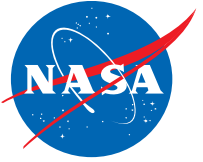


# Transient Molecular Transfer during Vacuum Testing

Radford Perry  
SGT, Inc

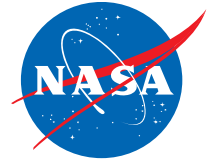
2011 Contamination, Coatings, and Materials Workshop  
NASA GSFC  
July 12-14, 2011

# Transient Deposition?



- A common question in contamination budgeting involves the loss of collected volatiles during ambient I&T activity under vacuum and the resultant cross-contamination from outgassing.
  - How much of the material collected under ambient conditions evaporates under vacuum?
  - Why do pristine surfaces sometimes show increased molecular contamination after vacuum bakeout?
  - How much of the collected molecular contamination is transient (i.e. migratory) and how much is permanent?
- Measuring the transient deposition may be accomplished using a thermally passive QCM

# Passive QCM Monitoring

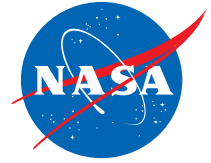


- Allow QCM to drift passively with general environmental temperature (no active thermal control)
- Monitor frequency and temperature
- Calibrate frequency for full temperature range (QCM Research provides calibration curve from 395K to 95K)
- Conversion from frequency to deposition thickness based on unit density and sensitivity of QCM Research 15 MHz QCM ( $1.96 \times 10^{-9} \text{g/cm}^2\text{-Hz}$ )

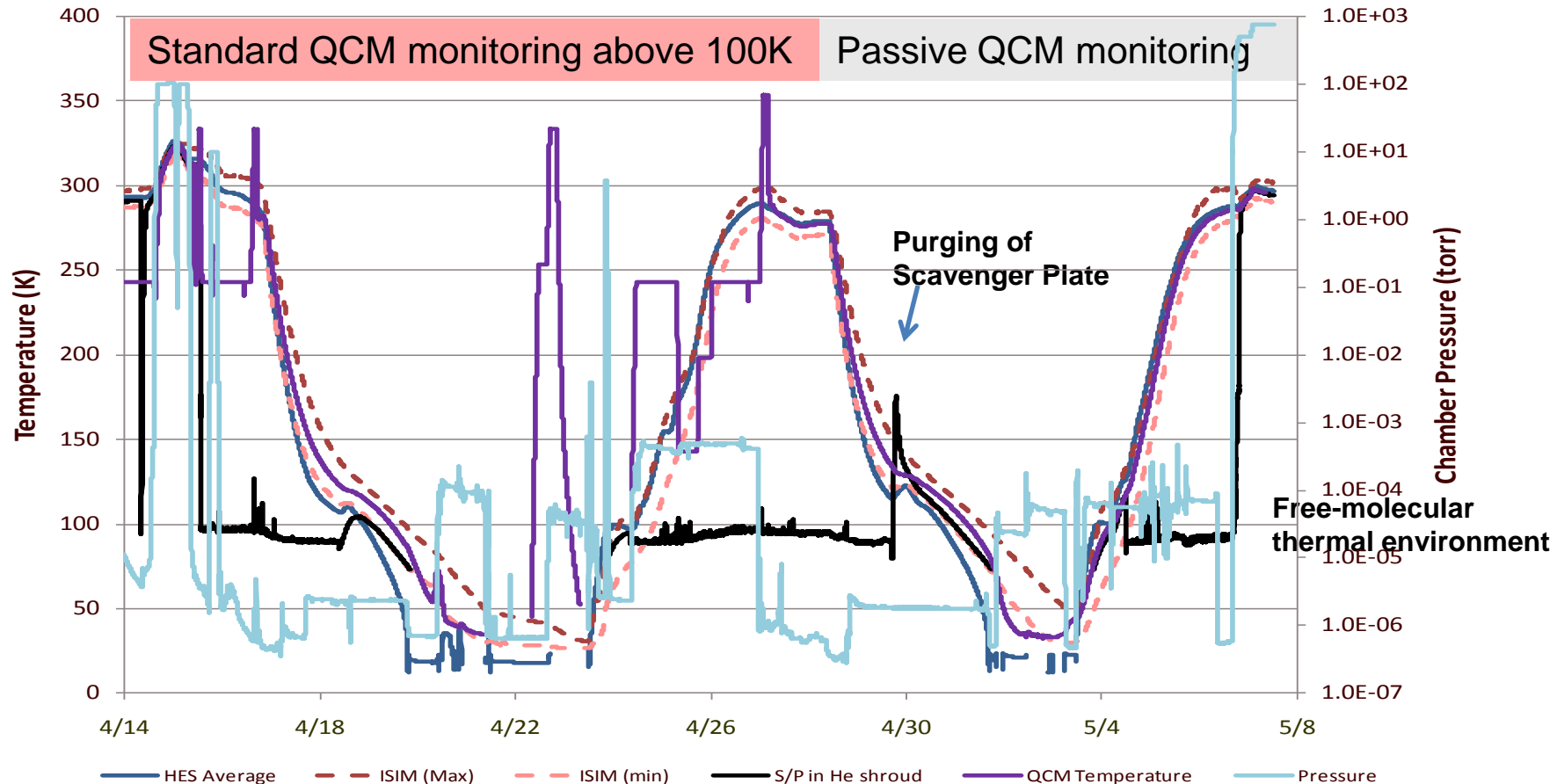
$$\frac{1.96 \times 10^{-9} \text{ g}}{\text{cm}^2 - \text{Hz}} \bullet \frac{\text{cm}^3}{1.0 \text{ g}} \bullet \frac{10^8 \text{ \AA}}{\text{cm}}$$

$$\therefore 1.0 \text{ Hz} \cong 0.2 \text{ \AA}$$

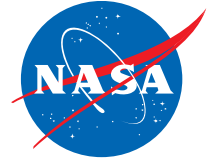
# Overview of the Cryocycle Test Environment



**Helium Shroud Environment during ISIM Structure Cryoset Test**  
 (GSFC SES Chamber, He-01 Configuration)

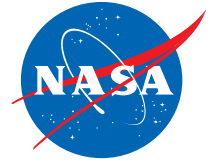


# ISIM Cryocycle Test

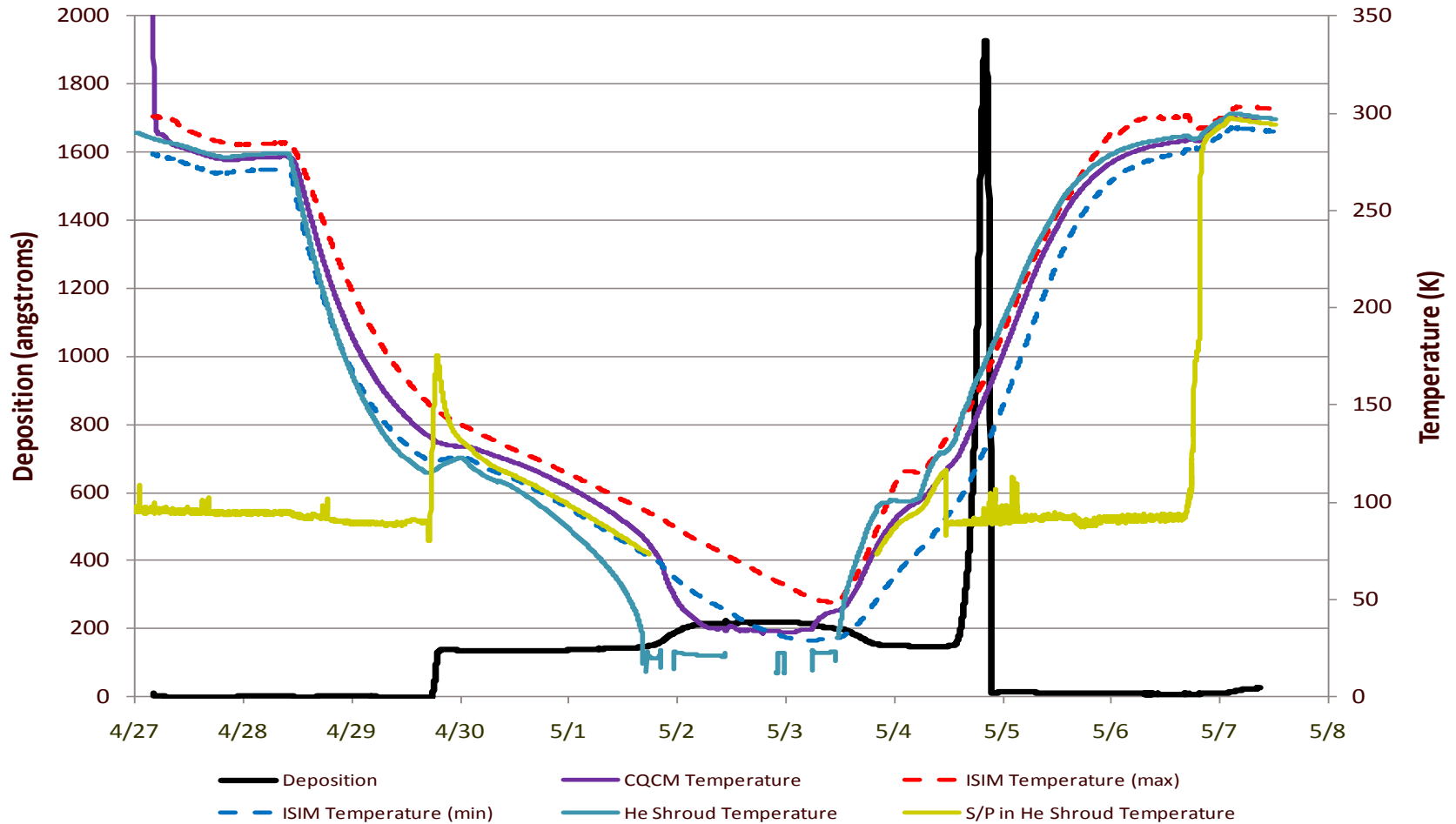


- Perform bakeout, two (2) cryocycles, and outgassing measurement of the ISIM Structure
- First cycle:
  - Initial outgassing estimate and bakeout
  - Measure outgassing deposition on 243K QCM
  - Bakeoff QCM and allow to thermally drift while test environment below 100K
  - Perform QCM bakeoff to 350K while environment at 30K to calibrate frequency/temperature effects
  - Monitor outgassing deposition on 243K QCM during warmup, confirm outgassing measurement
- Second cycle:
  - Bakeoff QCM to 350K while environment at 290K
  - Allow QCM to thermally drift during cycle, until environment returns to 290K

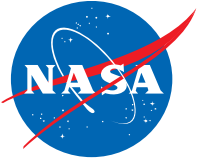
# ISIM Cryocycle (#2) Test



**CQCM 1 (QCM Research Mk-18 LT, 15 MHz)**

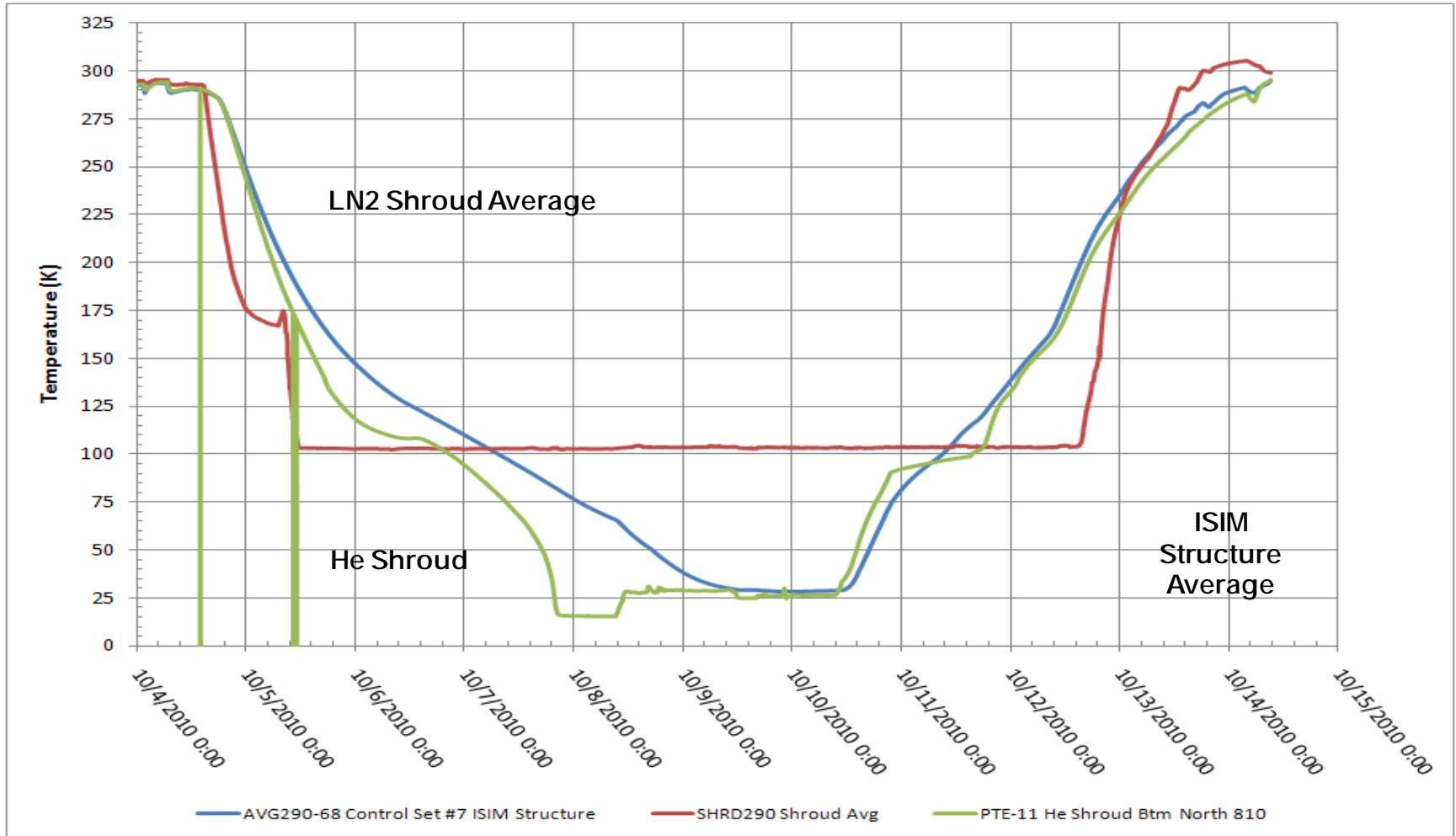
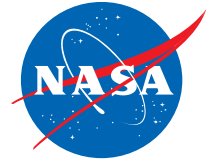


# ISIM Cryoproof Test



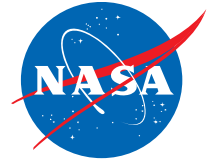
- Perform single cryocycle of the ISIM Structure
- Monitor deposition with thermally passive QCM:
  - Two (2) days of ambient (cleanroom) conditions
    - Configuration completed and chamber door closed on Friday evening
    - Chamber evacuation started Monday morning
  - Allow QCM to thermally drift during cycle
  - Two (2) days of ambient (cleanroom) conditions
    - Chamber returned to ambient and contamination witness samples removed on Friday afternoon
    - Disassembly of chamber configuration began on Monday

# Thermal Overview of Cryoproof Test

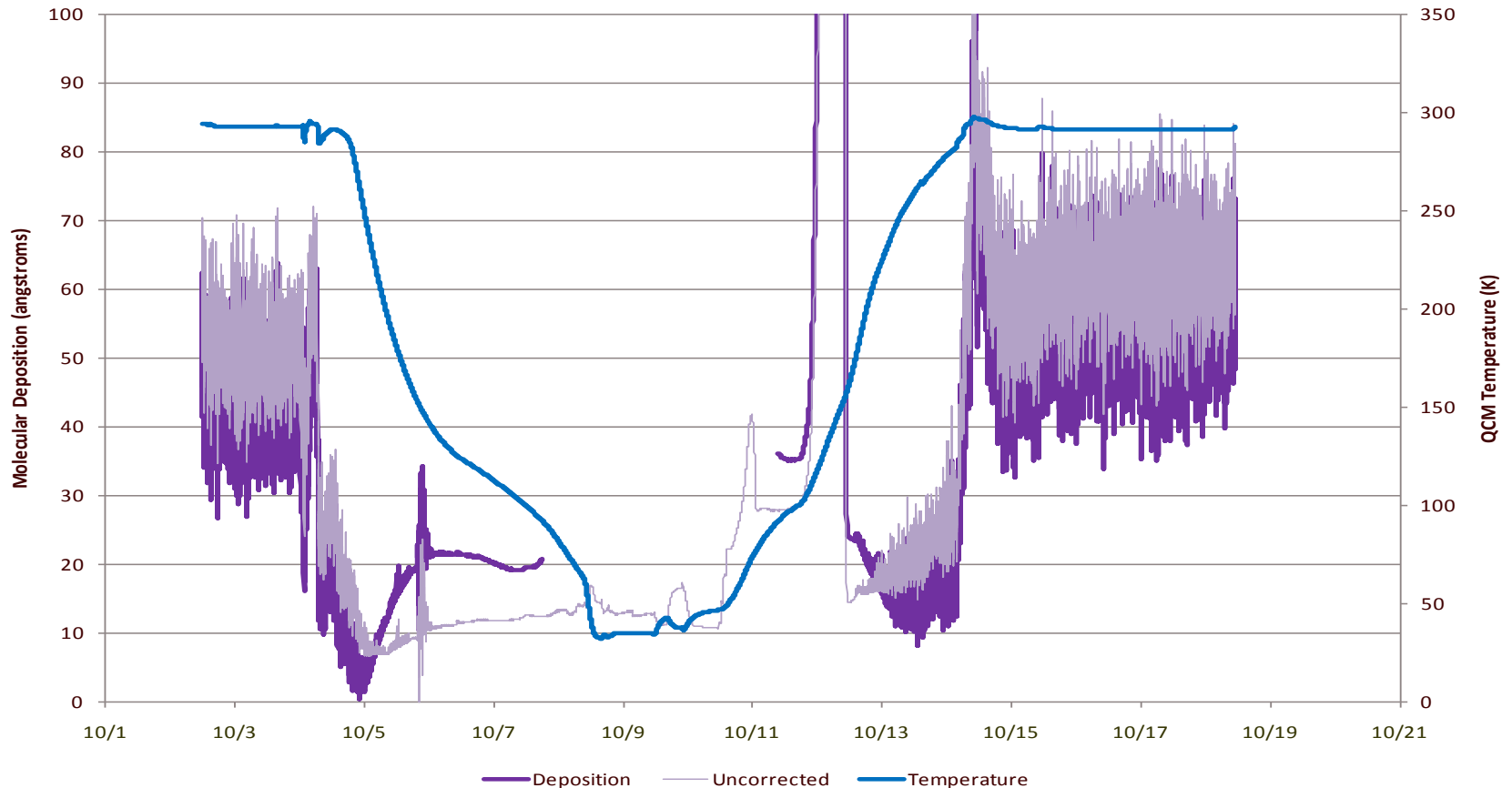




# Deposition during Cryoproof



**Deposition during ISIM Cryoproof Test**  
CQCM 3 [QCM Research Mk-18 LT, 15 MHz], S/N 1309  
(GSFC SES Chamber with Helium Shroud -01 Configuration)





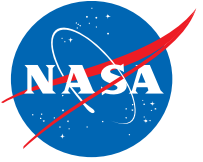
# Passive QCM Results



- The light line is the raw QCM frequency minus the minimum read value.
- The dark line is temperature corrected using the manufacturers 9<sup>th</sup> order polynomial calibration curve (valid from -180 to +120°C).
- Reported values in table are averaged over one hour, parenthetical values are from the last cycle of the Cryoset Test.

Condition	Net Deposition (Å)	Temperature (°C)	Shroud (°C)	Comments
Ambient	48±14	20.9		30-50% rH
Rough Out	17±7	15.6		Moisture loss
Begin Cooling	18±8 (1.2±0.05)	15.6 ( 4.3)	( 6.1)	High vacuum
Non-Water	19±0.3 (1.5±0.4)	-115.0 (-114.0)	(-136.5)	
Max Water	919 (1927)			Peak width ~ 20 Hr (~13 Hr)
Post-H <sub>2</sub> O Flash	24±0.3 (12±0.3)	-112.7 (-111.2)	(-93.8)	
Begin N <sub>2</sub> Backfill	19±6 (9±0.6)	11.7 (10.7)	(13.7)	High vacuum
500 torr N <sub>2</sub>	58±17 (25±0.2)	21.7 (12.9)	(14.4)	Transfer from walls?
Ambient	72±14	18.6		Moisture regain
Ambient (3 days)	63±15	18.0		30-50% rH

# Conclusions



- The passive “drifting” QCM provided a reasonable proxy to the hardware temperature.
- Initial deposition loss during evacuation was consistent with the removal of humidity.
- Maximum deposition was due to water transfer from the walls during warm-up, but readily evaporated.
- Net deposition during cycling appears minimal, with gain occurring during backfill.
- Future work will include starting the chamber backfill with a simulated instrument purge.