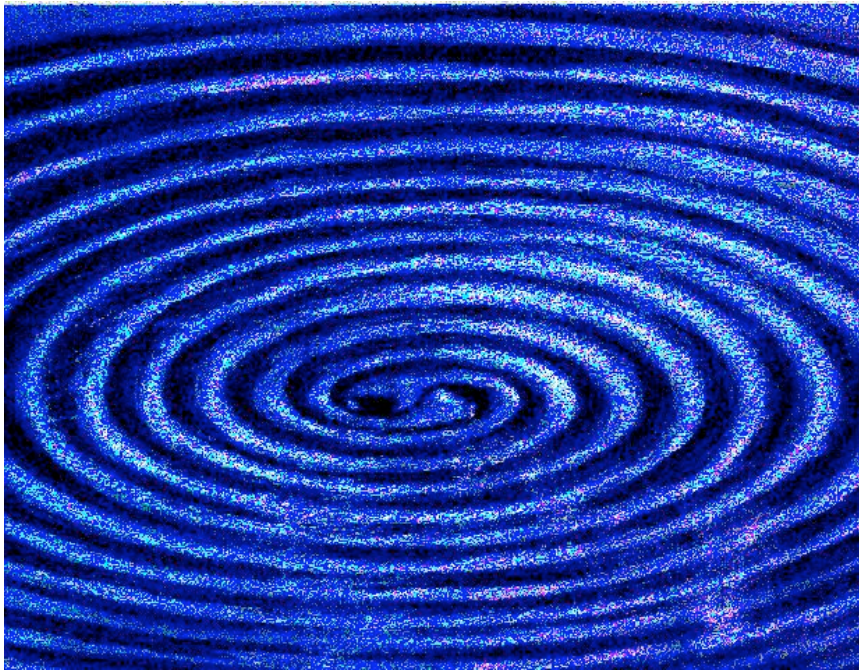




# The Physics of Interferometric Gravitational Wave Observatories



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*LIGO Laboratory, Caltech, Pasadena, CA 91125, USA*

**LIGO-G070862-00-R**



# Summary

- Using Long baseline interferometers such as LIGO, Virgo, GEO600 and TAMA GW observatories are poised to detect gravitational waves within the next decade.
- The underlying physical principles of these detectors will be discussed
- Some current upper limits will be presented.
- A variety of possibilities for a future generation of ground based interferometers will be discussed.



## General Relativity: “a theorist’s Paradise, but an experimentalist’s Hell”

C. Misner, K. S. Thorne and J.A Wheeler, *Gravitation* p. 1131 (1973)



AIP Emilio Segrè Visual Archives

- gravitational waves
- Convincing observational evidence for their existence not available until ~70 years after initial prediction (Binary Pulsar)
- After 90 years, direct detection still eludes us
- We may have a direct detection before the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their prediction

Who needs Paradise?



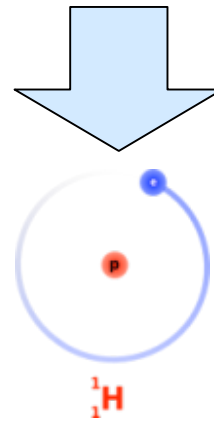
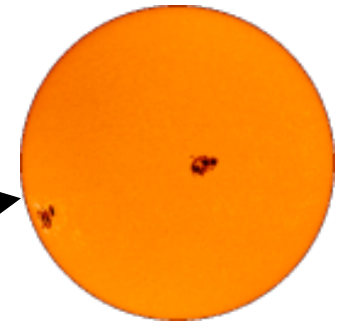
Effect of GW is extremely weak



Typical Event: 1.4 M NS- NS binary inspiral in Virgo cluster (@15Mpc)

$$h = \frac{\Delta x}{x} = -\frac{\Delta y}{y}$$

$$\longrightarrow h \sim 10^{-21}$$



Change by the diameter of a hydrogen atom



# Indirect evidence of gravitational radiation



Hulse



Taylor

Radio pulsar B1913+16

Periodic modulation

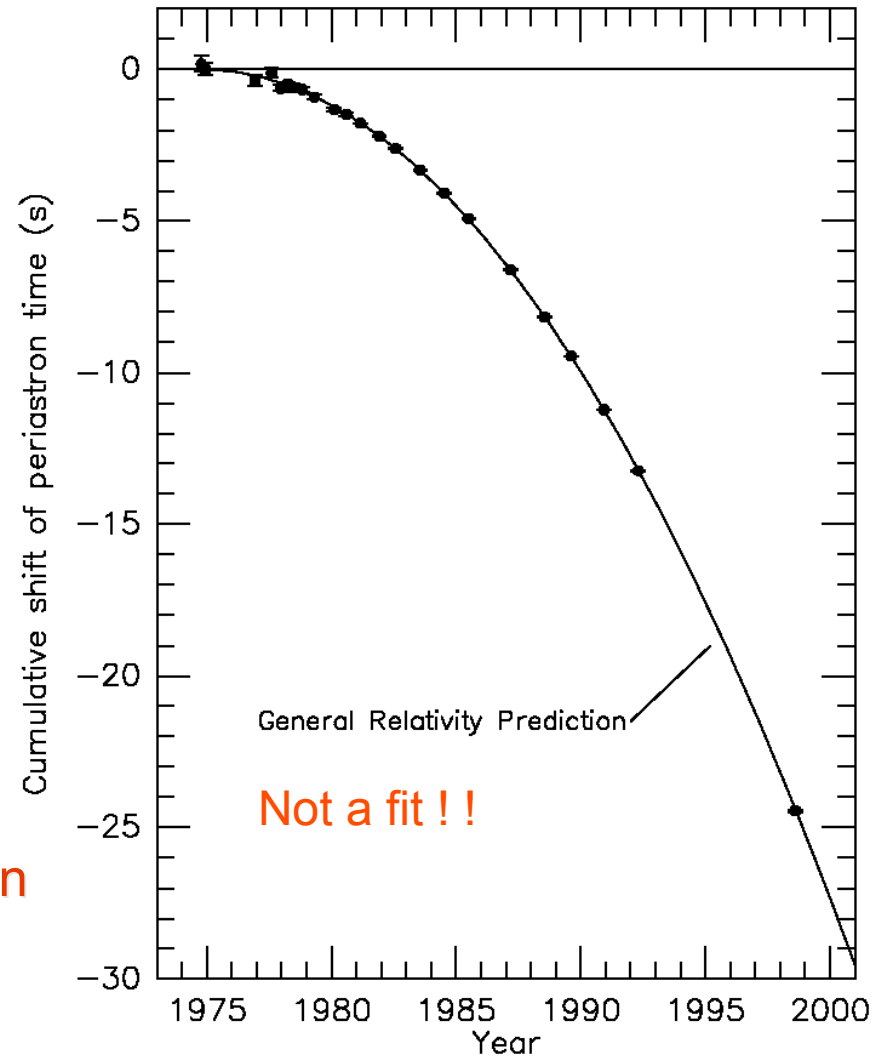
→ Binary neutron star

GW emission

→ Orbital decay

Perfect matching with the GR prediction

Nobel Prize in Physics, 1993



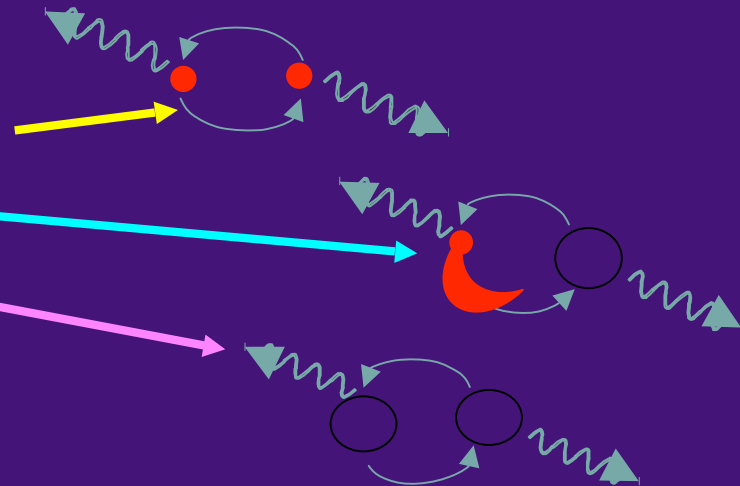
From J. H. Taylor and J. M. Weisberg, unpublished (1998)



# GW Sources Lurking in the Dark

## Two body merging systems

- Neutron star – Neutron star
- Black hole – Neutron star
- Black hole – Black hole



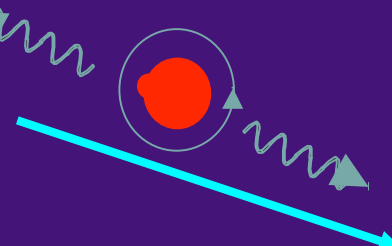
## Single frequency sources

- Rotating pulsars



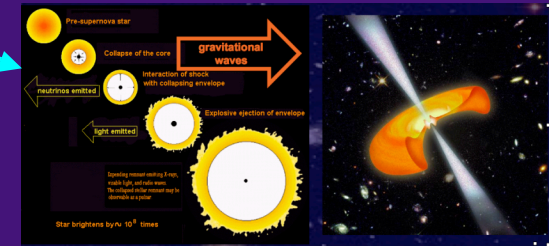
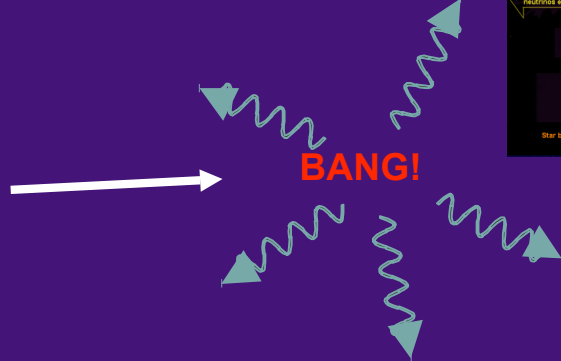
## “Burst” sources

- Supernovae (escaping NS)
- Gamma ray bursts (GRBs)
- ??????



## the Big Bang

- Stochastic background
- Cosmic Strings



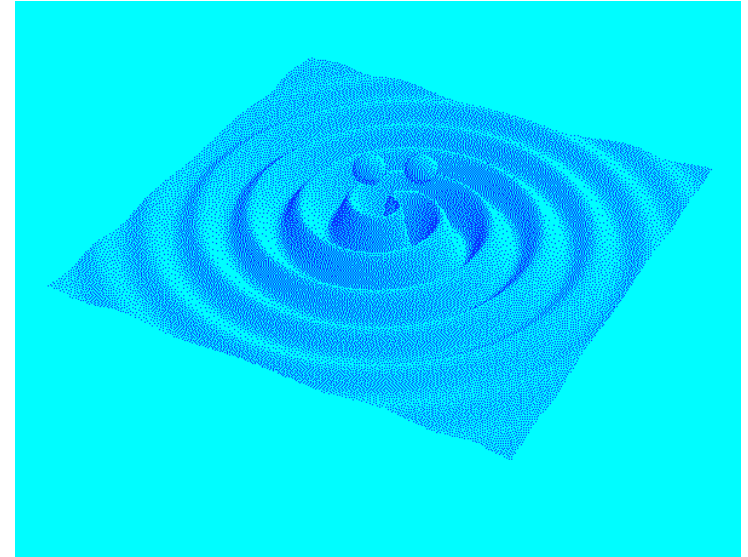


# A NEW WINDOW ON THE UNIVERSE

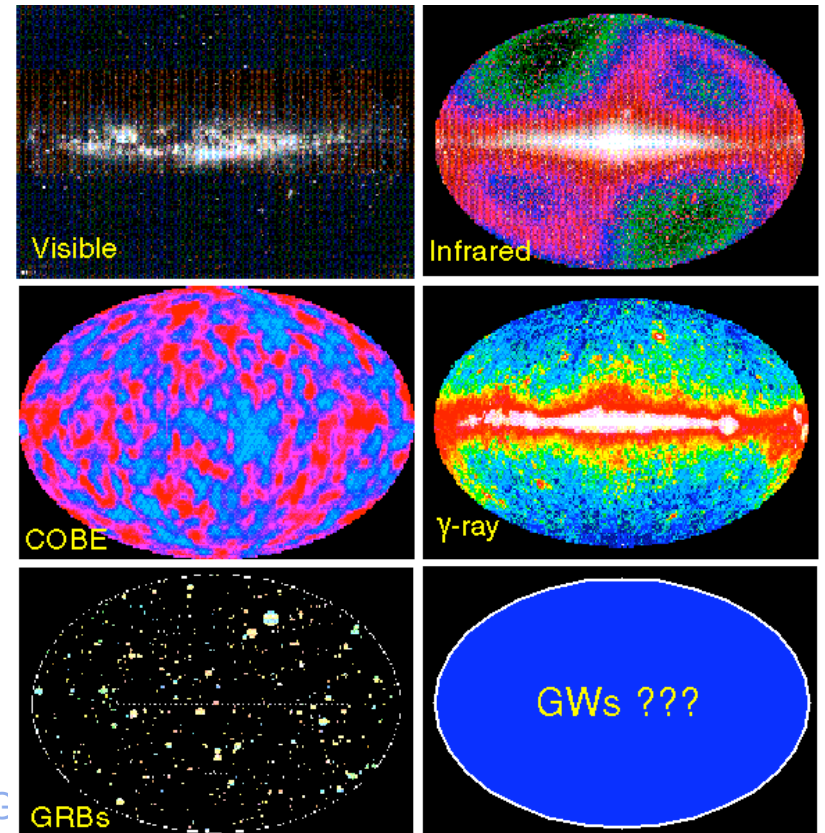
Electro-Magnetic Wave Observations

New wavelength → Discoveries

Gravitational Waves: Totally New  
(not even EMW)

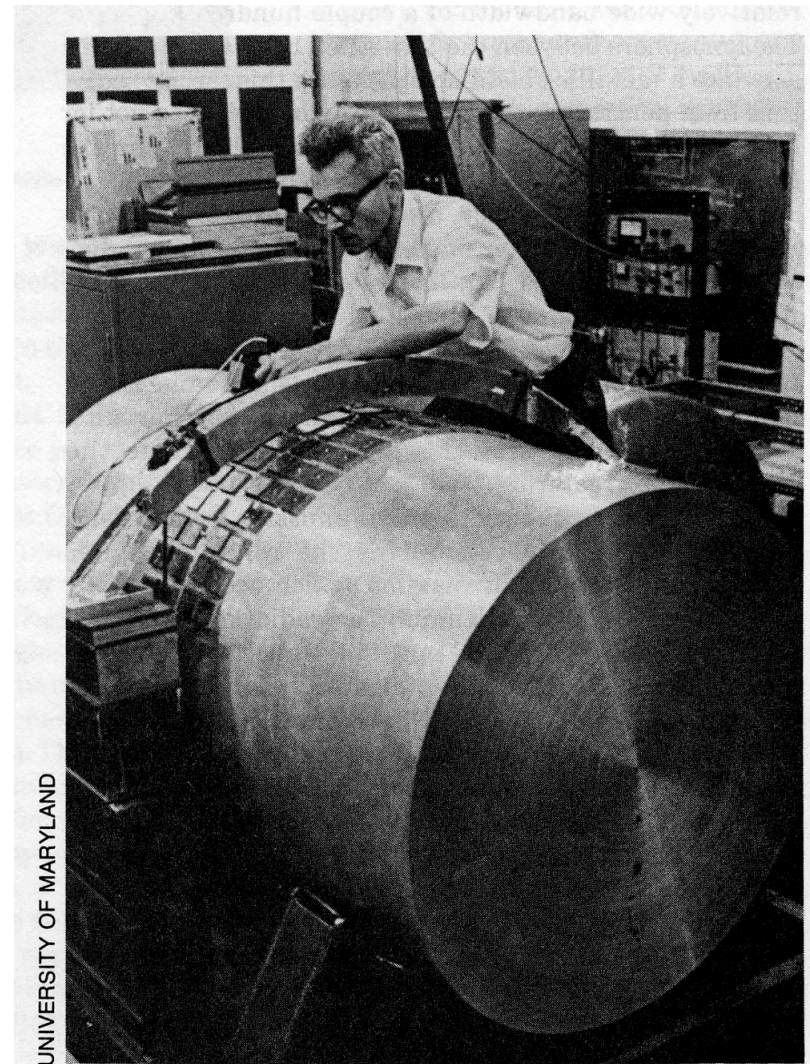
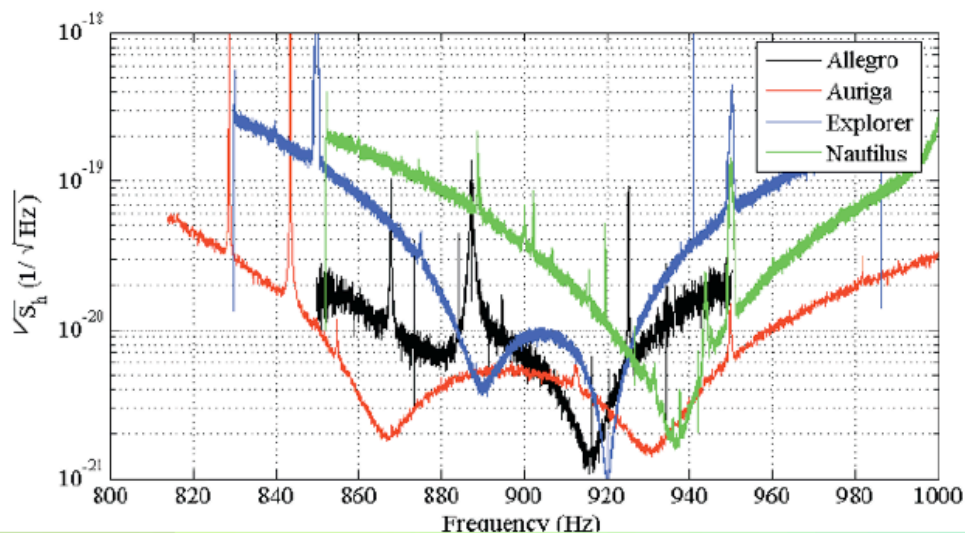


EM	GW
Motion of charged particles	Coherent motion of huge masses
Wavelength < source size (imageable)	Wavelength > source size (no image)
Absorbed, scattered, by matter	Almost no absorption, scattering
10MHz and up	10kHz and down



# First attempts Resonant Bar Detectors

- First ground-based detectors—the beginning of GW detection
  - Joseph Weber 1960's
- Bandwidth limited to the bar resonances

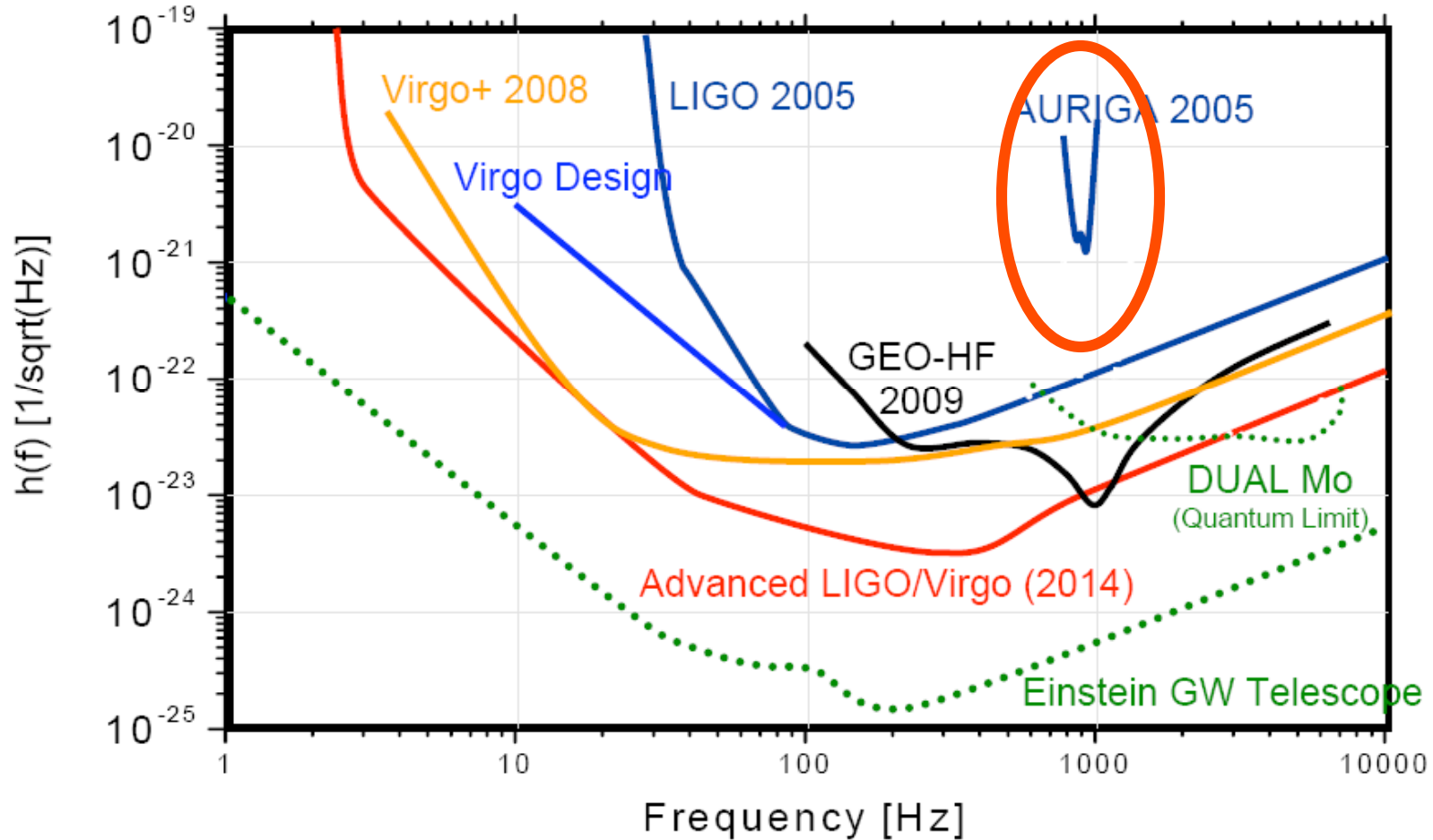


Joe Weber

Ground-based Gravitational Wave Detection: Now and Future



# Limitations of the Bar detectors



Harald Lück for the European Gravitational-Wave Community

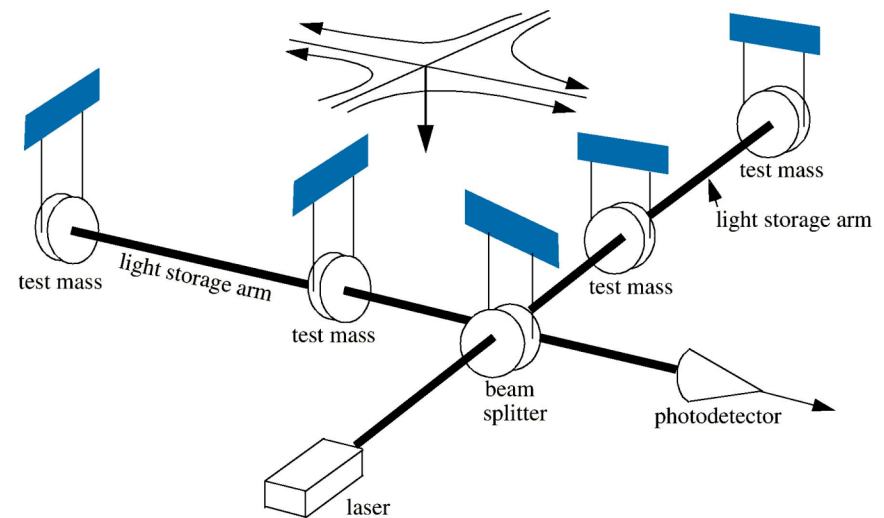


## Detecting GWs with Interferometry

Suspended mirrors act as “free-falling” test masses (in horizontal plane) for frequencies  $f \gg f_{\text{pend}}$

Terrestrial detector  
For  $h \sim 10^{-22} - 10^{-21}$   
 $L \sim 4 \text{ km}$  (LIGO)  
 $\Delta L \sim 10^{-18} \text{ m}$

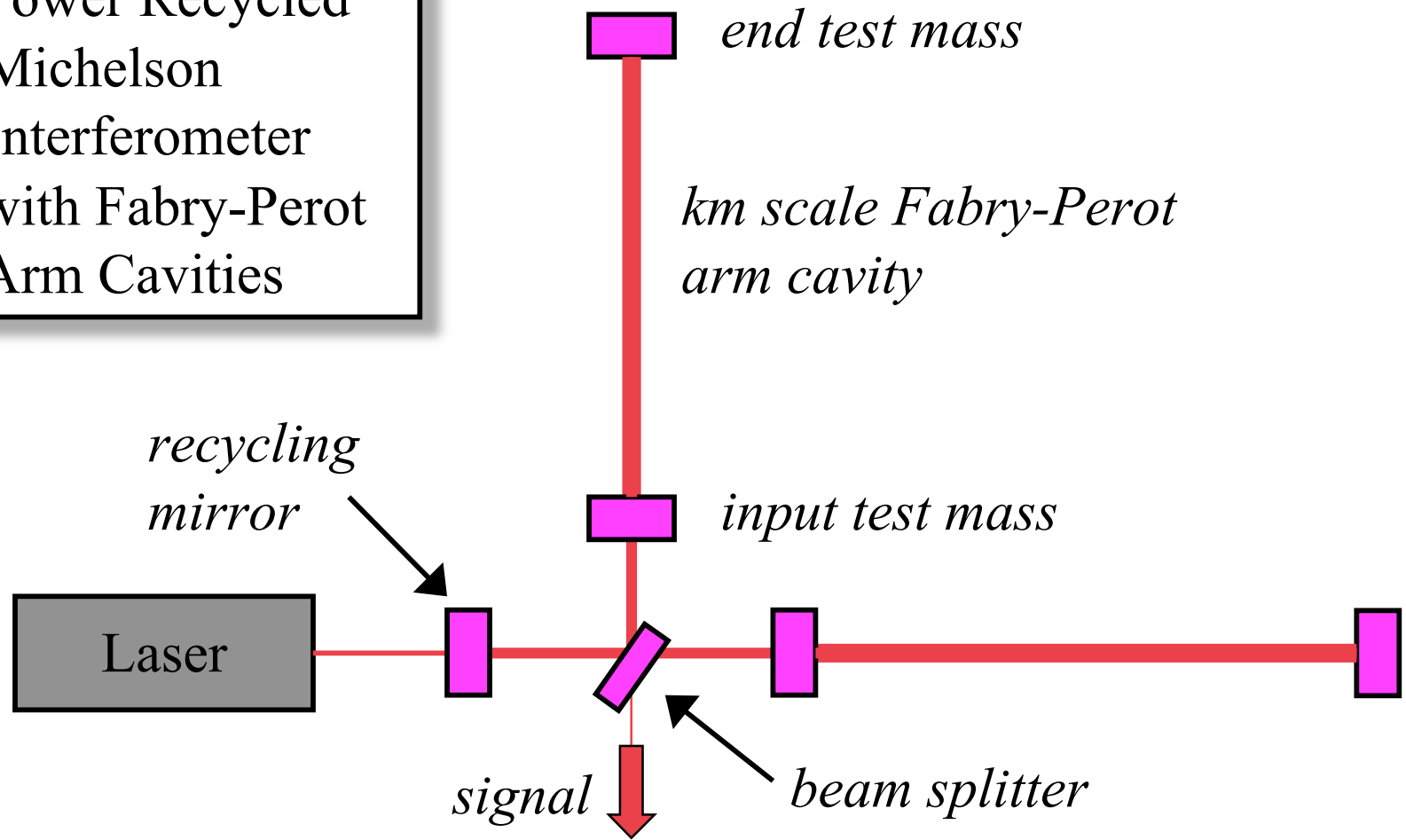
$$h = \Delta L / L$$





# Typical Optical Configuration

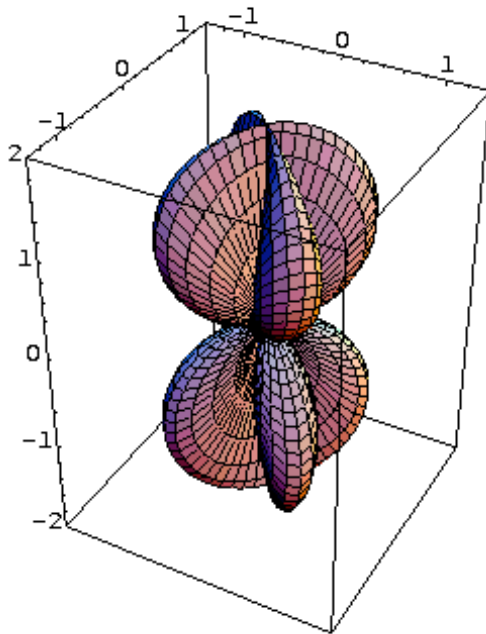
Power Recycled  
Michelson  
Interferometer  
with Fabry-Perot  
Arm Cavities



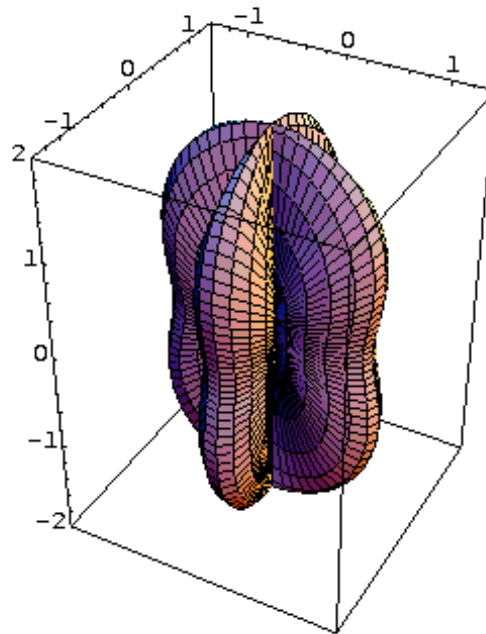
# An interferometer is not a telescope

- Sensitivity depends on propagation direction, polarization

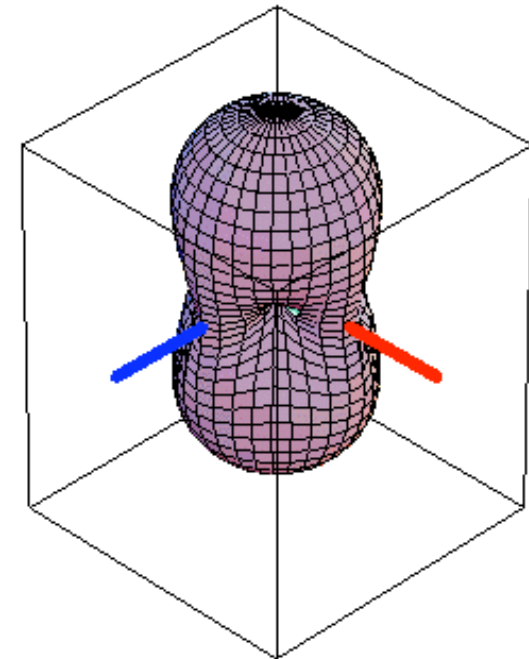
“X” polarization



“+” polarization



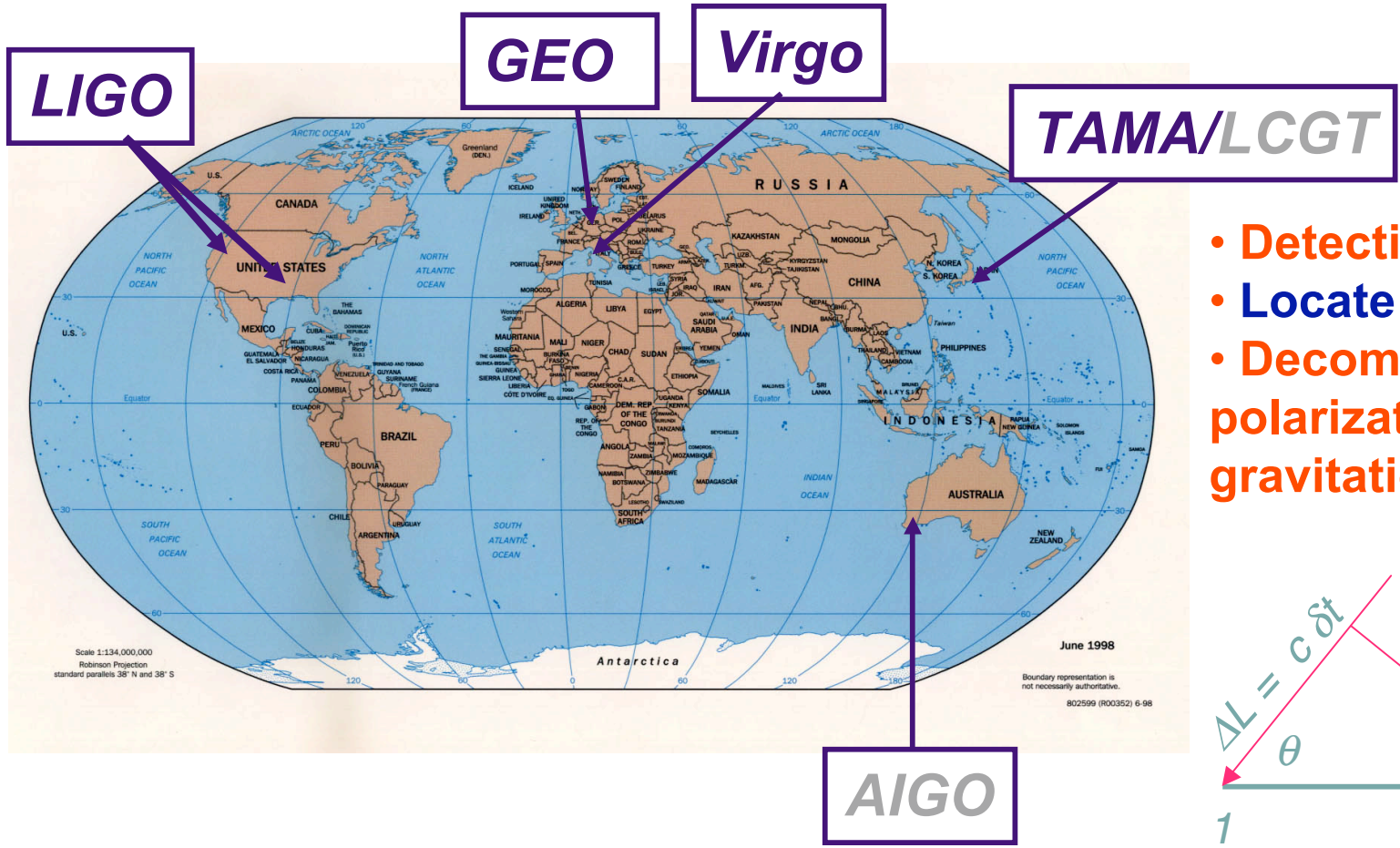
RMS sensitivity



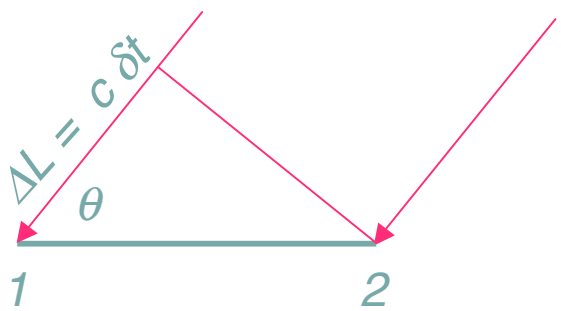
- Really a microphone!



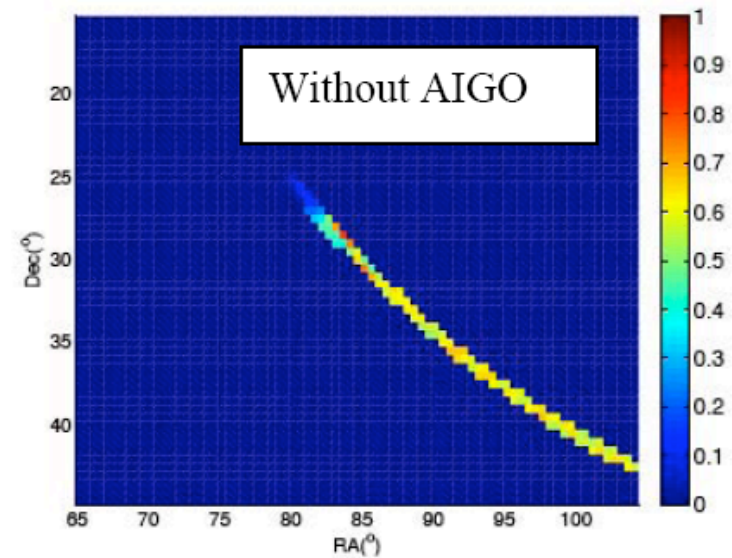
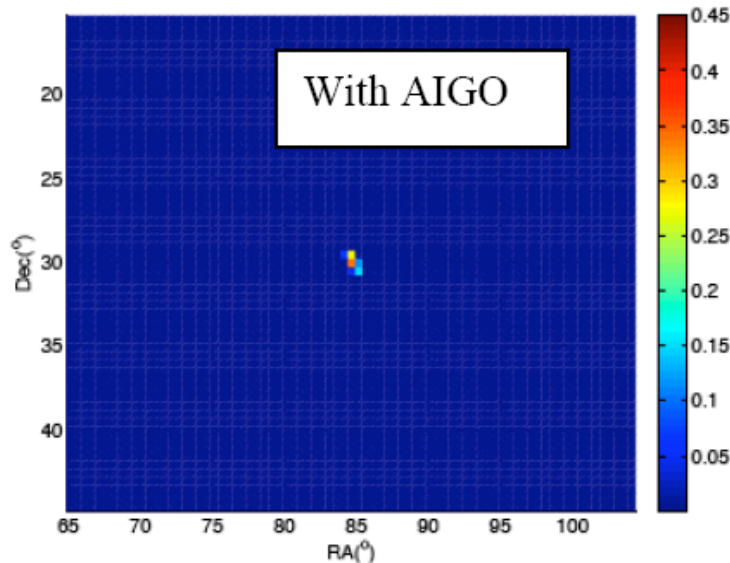
# A Global Network of Gravitational Wave Interferometers **necessary to point at the stars**



- **Detection confidence**
- **Locate sources**
- **Decompose the polarization of gravitational waves**



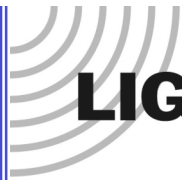
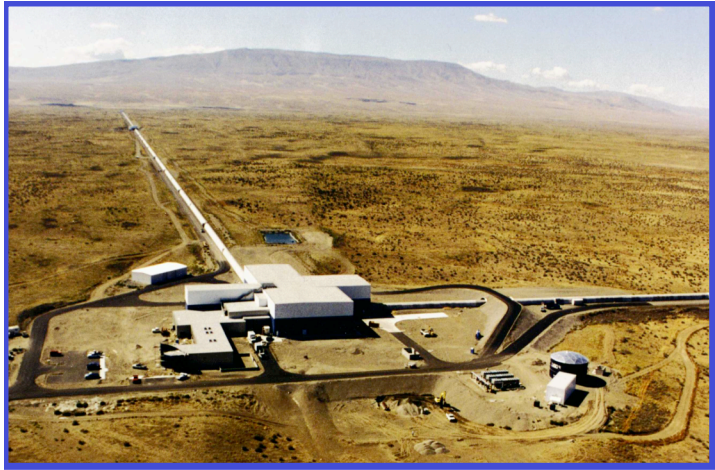
# Importance of a network



- Improvement of position sensitivity of present Network (Virgo-LIGO-GEO) with the addition of a Southern advanced GW interferometer
- It would provide strong science benefits e.g. host galaxy localization

*David Coward and David Blair*

LIGO-G070862-00-R Miami 2007



# LIGO LIGO

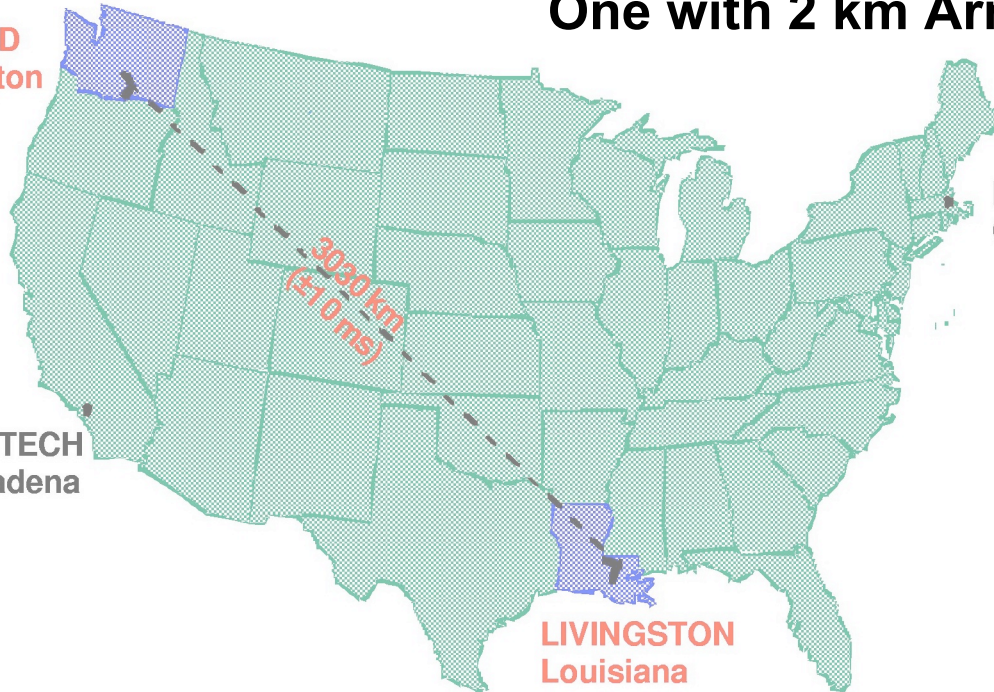
(Laser Interferometer  
Gravitational-wave Observatory)



**Hanford**  
One interferometer  
with 4 km Arms,  
One with 2 km Arms

**HANFORD**  
Washington

**CALTECH**  
Pasadena

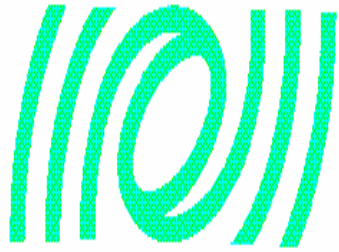


**LIVINGSTON**  
Louisiana

**MIT**  
Cambridge

**Livingston**  
One interferometer  
with 4 km Arms





# Virgo

**One interferometer  
with 3 km arms,  
located near Pisa**

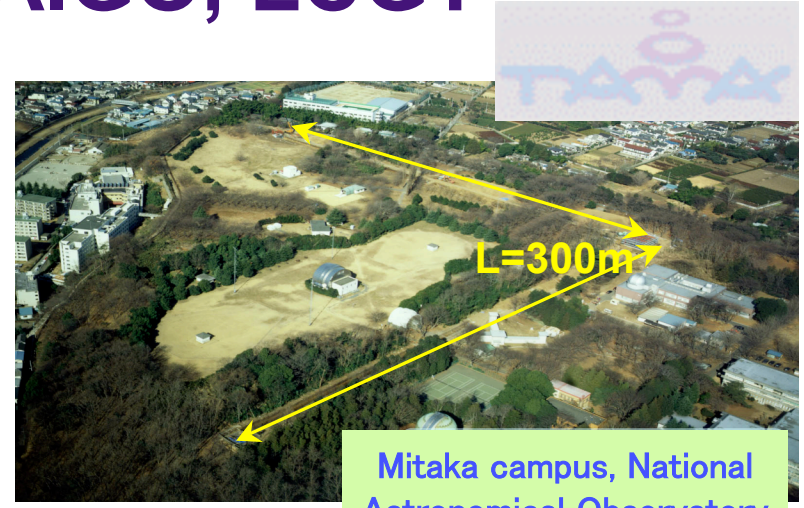




# GEO600, TAMA, AIGO, LCGT



**GEO 600 m arms,  
located near Hannover  
Germany**



**TAMA 300 m Fabry Perot arms,  
located in Mitaka, near Tokyo**

**LCGT (proposal only)  
3000 m Fabry Perot arms,  
to be located in Kamioka mine  
Japan**



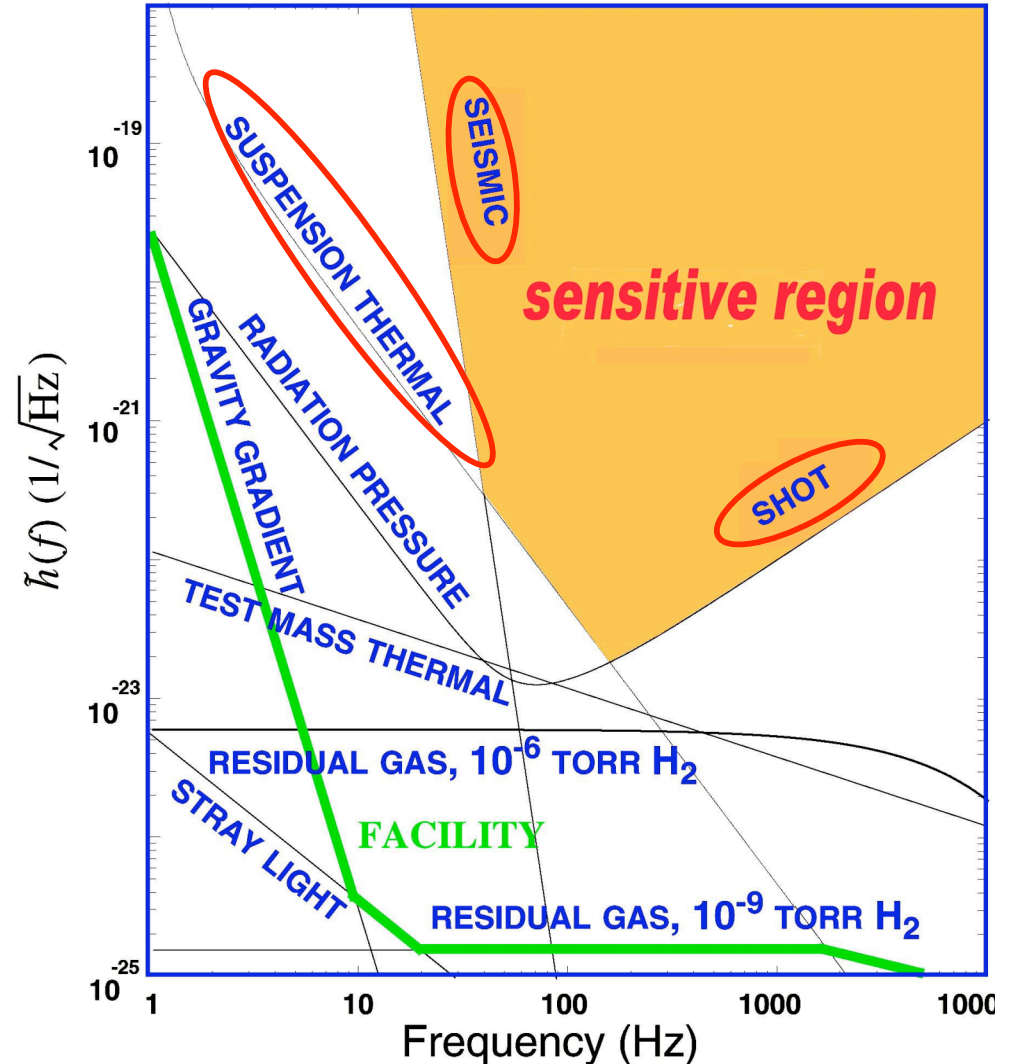
**AIGO  
80 m interferometer test facility  
8km x 8 km site 70 km N of Perth**

LIGO-G070862-00-R MIAMI 2007



# Sensitivity limitations

- fundamental noise sources
  - Shot noise
  - Mirror thermal noise
  - Suspension thermal noise
  - Newtonian noise/gravity gradi
    - (fluctuation of verticality of g!)
- But also technical noises
  - Seismic noise
  - Control noise

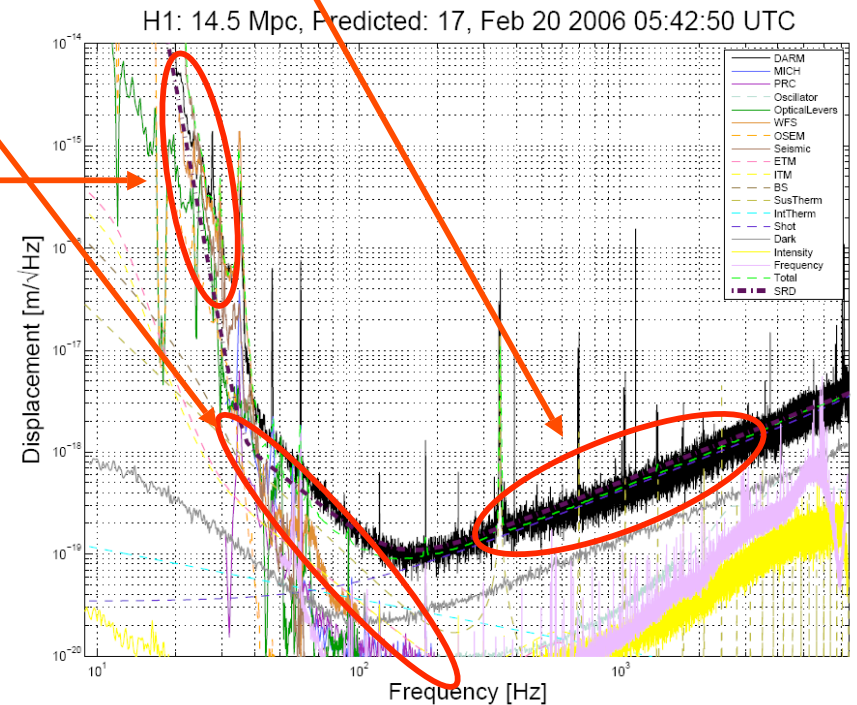




# Sensitivity limitations

- All fundamental noise sources in advanced detectors

- Shot noise
- Mirror thermal noise
- Suspension thermal noise
- Newtonian noise
  - (fluctuation of verticality of g!)
- But also technical noises
- Seismic noise
- Control noise





# Thermal Noise

Thermal vibration of the molecules of mirror / suspension material

## Fluctuation Dissipation Theorem

Mechanical loss  $\longleftrightarrow$  Connection to the heat bath  $\longrightarrow$  Thermal fluctuation of mirror surface

High mechanical quality mirror substrate / coating materials

Low mechanical loss suspension fibers  
Fused silica fibers with silica bonding

### Other challenges for mirrors

#### Large mirror (40kg):

- large beam size (average out thermal fluctuations)
- Small radiation pressure noise

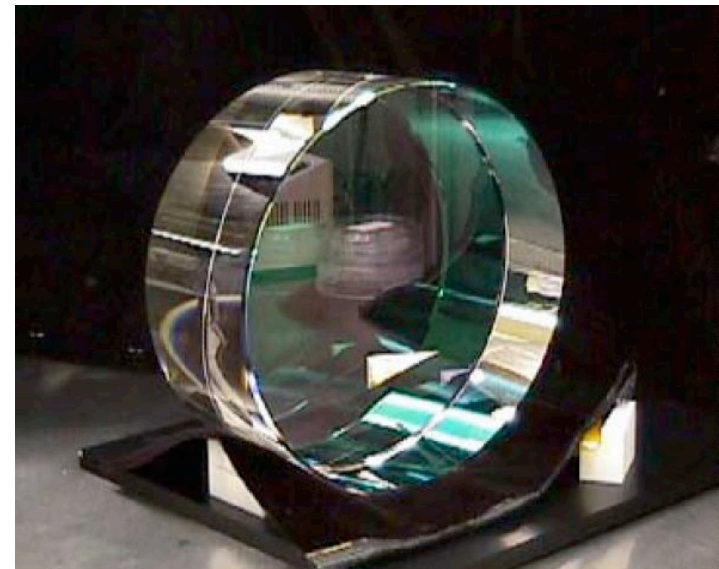
#### Precision manufacturing/metrology:

- Large radius of curvature
- Smooth polishing ( $<0.1$  nm RMS micro roughness)

#### Optical Absorption:

- Optical loss  $< 0.5$  ppm/cm
- Thermal lensing compensation system

Fused silica mirror





# Thermal Noise

Thermal vibration of the molecules of mirror / suspension material

## Fluctuation Dissipation Theorem

Mechanical loss  $\longleftrightarrow$  Connection to the heat bath  $\longrightarrow$  Thermal fluctuation of mirror surface

High mechanical quality mirror substrate / coating materials

Low mechanical loss suspension fibers  
Fused silica fibers with silica bonding

Fused silica mirror

### Metrology: Phase Maps

#### Other challenges for mirrors

##### Large mirror (40kg):

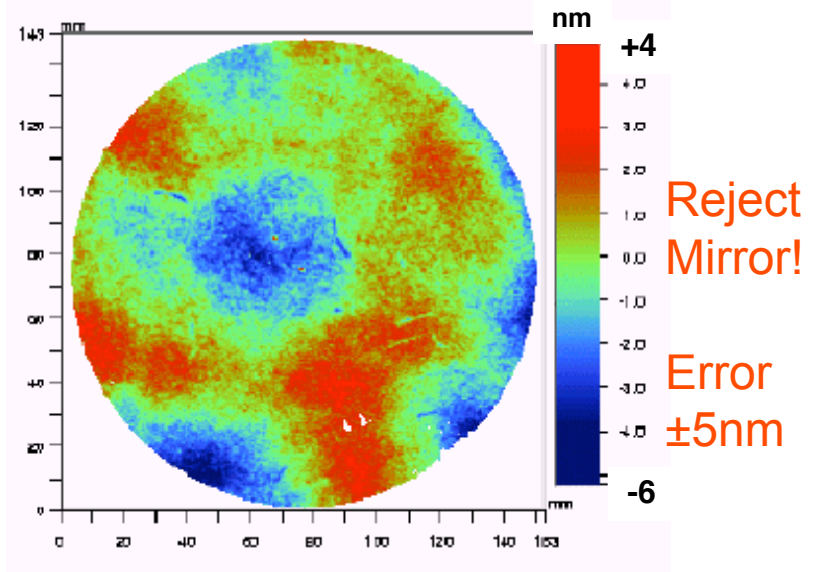
- large beam size (average out thermal fluctuations)
- Small radiation pressure noise

##### Precision manufacturing/metrology:

- Large radius of curvature
- Smooth polishing (<0.1nm RMS micro roughness)

##### Optical Absorption:

- Optical loss < 0.5 ppm/cm, <0.25 ppm/pass
- Thermal lensing compensation system



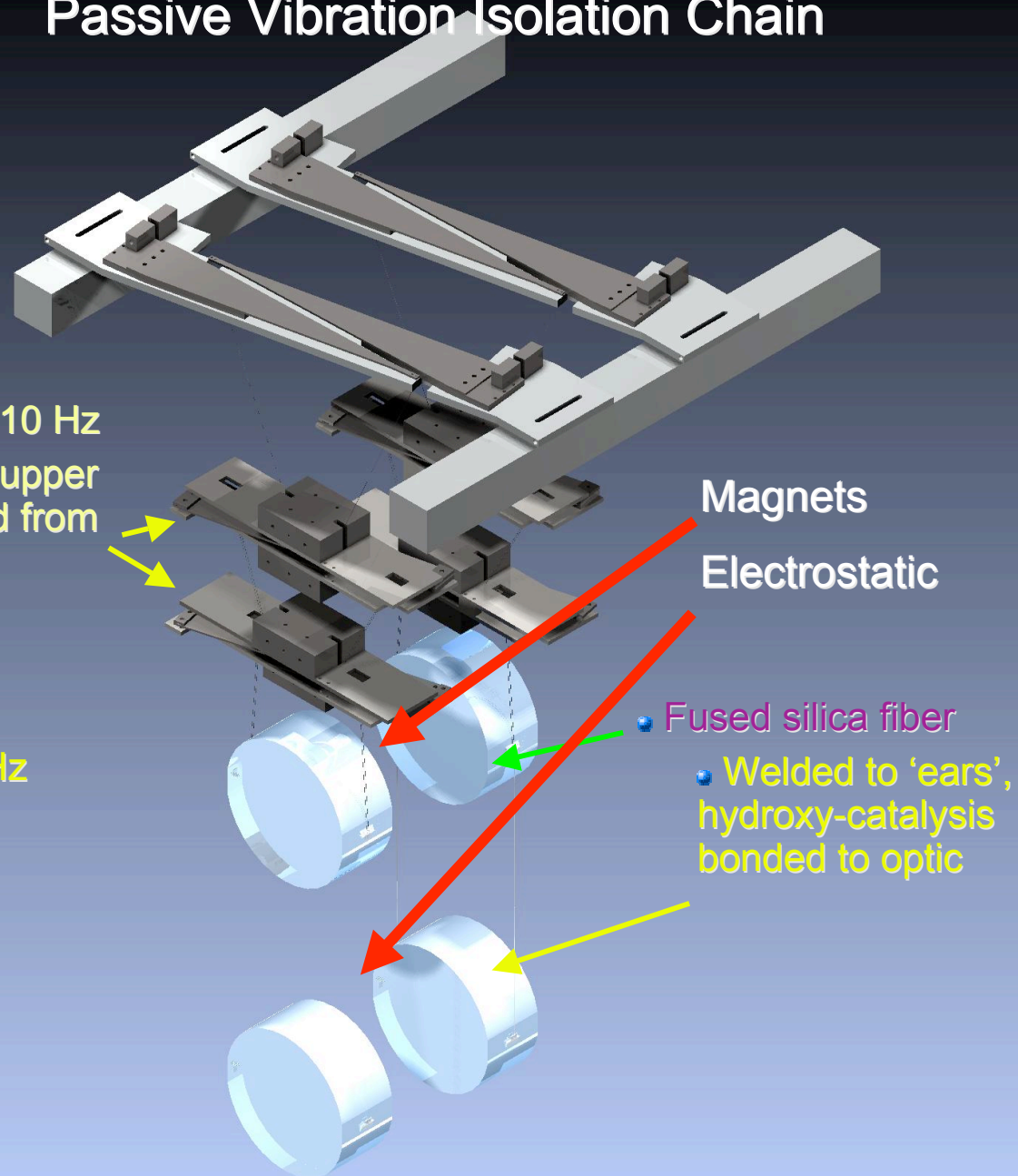
# Passive Vibration Isolation Chain

- 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



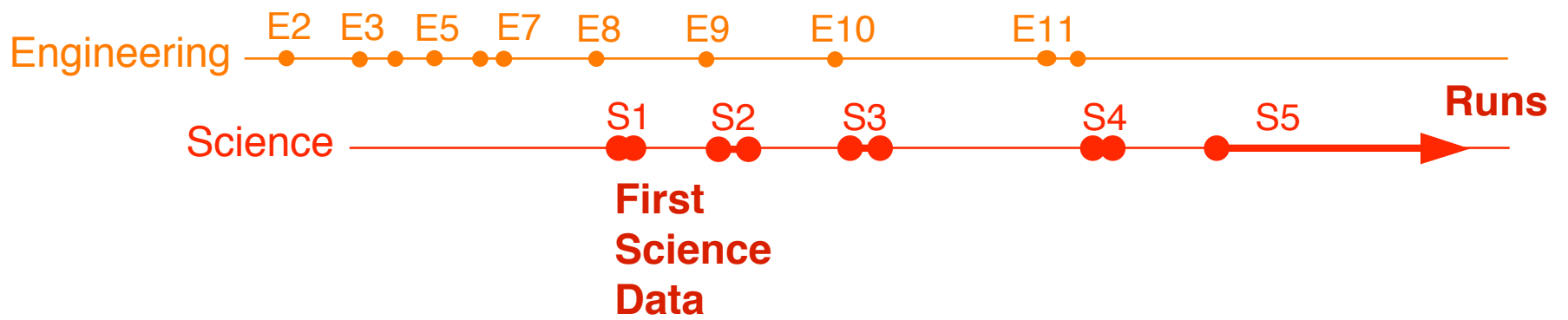
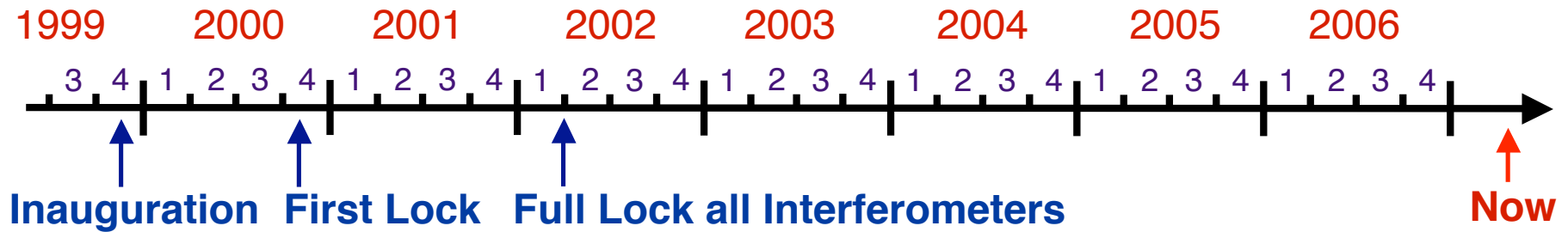


# Complex instruments

- Complex to build
- Very complex to commission and tune



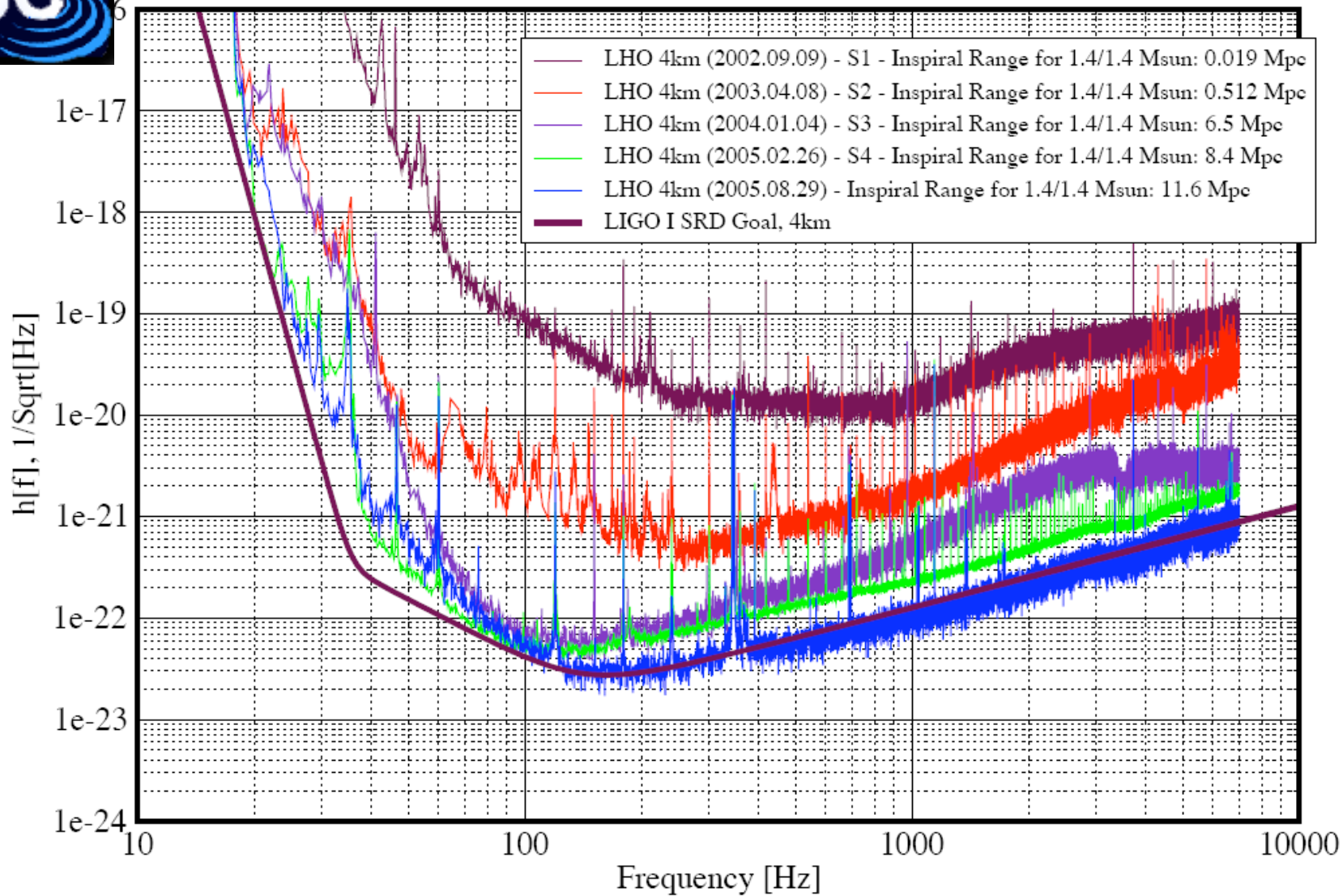
# LIGO History

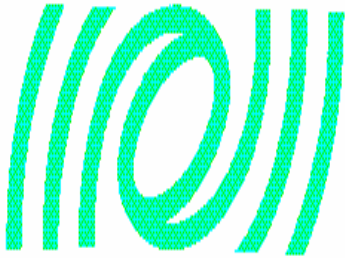




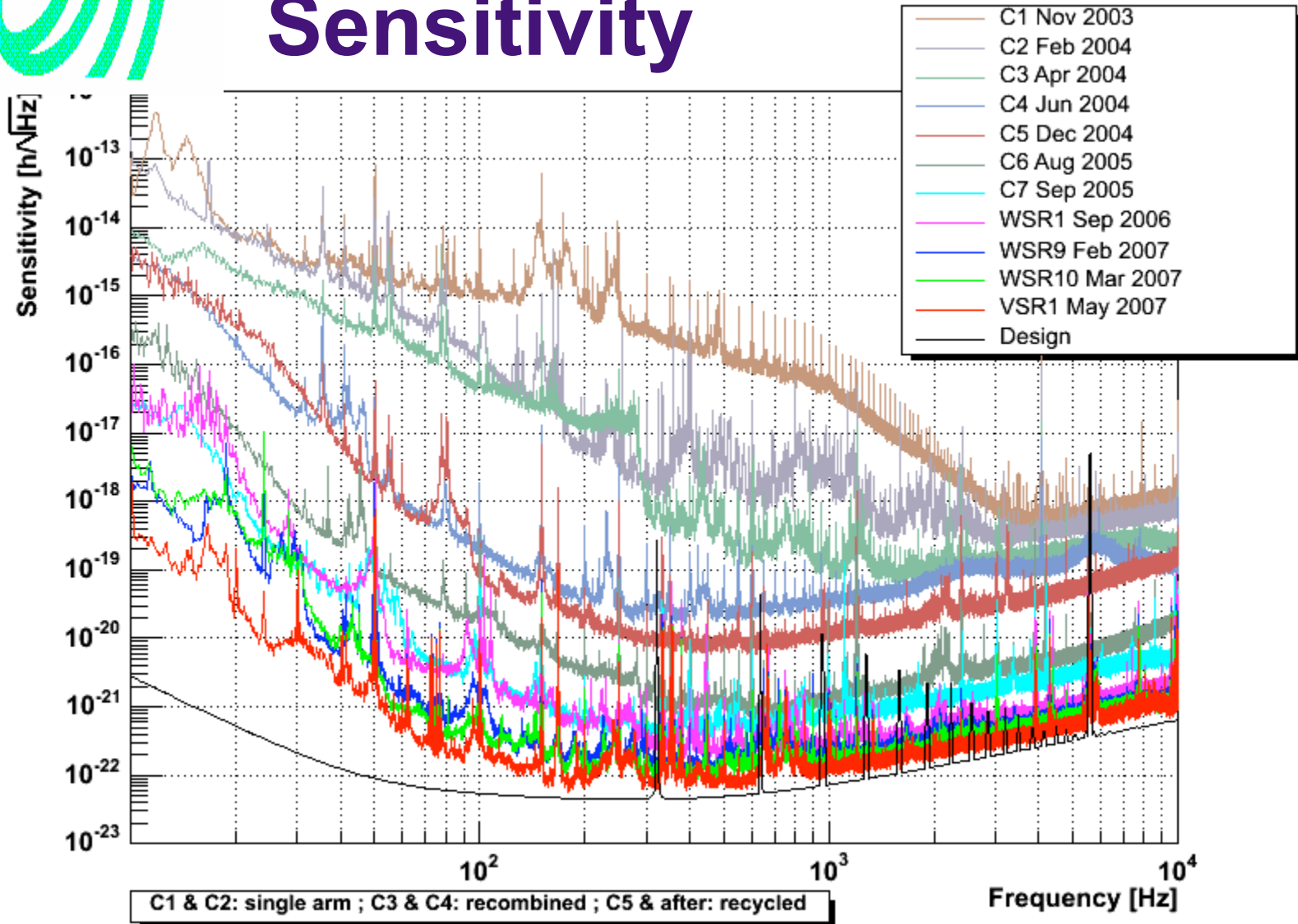


# Progress of LIGO Sensitivity



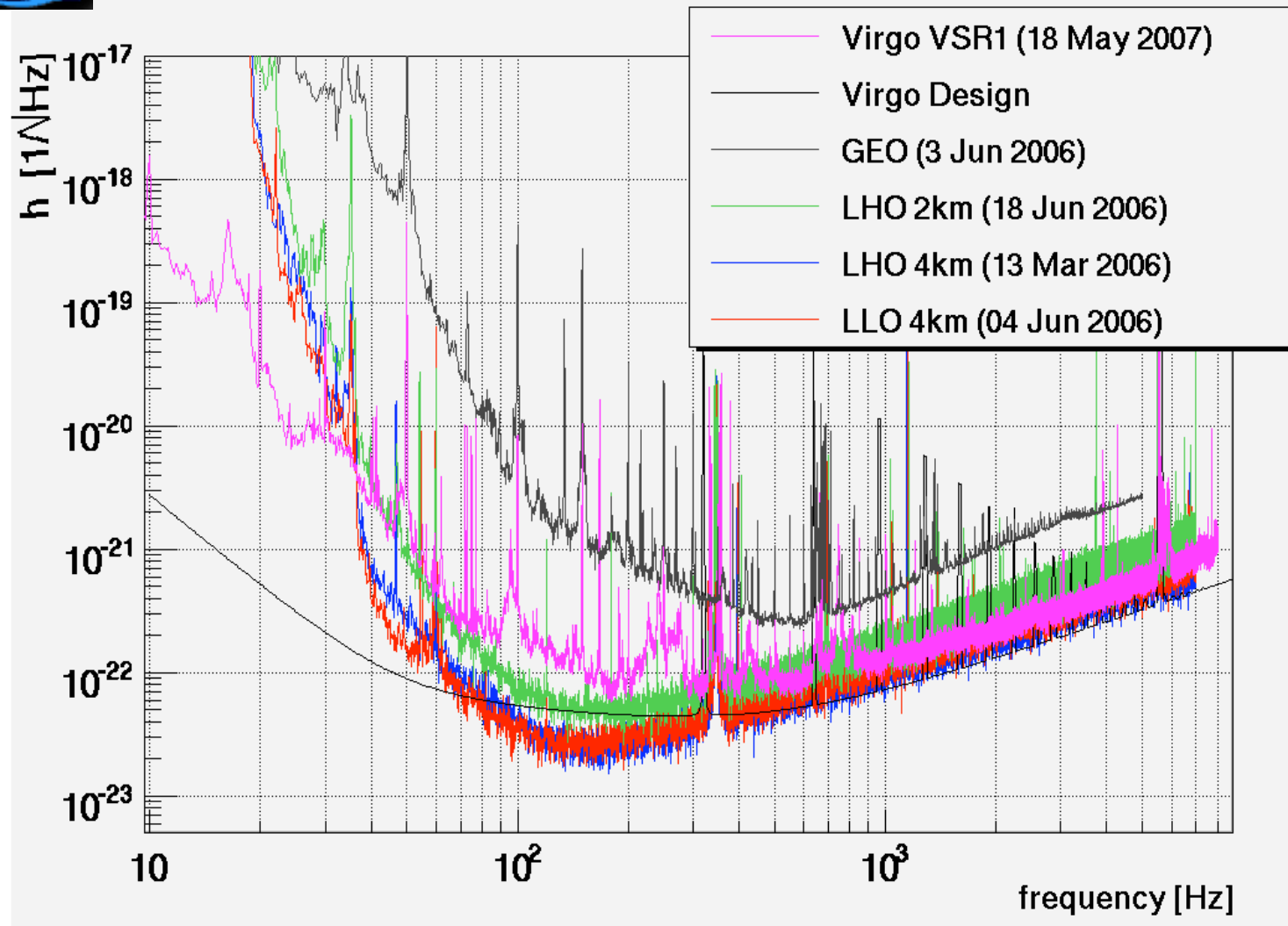


# Progress of Virgo Sensitivity





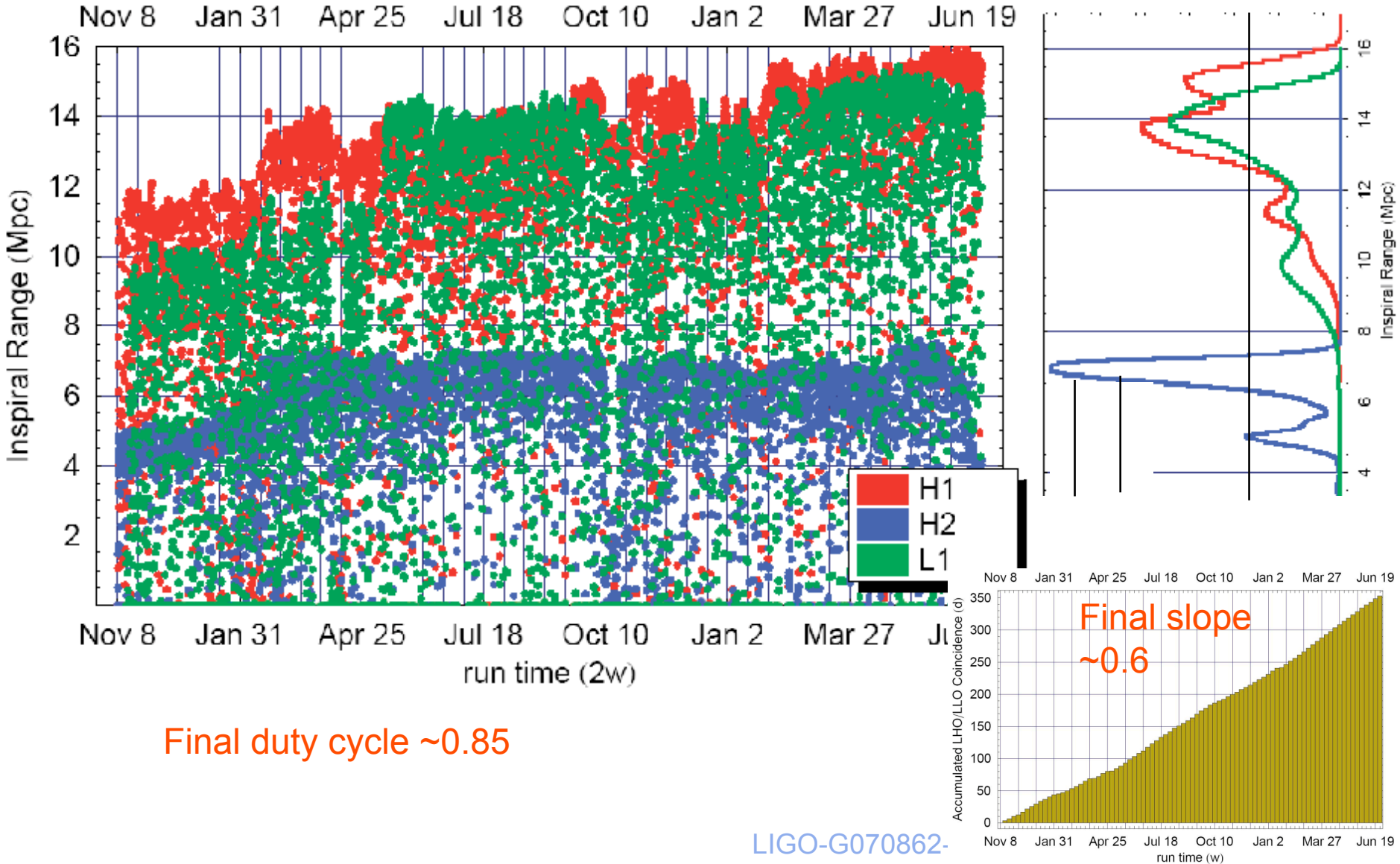
# Present Network Sensitivity





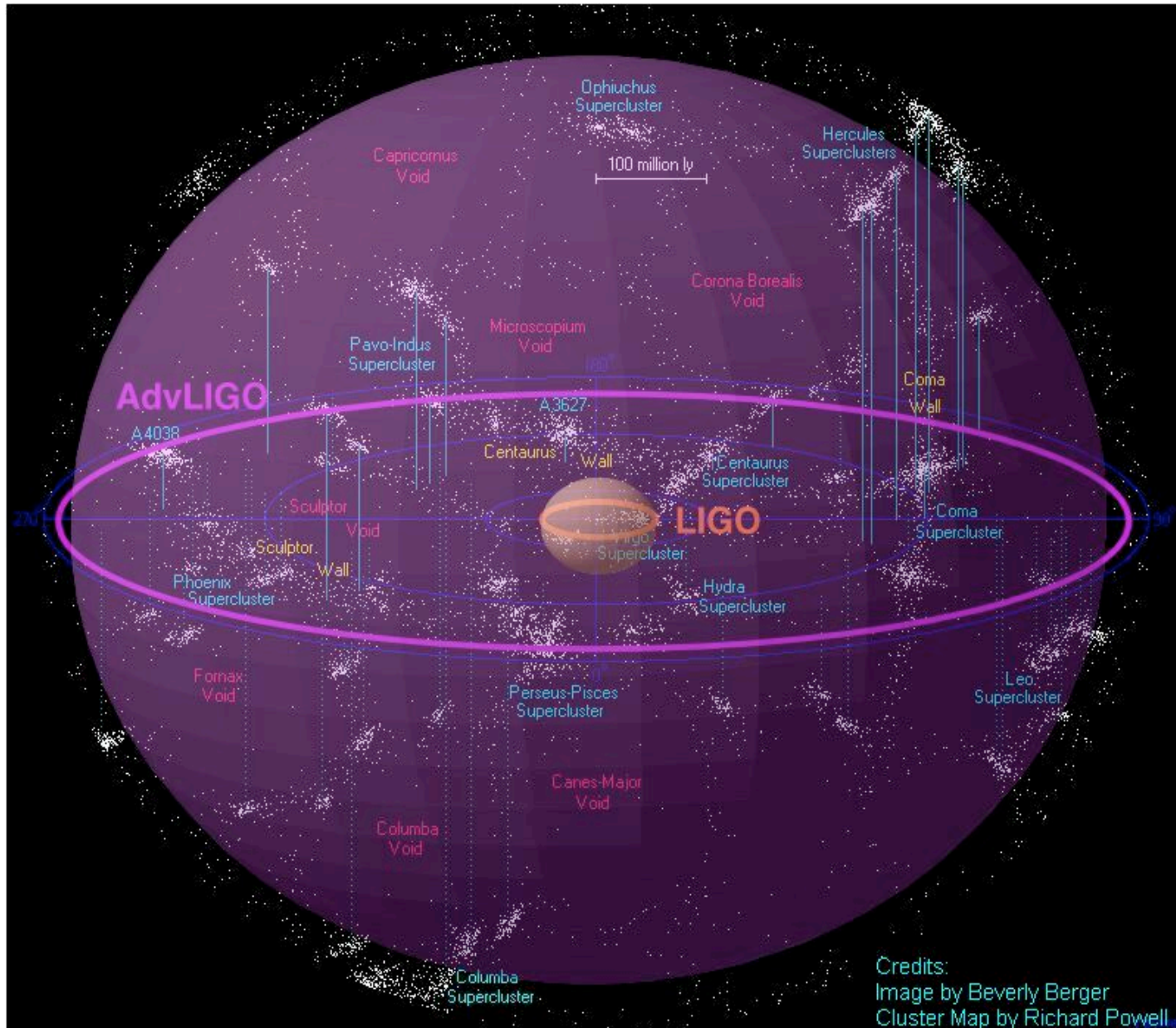
- Observatories need to Observe
  - Sensitivity / Covered Reach
  - Duty factor

# Duty Factor for S5





# Astrophysical Reach of Advanced LIGO



Credits:  
Image by Beverly Berger  
Cluster Map by Richard Powell



# Have we detected a gravitational wave yet?

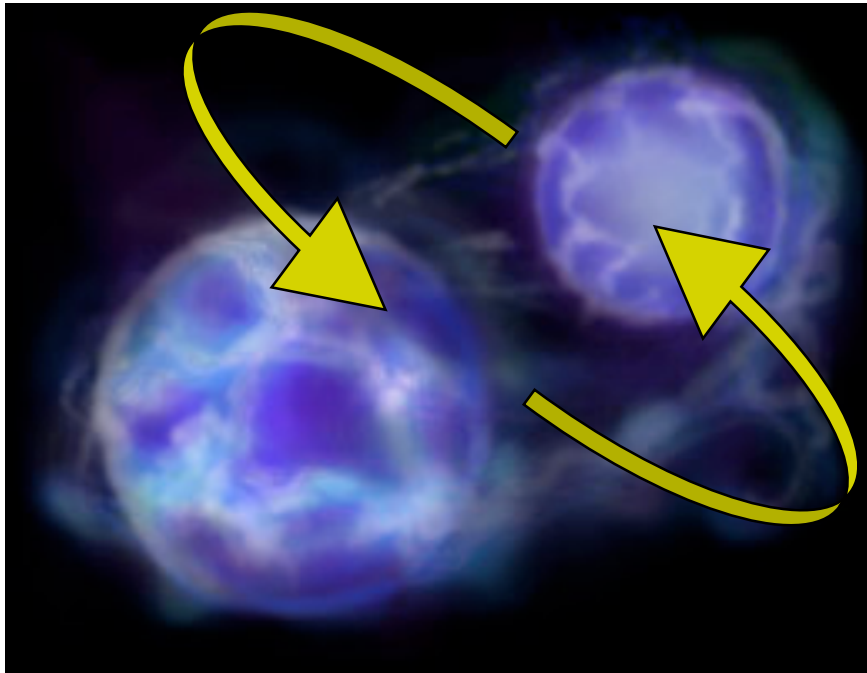
- No, not yet.
- When will we detect a gravitational wave?
- “Predictions are difficult, especially about the future” (Yogi Berra)
- Nonetheless...
  - Enhanced LIGO
    - 2009-2010
    - Most probable event rate is 1 per 6 years for NS/NS inspirals
  - Advanced LIGO
    - 2015-beyond
    - Rates are much better
- In the meantime, we set upper limits on rates from various sources



## Some recent results from LIGO

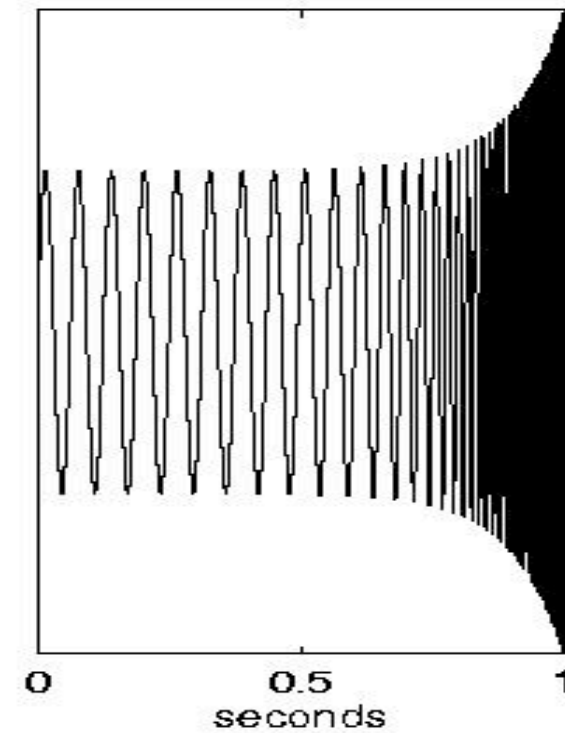


# Neutron-star binary systems



*Credit: Jillian Bornak*

## Frequency Chirp



Credit:

<http://www.srl.caltech.edu/lisa/graphics/master.html>



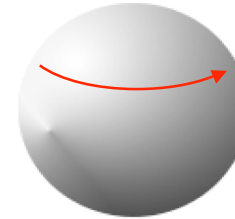
## Inspirals

- Nothing to show so far
  - Expected probability with current sensitivity  
~ few percent / per year
  - Wait for advanced detectors

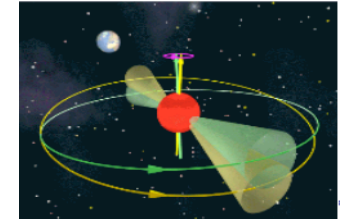


# Status of pulsar GW searches

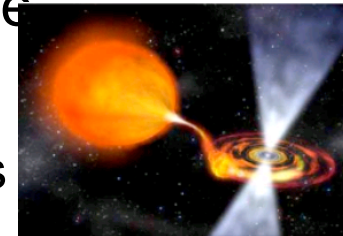
- Rapidly spinning neutron stars provide a potential source of continuous gravitational waves
- To emit gravitational waves they must have some degree of non-axisymmetry
  - Triaxial deformation due to elastic stresses or magnetic fields
  - Free precession about axis
  - Fluid modes e.g. r-modes
- Size of distortions can reveal information about the neutron star equation of state



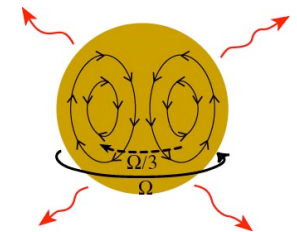
“Mountain” on neutron star



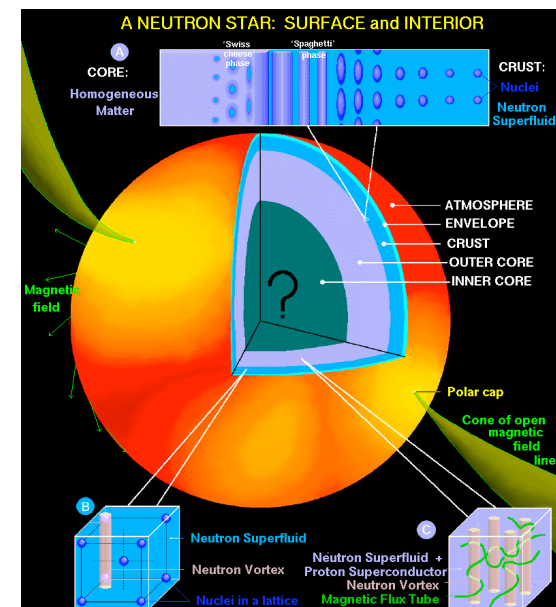
Wobbling neutron star

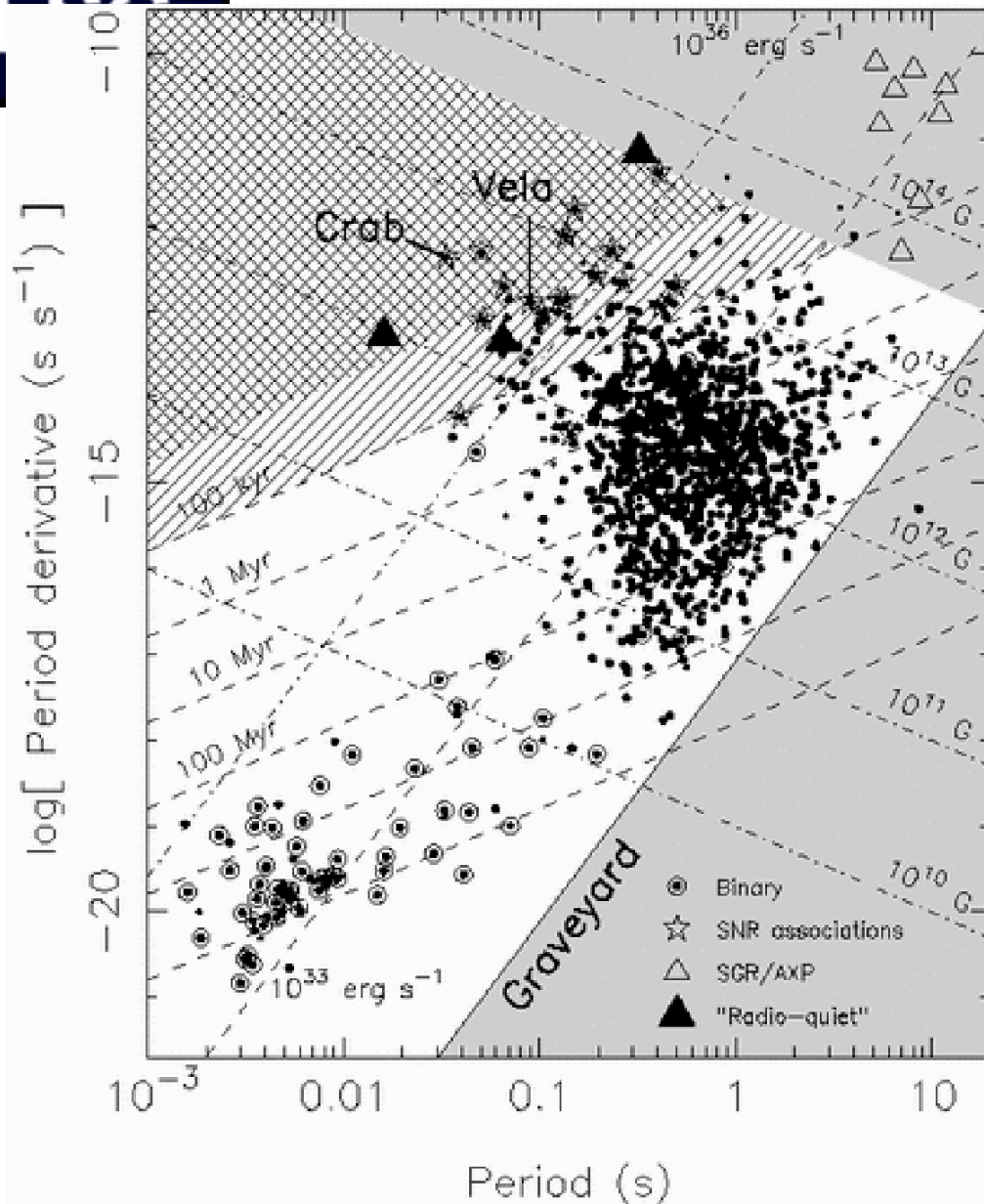


Accreting neutron star



R-modes





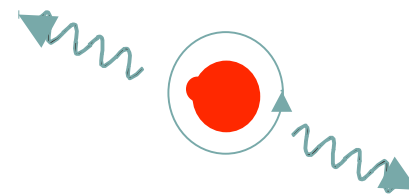
Taken from "Handbook of Pulsar Astronomy" by Lorimer & Kramer

## Pulsar Search

Rapidly rotating neutron stars  
Emitting radio waves

Many more lurking in the dark

May emit GW if elliptic  
or have mountains



$I_{zz}$ : Principal moment of inertia

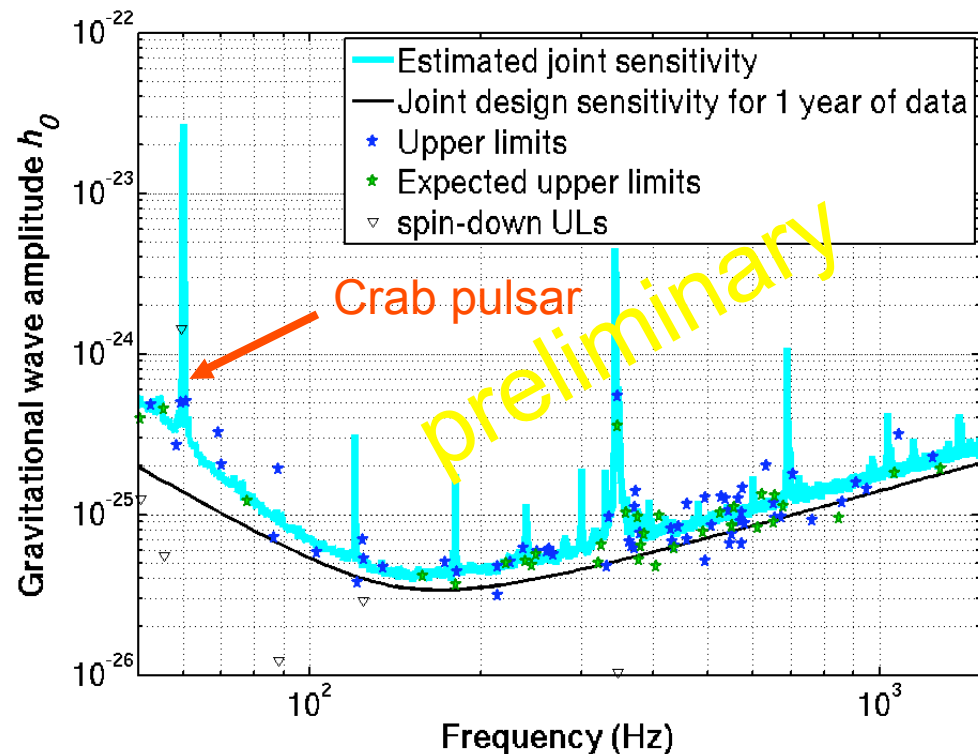
$\epsilon$ : Equatorial ellipticity

$$h_0 = \frac{16 \pi^2 G}{c^4} \frac{\epsilon I_{zz} v^2}{r}$$



# Searches for Periodic Signals from Known Radio/X-ray Pulsars

- Use **demodulation**, correcting for motion of detector
  - Doppler frequency shift, amplitude modulation from antenna pattern
- *S5 preliminary* results (using first 13 months of data):
  - 97 Pulsars scanned
  - Placed limits on strain  $h_0$  and equatorial ellipticity  $\varepsilon$
  - $\varepsilon$  limits as low as  $\sim 10^{-7}$
  - Crab pulsar: LIGO limit on GW emission is now **below** upper limit inferred from spindown rate





# Beating the Spin Down Upper Limit for the Crab Pulsar

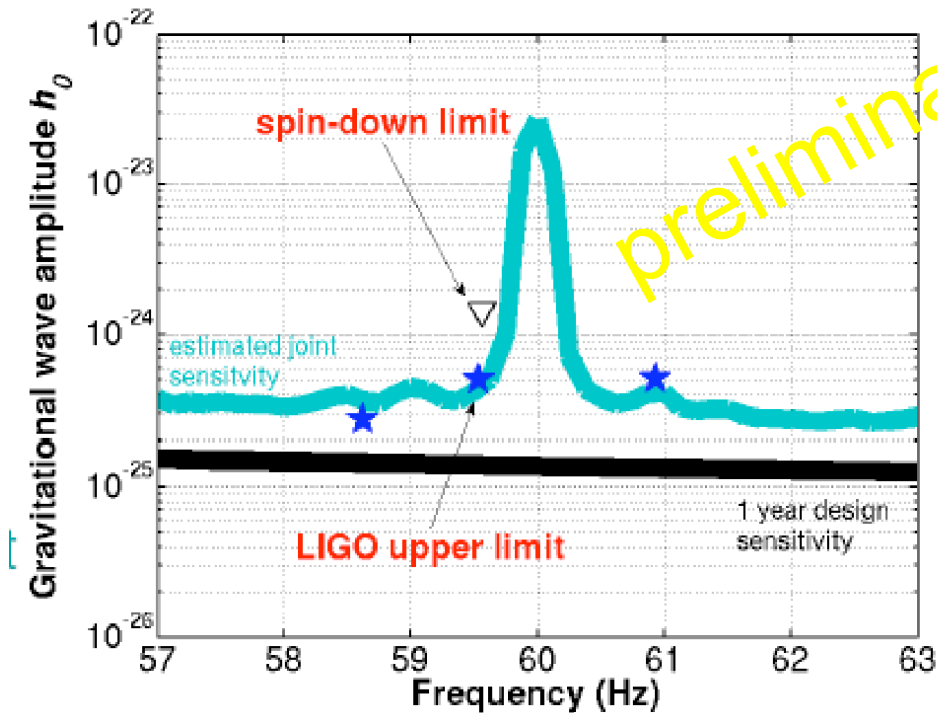
Assume energy dissipation is solely due to GW emission.

$$h_0^{\text{spin down}} = \left( \frac{5 G I_{zz} \dot{\nu}}{2 c^3 r^2 \nu} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad h_0 < 1.4 \times 10^{-24}$$

Current upper limit from LIGO S5 data (up to Aug. 23 2006)

$$\epsilon < 2.6 \times 10^{-4}, h_0 < 5.0 \times 10^{-25}$$

Beat the spin down limit by a factor of **2.9**



# Short Duration GRBs



Fox, et al., Nature 437, 845 (2005)

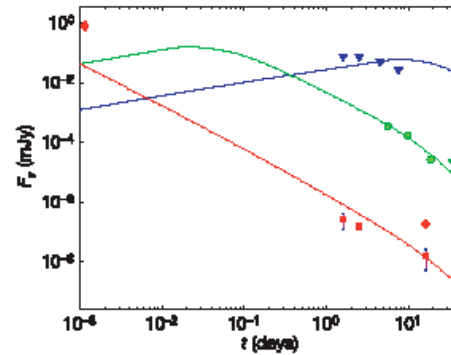


Figure 3 | Observations of the GRB 050709 afterglow and illustrative models. The X-ray (red), optical (green) and radio (blue) data taken from

Gehrels, et al., Nature 437, 851 (2005)

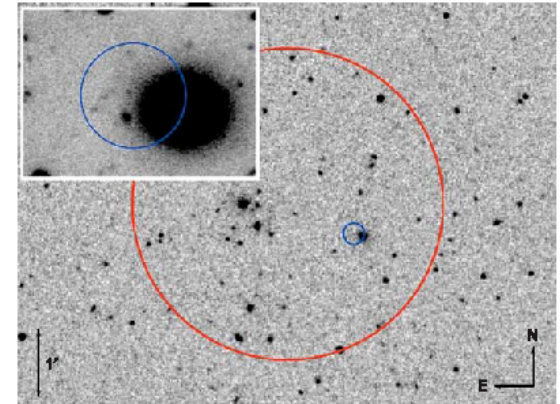


Figure 1 | Optical images of the region of GRB 050509B showing the association with a large elliptical galaxy. The Digitized Sky Survey image.

“In all respects, the emerging picture of SHB properties is consistent with an origin in the coalescence events of neutron star–neutron star or neutron star–black hole binary systems.”

“There may be more than one origin of short GRBs, but this particular short event has a high probability of being unrelated to star formation and of being caused by a binary merger.”



## GRB070201

A short (0.5 s) hard gamma-ray burst (Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> 2007)  
Detected by Konus-Wind, INTEGRAL, Swift, MESSENGER

$E_{\text{iso}} \sim 10^{45}$  ergs  
if at M31 distance  
(more similar to SGR energy than GRB energy)

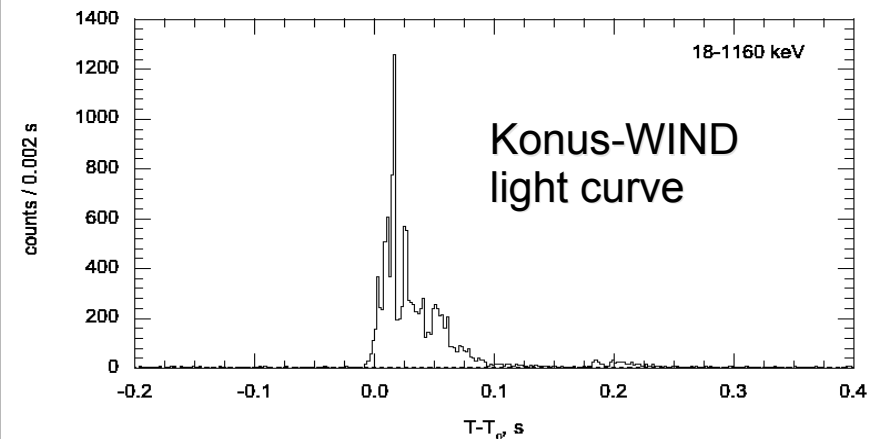
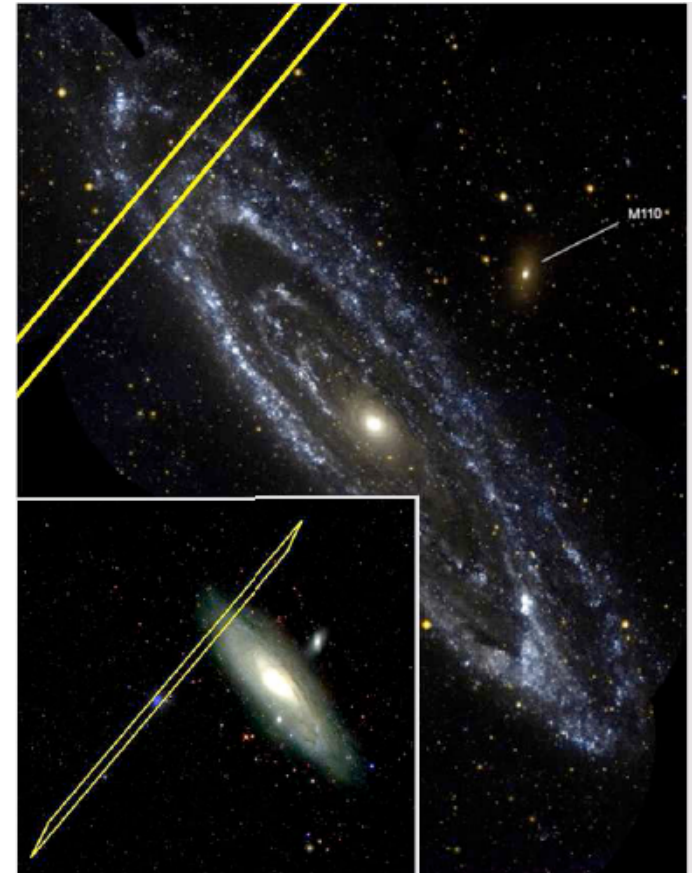
The error box for the source location overlaps with the spiral arms of M31

Short GRB progenitors: possibly NS/NS mergers

→ Emit strong gravitational waves

### What can we do with this event ?

- In the case of a detection:
  - Confirmation of a progenitor (e.g. coalescing binary system)
  - GW observation could determine the distance to the GRB
- No-detection:
  - Exclude progenitor in mass-distance region
  - With EM measured distance to hypothetical GRB, could exclude binary progenitor of various masses
  - Possible statements on progenitor models
  - Bound the GW energy emitted by a source at M31







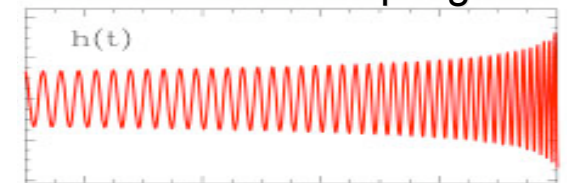
GRB070201, two methods

## Search for compact binary inspiral signals



- Matched filtering with Waveform: (Post Newtonian approximation)
- Mass parameters unknown

$$1 M_{\odot} < m_1 < 3.0 M_{\odot} \quad 1.0 M_{\odot} < m_2 < 40.0 M_{\odot}$$



No plausible gravitational waves identified

Compact binary progenitor at M31 is excluded at > 99% confidence level

Compact binary progenitor up to 3.5Mpc away is excluded at 90% confidence level

## Burst signal search

- Wide bandwidth correlation based burst signal search (40 – 2000Hz)
- Upper limit:  $h_{\text{RSS}}^{90\%} = 1.25 \times 10^{-21} 1/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$  within a ~100ms period peaked at 150Hz

- Corresponding energy:

$$E_{\text{ISO}} < 4.4 \times 10^{-4} M_{\odot} c^2 (7.9 \times 10^{50} \text{ ergs})$$

- assuming the distance of M31

# GRB 070201

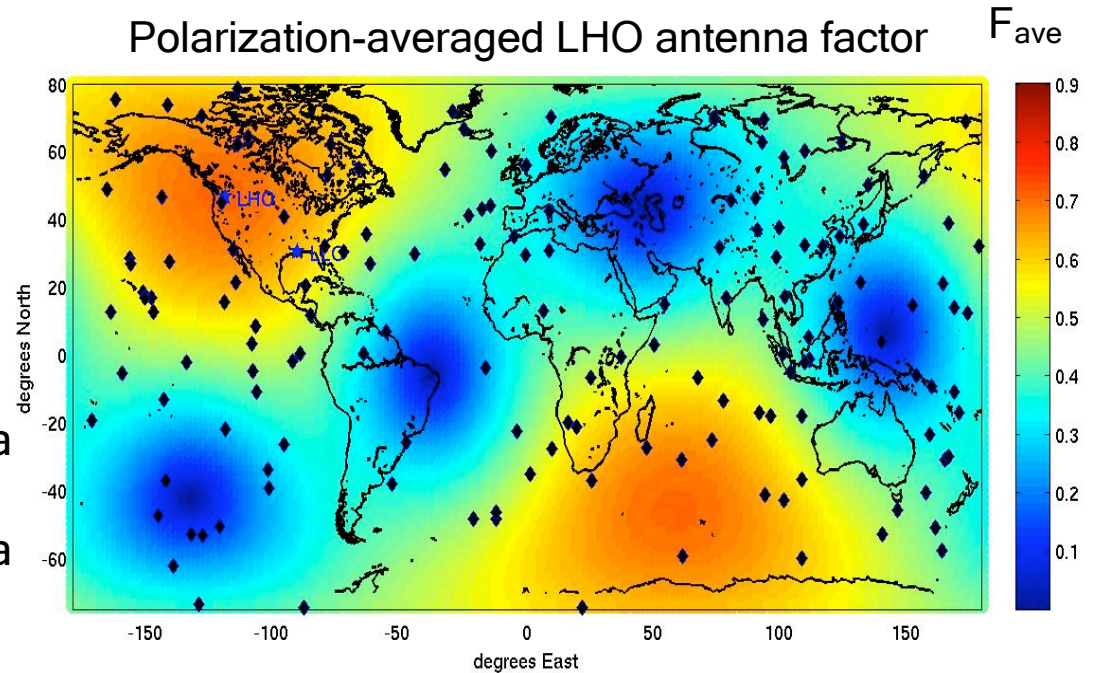
## Preliminary analysis

It is very unlikely that a compact binary progenitor in M31 was responsible for GRB070201



# GRB triggers from GCN for the LIGO S5 run

- **157 GRB triggers** from November 4, 2005 to March 31, 2007
  - **~70%** with double-IFO coincidence LIGO data
  - **~40%** with triple-IFO coincidence LIGO data
  - **~25%** with redshift
  - **~10%** short-duration GRBs
  - all but two have position information



LIGO sensitivity depends on GRB position



# SGR1806-20 Hyper Flare

Soft Gamma-ray Repeater 1806-20: Hyper Flare on December 24 2004

- Quasi Periodic Oscillation (QPO) observed in X-ray tail
- Possible connection with excitations of neutron star's mechanical oscillation modes

### LIGO status at the moment:

Post-S3, pre-S4

Only Hanford 4km was in operation

### Search method:

Look for excess power at the event time in the QPO frequency range (several frequencies, time intervals)

No significant deviation from the background noise found.

The best upper limit:  $4.5 \times 10^{-22} \text{ 1}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$

(92.5Hz QPO observed from 150-260sec after the start of the flare)

Corresponding GW energy:  
(assuming isotropic emission)

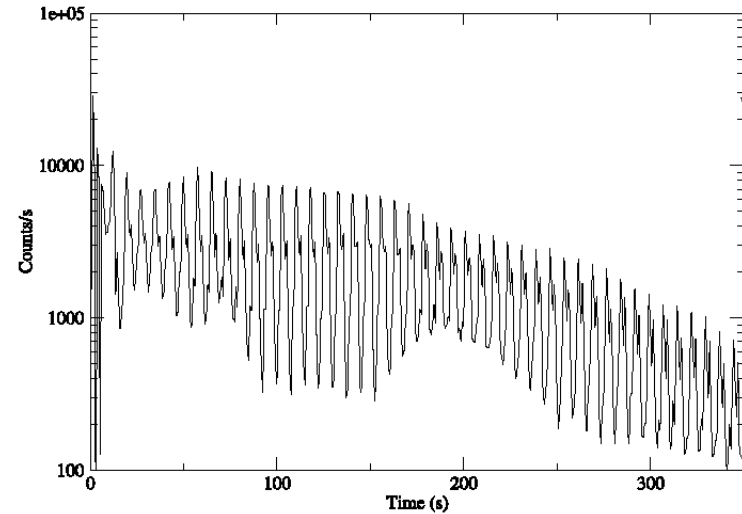
$$7.7 \times 10^{46} \text{ erg} = 4.3 \times 10^{-8} M_{\odot} c^2$$

Comparable to the electromagnetically radiated energy

The best GW upper limit on this type of source.

First multiple-frequency asteroseismology using a GW detector

Details published in B. Abbott et al., *Phys. Rev. D* **76**, 062003 (2007)

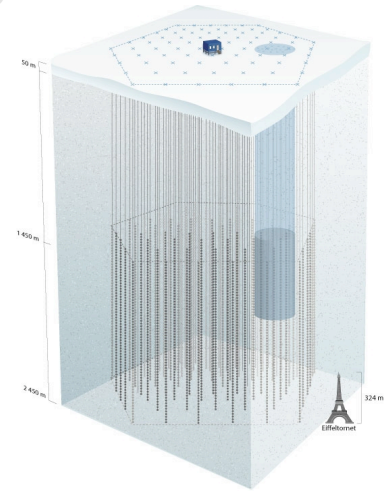




## Example of Study of Coincidence Analysis with IceCube

Burst GW search: **Overwhelming number of noise events**  
**Can be reduced with coincidences**

**IceCube**: a neutrino detector at the south pole

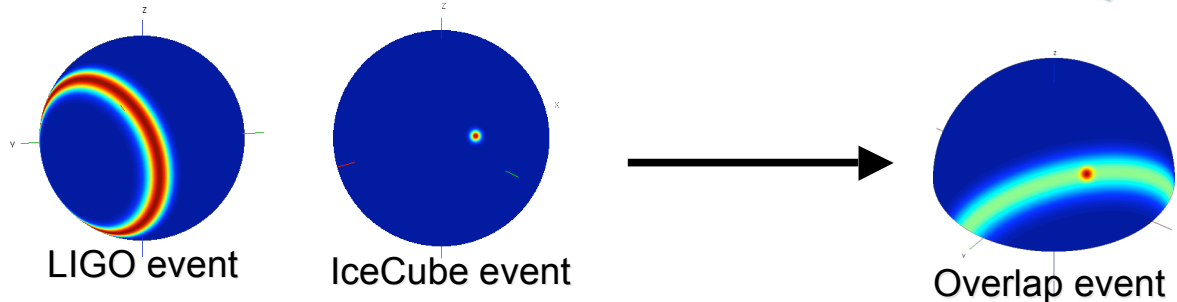


Search for astrophysical events emitting GW and high-energy neutrino bursts simultaneously.

Coincident analysis between independent detectors  
 → Reject most background events

Two-stage coincidence

- Event time coincidence (within a certain time window)
- Spatial coincidence (evaluated by an unbinned maximum likelihood method)



### Monte Carlo simulations

Simulated LIGO S5 and IceCube 9-string events

$$\text{False Alarm Rate [events/year]} = \frac{1}{435} \left( \frac{p}{1\%} \right) \left( \frac{T_w}{1 \text{ sec}} \right)$$

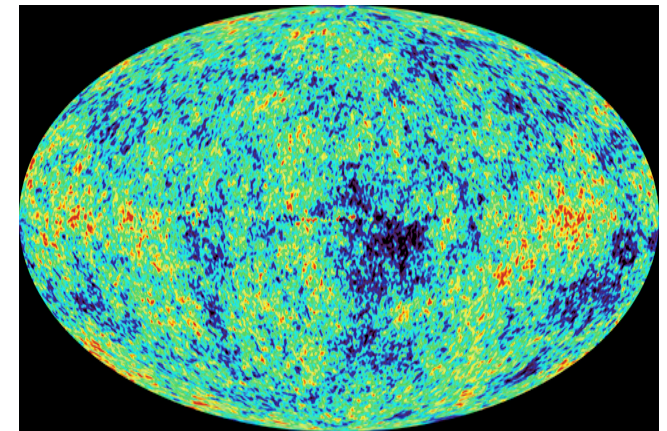
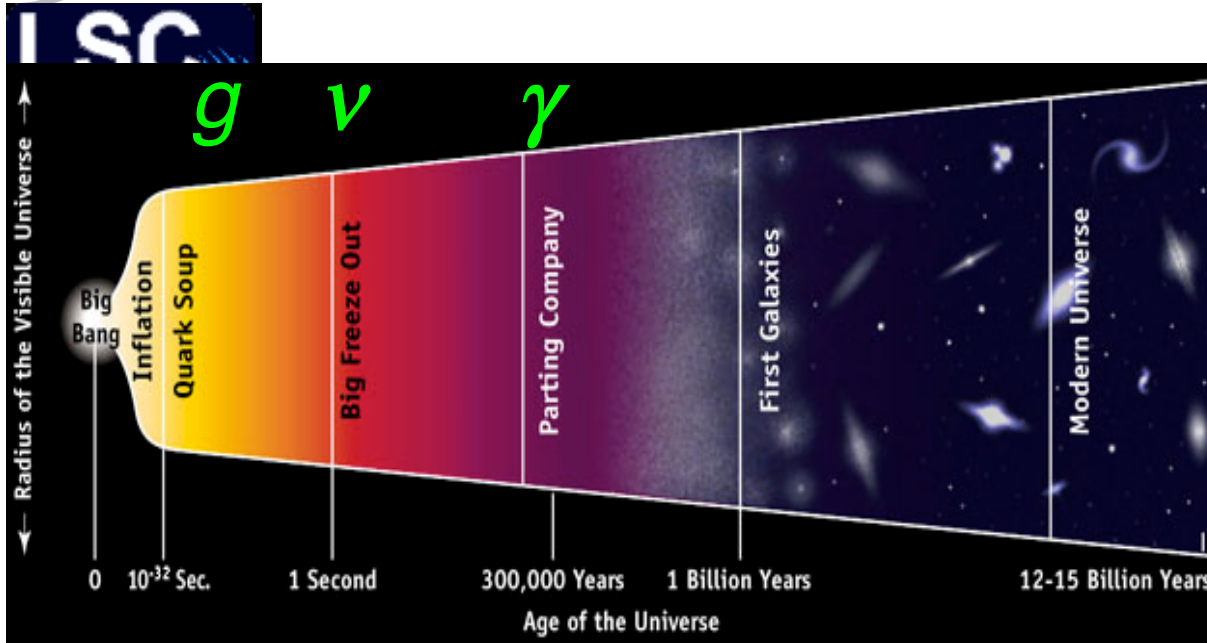
$T_w$  : Time Window  
 $p$  : p-value

Better than the SNEWS standard

**We can relax the event trigger threshold** → **better sensitivity**

Note: Above are not real data analysis results. This is a proposal of a method.

# Gravitational waves from a stochastic background



Analog from cosmic microwave background -- WMAP 2003

## ***GWs can probe the very early universe***

- Detect by cross-correlating interferometer outputs in pairs: Hanford - Livingston, Hanford - Hanford
- Good sensitivity requires:
  - $\lambda_{GW} \geq 2D$  (detector baseline)
  - $f \leq 40$  Hz for LIGO pair over 3000 km baseline
- Initial LIGO limiting sensitivity (1 year search):  $\Omega_{GW} < 10^{-6}$

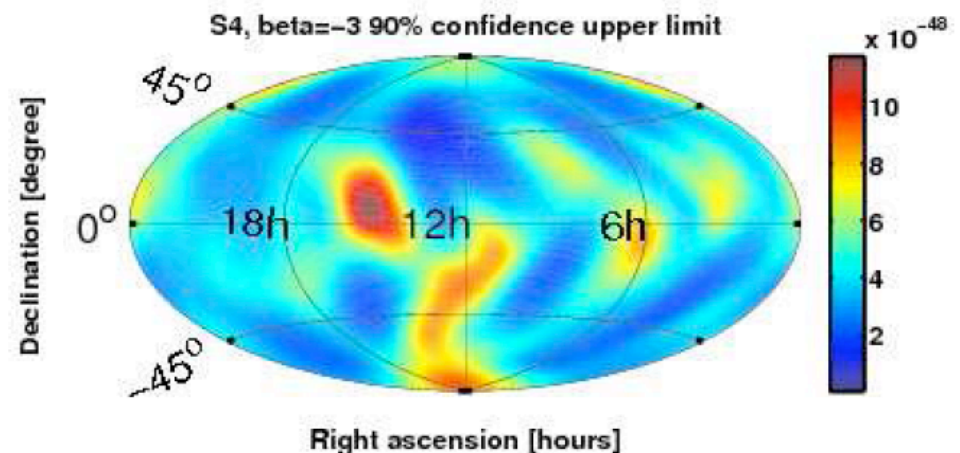
$$\int_0^{\infty} d \ln f \Omega_{gw}(f) = \frac{\rho_{gw}}{\rho_{critical}}$$

The integral of  $[1/f \cdot \Omega_{GW}(f)]$  over all frequencies corresponds to the fractional energy density in gravitational waves in the Universe



# Searches for a Stochastic Signal

- Weak, random gravitational waves could be bathing the Earth
  - Left over from the early universe, analogous to CMBR ;  
or from many overlapping signals from astrophysical objects
  - Assume spectrum is constant in time
- Search by **cross-correlating** data streams
- S4 result [\[ A.p. J. 659, 918 \(2007\) \]](#)
  - Searched for isotropic stochastic signal with power-law spectrum
  - For flat spectrum, set upper limit on energy density in gravitational waves:
    - $\Omega_0 < 6.5 \times 10^{-5}$
- Or look for anisotropic signal:  
[\[A.p.J., 659:918–930 \(2007\)\]](#)
- S5 analysis in progress



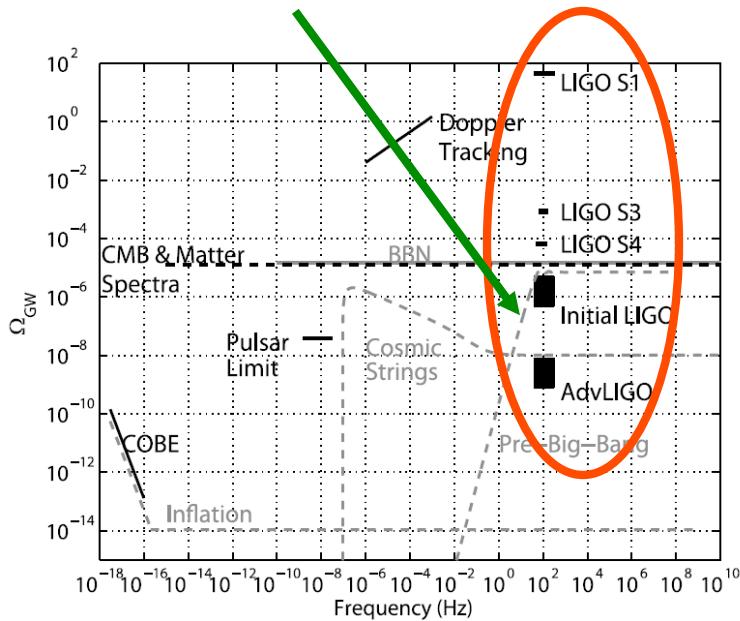


# S3, S4 results

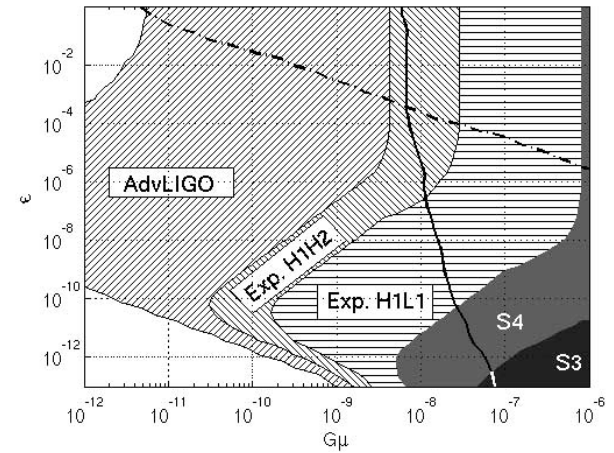
B. Abbott *et al.*, *Astrophys. J.* **659**:918-930, 2007

Comparison with other experiments and theoretical models

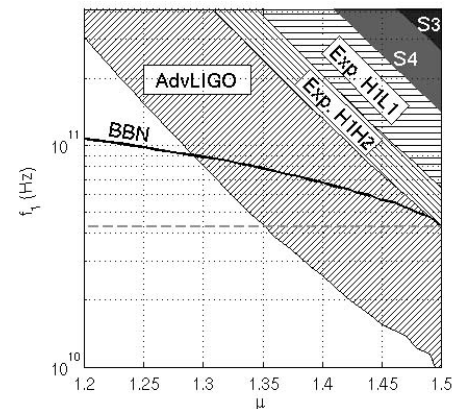
S5 data shall beat the big bang nucleosynthesis bound.



Cosmic string model excluded parameter space



pre-big bang excluded parameter space

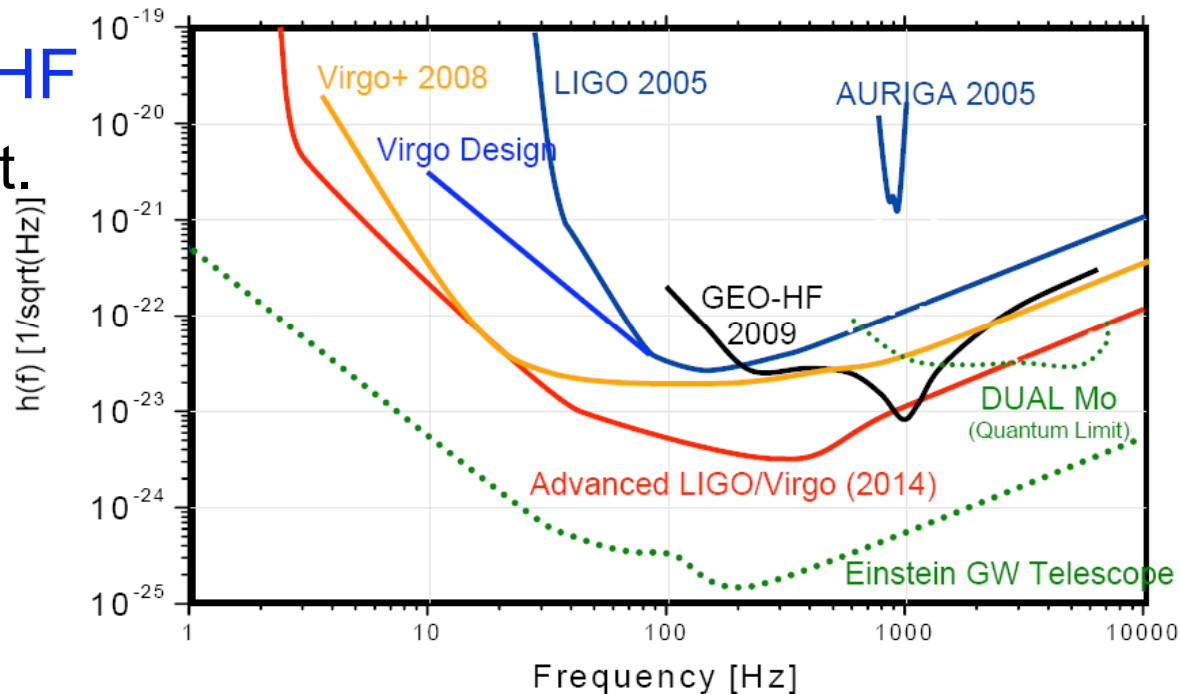






# Where do we go from here?

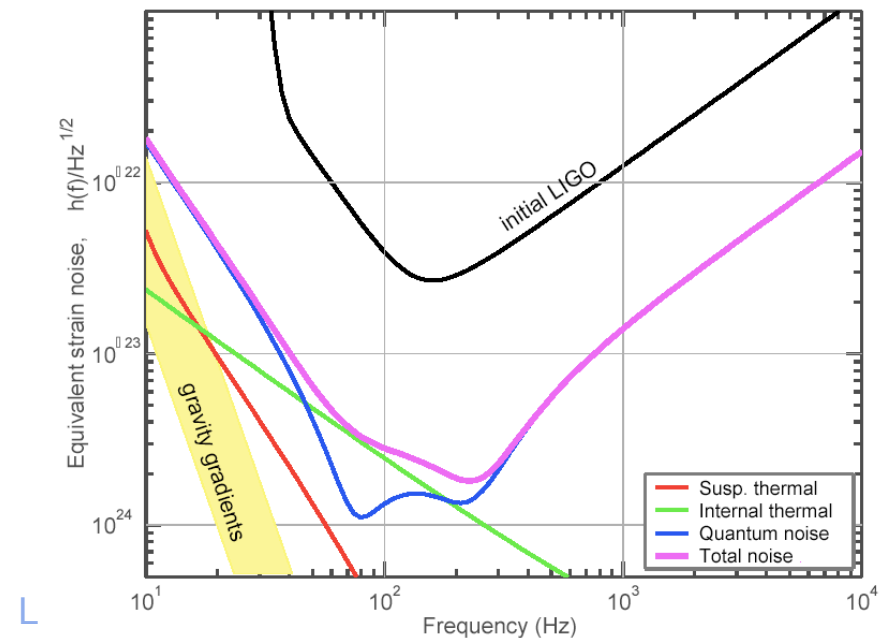
- Advanced Virgo/LIGO sensitivity limited by:
  - thermal noise below
    - 1 MW light to match thermal noise with optical resolution
  - radiation pressure at LF
  - shot noise at HF
    - Quantum limit.





# Where do we go from here?

- Little margin to reduce Thermal Noise
- Longer length to increase strain sensitivity
  - 30 km proposed for Einstein GW Telescope
- Heavier mirrors to widen the Quantum limit “V”





# Where do we go from here?

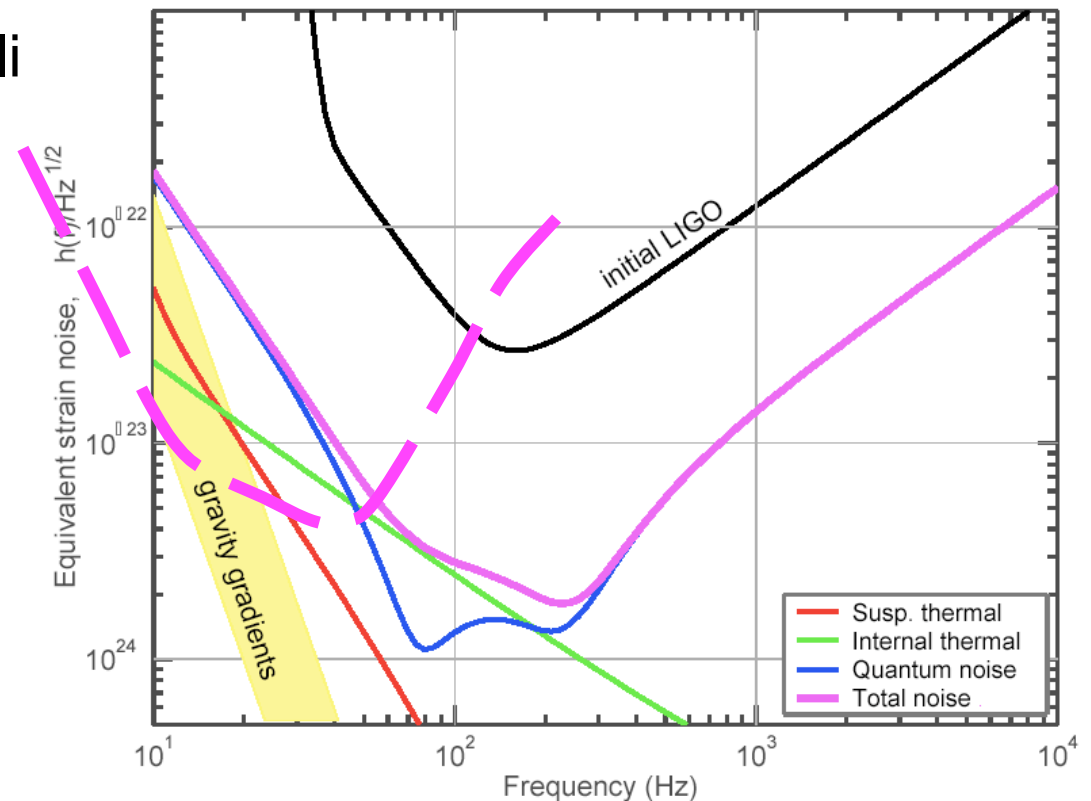
- Bigger black holes generate stronger signals
- Visible at larger distances
- Bigger Black holes merge at lower Frequency than Advanced Virgo/LIGO sensitivity band
  - Basically the maximum frequency is limited by speed of light orbit around diameter of event horizon



# Where do we go from here?

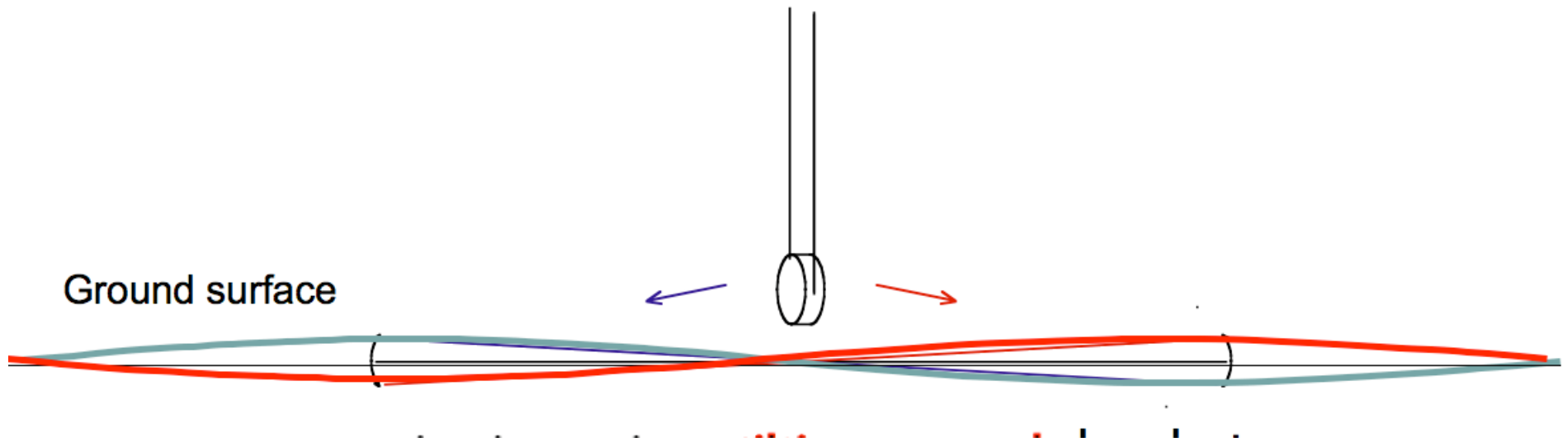
- Multiple parallel interferometers to widen the sensitivity band
- Lower power in the interferometer lowers the Radiation Pressure wall

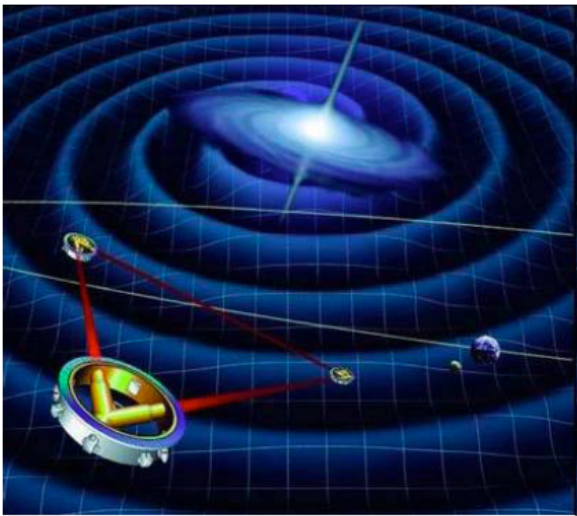
- Fluctuations of vertical  $g$  at low frequency on Earth's surface overwhelm GW signal
  - Newtonian Noise/ Gravity Gradient



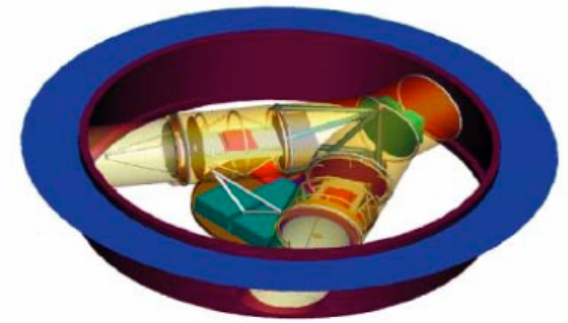
## Causes of NN on the surface

- The dominant term of NN is the rock-to-air interface movement

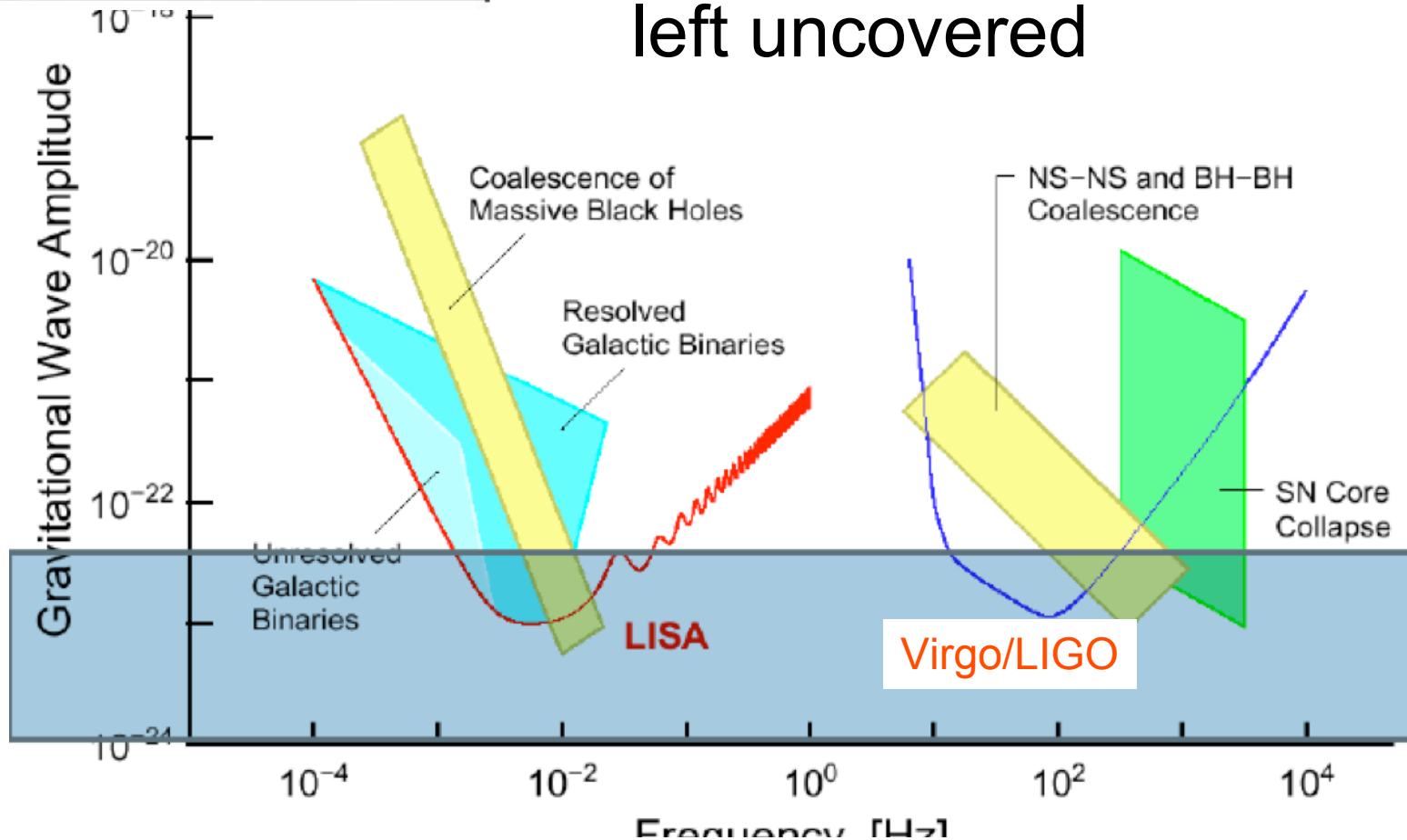




# Going to space?



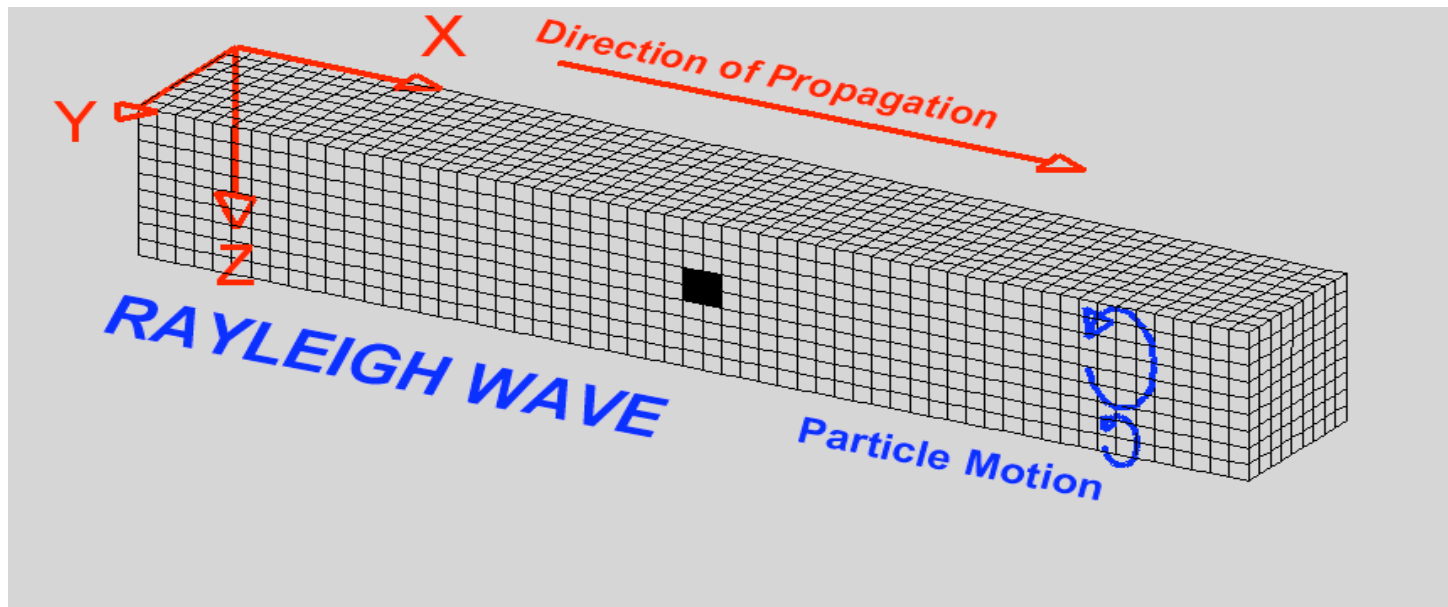
- Too much frequency band left uncovered





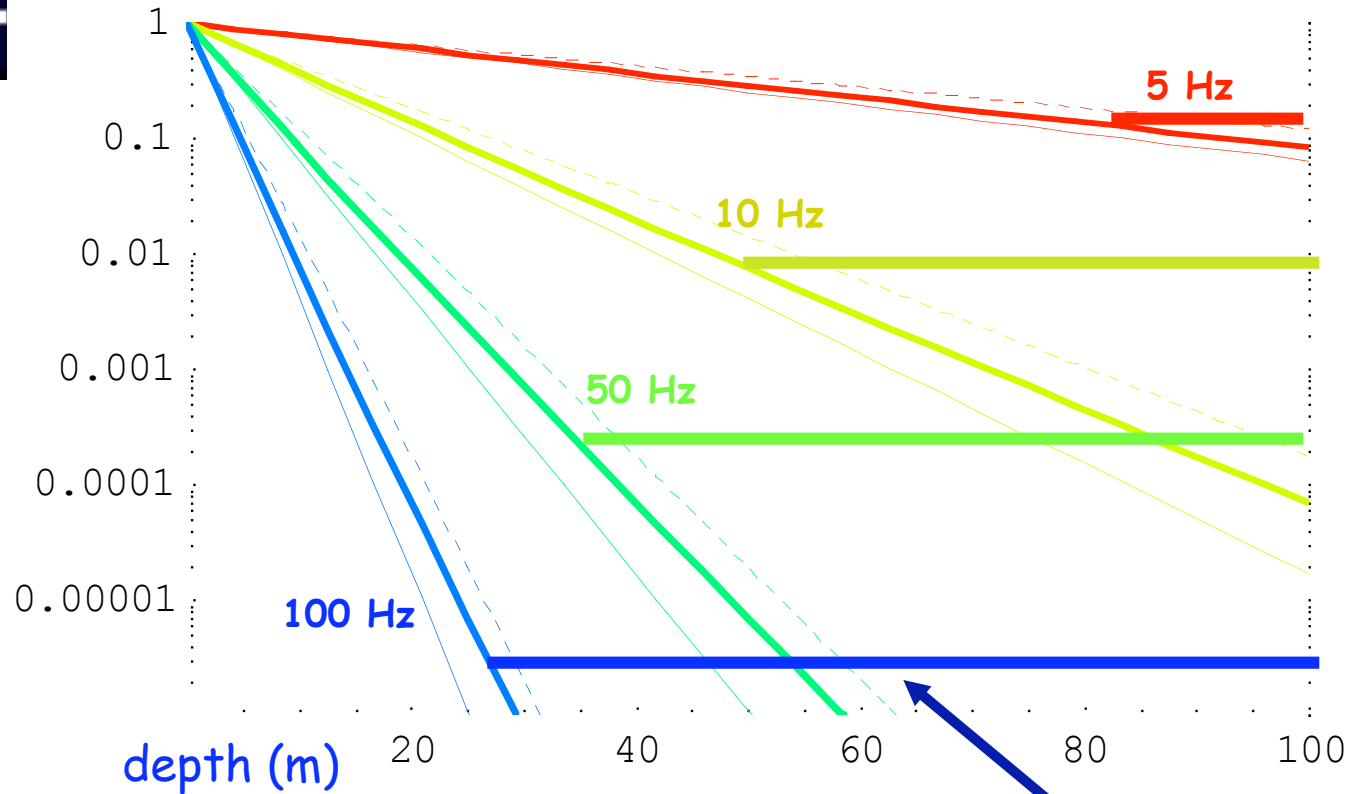
## Going underground: Newtonian noise reduction

- ✘ Surface waves are probably the most important excitations for GGN
- ✘ A simple fact: surface waves die off exponentially with depth





# Newtonian Noise vs. depth (uniform density/stiffness approx.)



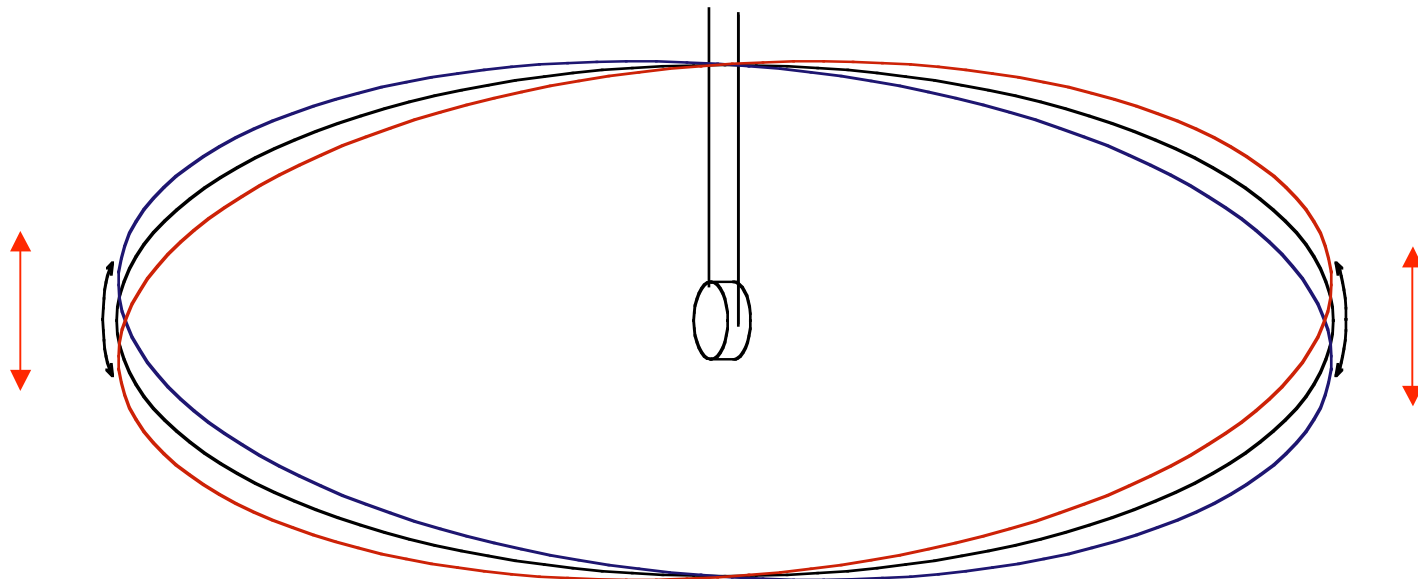
Volume waves contributions will not share this fast decay





# NN reduction

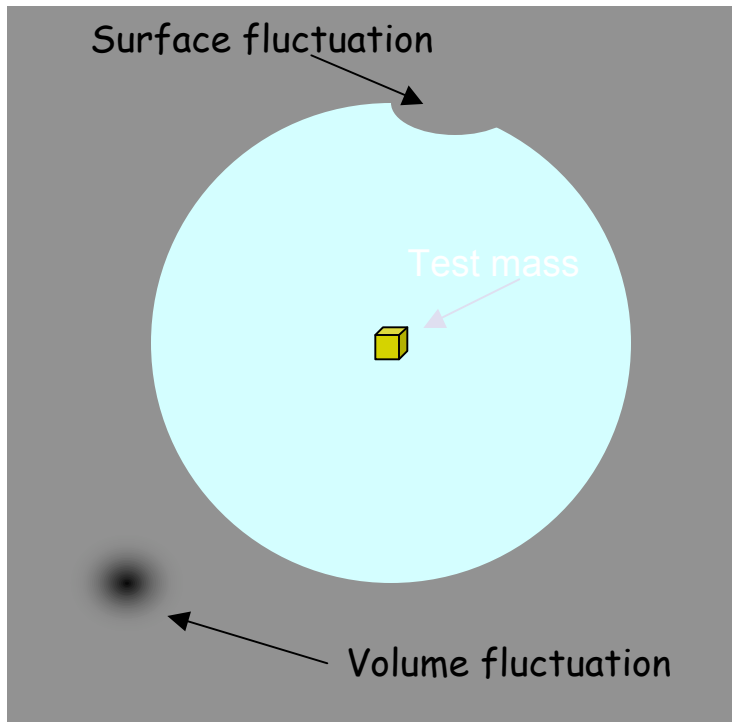
- A test mass placed at the center of a spherical Cavern is insensitive to the effects of ground tilting



a tilting **symmetrical cavern** leads to **NO** fluctuating attraction force

## A rough model for an underground cavity

$$\vec{u}_{l,m} = \vec{\nabla} \xi_{l,m} + \vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{x} \times \vec{\nabla}) \eta_{l,m} + (\vec{x} \times \vec{\nabla}) \tau_{l,m}$$



Bulk contribution to GGN:

$$\vec{a}_{l,m} = -G\rho \int \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{u}_{l,m} \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} dV$$

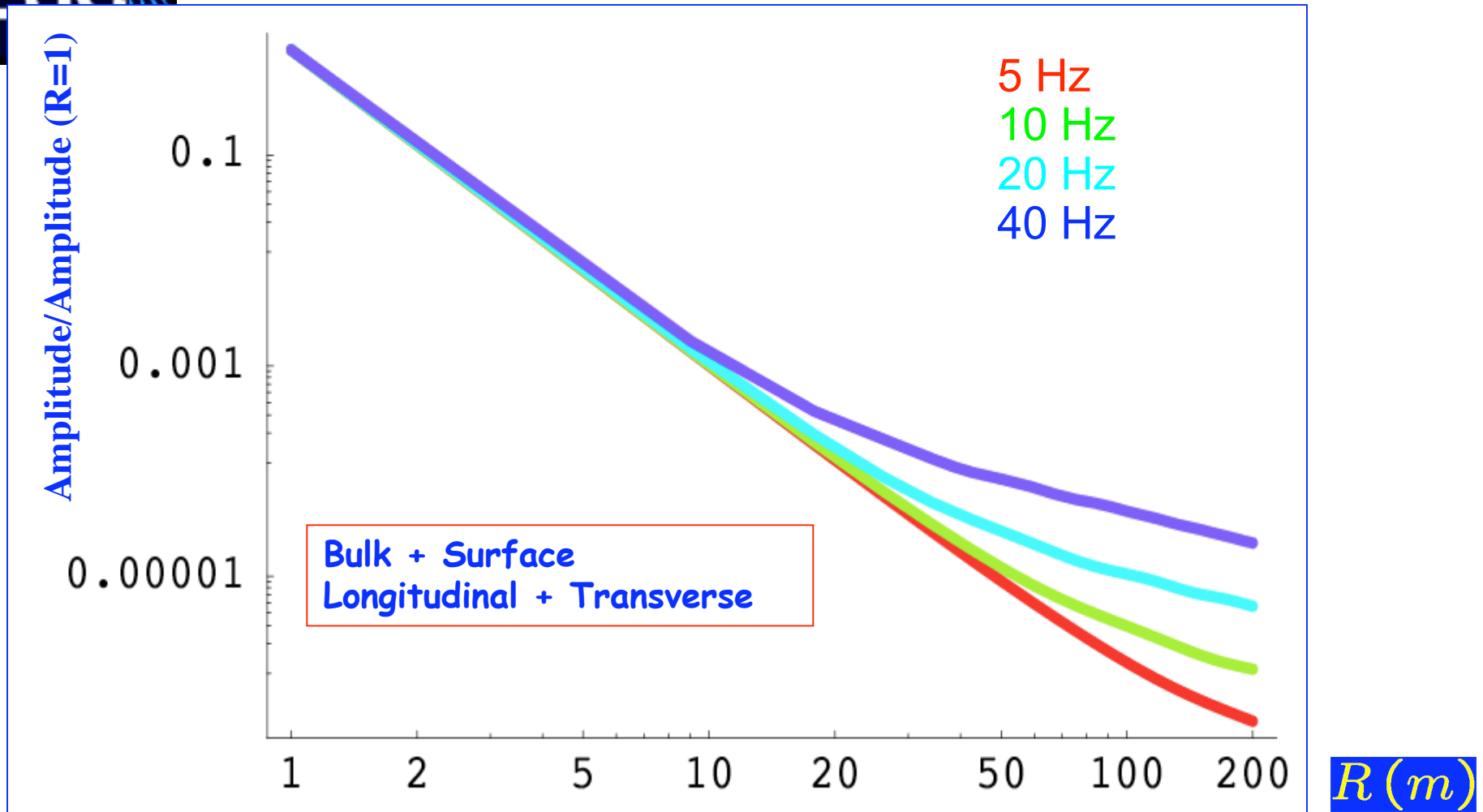
Surface contribution to GGN:

$$\vec{a}_{l,m} = -G\rho \int \vec{R} \cdot \vec{u}_{l,m} \frac{\vec{R}}{R^2} d\Omega$$

- ✘ Only "dipole" contribution  $\sim Y_{1m}(\theta, \phi)$  to bulk GGN (cavity displacements)
- ✘ Both transverse & longitudinal contributions to surface GGN
- ✘ Toroidal modes: transverse, no surface motion, **no Newtonian**



# R dependence: final result



Good reduction with a reasonable cavity's size.

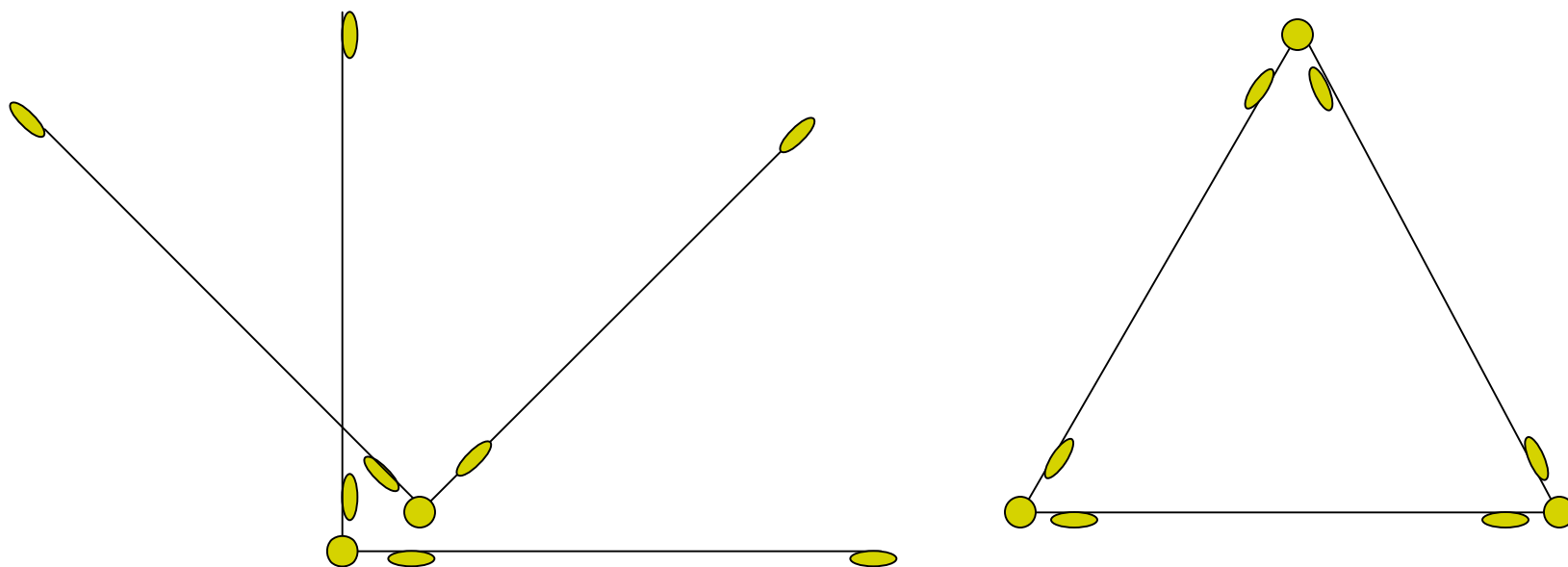


## Low frequency perspectives

- Going underground ( $100 < 1000\text{m}$ ) one can explore GW at lower frequencies ( $\sim 1\text{ Hz}$ )
- At lower frequency lower optical power requirements
- Possible use of cryogenics to reduce thermal noise



# Crossed Interferometers or triangular interferometers to cover both polarizations





## The Gravitational Wave Universe



Stay tuned...



# Acknowledgments

- Members of the LIGO Scientific Collaboration



- National Science Foundation



## More Information

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

<http://www.physics2005.org/events/einsteinathome/index.html>

## References

- Web of Science, search under Abbott et al.,  
or **LIGO SCI COLLABORATION**