

Optical Read-out Techniques for the Control of Test-masses in Gravitational Wave Observatories

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- This presentation is based on my recently submitted thesis:-
 - S. Aston. "Optical Read-out Techniques for the Control of Test-masses in Gravitational Wave Observatories". January 2011
 - Available (once the official embargo has lifted on 19th July 2011) via the following address <u>http://etheses.bham.ac.uk/1665/</u>
- Focusing on two core chapters:-
 - Advanced LIGO UK work carried out during 2003-2011, in developing the

BOSEM = **B**irmingham **O**ptical **S**ensor and **E**lectro-**M**agnet actuator

- STFC funded research carried out from 2001-present, in developing the

EUCLID = **E**asy to **U**se **C**ompact Laser Interferometric Device



Part 1

- Introduction
- Primary Motivation
 - LISA Drag-free Control
 - Advanced LIGO Suspensions

Geometric Sensor Development (BOSEM)

- Requirements
- Imaging Sensor Design & Characterisation
- Shadow Sensor Design & Characterisation
- BOSEM Mechanical Design & Fabrication
- BOSEM Characterisation
- Excess Noise Investigation
 - Hunting for the Source
 - Identification of Alternative IRLED
 - Screening & Retrofitting Proposals
- Final BOSEM Characterisation Results

Part 2

- Interferometric Sensor Development (EUCLID)
 - Prototype Design
 - Fringe Interpolation
 - Final Design
 - Optical Modelling
 - Laser Selection Criteria
 - Fabrication
 - Misalignment Measurements
 - Noise Characterisation
- Conclusions
 - Sensor Performance Comparison
 - Lessons Learned & Future Development
- Acknowledgements



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Motivation - LISA Drag-free Control



 Goal is to improve LISA's low frequency sensitivity to enable the study of massive binary black hole coalescences ^[1]

[1] S. A. Hughes and D. E. Holz. Cosmology with coalescing massive black holes. Classical and Quantum Gravity, 20, S65-S72. 2003.



UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM Motivation - Advanced LIGO Suspensions ^[1]

Blades

- Two stages of steel blades for enhanced vertical isolation
- Local control for damping of all low frequency pendulum modes by 6 co-located OSEMs at top mass
- Global control OSEMs at upper intermediate and penultimate mass
- Electro-Static Drive (ESD) actuator at optic using adjacent "identical" reaction pendulum as reference

Optic (ESD)



Quad Suspension **OSEM** Counts Top Mass = 126 BOSEMs Main Chain 6 BOSEMs Reaction Chain Upper Intermediate Mass = 4 **4 BOSEMs Reaction Chain** Penultimate Mass = 4 **4 AOSEMs Reaction Chain** Total = 20 OSEMS + 20%

spares policy = 24

12 Quads in total \Rightarrow 288 units

[1] N. A. Robertson et al. Quadruple suspension design for Advanced LIGO. Classical and Quantum Gravity, 19, 4043–4058. 2002.

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- Initial Sensor Requirements [1]:-
 - Assuming a minimal amount of passive eddy-current damping

Specification	Frequency Band		
Worst Case Noise	1 Hz to 10 Hz $\approx 2 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m Hz}^{-1/2}$	10 Hz to 20 Hz $\approx 2 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m Hz}^{-1/2}$	
Specification	Displacement (peak-peak)		
Operating Range	Minimum 3.00 mm	Target 3.00 mm	

- Proceeded to identify and evaluate suitable sensor schemes, starting off with a clean-slate to meet these reasonably challenging requirements
- Considered PSDs and optical lever schemes, but believed the geometric sensor scheme to be most suitable

^[1] K. Strain. Advanced LIGO suspensions general interpretation of requirements for sensors - for use as an initial planning aid by the UK project team v1.01. ALUKGLA0005aJUN03. 2003.



Imaging Sensor Design



- Simple design, where a collimated beam is imaged / focused along one axis onto a split photodiode
- The object to be tracked is attached to the cylindrical lens
- All the light emitted is captured by the detector
- Insensitive to displacement in the x and z axes, or rotation about z axis
- Shot-noise limited sensitivity obtained analytically for this configuration of ~1×10⁻¹¹ m Hz^{-1/2} which was encouraging!







Imaging Sensor Prototype

- Shot-noise limited sensitivity leads to an admissible technical noise of ~3.3 pA Hz^{-1/2}
- Attainable by careful component selection, op-amps, feedback resistor, and ensuring Johnson noise does not dominate
- Opto Diode Corp (OD-50L) IRLED was selected with typical output power of 50 mW at 500 mA (880 nm peak emission)
- UDT (SPOT-9D) photodiode is employed as the split detector with maximum rated incident power density of 100 W m⁻²
- Measured responsivity of ~4.5 kV m⁻¹ over a 3 mm (peakpeak) linear operating range





Imaging Sensor Noise Characterisation

- Sensitivity measured for both modulated (lock-in) and un-modulated schemes
- Comparable high frequency performance above 25 Hz, significant divergence at frequencies below 25 Hz
- Modulated scheme reaches the shotnoise limited performance at around 2 Hz but this scheme was not permitted for aLIGO
- A problem was uncovered for all off-null measurements, the noise floor deteriorates significantly as you move away from the null position
- Consistent with measurements taken by collaborator (N. Lockerbie), common IRLED suspected to be the cause
- Pursued no further, requirements refined







- Initial Sensor Requirements [1]:-
 - Assuming a minimal amount of passive eddy-current damping

Specification	Frequency Band		
Worst Case Noise	1 Hz to 10 Hz $\approx 2 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m Hz}^{-1/2}$	10 Hz to 20 Hz $\approx 2 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m Hz}^{-1/2}$	
а ·с /:	Displacement (peak-peak)		
Specification	Displacement	t (peak-peak)	

- Final Sensor Requirements ^[2] agreed 12 months later:-
 - Assuming a moderate amount of passive eddy-current damping

Specification	Frequency Band		
Worst Case Noise	1 Hz to 10 Hz 3×10 ⁻¹⁰ m/√Hz	10 Hz to 20 Hz $1 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m/} \text{Hz}$	
Specification	Displacement (peak-peak)		
Operating Range	Minimum 0.35 mm	Target 0.70 mm	

[1] K. Strain. Advanced LIGO suspensions general interpretation of requirements for sensors - for use as an initial planning aid by the UK project team v1.01. ALUKGLA0005aJUN03. 2003.

[2] K. Strain. Input to the OSEM selection review decision. LIGO-T040110-01-K. 2004.





- Initial LIGO shadow sensor employs surface mount components with integral lenses with a single element photodiode
- Linear operating range of 0.7 mm (peak-peak)
- A shot-noise limited sensitivity for this configuration of $\sim 7 \times 10^{-11}$ mHz^{-1/2}
- Final design proposed courtesy of collaborator (N. Lockerbie ^[1]) sensor components identified via sensor study





Initial LIGO Sensor Configuration



[1] N. Lockerbie. Measurement of shadow-sensor displacement sensitivities. LIGO-T040136-00-K. 2004.

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM Shadow Sensor & Actuator Implementation



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- Key sensor and actuator components (highlighted) Flag Significant changes from Initial LIGO OSEMs Stronger actuator force 50mN -> 500mN Higher coil current More coil windings Larger magnets Standard leaded device packages (i.e. not surface mount) **IRLED** No epoxies or Ceramabond used in assembly process Lens Commercial-of-the-shelf connectors (sub-D to μ -D) Mask
 - Custom flexi-circuit for interconnections

Photodiode

BOSEM Sensor and Actuator Assembly

Magnet

Coil Winding



BOSEM Mechanical Design

Sensor

carriers

Adjustment fixings (x2)

- Initial LIGO OSEM design issues to overcome:-
 - Tricky assembly
 - High failure rate
 - Non-intuitive alignment and adjustment
- BOSEM Design Specification [1]:-
 - Overall dimensions 62x45x66 mm
 - Mass 170 g
 - Adjustment range ~11 mm



Sensor IRLED Carrier Sub-Assembly Section View





Sensor Photodiode Carrier Sub-Assembly Section View

[1] S. Aston. BOSEM Design Document and Test Report. LIGO-T050111-04-K. 2009.

Coil-former clamp

Coil-

former

BOSEM Assembly (Left) Rear isometric view. (Right) Front isometric view

Electrical

interconnect

Mounting locations

(×4)



Evolution of OSEMs





- 88 NPOSEMs completed in total
 - 32 units (D060218-A) shipped in December 2007
 - 56 units (D060218-B) shipped in January 2009
 - 700 production BOSEMs (D060218-C) completed in total by September 2009
 - 16 units sent to ANU (including 8 for tip-tilt suspensions and 8 PEEK prototypes)
- All units tested using in-house Automated Test Equipment (ATE)^[1]
- Full capacity at Birmingham clean-room facilities ~100 units/month
- Shipped in batches UHV-clean to Caltech on an agreed schedule



<u>Pre-assembly bake out & RGA scan</u>

Dedicated clean-room assembly facility

Assembled BOSEMS at testing station

[1] S. Aston. BOSEM Test Specification. LIGO-T070107-06-K. 2011.



- Prior to shipping the assembled and tested units a request was received to provide noise measurements for <u>every</u> channel / unit
 - Noise performance is <u>not</u> measured by our ATE
 - Intensive process, not a straightforward activity to undertake in a clean-room
 - Agreed to test a small random sample of 10 units
- For full noise characterisation the aim is to conduct a realistic end-to-end test
 - Use a Satellite Box (developed by D. Hoyland, R. Culter and J. Heefner) which incorporates:-
 - Stable 35mA supply (1 of 4 channels used)
 - Low-noise photodiode amplifier front-end (1 of 4 channels used)
 - BOSEM + Flag mounted on linear translation stage and damped optical bench



<u>UoB Satellite Box (#007)</u>



BOSEM + Flag on Optical Bench



- First determine BOSEM operating range:-
 - Measure open-light voltage (ideally 20 V) i.e. with flag fully withdrawn
 - Measure closed-light voltage (ideally 0 V) i.e. with flag fully inserted
 - Determine responsivity (typically around 25 kV m⁻¹)
 - Determine mid-point of operating range (ideally 10 V) and take noise measurement



BOSEM Characterisation #539 - Responsivity



BOSEM Noise Characterisation

Free-Air Characterisation - BOSEM - Production Units 10⁻⁷ BOSEM #336, 41 µA, 14014 V m BOSEM #620, 56 µA, 18300 V m BOSEM #636, 58 µA, 19443 V m⁻² BOSEM #575, 60 μA, 20071 V m⁻¹ BOSEM #513, 62 μA, 22071 V m⁻¹ Displacement Sensitivity/m Hz^{-1/2} 10⁻⁸ BOSEM #562, 63 μA, 20914 V m⁻¹ BOSEM #527, 64 μA, 21357 V m⁻¹ BOSEM #495, 65 μA, 21343 V m⁻¹ BOSEM #445, 67 μA, 22714 V m⁻¹ BOSEM #539, 69 μA, 23443 V m⁻¹ BOSEM #474, 71 µA, 25029 V m 10⁻⁹ BOSEM #436, 84 µA, 27400 V m⁻² Requirement 10⁻¹⁰ 10⁻¹¹ 10⁰ 10⁻² 10^{-1} 10^{1} 10^{2} Frequency/Hz

- The results observed ^[1] were somewhat disappointing!
 - Only $\approx 10\%$ of units appeared to meet the noise requirement
 - Not observed previously

[1] S. Aston. Advanced LIGO BOSEM Noise Measurements. LIGO-T0900496-v4, 2011.



- A thorough investigation followed into the source of the excess noise
 - First established if it could be due to the cleaning or baking processes
 - Reconstituted 5 'dirty' NPOSEMs for noise testing and found the same excess noise
 - \Rightarrow Nothing to do with cleaning or baking





- After confirming repeatability of all of these measurements, it was possible to eliminate many other potential causes, such as:-
 - Photodiode (variation in responsivity etc)
 - Collimating lens (geometry, placement, back reflections and coatings)
 - Flexi-circuit (bending changing the track resistance, distribution of solder flux etc)
 - Mechanical carrier assemblies (tolerances, debris, MACOR part failures)
- All the measurements pointed towards the IRLED
 - Alignment (axial orientation) issue?
 - A consequence of the burn-in procedure? (thermally induced degradation)
 - Package tolerance, geometry and placement of the integral lens?
 - \Rightarrow None of the above

- Concluded that the excess noise is <u>intrinsic</u> to the IRLED
- Statements made above cover the highlights of the investigation, but a more detailed blow-by-blow account is also available ^[1]

^[1] S. Aston. Advanced LIGO BOSEM Noise Measurements. LIGO-T0900496-v4, 2011.



- Thermal anchorage of IRLED, i.e. conductive link to environment
 - Potential device-to-device inconsistency
 - \Rightarrow Could also be discounted

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- Screening of IRLEDs is carried out in a simple fixture
 - Parameters measured include
 - Forward Voltage
 - Distance to Focal Plane
 - Open-light photo-current noise
 - Noise spectra taken on DSA
 - 10 spectra averaged over 0 to 50Hz
 - Takes ≈ 3 minutes per device
- Observed significant device-todevice variation of intrinsic noise in off-the-shelf devices
- Typical ≈10% 'pass' rate for OPTEK OP232
 - Not all units shown
 - Black line illustrates the approximate requirement



IRLED Screening Fixture





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BOSEM Screening Verification

BOSEM - Noise Characterisation



- Selected best and worse case examples of screened OP232's to retro-fit
 - Exhibited lowest photo-current noise IRLED (#013)
 - Exhibited highest photo-current noise IRLED (#037)
 - \Rightarrow Can be up to a magnitude difference between extremes
 - \Rightarrow Has the potential to be present in existing sensors



BOSEM IRLED Dissection

• Digital microscope images of section through IRLED active area



OP232 #020 (High Photo-current Noise)



Scrap OP232 (Unknown Photo-current Noise)



OP232 #013 (Very Low Photo-current Noise)



TSTS7100 #004 (Low Photo-current Noise)



- During testing I identified a promising alternative candidate (Vishay TSTS7100)
 - Represents a more recent 'state-of-the-art' device
 - Opto-mechanical properties of TSTS7100 and OP232 are virtually identical
 - Pin-outs reversed and TSTS7100 larger forward current capability (up-to 250mA)



- 1st batch open-light photo-current noise test results (54 units)
 - Not all units shown
 - Black line illustrates approximate requirement, i.e. 100% Pass!



- However, for subsequent batches we purchased the pass rate has fallen:-
 - 2nd batch (940) ~50% pass rate (11 tested)
 - 3rd batch (001) ~80% pass rate (10 tested)
 - \Rightarrow Indication of significant batch-to-batch variation





- Manufacture acknowledged the issue
 - But notes this is not something that they can measure
 - Not within their control i.e. used same process/parameters for each of above batches
- Screening offers the only solution
 - Willing to hold a batch of 2,000 devices and send us a sample of 20 for characterisation
 - We can then decide to accept or reject the batch depending upon results



- (1) Stick with existing OPTEK OP232 device
 - Screen a sufficiently large quantity of devices to retro-fit into BOSEMs
 - Observed a ~10% pass across batches, but there is no guarantee that this will hold for future batches procured
 - Implies we would need at least 7,000 devices
 - Would take at least ~10 weeks of screening effort! (challenging screening 'continuum')
- (2) Switch to the alternative Vishay TSTS7100 device
 - Again screen all devices
 - Worst case this could be1,400
 - Best case this could be 700
 - Other obstacles had to be overcome
 - Burn-in testing complete
 - Seeking UHV approval
 - Obtain MTBF data from manufacturer
 - Identify fix for reverse polarity issue (electronic or mechanical)
- Option 2 proposed and approved





- Generated IRLED screening procedure ^[1] following which, compliant parts are burned-in, cleaned baked and retro-fitted into BOSEMs
- A random sample of ~12% from each batch of completed BOSEMs have been noise characterised with no failures observed ^[2]
- Retro-fitting of production BOSEMs completed and shipped to Caltech by March 2011

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- Official end of UoB ALUK STFC Grant
- Still supporting ATE set-up at the aLIGO sites



[1] S. Aston. Advanced LIGO BOSEM Noise Measurements. LIGO-T0900496-v4, 2011.

[2] S. Aston. BOSEM Production Summary. LIGO-T1100108-v2. 2011.



Evolution of OSEMs







(OSEM)

Advanced LIGO Controls Prototype (Hybrid OSEM)

Advanced LIGO Noise Prototype & Final Production (BOSEM)

- Next generation observatories will place higher demands on sensor performance
 - BOSEMs offer the best sensitivity you can readily achieve with shadow sensor technology
 - Therefore need to adopt a different approach!



Interferometric Sensor (EUCLID)



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- To ensure good <u>low frequency stability</u> need to avoid active parts that can age, thermally expand, generate heat, exhibit hysteresis, e.g. piezos, AOMs, EOMs etc.
- Required to be, easy to use, compact, portable and robust against misalignment, led to the development of a homodyne interferometric sensor (EUCLID)



Optical Layout [1]

[1] C. C. Speake and S. M. Aston "An interferometric sensor for satellite drag-free control". IOP, Class. Quantum Grav. 22 (2005)



- Two fringe intensities I_2 , I_3 are 90° out of phase (PD2 and PD3)
- Target mirror motion (Mirror 2) generates a circular Lissajous figure with $\rm I_2, \, I_3$ plotted as $\rm v_x, \, v_y$





- To eliminate optical feedback into the VCSEL, the optical axis has been offset
- A third photodiode output, corresponding to $-\cos\theta$ has been implemented
- Cats eye configuration has been further optimised





 Optimisation of the lens shape with Zemax (developed by Fabián Peña Arellano) ^[1]

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- The effect of aberrations on the wavefront is minimised
- The parameters are also adjusted using other configurations in order to achieve the best mirror tilt immunity possible
- Enabling calculation of the fringe visibility



<u>OPTO CAD Model</u>

[1] F. E. Peña-Arellano and C. C. Speake. Mirror tilt immunity interferometry with a cat's eye retroreflector. Applied Optics, Vol. 50, No. 7. 2011.



- <u>Compact</u> dimensions of 60x56x22.5 mm, Mass = 131 g
- <u>Robust</u> against misalignment +/- 1°

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- Resolution of up to 1 pm/ \sqrt{Hz} over a large working range > 2mm
- Can be constructed to be LIGO UHV compliant (using alternative UV adhesive)
- Incorporates VCSEL with known high MTBF



3D CAD Model Engineering Drawing



- Require a polarisation stable, mono-mode device
 - Laser Diodes, 665 to 850nm few mW output
 - VCSEL Diodes, 665 to 850nm few mW output and with integrated TEC option
 - DFB Lasers, 1550nm with ten's of mW output
- Various laser sources have been characterised for EUCLID suitability
 - Using Optical Spectrum Analyser to observe suppression of secondary modes
 - Measuring device-to-device threshold currents
 - Indentifying optimal drive current regime (each device requires to be screened)
 Mer 1(A)





- 4 EUCLIDs have been fabricated so far:-
 - 2 for evaluation at MIT (contact R. Mittleman)
 - 1 for evaluation by ONERA
 - Processing further orders...
- New Electronics Module (developed by D. Hoyland)
 - Phase calculation determined via on-board FPGA (CORDIC engine)
 - 1 MHz, 18-bit analogue-to-digital converter
 - Enables tracking rates of upto ~10 cm s⁻¹



EUCLID Electronics Module



<u>UV curing optical</u> <u>adhesive</u>







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- All 4 units produced were first characterised at Birmingham
 - Can be seen to exceeded original design goals

EUCLID #	Fringe Amplitude/V	Tilt Immunity/θ	Working Range/mm	Working Distance/mm
1	≈ 10	± 1	≈ 6	6
2	≈ 7	± 1	≈ 4	6
3	≈ 9	± 0.5	≈ 10	6
4	≈ 9	± 1	≈ 6	6

• To assist with measurements, the following conventions have been defined ^[1]



[1] S. Aston, D. Hoyland and C. Speake. EUCLID User Guide (version 2.2). 2011.



- Misalignment measurements
 - Working range ≈ 6 mm
 - Tilt-immunitv $\approx \pm 1$ dearee







- In Vacuum sensitivity measurements
 - Achieve a vacuum level of \approx 10 milliTor (10⁻² millibar)
 - Reaches shot-noise limited sensitivity at \approx 1 kHz
 - Sensitivity at 1 Hz \approx 50 pm Hz^{-1/2} and at 10 Hz \approx 4 pm Hz^{-1/2}



In-Vacuum Characterisation - EUCLID



- Replace internal VCSEL with an external He-Ne 633 nm laser
 - Reaches shot-noise limited sensitivity at \approx 50 Hz
 - High frequency sensitivity has improved
 - Worse at very low frequencies than VCSEL





- EUCLID provides approximately 2 orders of magnitude sensitivity improvement over the BOSEM across the band and extends it towards lower frequencies
- Also offers almost 1 order of magnitude in working range from 0.7 mm to ~6 mm
- Achieved for a modest factor of ~5 increase in cost per unit





- Optimise working distance of cats eye configuration
- Migrate away from visible to near infrared VCSEL diodes
- Alternative rotational sensor version developed known as ILIAD
 - Cryogenic version being tested in ISL superconducting torsion balance experiment
- Aim to push down the sensitivity at low frequencies
 - Sensitivity goal of 10⁻¹¹ m Hz^{-1/2} over an extended LISA sensitivity band
 - Sensitivity goal for 3rd generation ground based GW observatories is unknown(?)





- Key lessons learned from the BOSEM experience
 - To be confident that <u>all</u> items meet the requirements it is absolutely necessary to rigorously characterise every single channel / unit
 - No surprise, that were pushing the boundaries of what technically feasible and can be duplicated on a large scale
- Possible scope for improvement in any future optical shadow sensors
 - Some super low photocurrent noise devices were identified during the IRLED screening process, providing up to a factor ~ 3 improvement across the band
 - However, the amount of screening effort required would likely make this option unattractive



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Thank you for your attention

I wish to acknowledge the support of collaborators both at Birmingham and further afield. I have tried to give credit where it is due during this presentation, but I apologies if you have been accidently left out!