

Long-Period Seismometry

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Basics

- ❖ Measure motion of Earth's surface relative to some inertial reference frame
- ❖ Applied to a mass-on-a-spring suspension, in the Laplace domain:

$$\text{Mass Pos}(s) = G \frac{1}{s^2 + \frac{0}{Q}s + \frac{2}{0}} * \text{Ground Acceleration}(s)$$

Where

$G = \text{constant} \sim 1$

and $M = \text{mass}$, $\frac{2}{0} = 2\pi/P_0$, $P_0 = \text{free period}$

$Q = 1/2$, $\frac{0}{Q} = \text{damping constant}$

- ❖ For frequencies much smaller than the resonant frequency, ω_0 , mass position is proportional to ground acceleration.
- ❖ The smaller the resonant frequency the larger the mass motion for a given ground acceleration.

$$\text{Mass Pos}(s) = \frac{G}{\omega_0^2} * \text{Ground Acceleration}(s)$$

as $s \rightarrow 0$

WHAT ARE THE REQUIRMENTS?

- ❖ What do we want to measure -
SIGNALS
- ❖ How accurately do we want to measure -
RESOLUTION
- ❖ Over what frequencies do we want to
measure - BANDWIDTH

What Bandwidth is Required

- ❖ Gravest Normal Mode – 0.3 mHz
- ❖ Top end of Teleseismic signals ~ 1 Hz
- ❖ Top end of Regional Signals ~ 10 Hz
- ❖ Top end of Strong Motion ~ 30 Hz

WHAT IS THE REQUIRED RESOLUTION?

- ❖ WHAT IS THE EARTH'S AMBIENT NOISE FIELD?
- ❖ LOOK AT LOWEST OBSERVED NOISE LEVELS TO ESTIMATE REQUIRED RESOLUTION - A MOVING TARGET

NOISE

Brune & Oliver, 1959

“There are virtually no data on noise in the range of periods between 20 seconds and the earth tide periods.”

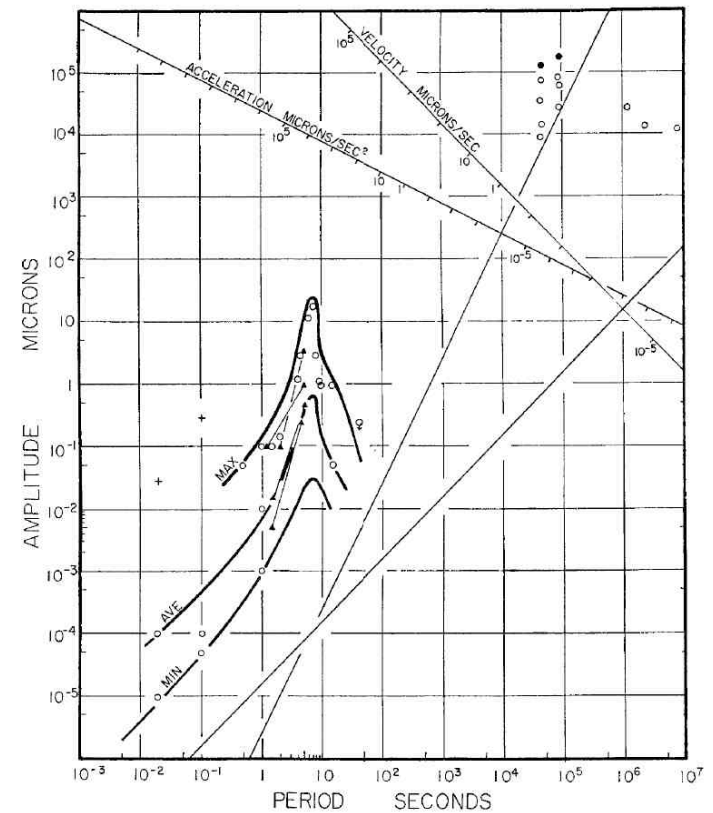
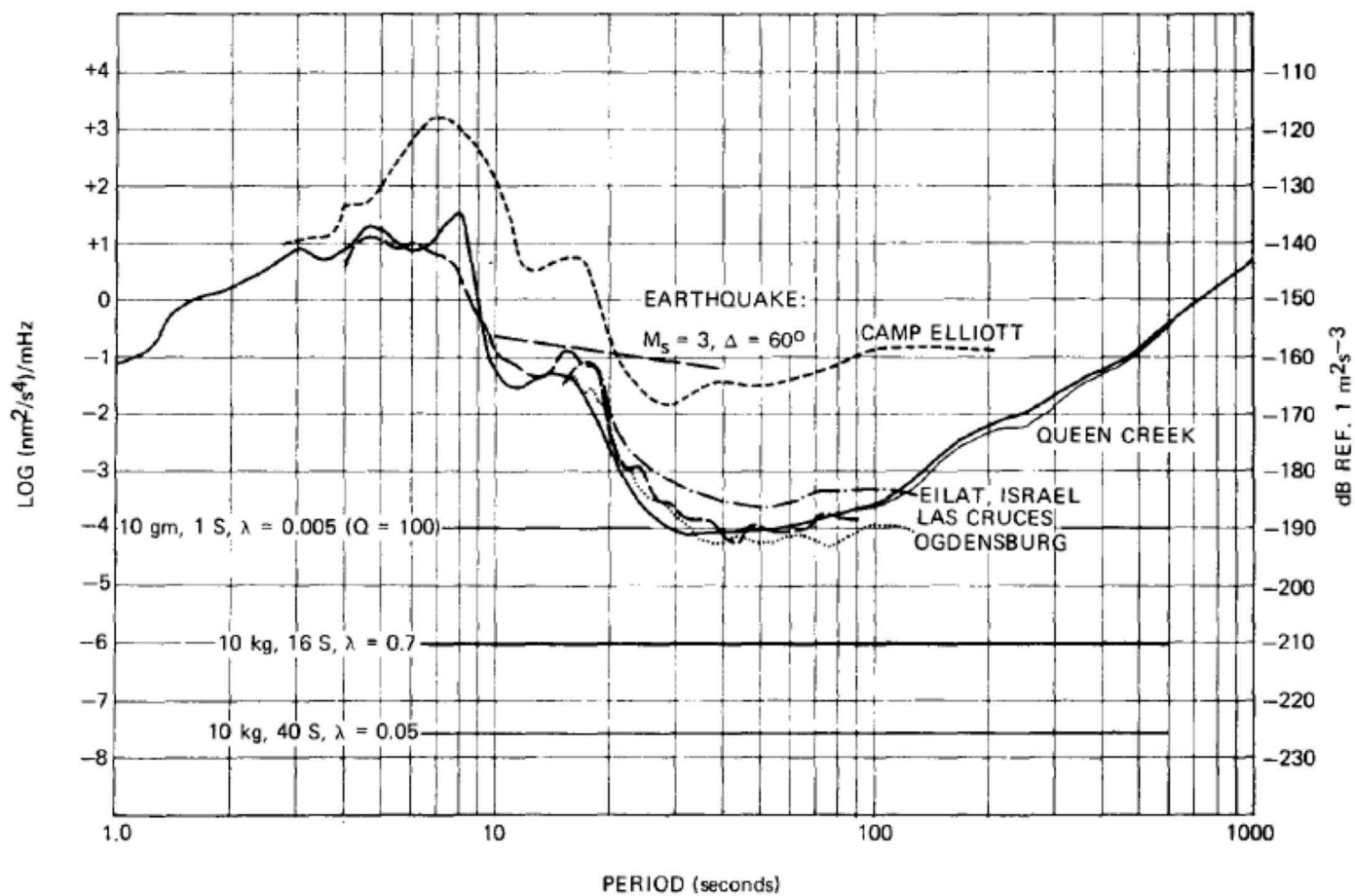


Fig. 1. The seismic noise of the earth's surface.

Melton, 1976



Agnew & Berger (1978)

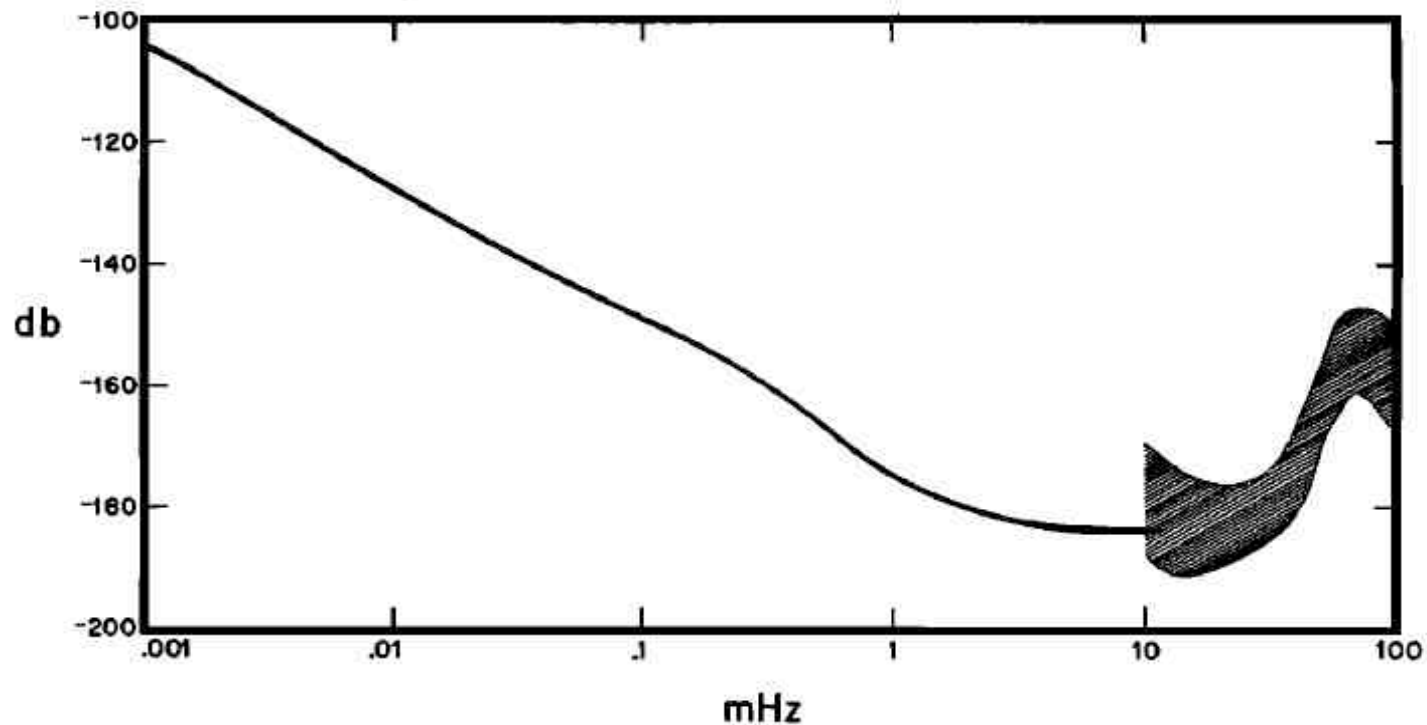
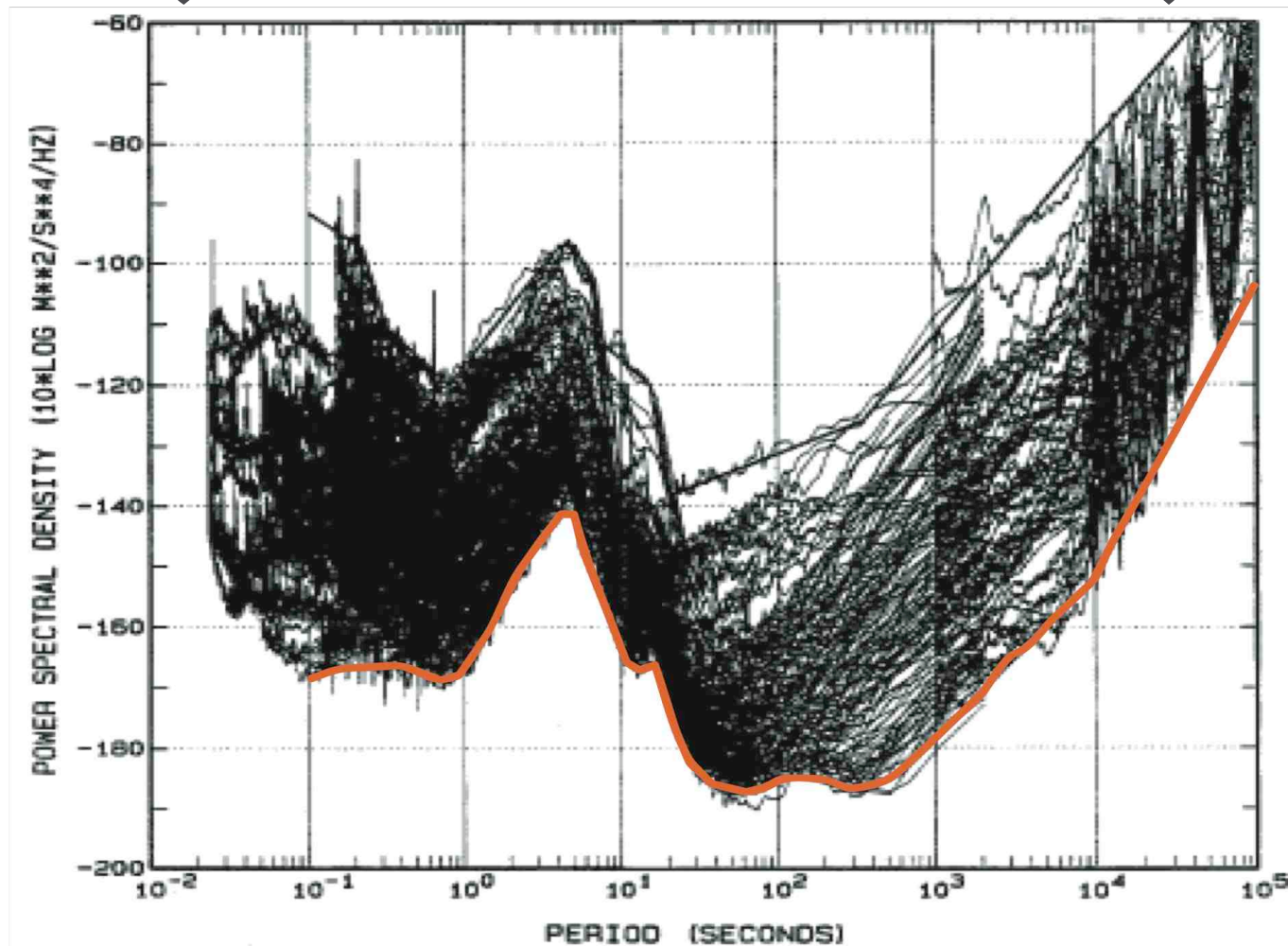
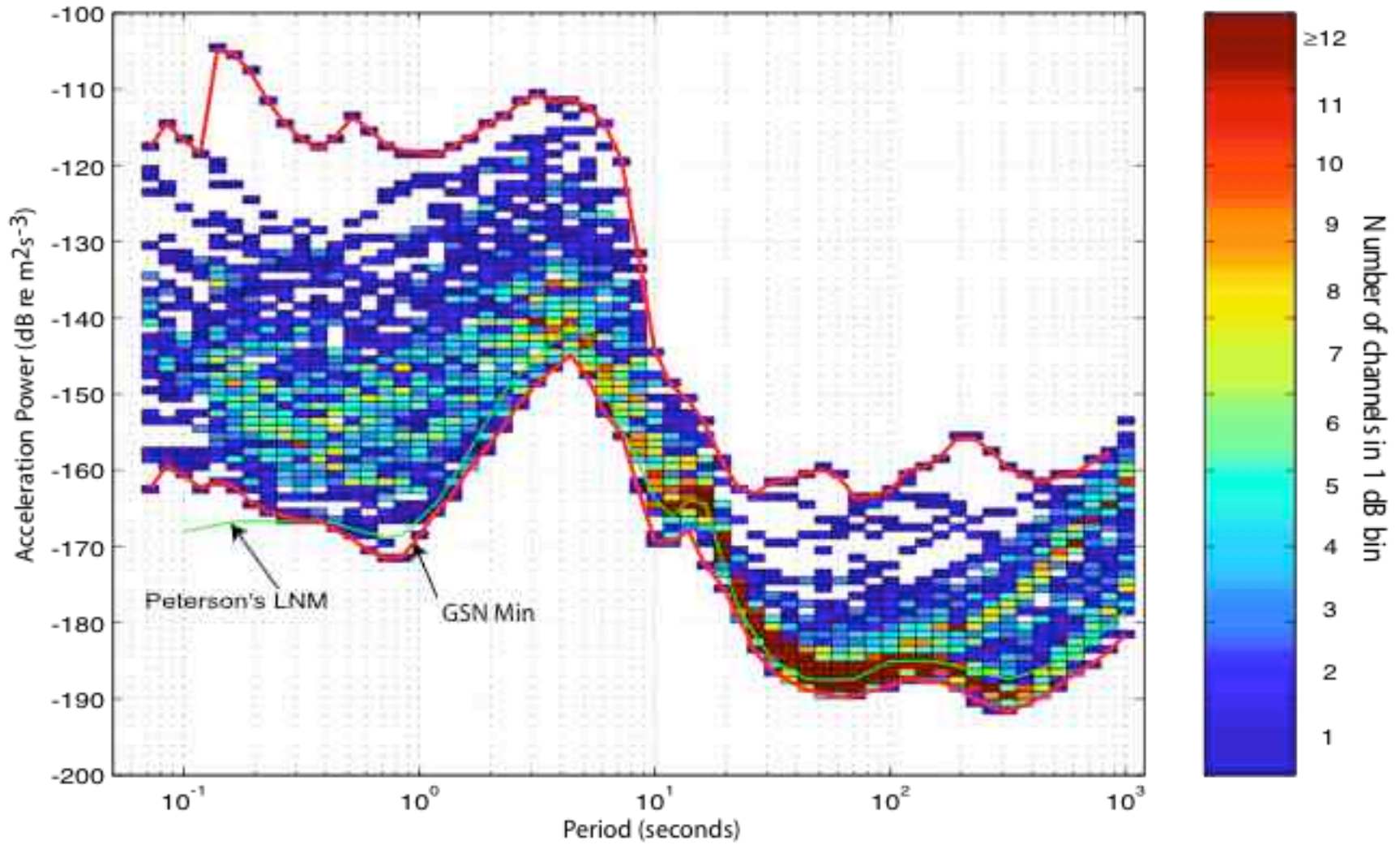


Fig. 5. Vertical ground noise as a function of frequency. The vertical axis is power spectral density in decibels relative to $1 \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-3}$. The shaded area to the right of 10 mHz shows the range of noise found at HGLP stations [Murphy and Savino, 1975]. The line to the right shows the ground noise at Piñon Flat, the quietest of the Project IDA stations, based on data from the superconducting and Project IDA gravimeters.

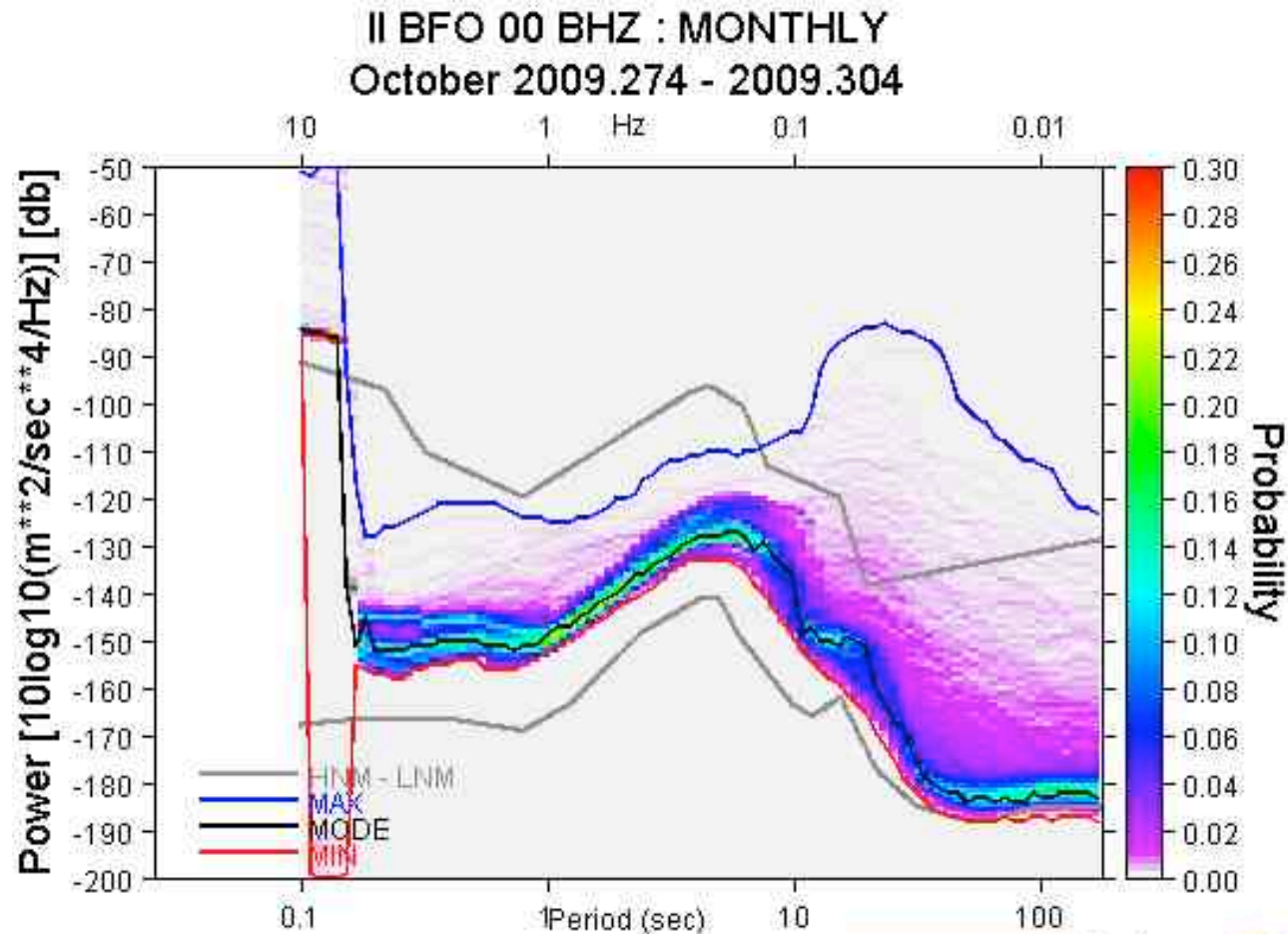
Peterson 1993 (aka USGS NLNM)



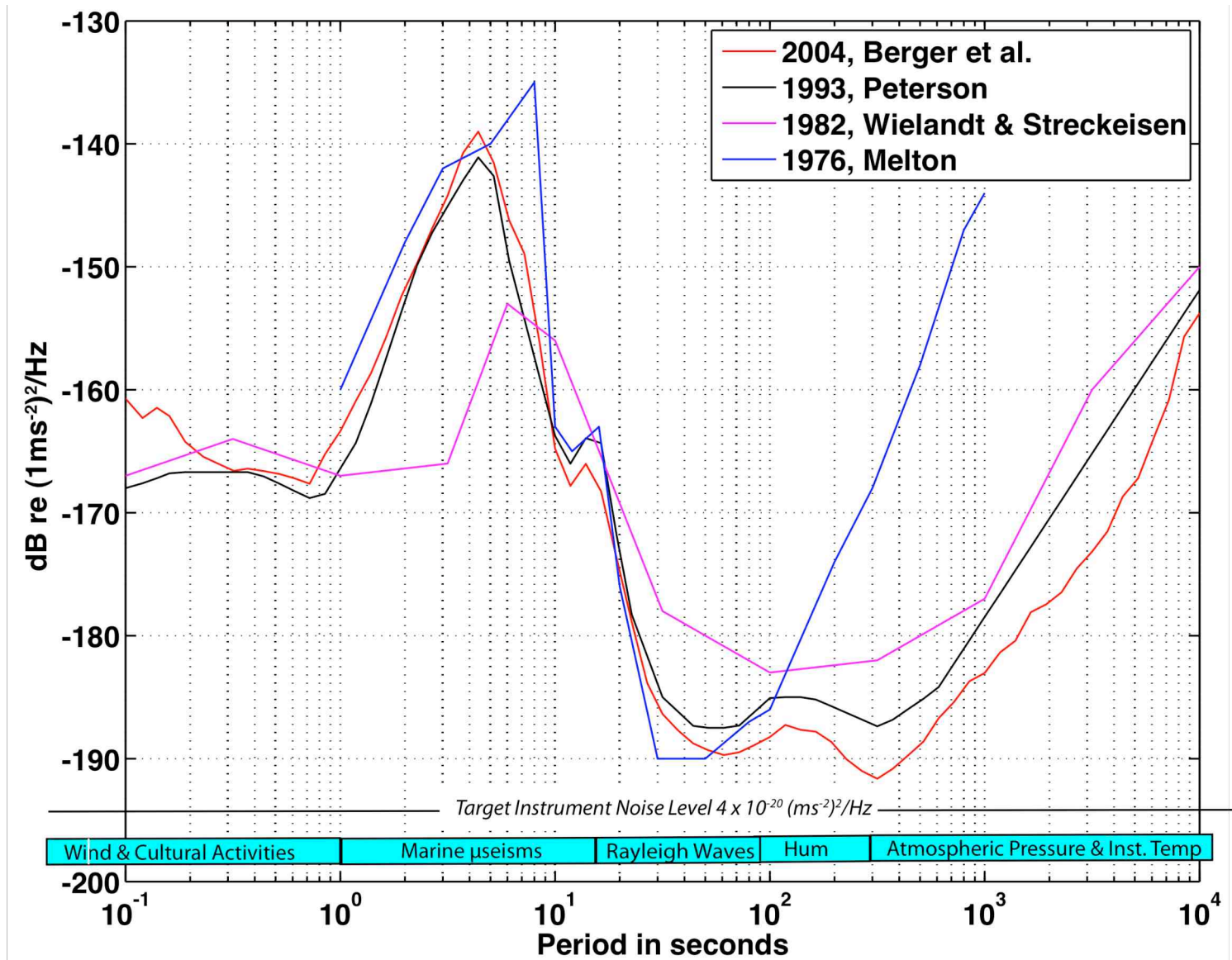
GSN 1st Percentile Noise



Routine Noise Estimation



Evolution of Noise Models



want to resolve $4 \times 10^{-20} \text{ (m}^2\text{s}^{-4}\text{) / Hz}$

$$\text{Mass Pos}(s) = \frac{G}{2} * \text{Ground Acceleration}(s)$$

as $s \# 0$

which at long periods corresponds to
rms. mass displacement = $5 \times 10^{-12} * P_0^2 \text{ m}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$
[Radius of H atom $\sim 4 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}$]

Free Period P_0 Seconds	Mass Displacement $\text{m}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$
0.1	5×10^{-14}
1	5×10^{-12}
10	5×10^{-10}

Thermal Issues

- ❖ Thermal noise of a damped harmonic oscillator
- ❖ Thermal expansion of seismometer suspension
- ❖ Thermoelastic effect of seismometer spring
- ❖ Environmental protection

$$\text{Thermal Acceleration} = \frac{8 \kappa T}{m P_0 Q} \frac{10^{19}}{m P_0 Q} (\text{m/s}^2)^2 / \text{Hz}$$

Where

κ - Boltzmann's Constant

T - Temperature in Kelvin degrees $\sim 290\text{K}^\circ$

m - Mass (kg), P_0 - Free Period (s)

Q - Quality Factor of spring (damping)

Example, $m = 0.5\text{kg}$, $P_0 = 10\text{s}$, $Q = 1/2$

$$m P_0 Q = 2.5$$

$$\text{Thermal Noise} = 4 \times 10^{-20} (\text{m/s}^2)^2 / \text{Hz}$$

- ❖ Temp coefficient of seismometer "material" $> 10^{-5}/\text{C}^\circ$
- ❖ Want to resolve long-period accelerations $\sim 10^{-11} \partial g/g$
Implies temperature stability $\sim 1 \mu\text{C}^\circ$
- ❖ How to get μC° temperature stability?
- ❖ Thermostating is impractical.
- ❖ Want to minimize seismometer's ability to exchange thermal energy with its surroundings.
- ❖ vault, borehole, enclosure, ...

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \alpha \nabla^2 u = \frac{\kappa}{\rho c_p} \nabla^2 u$$

Where $u = u(t, x, y, z)$ is temperature as a function of time and space.

α - **Thermal Diffusivity** in $\text{m}^2/\text{s} = \kappa/\rho c_p$

Substances with high thermal diffusivity rapidly adjust their temperature to that of their surroundings, because they conduct heat quickly in comparison to their volumetric heat capacity or 'thermal bulk'.

κ - **Thermal conductivity** in $\text{W}/\text{m}\cdot\text{K}^\circ$

ρc_p - **Volumetric Heat Capacity** in $\text{J}/\text{m}^3\cdot\text{K}^\circ$

Thermal Time Constant

The time constant for heat applied at the surface of a 1-D insulating body with thermal diffusivity α to penetrate a distance L

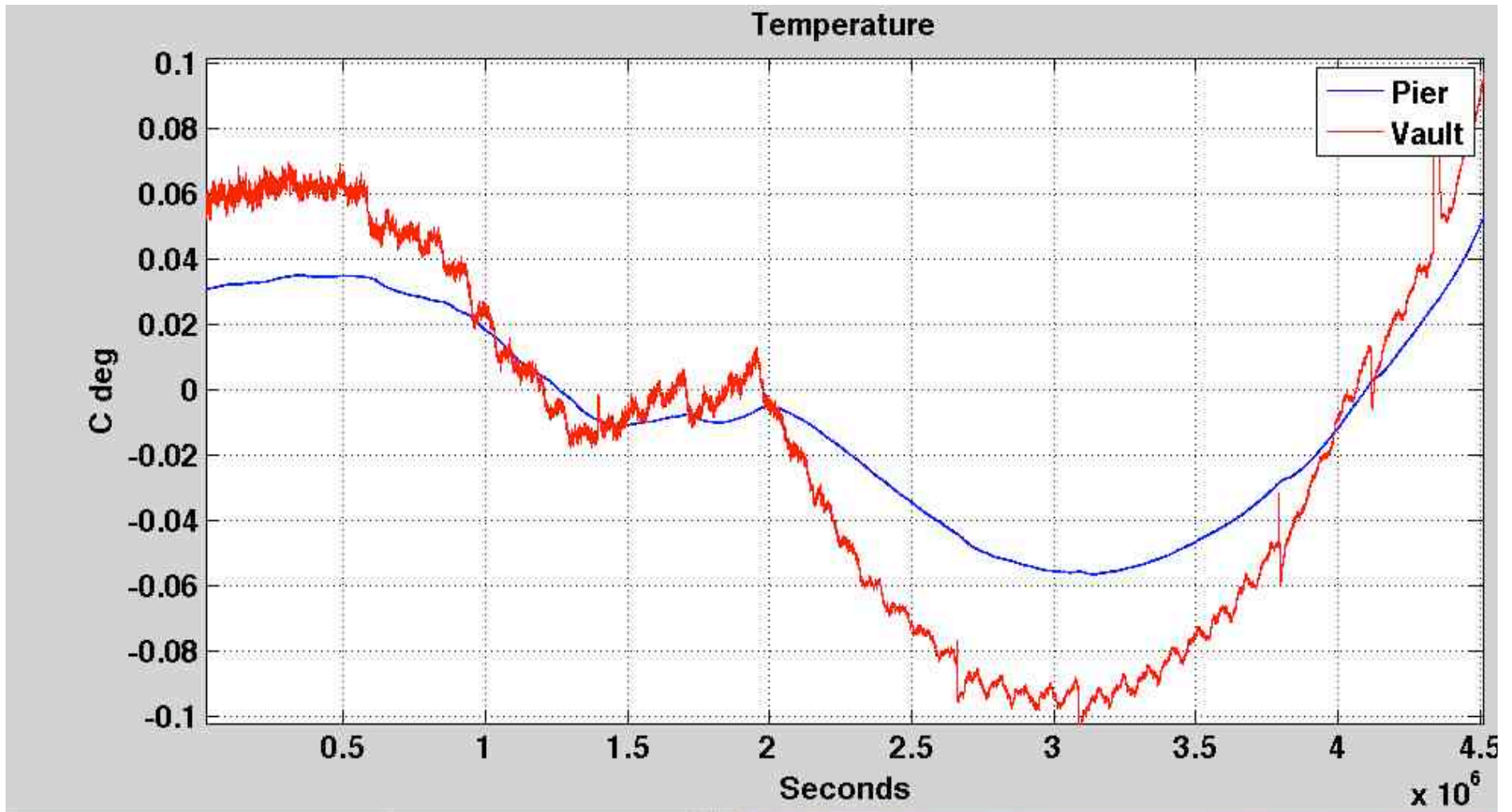
Material	Density (kg/m ³)	Thermal Diffusivity (m ² /sec)	Time Constant (sec for 10 cm thickness)
Water	1000	1.43×10^{-7}	7×10^4
Sand	1600	5.43×10^{-7}	1×10^4
Aluminum	2700	8.40×10^{-5}	1.2×10^2
Air	1.2	2.20×10^{-5}	4.5×10^2
Styrofoam [†]	160	1.25×10^{-7}	8×10^4

† - LastAfoam 6700

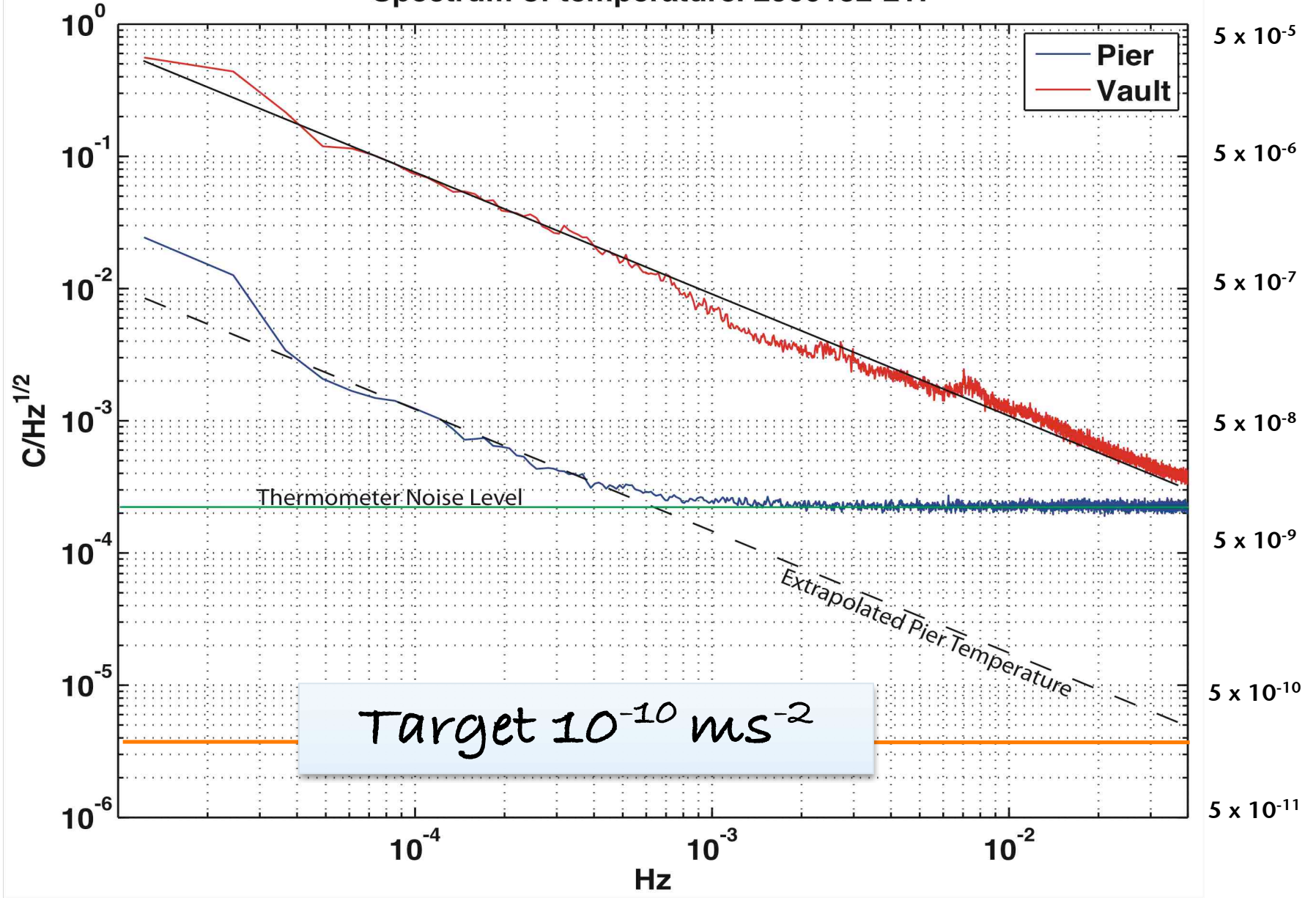
STS1 Suspension

- ❖ Spring is a bi-metal structure designed to reduce temperature effects.
- ❖ Observed TC of suspension $\sim 3.5 \times 10^{-5}$ m/C° or, with a free period of 20 s $\sim 4.5 \times 10^{-6}$ ms⁻²/C°
- ❖ To resolve long-period rms of 10^{-10} ms⁻² we need long-period temperature stability of $\sim 20 \mu\text{C}^\circ$

Temperature in the Pinon Flat Observatory Vault

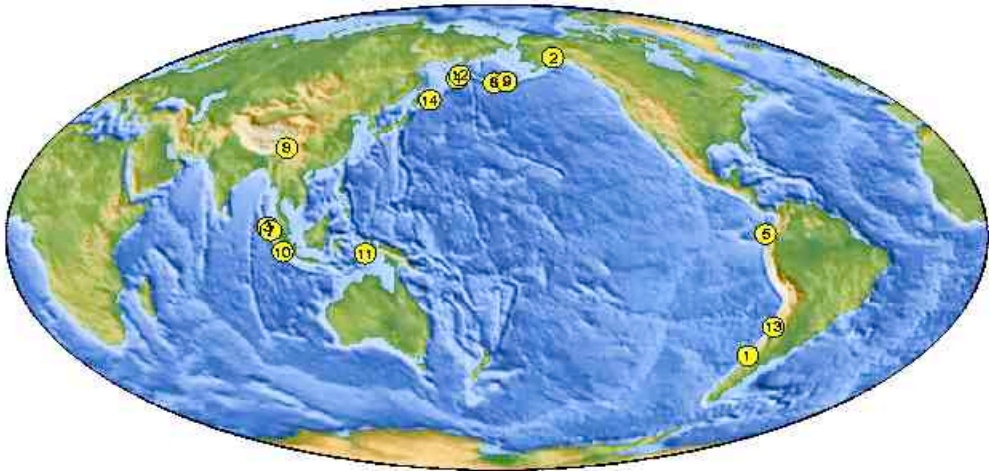


Spectrum of temperature. 2009152-217



SIGNALS

Largest Earthquakes in the World Since 1900



USGS National Earthquake Information Center

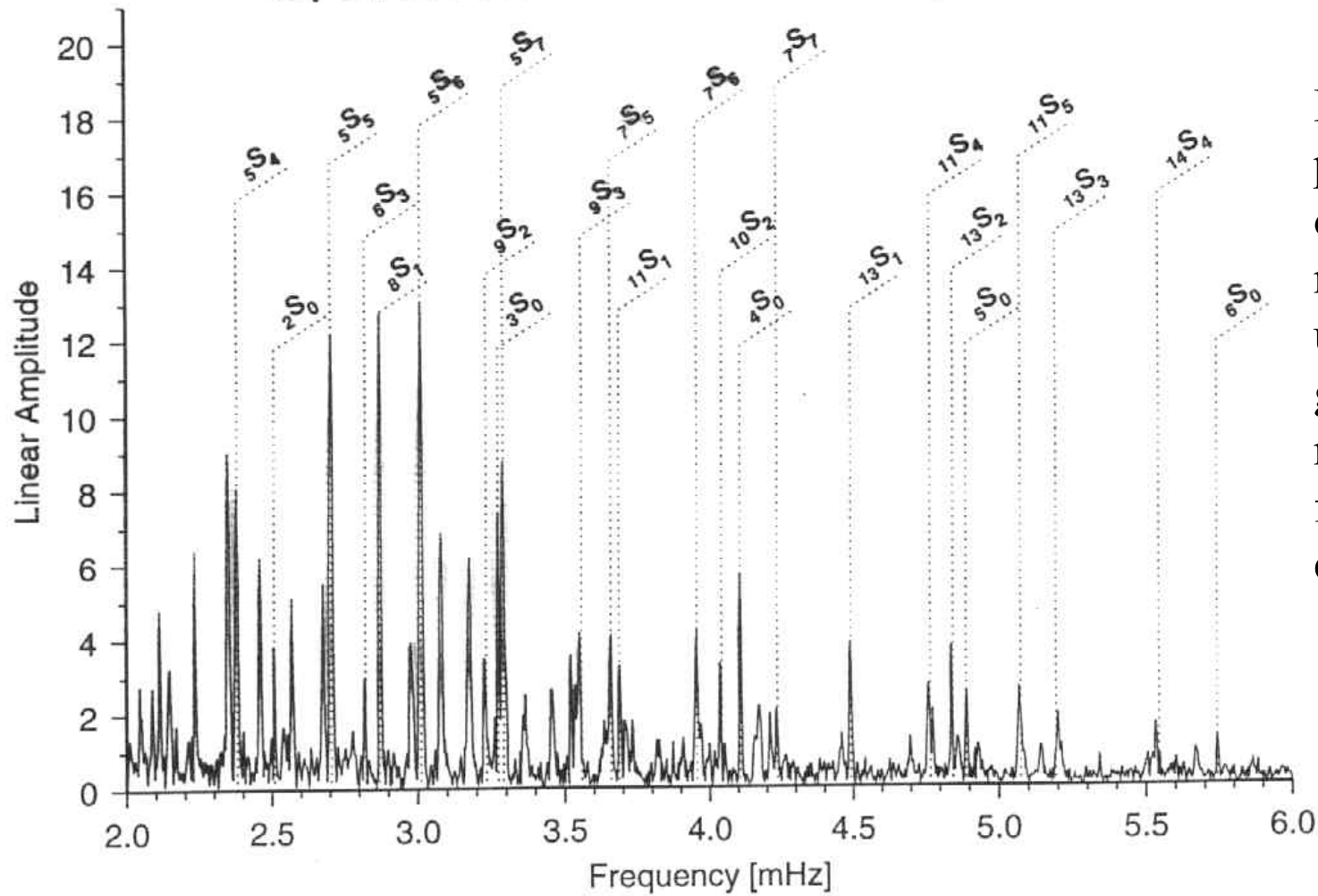
 [Google Earth KML](#)
(requires Google Earth)

Prior to 1969 there were only a handful of Normal Mode observations, all from earthquakes > Mw 8.5

Location	Date UTC	Magnitude	Lat.	Long.	Reference
1. Chile	1960 05 22	9.5	-38.24	-73.05	Kanamori, 1977
2. Prince William Sound, Alaska	1964 03 28	9.2	61.02	-147.65	Kanamori, 1977
3. Off the West Coast of Northern Sumatra	2004 12 26	9.1	3.30	95.78	Park et al., 2005
4. Kamchatka	1952 11 04	9.0	52.76	160.06	Kanamori, 1977
5. Off the Coast of Ecuador	1906 01 31	8.8	1.0	-81.5	Kanamori, 1977
6. Rat Islands, Alaska	1965 02 04	8.7	51.21	178.50	Kanamori, 1977
7. Northern Sumatra, Indonesia	2005 03 28	8.6	2.08	97.01	PDE
8. Assam - Tibet	1950 08 15	8.6	28.5	96.5	Kanamori, 1977
9. Andreanof Islands, Alaska	1957 03 09	8.6	51.56	-175.39	Johnson et al., 1
10. Southern Sumatra, Indonesia	2007 09 12	8.5	-4.438	101.367	PDE
11. Banda Sea, Indonesia	1938 02 01	8.5	-5.05	131.62	Okal and Reymo
12. Kamchatka	1923 02 03	8.5	54.0	161.0	Kanamori, 1988
13. Chile-Argentina Border	1922 11 11	8.5	-28.55	-70.50	Kanamori, 1977
14. Kuril Islands	1963 10 13	8.5	44.9	149.6	Kanamori, 1977

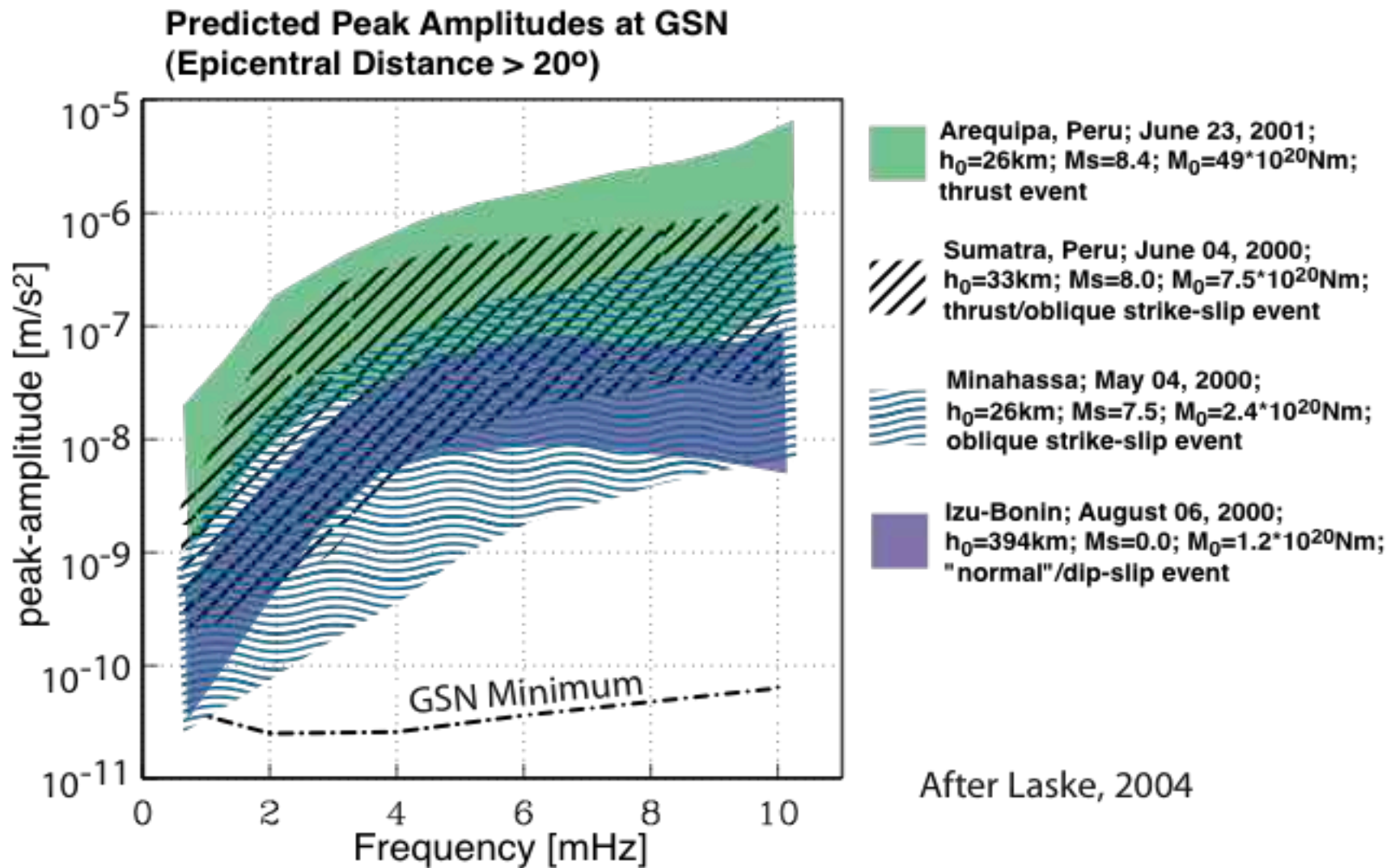


July 31, 1970 Colombian event recorded at Payson, Arizona

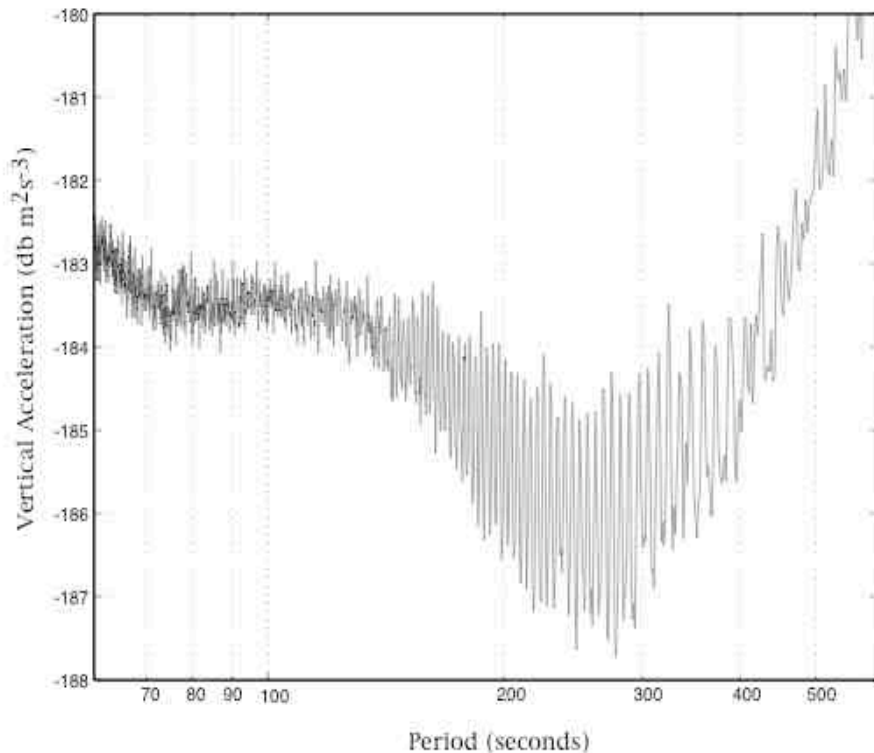


1970 Columbia Earthquake Mw produced first observations of mode overtones using LaCoste gravimeters modified with feedback for electronic record

Now routine processing Mw > 6.6

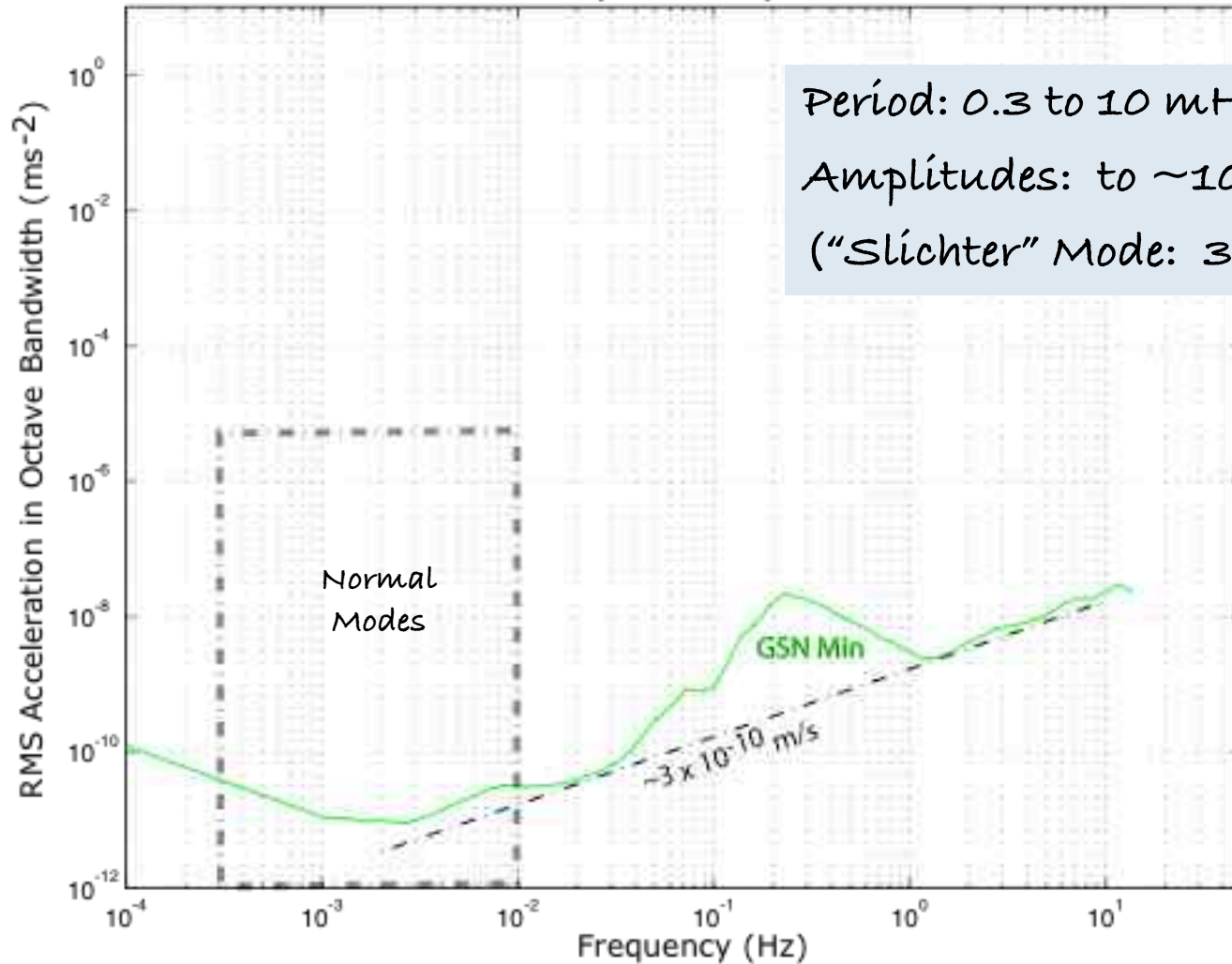


Earth Hummmmm



- ❖ In 1998, almost forty years after the initial attempt by Benioff et al (1959), continuous free oscillations of the Earth were finally observed.
- ❖ Earth is constantly excited by spheroidal fundamental modes between about 2 and 7 mHz (from ${}_0S_{15}$ to ${}_0S_{60}$) with nearly constant acceleration and are about $3 - 5 \times 10^{-12} \text{ ms}^{-2}$.

The Earthquake Spectrum

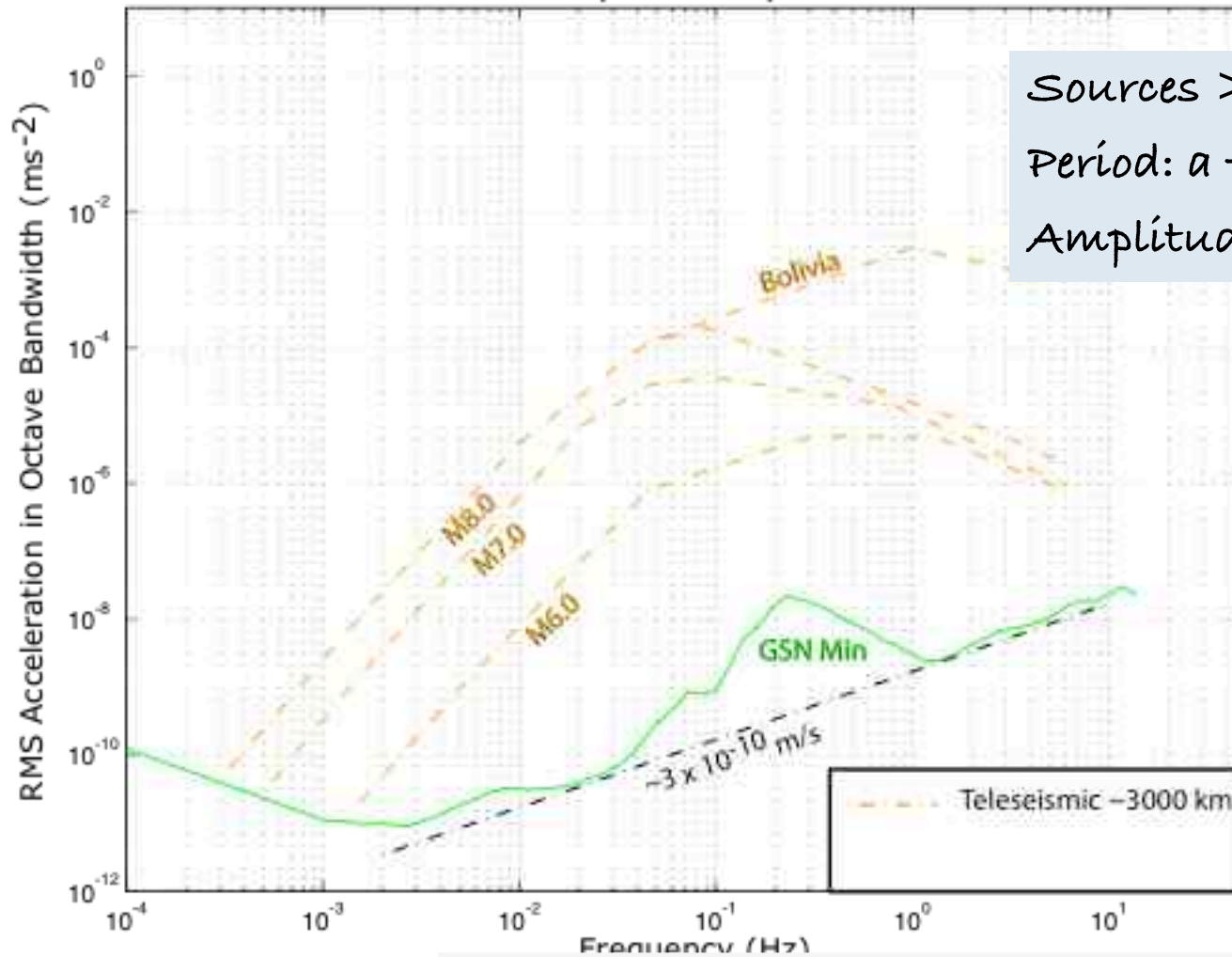


Period: 0.3 to 10 mHz

Amplitudes: to $\sim 10^{-5} \text{ ms}^{-2}$

("Slichter" Mode: 35 - 70 μHz ?)

The Earthquake Spectrum

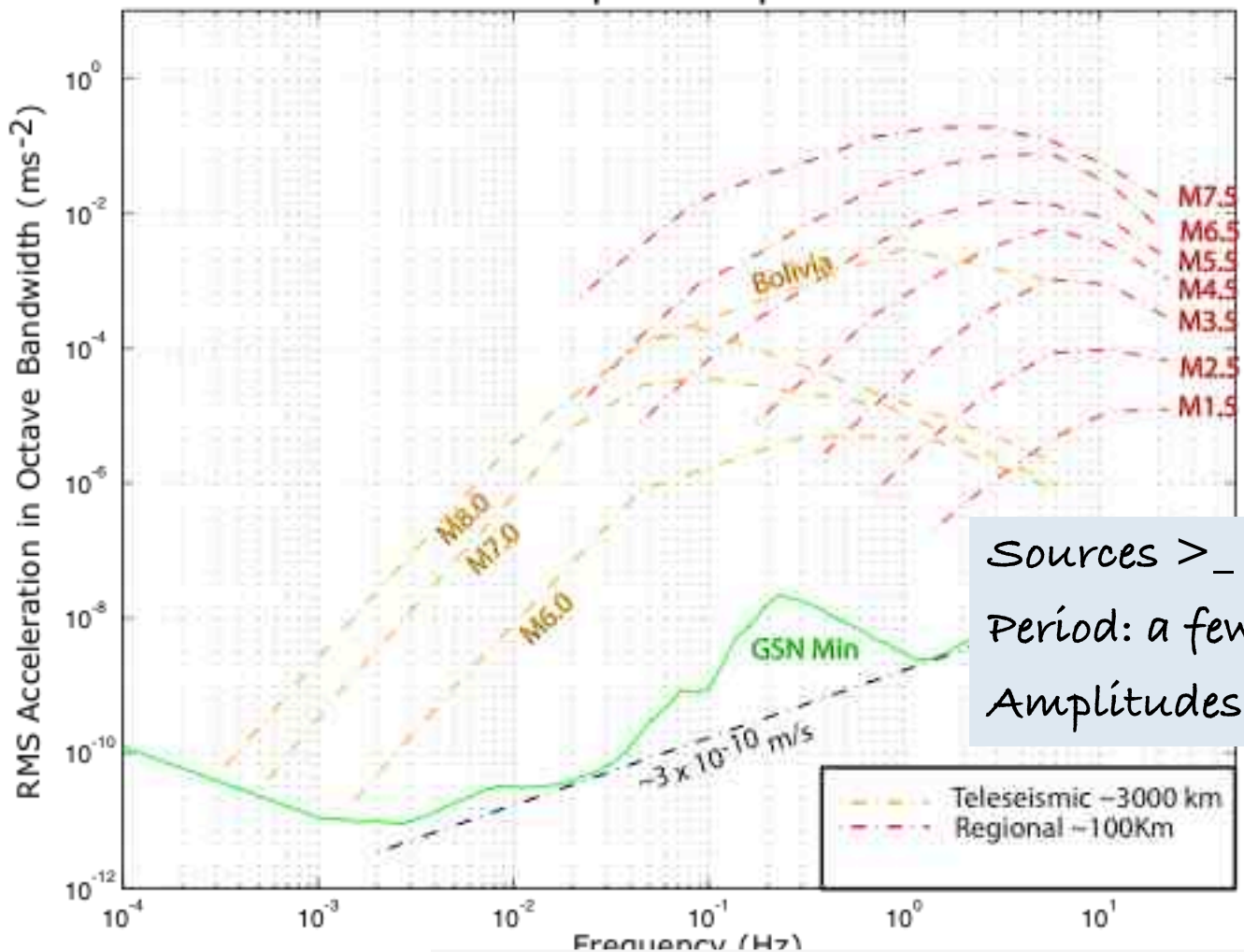


Sources > 3000km
 Period: a few mHz to several Hz
 Amplitudes: to ~10⁻³ ms⁻²

Af

To convert: pow

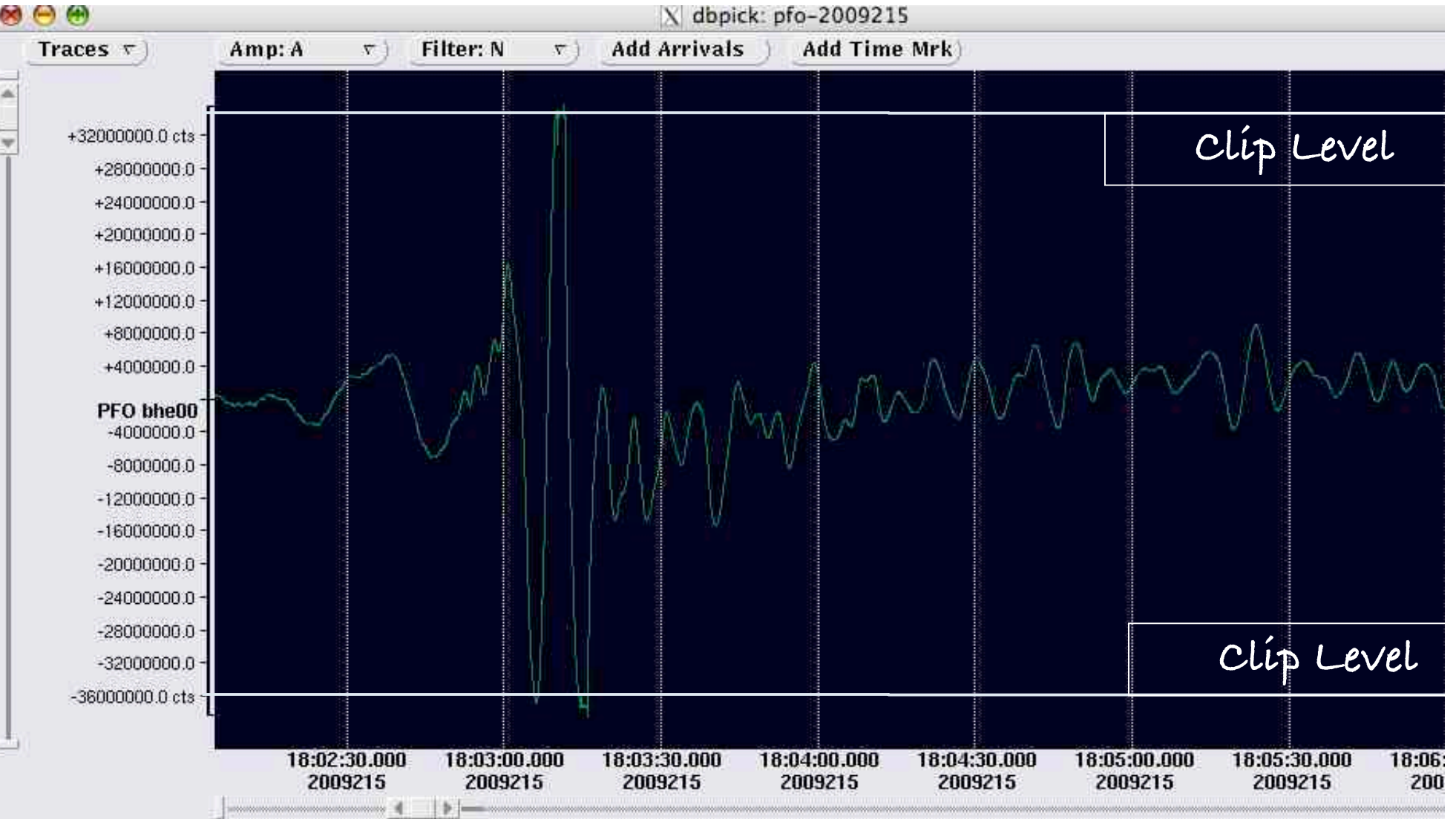
The Earthquake Spectrum



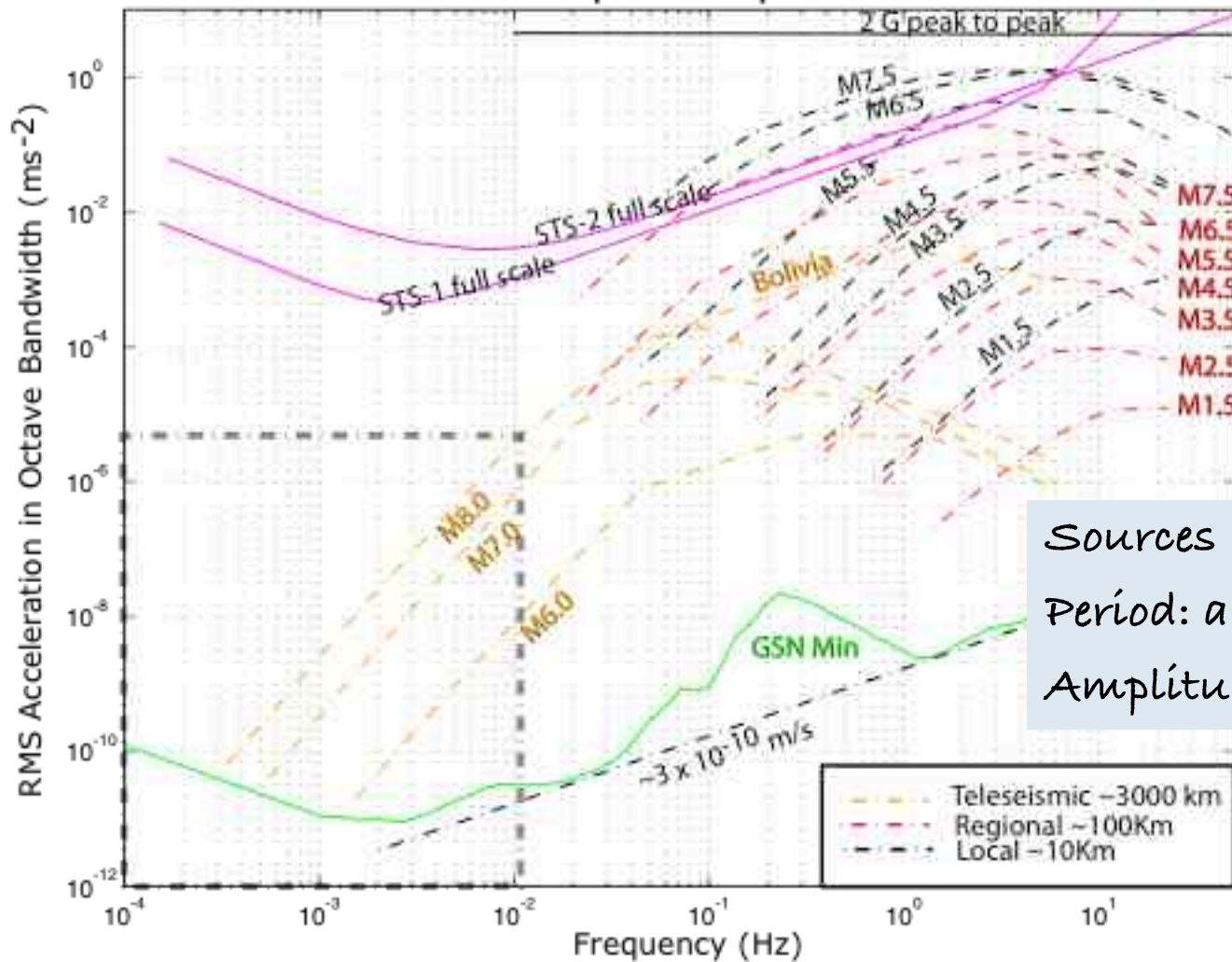
Sources > 100km
 Period: a few 10's s to ~10 Hz
 Amplitudes: to $\sim 10^{-1} \text{ms}^{-2}$

Af
 To convert: pow

Lg Phase observed at PFO, M6.9, Distance 630Km

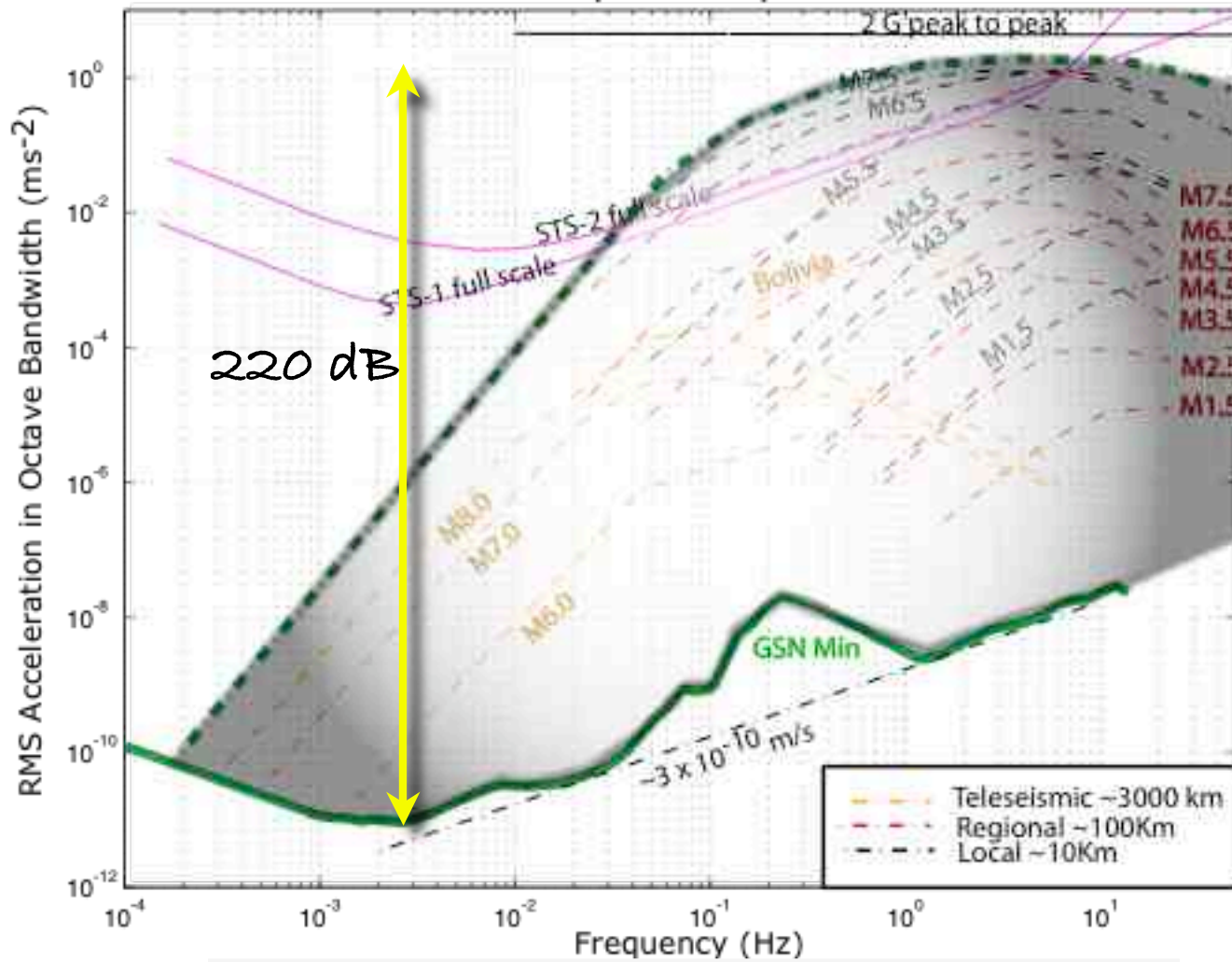


The Earthquake Spectrum



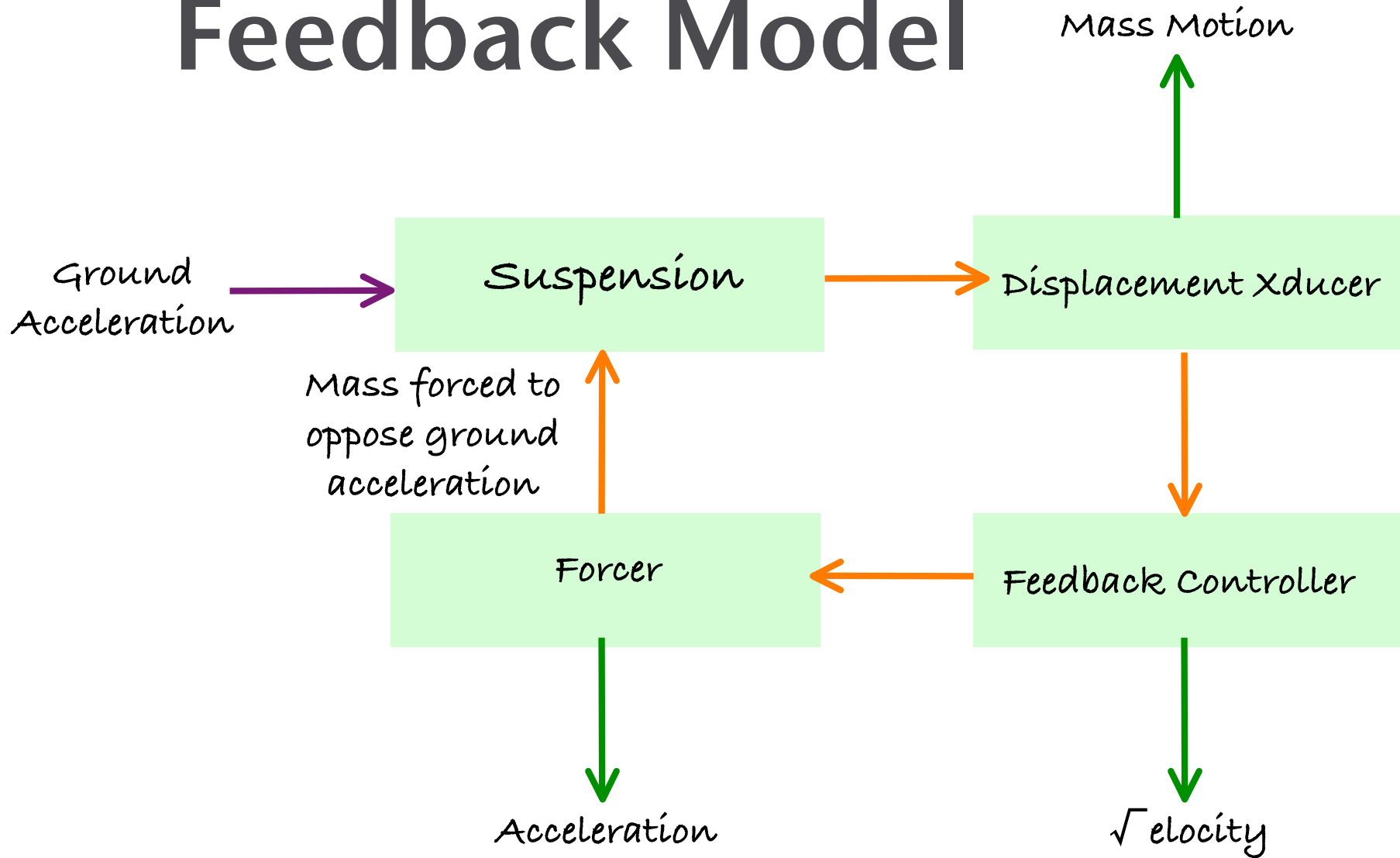
Sources $> \sim 10$ km
 Period: a few seconds to ~ 30
 Amplitudes: to $\sim 10 \text{ ms}^{-2}$

The Earthquake Spectrum



Instruments

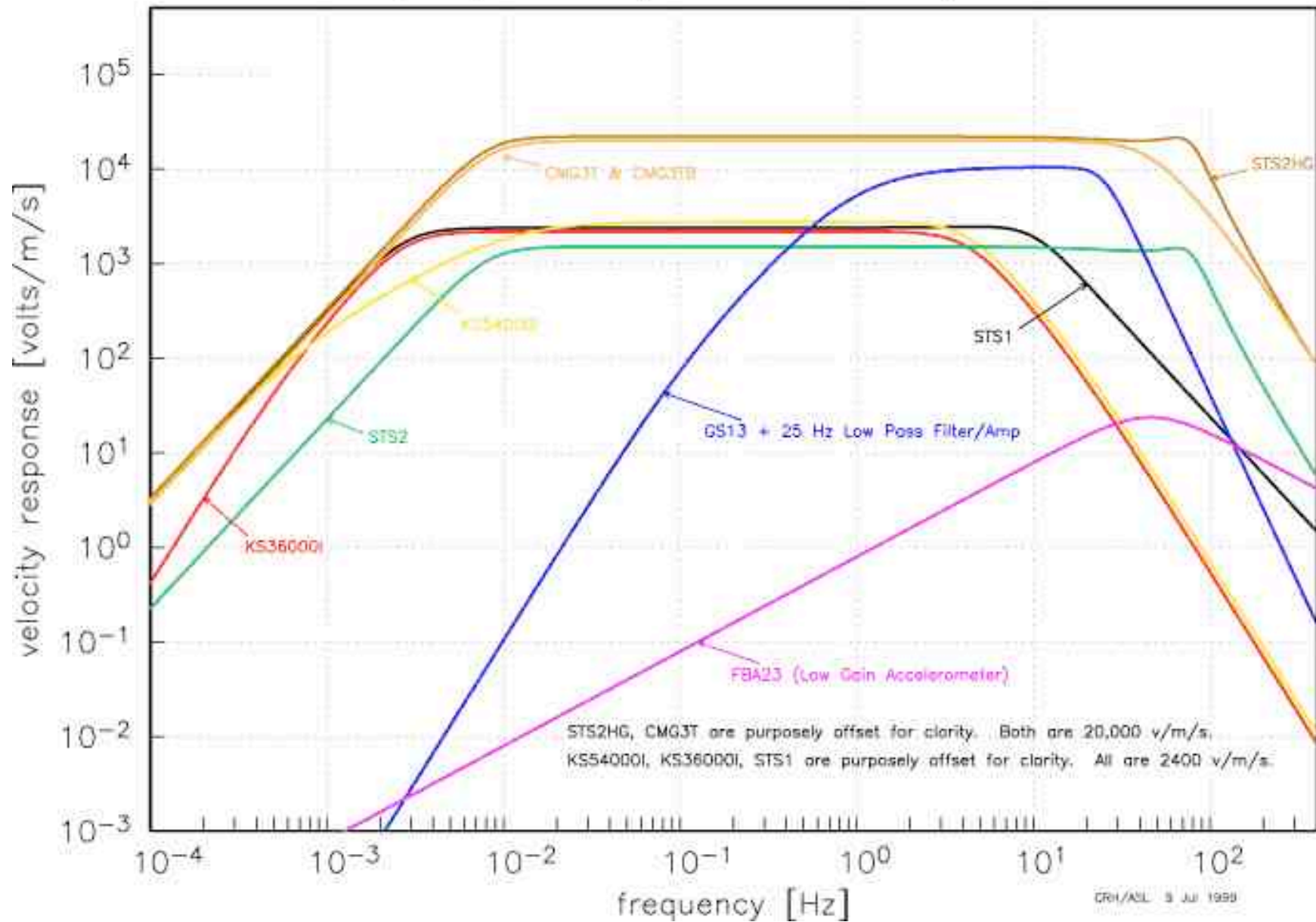
Feedback Model

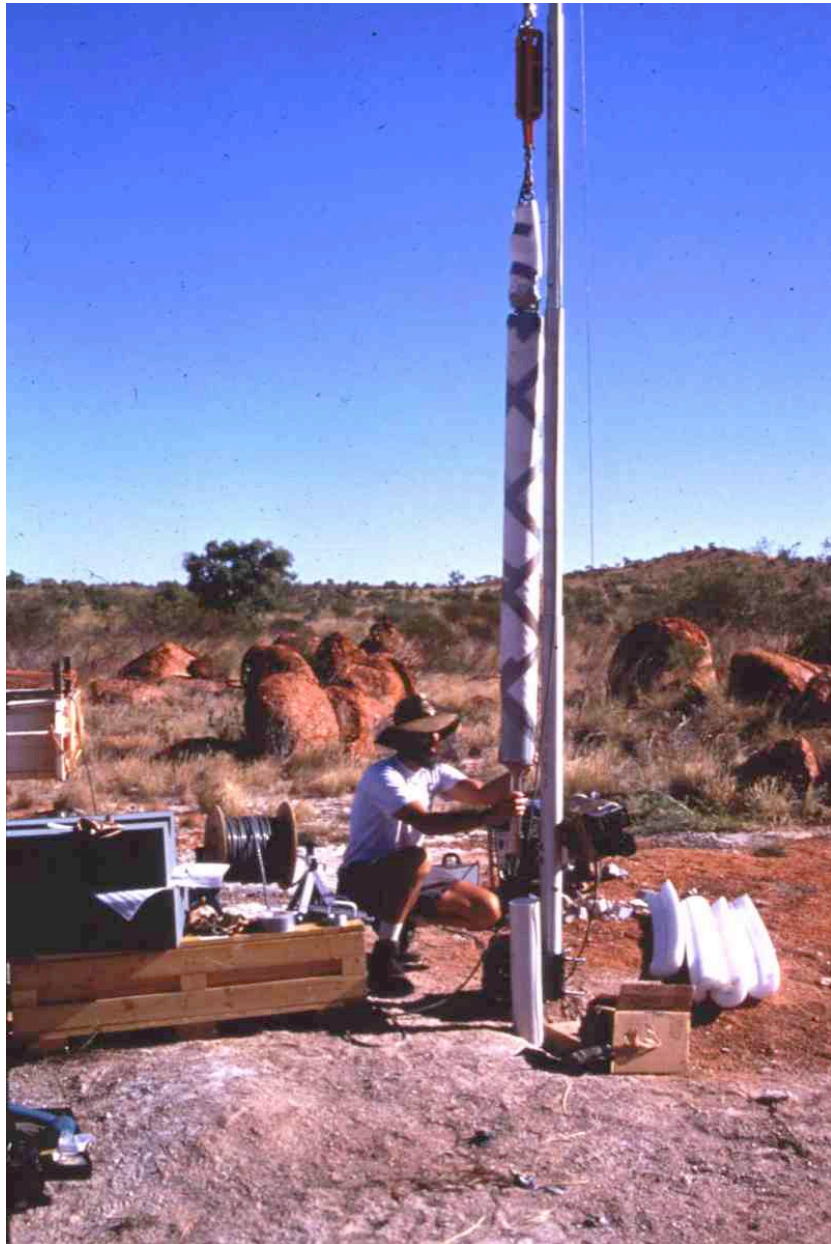


Commercial Broadband Seismometer

Manufacturer	Model	Type	Bandwidth	Clip Level	Noise	Power
Nanometrics	Trillium 240	Triax	240s to 200Hz	1.5mm/s up to 10Hz	Below NLNM 100s to 10Hz	0.65W
Streckeisen	STS2	Triax	120s to >50Hz	1.3mm/s to 20Hz	Below NLNM ~300s to 10Hz	1w (.55W available)
Streckeisen	STS1	single	360s to >5Hz	1.3mm/s to 20Hz	Defines GSN Noise Model to 10Hz	~2W per component
Guralp	CMG3T	3-C	360s to 50Hz	1.2mm/s to 20Hz	Below NLNM ?s to 20Hz	0.9W
Geotech	KS-1 & KS54000	3-C	330s to 5Hz	8.3mm/s to 5Hz	Below NLNM ?s to 20Hz	2.4W

Velocity Response Comparison of IRIS/USArray Instruments





KS54000 ready to go
down WRAB Borehole



STS1 with bell jar



CMG-3T



Trillium 240



STS-2

Some Features of the New version STS-1

- ❖ Non-Galperin: Separate H and V Sensor Designs
- ❖ Factory-Leveled: Plug and Go in Leveled Package
- ❖ 360 Second to 15 Hz Passband
- ❖ Self-Noise Comparable to Original Sensors
- ❖ Incorporates Wielandt/ASL "Warpless Baseplate" Design
- ❖ Three Aluminum Vacuum Chambers on Single Baseplate; All-Metal Valve
- ❖ Integrated Magnetic Shield for V Sensor
- ❖ Galvanic Isolation from Pier



See Poster by VanZandt

Interferometric Seismometer

- ❖ Interferometric Displacement Transducer
- ❖ Large Bandwidth & Dynamic Range
- ❖ No Feedback; No enclosed electronics; No Electrical Connections
- ❖ Capable of operating in extreme temperatures

See Poster by Otero *et al.*

Station Requirements for Long Period Observations

- ❖ *Good thermal stability*
- ❖ *Solid rock foundations for local tilt suppression*
- ❖ *Far from coast (Yet island stations are required)*
- ❖ *Human Factor*



The GSN Station PALK
100m, steel-cased, Borehole

The GSN Station AAK
The tunnel entrance



The GSN Station AA
One of the vaults



DGAR - vault under construction

Final Thoughts

- ❖ Modern Broadband Seismometer are pretty good. What more would we like?
- ❖ Additional Bandwidth – long period end
- ❖ Reduced long-period noise – small market
- ❖ Improved environmental protection
- ❖ Long-term, telemetered, Ocean-bottom instruments

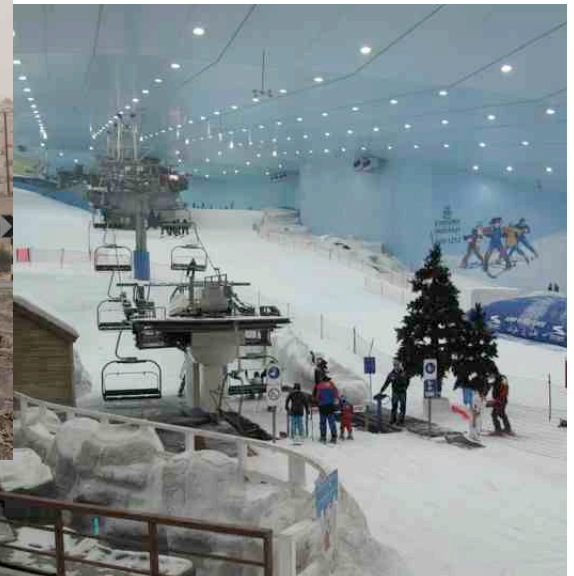
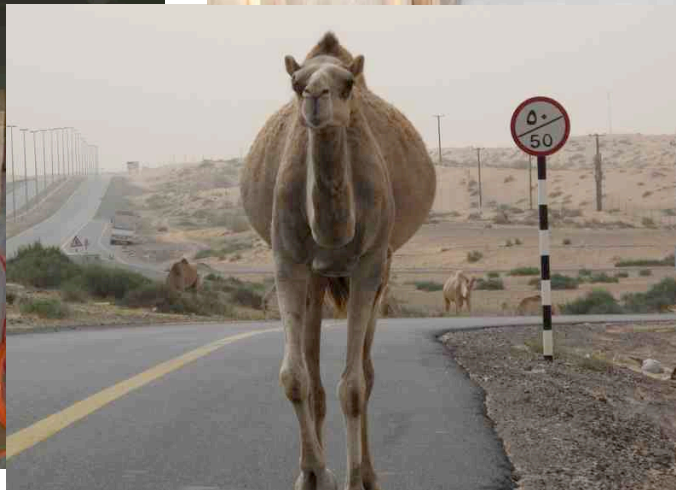
GSN station UOS



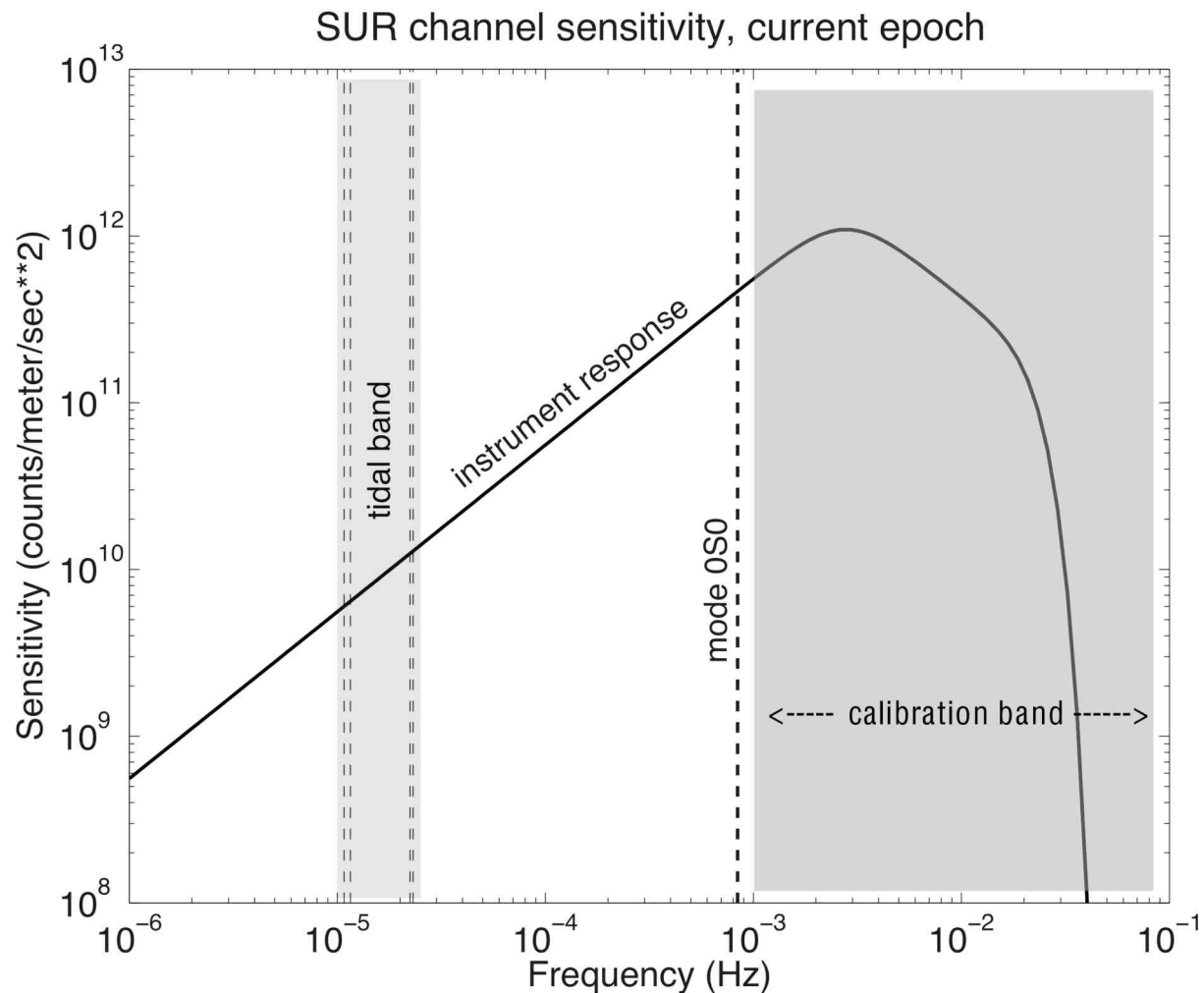
Tunnel entrance as seen from the recording building



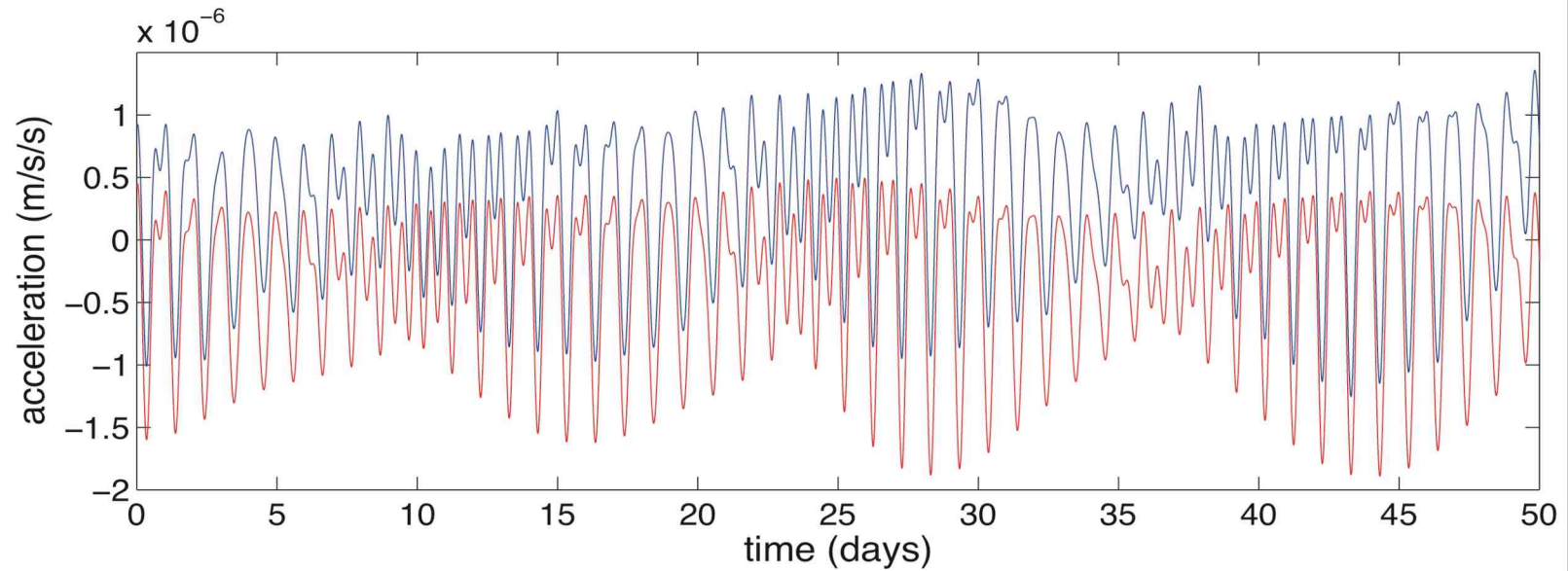
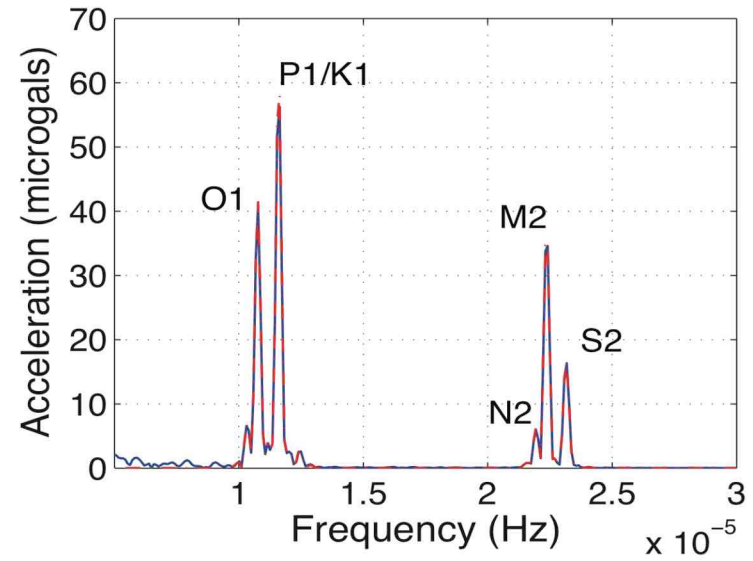
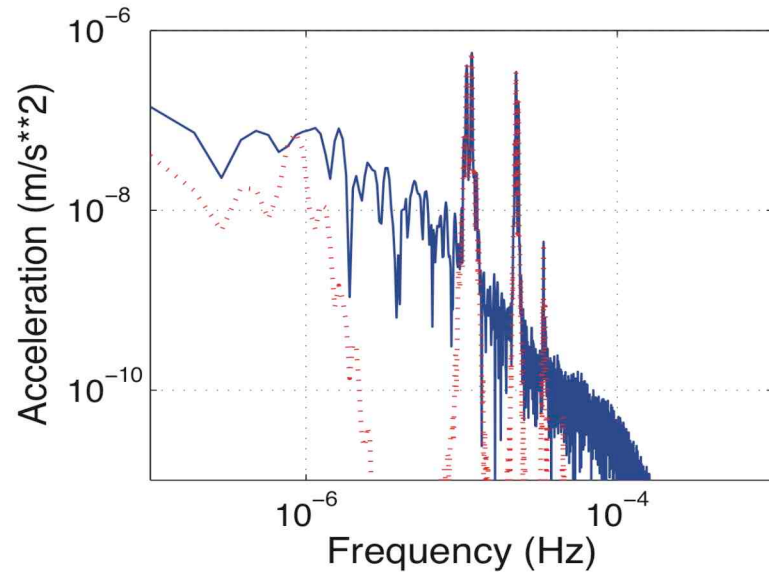
tunnel hallway, looking from the entrance to the instrument room



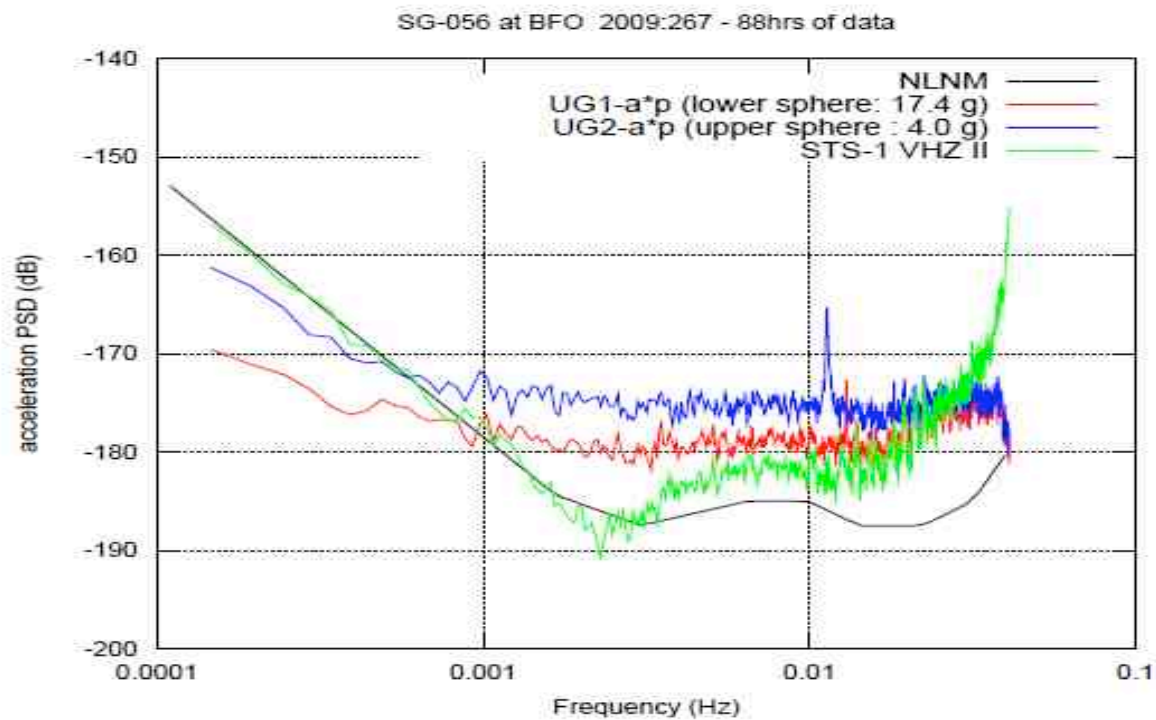
Nature's Calibration Signal: Earth Tides



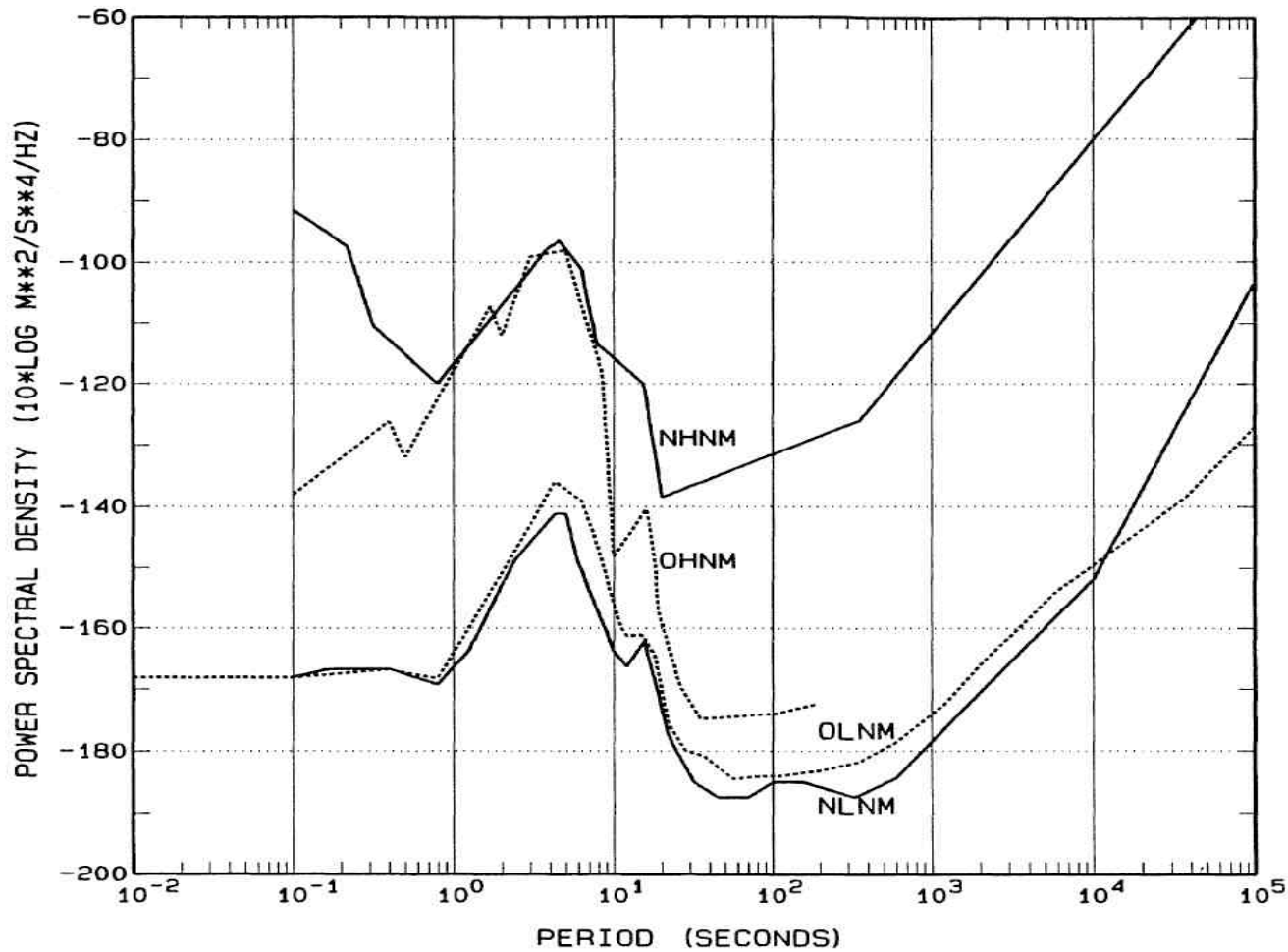
BFO 2006,090 - 2006,180



Effect of increasing mass in Superconducting Gravimete



USGS Old (1980) & New(1999) Noise Mode





DGAR - Inside the vault

Berger *et al.*, 2003

- ❖ 118 GSN Stations of the IU and II networks for the year July 2001 through June 2002.
- ❖ Each station-channel data segmented into hourly, 1 to 11 hour segments.
- ❖ noise estimated in 50% overlapping 1/7 decade ($\partial f/f=0.33$, $\sim 1/2$ octave) bands.

Features of Feedback

- ❖ Limits the dynamic range and linearity requirements of the displacement transducer as the test-mass displacement is reduced by gain of feedback loop
- ❖ Can easily shape overall response to compensate for suspension free period and Q
- ❖ Can provide electrical outputs proportional to displacement, velocity, or acceleration