



# Evaluation of Small Mass Spectrometer Systems

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# Introduction

Understand Aspects of Designing a  
Miniature Mass Spectrometer (MS) System

## Systems Evaluated

Linear Quadrupole  
Quadrupole Ion Trap  
Sector

Quadrupole Array  
Time of Flight

## Figures of Merit

Accuracy  
Limits of Detection  
Response Time  
Volume

Precision  
Scan Rate  
Recovery Time  
Weight

Set Up Scale to Rank Systems

# Why Miniaturize?

- **Improve Portability**

- Field Applications
  - Real-Time Analysis
  - Decrease Contamination

- **Size Reduction**

- Increase Sensor Density
  - Less Intrusive

- **Cost Reduction**

- Less Weight
  - Less Power

# Potential Applications

- **Leak Detection**

- Hazardous Gases
  - Helium
  - Refrigerants

- **Air Analysis**

- Worker Safety
  - Public Safety
  - Chemical Weapons

- **Law Enforcement**

- Contraband Detection

- **Field Medical Analysis**

- **Process Control**

- Semiconductors
  - Hydrogen Economy

# NASA Applications

- **Next-Generation Leak Detection During**  
Processing  
Cryogenic Fueling  
Launch Countdown
- **Shuttle Engine Monitoring**
- **Air Analysis**  
International Space Station Air Lock  
Shuttle Air Lock
- **Process Control**  
Martian Fuel Generators

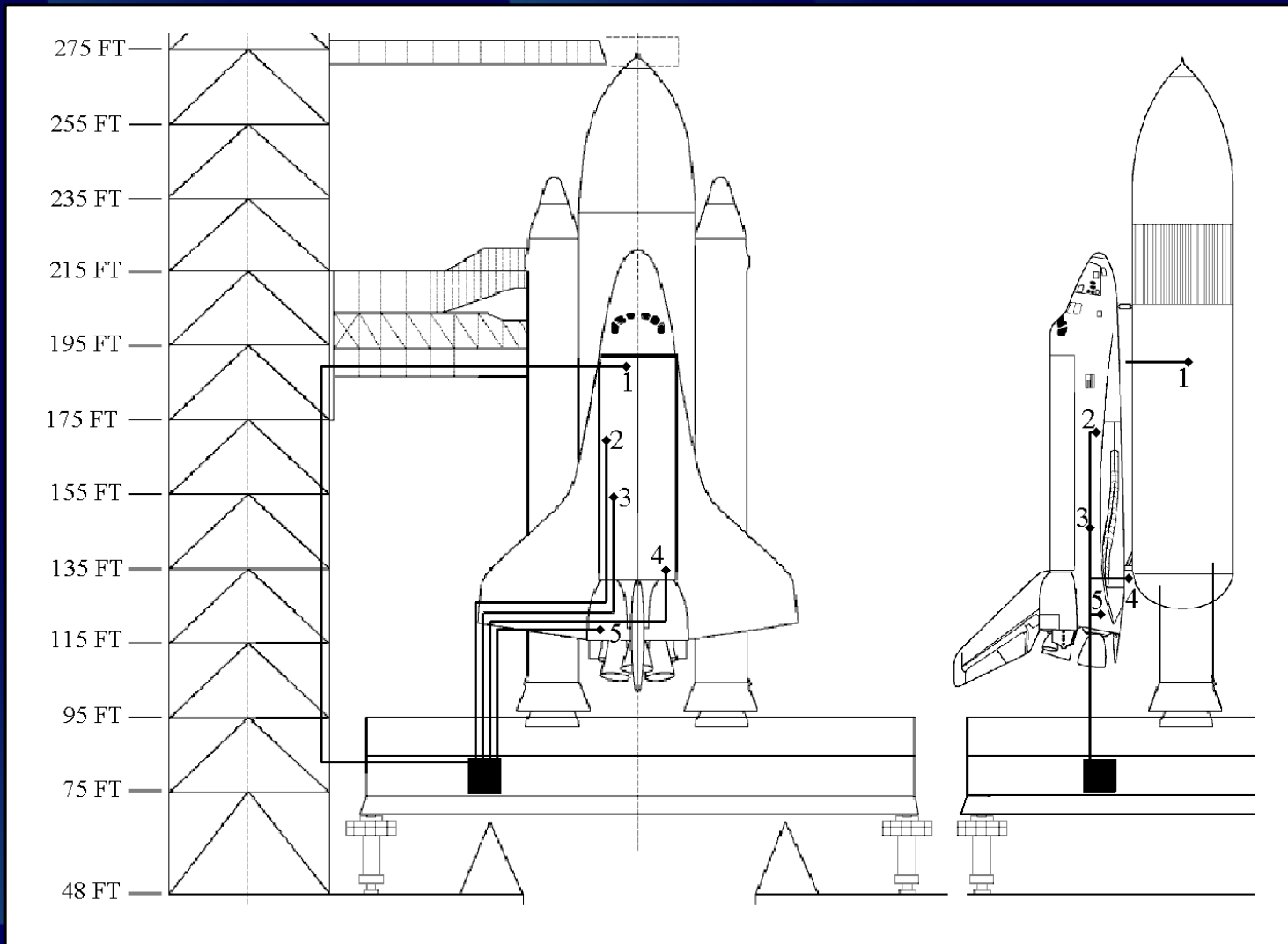


# Current Problems

Response Time

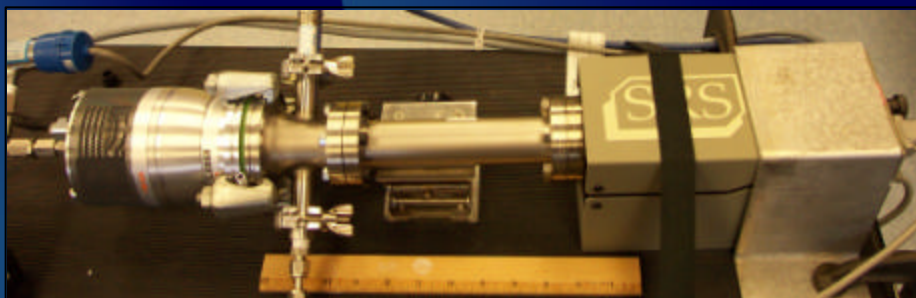
Scan Rate

Sampling Density



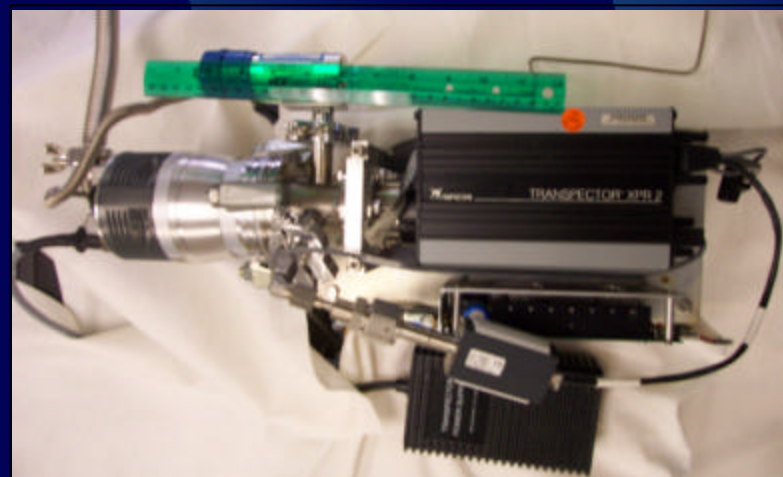
## Stanford Research Systems (SRS) RGA-100

- **Linear Quadrupole Analyzer**  
Cylindrical Rods: 6.35mm OD  
Rod Length: 11.4 cm  
Inscribed Radius: 2.77 mm  
Frequency: 2.76 MHz
- **Pressure =  $5 \times 10^{-5}$  torr**



## Inficon XPR-2

- **Linear Quadrupole Analyzer**  
Hyperbolic Rods  
Rod Length: 12.7 mm  
Inscribed Radius: 0.33 mm  
Frequency: 13 MHz
- **Pressure =  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  torr**





## Ferran

- **Quadrupole Array System**  
16 Cylindrical Rods: 1 mm OD  
Rod Length: 10 mm  
Frequency = 16 MHz
- **Pressure:  $5 \times 10^{-4}$  torr**



## IonWerks

### Time-of-Flight (TOF)

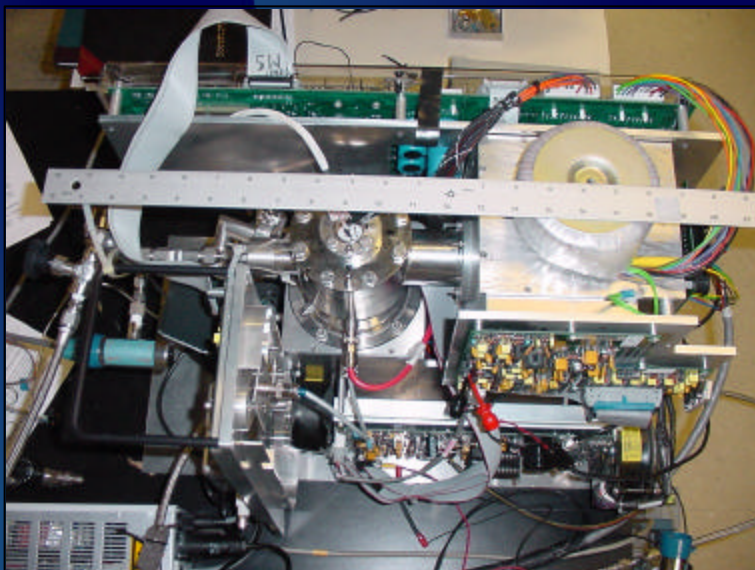
- **Reflectron TOF System**  
Orthogonal Acceleration  
Extraction Pulse: 600 V  
Sampling Rate: 50 kHz
- **Pressure:  $5 \times 10^{-6}$  torr**





## University of Florida Ion Trap (UF-IT)

- Quadrupole Ion Trap System
  - Ring Radius: 10 mm
  - Stretched Geometry
  - Frequency = 2.5 MHz
  - No Buffer Gas
- Pressure:  $4 \times 10^{-6}$  torr



## Thermo Finnigan Polaris-Q

- Quadrupole Ion Trap System
  - Ring Radius: 7 mm
  - Stretched Geometry
  - Frequency = 1.03 MHz
  - Helium Buffer Gas
- Pressure:  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  ( $4 \times 10^{-6}$ ) torr



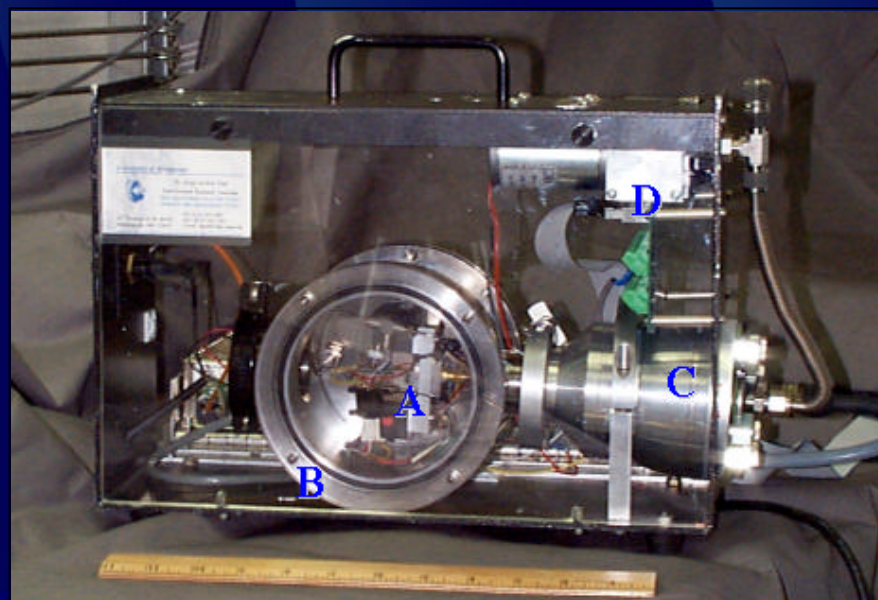
## Monitor Group MG-2100

- Cycloidal Sector System
  - B: 0.5 tesla
  - Pitch: 1 inch
- Pressure:  $5 \times 10^{-6}$  torr



## University of Minnesota Compact Double Focus MS (CDFMS)

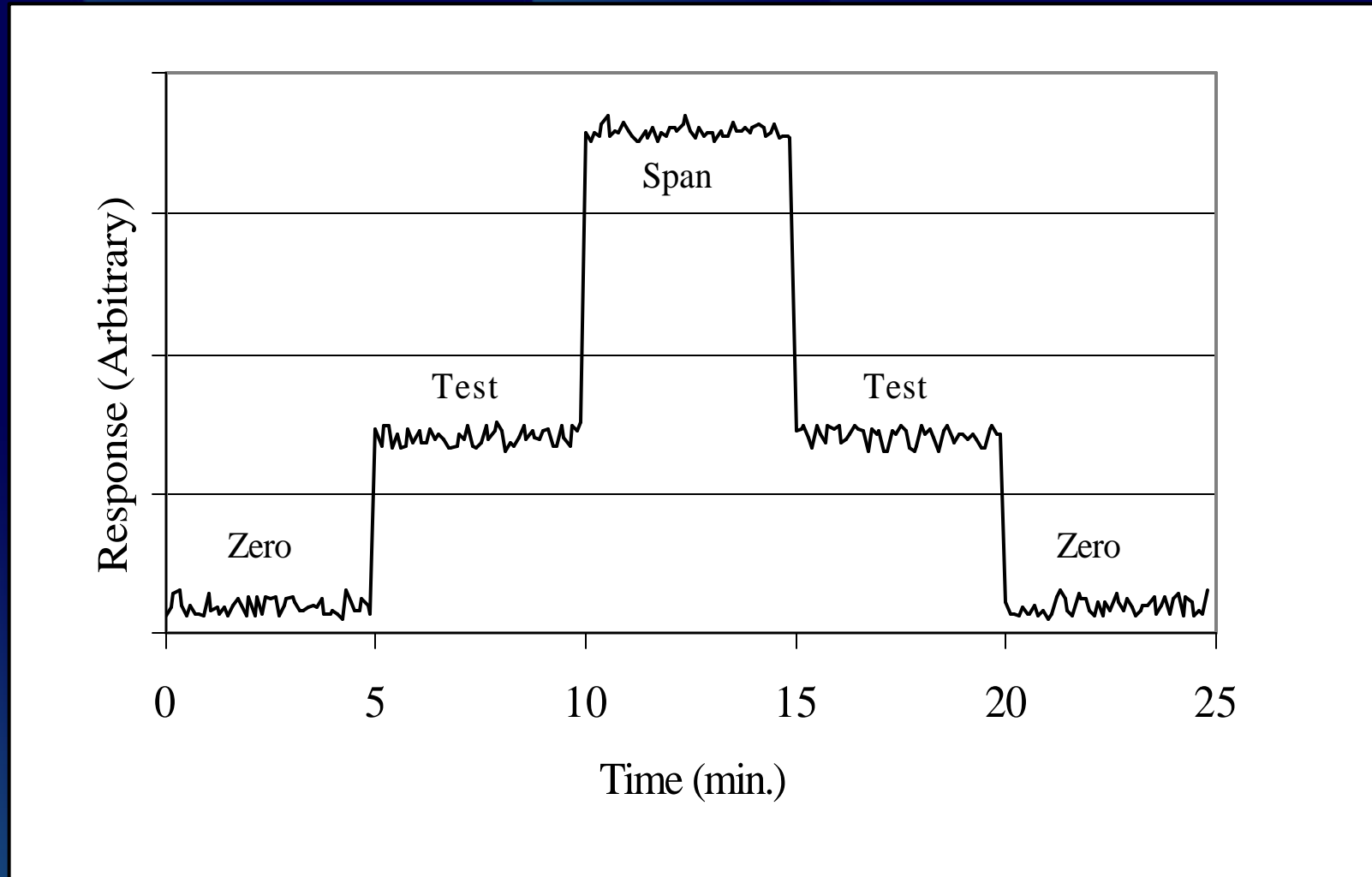
- Double Focus Sector System
  - B: 0.75 tesla
  - Sector Radius: 20 mm
- Pressure:  $10^{-5}$  torr



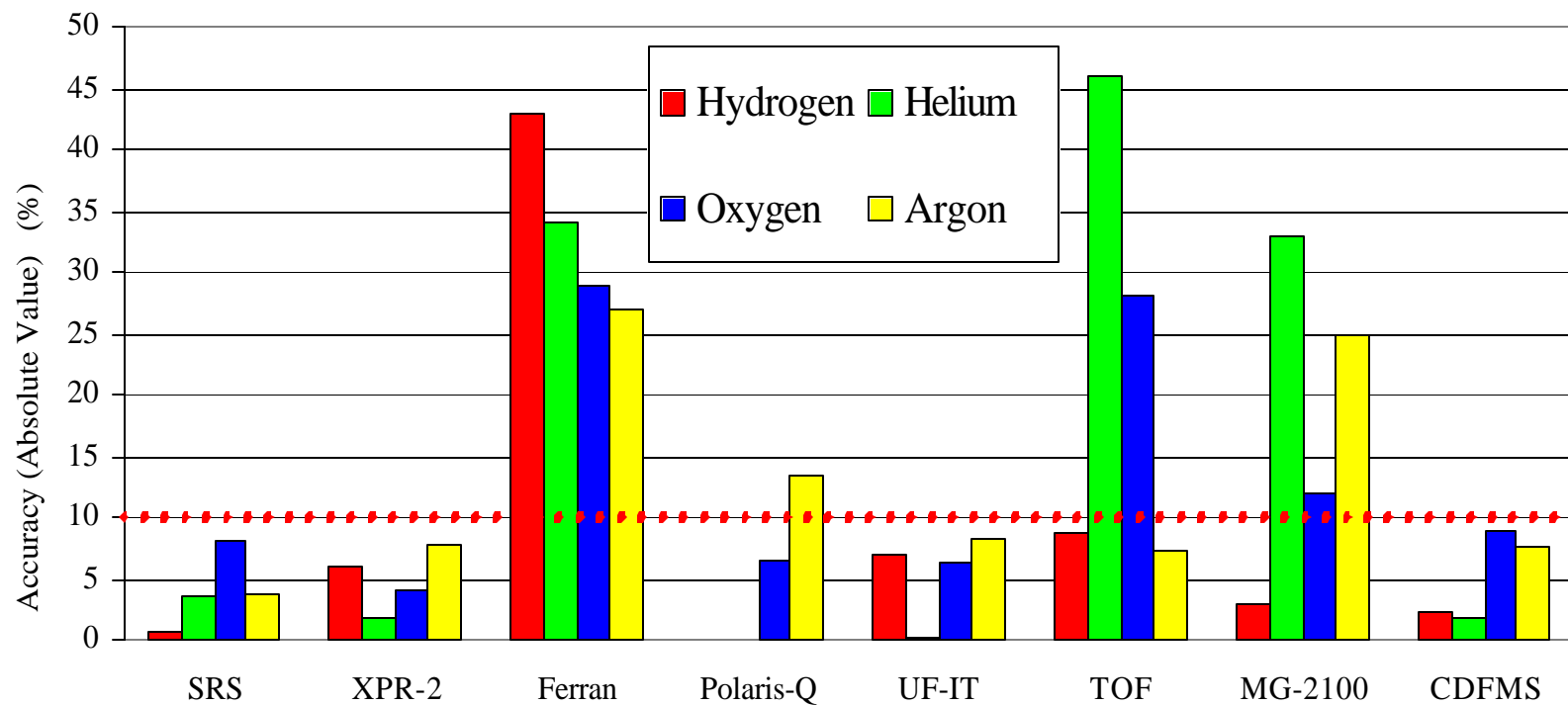
# Experimental Parameters

Parameter	Definition	Shuttle Requirement
Accuracy	$\frac{?_{Test,meas} - ?_{Test,true}}{?_{Test,true}} \cdot 100\%$	< 10% or 5 ppm, whichever is greater
Precision	$\frac{?_{Test,meas}}{?_{Test,imeas}} \cdot 100\%$	< 5% or 3 ppm, whichever is greater
Limit of Detection	$3 \cdot ?_{zero}^a$	H <sub>2</sub> , O <sub>2</sub> : 25 ppm; He: 100 ppm; Ar: 10 ppm <sup>b</sup>
Response Time	Time required for response from valve change to 95% new reading	10 s
Recovery Time	Time after valve change to reach 5% of previous sample reading (new sample is zero)	30 s
Scan Rate	Experiment time / scans	1 s
System Volume	Sum of individual components	$3.5 \cdot 10^4 \text{ cm}^3$
System Weight	Sum of individual components	10 kg
<sup>a</sup> Theoretical limit of detection <sup>b</sup> Measured limit of detection		

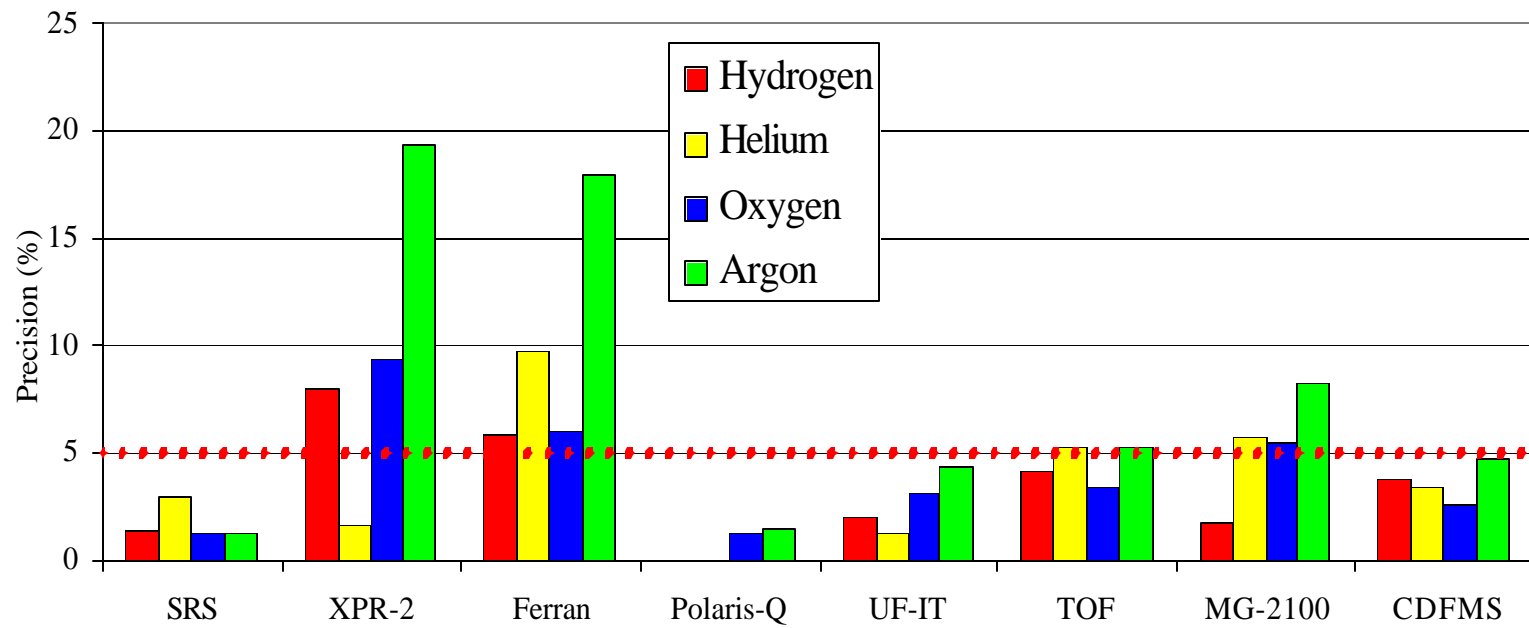
# Experimental Scan



# Accuracy

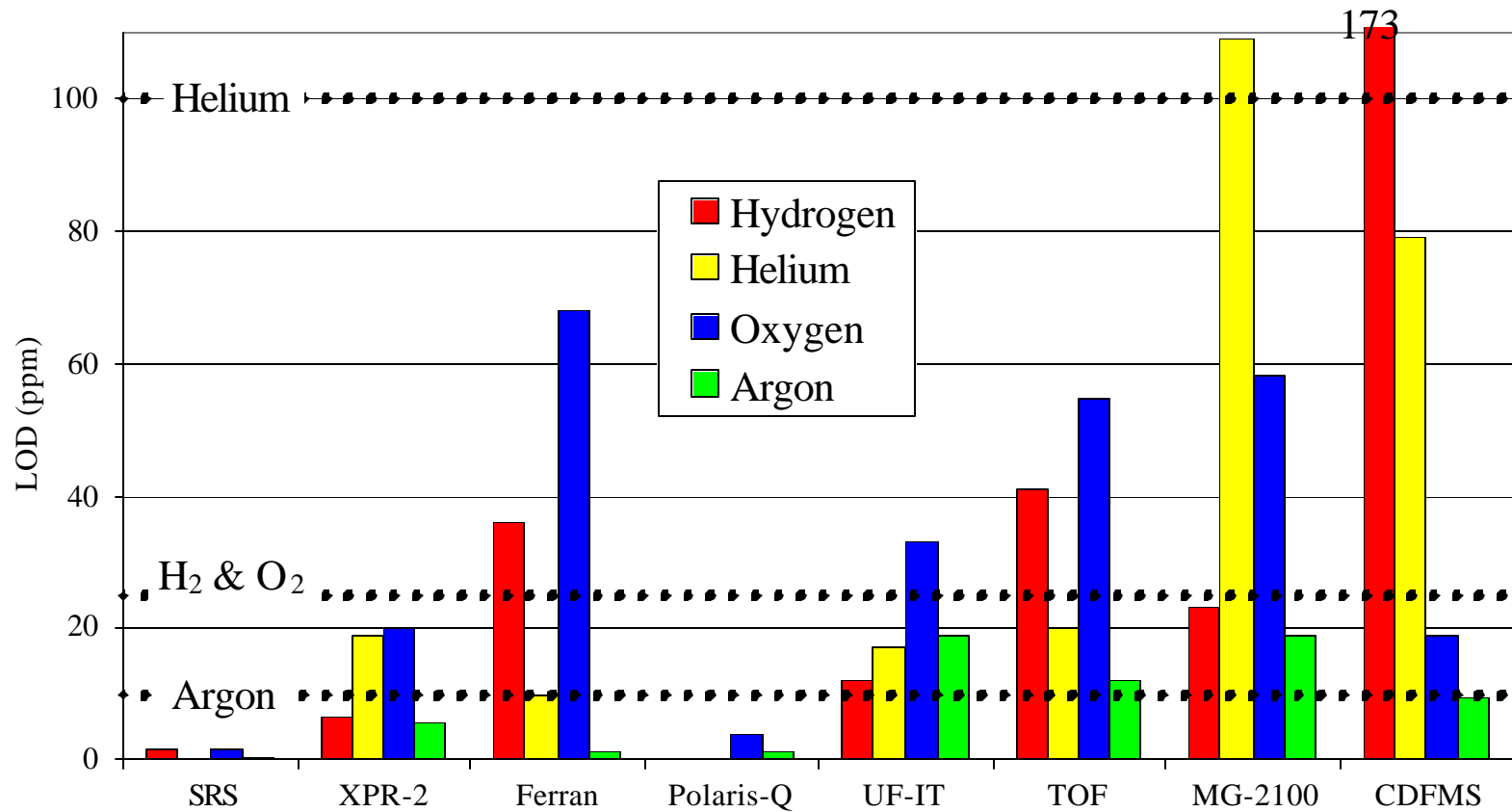


# Precision

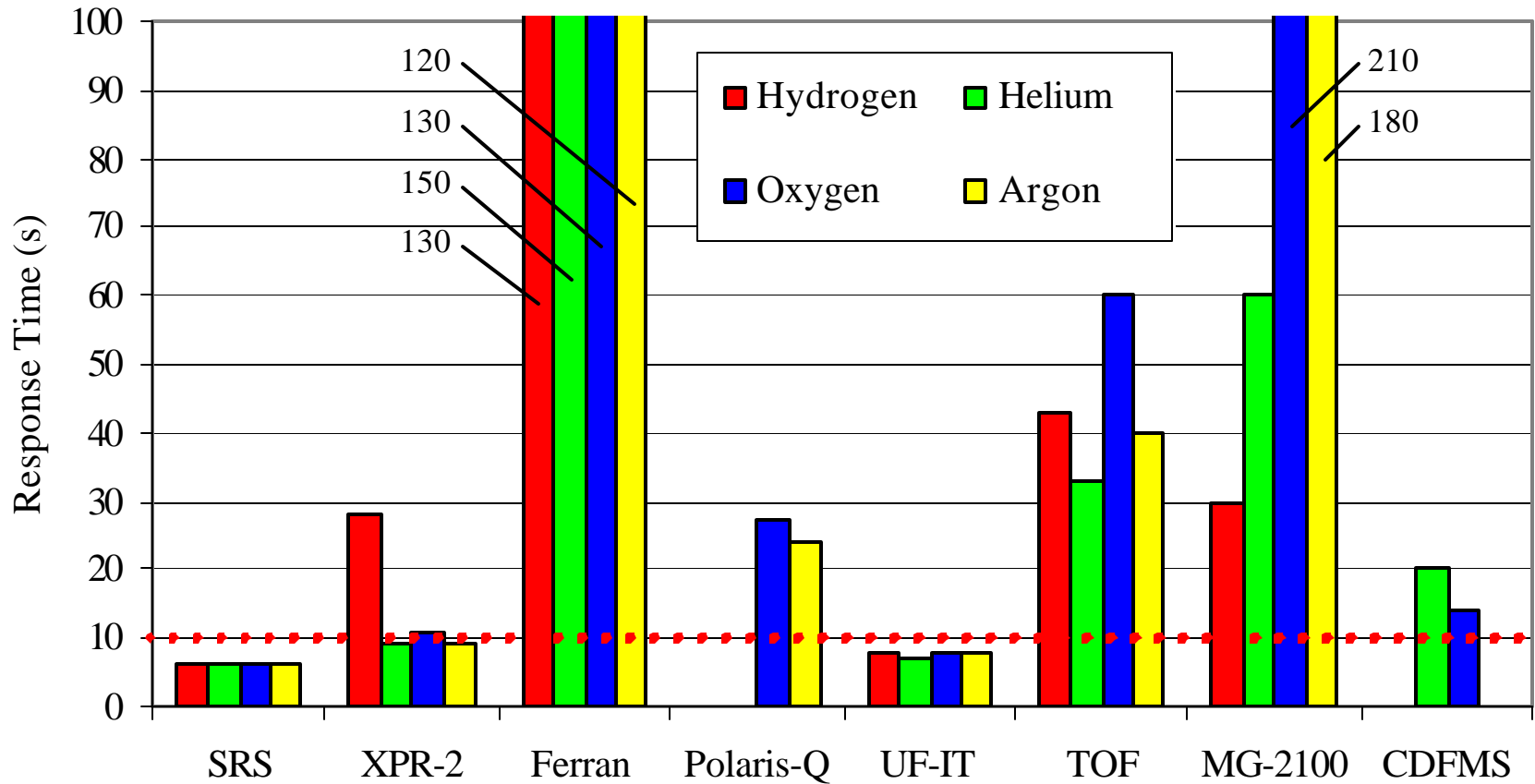




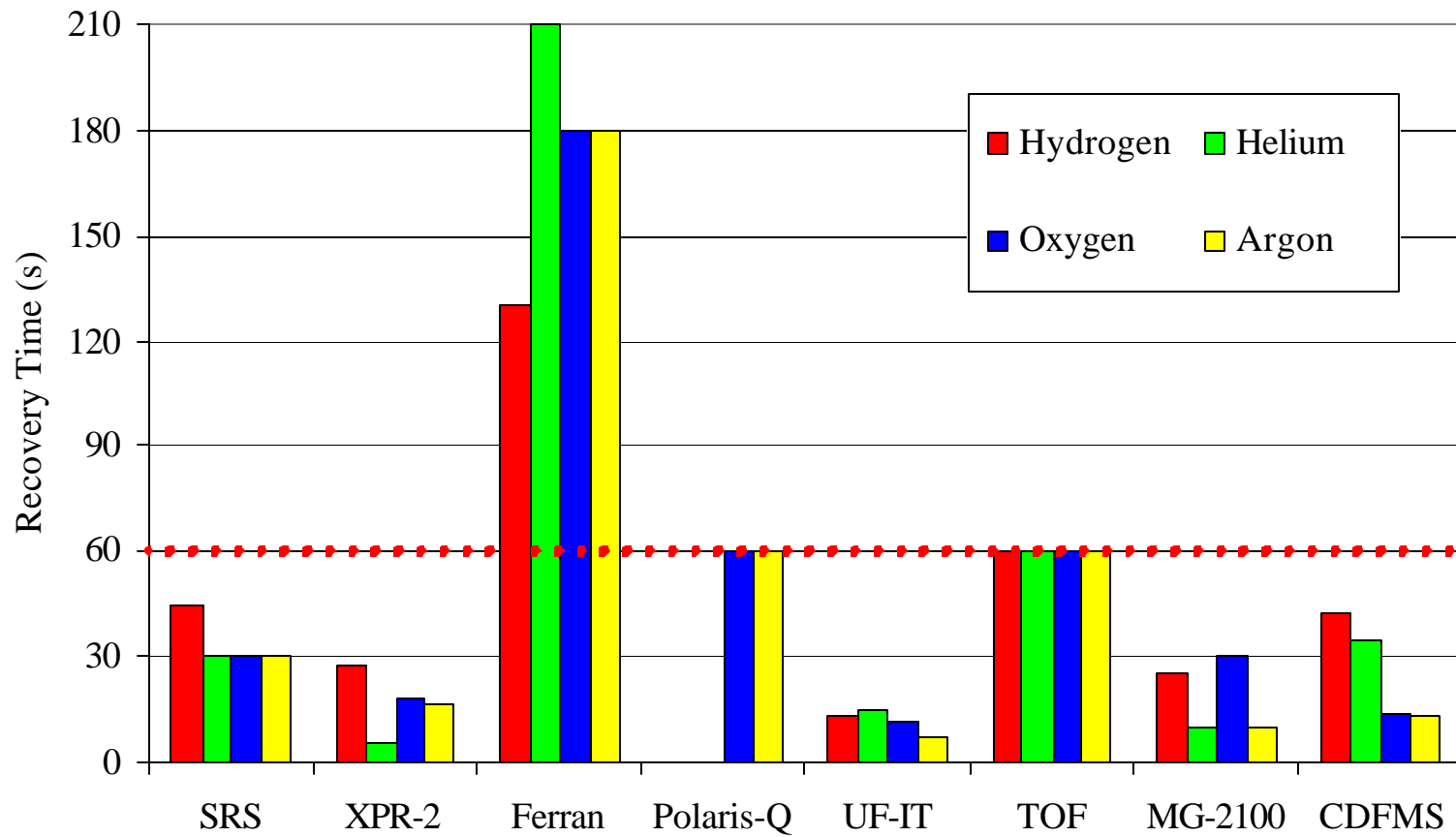
# Limits of Detection (LOD)



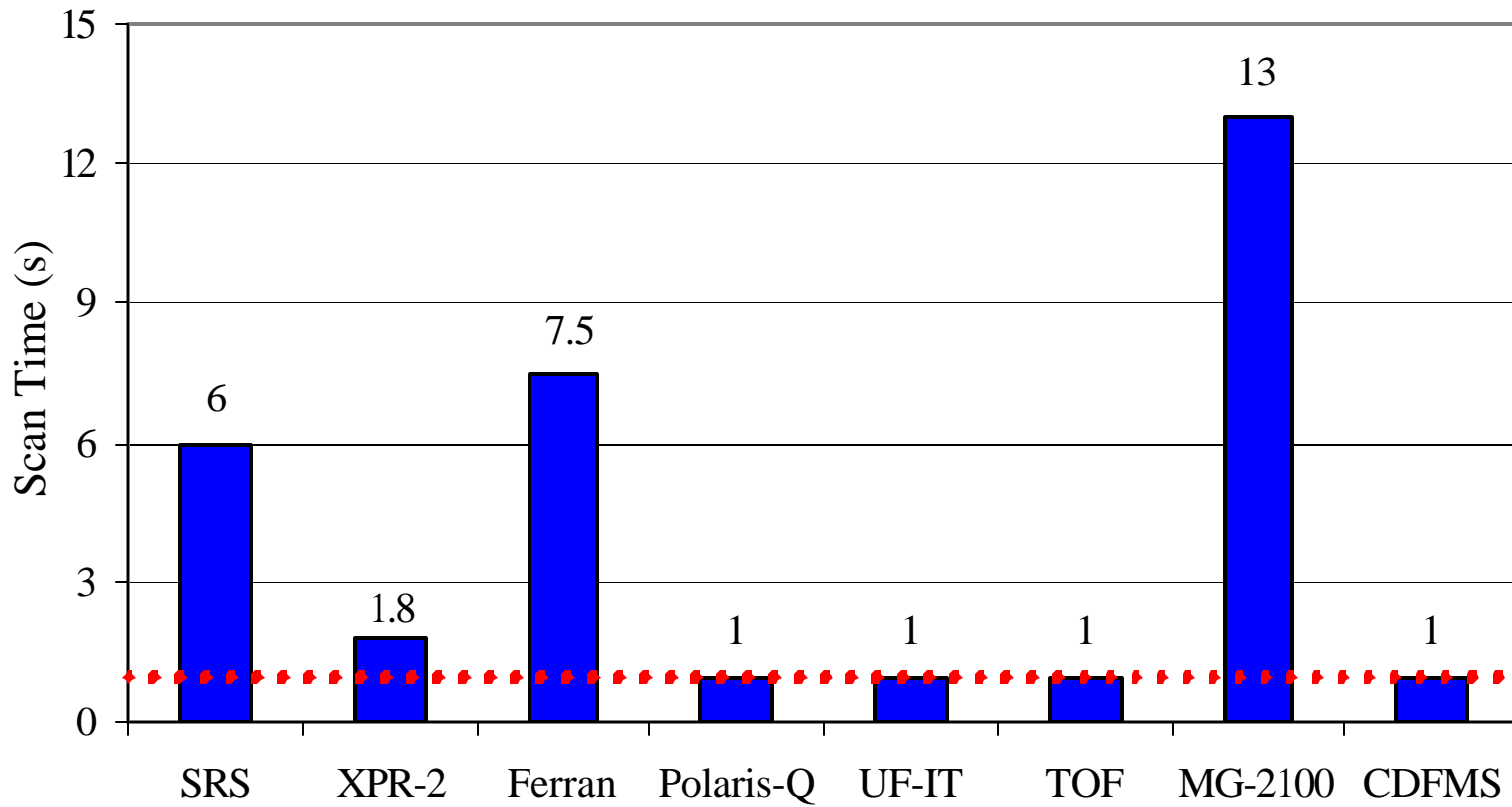
# Response Time



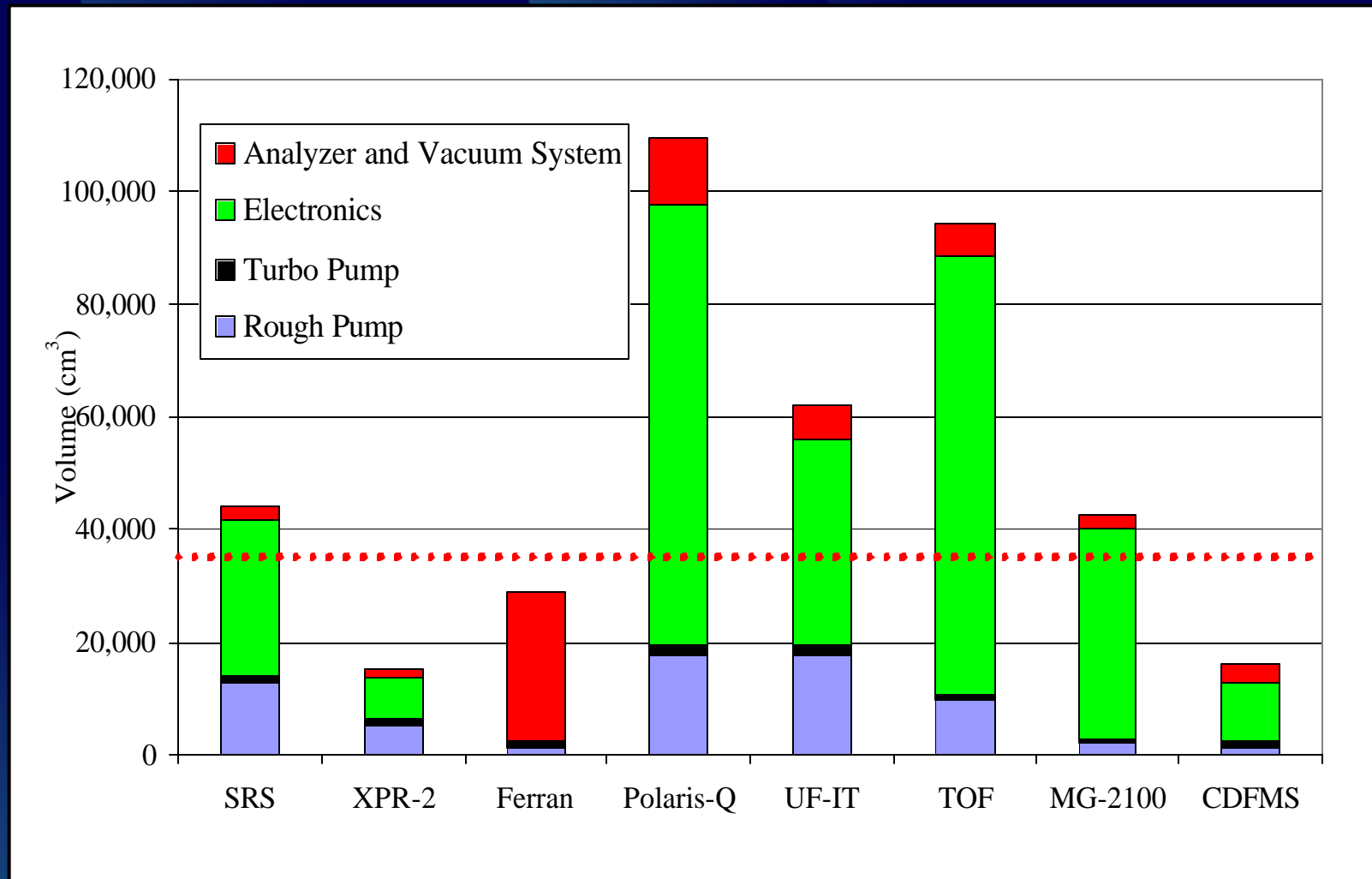
# Recovery Time



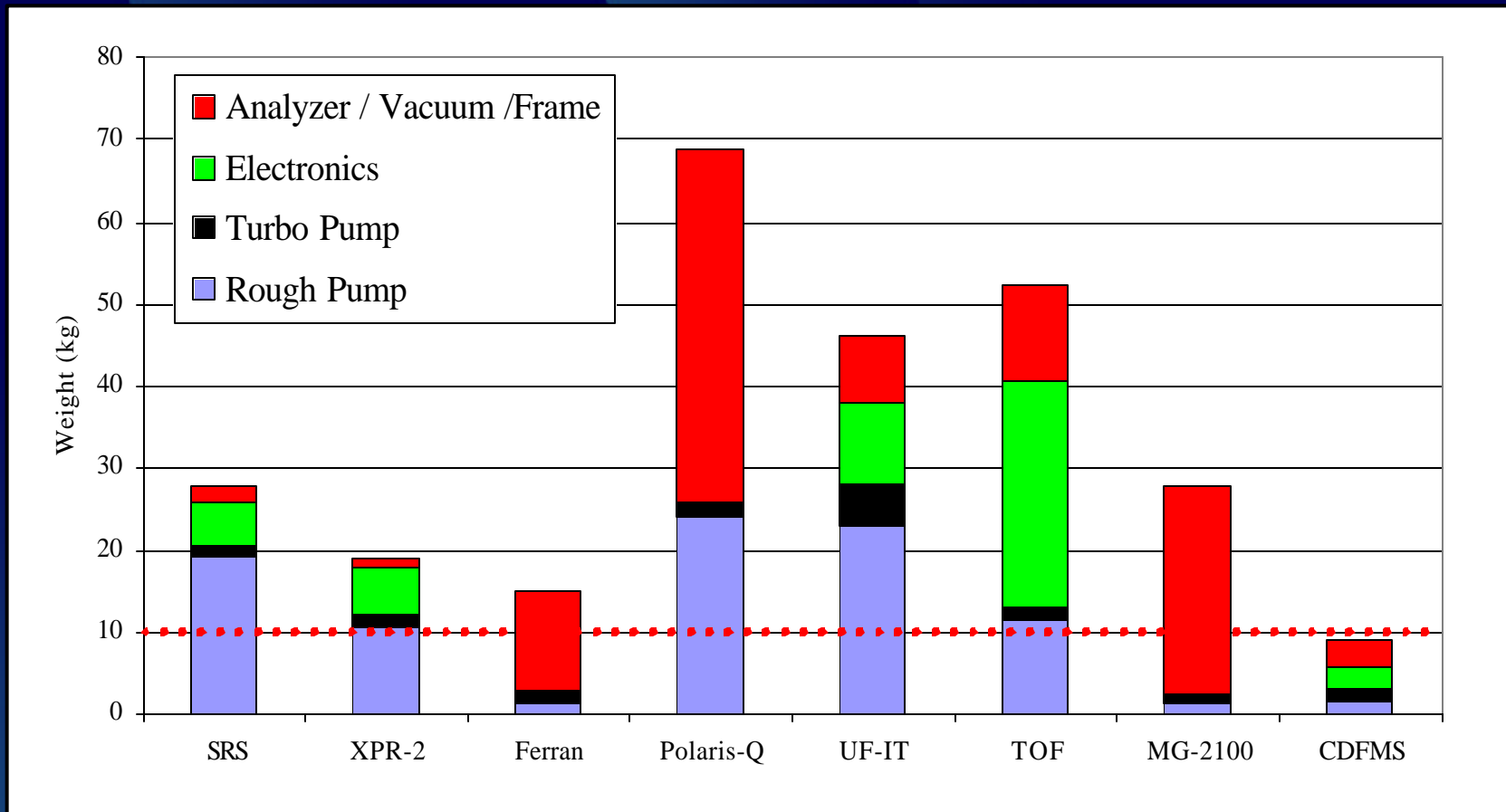
# Scan Time



# System Volume



# System Weight





# Evaluation Chart

	Accuracy	Precision	LOD	Response	Recovery	Scan Rate	System Volume	System Weight	Score
SRS	2	2	1	2	6	8	6	7	<b>4.3</b>
XPR-2	3	8	2	7	5	5	2	6	<b>4.8</b>
Ferran	10	10	7	10	10	9	3	6	<b>8.1</b>
Polaris-Q	7	3	2	8	8	2	10	10	<b>6.3</b>
UF-IT	3	3	6	3	3	2	7	8	<b>4.4</b>
TOF	9	6	7	9	7	2	9	8	<b>7.1</b>
MG-2100	9	7	10	10	5	10	6	7	<b>8.0</b>
CDFMS	4	5	9	8	6	2	2	4	<b>5.0</b>
<b>Average<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>7.1</b>	
<sup>1</sup> Excluding Ferran and MG-2100									

# Conclusions

- **Various Mass Analyzer Systems Evaluated**

- **Several Systems Show Promise**

Stanford Research Systems RGA-100

Inficon XPR-2

University of Florida – Ion Trap

Compact Double Focus Mass Spectrometer

- **Areas That Need Improvement**

Response Time

System Volume

Recovery Time

System Weight

- **Future Work**

Investigate Techniques To Improve Systems

Evaluate Engineering Challenges