Optistat CF Quick Start Guide

Version 2.1



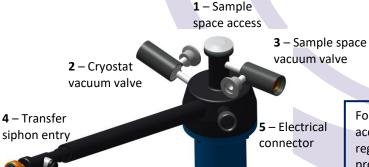
The Business of Science*

Safety

- 1. Read the supplied booklet 'Safety Matters' before using the system.
- 2. If in doubt about the system operation, refer to the system manual.
- 3. Use appropriate personal protective equipment.
- 4. This guide assumes a Mercury iTC is being used. If using an alternative controller, refer to the manual for control information.
- 5. Only vent the OVC when the system is at room temperature and only use dry gas (e.g. nitrogen).
- 6. Ensure the sample rod is secured to the cryostat before cooling.

Preparing the system

- a) Check you have available all the necessary components you may need for your experiment.
- b) Connect a high-vacuum pump to the cryostat vacuum valve (2).
- c) Evacuate the OVC to below 10⁻⁴mbar.
- d) Check that the transfer siphon has been evacuated.
- e) Insert the sample holder (1) and pump out the sample space (3).
- f) Fit a bladder of dry ⁴He to (3) and fill the sample space.



For technical support, spares and accessories, contact your local regional support team. See the product manual for full details.

Cooling the system

- a) Fully close the needle valve on the transfer siphon, then open four turns.
- b) Open the valve on the VCU (by turning anti-clockwise).
- c) Slowly lower the dewar leg of the siphon into the Helium dewar.
- d) Push the other end into the entry arm of the cryostat (4). Engage the nut on the siphon with the thread on the cryostat and tighten.
- e) Switch on the GF4 pump. The cryostat should now cool steadily.

Controlling at set temperature

- a) Set the desired temperature by tapping **Control** and changing the set point to the desired temperature.
- b) Select Auto in the heater control configuration.
- c) For optimum performance, use the flow and PID values in the test results.

Changing samples

- a) Warm the sample space to room temperature before opening the sample space. This will protect your sample from thermal shock.
- b) When the sample space is open, purge with dry helium gas.
- Seal the sample space as soon as possible, using either a sample rod or the blank supplied with the cryostat.

Warming up

- a) Switch off the pump and wait for the pressure in the helium circuit to rise to approximately the storage dewar pressure.
- b) Remove the transfer siphon from the cryostat.
- c) Immediately fit the Bunsen relief valve to the cryostat.
- d) Setting the **Control** temperature to 300K and venting the OVC with a small volume of nitrogen gas will accelerate the warm up.



