The Threat of Parametric Instabilities in Advanced Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Detectors

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When energy densities get high things go unstable...

- Braginsky et al predicted parametric instabilities can happen in advanced detectors
 - resonant scattering of photons with test mass phonons
 - acoustic gain like a laser gain medium

Photon-phonon scattering



Instabilities from photon-phonon scattering

- A test mass phonon can be **absorbed** by the photon, increasing the photon energy (damping);
- The photon can **emit** the phonon, decreasing the photon energy (potential acoustic instability).

Schematic of Parametric Instability



Instability Condition



Instability conditions

• High circulating power P

+

- High mechanical
- High optical mode Q

Mode shapes overlap (High overlap factor Λ)
Frequency coincidence—Δω small



Mode Structure



Example of acoustic and optical modes for Al2O3 AdvLIGO



Summing over diagrams: multiple Stokes modes can drive a single acoustic mode.

Example



Mechanical mode shape (f_m=28.34kHz)

Optical modes









 $\Lambda = 0.007$ R=1.17

Λ=0.019 R=3.63

 $\Lambda = 0.064$ R=11.81

 $\Lambda = 0.076$ R=13.35

Parametric gain multiple modes contribution

- Many Stokes/anti-Stokes modes can interact with single mechanical modes
- Parametric gain is the **sum** of all the possible processes

$$R = \frac{2PQ_m}{McL\omega_m^2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{Q_{1i}\Lambda_{1i}}{1 + \Delta\omega_{1i}^2 / \delta_{1i}^2} - \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{Q_{1aj}\Lambda_{1aj}}{1 + \Delta\omega_{1aj}^2 / \delta_{1aj}^2}\right) > 1$$

Influence of PR Cavity



For $\Delta \omega >>$ 1Hz no recycling of HOM.

We calculate linewidths of HOMs from transmission +overlap loss of ideal modeshapes.



- Sapphire $Q_m = 10^8$, 5 unstable modes (per test mass)
- Fused silica $Q_m(f)$, 12 unstable modes (per test mass)

Landmines! There is one at 2074!



Instability Condition



Suppression of Parametric Instabilities

- Thermal tuning
- Mechanical Q-reduction
- Feedback control

Tuning Coefficients

- HOM Frequency Depends on ROC
- For 2km ROC, typical ROC tuning dR/dT ~ 1m/K for FS, 10m/K for sapphire
- HOM frequency changes: df/dR ~ 10 Hz / m
- Acoustic mode spacing: ~ 40Hz in fused silica
- ROC uncertainty ~ 10m (?)
- •Change the curvature of mirror by heating
- •Detune the resonant coupling
- •How fast?
- •How much R reduction?

ETM radius of curvature vs heating



Thermal tuning without PR Cavity

Fused silica



Mode Structure for Advanced LIGO



If $\Delta \omega - \omega_m$ < optical linewidth resonance condition may be obtained $\Delta \omega = (n^*FSR - TEM_{mn})$ - frequency difference between the main and Stokes/anti-Stokes modes ω_m -acoustic mode frequency, δ - relaxation rate of TEM

Instability Ring-Up Time

Mechanical ring down time constant

•For R > 1, ring-up time constant is ~ $\tau_m/(R-1)$

Time to ring from thermal amplitude to cavity position bandwidth (10⁻¹⁴m to 10⁻⁹ m) is

~ 100-1000 sec.

•To prevent breaking of interferometer lock, cavities must be controlled within ~100 s or less

Thermal tuning time—sapphire is faster



Suppress parametric instabilities

- Thermal tuning
- Q-reduction
- Feedback control

Parametric instability and Q factor of test masses



Applying surface loss to reduce mode Q-factor

It is possible to apply lossy coatings (φ ~10⁻⁴) on test mass to reduce the high order mode Q factors without degrading thermal noise (S. Gras poster)



Parametric gain reduction



Effect of localised losses on thermal noise

Side and Back



Noise increase 14% to achieve stability



Suppress parametric instabilities

- Thermal tuning
- Q-reduction
- Feedback control
 - Problem: if test masses are similar but not identical instabilities will appear as quadruplets and individual test mass will not be identified unless well mode mapped before installation

Feedback control

- Tranquiliser cavity (short external cavity)
 - Complex
- Direct force feedback to test masses
 - Capacitive local control or radiation pressure
 - Difficulties in distinguishing doublets/quadruplets
- Re-injection of phase shifted HOM
 - Needs external optics only
 - Multiple modes



Gingin HOPF Prediction

- ACIGA Gingin high optical power facility 80m cavity should observe parametric instability effect with 10W power
- Expect to start experiment this year (Zhao's talk)

Conclusions

- Parametric instabilities are inevitable.
- FEM modeling accuracy/test masses uncertainties precise prediction impossible
- Thermal tuning can minimise instabilities but can not completely eliminate instabilities.
 (Zhao, *et al*, PRL, 94, 121102 (2005))
- Thermal tuning may be too slow in fused silica.
- Sapphire ETM gives fast thermal control and reduces total unstable modes (from ~64 to 43 (average))
 (3 papers submitted to LSC review)
- Instability may be actively controlled by various schemes
- Gingin HOPF is an ideal test bed for these schemes.