



Advanced Virgo: Status and Perspectives

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on behalf of the VIRGO collaboration

Advanced Virgo



100°
CONGRESSO NAZIONALE
Pisa, 22 - 26 settembre 2014



Advanced Virgo



Advanced Virgo



In a nutshell:

- ▶ Advanced Virgo (AdV): upgrade of the Virgo interferometric detector of gravitational waves
- ▶ Participated by scientists from Italy and France (former founders of Virgo), The Netherlands, Poland and Hungary
- ▶ Funding approved in Dec 2009
- ▶ Construction in progress. End of installation: fall 2015
- ▶ First science data in 2016

5 European countries
19 labs, ~200 authors

APC Paris
ARTEMIS Nice
EGO Cascina
INFN Firenze-Urbino
INFN Genova
INFN Napoli
INFN Perugia
INFN Pisa
INFN Roma La Sapienza
INFN Roma Tor Vergata
INFN Trento-Padova
LAL Orsay – ESPCI Paris
LAPP Annecy
LKB Paris
LMA Lyon
NIKHEF Amsterdam
POLGRAW(Poland)
RADOUD Uni. Nijmegen
RMKI Budapest



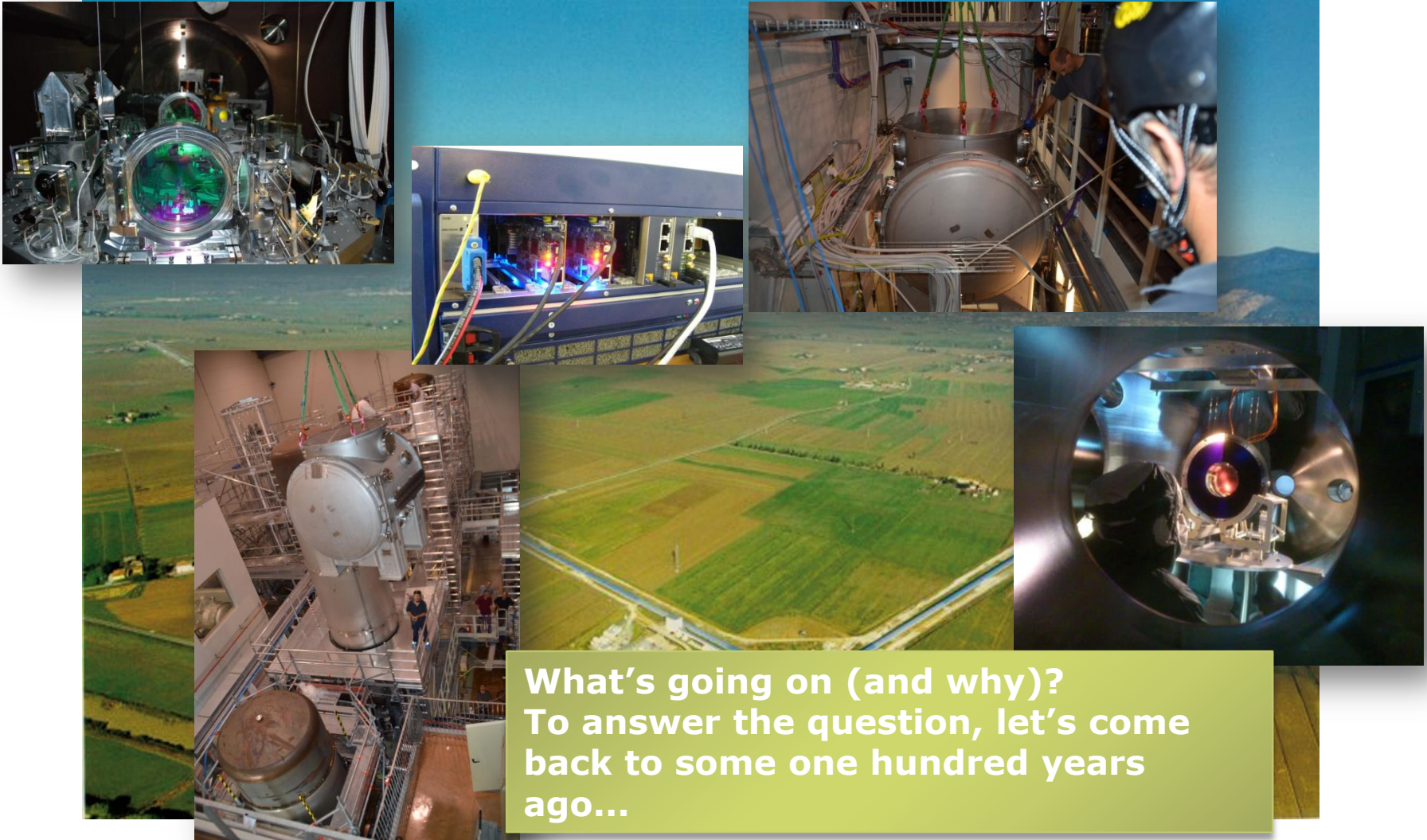
What's going on (and why)?



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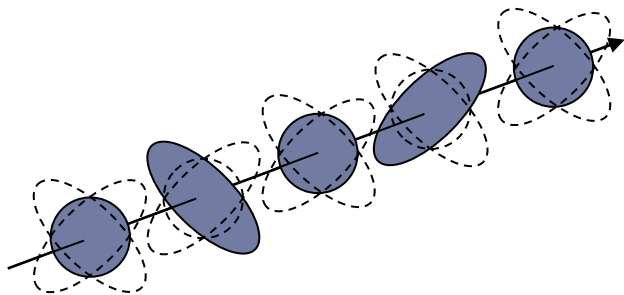


What's going on (and why)?



**What's going on (and why)?
To answer the question, let's come
back to some one hundred years
ago...**

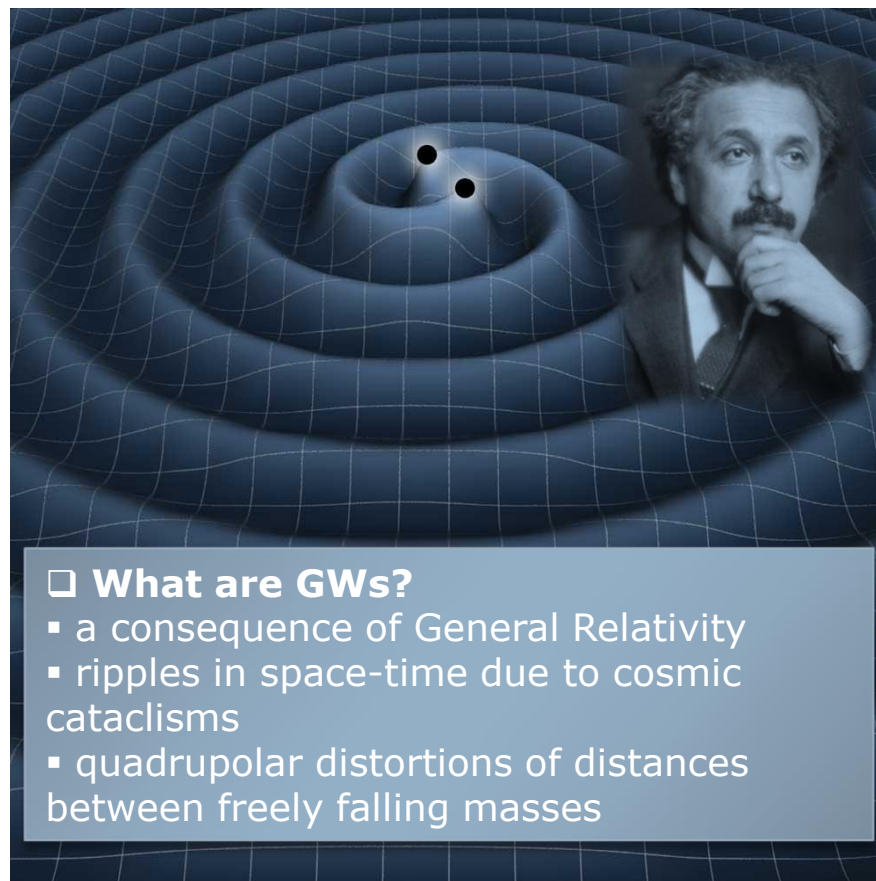
Gravitational Waves



Tiny interaction with matter:

- Extremely difficult to detect
- Ideal messengers from remote space-time regions

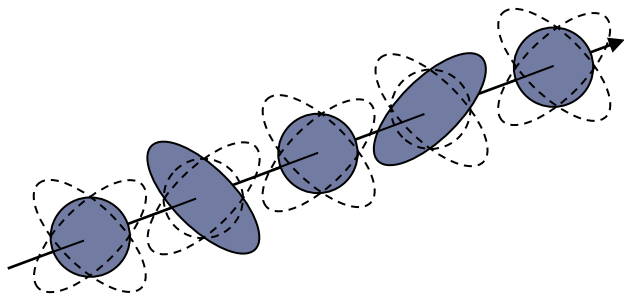
... when Einstein firstly predicted the gravitational waves



□ What are GWs?

- a consequence of General Relativity
- ripples in space-time due to cosmic cataclisms
- quadrupolar distortions of distances between freely falling masses

Gravitational Waves

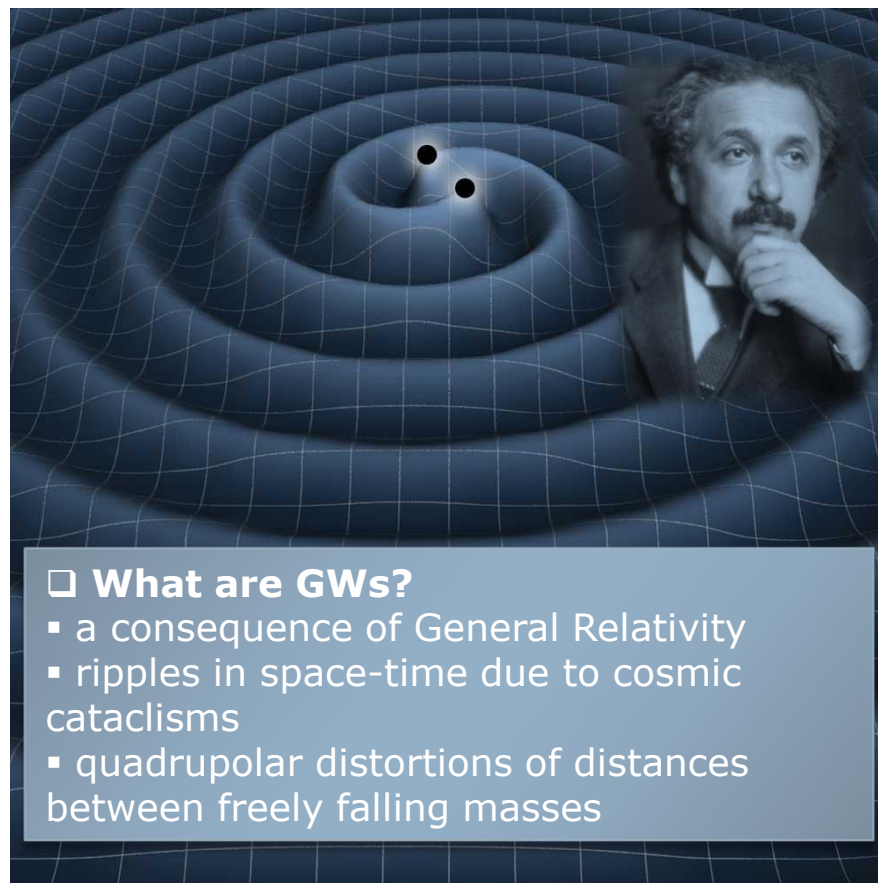


Tiny interaction with matter:

- Extremely difficult to detect
- Ideal messengers from remote space-time regions

Does this radiation exist?

... when Einstein firstly predicted the gravitational waves



□ What are GWs?

- a consequence of General Relativity
- ripples in space-time due to cosmic cataclysms
- quadrupolar distortions of distances between freely falling masses

Gravitational Waves

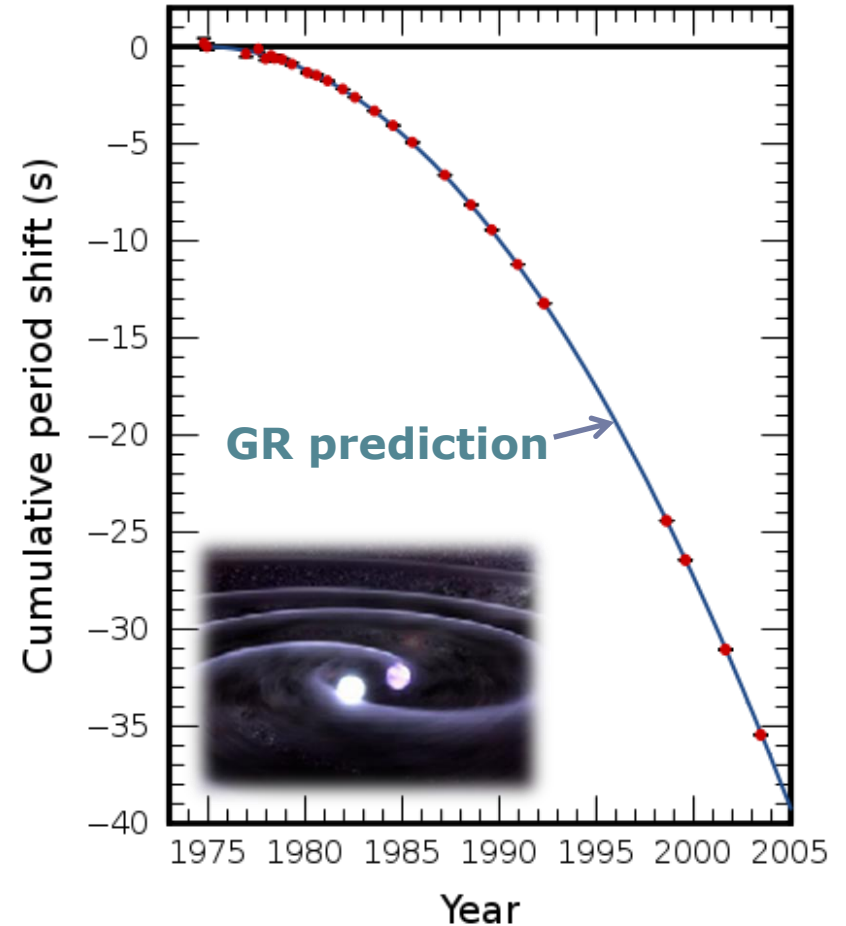
Indeed...



The Nobel Prize in Physics 1993
 Russell A. Hulse, Joseph H. Taylor Jr.

Ok, but how to *directly* detect it?

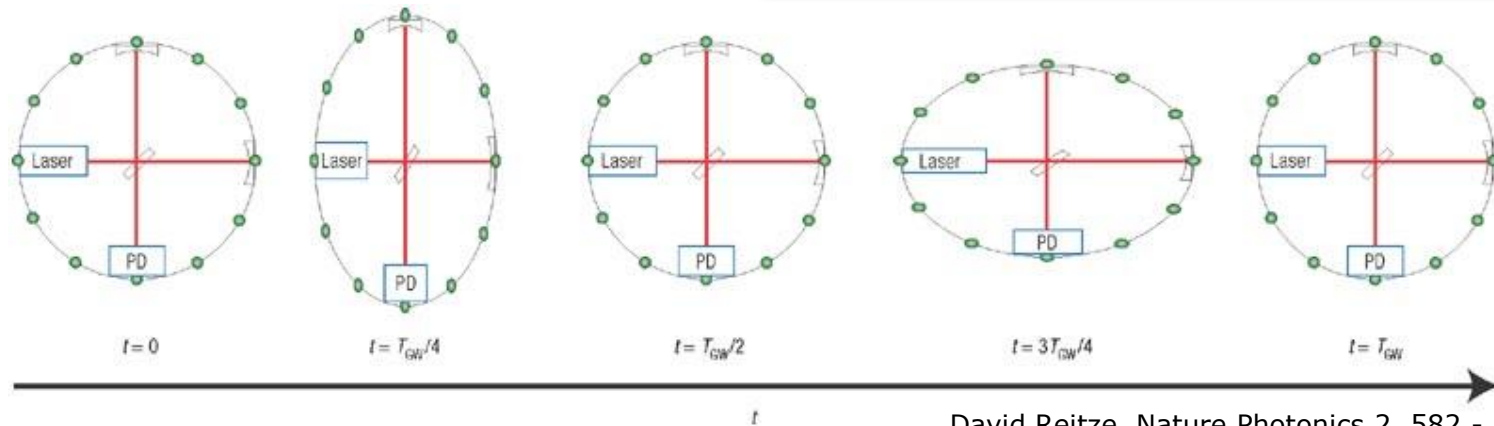
Binary Pulsar 1913+16



J. M. Weisberg, J. H. Taylor,
<http://arxiv.org/abs/astro-ph/0407149>

GW Detectors

Ok, but how to *directly* detect it?

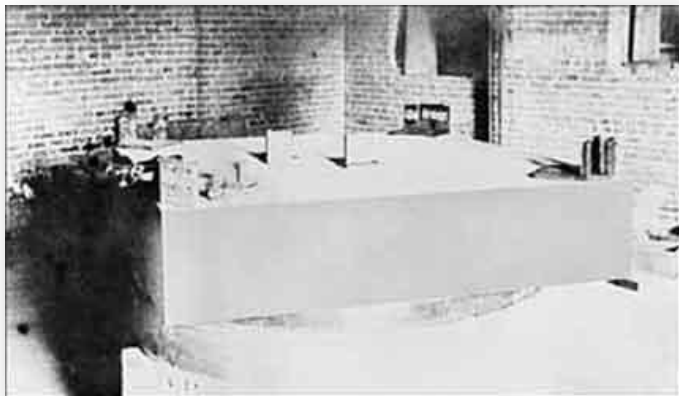


David Reitze Nature Photonics 2, 582 - 585 (2008)

- Michelson interferometer is a natural candidate
- GW amplitude given by dimensionless strain h :

$$h = \Delta L / L \approx 10^{-22} m / m$$

- ↓
- **Long arms**
 - **Low noise**



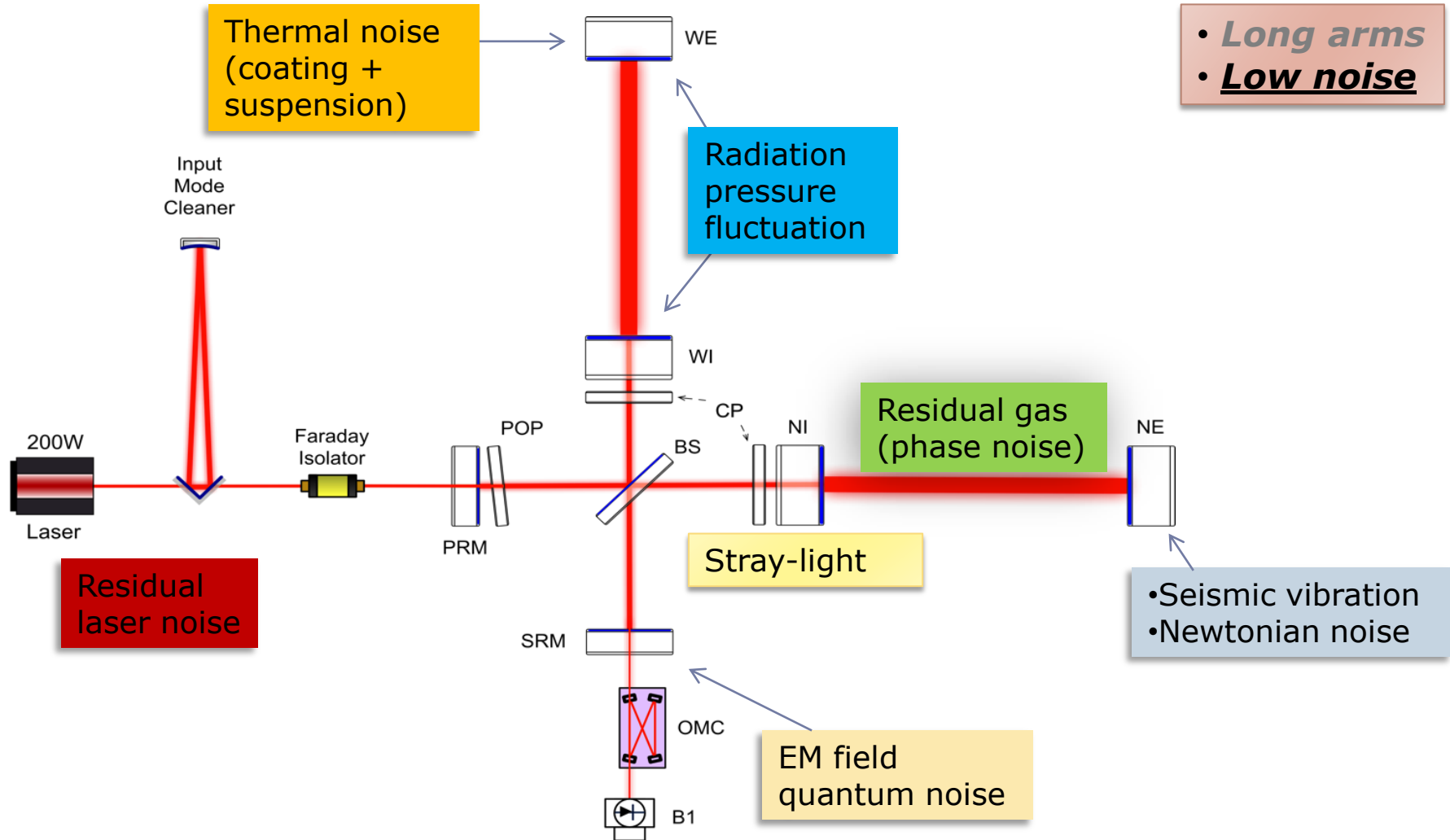
GW Detectors

- Long arms: 3km (“easy”)
- “only” the largest vacuum environment in Europe

- ***Long arms***
- ***Low noise***



GW Detectors - Noise



- *Long arms*
- **Low noise**

GW Detectors - Noise

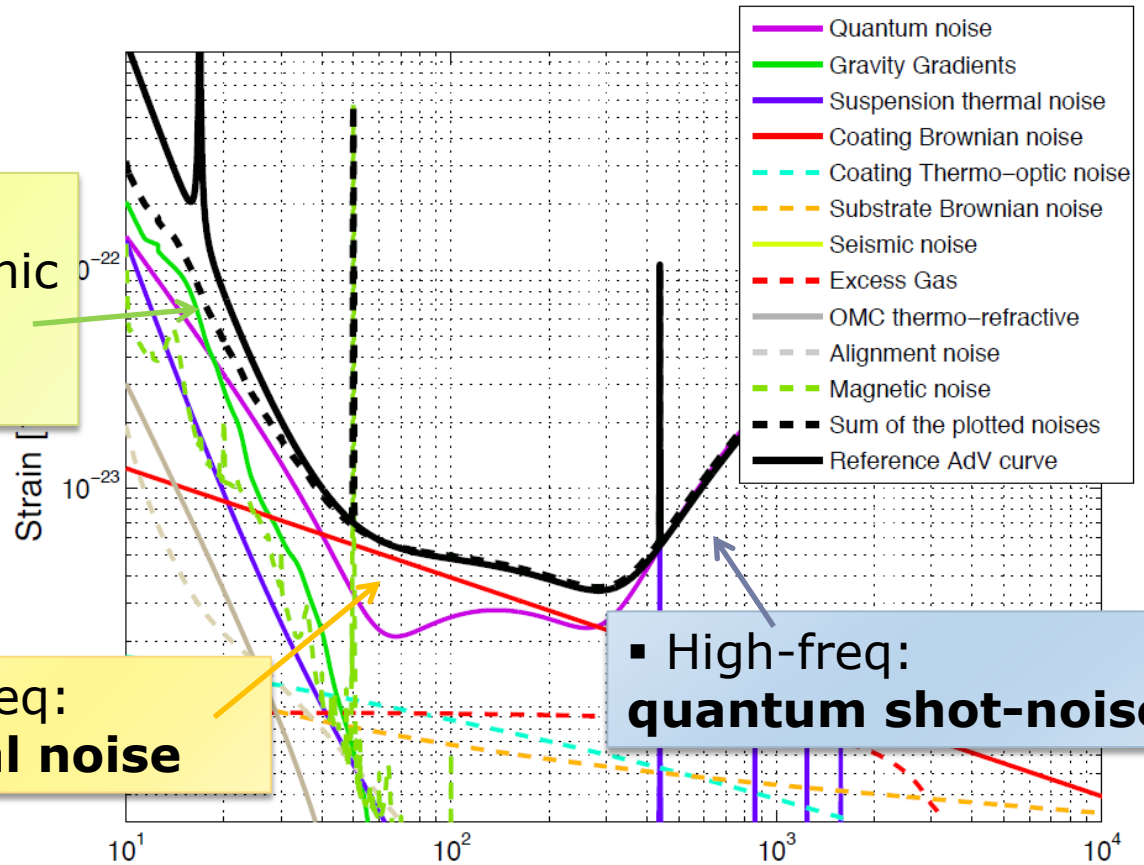
Limiting noises:

- *Long arms*
- **Low noise**

▪ Low-freq:
newtonian noise, seismic noise, residual technical noises

▪ Mid-freq:
thermal noise

▪ High-freq:
quantum shot-noise



GW Detectors - Noise

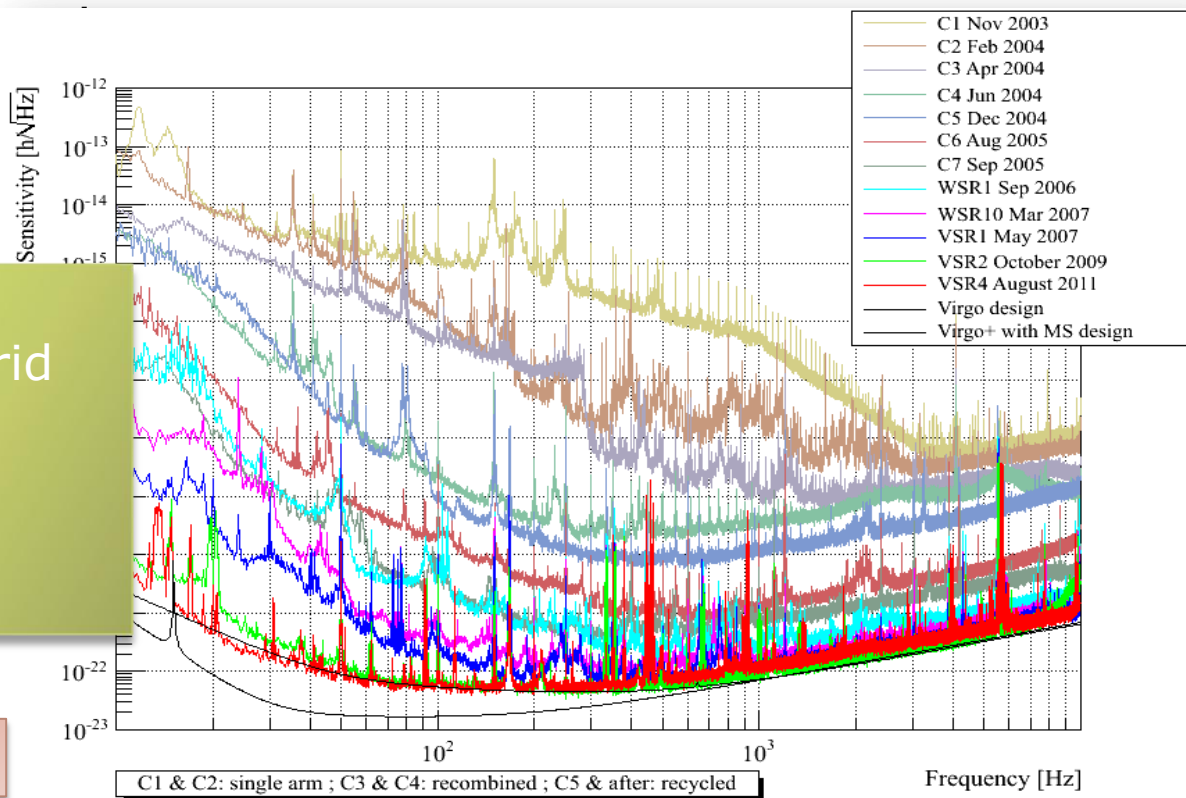
Limiting noises:

- Low-freq: seismic noise
- Mid-freq: thermal noise
- High-freq: laser shot

It took 10 years of commissioning to get rid of excess “technical noises” with Virgo:

We learned a lot

But no detection yet!



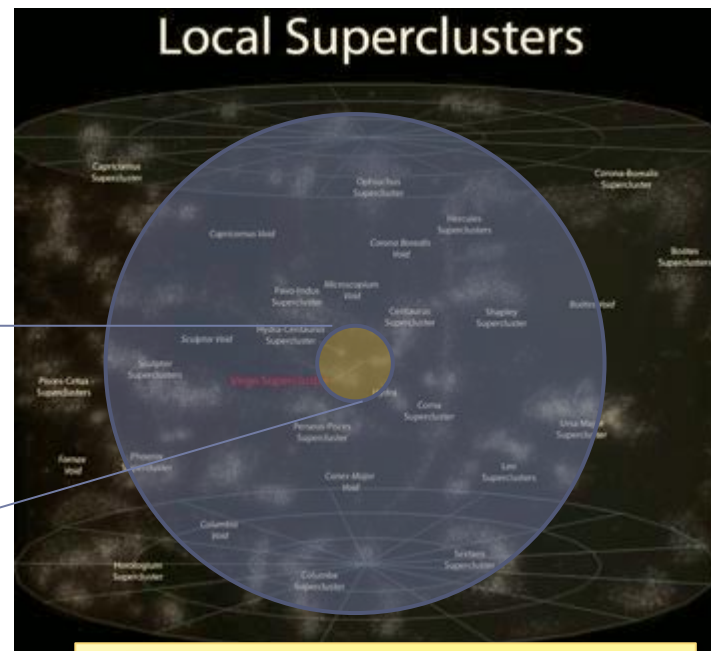
GW Detectors -Horizons

But no detection yet...

- Design sensitivity for first generation implied a detection rate ~ 0.01 ev/yr



1st gen GW detectors



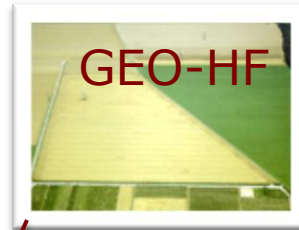
Advanced GW detectors

- Improved sensitivity is needed for GW astronomy
- Explore a volume 1000x bigger \rightarrow strain noise (h) 10x lower

We need to modify the hardware...

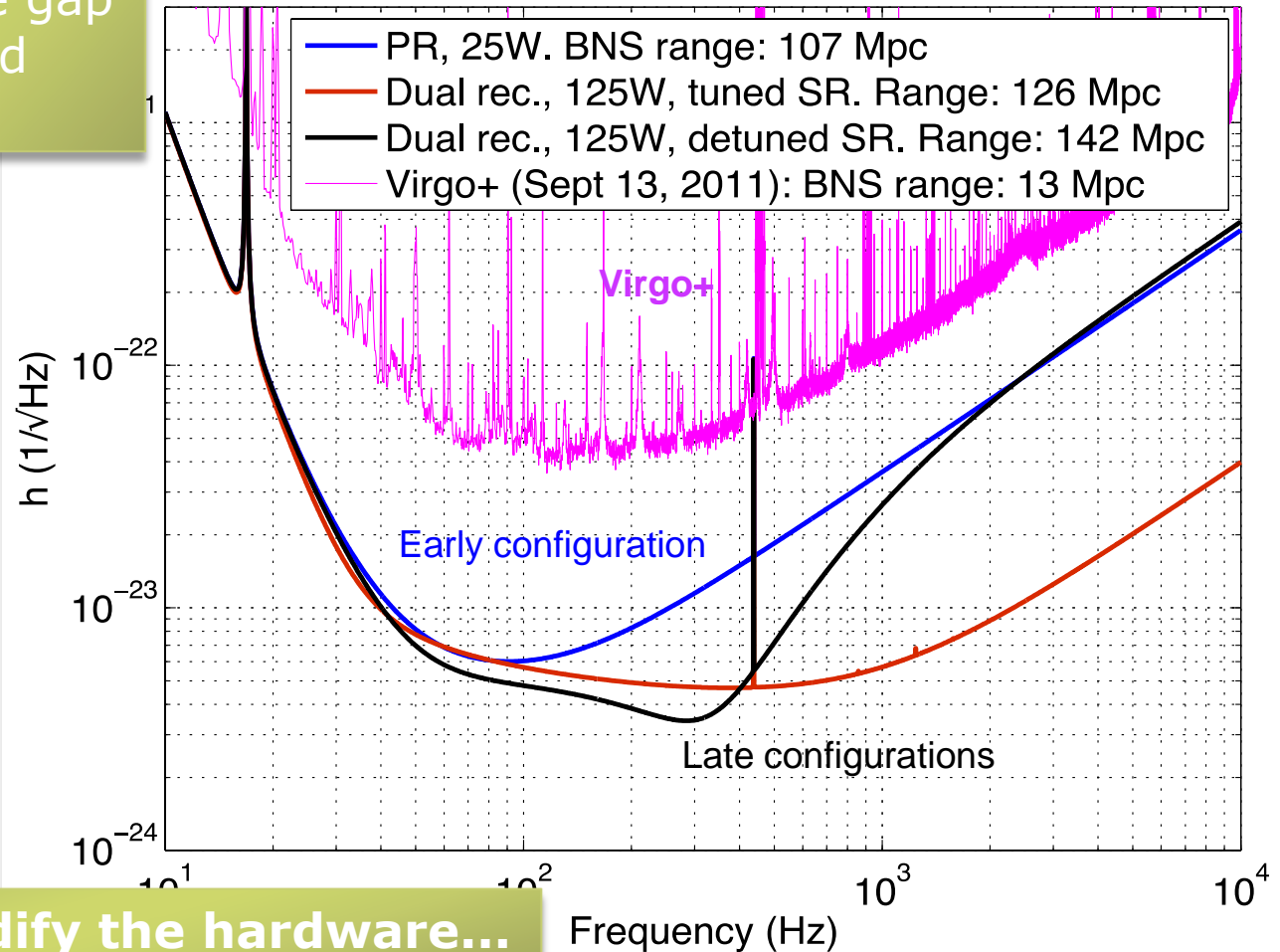
GW Detectors – The network

A world-wide effort...



GW Detectors – Advanced Virgo

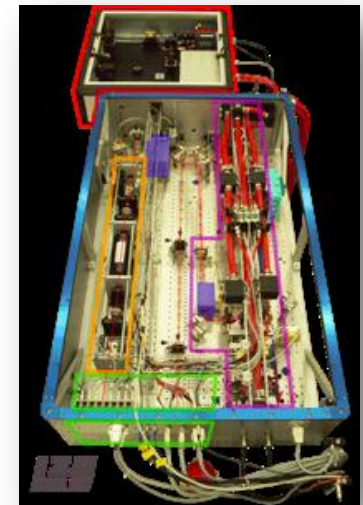
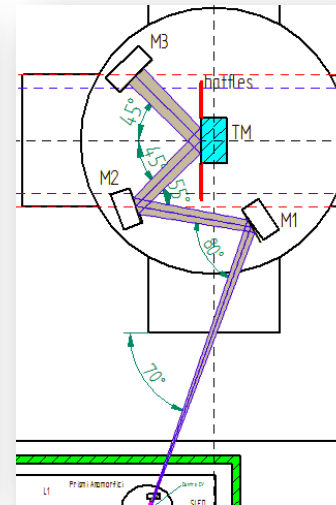
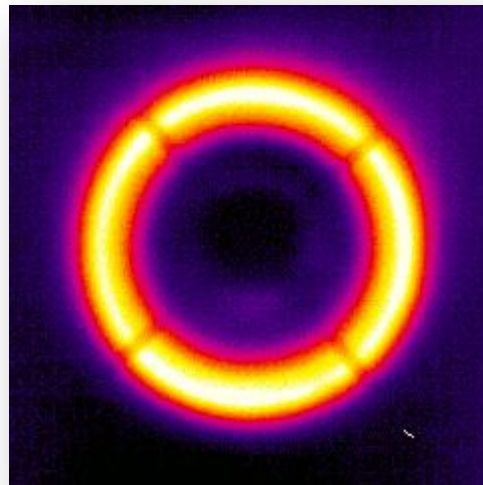
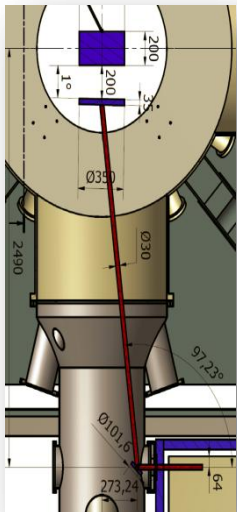
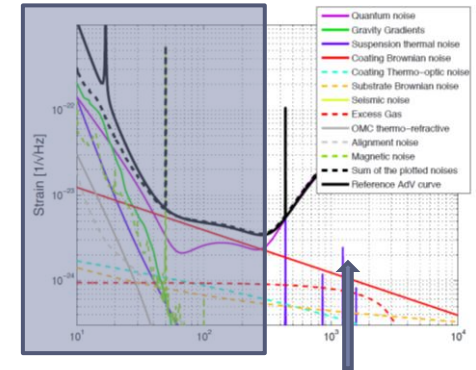
How do we fill the gap between Virgo and Advanced Virgo?



We need to modify the hardware...

GW Detectors – Advanced Virgo

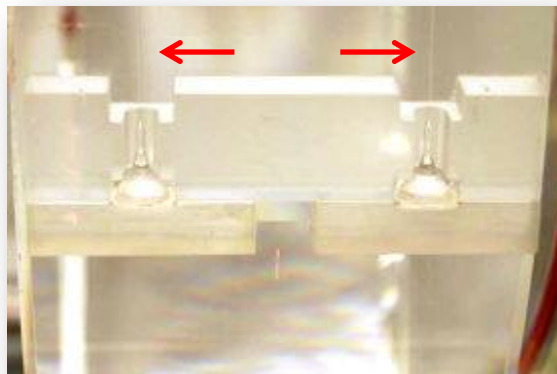
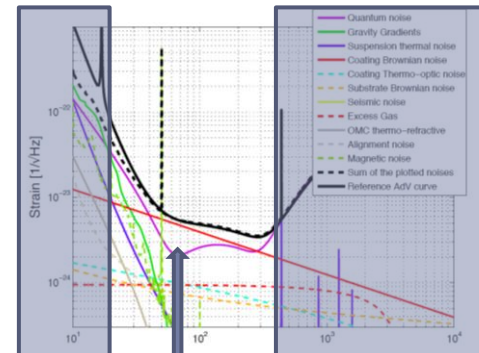
- ▶ High frequency range:
 - ▶ Dominated by laser shot noise. Improved by increasing the power: **>100W input**, ~1 MW in the cavities
- ▶ Requires:
 - ▶ New laser amplifiers (solid state, fiber)
 - ▶ Heavy, low absorption optics (substrates, coatings)
 - ▶ Sophisticated systems to correct for thermal aberrations



GW Detectors – Advanced Virgo

- ▶ Mid frequency range:
 - ▶ Dominated by thermal noise of mirror coatings and suspensions

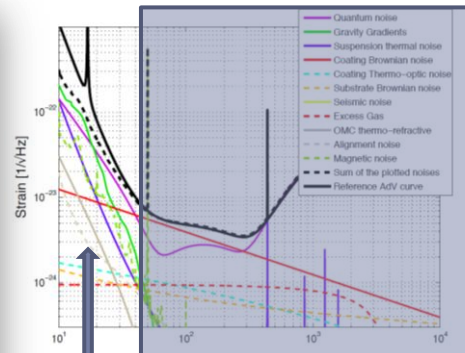
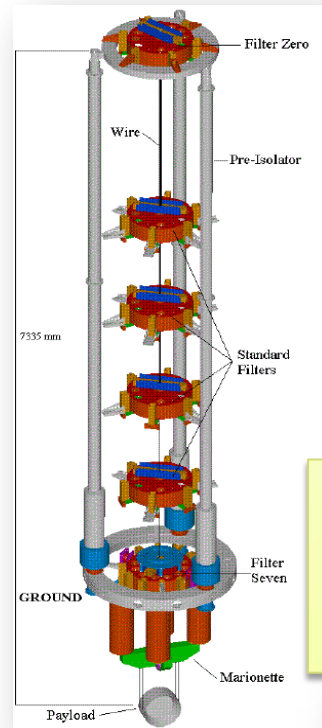
- ▶ Reduced by:
 - ▶ **Larger beam spot** (sample larger mirror surface)
 - ▶ Test masses suspended by fused silica fibers (low mechanical losses)
 - ▶ Mirror coatings engineered for low losses



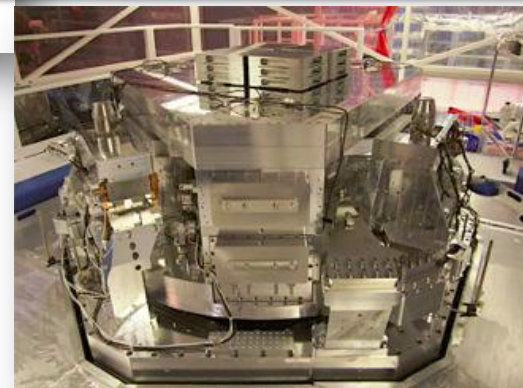
GW Detectors – Advanced Virgo

▶ Low frequency range:

- ▶ Dominated by seismic noise
- ▶ Managed by suspending the mirrors from extreme vibration isolators
- ▶ Technical noises of different nature are the real challenge in this range
- ▶ Ultimate limit for ground-based detectors:
gravity gradient noise

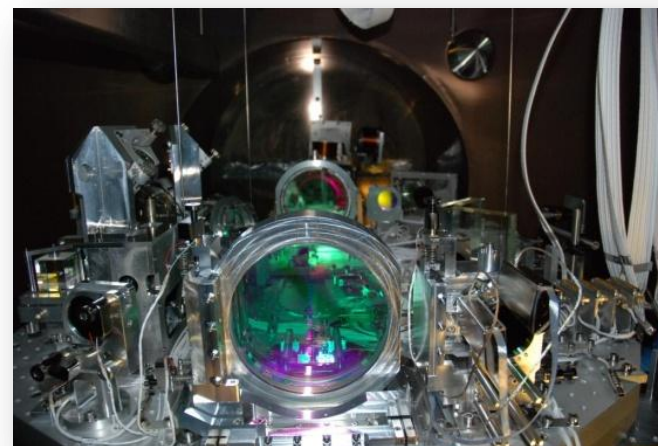
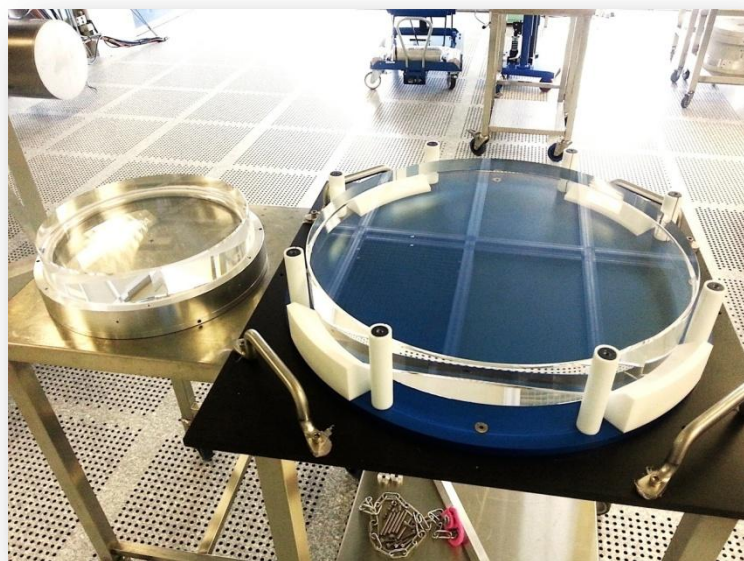


Virgo suspensions already compliant with AdV sensitivity (upgrade needed for new payloads)



GW Detectors – Advanced Virgo

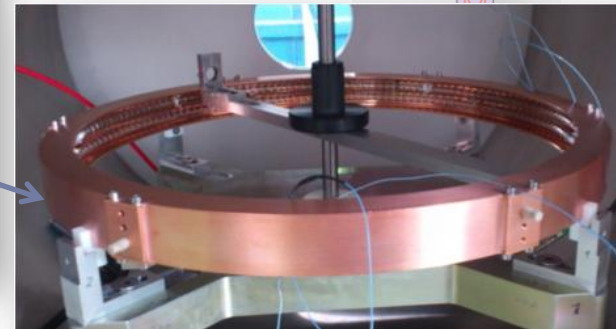
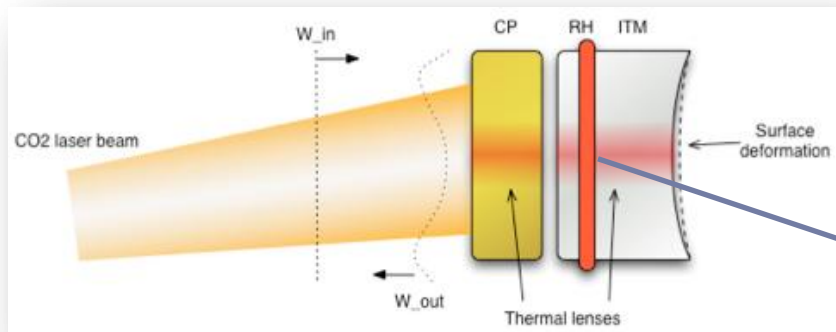
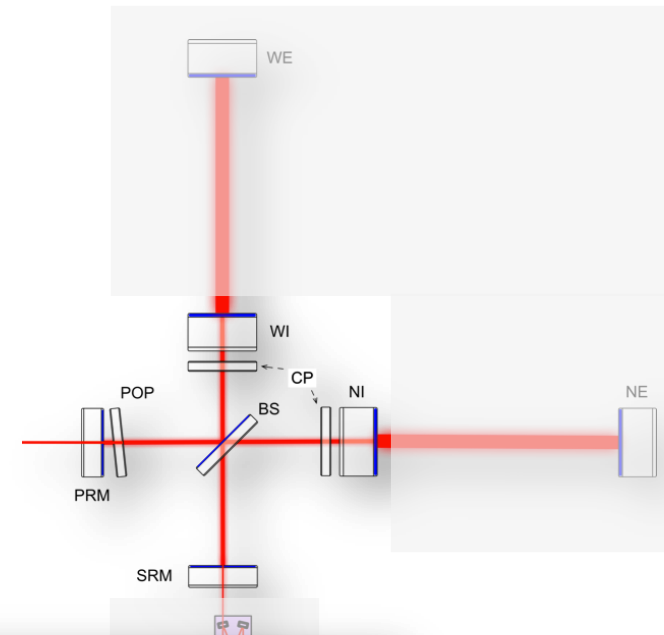
- ▶ Impact of larger beam:
 - ▶ required new vacuum links
 - ▶ re-design of input benches, telescopes
 - ▶ large BS (55cm)



GW Detectors – Advanced Virgo

- ▶ Impact of larger beam:
 - ▶ Fit larger beam in the same topology as for Virgo → higher degeneracy in recycling cavities!
 - ▶ Control sidebands high order modes are nearly resonant and very sensitive to thermal effects, substrate defects

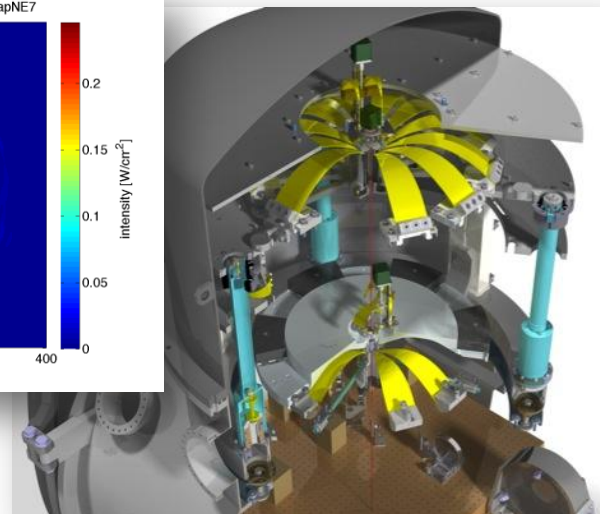
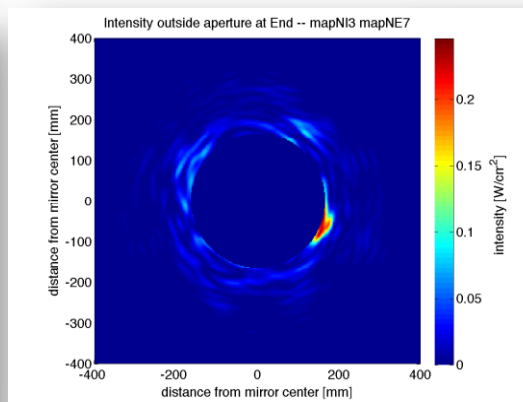
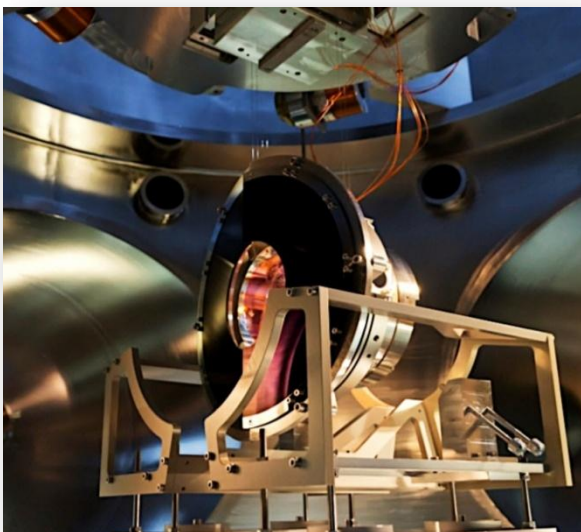
- ▶ Requires proper management of aberrations
 - ▶ Optics quality
 - ▶ Active aberrations control



GW Detectors – Advanced Virgo

▶ Stray-light mitigation:

- ▶ Learned from 1st generation: scattered light is one of the major risks towards the final sensitivity goal
- ▶ Large investment to mitigate it:
 - ▶ Better optics quality
 - ▶ Baffles to shield mirrors, pipes, vacuum chambers exposed to scattered light
 - ▶ Photodiodes suspended in vacuum to isolate them from acoustic/seismic noise
 - ▶ If required, control the position of the benches wrt the interferometer
 - ▶ Significant simulation effort



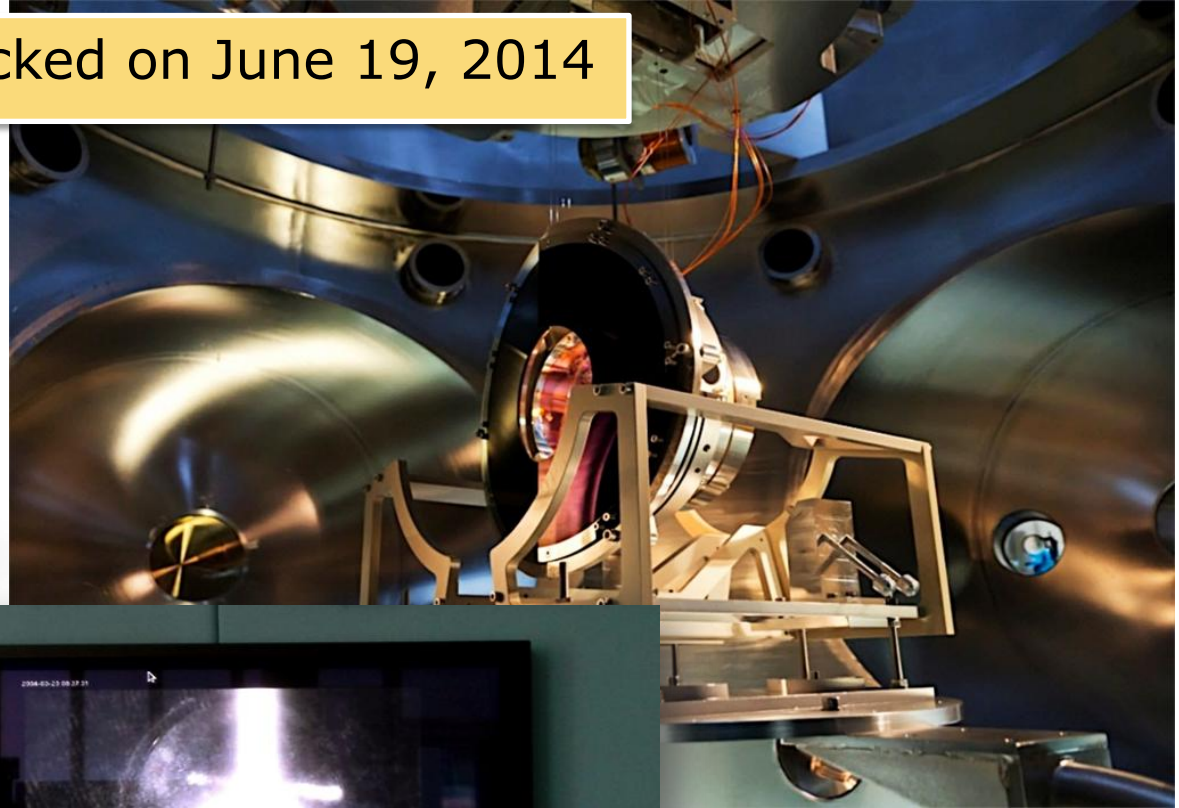
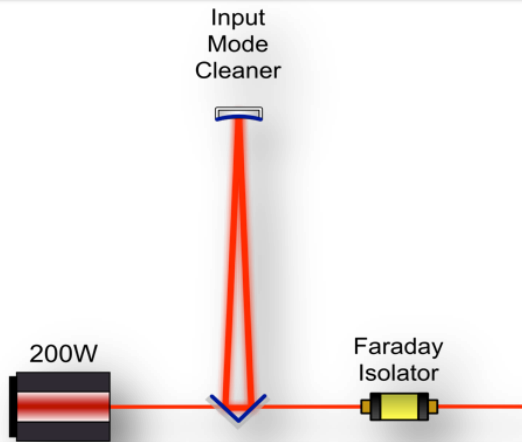
From Virgo to *Advanced Virgo*

Where are we now?



AdV - Current Status

Input mode cleaner locked on June 19, 2014



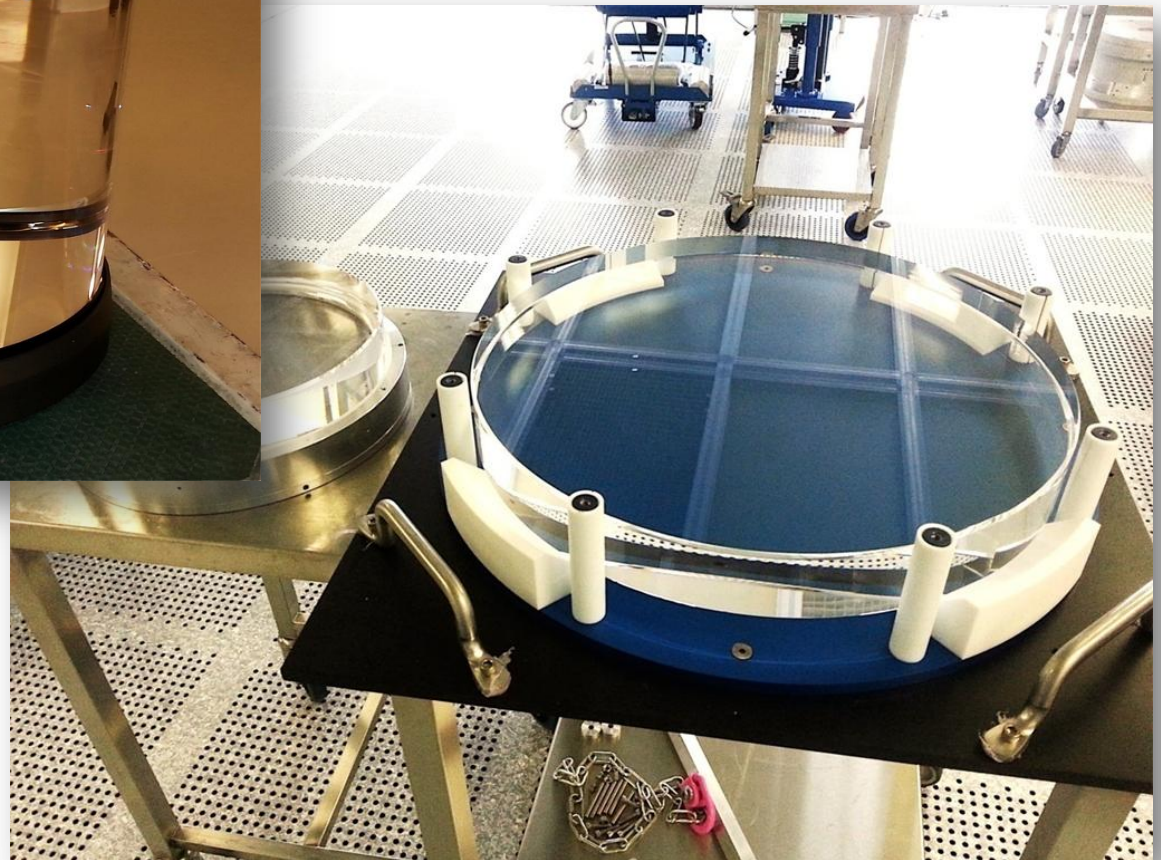
First top level milestone achieved on schedule.

AdV - Current Status

Most of the large optics polished



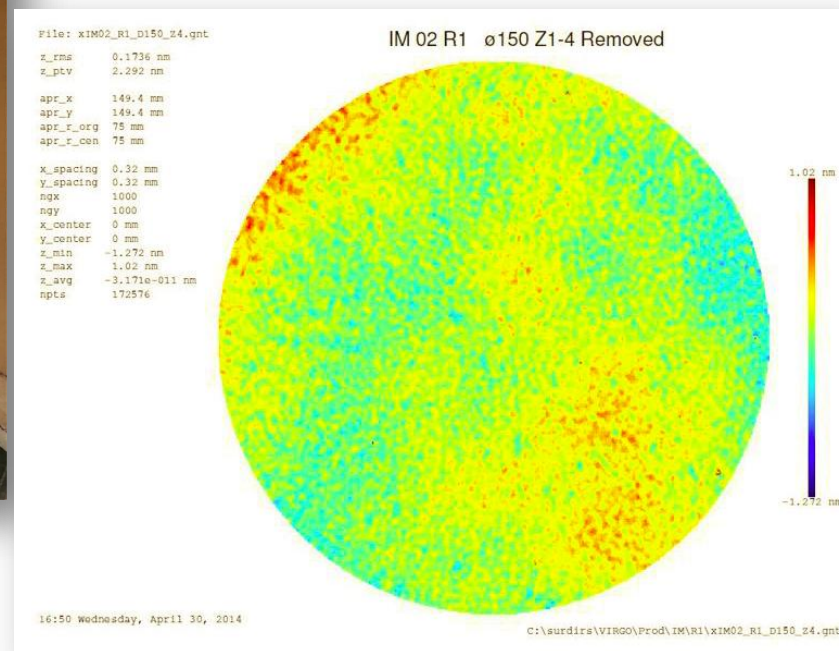
The surface figure of the polished test masses is better than specifications



AdV - Current Status



Most of the large optics polished



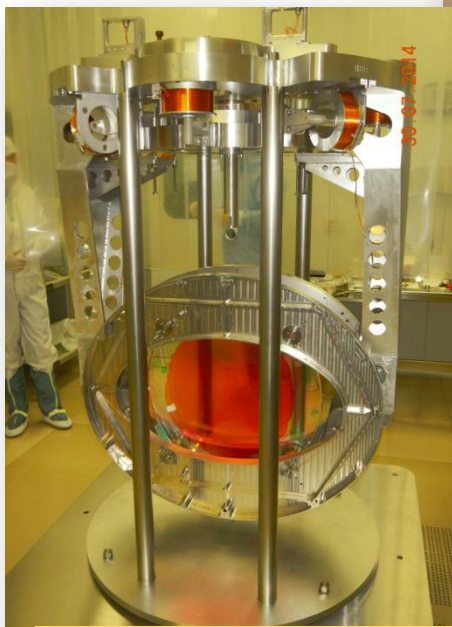
The surface figure of the polished test masses is better than specifications

IM02: Flatness: 0.17 nm rms on 150mm ϕ (spec.: 0.5 nm rms)
 RoC: 1425 m (spec.: 1420 [-5,+15] m)

AdV - Current Status

Ongoing:

- Superattenuators being upgraded to hold the new payloads



BS payload ready to be installed

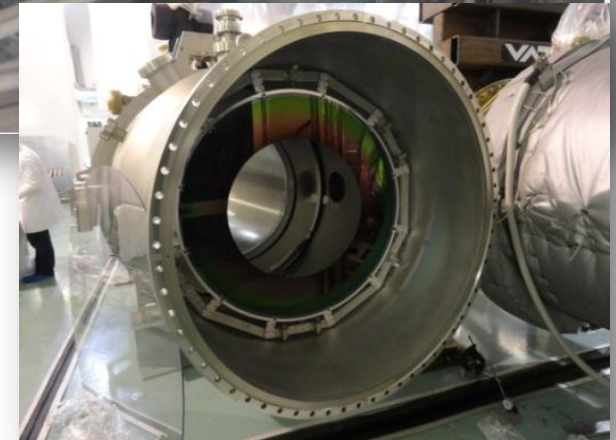
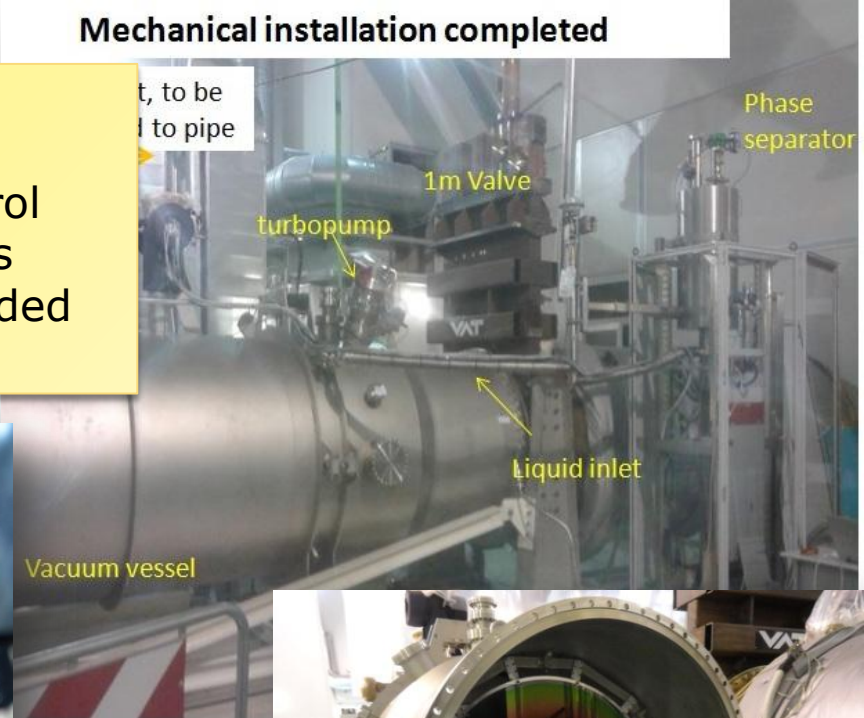


AdV - Current Status

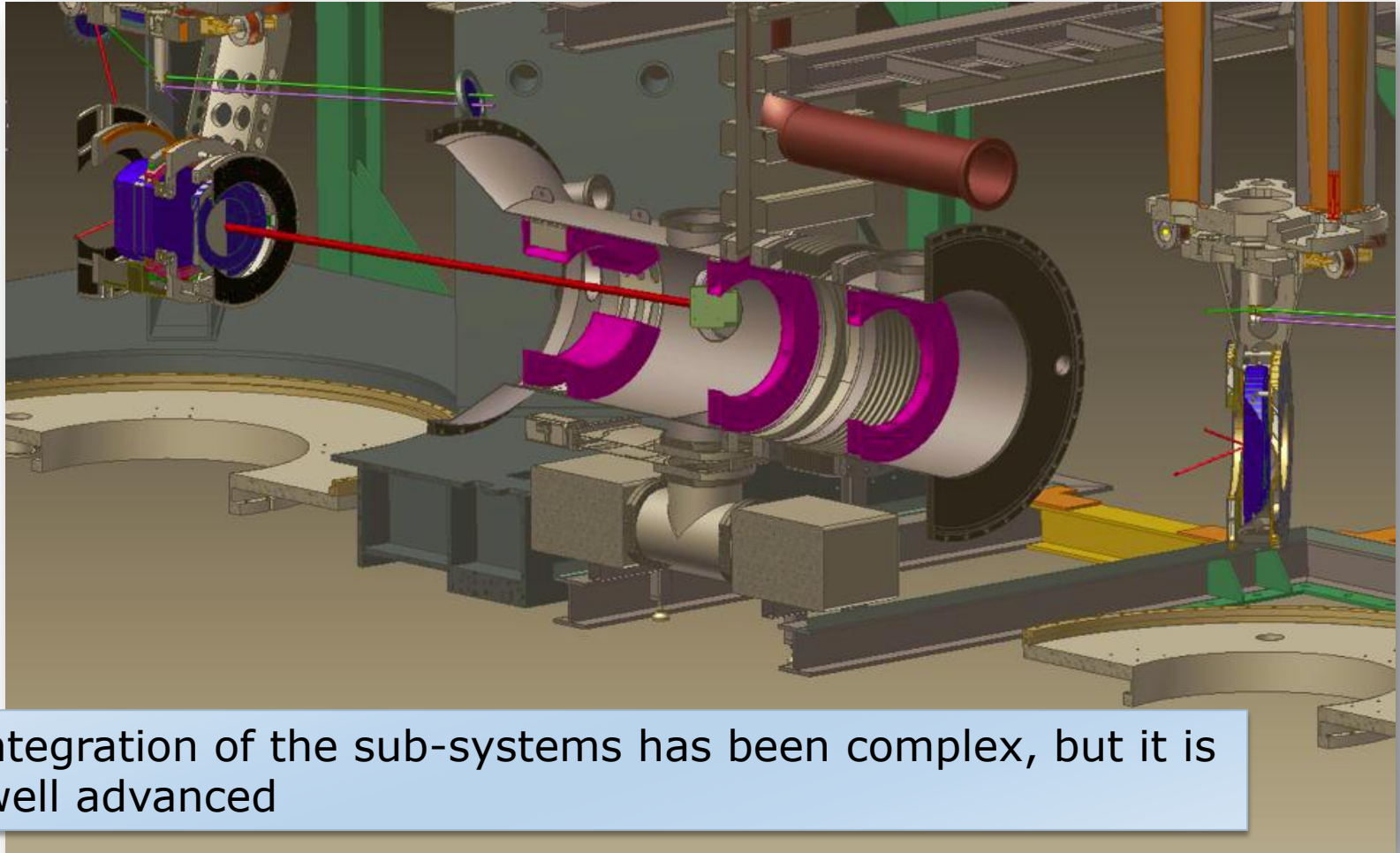
Ongoing:

- Vacuum links upgrade
- Installation of baffles for stray-light control
- Installation of new, larger cryogenic traps
- Installation of vacuum towers for suspended benches

Mechanical installation completed



AdV - Current Status

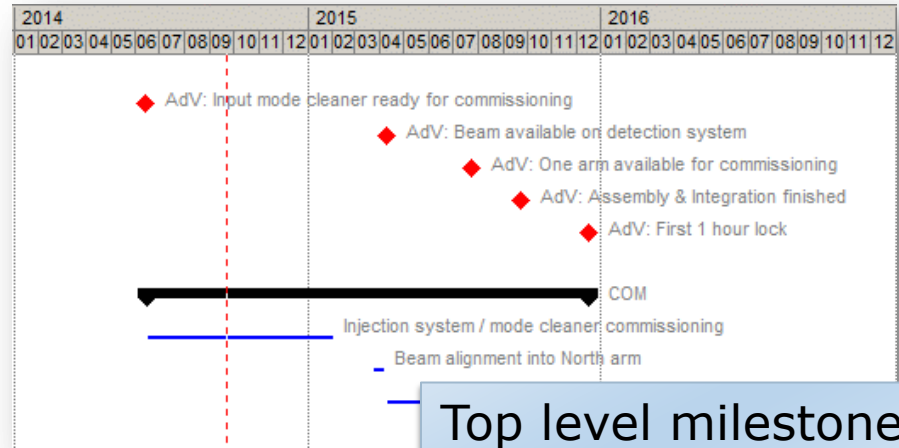


The integration of the sub-systems has been complex, but it is now well advanced

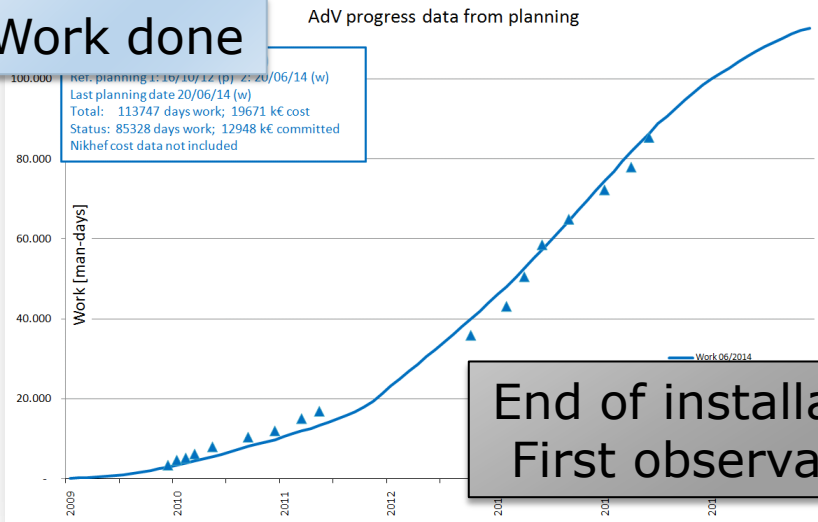
AdV – Project Current Status

- First top-level milestone achieved on time, high commitment to meet the final goal on schedule

- Work done and funds committed follow roughly the expected curve

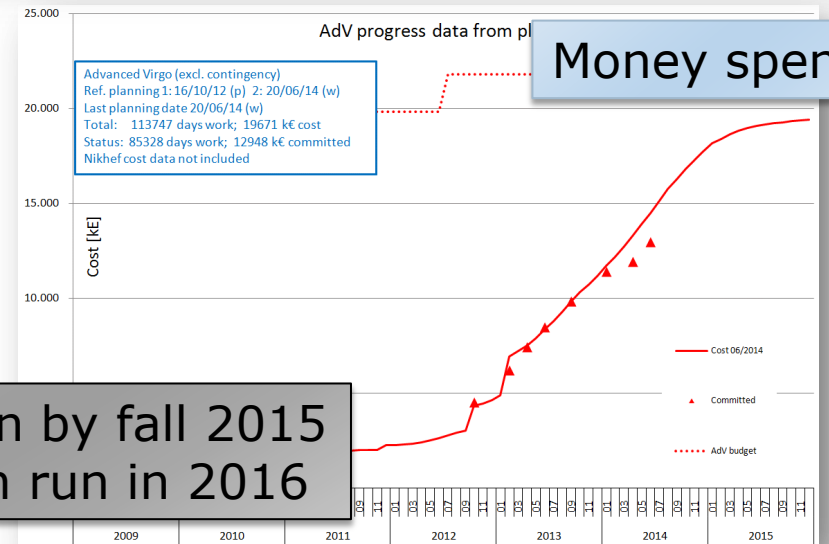


Work done



End of installation by fall 2015
 First observation run in 2016

Money spent



AdV – Sensitivity evolution

At the dawn of GW astronomy age...

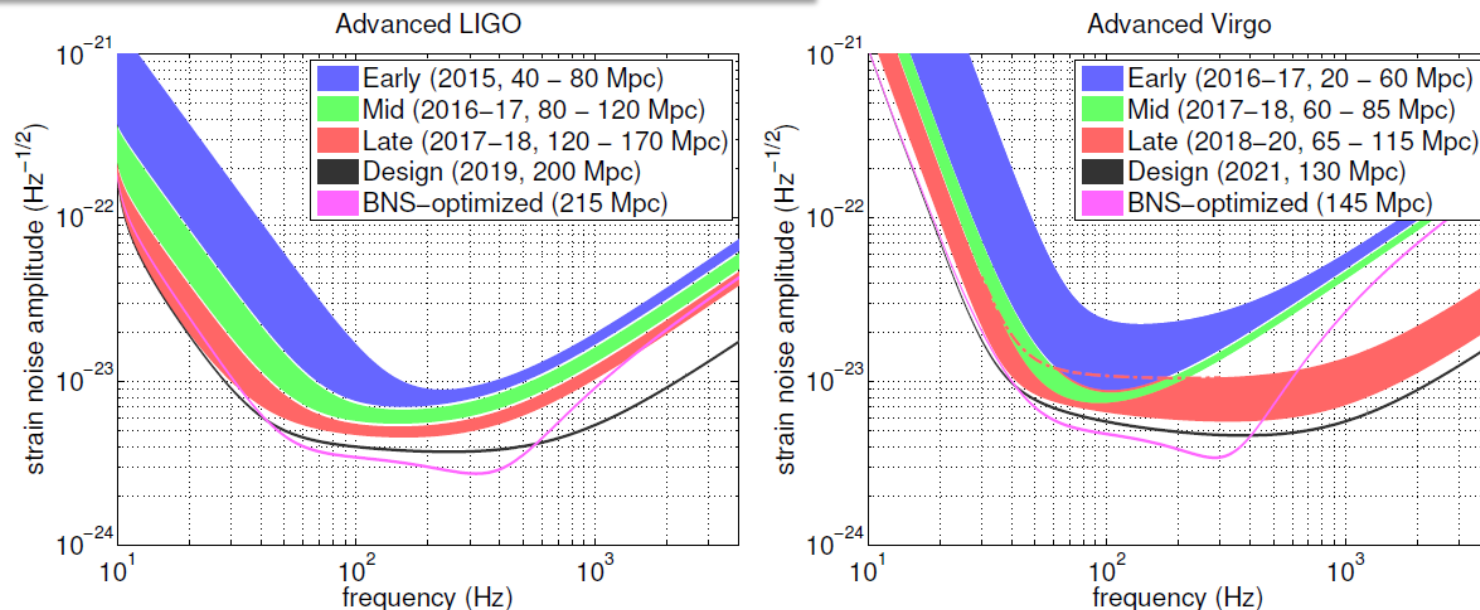


Figure 1: aLIGO (left) and AdV (right) target strain sensitivity as a function of frequency. The average distance to which binary neutron star (BNS) signals could be seen is given in Mpc. Current notions of the progression of sensitivity are given for early, middle, and late commissioning phases, as well as the final design sensitivity target and the BNS-optimized sensitivity. While both dates and sensitivity curves are subject to change, the overall progression represents our best current estimates.

~20km and 400yrs far...



Thank you

The European Gravitational Observatory
is a consortium of:

