



dRICH

Mechanics



- INFN-FE Mechanical Engineering Group
- dRICH Concept Design

Mechanical Engineering Group (INFN-Ferrara Departement & UNIFE)

The ME Group works in close collaboration with researchers, from the early concept of a detector/device to its construction.

The group includes a design office and a mechanical workshop facility with state-of-the-art equipment.

The design office performs mechanical design, advanced calculations, analyses and numerical simulations using computer-aided design (CAD) and computer-aided engineering (CAE) software.

The mechanical workshop core competencies are conventional and high-precision computer numerical control (CNC) machining, sheet metal forming, welding engineering, micrometric 3D metrology and additive manufacturing.

Team:

Federico Evangelisti, Michele Melchiorri: mechanical design Stefano Squerzanti: mechanical design, CMM, AM Michele Cavallina: mechanical workshop Alessandro Saputi: head of ME Group

Mechanical Engineering Group: internal workshop facilities





Design Office

AM Lab





Store



Metrology Lab

Mechanical workshop



Welding Lab & Carpenter shop



Carpentry workshop

dRICH: (preliminary) gas enclosure requirements

- The major functions of the gas enclosure are to provide containment for the dRICH gas radiator and to act as the stable frame for the optical components (the mirrors and aerogel).
- It must be light tight.
- To ensure the stability of the structure under the influence of the magnetic field.
- The enclosure must withstand a differential pressure (±3 mbar??) without compromising the mirror alignment.
 - The minimum amount of material must be placed within the EPIC experiment acceptance limits.
- Envelope overall sizes: Φ3670 mm x 1130 mm
- Operating pressure up to 2.5 atm abs (~ 1.5 atm gauge pressure)
- Operating temperature of 22 °C
- Gas mixture: C2F6 or Argon



Operating pressure of 2.5 atm abs (~ 1.5 atm)

Design pressures exceeding 15 psig (1 atm) are generally ASME labelled and considered ASME pressure vessels







The gas enclosure is essentially a cylindrical box with six boxes that host SiPMs and cooling system.

- The upstream face is closed by a plate which maintains the gas and light seal.
- The boxes are separated from gas volume by quartz windows (that allow Cherenkov photons to pass through to the SiPMs mounted behind).

Alessandro Saputi – 10 May 2023



Alessandro Saputi – 10 May 2023



Unit: mm

14.97

13.098

11.227

9.356

7.4848

5.6136

3.7424

1.8712 0 Min



Solid plate Plate = 30 mm thick Material = AISI 304



Solid plate Plate = 30 mm thick Material = Al



Ribbed plate Plate = 10 mm thick ribs = 50 mm thick Material: AISI 304



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Plate = 50 mm thick



Ribbed sandwich plate Plate = 30 mm thick ribs = 30 mm thick

| | Solid Metal Sheet | Sandwich Construction | Thicker Sandwich |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | 2 t | 4t |
| Relative Stiffness | 100 | 700 7 times more rigid | 3700 37 times more rigid! |
| Relative Strength | 100 | 350 3.5 times as strong | 925 9.25 times as strong! |
| Relative Weight | 100 | 103 3% increase in weight | 106 6% increase in weight |

A striking example of how honeycomb stiffens a structure without materially increasing its weight.

Sandwich plate 50÷120 mm thick 2 mm Al + 46÷116 mm honeycomb + 2 mm Al









Disadvantages

• Reduction in the active area

<u>Advantages</u>

- Lower gas volumes to be managed
- Partitioning of the gas volume
- Reduction of thickness of components
- An important advantage is that it can be "easily" built.



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Solid plate Plate = 20 mm thick Material = AISI 304 Solid plate Plate = 20 mm thick Material = Al Ribbed plate Plate = 10 mm thick ribs = 50 mm thick Material: AISI 304

dRICH: quartz windows

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Quartz windows: stress and strain calculation

Quartz windows FEM: scenario 1

Quartz windows FEM: scenario 2

- Effects of temperature: change of gas pressure, Q-W frame deformation
- Effects on the Q-W of main structure deformation
- Effects of pressure changes (control) during both gas enclosure filling and operation

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Engineering of the gas enclosure: materials, construction technology......

- Compliance with ASME/PED pressure vessel code
- Quartz Windows: stress
- Gas pressure control (pressure/temperature changes)

