



# Future Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Antennae and their Vacuum Requirements

Mike Zucker, LIGO Caltech & MIT

NSF Workshop on Large UHV Systems for Frontier Scientific Research

LIGO Livingston Observatory

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[LIGO-G1900136](#)



# Topics

Primer: Gravitational Waves

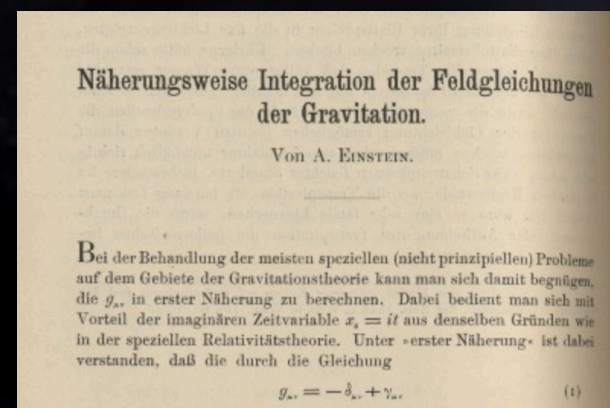
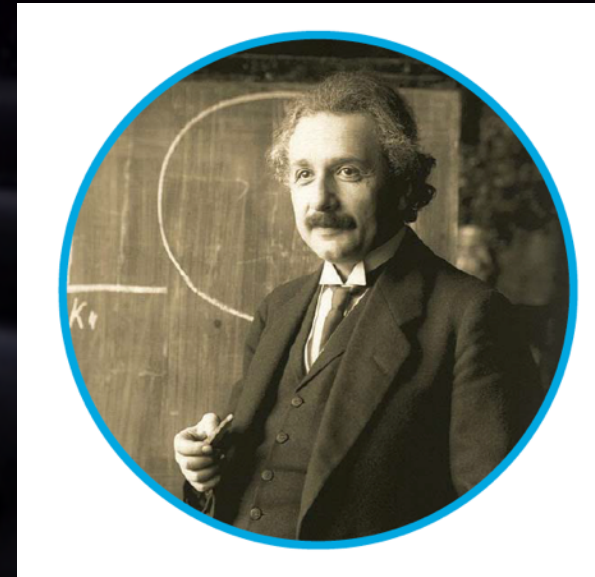
Orientation: Future GW Machines

Focus: Vacuum Requirements

# General Relativity and Gravitational Waves

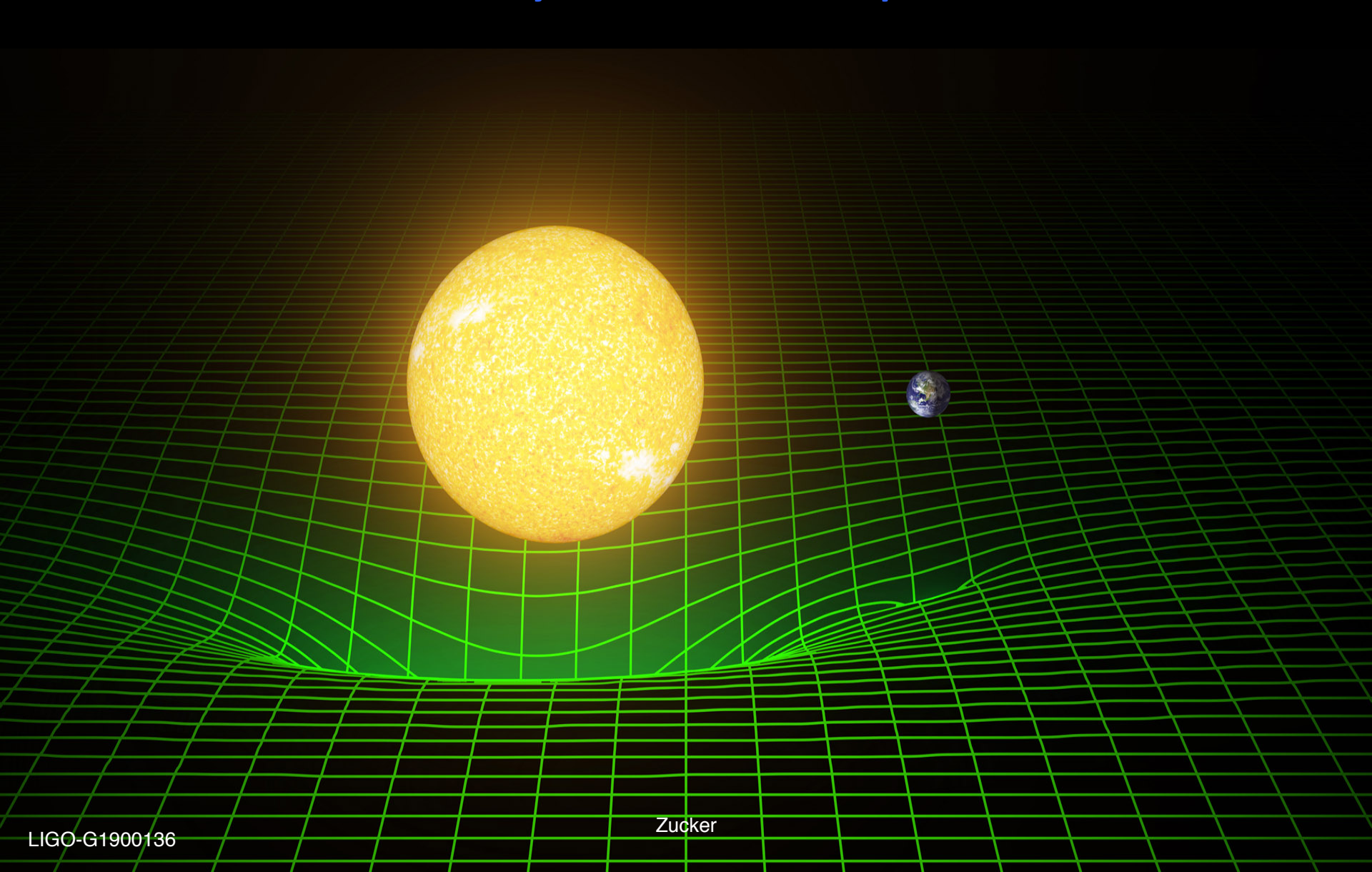
- 2016 was the centenary of Einstein's General Relativity
- A *geometric* theory:  
Gravitation arises from *curvature of space-time*  
*Curvature* arises from matter, energy... and *curvature!*
- Bizarre, but (so far) *totally successful*, predictions:  
Perihelion shift, bending of light, frame dragging,  
gravitational redshift, gravitational lensing, black holes,...
- **One key prediction remained elusive until September 14<sup>th</sup> 2015:**

## *Gravitational Waves*



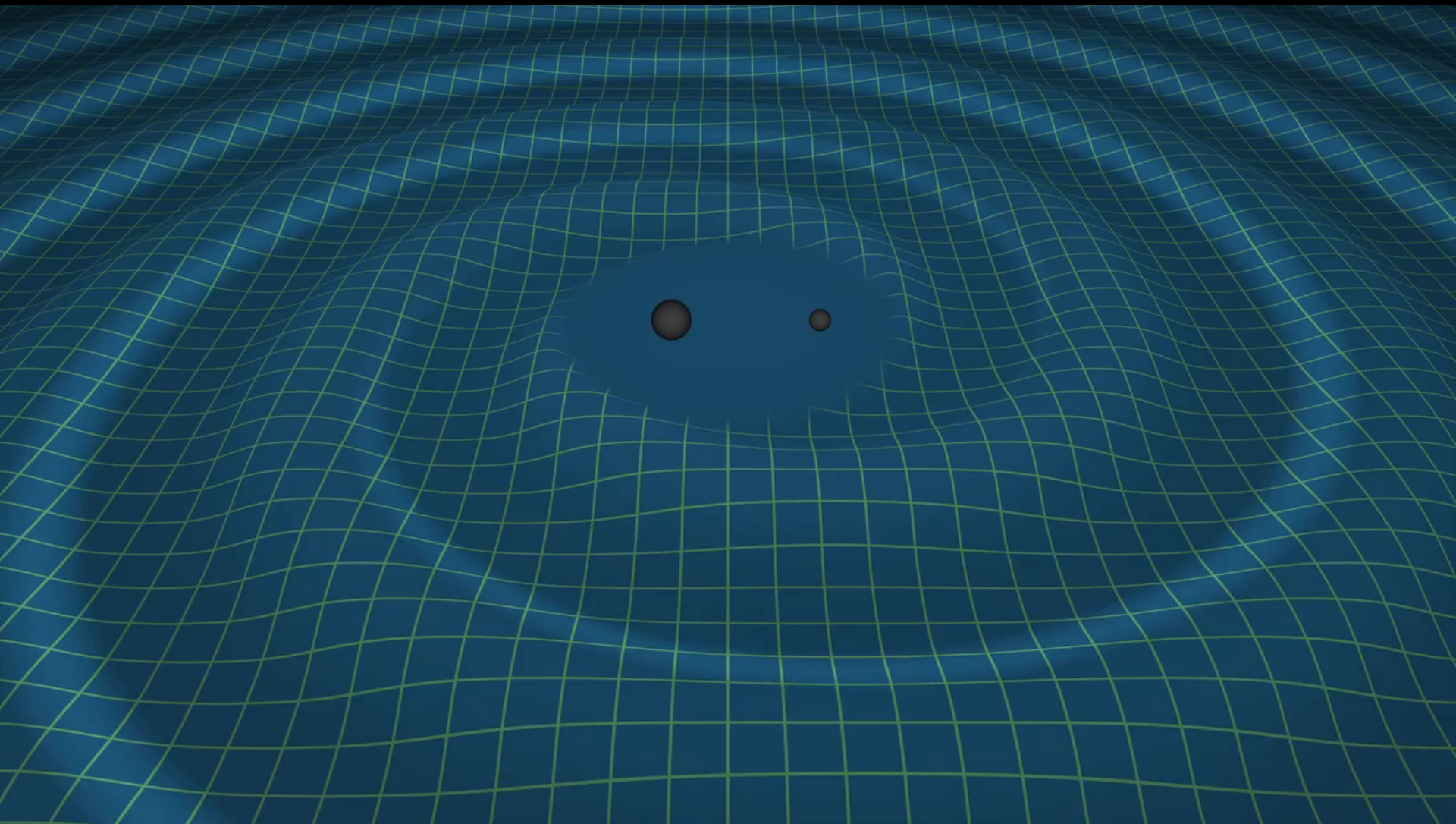
A. Einstein, *Näherungsweise Integration der Feldgleichungen der Gravitation*, 1916

# *Gravity & Curved Space-time*



# Gravitational Waves

*Credit: LIGO/Tim Pyle*

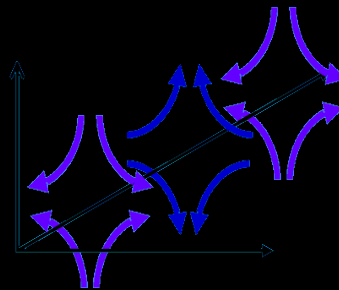


# Detecting the effects

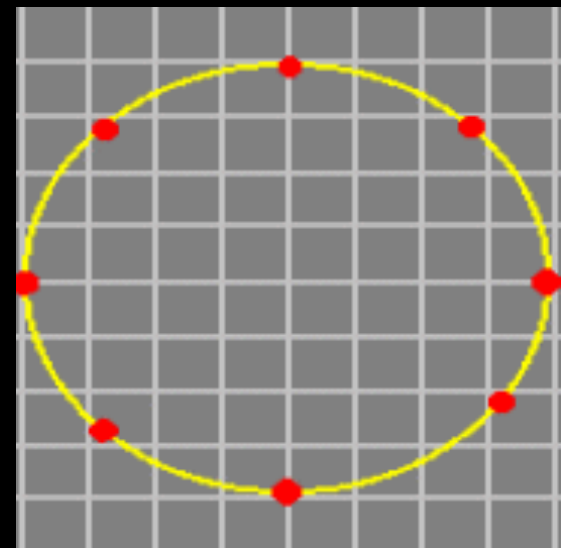
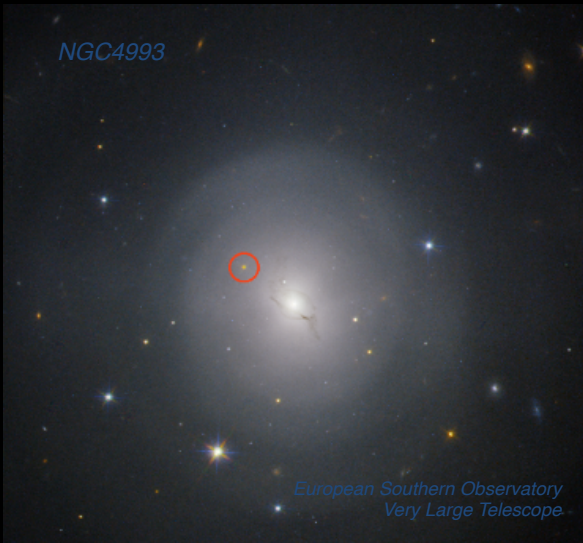
*transverse strain*  
*free test particles*



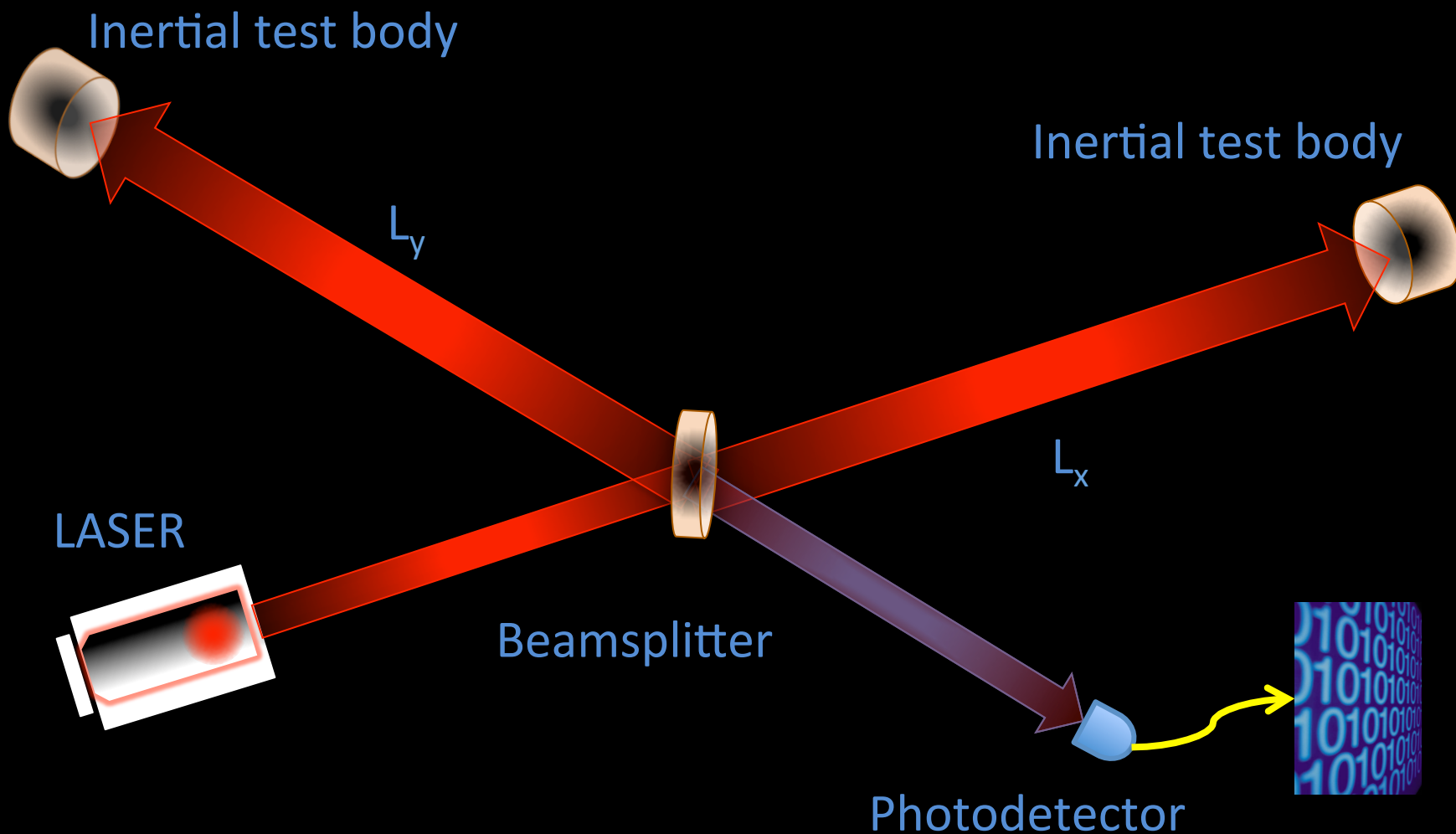
(Earth)



In a galaxy far far away...



# Michelson interferometer



Graphic: M. Evans, MIT

## A “small” problem...

wave’s strength corresponds to *strain* induced in the detector,

$$h = \Delta L / L$$

We can calculate expected strain at Earth;

$$|h| \approx 4\pi^2 GMR^2 f_{orbit}^2 / c^4 r \approx 10^{-22} \left( \frac{R}{20\text{km}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{M}{M_{\odot}} \right) \left( \frac{f_{orbit}}{400\text{Hz}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{100\text{Mpc}}{r} \right)$$

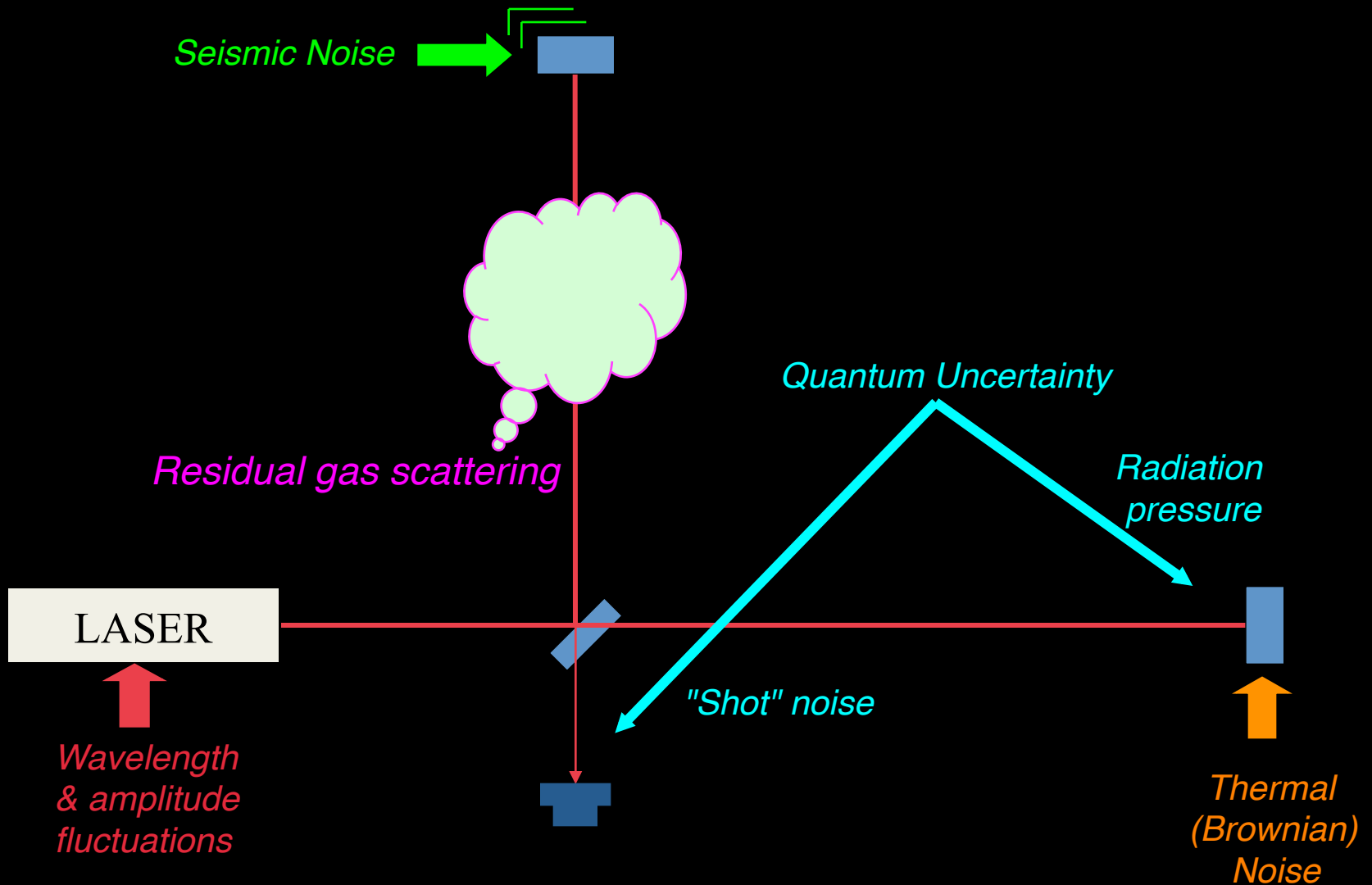
If we make our interferometer arms 4,000 meters long,

$$\Delta L = h \times L \approx 10^{-22} \times 4,000 \text{ m} \approx 4 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ m}$$

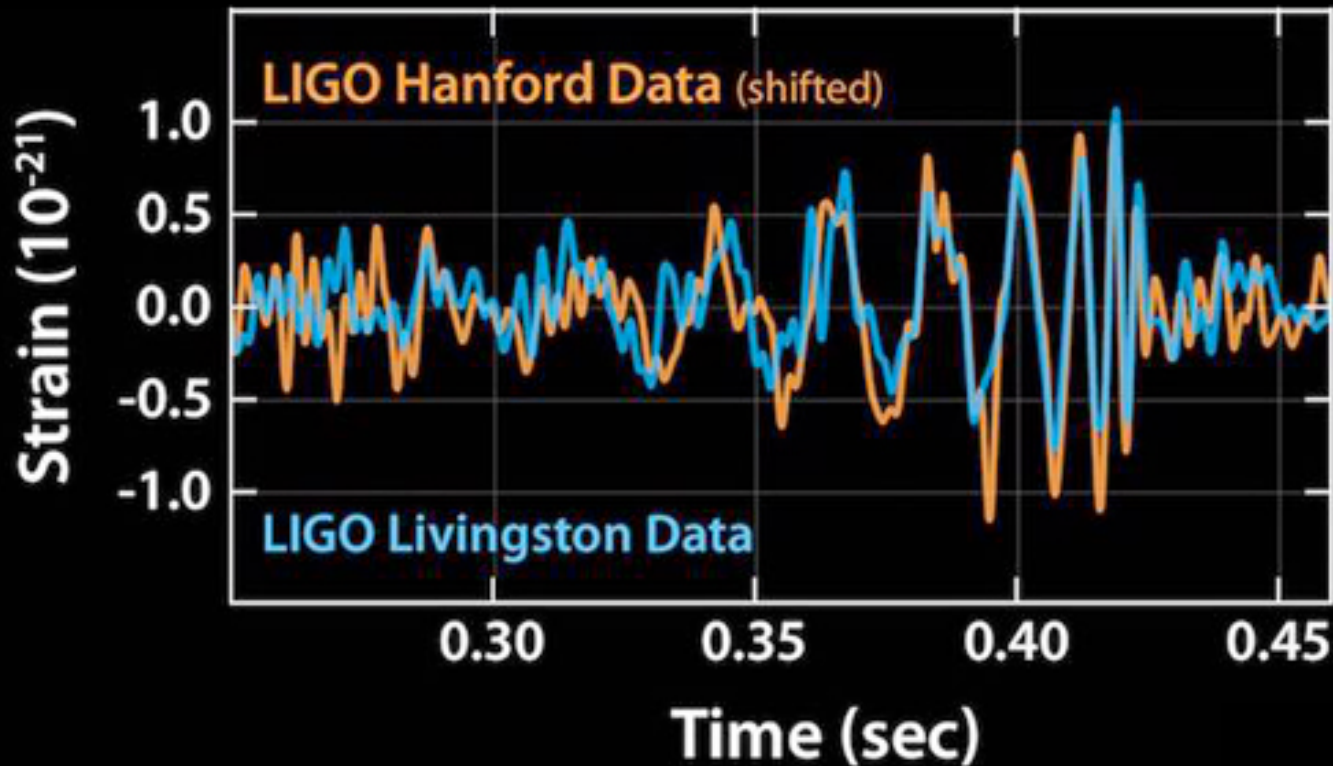
**A ten-thousandth the size of an atomic nucleus**



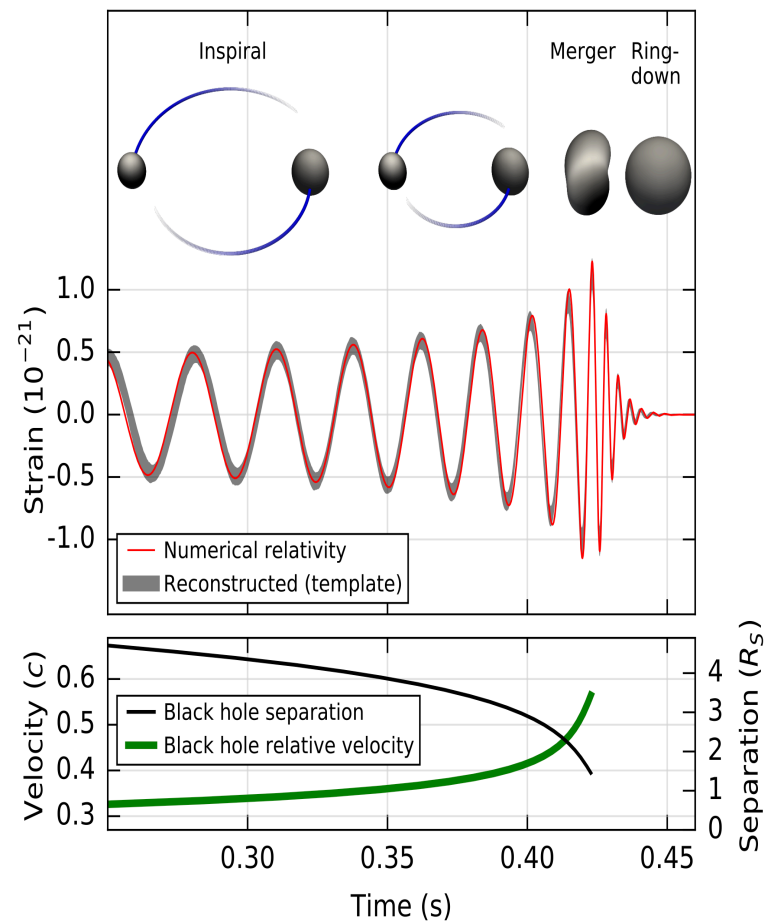
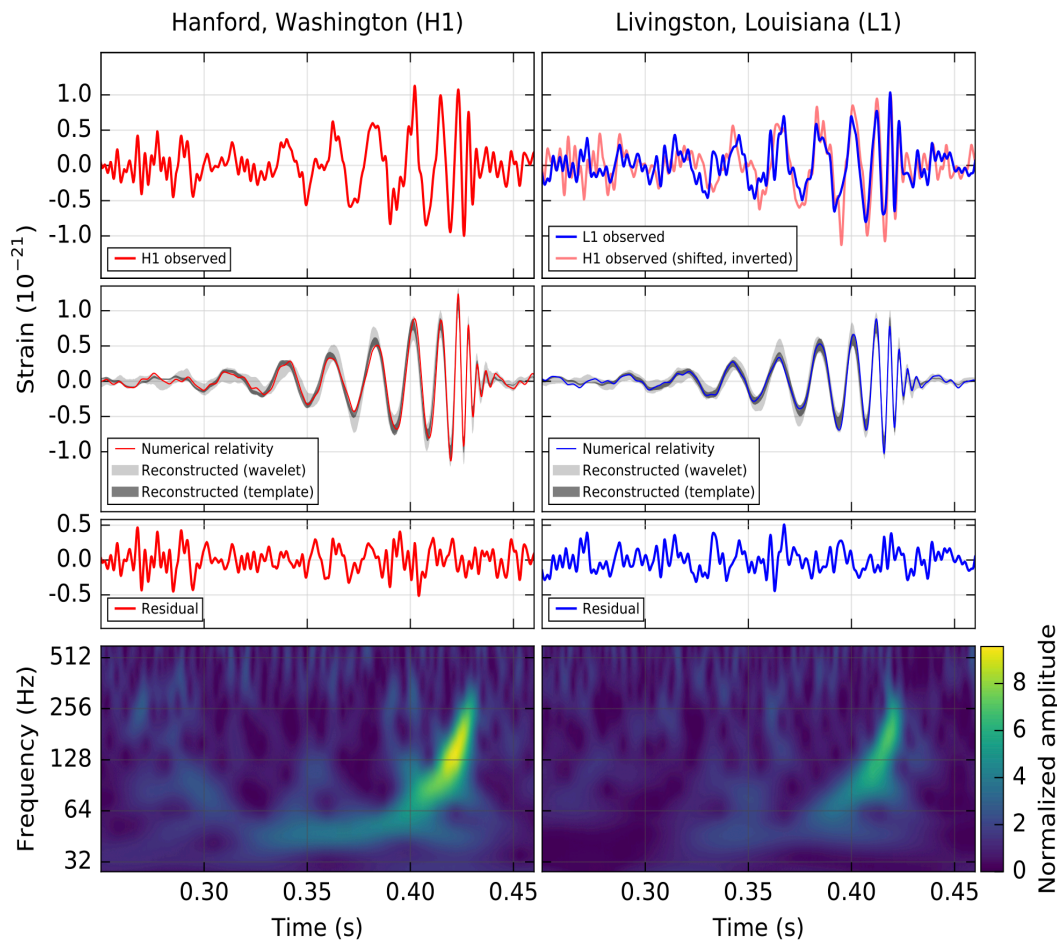
# The Enemies: NOISE



14 September, 2015



29 $M_{\odot}$  and 36 $M_{\odot}$  black holes 1.3 GLY away inspiral and merge, emitting 3 $M_{\odot}$  of GW energy, briefly “outshining” the entire universe



Abbott et al Phys. Rev. Lett. 116 (2016) 061102

# the LASER Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory

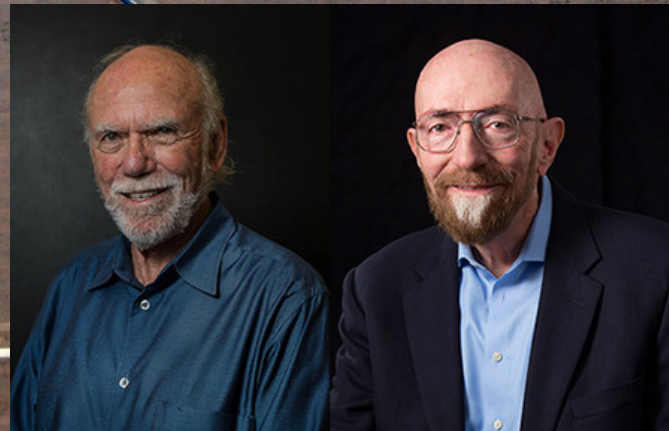


*"For the greatest benefit to mankind"*  
*Alfred Nobel*

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**2017 NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSICS**

**Rainer Weiss**  
**Barry C. Barish**  
**Kip S. Thorne**





Virgo  
Cascina, Italy

3 km

7900 km (25 ms)



LIGO  
Hanford, WA

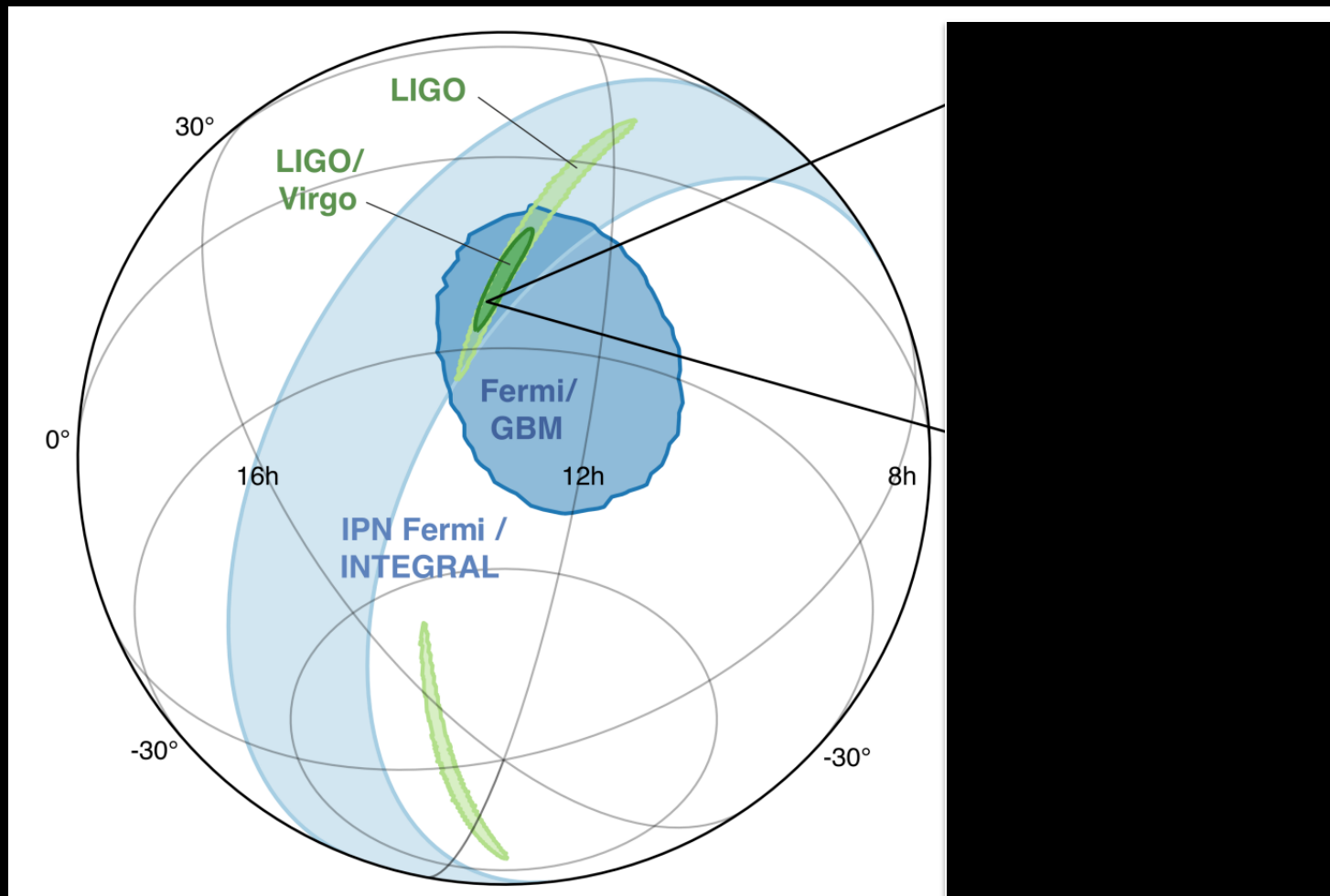
8200 km (27 ms)

3000 km (11 ms)

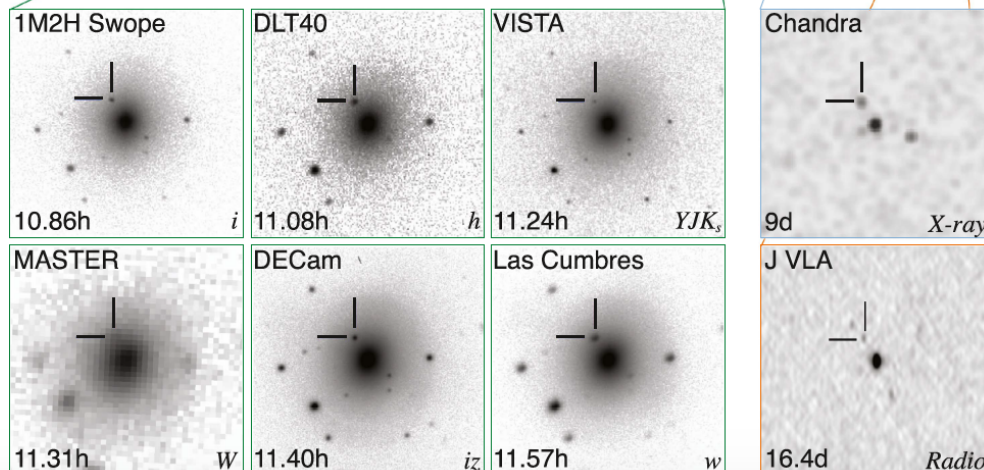
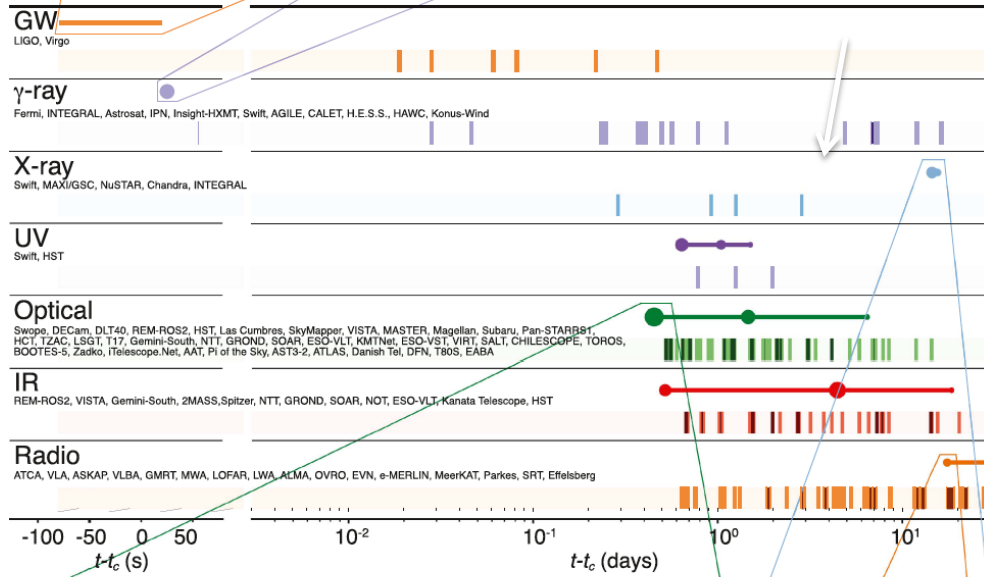
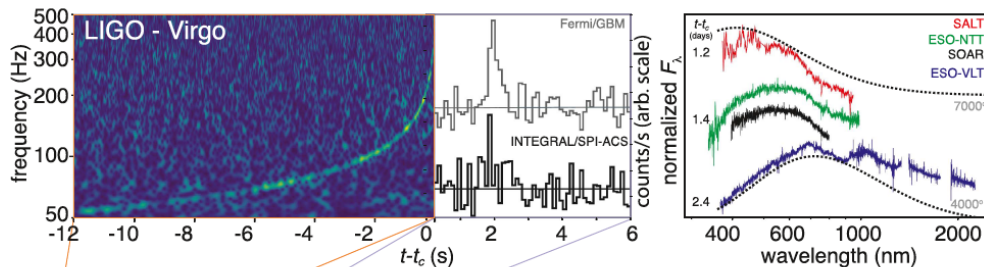


LIGO  
Livingston, LA

4 km



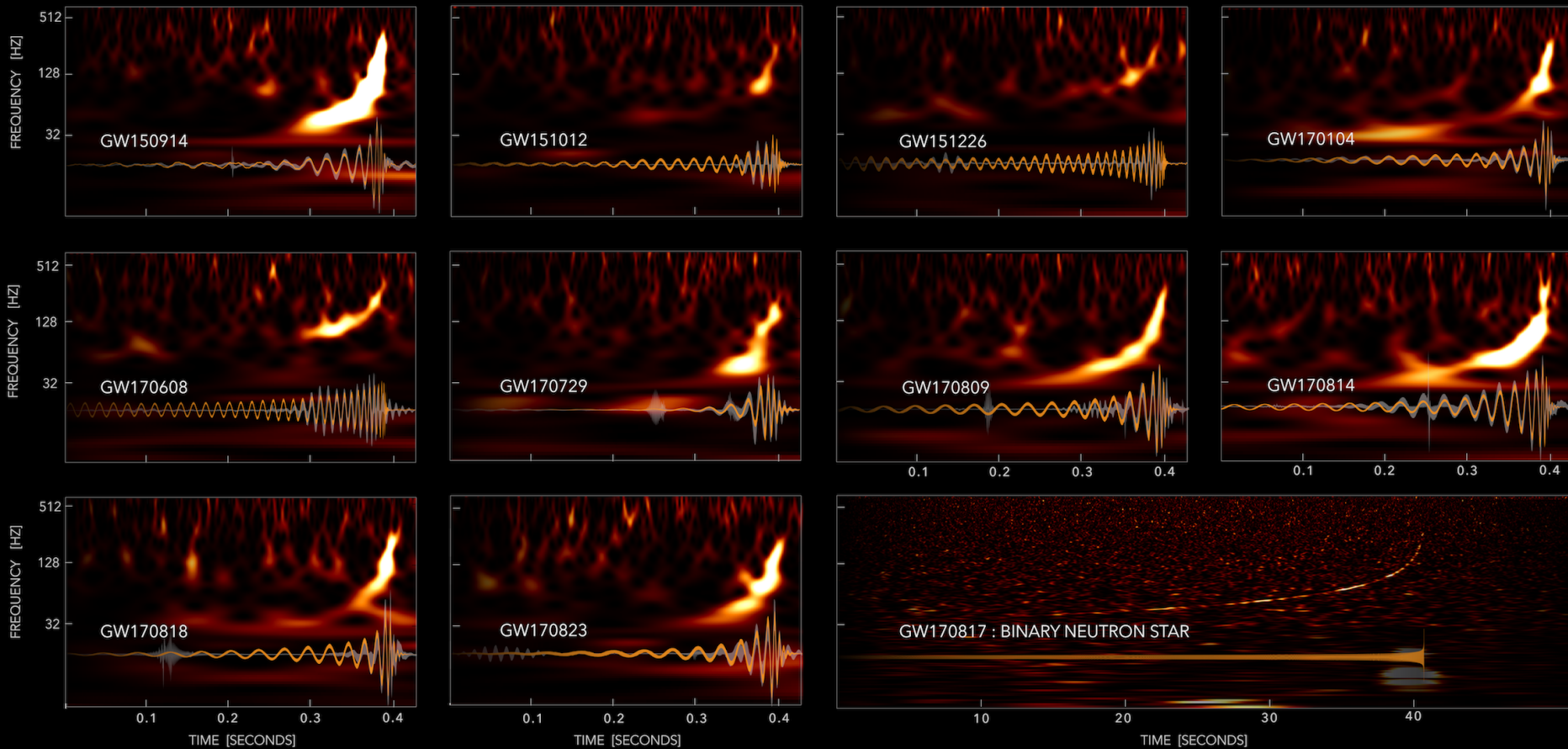
*Abbott et al. Ap. J. Lett., 848:2 (2017)*



N. Tanvir, U. Leicester

Abbott et al. *Astrophys. J. Lett.*, 848:L12, (2017)

## GRAVITATIONAL-WAVE TRANSIENT CATALOG-1



LIGO-VIRGO DATA: [HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.7935/82H3-HH23](https://doi.org/10.7935/82H3-HH23)

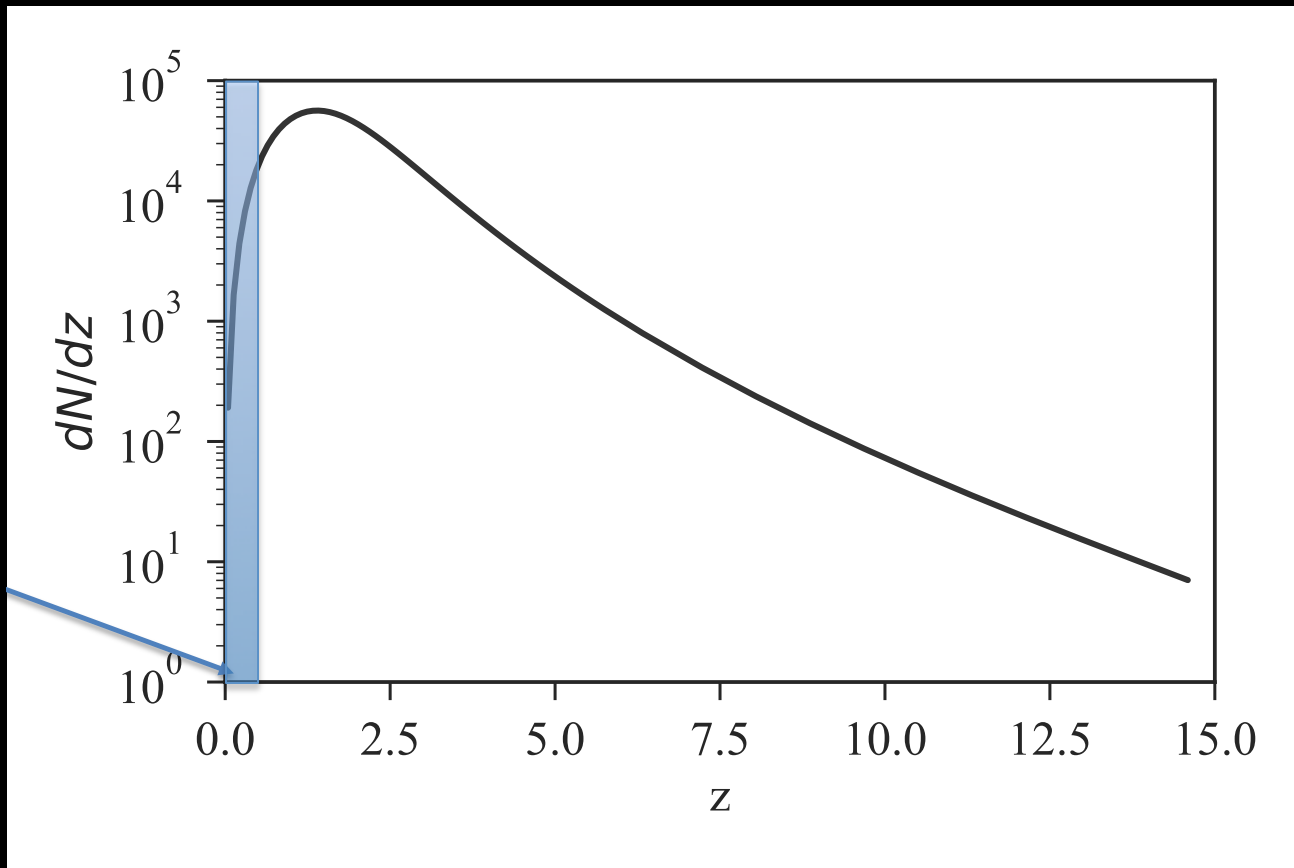
WAVELET (UNMODELED) EINSTEIN'S THEORY

S. GHONGE, K. JANI | GEORGIA TECH



# Where do we stand?

## Number of coalescing binaries vs. redshift



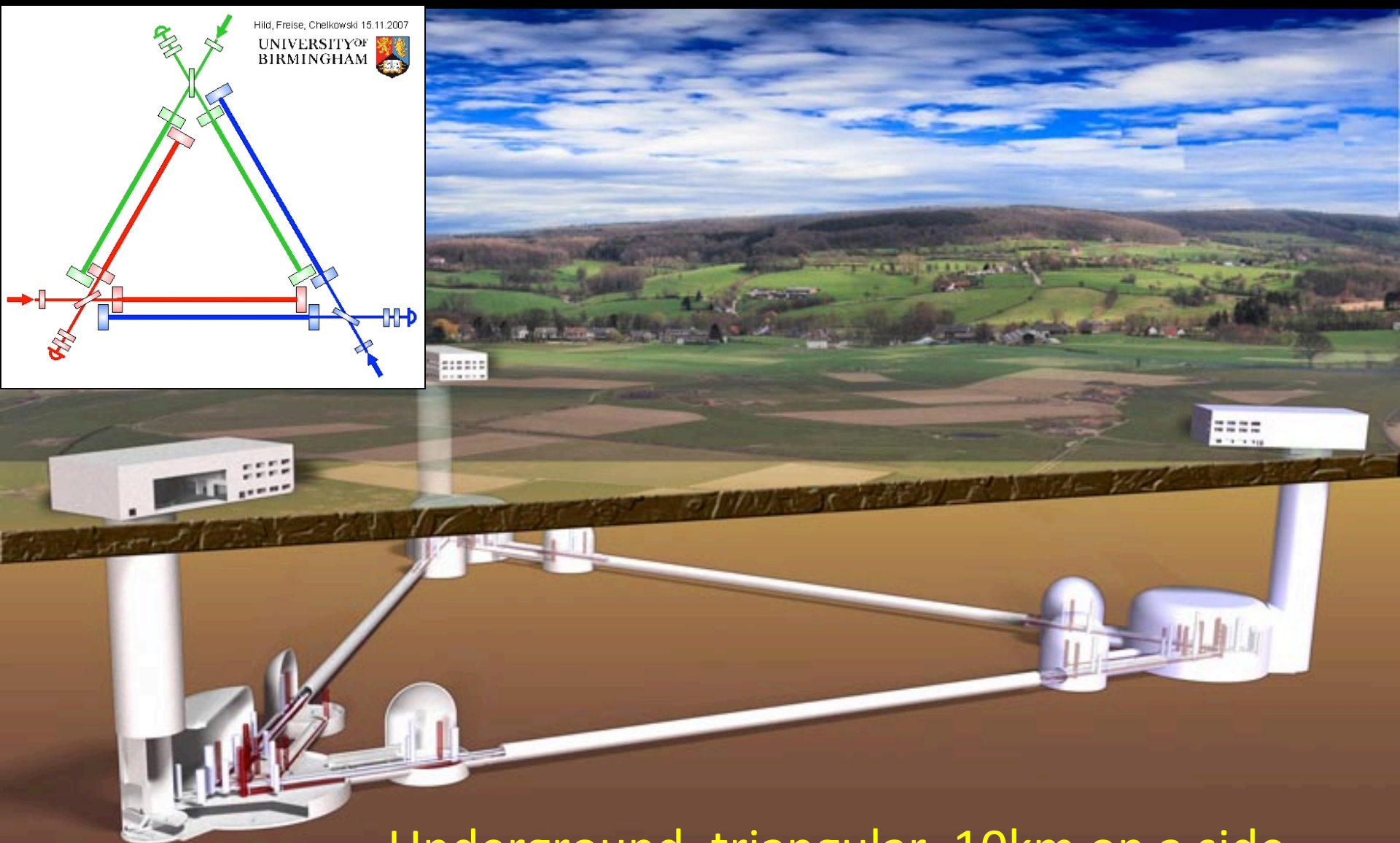
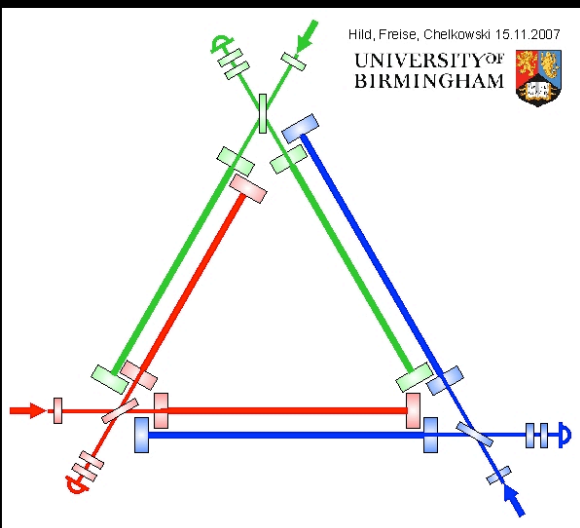
Current detectors

To detect more distant objects, make the interferometers larger

$$h = \Delta L / L$$

$$\Delta L = h \times L \approx 10^{-22} \times 4,000 \text{ m} \approx 4 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ m}$$

# Einstein Telescope



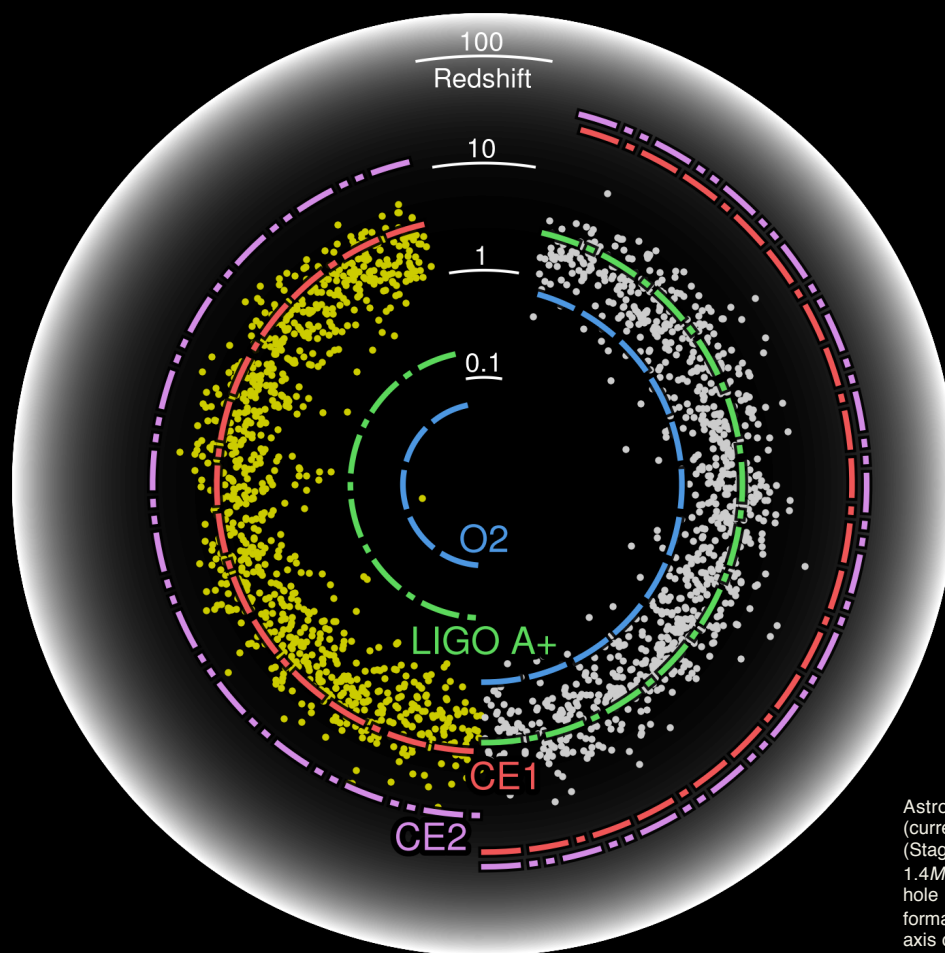
Underground, triangular, 10km on a side

The image shows a top-down view of a lunar surface with a network of four detector arms. Each arm is a long, thin grey tube with a green, faceted spherical detector at its end. The arms are arranged in a square pattern, with one arm extending from the center towards the top-left, another towards the top-right, a third towards the bottom-left, and a fourth towards the bottom-right. The lunar surface is brown and grey with some darker patches. In the background, two large, dark, swirling structures resembling gravitational wells or black holes are visible against a black sky with some stars. At the bottom of the image, there is a white, jagged waveform representing seismic data.

# Cosmic Explorer

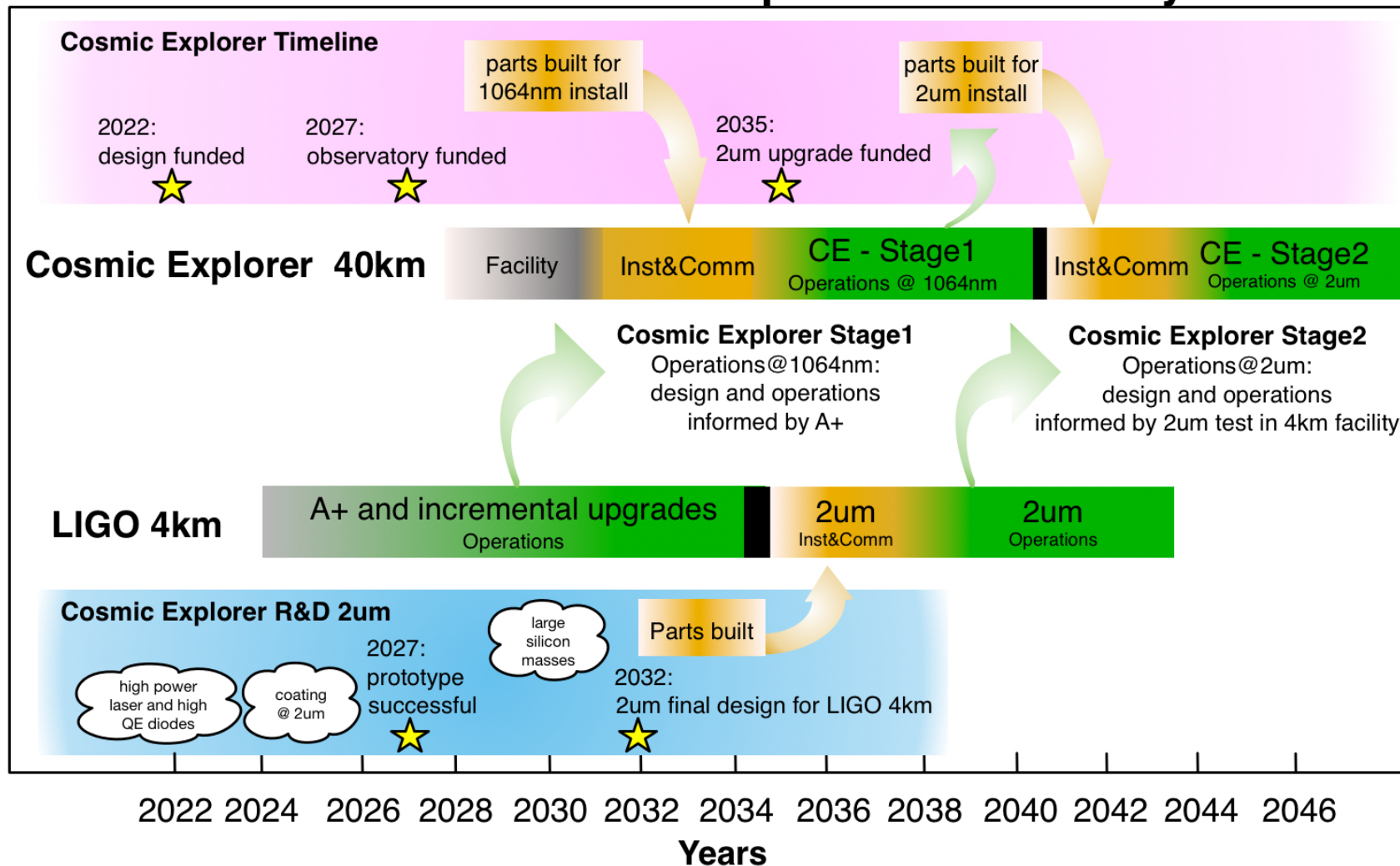
Surface, right-angle, 40km on a side

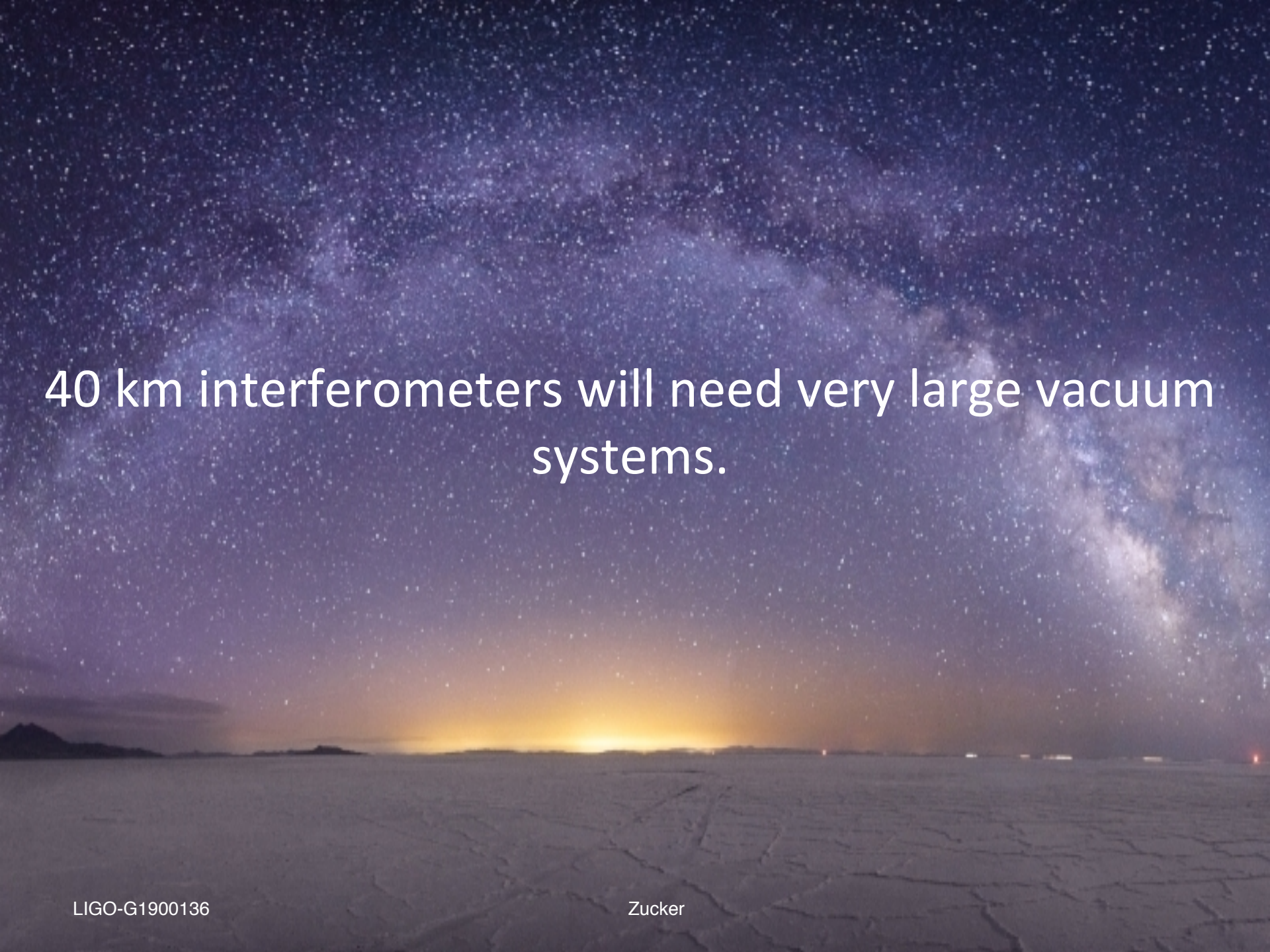
# Cosmic Explorer will detect compact binaries throughout the observable universe



Astrophysical response distance of Advanced LIGO (current best sensitivity), LIGO A+, and Cosmic Explorer (Stage 1 and 2), plotted on top of a population of 1.4–1.4 $M_{\odot}$  neutron star mergers (yellow) and 30–30 $M_{\odot}$  black hole mergers (gray), assuming a Madau–Dickinson star formation profile and a 100 Myr merger time. The radial axis denotes redshift, and the radial distribution of points is proportional to  $dR/dz$ , the detector-frame merger rate per unit redshift.

## Timeline of a Cosmic Explorer 40km facility



A night sky with the Milky Way galaxy visible over a dark, cracked landscape. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

40 km interferometers will need very large vacuum systems.

# Vacuum Requirement Drivers

**Brownian recoil** of mirrors due to gas molecule impact  
(exacerbated by small gaps)

$$P(\text{H}_2) < 10^{-8} \text{ Torr}$$

**Contamination of optics** leading to scattering, heating or damage

Mirror absorption budget: **< 0.1 ppm change** over operating life

Hydrocarbons: **< 1 monolayer/10 years**

Particles: **< one 10  $\mu\text{m}$  particle on any mirror**

**Light scattering from residual gas**

A function of molecular polarizability and thermal speed

Primary goals:

$$\rightarrow P(\text{H}_2) < 10^{-9} \text{ Torr}$$

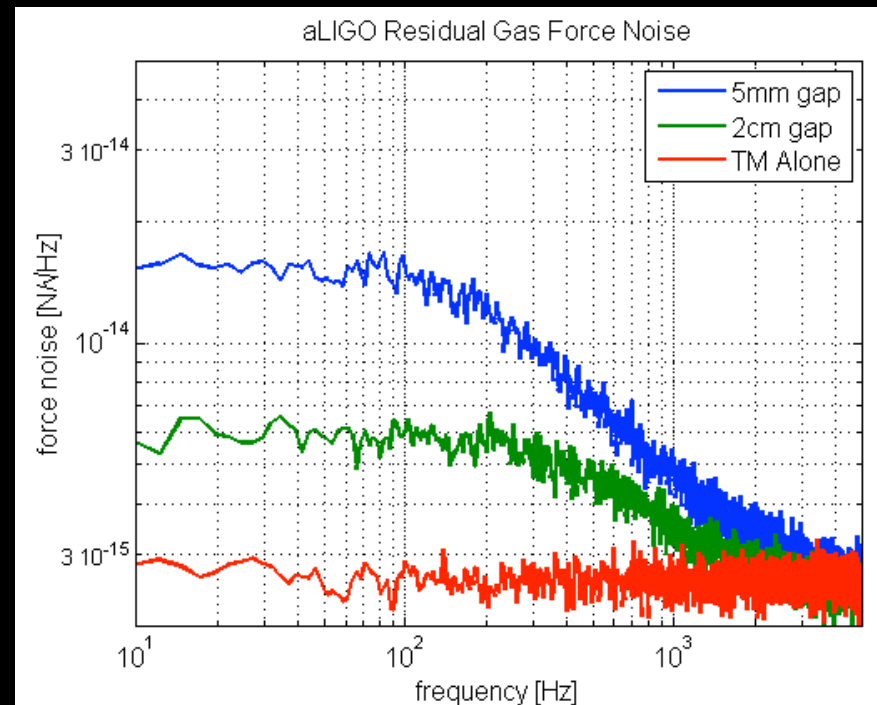
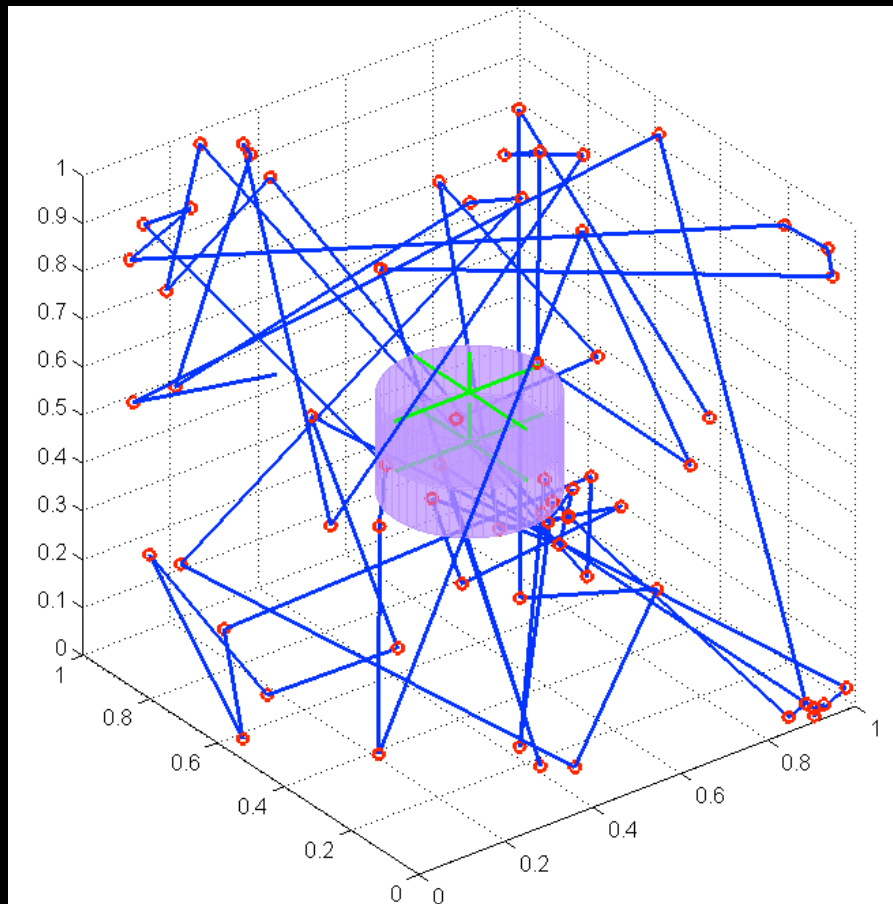
$$\rightarrow P(\text{H}_2\text{O}) < 10^{-10} \text{ Torr}$$

**Light scattering from tube walls**

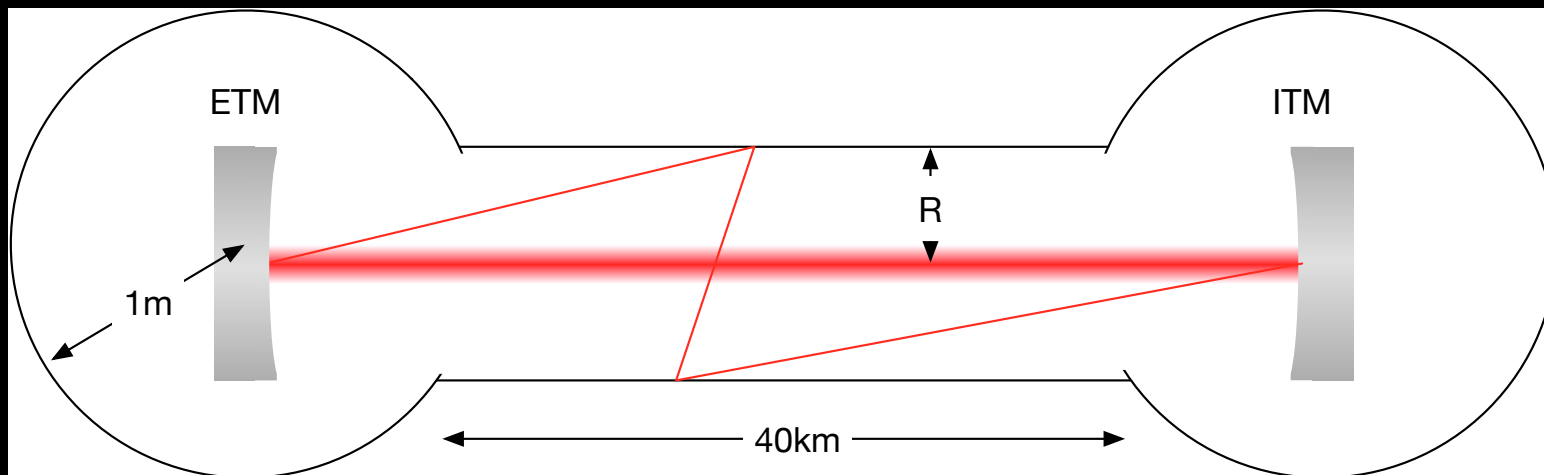
Not a “vacuum requirement” per se, but drives tube diameter, surface finish and construction (e.g., vibration)



# Vessel Vacuum: Gas damping (Brownian motion)



# Beamtube Wall Scattering

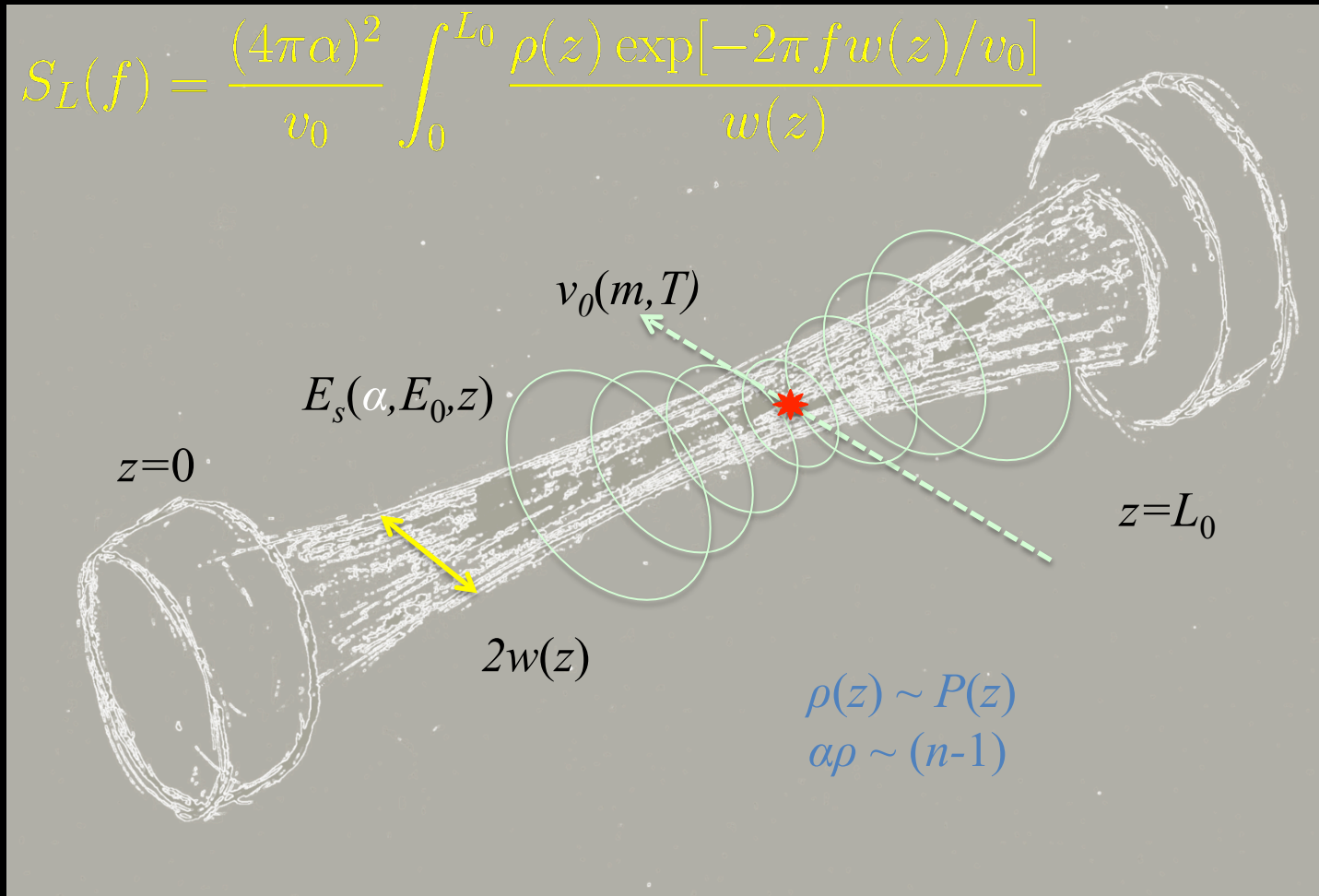


A photograph showing two technicians in white cleanroom suits and gloves working inside a large, dark chamber. They are focused on cleaning a complex, metallic, X-shaped structure, which is part of a LIGO mirror. The scene is dimly lit, with a bright light source on the left creating a strong glow. The technician on the right is holding a green cleaning tool. The overall atmosphere is one of precision and scientific care.

*Cleaning a LIGO Mirror In-Chamber*

# Light Scattering from Residual Gas

$$S_L(f) = \frac{(4\pi\alpha)^2}{v_0} \int_0^{L_0} \frac{\rho(z) \exp[-2\pi f w(z)/v_0]}{w(z)}$$



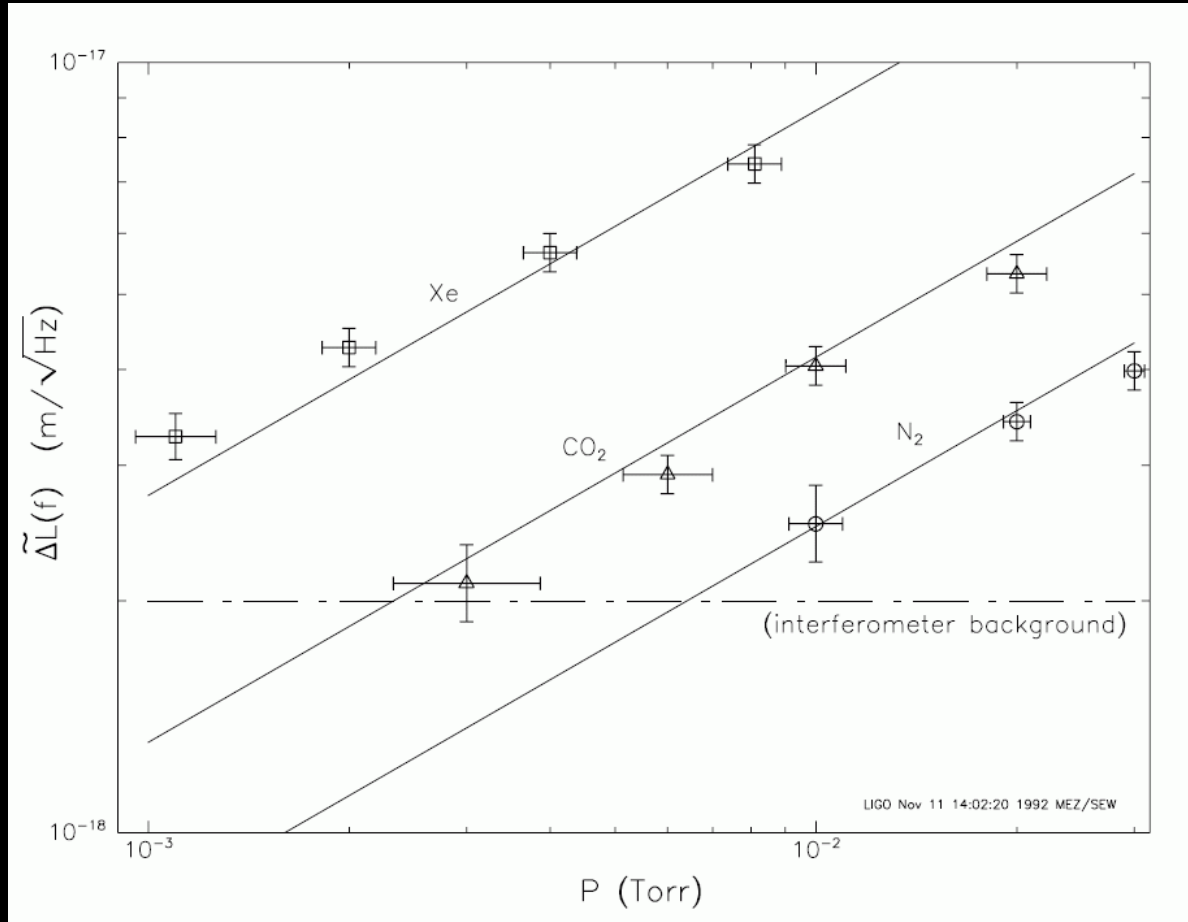
# Residual Gas Scattering

$$S_L(f) = \frac{4\rho(2\pi\alpha)^2}{v_0} \int_0^{L_0} \frac{\exp[-2\pi f w(z)/v_0]}{w(z)} dz$$

$$\Delta\tilde{L}(f) \equiv \sqrt{S_{\Delta L}(f)} = \sqrt{2S_L(f)}$$

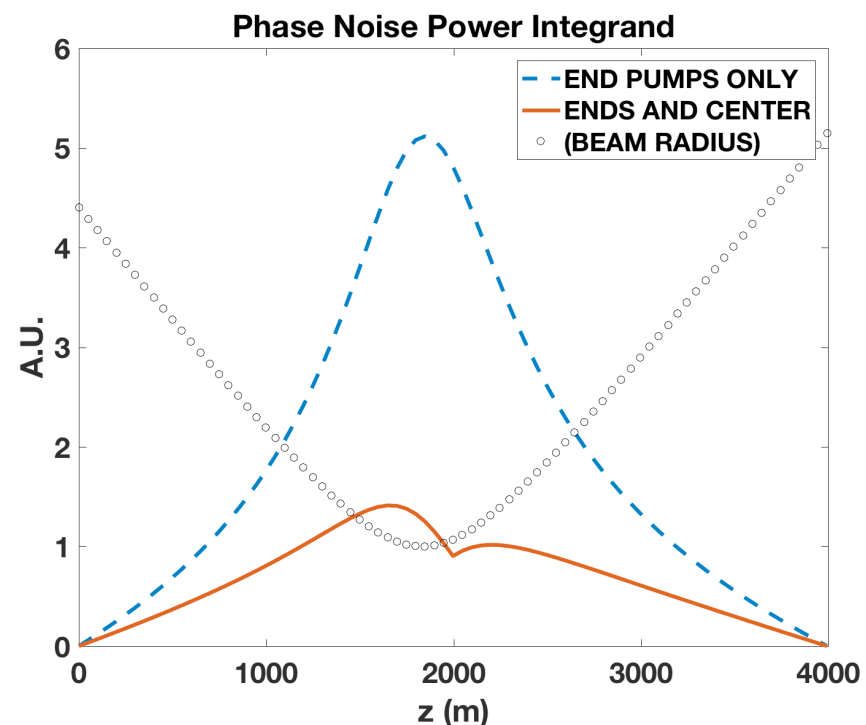
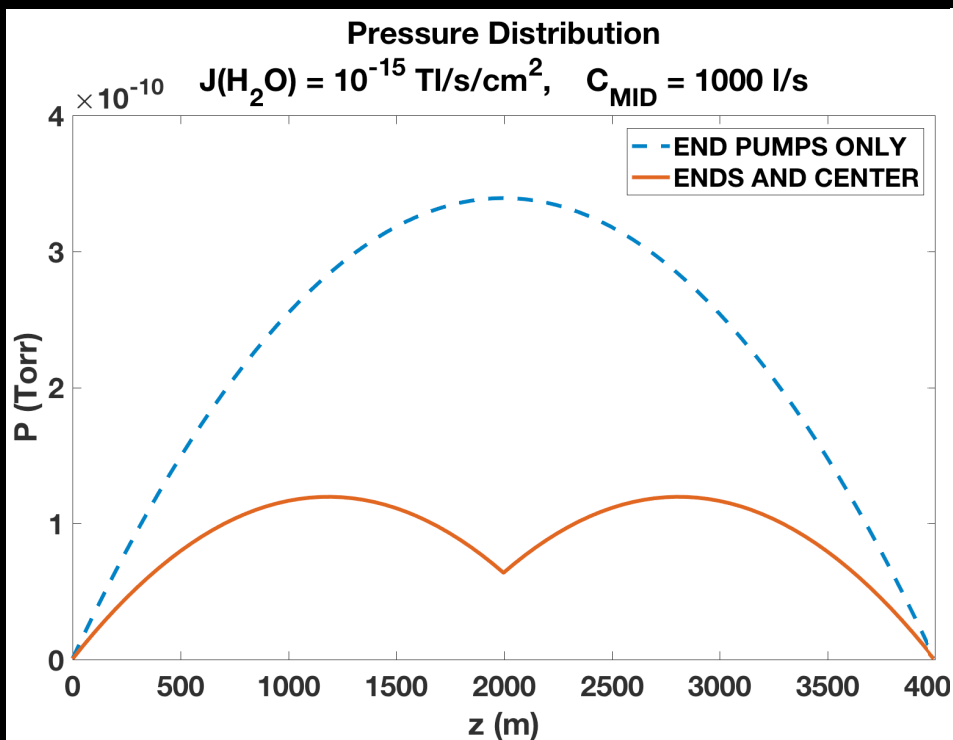
- $\rho$  = gas number density ( $\sim$  pressure)
- $\alpha$  = optical polarizability ( $\sim$  index)
- $w$  = beam radius
- $v_0$  = most probable thermal speed
- $L_0$  = arm length
- $\Delta L$  = arm optical path difference

Statistical model  
verified by  
interferometer  
experiment



S. Whitcomb and MZ, Proc. 7th Marcel Grossmann Meeting on GR, R. Jantzen and G. Keiser, eds. World Scientific, Singapore (1996).

# Gaussian laser beam diameter varies → Pressure gradients matter



# Sample parameters for CE design operating at 1 micron laser wavelength

parameter	aLIGO	CE (1 $\mu\text{m}$ )
$L$ (m)	4,000	40,000
$w_0$ (mm)	62	83
$h_{gas}$ ( $\text{Hz}^{-1/2}$ )*	$< 2 \times 10^{-25}$	$< 5 \times 10^{-26}$
P[H <sub>2</sub> ] (Torr)	$< 10^{-9}$	$< 10^{-9}$
P[H <sub>2</sub> O] (Torr)	$< 10^{-10}$	$< 10^{-10}$
P[CO <sub>2</sub> ] (Torr)	$< 2 \times 10^{-11}$	$< 2 \times 10^{-11}$

\*3x safety margin

Assuming 40km x 1.2m  $\phi$  tubes with 'LIGO-typical' outgassing, e.g.,  
 $J(\text{H}_2\text{O}) \sim 10^{-15} \text{ T l s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  and  
 $J(\text{H}_2) \sim 5 \times 10^{-14} \text{ T l s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ ,  
 this could be achieved with one 1,000 l/s ion pump deployed each kilometer.

# *LIGO Beamtube*

- 9000 m<sup>3</sup> volume/site
- 30000 m<sup>2</sup> area/site
- 50 km of spiral welds
- $\sim 10^{-9}$  torr
- budget  $\sim$  \$40M (1997)  
\$2500/m  
\$50/lb



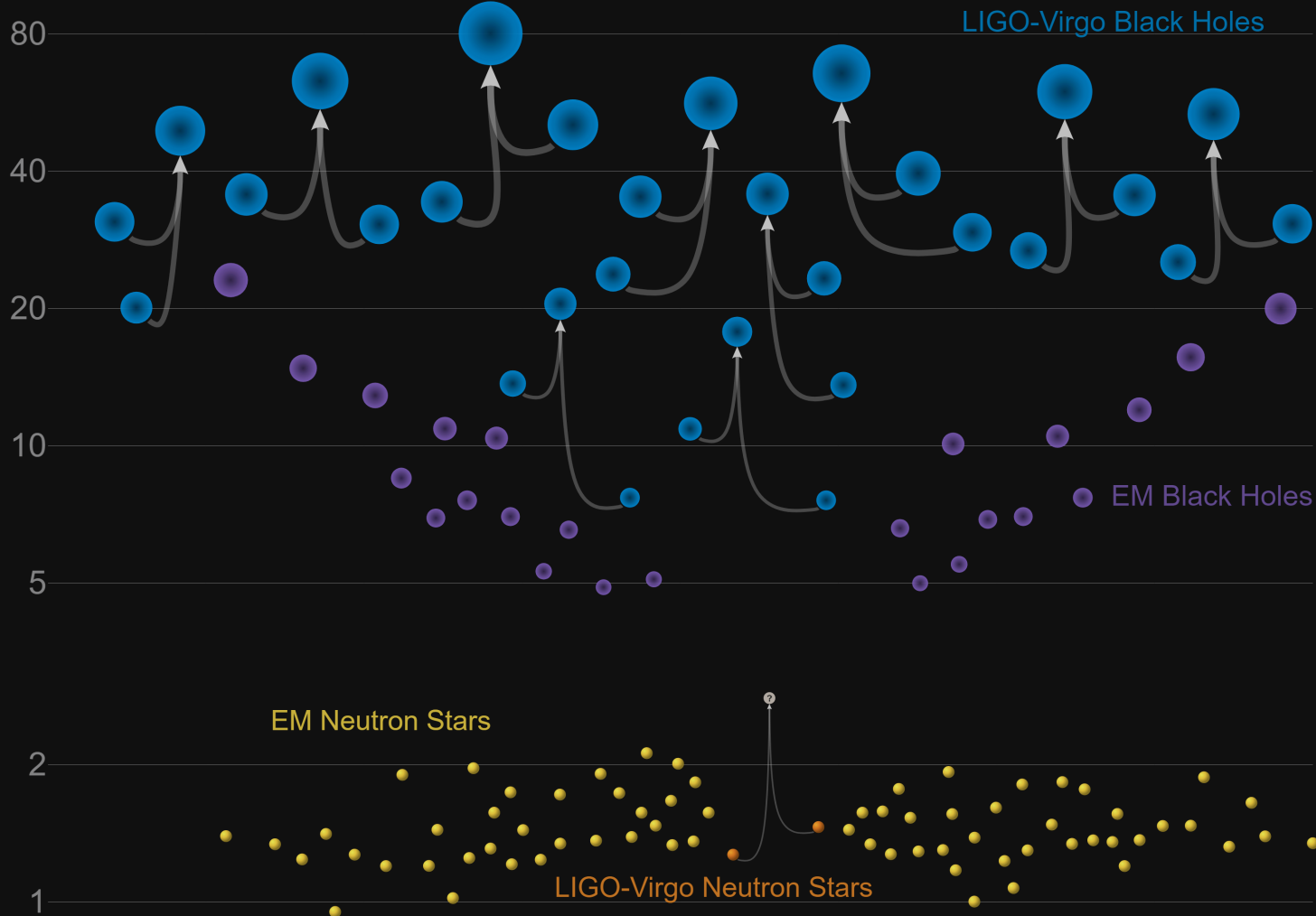


# REFERENCE SLIDES

The background is a complex, multi-layered digital composition. At the center is a bright, glowing vortex or nebula with a core of white and light blue, surrounded by swirling patterns of blue and white. This central element is set against a dark, almost black background. Overlaid on this are numerous golden and yellow light trails, some appearing as thin, sharp lines and others as thicker, more diffuse bands. A faint, light-colored grid pattern is visible across the entire scene, suggesting a digital or scientific theme. The overall effect is one of intense energy and motion.

# Masses in the Stellar Graveyard

*in Solar Masses*



LIGO-Virgo | Frank Elavsky | Northwestern



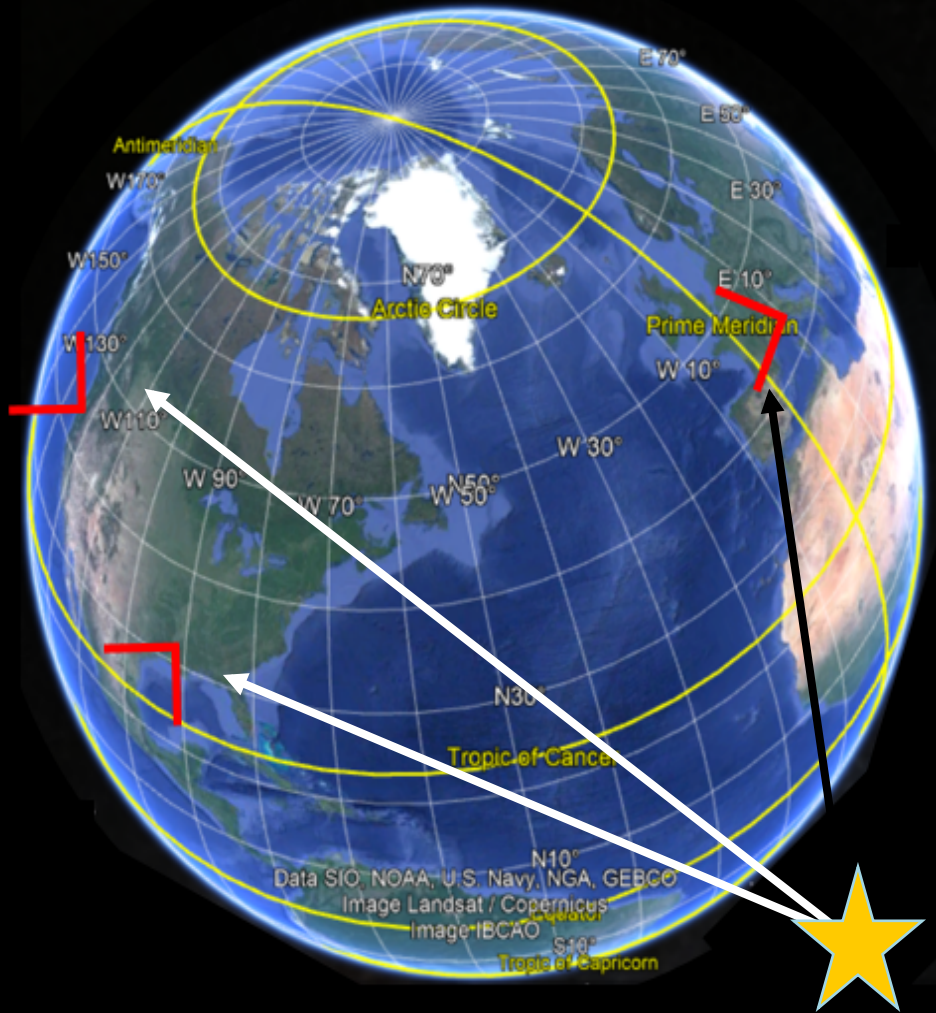
Virgo, Cascina, Italy



LIGO, Livingston, LA



LIGO, Hanford, WA



# LIGO: a quick history

- 1980's- Lab-scale R&D prototypes (MIT, Caltech, UK, Germany; up to 40m long) explored interferometer technology
- 1989- Proposed twin 4km instruments to U.S. National Science Foundation
- 1993- Funded for construction
  - Initial phase to use existing (1990's) technology; “Advanced” design R&D to proceed concurrently with construction and first observations
  - Chances for detection at initial design sensitivity “plausible,” but not assured
- 1997- *LIGO Scientific Collaboration* formed to share LIGO science and develop community of gravitational wave researchers (now over 900 members, 88 institutions, 14 nations)
- 2000- Finished construction; at design sensitivity 2005; collected data through 2010
  - NO confirmed astrophysical detections; only upper limits so far
  - Data are open, publicly available to other researchers
- 2008- “Advanced LIGO” upgrade approved, installation 2010, completed 2015
  - Total redesign; everything but the buildings & the vacuum system is new
  - Installation begun in 2010
- 2015- Hanford and Livingston advanced instruments reached initial target performance
  - Just started shaking down for the first observing run and...



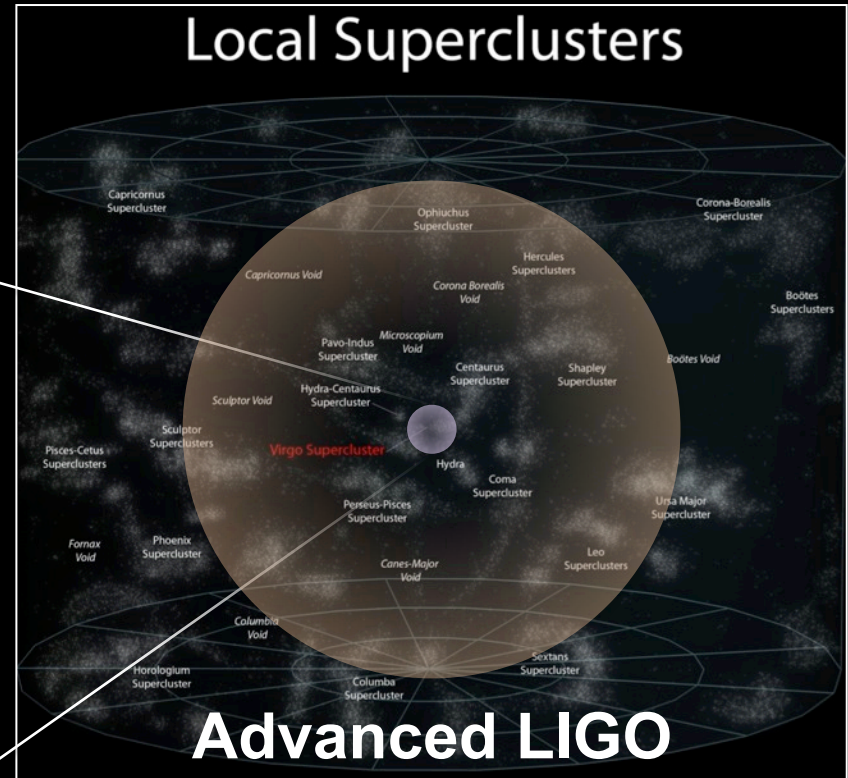
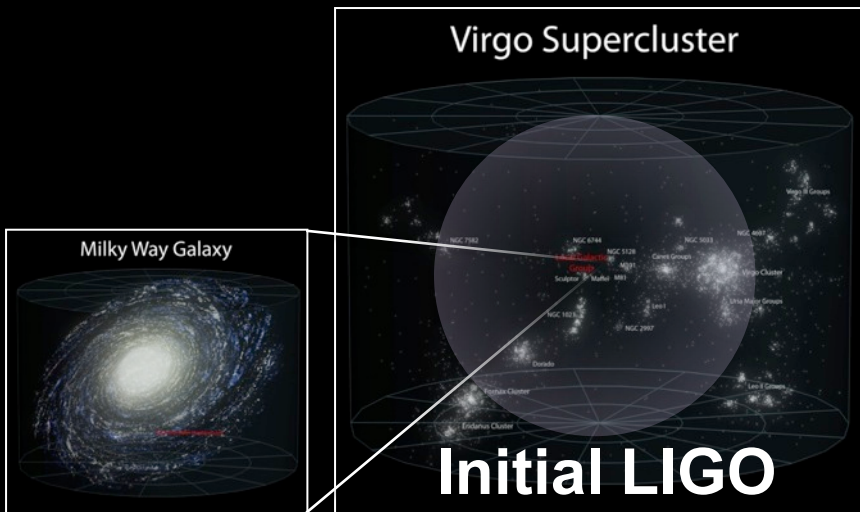
## BANG! GW150914!!!

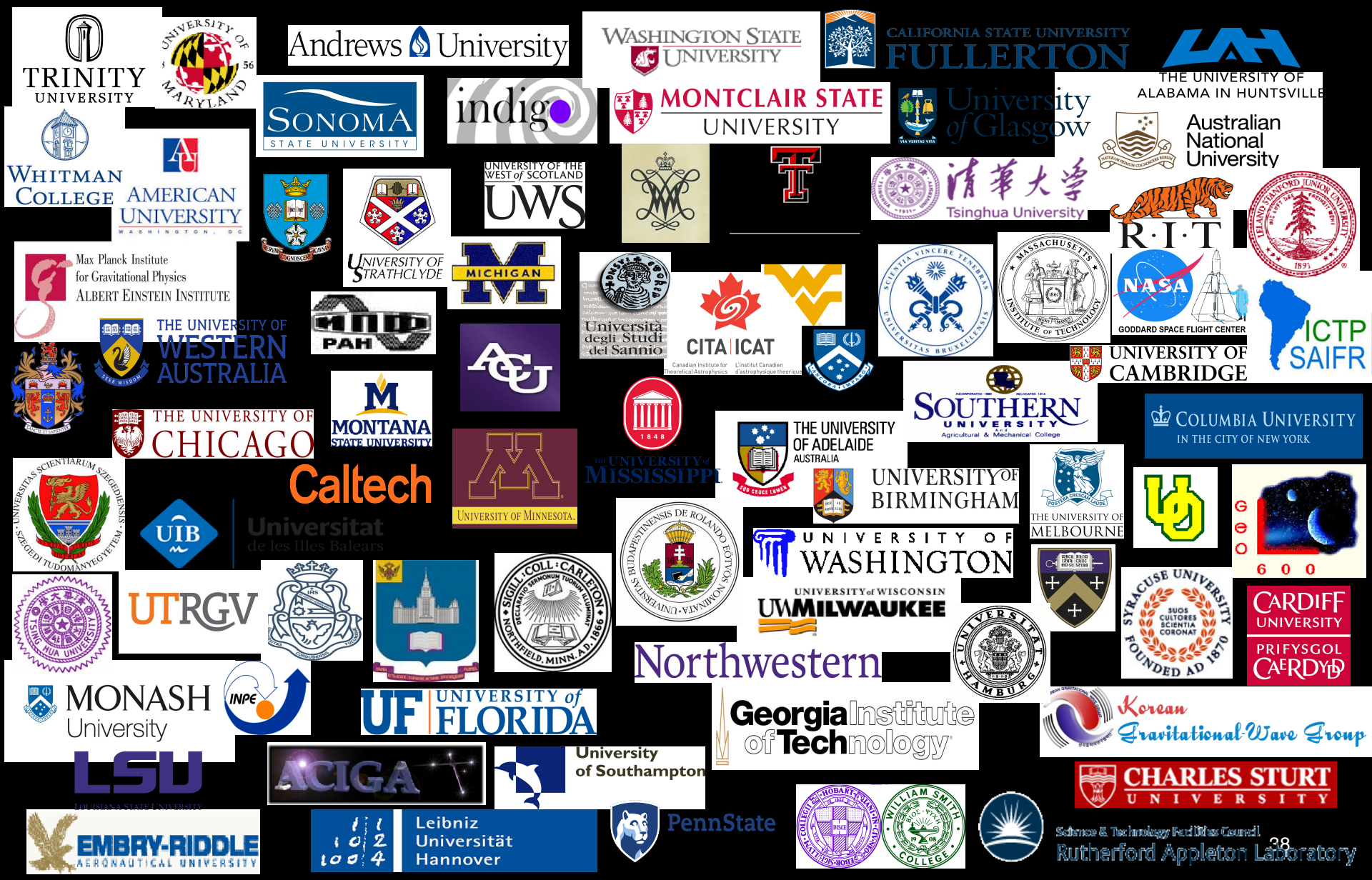
- Complete redesign and rebuild of the LIGO interferometers
- A discovery machine – expect 10's of BNS detections per year at design sensitivity (BBH? Supernovae? Other?)
- An astrophysical observatory – high SNR gravitational waveforms encode information about the dynamics of cataclysmic events

- **10x more sensitive than initial instruments in  $h$  → 1,000x greater volume at design sensitivity**

*O(100,000) galaxies in Advanced LIGO BNSrange*

*O(100) galaxies in initial LIGO BNS range*







# The Virgo GW Detector

- Located in Cascina, near Pisa
- Advanced Virgo (AdV): upgrade of the Virgo Detector
- Joint collaboration among Italy, France, The Netherlands, Poland and Hungary
- Funding approved in Dec 2009 (€23.8M)
- Construction in progress. End of installation expected in fall 2015

3 km

5 European countries  
19 labs, ~200 scientists and engineers



## KAGRA (かぐら)

Large-scale Cryogenic Gravitational-wave Telescope  
2<sup>nd</sup> generation GW detector in Japan



### Large-scale Detector

Baseline length: 3km

High-power Interferometer

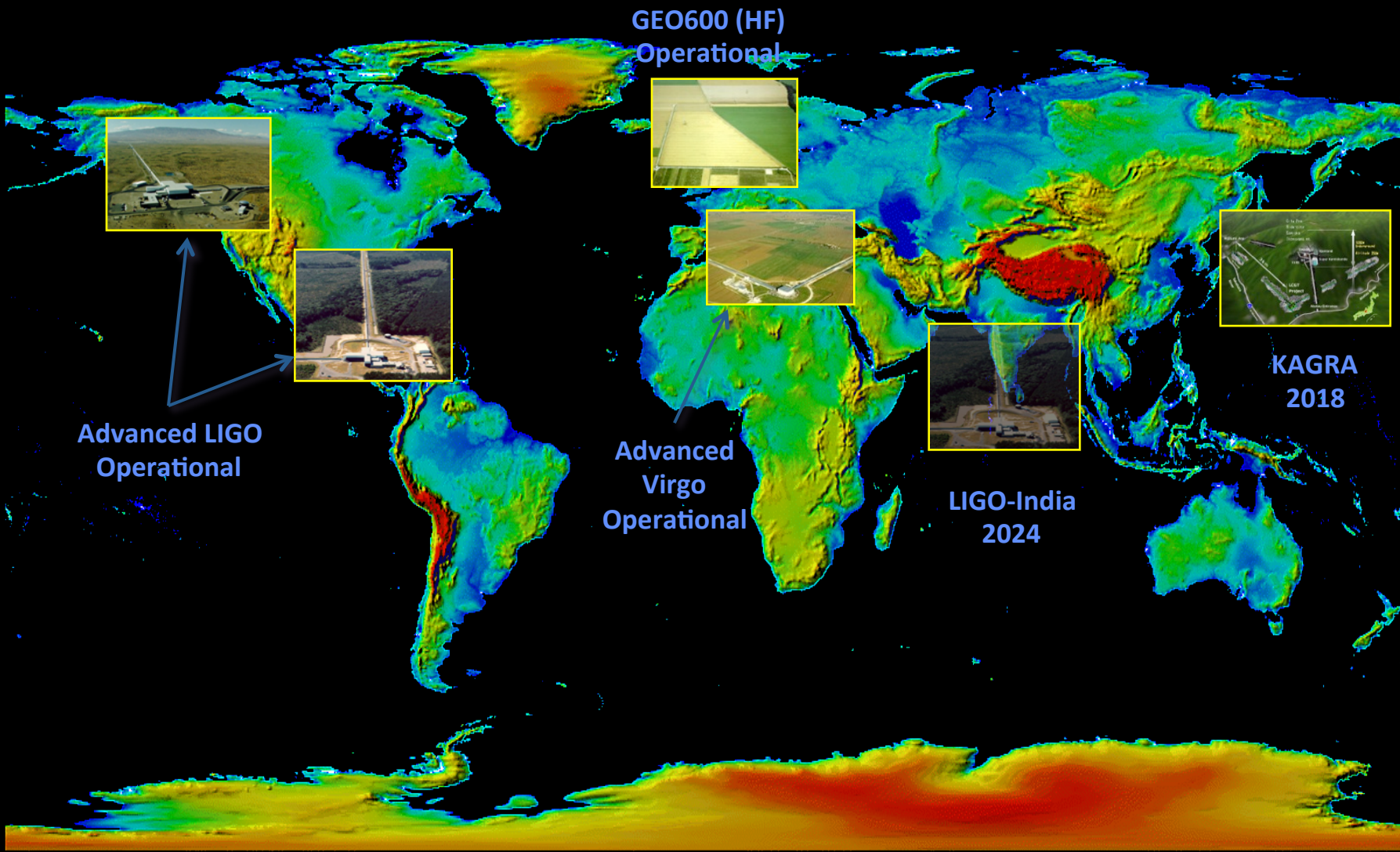
### Cryogenic interferometer

Mirror temperature: 20K

### Underground site

Kamioka mine,  
1000m underground





Advanced LIGO  
Operational

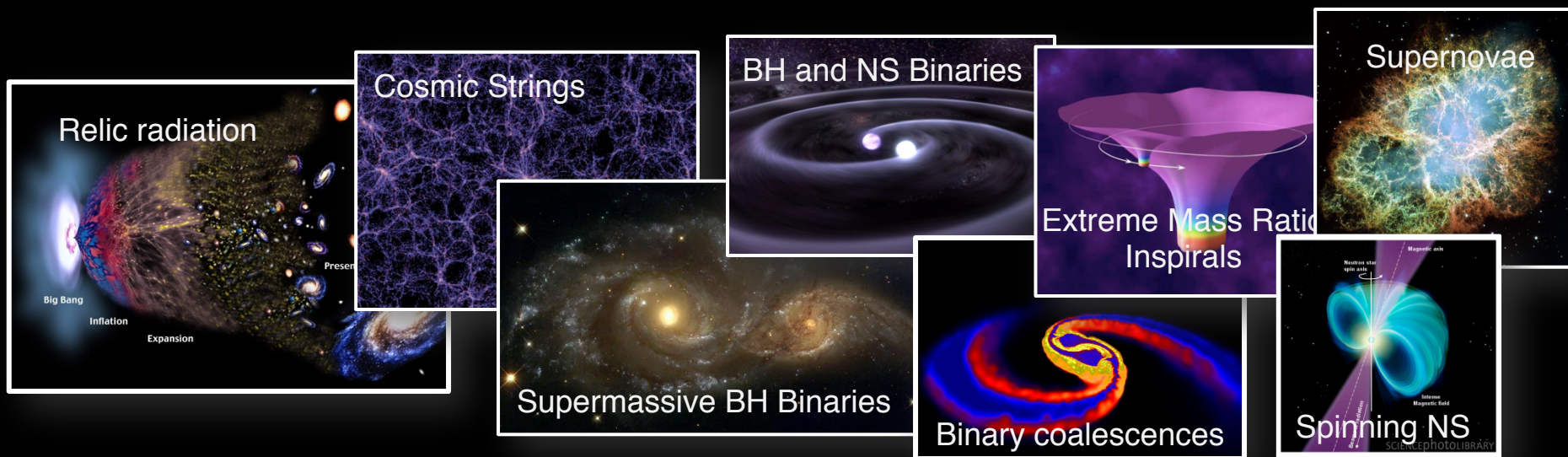
GEO600 (HF)  
Operational

Advanced  
Virgo  
Operational

LIGO-India  
2024

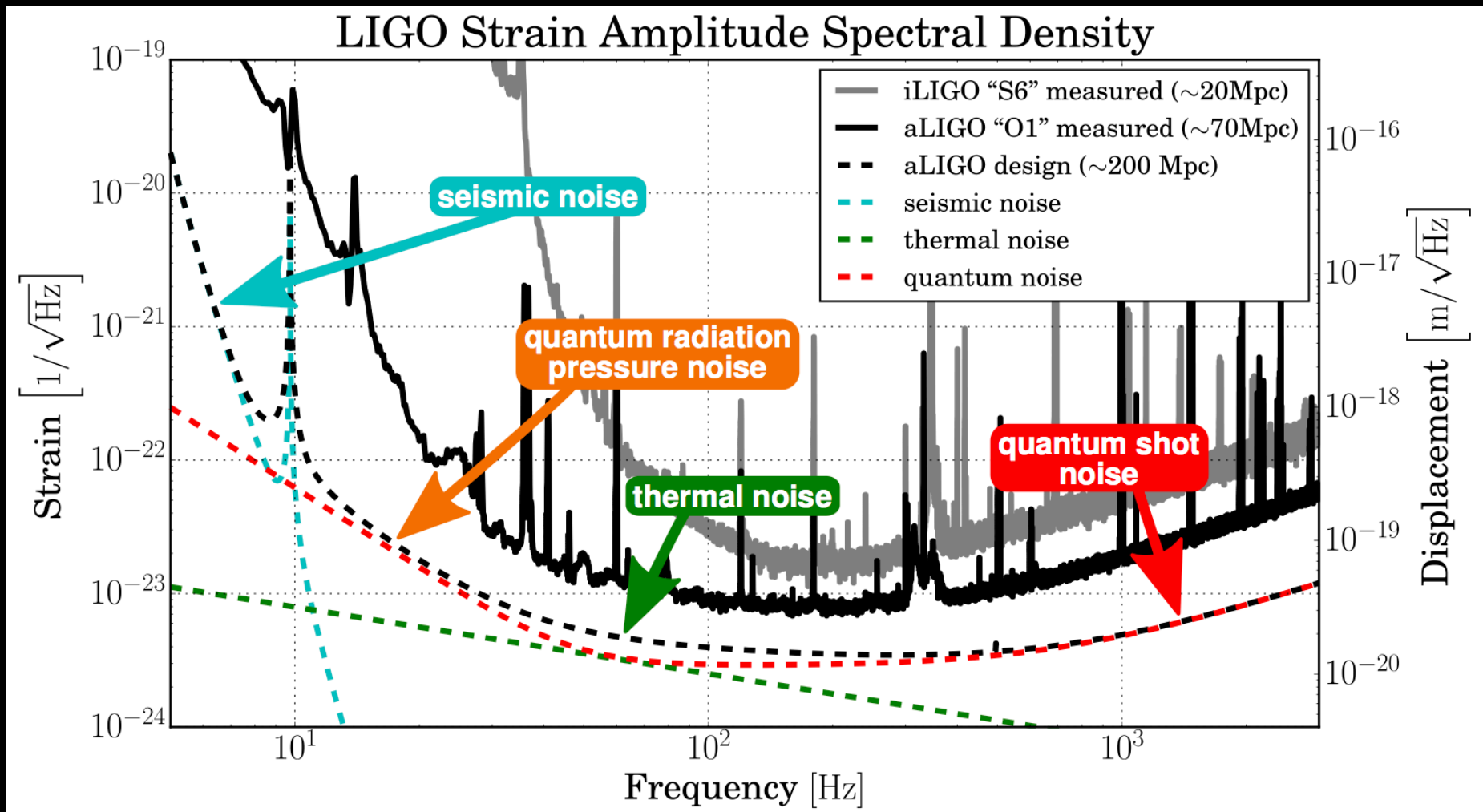
KAGRA  
2018

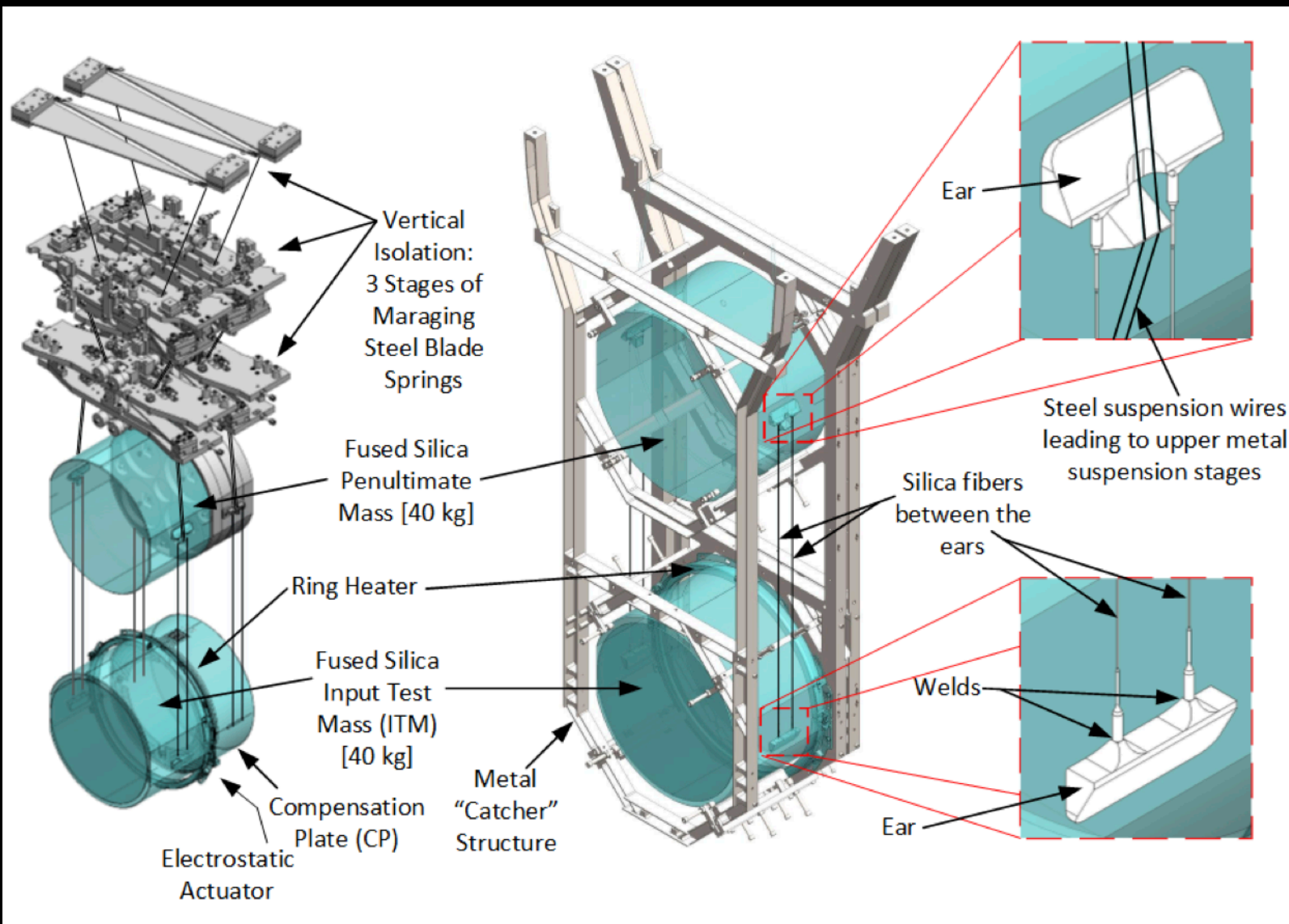
# The GW Spectrum



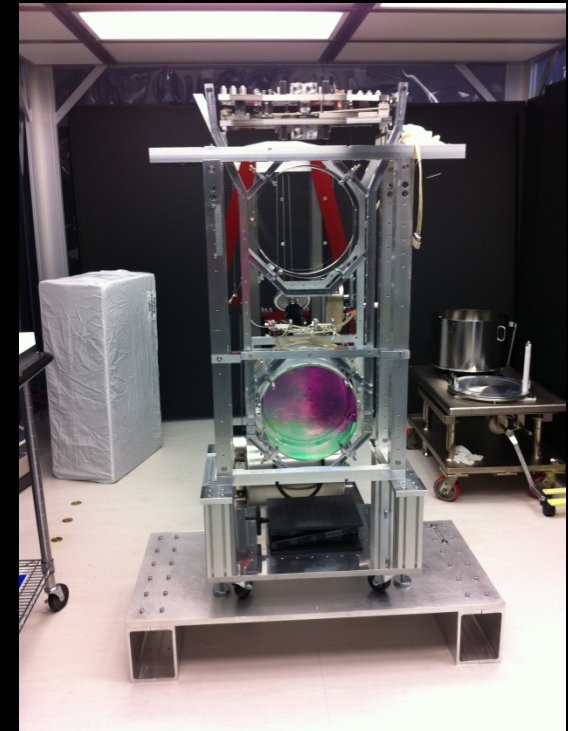
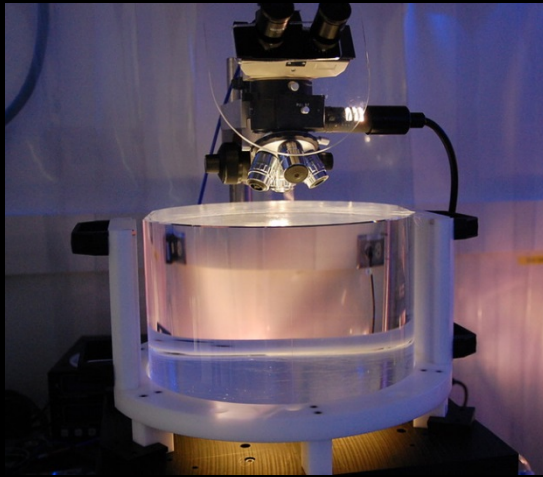
# Battle Front: Fundamental Noise Sources

Graphics: J.G. Rollins, Caltech

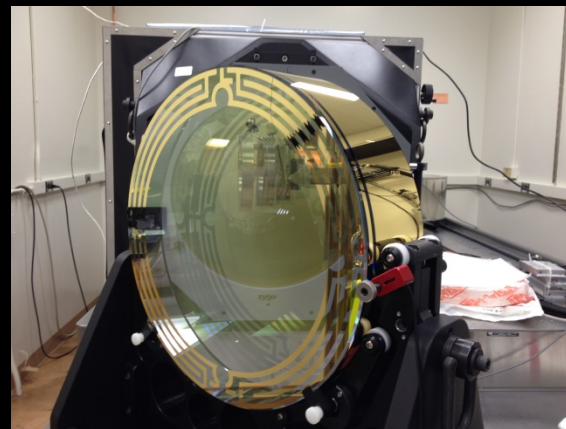




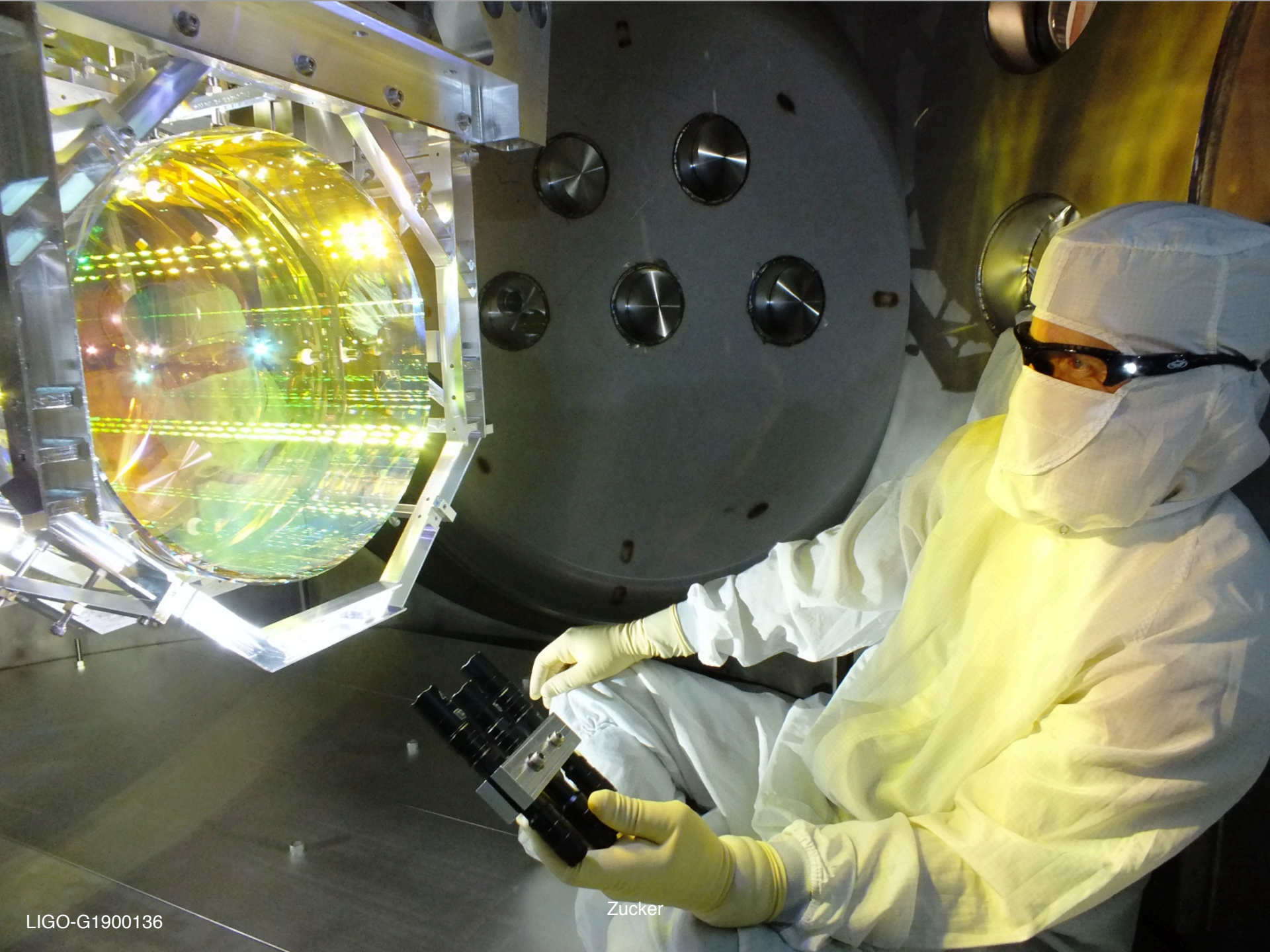
- Main mirrors: 40 kg high quality silica, mechanical dissipation  $\sim 10^{-8}$
- Polished to  $< 1.5$  nm figure error with  $< \text{\AA}$  microroughness
- Coated with alternating silica and titania-doped tantala by IBS; optical absorption  $< 0.5$  ppm



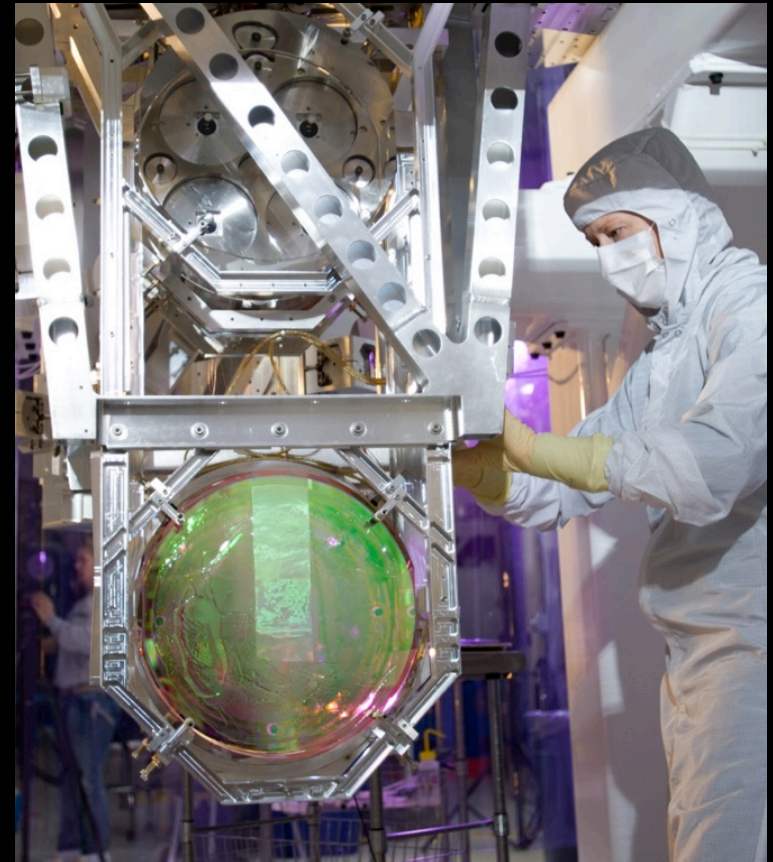
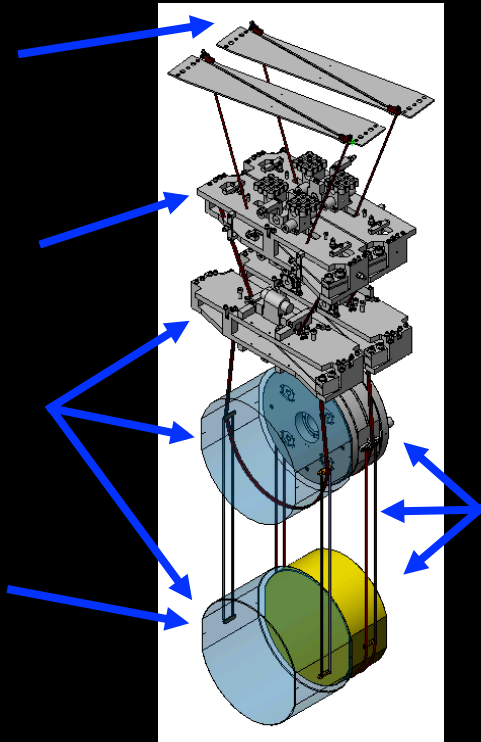
LIGO-GT900130



ZUCKER



- Quadruple pendulum suspensions for the 40 kg main test masses; parallel ‘reaction’ masses for electrostatic control forces
- Quasi-monolithic pendulums using welded fused silica fibers to suspend 40 kg test mass



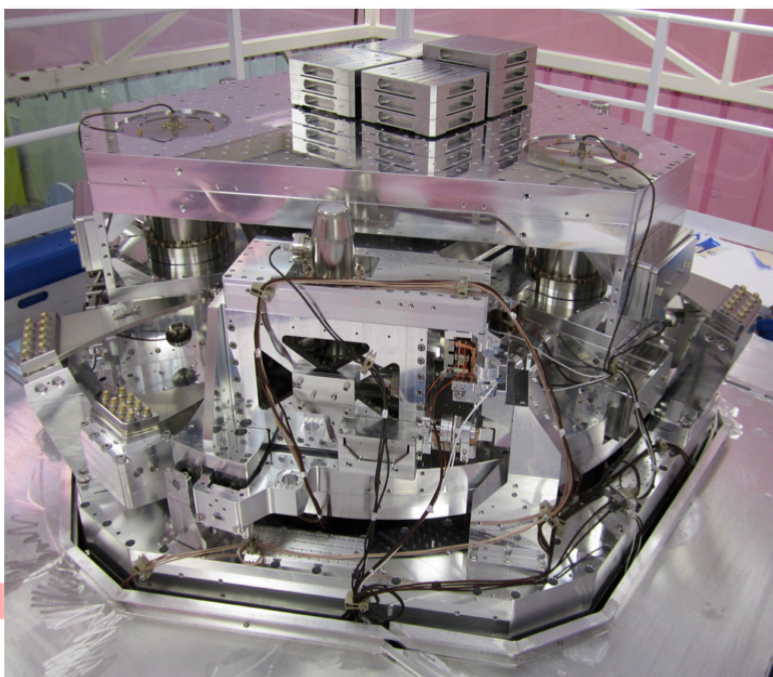
# Blocking Earth's Vibrations

## seismic noise

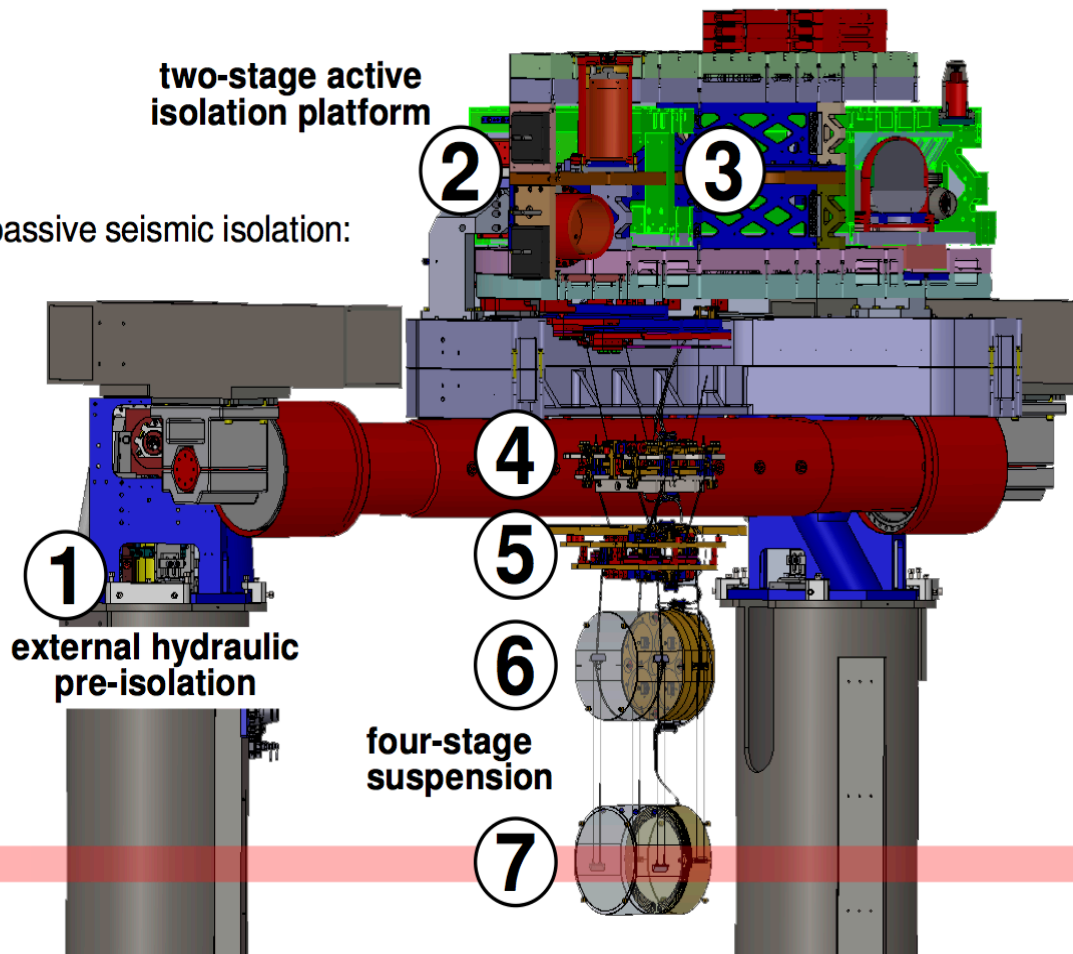
Ground motion at 10 Hz:  $1e-9 \text{ m/Hz}^{1/2}$

**>10 orders of magnitude supression required**

Test masses suspended from 7 stages of active and passive seismic isolation:



## two-stage active isolation platform









Maggie (MIT grad)



**New Squeezed Light Source!**