The Virgo detector

The Virgo detector

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Table of contents

Principles

- Effect of GW on free-fall masses
- Basic detection principle overview

Virgo optical configuration, or how to measure 10⁻²⁰ m?

- Simple Michelson interferometer
- How do we improve the detector sensitivity?

How do we measure the GW strain, h(t), from this detector?

Some noises of the Virgo detector

What is a noise? Some examples of noise in Virgo

Prospectives of gravitational wave astronomy

Reminder: effect of a GW on free masses

A gravitational wave (GW) modifies the distance between free-fall masses



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A general overview of the Virgo detector



The interference pattern depends on ΔL : $\Delta L(t) = l_x(t) - l_y(t)$

Length of the arms: $L_0 = 3$ km

Virgo: a more complicated interferometer

Suspended mirrors

 \rightarrow Mirrors can be considered as free for frequencies larger than ~10 Hz



Orders of magnitude



Typical amplitude of differential arm length variations when a GW crosses the Earth:

$$\delta \Delta L = \delta l_x(t) - \delta l_y(t)$$
$$= h(t) L_0$$

h ~
$$10^{-23}$$
 $L_0 = 3 \text{ km}$
 $\rightarrow \delta \Delta L \sim 3 \times 10^{-20} \text{ m}$
 $\sim \frac{\text{size of a proton}}{100000}$

How and for what did you use interferometers?



Wavelength of monochromatic source Sodium doublet wavelength separation





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Part 2: Virgo optical configuration

Reminder about electromagnetic waves and planes waves

How do we "observe" Δ L with a Michelson interferometer? Measurement of a power variations From power variations to Δ L (or to gravitational wave amplitude h)

Improving the interferometer

How do we increase the power on the beam-splitter mirror? How do we amplify the phase offset between the arms?

Electromagnetic waves





- Propagation of a perturbation of electric and magnetic fields
 - Direction of propagation: along k
 - E and B are in phase, and with perpendicular directions
 - E and B are perpendicular to the direction of propagation of the wave (transverse wave)
- Amplitude: amplitude of the E (or B) field,
- Two polarisations: defined by the direction of E (or B)

9

 $\vec{B} = \frac{\vec{k} \times \vec{E}}{-}$

Description of plane waves



Complex form

$$U(z,t) = A_0 e^{j(kz-\omega t+\epsilon)}$$
$$= \underline{\mathcal{A}}_0 e^{j(kz+\epsilon)} \quad \text{with} \quad \underline{\mathcal{A}}_0 = A_0 e^{-j\omega t}$$



--> simpler algebraic calculations, for example $P \propto |U|^2 = UU^*$ --> real plane wave is the real part: $\Re(U(z,t)) = A(z,t)$

 Plane waves do not exist but they are a good approximation of many waves in localised region of space

- Input wave $U_i(x,t) = \underline{A}_i e^{jkx}$ = \underline{A}_i on BS
- BS located at (0,0)
- Sensor located at (0,-y_s)
- Amplitude reflection and transmission coefficients: $_{r}$ and $_{t}$

→ We are interested in the beam transmitted by the interferometer: it is the sum of the two beams (fields) that have propagated along each arm



Around the mirrors:

- Radius of curvature of the beam ~ 1400 m
- Size of the beam ~ few cm

 \rightarrow The beam can be approximated by plane waves

• Input wave $U_i(x,t) = \underline{\mathcal{A}}_i e^{jkx}$

 $= \underline{\mathcal{A}}_i$ on BS

• Beam propagating along x-arm:

 $U_{tx} = \underline{\mathcal{A}}_i t_{BS} e^{\mathbf{j}kl_x} \dots$



- Input wave $U_i(x,t) = \underline{\mathcal{A}}_i e^{jkx}$
 - $= \underline{\mathcal{A}}_i$ on BS
- Beam propagating along x-arm:

$$U_{tx} = \underline{\mathcal{A}}_i t_{BS} e^{jkl_x} \quad (-r_x) e^{jkl_x} \dots$$



• Input wave $U_i(x,t) = \underline{\mathcal{A}}_i e^{jkx}$

$$= \underline{\mathcal{A}}_i$$
 on BS

• Beam propagating along x-arm:

$$U_{tx} = \underline{\mathcal{A}}_i t_{BS} e^{jkl_x} \quad (-r_x)e^{jkl_x} \quad r_{BS} e^{jky_s}$$



- Input wave $U_i(x,t) = \underline{\mathcal{A}}_i e^{jkx}$ = $\overline{\mathcal{A}}_i$ on BS
- Beam propagating along x-arm:

$$U_{tx} = \underline{A}_{i} t_{BS} e^{jkl_{x}} (-r_{x}) e^{jkl_{x}} r_{BS} e^{jky_{s}} U_{i}$$

$$= \underline{A}_{i} t_{BS} r_{BS} (-r_{x}) e^{2jkl_{x}} e^{jky_{s}}$$

$$= \frac{\underline{A}_{i}}{2} \times (-r_{x} e^{2jkl_{x}}) e^{jky_{s}} \text{ with } t_{BS} = r_{BS} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$
Complex reflection of the x-arm



Input wave $U_i(x,t) = \mathcal{A}_i e^{\mathbf{j}kx}$ \mathbf{r}_{u} $= \mathcal{A}_i$ on BS Beam-splitter (BS) Beam propagating along x-arm: Input beam $U_{tx} = \mathcal{A}_i t_{BS} e^{jkl_x} \quad (-r_x)e^{jkl_x} \quad r_{BS} e^{jky_s}$ l_x U_i t_{BS} $= \mathcal{A}_i t_{BS} r_{BS} \left(-r_x\right) e^{2\mathbf{j}kl_x} e^{\mathbf{j}ky_s}$ U_t ▼ Transmitted $= \frac{\mathcal{A}_i}{2} \times \left(-r_x e^{2jkl_x} \right) e^{jky_s} \quad \text{with } \mathbf{t}_{BS} = r_{BS} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ Sensor Complex reflection of the x-arm Beam propagating along y-arm: +Transmitted field: $U_{ty} = -\frac{\mathcal{A}_i}{2} \times \left(-r_y \, e^{2\mathbf{j}kl_y}\right) e^{\mathbf{j}ky_s}$ $U_t = U_{tx} + U_{ty}$ $= \frac{\mathcal{A}_i}{2} e^{jky_s} \left(r_y e^{2jkl_y} - r_x e^{2jkl_x} \right)$ Complex reflection of the y-arm

 \mathbf{r}_{x}

Power transmitted by a simple Michelson

• Transmitted field:
$$U_t = \frac{A_i}{2} e^{jky_s} \left(r_y e^{2jkl_y} - r_x e^{2jkl_x} \right)$$

Calculation of the transmitted power:

$$P_t \propto |U_t|^2 = \frac{P_{max}}{2} \left(1 - C \cos(\phi) \right) \quad \text{where } \phi = 2k(l_y - l_x)$$
$$C = 2 \frac{r_x r_y}{r_x^2 + r_y^2}$$
$$P_{max} = \frac{P_i}{2} (r_x^2 + r_y^2)$$



What power does Virgo measure?

- In general, the beam is not a plane wave but a spherical wave
 - \rightarrow interference pattern

(and the complementary pattern in reflection)

- Virgo interference pattern much larger than the beam size:
 - ~1 m between two consecutive fringes
 - \rightarrow we do not study the fringes in nice $\mbox{ images }!$



Equivalent size of Virgo beam



Arm length regularly increasing

Setting a working point



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From the power to the gravitational wave

$$P_t = \frac{P_i}{2} \left(1 - C \cos(\phi) \right) \quad \text{where } \phi = 2 \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (l_y - l_x)$$

• Around the working point:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}P_t}{\mathrm{d}\phi}\Big|_{\phi_0} = \frac{P_i}{2}C\,\sin(\phi_0) \quad \text{where } \phi_0 = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda}\Delta L_0$$

• Power variations as function of small differential length variations:

$$\delta P_t = \frac{P_i}{2} C \sin(\phi_0) \delta \phi$$
$$\delta P_t = P_i C \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \sin\left(\frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \Delta L_0\right) \delta \Delta L$$

 $\delta P_t \propto \delta \Delta L = h L_0$ around the working point !

 Φ (rad

From the power to the gravitational wave

Around the working point:



Improving the interferometer sensitivity



The Virgo detector – Optical configuration -In Virgo, the beam is resonant inside the Cavities



Average number of light round-trips in the cavity:

$$N = \frac{2\mathcal{F}}{\pi}$$

How do we amplify the phase offset?



(instead of $r_{armx} = -1 \times e^{j2k(L_x + \delta L_x)}$ in the arm of a simple Michelson)

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How do we increase the power on BS?

Detector working point close to a dark fringe → most of power go back towards the laser



Resonant power recycling cavity



The improved interferometer response

Response of simple Michelson:

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

 $\delta P_t = (\underbrace{\text{Michelson response}}_{\text{(W/m)}}) \times \delta \Delta L$



Response of recycled Michelson with Fabry-Perot cavities:

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

$$\sim 38 \qquad \sim 300$$
For the same $\delta \Delta L$,
$$\delta P_t$$
 has been increased

by a factor ~ 12000 .

A hint of AdvancedVirgo sensitivity

Locon



depends on frequency...

Response of recycled Michelson with Fabry-Perot cavities:

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

wavelength $\lambda = 1064$ nm

Laser wavelength	$\lambda = 1004 \text{ mm}$
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	$\Delta L_0 \sim 10^{-11} \text{ m}$

Shot noise due to output power of ~ 50 mW

$$\rightarrow \delta P_{t,min} \sim 0.1 \,\mathrm{nW}$$
 $\longrightarrow \delta \Delta L_{min} \sim 5 \times 10^{-20} \,\mathrm{m}$
In reality, the detector response $\rightarrow h_{min} = \frac{\delta \Delta L_{min}}{L} \sim 10^{-23}$

Optical layout of Virgo



Part 3: How do we measure the GW strain, h(t), from this detector?

Notes about data processing Controlling the interferometer working point A glimpse on the calibration and h(t) reconstruction Data collection The Virgo detector – How do we measure the GW strain, h(t), from this detector ?

Notes about data processing: digitisation



The Virgo detector – How do we measure the GW strain, h(t), from this detector ? Notes about data processing: spectral analysis

A signal can be decomposed in different frequency components.



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The Virgo detector – How do we measure the GW strain, h(t), from this detector ?

How do we control the working point?



We want $\Delta L_0 = n \frac{\lambda}{2} + 10^{-11} \,\mathrm{m}$ to be (almost) fixed! Control loop done for noises with f between ~10 Hz and ~100 Hz Precision of the control ~ 10⁻¹⁶ m



The Virgo detector – How do we measure the GW strain, h(t), from this detector ?

From the detector data to the GW strain h(t)

- High frequency (>100 Hz): mirrors behave as free falling masses $\rightarrow h(t) = \frac{\delta \Delta L_{true}(t)}{L_0}$
- Lower frequency: the controls attenuate the noise... but also the GW signal! \rightarrow the control signals contain information on h(t)



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Part 4: Virgo noises



What is noise in Virgo?

 Stochastic (random) signal that contributes to the signal h_{rec}(t) but does not contain information on the gravitational wave strain h_{GW}(t)

 $h_{rec}(t) = h_{noise}(t) + h_{GW}(t)$



How do we characterise noise?



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of its Fourier spectrum

$$\rightarrow D(k)$$
 in units/ \sqrt{Hz}

Assumption: noise is random and ergodic

 $ASD = \sqrt{PSD} = \sqrt{\frac{|DFT|^2}{T}}$ \rightarrow noise characterised by its amplitude spectral density (ASD)



Random gaussian noise 1 count/√Hz

Sampled at 10 kHz

40

From h_{rec}(t) to Virgo sensitivity curve

1/ Reconstruction of h(t)

$$h_{rec}(t) = h_{noise}(t) + h_{GW}(t)$$



2/ Amplitude spectral density of *h(t)* (noise standard deviation over 1 s)

~10⁻¹⁹ m/√Hz (Virgo, 2011) -~10⁻²⁰ m/√Hz (Advanced Virgo, 2020)





Image: Danna Berry/SkyWorks/NASA

Compact Binary Coalescences Signal lasts for a few seconds \rightarrow can detect h ~ 10⁻²³



Image: B. Saxton (NRAO/AUI/NSF)

Rotating neutron stars Signal averaged over days (~10⁶ s) \rightarrow can detect h ~ 10⁻²⁶

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What is the noise level in Virgo? Fondamental noises



Seismic noise and suspended mirrors



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Seismic noise and the Virgo suspension



Passive attenuation: 7 pendulum in cascade

At 10 Hz:
$$\frac{x_{mirror}}{x_{ground}} \sim (10^{-2})^7 = 10^{-14}$$

 $x_{ground} \sim 10^{-9} \,\mathrm{m}/\sqrt{\mathrm{Hz}}$
 $\Rightarrow x_{mirror} \sim 10^{-23} \,\mathrm{m}/\sqrt{\mathrm{Hz}}$

This noise directly modifies the positions of the mirror surfaces, and thus $\delta\Delta L$ and $h_{rec}(t)$!

Active controls at low frequency

- Accelerometers or interferometer data
- Electromagnetic actuators
- Control loops

What is thermal noise

Microscopic thermal fluctuations

--> dissipation of energy through excitation of the macroscopic modes of the mirror



This noise directly modifies the positions of the mirror surfaces, and thus $\delta \Delta L$ and $h_{rec}(t)$!

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

Thermal noise mitigation

Monolithic suspensions

Monolithic suspension developed in labs in Perugia and Rome

Mirror coatings

- currently main source of thermal noise
- very high quality mirror coatings developed at Lyon (LMA)
- active R&D activities to improve performances, new materials, ...
- cryogenic mirrors to be used at Kagra + future detectors

Reduction of noise coupling with the beam

• use of larger laser beams (thermal noise ~1/laser beam)







40 kg mirrors 35 cm diameter 40 cm width Suprasil fused silica

What is the shot noise?



Fluctuations of arrival times of photons (quantum noise)

Power received by the photodiode: P_t $\rightarrow N = \frac{P_t}{h\nu}$ photons/s on average.



Standard deviation on this number: $\sigma_N = \sqrt{N}$

 $\rightarrow \sigma_{P_t} = \sigma_N \times h\nu = \sqrt{\frac{P}{h\nu}h\nu} = \sqrt{P_th\nu}$

Virgo laser: $\lambda = 1.064 \,\mu\text{m} \rightarrow \nu = \frac{c}{\lambda} \sim 2.8 \times 10^{14} \,\text{Hz}$ Working point: $P_t \sim 80 \,\text{mW} \rightarrow \sigma_{P_t} = 0.1 \,\text{nW}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$

 \rightarrow – a variation of power is interpreted as a variation of distance $\delta\Delta L$

$$\delta P_t = (\text{Virgo response}) \times L_0 \times h \qquad \qquad h_{equivalent} = \frac{1}{L_0} \frac{o_{P_t}}{(\text{Virgo response})} \\ \text{(in W/m)} \qquad \qquad \qquad h_{equivalent} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{P}}$$

Increasing the power to reduce shot noise?



But a lot of side effects

- ...increasing the radiation pressure noise at low frequency
- recycling cavities more difficult to control
- thermal absorption in the mirrors: optical lensing
 - \rightarrow need of complex thermal compensation system
 - \rightarrow high quality mirrors to reduce absorption
- parametric instabilities: coupling of laser high order modes with mirror mechanical modes

Reduction of quantum noise: with squeezing

→ How to reduce quantum noise without increasing laser power?

Optical field models





interferences

Interferometer operating close to a dark fringe

- The laser is reflected back to the injection
- A vacuum fied enters the interferometer from the output port
- \rightarrow shot noise arises from the vacuum state phase variations
- \rightarrow radiation pressure noise arises from the vacuum state amplitude variations

Injecting squeezed vacuum states in the interferometer



Time

 X_{11} : amplitude

 \rightarrow Installed in Virgo in 2020-2021 New filter cavity of 300 m Strong constraints on optical losses, beam matching, alignment,...

Some other gaussian noises

- Acoustic vibrations and refraction index fluctuations
 - Main elements installed in vacuum
- Laser: amplitude, frequency, jitter noise
 - Lots of control loops to reduce these noises



- Electronics noise
- Challenge for the electronics engineers to measure down to 0.1 nW/sqrt(Hz)
- Non-linear noise from diffuse light
 - Need dedicated optical elements with specific mechanical modes

Another source of noise: diffused light

Optical element (mirror, lens, ...) vibrating due to seismic or acoustic noises

> Incident laser beam



some photons of the diffused light get recombined with the interferometer beam



Evolutions done since ~2015: suspend the optical benches and place them under vacuum



Example of a Virgo noise budget

Goal: modelize and/or measure all known noises check if their sum matches the sensitivity curve... or if there is still unexplained sources of noise



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Part 5: prospectives for gravitationnal wave astronomy



A worldwide network of interferometers: LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA



- ► (Confirm a detection)
- ► Determine the position of a GW source
- Decompose the GW polarisation

Multi-messenger astronomy

Astrophysical alerts



GCN (GRBs) Swift, Fermi, INTEGRAL, ... SNEWS (supernova) IceCube, Super-K, SNO, LVD

Alerts in LIGO-Virgo control rooms

Specific analysis (on-line and later)

Online GW candidates (LIGO-Virgo)

+ checks by rapid response team (operators on sites + remote scientists on shift)

Few minutes

Alerts for the observatories

Radio and optical telescopes ROTSE, TAROT, SkyMapper, QUEST, Pi of the Sky, Zadko, Liverpool Telescope, LOFAR

X-ray satellites Swift/XRT

γ-ray telescopes HESS, CTA



Increase the significance of the events

Better understand the physics of the sources

Range of Advanced detectors



Distance at which a neutron star binary coalescence (1.4 $\rm M_{\odot}$ - 1.4 $\rm M_{\odot}$) can be seen with signal-to-noise ratio of 8

Improving the sensitivity (or range) by a factor 10

Increase the volume (or event rate) by $10^3 = 1000$



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LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA have started observations



O1, O2, O3 runs: almost 100 sources detected

mainly coalesces of binary black holes

a few coalescences of binary neutron stars, GW170817 with multimessenger observations! a few coalescences of neutron star-black hole

discoveries of particular events (high mass black holes, objects of type unclear,) starting population studies (statistical studies)

O4 started on May 24th

regular detections + daily public alerts of sub-threshold events

Starting construction of hardware to be installed in 2025, for O5 run

Einstein Telescope and Cosmic Explorer projects

Third generation interferometer: gain another factor 10 in sensitivity and enlarge bandwidth

Einstein Telescope (Europe):

Located underground, with ~10 km arms Cryogenics to reduce thermal noise Xylophone configuration? cold + hot interferometers in parallel

Cosmic Explorer (US):

With ~40 km arms



In operation after 2036+?

At design sensitivity, could probe CBC signals from a large fraction of the Universe

From Virgo to Einstein Telescope

Some urgent technical and design issues to tackle in Virgo

+ work on optical simulations to understand complex effects

Thinking to Virgo_nEXT project

use the Virgo infrastructure to its best scientific potential seen as a R&D exploration towards E.T., to bridge Virgo to E.T. R&D of new technologies for E.T., to be tested on Virgo in the next decade

\rightarrow a lot of interesting experimental and data analysis developments for the next years!



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LISA: a spatial interferometer in construction

Bandwidth: 0.1 mHz to 1 Hz

Triangle with 2.5 million km arm length

Launch of LISA around 2035?

 $\rightarrow\,$ opration for 5 to 10 years





massive black hole binaries galactic binaries extreme mass-ratio inspirals

. . .



Pulsar Timing Arrays

Bandwidth: nHz to 100 nHz

Observation of ~20 pulsars in radio

weekly sampling over years GW cause the time of arrival of the pulses to vary by a few tens of nanoseconds over their wavelength

International network

Parkes PTA North American NanoHertz Gravitational Wave Observatory European PTA





Super massive black hole binaries



 \rightarrow First hints of signals in the last years....

Still a lot of gravitational fun in front of us!

