

# Searching for QCD Dark-Matter Axions with ADMX

DESY Physics Seminar  
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# Searching for Axions

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## Outline

Basic axion properties

“Flagship” searches:

ALPS (laser)

CAST/IAXO (solar)

\*\*\* ADMX (RF cavity)

Overall status of axion searches

# The longstanding problem of dark matter

## FIRST ATTEMPT AT A THEORY OF THE ARRANGEMENT AND MOTION OF THE SIDEREAL SYSTEM<sup>1</sup>

By J. C. KAPTEYN<sup>2</sup>

### ABSTRACT

*First attempt at a general theory of the distribution of masses, forces, and velocities in the stellar system.*—(1) *Distribution of stars.* Observations are fairly well represented, at least up to galactic lat.  $70^\circ$ , if we assume that the equidensity surfaces are similar ellipsoids of revolution, with axial ratio 5.1, and this enables us to compute quite readily (2) *the gravitational acceleration at various points due to such a system*, by summing up the effects of each of ten ellipsoidal shells, in terms of the acceleration due to the average star at a distance of a parsec. The total number of stars is taken as  $47.4 \times 10^9$ . (3) *Random and rotational velocities.* The nature of the equidensity surfaces is such that the stellar system cannot be in a steady state unless there is a general rotational motion around the galactic polar axis, in addition to a random motion analogous to the thermal agitation of a gas. In the neighborhood of the axis, however, there is no rotation, and the behavior is assumed to be like that of a gas at uniform temperature, but with a gravitational acceleration ( $G_\eta$ ) decreasing with the distance  $\rho$ . Therefore the density  $\Delta$  is assumed to obey the barometric law:  $G_\eta = -\bar{w}^2(\delta\Delta/\delta\rho)/\Delta$ ; and taking the mean random velocity  $\bar{u}$  as 10.3 km/sec., the author finds that (4) *the mean mass of the stars decreases from 2.2 (sun=1) for shell II to 1.4 for shell X (the outer shell), the average being close to 1.6, which is the value independently found for the average mass of both components of visual binaries.* In the galactic plane the resultant acceleration—gravitational minus centrifugal—is again put equal to  $-\bar{w}^2(\delta\Delta/\delta\rho)/\Delta$ ,  $\bar{u}$  is taken to be constant and the average mass is assumed to decrease from shell to shell as in the direction of the pole. The angular velocities then come out such as to make the linear rotational velocities about constant and equal to 10.5 km/sec. beyond the third shell. If now we suppose that part of the stars are rotating one way and part the other, the relative velocity being 39 km/sec., we have a quantitative explanation of the phenomenon of star-streaming, where the relative velocity is also in the plane of the Milky Way and about 40 km/sec. It is incidentally suggested that when the theory is perfected it may be possible to determine the amount of dark matter from its gravitational effect. (5) *The chief defects of the theory are:* That the equidensity surfaces assumed do not agree with the actual surfaces, which tend to become spherical for the shorter distances; that the position of the center of the system is not the sun, as assumed, but is probably located at a point some 650 parsecs away in the direction galactic long.  $77^\circ$ , lat.  $-3^\circ$ ; that the average mass of the stars was assumed to be the same in all shells in deriving the formula for the variation of  $G_\eta$  with  $\rho$  on the basis of which the variation of average mass from shell to shell and the constancy of the rotational velocity were derived—hence either the assumption or the conclusions are wrong; and that no distinction has been made between stars of different types.

1. *Equidensity surfaces supposed to be similar ellipsoids.*—In Mount Wilson Contribution No. 188<sup>3</sup> a provisional derivation was given of the star-density in the stellar system. The question was there raised whether the inflection appearing near the pole in the

<sup>1</sup> Contributions from the Mount Wilson Observatory, No. 230.

<sup>2</sup> Research Associate of the Mount Wilson Observatory.

<sup>3</sup> *Astrophysical Journal*, 52, 23, 1920.

Kapetyyn 1922

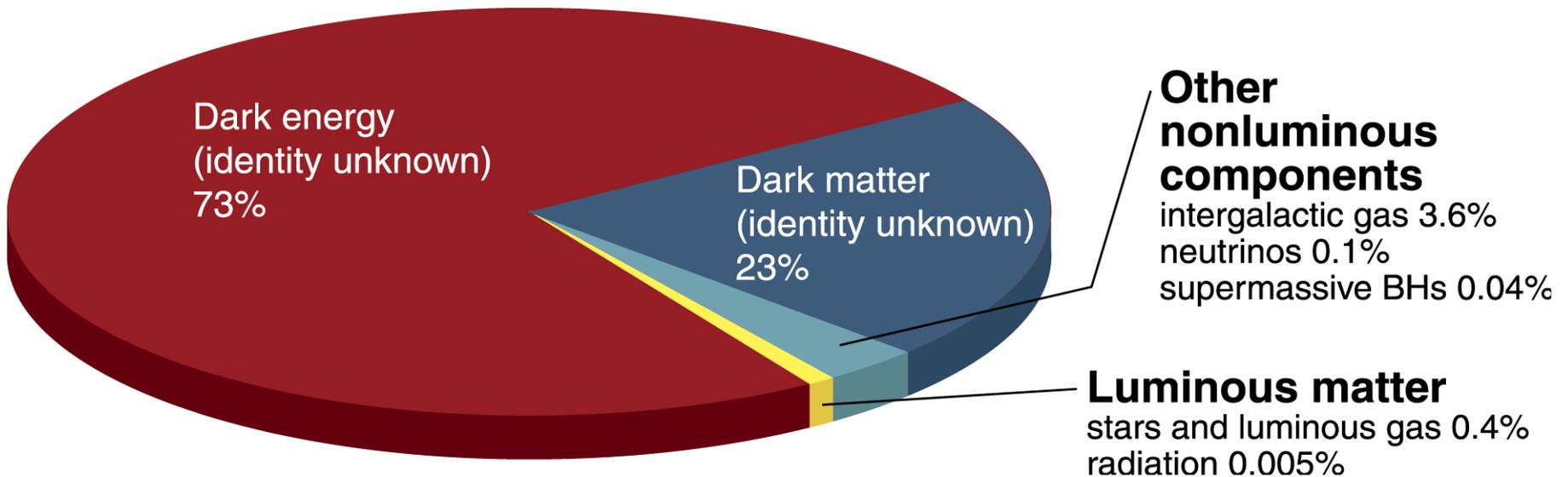
as to the distribution of dark matter. It would appear from the comparison that the dark mass must be relatively more frequent near the galactic plane than far from it, but the data are too uncertain to derive numerical results. A similar conclusion was reached by KAPTEYN in the investigation quoted above.

Recognized by  
Oort 1932

... then Zwicky, Smith ...

# Now: We've inventoried the cosmos ...

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Science (20 June 2003)

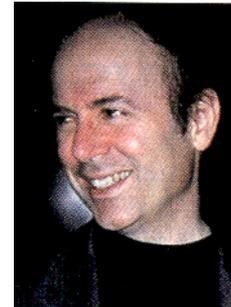
... but we know neither what the “dark energy” or the “dark matter” is. These are two of the very big questions.

# What do we know about the nature of dark matter? Its not normal matter or radiation and it's "cold"

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(1) From light element abundance:  
Dark matter probably isn't bowling balls  
or anything else made of baryons.

(2) Is dark matter made of, e.g., light  
neutrinos?  
Probably not: fast moving neutrinos would  
have washed-out structure.  
Dark matter is substantially "cold".



(3) "Dark matter: I'm much more optimistic  
about the dark matter problem. Here we have  
the unusual situation that two good ideas  
exist..."

Frank Wilczek in Physics Today

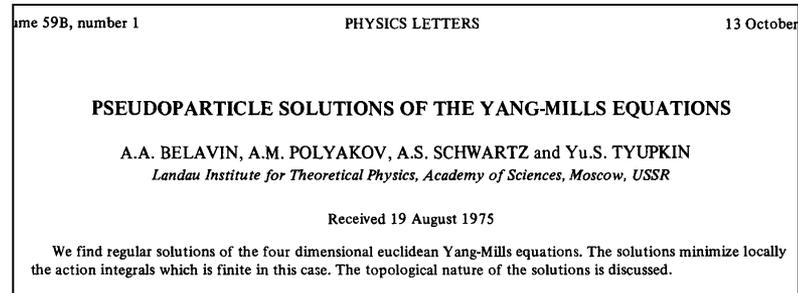
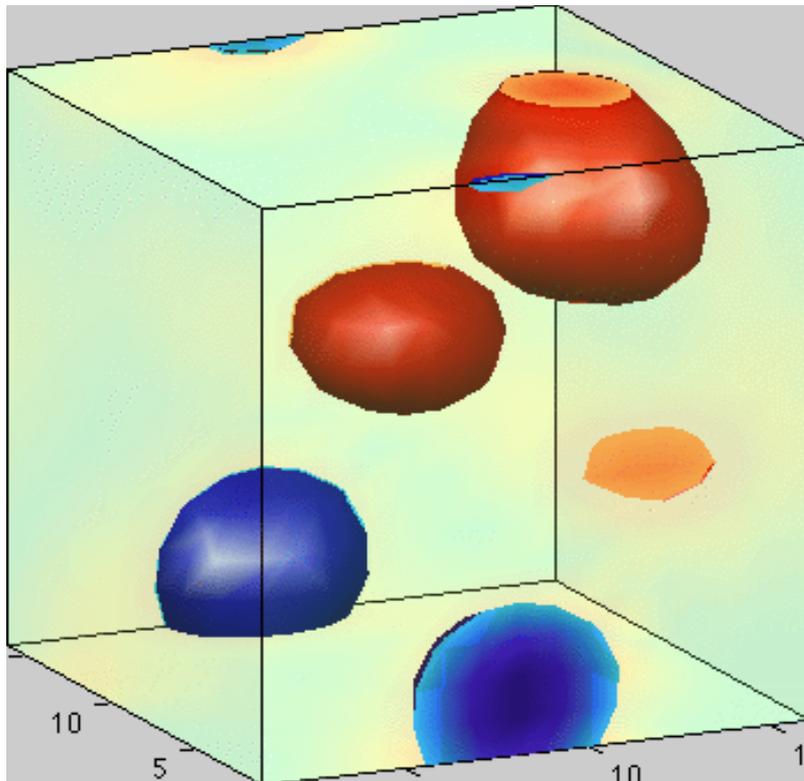
Frank's referring to WIMPS and Axions

# New idea: Why does QCD conserve the symmetry CP?

1973: QCD...a gauge theory of color.

QCD theory embedded the observed conservation of C, P and CP.

1975: QCD + “instantons”  $\Rightarrow$  QCD is expected to be hugely CP-violating.

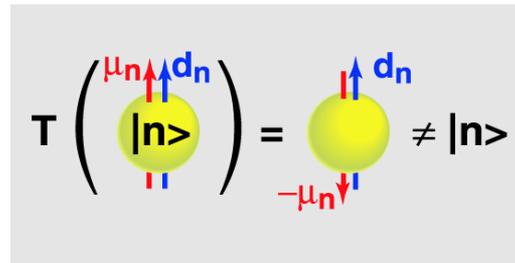


QCD on the lattice:  
CP-violating instantons in 3D  
(sort of)

# Peccei and Quinn: CP conserved through a hidden symmetry

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QCD CP violation should, e.g., give a large neutron electric dipole moment ( $\cancel{T} + CPT = \cancel{CP}$ ); none is unobserved.  
(9 orders-of-magnitude discrepancy)



**Why doesn't the neutron have an electric dipole moment?**

$d_e < 3 \cdot 10^{-26}$  e-cm  
Baker et al. 2006

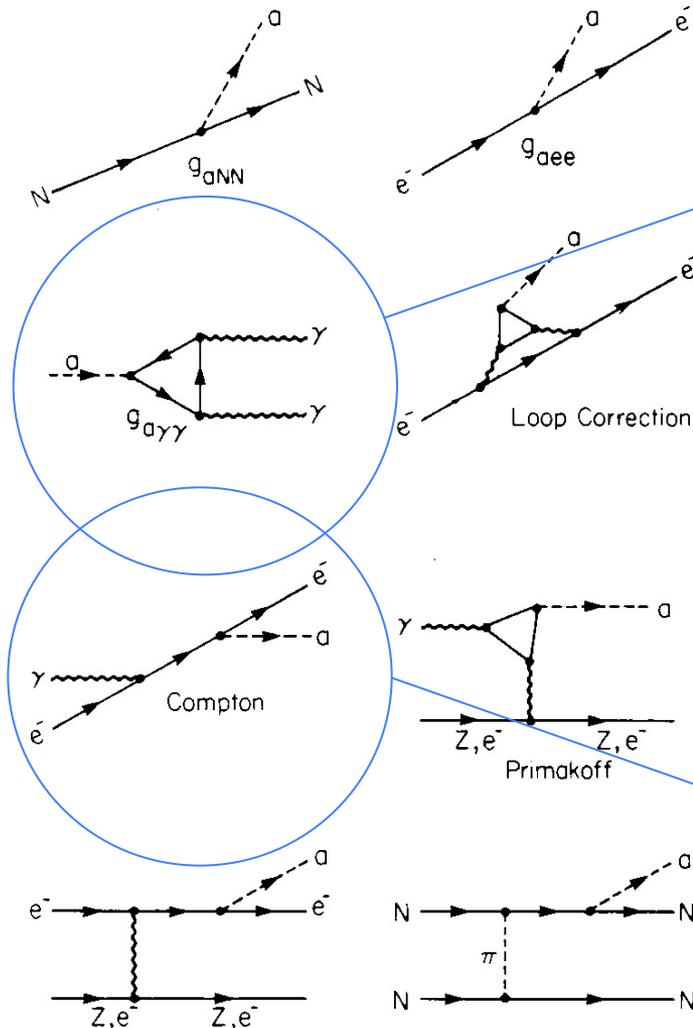
This leads to the “Strong CP Problem”: Where did QCD CP violation go?

1977: Peccei and Quinn: Posit a hidden broken U(1) symmetry  $\Rightarrow$

- 1) A new Goldstone boson (the axion);
- 2) Remnant axion VEV nulls QCD CP violation.

# What's a QCD axion?

## Selected axion couplings & the important two-photon coupling



A process with small model uncertainty  
Exploited in certain terrestrial searches  
Easily calculable

Rate depends on “unification group”  
(that is, the particles in the loops),  
ratio of u/d quark masses,  
and mostly  $f_{PQ}$

$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} \sim \frac{\alpha}{f_{PQ}} \left( \frac{E}{N} - 1.95 \right)$$

A process with larger model uncertainty  
Can occur, e.g., in the Sun  
Contains unknown  $U(1)_{PQ}$  charge of electron  
(e.g., white-dwarf cooling)

# Summary properties of the axion

- The Axion is a light pseudoscalar resulting from the Peccei-Quinn mechanism to enforce strong-CP conservation
- $f_a$ , the SSB scale of PQ-symmetry, is the one important parameter in the theory

## Mass and Couplings

$$m_a \sim 6 \mu\text{eV} \cdot \left( \frac{10^{12} \text{ GeV}}{f_a} \right)$$

Generically, all couplings

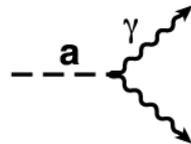
$$g_{a\text{ii}} \propto \frac{1}{f_a}$$

## Cosmological Abundance

$$\Omega_a \sim \left( \frac{5 \mu\text{eV}}{m_a} \right)^{7/6}$$

(Vacuum misalignment mechanism)

## Coupling to Photons



$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} = \frac{\alpha g_\gamma}{\pi f_a}; g_\gamma = \begin{cases} 0.97 \text{ KSVZ} \\ -0.36 \text{ DFSZ} \end{cases}$$

## Axion Mass 'Window'

$$10^{-(5 \text{ to } 6)} \text{ eV} < m_a < 10^{-(2 \text{ to } 3)} \text{ eV}$$

(Overclosure)

(SN1987a)

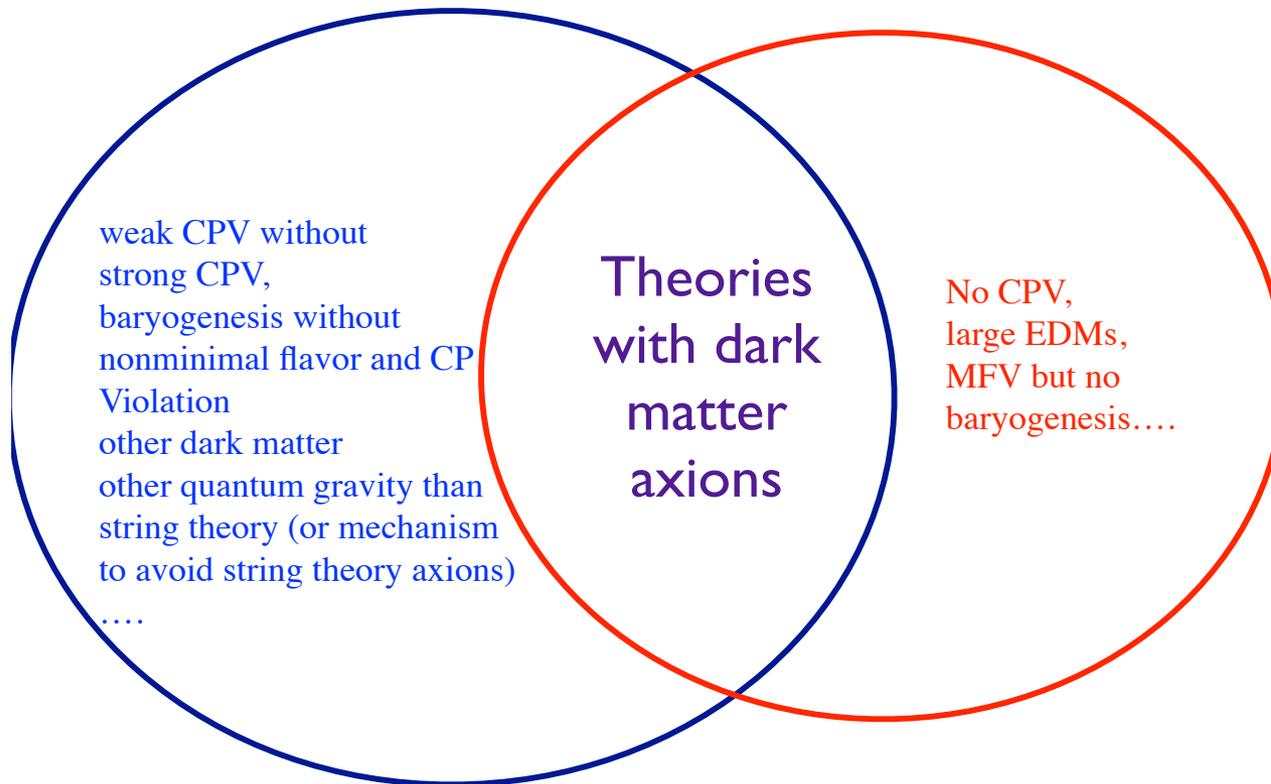
With lower end of window preferred if  $\Omega_{\text{CDM}} \sim 1$

# Axions in particle physics: From A. Nelson

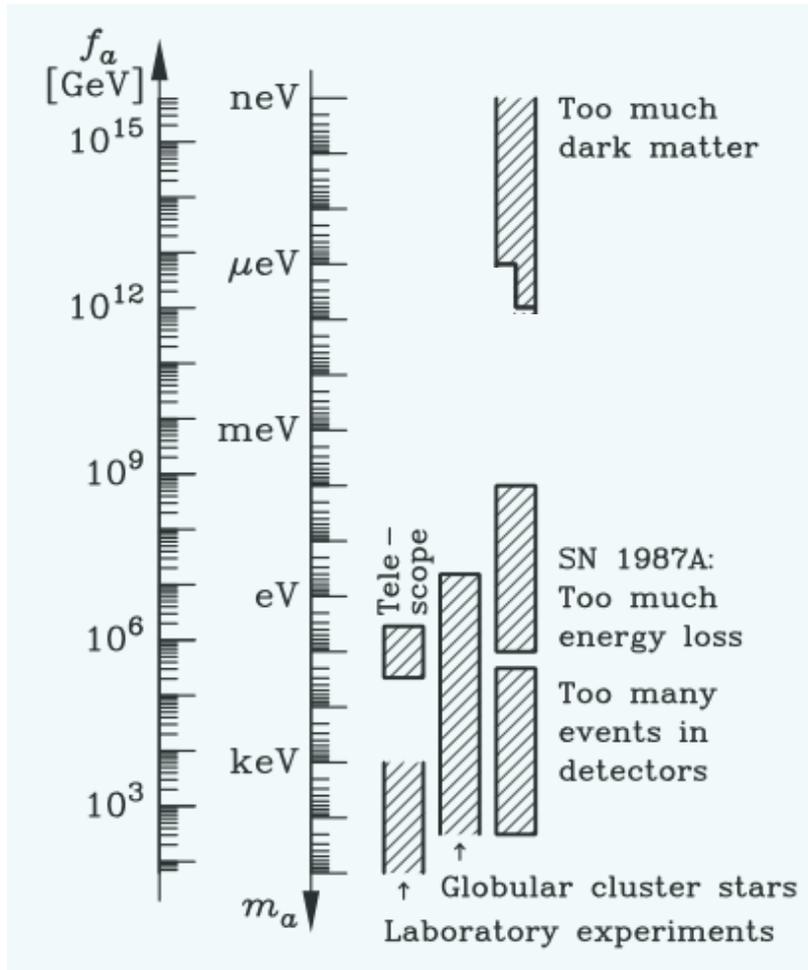
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Viable Theories

Natural and Elegant Theories



# Present bounded window of allowed “QCD” axion masses



Very light axions forbidden:  
else too much dark matter

⇐ Dark matter range: “axion window”

very hard to detect  
“invisible axions”

Heavy axions forbidden:  
else new pion-like particle

# Recap: Axions and dark matter (the QCD dark-matter axion)

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## **Some properties of dark matter:**

Almost no interactions with normal matter and radiation (“dark...”);

Gravitational interactions (“...matter”);

Cold (slow-moving in the early universe);

## **Dark matter properties are those of a low-mass axion:**

### **Low mass axions are an ideal dark matter candidate:**

**“Axions: the thinking persons dark-matter candidate”,  
Michael Turner.**

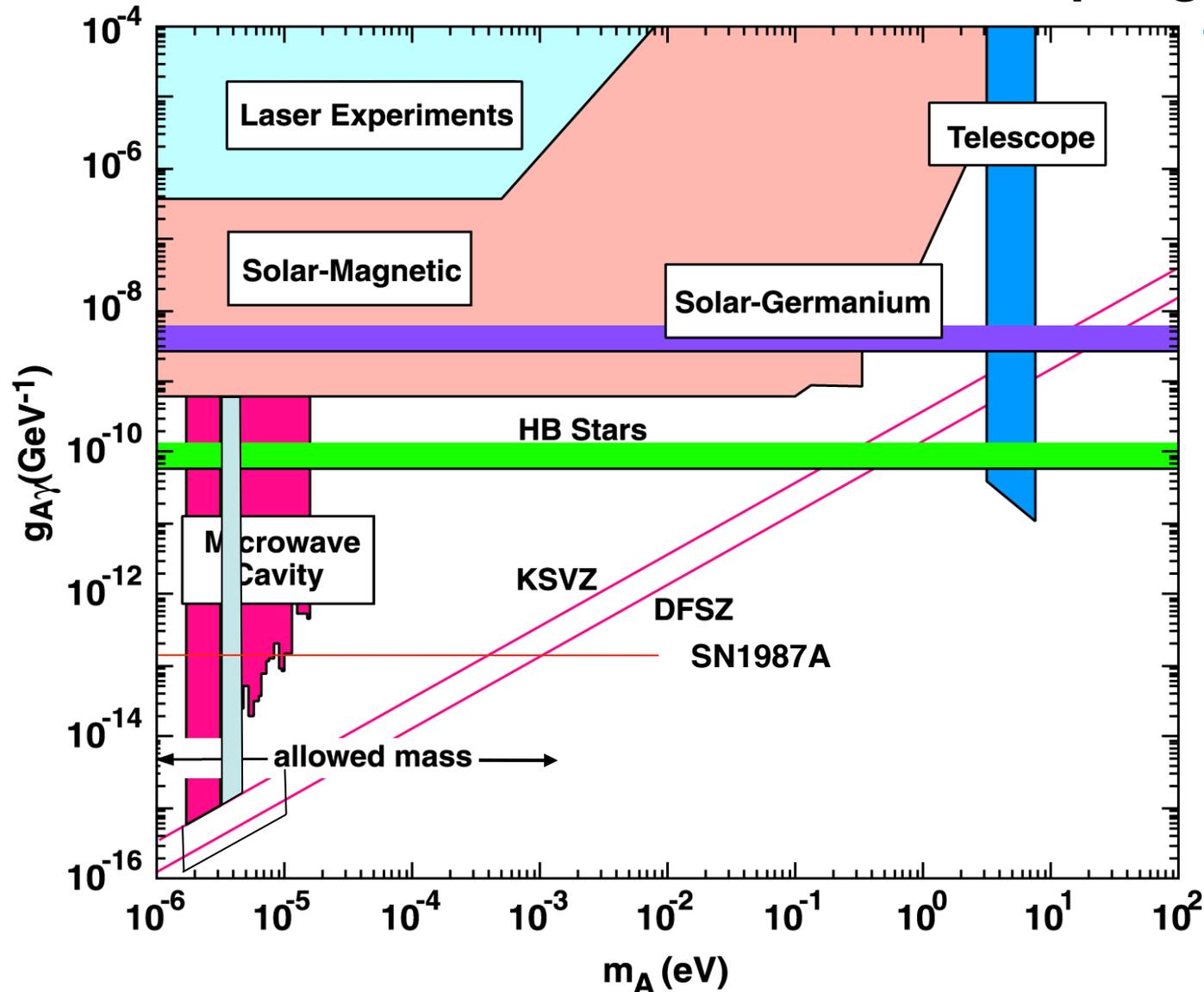
Plus...

The axion mass is constrained to 1 or 2 orders-of-magnitude;

Some axion couplings are constrained to 1 order-of-magnitude;

The axion is doubly-well motivated...it solves 2 problems (Occam’s razor).

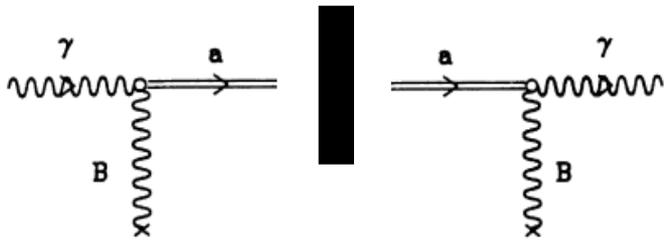
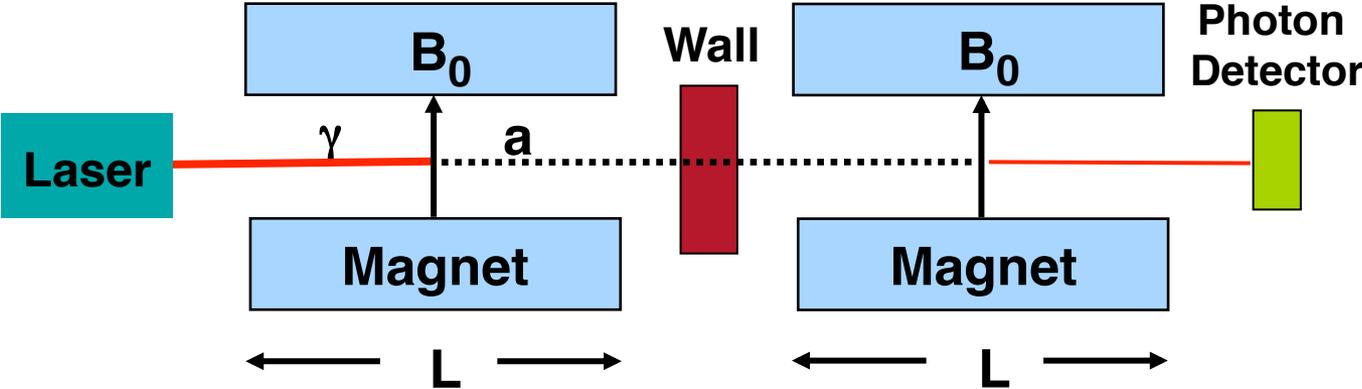
# Selected limits on QCD axion masses and couplings



“Despite a lot of effort that has gone into understanding the axion emission rate, these limits remain fairly rough estimates.” Georg Raffelt

# Search 1: Photon regeneration

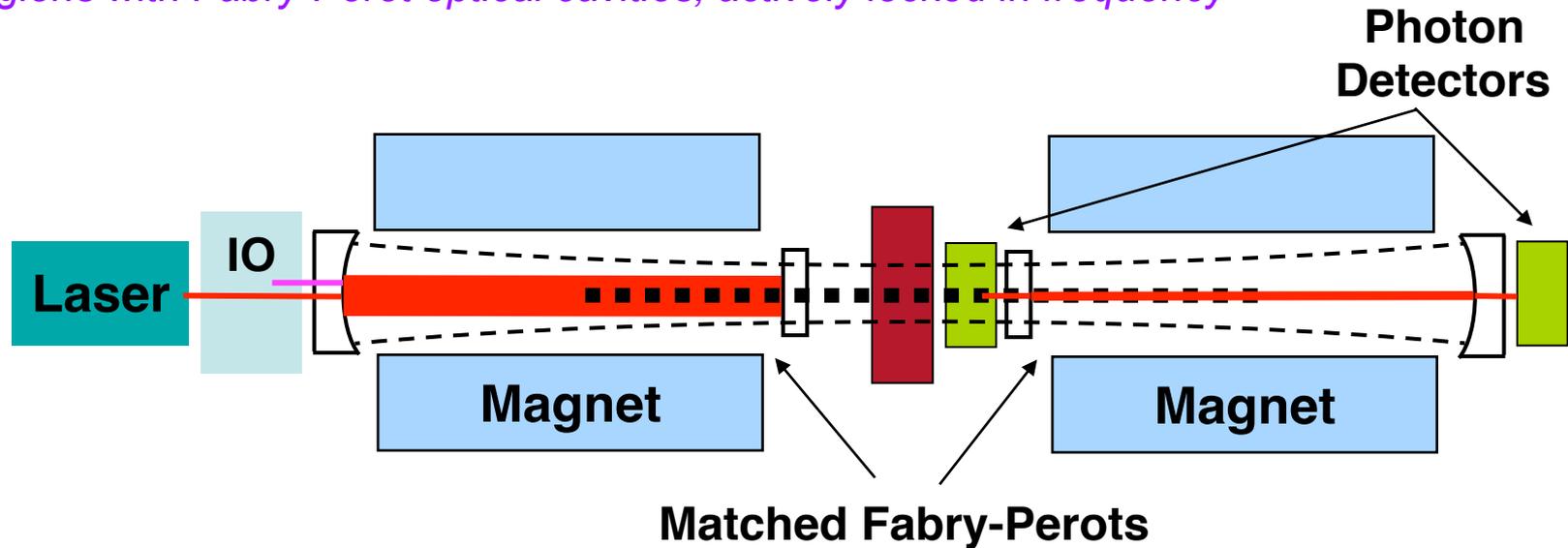
*(“shining light through walls”)*



$$P(\gamma \rightarrow a \rightarrow \gamma) \sim 1/16 (gB_0L)^4$$

# Search 1: resonantly enhanced photon regeneration

*Basic concept – encompass the production and regeneration magnet regions with Fabry-Perot optical cavities, actively locked in frequency*

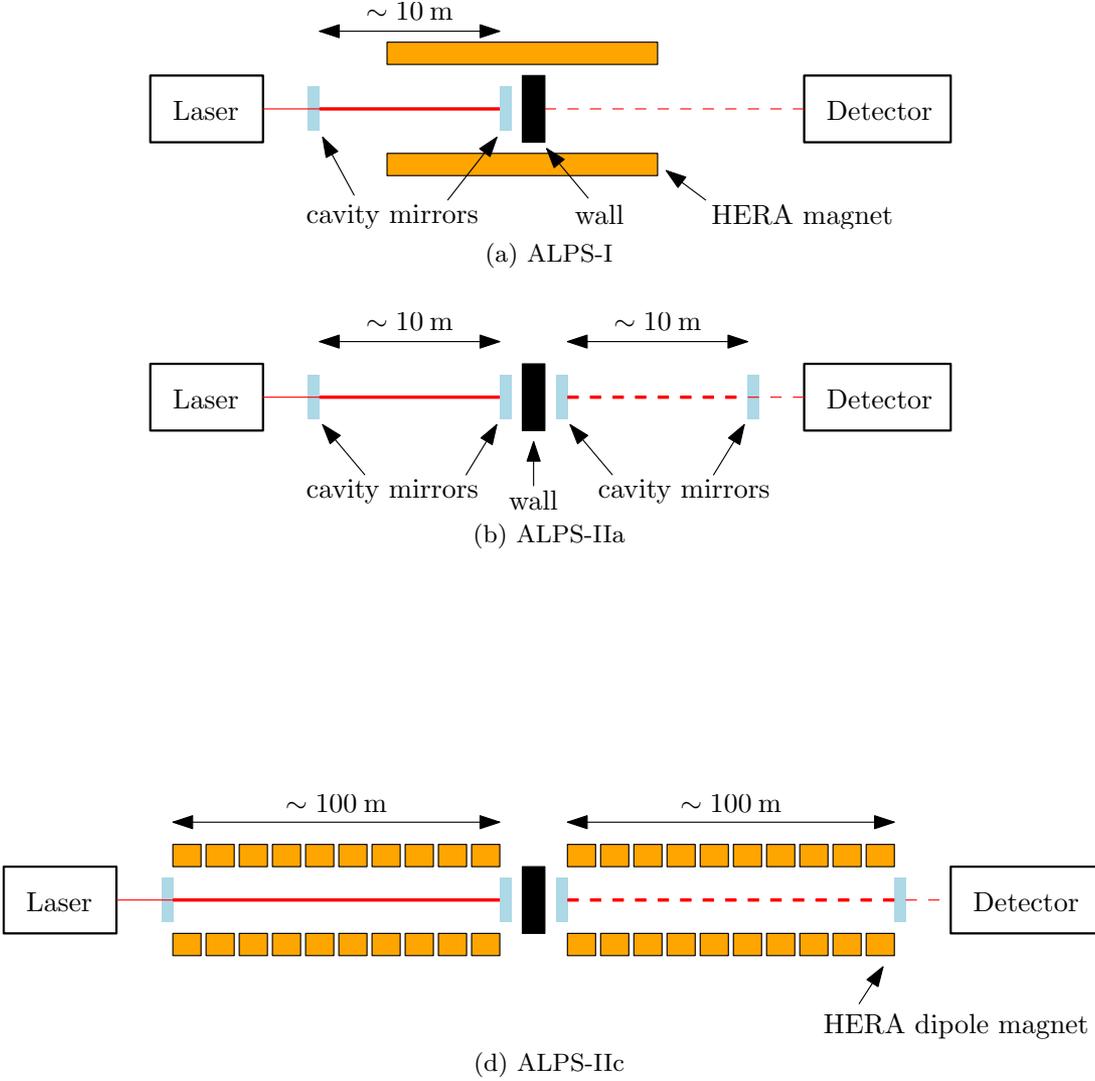


$$P^{\text{Resonant}}(\gamma \rightarrow a \rightarrow \gamma) = \frac{2}{\eta\eta'} \cdot P^{\text{Simple}}(\gamma \rightarrow a \rightarrow \gamma) = \frac{2}{\pi^2} FF' \cdot P^{\text{Simple}}(\gamma \rightarrow a \rightarrow \gamma)$$

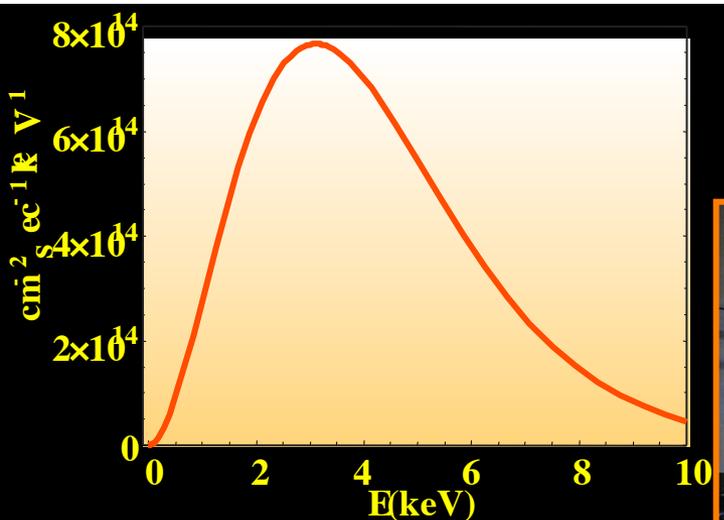
where  $\eta, \eta'$  are the mirror transmissivities &  $F, F'$  are the finesses of the cavities

**For  $\eta \sim 10^{(5-6)}$ , the gain in rate is of order  $10^{(10-12)}$   
and the limit in  $g_{a\gamma\gamma}$  improves by  $10^{(2.5-3)}$**

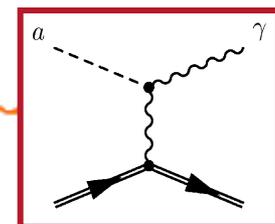
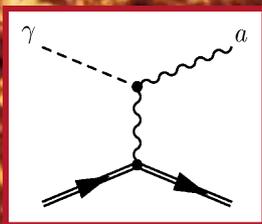
# Flagship Search 1: ALPS-II at DESY



# Flagship Search 2: CERN Axion Solar Telescope (CAST). Searching for axions produced in the Sun.

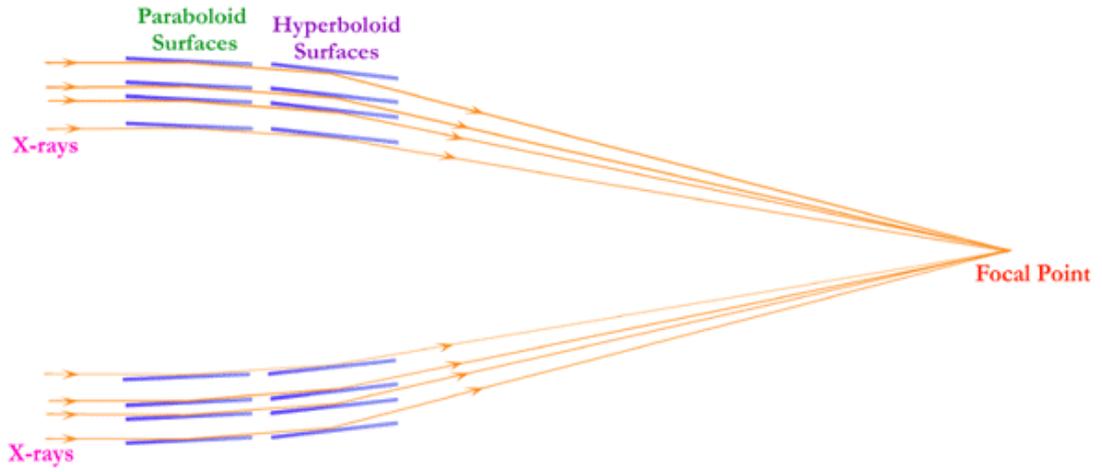


Axions from the sun become x-rays inside a spare LHC dipole magnet

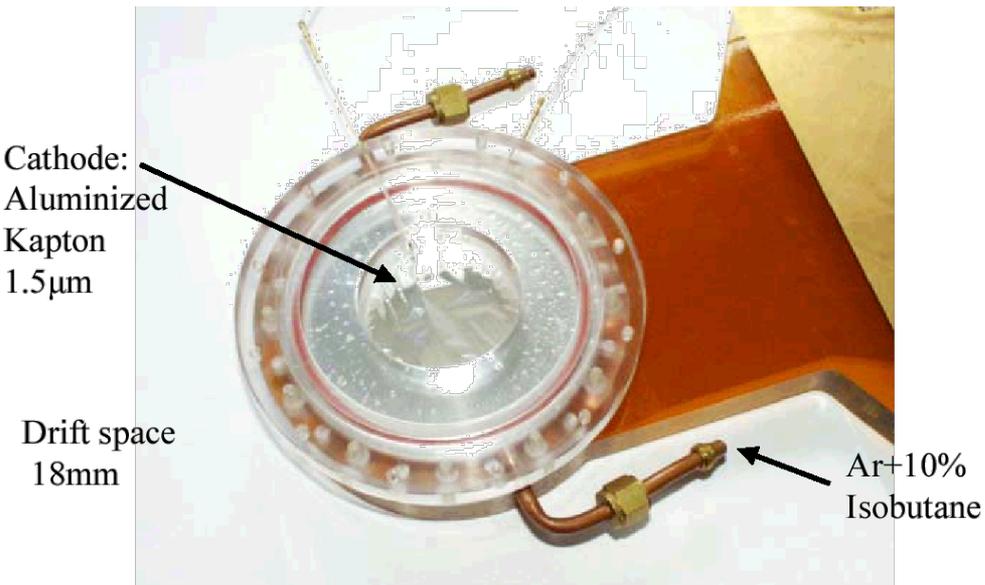


# Search 2: CAST Technology

State-of-the-art x-ray detection borrowed from astrophysics



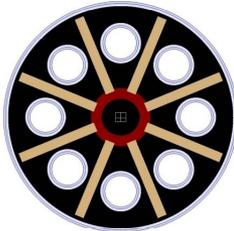
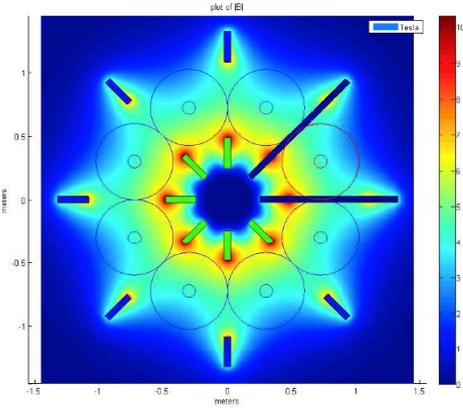
Grazing-incidence x-ray optics



Micromegas x-ray camera & Si drift sensors.

# Search 2: Helioscope Futurism IAXO

## IAXO magnet: 1st concept

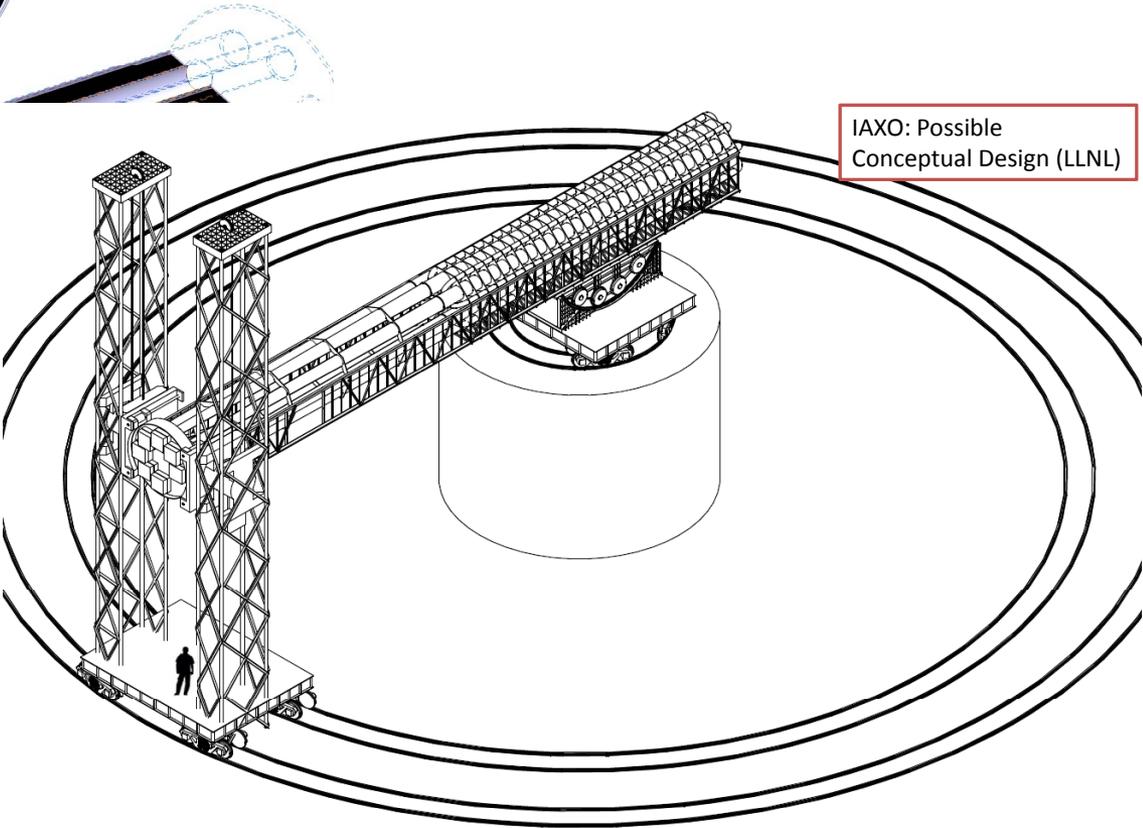


Total R = 2 m  
 Bore diameter = 600 mm  
 N bores = 8  
 Average B in bore = 4 T  
 (in critical surface)  
 MFOM = 770

IAXO scenario 2 conservative  
 Surpass IAXO scenario 3 is possible  
 Further optimization ongoing

INT Washington, April 2012

Igor G. Irastorza / Universidad de Zaragoza



IAXO: Possible Conceptual Design (LLNL)

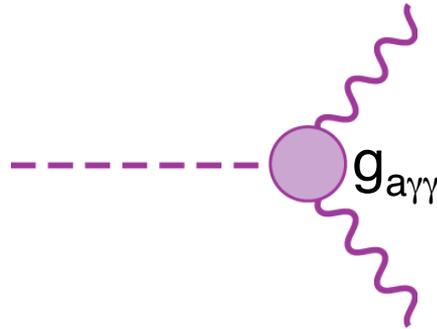
# Search 3: RF cavity experiments

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Recall:

The axion couples (very weakly, indeed) to normal particles.

But it happens that the axion  $2\gamma$  coupling has relatively little axion-model dependence

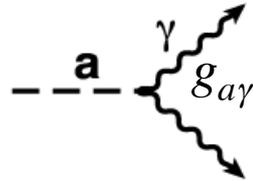


**Axions constituting our local galactic halo  
would have huge number density  $\sim 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$**

# Pierre Sikivie's RF-cavity idea (1983): Axion and electromagnetic fields exchange energy

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The axion-photon coupling...



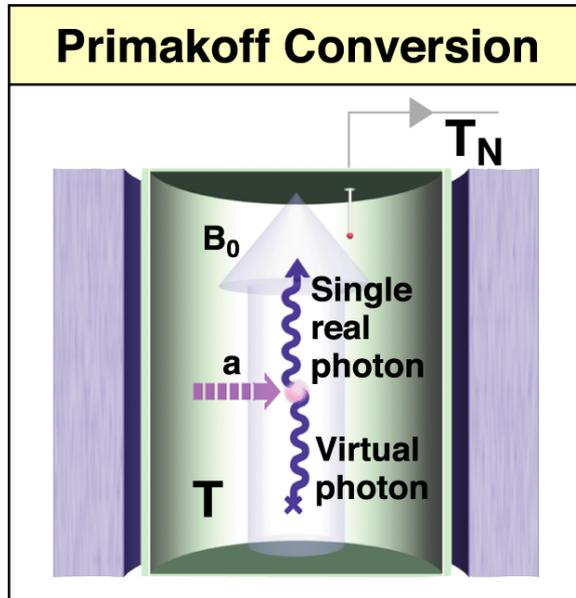
...is a source term in Maxwell's Equations

$$\frac{\partial(\mathbf{E}^2/2)}{\partial t} - \mathbf{E} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) = g_{ay} \dot{a}(\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B})$$

This leads to many possible experimental approaches.

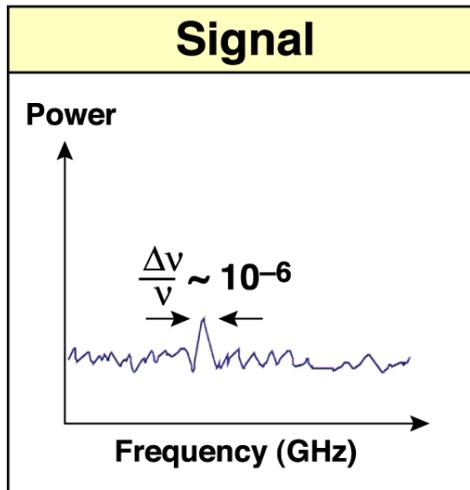
One approach is to impose a strong external magnetic field  $\mathbf{B}$ ; this transfers axion field energy into cavity electromagnetic fields  $\mathbf{E}$ .

# Some experimental details of the RF-cavity technique



- The conversion is resonant, i.e. the frequency must equal the mass + K. E.
- The total system noise temperature  $T_S = T + T_N$  is the critical factor

The search speed is quadratic in  $1/T_S$

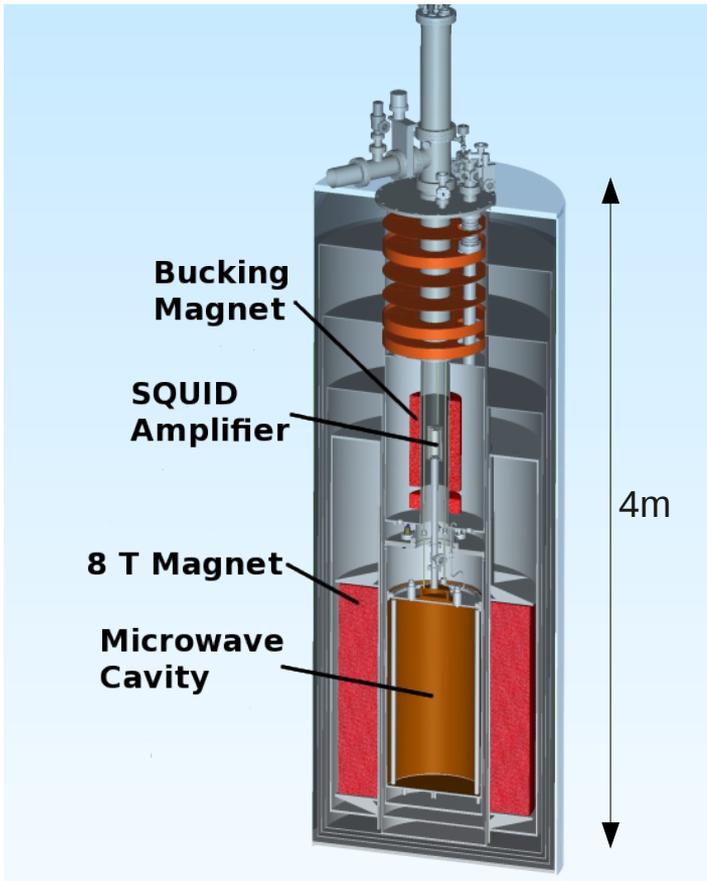


Scaling Laws	
$\frac{d\nu}{dt} \propto B^4 V^2 \cdot \frac{1}{T_S^2}$	$g_\gamma^2 \propto \left( B^2 V \cdot \frac{1}{T_S} \right)^{-1}$
For fixed model $g^2$	For fixed scan rate $\frac{d\nu}{dt}$

# Flagship Search 3: Axion Dark-Matter eXperiment (ADMX)

*U. Washington, LLNL, U. Florida, U.C. Berkeley,  
National Radio Astronomy Observatory, Sheffield U., Yale U.  
+ ... (recently expanded)*

**Magnet with insert**



**Magnet cryostat**



# ADMX is Generation 2 Dark-Matter Detector

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*Courtesy of NASA*

**breaking**

July 11, 2014

## US reveals its next generation of dark matter experiments

Together, the three experiments will search for a variety of types of dark matter particles.

By Kathryn Jepsen

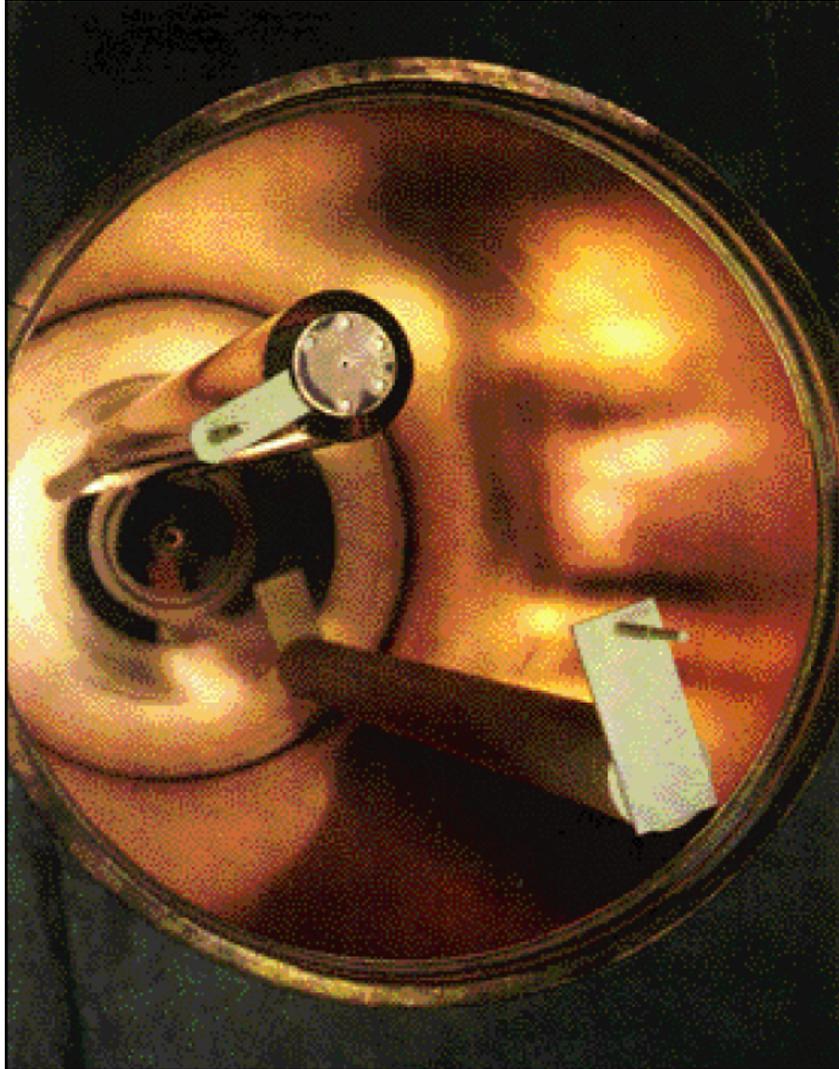


Two US federal funding agencies announced today which experiments they will support in the next generation of the search for dark matter.

*Symmetry Magazine*

# ADMX key hardware 1

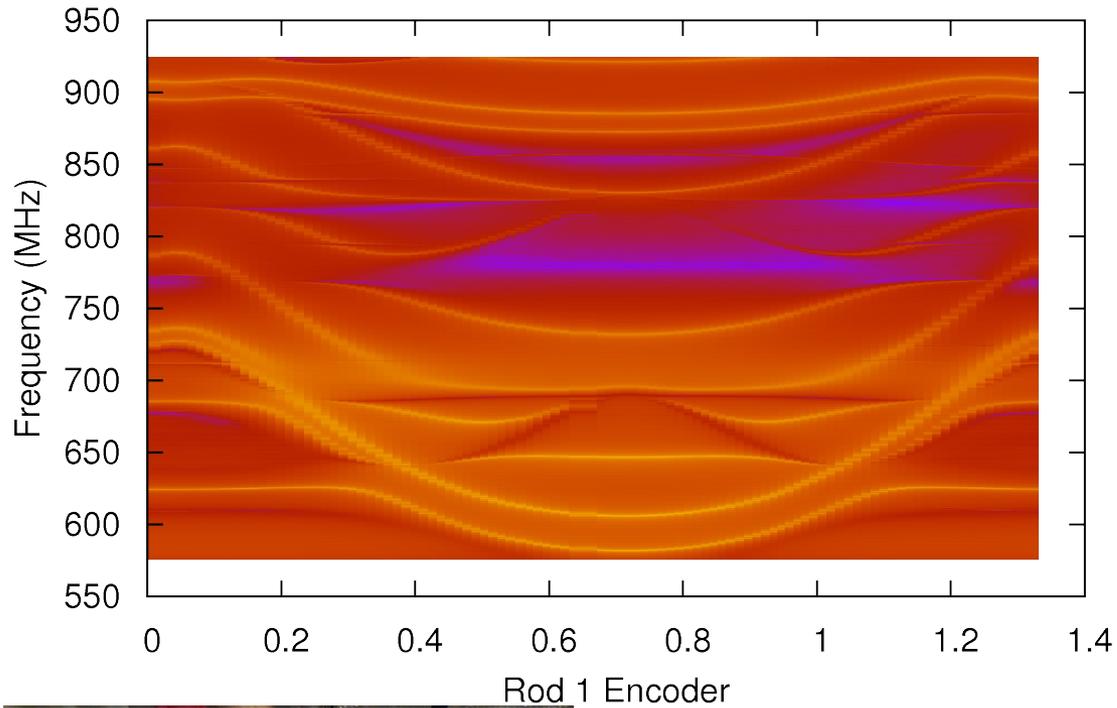
high-Q microwave cavity



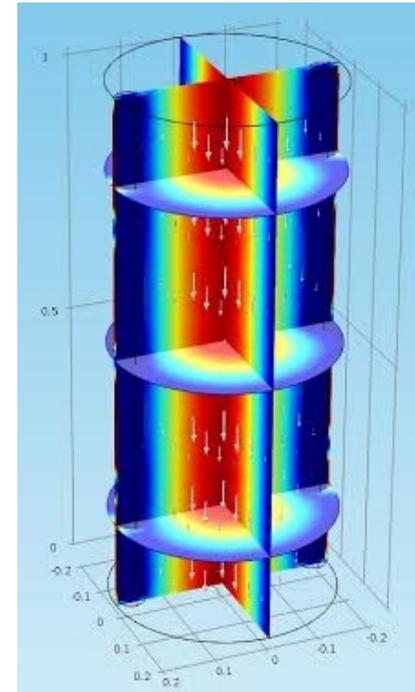
Experiment insert



# ADMX key hardware 2: Tuning



Cavity with lid off, showing tuning rods

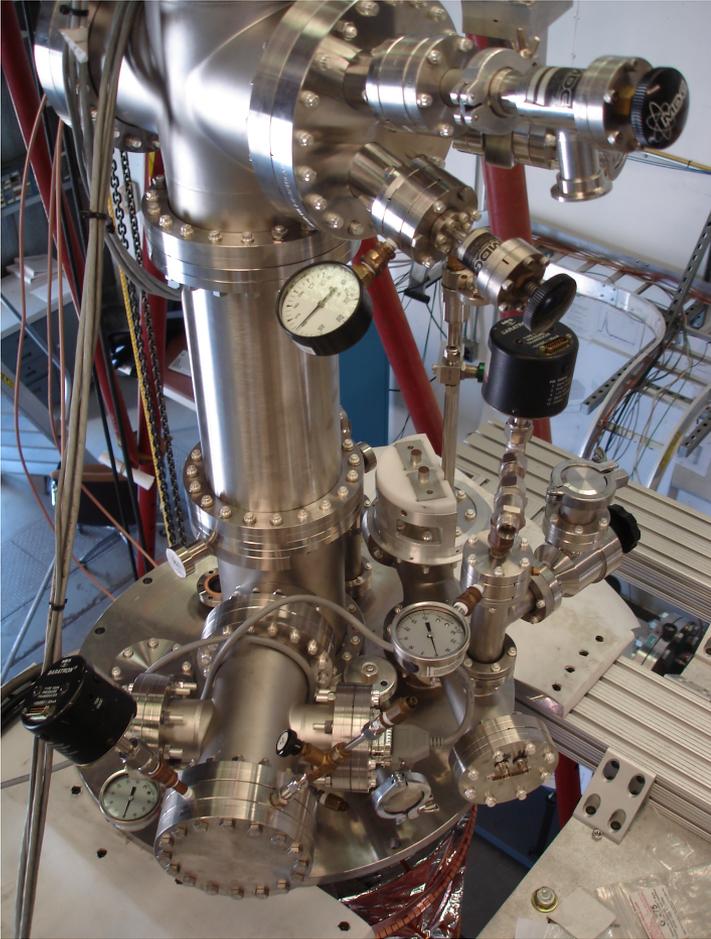


Field simulation of TM010 mode, no rods

# ADMX key hardware 3

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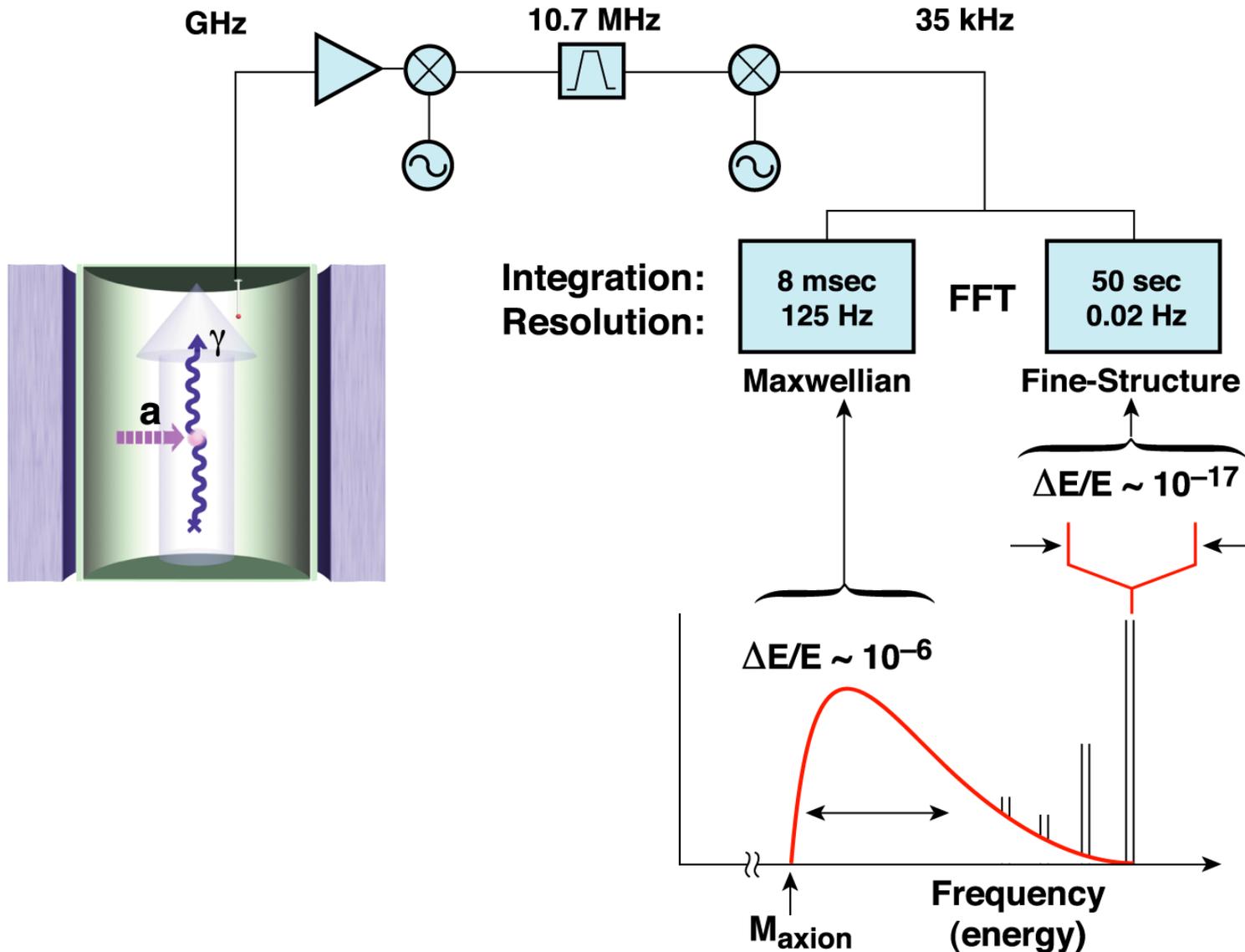
## Vacuum and cryo



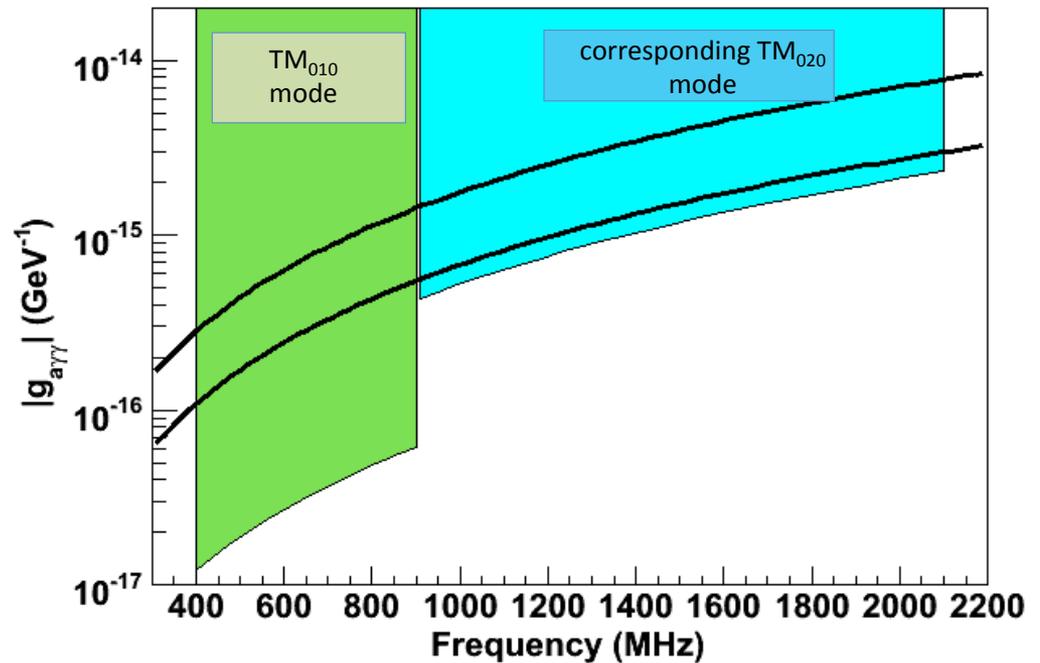
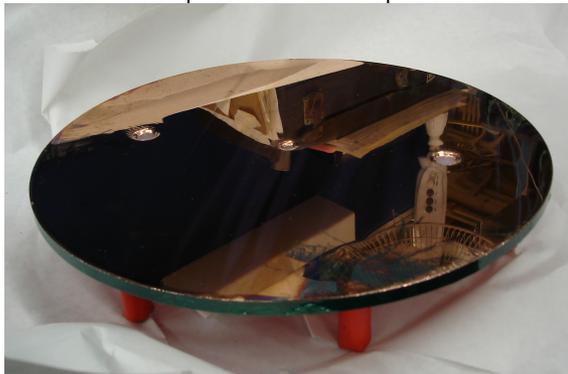
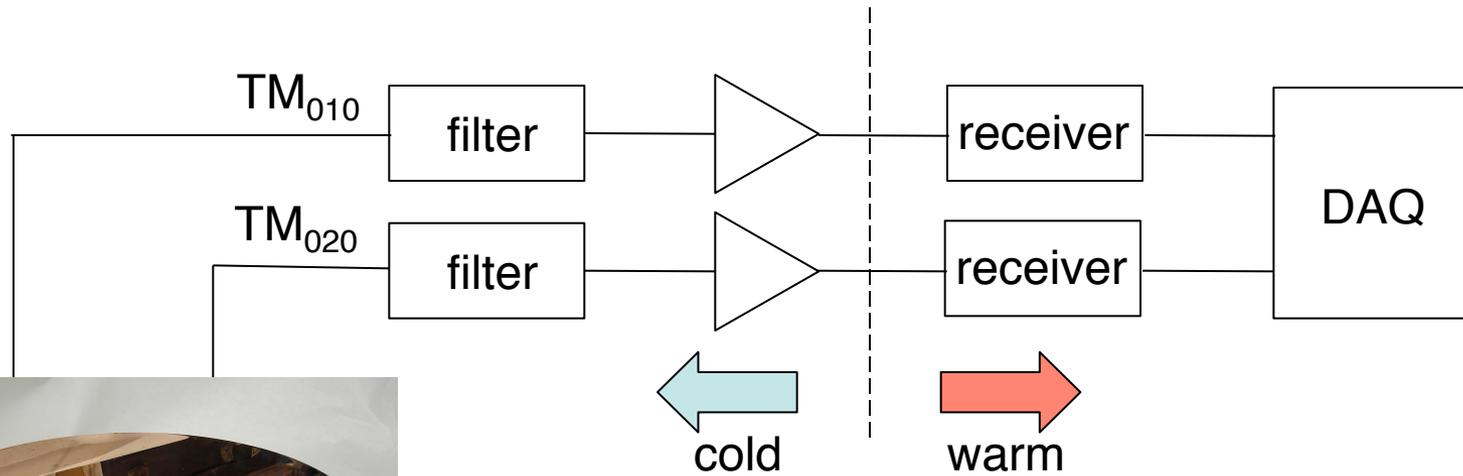
## Quantum electronics



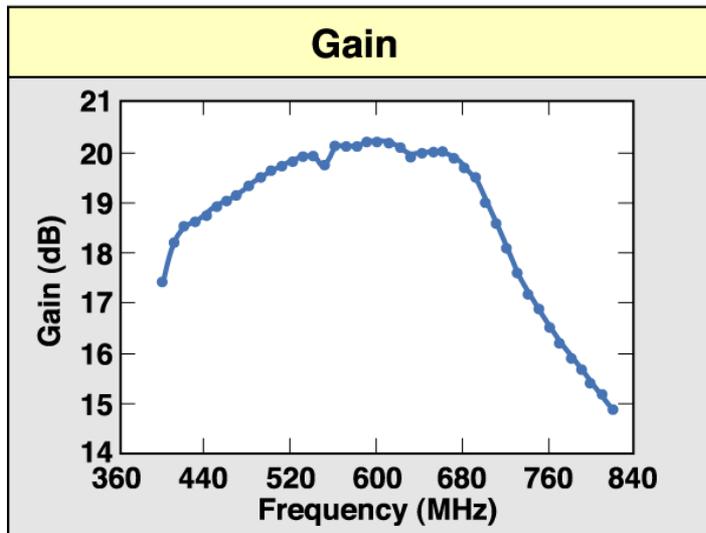
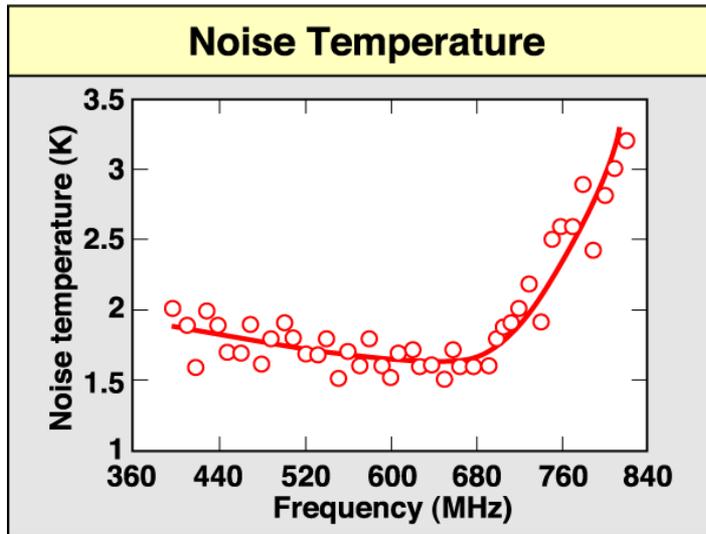
# ADMX key hardware 4: axion receiver



# ADMX: Multi-mode readout



# A brief digression on microwave amplifiers



## HFET amplifiers (Heterojunction Field-Effect Transistor)

- A.k.a. HEMT™ (High Electron Mobility Transistor)
  - Workhorse of radio astronomy, military communications, etc.
- Best to date  $T_N \gtrsim 1$  K

But the quantum limit  $T_Q \sim h\nu/k$  at 500 MHz is only  $\sim 25$  mK!

A quantum-limited amplifier would both give us definitive sensitivity, *and* dramatically speed up the search!

# Quantum-limited SQUID-based amplification

APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS

VOLUME 78, NUMBER 7

12 FEBRUARY 2001

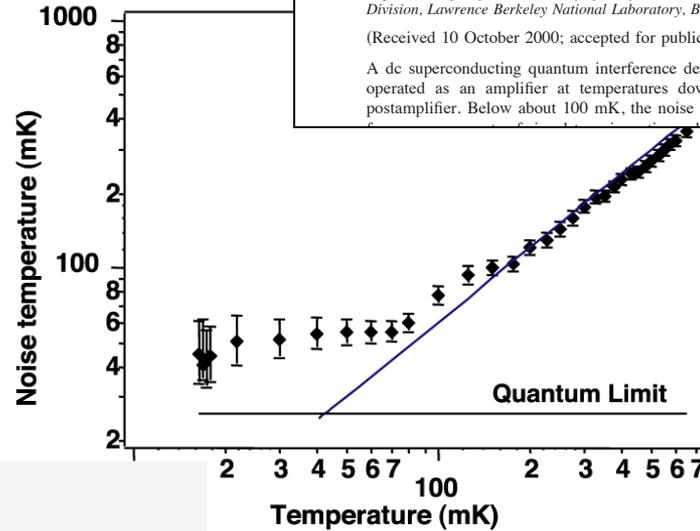
## Superconducting quantum interference device as a near-quantum-limited amplifier at 0.5 GHz

Michael Mück, J. B. Kycia, and John Clarke

Department of Physics, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720 and Materials Sciences Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California 94720

(Received 10 October 2000; accepted for publication 14 December 2000)

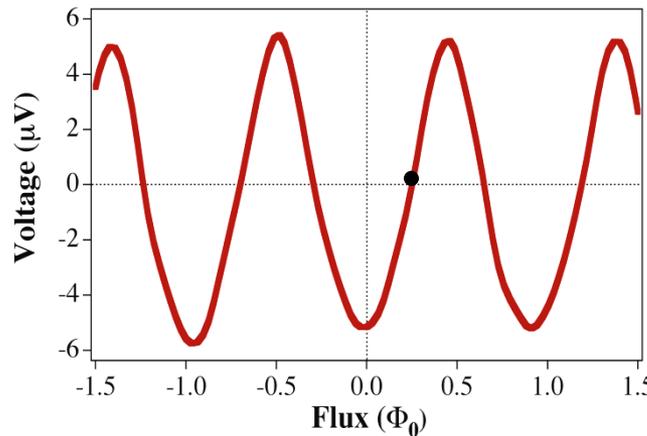
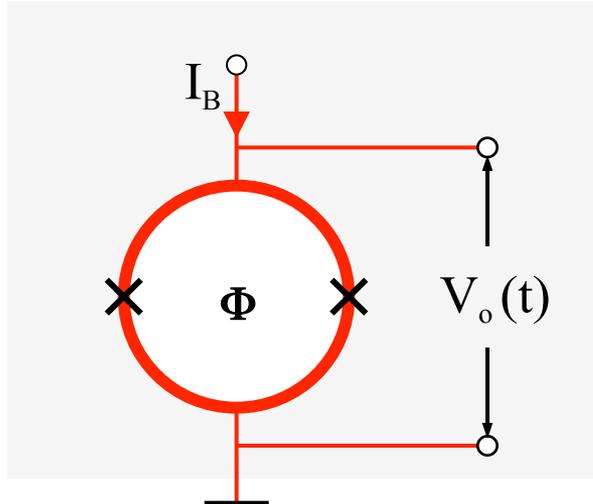
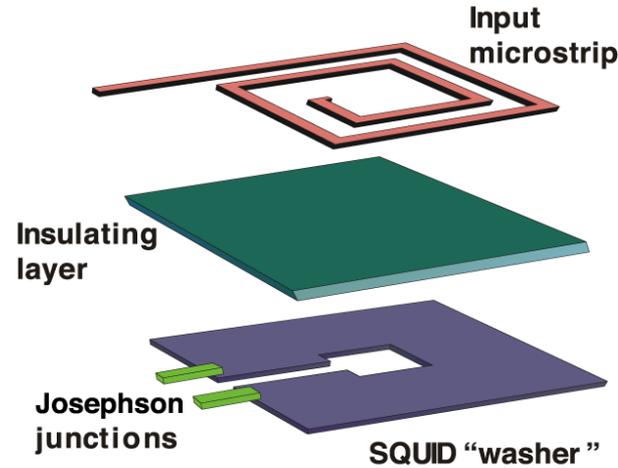
A dc superconducting quantum interference device (SQUID) with a resonant microstrip input is operated as an amplifier at temperatures down to 20 mK. A second SQUID is used as a postamplifier. Below about 100 mK, the noise temperature is  $52 \pm 20$  mK at 538 MHz, estimated



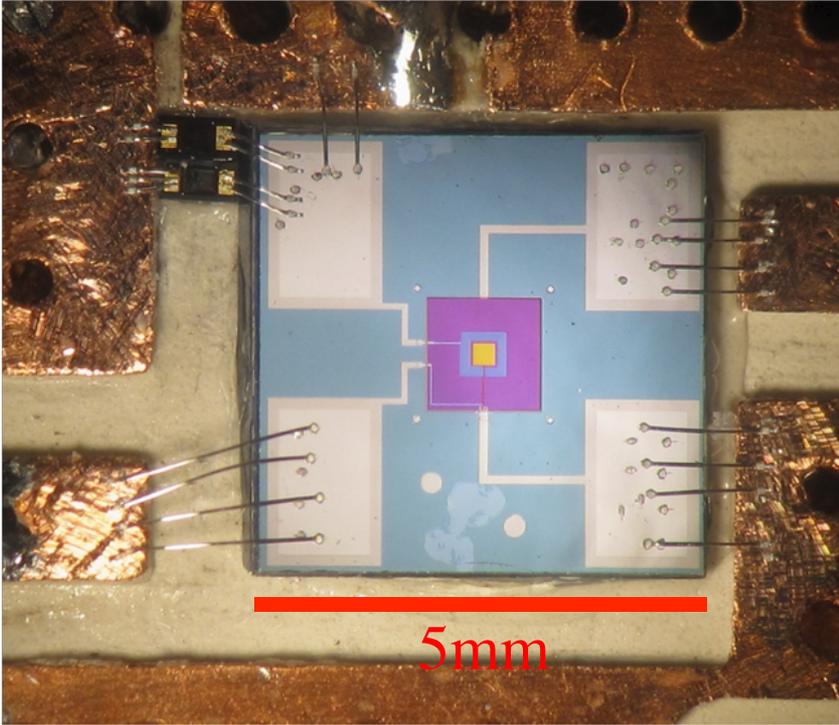
- GHz SQUIDs have been measured with  $T_N \sim 50$  mK

- Near quantum-limited noise

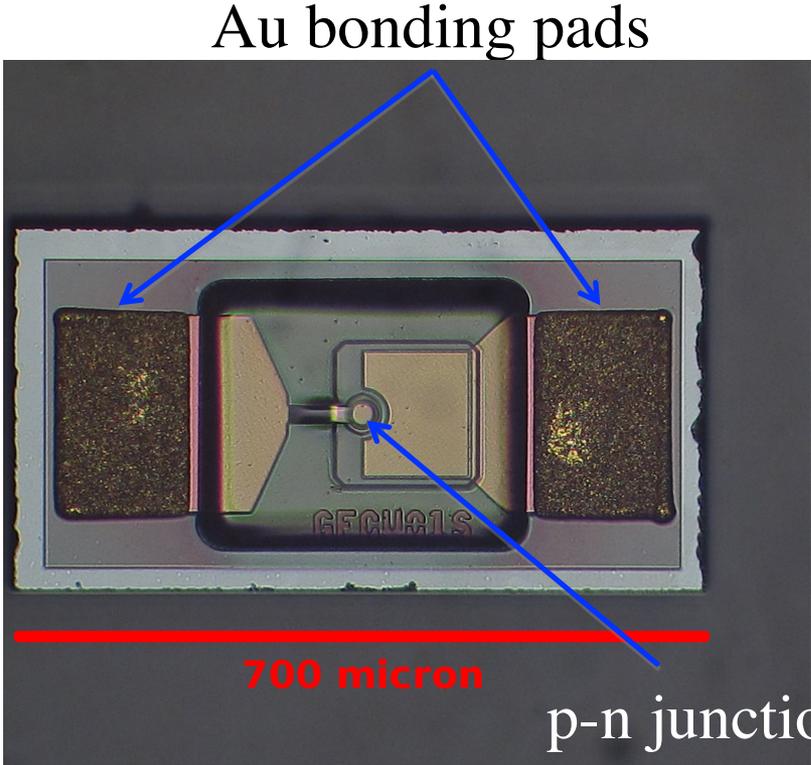
- This provides an enormous increase in ADMX sensitivity



# Microstrip SQUID amplifiers with varactor tuning

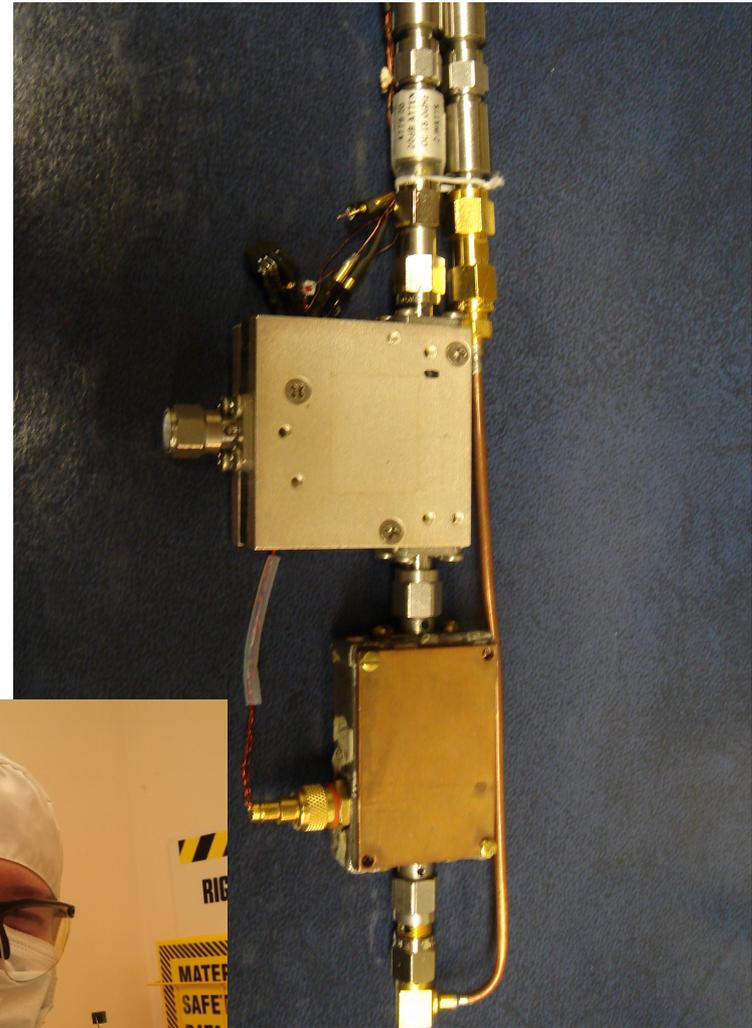
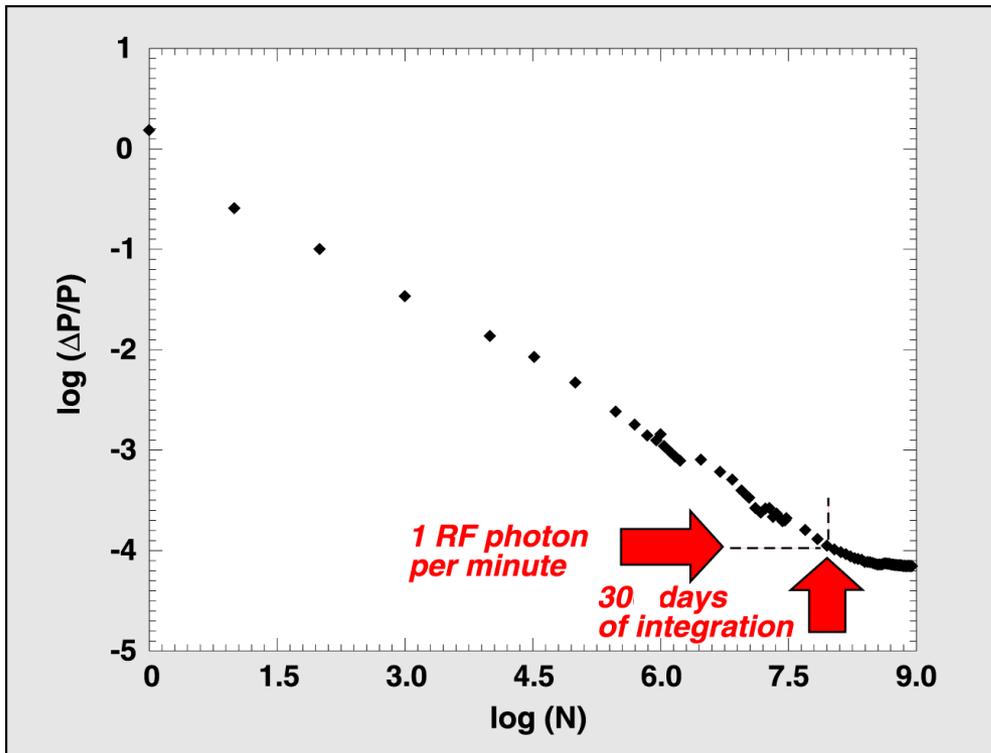


SQUID washer

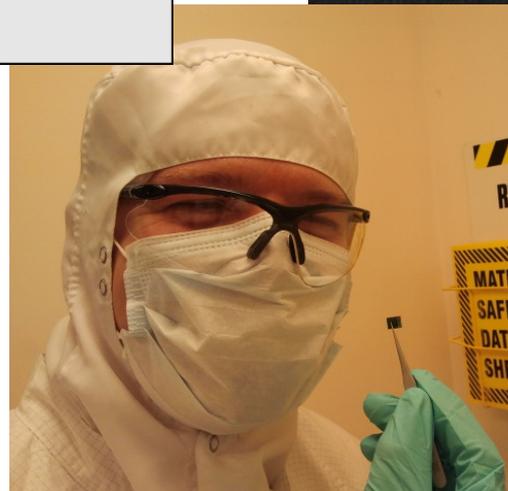


varactor tuning

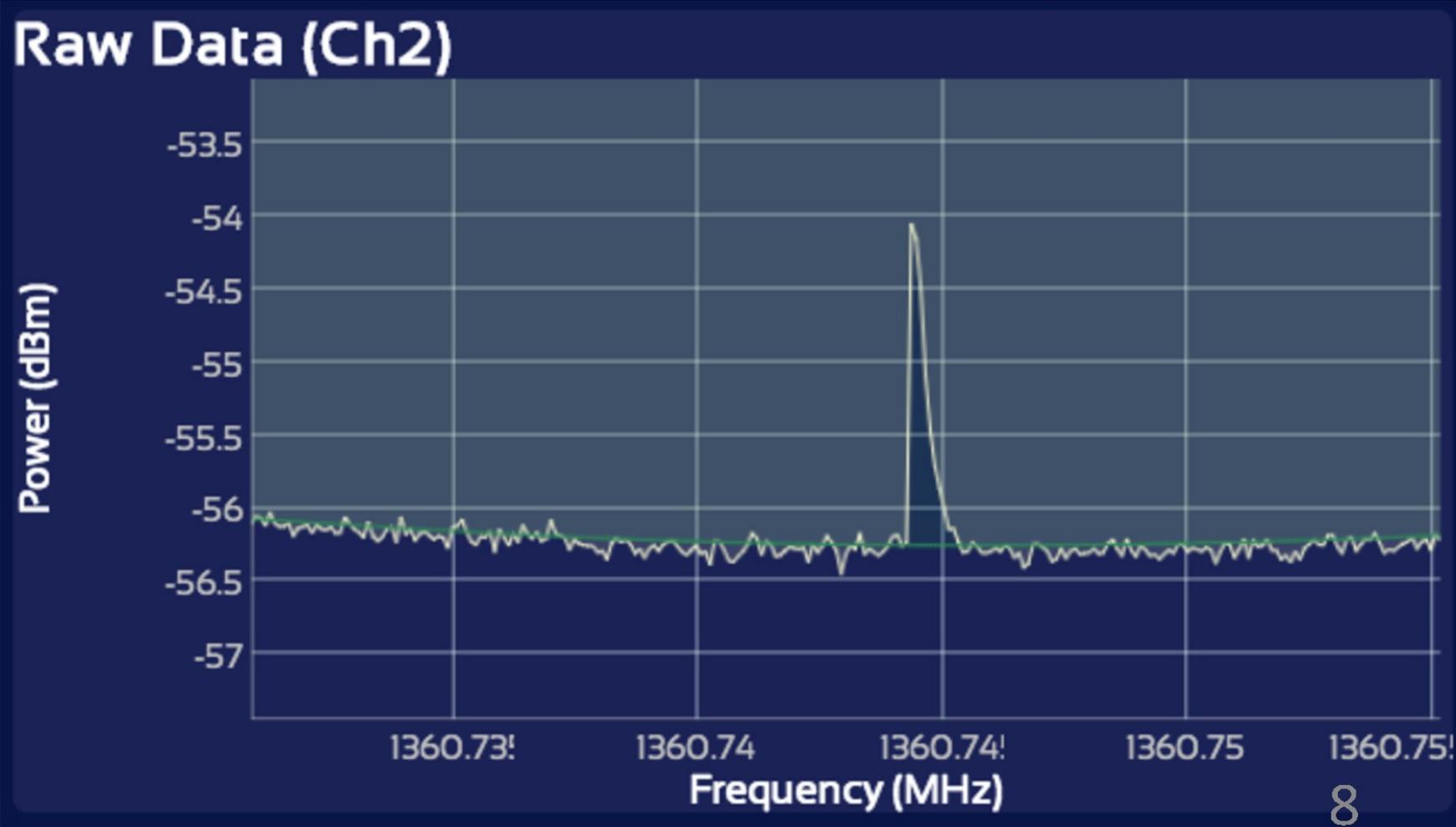
# SQUIDs and lower system noise



**Systematics-limited for signals  $< 10^{-26}$  W  $\sim 10^{-3}$  of “DFSZ” axion power ( $< 1/100$  yoctoWatt).**



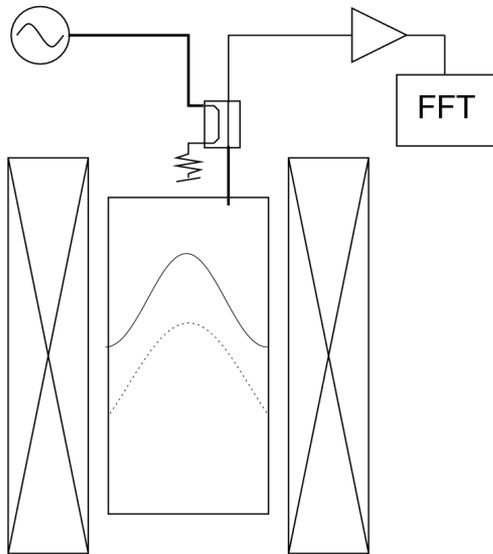
# Raw data and hardware synthetic axion ( $\times 100$ )



# Operations include searches for exotics: “Chameleons” & hidden-sector photons

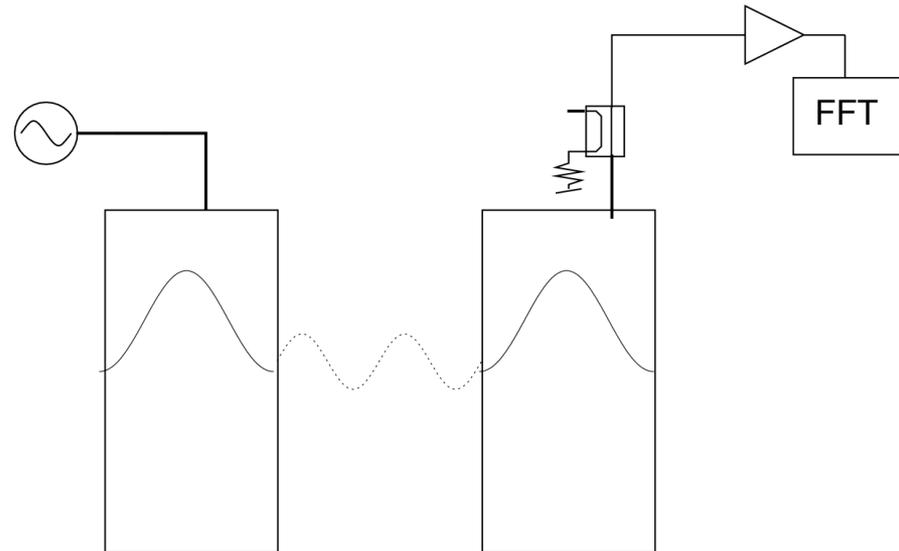
## Chameleons

Scalars/pseudoscalars that mix with photons, and are trapped by cavity walls. Arise in some dark energy theories. Detectable by slow decay back into photons in cavity



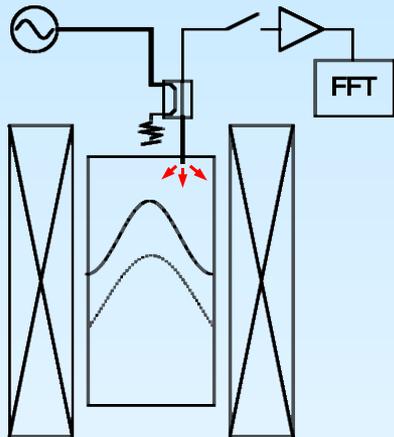
## Hidden-sector photons

Vector bosons with photon quantum numbers and very weak interactions. Detectable by reconvertting HSPs back into photons in ADMX cavity



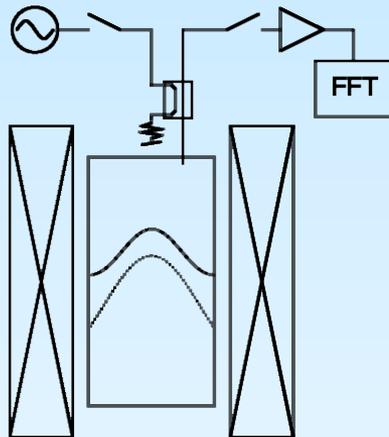
# Chameleons: How experiment worked

## ADMX as a chameleon-photon regenerator



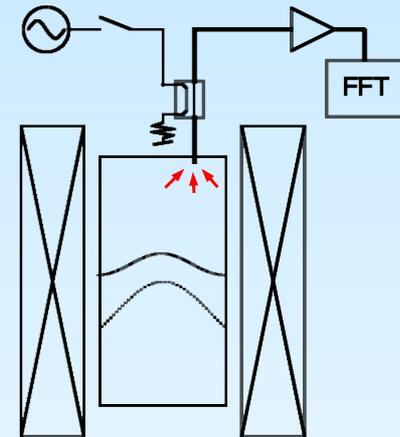
Step 1: Injected RF power excites E&M and chameleon modes

Timescale: 10 minutes  
Power in  $\sim 25$  dBm



Step 2: Power is turned off, E&M modes decay

Timescale: 100 milliseconds

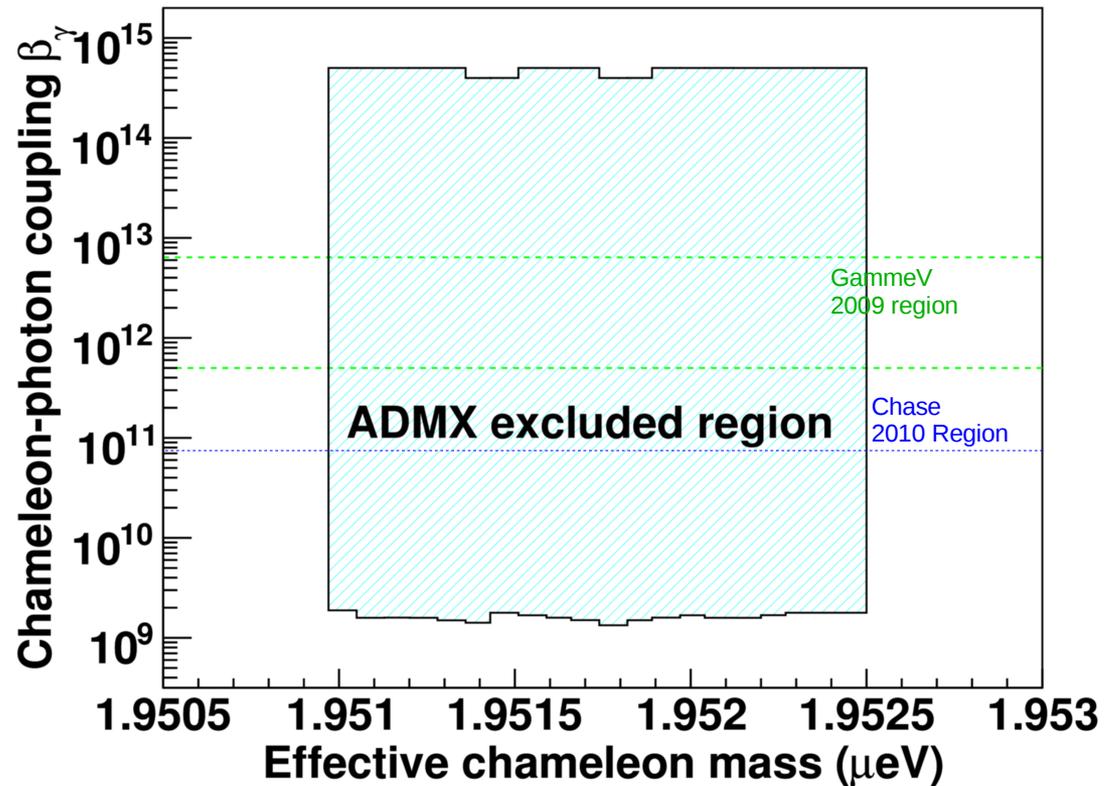


Step 3: Chameleon modes slowly decay into E&M modes which are detected through antenna

Timescale: 10 minutes  
Sensitivity  $\sim 10^{-22}$  W  
Bandwidth  $\sim 20$  kHz

(Step 4: tune rods  $\sim 10$  kHz and repeat)

# Chameleons



Laboratory Dark Energy Search

One day of running set limits 100 times more sensitive than that from FNAL.

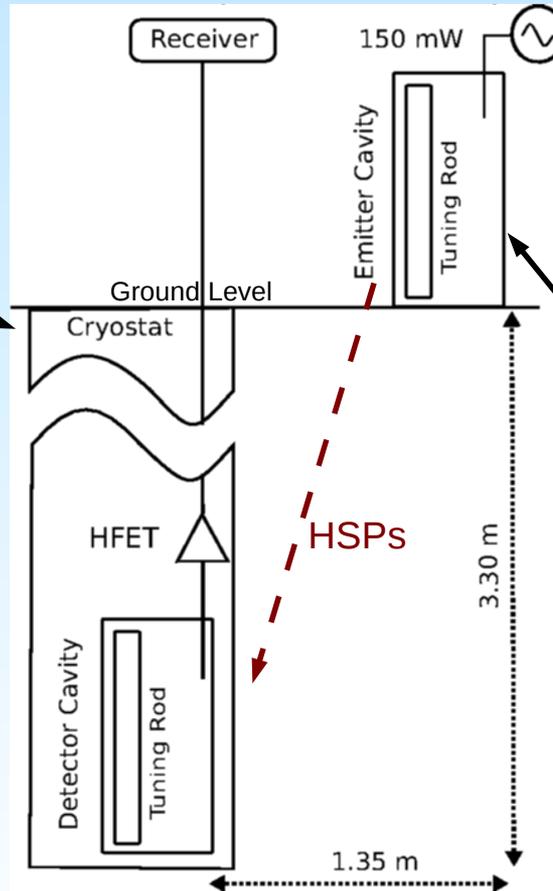
# Hidden-Sector Photons: Another dark-matter candidate

## ADMX as a HSP receiver



2

HSPs mix with photons and are detected in the ADMX cavity

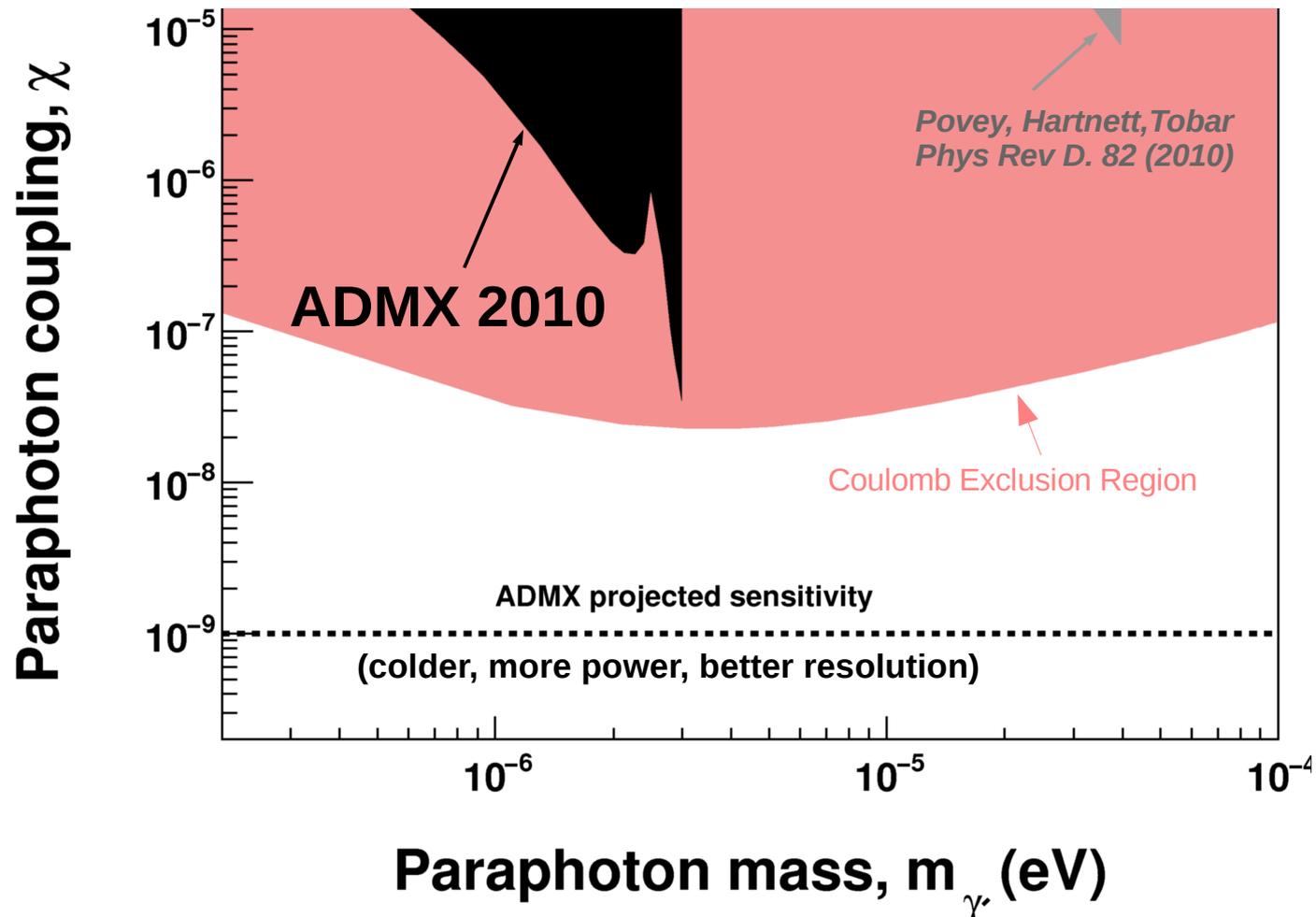


1

Photons in this driven cavity mix with HSPs and escape

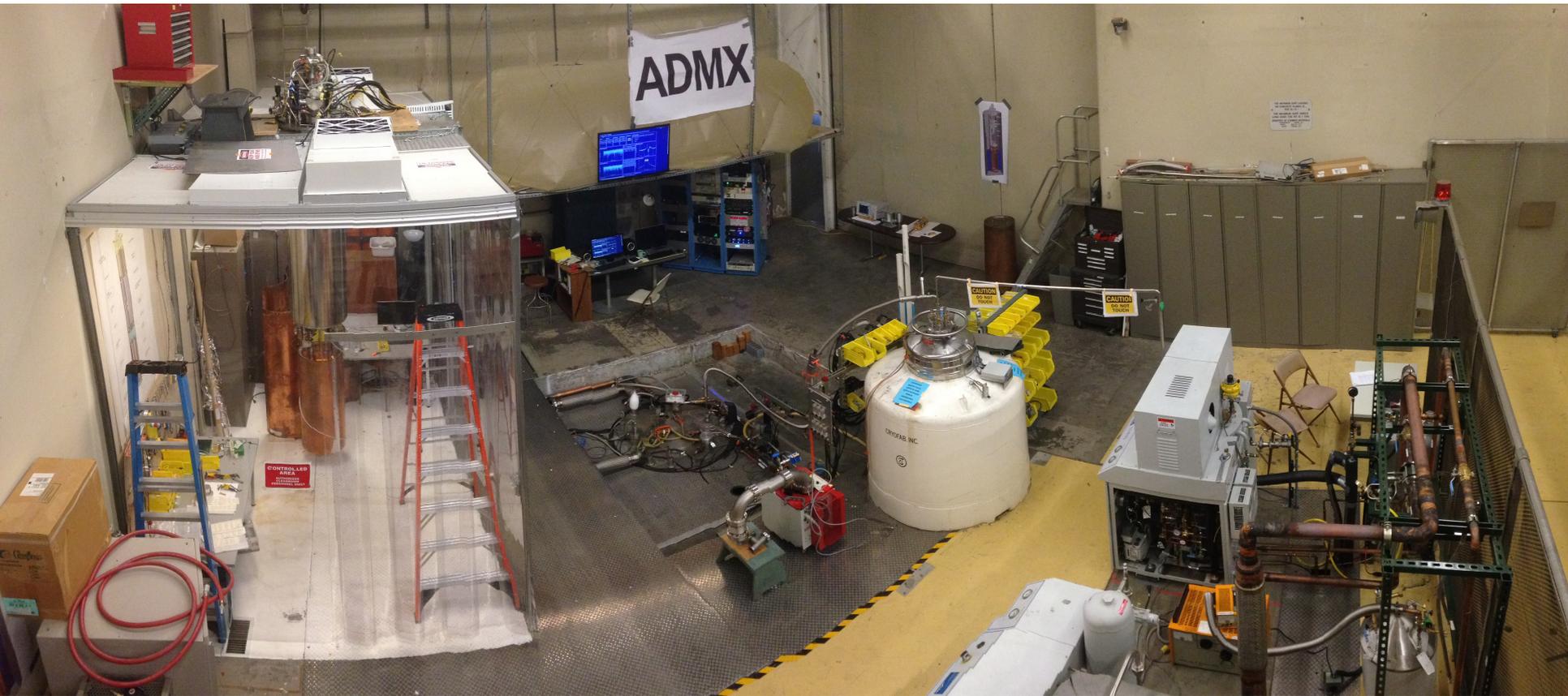


# Hidden Sector Photons: Results



Next phase projected to extend limits by more than a factor of 10.

# ADMX infrastructure



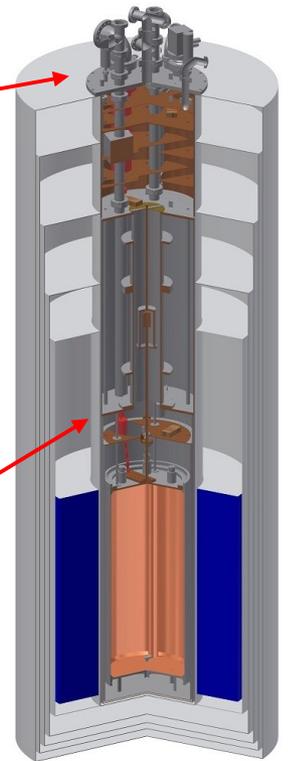
# Assembling the experiment insert



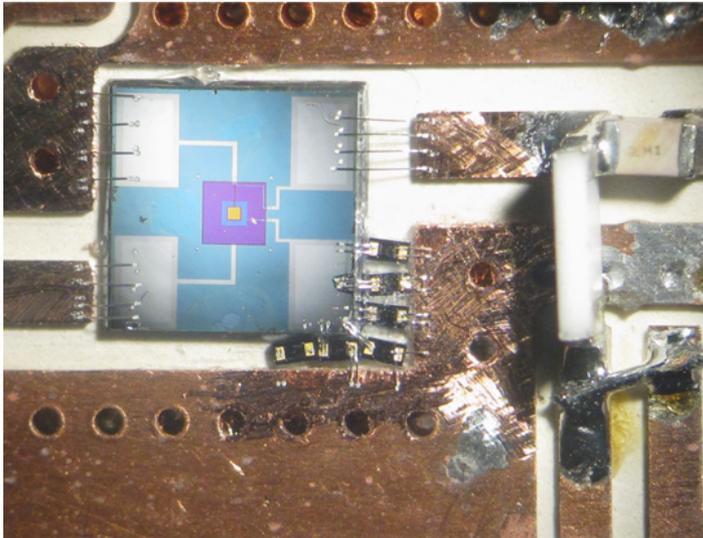
Installation of bucking coil



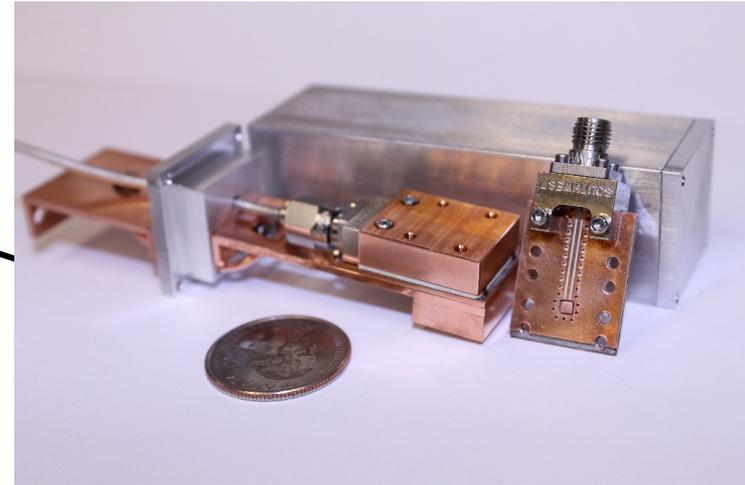
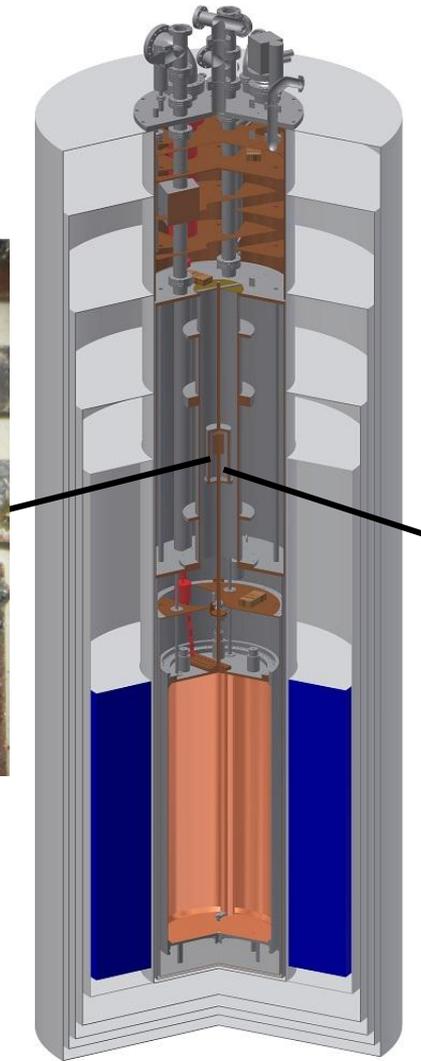
Assembly of top half of insert



# Quantum-electronics

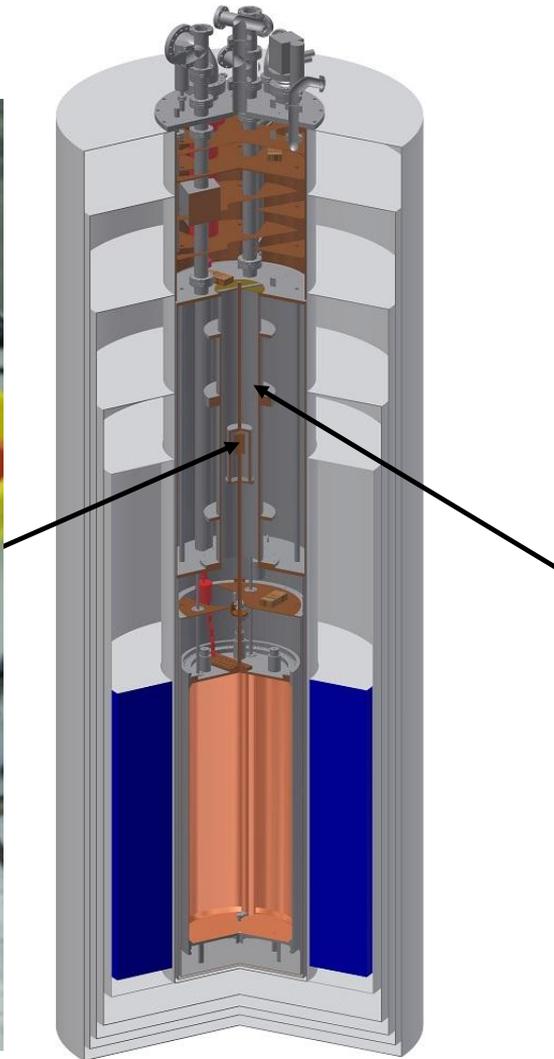
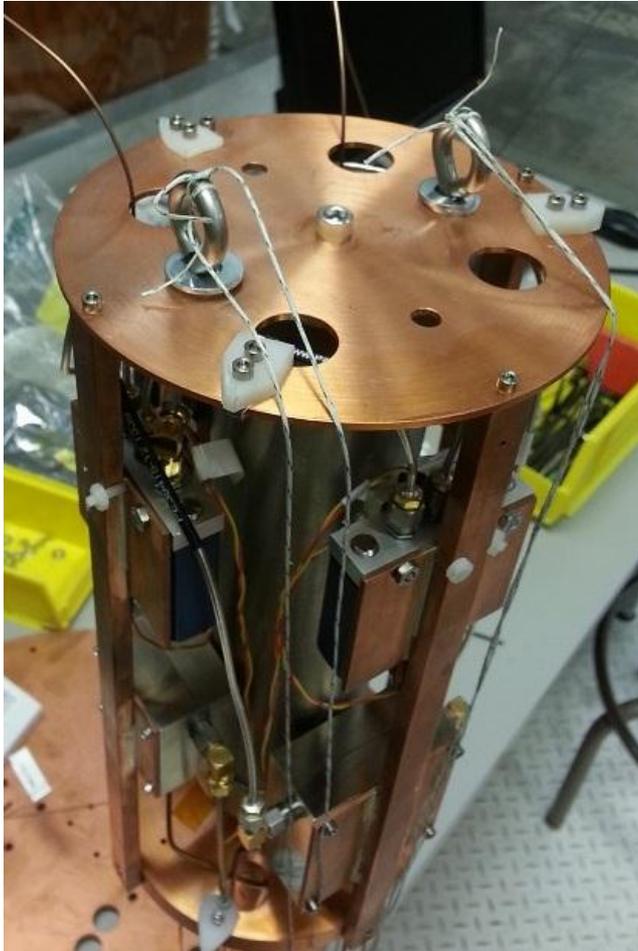


**SQUIDs**  
(at lower frequencies)

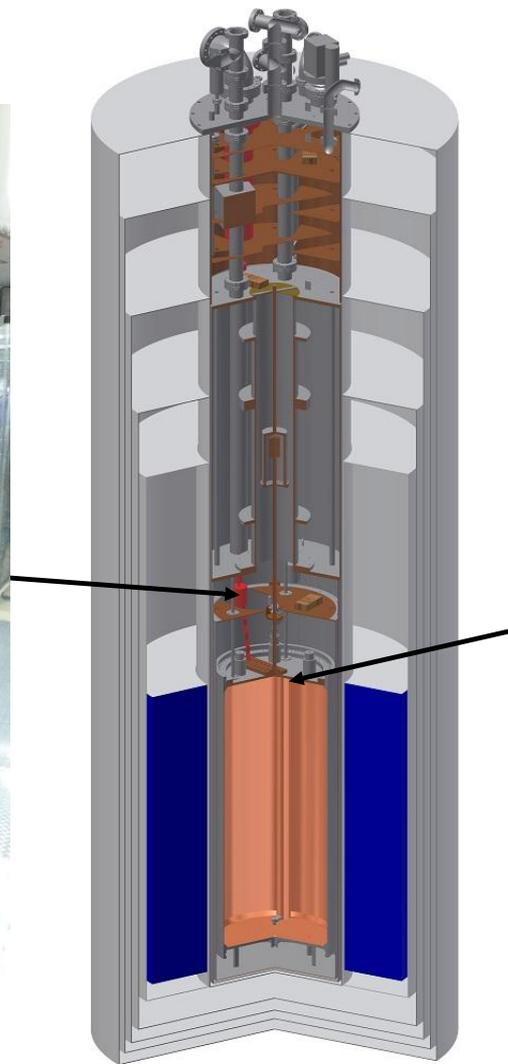
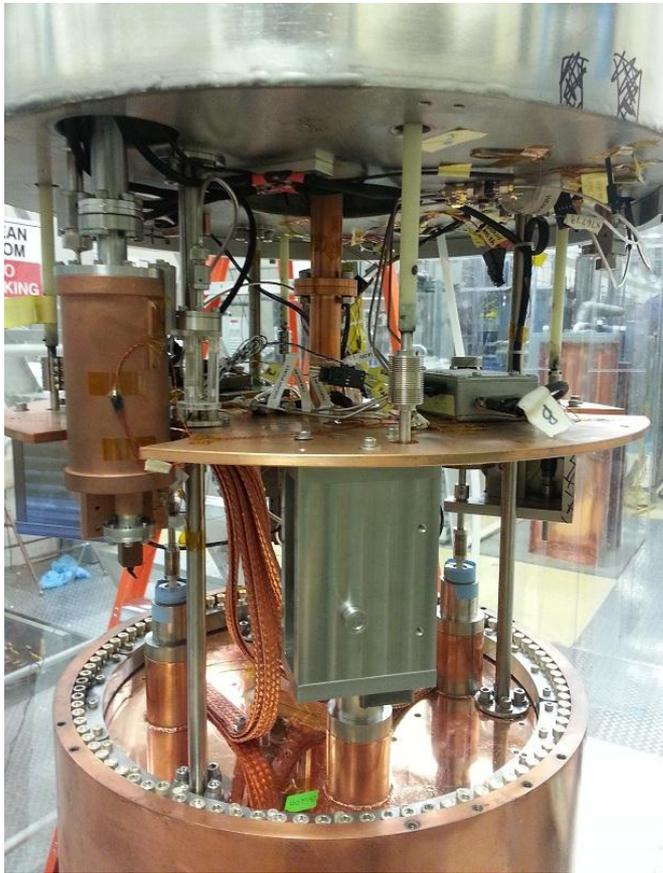


**“JPAs”**  
(at higher frequencies)

# bucking coil and “squidadel”



# Cavity, tuning and coupling



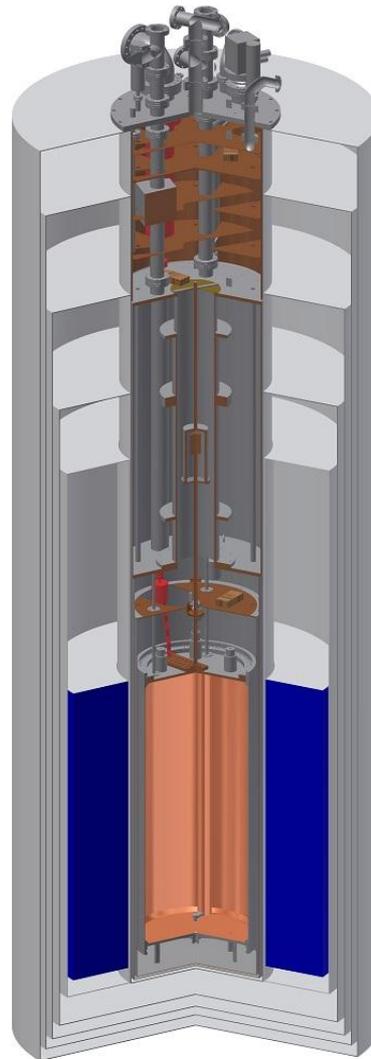
# High-frequency (high axion mass) “side car” cavity



# ADMX insert going into and out the magnet bore



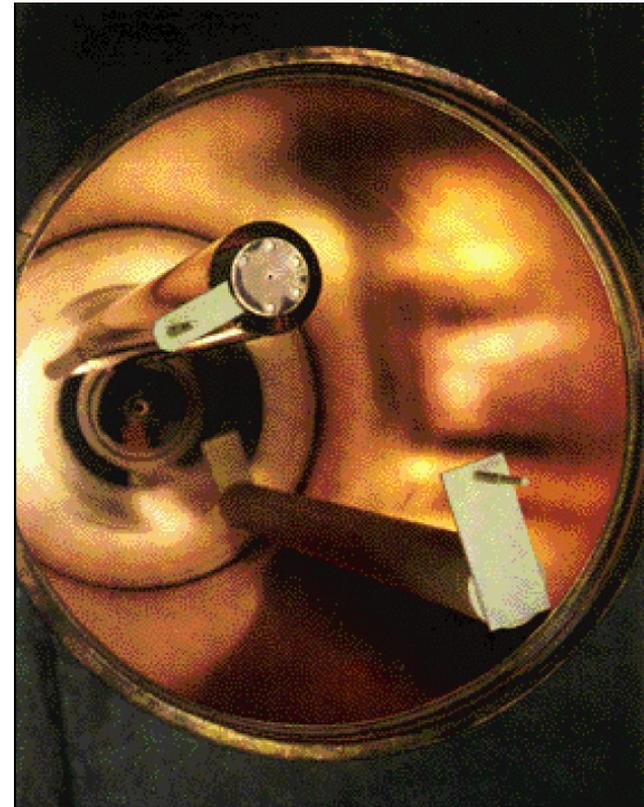
*Science*, Nov. 2013, 552 - 555



# Typical ADMX Run Cadence

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- Inject broad swept RF signal to record cavity response. Record state data (temperature sensors, hall sensors, pressure, etc.).
- Integrate for  $\sim 80$  seconds (final integration time based on results from cold commissioning).
- Move tuning rod to shift  $TM_{010}$  &  $TM_{020}$  modes ( $\sim 1$  kHz at a time).
- Every few days adjust critical coupling of  $TM_{010}$  &  $TM_{020}$  antennas.
- Anticipated scan rate  $\sim 100$  MHz ( $0.5 \mu\text{eV}$ ) every 3 months



# ADMX Gen 2: Science Prospects

ADMX Gen 2 Projected Sensitivity

Cavity Frequency (GHz)

1

10

100

Non RF-cavity Techniques

White Dwarf and Supernova Bounds

Axion Coupling  $g_{a\gamma\gamma}$  ( $\text{GeV}^{-1}$ )

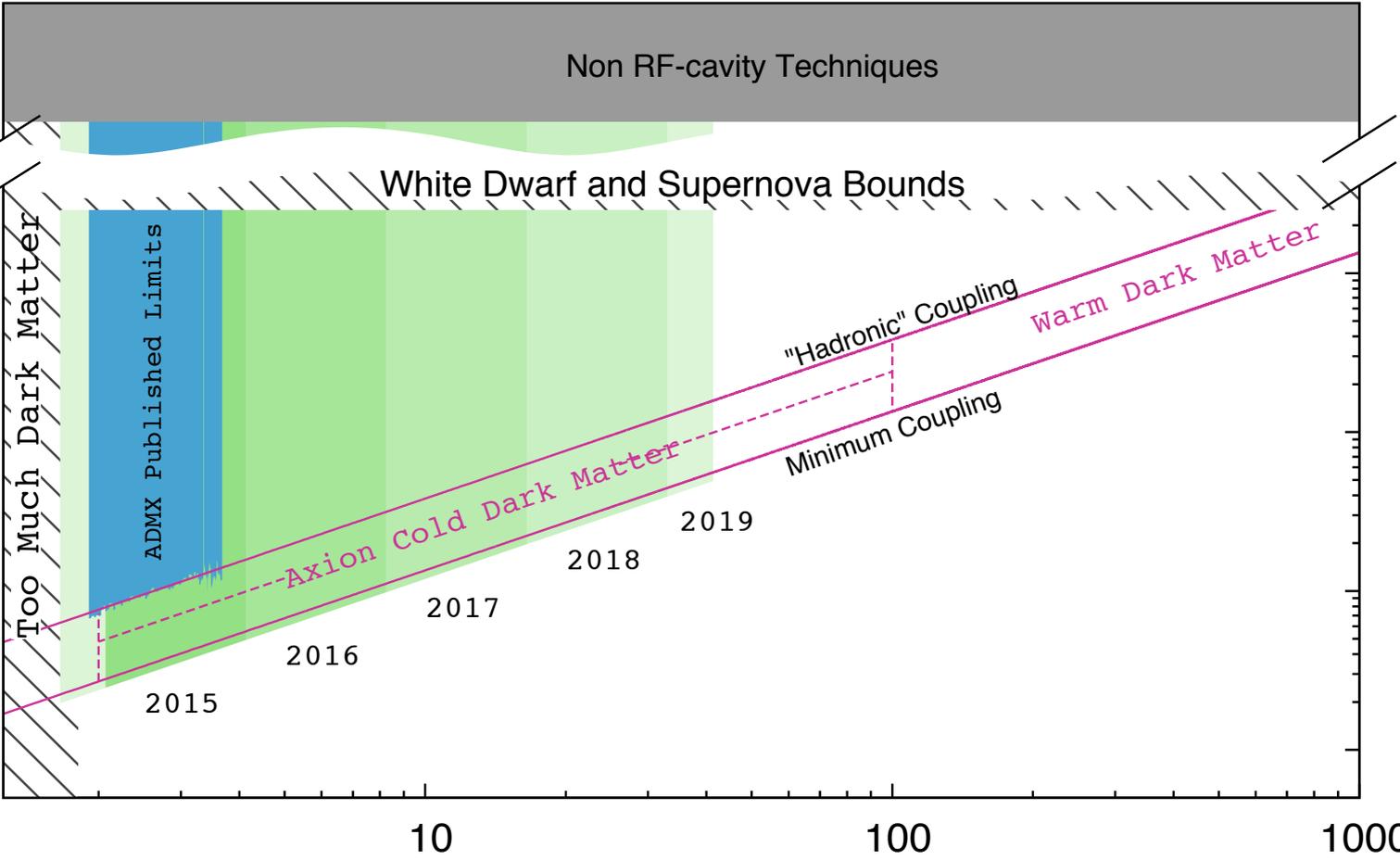
$10^{-10}$

$10^{-13}$

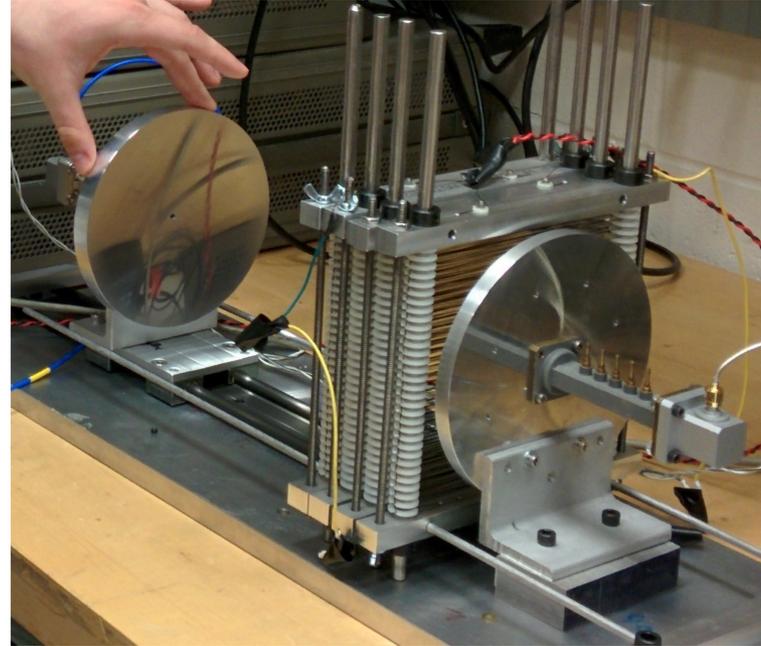
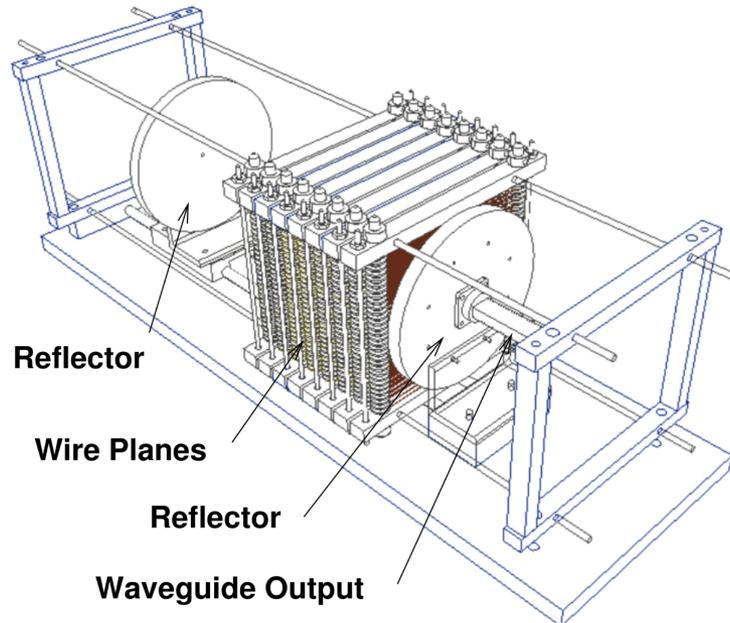
$10^{-14}$

$10^{-15}$

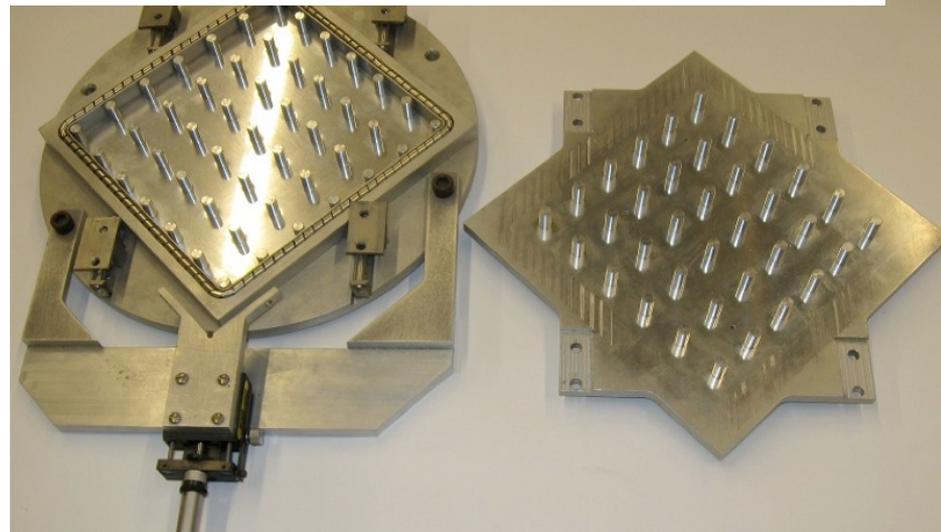
$10^{-16}$



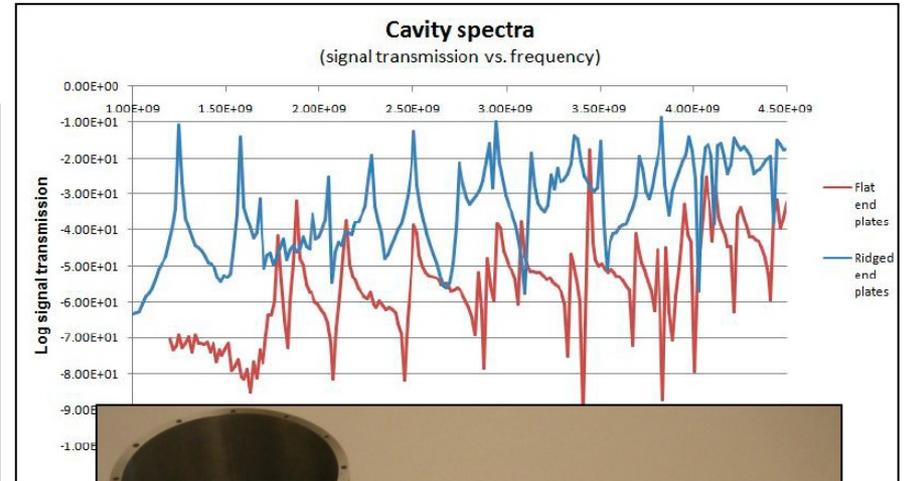
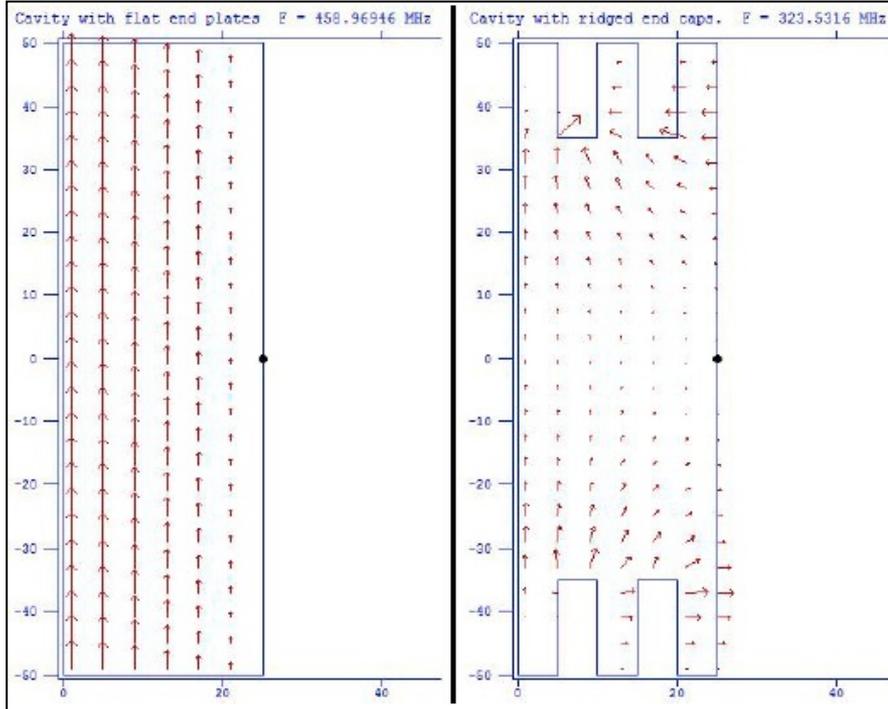
# Gen 3 and beyond: Can the RF-cavity experiments do better? Very high frequencies, higher Q, etc. ?



higher-frequency, large volume  
resonant structures

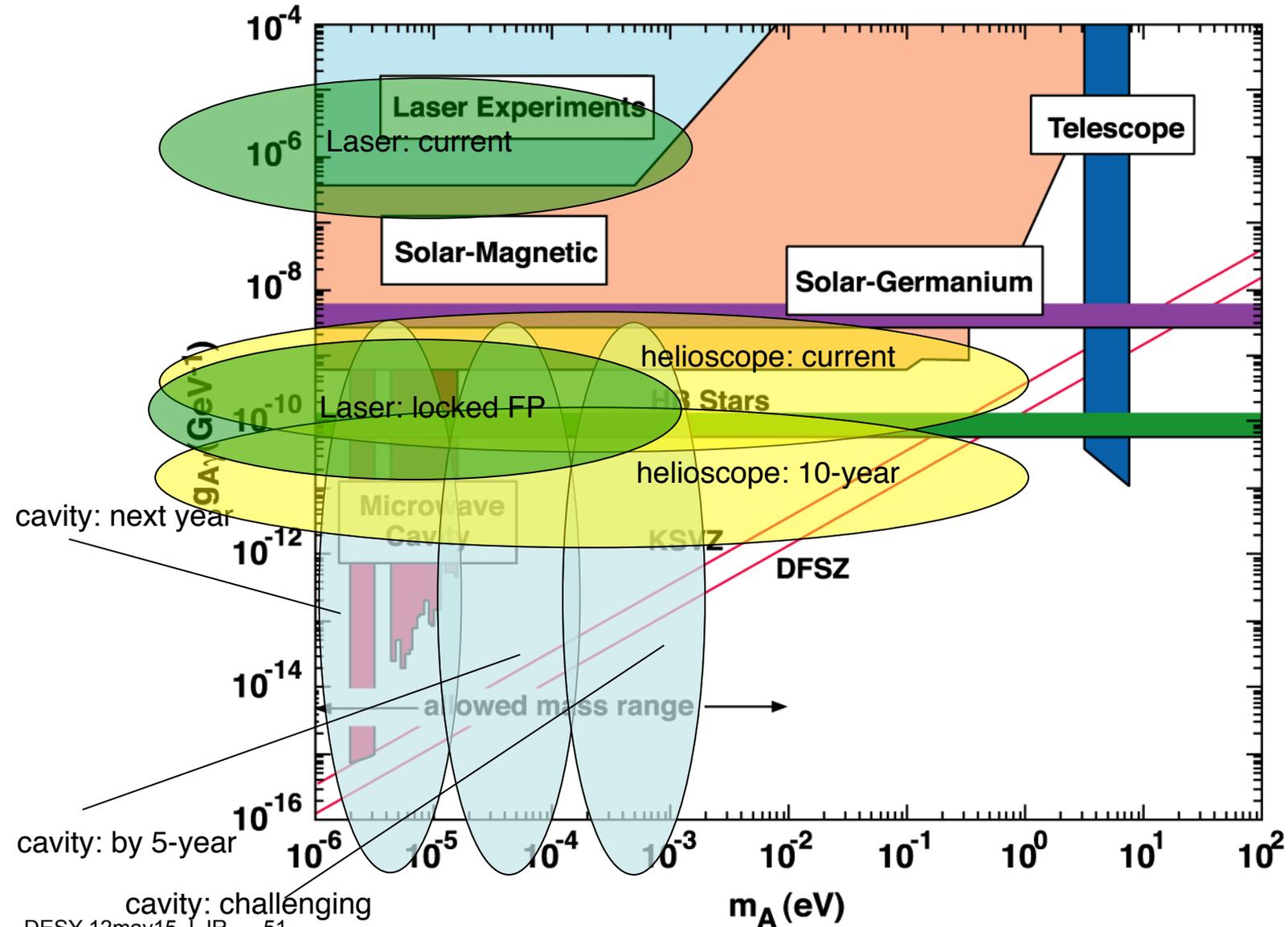


# Gen 3: Low-frequency R&D



**\*work from H. Swan (UW)**

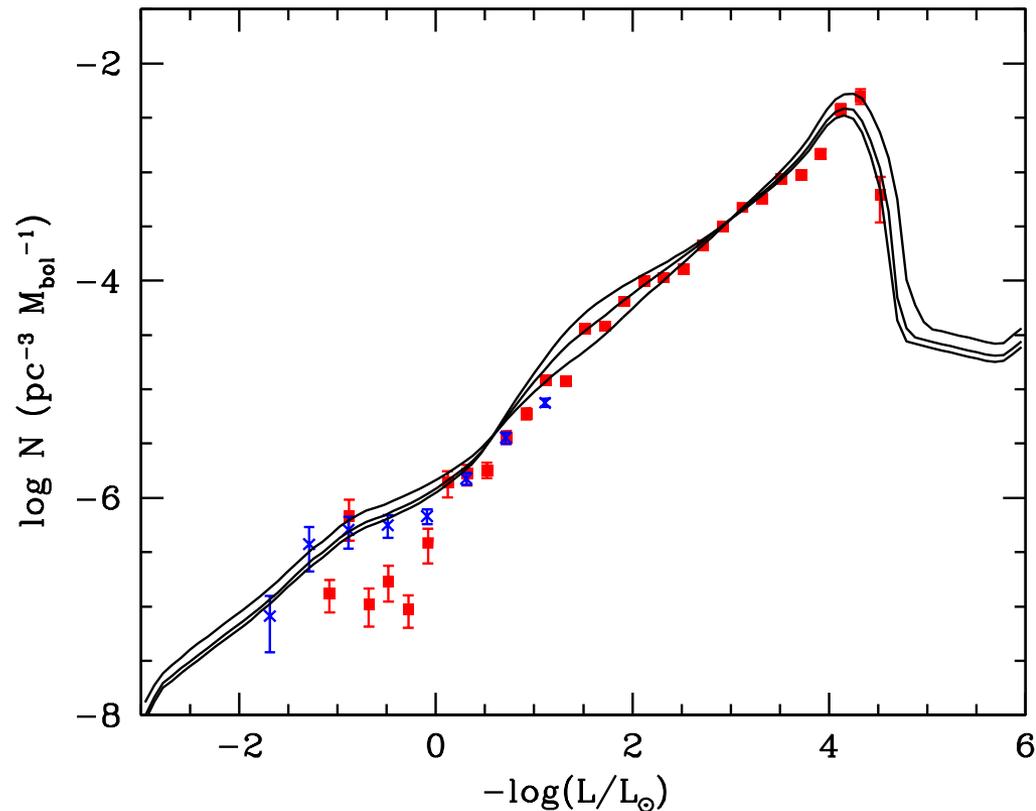
# An experimental scenario for QCD dark-matter axions: Focus on three “flagship” technologies in the near term



# Theory challenges going forward (1) include

e.g, White dwarfs:

Can we better understand their cooling?



Isern et al., 2012

Figure 1: White dwarf luminosity function. The solid lines represent the models obtained with (up to down)  $g_{\text{aee}}/10^{-13} = 0, 2.2, 4.5$  respectively.

# Theory challenges going forward (2) include

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Gamma ray propagation:

e.g., Can we better understand gamma-ray propagation?

Mon. Not. R. Astron. Soc. **000**, 000–000 (0000) Printed 1 March 2012 (MN  $\LaTeX$  style file v2.2)

## Evidence for an axion-like particle from PKS 1222+216?

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1 March 2012

### ABSTRACT

The surprising discovery by MAGIC of an intense, rapidly varying very high energy ( $E > 50$  GeV) emission from the flat spectrum radio quasar PKS 1222+216 represents a challenge for all interpretative scenarios. Indeed, in order to avoid absorption of  $\gamma$  rays in the dense ultraviolet radiation field of the broad line region (BLR), one is forced to invoke the existence of a very compact ( $r \sim 10^{14}$  cm) emitting region at a large distance ( $R > 10^{18}$  cm) from the jet base. We present a scenario based on the standard blazar model for PKS 1222+216 where  $\gamma$  rays are produced close to the central engine, but we add the new assumption that inside the source photons can oscillate into axion-like particles, which are a generic prediction of many extensions of the Standard Model of elementary particle interactions. As a result, a considerable fraction of photons can escape absorption from the BLR much in the same way as they largely avoid absorption from extragalactic background light when propagating over cosmic distances. We show that observations can be explained in this way for reasonable values of the model parameters, and in particular we find it quite remarkable that the most favourable value of photon-ALP coupling happens to be the same in both situations. An independent laboratory check of our proposal can be performed by the planned upgrade of the ALPS experiment at DESY.

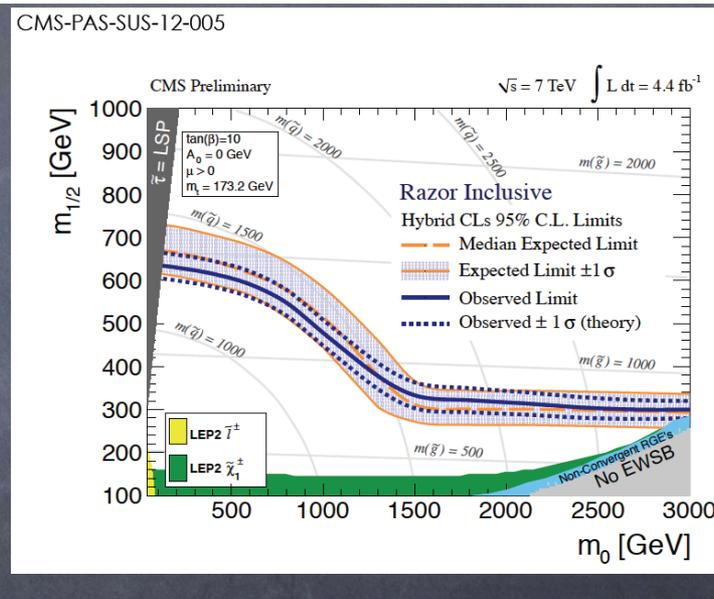
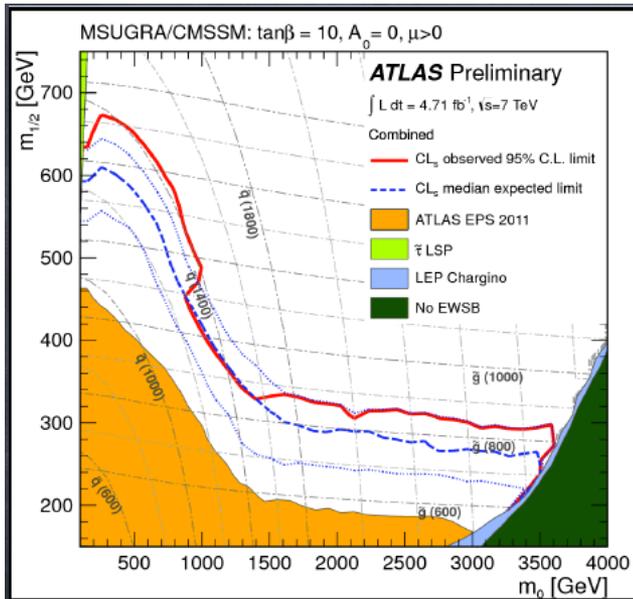
**Key words:** radiation mechanisms: non-thermal —  $\gamma$ -rays: theory — galaxies: individual: PKS 1222+216

# Conclusions (1)

Listen to Nature:

We're keeping our eye on the LHC and WIMP detectors.

The jury is certainly still out, but if SUSY-WIMPs remain undetected, you might want to look harder at axions.



Atlas/CMS: no sign of mSUGRA at LHC7:

# Conclusions (2)

On the other hand, some say, LHC finding SUSY may strongly suggest axion dark matter.

Why thermally-produced neutralino-only DM is not the answer (in spite of the hype):

- Generates too much or too little DM; only rarely is  $\Omega_\chi^{std} h^2 \sim 0.11$  : fine-tuned!
- gravitino problem and BBN constraints
- neglects the strong CP problem and its solution

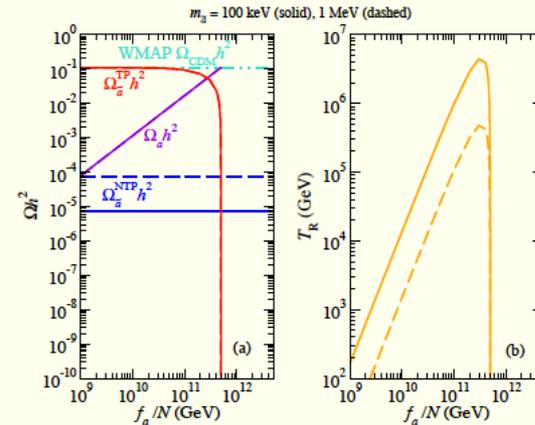
H. Baer

## mSUGRA model with mixed axion/axino CDM: $m_{\tilde{a}}$ fixed

$$(m_0, m_{1/2}, A_0, \tan \beta, \text{sgn}(\mu)) = (1000 \text{ GeV}, 300 \text{ GeV}, 0, 10, +1)$$

$$\Omega_a h^2 + \Omega_{\tilde{a}}^{TP} h^2 + \Omega_{\tilde{a}}^{NTP} h^2 = 0.11$$

model with *mainly* axion CDM favored for large  $T_R$ !



# Overall Conclusions

---

Axions: A very compelling dark-matter candidate.

The QCD dark-matter axion is well bounded in mass and couplings.

The dark-matter axion focus is 1-100  $\mu\text{eV}$  axion masses.

There are many search techniques, but the RF-cavity one is most sensitive.

ADMX is largest and most mature; several others are on the horizon.

The next several years will either see a discovery or reject the QCD dark-matter axion hypothesis.

The space of variant axion (non “QCD”) models is wide open.

Large efforts are underway for solar axions and laser experiments.

And ideas are out there for searching for very low-mass & high-mass axions

Quite starkly: These experiments have the sensitivity and mass reach to either detect or rule out QCD dark-matter axions at high confidence.

We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the  
U.S. Department of Energy, Office of High Energy Physics