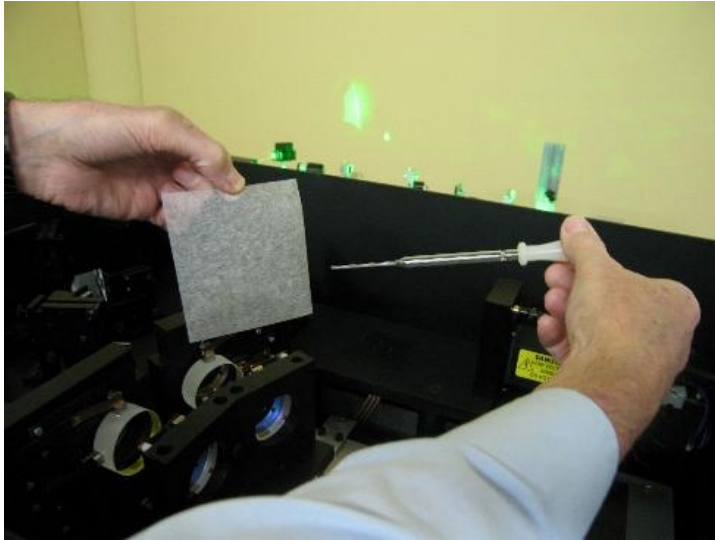


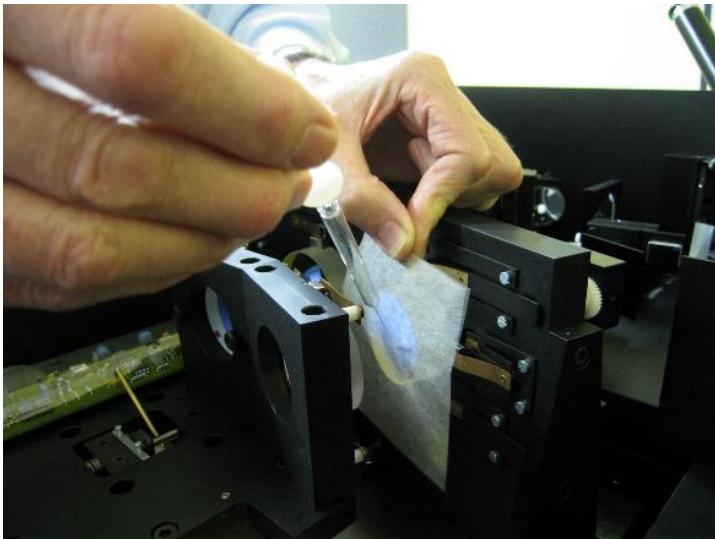
Cleaning the Mirrors



In a normal environment the interferometer mirrors do not need to be cleaned very frequently. After a period of 2 or 3 years the front surface of the mirrors may however begin to show excessive scatter loss.

The mirrors can easily be cleaned in situ as shown here using a lens tissue and a fine pipette.

Open the mirror gap to near maximum spacing (30mm is fine).



Apply clean alcohol or acetone via a fine pipette to a lens tissue held as low as possible and touching the mirror. The fluid should wet the tissue so that it adheres to the whole mirror area. No excess fluid should be allowed to drip down.

Now draw the tissue upwards, making sure that it stays in contact with the mirror. The tissue must remove all the fluid from the mirror surface – if not start again. A little practice makes perfect.