

## Low-frequency, high-resolution, optical inertial sensors

Large-scale, high-end, scientific instruments see their performances significantly impaired by residual ground motion at low frequencies. Namely, recent development of gravitational wave detectors aims to detect gravitational waves whose strain is as low as  $10^{-20}$  Hz<sup>-1/2</sup> in the sub-Hz frequency range, while seismic noise can be 10 times larger in this frequency range. High performance active isolation strategy and seismic sensors are required to address this issue.

The Precision Mechatronics Laboratory, based in ULiège and ULB, Belgium, has a large experience in developing high-resolution optical inertial sensors intended to be used in active control. The latest inertial sensors, HINS and VINS, are based on an Long-range, Michelson-type, optical readout with a sensitivity of  $2 \cdot 10^{-13}$  m/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$  at 1 Hz. They have a resolution of  $2 \cdot 10^{-12}$  m/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$  at 1 Hz,  $1 \cdot 10^{-13}$  m/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$  at 10 Hz and  $3 \cdot 10^{-14}$  m/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$  at 100 Hz.

A new, compact, design of the sensors is being developed. The sensor is designed to fit a 10 x 10 x 10 cm box, reducing the original design of VINS by a factor of 8. The mechanics also features fused-silica joints for and reduced low-frequency thermal noise. Ringdown tests demonstrate a Q-factor of 2800 in open-air.

**Primary author:** AMOROSI, Anthony (U Liege)

**Session Classification:** Poster session I

**Track Classification:** Suspensions for low frequencies