

Precision Quality Factor Measurement & Noise Characterisation: E-TEST Cryogenic Prototype

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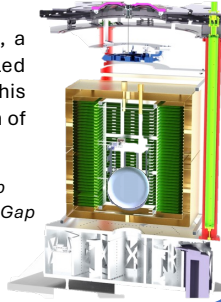
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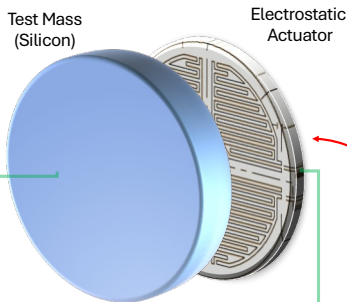
Context

- E-TEST[1], a cryogenic seismic isolation prototype for the Einstein Telescope.
- To meet the demands of next-gen gravitational-wave detectors, a 100 kg monocrystalline silicon test mass is suspended and cooled to 20 K for low thermal noise and <10 Hz vibration isolation. This poster highlights **three key advancements** toward characterisation of Thermal Noise-

1. Precision Mechanical Q Factor Measurement using Phase-Locked Loop
2. Analysis of Potential Squeezed-Film Damping in the Electrostatic Drive Gap
3. Non-Contact Temperature Measurement of Cryogenic Silicon Surfaces

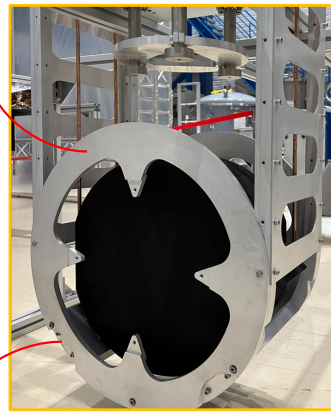


Quality Factor



Why PLL?

- Ring-down too slow for Silicon
- Faster, Real-time tracking of Resonance,
- Continuous measurement, No waiting for decay[2].



Phase Locked Loop (PLL)

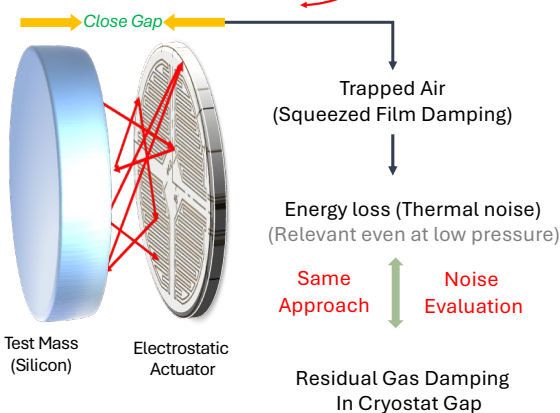
Force the system at Resonance

Phase Estimation

Controller

Enables in-situ monitoring and automation

Squeezed Film Damping

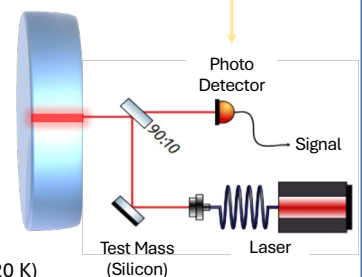


Temperature Measurement (Non-Contact)

- Thermal Contraction* (room $\rightarrow$ 20 K) $\rightarrow$ Surface deformation $\rightarrow$ Blur fringes
- Thermo-optic variation affected by impurities[3]
- Free Carrier Absorption
- Laser Alignment Issues in Cryo

Why it matters?

- Q changes with temperature (room $\rightarrow$ 20 K)
- Accurate temp tracking helps correlate Q vs T



References

- [1] Sider, A., et al. "E-TEST Design Report." arXiv:2212.10083 (2022).
- [2] Lu, Marie, et al. Measuring the Quality Factor of Cryogenic Silicon. [LIGO-T1400668](#), LIGO Laboratory, 2014.
- [3] Adhikari, Rana X., et al. "A Cryogenic Silicon Interferometer for Gravitational-Wave Detection." *Classical and Quantum Gravity*, vol. 37, no. 16, 2020, p. 165003, IOP Publishing.

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