

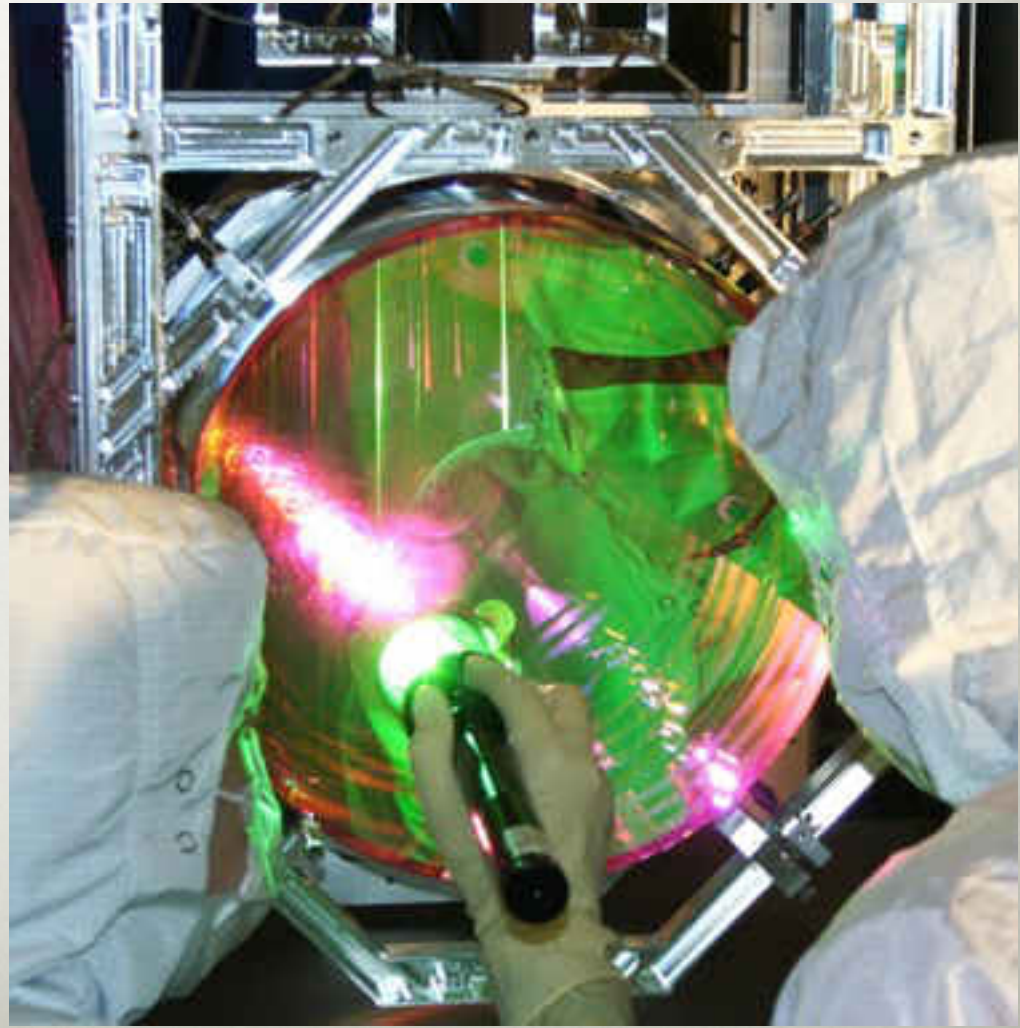
# EXPERIMENTAL TECHNIQUES IN GW DETECTION



# OUTLINE

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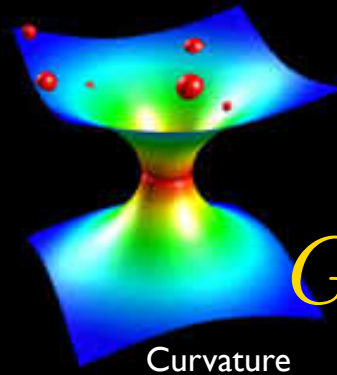
- Gravitational Waves and History
- Some Noise Lingo
- Interferometers and Noise
- Quantum Limits



# Summary

1. Optical Interferometry allows measuring 0.01 nrad of optical phase.
2. Optical cavities boost the phase shift by 200x.
3. GW measurement made only at audio frequencies where ground motion is tiny.
4. GW measurement made only away from the instrument's mechanical eigenfrequencies (avoid  $k_B \cdot T$  noise).
5. Signal increases proportionally to the (large) detector size.

# Gravitational Waves

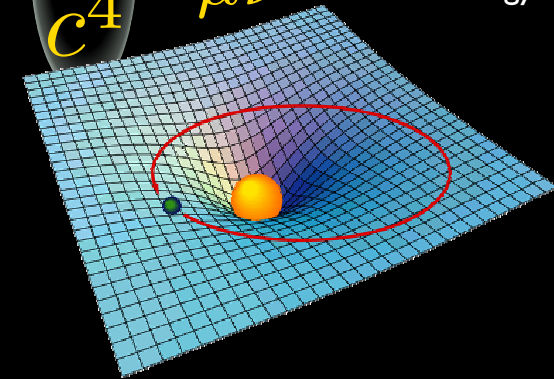


Curvature

$$G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi \frac{G}{c^4} T_{\mu\nu}$$

Matter/Energy

$10^{-44}$



## Einstein's Equations

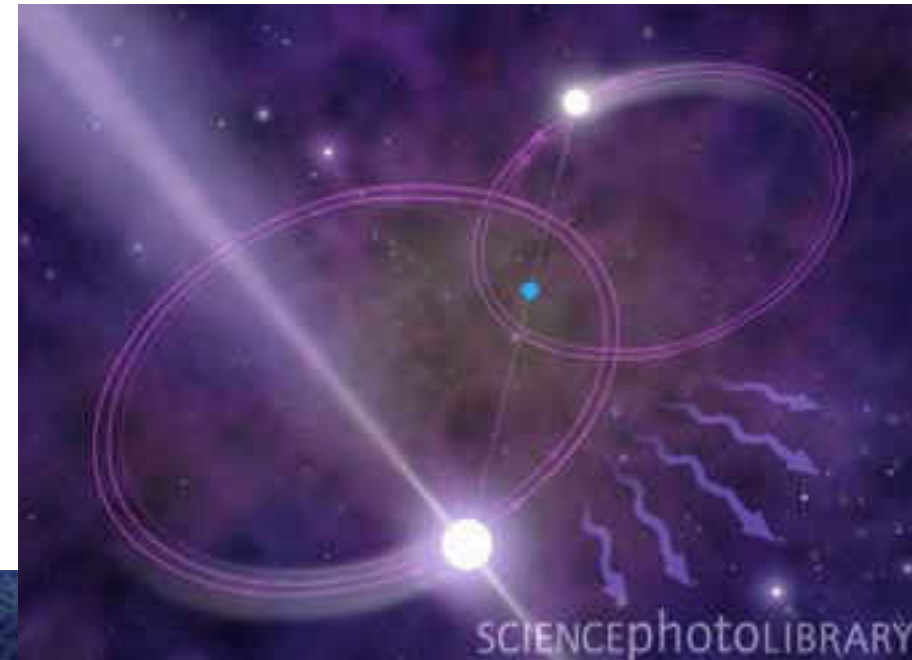
WHEN MATTER MOVES, ITS GRAVITATIONAL FIELD CHANGES. THIS CHANGE PROPAGATES AS A RIPPLE IN THE CURVATURE OF SPACE-TIME:

*gravitational radiation*

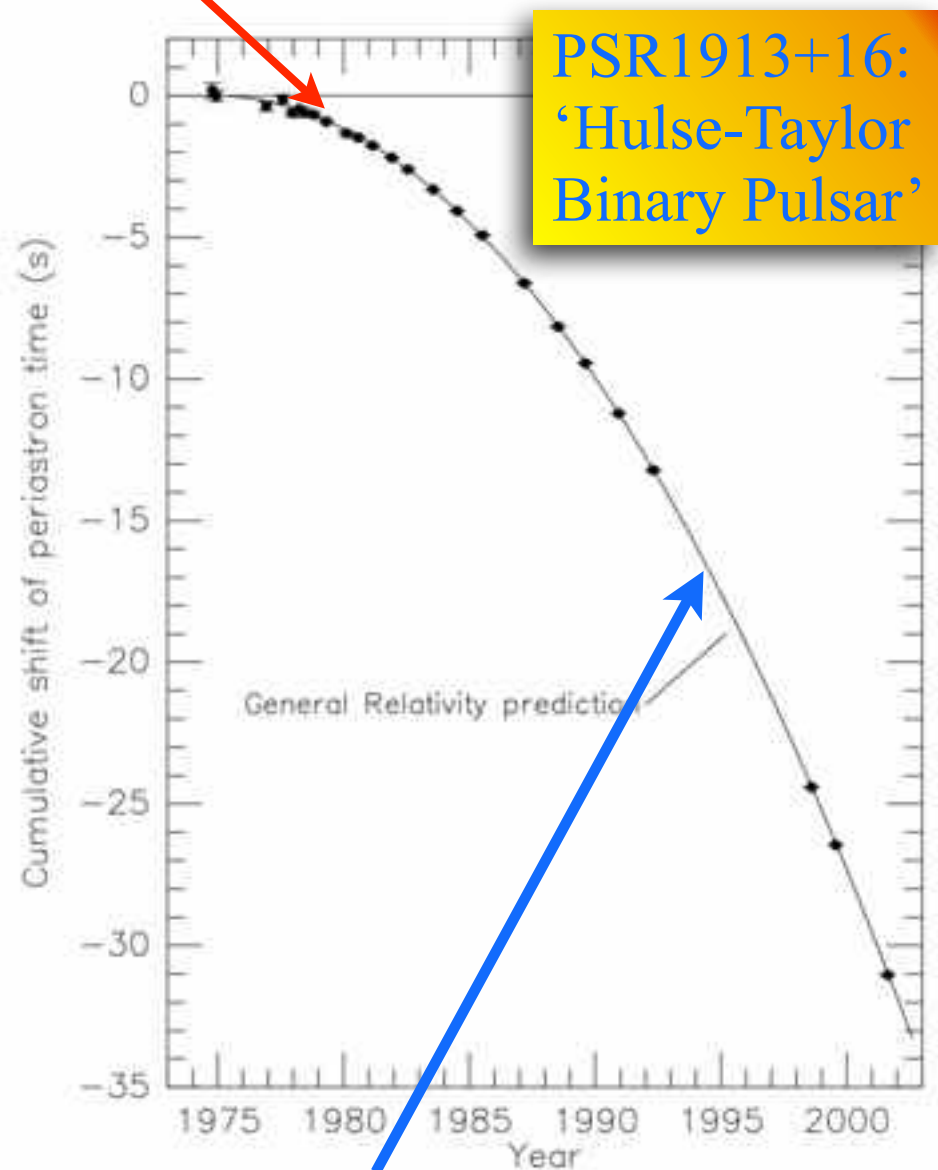
Wikipedia: In fluid dynamics, gravity waves are waves generated in a fluid medium or at the interface between two media (e.g., the atmosphere and the ocean) which has the restoring force of gravity or buoyancy.



# 1979: Gravitational Waves Detected!



Arecibo Dish



# THE ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM

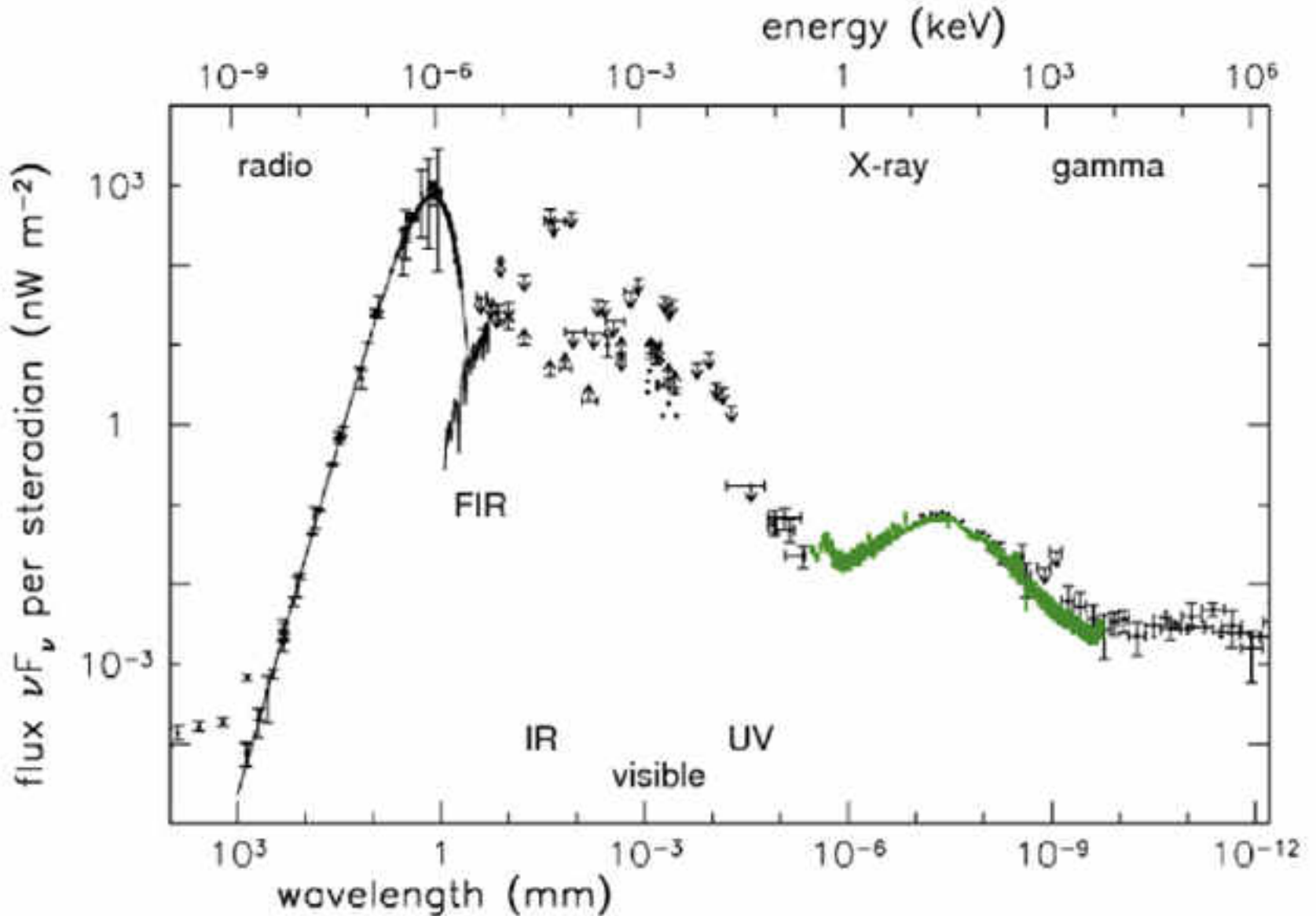


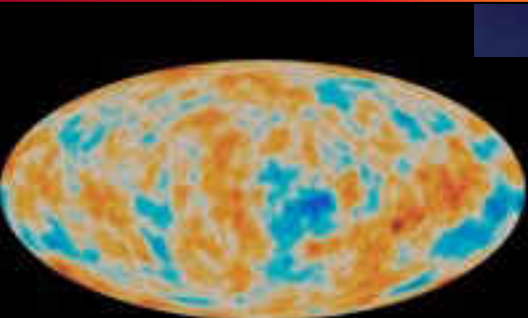
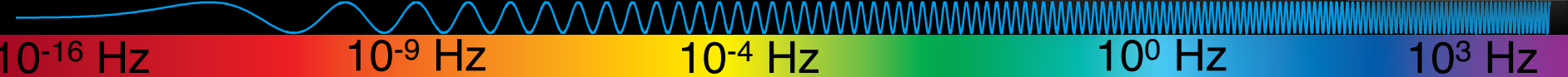
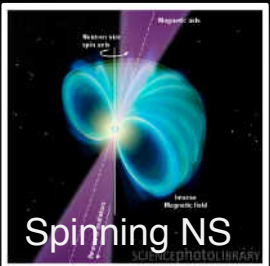
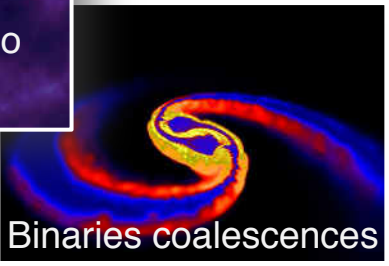
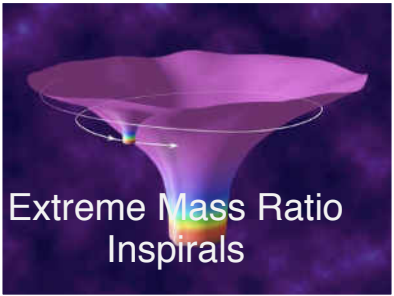
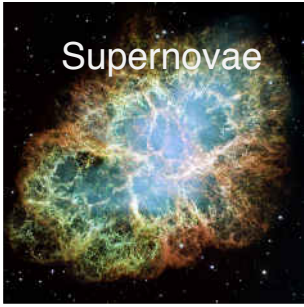
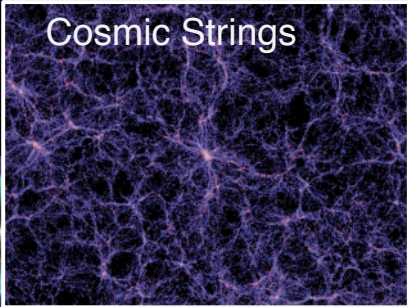
Fig 1.19 (D. Scott) 'Galaxies in the Universe' Sparke/Gallagher CUP 2007

# THE ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM



**Griffith Observatory, Los Angeles**







- **Bar detectors**
  - Like a large bell, set ringing by Gravitational Waves
- **Michelson interferometers**
  - First small scale prototypes: *Malibu*, Munich, **Caltech**, MIT
  - **Now**: km scale, in-vacuum, several 100M\$
  - Groups in U.S., Europe, Japan, Australia, & *India*



Joe Weber  
(UMD)



Rai Weiss  
(MIT)

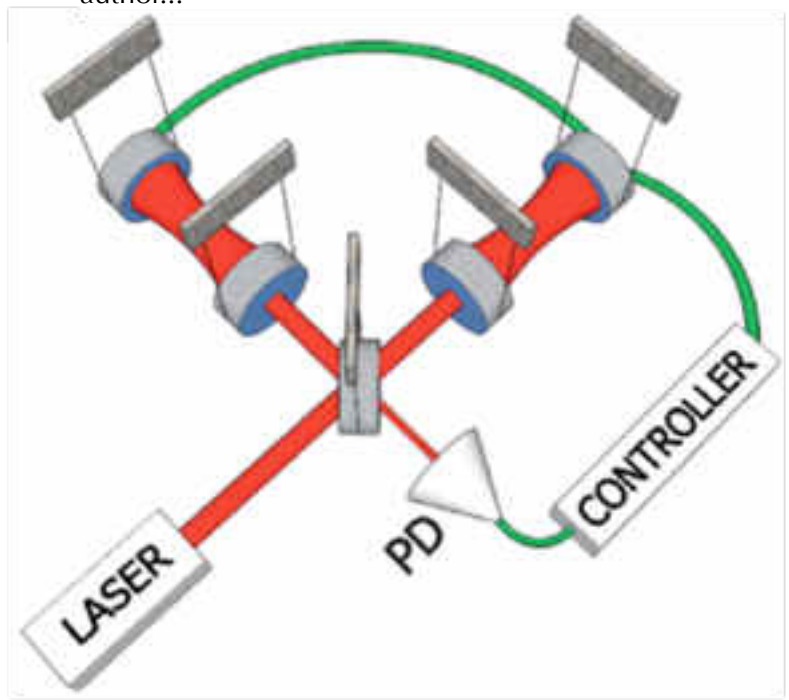


Ron Drever (Caltech)



Robert Forward (HRL)

also a sci-fi author...



# LIGO: Big Michelson Interferometers



Hanford Nuclear Reservation,  
Eastern WA (H1 4km, H2 2km)



- *Interferometers are aligned to be as close to parallel to each other as possible*
- *Observing signals in coincidence increases the detection confidence*
- *Determine source location on the sky, propagation speed and polarization of the gravity wave*

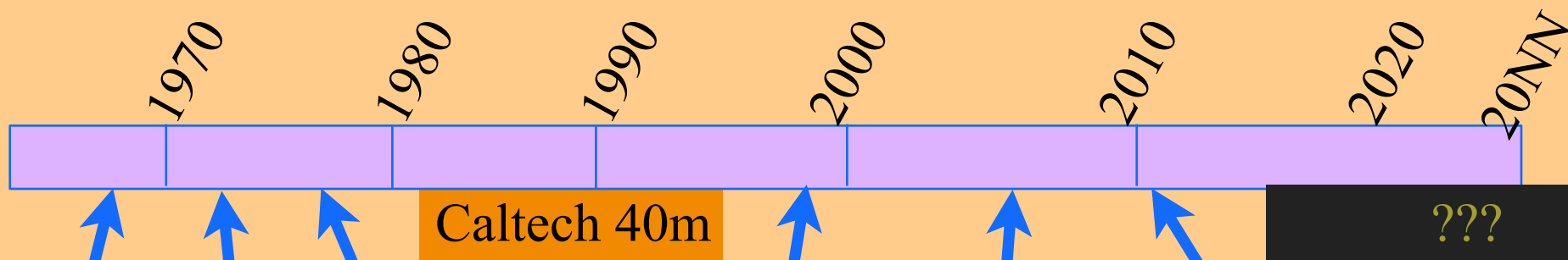


Livingston, LA (L1 4km)

~1 hour from New Orleans



# Timeline of GW Detectors



1st Bar Detectors (Weber)

1st Tabletop Interferometer (Forward, Malibu)

Interferometer Concept (Weiss, MIT)

Caltech 40m

km scale Interferometers (Japan, U.S., Germany, Italy)

km scale Interferometers @ design sensitivity

2nd Gen Interferometers

???

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www.glasbergen.com



"If at first you don't succeed, shift the blame, change the rules, redirect the focus of your critics, spin the media, redefine success, and there won't be any need to try, try again!"





mid station

LIGO Hanford

# LIGO Louisiana



water tank

fish pond

"borrow"  
ditch

10 W laser

entrance

# The Michelson Interferometer

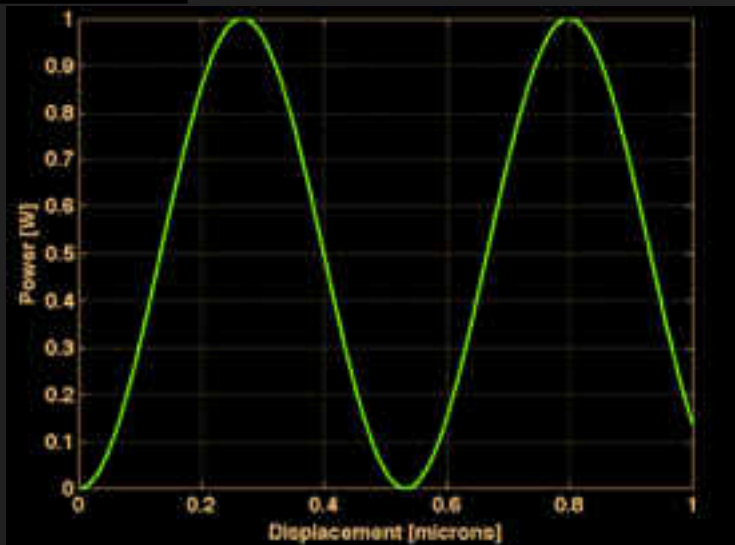
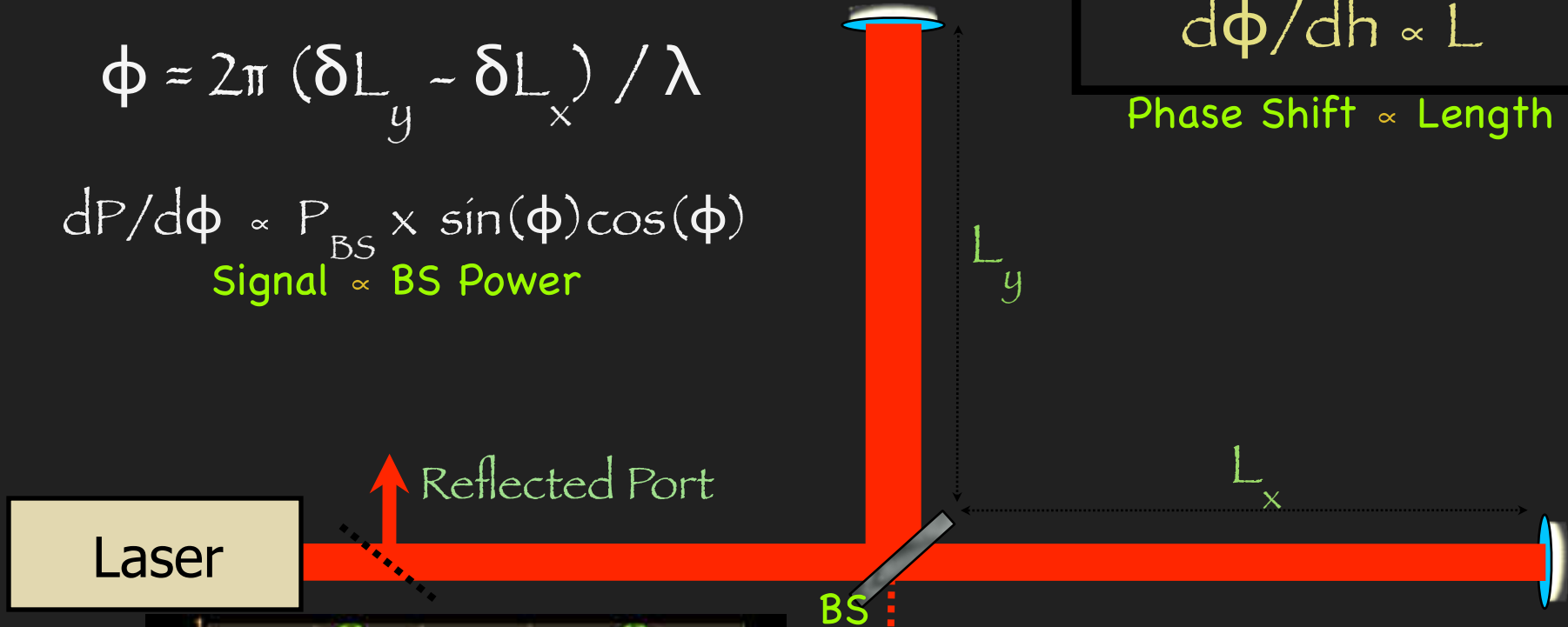
$$\phi = 2\pi (\delta L_y - \delta L_x) / \lambda$$

$$dP/d\phi \propto P_{BS} \times \sin(\phi)\cos(\phi)$$

Signal  $\propto$  BS Power

$$d\phi/dh \propto L$$

Phase Shift  $\propto$  Length



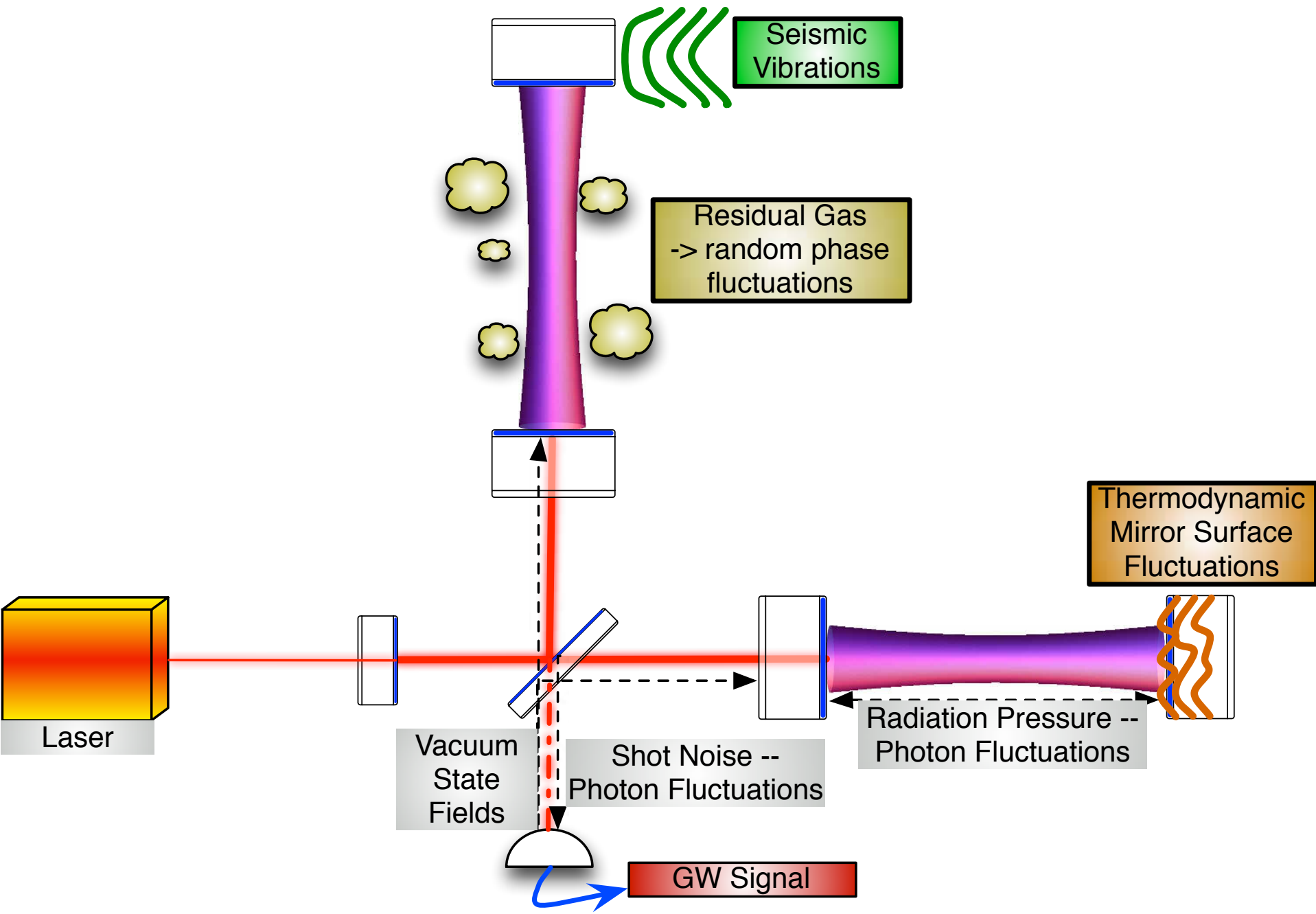
Anti-Symmetric  
(Dark) Port

$$P \propto P_{BS} \times \sin^2(\phi)$$

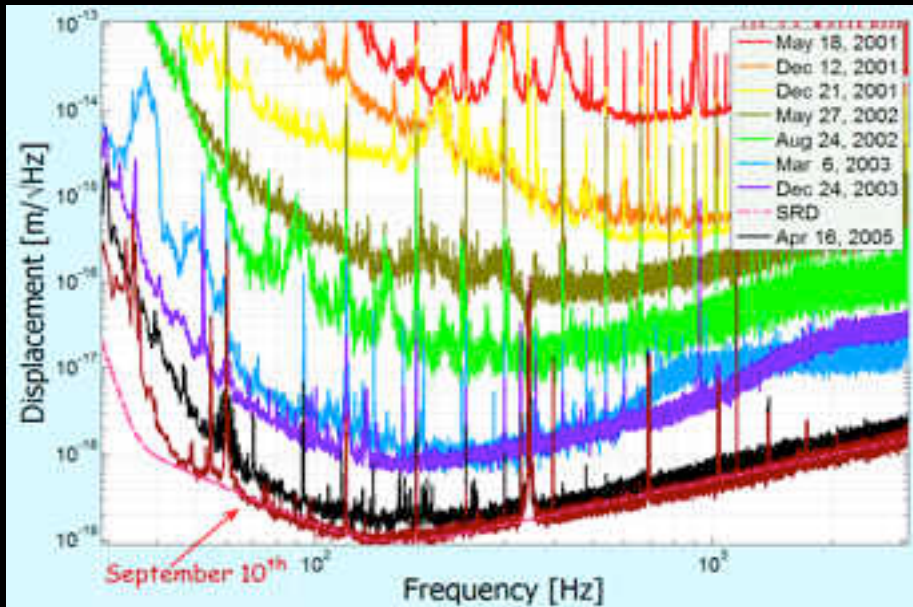
Poisson Statistics...  
 $dP \propto \text{sqrt}(P)$   
 Shot Noise



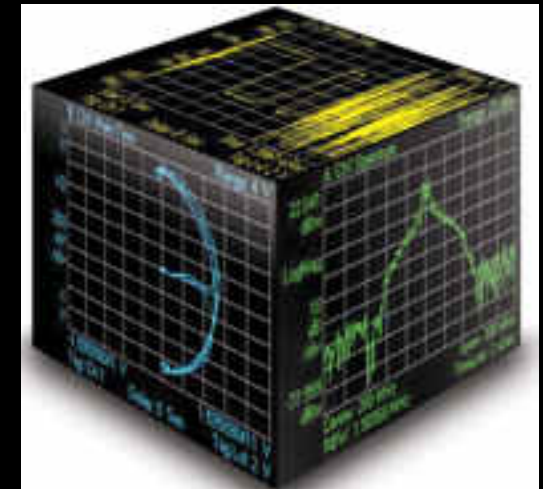
# LIGO: Major Sources of Noise



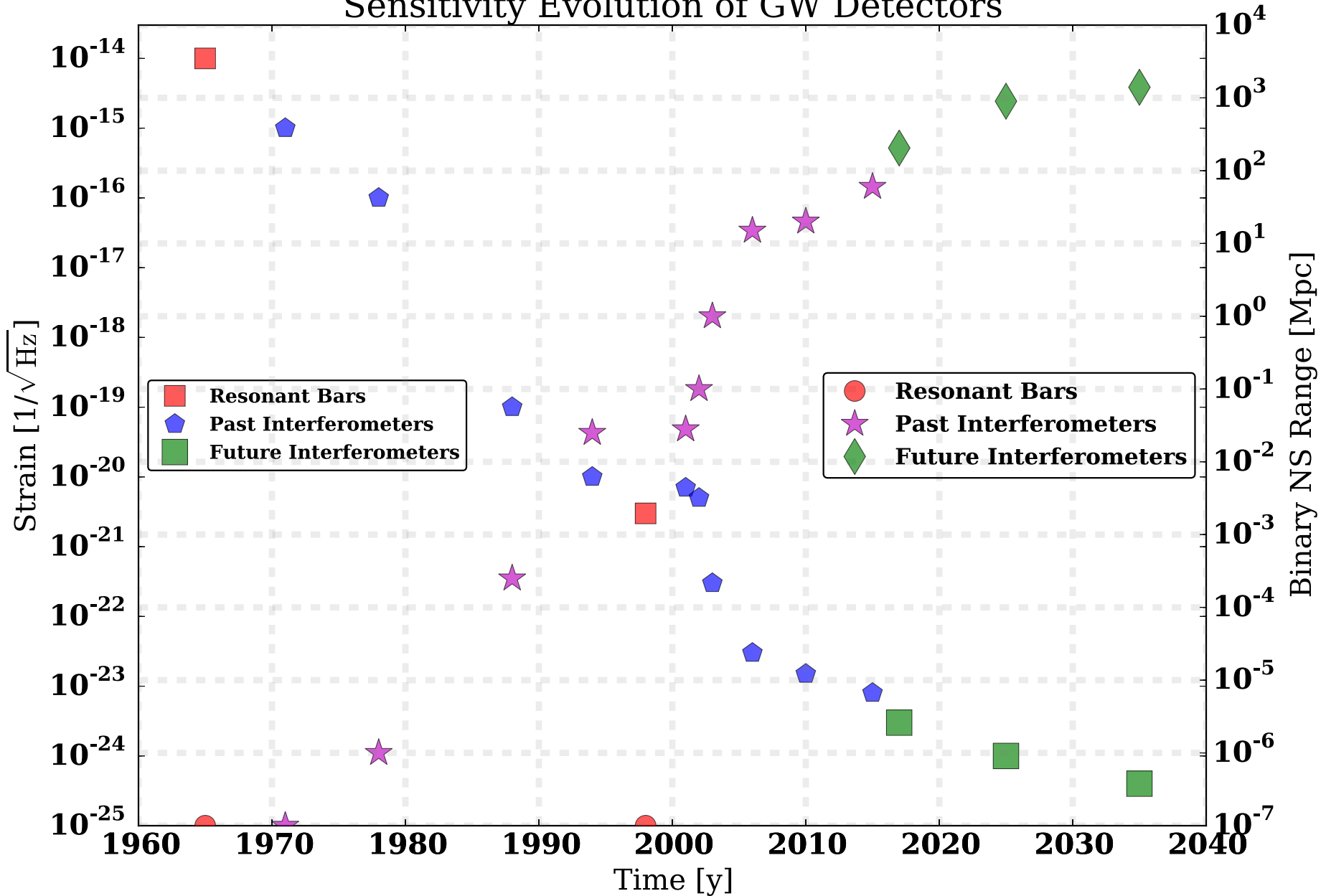
# Noise Lingo



1. Spectrum Analysis Basics:Agilent App. Note 150-1
2. Fundamentals of Signal Analysis:Agilent App. Note 243
3. Wikipedia: FFT, Window Functions, Aliasing, etc.



# Sensitivity Evolution of GW Detectors




“Gravitational radiation detection with laser interferometry”, <http://arxiv.org/abs/1305.5188>



# Optics and Resonators

- Optics 101 → Ray Matrices
- Gaussian Beams, Gaussian Beam Propagation
- Fabry-Perot Cavities
- Higher Order Transverse Modes
- Simple Cavity Locking (Why PDH?)



steel music  
wire  
(0.012" dia.)

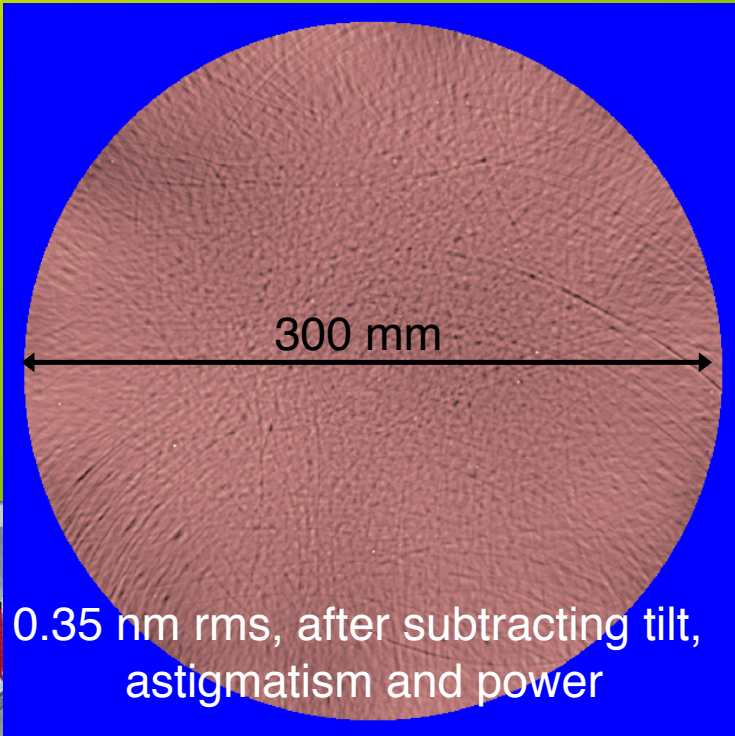
Fused Silica ( $\text{SiO}_2$ )  
Mass ~ 10 kg  
Dia ~ 25 cm  
Thickness ~ 10 cm  
Roughness ~ 1 nm

LIGO-I End Test Mass



# Large Optics

- Size: 34 cm wide, 20 cm thick => 40 kg
- Material: Heraeus Suprasil Silica
- Bulk Absorption: 0.2 ppm/cm
- Coating absorption: 0.5 ppm/bounce
- High Q ( $10^8$ ) -> low thermal noise



0.35 nm rms, after subtracting tilt, astigmatism and power



# Summary

1. Optical Interferometry allows measuring  $10^{-11}$  rad of optical phase.
2. Optical cavities boost the phase shift by  $\sim 200x$ .
3. GW measurement made only at **audio frequencies** where ground motion is tiny.
4. GW measurement made only away from the instrument's mechanical eigenfrequencies (avoid  $k_B T$  thermal noise).
5. Signal increases  $\sim$ proportionally to the (large) detector size.