
Dry Wall Evacuation Calculations

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Can we clear a dry wall chamber?

We want to sufficiently clear a dry wall IFE chamber while supporting shot rates up to 10 Hz and pressures as low as 1 mTorr using Xenon as a background gas.

➤ Concerns:

- ⊗ Can we evacuate the chamber between shots (*i.e.*, pump out Xe and debris to 100 times below equilibrium pressure)?
 - ✓ **No.** Even assuming zero leak rate and ignoring gas in outlet ducts, it takes 2.4 sec to pump from P to $0.01P$ (*for any starting pressure of Xe.*)
- ⊗ Can we achieve a low enough background pressure for beam and target propagation under equilibrium flow conditions?
- ⊗ Can we control the gas composition adequately?

Calculation procedure for single-species pumping

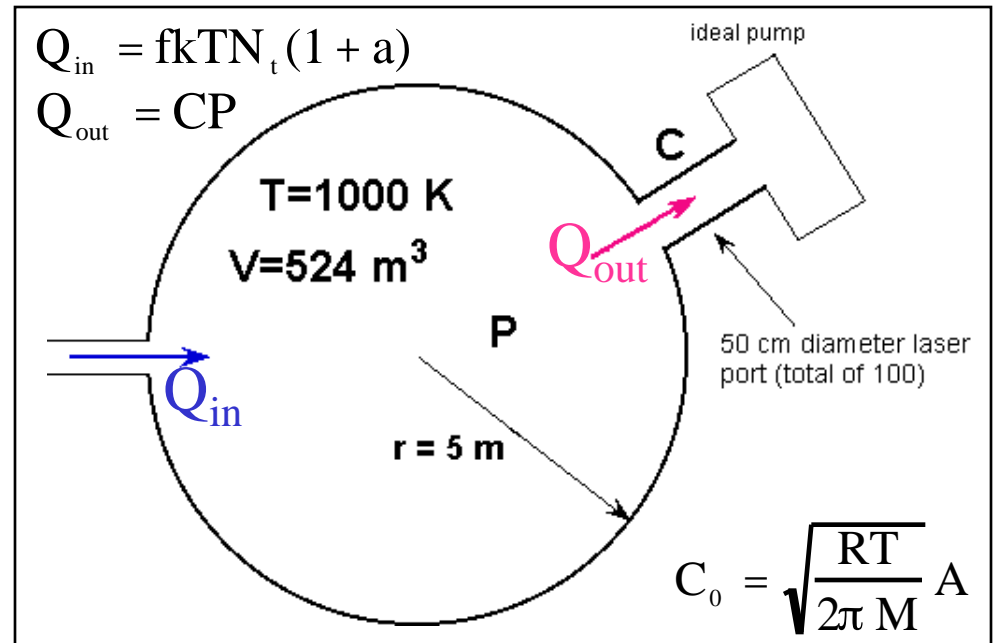
We can inject Xe simultaneously with targets at a constant ratio, a :

$$N_{Xe} = aN_t$$

Calculate Equilibrium Pressure, P
(average over the chamber) for $Q_{in} = Q_{out}$:

$$P = \frac{f}{C} kTN_t (1 + a)$$

f =shot rate, C =xenon conductance

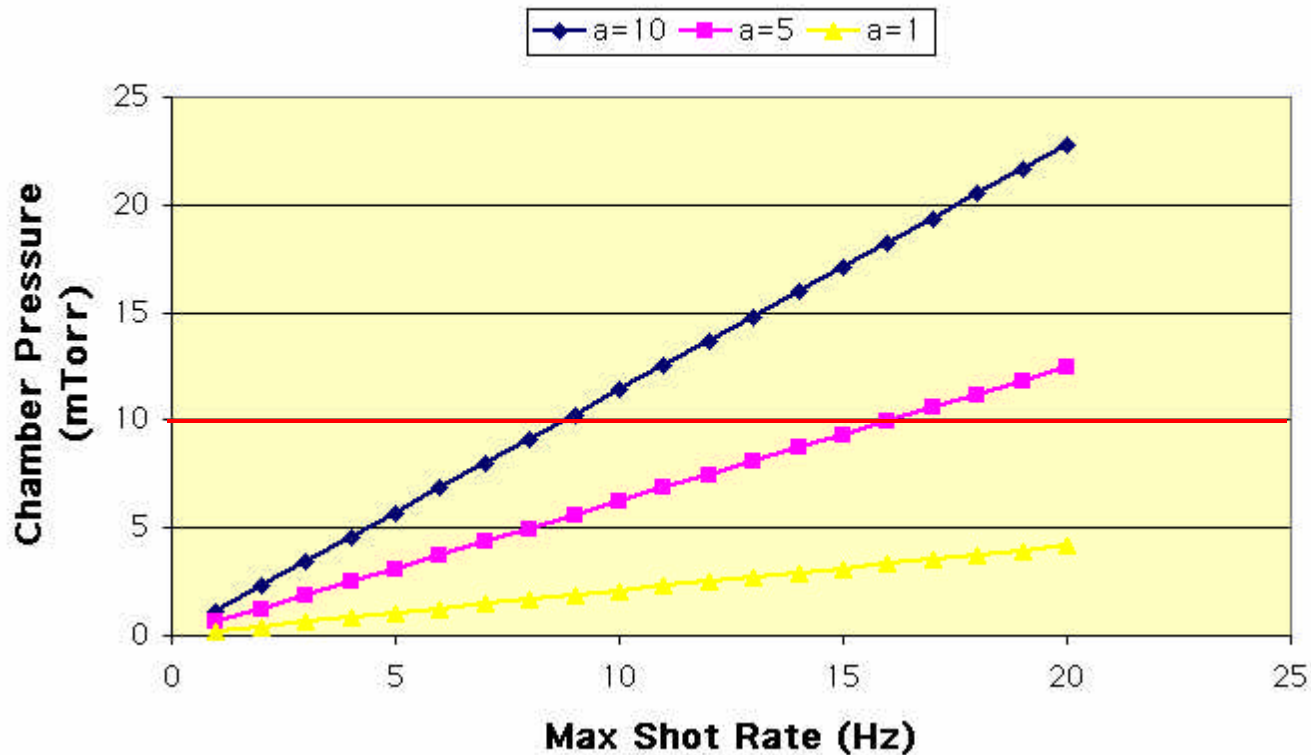


Assumptions:

- ✓ Single species to be pumped is xenon ($C = 1 \times 10^6$ liter/sec = $0.4 \times C_{ideal}$)
- ✓ Ideal pump located 1m from the chamber wall
- ✓ Molecular flow in ducts ($Kn > 0.01$ for pressures below 25 mTorr).
- ✓ Pumping speed limited by duct conductance.
- ✓ Ignore out-gassing of chamber wall and ignore leakage.
- ✓ Ignore gas in the beam ducts (only chamber is pumped).

Result for single-species pumping approximation

Chamber Pressure vs. Maximum Shot Rate
Single Species (Xenon)



The number of molecules, N_t , of D & T in 5 targets produces about 1 mTorr of pressure for the given V and T.

Observations:

To get <10 mTorr @10 Hz, Need:

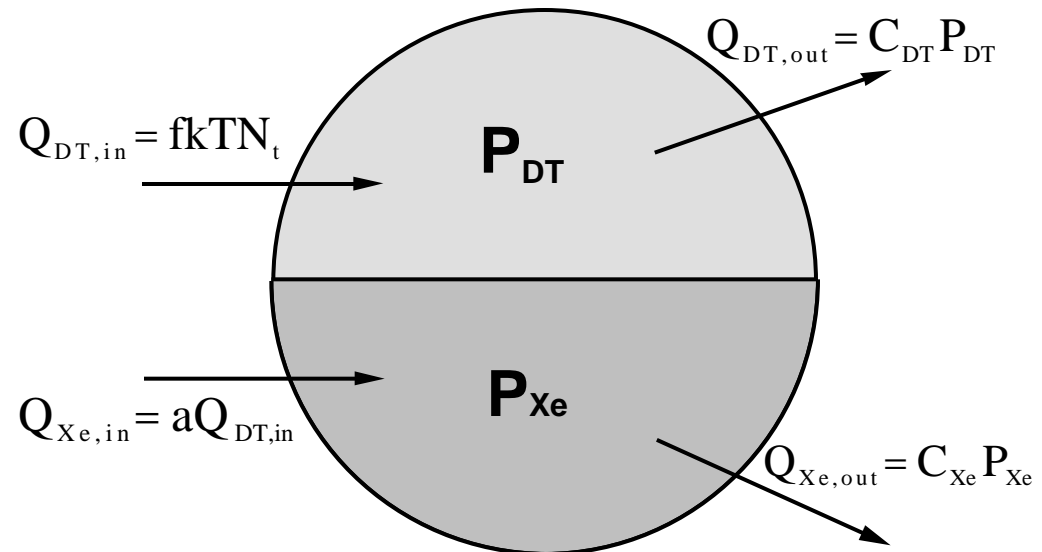
- larger aperture area (A)
- smaller Xe input rate

Calculation procedure for multiple-species

$$P_{DT} = \frac{fkTN_t}{C_{DT}}$$

$$P_{Xe} = \frac{afkTN_t}{C_{Xe}}$$

$$\frac{P_{DT}}{P_{Xe}} = \frac{N_{DT}}{N_{Xe}} = \frac{1}{a} \frac{C_{Xe}}{C_{DT}}$$



$$P = P_{DT} + P_{Xe} = fkTN_t \left(\frac{1}{C_{DT}} + \frac{a}{C_{Xe}} \right)$$

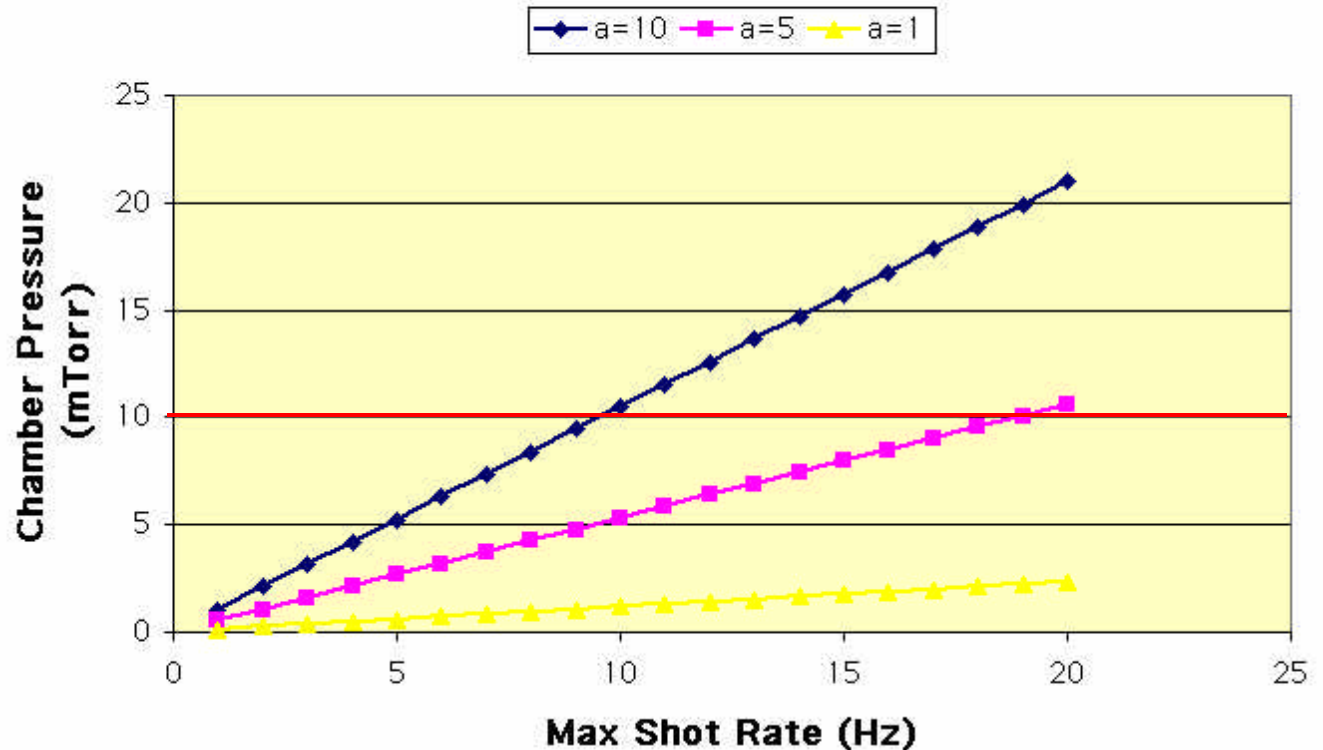
Result for multiple-species

Observation:

Get a lower chamber pressure because D and T pump faster than Xe (smaller value of M).

$$C_0 = \sqrt{\frac{RT}{2\pi M}} A$$

Chamber Pressure vs. Maximum Shot Rate
Multiple Species (DT and Xenon)

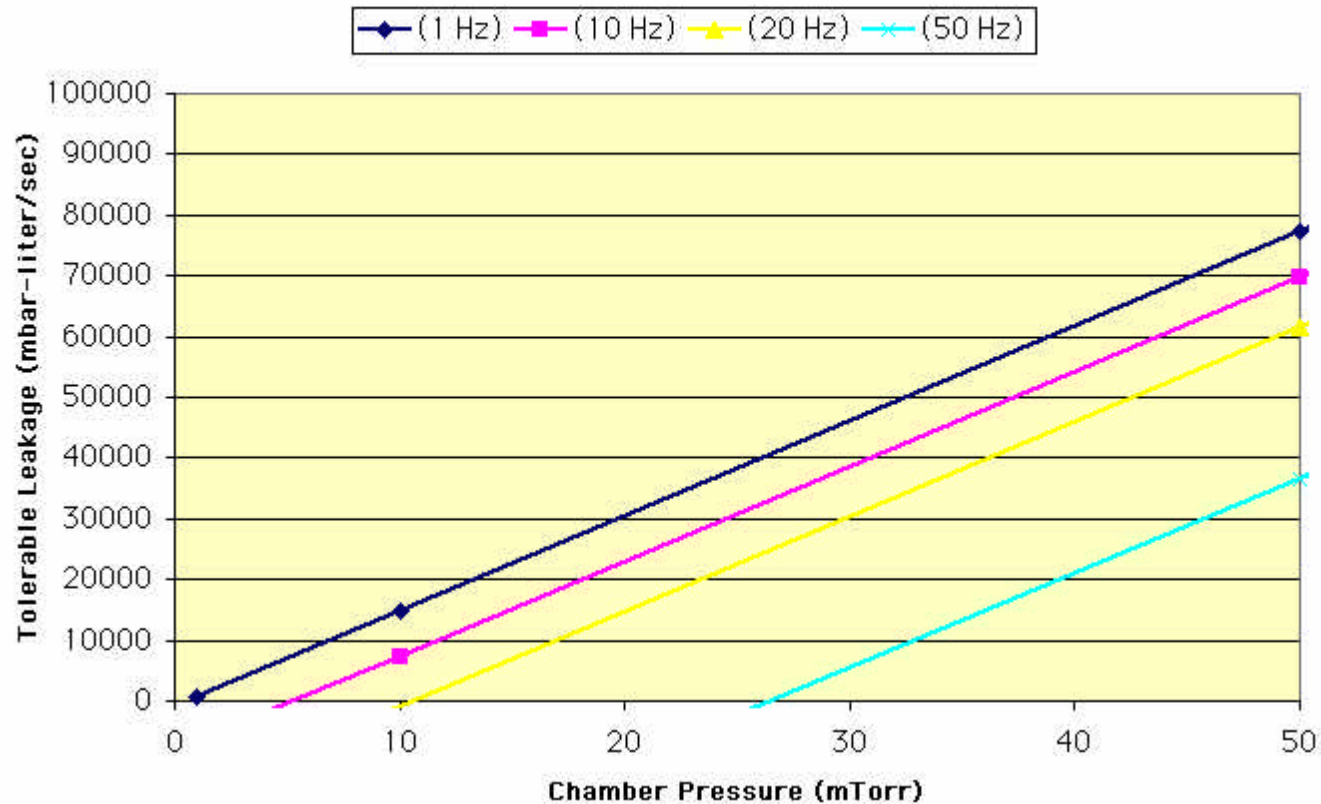


$$\frac{P_{DT}}{P_{Xe}} = \frac{N_{DT}}{N_{Xe}} = \frac{1}{a} \frac{C_{Xe}}{C_{DT}} = \frac{1}{6a} \quad \text{for } M=0.004 \text{ kg/mol}$$

For example, while injecting equal numbers of targets and xenon (a=1), the ratio of target material to xenon at equilibrium in the chamber is 1 to 6

Effect of Leakage (a = 5)

Tolerable Leakage vs. Chamber Pressure



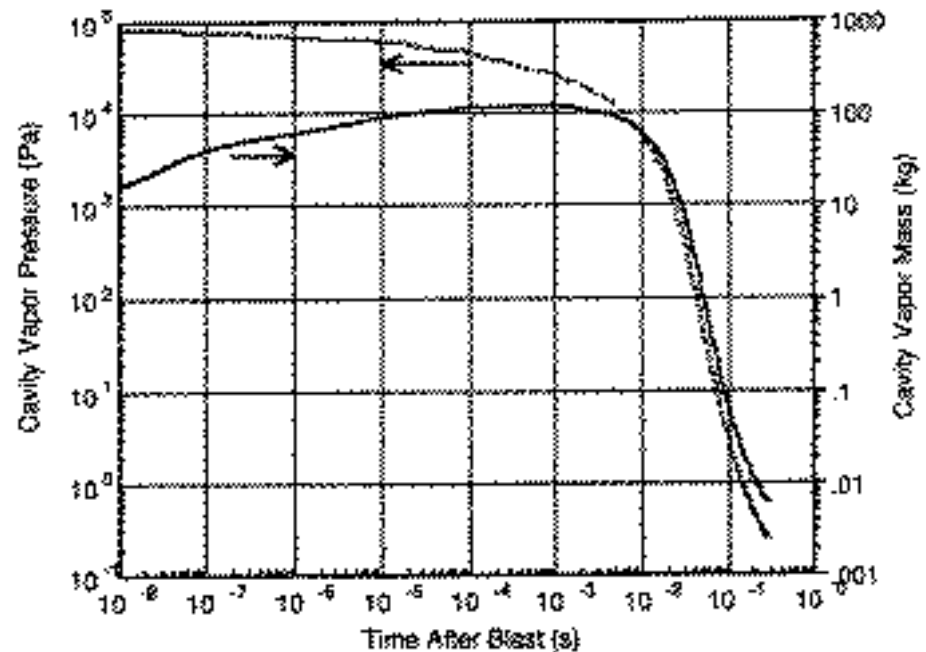
10 Hz throughput is about 8,300 mbar-liter/sec of targets + xenon for a = 5.

Observations:

- Possible to maintain chamber pressure below ~10 mTorr
- At ~40 mTorr and above, shot rate is NOT limited by pumping
- We are looking for leak rates for NIF, Omega, Nike for comparison

Future Work

- Could use Tsunami (or similar chamber modeling code) to model fluid flow more accurately.
- Could return to this after we have our own fluid code running.
- Need to start looking into wetted wall clearing/evacuation.



From IFE Reactor Design Studies,
Prometheus-L, March 1992