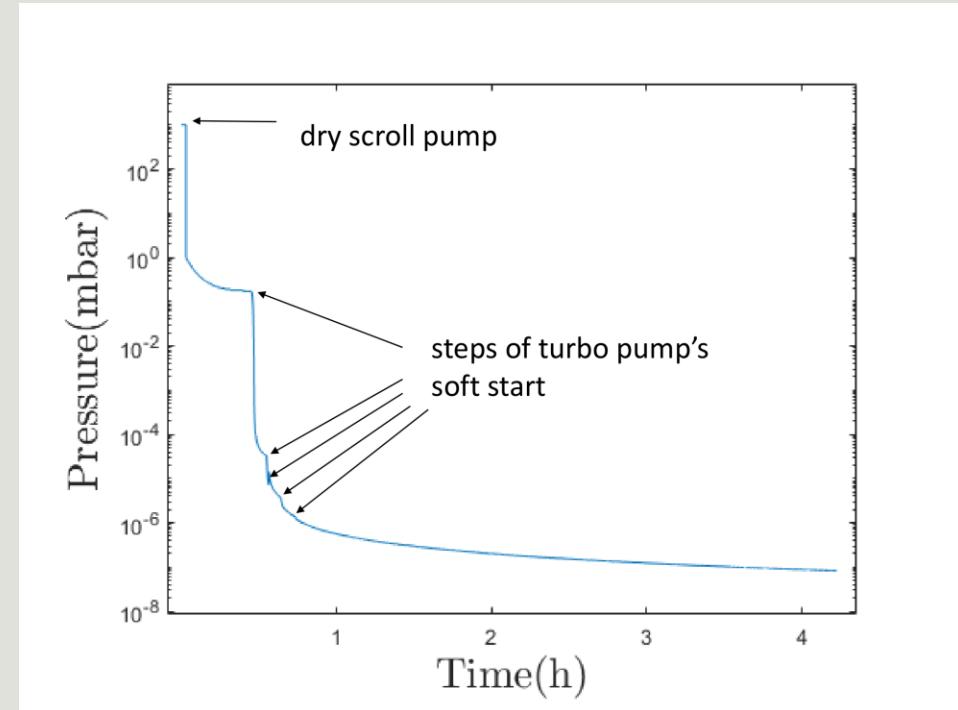
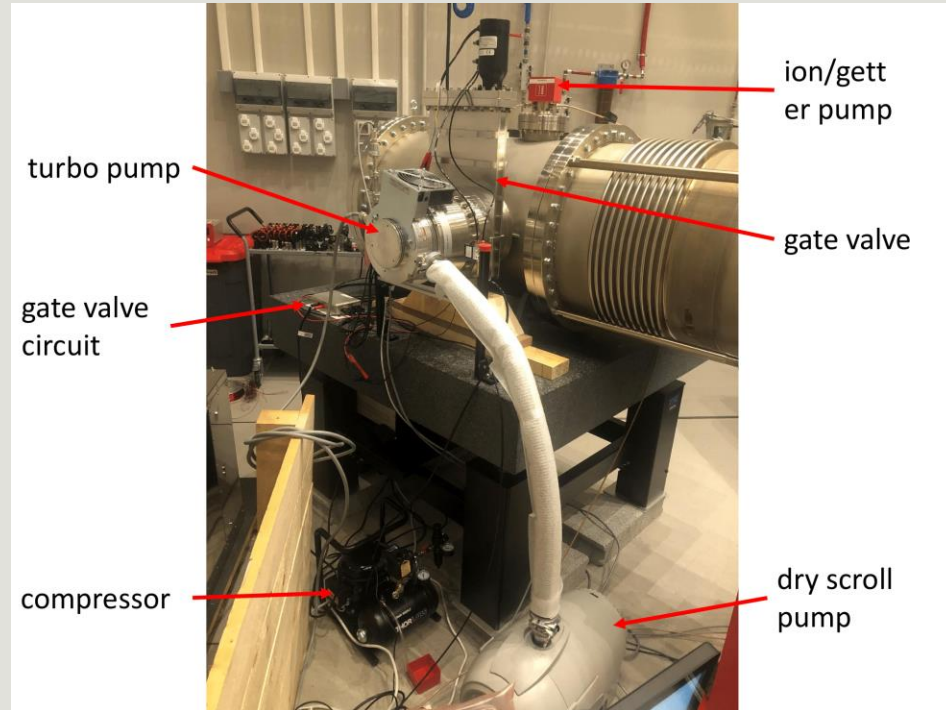
- Permanent installation of a mass spectrometer working as a residual gas analyzer for monitoring and trouble shooting

- Present at LP2N and LSBB

# Spotlight on: turbo group

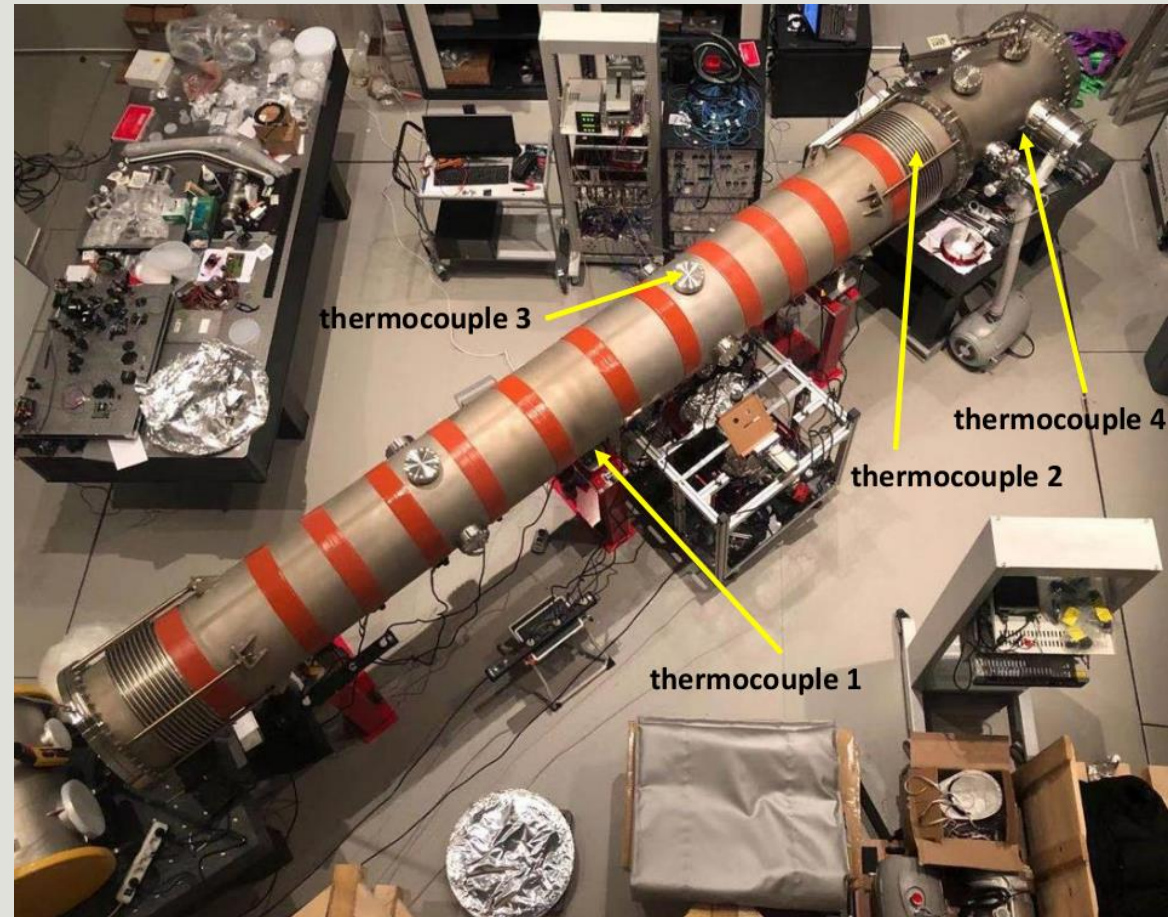
Single pumping group; ~900 L/s

Analysis; typical pump cycle



# Reaching target pressure; forced evolution by direct heating

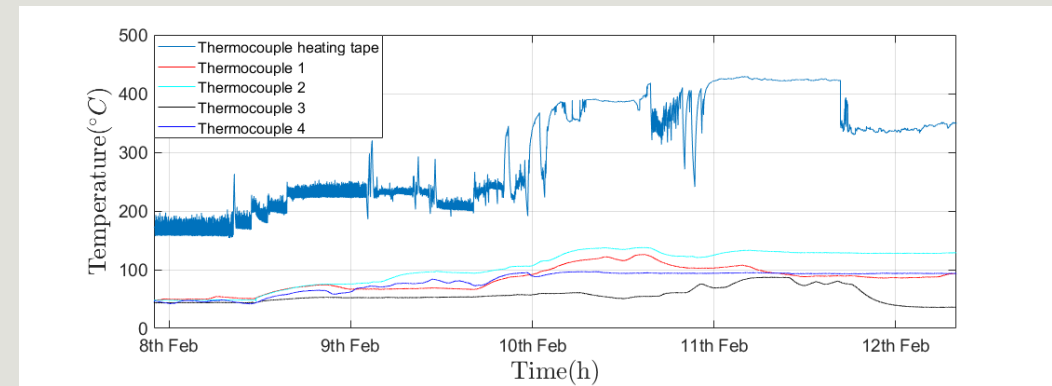
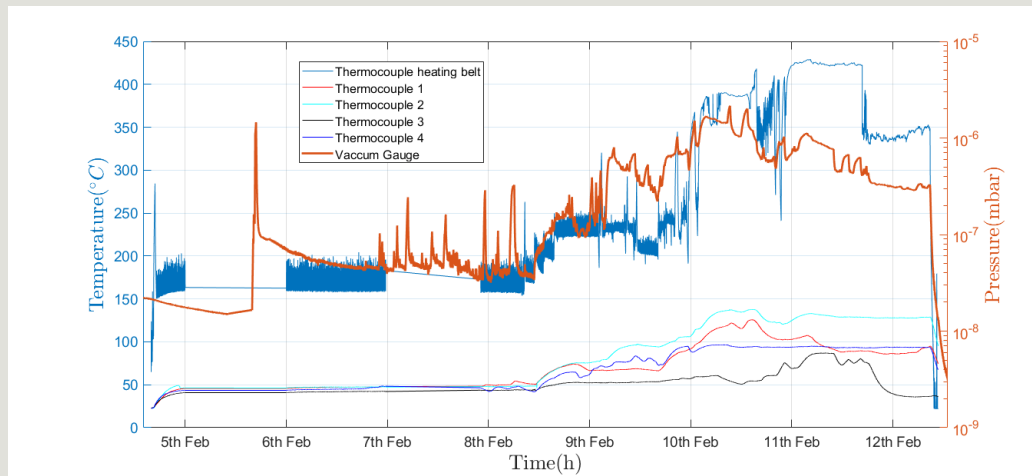
- Colloquially known as "baking"
- Multiple, coupled, band heaters in conjunction with monitoring and fume removed



# Temperature readings...

- Spurious readings in first two tests...
- Temperature readings exceed target by over a factor 2...

We perform lab tests for this reason...



We reached  $10^{-10}$  mbar in the tube (without internal optics or atom sources), despite the following...

# Coupled Heating Bands – disastrous!

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- Coupled bands with separate controllers and an 'empty' vessel led to failure

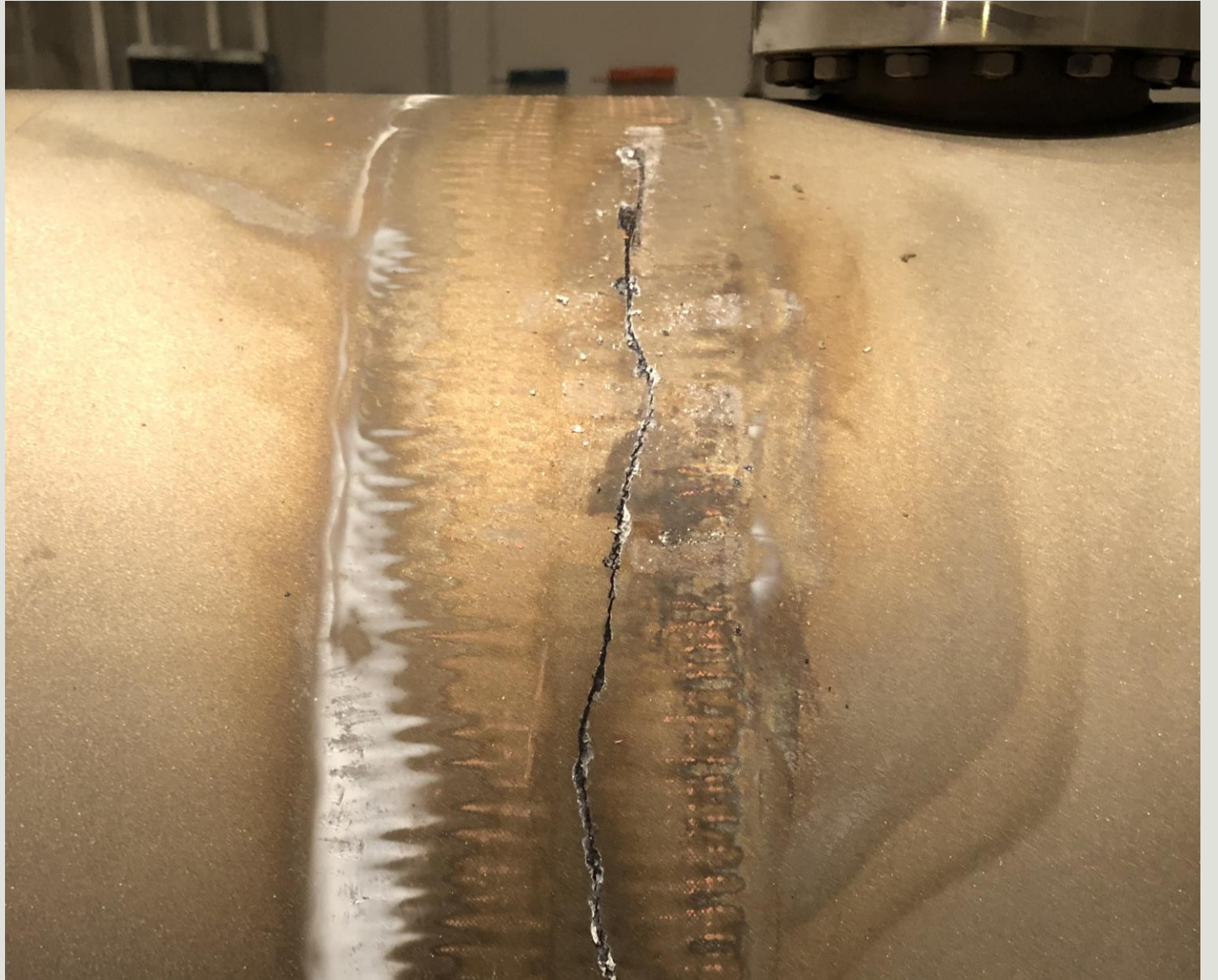


- We also fumigated the entire lab...



Surface damage  
from extreme  
heating and  
failure of bands

- Nothing a bit of acetone couldn't fix...

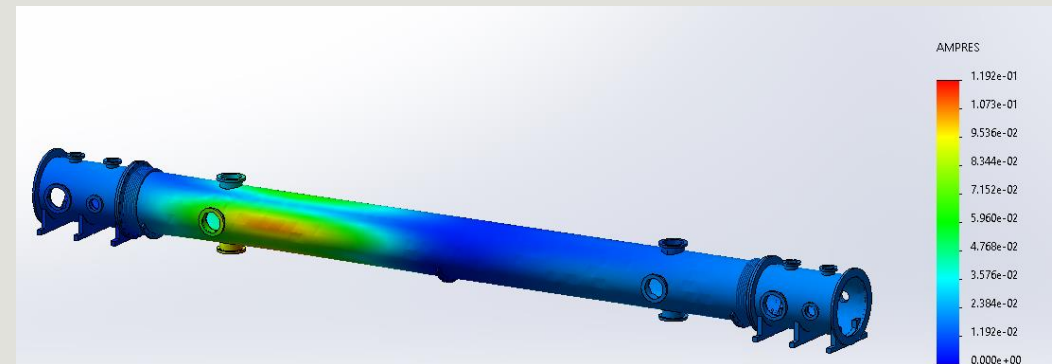
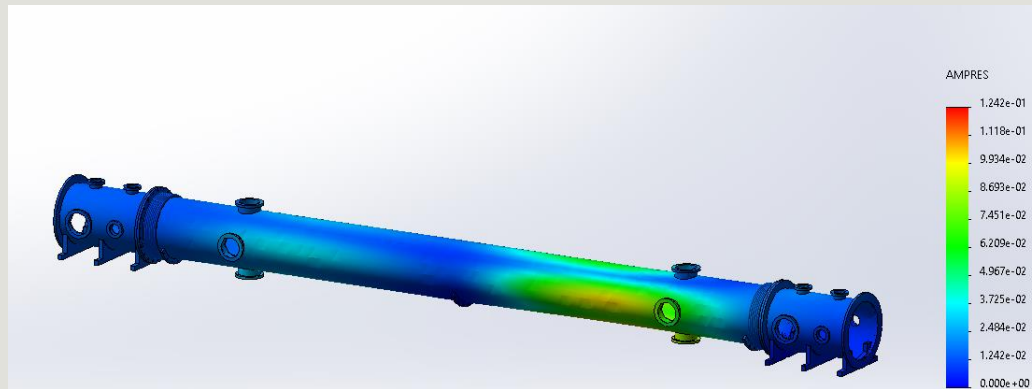


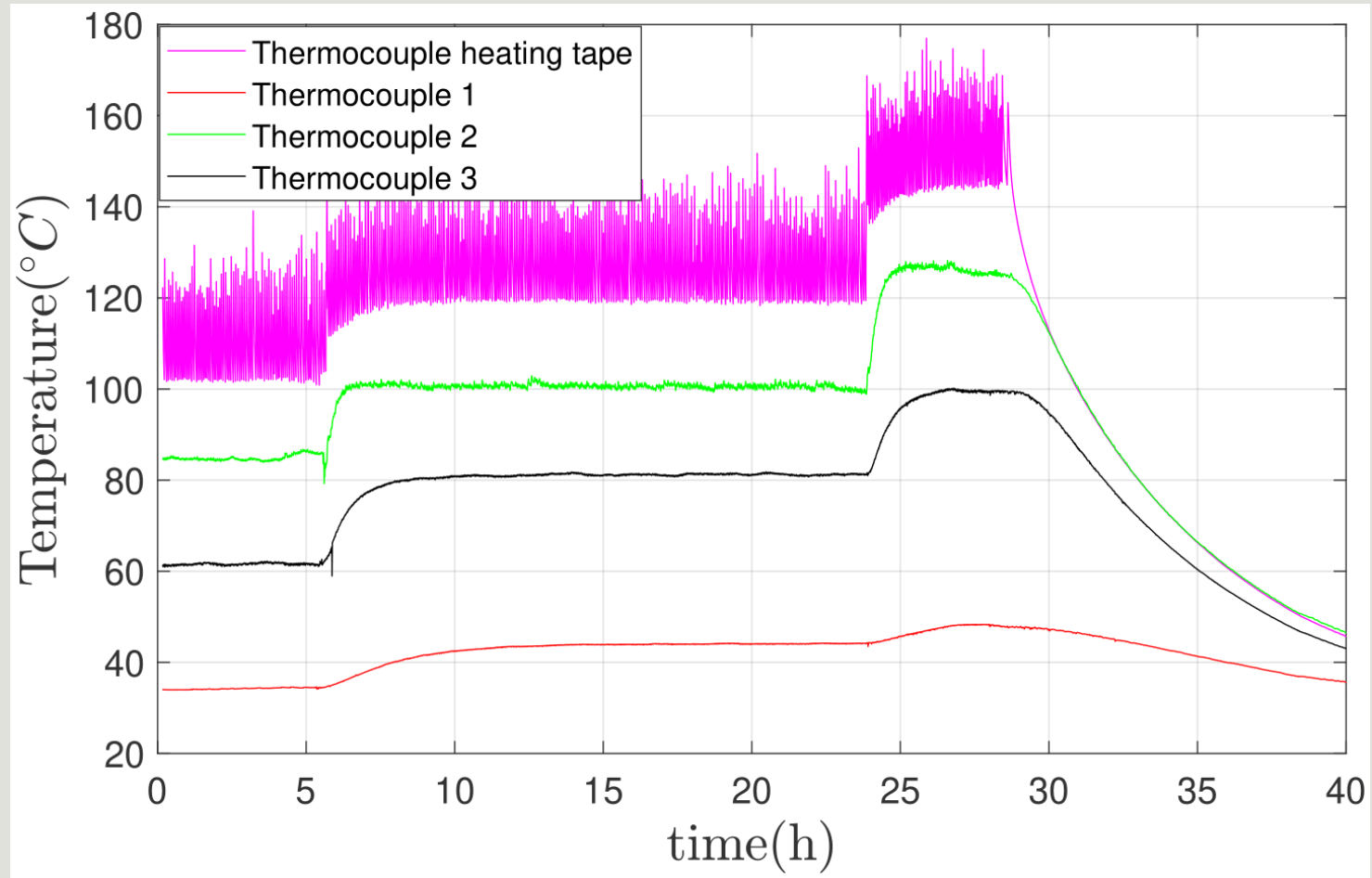
# Tube Acoustics

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Turbo fan spool up from DC to 650 Hz blows through some tube acoustical resonances around 180 – 200 Hz...

It is an abjectly terrifying sound, eliciting fear of turbopumps from 80s... ie explosions.

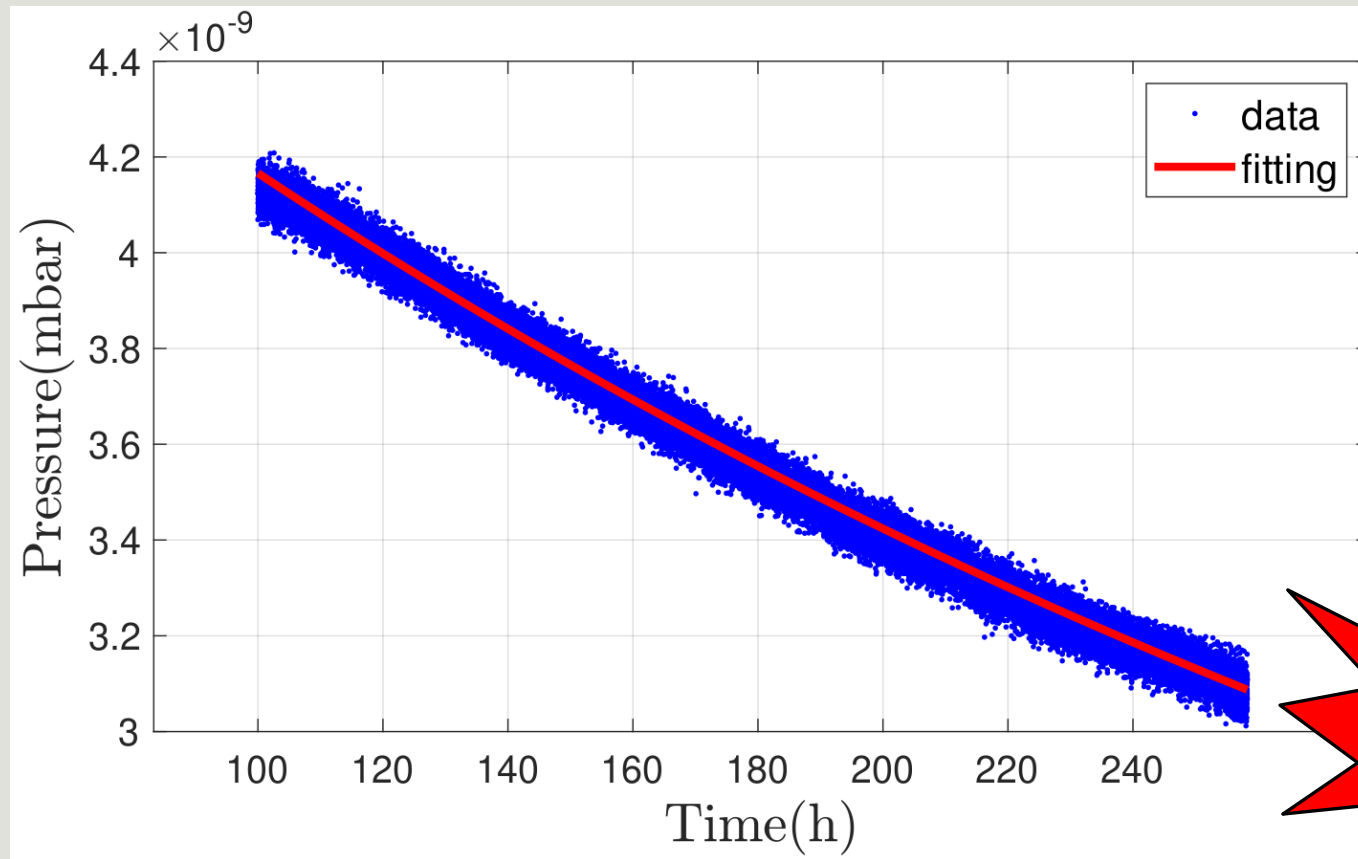




## Successful heating test

No fumigation, spot failures, or screeching pumps...



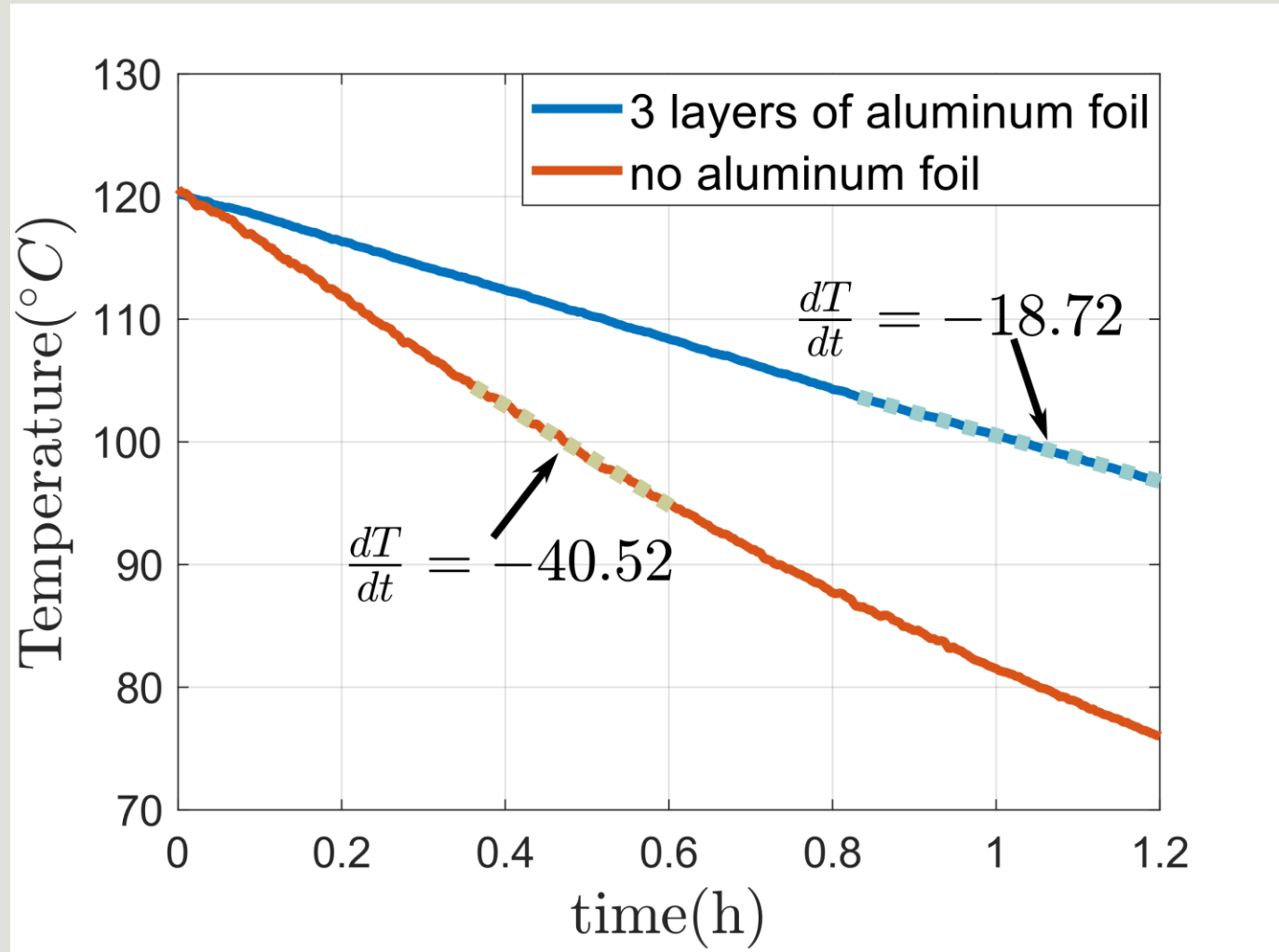


Successful tests with all equipment and full installation of subsystems

We reach  $2 \times 10^{-9}$  mbar, with internal vacuum optics.

Using our allocated ~100 kW wisely...

- Tests involving layering thick aluminum foil proved instrumental in reaching our target temperature with modest power requirements.



# Moving forward with MIGA @ LSBB

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10 M TO 150 M SCALABILITY



## Installation and alignment work ongoing

Through the summer and autumn 2022, trials and commissioning to commence from now through winter 2022.

Up next: tourelle installation and first vacuum trial @ LSBB

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# Moving forward with MIGA @ LSBB

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To do list, starting Summer 2022:

- Moving pump groups and gauge annexes to LSBB
- Vacuum tests by section, checking worthiness of seals and tube
- Measuring water ingress on tube inner surfaces via RGA
- Installation of heating bands and foil layers, heating tests, power dissipation measurements

Thank you for your attention!