



# Gravitational Waves - the Sound of Black Holes Colliding

Dr. Brian Lantz  
for the LIGO Scientific Collaboration &  
the Virgo Collaboration  
May 24, 2016



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# LIGO

# LSC

# LIGO Scientific Collaboration



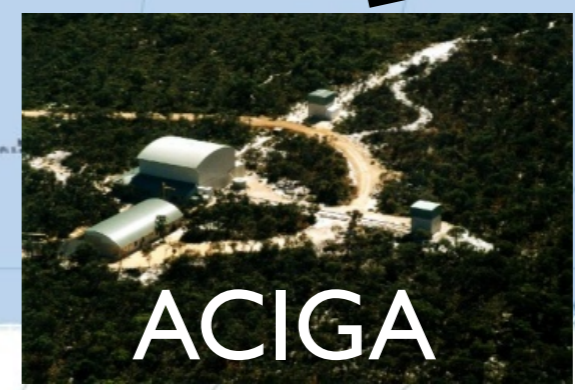
# LIGO

# LSC

# LIGO Scientific Collaboration



# International Network



# Sept. 14, 2015

## LIGO Hanford



## GEO 600



## KAGRA



## VIRGO



## LIGO India

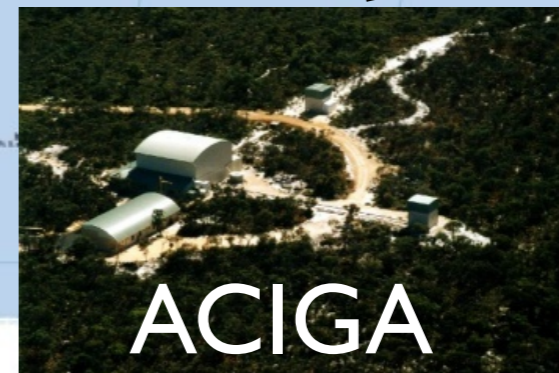


project approved

## LIGO Livingston



## ACIGA



# Sept. 14, 2015

## LIGO Hanford



## GEO 600



## KAGRA



## VIRGO



## LIGO Livingston



## LIGO India



project approved

## ACIGA



LIGO Hanford



LIGO Livingston



VIRGO



AGRA



LIGO India



Strain ( $10^{-21}$ )

Strain ( $10^{-21}$ )

Strain ( $10^{-21}$ )

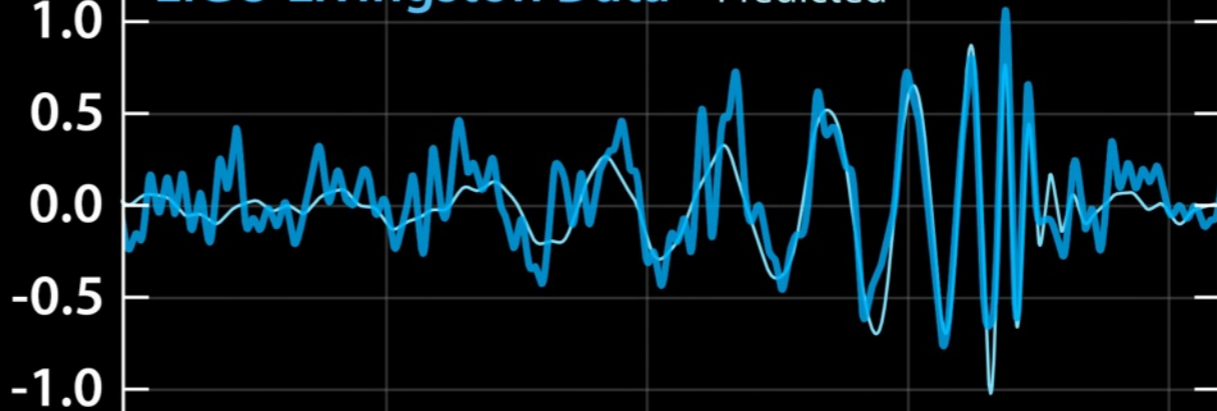
LIGO Hanford Data

Predicted

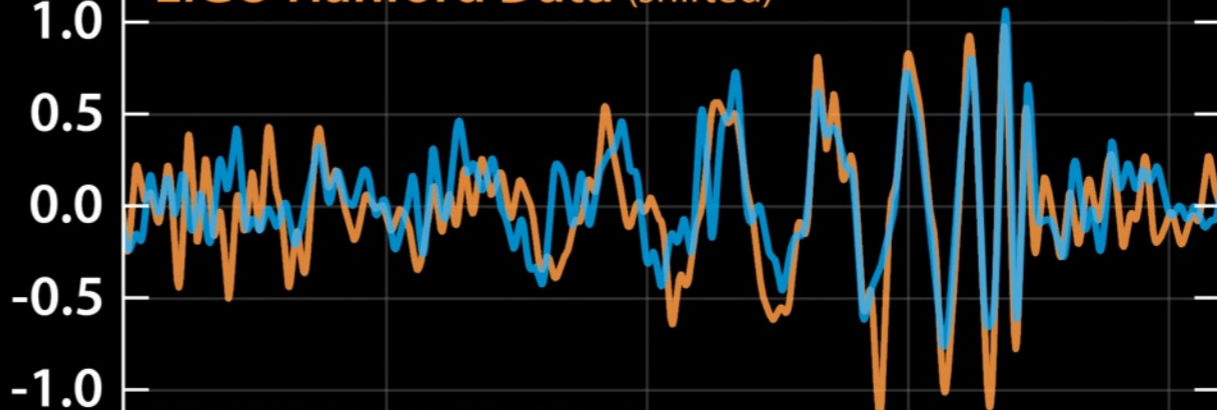


LIGO Livingston Data

Predicted



LIGO Hanford Data (shifted)



LIGO Livingston Data

0.30

0.35

0.40

0.45

Time (sec)



# two black holes merging

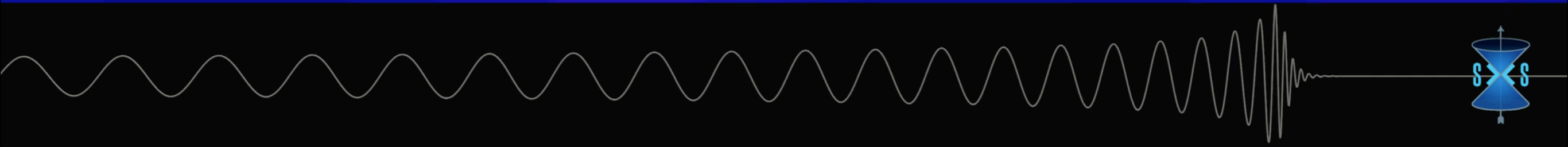
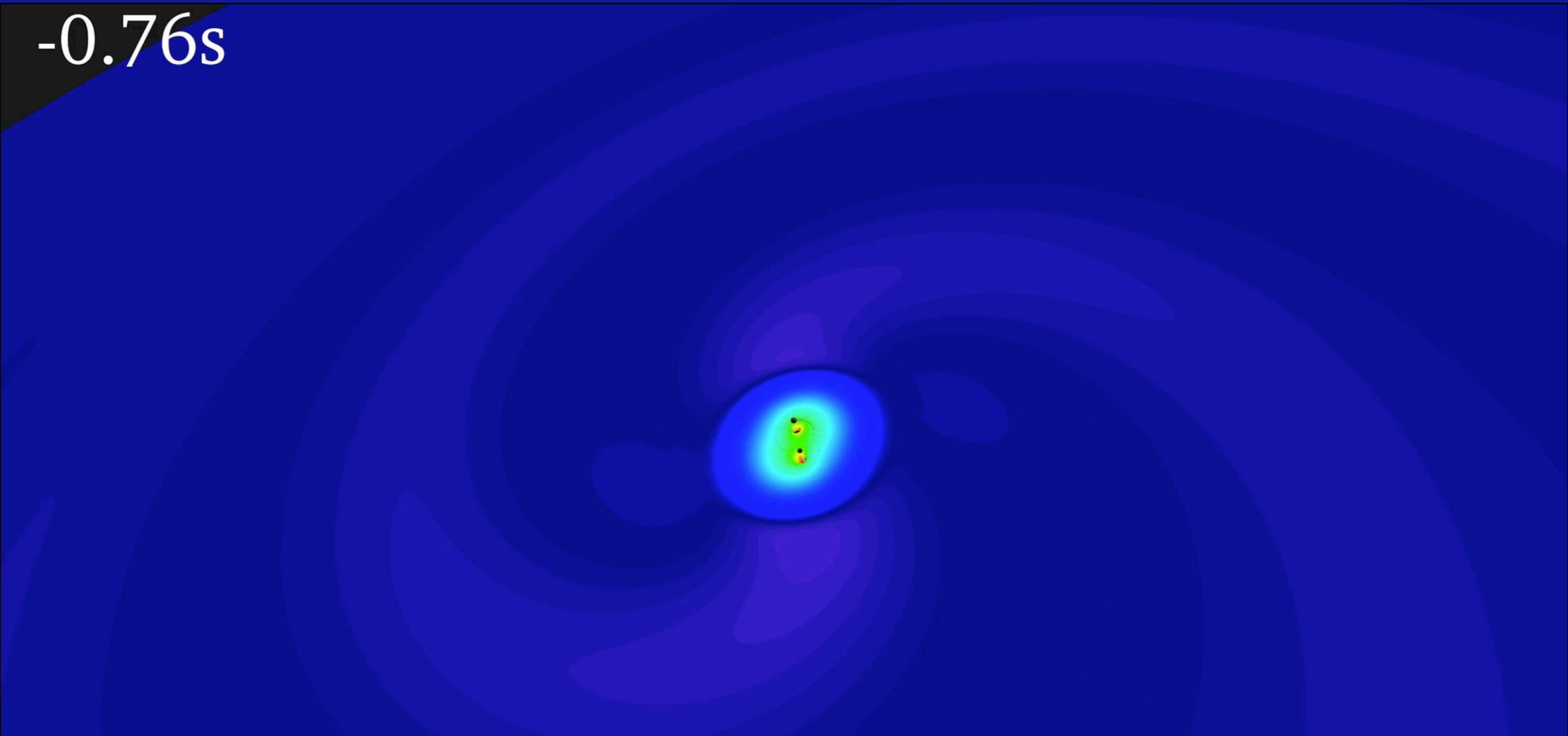


# two black holes merging



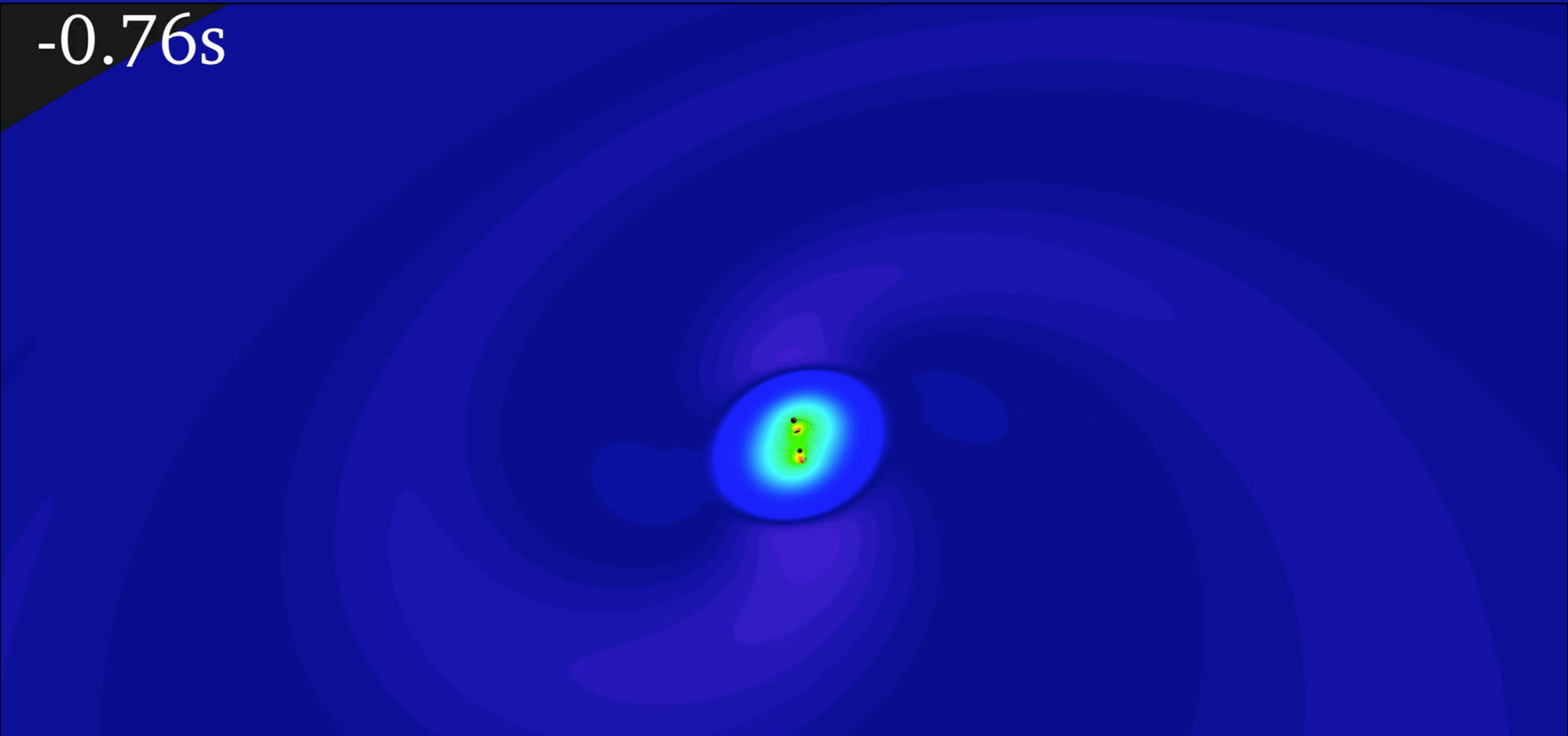
# Simulation of the event

-0.76s



# Simulation of the event

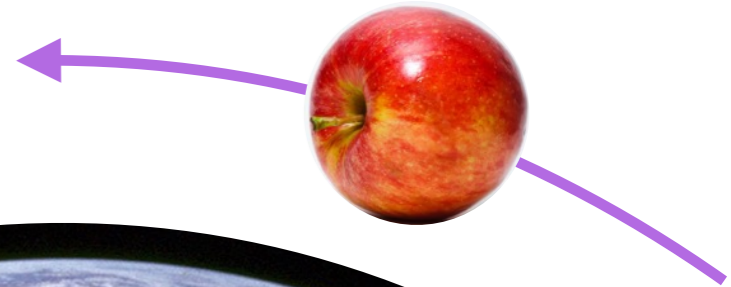
-0.76s



# What is a Gravitational Wave?

$$F = \frac{Gm_1m_2}{r^2}$$

Implies immediate  
action at a distance



**Sir Isaac Newton**

By Sir Godfrey Kneller

- <http://www.newton.cam.ac.uk/art/portrait.html>

Earth - By NASA/Apollo 17 crew; taken by either Harrison Schmitt or Ron Evans  
- [http://www.nasa.gov/images/content/115334main\\_image\\_feature\\_329\\_ys\\_full.jpg](http://www.nasa.gov/images/content/115334main_image_feature_329_ys_full.jpg)  
- apple by Abhijit Tembhekar from Mumbai, India

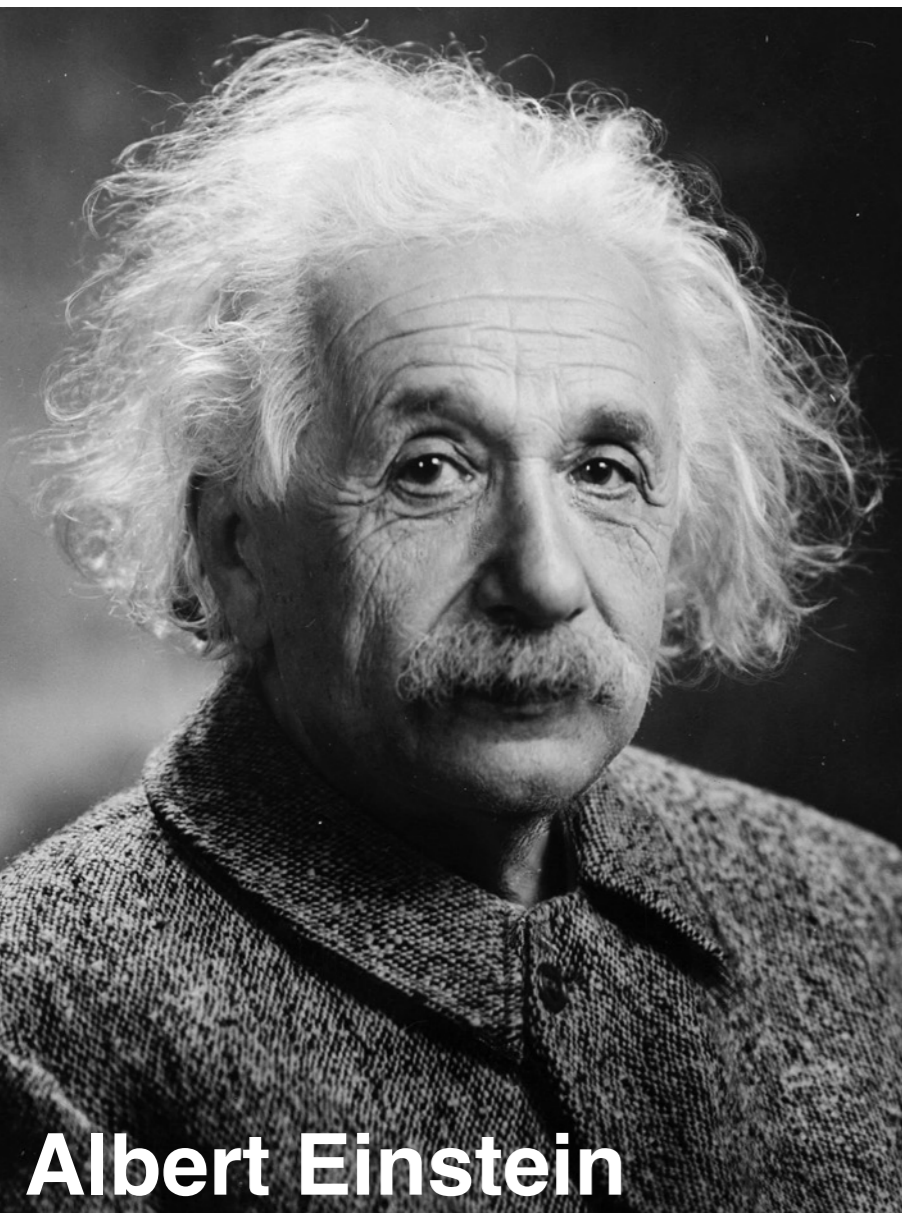
# What is a Gravitational Wave?

Predicted by Einstein in 1916 as part of GR.

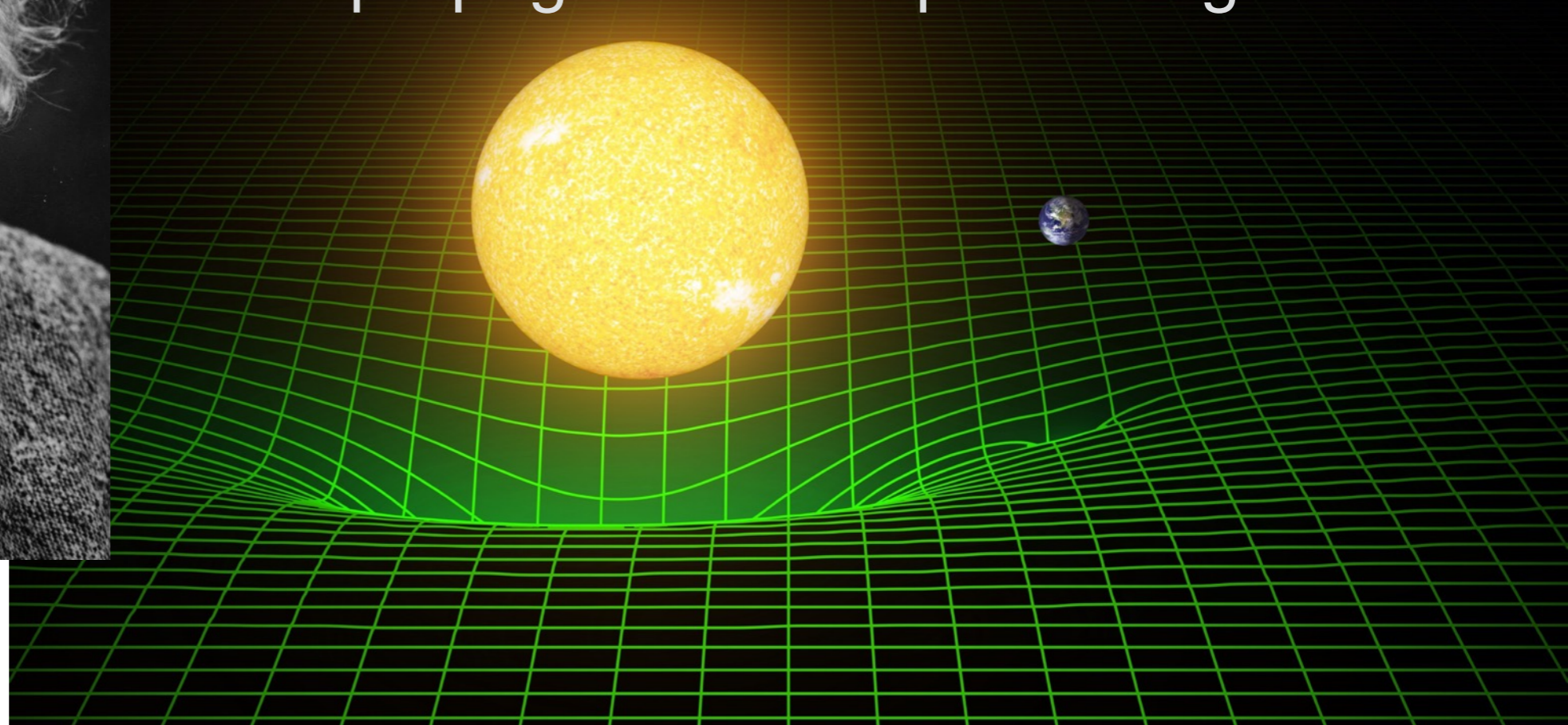
“Spacetime tells matter how to move,  
matter tells spacetime how to curve”

- J. A. Wheeler

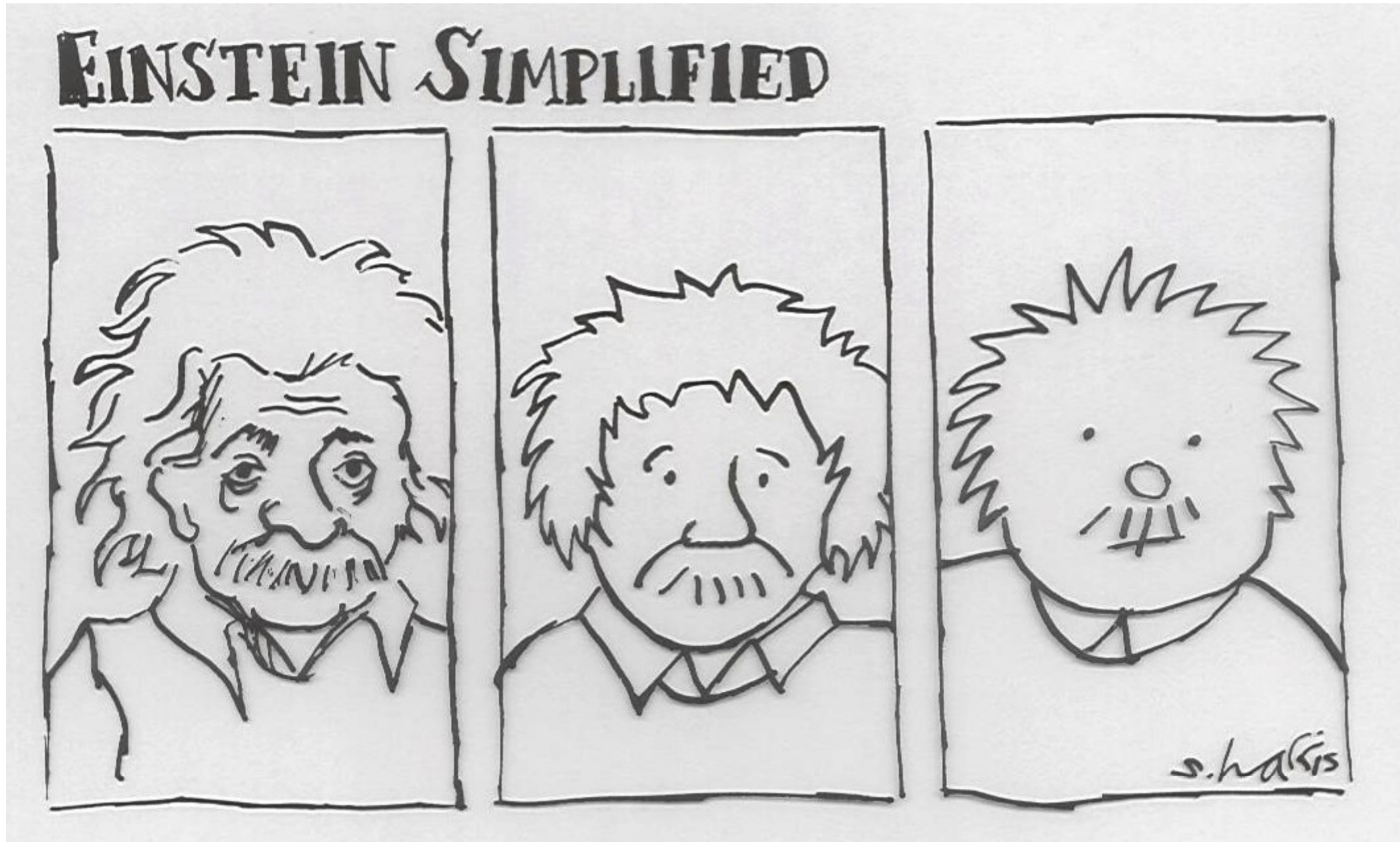
There are traveling wave solutions, the  
waves propagate at the speed of light



**Albert Einstein**

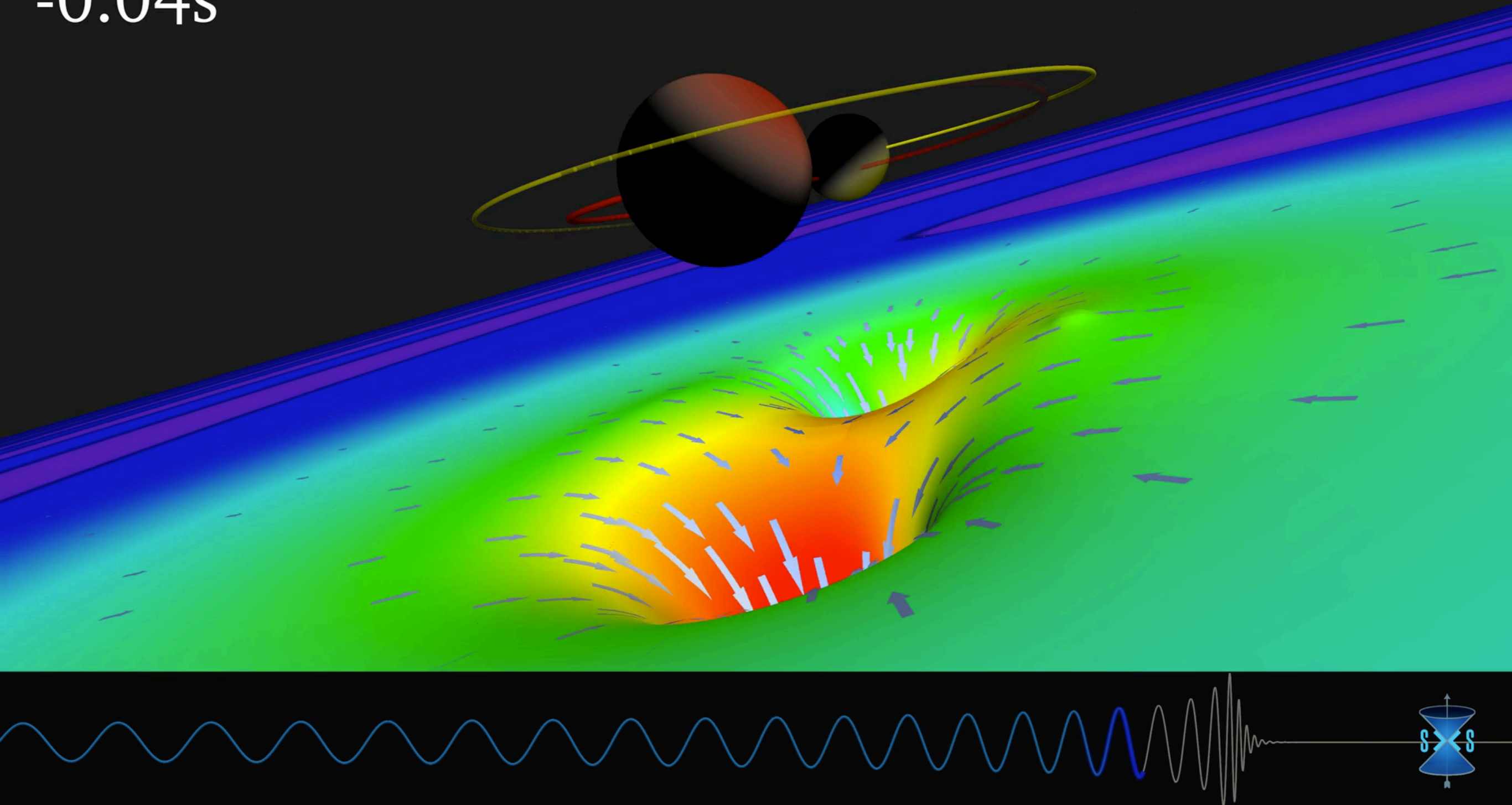


# What is a Gravitational Wave?



# Simulation of the event

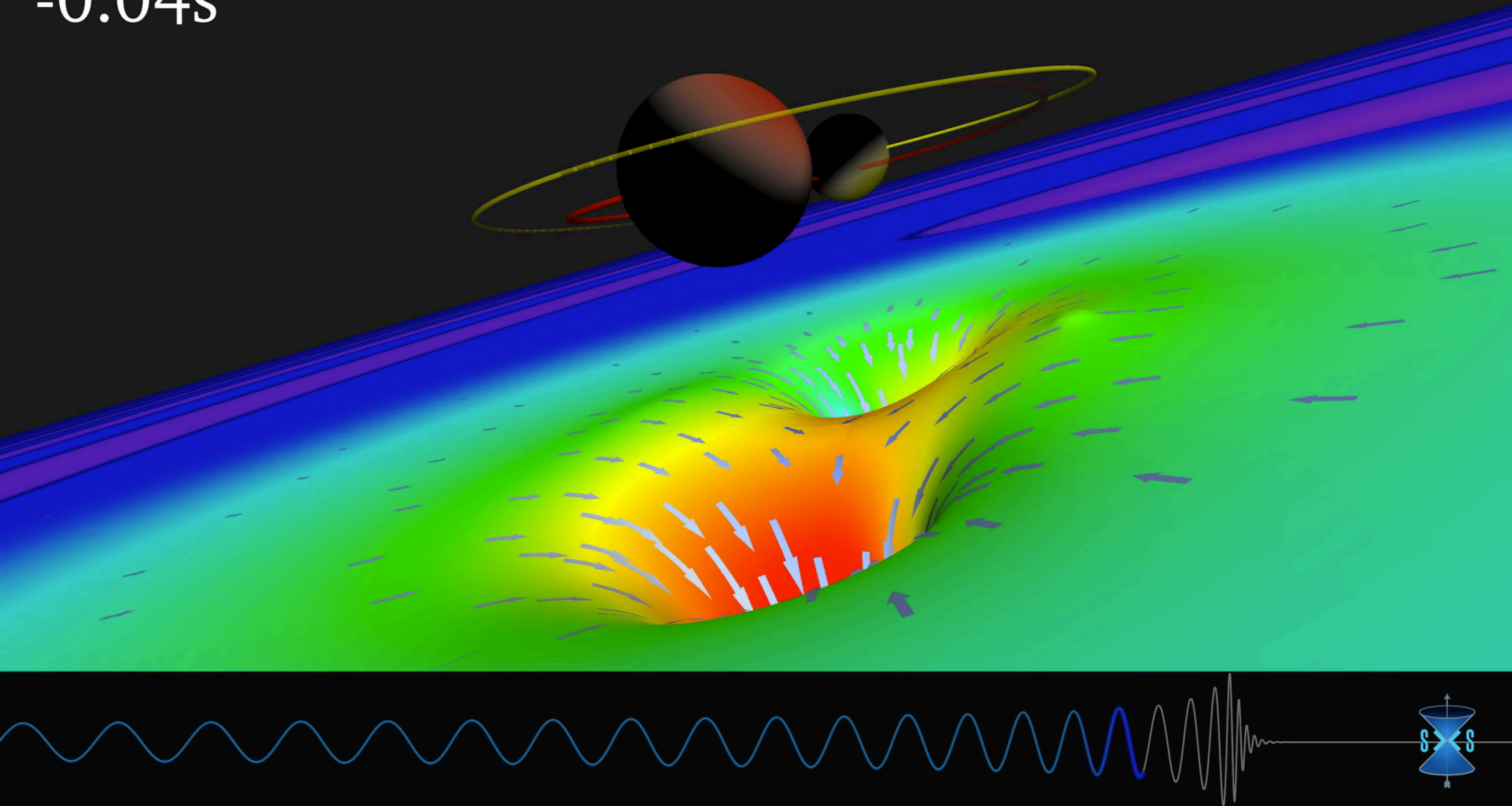
-0.04s



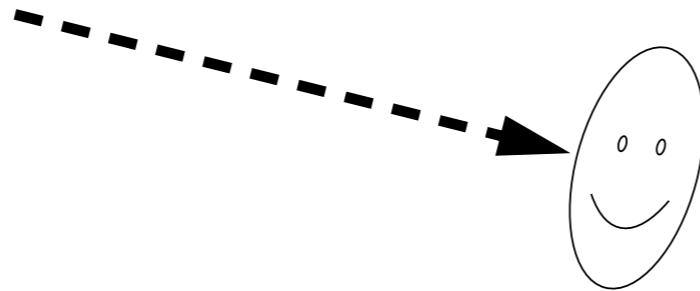
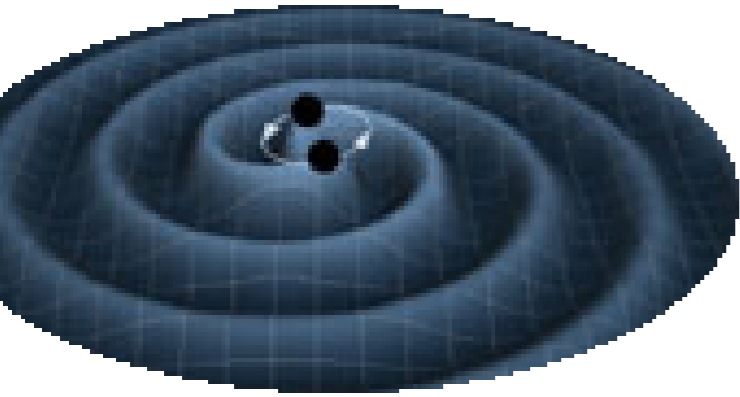


# Simulation of the event

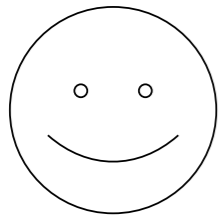
-0.04s



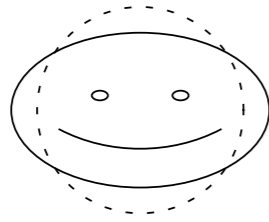
# The LIGO concept



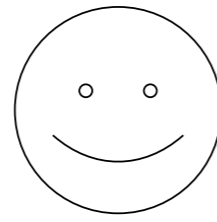
$h_+$



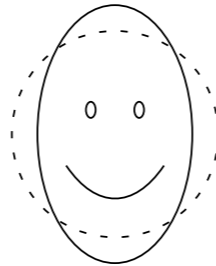
Time = 0



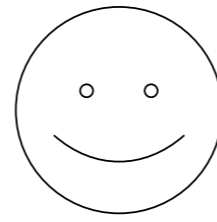
$T = \frac{P}{4}$



$T = \frac{P}{2}$



$T = \frac{3P}{4}$



T = 1 Period

input light

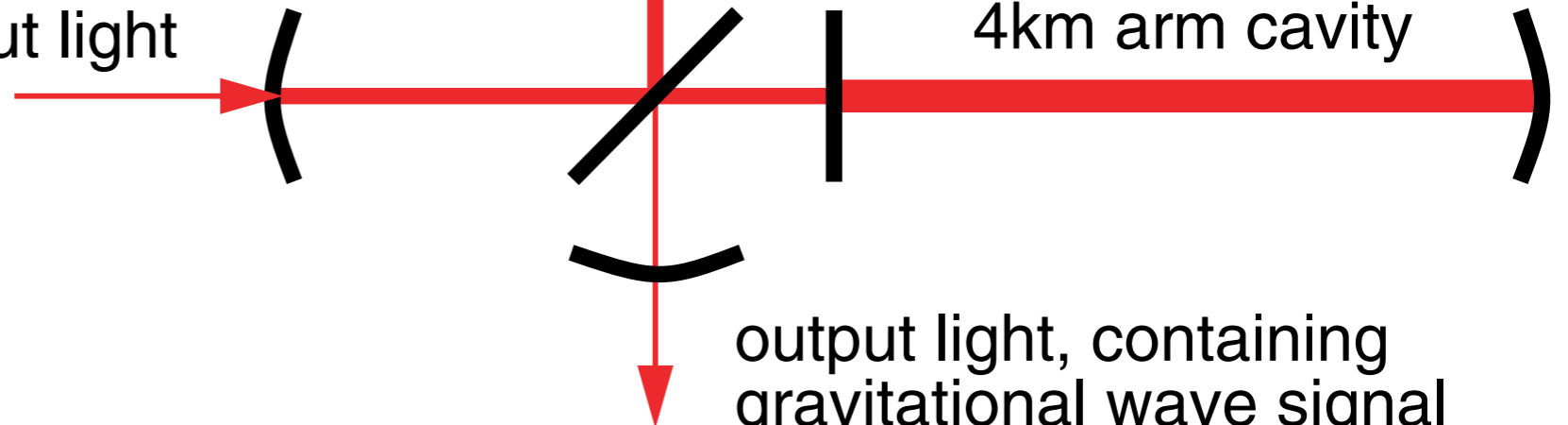


4km arm cavity



4km arm cavity

output light, containing gravitational wave signal

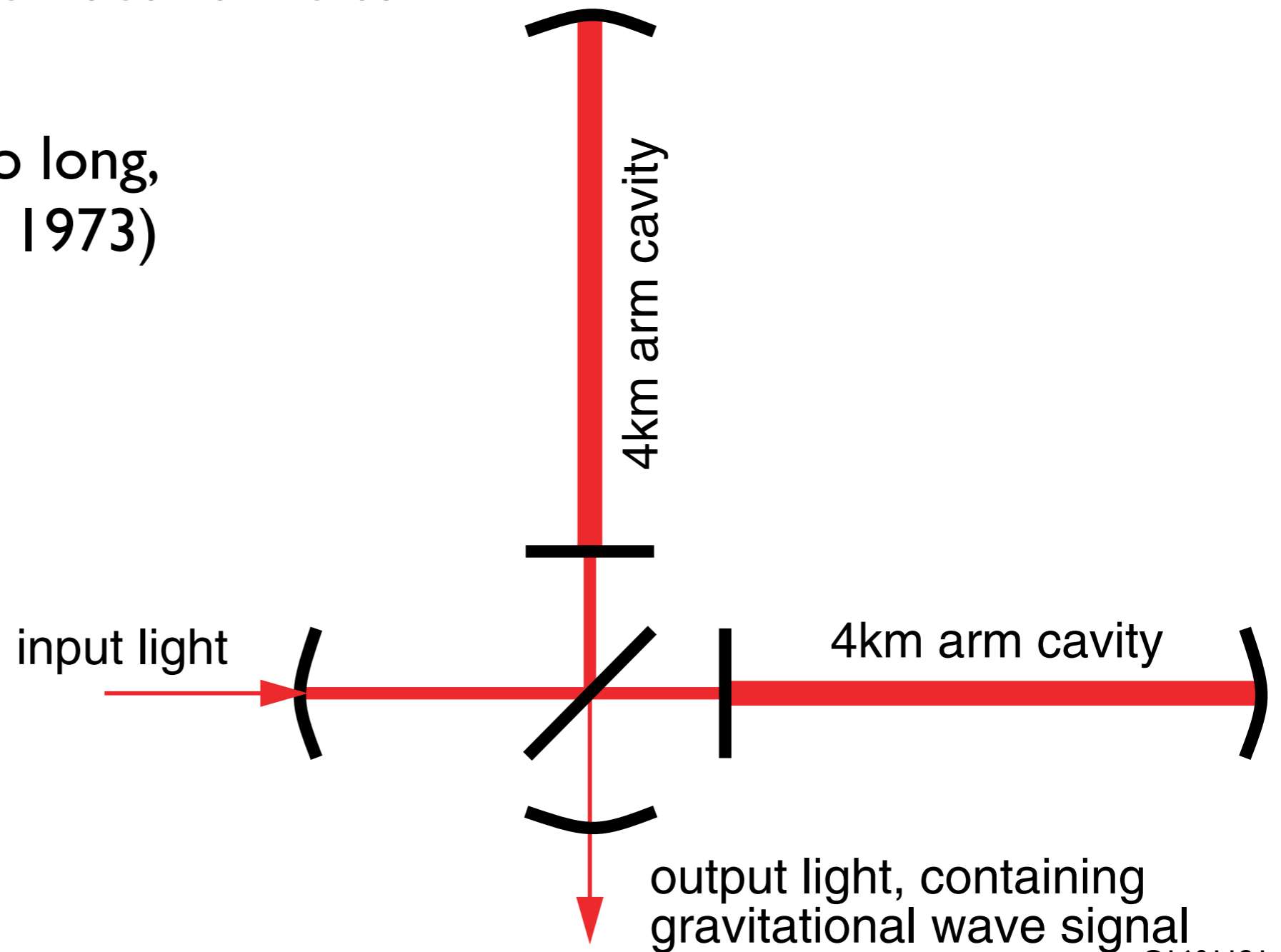


# The LIGO concept

## why it is nearly impossible

Gravitational waves are hard to measure because space doesn't like to stretch.

(that's why it's taken so long,  
Einstein 1916, Weiss 1973)





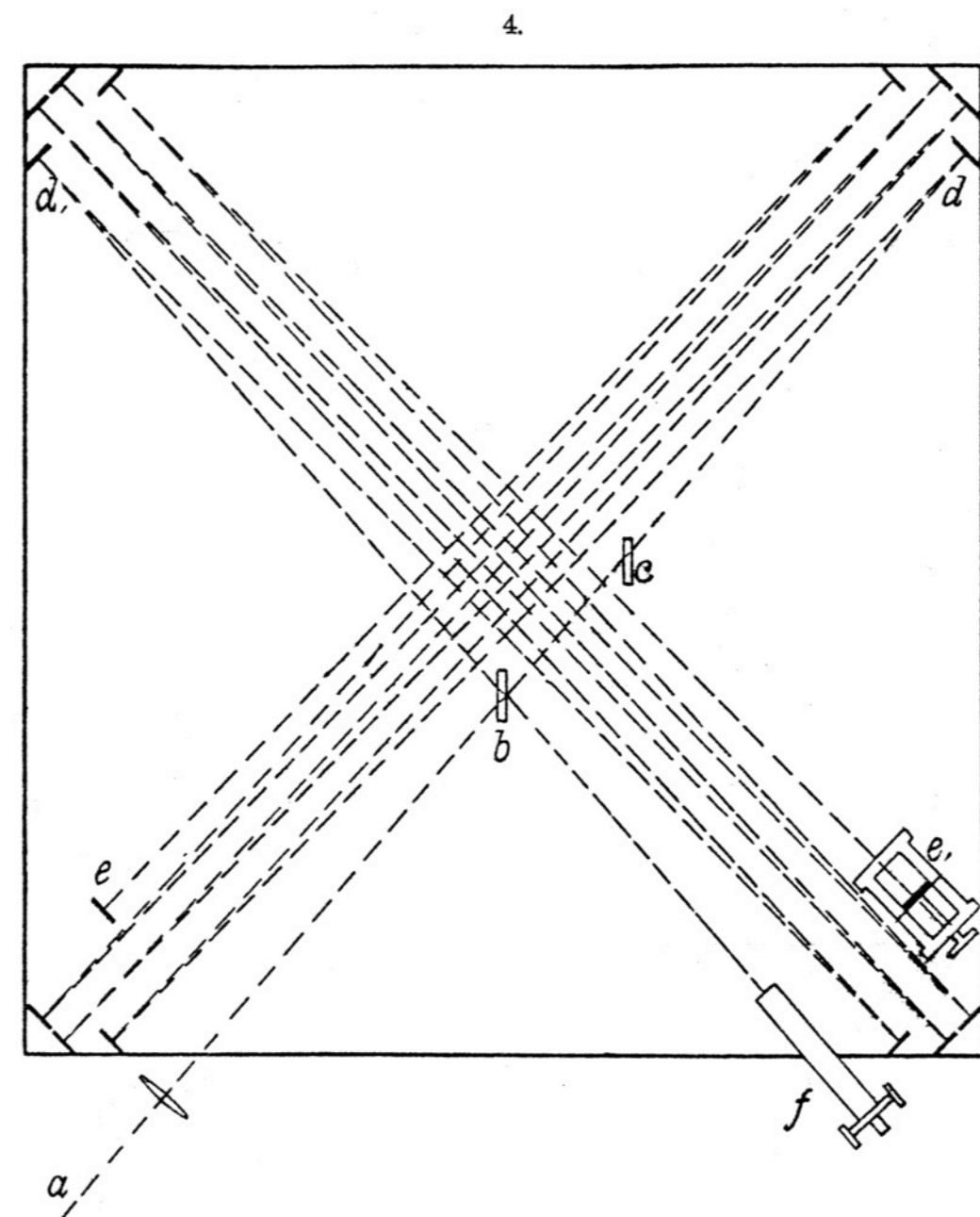


# Michelson's Interferometer!



Edward Morley

1887 experiment to measure  
 "luminiferous ether" with an interferometer



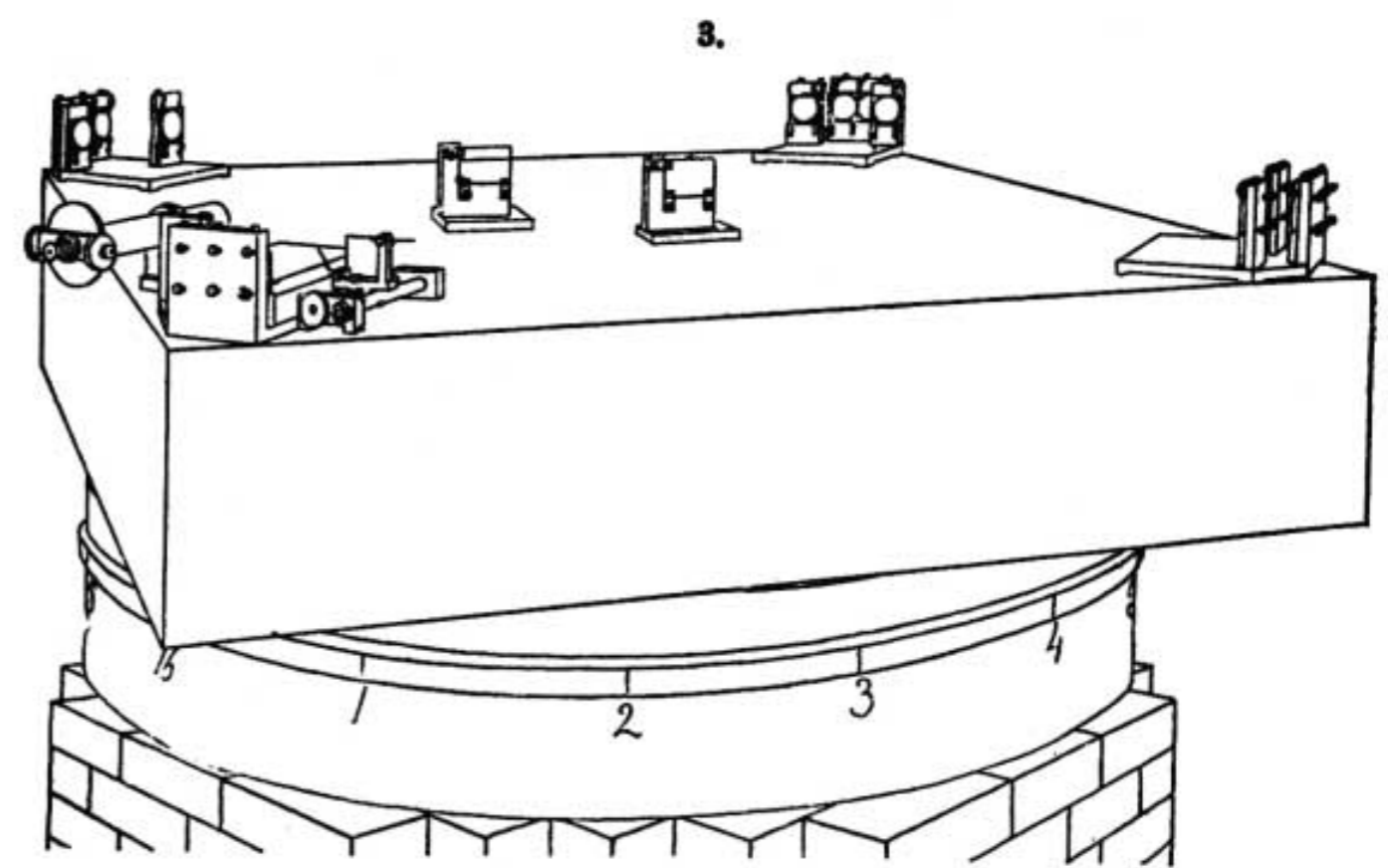
Albert Michelson

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1887 experiment to measure  
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Albert Michelson

# Michelson's Interferometer!

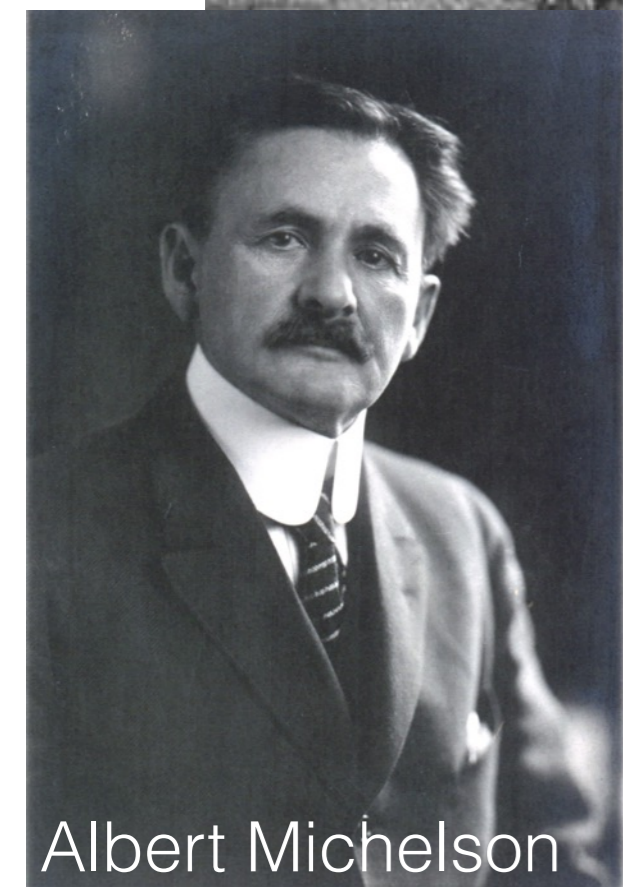
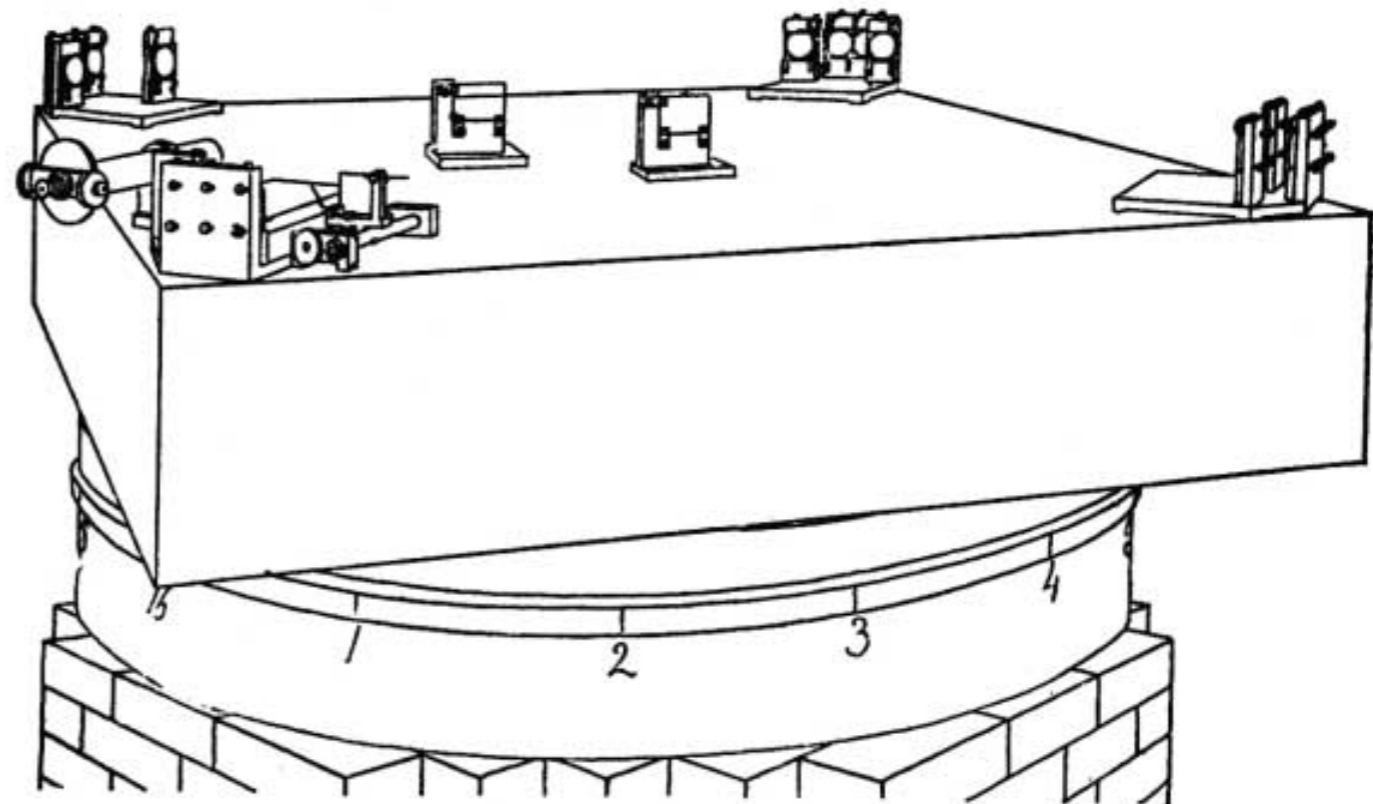
Edward Morley



1887 experiment to measure  
“luminiferous ether” with an interferometer

In the first experiment one of the principal difficulties encountered was that of revolving the apparatus without producing distortion; and another was its extreme sensitiveness to vibration. This was so great that it was impossible to see the interference fringes except at brief intervals when working in the city, even at two o'clock in the morning.

3.



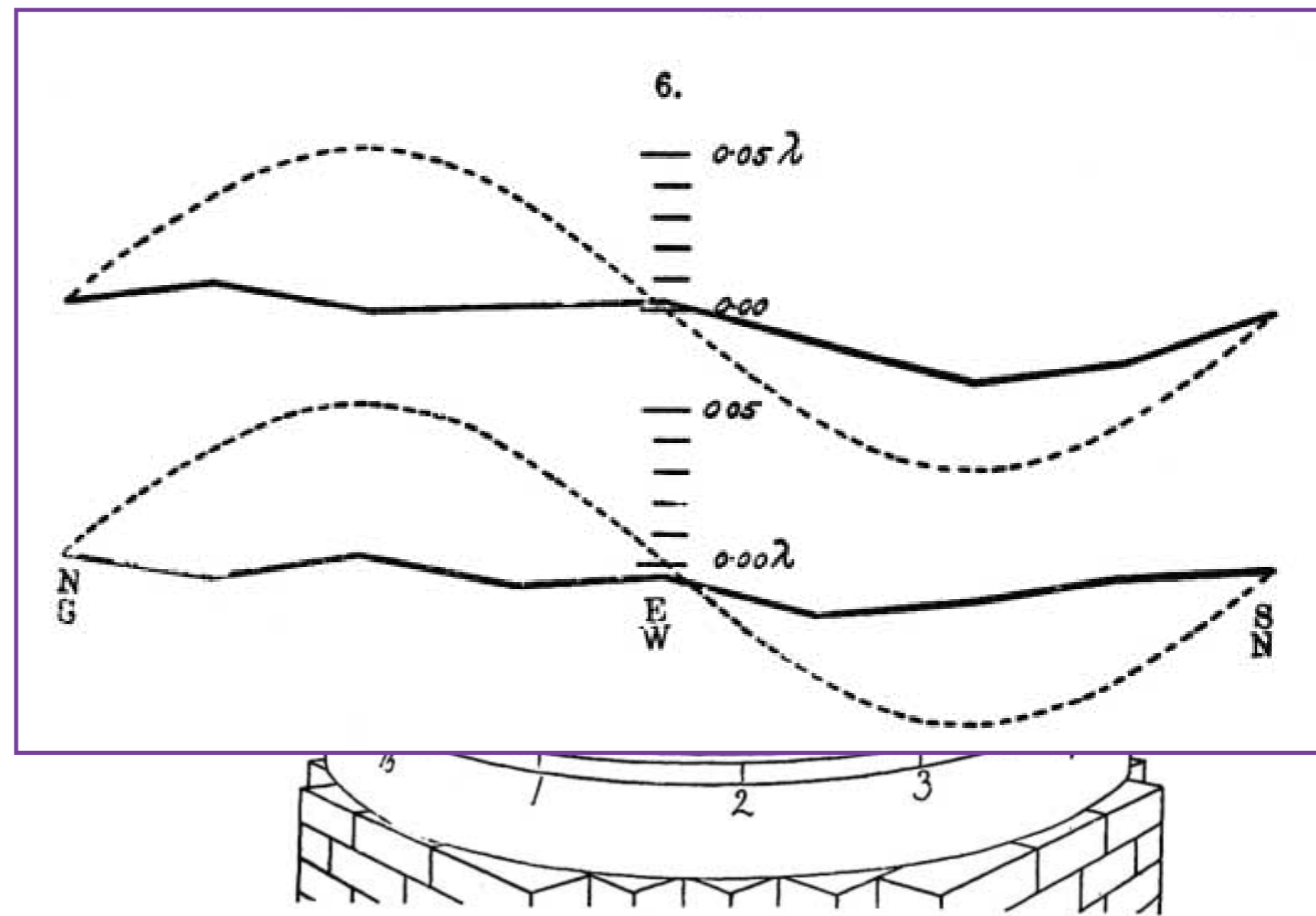
Albert Michelson



# Michelson's Interferometer!



1887 experiment to measure  
"luminiferous ether" with an interferometer

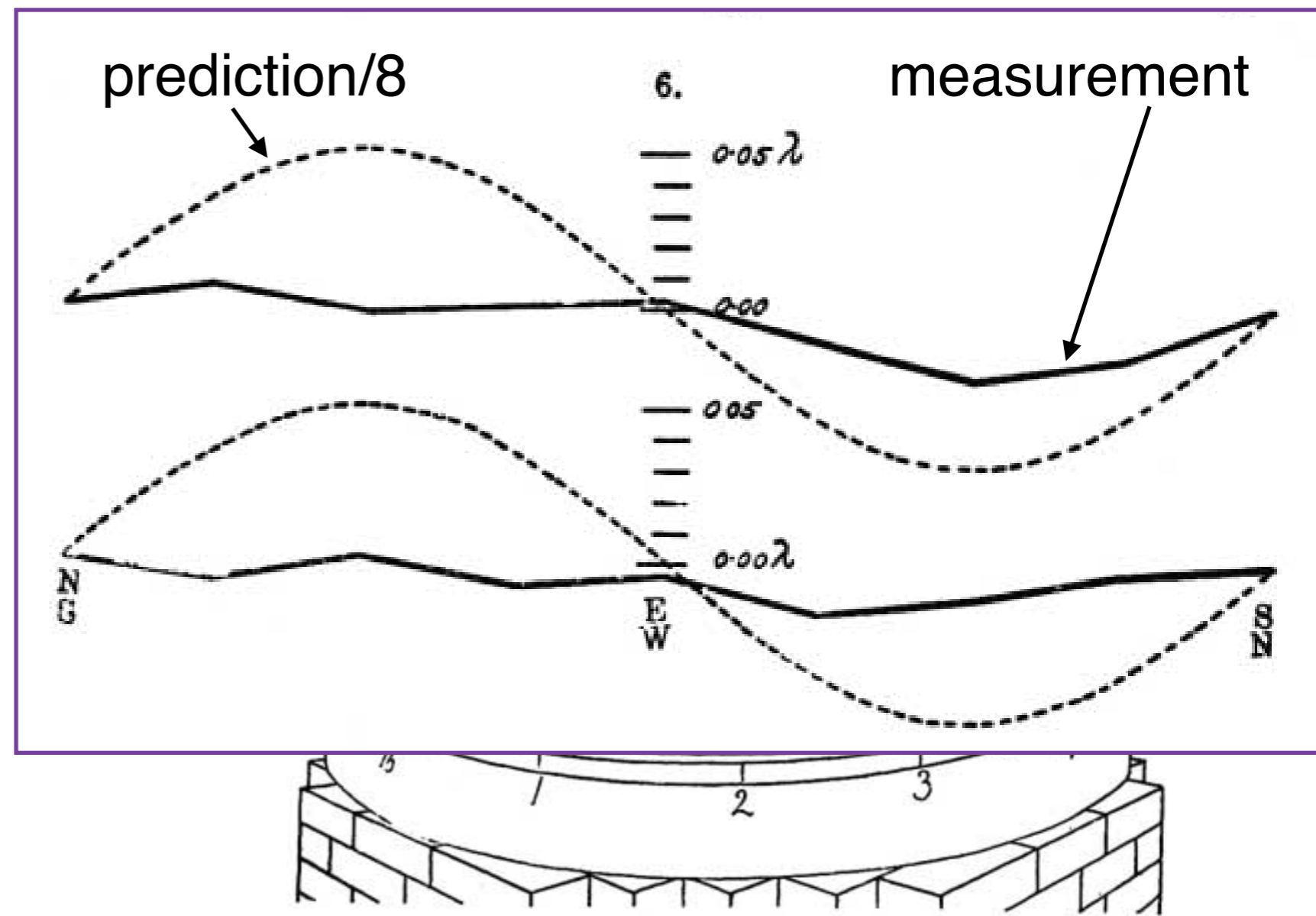


# Michelson's Interferometer!



Edward Morley

1887 experiment to measure "luminiferous ether" with an interferometer

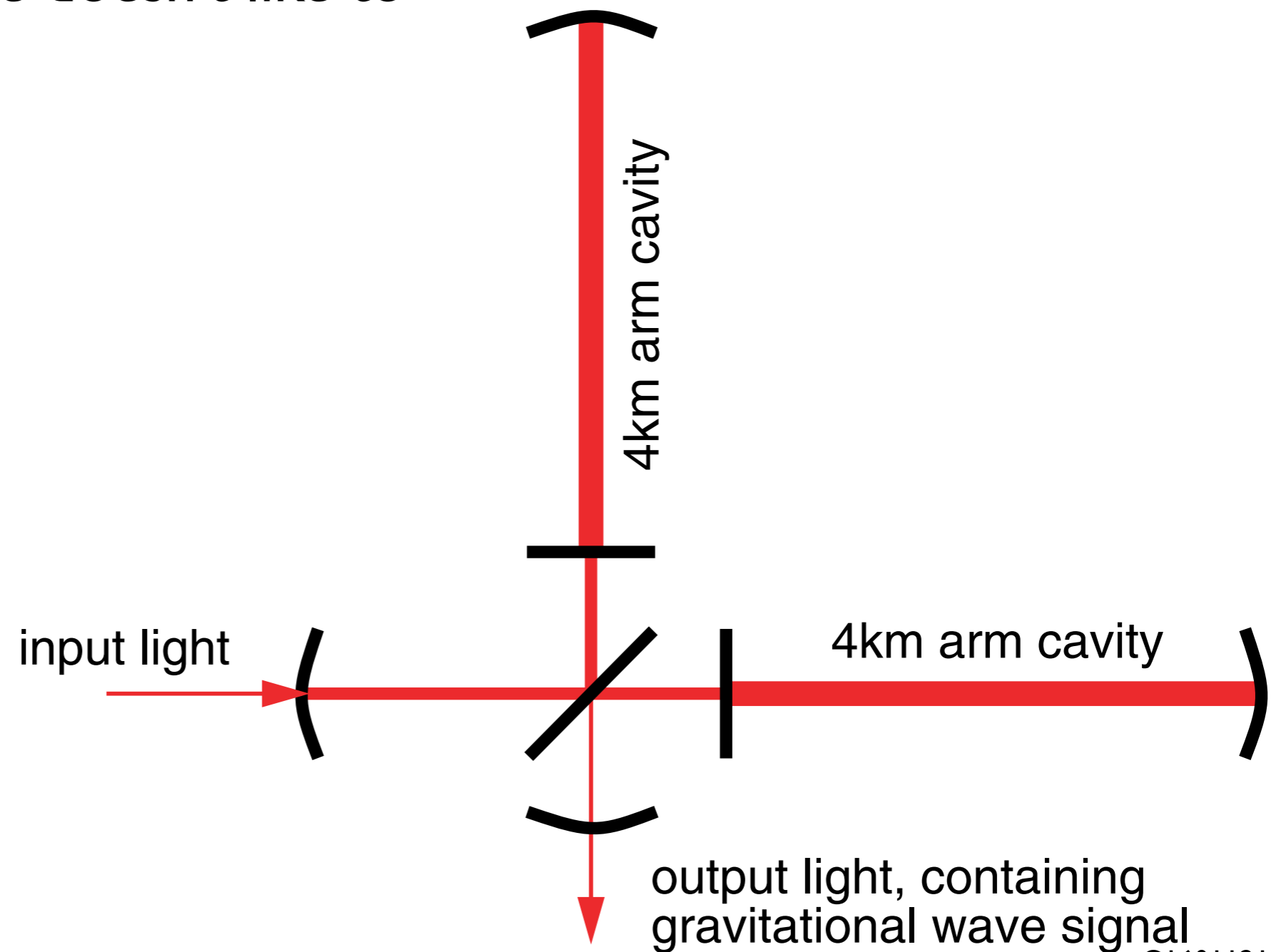


Albert Michelson

# The LIGO concept

## why it is nearly impossible

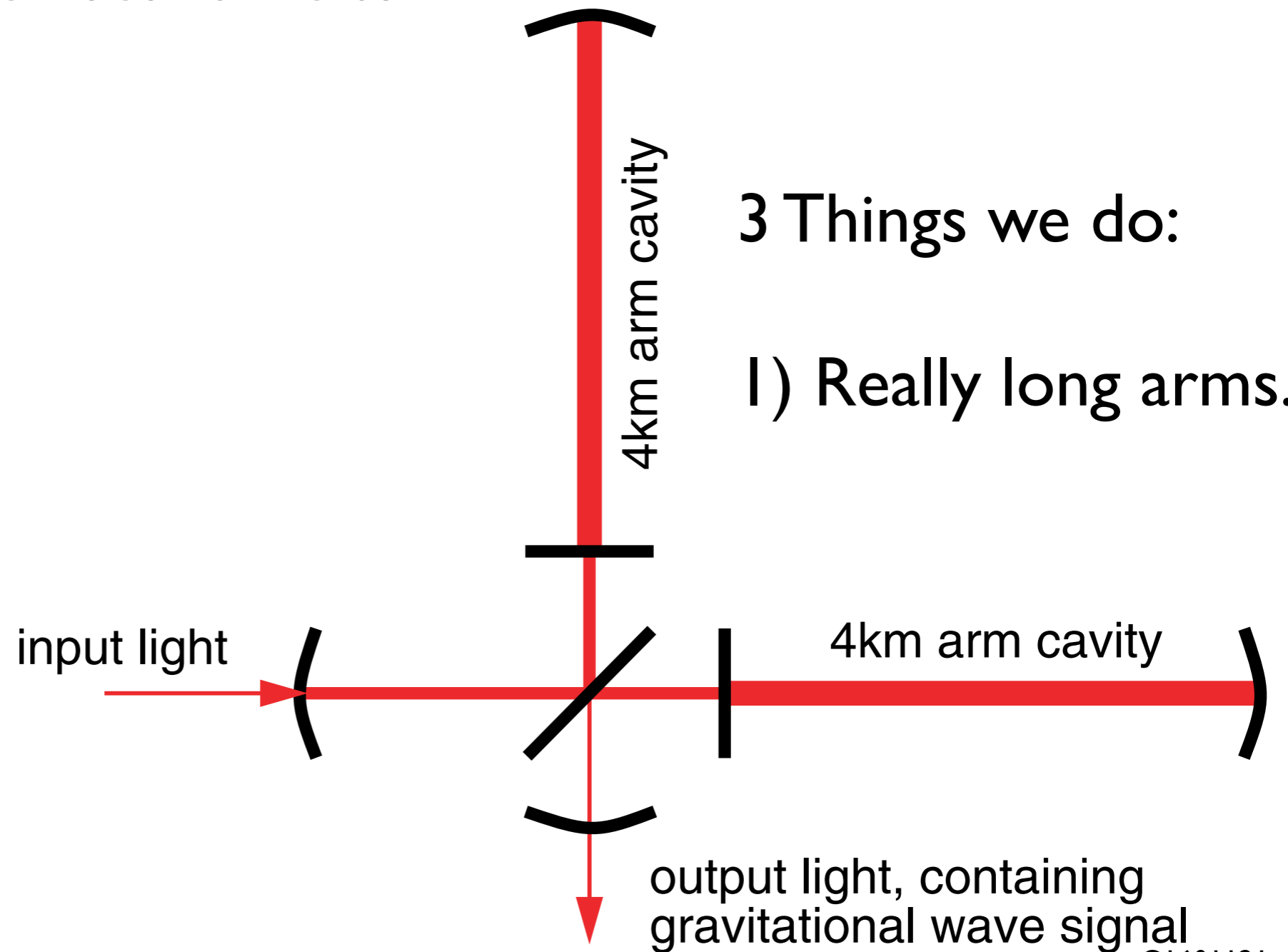
Gravitational waves are hard to measure because space doesn't like to stretch.



# The LIGO concept

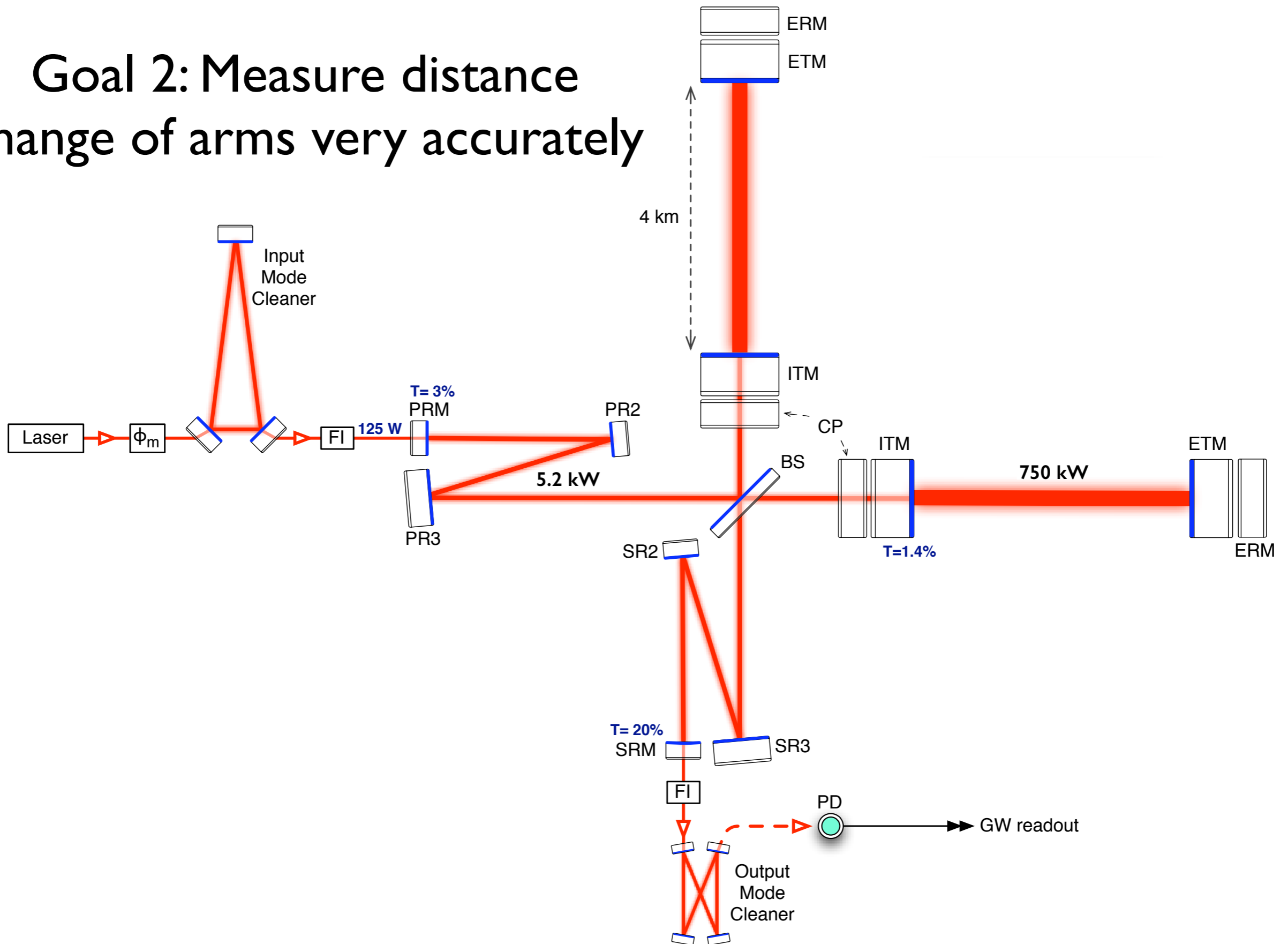
## why it is nearly impossible

Gravitational waves are hard to measure because space doesn't like to stretch.



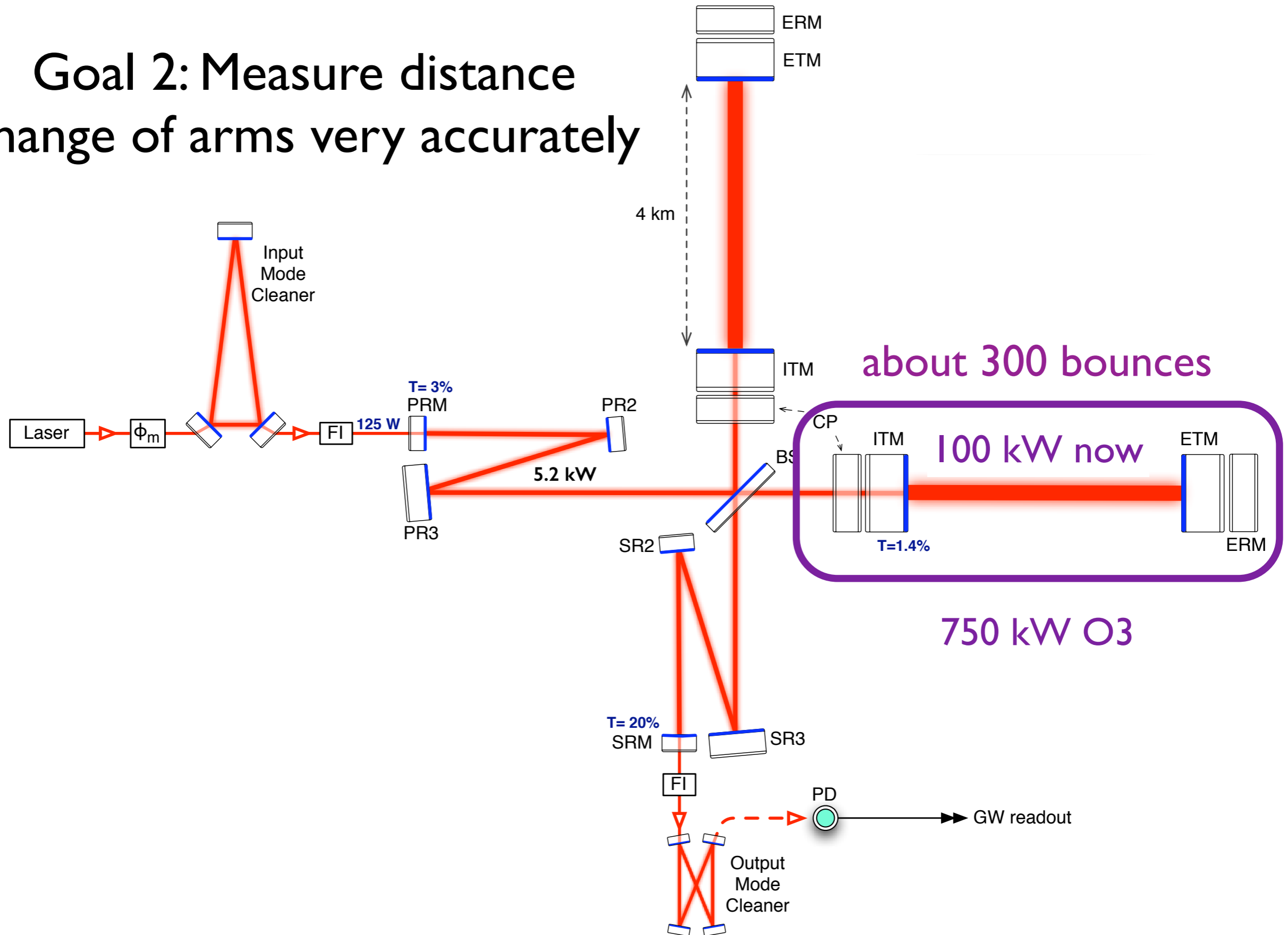
# Layout of the interferometer

Goal 2: Measure distance change of arms very accurately



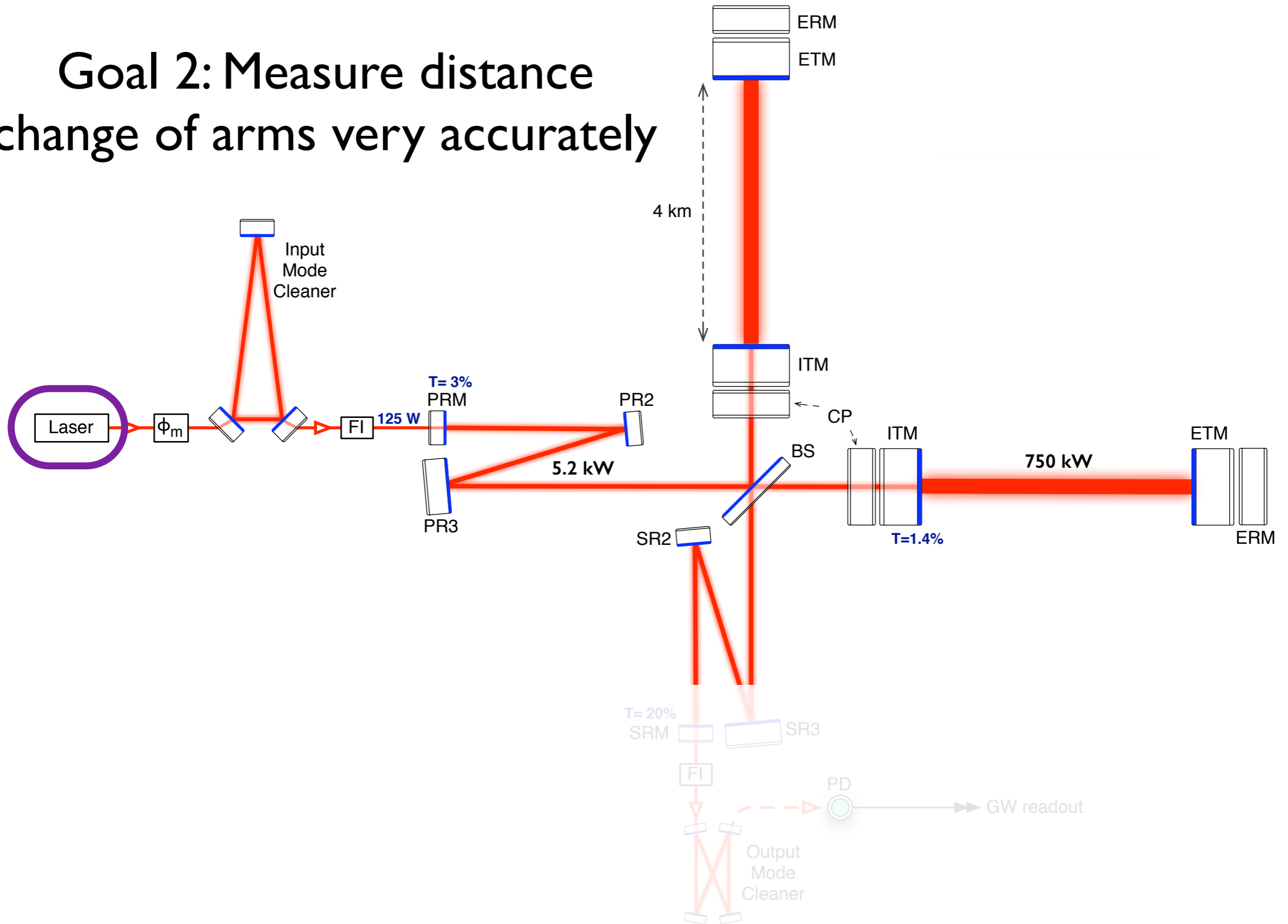
# Fabry-Perot arms

Goal 2: Measure distance change of arms very accurately



# Power

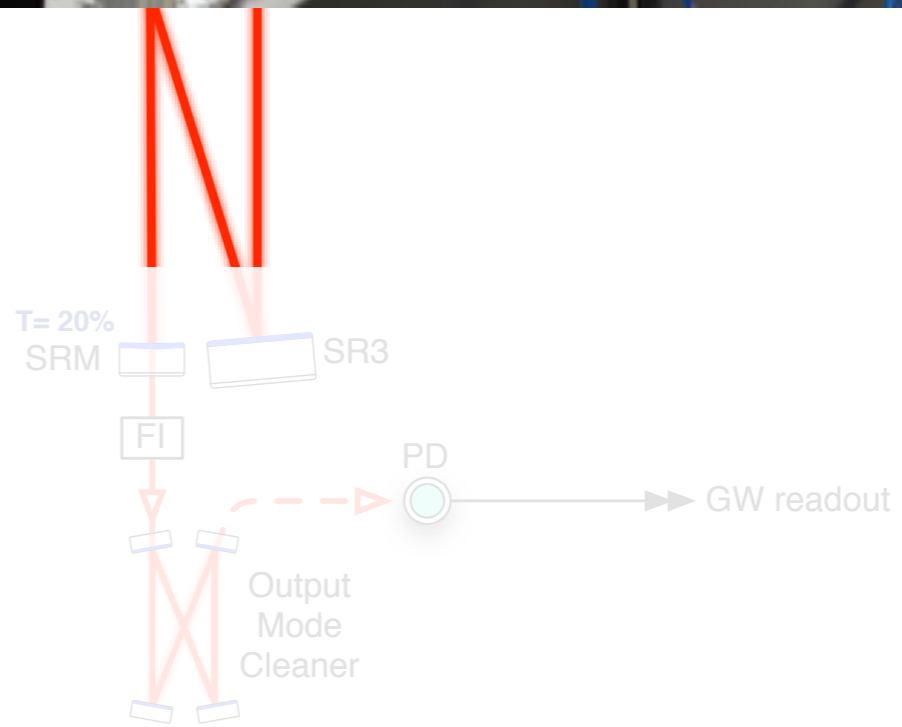
Goal 2: Measure distance change of arms very accurately



# Power

Goal  
change

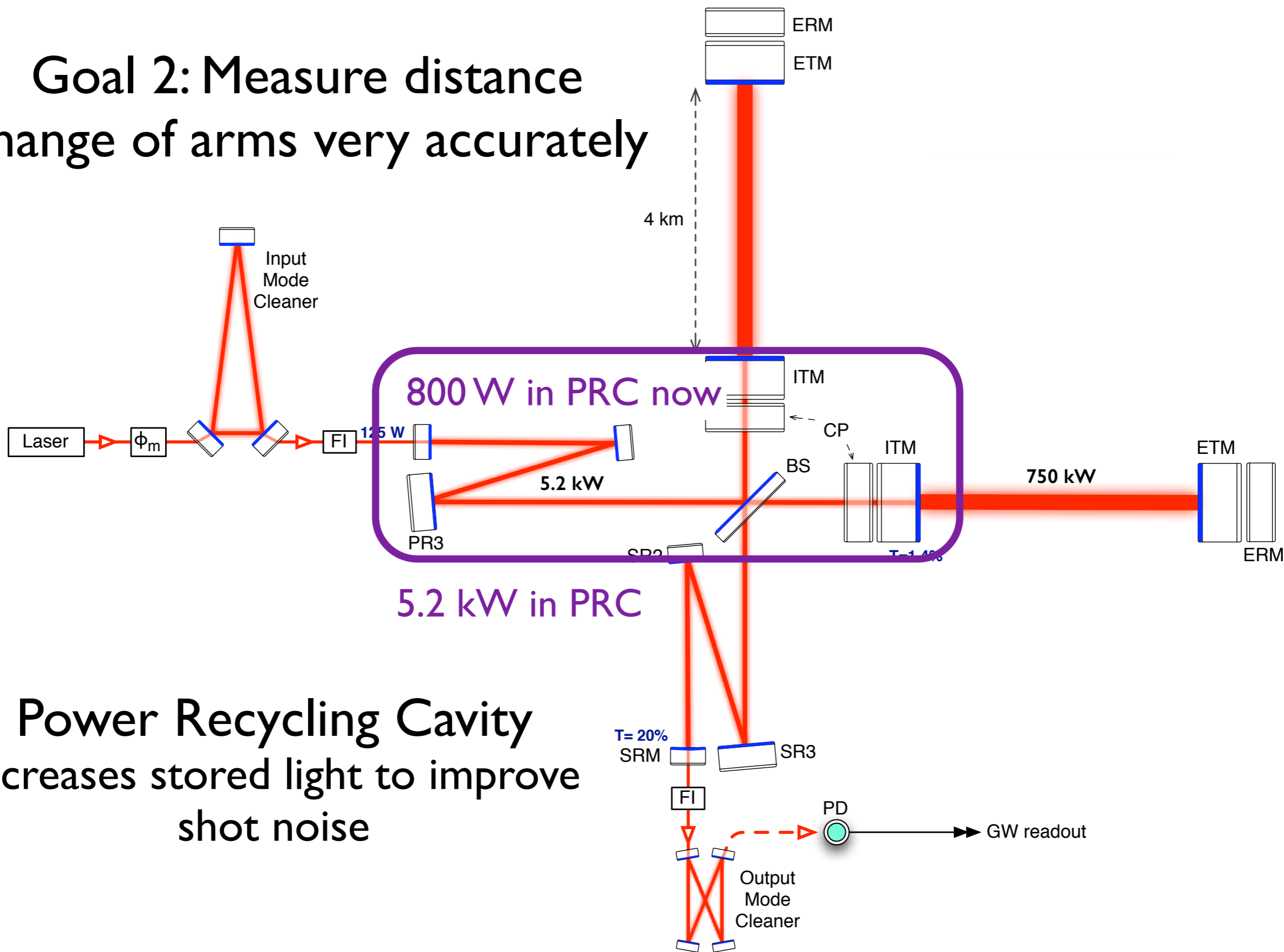
Laser





# Power recycling

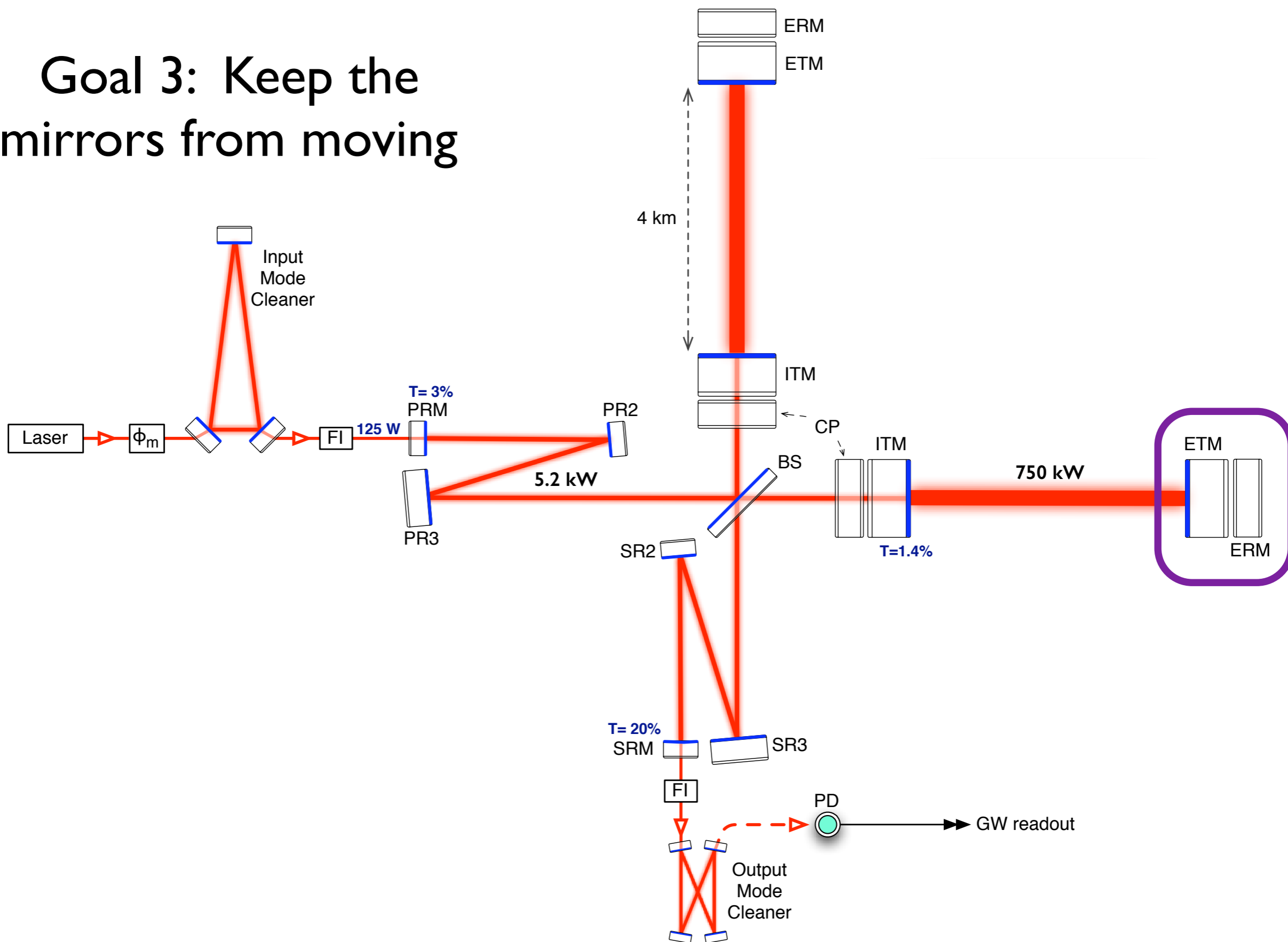
Goal 2: Measure distance change of arms very accurately



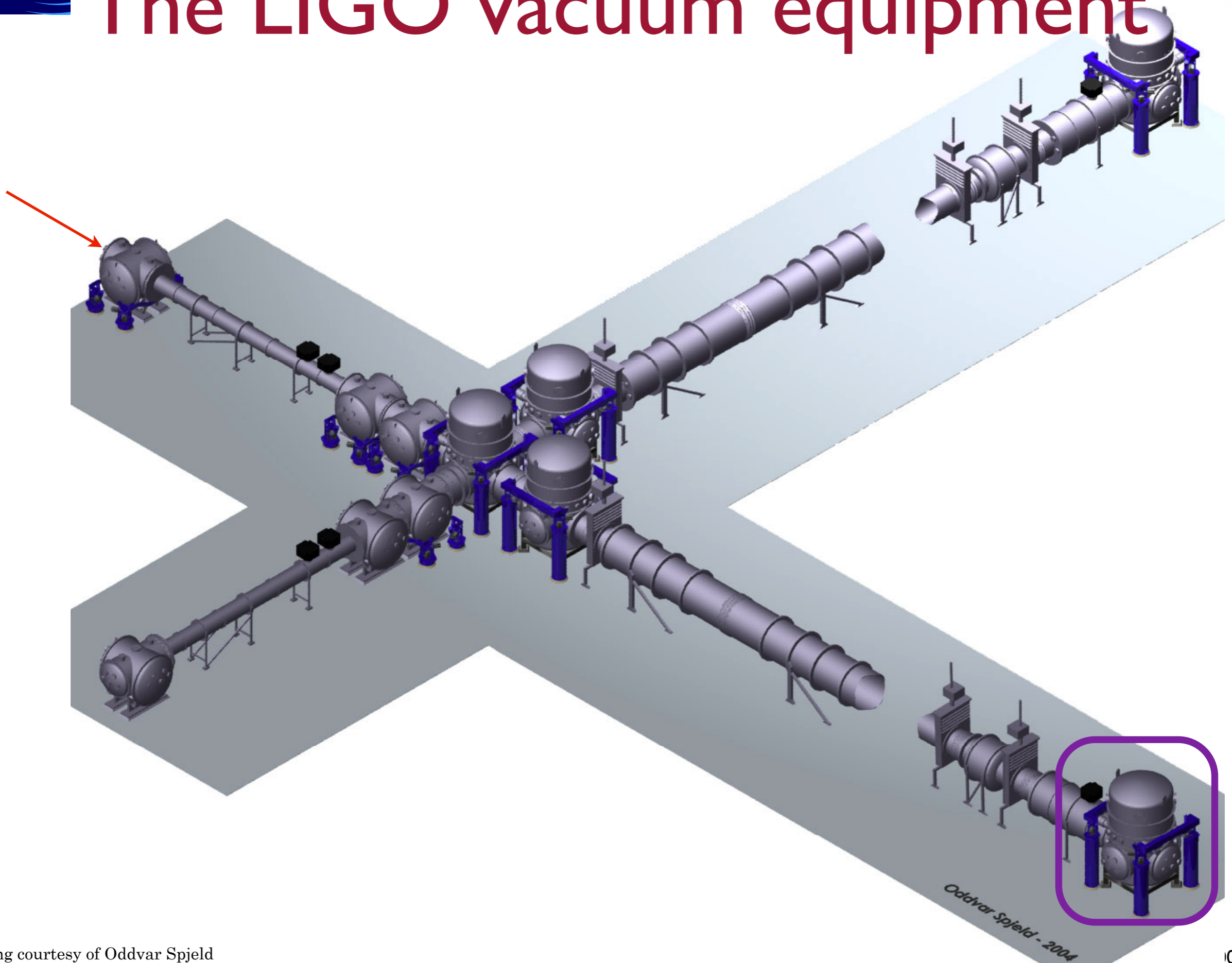
**Power Recycling Cavity** increases stored light to improve shot noise

# Layout of the interferometer

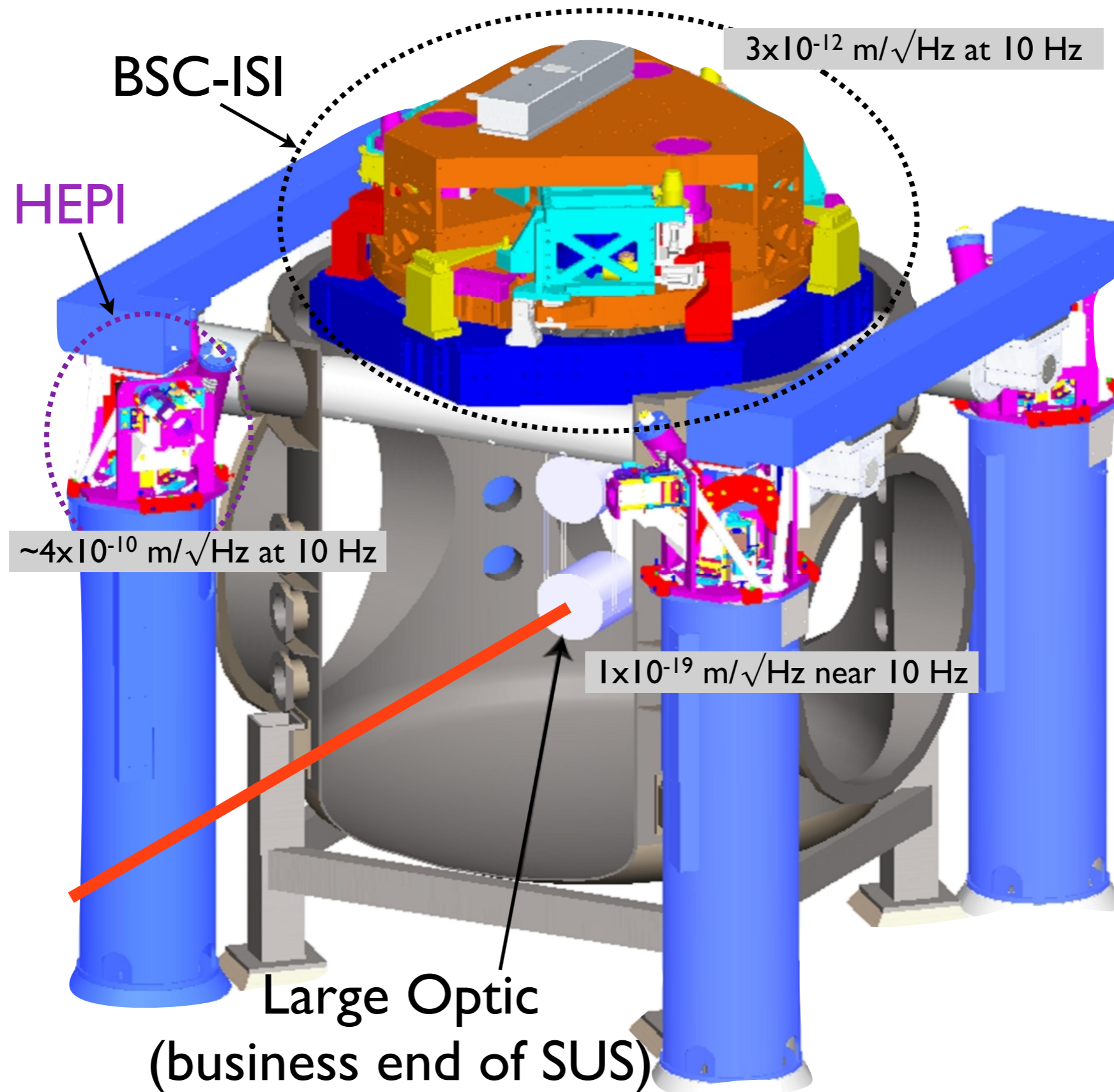
Goal 3: Keep the mirrors from moving



# The LIGO vacuum equipment

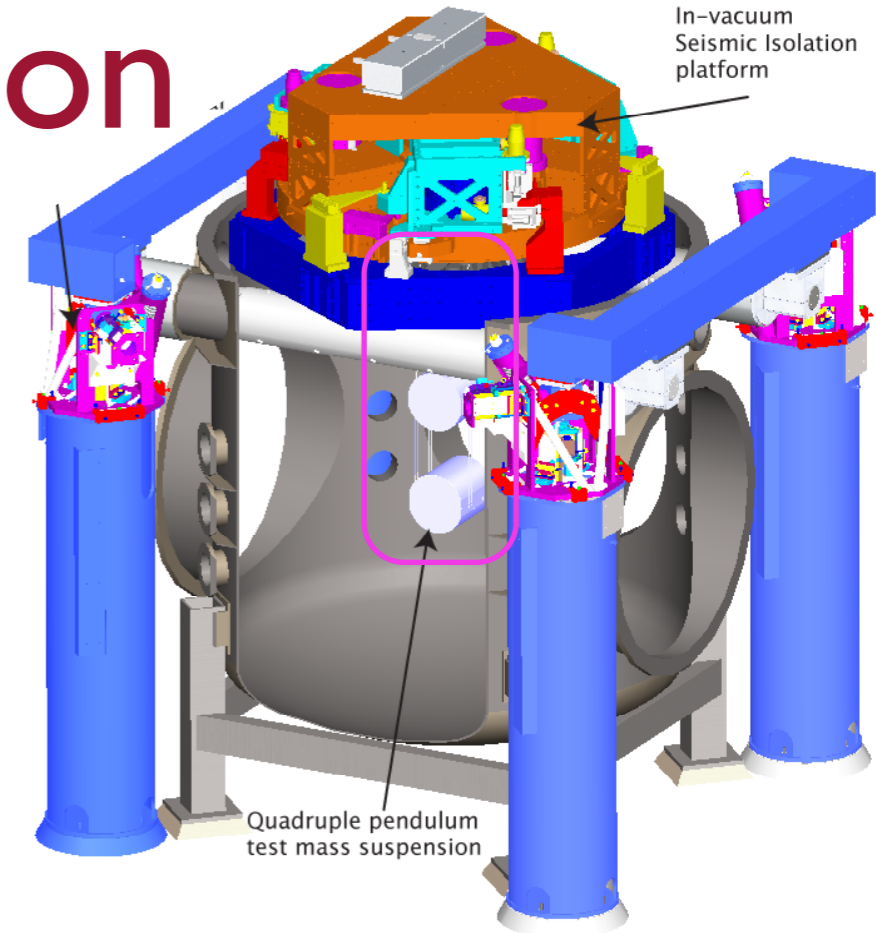


# Overall Isolation of Test Masses



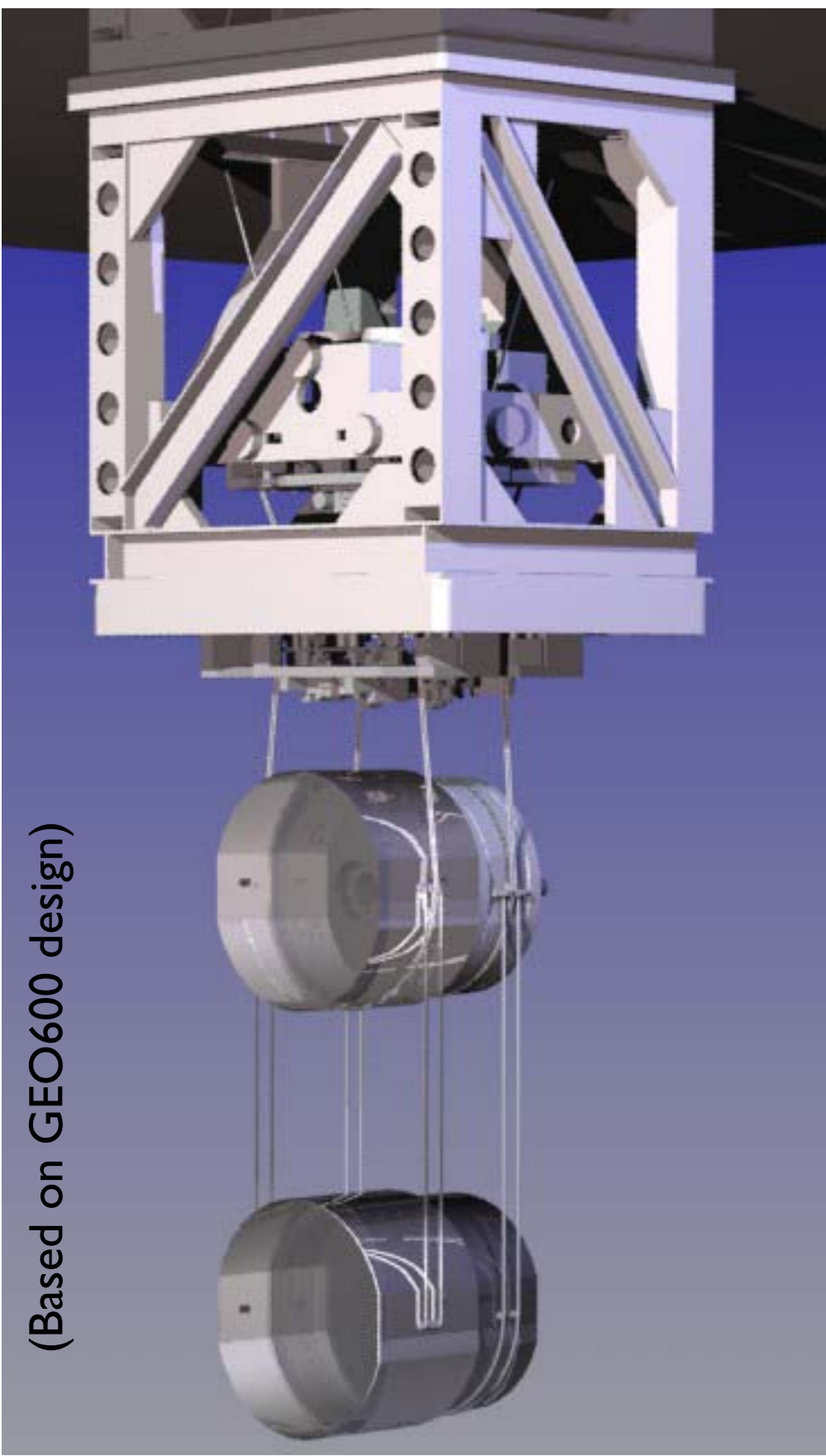
# Pendulum Suspension

In-vacuum  
Seismic Isolation  
platform



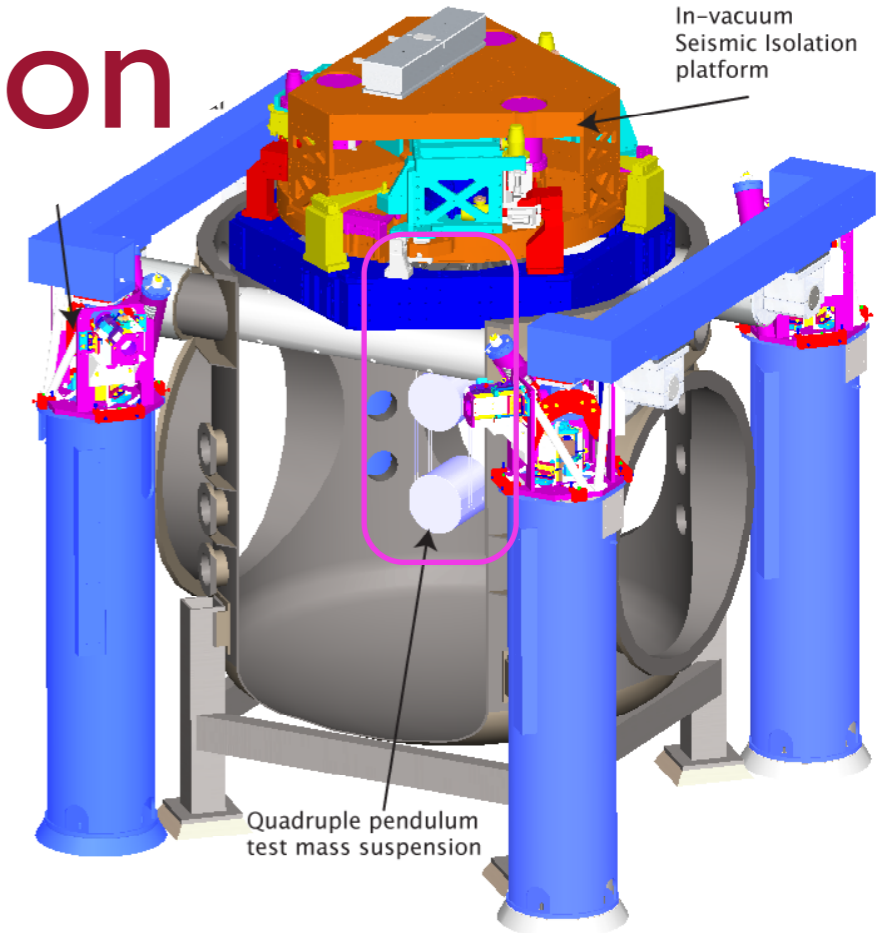
LIGO Mirrors:  
Synthetic fused silica,  
40 kg mass  
34 cm diameter  
20 cm thick

Suspended as a  
4 stage pendulum



# Pendulum Suspension

In-vacuum  
Seismic Isolation  
platform

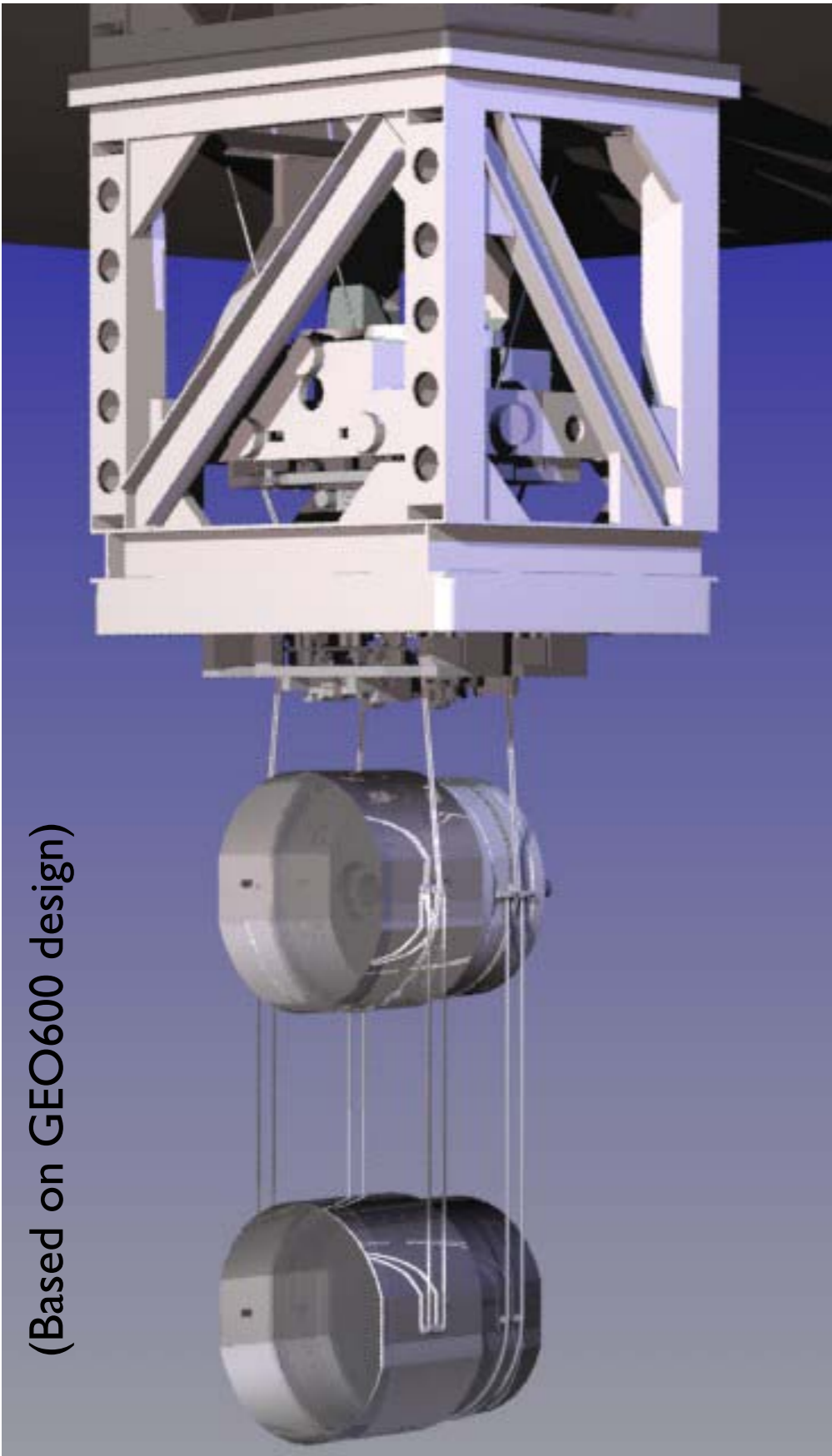


LIGO Mirrors:  
Synthetic fused silica,  
40 kg mass  
34 cm diameter  
20 cm thick

Suspended as a  
4 stage pendulum

Best coatings available

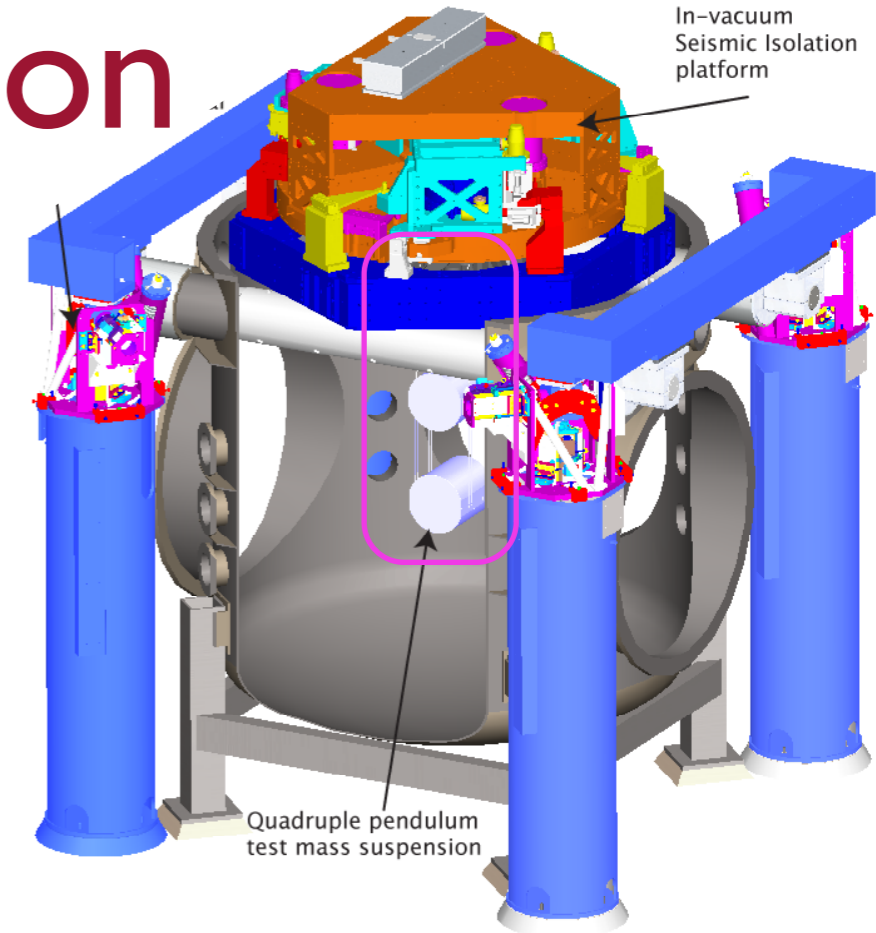
Motion at 10 Hz set by  
thermal driven vibration



(Based on GEO600 design)

silicate bonding creates a monolithic final stage

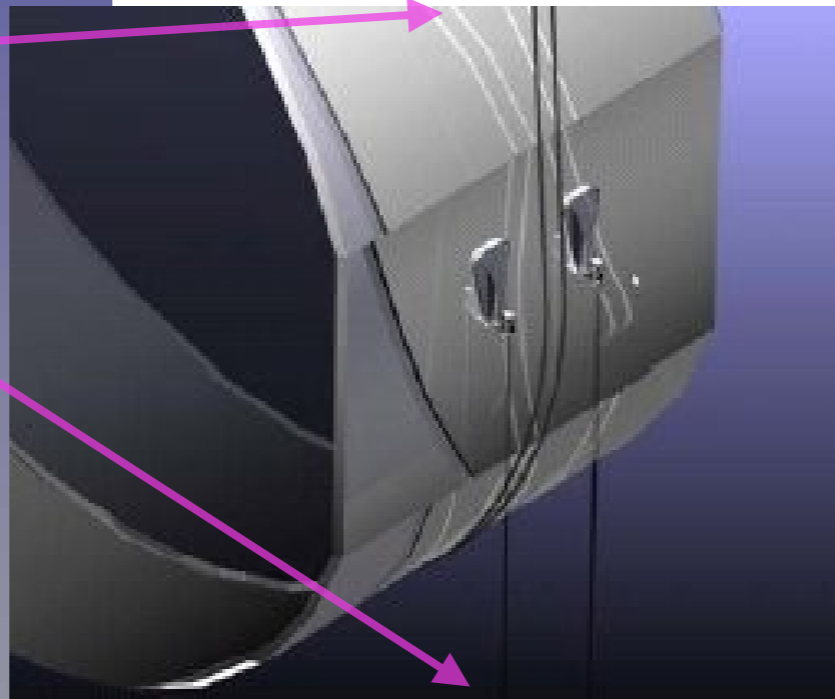
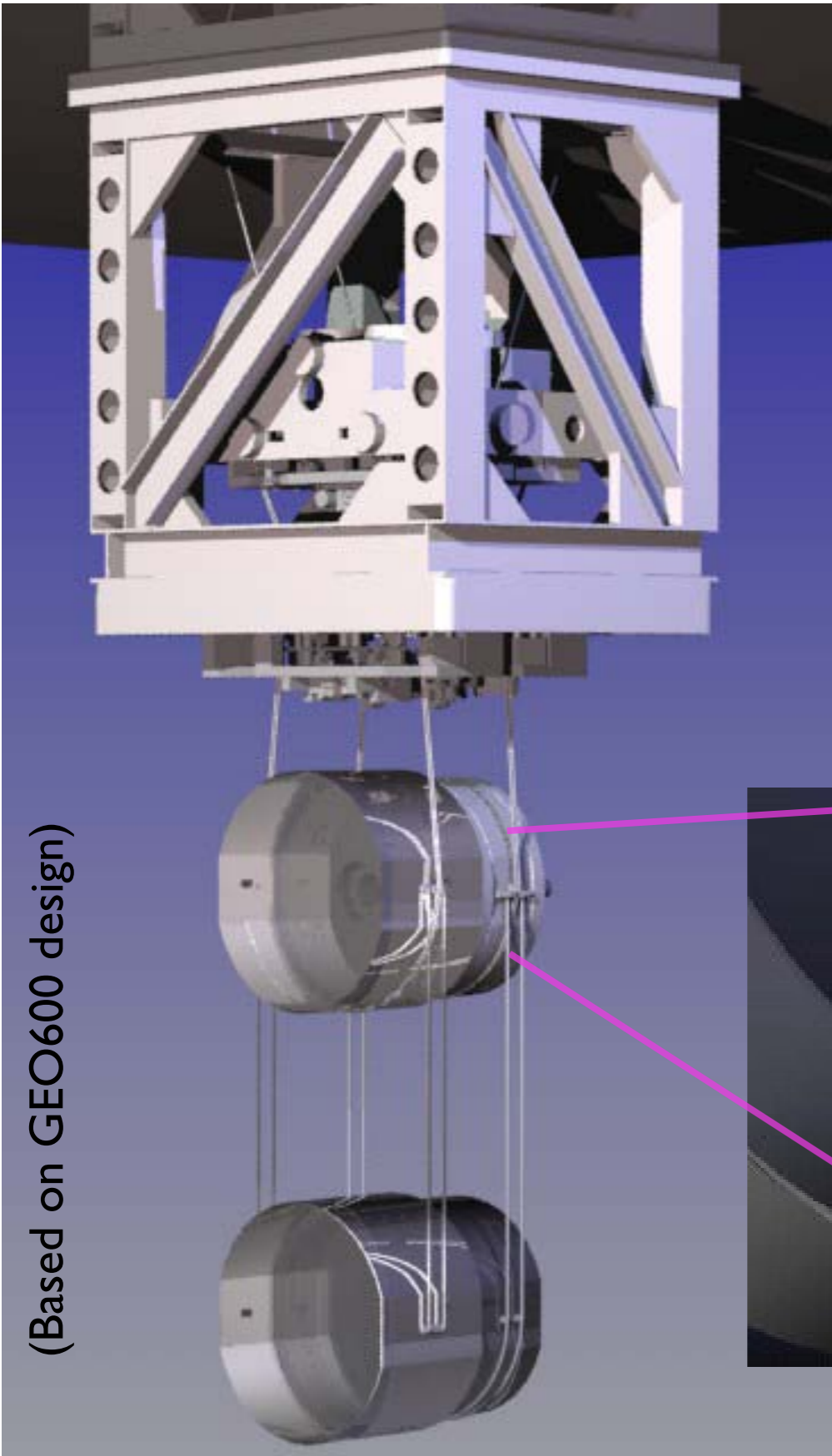
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Suspended as a  
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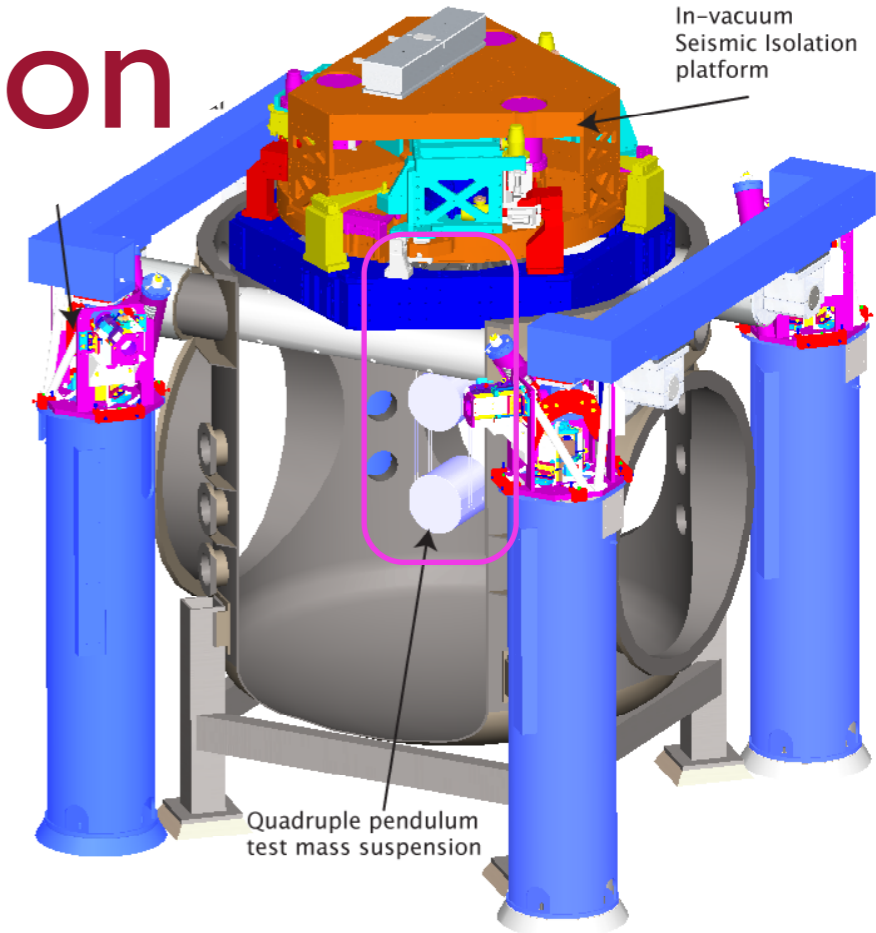
Best coatings available



silicate bonding creates a monolithic final stage

# Pendulum Suspension

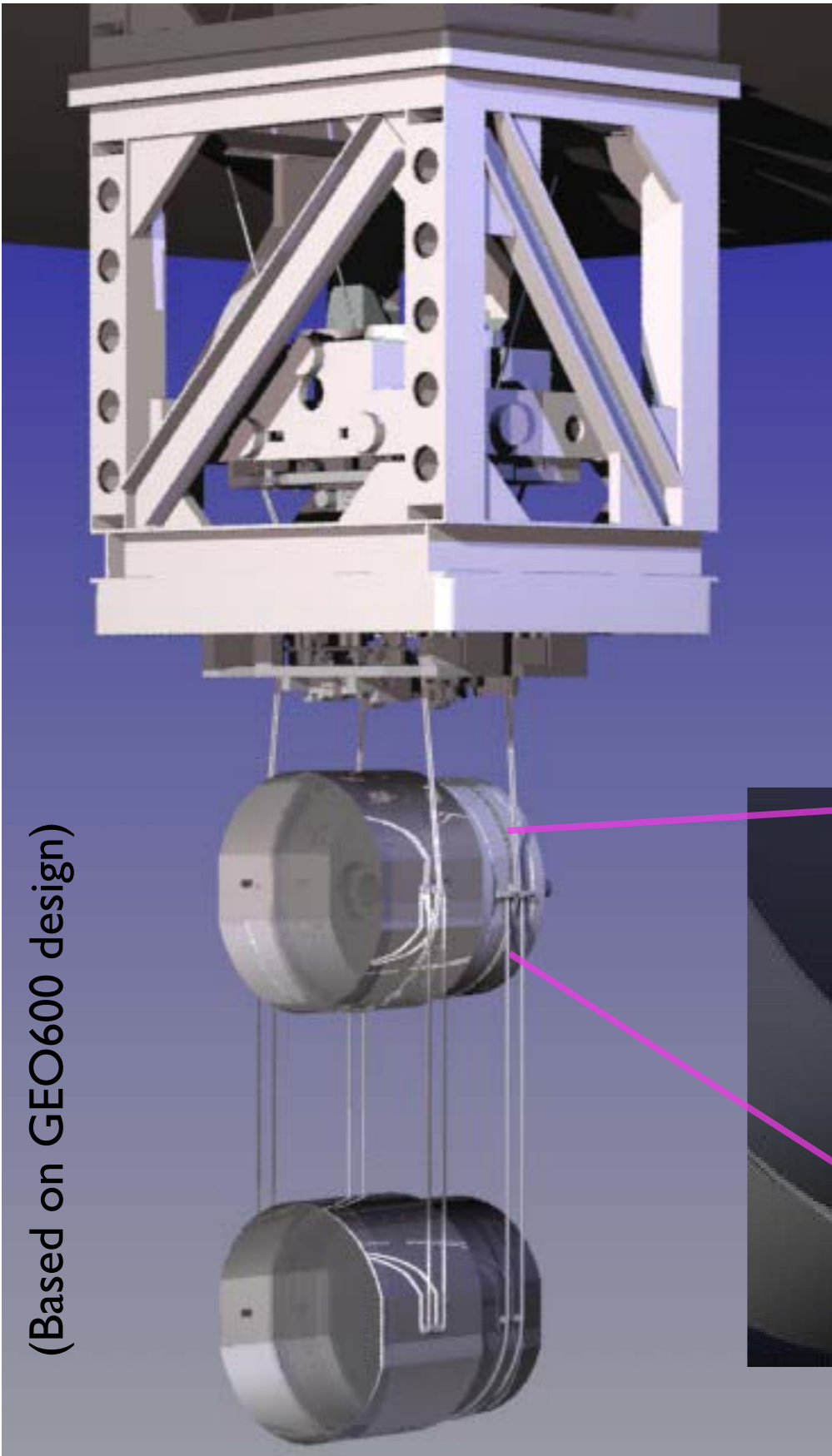
In-vacuum Seismic Isolation platform



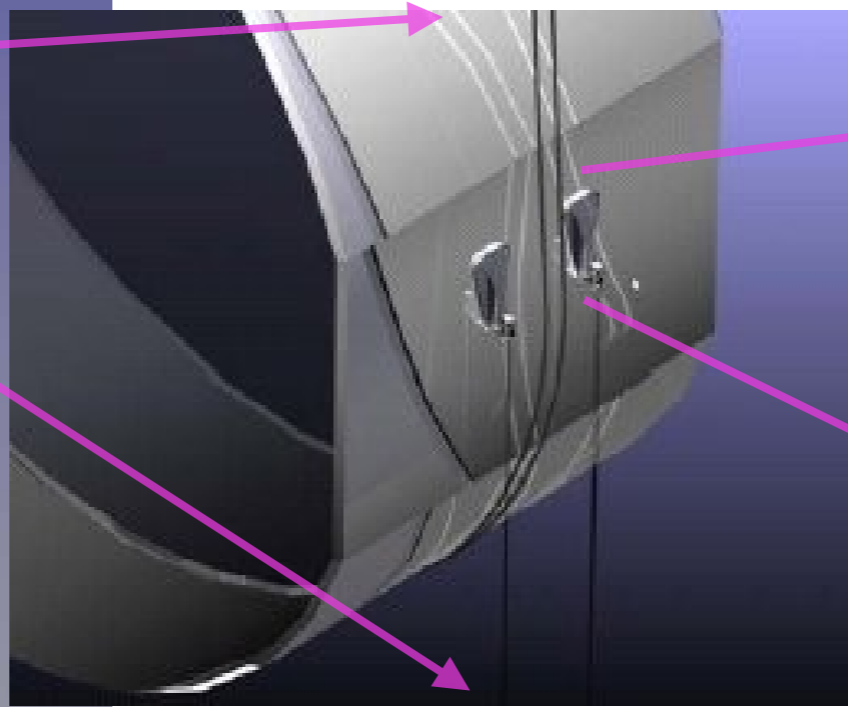
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Synthetic fused silica,  
40 kg mass  
34 cm diameter  
20 cm thick

Suspended as a  
4 stage pendulum

Best coatings available



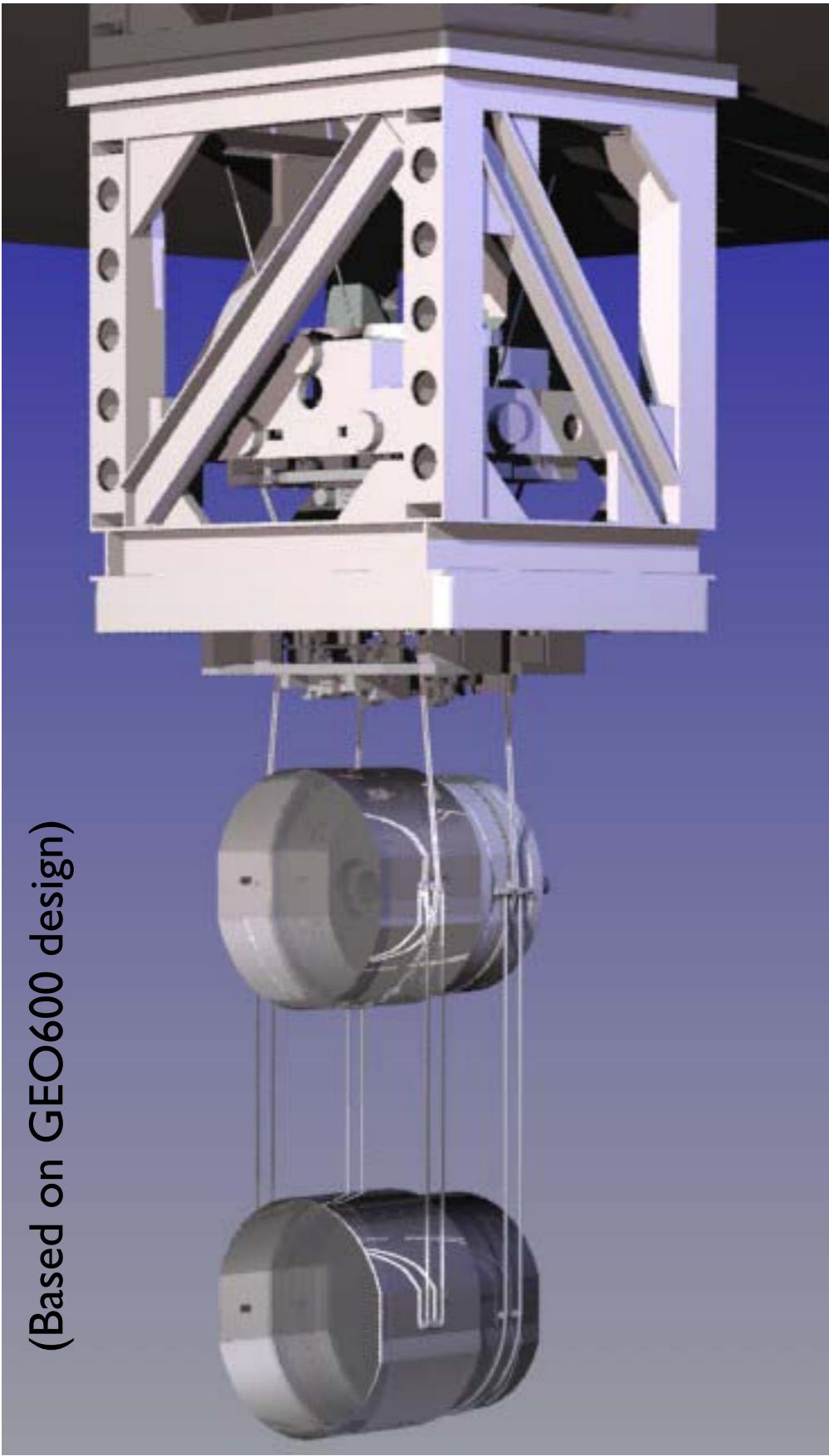
(Based on GEO600 design)



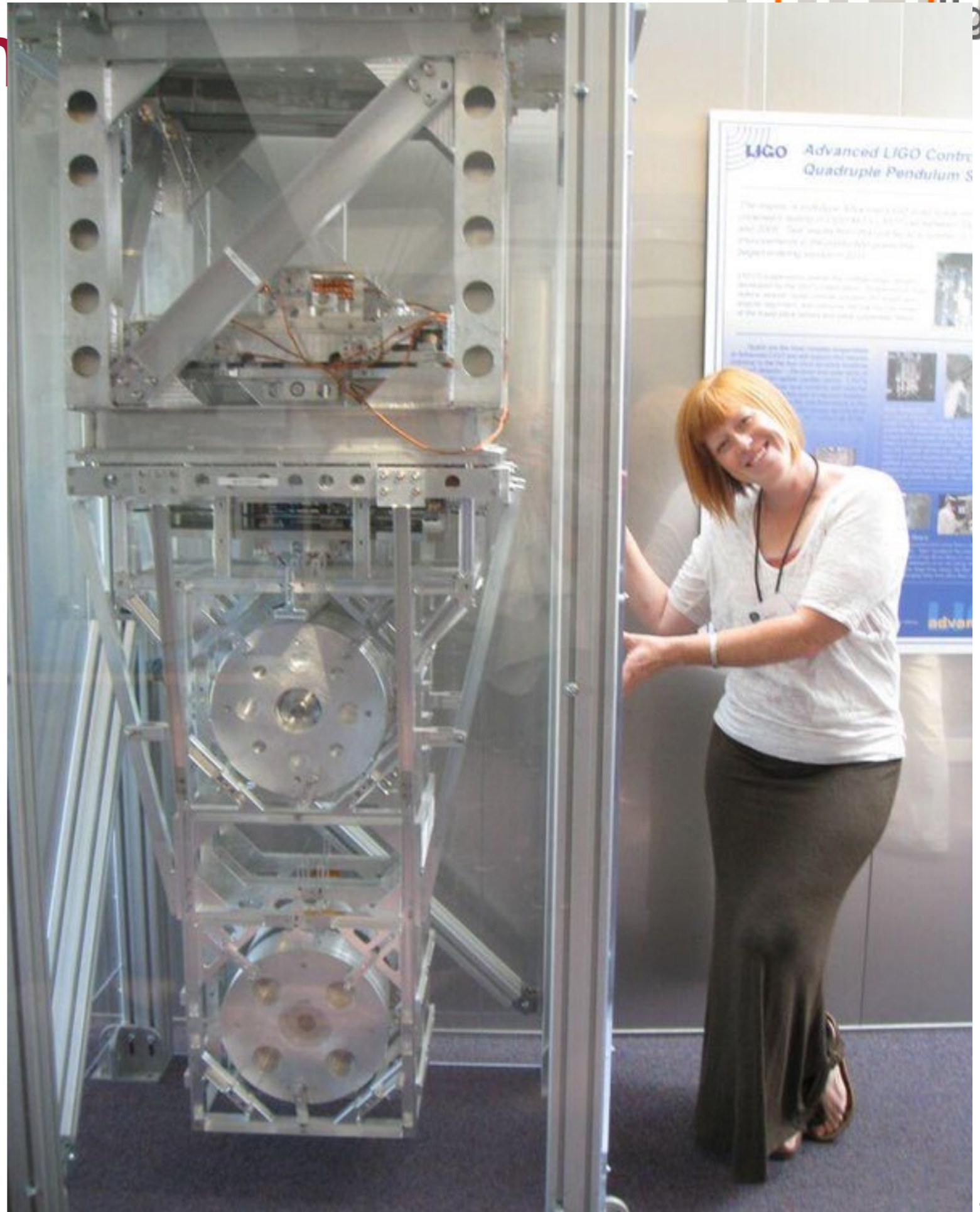
silicate bonding creates a monolithic final stage

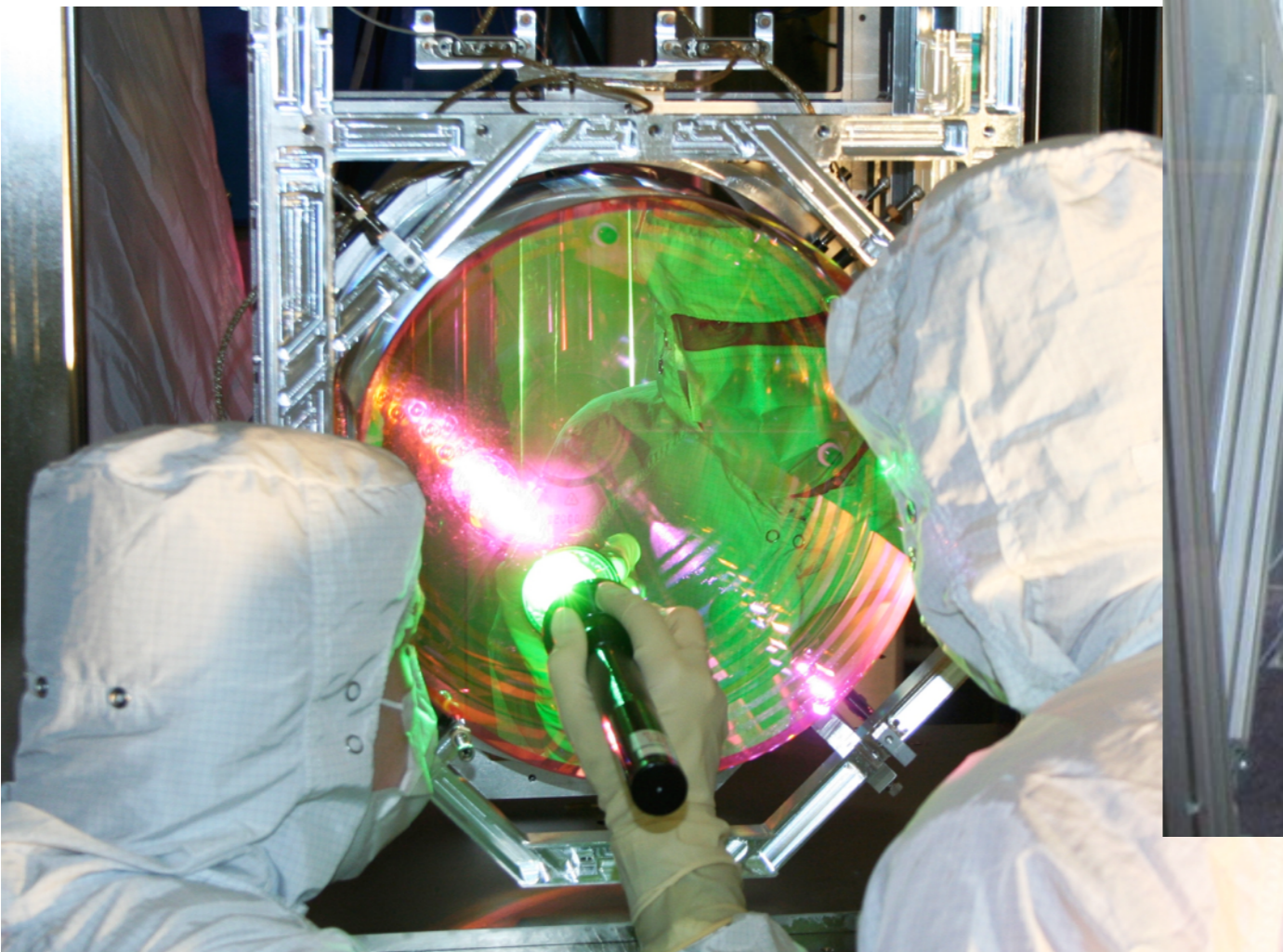
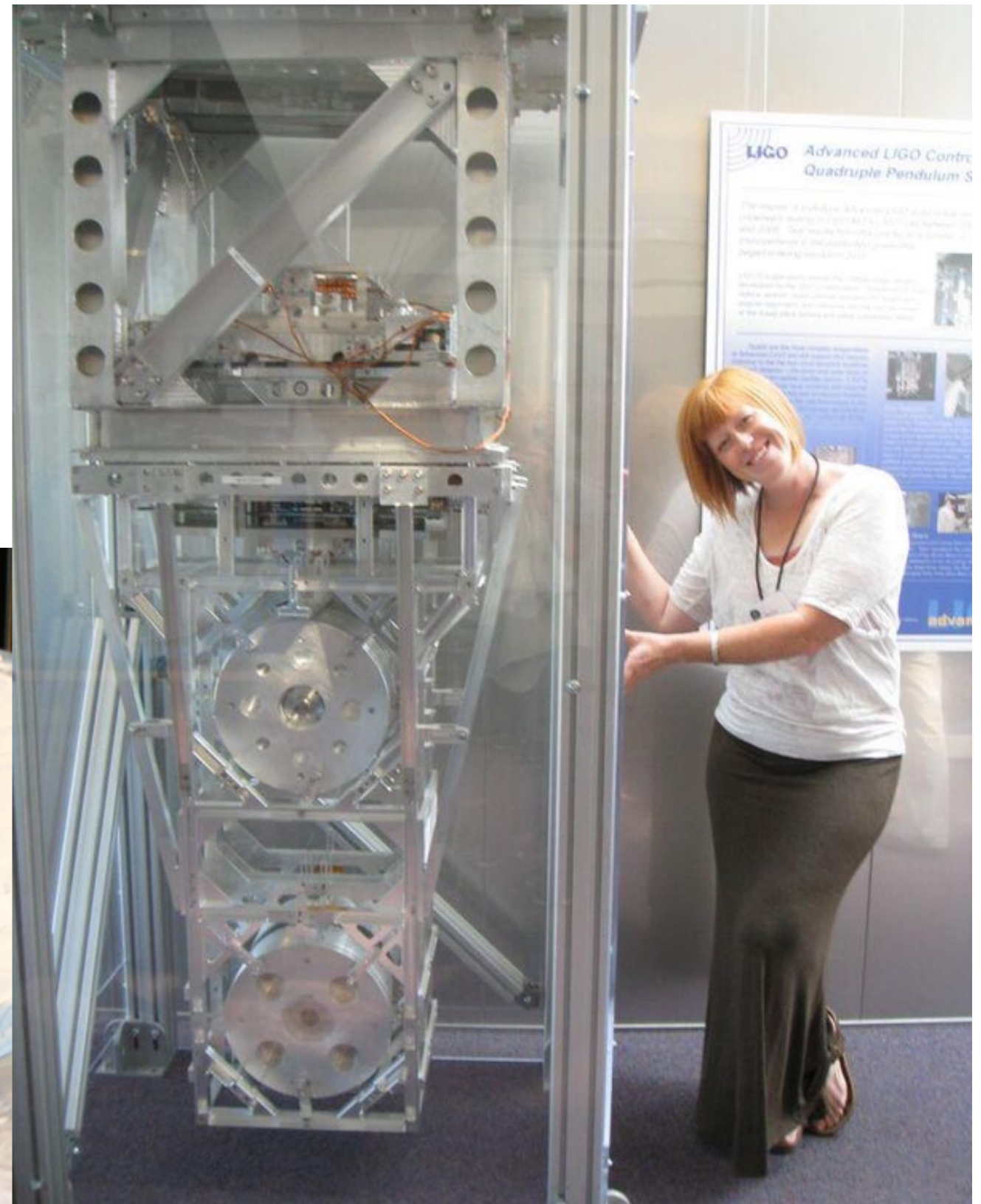
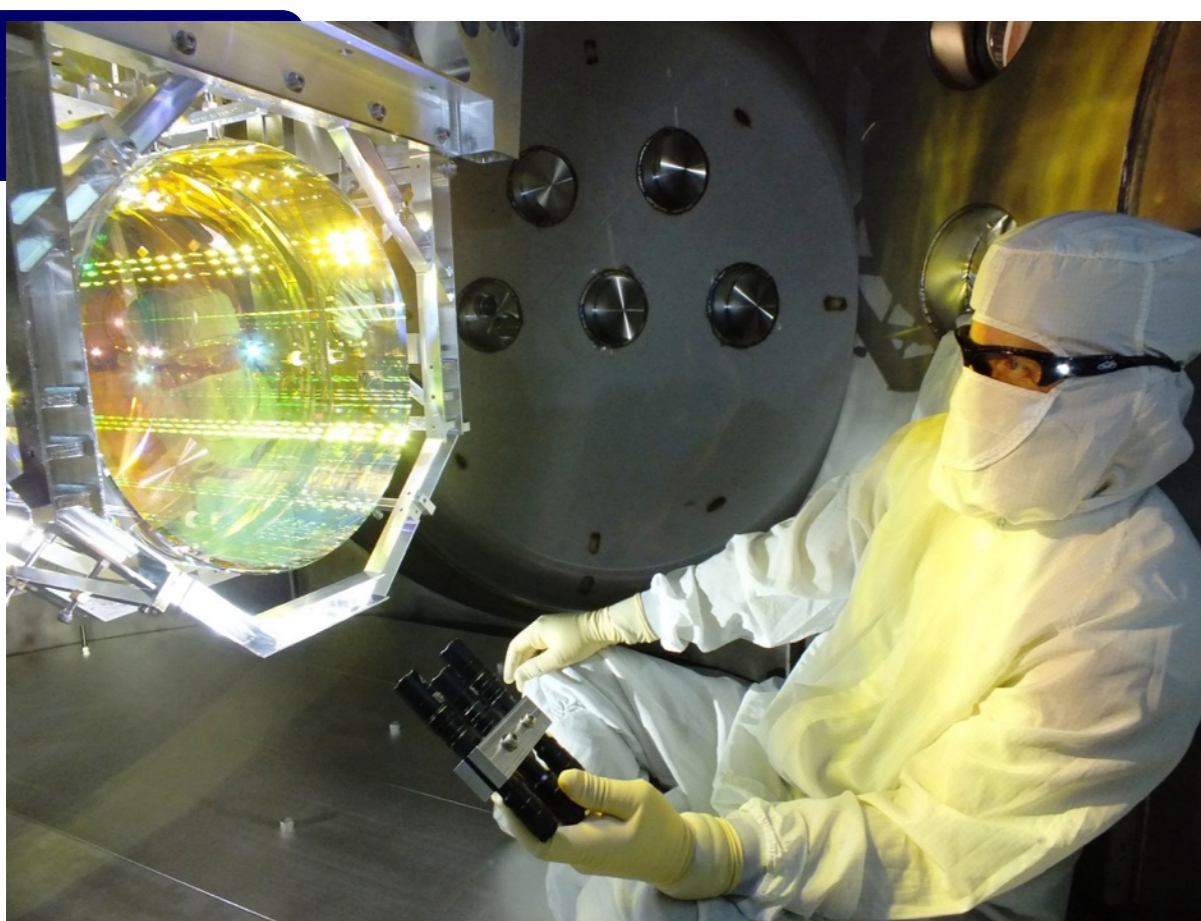


# Pendulum

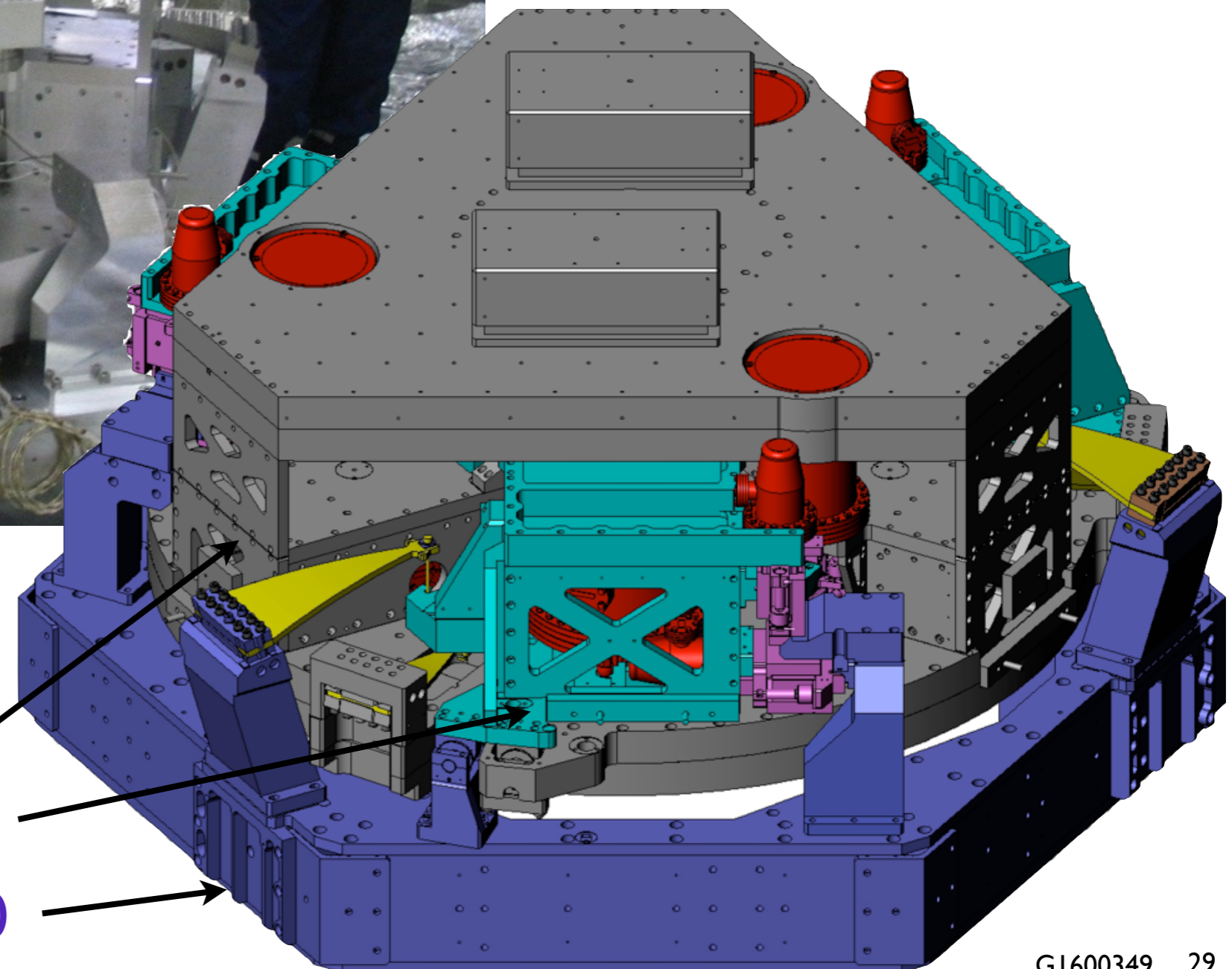
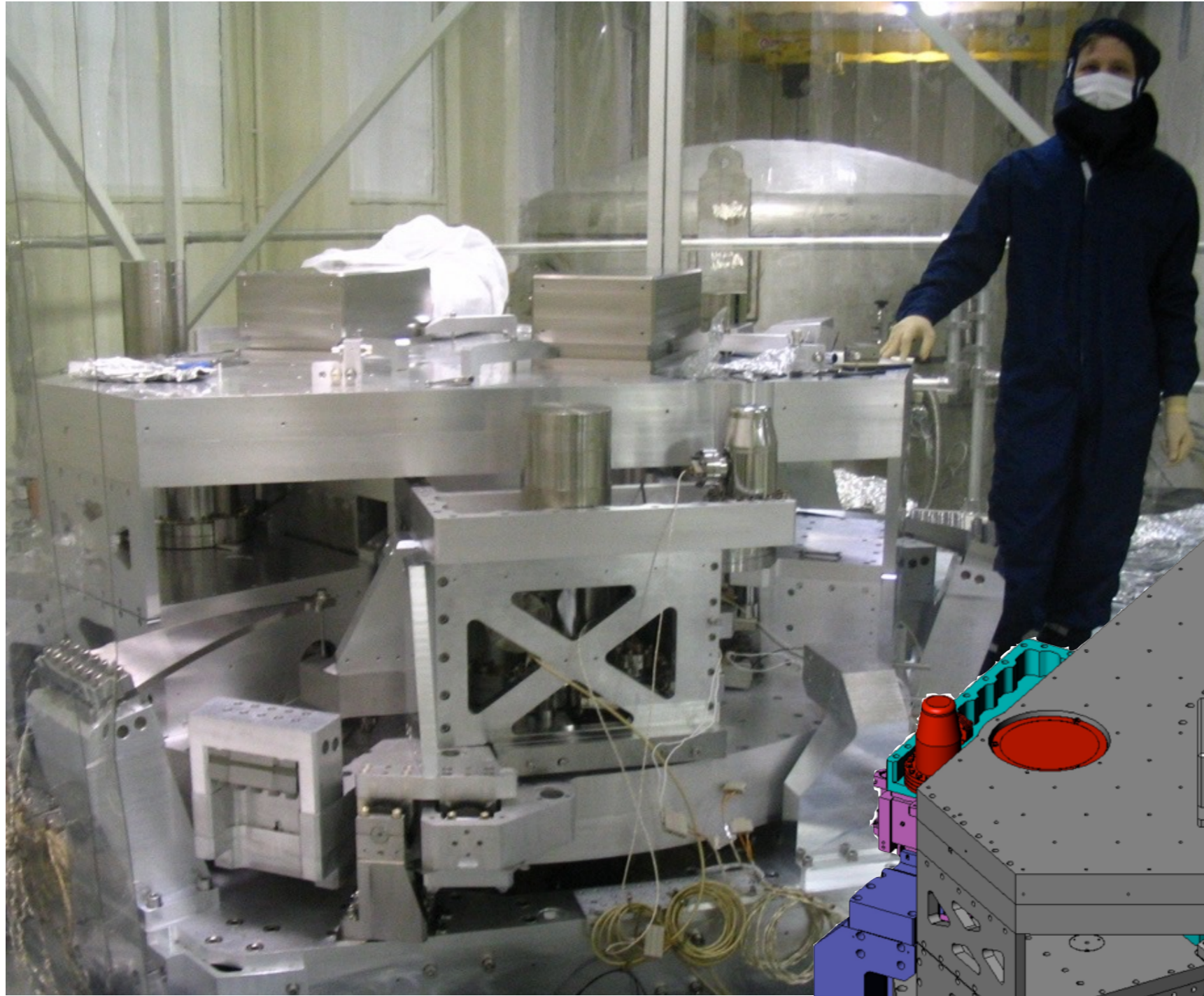


(Based on GEO600 design)

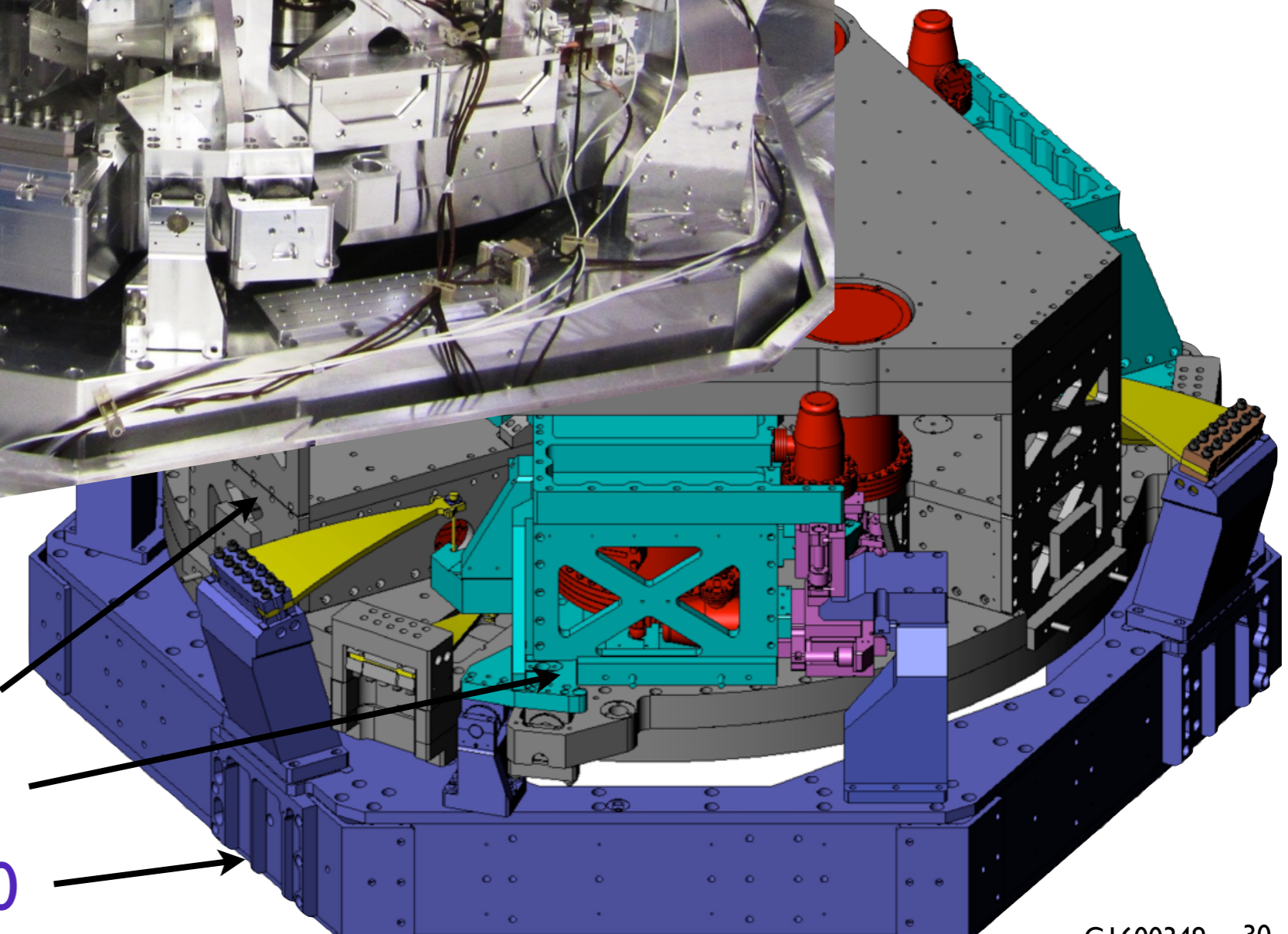
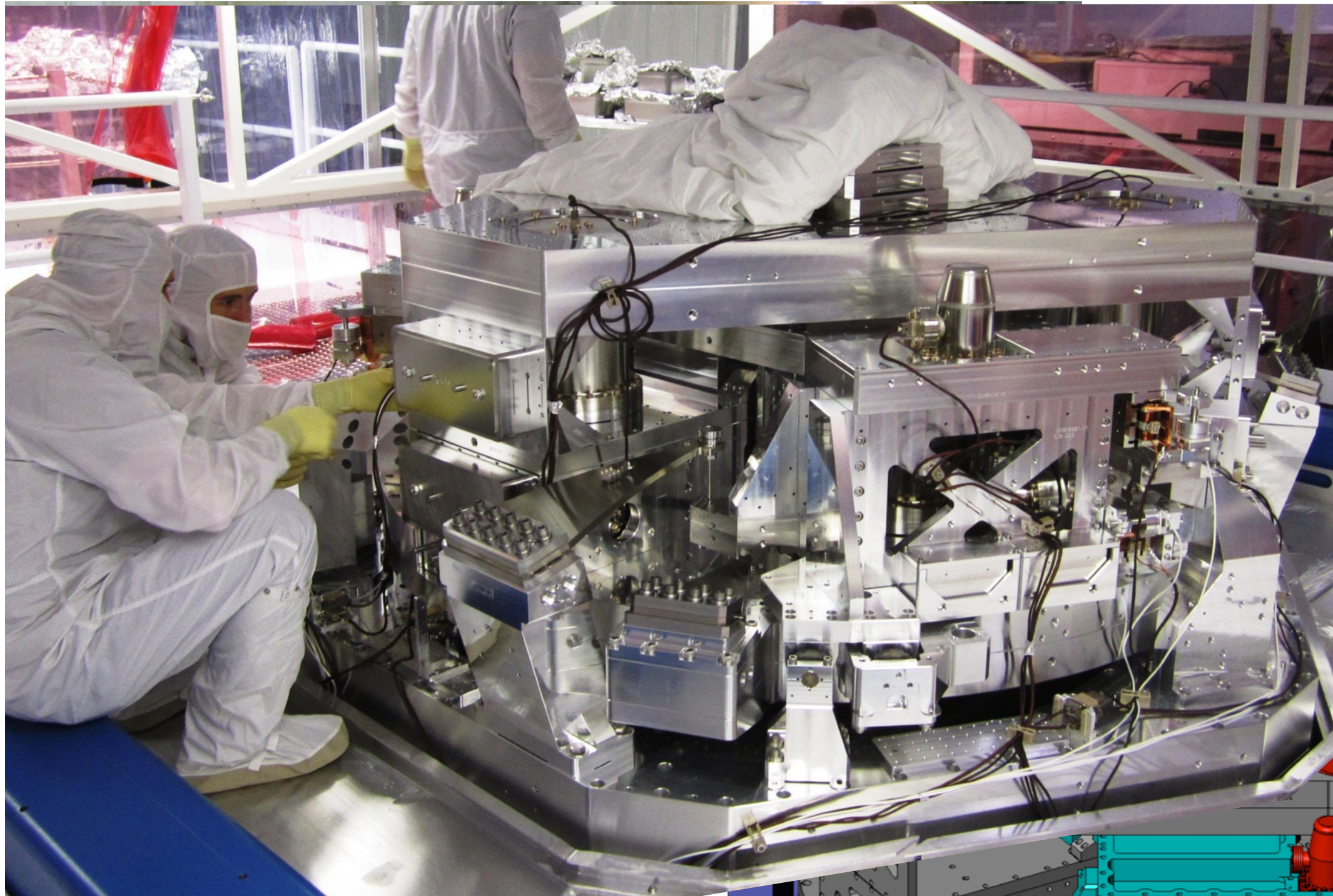




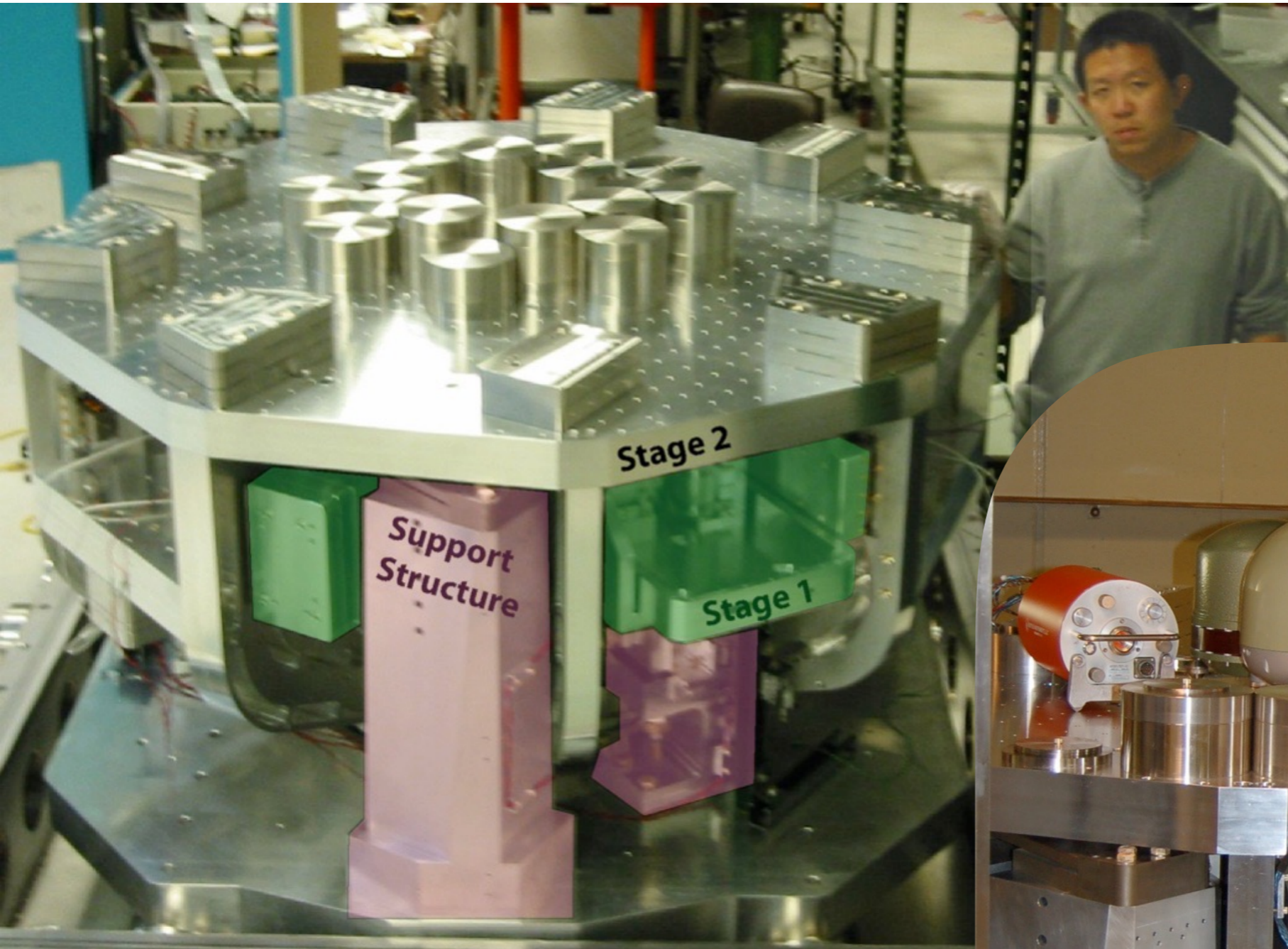
# Optical Table



optics table - stage 2  
stage 1  
support - stage 0

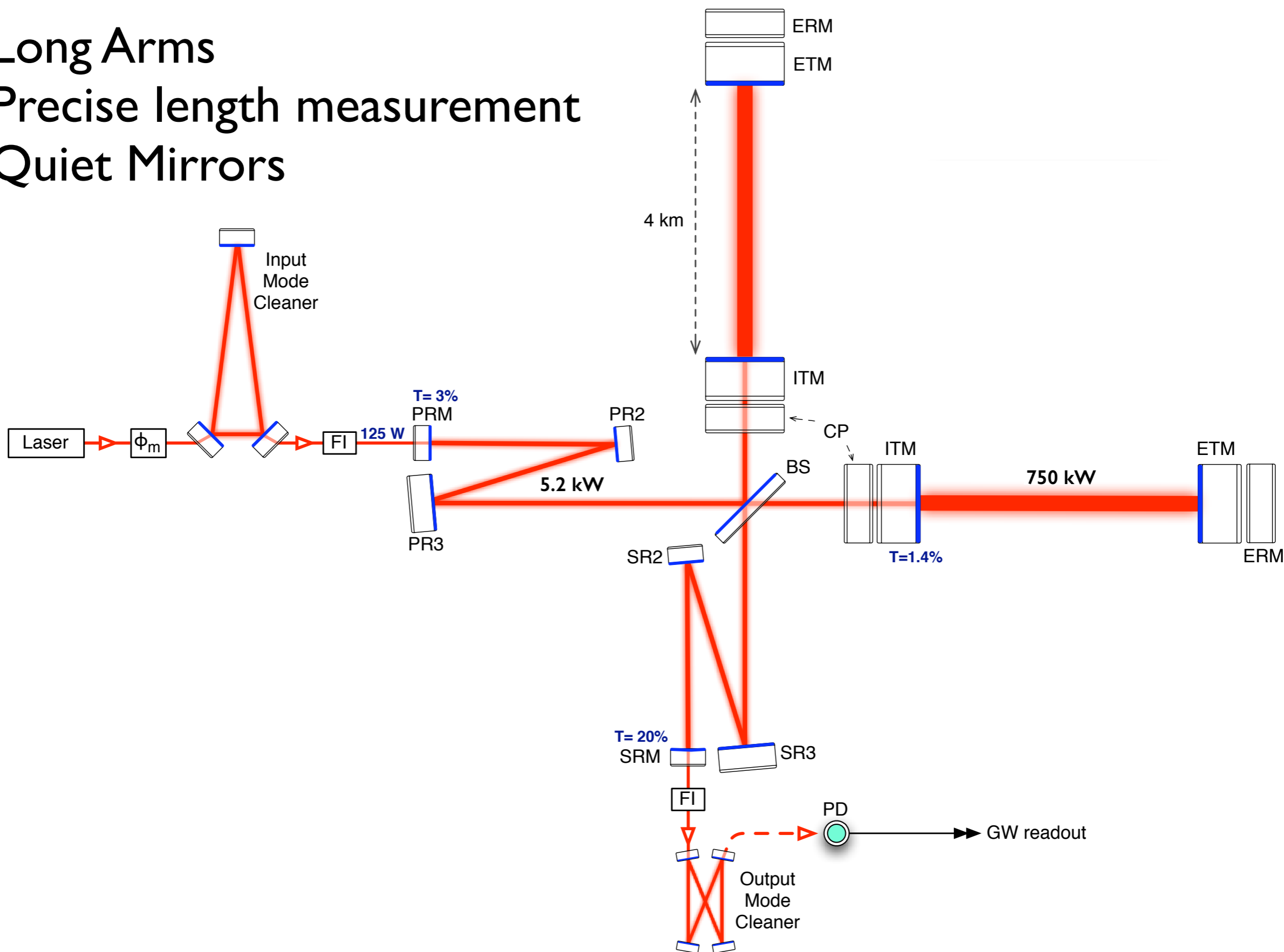


optics table - stage 2  
stage 1  
support - stage 0

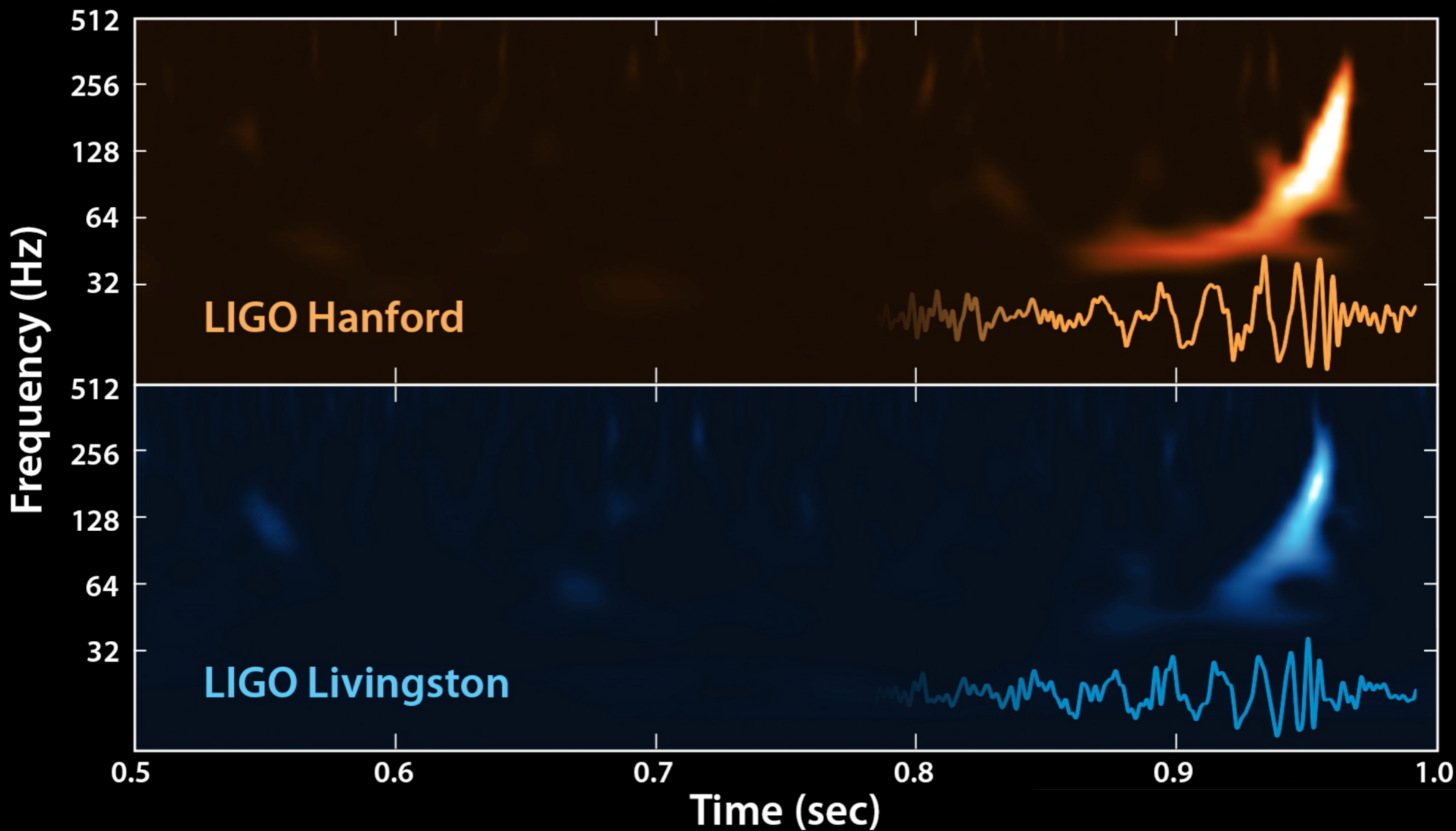


# Now we are ready...

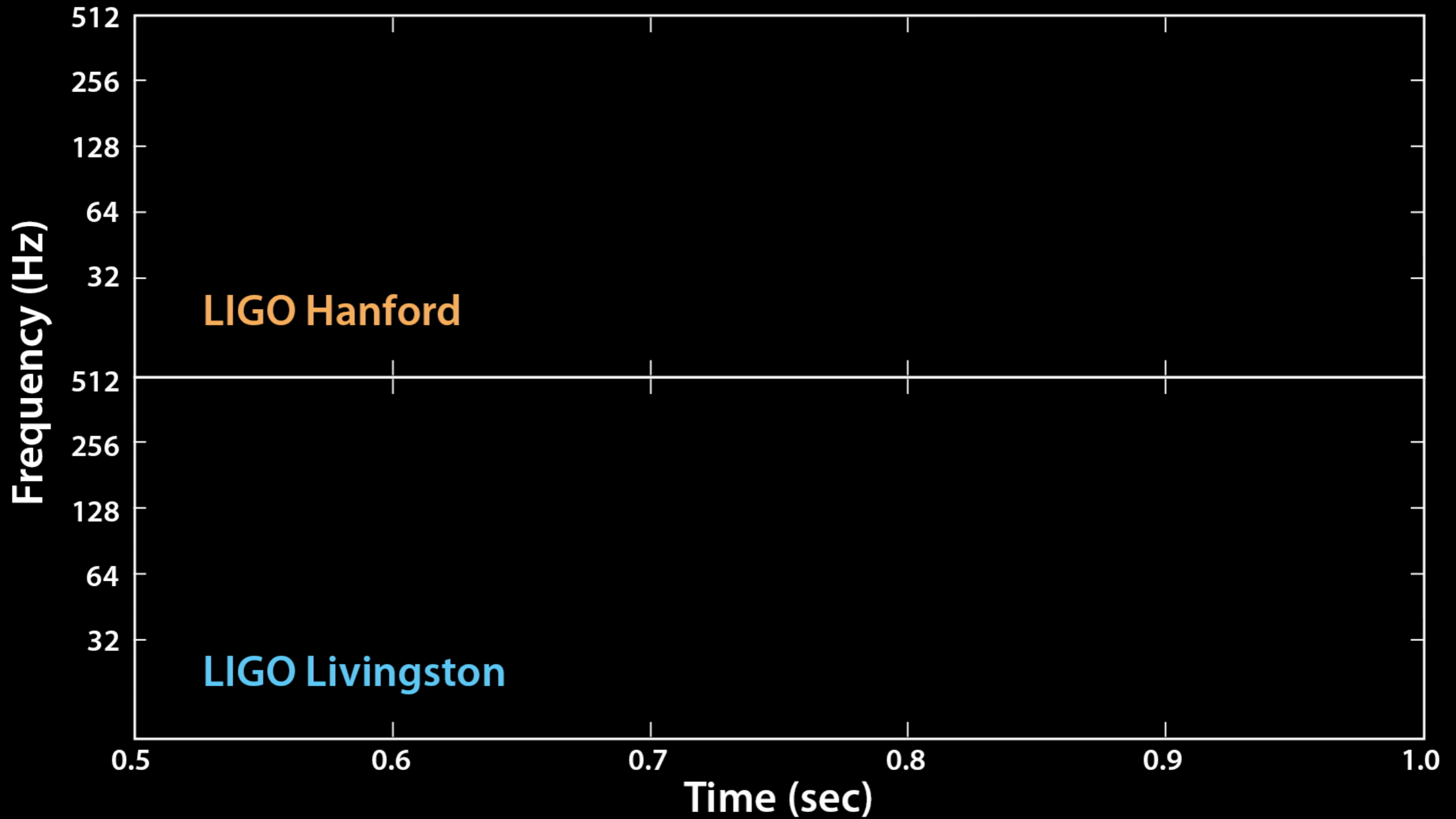
- 1) Long Arms
- 2) Precise length measurement
- 3) Quiet Mirrors



# The sound of black holes colliding

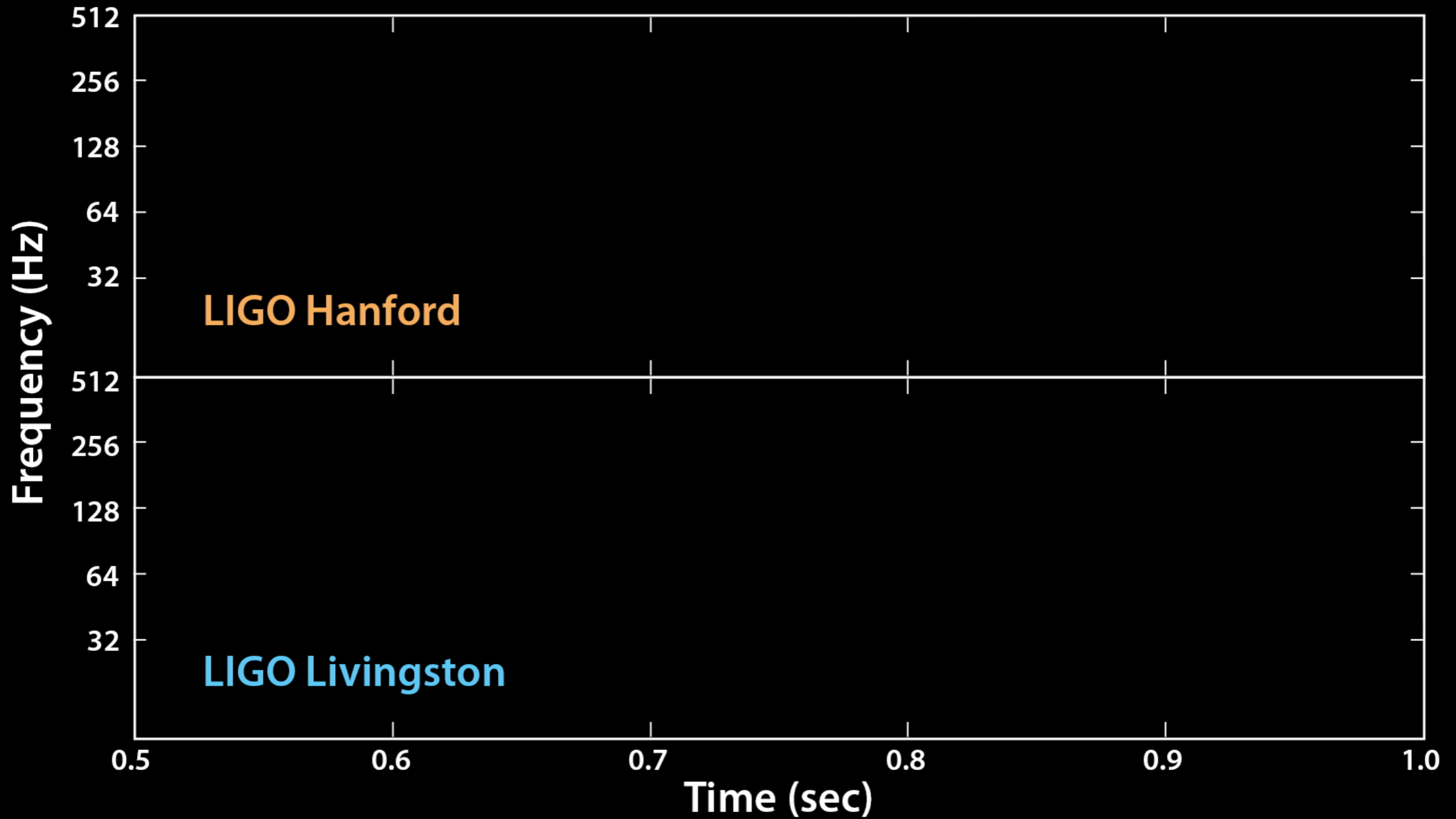


# The sound of black holes colliding

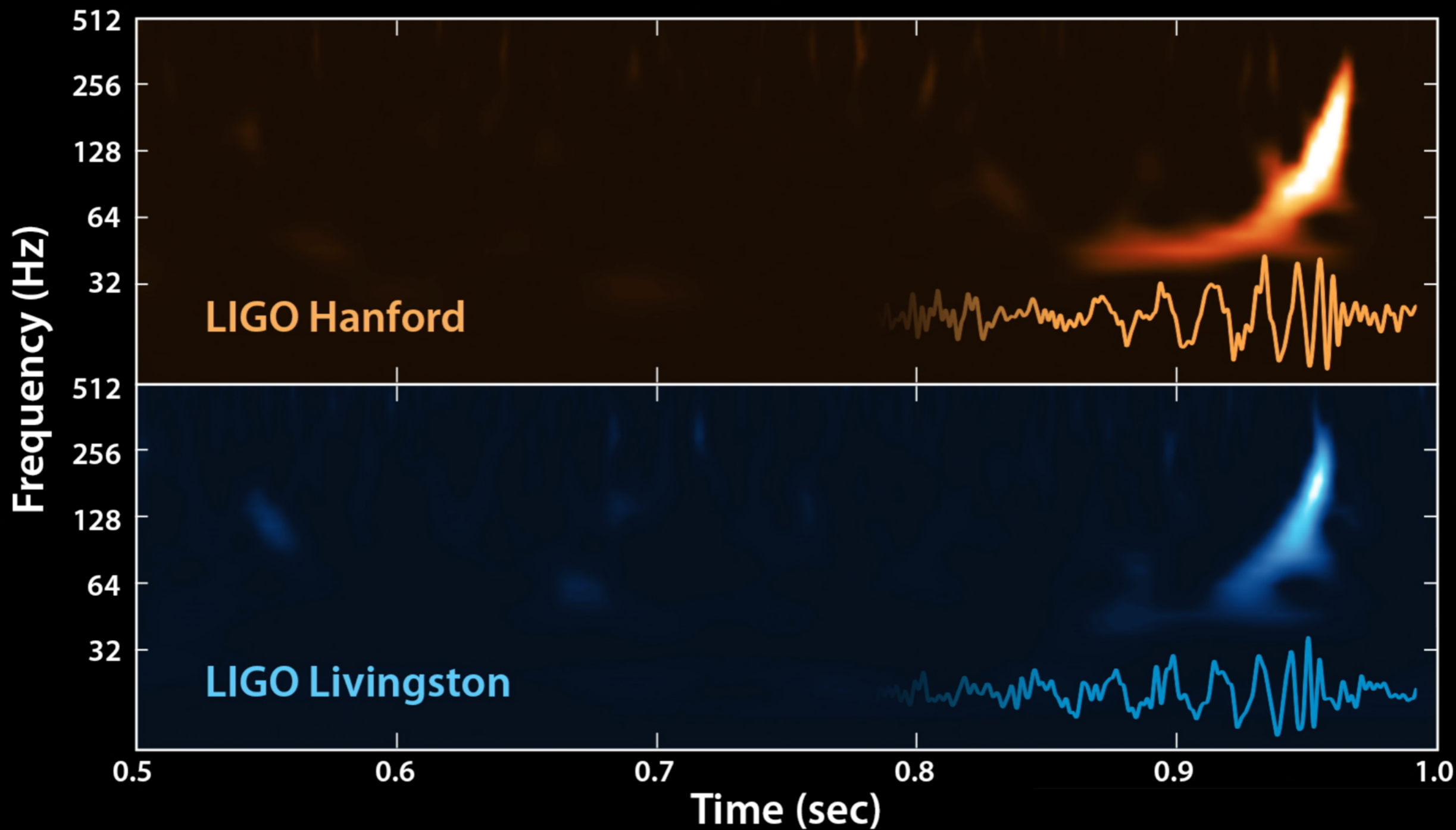




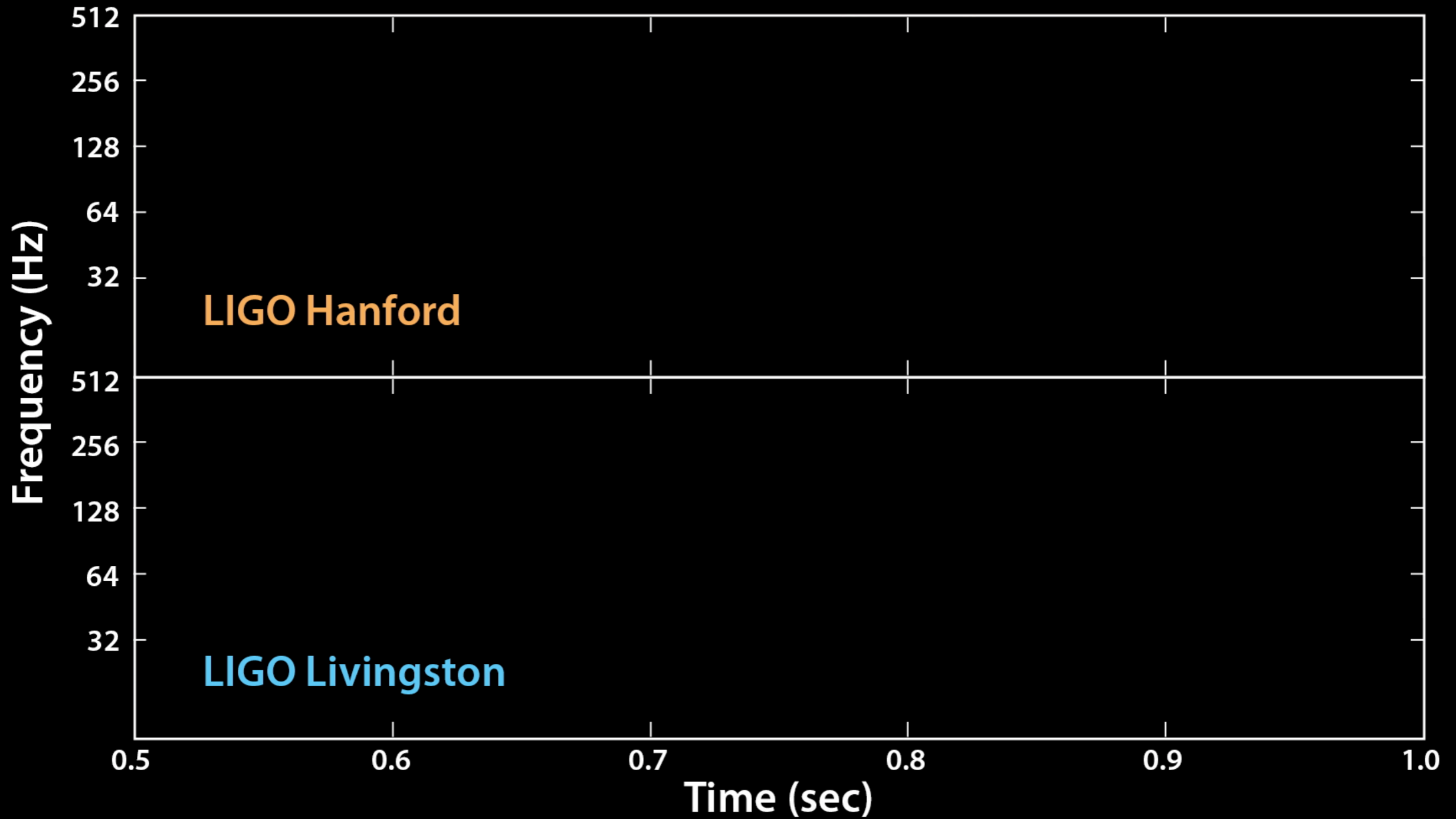
# The sound of black holes colliding



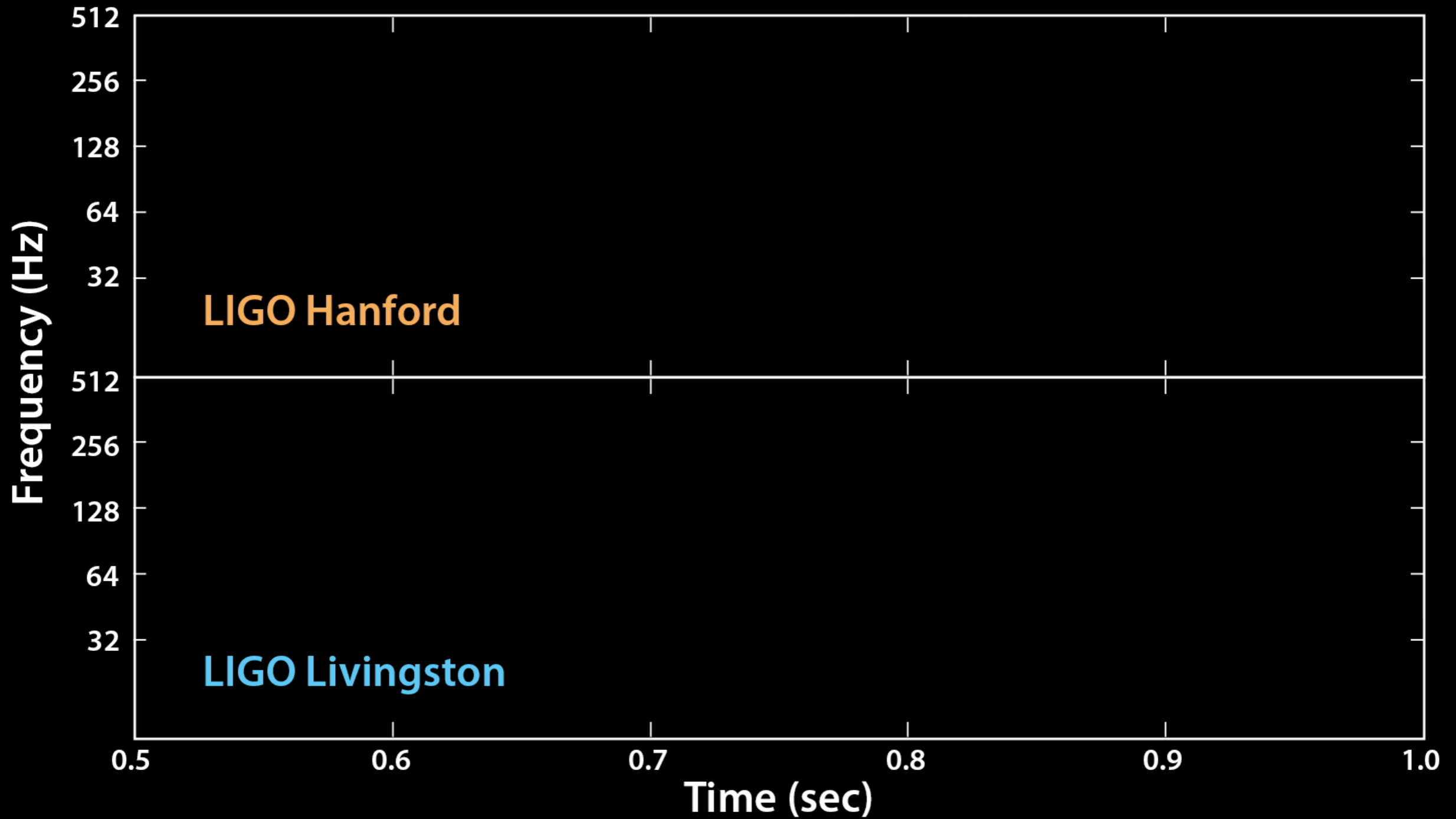
# The sound of black holes colliding



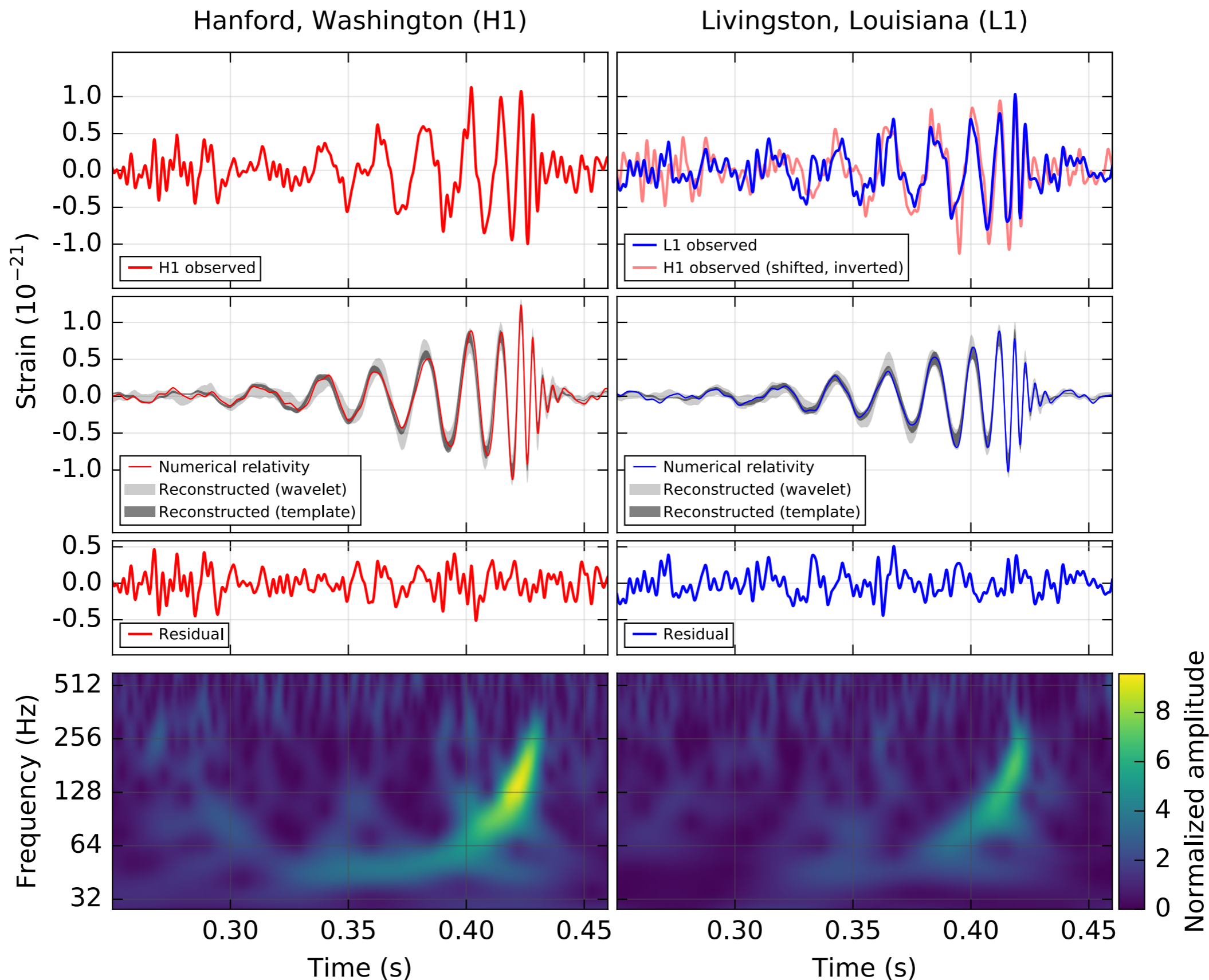
# The sound of black holes colliding



# The sound of black holes colliding



# First signal - Sept 14, 2015



# Best fit with Numerical Relativity

Initial Masses:

29 (+4/-4) & 36 (+5/-4)  $M_{\text{sun}}$

Final Mass:

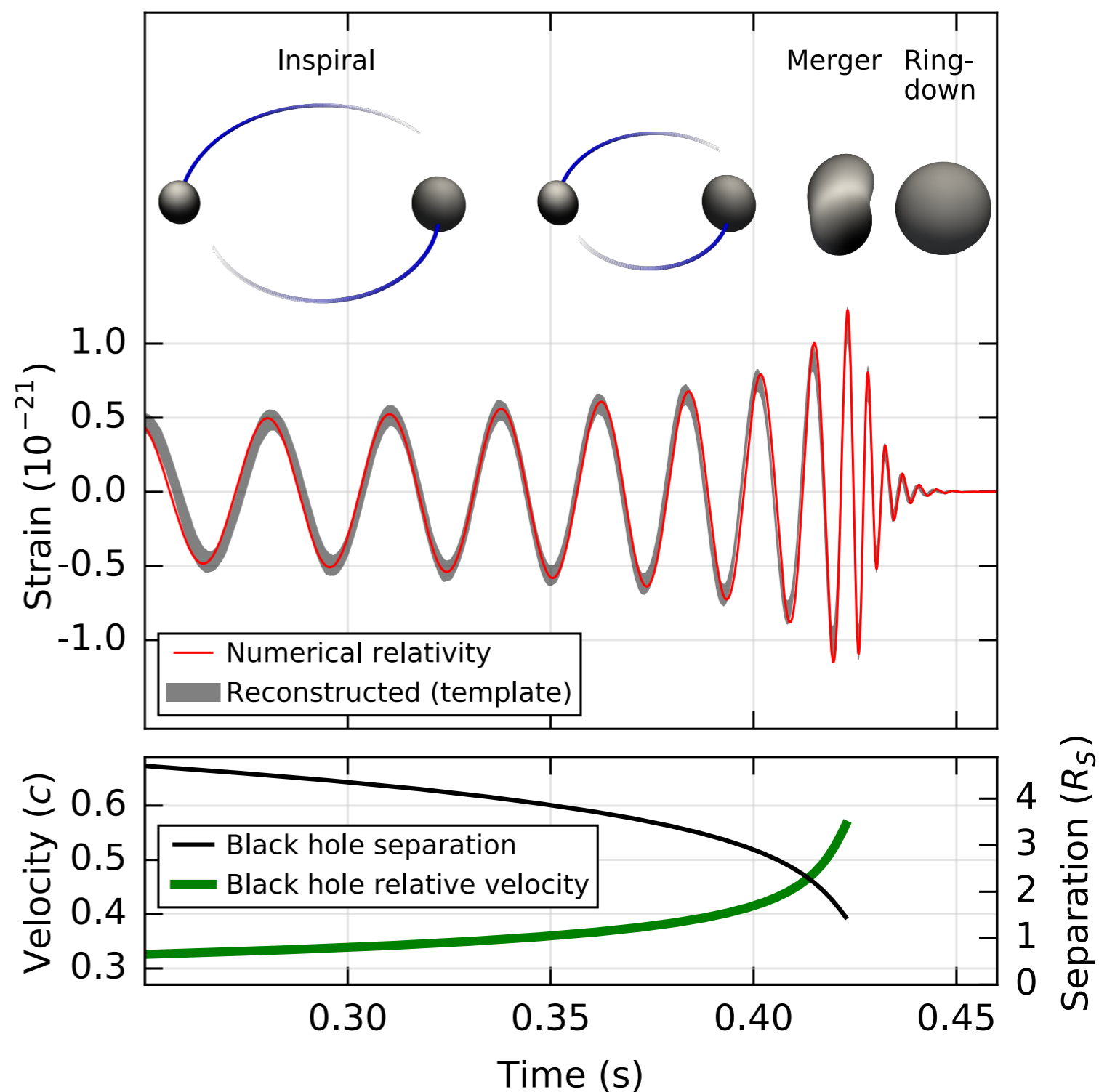
62 (+4/-4)  $M_{\text{sun}}$

Energy radiated

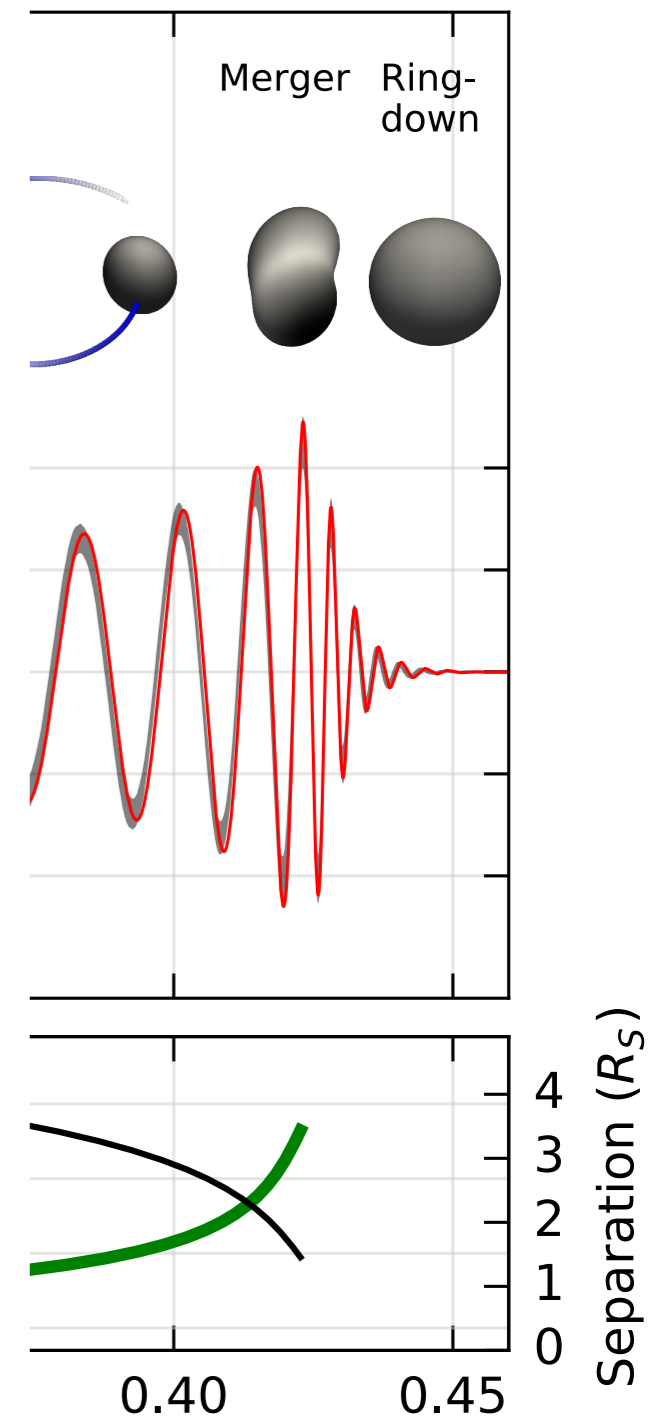
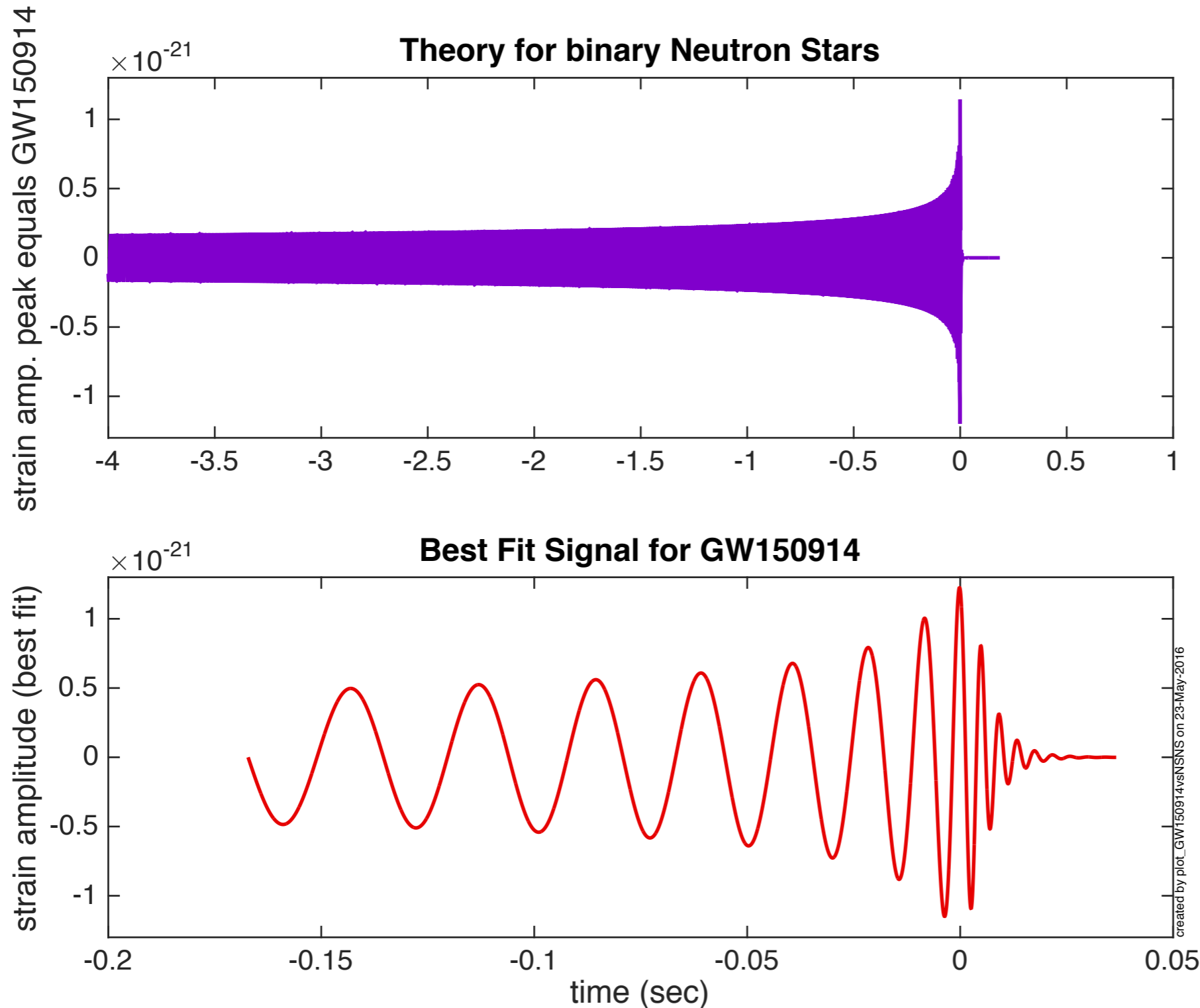
3 (+0.5/-0.5)  $M_{\text{sun}} c^2$

Distance

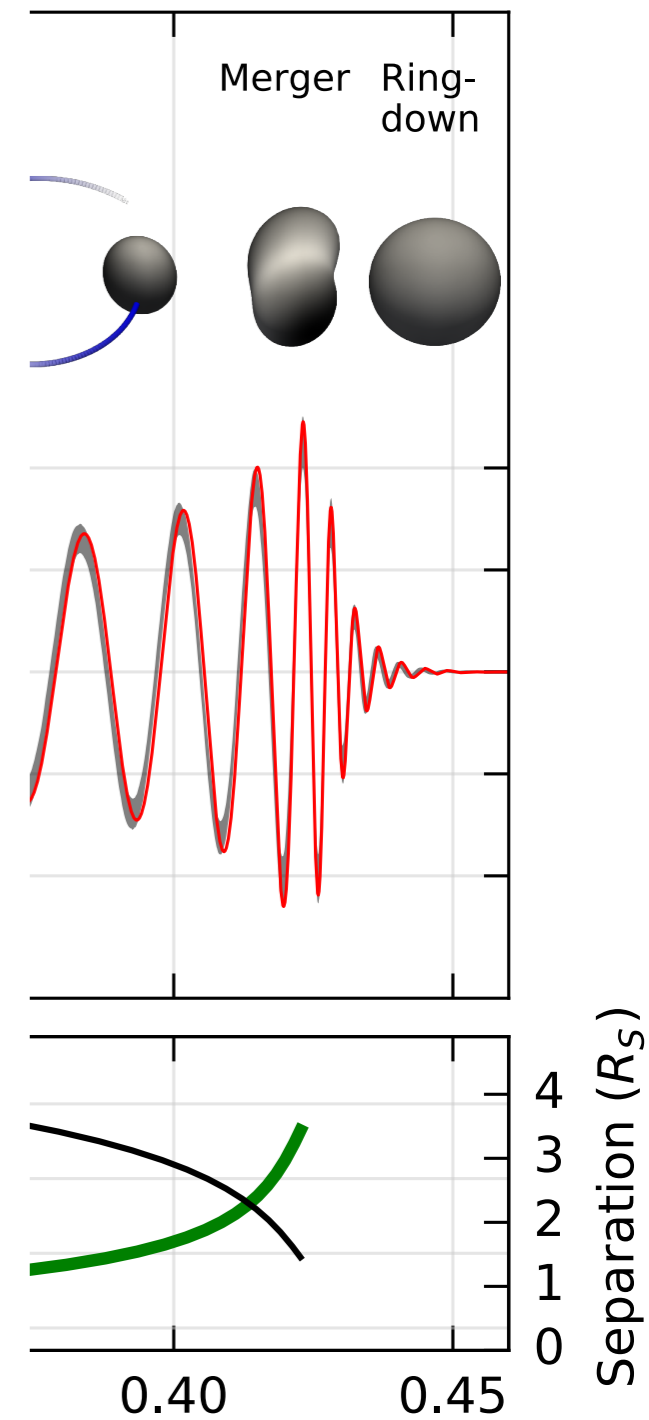
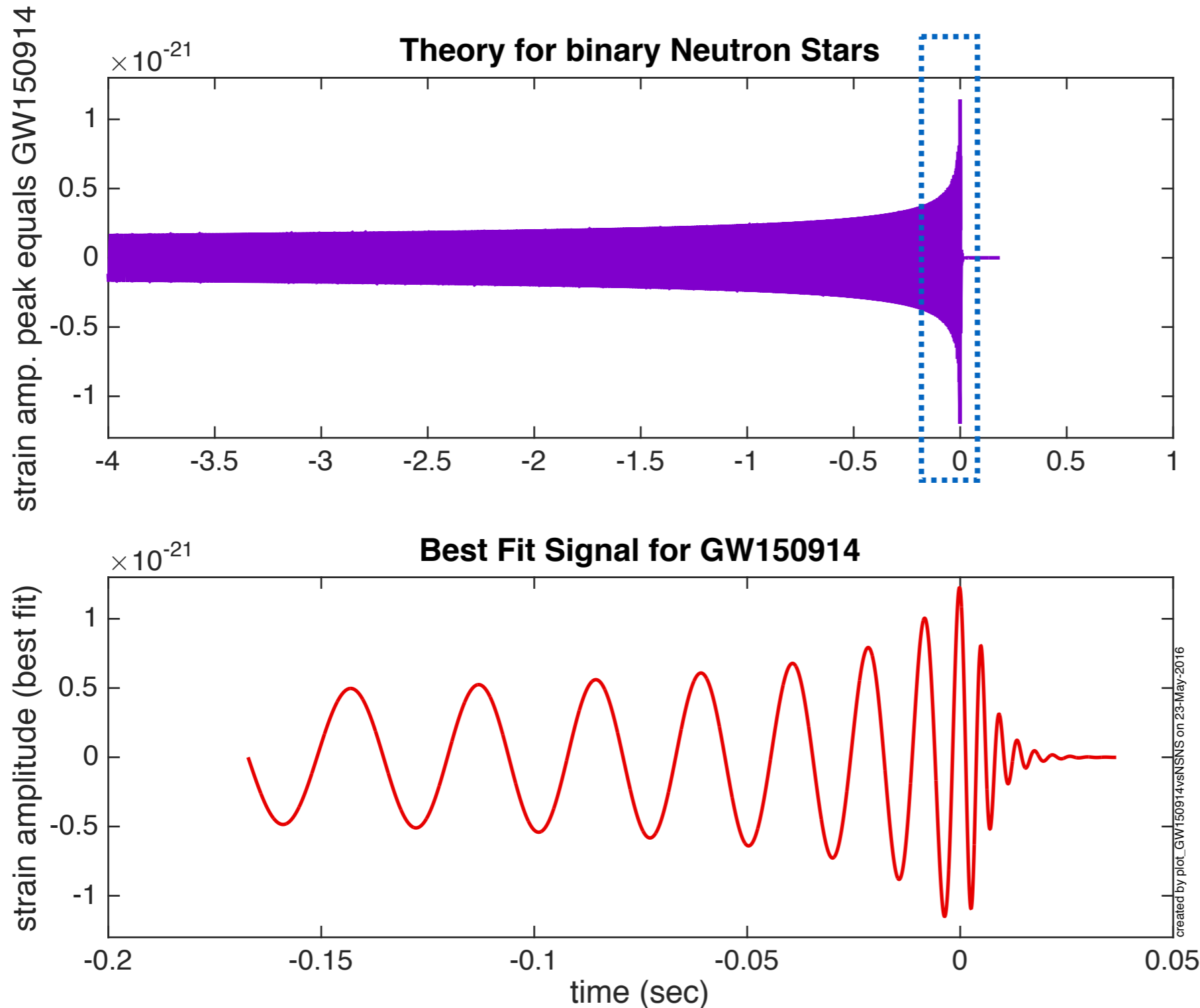
410 (+160/-180) MPc  
(1.3 Billion light years)



# Best fit with Numerical Relativity

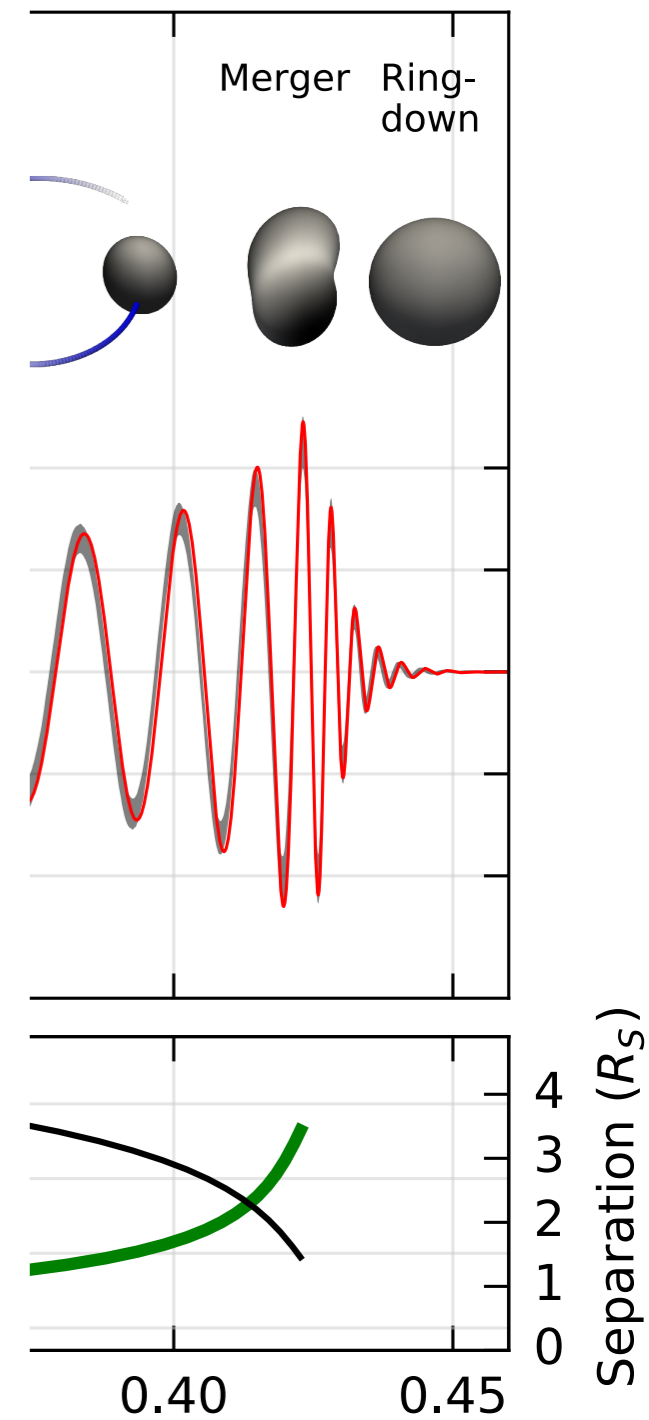
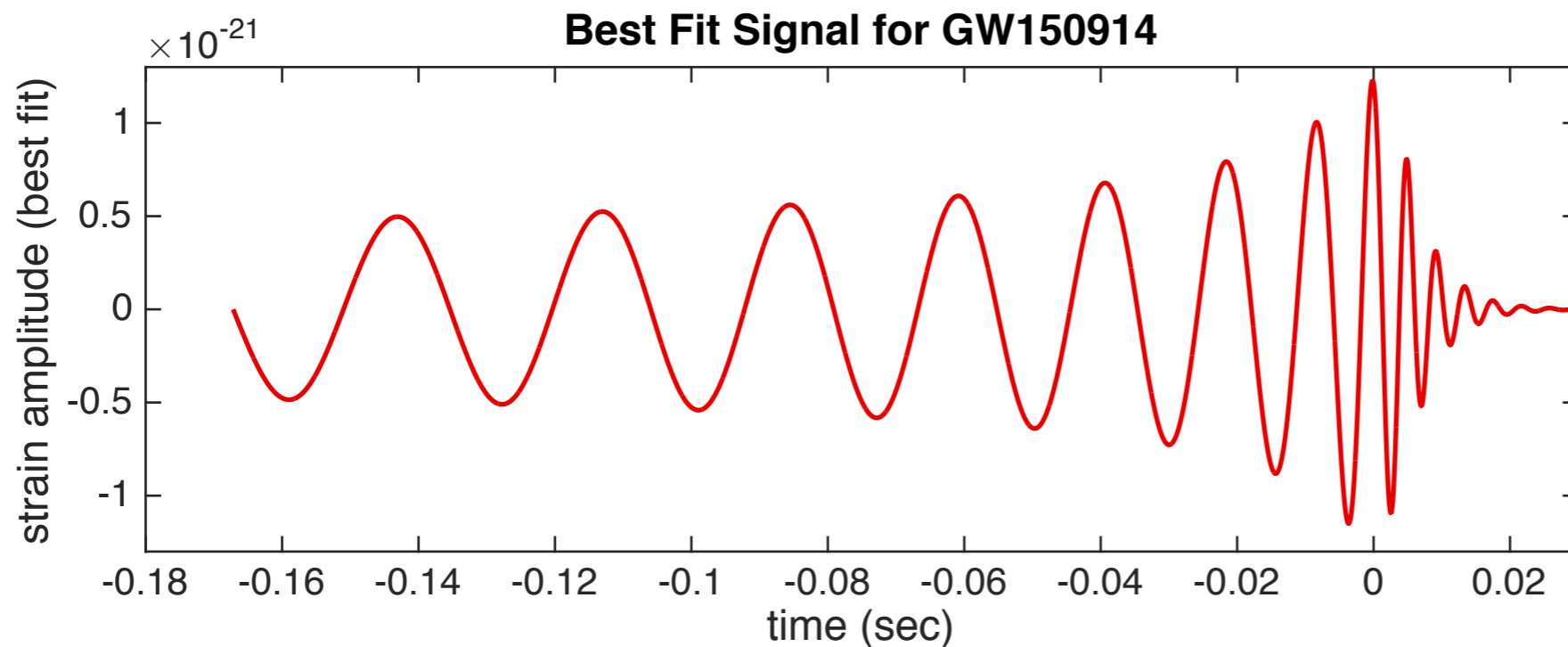
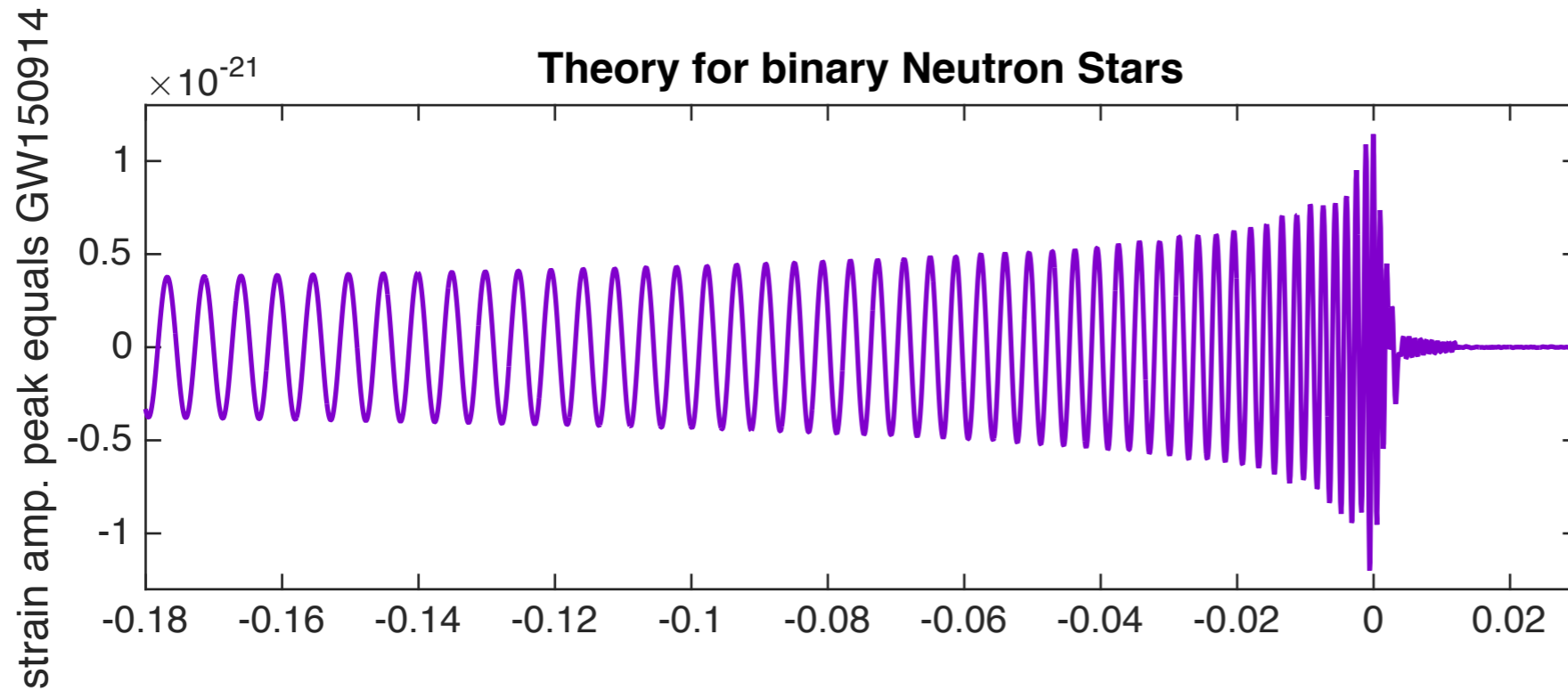


# Best fit with Numerical Relativity

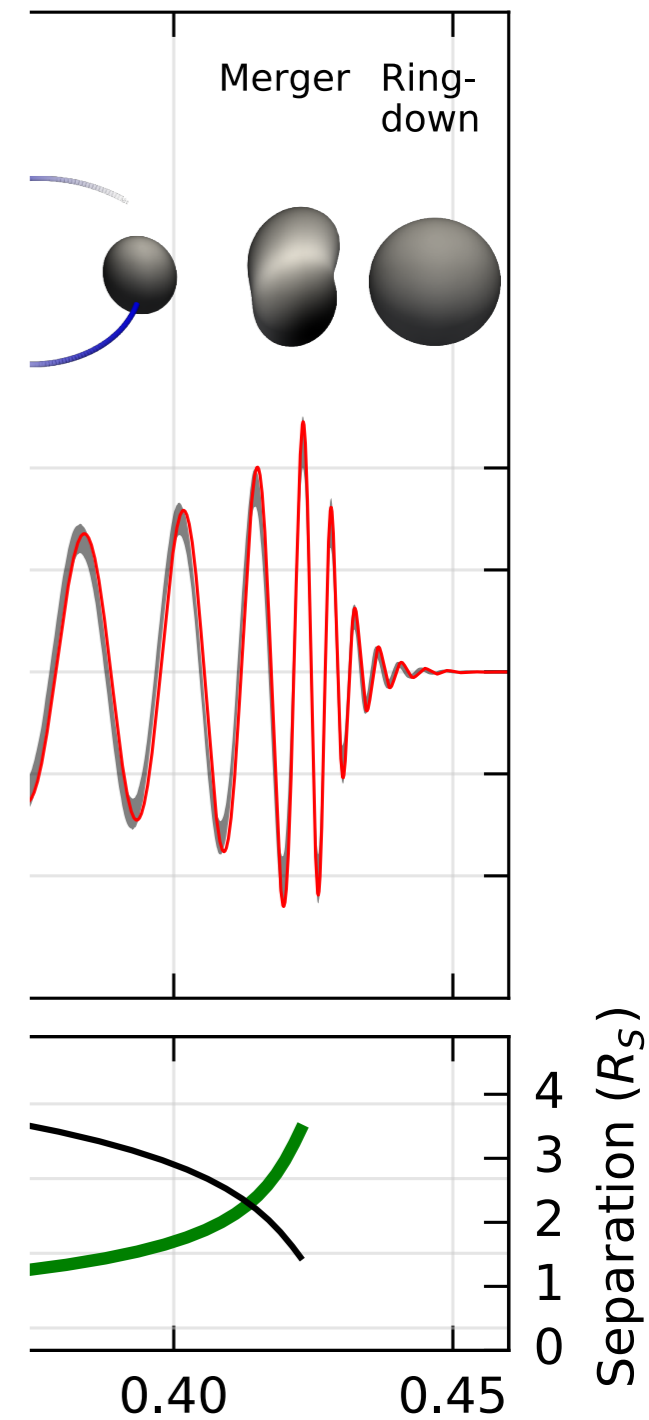
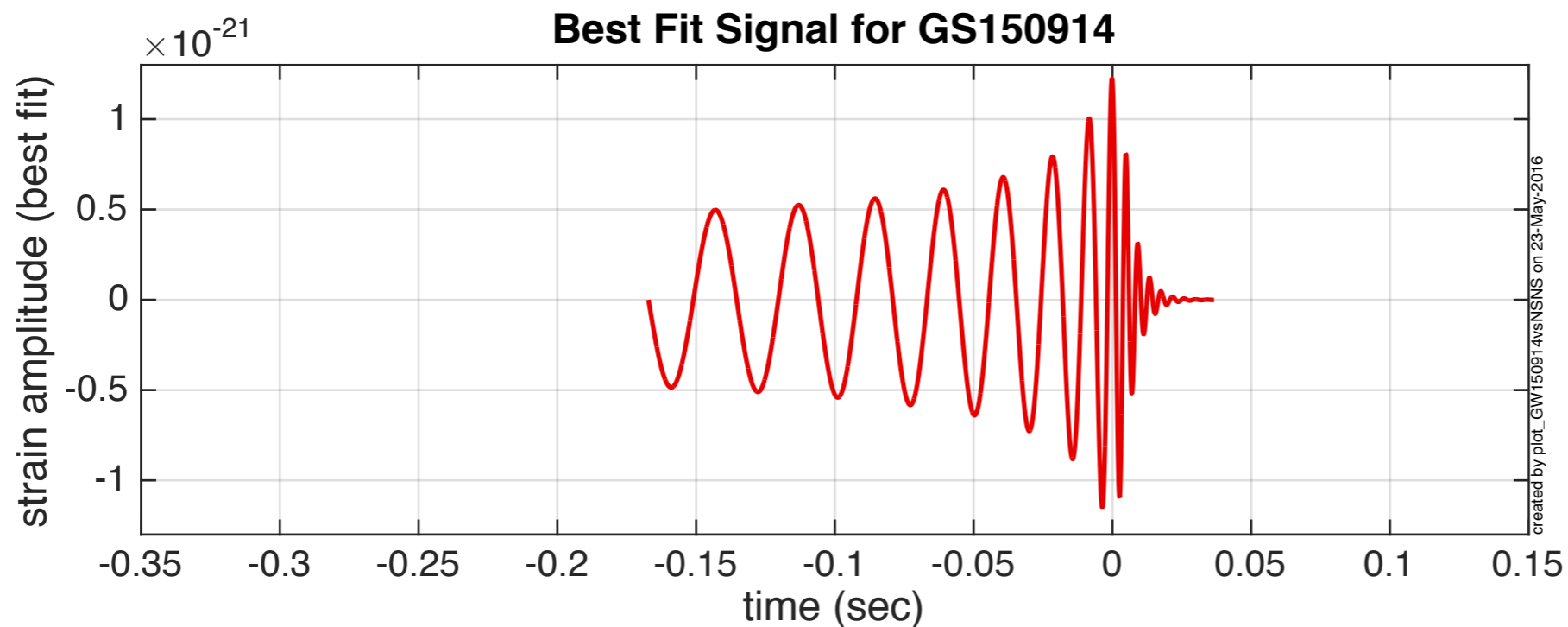
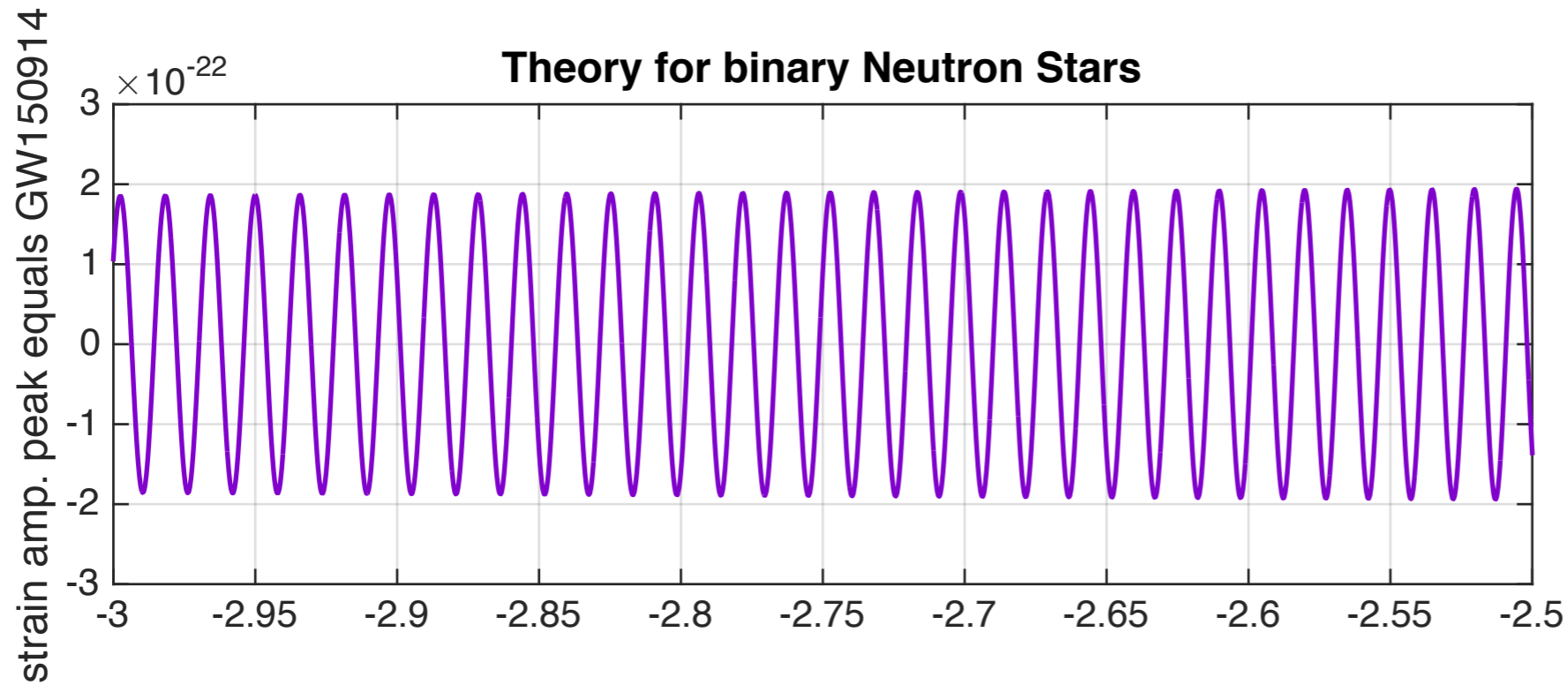




# Best fit with Numerical Relativity



# Best fit with Numerical Relativity



# Best fit with Numerical Relativity

Initial Masses:

29 (+4/-4) & 36 (+5/-4)  $M_{\text{sun}}$

Final Mass:

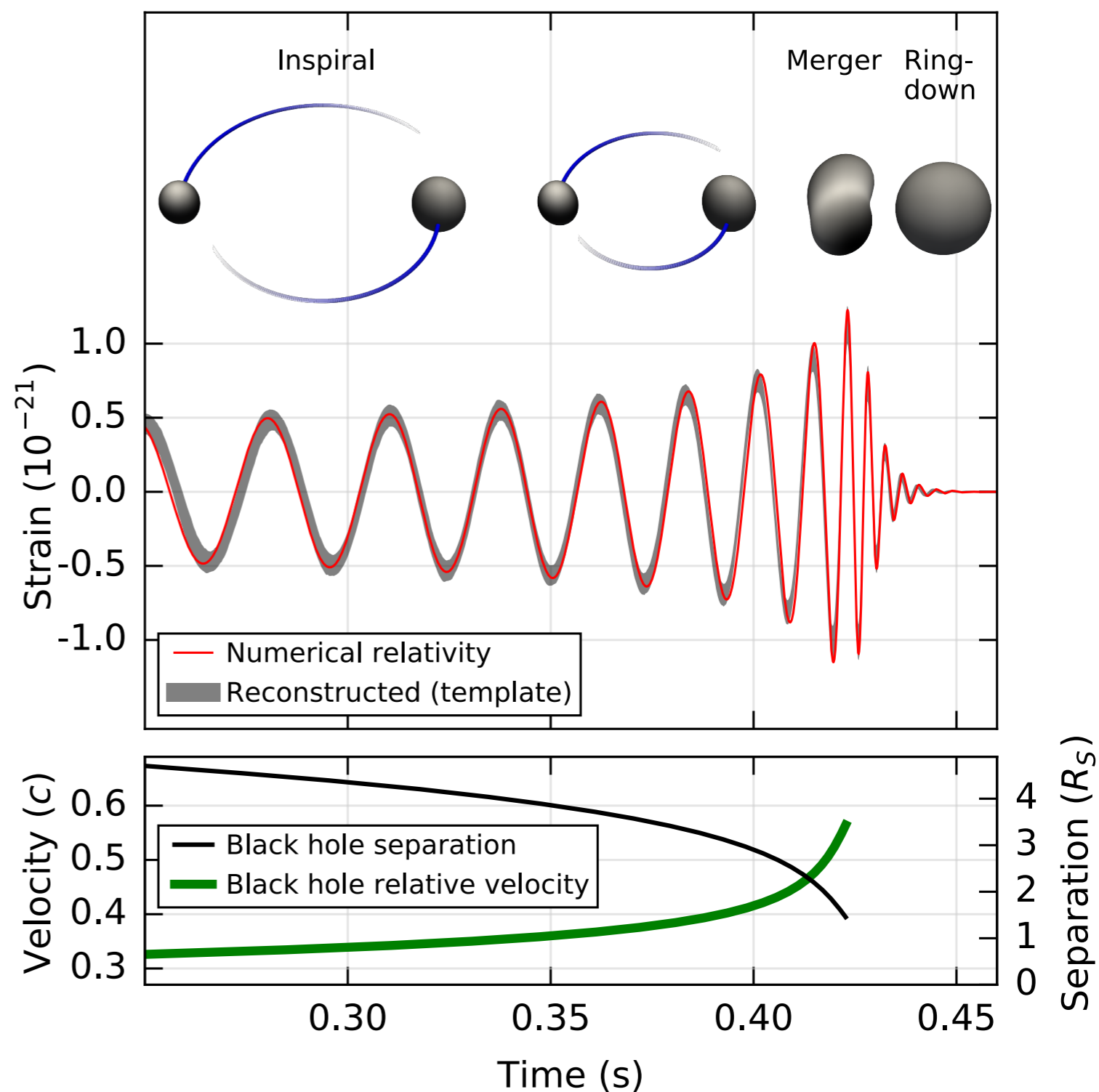
62 (+4/-4)  $M_{\text{sun}}$

Energy radiated

3 (+0.5/-0.5)  $M_{\text{sun}} c^2$

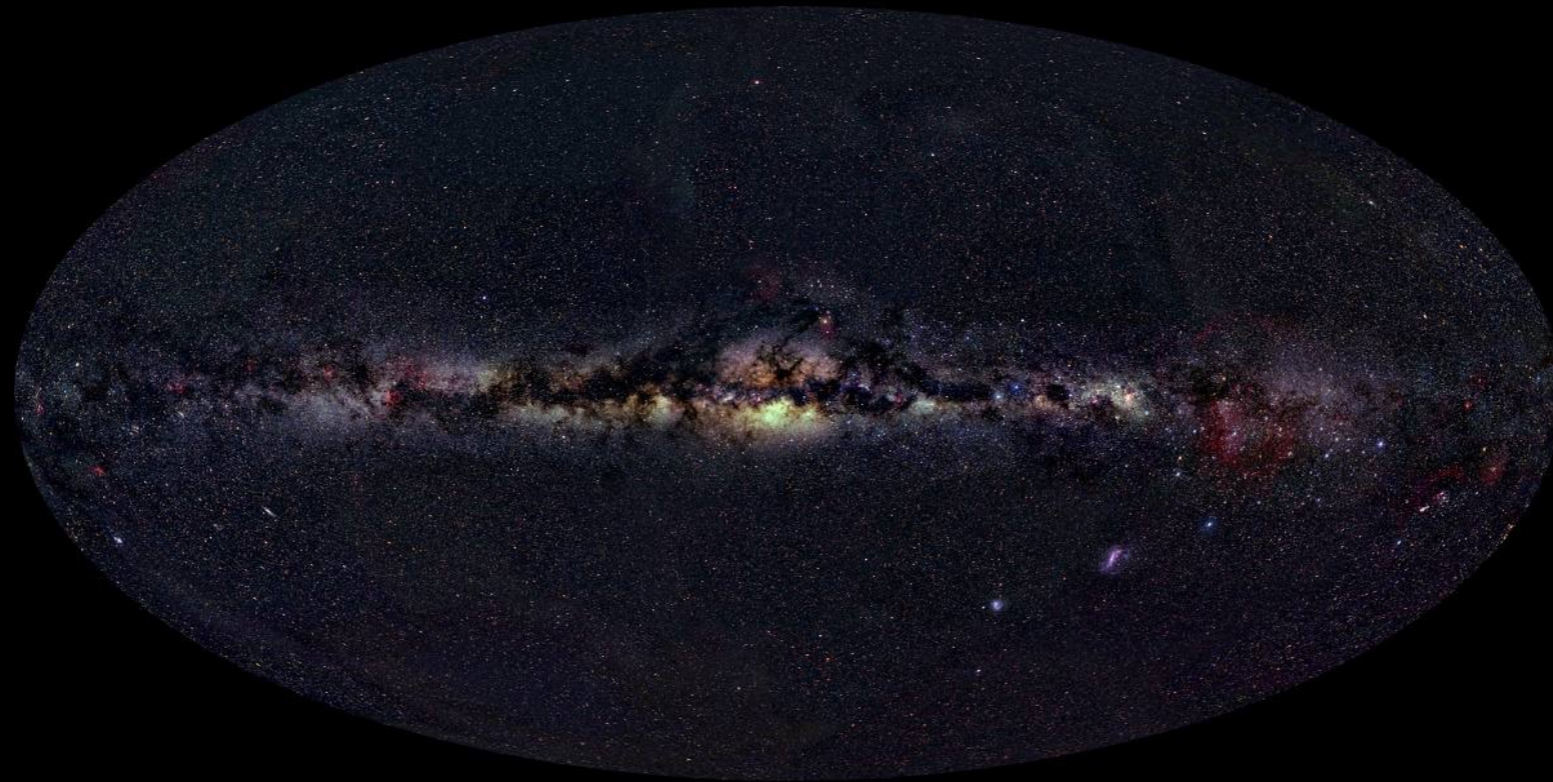
Distance

1.3 Billion light years  
(410 (+160/-180) Mpc)



# new ways to see the sky

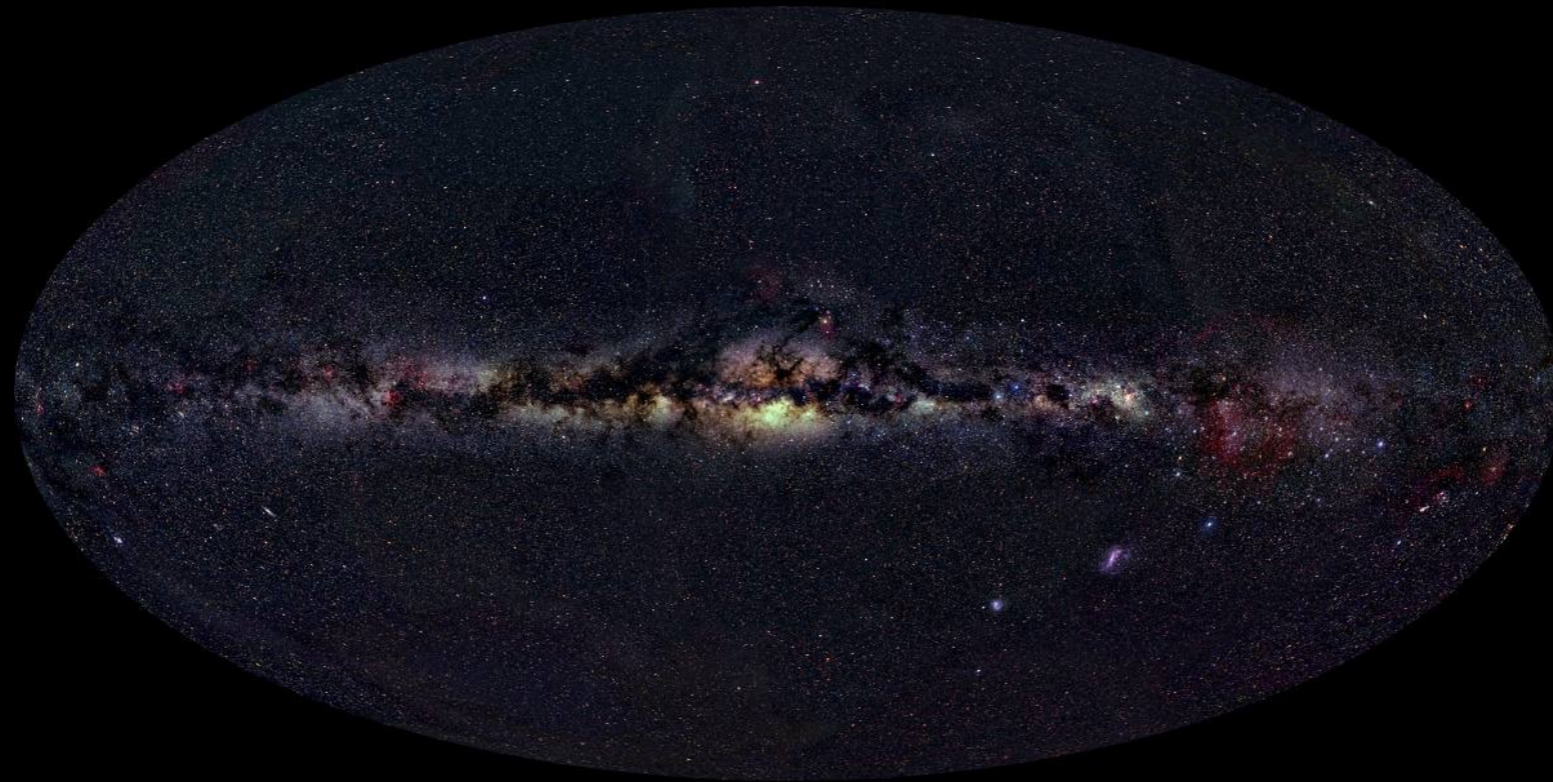
## *The Deep Sky*



© 2000, Axel Mellinger

# new ways to see the sky

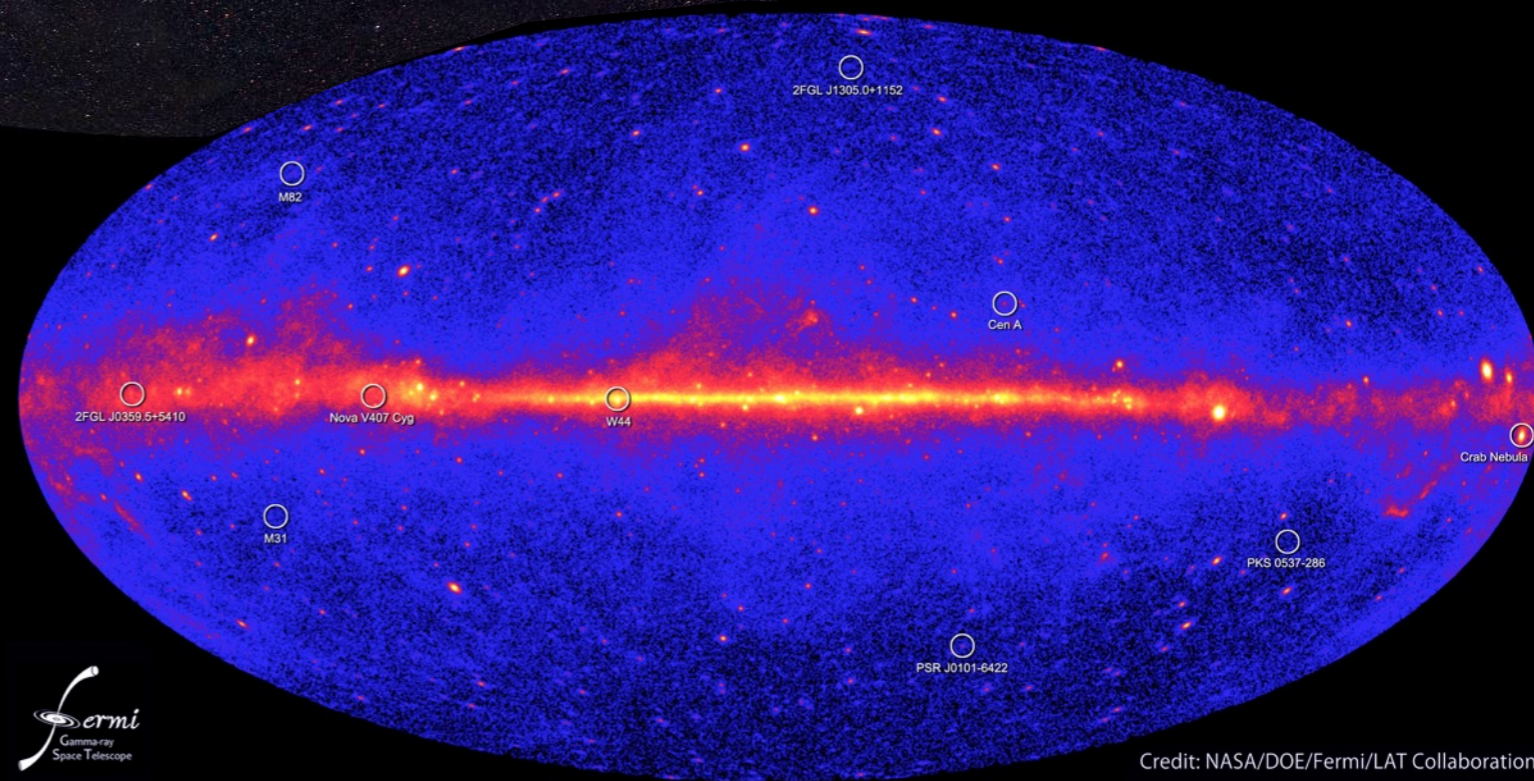
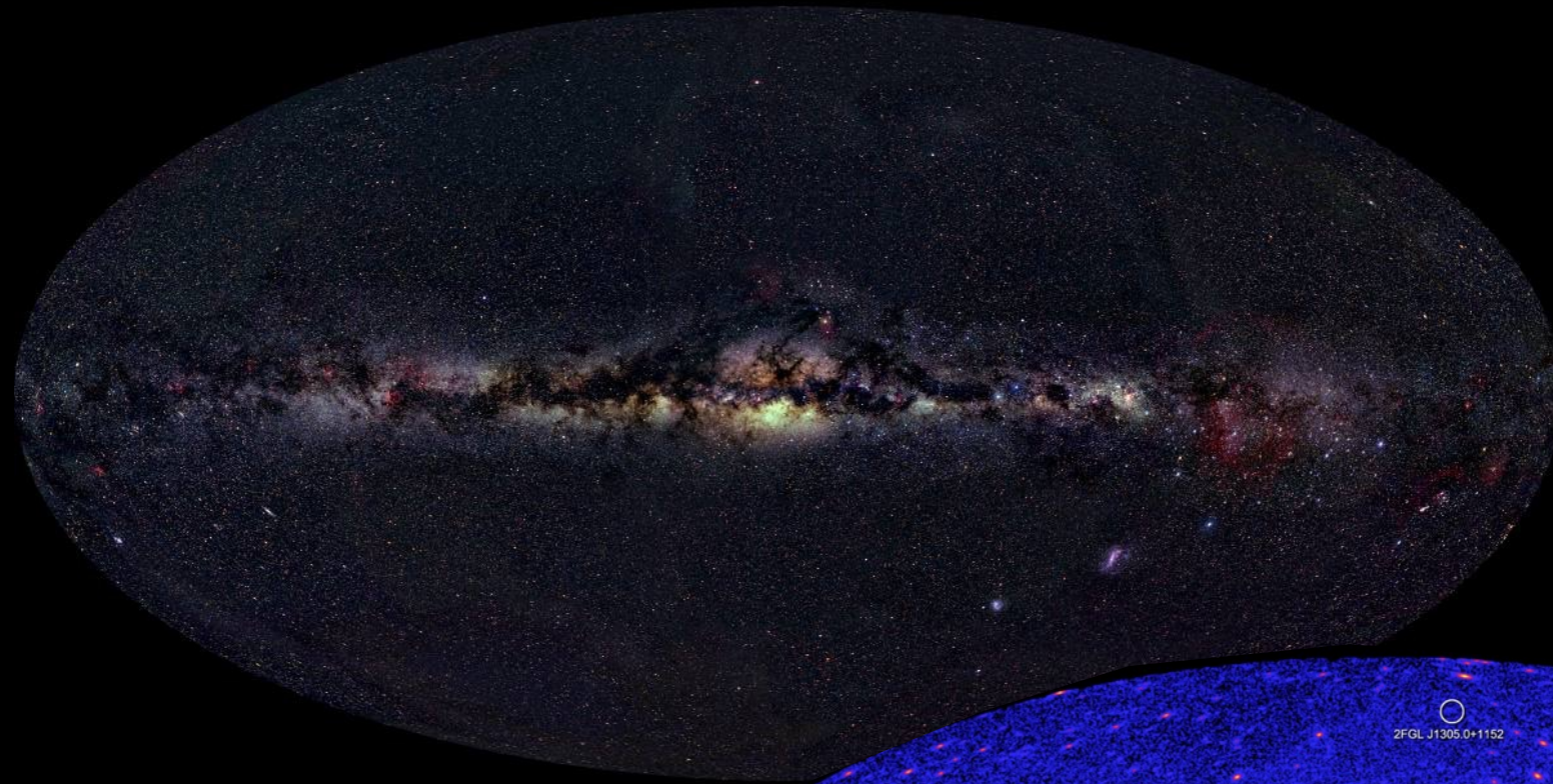
## *The Deep Sky*



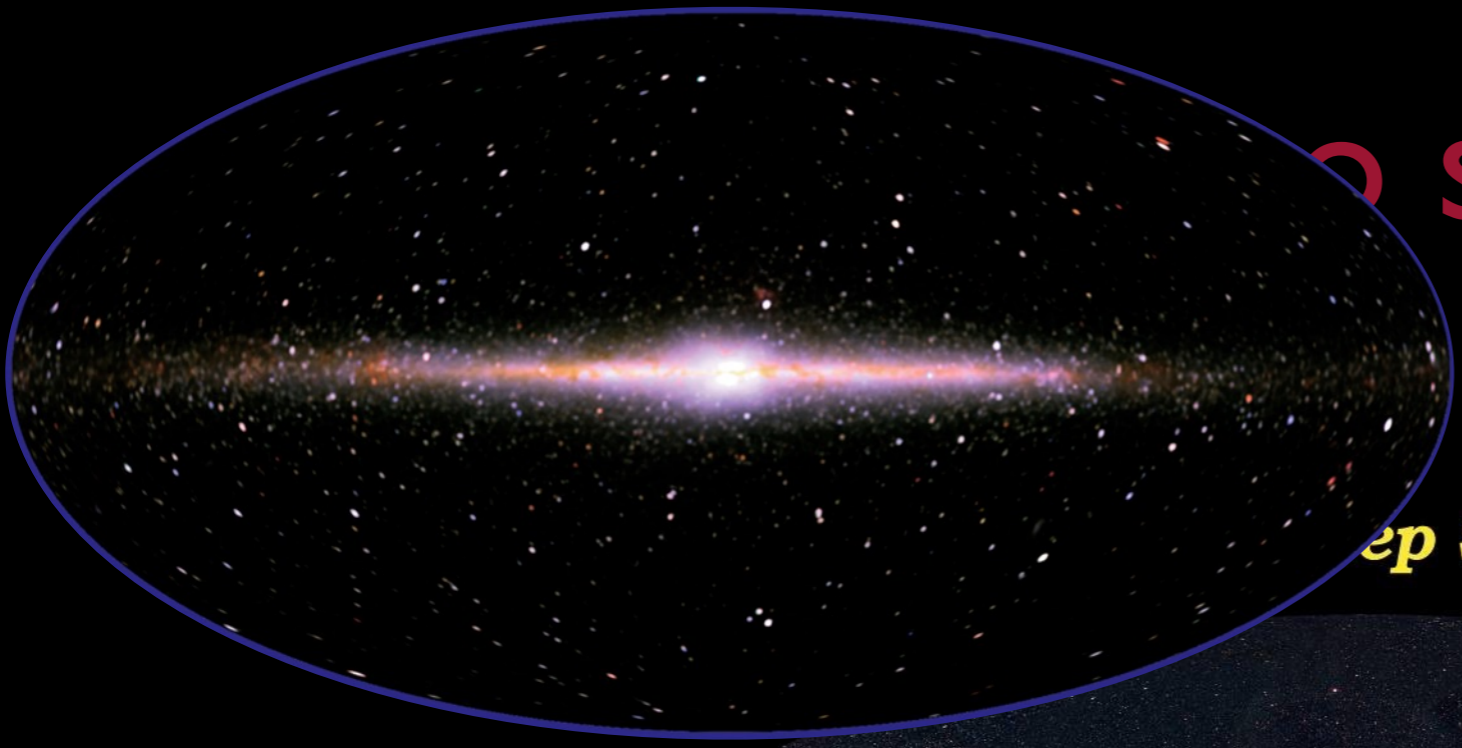
© 2000, Axel Mellinger

# new ways to see the sky

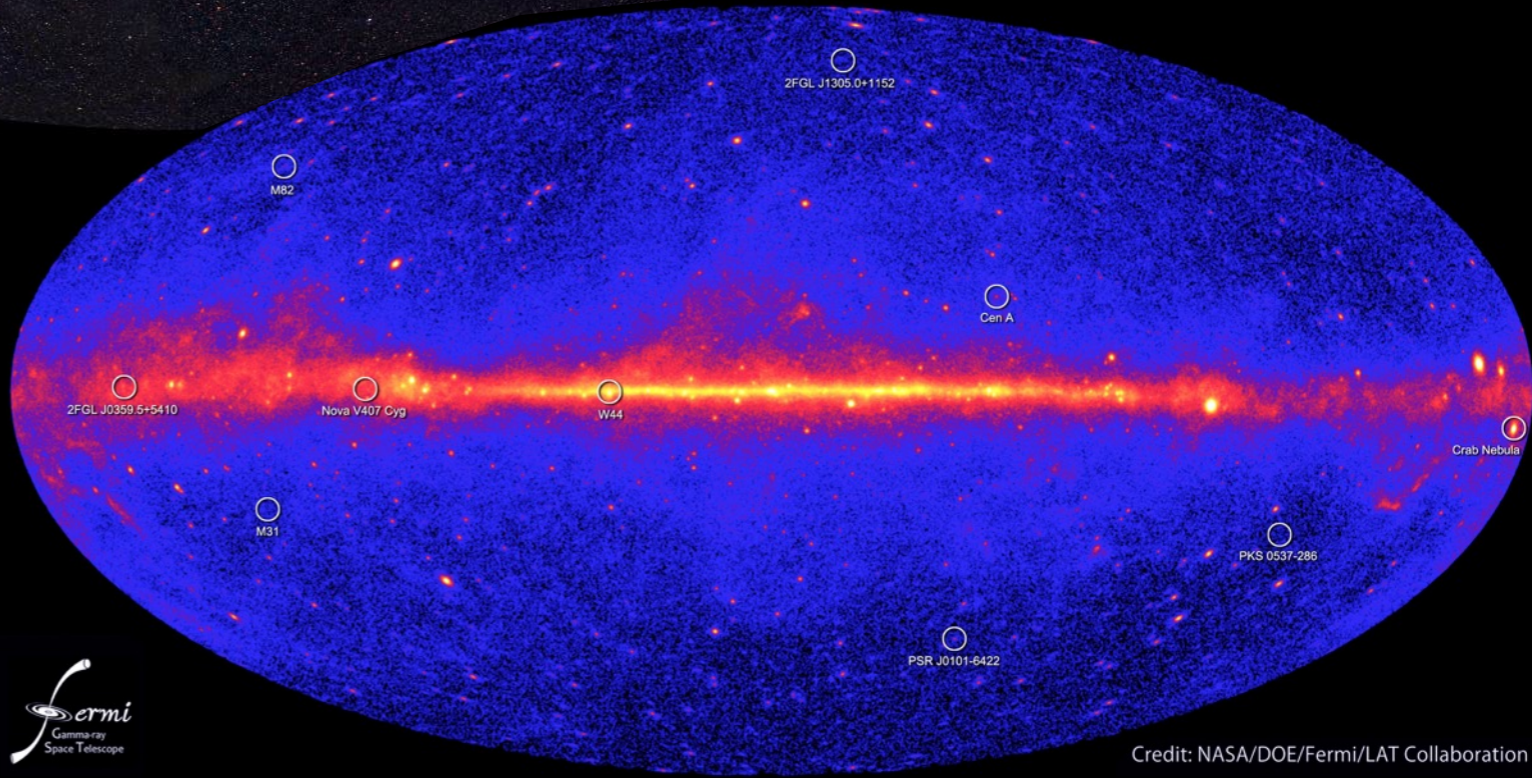
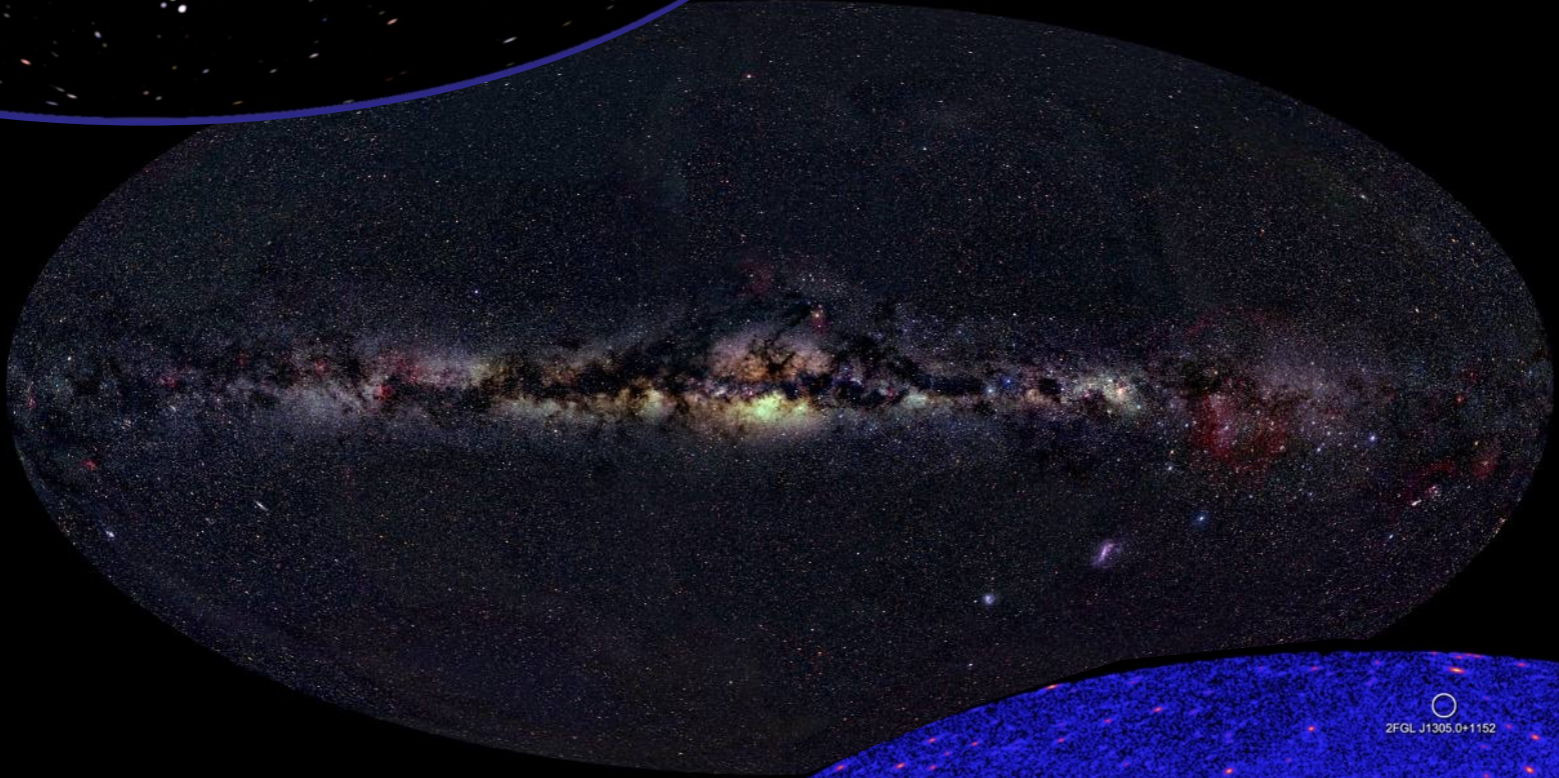
## The Deep Sky

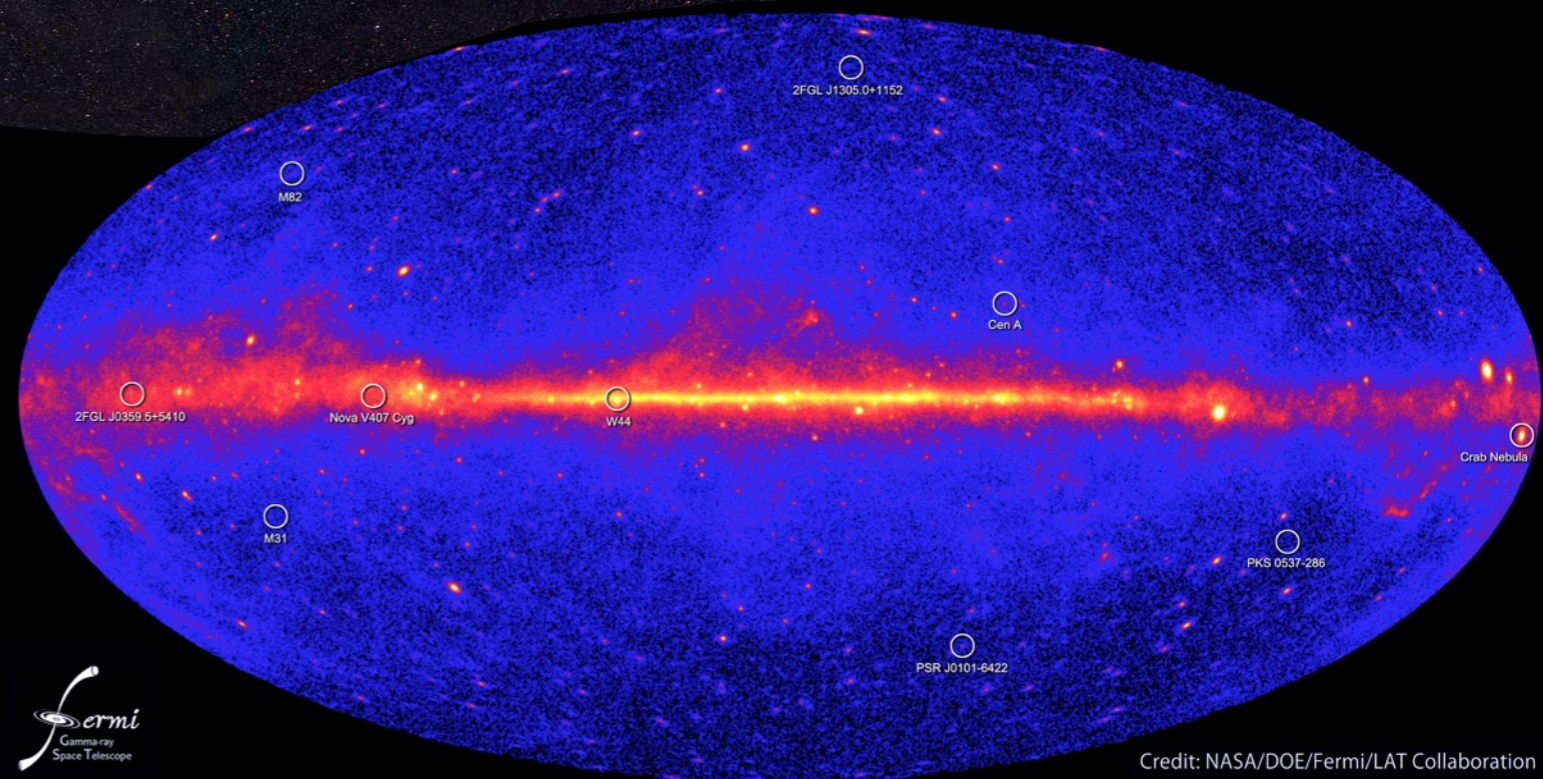
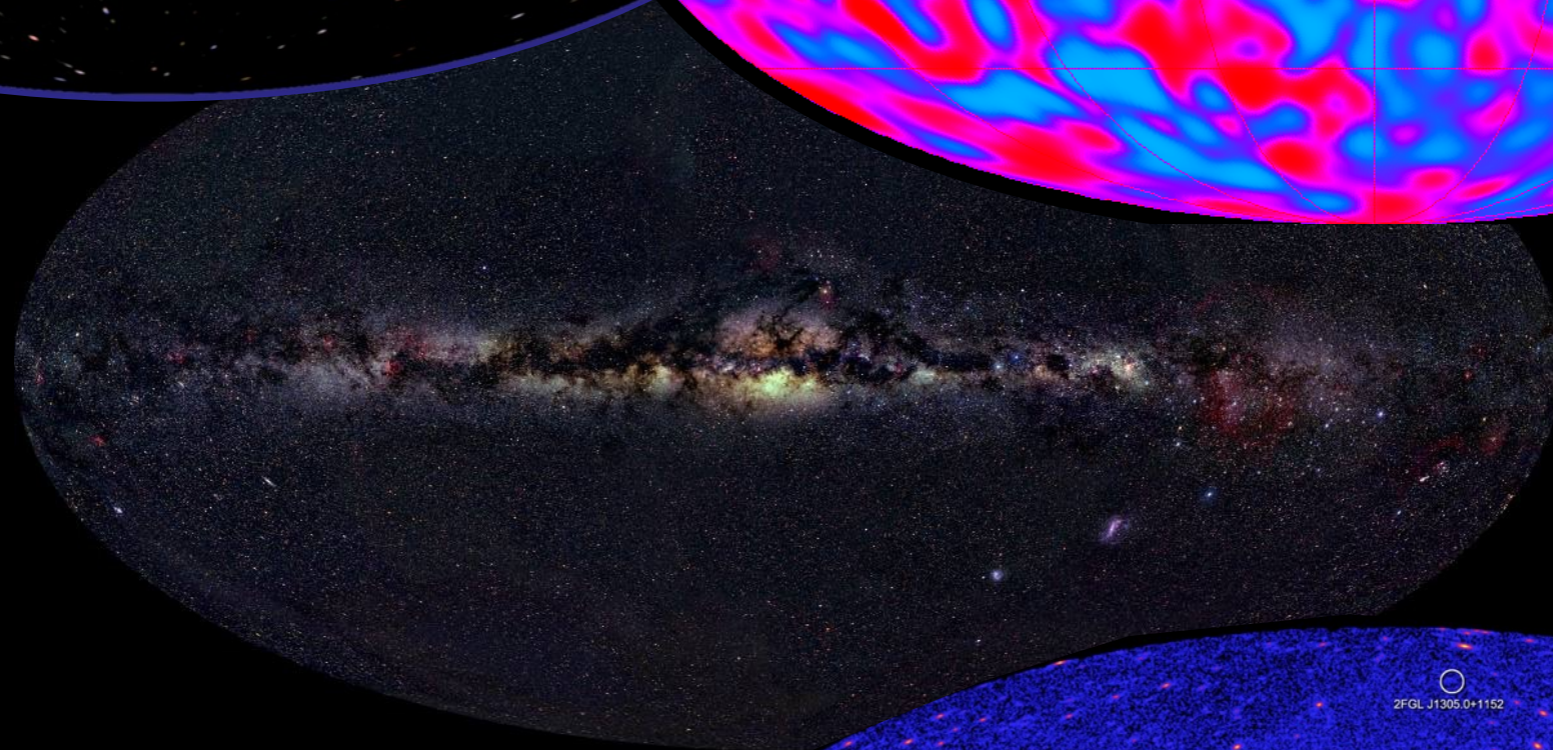
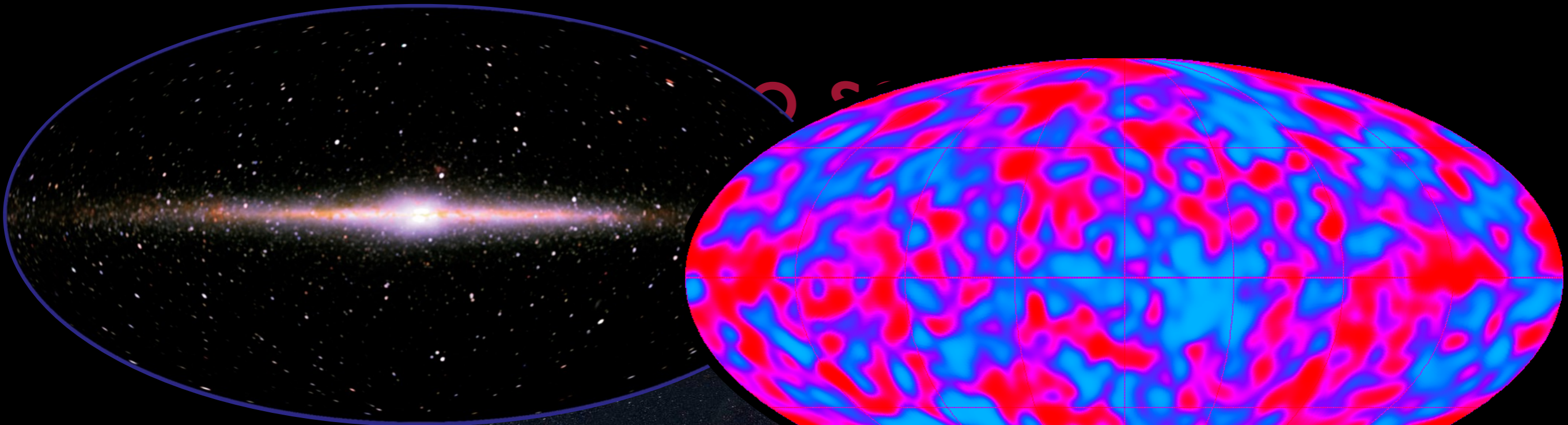


# to see the sky



Deep Sky

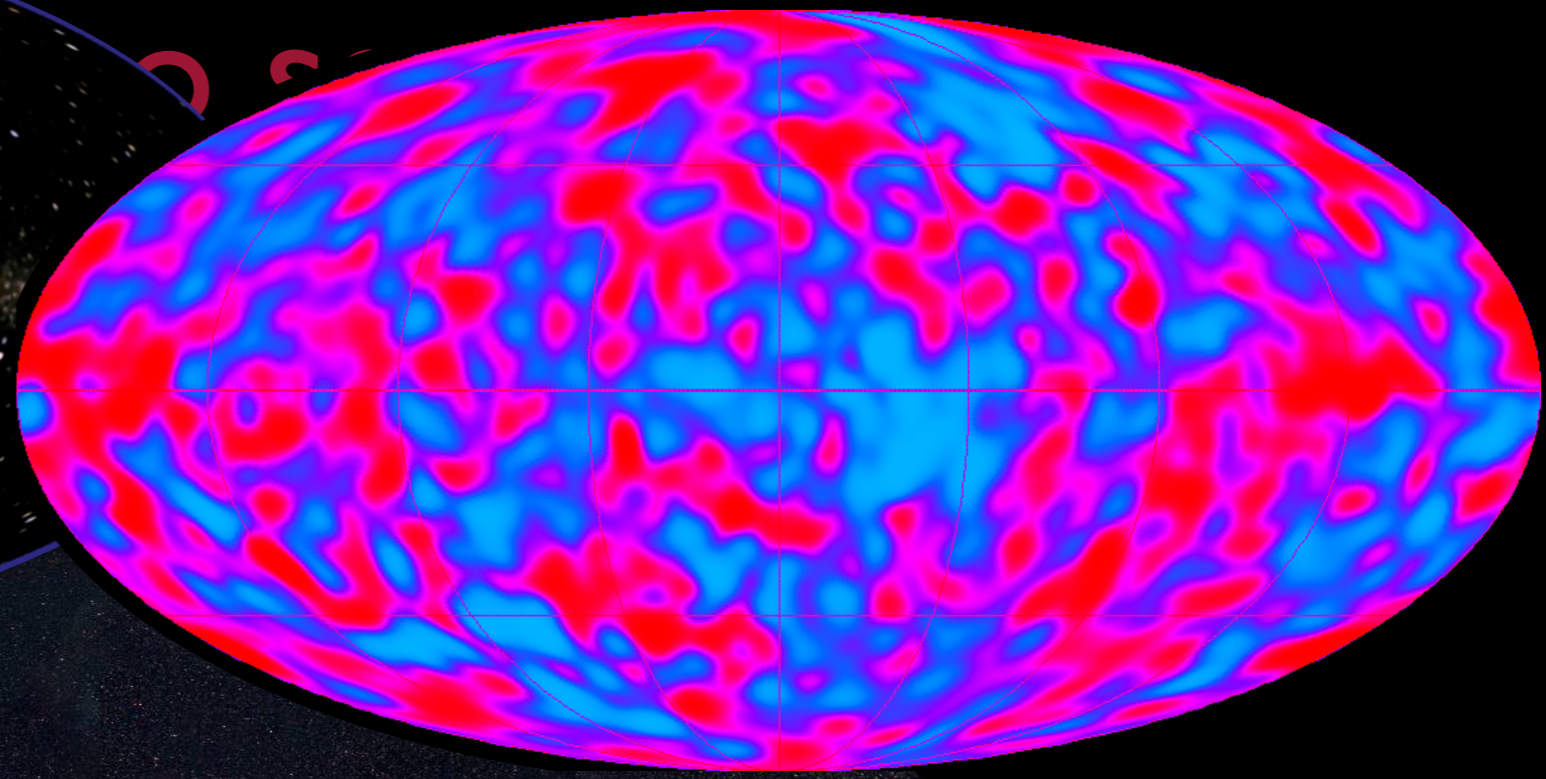
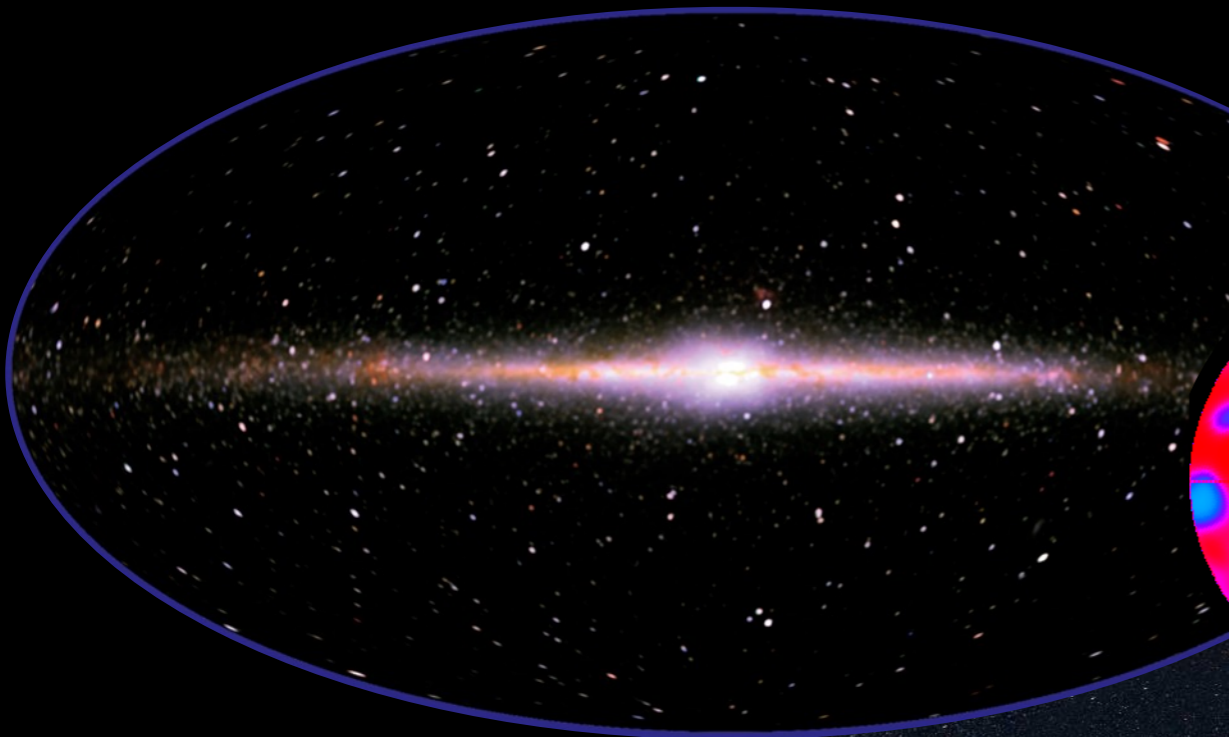




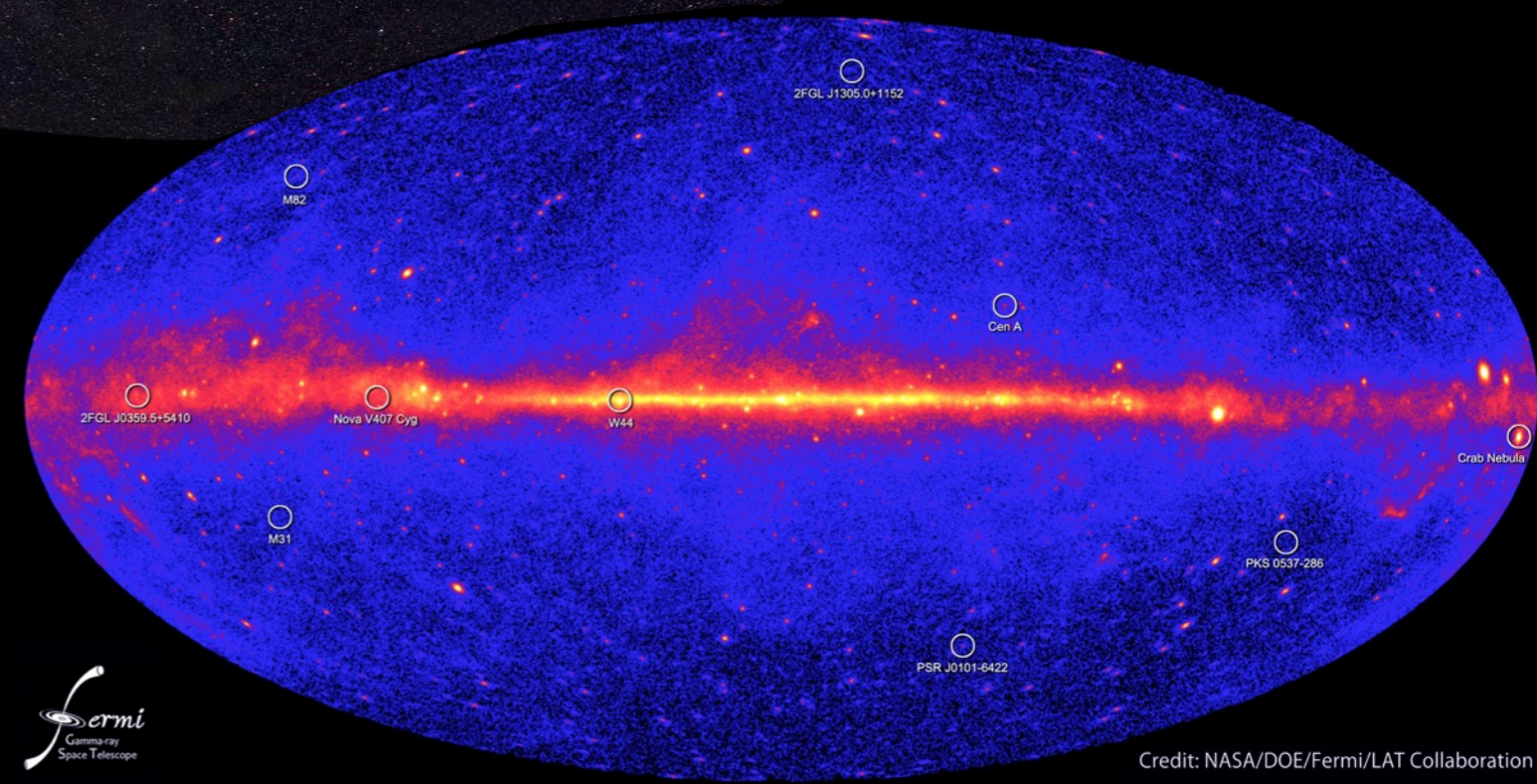
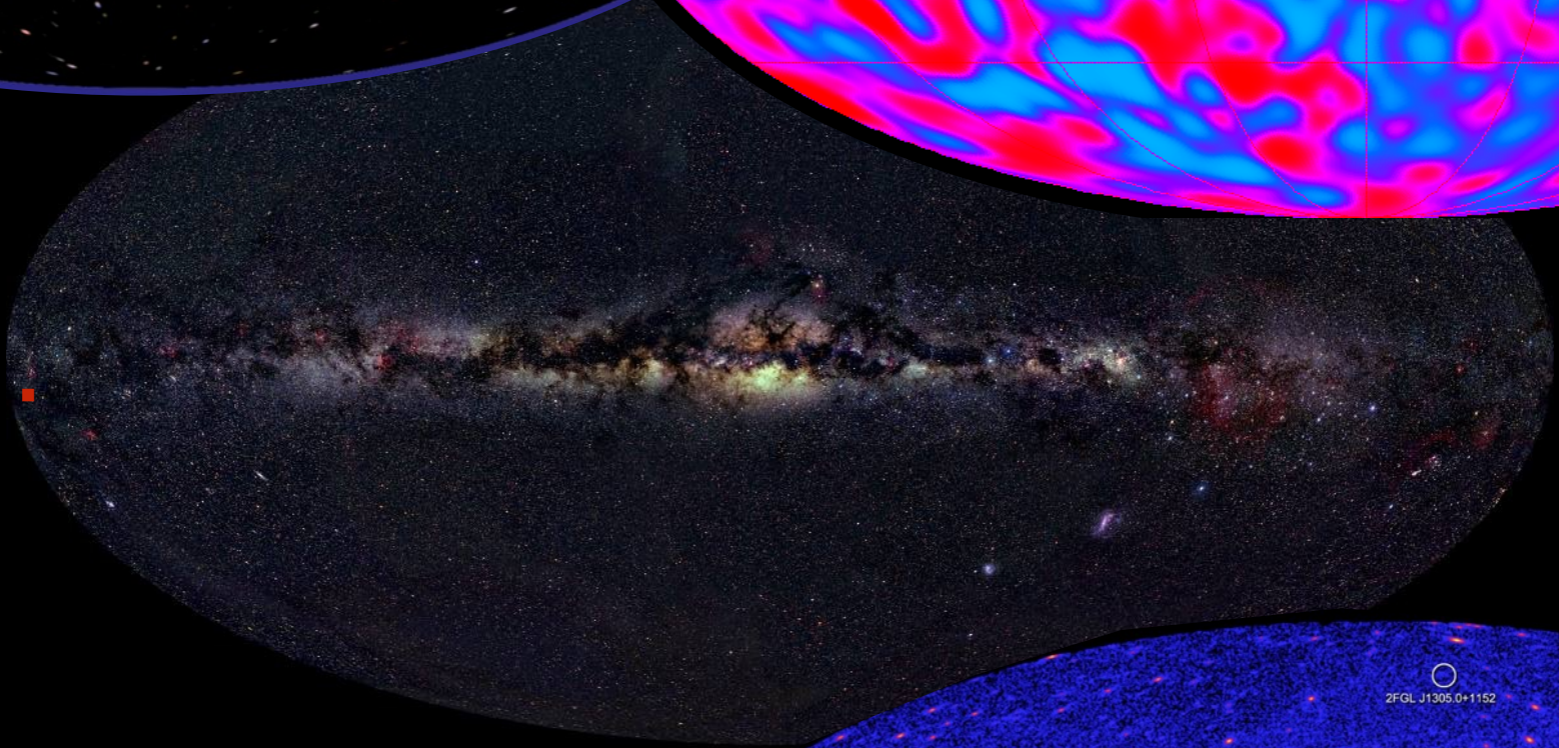
*Fermi*  
Gamma-ray  
Space Telescope

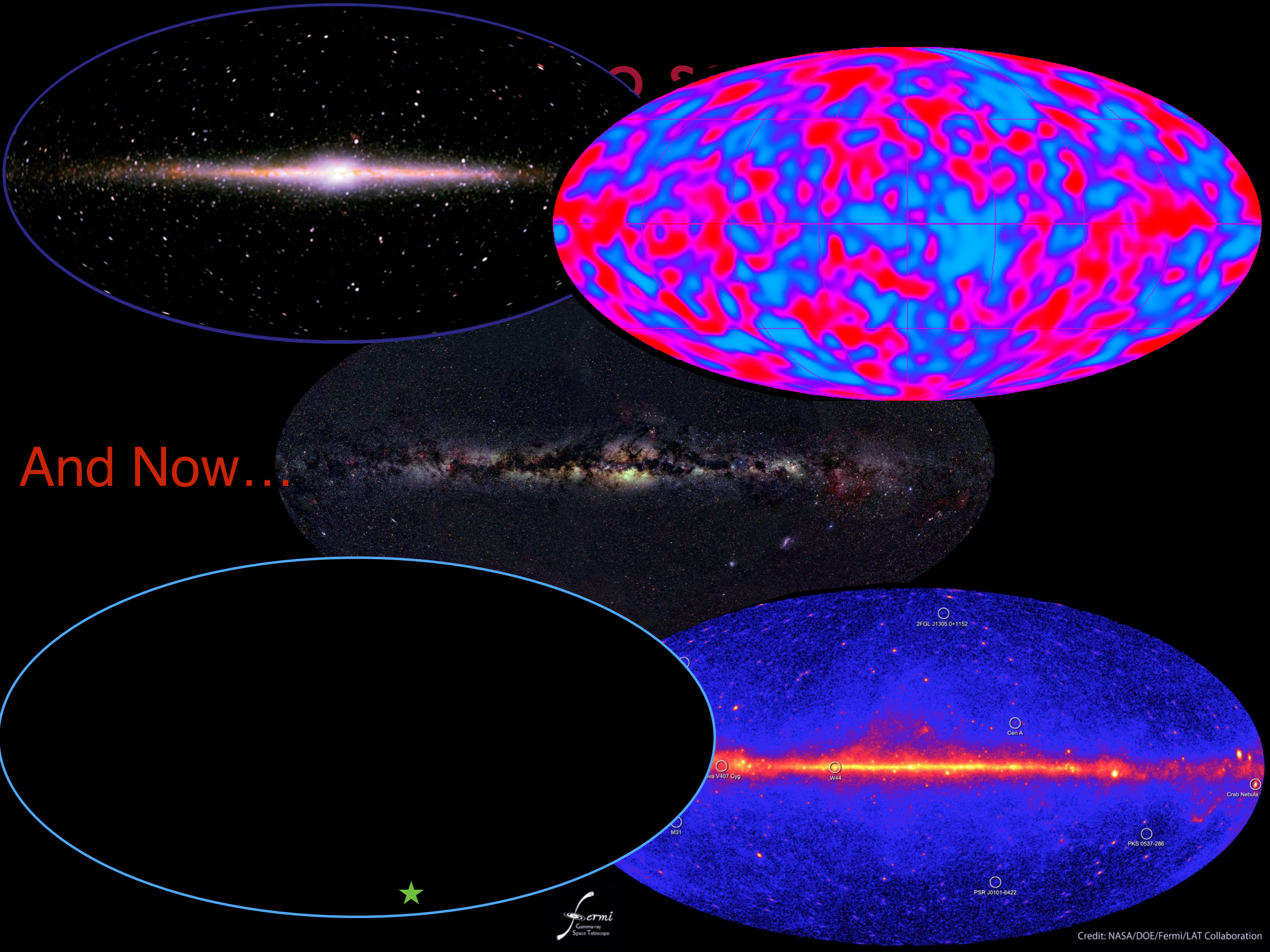
Credit: NASA/DOE/Fermi/LAT Collaboration





And Now...





And Now...



# Supernovas and remnants

Crab Nebula, supernova in 1054, now a spinning neutron star

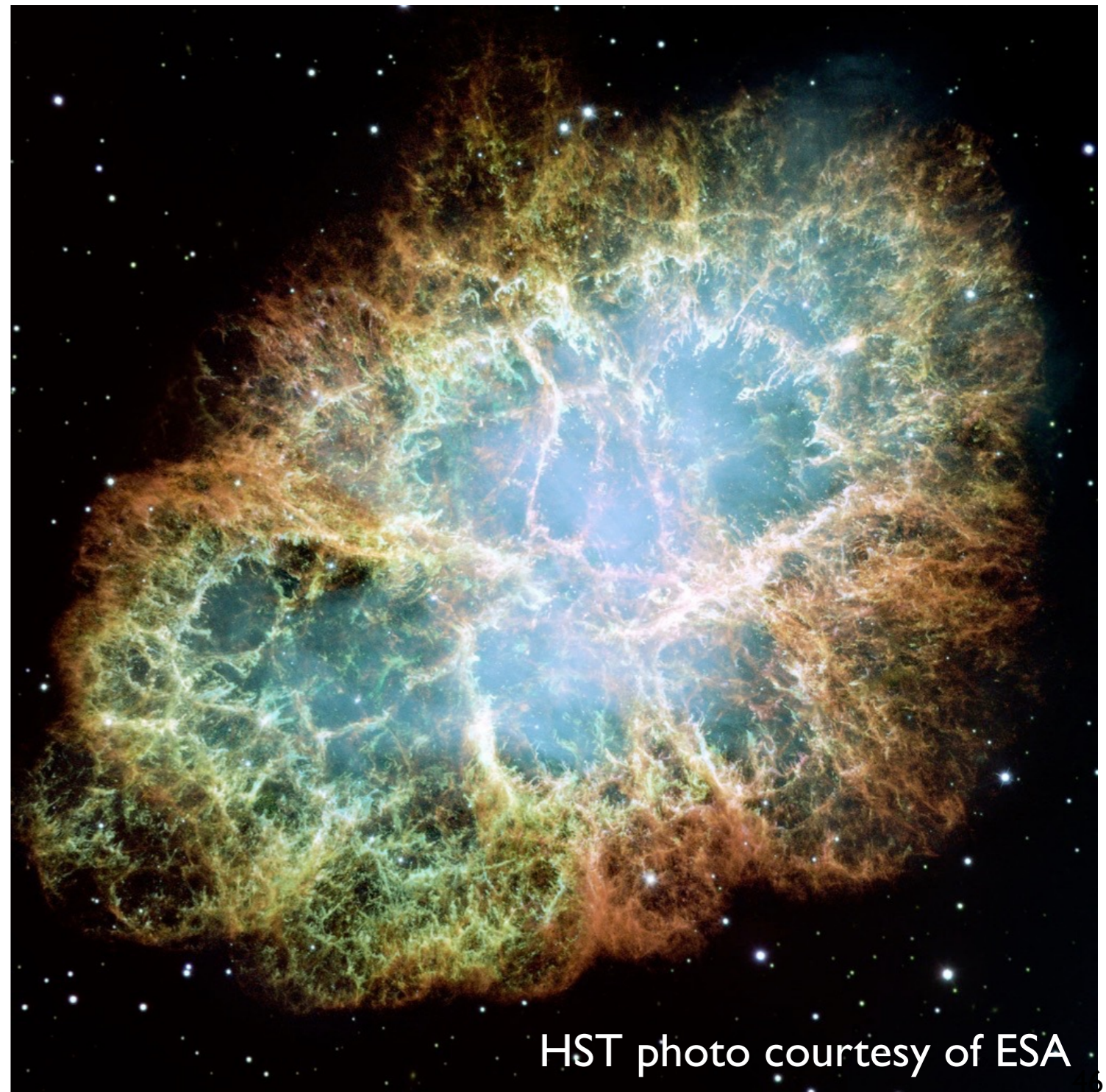
1987a

HST image from <http://hubblesite.org>

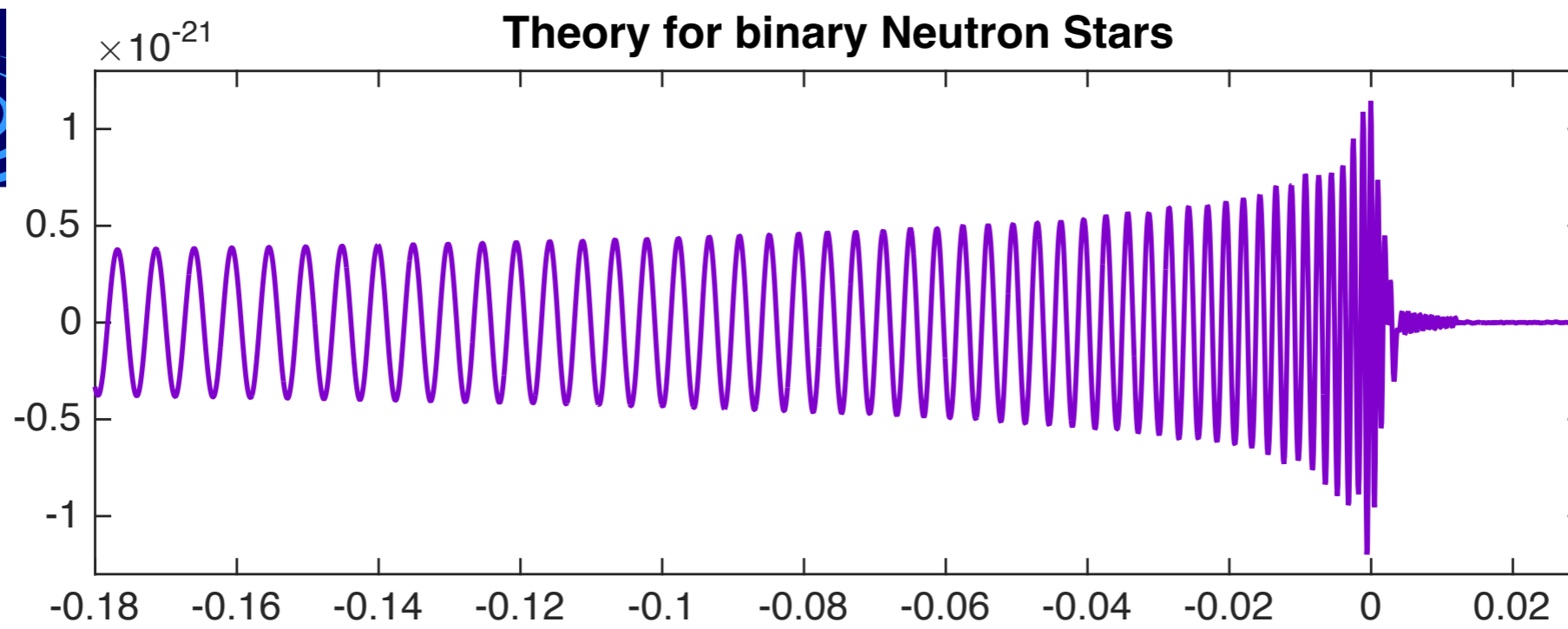
Feb. '94    Sept '94    Mar. '95    Feb '96

**Supernova 1987A Explosion Debris**  
Hubble Space Telescope • WFPC2

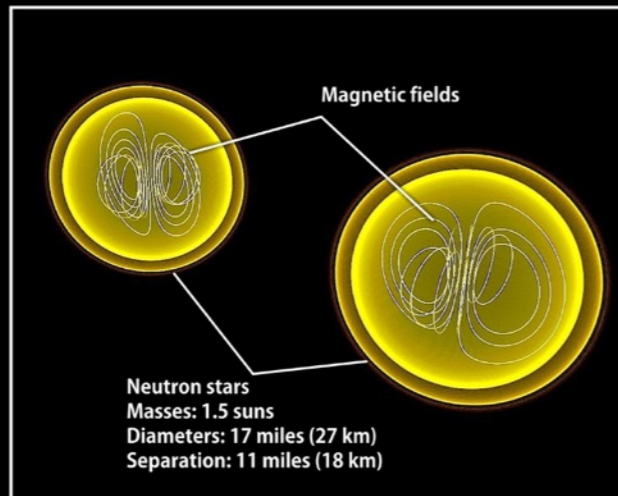
PRC97-03 • ST ScI OPO • January 14, 1997 • J. Pun (NASA/GSFC), R. Kirshner (Harvard-Smithsonian CfA) and NASA



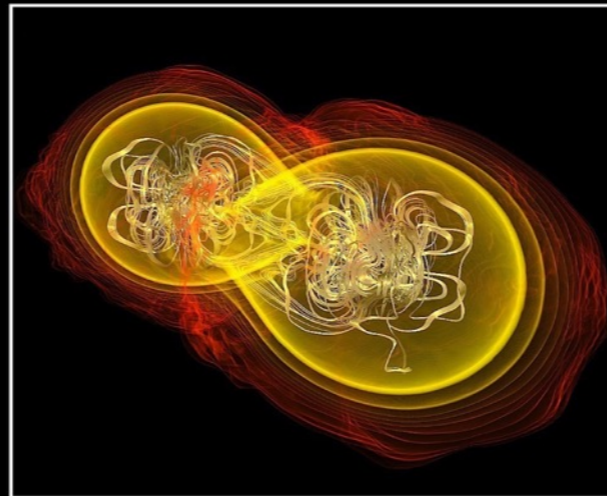
HST photo courtesy of ESA



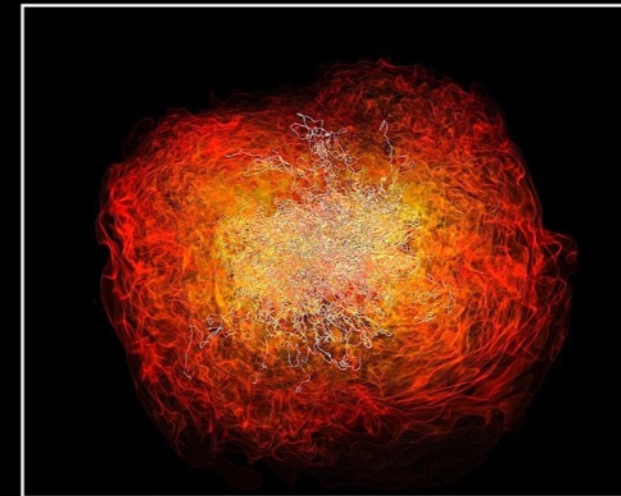
## Crashing neutron stars can make gamma-ray burst jets



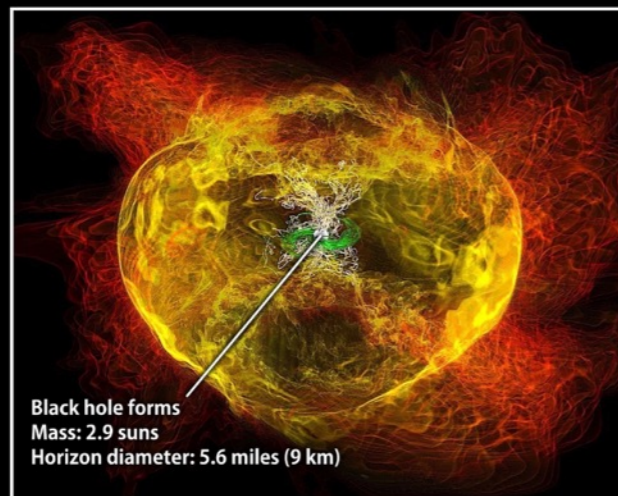
Simulation begins



7.4 milliseconds



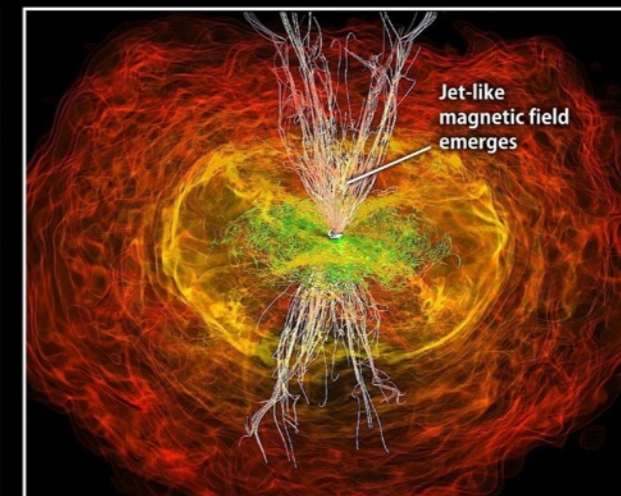
13.8 milliseconds



15.3 milliseconds

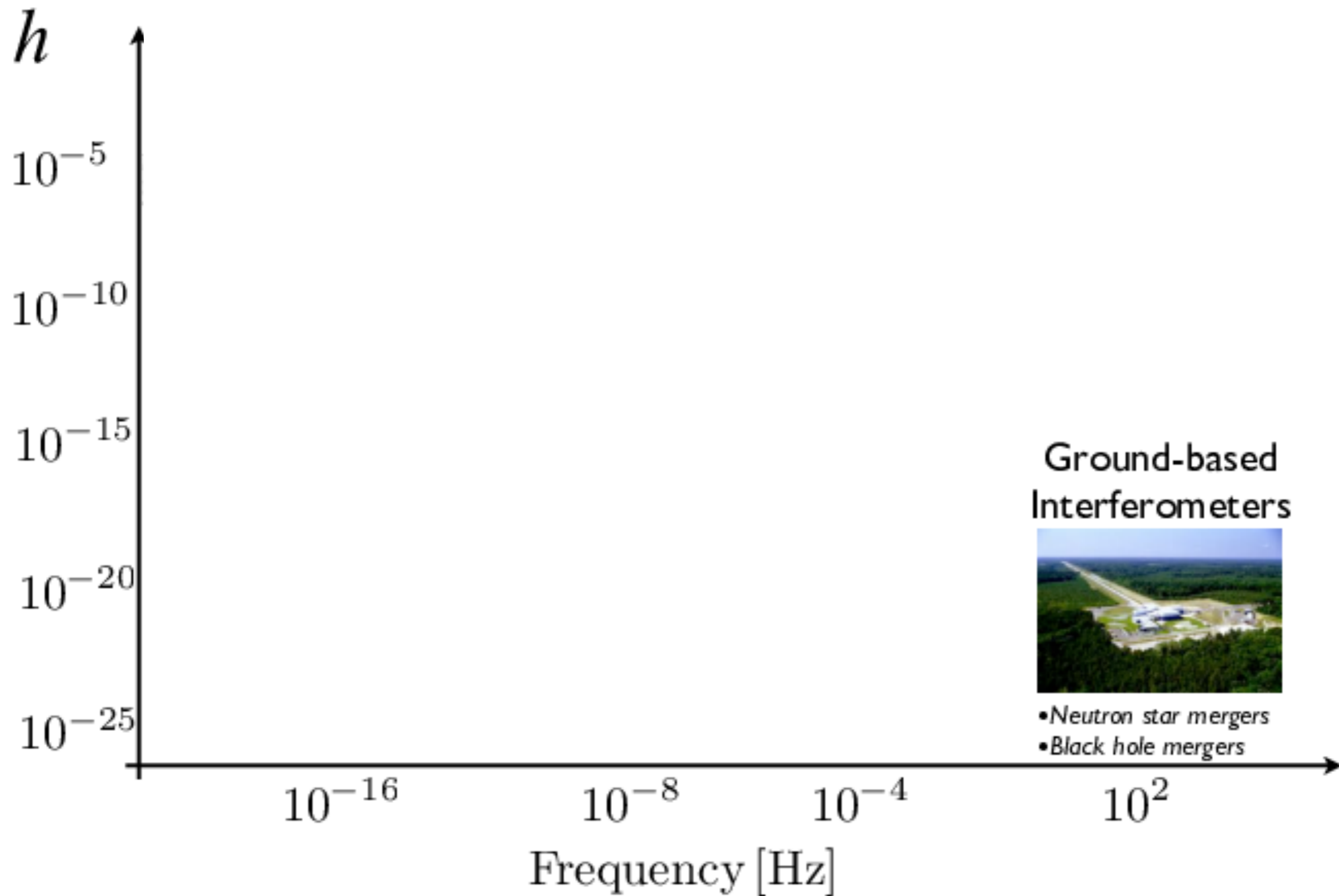


21.2 milliseconds

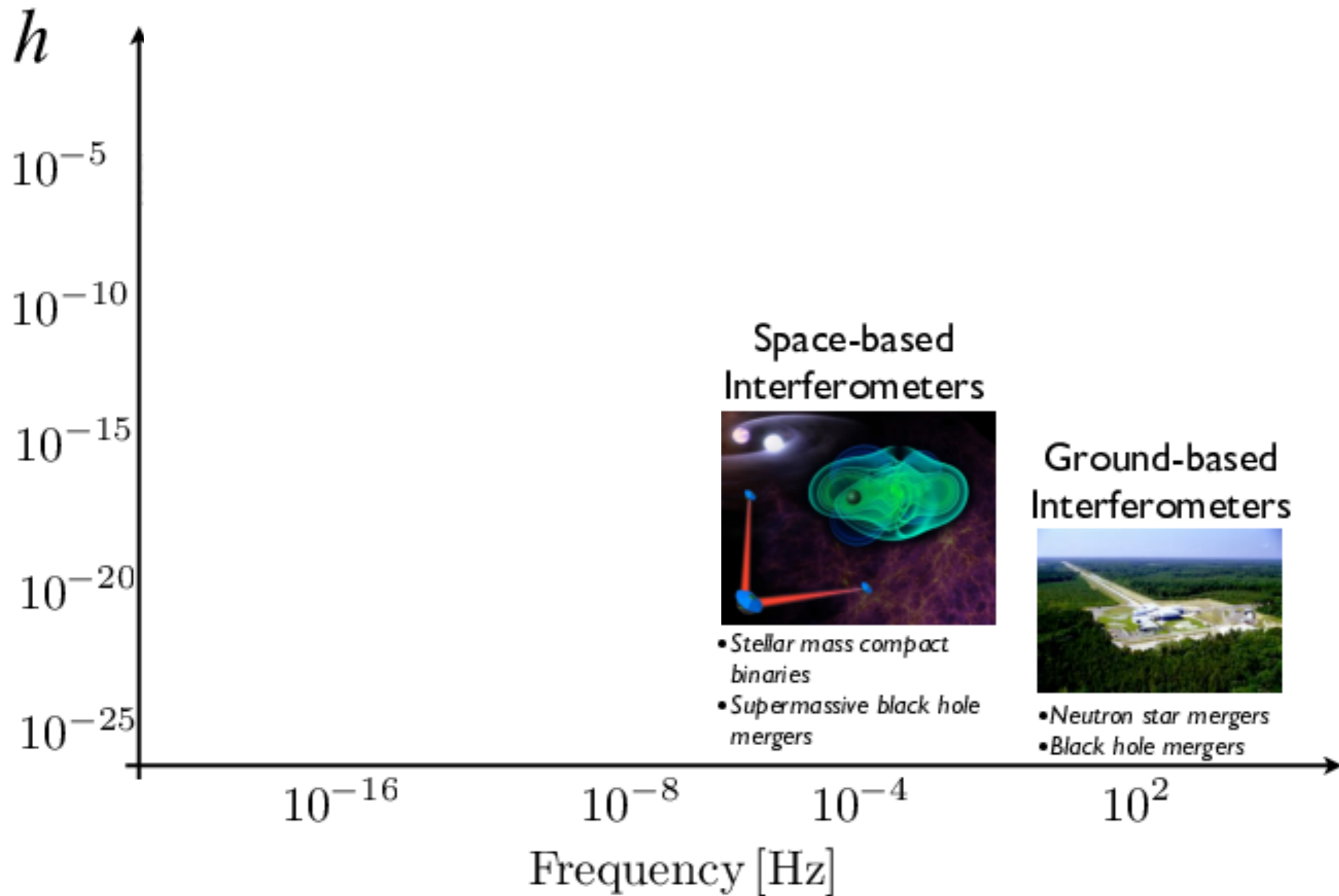


26.5 milliseconds

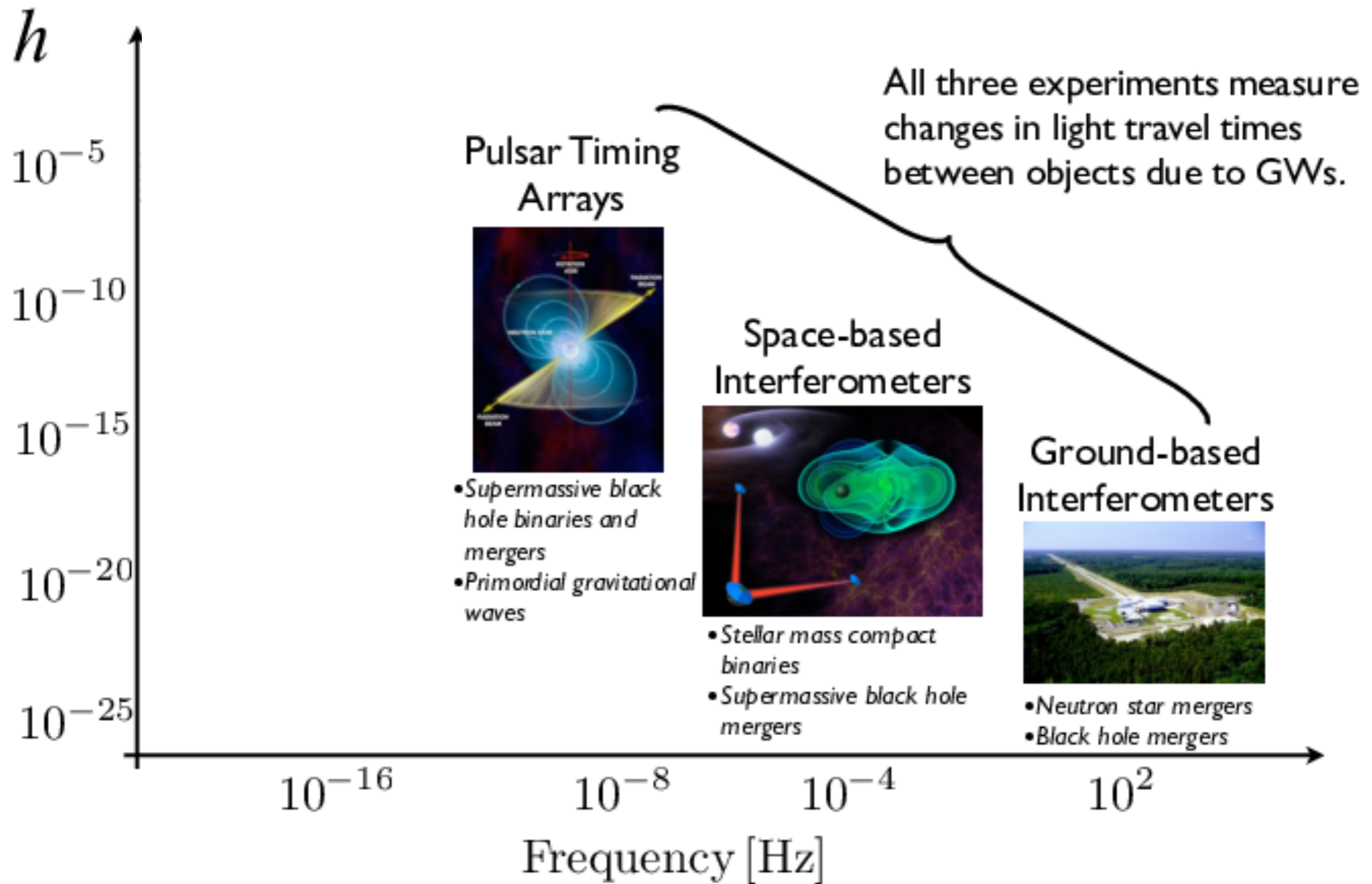
# The spectrum of gravitational wave astronomy



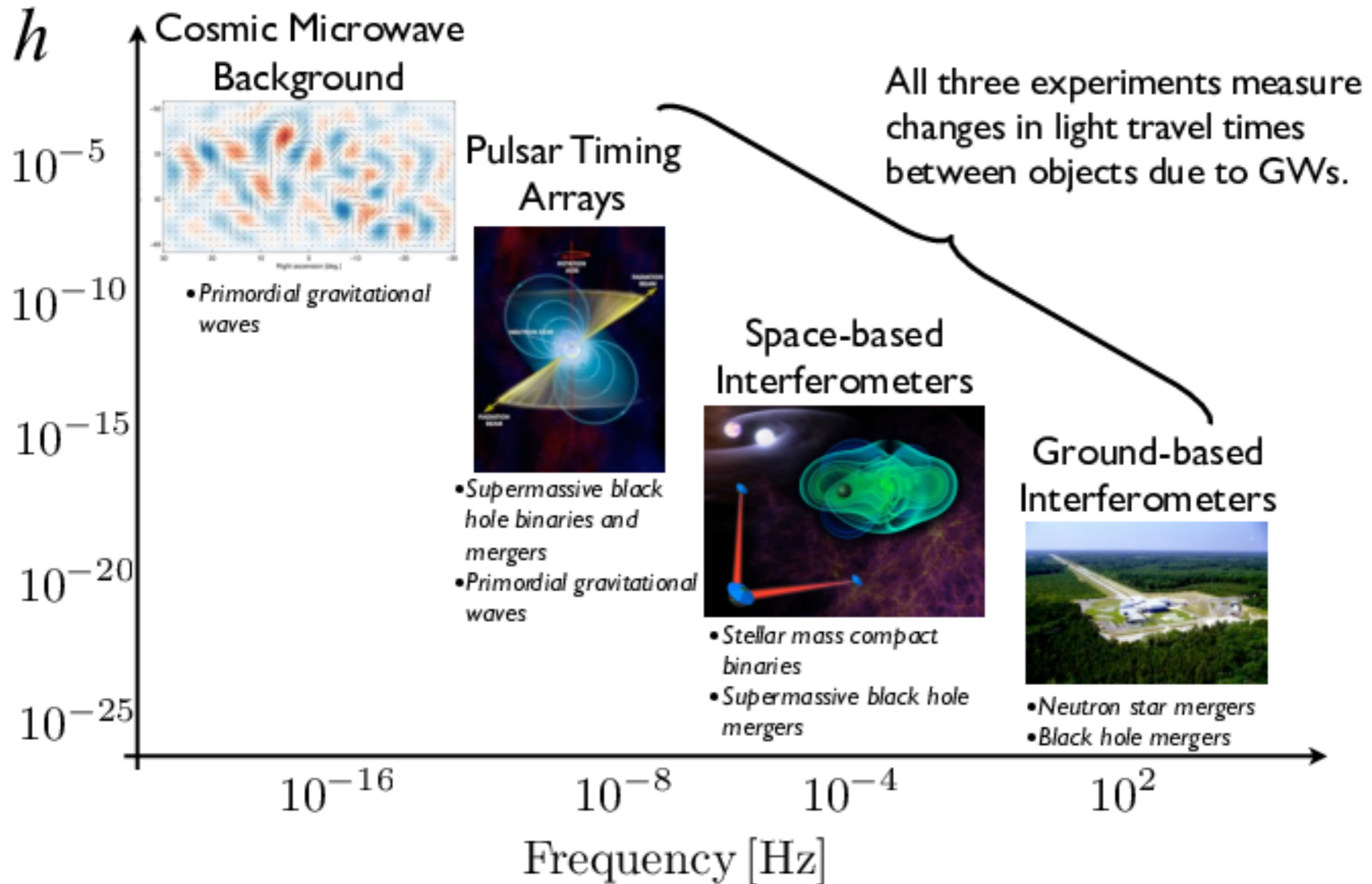
# The spectrum of gravitational wave astronomy



# The spectrum of gravitational wave astronomy

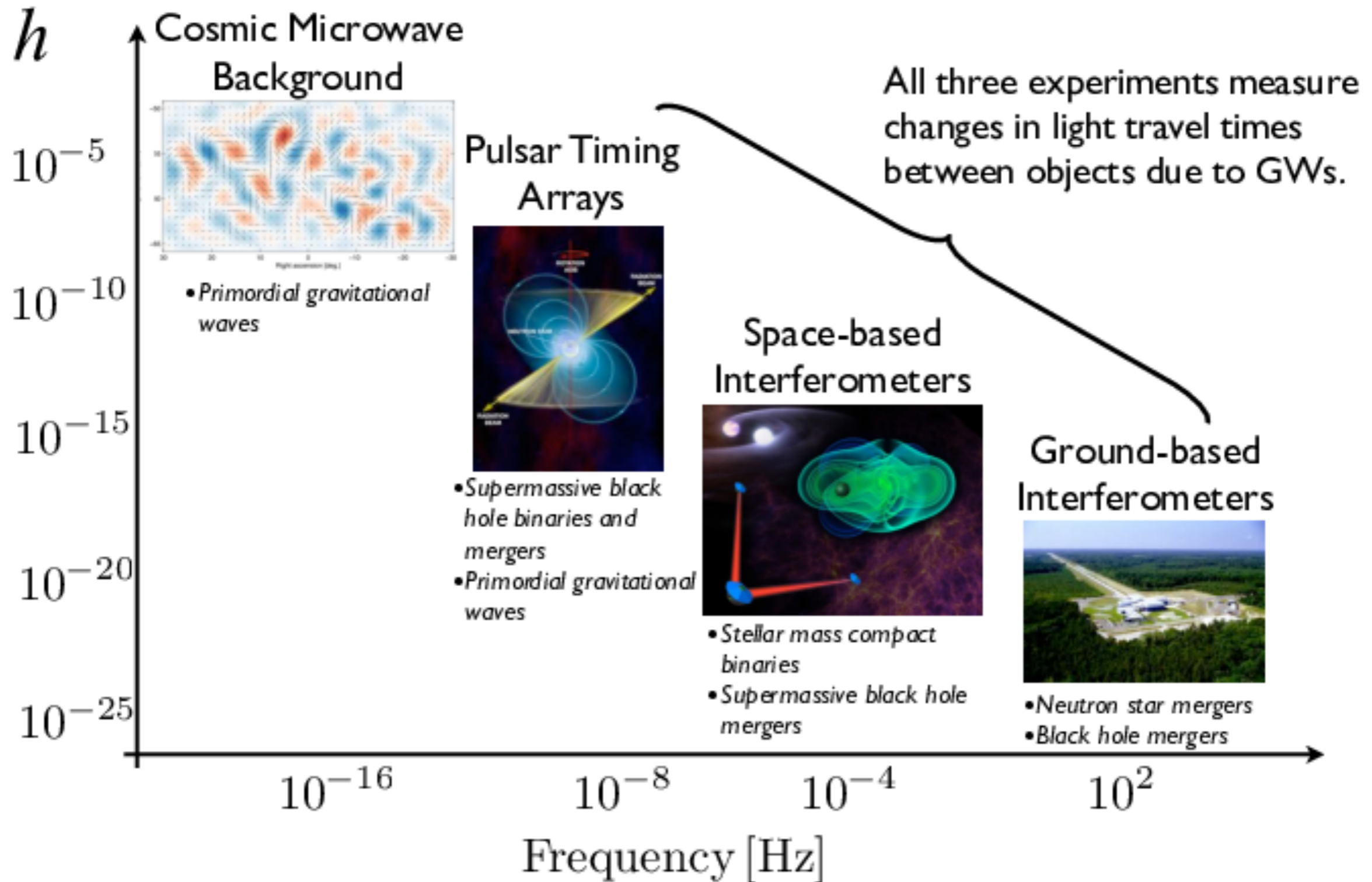


# The spectrum of gravitational wave astronomy

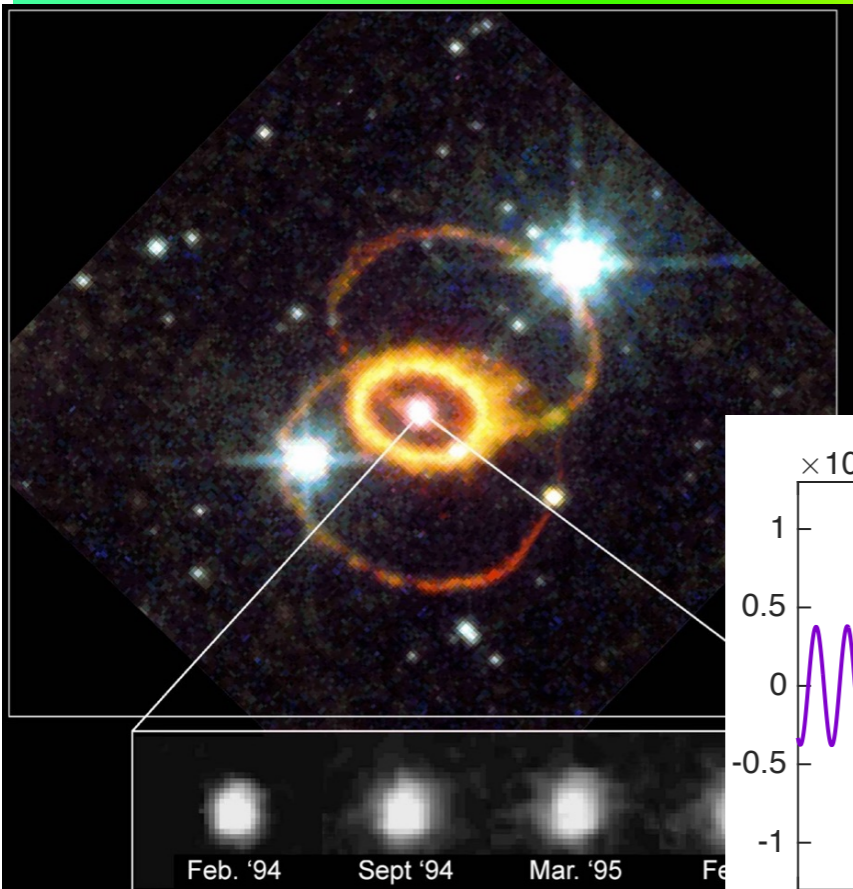
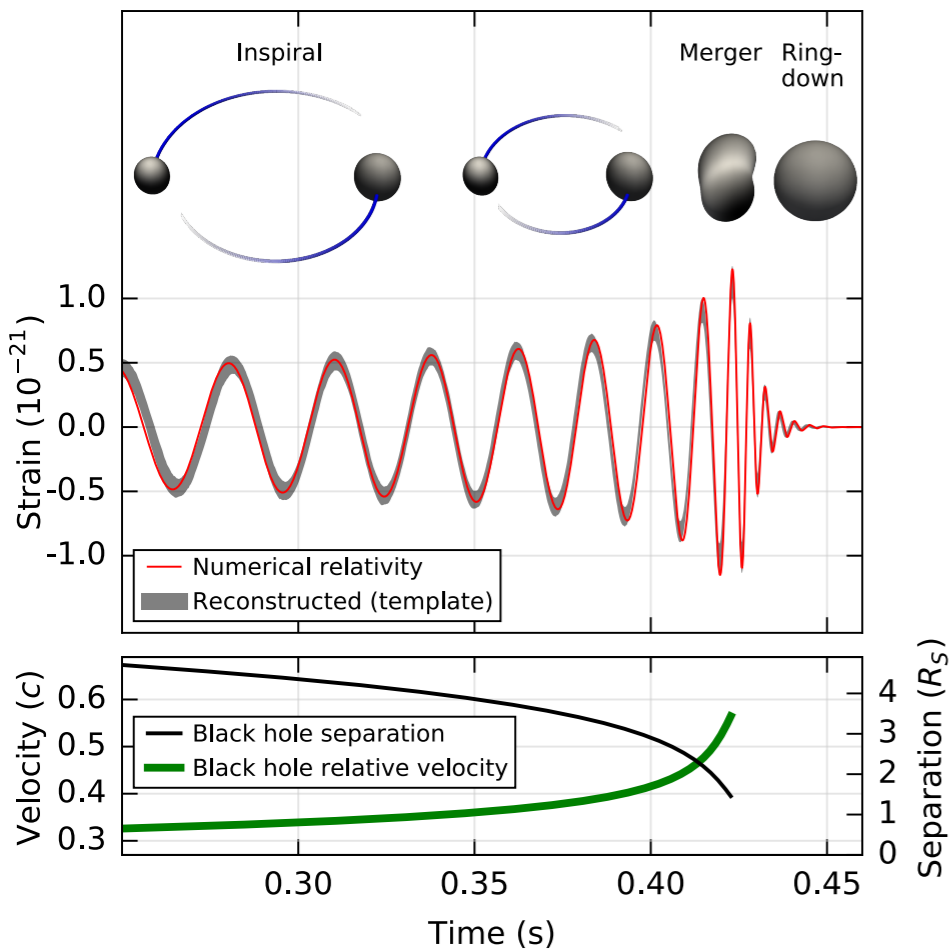




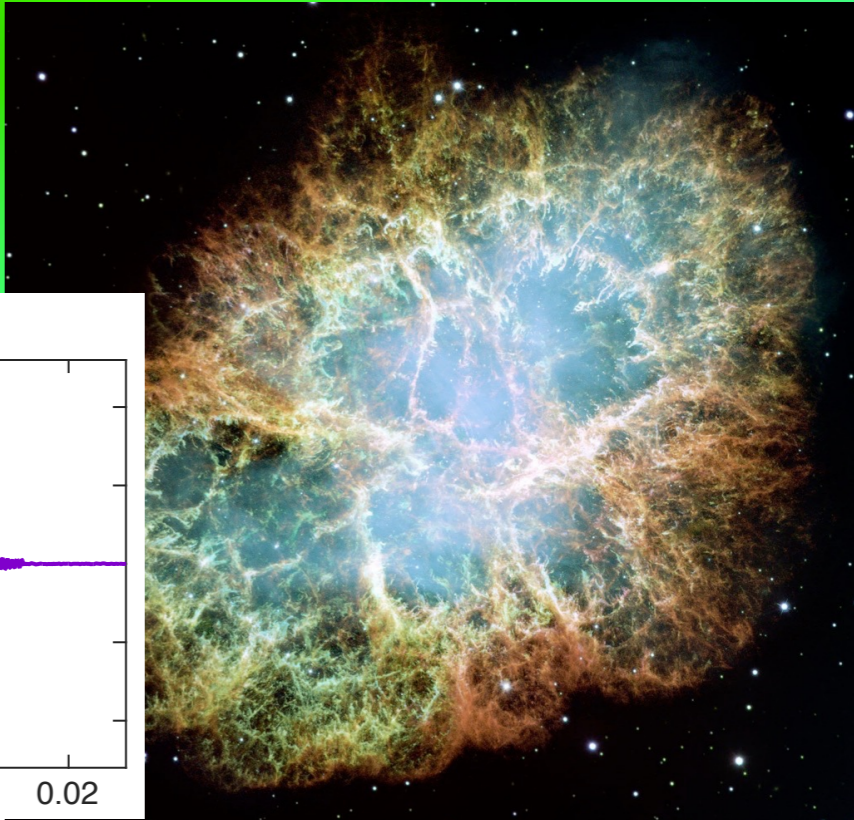
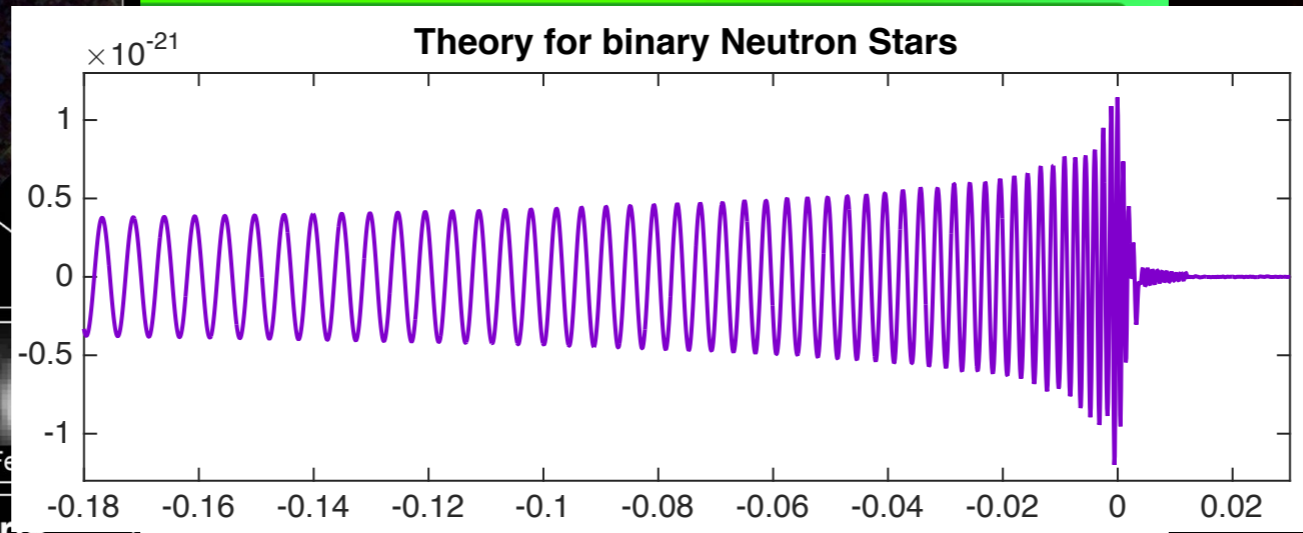
# The spectrum of gravitational wave astronomy



<http://papers.ligo.org>



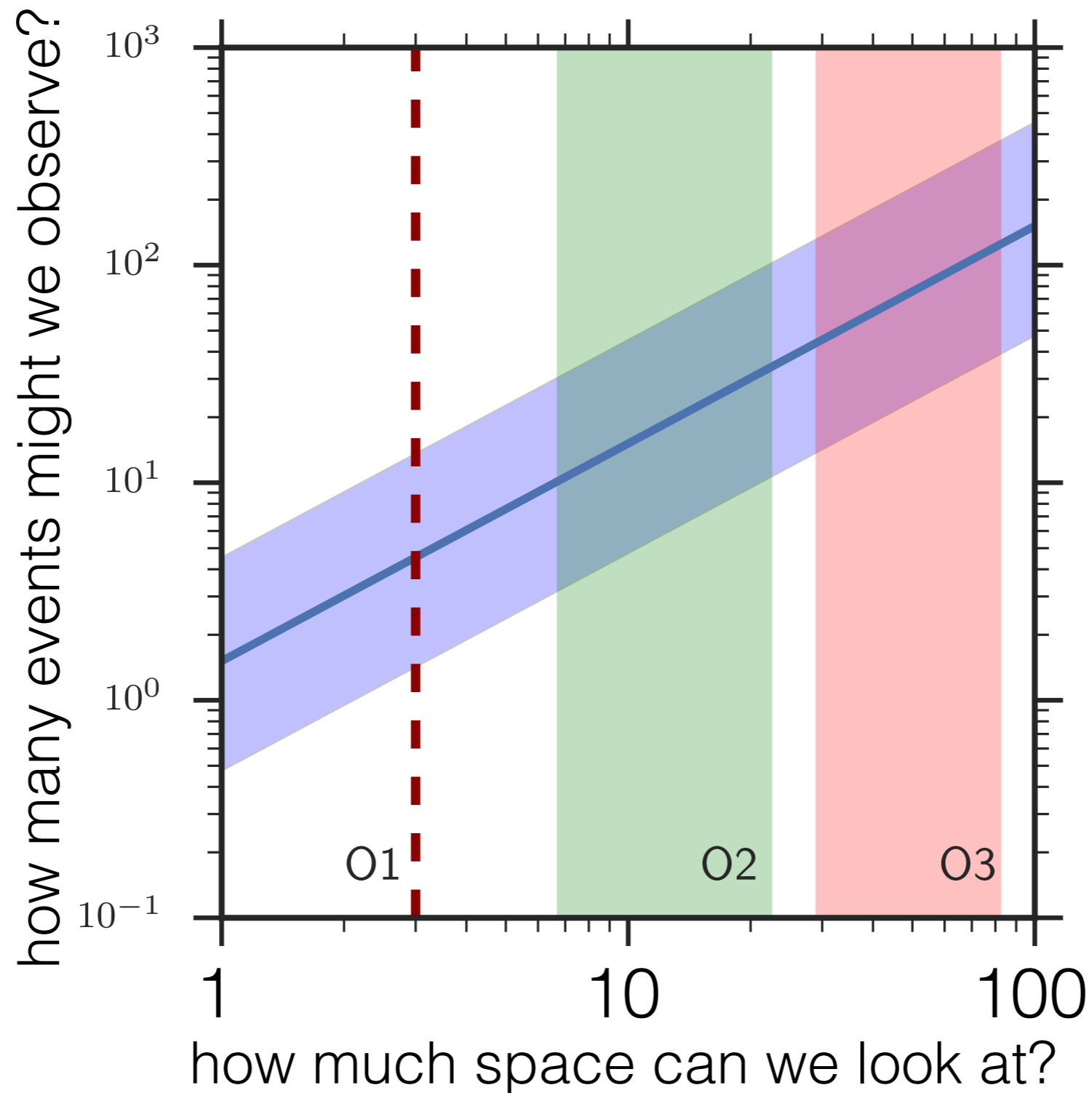
Supernova 1987A Explosion Debris





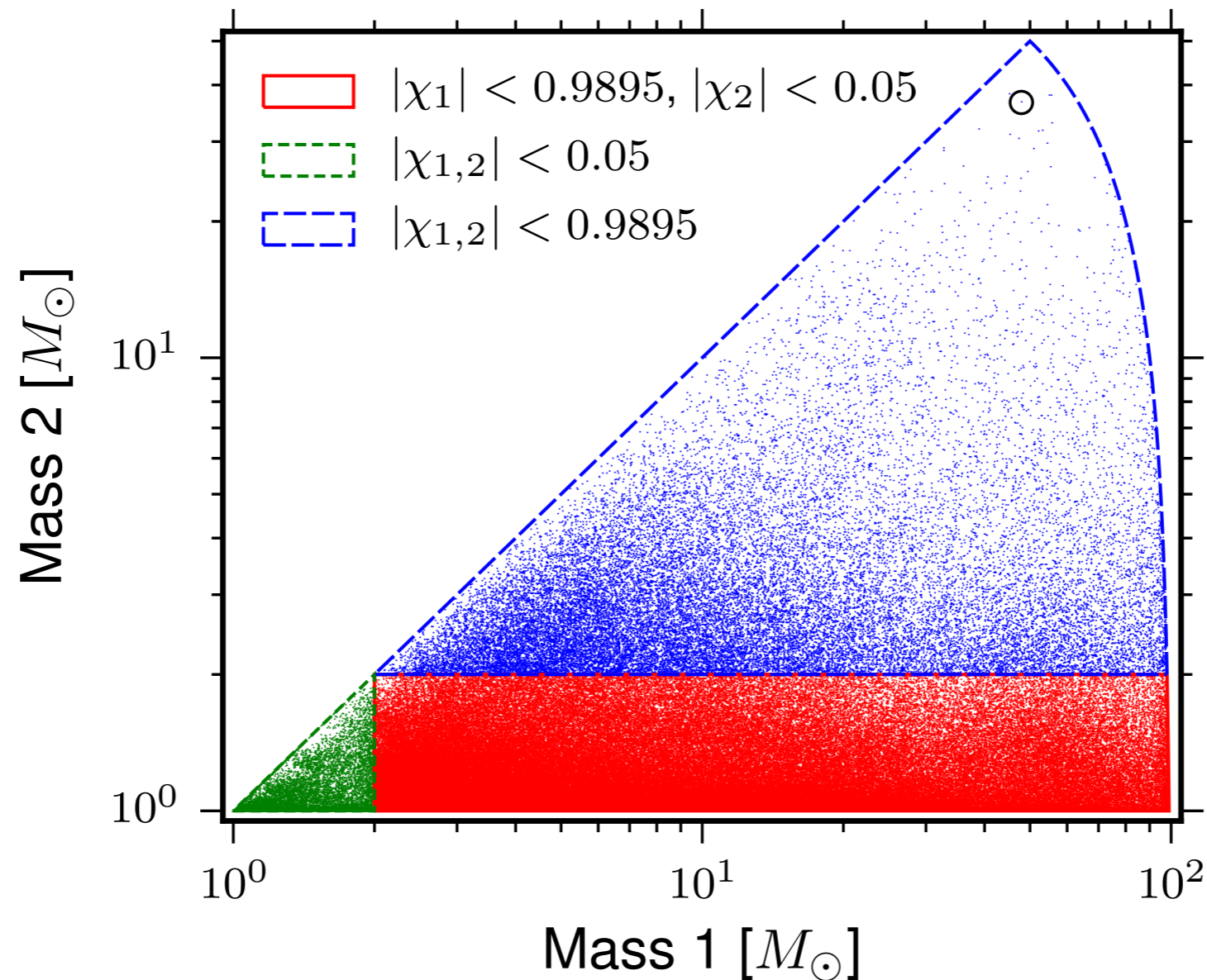
# The End/ The Beginning...

How many black hole collisions can we see?





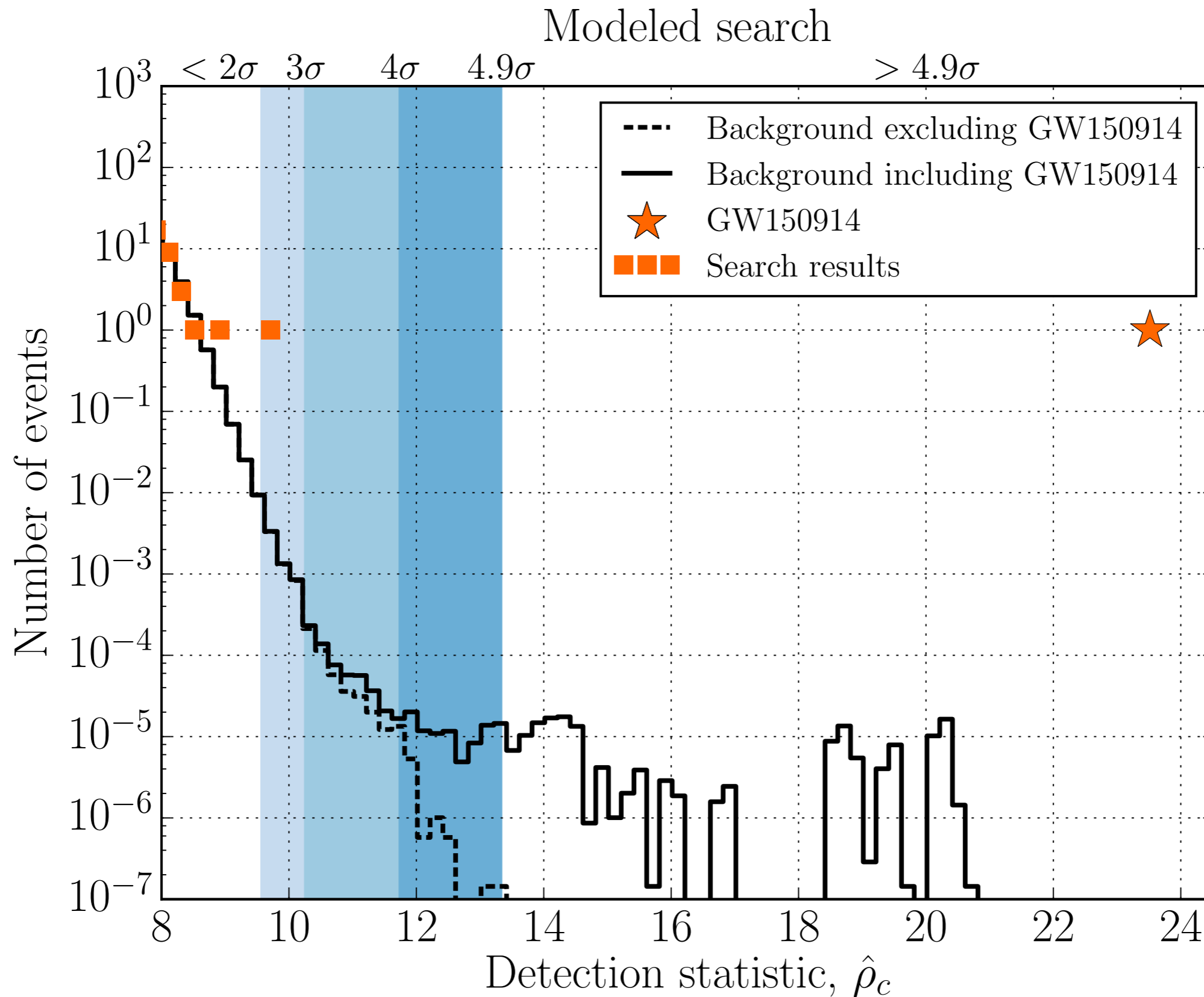
# CBC template bank

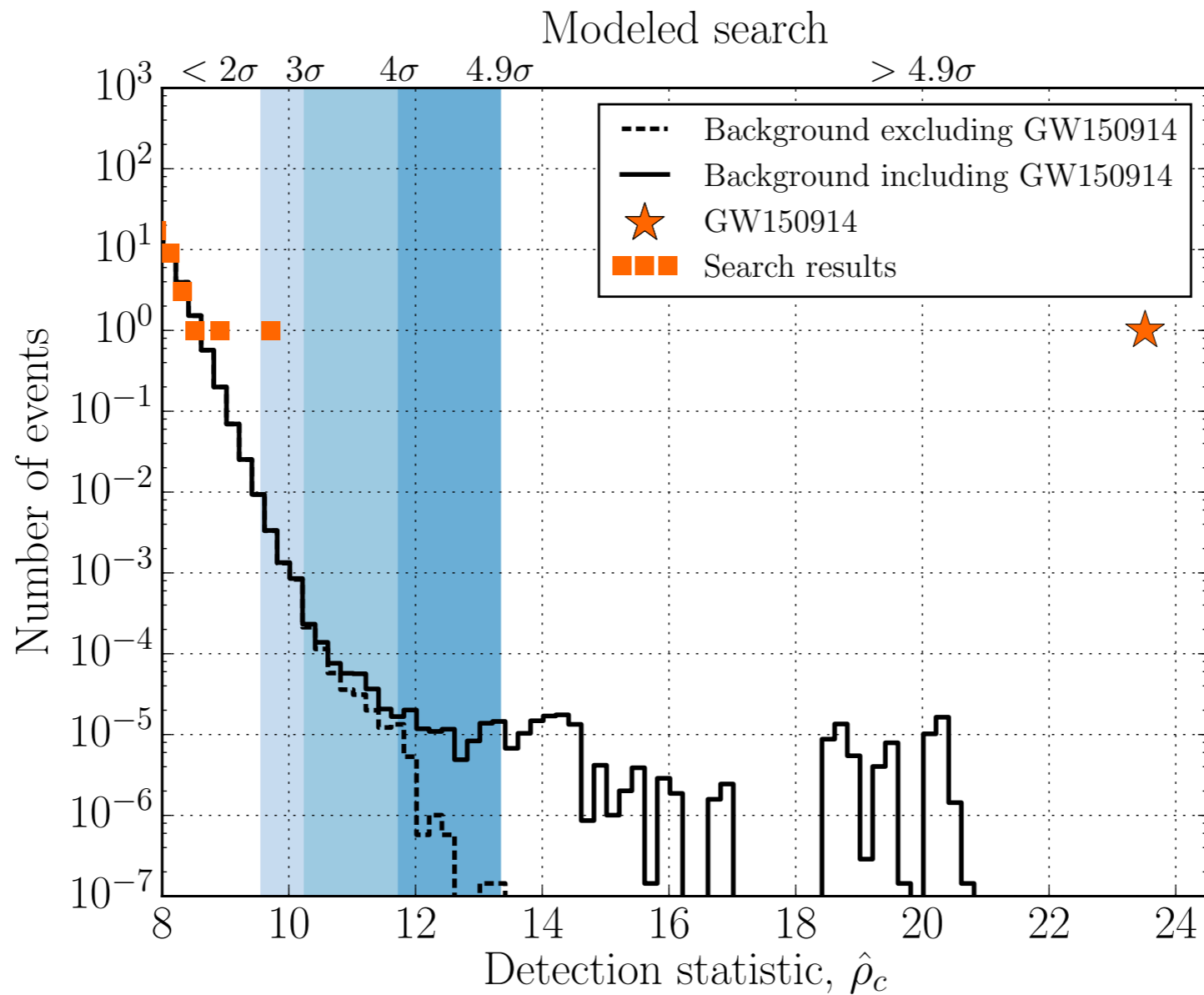


(just at the edge...)

FIG. 1. The four-dimensional search parameter space covered by the template bank shown projected into the component-mass plane, using the convention  $m_1 > m_2$ . The lines bound mass regions with different limits on the dimensionless aligned-spin parameters  $\chi_1$  and  $\chi_2$ . Each point indicates the position of a template in the bank. The circle highlights the template that best matches GW150914. This

# Detection statistic

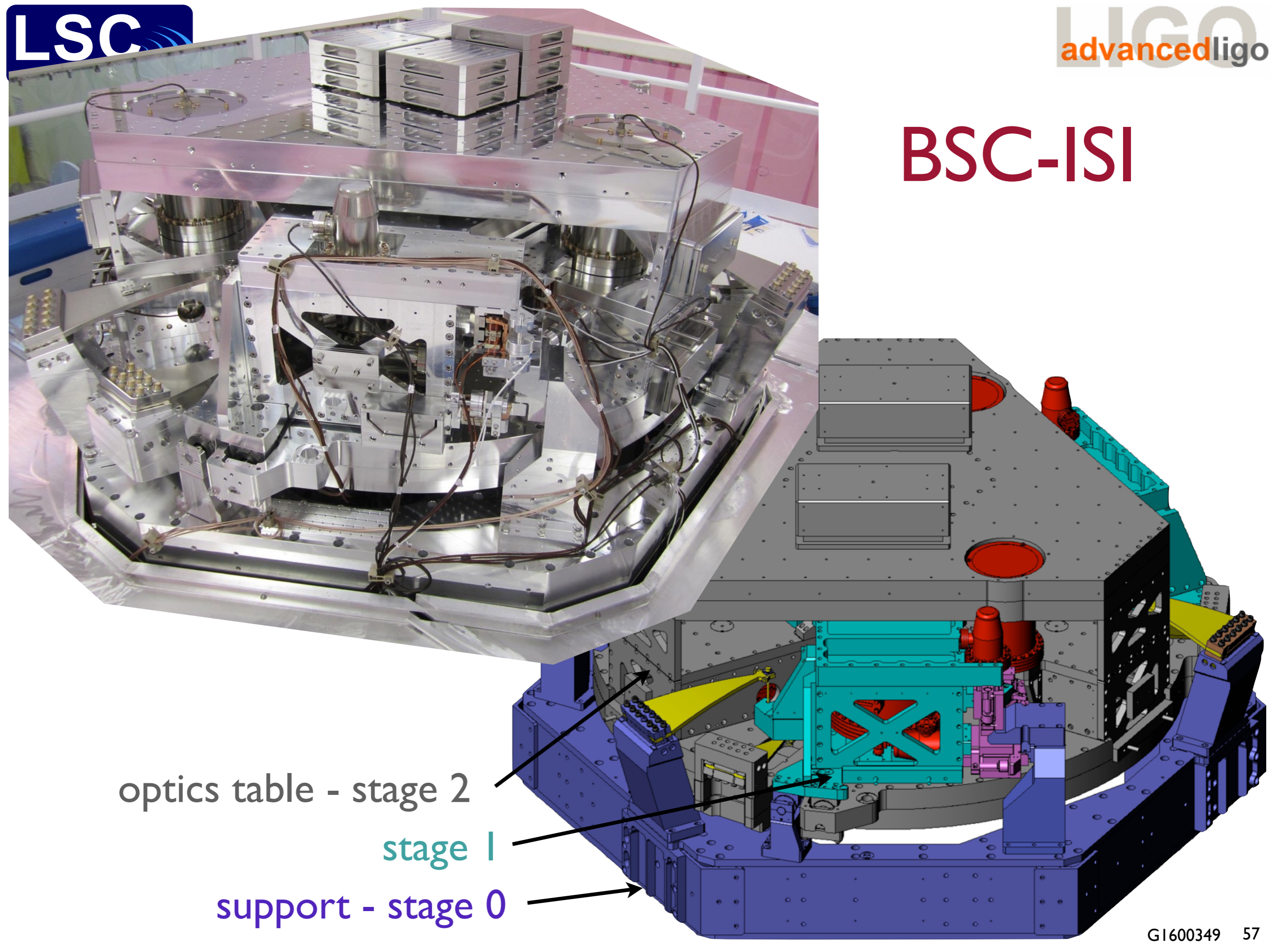




Event	Time (UTC)	FAR ( $\text{yr}^{-1}$ )	$\mathcal{F}$	$\mathcal{M}$ ( $M_{\odot}$ )	$m_1$ ( $M_{\odot}$ )	$m_2$ ( $M_{\odot}$ )	$\chi_{\text{eff}}$	$D_L$ (Mpc)
GW150914	14 September 2015 09:50:45	$< 5 \times 10^{-6}$	$< 2 \times 10^{-7}$ ( $> 5.1 \sigma$ )	$28^{+2}_{-2}$	$36^{+5}_{-4}$	$29^{+4}_{-4}$	$-0.06^{+0.17}_{-0.18}$	$410^{+160}_{-180}$
LVT151012	12 October 2015 09:54:43	0.44	0.02 ( $2.1 \sigma$ )	$15^{+1}_{-1}$	$23^{+18}_{-5}$	$13^{+4}_{-5}$	$0.0^{+0.3}_{-0.2}$	$1100^{+500}_{-500}$



# BSC-ISI



optics table - stage 2

stage 1

support - stage 0

# Interferometer's Antenna Pattern

## LIGO is not an Imaging Detector

- Antenna pattern for aLIGO, for an optimally polarized wave.
- LIGO is more like a microphone than a telescope.
- i.e. We measure the amplitude of a wave coming from pretty much any direction.
- Good for first detections, but not so good for finding the source.

