

**DEVELOPMENT OF LASER INTERFEROMETER
GRAVITY-WAVE DETECTORS,
AND RELATED INVESTIGATIONS
IN EXPERIMENTAL GRAVITY AND
GRAVITATIONAL RADIATION**

(R. W. P. DREVER)

(PAC 6 JAN 1997)

TWO MAIN AREAS OUTLINED IN PROPOSAL

1) Extending Low Frequency Performance

- Coupled isolation systems
 - Coupled in position and tilt.
 - Use of magnetic levitation. *← LARGELY PASSIVE*

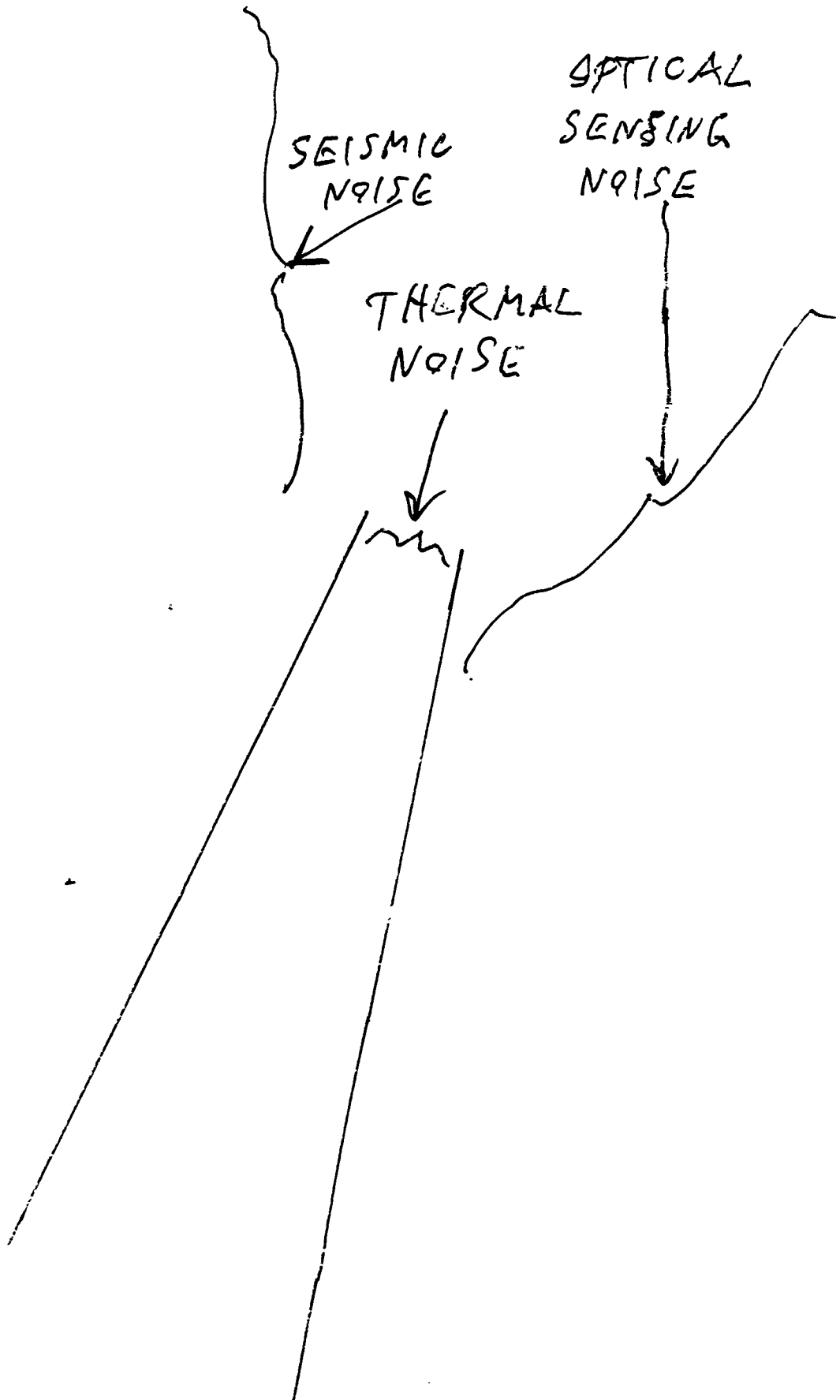
2) Extending High Frequency Performance

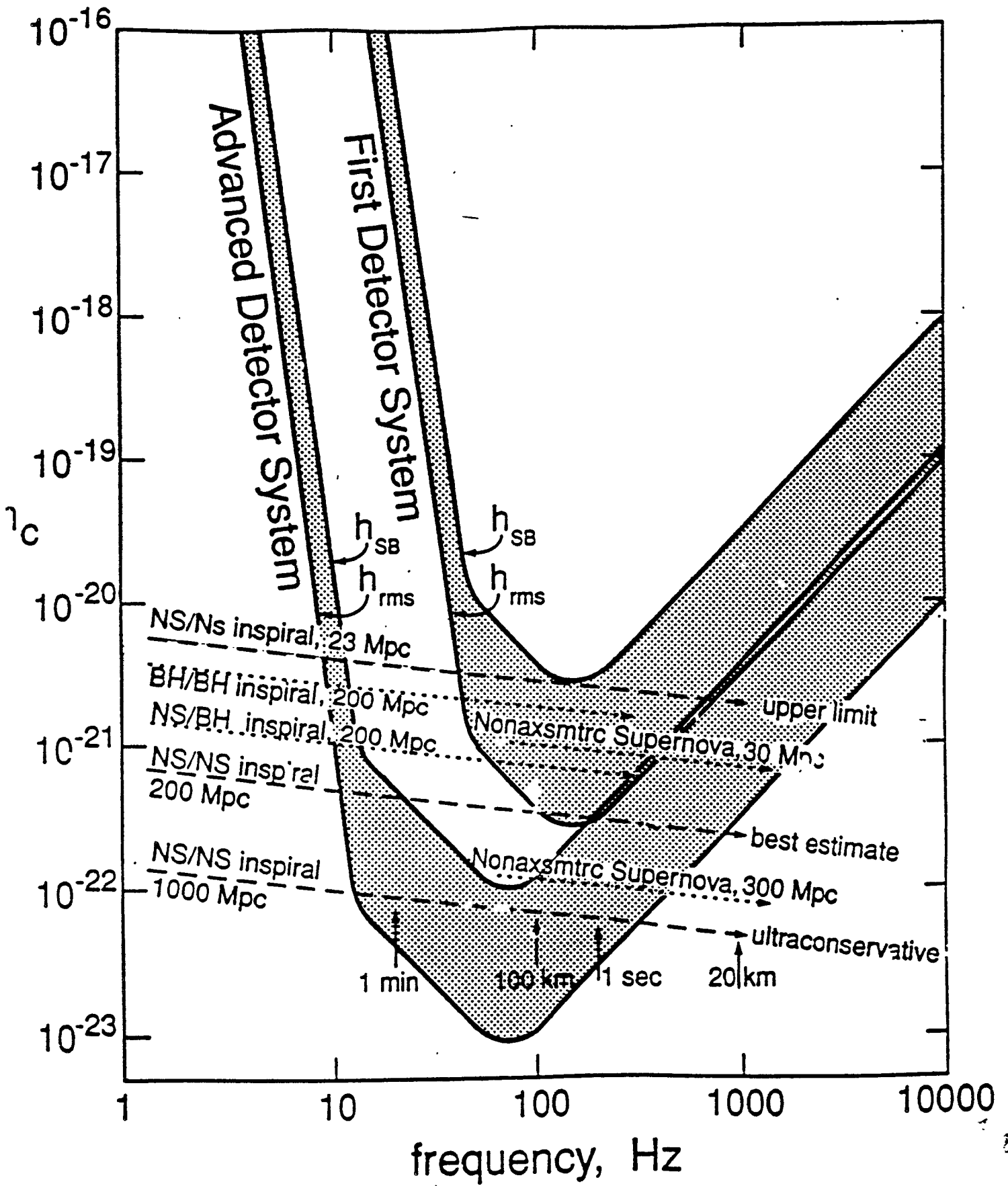
Use of diffractive optics – can allow higher light power →
reduce shot noise

- Reduces internal test mass thermal noise.

We concentrate on (1) initially, since in our situation this seems likely to give important results earlier.

THE MAIN SOURCES OF NOISE
WHICH LIMIT SENSITIVITY.





STANDARD SEISMIC ISOLATION – SPRING-MASS STAGES OF LOWEST CONVENIENT RESONANT FREQUENCY

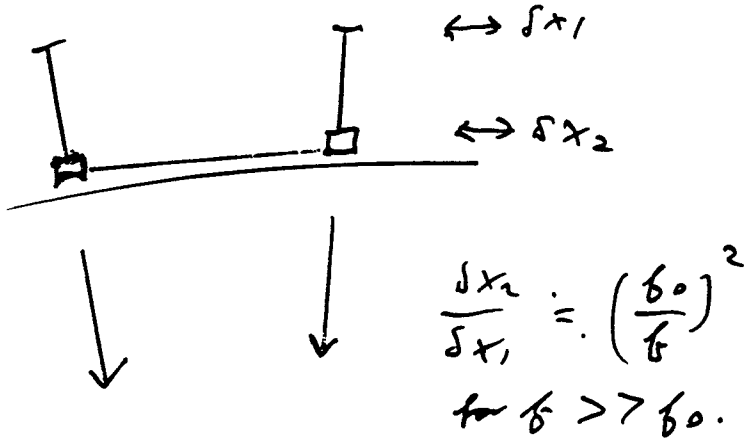
ADVANTAGES of Using Magnetic Fields Instead of Metal or Rubber “Springs”:

- a) Avoid high-frequency paths through springs, etc.
- b) Low resonant frequency obtainable in passive systems.
(Servo is only a stabilizer.)
- c) Relatively simple – essentially passive.
- d) Easy damping by eddy currents.
- e) High vacuum compatible.

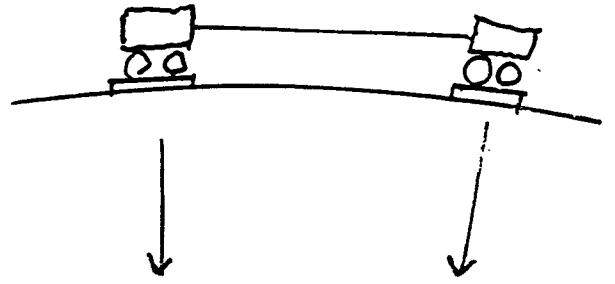
OBVIOUS DISADVANTAGES

- a) Superconductors require reduced temp – inconvenient.
Plan to avoid them.
- b) Permanent magnets unstable alone (Earnshaw’s theorem).
 - But can make stable by servo system
- c) Must avoid response to outside field noise.

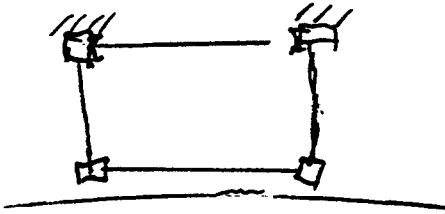
PENDULUM



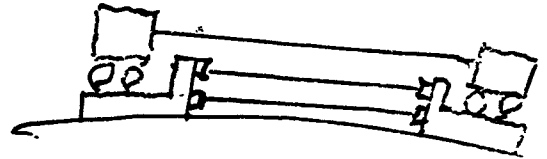
LONG-PERIOD WEIGHTLESS, FRICTIONLESS WHEELS



MONITOR SUSPENSION POINTS



MONITOR RELATIVE TILTS



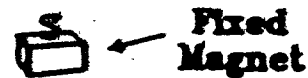
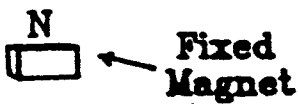
ALMOST ANY PASSIVE LONG-PERIOD
SUSPENSION IS EQUIVALENT
TO THIS.

(INCLUDES GATE-TYPE
SUSPENSION, X-PENDULUM,
MAGNETIC SYSTEMS TO
BE DESCRIBED)

MAGNETIC SUSPENSIONS PROPOSED CAN
GIVE PRACTICAL WAY TO IMPLEMENT THIS.

SOME MAGNET ARRANGEMENTS

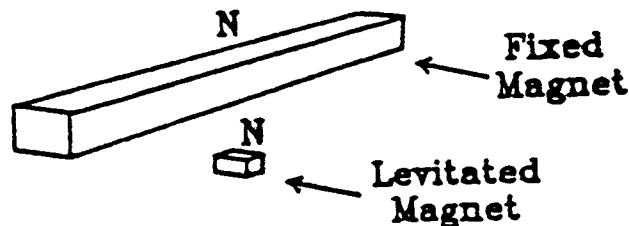
PROPOSED



(A) SIMPLE

(B) LONGER PERIODS THAN (A).

TRANSLATION-ROTATION COUPLING CAN GIVE INSTABILITY.



(C) INHERENT LONG PERIODS IN ONE DIRECTION,

ONE STAGE FOR A SEISMIC ISOLATION SYSTEM.

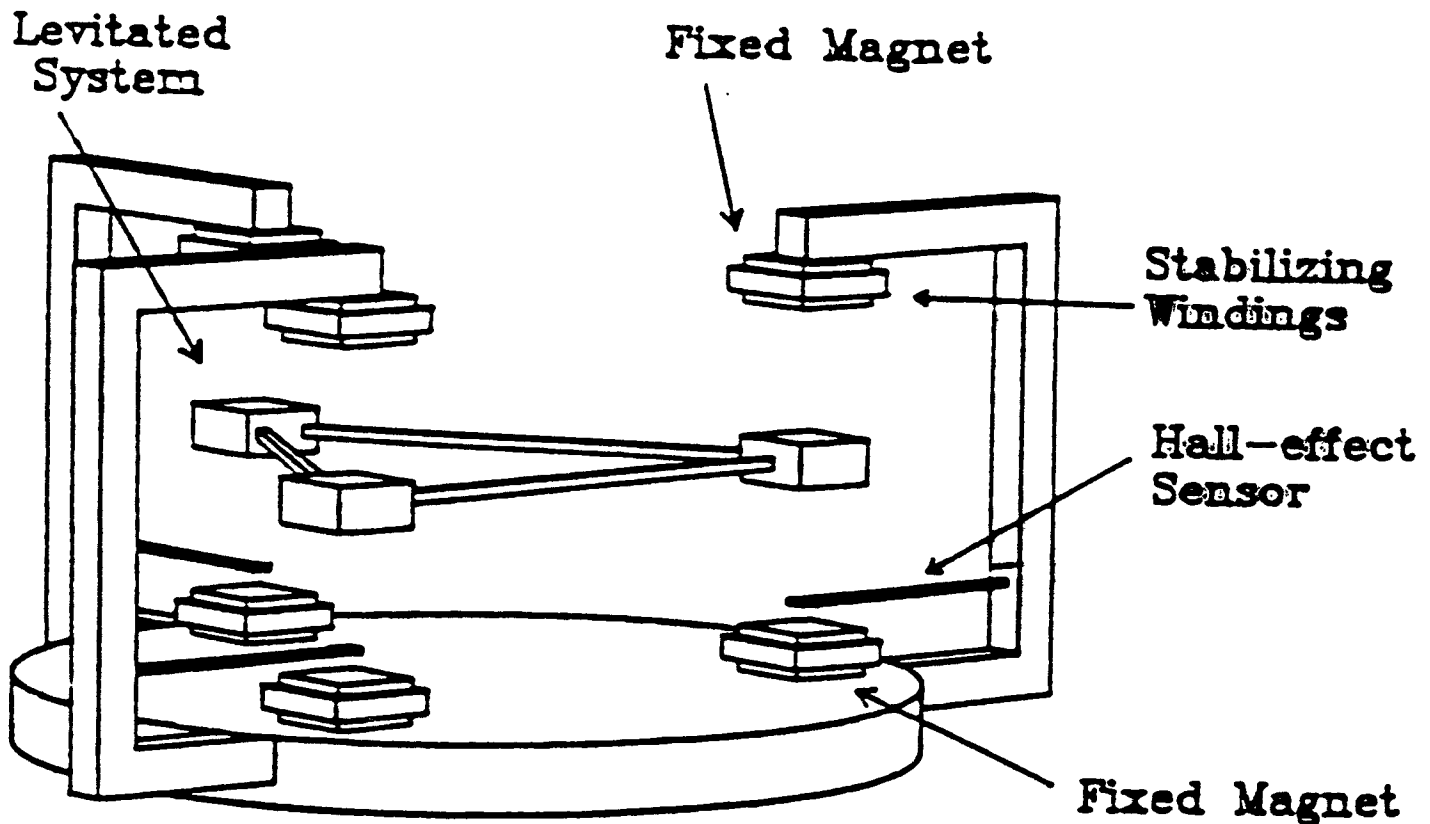


Fig. 8.

SMALL TEST SYSTEM :-

PAYLOAD 1 Kg

NATURAL PERIODS :- HORIZONTAL 2-4 SEC.

VERTICAL 0.5 SEC.

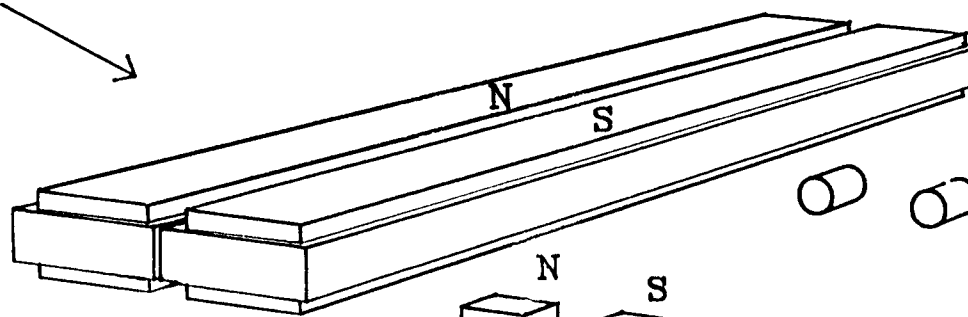
(CAN BE MADE LONGER BY TRIMMING
FIELDS AND SERVO RESPONSE)

BUILT AND TESTED BY S. AUGST.

Magnetically Levitated Test Mass

"QUADRUPOLE"
VERSION - 2 MAGNETS
ON MASS

Permanent Magnets
for Lifting Field

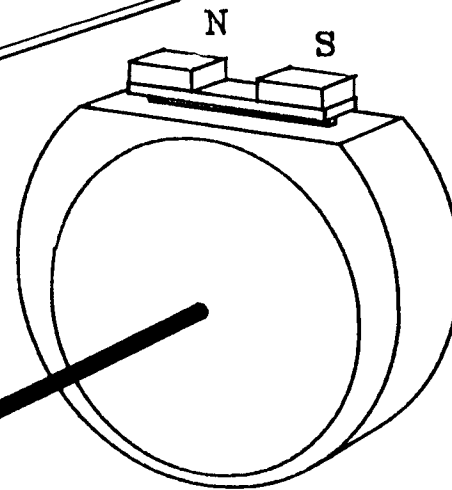


Photodiodes for
height sensing

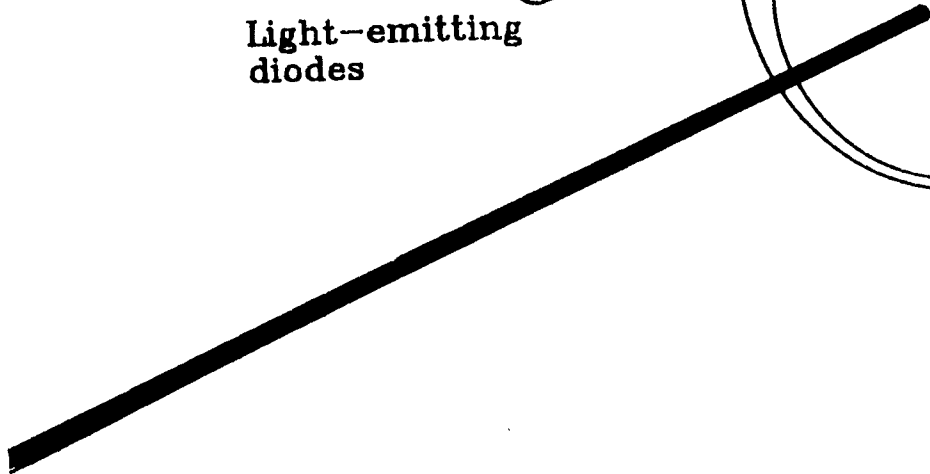
Stabilizing
Windings



Light-emitting
diodes

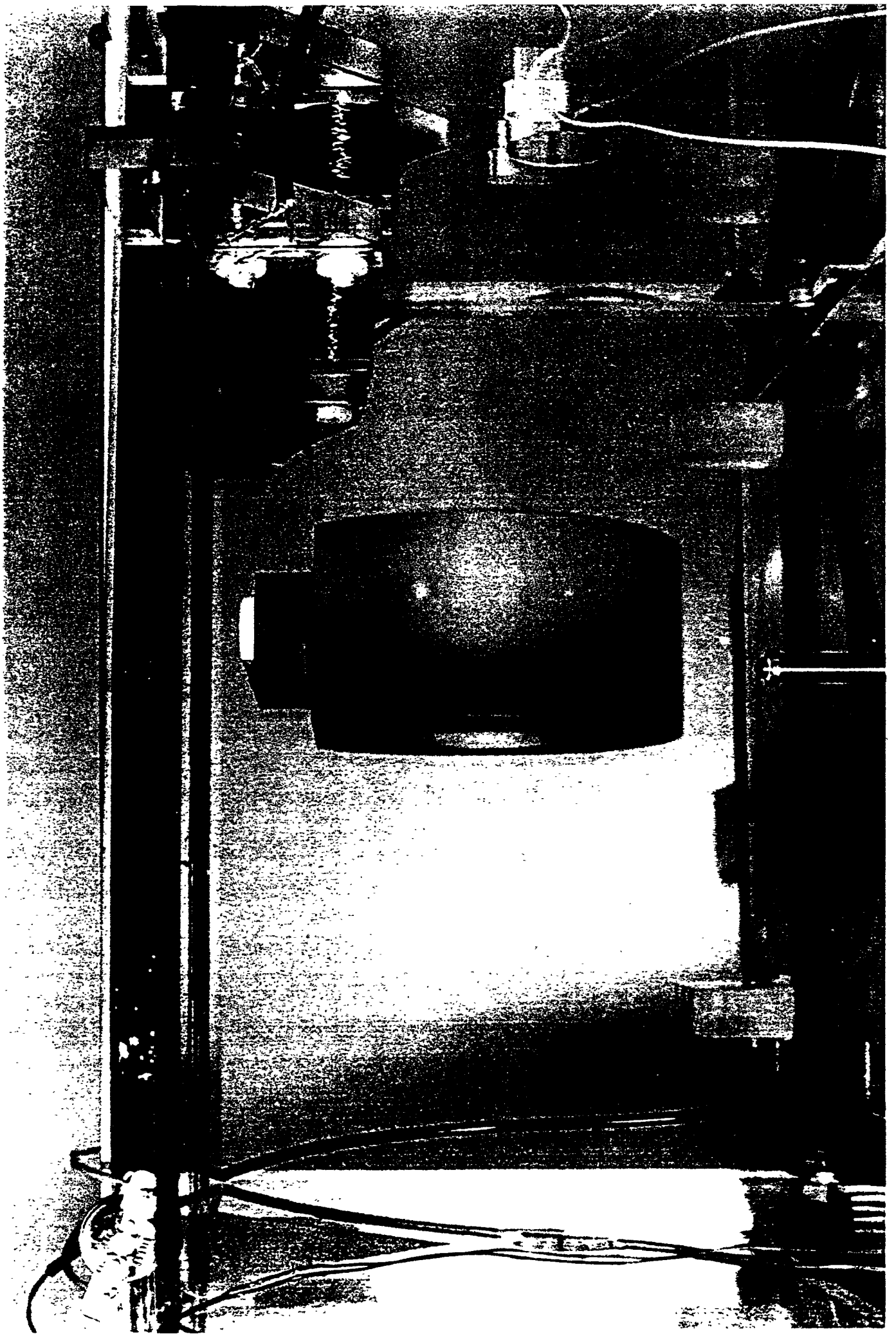


High-Q test mass

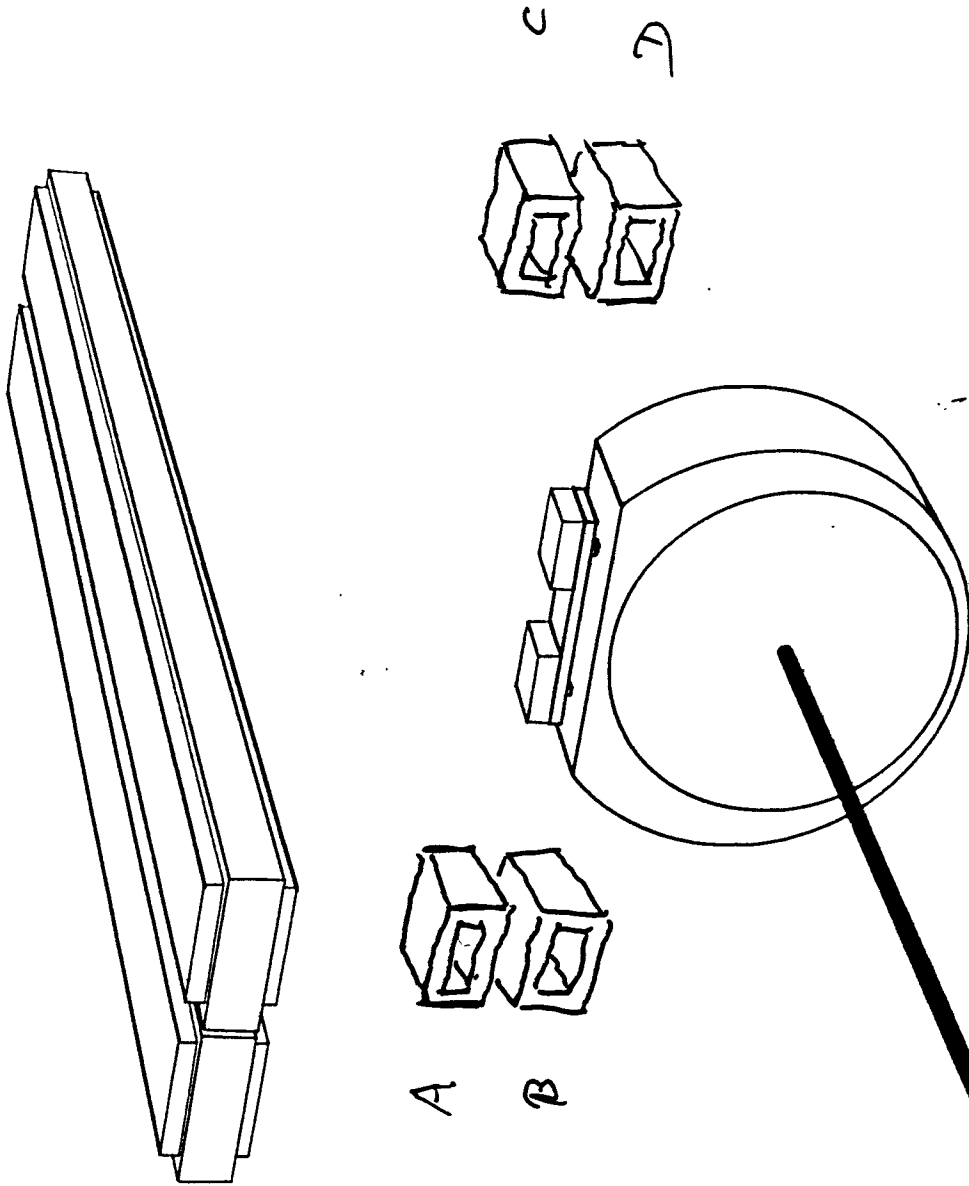


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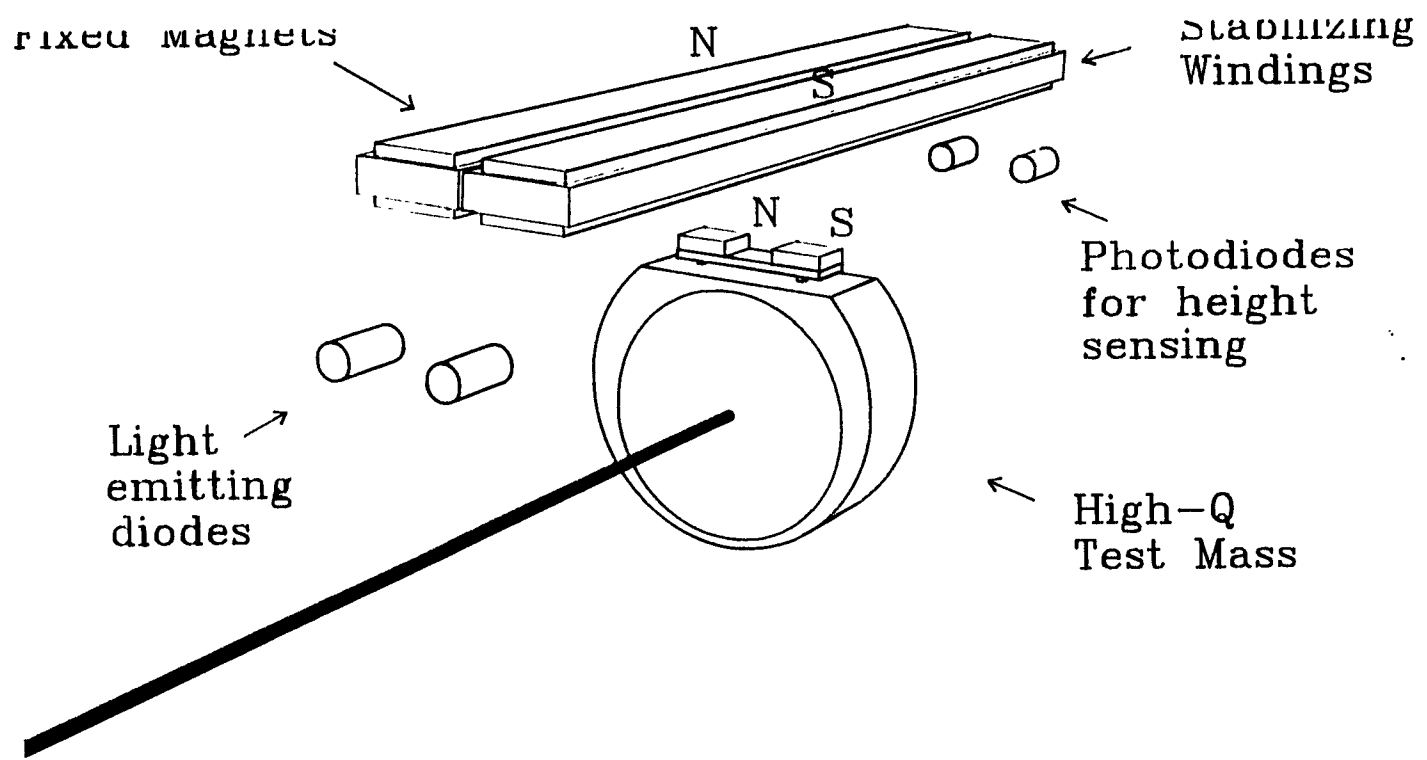
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TEST MASS LEVITATION SYSTEM: - FINE CONTROL
OF MIRROR ROTATION, TILT, AND LONGITUDINAL
POSITION, BY AUXILIARY COILS A, B, C, D.



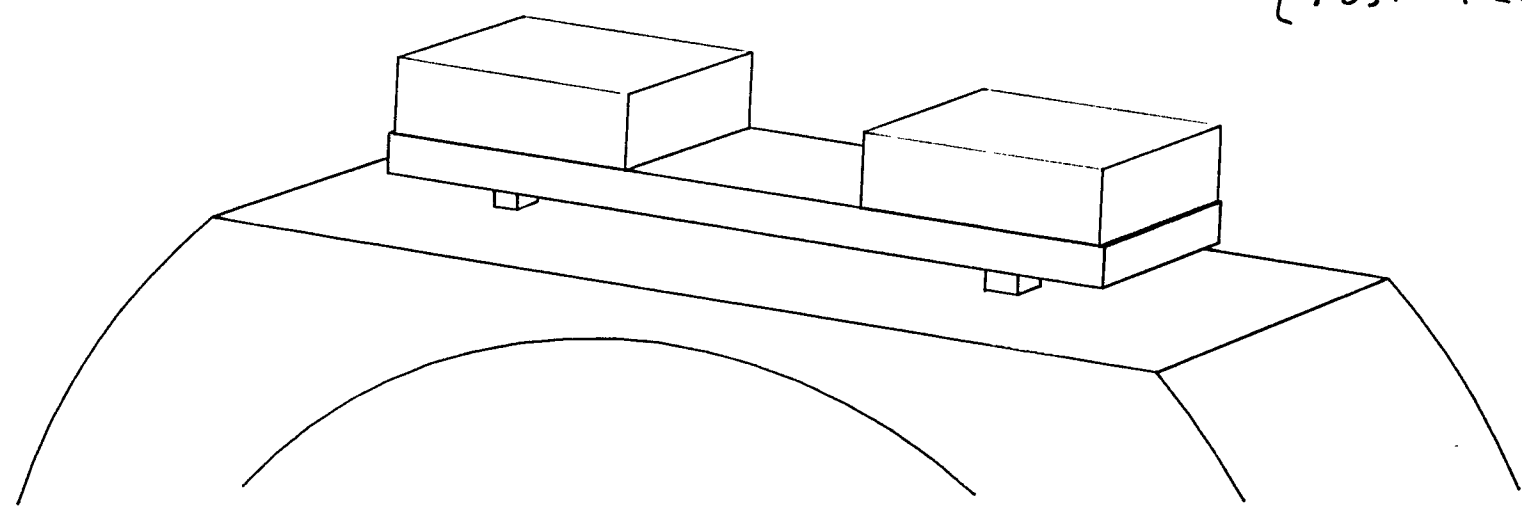
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Enlarged view of top of Test Mass

(POST FLEXURE VERSION)



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EXPERIMENTAL FINDINGS

with 1-magnet and 2-magnet versions test mass systems

- 1) Natural period depends on non-uniformity of support magnet(s).

Typical period 8 seconds → 12 seconds

with simple trim → 20 seconds

- 2) Relaxation Time (Horizontal mode)

Typical in range 8 to 18 hours

(under investigation – preliminary only)

Typically longer with insulating magnets on mass (ceramic) than conducting (rare-earth) (by factor <2).

- 3) Stabilizing Power << 1 mw

Typical ~50 microwatts

- 4) Permanent magnets have temp coefficient.

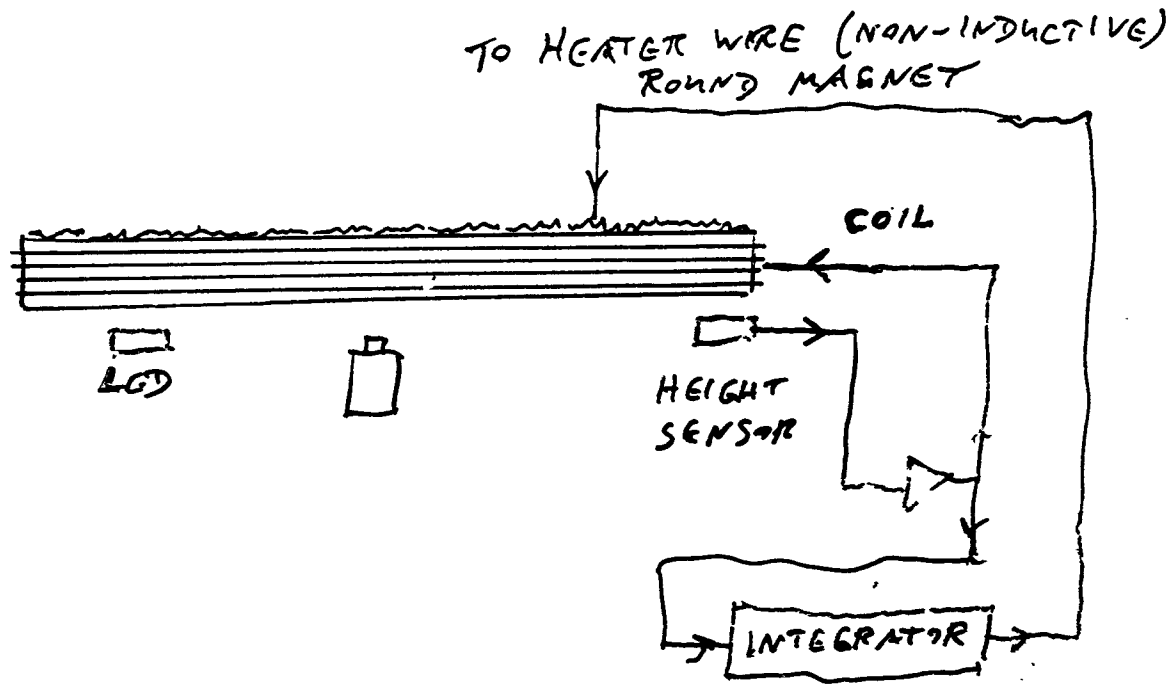
Equilibrium height function of room temperature.

Now using servo to control field via temperature.

- 5) Thermal Noise Plans

CONTROL OF MAGNETIC FIELD

VIA MAGNET TEMPERATURE.

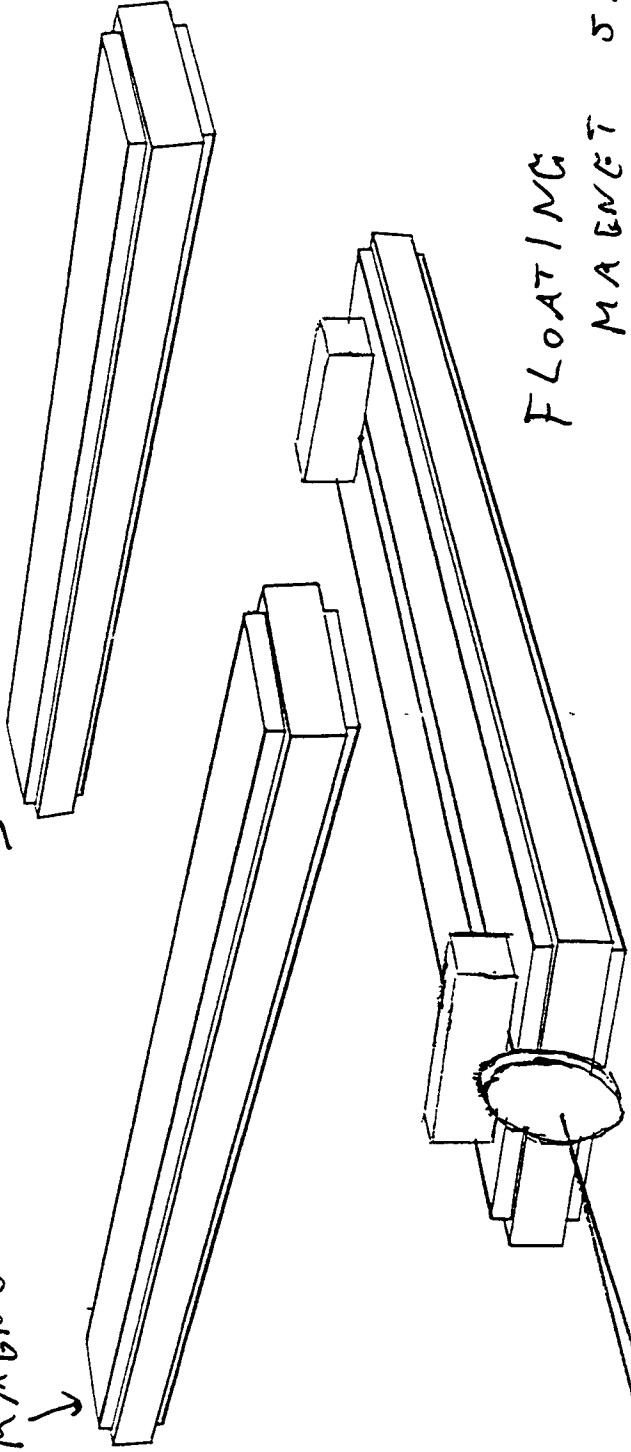


(INTEGRATE COIL
VOLTAGE OVER
MINUTES → TO
DRIVE MEAN VALUE
TO ZERO)

2 EFFECTS:-

- ① KEEPS COIL POWER $\ll 1 \text{ mW}$
- ② KEEPS HEIGHT OF TEST MASS CONSTANT
INDEPENDANT OF AMBIENT TEMPERATURE

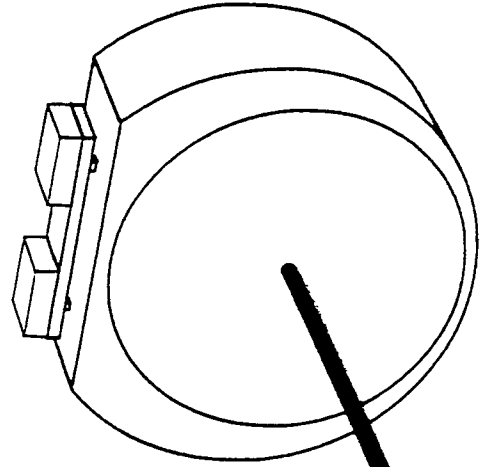
"FIXED" MAGNETS



FLOATING
MAGNET SYSTEM

TILT CONTROL
OVER 40 M.

TEXT MASS

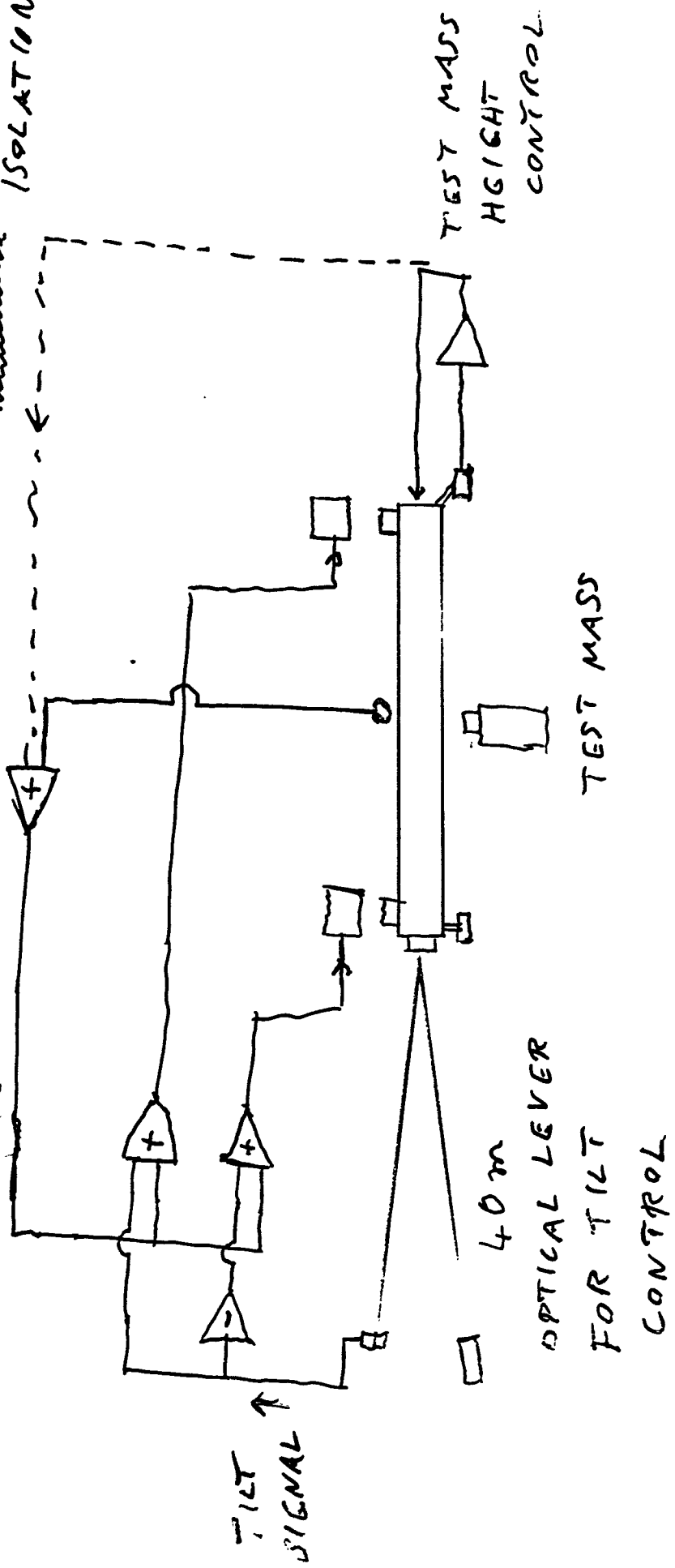


SUSPENSION SYSTEM LEVITATED FROM ISOLATION STAGE

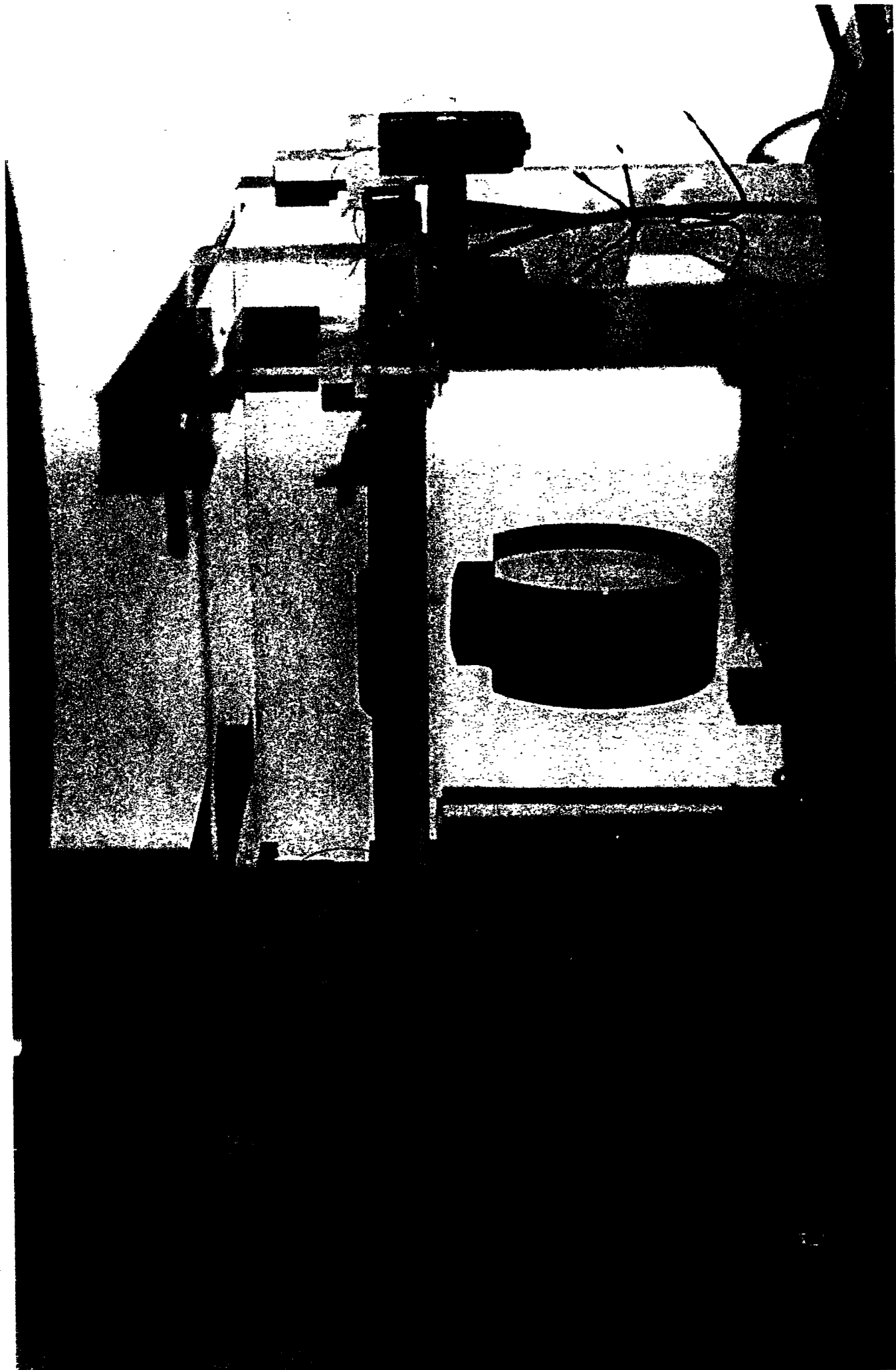
LATER ADDITION TO
GIVE ACTIVE VERTICAL
ISOLATION

SUSPENSION MAGNET
HEIGHT SIGNAL

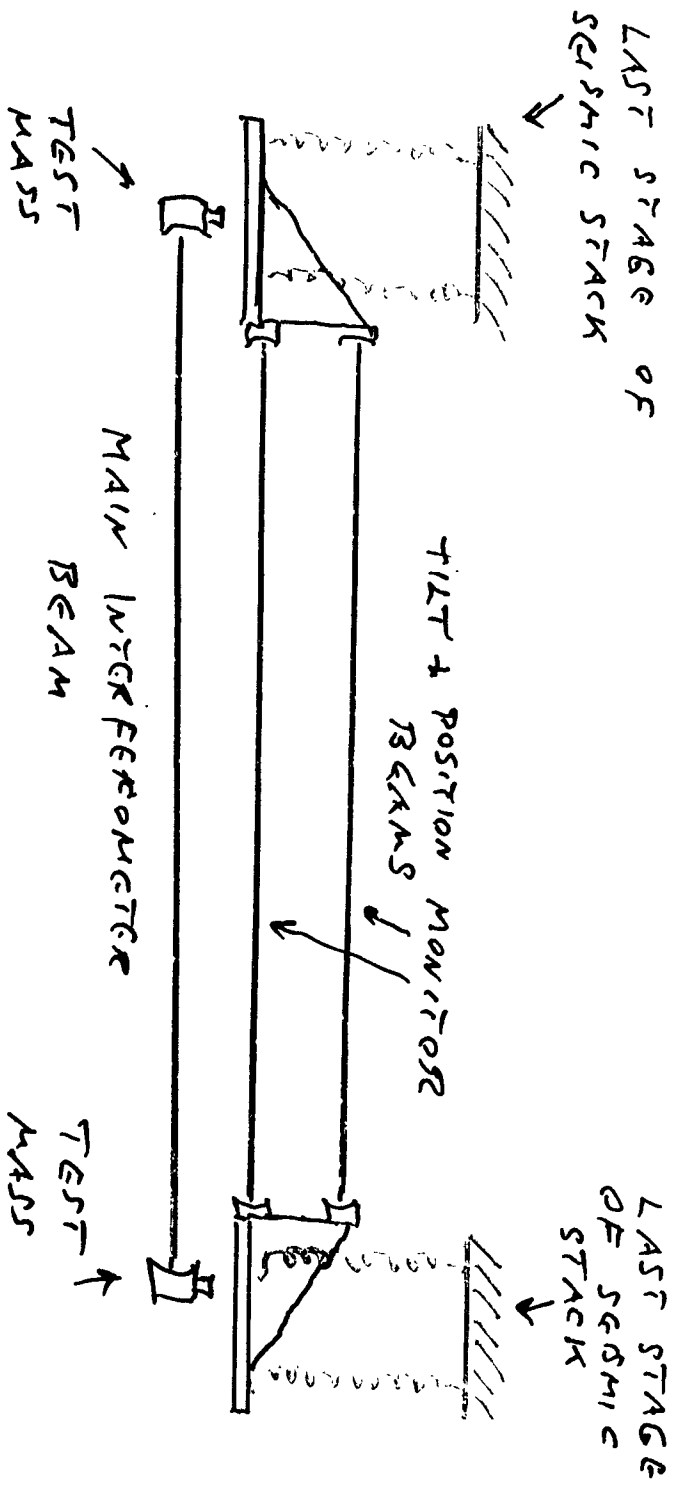
TILT
SIGNAL



(UNDER CONSTRUCTION NOW)



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TILT-COUPLED SUSPENSIONS - MAGNETIC
LEVITATION EXAMPLE.

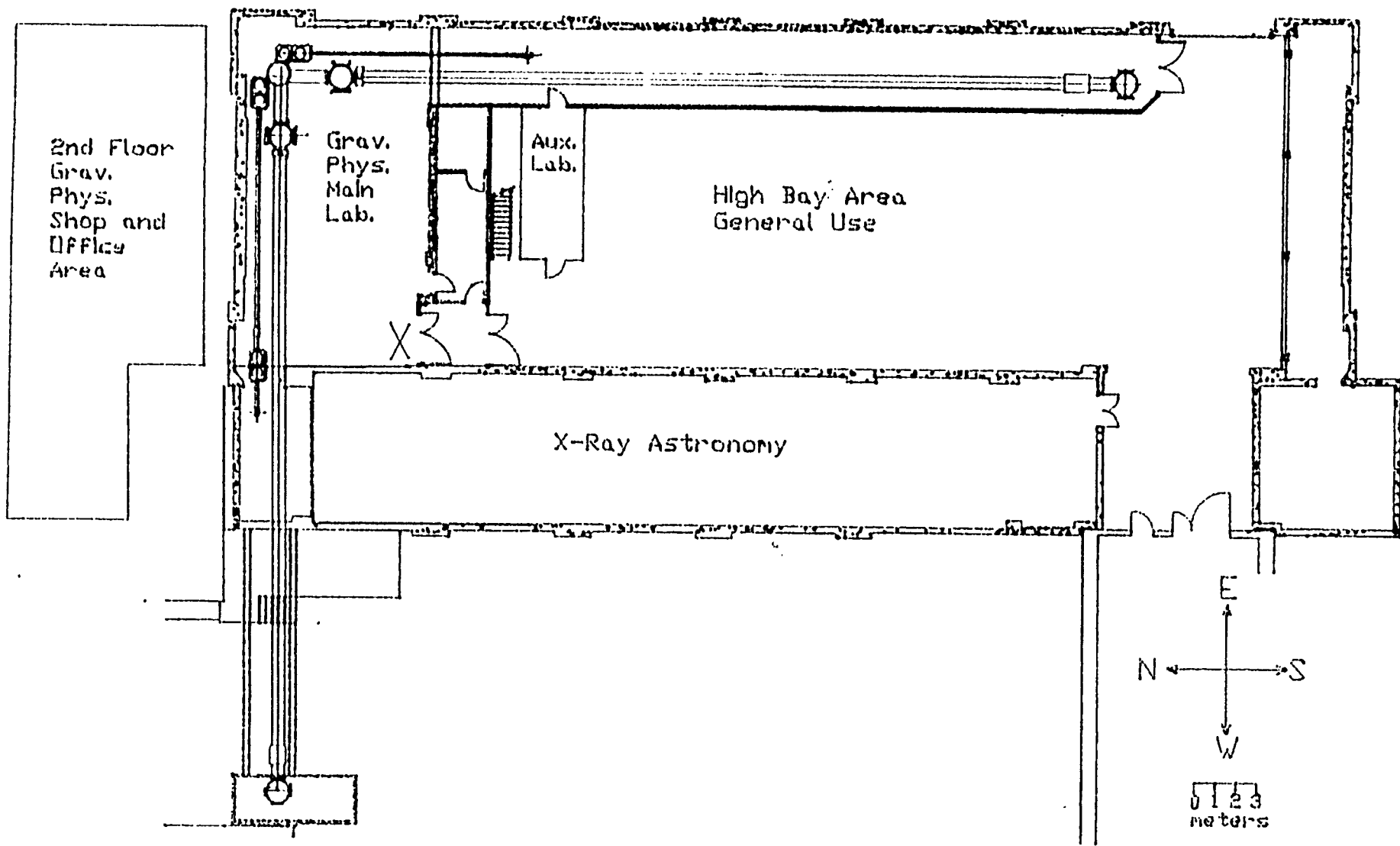


Fig. 16. Simplified layout of new laboratories and facilities planned for this project.



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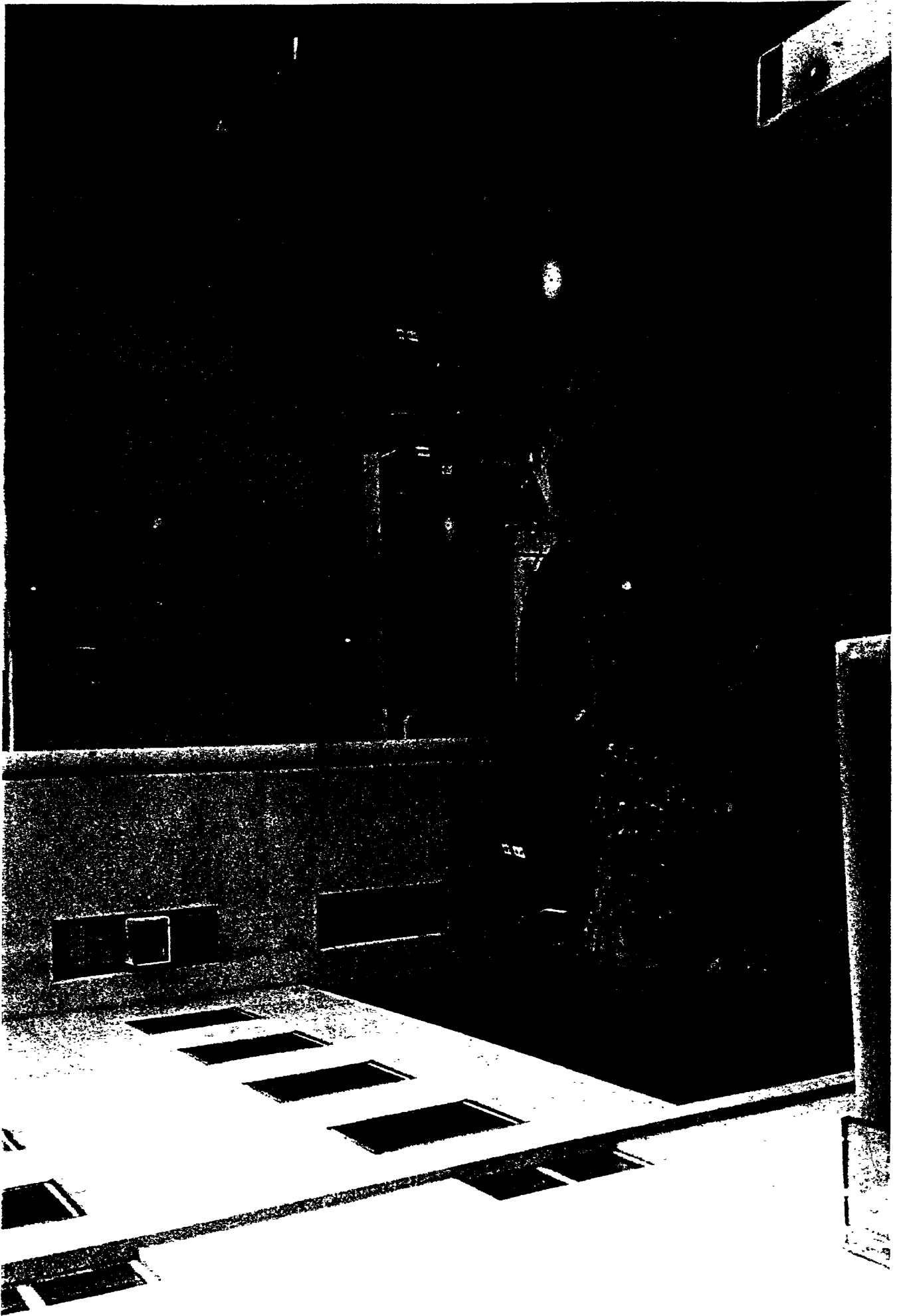
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INITIAL EXPERIMENTAL PLAN

Low Frequency Interferometers

1. Assemble and begin testing levitated test mass suspension — dummy masses.
2. Extend to 2 levitated stages.
3. Duplicate, make first differential measurements with simple interferometer (low frequencies).
4. Build up 2-arm system to improve sensitivity of tests.
5. Extend interferometer to multi-bounce system to allow higher frequency tests.
6. Develop high-performance system for sensitive noise studies.

When practicable (~ Step 4), set upper limit to gravity gradient background.

Diffractive Optics Interferometer

- Fit in when system is good enough (~ Step 5).

OVERALL AIM:

To explore and develop wider-range interferometers as rapidly as build up of personnel and equipment allows.

Eventually expected to lead to significant advances in gravity-wave research.

Diffraction-Coupled Interferometers

- proposed new technique aimed at improved power-handling capability and thermal noise.

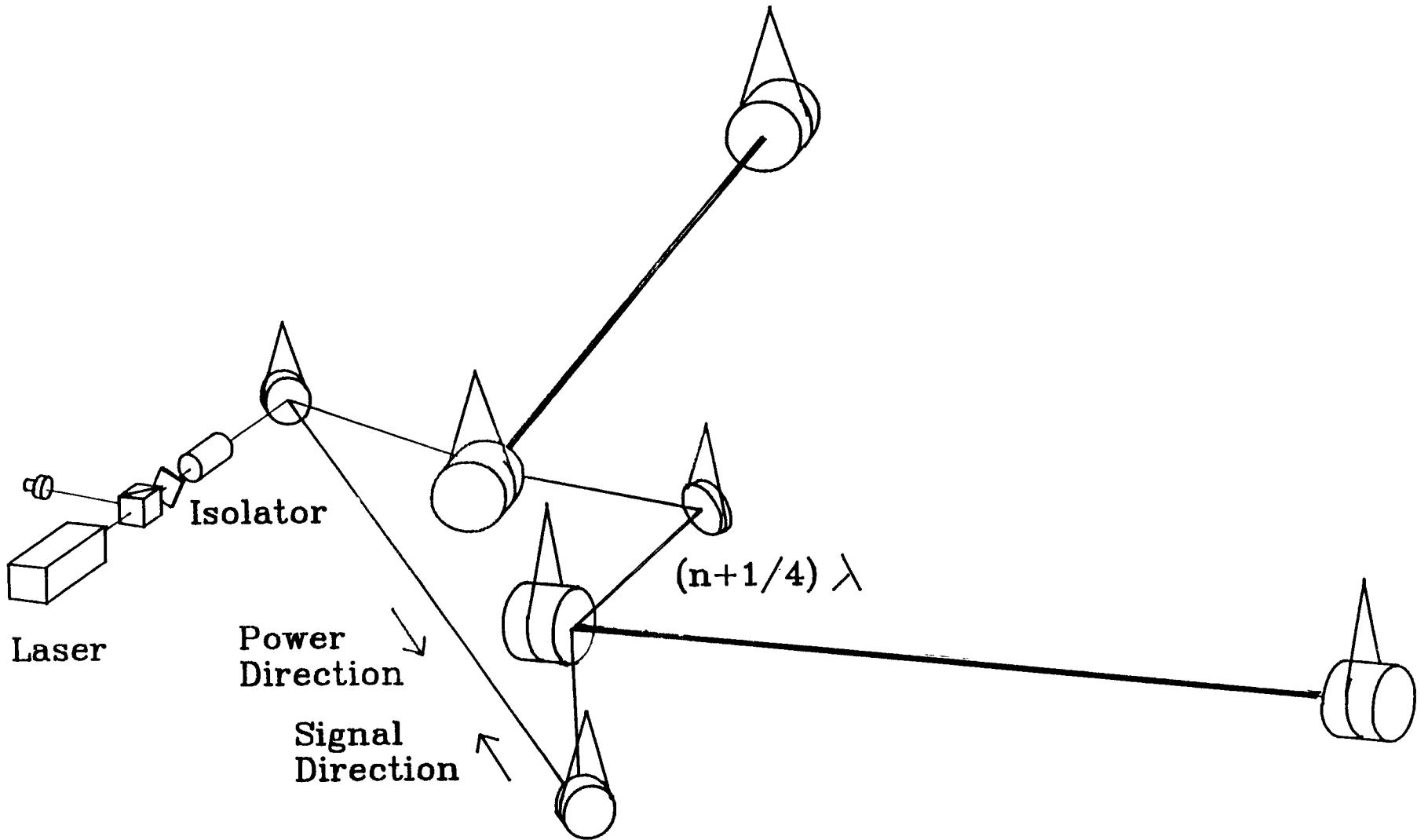
Basic Concept: Couple light into and out of cavities and interferometer arms by diffraction grating pattern on mirrors of test masses or beamsplitters

- to divide wavefront by diffraction instead of transmission

Possible Advantages: No need to pass light through test masses or beamsplitters, so -

1. Can select materials for high Q , and if needed good thermal conductivity / expansion properties
 - without any transparency constraint
2. Thermal lensing eliminated, leaving thermal expansion as the only thermal effect - so higher light power is practicable
3. Power dissipation reduced, as transmission losses eliminated
 - reduces thermal distortions further
4. Reduction in power dissipation makes cryogenic test masses more practicable
 - improving possibility of getting higher Q than at room temperature, and possibility of further reduction in thermal noise.

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(Diagram shows main beams only)

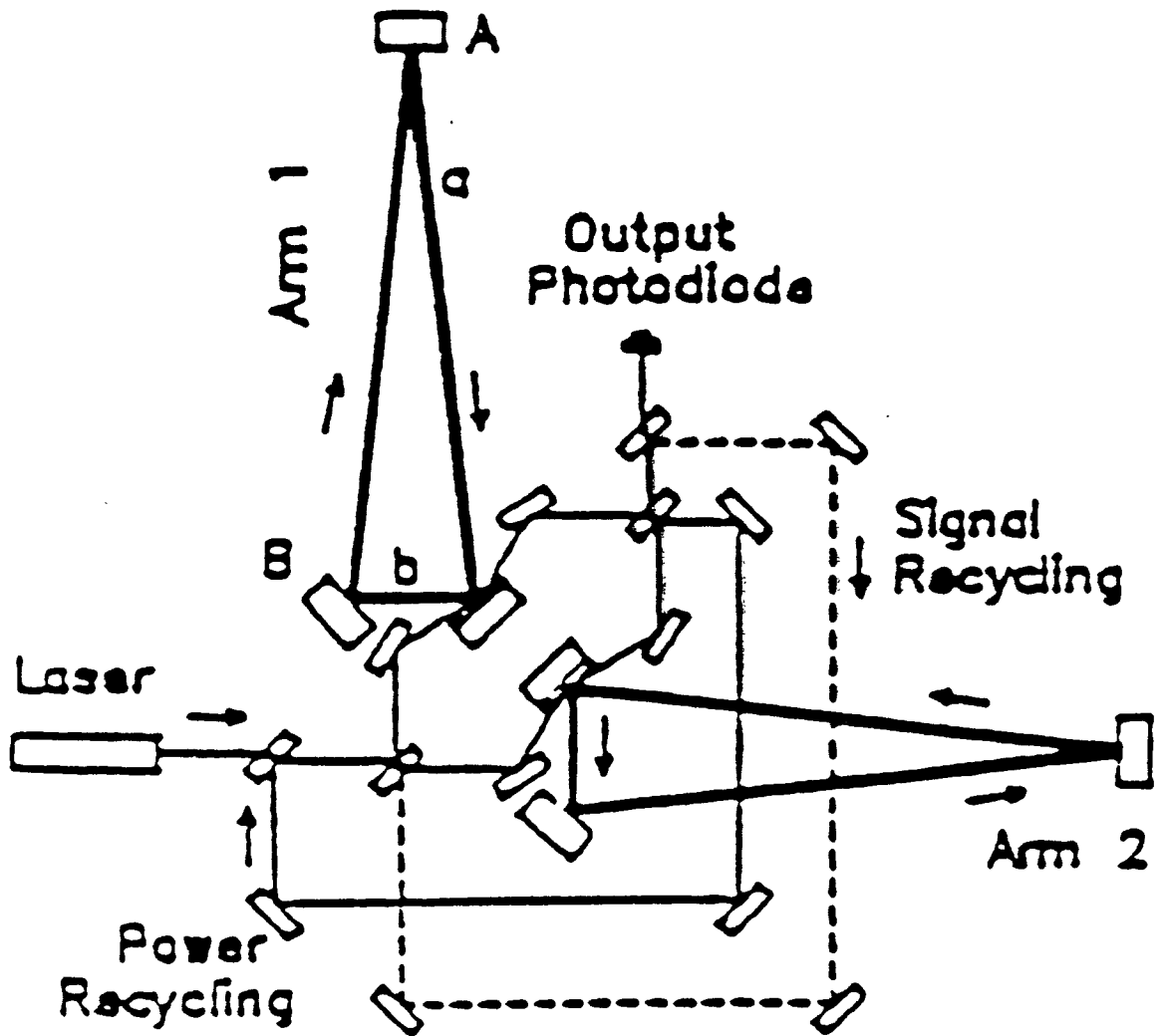


Fig.13.