



Contribution ID: 45

Type: **Poster**

g-MAG: Materials for Gravitational Astronomy

Friday, 12 April 2019 15:30 (5 minutes)

There are no other large instruments that are limited so much by availability of materials like the Earth based GW detectors. Thermal noise and optical absorption in mirrors and their suspensions are a strong limiting factor for future upgrades of existing detectors and also in new projects like Einstein Telescope. A new group at the Institut Lumière Matière, Lyon, has been formed with the aim to study the origin of thermal noise in amorphous materials and to develop the technology of sapphire for large mirror substrates and monolithic suspensions.

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Session Classification: Poster Session

Track Classification: ET technology