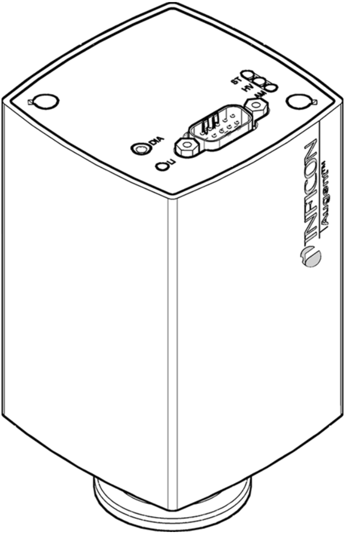


Operating Manual
Incl. EU Declaration of Conformity

Augent® OPG550
Optical Plasma Gauge

tinb84e1-a (2024-07)

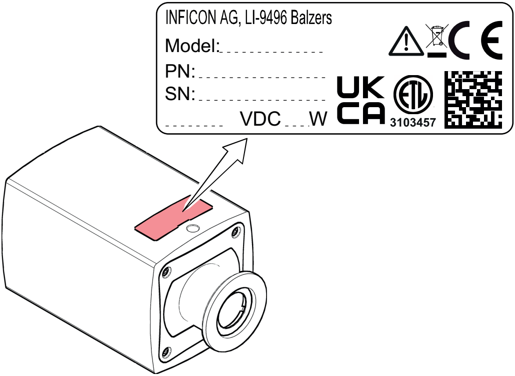
Table of Contents

Symbol for cross-references within this document: → 🗎 XY
Symbol for references to literature list: → 🕮 [Z]

1 General

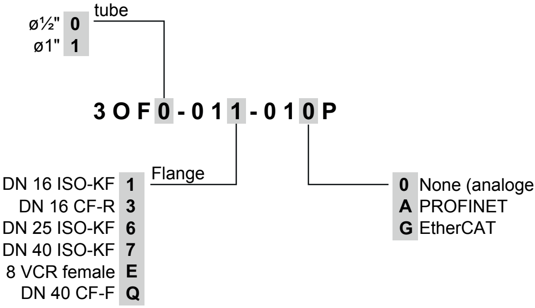
1.1 Product Identification

In all communications with INFICON, please specify the information on the product nameplate.



1.2 Validity

This document applies to products with the following part numbers:



The part number (PN) can be taken from the product nameplate.

If not indicated otherwise in the legends, the illustrations in this document correspond to gauges with DN 25 ISO-KF vacuum connection. They apply to gauges with other vacuum connections by analogy.

1.3 Intended Use

The Optical Plasma Gauge OPG550 has been designed for

- an optical leak and residual gas detection, as well as a spectrum measurement of gases in the pressure range of 1×10^{-7} … 5 mbar
- total pressure measurement of gases in the pressure range of 1×10^{-7} … 1000 mbar.

It must not be used for measuring flammable or combustible gases in mixtures containing oxidants (e.g. atmospheric oxygen) within the explosion range.

1.4 Functional Principle

The gauge consists of a cold cathode system according to the inverted magnetron principle and a Pirani measuring system.

The cold cathode system is used to generate a plasma inside the gauge. The signal of the Pirani measuring system is used for the interlock function.

1.5 Trademarks

Augent®	INFICON Holding AG
VCR®	Swagelok Marketing Co.

2 Safety

2.1 Symbols Used

DANGER

Information on preventing any kind of physical injury.

WARNING

Information on preventing extensive equipment and environmental damage.

Caution

Information on correct handling or use. Disregard can lead to malfunctions or minor equipment damage.

Symbol printed on the product nameplate: Consultation of operating manual required

Notice

<…> Labeling

2.2 Personnel Qualifications

Skilled personnel

All work described in this document may only be carried out by persons who have suitable technical training and the necessary experience or who have been instructed by the end-user of the product.

2.3 General Safety Instructions

- Adhere to the applicable regulations and take the necessary precautions for the process media used.

  Consider possible reactions between the materials and the process media.

  Consider possible reactions of the process media (e.g. explosion) due to the heat generated by the product (Pirani filament 120 °C).
- Adhere to the applicable regulations and take the necessary precautions for all work you are going to do and consider the safety instructions in this document.
- Before beginning to work, find out whether any vacuum components are contaminated. Adhere to the relevant regulations and take the necessary precautions when handling contaminated parts.
- The device must not be connected to the Internet.

Communicate the safety instructions to all other users.

2.4 Liability and Warranty

INFICON assumes no liability and the warranty becomes null and void if the end-user or third parties

- disregard the information in this document
- use the product in a non-conforming manner
- make any kind of interventions (modifications, alterations etc.) on the product
- use the product with accessories not listed in the corresponding product documentation.

The end-user assumes the responsibility in conjunction with the process media used.

Gauge failures due to contamination or wear and tear, as well as expendable parts (e.g. Pirani filament) are not covered by the warranty.

3 Technical Data

Further technical data for gauges with serial interface see respective Communication Protocol in the "Literature" chapter.

Measurement range (N_2)	
Gas detection	1×10^{-7} … 5 mbar
Total pressure measurement	1×10^{-7} … 1000 mbar
Detection limit (H_2)	
O_2 leak in pressure rise method	≥0.3 mTorr/min
O_2 leak during pump down (backfill with N_2)	≥1 mTorr/min
Total pressure	
Accuracy (N_2)	
1×10^{-7} … 100 mbar	30% of reading
100 … 1000 mbar	50% of reading
Repeatability (N_2)	
1×10^{-7} … 100 mbar	5% of reading
Output signal (measurement signal)	
Analog	0 … +10 V (dc)
Digital	serial interface (RS232, EtherCAT®, PROFINET)
Measurement Ranges, Relationships (Analog Output)	→ 🗎 14 … → 🗎 21
Output impedance	2 × 4.7 Ω, short-circuit proof
Load impedance	>10 kΩ, short-circuit proof
Step response time	
>1×10^{-6} mbar	<100 ms
1×10^{-6} … 1×10^{-7} mbar	≈1 s

Supply

DANGER

The gauge may only be connected to power supplies, instruments or control devices that conform to the requirements of a grounded protective extra-low voltage and limited power source (LPS), Class 2. The connection to the gauge has to be fused.

Supply voltage	Class 2 / LPS
at the gauge [1]	+14.5 … +30 V (dc)
Ripple	≤1 V_{pp}
Power consumption	≤5 W
Fuse to be connected	1 AT
High voltage in the measuring chamber	
Ignition voltage	≤4.5 kV
Operating voltage	≤3.3 kV
Current in the measuring chamber	low current
Electrical connection	D-sub 9-pin, male
Sensor cable	9-pin plus shielding
Grounding concept	→ 🗎 28
Vacuum connection – signal common	connected via 10 kΩ (potential difference ≤16 V)
Supply common – signal common	conducted separately; differential measurement is recomended

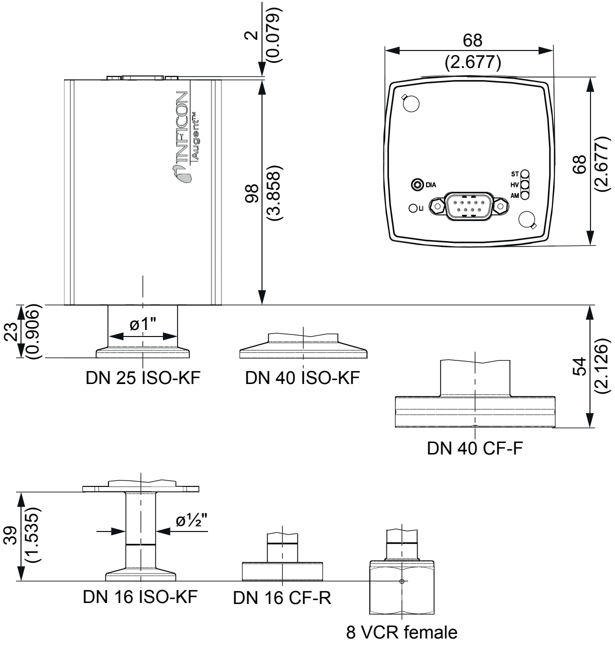
[1] The minimum voltage of the power supply unit must be increased proportionally to the length of the sensor cable.

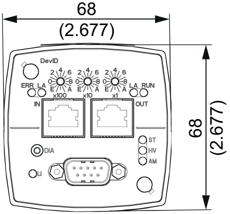
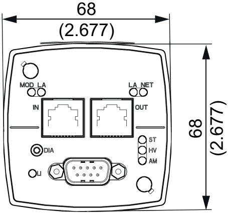
Materials exposed to vacuum	
General	ceramics Al_2O_3, stainless steel 1.4435
Anode	molybdenum
Ionization chamber	Ti, stainless steel 1.4016
Ignition aid	stainless steel 1.4310
Pirani filament	W, Al_2O_3 coated
Internal volume	≤46 cm^3
Permissible pressure (absolute)	10 bar limited to inert gases <55 °C
Bursting pressure (absolute)	>13 bar

Permissible temperatures	
Operation	+5 °C … +50 °C
Pirani filament	120 °C
Bakeout	
with electronics	≤80 °C at flange
without electronics	≤120 °C at flange
Storage	-20 °C … +70 °C
Relative humidity, year's mean during 30 days a year	
1×10^{-8} … 1×10^{-2} mbar	≤70% (non-condensing)
1×10^{-7} … 1×10^{-2} mbar	≤95% (non-condensing)
Mounting orientation	any
Use	indoors only, altitude up to 6000 m
Pollution degree	2
Degree of protection	IP 40

Weight	≤800 g

Dimensions [mm (inch)]



EtherCAT	PROFINET
	

3.1 Measurement Ranges, Relationships (Analog Output)

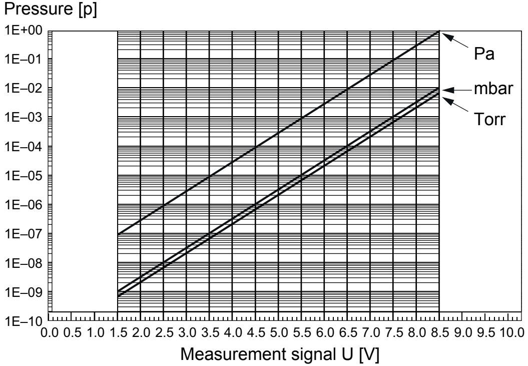
The analog measuring signal can be programmed via the serial interface (Communication Protocol → 🖹 66).

Programmable modes:

- Total pressure
  - Measurement range 1.5 … 8.5 V (type N) (→ 🖹 14)
  - Measurement range 0.667 … 10 V (type Q) (→ 🖹 15)
  - Measurement range 1.397 … 8.6 V (type P,default) (→ 🖹 16)
  - Measurement range 0.75 … 10 V (type H) (→ 🖹 17)
- Gas partial pressure (→ 🖹 18)
- Wavelength intensity (→ 🖹 19)
- Augent number (→ 🖹 20)
- Pressure rise (→ 🖹 21)
- Switching function Total Pressure (→ 🖹 41)
- Switching function Gas Partial Pressure (→ 🖹 42)
- Switching function Wavelength Intensity (→ 🖹 43)
- Switching function Augent Number (→ 🖹 44)
- Switching function Pressure Rise (→ 🖹 45)
- Partial Pressure Alarm (→ 🖹 46)

3.1.1 Measurement Signal vs. Total Pressure

Measurement range 1.5 … 8.5 V (type N)



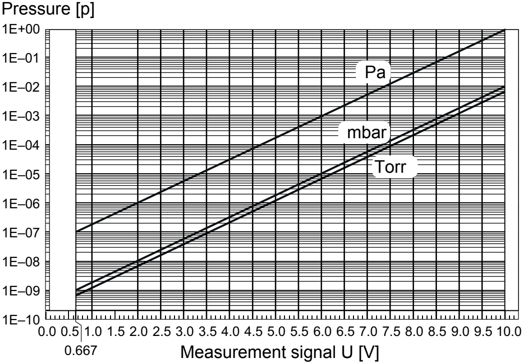
Formula:	$p = 10^{U-c}$	⇔	$U = c + \log_{10} p$

Valid in the range:	1×10^{-9} mbar < p < 1×10^{-2} mbar 7.5×10^{-10} Torr < p < 7.5×10^{-3} Torr 1×10^{-7} Pa < p < 1 Pa

	mbar	Pa	Torr
c	10.5	8.5	10.625

where p pressure
U Measurement signal
c constant (pressure unit dependent)

Measurement range 0.667 … 10 V (type Q)



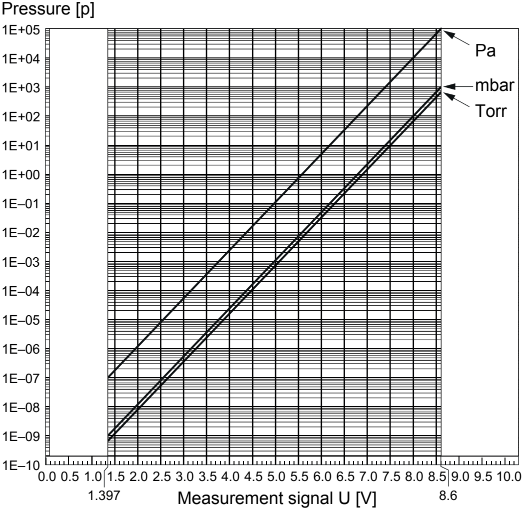
Formula:	$p = 10^{(U-c)/1.33}$	$\Leftrightarrow$	$U = c + 1.33 \log_{10} p$

Valid in the range:	1×10^{-9} mbar < p < 1×10^{-2} mbar 7.5×10^{-10} Torr < p < 7.5×10^{-3} Torr 1×10^{-7} Pa < p < 1 Pa

	mbar	Pa	Torr
c	12.66	10	12.826

where p pressure
U Measurement signal
c constant (pressure unit dependent)

Measurement range 1.397 … 8.6 V (type P, default)



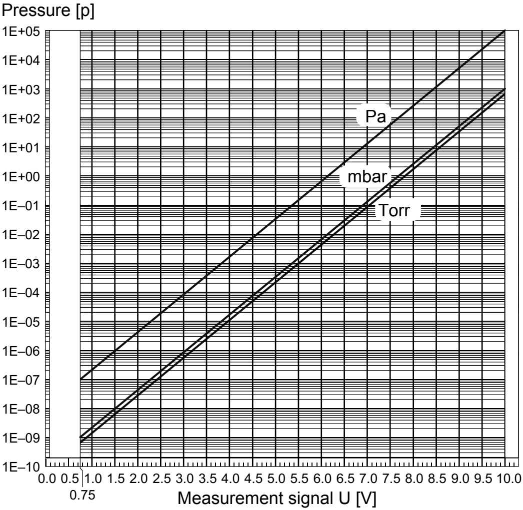
Formula:	$p = 10^{1.667U-d}$	$\Leftrightarrow$	$U = c + 0.6 \log_{10} p$

Valid in the range:	1×10^{-9} mbar < p < 1000 mbar 7.5×10^{-10} Torr < p < 750 Torr 1×10^{-7} Pa < p < 1×10^{5} Pa

	mbar	Pa	Torr
c	6.798	5.598	6.873
d	11.33	9.333	11.46

where	p	pressure
	U	measurement signal
	c,d	constant (pressure unit dependent)

Measurement range 0.75 … 10 V (type H)



Formula:	$p = 10^{(U-7.75)/0.75+c}$	⇔	$U = 0.75\ (\log_{10} p - c) + 7.75$

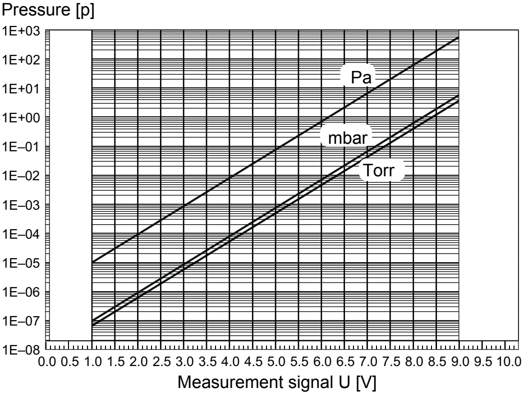
Valid in the range:	1×10^{-10} mbar < p < 1000 mbar 7.5×10^{-11} Torr < p < 750 Torr 1×10^{-8} Pa < p < 1×10^{5} Pa

	mbar	Pa	Torr
c	0	2	-0.125

where p pressure
U Measurement signal
c constant (pressure unit dependent)

3.1.2 Measurement Signal vs. Gas Partial Pressure

Measurement range 1 … 9 V, valid for measurement type RGD



Formula:	$p = 10^{(U-c)/1.039}$	$\Leftrightarrow$	$U = c + 1.039 \log_{10} p$

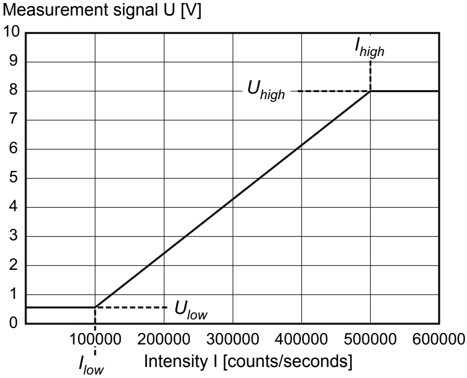
Valid in the range:	1×10^{-7} mbar < p < 5 mbar 7.5×10^{-8} Torr < p < 3.75 Torr 1×10^{-5} Pa < p < 5×10^{-2} Pa

	mbar	Pa	Torr
c	8.273	6.195	8.403

where
- p pressure
- U measurement signal
- c constant (pressure unit dependent)

3.1.3 Measurement Signal vs. Wavelength Intensity

Measurement range 0 … 10 V, valid for measurement types RGD, SPEC



U[V] = m I[counts/s] + n	⇔	I[counts/s] = (U[V] - n) / m

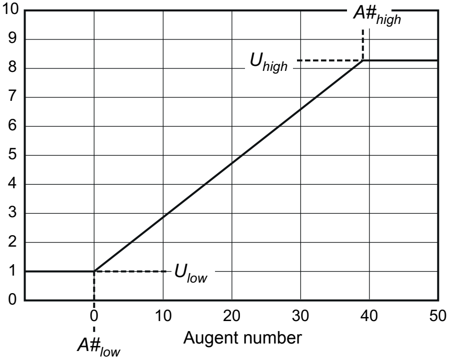
$$m = \frac{U_{high} - U_{low}}{I_{high} - I_{low}}$$

$$n = U_{low} - m \times I_{low}$$

where	I	intensity of the selected wavelength
	U	measurement signal
	U_{low}	constant (minimum voltage level)
	U_{high}	constant (maximum voltage level)
	I_{low}	constant (minimum intensity)
	I_{high}	constant (maximum intensity)

3.1.4 Measurement Signal vs. Augent Number

Measurement range 0 … 10 V, valid for measurement type RoR



$U[V] = m\ A_{\#} + n$	⇔	$A_{\#} = (U[V] - n) / m$

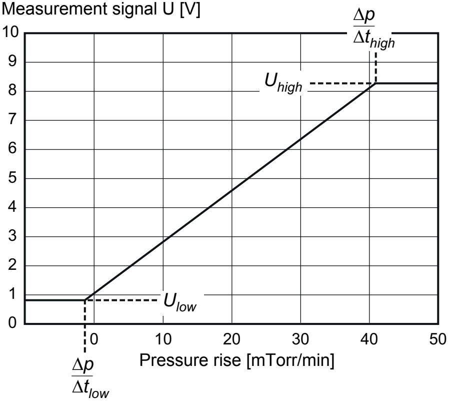
$$m = \frac{U_{high} - U_{low}}{A\#_{high} - A\#_{low}}$$

$$n = U_{low} - m \times A\#_{low}$$

where	A#	Augent number
	U	measurement signal
	U_{low}	constant (minimum voltage level)
	U_{high}	constant (maximum voltage level)
	$A\#_{low}$	constant (switching function 1)
	$A\#_{high}$	constant (switching function 2)

3.1.5 Measurement Signal vs. Pressure Rise

Measurement range 0 … 10 V, valid for measurement type RoR



U[V] = m Δp/Δt[mTorr/min] + n	⇔	Δp/Δt[mTorr/min] = (U[V] - n) / m

$$m = \frac{U_{high} - U_{low}}{\Delta p/\Delta t_{high} - \Delta p/\Delta t_{low}}$$

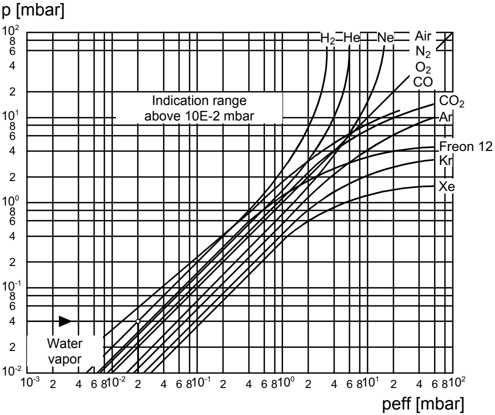
$$n = U_{low} - m \times \Delta p/\Delta t_{low}$$

where	$\Delta p/\Delta t$	pressure rise (mTorr/min)
	U	measurement signal
	U_{low}	constant (minimum voltage level)
	U_{high}	constant (maximum voltage level)
	$\Delta p/\Delta t_{low}$	constant (switching function 1)
	$\Delta p/\Delta t_{high}$	constant (switching function 2)

3.2 Gas Type Dependence Total Pressure

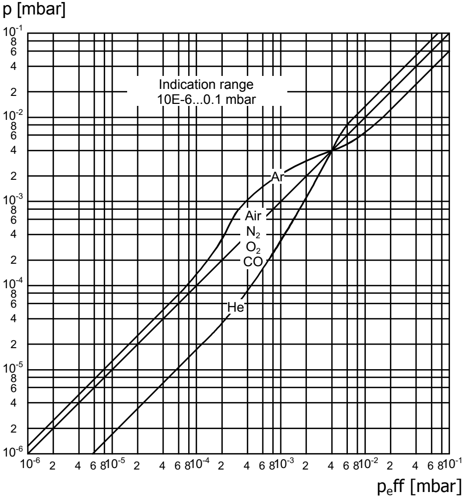
Measurement range from 10^{2} … 10^{-2} mbar (Pirani-only operation)

Indicated pressure (gauge calibrated for air)



Measurement range from 10^{-6} … 0.1 mbar

Indicated pressure (gauge calibrated for air)



Measurement range below 10^{-5} mbar

In the range below 10^{-5} mbar the pressure indication is linear. For gases other than air, the pressure can be determined by means of a simple conversion formula:

$$p_{eff} = C \times \text{pressure reading}$$

Correction factors (K):

Gas type	K
Air (N_2, O_2, CO)	1.0
Xe	0.4
Kr	0.5
Ar	0.8
H_2	2.4
Ne	4.1
He	5.9

These conversion factors are average values.

A mixture of gases and vapors is often involved. In this case, accurate determination is possible with a partial pressure measurement of the RGD measurement type (→ 🗎 37, → 🗎 51).

4 Installation

DANGER

Leaking process media

High-intensity mechanical, chemical or thermal impacts can cause leaks in the measuring sensor. Process media can thus leak and possibly cause hazards, if overpressure is in the vacuum system.

- Avoid high-intensity mechanical, chemical or thermal impacts and overpressure in the vacuum system.
- Take appropriate measures (e.g. shut off gas supply, extraction, leak test) to avoid hazards or damage due to leaking process media.

4.1 Vacuum Connection

DANGER

Overpressure in the vacuum system >1 bar

Injury caused by released parts and harm caused by escaping process gases can result if clamps are opened while the vacuum system is pressurized.

- Do not open any clamps while the vacuum system is pressurized. Use the type of clamps which are suited to overpressure.

DANGER

Overpressure in the vacuum system >2.5 bar

KF flange connections with elastomer seals (e.g. O-rings) cannot withstand such pressures. Process media can thus leak and possibly damage your health.

- Use O-rings provided with an outer centering ring.

DANGER

Protective ground

The gauge must be electrically connected to the grounded vacuum chamber. This connection must conform to the requirements of a protective connection according to EN 61010:

- CF and VCR connections fulfill this requirement.
- For gauges with a KF vacuum connection, use a conductive metallic clamping ring.
- For gauges with a ½" tube, take appropriate measures to fulfill this requirement.

Caution

Vacuum component

Dirt and damages impair the function of the vacuum component.

- When handling vacuum components, take appropriate measures to ensure cleanliness and prevent damages.

⚠ Caution

Dirt sensitive area

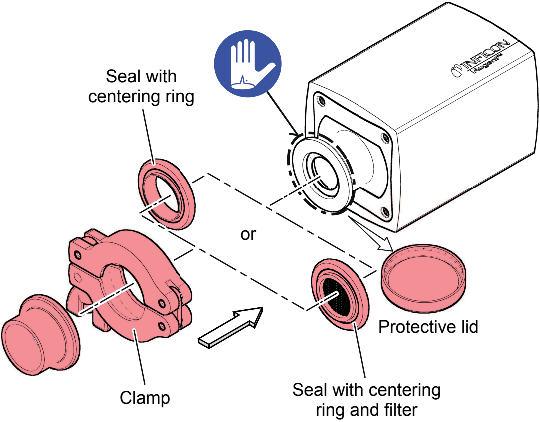
Touching the product or parts thereof with bare hands increases the desorption rate.

- Always wear clean, lint-free gloves and use clean tools when working in this area.

Mount the gauge so that no vibrations occur. Vibrations at the gauge cause a deviation of the measured values.

The gauge may be mounted in any orientation. To keep condensates and particles from getting into the measuring chamber preferably choose a horizontal to upright position.

Remove the protective lid and connect the product to the vacuum system.



Keep the protective lid.

4.2 Power Connection

Make sure the vacuum connection is properly made.

DANGER

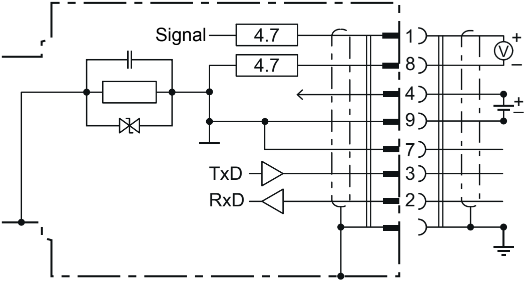
The gauge may only be connected to power supplies, instruments or control devices that conform to the requirements of a grounded protective extra-low voltage and limited power source (LPS), Class 2. The connection to the gauge has to be fused.

Ground loops, differences of potential, or EMC problems may affect the measurement signal. For optimum signal quality, please do observe the following notes:

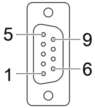
- Use an overall metal braided shielded cable. The connector must have a metal case.
- Connect the supply common with protective ground directly at the power.
- Use differential measurement input (signal common and supply common conducted separately).
- Potential difference between supply common and housing ≤6 V (overvoltage protection).

4.2.1 D-sub, 9-pin Connector

If no sensor cable is available, make one according to the following diagram. Connect the sensor cable.



Pin 1	Signal output (measurement signal)
Pin 2	RS232, RxD
Pin 3	RS232, TxD
Pin 4	Supply (+14.5 … +30 V (dc))
Pin 5	n.c.
Pin 6	n.c.
Pin 7	RS232, GND
Pin 8	Signal common
Pin 9	Supply common



D-sub, 9-pin female soldering side

4.2.2 Optional 24 V (dc) Power Supply

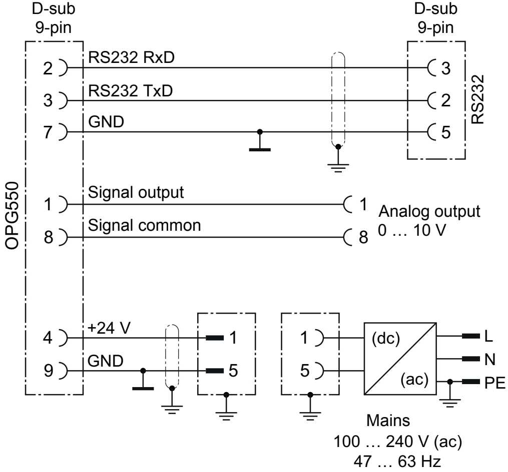
The optional 24 V (dc) power supply allows the RS232C operation of the gauge with any suitable instrument or control device.

The instrument or control device needs to be equipped with a software that supports the RS232C protocol of the gauge.

Technical Data

Mains connection	
Mains voltage	100 … 240 V (ac), 47 … 63 Hz
Mains cable	1.8 m (Schuko DIN and USA connectors)
Output (operating voltage of gauge)	
Voltage	+14.5 … +30 V (dc), set to +24 V (dc)
Power consumption	≤5 W
Gauge connection	
Connector	D-sub 9-pin, female
24 V (dc) cable	1.5 m, black
Connection to the instrument or control unit	
RS232C connection	D-sub 9-pin, female
Cable	1.5 m, black
Analog output	
Voltage	0 … 10 V
Connector	banana jack female
Cable	1.5 m, black, red

Wiring diagram



Connecting the power supply

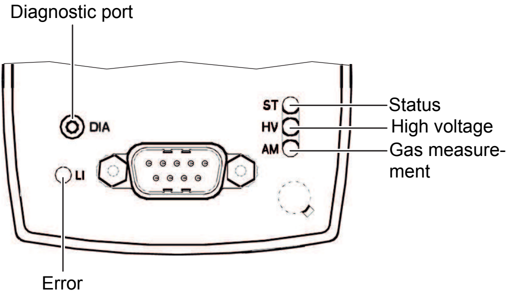
1 Connect the power supply to the the gauge.

2 Connect the RS232C line to the instrument or control device.

3 Connect the power supply to the mains.

5 Operation

5.1 Status Indication



LED	Color	Status	Meaning
ST	green	off	No supply voltage
		single flash	Gauge is put into operation
		double flash	Gauge in boot mode
		lit solid	Supply voltage ok
HV	green	off	High voltage and plasma OFF
		blinking	High voltage ON, plasma OFF
		lit solid	High voltage and plasma ON
AM	blue	off	No gas detection
		lit solid	Gas detection active

LED	Color	Status	Meaning
LI	green	lit solid	Gauge ok
	orange	lit solid	Gauge ok, Service is imminent
	red	lit solid	Service required, Gas detection no longer valid
		single flash	Internal error, not functional
		double flash	Error: Firmware not valid
		triple flash	Contact error to sensor cell

5.2 Put Gauge Into Operation

The gauge can be operated in two modes:

- Manual Mode via the serial interface (default)
- Automatic Mode, programmable via the serial interface (Communication Protocol → 🗎 66).

Measurement principle, measuring behavior

The gauge consists of a cold cathode system according to the inverted magnetron principle and a Pirani measuring system.

The cold cathode system generates a plasma inside the gauge. The emitted light of the plasma is measured and analyzed by means of an optical system (measurement types → 🗎 35, application examples → 🗎 48).

The cold cathode measurement signal is active when the plasma is switched on. When the plasma is switched off, the Pirani measurement signal is output.

The Pirani measuring circuit is always on and also controls the on/off switching of the plasma (interlock function).

5.2.1 Manual Mode (default)

When the supply voltage is applied, put the gauge into operation via the serial interface (Communication Protocol → 🗎 66).

Allow a stabilization period of at least 10 minutes. Therefore it is advisable to operate the gauge continuously, irrespective of the pressure.

Plasma on / off mode

The plasma can be switched on and off:

- Manually via the serial interface
- Automatic by start / stop of a measurement

  By starting / stopping a measurement, the plasma is automatically switched on and off. This power-on mode extends the service life of the OPG550. If the plasma was switched on manually via the serial interface before starting a measurement, it remains active even after a measurement has been stopped and must be switched off again manually via the interface.
- Automatically by the interlock function (only switch off)

  The plasma is automatically switched off above a pressure of 20 mbar (default). This prevents excessive contamination.

  Switch plasma on again:
  - restart measurement, or
  - manually via the serial interface.

  The interlock function can be activated / deactivated via the serial interface.

5.2.2 Automatic Mode

The Automatic Mode and the respective measuring type can be programmed via the serial interface (Communication Protocol → 🗎 66).

After applying the supply voltage, the measurement signal of the selected measurement type is available at the signal output as soon as the plasma is automatically switched on at a pressure <20 mbar (default).

Allow a stabilization period of at least 10 minutes. Therefore it is advisable to operate the gauge continuously, irrespective of the pressure.

Programmable measurement types

The following measurement types can be programmed in Automatic Mode:

- Spectrum measurement (SPEC)
- Leak detection (RoR - Rate of Rise)
- Residual Gas Detection (RGD)

Plasma on / off mode

If the pressure in the vacuum chamber is <20 mbar (default), the plasma is switched on automatically. Above a pressure of 20 mbar, the plasma is automatically switched off. This prevents excessive contamination. The threshold value for switching the plasma on/off (20 mbar default) can be programmed via the serial interface (Communication Protocol → 🗎 66).

5.3 Measurements and Measurement Types

The gauge allows the operation of three types of measurement:

- Spectrum measurement (SPEC)
- Leak detection (RoR - Rate of Rise)
- Residual Gas Detection (RGD)

Only one measurement type can be processed at a time.

Differences between the measurement types:

Measur. type	Integration time	Background Compens.	Spectra Data	Result
RoR	aut.	-	counts	Leak rate Spectrum
RGD	aut.	yes	counts/s	Residual gases Spectrum
SPEC	man.	yes	counts/s	Spectrum

5.3.1 Leak Detection (RoR – Rate of Rise)

The RoR measurement type measures the effective gas emission spectrum and characterizes the outgassing behavior of a vacuum chamber during a pressure rise measurement.

The analysis of the gas emission spectrum is used to detect small leaks. Large leaks are detected by means of the pressure signal, taking into account the data from the beginning of the measurement until the current time.

The integration time of the measurement is set automatically and allows the specification of a gas type. From the measured data normalized gradients of the gas emission lines are calculated and output as Augent numbers. The data from the beginning of the measurement up to the current time are considered.

As input for the automatically controlled integration time the gas type can be specified. The integration time is set so that either the measurement is sensitive to the entire spectrum or the signal-to-noise ratio is optimal for the respective gas emission line.

5.3.2 Spectrum (SPEC)

The SPEC measuring type measures the gas emission spectrum with a manually set integration time.

At the beginning of the measurement, the background spectrum is automatically recorded and then subtracted from the measured spectrum.

As input the desired integration time in milliseconds is given. The integration time is constant during the whole measurement. If the integration time is changed, the measurement must be restarted.

The unit of measurement data "counts/s" is standardized to the integration time. The measurement data therefore contain all information of the plasma source.

5.3.3 Residual Gas Detektion (RGD)

The RGD measuring type measures a signal-to-noise optimized gas emission spectrum and detects gas types, detects gas types and measures gas partial pressures.

If the integration time is automatically adjusted, the background spectrum is automatically recorded and then subtracted from the measured spectrum.

The gas spectrum is measured with two different integration times.

The first measurement is performed with a short, automatically calculated integration time. This measurement is sensitive to the whole spectrum.

The second measurement is performed with a longer integration time to increase the signal-to-noise ratio of the less intensive emission lines.

With the gas type "0 – Sensitive to whole Spectrum" he second integration time is 8 times the first integration time. When selecting a specific gas, the second integration time is specifically set to the emission line of that gas.

The two spectra are added together to form a complete spectrum. The unit of the measured data "counts/sec" is standardized to the integration time. The measurement data thus contain all information of the plasma source.

The RGD measuring type analyzes the entire spectrum and tests gases such as hydrogen, helium, nitrogen, oxygen and argon.

The gas partial pressure is calculated from the information of the detected gases and the measured total pressure.

5.4 Ignition Delay

An ignition delay occurs when cold cathode gauges are switched on. The delay time increases at low pressures and for clean, degassed gauges it is typically:

1×10^{-5} … 10 mbar		<1 second
1×10^{-7} … 1×10^{-5} mbar		<20 seconds

The ignition is a statistical process. Already a small amount of depositions on the inner surfaces can have a strong influence on it.

As long as the plasma in the cold cathode system has not ignited, no gas measurement can be performed.

If the high voltage is switched on at a pressure $p < 3\times10^{-9}$ mbar, the gauge cannot detect whether the cold cathode system has ignited.

5.5 Switching Functions

The analog measurement signal can be programmed for switching functions (set points SP1 and SP2) via the serial interface (Communication Protocol → 🗎 66).

The two setpoints can be set to any pressure within the measurement range of the gauge.

Programmable switching functions:

- Switching function Total Pressure (→ 🗎 41)
- Switching function Gas Partial Pressure (→ 🗎 42)
- Switching function Wavelength Intensity (→ 🗎 43)
- Switching function Augent Number (→ 🗎 44)
- Switching function Pressure Rise (→ 🗎 45)
- RGD Partial Pressure Alarm (→ 🗎 46)

Switching characteristics, hysteresis, voltage level

The switching characteristics and the hysteresis of each set point can be programmed.

Additionally the voltage levels$_{high}$ and U_{low} can be set to any voltage within the voltage range of the gauge (0 … 10 V). The mean voltage U_{center} is calculated automatically from the set U_{high} and $U_{low.}$

The following describes the function of the switching functions in the switching function mode Total Pressure. It applies to the other switching function modes by analogy.

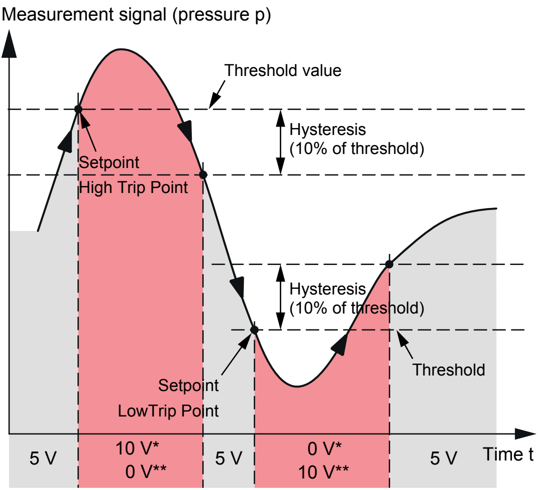
High Trip Point

If the total pressure in the vacuum system is higher than the set threshold value p_{high} the set voltage U_{high} (10 V) is output at the analog output in Normal mode and the set voltage U_{low} (0 V) in Inverted mode.

Low Trip Point

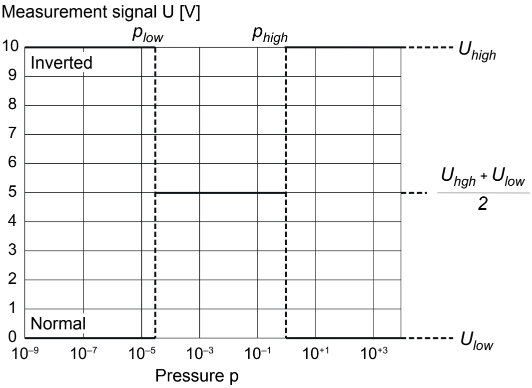
If the total pressure in the vacuum system is lower than the set threshold value p_{low} the set voltage U_{low} (0 V) is output at the analog output in Normal mode and the set voltage U_{high} (10 V) in Inverted mode.

If the total pressure in the vacuum system is within the set switching points ($p_{low} < p < p_{high}$), the automatically calculated mean voltage U_{center} (5 V) is output at the analog output in Normal and Inverted mode.



* Normal mode
** Inverted mode

5.5.1 Switching Function – Total Pressure

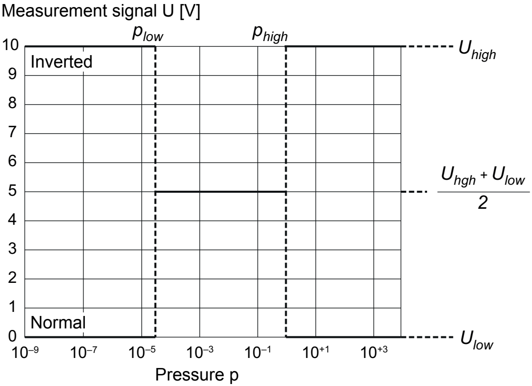


Condition			Orig.	Invert.
p_{low}	$> p$		U_{low}	U_{high}
p_{low}	$< p <$	p_{high}	U_{center}	U_{center}
	$p >$	p_{high}	U_{high}	U_{low}

where	p	total pressure
	U	measurement signal
	U_{low}	constant (minimum voltage level)
	U_{high}	constant (maximum voltage level)
	p_{low}	constant (setpoint 1 - total pressure)
	p_{high}	constant (setpoint 2 - total pressure)

5.5.2 Switching Function – Gas Partial Pressure

Valid for measurement type RGD

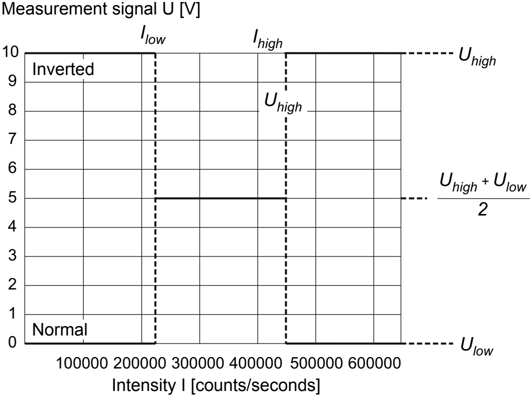


Condition			Orig.	Invert.
p_{low}	> p		U_{low}	U_{high}
p_{low}	< p <	p_{high}	U_{center}	U_{center}
	p >	p_{high}	U_{high}	U_{low}

where	p	partial pressure
	U	measurement signal
	U_{low}	constant (minimum voltage level)
	U_{high}	constant (maximum voltage level)
	p_{low}	constant (setpoint 1 – partial pressure)
	p_{high}	constant (setpoint 2 – partial pressure)

5.5.3 Switching Function – Wavelength Intensity

Valid for measurement types RGD and SPEC

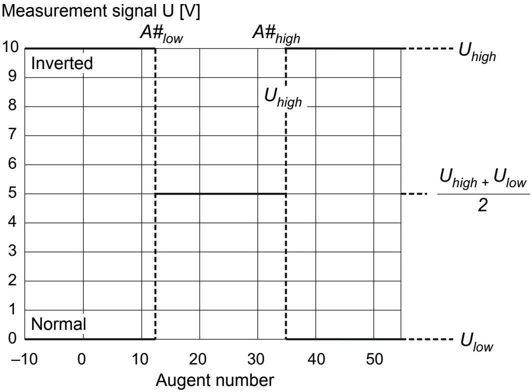


Condition			Orig.	Invert.
I_{low}	> I		U_{low}	U_{high}
I_{low}	< I <	I_{high}	U_{center}	U_{center}
	I >	I_{high}	U_{high}	U_{low}

where	I	intensity
	U	measurement signal
	U_{low}	constant (minimum voltage level)
	U_{high}	constant (maximum voltage level)
	I_{low}	constant (setpoint 1 - intensity)
	I_{high}	constant (setpoint 2 - intensity)

5.5.4 Switching Function – Augent Number

Valid for measurement type RoR

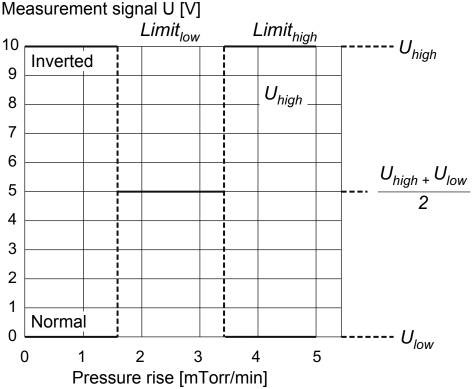


Condition			Orig.	Invert.
$A\#_{low}$	> A#		U_{low}	U_{high}
$A\#_{low}$	< A# <	$A\#_{high}$	U_{center}	U_{center}
	A# >	$A\#_{high}$	U_{high}	U_{low}

where	A#	Augent number (normalized gas emission gradient)
	U	measurement signal
	U_{low}	constant (minimum voltage level)
	U_{high}	constant (maximum voltage level)
	$A\#_{low}$	constant (setpoint 1)
	$A\#_{high}$	constant (setpoint 2)

5.5.5 Switching Function – Pressure Rise

Valid for measurement type RoR



Condition			Orig.	Invert.
$Limit_{low}$	> Δp/Δt		U_{low}	U_{high}
$Limit_{low}$	< Δp/Δt <	$Limit_{high}$	U_{center}	U_{center}
	Δp/Δt >	$Limit_{high}$	U_{high}	U_{low}

where	Δp/Δt	pressure rise value [mTorr/min]
	U	measurement signal
	U_{low}	constant (minimum voltage level)
	U_{high}	constant (maximum voltage level)
	$Limit_{low}$	constant (setpoint 1)
	$Limit_{high}$	constant (setpoint 2)

5.5.6 RGD Partial Pressure Alarm

Set: Set Analog Output to the mode <RGD Partial Pressure Alarm>.
Get: Get the corresponding parameters of the mode <RGD Partial Pressure Alarm>.

The analog output is used for two different functionalities.

- The range from 0 … 5 V is used as analog output dependent on partial pressure of a specific gas.

Formula:	$p = 10^{(U-4.5/0.5)}$	⇔	$U = 4.5 + 0.5 \log_{10} p$

where	p	pressure [mbar]
	U	measurement signal [V]

- The range from 6 … 10 V is used for 5 alarms. Jeder Each alarm can be assigned to a specific gas partial pressure or to the total pressure. An alarm can be configured as an upper or a lower trip point (mode). If the partial pressure of the specified gas is above / below the defined trip point, the analog output is set to the alarm specific voltage. Alarm 1 corresponds to 6.0 V, alarm 2 to 7.0 V and so on. Whether an alarm is issued at the output also depends on the number of fulfilled alarm conditions. The minim number can be defined via the parameter <Number of Alarms that must be active>.

Alarm priorities

Alarm 1 (at 6 V) has the highest priority and alarm 5 the lowest. If more than one alarm is active, the one with the higher priority is set on the analog output.

Alarm update time

The alarm update time depends on the execution time of the <Residual Gas Detection (RGD)> algorithm. If the algorithm is not active, alarm conditions are not checked.

6 Contamination

☞ Gauge failures due to contamination or wear and tear, as well as expendable parts (e.g. Pirani filament) are not covered by the warranty.

Gauge contamination is influenced by the process media used as well as any existing or new contaminants and their respective partial pressures. Contamination of the gauge generally causes a deviation of the measured values.

An internal contamination protection ensures a longer lifetime of the OPG550.

The degree of contamination can be influenced to a limited extent by a specific selection of the gauge flange position at a location where the partial pressure of the contamination is minimal.

Special precautions are required for vapors deposited in the plasma (of the cold cathode measuring system). If necessary, switch off the gauge while the vapors are present or seal it off with a valve.

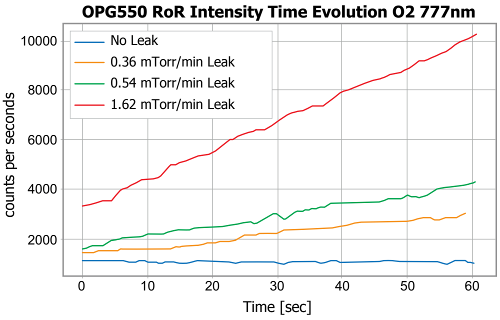
7 Application Examples

7.1 Leak Detection in Pressure Rise Measurement (RoR)

The OPG550 allows a fast and accurate leak detection during a pressure rise measurement. The leak gas can be air or other purge gas.

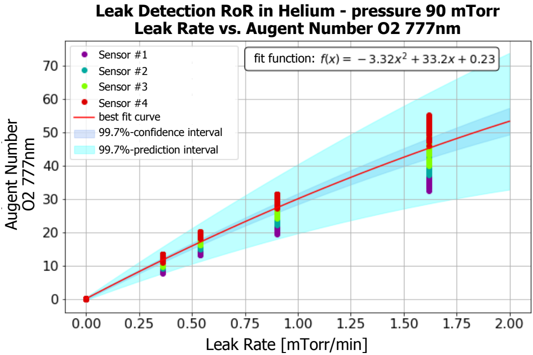
Pump the vacuum system to a pressure p < 1 Torr and close all valves. At this point start the "Rate of Rise Leak Detection" measurement type. Select the gas to be tested as input for the measurement type, for example "Oxygen O_2 777 nm". The measurement type then calculates the normalized slope of the gas emission lines, the so-called Augent numbers.

An air leak leads to a constant increase in the intensity of the emission lines of nitrogen and oxygen during the pressure rise measurement. The following figure shows the time course of the intensity of the oxygen emission line for different leak rates.



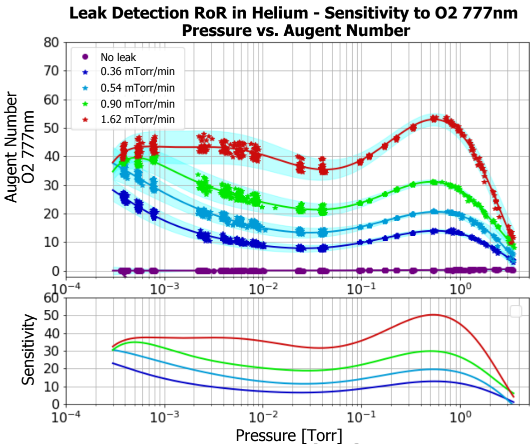
Relationship leak rate vs. Augent number

The normalized slope of the gas emission lines during a pressure rise measurement (Augent number) shows an almost linear behaviour to the leak rate of the vacuum system.



Pressure dependency

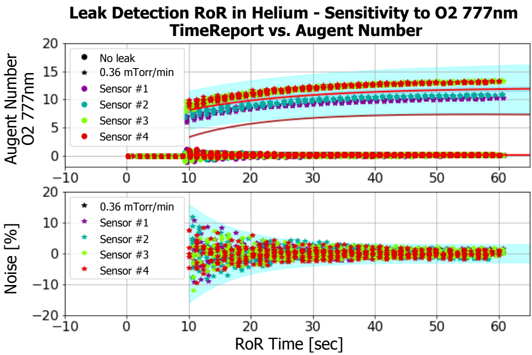
The following figure shows the pressure dependence of the Augent number or sensitivity for oxygen testing in the carrier gas helium. The initial pressure of the pressure rise measurement is noted on the X-axis. The leak rates used here are 0.36 mTorr/min, 0.54 mTorr/min, 0.90 mTorr/min and 1.62 mTorr/min. The vacuum system has a volume of 25 liters.



Time dependency

The following figure shows the time dependence of the Augent number and the noise behaviour for oxygen testing in the carrier gas helium.

Thus, the OPG550 sensor provides a clear leak detection after only 10 seconds of pressure rise measurement. The noise of the Augent numbers is ±15 % at 10 seconds and less than ±5 % after 30 seconds.



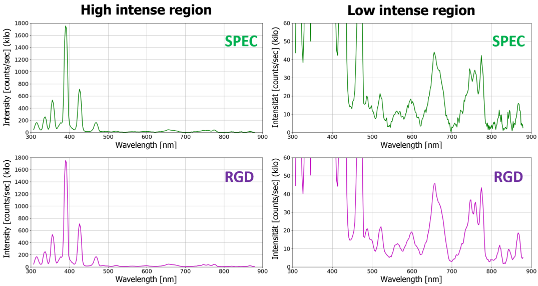
7.2 Gas Monitoring

In the pressure range of 1×10^{-7} … 5 mbar the OPG550 sensor allows gas testing and partial pressure measurement of various gases.

The intelligent "Residual Gas Detection" algorithm (RGD) provides a signal-to-noise optimized spectrum for both the intensive and the less intensive gas emission lines.

The figure below shows the comparison between emission spectra, measured

- by a manual spectrum measurement (SPEC) with predefined integration time, and
- by a Residual Gas Detection measurement (RGD) with automatically optimized integration time.



The optimized gas spectrum allows the precise testing of existing gases in the vacuum system and the measurement of gas partial pressures. This is how the OPG550 sensor allows

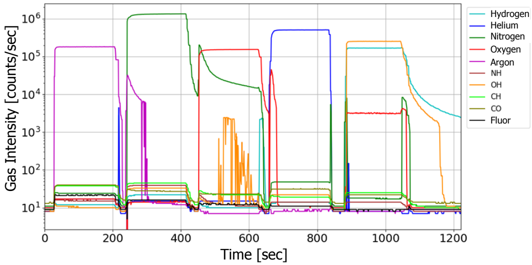
- testing the "golden state" of the vacuum system
- testing the impurities >10 ppm (detection limit dependent on gas type and pressure)
- the detection (intensity measurement) of a specific gas
- the detection (intensity measurement) of gas compounds

This allows different applications to be realized.

7.2.1 Gas Type Detection

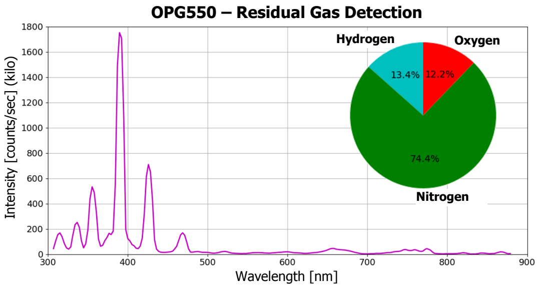
In the following example, the vacuum chamber was pumped down to the base pressure (≈1×10^{-6} mbar) and then a constant flow of the gases$_2$, He, N_2, O_2, Ar and NF_3 was set for three minutes each. The figure shows the evidence of the various gases and the resulting gas compounds. This makes it possible to check which gases are still in the vacuum before, during or after a process. This allows processes to be controlled, monitored or optimized.

In addition to H_2, He, N_2, O_2, Ar and NF_3 , other gases / gas compounds can be implemented on request.



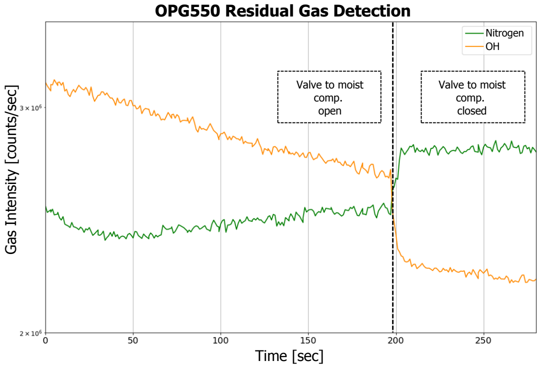
7.2.2 Residual Gas Detection (RGD) “Golden-State check”

The quality of a process often depends on a certain amount of specific gases, which is in the vacuum chamber before or after a process. With Residual Gas Detection (RGD), these specific gases can be easily measured, visualized and, if necessary, the data can be transmitted to the control system for further processing.



7.2.3 Humidity Detection

The figure below shows the absolute gas intensity of OH and nitrogen during a pump down procedure of a vacuum system with moist components. The gas intensity of OH, originating from residual water molecules, clearly indicates the moisture present and drops significantly as soon as the valve to the moist components is closed after approximately 195 seconds.



8 Deinstallation

DANGER

Contaminated parts

Contaminated parts can be detrimental to health and environment.

- Before beginning to work, find out whether any parts are contaminated. Adhere to the relevant regulations and take the necessary precautions when handling contaminated parts.

Caution

Vacuum component

Dirt and damages impair the function of the vacuum component.

- When handling vacuum components, take appropriate measures to ensure cleanliness and prevent damages.

Caution

Dirt sensitive area

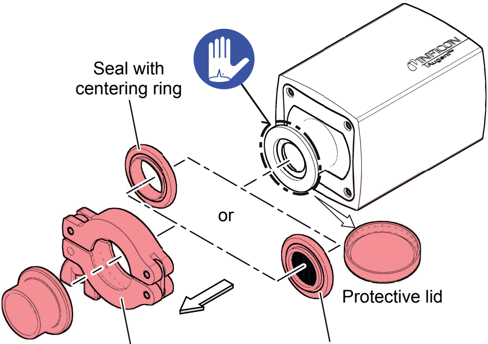
Touching the product or parts thereof with bare hands increases the desorption rate.

- Always wear clean, lint-free gloves and use clean tools when working in this area.

1 Vent the vacuum system.

2 Put the gauge out of operation and disconnect the sensor cable.

3 Remove the gauge from the vacuum system and install the protective lid.


Seal with
centering ring
or
Protective lid
Clamp
Seal with centering
ring and filter

9 Maintenance, Repair

Gauge failures due to contamination or wear and tear, as well as expendable parts (e.g. Pirani filament) are not covered by the warranty.

INFICON assumes no liability and the warranty becomes null and void if any repair work is carried out by the end-user or third parties.

9.1 Troubleshooting (measuring chamber)

In case of severe contamination or defective (e.g. Pirani filament rupture), replace the measuring chamber.

DANGER

Contaminated parts

Contaminated parts can be detrimental to health and environment.

- Before beginning to work, find out whether any parts are contaminated. Adhere to the relevant regulations and take the necessary precautions when handling contaminated parts.

Caution

Vacuum component

Dirt and damages impair the function of the vacuum component.

- When handling vacuum components, take appropriate measures to ensure cleanliness and prevent damages.

Caution

Dirt sensitive area

Touching the product or parts thereof with bare hands increases the desorption rate.

- Always wear clean, lint-free gloves and use clean tools when working in this area.

DANGER

Cleaning agents

Cleaning agents can be detrimental to health and environment.

- Adhere to the relevant regulations and take the necessary precautions when handling and disposing of cleaning agents. Consider possible reactions with the product materials.

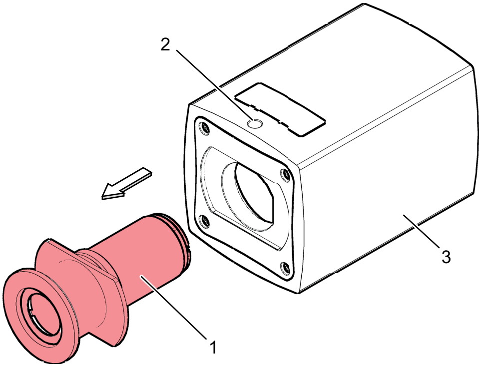
Precondition

Gauge deinstalled.

If the cause of the fault is suspected to be in the measuring chamber, the following checks can be made with an ohmmeter.

Required tools / material

- Allen wrench AF 2.5
- Ohmmeter



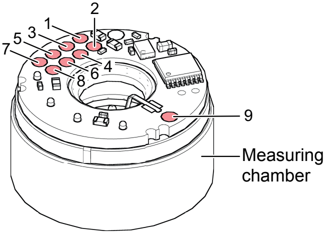
1 Unfasten the hexagon socket set screw (2) (AF 2.5) and remove the measuring chamber (1) from the electronics unit (3).

2 Visually check the optical feedthrough chamber for contamination. Even slight contamination can have a negative effect on the measurement result.

- Slight contamination: Clean the optical feedthrough and replace the ignition aid (recommended). Procedure for gauges with tube ø1” see video on www.inficon.com.
- Severely contaminated: Replace the measuring chamber. Procedure see → 🗎 60 or video on www.inficon.com.

3 Using an ohmmeter, make following measurements on the contact pins:

Measurement between pins			**Possible cause, error**
3 + 6	39.5 … 40.5 Ω (at 20 °C)	Values outside of the range	Pirani filament rupture
4 + 6	1000 … 1100 Ω (at 20 °C)	Values outside of the range	Pirani temperature sensor rupture
9 + measuring chamber	∞	<<∞	Contamination, short circuit cold cathode



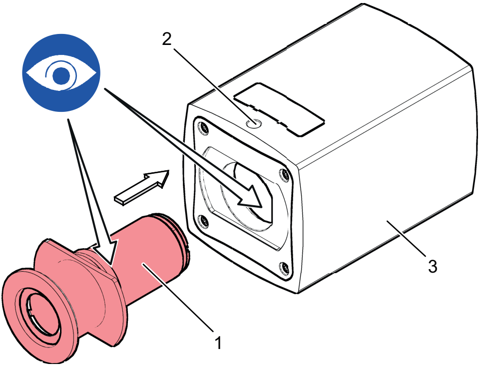
All of these faults can only be remedied by replacing the measuring chamber.

9.1.1 Replacing Measuring Chamber

Precondition

Troubleshooting (measuring chamber) performed.

1 Carefully slide the replacement sensor (1) into the electronics unit (3) until the mechanical stop is reached.



2 Fasten the replacement sensor (1) by means of the two hexagon socket set screws (2).

9.2 Troubleshooting

In case of an error, it may be helpful to just turn off the mains supply and turn it on again after 5 s.

Problem	LED	Status	Possible cause	Correction
No voltage at signal output.	ST	off	No supply voltage.	Turn on power supply.
Measurement cannot be started.	HV	blinking green	Gas discharge has not ignited.	Wait, until the gas discharge has ignited (≈20 seconds at a pressure of 10-6 mbar).
Measurement data show slight aging process.	LI	lit solid orange	Slight contamination on optical feedthrough.	Service (replacement of the measurement chamber) is pending.
Measurement data show considerable aging process.	LI	lit solid red	Severe contamination on optical feedthrough.	Replace the measurement chamber.
Gauge does not communicate.	LI	single flash red	Internal firmware error	Switch the gauge off and on again after 5 s.
			EEPROM error.	Replace the measure chamber.
Gauge does not communicate.	LI	double flash red	No valid firmware.	Update the firmware.
Gauge does not communicate.	LI	triple flash red	Contact fault to sensor cell.	Insert the measurement chamber into the housing again and fasten it on properly.
			Pirani defective.	Replace the measurement chamber.

10 Accessories

	Ordering No.
Diagnostic cable RS232C; 9p-Dsub - phone jack 2.5 mm (2 m) [2)]	303-333
Optical window cleaning kit (for gauges with PN 3OF1-xxx-xxxx)	351-052

11 Options

	Ordering No.
24 V (dc) power supply with analog out and RS232 line	351-051

12 Spare Parts

When ordering spare parts, always indicate:

- all information on the product nameplate
- description and ordering number according to the spare parts list

	Ordering No.
Replacement sensor DN 16 ISO-KF	351-594
Replacement sensor DN 16 CF-R	351-595
Replacement sensor DN 25 ISO-KF	351-597
Replacement sensor DN 40 ISO-KF	351-598
Replacement sensor DN 40 CF-F	351-599
Replacement sensor 8 VCR female	351-596
Ignition aid (set of 10 pieces)	351-995

[2)] Diagnostic SW available upon request.

13 Returning the Product

⚠ WARNING

Forwarding contaminated products

Contaminated products (e.g. radioactive, toxic, caustic or biological hazard) can be detrimental to health and environment.

- Products returned should preferably be free of harmful substances. Adhere to the forwarding regulations of all involved countries and forwarding companies Enclose a duly completed declaration of contamination (form under www.inficon.com).

Products that are not clearly declared as "free of harmful substances" are decontaminated at the expense of the customer.

Products not accompanied by a duly completed declaration of contamination are returned to the sender at his own expense.

14 Disposal

DANGER

Contaminated parts

Contaminated parts can be detrimental to health and environment.

- Before beginning to work, find out whether any parts are contaminated. Adhere to the relevant regulations and take the necessary precautions when handling contaminated parts.

WARNING

Substances detrimental to the environment

Products or parts thereof (mechanical and electric components, operating fluids etc.) can be detrimental to the environment.

- Dispose of such substances in accordance with the relevant local regulations.

Separating the components

After disassembling the product, separate its components according to the following criteria:

- Contaminated components

  Contaminated components (radioactive, toxic, caustic or biological hazard etc.) must be decontaminated in accordance with the relevant national regulations, separated according to their materials, and disposed of.

- Other components

  Such components must be separated according to their materials and recycled.

Further Information

[1] Communication Protocol
RS232C Augent® OPG550
tirb59e1
INFICON AG, LI-9496 Balzers, Liechtenstein

[2] Communication Protocol
EtherCAT® Augent® OPG550
tirb84e1
INFICON AG, LI-9496 Balzers, Liechtenstein

[3] Communication Protocol
PROFINET Augent® OPG550
tirb92e1
INFICON AG, LI-9496 Balzers, Liechtenstein

ETL Certification

RECOGNIZED COMPONENT
C ETL US LISTED
Intertek
3103457

ETL LISTED
The product OPG550 (without fieldbus)

- conforms to the UL Standard UL 61010-1
- is certified to the CAN/CSA Standard CSA C22.2#61010-1-12

CE EU Declaration of Conformity

Manufacturer: INFICON AG, Alte Landstraße 6, LI-9496 Balzers

This declaration of conformity is issued under the sole responsibility of the manufacturer.

Product: Augent® OPG550

The product of the declaration described above is in conformity with following Union harmonization legislation:

- 2014/30/EU, OJ L 96/79, 29.3.2014
  (EMC Directive; Directive relating to electromagnetic compatibility)
- 2011/65/EU, OJ L 174/88, 1.7.2011
  (RoHS Directive; Directive on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment)

Harmonized and international/national standards and specifications:

- EN 61010-1:2010 + A1:2019 + A1:2019/AC:2019
  (Safety requirements for electrical equipment for measurement, control and laboratory use)
- EN 61326-1:2013; Group 1, Class B
  (EMC requirements for electrical equipment for measurement, control and laboratory use)
- EN IEC 63000:2018
  (RoHS: technical documentation)

Signed for and on behalf of: INFICON AG, Alte Landstraße 6, LI-9496 Balzers

Balzers, 2024-06-19	Balzers, 2024-06-19
Thomas Hohl Director Development & Software	Florian Britt Product Manager

UKCA Declaration of Conformity

Manufacturer: INFICON AG, Alte Landstraße 6, LI-9496 Balzers

This declaration of conformity is issued under the sole responsibility of the manufacturer.

Product: Augent® OPG550

The product of the declaration described above is in conformity with the relevant UK Statutory Instruments:

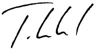
- S.I. 2016/1091, 11.2016
  (Regulation relating to electromagnetic compatibility 2016)
- S.I. 2012/3032, 12.2012
  (Regulation on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment 2012)

Harmonized and international/national standards and specifications:

- EN 61010-1:2010 + A1:2019 + A1:2019/AC:2019
  (Safety requirements for electrical equipment for measurement, control and laboratory use)
- EN 61326-1:2013; Group 1, Class B
  (EMC requirements for electrical equipment for measurement, control and laboratory use)
- EN IEC 63000:2018
  (RoHS: technical documentation)

Signed for and on behalf of: INFICON AG, Alte Landstraße 6, LI-9496 Balzers

Balzers, 2024-06-19



Thomas Hohl
Director Development & Software

Balzers, 2024-06-19

Florian Britt
Product Manager

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INFICON

LI–9496 Balzers
Liechtenstein
Tel +423 / 388 3111
reachus@inficon.com
www.inficon.com

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