

The experiment

Jaime Ruz on behalf of the IAXO
Collaboration

February 1-2, 2024

Hamburg, Germany

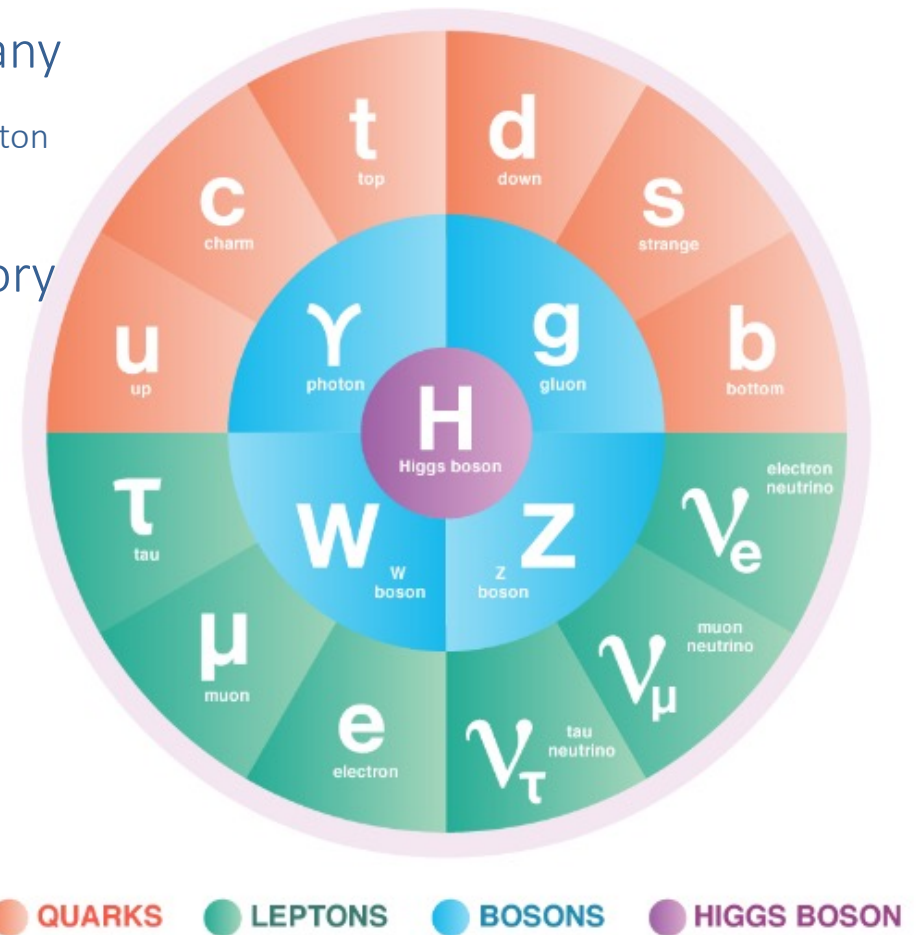
Outline

1. Standard Model, Strong CP and Dark Matter
2. The Axion
3. Detection of Axions. Solar Axion Searches
4. IAXO and BabyIAXO
5. Conclusions

Standard Model, strong CP

STANDARD MODEL (SM) OF PARTICLE PHYSICS

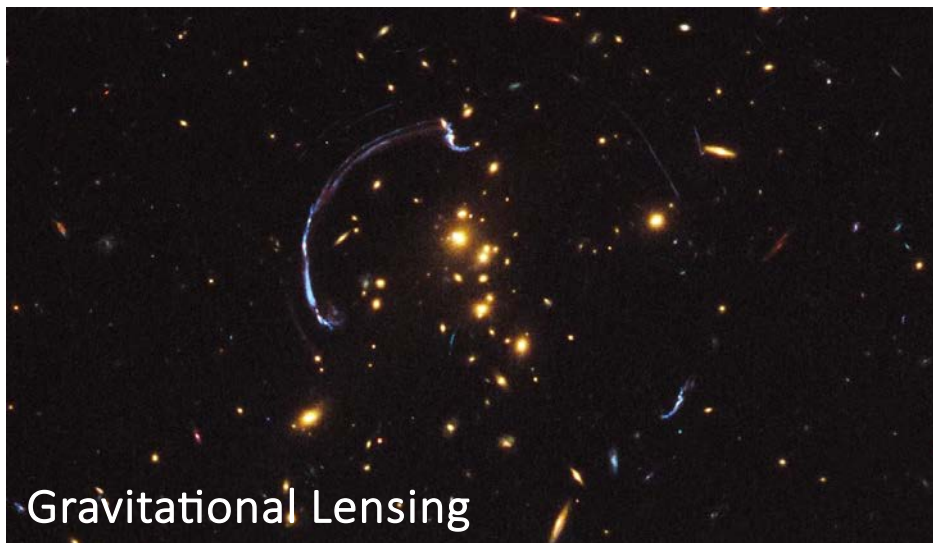
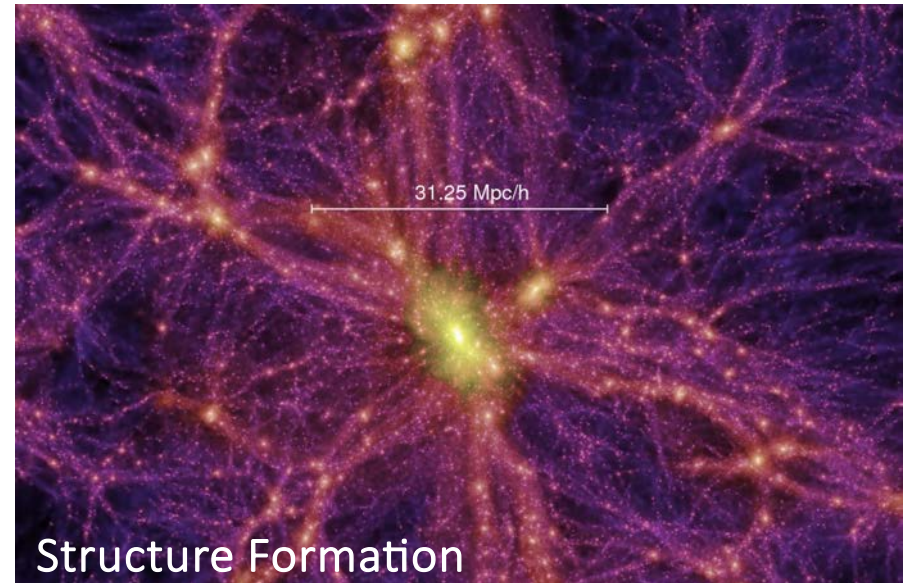
- ✓ Extremely successful theory describing many observations up to energies of $\sim 1000 m_{\text{proton}}$
- ✓ Merely an effective theory that could be considered the low energy limit of a Theory of Everything
- ✓ Expect observation of new phenomena at higher energies (e.g. LHC at CERN)
- ✓ SM cannot explain:
 - What is the nature of dark matter?
 - Why is the electric dipole moment of the neutron so small?



Dark Matter

EVIDENCE FOR DARK MATTER

- ✓ Galaxy rotation curves
- ✓ Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB)
- ✓ Structure formation
- ✓ Gravitational lensing
- ✓ Bullet Cluster



DARK MATTER PROBLEM: WE KNOW IT EXISTS BUT WHAT IS ITS NATURE?

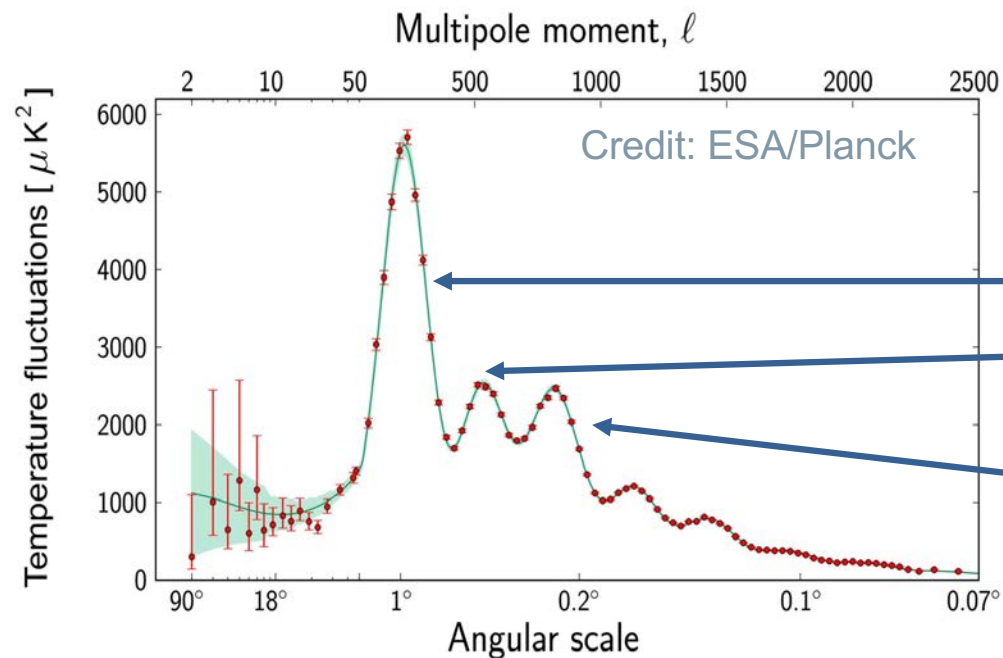
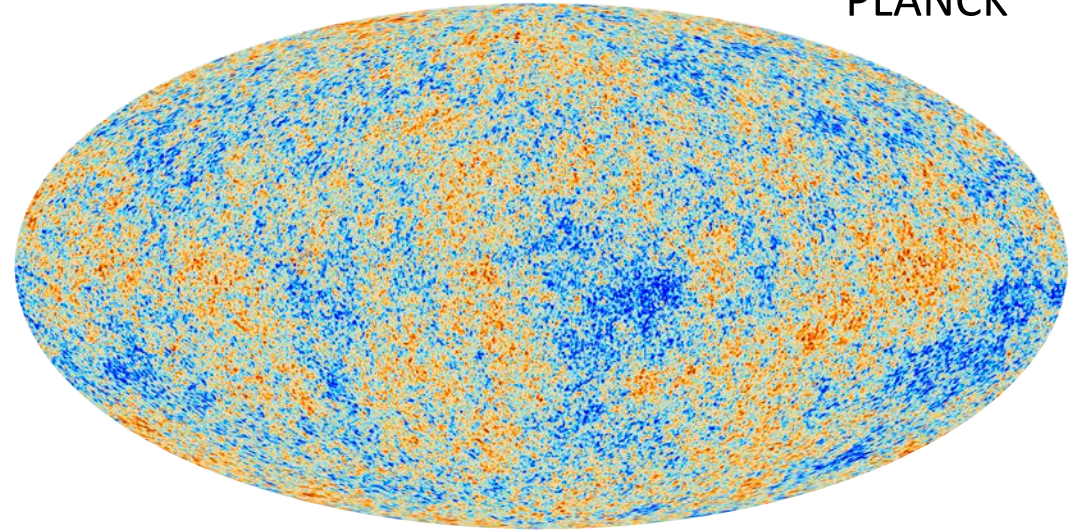
Dark Matter

PLANCK

EVIDENCE FOR DARK MATTER

- ✓ Galaxy rotation curves
- ✓ Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB)

PLANCK power spectrum of the CMB radiation temperature anisotropy



Location and height of peaks determines cosmological parameters

Flat universe

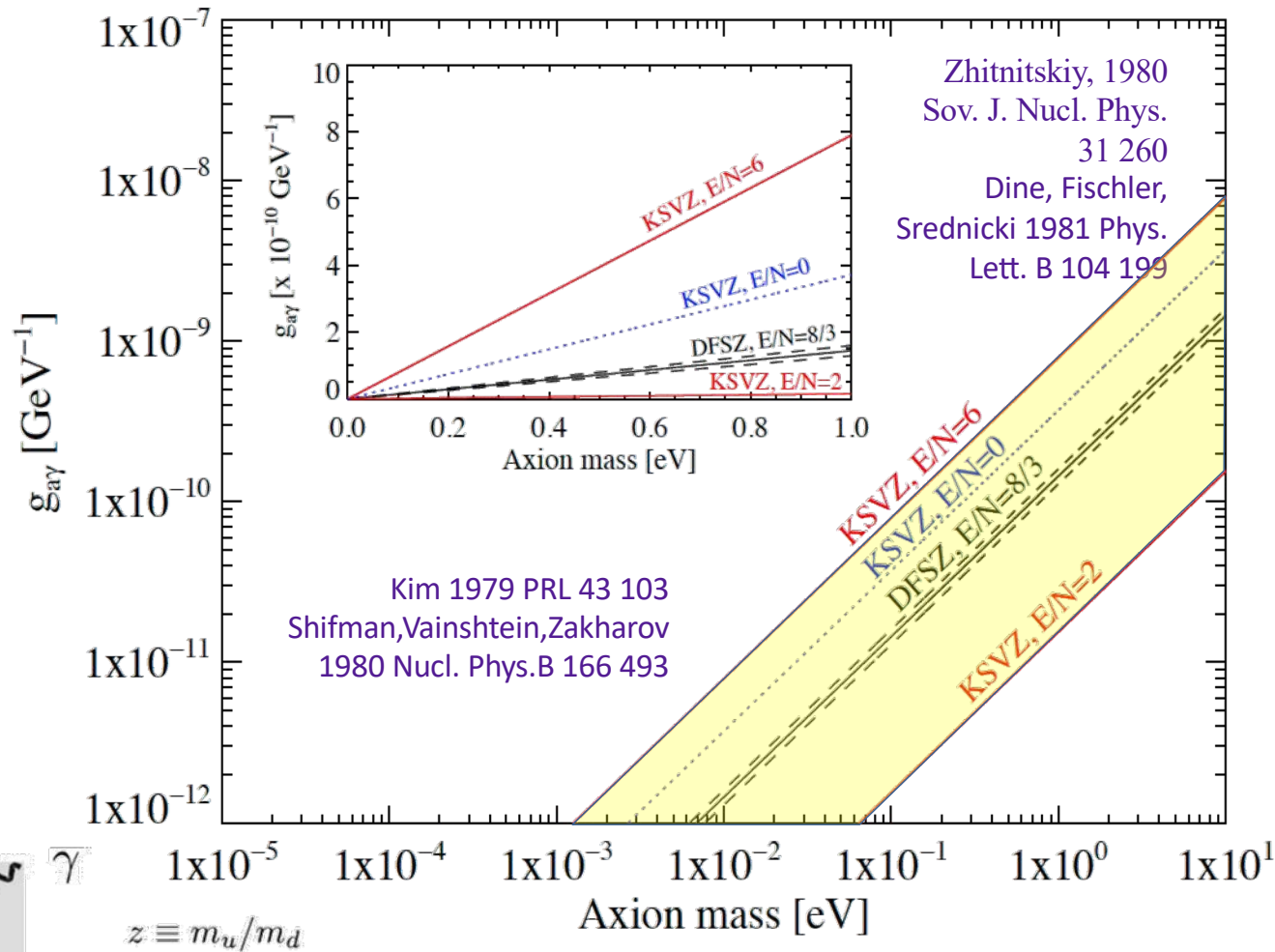
Baryonic matter ~5% of the total mass/energy of the universe

Amount of **dark matter** ~27%

The Axion



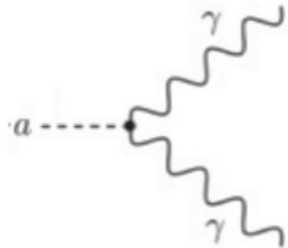
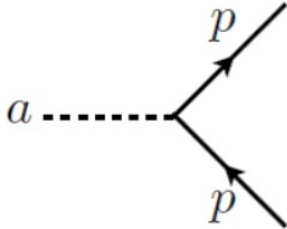
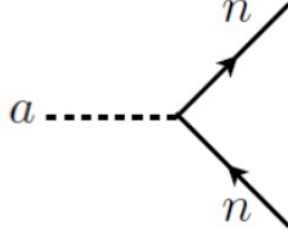
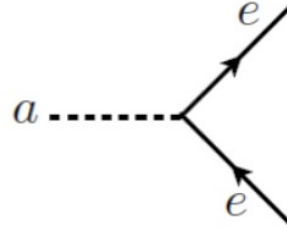
$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}}{4} a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \equiv g_{a\gamma\gamma} a \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}$$



$$g_{a\gamma} \simeq \frac{\alpha}{2\pi f_\pi} \frac{m_a}{m_\pi} \frac{1+z}{\sqrt{z}} \left(\frac{E_Q}{N_Q} - \frac{24+z}{31+z} \right)$$

AXION COUPLINGS

- ✓ Axions interact with photons (generic) and with regular matter (model dependent)

2 photon	proton	neutron	electron
$\frac{\alpha C_{a\gamma}}{2\pi} \frac{a}{f_a} \frac{F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}}{4}$	$C_{ap} m_p \frac{a}{f_a} [i\bar{p}\gamma_5 p]$	$C_{an} m_n \frac{a}{f_a} [i\bar{n}\gamma_5 n]$	$C_{ae} m_e \frac{a}{f_a} [i\bar{e}\gamma_5 e]$
			

$$g_{a\gamma} = \frac{C_{a\gamma}\alpha}{2\pi f_a} \quad g_{ap} = C_{ap} \frac{m_p}{f_a} \quad g_{an} = C_{an} \frac{m_n}{f_a} \quad g_{ae} = C_{ae} \frac{m_e}{f_a}$$

- ✓ Due to its properties axions are favored dark matter candidates (next to WIMPs)

Detection of Axions

Detection techniques

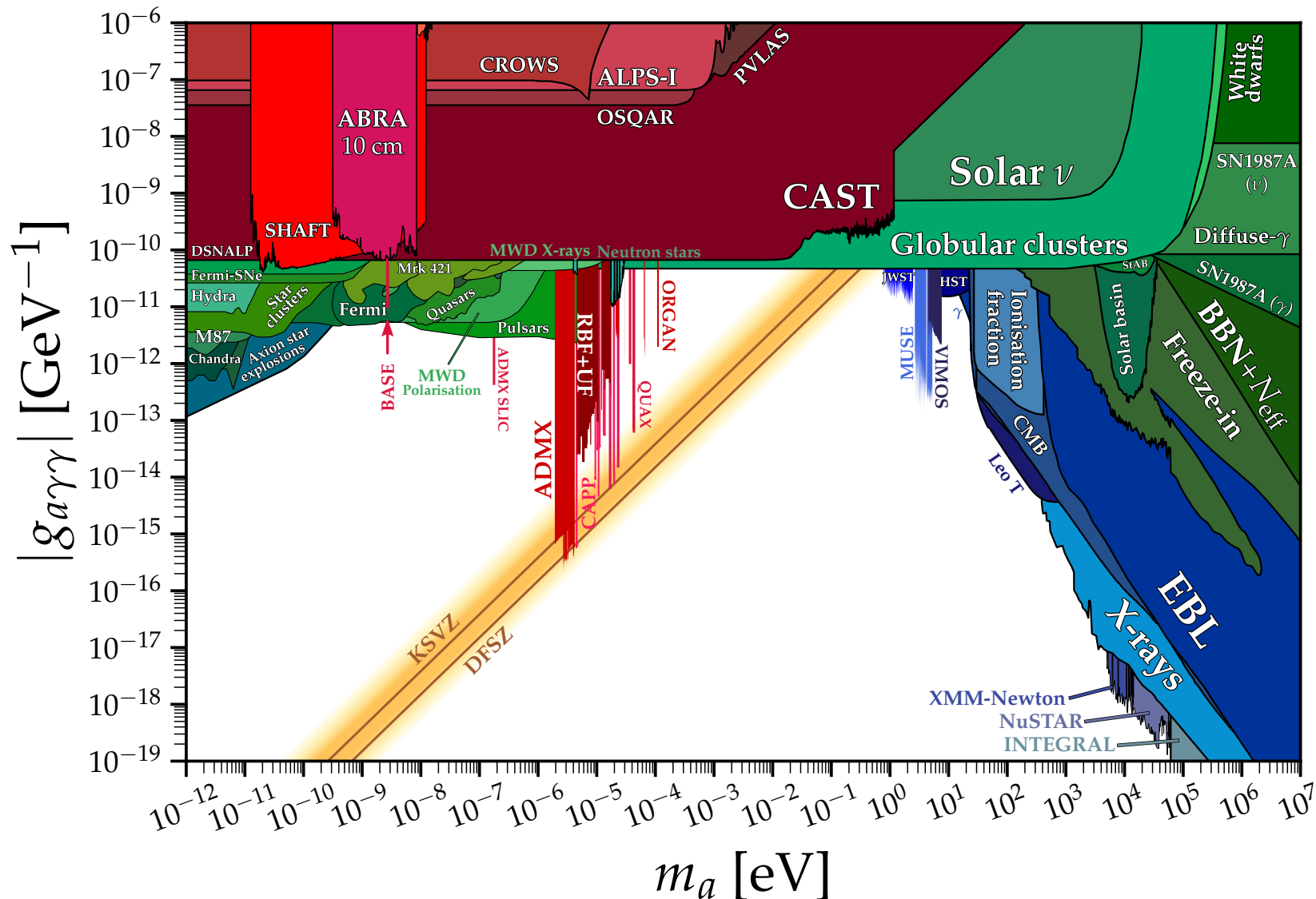
Source	Experiments	Model & cosmology dependency
Relic axions 	Haloscopes	High (assumes axions are all of the DM)
Lab axions 	Light-Shining-Through-Wall Experiments	Very low
Solar axions 	Helioscopes	Low

Large complementarity between different experimental approaches!

Detection of Axions

State-of-the-art

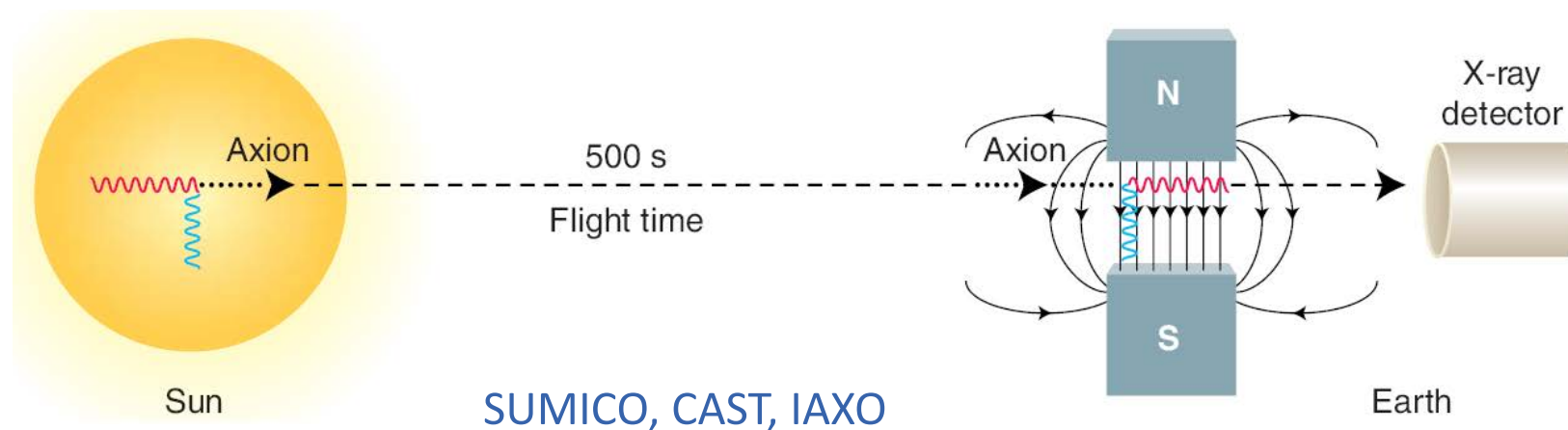
Adapted from <https://github.com/cajohare/AxionLimits>



EXPERIMENTS NOT RELYING ON AXIONS BEING DARK MATTER

► AXION HELIOSCOPES: laboratory axion searches looking for solar axions

P. Sikivie 1983 PRL 51 1415

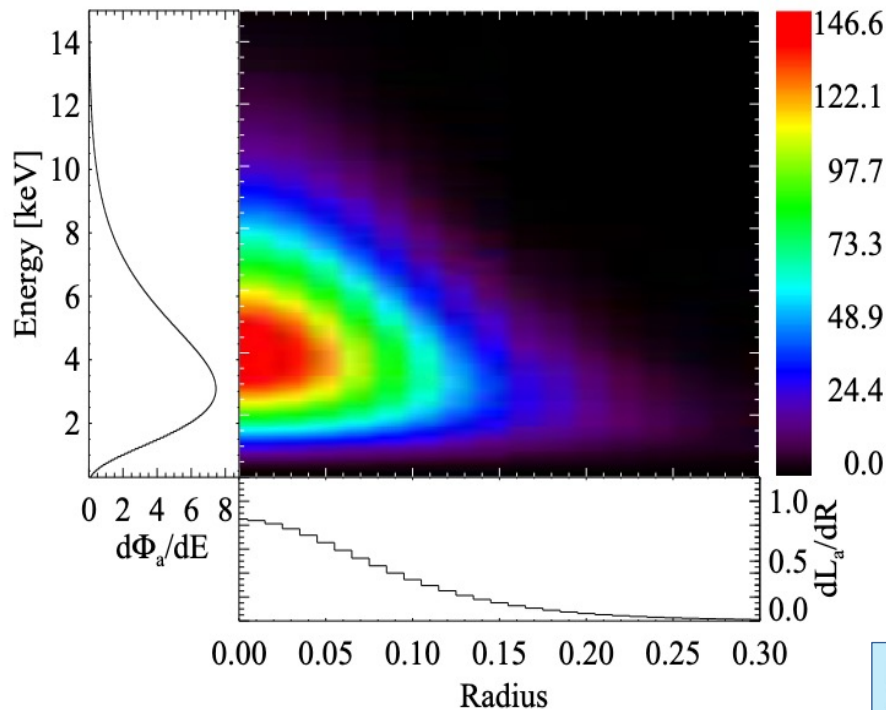


Concept:

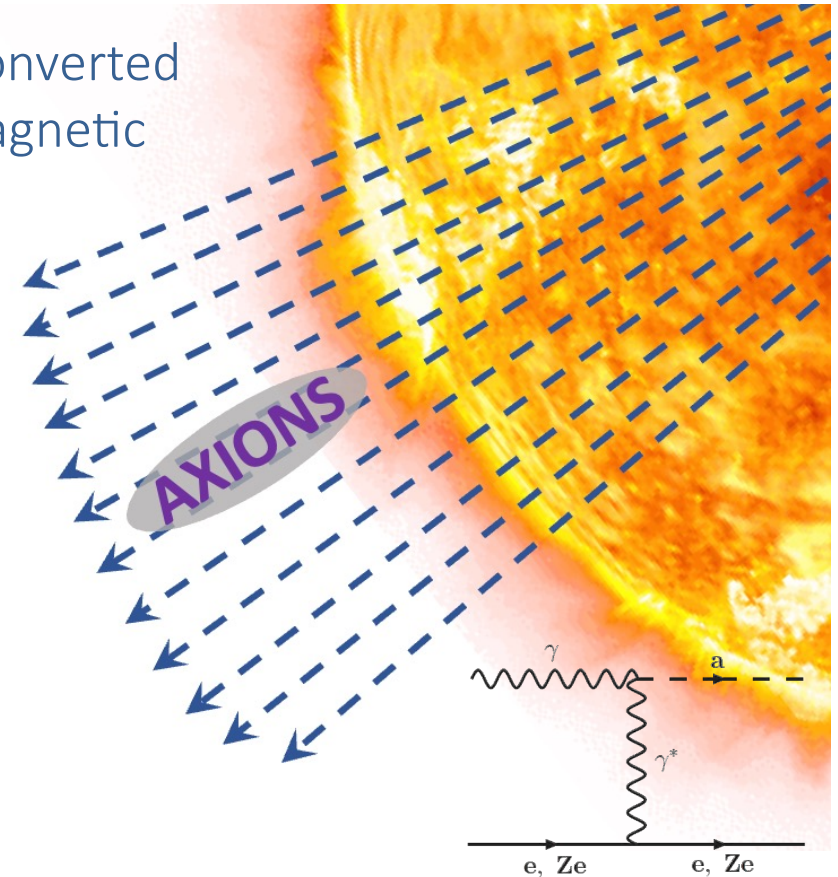
- Axions produced in strong electromagnetic fields of the core of the Sun
- Solar axion conversion into x-ray (keV) photons in transverse laboratory B-field



- Blackbody photons (keV) in solar core can be converted into axions in the presence of strong electro magnetic fields in the plasma → Primakoff Effect.



Hadronic axions (if the axion couples predominantly to photons ($g_{a\gamma}$))



$$\frac{d\Phi_a}{dE} = 6.02 \times 10^{10} \left(\frac{g_{a\gamma}}{10^{-10} \text{GeV}^{-1}} \right)^2 E^{2.481} e^{-E/1.205} \frac{1}{\text{cm}^2 \text{ s keV}}$$



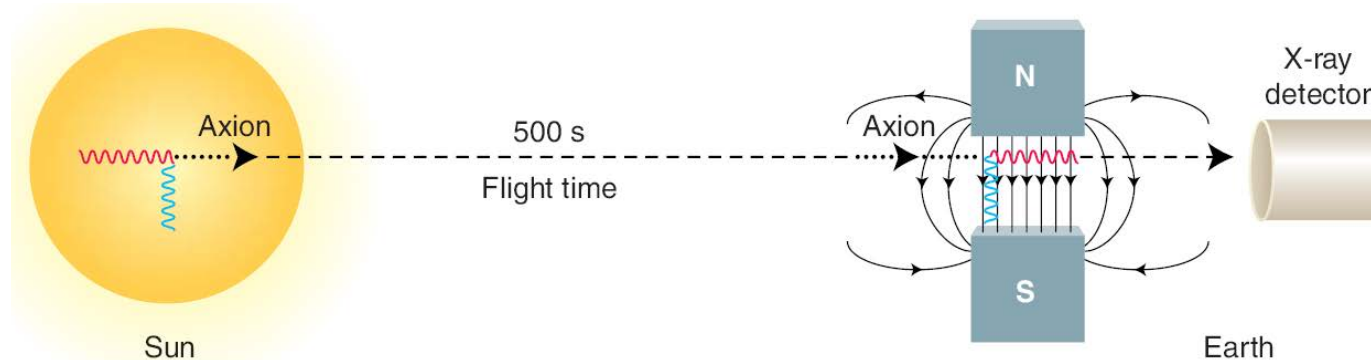
Solar Axion Searches

Detection Helioscope

- First axion helioscope proposed by P. Sikivie

P. Sikivie 1983 PRL 51 1415

Reconversions of axions into x-ray photons possible in strong laboratory magnetic field



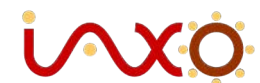
$$P_{a \rightarrow \gamma} = \left(\frac{B L g_{a\gamma\gamma}}{2} \right)^2 \quad \text{for} \quad \frac{qL}{2} < \pi \quad \text{with} \quad q = \frac{m_a^2}{2E_a} \quad \text{VACUUM}$$

- Idea refined by K. van Bibber et al.

Van Bibber et al 1989 Phys. Rev. D 39 2089

Buffer gas to restore coherence over long magnetic field and access higher axion masses

$$P_{a \rightarrow \gamma} = \left(\frac{B g_{a\gamma\gamma}}{2} \right)^2 \frac{1}{q^2 + \Gamma^2/4} \left[1 + e^{-\Gamma L} - 2e^{-\Gamma L/2} \cos(qL) \right] \quad \text{with} \quad q = \left| \frac{m_\gamma^2 - m_a^2}{2E_a} \right| \quad \text{GAS}$$



Solar Axion Searches

Detection Helioscope

■ Vacuum Phase:

- Coherence condition valid for $m_a \lesssim 0.02$ eV

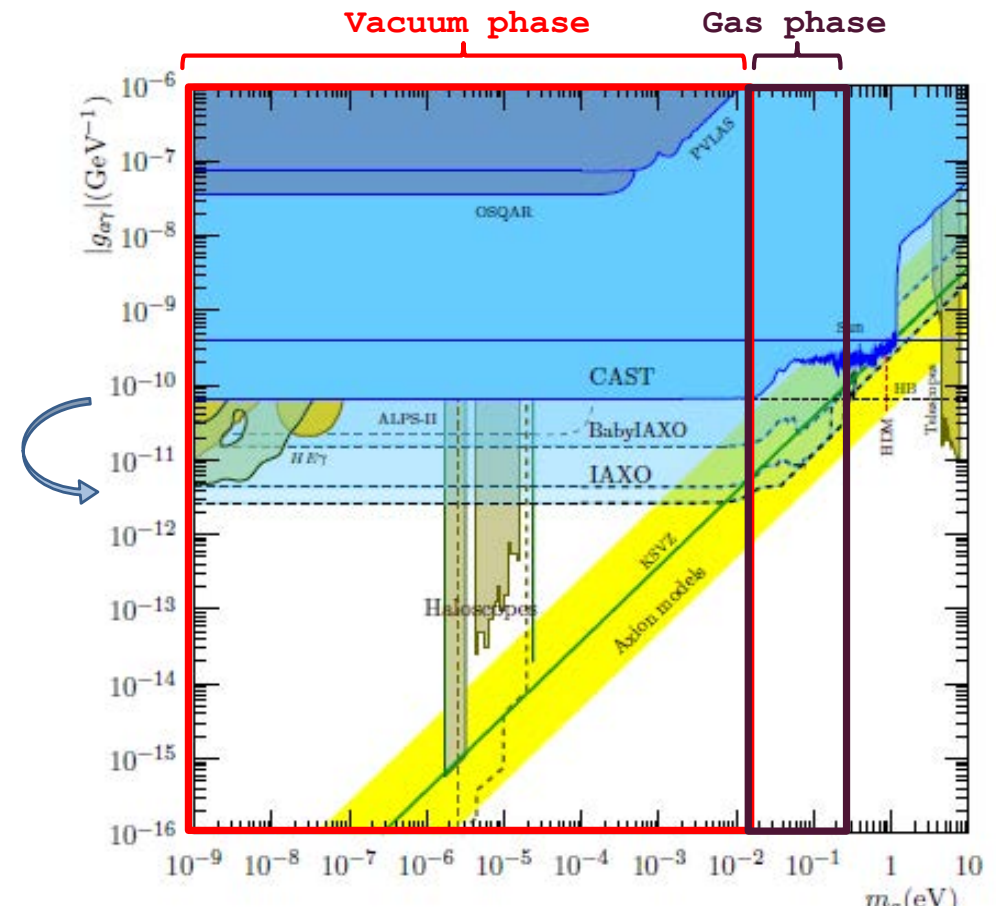
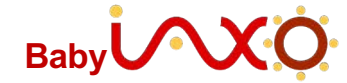
■ Gas Phase:

- Extends coherence condition valid from 0.02 eV $\lesssim m_a \lesssim 0.26$ eV

$$m_\gamma = 4.498716 \sqrt{\frac{P_{He}[\text{atm}]}{T_{He}[\text{K}]}} \text{ eV}.$$

- Experimental conditions for BabyIAXO:

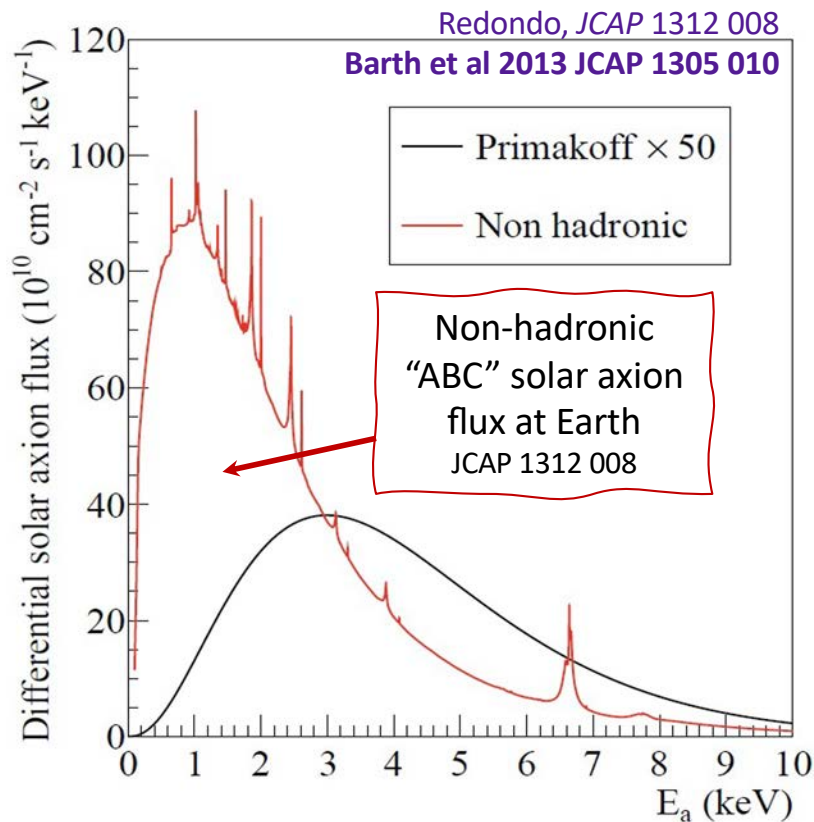
- $P_{\text{max}}(\text{helium-4}) \simeq 1\text{bar}$
- $T(\text{average}) \simeq 295\text{K}$



Solar Axion Searches

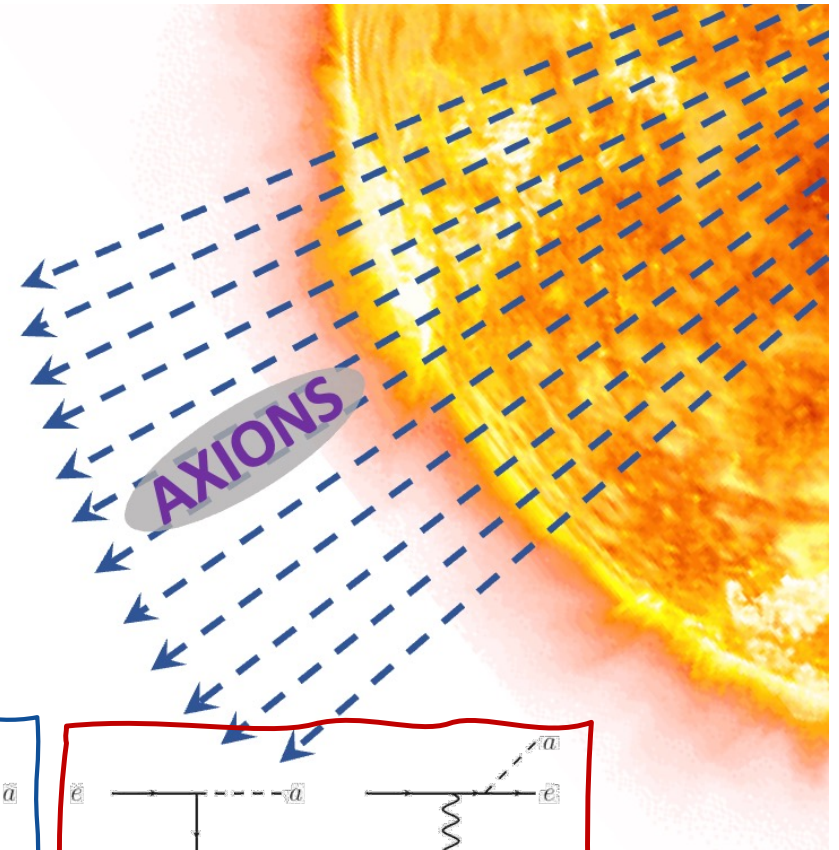
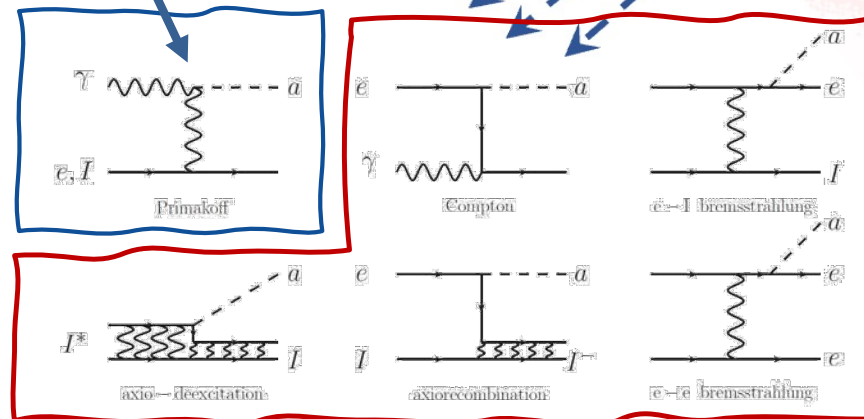
Non-hadronic models

- ▶ Additionally to Primakoff: “ABC axions” which n
be $\times 100$ more intense but model-dependent

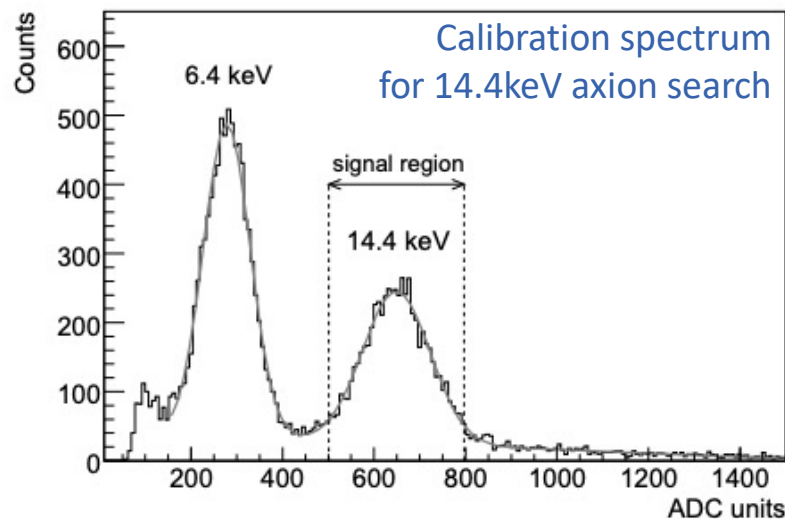
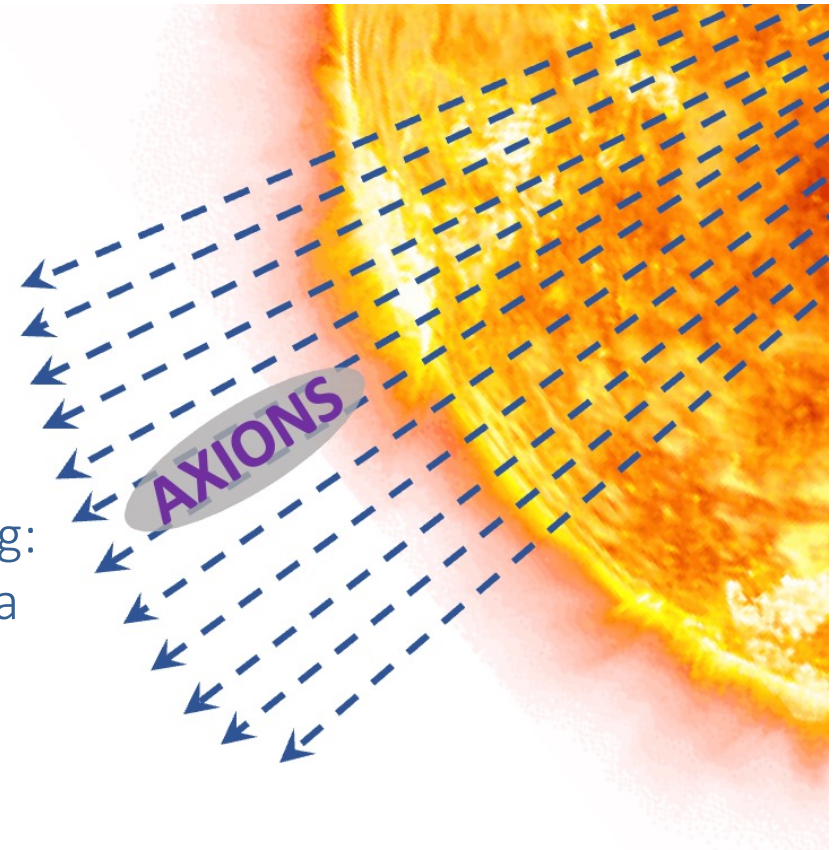


Non-hadronic or “ABC” axions
(if the axion couples to
electrons (g_{ae}))

Primakoff
axions



- ▶ Via axion-nucleon couplings can also observe monochromatic lines from nuclear transitions
 - ▶ keV axions emitted in the M1 transition of Fe-57 nuclei (14.4 keV) and Tm-169 (8.4keV)
 - ▶ MeV axions from ${}^7\text{Li}$ (0.478 MeV) and $\text{D}(\text{p};\text{g}){}^3\text{He}$ (5.5 MeV)
- ▶ Axions-nucleon coupling g_{aN} especially intriguing: if the axion has couples via g_{aN} , it is most likely a QCD axion



$$\Phi_a := 5.06 \times 10^{23} (g_{aN}^{\text{eff}})^2 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

Di Luzio *et al* 2022 *Eur. Phys. J. C* 82:120
CAST collaboration *et al* 2009 *JCAP* 12 002
D. Miller *et al* 2010 *JCAP* 1003 032
Derbin *et al* 2023 *Jetp Lett.* 118, 160

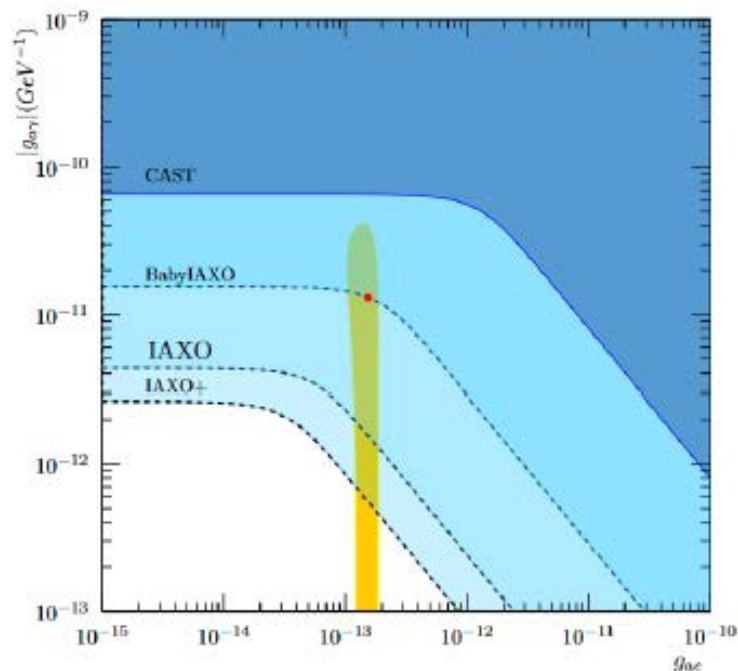


Solar Axion Searches

Detection Helioscope

Parameter space showing the sensitivity of the experiments in the $g_{a\gamma}$ - g_{ae} plane

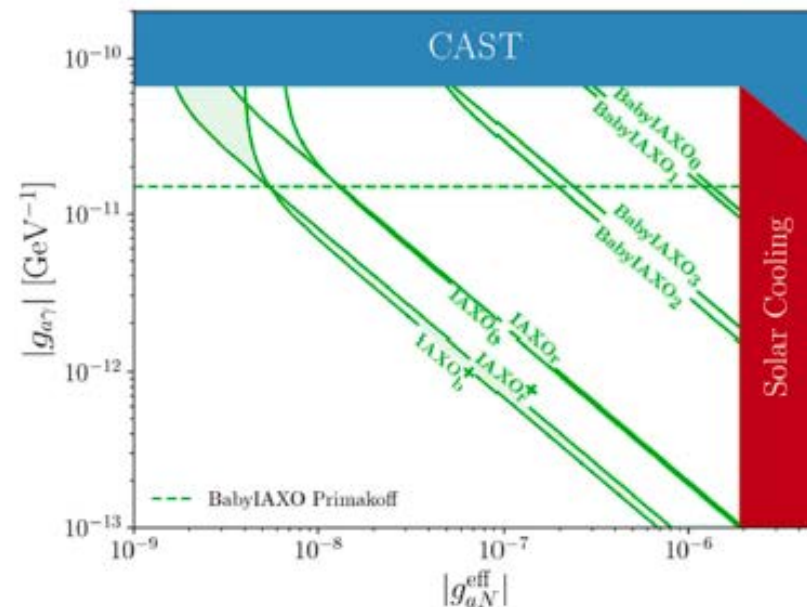
- Axion mass $m_a \simeq 1\text{meV}$



Physics potential of the International Axion Observatory (IAXO) [JCAP06\(2019\)047](#)

Parameter space showing the sensitivity of the experiments in the $g_{a\gamma}$ - g_{aN} plane

- Axion mass $m_a \simeq 20\text{meV}$

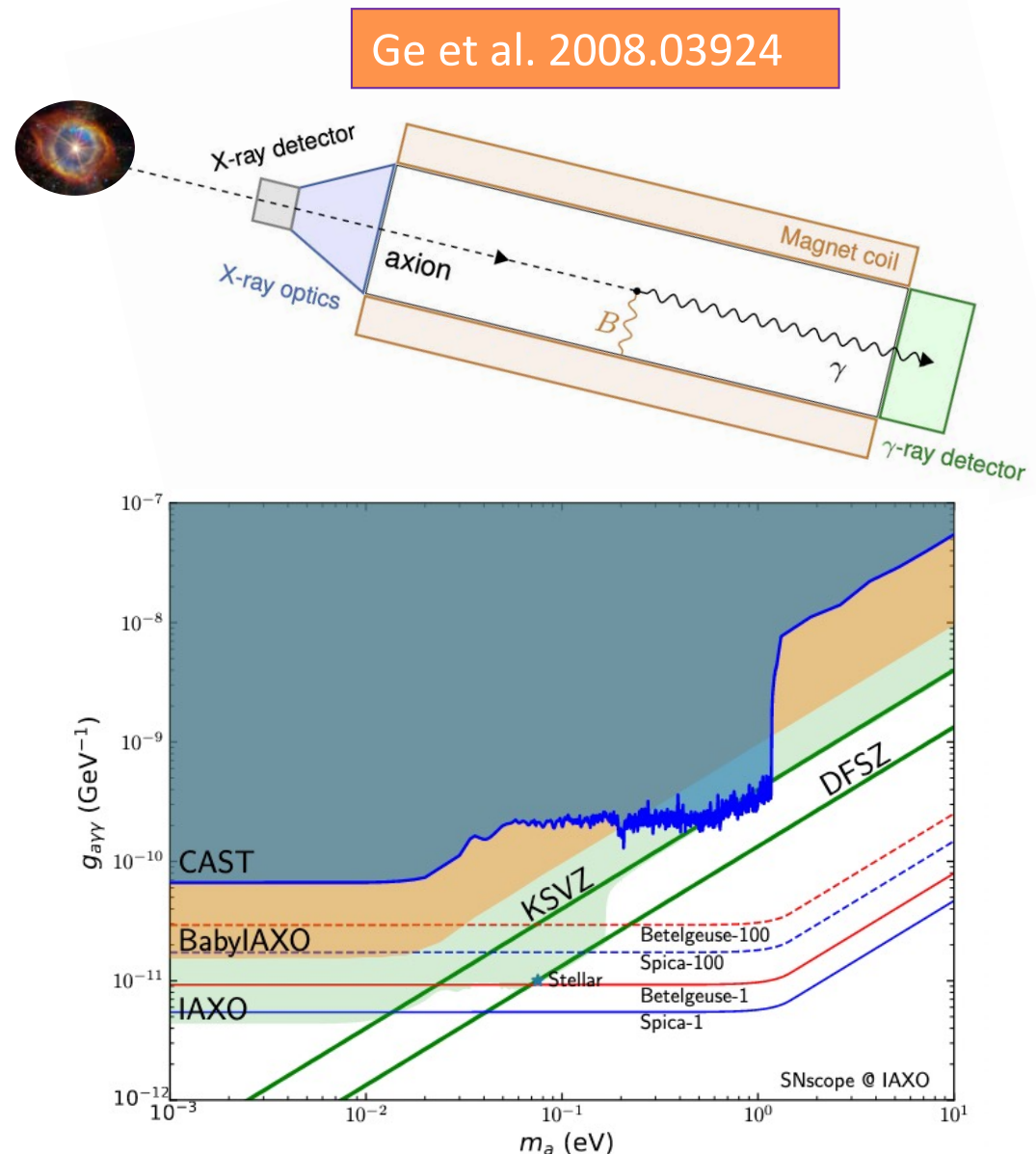


Probing the axion–nucleon coupling with the next generation of axion helioscopes [Eur. Phys. J. C \(2022\) 82:120](#)



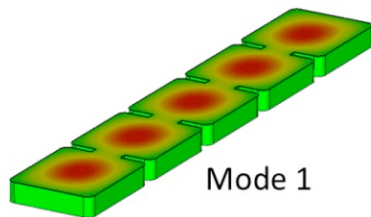
Axion from galactic supernova

- If a sufficiently close-by galactic SN explodes, SN axions could be detectable at (Baby)IAXO.
- SN axions have $O(100\text{MeV})$ energies
- Requires IAXO to be equipped with large HE g-ray detector, covering all magnet bore, sufficient pointing accuracy, alert system in place
- Can be implemented complementary to baseline BabyIAXO setup by using opposite side of magnet.

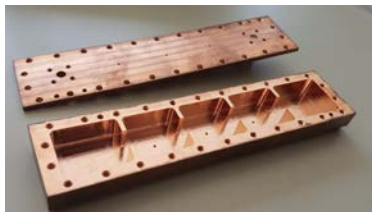


Ahyoune et al. (RADES Collaboration) arxiv:2306.17243

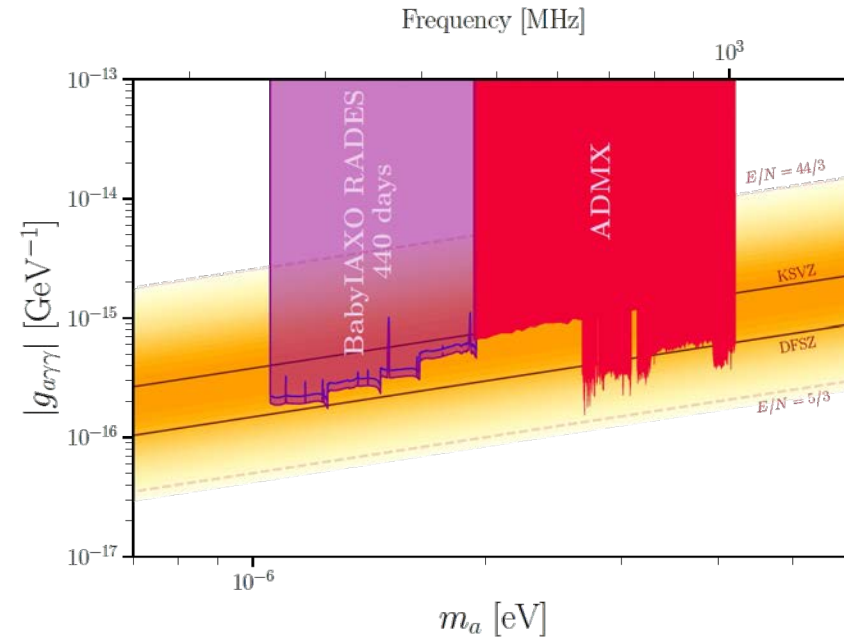
- Use of (Baby)IAXO large magnetic volume for axion DM setups
- Very competitive prospects for 1-2 meV axion searches.
- Other implementations are being discussed (need more work)



New geometry concepts to scale in V but keeping high resonant f



JCAP 05 (2018) 040
JHEP 07 (2020) 084



I. Irastorza (U. Zaragoza), T. Kontos (École Normale Supérieure de Paris),
S. Paraoanu (Aalto University), W. Wernsdorfer (KIT)

ERC-Synergy Grant DarkQuantum obtained !

- Develop quantum tech for axions
- Quantum-enhanced haloscope in BabyIAXO
- Connection with experts (cryo, quantum,...)
- Contribution to magnet

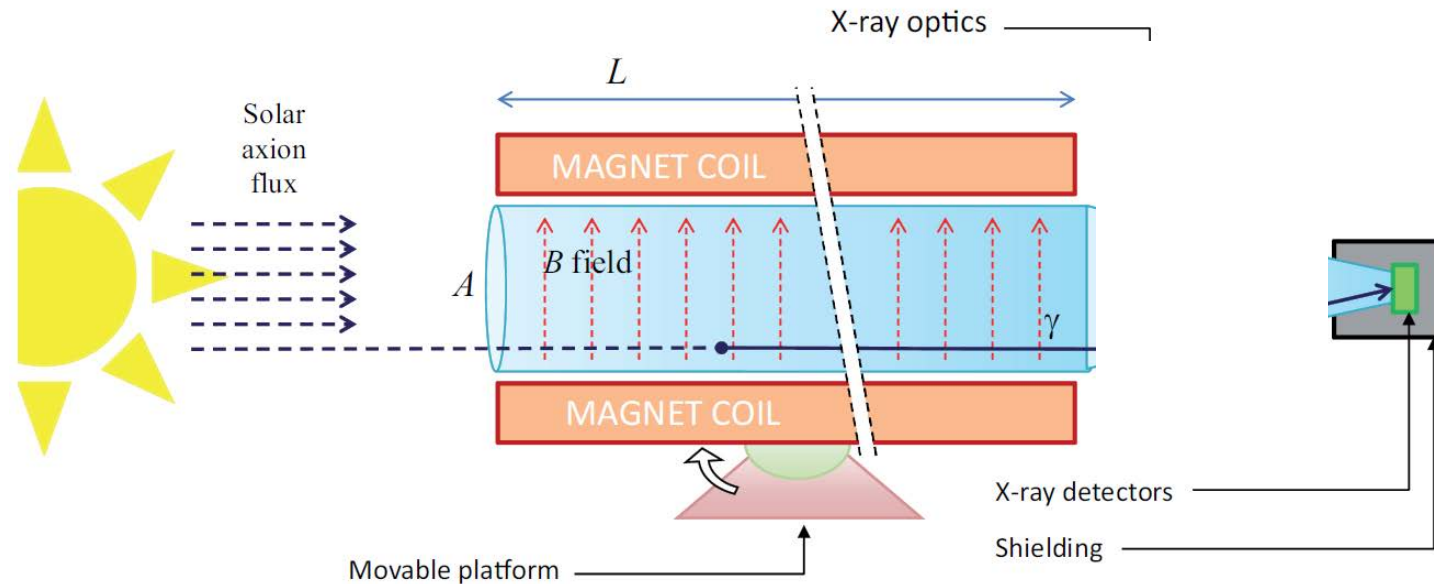
DarkQuantum



Solar Axion Searches

Helioscope Figure of Merit

Enhanced axion helioscope:
Irastorza et al 2011
JCAP 1106, 013



Measure of sensitivity to axion-photon interaction:

The smaller $g_{a\gamma}$ the better!

$$g_{a\gamma}^4 \propto \underbrace{(BL)^{-2} A^{-1}}_{\text{magnet}} \times \underbrace{t^{-1/2}}_{\text{exposure}}$$

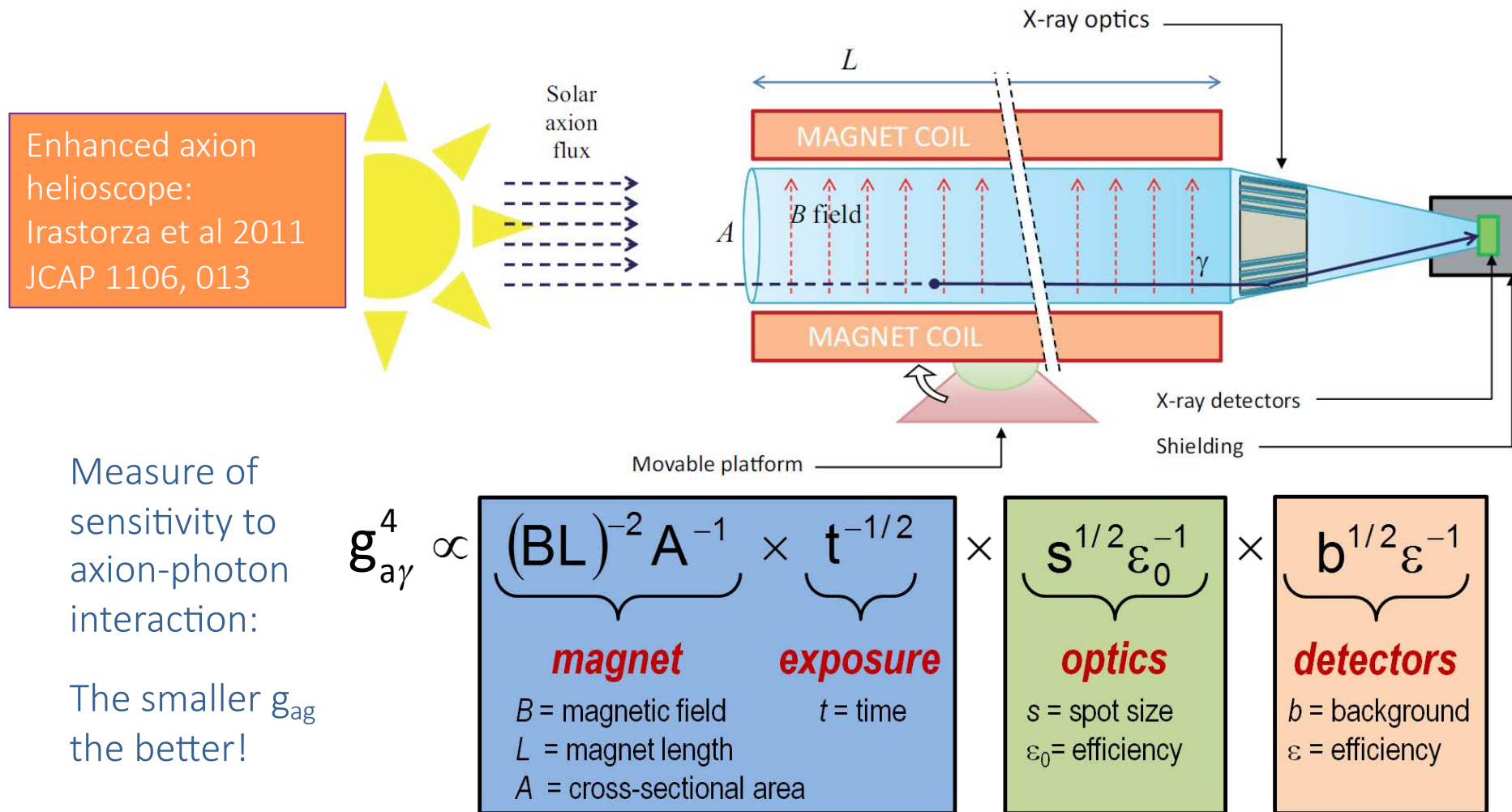
B = magnetic field
 L = magnet length
 A = cross-sectional area
 t = time

$$\underbrace{b^{1/2} \varepsilon^{-1}}_{\text{detectors}}$$

b = background
 ε = efficiency

Solar Axion Searches

Helioscope Figure of Merit



Expect improvement for next gen (International Axion Observatory):
 1–1.5 orders of magnitude in sensitivity to $g_{a\gamma}$ (factor of 10000-20000 in S/N)

Solar Axion Searches

Next-gen experiments

CAST



$$g_{ay} \lesssim 0.66 \times 10^{-10} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$$

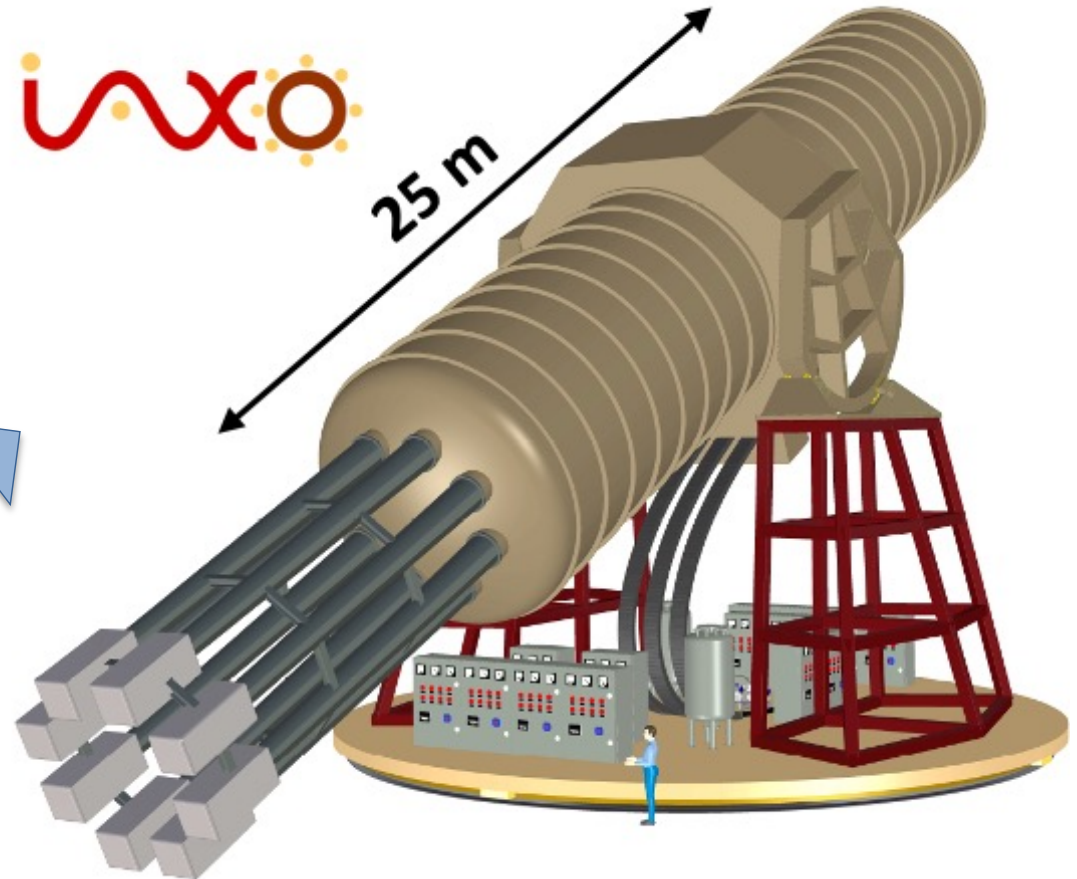


Baby



10 m

$$g_{ay} \lesssim \text{few } 10^{-11} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \text{ (expected)}$$

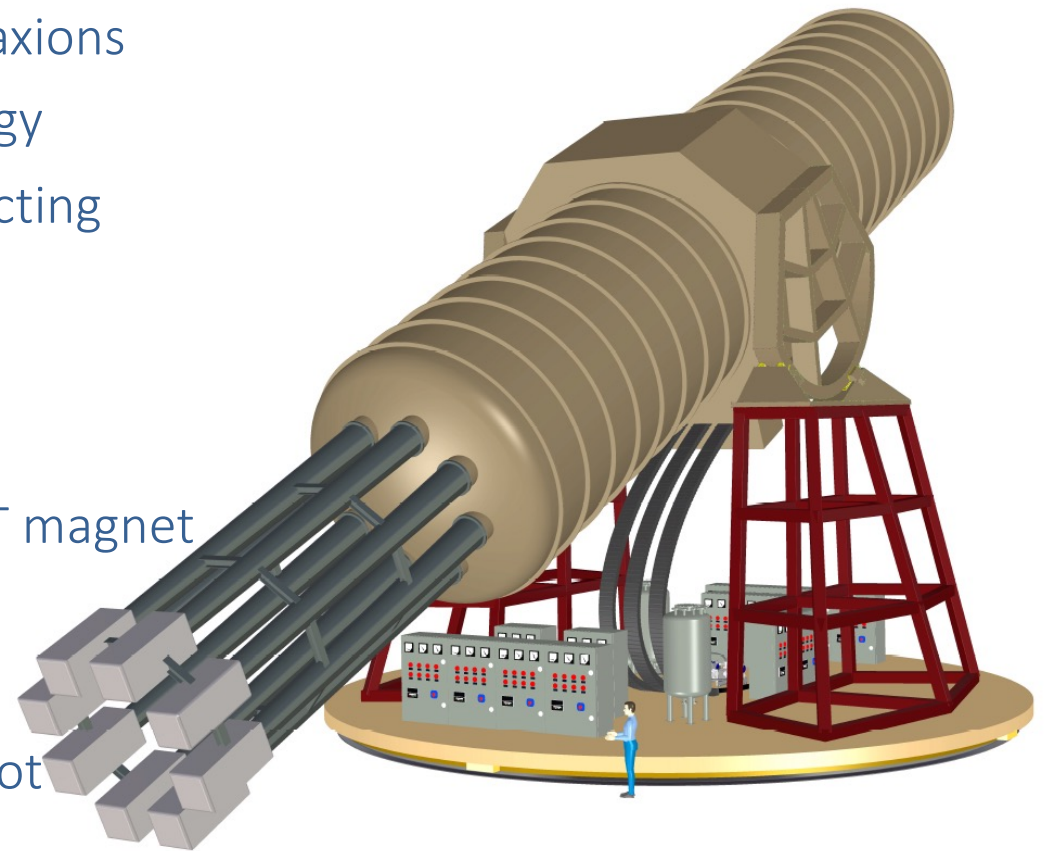


25 m

$$g_{ay} \lesssim \text{few } 10^{-12} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \text{ (expected)}$$

INTERNATIONAL AXION OBSERVATORY (IAXO)

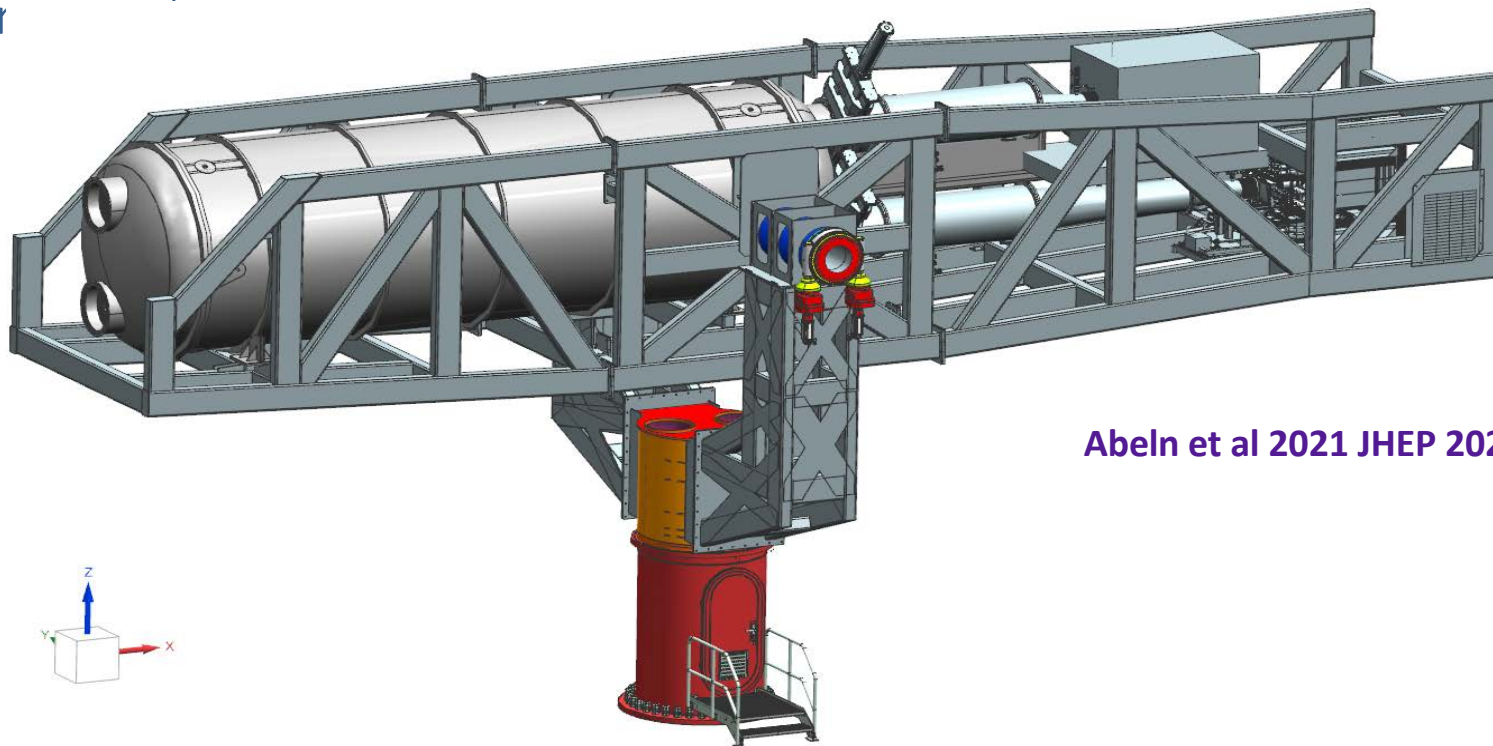
- ✓ Next generation helioscope for solar axions
- ✓ Mature and state-of-the-art technology
- ✓ Purpose-built large-scale superconducting magnet
 - Toroidal geometry
 - 25 meters long, up to 5.4 T.
 - >300 times larger FoM than CAST magnet
 - 8 conversion bores of 60 cm $\varnothing$
- ✓ 8 detection lines
 - X-ray optics with 0.2 cm² focal spot
 - Ultra-low bgrd detectors
- ✓ 50% of Sun-tracking time.



Armengaud et al 2014 JINST 9 T05002
Iraistorza et al 2011 JCAP 1106, 013

BABYIAXO = INTERMEDIATE EXPERIMENTAL STAGE BEFORE IAXO

- ✓ Technological prototype of IAXO with only two magnet bores (10 m, $\varnothing$ 70 cm) to be installed at DESY
- ✓ Relevant physical outcome ($\sim 10\times$ CAST B^2L^2A)
- ✓ Magnet will be upscalable version for IAXO
- ✓ X-ray optics/detectors close to final IAXO configuration (focal length, perfor



Abeln et al 2021 JHEP 2021 137

Solar Axion Searches



Solar Axion Searches

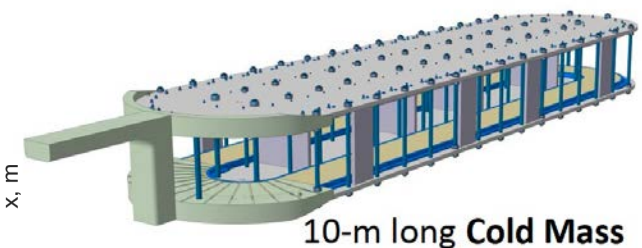
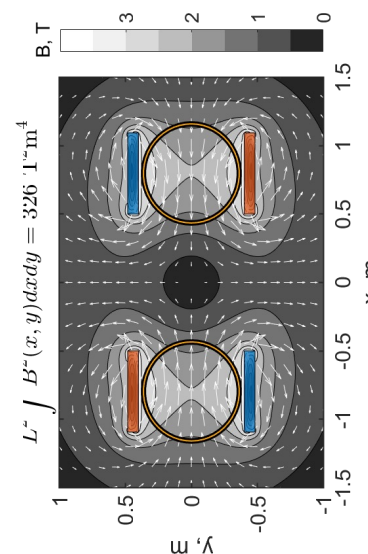
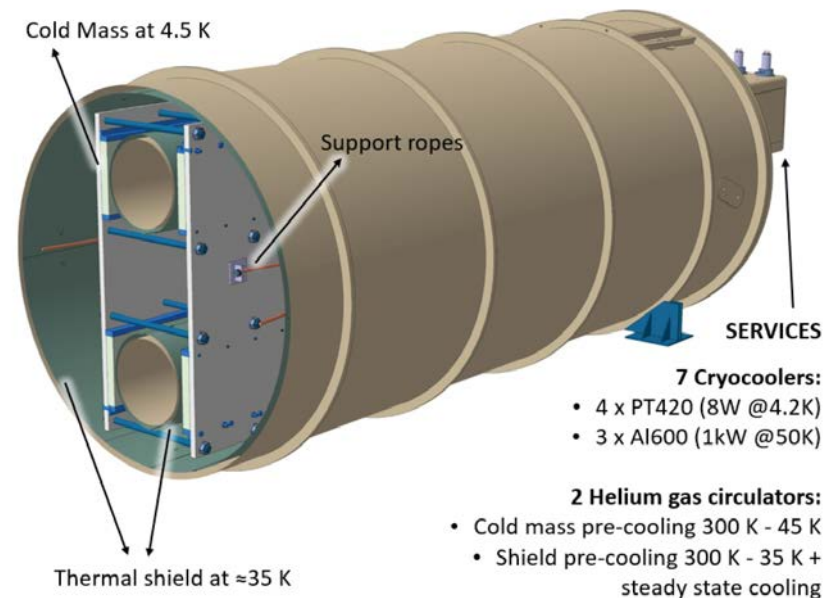
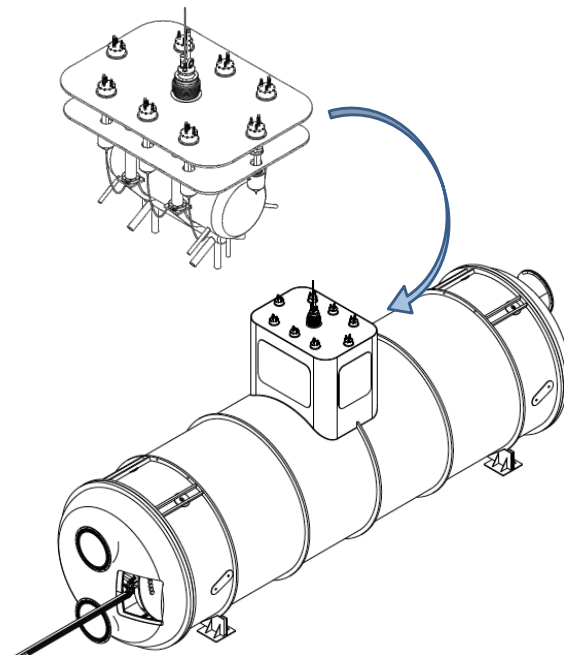


Solar Axion Searches

✓ BabyIAXO magnet to be operated at $T \leq 5$ K featuring Nb-Ti-based superconducting coils with about 2 T in the bore

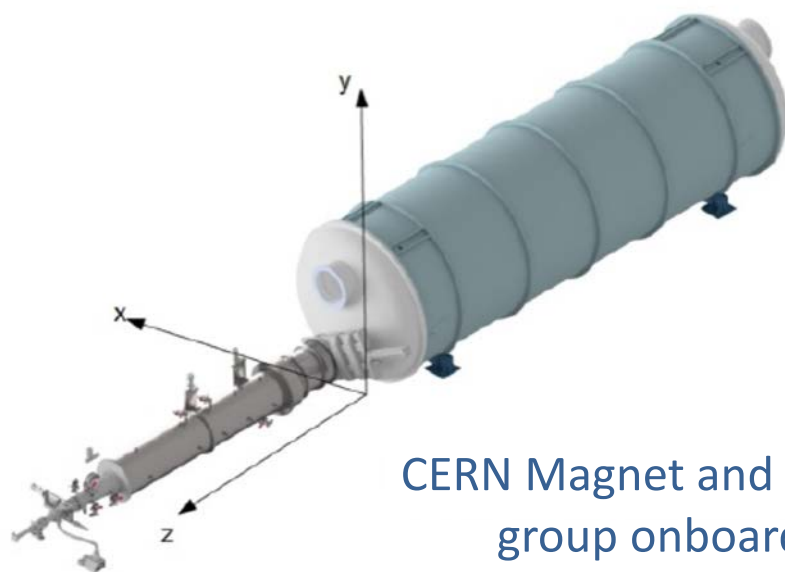
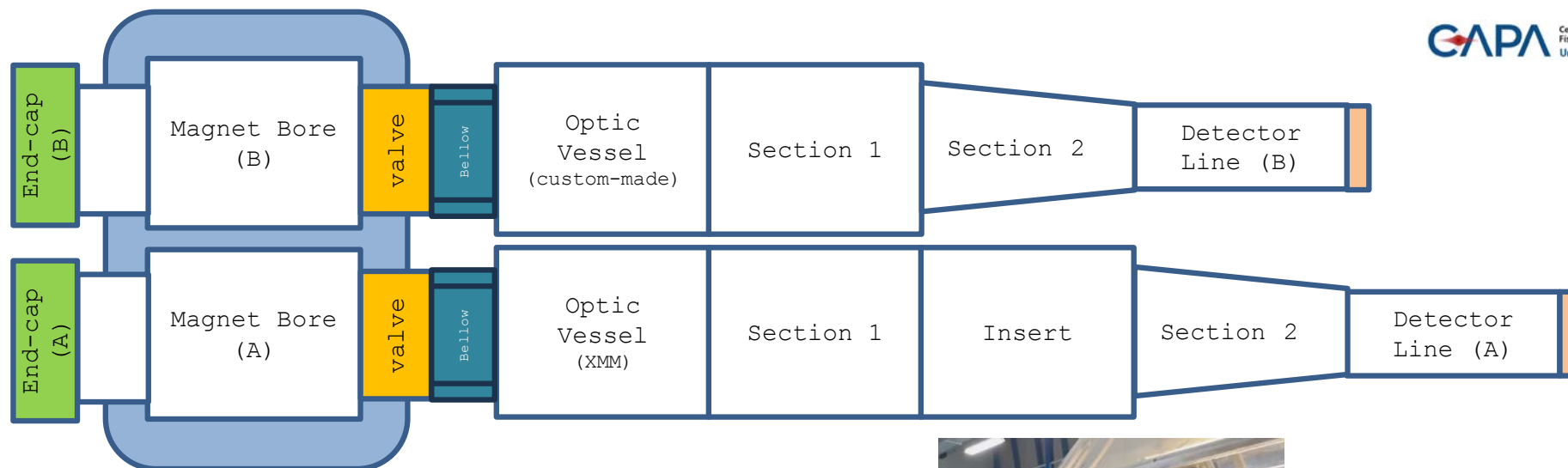
- Nb-Ti is most affordable superconductor
- It is also mechanically ductile and robust
- Well studied work-horse conductor for most existing superconducting magnets

Contract for cable development recently signed



MAGNET DEVELOPMENT

Solar Axion Searches



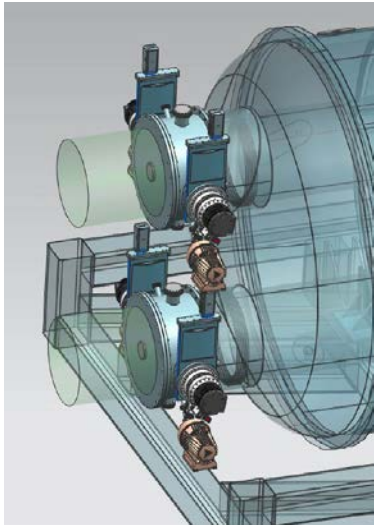
CERN Magnet and Cable group onboard



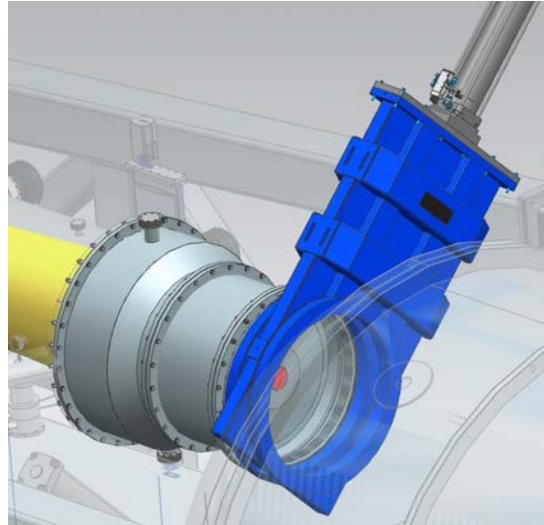
Ordering 2km of cable strand for winding tests

BEAM LINE

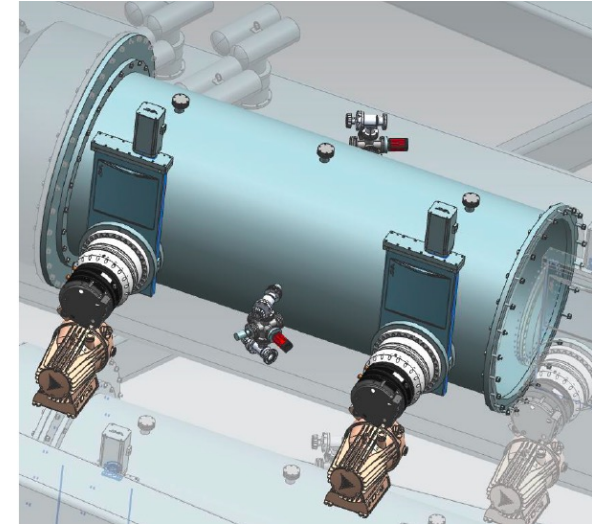
Solar Axion Searches



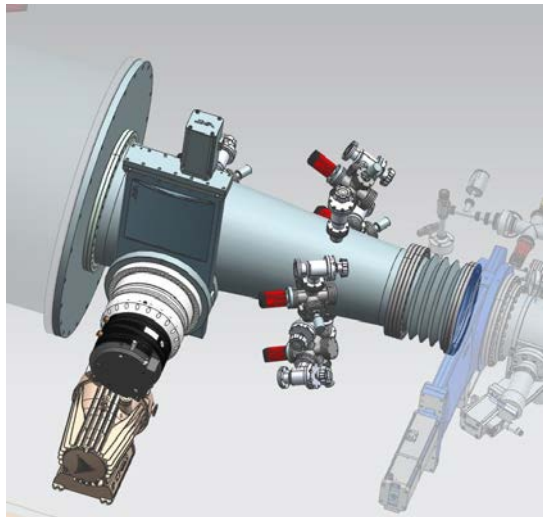
Magnet End-cap



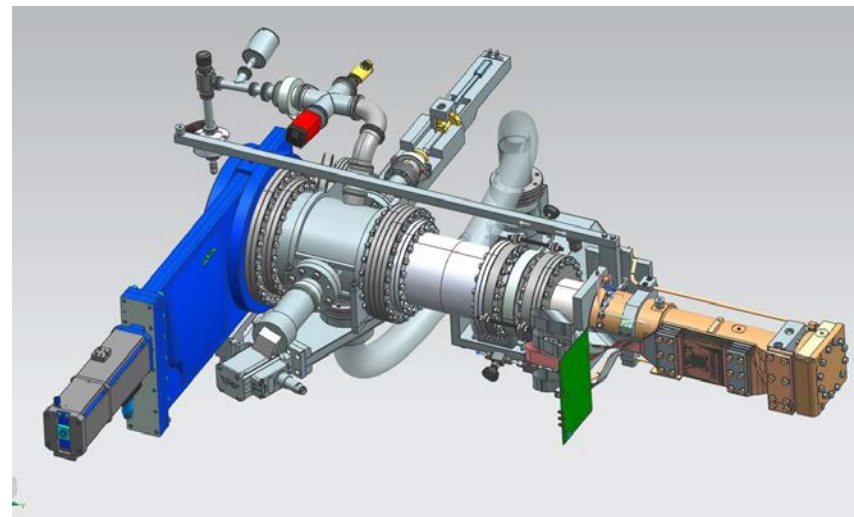
Magnet Telescope Vessel



Beam line Section 1



Beam line Section 2



Detector line

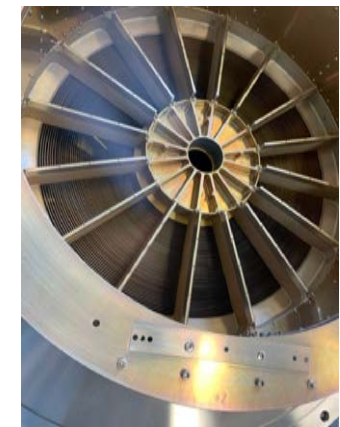
BEAM LINE

Solar Axion Searches

BabyIAXO OPTIC APPROACH:

- ✓ NEED: Maximized throughput efficiency (40-60%),
Small focal spot area ($r < 2.5$ mm),
- ✓ Baseline option (1-10 keV) (prototyping and R&D)
 - Bore 1: Existing XMM flight-spare telescope (replicated optics)
 - Bore 2: Custom IAXO optic (single- or multilayer-coated, segmented-glass or Al-foil Wolter-I, NuSTAR/XRISM/ATHENA)
- ✓ Beyond baseline (funding request pending)
 - Lower threshold of 0.3 keV or better
 - Add sensitivity at 14.4 keV

Henriksen et al 2021 AO 60, 22
Iraistorza et al 2015 JCAP 12, 008



X-ray Optics

Leveraging decades of research by NASA and ESA for space instrumentation: minimal risk and superior performance

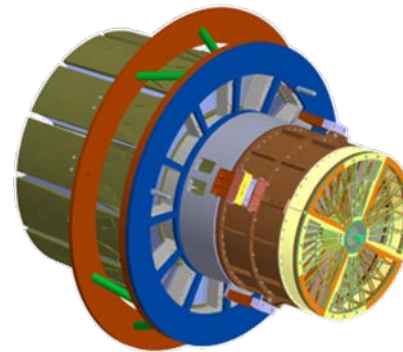
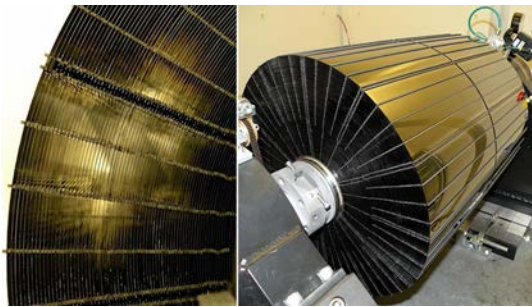
Solar Axion Searches



MIT
Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology

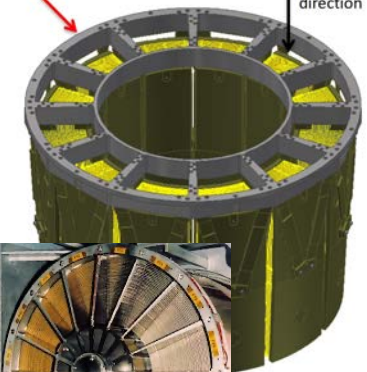
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

- ✓ IAXO-NuSTAR PATHFINDER @ CAST
- ✓ IAXO-CSGO/ATHENA PATHFINDER @ PANTER
- ✓ R&D for coating flat and curved substrates

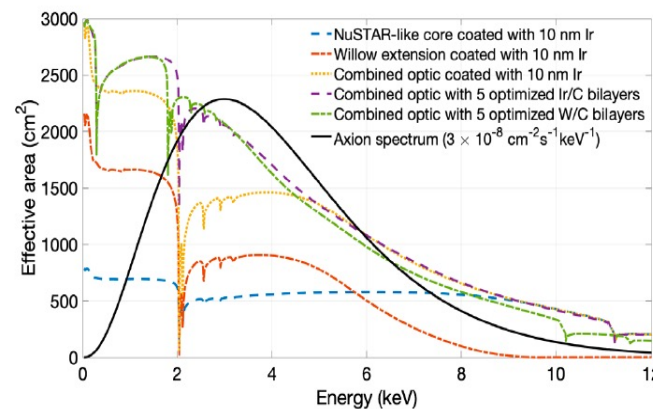
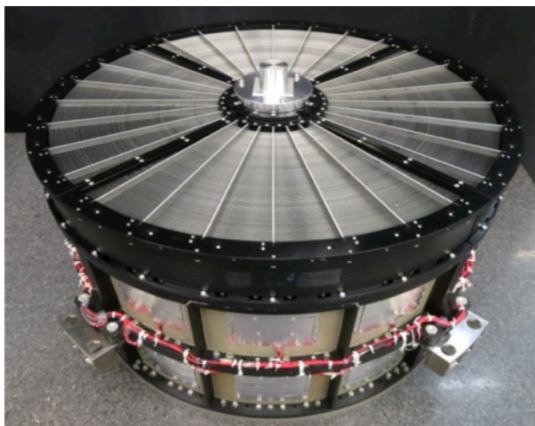
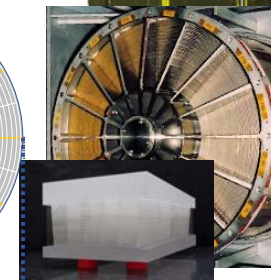
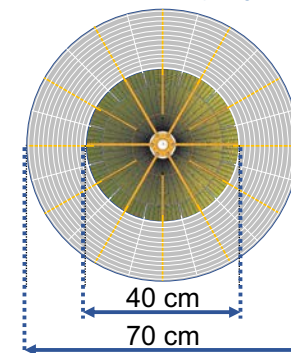


Interface to the common
optics interface

Photon
arrival
direction



Custom optics
Hot and cold slumped glass

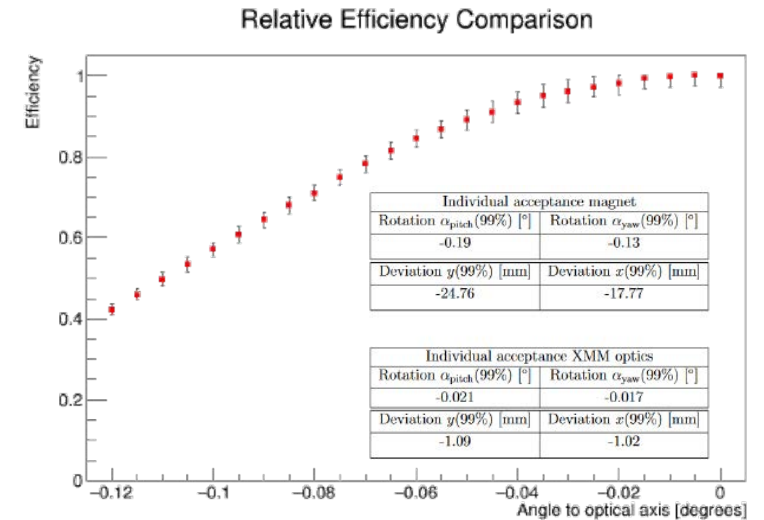
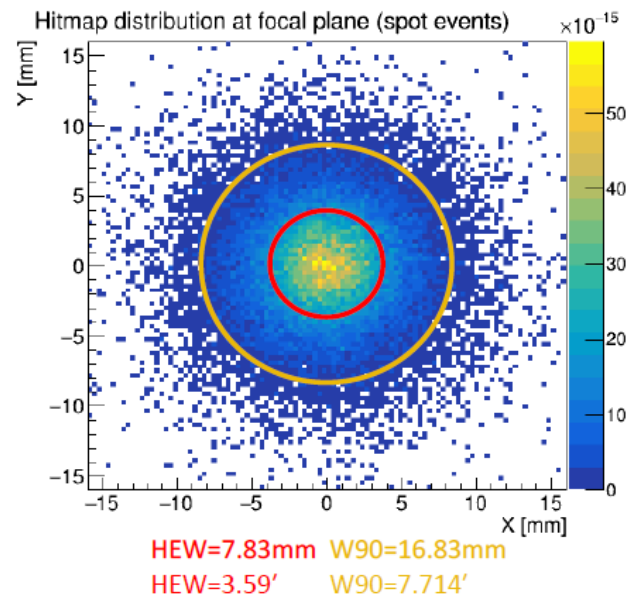


- CAD Design. Custom-optic beam line and cone of light.

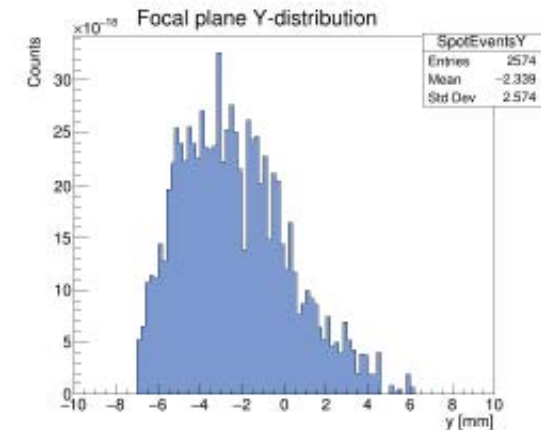
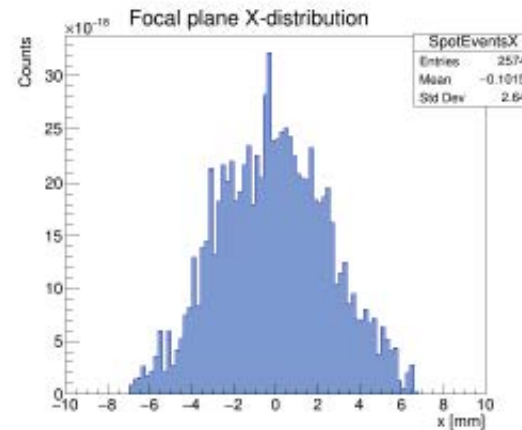
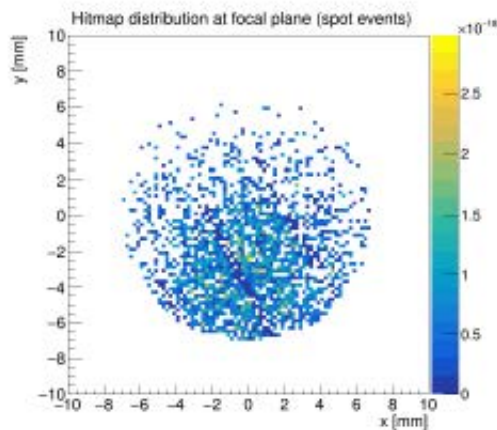
X-ray Optics

Solar Axion Searches

- Run with 100 000 events
- Solar flux: Primakoff
- Vacuum stage
- Optics: XMM optics
- No detector window
- Results here done with REST v2.3.15



Magnet and optics rotation



Acceptance Studies

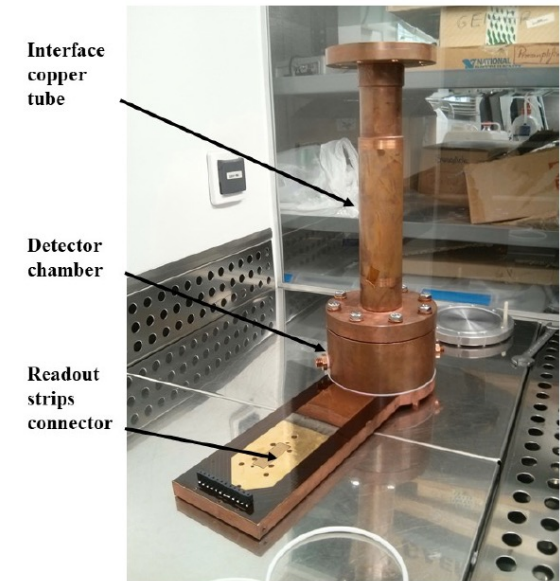
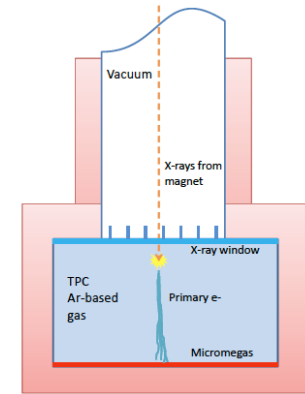
Solar Axion Searches

NEED (Baseline 1-10 keV):

- ✓ Low background ($<10^{-7} - 10^{-8}$ cts keV $^{-1}$ cm $^{-2}$ s $^{-1}$)
 - Less than 1 event per 6 months of data taking!
 - Already demonstrated
 - $\sim 8 \times 10^{-7}$ c keV $^{-1}$ cm $^{-2}$ s $^{-1}$ (in CAST 2014 result) and
 - 10^{-7} cts keV $^{-1}$ cm $^{-2}$ s $^{-1}$ measured underground at the Canfranc Laboratory (LSC)
- ✓ High detection efficiency

WANT:

- ✓ Low E-threshold (< 1 keV) and great E-resolution
 - Especially interesting for axion-electron measurements
 - Notably useful in case an axion signal is detected



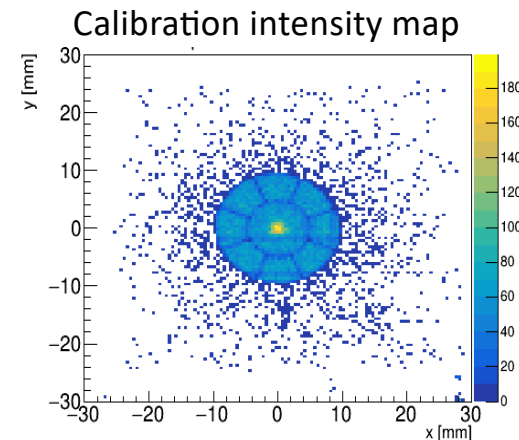
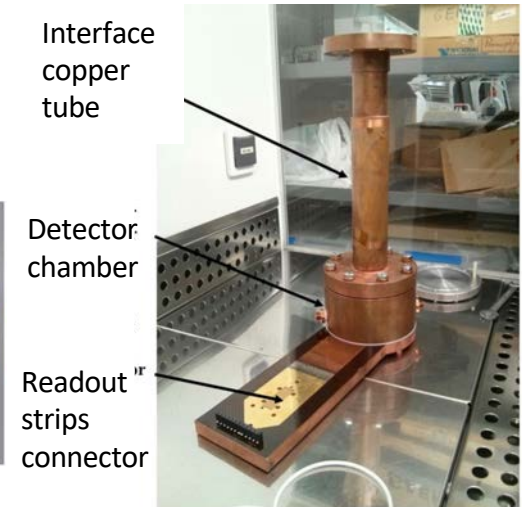
Detectors

Micromegas best option to reach required low background Additional technologies considered and undergoing active R&D efforts (GridPix, MMC, TES, SDD)

Solar Axion Searches

Microbulk Micromegas detectors

- ✓ Very homogeneous amplification uniform gain
- ✓ Intrinsically radiopure
- ✓ Good energy and spatial resolution
- ✓ Pixelized readout gives topological information
- ✓ Signal reaches the active volume through a mylar window
- ✓ X-rays ionize the gas in the conversion region and the produced signal is read by the Micromegas
- ✓ Data is analyzed with the [REST-for-Physics framework](https://github.com/rest-for-physics) (github.com/rest-for-physics).



Detectors

Solar Axion Searches

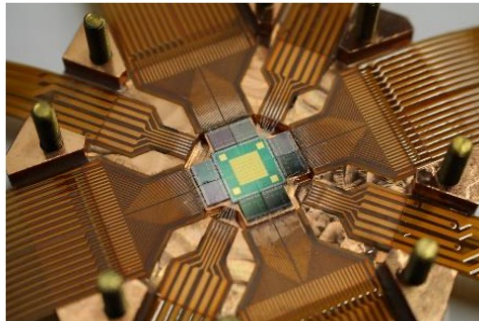
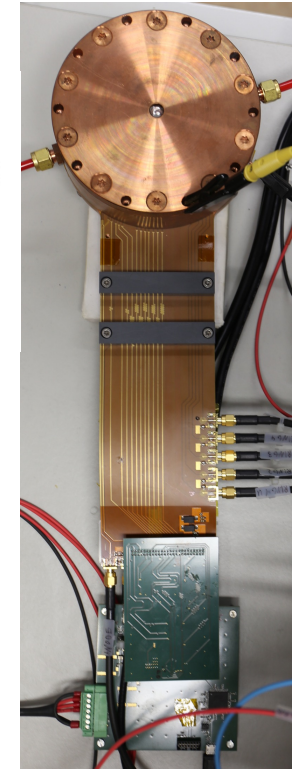
Beyond baseline, “high-precision” detectors

- ✓ Better threshold & energy resolution
- ✓ Design and material optimization ongoing in all fronts
- ✓ Background studies with different shielding configurations
- ✓ DALPS project (French ANR)β

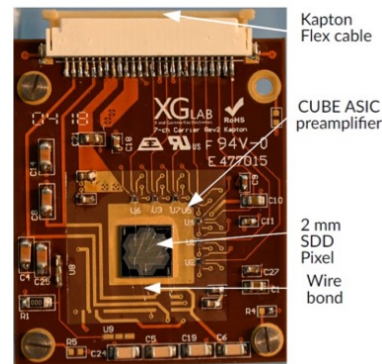
ERC-StG (2020)

M. Meyer

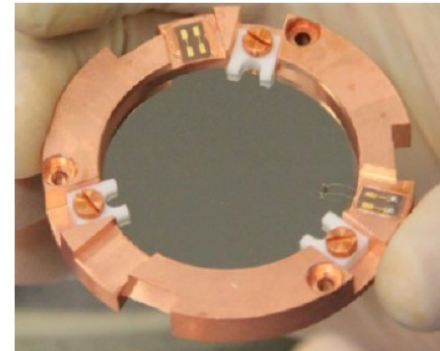
To understand bkg in TES



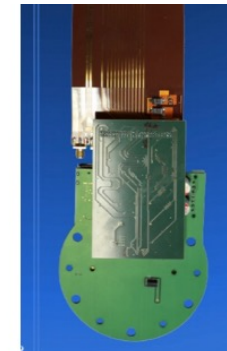
MMC: Metallic Magnetic calorimeters



SDD: Silicon Drift Detectors



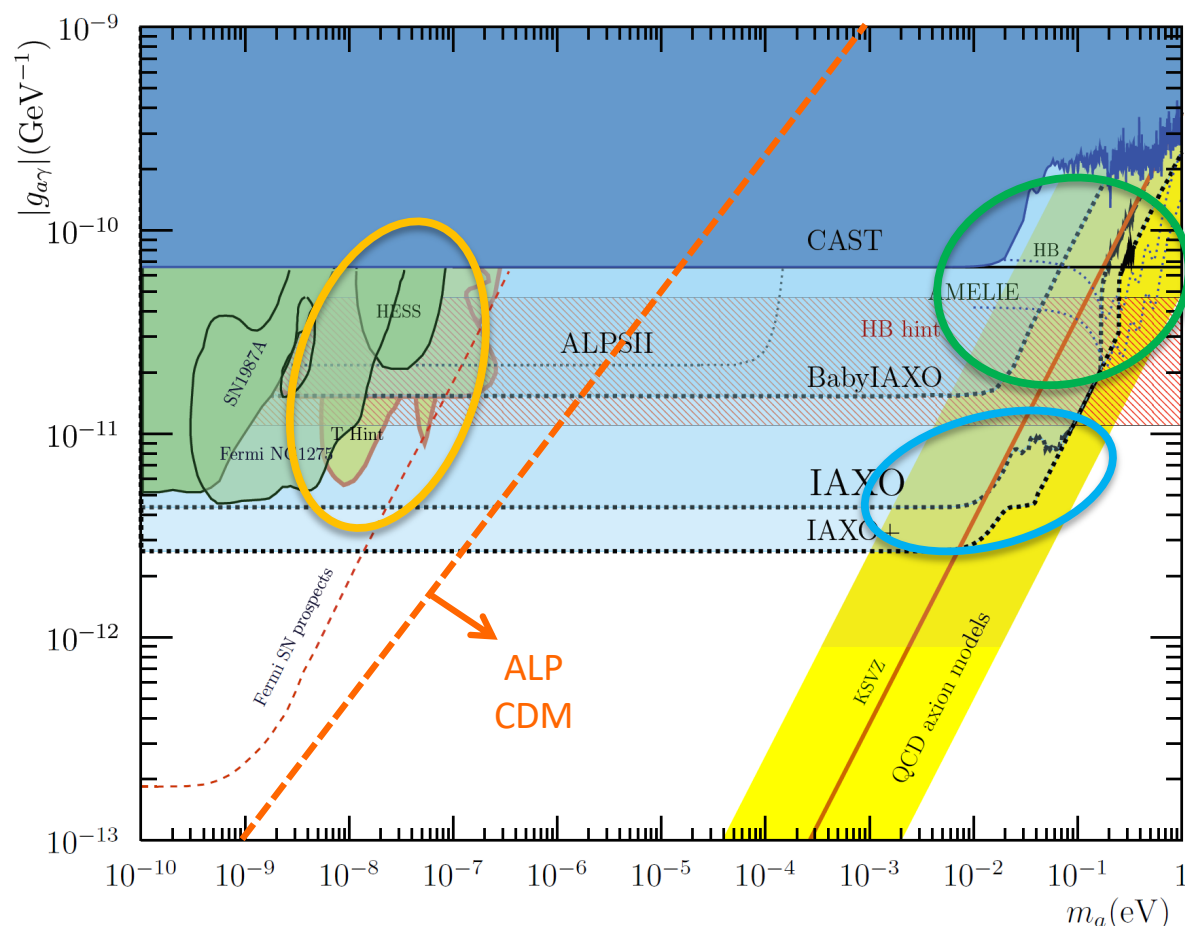
TES: Transition Edge sensors



Gridpix

Detectors

- ✓ Currently multiple new IAXO MM prototypes running in different locations (incl. Canfranc Underground Lab) with continuous improvements being made
- ✓ R&D ongoing for new detector technologies for high precision



BabylAXO prospects:

10 x MFOM_{CAST} + optics and detector
from conservative scenario of Lol

IAXO: > 300 x MFOM_{CAST} +optics and detector improvements

IAXO+: Enhanced scenario with x 10 (x4) higher FOM (MFOM) with respect to IAXO

IAXO will probe large parts of QCD
axion model space (KSVZ, DFSZ)
including viable DM models

“ALP miracle” region: ALPs solving both DM & inflation (Daido et al. 2017 arXiv:1710.11107)

Large fraction of the axion & ALP models invoked in the “stellar cooling anomaly” (g_{ae} particularly interesting for this)

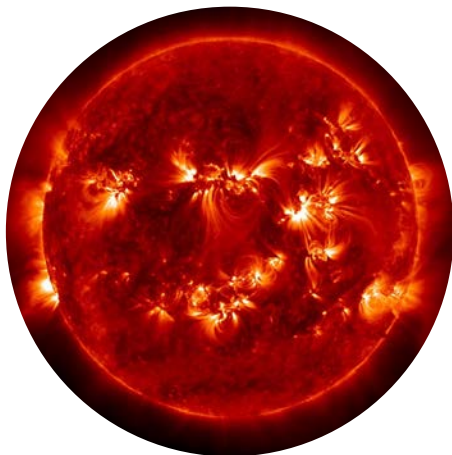
IAXO will fully explore ALP models invoked to solve the “transparency hint”

IAXO will also be able to probe large parameter space for CDM ALPs

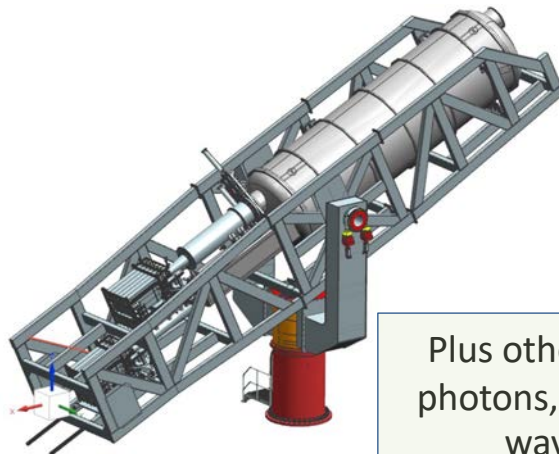
IAXO as a generic axion(-like) detection facility

- (Baby)IAXO constitutes a great infrastructure that can be used to target other physics goals beyond Primakoff solar axions:

Other (non-Primakoff) solar axion production mechanisms (a-e, a-N, ...)



Post-discovery “precision” physics (solar B and T, axion mass and model)



Axions from close-by supernova explosions



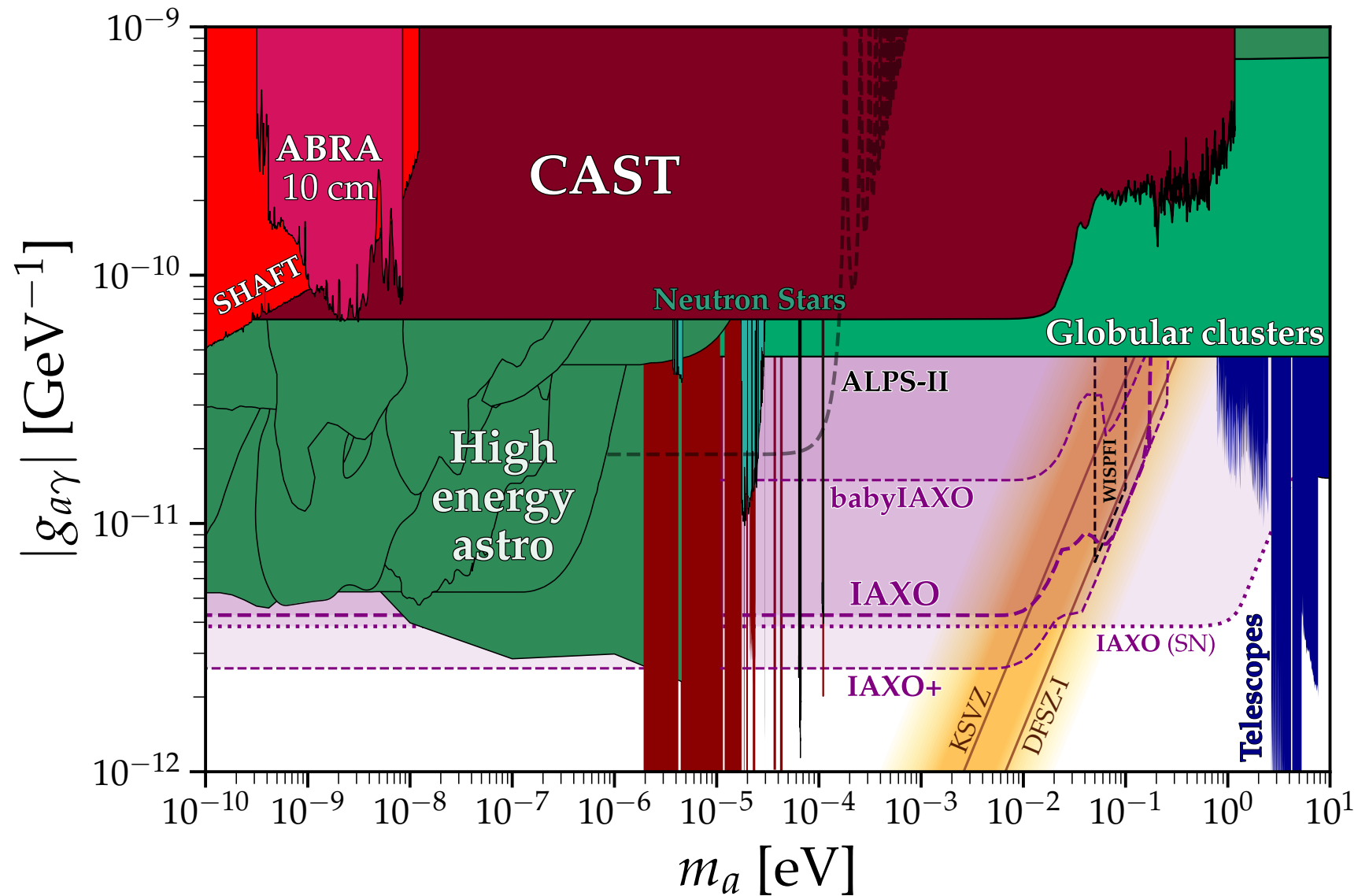
Dark Matter axions: haloscope setups inside the BabyIAXO bores



Plus other WISPs, such as hidden (dark) photons, chame-leons, etc., gravitational wave searches and NS studies

**Beyond Base
Line Science**

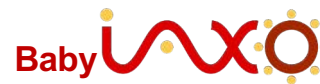
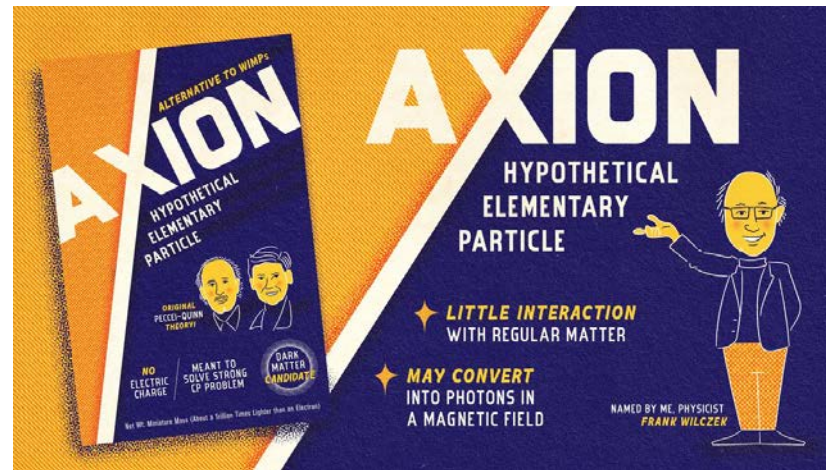
Adapted from <https://github.com/cajohare/AxionLimits>



Conclusions

- ✓ Axions are well motivated dark matter candidates simultaneously solving strong CP
- ✓ Axions (and axion-like particles) can be searched for in a variety of laboratory experiments: Haloscopes, Helioscopes and LSTW experiments
- ✓ Solar axion searches probe large regions of well-motivated axion parameter space
- ✓ BabyIAXO (IAXO) targets axion discovery with sensitivities down to a few 10^{-11} (10^{-12}) GeV^{-1} in $g_{a\gamma}$
- ✓ Intriguing IAXO physics cases beyond axion-photon (g_{ae} , g_{aN} , QCD, ALPs, astrophysical hints, dark photons, dark energy...)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



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