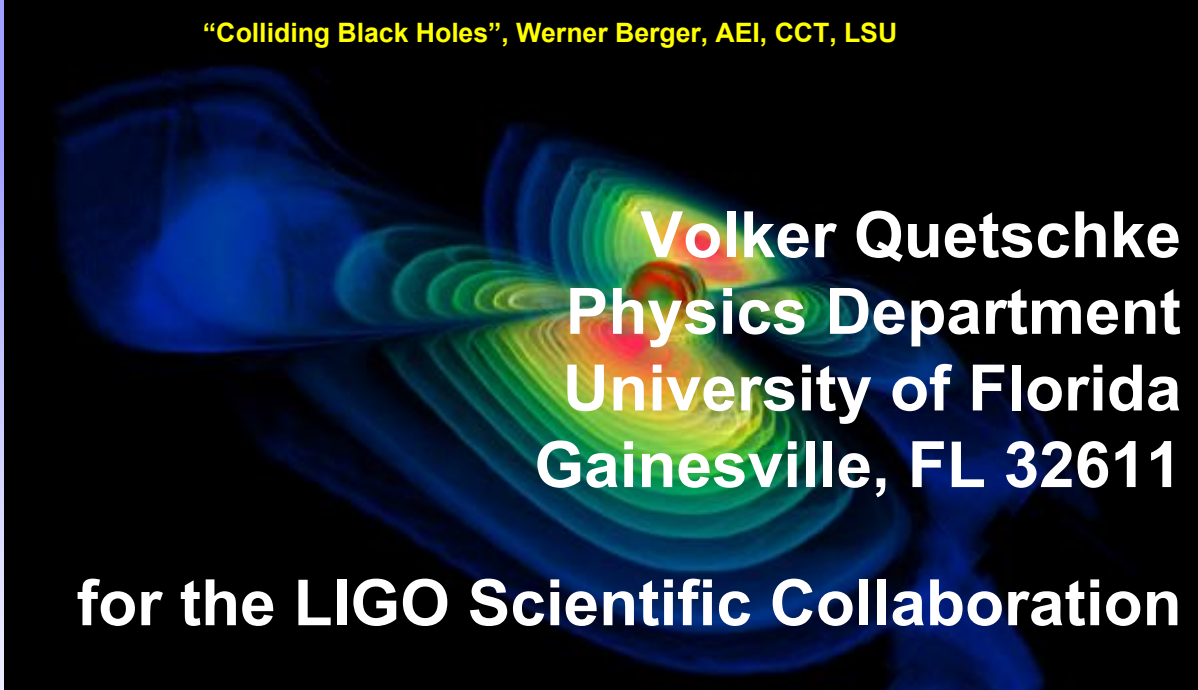




# Coherent optical length measurement with $10^{-18}$ m accuracy



**"Colliding Black Holes", Werner Berger, AEI, CCT, LSU**

A visualization of gravitational waves, showing two black holes in the process of colliding. The background is black, and the gravitational waves are represented by concentric, colorful rings in shades of blue, green, and yellow. The two black holes are shown as bright, multi-colored spheres (red, orange, yellow) that are merging together.

**Volker Quetschke**  
**Physics Department**  
**University of Florida**  
**Gainesville, FL 32611**

**for the LIGO Scientific Collaboration**

14th Coherent Laser Radar Conference, Snowmass, CO

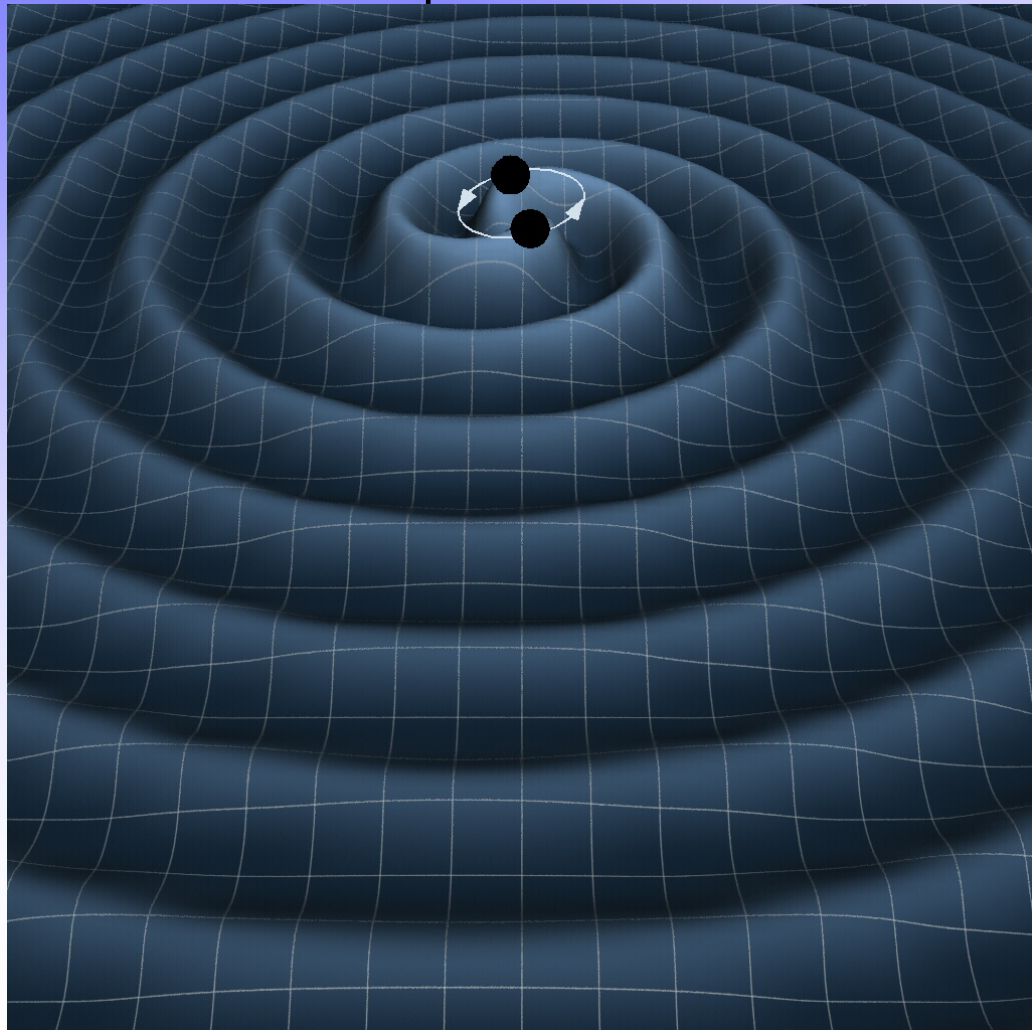


Support: NSF



- The present: LIGO
  - Gravitational waves
  - Advanced interferometry
  - Noise sources
  - The instrument
    - vacuum system
    - seismic isolation
    - core optics
    - thermal compensation
  - Sensitivity
- The future: Advanced LIGO
- Conclusions

Predicted by Einstein in 1916, GWs are propagating fluctuations in the curvature of space-time:



- Perturbations of geometry can be expressed as fractional distortion of proper distances:

$$h = \Delta x / |x|$$

- Calculate emissions from accelerating non-spherical mass distributions:

$$\Rightarrow h_{\mu\nu}(\omega, t) = \frac{2G}{rc^4} \ddot{I}_{\mu\nu}(\omega, t)$$

$$\Rightarrow h \approx \frac{4\pi^2 GMR^2 f_{orb}^2}{c^4 r}$$

A wave's strength is characterized by its *strain*

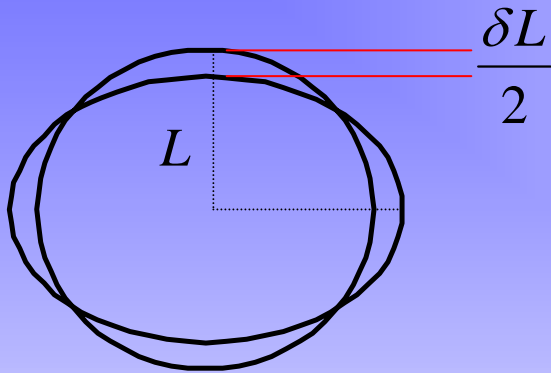
$$h = \Delta L / L$$

We can calculate the expected strain at Earth for, say, an orbiting binary system:

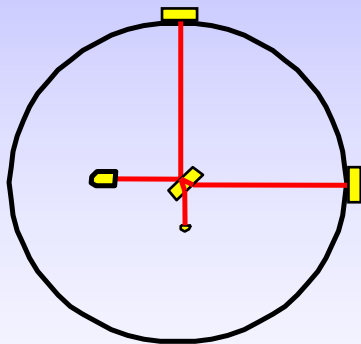
$$|h| \approx \frac{4\pi^2 GMR^2 f_{orbit}^2}{c^4 r} \approx 10^{-21} \left( \frac{R}{20\text{km}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{M}{M_{\odot}} \right) \left( \frac{f_{orbit}}{400\text{Hz}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{10\text{Mpc}}{r} \right)$$

If we make our interferometer very big, say 4,000 meters long, then

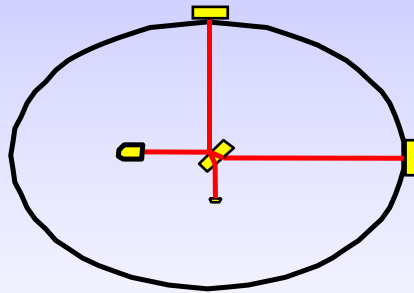
$$\Delta L = h \times L \approx 10^{-21} \times 4,000 \text{ m} \approx 10^{-18} \text{ m}$$



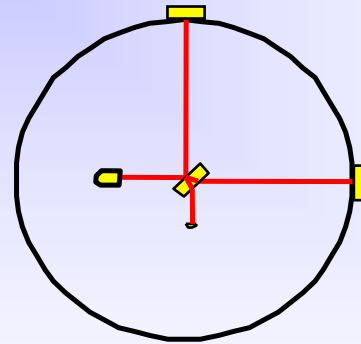
Effect on a ring of free falling masses:  
 Gravitational waves shrink space along one axis perpendicular to the wave direction as they stretch space along another axis perpendicular both to the shrink axis and to the wave direction.



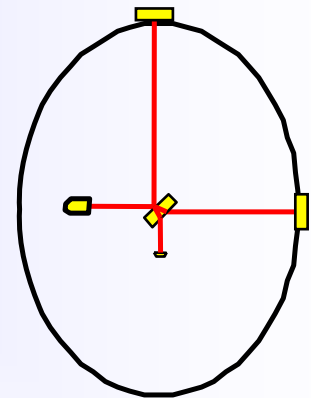
$t = 0$



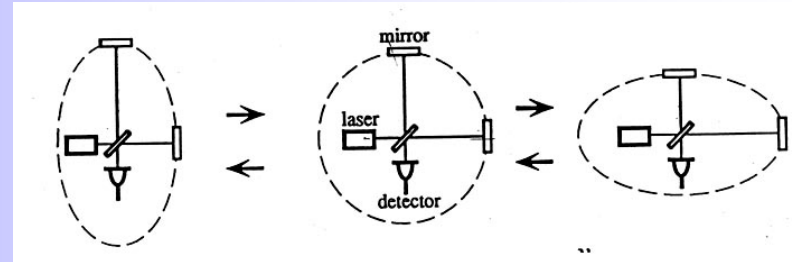
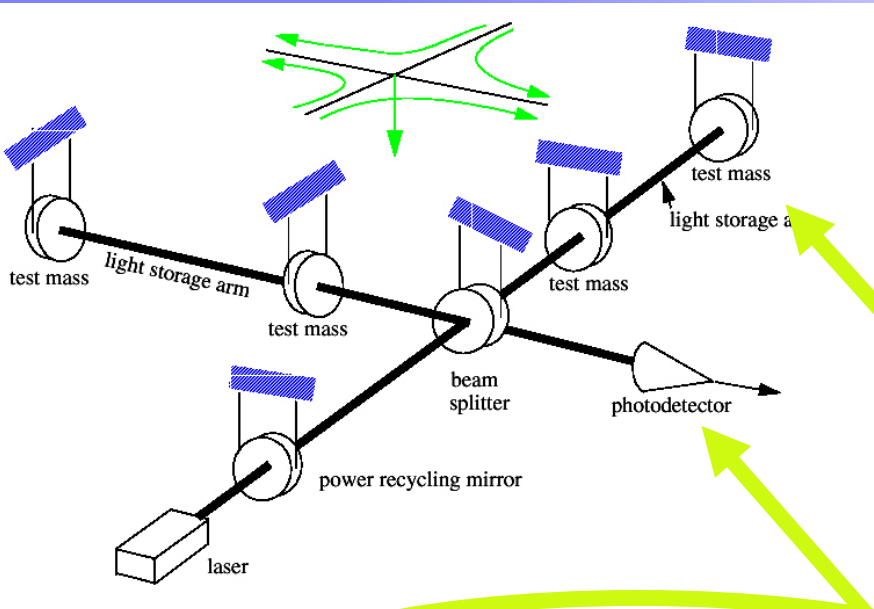
$t = \frac{\tau}{4}$



$t = \frac{\tau}{2}$



$t = \frac{3\tau}{4}$



$$h = \Delta L/L \sim 10^{-21} \text{ and } L = 4\text{km}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta L = h * L \sim 10^{-18} \text{ m !}$$

**suspended test masses  
("freely falling objects")**

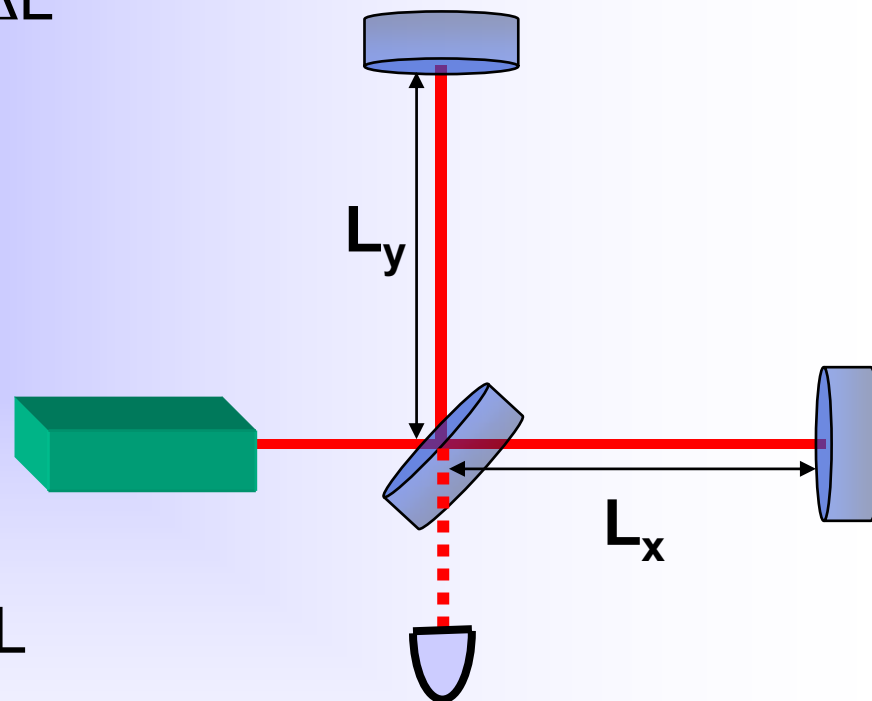
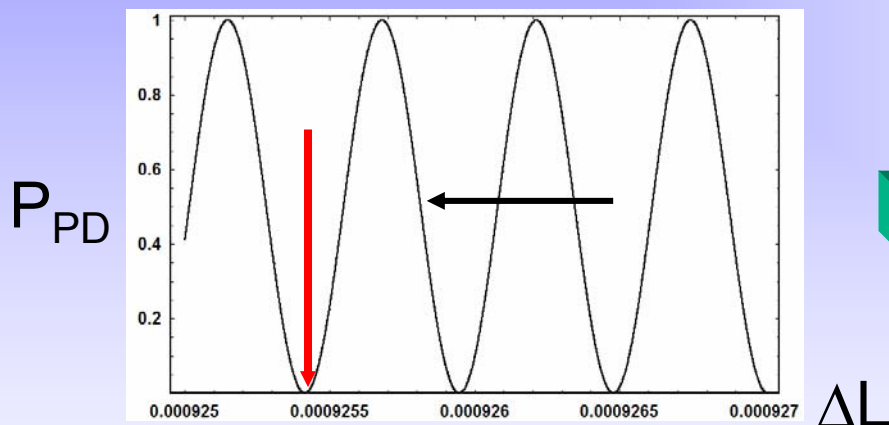
**dark port  
(RF heterodyne modulation)**



Three LIGO detectors:  
4km long in Livingston, La (L1);  
4km and 2km long in Hanford, WA (H1, H2).



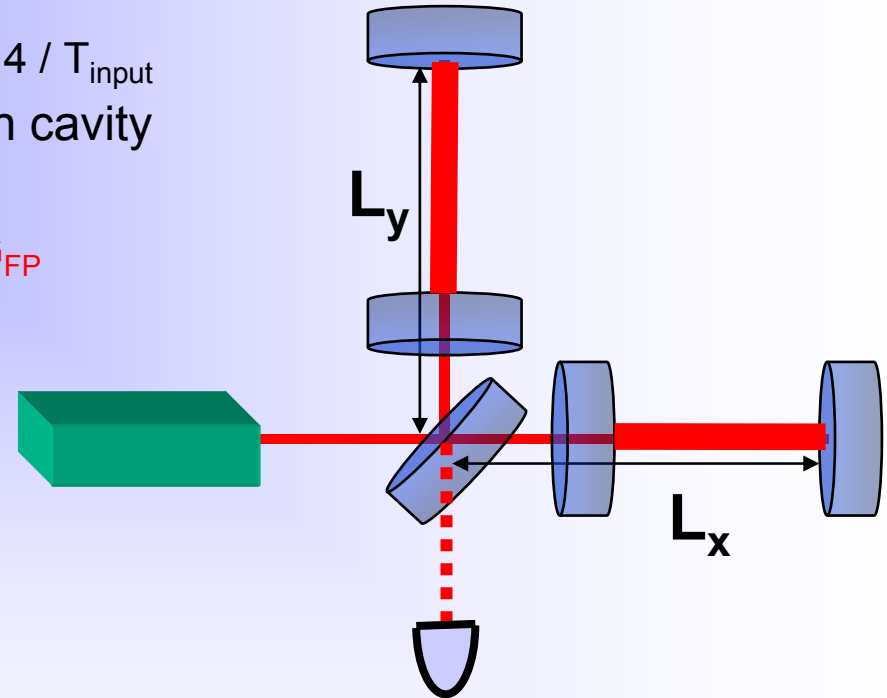
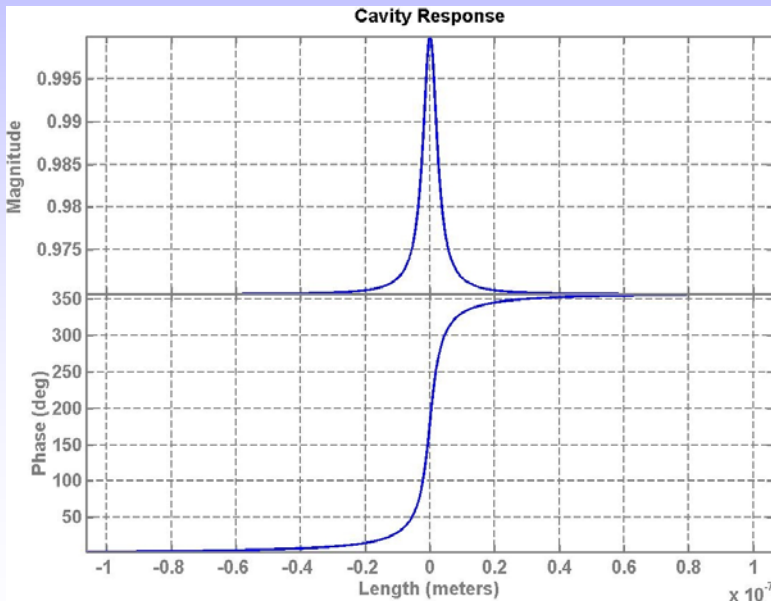
- Simple Michelson
  - Phase:  $\phi = 4\pi (L_x - L_y) / \lambda \sim \Delta L$
  - Power:  $P_{PD} = P_{BS} \sin^2\phi$ 
    - $dP/d\phi \sim P_{BS} \sin \phi \cos \phi$



- Strain:  $h = \Delta L/L$ 
  - Increase sensitivity by using longer arms

$d\phi/dh \sim L$

- Fabry-Perot cavity
  - Increases power in arms
    - Overcoupled cavity gain:  $G_{FP} \sim 4 / T_{input}$
  - Enhances storage time of light in cavity
    - Phase shift on resonance
    - Effectively ‘lengthens’ arms  $\sim G_{FP}$



$$d\phi/dh \sim G_{FP} \times L$$



- ‘Recycle’ light coming back from beamsplitter
  - Add a mirror which forms a resonant cavity with the rest of the interferometer

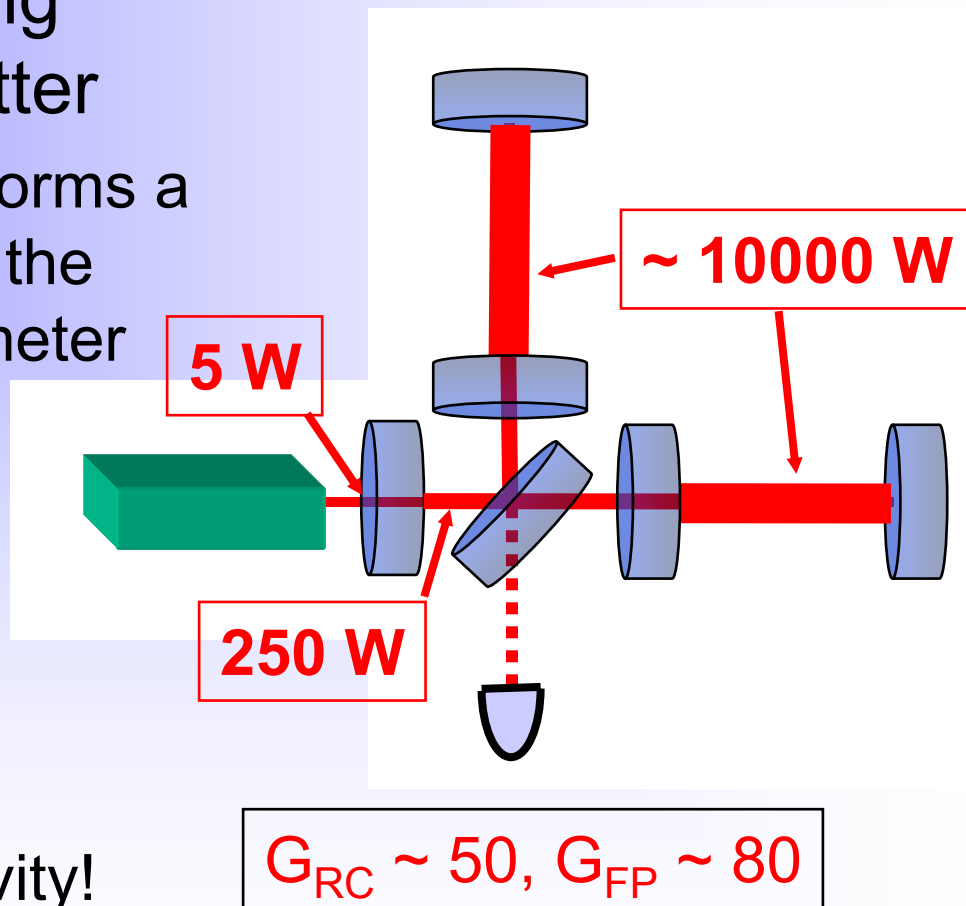
$$P_{BS} = G_{RC} P_{input}$$

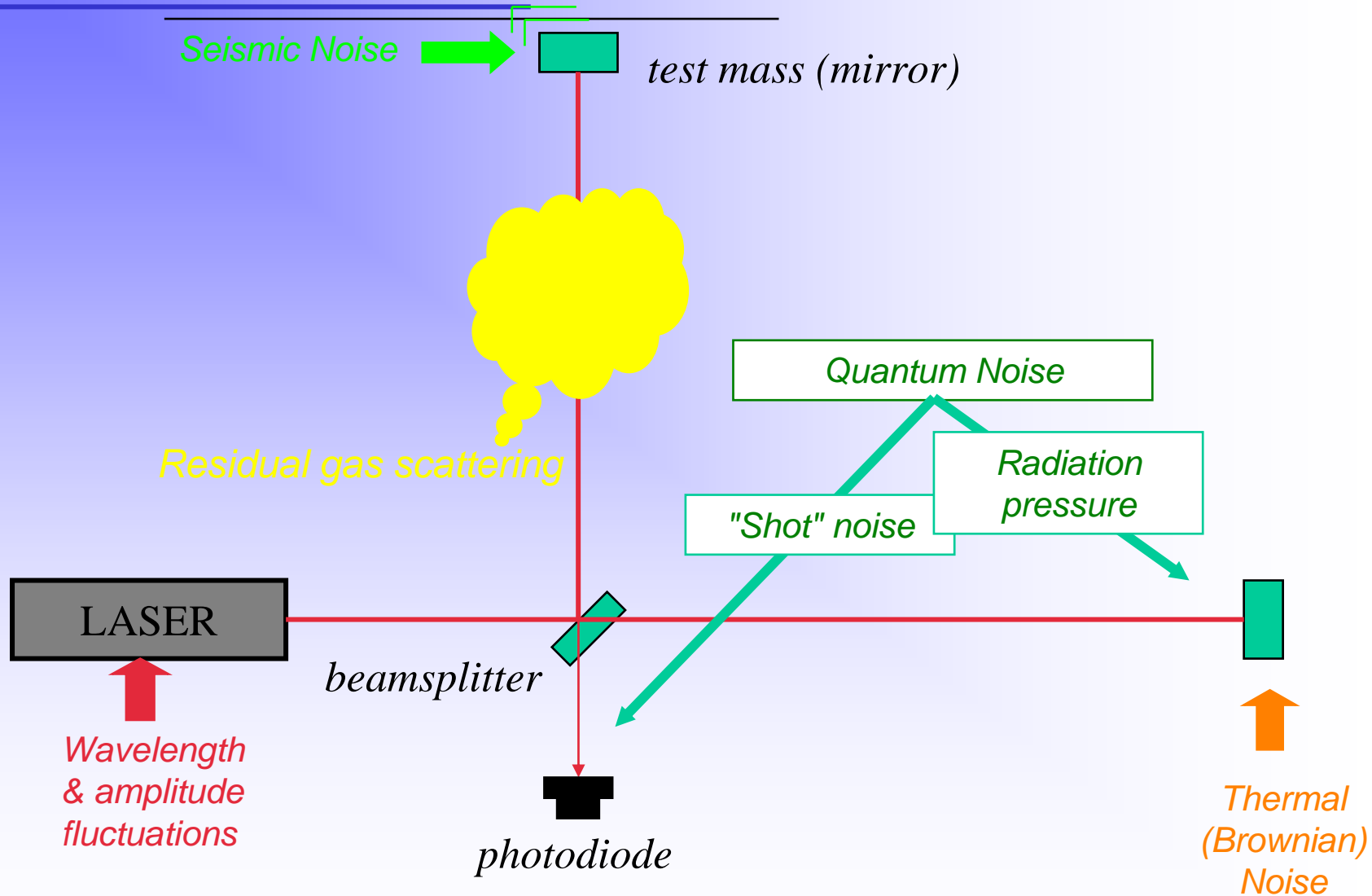
+

$$d\phi/dh \sim G_{FP} \times L$$

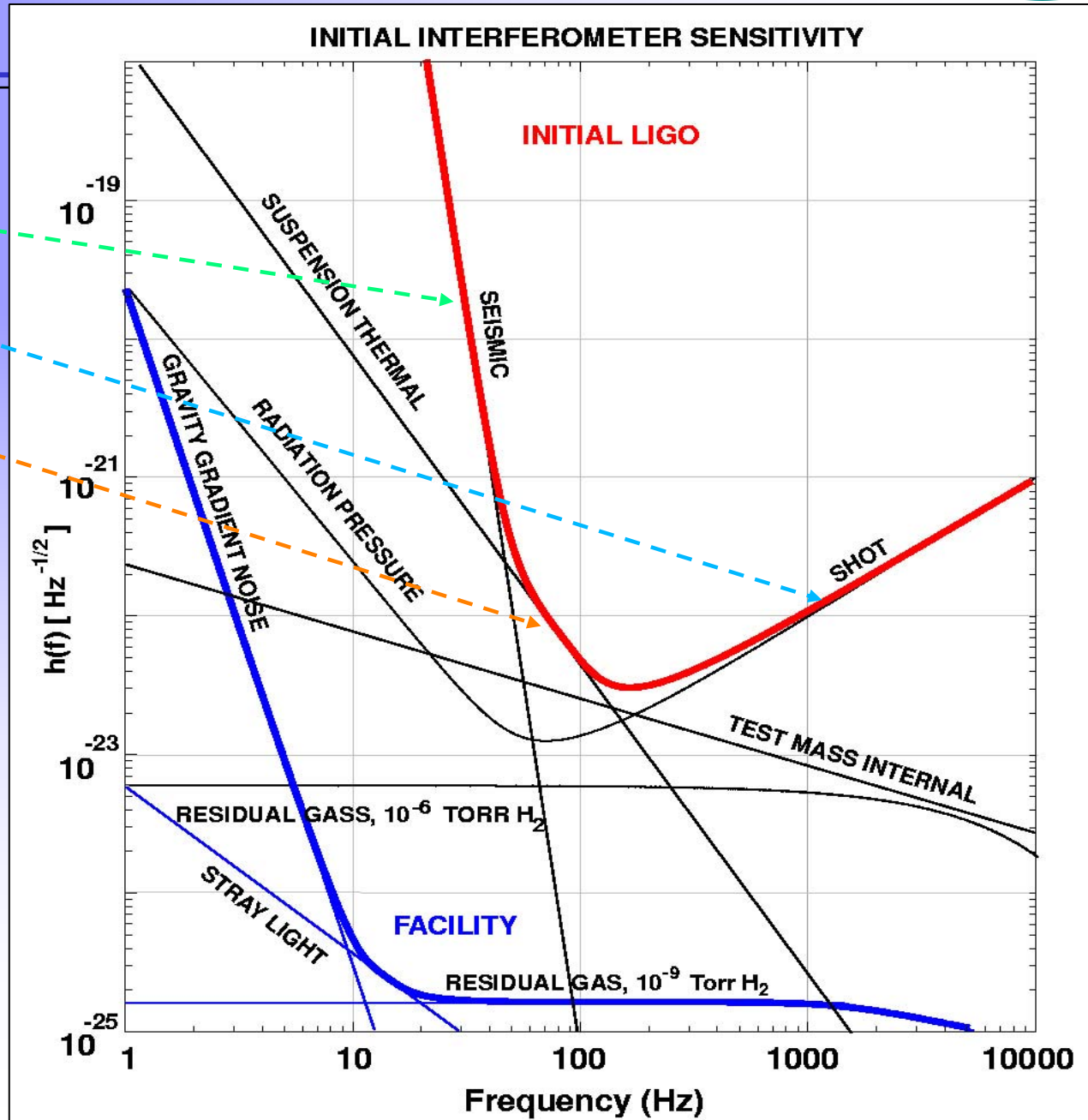
=>

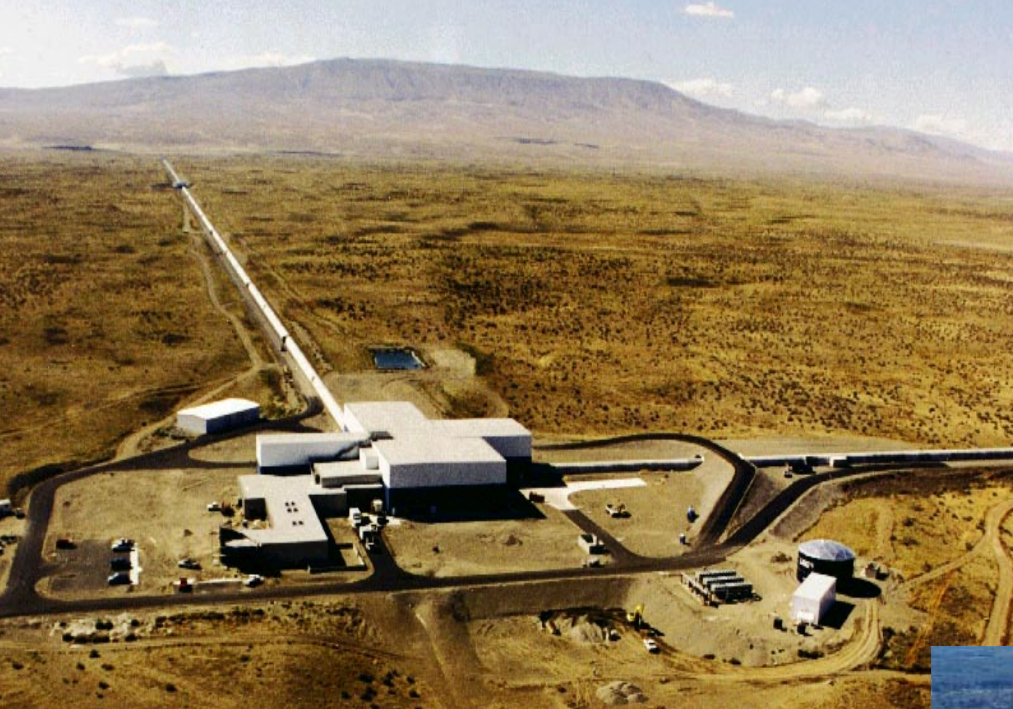
Enhanced Phase Sensitivity!





- Initial sensitivity limits
  - seismic noise at the lowest frequencies
  - shot noise at high frequencies
  - thermal noise at intermediate frequencies
- Based on conservative extrapolation of prototype technologies (circa ~'97)





- Coincidence
  - local environments uncorrelated
- Amplitude discrimination
  - half- and full-length IFO's share Hanford site
  - 1:2 ratio required for true signals
- Source triangulation
  - $\pm 10$  ms time of flight
  - $\sim$  arcminute directionality
- Source polarization





- Worldwide Network:
  - We coordinate observations and share data with GEO, TAMA and VIRGO
  - AIGO is still in planning stage



View inside Corner Station



Standing at vertex  
beam splitter

Precast concrete enclosure: *bulletproof*

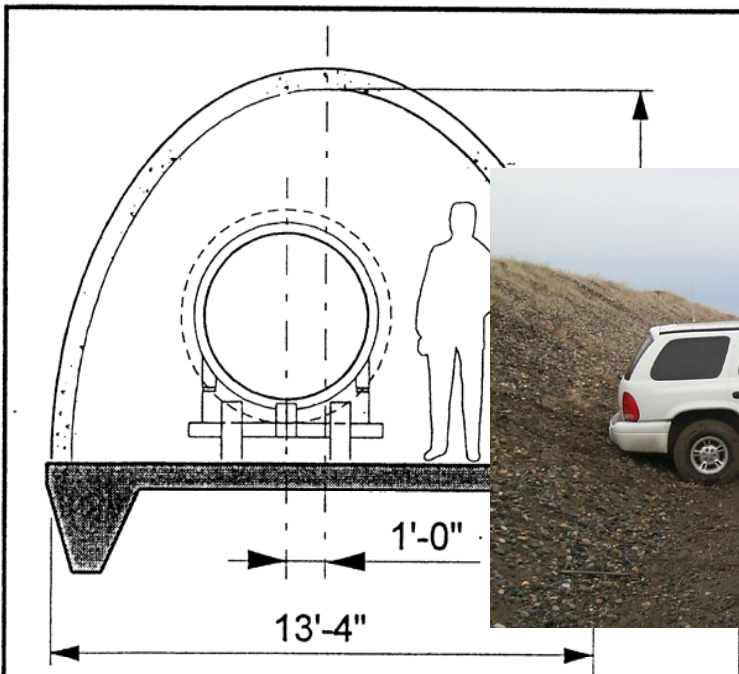
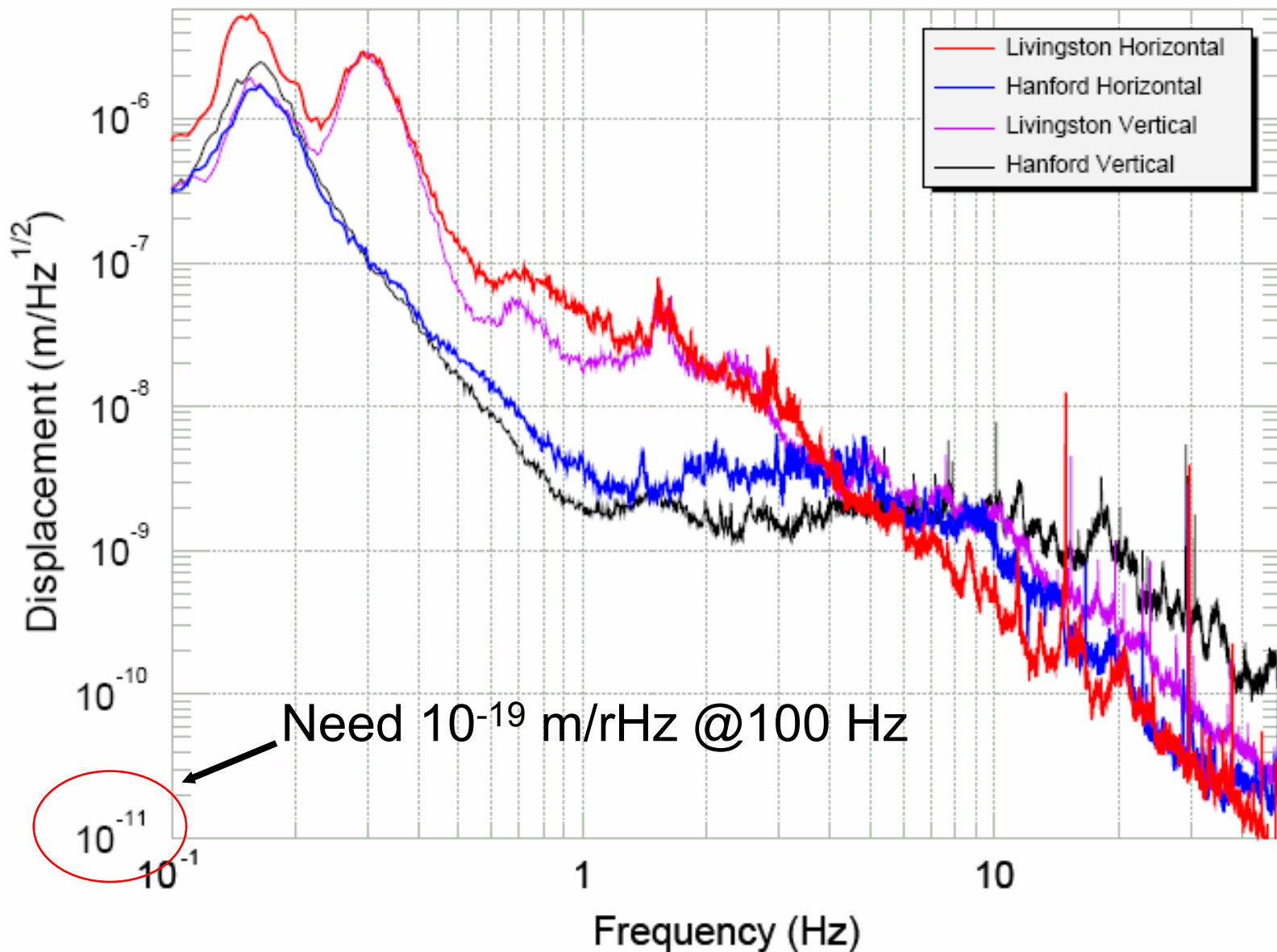


Figure 2.1-1 -- Cross Section of Design Baseline at Hanford



- 65 ft spiral weld sections
- 50 km of weld (NO LEAKS!)
- 20,000 m<sup>3</sup> @ 10<sup>-8</sup> torr; earth's largest high vacuum system





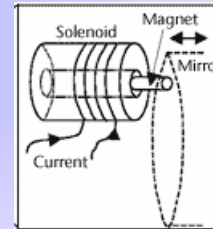
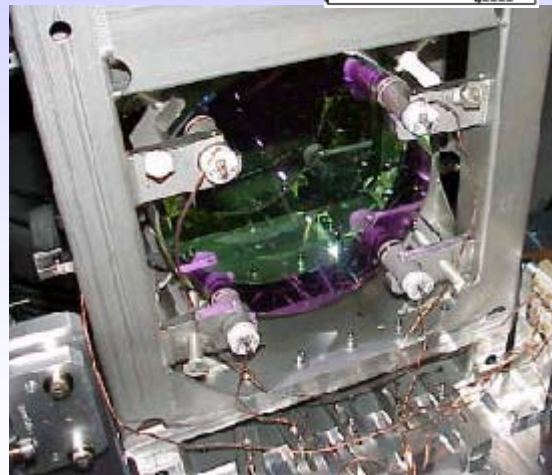
## Mirror Suspensions

- pendulum design
- provide  $10^2$  suppression above 1 Hz
- provide ultraprecise control of optics displacement ( $< 1$  pm)

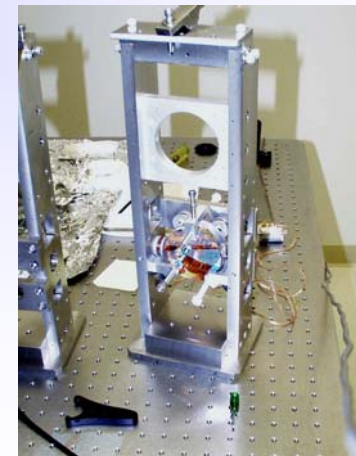
Wire standoff & magnet



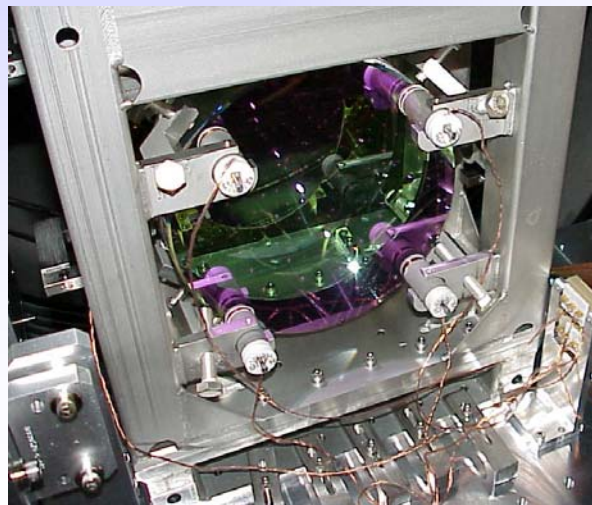
“OSEM”



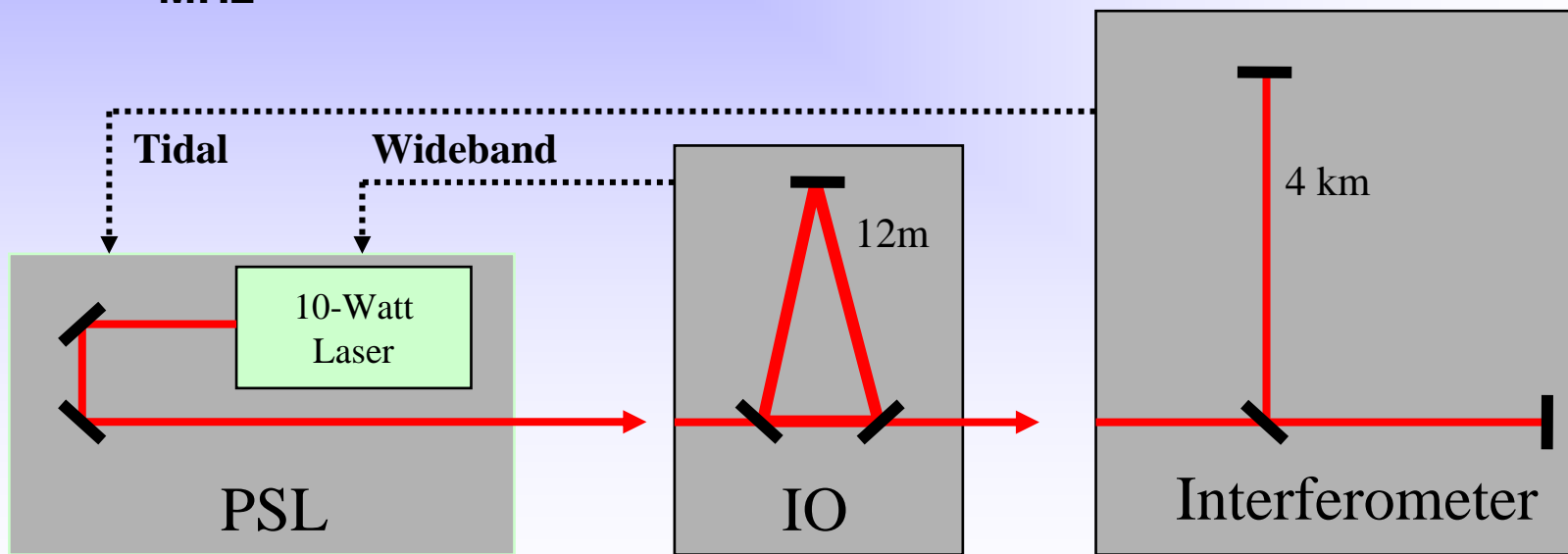
LOS

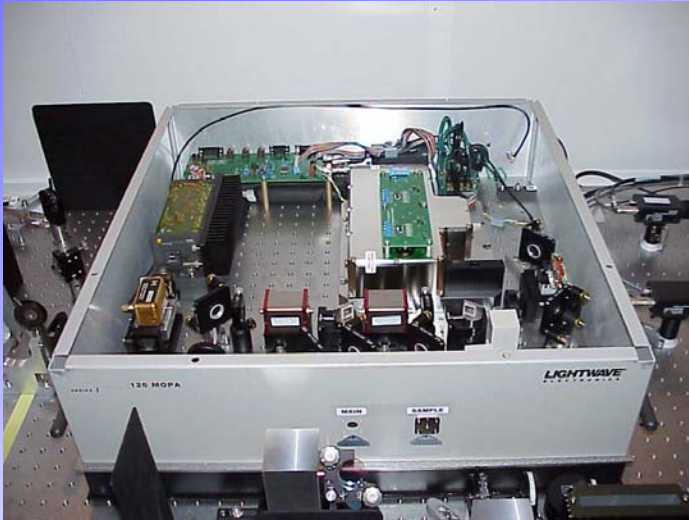


SOS

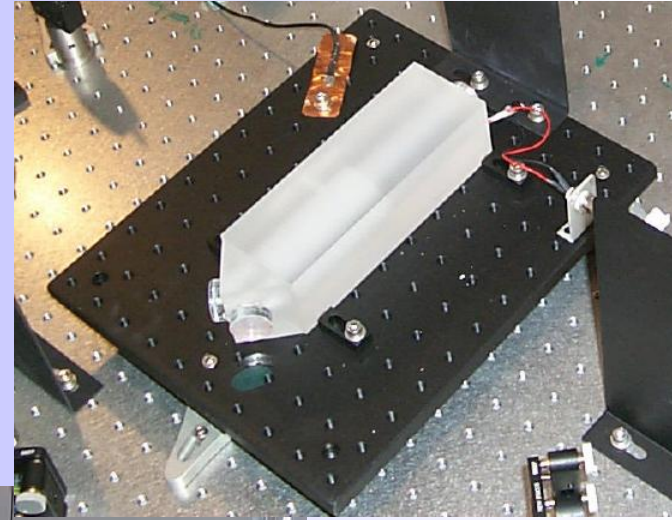


- Deliver pre-stabilized laser light to the long mode cleaner
  - **Frequency fluctuations**
  - **In-band power fluctuations**
  - **Power fluctuations at 25 MHz**
- Provide actuator inputs for further stabilization
  - **Wideband**
  - **Tidal**

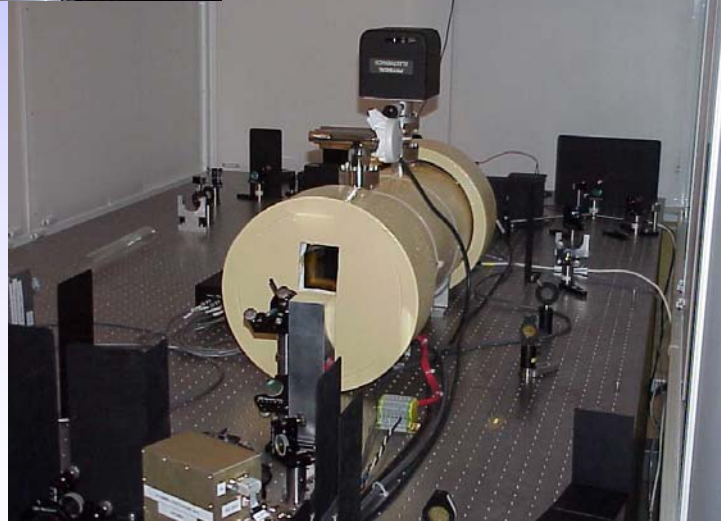




Custom-built  
10 W Nd:YAG Laser,  
joint development with  
Lightwave Electronics



Cavity for  
defining beam geometry,  
joint development with  
Stanford



Frequency reference  
cavity (inside oven)

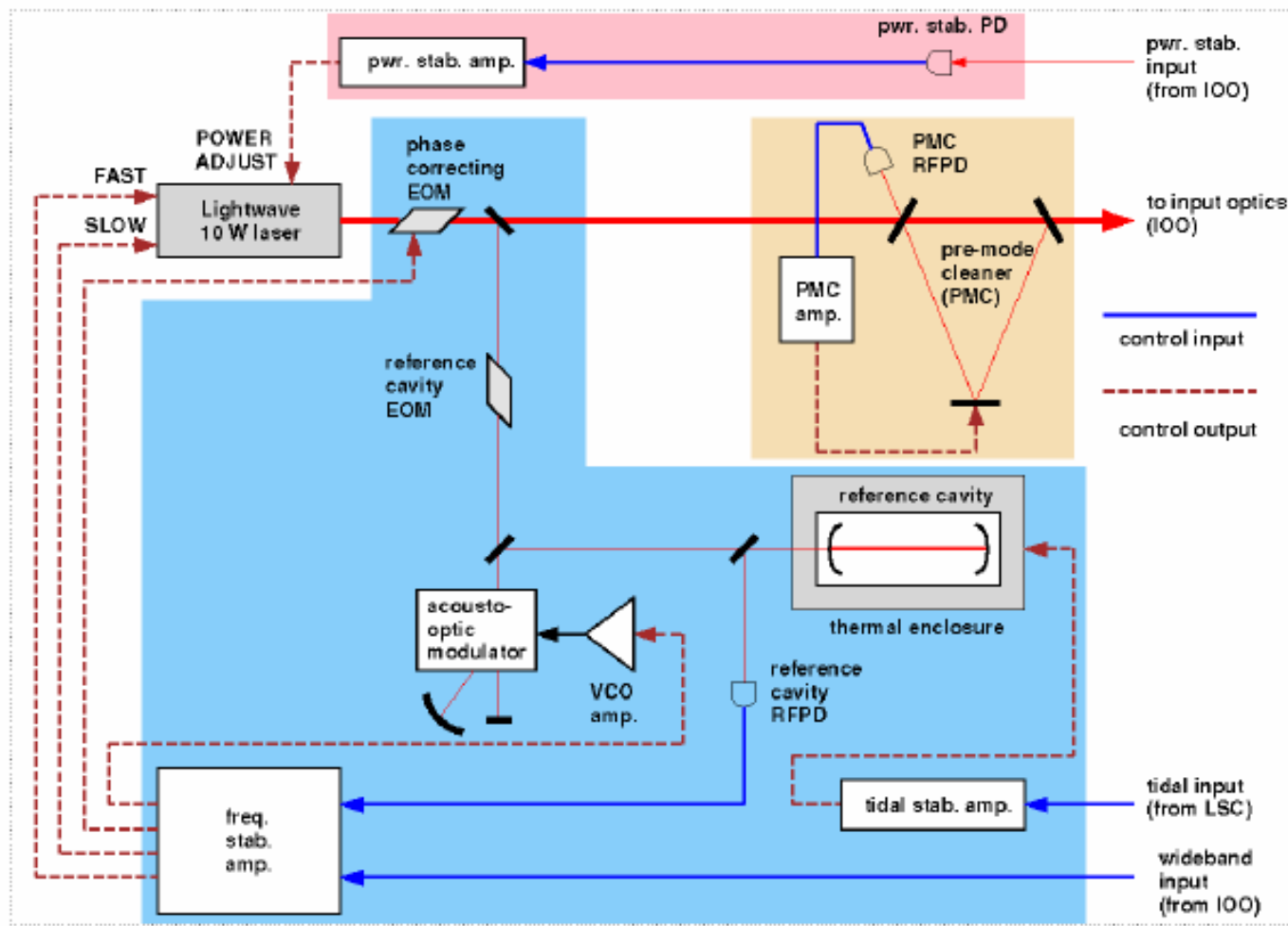
- Laser source

- Frequency pre-stabilization and actuator for further stab.

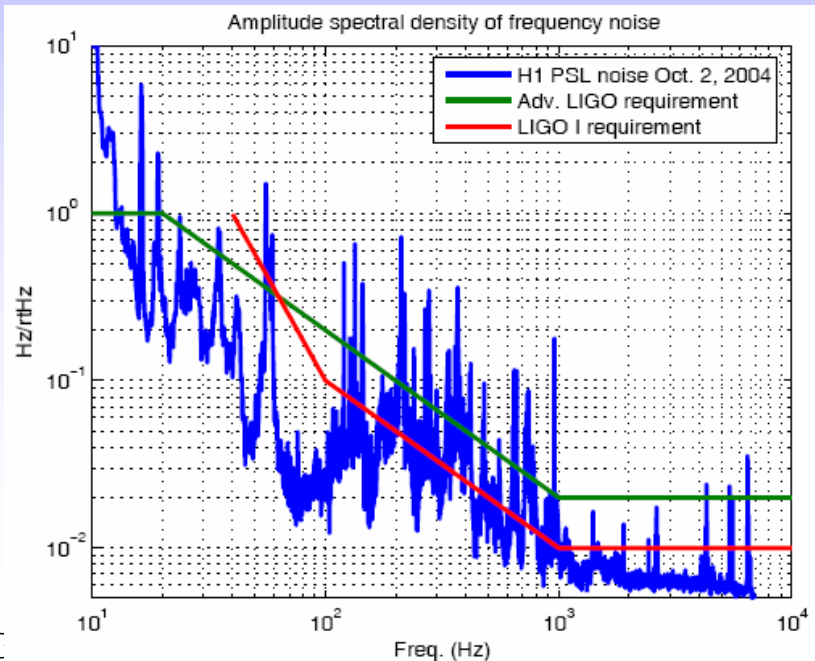
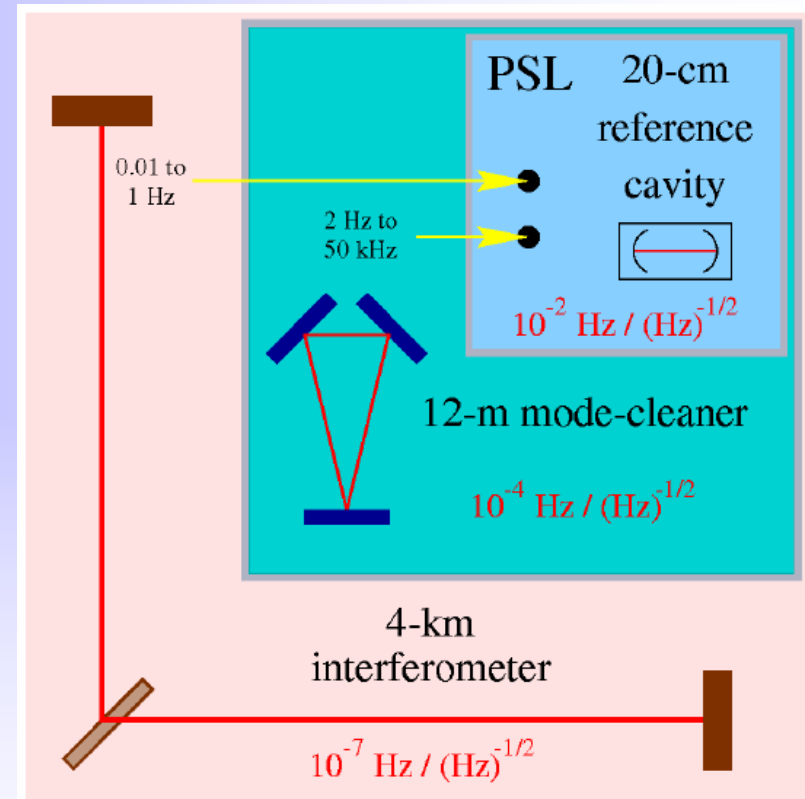
- Compensation for Earth tides

- Power stab. in GW band

- Power stab. at modulation freq. (~ 25 MHz)

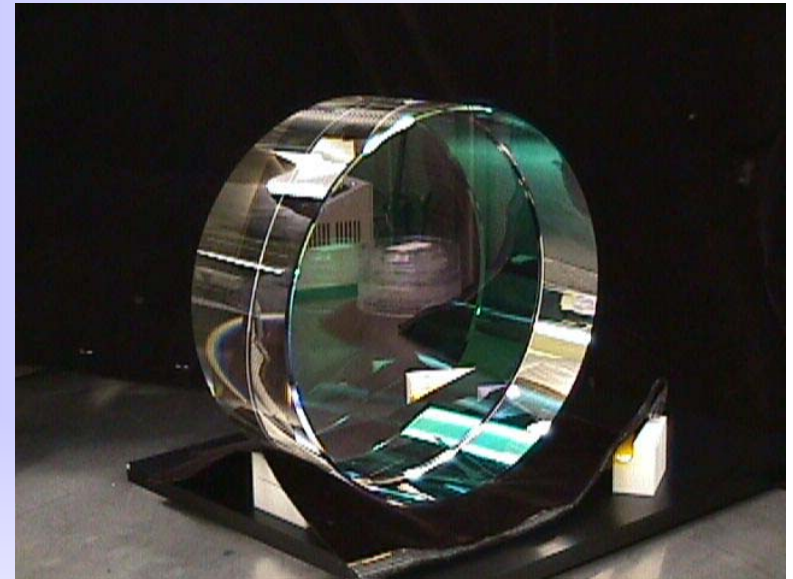


- Nested control loops
  - Stage 1 – thermally-20 cm long stabilized reference cavity
  - Stage 2 – in vacuum suspended 12 or 15 m long “mode cleaner” cavity
  - Stage 3 – Fabry Perot arm cavities

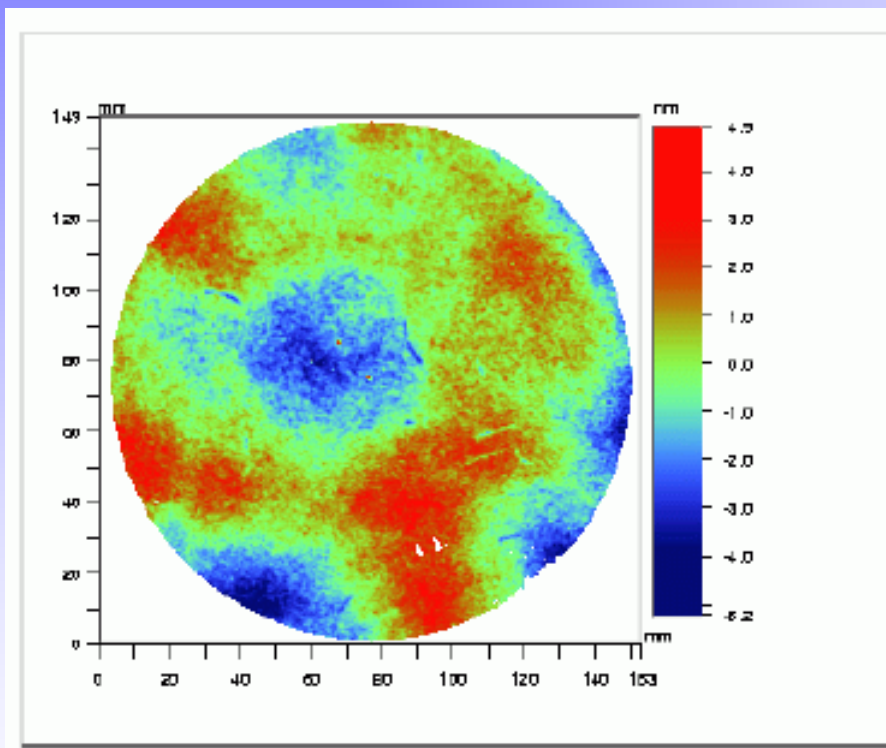


$$\Delta f/f \sim 3 \times 10^{-22} @ 100 \text{ Hz}$$

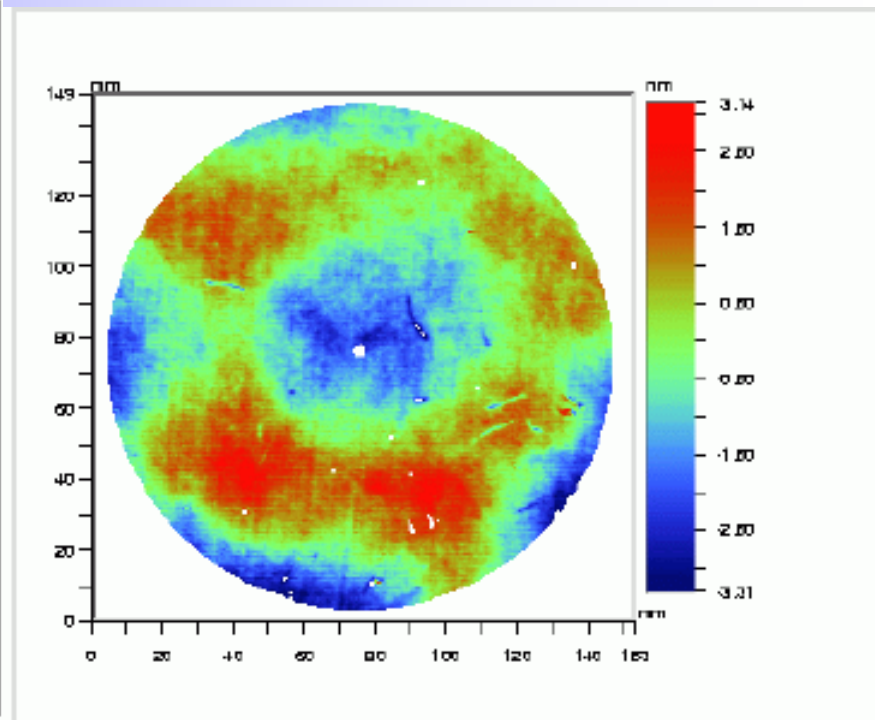
- Substrates:  $\text{SiO}_2$ 
  - 25 cm Diameter, 10 cm thick
  - Homogeneity  $< 5 \times 10^{-7}$
  - Internal mode Q's  $> 2 \times 10^6$
- Polishing
  - Surface uniformity  $< 1$  nm rms
  - Radii of curvature matched  $< 3\%$
- Coating
  - Scatter  $< 50$  ppm
  - Absorption  $< 2$  ppm
  - Uniformity  $< 10^{-3}$
- Production involved 6 companies, NIST, and LIGO



- Current state of the art: 0.2 nm repeatability



LIGO data (1.2 nm rms)

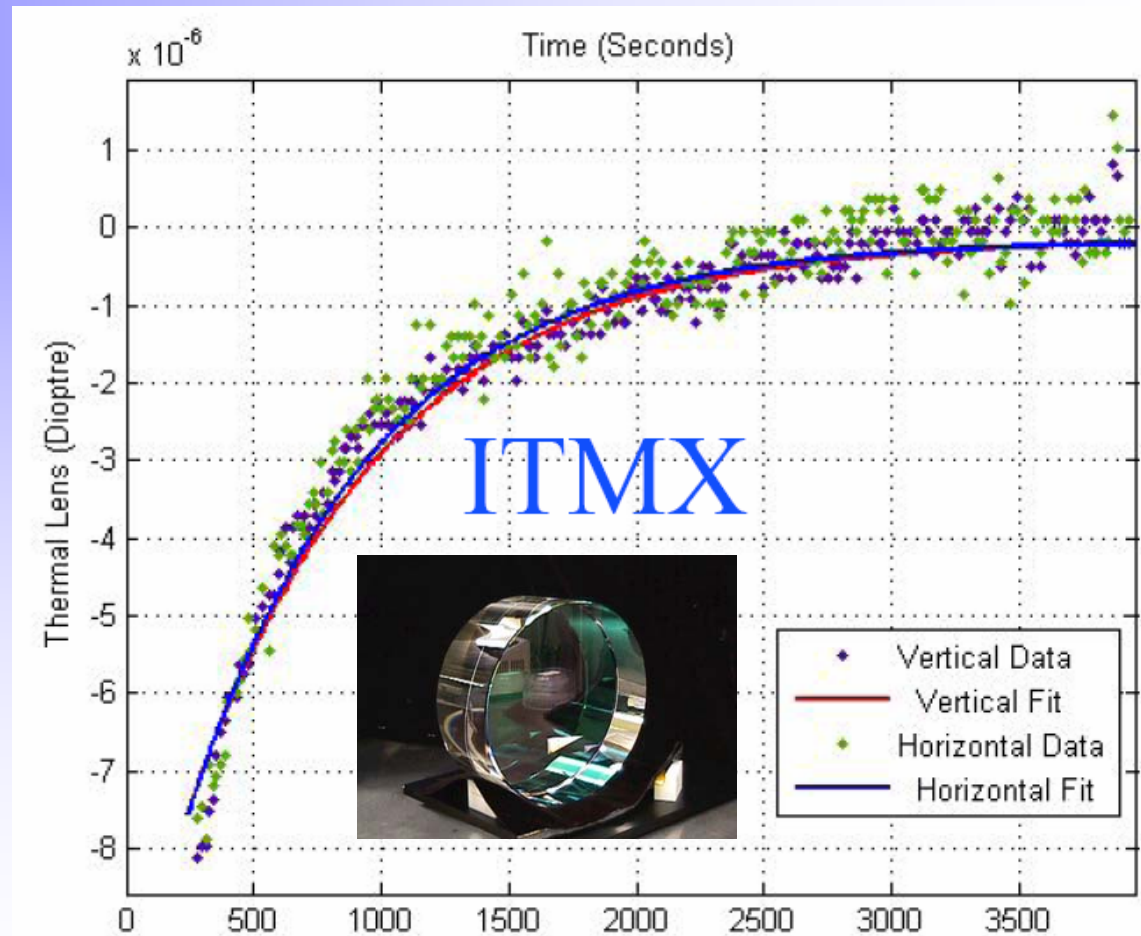


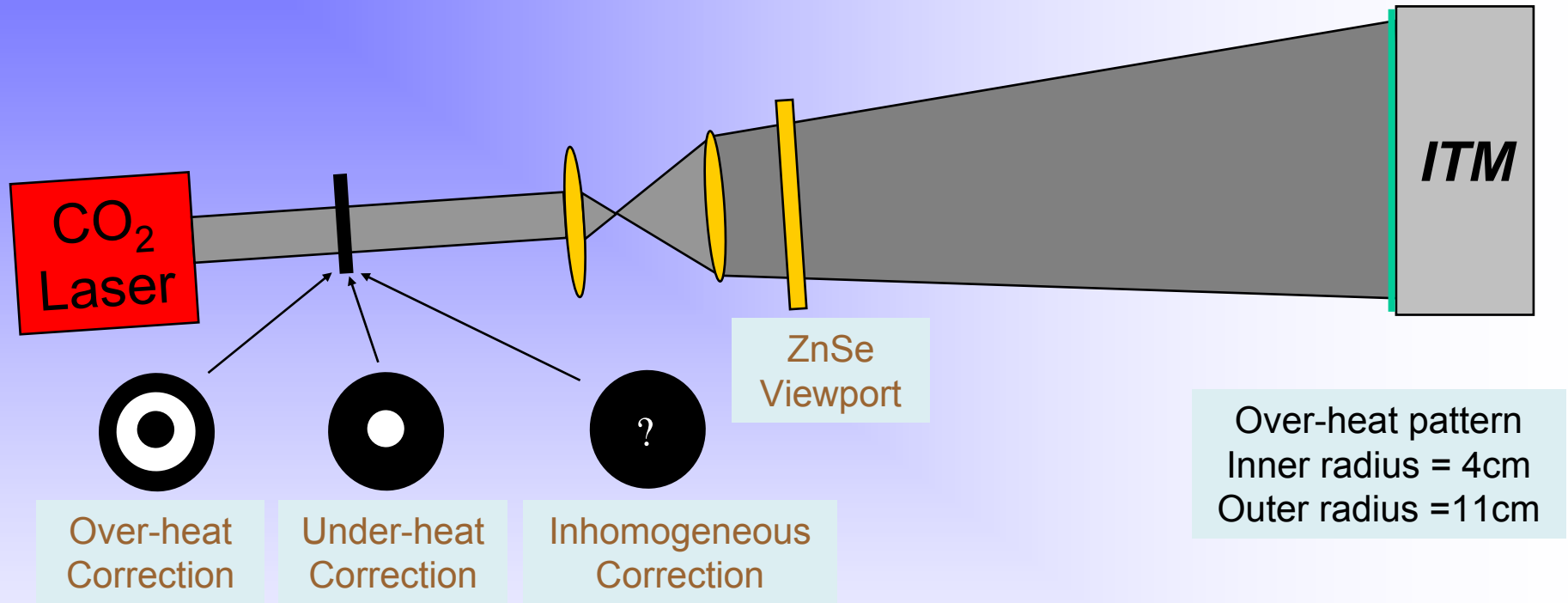
CSIRO data (1.1 nm rms)

➤ **Best mirrors are  $\lambda/6000$  over the central 8 cm diameter**



- High quality low absorption fused silica substrates
  - ~ 2 -10 ppm/cm bulk absorption
  - ~ 1-5 ppm coating absorption
    - Different for different mirrors
    - Can change with time
  - All mirrors are different
  - Unstable recycling cavity
  - Requires adaptive control of optical wavefronts
- ~100 mW absorption in current LIGO interferometers
  - Effects are noticeable!





- Cold power recycling cavity is unstable: poor buildup and mode shape for the RF sidebands
- Require 10's of mW absorbed by  $1\mu\text{m}$  beam

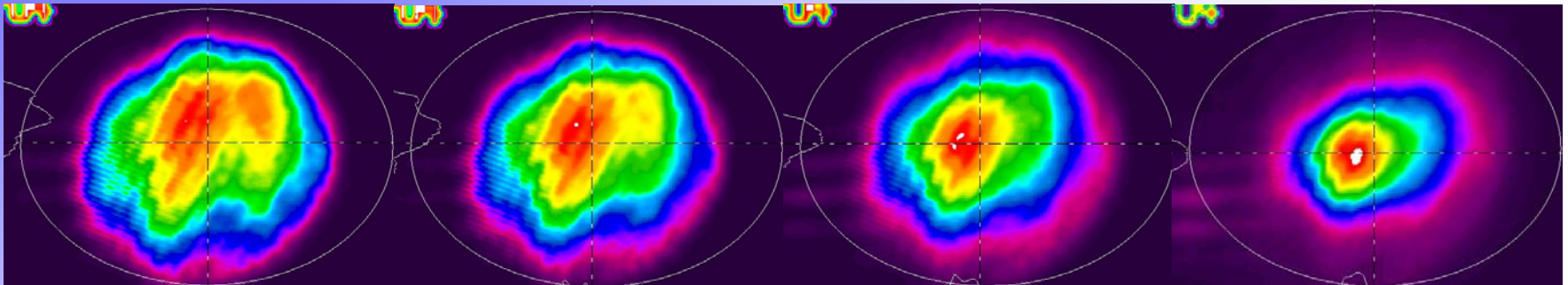
# Circulating Sideband Mode Profiles vs. Thermal Compensation Power

No Heat

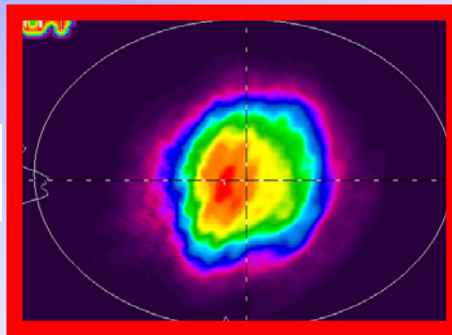
30 mW

60 mW

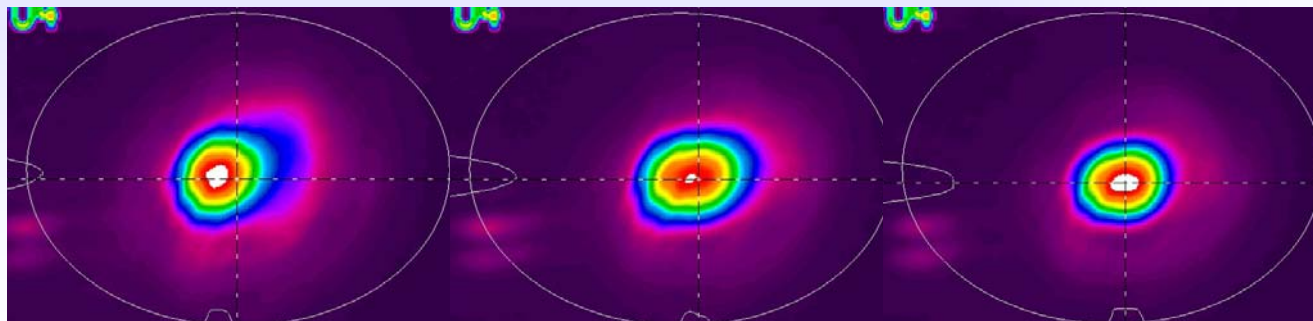
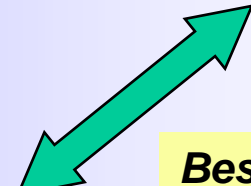
90 mW



*Incident beam*



**Best match**

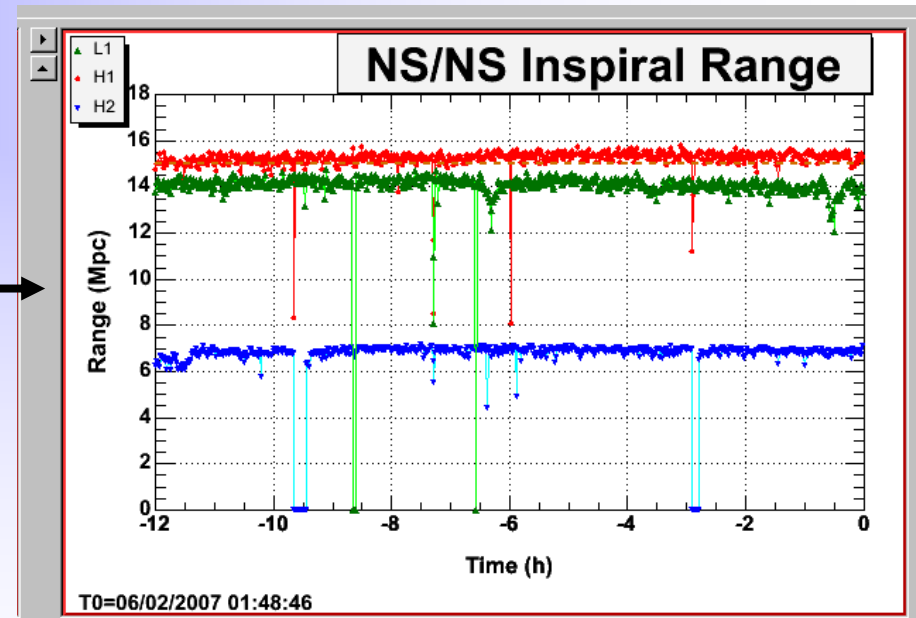
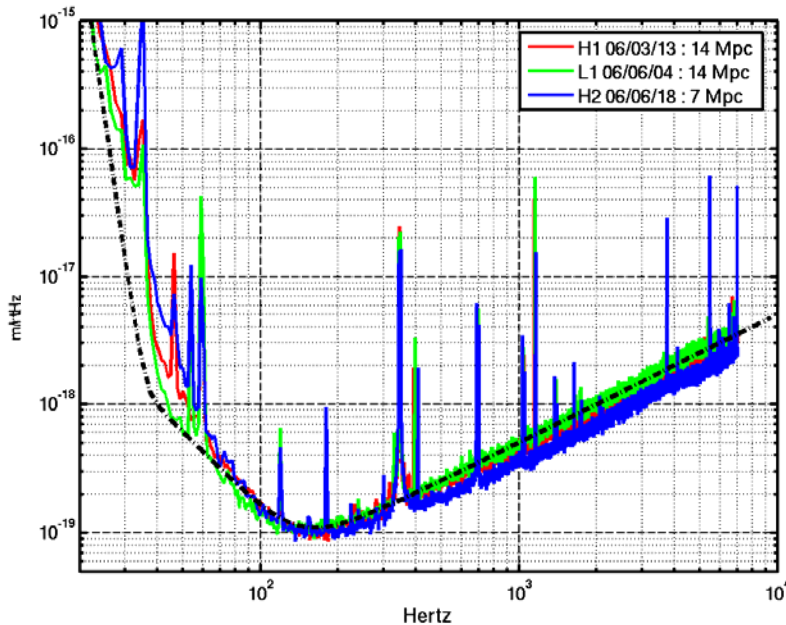
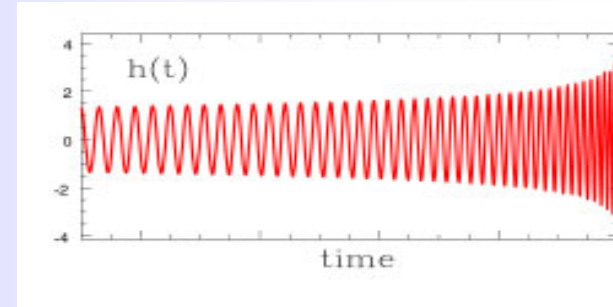
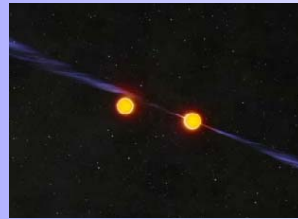


120 mW

150 mW

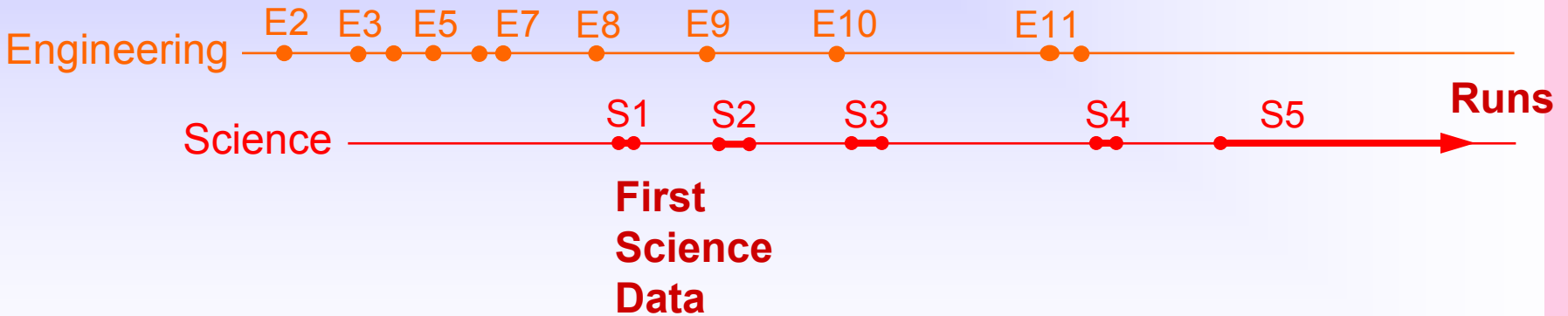
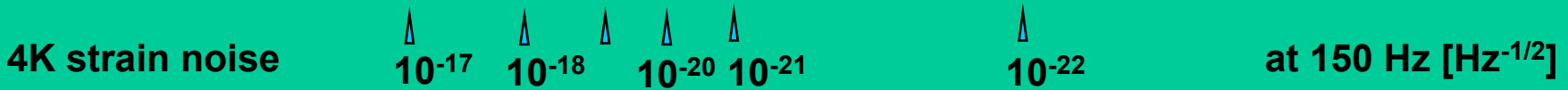
180 mW

Translate strain amplitude of binary system (via calibration lines) into (effective) distance:



If system is optimally located and oriented, we can see even further: we are surveying hundreds of galaxies!

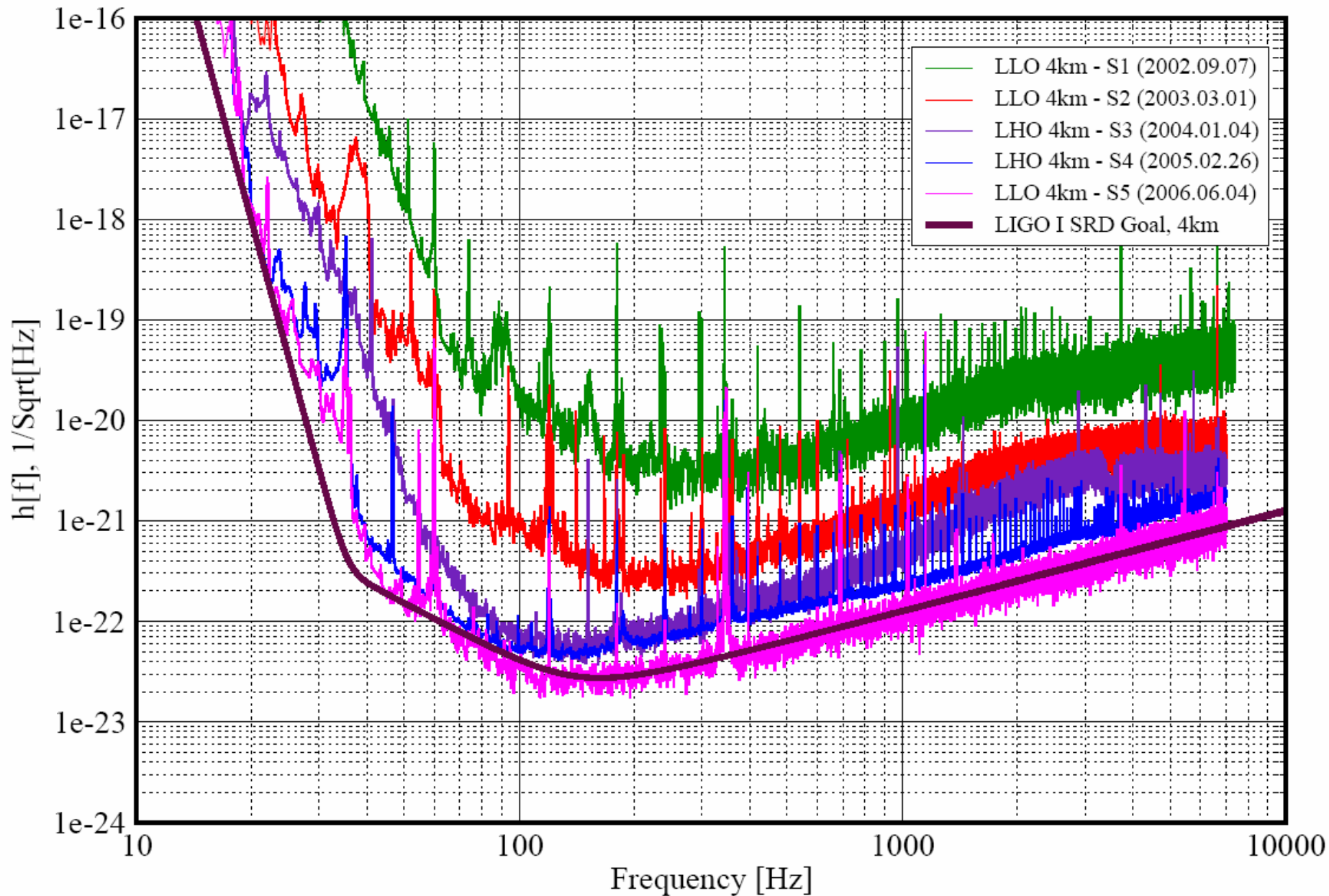
*Electronic logs are public!  
[www.ligo.caltech.edu](http://www.ligo.caltech.edu)*



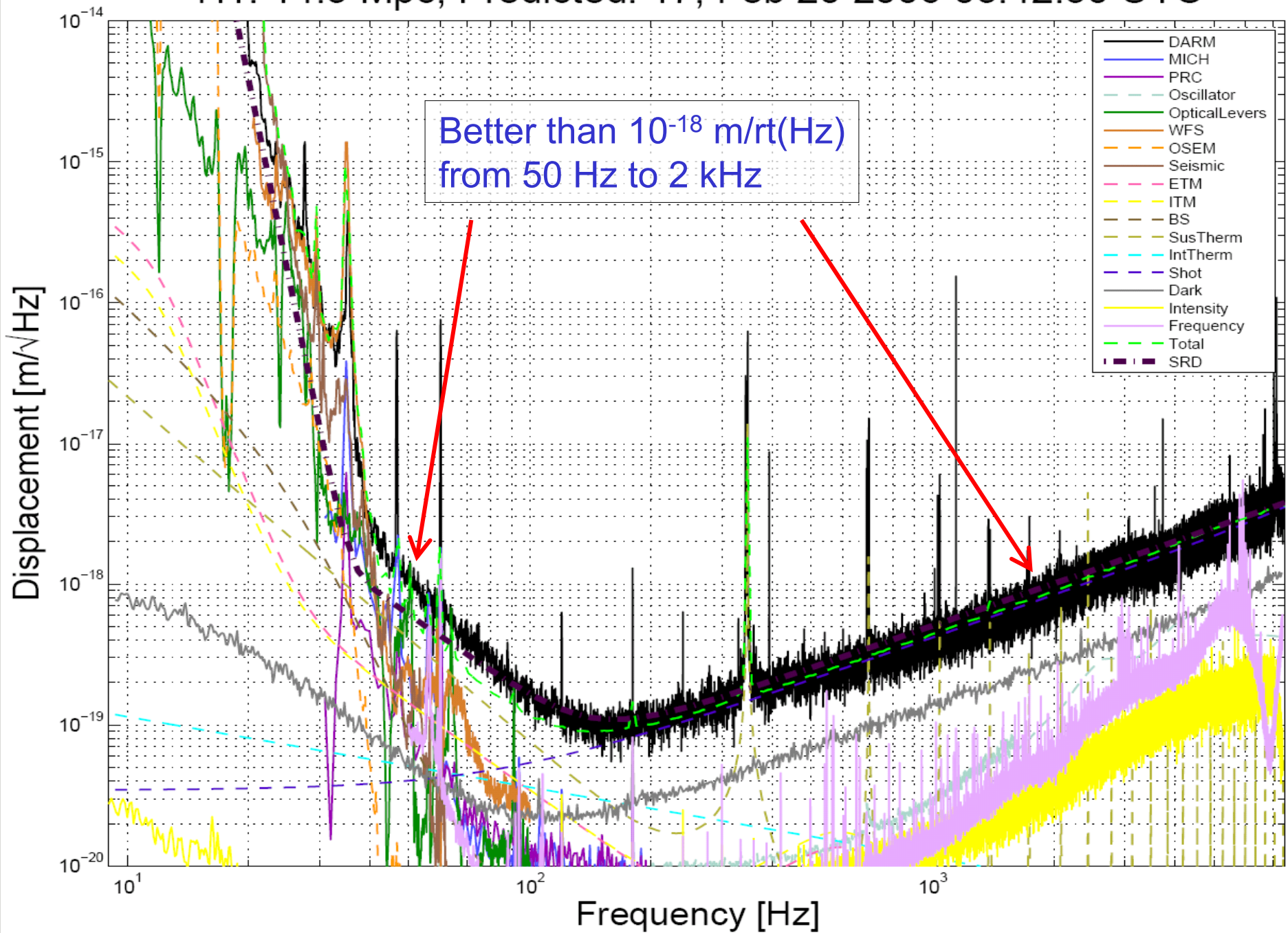
# Best Strain Sensivities for the LIGO Interferometers

Comparisons among S1 - S5 Runs

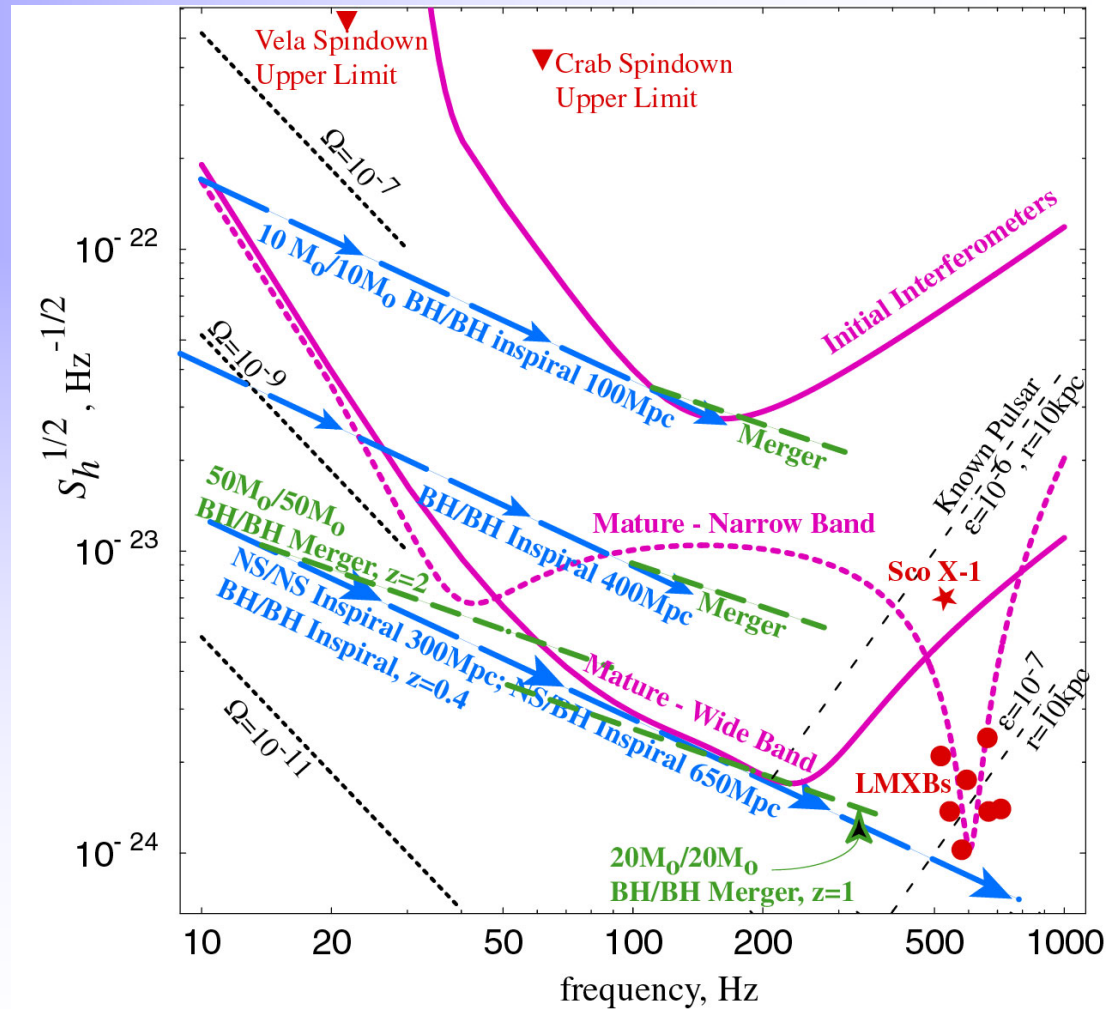
LIGO-G060009-02-Z



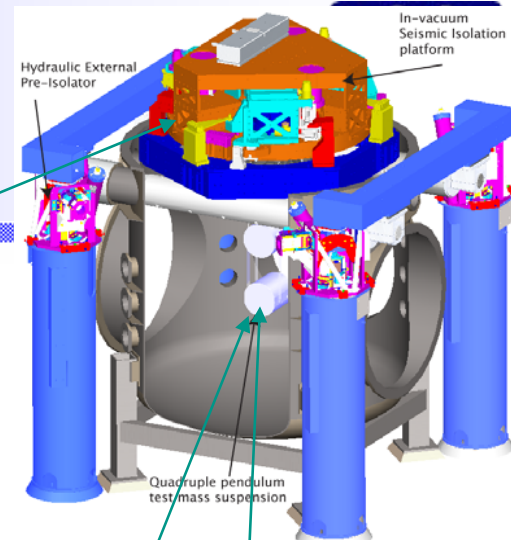
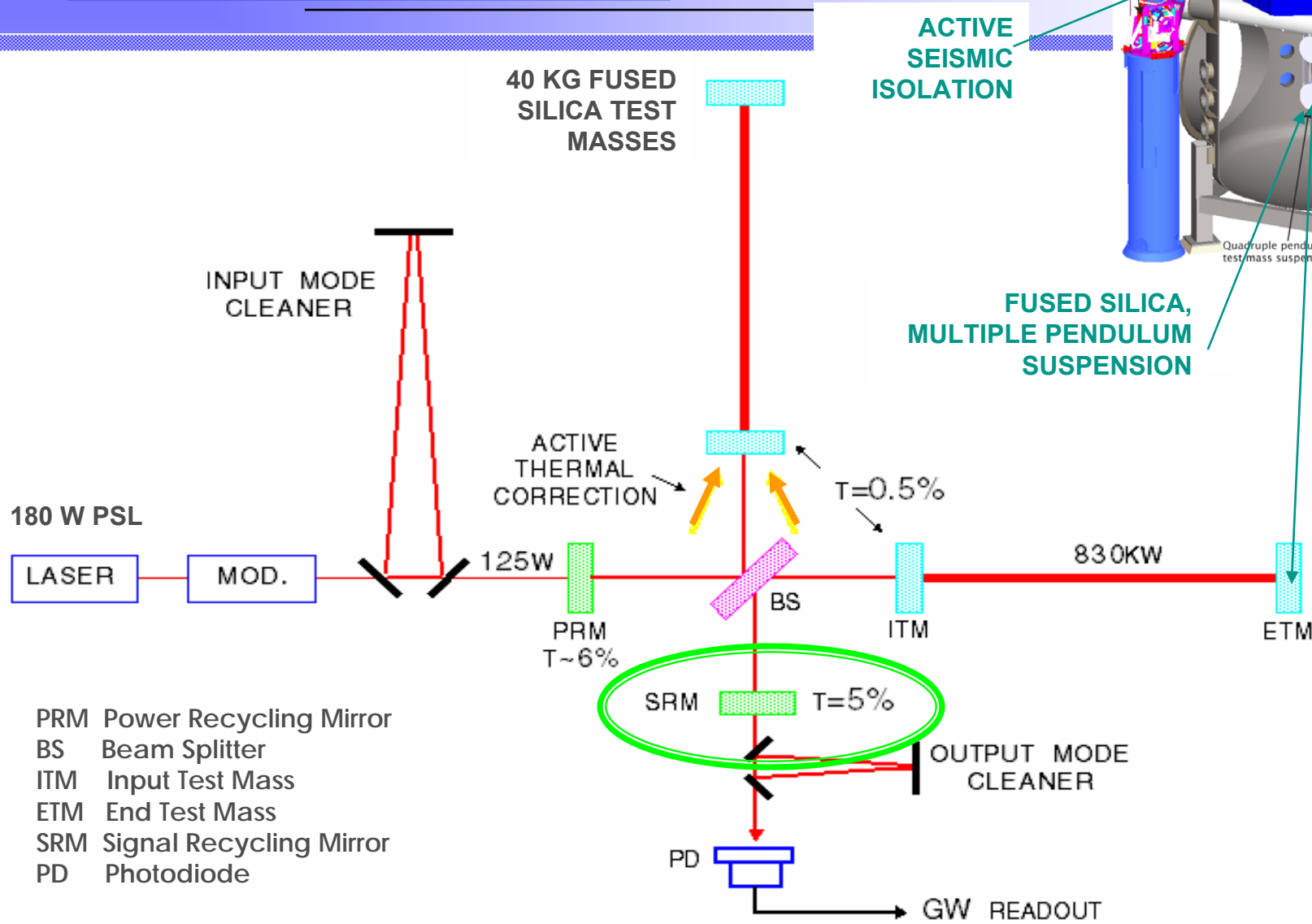
# H1: 14.5 Mpc, Predicted: 17, Feb 20 2006 05:42:50 UTC



- At current sensitivity, LIGO detectors are rate-limited
  - 0.01 – 1 event per year
- Advanced LIGO will increase sensitivity, hence range, by 10X over initial LIGO
  - **AdvLIGO rate ~ 500X current LIGO**
    - **At least a few EVENTS per year**
- Anticipate funding to start in 2008, construction to begin in 2011

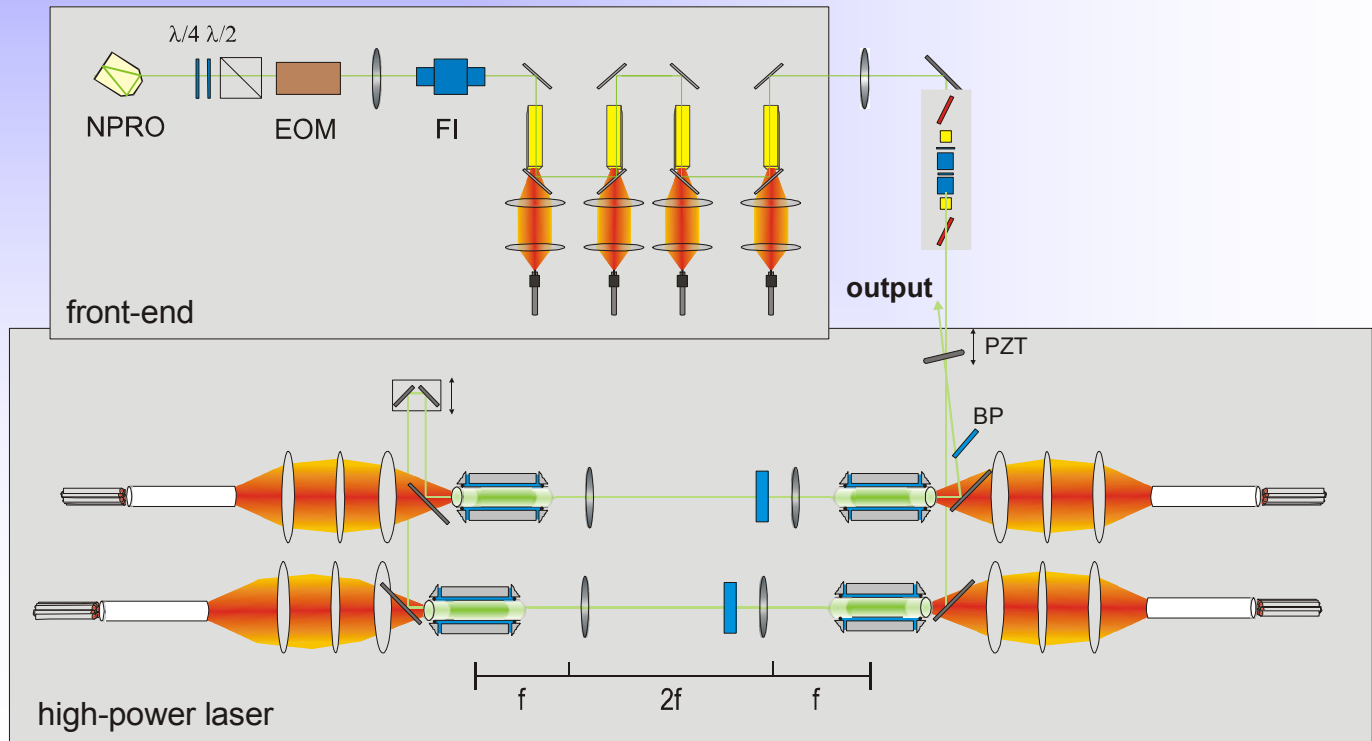






- PRM Power Recycling Mirror
- BS Beam Splitter
- ITM Input Test Mass
- ETM End Test Mass
- SRM Signal Recycling Mirror
- PD Photodiode

- 180 W amplitude and frequency stabilized Nd:YAG laser
- Two stage amplification
  - First stage: either MOPA (NPRO + single pass amplifier) or ring cavity (not shown)
  - Second stage: injection-locked ring cavity
- Developed by Laser Zentrum Hannover (and MPI at Hannover)

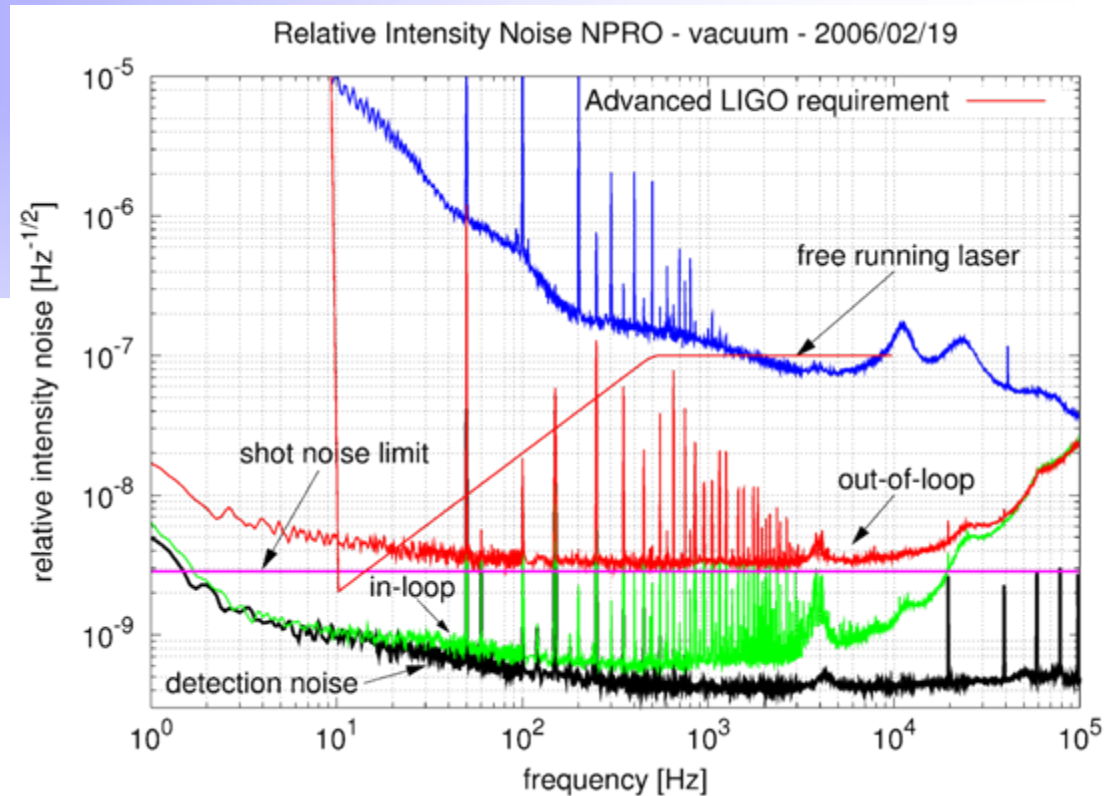
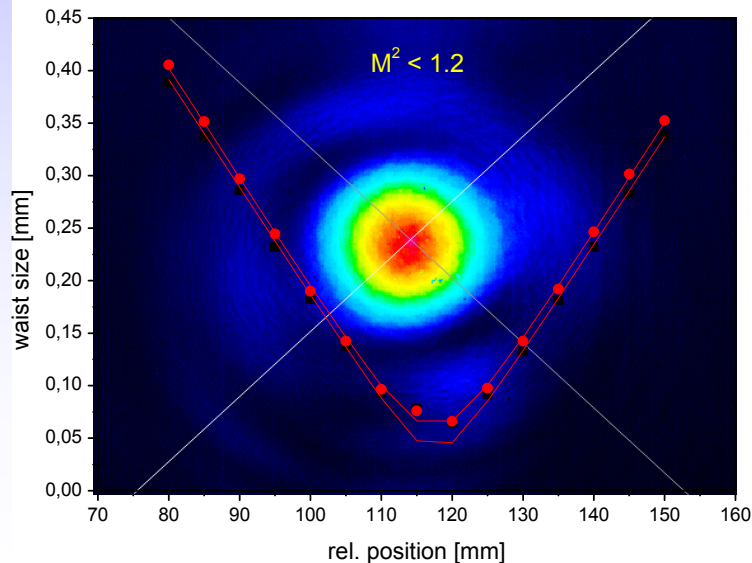


- Requirements

- Good spatial mode quality
- Intensity stabilization  $< 3 \times 10^{-9}$  /rHz
- Frequency noise  $\sim (20 \text{ Hz}/f) \text{ Hz/rHz}$

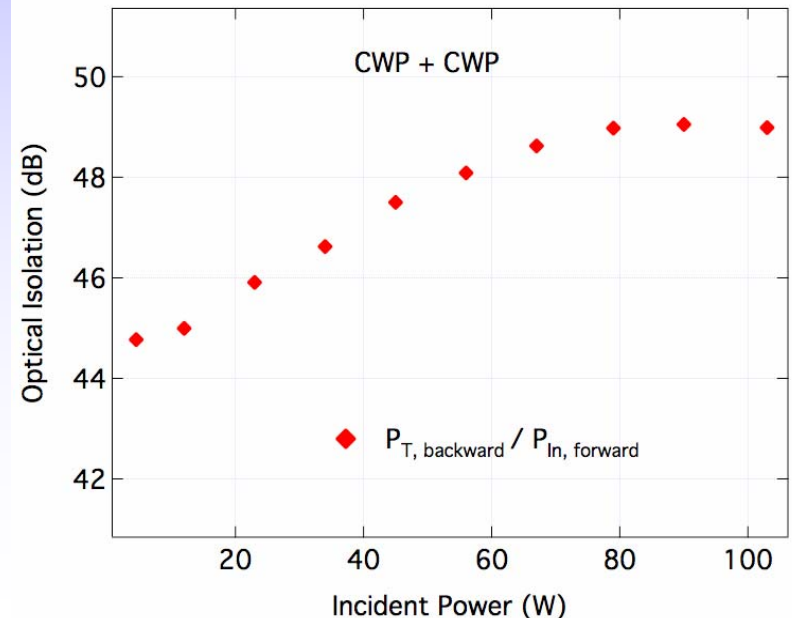
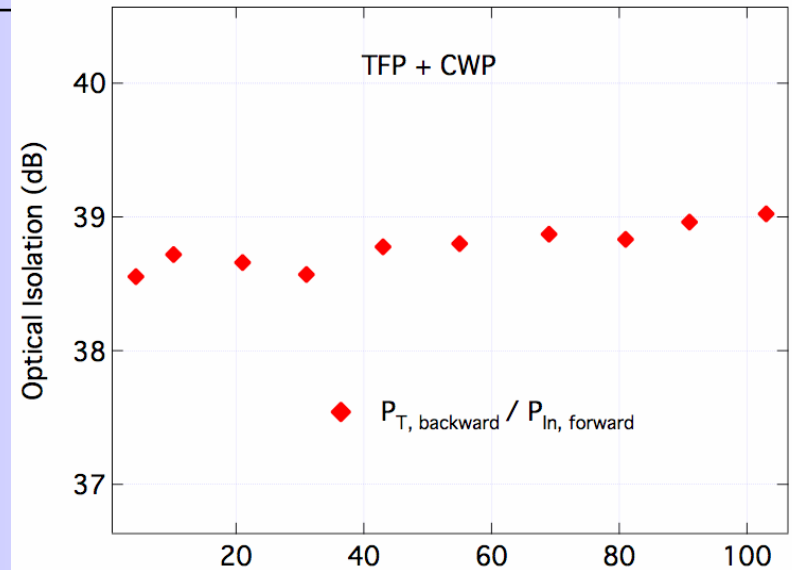
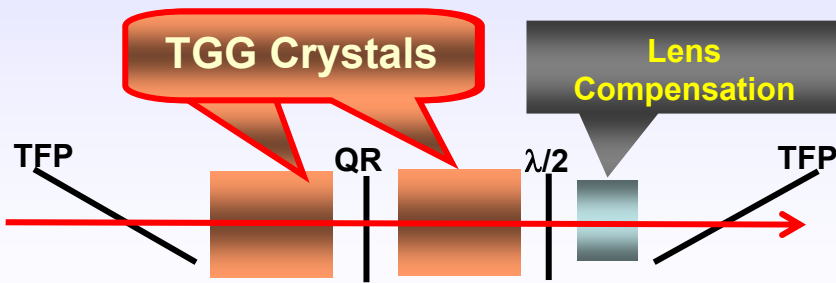
- To date

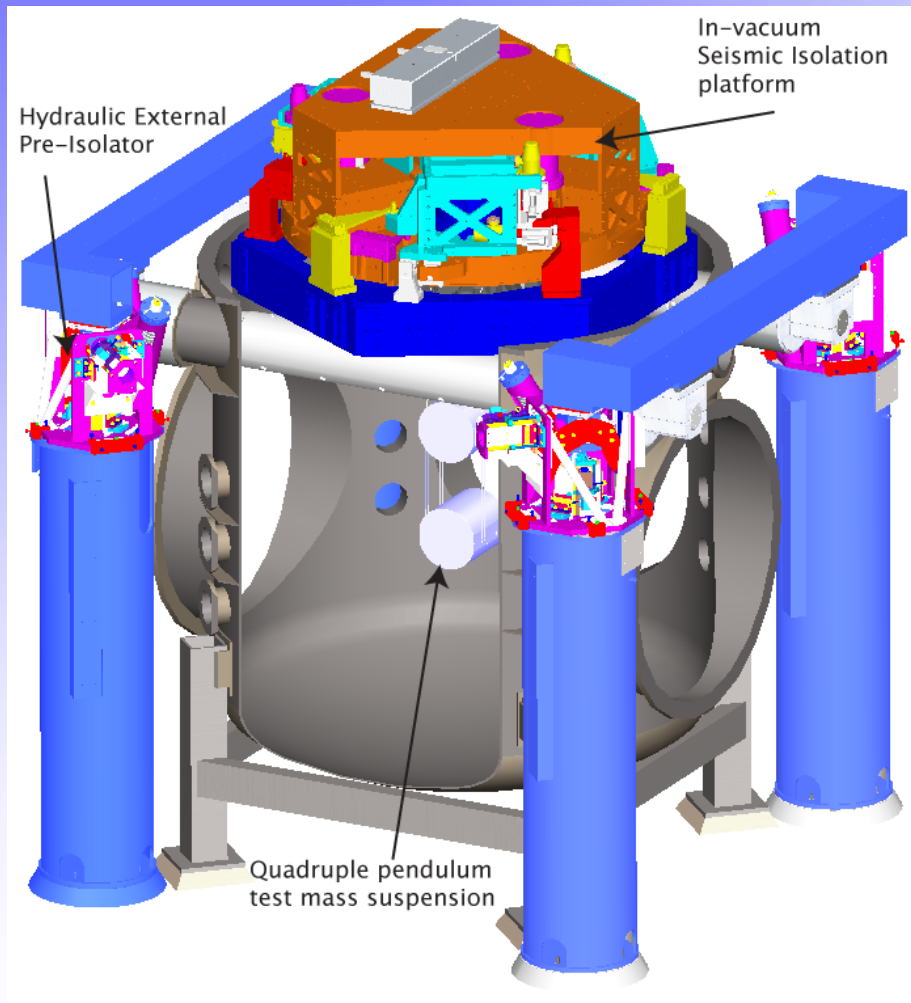
- 183 W obtained in good spatial mode profile (no spatial filtering)
- RIN of oscillator @  $3 \times 10^{-9}$  /rHz



- Faraday Isolator designed to handle high average power
  - **Increased immunity from thermal birefringence**
    - In excess of 40 dB at 100 W loading
  - **thermal lensing**
    - $\lambda/10$  thermal distortions demonstrated
    - $< \lambda/20$  possible

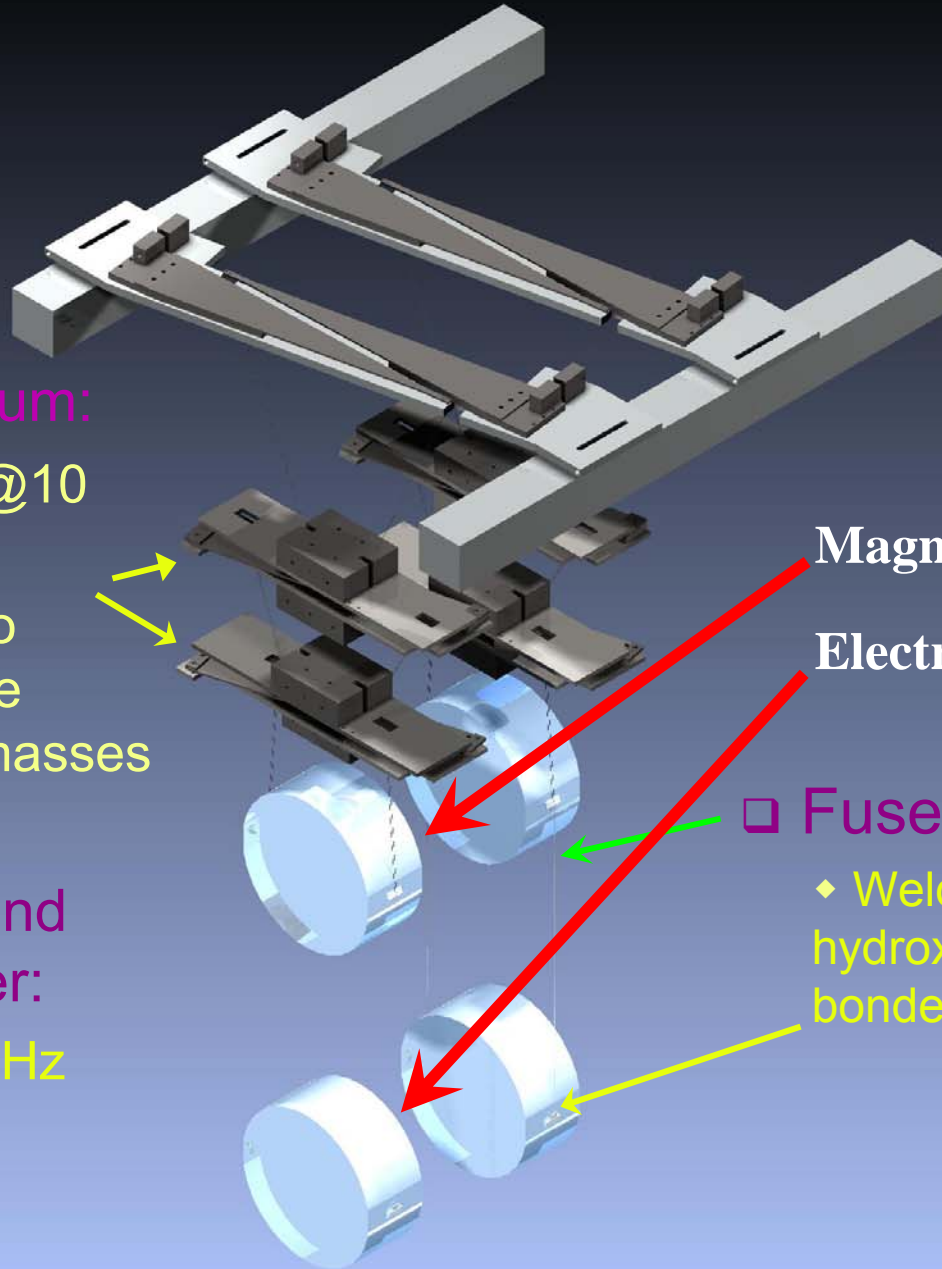
Khazanov, et al., J. Opt. Soc. Am B. 17, 99-102 (2000).  
 Mueller, et al., Class. Quantum Grav. 19 1793–1801 (2002).  
 Khazanov, et. al., IEEE J. Quant. Electron. 40, 1500-1510 (2004).





Requirement	BSC Chamber Value
<b>Payload Mass</b>	<b>800 kg</b>
<b>Range</b>	<b><math>\pm 1</math> mm, <math>\pm 0.5</math> mrad</b>
<b>Table Noise</b>	<b><math>3 \times 10^{-13}</math> m/<math>\sqrt{\text{Hz}}</math> @10 Hz</b>
<b>Angular Noise</b>	<b>10 nrad RMS</b>

# Quad Suspensions



- **Quadruple pendulum:**

- $\sim 10^7$  attenuation @10 Hz
- Controls applied to upper layers; noise filtered from test masses

- **Seismic isolation and suspension together:**

- $10^{-19}$  m/rtHz at 10 Hz

**Magnets**

**Electrostatic**

□ **Fused silica fiber**

◆ Welded to 'ears', hydroxy-catalysis bonded to optic

- **LIGO is operational and taking data as we speak**
  - **S5 Science Run will finish soon**
- **Gravitational wave detection pushes state-of-the-art in CW solid state laser technology, optical fabrication and metrology, and control systems**
- **Advanced LIGO design is well underway**

**Acknowledgments:**



**and the Members of the LIGO Laboratory, members of the LIGO Science Collaboration, National Science Foundation**

**More Information:**

- <http://www.ligo.caltech.edu>; [www.ligo.org](http://www.ligo.org)



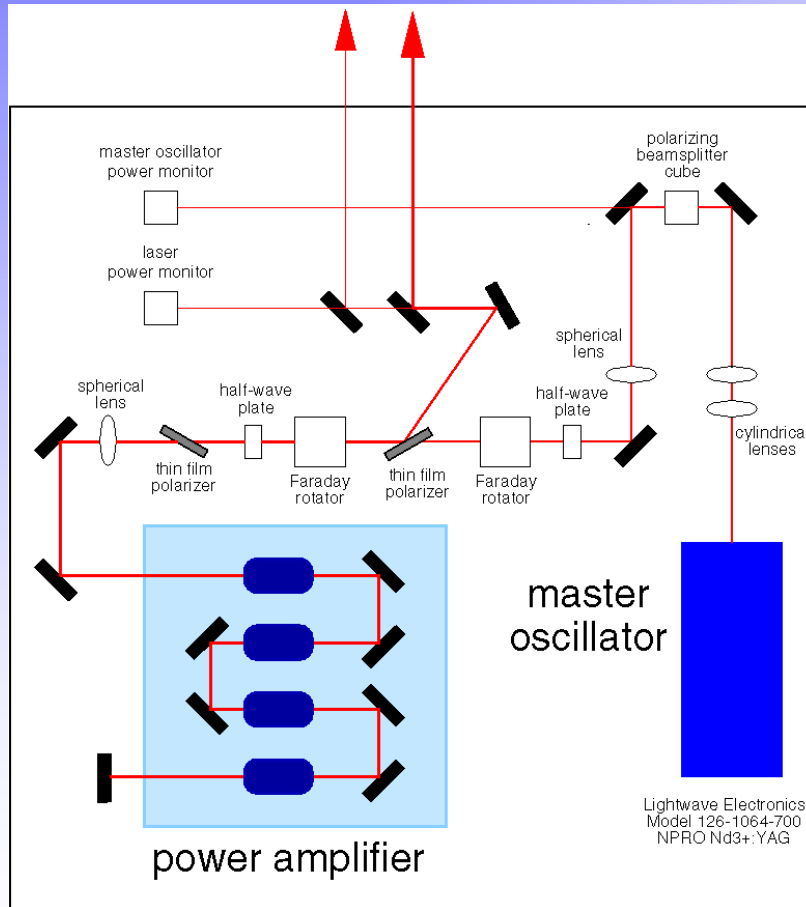
**LIGO**

Backup slides

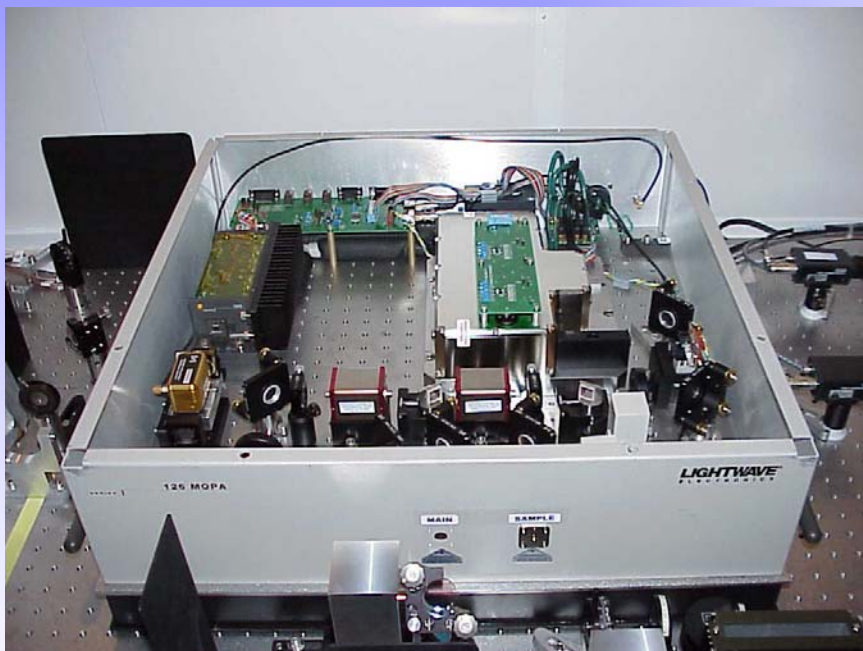








- Master Oscillator Power Amplifier configuration
- Lightwave Model 126 non-planar ring oscillator
- Double-pass, four-stage amplifier
- All solid state: amplifier utilizes 160 watts of laser diode pump power



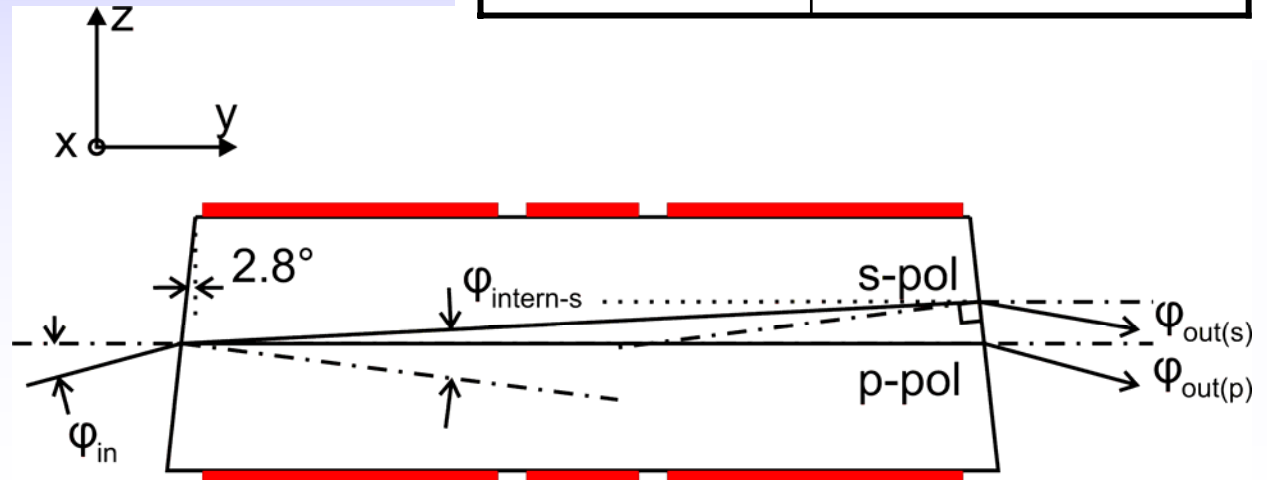
- WA-2k PSL > 15,000 hours continuous operation
  - Two power supply failures
- TEM<sub>00</sub> power > 8 watts
- Non-TEM<sub>00</sub> power < 10%
- Free-running frequency noise ~100 Hz/rtHz at 100 Hz. Falling as 1 / f
- Six units delivered to LIGO to date.



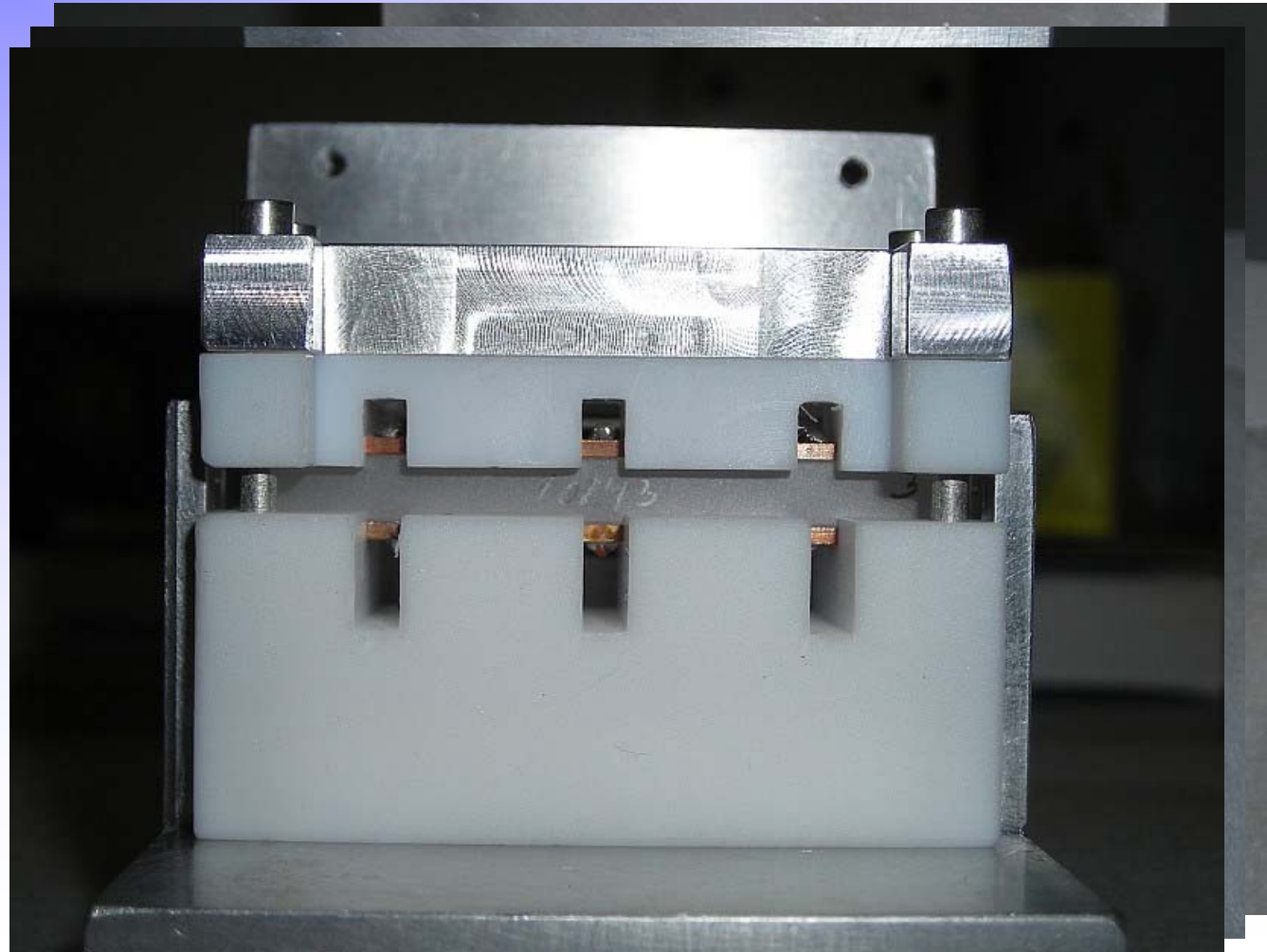
- Wedged crystal separates the polarizations and acts as a polarizer.
  - This avoids cavity effects and reduces amplitude modulation.

- AR coatings (< 0.1%) on crystal faces.

Polarization	Angle [degrees]
p	4.81
s	4.31



- Use one crystal but three separate pairs of electrodes to apply three different modulation frequencies at once.



- Separate the crystal housing from the housing of the electronic circuits to maintain maximum flexibility.

