# The Detection of Gravitational Waves

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LIGO-G960053-00-M

# Gravitational vs E.M. Waves

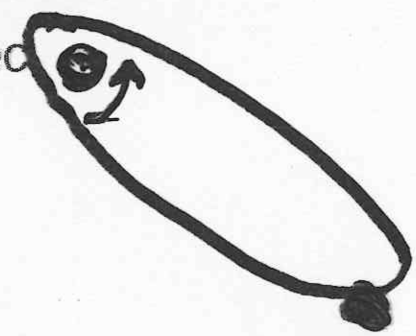
| | EM WAVES | GRAV. WAVES |
|---|---|---|
| Nature | Oscillation of EM Fields Propagating Through Spacetime | Oscillations of the "fabric" of spacetime |
| Emission Mechanism | Incoherent superposition of waves from molecules, atoms, particles | Coherent emission by bulk motion of energy |
| Interaction with Matter | Strong absorption and Scattering | Essentially None! |
| Frequency Band | $f > 10^7$Hz | $f < 10^4$Hz |

- Implications
  - Most gravitational sources not seen as electromagnetic (and vice versa)
  - Potential for great surprises
  - Uncertainty in strengths of waves

# Gravitational Wave Emission

## Russell Hulse and Joseph Taylor

### PSR 1913 + 16




Timing of Pulsars

Timed to ~50 μsec

Since discovery, observed period gradually speed up

- 10 sec in 15 years
- growing quadratically in time

Due to loss of orbital energy, from emission of gravitational waves

# Neutron Star Binary Coalescence

| ***Method*** | ***Our Galaxy*** | ***Distance for 3/yr*** |
|---|---|---|
| **Progenitor Death Rate** | **~1/1000 yr** | **130 M.L.yr** |
| **Binary Pulsar Searches and Discoveries** | **$\sim 1/10^{5\pm1}$ yr** | **600 M.L.yr.** |
| **Ultra-conservtive Limit from Binary Pulsar Searches** | **$\sim 1/10^{7}$ yr** | **3000 M.L.yr** |

# International Effort - Gravitational Waves

- ☐ Techniques
  - ⇒ Resonant Bar Detectors
    - narrow band
  - ⇒ Large Scale Interferometers
    - broad band
- ☐ International Interferometer Effort
  - ⇒ U.S. -- LIGO (Two Sites)
    - Caltech & MIT (Wash and Louisiana)
  - ⇒ Europe -- VIRGO (One Site)
    - French and Italian (near Pisa)
  - ⇒ Smaller efforts
    - Germany, Japan, Australia
- ☐ Time Scale
  - ⇒ Approximately year 2000

# LIGO
# Scientific Mission

- ☐ Direct Detection of Gravitational Waves

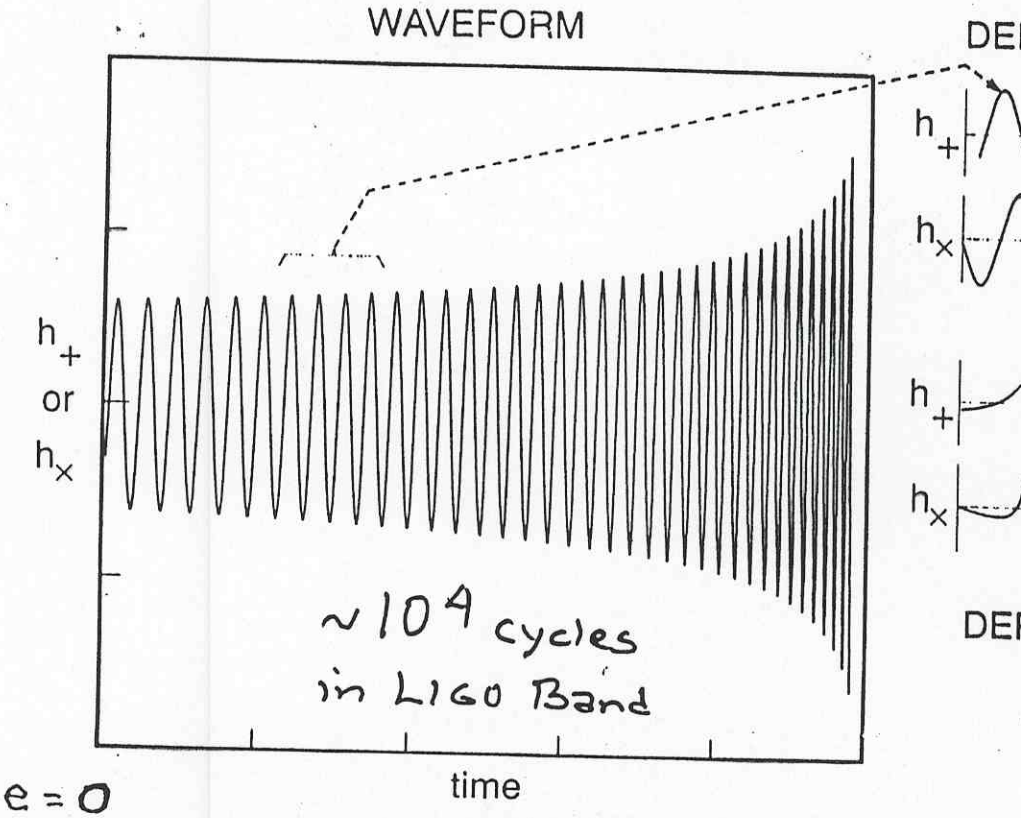
  Neutron Binary Coalescence
  (Last 15 minutes of Hulse/Taylor
  in 100 Million Years)

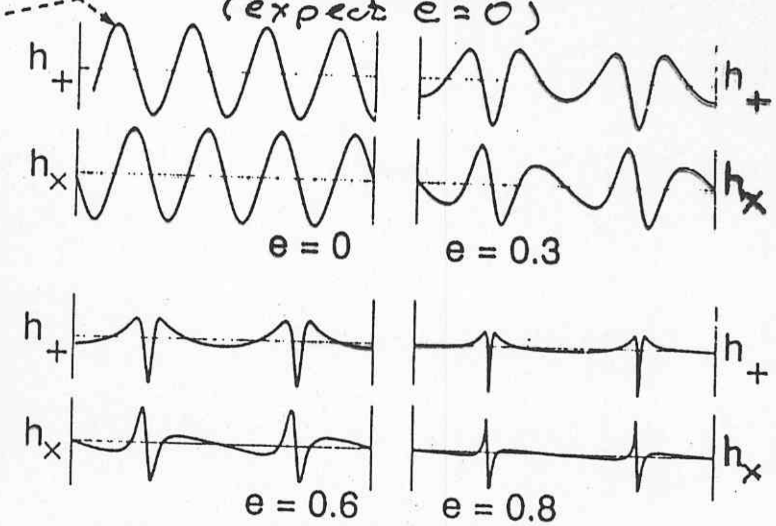
  ⇒ Test General Relativity in Strong Field and High Velocity Limit

  ⇒ Measure Polarization and Propagation Speed

# WAVEFORMS FROM BINARY INSPIRAL

(Very "clean"; depend only on $M_1, M_2, \vec{S}_1, \vec{S}_2, r$, orbital elements)


DEPENDENCE ON ι, FOR e = 0:

$$\frac{\text{Amp }(h_\times)}{\text{Amp }(h_+)} = \frac{2\cos\iota}{1+\cos^2\iota}$$

FOR e = 0

$$\frac{df}{dt} \propto \frac{M_1 M_2}{(M_1+M_2)^{1/3}} f^{11/3} + \left(\begin{array}{l}\text{relativistic corrections}\\ \text{that depend on } M_1, M_2, \vec{S}_1, \vec{S}_2\end{array}\right)$$

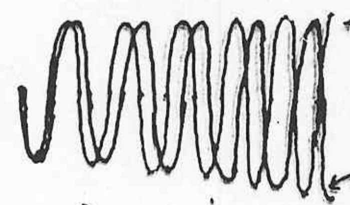
↳ Masses & Spins
$\Delta M/M \sim$ few %

$$\text{Amplitude} \propto \underbrace{\frac{M_1 M_2}{(M_1+M_2)^{1/3}}}_{\text{"Chirp Mass"}} \frac{f^{2/3}}{r}$$

"Chirp Mass" $\Delta M/M \sim 0.001$

↑ Distance $\Delta r/r \sim$ .05 to .5

STANDARD CANDLE!




↑ Sensitivity to phase evolution: $\sim 1/10^5$

# LIGO Long Range Goals

- "New Tool" to Explore the Universe
  - ⇒ Final Coalescence of Binary Systems
    - Neutron Star/Neutron Star

      Design Benchmark: last 15 min;<br>20,000 cycles<br>600MLyr
    - Black-hole/Black-hole or /Neutron Star
  - ⇒ Supernovae
    - Axisymmetric in our galaxy
    - Non-axisymmetric ~300MLyr
  - ⇒ Early Universe
    - Vibrating Cosmic Strings
    - Vacuum Phase Transitions
    - Vacuum Fluctuations from Planck Era
  - ⇒ The Unknown

# Gravitational Wave Strength

Strain Sensitivity

$$h \approx \frac{G(E_{kin}^{ns} / c^2)}{r} \frac{1}{c^2}$$

for $E_{kin}^{ns} / c^2 \sim M_\Theta$

$h \sim 10^{-20}$ for Virgo Cluster of Galaxies

$h \sim 10^{-23}$ at Hubble Distance

LIGO Goal: $h \sim 10^{-22}$

Detector $\Delta L = hL$

$L = 4km \Rightarrow \Delta L = 10^{-16} cm$

This leads to Stringent Specifications:

Vacuum

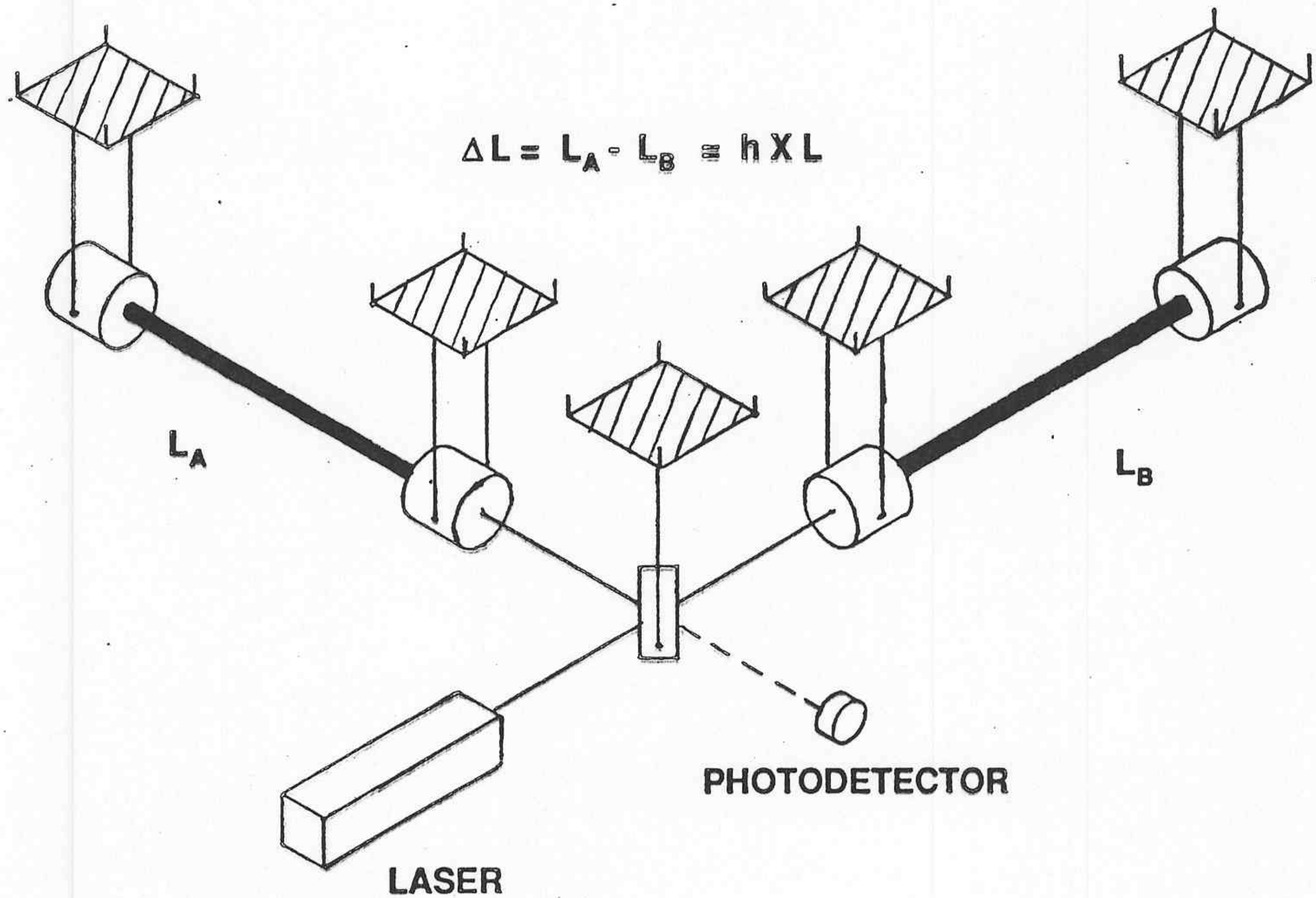
Seismic and Acoustic Isolation

Test Mass Suspensions

Optics

etc.

# SCHEMATIC INTERFEROMETRIC DETECTOR



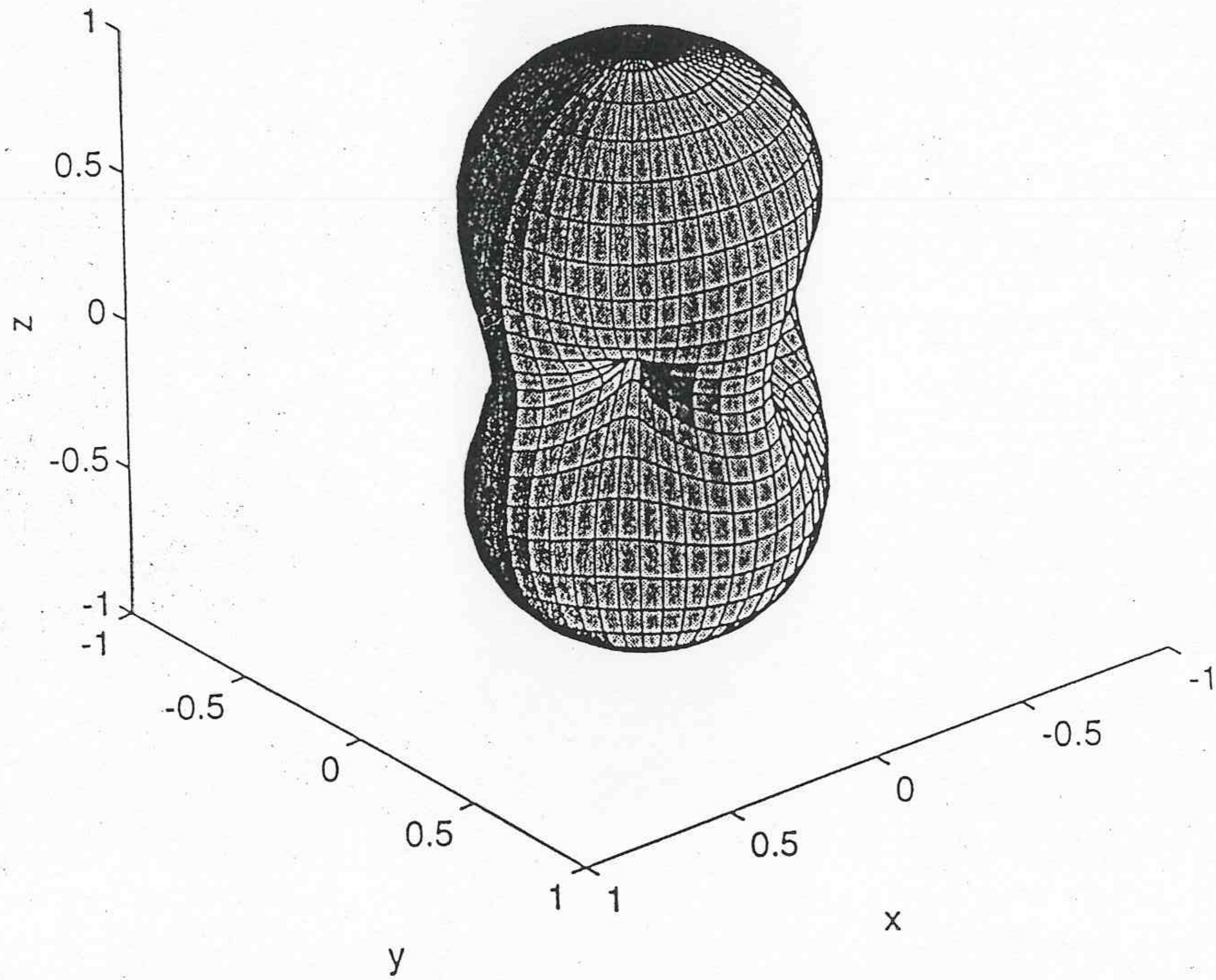
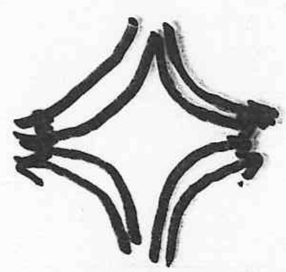



Figure 2.7 The sensitivity, as a function of direction, of an interferometric gravitational wave detector to unpolarized gravitational waves. The interferometer arms are oriented along the x and y axes.

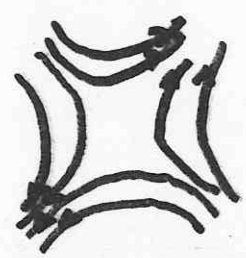
# Forces Exerted by a Gravitational Wave

**If** Detector Size << Wavelength
(4 km) (300-30,000km)

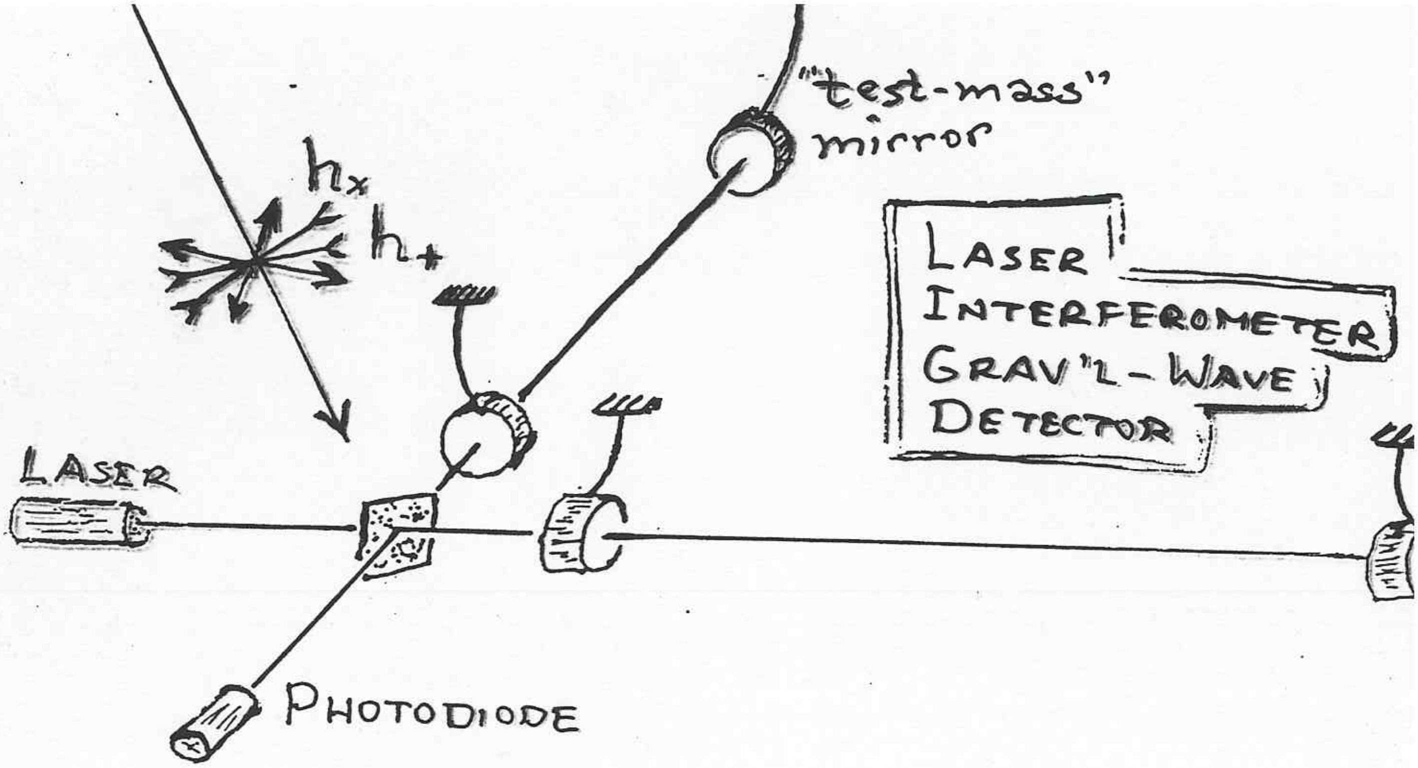
**Then**: Quadrupolar Lines of Force



+ Polarization



x Polarization

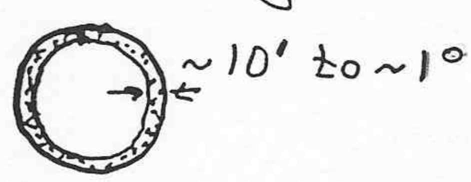



Antenna Patterns

$$\frac{\Delta L}{L} \equiv h = F_+(\text{direction})\, h_+(t) + F_\times(\text{direction})\, h_\times(t)$$

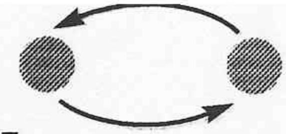
Waveforms

- LIGO measures one waveform;
  - ↑ Hanford WA, Livingston LA
  - Direction in ring

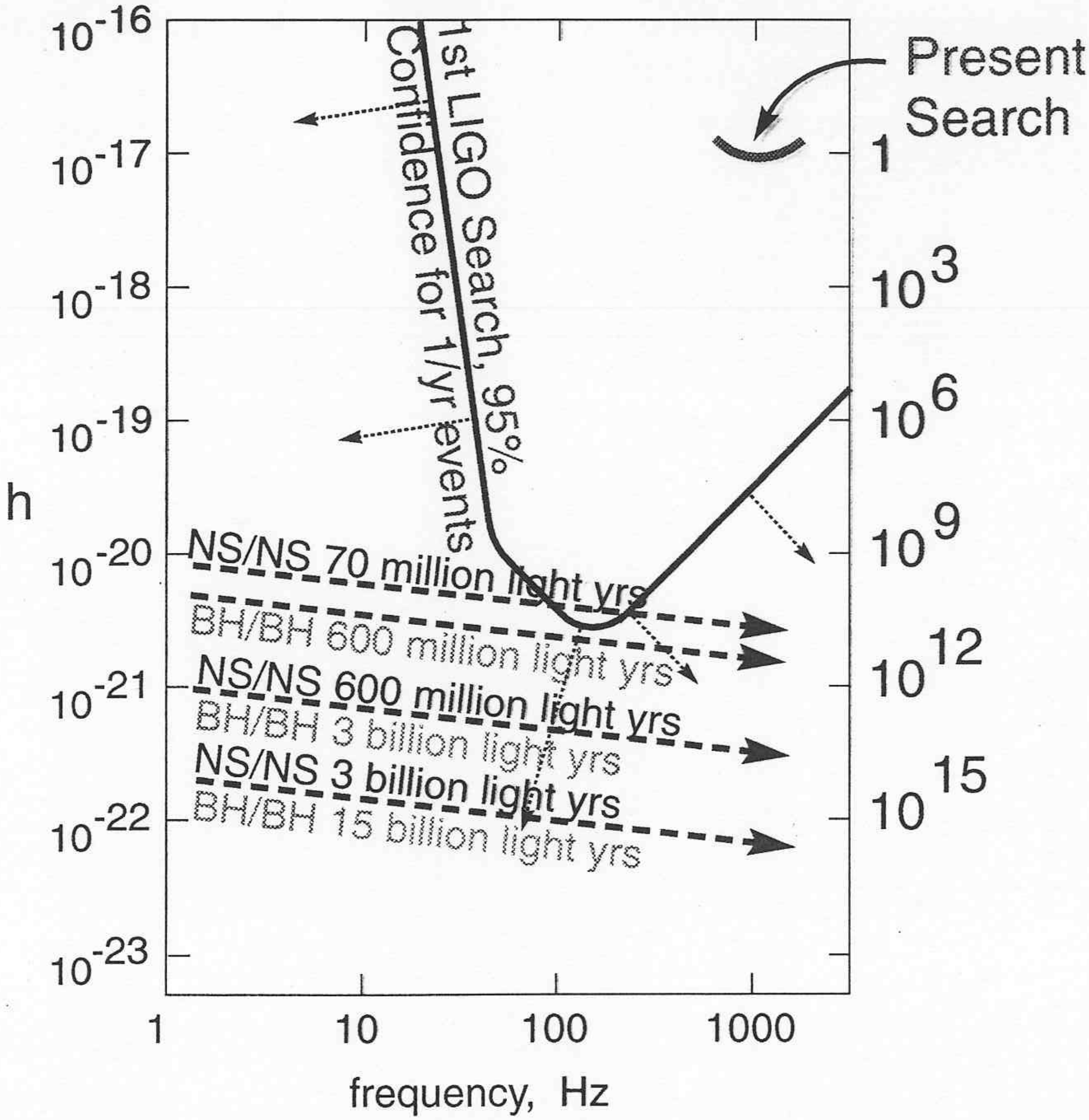



- LIGO + VIRGO measure both waveforms;
  - ↑ Pisa Italy
  - Direction

# NEUTRON STAR BINARIES



## *["Near-Guaranteed" source]*




- *15 minutes &10,000 orbits in LIGO band*
- *Rich information in waveforms: masses, spins, distance, direction, nuclear equation of state*

# LIGO

- ☐ National Science Foundation
- ☐ Construction Project (1994-1999)
  - ⇒ Facilities and Initial Detector
- ☐ Commission Facility (1999-2001)
  - ⇒ Implement Initial Detectors
    - $h \sim 10^{-20}$ - Initial Search in 2000
    - $h \sim 10^{-21}$ - Sensitivity by end 2001
- ☐ Full Operations (2002 + ... )
  - ⇒ Operate/Enhance Initial Detector
    - data collaboration with VIRGO
    - incorporate outside Users
  - ⇒ Advanced Detectors
    - Syracuse, Colorado, Stanford, etc
    - Caltech efforts (LIGO, Drever, Kimble..)

# LIGO Project

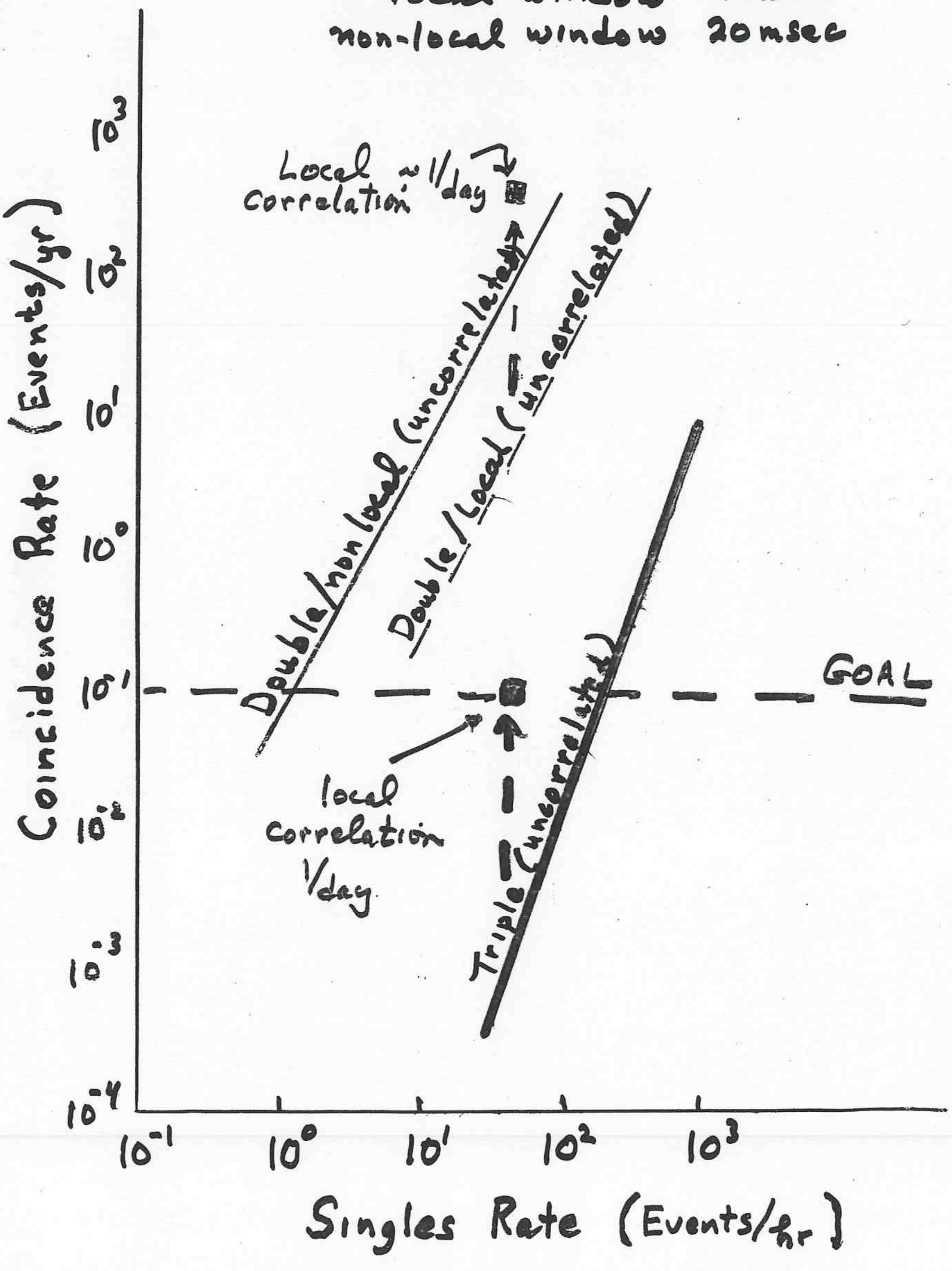
- Detector
  - » Detection Strategy
  - » Interferometers
- R&D
  - » Noise Sources and Sensitivity
  - » Demonstration Experiments
- Major Facilities
  - » Beam Tube
  - » Vacuum Systems
  - » Civil Construction
- Status and Plans

# Gravitational Wave Detection Strategy

- ☐ Interferometer Sensitivity
  - ⇒ R&D Program
    - Technology Development
    - Demonstration Experiments
  - ⇒ Engineering Implementation
    - Precision Engineering Design
    - Quality Control
- ☐ Two Sites - Three Interferometers
  - ⇒ Single Interferometer ~50/hr
    - non-gaussian level
  - ⇒ Hanford (Doubles) ~1/day
    - correlated rate (x1000)
  - ⇒ Hanford + Livingston <0.1/yr
    - uncorrelated (x5000)

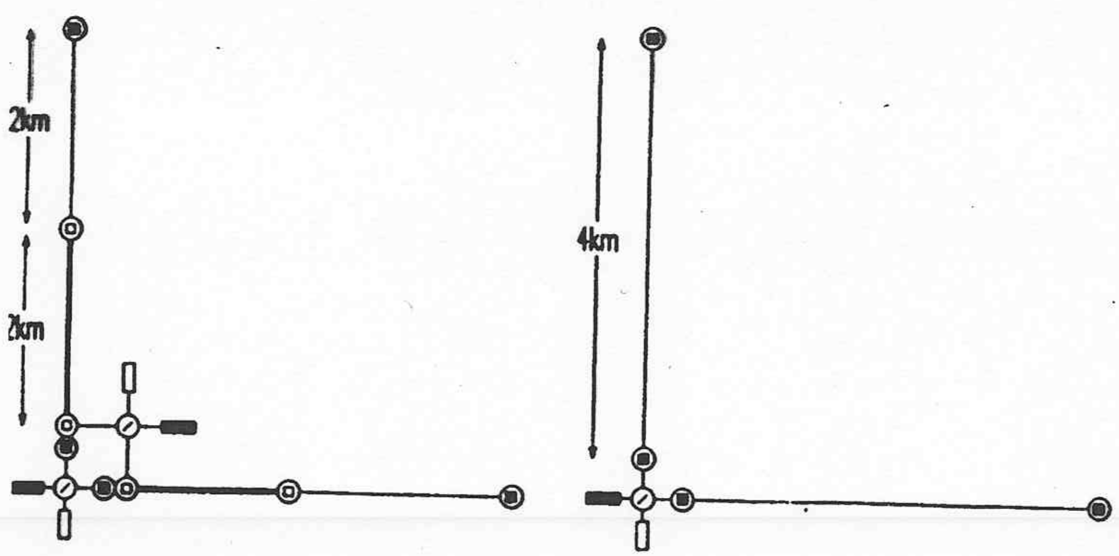
# MULTIPLE COINCIDENCES

local window 1msec
non-local window 20msec

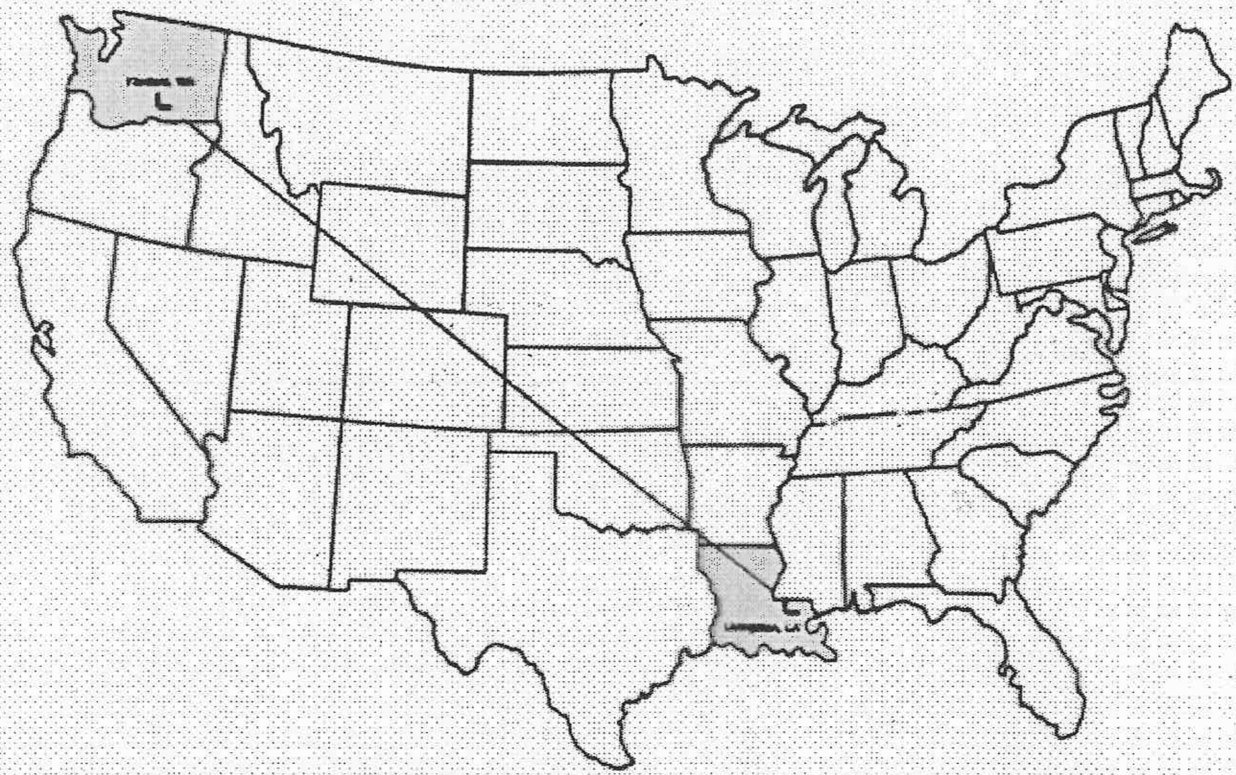


# Description of LIGO

- Two Sites - Widely Separated
- Hanford, Washington
    - 4km and 2km Interferometers
- Livingston, Louisiana
    - 4 km Interferometer
- Expansion for Advanced Detectors



# LIGO Site Pair



- **Hanford, Washington**
  - **Located on U.S. Dept. of Energy Reservation**
  - **Treeless, Semi-arid Desert**
  - **Approx. 25 km from Richland (Metropolitan Pop. 140,000)**

- **Livingston, Louisiana**
  - **Located in Forested Rural Area**
  - **Approx. 50 km from Baton Rouge (Pop. 450,000)**

**LIGO**

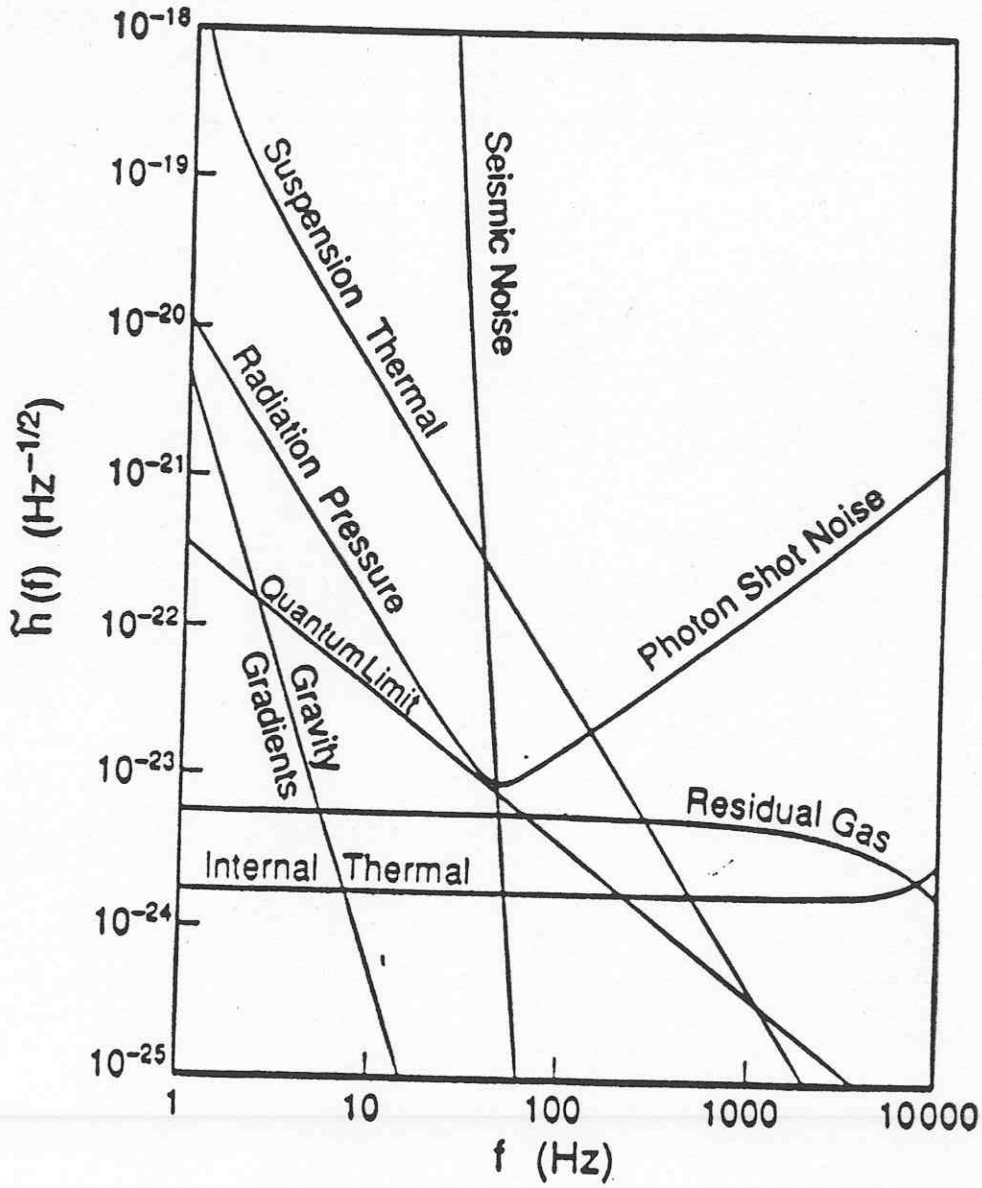
BB
CGM

# Detectors

- ☐ Approach and Characteristics
  - ⇒ Employ Demonstrated Techniques
    - Required R&D has been defined
    - 40m, 5m, Optics Experiments, etc
  - ⇒ Precision Engineering
    - Design Freeze (1997)
  - ⇒ Systems Engineering/Integration
    - Interfaces, flexibility
  - ⇒ Advanced Control/Data System
- ☐ Status and Plans
  - ⇒ Design/Performance for Detector is Consistent with the Design Goals
    - Optimization of the Design
    - Define Responsibilities
    - Advanced Options: seismic isolation, suspension, laser ???

# Noise Budget For First LIGO Detectors

- 5 Watt Laser
- Mirror Losses 50 ppm
- Recycling Factor of 30
- 10 kg Test Masses
- Suspension $Q=10^7$



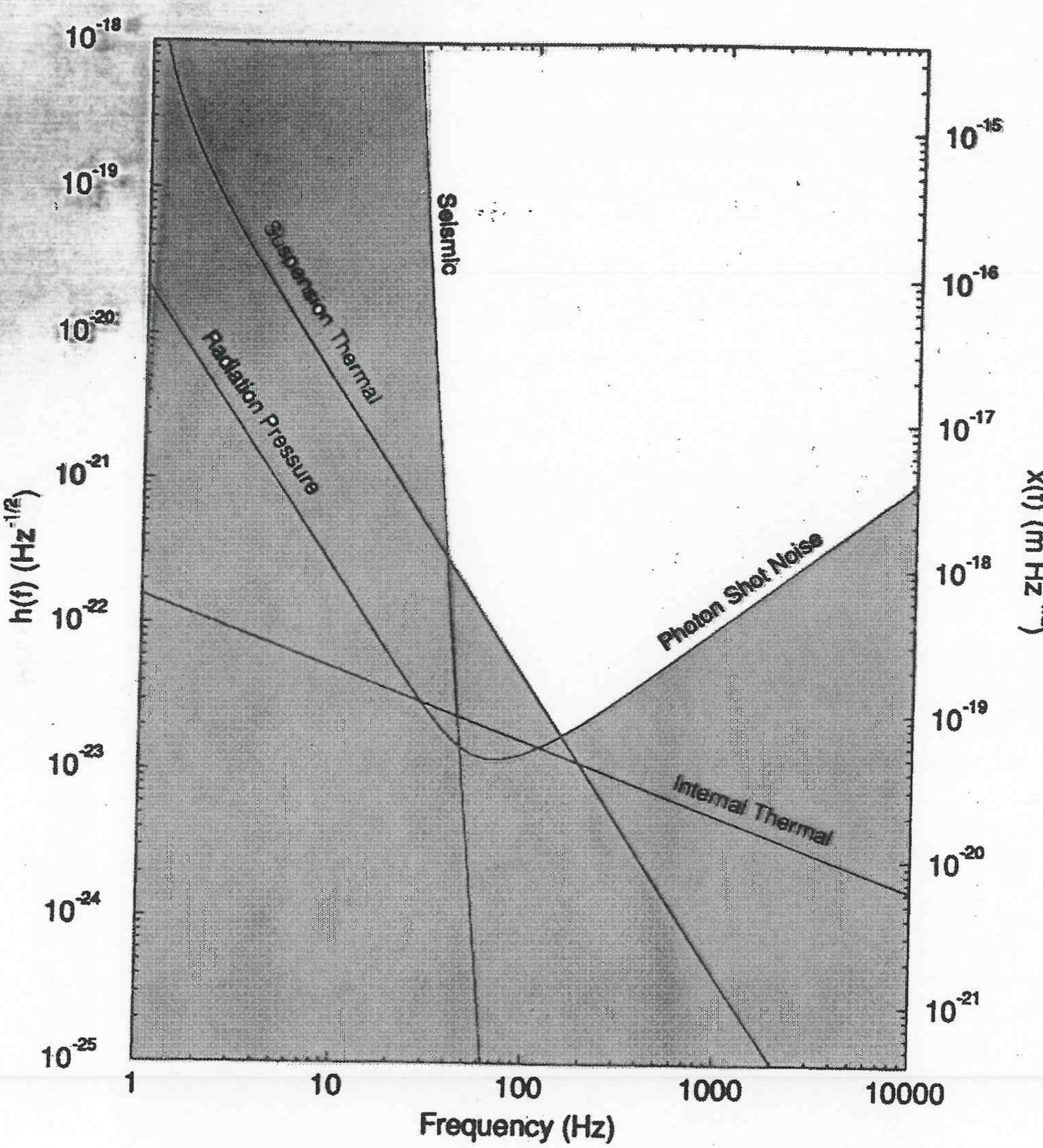

LIGO

Table 1-1. Initial interferometer specifications

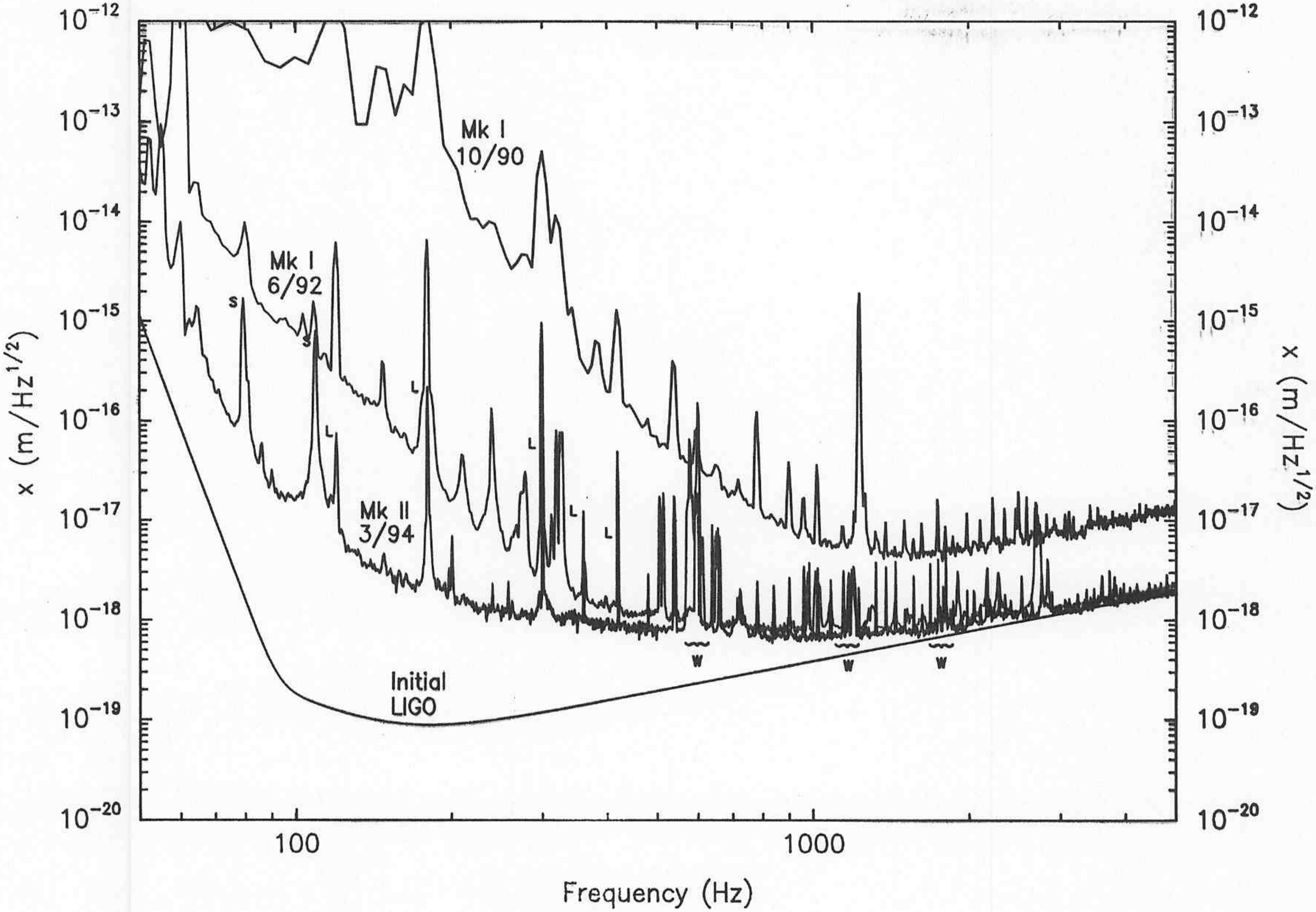
| | |
|---|---|
| Strain Sensitivity | $10^{-21}$ |
| Displacement Sensitivity | $4 \times 10^{-18}$ *m* |
| Fabry-Perot Arm Length | 4000 *m* |
| Vacuum Level | $< 10^{-6}$ *torr* |
| Laser Wavelength | 514.5 *nm* |
| Optical Power at Laser Output | 5 *W* |
| Optical Power at Interferometer Input | 2 *W* |
| Power Recycling Factor | 30 |
| Input Mirror Properties | Flat, Reflectivity = 0.97 |
| End Mirror Properties | 6-km Curvature, Reflectivity > 0.9999 |
| Arm Cavity Optical Loss | ≤ 3% |
| Light Storage Time in Arms | 1 *ms* |
| Test Masses | Fused Silica, 11 *kg* |
| Mirror Diameter | 25 *cm* |
| Test Mass Period Pendulum | 1 *sec* |
| Seismic Isolation System | Passive, 4 stage |
| Seismic Isolation System Horizontal Attenuation | ≥ 10-7 (100 *Hz*) |
| Maximum Background Pulse Rate | 1 *per minute* |

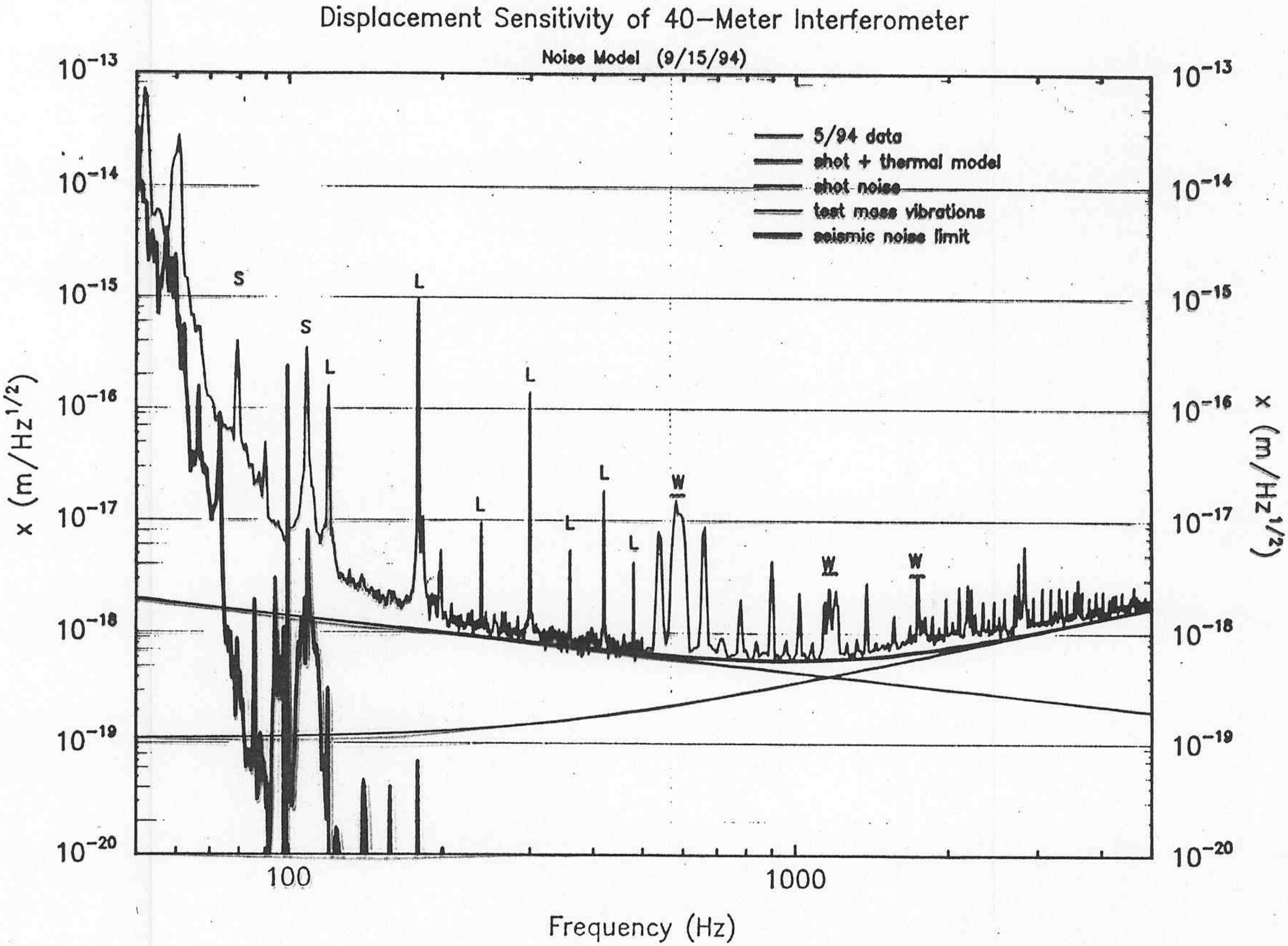
# R&D Program

- ☐ Overview
  - ⇒ Demonstration Experiments
    - Technical: Suspensions; Optics, Servos, ..
    - Sensitivity: Displacement, Phase Noise
  - ⇒ Priorities for Detector Design Freeze
  - ⇒ Operations: Reliability, Stability
  - ⇒ Develop Advanced Techniques
    - Active Seismic Isolation
- ☐ Progress and Plans
  - ⇒ Optics, Test masses, Mirrors, etc
  - ⇒ 40m Displacement Results


10^-18
10^-19
10^-20
10^-21
10^-22
10^-23
10^-24
10^-25
h(f) (Hz^-1/2)
10^-15
10^-16
10^-17
10^-18
10^-19
10^-20
10^-21
x(f) (m Hz^-1/2)
Seismic
Suspension Thermal
Radiation Pressure
Photon Shot Noise
Internal Thermal
1
10
100
1000
10000
Frequency (Hz)

Displacement Sensitivity of Caltech 40 m Interferometer

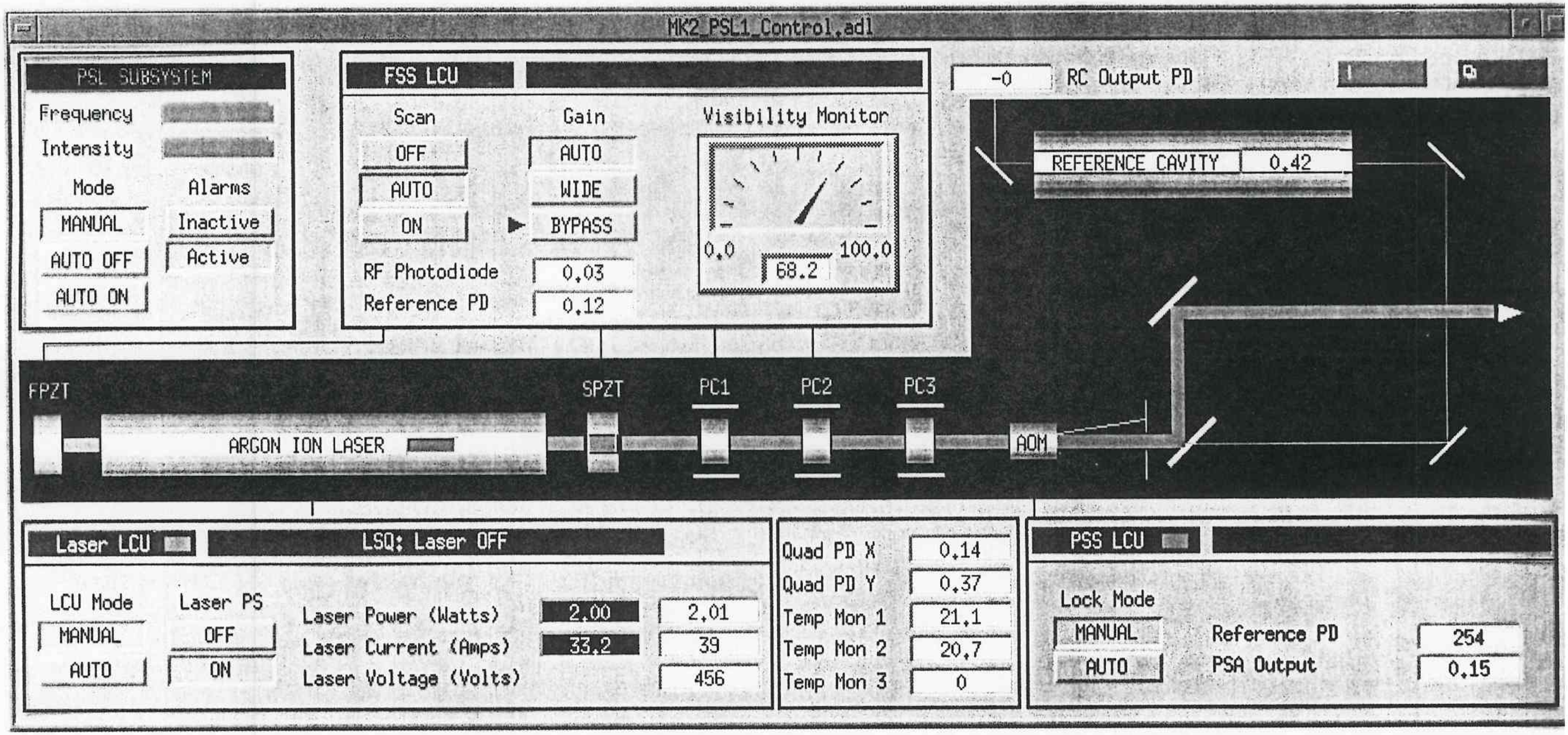


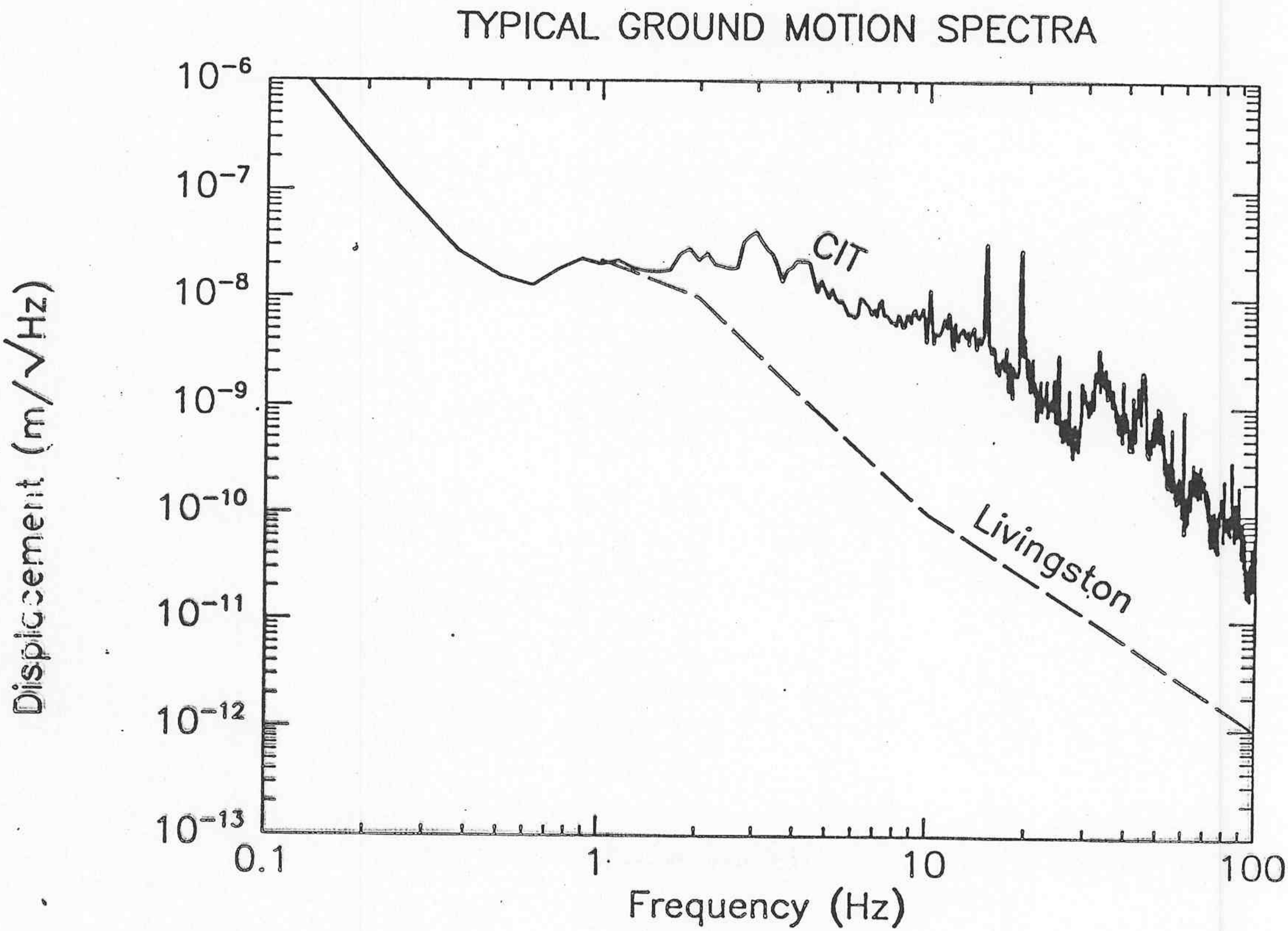


Displacement Sensitivity of 40-Meter Interferometer
Noise Model (9/15/94)
5/94 data
shot + thermal model
shot noise
test mass vibrations
seismic noise limit
S
S
L
L
L
L
L
L
L
L
W
W
W
$10^{-13}$
$10^{-14}$
$10^{-15}$
$10^{-16}$
$10^{-17}$
$10^{-18}$
$10^{-19}$
$10^{-20}$
x (m/Hz$^{1/2}$)
100
1000
Frequency (Hz)

# Reaching Design Sensitivity

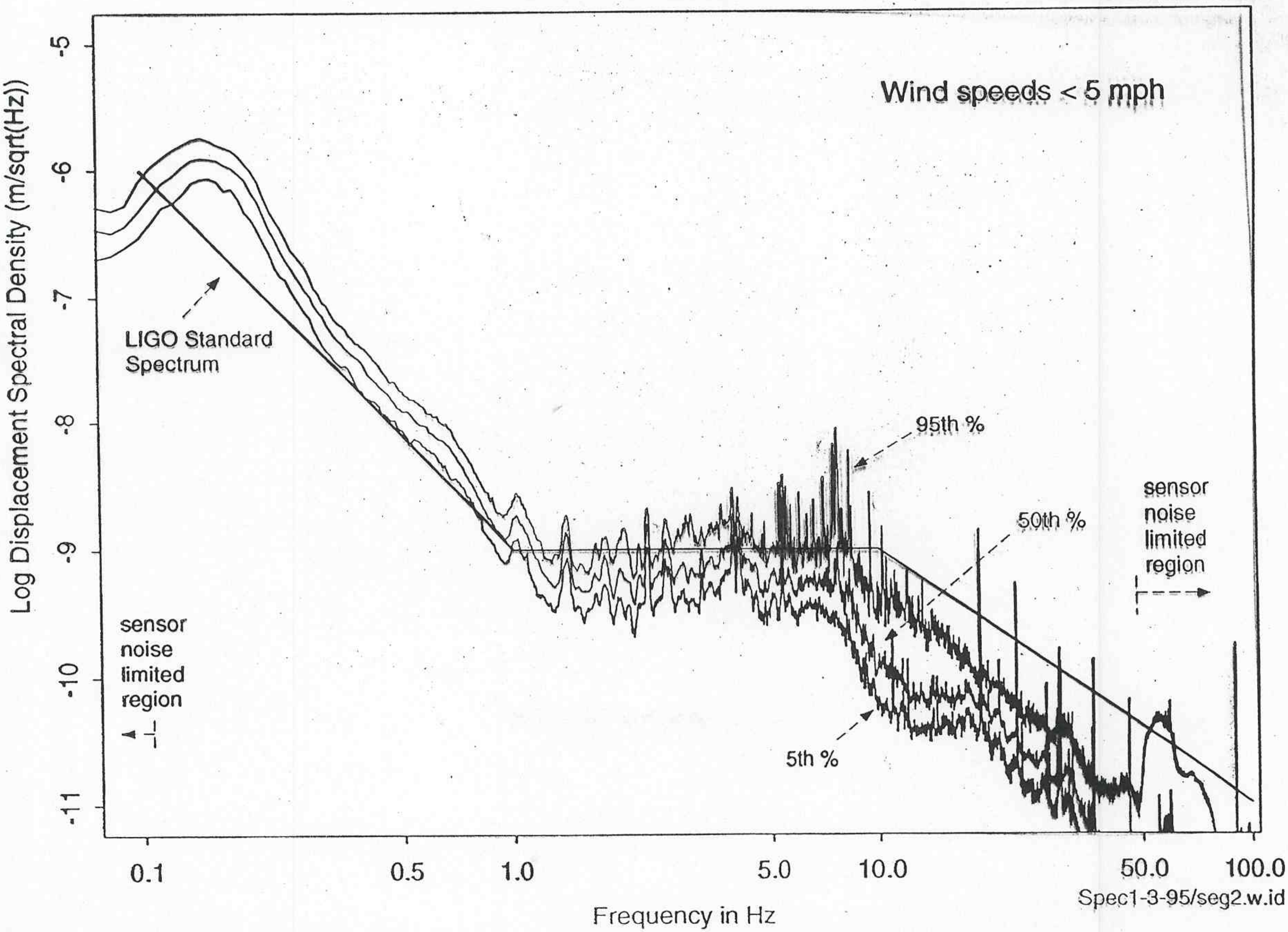
- □ Technical
  - ⇒ R&D - Improvements
  - ⇒ Engineering Design Improvements
  - ⇒ Systems Engineering/Integration
- □ Site Specific Factors
  - ⇒ Length 4 km (factor of 100)
  - ⇒ Environmental Factors (e.g.. Seismic)
- □ Long Term
  - ⇒ Reliability/Stability
  - ⇒ Flexibility - Detector Improvements
  - ⇒ Allow for Future New Detectors


MK2_PSL1_Control.adl
PSL SUBSYSTEM
Frequency
Intensity
Mode
Alarms
MANUAL
Inactive
AUTO OFF
Active
AUTO ON
FSS LCU
Scan
Gain
Visibility Monitor
OFF
AUTO
AUTO
WIDE
ON
BYPASS
0.0
100.0
68.2
RF Photodiode
0.03
Reference PD
0.12
-0
RC Output PD
REFERENCE CAVITY
0.42
FPZT
ARGON ION LASER
SPZT
PC1
PC2
PC3
AOM
Laser LCU
LSQ: Laser OFF
LCU Mode
Laser PS
MANUAL
OFF
AUTO
ON
Laser Power (Watts)
2.00
2.01
Laser Current (Amps)
33.2
39
Laser Voltage (Volts)
456
Quad PD X
0.14
Quad PD Y
0.37
Temp Mon 1
21.1
Temp Mon 2
20.7
Temp Mon 3
0
PSS LCU
Lock Mode
MANUAL
AUTO
Reference PD
254
PSA Output
0.15

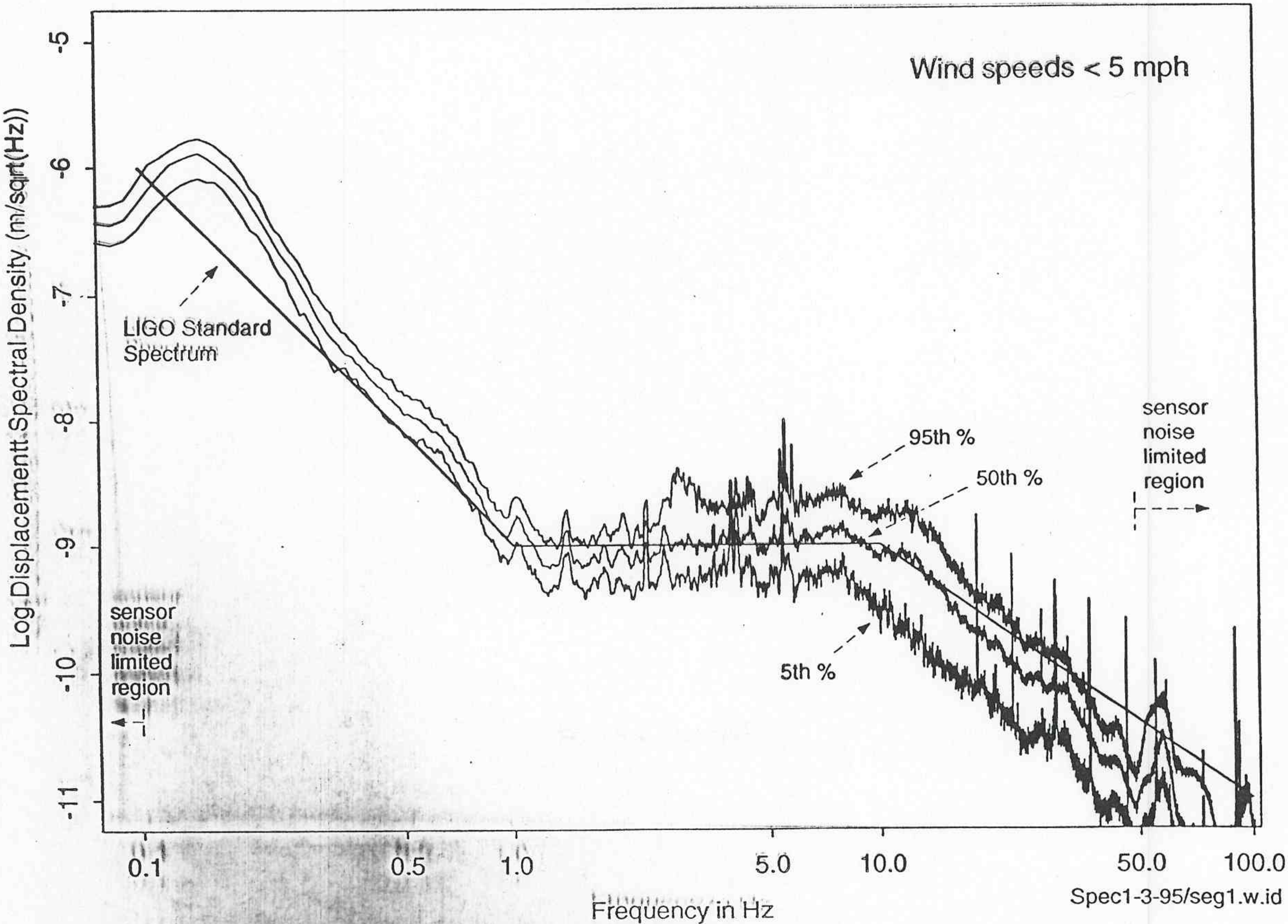

TYPICAL GROUND MOTION SPECTRA
Displacement (m/√Hz)
10⁻⁶
10⁻⁷
10⁻⁸
10⁻⁹
10⁻¹⁰
10⁻¹¹
10⁻¹²
10⁻¹³
0.1
1
10
100
Frequency (Hz)
CIT
Livingston

7B

# Hanford Corner Station SW Arm Axis, Late Night December 12,1994
(Preliminary Data)



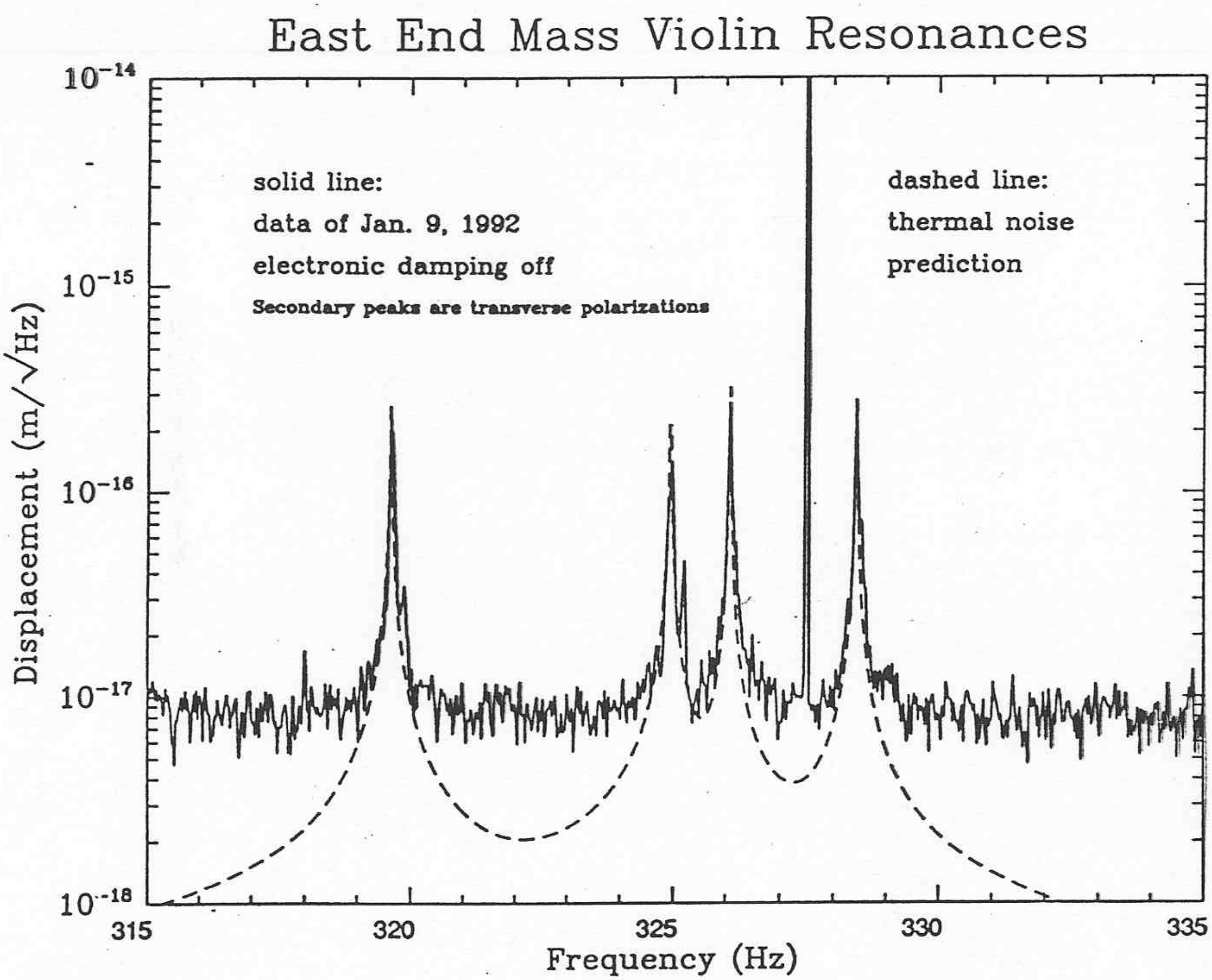
# Hanford Corner Station SW Arm Axis, Morning Traffic December 13,1994
(Preliminary Data)




7C

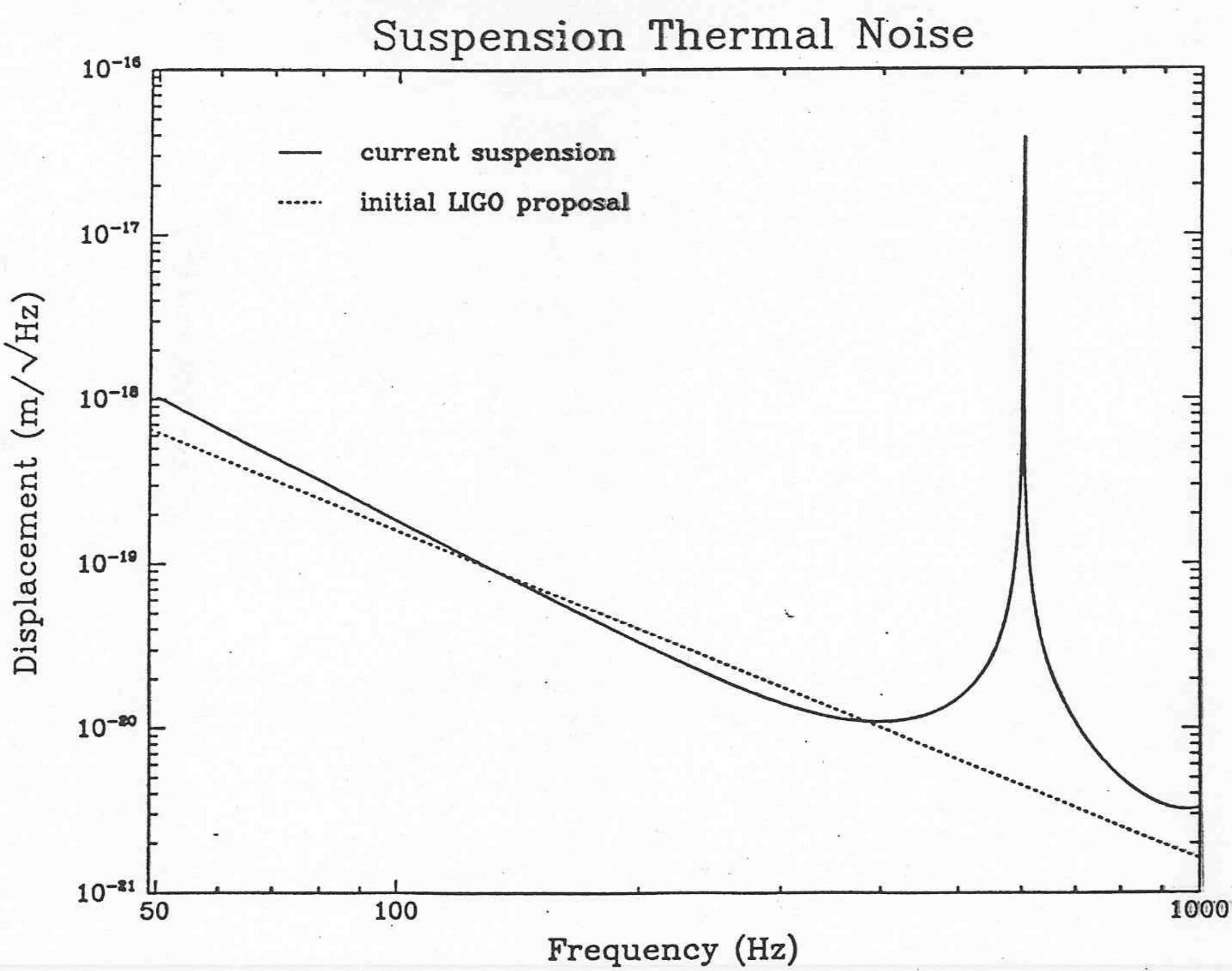
# Suspension Thermal Noise

## Observation of Thermal Noise in Violin Modes of 40–m Test Mass Suspensions



# Suspension Thermal Noise For LIGO Interferometers

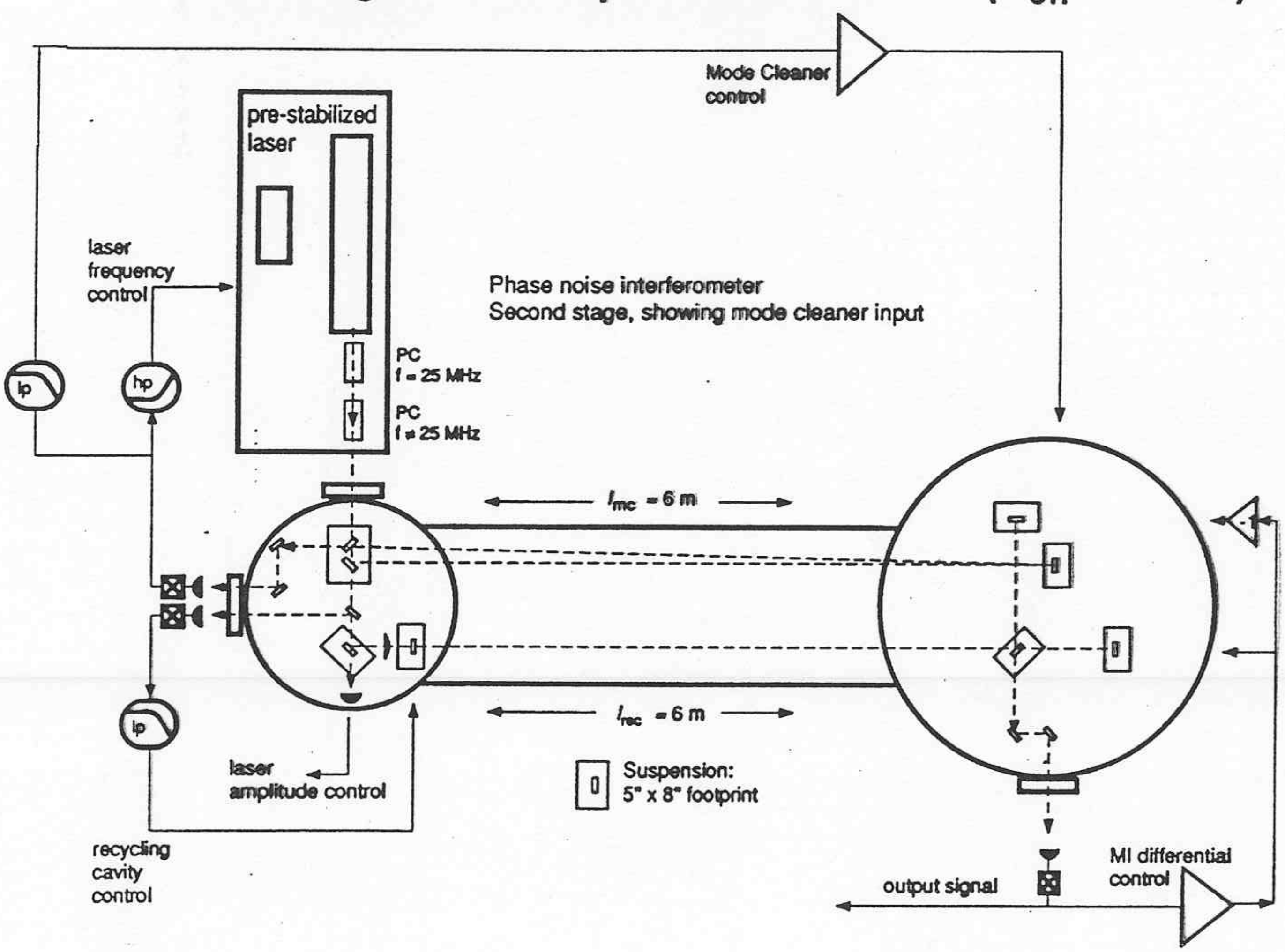
- **Projected Thermal Noise for LIGO Interferometers**
  - **Model Suspension System Using Frequency Independent Loss Function**
  - **Use Current 40–m Suspension Design (Standoff on Test Mass and Clamps at Suspension Point)**




LIGO

# Phase Noise Demonstration

- Goal is to Develop and Demonstrate Technology for Shot-Noise Limited Phase Measurements at Initial LIGO Interferometer Power Levels
  - Requires Development and Testing of Modulators and Photodetectors
- Build Up 5–m Interferometer in Stages toward Full Recombined, Recycled Operation
  - Begin with Simple Michelson Interferometer Using LIGO Readout Scheme ($P_{eff} \sim 1$ W)
  - Add Recycling Mirror ($P_{eff} \sim 15$ W)
  - Reconfigure with Input Mode Cleaner ($P_{eff} \sim 70$ W)



# Shot Noise

$$\delta h(f) \approx \frac{1}{L} \left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x}(f) \right)^{-1} \delta \phi(f)$$

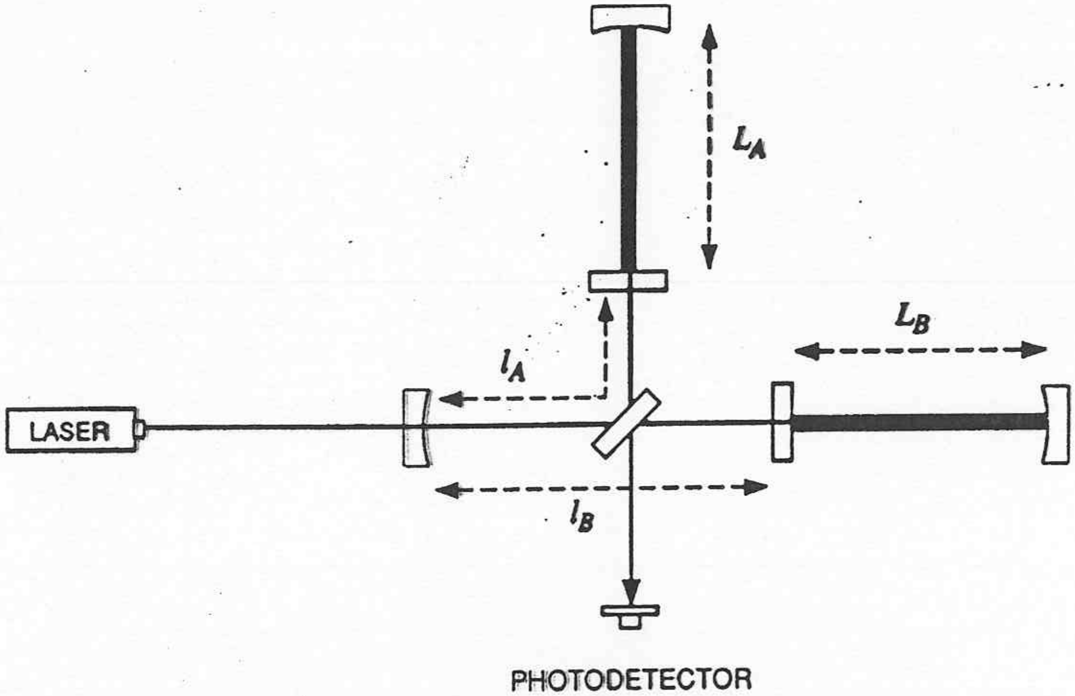
PROPERTY OF INTERFEROMETER OPTICAL CONFIGURATION (MIRROR R'S, ETC.)

DETERMINED PRIMARILY BY EFFECTIVE OPTICAL POWER

- **Achieving Shot-Noise Limited Phase Sensitivity Requires Understanding and Control of All Other Optical Sources of Noise**
  - **Laser Noise**
  - **Photodiode Uniformity**
  - **Modulator-Induced Noise**
  - **Scattered Light**

| | |
|---|---|
| **LIGO Requirement** | $10^{-10}$ rad/$\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$ |
| **Current 40-m Interferometer** | $10^{-8}$ rad/$\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$ |
| **MPQ Garching** | $10^{-9}$ rad/$\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$ |

# Optical Configuration Investigations

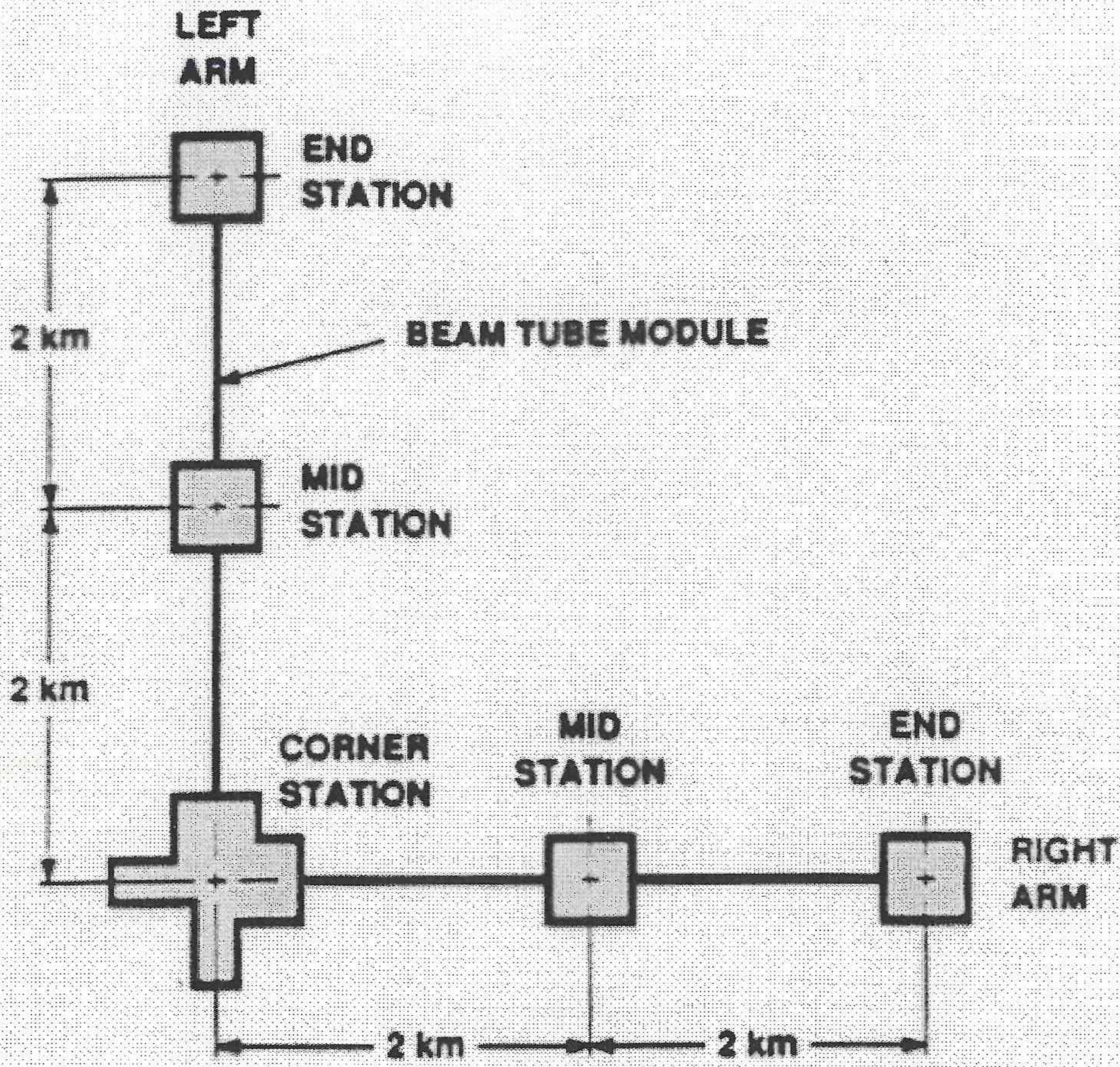



- Must Control at Least Four Critical Lengths
  - Need to Specify Placement of Pick-offs, Photodetectors, and Modulators to Extract Required Control Signals
- In 1991, Started Efforts to Build and Test Two Possible Schemes in Tabletop Experiments For Comparison with Model Predictions of Performance
  - Test Signal Sizes, Servoloop Stability
  - Look for Gaps in Models
  - Not Practical to Test Noise Performance

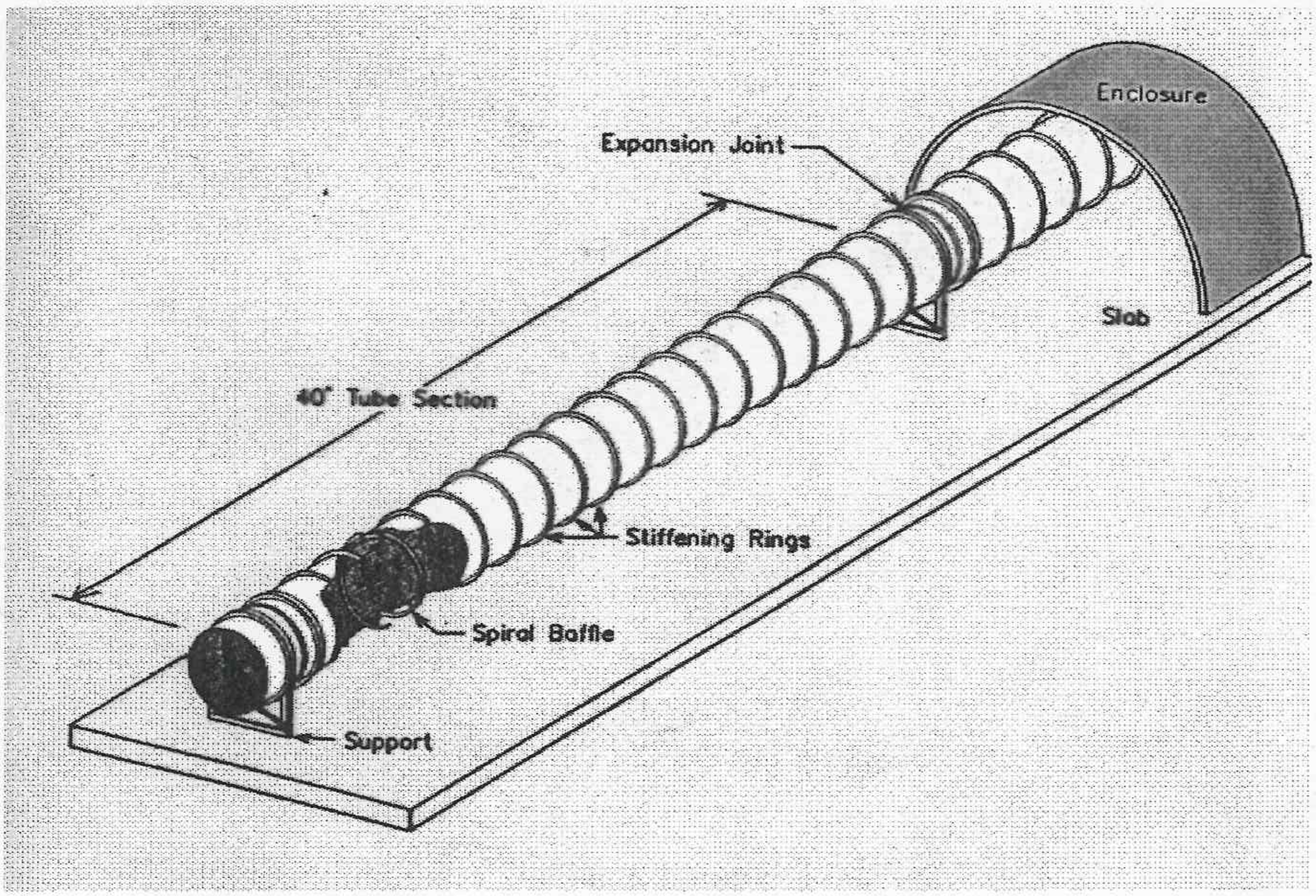
LIGO

# LIGO Project

- ☐ Major Facilities
  - ⇒ Beam Tube
  - ⇒ Vacuum Systems
  - ⇒ Civil Construction
- ☐ R&D
- ☐ Detector
  - ⇒ Interferometers
  - ⇒ Control and Data Systems
- ☐ Project Management


LEFT
ARM
END
STATION
2 km
BEAM TUBE MODULE
MID
STATION
2 km
CORNER
STATION
MID
STATION
END
STATION
RIGHT
ARM
2 km
2 km

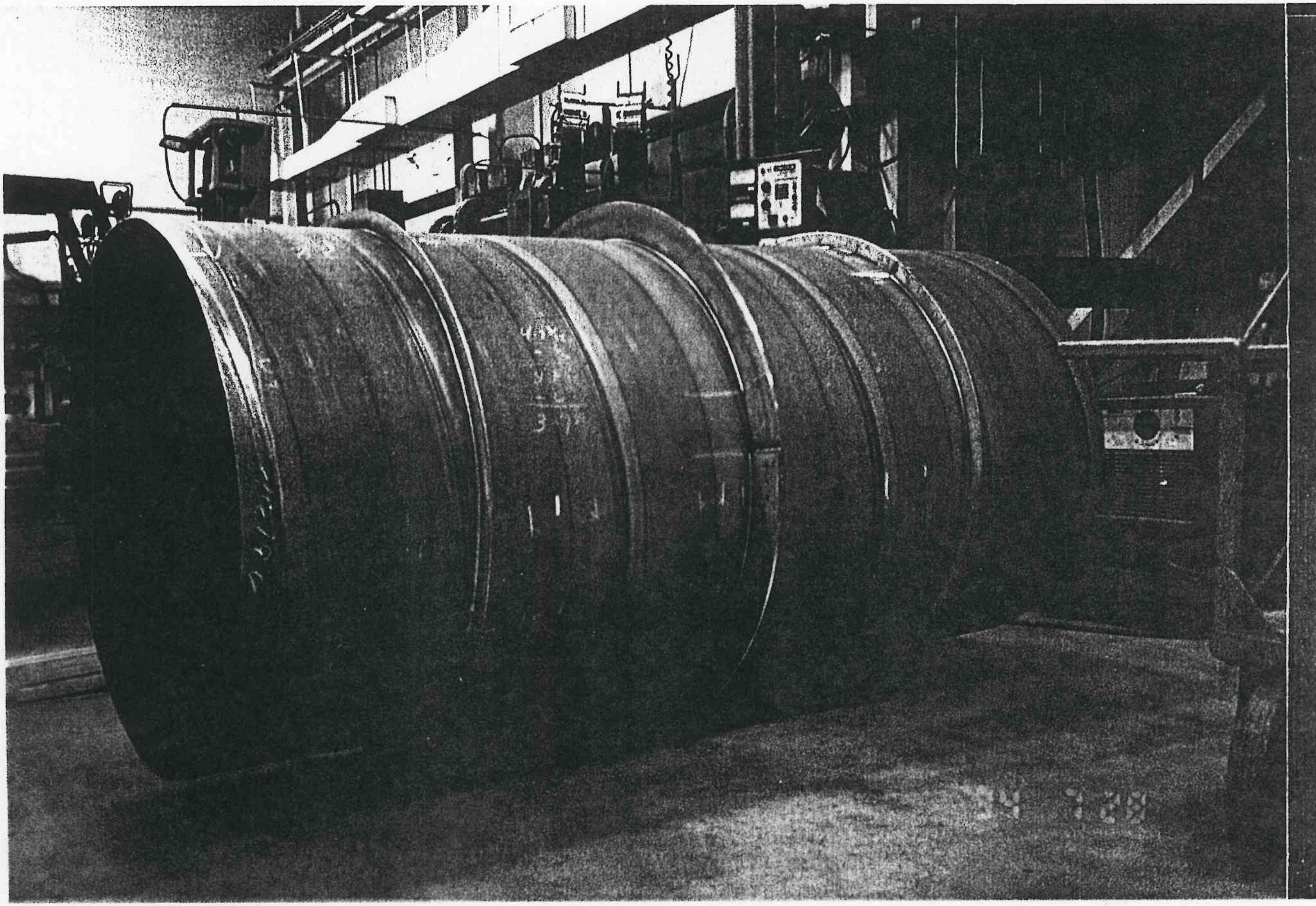
# Beam Tube

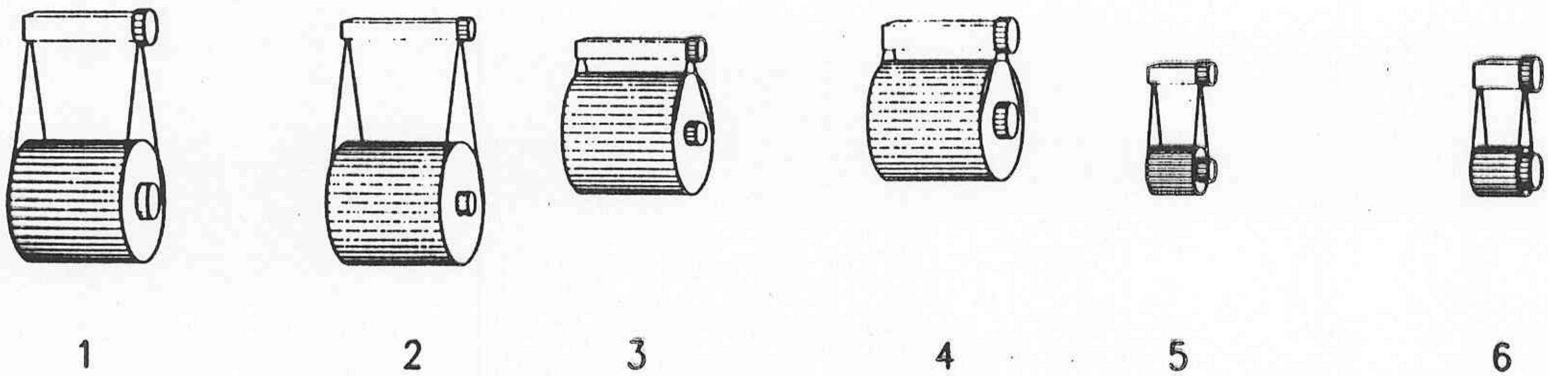

Enclosure
Expansion Joint
Slab
40' Tube Section
Stiffening Rings
Spiral Baffle
Support

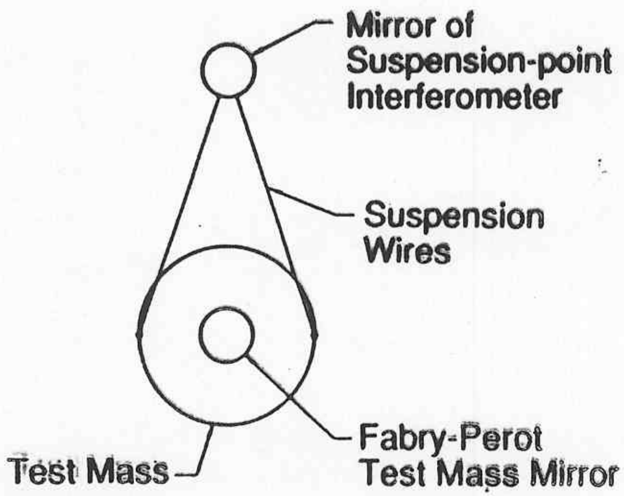
# Beam Tube

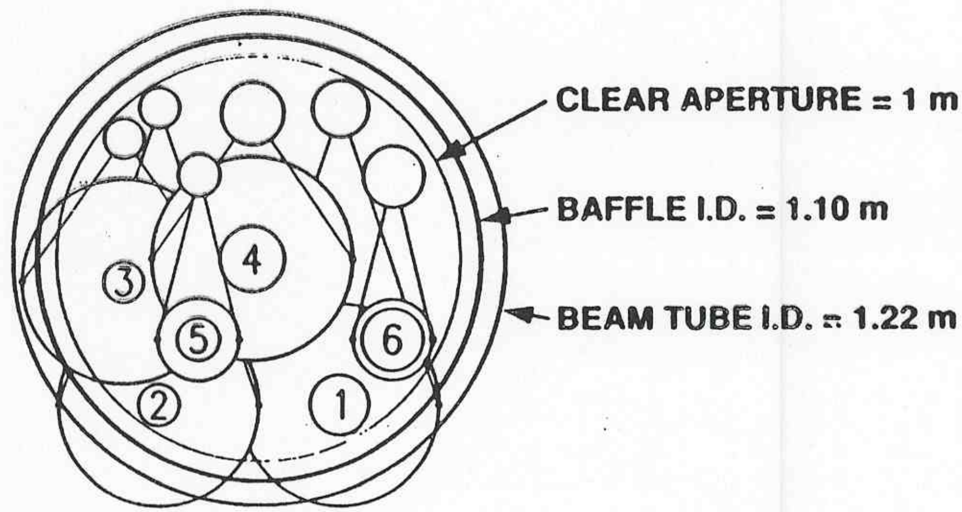
- ☐ Characteristics
  - ⇒ Arm Lengths - 4km
  - ⇒ Tube Diameter - 4 ft
  - ⇒ Initial Detector
    - $10^{-6}$ torr Hydrogen; $10^{-7}$ torr Water
  - ⇒ Advanced Detectors
    - $10^{-9}$ torr Hydrogen; $10^{-10}$ torr Water
  - ⇒ Quality Control
    - (materials, welding, cleaning, etc)

- ☐ Status and Plans
  - ⇒ Design Contract was with CBI
    - Final Design Report Accepted (6/94)
  - ⇒ Qualification Test
    - 130 ft Section - success (4/95)
  - ⇒ Contract Options




1
2
3
4
5
6


Mirror of
Suspension-point
Interferometer
Suspension
Wires
Test Mass
Fabry-Perot
Test Mass Mirror


CLEAR APERTURE = 1 m
BAFFLE I.D. = 1.10 m
BEAM TUBE I.D. = 1.22 m
1
2
3
4
5
6

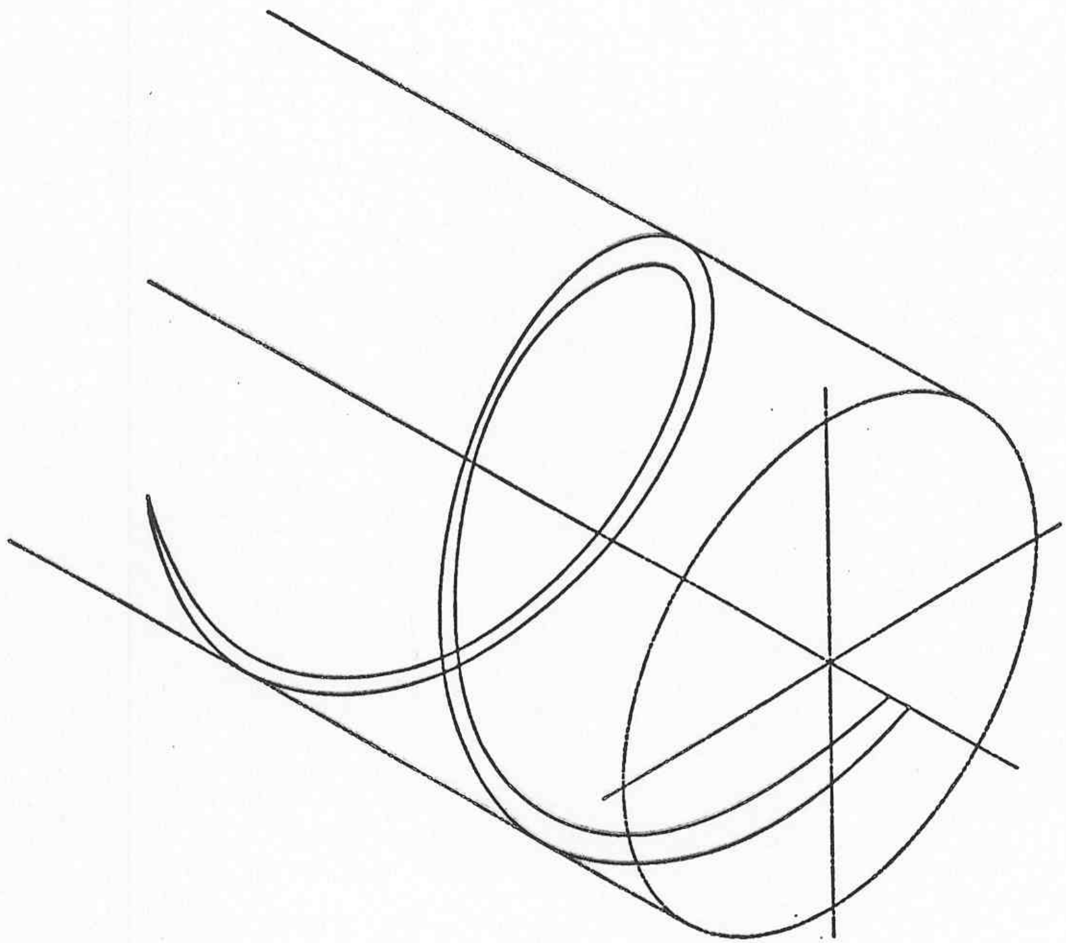
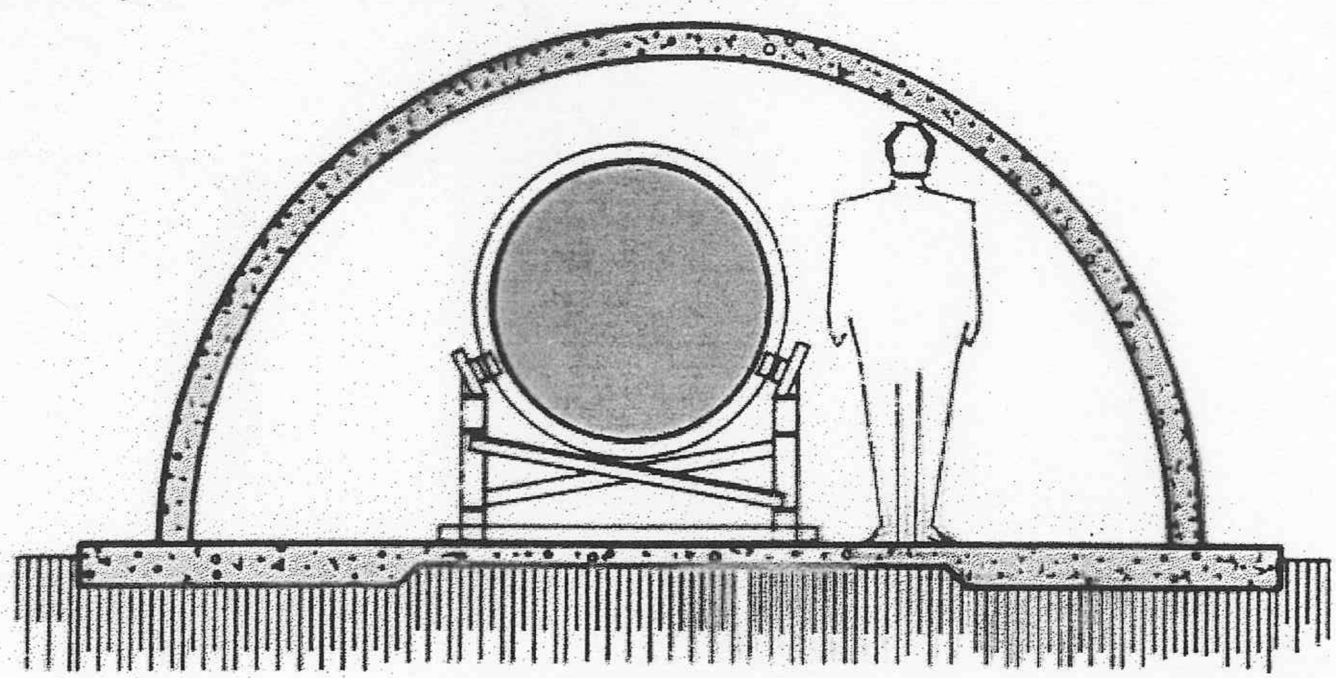


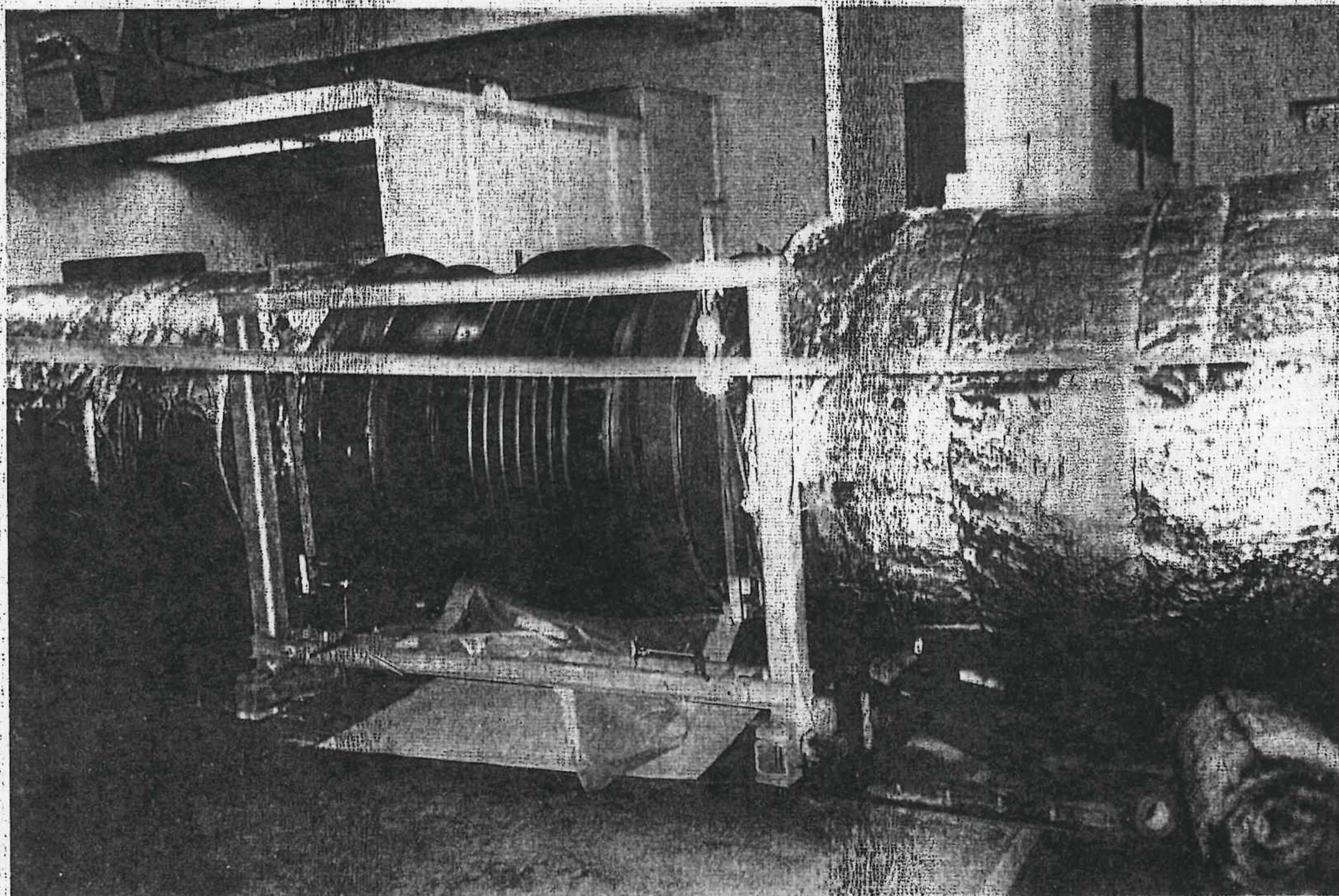
FIGURE1.1.2 #4 BAFFLE SCHEMATIC



LJ

# Beam Tube Enclosure

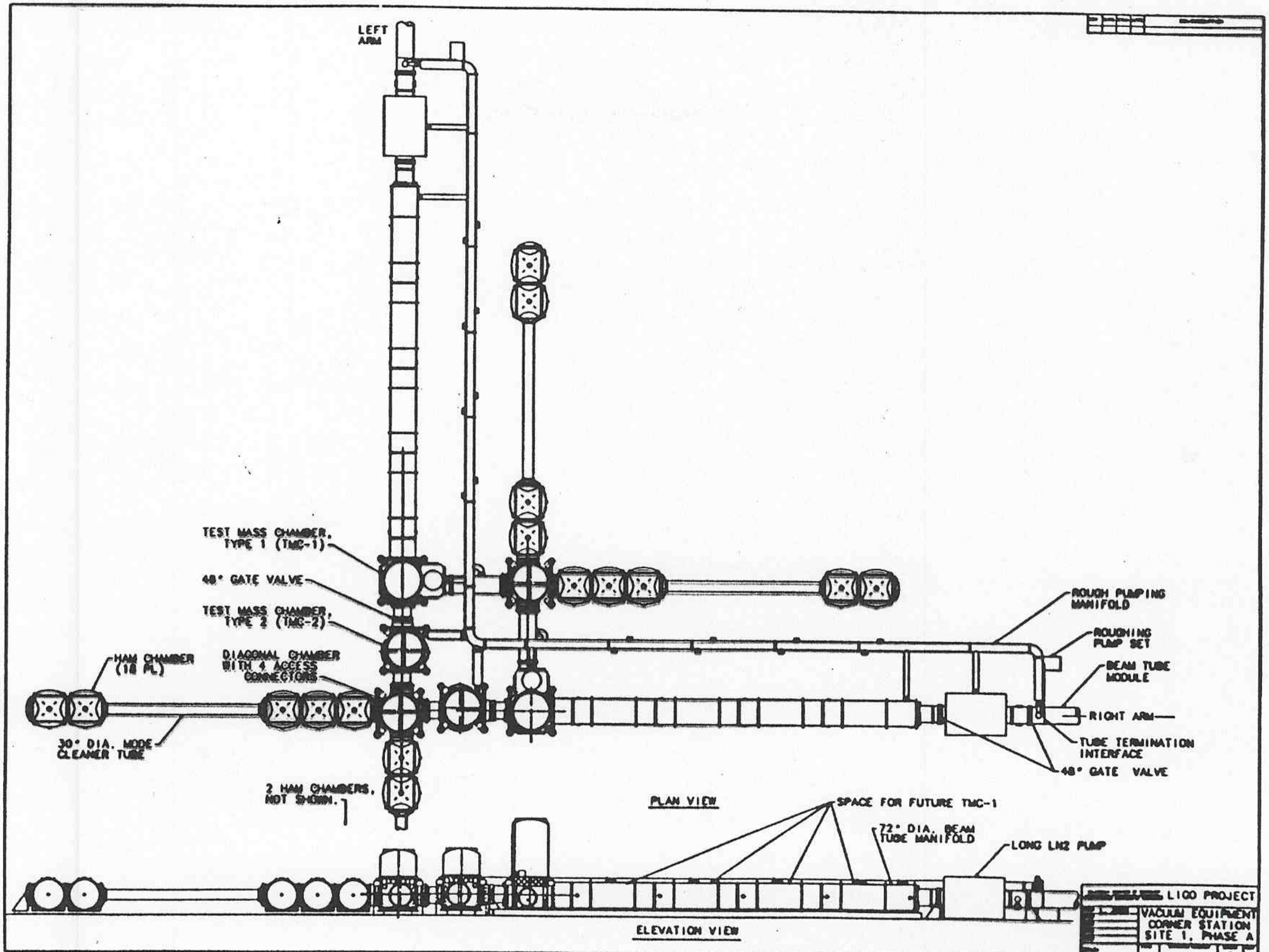




# Vacuum Equipment

- Characteristics
  - ⇒ Enormous Volume (~20,000 $m^3$)
  - ⇒ Mostly Standard Vac. Equipment
    - 1st stage roughing - Atm -> 0.1 torr
    - 2nd stage roughing - 0.1 torr ->$10^{-6}$ torr
    - Steady State - Ion/getter pumps.
  - ⇒ Large Gate Valves (4ft diam)
    - access and flexibility
  - ⇒ Controls and Monitoring

- Status and Plans
  - ⇒ Specifications Defined
    - Science Review Complete - Aug '95
  - ⇒ RFP for Design and Manufacturing
    - CBI and PSI awarded design contracts
    - Down-select 6/95




EDITION 11-5-92

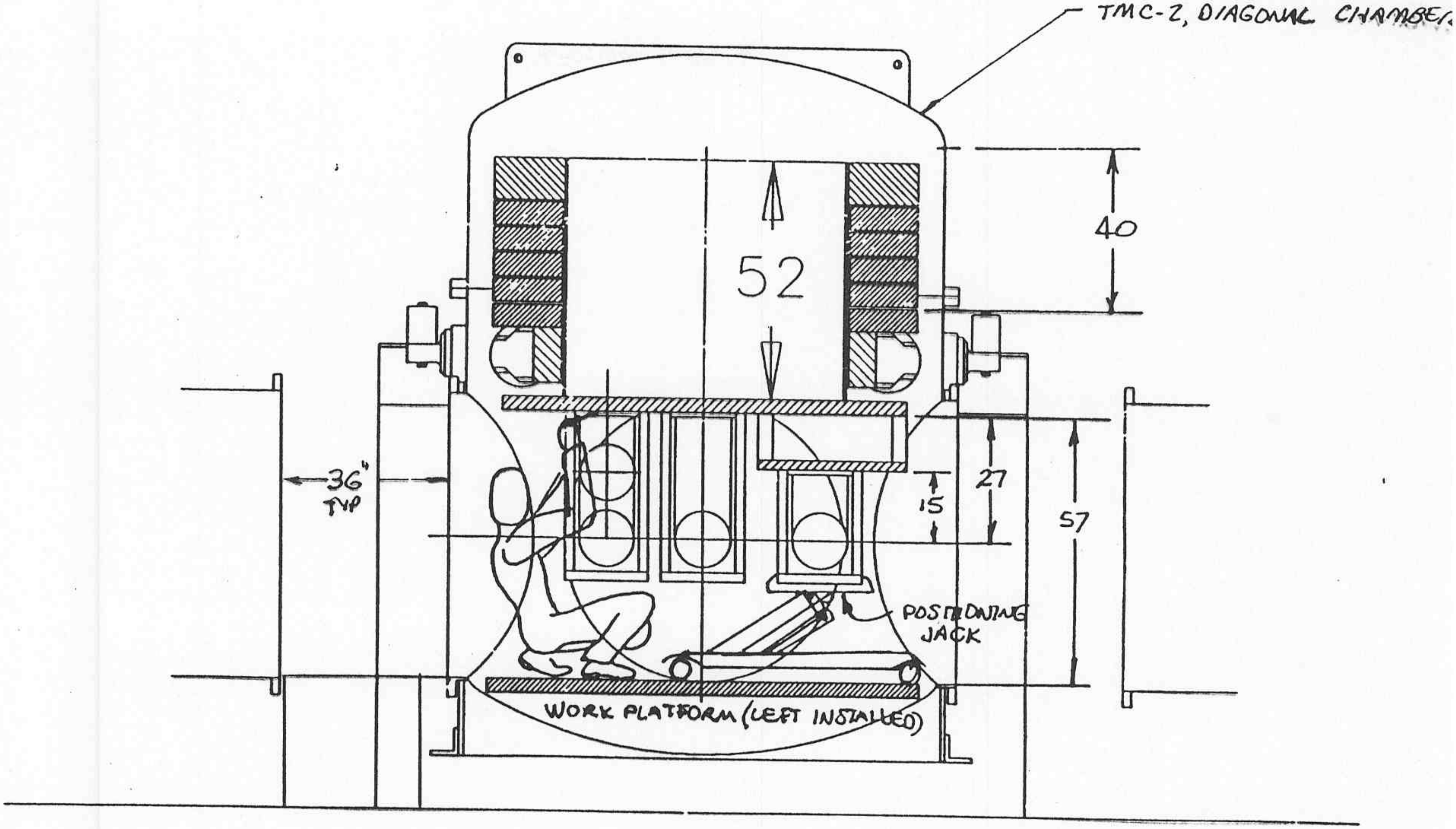
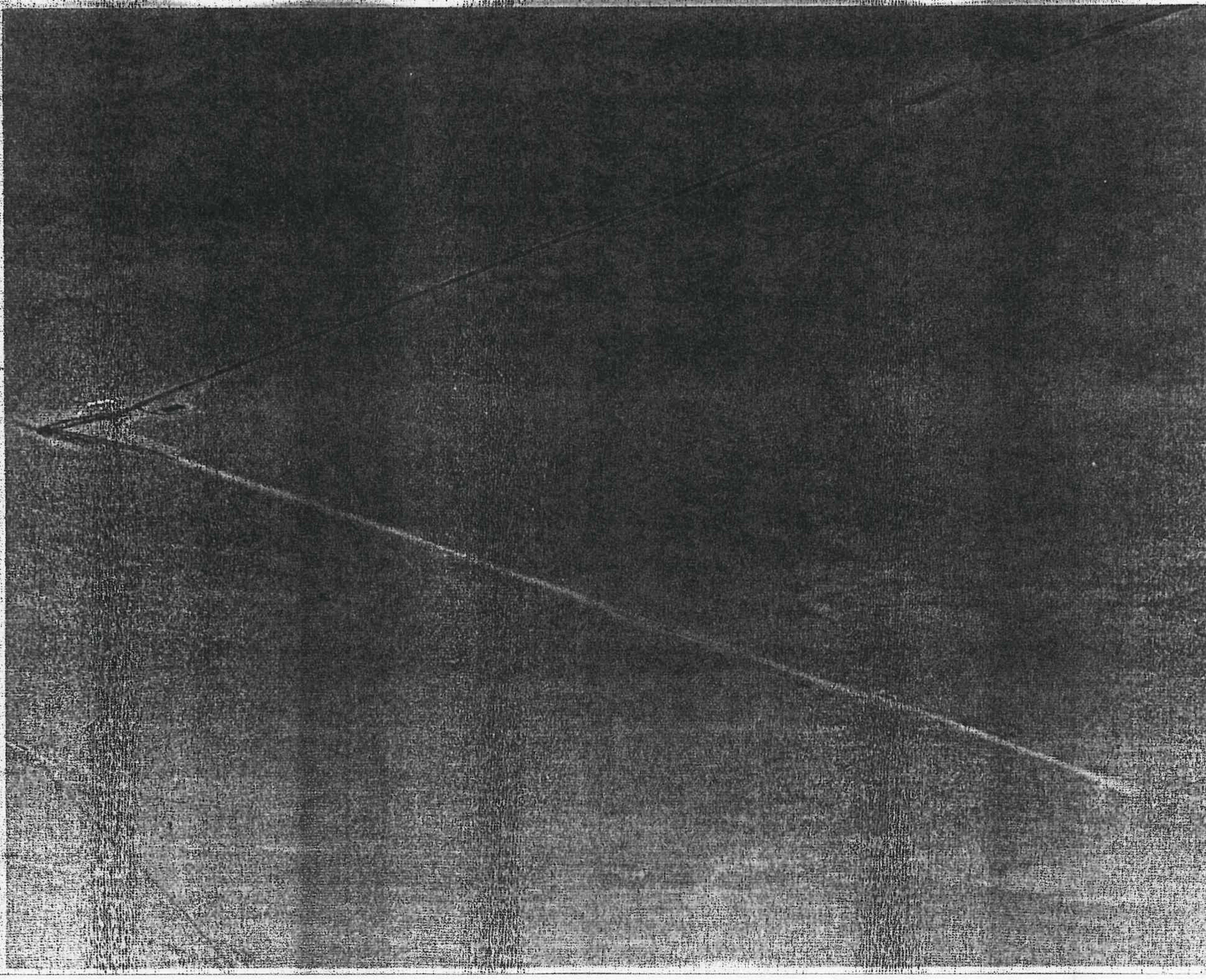


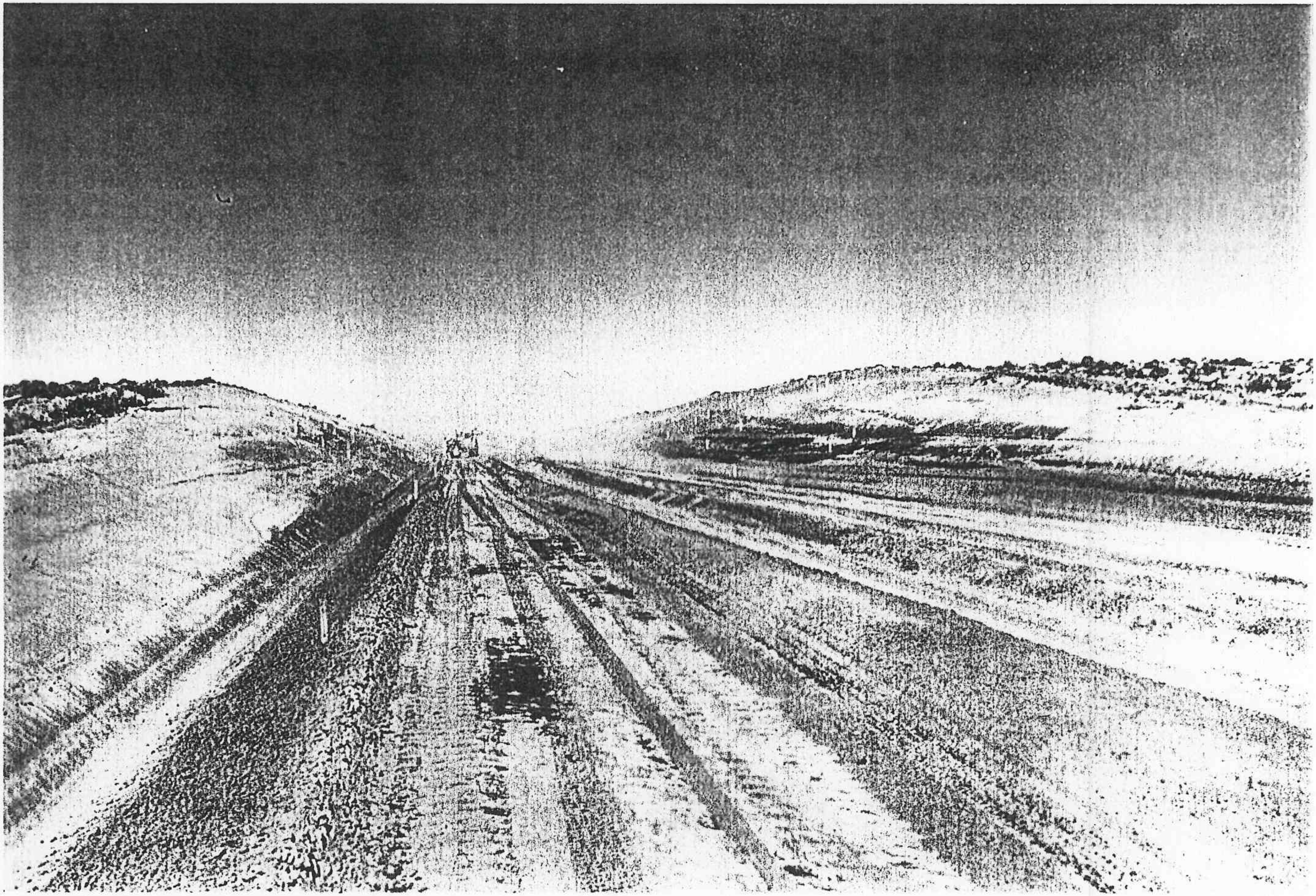

FIG. 3 INTERNAL ACCESS

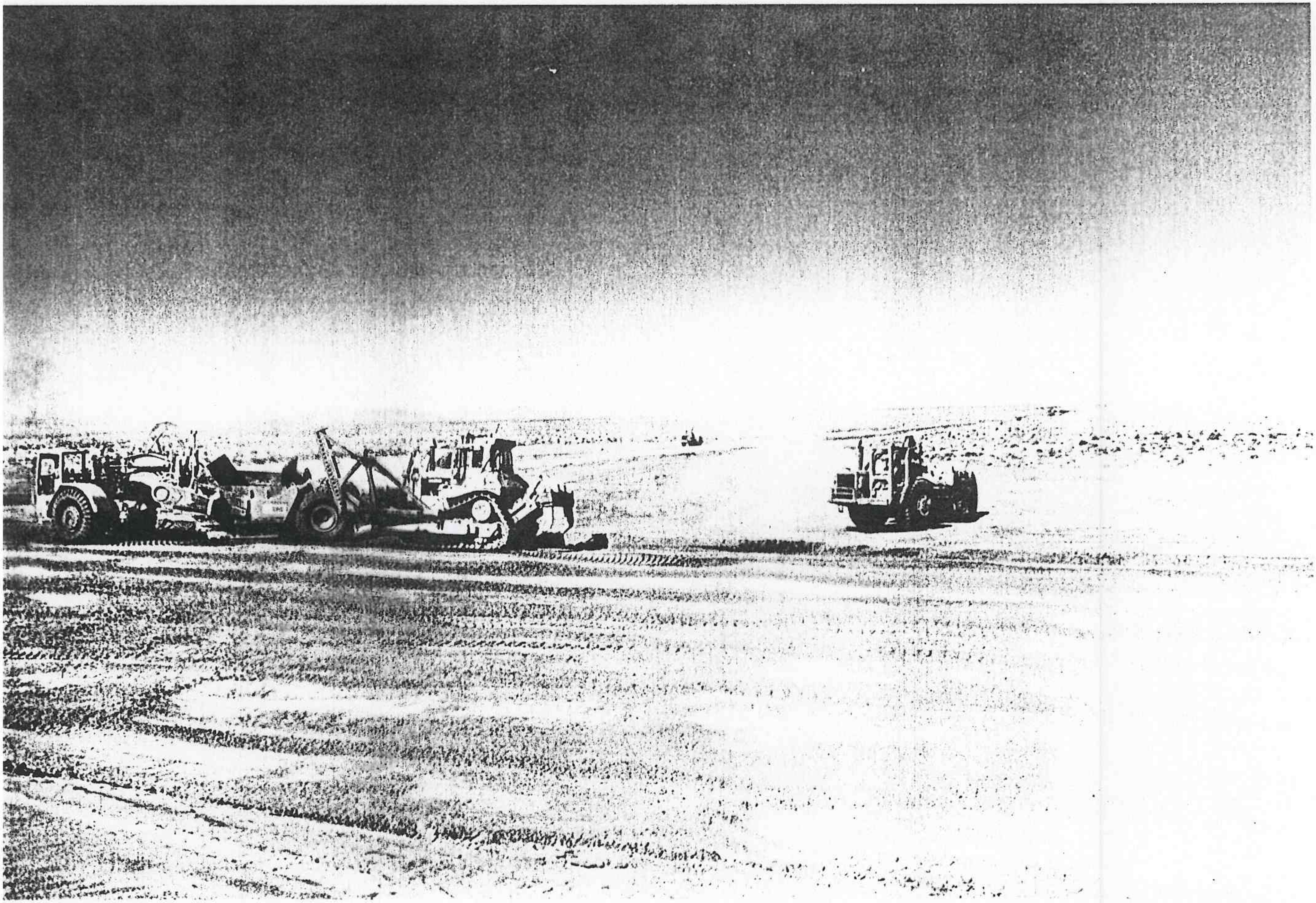
9-2-92

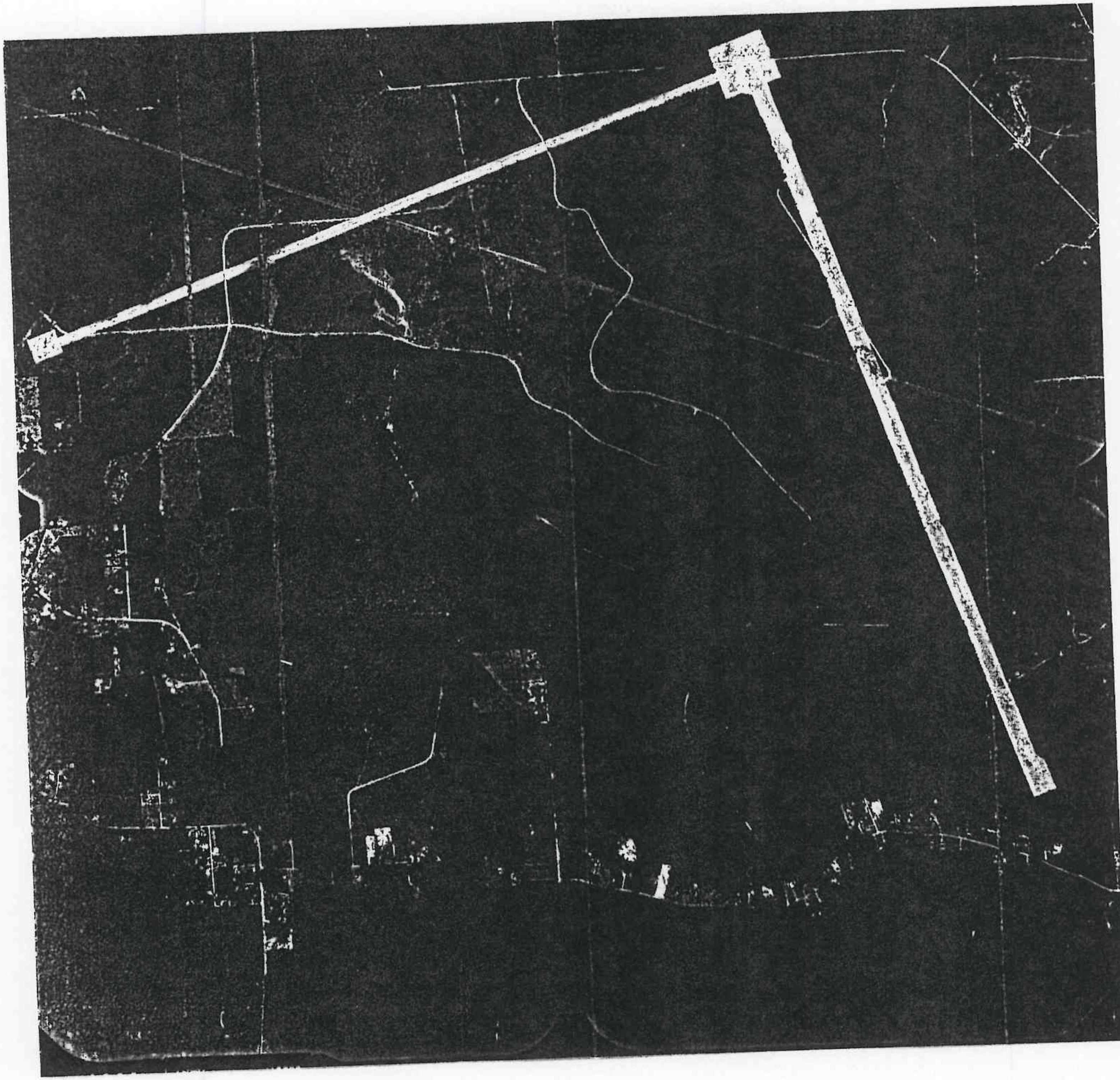
# Civil Construction

- Characteristics
  - ⇒ Structures, Foundation, Roads, etc
    - Large and Clean Laboratory Bldgs
    - Beam Enclosures
    - Office/Lab Space
  - ⇒ Requirements
    - Seismic Stability, Noise Sources, etc
    - Cleanliness
- Status and Plans
  - ⇒ Both Sites Acquired
    - Grading - Wash; Clearing in Lousiana
  - ⇒ Design/Const. Management
    - Awarded to Parsons (Nov 95)
  - ⇒ Conceptual Design -
    - 90% A&E received 4/95
    - Trade Studies; Value Engineering









# LIGO

LIVINGSTON PARISH

LOUISIANA

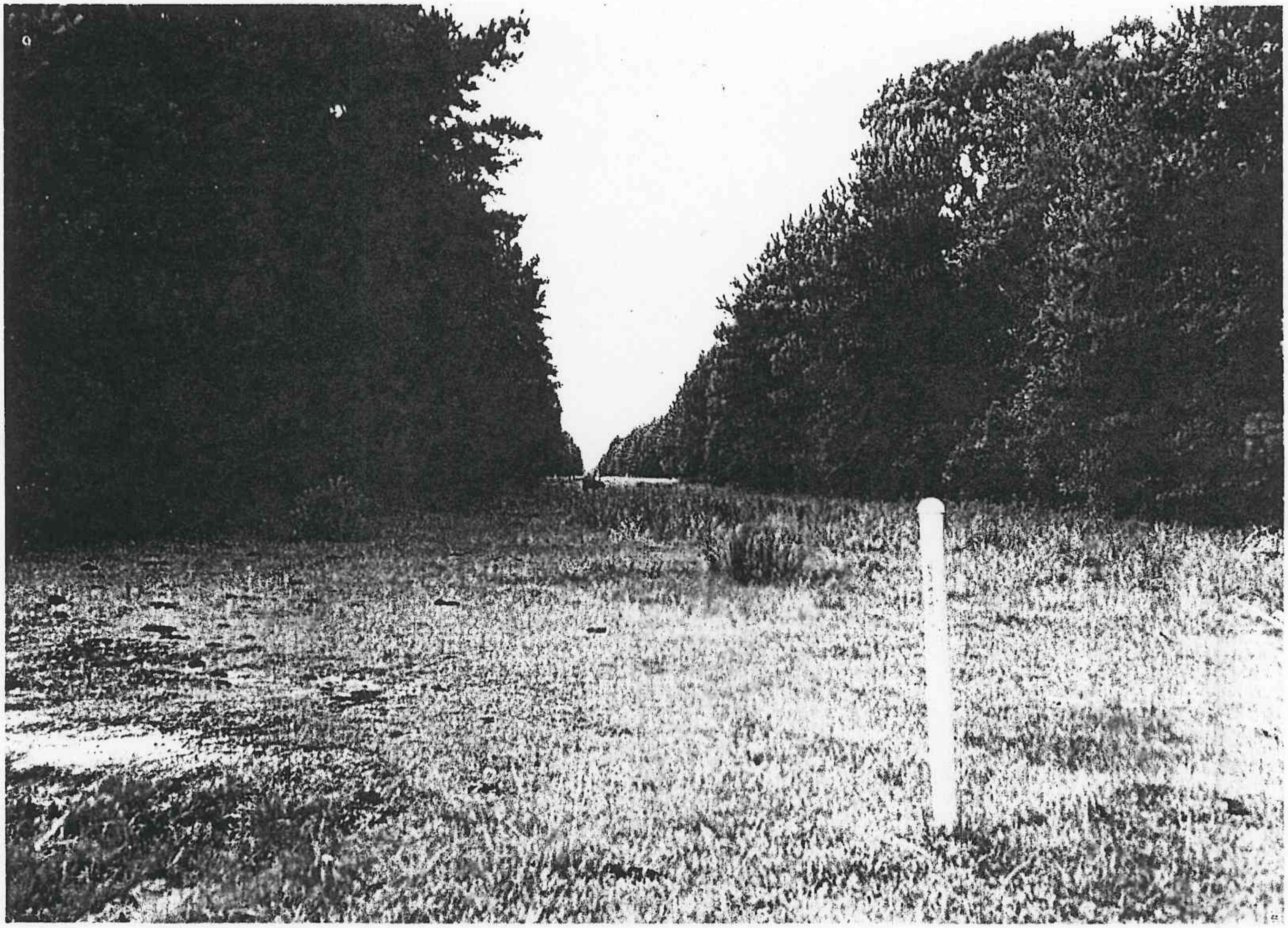
1A

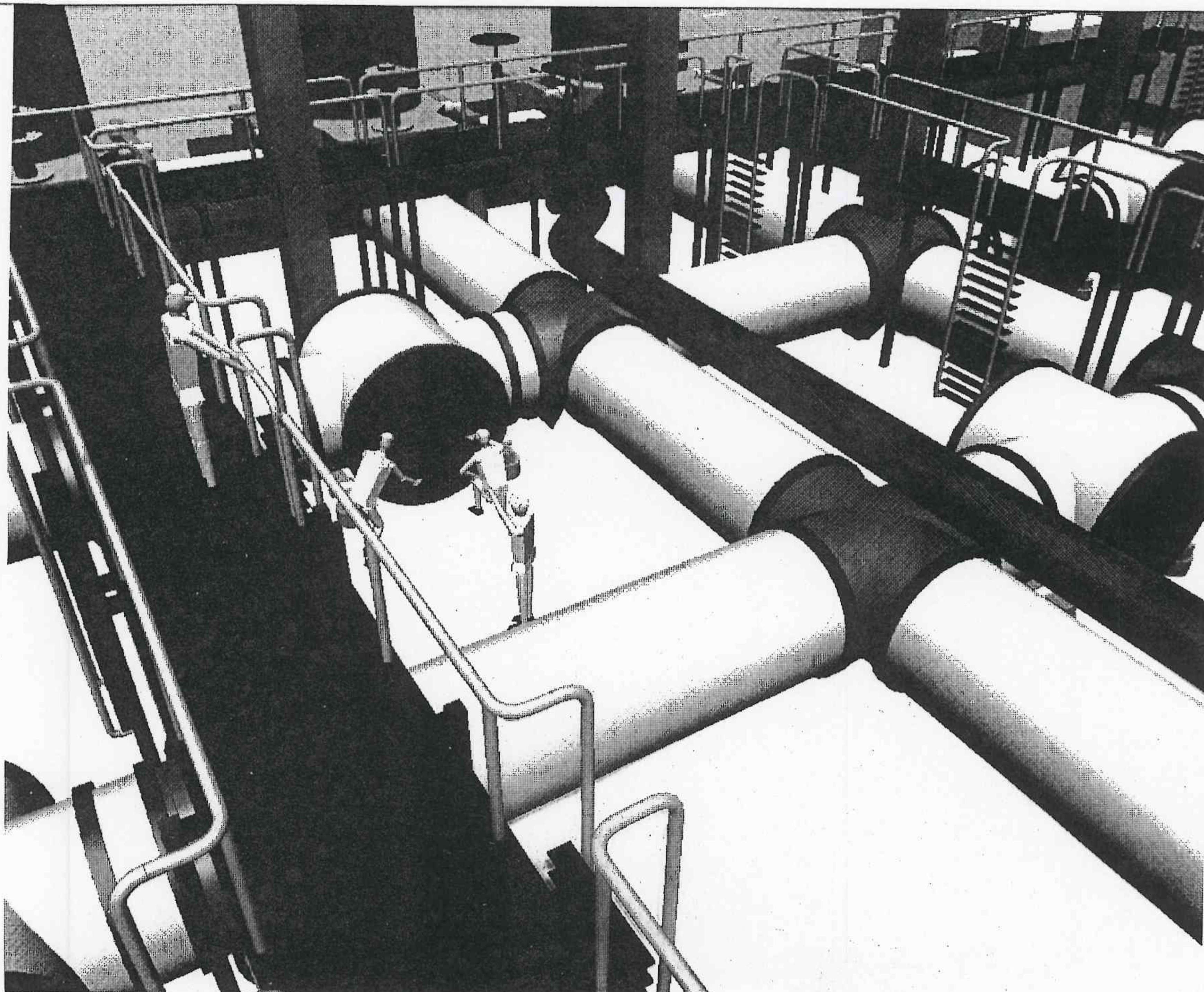
AERIAL PHOTO BY:

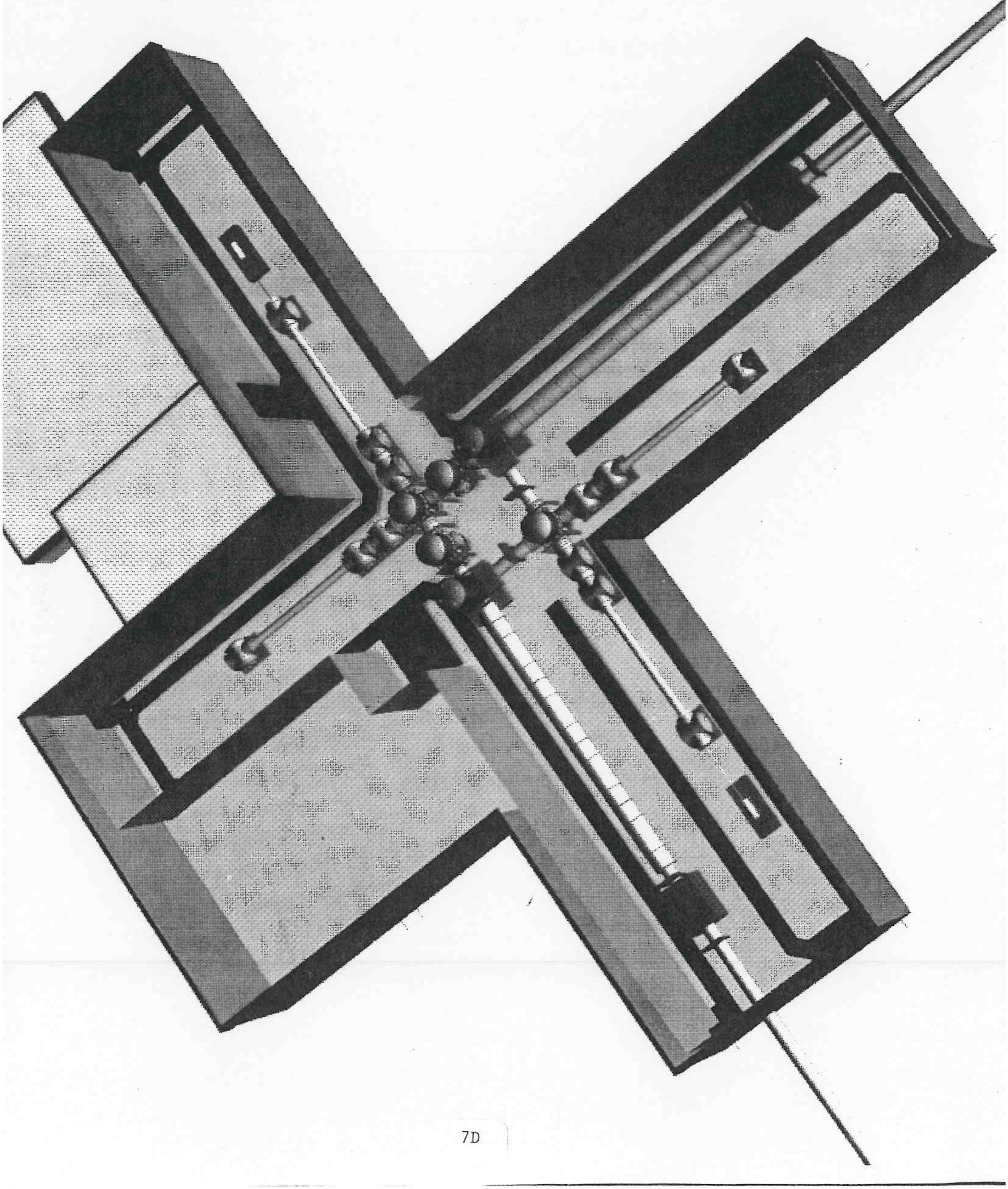
GULF COAST AERIAL MAPPING

FLOWN: AUGUST 25, 1995

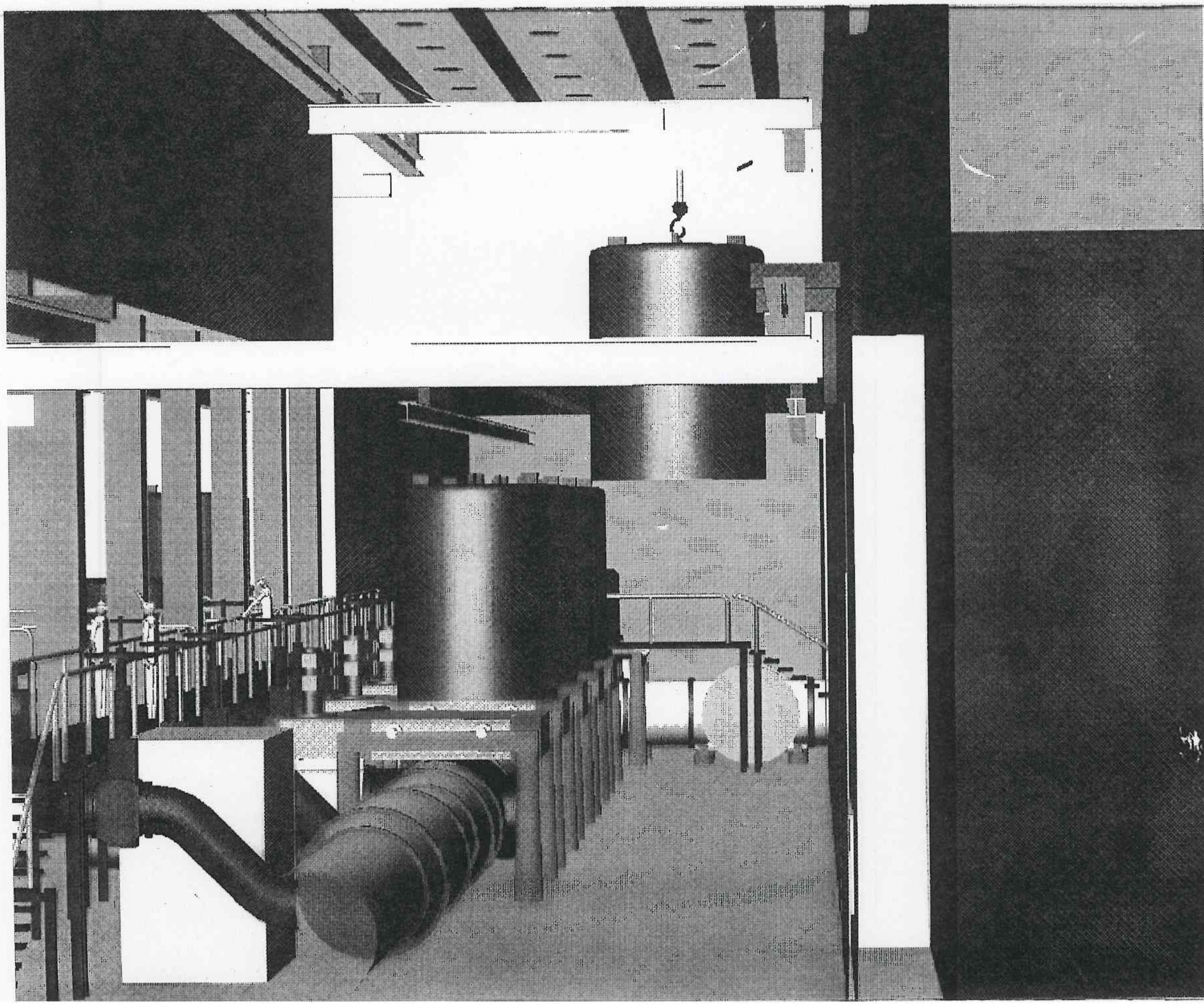
ALTITUDE: 12,000 FEET







7D



# Project Status and Plans

- ☐ Ready for Construction Phase
  - ⇒ Acquisition Plans; Designs; etc
- ☐ Construction Project
  - ⇒ Complete in 1999
- ☐ Operations
  - ⇒ Begins as Construction is Completed
  - ⇒ Operational for Science during 2000
  - ⇒ Design Goal by end of 2001

# LIGO Detectors
## *R&D Program*

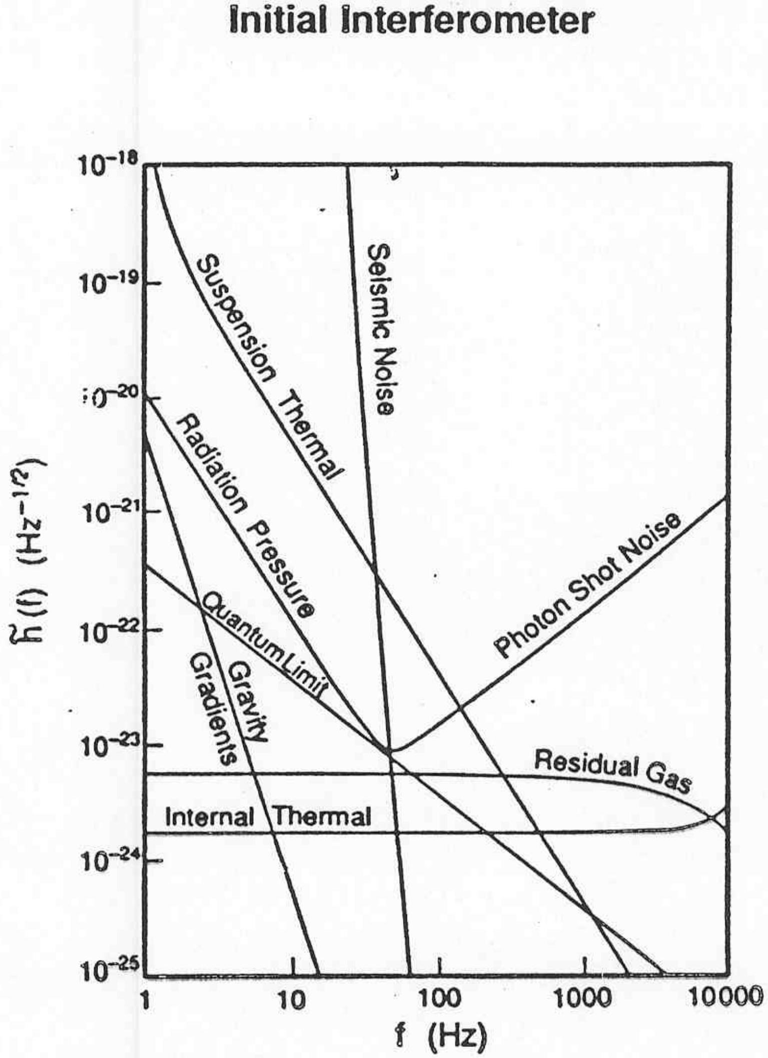
- Sensitivity
  - » main features of 40 m spectrum understood
  - » monolithic test masses improve sensitivity
- Demonstration Experiments
  - » optical recombination demonstrated on 40 m
  - » acquisition locking with LIGO controls
  - » MIT phase noise experiments underway
- Pre- [detector design freeze]
  - » Program testing directed at tasks that could effect design over the next two years
- Post- [detector design freeze]
  - » Program directed at improved sensitivity; experience running an interferometer facility

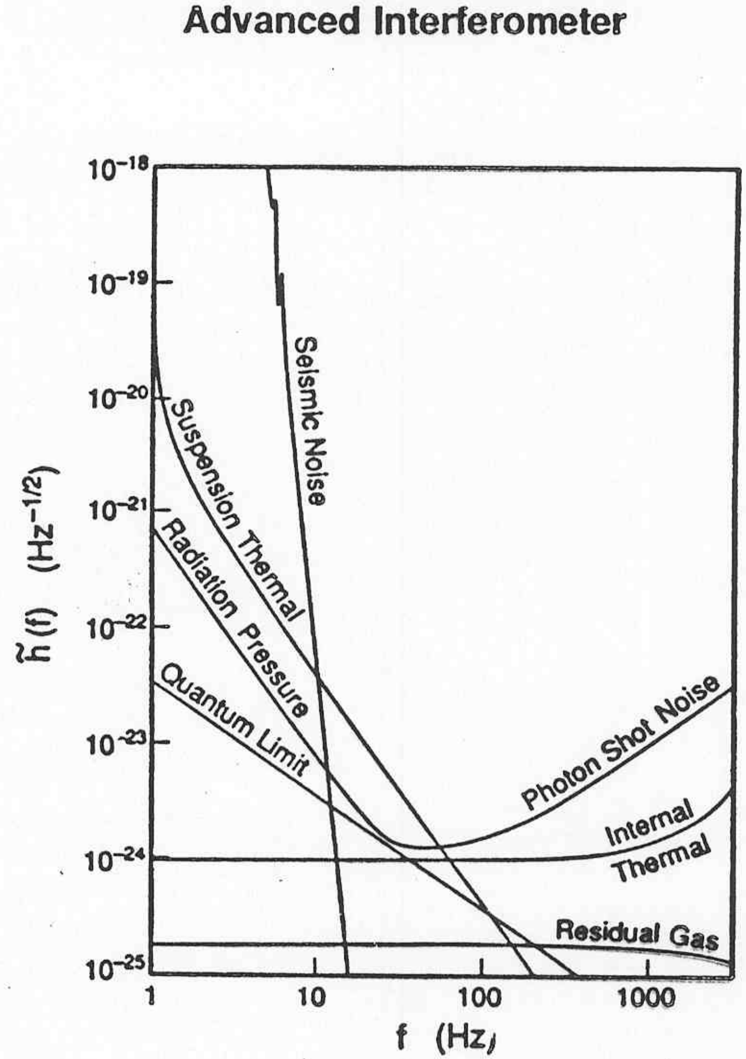
## Where Do We Stand?

## (Fundamental Noise Sources)

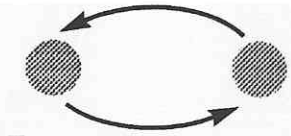
- Seismic Noise
  - Passive Seismic Isolation Stack Understood
  - Stacks with Softer Elastomer in Preparation
  - Significant Reduction in Seismic Background at Remote Sites
  - Projected to Meet Initial LIGO Goal
- Thermal Noise
  - Improvements in Quanitative Understanding
  - Suspension Requirements Relaxed, Internal Mode Requirements Tightened
  - Current Suspension Design Projected to Meet LIGO Goal
- Shot Noise
  - LIGO Goal 10$\times$ Better than Best Demonstrated
  - Requires Characterization and Integration Of Different Electro-Optical Components and Subsystems (Photodetectors, Modulators, Laser Stabilization, . . . )
  - High Power Shot Noise Experiment Underway at MIT

# Improvement Toward Advanced Interferometers

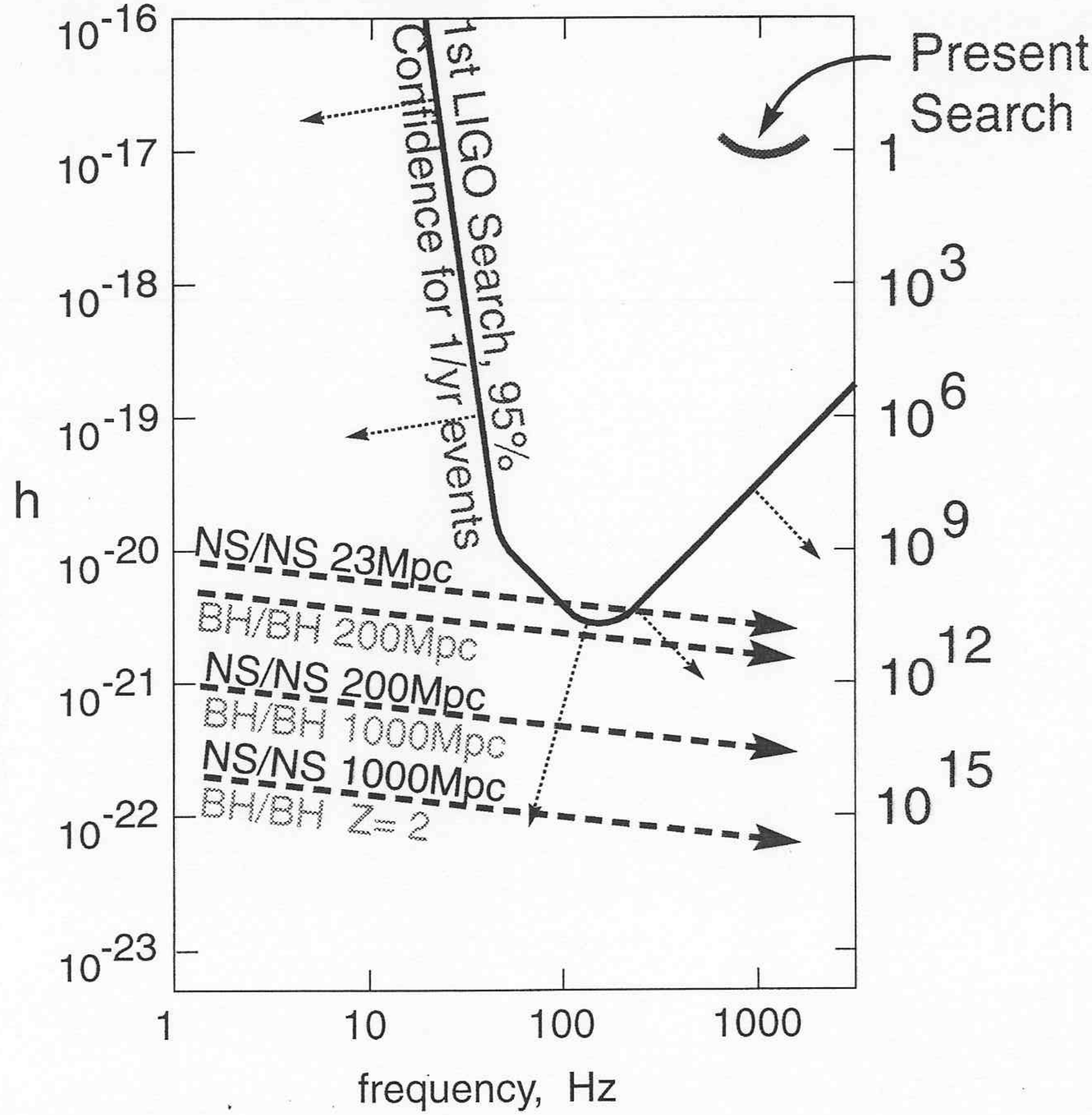


# NEUTRON STAR BINARIES



*["Near-Guaranteed" source]*




- *15 minutes & 10,000 orbits in LIGO band*
- *Rich information in waveforms: masses, spins, distance, direction, nuclear equation of state*

# Conclusions

- LIGO Construction is well Underway
- Direct Detection of Gravitational Waves Appears Realistic within 10 years
- Ultimate Sensitivities Capable of Opening a New Field of Observational Astronomy with Gravitational Waves is the Long Term Goal.