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Vacuum technology — Vacuum gauges — Characteristics for a stable ionisation vacuum gauge
Technique du vide — Manomètres à vide — Caractéristiques des manomètres à ionisation stable

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Contents

Foreword.....	3
Introduction.....	3
— Scope.....	3
— Normative references.....	3
— Terms and definitions.....	3
— Symbols and abbreviated terms.....	3
— General description of the design.....	3
— Components.....	3
— Mode of operation.....	3
— Specifications of the ionisation vacuum gauge.....	3
— General specifications and requirements for the gauge head.....	3
— Electrical equipment.....	3
— Dimensions and potentials.....	3
— General.....	3
— Dimensions and tolerances.....	3
— Potentials.....	3
— Cathode.....	3
— Anode cage.....	3
— Gaps between electrodes.....	3
— Electrode materials.....	3
— Electrical feedthroughs.....	3
— Surrounding tube (envelope) and flanges.....	3
— Magnetic fields.....	3
— Characteristics of the gauge (informative).....	3
— Sensitivity.....	3
— Linearity.....	3
— Electron transmission efficiency.....	3
— Residual current and resolution.....	3
— Repeatability.....	3
— Reproducibility.....	3
— Interference.....	3
— Temperature of electrodes.....	3
— Environmental conditions.....	3
— Handling of and measurement with the gauge.....	3

© ISO 2023 — All rights reserved 3

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— Orientation of the gauge head 4

— Environmental conditions 4

— Conditioning of the gauge 4

— Testing 4

— Warm-up time 4

— Sensitivity and calibration 4

— Measurement 4

— Transport 4

— Cathode exchange 4

Electron and ion trajectories of recommended gauge dimensions according to simulation 4

Bibliography 4

Foreword 6

Introduction 7

1 Scope 1

2 Normative references 1

3 Terms and definitions 2

4 Symbols and abbreviated terms 2

5 General description of the design 3

5.1 Components 3

5.2 Mode of operation 3

6 Specifications of the ionisation vacuum gauge 5

6.1 General specifications and requirements for the gauge head 6

6.2 Electrical equipment 7

7 Dimensions and potentials 7

7.1 General 8

7.2 Dimensions and tolerances 8

7.3 Potentials 11

7.4 Cathode 12

7.5 Anode cage 12

7.6 Gaps between electrodes 12

7.7 Electrode materials 13

7.8 Electrical feedthroughs 13

7.9 Surrounding tube (envelope) and flanges 13

7.10 Magnetic fields 13

8	Characteristics of the gauge (informative)	14
8.1	Sensitivity	14
8.2	Linearity	14
8.3	Electron transmission efficiency	14
8.4	Residual current and resolution	15
8.5	Repeatability	15
8.6	Reproducibility	15
8.7	Interference	15
8.8	Temperature of electrodes	15
8.9	Environmental conditions	15
9	Handling of and measurement with the gauge	15
9.1	Orientation of the gauge head	15
9.2	Environmental conditions	15
9.3	Conditioning of the gauge	16
9.4	Testing	16
9.5	Warm-up time	16
9.6	Sensitivity and calibration	16
9.7	Measurement	16
9.8	Transport	16
9.9	Cathode exchange	16
Annex A (Informative)	Electron and ion trajectories of recommended gauge dimensions according to simulation	17
Bibliography		19

Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 112, "*Vacuum technology*".

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html

Introduction

The ionisation vacuum gauge is the only vacuum gauge type in the full range of high and ultrahigh vacuum [1]. ~~The pertinent standardization committee for vacuum technology ISO TC 112 has indicated that important~~^[1] Important applications need better accuracy, reproducibility and known sensitivities for many gas species, properties which all ~~present~~^{current} types of ionisation vacuum gauges lack. This document provides the characteristics for a stable ionisation vacuum gauge so that this gauge is accurate, robust and long-term stable, with known sensitivity for nitrogen and known relative sensitivity factors, and can be built by any experienced manufacturer of other ionisation vacuum gauges.

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Vacuum technology — Vacuum gauges — Characteristics for a stable ionisation vacuum gauge

1 Scope

This document describes a special design of an ionisation vacuum gauge which has a well-defined ionising electron path length^{[2], [2]}. Due to the construction design, it ~~promises~~ **leads to** good measurement accuracy, long-term stability, as well as gauge independent and reproducible sensitivity for nitrogen and relative sensitivity factors^{[2], [3]}. It is designed for the measurement range of 10^{-6} Pa to 10^{-2} Pa.

This document describes only those dimensions and potentials of the gauge head which are relevant for the electron and ion trajectories. This document does not describe the electrical components necessary to operate the ionisation vacuum gauge in detail. The gauge head can be operated by voltage and power sources and ammeters commercially available, but also by a controller specially built for the purpose of the operation of this gauge head.

The ionisation vacuum gauge described in this document can be built by any experienced manufacturer of other ionisation vacuum gauges. It is not subject to intellectual property protection.

It is assumed for this document that the applicant is familiar with both the physics and principles of ionisation vacuum gauges as well as high and ultra-high vacuum technology in general.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

~~EN ISO 13920:1996, Welding - General tolerances for welded constructions - Dimensions for lengths and angles - Shape and position (ISO 13920:1996)~~

~~ISO 2768-1:2018, General tolerances — Part 1: Tolerances for linear and angular dimensions without individual tolerance indications~~

~~ISO 27894:2018, Vacuum technology — Vacuum gauges — Specifications for hot cathode ionization gauges~~

~~ISO 3567:2018, Vacuum gauges — Calibration by direct comparison with a reference gauge~~

~~ISO 3669:2018, Vacuum technology — Bakeable flanges — Dimensions of knife-edge flanges~~

~~ISO/IEC Guide 98-1:2009, Uncertainty of measurement — Part 1: Introduction to the expression of uncertainty in measurement~~

~~ISTA 2A:2011, Partial simulation tests for testing of individual packaged products weighing 150 lbs (68 kg) or less when prepared for shipment, published by the International Safe Transit Association.~~

5.3 Terms and definitions

The Terms and definitions clause is a mandatory element of the text.

For rules on the drafting of the Terms and definitions, refer to the [ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2:2018, Clause 16](#).

To insert a new terminological entry, go to the [Structure](#) tab and click on [Insert Term entry](#).

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain [terminological terminology](#) databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— [ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp](https://www.iso.org/obp)

— [IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/](https://www.electropedia.org/)

3.1

Wehnelt electrode ~~or~~ **Wehnelt**

an electrode with cylindrical symmetry around the electron emitting cathode, mainly used for focusing of the electron beam

3.2

Ionisation ~~ionisation~~ **space**

the space in which ions generated by collision of gas molecules with high energy electrons reach the ion collector by means of a suitable electrostatic field

3.3

Faraday cup

metal cup or other piece of metal designed to catch charged particles in vacuum

Note 1 to entry: In the ionisation vacuum gauge described in this document, the Faraday cup is designed to capture the electrons emitted from the cathode

3.4

Envelope **envelope**

the metallic wall at zero (earth) potential surrounding the gauge head at least in its full length

3.5

Electron ~~electron~~ **transmission**

the ratio of electron current measured at the Faraday cup divided by the electron current emitted from the cathode

5.4 Symbols and abbreviated terms

I	ion current at pressure p [A]
I_0	ion current at residual pressure p_0 [A]

I_e	electron emission current [A]
p	pressure [Pa]
p_0	residual pressure [Pa]
r_x	relative sensitivity factor as defined in ISO 27894:2009 ^[1]
S	sensitivity (coefficient) [1/Pa]
S_{N_2}	sensitivity for nitrogen [1/Pa]

8.5 General description of the design

8.5.1 Components

The ionisation vacuum gauge consists of the following functional parts:

- a) electron emitting cathode,
- b) Wehnelt electrode,
- c) anode cage in two parts,
- d) ion collector,
- e) electron deflector,
- f) Faraday cup,
- g) envelope.

The functional components a) to f) need to be exactly dimensioned.

In addition, the gauge needs electrical feedthroughs, wires, mounting parts and insulators. The gauge shall be mounted on a DN40CF or on a DN63CF flange according to ISO 3669: with corresponding tube sizes DN40 or DN63 as envelope.

8.5.2 Mode of operation

A schematic for the illustration of the operation of the gauge is shown in [Figure 1, Figure 1](#), for a detailed drawing see [Figure 2, Figure 2](#) in [7.2.7.2](#). For simplification, in [Figure 1, Figure 1](#) the anode cage (3) is not been divided in two parts as in [Figure 2, Figure 2](#) with (3a) and (3b) and the collector ring (6) in between.