

# Light in the ALPS II experiment

PRC96: 96th meeting of the DESY Physics Research Committee -  
open session

14th November 2023

I.Oceano on behalf of the ALPS II collaboration

HELMHOLTZ

SDU  
University of  
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Leibniz  
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UF  
UNIVERSITY of  
FLORIDA



CARDIFF  
UNIVERSITY  
PRIFYSGOL  
CAERDYDD

JG|U



# ALPS II concept

## First realization of Hoogeveen idea

### Arion $\rightleftharpoons$ photon oscillations in a constant magnetic field

A. A. Ansel'm

*Institute of Nuclear Physics, Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Leningrad*

(Submitted 30 May 1985)

*Yad. Fiz.* **42**, 1480–1483 (December 1985)

Photon  $\rightleftharpoons$  arion oscillations in a simple experiment that would confirm the existence of the arion and provide a method for detection of the “axion” breaking of global symmetry on the

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PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

17 AUGUST 1987

#### Proposed Experiment to Produce and Detect Light Pseudoscalars

K. Van Bibber

*Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, California 94550*

N. R. Dagdeviren and S. E. Koonin

*W. K. Kellogg Radiation Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California 91125*

A. K. Kerman

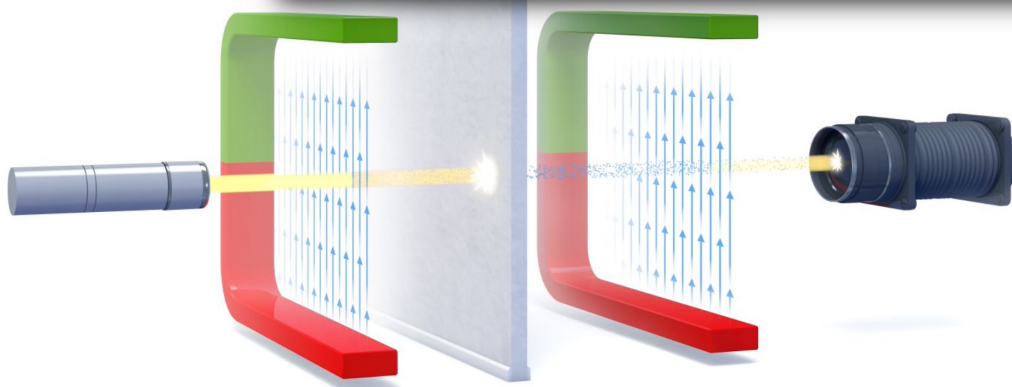
*Center for Theoretical Physics, Department of Physics, and Laboratory for Nuclear Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139*

and

H. N. Nelson

*Department of Physics and Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305*  
(Received 12 May 1987)

We propose a laboratory experiment to produce and detect a light neutral pseudoscalar particle that couples to two photons. The pseudoscalar would be produced by a (real) photon from a laser beam interacting with a second (virtual) photon from a static magnetic field; it would be detected after it reconverts to a real photon in a duplicate magnetic field. The bounds on the coupling constant that could be obtained from a null result in such an experiment compete favorably with astrophysical limits and would substantially improve those from direct measurements.



Nuclear Physics B358 (1991) 3–26  
North-Holland

### PRODUCTION AND DETECTION OF LIGHT BOSONS USING OPTICAL RESONATORS

F. HOOGEVEEN\* and T. ZIEGENHAGEN

*Institute of Theoretical Physics, University of Hannover, Appelstrasse 2,  
3000 Hannover 1, Germany*

Received 13 December 1990  
(Revised 22 February 1991)

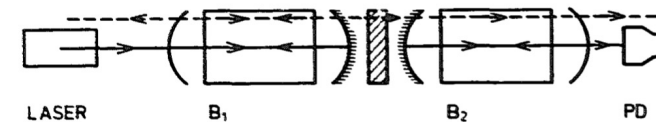
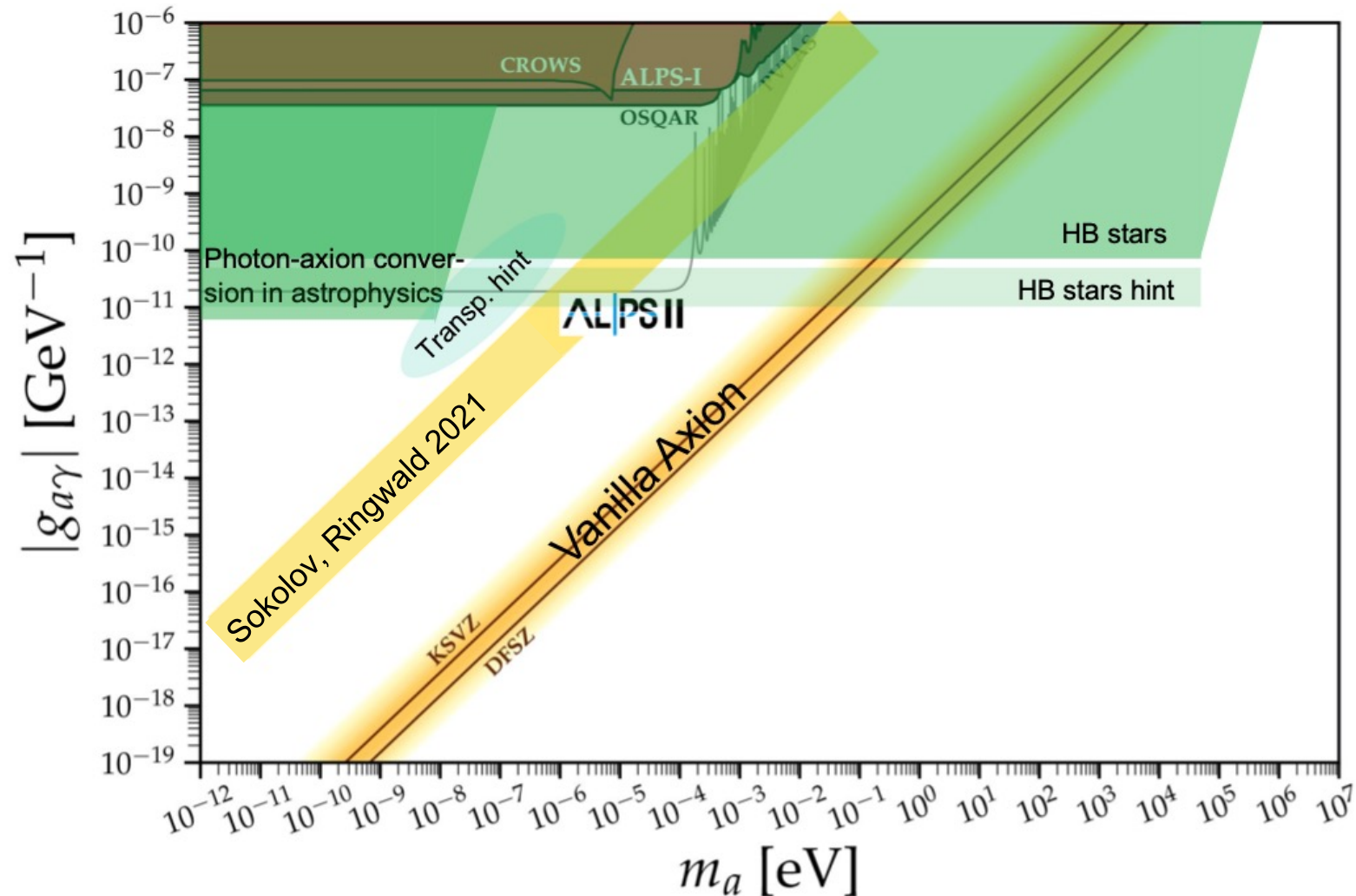


Fig. 3. Axion production and detection with two optical resonators.

# Any Light Particle Search II

## Discovery potential

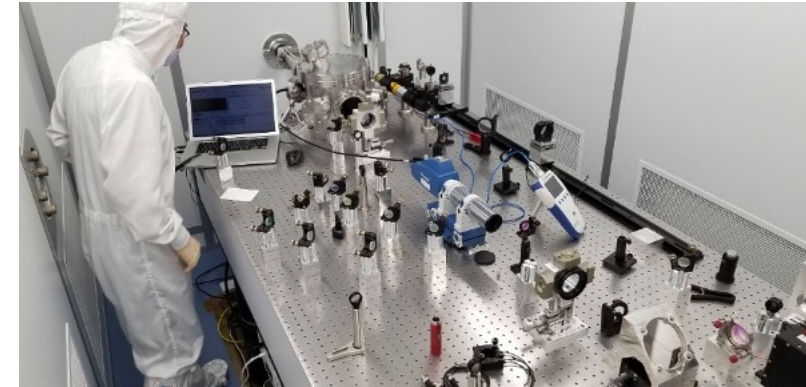
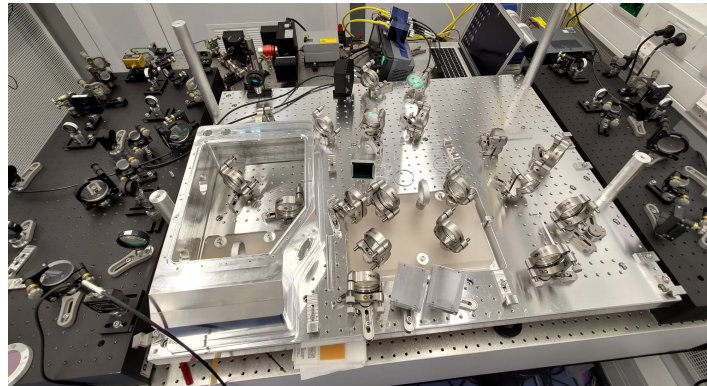
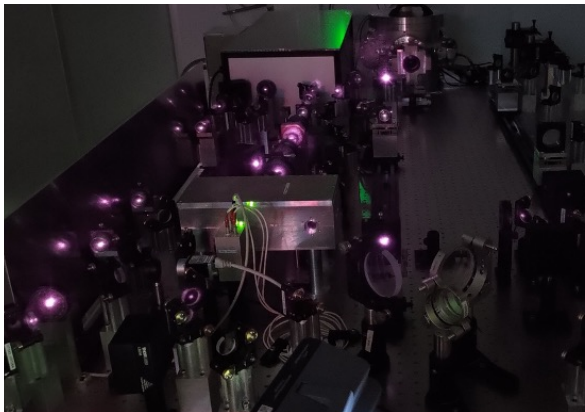
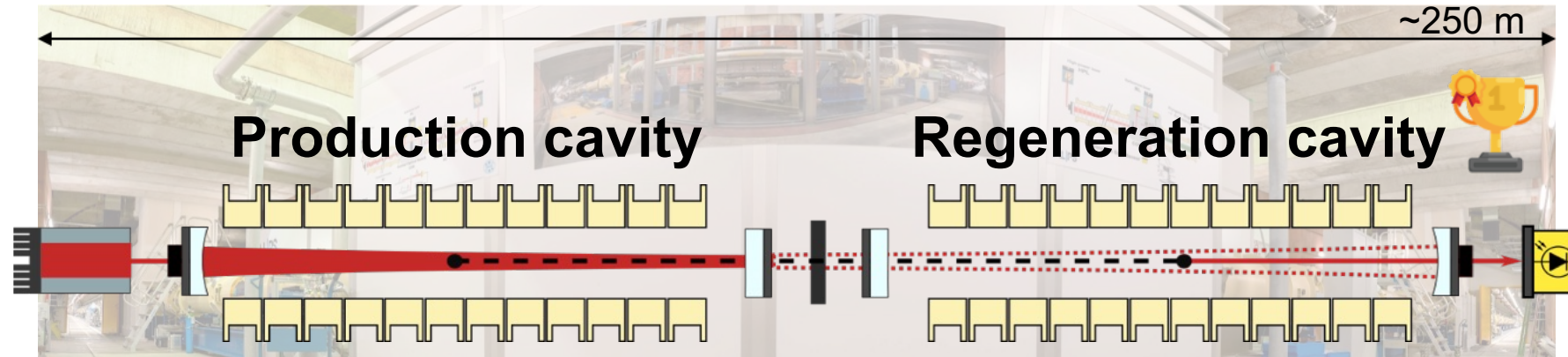
- **ALPS II** designed to improve sensitivity compared to ALPS I by a factor of  $\sim 3000$ 
  - Exploring uncharted territory in parameter space, beyond astrophysical constraints
  - Checking axion explanation of astrophysical anomalies





# Any Light Particle Search II

The axion factory



## ALPS II Technology

1. Magnets and Infrastructure

2. Optical Systems

3. Control Systems

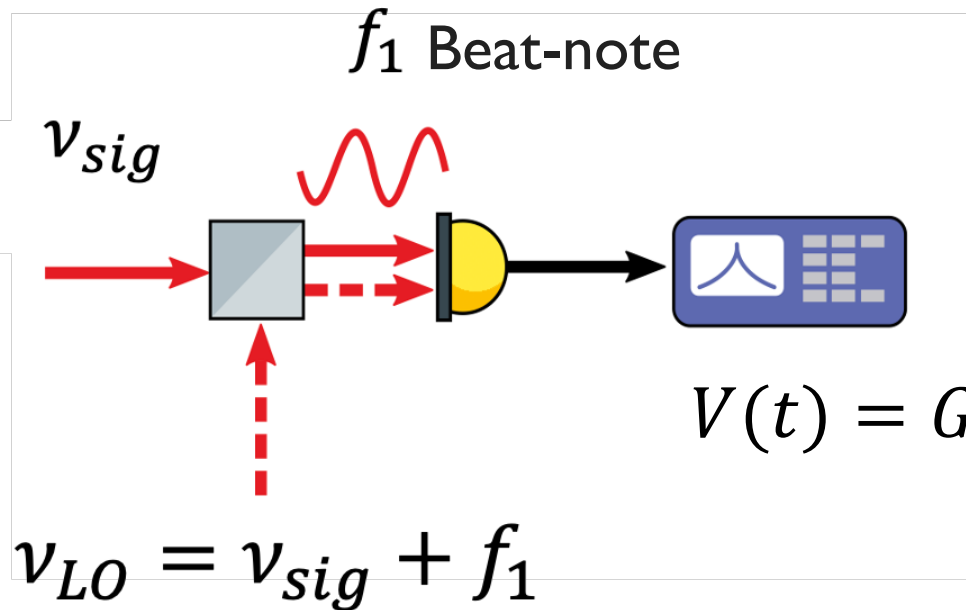
4. Ultra-low power Detector



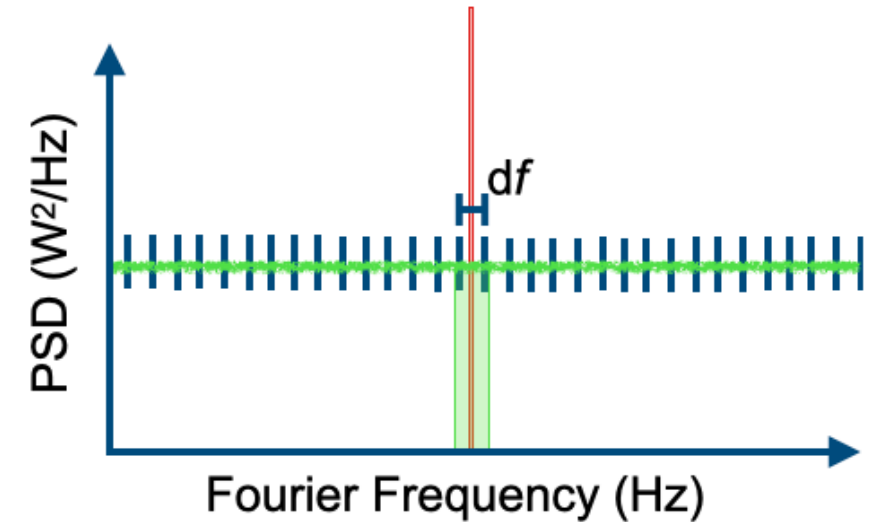
# Ultra-low power detector

## HETerodyne sensing

- Interfere regenerated field ( $\nu_{sig}$ ) with laser ( $\nu_{sig} + f_1$ )
- Demodulate signal at defined frequency
- Sum the amplitude of the Beat-note over a long time
- Integrate over time to shrink frequency bin



LO: Local Oscillator



$$V(t) = GP_{sig} + GP_{LO} + 2G \sqrt{P_{sig}P_{LO}} \cos(2\pi f_1 t + \Delta\phi)$$
$$\Delta\phi = \phi_{sig} - \phi_{LO}$$

# Ultra-low power detector

## Advantages, costs and difficulties

### Advantages

- If the  $P_{LO}$  is large enough, the system noise is dominated by the shot-noise
  - SNR no longer depend on the LO power

$$SNR \propto \frac{\sqrt{P_{sig} P_{LO}}}{\sqrt{P_{LO}}} = \sqrt{P_{sig}}$$



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- Keep  $\Delta\phi$  constant
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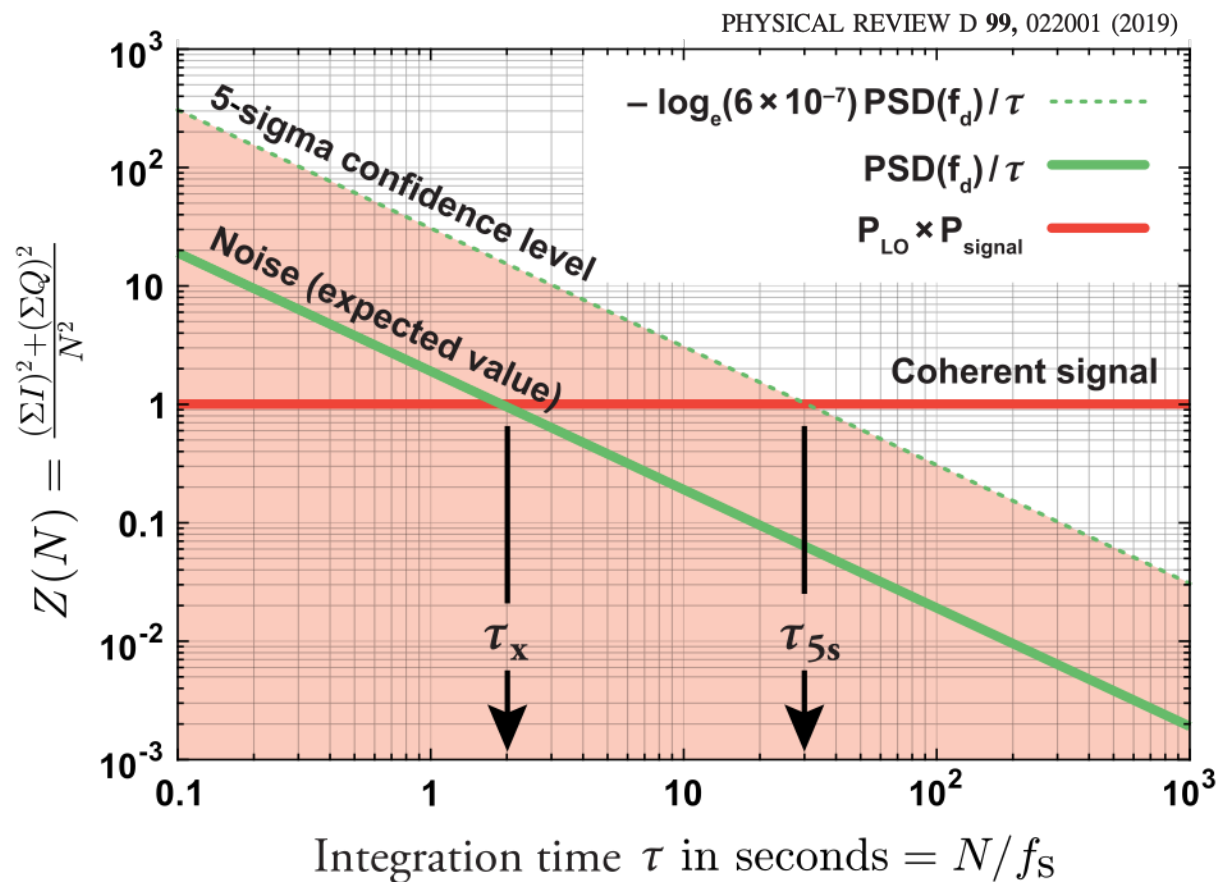
### Difficulties

- Environmental Conditions: Humidity, temperature, ...
  - affect the stability and accuracy of the measurements
- Mechanical Stability
  - Any vibrations, structural deformations, or movements in the setup can introduce noise and distort the measurement data.



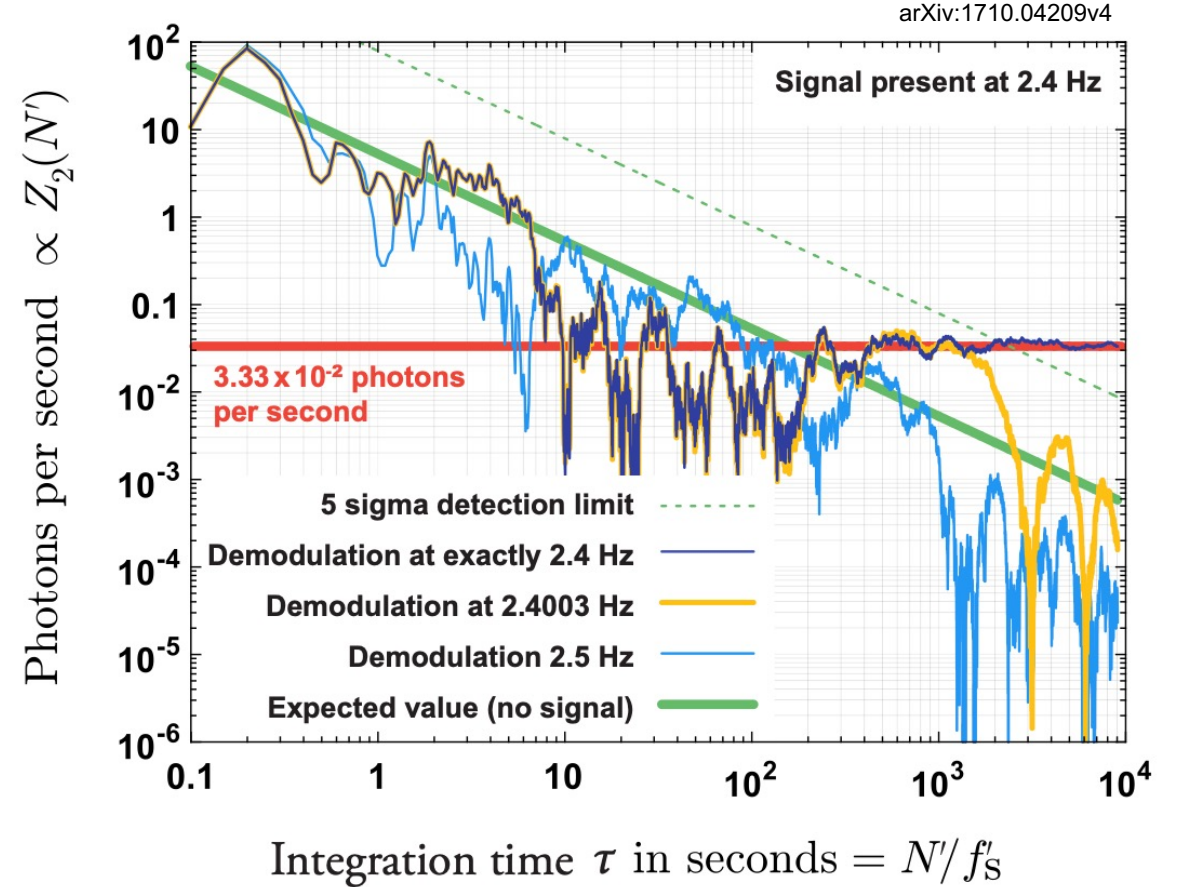
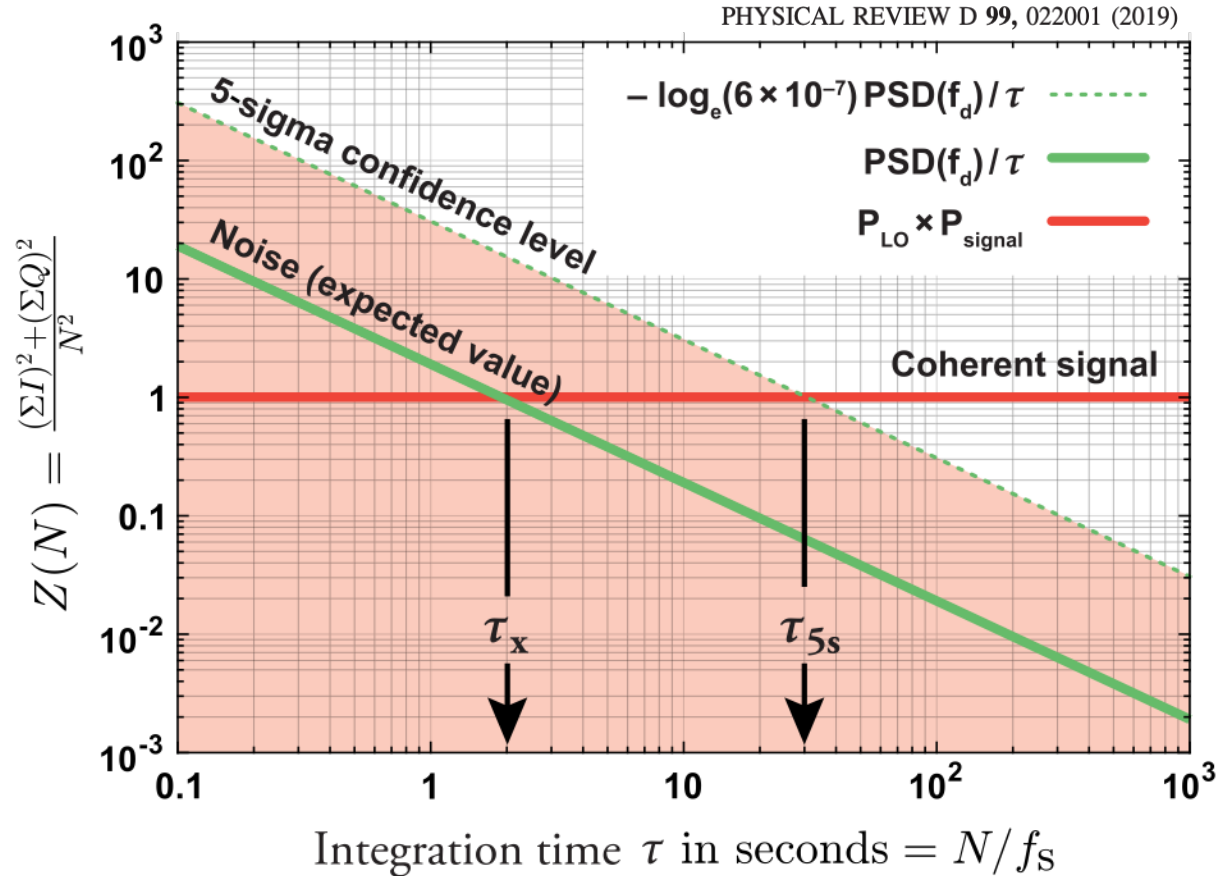
# Ultra-low power detector

## HETerodyne sensing signature



# Ultra-low power detector

## HETerodyne sensing signature

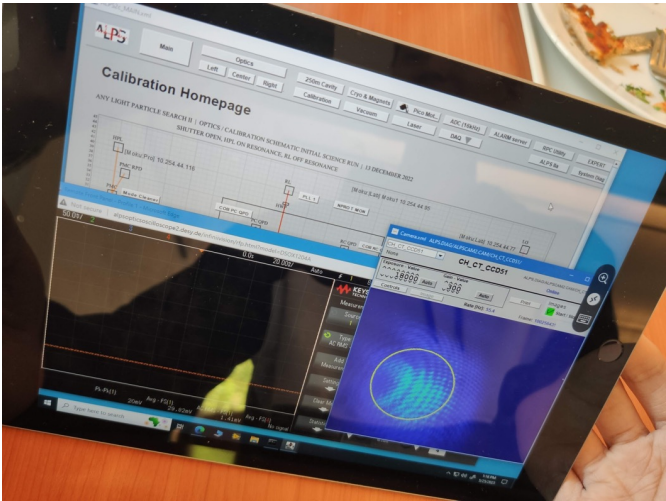


- Demonstrated  $10^{-5} \gamma/s$  PHYSICAL REVIEW D 99, 022001 (2019)
  - Limited by extrinsic noise
- ALPS II can be limited by only the intrinsic noise (shot-noise) increasing the  $P_{LO}$



# Initial science run

May 23rd to May 31st

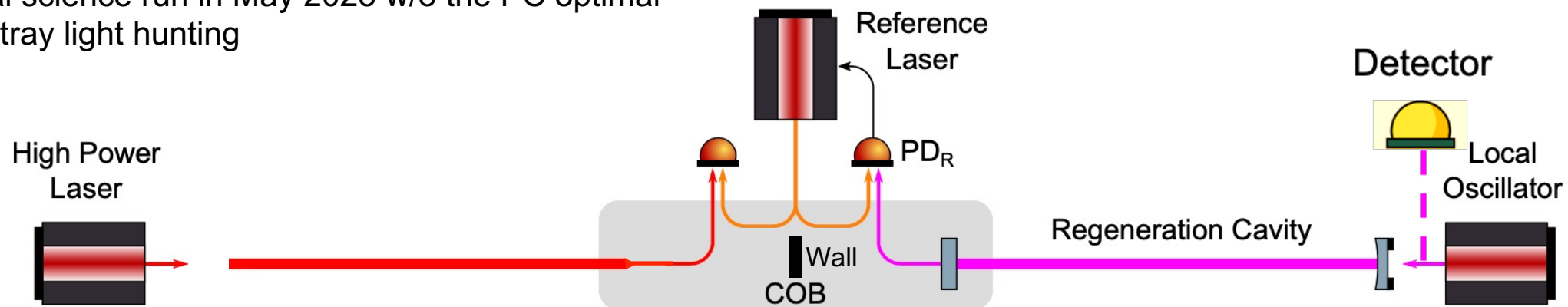




# Optic system

## Initial science run

- Initial science run in May 2023 w/o the PC optimal for stray light hunting

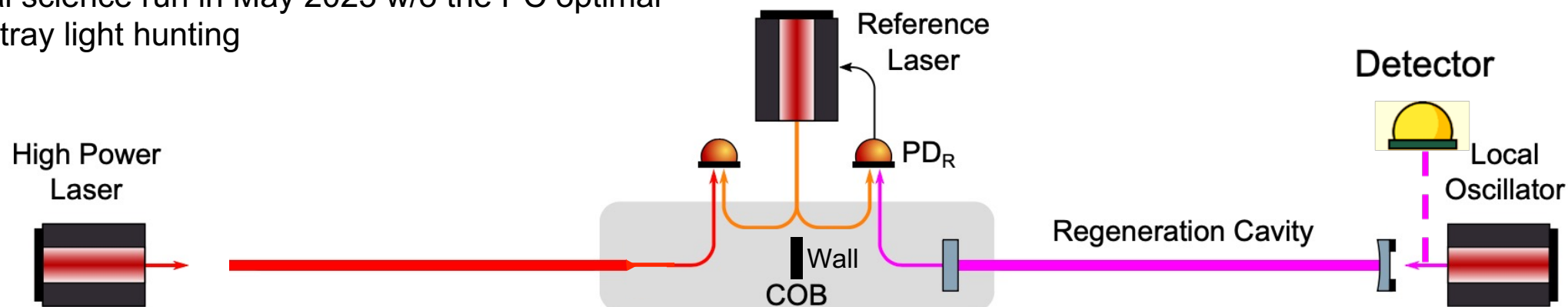




# Optic system

## Initial science run

- Initial science run in May 2023 w/o the PC optimal for stray light hunting



### Phase stability as a **key detection point**

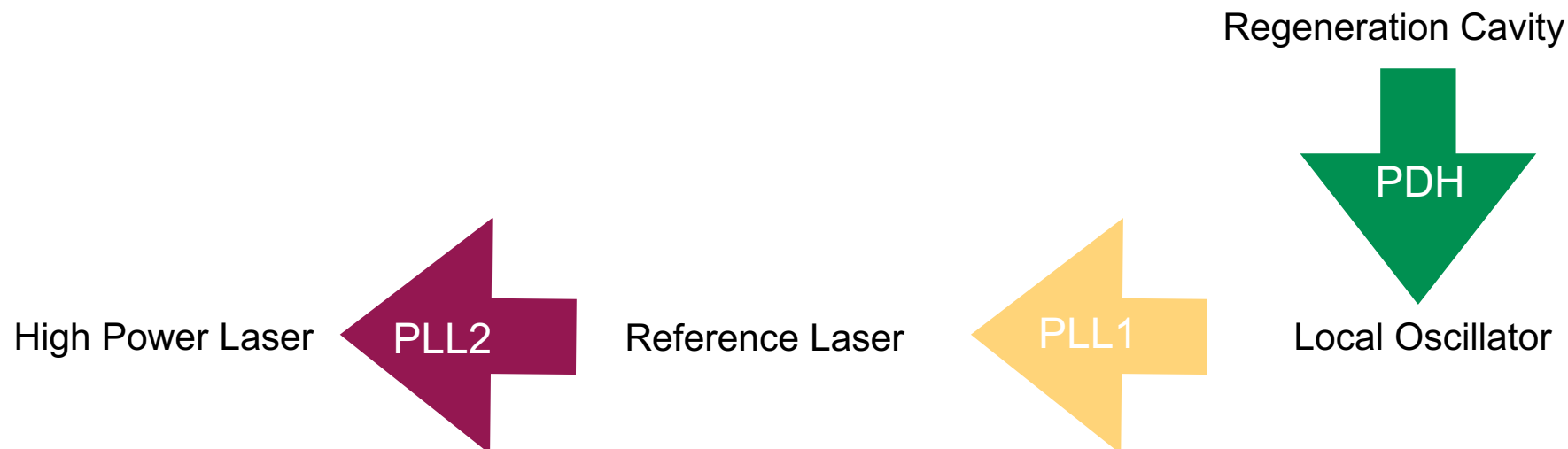
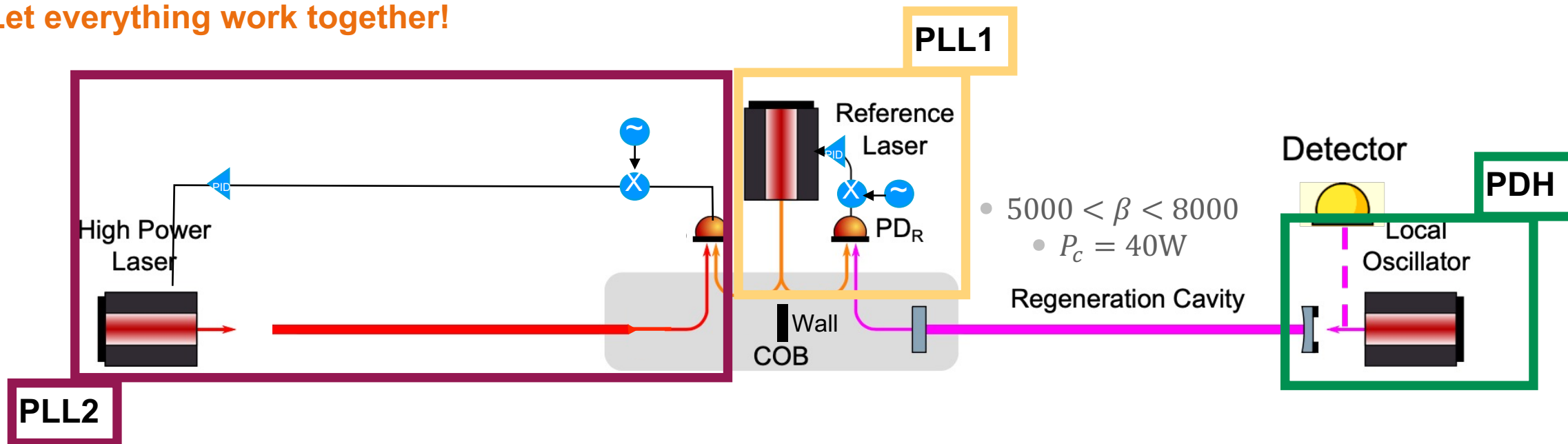
- Demodulation signal must be coherent with the measured signal
- LO must be coherent with regenerated field
  - HPL must be coherent with LO over the full run

### Resonant Enhancement

- Amplification of regeneration cavity (RC) only works if the regenerated field is resonant
- Cannot directly interfere HPL and LO fields → too much stray light!
- Use of a reference laser with cascaded phase-locked loops as a “go-between” → HPL and LO never see each other directly

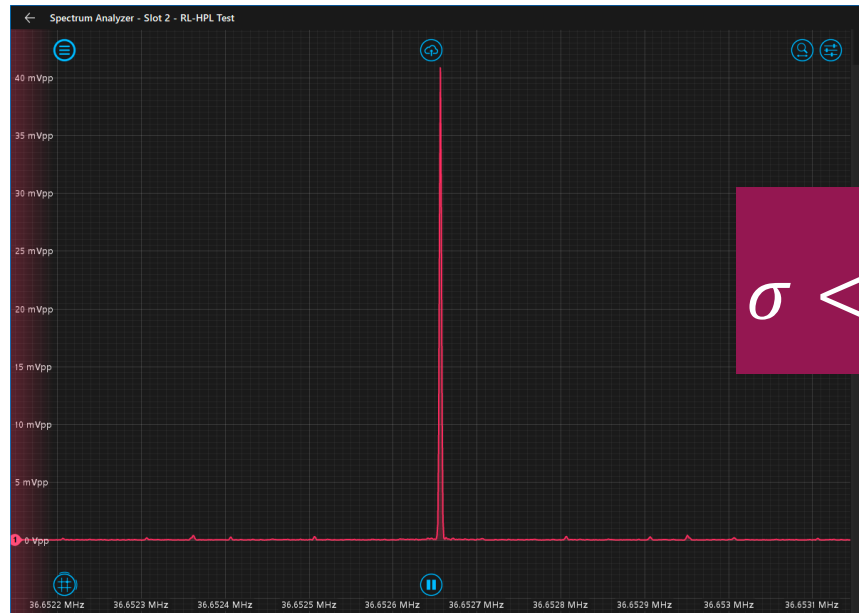
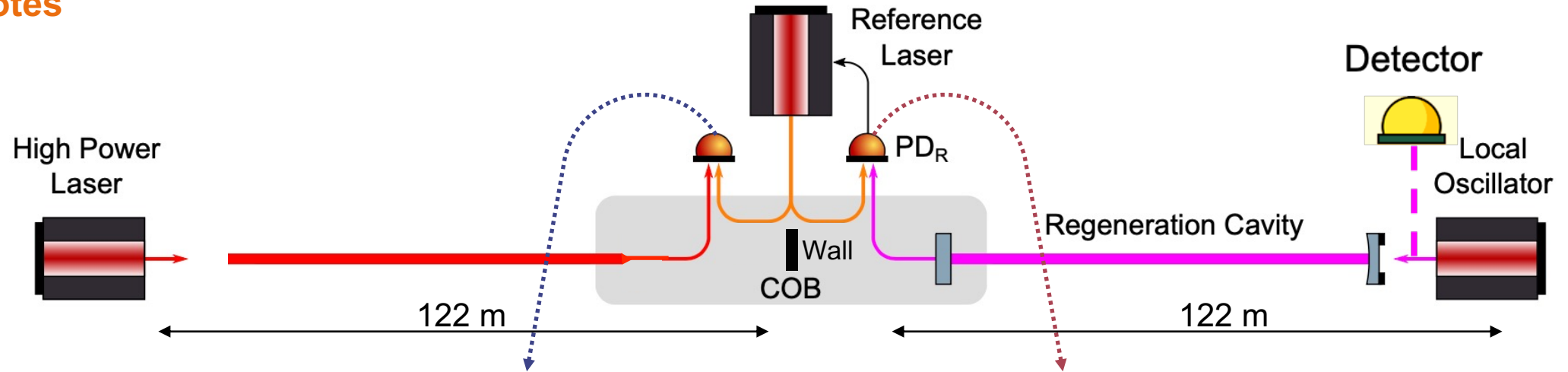
# Control system

Let everything work together!

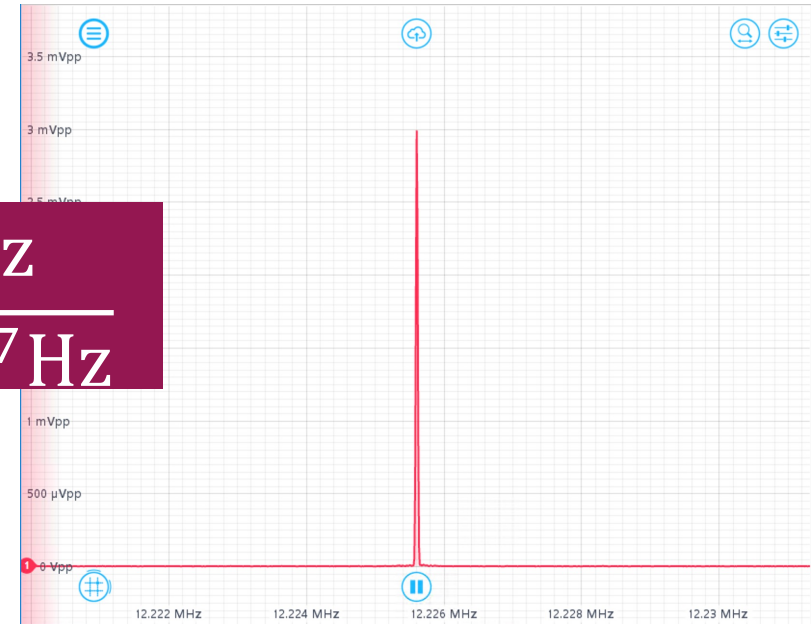


# ALPS II's initial science run scheme

## Beat notes



$$\sigma < \frac{\mu\text{Hz}}{\sim 10^7\text{Hz}}$$

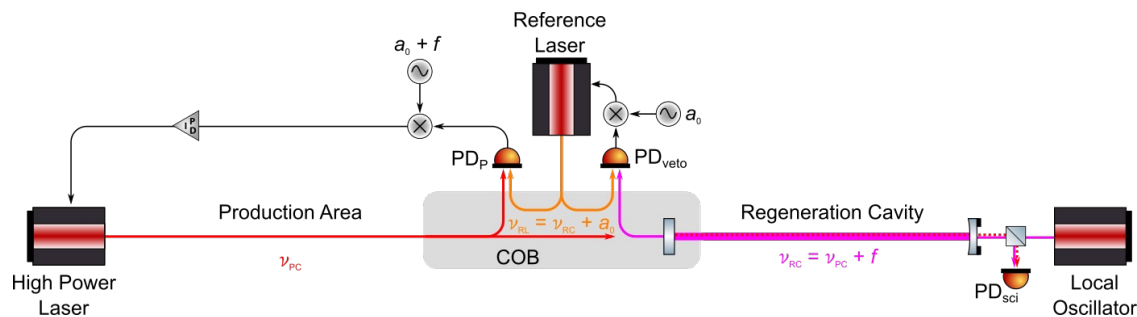


# Open Shutter Runs

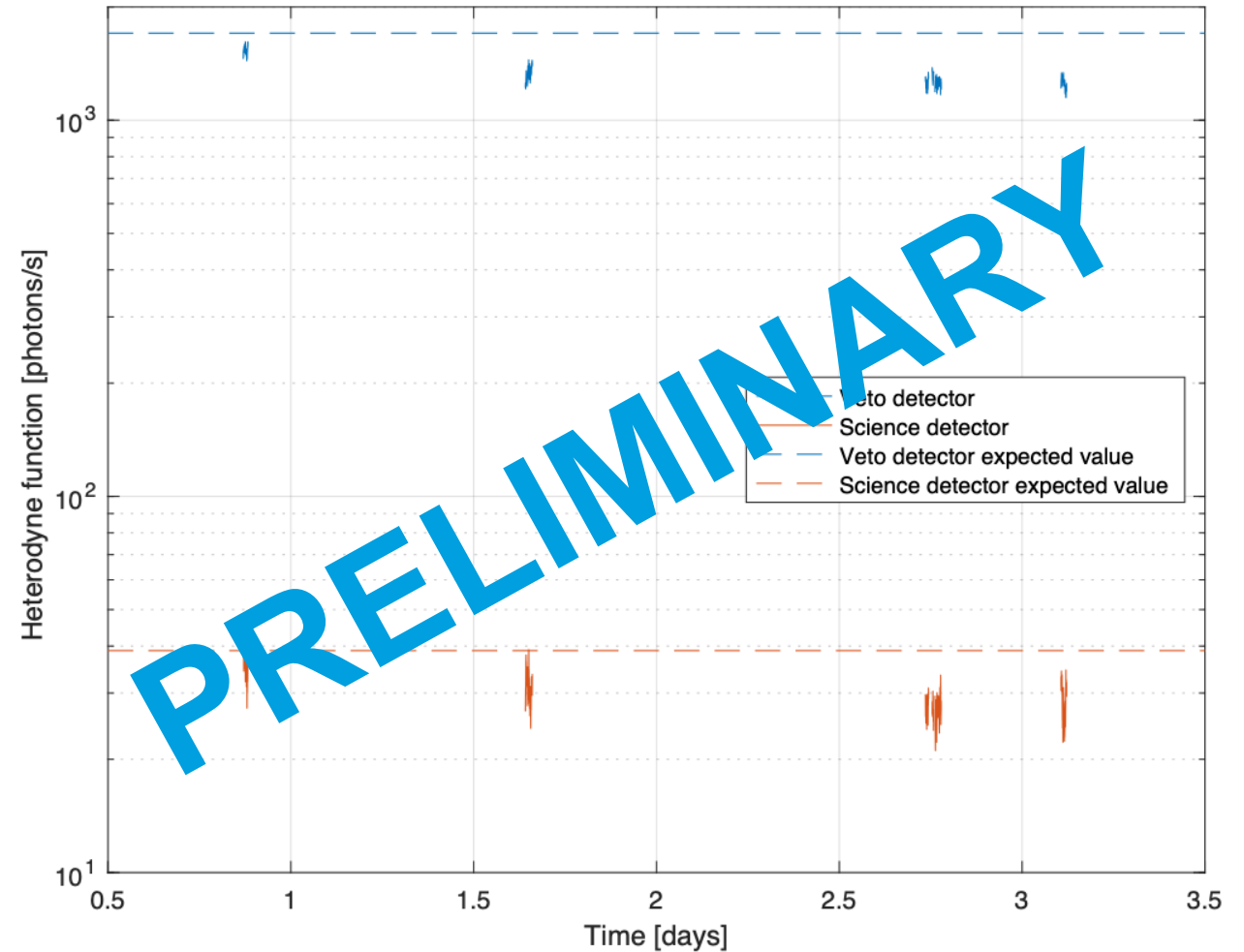
## Calibrating our sensitivity

### Assessing the HPL-RC coupling

- Start with raw HET function data
- Scale in terms of photons/s



A.Spector, PATRAS 2023



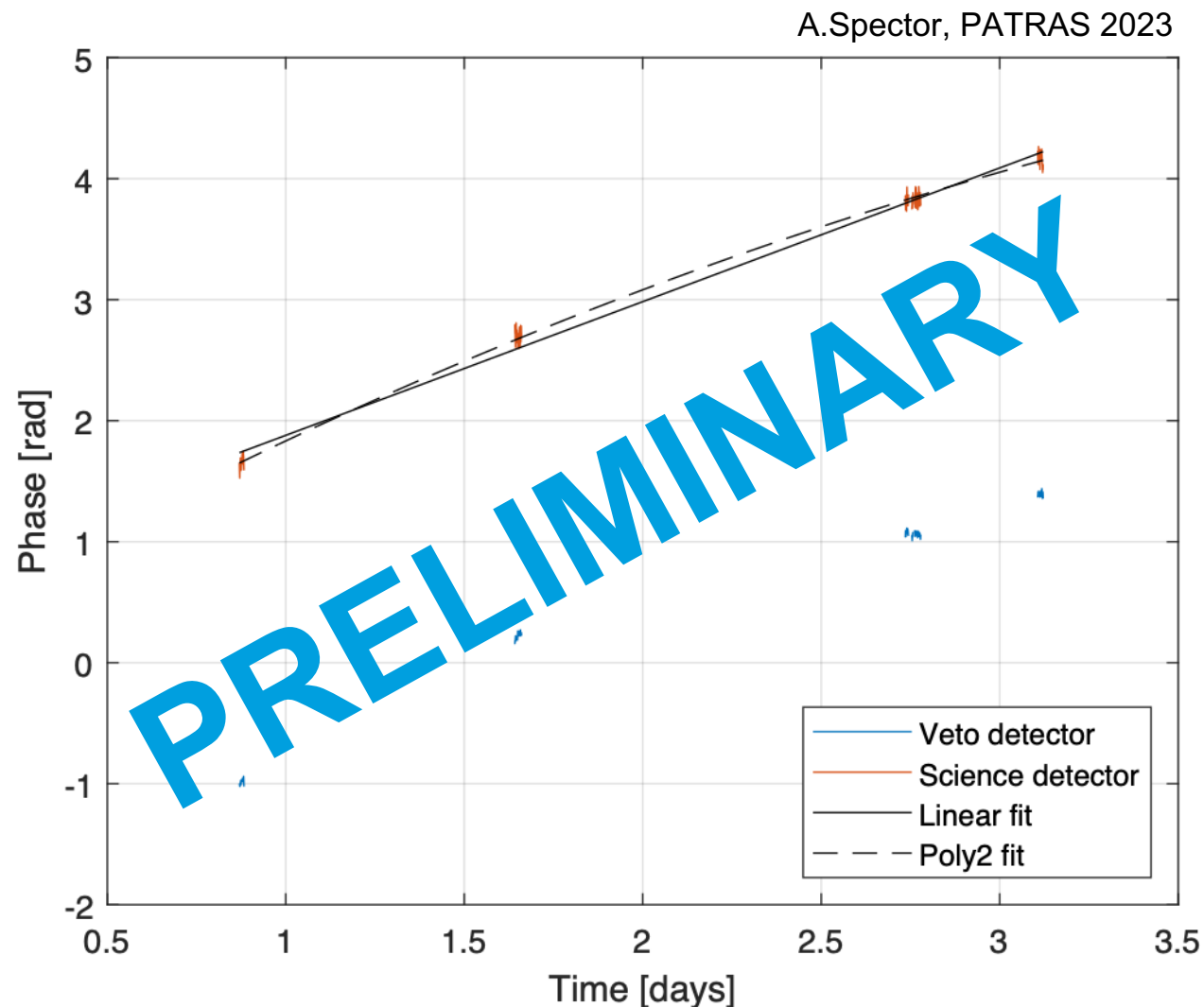
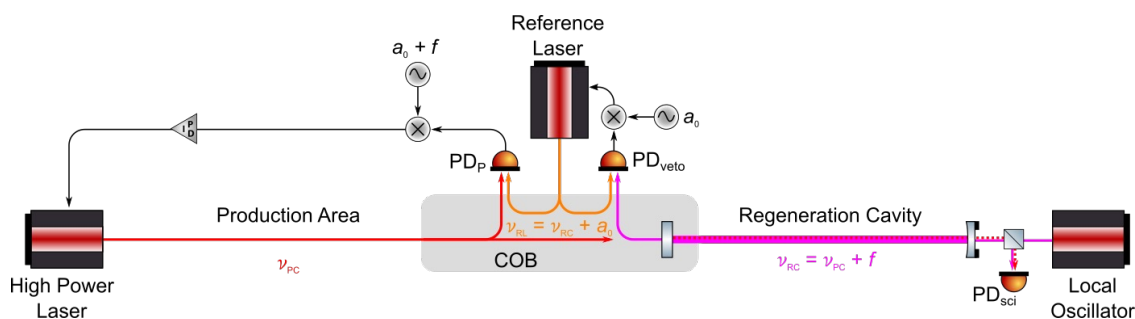


# Open Shutter Runs

## Calibrating our sensitivity

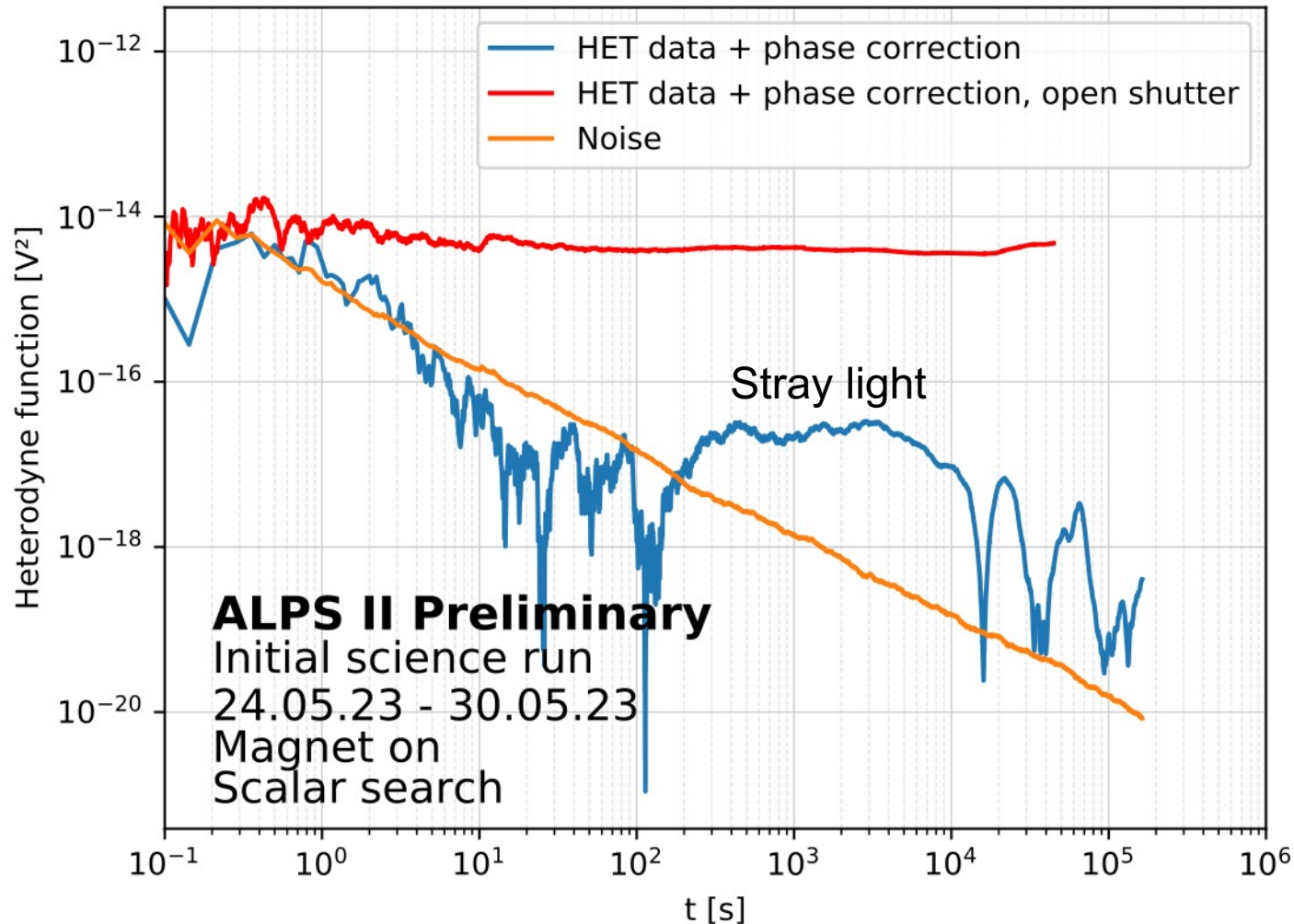
### Assessing the phase evolution of the signal

- Similar phase trend in veto and science data
  - Bit depth of frequency offsets set by FPGA
- Linear and 2nd-order polynomial fits
- Linear phase trend subtracted from data



# Heterodyne function

## Preliminary results

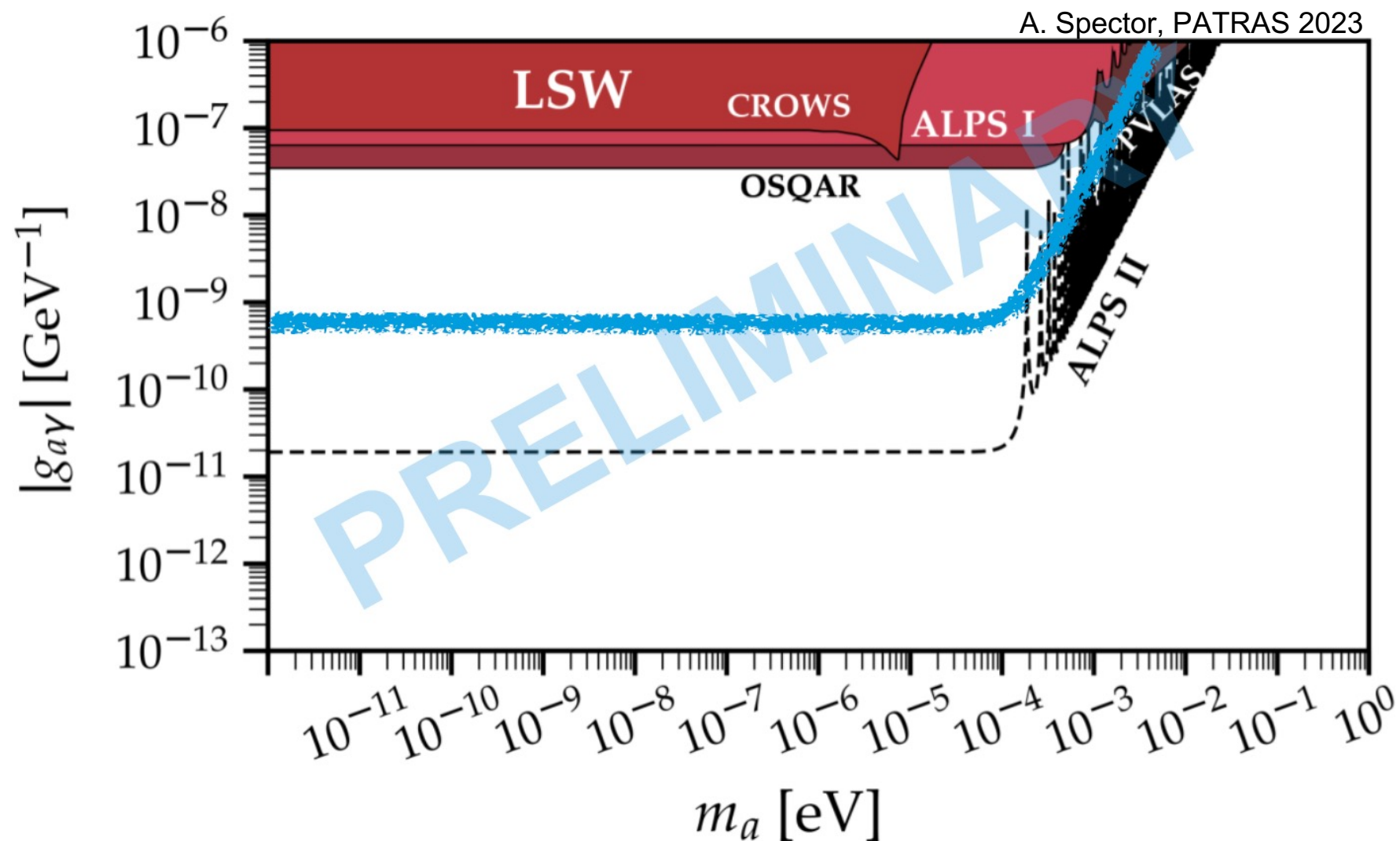


## Successfully acquired data from May 23rd to 31st

- System showed very good performance
  - $\sim 45$  hours of high-quality data
- Open shutter periods:
  - Reliable reconstruction of phase evolution
  - Monitor for some calibration parameters

# Preliminary sensitivity estimate

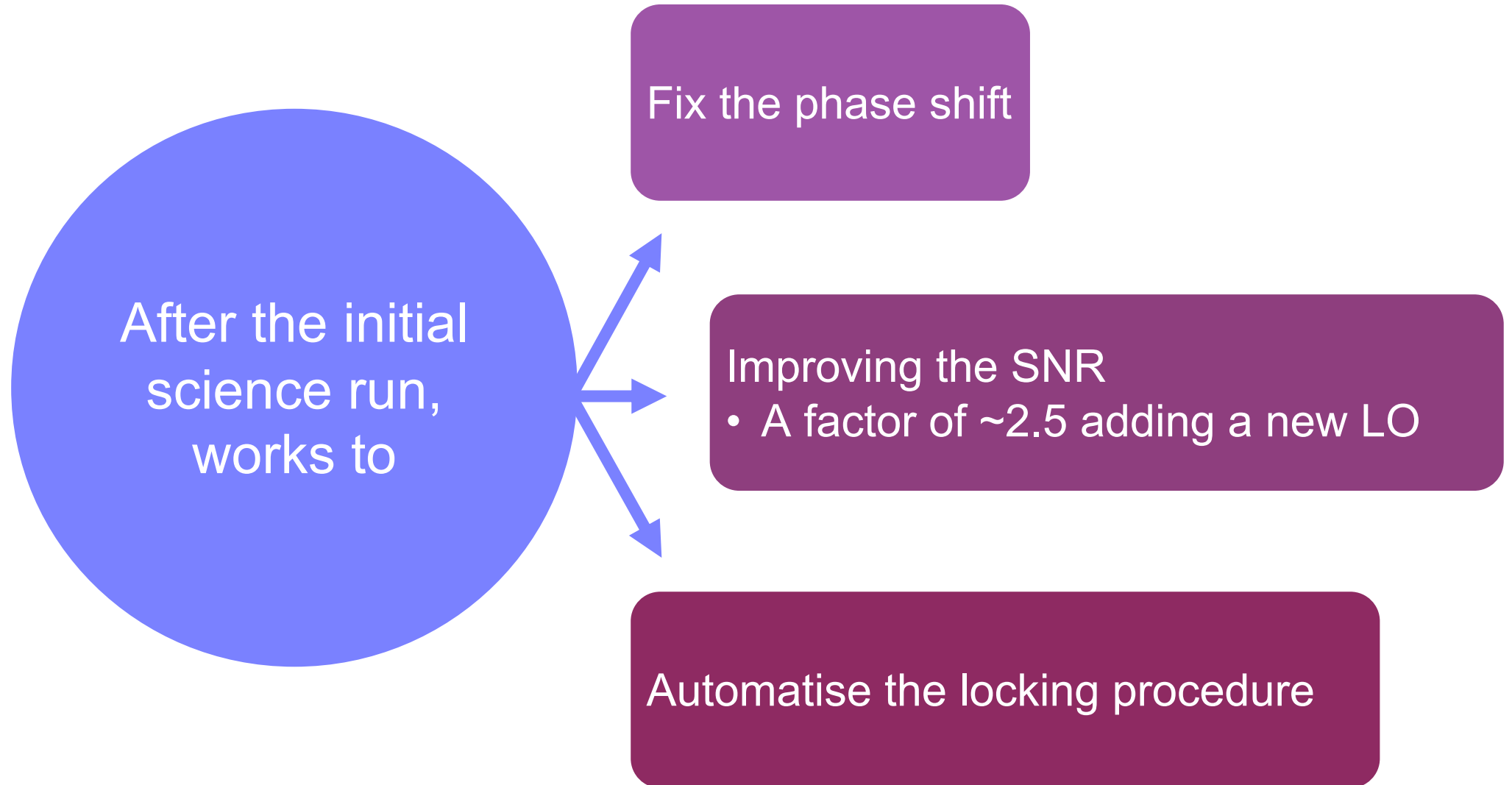
## Preliminary results



- Scalar search
- 150000 s (~45 h) integration time

# ALPS II system improvements

Toward a new data taking

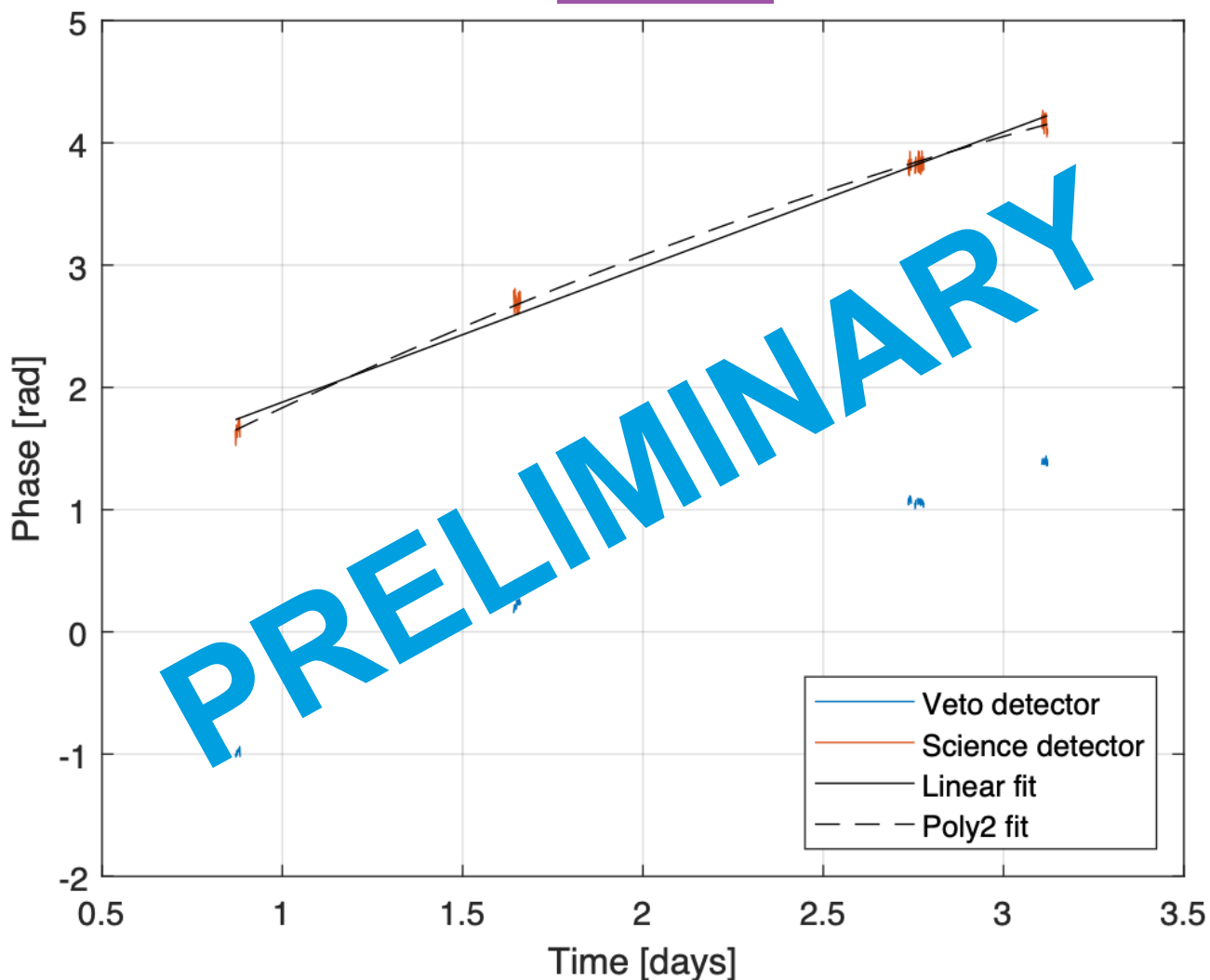




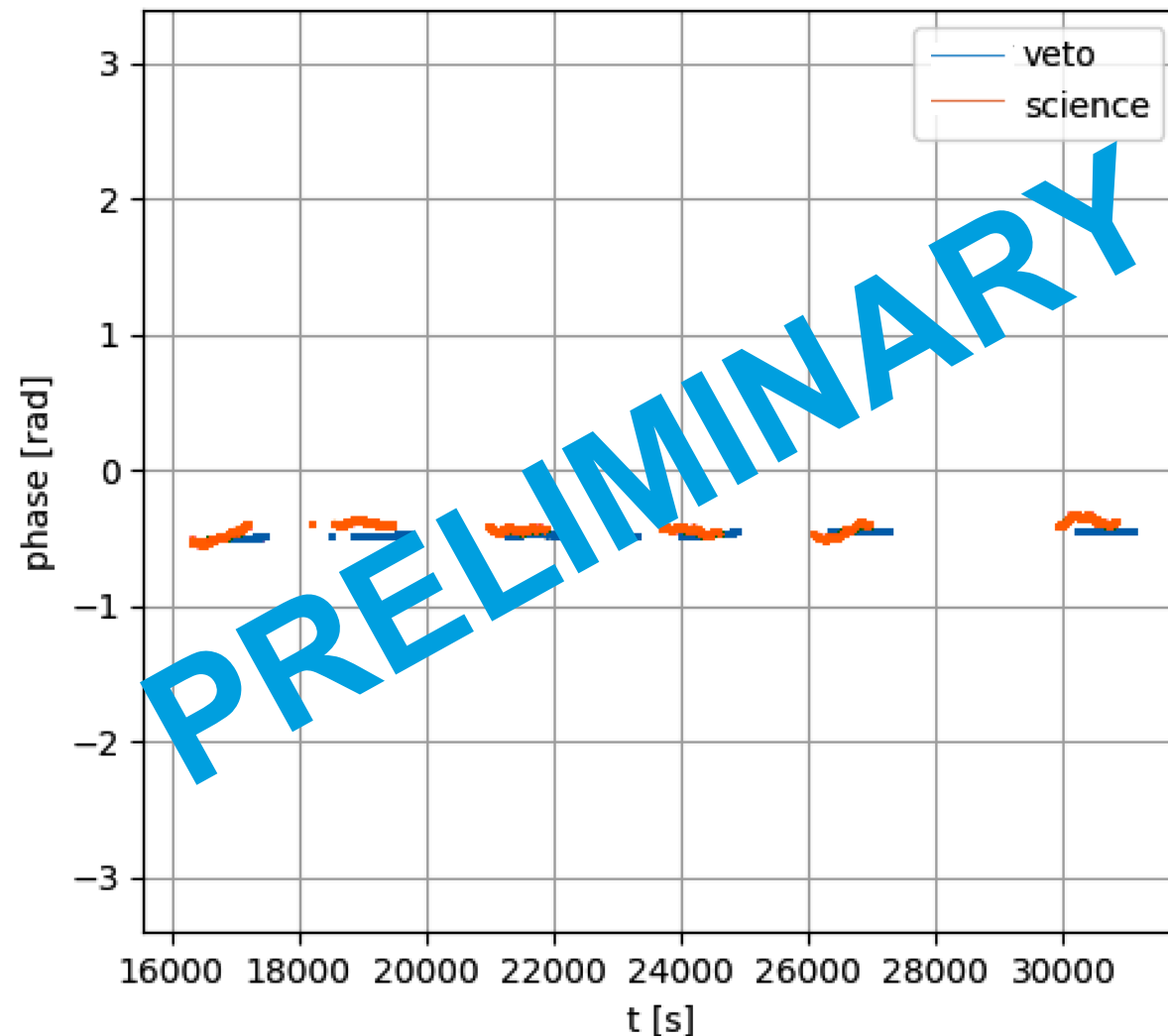
# Fix the phase shift

Toward a new data taking

May 2023



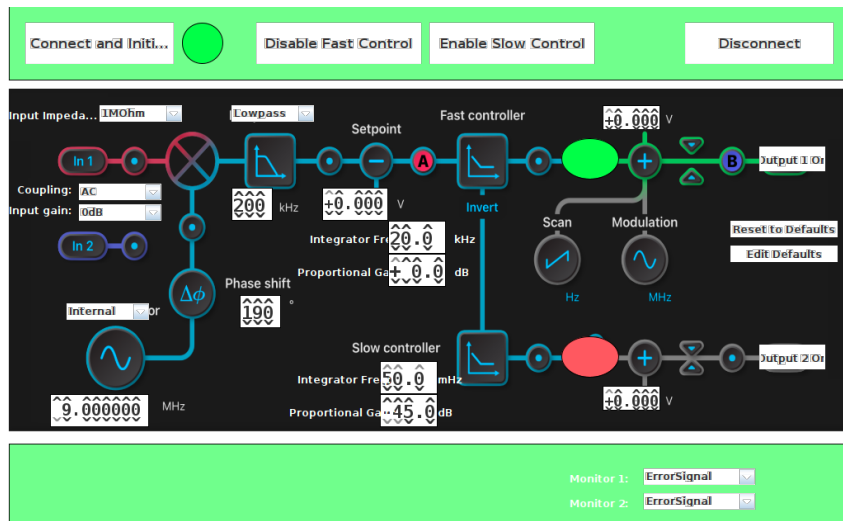
November 2023



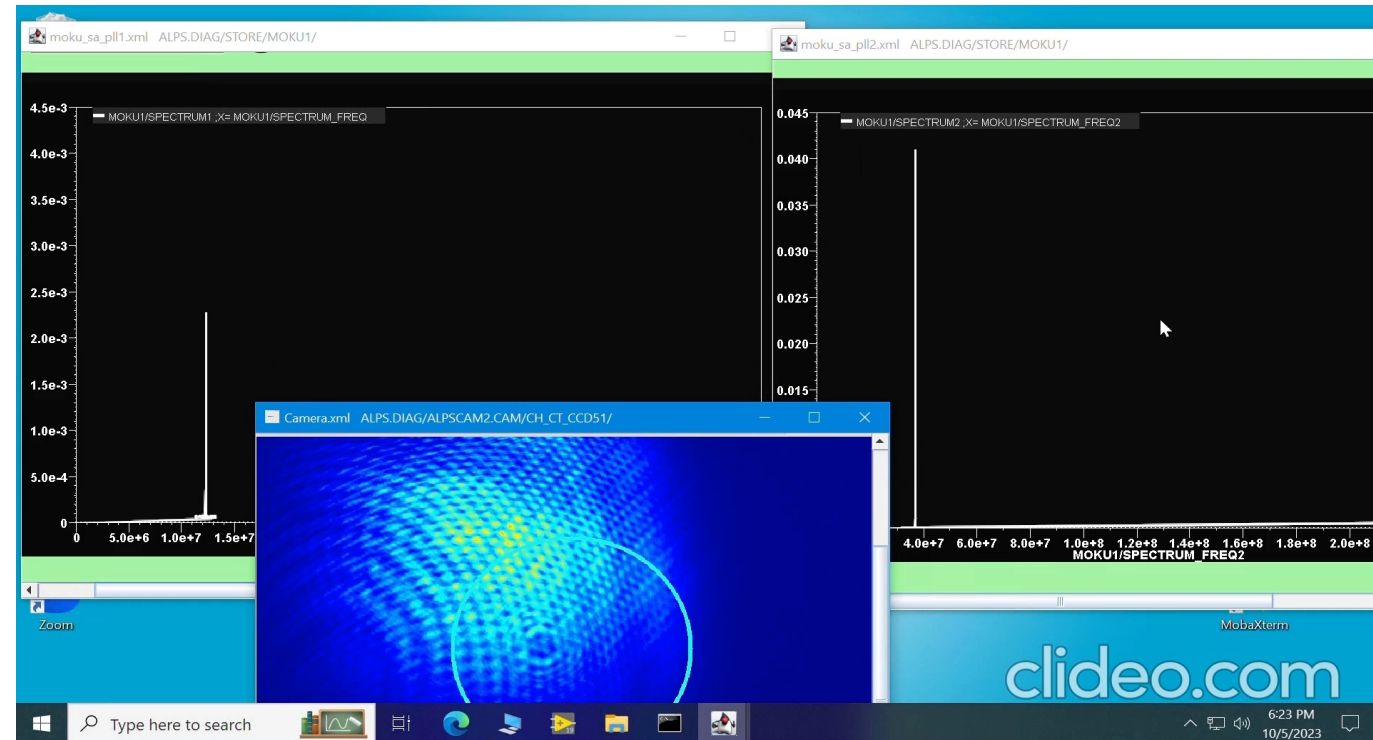
# Auto-locking

## Toward a new data taking

- Remote monitor of the control loops
- Less men power in monitoring
- Automatisations of the locking procedure
  - LO to the cavity
  - LO to RL
  - HPL to RL
- Continuous monitoring of calibration parameters
- Automatisations of the run procedure



24/24 h, 7/7 days beat note monitoring



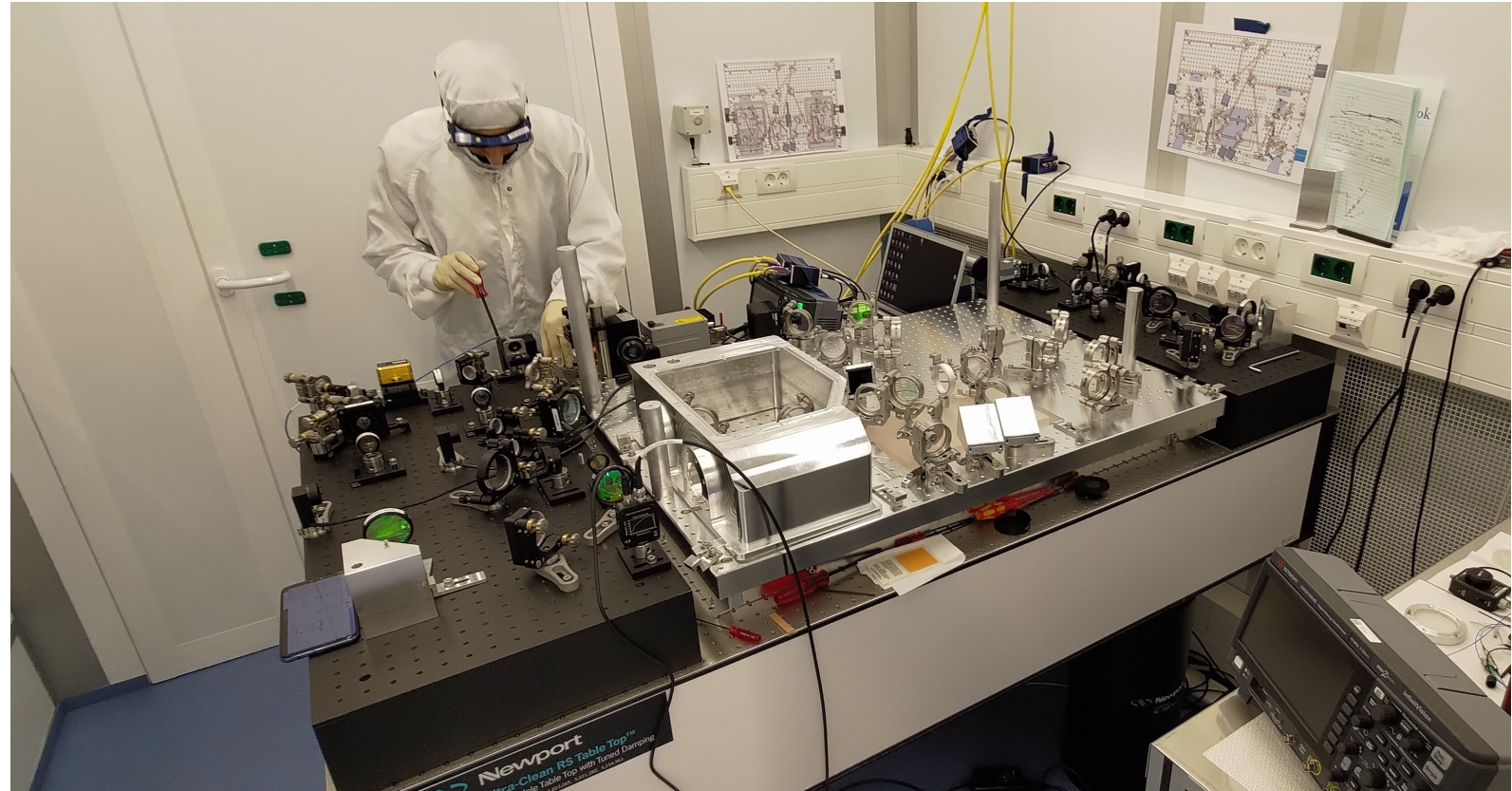
Demonstrated duty-cycle ~92%

Average locking procedure ~ 5 min

# New data taking

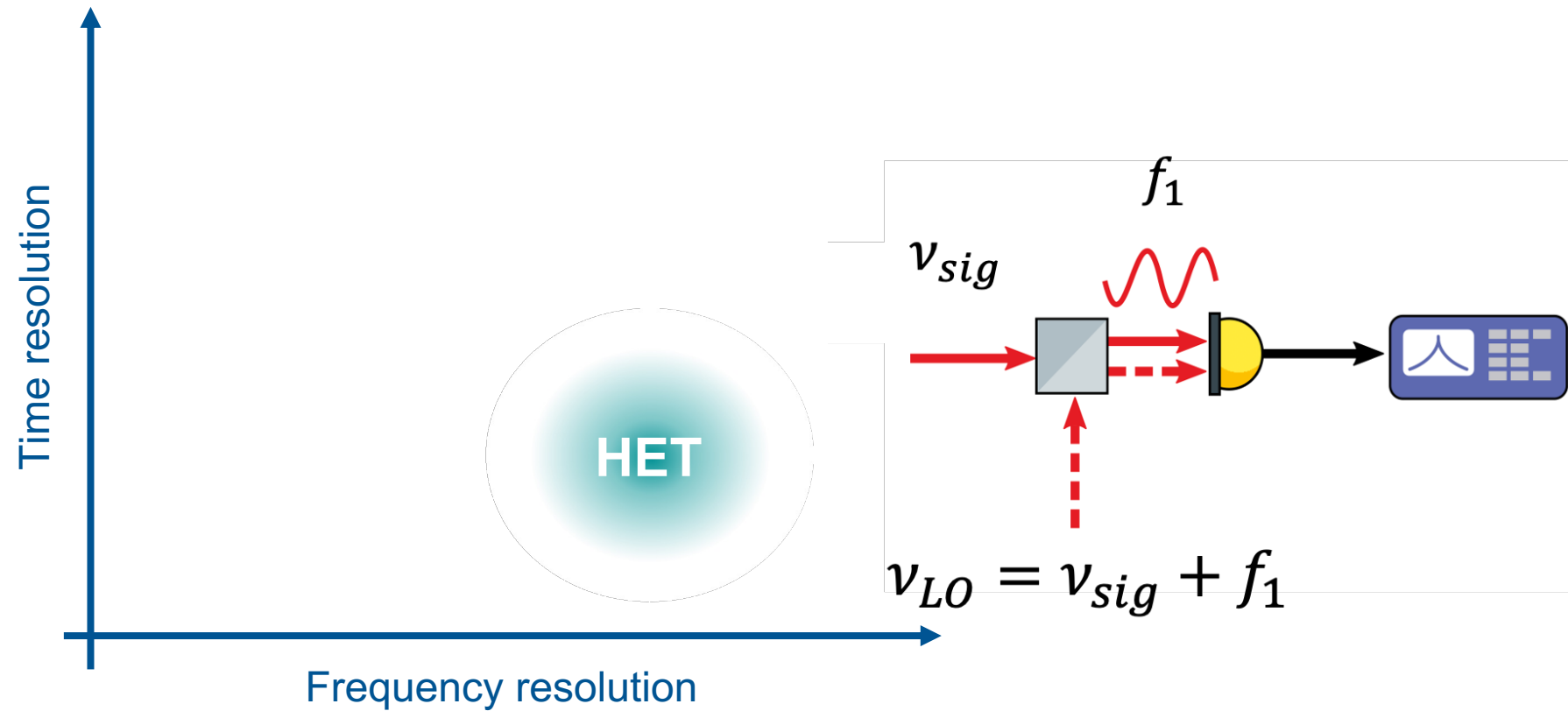
Starting from 3rd November 2023

- A new data taking with an improved system is taking place
- 1,000,000 seconds run
  - No more limited by stray-light



# Regenerated photon detection

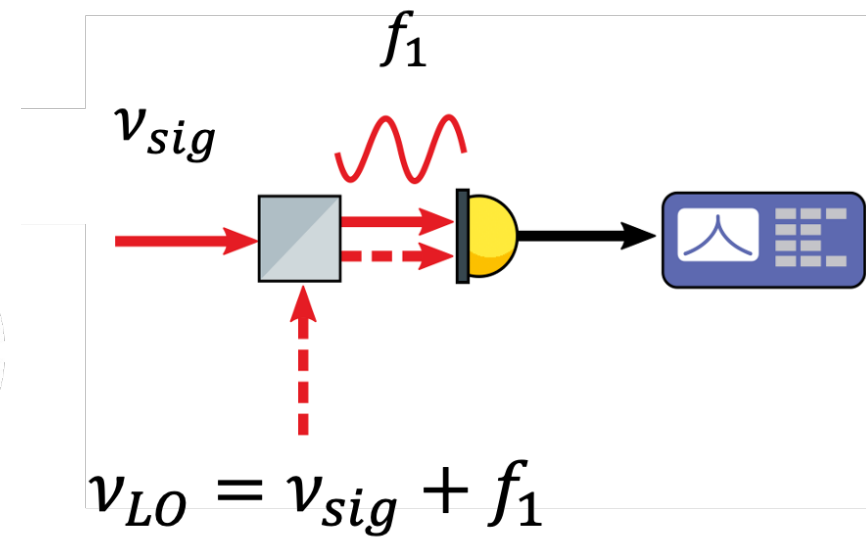
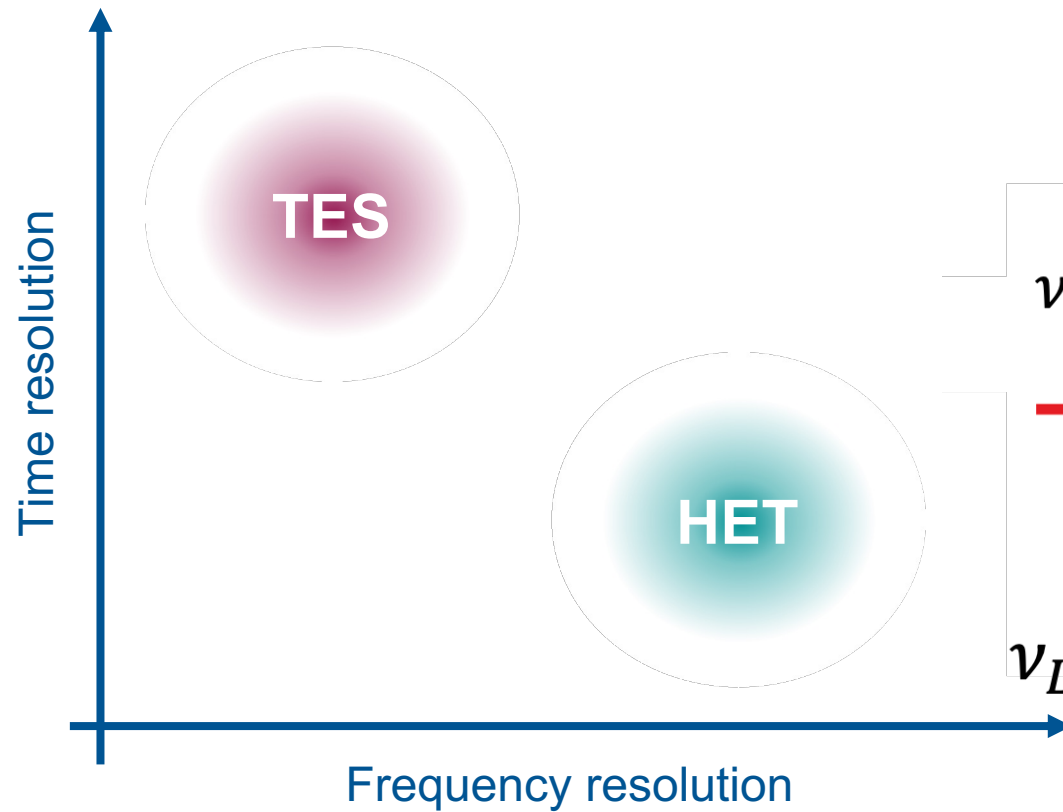
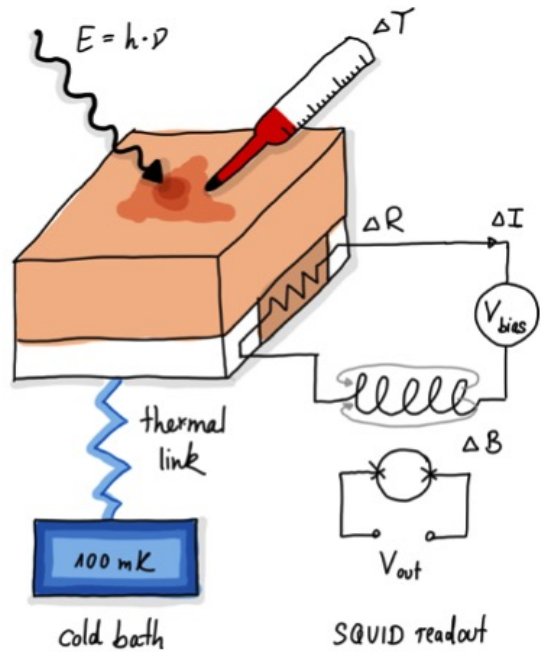
Exploiting two different techniques





# Regenerated photon detection

Exploiting two different techniques



# TES

## Transition Edge Sensor

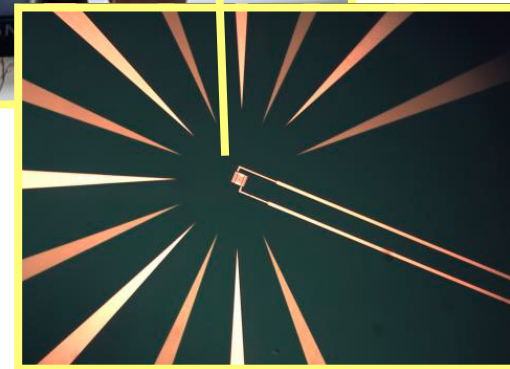
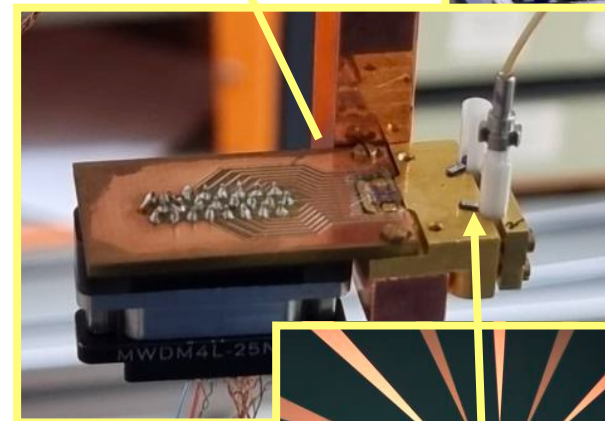
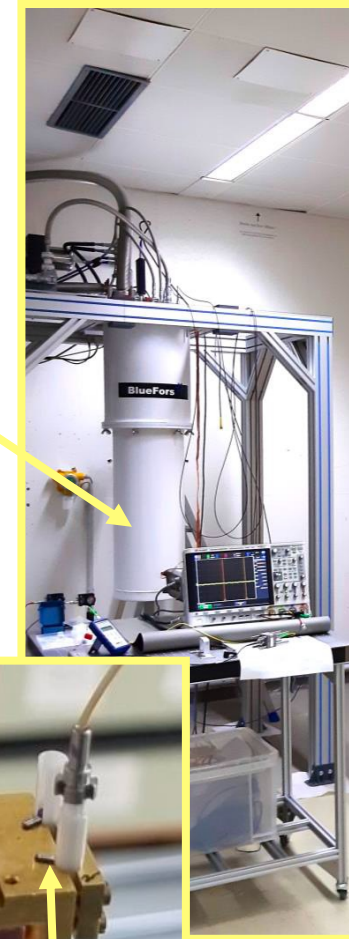
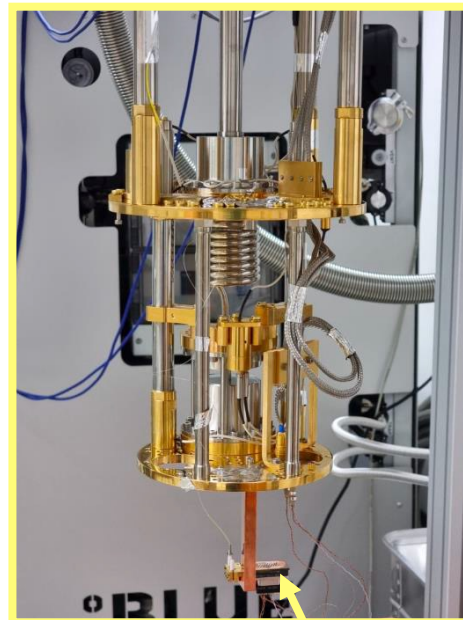
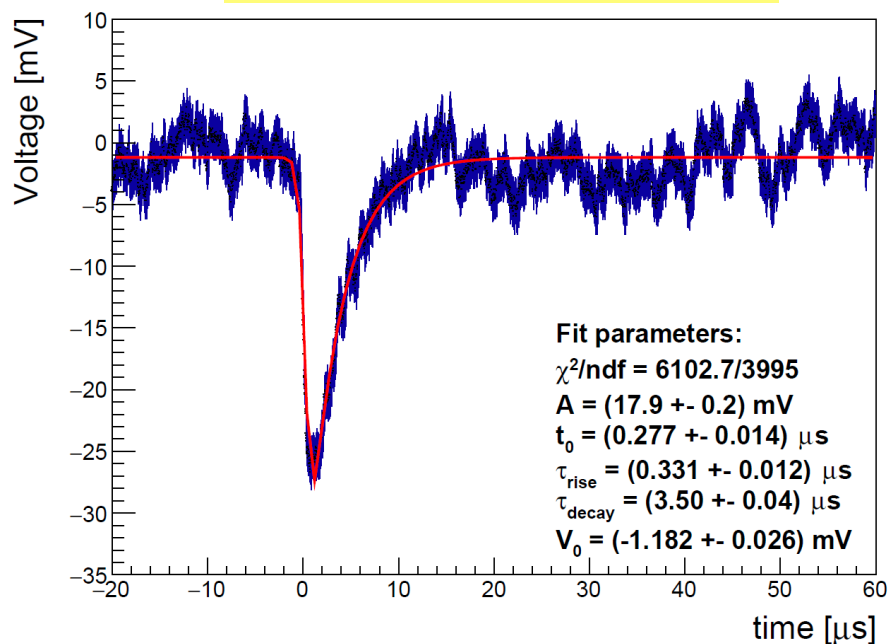
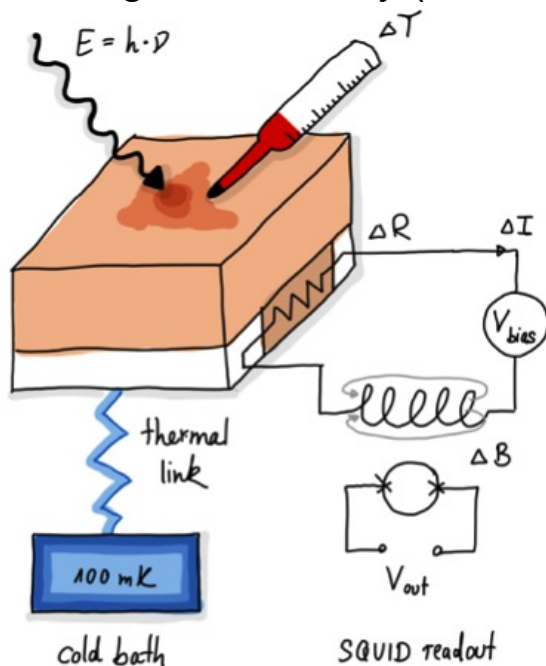
- Using a superconducting Transition Edge Sensor (TES) operated at about 100 mK.

- Already have demonstrated:

- Low-backgrounds ( $\mu\text{Hz}$ )
- Good energy resolution ( $\sim 10\%$ )
- Long-term stability ( $\sim 20$  days)

A tungsten microchip provided by NIST and a SQUID readout by PTB ( $25\mu\text{m} \times 25\mu\text{m} \times 20\text{nm}$ ) operated in the transition region ( $\sim 140\text{mK}$ )

TES data-taking requires a different optics setup.



# TES

## Transition Edge Sensor

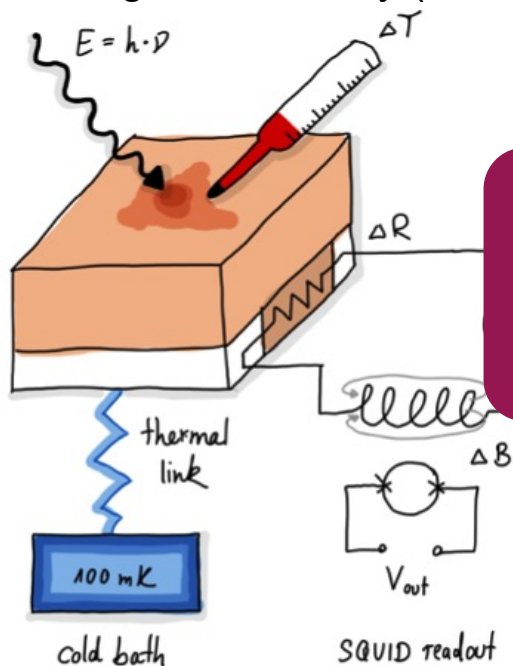
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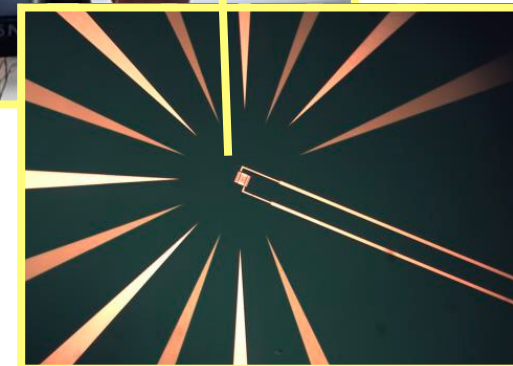
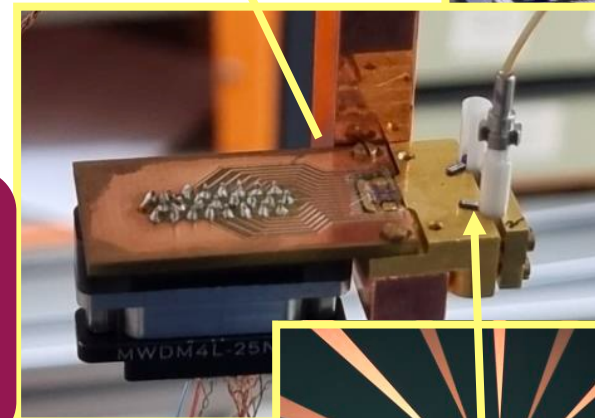
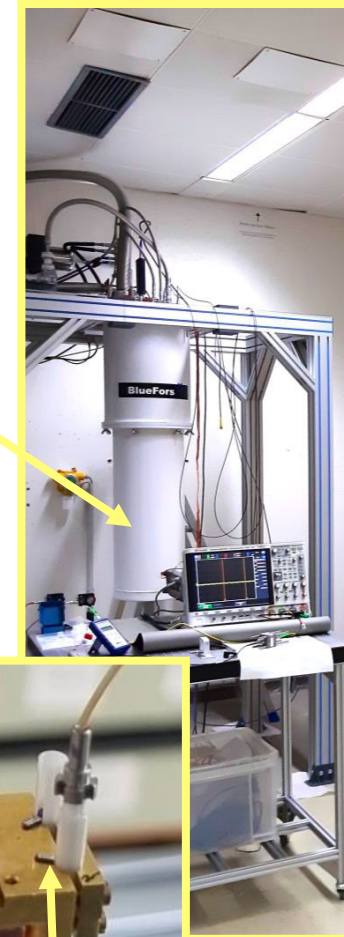
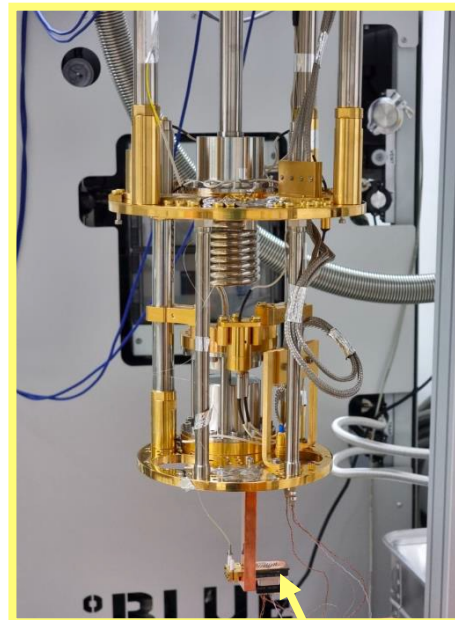
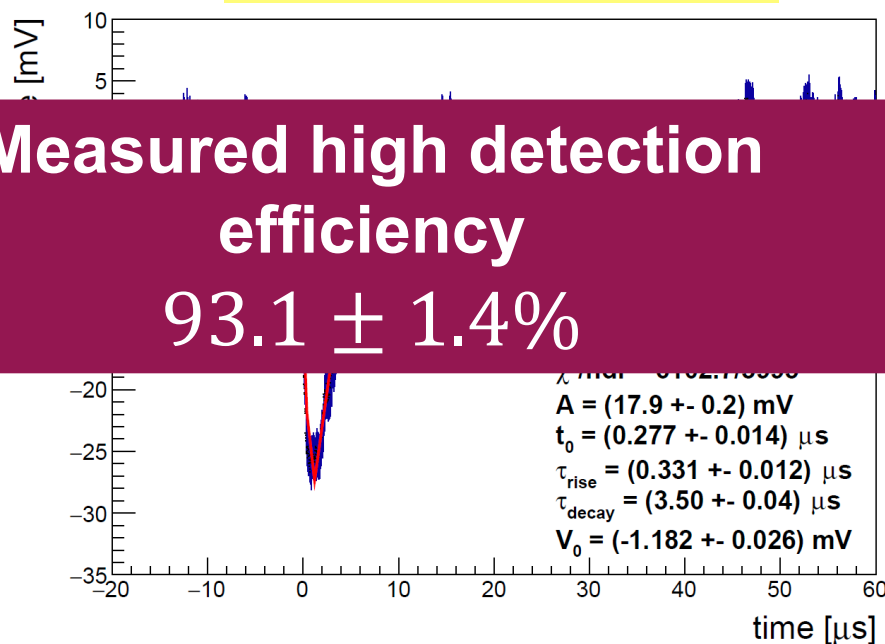
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TES data-taking requires a different optics setup.



Measured high detection efficiency  
 $93.1 \pm 1.4\%$





# Next steps



Scalar search: 1,000,000 seconds

Pseudoscalar search: 1,000,000 seconds

Production cavity installation

# Conclusion

- LSW: Searching for axion and axion-like particles in a model-independent way
- During the initial run, we learned a lot:
  - Correction of the phase shift
  - Implementation of a second LO to improve the SNR
  - Full automatisisation of the system
- The initial science run data improves the sensitivity by a factor of 30 to previous LSW experiments in the scalar search
- A new data taking is ongoing with an improved system
- The full setup of ALPS II will be installed in 2024, design sensitivity will be reached in 2025



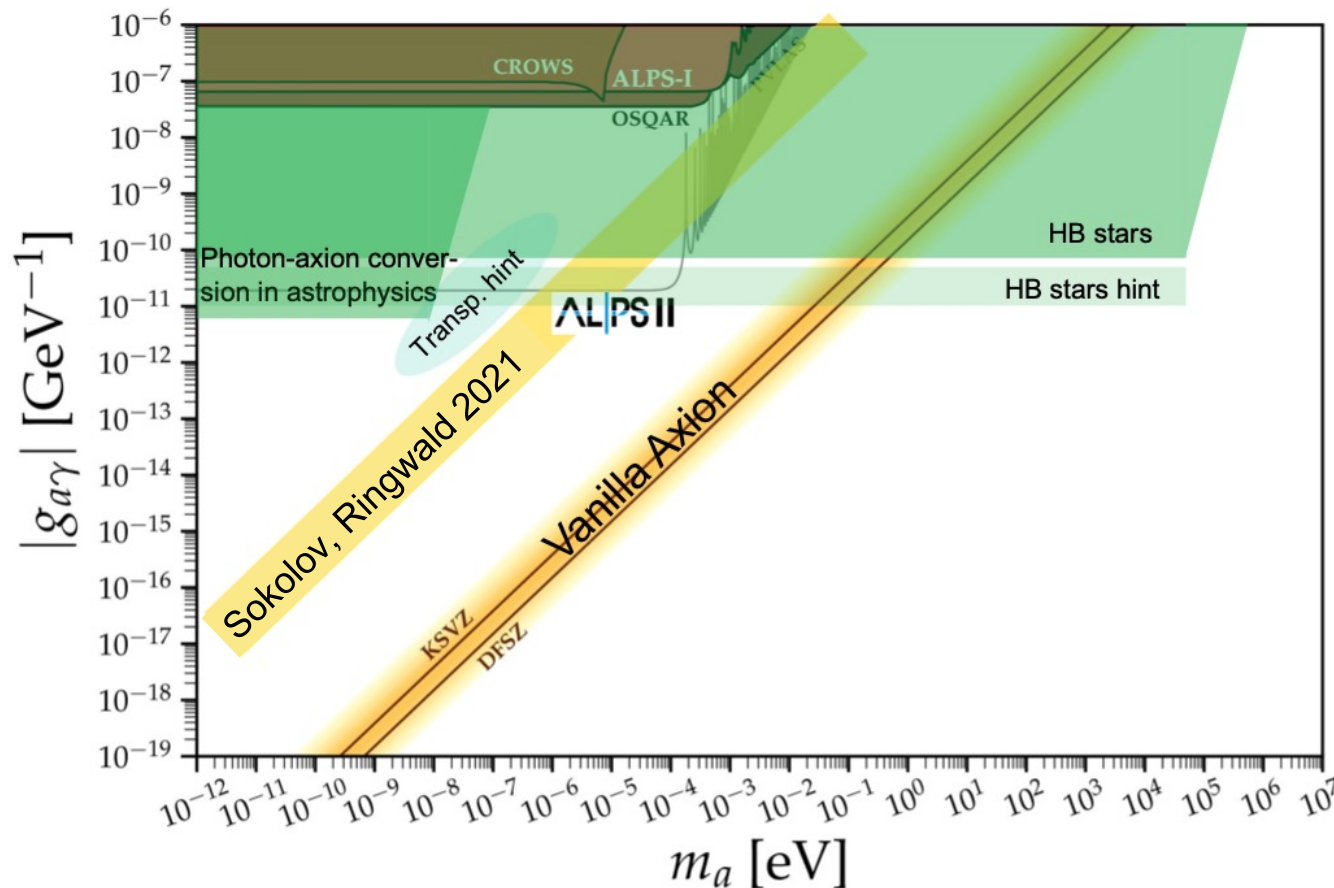
# Backup

# ALPS II

## Strengths

ALPS II designed to improve sensitivity compared to ALPS I by a factor of  $\sim 3000$

- Exploring uncharted territory in parameter space, beyond astrophysical constraints
- Checking axion explanation of astrophysical anomalies



- Astrophysical constraints
  - Non-observation of BSM energy loss of Horizontal Branch (HB) stars in globular clusters
  - Non-observation of conversion photons into axions in astrophysical environments
- Astrophysical anomalies
  - Best fit of energy loss of (HB) stars hints at BSM contribution
  - Observed spectra of blazars hint at anomalous transparency of Universe from TeV photons



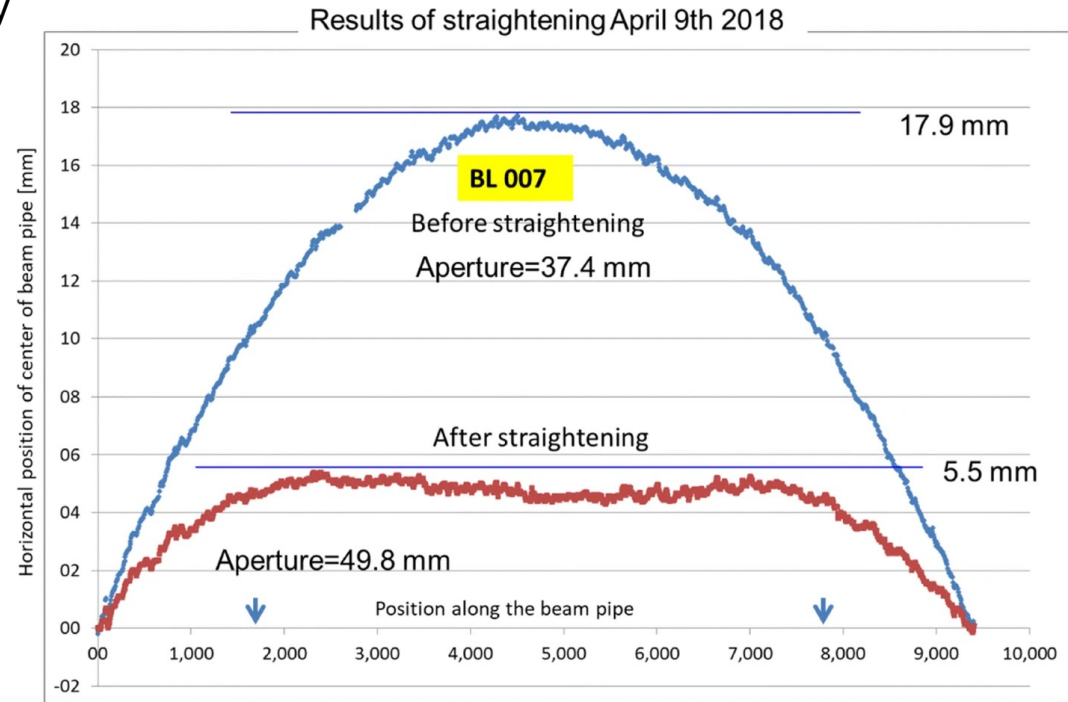
# Magnets

## The axion makers



Albrecht, C., Barbanotti, S., Hintz, H. *et al.* Straightening of superconducting HERA dipoles for the any-light-particle-search experiment ALPS II. *EPJ Techn Instrum* 8, 5 (2021).

- 24 (2 x 12) repurposed HERA dipole magnets successfully straightened, current- and quench-tested, aligned and operational
- 5.3 T field strength at nominal 5700 A
- Expanded beam tube aperture allows for longer optical cavities → improved sensitivity



# Optimal storage time for SNR

## Balancing power buildup with technical noise

### Cavity impedance matching

- At ~7.8 ms no LO laser light is reflected from RC
  - Technical noise
- Ideal working point is currently at ~5.3 ms
- Additional non-resonant LO laser solves this

