



"The two INFN Ring Lasers: GP2 and GINGERino"

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for the GINGER collaboration



Intro

Sagnac interferometry
Fundamental limits

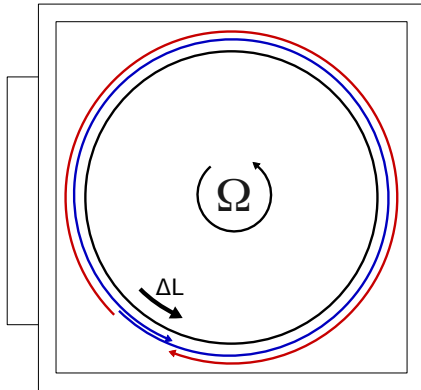
Past activity at INFN: **G-Pisa**

Ground tilt measurements at Virgo
Investigation of ring laser dynamics (S. Piero a Grado)

Today's prototypes

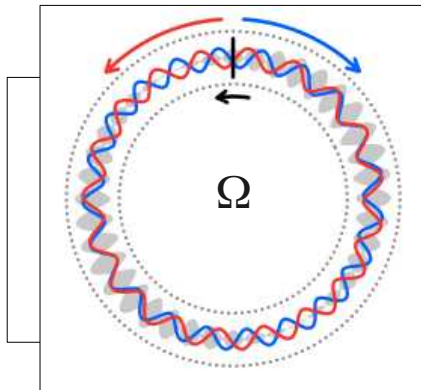
Advanced control of the cavity geometry: **GP2**
Deep underground prototype: **GINGERino**

Sagnac Interferometers



Sagnac effect

$$\Delta t_{Sagnac} = \frac{4A}{c^2} \vec{\Omega} \cdot \vec{n}$$



Resonant cavity

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta f_{Sagnac} &= \frac{4A}{P\lambda} \vec{\Omega} \cdot \vec{n} \\ &= K_s |\vec{\Omega}| \end{aligned}$$

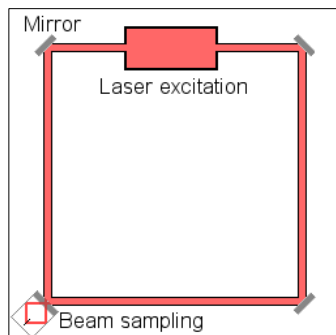
Advantages

- No moving masses
- No signal for a linearly accelerating reference-frame
- $L > 1 \text{ m} \rightarrow$ Earth rotation is the bias

Quantum resolution limit

$$\delta \Omega_{shot} = \frac{cP}{8\pi\nu\tau} \left(\frac{h\nu}{2P_{out}t} \right)^{1/2}$$

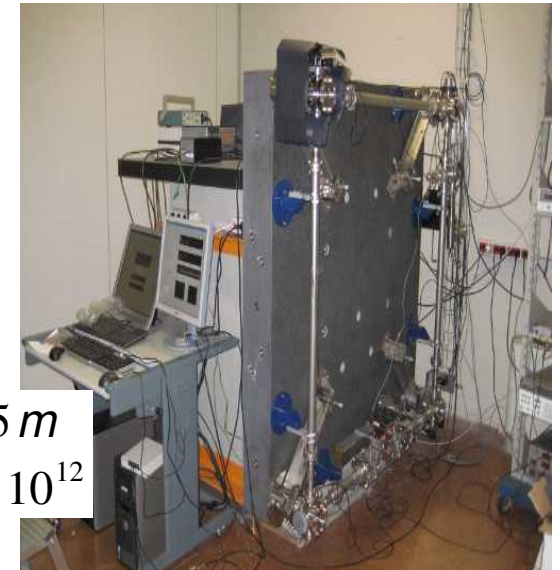
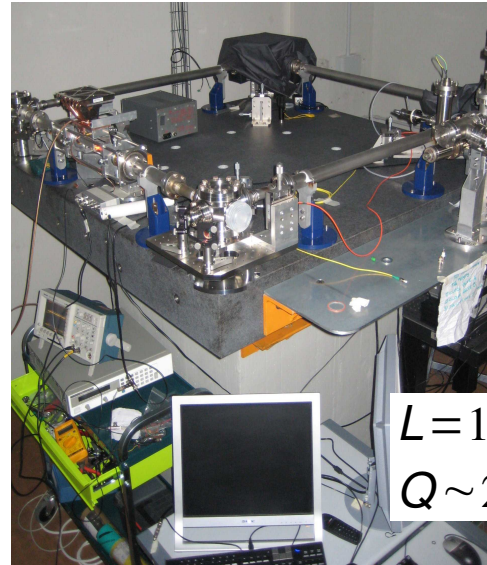
...an "extremely good" He-Ne ring laser:



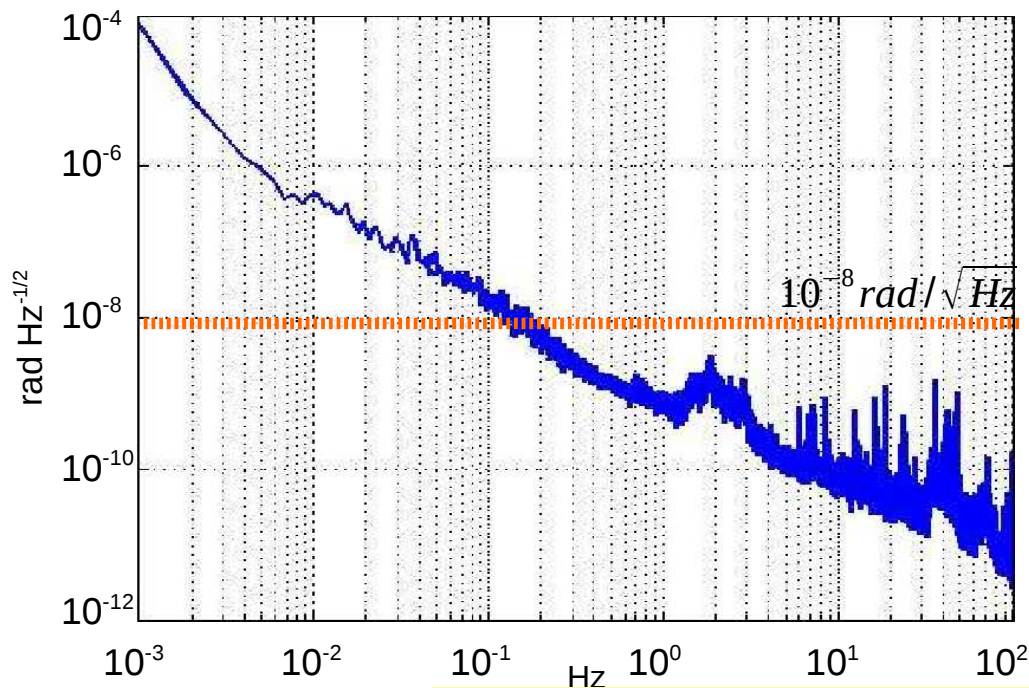
$$\begin{aligned} \nu &= 474 \text{ THz}, P = 32 \text{ m} \\ P_{out} &= 100 \text{ nW}, \tau = 2 \text{ ms} \\ t &= 3 \text{ hours} \end{aligned}$$

$$\delta \Omega_{shot} = 5 \cdot 10^{-15} \text{ rad/s}$$

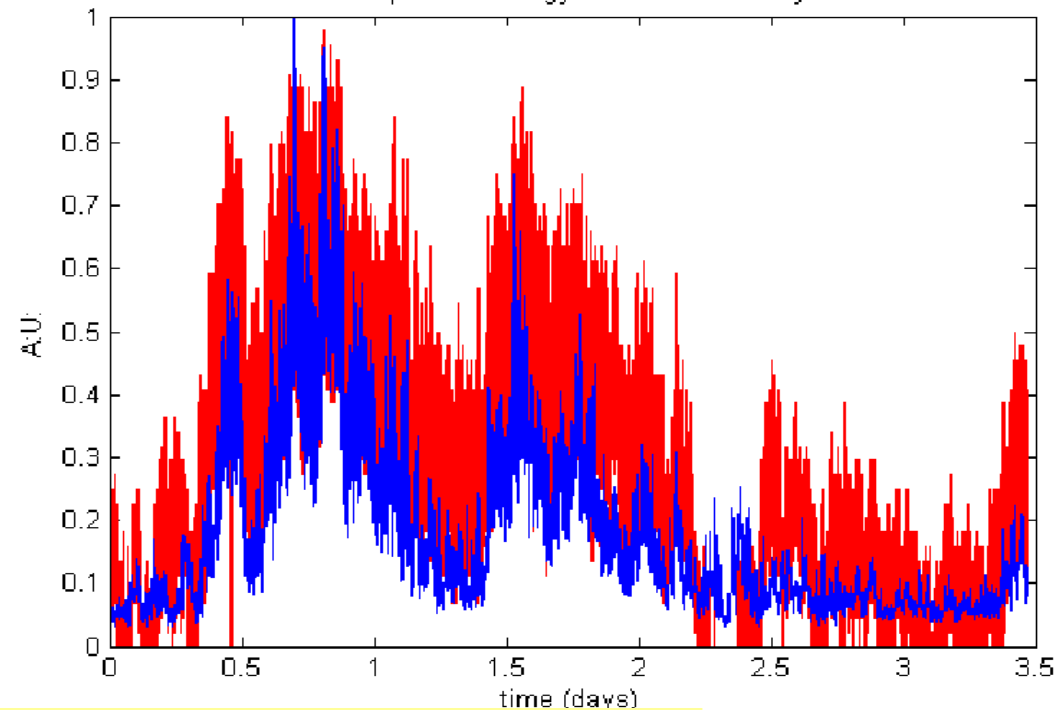
G-Pisa @ Virgo



Angular sensitivity (Tilt)



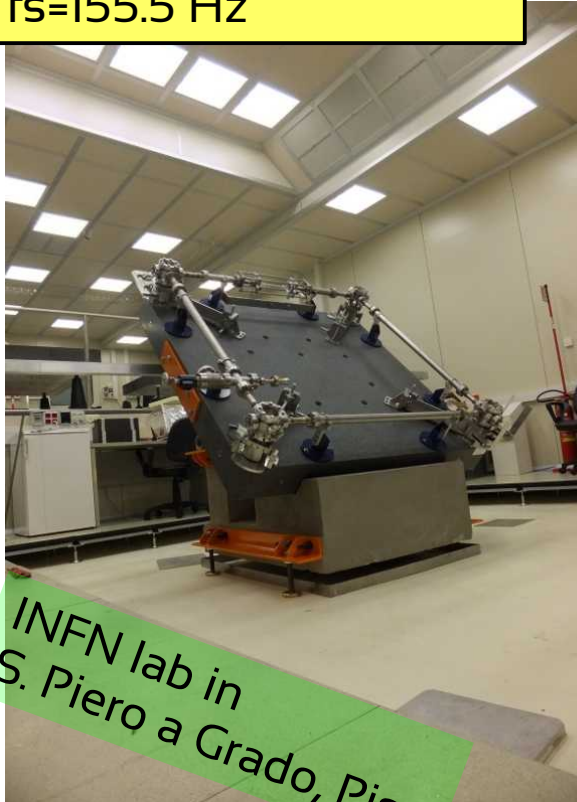
Comparison: std gyro and wind activity



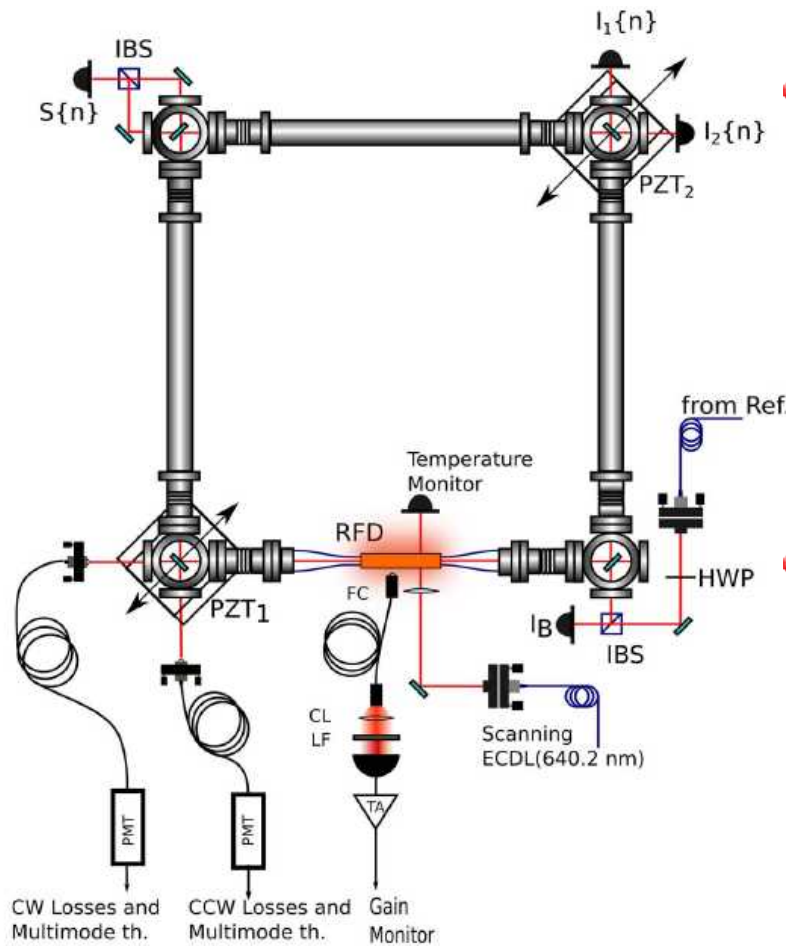
A 1.82 m² ring laser gyroscope for nano-rotational motion sensing,
Applied Physics B: Lasers And Optics, vol. 106, p. 271, 2012

G-Pisa @ S. Piero a Grado: Study of systematics

Max signal orientation:
 $f_s = 155.5 \text{ Hz}$



INFN lab in
 S. Piero a Grado, Pisa



• Observables

$$S(t) = |a_1 E_1(t) + a_2 E_2(t)|^2$$

$$V_1(t) = |b_1 E_1(t) + c_{21} E_2(t)|^2$$

$$V_2(t) = |b_2 E_2(t) + c_{12} E_1(t)|^2$$

• Calibration parameters

$\xi_{1,2}$: Optical detunings

p : Gas pressure

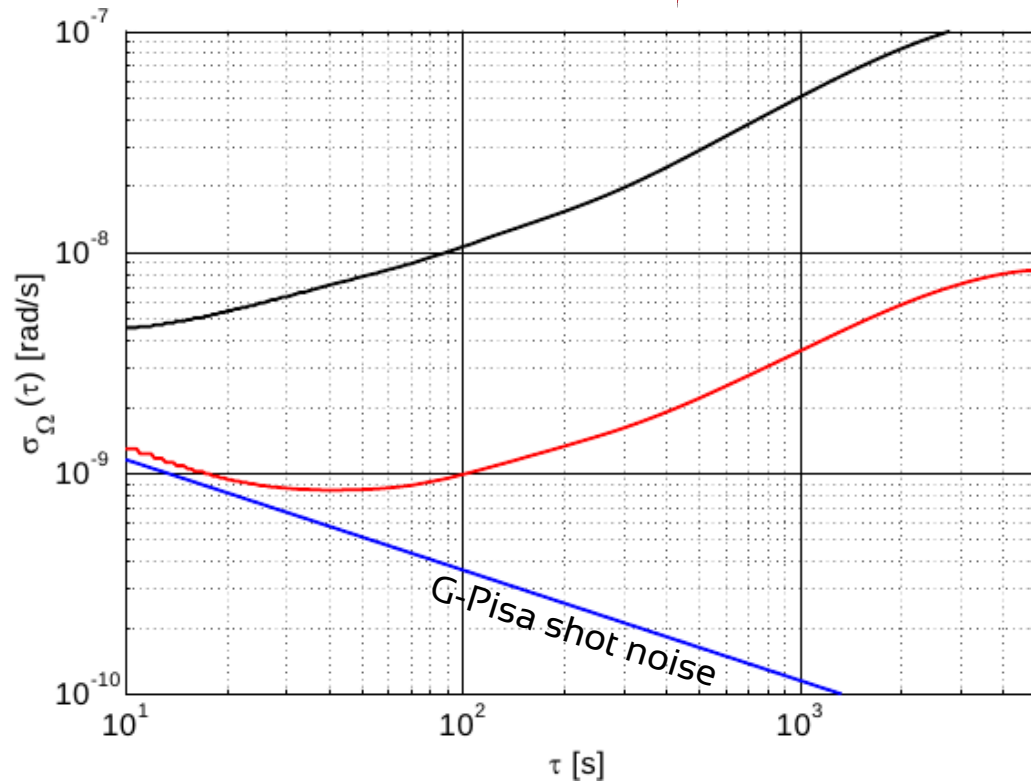
T_{Ne} : Atomic temperature

$k_{20,22}$: Isotopic ratio

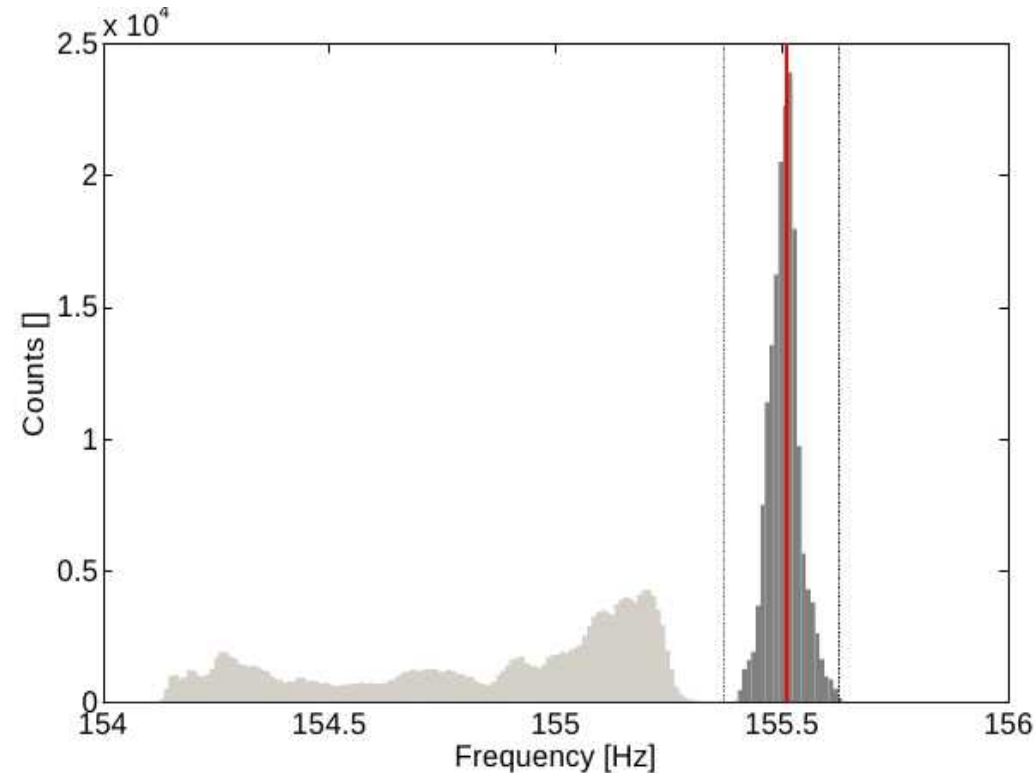
$\mu_{1,2}$: cavity total losses

G : single pass gain

Kalman filter on real data



Allan DEV of AR2 (upper curve) and EKF (lower curve) rotational frequency estimates. The straight line represents the shot noise level of G-PISA



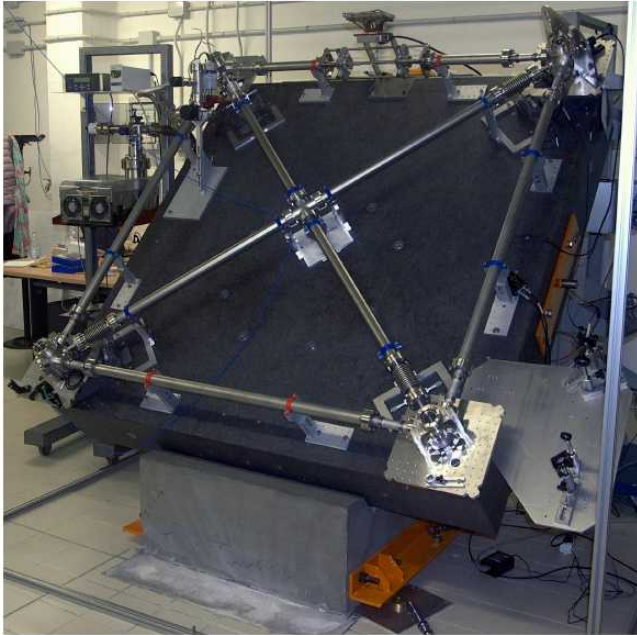
Histograms of the estimates of AR2 (pale gray) and EKF (dark gray) during 2 days of G-PISA data. **Red line:** is the expected Sagnac frequency due to Earth rotation, **Dotted lines** represent its residual uncertainty bounds due to geometric and orientation tolerances.

Compensation of the laser parameters fluctuations in large ring laser gyros: Kalman filter approach, Applied Optics 51, 31 (2012),

Controlling the nonlinear intra-cavity dynamics of large He-Ne laser gyroscopes, Metrologia 51 97 (2014).

TODAY: 2 prototypes for 2 objectives

GP2 (side length 1.60 m)



What?: Test-prototype ring laser equipped with a number of interferometric diagnostics

Where?: INFN-Pisa

Why?: Implement a fully **active stabilization** of the **ring cavity shape**.

GINGERino (side length 3.60 m)



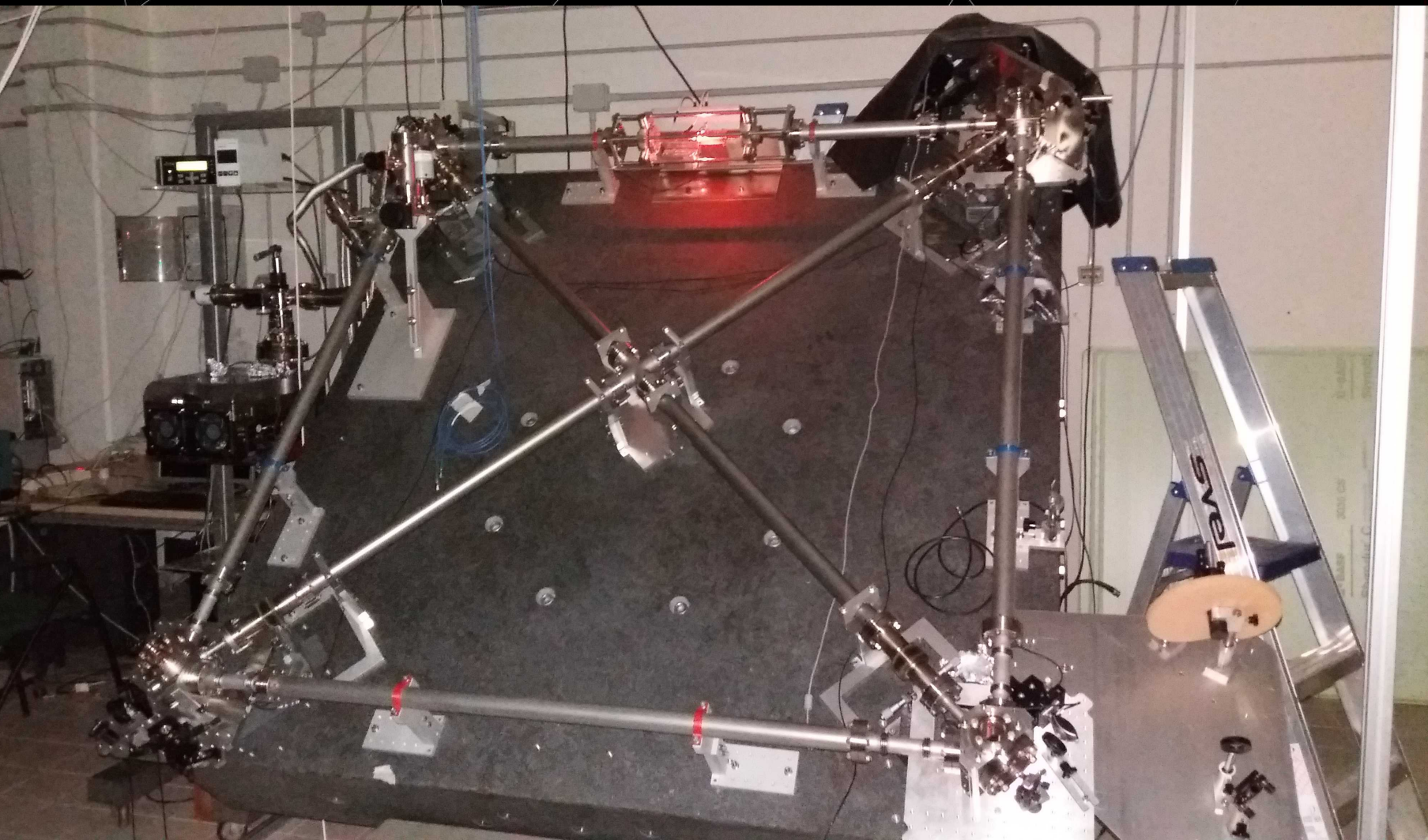
What?: High sensitivity ring laser for high resolution of earth rotation measurement;

Where?: INFN-LNGS

Why?: Evaluate **rotational noise** of a deep underground laboratory. Validate the site for GINGER ($f < 1$ mHz)



GINGER



GP2

INFN-Pisa

GP2: Geometry control via interferometry

Problem

The magnitude of the *relativistic frame dragging* term is of 1 part in 10^9 of the Earth rotation

- ➡ scale factor k_s stabilization better than 10^{-10}
- ▶ accuracy on mirror position better than 1 nm

Approach used in the past

Observable: RL optical frequency (cavity perimeter control)

Stabilization methods: comparison with reference laser; by tuning the environmental pressure; by locking to a frequency comb

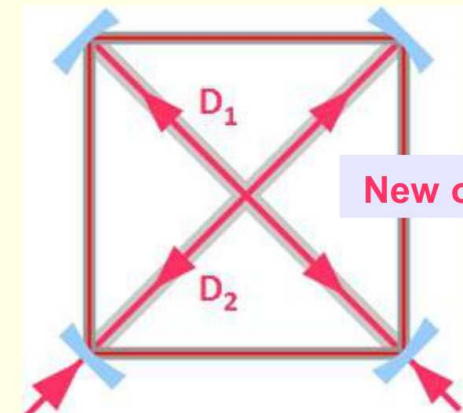
Limitation: variations of mirror inter-distances remain uncontrolled



Our original approach

Observables: distance between opposite mirrors (& perimeter)

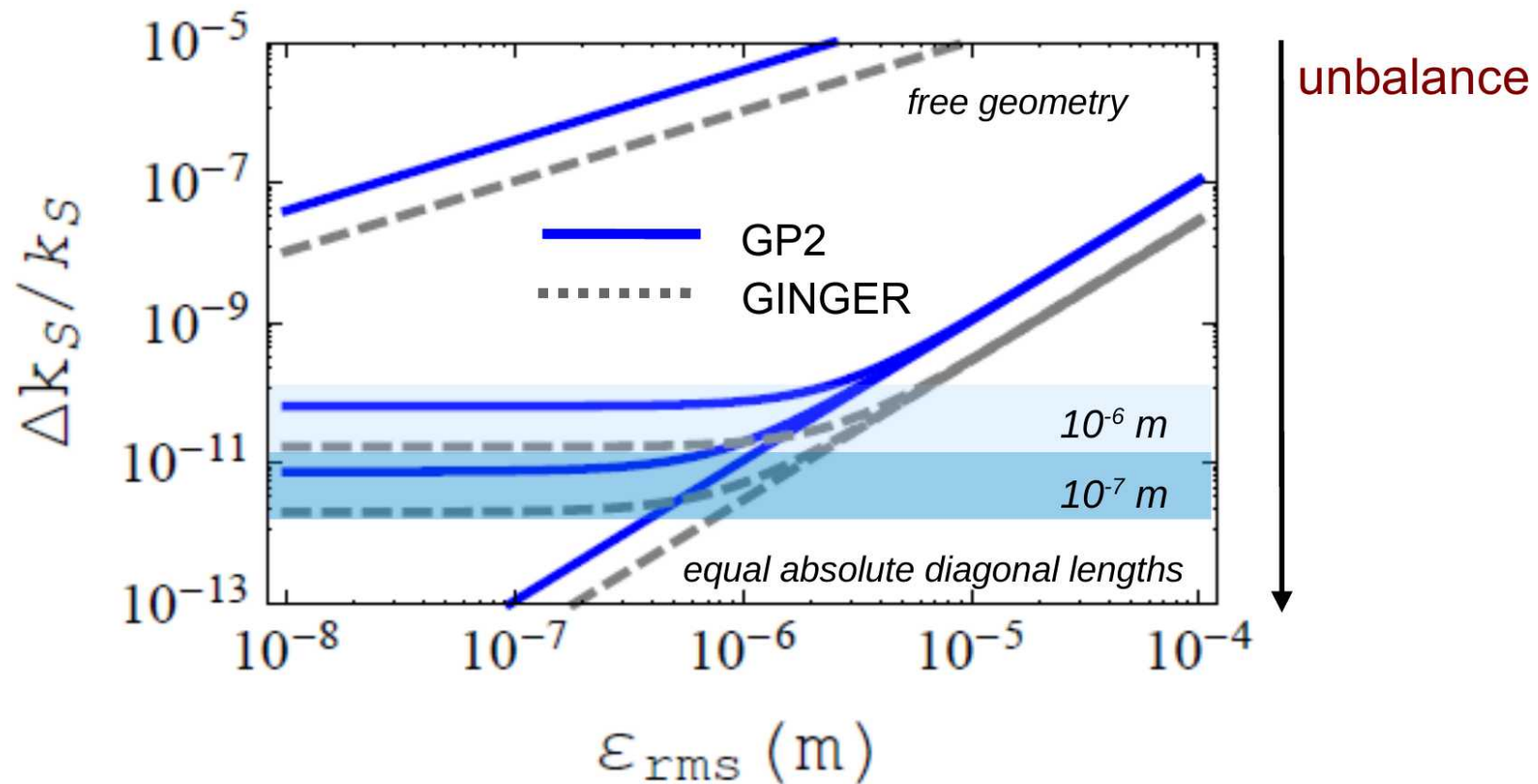
Stabilization methods: lock of diagonal cavities respect to a frequency standard



Interferometric length metrology for the dimensional control of ultra-stable ring laser gyroscopes, Class. Quantum Grav. 31 (22), 225003, (2014)



GP2: scale factor stability

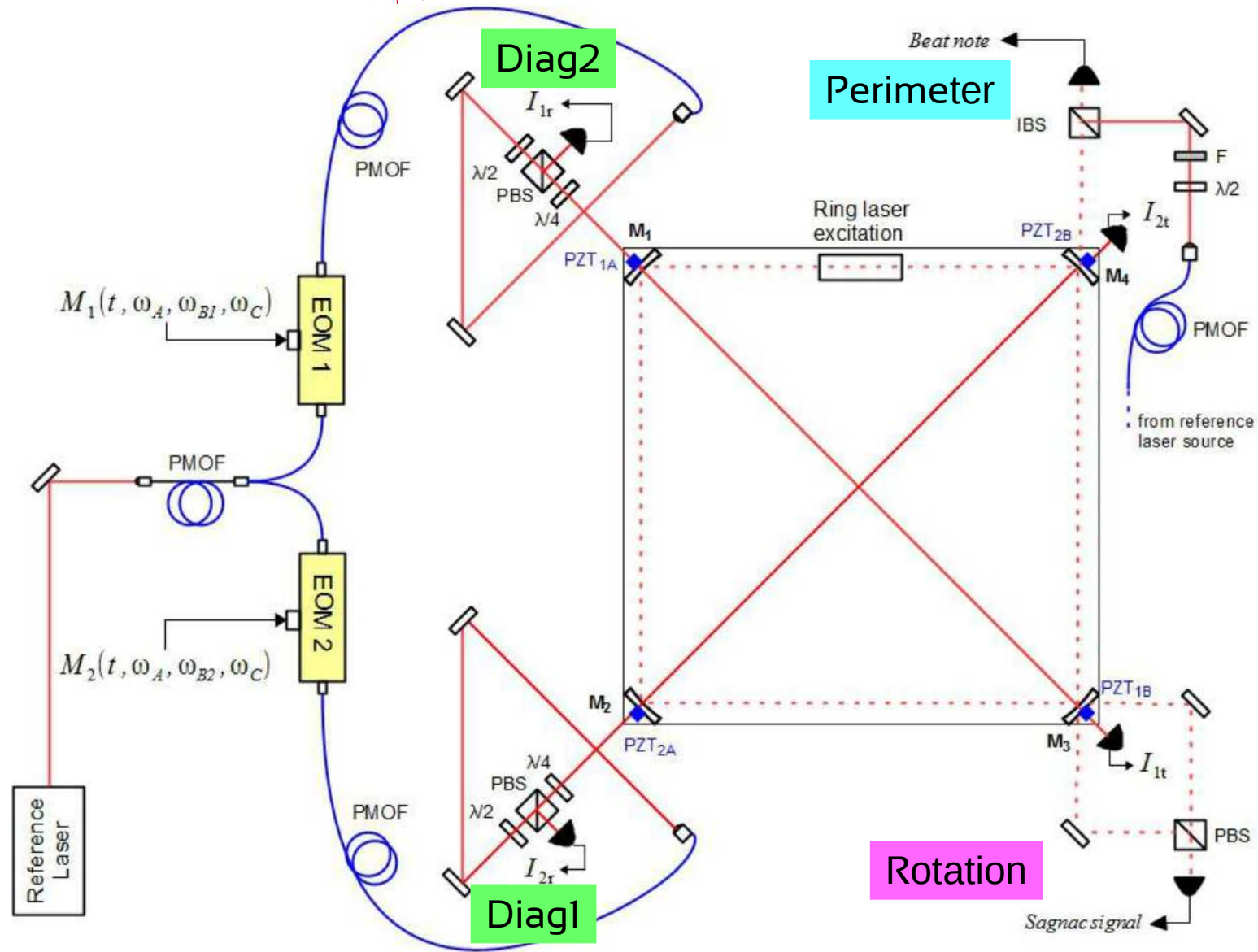


Diagonals lengths stabilization implications:

- ▶ the perturbations to the mirror positions affect only quadratically the scale factor
- ▶ the mirror fluctuations are reduced at a level of 1 part in 10^{10} , even if the stabilized lengths differ at a micrometric scale

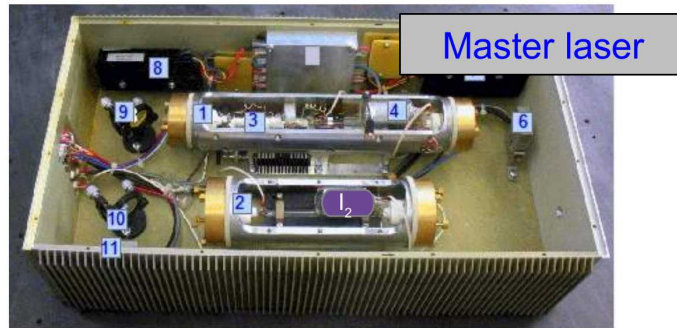
the regular square geometry corresponds to a *saddle-point* of the perimeter

GP2: Optical setup



External laser probe

He-Ne/I₂ laser
primary frequency standard

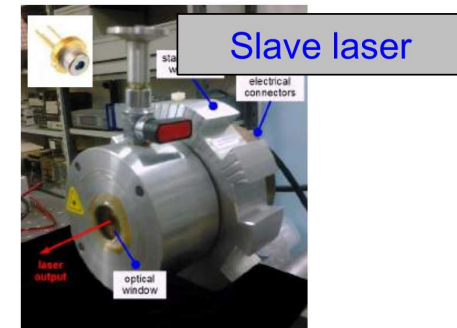


Master laser

iodine spectral purity



μ-lens coupled cw diode laser
probe laser



Slave laser

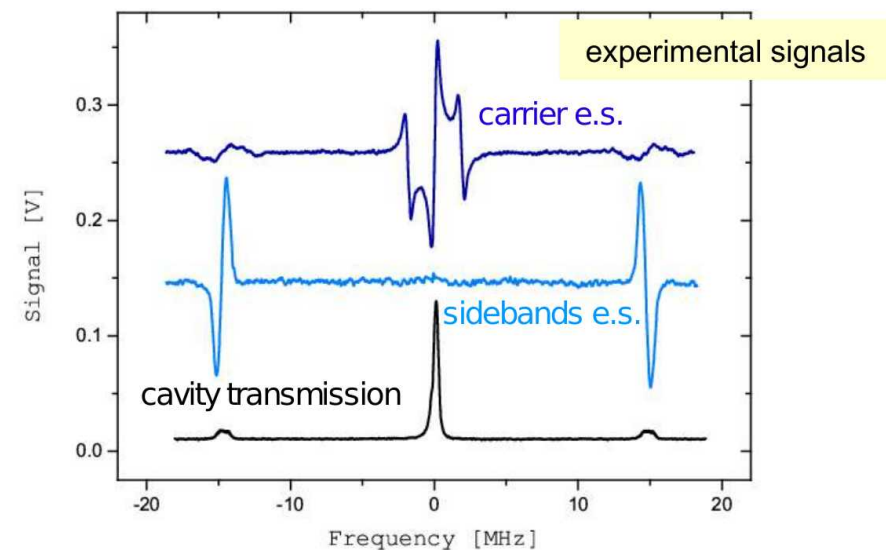
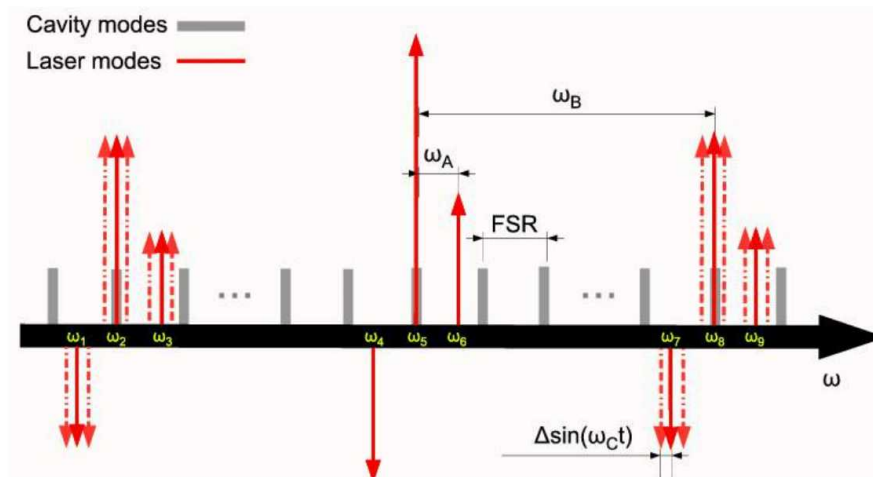
$$E_{\text{in}}(t) = E_0 \exp \{ i [\omega_0 t + \alpha \sin(\omega_A t) + \beta \sin[(\omega_B + \Delta \sin(\omega_C t)) t]] \}$$

ω_0 optical frequency
 α, β modulation indices
 Δ dithering amplitude

Pound-Drever-Hall for lock f_n to the carrier

dynamic resonance excitation at $mFSR$

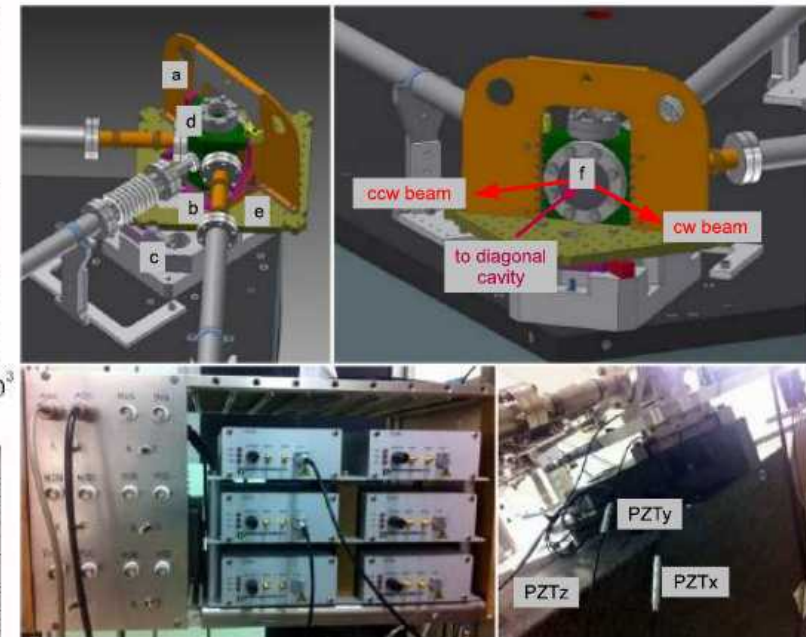
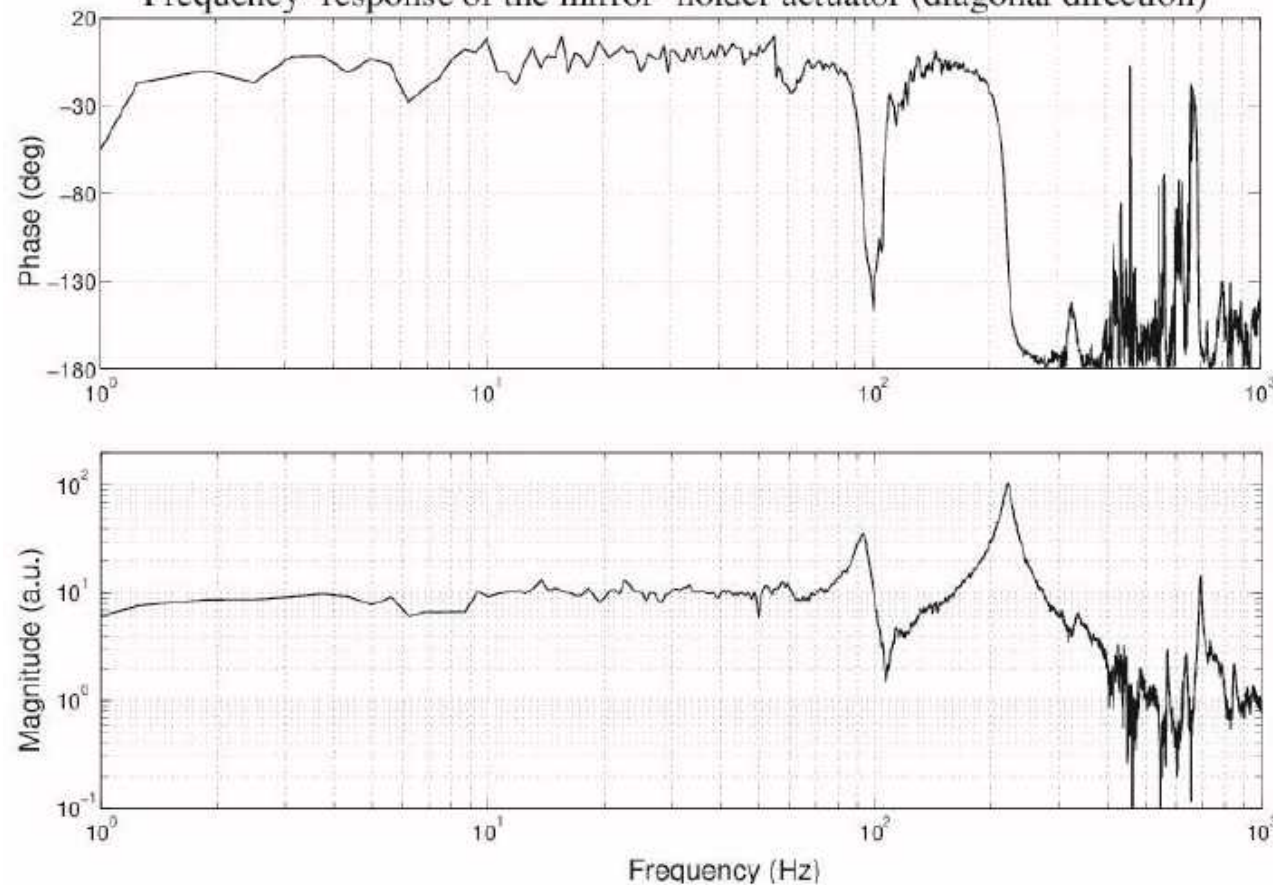
dithering applied to ω_B for low-frequency conversion



Mirrors position actuators

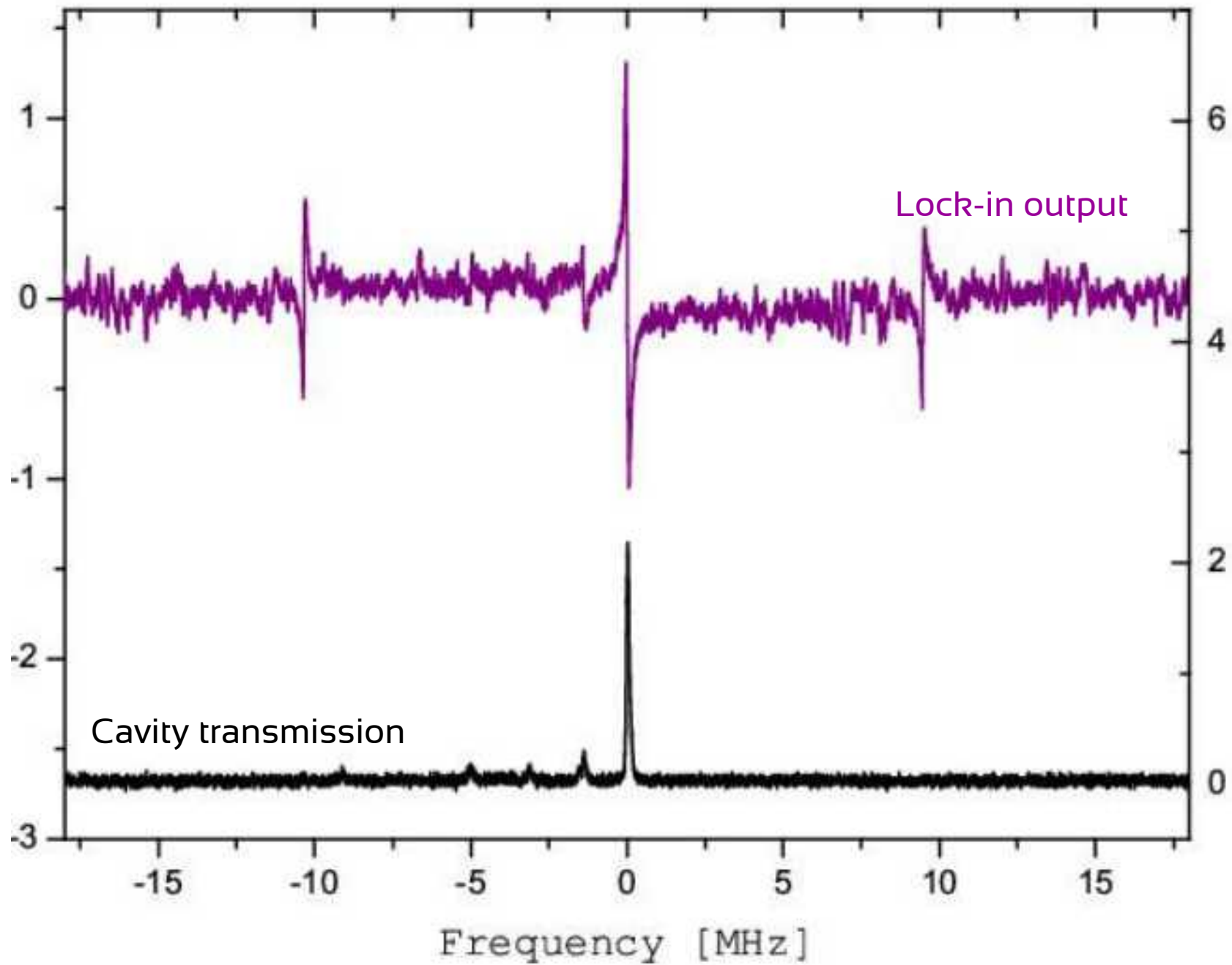
- ▶ #3 1-axial PZT; #1 3-axial PZT
- ▶ dynamic range (measured): 80 μm
- ▶ control bandwidth (measured): few tens of Hz

Frequency-response of the mirror-holder actuator (diagonal direction)



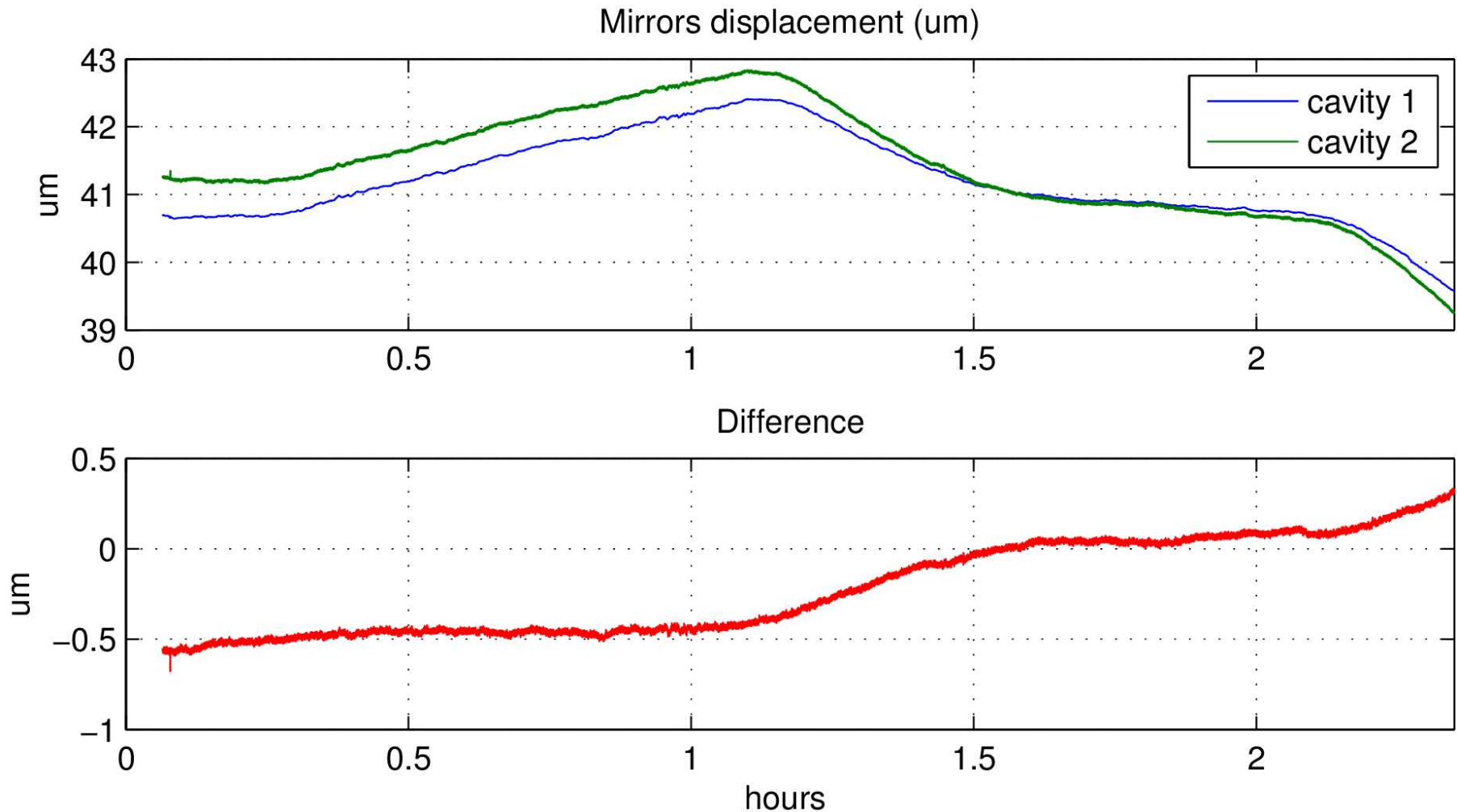
Carrier error signal on GP2

Digital lock-in amplifier



2 diagonals stabilization

Closed-loop correction to the opposite mirrors (digital PI controller)

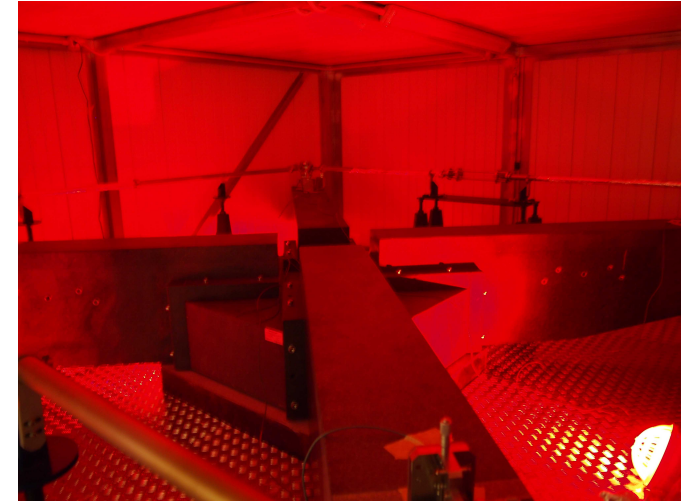
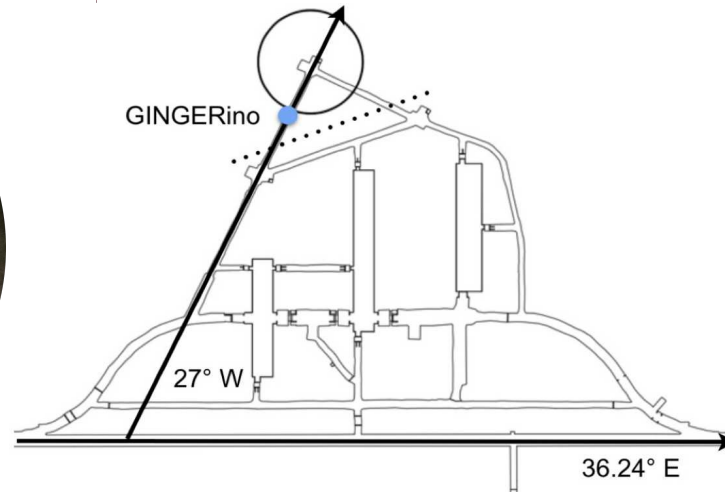


Sub-nanometer length metrology for ultra-stable ring laser gyroscopes,
R. Santagata's PhD thesis, Siena 2015.

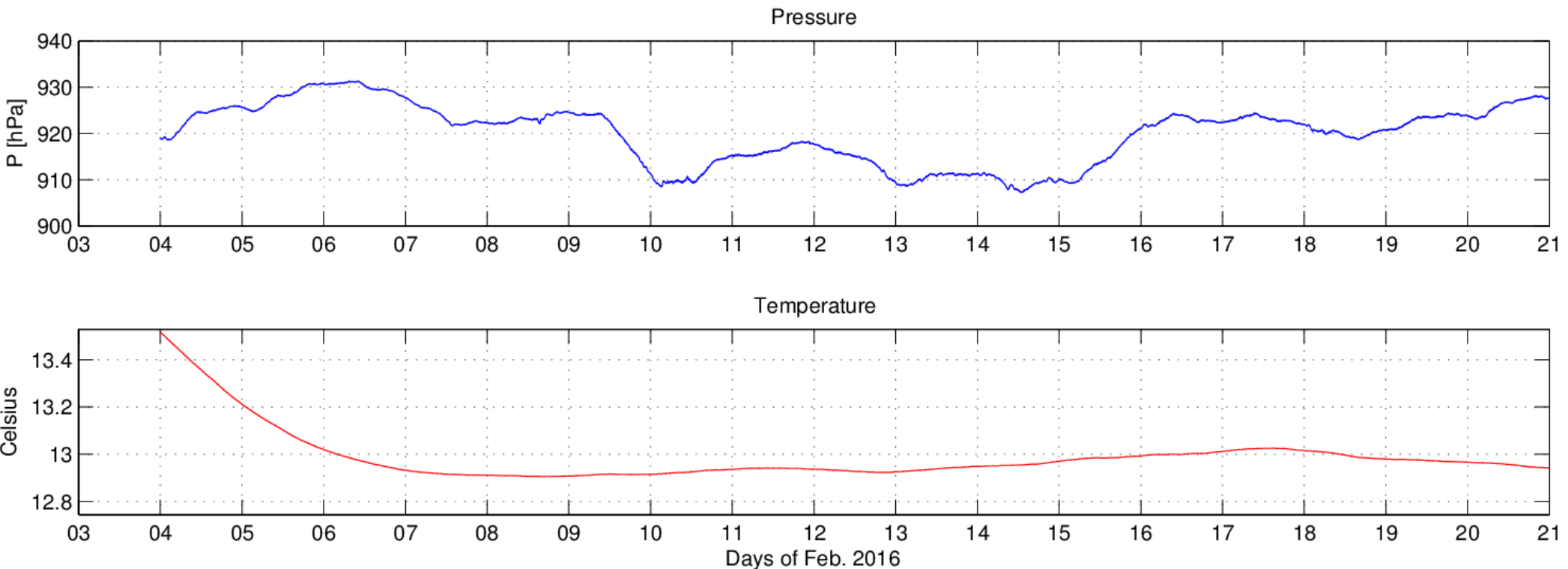




GINGERino: deep underground ring laser



Internal temperature is controlled by IR-lamps $T: 8^{\circ}\text{C} \rightarrow 13^{\circ}\text{C}$, relative humidity $\rightarrow 60\%$



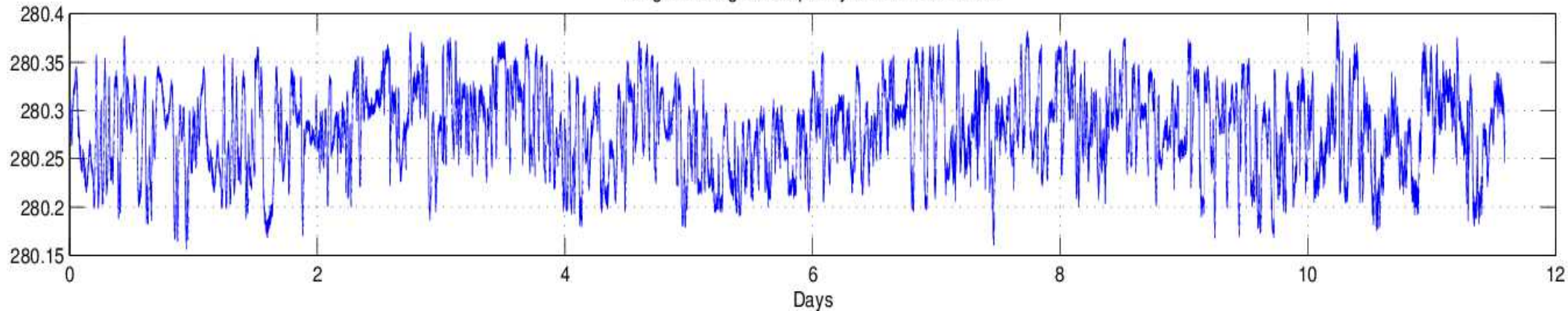
GINGERino: performance, present limitations



March 2015 first laser ignition in LNGS!

..then **problems** with: **Mirrors, DAQ system, Timing, Getter pumps, Discharge positioning**

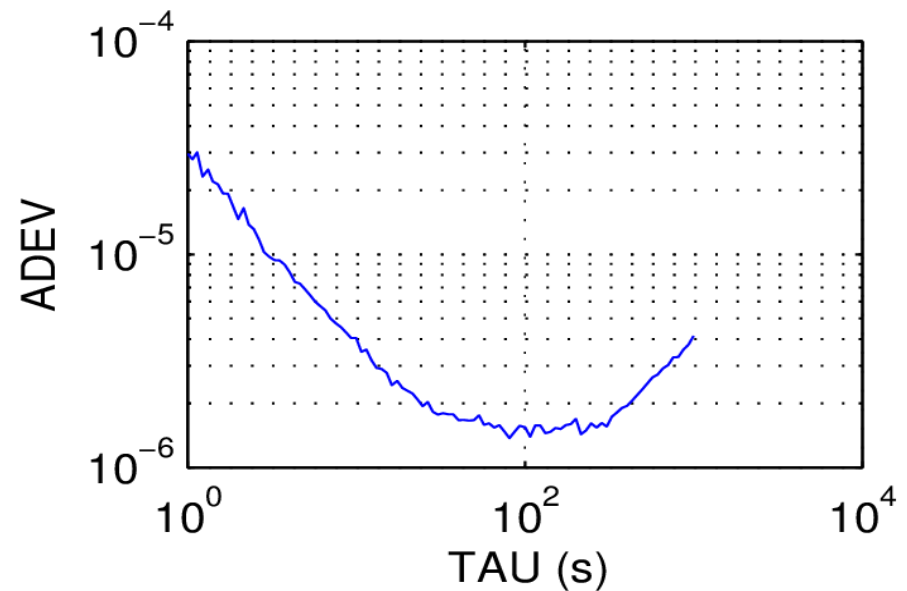
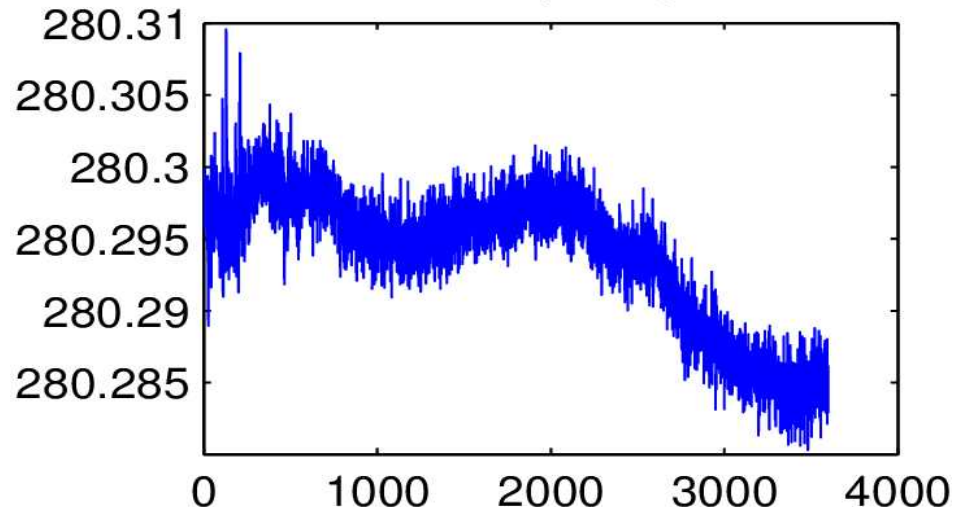
Gingerino Sagnac frequency since 01-01-2016



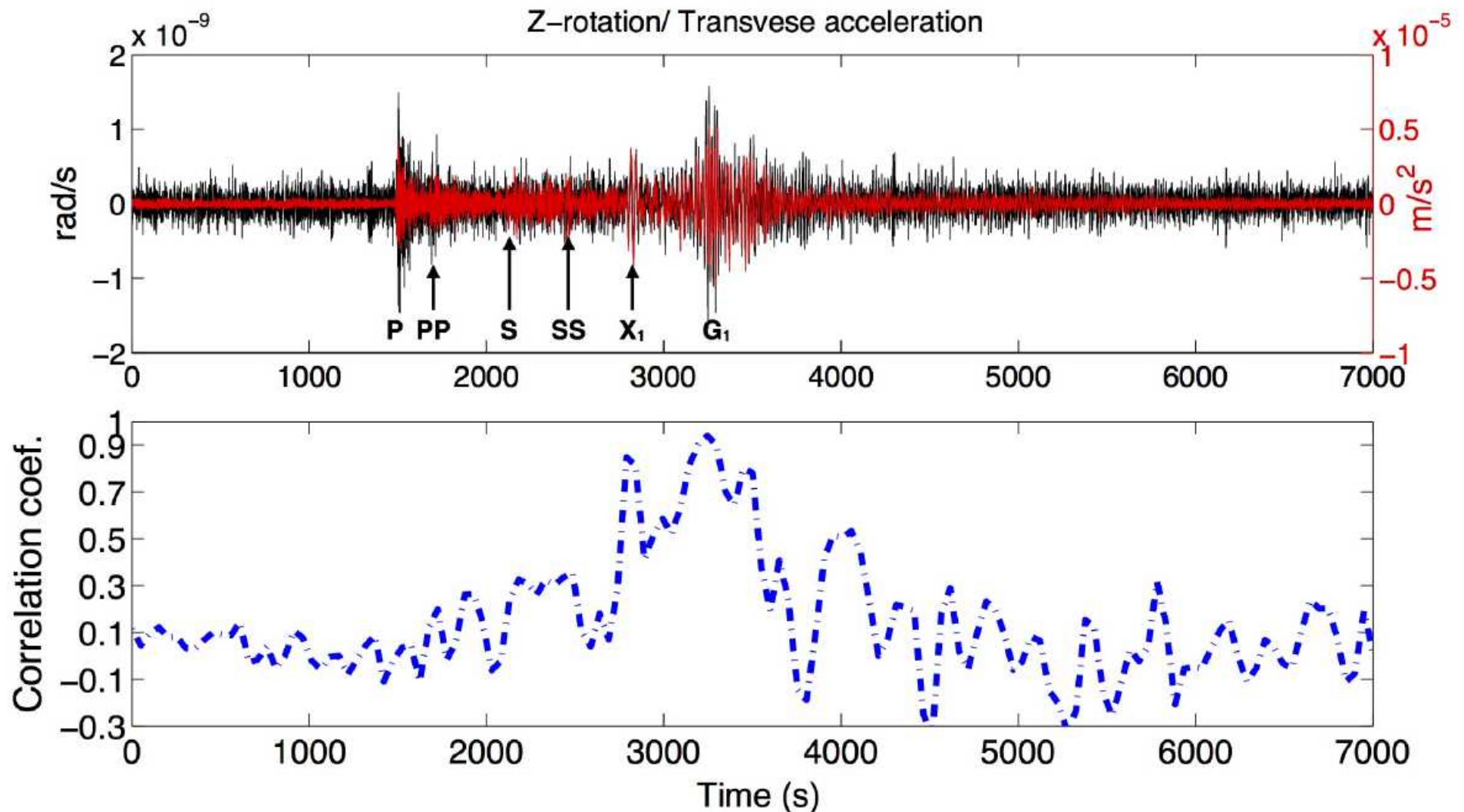
Large amount of Intracavity scattered light: RDT < 150 us (Expected > 1 ms)

“Quiet hour” (00:00 UTC 20th february)

AR2 (1 sec)



Ground rotations from teleseismic waves

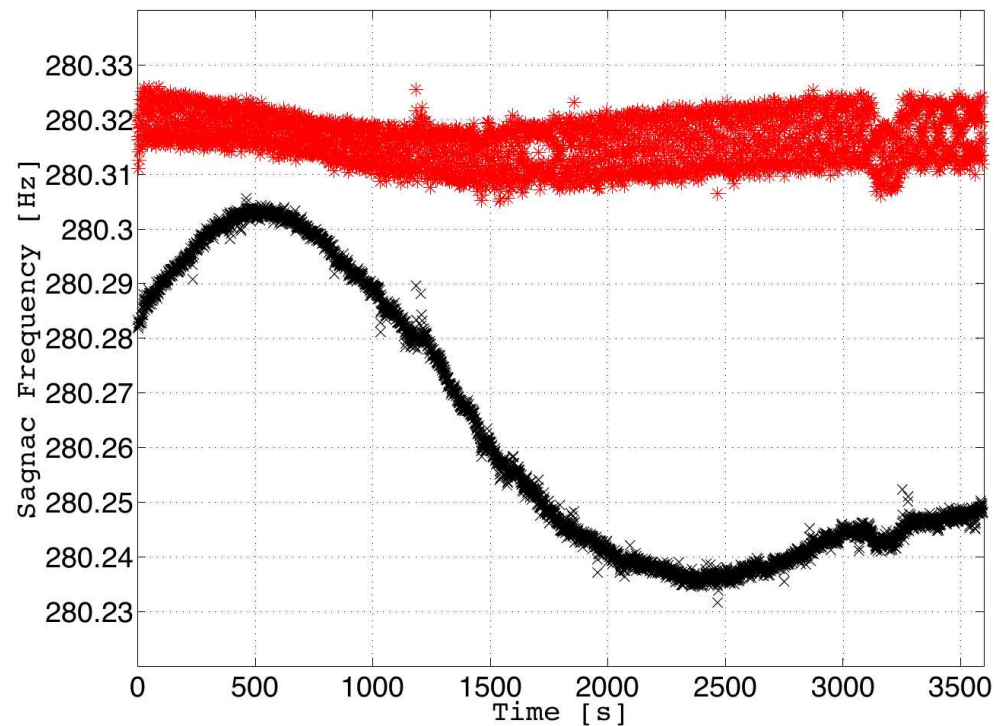
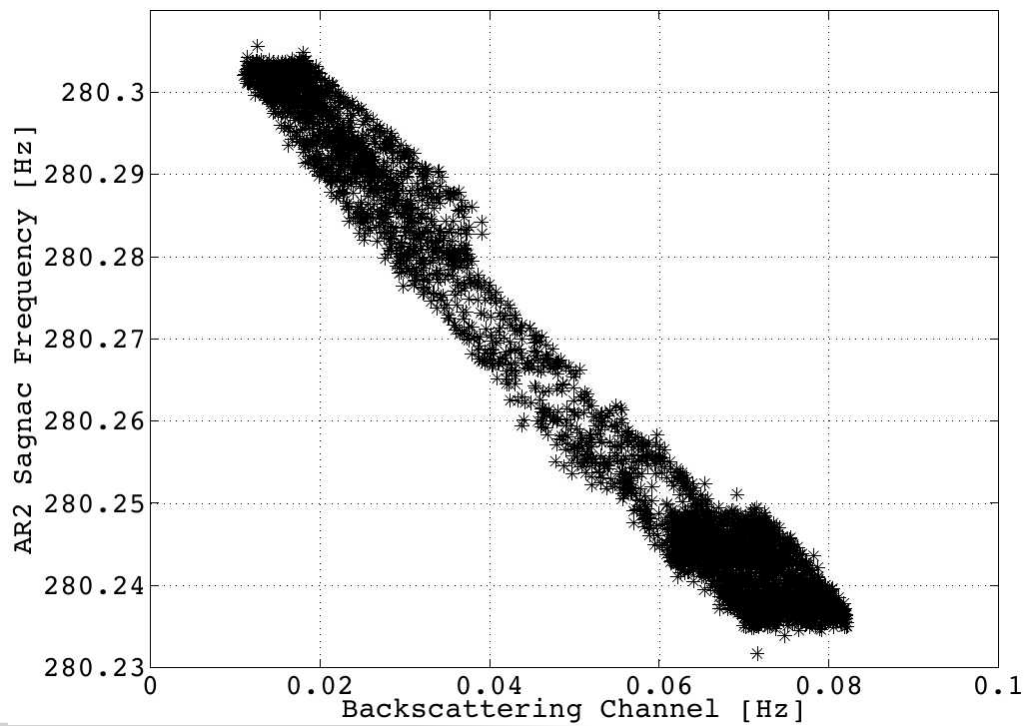
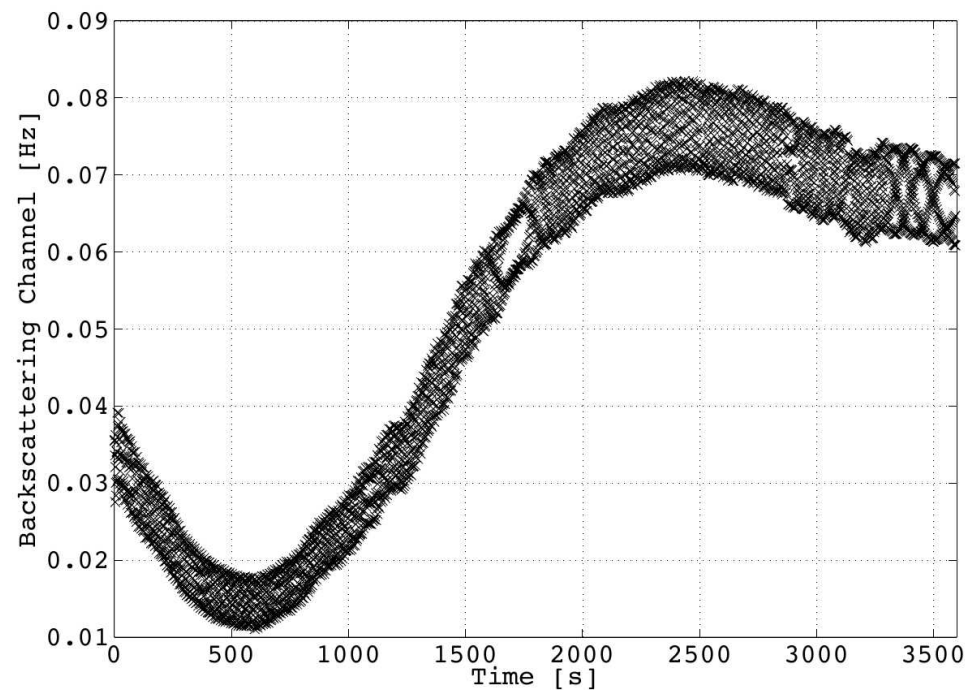
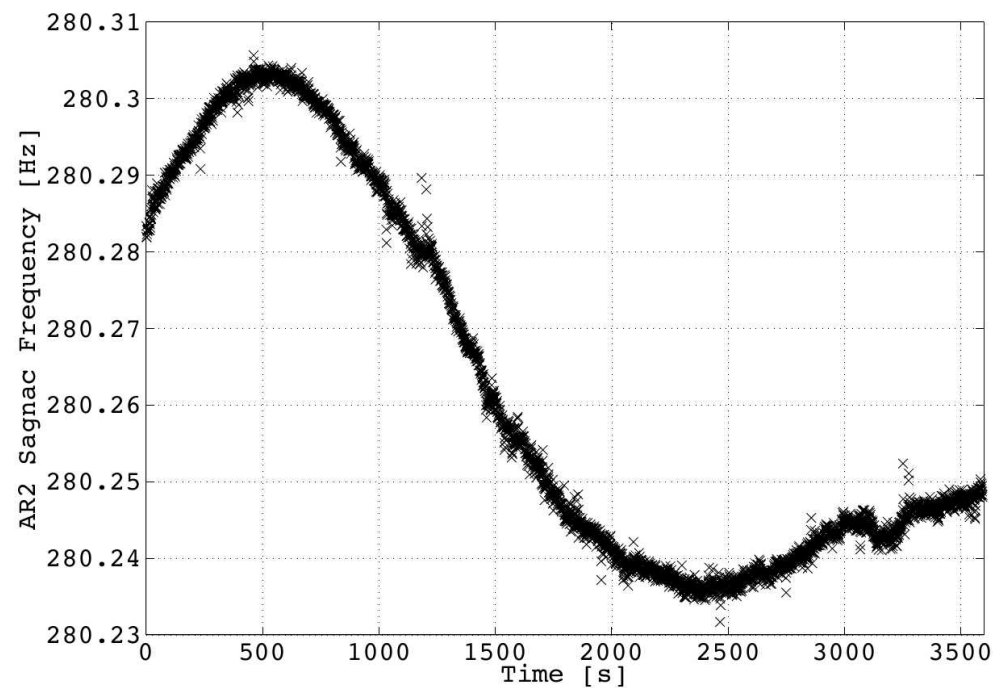


First deep underground observation of rotational signals from an earthquake at teleseismic distance using a large ring laser gyroscope, *submitted to Annals of Geophysics-fast track*.



Backscattering analysis (preliminary)

Dedicated acquisition run. Start on february 4th. (Still running)



Conclusion



GP2

- **Laser source** has been developed
- **Diagonals stabilization** has been demonstrated

Next

- Improve **locking bandwidth** (use AOMs)
- Simultaneous control of the **perimeter** (regular square)
- Verify gyroscope's **enhanced stability**

GINGERino

- Unattended run since about **20 days** (and goes on...)
- Several problems emerged (mainly: **mirrors** and **pressure** changes)
- Fixed several problems** DAQ, Timing, getters
- Backscattering analysis** is giving first results

Next

- Improve mechanical stability and pressure regulation
- Test **new mirrors** from LMA (hopefully excellent)
- Perimeter** stabilization