LIGO Voyager Cryogenics at Stanford

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Stanford Cryogenic Prototype Goals

• Cool the test mass to 124 K





Stanford Cryogenic Prototype Goals

• Cool the test mass to 124 K

 Don't let vibration from the cryo system impact sensitivity to gravitational waves













































Stanford Cryogenic Test Mass Experiment – 6 August 2016





Students in Lab



Dan: mechanical engineering undergraduate

Sanditi: mechanical engineering masters Litawn: physics undergraduate

Cu outer heat shield

Black paint on inner surface

Cu cold links to inner shield Liquid nitrogen pipes

22 inch Roor tiles



Cu outer heat shield

Black paint on inner surface

 Temperature sensor

Cu cold links to inner shield



Test mass installation

Si test mass 1 kg, 6 inch dia

Actively controlled support platform for inner shield

Outer Shield

Temperature sensor

Suspension spring

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The

OSEM flag

Geophone

Actuator

Outer shield wrapped in insulation

Assembled cryo experiment before installation into chamber







Inner Shield Seismic Isolation







Seismic Isolation Works at Stanford











Suspension spring temperature control

Top ma

Possibly glue heating resistors directly to top springs

Heaters on lower springs must be non-contacting to avoid seismic shorts: radiative, inductive?



aLIGO test mass suspension







Newtonian Noise

Courtesy of Edgard Bonilla

Shield Newtonian Noise Simulation



1.25 m

Shield Newtonian Noise Simulation





Nitrogen Newtonian Noise



Nitrogen pipe



Time varying gravitational force from pipe on test mass as bubbles flow by



LN₂ Newtonian Noise Simulation





LN₂ Newtonian Noise Simulation





Chilling the Nitrogen below boiling

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qE_228kk5-A&feature=youtu.be









- Cryogenics and seismic isolation working well together
- Newtonian noise from shields OK
- Newtonian noise from Nitrogen flow mitigated by preventing boiling
 - Next step to measure gas/liquid ratio
- More work needed on spring temperature control
- More work needed on initial cooldown being explored by Odylio's group at INPE, Brazil.

Extra Slides

Why Cryogenic Si for Test Masses?

- Lower temperature -> lower thermal noise
- Silicon has **low mechanical loss** at cold temperatures, further lowering the thermal noise outside the mechanical resonant frequencies
- Silicon has high thermal conductivity at low temperatures, reducing thermal lensing, permitting higher laser powers (lower shot noise)
- Thermal expansion goes to 0 at 124 K, also reducing thermal lensing, and eliminating thermoelastic component of thermal noise











Measured Results





Si CTE vs Temperature

Single Crystaline Silicon Coefficient of Thermal Expansion



Where does thermoelastic noise come from?

For a positive thermal expansion coefficient (CTE)



Compression generates heat



Expansion consumes heat

A vibrating mirror has local compressed and expanded regions, generating temperature gradients. Heat flows irreversibly across these gradients, causing damping. More damping results in higher off resonance thermal noise.













Scattered light - upconversion



Test mass heat shield



Test mass heat shield

Connections for the Cu cold links that cool the inner shield (cold links not shown)



Aluminum low emissivity plates (ribs boost vibrational frequencies)



Flexible stainless strips attach the heat shield to its (warm) suspended stage





Vertical suspension OSEMs



Suspension spring mounted to vertical translation stage

The complete heat shield stage

