The View from NSF





from the top down:

NSF: Arden Bement, NSF Director

MPS: Michael Turner, Assistant Director, MPS

— returning to U of C 4/1/06

PHY: Joe Dehmer, PHY Division Director

Jack Lightbody, PHY Senior Facilities Oversight

Beverly Berger, Gravity Program Director

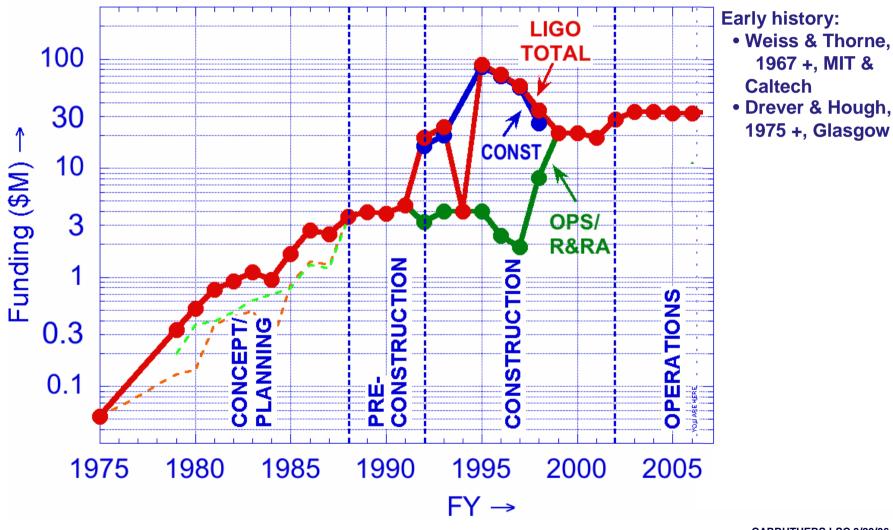
(703) 292-7372, bberger@nsf.gov

Tom Carruthers, LIGO Program Director

703) 292-7373, tcarruth@nsf.gov

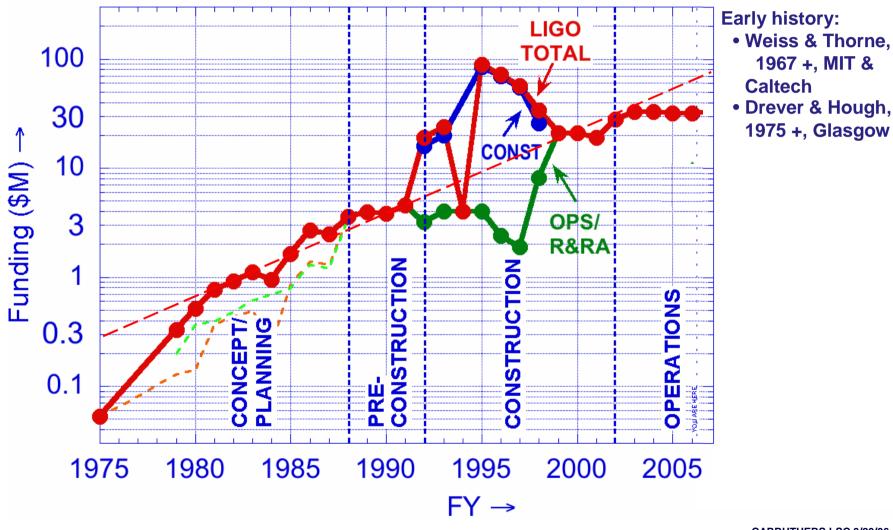
LIGO/AdvLIGO Funding History





LIGO/AdvLIGO Funding History

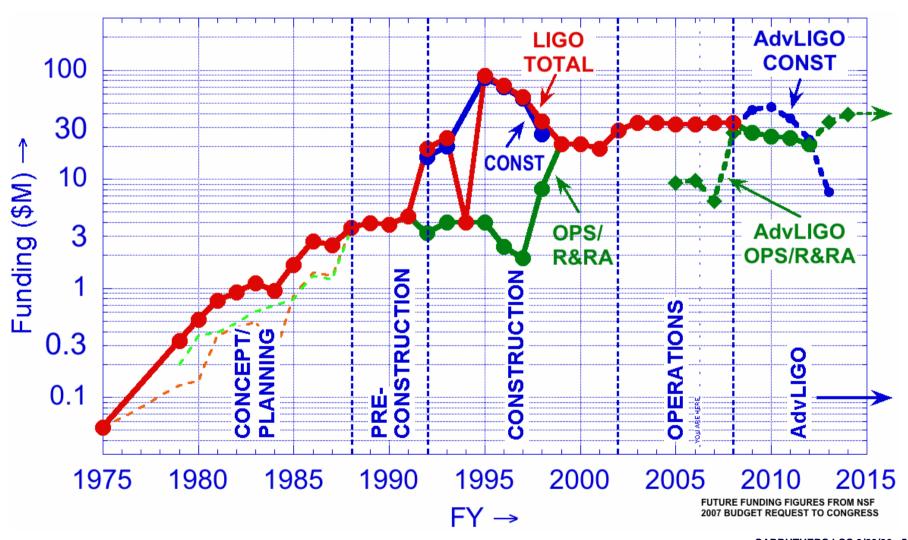




LIGO/AdvLIGO Funding History

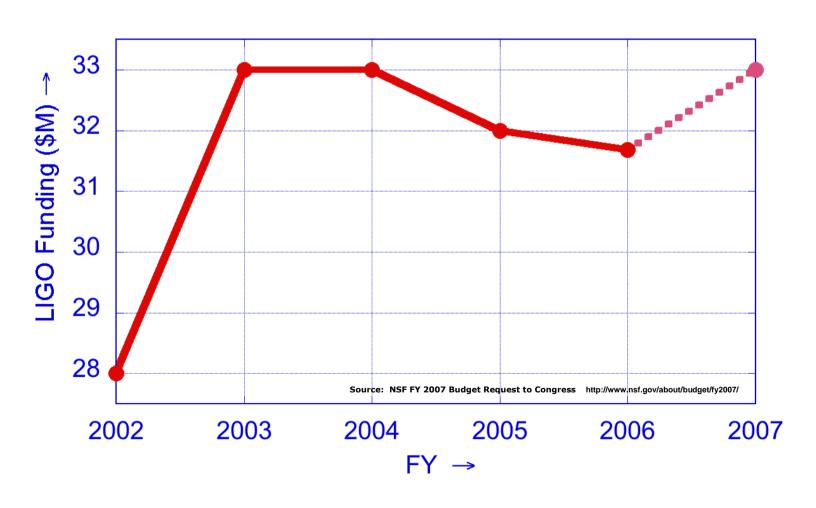
QuickTime" and a TIFF (Uncompressed) decompress are needed to see this picture.

and "Future History"



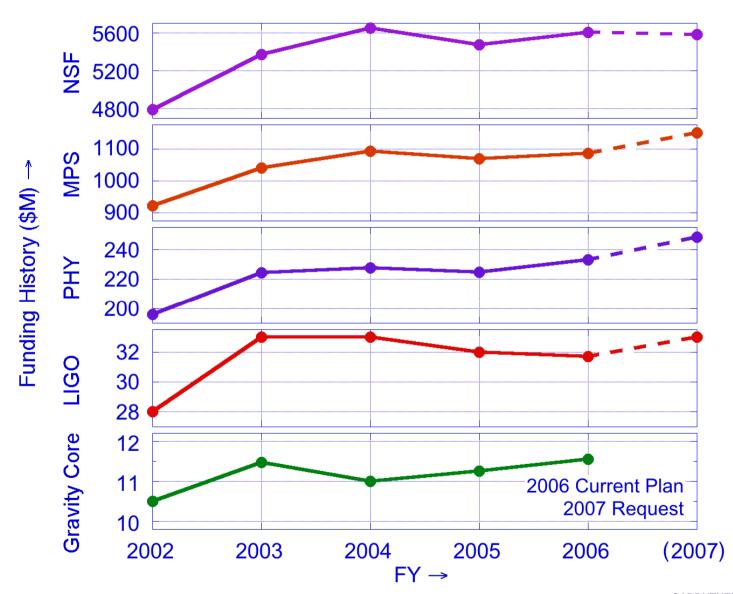
LIGO Funding

Operational Phase, 2002-2007+



NSF Funding





LIGO Funding Extension

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- An annual review was held in November 2005 at Caltech.
 Among the topics considered:
 - Effectiveness of LIGO science and management;
 - Whether a 2-year funding extension should be recommended to continue operations until AdvLIGO begins.
 - Whether recompetition of LIGO's management should be considered.
- The conclusions of the review panel were overwhelmingly positive:

"All three instruments have achieved and slightly surpassed the design requirement for strain sensitivities of 10⁻²¹ rms.... *The Review Panel congratulates LIGO for this remarkable milestone achievement.*"

- The review panel recommended against recompetition.
- This month the National Science Board will consider a request for extension of LIGO funding for FYs 2007–08.

"The timely upgrade of LIGO and execution of the LISA mission are necessary to open this powerful new window on the universe and create the new field of gravitational wave astronomy."

—Physics of the Universe (NSTC, 2004)

In 2004, a review approved the scientific basis for AdvLIGO.

- AdvLIGO is in the FY 2007 Budget Request to Congress for an FY 2008 start.
- On May 31 2 June, a baseline review of the planning for AdvLIGO will be held at MIT.

Cybersecurity

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TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

- Security for all information technology systems, including equipment and information, is the awardee's responsibility.
- Cybersecurity should be a component in annual reviews.

Security Professionals' Conference April 10–12, 2006, Denver CO (20 March deadline) Sponsored by EDUCAUSE

http://www.educause.edu/securityconference

- Best academic security conference
- >400 attendees from academia & gov't



- New version of video is available in 20-, 24-, & 27min versions; "technical" content increases with length
- Videos available here for the sites
 - No copy protection, in public domain make copies!
- Suggest that LIGO Web page link to NSF's streaming version (when it goes up)

Proposal Submissions

http://www.nsf.gov/div/index.jsp?div=PHY

Gravitational Physics

Division of Physics

Gravitational Physics

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DUE DATES "Deadline"

Full Proposal Target Sate: September 27, 2006

It is recommended that proposals come in near the general Physics Division target date, the last Wednesday in September of each year.

SYNOPSIS

Emphasizes the theory of strong gravitational fields and their application to astrophysics and cosmology, computer simulations of strong and gravitational fields, and gravitational radiation; and construction of a quantum theory of gravity. The program oversees the management of the construction, commissioning, and operation of the Laser Interferometer Gravity Wave Observatory (LIGO), and provides support for LIGO users and other experimental investigations in gravitational physics and related areas.

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Gravitational Physics

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Gravitational Physics Program



Scope

- Research related to gravitational waves, including research in support of LIGO;
- Experiments to test gravitational theories;
- Experiments to test particle physics and string theory:
 - equivalence principle violations,
 - deviations from 1/r²;
- Theoretical research in classical and quantum gravity.

Process

- 1. Proposals are sent to LIGO Lab for review (with permission of PI).
- 2. Proposals are sent to mail reviewers and panelists for individual review.
- 3. The panel meets and has access to all the reviews including the LIGO Lab review and PAC report if they have been completed. (The PAC report was late this year.)

Deadline: September 27, 2006

Gravitational Physics Program



Reviews

It is becoming almost impossible to select reviewers who have detailed knowledge of LIGO because most such people have conflicts of interest with the proposers.

- 1. Many reviewers from outside the field would have liked to have seen more background information and details. It might be wise to assume that your proposal will be evaluated primarily by scientists outside the gravitational wave community when you write the Project Description.
- 2. A significant number of reviewers would have liked to have seen some "endorsement" by LIGO (either Lab or Collaboration) within the proposal to be able to judge the importance of the activity to LIGO. While the panel sees the LIGO Lab reviews, the individual reviewers do not. The LSC might wish to think about how to provide this information within the proposal.

Deadline: September 27, 2006