# The ALPS II Experiment at

**Current Status** 

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ALPS II LSW Concept > Sensitivity > Optics Magnets Detectors > Infrastructure Outlook







## Light-shining-through-a-wall in a nutshell



- Light is shone on an opaque wall
- Photons convert into axions/ALPs in

a magnetic field and pass the wall

- Behind the wall, the axions/ALPs convert back to photons in a magnetic field
- Light is detected by a detector

$$P_{\gamma \leftrightarrow a} = \frac{1}{4} \frac{\omega}{k_a} (g_{a\gamma} BL)^2 \cdot |F|^2$$

Optics Magnets D

**Detector** 



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# ALPS II @ DESY in Hamburg

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Originally: 10+10 dipole magnets from the HERA proton accelerator

Production cavity and regeneration cavity, mode matched

$$P_{\gamma \to \phi \to \gamma} = \frac{1}{16} \cdot \mathcal{F}_{PC} \mathcal{F}_{RC} \cdot (g_{a\gamma\gamma} Bl)^4 = 6 \cdot 10^{-38} \cdot \mathcal{F}_{PC} \mathcal{F}_{RC} \cdot \left(\frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}}{10^{-10} GeV^{-1}} \frac{B}{1T} \frac{l}{10m}\right)^4$$
**Optics Magnets Detector**



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## **ALPS II Sensitivity**



- ALPS II plans to reach about a factor of 3000 in sensitivity compared to ALPS I
- ALPS II will not probe the QCD axion band
- > ALPS II can reach into a region where ALPs could be CDM
- ALPS II will probe part of the region with important astrophysical hints









## **Optics**



Mode-matched cavities:

- Production Cavity increases circulating power before wall
- Regeneration Cavity resonantly enhances reconversion probability of ALPs into photons





## **Optics: Challenges**





- High power operation in production cavity
- High finesse cavity for photon regeneration
- Dual cavity lock
- Cavity alignment over long times
- Light tightness and shutter





# **Optics: Results**

#### Posters by Li-Wei Wei and Kanioar Karan

	Goal	Status	
Injected power	30 W	32 W	> S
PC circulating power	150 kW	50 kW	> Ir
RC power buildup factor	40,000	26,000	> 0 st
Relative mirror alignment	< 5 urad	< 1 urad	
Spatial (field) overlap	> 95%	>98.5%	[
RC length	<0.6 pm	<0.6 pm	High

- Several design values already achieved.
- Investigation of dichroic noise
- One of the main tasks recently: feasibility study for longer magnet string





## **ALPS II main components: magnets from HERA**

- Original plan: 10+10 dipoles from HERA, each 5.3 T on 8.8 m.
- Power build-up of cavities limited due to clipping losses because of magnet aperture.
- Magnets need to be straightened to achieve larger aperture compared to 35 mm (before straightening)









# **Magnet Straightening Status**

- By now 20 dipoles from HERA have been straightened, all successfully
- The average aperture is about 48 mm (!)
- All quench currents after deformation are above the maximum current of the power supply
- Stable operation also tested successfully





6700

6600

6500

6400 6300

6200 6100 6000

5900 5800 5700

## **Magnet: Change of Plans**

- Due to the big success in straightening the magnets (i.e. big apertures), it was investigated to increase the number of magnets to 24
- Regenerated photon rate doubles when the magnetic field times length product increases by 20 %.
- An investigation showed that the benefits exceed the risks
- Decision: ALPS II will use 24 magnets
- Taken from spare magnets, additional spares to be taken out of accelerator and straightened.







## **ALPS detector requirements**

### **Detector Challenges**

- Able to detect extremely low rates (about 10<sup>-4</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>) of 1064 nm photons, i.e. about 1 eV of photon energy
- Low noise, low background rate
- > High efficiency
- Long-term stability
  - Two detection concepts for ALPS II: heterodyne detection and transition edge sensor
  - → Plan to employ both detection methods





Heterodyne





## **Transition Edge Sensor**

- TES: superconducting sensor, operating in the superconducting transition region
- Photon sensitive absorber is connected to a TES thermistor, TES current read out by SQUID
- Absorption of photon causes rise of temperature, then cools down again
- Thus current changes, which can be read out by SQUID
- Integrated current signal is proportional to photon energy





## **TES Detector: results**





- TES detector installed and operated successfully at ALPS detector lab in cryostat
- Noise studied, sources eliminated/reduced
- First light seen, 1064 nm photons detected
- Optimised module currently being installed







## **Heterodyne detection**

 Interfere regenerated field with a much stronger frequency shifted LO laser field

→ beat frequency measurement

 Beat note carries information on photon rate of the regenerated signal

$$\left|\sqrt{\bar{P}_{\rm LO}}e^{i(2\pi ft+\phi_1)} + \sqrt{\bar{P}_{\rm weak}}e^{i[2\pi(f+f_0)t+\phi_2]}\right|^2 = \bar{P}_{\rm LO} + \bar{P}_{\rm weak} + 2\sqrt{\bar{P}_{\rm LO}\bar{P}_{\rm weak}}\cos\left(2\pi f_0t + \Delta\phi\right)$$



- Signal coherently sums over time
- Noise averages out
- Can reach shot noise limit





## **Heterodyne: Results**



#### [Z. Bush et al., PRD 99 022001 (2019)]

- Testbed studies recently published:
   PRD 99 022001 (2019)]
  - Test signal of 3.3\* 10<sup>-2</sup> photons/second

(6.4 x 10<sup>-21</sup> W) detected

- Noise measurement consistent with no noise, Integrated noise floor below 2 x 10<sup>-24</sup> W (equivalent to about 10<sup>-5</sup> photons/s)
- Challenge: Phase change between the regenerated photon field and a LO laser < 0.1 cycles over ~ 2 weeks





# **ALPS II Site/Infrastructure**

#### Construction is ongoing

The HERA tunnel section in HERA North has been cleared.





- > Cryogenic system layout adapted to 24 magnets
- > Layout of cleanrooms has been finalized → call for tender
- > In general: very nice progress, slightly delayed due to change to 24 magnets









## **ALPS II schedule**

ALPS II will be located in the tunnel of the HERA accelerator, around HERA North.

Timeline:

- Construction finished end of 2020 → first light
- First data run in 2021
- Installation of 2nd optics setup to switch the detection scheme
- Second data run planned for 2022







# ALPS II: aiming for start-up in 2020/2021 @ DESY in HH

## **Collaboration**





HELMHOLTZ SPITZENFORSCHUNG FÜR GROSSE HERAUSFORDERUNGEN

- ALPS II will look for axion-like particles reaching regions of several astrophysical hints using the light-shining-through-a-wall method
- > ALPS II developments in optics, magnets, detectors and infrastructure successful and on track
- ALPS II has increased the number of magnets planned to be used in the experiment to 24 magnets (12 on each side), thus increasing its sensitivity by about 20%
- > ALPS II construction is ongoing and planned to finish within 2020
- Looking forward to exciting axion/ALP physics!



