

# Ground Detectors (LIGO/Virgo and ET)

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Principle of detection
Beating the noise
Selected technologies
Now and future detectors

# I. Principle of detection

# Effect of gravitational waves Free falling masses Amplitude



**Example for one polarisation** 5

# 2 kind of polarisations



polarisation x

#### Gravitational wave amplitude



# Gravitational wave amplitude

Quadrupole formula :





Typical amplitude for the fusion of 2 black holes

$$h = 1,5 \times 10^{-21} \left(\frac{Mass}{30 M_{\odot}}\right) \left(\frac{400 Mpc}{Distance}\right) \left(\frac{Frequency GW}{50 Hz}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Freq. GW = 2 × orbital frequency

#### Order of magnitude $\Delta L = 0.5 h \times L$

If  $h \sim 10^{-21}$  so we should measure :

#### The distance Sun – Proxima Centauri with an accuracy of 0.02 mm

Or 2 km with an accuracy of 10<sup>-18</sup> meter !

# A more rigorous approach



Starting from the Einstein equation and calculating the round trip time of the light.

Assuming a plane wave monochromatic GW:

 $h(t) = h_0 \cos(\pmb{\omega}_{\rm GW} t)$ 

# Modulation of the round trip time



1. For low frequency, we found the usual formula

- 2. The modulation sign is reversed for the other transverse direction (with + polarisation)
- 3. No effect for certain GW frequencies

4. RT time change could be seen as a length change or light phase shift

# II. Michelson interferometer

# A brief history

1916 – first calculation

1957 - accepted reality of GW

1960 - first detector

- 1970 idea of laser interferometers
- 2008 data taking with giant interferometers
- 2015 first detection
- 2020 weekly detections of GW sources









#### A network of detectors



#### Antenna pattern of the detector



You have some blind spots !

#### The simplest Michelson interferometer



# Propagating the electric field

# Starting field : $E_{0} \label{eq:eq:entropy}$

After propagating along a distance L :  $E_1=e^{-ikL}E_0$ 

#### Dealing with the beam splitter (separating the light 50/50):



#### **Convention name for the electric fields**



# **Field equations**

$$\begin{split} E_{\rm Mich}^{\rm BP} &= \left( r_{\rm BS}^2 r_{\rm EM} e^{-i2kL_{\rm N}} - t_{\rm BS}^2 r_{\rm EM} e^{-i2kL_{\rm E}} \right) E_0 \\ E_{\rm Mich}^{\rm DP} &= \left( ir_{\rm BS} t_{\rm BS} r_{\rm EM} e^{-i2kL_{\rm N}} + ir_{\rm BS} t_{\rm BS} r_{\rm EM} e^{-i2kL_{\rm E}} \right) E_0 \end{split}$$

#### Introducing differential and common lengths for the arms :

$$\begin{array}{rcl} L_{-} & = & \frac{L_{N} - L_{E}}{2} \\ L_{+} & = & \frac{L_{N} + L_{E}}{2} \end{array} \end{array} \xrightarrow{\hspace{1.5cm}} L_{N} & = & L_{+} + L_{-} \\ L_{E} & = & L_{+} - L_{-} \end{array}$$

Finally, we arrived at :

$$\begin{split} E_{\rm Mich}^{\rm BP} &= \left(-ie^{-2kL+}\sin(2kL-)\right)r_{\rm EM}E_0\\ E_{\rm Mich}^{\rm DP} &= \left(-ie^{-2kL+}\cos(2kL-)\right)r_{\rm EM}E_0 \end{split}$$

# **Field equations**

$$E_{\text{Mich}}^{\text{BP}} = \left(-ie^{-2kL+}\sin(2kL-)\right)r_{\text{EM}}E_{0}$$
$$E_{\text{Mich}}^{\text{DP}} = \left(-ie^{-2kL+}\cos(2kL-)\right)r_{\text{EM}}E_{0}$$

From the two above equations :

- 1. Energy is preserved between the 2 ports
- 2. Common motion induces only a phase shift
- 3. Differential motion modulates the powers

The differential phase between the 2 arms due to the GW signal is converted to a variation of power at the dark port. Increase the phase difference to increase the signal !

# Finding the right operating point

Adding a differential length modulation due to a passing GW

$$\Delta L_{-} = \frac{1}{2} \left( L_{N} \left( 1 + \frac{h_{0}}{2} \cos \left( \boldsymbol{\omega}_{GW} t \right) \right) - L_{E} \left( 1 - \frac{h_{0}}{2} \cos \left( \boldsymbol{\omega}_{GW} t \right) \right) \right)$$

 $\Delta L_{-} = L_{-} + h_0 L_{+} \cos \left( \omega_{\rm GW} t \right)$ 

Since the amplitude of the GW is very small :  $\frac{\cos(a + x\cos b)}{\sin(a + x\cos b)} \simeq \frac{\cos(a) - x\sin(a)\cos(b)}{\sin(a + x\cos b)} \simeq \frac{\sin(a) - x\cos(a)\cos(b)}{\sin(a + x\cos b)}$ 

$$\begin{split} \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{Mich}}^{\mathrm{BP}} &\simeq & \left(-\mathrm{i}\mathrm{e}^{-2\mathrm{k}\mathrm{L}+}\left(\sin(2\mathrm{k}\mathrm{L}-)+2\mathrm{k}\mathrm{h}_{0}\mathrm{L}_{+}\cos(2\mathrm{k}\mathrm{L}_{-})\cos\left(\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\mathrm{GW}}t\right)\right)\right)\mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{EM}}\mathrm{E}_{0}\\ \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{Mich}}^{\mathrm{DP}} &\simeq & \left(\mathrm{i}\mathrm{e}^{-2\mathrm{k}\mathrm{L}+}\left(\cos(2\mathrm{k}\mathrm{L}-)-2\mathrm{k}\mathrm{h}_{0}\mathrm{L}_{+}\sin(2\mathrm{k}\mathrm{L}_{-})\cos\left(\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\mathrm{GW}}t\right)\right)\right)\mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{EM}}\mathrm{E}_{0} \end{split}$$

Need to be on the dark fringe to maximise the signal on the south port !

# Finding the right operating point

But, I do not measure an amplitude but a power with my photodiode...

$$\left|\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{Mich}}^{\mathrm{DP}}
ight|^{2}~~ \pmb{lpha}~~ \left|\cos(2\mathrm{kL-})-2\mathrm{kh}_{0}\mathrm{L_{+}}\sin(2\mathrm{kL_{-}})\cos\left(\pmb{\omega}_{\mathrm{GW}}\mathrm{t}
ight)
ight|^{2}$$

 $\alpha \quad \cos^2(2kL-) - 4kh_0L_+ \cos(2kL-)\sin(2kL_-)\cos(\omega_{GW}t) + \mathcal{O}(h_0^2)$ 

If perfectly on the dark fringe, signal proportional to  $h_0^2$ ,

Need to add a slight dark fringe offset to have a signal proportional to  $\boldsymbol{h}_0$ 

A closer look at the differential phase

Signal proportional to :  $kh_0L_+$ 

For a simple Michelson, to increase the detectable signal :

- 1. Lower the wavelength
- 2. Increase the length of the arm

Wavelength depends on laser availability and optics, it is fixed at 1064 nm for current interferometers.

# Some typical lengths for experiments



Image: C Baker

| Type of experiments          | Length  |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Optomechanics                | ~ 1 mm  |
| Large table top experiments  | ~ 1m    |
| GW prototypes                | ~ 10 m  |
| Current GW detectors         | ~ 1 km  |
| Next generation GW detectors | ~ 10 km |









# III. More than just a Michelson (or how to increase the sensitivity ?)

# **The Fabry-Perot cavity**

Two mirrors facing each other separated by a certain distance.



Presence of light interferences inside the cavity, enhancing or destroying the electric field between the 2 mirrors.

#### **Cavity electric fields**



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# **Circulating power a function of the detuning**





# Some key numbers

The cavity gain 
$$\mathrm{G} = \frac{\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{IM}}}{\left(1-\sqrt{\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{IM}}\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{EM}}}\right)^2}$$

The finesse 
$$\mathfrak{F}=rac{\pi\sqrt[4]{R_{\mathrm{IM}}R_{\mathrm{EM}}}}{1-\sqrt{R_{\mathrm{IM}}R_{\mathrm{EM}}}}$$

The FSR

The FWHM

С

2L



#### Special case of the arm cavity of GW detectors



#### The cavity can amplify the light phase shift



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#### The signal recycling cavity



#### For the GW signal sidebands



Possibility to tune the apparent transmission of input mirror for the GW signal  $\rightarrow$  could tune the bandwidth of the detector

#### The power recycling cavity


### The power recycling cavity



Possibility to enhance the laser power by a factor 40.

### The layout of a GW detector



### The layout of a GW detector



A system of coupled cavities...

# IV. The fundamental limiting noises

### How to quantify the noise?

Use the power spectral density :  $S_{\rm V}$ 

$$S_{V}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \lim_{T \to \infty} \frac{1}{2T} \left| \int_{-T}^{+T} V(t) e^{-i\boldsymbol{\omega} t} dt \right|^{2}$$

In unit of  $:\frac{[V]^2}{Hz}$ , that represents the noise power density in a given bandwidth as a function of the frequency.

More frequently, we use the noise Amplitude Spectral Density (ASD):  $\sqrt{S_V(\omega)}$ 

### Ok, that definition does not really help!



### The intrinsic shot noise

Measuring an optical power is counting the number of photon for a given time.



Due to the discrete nature of light, arrival time of photons follows a Poisson statistics :

 $S_{SN}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = 2Ph_p \frac{c}{\lambda}$ 

Formula will determine the minimum possible differential displacement to measure 43

### Shot noise limited (simple) Michelson



 $\Delta L = (1/2) h \times L$ 

ASD output power of my signal proportional to h and laser input power.

From the minimum displacement we can measure (SNR = 1), we can calculate the minimum h observable (GW amplitude)

$$S_{\mathrm{h}}^{\mathrm{min}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = rac{1}{(2\pi L_{+})^{2}} rac{\mathrm{h_{p}\lambda c}}{\mathrm{P}_{0}}$$

 $\left/ S_{h}^{min}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \frac{2 \times 10^{-20}}{\sqrt{P_{0}}} [1/\sqrt{Hz}] \right.$ 44

### **Radiation pressure noise**

Measuring the mirror position with light, induced a back action : the radiation pressure noise.



Noise PSD for a simple Michelson :  $S_{RP}(\omega) = \frac{1}{mL\omega^2} \sqrt{\frac{4hP}{c\lambda}}$ 

## Quantum noise limited (simple) Michelson



### Quantum noise limited (simple) Michelson



### Quantum noise with FP arm cavities



# V. The technial limiting noises

### The Advanced Virgo noise budget



Done in 2012 for the expected final configuration of AVirgo

Similar noise budget for Advanced LIGO

https://doi.org/10.1088/0264-9381/32/2/024001 50

### The Advanced Virgo noise budget



### Not limiting : the seismic noise

### The ground is never still!



Gravitational radiation detection with laser interferometry – R. Adhikari - Rev. Mod. Phys. 86, 121

### Isolate the mirror from the seismic motion

- Must isolate all degrees of freedom
- Suspension based on pendula :

https://doi.org/10.1063/1.1150645

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### Possibility to tune the isolation

How to get more isolation?



### In practice: employ combination of these measures

Taken from: Noises in Gravitational Wave Detectors, K. Arai, LIGO Document G1401145-v2

### The Virgo supper attenuator

https://doi.org/10.1088/0264-9381/19/7/353



Virgo supper attenuator

Isolation transfert function 55

### The last stage of the suspension

#### Where the mirror is attached



### Not only for the main mirrors

#### But also for the benches with critical optics !





#### Compact suspension for mini tower

#### External bench



### The Advanced Virgo noise budget



At low frequency : gravity gradient noise

### Gravity gradient (or Newtonian) noise

Due to local density variation in the surrounding of the mirror (from Earth or atmosphere). Can not be shielded.



**Figure 7:** Time-lapsed schematic illustrating the fluctuating gravitational force on a suspended mass by the propagation of a surface wave through the ground.

#### Illusatration from: Gravitational Wave Detection by Interferometry - *Living Review*

### The Advanced Virgo noise budget



### Middle frequencies : coating thermal noise

## Thermal noise(s)

Not only one thermal noise but several responsible for displacement noises:

- Suspension thermal noise
- Thermo-optic noise
- Substrate Brownian noise
- Coating Brownian noise

Currently the worst offender



### A closer look at it:

https://doi.org/10.1364/CLEO\_AT.2017.JF1D.2



Depend on:

- The temperature
- The mechanical loss (prop to 1/Q)
- Use very high Q material, interfaces are critical

### **Monolithic suspension**

#### Mirror, attachment, fiber: all made of glass.



### **Coating thermal noise**

Intensive worlwide research to reduce this noise :



### Phase noise from imperfect vacuum



Turbulences in gas, creates variation of the refractive index

The critical path of light is under vaccum. Limit of the facility



### The Virgo chambers



Pressure < 10<sup>-9</sup> mbar

## Advanced Virgo measured (real) noise budget



# VI. Selected technologies

- mirrors
- thermal compensation
- diffused light mitigation
- control

### The arm cavity mirrors

- arm cavity where the optical losses are the most critical
- optical cavity round trip loss < 0.01%
- give tight constraints on the mirror quality surface:





High frequency error  $(f > 50 \text{ m}^{-1})$ 





bad contrast (could be corrected) bad contrast distorted beam light lost

### The arm cavity mirrors

- arm cavity where the optical losses are the most critical
- optical cavity round trip loss < 0.01%
- give tight constraints on the mirror quality surface:

### Very stringent requirement on the polishing and coating
#### The mirrors for the 3 km long cavities

- mirrors weighting 40 kg made of the purest fused silica
- state of the art polishing (flatness RMS ~ 0.3 nm)
- coated using Ion Beam Sputerring (IBS) technology



Polished substrate



Mirror surface height



## Effect of the optical absorption

even if very good substrate / coating, still residual absorption ( < ppm)</li>
part of the laser beam will be absorbed

and converted to heat



#### Coating absorption

#### Substrate absorption

## Effect of the optical absorption

even if very good substrate / coating, still residual absorption ( < ppm)</li>
part of the laser beam will be absorbed

and converted to heat



#### Coating absorption

#### Substrate absorption

#### The thermal compensation system



#### The thermal compensation system



#### Thermal compensation system in photos

#### CO<sub>2</sub> laser bench







# Steering mirror for Hartman sensors

#### Installation on the site





#### The diffused light



### Diffused light: an extra phase noise



A complex problem with different path for the scattered light.

Could add extra phase noise if recombined with the main beam

#### **Dumping the diffused light**



Light baffles around the mirrors and in the vacuum tubes

All the critical optics are suspended and under vacuum



## Must keep everything under control!

• A complex machine with a lot of subsystems...



- ... all interconnected
- needs to developed home made systems (hardware and software) for real time control, data monitoring and storage.







#### **Example: control of the suspension**



#### **Example: control of the suspension**



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#### **Example: the arm cavities**

Not always obvious to have a proper error signal



## VII. The next upgrades (with a Virgo focus)



More and more sensitive instruments

The '+ upgrades' (Advanced Virgo+, Advanced LIGO+ )

## **Advanced Virgo+**



Phase I before O4
25-40W input power
signal recycling mirror
Newtonian noise cancellation
frequency depend squeezing preparatory work for phase II

Advanced Virgo noise budget

## **Advanced Virgo+**



Advanced Virgo noise budget

before O4 Phase I ● 25-40W input power signal recycling mirror Newtonian noise cancellation 2 frequency depend squeezing preparatory work for phase II before O5 Phase II

60-80W input power
 lower optical loss
 larger mirror with better coating

## **Advanced Virgo+**



<sup>(</sup>similar improvement for LIGO)

Phase I before O4
25-40W input power
signal recycling mirror
Newtonian noise cancellation
frequency depend squeezing preparatory work for phase II

Phase II before O5
60-80W input power
lower optical loss
larger mirror with better coating

#### **Phase I: installation highlights**

#### Seismometers array for Newtonian noise subtraction



#### **Phase I: installation highlights**

Auxiliary green lasers for lock acquisition with signal recycling



Suspended signal recycling mirror

#### **Phase I: installation highlights**



## The filtering cavity



## The AdV+ phase II (installation after O4)



#### And after 05?

#### • Virgo nEXT: the ultimate upgrade

- doubling the sensitivity
- more laser power, less optical losses, better mirrors, more squeezing
- closing the gap with the next generation



(similar plan/timeline for LIGO)

## VIII. The next generation

#### The Virgo successor: the Einstein Telescope

#### Goal: to be 10 times more sensitive, new infrastructure



#### The Virgo successor: the Einstein Telescope

#### Goal: to be 10 times more sensitive



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## The challenge of increasing the bandwidth

- conflicting requirement at low and high frequencies
  - high optical power required at high frequency to lower the shot noise
  - but high power also degrades the low frequency due to radiation pressure noise
- the sensitivity could be achieved by 2 interferometers dedicated to low frequency (ET-LF) and high frequency (ET-HF)

## The xylophone strategy



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## The xylophone strategy



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#### 1 detector = 2 interferometers



#### Not one but 3 detectors





#### The key parameters

# Design Report Update 2020 for the Einstein Telescope ET Steering Committee Editorial

https://apps.et-gw.eu/tds/ql/?c=15418

| Parameter                    | ET-HF                             | ET-LF                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Arm length                   | 10 km                             | 10 km                             |
| Input power (after IMC)      | 500 W                             | 3 W                               |
| Arm power                    | 3 MW                              | 18 kW                             |
| Temperature                  | 290 K                             | 10-20 K                           |
| Mirror material              | fused silica                      | silicon                           |
| Mirror diameter / thickness  | 62 cm / 30 cm                     | 45 cm/ 57 cm                      |
| Mirror masses                | 200 kg                            | 211 kg                            |
| Laser wavelength             | 1064 nm                           | 1550 nm                           |
| SR-phase (rad)               | tuned (0.0)                       | detuned (0.6)                     |
| SR transmittance             | 10 %                              | 20 %                              |
| Quantum noise suppression    | freq. dep. squeez.                | freq. dep. squeez.                |
| Filter cavities              | 1×300 m                           | $2 \times 1.0 \mathrm{km}$        |
| Squeezing level              | 10 dB (effective)                 | 10 dB (effective)                 |
| Beam shape                   | $TEM_{00}$                        | $TEM_{00}$                        |
| Beam radius                  | 12.0 cm                           | 9 cm                              |
| Scatter loss per surface     | 37 ppm                            | 37 ppm                            |
| Seismic isolation            | SA, 8 m tall                      | mod SA, 17 m tall                 |
| Seismic (for $f > 1$ Hz)     | $5 \cdot 10^{-10} \mathrm{m}/f^2$ | $5 \cdot 10^{-10} \mathrm{m}/f^2$ |
| Gravity gradient subtraction | none                              | factor of a few                   |

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#### The American cousin: Cosmic Explorer

40 km and 20 km L-shaped surface observatories 10x sensitivity of today's observatories (Advanced LIGO+) Global network together with Einstein Telescope