# The Future of the Axion Program at DESY

### **ALPS II and beyond**

**Friederike Januschek** with many slides from **Katharina Isleif** and **Axel Lindner** 14th annual meeting of the Helmholtz alliance "Physics at the Terascale" Hamburg, November 24th 2021

- Why axion searches?
- How axion searches?
- The Past: ALPS I
- The Present: ALPS II commissioning
- The Future: ALPS II, (Baby)IAXO, MADMAX
- Some more...





PHYSICS AT THE TERASCALE

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# Why to look for axions?

# **Axions and Axion-like particles**

### Axions

- Why is there CP conservation in QCD?
  - A new pseudo Nambu-Goldstone boson, called *axion*, is introduced to clean the theory Peccei&Quinn (1977), Weinberg (1978)
- Axions are also viable cold dark matter candidates

The QCD axion has

*very low mass,* that is related to QCD scale:  $m_a f_a^2 \propto m_\pi^2 f_\pi^2$ 

very weak interaction







# **Axions and Axion-like particles**

### **Axion-like particles**

- Axions lead to a new class of possible BSM particles: Axion-like particles (ALPs).
   ALPs have similar properties as QCD axions.
- They have a mass! But it is not related to QCD scale: mass and coupling are two independent parameters.
- Little interaction with regular matter
- Weak interaction with photons → Primakoff effect
- No electric charge
- ALPs are WISPs





experiments





# **Example: Astrophysical hints for the existence of ALPs**

#### Transparency of the Universe for very high energy (VHE) $\gamma$ -rays

VHE radiation decays through electron-positron pair production if they interact with extragalactic background light (EBL).



Photons convert into ALPs in astrophysical magnetic fields. ALPs travel unhindered and reconvert close to the solar neighborhood.



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# **Overview axion and axion-like particle searches**

Existence of *ALPs* can explain mysterious phenomena in our Universe

- TeV transparency of the Universe (extragalactic light should be suppressed)
- Stellar cooling & evolution (stars cool faster then predictions)
- (Cold) dark matter candidates (galaxy clusters, rotation of galaxies, gravitational lensing, CMB)

QCD Axion solves strong CP problem



# How to look for axions?

# Sub-eV axions and axion-like particles (ALPs)

How to look: three kinds of axion/ALP sources

- Purely laboratory experiments "light-shining-through-walls", optical photons
- Helioscopes
   ALPs emitted by the sun, X-rays
- Haloscopes looking for dark matter constituents, microwaves

Advantage lab LSW: small dependance on "other" physics, creating and detecting WISPs in the experiment



# The concept of light shining through a wall experiments

Measuring the conversion-reconversion of Axion-like particles



# The Past: ALPS I @ DESY

# **ALPS I: the first axion search at DESY**

#### Light-shining-through-walls



#### ALPS I: LSW in the optical regime @ DESY

- ALPS I experiment from 2007-2010 at DESY
- Using an old HERA proton dipole magnet
- 1 kW circulating laser power (cavity), 532 nm green light
- Worldwide best laboratory limits at that time Phys.Lett. **B689** (2010) 149-15







# The Present: Commissioning ALPS II @ DESY











# **ALPS II Design**



12+12 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 Cavities**



Mode-matched cavities:

- **Production Cavity** increases circulating power before wall
- Regeneration Cavity resonantly enhances reconversion probability of ALPs into photons
- Assuming the coupling from the astrophysical hints of we would expect:
  - 1 photon every 200.000 years without cavities
  - 1 photon every 420 years with only the production cavity
  - 2 photons every day with production and regeneration cavity

# **ALPS II Experiment**

#### Challenges

- Straight section of former HERA tunnel: 250 m limit
- 12 HERA dipole magnets, each <u>5.6 Tesla</u>, over 120 m
  - require high power and cryogenics
  - straightened to have sufficient aperture
- High power laser, <u>70W</u>,  $\lambda$  =1064 nm ~ 282 THz
  - Provided by AEI Hannover (LIGO laser)
- Two high-finesse optical cavities (PC and RC)
  - Length limited to 124.4 m each (straight section)
  - Very narrow line width of 12 Hz
  - Active and passive systems to control resonances and overlap between the cavities
- Light tightness:  $150 \text{kW} \rightarrow 10^{-24} \text{W}$  (~1 photon/day)
- Detector for ultra weak signals 1 infrared photon /day ~ 10<sup>-5</sup> Hz
  - Heterodyne detection (UFL, Florida)
  - Superconducting single photon detector: TES@DESY





# **ALPS II: Heterodyne detection**

Looking for 5-10<sup>-24</sup> W @ 1064 nm

Option 1: heterodyne sensing

- Mix weak signal with a frequency f shifted local oscillator → beat note signal
- Detection of a photon flux corresponding to 5-10<sup>-21</sup> W demonstrated.
- Sensitivity of 10<sup>-24</sup> W demonstrated.

Heterodyne detection will be implemented first.



"Coherent detection of ultraweak electromagnetic fields", Z. Bush et al., Phys. Rev. D 99, 022001 (2019)





### ALPS II: Transition Edge Sensor

Looking for 5-10<sup>-24</sup> W @ 1064 nm

Option 2: photon counting

 Using a superconducting transition edge sensor (TES) operated at about 100 mK.



P.A.J. De Korte et. al., Proceedings of SPIE, pages 779-789, 2002 TES chip within the transition region at critical temperature Single





"Characterization of 1064 nm photon signals and background events of a tungsten TES detector for the ALPS experiment", J. Dreyling-Eschweiler et al., Journal of Modern Optics, 62:14, 1132-1140

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# **ALPS II: Characterising our TES**

#### **Excellent properties for photon counting experiments**

- High quantum efficiency (QE) at wavelength of interest
- Ability to resolve single photons 1064nm ~ 1eV
- Energy resolution (~10%), depending on method: Distinguish signal from background events
- Low dark counts (6.9<sup>+5.18</sup><sub>-2.93</sub> · 10<sup>-6</sup>Hz, 95% confidence level): residual background: black body, pile-ups, fluorescence; i.e. low enough for ALPS II



Submitted to JLTP



Work in progress: Measurements on efficiency, background with attached fiber ongoing

#### arXiv:2110.10654

# **ALPS II status**

First magnet installed Oct 2019, now all 24 magnets are ready

3 cleanrooms installed at HERA North site

Studies with the 250m optical cavity ongoing Planned:

Cool-down of magnets started yesterday
 First science run follows after (spring)







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# The Future: ALPS II, (Baby-)IAXO and MADMAX

# ALPS II — Any Light Particle Search II



#### Near future: ALPS II data taking

- ALPS II will be ready to take data within 2022 ALPS II will probe the regions of
- TeV transparency hint
- Stellar cooling & evolution hints
- ALPS II Target Sensitivity and Challenges
- $g_{a\gamma\gamma} = 2 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{GeV}^{-1}$  and m < 0.1 meV
- 3x better than helioscope CAST
- <sup>•</sup> 1000x better than ALPS I (2007-2010)
  - Independent from cosmological assumptions!



# International Axion Observatory i

#### Solar axions up to 1eV mass

Technology:

20 m long toroidal magnet with eight 60 cm bores tracking the sun, X-ray optics to focus signal onto very low background detectors.

Status and schedule:

- BabyIAXO (nearly) approved
- Construction of BabyIAXO will start in 2022
- BabyIAXO could be ready for a 1<sup>st</sup> physics run in 2024 / 2025.
- IAXO could be ready in 2028.





Also sensitive to  $g_{ae}$  and  $g_{an}$ 



# **BabyIAXO**

#### **A Testbed with Physics potential**

- Prototype: Intermediate experimental stage before IAXO
  - Smaller scale
  - Aim: Test and improve all systems and mitigate risk for full IAXO
  - Only two bores, but with similar dimensions
  - Magnet will test design options
- But: BabyIAXO will already have relevant physics output, much better reach than the CAST helioscope before
- Sites:
  - BabyIAXO: HERA South hall.
  - IAXO: options on DESY campus earmarked.



 $10^{-8}$ 

 $10^{-7}$ 

 $10^{-6}$ 

 $10^{-16}$ 

 $10^{-9}$ 



 $10^{-6}$   $10^{-5}$   $10^{-4}$   $10^{-3}$   $10^{-2}$   $10^{-3}$ 

10

 $m_a(\mathrm{eV})$ 

# **MADMAX technology**

#### **Dielectric booster ...**

The axion field generates a (tiny) electromagnetic field at dielectric discontinuities embedded in a magnetic field.

- Coherent generation of electromagnetic radiation at all surfaces as L(MADMAX) < λ (axion).</li>
- Constructive interference results in a power boost factor β<sup>2</sup>.
- The booster can be tuned to frequency and bandwidth by changing the disc positions.

#### Required figures of merit:

- 80 sapphire or LaAlO<sub>3</sub> discs of 1.2 m<sup>2</sup> each.
- 10 T magnetic field of about 1.3 m length.





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# **MAgnetized Disc and Mirror Axion eXperiment MADMAX**

Halo dark matter axions with masses 40 to 400 µeV

Status:

- R&D phase successfully concluded.
- Phase 2 (prototype, magnet) started.
- Prototype runs at CERN (MORPURGO) approved.

Site:

 Cryoplatform in the DESY HERA North hall (next to ALPS II).

Data taking could start in 2028.





# Future: three kinds of axion searches @ DESY

#### **DESY** as a center for axion physics

 Purely laboratory experiments "light-shining-through-walls", optical photons

 Helioscopes ALPs emitted by the sun, X-rays

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Haloscopes looking for dark matter constituents, microwaves



### MADMAX

### **Timelines**

#### ALPS II, BabyIAXO, IAXO, MADMAX

Some optimistic view (funding), assuming no surprises (axion discovery).



# Looking beyond - some visions

# ALPS II beyond ALPS II

Assuming no surprises like axion detection ...

Very tentatively, no formal decisions on any future projects beyond 2024 yet!

- 2022-2024: searching for axions with ALPS II.
- 2024-2026: measurement of vacuum magnetic birefringence at the ALPS II site.
- 2026-2028: data taking with ALPS II upgrades (depending also on BabyIAXO results).
- 2028 ff: dedicated ultra high frequency gravitational wave searches at the ALPS II site?



# **JURA**

#### Next generation LSW experiment

- Magnetic field strength:
- Magnetic length:
- Light wavelength:
- Circulating light power:
- Power built-up behind the wall: 10<sup>5</sup>
- Detector sensitivity: 10<sup>-4</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>

JURA could allow to probe for very lightweight ALPs in the laboratory even beyond the IAXO reach.

13 T

426 m

1064 nm

2.5 MW

It would be a (costly) about 1km long apparatus.

If ALPS II fulfills expectations, JURA should be feasible. Dipole magnet R&D is essential.





- Axions and ALPs are well motivated BSM particles
- ALPS II at DESY is an experiment currently being commissioned @ DESY of the light-shining-through-wall type
- ALPS II will be able to probe an interesting parameter space with astrophysical hints for ALPs
- DESY is planning two other major axion search experiments with international partners: Baby(IAXO) looking for axions from the sun and MADMAX looking for dark matter axions
- Exciting times ahead for axion searches and for DESY