

# Modelling gravity fluctuations underground above 10mHz

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# Why do we care?

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## Gravity fluctuations above 10mHz have never been observed:

- Sensitivity of gravimeters is (ultimately) limited by seismic noise
- GW detectors are not yet sensitive enough

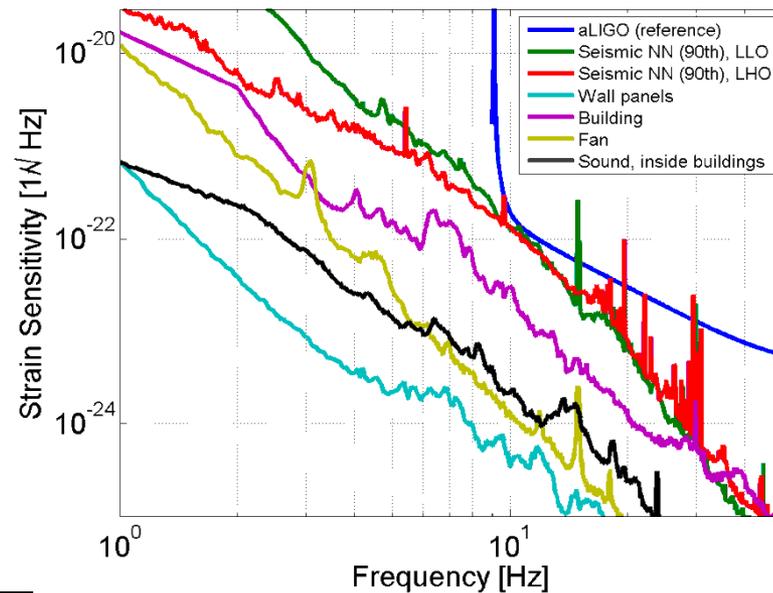
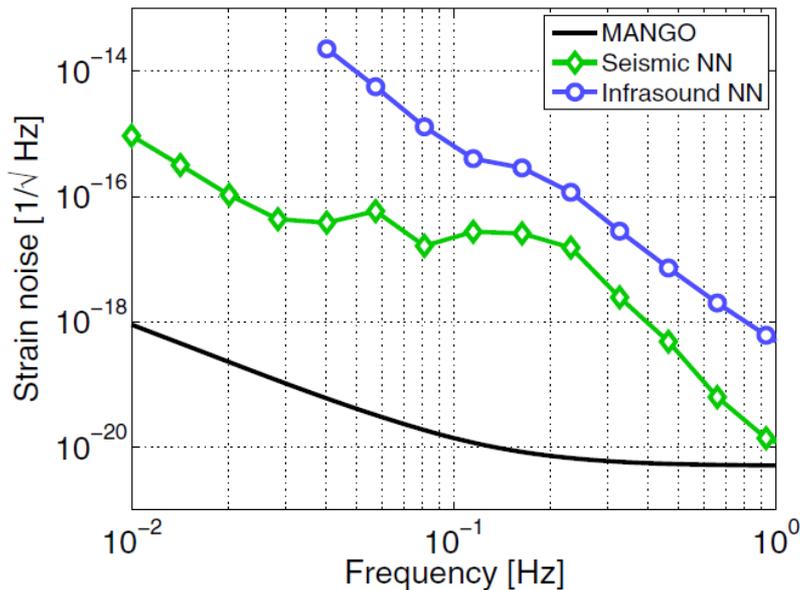
## Terrestrial gravity fluctuations above 10mHz will become relevant since:

- Future generations of gravity gradiometers will observe terrestrial gravity fluctuations up to a few Hz
- Sensitivity of GW detectors will be limited by terrestrial gravity noise

Underground laboratories promise significant reduction of gravity background noise.

Ground-based GW detection below 1 Hz would require extreme reduction of gravity-noise foreground.

Advanced detectors will already be limited by gravity noise at seismically loud times.



PHYSICAL REVIEW D **88**, 122003 (2013)

### Low-frequency terrestrial gravitational-wave detectors

Jan Harms,<sup>1</sup> Bram J. J. Slagmolen,<sup>2</sup> Rana X. Adhikari,<sup>3</sup> M. Coleman Miller,<sup>4,5</sup> Matthew Evans,<sup>6</sup>  
Yanbei Chen,<sup>7</sup> Holger Müller,<sup>8</sup> and Masaki Ando<sup>9,10</sup>

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **86**, 102001 (2012)

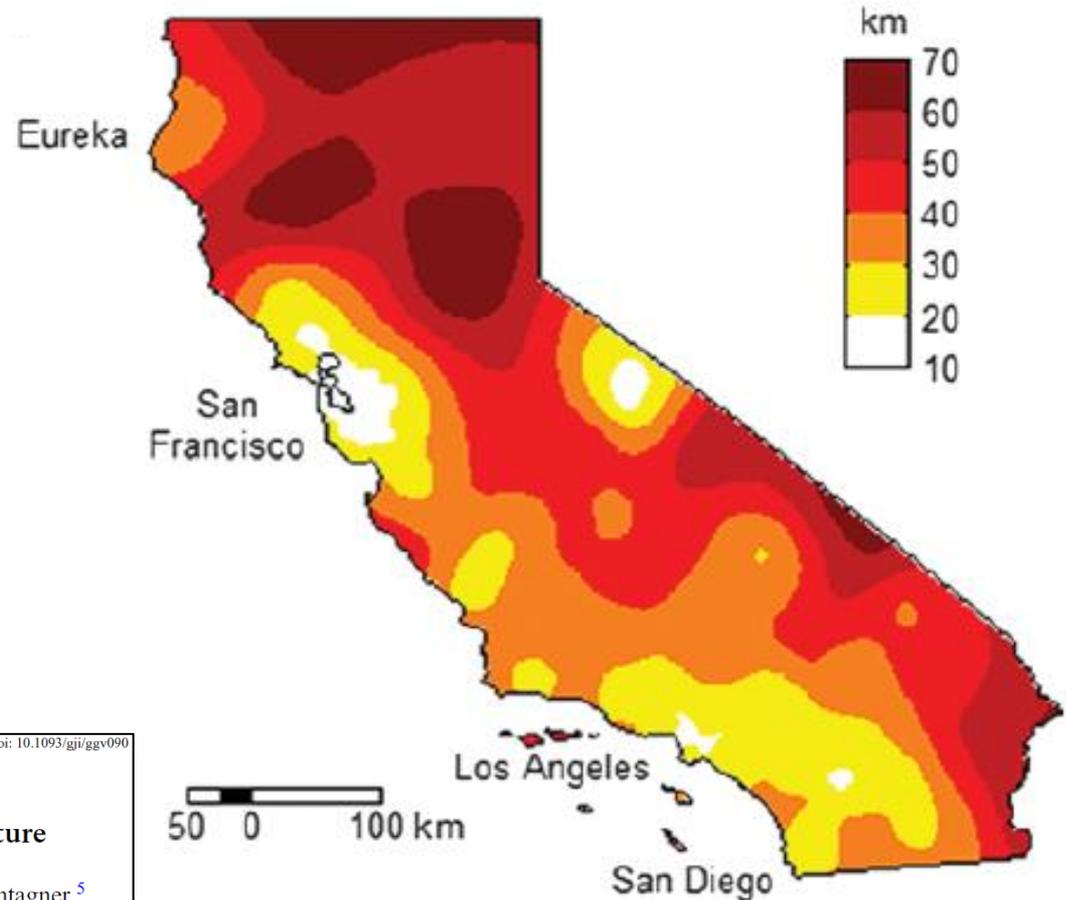
### Subtraction of Newtonian noise using optimized sensor arrays

Jennifer C. Driggers, Jan Harms, and Rana X. Adhikari

# Light-Speed Seismology: Earthquake Early Warning

- **Blind zone** = region close to the earthquake epicenter where damaging waves arrive before the warning is declared by a network-based EEWS
- Goal: develop new generation of **gravity gradiometers** to reduce size of blind zones

Blind zone size in California (Kuyuk and Allen, 2013)



*Geophys. J. Int.* (2015) 201, 1416–1425  
GJI Gravity, geodesy and tides

doi: 10.1093/gji/ggv090

Transient gravity perturbations induced by earthquake rupture

J. Harms,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> J.-P. Ampuero,<sup>3</sup> M. Barsuglia,<sup>4</sup> E. Chassande-Mottin,<sup>4</sup> J.-P. Montagner,<sup>5</sup>  
S. N. Somala<sup>3</sup> and B. F. Whiting<sup>4,6</sup>

# Modelled Sources

Gravity models developed so far are summarized in:

**“Terrestrial Gravity Fluctuations”**  
[arxiv.org/abs/1507.05850](https://arxiv.org/abs/1507.05850)

## Effects:

- Reflection of seismic waves from surface (flat or rough)
- Scattering of seismic waves from cavities
- Reflection of infrasound waves from surface (flat or rough)

## Sources:

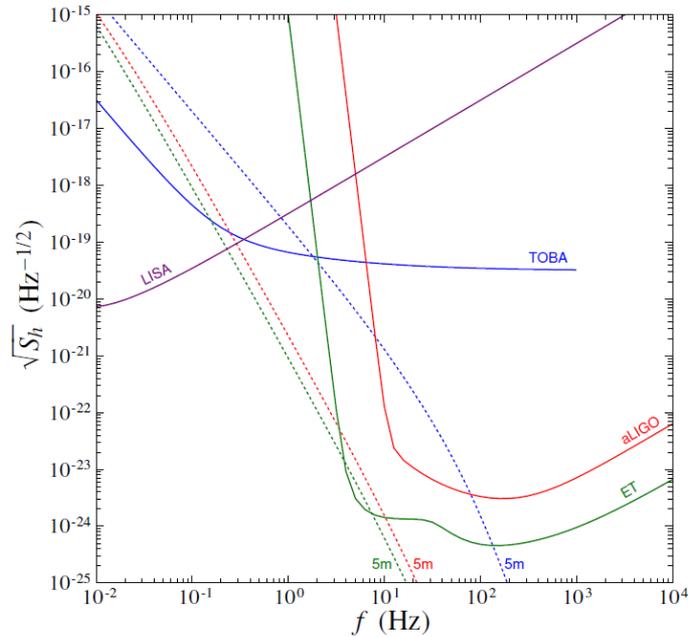
- Seismic fields (surface, body)
- Seismic point sources (force, double couple)
- Lighthill process (turbulent sound generation)
- Advected field of temperature perturbations
- Infrasound field
- Oscillations, translations, rotations of arbitrary bodies
- Shock waves

# Gravity Noise Reduction Underground

## Gravity noise from sound waves

$$\delta\phi(\vec{r}_0, t) = 4\pi \frac{G\rho_0}{\gamma\rho_0} e^{i(\omega t - \vec{k}_e \cdot \vec{\rho}_0)} \left( e^{-k_e |z_0|} \right) \frac{\delta p(\omega)}{k^2}$$

Exponential  
suppression



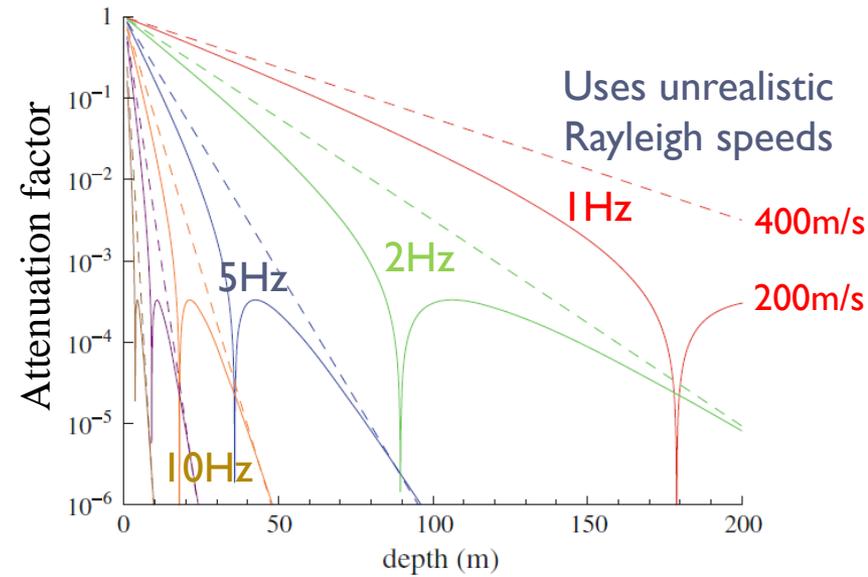
Creighton, GWADW 2015

## Gravity noise from Rayleigh waves

$$\delta\phi_{\text{surf}}(\vec{r}_0, t) + \delta\phi_{\text{bulk}}(\vec{r}_0, t) = 2\pi G\rho_0 A e^{i(\vec{k}_e \cdot \vec{\rho}_0 - \omega t)} \left( -2e^{-hq_z^P} \right) + (1 + \zeta(k_\rho)) e^{-hk_\rho}$$

Evanescent wave
Surface displacement

Two examples



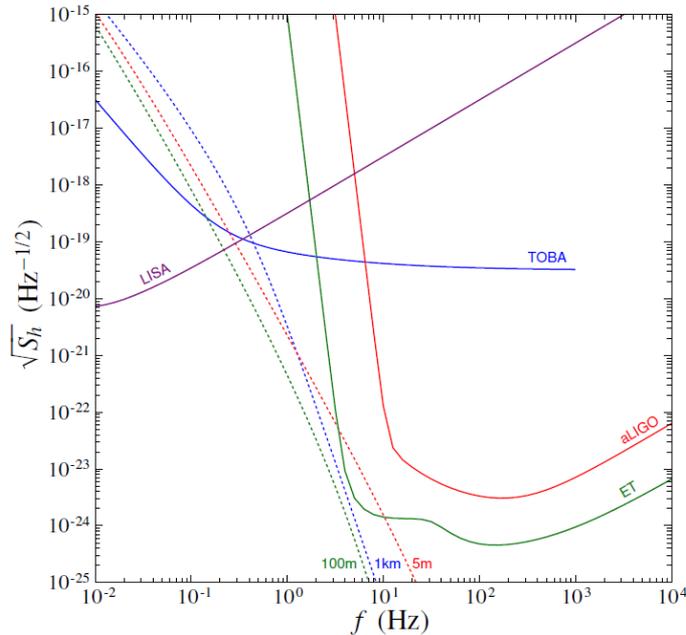
Beker et al, 2011

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Creighton, GWADW 2015

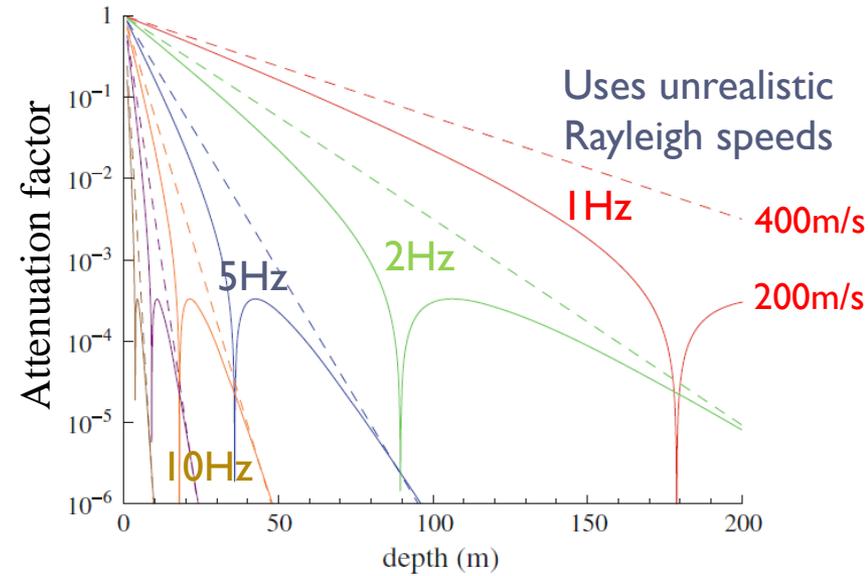
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Evanescent  
wave

Surface  
displacement

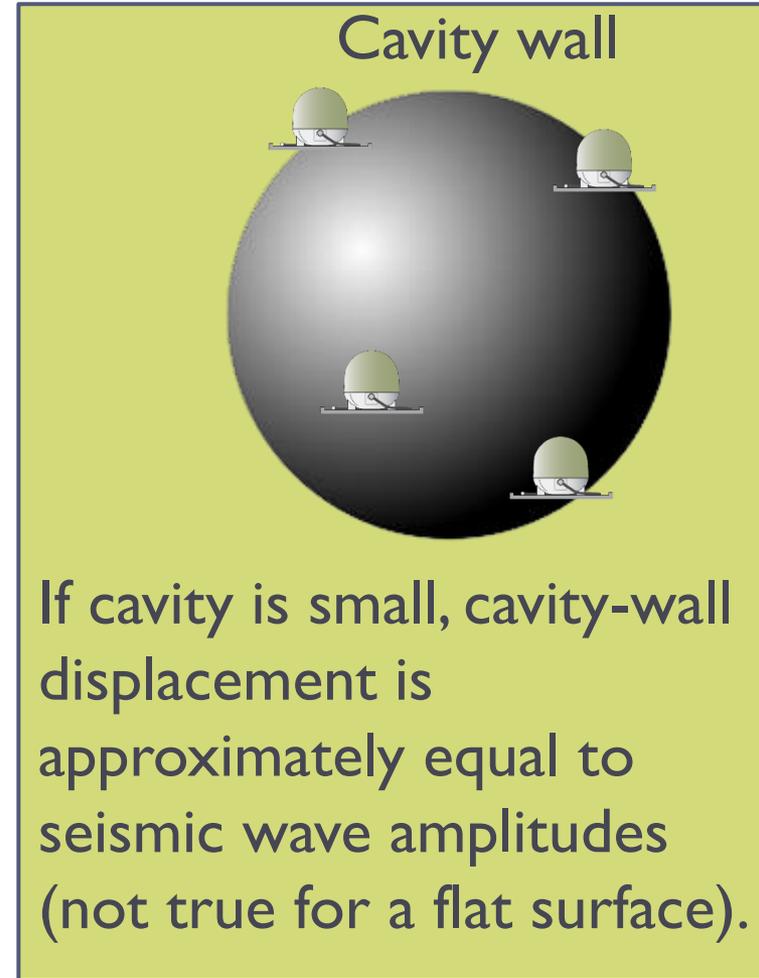
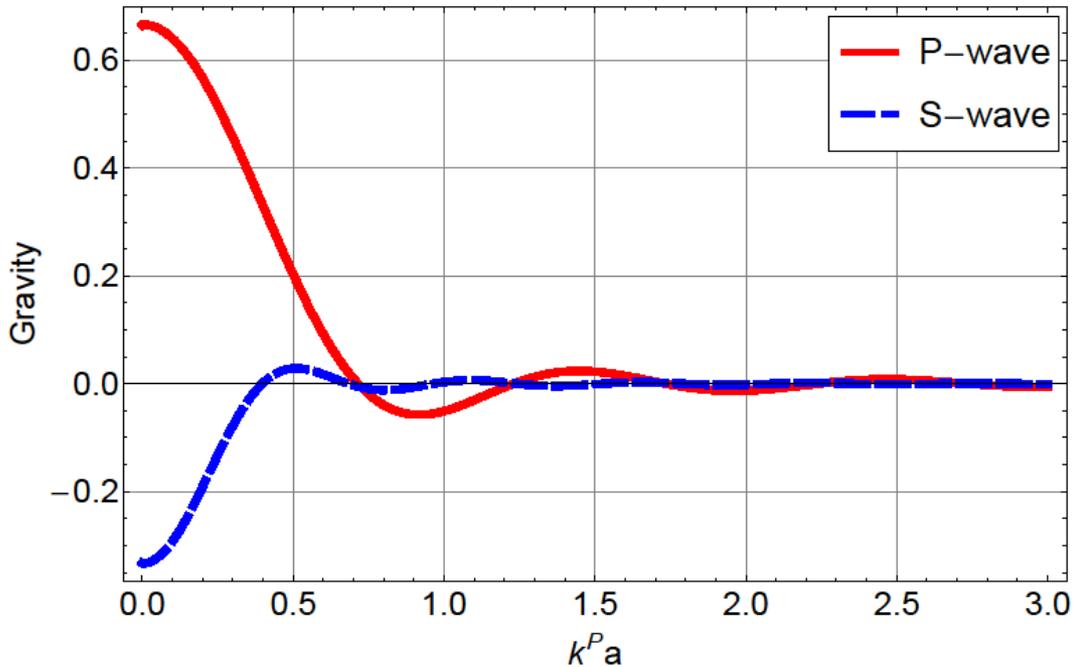
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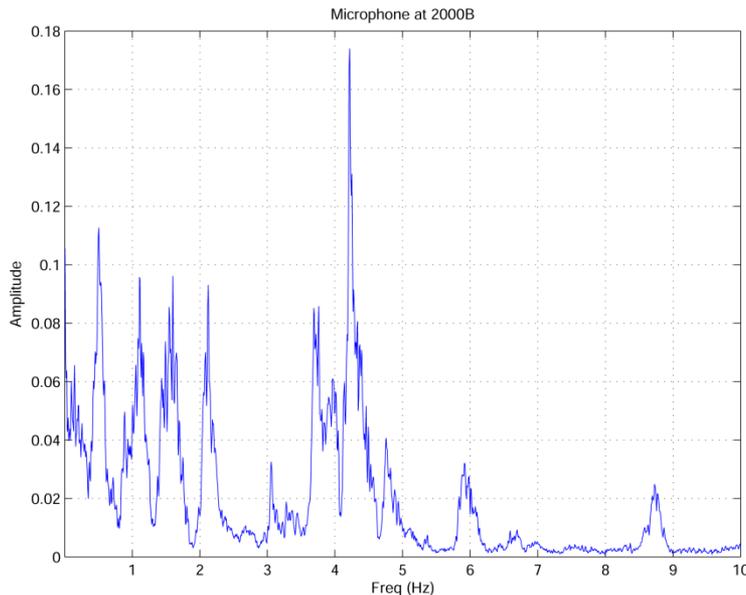
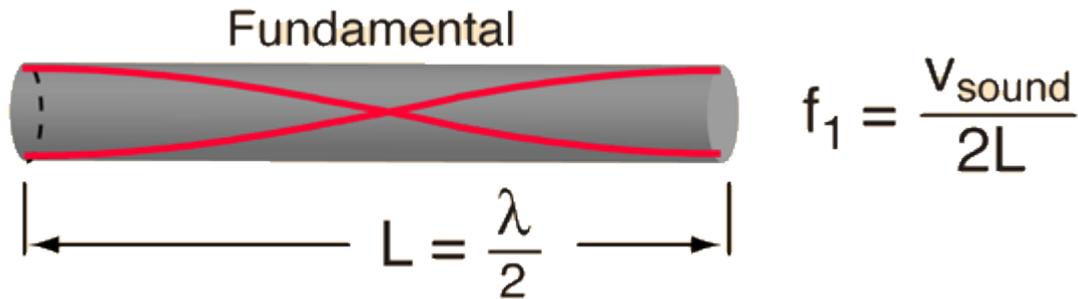
Beker et al, 2011

# Underground Effects: Seismic

Cavities have to be extremely large to have a suppressing effect on gravity perturbations from seismic fields.

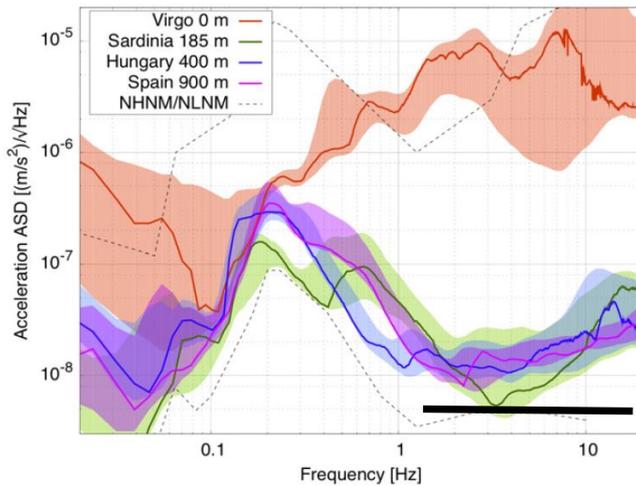


# Underground Effects: Sound



Infrasound measurements at the Sanford Underground Research Facility (South Dakota) have clearly shown several resonances in the Newtonian-noise band.

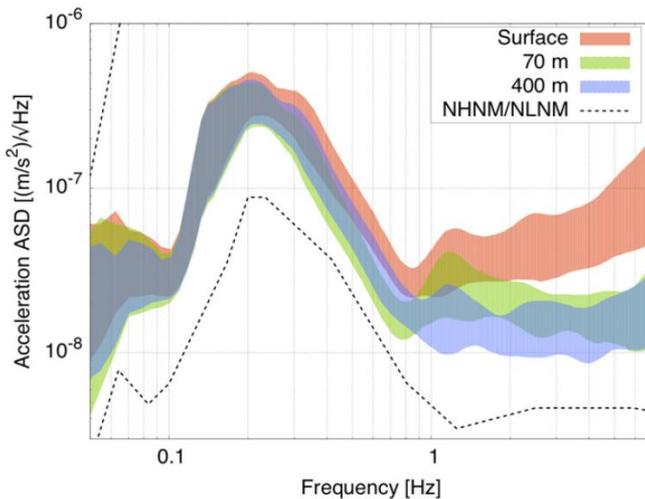
# Einstein Telescope



Underground seismic noise orders of magnitude weaker. Note: Virgo seismic noise  $> 1$  Hz is mostly infrastructural.

## Requirement ET

(conservative: underground displacement dominated by compressional waves)

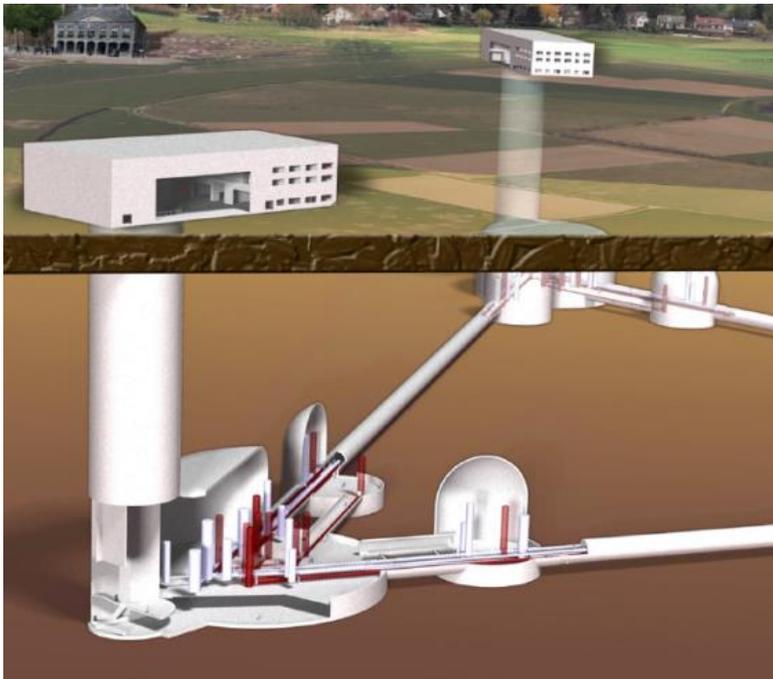


Observation at the same site: Surface noise  $> 1$  Hz significantly reduced below about 100m (strongly site dependent).

Beker et al, 2015

# Einstein Telescope Open Modelling Problems

“Underground laboratories promise significant reduction of gravity background noise.”

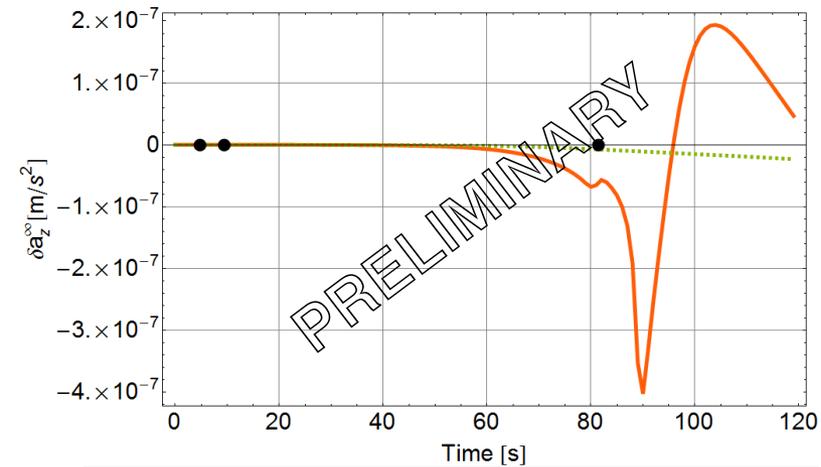


Under investigation:

- Does detector infrastructure elevate underground seismic noise?
- Do air currents from ventilation produce significant gravity noise?
- How far from test masses do we need to keep water accumulation?
- If gravity noise is still significant, is underground compatible with alternative mitigation techniques?

# Light-Speed Seismology Open Modelling Problems

## Kamioka – Tohoku EQ



Under investigation:

- What can mimic earthquake signals?
- Can we improve fast magnitude estimation with gravity signals?
- How do we optimally position a network of gravity gradiometers?
- Are perturbations from large-scale atmospheric phenomena (gravity waves, convection) sufficiently suppressed underground?
- Below which frequency does finite thickness of atmosphere matter?

