

Alignment sensing and control  
using Wave Front Sensing demodulated  
at the difference frequency between  
two phase-modulation sidebands in KAGRA

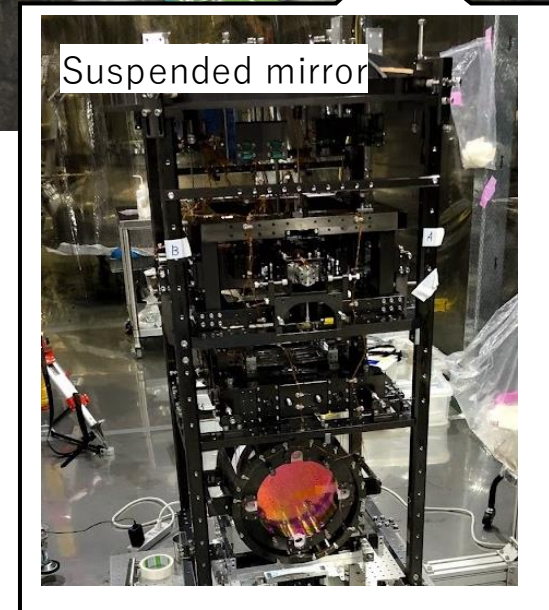
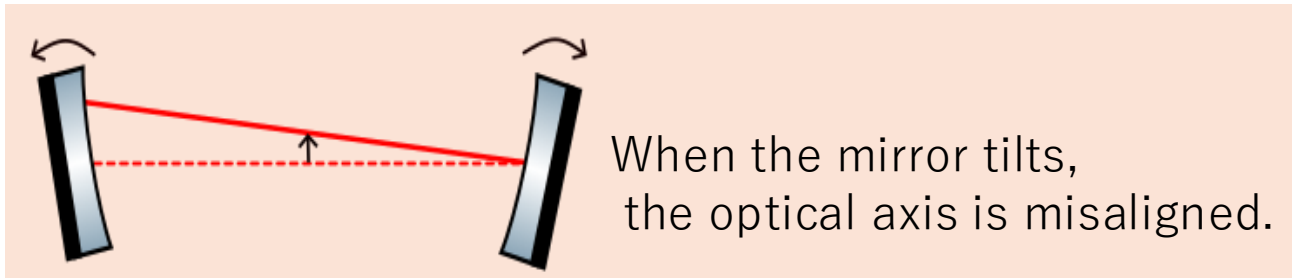
Chiaki Hirose

on behalf of the KAGRA collaboration,  
Institute for Cosmic Ray Research, the University of Tokyo

# Background of Alignment Sensing and Control (ASC)

- To determine the direction of gravitational waves, it is necessary to refer the time of detection by simultaneous observation of three or more detectors.  
**We need stable operation of each detector.**
- KAGRA's mirrors are suspended for vibration isolation. The angle of the mirror oscillates.  
→ The interferometer is unstable.  
→ Noise increases.

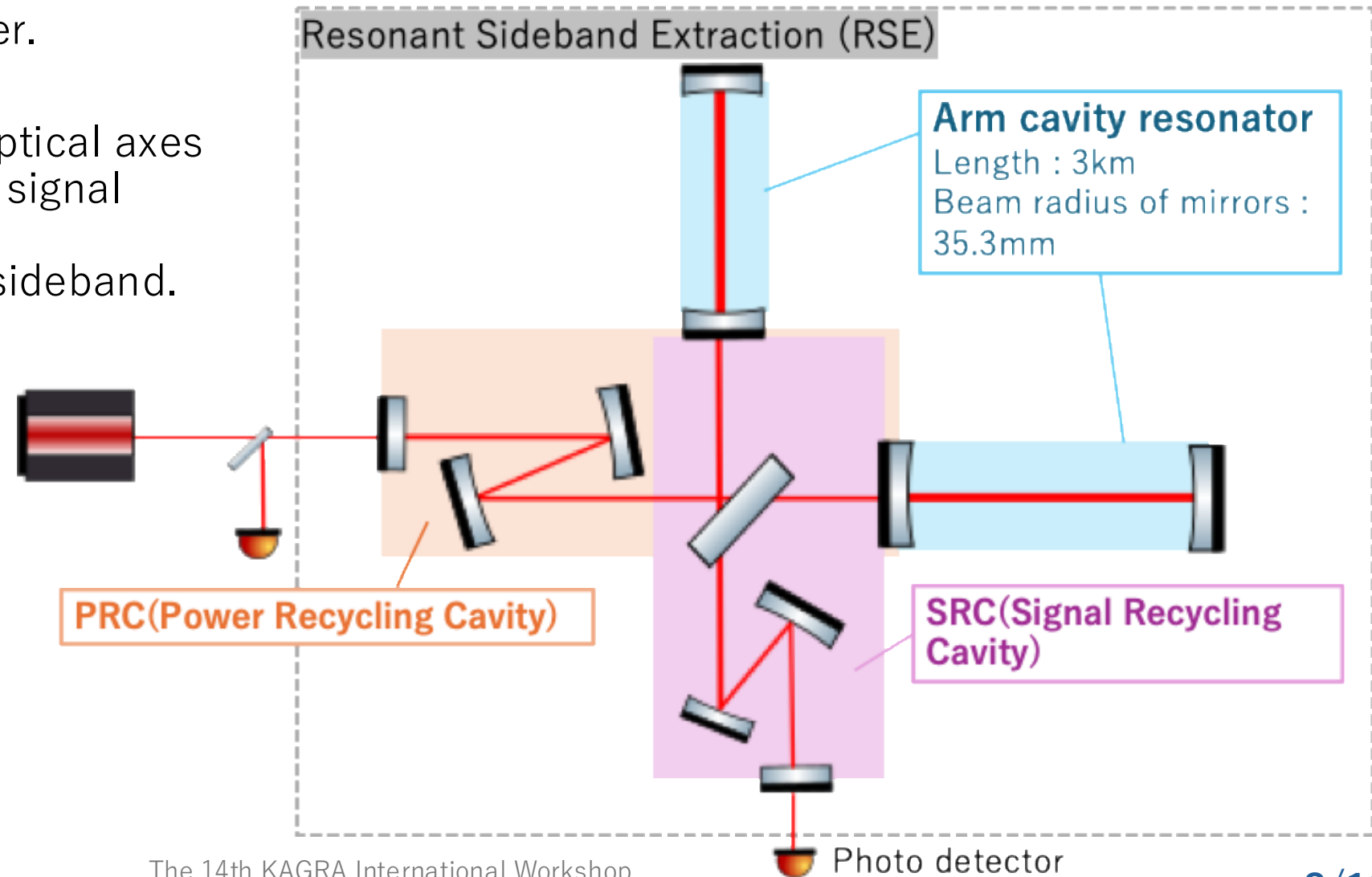
## Install Alignment Sensing and Control (ASC) to KAGRA



# Alignment Sensing Control (ASC) in KAGRA

- ASC of KAGRA's optical axes is for stabilizing the interferometer.
- **Wave front sensing(WFS):**  
The method for detecting optical axes misalignment with the beat signal between the carrier and the phase modulated(PM) sideband.
- The length and the beam radius of KAGRA's arms are large.

→ The alignment signal of the arms is detected to be larger than that of PRC and SRC signal.

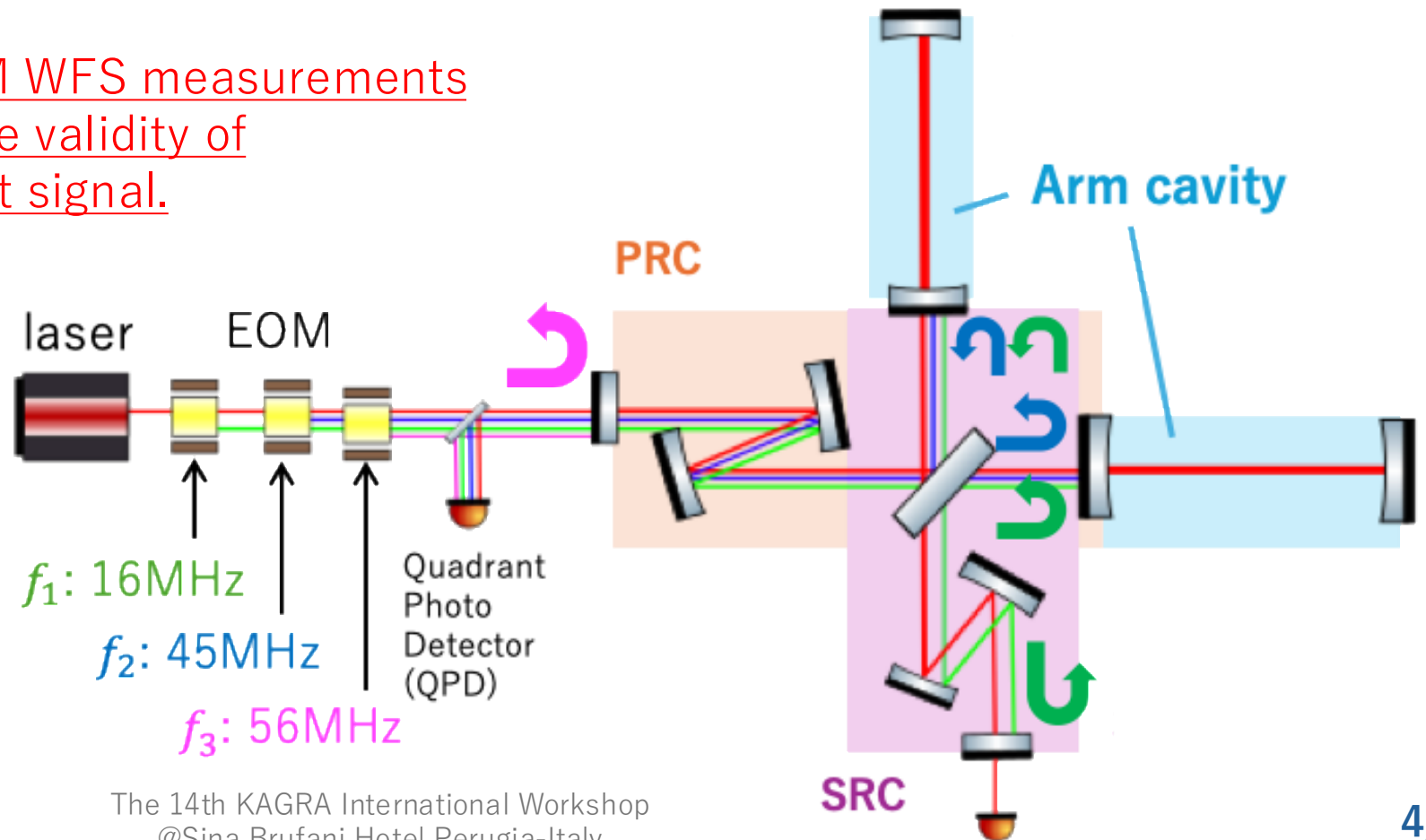


# New WFS

- **PMPMWFS**: WFS using RSE anti-resonance PM sideband  $f_3$  (RSE incident optical axis) and ARM anti-resonance PM sideband  $f_2$  (PRC cavity axis).

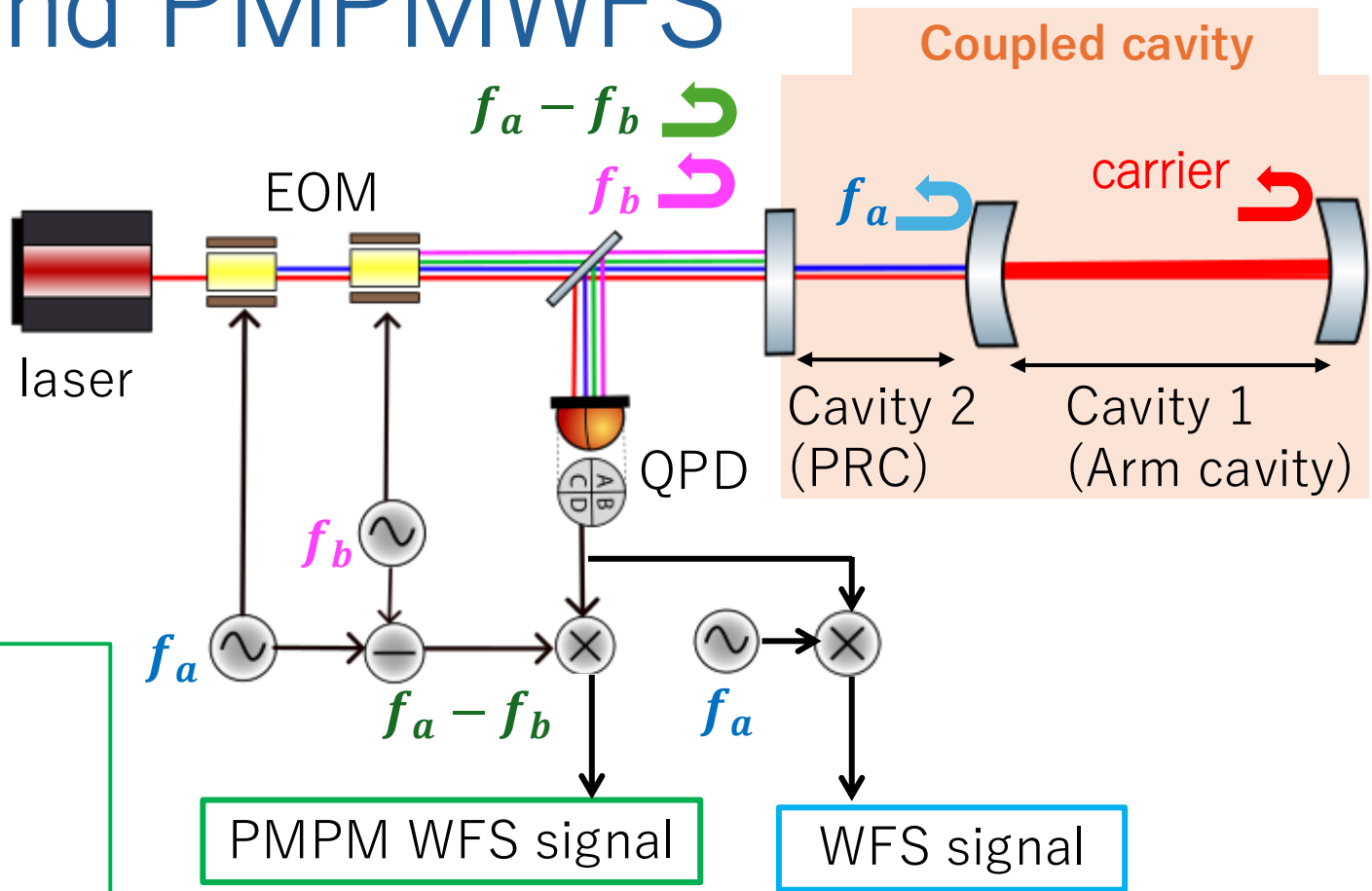
→ Assumed that the RSE would not couple to the arm optical axis because the two side bands do not pass through the arms.

→ Actually performed PMPM WFS measurements with KAGRA to confirm the validity of the PMPM WFS alignment signal.



# The Theory of WFS and PMPMWFS

- [PMPMWFS Hypothesis 1]  
Can it detect the difference between the two sidebands?  
→ **Yes, it can.**
- [PMPMWFS Hypothesis 2]  
Does it depend on the carrier component?  
→ **Yes, it does.**



PMPM WFS signal  
 $\propto$  (The beat part of  $f_a$  and  $f_b$ )  
 +(The beat part of carrier and the difference frequency  $f_a - f_b$ )  
 = **(The relative misalignment between  $f_a$  and  $f_b$ )**  
 +(The relative misalignment between the carrier and  $f_a - f_b$ )

WFS signal  
 $\propto$  (The beat part of the carrier and  $f_a$ )  
 = **(The relative misalignment between the carrier and  $f_a$ )**

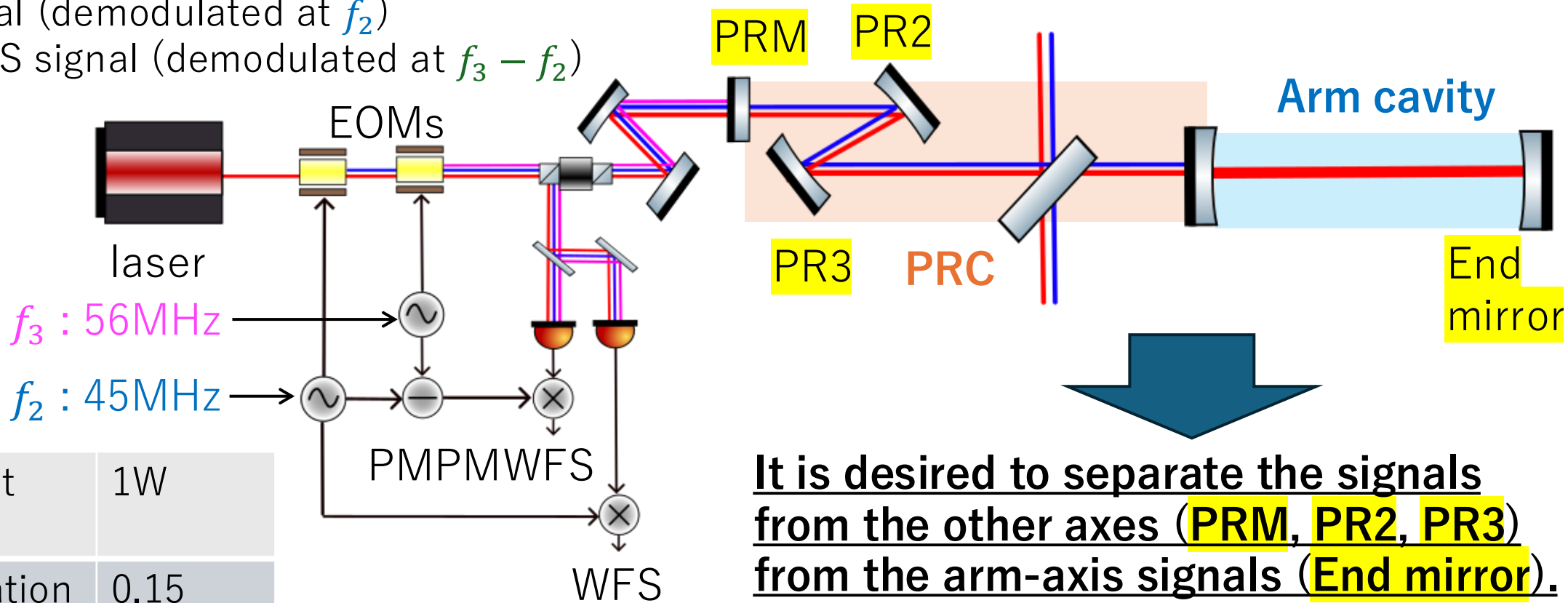
# Theoretical calculation model

Interferometer configuration: KAGRA's PRXARM configuration (PRC + X-axis arm resonator)

Mirror degrees of freedom: PRM, PR2, PR3, End mirror

Signal acquisition:

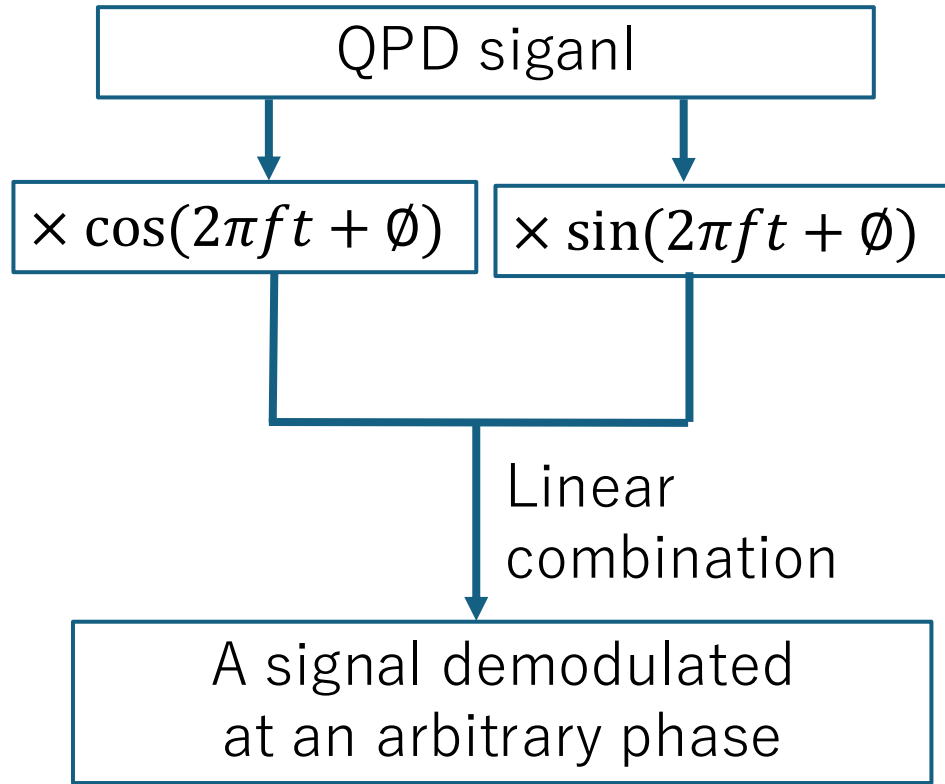
- WFS signal (demodulated at  $f_2$ )
- PMPMWFS signal (demodulated at  $f_3 - f_2$ )



Incident power	1W
Modulation index	0.15

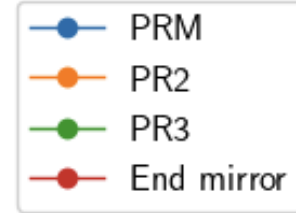
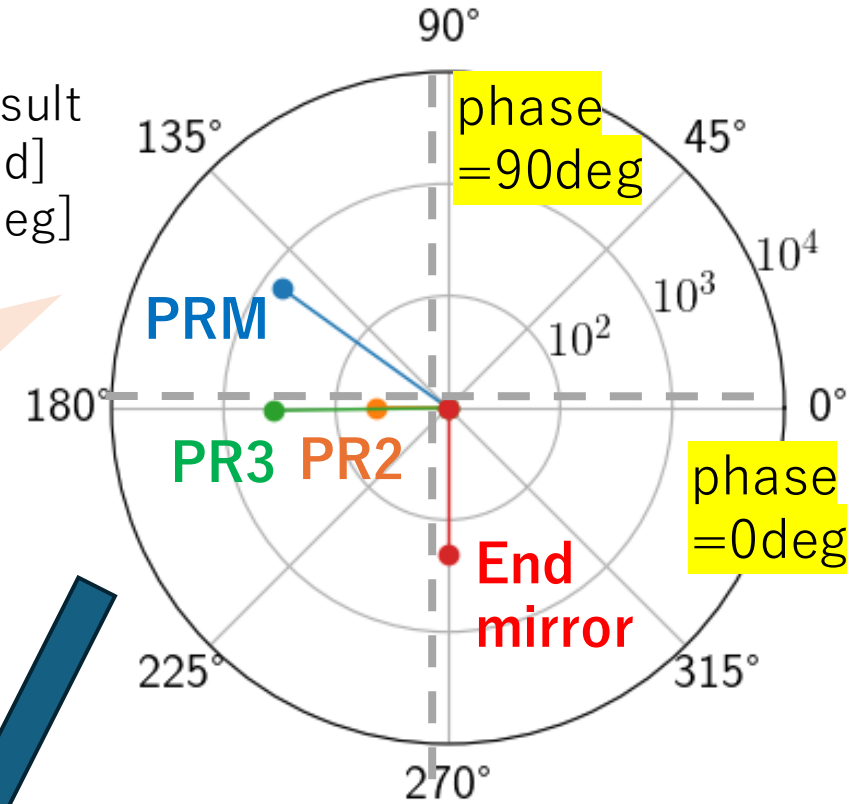
It is desired to separate the signals from the other axes (PRM, PR2, PR3) from the arm-axis signals (End mirror).

# Plot of calculation results



Example) PMPMWS signal result  
 Abs: Signal/mirror angle [W/rad]  
 Phase: Demodulation phase [deg]

※ Adjusted the phase so that End mirror signal is minimized at a 0-degree phase



Phase	PRM	PR2	PR3	End mirror
0deg	<u>-556</u>	<u>-43</u>	<u>-358</u>	0
90deg	<u>396</u>	0.68	0.22	<u>-201</u>

**By selecting the demodulation phase, it is possible to separate the signals for each degree of freedom**

# [Calculation] Plot in PRXARM configuration

WFS signal  $\propto$  (carrier \*  $f_a$ )

PMPM WFS signal  $\propto f_a * f_b + \text{carrier} * (f_a - f_b)$

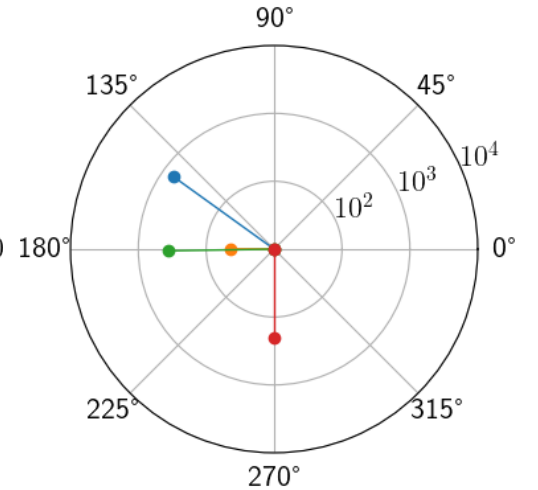
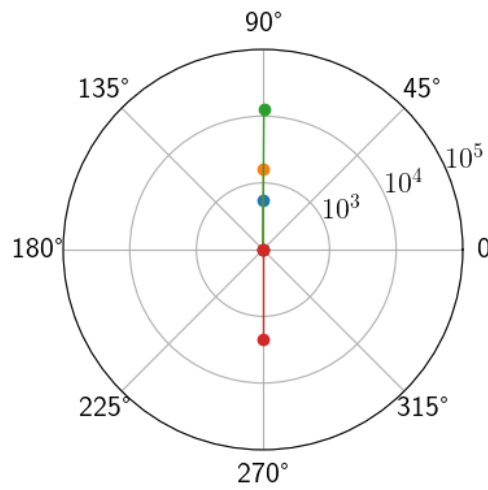
WFS

PMPMWFS

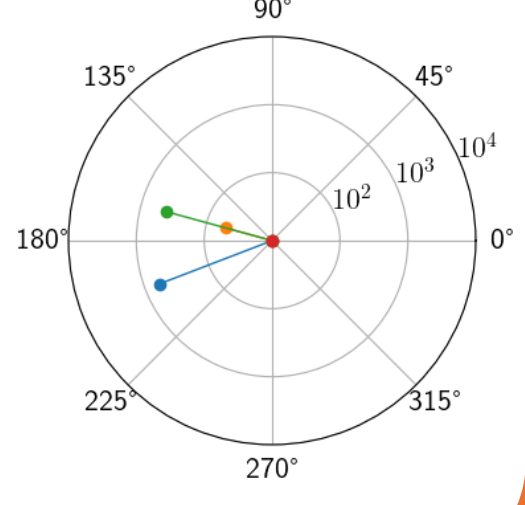
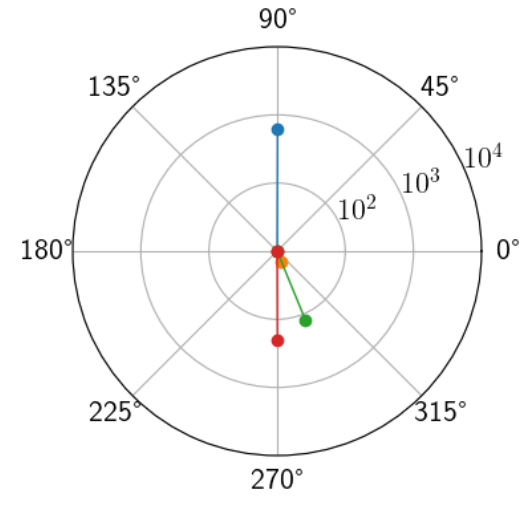
carrier \* (f<sub>a</sub> - f<sub>b</sub>)

f<sub>a</sub> \* f<sub>b</sub>

Phase:  
The demodulation phase [deg]  
Abs: Signal/mirror angle [W/rad]

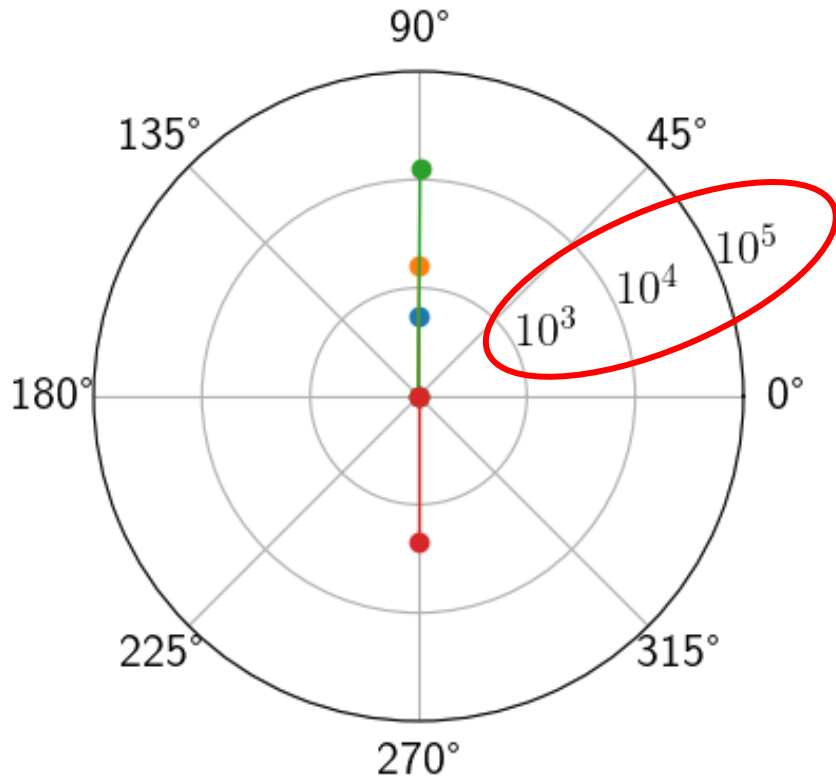


Phase:  
The demodulation phase [deg]  
Abs: Signal/mirror angle [W/rad]

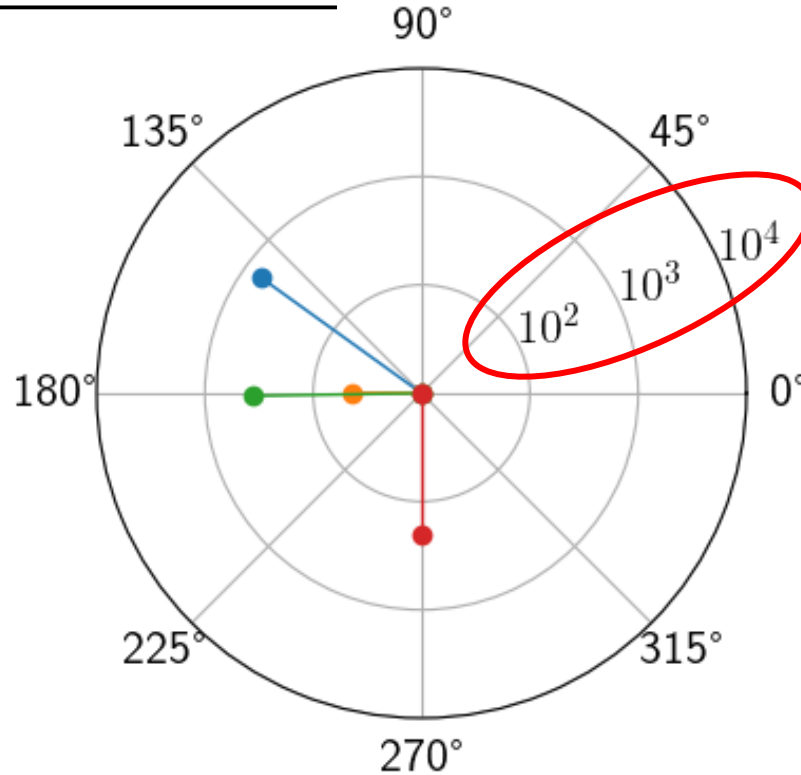


# [Calculation] WFS vs. PMPMWFS

## WFS



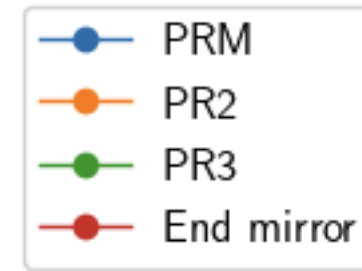
## PMPMWFS



Phase:

The demodulation phase[deg]

Abs: Signal/mirror angle[W/rad]



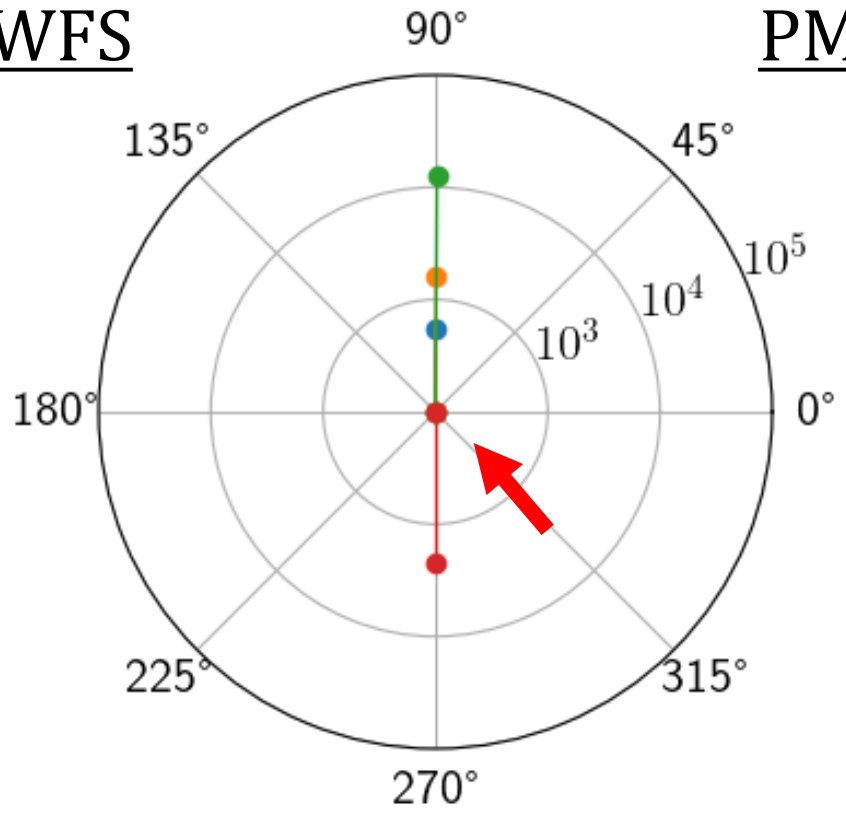
[Amplitude]

- PMPMWFS is about one-tenth of WFS.

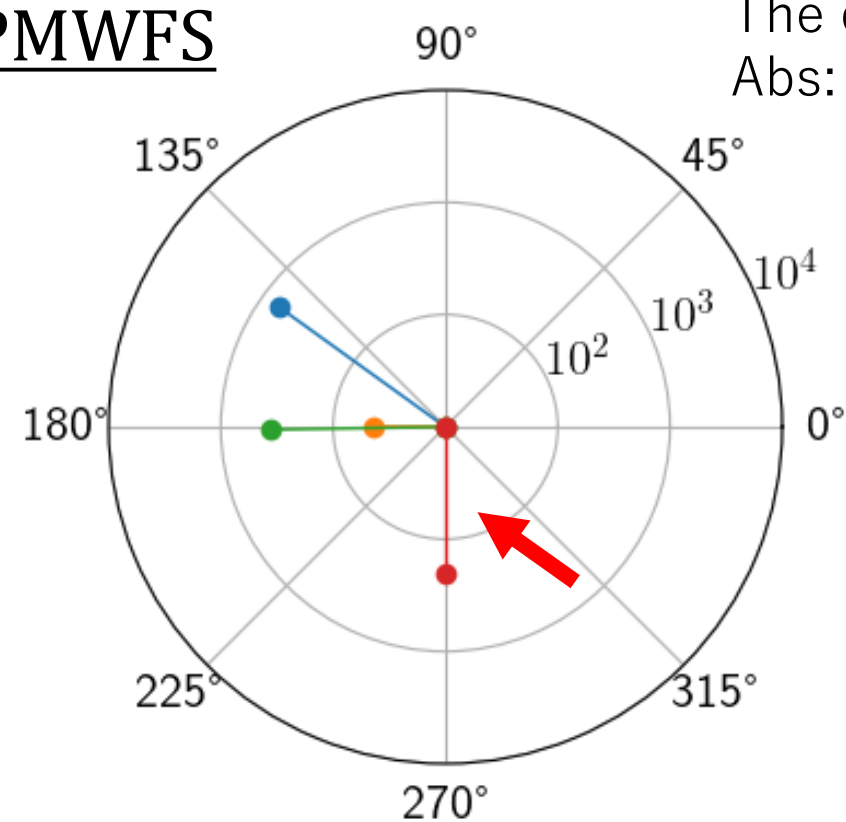
Detection limit [prad]	PRM	PR2	PR3	End mirror
PMPMWFS	4.30	6.22	0.756	1.85

# [Calculation] WFS vs. PMPMWFS

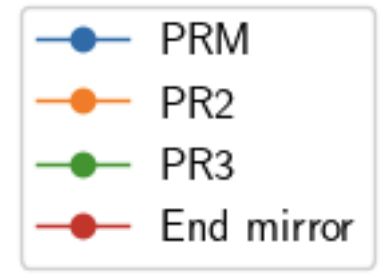
WFS



PMPMWFS



Phase:  
The demodulation phase[deg]  
Abs: Signal/mirror angle[W/rad]

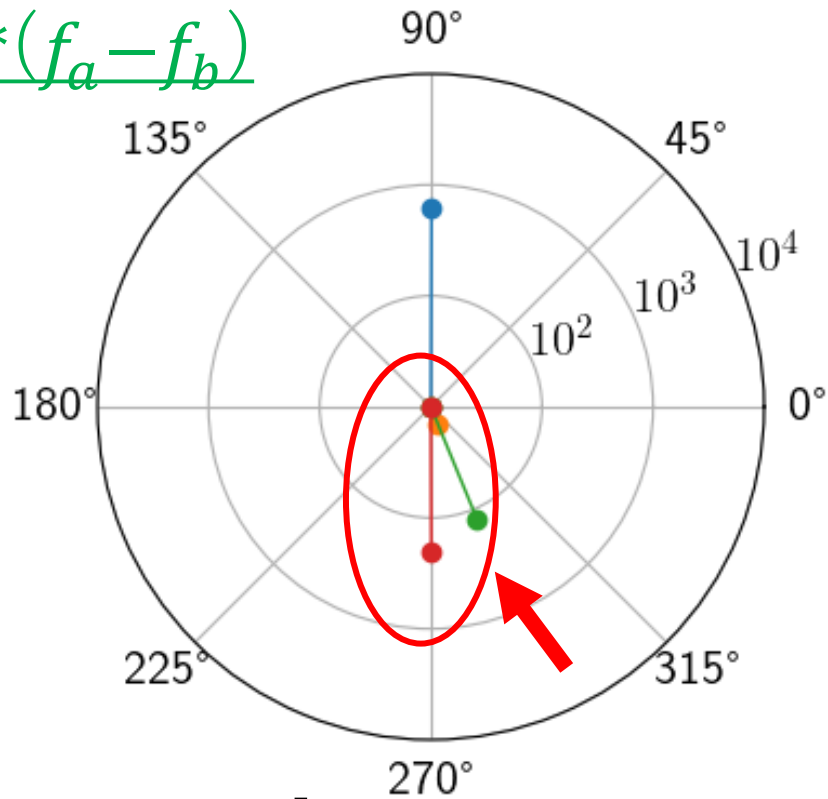


[Relationship between End mirror and the demodulation phase of PR2/3]

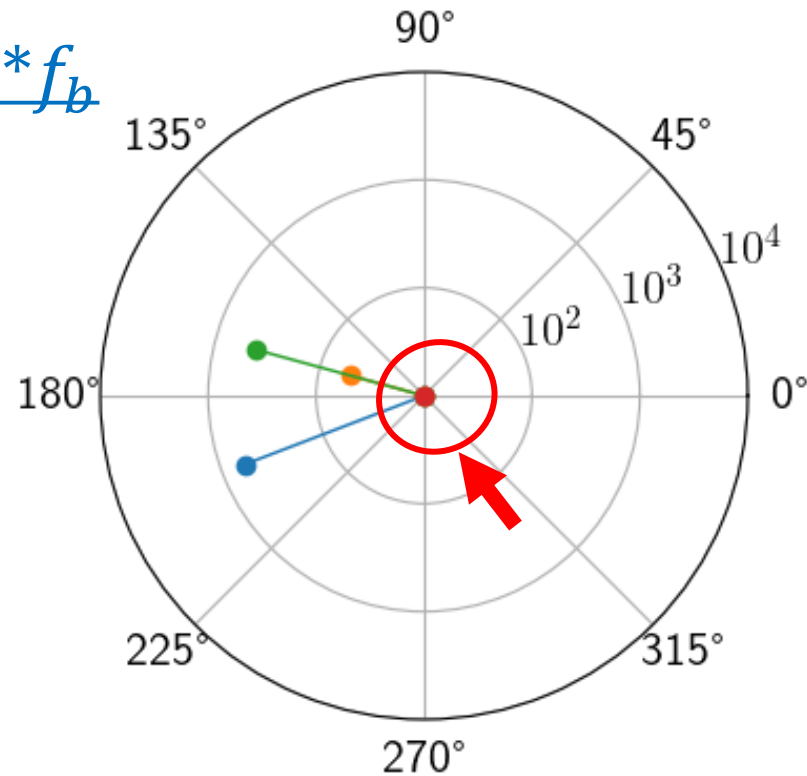
- In PMPMWFS, orthogonal (up to 89 degrees).
  - In WFS, in phase.
- **In PMPMWFS, it is possible to separate signals from other axes by selecting the demodulation phase.**

# [Calculation] The beat components of PMPMWFS

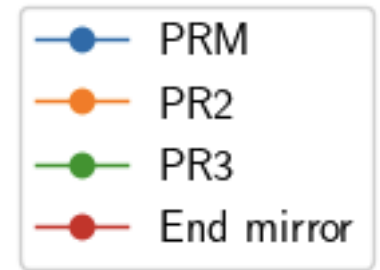
carrier\*(f<sub>a</sub>-f<sub>b</sub>)



f<sub>a</sub>\*f<sub>b</sub>



Phase:  
The demodulation phase[deg]  
Abs: Signal/mirror angle[W/rad]



[End mirror signal]

- carrier\*(f<sub>a</sub>-f<sub>b</sub>) beat part → visible
- f<sub>a</sub>\*f<sub>b</sub> beat part → not visible.

→ the two sidebands  $f_a$  and  $f_b$  do not enter the arm resonator

# [Experiment] PMPMWFS Measurement

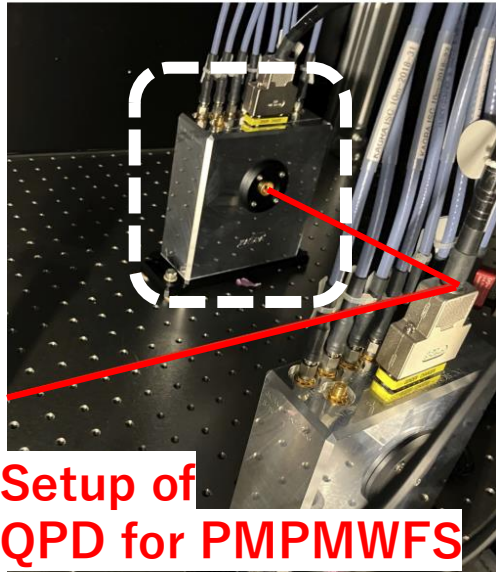
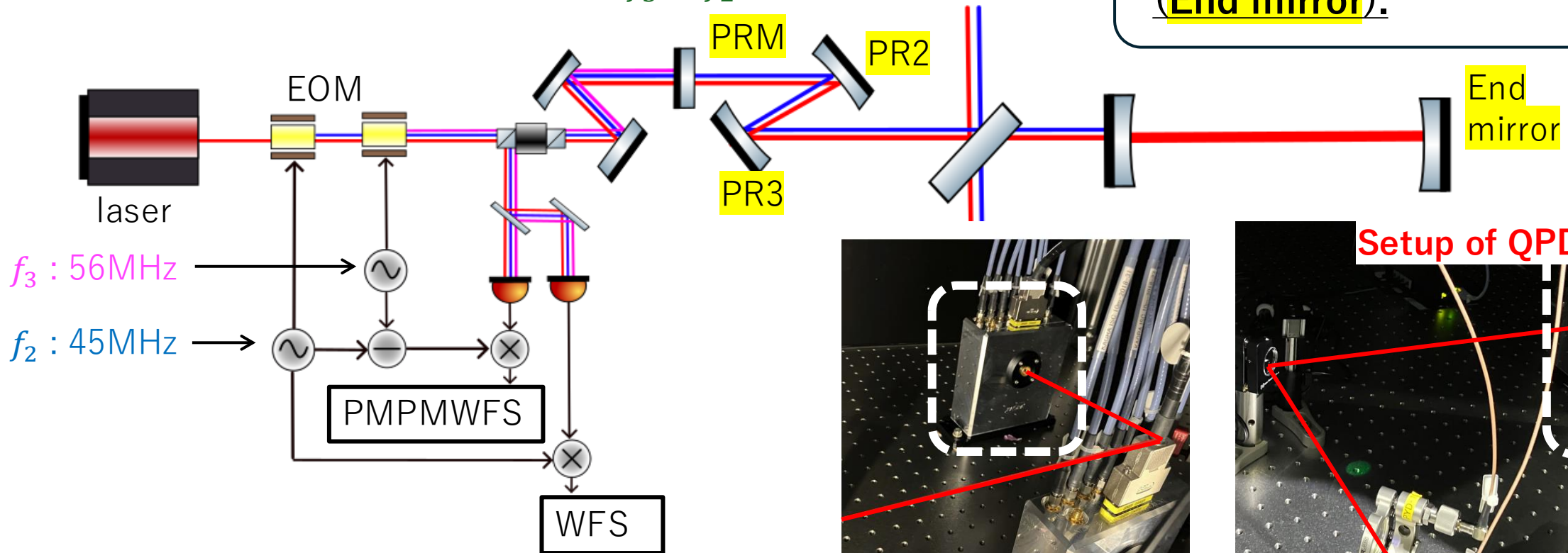
Interferometer configuration: KAGRA's PRXARM configuration

Mirror degrees of freedom: PRM, PR2, PR3, End mirror

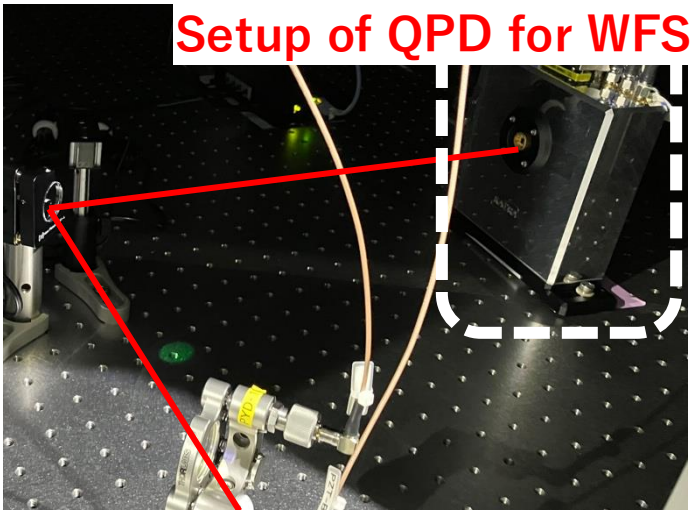
Signal detection:

- WFS signal (demodulated at  $f_2$ )
- PMPMWFS signal (demodulated at  $f_3 - f_2$ )

It is desired to separate the signals from the other axes (PRM, PR2, PR3) from the arm-axis signals (End mirror).



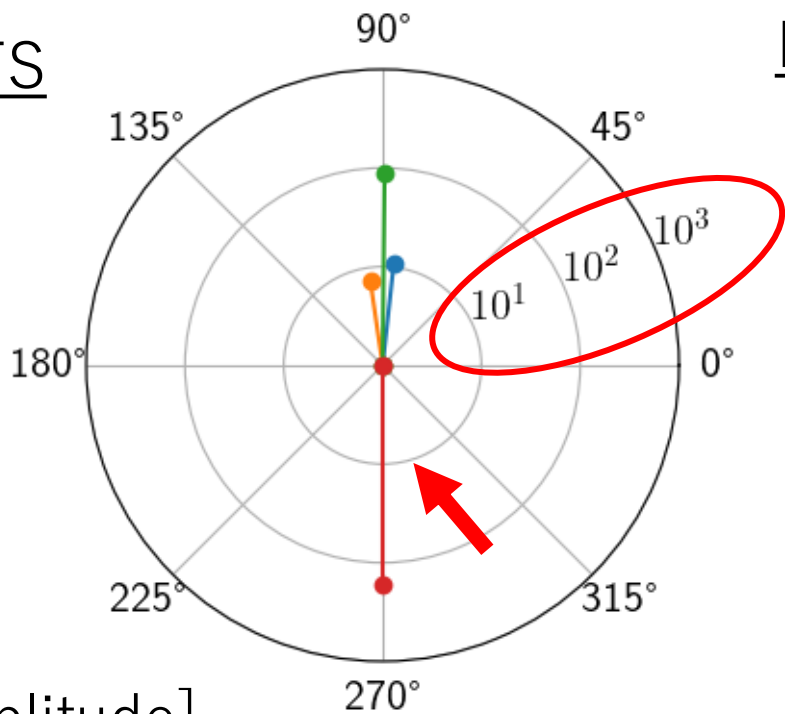
Setup of QPD for PMPMWFS



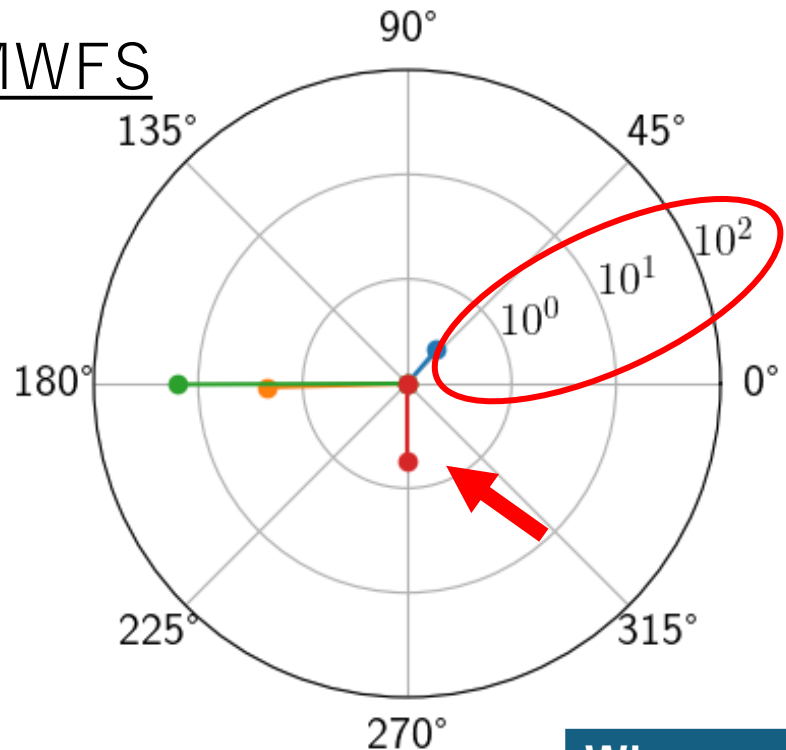
Setup of QPD for WFS

# [Experiment Measurement] WFS vs. PMPMWFS

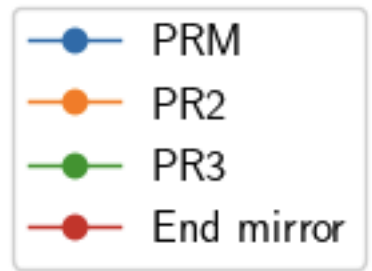
WFS



PMPMWFS



Phase:  
The demodulation phase[deg]  
Abs: Signal/mirror  
angle[W/rad]



[Amplitude]

- PMPMWFS is about one-tenth of WFS

[Relationship between End mirror and the demodulation phase of PR2/3]

- In PMPMWFS, orthogonal (up to 89 degrees)
- In WFS, in phase

When set to the demodulation phase to maximized PR3	End mirror /PR3
PMPMWFS	0.009
WFS	-1.9

# [Calculation vs. Experiment Measurement]

[Amplitude]

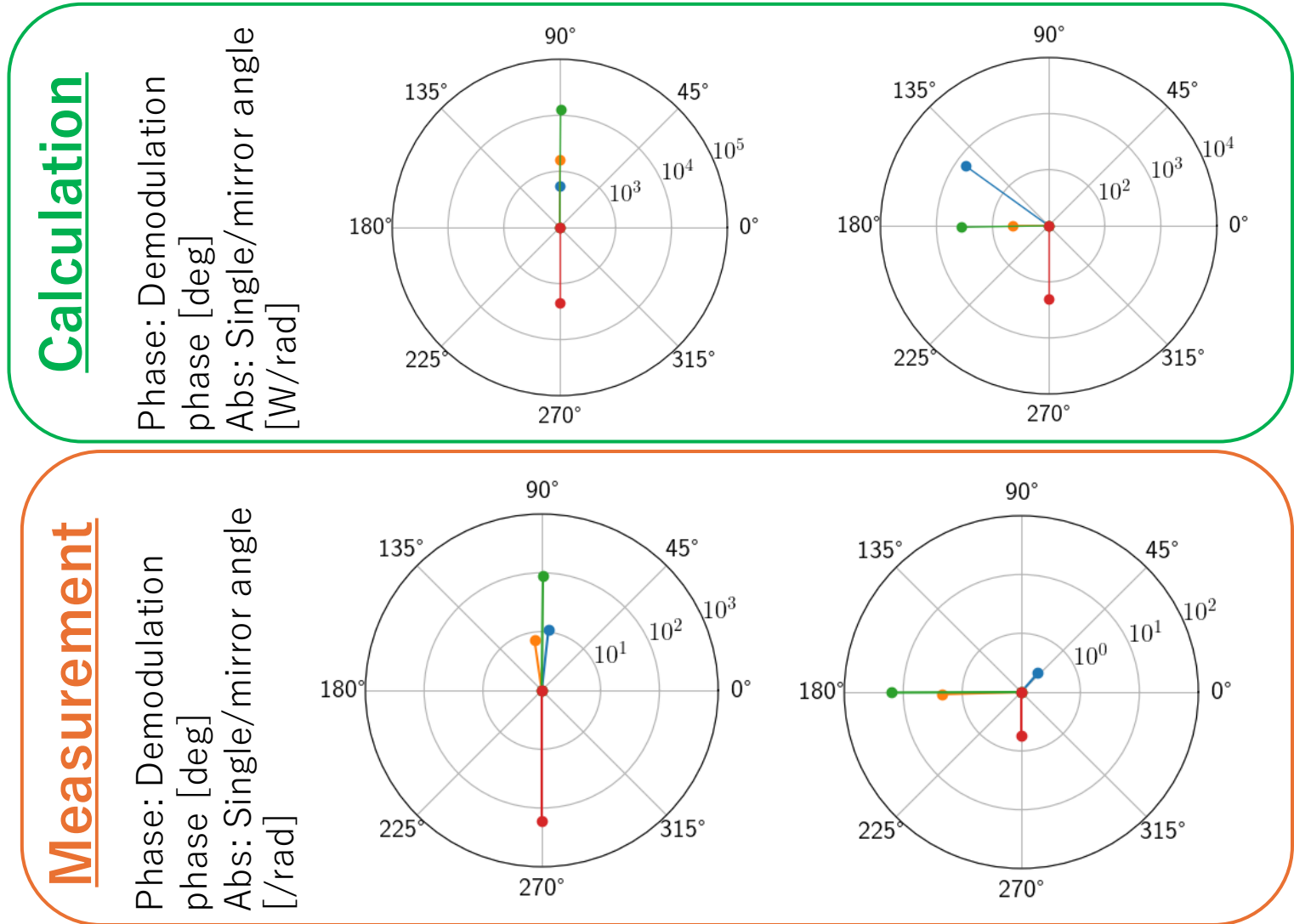
- PMPMWFS is about one-tenth of WFS

[Relationship between End mirror and the demodulation phase of PR2/3]

- In PMPMWFS, orthogonal (up to 89 degrees)
- In WFS, in phase



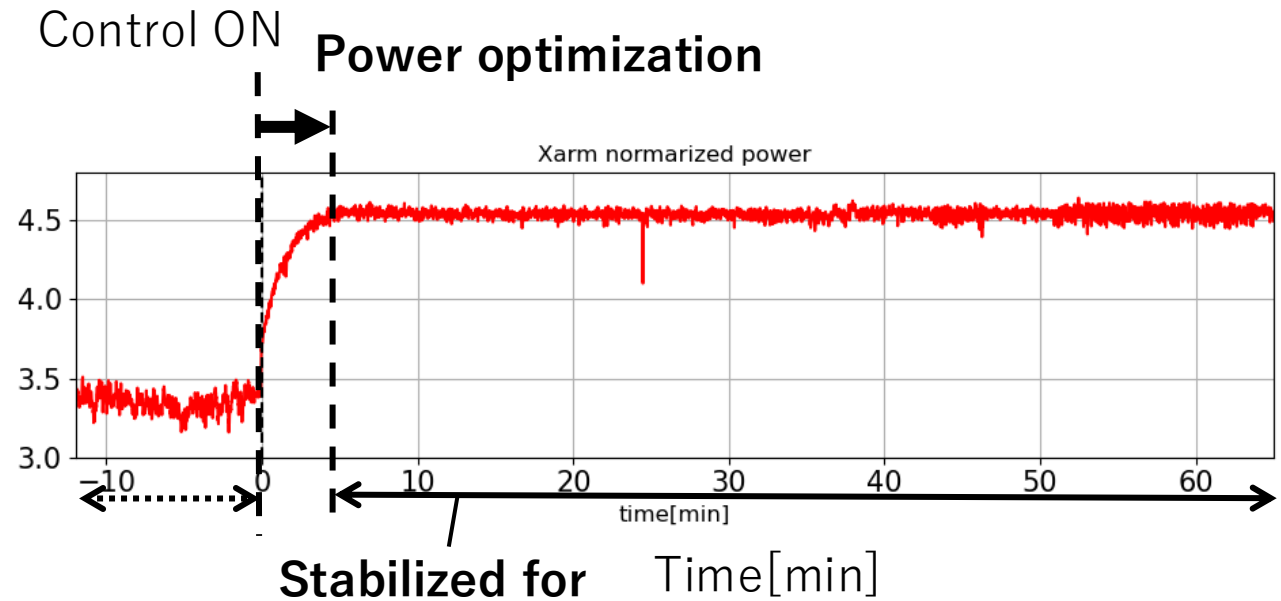
The relationship between PMPMWFS and WFS was confirmed by the agreement between calculation and experimental results.



# Demonstration of control implementation time scale

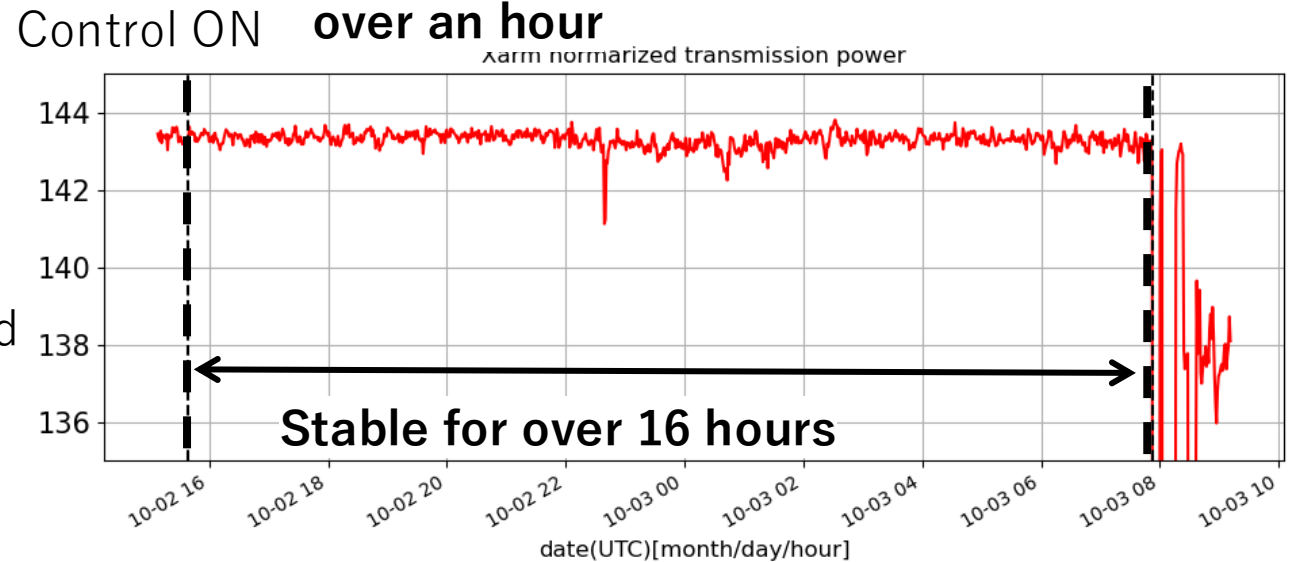
## PRXARM

The arm cavity normalized power [a.u.]



## PRFPMI

The arm cavity normalized power [a.u.]



**Achieved stabilization in the interferometer configuration for GW observation**

# Summary

- Alignment Sensing and Control (ASC) is required for gravitational-wave detectors
- Conventional Wave Front Sensing(WFS) has difficulty separating arm-axis and other-axis signals → Proposal for PMPMWFS
- PMPMWFS: beat components between two sidebands + beat components between the carrier and the difference frequency
- In the KAGRA PRXARM configuration:
  - PMPMWFS detects the arm-axis signal and the other-axis signals with orthogonal phases (WFS: in phase)
    - **Successful signal separation using a single signal**
  - The beat component between the two sidebands does not detect the arm-axis signal
- The relationship between PMPMWFS and WFS in the experiment agreed with the theoretical calculation
  - **Consistency of the theoretical analysis was confirmed**
- **Successful implementation of control in the interferometer configuration for gravitational-wave observation**

Published in PTEP Vol 2026, Issue 2, February 2026.

---

# Outlook

[ASC in GW observation mode]

- Apply PMPMWFS to optical axes other than the arm cavity axis (PRC, incident axis.. etc.)

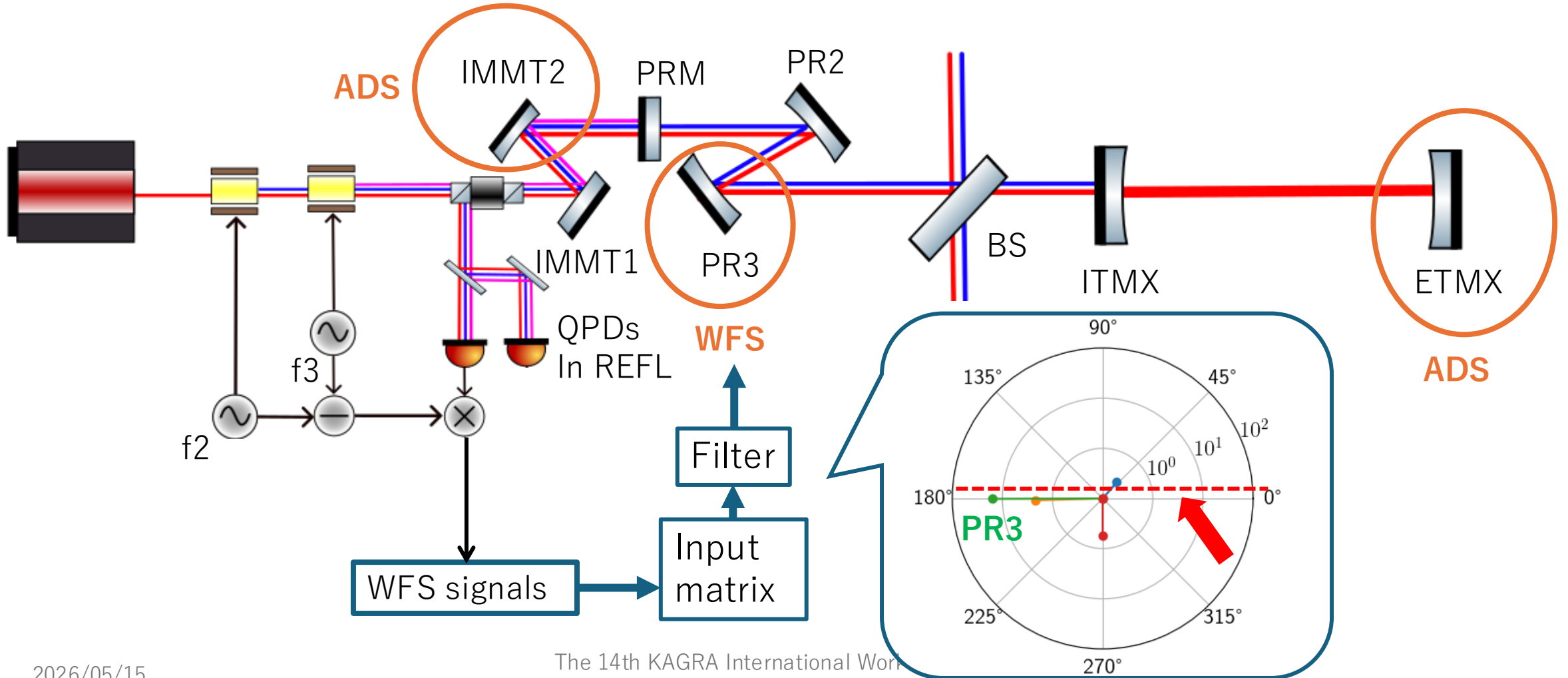
[ASC during GW observation mode preparation]

- Investigate extraction of pure sideband–sideband beat signals using the difference between PMPMWFS and WFS signals

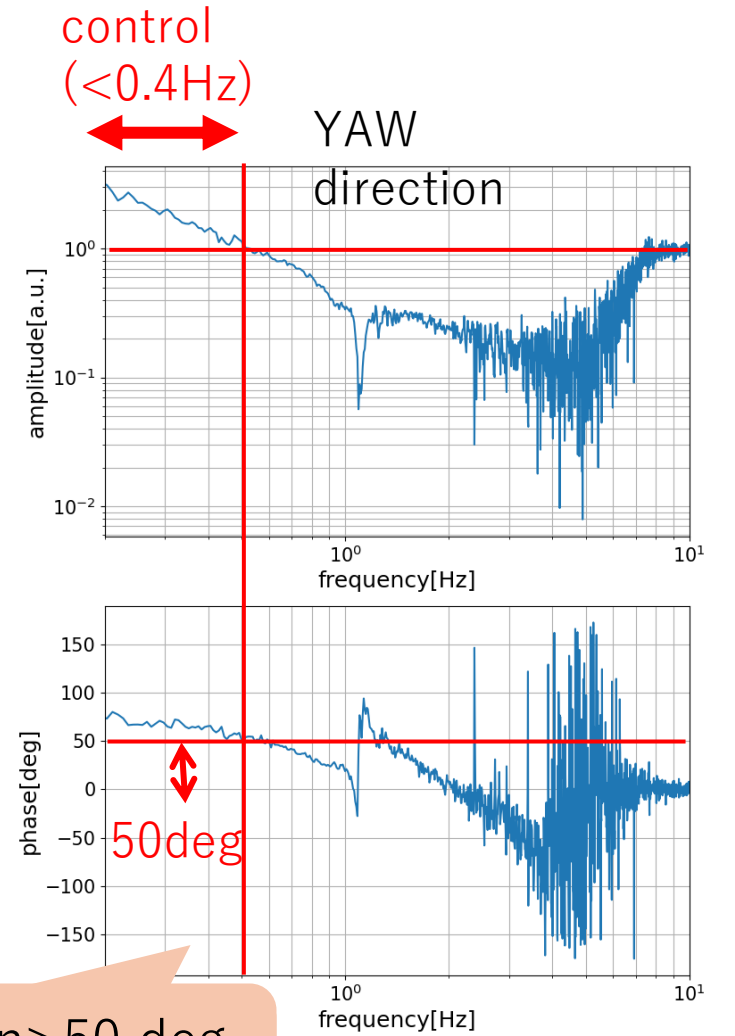
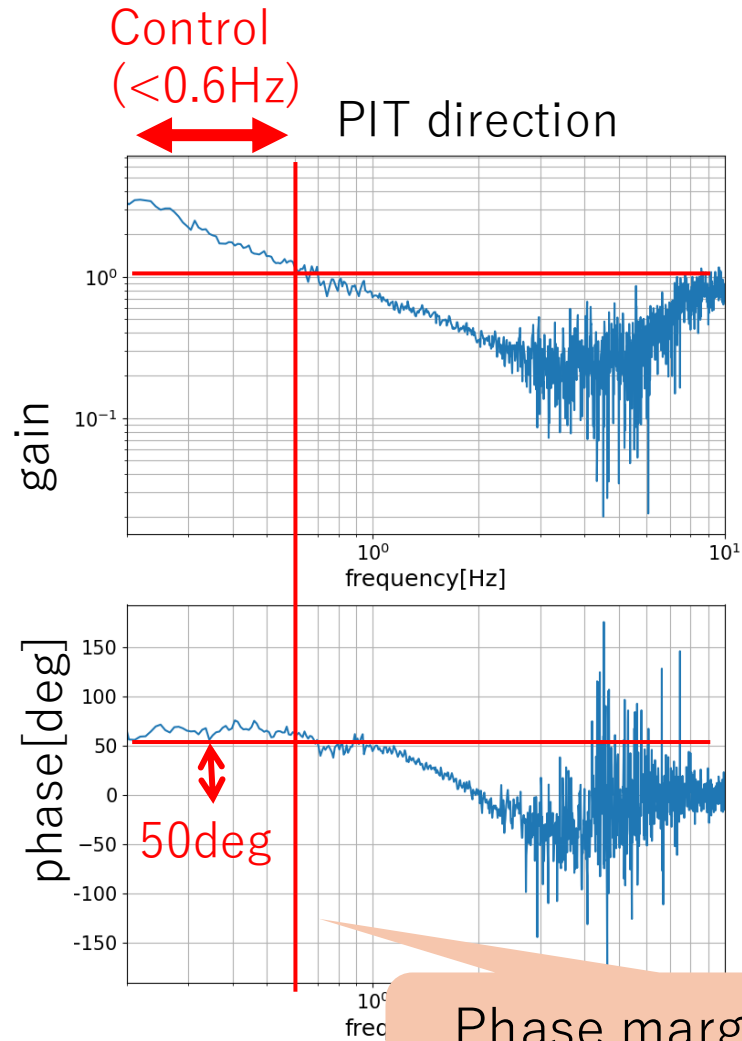
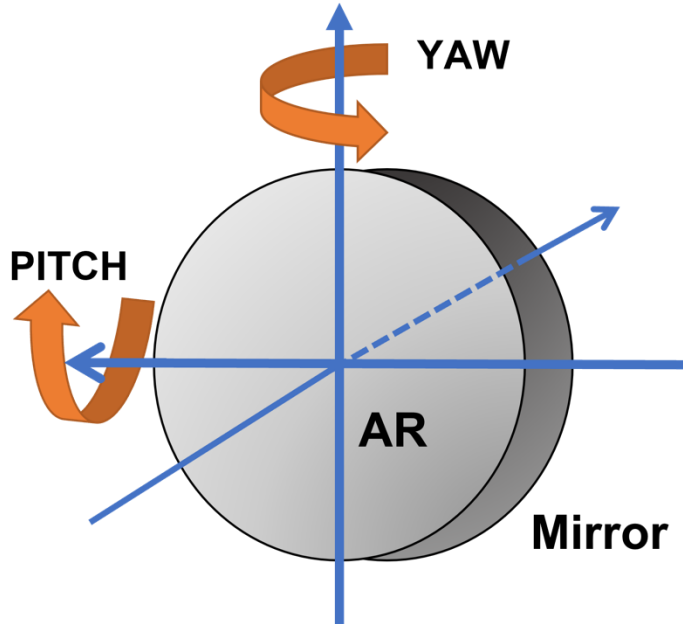
# Appendix

# PMPMWFS control to PRXARM

- WFS control using PMPMWFS signal in PRXARM.
- Added ADS (Alignment dither system) to IMMT2 and ETMX as PRXARM ASC.

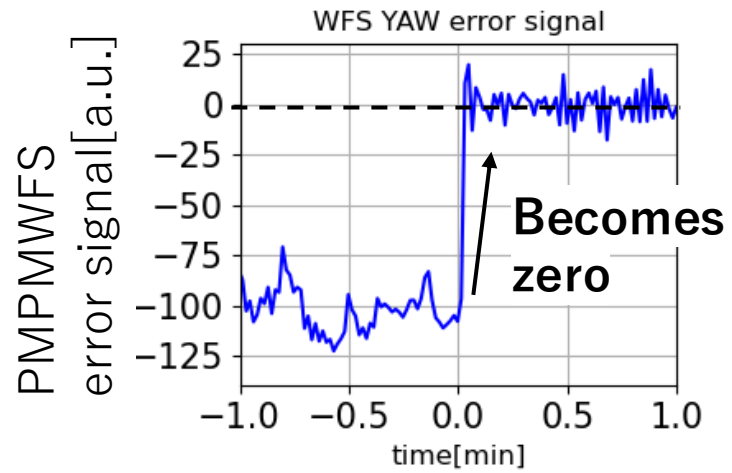
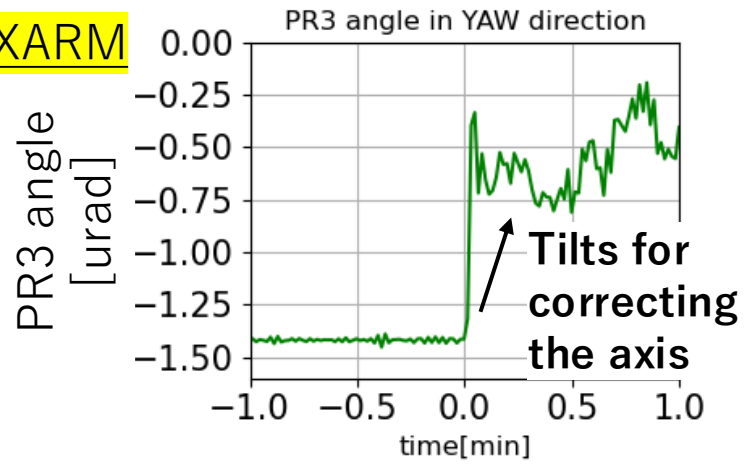


# OLTF



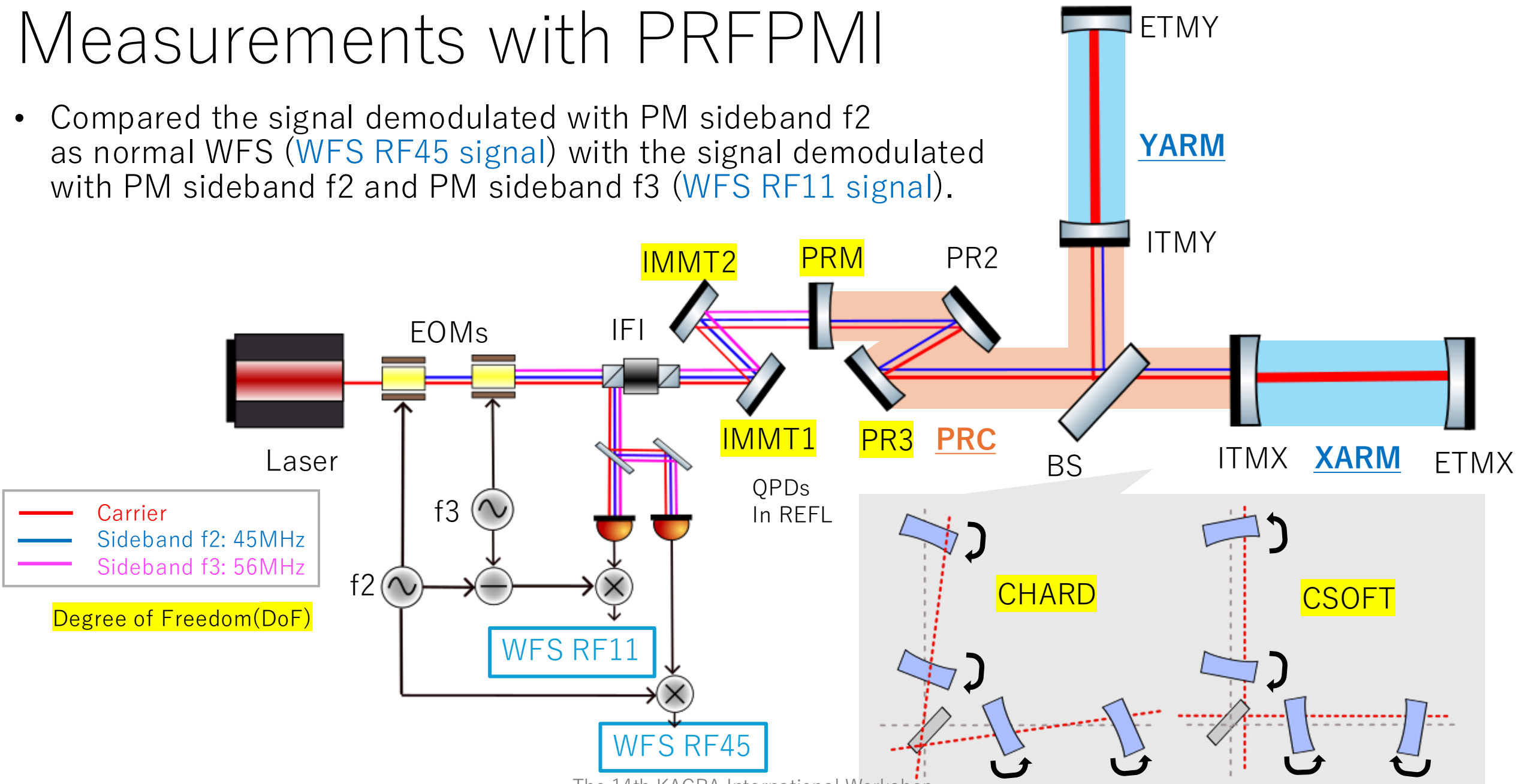
Phase margin > 50 deg

**PRXARM**



# Measurements with PRFPMI

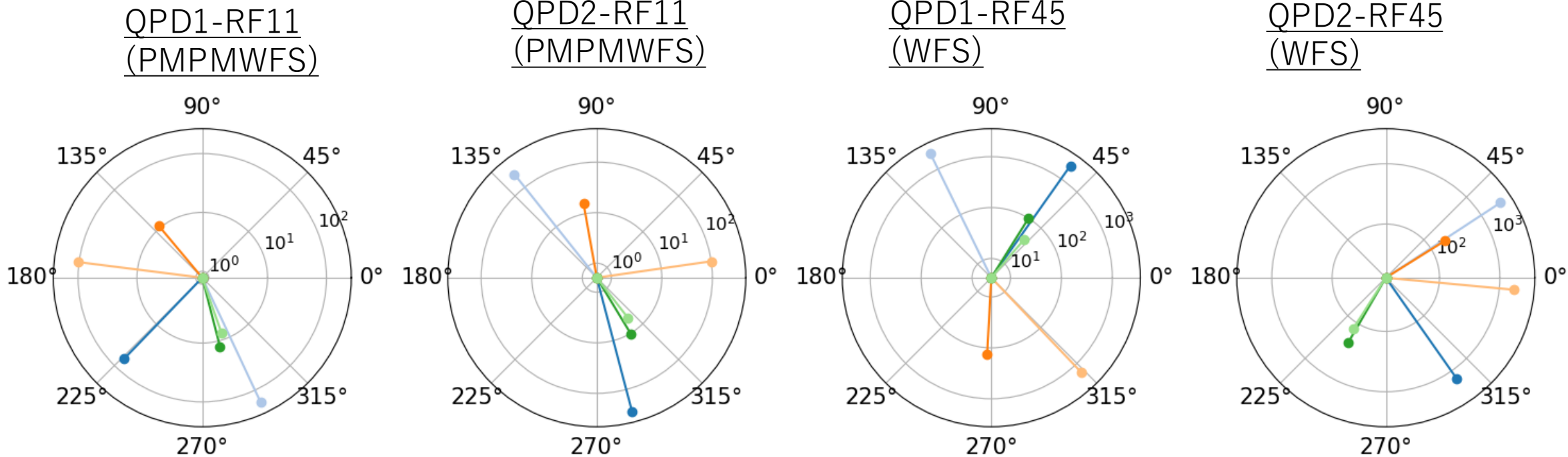
- Compared the signal demodulated with PM sideband f2 as normal WFS (**WFS RF45 signal**) with the signal demodulated with PM sideband f2 and PM sideband f3 (**WFS RF11 signal**).



# WFS PIT results in PRFPMI



Optimal demodulated phase [deg]  
WFS signal [rad]



- The RF11 signal was detected with large [PR3](#), [CHARD](#), and [CSOFT](#) signals.
- The amplitude of the RF11 signal was one-tenth that of the RF45 signal.

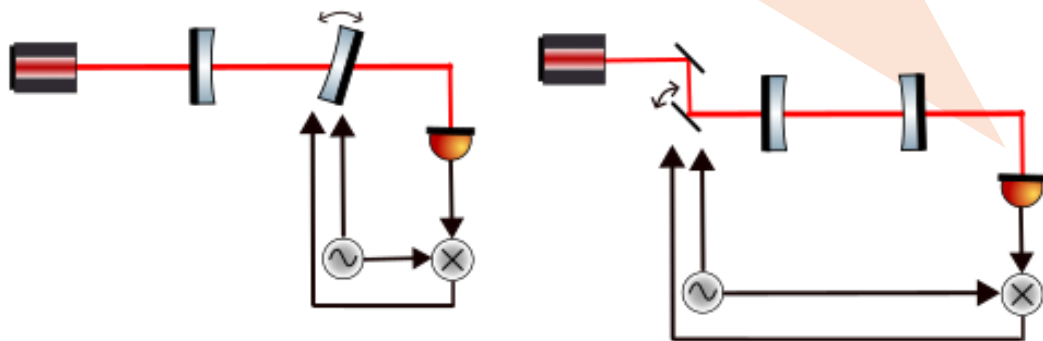
# How to ASC (3ways)

## ASC to align two optical axes relatively

- **Alignment Dither System(ADS)**

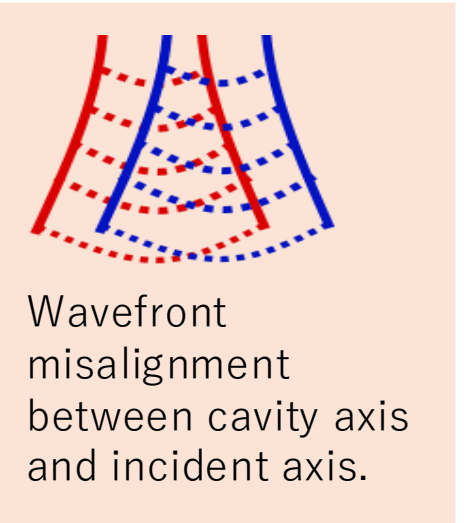
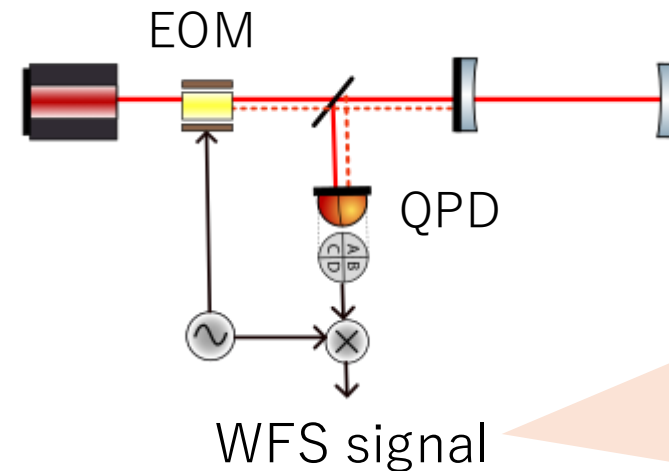
Oscillate the mirror angle and detect cavity power oscillation.

If a mirror oscillates, the incident axis and cavity axes are misaligned.  
→Transmission power decreases.



- **Wave front sensing(WFS)**

Detect misalignment of the optical axes by wavefront detection.



## ASC to fix the beam position on the mirror

- **Beam Position Control(BPC)**

# KAGRA PRFPMI configuration

## PRC (Power Recycling cavity)

Reinject power into the arm cavities by the reflection of PRM.  
Increases the power of the arm cavities.

