



The Beam Gas Curtain as an instrument for HL-LHC

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for the
BGC Collaboration team



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BGC Project Management

- Beam Gas Curtain (BGC) is the baseline instrument for on-line monitoring of the overlap between proton and electron beams in the hollow e-lens and as a general non-invasive profile measurement diagnostic
- BGC development is principally funded by HL-LHC collaboration KN 2970 (Cockcroft Institute), with participation of GSI experts under a separate agreement
- Prototypes extensively tested with electron gun sources, but there are a number of performance criteria that can only be demonstrated by operation with 7 TeV coasting proton beams
 - Operating scenarios in the LHC synchrotron light background
 - Hadron shower noise background reduction due to reduction of length of the gas pressure bump
 - Operations with VSC in the baked LHC vacuum environment
- If this instrument is to be operational post- LS3, then some preliminary steps need to be taken in LS2 to allow for prototype testing during Run 3
 - This instrument includes a new vacuum sector and significant cabling, which would be difficult to implement outside of a long shutdown
- BGC prototype installation for HL-LHC is now a stand-alone task (13.2) in HL-LHC WP13
 - The instrument is a deliverable from the Cockcroft Institute under KN 2970

Overview - Recent Progress

- Key decisions and results to define a baseline for a useable HL-LHC instrument
 - Selection of a baseline gas species and spectral line [see S.Mazzoni]
 - Combining high and low pressure gas flow calculations to produce a consistent value for the jet density in the interaction region
 - Design of an associated optical system with realistic parameters that can produce image integration times in the order of 1 second [see H.Zhang]
- Commissioning and experimental programme on a new BGC experiment at Cockcroft [see H.Zhang]
 - Developing and testing technology for a real instrument
 - Experimental results with N₂ and Ne for electron beams
- Design, production, installation and test programme for fluorescence in the LHC and TU Munich [see S.Mazzoni]
 - Experimental results with Ne and proton beams
- Integration at CERN of a BGC prototype for installation in the LHC during LS2

Gas jet formation

Gas jet simulation challenges

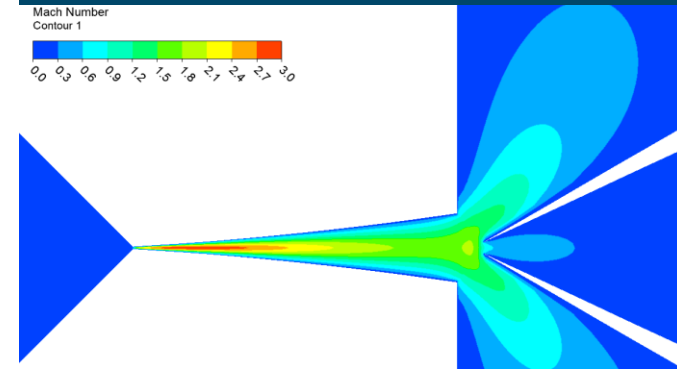
- Transport over 13 orders of magnitude from 10 bar to 10⁻⁹ mbar
- Two different physics models – viscous and molecular flow
- Interface regions are challenging: gas expansion into a near-vacuum and large particle flux for entry to molecular flow regime
- Taking advantage of synergies and technology development from gas jet target experiments

High-pressure simulations

- Computational Fluid Dynamics using ANSYS/CFX
- Potential issues of gas condensation on expansion understood
- Optimisation of nozzle geometries, gas inlet pressure and component separation, now being verified experimentally
- Challenges of numerical stability with expansion into vacuum and interface with molecular flow still being studied



Free expansion from nozzle: 10⁻⁵ seconds

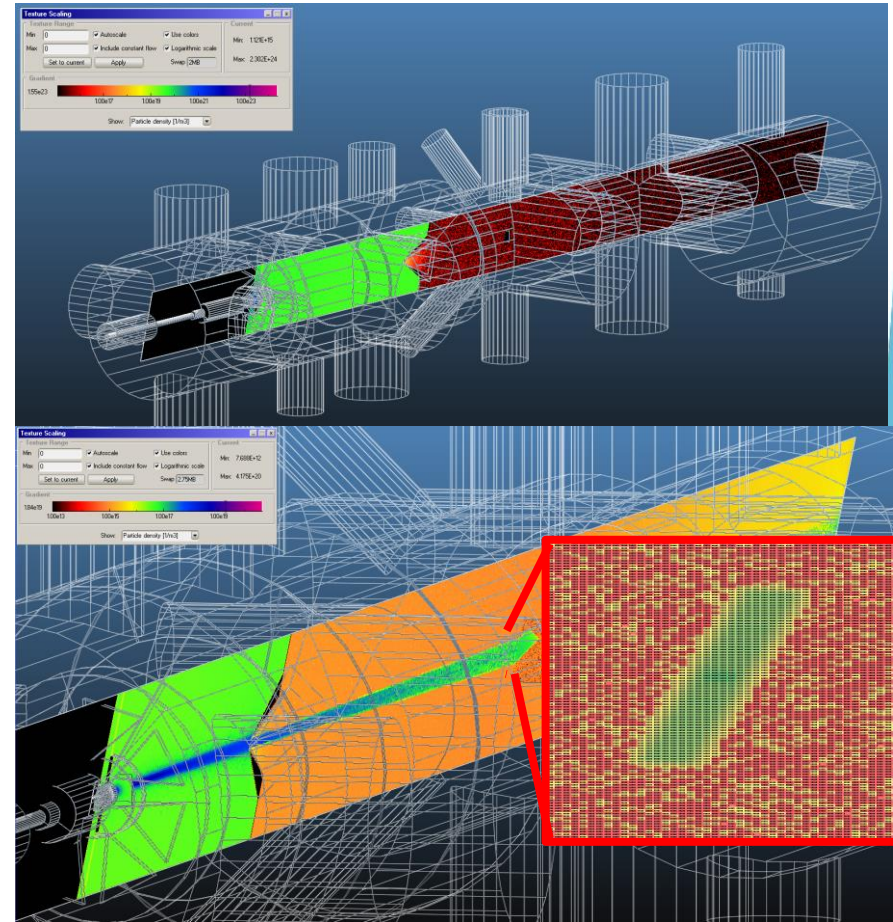


Velocity contours (Mach number, real gas model)

Low pressure (molecular flow) simulations

Complete Test-particle Monte Carlo simulation of the experimental set-up with Molflow+

- Virtual interface at first skimmer
- Predicted forms and densities of gas curtain for beam-gas interaction
- Simulation-led optimisation leads to addition of baffle between interaction and exhaust pump



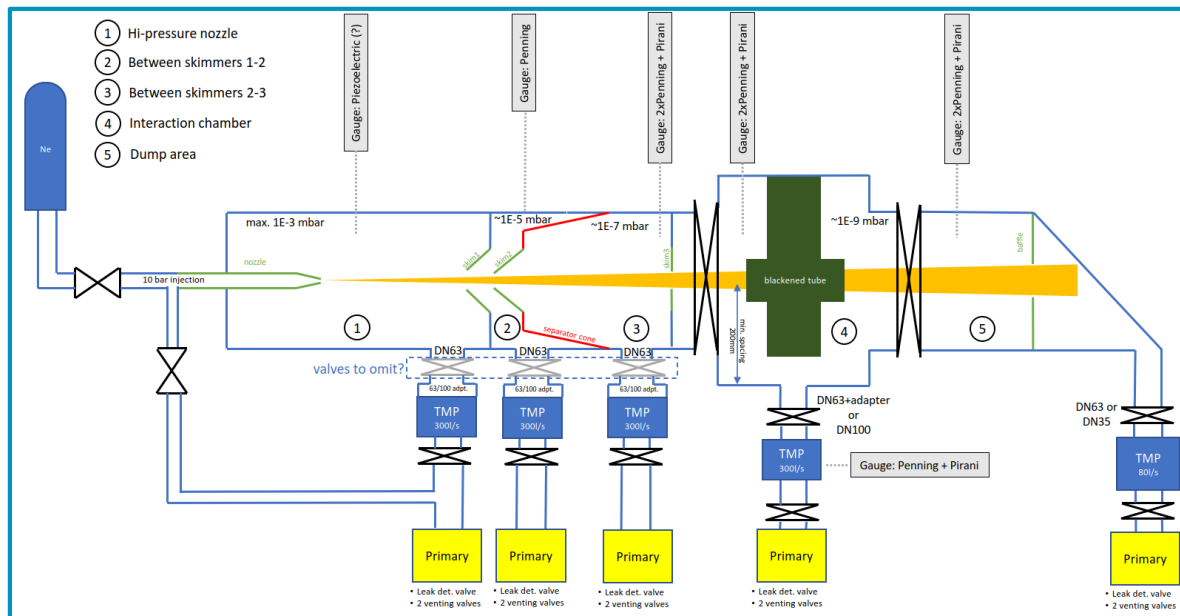
Vacuum System Design

TE-VSC are optimizing the vacuum layout for LHC installation

- Minimising pump numbers and dimensions to facilitate integration both for prototype and final instrument
- Taking advantage of VSC software tools and expertise in molecular flow

Input for the Phase II ECR

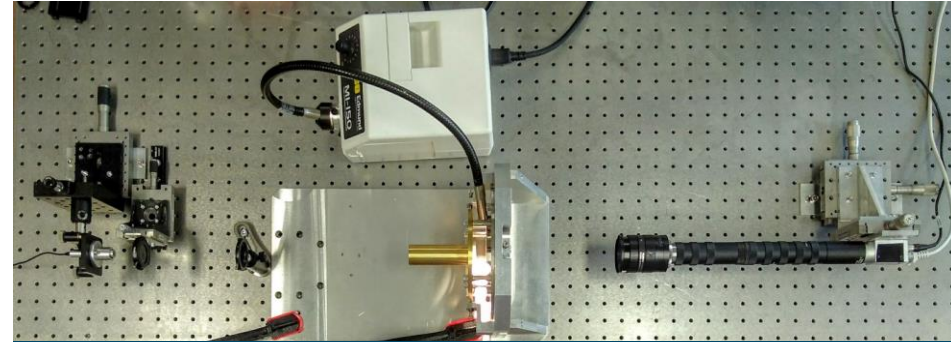
- Ensure continued reliable operation of LHC vacuum with this instrument



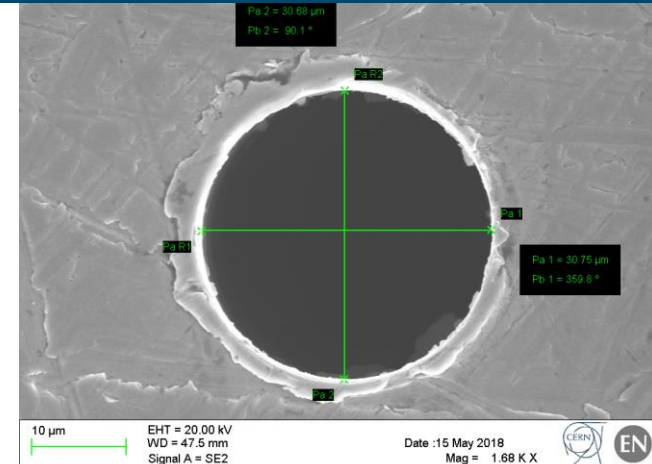
Proposed vacuum system schematic (Courtesy M.Ady/TE-VSC)

Gas jet components

- Moving from a laboratory system to a LHC instrument with limited maintenance opportunities
 - Design and qualification of a system for pre-installation alignment of critical components with a laser
 - Achieved tolerances of 7 and 34 μm for the nozzle- first and second skimmers
 - Development of accurate nozzle production with European industry (30 μm diameter)



Component alignment system (J.Glutting Batchelor thesis)



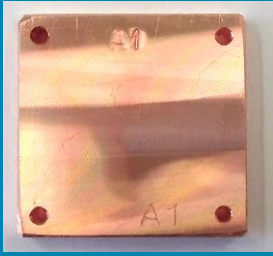


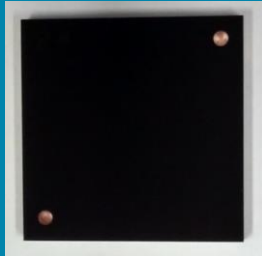




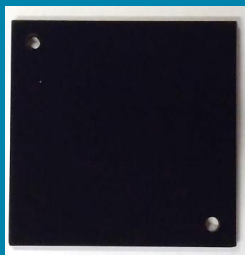

LHC-Compatible Non-reflective coatings

- Measurement of low intensity optical signals in the LHC requires minimization of reflected light background
 - See subsequent talks
 - Coatings must also be UHV and impedance compatible
- Outstanding issue: How black is black?
 - Different coating technologies being qualified for reflectivity and vacuum compatibility



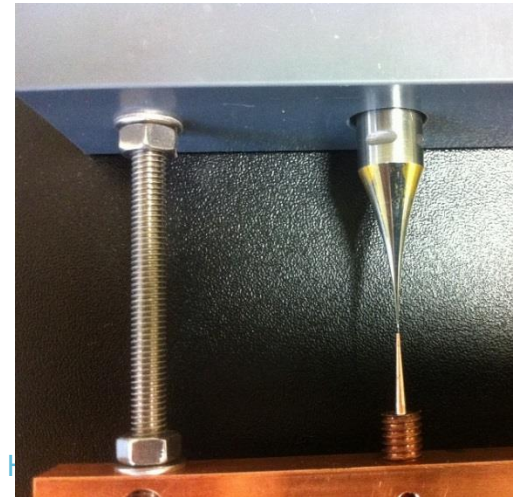
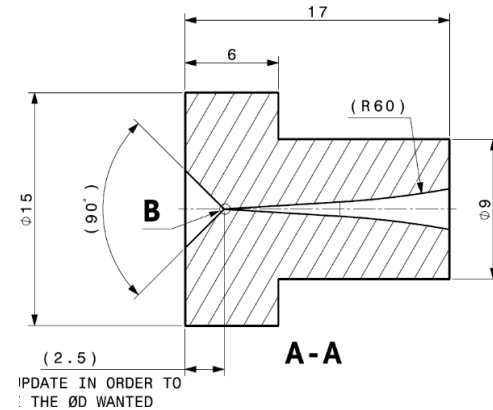
Spectrometer courtesy EP/DT-EF

Reflectivity at neon wavelength 584nm

	Degreased no coating	NEG	Amorphous carbon	LESS (Dundee)	Multilayer sputtering (Polyteknik)
Copper	≈ 85% 	≈ 45% 	≈ 13% 	≈ 2% 	≈ 0.2% 
Steel	≈ 56% 	≈ 45% 	≈ 14% 	≈ 2% 	≈ 0.2% 

Convergent-Divergent (CD) Nozzles

- Studies show that replacing a simple aperture with a CD nozzle makes a significant improvement to gas directionality and velocity out of the nozzle
- CERN has technology for making precision CD nozzles with definable geometries and 10 $\mu\text{m}+$ diameters
 - Initially developed for gas jet targets
- Existing nozzle design will be tested at Cockcroft
- Collaboration with EN-MME to produce specific nozzle geometries once best solution is found



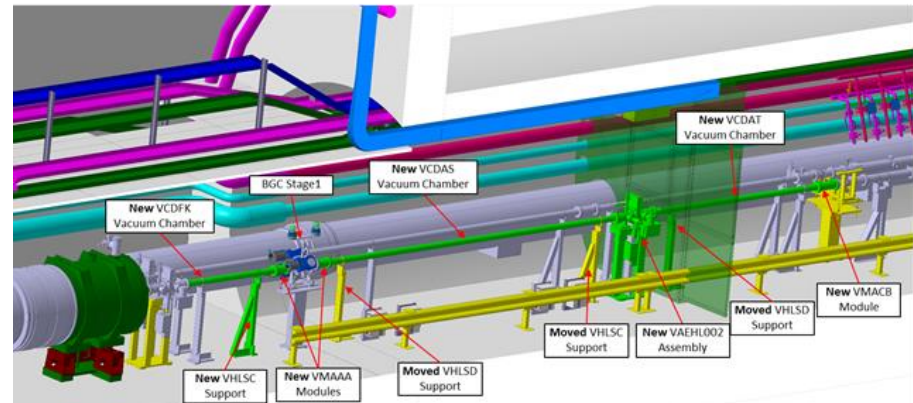
Status of preparations for LHC prototype

- Phased installation process approved by HL-TCC

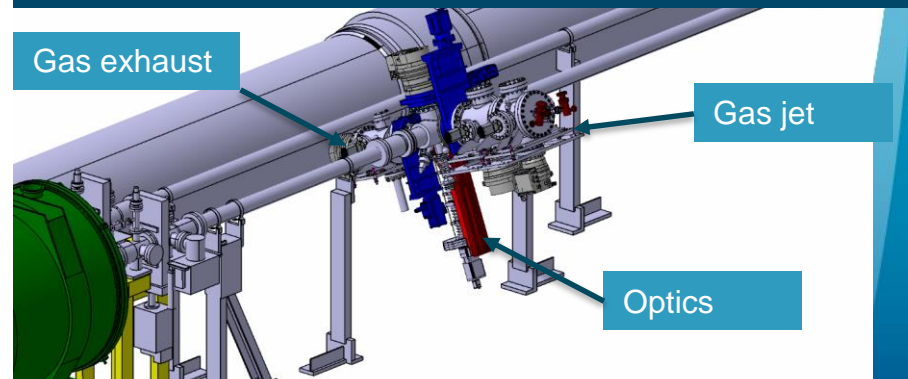
- **Phase I** ECR for interaction vacuum chamber, new LHC vacuum sector, cables and racks (EDMS 2025553)
- **Phase II** will follow for full prototype instrument installation – will not require LHC beam vacuum access

- Status of Phase I

- ECR approved by HL-TCC in May 2018
- Circulated for approval and commented by all concerned groups
- Awaiting final approval process in LMC



New vacuum layout for Phase I ECR



Addition of prototype instrument for Phase II ECR

Safety, impedance and documentation

- Global BGC project
 - HL-LHC WP 13 BGC Safety Assessment Form
 - Preliminary identification of hazards (EDMS 1936384 status: Under Approval)
 - Integration Report for Installation Approval (IRIA),
 - [EDMS 1959700](#)
- Fluorescence Measurement Test Chamber Installation (2018),
 - Approved by HL-TCC, Impedance and LHC machine committee
 - LHC-EC-BGC-0001 (EDMS 1869099)
- Phase I installation in the LHC
 - ECR approved by TCC and circulated for comment, now awaiting LHC machine committee
 - LHC-EC-BGC-0002 (EDMS 2025553)
 - ECR approved by Impedance Working Group #17;
 - <https://indico.cern.ch/event/702251>

Summary and Conclusions

- Installation of a prototype BGC in the LHC, planned for LS2 is now a funded baseline activity in WP13
- Consistent simulations for the gas jet generation have provided input both for the system design and optical system simulation
- Key technologies required to produce a working instrument in the LHC have been identified and development is well under-way
- Good collaboration with key CERN partners (in particular vacuum, impedance, safety, integration) is in place with detailed designs under discussion
- Design and integration is well en-route for installation in the LHC in 2020

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