

ETpathfinder workshop

2025-06-03

WP6 Optics

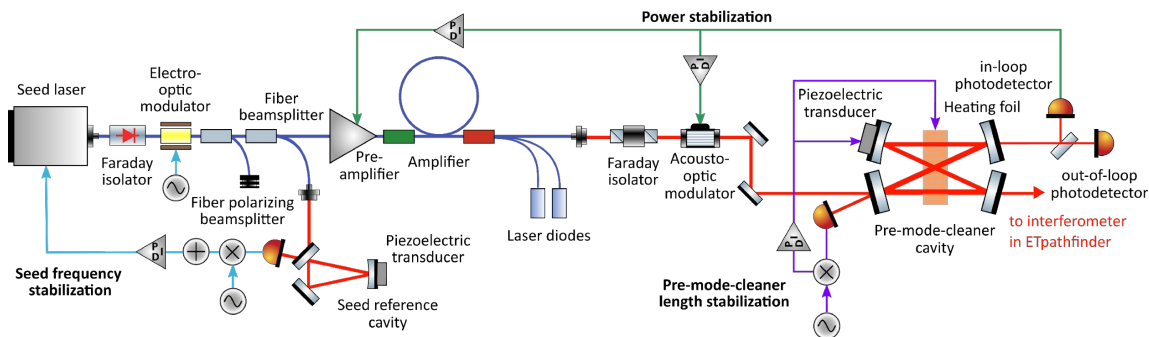
S. Steinlechner, M. Vervaeke
for ETpathfinder team



1550 nm Laser



- Pre-stabilized laser system arrived in April 2024 in Maastricht
- Current location: laser corner
- Will soon be moved next to vacuum system for aligning to input mode cleaner in beamsplitter tower

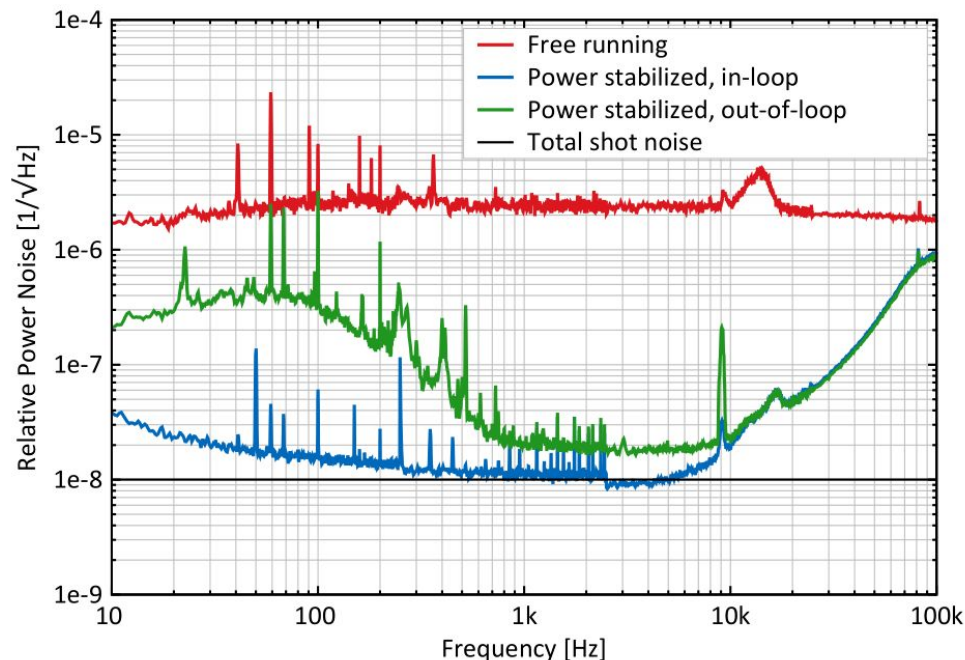


Git\\niknus\\ET_Pathfinder_Laser\\Pictures\\Drawings\\Set-up



1550 nm Laser – Power Stabilization

Relative Power Noise Measurement Nov. 2024



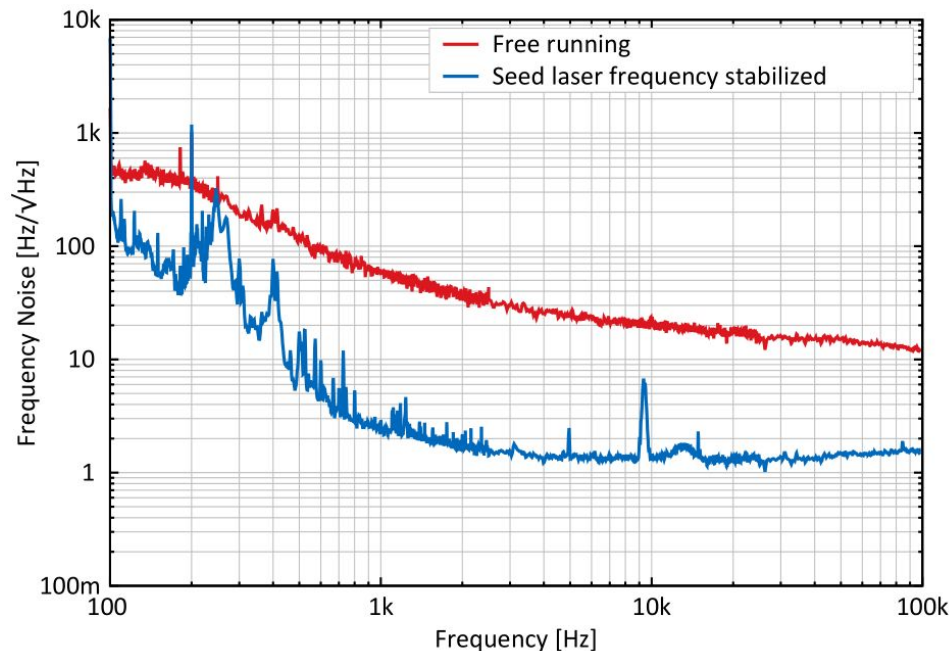
Next steps:

- Remove increased **out-of-loop** noise at low frequencies
- Reduce **out-of-loop** noise to shot noise level
- Investigate relative power noise downstream of input mode cleaner in vacuum tower



1550 nm Laser – Frequency Stabilization of Seed Laser

Frequency Noise Measurement Nov. 2024



Next step:

- Implement outer frequency stabilization control loop using input mode cleaner in vacuum tower as reference



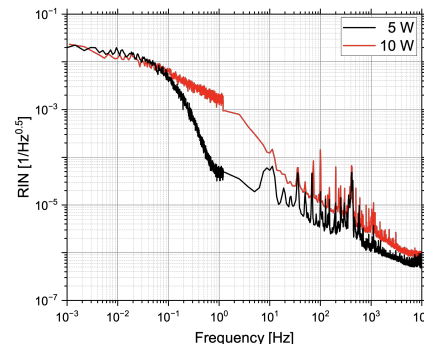
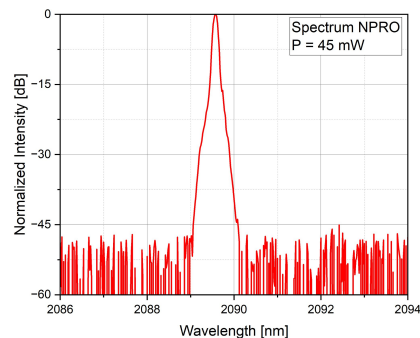
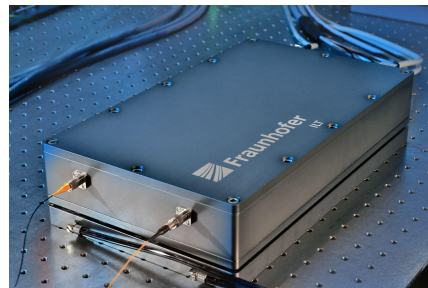
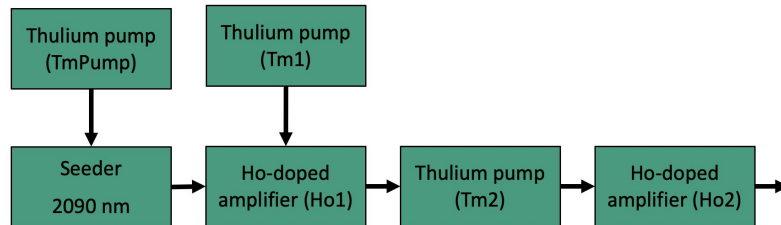
2090nm investigations

Status of 2090 nm laser

- NPRO:
 - Narrow linewidth operation at 2090 nm
 - Up to 50 mW output power
- Fiber amplifier:
 - Amplification to >10 W output power
 - Narrow linewidth, linear polarization
 - Power stability RIN at 100 Hz: $<10^{-5} \text{ Hz}^{-0.5}$

Current investigations:

- Active power stabilization of NPRO seed laser
- Further development of thulium-doped pump laser Tm2 (Beam quality and power stability)
- Mode cleaner cavity design

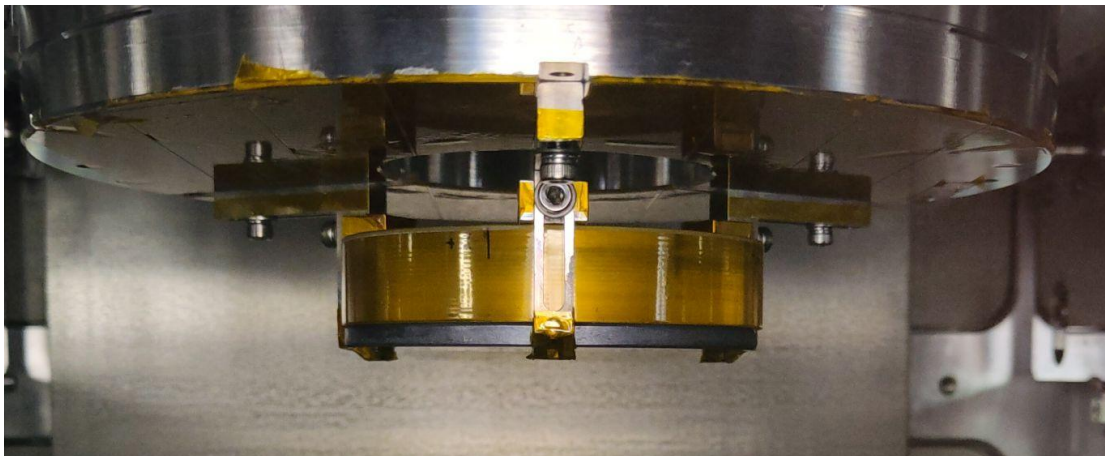




VUB B-PHOT: ongoing acceptance testing ion beam figuring

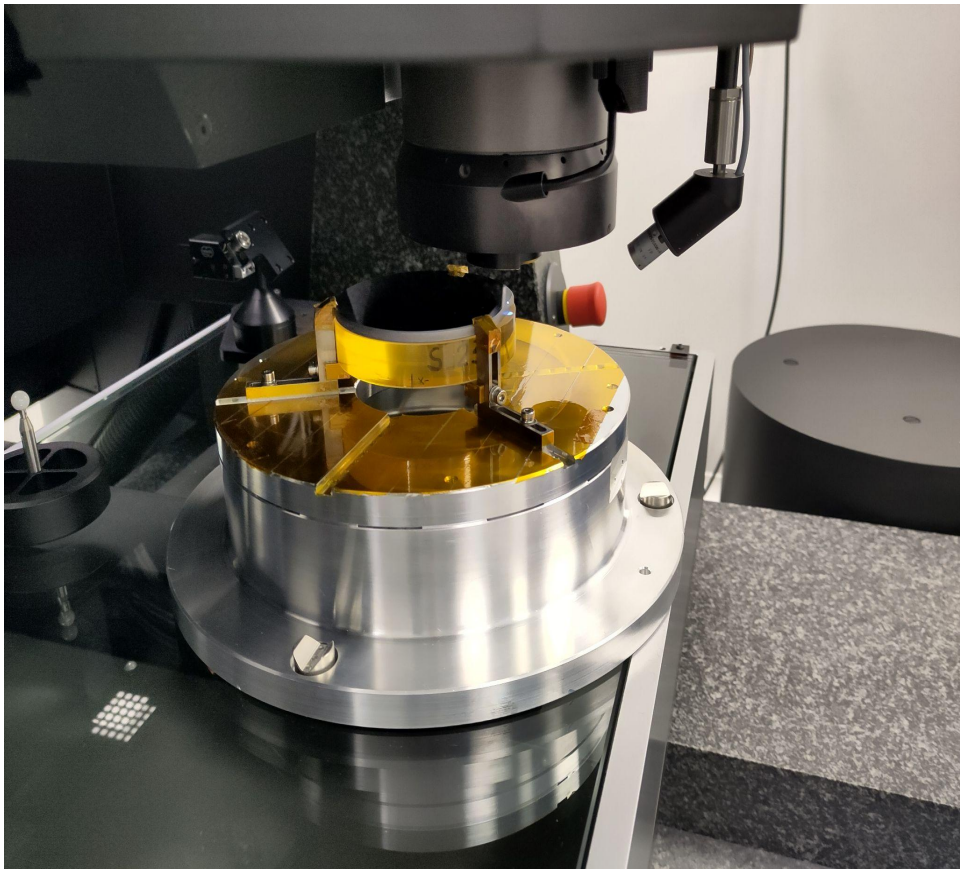


- Up to D200mm optics through the loadlock
- 5-axis ion gun motion
- Integrated removal function analyser
- Fully 24/7 operation
- Loadlock through cleanroom ISO7
- Plasma cleaning in the loadlock





VUB B-PHOT: ongoing acceptance testing ion beam figuring

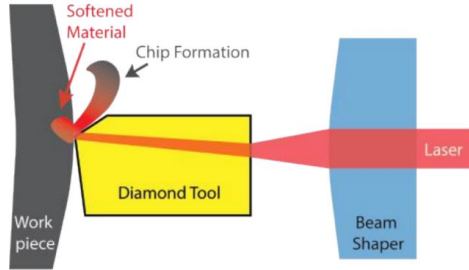


Start of first experiments: May 30th
(Silicon CZ flat)



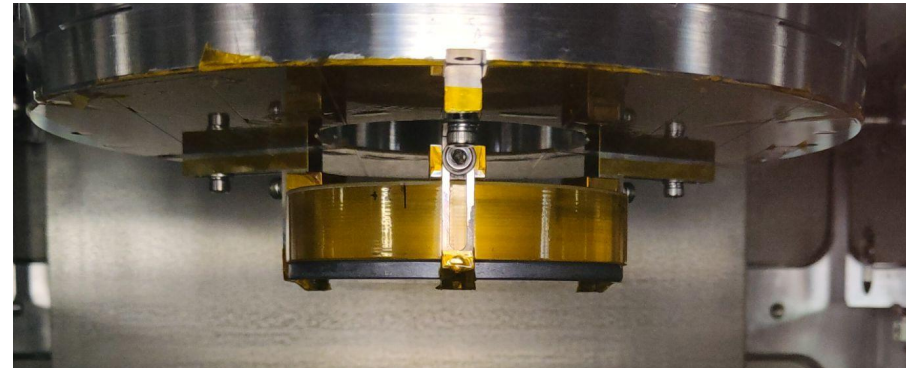
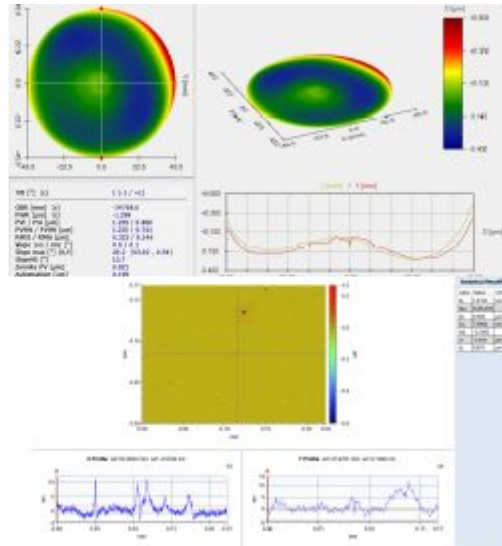


VUB B-PHOT: ongoing acceptance testing ion beam figuring



- Preshape:

- Laser-assisted diamond turning Si
- PV: $0.8\mu\text{m}$ (can be improved)
- Sa: 6.3nm
- SiO₂ based post-polishing





VUB B-PHOT: ongoing acceptance testing ion beam figuring



- CZ Si test figuring
Started May 30th EOB



VUB B-PHOT: ongoing acceptance testing ion beam figuring

Next step (as of May 30th 2025):

- Ion beam figuring
- Outlook do drop PV error quickly
- Based on process simulations
- Very first results June 2nd EOB

Challenge:

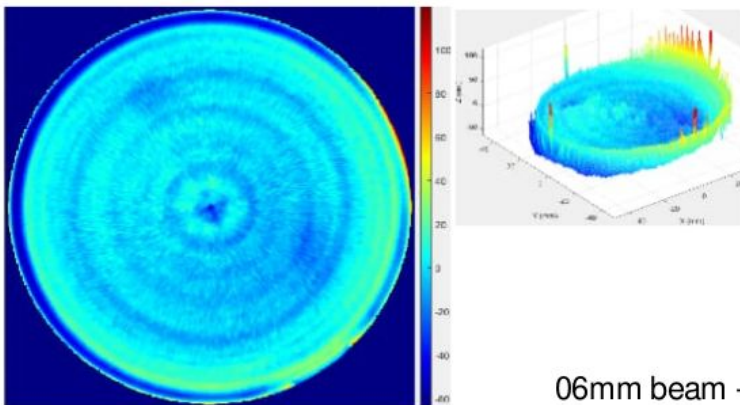
Roughness 0.1 nm spec => only with post-polishing with dedicated slurry composition

Results after iterative processing

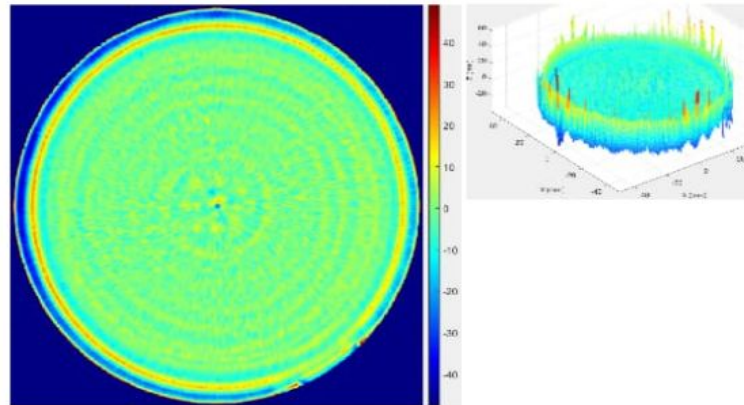
Beam: 09 Beam: 06

PV _(OS) :	270	126	nm
PV _(CA) :	80	58	nm
rms _(OS) :	17	8.4	nm
rms _(CA) :	6.1	4.4	nm
Duration:	4H27	2H28	hours

09mm beam ->



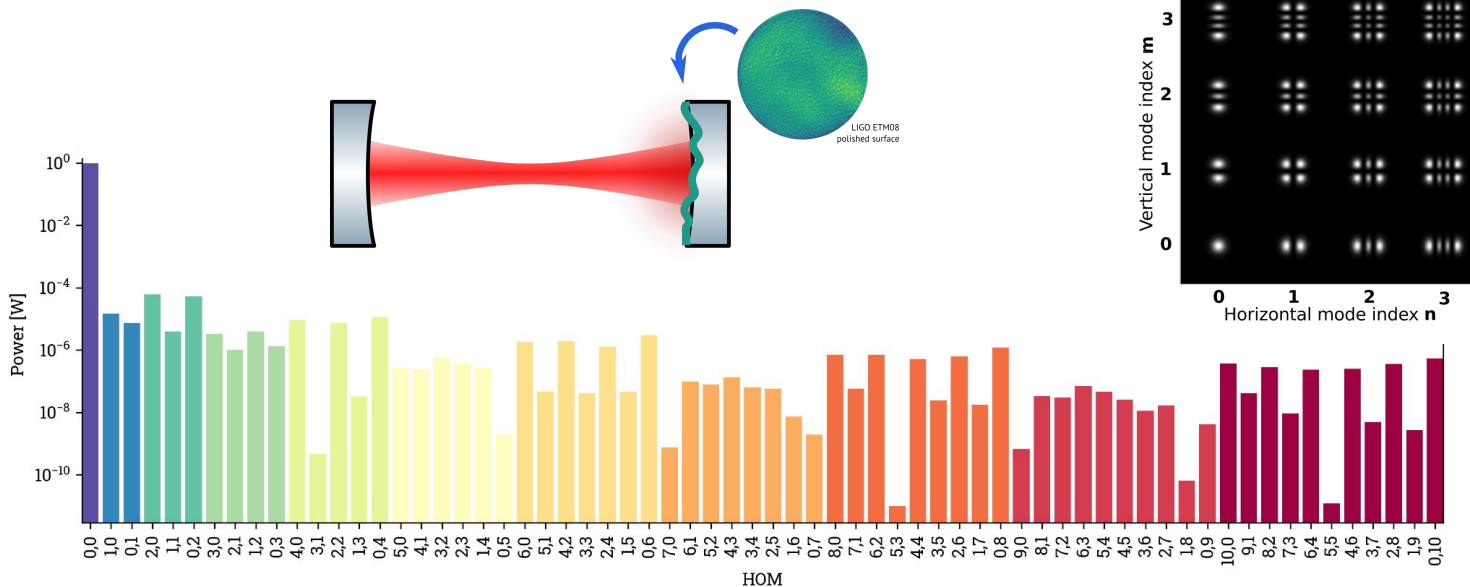
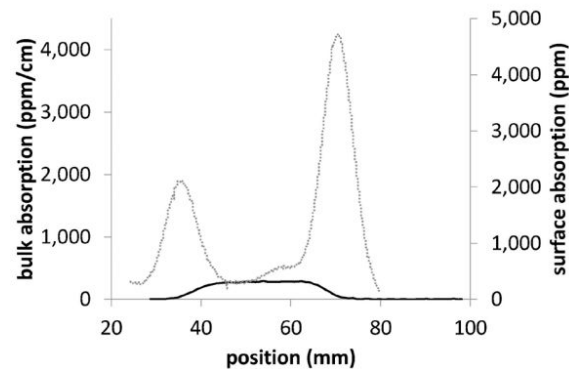
06mm beam ->





Investigation of Zeiss mirrors

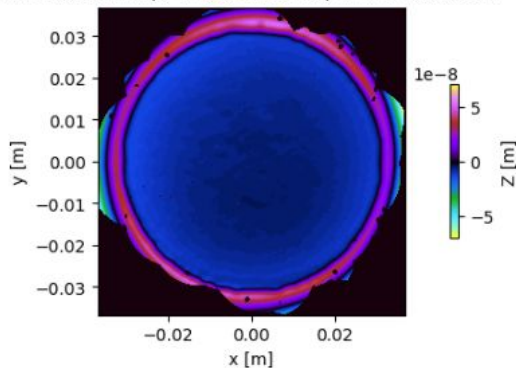
- Two mirrors produced to full specifications by Zeiss
- We now have the option to procure (up to) 6 more (go for 2 for now?)
- need to make sure we are decently happy with them
 - analyse surface map data provided by Zeiss
 - analyse surface absorption at LMA (with third sample, w/o flats)



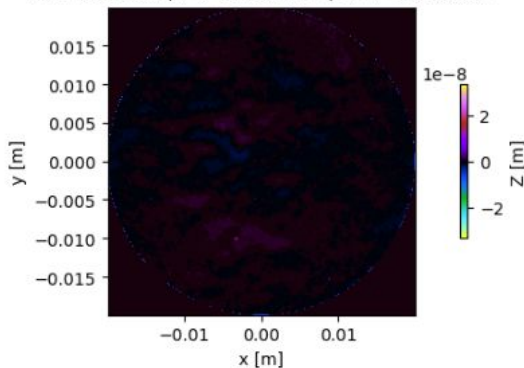


Looking into surface maps (all preliminary!)

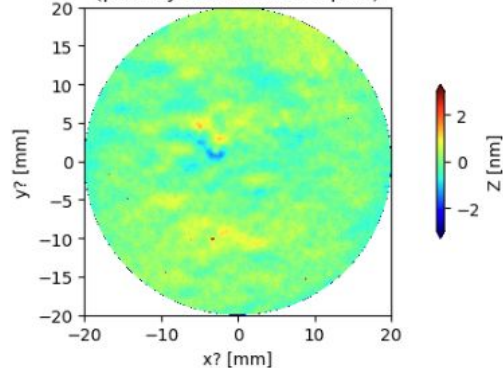
raw
RMS 12.322nm; P-V 122.535 nm; min -70.322 nm



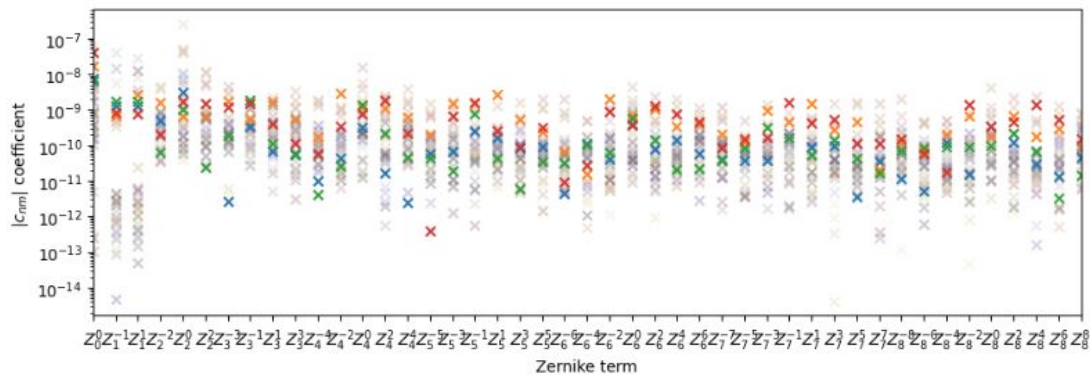
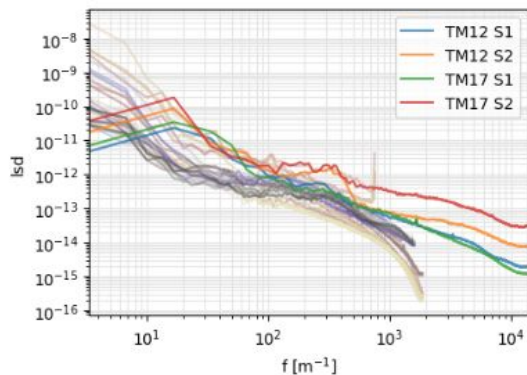
processed
RMS 0.443nm; P-V 42.376 nm; min -9.055 nm



processed
(plot styled to mimic report)

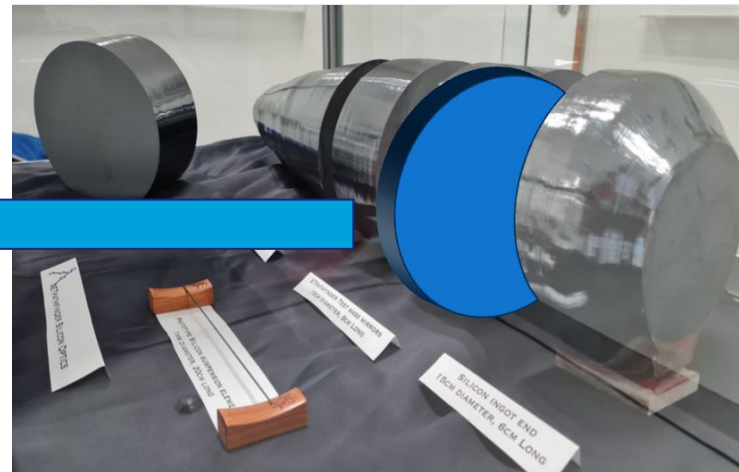
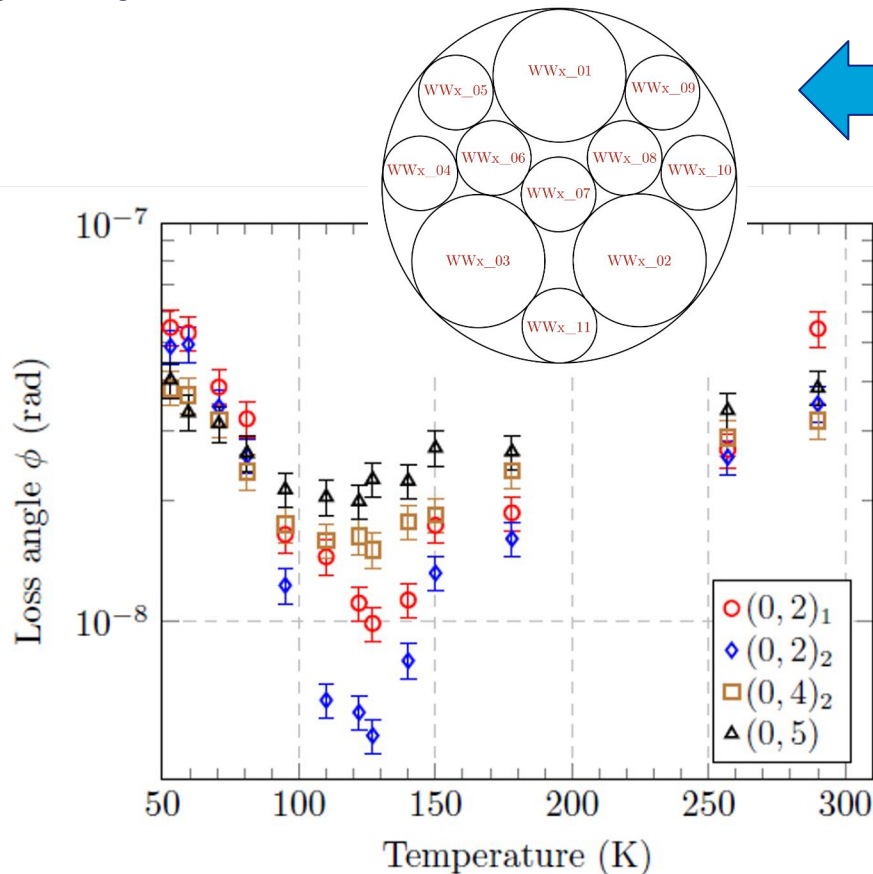


Comparison to existing polished substrates
['LIGO, original polish', 'LIGO, repolished c.2020', 'Virgo, current']





Silicon Characterization

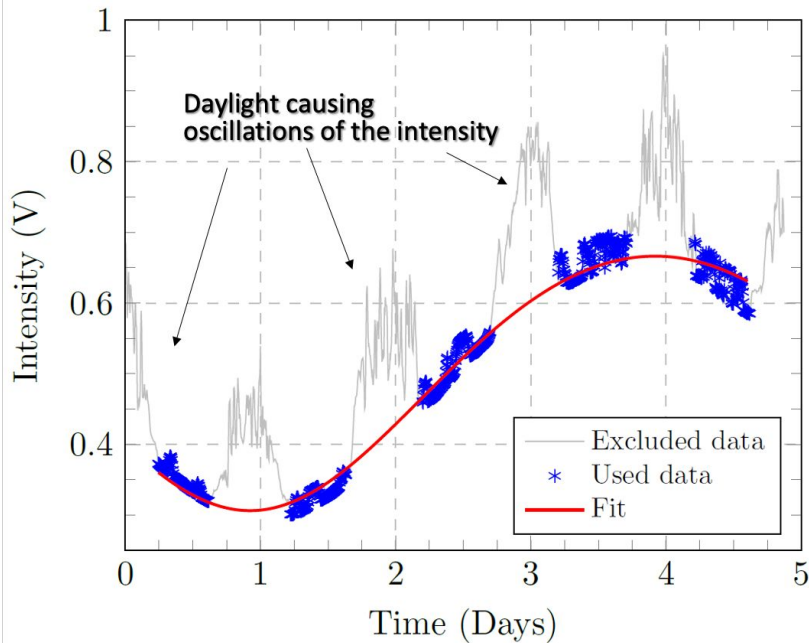


Temperature-dependent measurement of mechanical loss of silicon samples cut from our ingots (50mm x 5mm disks) show quite low loss and clear loss dip at around 120K. Setup cannot (yet?) go to the very low temperatures, i.e. <20K where we expect the loss again to become very low.

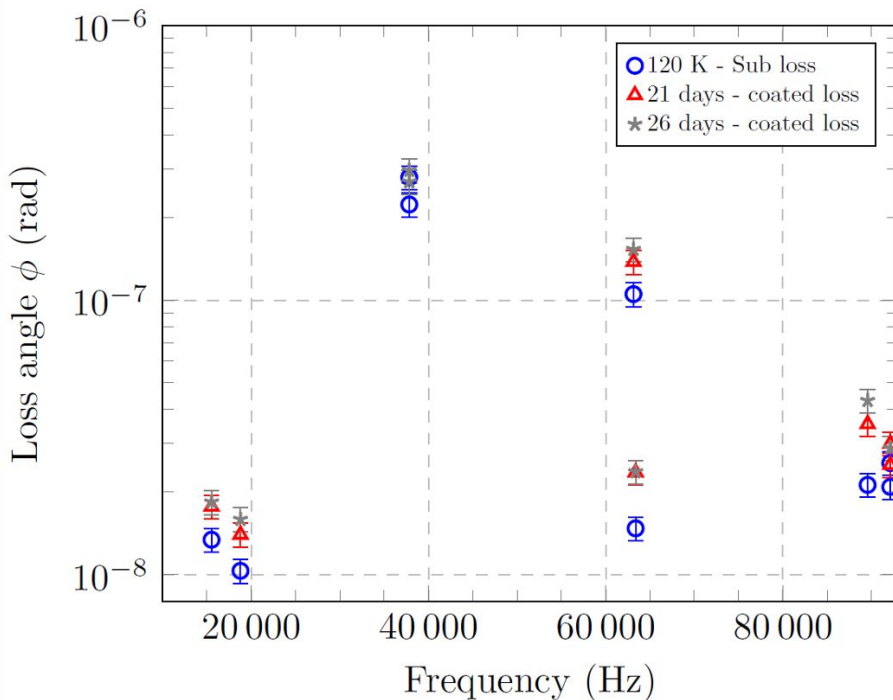


Ice investigation

- From the fit we derived a growth rate of **42 nm/day**
- Final ice thickness of **$\sim 1.1 \mu\text{m}$** .

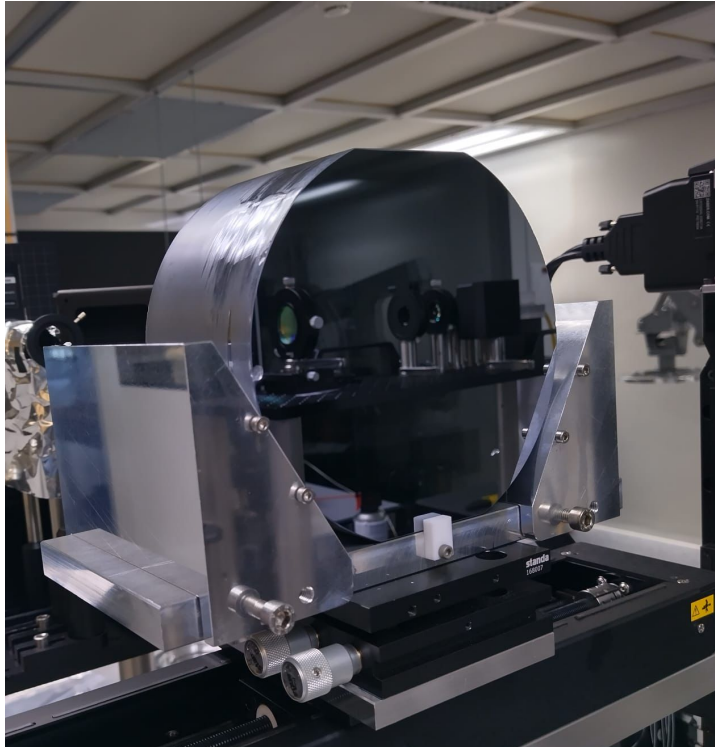


- Ice growth on sample's surface for **26 days**.
- Mechanical loss checked after 21 and 26 days.
- The total loss increased of 1.5 on average considering all modes.





Absorption loss and Coatings at LMA



To further check the surface quality of cutting and polishing, a dummy substrate polished by Zeiss has been sent to LMA to check optical absorption of surface and bulk material.

LMA just received the sample and tested the new mount.

Everything ready to start the measurement!



Absorption loss and Coatings at LMA

Considering ETpathfinder sensitivity, testing new coating materials is not a priority.



Mirrors will be $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5$ coating
(current GW detectors have $\text{SiO}_2/\text{TiO}_2:\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5$)

Coating deposition will be done in the Veeco Spector IBS machine:

- One mirror at the time
- Extra care needed to meet requirements for “identical” mirrors

Photo_IN2P3_Patrick_Dumas_Fev2019



NGF: Optics Consortium

- Investigation of polishing steps: sawing, grinding, laser assisted SPDT & MRF polishing, wet-etching on crystal structure, ion beam figuring
- Development of metrology for surface-quality characteriation
→ aims: meet optical ET surface-quality requirements without excess surface absorption; track down source of surface absorption
- Characterisation of low-absorption magnetically purified Czochralski silicon
- Bonding of silicon: investigation of mechanical and optical properties of the bond
→ aim: find ways of reaching test-mass size required for ET
- Coating development: Explore effect of coatings on silicon (surface) quality

Partner:

- Cosine (consortium lead)
- SRON
- VSL
- TNO
- NOVA
- Maastricht University

Work Packages:

- WP1000 'Mirror polishing development' → Boris Landgraf (cosine)
- WP2000 'Characterization silicon absorption' → Jessica Steinlechner (MU)
- WP3000 'Metrology system development' → Ramón Navarro (NOVA)
- WP4000 'Bonding method development' → Marloes Bistervels (cosine)
- WP5000 'Coating development' → Jessica Steinlechner (MU)
- WP6000 'Optics valorization' → Ramón Navarro (NOVA)



Questions & Tasks

- single cavity experiment
 - timelines from cryo, suspension, vacuum, controls
 - planning of layout (e.g., which side to use), required components
 - build-up of required aux suspensions, optics, detectors
 - key measurements?
- availability and ambitions of people for assembly and commissioning

