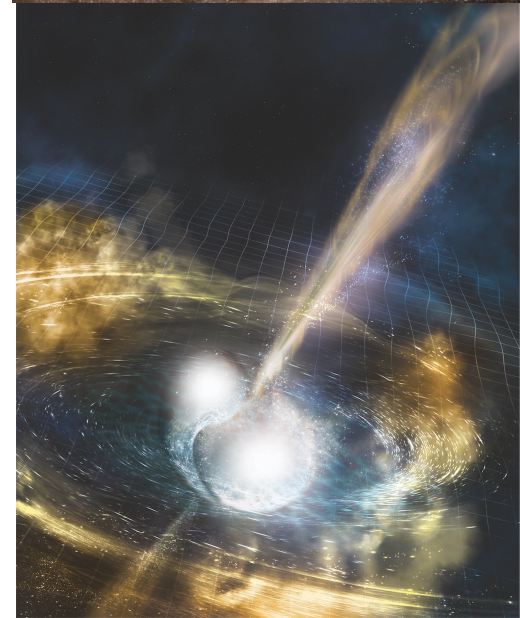


# Sensing the space-time

## The dawn of Gravitational wave astronomy

**Borja Sorazu**

Institute for gravitational research, University of Glasgow  
on behalf of the LIGO scientific collaboration and Virgo





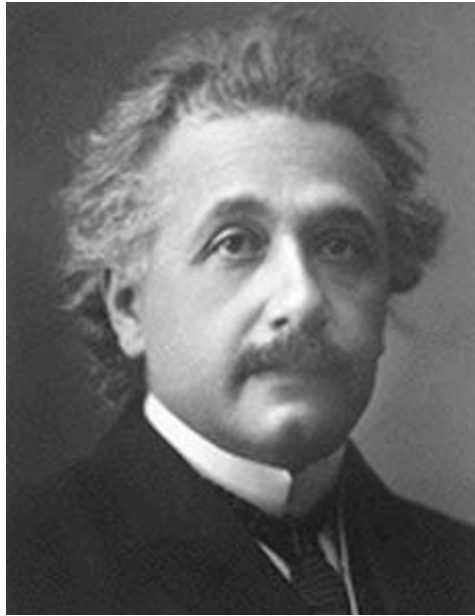
The LIGO Scientific collaboration (LSC) is made out of 1000+ scientist of more than 90 institutions in 16 countries. [www.ligo.org](http://www.ligo.org)



- What are gravitational waves?
- Gravitational wave detections
- GW170817 – the dawn of multi-messenger astronomy
- Scientific implications
- Gravitational wave detectors
- What do we expect for the future?



# *What are gravitational waves?*



“Reality is not a space that evolves in time but it is a mathematical structure of 4D (space and time unified) which does not evolve.” H. Minkowski

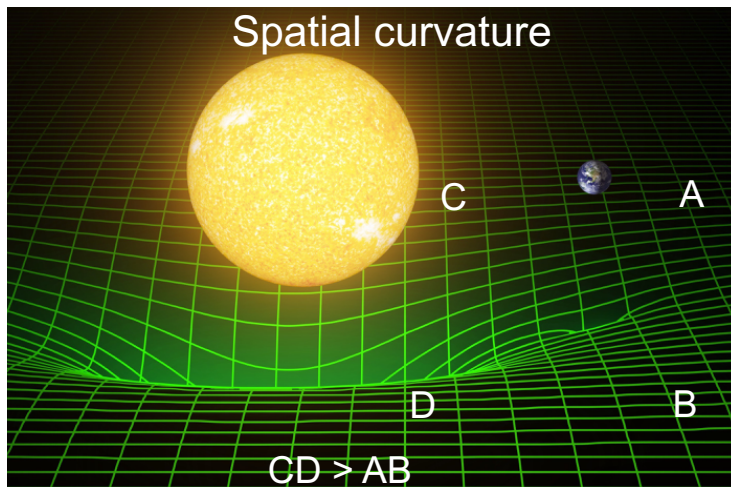
Informs matter how to move in a curved space-time

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \frac{c^4}{8\pi G} G_{\mu\nu}$$

Informs matter how to curve space-time

“Mass tells space-time how to curve, and space-time tells mass how to move.” John Wheeler

**Gravity** → movement of matter in this curved geometry.

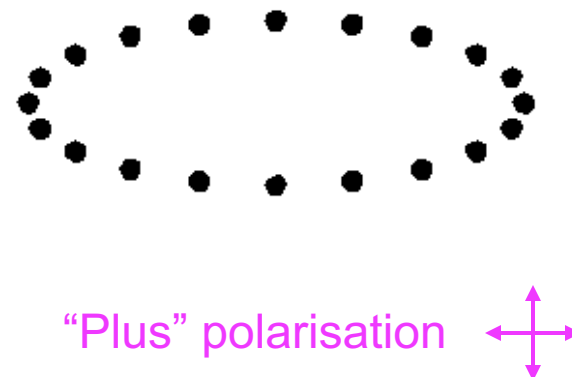
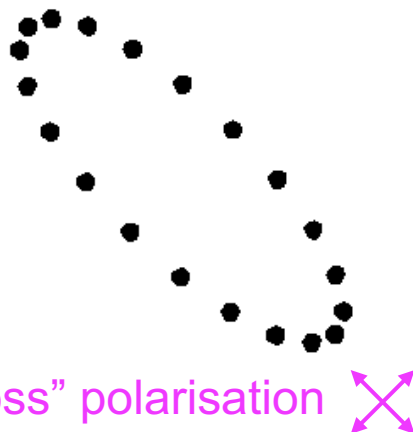


Time curvature



- Moving matter changes the curvature of the space-time as waves.
- **Gravity** is the way in which matters perceives space-time distortion → **Waves of gravity**.
- They are vibration **of (not in)** the space-time.
- Propagate at speed  $c$ , very weak interaction with matter → they do not distort or disperse.

**The effect of GWs on a fixed place in space is to stretch it and shrink it alternatively and orthogonally.**





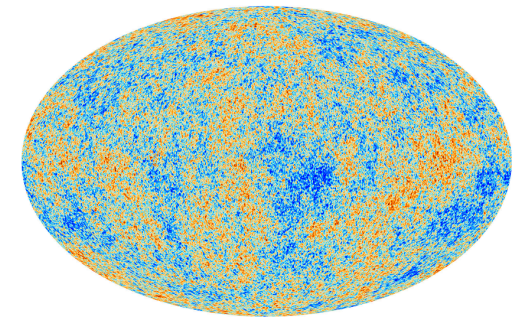


$$h \approx \frac{G}{c^2} \frac{M}{d} \left( \frac{v}{c} \right)^2$$

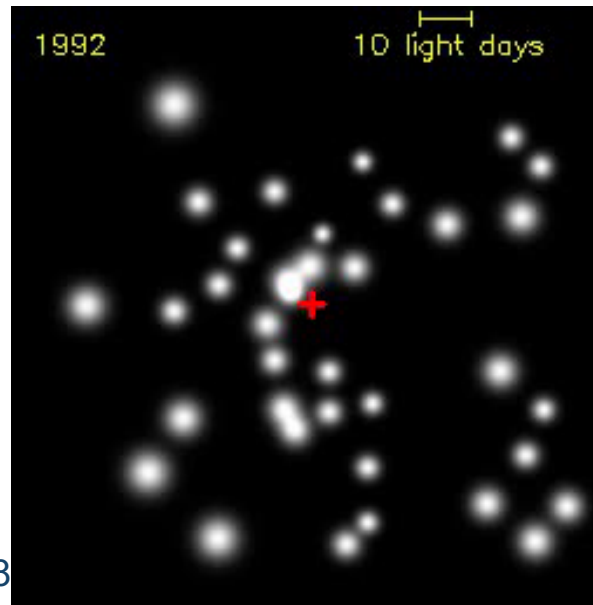
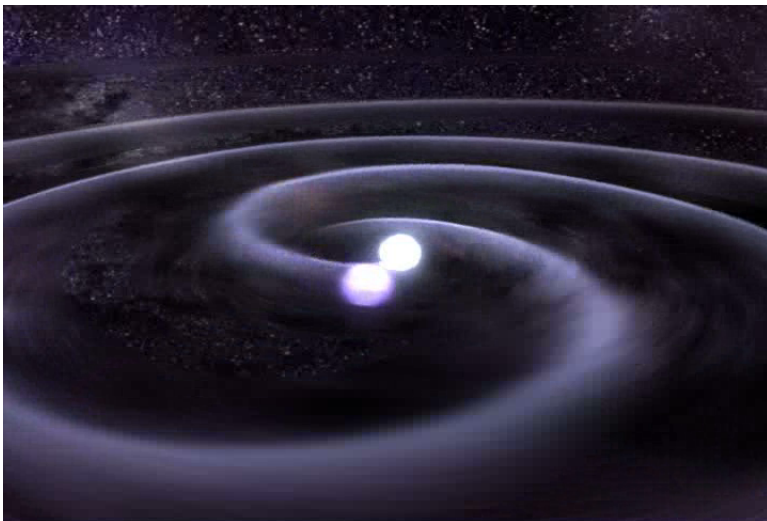


Sources of big mass, accelerated and moving at relativistic speeds:

- Supermassive black holes at galaxy centres.
- Compact binary coalescent systems; NS-NS, NS-BH, BH-BH.
- Collapse of massive stars (supernovas).
- Inflation of the universe after the Big Bang.
- Pulsars y Gamma ray sources (asymmetric).

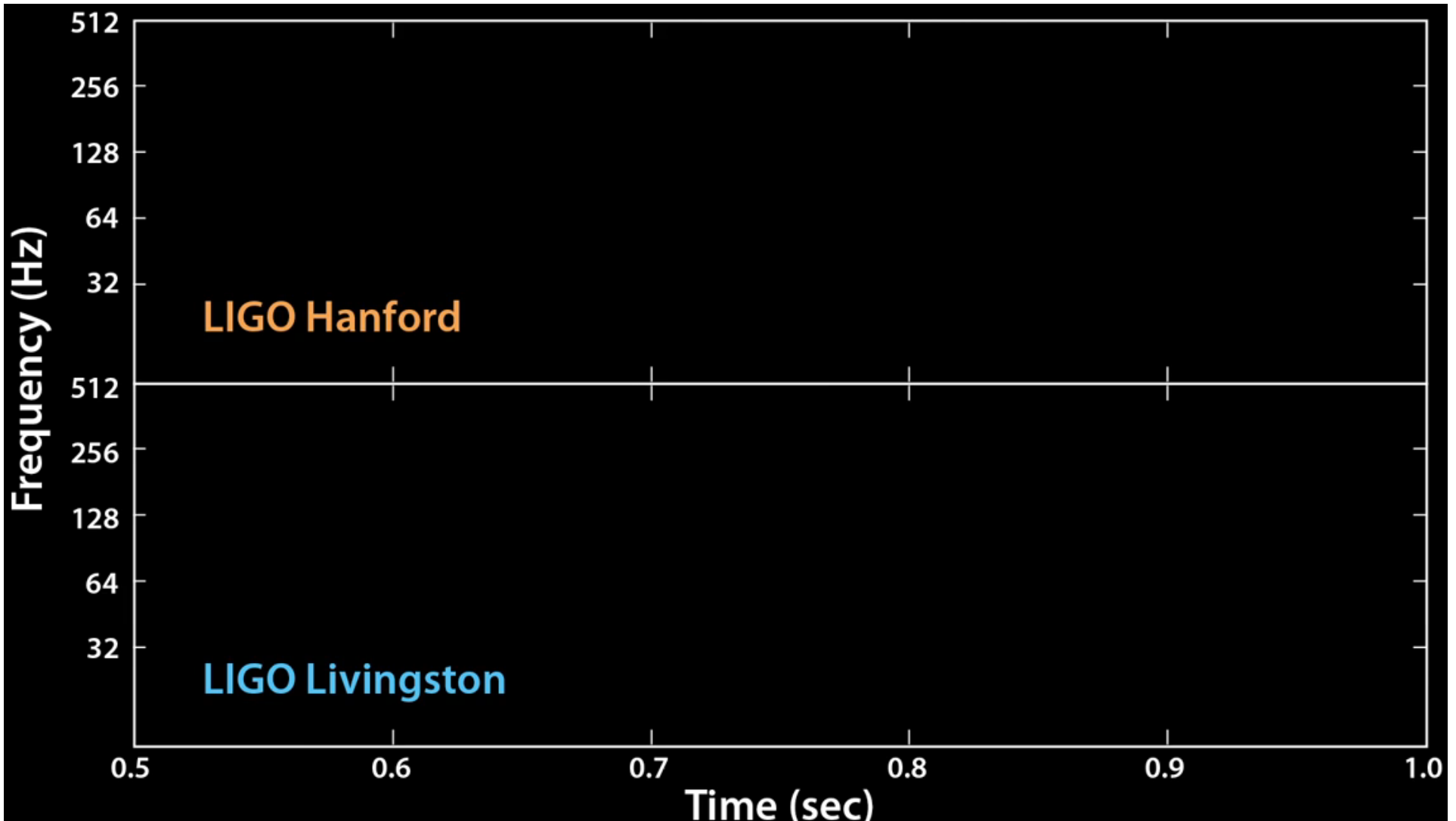


Credit: Planck Collaboration





# *Gravitational wave detections*



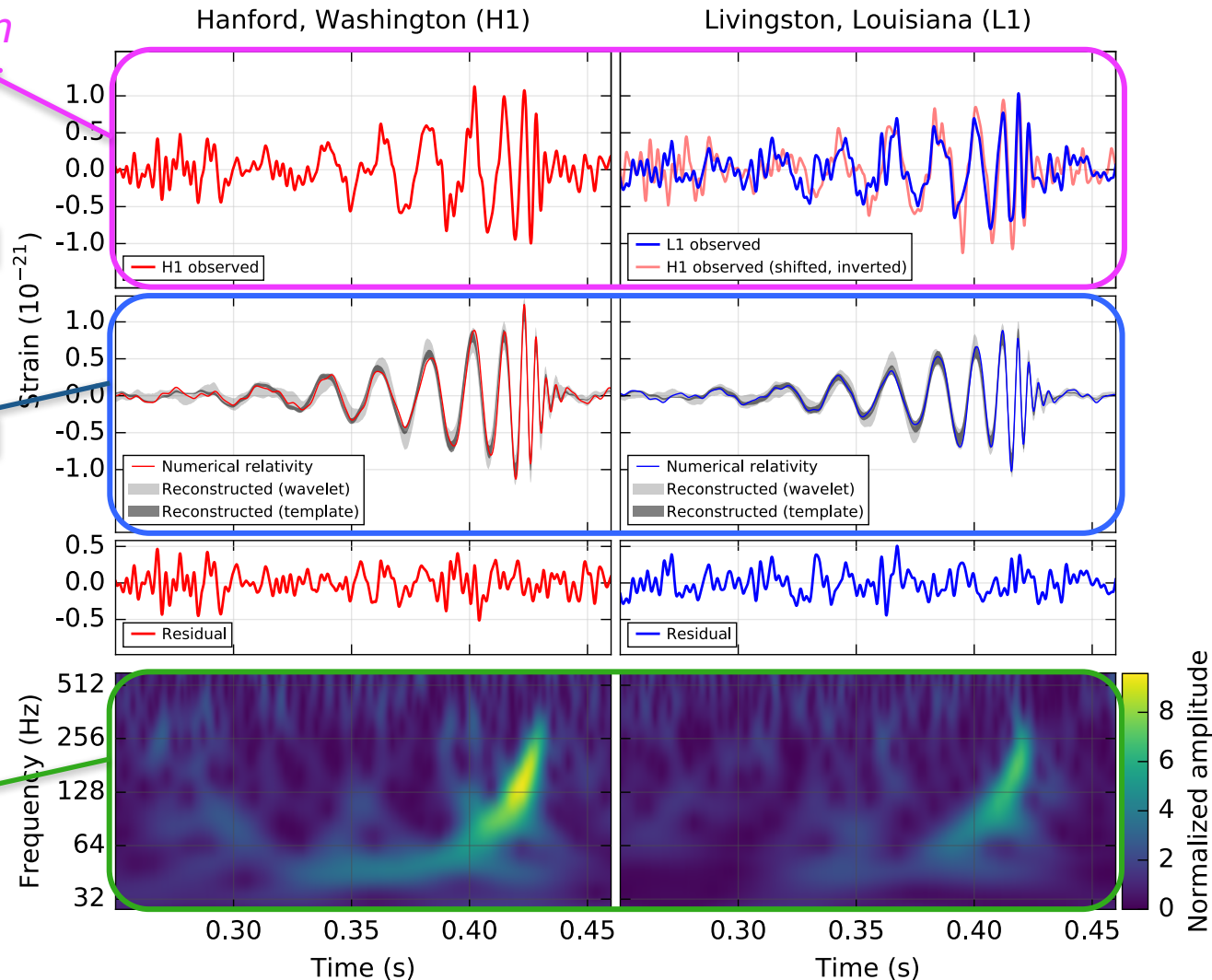
- Arrives to Livingston 7ms before Hanford, *triangulation*

- Reconstructed signal using 2 models:

- Resolves GR assuming CBC source, huge range of parameters  $\rightarrow$  *match filtering*

- Generic search  $\rightarrow$  looks for coincident excess energy on detectors' spectrogram'. Then fit chirp's curve to GR to extract source parameters.

- *Spectrogram*: Typical chirp of CBC sources as energy is emitted in GWs the inspiral orbit reduces collapsing faster with higher amplitude GWs.

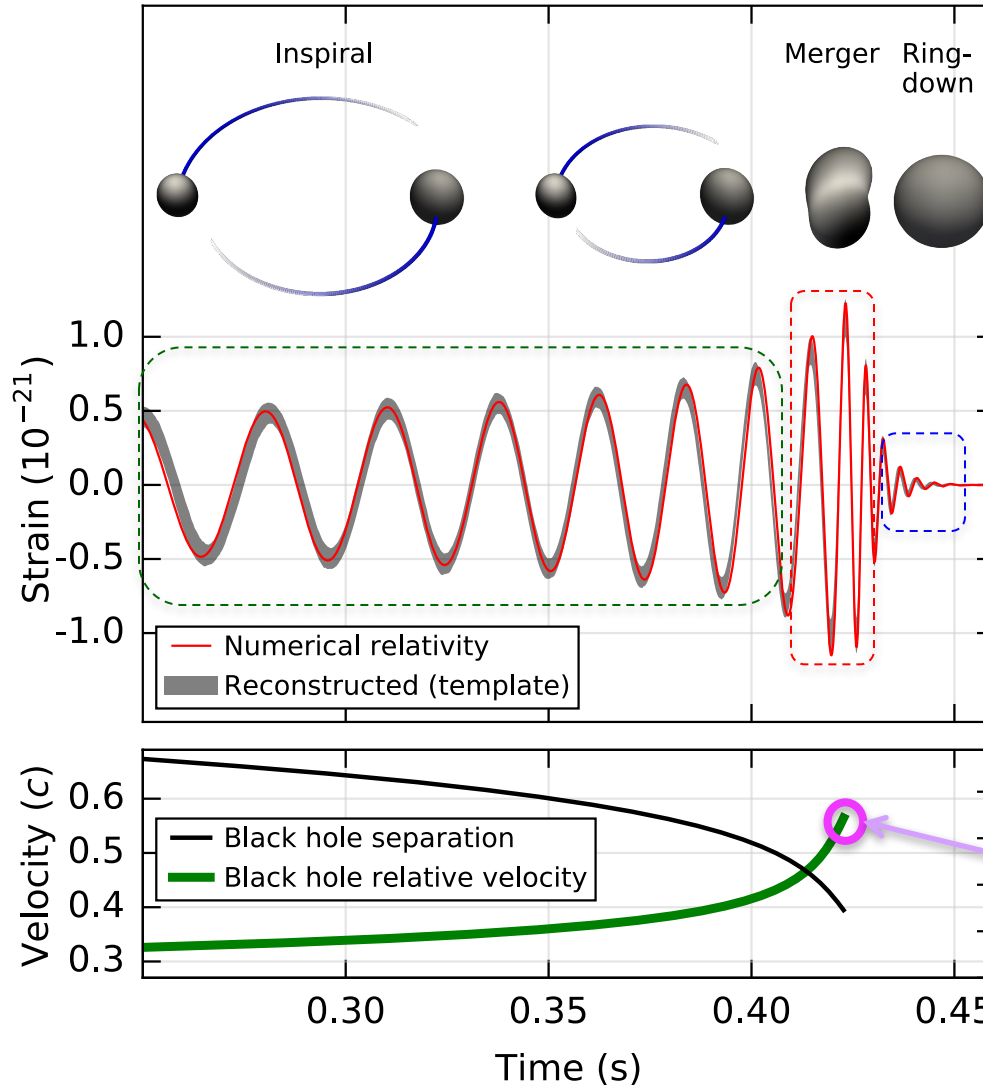


BH are characterised by: mass and spin (space-time swirls).

Signal divided in 3 regions. For each region we use different extraction methods.

**Inspiral** (*post-Newtoniana theory*): informs of chirp mass of BHs and limits their spins.

## First observation of space-time dynamic under a strong field.



**Merger** (*Numerical Relativity, complete simulation of GR* → possible for last 10 years): amplitude informs of luminosity distance. Partial info of final BH mass and spin.

**Ringdown** (*theory of perturbation of BHs*): completes info of final BH mass and spin.

In the collision, two BHs moving at **0.5c!!!!**

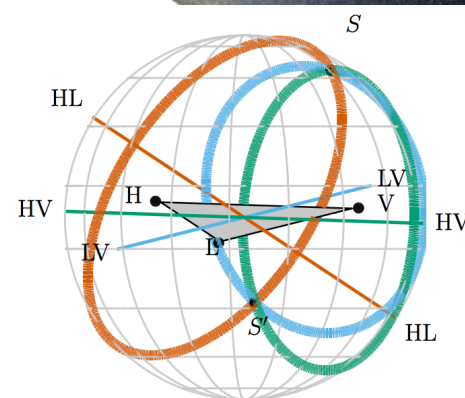
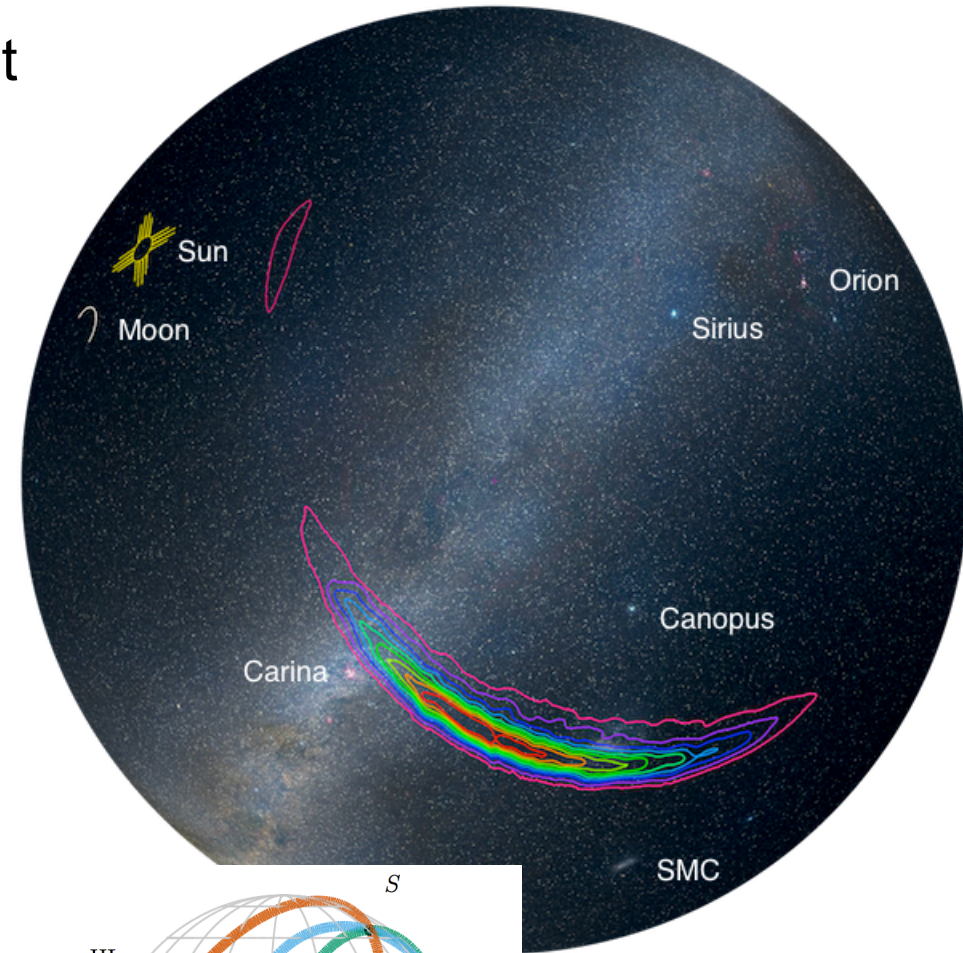
- SNR: 24
- Max. strain ( $h$ ):  $10^{-21}$  (like changing distance between Sun and closest star by the thickness of a hair).
- Duration: 200ms (between 30 and 350 Hz)

Mass of primary BH:	$36_{-4}^{+5} M_{\odot}$	} $3 M_{\odot}$ emitted as GWs
Mass of secondary BH:	$29_{-4}^{+4} M_{\odot}$	
Mass final BH:	$62_{-4}^{+4} M_{\odot}$	

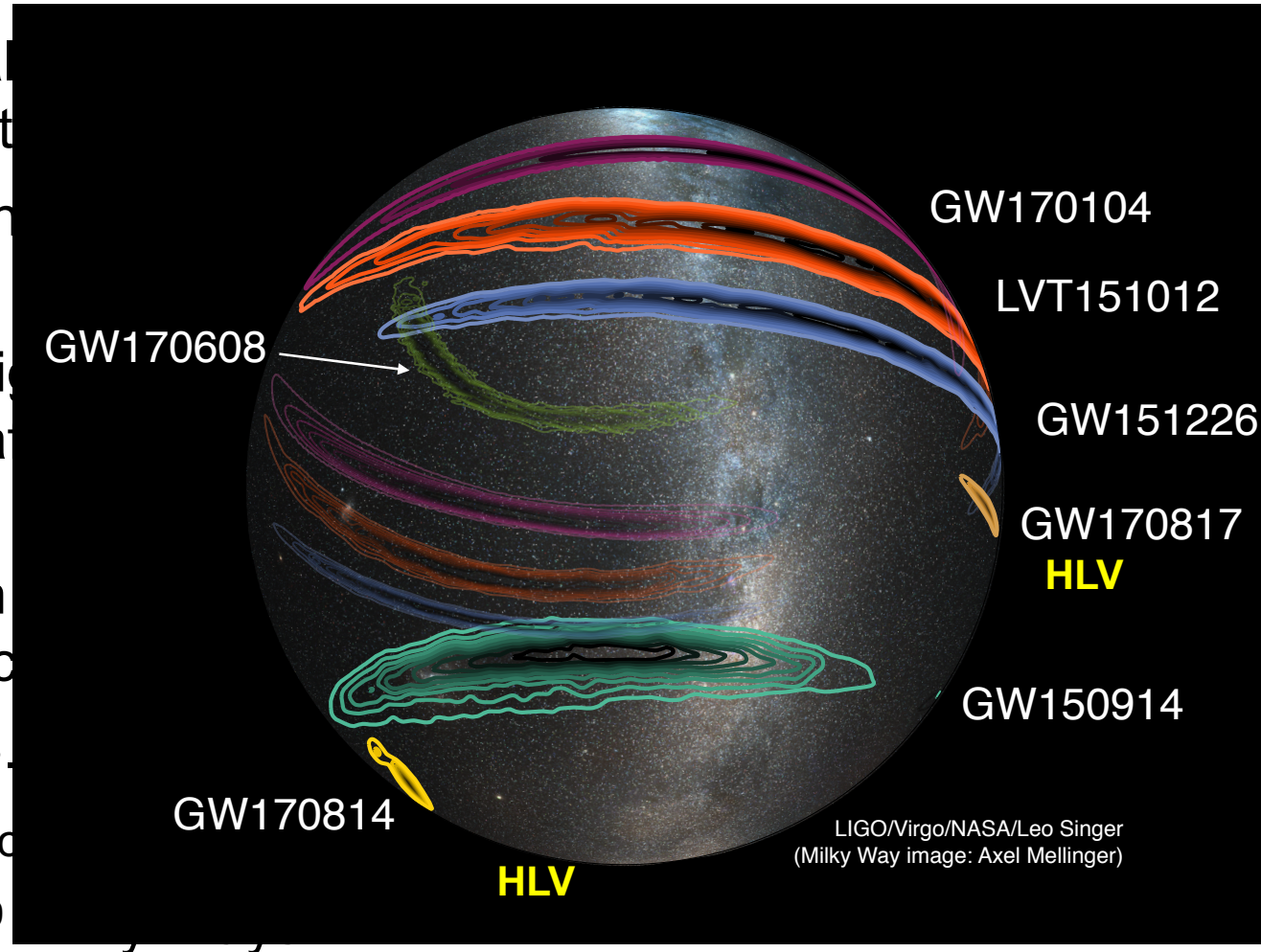
**Max. Speed of BHs:  $\sim 0.6 c$**

Luminosity distance:  $410_{-180}^{+160}$  Mpc  $\rightarrow$  1330 million light years

- Detectors sensitive to all sky. Highest sensitivity vertical to detector plane.
- Triangulation by difference in arrival time to detectors...
- ... And consistency of signal's amplitude and phase (affected by calibration uncertainty).
- 2 detectors; localization in long bands (triangulation circle):
  - **South hemisphere.**
  - **600 degrees<sup>2</sup>** (90% confidence)
  - Volume includes  $10^9$  Milky Ways
- 3 detectors; better location (intersection of 3 circles).



- Detectors sensitive to all directions; sensitivity vertical to detector plane
- Triangulation by different arrival times to detectors...
- ... And consistency of signal amplitude and phase (after calibration uncertainty).
- 2 detectors; localization bands (triangulation circles)
  - **South hemisphere**
  - **600 degrees<sup>2</sup>** (90% confidence)
  - Volume includes  $10^9$  solar systems
- 3 detectors; better location (intersection of 3 circles).

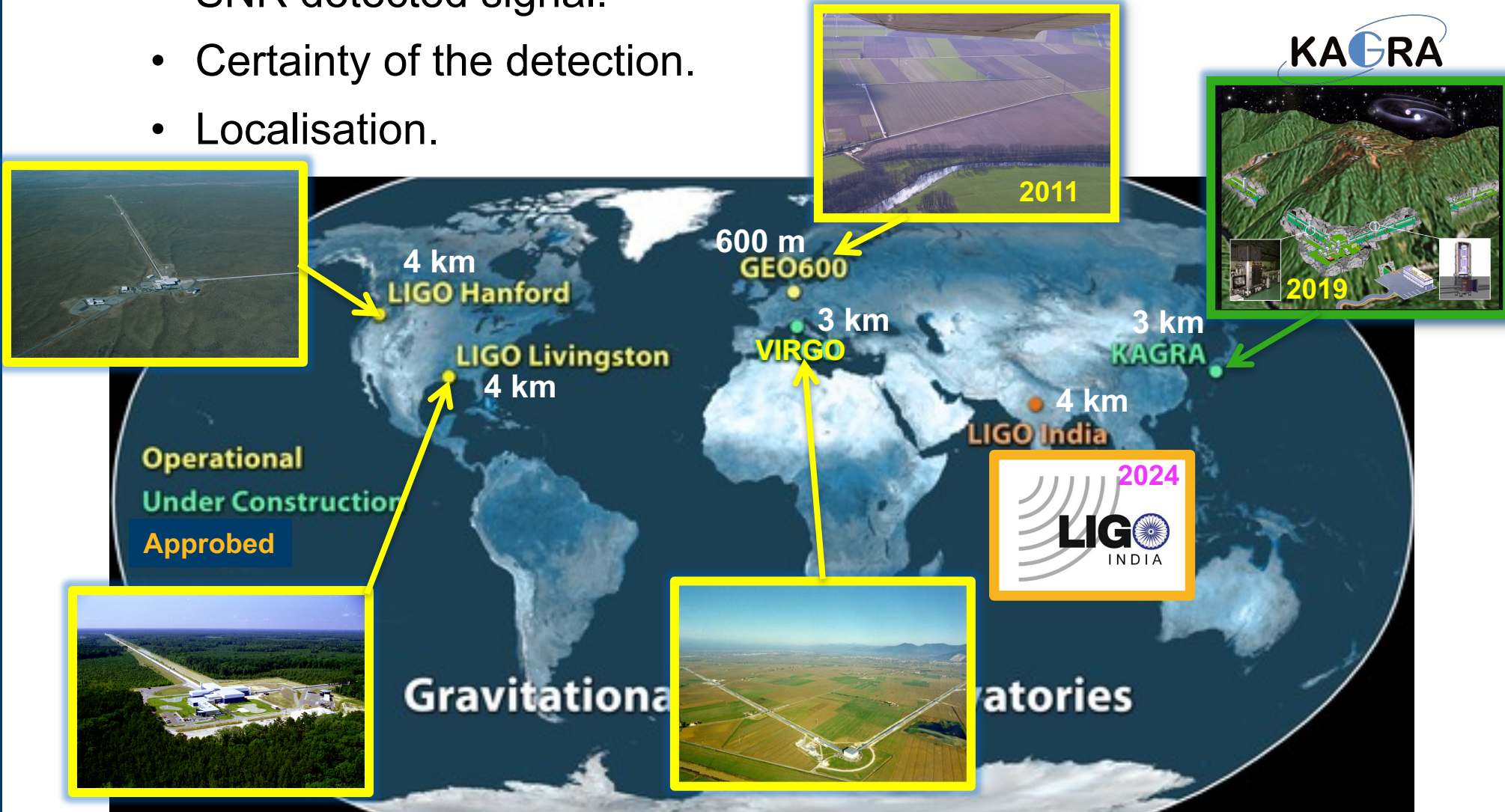


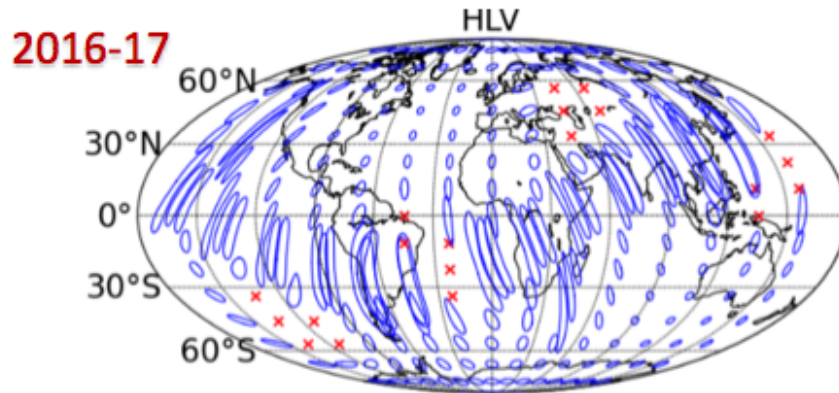




A global network of detectors improves:

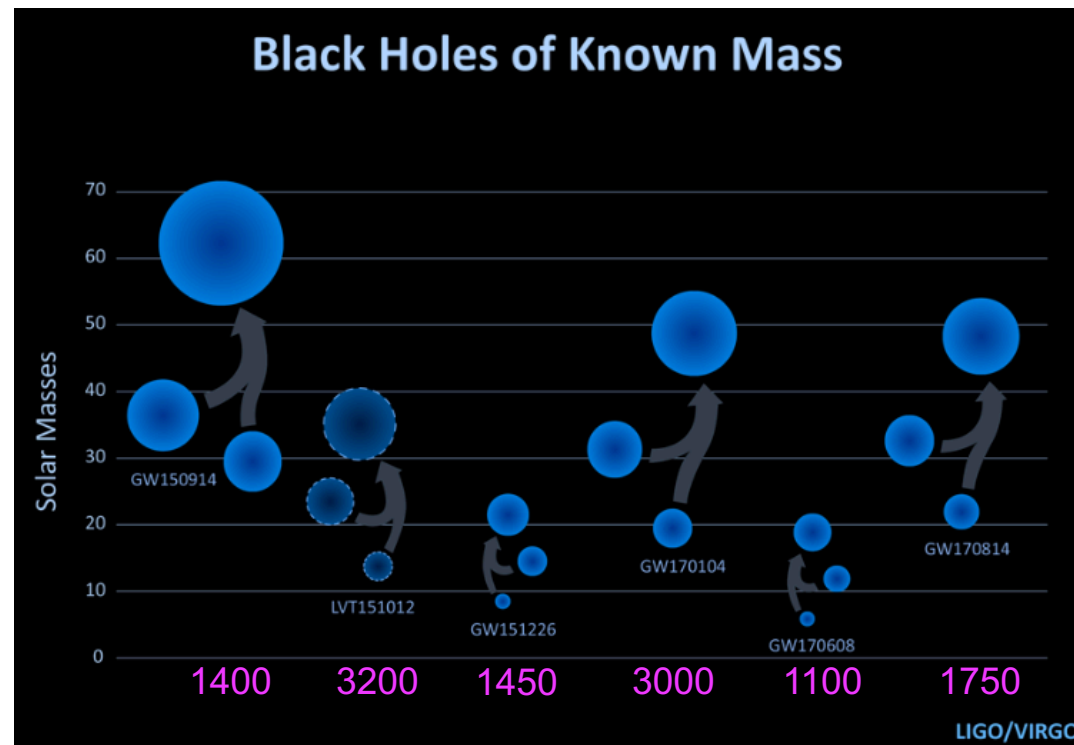
- SNR detected signal.
- Certainty of the detection.
- Localisation.



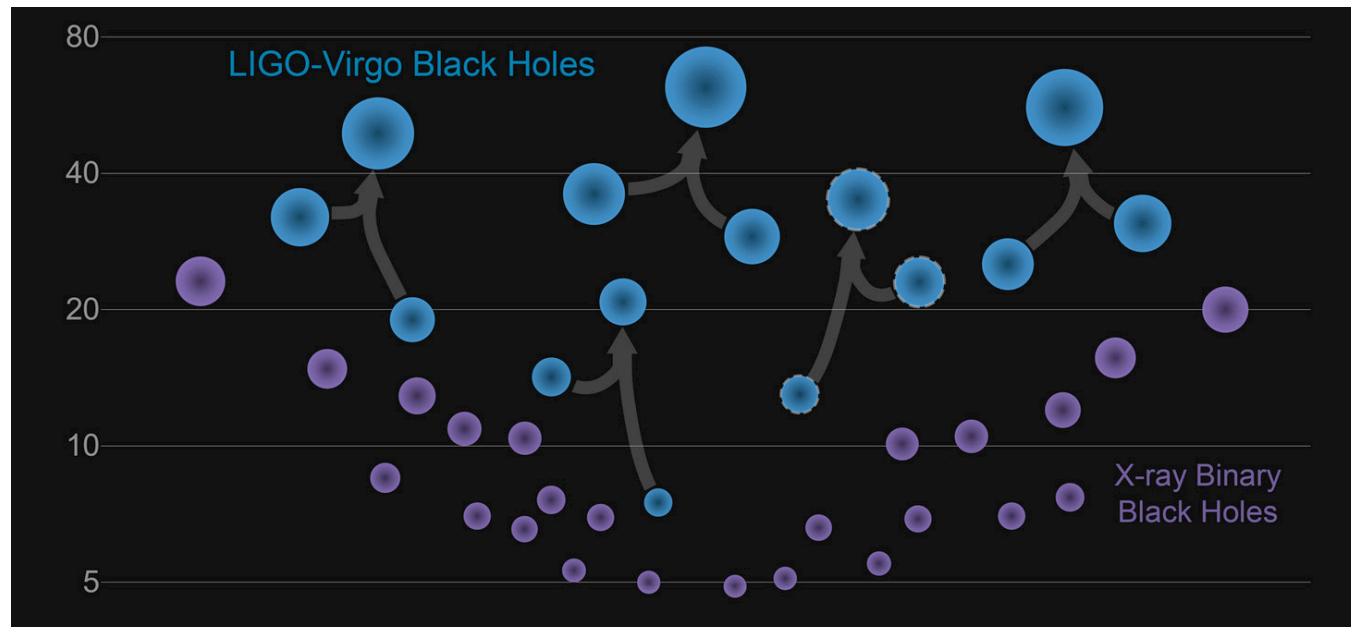


- Adding Virgo (August 2017) → breaks annular uncertainty. From hundreds to tens of degrees<sup>2</sup>
- ↑ detectors' sensitivity → ↓ source location error.
- With LIGO-India → great new improvement → few degrees<sup>2</sup>

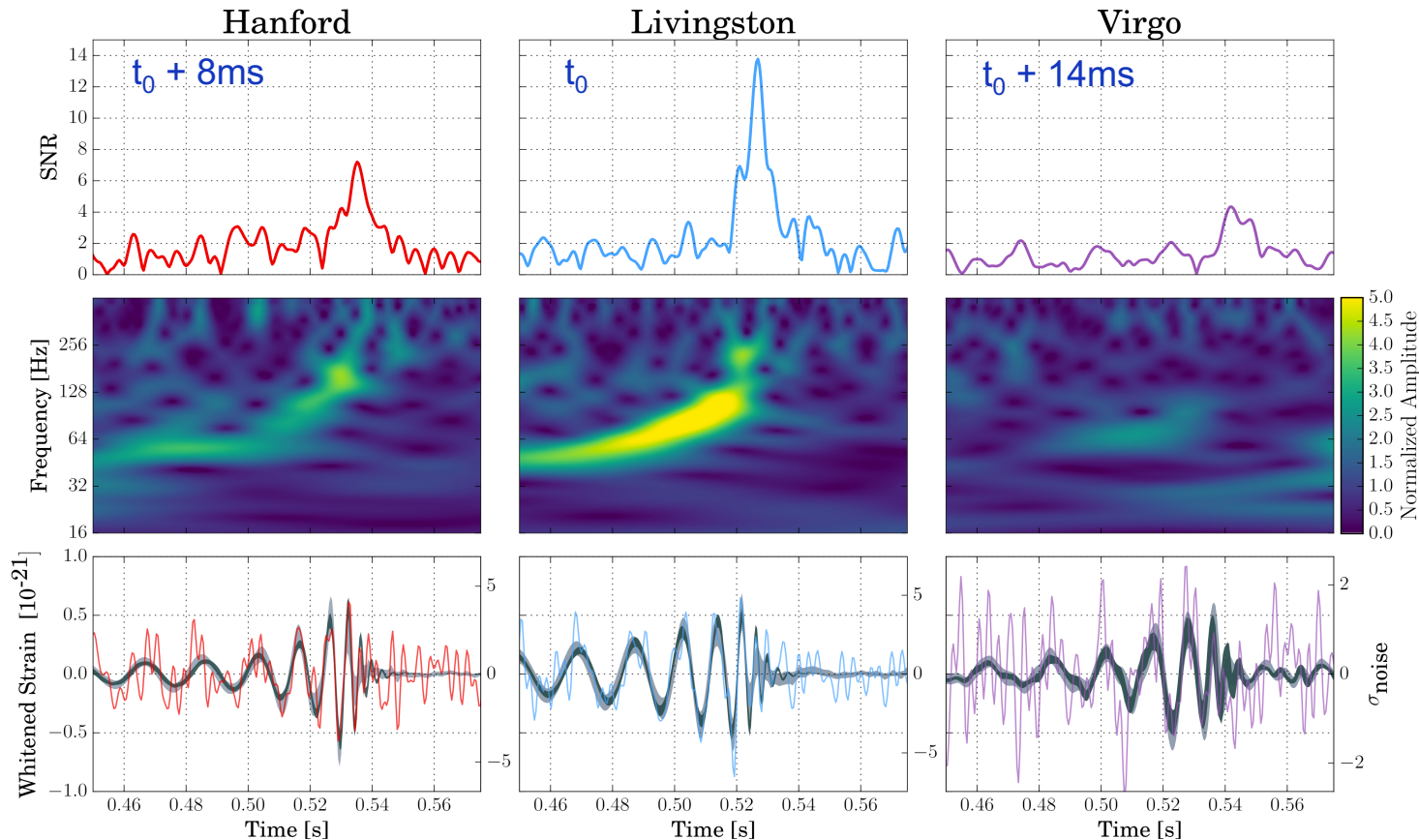
- During O1 (18 Sept 2015 – 12 Jan 2016): 2, GW150914 and GW151226.
- During O2 (30 Nov 2016 – 25 August 2017): 3 announced, GW170104, GW170608 and **GW170814**
- No EM  $\rightarrow$  BHs dimension imply no accretion disc.



- During O1 (18 Sept 2015 – 12 Jan 2016): 2, GW150914 and GW151226.
- During O2 (30 Nov 2016 – 25 August 2017): 3 announced, GW170104, GW170608 and **GW170814**
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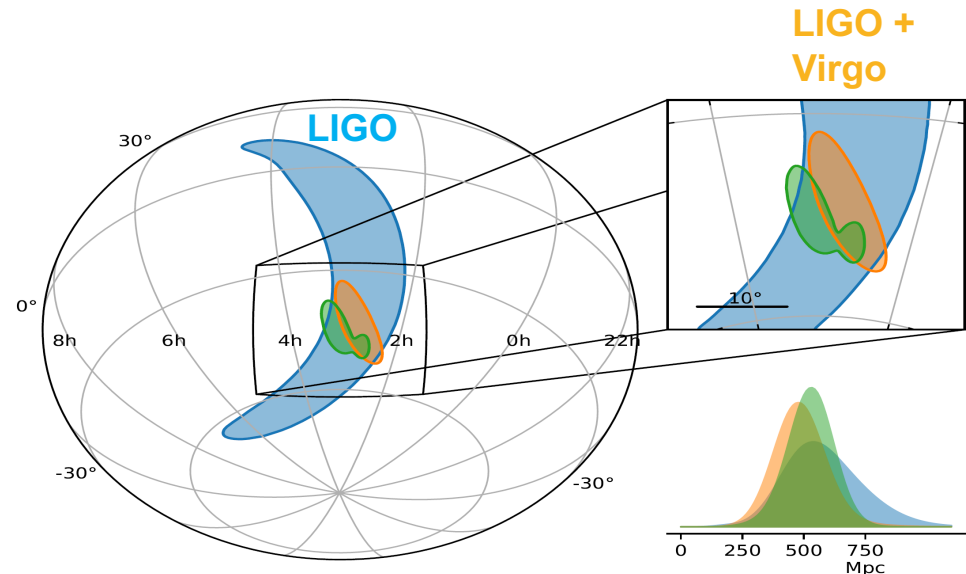
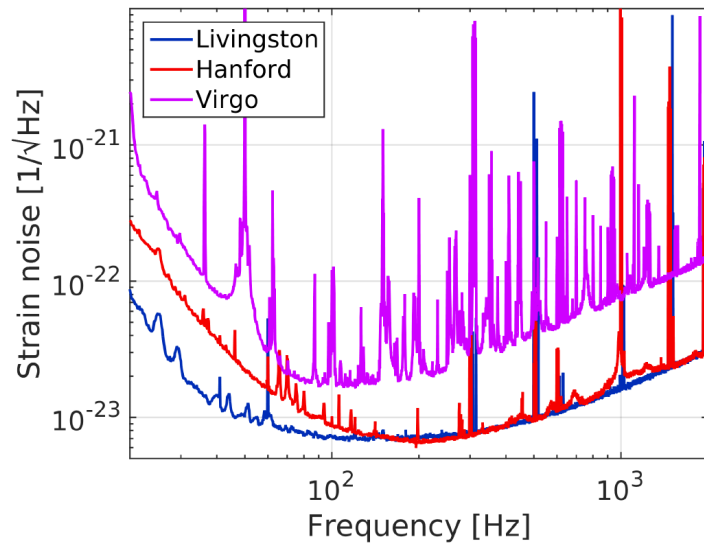


- **GW170814** first detection with 3 detectors (LLO, LHO and Virgo joining O2 on 1 August 2017).



- Signal is observed at different time in the 3 detectors due to the finite propagation speed of GWs  $\rightarrow$  source location.

- 3 detectors → Great localization improvement :
  - 90% credibility region: **1160 degrees<sup>2</sup> (LIGO)**, **60 degrees<sup>2</sup> (LIGO+Virgo)**.
  - Also improved luminosity distance uncertainty by 50%



**Sensitivity of the 3 detectors during GW170814**

**Source location of GW170814 inc. distance**



*GW170817*

*The dawn of multi-  
messenger astronomy*



## RIPPLES OF GRAVITY, FLASHES OF LIGHT:

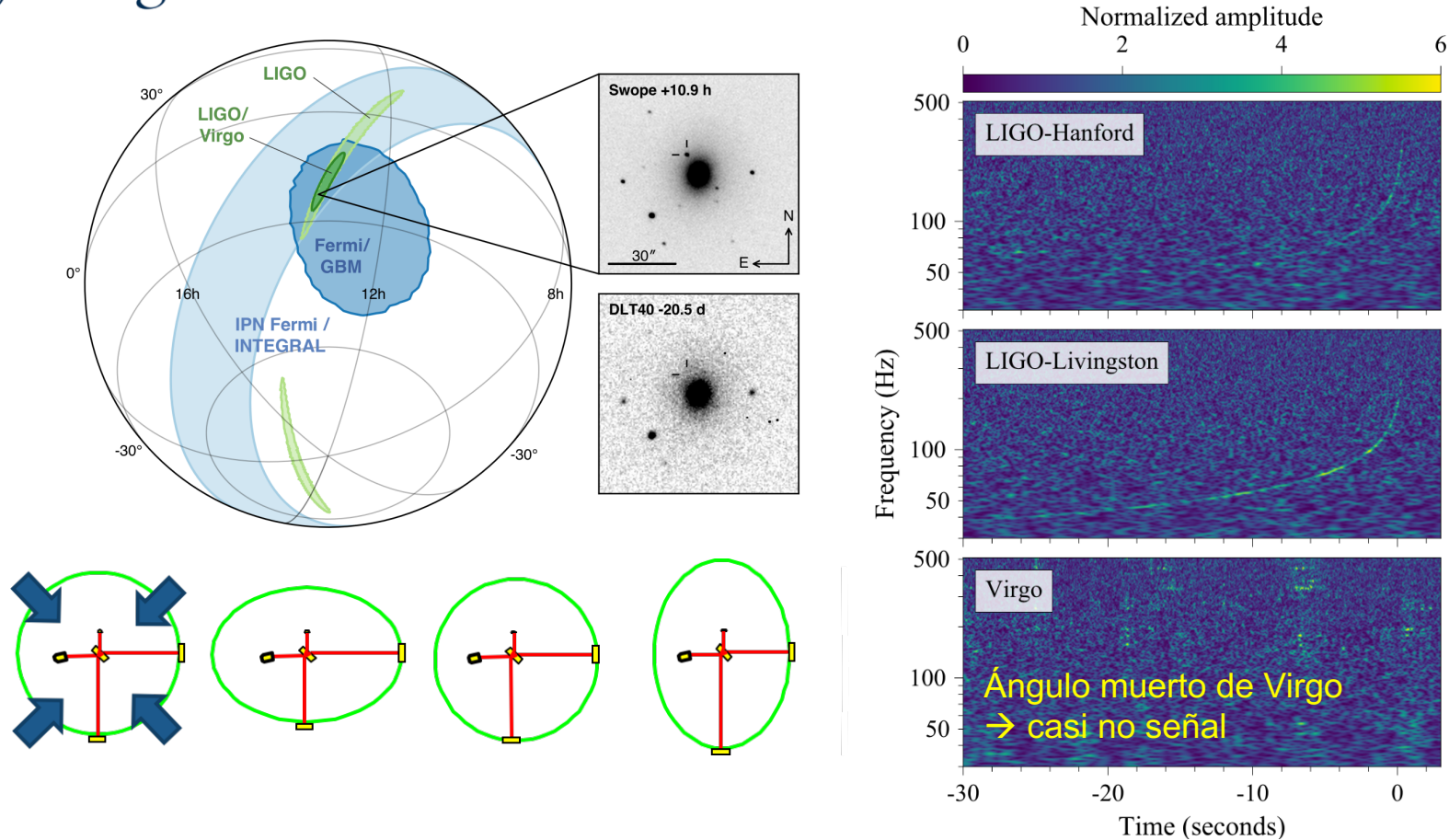
WORLD'S OBSERVATORIES  
WITNESS A COSMIC CATAclySM



On 17 August 2017, the 2 aLIGO detectors and Virgo observed the GW signal emitted during the 100s before the merger of two neutron stars. **This time there was an EM counterpart!!!**

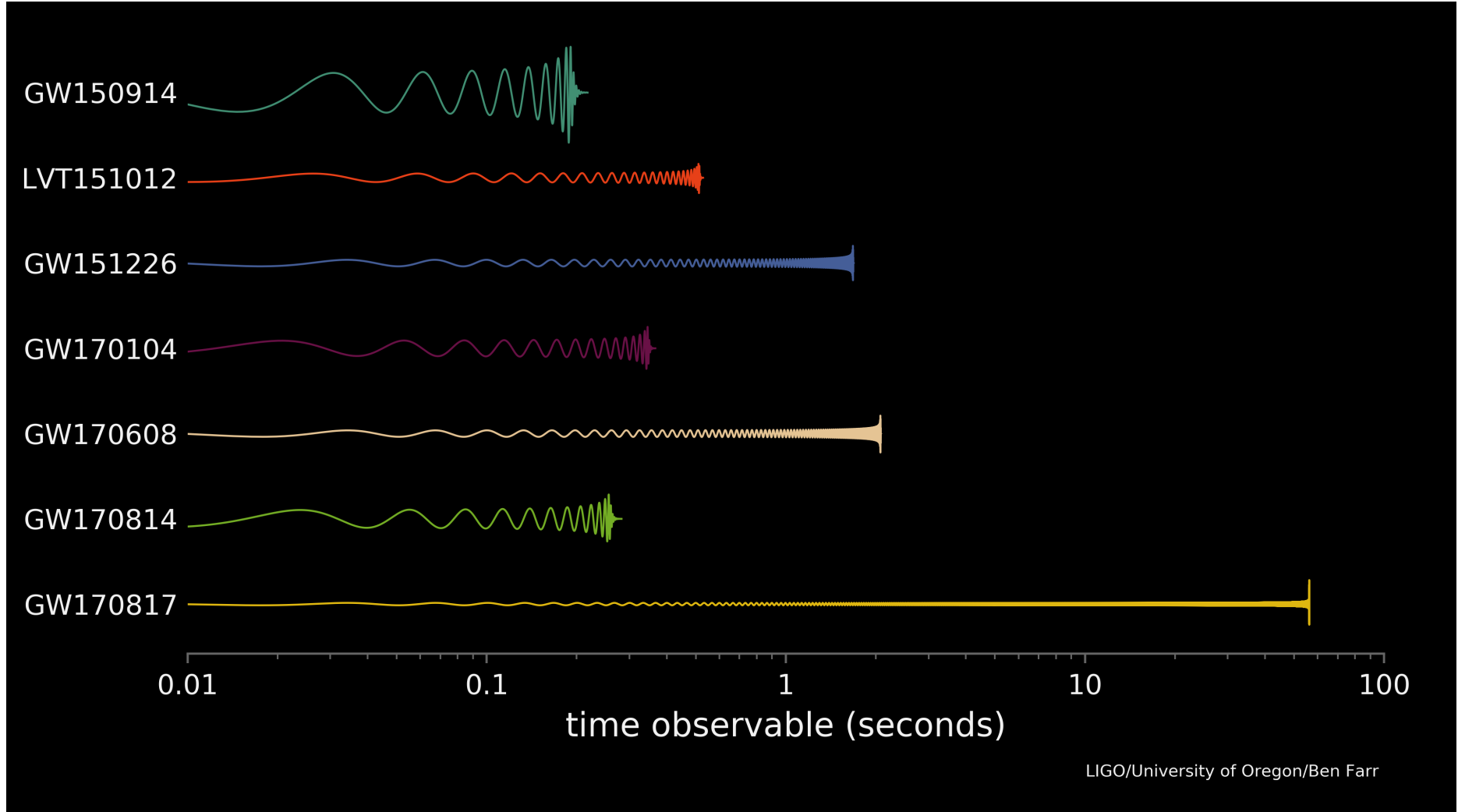
Astronomia multi-mensajeros → Evento observado con OGs y EMs.





- The high precision on localization allowed for an exhaustive follow up after the merger, through the whole EM spectrum → Confirm that **kilonova** are associated to BNS mergers.
- **Closest source of GW detected, only 100 M light years. The highest SNR signal and of longest time duration.**

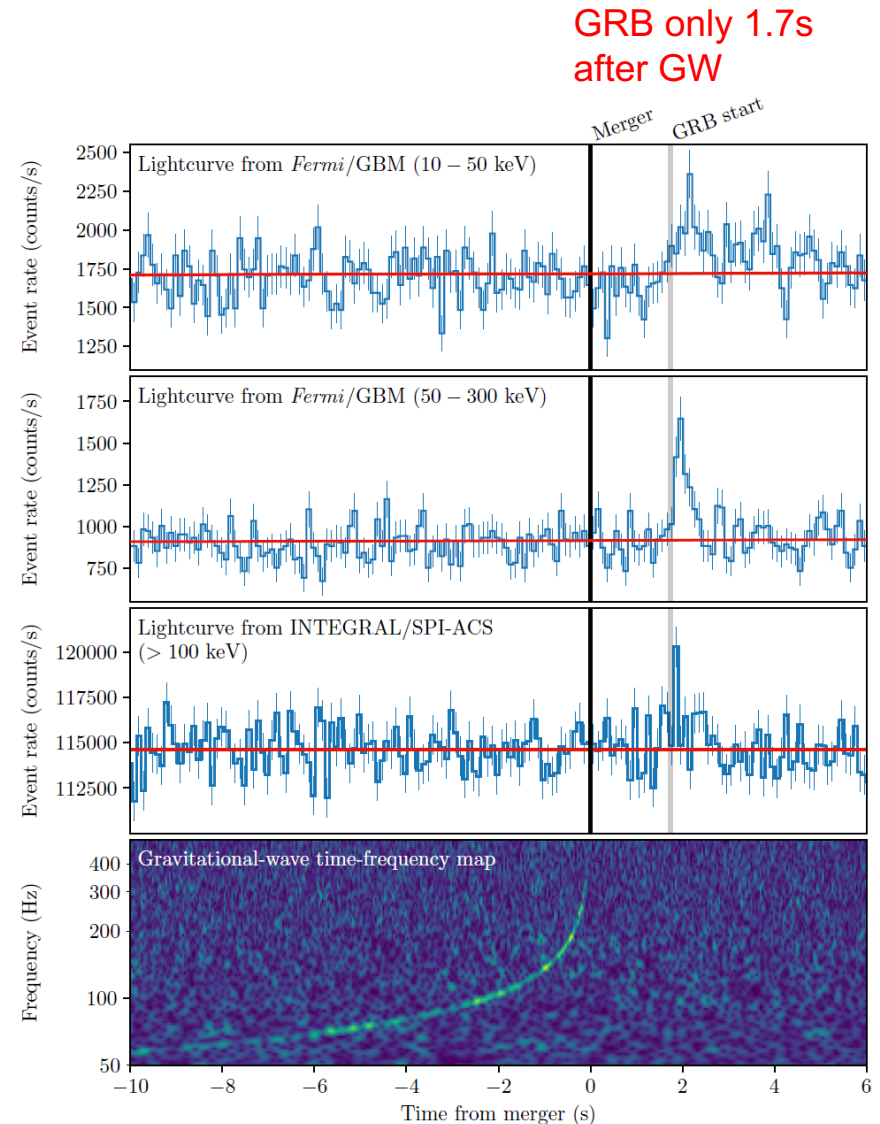
In logarithmic scale!!



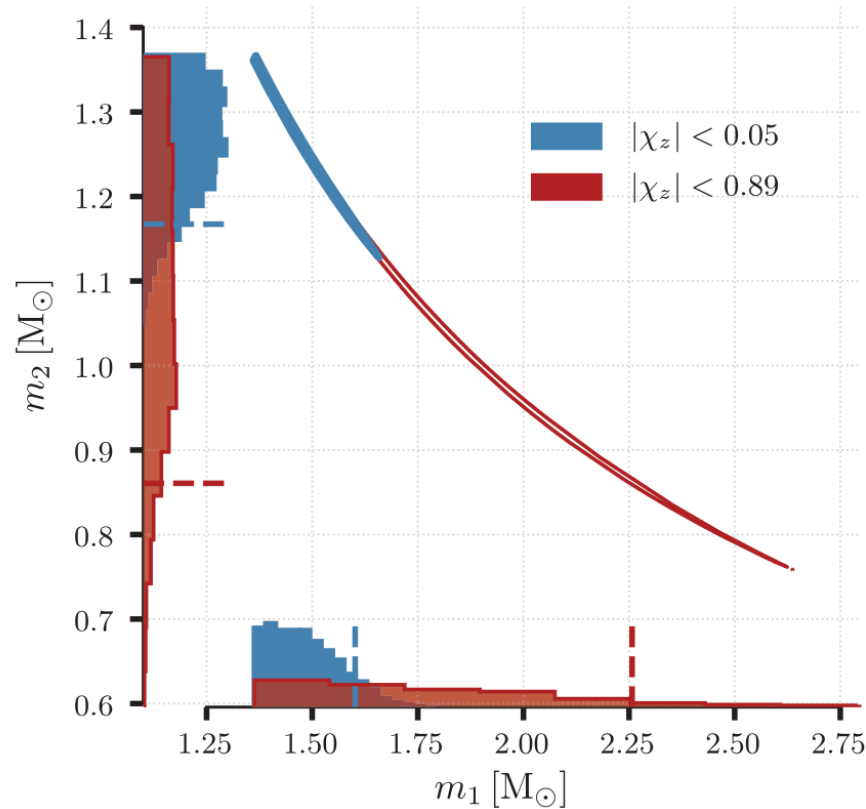


# *Scientific implications of GW170817*

- Time delay of  $(+1.74 \pm 0.05)$  s between GRB and GW170817.
- Distance travelled  $\sim 130$  M light years.
- Constrain difference between the speed of gravity and the speed of light to be between  $-3 \times 10^{-15}$  and  $+7 \times 10^{-16}$ .



## Information in Gravitational Waves



LIGO+Virgo *PRL* 119, 161101 (2017)

From Imre Bartos, G1702357

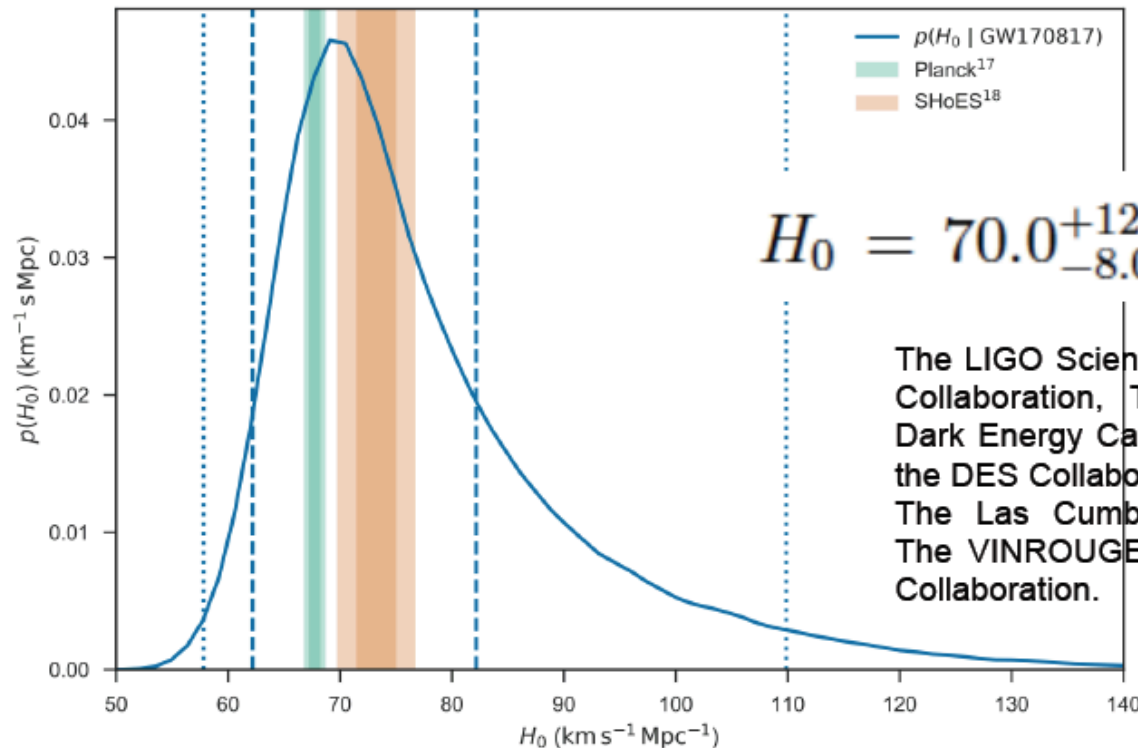
B. Sorazu – IMFP18 (Salamanca, 12 Abril 2018)

	Low-spin priors ( $ \chi  \leq 0.05$ )
Primary mass $m_1$	1.36–1.60 $M_\odot$
Secondary mass $m_2$	1.17–1.36 $M_\odot$
Chirp mass $\mathcal{M}$	$1.188^{+0.004}_{-0.002} M_\odot$
Mass ratio $m_2/m_1$	0.7–1.0
Total mass $m_{\text{tot}}$	$2.74^{+0.04}_{-0.01} M_\odot$
Radiated energy $E_{\text{rad}}$	$> 0.025 M_\odot c^2$
Luminosity distance $D_L$	$40^{+8}_{-14}$ Mpc
Viewing angle $\Theta$	$\leq 55^\circ$
Using NGC 4993 location	$\leq 28^\circ$

$$R = 1540^{+3200}_{-1220} \text{ Gpc}^{-3} \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

- More common than we expected
- Consistent with galactic BNS observations
- Tidal effects are not taken into account
- Neutron star maximum mass:  $\sim 2.2 M_{\text{sun}}$

- From amplitude of GW signal  $\rightarrow$  absolute distance to source  $\sim 40\text{Mpc}$ 
  - Independent from ‘cosmic distance ladder’
  - Calibrated by general relativity
- From the EM afterglow we measure redshift ( $v_H$ )
- Hubble constant ( $H_0$ ) = expansion rate of the Universe =  $v_H / d$



$$H_0 = 70.0^{+12.0}_{-8.0} \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$$

The LIGO Scientific Collaboration and The Virgo Collaboration, The 1M2H Collaboration, The Dark Energy Camera GW-EM Collaboration and the DES Collaboration, The DLT40 Collaboration, The Las Cumbres Observatory Collaboration, The VINROUGE Collaboration & The MASTER Collaboration.

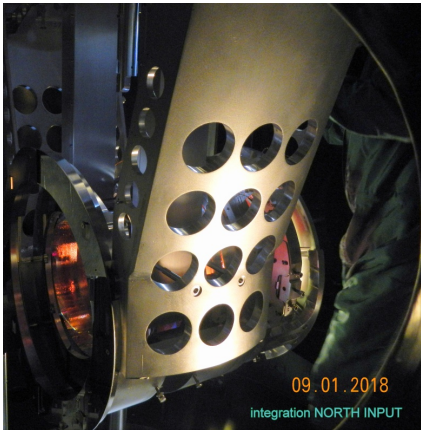
Nature (2017)

- First evidence that short-GRBs are associated to BNS
- The high precision on the localisation of the source allowed an exhaustive follow-up in all EM spectrum after collision → confirms that **kilonova** are associated to BNS mergers.
- Limits the possible equations of state for neutron stars and their structure.
- **Mass of graviton**  $m_g < (\text{few}) \cdot 10^{-23} \text{ eV}/c^2$  (consistent with 0)
- No neutrino emissions were associated to this event.



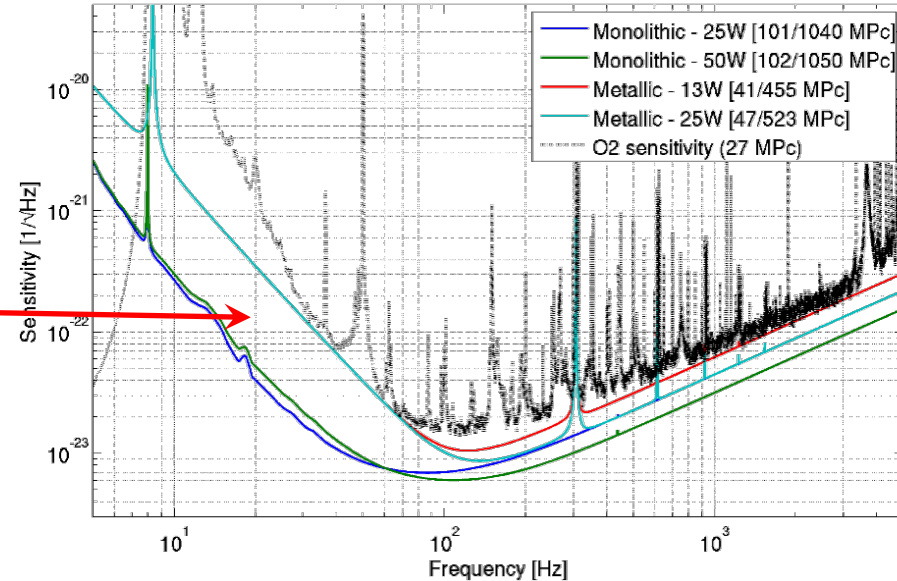
*~12 months commissioning*  
*Progress of detectors*  
*towards O3*





- All test masses suspended with **fused silica fibers**

Will boost the low frequency sensitivity.



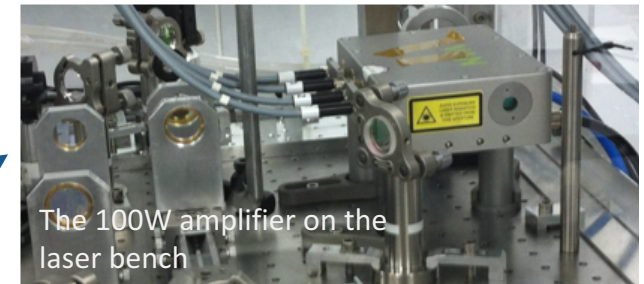
The AEI squeezer installed in the DET lab



- Installation of GEO squeezer. On-site measured **squeezing**: around 10 dB;

Improves high frequency sensitivity.

- New high power laser amplifier: delivers up to 60W to interferometer.
- New monolithic pre-mode-cleaner, for high power.



The 100W amplifier on the laser bench



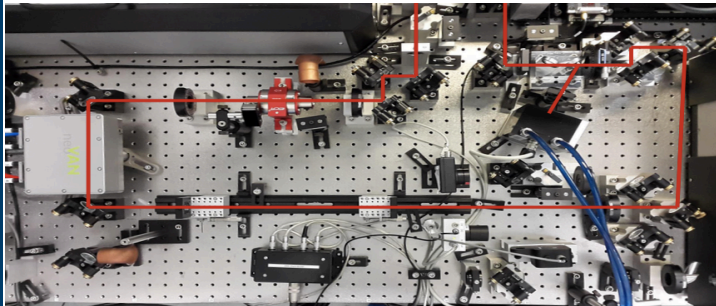
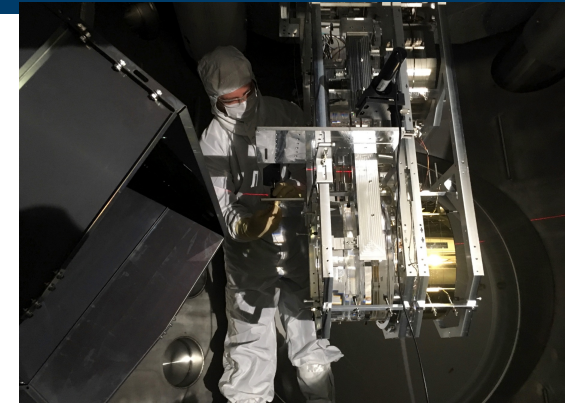
from Brian O'Reilly and Alessio Rocchi, G1800395

B. Sorazu – IMFP18 (Salamanca, 12 April 2018)

- ITM replacement, a point absorber was found on the HR side of H1 ITMX.

**Affected ability of H1 to operate at higher power.**

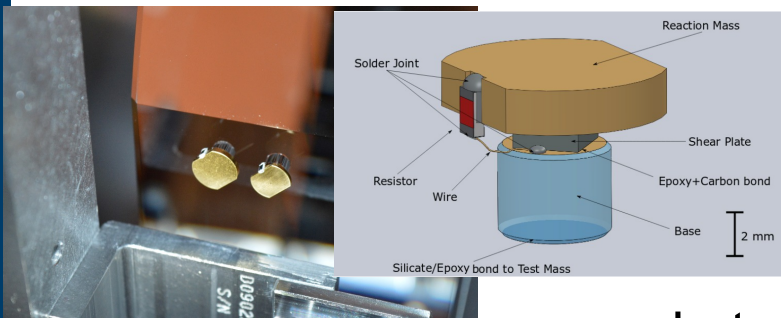
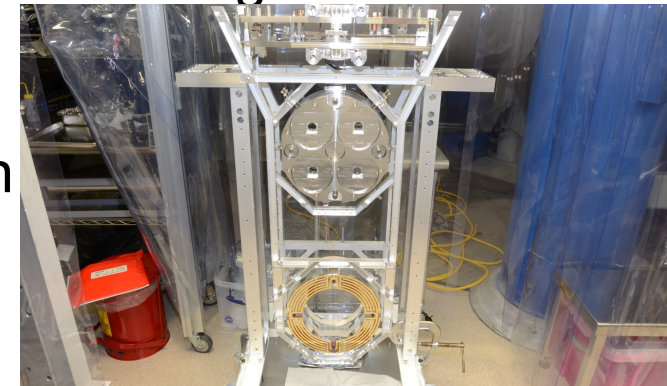
- Also replace ETMs at both detectors.



- Installation of a 70W laser amplifier at both LLO and LHO → delivering 50W to interferometer.

- Replace End Reaction Masses by annular version

**Hope to reduce residual gas damping noise by a factor of 2.5 (an issue below 60Hz)**



- Installing acoustic mode dampers to the test masses.

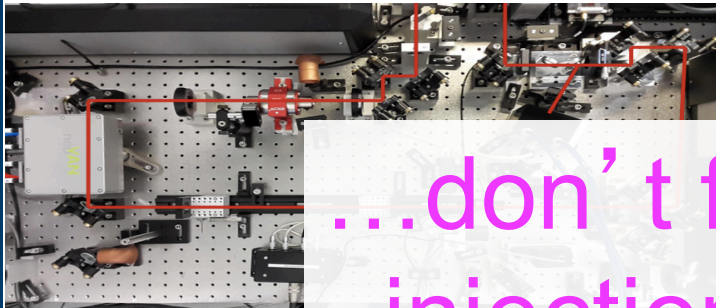
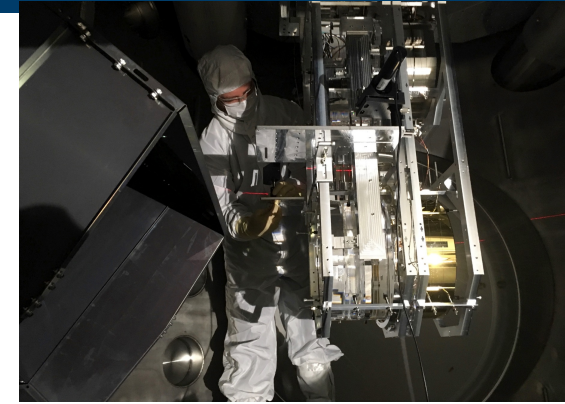
**Mitigate parametric instabilities at high power**

- Lots of new baffles installed to absorb scattered light.

- ITM replacement, a point absorber was found on the HR side of H1 ITMX.

**Affected ability of H1 to operate at higher power.**

- Also replace ETMs at both detectors.



- Installation of a 70W laser amplifier at

**...don't forget squeezed light injection! (more about this later)**

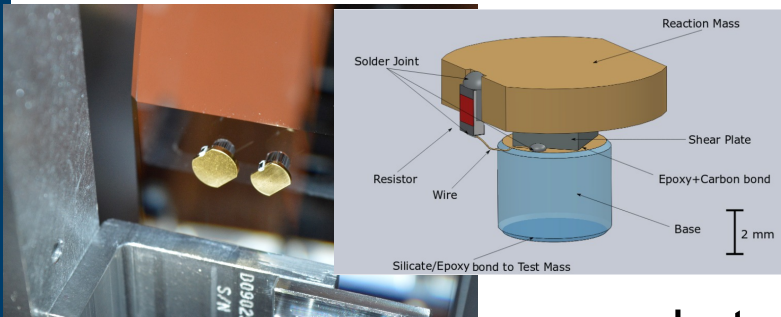
- Replace

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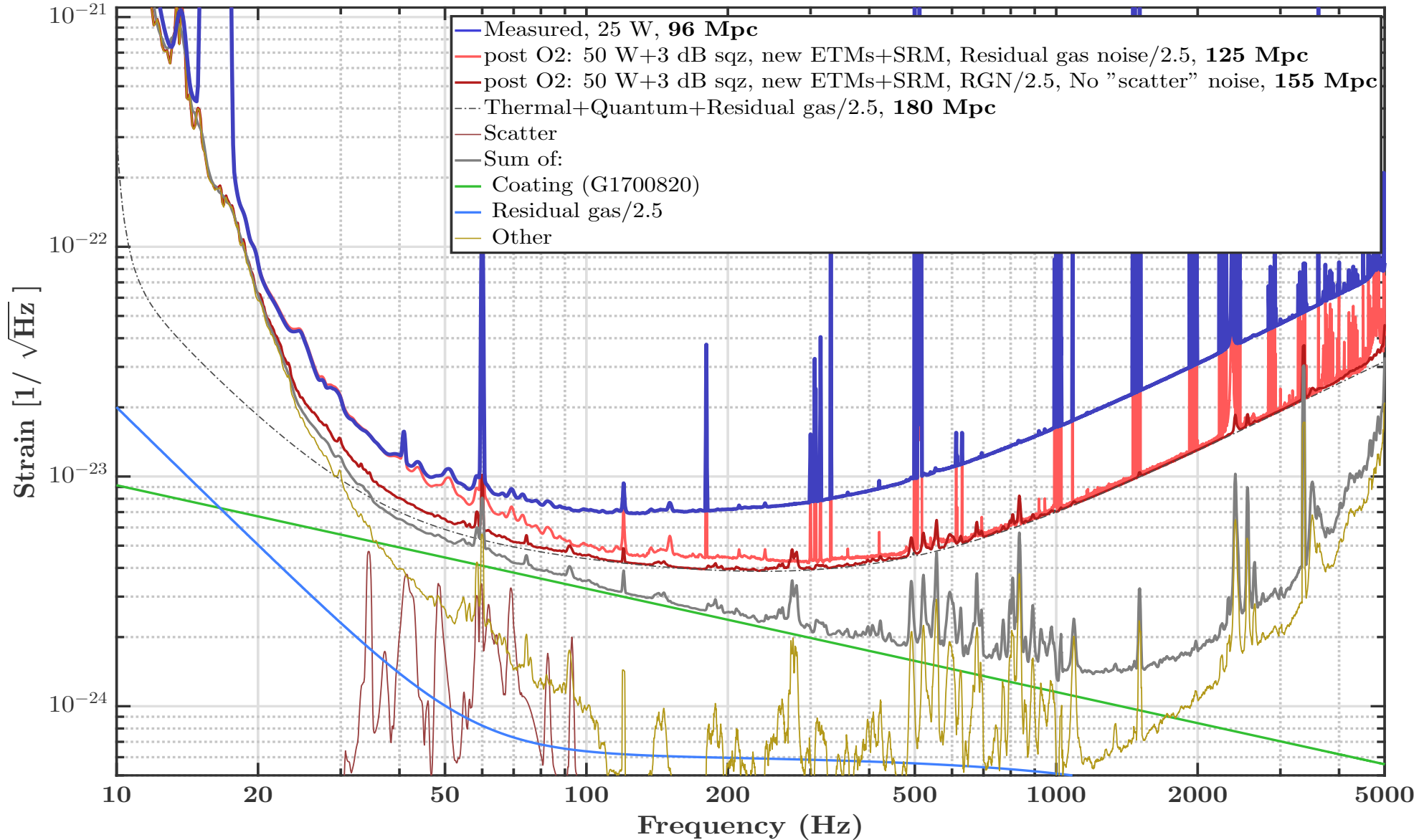
**Mitigate parametric instabilities at high power**



- Lots of new baffles installed to absorb scattered light.



L1 data from end of O2, 27 July - Aug 8 2017

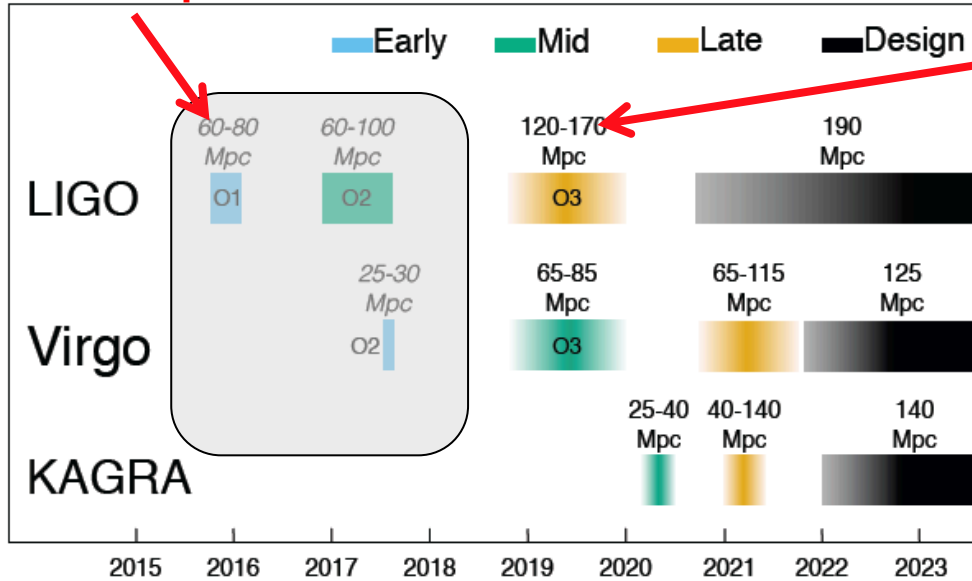


Living Rev Relativ (2016) 19: 1

Prospects for Observing and Localizing GW Transients with aLIGO, AdV and KAGRA

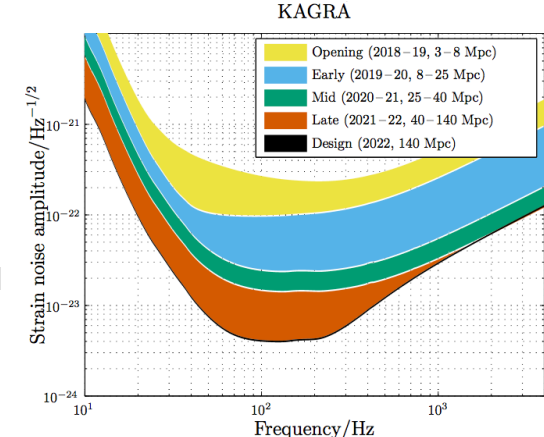
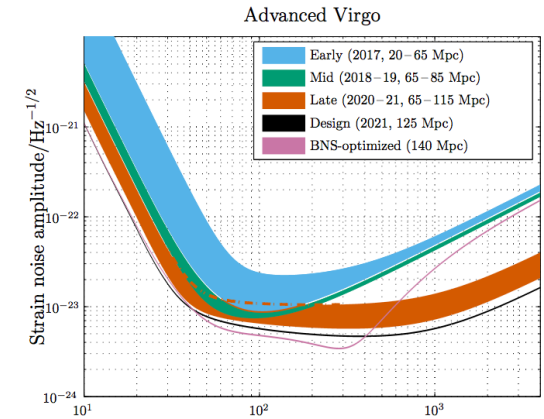
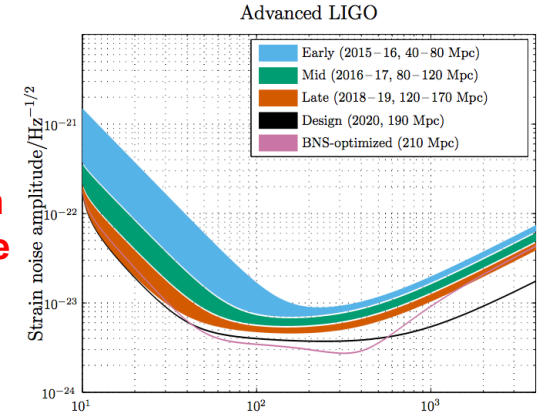
7

**O1 data is public**



**O3: GW candidates with high confidence public to full astronomical community.**

Numbers are BNS range sensitivity



	LIGO		Virgo		KAGRA	
	BNS range/Mpc	BBH range/Mpc	BNS range/Mpc	BBH range/Mpc	BNS range/Mpc	BBH range/Mpc
Early	40-80	415-775	20-65	220-615	8-25	80-250
Mid	80-120	775-1110	65-85	615-790	25-40	250-405
Late	120-170	1110-1490	65-115	610-1030	40-140	405-1270
Design	190	1640	125	1130	140	1270

## Coalescent rates based on observations:

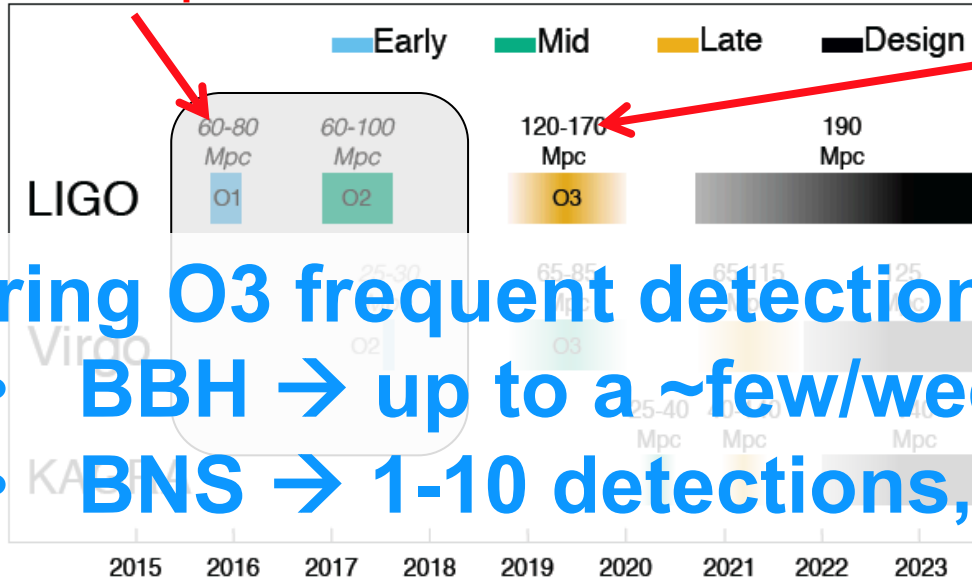
- BNS: post-GW170817 (O1 as prior):  $R_{\text{BNS}} = 0.3 - 4.5 \text{ Mpc}^{-3}\text{Myr}^{-1}$
- BBH: post-GW170104:  $R_{\text{BBH}} = 0.01 - 0.2 \text{ Mpc}^{-3}\text{Myr}^{-1}$

Living Rev Relativ (2016) 19: 1

Prospects for Observing and Localizing GW Transients with aLIGO, AdV and KAGRA

7

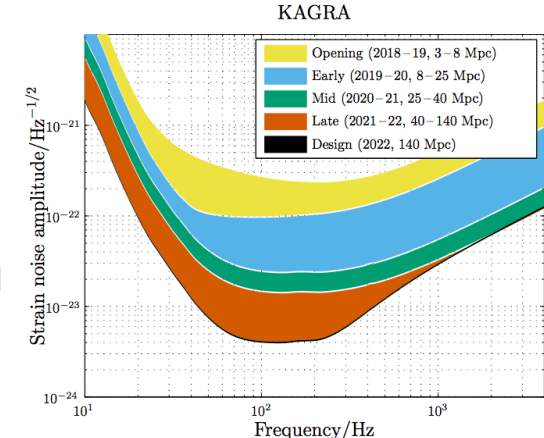
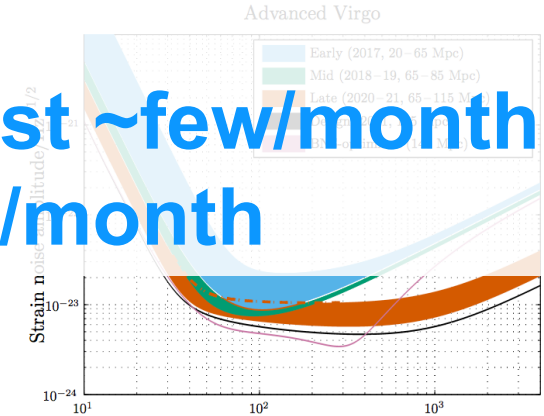
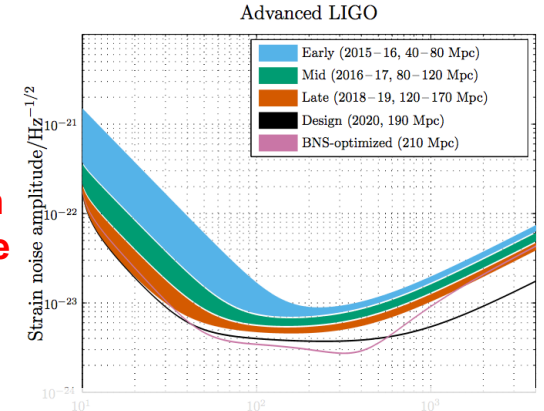
**O1 data is public**



**O3: GW candidates with high confidence public to full astronomical community.**

**During O3 frequent detections:**

- **BBH** → up to a ~few/week, at least ~few/month
- **BNS** → 1-10 detections, up to ~1/month



	LIGO		Virgo		KAGRA	
	BNS range/Mpc	BBH range/Mpc	BNS range/Mpc	BBH range/Mpc	BNS range/Mpc	BBH range/Mpc
Early	40-80	415-775	20-65	220-615	8-25	80-250
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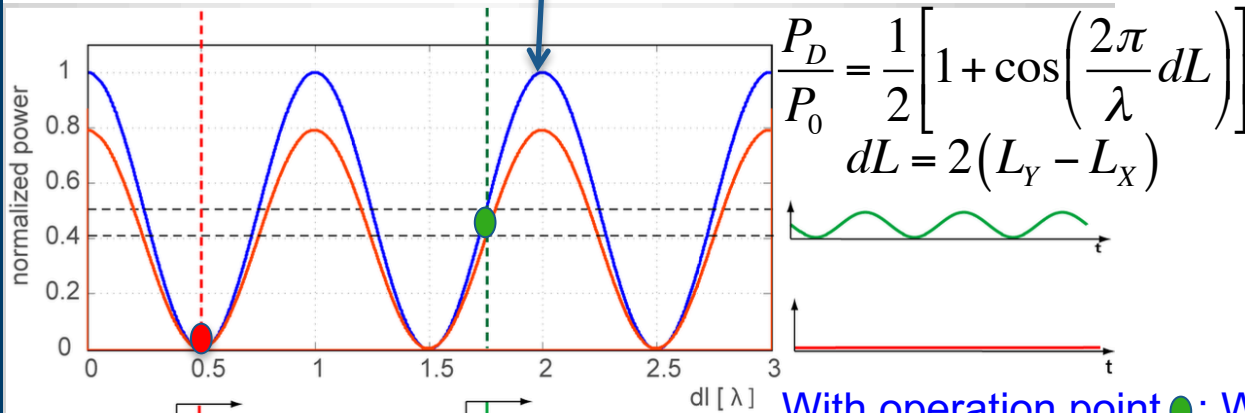
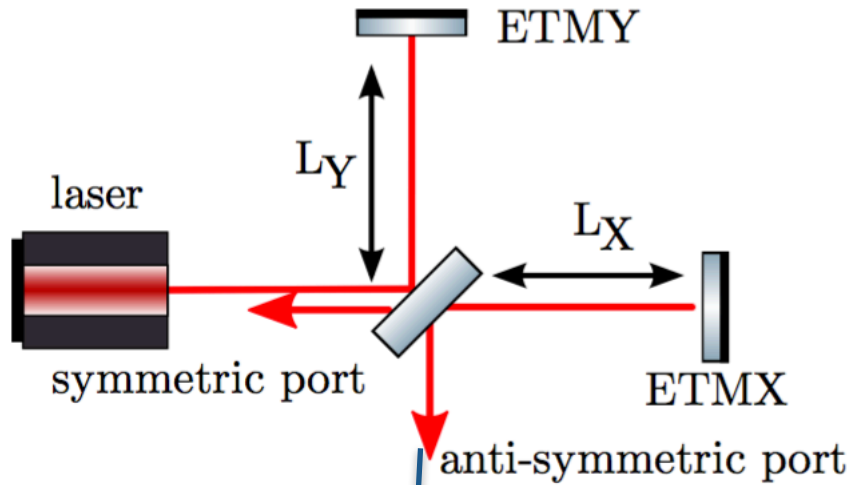
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- **BBH:** post-GW170104:  $R_{\text{BBH}} = 0.01 - 0.2 \text{ Mpc}^{-3}\text{Myr}^{-1}$



# *Gravitational wave detectors*

# Operation of a Michelson interferometer



$$\frac{P_D}{P_0} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 + \cos \left( \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} dL \right) \right]$$

$$dL = 2(L_Y - L_X)$$

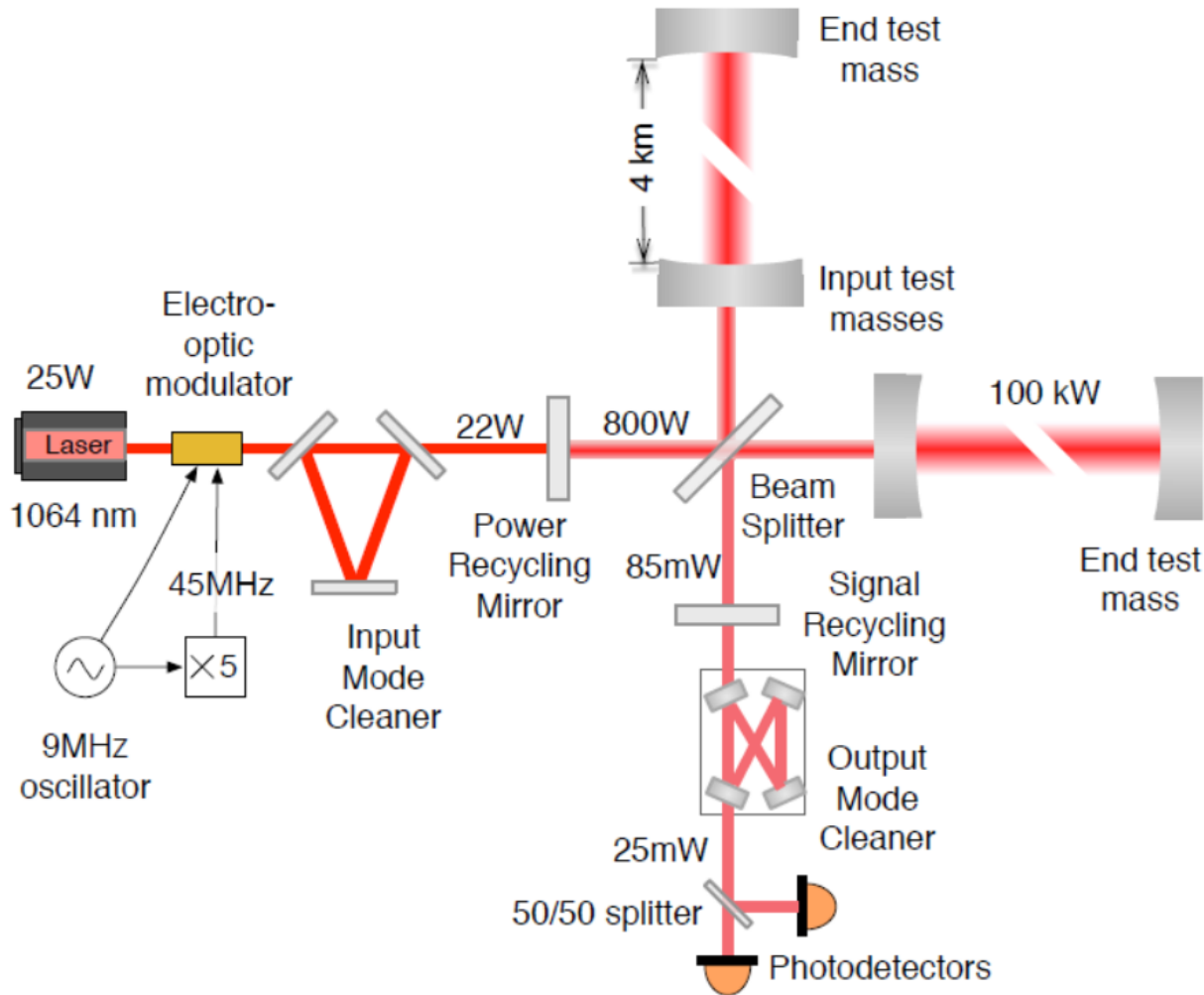
No GW  
 $dl = 0$

With operation point ●: We see power changes in output due to fluctuations of circulating power.

Not the case with OP ●

- Signal on PD proportional to:
  - $P_0$  laser power
  - $dl \propto h \times L$
  - $1/\lambda$
- We want: longer arms, high circulating power and small  $\lambda$ .
- Operation point on dark fringe ●  $\rightarrow$  light back to laser  $\rightarrow$  can be recycled



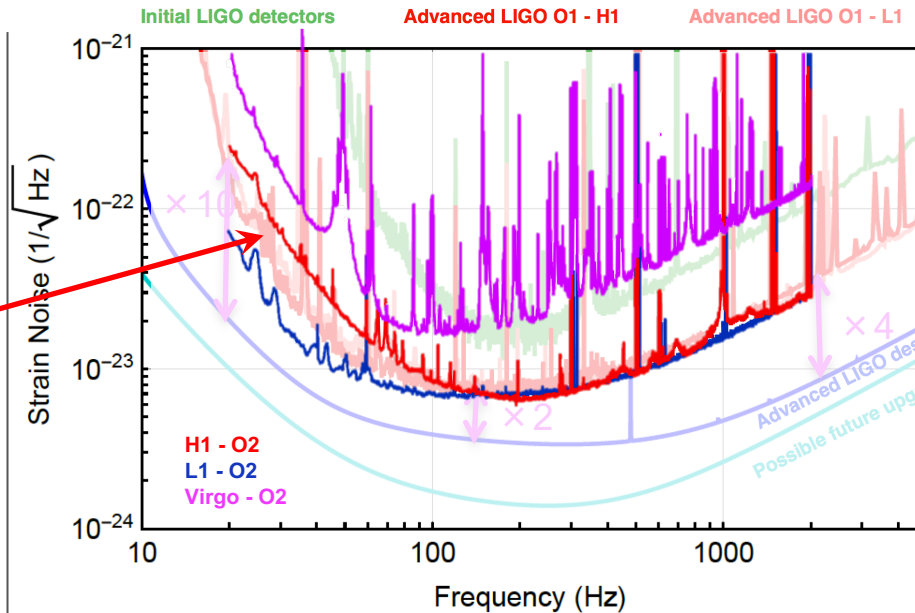
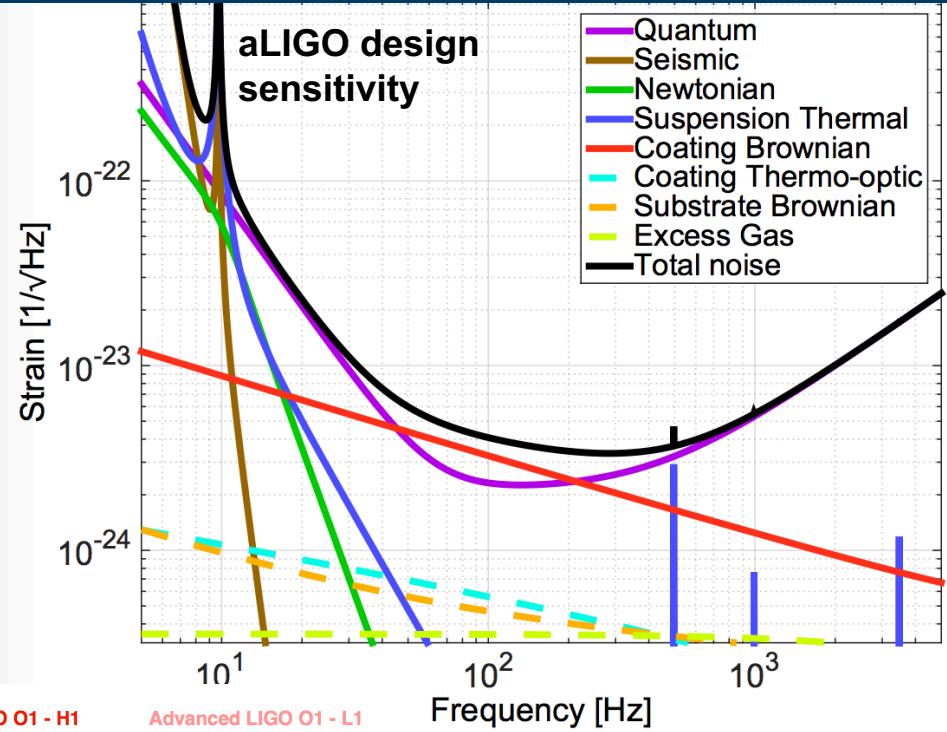
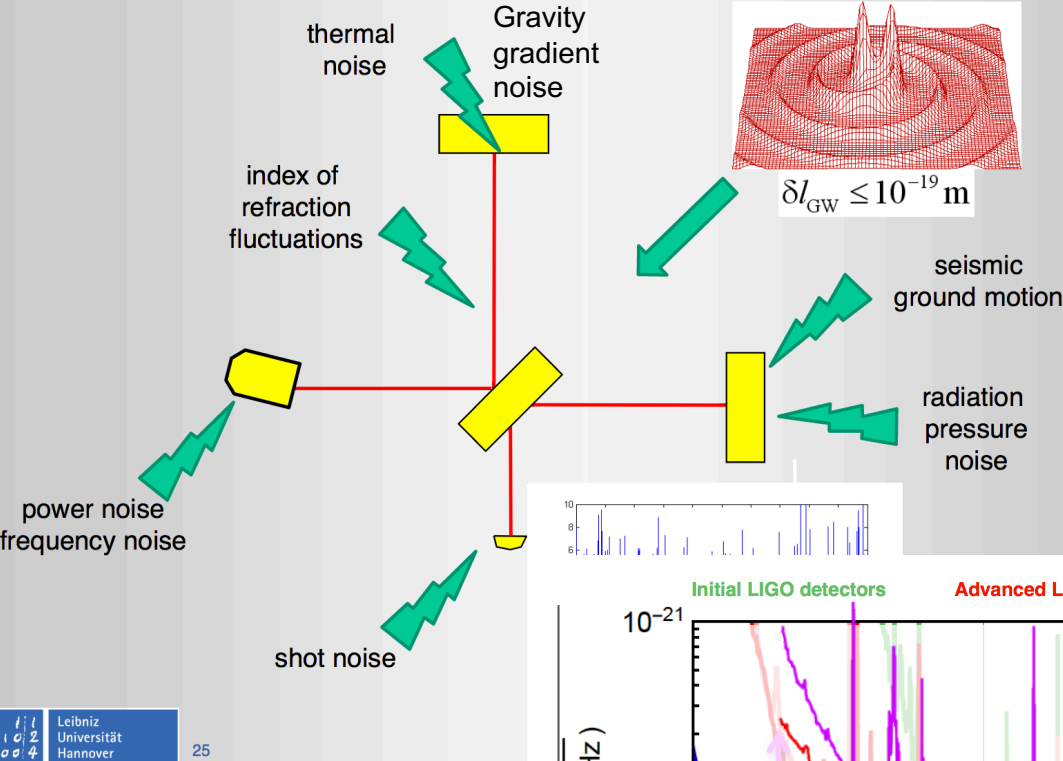


- Optical cavities on the arms to increase the circulating power and the effective arm length.
- PRM = Recycles the light coming back to laser (OP dark fringe)
- SRM = Recycles the GW signal back to the interferometer. It allows adjustment of the maximum sensitivity band.



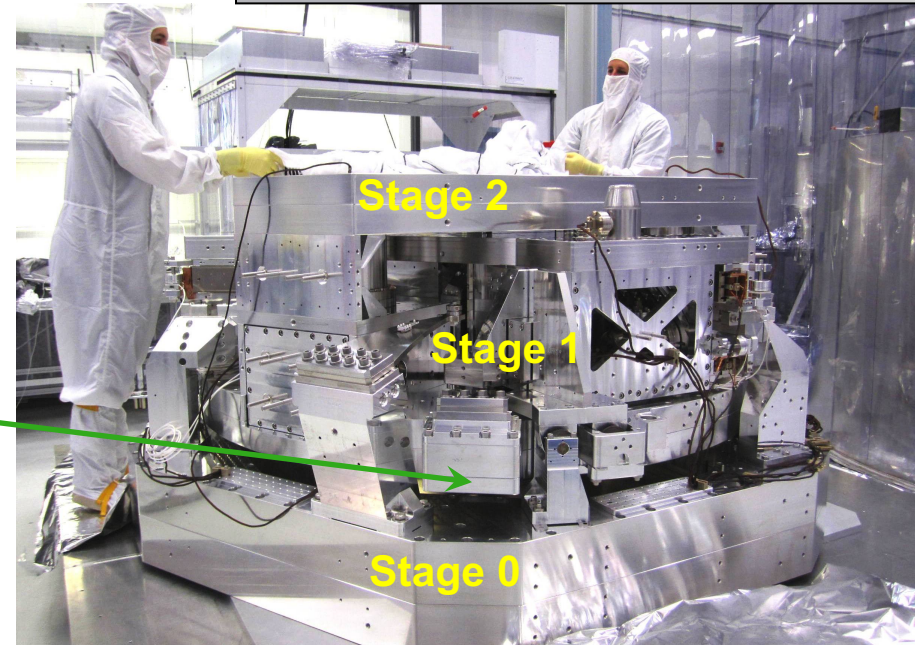
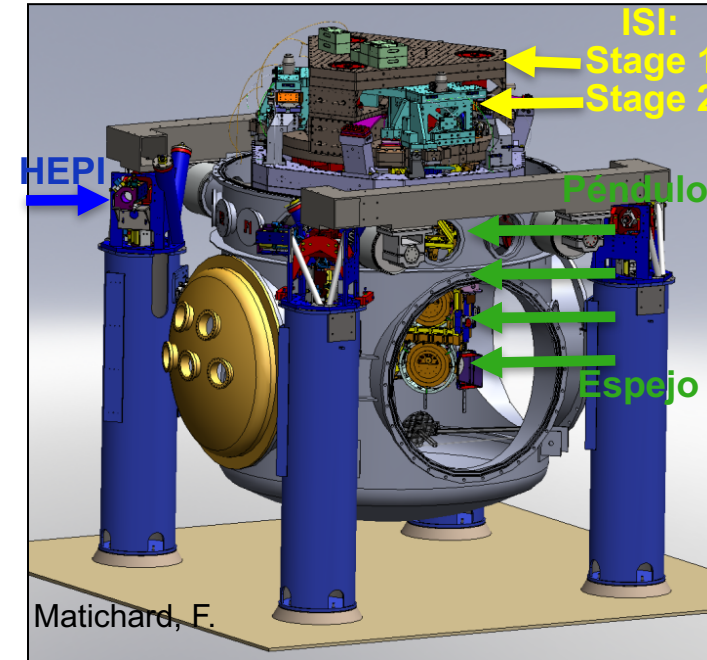
## noise sources

From Benno Willke



'Technical' noise, worsen during pre O2 commissioning at LHO

- 7 stages seismic isolation of test masses :
  - 3 active stages (HEPI y ISI)
  - 4 passive stages as a pendulum with the test masses on the bottom stage.
- 3 active stages with 6 degrees of freedom each:
  - Hydraulic external Pre-isolation (HEPI).
  - 2 internal stages (ISI).
- Active stages isolate the suspension pendulum through many sensors of position, acceleration and velocity on all degrees of freedom.
  - The top stage of the pendulum is attached to the bottom plate of the ISI 2<sup>nd</sup> stage.



- Test masses suspended on a 4 stage pendulum:

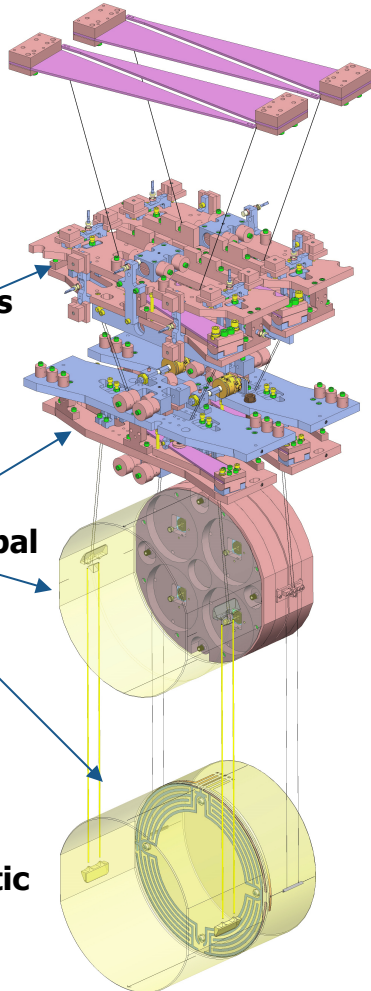
Optics Table Interface (ISI)

Damping Controls

Hierarchical Global Controls

Final elements  
All Fused silica

Electrostatic Actuation



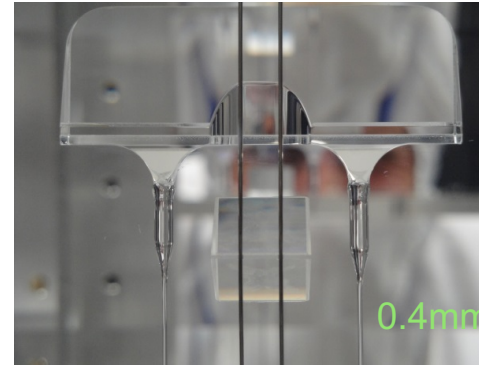
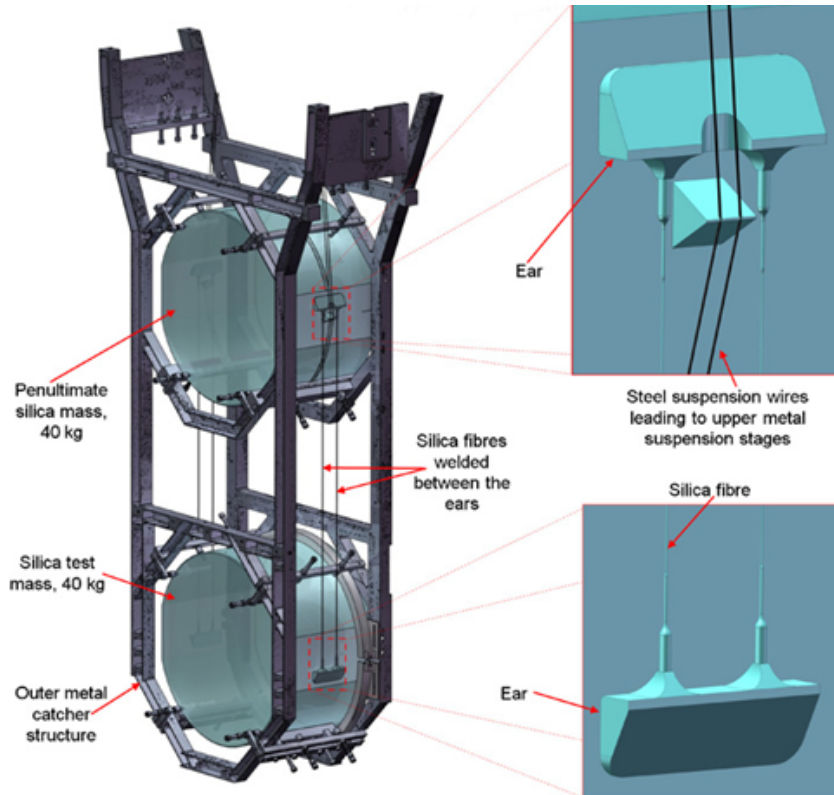
Inspecting last stage of the pendulum suspension. Monolithic of fused silica.



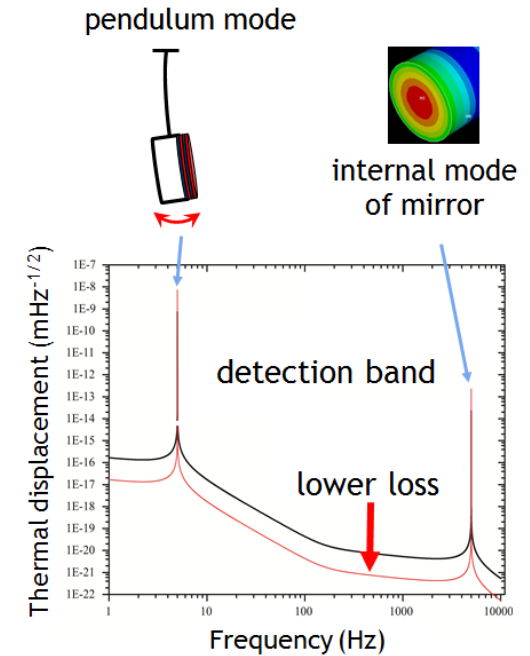
Welding silica fibres to test masses.



Inspecting reaction mass with the ESD. Protected with *First Contact*



Fused silica 'ears' joined to the sides of the test masses by a silicate joint (thickness of joint 60nm)



- Thermal noise (Brownian motion) on the metallic wires and the fused silica fibres cause movement on the test masses.

- The last stage of the suspension pendulum is monolithic → mirror test mass, upper mass and suspension fibres are all of fused silica.
- Fused silica has very low mechanical dissipation →  $Q = 10^9$  (vacuum) → pendulum oscillations would take 17 years to attenuate, violin modes → 7 days.
- Concentrate thermal energy at resonances

- Heisenberg uncertainty  $\rightarrow$  Energy fluctuations of vacuum  $\rightarrow \Delta E \Delta t \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$
- Distributed over amplitude and phase quadratures of EM field:

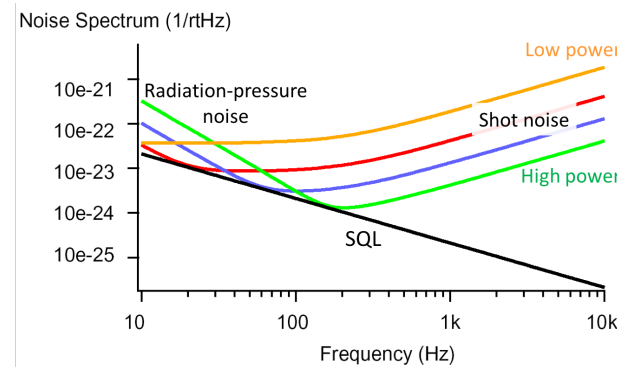
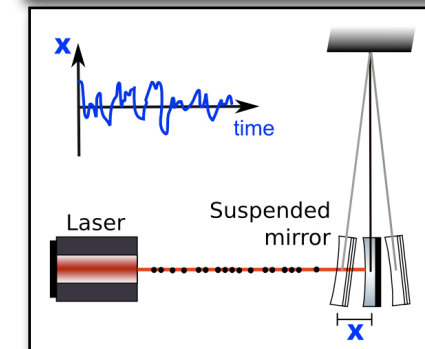
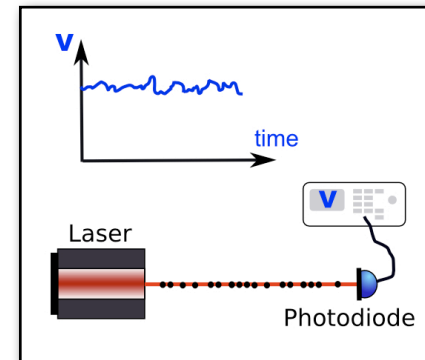
$$\begin{aligned} \Delta E &= \Delta n \hbar \omega \\ \Delta t &= \frac{\phi}{\omega} \end{aligned} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \Delta n \Delta \phi = \frac{1}{2} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} \Delta n &= \sqrt{N} \\ \Delta \phi &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{N}} \end{aligned}$$

Photons follow Poisson stats

- Fluctuations enters interferometer's dark port, adds to arms' light and reach PD combining with GW signal field.

Quantum noise two forms:

- **shot noise**, intensity noise on PD current (photon count fluctuations)  $\rightarrow$  limits precision arm displacement  $\rightarrow \Delta t \rightarrow \Delta \phi \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{P}}$
- **radiation pressure noise**, fluctuations of arms' light power  $\rightarrow$  fluctuating radiation pressure moves mirrors  $\rightarrow$  amplitude fluctuation  $\Delta n$  coupled to phase quadrature.  $\propto \frac{\sqrt{P}}{m}$



- Trade-off is called SQL

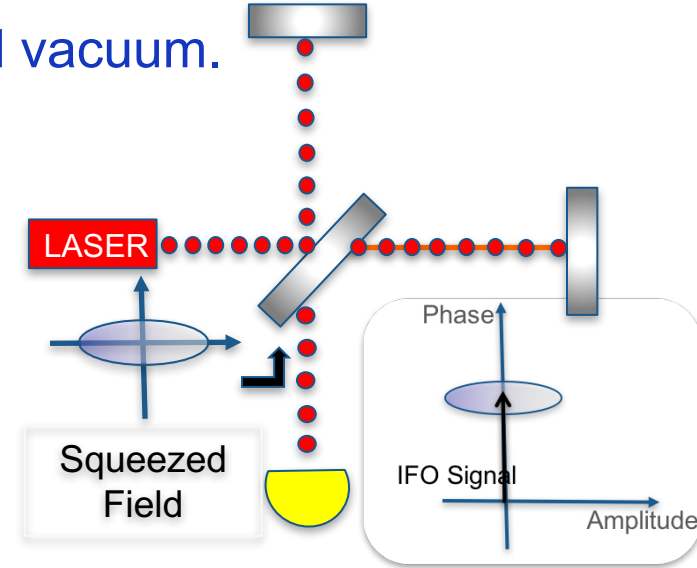
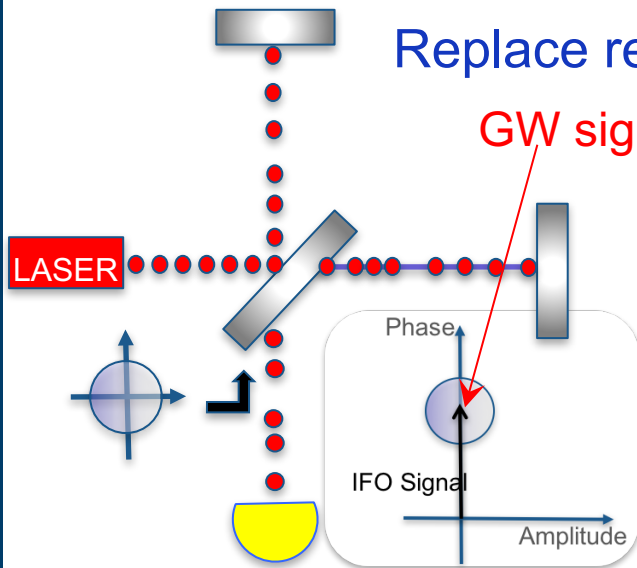
# Quantum noise reduction – Squeezed light

Replace regular vacuum with squeezed vacuum.

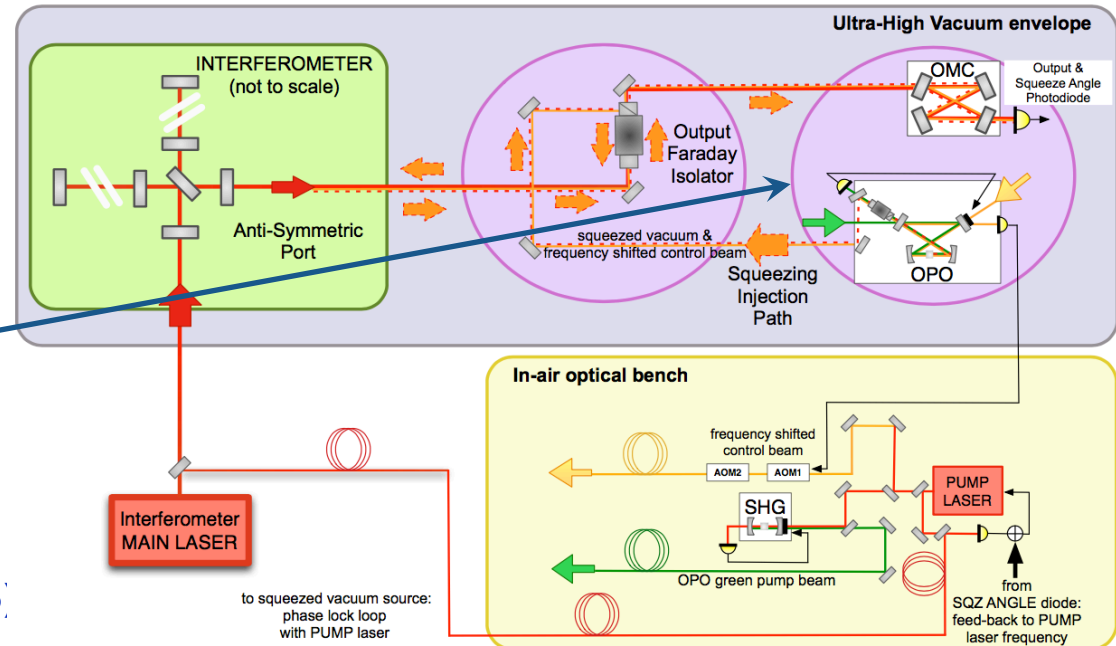
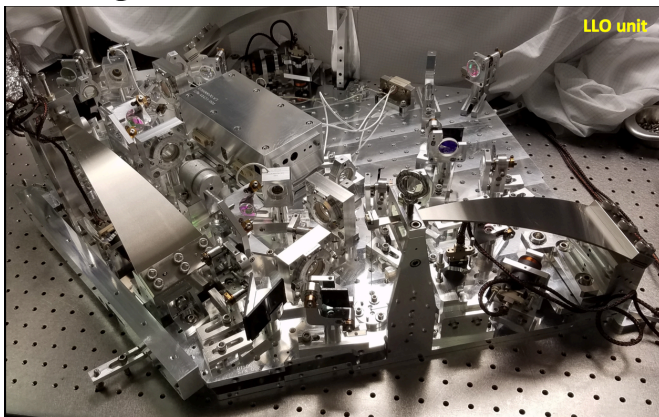
GW signal shows on Phase quadrature.

HUP  $\rightarrow$  uncertainty area fixed  
 $\rightarrow$  reducing uncertainty in one quadrature increases the other.

Squeezed phase quadrature reduces shot noise but increases rad. pressure noise due to increased amp. quadrat.

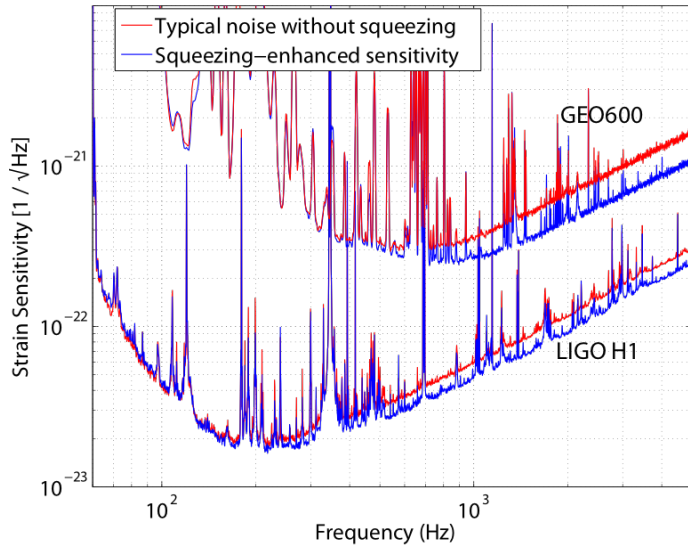


- Done using non-linear crystals acting as OPOs.



diagrams from Lisa Barsotti (G1800598 G1602253)

B. Sorazu – IMFP18 (Salamanca, 12 April 2018)

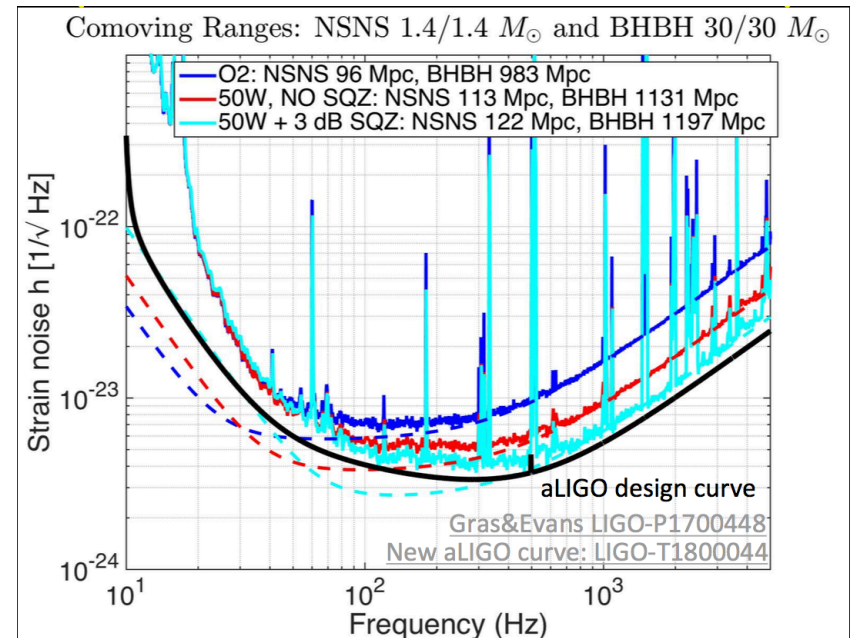


Nature Physics 7, 62–965 (2011), Nature Photonics 7, 613–619 (2013)

- GEO600 has used squeezed light since 2009
- eLIGO demonstrated it in 2011 (pre-aLIGO)
- Squeezed light not part of original aLIGO design.
- Progress on squeezed light technology motivated built of 2 squeezers and installation is ongoing ready for O3.

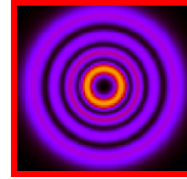
- Targeting 3dB squeezing for O3 (40% shot-noise reduction) → **Equivalent to doubling the laser power!**

plots from Lisa Barsotti (G1800598)

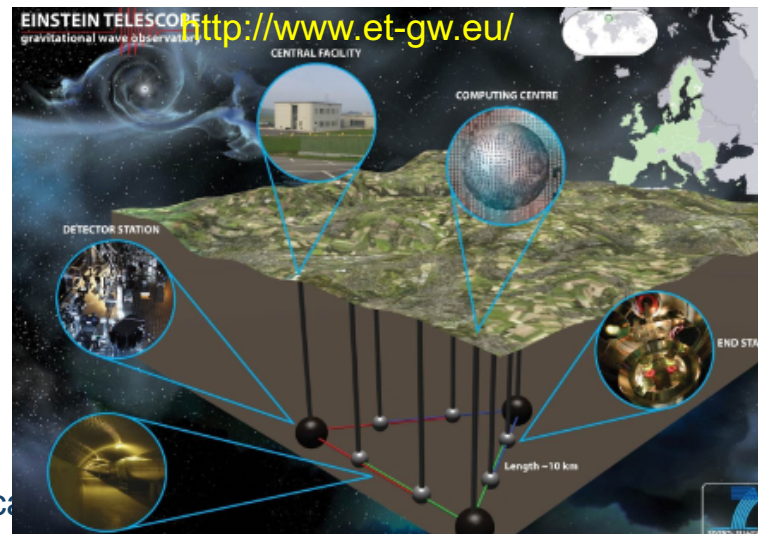
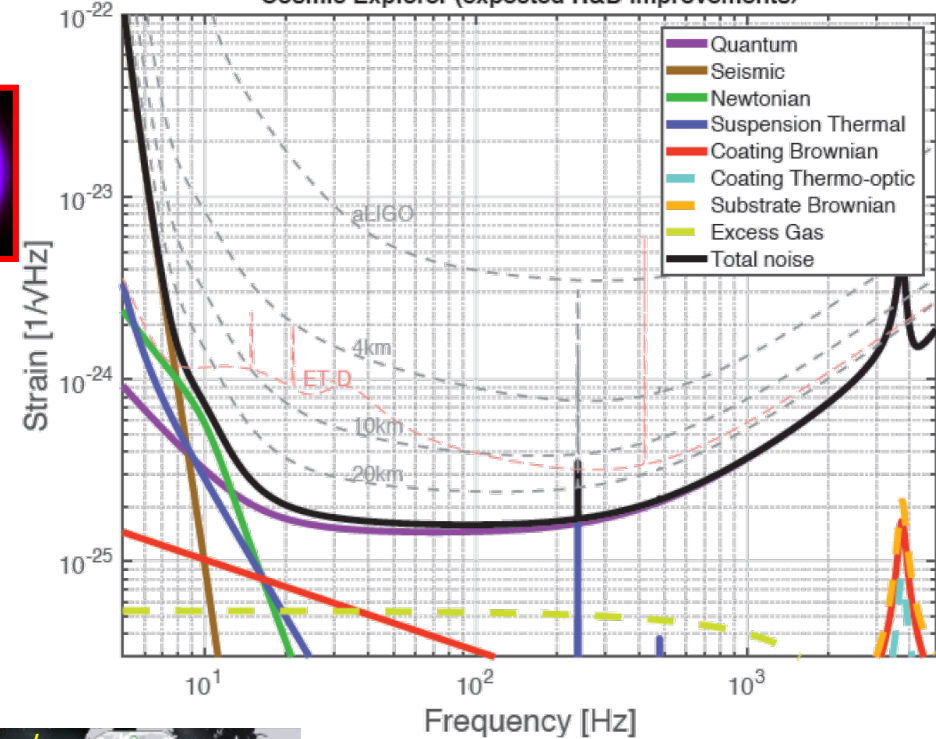




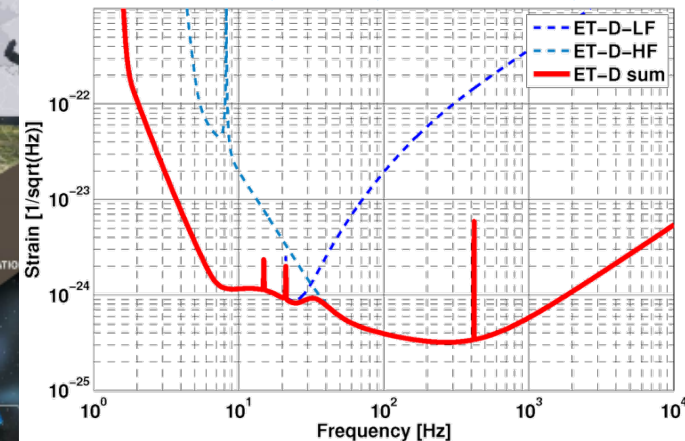
- Bigger and heavier test masses.
- Longer test mass suspensions
- Cryogenics (cooling down test masses and their suspensions).
- Lower coating thermal noise with new materials and exotic beam profiles.
- Improve quantum noise in the whole frequency band: Frequency dependent ‘Squeezing’ → filter cavities.
- Even more powerful Lasers.
- Go underground.
- Longer arms (10-40 km)
- ...



Class. Quantum Grav. 34 (2017) 044001  
Cosmic Explorer (expected R&D improvements)

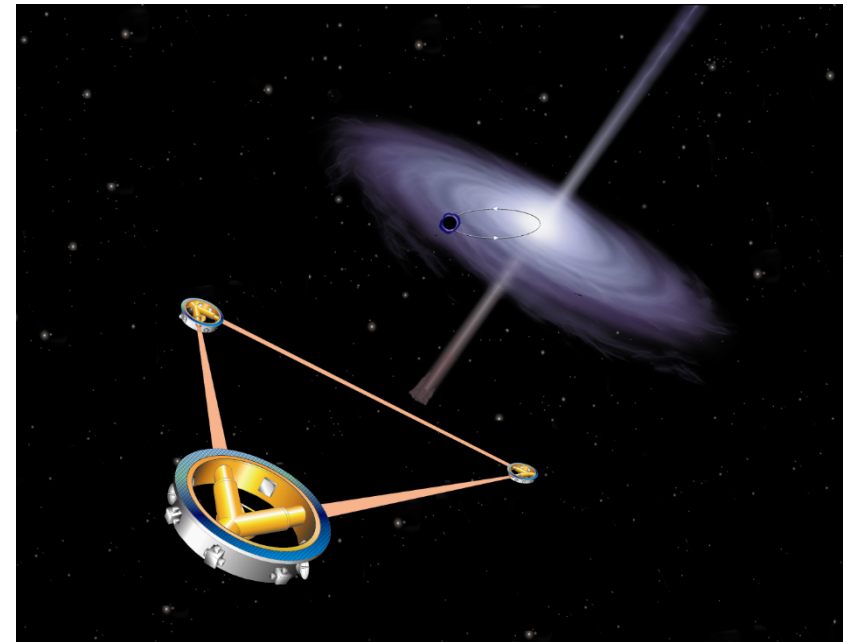
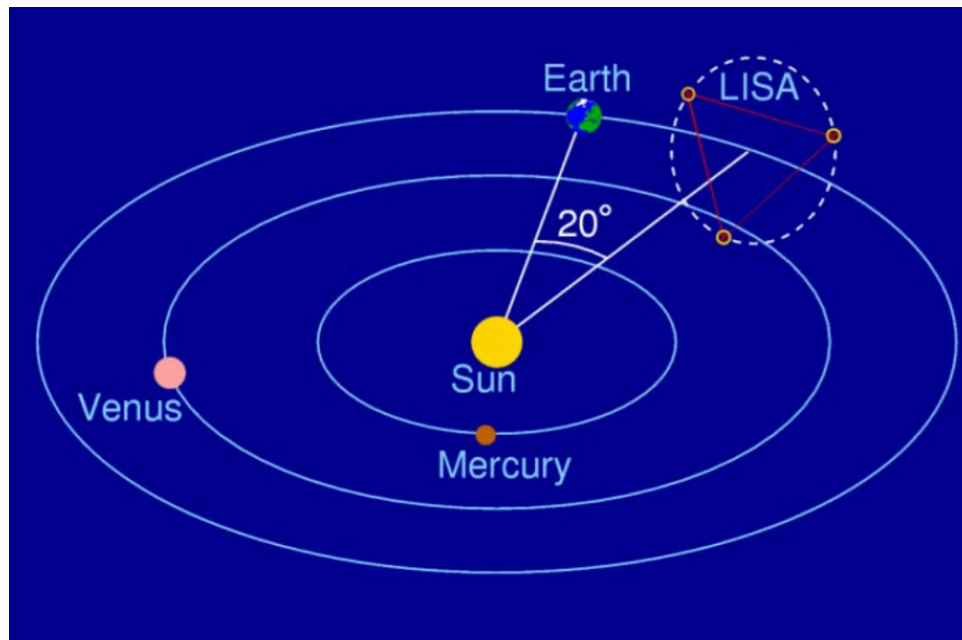


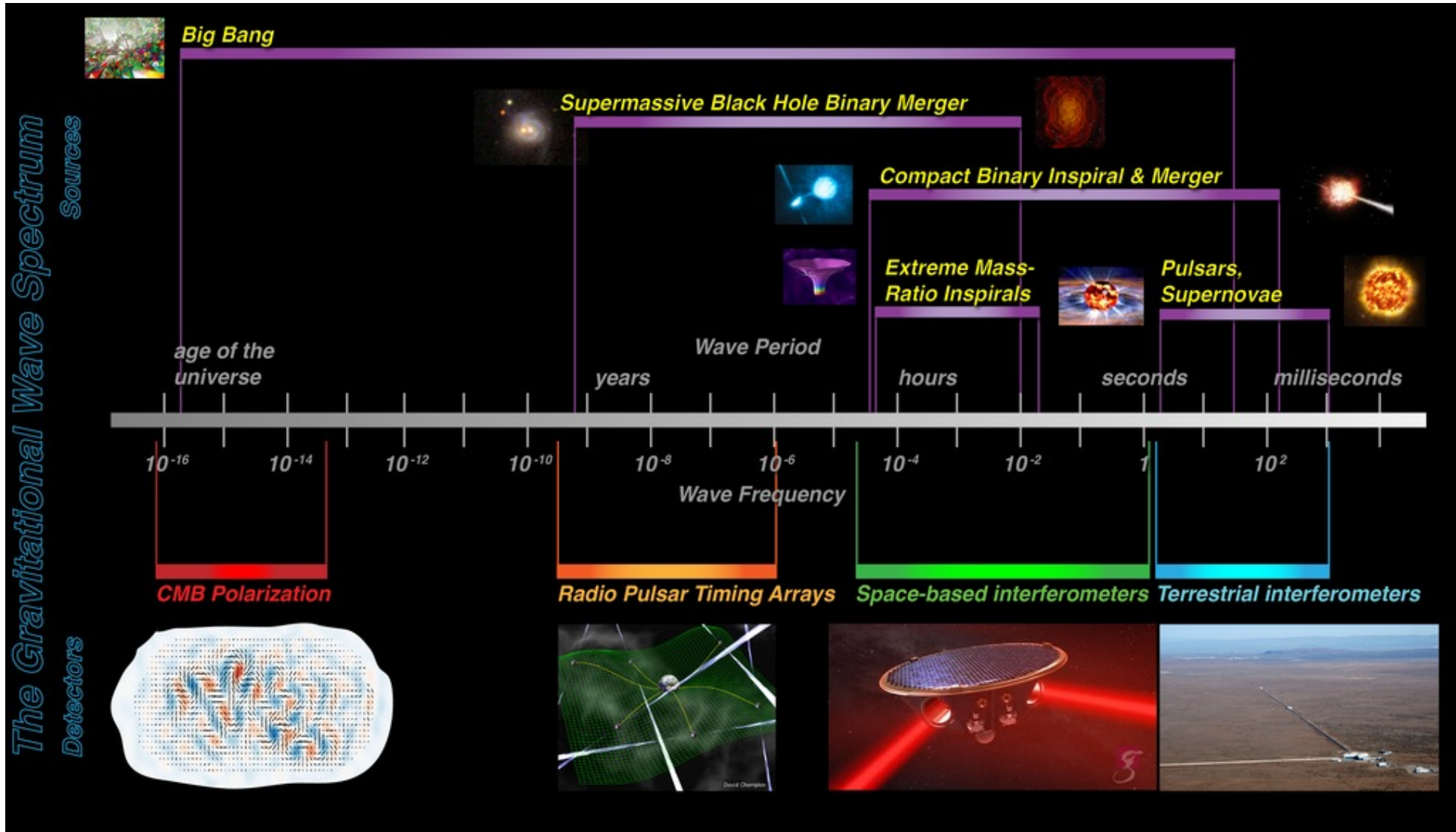
S.Hild et al., CQG, 28 094013, 2011



- 3 satellites separated 2.5 million kms on a triangular formation.
- Following Earth on its orbit round the Sun.
- Laser interferometry to measure their relative distances.
- **ESA approved mission on June 2017 → Launch expected on 2034.**

[www.elisascience.org](http://www.elisascience.org)







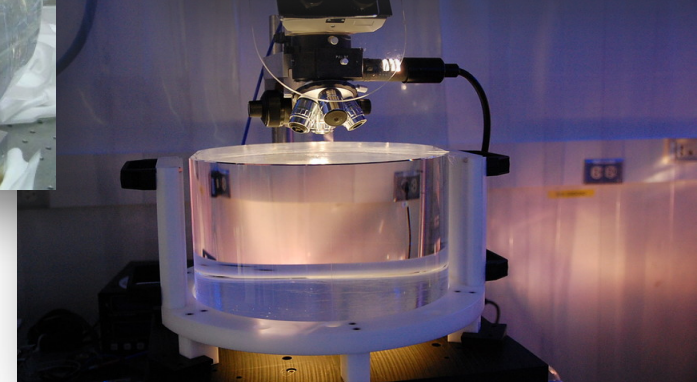
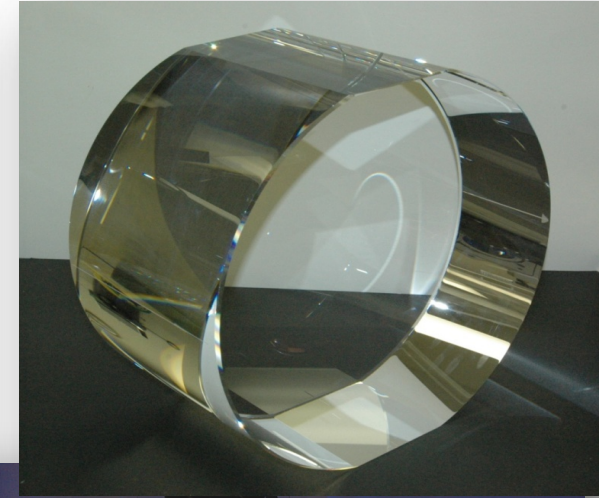
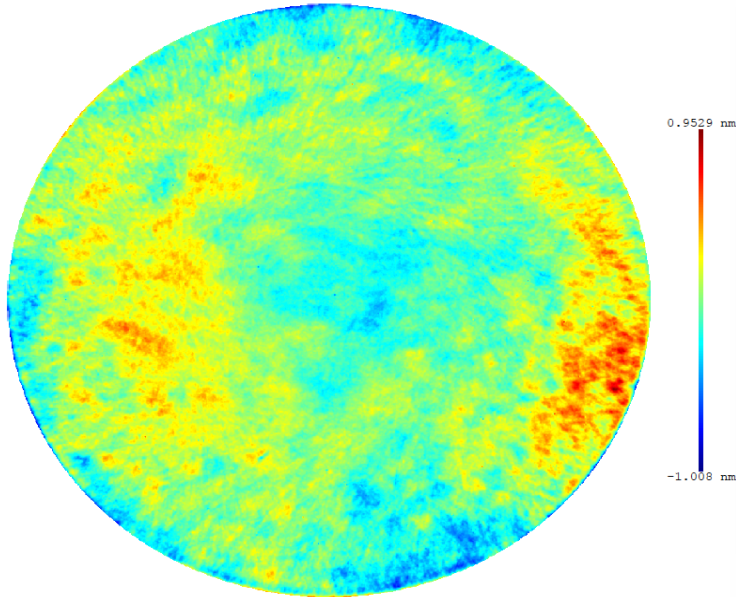
*Thank you for your  
attention  
Questions?*



# *Other slides*



ETM 01 R1 D300 Z1-4 Removed



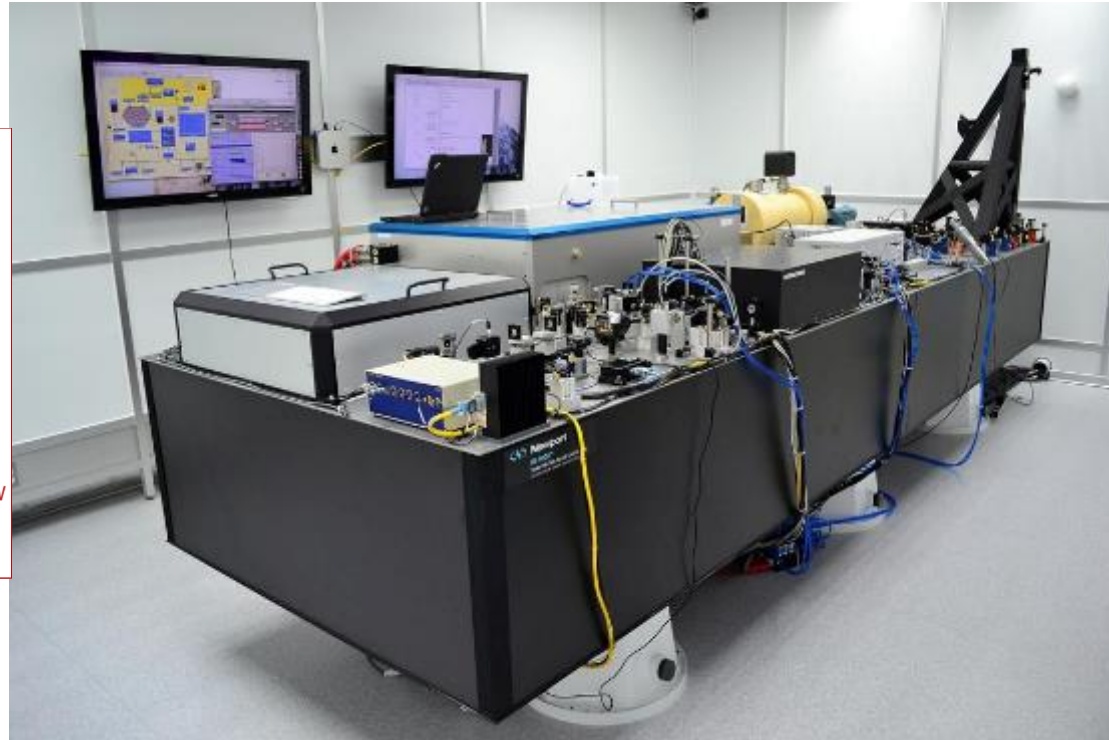
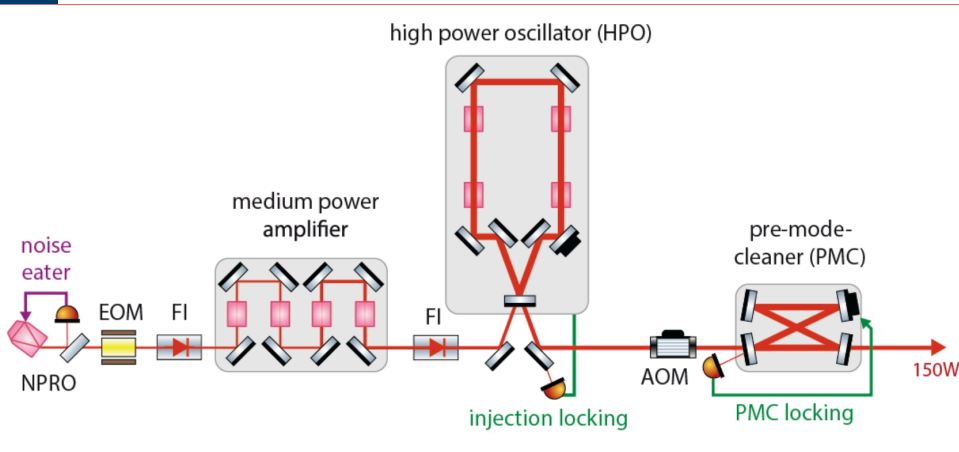
- Test mass mirror coatings designed to have high very low mechanical dissipation, low absorption and very high reflectivity.
- Dimensions: diameter 35 cm, thickness 20 cm
- Weight: 40 kgs
- Absorption: coating < 0.5 ppm, substrate = 4 ppm
- Transmission: ETM < 6 ppm, ITM = 1.4%
- Extreme flatness: 1 nm rms over 30 cm (equivalent to the highest mountain on Earth being 4 cm)

- **Brownian motion on the substrate and coating of the test masses.**
- state of the art in substrates and polishing
- Pushes the art for coating

Concrete cover

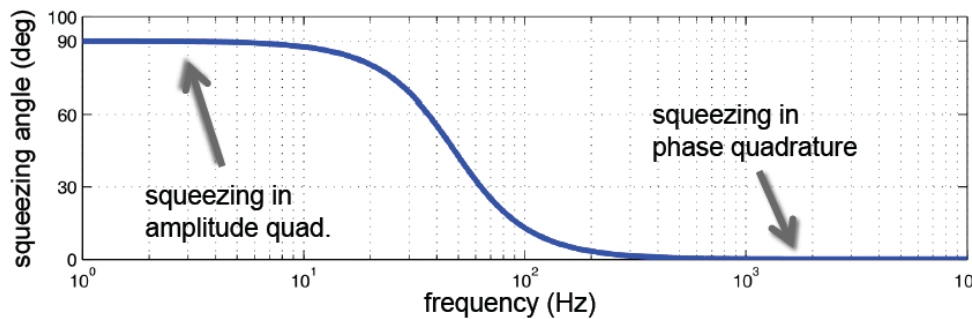
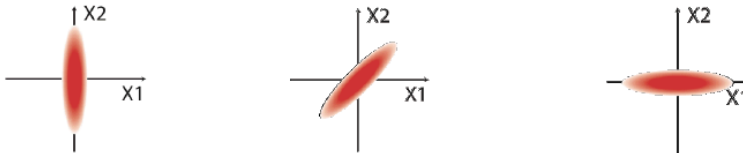
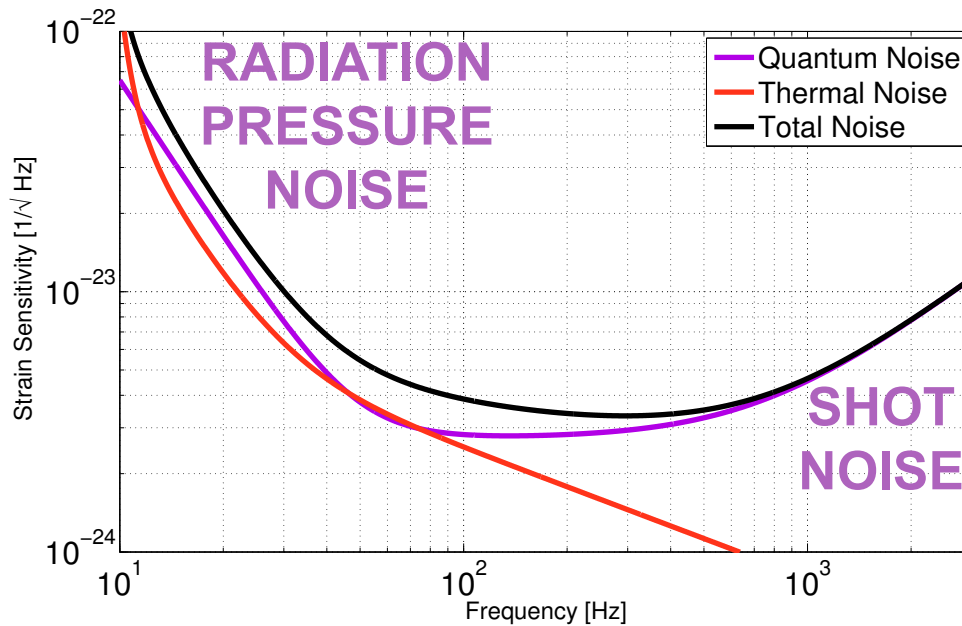


- Path of the interf. arms
- Diameter: 1.2m
- Tube is divided in sections that were welded on portable clean rooms (in-situ).
- 50 kms of welds!
- **Internal vacuum:  $10^{-11}$  atm!**
- Biggest volume of vacuum on Earth.
- This is needed to reduce:
  - Acoustic noise coupling
  - Rayleigh dispersion

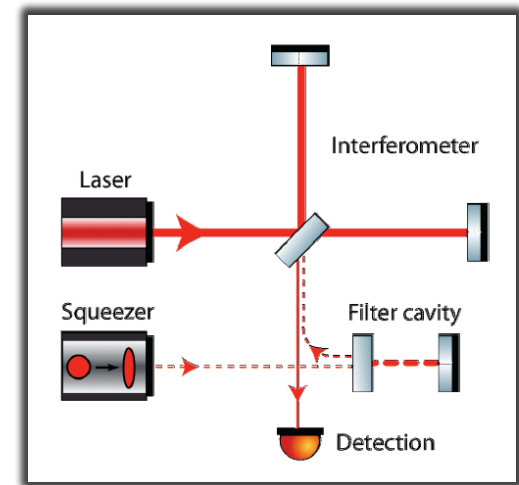
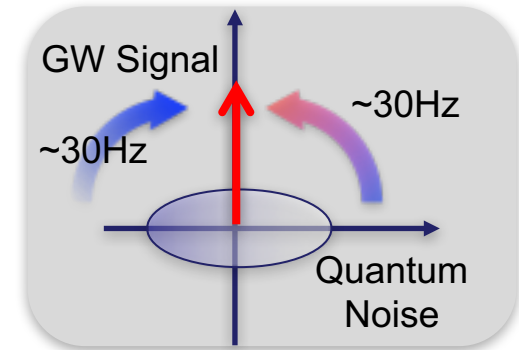


- $\lambda = 1.064 \mu\text{m}$  (infrared)
- Stored on a clean box free from acoustic noise coupling and dust.
- Power and frequency stabilisation:
  - $\text{RIN} < 10^{-8} [1/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}]$
  - Relative frequency noise  $\Delta f/f < 10^{-17} [1/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}]$  (detection band)
  - $\text{HOM} < 0.1\%$  (relative intensity on higher order spatial modes)



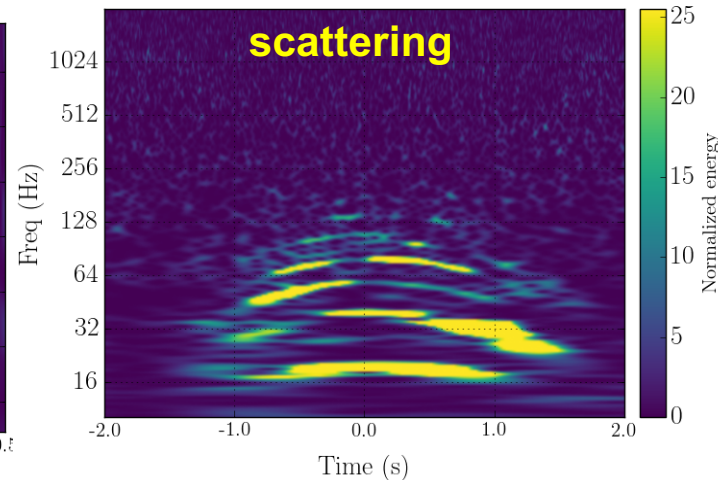
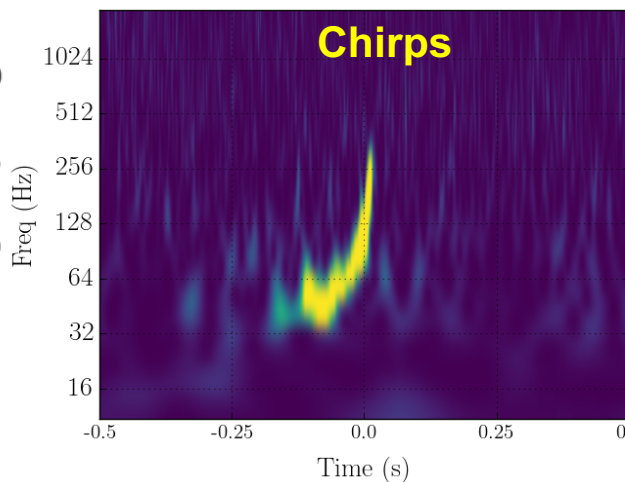
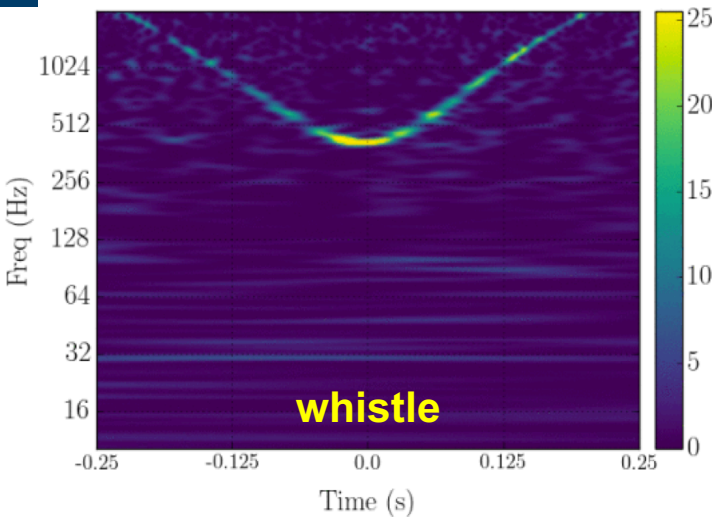
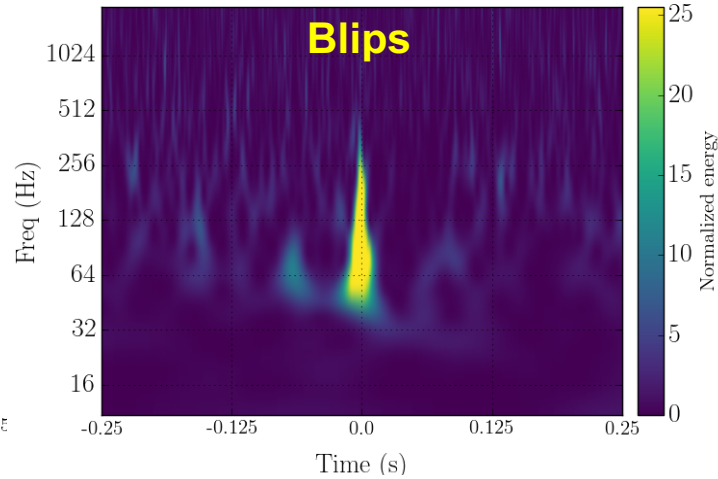
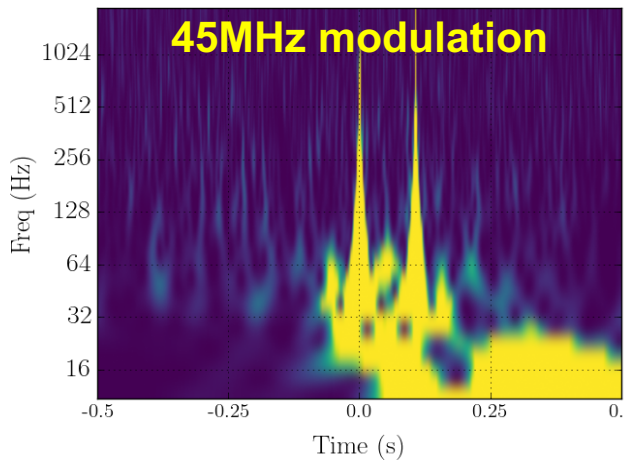
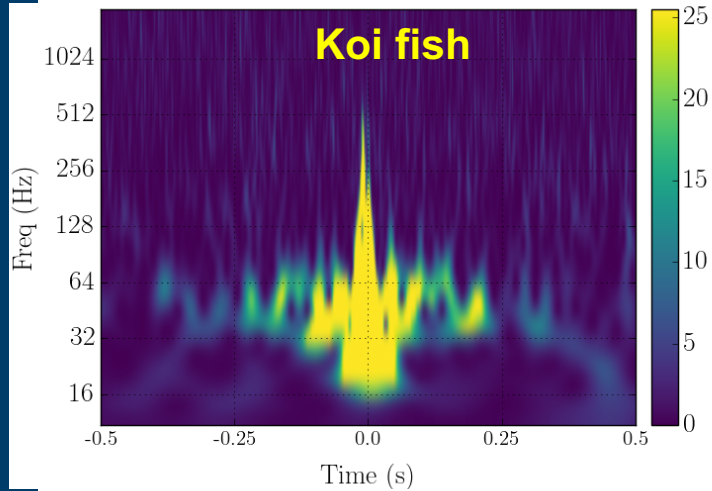


Kimble et al., Phys. Rev. D 65(2) 022002 2001



High finesse detuned “filter cavity” which rotates the squeezing angle as function of frequency

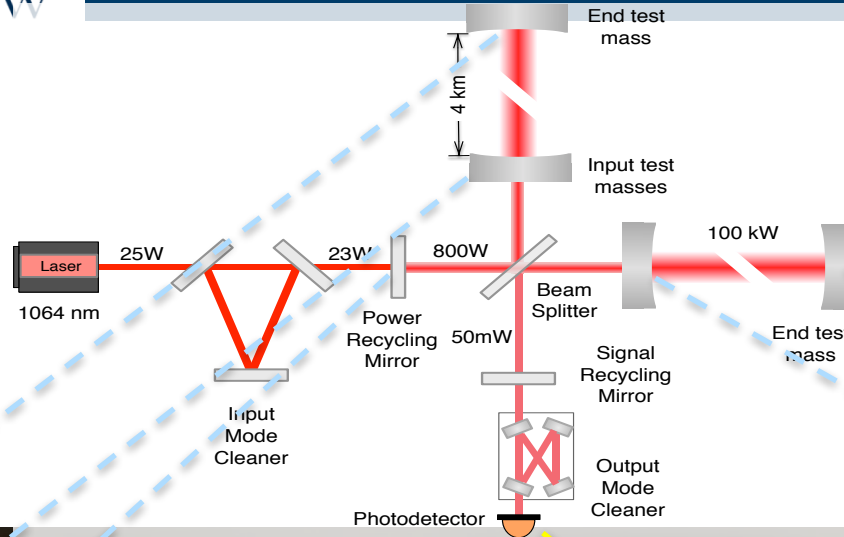
- Classify transient noise of same time-freq characteristics may help to identify the source and correct the issue:



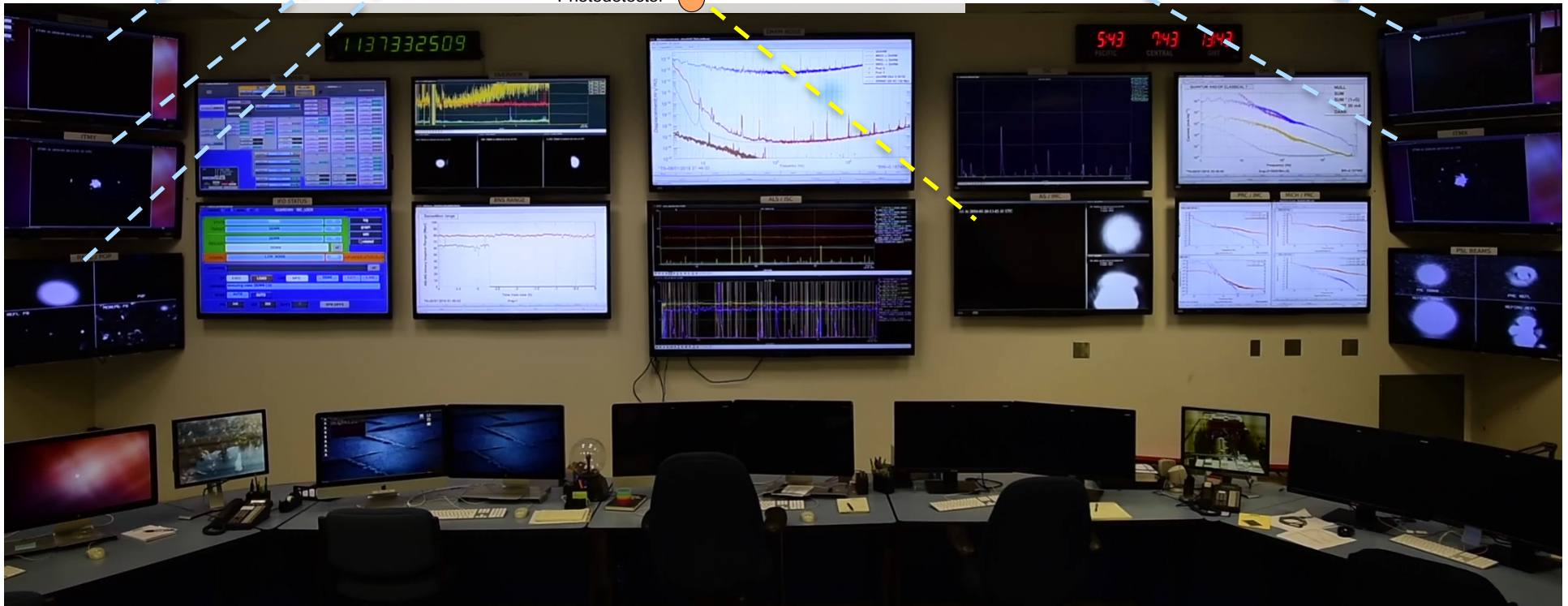
## Atlas Computer Cluster (Hanover, Alemania)



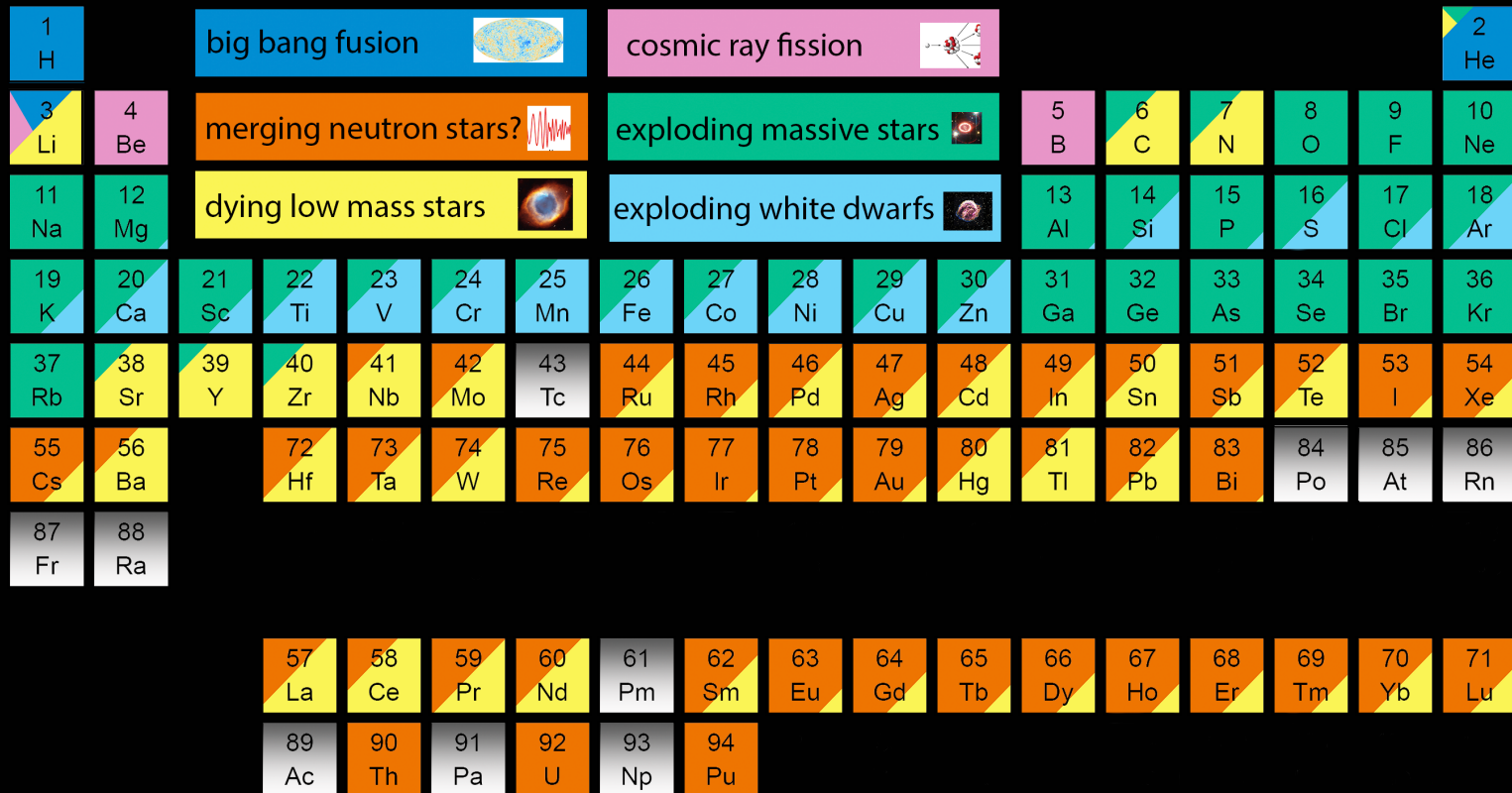
- GW data analysis requires computer cluster
- Atlas cluster (operated by the AEI) is the most powerful LSC cluster
  - 3330 compute nodes (each with at least 4 CPU cores)
  - 850 GPUs
  - 5 Petabyte hard disks (data storage + 4.5PB magnetic tape)
  - 400 TeraFLOP/s (computational power)



- Optical power aLIGO (O1).
- 8 less power than their capacity.

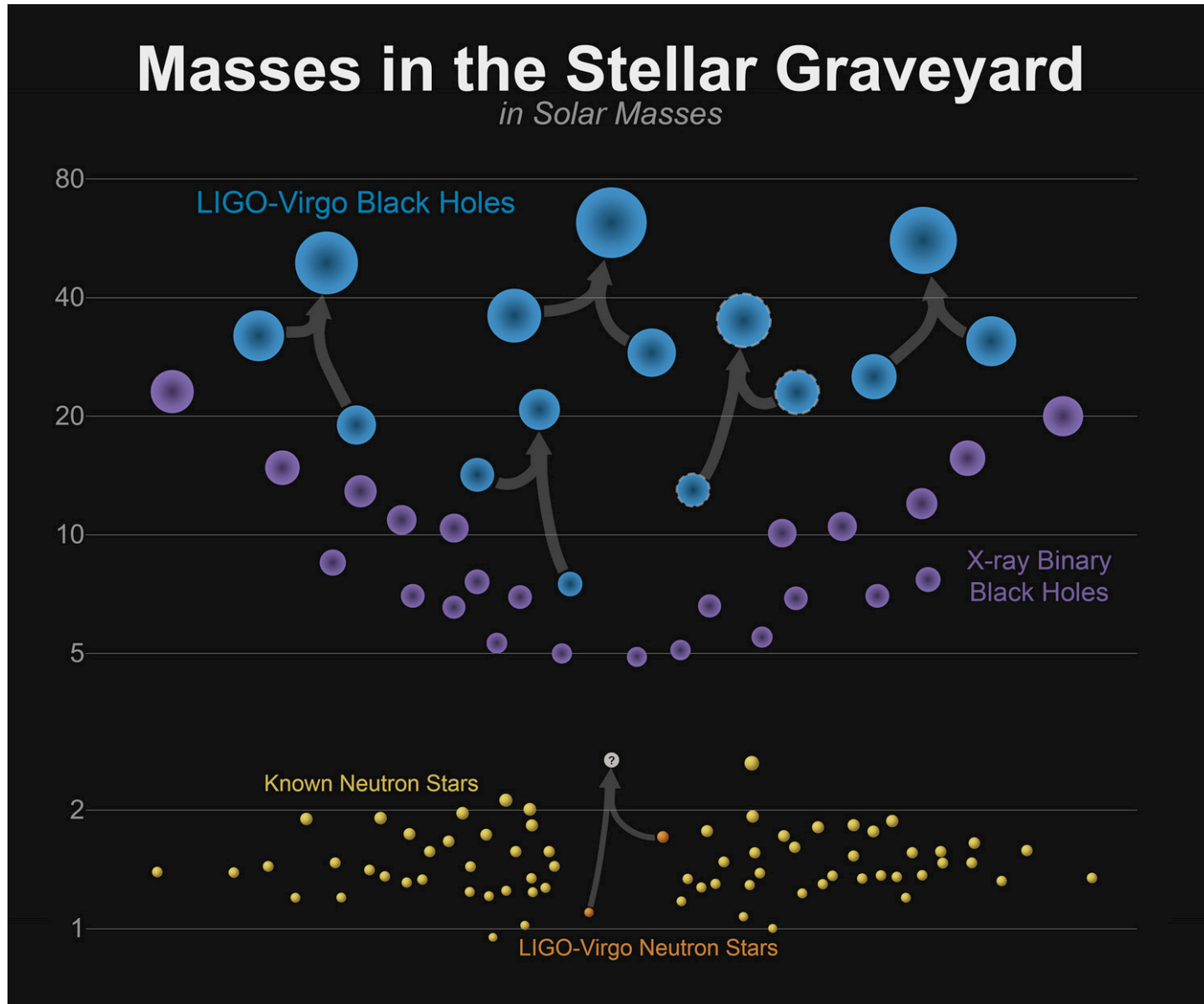


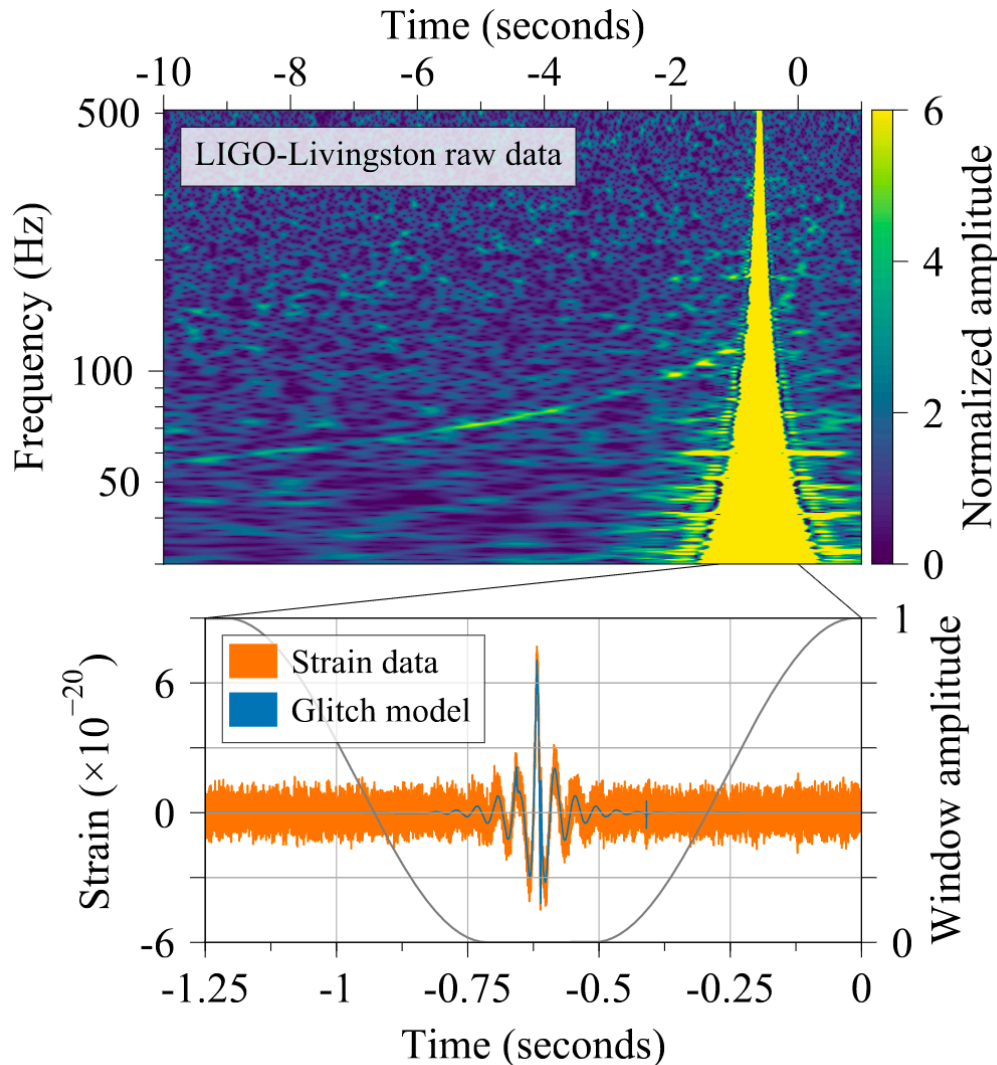
# The Origin of the Solar System Elements



Graphic created by Jennifer Johnson  
<http://www.astronomy.ohio-state.edu/~jaj/nucleo/>

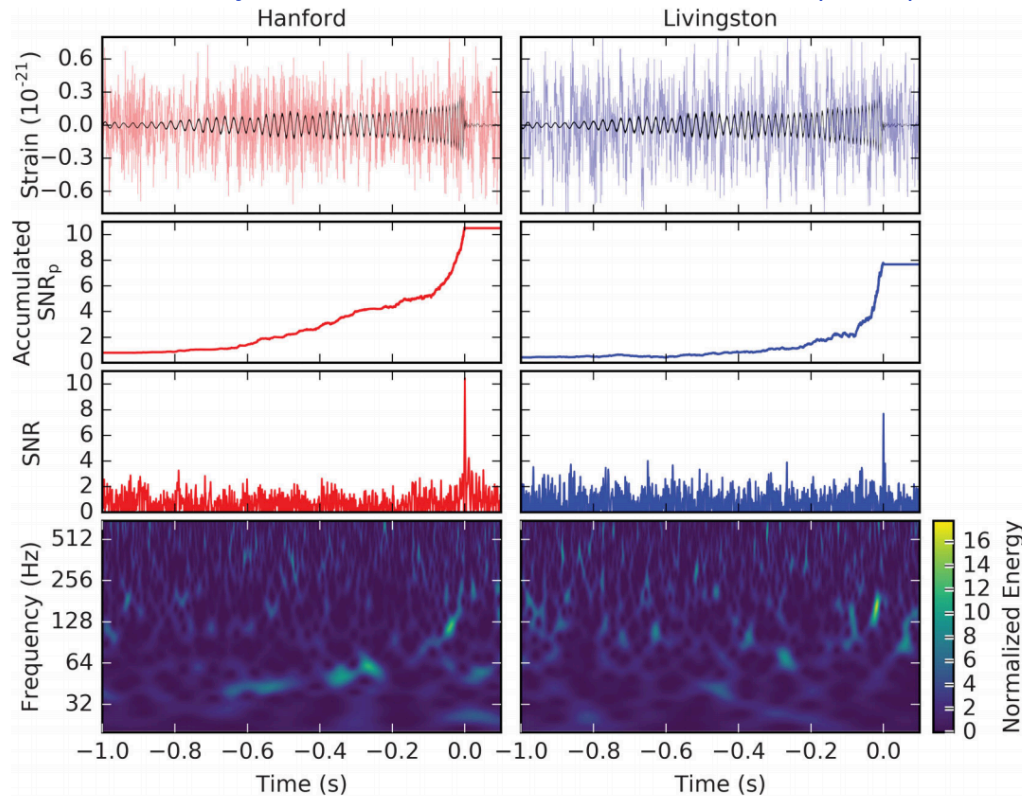
Astronomical Image Credits:  
 ESA/NASA/AASNova





- Instrumental Glitch, due to breve (5ms) saturations of DAC that provides control signal to the position of the test masses.
- Easy to remove after identifying and characterising type of glitch:
  - Fast analysis, detection: remove the time interval of the glitch (Tukey window).
  - Full analysis, parameter estimation: Glitch model and subtraction.

LVC , Physical Review Letters 116, 241103 (2016)



GW151226:

at 03:38:53 UTC

$14M_{\odot} + 8M_{\odot} = 21 M_{\odot}$

SNR = 13, > 5 sigmas

$E_{\text{radiated}} = 1M_{\odot}c^2$   
in 1 second

440 Mpc,  $z=0.09$

~1.4 billion light years

FIG. 1. GW151226 observed by the LIGO Hanford (left column) and Livingston (right column) detectors, where times are relative to December 26, 2015 at 03:38:53.648 UTC. *First row:* Strain data from the two detectors, where the data are filtered with a 30–600-Hz bandpass filter to suppress large fluctuations outside this range and band-reject filters to remove strong instrumental spectral lines [46]. Also shown (black) is the best-match template from a nonprecessing spin waveform model reconstructed using a Bayesian analysis [21] with the same filtering applied. As a result, modulations in the waveform are present due to this conditioning and not due to precession effects. The thickness of the line indicates the 90% credible region. See Fig. 5 for a reconstruction of the best-match template with no filtering applied. *Second row:* The accumulated peak signal-to-noise ratio ( $\text{SNR}_p$ ) as a function of time when integrating from the start of the best-match template, corresponding to a gravitational-wave frequency of 30 Hz, up to its merger time. The total accumulated  $\text{SNR}_p$  corresponds to the peak in the next row. *Third row:* Signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) time series produced by time shifting the best-match template waveform and computing the integrated SNR at each point in time. The peak of the SNR time series gives the merger time of the best-match template for which the highest overlap with the data is achieved. The single-detector SNRs in LIGO Hanford and Livingston are 10.5 and 7.9, respectively, primarily because of the detectors’ differing sensitivities. *Fourth row:* Time-frequency representation [47] of the strain data around the time of GW151226. In contrast to GW150914 [4], the signal is not easily visible.