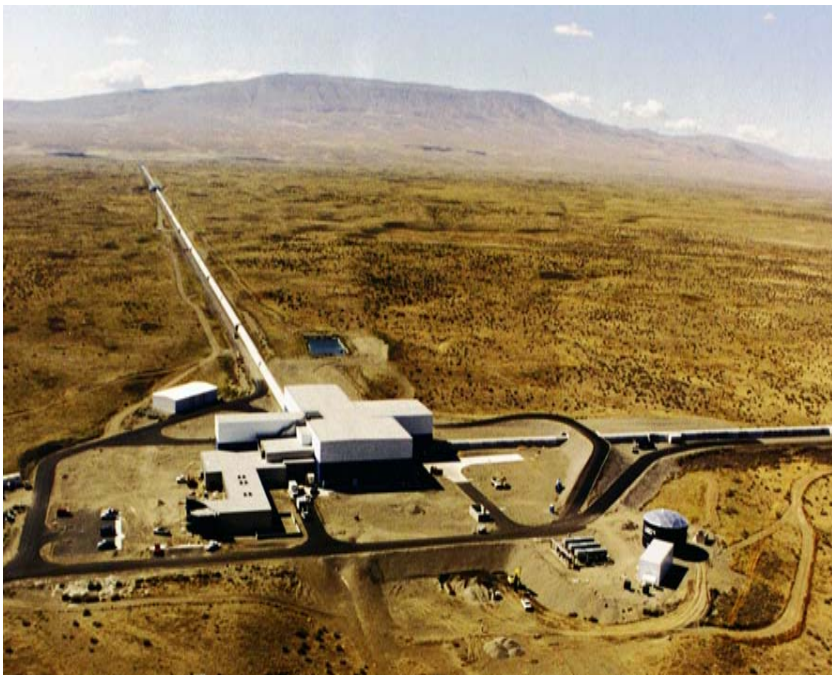


Status of LIGO



Stan Whitcomb
ACIGA Workshop
21 April 2004

LIGO Observatory Facilities



LIGO Hanford Observatory [LHO]

26 km north of Richland, WA

2 km + 4 km interferometers in same vacuum envelope



LIGO Livingston Observatory [LLO]

42 km east of Baton Rouge, LA

Single 4 km interferometer



- LIGO beam tube under construction in January 1998
- 65 ft spiral welded sections
- Girth welded in portable clean room in the field

1.2 m diameter - 3mm stainless
50 km of weld

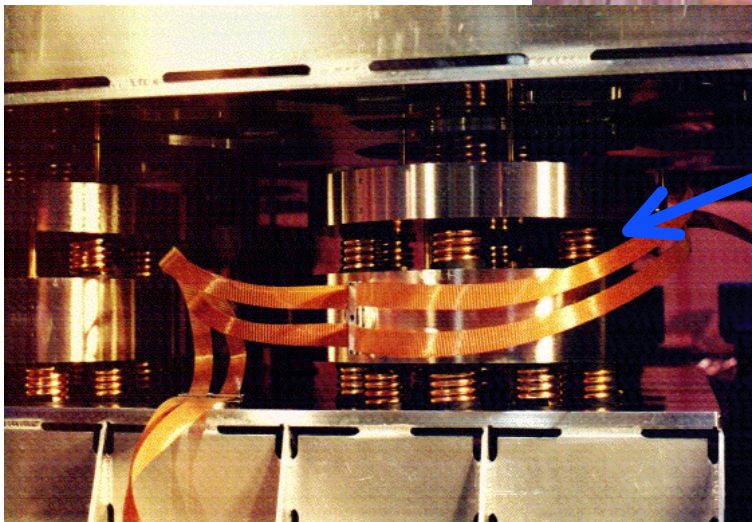
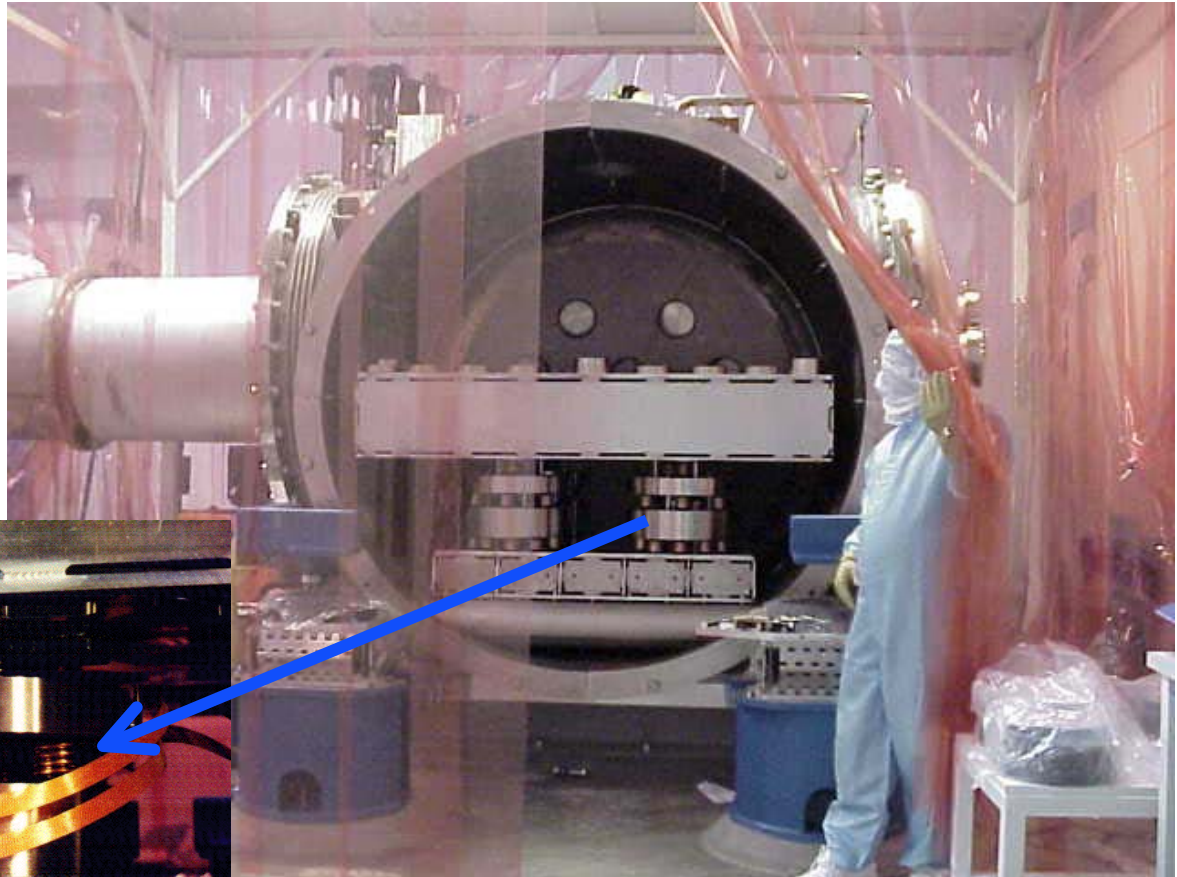
NO LEAKS !!



Seismic Isolation System

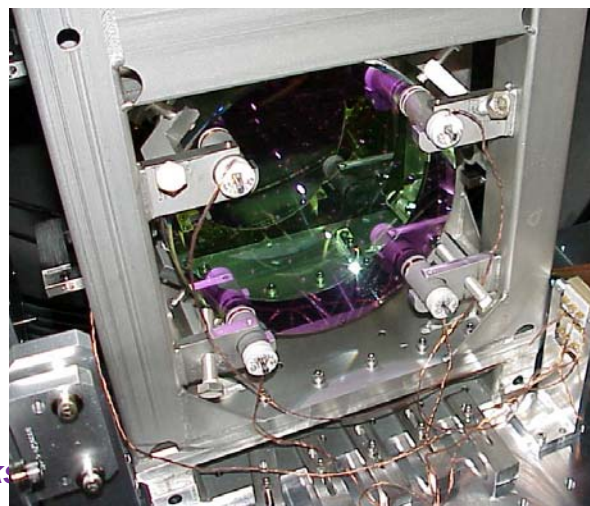


Tubular coil springs with internal constrained-layer damping, layered with reaction masses



Isolation stack in chamber

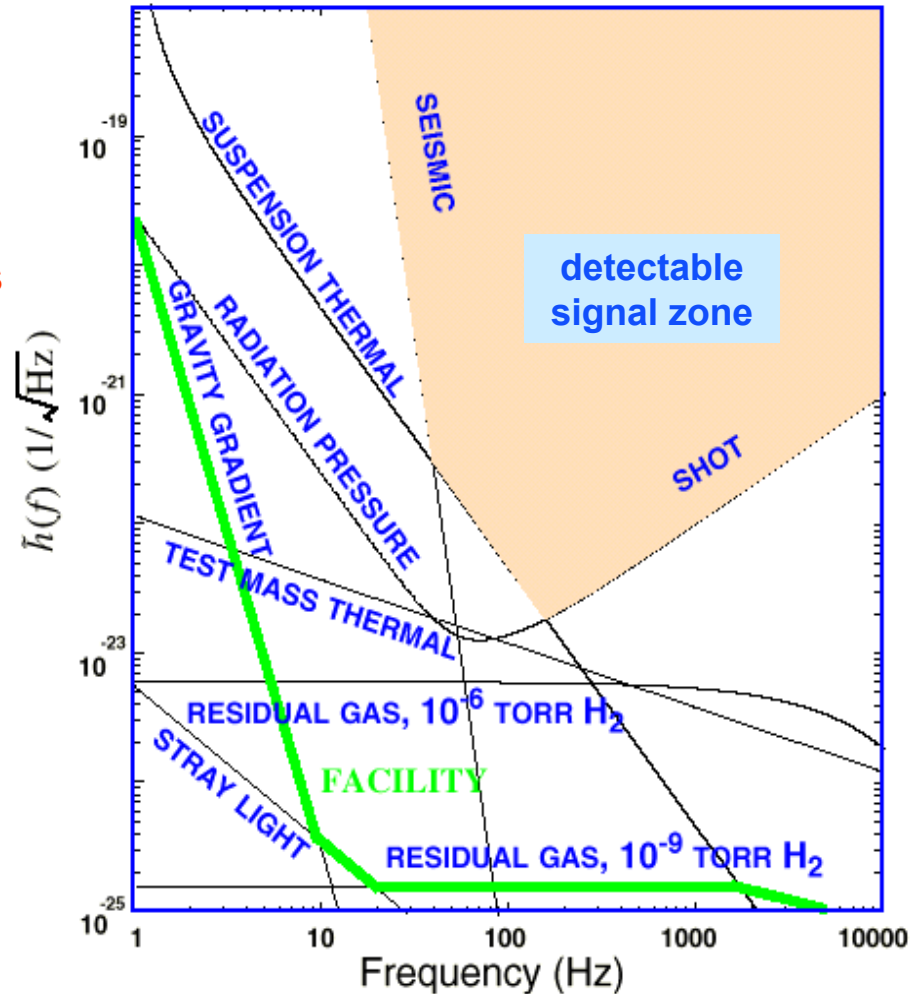
Core Optics Suspensions *installation and alignment*



- Calculated "fundamental" limits determined design goal
 - **seismic** at low frequencies
 - **thermal** at mid frequencies
 - **shot noise** at high frequencies

- Other "technical" noise not allowed above 1/10 of these

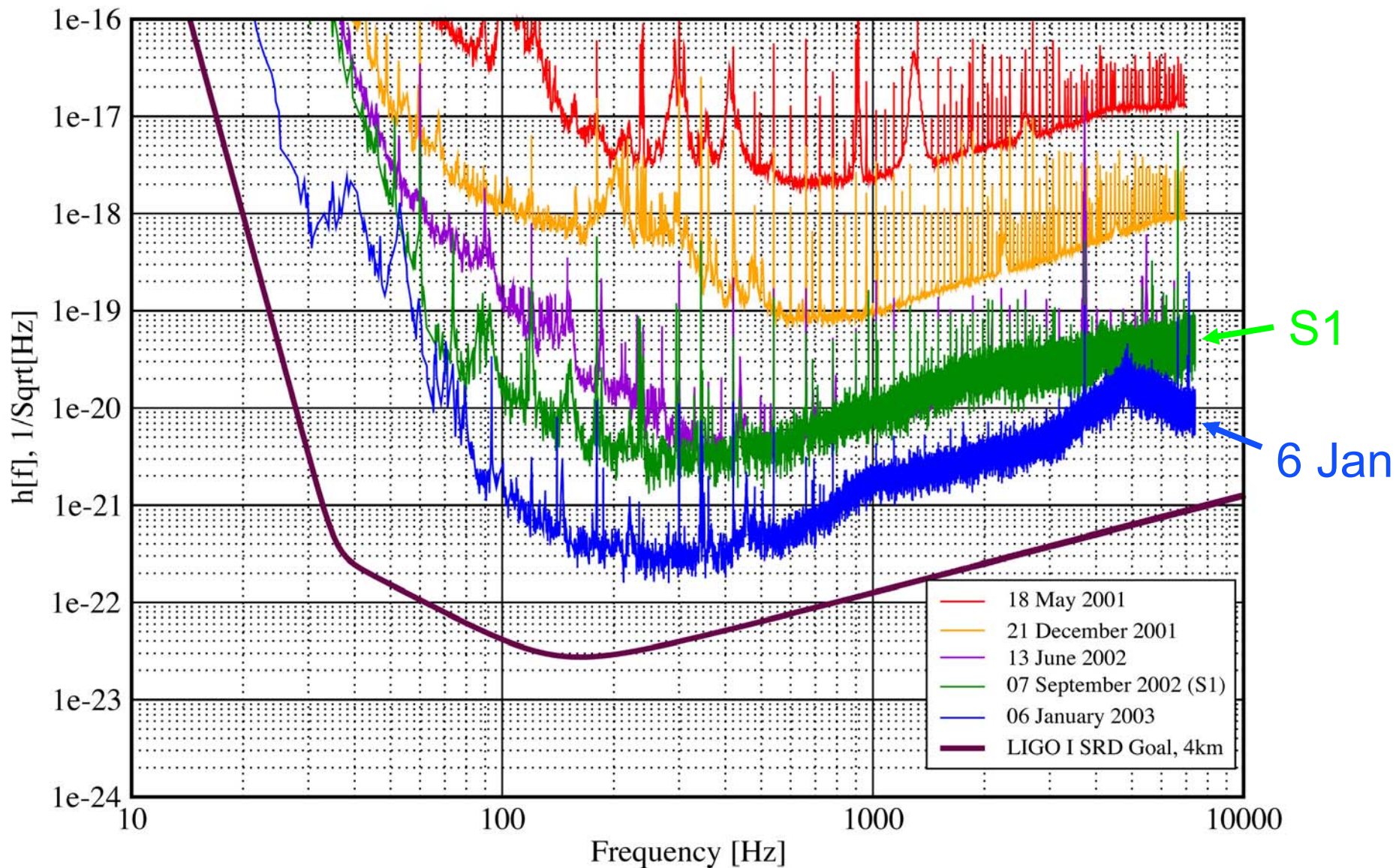
- **Facility limits** much lower to allow improvement as technology matures



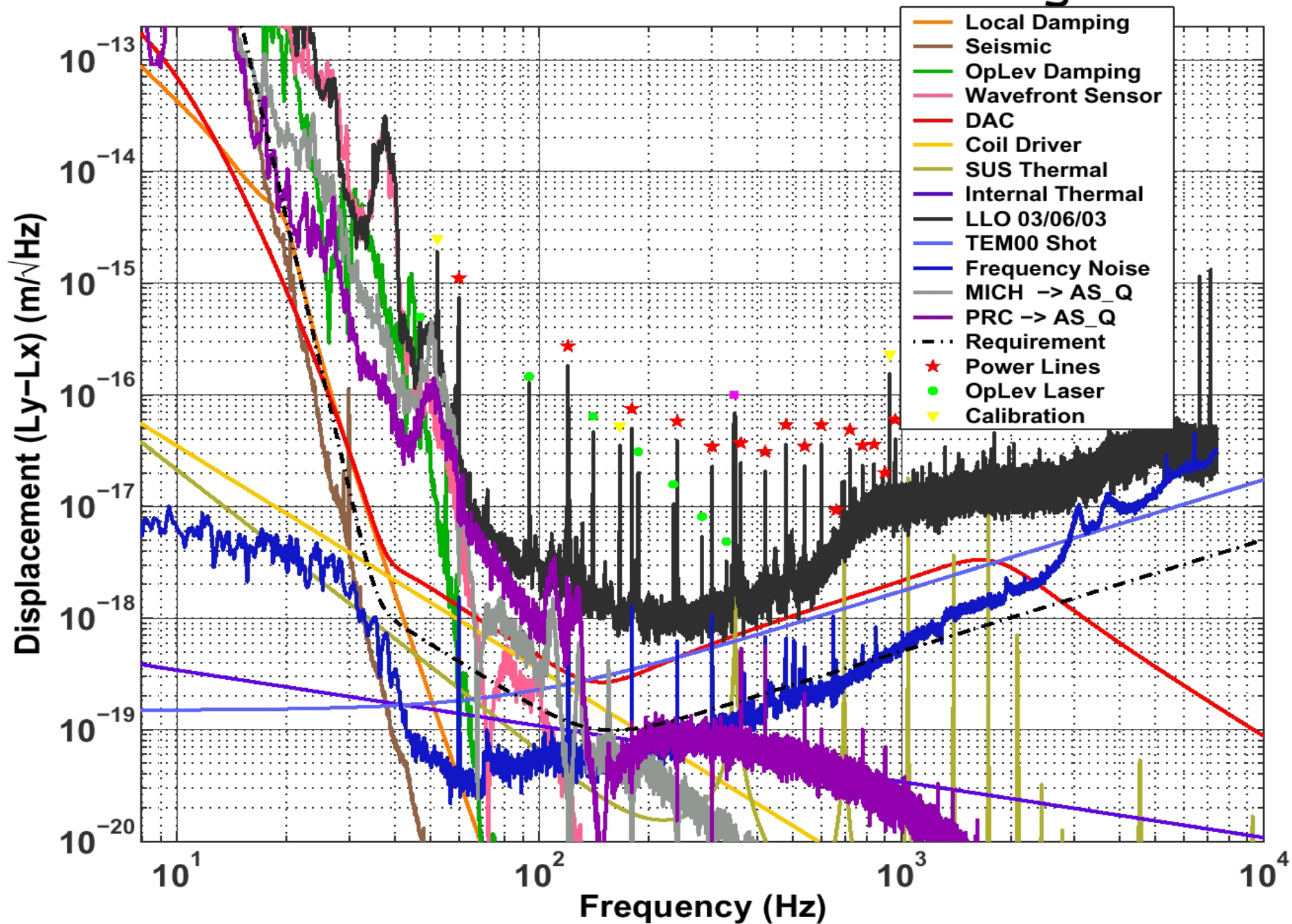
Strain Sensitivity for the LLO 4km Interferometer

31 January 2003

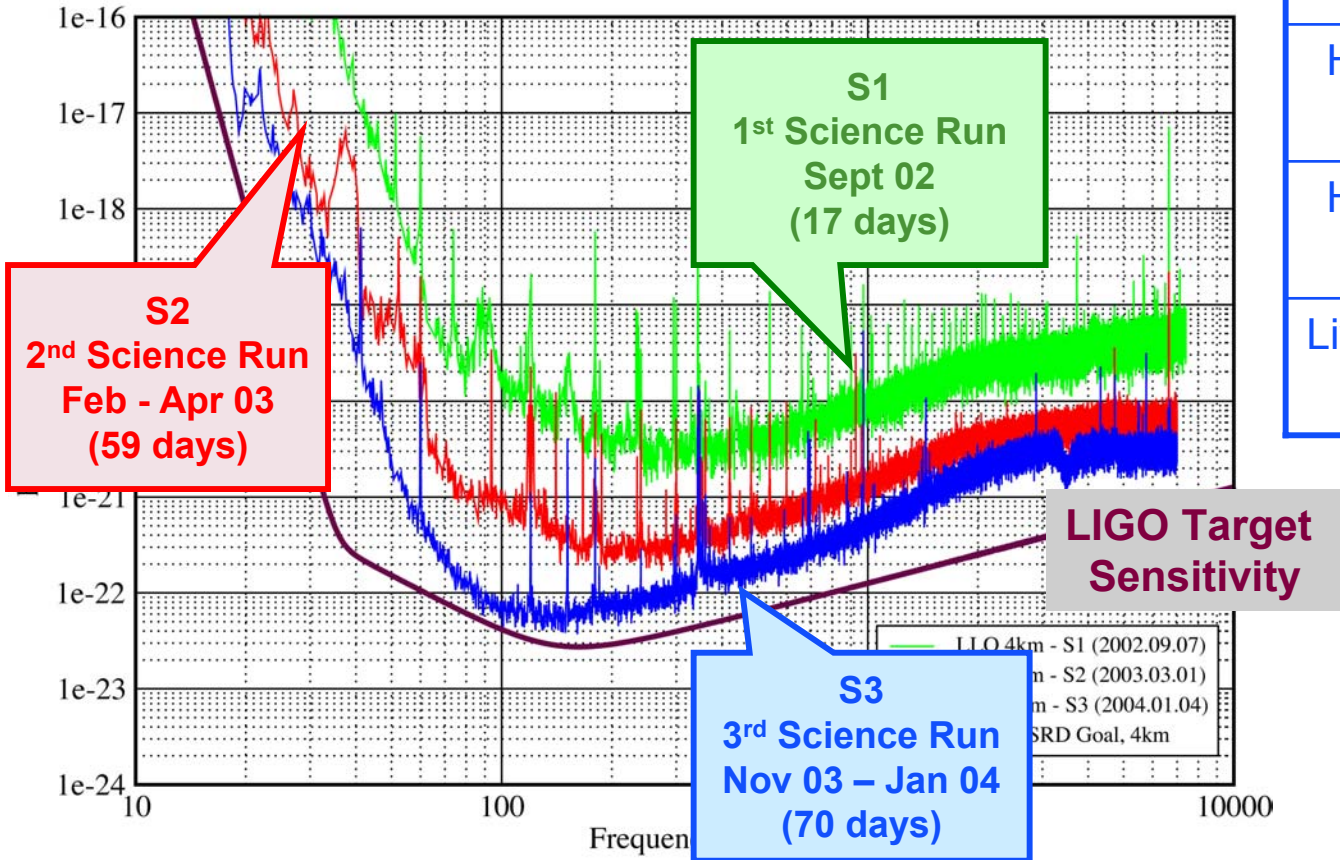
LIGO-G030014-00-E



Noise Sources @ LLO during S2



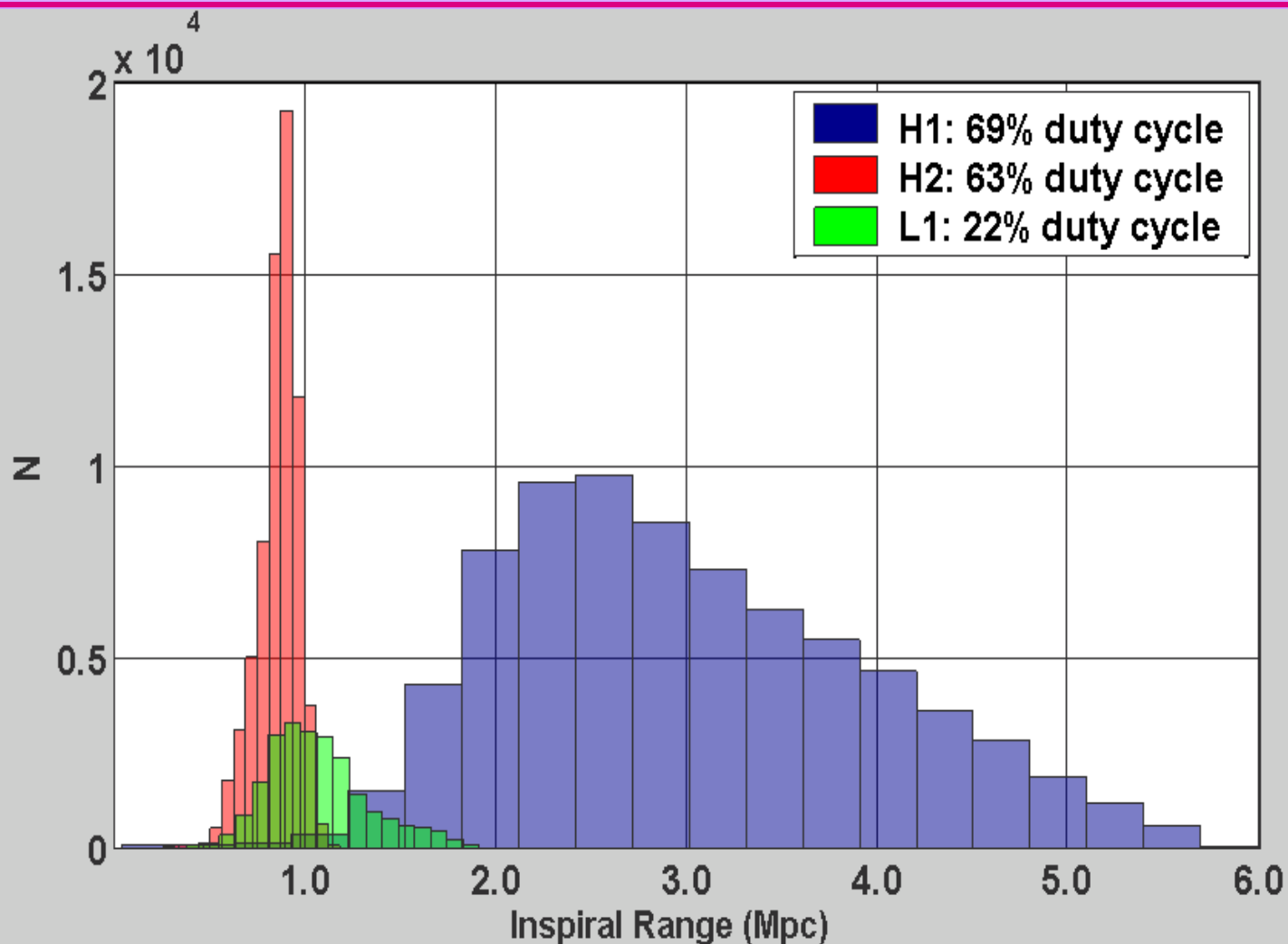
Best Strain Sensivities for the LIGO Interferometers
 Comparisons among S1, S2, S3 LIGO-G030548-02-E



Hanford 4km	69%
Hanford 2km	63%
Livingston 4 km	22%*

*Limited by high ground noise—upgrade currently underway

S3 Range and Stability

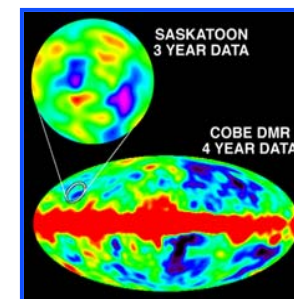
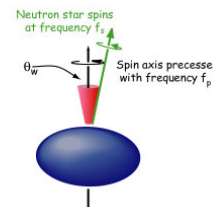
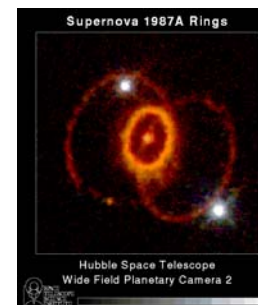
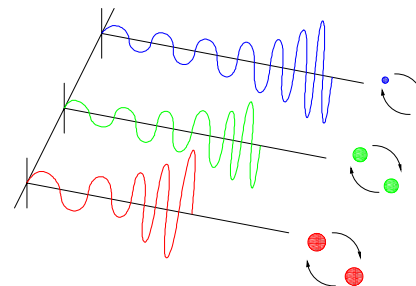


- Compact binary inspiral: *“chirps”*
 - » NS-NS waveforms are well described
 - » BH-BH need better waveforms
 - » search technique: matched templates

- Supernovae / GRBs: *“bursts”*
 - » burst signals in coincidence with signals in electromagnetic radiation
 - » prompt alarm (\sim one hour) with neutrino detectors

- Pulsars in our galaxy: *“periodic”*
 - » search for observed neutron stars (frequency, doppler shift)
 - » all sky search (computing challenge)
 - » r-modes

- Cosmological Signals *“stochastic background”*



“Results” Papers

LIGO Science Collaboration (~370 authors, 40 institutions):

Papers based on S1 data:

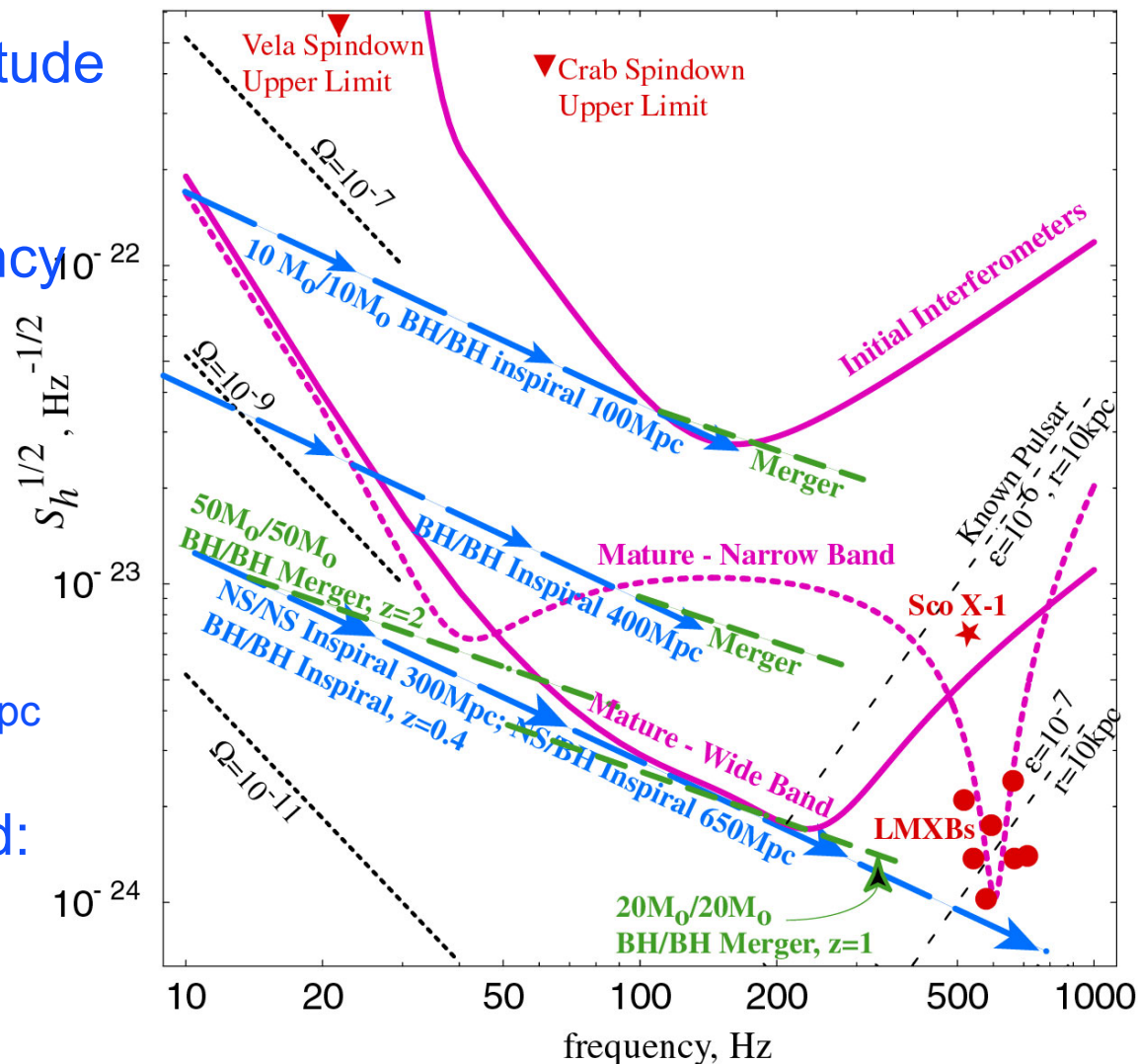
- “*Setting upper limits on the strength of periodic gravitational waves using the first science data from the GEO600 and LIGO detectors*” gr-qc/0308050, accepted for publication in PRD
- “*Analysis of LIGO data for gravitational waves from binary neutron stars*”, gr-qc/0308069, accepted for publication in PRD
- “*First upper limits from LIGO on gravitational wave bursts*”, gr-qc/0312056, accepted for publication in PRD
- “*Analysis of First LIGO Science Data for Stochastic Gravitational Waves*”, gr-qc/0312088, under review by PRD

Papers based on S2 data nearing maturity:

- GRB030329
- “All” known pulsars $> \sim 50\text{Hz}$
- Binary neutron star inspirals

Advanced LIGO vs. Initial LIGO

- Factor **10** better amplitude sensitivity
 - » $(\text{Reach})^3 = \text{rate}$
- Factor **4** lower frequency bound
- NS Binaries: for three interferometers,
 - » Initial LIGO: ~20 Mpc
 - » Adv LIGO: ~350 Mpc
- BH Binaries:
 - » Initial LIGO: 10 M_{\odot} , 100 Mpc
 - » Adv LIGO : 50 M_{\odot} , $z=2$
- Stochastic background:
 - » Initial LIGO: $\sim 3e-6$
 - » Adv LIGO $\sim 3e-9$



- LIGO construction complete and expect to be near design sensitivity by year's end
- First results are published
- 2005 will bring first long duration (~6 month) Science Run
- Proposal for Advanced LIGO is a major step toward gravitational astronomy