



CONTAMINATION CONTROL ASSESSMENT OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST SPACE ENVIRONMENTAL SIMULATION CHAMBER

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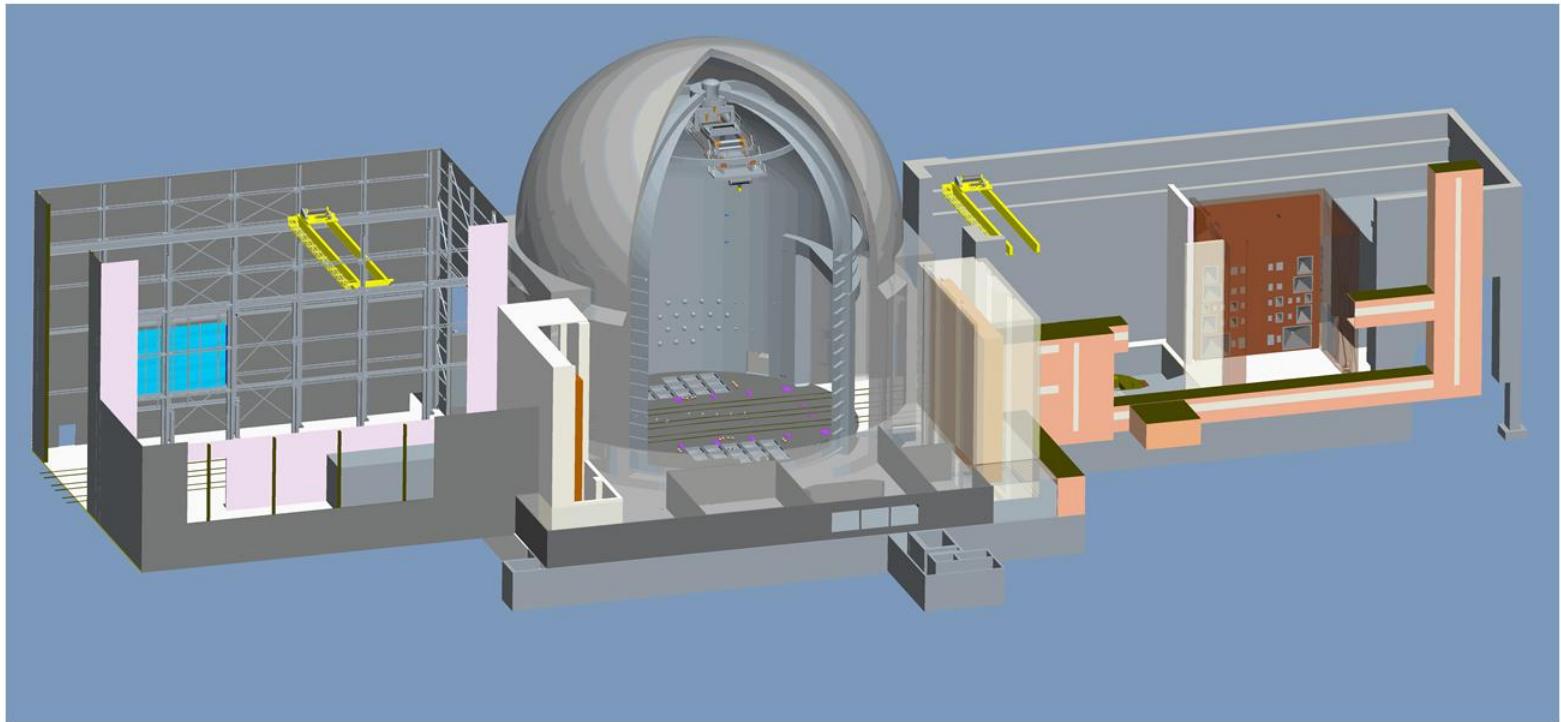
NASA Glenn Research Center at Plum Brook Station

Stephen M. Sinclair

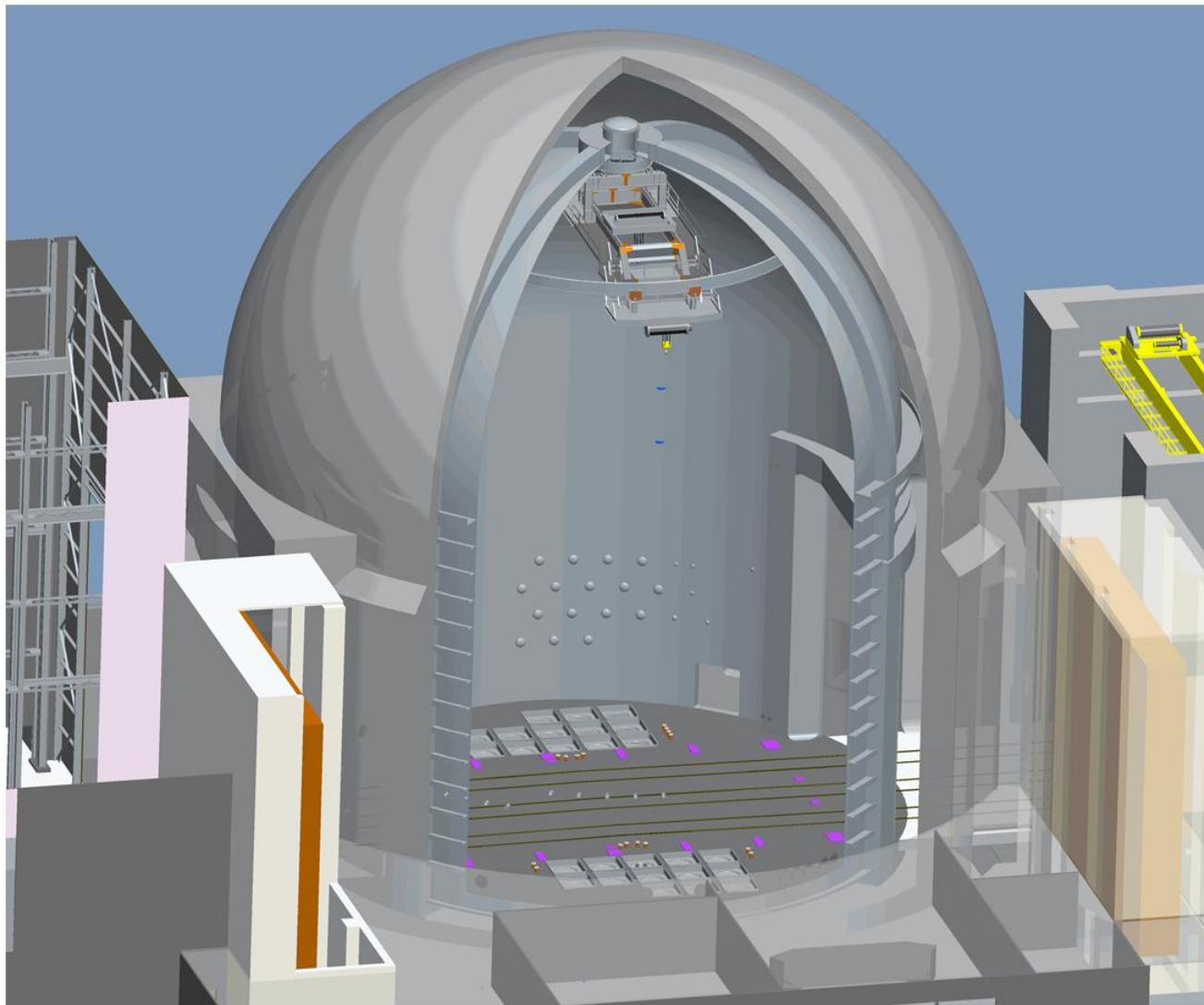
Sierra Lobo, Inc.



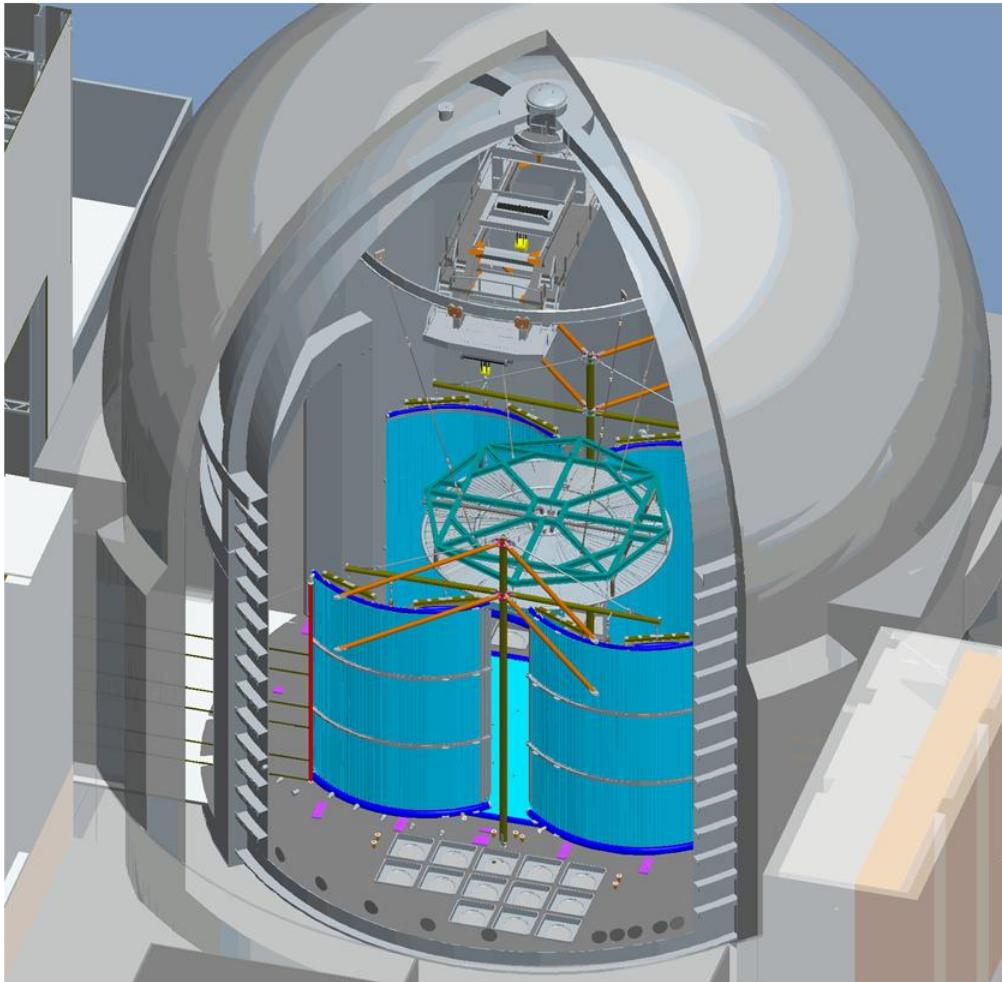
Space Power Facility at Plum Brook Station



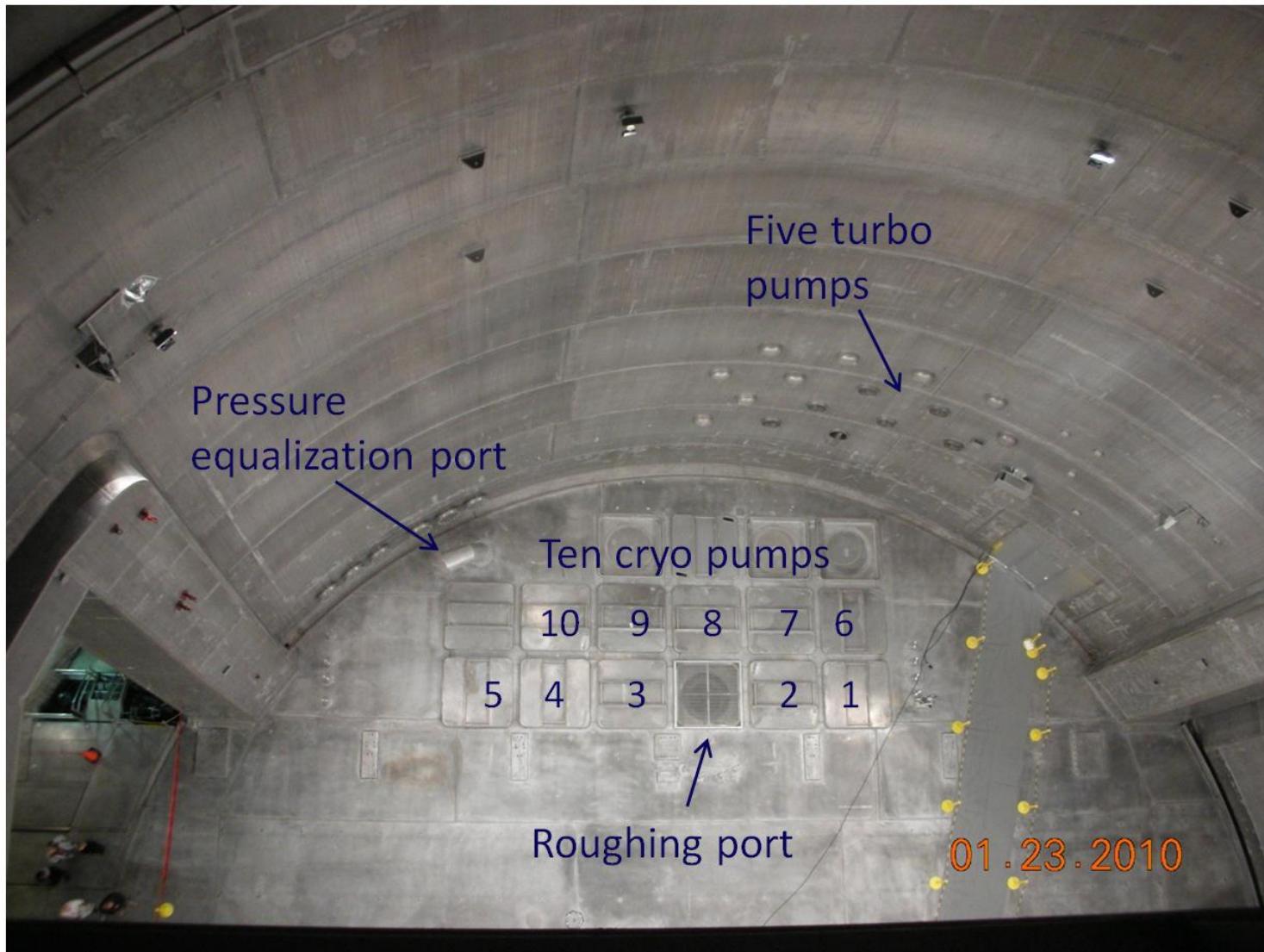
Thermal-Vacuum Test Chamber within Concrete Dome



Cryo-Shroud in Open Configuration



View of Test Chamber from Polar Crane Bridge



Test Chamber and Annulus Roughing Piping



Inlet chamber piping



Chamber piping



Chamber piping isolation valve



Chamber and annulus piping



Roughing piping to blowers



Chamber piping



Chamber and annulus piping



Piping at stage-1 blowers



Stage-2, stage-3, and stage-4 blowers





Stripped Polar Crane Bridge at Top of Test Chamber



Preparing to Lower the Polar Crane





Polar Crane Bridge Being Lowered



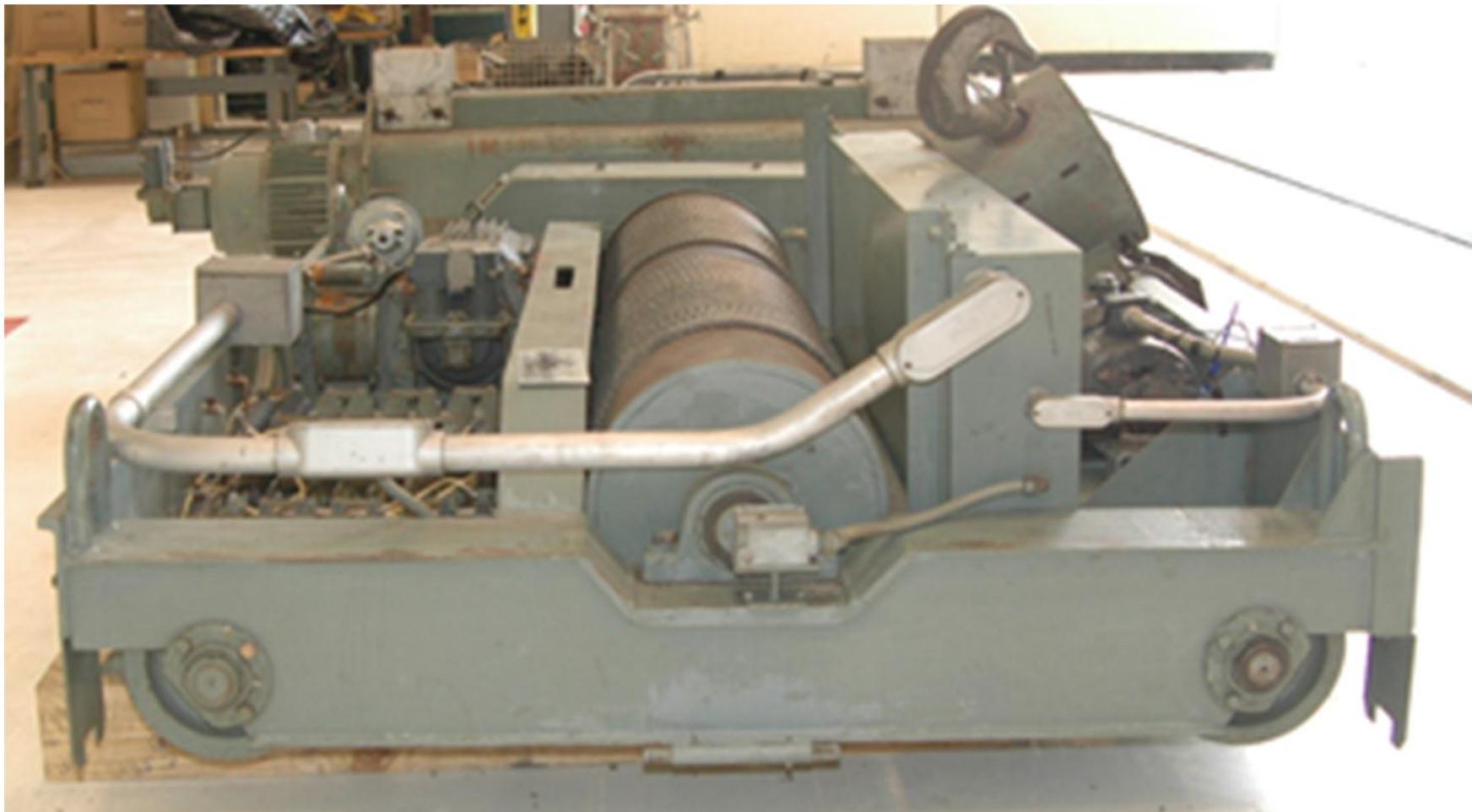


Final Stage of Lowering Polar Crane Bridge

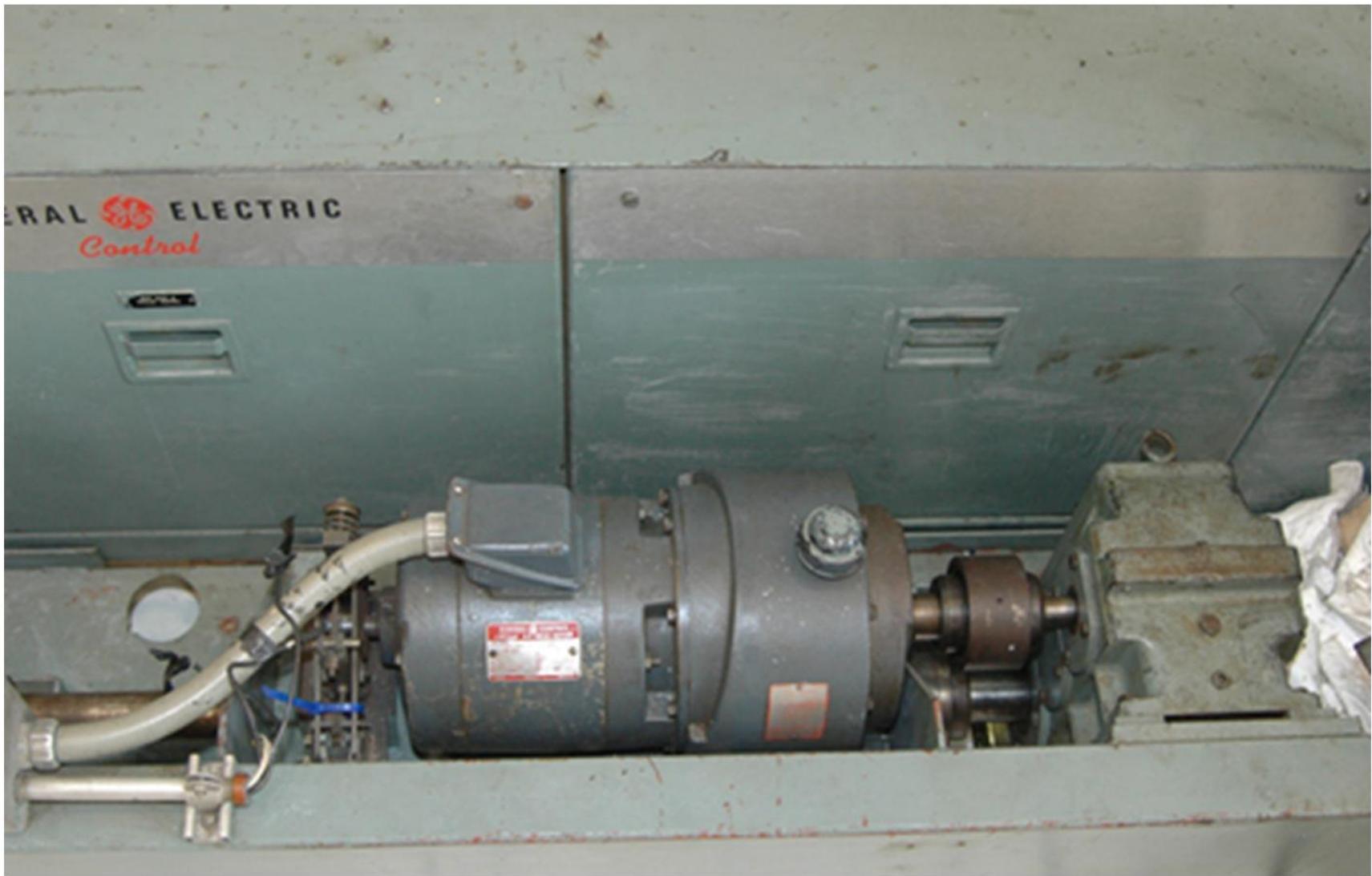




Polar Crane Trolley before Refurbishment

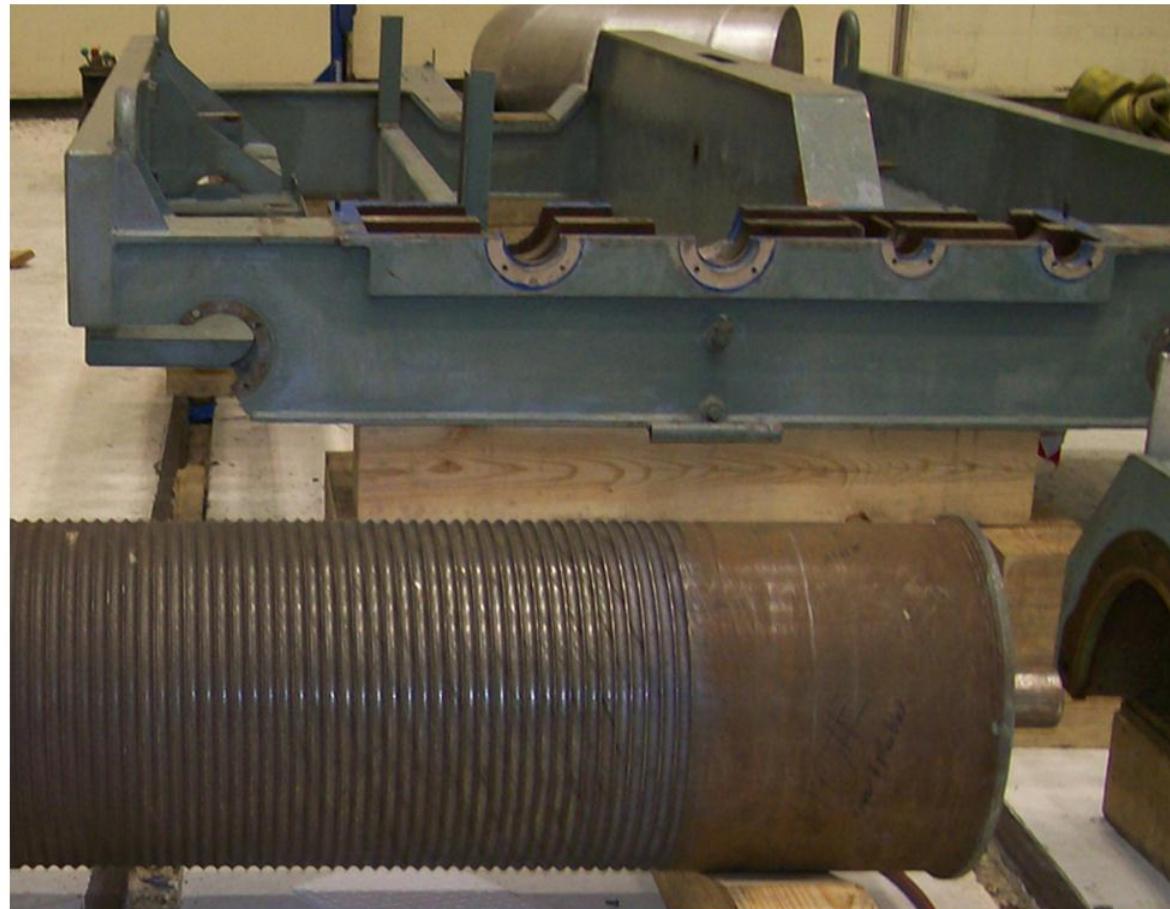


Trolley Control Cabinet and Drive Motor before Refurbishment



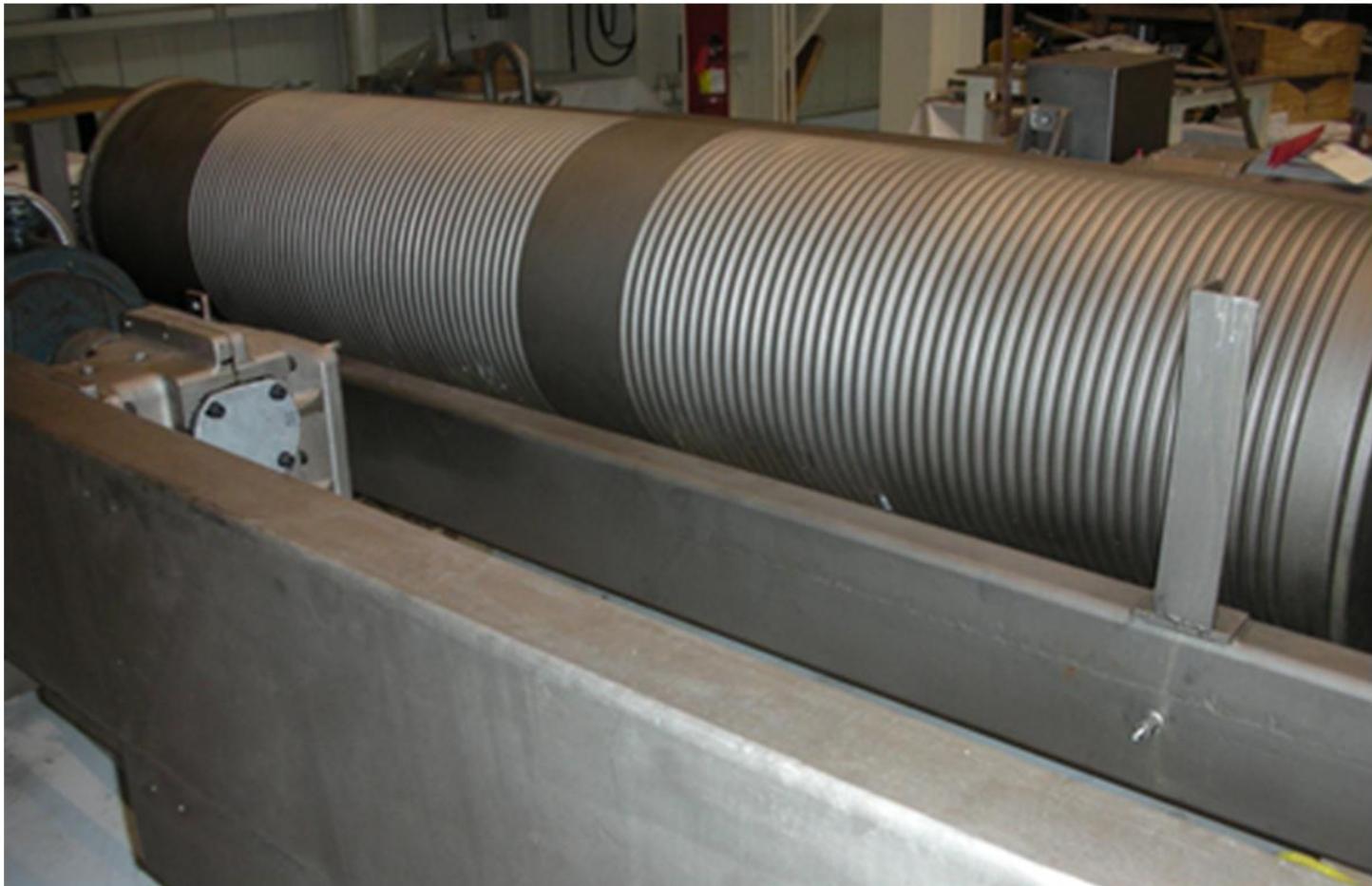


Polar Crane Trolley and Auxiliary Drum before Refurbishment





Electroless Ni-Plating of Trolley and Main Hoist Drum





Electroless Ni-Plated Trolley Components





Lubrication of Wire Rope with Specialty Oil



Cleaning of Polar Crane Bridge





Locations of Silicon Wafer Pairs



Polar Crane Bridge – Set 1



Chamber Floor – Set 2



Scavenger Plates – Set 3



IST Results: Organic NVR Levels, ng/cm²

Boiler Range	IST-2010			IST-2011		
	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3
Low C7-C10	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	1.8	1.3
Medium C11-C20	7.6	7.2	9.2	3.1	3.5	4.3
High >C20	13.7	26.2	41.9	11.5	16.7	13.9
Sum >C6	22.2	34.1	51.8	15.3	22.0	19.5

Set 1: Polar Crane; Set 2: Chamber Floor, Set 3: Scavenger Plates



IST-2011: Total NVR

Location	Weight, mg	Surface Density, ng/cm ²
Set 1 - Polar Crane Bridge	0.034	108
Set 2 - Center Chamber Floor	0.039	124
Set 3 - Scavenger Plate Wells	0.036	115

These levels (A/5 of FED-STD 209) of NVR typically meet: *high* spacecraft sensitivity requirements for quantitative levels for *non-optics allowable* and *high* spacecraft sensitivity requirements for quantitative levels for *optics allowable*.

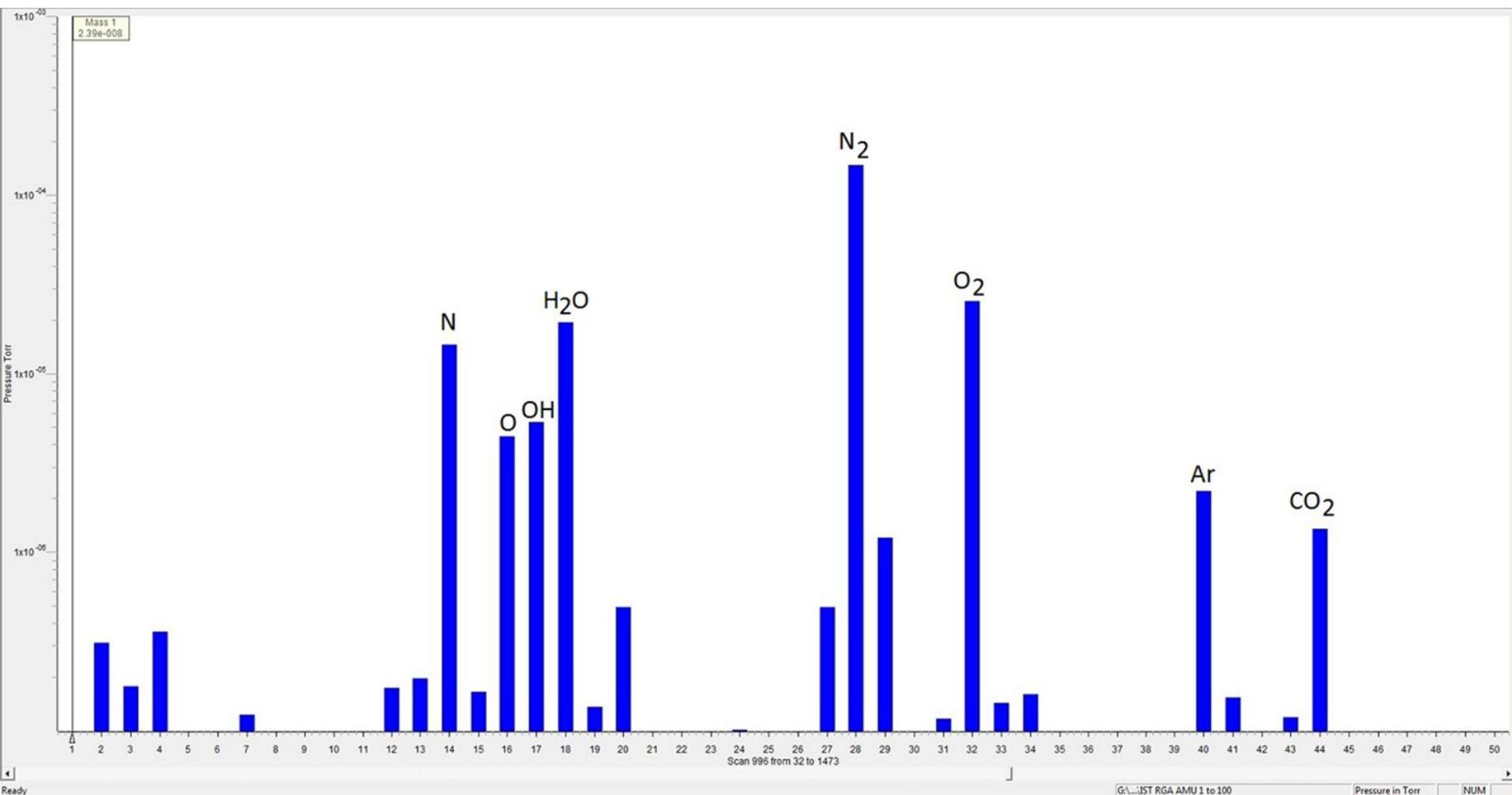


Identified Organic Levels for Wafer Pairs, ng/cm²

Phthalates
72% of
NVR

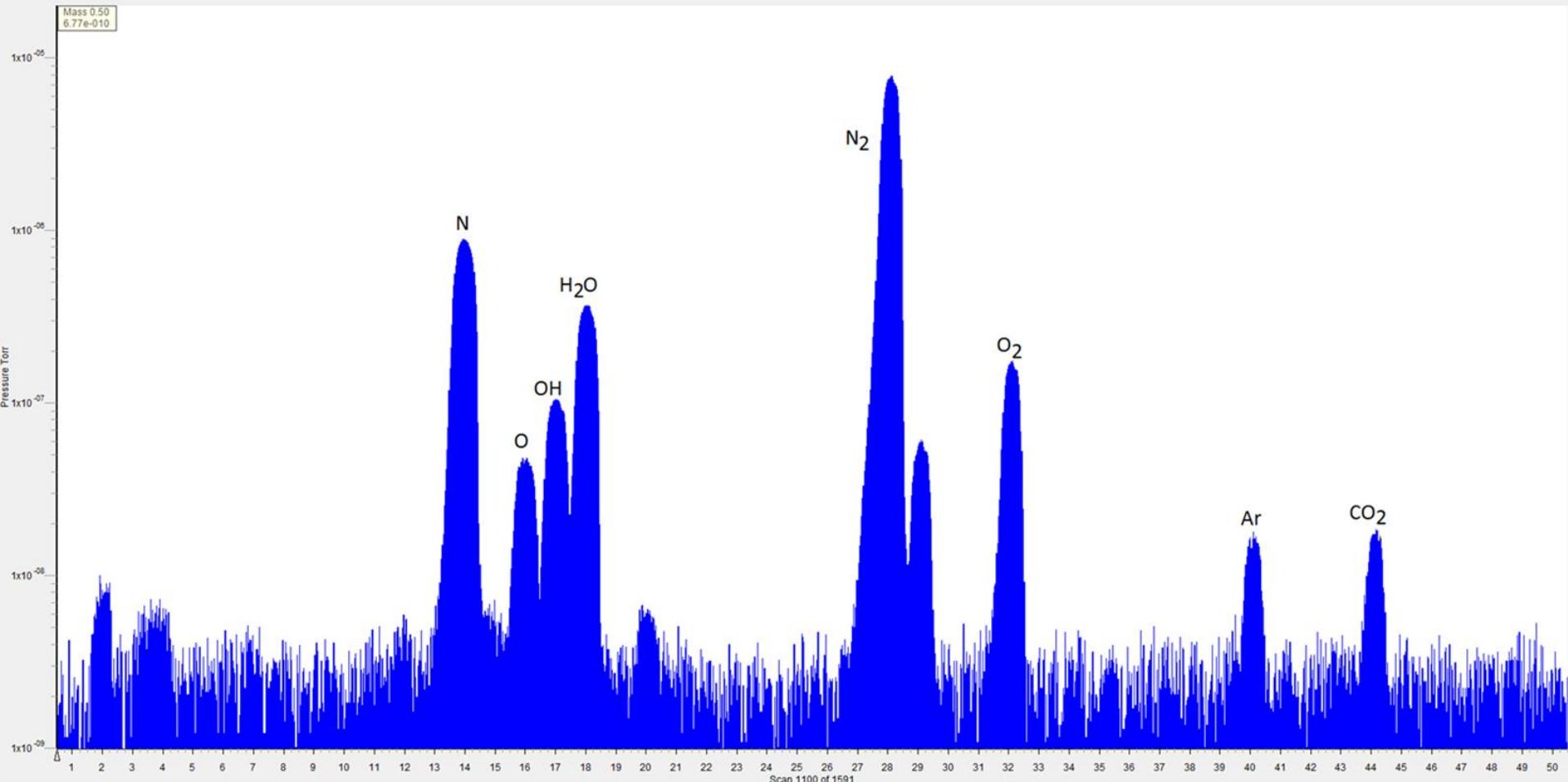
Semi-Quantitative Levels of Identified Organic Compounds	IST 2010			IST 2011		
	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3
Diisonyl phthalate (DINP)	5.8	18.2	16.7	5.8	15.4	10
Diethyl phthalate (DEHP, DOP)	0.7	0.8	2.9	0.9	0.4	1.4
Dinonyl phthalate	0.9	1	2.4			
2-(2-Butoxyethoxy)-ethanol	1.7	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.3
C20-C24 hydrocarbons	0.8	0.6	1.7			
C6-C10 Hydrocarbons				0.2	1.8	0.9
Siloxane	0.2		1.3	0.2	0.2	0.7
Unknown(m/z: 45, 57, 73, 89, 103, 119, 161, 175, 191)	1.5	1				
Tetradecanoic acid amide		0.5	1.7			
Phthalic anhydride		0.2	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.3
Dibutyl phthalate	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2
1ST Peak in FRYOL PCF	0.5	0.4	0.2			
Unknown(m/z: 43, 57, 70, 99, 114, 127, 141, 171)				1		
Diethyl adipate	0.3	0.2	0.4			
Octadecanenitrile		0.3	0.2		0.2	0.2
Unknown(m/z: 43, 57, 71, 99, 137, 149)		0.4	0.4			
Dodecyl dihydrofuranone	0.3	0.2	0.3			
Alkyl amide		0.7				
Unknown(m/z: 43, 77, 91, 121, 163)		0.2	0.4			
Methyldiphenyl(methyldiphenylsilyl)oxy-silane			0.6			
Butyl benzyl phthalate	0.1	0.1	0.3			
C10-C15 hydrocarbons	0.5					
Alkyl ketone		0.1	0.4			
Caprolactam		0.2	0.2			
Butyl benzenesulfonimide	0.1	0.1	0.2			
Unknown(m/z: 41, 45, 57, 71, 77, 85, 99, 117, 125, 139, 157, 175)			0.4			
Hexadecannenitrile		0.1	0.2			
Unknown(m/z: 41, 45, 57, 71, 85, 89, 149, 163)			0.3			
Methyldiphenyloxy-silane plus Dinonyl phthalate	0.3					
Dimethyl indanone	0.1		0.1			
Diethyl toluamide		0.2				
Unknown(m/z: 44, 55, 72, 86, 100, 212, 220)		0.2				
Unknown(m/z: 44, 55, 72, 86, 100, 212, 226, 429)			0.2			
C18-C23 Hydrocarbons				0.2		
Diethyl adipate + Alkylamide				0.2		
Diisopropenyl benzene	0.1					
Unknown(m/z: 43, 59, 91, 119, 161, 179, 194)		0.1				
Dodecanamide		0.1				
Tributylcitrate acetate		0.1				
Unknown(m/z: 45, 57, 73, 89, 103, 119, 145, 161, 175)			0.1			
Tetradecanoic acid amide + C24				0.1		
Hexadecanamide				0.1		

IST-2010 RGA Histogram Spectrum



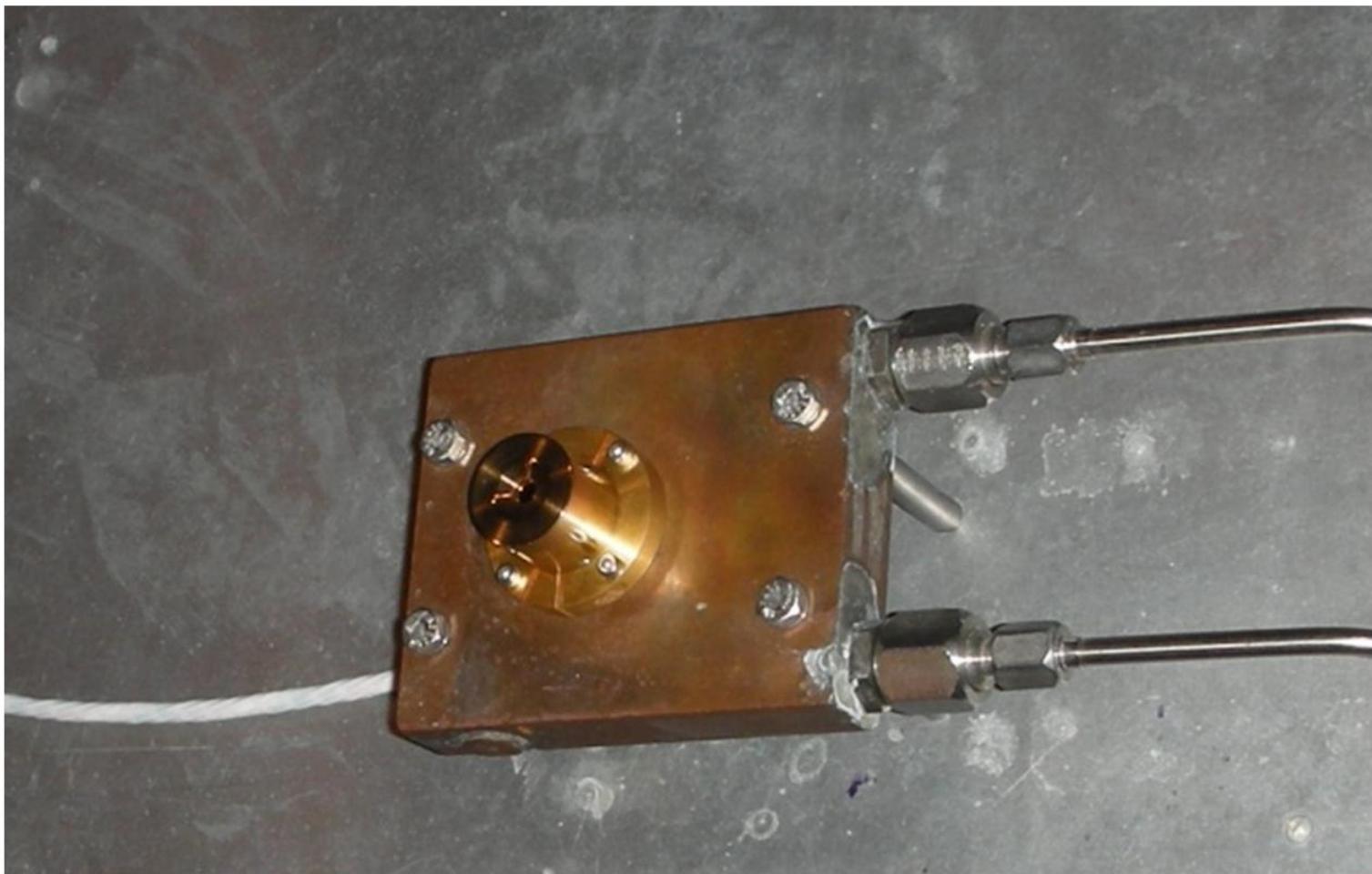


IST-2011 RGA Spectrum



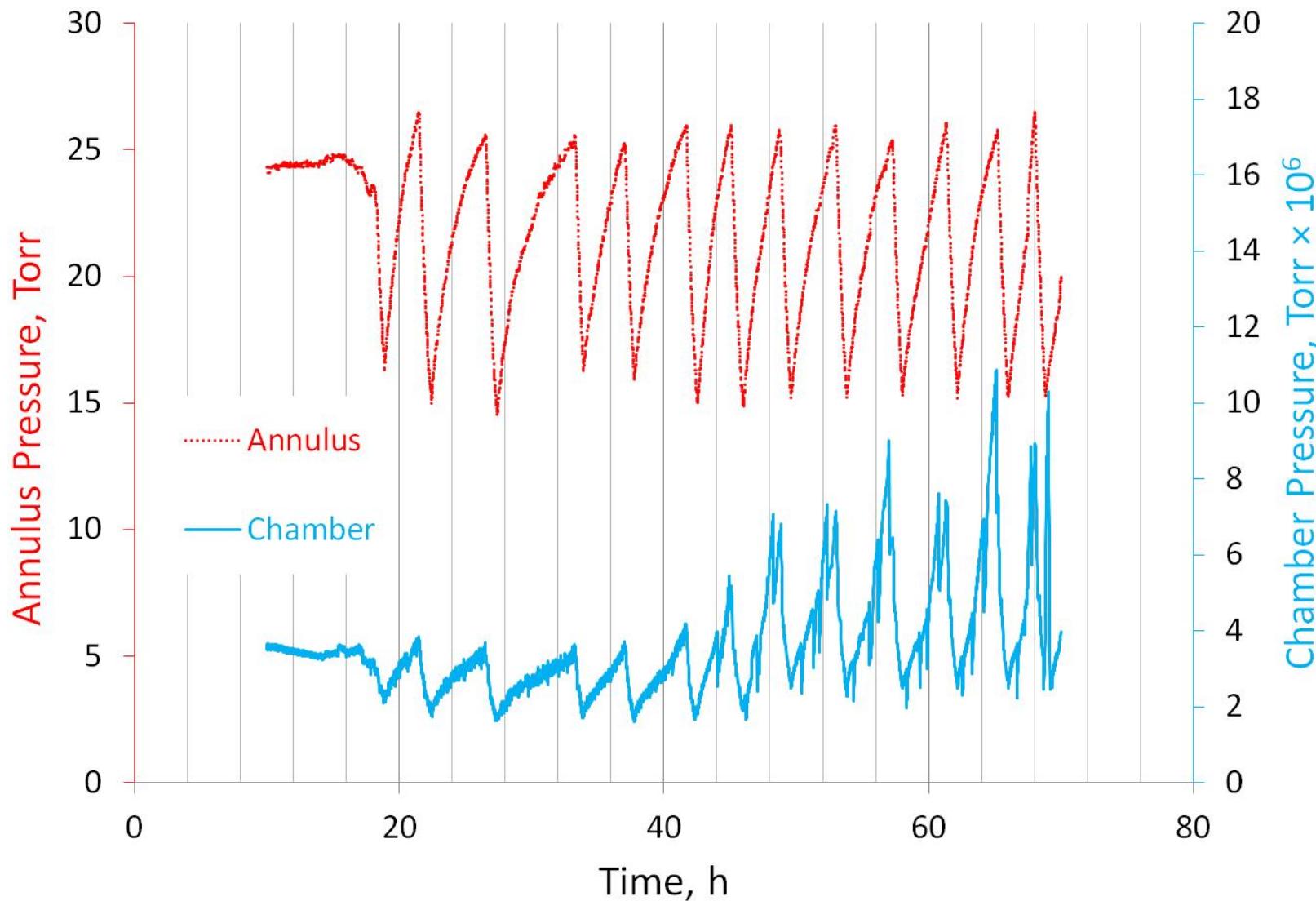


TQCM Mounted to Heat Sink



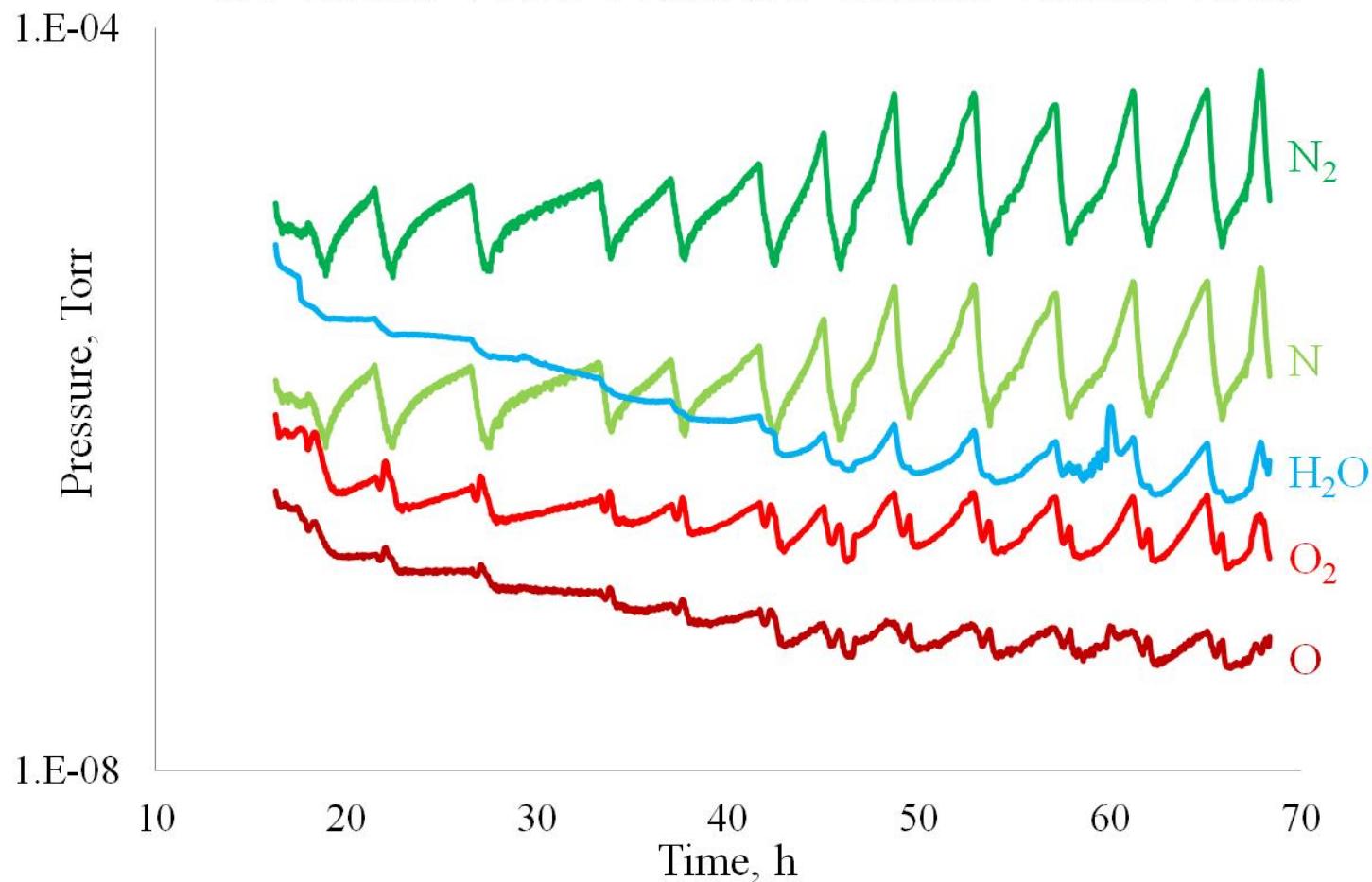


IST-2011: Annulus and Chamber Pressure

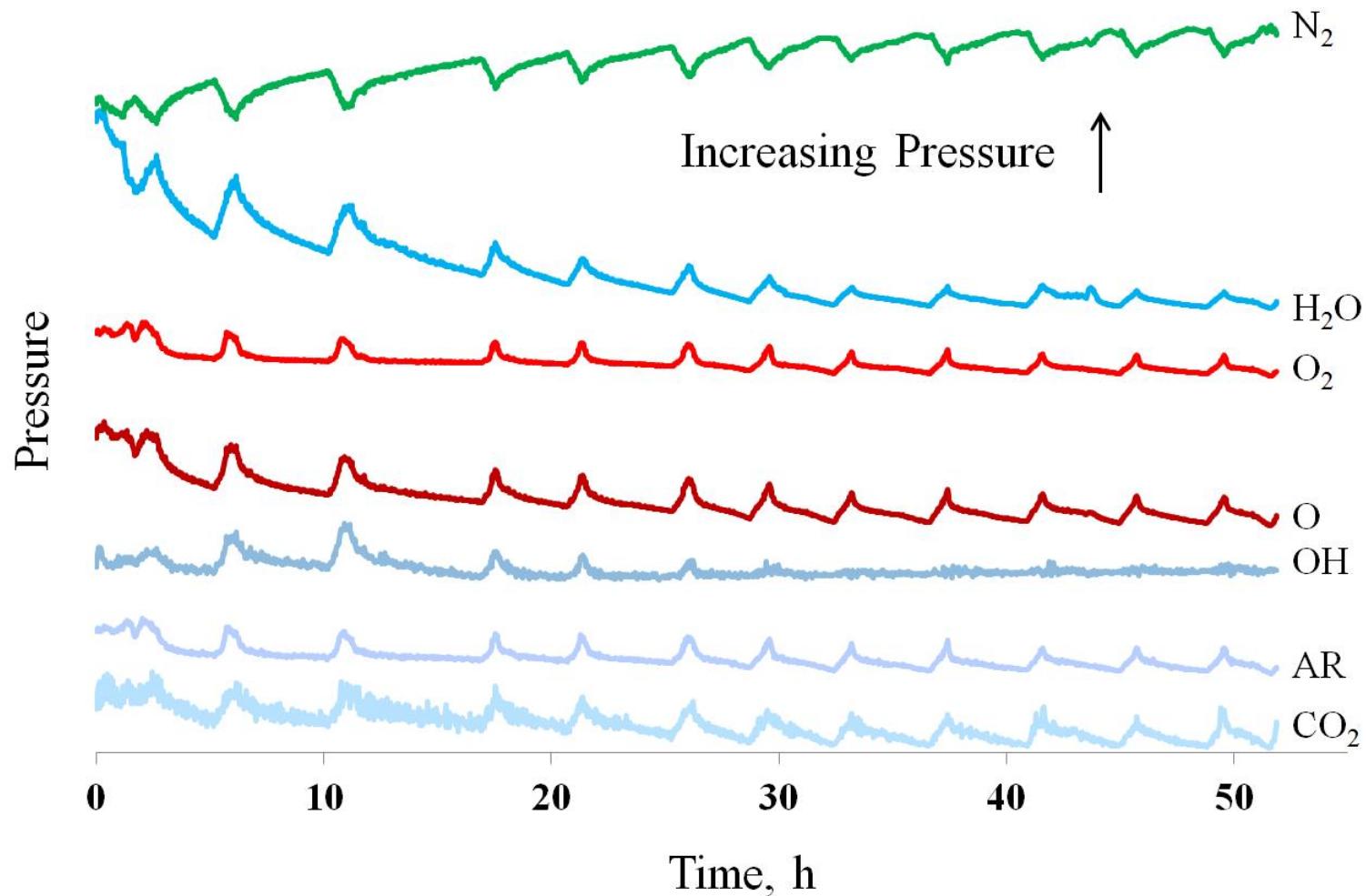




IST-2011: AMU Pressure Trends Versus Time

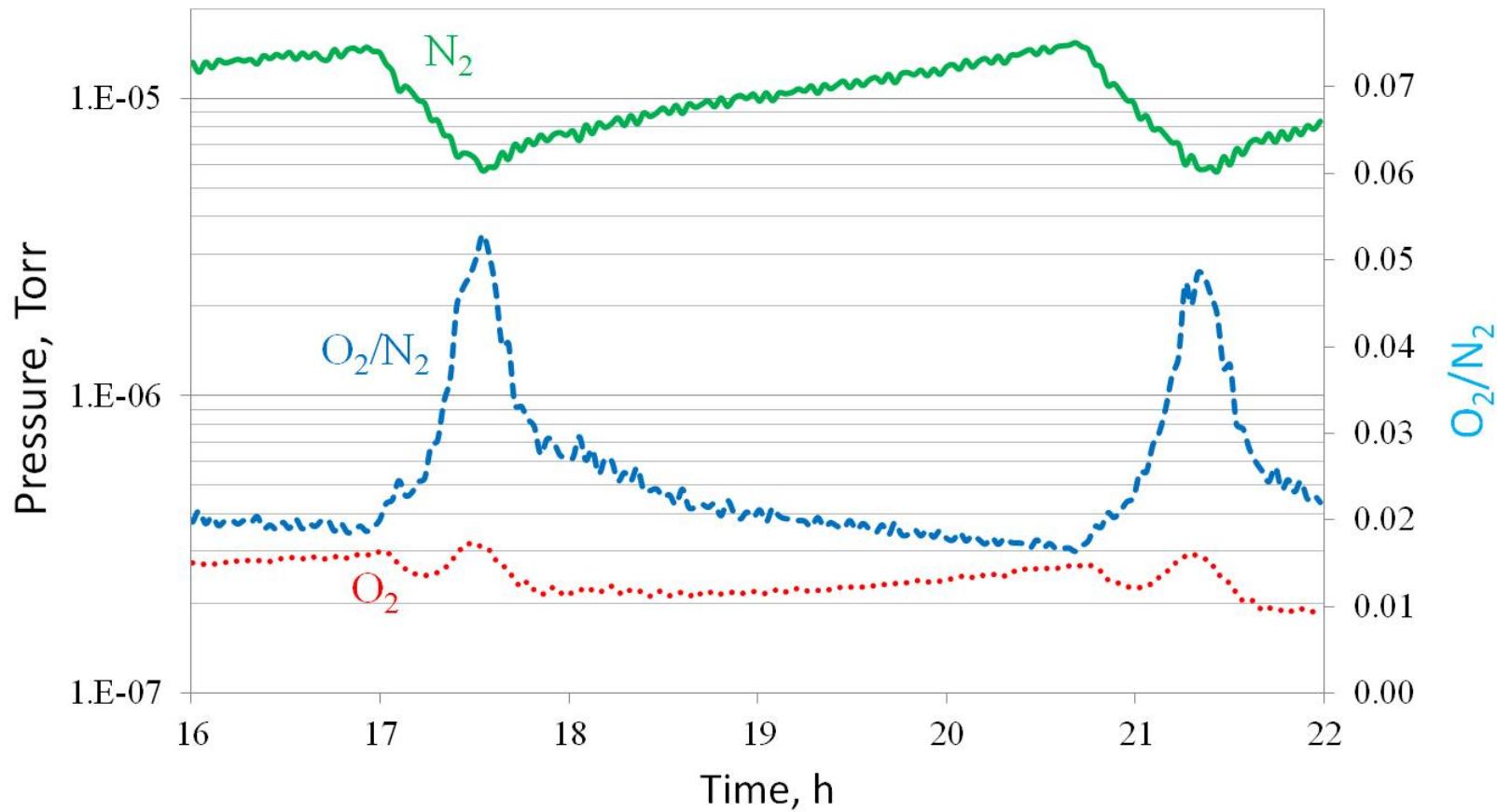


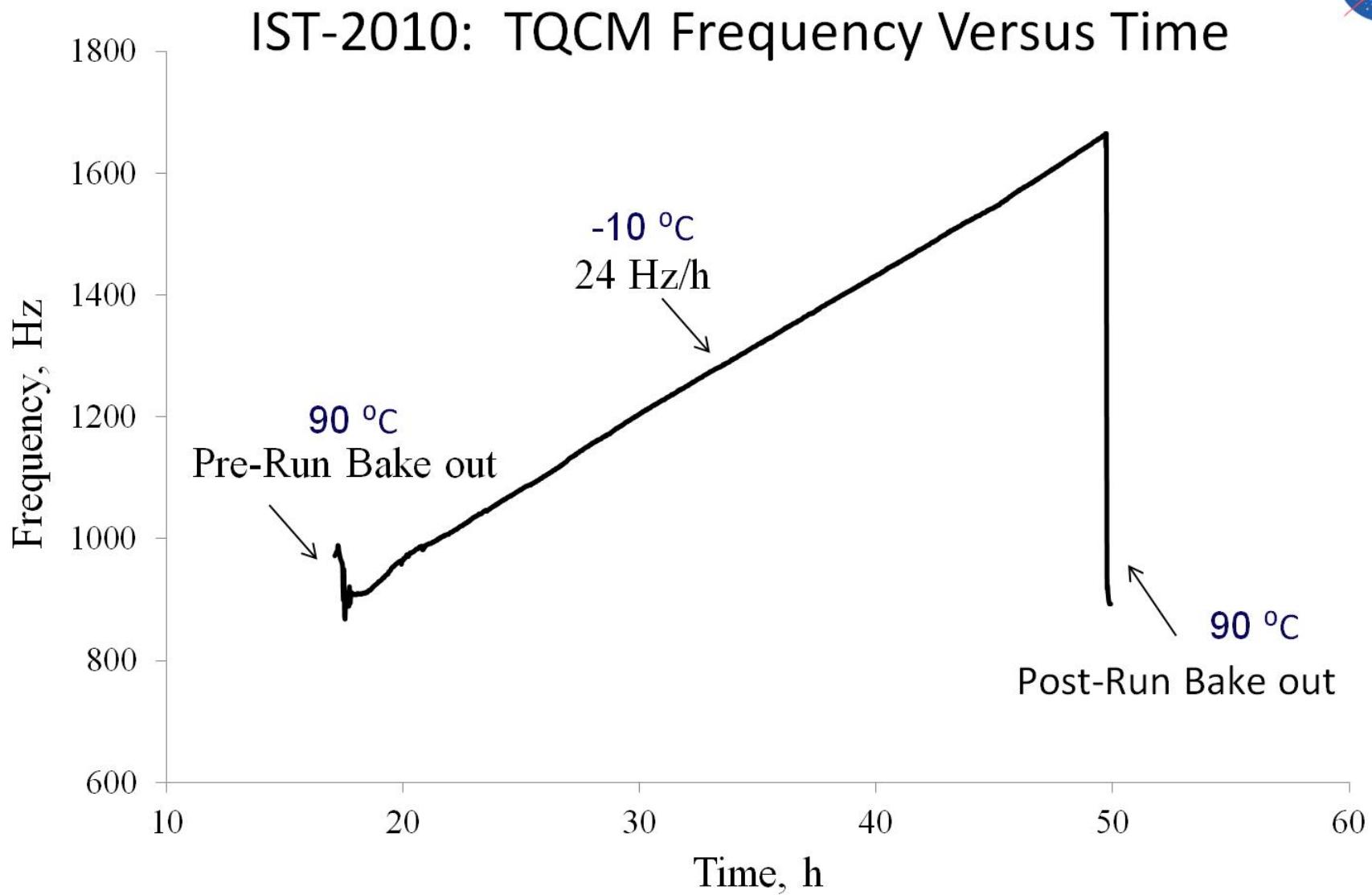
IST-2011: Correspondence of Various AMU





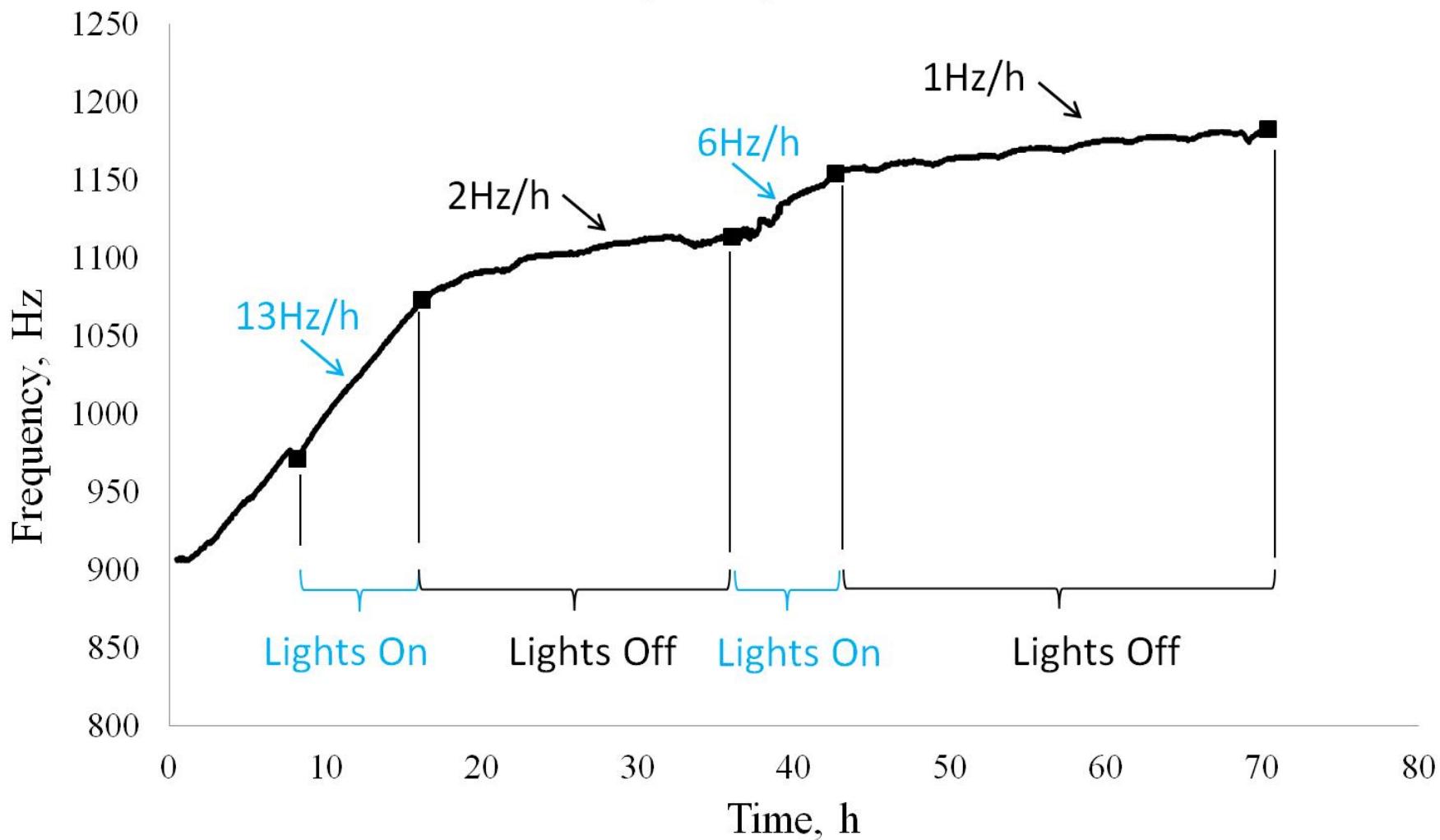
IST-2011: N_2 and O_2 and O_2/N_2 Versus Time





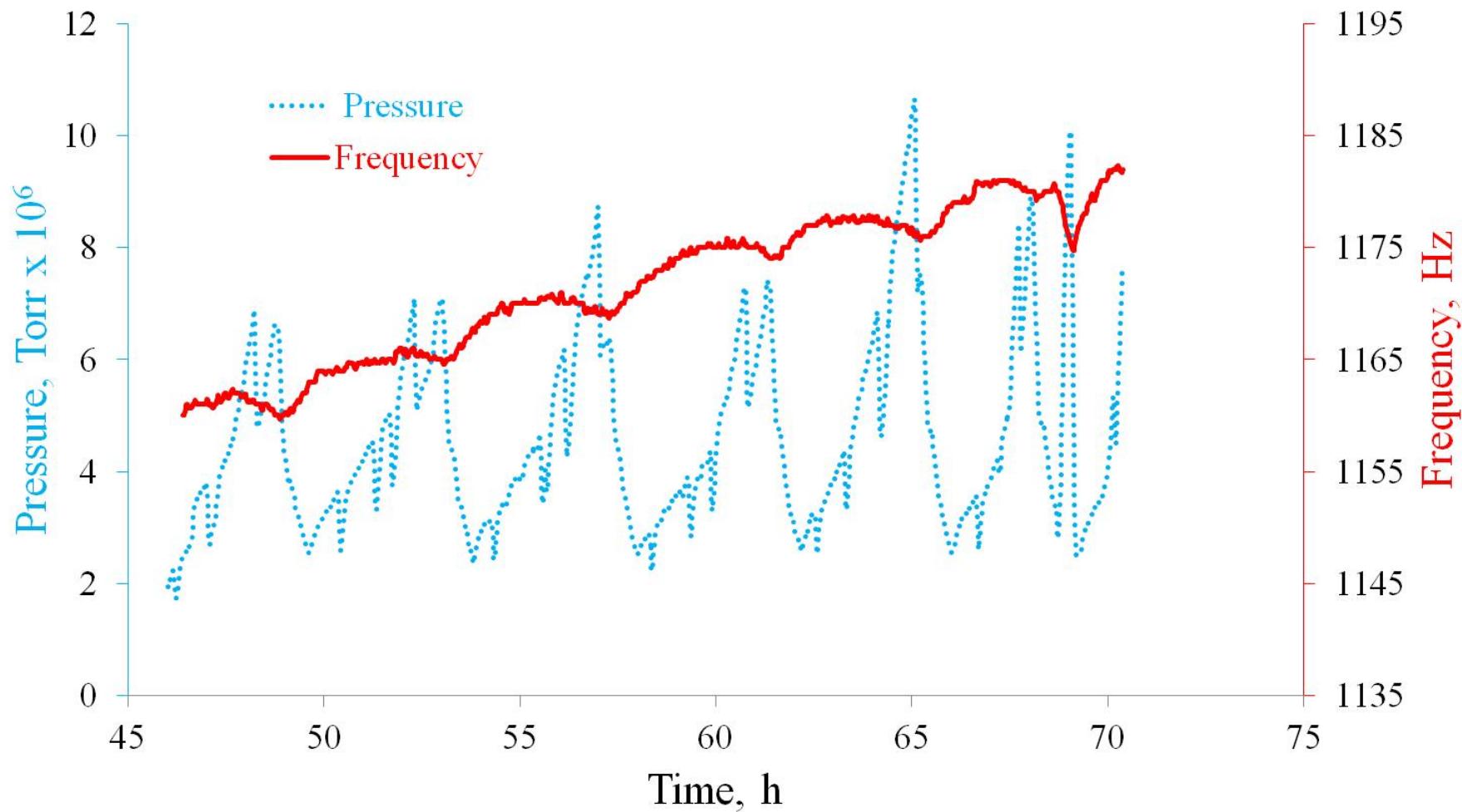


IST-2011: TQCM Frequency Versus Time at -10 °C





IST-2011: Chamber Pressure and TQCM Frequency Versus Time





Concluding Remarks

- Two high-vacuum ISTs were conducted in SPF's large 100 ft diameter by 122 ft high thermal-vacuum chamber.
- Organic analysis of witness wafers revealed low NVR levels and identified individual compounds with phthalate groups being the major contributors.
- Inorganic and organic total NVR meets quantitative level "A/5" of *FED-STD 209* – this quantitative level exceeds some *high* spacecraft sensitivity requirements for both non-optics allowable and for optics allowable.
- RGA spectra did not indicate any particular contaminant was present.
- RGA spectrum revealed a large N_2 leak was present during IST-2011
- For IST-2011 contamination rates were higher during periods when chamber lights were operated.
- TQCM rates for the last 24 hours: IST-2010 24 Hz/h and IST-2011 1 Hz/h.
- Analysis of RGA and TQCM results revealed contaminations rates were reduced with increasing N_2 concentrations, which may explain the reduced TQCM rates from IST-2010 to IST-2011.
- Flooding GN_2 into "bagged" annulus leak zones may reduce contamination.