

POF V.

The vision for MU-FPF

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DESY

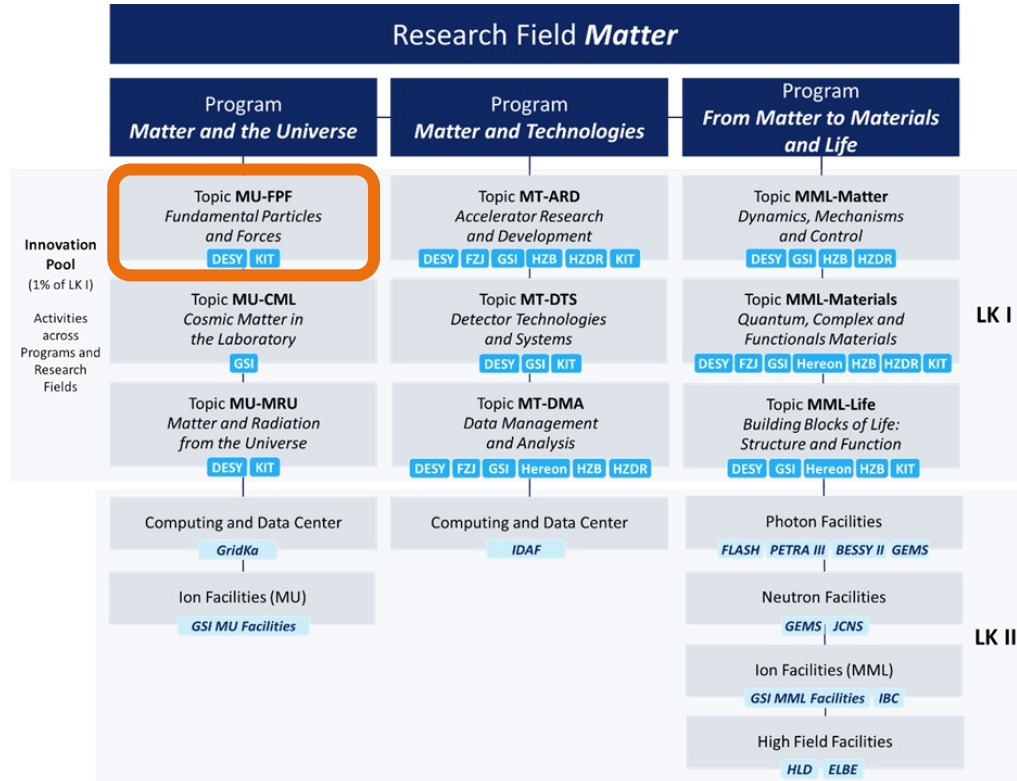
05 August 2025

HELMHOLTZ

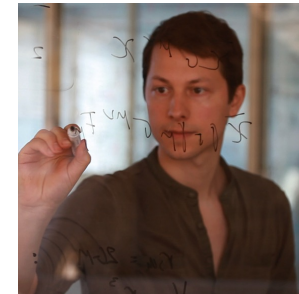


Research field Matter

Topic "Fundamental Particles and Forces" aka FPF



- 2 Helmholtz centers
- 3 locations
- 158 scientists
- 78 Ph.D. students
- 34 MEUR costs / a
- 42 nationalities (numbers from 2023)



Changes from PoF IV to PoF V

Foreseen change of the subtopic structure



Fundamental interactions:

Pushing the limits of our understanding of fundamental interactions

The origin of mass:

The origin of mass, the flavour puzzle, and the imbalance between matter and anti-matter

The early universe:

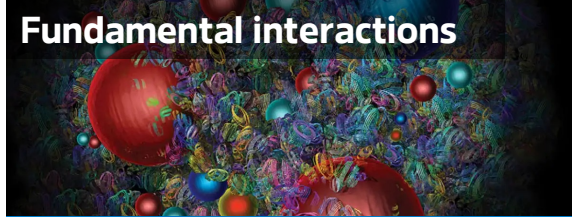
The evolution of the early universe and the nature of the dark sector

Motivation for the change: closer to the science drivers, less thematic overlap between subtopics.

PoF V subtopic structure and science drivers

Science drivers addressing the big questions of nature: Understanding the quantum universe

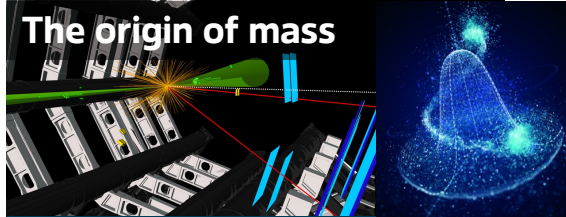
Fundamental interactions



Pushing the limits of our understanding of fundamental interactions

- Electroweak (EW) precision and Higgs physics (HH and Higgs potential)
- Strong-field QED
- QCD (incl. lattice and QC)
- Probing extensions of the SM

The origin of mass



The origin of mass, the flavour puzzle, and the imbalance between matter and anti-matter

- Dynamics of EW symmetry breaking
- Higgs as portal to new particles
- Top and B and Tau physics
- Charge-parity violation
- Lepton flavor universality

The early universe



The evolution of the early universe and the nature of the dark sector

- Cosmology (inflation, baryogenesis,...)
- Searches for dark matter candidates (WIMPs, axions, ALPs,...)
- Gravitational waves
- EW phase transition

PoF V subtopic structure

Connection to theory and experiments

Theory

LHC

Belle II

Axions

LUXE

GW

Testbeam
Facility



Detector Assembly
Facility (DAF)



Computing Centres
GridKa and IDAF



Connection
to MT

Fundamental interactions:

Pushing the limits of our understanding of fundamental interactions

The origin of mass:

The origin of mass, the flavour puzzle, and the imbalance between matter and anti-matter

The early universe:

The evolution of the early universe and the nature of the dark sector

The immediate future is quite clear... but we need to plan now for new projects

... to be able to capitalize on our experience!

Decades of experience in leading and supporting physics and detector efforts worldwide

- **Need to maintain and evolve DESY's position as a German hub**
 - In sync with momentum growth in the community
- **Capitalise on DESY strengths:**
 - **In data analysis** and the strong link to **theory**
 - Overall **detector concepts** and optimisation
 - **Software** frameworks and **integration**
 - **Detector technology** competences and **infrastructure (making use of the DAF)**

→ **Need to continue in a leading role in PoF V, together with German institutes:**

- in growing number of on-site experiments,
- in current off-site experiments and in future experiments at CERN
- in possible intermediate projects

Overview of most discussed (intermediate) projects

...after finishing the big upgrades

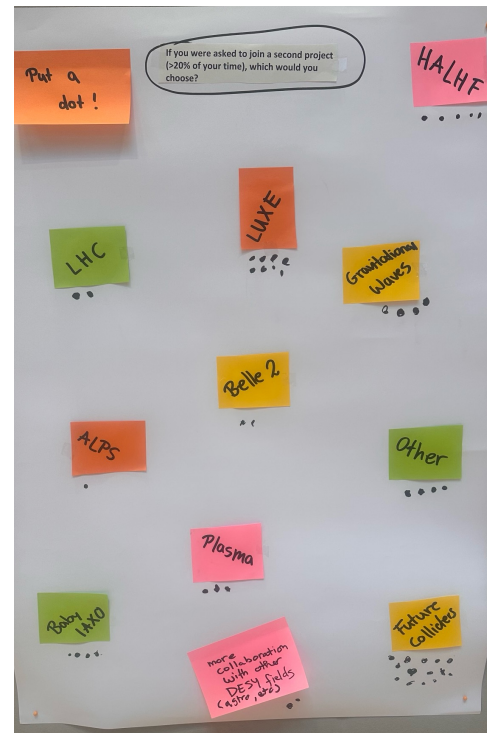
Criteria for choosing the next project:

- Scientifically interesting
- Fitting our expertise
- Cannot be done by a (small) university group
- Where DESY can have an impact
- Where DESY can act as German hub
- Where the (realistic) timescale fits

Possible projects:

- R&D for next CERN project
- SHiP
- KOTO
- Lohengrin
- LHCb upgrade – mighty tracker
- ???

From FH retreat: highest interests of DESY people in terms of new (2nd project to work on) is in future colliders



FCC-ee

R&D and first demonstrators

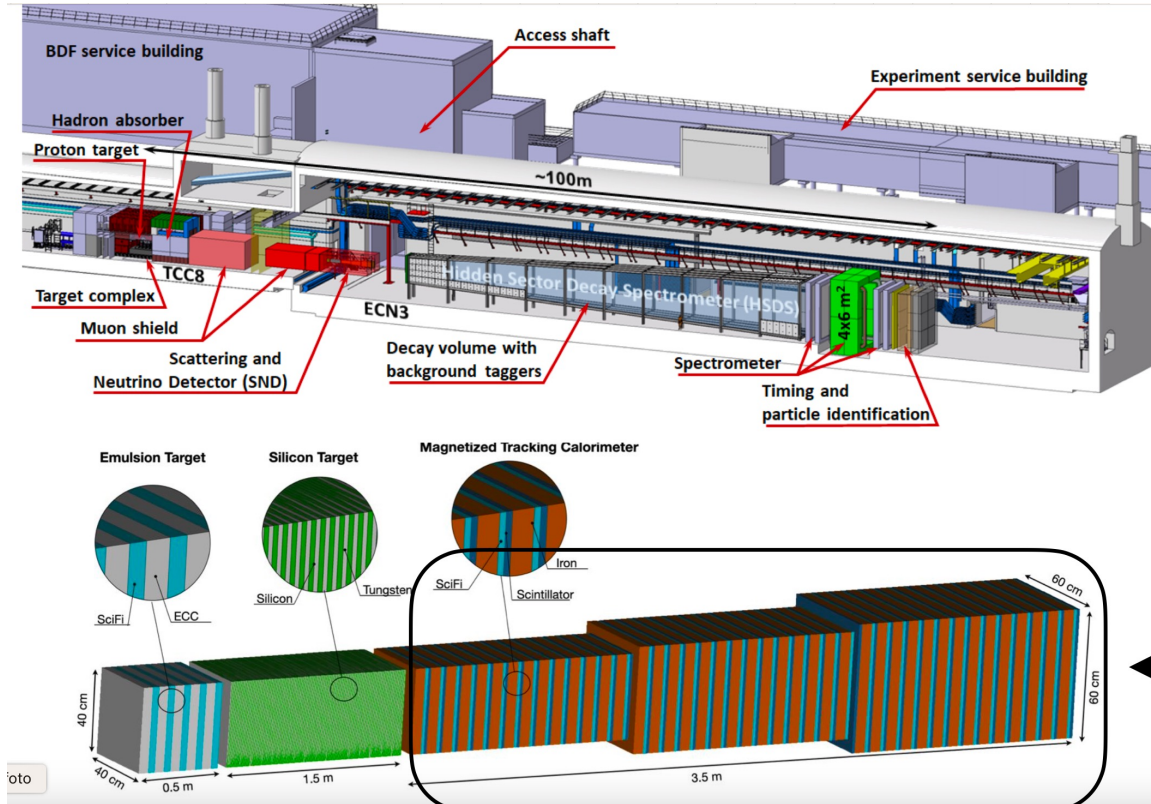
Optimistic scenario: Decision to build FCC-ee by CERN member states still during PoF V

- DESY in prime position:
 - Member of several R&D collaborations
 - Experience in building large scale detectors

Alternative CERN projects will be on the same timescale

Most optimistic timeline for FCC-ee during PoF V:

Earliest Project Approval by CERN Council	2028
Call for CDRs, collaboration forming	2028
Construction of system demonstrators; Physics performance studies for detector optimization	2028-2031
End of HL-LHC upgrade: more detector experts available	2029
4 Detector CDRs ready	2031
Production of scalable prototypes	2031-35
4 Detector TDRs ready	2035
Detector component production	2036



KOTO II

Si in vacuum and $s \rightarrow d \nu \bar{\nu}$ transitions – both scientifically interesting

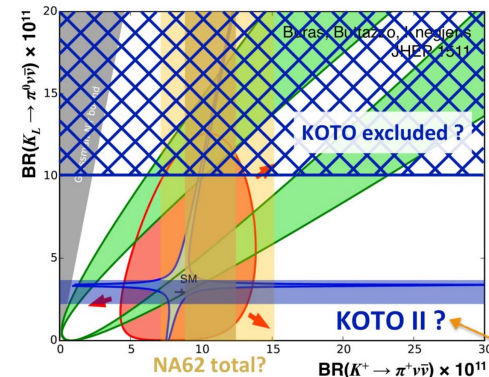
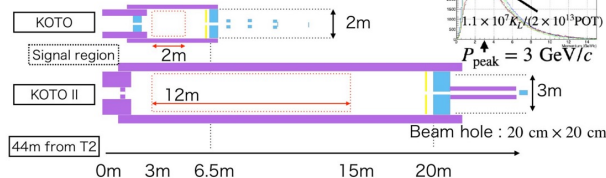
KOTO-II detector

LOI: arXiv:2501.14827

Peak K_L momentum : 1.4 GeV/c (KOTO) \rightarrow 3 GeV/c (KOTO II)

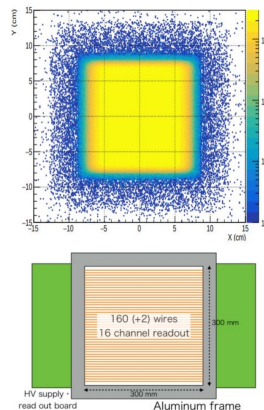
Longer decay volume (2 m \rightarrow 12 m)

Larger diameter calorimeter (2 m \rightarrow 3 m)



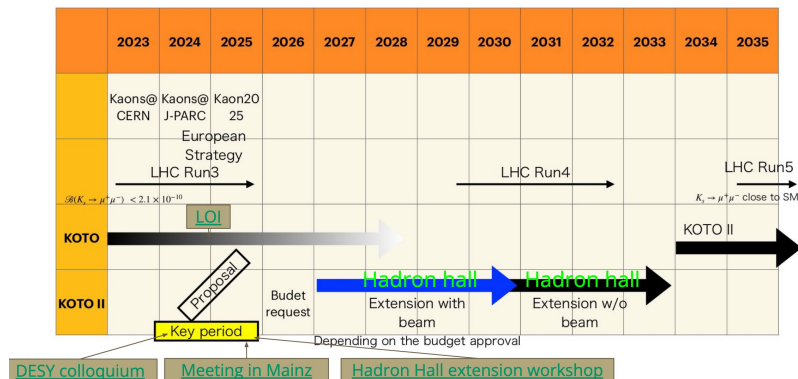
Some detector opportunities

- New detector: many ways to contribute
 - Vacuum tank
 - Tracking:
 - In-beam silicon veto counter
 - Forward tracker inspired by LHCb "mighty tracker" design
 - Calorimeter:
 - Extending existing CsI calorimeter, several options discussed
 - Barrel veto counters



Silicon detector projects

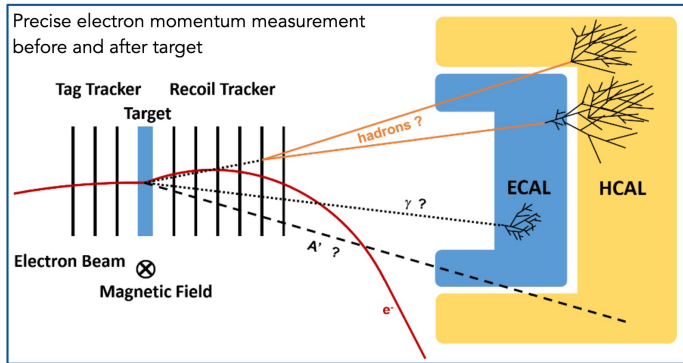
KOTO II - Time line



Lohengrin

Proposed search for dark sector particles at ELSA/Bonn

Search for Lohengrin dark bremsstrahlung process



Covers a region of dark photon masses between roughly 1 MeV and 50 MeV

Tagging & Recoil Tracker:

Challenging requirements:

- Hit rate $10^8 \text{ e}^-/\text{s}$
- Reconstruct large momentum range
MAPS
- (TJmonopix2 in sim;
- OCTOPUS also interesting)

Dominant process(es):

$$e^- \mathcal{H} \rightarrow e^- \mathcal{H} \gamma$$

and subsequent photo- and electro-nuclear reactions.

Occasionally:

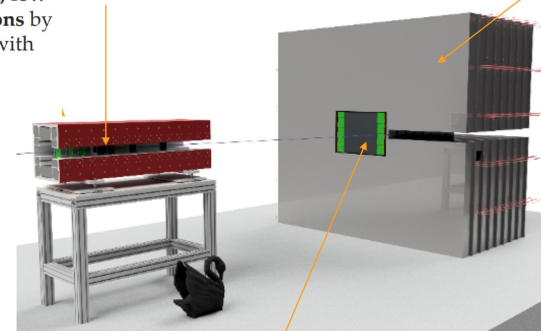
$$e^- \mathcal{H} \rightarrow e^- \mathcal{H} A'$$

controlled by $\varepsilon, m_{A'}$.

=> Search for **recoiling, low energy solitary electrons** by vetoing backgrounds with ECAL and HCAL!

HCAL:

Essential to veto neutral hadrons
Sandwich of iron absorber layers (2cm) and silicon layers (0.05 cm)



ECAL: SiW ECAL based on CALICE prototype

Connections to **DESY**:

- Dark Matter Searches
- MAPS/vertex det developments
- CALICE
- DMLab
- ATCS
- ...

Investigation of other projects

Recap from last retreat

Consider other projects

- that are scientifically interesting
- that fit our expertise
- that cannot be done by a (small) university group
- where DESY can have an impact
- where the (realistic) timescale fits
- where DESY can act as German hub

**Beware: partly
obsolete by now**

	Physics - Neutrino	Physics - FIPs	Physics - Other	FH Expertise	FH Infrastructure	German Hub	DESY Impact on Project	Cross-Division Synergies	Realistic	Impact on Society	Interesting Tech	Gain for DESY	Timeline
DUNE			PD										
Hyper-K			PD										
ESS-nu			PD										
nuStorm			R&D										
0v2b													
CEvENS													
Short Baseline													
FPF			QCD										
HIKE+SHADOWS+NANU			Flav										
SHIP+SND													
LDMX													
LHCb			Flav										
MATHUSLA/Codex/Anubis													
LUXE NPOD			QED										
Baby-IAXO													
MADMAX													
IAXO													
EDM Storage Ring													

Investigation of other projects

Focus on Silicon technology

Consider other projects

- that are scientifically interesting
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Experiment	Timescale (start run)	Certain	(MAPS) R&D compatible	System expertise	Si size	DESY involved?	DESY as German hub
P2 Spectrometer @ MESA	In construction	yes	No	?	small	Chip charact.	EC: Prisma++
INSIGHT @ ELSA	2027	yes	No	yes	small	no	EC: Colour meets Flavour
LOHENGRIN @ ELSA	~2030	yes	Maybe Needs also HCAL	yes	10s cm2	no	EC: Colour meets Flavour
LUXE upgrade	Middle 2030ies	no	yes	yes	~200 cm2	On-site	?
Belle-2 tracker upgrade	2034 Decis. 2028	no	Probably not (Obelix)	yes	VTX: 10s cm2 ITT: several m2	yes	yes
KOTO-2 veto	2034	likely	maybe	yes	20*20 cm2	no	No?
KOTO-2 Tracker	2034 or ~8 years later	no	One proposal based on MightyPix	yes	Large, in vacuum	no	No?
LHCb Upgrade 2 MightyTracker	2036	yes	No, will use MightyPix	yes	10s m2	no	yes
newAstroGam	Launch 2041 Decis. 2030	no	No, will use AstroPix	yes	~10 m2	AP project	?

New projects

...after finishing the big upgrades → Connection to MT

Detector activities: formally part of MT-DTS and MU-FPF:

- **MT-DTS: Detector R&D**

- Silicon detector R&D: CMOS based Pixel and Strips
- Silicon photonic transceiver (InnoPool SoPhie)
- Calorimeter developments
- Advanced cooling techniques
- ...

- **MU-FPF: Detector construction for experiments**

- ATLAS and CMS Phase-2 upgrade
- Belle-II PXD2 (completed)
- TES for ALPS
- In parallel: physics performance and physics-driven detector optimisation for new experiments



Transition from R&D to prototyping and construction involves transition of research programme.

R&D goals in MT-DTS should be aligned with plans in MU-FPF.

Backup / further info

Topics of interest in MT

... and connection to DRDs

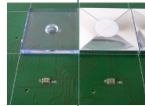
Silicon detector development is a strong focus of our interest

- Monolithic CMOS
- Novel sensors (ELAD, digital SiPM, ...)
- Software tool developments
- [Involvement in DRD3 \(Silicon\)](#)



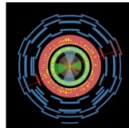
Calorimeter developments

- Highly granular SiPM on tile calorimeter
- [Involvement in DRD6 \(Calo\)](#)



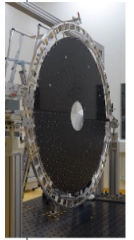
Data transfer

- Silicon photonics
- Advanced interconnects
- [Involvement in DRD7 \(Electronics\)](#)



Integration

- Detector integration center
- R&D on light weight mechanics, local cooling and cooling systems
- [Involvement in DRD8 \(Integration\)](#)



Cryogenic detectors

- Transition Edge Sensors
- Developments for axion/dark matter experiments
- [Involvement in DRD5 \(Quantum sensors\)](#)



Infrastructure

- Detector Assembly Facility
- Test beam

Cross topic goal: Build a demonstrator vertex detector based on CMOS technologies

LHC Detector Upgrade Projects

... will continue to be a major effort in PoF V

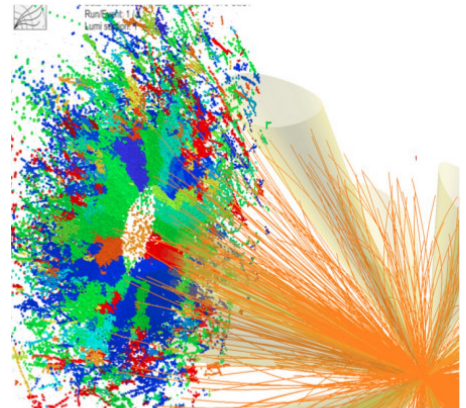
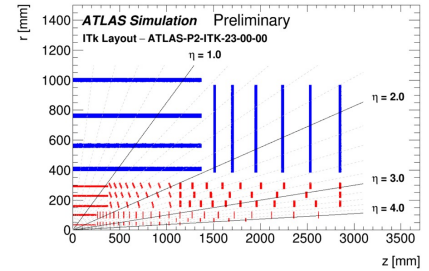
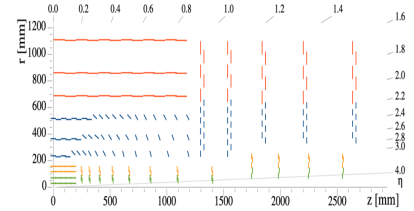
- **New trackers for ATLAS and CMS:**

- Increased granularity → **cope with the dense environment** at HL-LHC
- Increased radiation tolerance → cope with the **harsh radiation** at HL-LHC
- Improved hit resolution for high-pT tracks
- Track trigger (@CMS) → **data reduction at trigger** readout by factor 10-20
- Extended tracking to the forward region → better access to **VBF measurements**

- **HGCAL:**

- First particle flow calorimeter at a hadron collider, first **precise 5-D calorimeter** with the timing information
- Granularity, radiation hardness, and extended coverage: instrumental for jet physics improving energy resolution and enabling measurements in the forward direction (+ pileup mitigation)
- Key to **improving high profile physics topics at HL-LHC** → HH, H signatures, VBF, tau signatures, forward flavour-tagging

DESY acts as a hub creating links to other institutes in Germany (and internationally)



LHC Detector Upgrade Projects

... getting it to work!!!

- **Make most of experience of construction at DESY**
 - Commissioning (2027-2029)
 - Early data taking (2029-2030)
 - Initial alignment and calibration (2029-2030): profit from existing know-how and test beam experience
 - Initial performance papers (2030-2032) profit from production experience

Perfect opportunity for young people to “touch the detector” and become real experimentalists

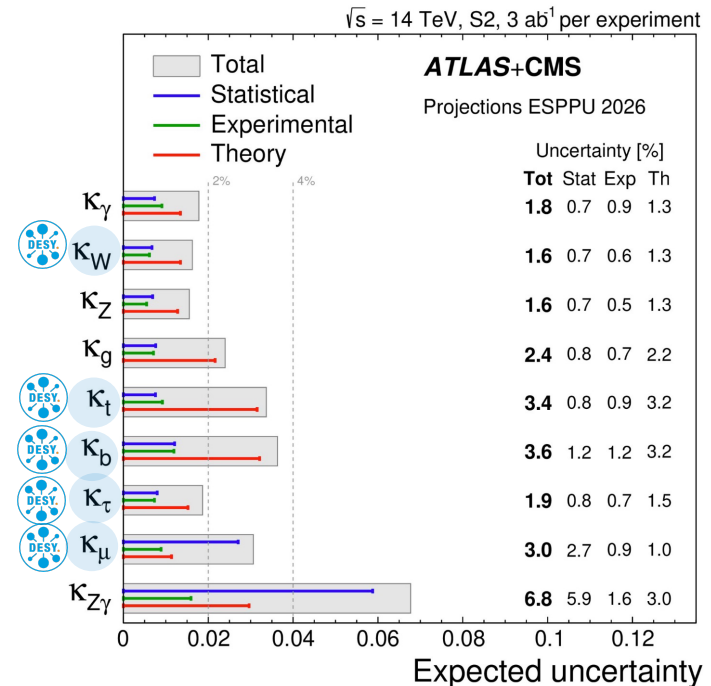
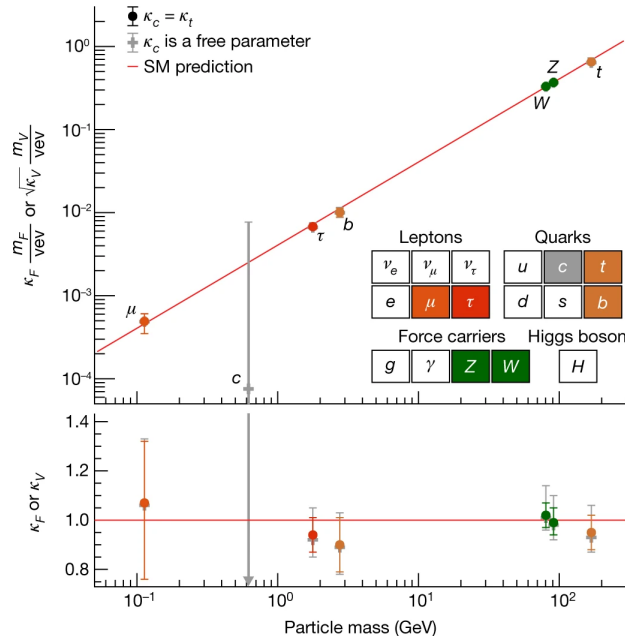
- **Profit of the ML papers being written in our groups**
 - Reconstruction and low-level expertise at DESY (alignment, particle flow, ...)
 - Be the first/leading to put this in HL-LHC physics analyses
 - Let's show that it works in real life!

Investigating the detected Higgs boson

How do particles get their mass – by the SM Higgs mechanism or something else?

Measure the Higgs boson couplings as precisely as possible

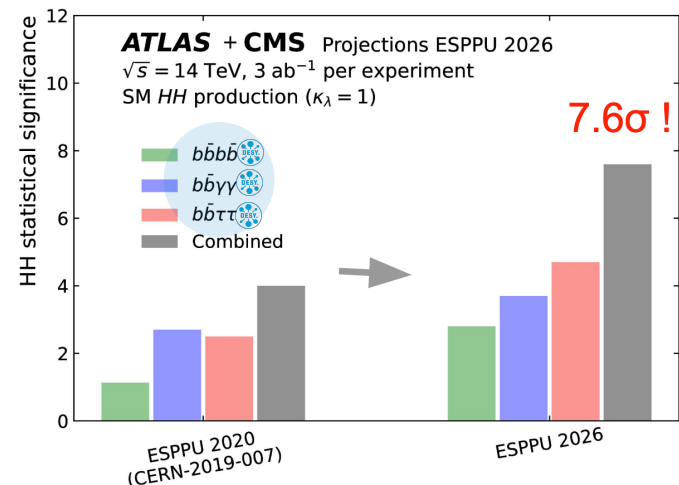
- CP odd coupling?
- Unexpected (BSM) contributions?



Tackling the di-Higgs production

Possible for the first time during PoF V!!!

- **Probing the Higgs potential and the mechanism of electroweak symmetry breaking!**
- **Does the Higgs boson couple to itself as we expect?**
 - HL-LHC allows this measurement for the first time!
 - Room for surprises:
new heavy resonances could enhance cross section!
 - Most sensitive channels are exactly those where DESY profits from expertise on object performance
 - DESY with both ATLAS and CMS groups is in an excellent position to work on combinations
 - **5 σ discovery already with 2 ab⁻¹**
(expected in combination of ATLAS and CMS by the end of PoF V)

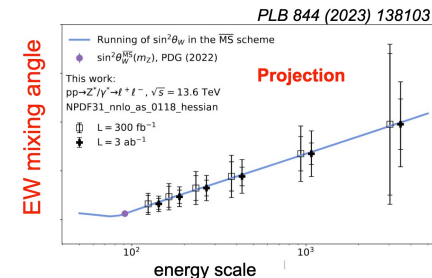


Precision tests of the fundamental forces

Profiting from new detectors and experiments

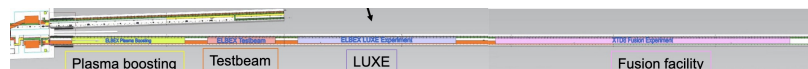
- **ElectroWeak (EW) force:**

- Measurements of the fundamental parameters, e.g. EW mixing angle (exploiting new forward tracking)



- **QuantumElectroDynamics (QED):**

- What happens at the Schwinger limit?
- Goal for PoF V: **LUXE up and running, profiting from ELBEX extraction at European XFEL**



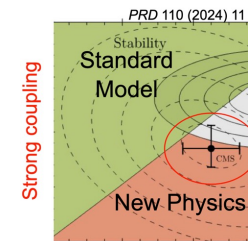
First measurement

- **QuantumChromoDynamics (QCD):**

- Precision tests, e.g. measurement of the strong coupling parameter α_s at the LHC
- Lattice calculations

- **Understanding of the content of matter**

- Measurement of parton distributions
- Common effort of theory and experiment: treat correlations of SM parameters and PDFs in global SMEFT interpretation



Improve by factor of 2!

Bring light into open questions

Focus on new opportunities from our detector upgrades and high luminosity

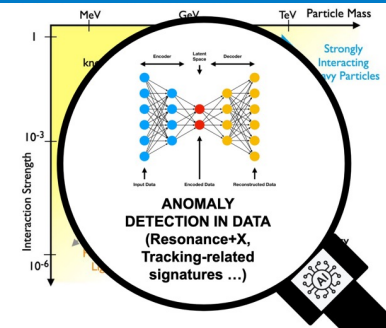
- **Probing the Matter-Antimatter asymmetry**

→ Search for CP violation in the Higgs sector

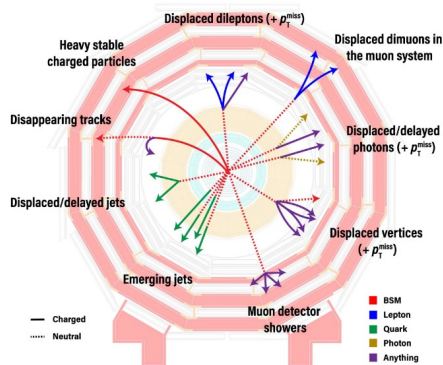
- **Why is the Higgs boson so light?**

→ Search for extensions of the SM, but also for the unknown

Subtopic 1: Fundamental interactions



New physics with long-lived particles
(incl τ leptons, jets, leptons)

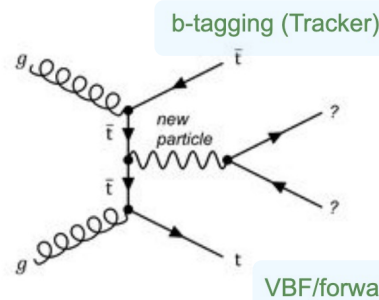


New L1 triggers (HGCal)

τ -reco (Tracker)

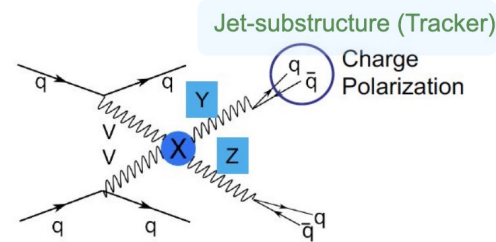
New physics in (multi)top final states

(full range: single top+X through $tttt(+X?)$ signatures)



VBF/forward jets (HGCal/Tracker)

VBF-produced new physics



Jet-substructure (Tracker)

Charge Polarization

Machine learning for

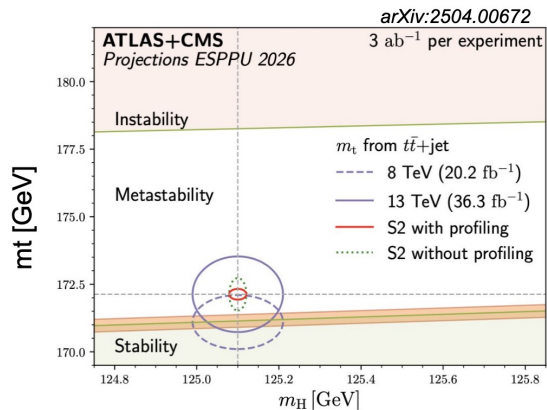
- Object identification
- Background prediction
- Event classification

This broad strategy is sensitive to many BSM scenarios and ready for (positive) surprises at HL-LHC

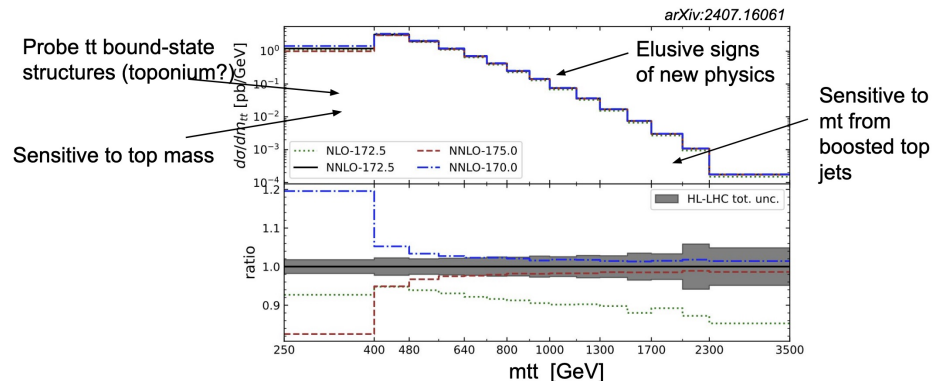
Pattern in fermion masses?

DESY tackles the 3rd generation

- Understanding the **top quark** and its couplings from the non-relativistic to highly-boosted regime:
→ Ultimate stress test of the SM and window to BSM
- Deliver the most precise **τ mass** measurement at Belle II
- Is our Universe stable?**
→ Precise measurement of **W and top mass**



End HL-LHC m_t precision ~ 200 MeV

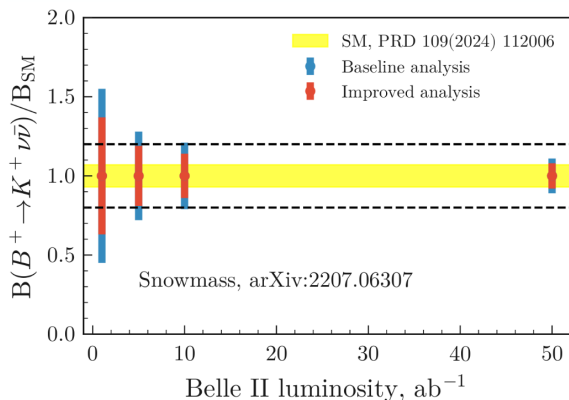


New trackers fundamental

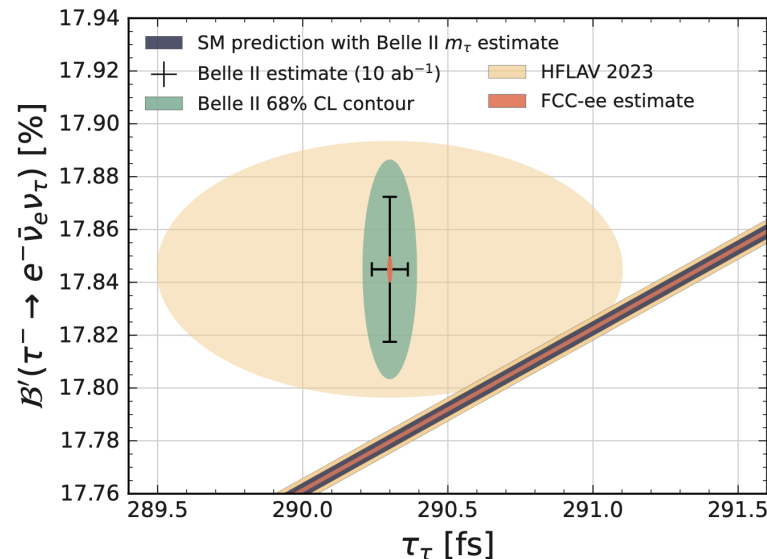
Difference between the 3 generations?

... beyond mass?

- **Test lepton flavor universality** with τ leptons at Belle II
 - Expect significant improvement in **lifetime measurement**
 - Measure $\mathcal{B}(\tau \rightarrow \ell \nu_\ell \nu_\tau)$ for the first time and challenge the SM
- Testing our predictions for the three generations by measuring **CKM parameters**: α , β , $|\mathbf{v}_{us}|$
- **Measurement of $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$** : interesting since current measurement higher than SM
 - 5 ab^{-1} is sufficient to establish the process (assuming SM)
 - Complement with other channels (B^0 decays, ...)



05 August 2025



New PXD pivotal for the
lifetime measurement

The dark side

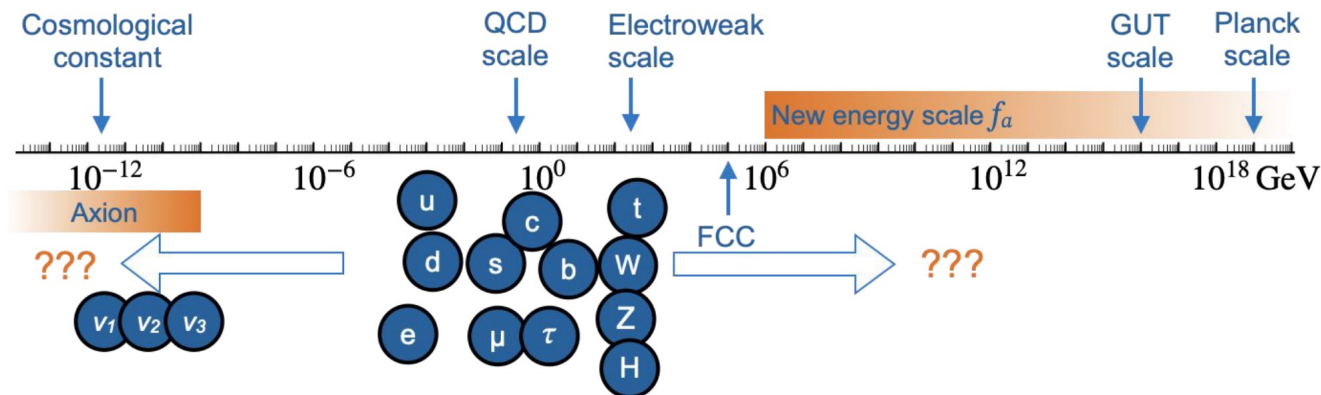
... of the early universe

- **What is dark matter?**

- If produced in the early universe, it could also be produced at colliders!
- Is the Higgs boson a portal to dark matter?
- Axions and axion-like particles are viable candidates (and could be produced in the lab or in the sun)

- **What is dark energy?**

- Ultralight ($<10^{-33}$ eV) axions could be the dynamical dark energy



Planned axion searches

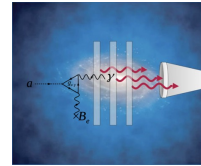
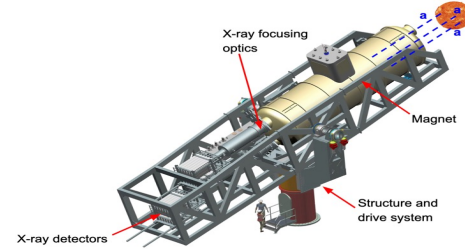
... at DESY as worldwide renowned Axion Center

- **BabylAXO**

- The next generation state-of-the-art helioscope at DESY
- Sensitivity: $\sim 100\times$ CERN Axion Solar Telescope (CAST)
- **Goal: BabylAXO built and taking first data in PoF V**

- **MADMAX**

- Large resonator from many parallel dielectric disks
- **Goal 1: MADMAX prototype cryostat up and running**
- **Goal 2: Final magnet and cryostat to be installed in PoF V**

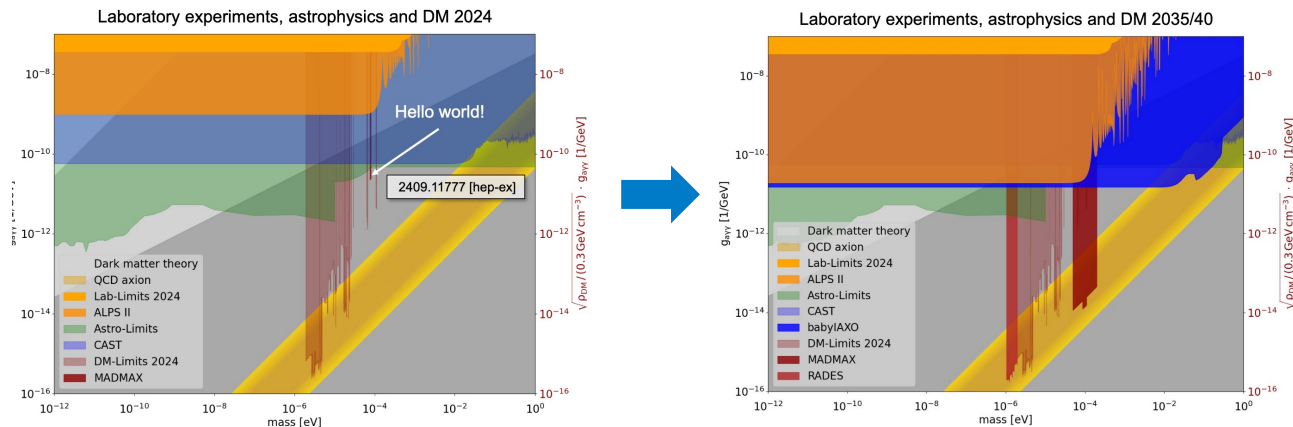
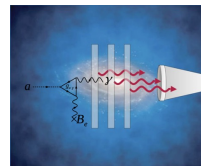
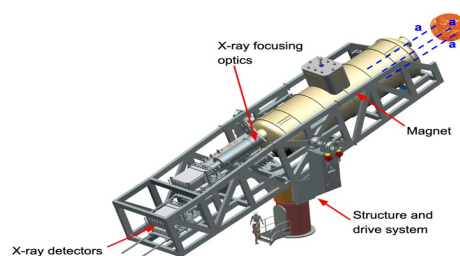


Subtopic 3:
The early universe

Planned axion searches

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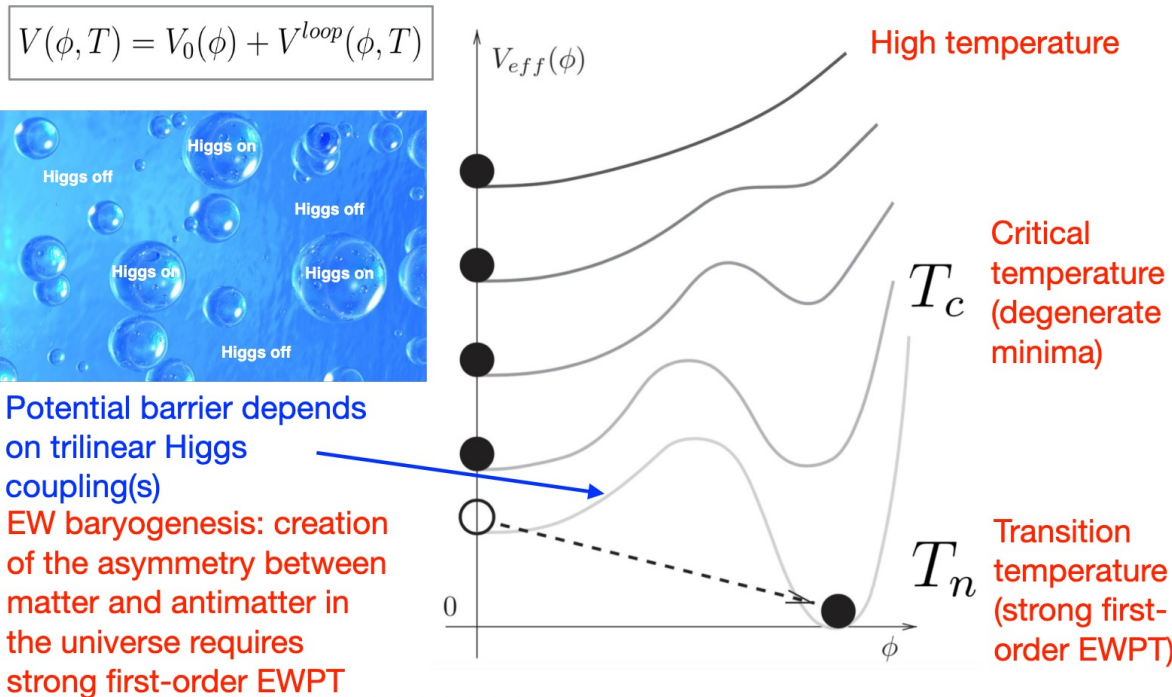


ALPS II target sensitivity
MADMAX target sensitivity
RADES target sensitivity
(using the BabylAXO magnet)
BabylAXO target sensitivity

Higgs potential and EW phase transition

... in the early universe

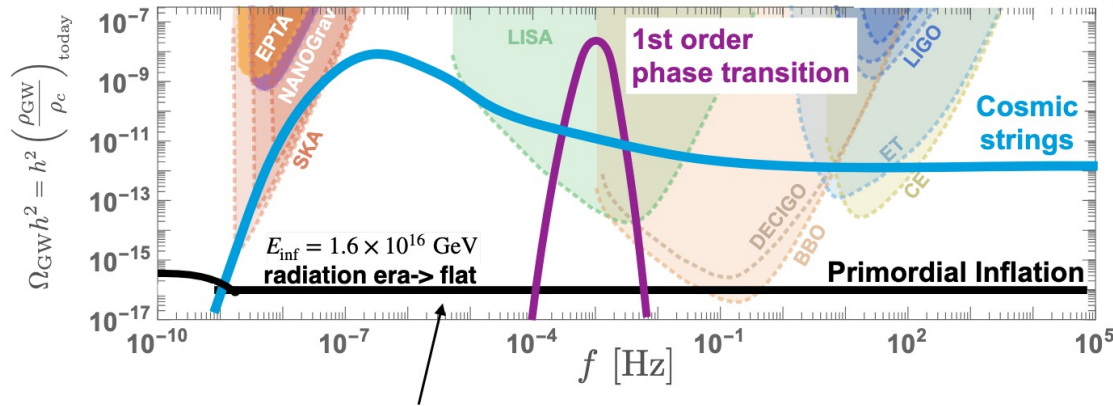
Temperature evolution of the Higgs potential in the early universe:



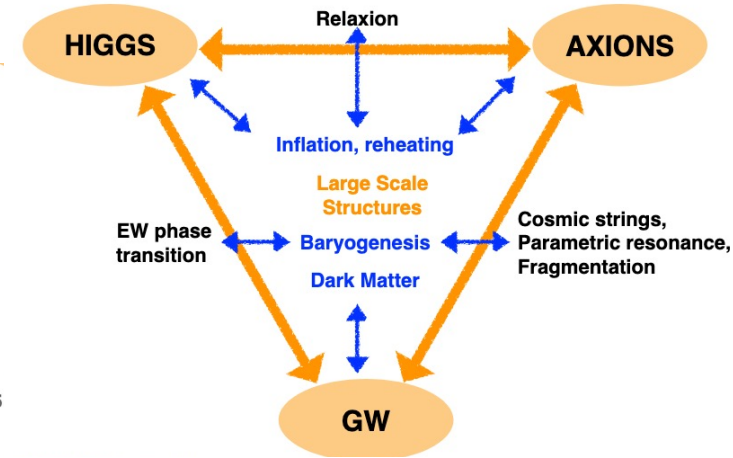
Gravitational waves

... as a probe of the early universe

Subtopic 3:
The early universe



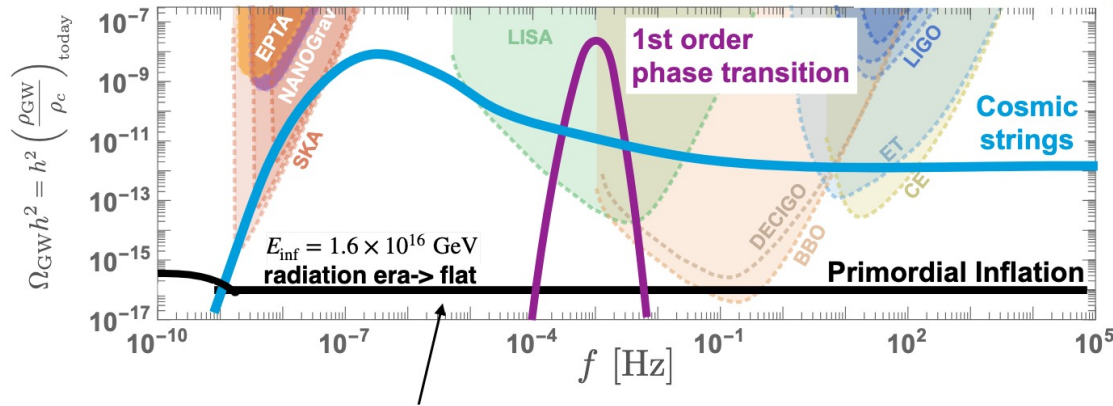
Irreducible GW background from amplification of initial quantum fluctuations of the gravitational field during inflation



Gravitational waves

... as a probe of the early universe

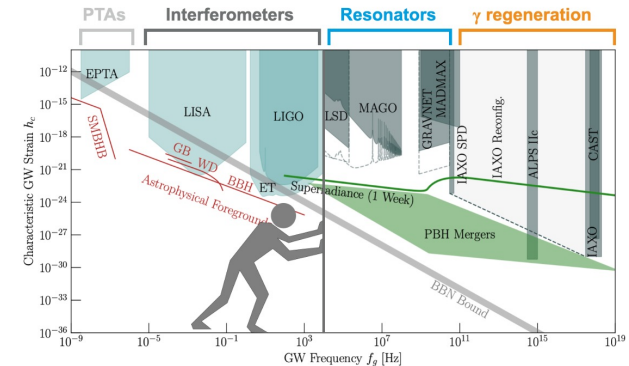
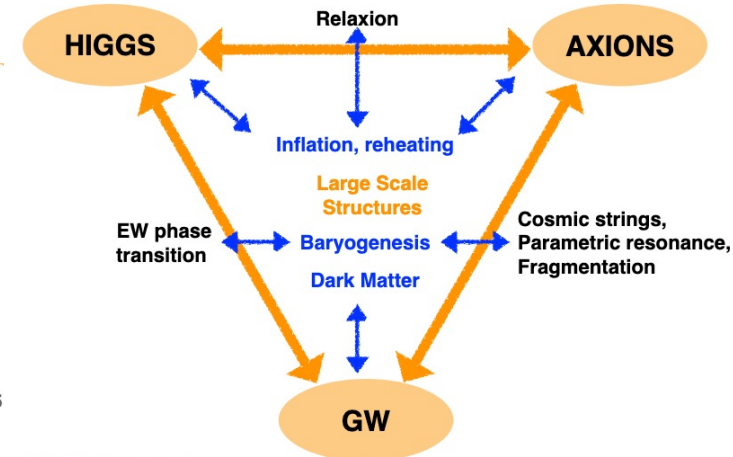
Subtopic 3:
The early universe



Irreducible GW background from amplification of initial quantum fluctuations of the gravitational field during inflation

Area of opportunity: test high frequencies

- No known astrophysical objects over O(kHz): search for new physics
- **Ongoing R&D projects at DESY to establish technologies and assess feasibility:**
SRF cavities (MAGO), levitated sensors, usage of axion infrastructure

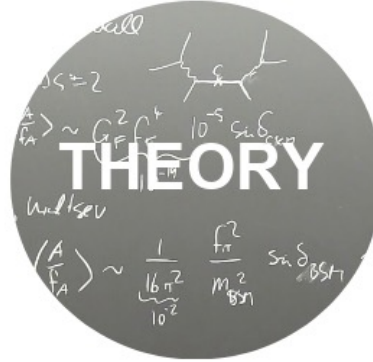


Questions to be answered in the report

- **Brief description of challenges, scientific goals and strategic relevance, also in relation with research policy objectives and in the context of international developments.**
- **Key questions:**
 - How would you rate the objectives of the topic with regard to **scientific relevance and leadership**?
 - Which pressing societal or **scientific challenges** does it address?
 - How would you rate the topic's potential **impact** with regard to the research field, its technologies and its societal context?
 - How would you evaluate its **alignment with the research policy objectives** of the research field (and with the strategy of the program)?
 - Do you envision **further objectives** that the topic should consider addressing?

Towards PoF V

Focus areas in MU-FPF (Fundamental Partices and Forces)



Off-site experiments:

Key contributions (data analysis, commissioning and operation) to global projects at CERN and KEK:

- ATLAS and CMS
- Belle II

Engage in future collider decision and preparation

New detector project?

Theory:

Establish the Wolfgang-Pauli Center as world-leading interdisciplinary center for theoretical physics

Idea factory for future science endeavours

On-site experiments:

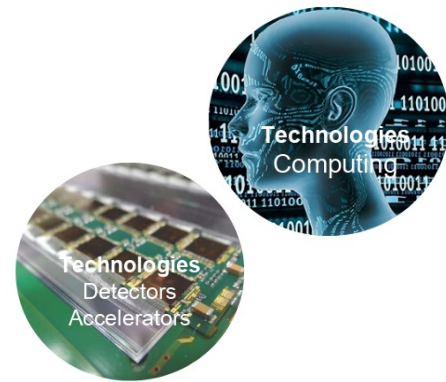
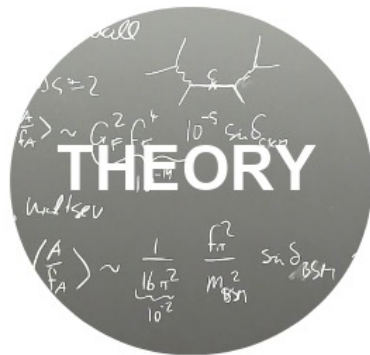
- Planned axion experiments: BabyIAXO, MADMAX
- QED at the extreme: LUXE

New ideas:

- VMB @ ALPS II
- High-frequency GW experiments

Particle Physics at DESY: the Next 10-15 Years

Specific focus areas



Key contributions to global projects at CERN and KEK

- HL-LHC preparation and running in 2029 onwards
- Belle II: expect ~50/ab by 2034

Engage in planning and preparation for future projects (EPPSU decision by 2028)

Maintain broad and world-leading portfolio.

Establish WPC as world-leading interdisciplinary center for theoretical physics

Theory as "Idea factory"

ALPS II: first science run started running in May 2023.

BabyIAXO, LUXE: Solve challenges & find financial resources for PoF V

MADMAX: proof concept in prototyping phase & find financial resources

New ideas, e.g. HF GW local experiments (complementing ET)

~50% of topic resources go into technical work!

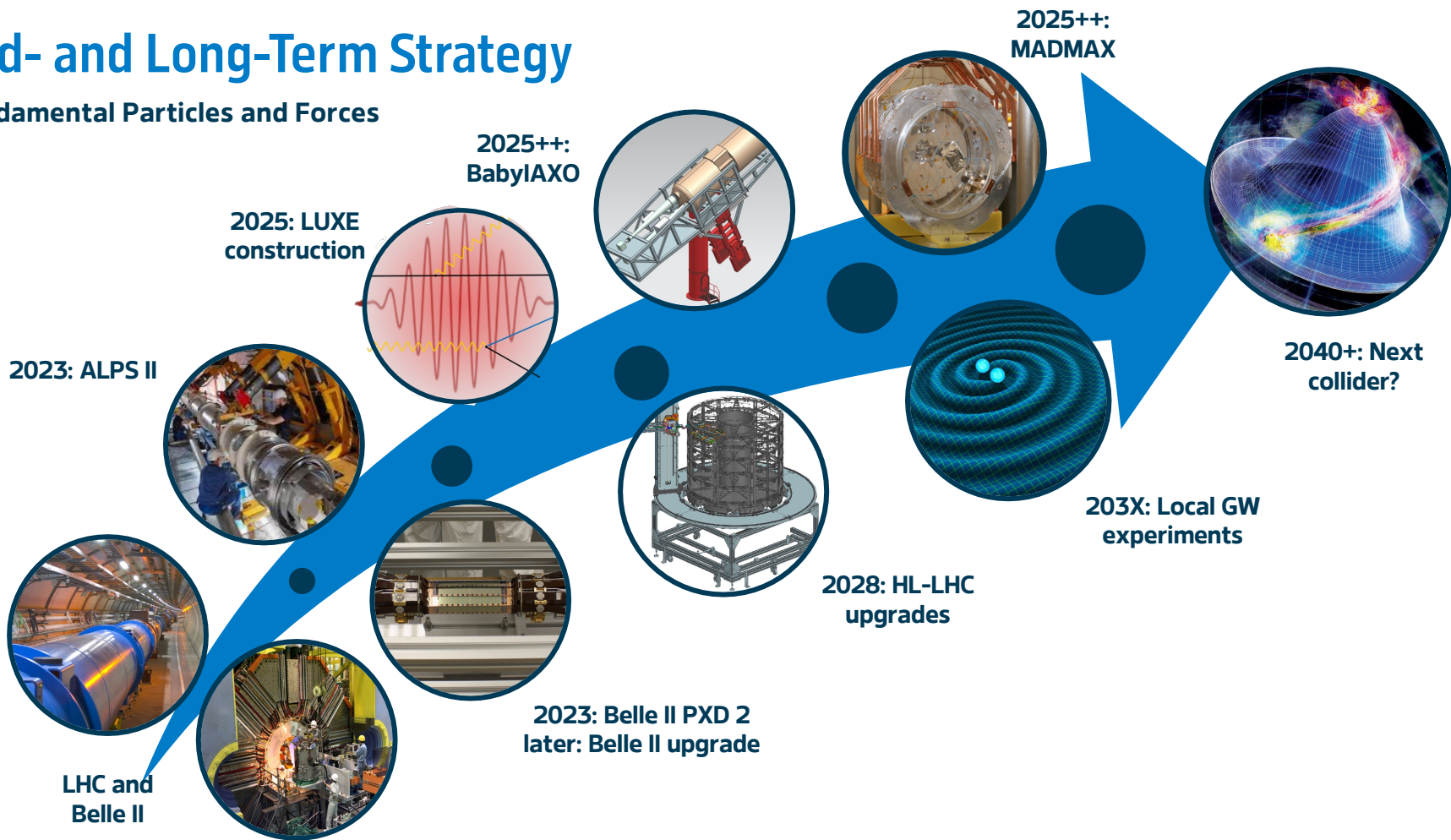
Strengthen innovation in detectors and computing

Increase 3rd party funding

Strengthen exchange across divisions

Mid- and Long-Term Strategy

Fundamental Particles and Forces



The origin of mass

Testing our predictions for the three generations by measuring CKM parameters

- β from decay-time-dependent CP analyses of $B \rightarrow J/\psi K^0$ decays
 - With 5 ab⁻¹ of data, statistical precision on beta is expected to be competitive with LHCb with 50/fb of data (both LHCb and Belle II analyses will be systematics-limited)
- α from analysis of $B \rightarrow \rho\rho$, $B \rightarrow \pi\pi$, $B \rightarrow \rho\pi$ decays
 - Least well known CKM angle so far
 - Belle II will lead the precision
- $|v_{us}|$ exclusive and inclusive from τ decays
 - Value is high when measured in τ decays: Cabibbo angle anomaly
 - As a τ factory, Belle II is uniquely placed to address this issue

PXD fundamental in controlling resolution function systematics

