



Improving Low-frequency sensitivity of GW detectors: A new compact seismic attenuation system for the Einstein Telescope

MUR PRIN ET

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BHETSA Black Holes for ET in SArdinia





The era of gravitational waves



Credits: Caltech/MIT/LIGO Lab

















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ABINE DICULIANTS

LF science cases: high-mass black holes

- Black hole physics
 - High-mass binary black holes ∝ f⁻¹
 - $M_{obs} = (1+z)M_{src} \rightarrow high-z black holes$
 - Higher Signal-to-noise ratio
 - Characterize the BH population





Maggiore et al, 2020, JCAP, 03, 50



LF science case: close encounters

Main Features

- Hints of a dynamical formation channel
- N-body interactions
- F-modes excitations in neutron stars: EoS studies
- Single or multi-burst expected emission

De Santi et al 2024, 109,102004





- New methods for CE: Deep Learning
 - Normalizing Flows for fast parameter estimation
 - From 10h (5x10³ samples) to 0.5s (5x10⁴ samples)
 - More details in De Santi et al PRD,109,102044, (2024)

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LF science case: BNS early warning

• Early warning

- Time to coalescence increase with lower frequencies
- Better waveform measurement and parameter estimation
- Prealert → Enabling real-time/simultaneous electromagnetic observations





LF science case: pulsars

Isolated neutron stars

- Expected continuous, periodic GW emission (not yet detected!)
- Depending on asymmetries in the neutron star structure
- f_{GW} at twice the neutron star spin frequency





Low frequencies and ET



Main Components

- Micro seismic noise
- Gravity gradient (Newtonian Noise)
- Control noise
- Residual noise

Newtonian noise crossing point 2x10⁻²² Hz^{-1/2} @1.8 Hz (3.2Hz@AdVirgo)

Maggiore et al, 2020, JCAP, 03, 50

- ET seismic attenuation system
 - Baseline design: 17m high
 - Superattenuator concept like Virgo
 - →Reducing height will reduce excavation costs



ET Conceptual Study, 2011



The SuperAttenuator concept

• Key ideas

- Implement passive attenuation
- Active attenuation to damp resonances
- Sensing and control to mantain components in working point

Virgo superattenuator

- Inverted Pendulum as pre-isolator
- Standard filters
- Payload
- Normal mode resonance frequencies < 2 Hz
- Total height 8.66 m



Accadia et al 2012, CQG



The inverted Pendulum





Recap in Inverted Pendulum

- Acting as gravity antispring
- System very soft, low forces to move

 $F \cong M\omega_0^2 x$

Accadia et al, 2012, RSI,82,094502

Losurdo et al, 1999, RSI,70,2507

Main components

- Three 6-m hollow legs
- Top ring + Filter 0
- Horizontal normal modes tuned at 30-40 mHz
- Filter 0 equipped with sensors and actuators to damp resonances





Standard Filters

• Main Body

- Rigid, drum-like structure
- A moving part, attached to lower stages
- Vertical attenuation by cantilever triangular blades+magnetic antispring







The Pendulum Inverted Pendulum

• Key Ideas

- Seismic attenuation in a compact space
- Fold a Inverted Pendulum+Pendulum
- System is stable if k stiff

• 11: 1.544, # Pendulum length\
• 12: 0.520, # IP length\
• T1: 2551.0, # Pendulum tension\
• T2: 1766.0, # IP compression\
• m1: 80.0, # Pendulum mass\
• m2: 80.0, # Filter mass\
• m3: 100.0, # Load\
• I1s: 20.0, # Pendulum moment of inertia \
• I2s: 0.8, # IP moment of inertia\
• k: 1700.0, # flex joint elastic constant\

θ m_2 κθ 12 m_1 m_3 θ_1 X₁ X_2

F. Fidecaro, @GWADW2022

Normal modes @ 0.68Hz and 0.74Hz



Attenuation Factor

Horizontal Attenuation

$$A_{f0} = (\frac{f_0^2}{f^2 - f_0^2})^2$$

For
$$f_0 = 0.75$$
Hz:

# of PIPs	Attenuation @2 Hz
1	2.7x10 ⁻²
2	7.2x10 ⁻⁴
3	1.9x10 ⁻⁵

Required Attenuation For ET $\approx 5 \times 10^{-5}$

CU

150

Ca

F. Fidecaro,@GWADW2022







First Characterizations

• First Prototype

- First components built and tested at INFN-Pisa Lab
- Characterized PIP inverted pendulum legs
- LVDT sensors on top and bottom of the legs
- Study transfer function and resonances
- Full PIP under test



Counterweights





Conclusions

Low frequency Science Cases

- High-mass black holes (hints: GW190426_190642)
- Multi-messenger opportunities and early warning (GW170817)
- Other interesting sources (pulsars, encounters,...)

New ideas for seismic attenuation

- Passive+active approach
- Elaborate on SuperAttenuator concept
- Compact Filter based on Pendulum Inverted Pendulum
- R&D supported by the project Black Holes for ET in Sardinia (BHETSA), funded by the PRIN2020 call. More details on http://bhetsa.df.unipi.it/
- PIP Construction and test has been done
- Not just simulations...





