

BRASS: Broadband Radiometric Axion Searches

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We present here a modification of the spherical reflector approach proposed for broadband searches for axion dark matter. The new concept foresees the use of a permanently magnetized surface (a magnetized converter) employed for axion/ALP–photon conversion. The magnetized converter comprises a two-dimensional Halbach array providing a sufficiently homogeneous magnetic field with a $B_{||} \sim 1$ T component parallel to the surface and concentrated within about 1 cm height above it. This enables effective conversion of dark matter axions and ALPs with masses above $\approx 80 \mu\text{eV}$ (20 GHz). Based on this modification, a conceptual design for broadband radiometric axion searches (BRASS) has been developed, aiming at providing an experimental facility for WISP dark matter searches in the 20 GHz–1 THz (0.08–4 meV) range. Details of the experiment design, expected sensitivities to WISP dark matter, and present plans for constructing the first prototype setup will be discussed.

Summary

A conceptual design for broadband radiometric axion searches (BRASS) employing a permanently magnetized surface for stimulating the axion–photon conversion in a 0.08–4 meV mass range will be introduced and plans for construction of the first prototype will be discussed.

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