

A person in a cleanroom environment, wearing a white lab coat and a cap, is holding a camera. The background is filled with a complex optical setup of mirrors, lenses, and light paths, creating a vibrant, multi-colored scene with red, green, and blue light. The overall atmosphere is technical and scientific.

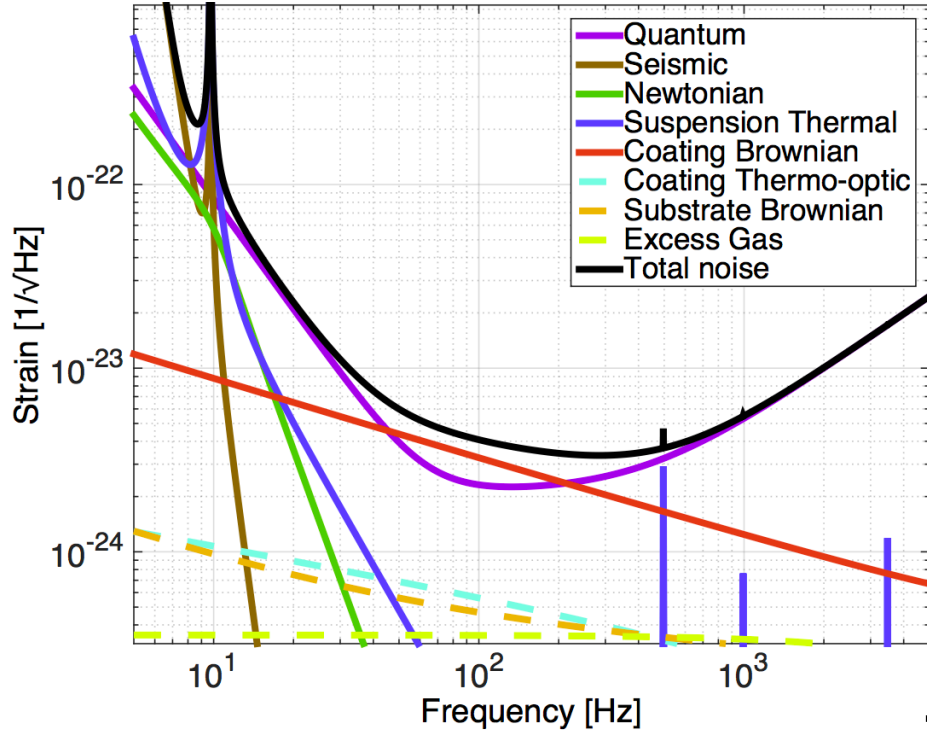
Overview of coating thermal noise

Gabriele Vajente

LIGO Laboratory Caltech

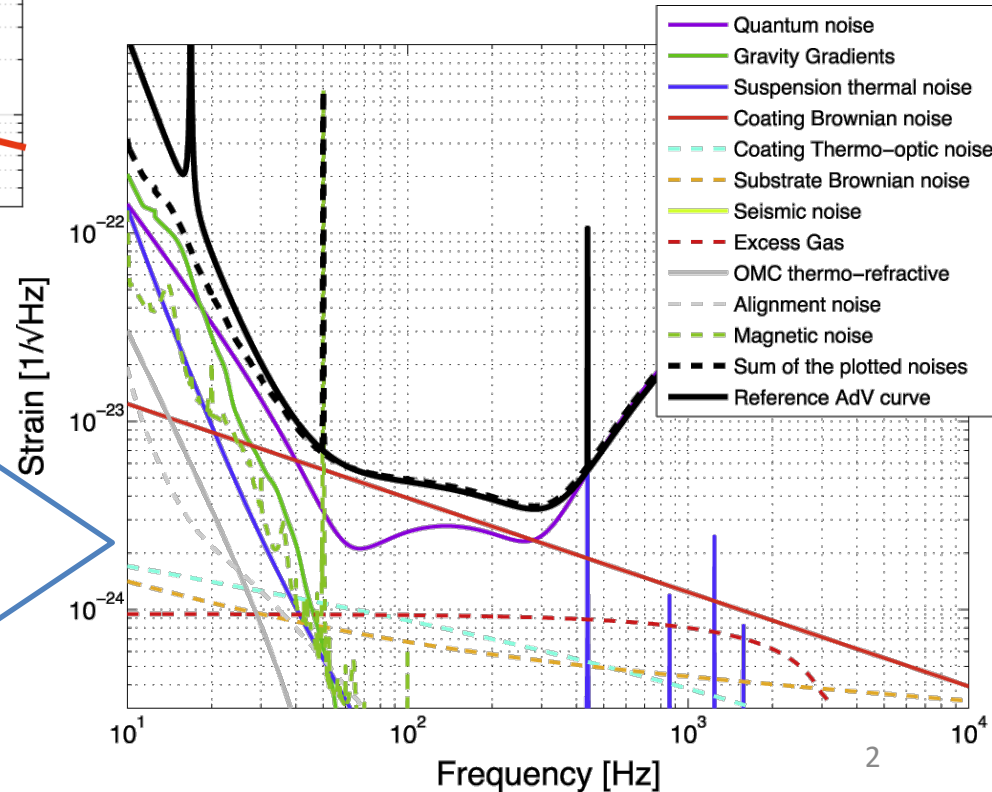
GWADW 18

15th May 2018, Girdwood, Alaska

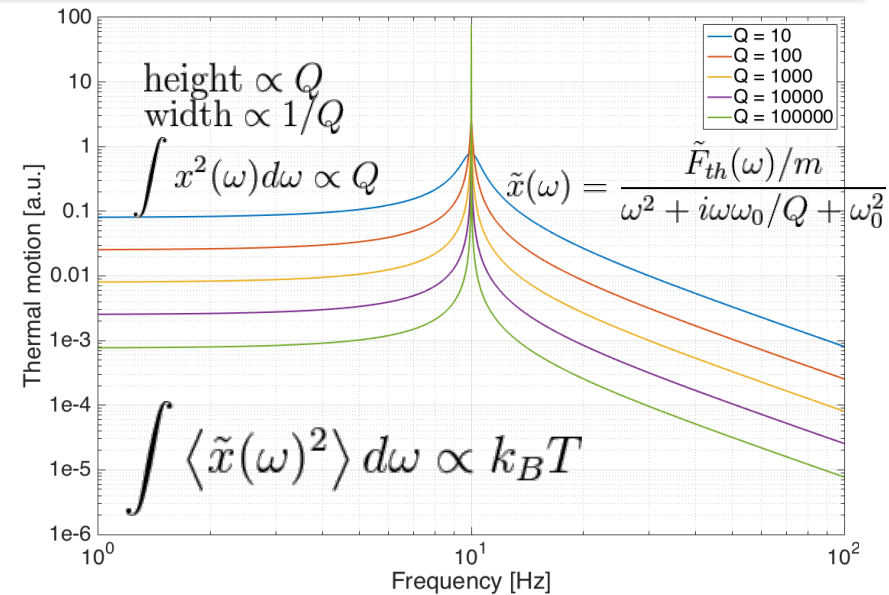


New aLIGO design curve from LIGO-T1800044-v5
 Thermal noise measurement
 Gras et al. arxiv:1802.05372

AdVirgo design curve
 From Acernese et al. CQG 32,
 024001 (2015)



- Thermal (Brownian) noise:
 - system in thermal equilibrium, couples energy to thermal bath through mechanical dissipations
 - The reverse is true: energy coupled to the system ($k_B T$ per each mode), random over all frequencies
 - The higher the dissipations, the more energy is spread out of resonance
- Other sources of thermal noise: thermo-elastic, thermo-refractive



Imaginary part of the system transfer function (linked to dissipations)

Power spectral density of fluctuations in the (mechanical) variable x

$$S_x(\omega) = \frac{4k_B T}{\omega} \text{Im} \tilde{\chi}(\omega)$$

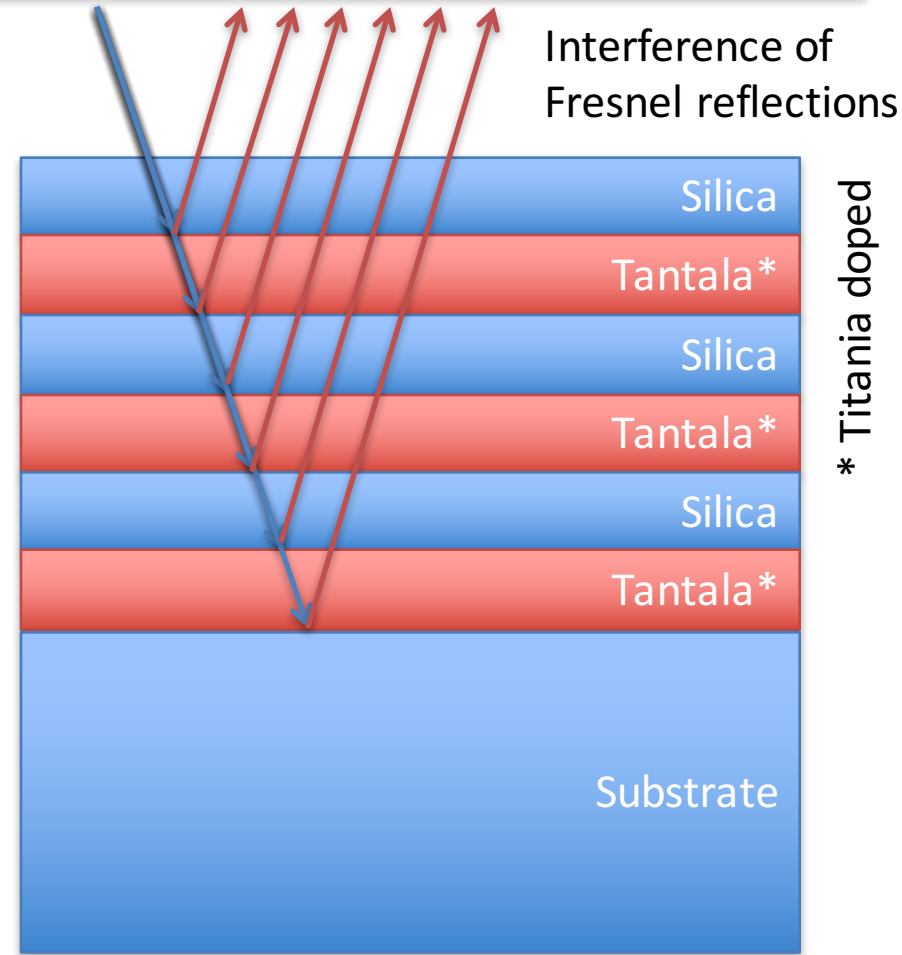
Fluctuation dissipation theorem

How we make high reflection coatings

- Alternate layers of high and low refractive index materials

Material	Refractive index	Loss angle (100 Hz)
Silica SiO_2	1.45	0.5×10^{-4}
Tantala Ta_2O_5	2.03	3.4×10^{-4}
Titania-doped tantala $\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5\text{-TiO}_2$	2.07	(original design*) 2.4×10^{-4} (MIT direct CTN*) 3.6×10^{-4}

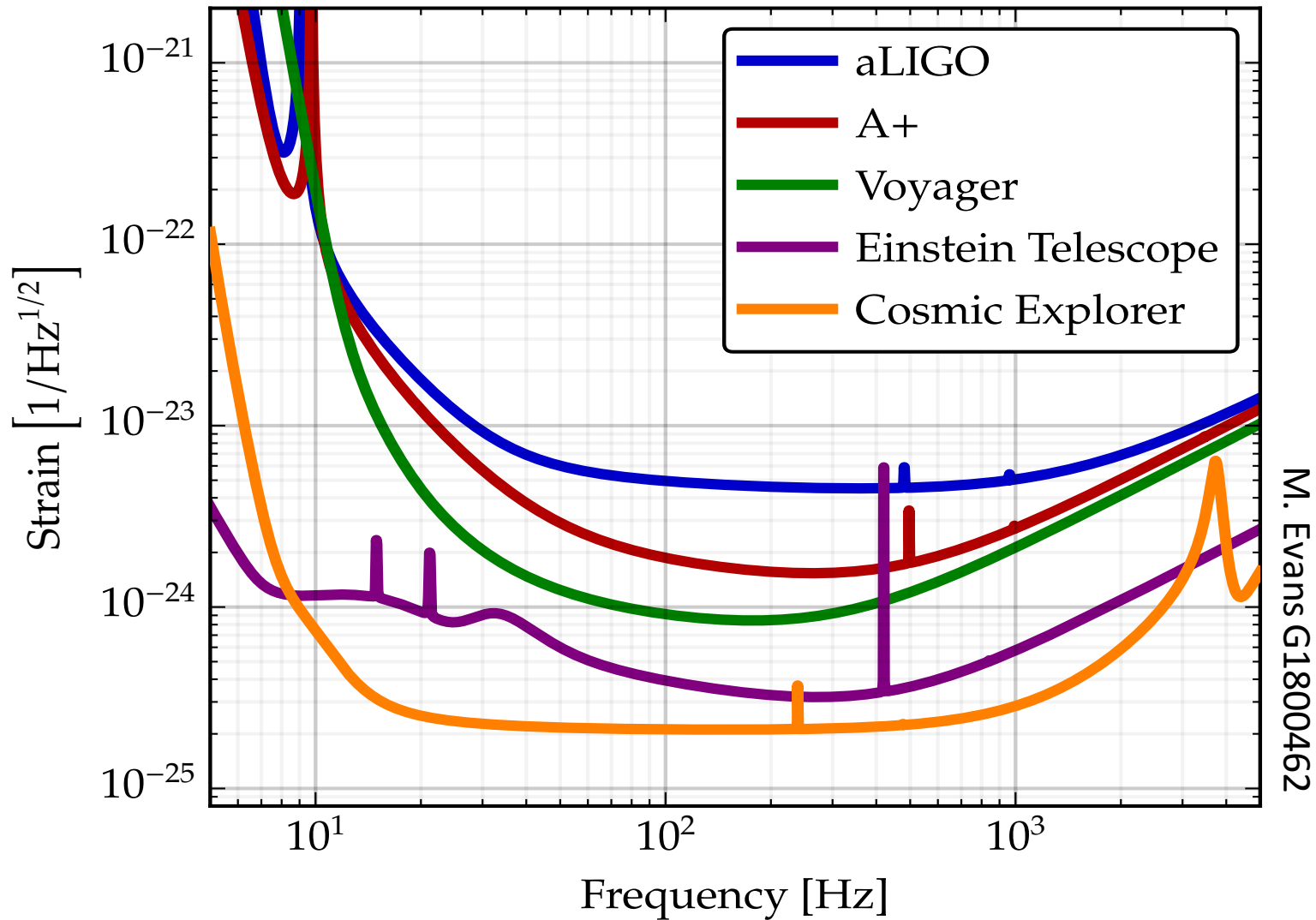
The effective loss angle is a combination of those of the two materials: dominated by the high index material



$$S_x^{\text{coating}}(f, T) = 2k_B T \frac{1 - \nu}{\pi^{3/2} f Y w} \phi_{\text{eff}}$$

*Class. Quantum Grav. **24** (2007) 405–415

Phys. Rev. D **95, 022001





Future coatings: different requirements

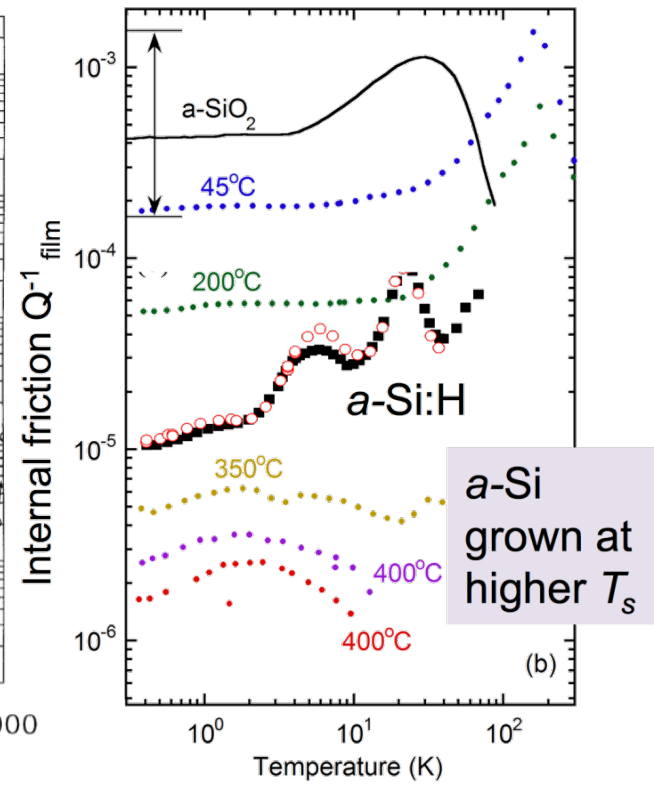
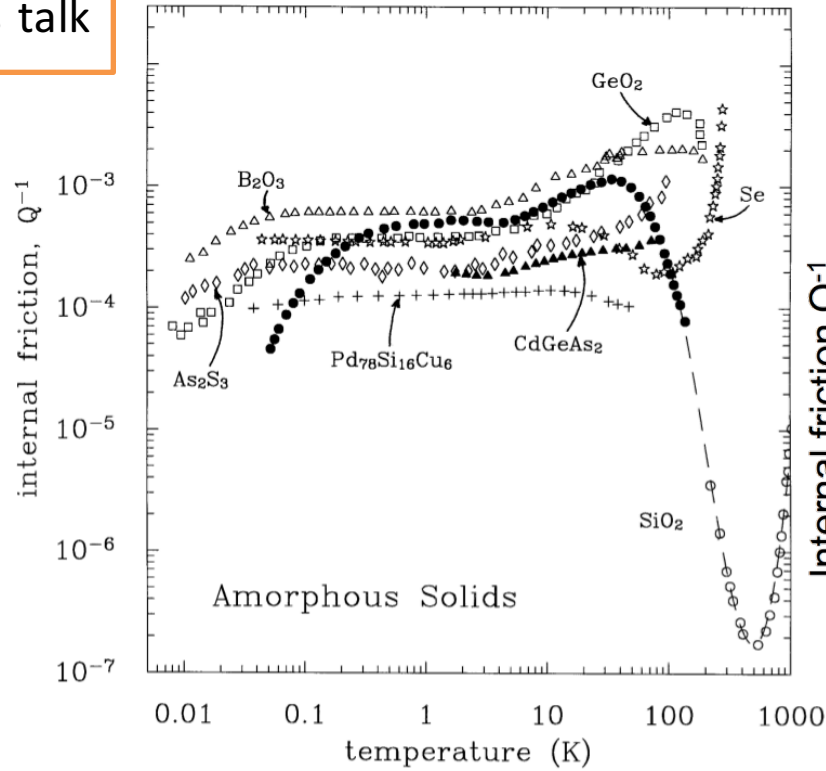
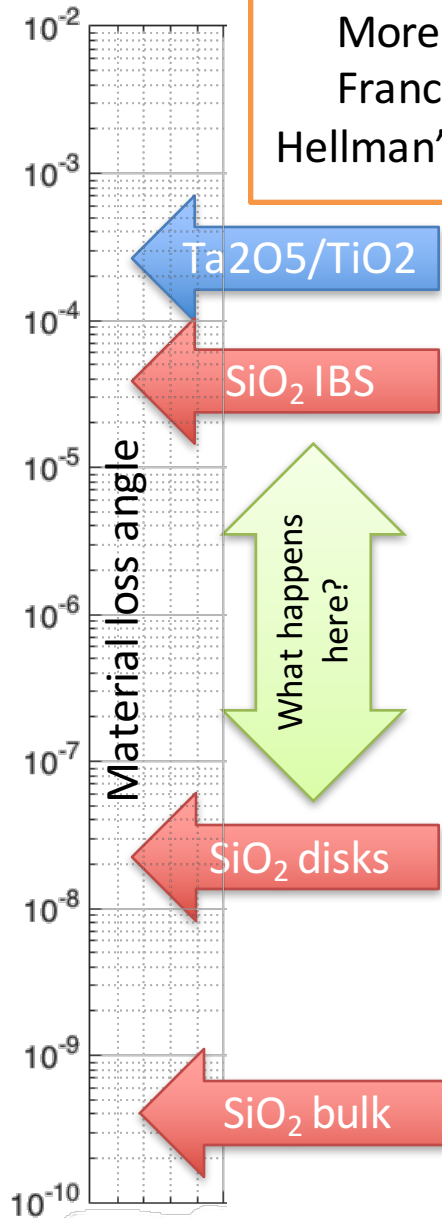
	aLIGO	aLIGO+	AdVirgo+	Voyager	C.E.	E.T.
Temperature	300 K	300 K	300 K	123 K	123 K	10 K
Wavelength	1064 nm	1064 nm	1064 nm	1.5 - 2 μ m	1.5 - 2 μ m	HF 1064 nm LF 1.5-2 μ m
Substrate	Silica	Silica	Silica	Silicon	Silicon	HF Silica LF Sapphire
Beam radius (approx.) [cm]	6	6	9	6.5	14	HF 9 LF 7 (LG)
Coating thermal noise at 100 Hz [m/VHz]	1.3×10^{-20}	6.5×10^{-21} (5.0×10^{-21})	9×10^{-21} (5×10^{-21})	2.3×10^{-21}	Optimistic 1.3×10^{-21} Pessimistic 5×10^{-21}	HF 3×10^{-21} LF 1.1×10^{-21}
Coating loss [rad]	3.6×10^{-4} (2.4×10^{-4})	0.9×10^{-4} (0.6×10^{-4})	2.4×10^{-4} (0.8×10^{-4})	6.5×10^{-5}	Optimistic 5×10^{-5} Pessimistic 1.2×10^{-4}	HF 1.2×10^{-4} LF 1.3×10^{-4}
Coating materials	SiO_2 $\text{TiO}_2\text{-Ta}_2\text{O}_5$	SiO_2 ?- Ta_2O_5	SiO_2 ?- Ta_2O_5	$\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ a-Si	$\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ a-Si	$\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{SiN}$?- Ta_2O_5 a-Si ?

Why do we think we can improve?

More in Frances Hellman's talk

Zeitschrift für Physik B Condensed Matter. 101. 235-245

Phys. Rev. Lett. **113**, 025503 (2014)

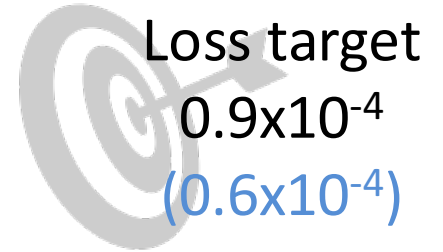


- Most amorphous solids have loss angles in a limited range
- (At least) two exception (in glasses):
 - bulk silica at room temperature (low mechanical loss measured at room temperature)
 - amorphous silicon grown at high temperature (low mechanical loss measured at low temperature)

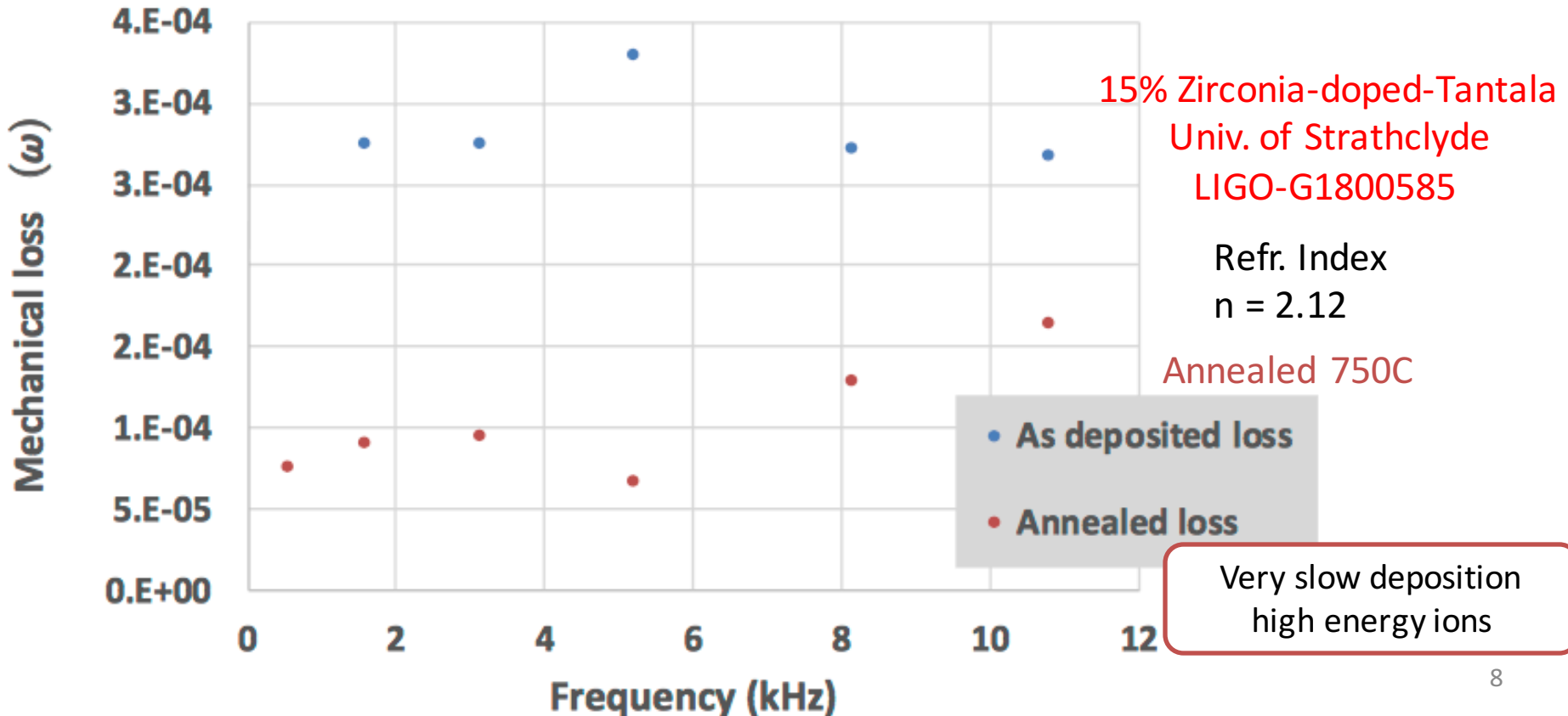
- High temperature deposition of tantala did not show enough improvement

Class. Quantum Grav. **35** (2018) 075001

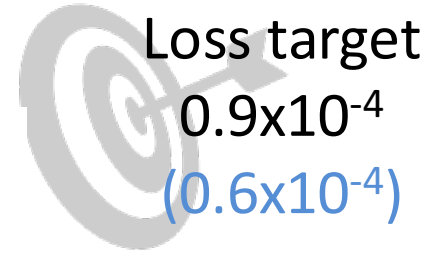
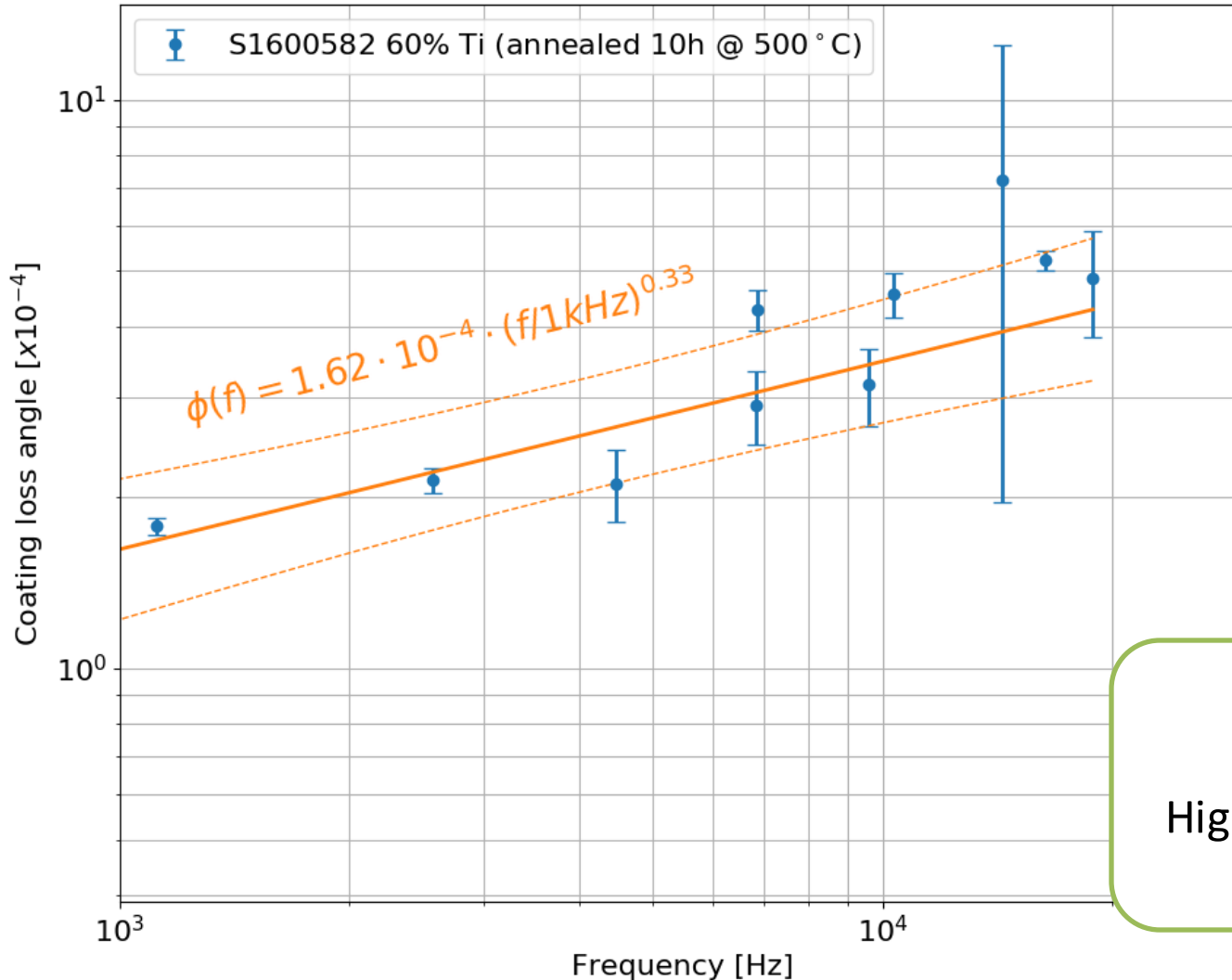
- Two promising candidates: doping of tantala



room temp deposited Zr:Ta2O5



- Two promising candidates: doping of tantala



Loss target
 0.9×10^{-4}
 (0.6×10^{-4})

60% Titania-doped-Tantala
 Univ. Colorado
 Fort Collins
 and Caltech
 LIGO-G1800360

Refr. Index
 $n = 2.36$

Steep frequency
 dependence
 High optical absorption
 (contamination)

- Zr-doped-Ta:
 - check dependency on concentration / deposition rate / method
 - structural and modeling studies
 - produce a multi-stack and do a direct measurement of thermal noise
- Ti-doped-Ta:
 - fix contamination and high optical absorption
 - repeat measurements probing low frequencies, to confirm the slope

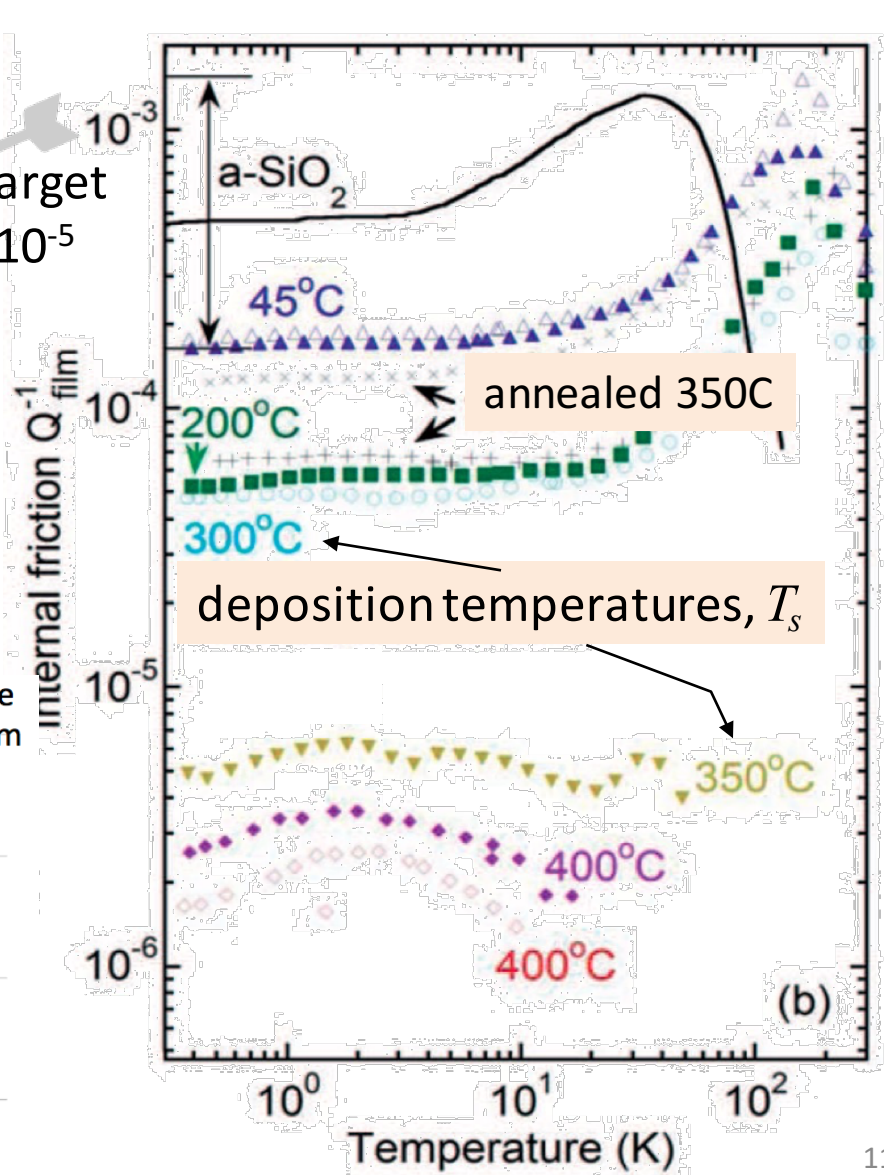
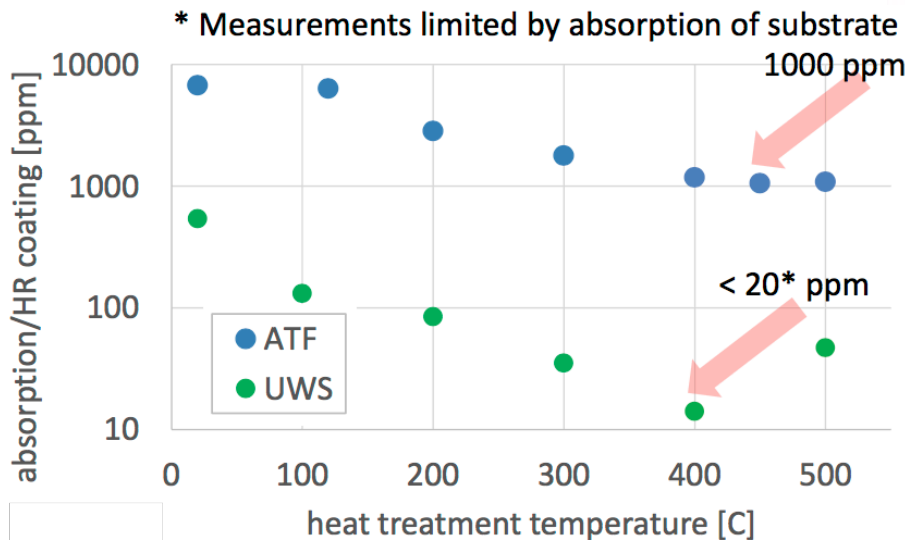
More in Kiran Prasai's talk



123 K coatings (Voyager – C.E.)

- **Amorphous silicon** deposited at high temperature is the best candidate
 - High refractive index ~ 3.4
- Low mechanical loss at low temperature. **But at 123K?**
 - Measurements of loss at room temperature shows $\phi < 1 \times 10^{-4}$ depending on deposition method
- Optical absorptions still high, but improving

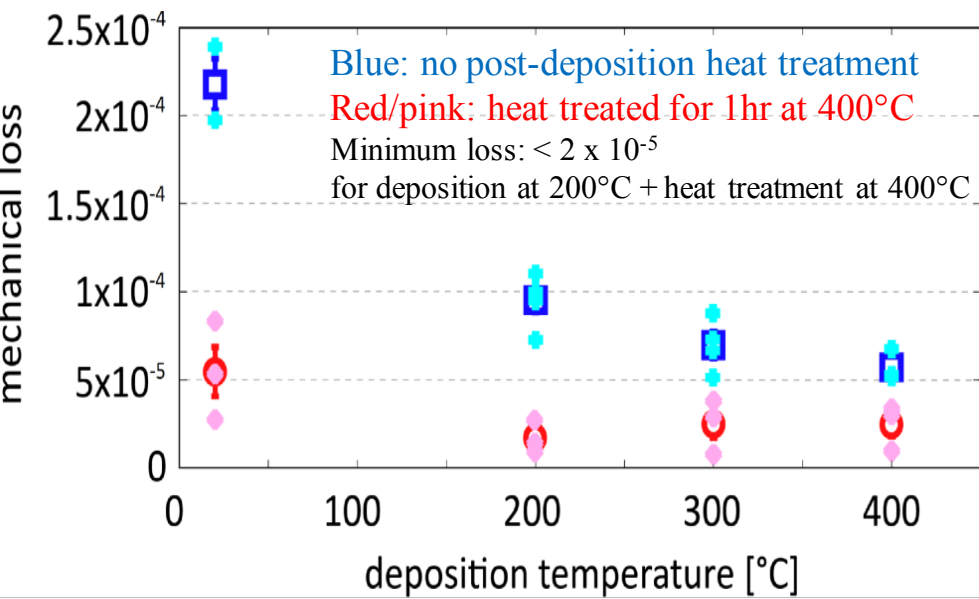
Loss target
 5.5×10^{-5}



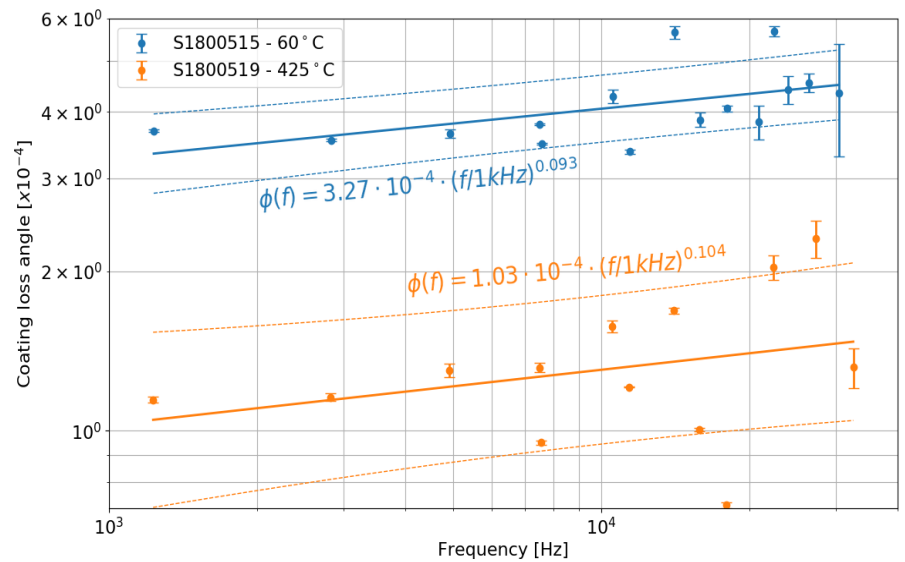
High-T deposited a-Si, loss at low temperature (Berkeley)

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 - High refractive index
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**High-T IBS deposited a-Si,
Loss at room temperature
(Strathclyde)**



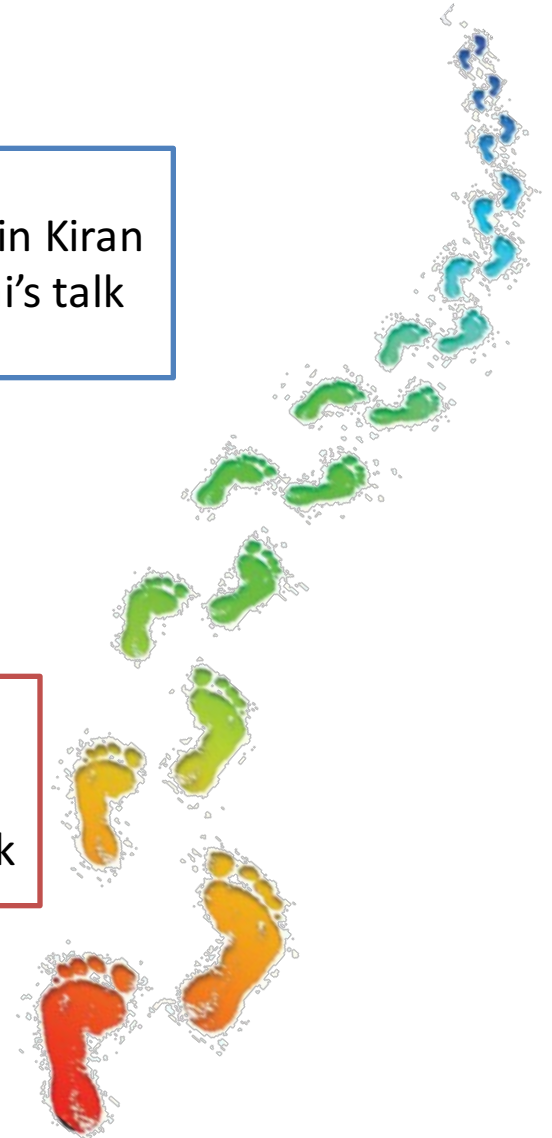
**High-T e-beam deposited a-Si (Berkeley)
Loss at room temperature (Caltech)**



- Measure mechanical loss angle of a-Si at 123 K
- Improve optical absorptions
- Structural measurements and modeling
- Why the different behavior of mechanical loss with growth temperature?
- Understand differences due to deposition method

More in Kiran Prasai's talk

More in Frances Hellman's talk

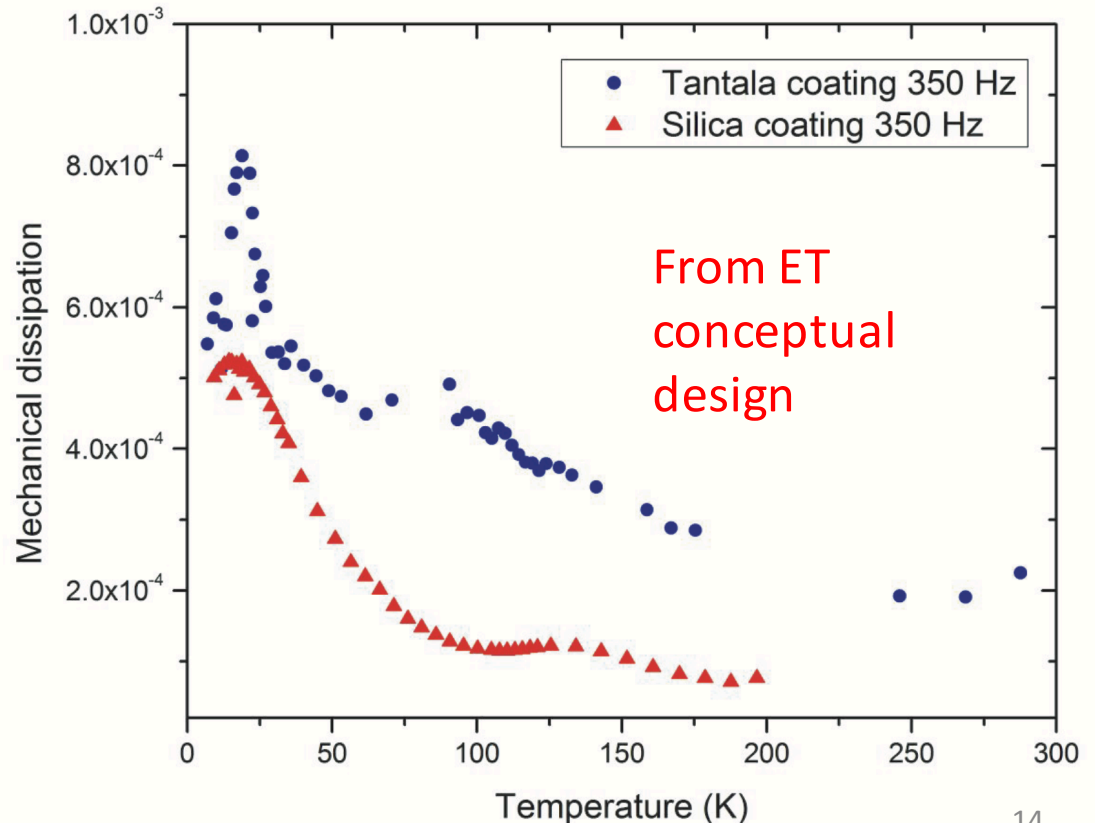


Loss target

HF 1.2×10^{-4}

LF 1.3×10^{-4}

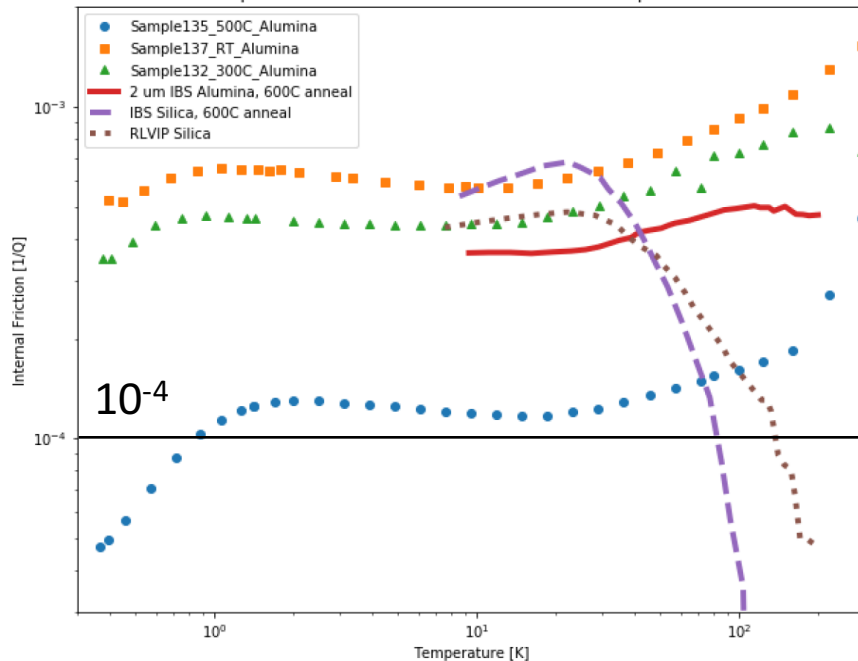
- Amorphous silicon is a promising high index material
- What about the low index material?
Silica $\approx 5 \times 10^{-4}$ at 10 K
- Dependent on heat treatment
 - In many cases annealing improves high temperature loss, but worsen low temperature loss
- Al_2O_3 and SiN good low index candidates



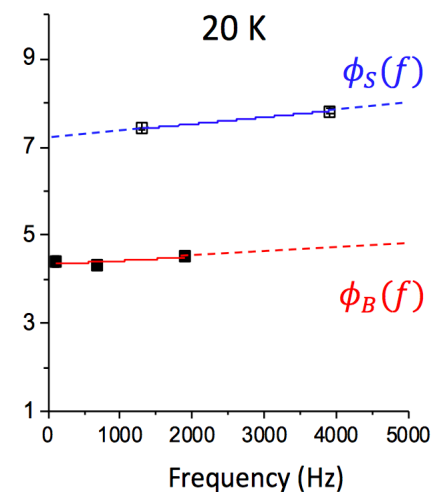
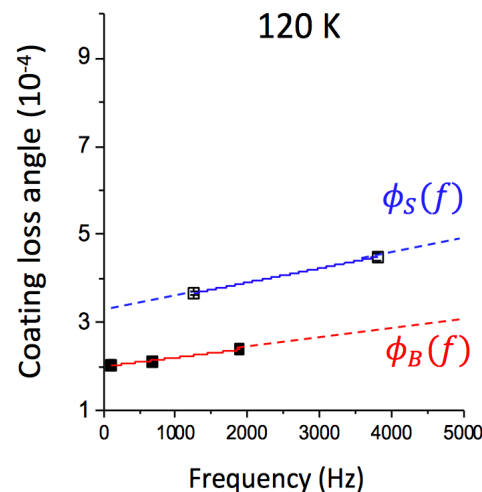
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Magnetron sputtered
 Al_2O_3 (NRL) LIGO-G1800418

Sputtered Alumina Film Internal Friction vs Temperature



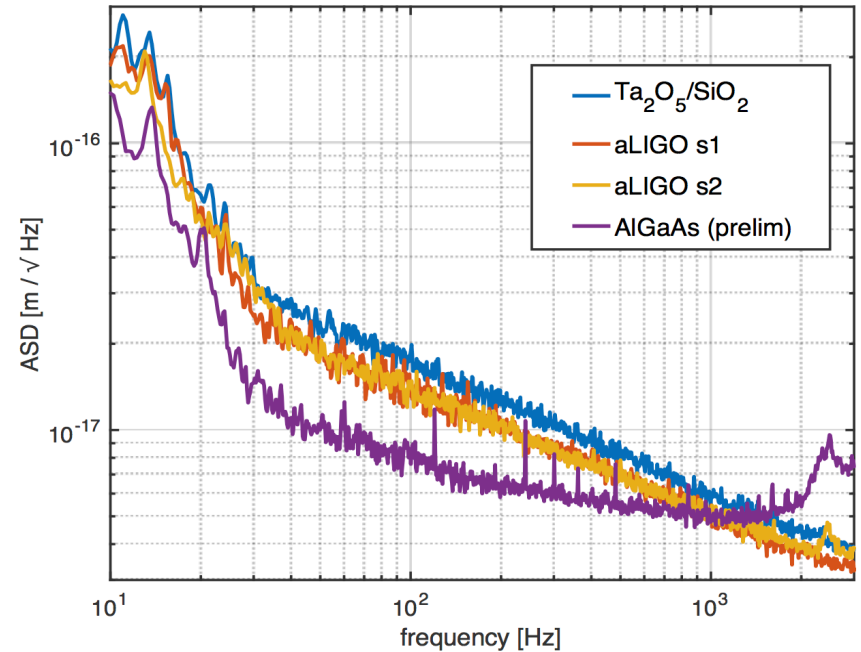
SiN CVD deposition
LIGO-G1800350



- Further characterize Al_2O_3 and SiN mechanical loss
- Improve optical absorption
- Alumina shows improvement with growth temperature, similar to a-Si, dissimilar to Ta_2O_5



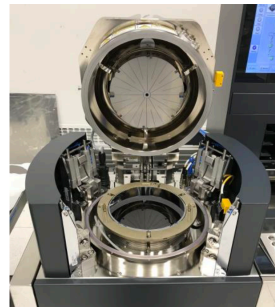
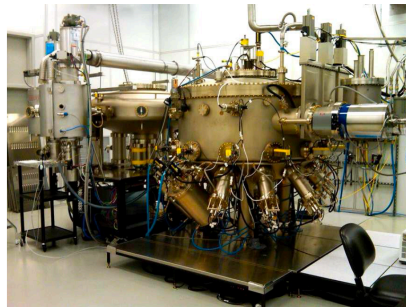
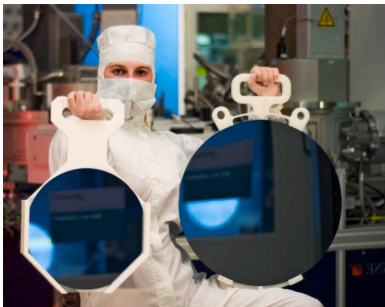
- Promising candidate for 3rd generation
- Low mechanical loss at room temperature (2×10^{-5})
- Good optical absorption and good figure
- Need to develop technology to scale up to large mirror size



GaAs wafers: 20 → 40 cm

Epitaxy: 30 → 40 cm

Bonding: 45 cm



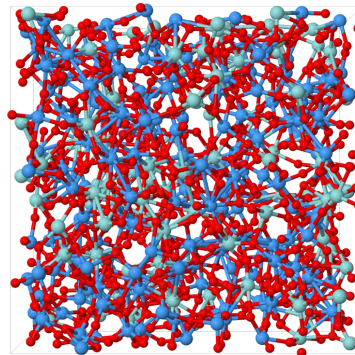
- AlGaAs room temperature:
 $\phi_{RT} < 4 \times 10^{-5}$
- AlGaAs cryogenic :
• $\phi_{cryo} < 5 \times 10^{-6}$

More in Garret Cole's
and Manuel Marchio's talks

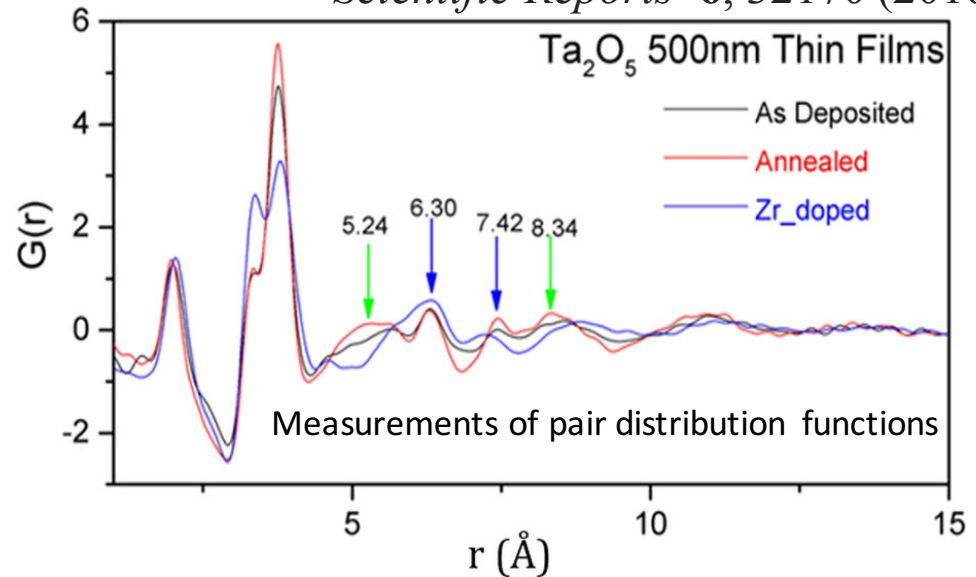
Class. Quantum Grav. **32** 035002 (2015)

G. Cole LIGO-G1800645 G. D. Cole, et al., *Nature Photonics* (2013)

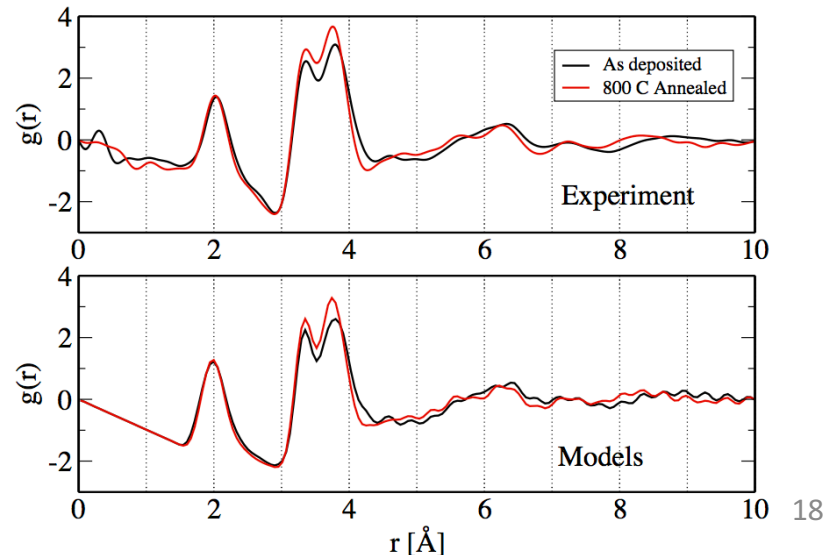
- Important to bridge mechanical loss, structural studies and modeling efforts
- Use measured distributions to tune simulations and extract structural information
- Reverse Monte Carlo + Energy minimization
- Crucial: simulate the deposition process



Scientific Reports **6**, 32170 (2016)



Models track the changes in experimental PDF very well.



- Rate of progress significantly increased in the last few years
- **Promising candidates for A+ detector coatings** (but we need a recipe very soon)
- **Amorphous silicon** a promising candidate at mid and low T, but some more characterization are needed (and on-going)
- Low temperature low index material? Some candidates (Al_2O_3 , SiN)
- Not one material good for all configurations



Other complementary directions:

Crystalline coatings *Class. Quantum Grav.* **32** 035002 (2015)

Nano-layers LIGO-G1800300