# A Watt's linkage for lunar gravitational wave detection

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WAVE ANTENNA

LGWA Interres

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1<sup>st</sup> Workshop on Gravitational wave detection at the Moon | 15 October 2021

# **Terrestrial gravitational waves (GW) detection in 30 seconds!**

0.00000001% of Earth's usual ever-present motion

credit: LIGO/SXS/R. Hurt and T. Pyle

# Sensor development came out of desire to decouple



3 | 17

Frequency

# Sensor developed during my PhD at room temperature

proof mass

10.00

1.6.0

Frame

actuator no

ead

suspension wire

4 | 17



JVvH+, 2018, <u>IEEE SAS proc., pp 76-80</u>

# Final result of the room temperature inertial sensor



JVvH+, 2018, IEEE SAS proc., pp 76-80

Measurement done on bench MultiSAS prototype at Nikhef.

Thermal noise not reached, but low Q expected due to (coil-magnet) actuator.

An 8 fm/VHz sensitivity above 30 Hz, but higher than goal.

Need low-loss actuators and better proof mass residual motion suppression.

### Add to next version: Rasnik long range readout and polarizing optics



# Getting rid of magnets in the actuator to avoid eddy current damping

Collaboration with Innovative Coating Solutions (Belgium) for custom superconducting coils.



Superconductivity collaboration and testing with Andrea Perali (UniCam) and Filip Tavernier (KULeuven), respectively



# A Cryogenic Superconducting Inertial Sensor (CSIS)



# Silicon Watt's linkage assembly procedure

A frame (in 2 pieces) and proof mass is cut out of highly doped silicon block using spark erosion machining (EDM).



The leg and flexures are laser assisted plasma etched out of a thick 500  $\mu m$  high-quality wafer.

HCB <sup>def</sup> Hydro-Catalysis Bonding

### A detailed noise budget of CSIS-Si and Nb thermal noise



#### **Comparison to terrestrial state-of-the-art**



# Using superconductivity in the readout: a SQUID



# Where can we test these cryogenic, fm/ $\sqrt{Hz}$ class inertial sensors?





#### A lunar gravitational wave detector!

Temperature (K 26-30 31-40 41-50 51-60 61-70 71-80 91-100 91-100 101-110 110-125 126-150 151-175 176-200

201-215

180

J. Stopar., 2019, LPI Contr. 2216

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#### Lunar Gravitational-wave Antenna

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Atomium, Brussels, Belgium

# We can bridge the sensitivity gap between LISA and ET



### Other benefits of putting these seismometers on the Moon



Prospecting for lunar mining (<sup>3</sup>He and REMs)

Map ice on the South pole for lunar base





Lunar geophysics (selenephysics)



Joe Weber's Lunar Surface Gravimeter credit:NASA

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- Cryogenic inertial sensor with fm/VHz displacement sensitivity from 0.5 Hz onward;
- This sensor can be deployed in the natural cryostats on the Lunar pole craters; a cryogenic sensor array can directly detect the effects of GWs on i the Moon;

Realisation of the first prototypes is underway!

first niobium block for EDM testing

Astronaut looking at radioisotope thermoelectic generator (RTG) credit:NASA





# Why is the Moon a good spot for detection gravitational waves?



# **Mission sketch**

credit: Jan Harms

solar power and laser transmission seismic stations

lander/

central

station

1 of 4



# Also thinking about vertical CSIS



#### How much more sensitive is this cold inertial sensor?



# Detailed noise budget for cryo-Si-Watt's linkage



Figure 7. A look under the hood: noise budget of ISOLATE's silicon cryogenic inertial sensor CSIS-Si and a red-dashed thermal noise trace when using niobium as sensor mechanics material. The actuator driver noise is modelled with a DAC noise of 0.1  $\mu$ V/ $\sqrt{Hz}$ , actuator strength of 5 mN/A and a sampling resistor Rs = 10 k $\Omega$ . The relative intensity noise converges to shot noise as  $n_{RIN} = n_{sn} \sqrt{f_c/f} + 1$  where the convergence frequency  $f_c$  is modelled as 1 Hz. and the frequency noise with 500/ $\sqrt{f}$  using a static arm length difference of 0.5 mm. The injected power is 25 mW, the dark current is modelled as 50 nA, the largest feedback resistor used is 20 k $\Omega$  and the opamp current and voltage noise is 2 fA/ $\sqrt{Hz}$  at 100 Hz and 50 nV/ $\sqrt{Hz}$  at 0.1 Hz. The proof mass is modelled as 1 kg and f<sub>0</sub> is tuned down to 0.1 Hz.

# Performance of the active platform



# Alternatives to powering our detector

Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generator (RTG). RTGs were deployed with every Apollo Moon landing and Pioneer 10&11, Voyager 1&2, Cassini, New Horizons, Curiosity, Chang'e 3&4



Failed launches and landings with RTGs as payload pose a high risk. Only NASA and CSNA have flown them. Solar power satellite (SPS). Expensive, however proposed for the South pole lunar

**Concentrating mirrors** 

Photovoltaic cells convert light to electricity

Microwave transmitter dish

High-energy microwave beam

credit: NASA

### Massive black hole inspiral science



The cryomagnetic option is a superconducting levitating accelerometer with a SQUID readout

The optomechanical option presented earlier is now baseline due to the bridge between LISA and ET

# Galactic binaries and neutron stars (NS)



#### What is there to discover below 1 Hz?





Low frequency part of stellar black holes (BH), intermediate mass ratio inspirals, super massive BHs, unknown unknowns...

credit: NASA Goddard/J. Schnittman and B.P. Powell

# As with electromagnetic waves, GWs have a spectrum

