

Birth and development of the experiments searching for gravitational waves

Monday, 29 February 2016 14:45 (45 minutes)

The birth and development of the experimental search for gravitational waves is described, from the first Weber experiment to the cryogenic resonant bars, to the laser interferometers. The contribution of the Rome group during a period of fortysix years is described. The cryogenic detectors EXPLORER and NAUTILUS and the results achieved are shown.

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