

A visualization of gravitational waves, showing concentric ripples of light and dark blue and purple, emanating from a central point. The ripples are more pronounced in the lower-left quadrant, suggesting a wave moving towards the viewer.

Gravitational Wave Detection

With Initial and Advanced LIGO

Gregory Harry
American University

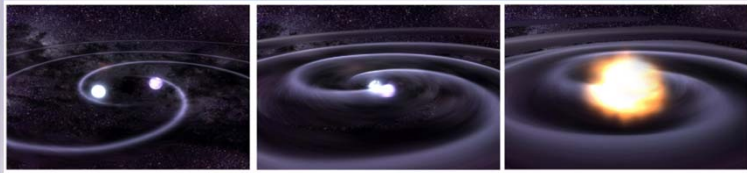
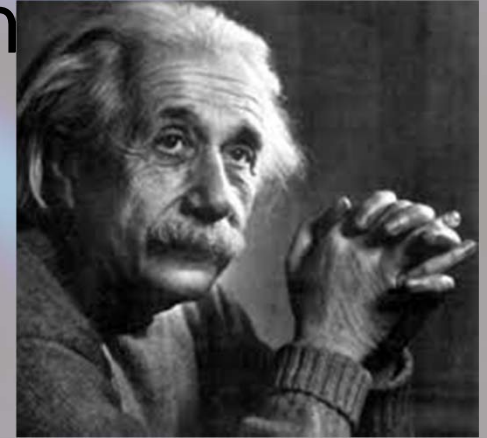
US Naval Observatory
July 10, 2014



Gravitational Waves



- Gravitational waves are a prediction of Einstein's theory of gravity
- Similar to electromagnetic waves (light) from Maxwell's equations



- Two major differences
- Spin two (tensor) shape
- Much smaller amplitude

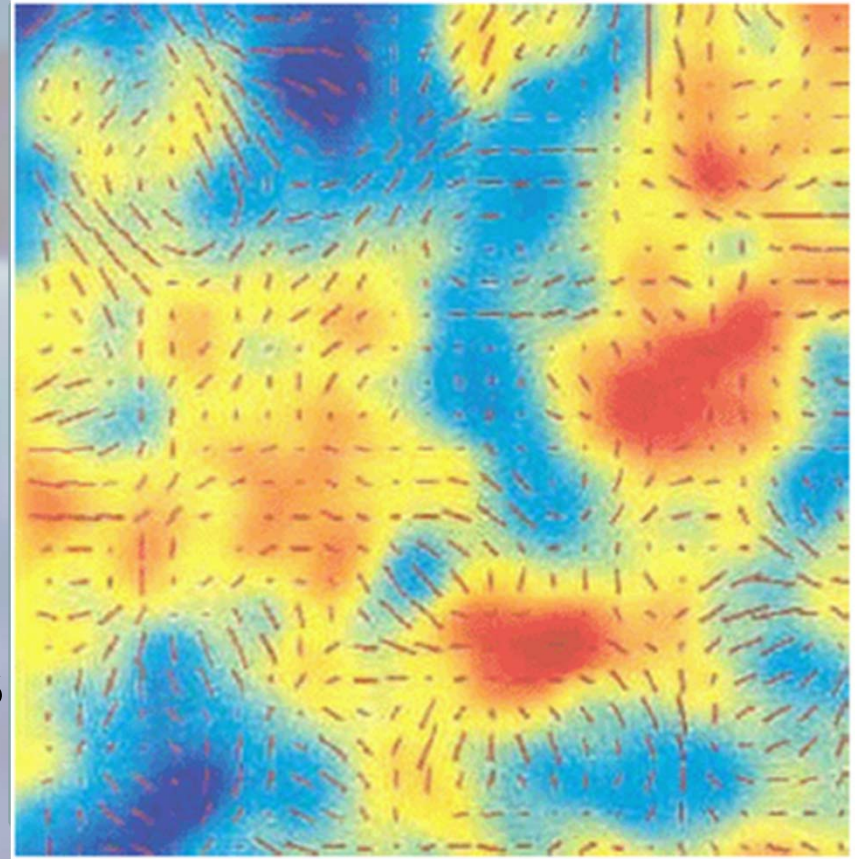


- Strain $\frac{\Delta L}{L} \cong 10^{-22}$

- Kilometer baseline, subnuclear length changes

Indirect Evidence for GW

- Known binary neutron star binaries will merge within 100 million years
- Hulse and Taylor observation
 - Change in orbit of neutron star binary
- BICEP2 result
 - If it holds up, gravitational waves from Bing Bang





Direct Gravitational Wave Sources

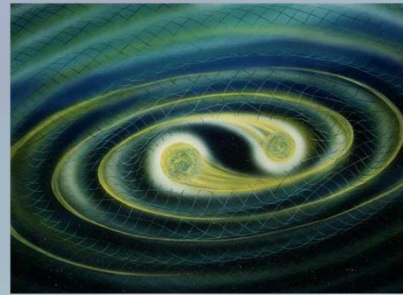
Short Duration

Long Duration

Modeled

Compact Body Inspirals

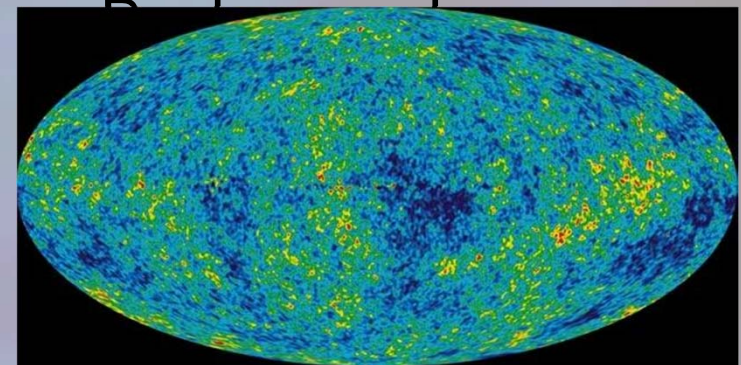
Periodic Sources



Unmodeled

Bursts

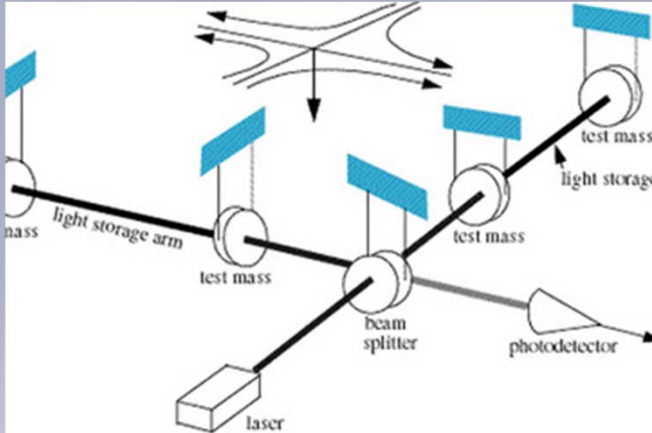
Stochastic





LIGO

LIGO Interferometers

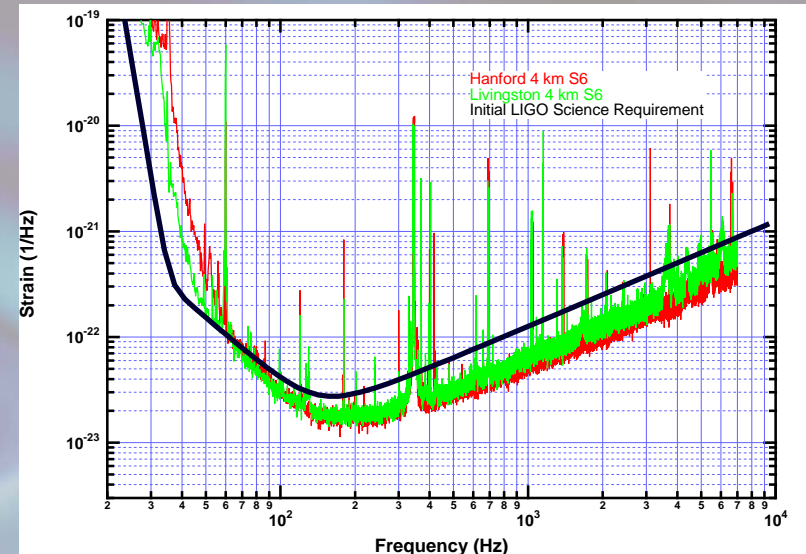


- Modern gravitational wave detectors use interferometers
 - Sense tiny motion of mirrors
 - L shape for tensor waves
-
- US has two sites
 - Livingston, Louisiana (LLO) and Hanford, Washington (LHO)
 - 4 kilometer-long beam tubes
 - Entire 8 km length in vacuum
 - Low seismic noise environment



- Science data 2002 – 2010
 - Over full year coincident
- Bandwidth 40 – 3000 Hz
- Exceeded sensitivity goal

$$\frac{\Delta L}{L} = 2 \times 10^{-22}$$

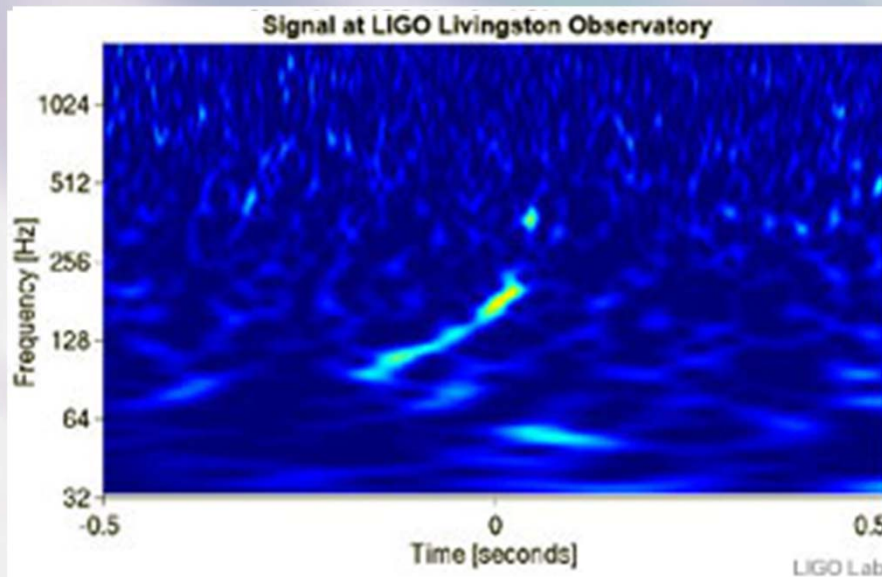
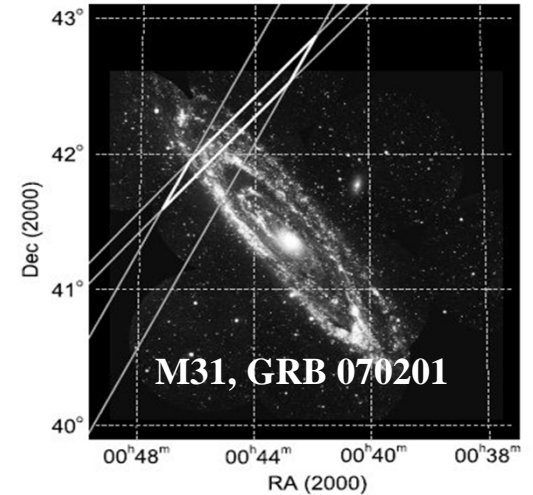


- 3 detectors. 2×4 km/1×2 km
- 20 W Nd:YAG laser
- 10 kg silica optics
- Steel wire suspensions



Initial LIGO Astrophysics: Burst and Inspiral Sources

- Gamma ray bursts (GRBs) may be compact body inspirals
- Short GRBs 050311 and 070201
 - Locations in galaxies M81 and M31
 - Inspiral excluded at >98%

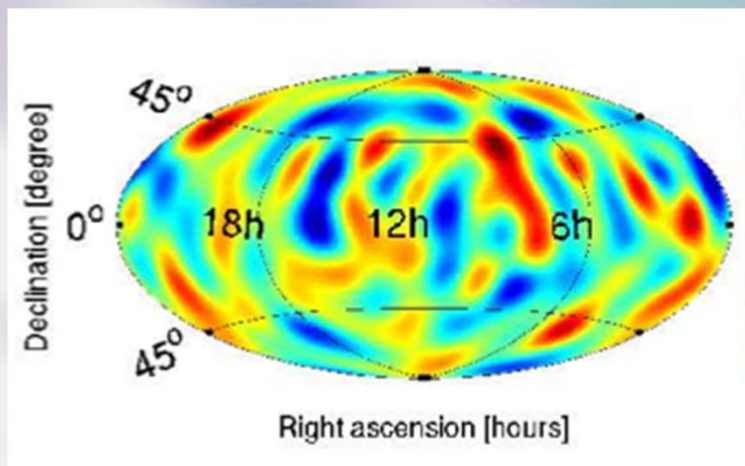
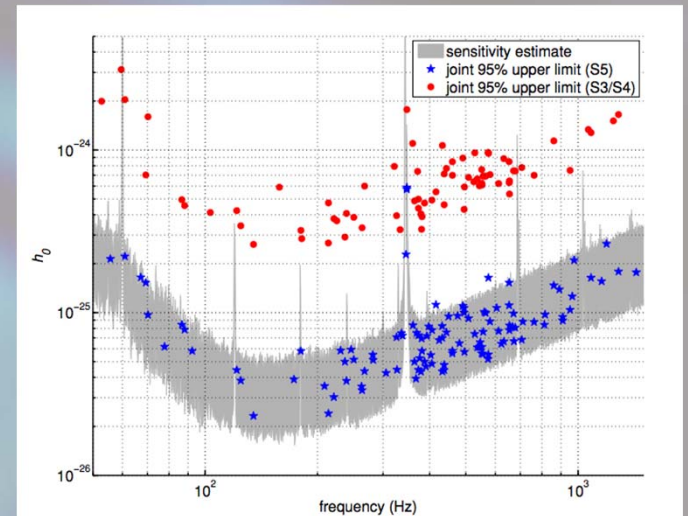


- GW100916
 - Consistent with compact body inspiral
 - Blind injection done to test analysis process



Initial LIGO Astrophysics: Pulsars and Stochastic

- Pulsars can give continuous GW from asymmetric rotation
- Crab pulsar $E_{GW} < 0.02 E_{total}$
- Ellipticity limit in 116 pulsars
 - Lowest upper limit $\epsilon < 7 \times 10^{-8}$



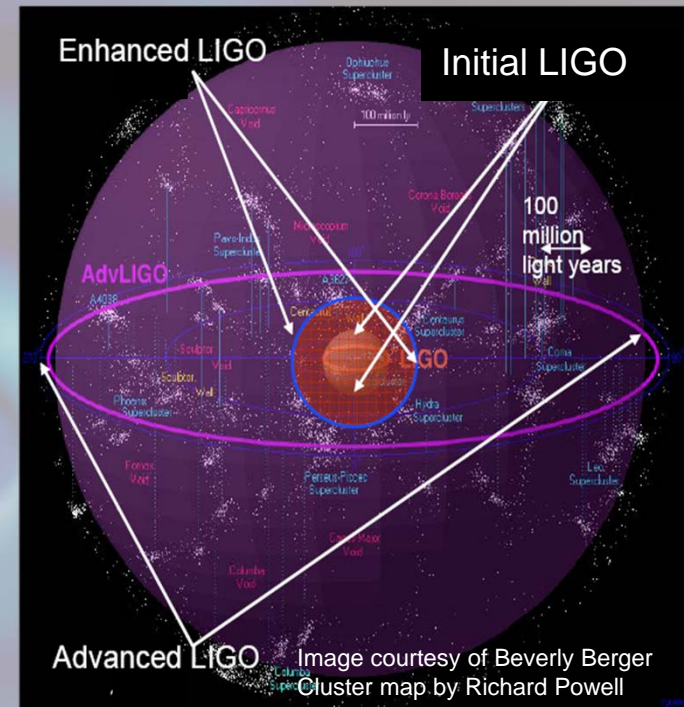
- Stochastic GW from primordial background
- $\Omega_0 < 6.9 \times 10^{-6}$
 - Nucleosynthesis limit 10^{-5}
- Limits on point sources



LIGO

Advanced LIGO

- Goal: 10X sensitivity
 - 10 – 5000 Hz
 - 200 Mpc NS inspiral range
 - Inspirals possible \sim 1/month
 - One day with Adv LIGO = a few years with initial LIGO



- Project began 2008
 - Installation started 2010
 - Building three interferometers
 - Installation finishing this year

LIGO

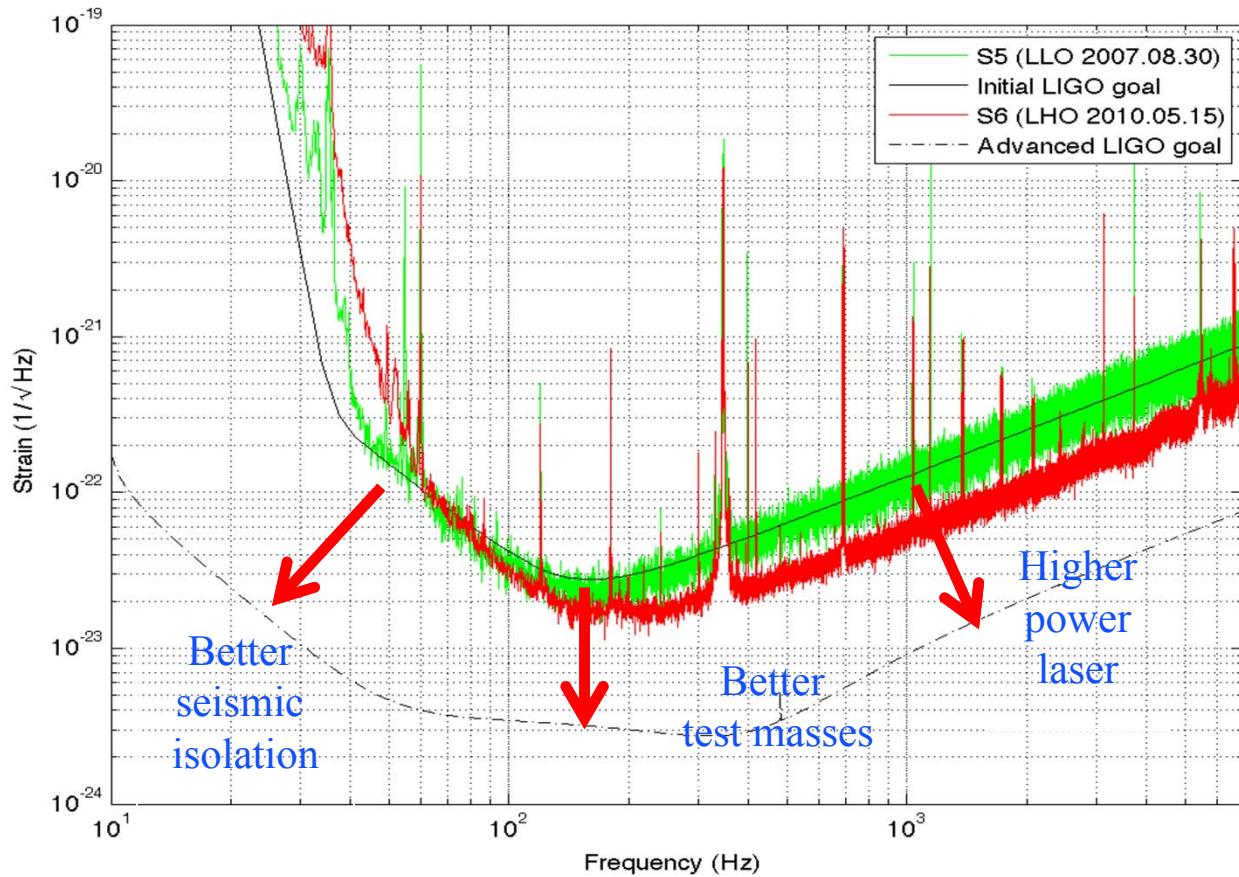
Advanced LIGO Installation





Advanced LIGO Sensitivity

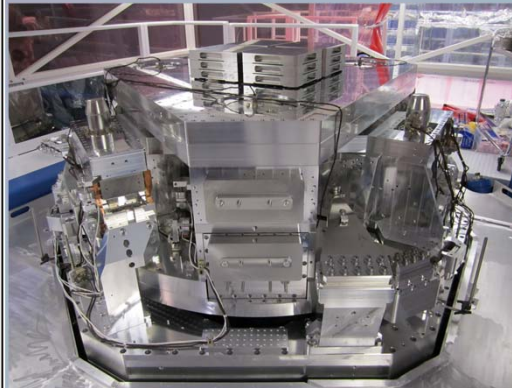
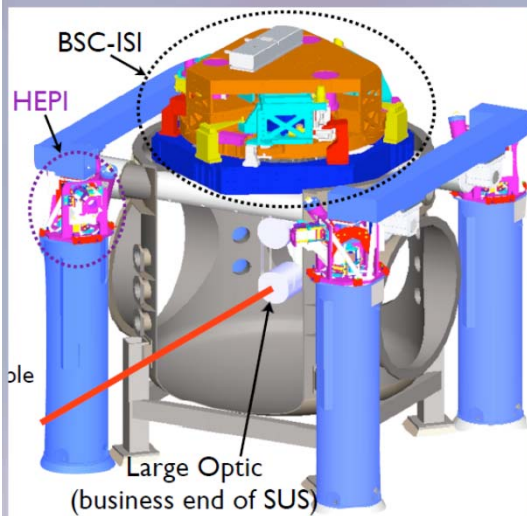
Limited by Earth motion, thermodynamics, and quantum mechanics





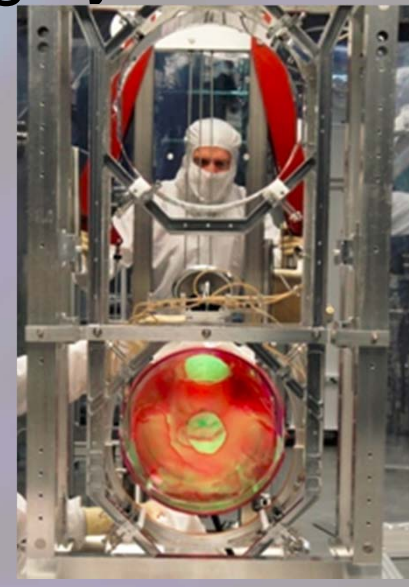
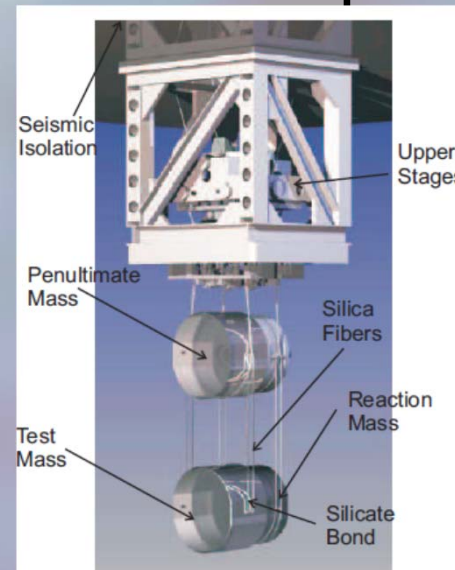
LIGO

Advanced LIGO Seismic Isolation and Suspension



- Seismic isolation
 - Hydraulic preisolator external to vacuum
 - In vacuum, two stage, 6 DOF active mass/spring system

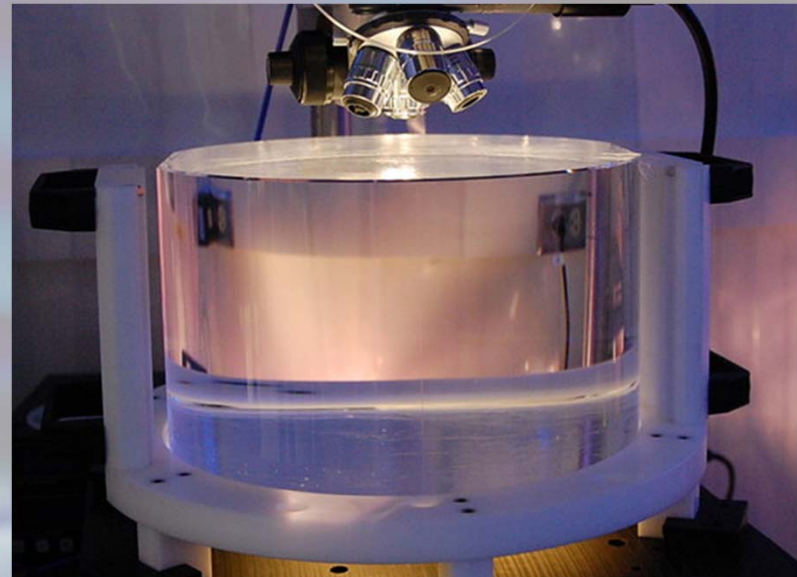
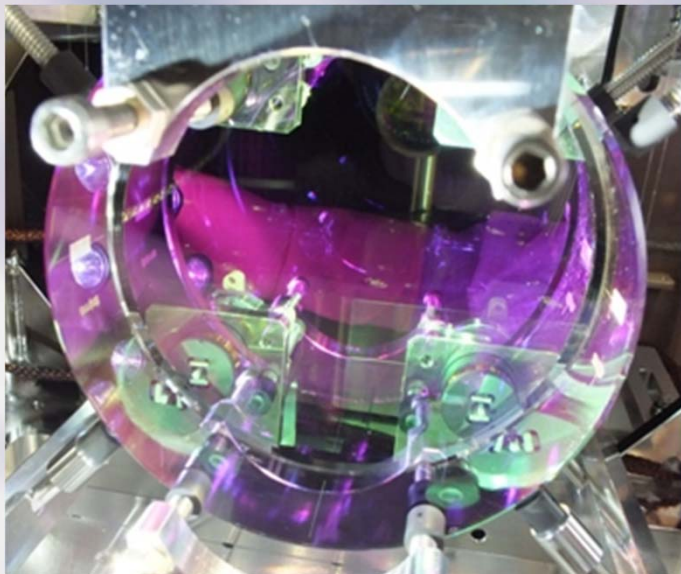
- Quadruple suspension
 - Based on GEO600 triples
 - Seismic noise reduction $1/f^8$ above pendulum f
 - Final stage silica fibers to reduce thermal noise





Advanced LIGO Mirrors and Coatings

- Fused silica optics
 - 40 kilograms
 - Very low absorption
 - Monolithic connection to suspension



- Optical coatings
 - 34 centimeter diameter
 - 5-6 cm beam spot
 - Very low absorption
 - Low thermal noise

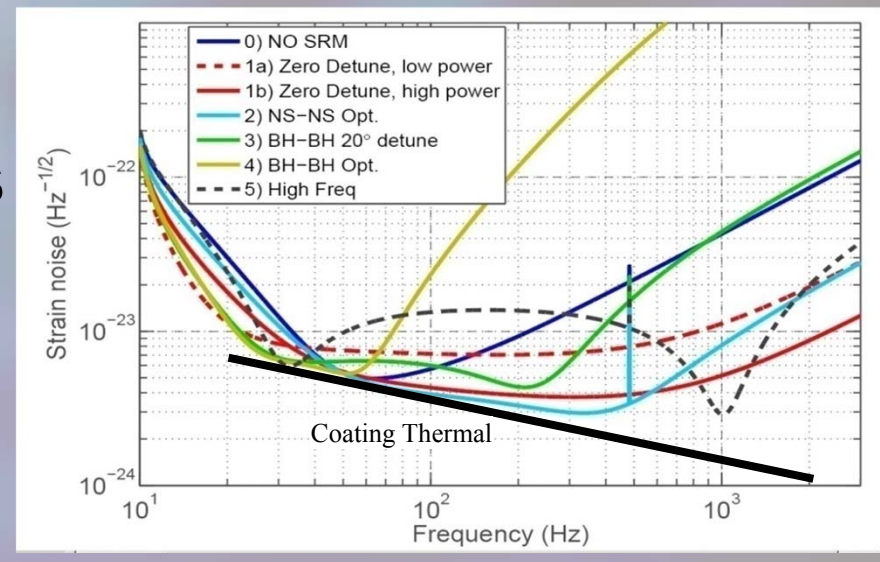


Advanced LIGO Laser and Interferometry

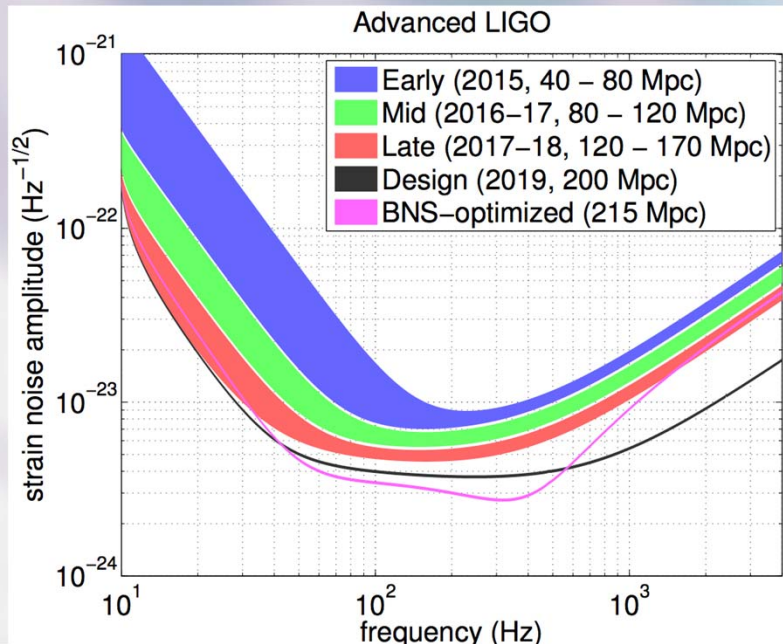
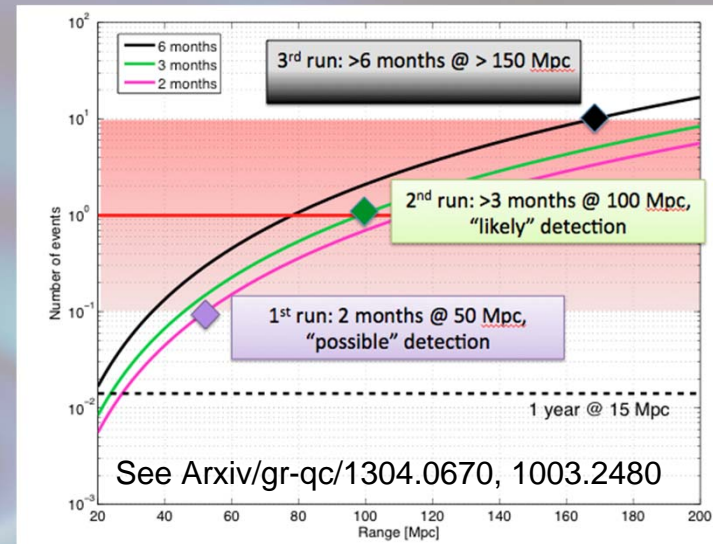


- Laser
 - Nd:YAG 1064 nm
 - Three stage NPRO
 - 180 Watts
 - Shot noise limited

- Interferometer
 - Power recycling increases arm power to 800 kW
 - Signal recycling to tune sensitivity curve



- 90% complete by budget
- Remaining activities
 - Finish installation at LHO
 - Testing at both LLO and LHO
 - Computer procurement

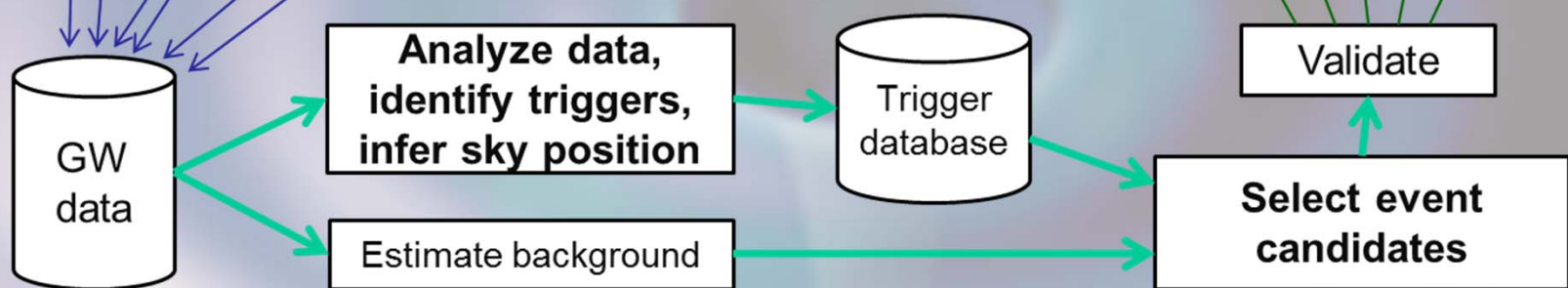
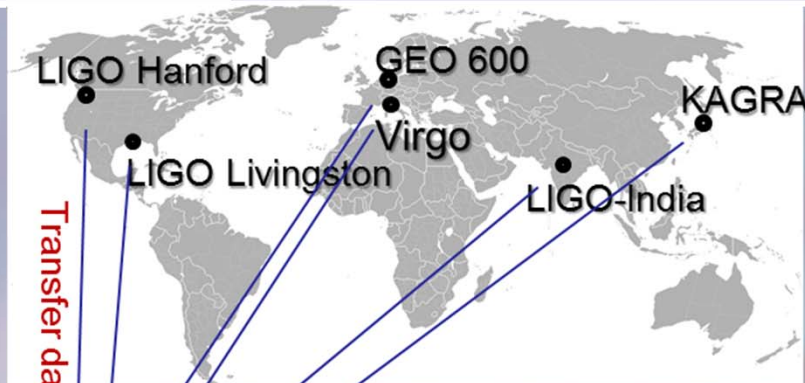


Goal: Direct detection century after Einstein's 1916 GW paper

Date	Length	Sensitivity
Late 2015	3 months	40-80 Mpc
2016/2017	6 months	80-120 Mpc
2017/2018	9 months	120-170 Mpc
2019	Full year	200 Mpc

LIGO

Multimessenger Astronomy



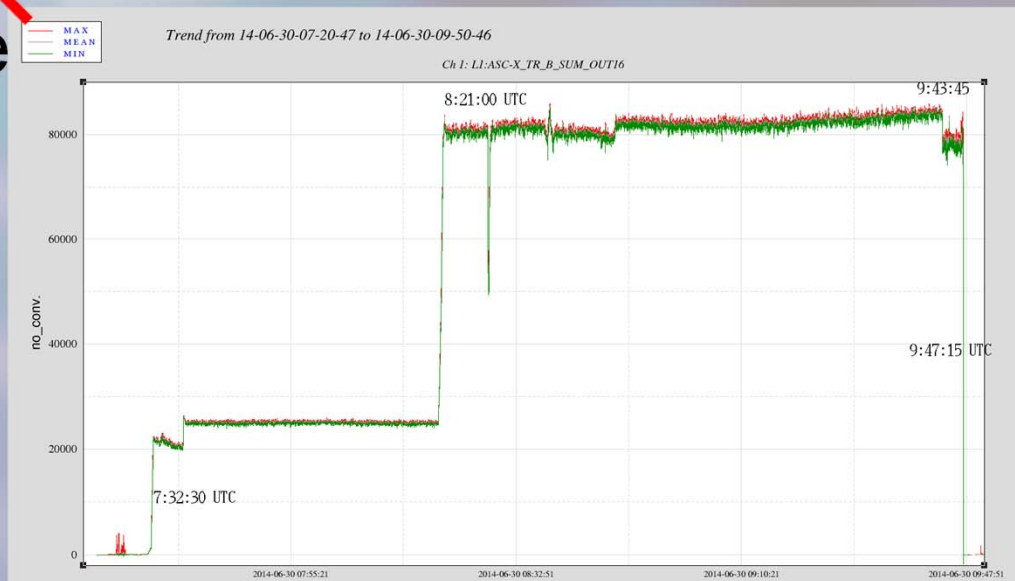
- Low latency data analysis happening as data comes in → Generate triggers
- Increase confidence in GW detection
- More precise sky location, better understanding

Swift: NASA E/PO, Sonoma State U., Aurore Simonnet



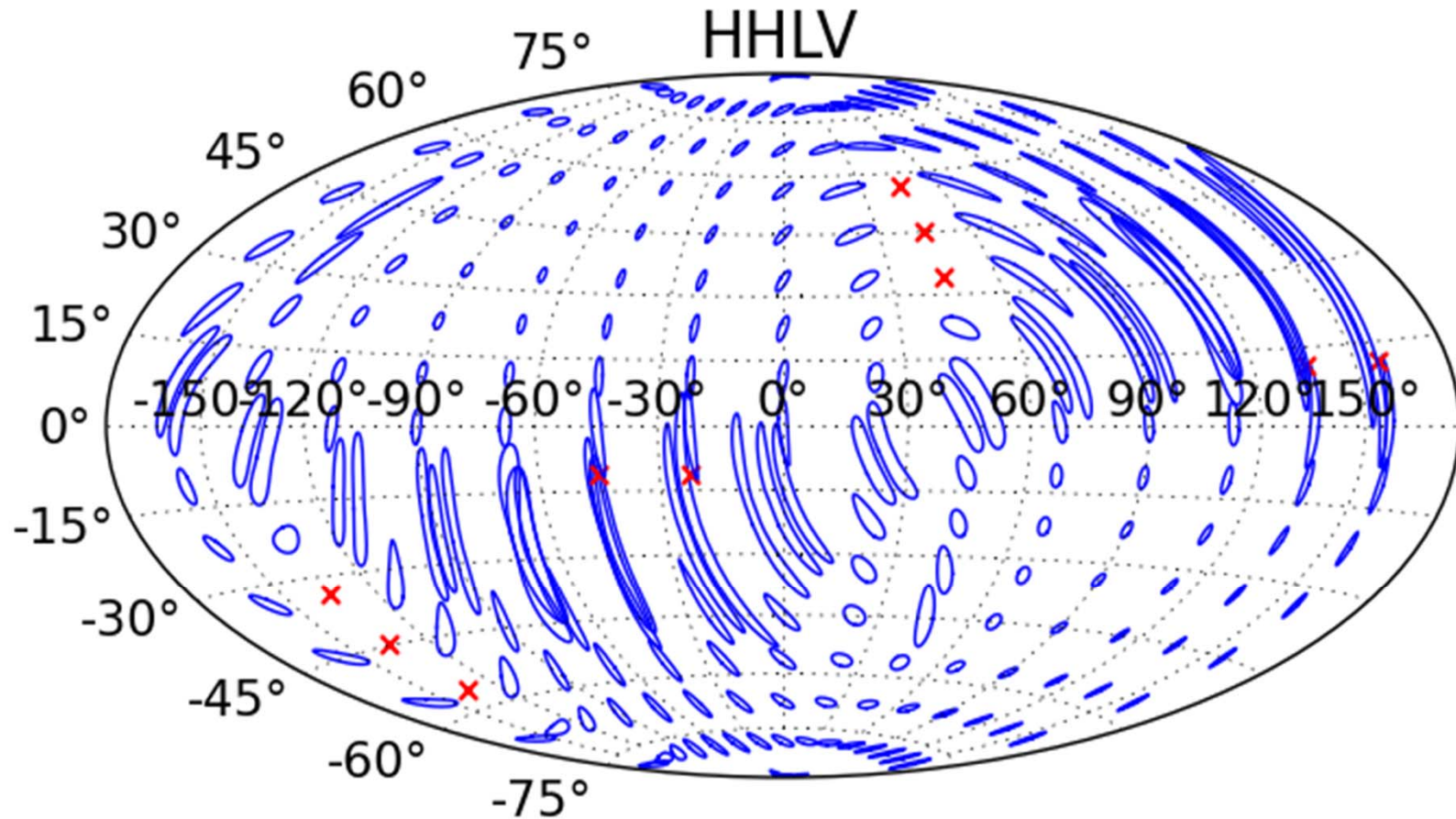
Livingston is Locked and Accepted

- Livingston interferometer has locked for more than 2 hours (135 minutes)
 - June 30, 2014
 - Now commissioning
 - When Hanford locks for > 2 hours, late 2015, construction phase



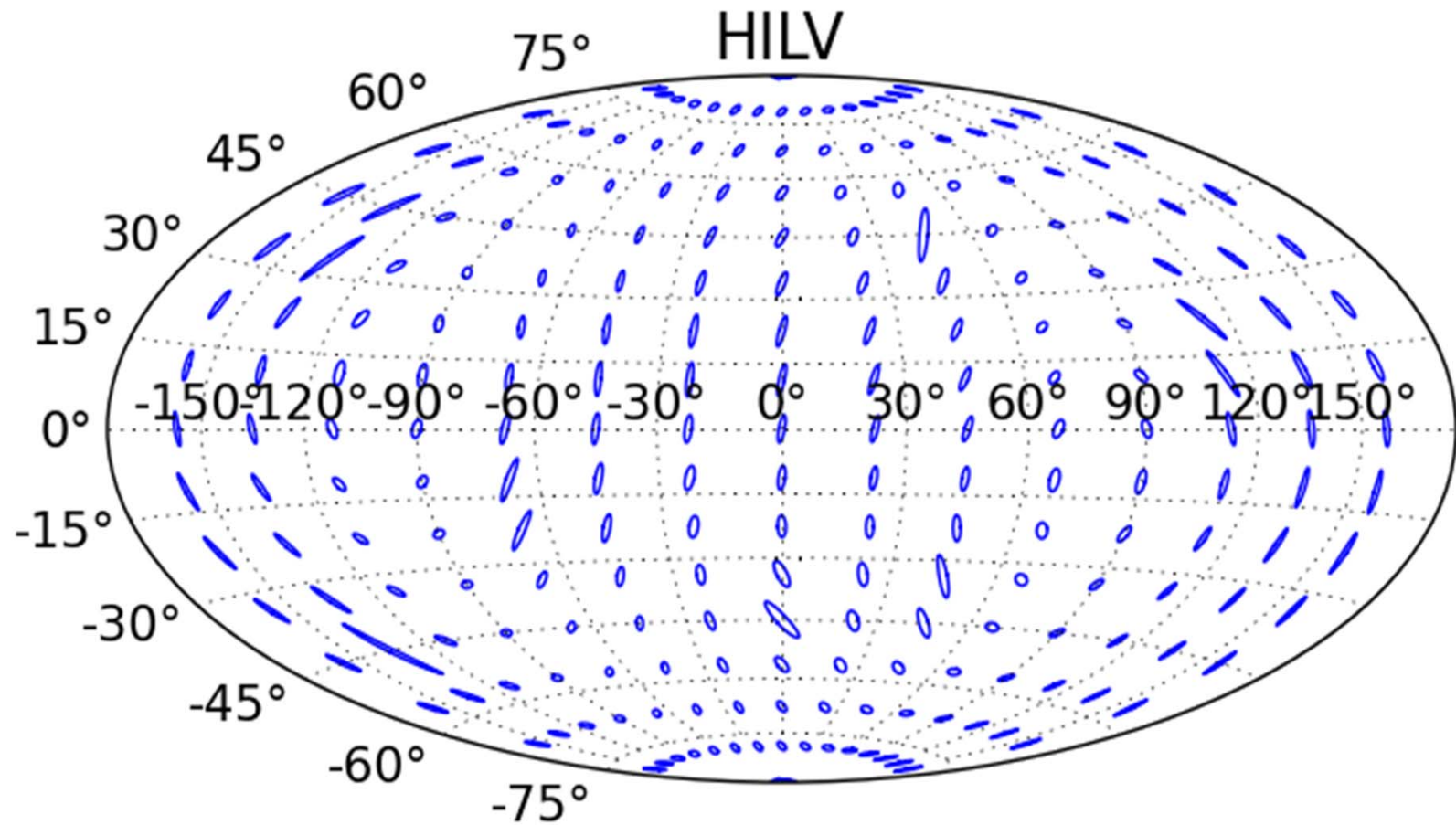
LIGO

Worldwide Network





LIGO India



Conclusion

- Initial LIGO complete
 - Validated technology
 - Contributed to astrophysics but no detections
- Advanced LIGO
 - Installation in US nearly complete
 - Lower noise technology \rightarrow 10X sensitivity
 - Science runs begin 2015, detections likely
- LIGO India
 - Expect approval soon
 - Improve sky positioning of sources

