
Investigating the Effect of Lenses in a Long Interferometer Arm

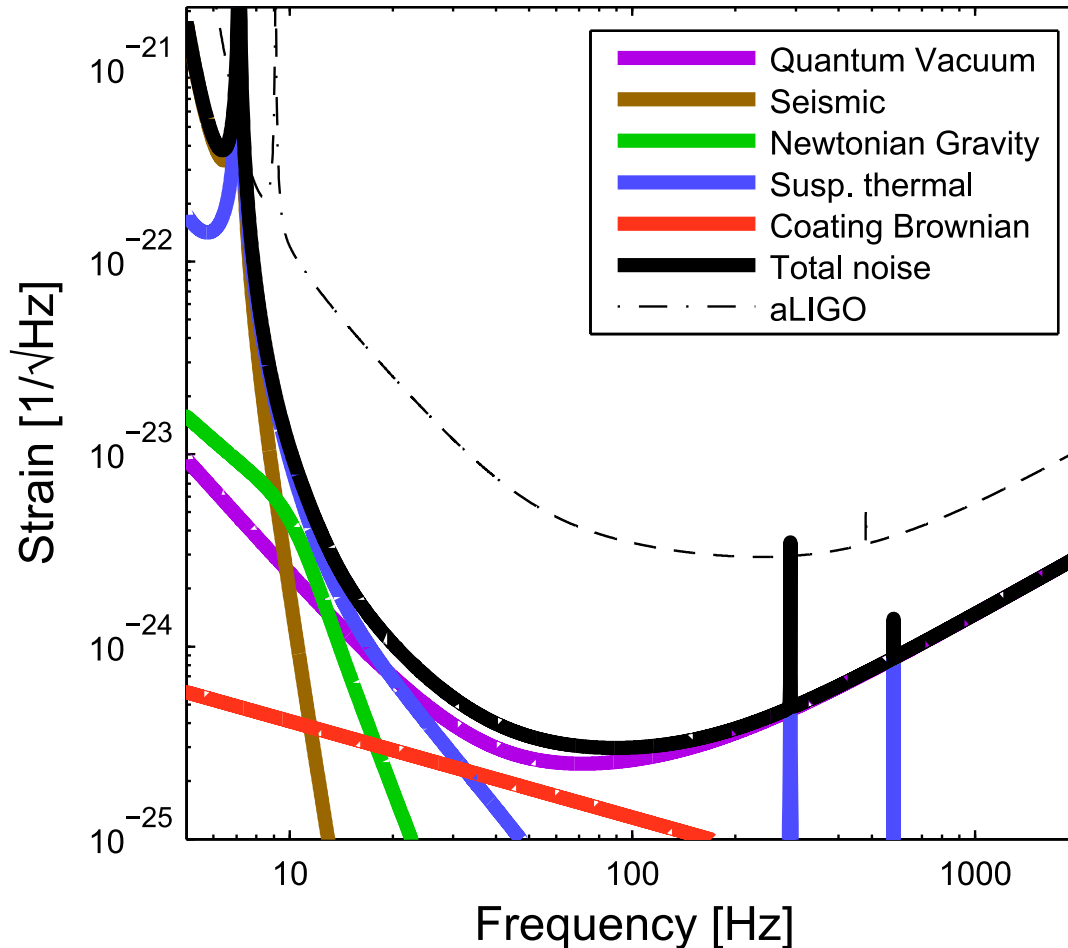
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Why should we go bigger?

$$h = \frac{\Delta L}{L}$$

- Gravitational wave – h
- Displacement noise – ΔL
- Displacement from gravitational wave increases
- Strain from noise decreases

Preliminary noise budget



What's the problem?

- Maintaining a narrow beam
 - » Large beam means larger optics and larger beam tube
 - » Expensive and difficult to manufacture
- Solution: Add lenses to beam tube

Lens problems

- Find a lens configuration
- Find the noise introduced by lenses
- Find a way to create the lenses

Finding a Lens Configuration

Transverse mode spacing

- Examine transverse mode spacing (TMS) of cavity
- Cavity has eigenmodes TEM_{mn}
- Only TEM_{00} should resonate
- Additional Gouy phase $(m + n + 1)\eta$
- Define $TMS = \frac{\eta}{2\pi}$
- TEM_{mn} resonant if $(m + n)TMS \in \mathbb{Z}$

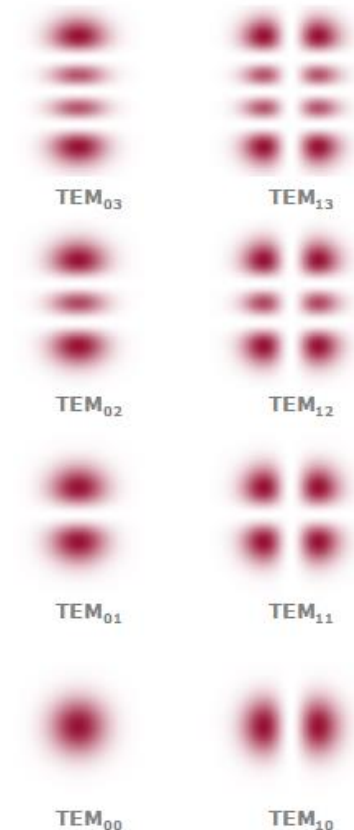
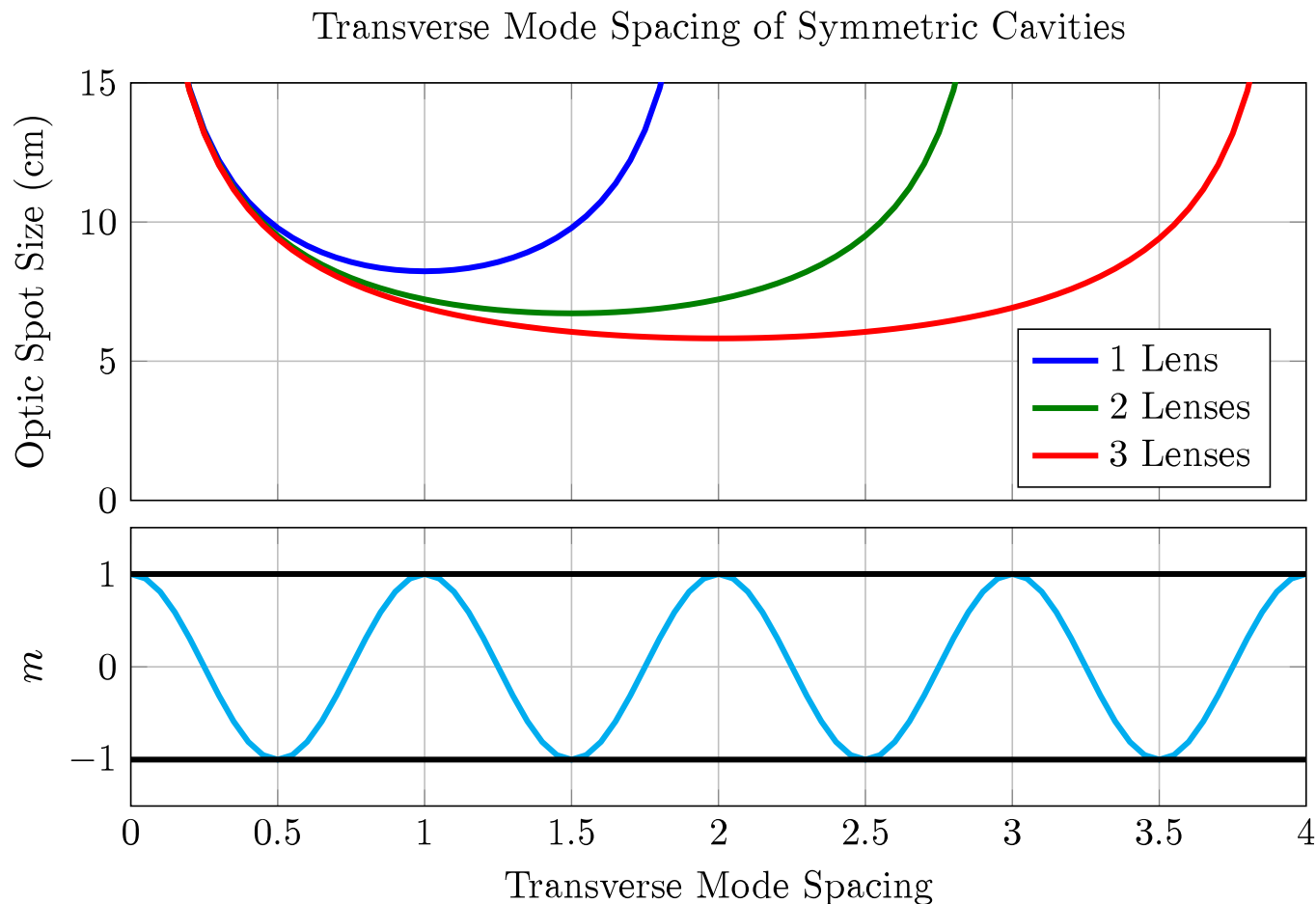


Image from RP Photonics Encyclopedia:
http://www.rp-photonics.com/resonator_modes.html

Choosing a configuration

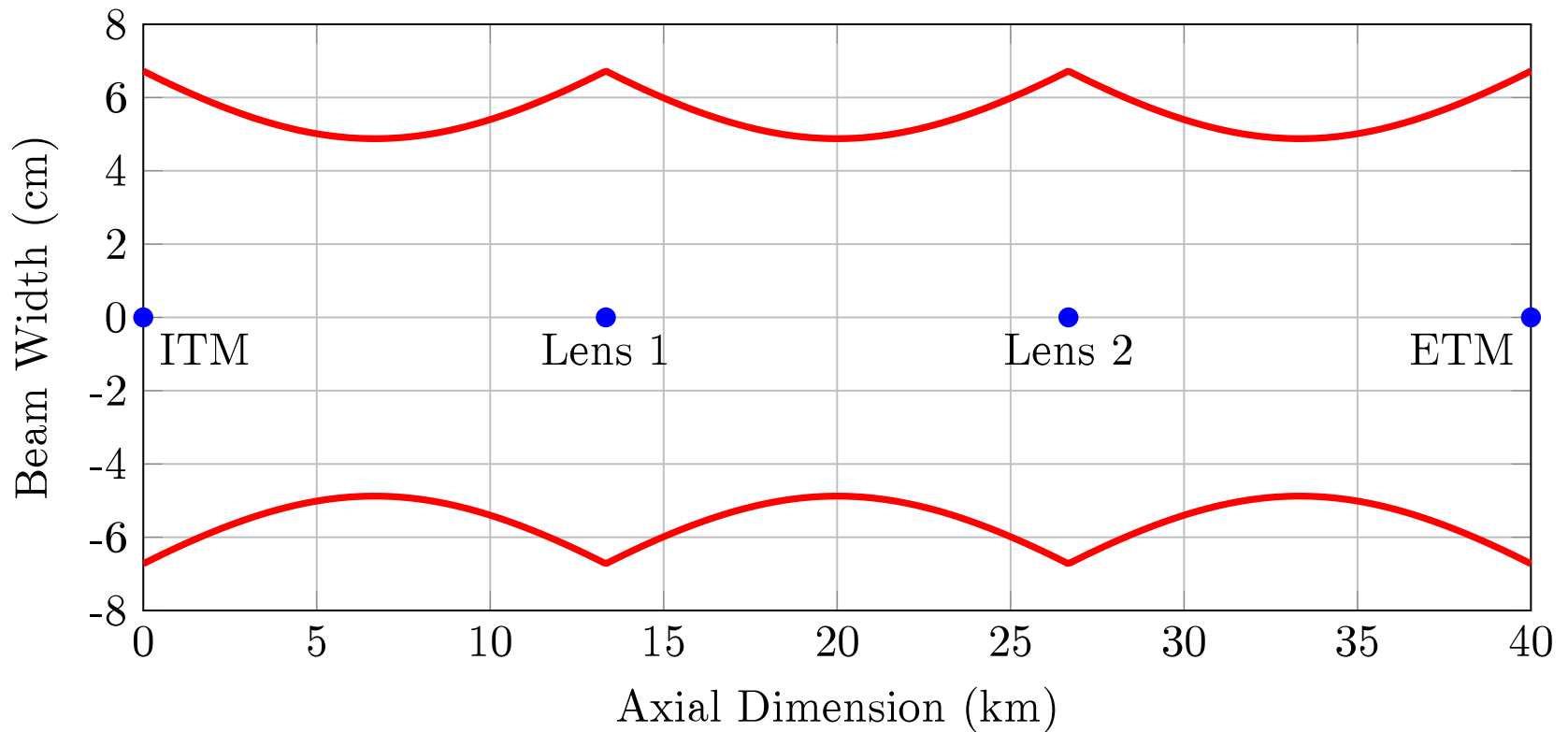
- Examine a symmetric cavity
- Length L
- N lenses evenly spaced
- Mirror radius of curvature R
- Lens focal length $R/2$
- Can solve for spot size $w(L, N, TMS)$

Transverse mode spacing results



A possible solution

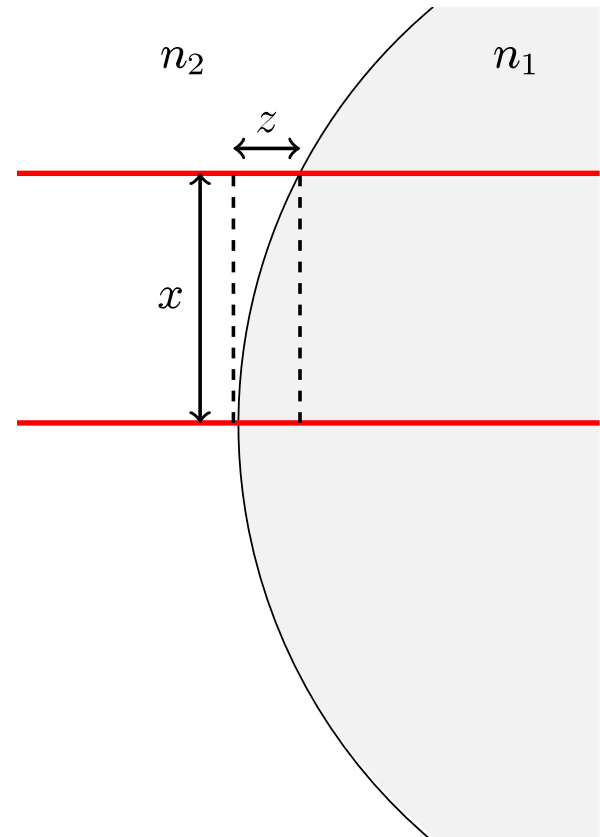
Two Lens Cavity with TMS=1.45



Finding the Noise Introduced by the Lenses

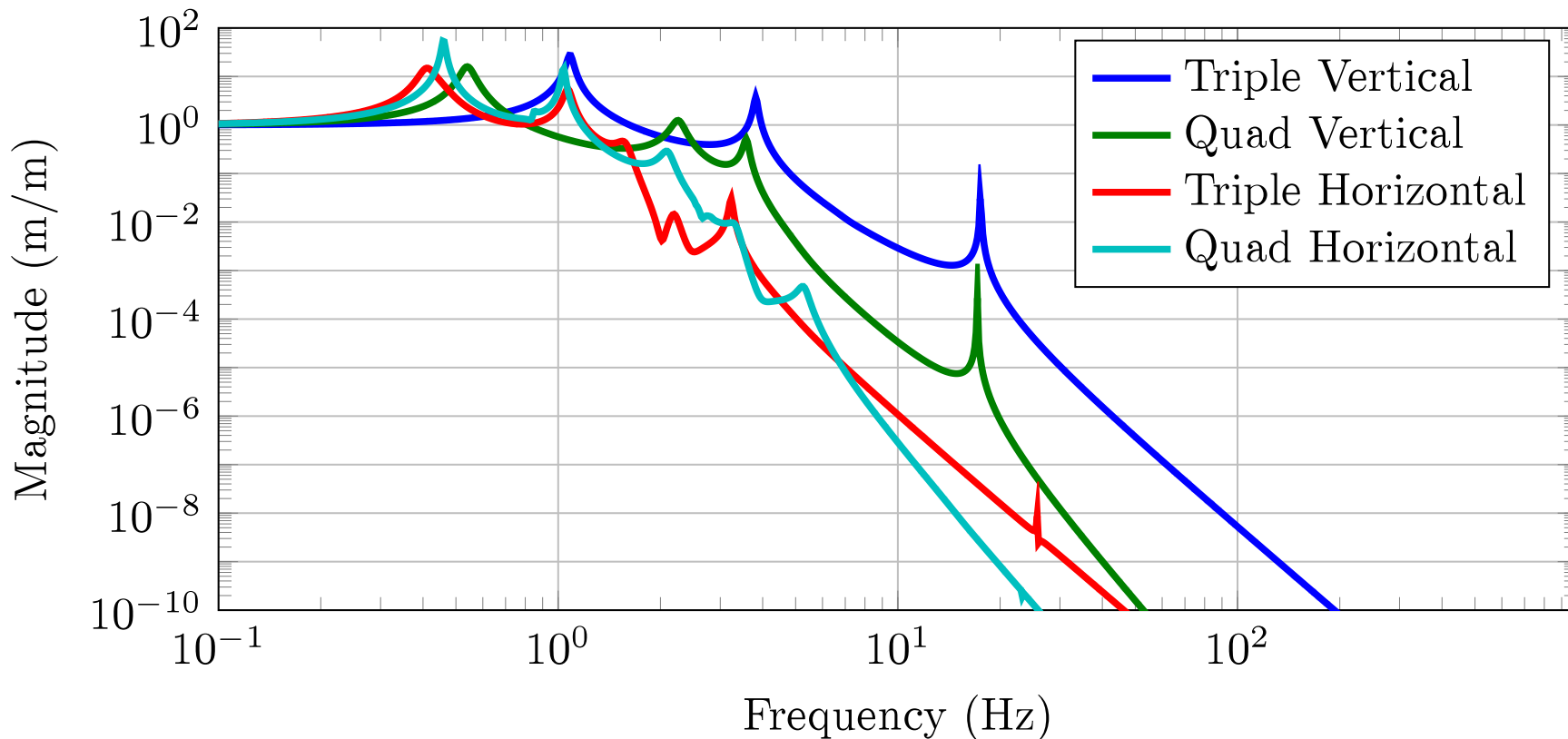
Transverse motion coupling

- An off-center beam travels through lens a shorter distance
- Lens and vacuum have different indices of refraction
- Lens motion changes optical path length



Seismic motion damping

Suspension Transverse Transfer Functions

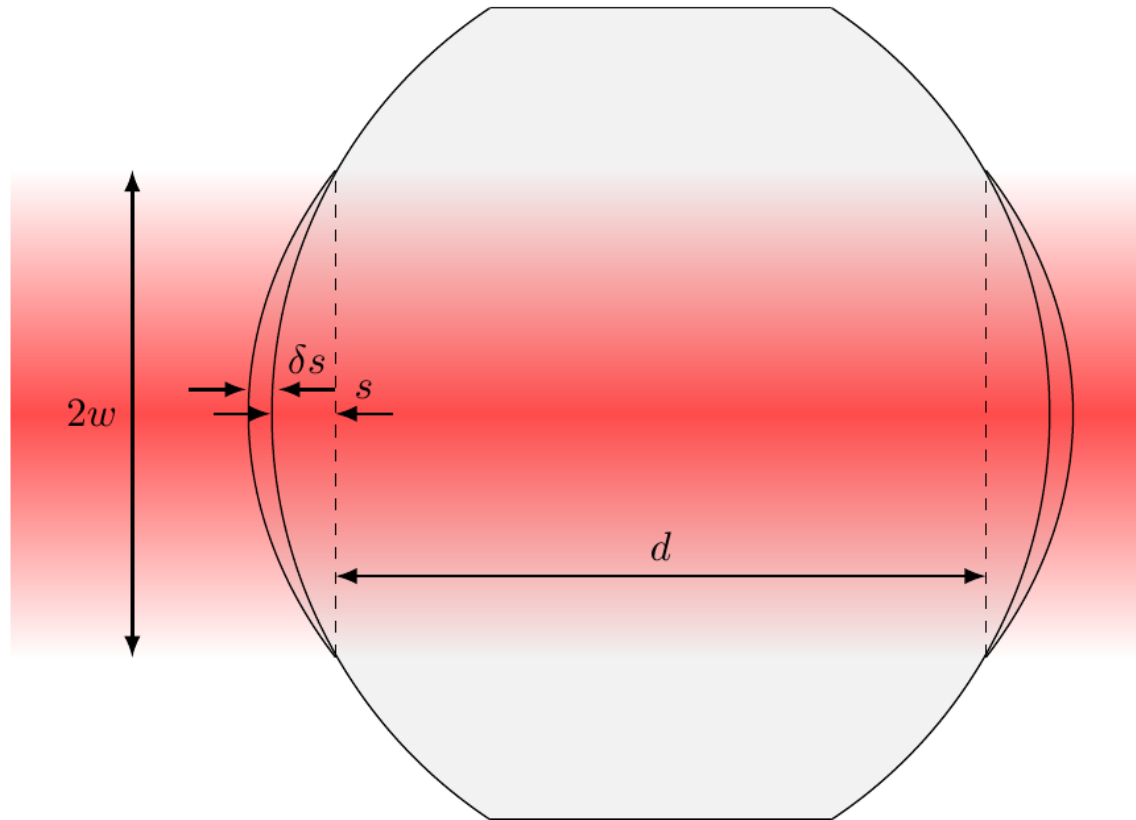


Transverse motion results

- Interested in noise at 10 Hz
- Want noise $\leq 10^{-24} \sqrt{\text{Hz}}^{-1}$
- Quad suspension: $h = 6.3 \times 10^{-26} \sqrt{\text{Hz}}^{-1}$
- Triple suspension will not be sufficient

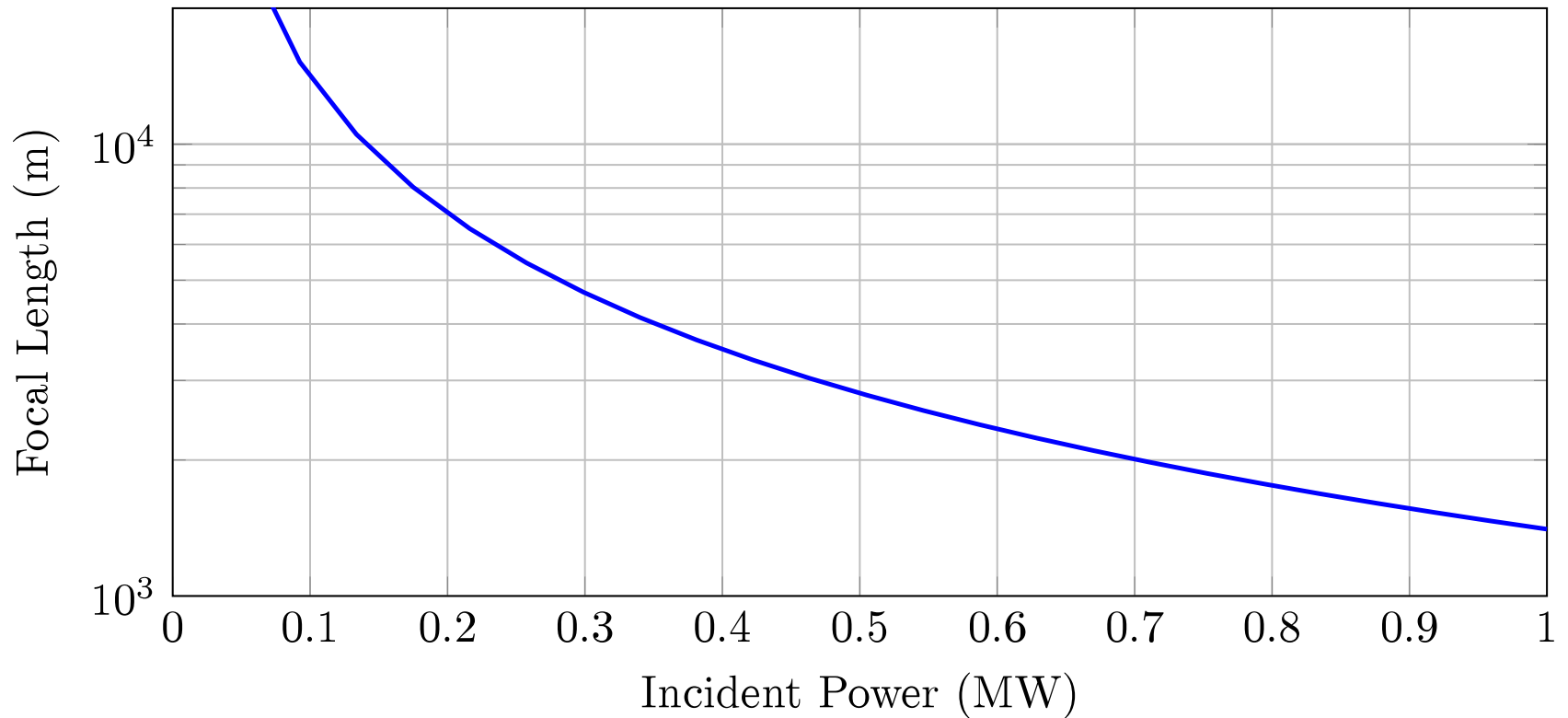
How to Create the Lenses

Thermal lensing



Thermal lensing results

Thermal Lensing of Flat Fused Silica



Conclusions

- A narrow beam can be propagated 40km with as few as 2 lenses
- Motion of the lenses will not be a limiting factor with a quad suspension system
- TCS will be required to reduce thermal lensing to the required focal lengths

Acknowledgements

- Sheila Dwyer and Daniel Sigg
- LIGO
- Caltech
- NSF

Questions?