Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory Where do we stand?

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For the LIGO Scientific Collaboration and the Virgo Collaboration

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Stated Goals for O2	How did we do?
Diagnose & reduce low frequency noise (f < 150 Hz)	Only small improvement on L1 Identified scattered light as needing work
Double the laser power (100 kW -> 200 kW arm power)	Got close with H1, but with a noise penalty
Work on transient noises and spectral lines	Some progress
More robust operation (low-noise duty cycle)	Definite payoff from suspensions dampers & seismic (tilt sensors)





Small point absorber (~10mW)

Resulting phase front distortion is problematic:

- > RF sideband build-up
- Wavefront sensing
- Noise couplings
- > Higher-order mode jitter!

PI damping successful (10 modes at 50W)

Thermal compensation worked

But: Noise worse at 50W



Light Scattered



End Stations: ETM wide angle scattering



Light scattered from the ETM is directed through a viewport and then scattered/reflected back in – hitting vibrating components along the way

View into HAM5 chamber



A campaign to improve in-vacuum scattered light baffling in underway this will be one of the main post-O2 upgrades





 Injection locked laser generates large amounts of beam jitter
Including higher order modes!

Long term: May require Jitter Attenuation Cavity

- Fixed mirror
- Triangular, in vacuum

□ Suppression: ~50



□ Fix LHO-ITMX Contamination

- ➢ Will try to clean ITMX in early now
- ➢ If successful, will try to go back to 50W
- If unsuccessful, will require ITMX replacement after O2

Squeezed Light Injection at LLO

- Target is 3 dB of effective squeezing: equivalent to doubling the laser power
- Possibly LHO as well?

Stray Light Control Improvements

- **70 W Amplifier Stage at LLO to Double the Laser Power**
 - LHO: likely to move from the HPO to a 70 W amplifier as well

□ Replace End Reaction Masses with Annular Versions

- Squeezed film damping; possibly electro-static charge
- ➢ May also replace ETMs at LHO
- Monolithic Signal Recycling Mirrors
- □ LHO: Long vent

LLO



O3 readiness will be driven by achieving a significant sensitivity increase over O2

Observator ivingston



Observator Hanford



Suspension **Test Mass**





Specifications:

- Diameter: 340 mm
- Thickness: 200 mm
- ➤ Mass: 39.6 kg
- > ROC: 2250 m / 1940 m
- Figure: <1 nm rms</p>
- Scatter: ~10 ppm
- Surface absorption: ~0.3 ppm
- Bulk absorption: ~0.2 ppm/cm
- ➤ HR transmission: ~4 ppm
- AR reflectivity: ~200 ppm





Platform Seismic Isolation



Input Optics Table





Lase **Pre-Stabilized** 200W

