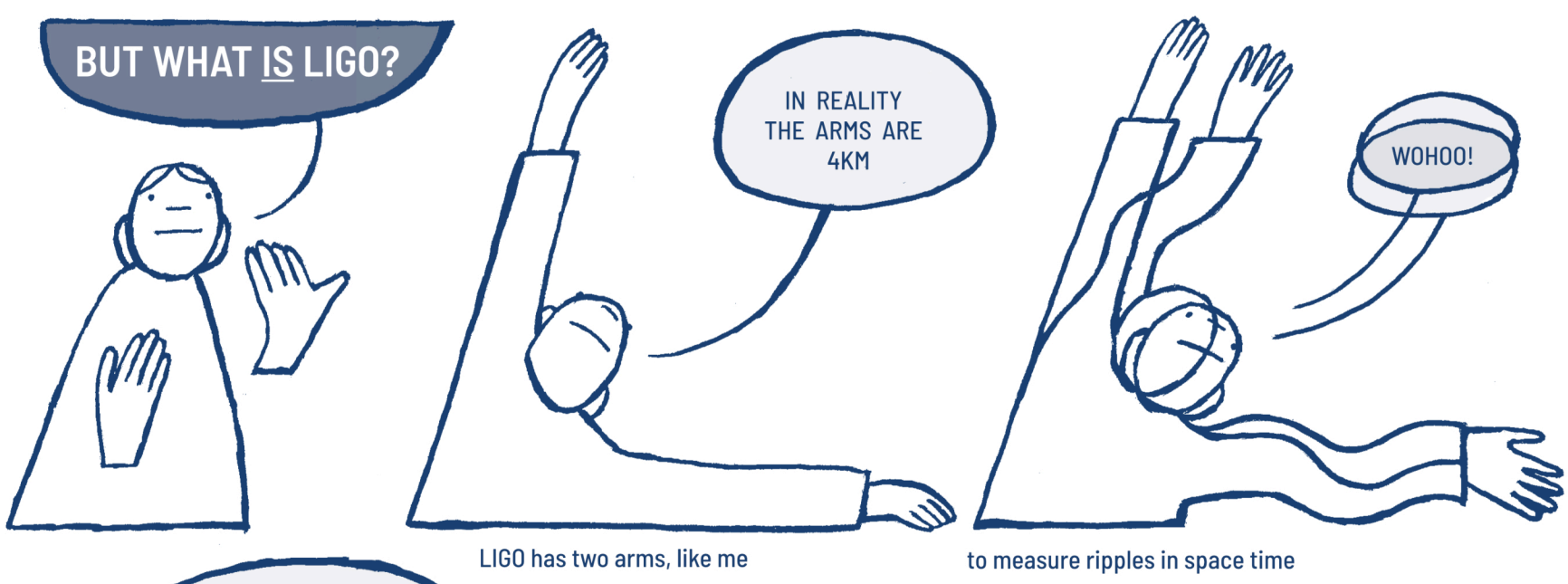
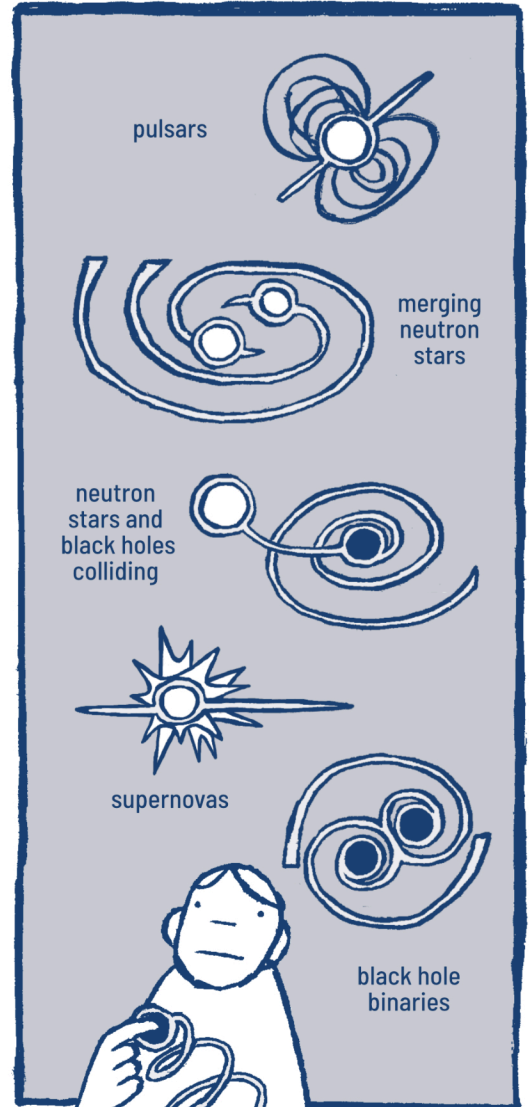


BUT WHAT IS LIGO?

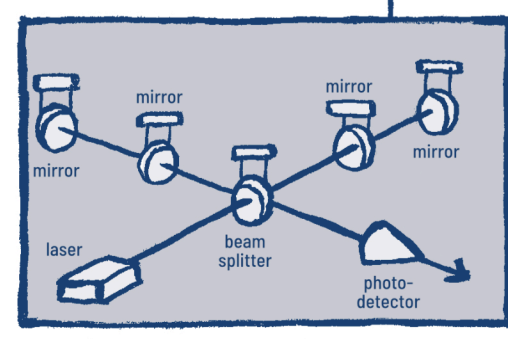
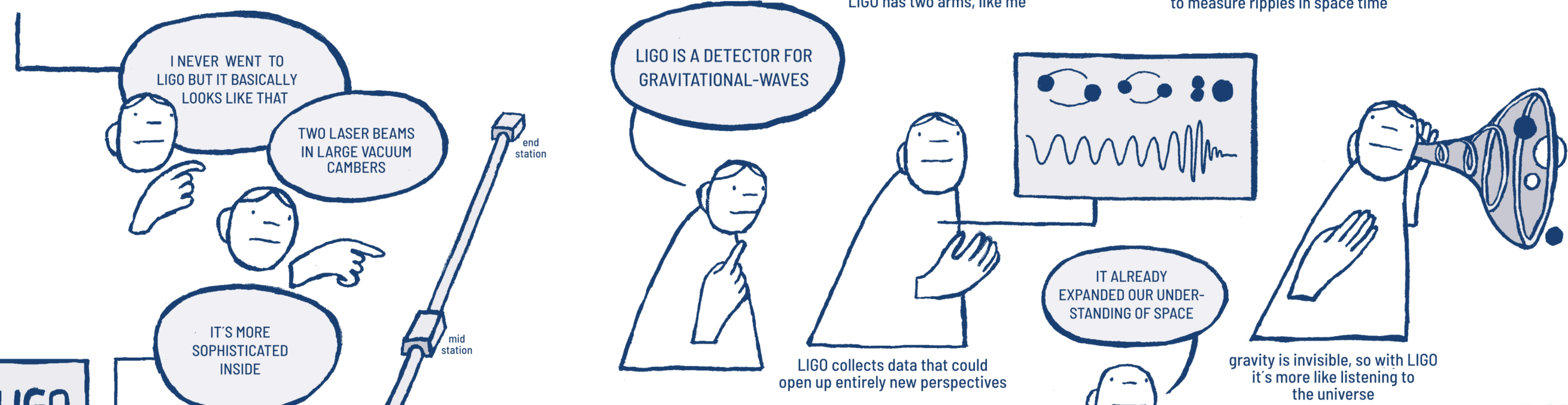


more precisely: to measure gravitational-waves from cataclysmic cosmic events



- L** is for "laser"
- I** is for "interferometer"
- G** is for "gravitational-wave"
- O** is for "observatory"

LIGO IS A DETECTOR FOR GRAVITATIONAL-WAVES



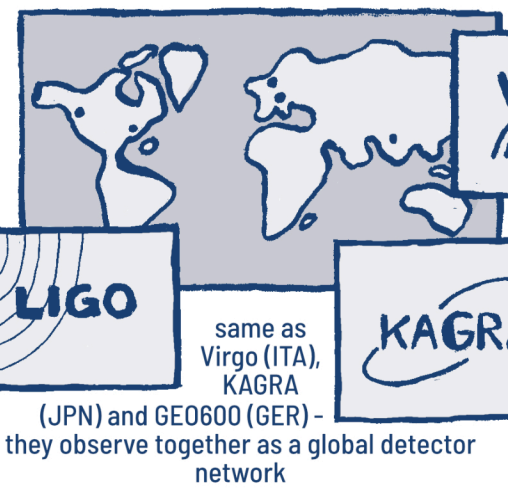
THE FIRST EVER SIGNAL WAS RECEIVED RIGHT BEFORE THE START OF THE FIRST OBSERVATION RUN IN 2015 DURING AN ENGINEERING TEST

GW150914

this is me, visualizing a compact object falling onto a black hole

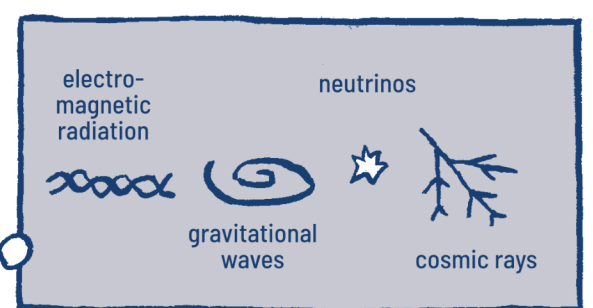
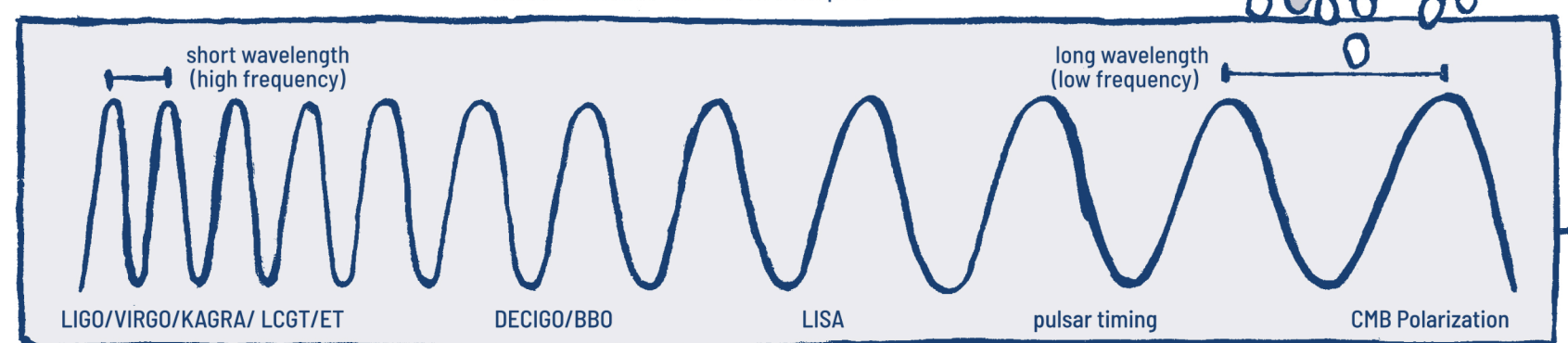
LIGO WAS FOUNDED IN 1992 - EVEN THOUGH THE IDEAS DATE BACK TO THE 1970s

THANKS TO MANY PEOPLE, THE FIRST MEASUREMENT PERIOD STARTED IN 2002



SINCE 2015 IT'S BEEN RUNNING IN AN OPTIMIZED VERSION: ADVANCED LIGO

A is for "advanced"



and an ever growing international community called "LIGO-VIRGO-KAGRA Collaboration"

after numerous checks it was confirmed: this was the first measurement of a gravitational-wave!

THERE WAS ALSO A NOBEL PRIZE

Kip Thorne
Barry Barish
Rainer Weiss

AND A LOT OF MEDIA ATTENTION

ALL OF THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING OF A WHOLE NEW ERA

THERE IS STILL A LOT COMING UP

THIS IS THE COORDINATED OBSERVATION AND INTERPRETATION OF MULTIPLE SIGNALS FROM THE SAME ASTRONOMICAL EVENT

moreover LIGO is part of the so-called multi-messenger astronomy

so keep up with LIGO news at <https://ligo.org/> and <https://www.ligo.caltech.edu/>

