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Improving the performance of the Enhanced LIGO detectors

KATHERINE DOOLEY, University of Florida, LIGO SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATION — Since July 2009, enhanced Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) interferometers in Livingston, LA, and Hanford, WA have been collecting science data at record sensitivities. The detectors underwent a nearly two year long upgrade which changed the gravitational wave readout scheme and increased the laser power in order to achieve this improved performance. Although the new science run has begun, commissioning of the interferometers continues. Some of the latest developments in the hardware and control of the detectors and specific efforts to reach their design sensitivity goal will be discussed.

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