Introduction to recycling cavities (for people who have never heard of them)

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A simplified GW detector



Several optical resonant cavities



Several optical resonant cavities



In fact 2, recycling cavities



Several optical resonant cavities



Not a recent idea...

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Experimental Demonstration of Dual Recycling for Interferometric Gravitational-Wave Detectors K. A. Strain and B. J. Meers

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS



FIG. 1. Simplified optical arrangement of an interferometer with dual recycling. M_0 resonates the laser power while M_3 resonates the signal sidebands.

Demonstration of light recycling in a Michelson interferometer with Fabry–Perot cavities

Peter Fritschel, David Shoemaker, and Rainer Weiss



Fig. 1. (a) Optical elements of a recycled Michelson interferometer with Fabry-Perot cavities in the arms. (b) When the interferometer is operating at the dark fringe of the antisymmetric output, the two arms and beam splitter are modeled by one arm cavity, creating a three-mirror cavity. (c) The arm cavity is then modeled by a single mirror, having reflection and transmission coefficients of a Fabry-Perot cavity. The tilde denotes a complex quantity.

Power recycling: LIGO, Virgo, TAMA Dual recycling: GEO, Adv. LIGO, Adv. Virgo, KAGRA

Cavity geometry

Marginally stable





- More compact
- No focusing element
- More sensitive to aberrations
- Required telescopes before/after



- with focusing element
- easier to simulate
- relax the telescopes magnification before/after

Cavity geometry



- with focusing element
- easier to simulate
- relax the telescopes magnification before/after

Other considerations

- Optical loss less critical in the recycling cavities (compared to the arms)
- Could add element to control/ tune the interferometer



- two more longitudinal degrees of freedom to control (+ alignment)
- add complexity to the control of other cavities
- could provide pick off beams for control

Conclusion

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- Recycling cavities contribute to improve the sensitivity of the detector and are mandatory.
- Design is a transverse work as it could impact other divisions/Wps.
- And so this meeting today, before we enter in the more comprehensive simulation/design work.