



# Ground-based Gravitational-wave Detectors: Status and Upgrades

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LIGO Livingston Observatory, LA



LIGO Hanford Observatory, WA

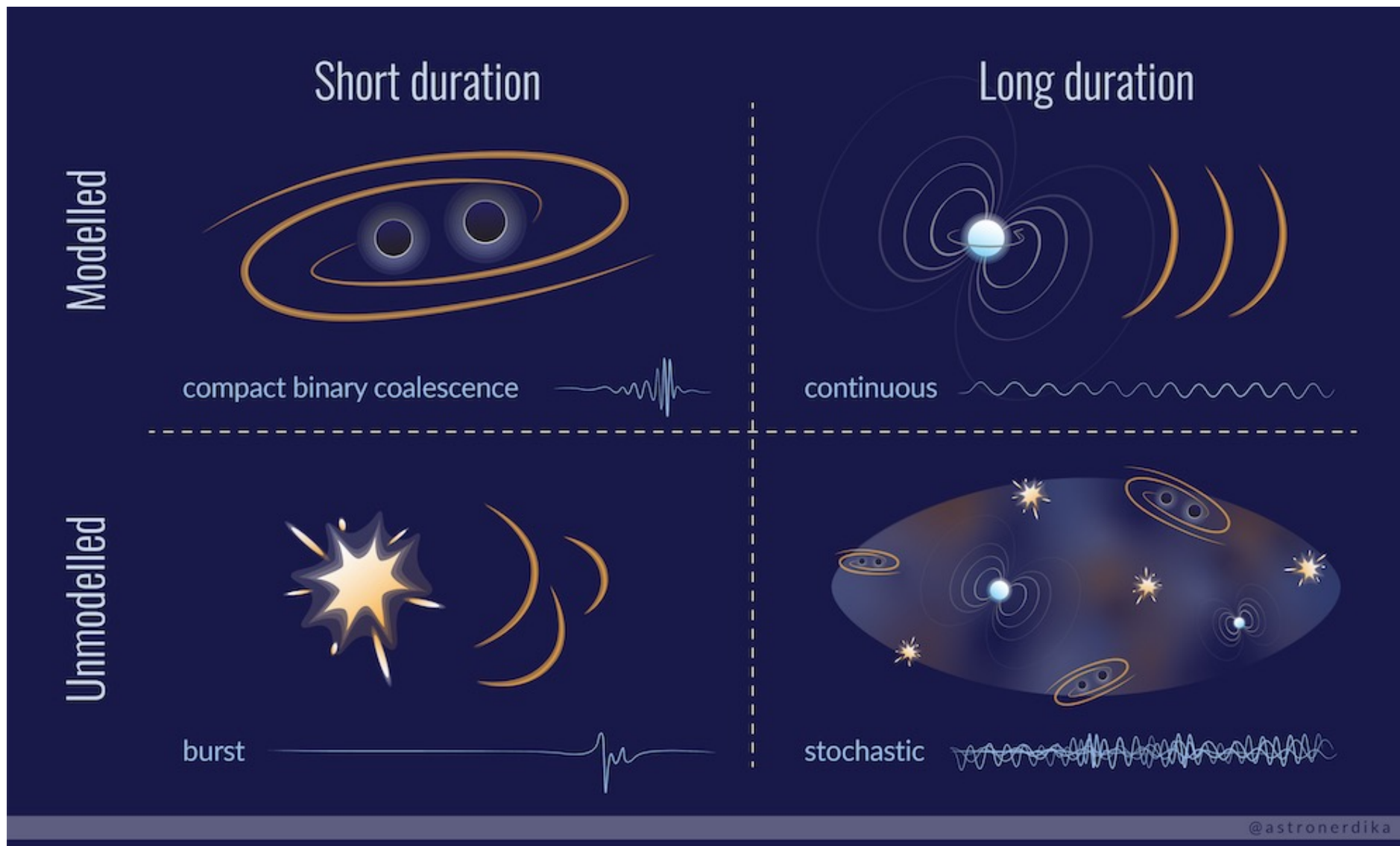
Gravitational waves are ripples in spacetime generated by accelerating masses with a non-constant quadrupole moment

$$h(t) = \frac{\Delta L}{L} \cong \frac{G}{c^2} \frac{M}{d} \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2$$

Gravitational wave strain (stretching and compressing of spacetime) can induce a displacement on the order of  $10^{-19}$  m over a km baseline

**Ground-based GW detectors use heavy test masses and a 3-4 km baseline to detect gravitational waves**

# GW Sources

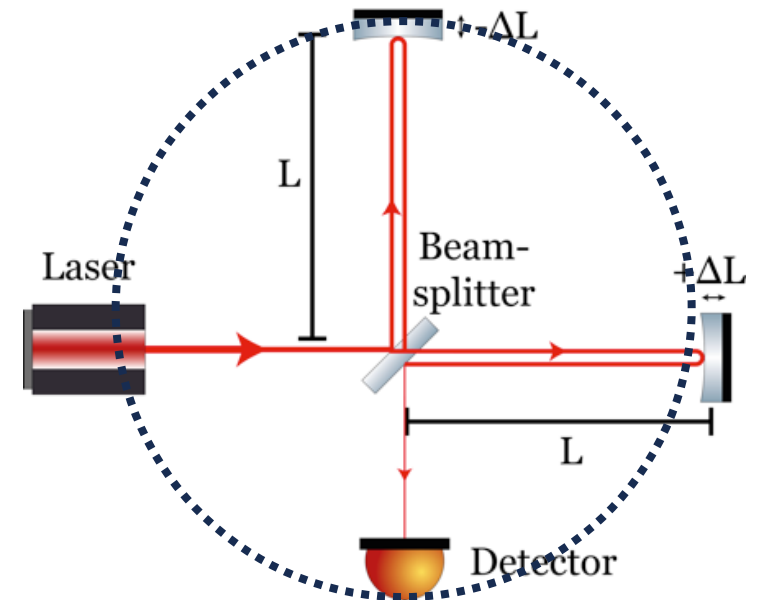


@astronerdika

Lasers allow us to measure displacement on the order of  $10^{-19}$  m!

Central topology: Michelson Interferometer

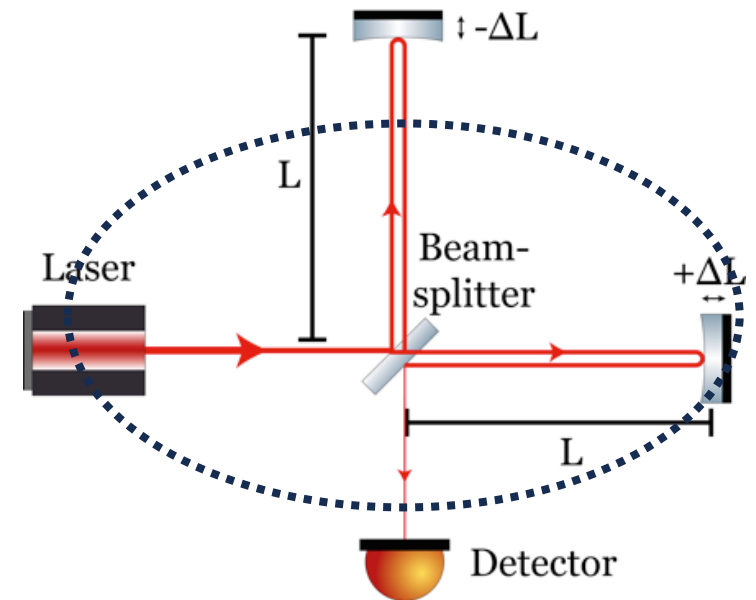
➤ Operated on the dark fringe



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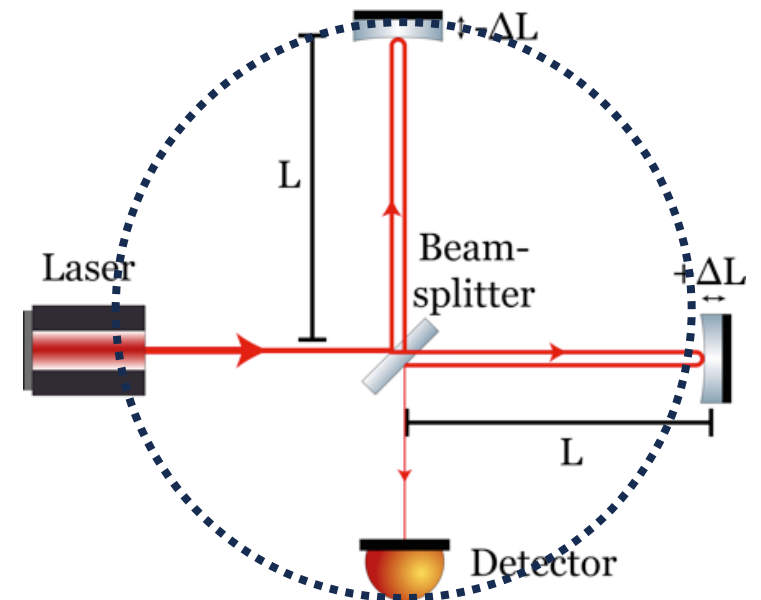
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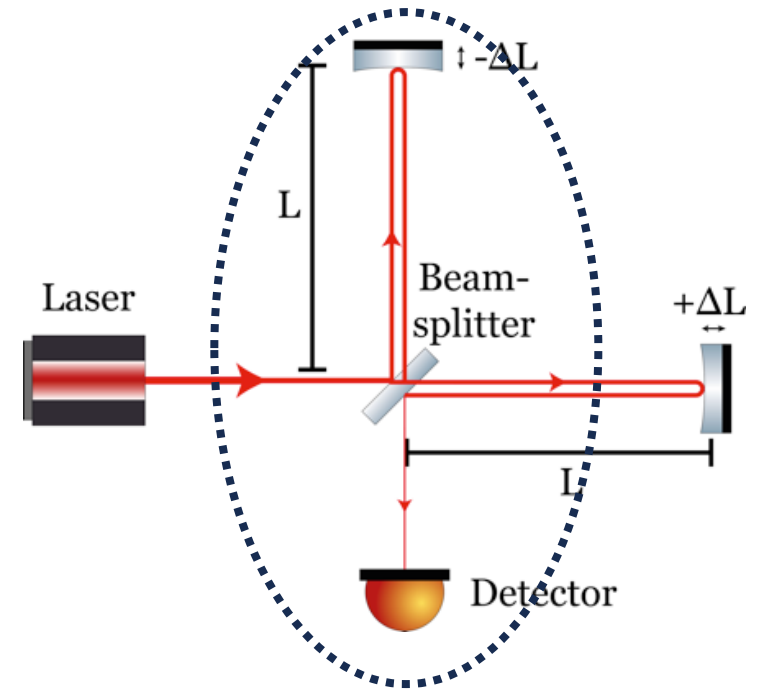
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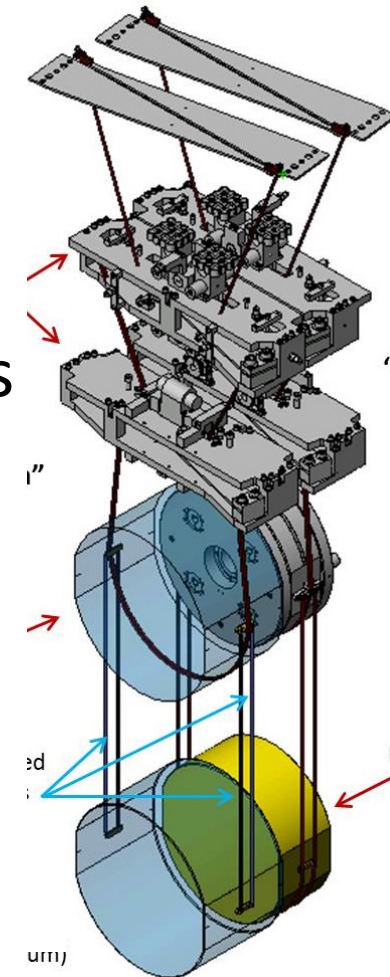
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Test masses

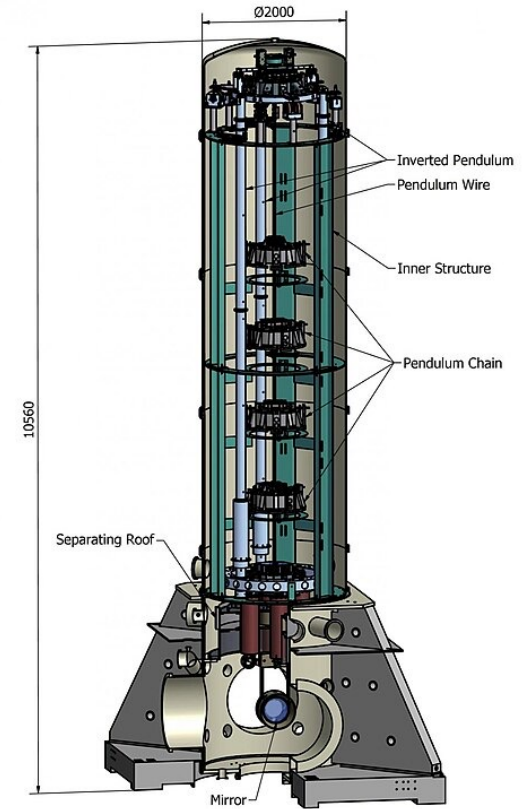
➤ suspended heavy mirrors (10-40 kg!)

Seismic isolation and multi-stage suspensions

➤ Isolate mirrors from ground motion



LIGO Quadruple Suspension

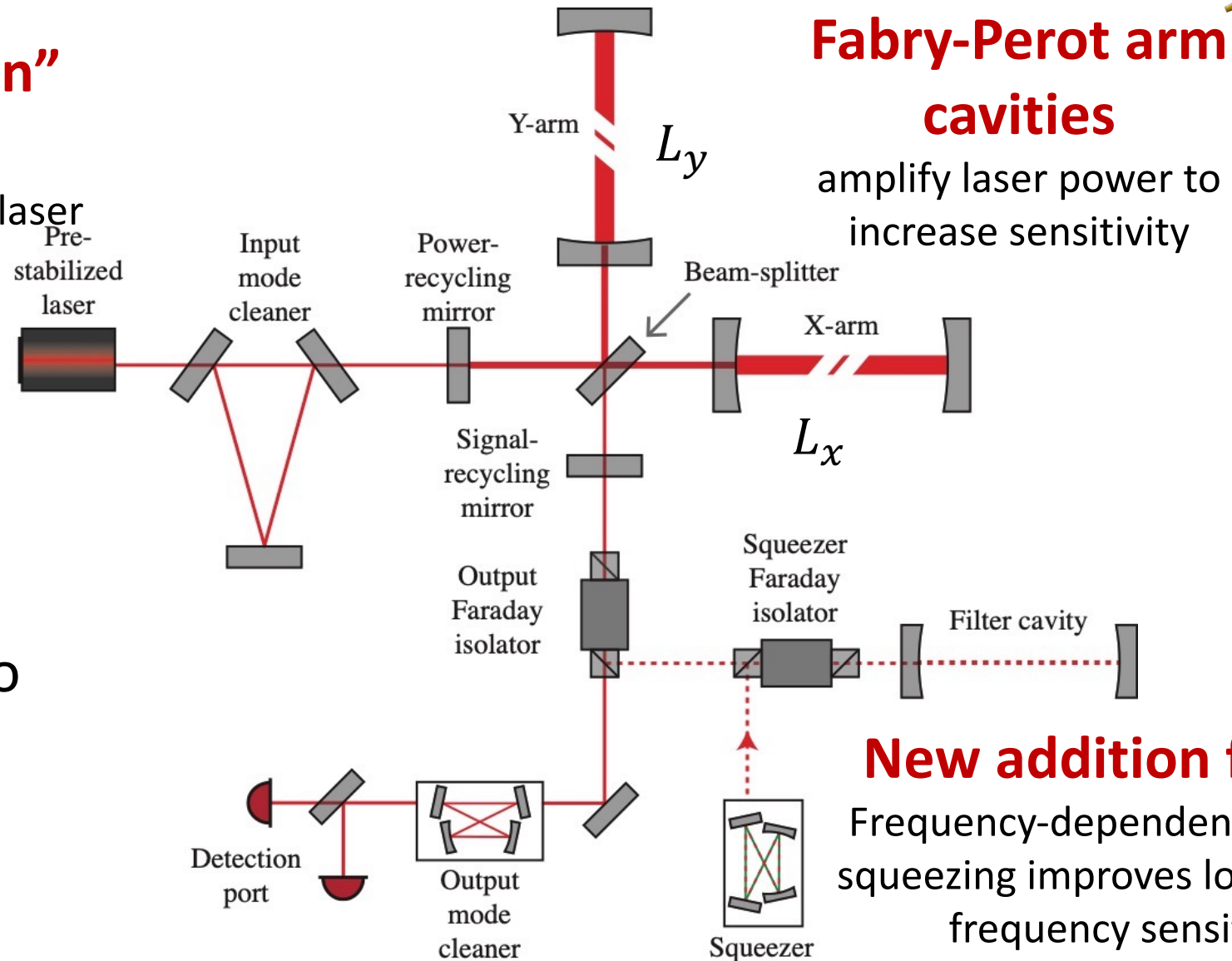


Virgo Superattenuator

# Advanced Detector Optical Layout

**“Dual-recycled Michelson”  
technology**

Power and signal recycling increase laser power and detector bandwidth



GW signal couples to  
**Differential Arm  
Length (DARM)**  
 $\Delta L = L_x - L_y$

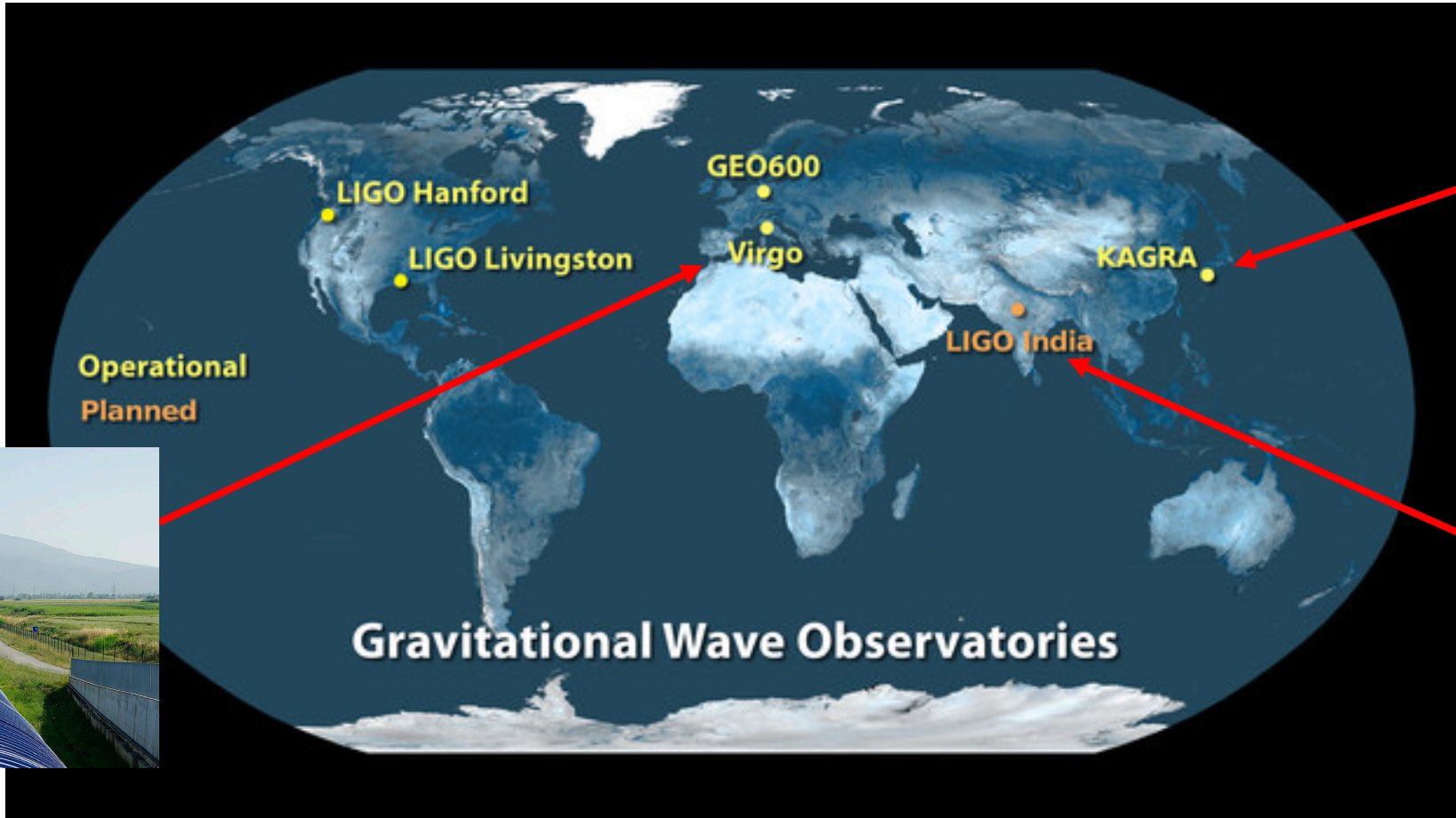
**New addition for O4!**  
Frequency-dependent quantum squeezing improves low and high frequency sensitivity



# International GW Detector Network



Cryogenic GW detector, underground!

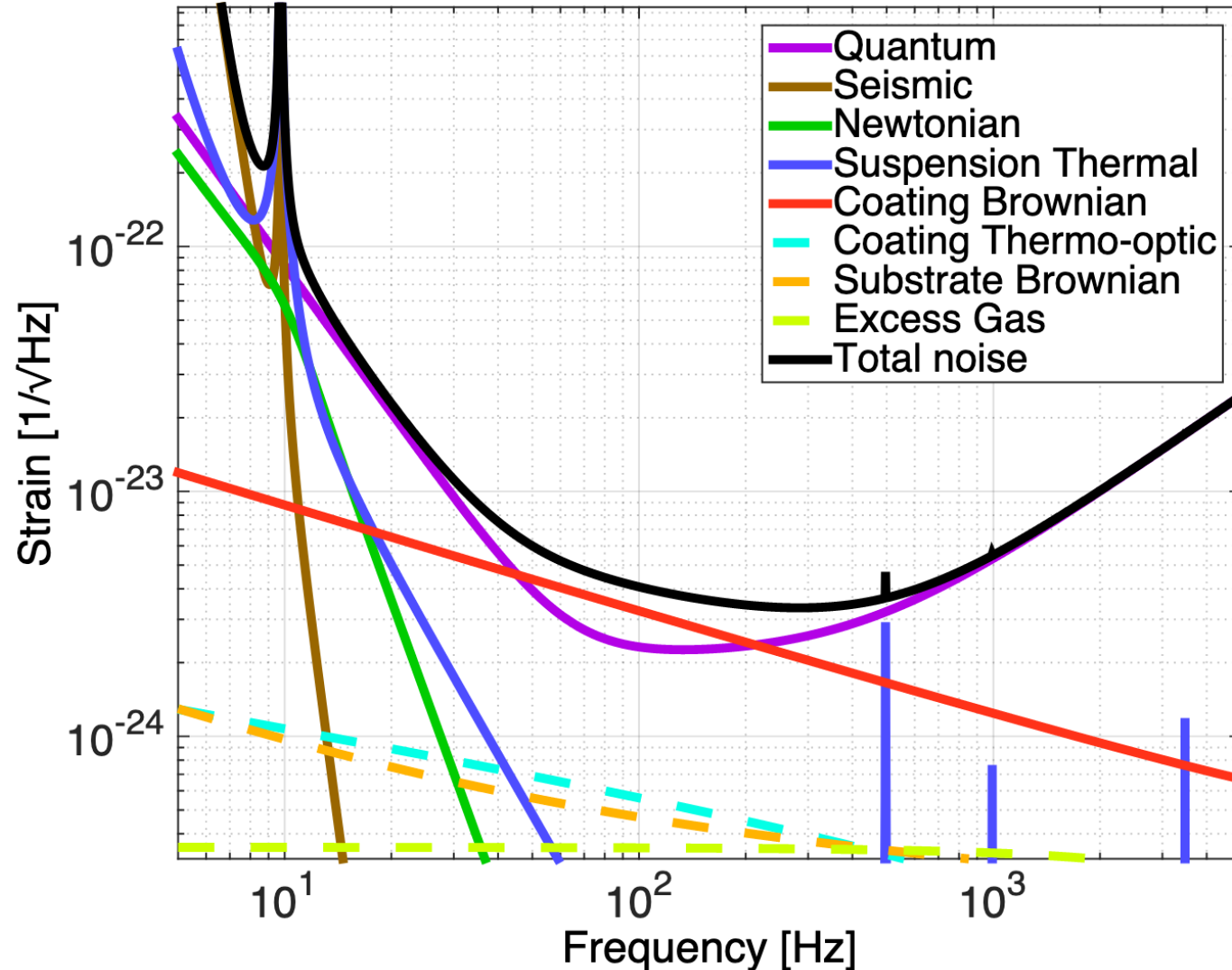


Just broke ground for construction!



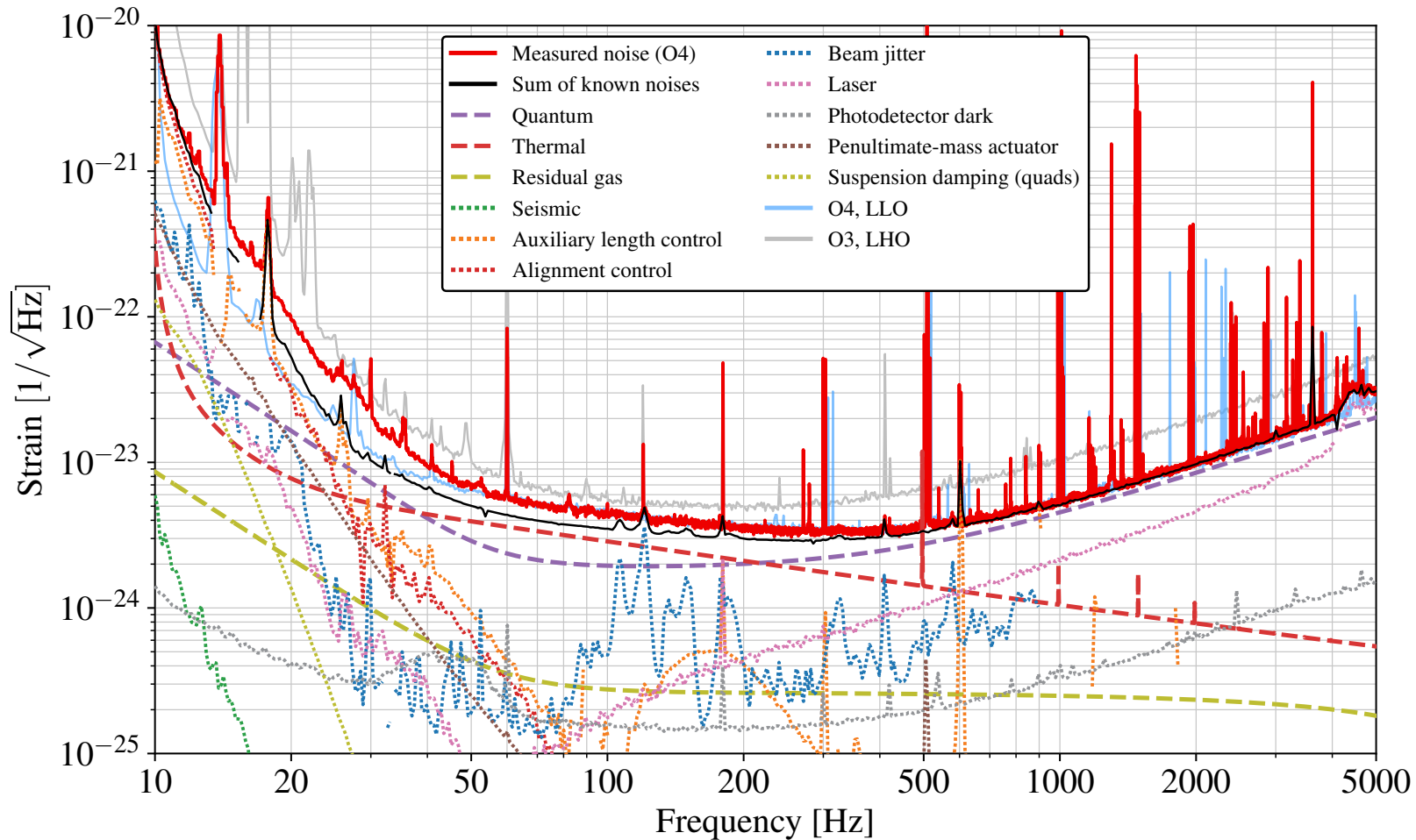
# Detector Noise: Design

aLIGO new design curve: NSNS (1.4/1.4  $M_{\odot}$ ) 173 Mpc and BHBH (30/30  $M_{\odot}$ ) 1606 Mpc



“Fundamental” noise sources  
 ➤ Sets the limit on what sensitivity a particular detector design can achieve

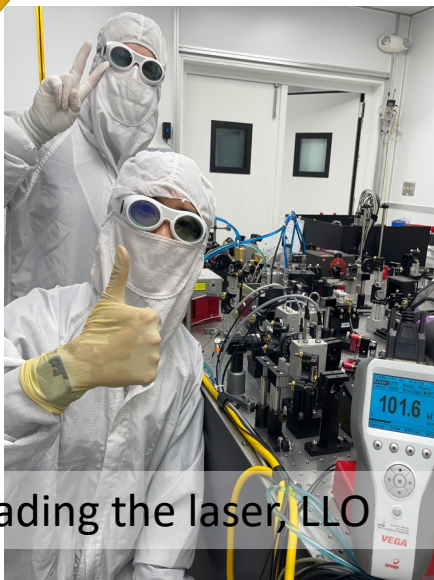
# Detector Noise: Reality



Example noise budget from LIGO Hanford

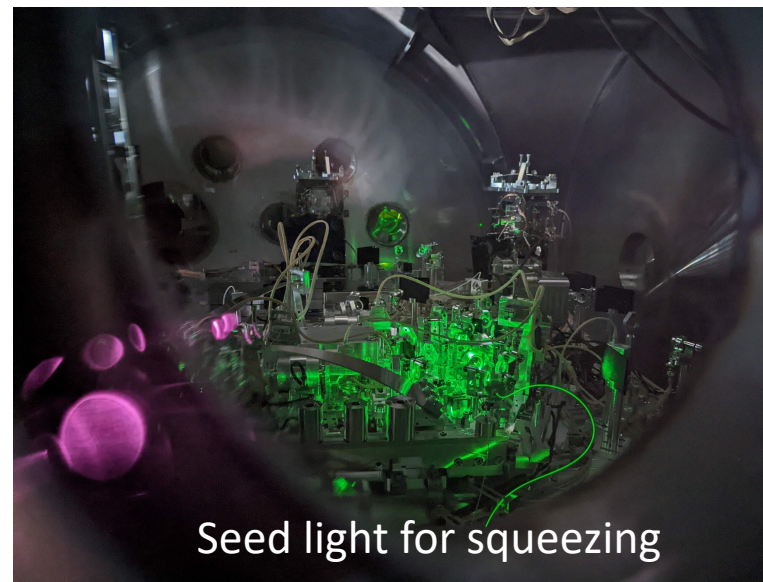
- Includes “technical” noise sources
- Not all noise sources are understood!

# Quantum Noise



Upgrading the laser, LLO

Quantum noise reduction is achieved through high circulating arm power and high levels of **quantum squeezing**



Seed light for squeezing



A dizzying look at a new cavity!, LLO

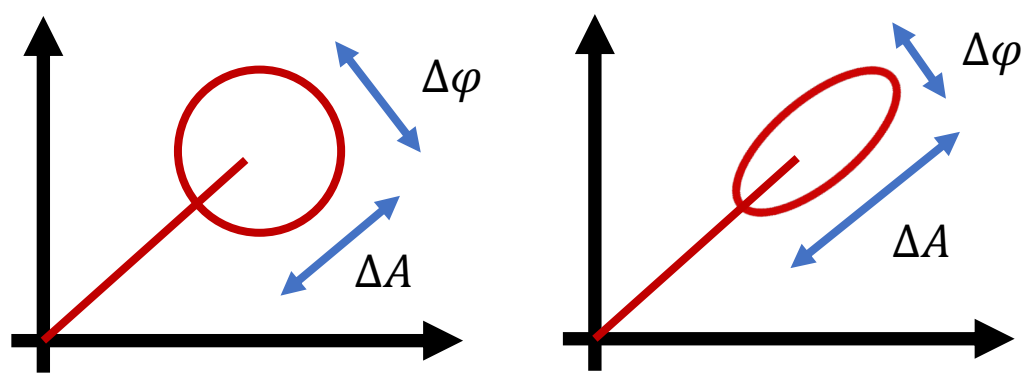
# What is Squeezing?

Quantum noise limits gravitational wave detector sensitivity

- **Shot noise** at high frequency (>~80 Hz)
- **Radiation pressure** noise (<~80 Hz)

This noise results from the phase and amplitude uncertainty of light

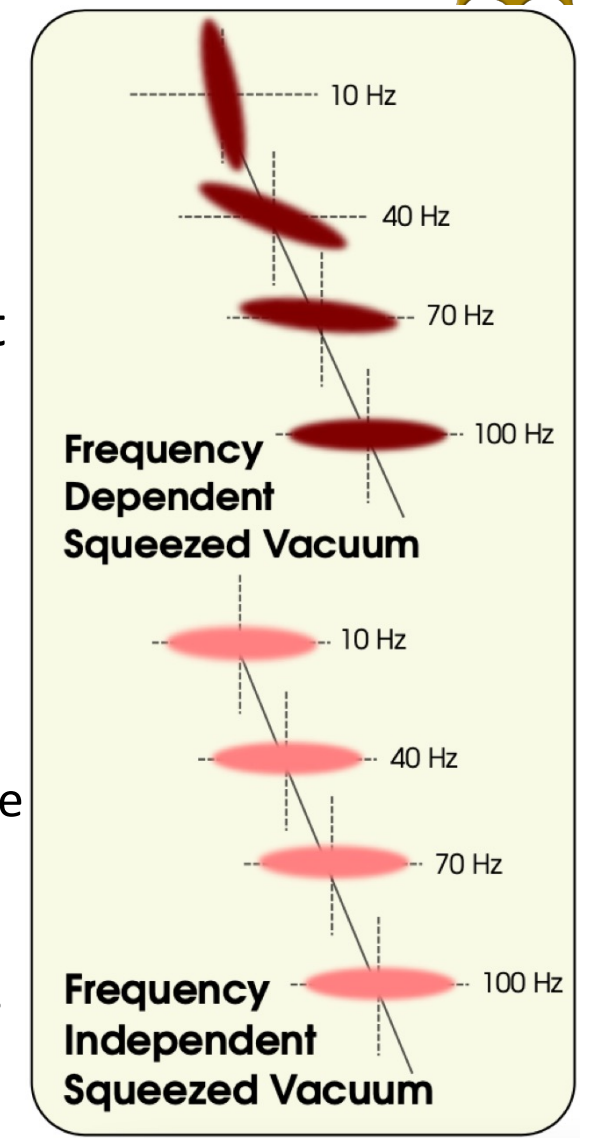
$$\Delta\phi\Delta A \geq 1$$



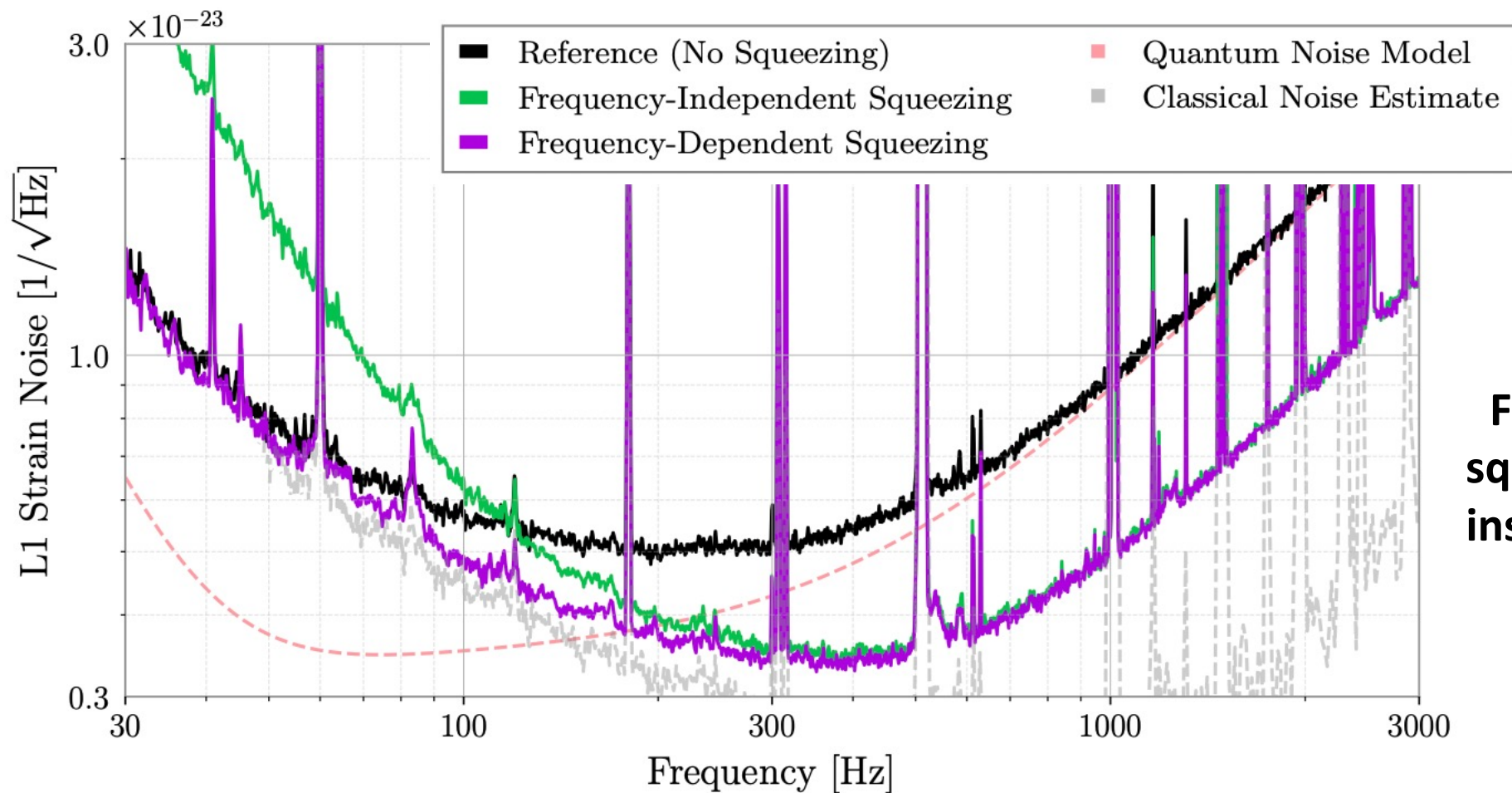
Squeezing allows us to play with the quantum nature of light in our favor

**Frequency-dependent** squeezing allows us to rotate the angle of squeezing

- We can suppress both forms of quantum noise!



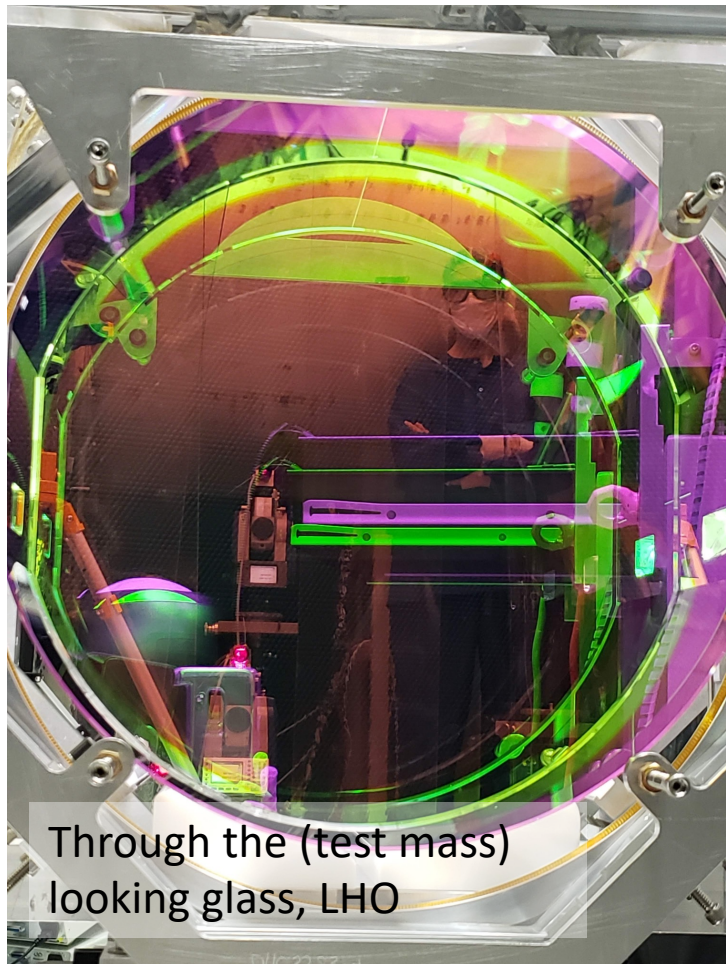
# Benefits of FDS



**Frequency-dependent squeezing increases BNS inspiral range at LIGO by 15-18%!**

Ganapathy et al., Phys. Rev. X 13, 041021

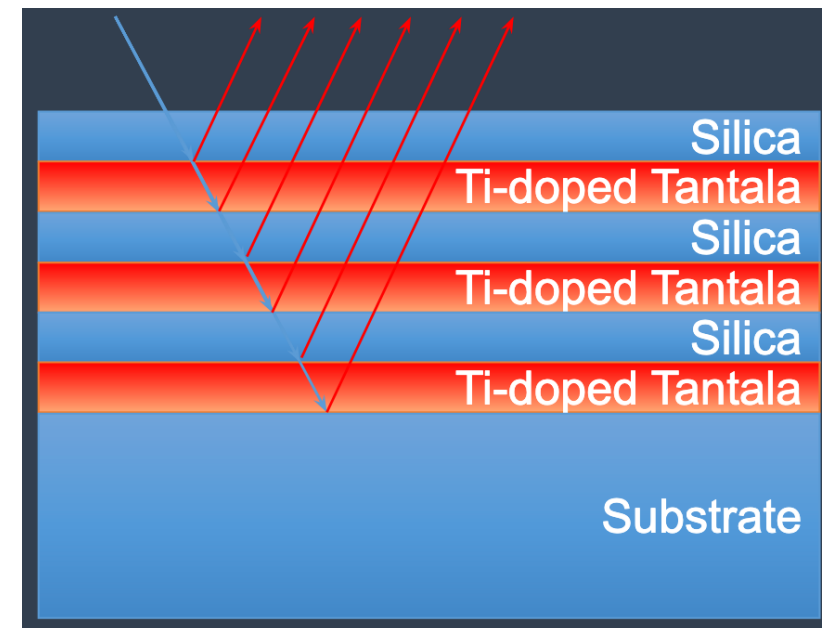
# Coating Thermal Noise



Through the (test mass) looking glass, LHO

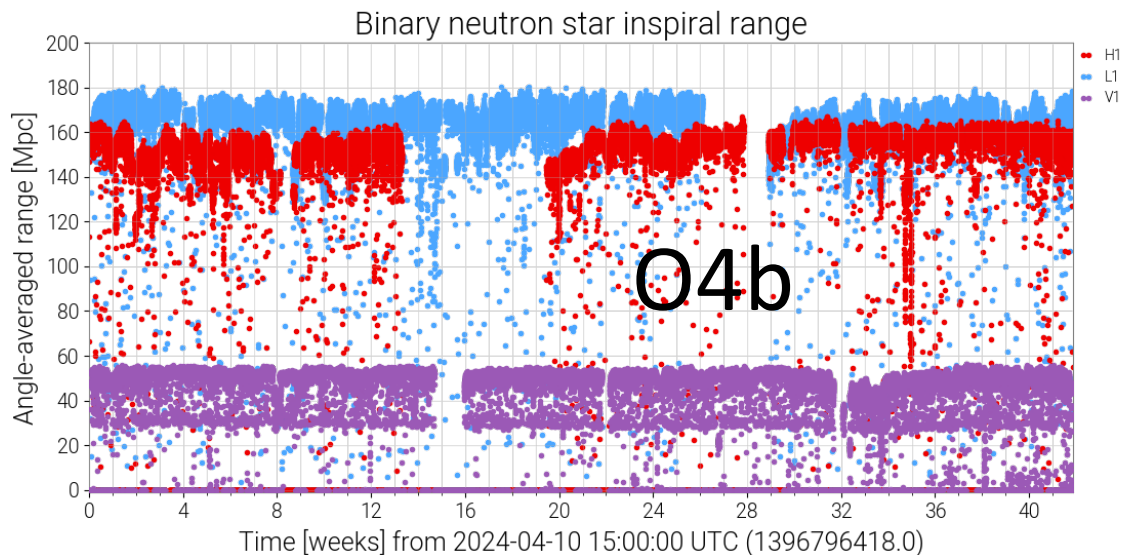
Test mass coatings have stringent requirements for reflectivity, absorption, loss, uniformity

- Brownian motion in the mirror coatings is a significant limiting noise source near 100 Hz
- Future detector sensitivity heavily depends on coating properties!



Ti-doped tantala mechanical loss is 10x greater than silica

Binary neutron star (BNS) range provides a standard sensitivity metric to a **1.4+1.4 solar mass** binary system.



Significant improvement at low frequency increases detector sensitivity to high mass systems

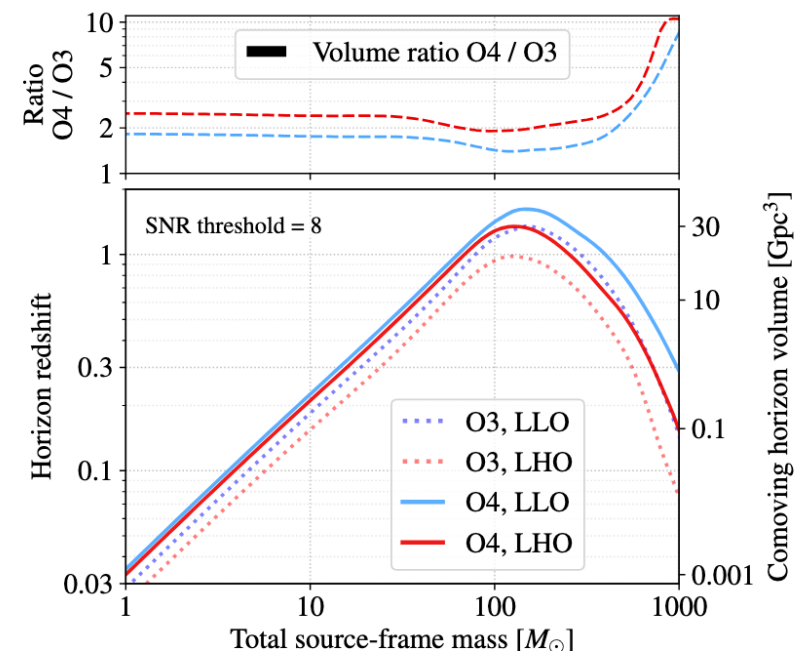


Network duty factor

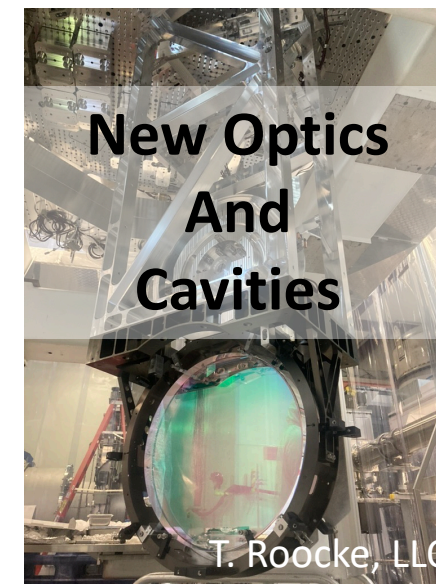
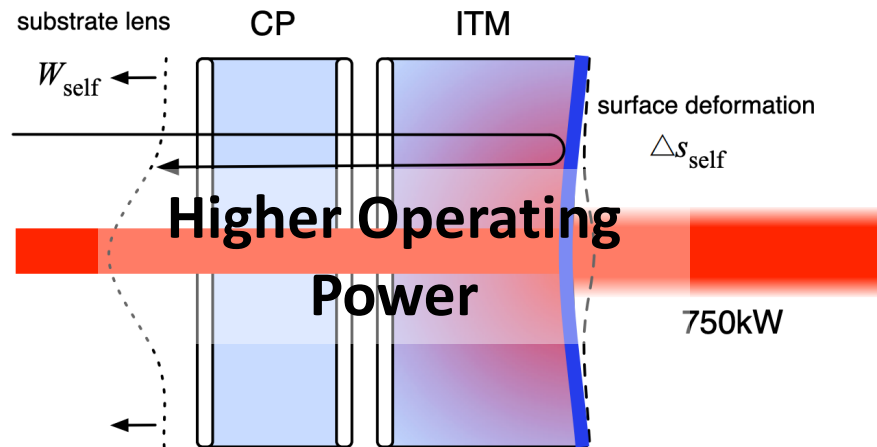
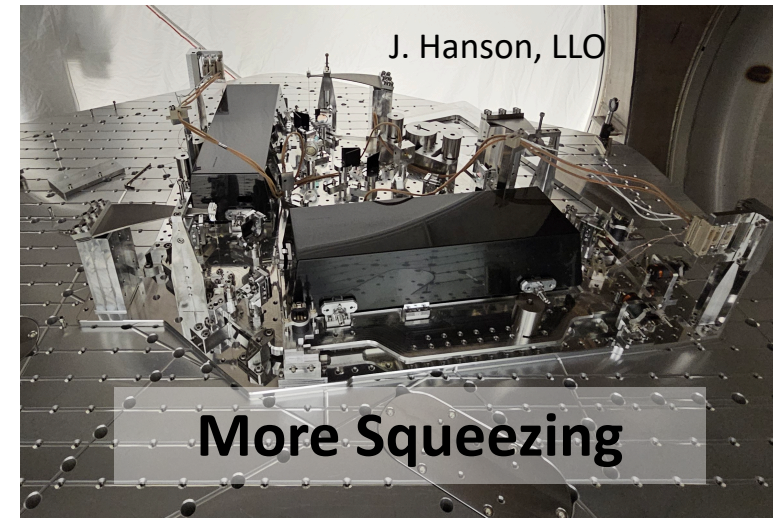
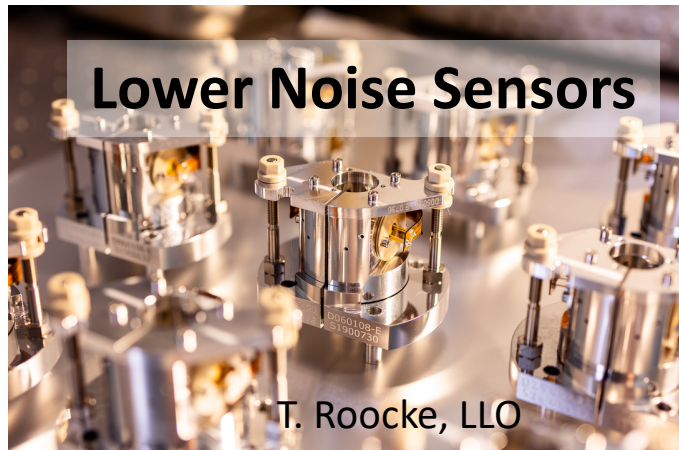
[1396796418-1422118818]

- Triple interferometer [31.1%]
- Double interferometer [36.8%]
- Single interferometer [20.8%]
- No interferometer [11.3%]

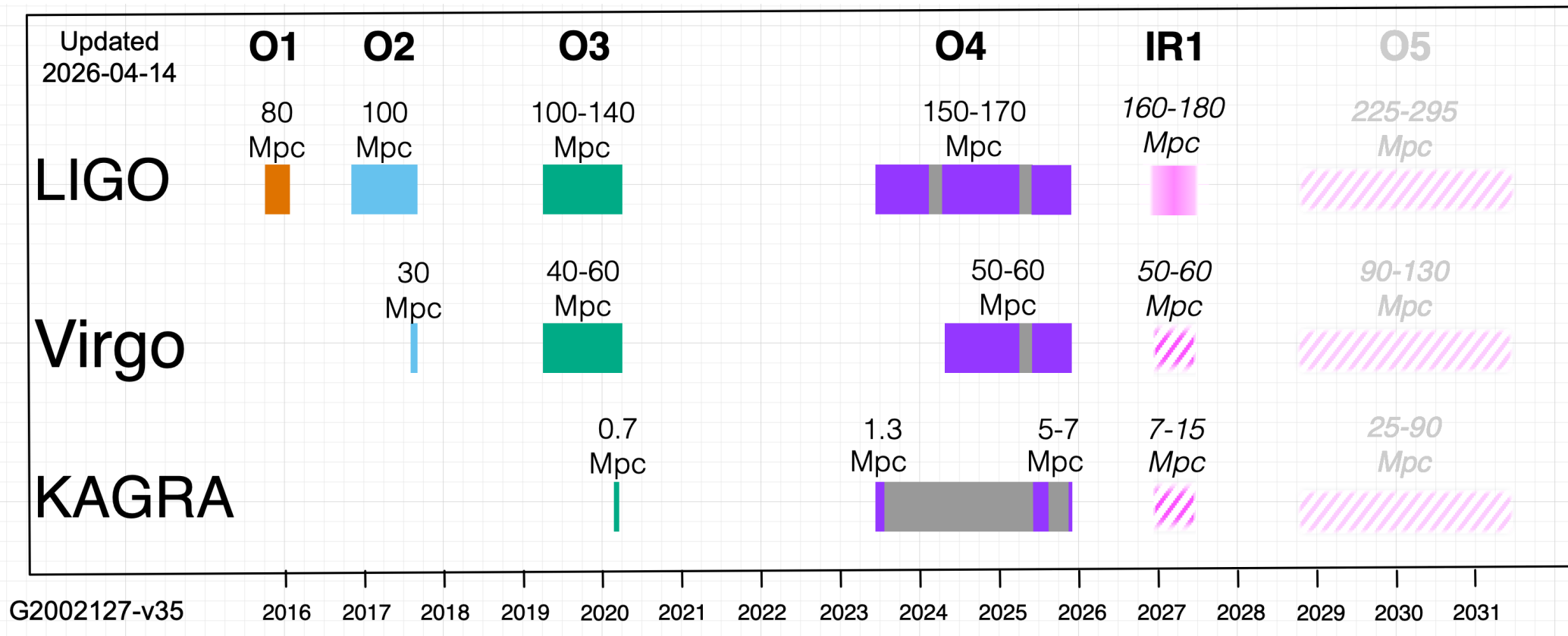
High duty factor is key- we never know when an event will occur



# What's next?



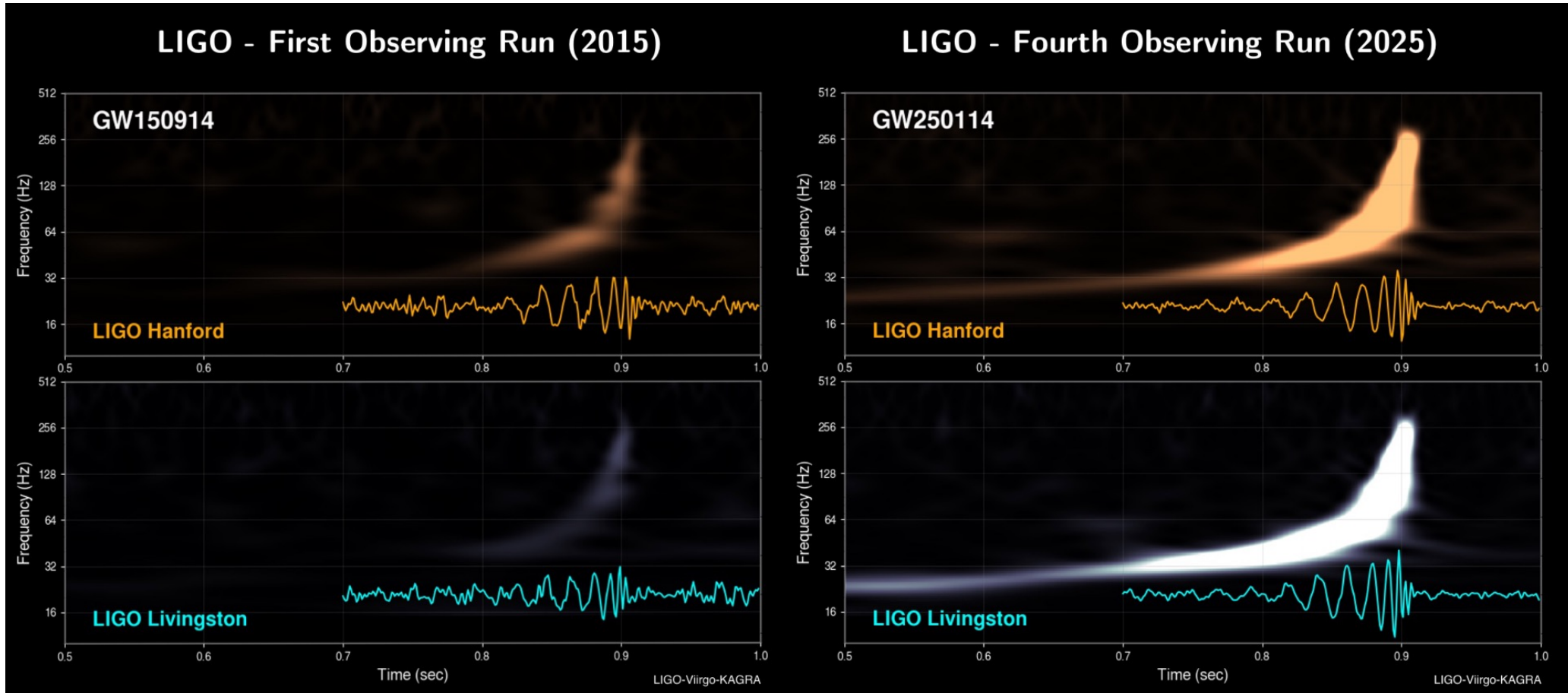
# What's next?



See <https://observing.docs.ligo.org/plan/>



# 10 Years of GW Detection!



D. Davis, University of Rhode Island