

Fibre-based Hydrophones: Technique and Potential

E.J. Buis, E. Doppenberg, P. M. Toet, R. Nieuwland

ernst-jan.buis@tno.nl

TNO and KM3NeT: a brief introduction

TNO: Netherlands organisation for applied scientific research

Independent research organisation, ~3800 employees

Working for various customers: governments, the SME sector, large companies, service providers and non-governmental organisations

Conducting research in various areas, among them: fiber-based hydrophones with applications in geology, oil & gas, port security

To investigate application of fiber-based hydrophones for neutrino detection, TNO joined KM3NeT in May 2014

Requirements on hydrophone system

- Sensitivity:
 - Detect pulses at the **mPa** level in the frequency range **5-30 kHz**
 - Sensitive to deep sea state zero
- Simple, robust and relative simple to integrate or deploy
- Price < 100 euro/sensor: as several hundred or even thousand sensors are required.

Fibre hydrophones system

Main components:

1. Erbium doped fibres with a grating
2. Sensor
3. Interrogator

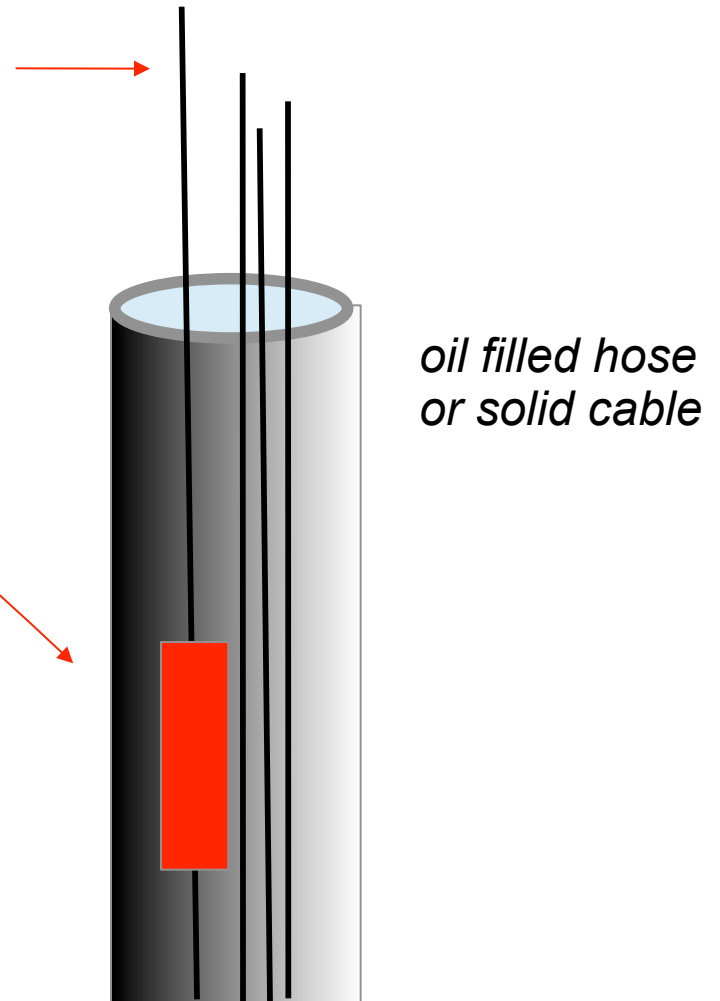
Fibre hydrophones system

Main components:

1. Erbium doped fibres with a grating

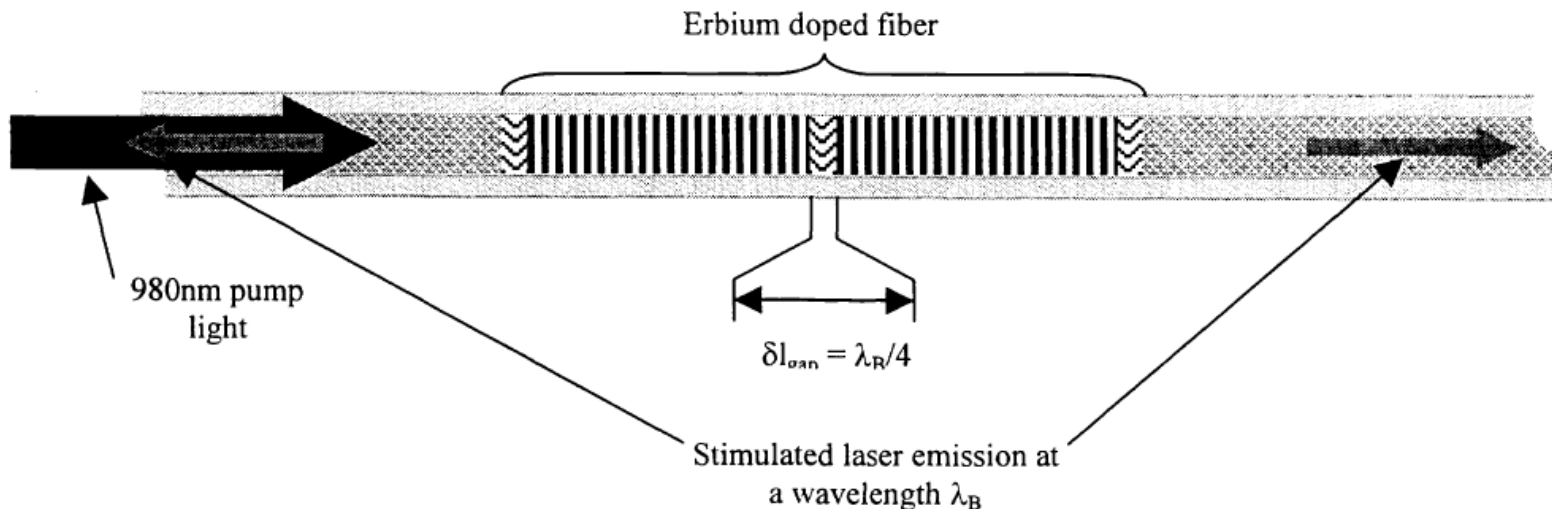
2. Sensor

3. Interrogator



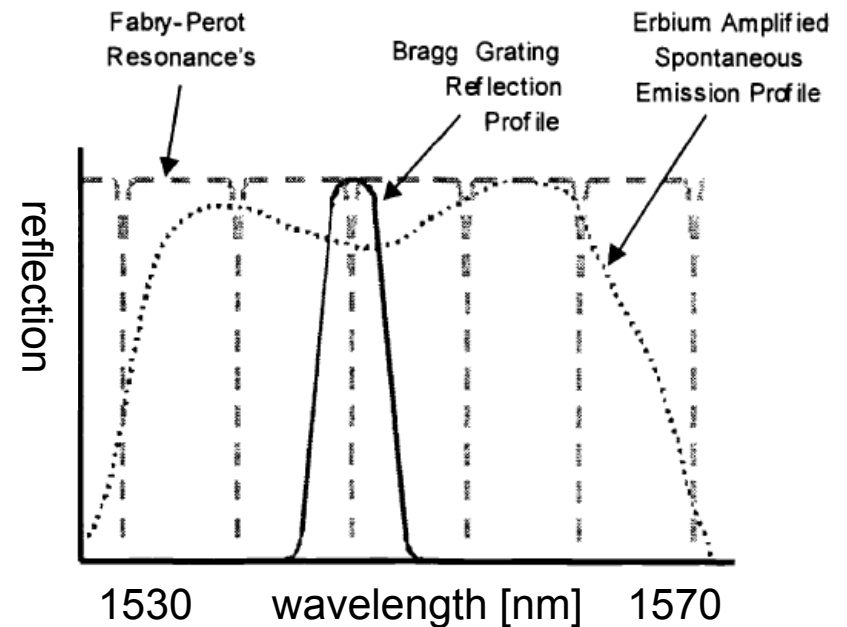
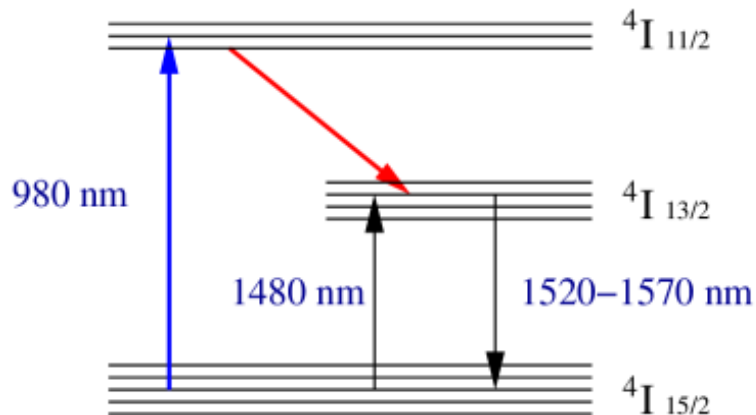
1. Erbium doped fibres

- Pump laser $\lambda=980$ nm, Erbium induced emission light $\lambda=\sim 1550$ nm.
- Fibres are locally doped with Erbium in a gratingstructure. This results in an extremely coherent light source in the fibre it self.



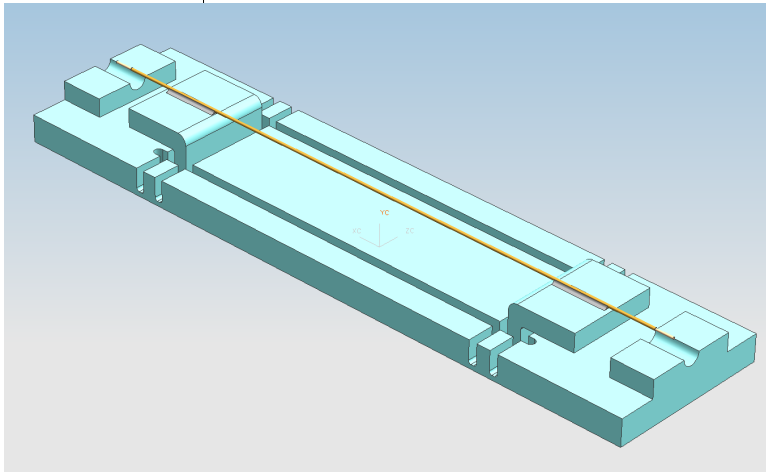
1. Erbium doped fibres

- Pump laser $\lambda=980$ nm, Erbium induced emission light $\lambda\sim 1550$ nm.
- Fibres are locally doped with Erbium in a gratingstructure. This results in an extremely coherent light source in the fibre it self.



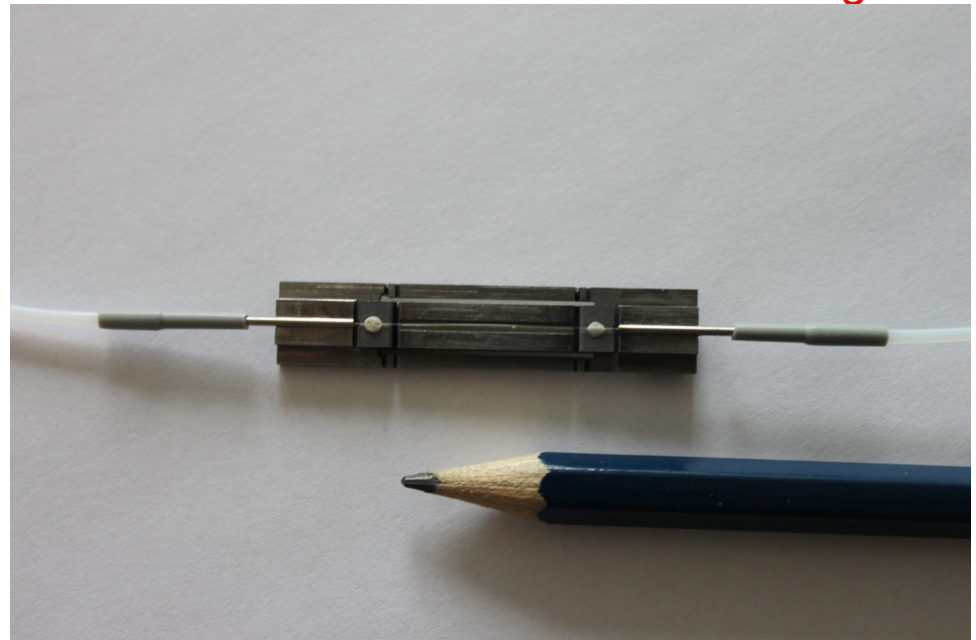
2. Sensor

- Convert pressure pulse to a mechanical deformation of the fibre: strain
- Mechanical sensor determines the dynamical frequency range.
- Sensor material is aluminum

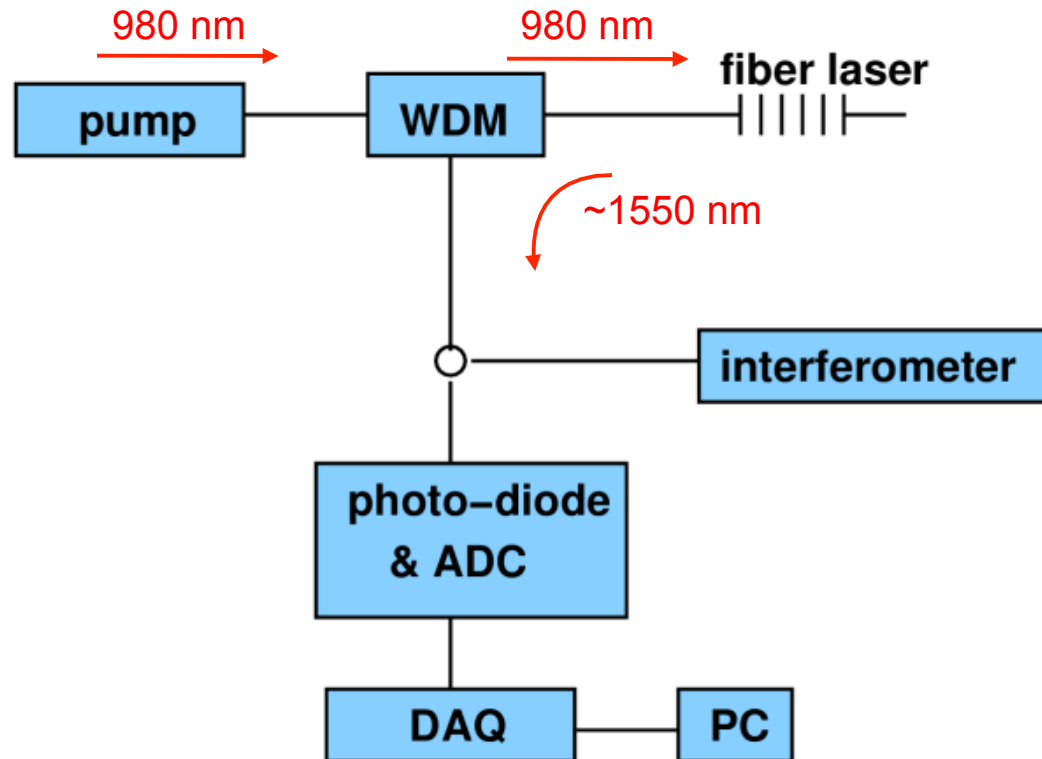


CAD model
Dimensions: 45x9 mm

Sensor with fibre glued

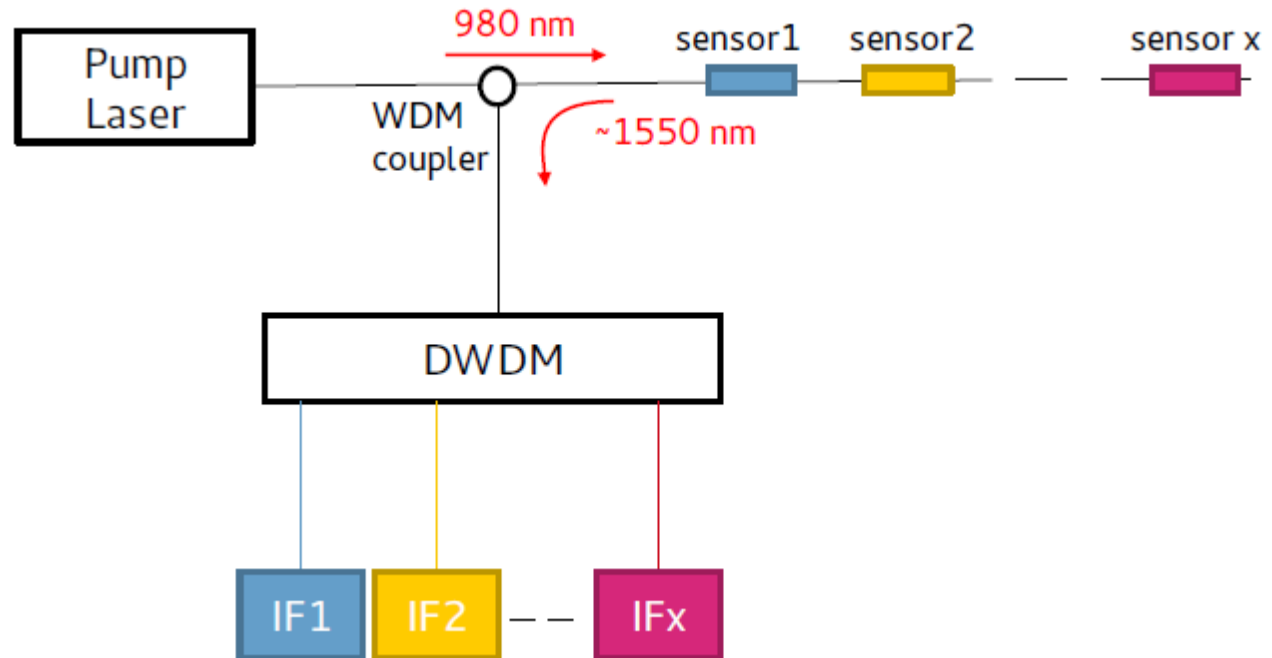


3. Interrogation system



- A fibre is used to read out an interrogator.
- Pump laser power ~ 100 mW
- Received power ~ 10 μ W

3. Interrogation system: multiplexing

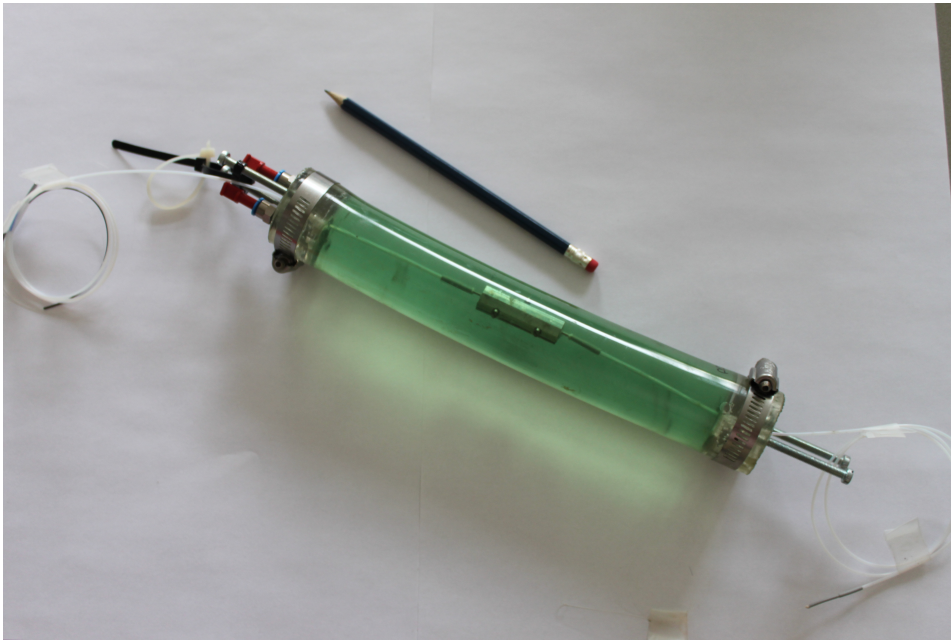


- Include multiple sensors with each a specific grating structure
- Multiplexing with up to 10 sensors/fibre.

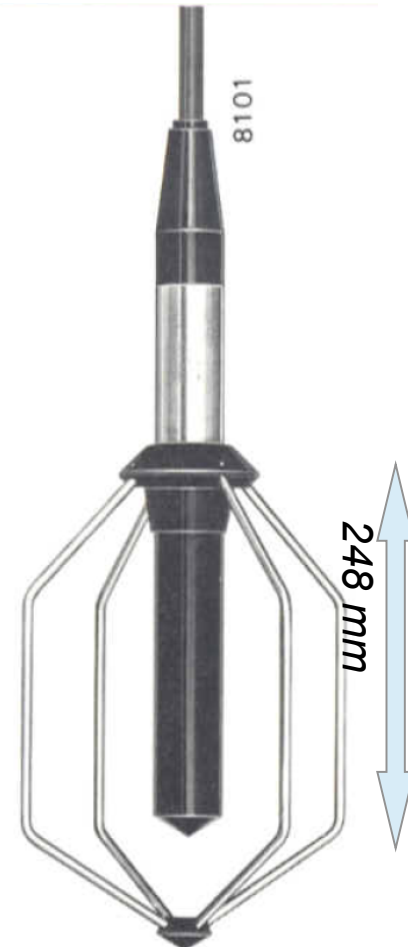
Hydrophone characterization

- Sensitivity, noise measurements.
- Linearity.
- Measurements in an oil filled hose.

Oil hose

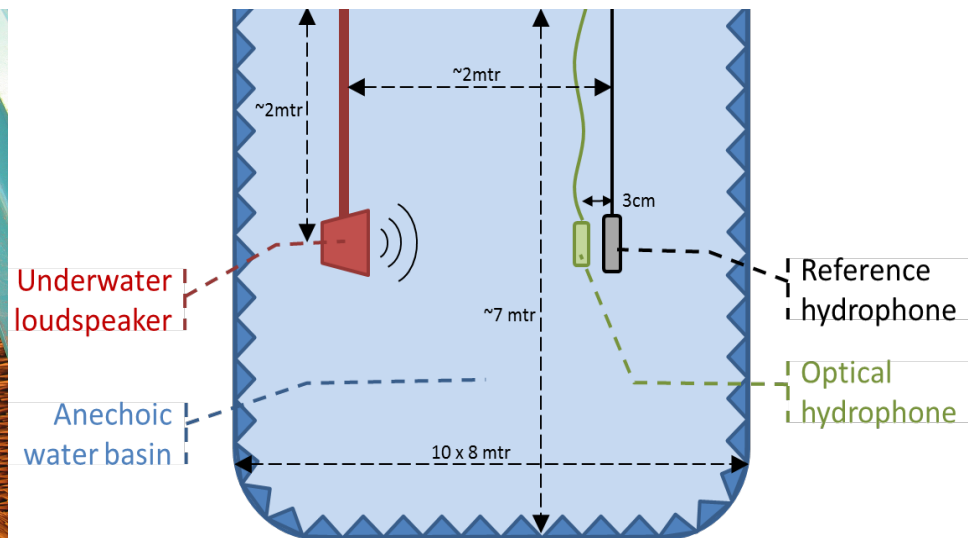


*Reference hydrophone
B&K 8101*



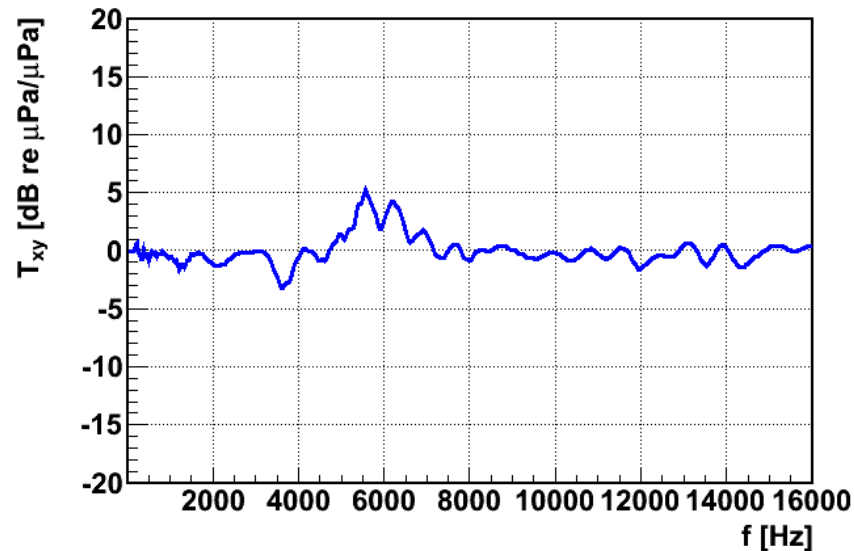
Experimental setup in basin

- Using an anechoic basin at TNO (Acoustically insulated).
- Dimensions of the basin 8x10x7m, (basin should be large to avoid mix of signal and echo).
- Compare to well-calibrated commercial hydrophone



Response function

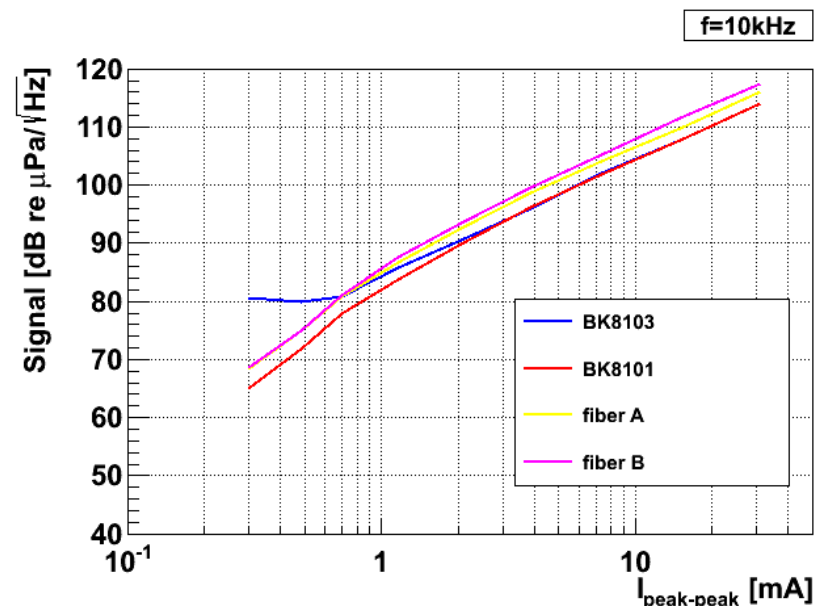
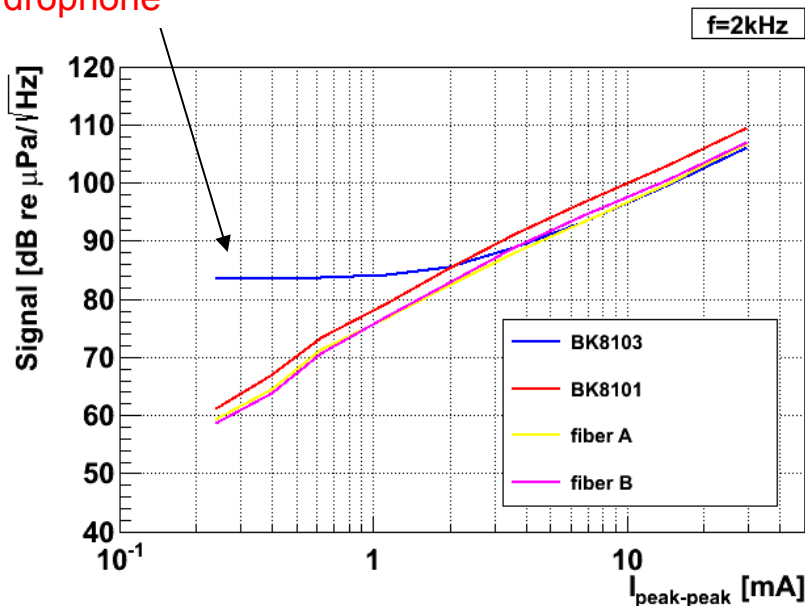
- Response function with respect to the (calibrated) reference hydrophone (B&K8101).
- Response curve is flat. Peak at 5.5 kHz is mechanical resonance.



Linearity

- Response to a single tone (at given frequency) is measured as a function of the input current in to the projector.
- Output signal is measured for two reference hydrophones and 2 fiber laser hydrophones.
- Fiber laser hydrophones are linear down to levels compared to sea state 1

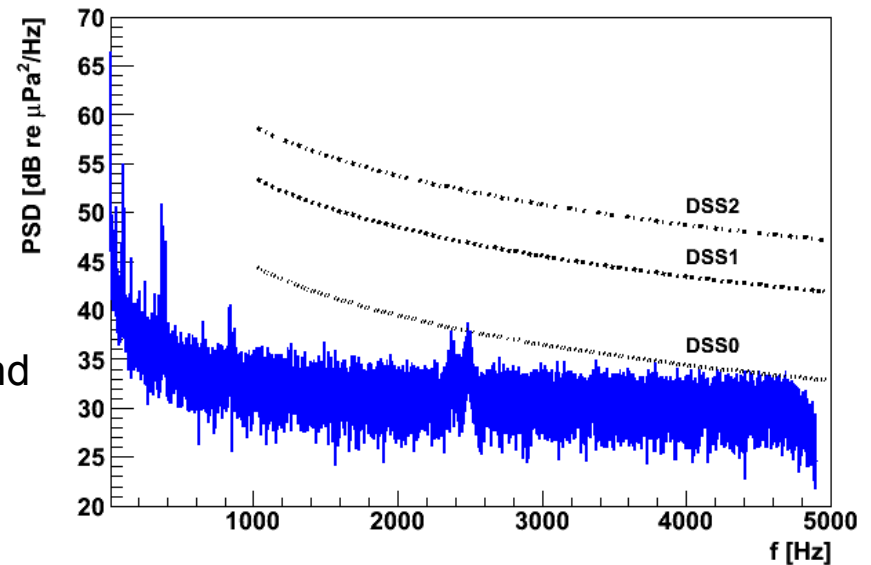
Noise in B&K hydrophone



Noise sources

- Noise sources:
 - Relative intensity Noise (RIN)
 - Self emission
 - Fluctuation in pump power
 - Shot noise
 - Thermal noise (both in fiber and electronics)
 - Phase Noise

“dry” measurement
in isolated environment

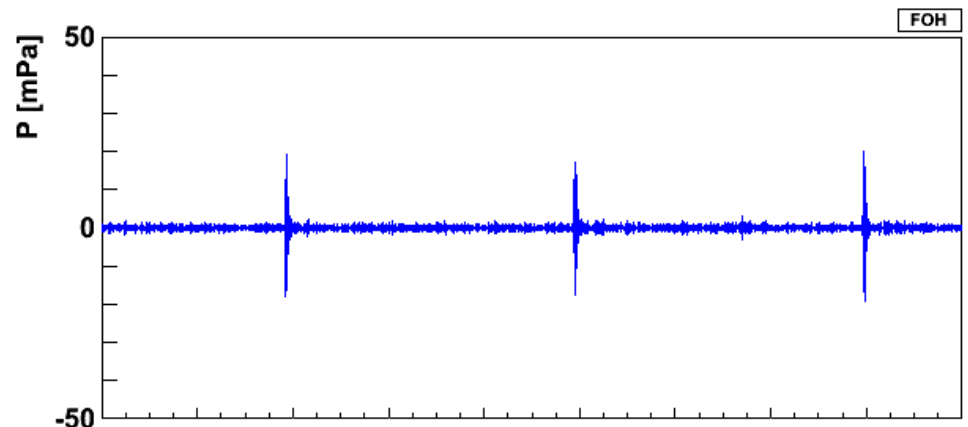


- Self noise measured in vibration shielded environment.
- (It is hard to get below DSS0 in the basin at the appropriate frequencies.)

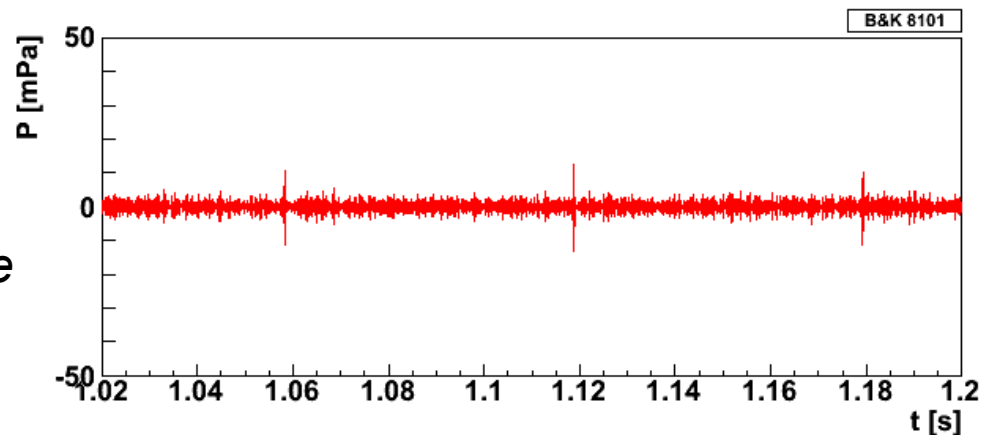
Pulse reconstruction

- Pulse train was generated to detect individual pulses
- Simple passband filter was applied (4th order Butterworth)

*Fiber laser
hydrophone*

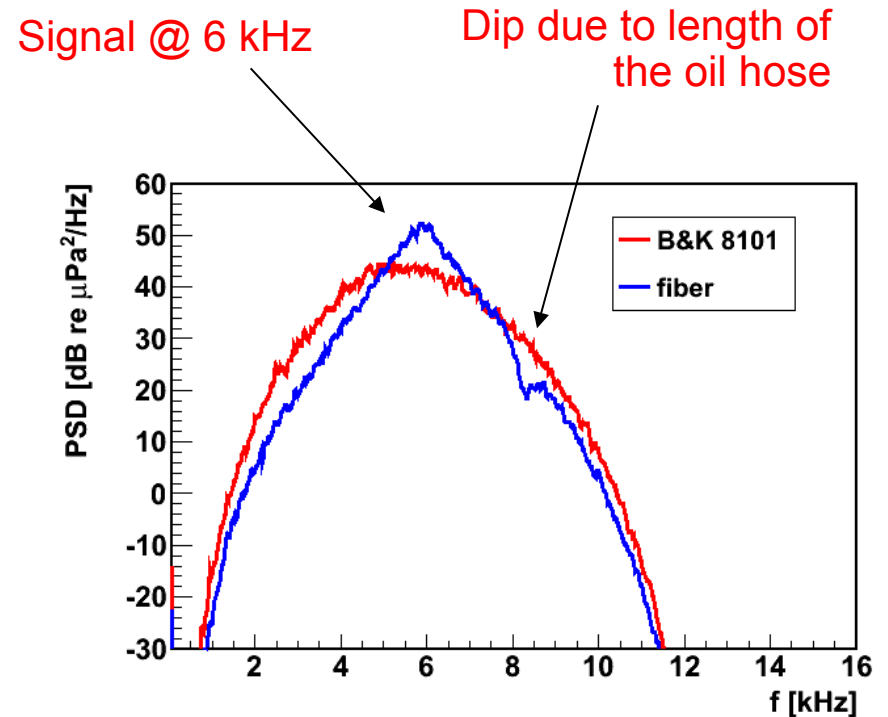
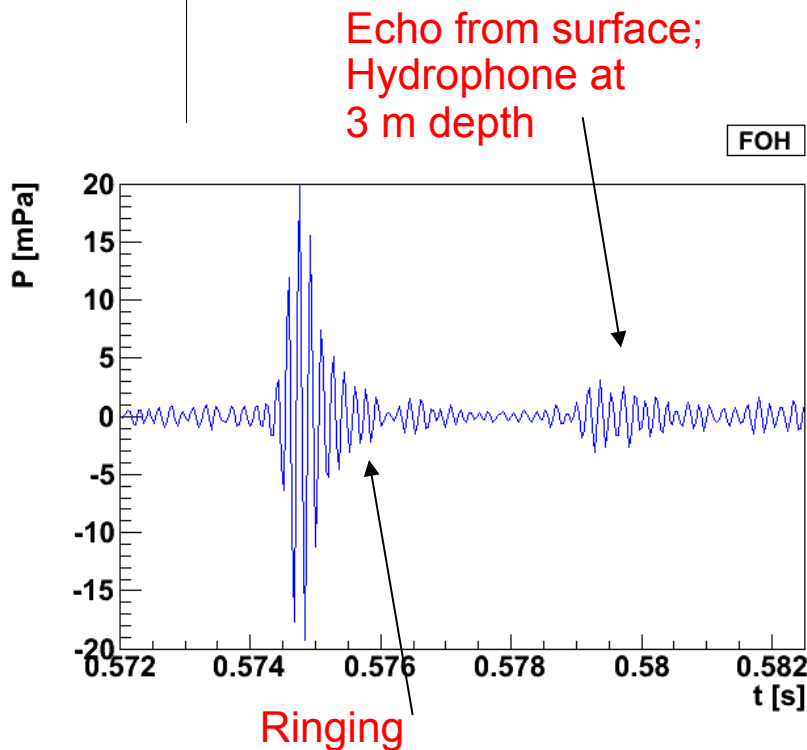


*Reference
hydrophone*



Pulse reconstruction

- Pulse (also from echo) stands well above the noise.
- A power spectral density has been reconstructed from 100 pulses.
- Reconstructed pulse is as low as 1 mPa, the shape shows ringing.



Conclusions

- Acoustic detection provides a way to study neutrinos with ultra high energy.
- Fibre laser hydrophones are sensitive enough to detect (cosmic-ray induced) pulses at the mPa level in the frequency range 5-20 kHz. Acoustic measurement of cosmic rays can become ocean noise limited.
- Only small difference in performance when hydrophone is used in oil hose.
- Impulse events show ringing. To be investigated further.

- Implementation of fiber laser hydrophones have many advantages over piezo-hydrophones:
 - Sensitive, cheap and simple
 - No electronics X-talk, low power dissipation
- TNO has large experience/heritage in marine acoustic systems (next slides)
- More reading: arXiv:1311.7588 [astro-ph.IM]

Projects at TNO

For geology, oil & gas, port security.

- Sensor development
- DAQ and interrogators
- Engineering
- Cable and streamers
- Data analysis

Optical streamers



Assembly table

Tow cable assembly



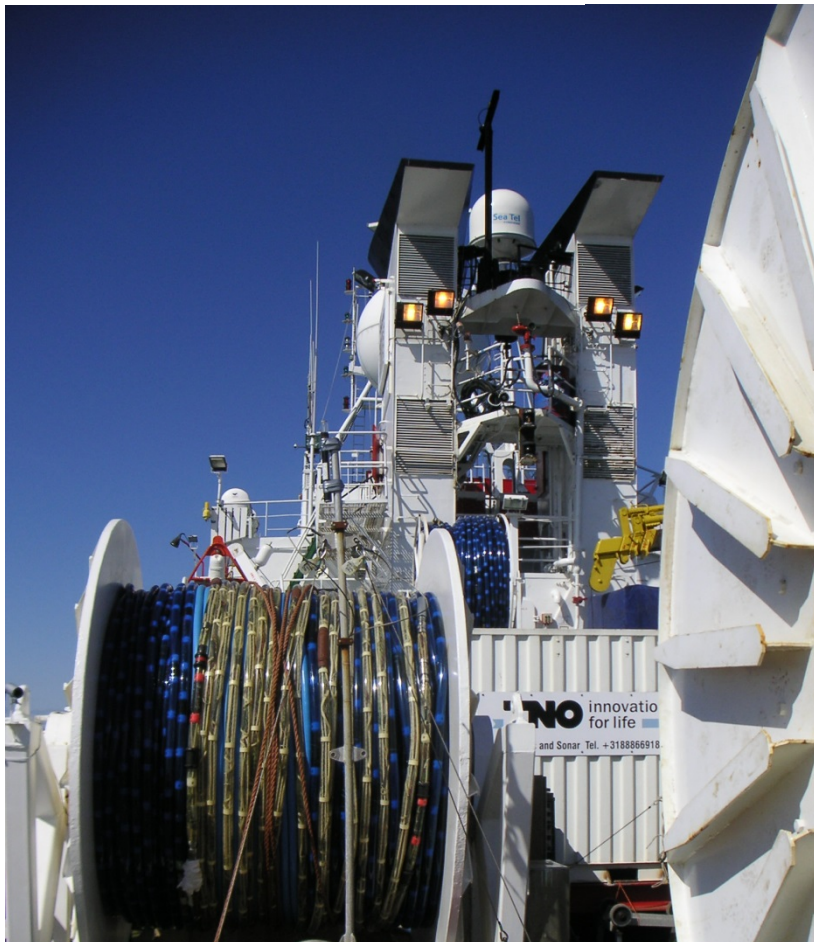
Streamer calibration

Assembled streamers on a roll are guided into the basin



River/sea trial

Off the coast of Scotland

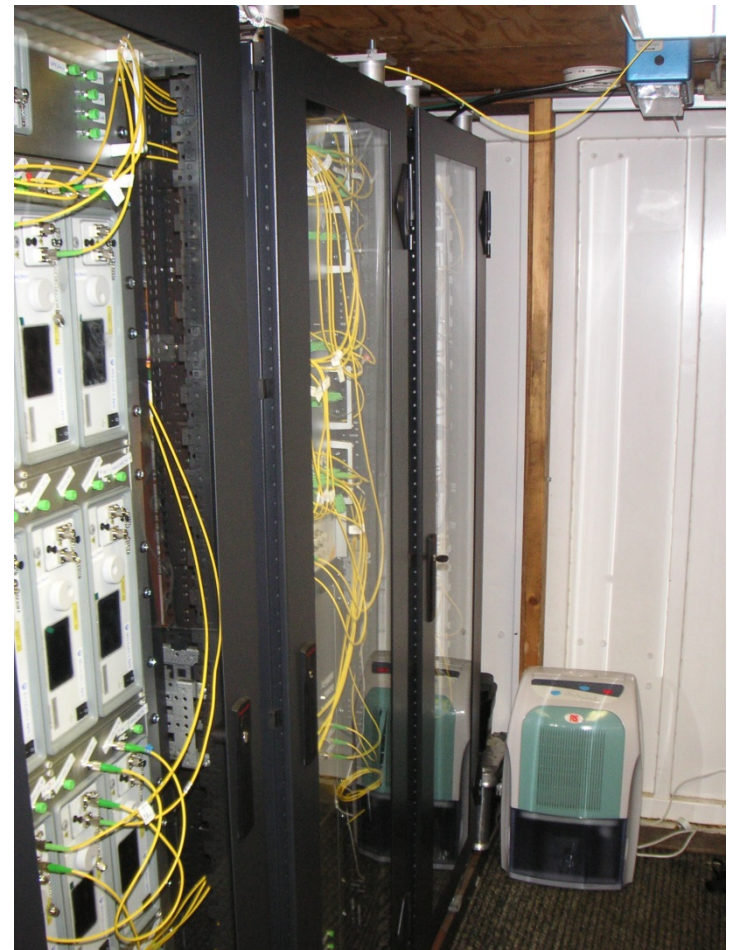
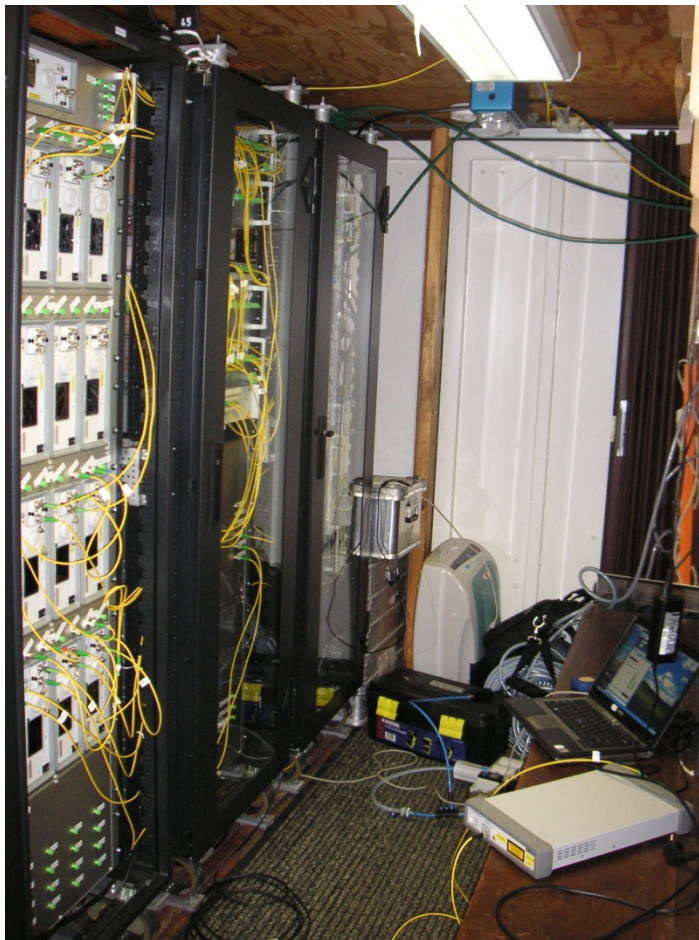


River in Holland



Electronics shed on deck

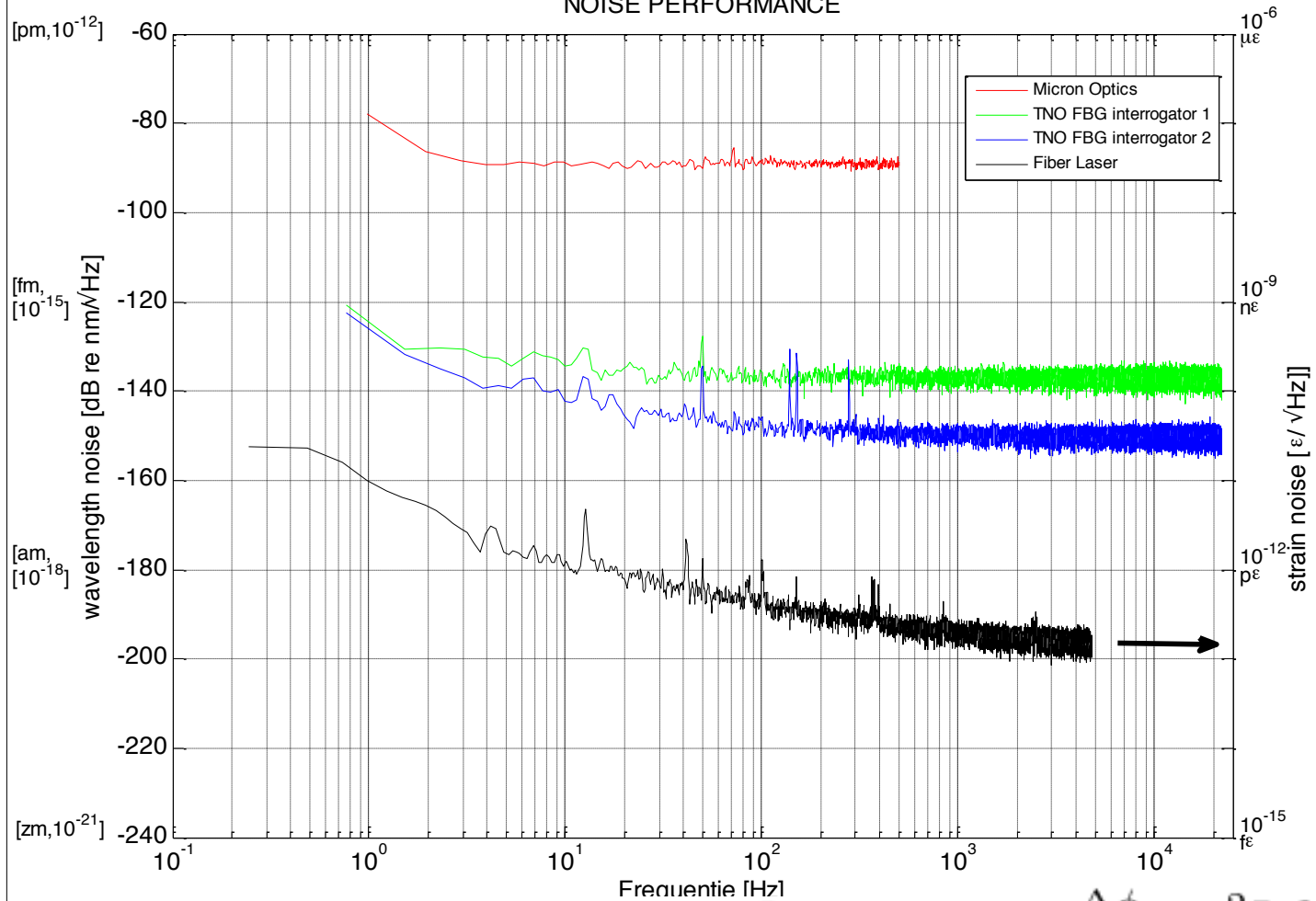
Interrogators and light sources to readout up to 10 k sensors (albeit time multiplexed)



backup

Sensitivity and interrogators

NOISE PERFORMANCE



$$\phi = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} OPD \quad \frac{\Delta\phi}{\Delta\lambda} = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda^2} OPD$$

Concept cosmic ray set up

