Sensitivity of Virgo

E. Tournefier (LAPP-CNRS)

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Sensitivity: WSR10 (March) vs SR1 (May)



Noise budget



Control noises: longitudinal controls

- Beam Splitter motion \Leftrightarrow end mirrors differential motion
- \Rightarrow Noise introduced by the BS control can be compensated by moving the end mirrors

Difficulty: the α -coefficient is frequency dependent

 \Rightarrow The BS noise is subtracted with a precision of ~ 2-3 %

Other action: reduce the BS control noise itself





PR mirror control also couples to DF
=> Similar online subtraction: β technique

Control noises: longitudinal noises



- BS control noise limits the sensitivity below 35Hz possible improvements:
 - more online subtraction
 - understand and reduce the control noise

Control noises: angular

- Angular control noise couples through mirrors mis-centering
 - \Rightarrow Improved centering (~mm)
 - \Rightarrow Improved control filters



- \Rightarrow The angular noise does not limit the present Virgo sensitivity
- \Rightarrow Improvements will be needed to reach the Virgo design (some plans post-SR1)

Mirror actuator noise

- Electronic noise of the coil drivers would limit the sensitivity
 - \Rightarrow Shaping filters, more gain



Environmental noise: acoustic noise

Evidence for diffused light by the optics of the end benches (Jan 2007) Actions:

1/ use more rigid mounts for critical optics and dump secondary beams (Feb)

2/ install acoustic enclosures





• Next steps: improvement to the acoustic enclosures

Environmental noises: magnetic noise

- Before WSR10 magnetic noise was limiting the sensitivity between 50 and 110 Hz
- Investigations: track the sources of magnetic field close to the mirrors
 - => found noisy power supplies
 - => noise well reduced when switched OFF!





• Need to check if there are still magnetic noise contributions to the present sensitivity

Environmental noise: others



Noise budget

• Noise reasonably well understood, some improvements planned except for...



Mystery noise

• Observations:

- Coupling to DF increases with misalignments
- Sudden decreases/increases
- Structures not excited with noise injections/tapping tests around benches/towers



Under investigation ...

First fixes / investigations

- Studies of drifts during lock longs:
 - Alignment drifts (quadrants centering)
 - \Rightarrow Temporary fixes: realign from time to time
 - \Rightarrow Improvements planned
 - Start to study effects of long term drifts:
 - Variation of the coupling of control noises



