About gravitational wave detectors

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The gravitational wave (GW) spectrum



Ground-based interferometers (GW in the range 10 Hz to few kHz)



Detecting gravitational waves with ground-based interferometers



Masses in motion Space-time deformation Gravitational wave

$$\delta L_x(t) = \frac{1}{2} h(t) L_0$$

h(t): amplitude of the GW (*h* has no dimension)





For GW170814, first Virgo detected event: $h = 5x10^{-22} \rightarrow \delta L = \pm 0.8 \times 10^{-18} m$

An international network of detectors



- ✓ Rejection of spurious local noise (coincidence) \rightarrow better sensitivity
- ✓ Source localisation (triangulation)
- ✓ Wave polarization

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 \rightarrow astronomy

Optical configuration, detector controls and hints of detectors sensitivity







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Simple Michelson interferometer



Longitudinally-controlled Michelson interferometer



Power variations as a function of small differential length variations

$$\delta P_t = P_i C \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \sin\left(\frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \Delta L_0\right) \delta \Delta L$$

 $\delta P_t \propto \delta \Delta L = hL_0$ around the working point !



A hint of (shot-noise limited) sensitivity



Response of recycled Michelson with Fabry-Perot cavities:

$$\delta P_t = \frac{G_{PR}}{G_{PR}} P_i C \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \sin\left(\frac{4\pi}{\lambda}\Delta L_0\right) \frac{2\mathcal{F}}{\pi} \delta \Delta L$$

Laser wavelength	$\lambda = 1064 \text{ nm}$
Input power	$P_i \sim 100 \ {\rm W}$
Interferometer contrast	$C \sim 1$
Cavity finesse	$\mathcal{F} \sim 450$
Power recycling gain	$G_{PR} \sim 38$
Working point	$\Delta L_0 \sim 10^{-11} \mathrm{\ m}$

 $\delta \Delta L_{min} \sim 5 \times 10^{-20} \text{ m}$ Shot noise due to output power of $\sim 50 \text{ mW}$ $\rightarrow h_{min} = \frac{\delta \Delta L_{min}}{L} \sim 10^{-23}$ $\rightarrow \delta P_{t.min} \sim 0.1 \,\mathrm{nW}$

Advanced Virgo optical layout



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Controlling the working point of the interferometer



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A cavity to clean the interferometer output beam



Control of the cavity length to keep resonance of the Gaussian mode of main beam

- Peltier cell
- Piezo actuator



Main features of the output mode cleaner cavities



→ Need a precise control the cavity length: lock precision: few 10⁻¹² m limited by thermo-refractive noise (40-900 Hz)



Optical losses

Absorption in the substrate ~0.06 % - negligible

Scattering (1% for each OMC) - polishing of reflective surfaces

Beam matching on first OMC (2%) - mode matching and alignment

Beam matching between both OMCs (0.85%) - mode matching, polarization, alignment

13 cNm

17 cNm



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4 cNm

Current technological challenges

- Reducing quantum noise
- Reducing thermal noise
- > Reduction of technical noise



Reducing quantum noise



Quantum noise: shot noise and radiation pressure noise



Working point close to a dark fringe

Signal related to phase offset

 \rightarrow fluctuations of the phase

Photon shot noise

 $\propto \frac{\text{Phase fluctuation}}{\text{Laser power}}$

 \rightarrow fluctuations of the mirror positions

Radiation pressure noise

 \propto Amplitude fluctuation x Laser power

Quantum noise in the sensitivity



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but increase radiation pressure noise contribution

Reduction of photon shot noise: high power laser

Goal for AdV:

continuous 200 W laser, stable monomode beam (TEM00), 1064 nm

frequency pre-stabilisation 1 Hz linewidth low power noise (~10⁻⁹ /sqrt(Hz) in AdV bandwidth) low beam jitter <10⁻¹¹ rad/sqrt(Hz) at 10 Hz

R&D

- 1 W seed, amplified to 100 or 200 W
 - Two 100 W laser with coherence addition?
 - → A direct 200 W laser?





Thermal effects in the interferometer mirrors

 \rightarrow need of thermal compensation system

Parametric instabilities

coupling of laser high order modes with mirror modes

Reduction of photon shot noise: squeezing





Installed in Virgo and LIGO Commissioning on-going (currently 0.5 dB improvement) \rightarrow constraints on optical losses, beam matching and alignment, ...



Reducing thermal noise



Thermal noise

Microscopic thermal fluctuations

 \rightarrow dissipation of energy through excitation of the macroscopic modes of the mirror



We want high quality factors Q to concentrate all the noise in a small frequency band



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Reduction of thermal noise: monolithic suspensions



Increase the quality factor of the mirrors (wrt to steel wires)

Fused silica 400 µm diameter, increasing to ~ 1 mm at both ends 0.7 m length Load stress: 800 Mpa



Installed in Virgo in 2010 But failures in 2015/2016... (vacuum cleanliness issues) ... now fixed, re-installed beginning 2017

Reduction of thermal noise: mirror coating



40 kg mirrors of Advanced Virgo 35 cm diameter, 40 cm width

Currently the main source of thermal noise

Substrate at room temperature: Suprasil fused silica

R&D to improve mechanical properties of coating still controlling optical properties larger coating size

Cryogenics mirrors (at Kagra, future detectors) other substrate other coating other wavelength

 \rightarrow talk by J. Degallaix!

Reduction of thermal noise: larger beams... and mirrors



Larger beam (currently 5-6 cm radius on mirrors) Average mirror fluctuations on larger surface

Lower noise from surface fluctuations

Need of R&D for larger beams

- \rightarrow larger mirrors (and heavier)
 - \rightarrow mechanical constraints on mirror suspensions
 - \rightarrow larger size of coating
 - \rightarrow upgrade of optical benches to detect output beams
- \rightarrow use high-order modes instead of TEM00 Gaussian mode?

(Heavier mirrors \rightarrow reduce the radiation pressure quantum noise)

Two last examples



Newtonian noise cancellation and smart infrastructure





Reduction of Newtonian noise

→ **R&D for "smart infrastructure"** (low noise air conditioning, fans, ...)

A "technical noise": scattered light



Reducing the amount of scattered light

Better optics (polishing) and beam dumps New baffles to absorb light and ghost beams in the tubes and towers, around the mirrors



Reduce the coupling with seismic/acoustic noise

10²

Optical benches suspended and placed in vacuum

limited number of cables (power, data) space and load constraints, thermal constraints bench position control \rightarrow integrated electronics



 10^{3}

On-going commissioning... towards O3



Run O3 starts ... "not before end of March"

Goal is 60 Mpc range

Mystery flat noise...

We have worked for improving the sensitivity since years... now we start to also improve the precision !

 \rightarrow talk by D. Estevez !

Pulsar Timing Arrays





GW detection principle with pulsar timing arrays



 $\begin{array}{l} GW \ search \ in \ the \ range \ 1 \ nHz \ to \ 1 \ \mu Hz \\ \rightarrow \ coalescence \ of \ supermassive \ black \ holes, \ ... \end{array}$

Arrays of radio telescopes

- \rightarrow monitoring of ~20 millisecond pulsars
- \rightarrow pulse timing deviation of ~10's ns over a year systematic uncertainties to be reduced!

Data taking on-going Adding new telescopes/new pulsars → stay tuned for GW detection!

Probing the gravitational wave spectrum!







Einstein Telescope Cosmic Explorer

LISA



 \rightarrow talk by R. Bonnand!