

Research addressing Stochastic Forces

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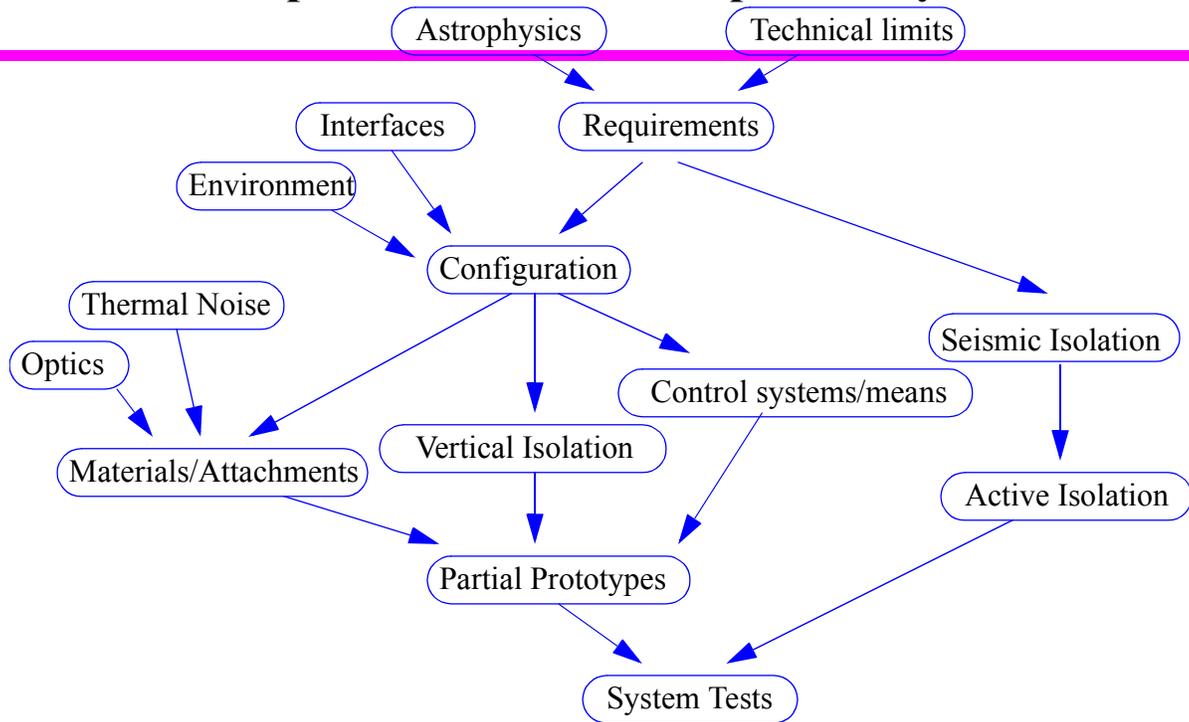
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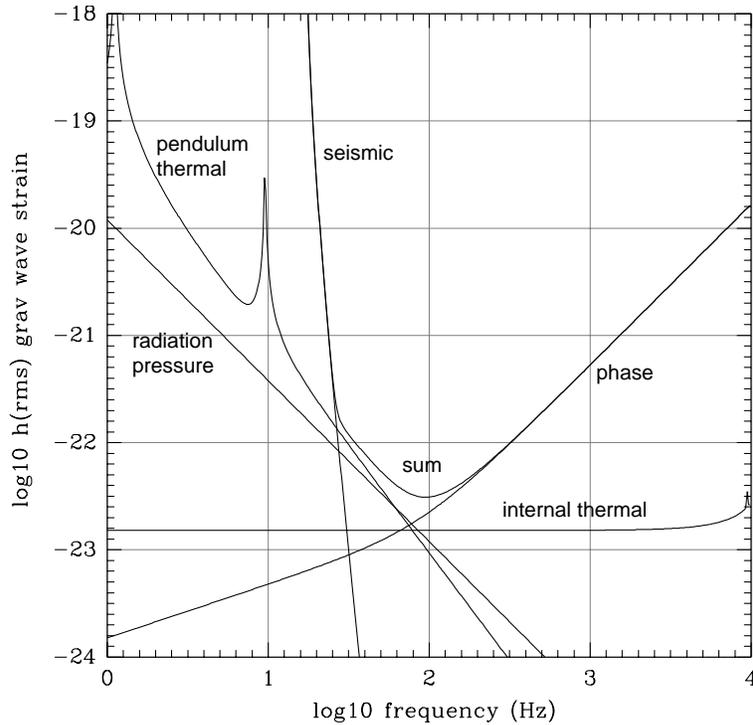
Scope

- thermal noise
- excesses beyond thermal noise
- seismic noise
- control systems

Focus: development of a double suspension system for 2004



Top-level design questions



Requirements

- point of departure: Advanced LIGO sensitivity curve
- individual technical noise sources to be re-estimated

Environment

- site seismic noise: correlations, extrema, stationarity, drifts
- acoustic noise, other couplings found to be important

Interfaces and inter-subsystem trades

- present passive stack; coarse actuators; optics; acquisition

Hardware Isolation/Suspension R&D

Seismic Isolation

- plan to re-use the bulk of present passive isolation system
- development of moderate-bandwidth external system, with possible sensors on stack to allow damping of modes

Control systems and actuators/sensors

- attempt to eliminate actuators on test mass through acquisition cleverness and trades between isolation/suspension system
- if needed, develop electrostatic actuators for test mass

Vertical isolation

- development of moderately-high Q vertical compliant stage for upper of double pendulums

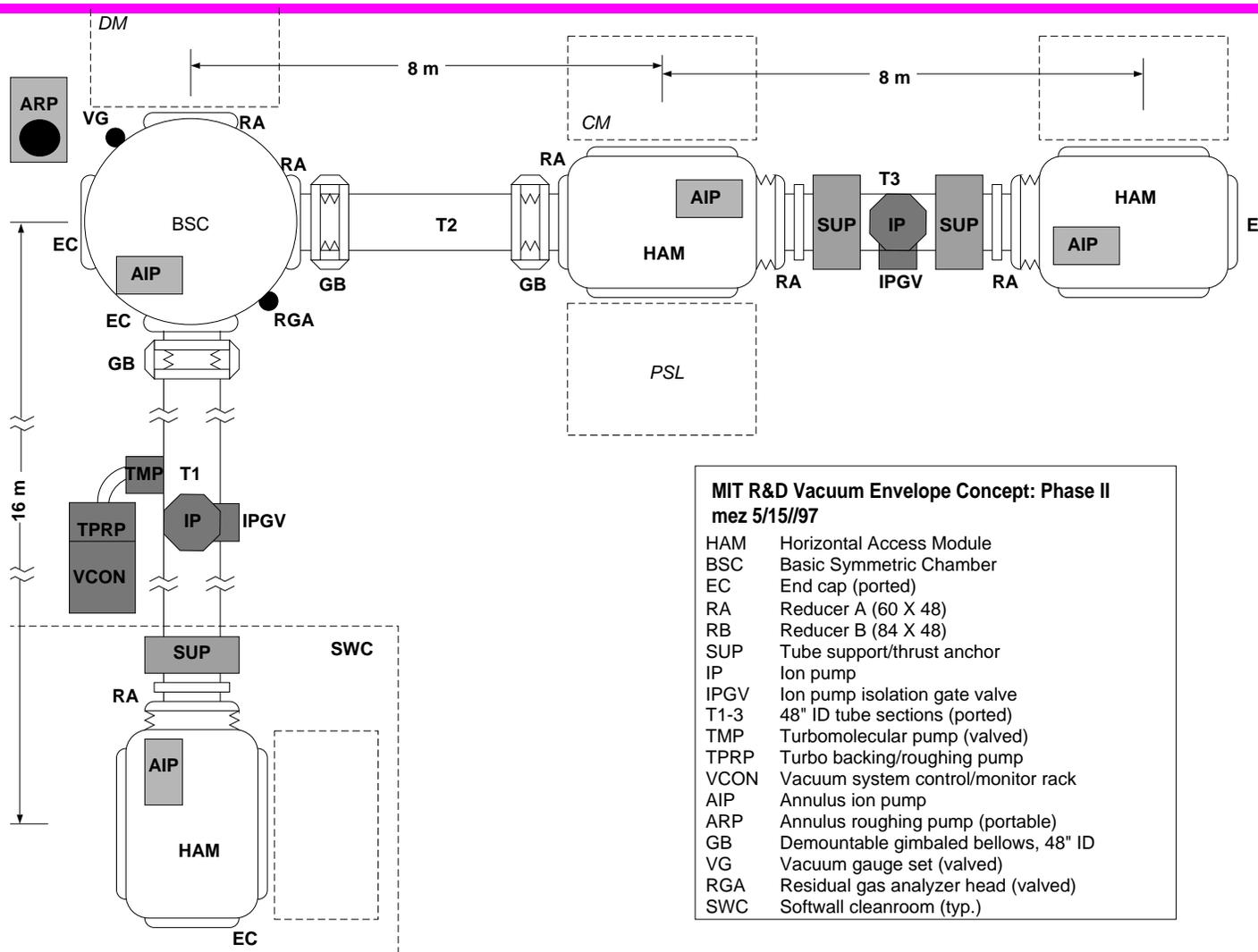
Characterization of LIGO I suspensions

- understand what we wish to do differently
- understand realities of cross-couplings, interaction with other systems

Configuration: Spring '99

- prototype test output plus modeling as input
- input from all LSC partners crucial

System tests



LIGO/Community facility for end-to-end full-scale testing

- tests of isolation/suspension systems, thermal noise strategies
- final qualification of such systems prior to LIGO site installation
- flexible envelope, also for optics studies
- fully operational in '99, for testing of double suspension system

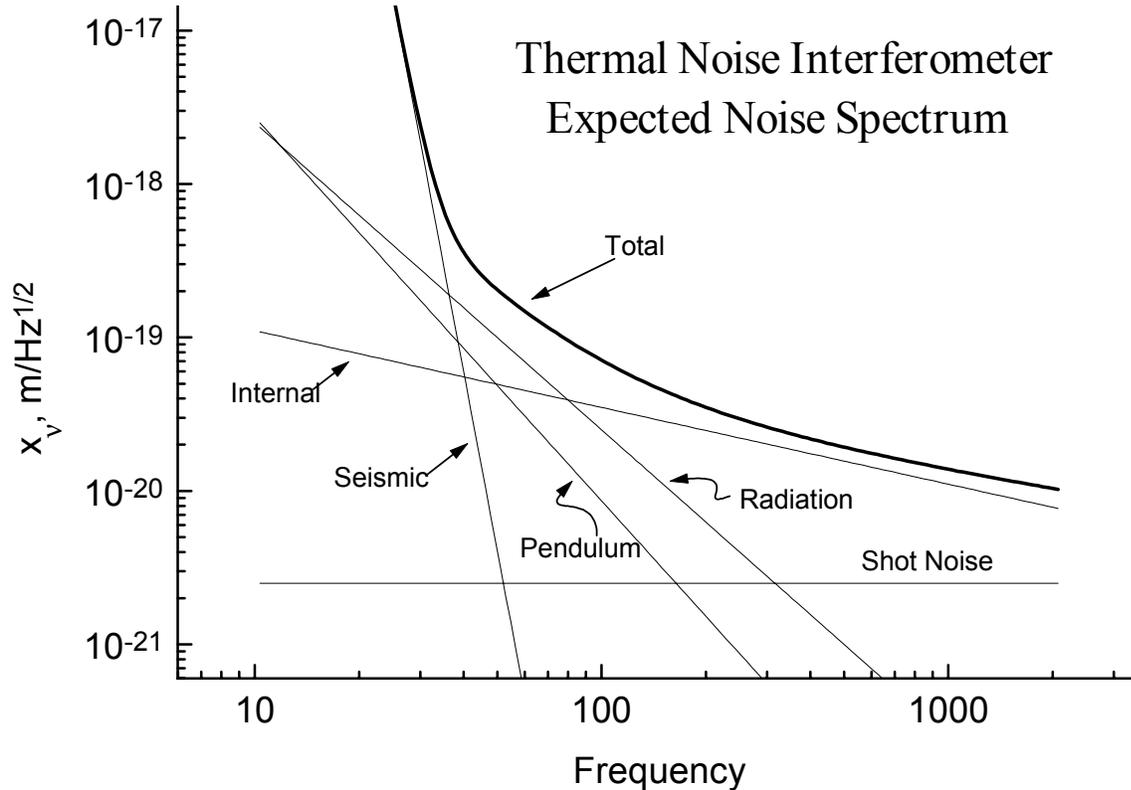
Thermal Noise research

Development of fused-silica-fiber pulling technology

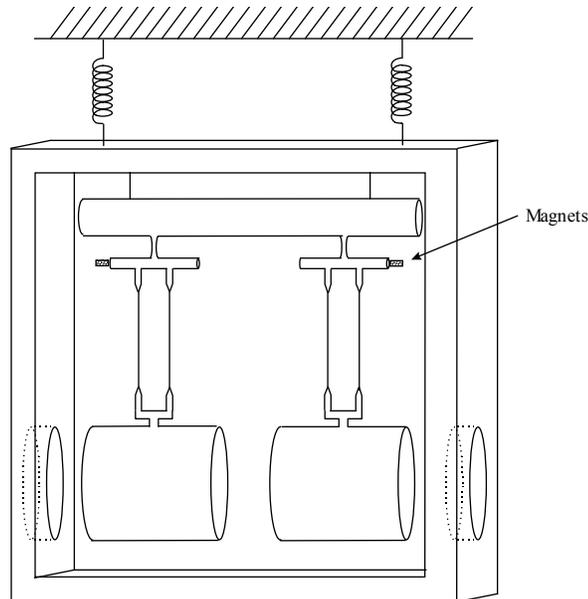
- acquisition and ‘tuning’ of commercial system
- tests of Q and strength

Direct measurement of thermal/excess noise

- special-purpose Thermal Noise Interferometer
- focussed on internal thermal noise of substrates



Thermal Noise Interferometer



Configuration

- short measurement cavity, long reference cavity
- LIGO passive stack
- common-mode mounting of test masses

Timeline

- in construction; to use parts of present MIT envelope, isolation
- operational early-summer 98, sensitive measurements mid-99