

# AXION Searches at LNF

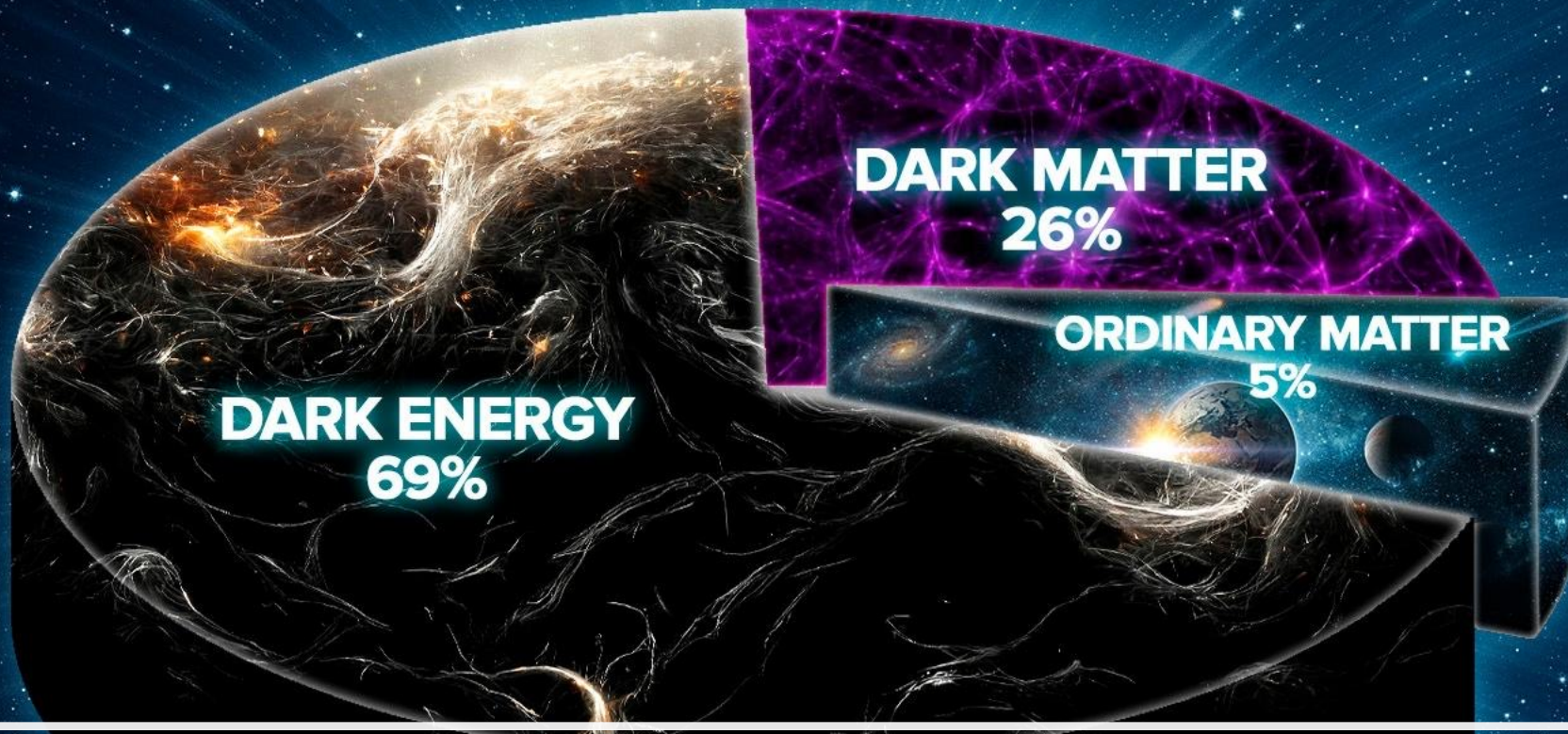
QUAX@LNF a 9 GHz Haloscope

FLASH a 100 MHz Haloscope

Claudio Gatti - LNF

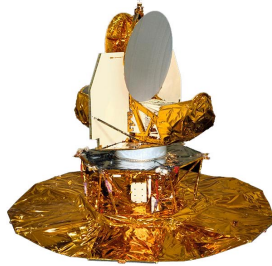


University of Liverpool 16 October 2024



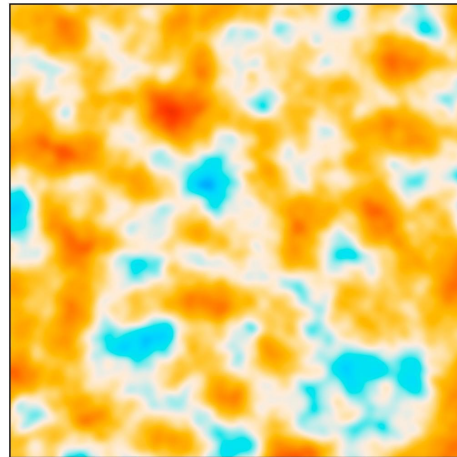
## Introduction - Dark Matter

# Cosmic Microwave Background - Anisotropy



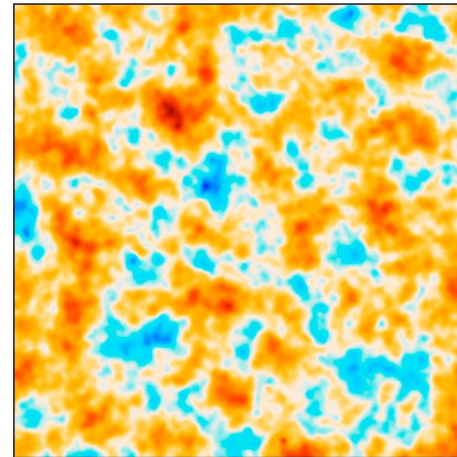
COBE

1989



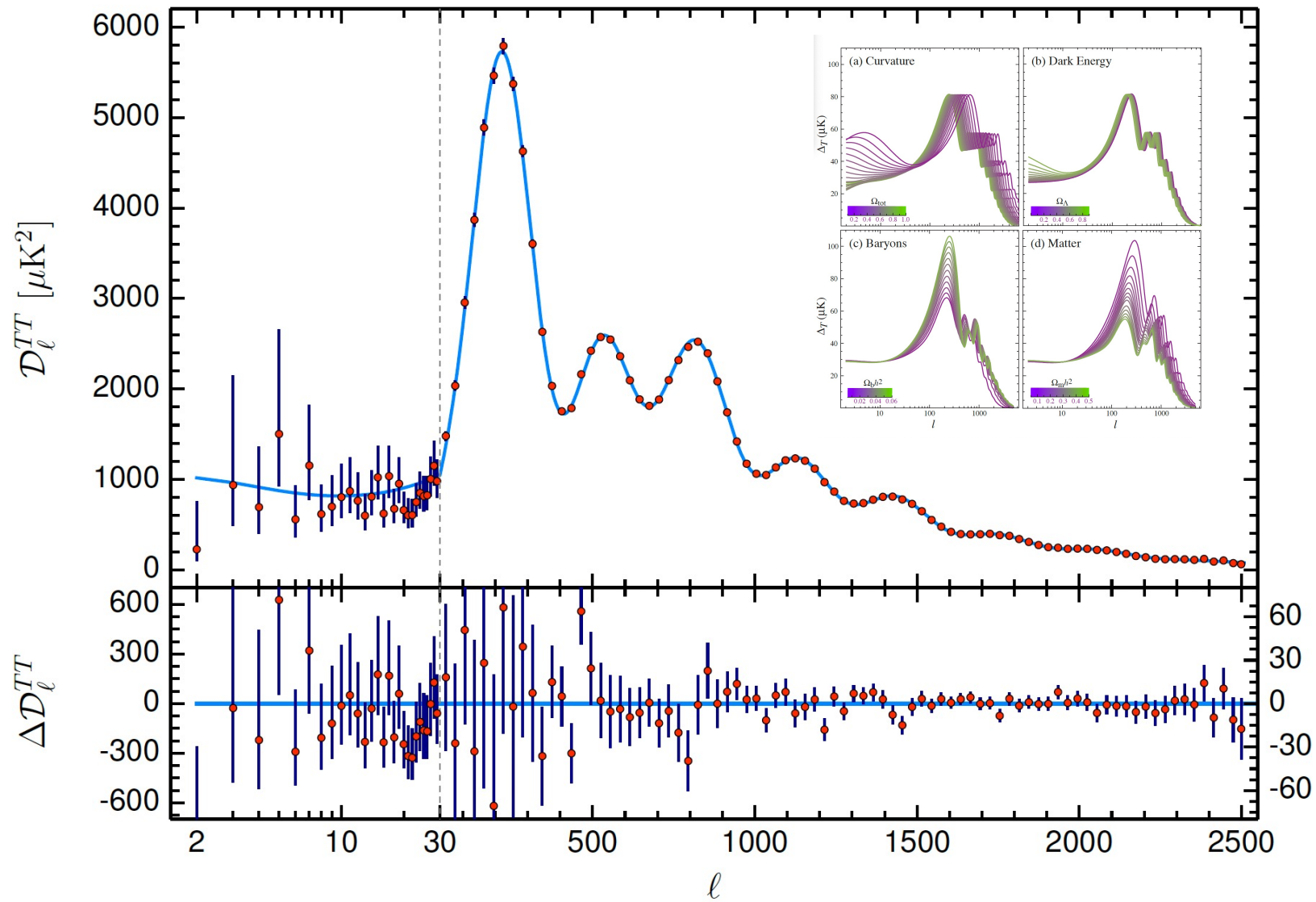
WMAP

2001



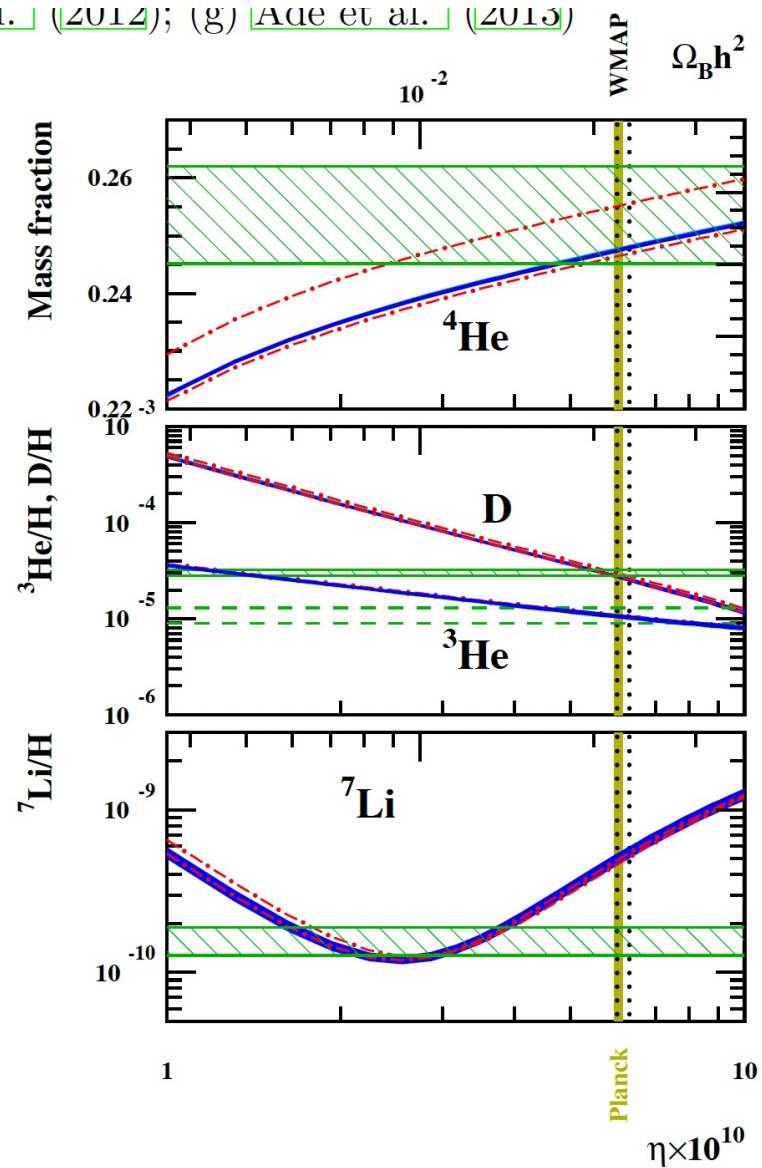
Planck

2009

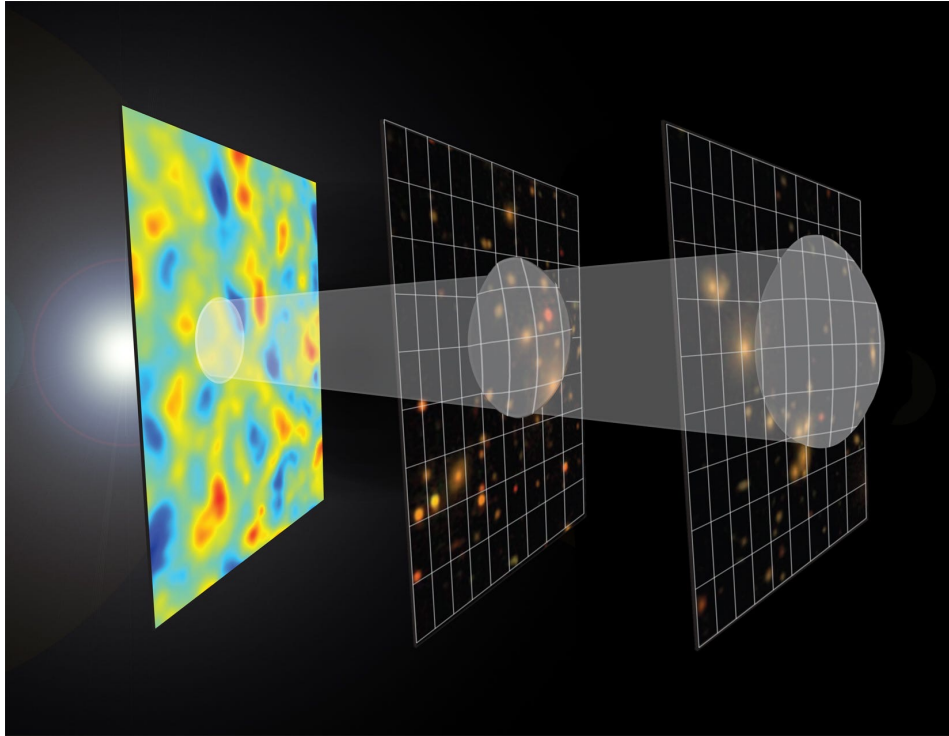


$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Omega_{\Lambda} \approx 68\% \\ \Omega_{DM} \approx 26\% \\ \Omega_b \approx 6\% \end{array} \right.$$

# $\Omega_b$ - Big-Bang Nucleosynthesis

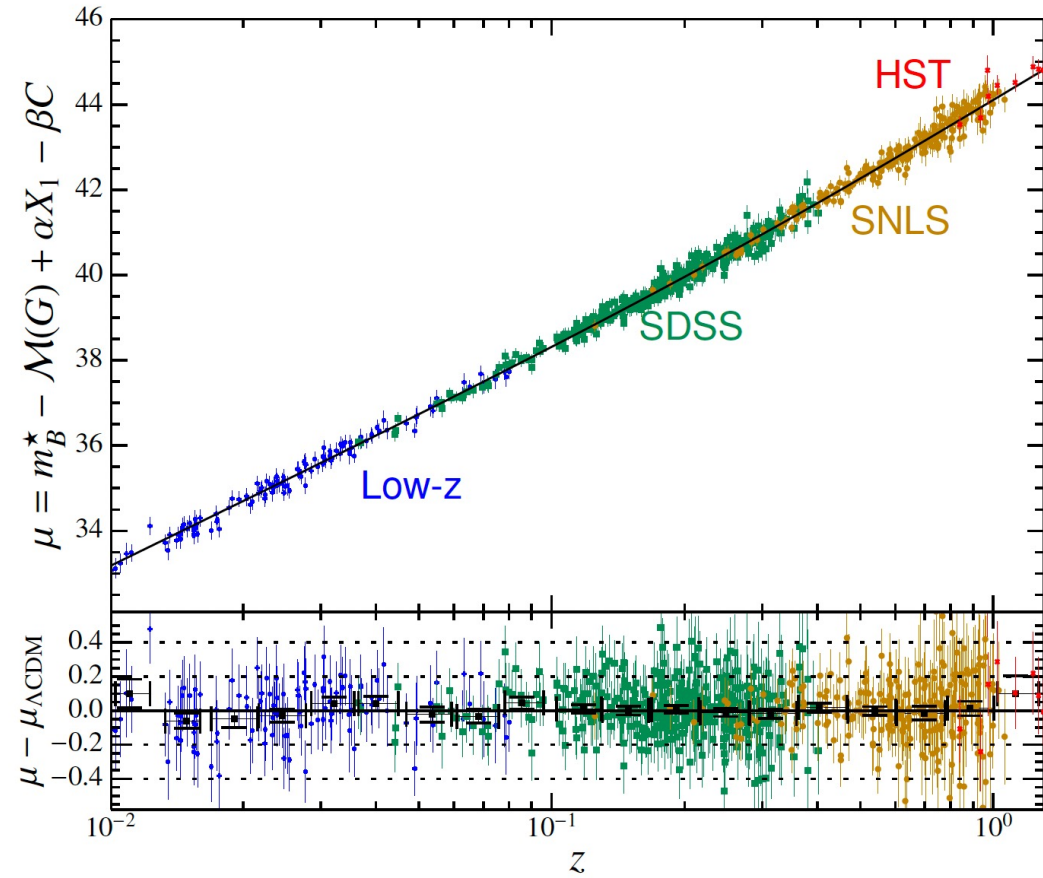


# $\Omega_\Lambda$ and $\Omega_{DM+b}$



arXiv:2404.03002

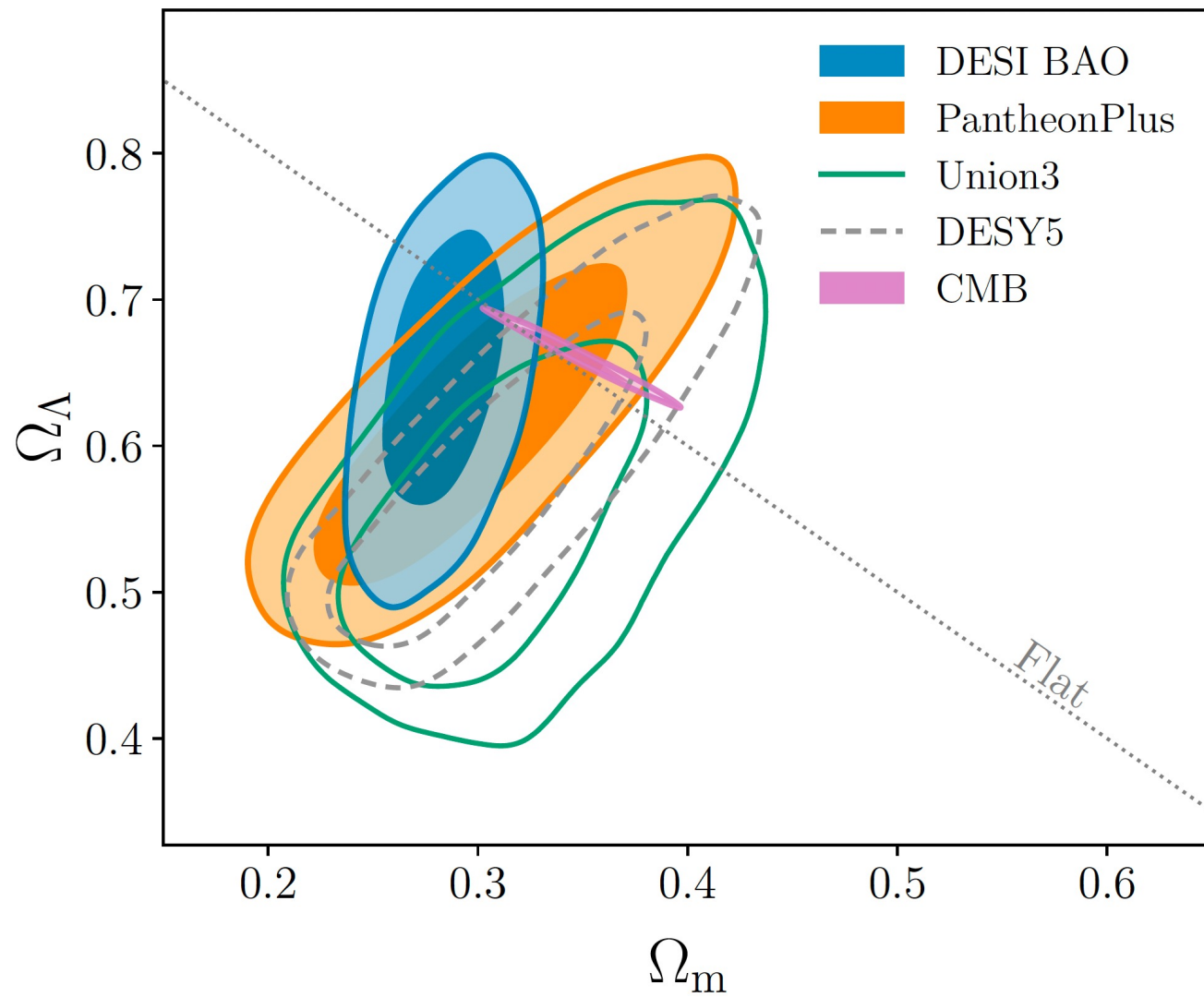
Baryon Acoustic Oscillations

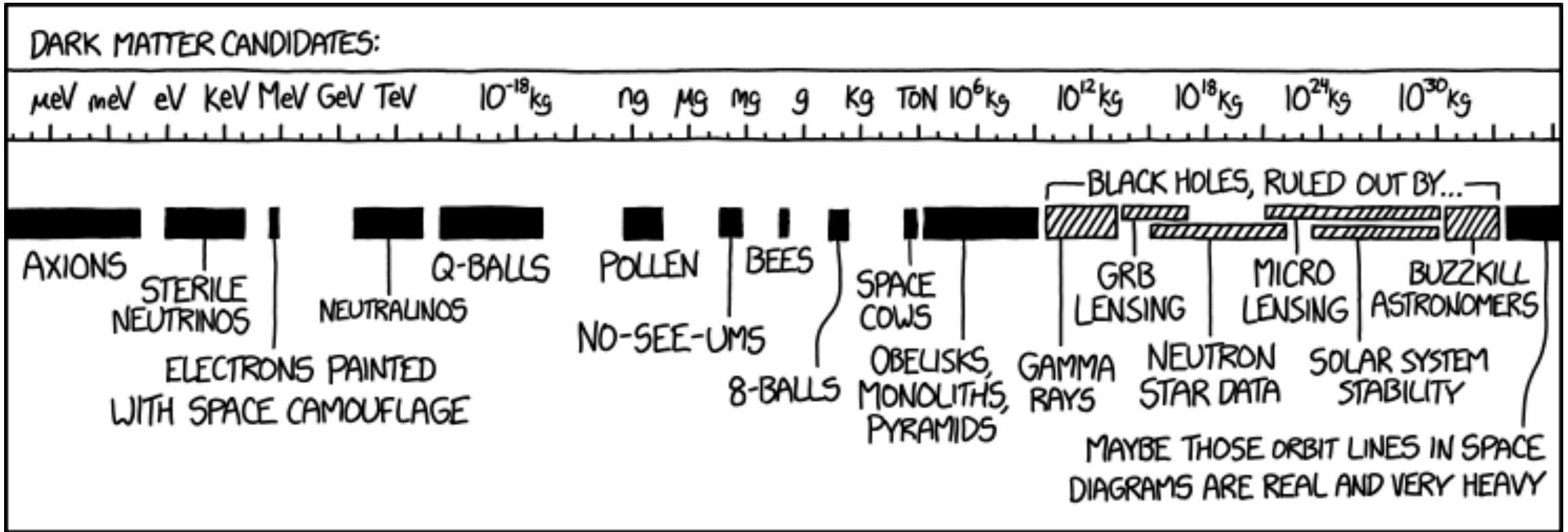


arXiv:1401.4064

Hubble Diagram from type Ia Supernovae

$$\begin{cases} \Omega_{\Lambda} \approx 68\% \\ \Omega_{DM} \approx 26\% \\ \Omega_b \approx 6\% \end{cases}$$

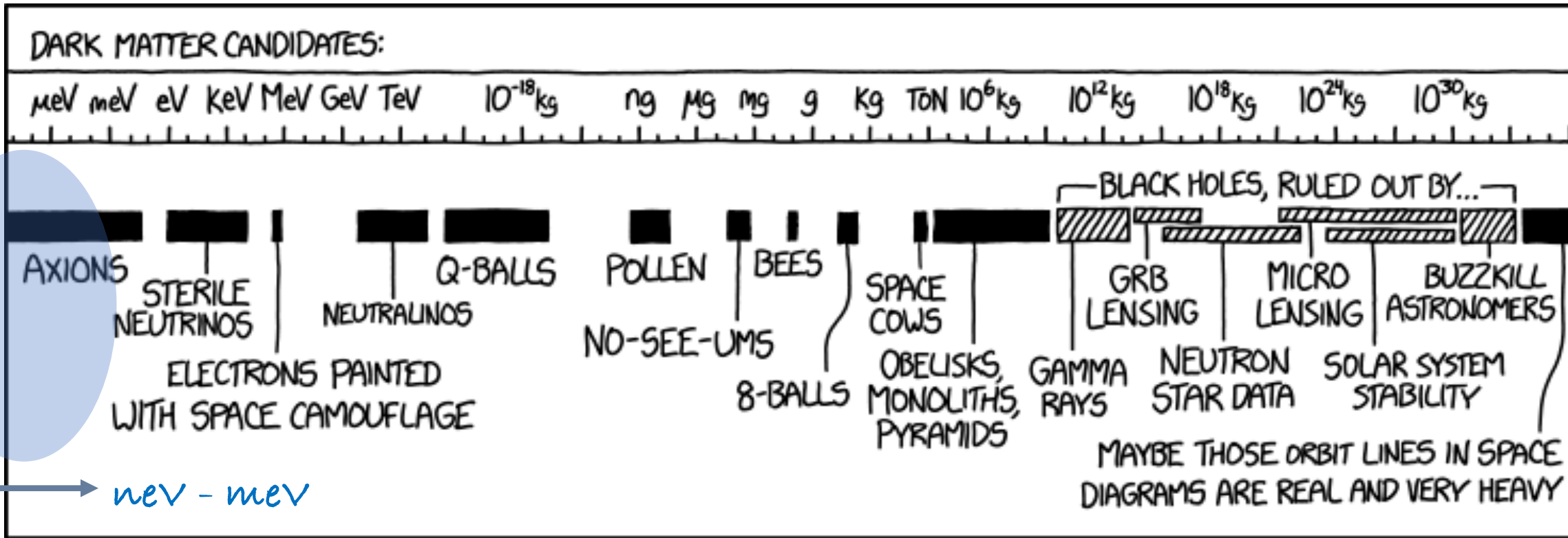




[https://www.explainxkcd.com/wiki/index.php/2035:\\_Dark\\_Matter\\_Candidates](https://www.explainxkcd.com/wiki/index.php/2035:_Dark_Matter_Candidates)

# Dark Matter Candidates



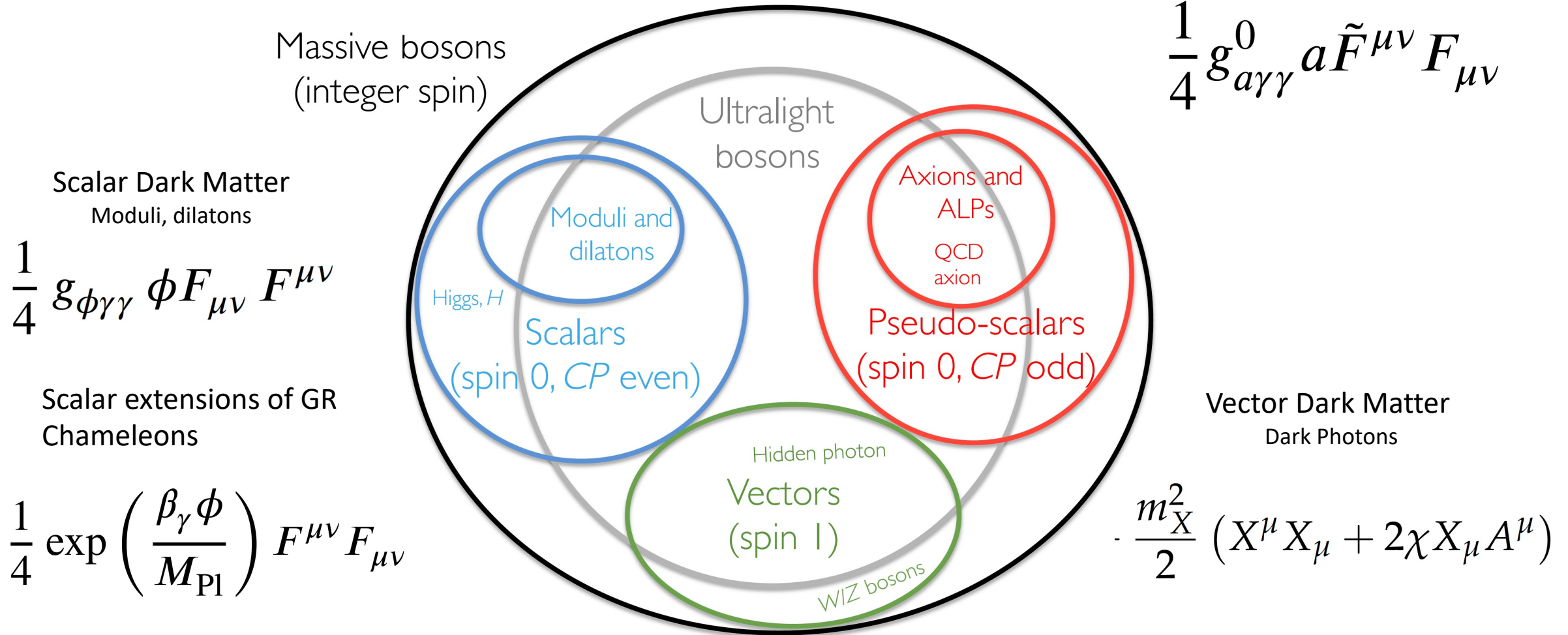


[https://www.explainxkcd.com/wiki/index.php/2035:\\_Dark\\_Matter\\_Candidates](https://www.explainxkcd.com/wiki/index.php/2035:_Dark_Matter_Candidates)

“Wavy” Dark Matter  
 Scalars  
 Pseudo-scalars  
 Vectors

# Dark Matter Candidates

# “Wavy” Light Dark Matter



# “Wavy” Light Dark Matter

Pseudoscalar Dark Matter  
Axions, ALPS, Majoron

$$\frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma\gamma}^0 a \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}$$

Massive bosons  
(integer spin)

Ultralight  
bosons

Scalar Dark Matter  
Moduli, dilatons

$$\frac{1}{4} g_{\phi\gamma\gamma} \phi F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$$

Higgs,  $H$

Moduli and  
dilatons

Scalars  
(spin 0,  $CP$  even)

Axions and  
ALPs  
QCD  
axion

Pseudo-scalars  
(spin 0,  $CP$  odd)

Scalar extensions of GR  
Chameleons

$$\frac{1}{4} \exp\left(\frac{\beta_\gamma \phi}{M_{\text{Pl}}}\right) F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}$$

Hidden photon

Vectors  
(spin 1)

WIZ bosons

Vector Dark Matter  
Dark Photons

$$-\frac{m_X^2}{2} (X^\mu X_\mu + 2\chi X_\mu A^\mu)$$

# “Wavy” Light Dark Matter Detector

Pseudoscalar Dark Matter  
Axions, ALPS, Majoron

B-field provides high density of e.m. energy

Interaction rate proportional to **volume**

$$\frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma\gamma}^0 a \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}$$

High Q factory quality provides signal amplification

Scalar Dark Matter  
Moduli, dilatons

$$\frac{1}{4} g_{\phi\gamma\gamma} \phi F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$$

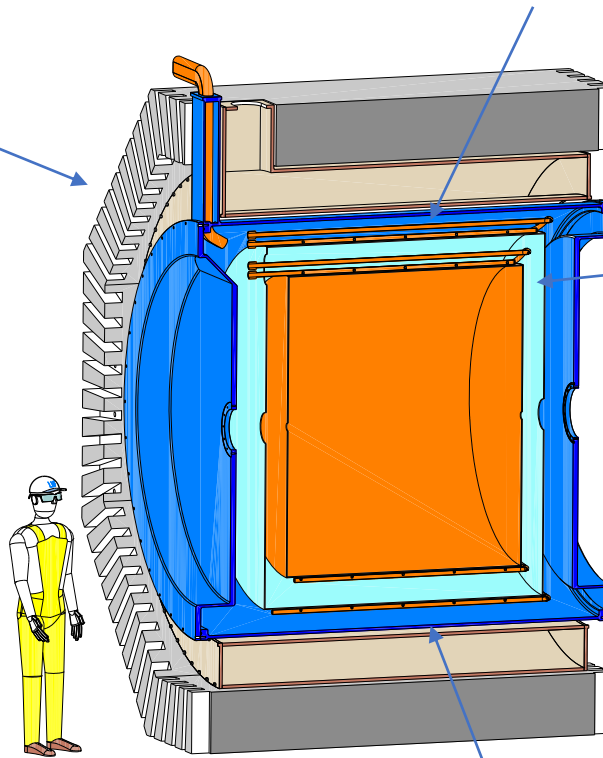
Scalar extensions of GR  
Chameleons

$$\frac{1}{4} \exp\left(\frac{\beta_\gamma \phi}{M_{\text{Pl}}}\right) F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}$$

Cavity diameter  
determines wave  
frequency/particle mass

Vector Dark Matter  
Dark Photons

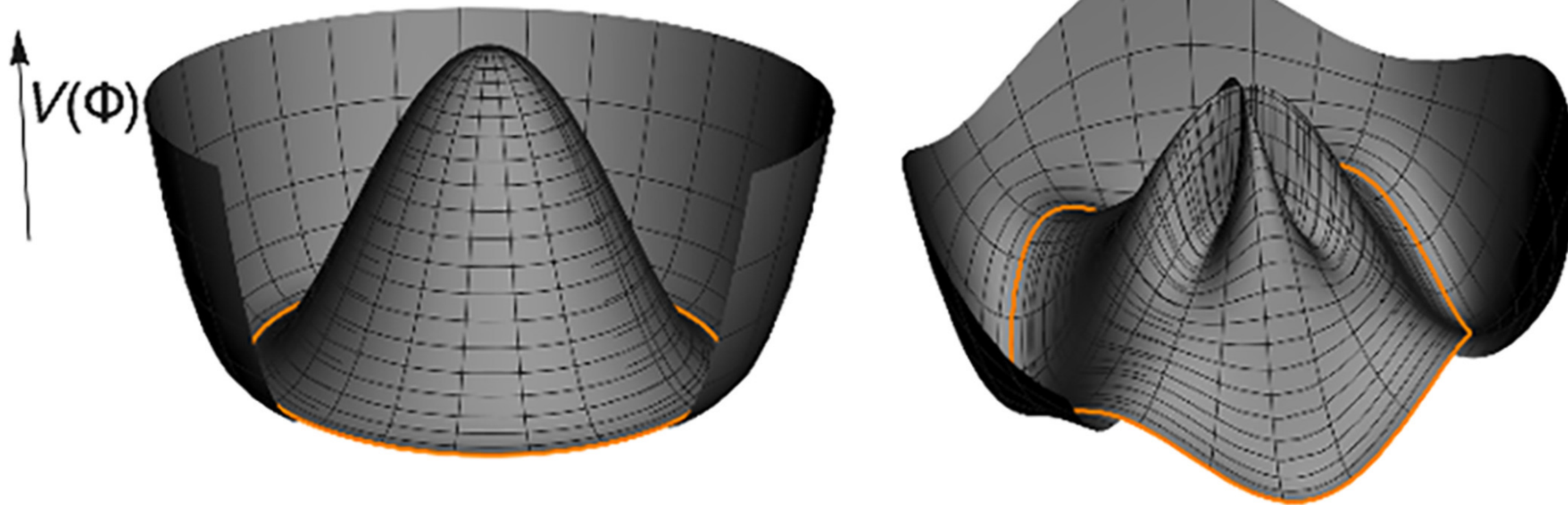
$$-\frac{m_X^2}{2} (X^\mu X_\mu + 2\chi X_\mu A^\mu)$$



Low T for low noise

Processes:  $\gamma \rightarrow X \rightarrow \gamma$  oscillations     $\gamma^* X \rightarrow \gamma$  conversion     $X \rightarrow \gamma$  oscillations

# Axions

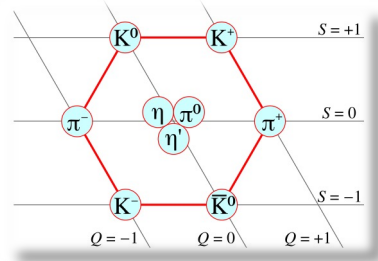


# Axions

U(1)<sub>A</sub>  
problem

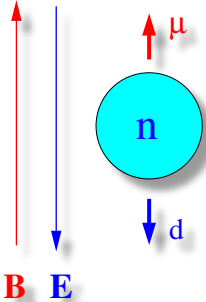
$$M_{\eta'} = 958 \text{ MeV} \gg M_{\eta}$$

S.Weinberg U(1) problem PRD 11 (1975)



Strong CP  
problem

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD}^{CP} = \theta_{QCD} \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}_a$$



Phys Rev Lett 82, n.5 (1999) p.904

$$d_n < 2.9 \times 10^{-26} e \text{ cm}$$

$$\theta < 10^{-10}$$

R.D.Peccei and H.R.Quinn, Phys. Rev. Lett. 38, 1440 (1977); Phys. Rev. D 16, 1791 (1977).  
S. Weinberg, Phys. Rev. Lett. 40, 223 (1978).  
F. Wilczek, Phys. Rev. Lett. 40, 279 (1978).



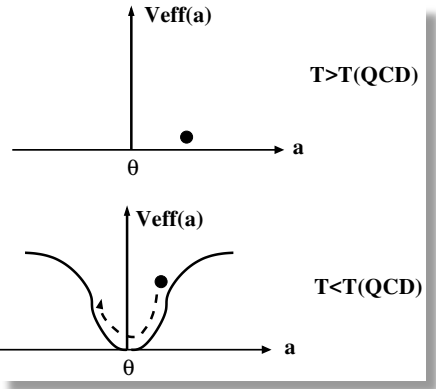
Axions

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD}^{CP} = \left( \theta - \frac{a}{f_a} \right) \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}_a$$



Axion  
Dark  
Matter

Misalignment  
mechanism



# Mass

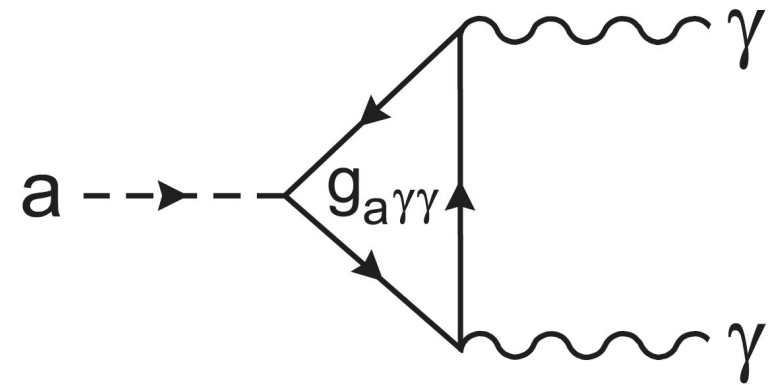
$$m_a = 5.70(7) \left( \frac{10^{12} \text{GeV}}{f_a} \right) \mu\text{eV} \simeq \frac{m_\pi f_\pi}{f_a}$$

Present limit:

$$f_a > 10^9 \text{GeV}$$

# Coupling

$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} = \frac{\alpha_{em}}{2\pi f_a} \left( \frac{E}{N} - 1.92(4) \right)$$



# Lifetime

$$\Gamma_{a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma} = \frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 m_a^3}{64\pi} = 1.1 \times 10^{-24} \text{s}^{-1} \left( \frac{m_a}{\text{eV}} \right)^5$$

# Sikivie's Haloscope

$$\nabla^2 E - \partial_t^2 E = -g_{a\gamma\gamma} B_0 \partial_t^2 a$$

Solving the equation inside a cylindrical resonant cavity, the signal power is

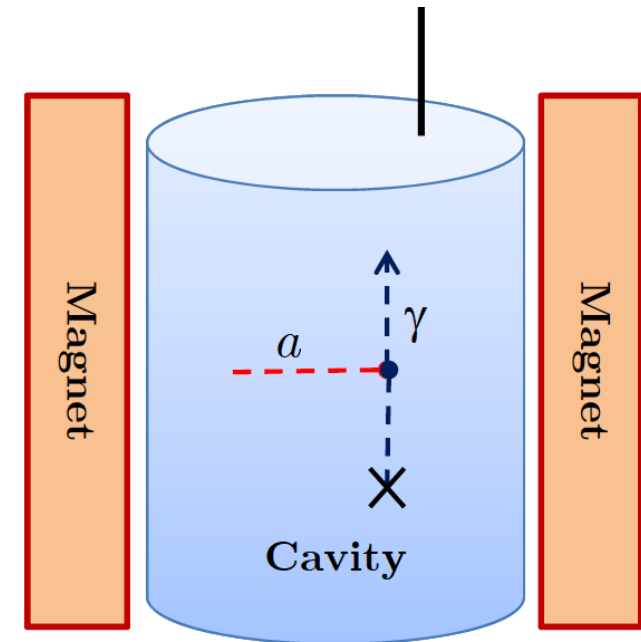
$$P_{\text{sig}} = \left( g_\gamma^2 \frac{\alpha^2 \hbar^3 c^3 \rho_a}{\pi^2 \Lambda^4} \right) \times \left( \frac{\beta}{1 + \beta} \omega_c \frac{1}{\mu_0} B_0^2 V C_{mnl} Q_L \right)$$

$\beta$  antenna coupling to cavity

$C_{mnl}$  mode dependent factor about 0.6 for TM010

$V$  cavity volume

$Q_L$  cavity "loaded" quality factor



Sikivie Phys. Rev. D 32,11 (1985)



# Axion Limits

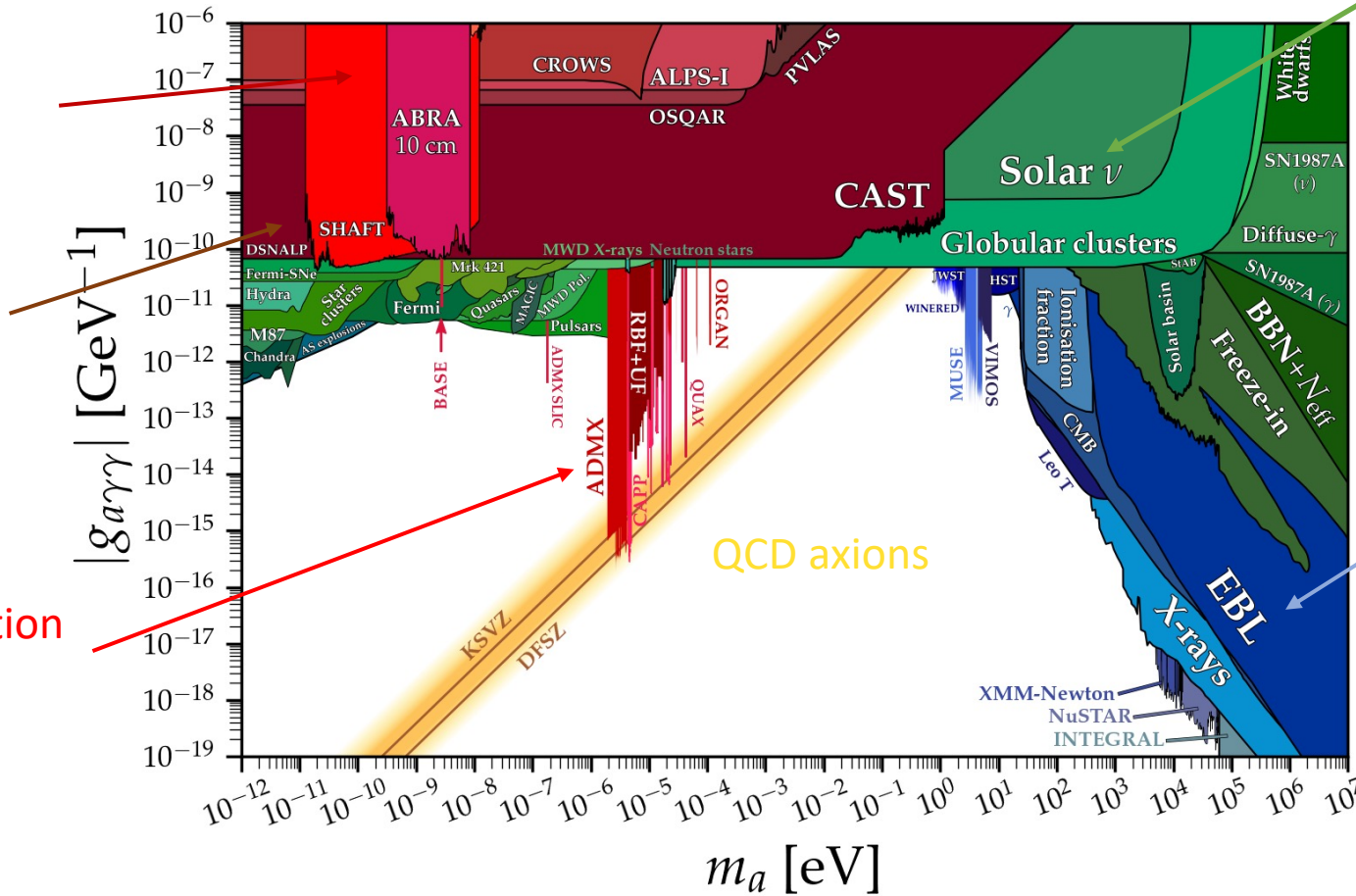
Laboratory experiments

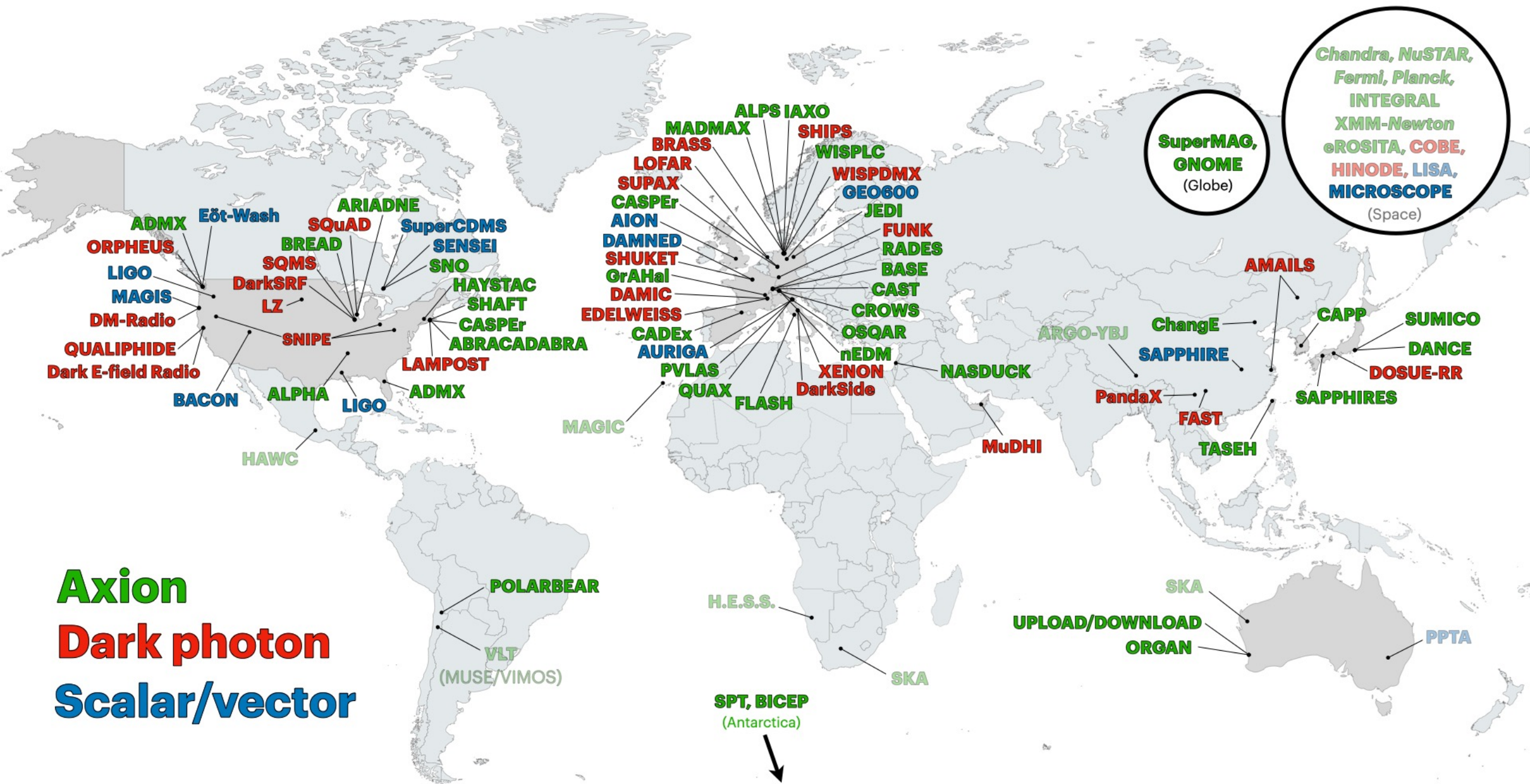
Detection of axions from the Sun (Helioscopes)

DM axion detection (Haloscopes)

Stellar physics:  
Constraints on stellar lifetime or energy-loss rates.

Astronomy:  
No DM  $a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  decays seen in the visible region from galaxies with telescopes. Similar searches with X-rays and extragalactic background light (EBL) or H ionization.





**Axion**  
**Dark photon**  
**Scalar/vector**

**SuperMAG,  
GNOME**  
(Globe)

**Chandra, NuSTAR,  
Fermi, Planck,  
INTEGRAL  
XMM-Newton  
eROSITA, COBE,  
HINODE, LISA,  
MICROSCOPE**  
(Space)



# QUAX



Trento Institute for  
Fundamental Physics  
and Applications



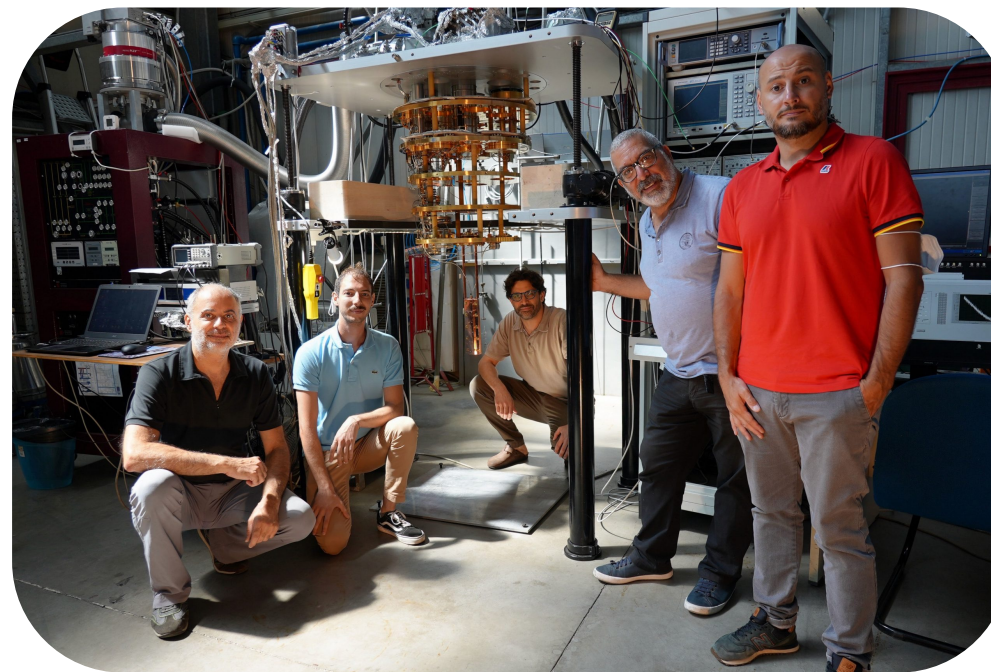
UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM



## Laboratori Nazionali di Legnaro (LNL)

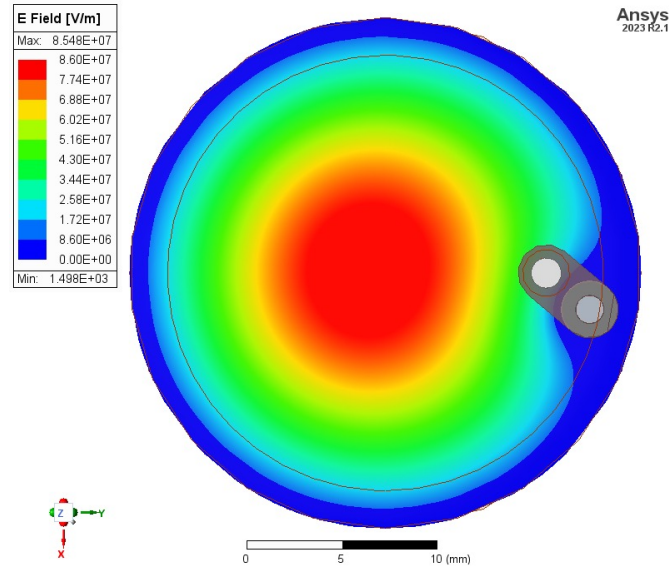
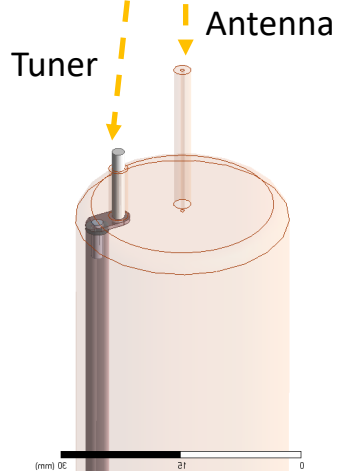
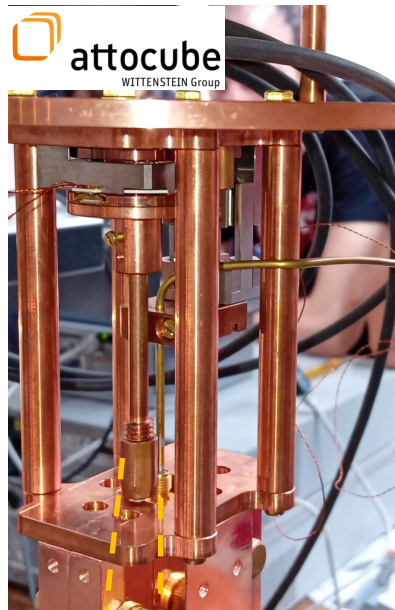


## Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati (LNF)

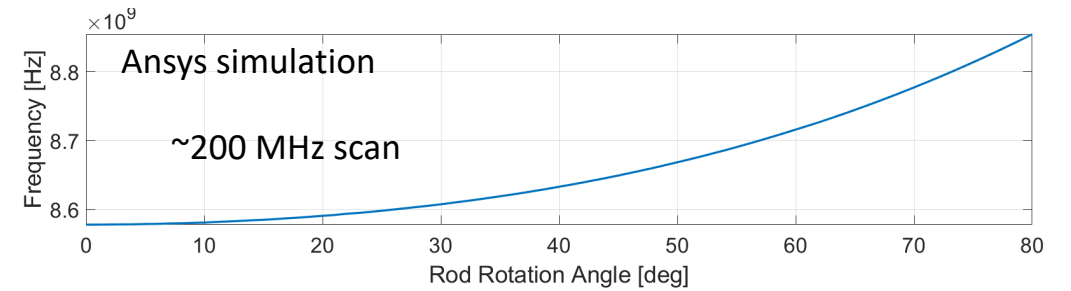
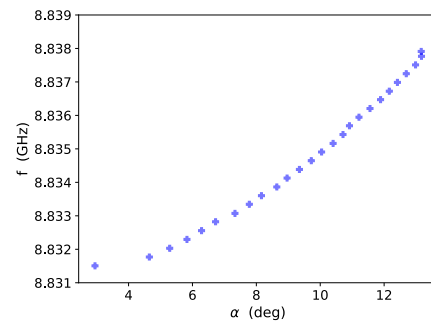
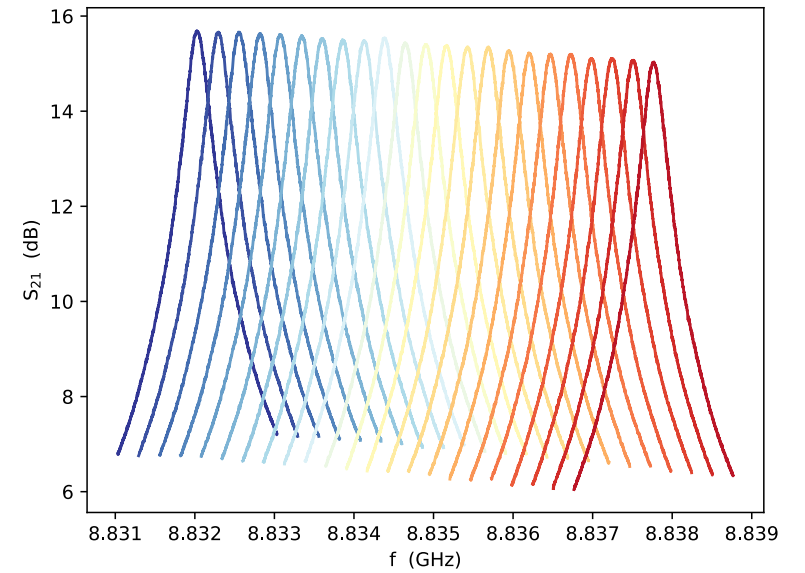




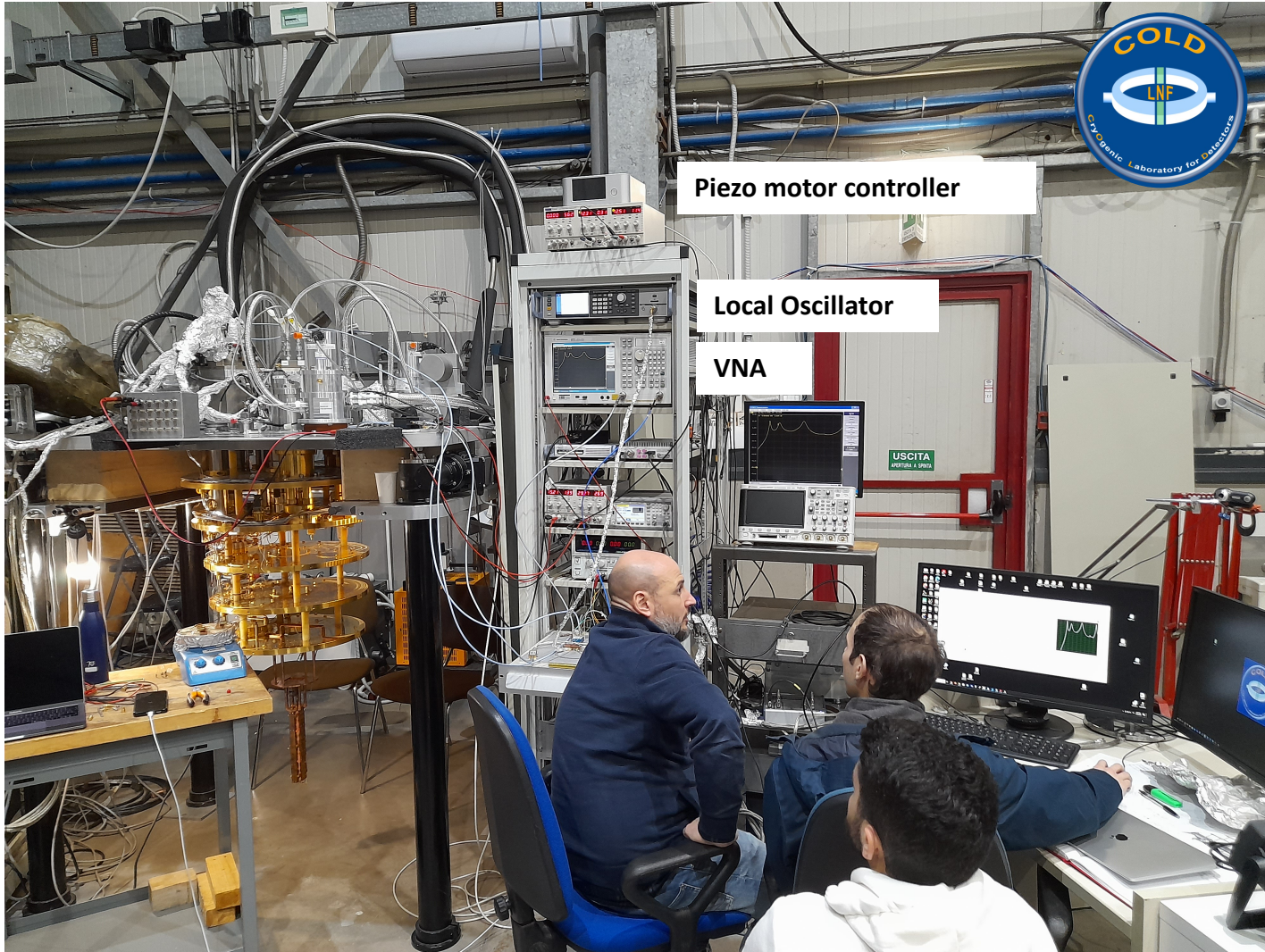
# Cavity Tuning



6 MHz of frequency scan



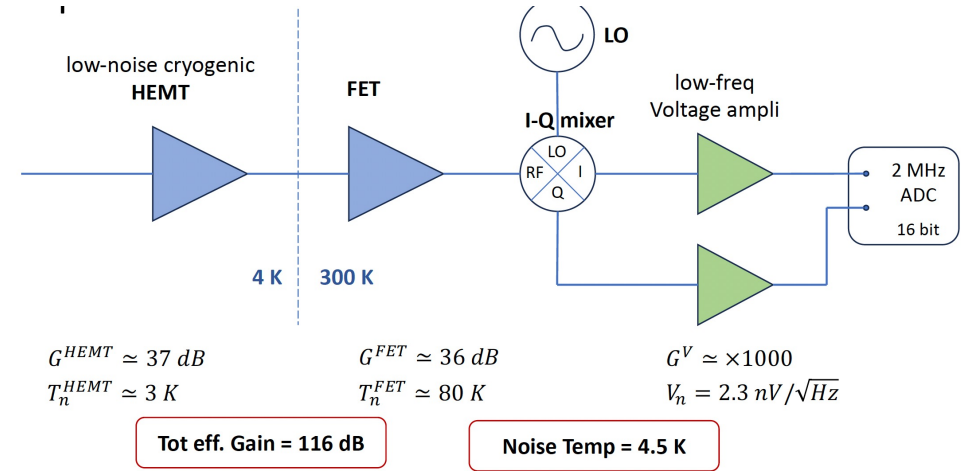
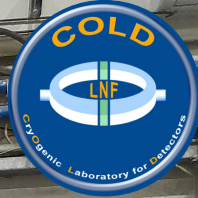
# Acquisition Chain



Piezo motor controller

Local Oscillator

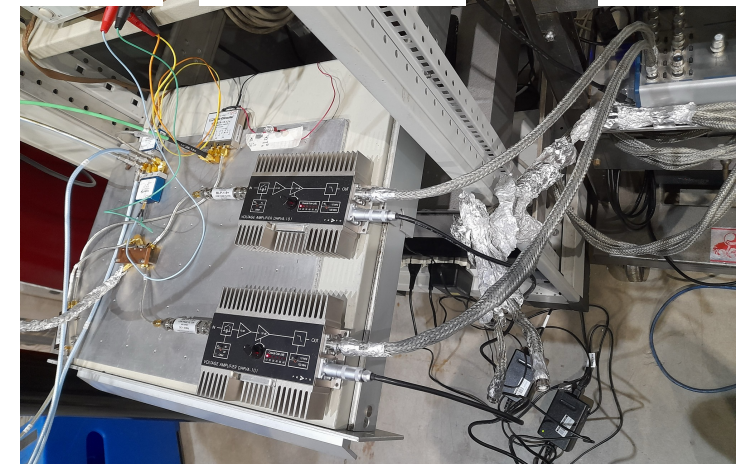
VNA



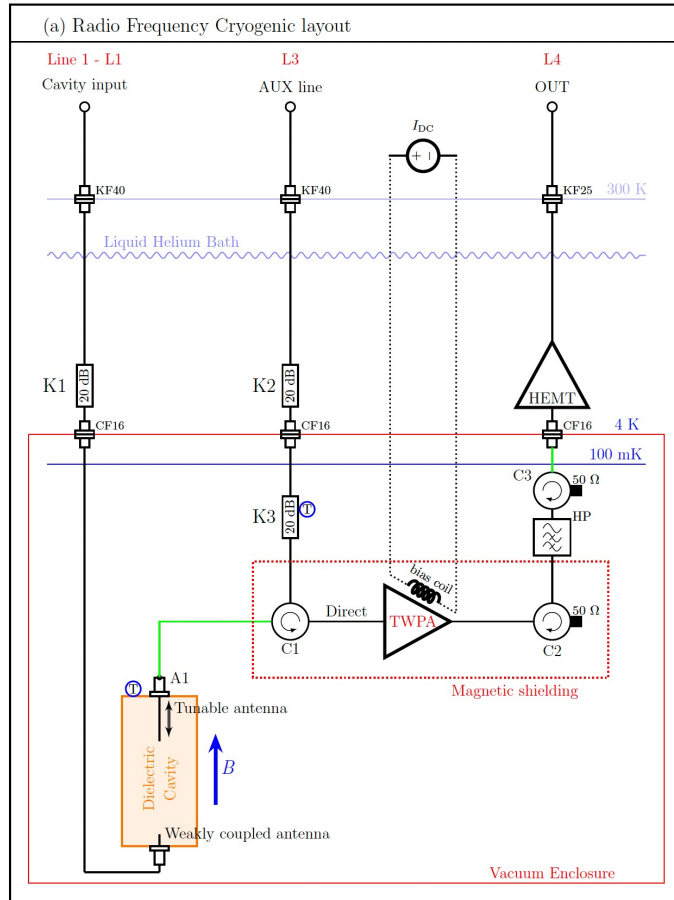
Mixer

Amplifiers

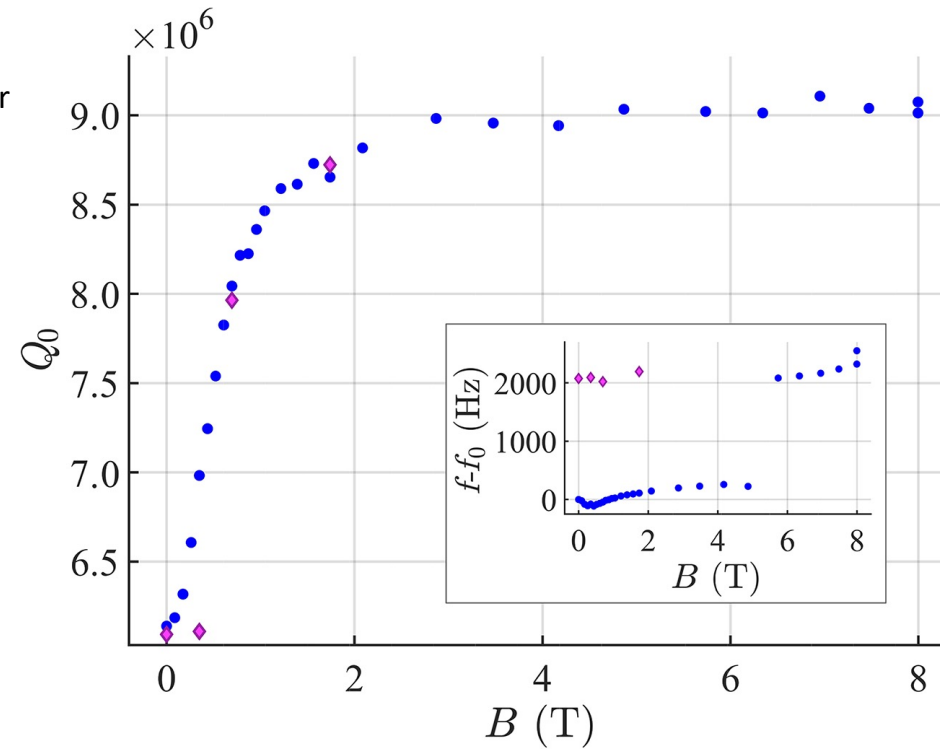
ADC



# The QUAX@LNL Haloscope



- $B=8$  T
- Dilution Refrigerator
- $T_{\text{cavity}}=110$  mK
- TWPA
- $T_{\text{noise}}=2$  K
- Dielectric Cavity
- Sapphire tuner
- $Q=2.5 \times 10^5$
- $VC_{030}=0.034$  L



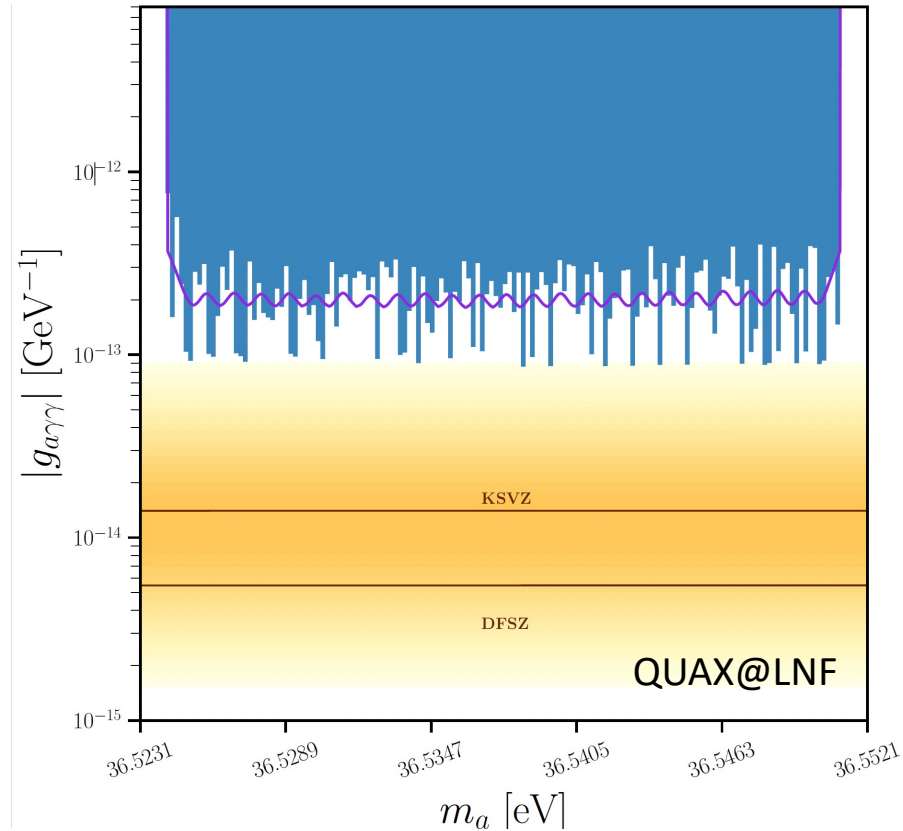
PHYSICAL REVIEW APPLIED 17, 054013 (2022)

Search for galactic axions with a traveling wave parametric amplifier  
 PHYSICAL REVIEW D 108, 062005, arXiv:2304.7505 (2023)

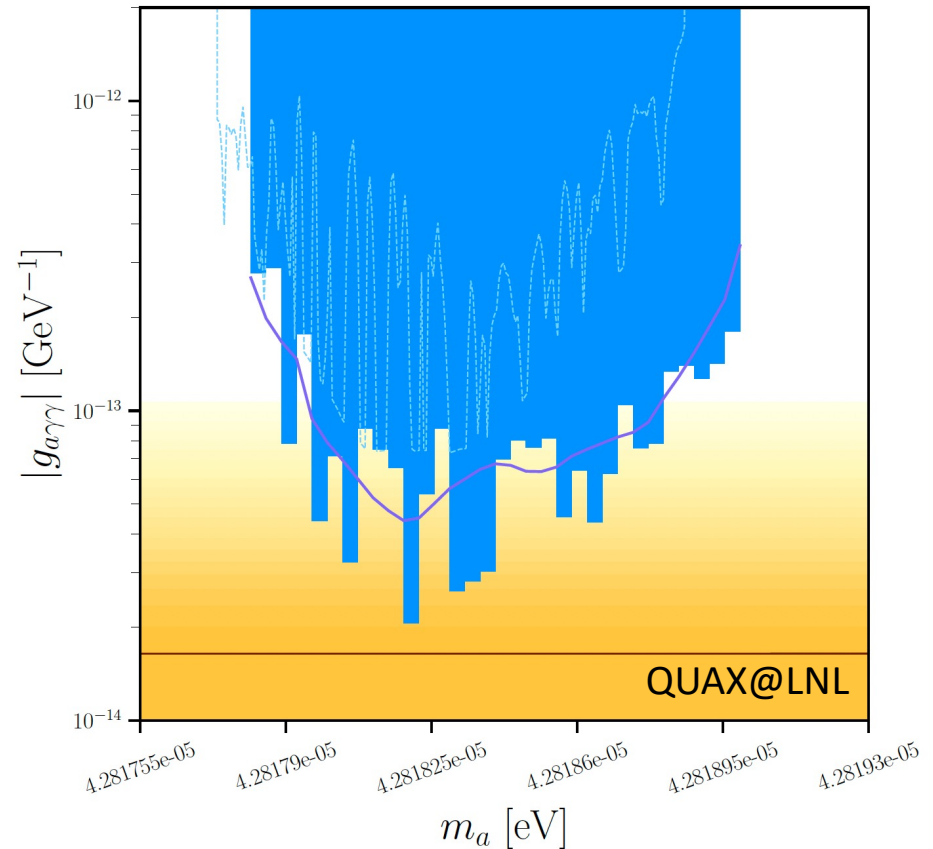


# QUAX Results for 2022 and 2023 Runs

- 24 runs, 1 hour each, 250 kHz of frequency steps
- Average exclusion 90% c.l.  $g_{a\gamma\gamma} = 2 \times 10^{-13} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$
- Phys. Rev. D 110, 022008 (2024)



- 10 runs, 1 hour each, 30 kHz of frequency steps
- Average exclusion 90% c.l.  $g_{a\gamma\gamma} = 4 \times 10^{-13} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$
- Phys. Rev. D 108, 062005 (2023)



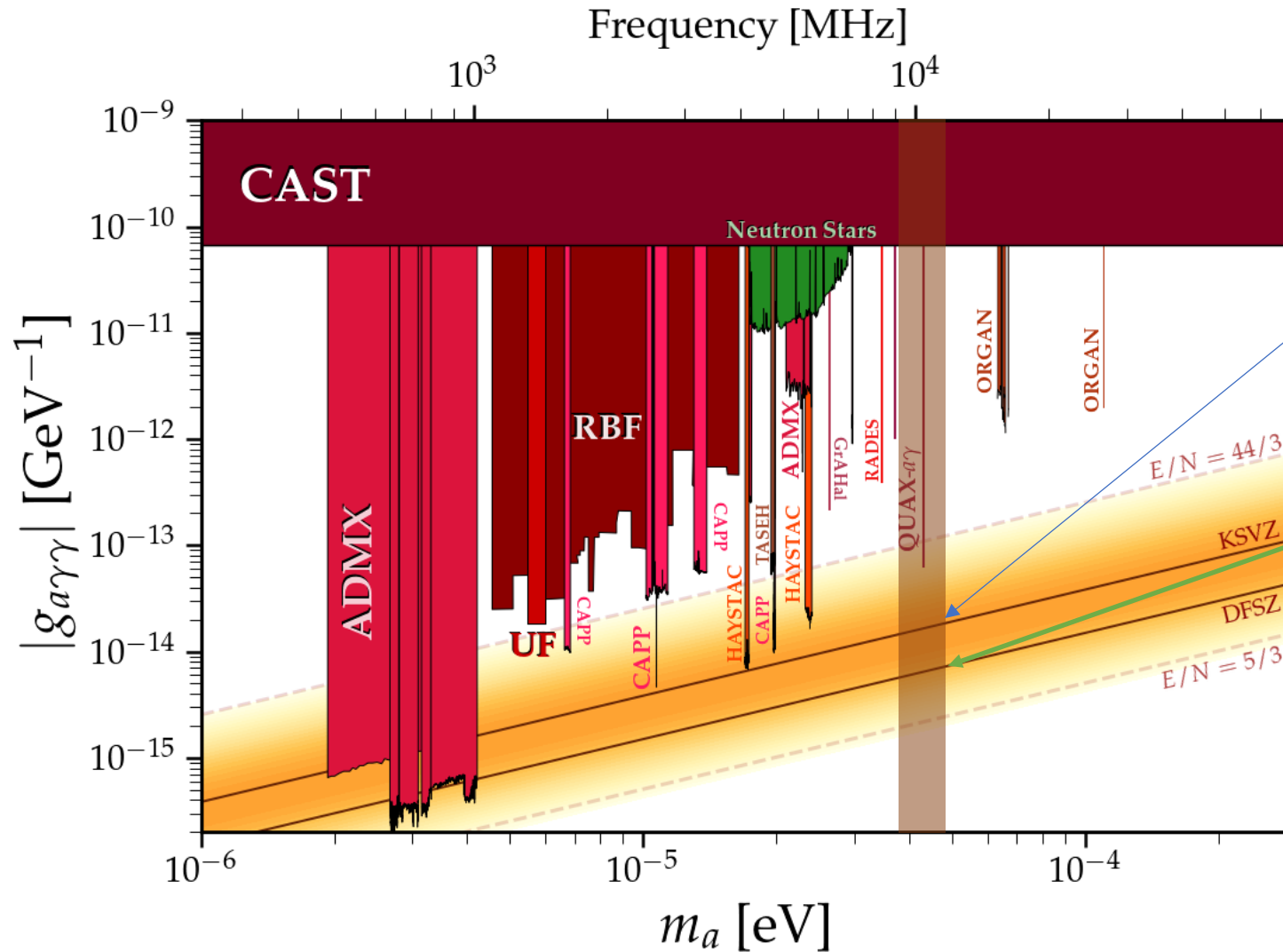
# QUAX LNF&LNL 2023-2025

## LNF:

- Superconducting cavity  $Q_0 > 2 \times 10^5$
- $B=9T$
- Multicavity

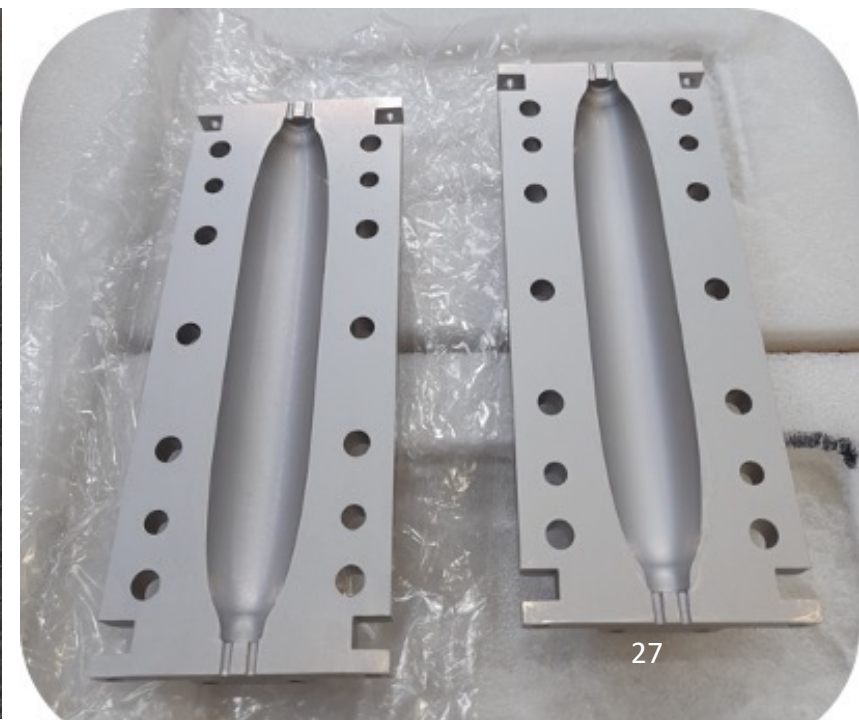
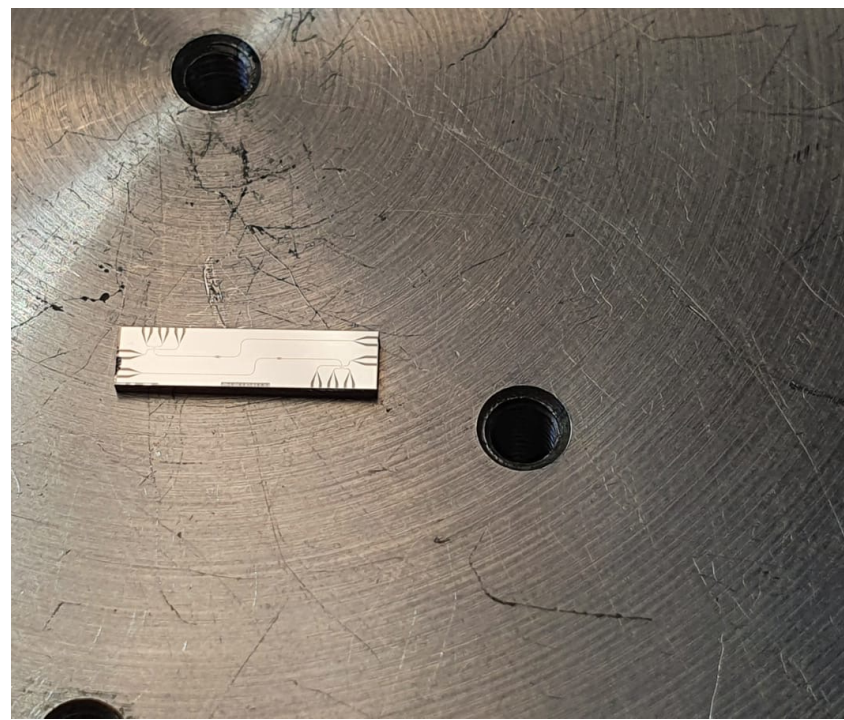
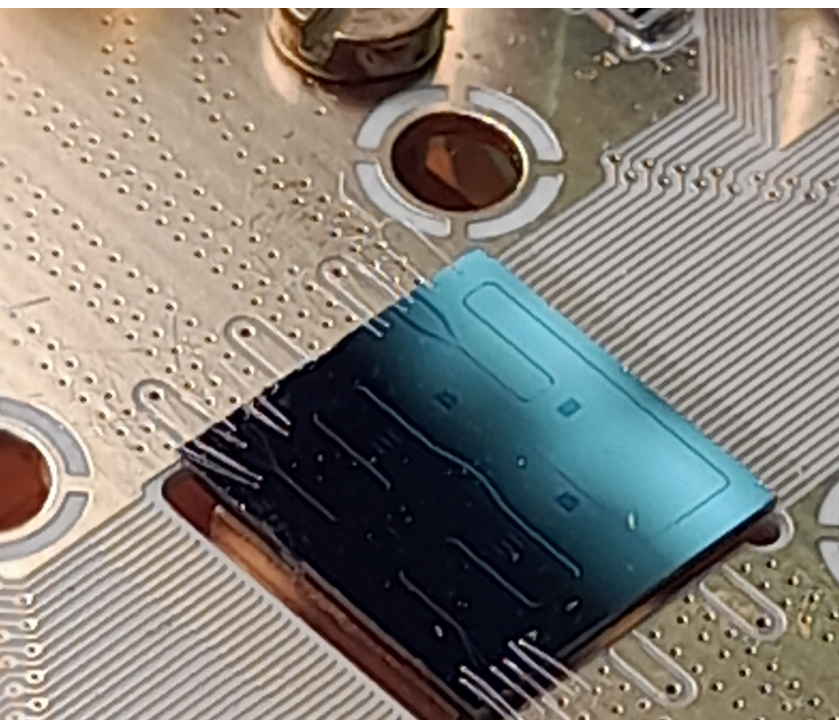
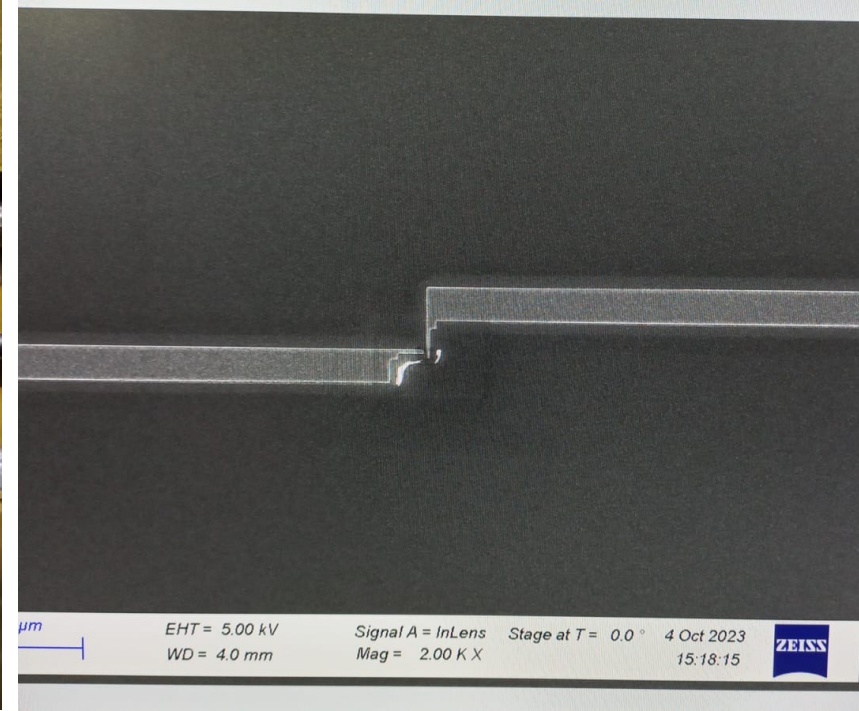
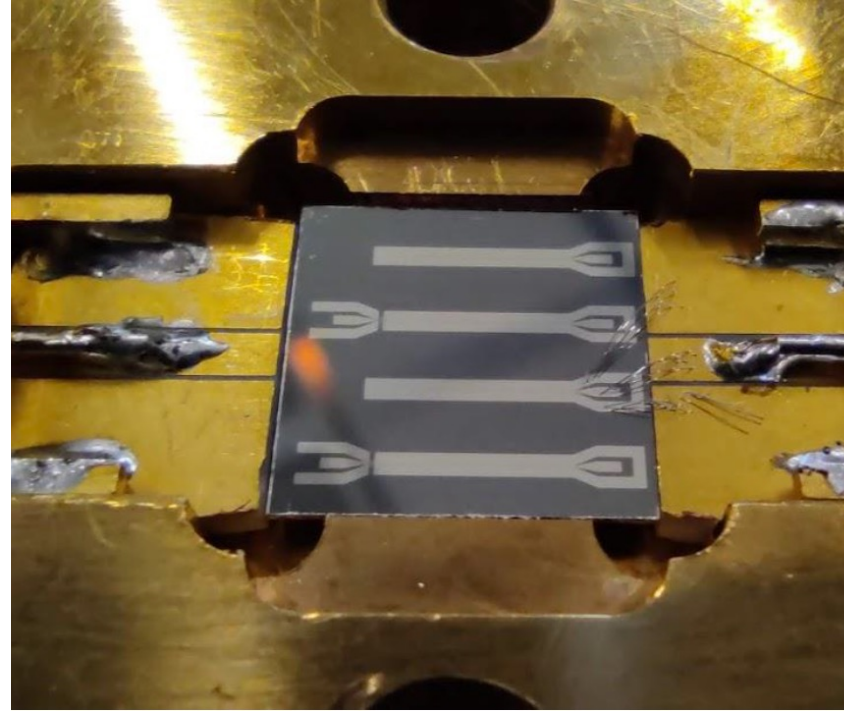
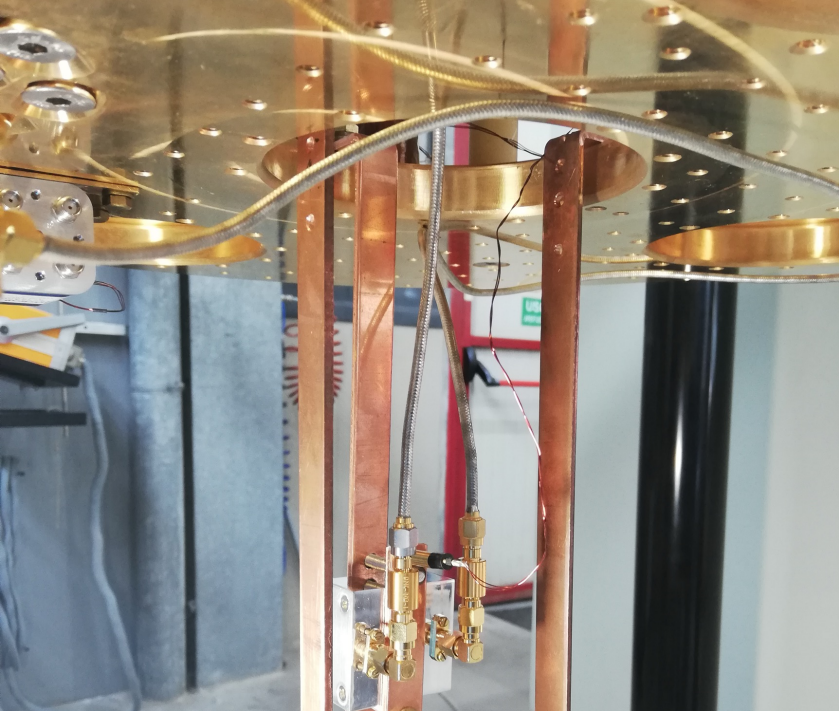
## LNL:

- Dielectric cavity  $Q_0 > 10^6$
- $B=14 T$
- Single cavity



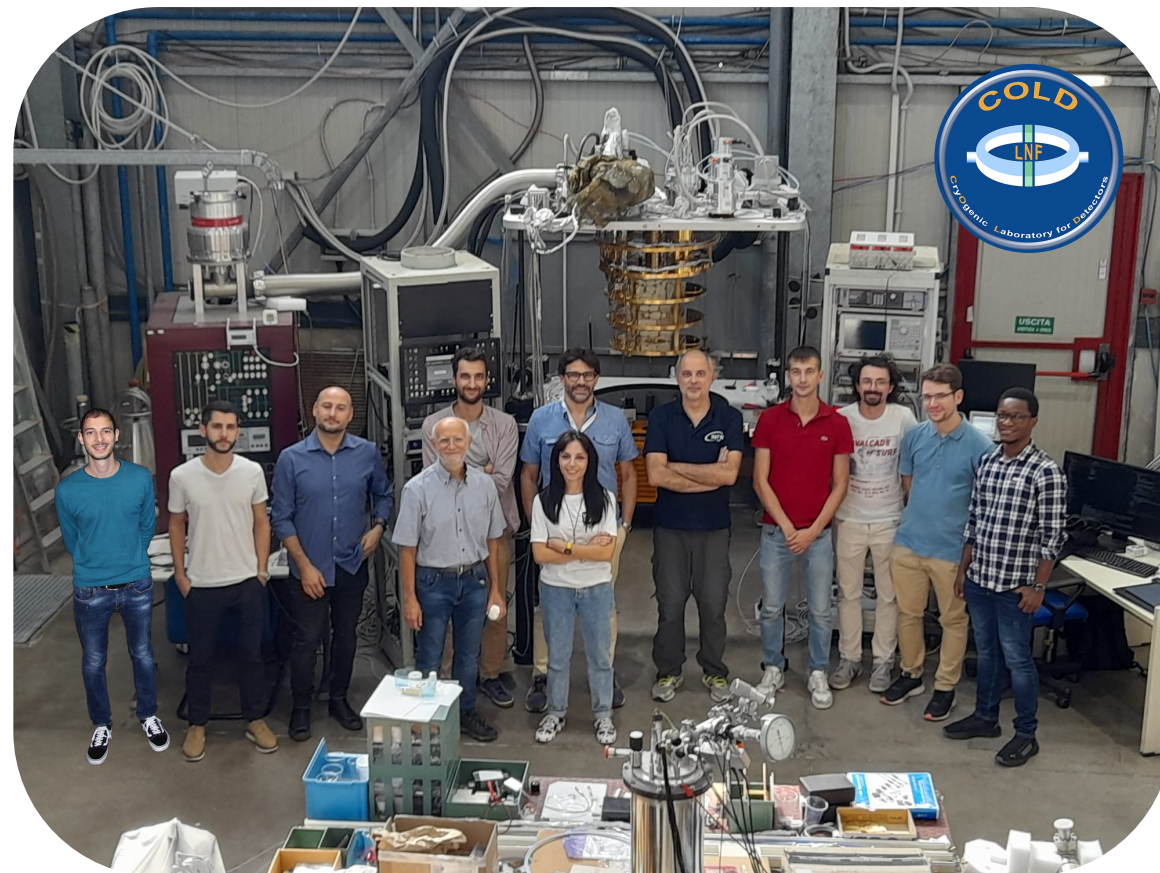
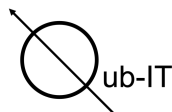
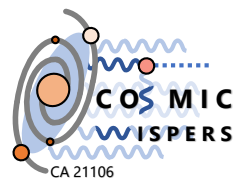
Next years with noise at Quantum Limit

Beyond Quantum Limit with photon counter (ongoing R&D)

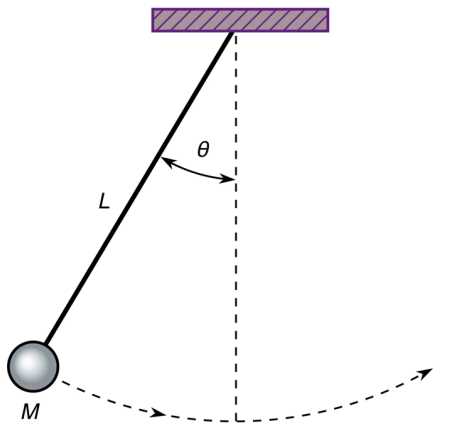


## CryOgenic Laboratory for Detectors:

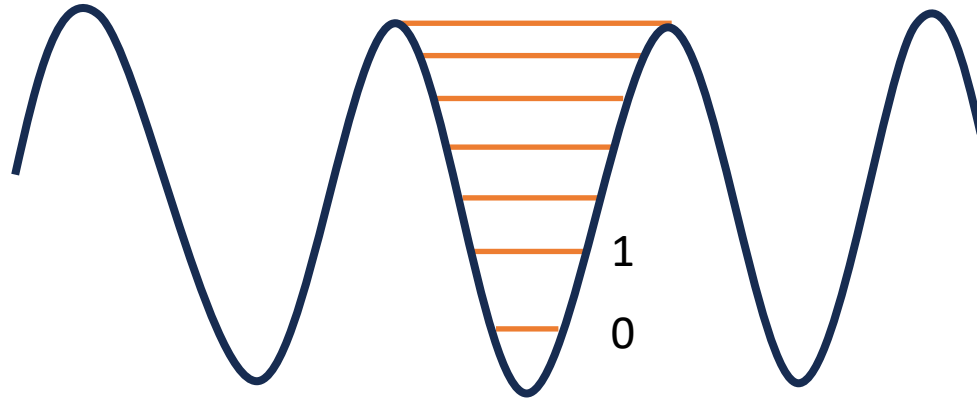
- Axion Dark Matter Experiments
- Quantum Sensing with Superconducting Devices
- Type II and HTC Superconducting Cavities



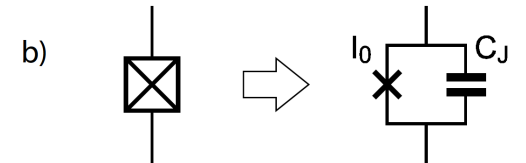
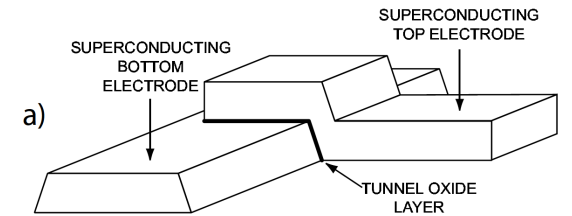
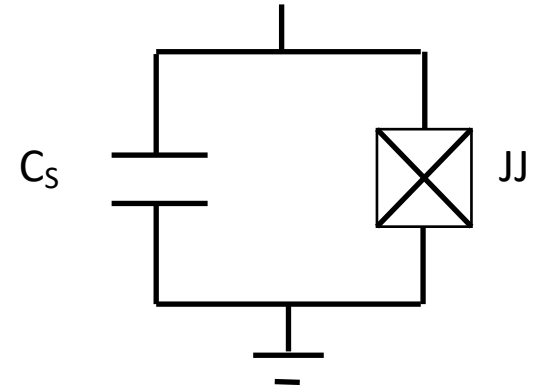
# The Superconducting Qubit



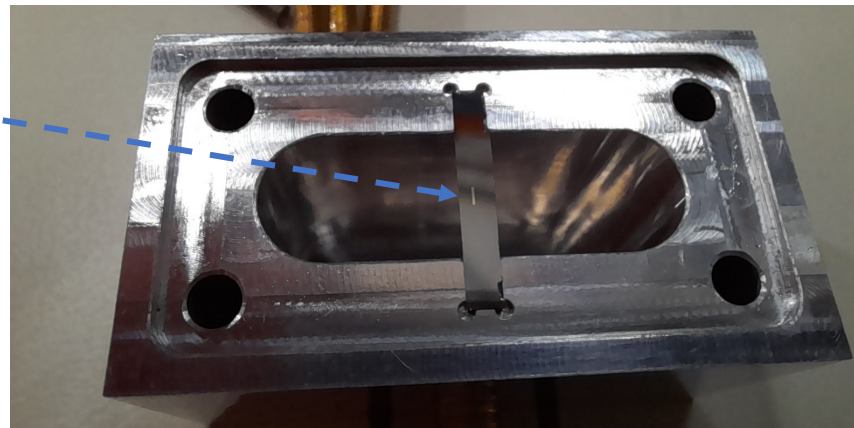
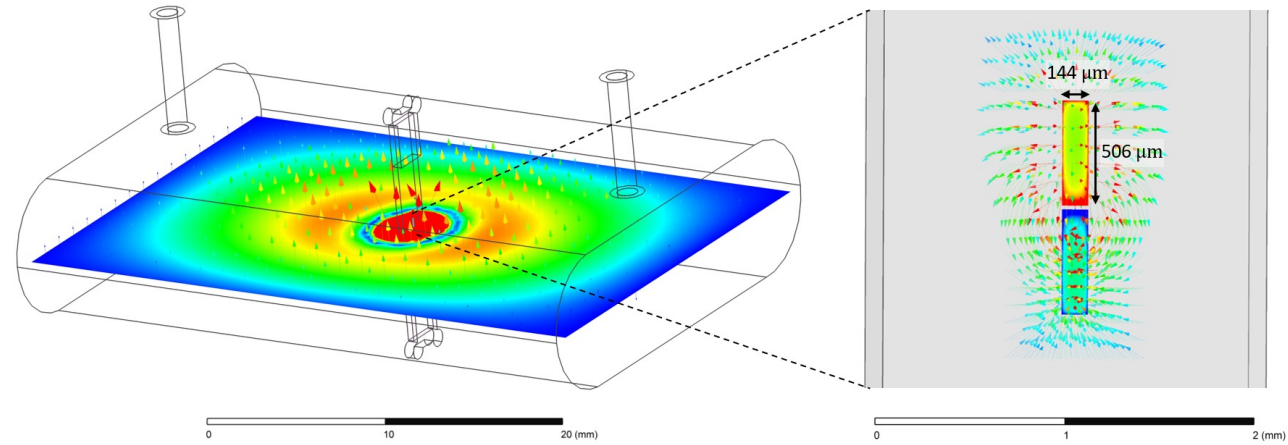
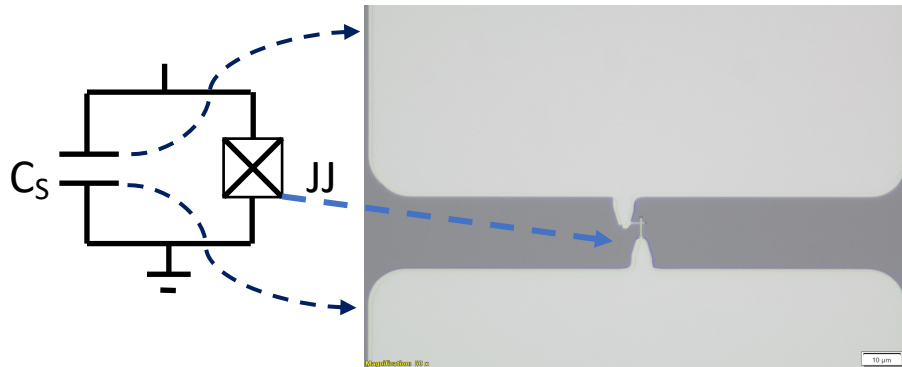
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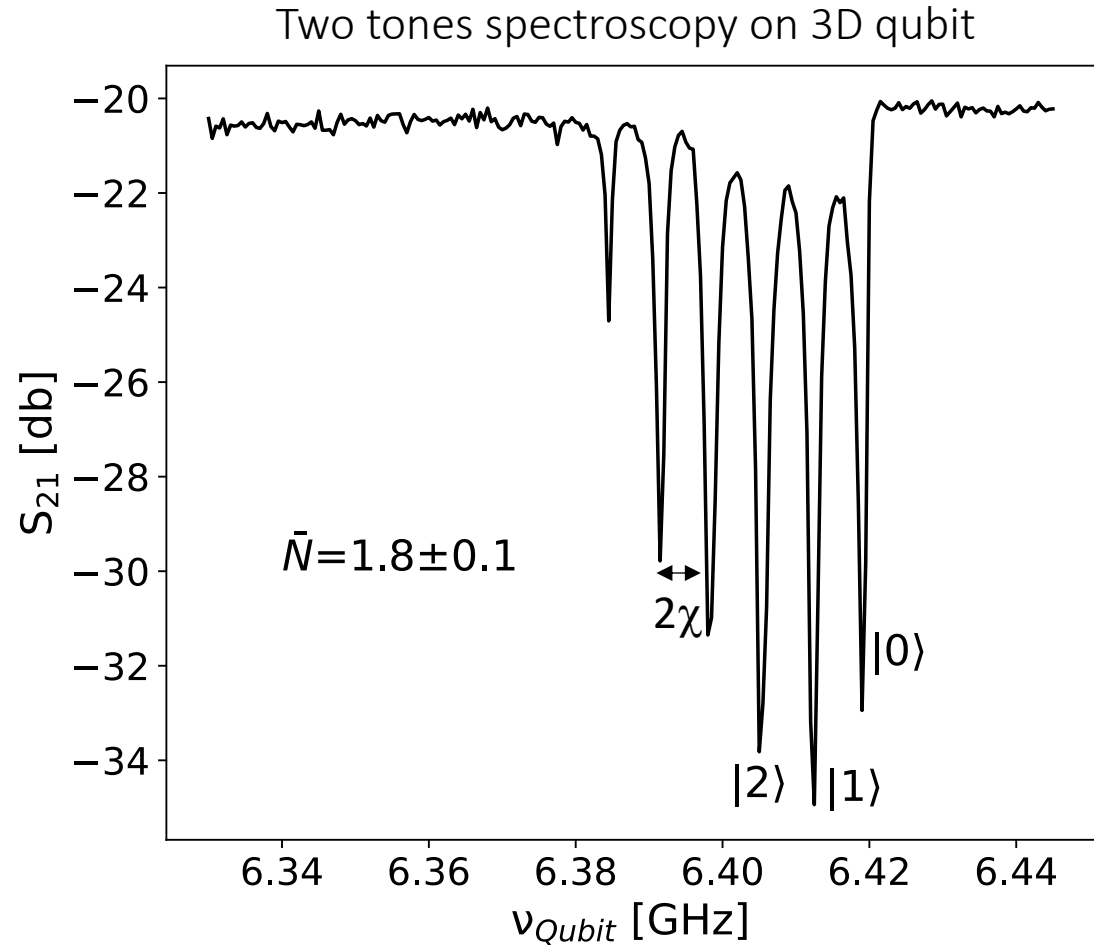
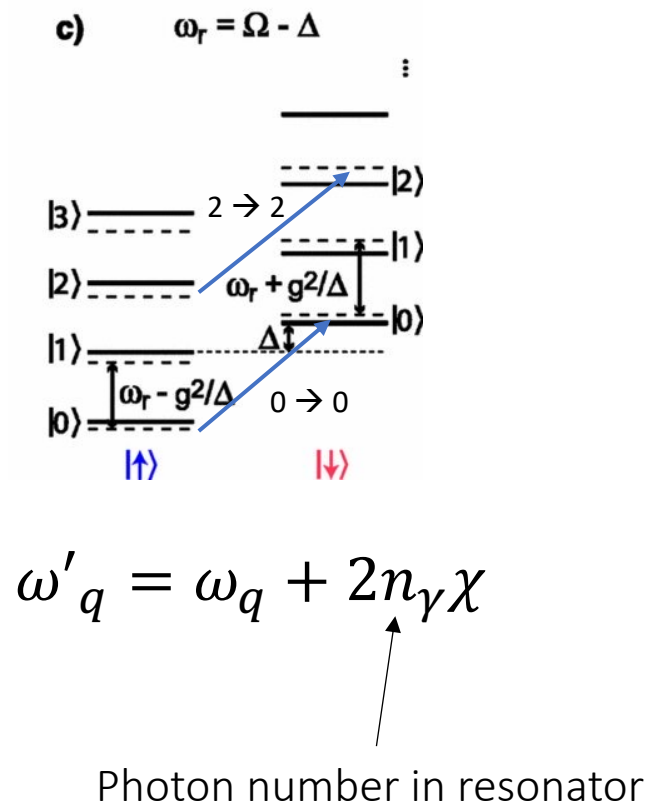
$$E = \frac{Q^2}{2C} - E_J \cos 2\pi\phi / \phi_0$$



# Qubit in a 3D Resonator

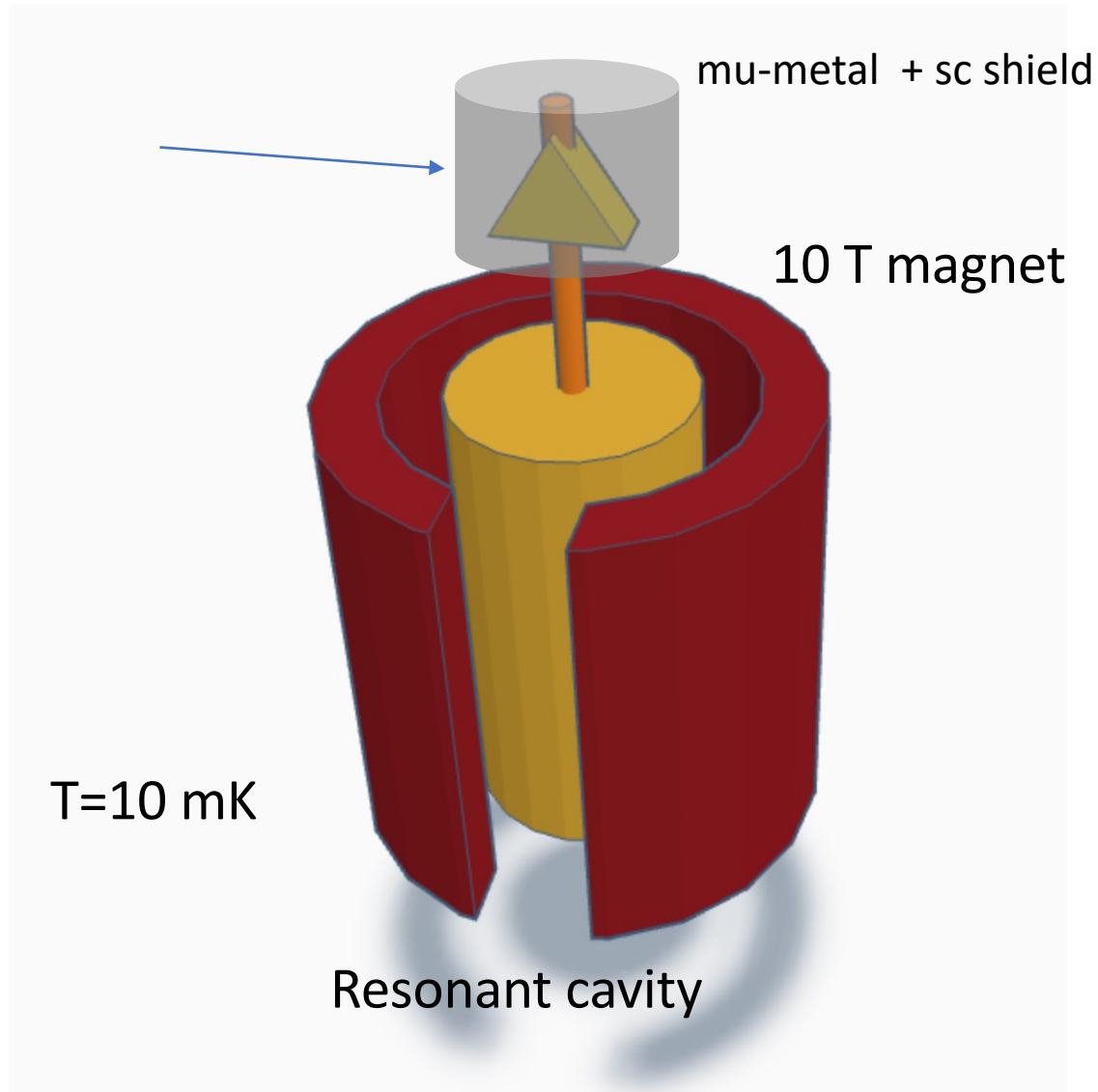


# Quantum Sensing with SC Qubits



# Itinerant Photon Detection

Superconducting devices must be placed in a B-field free region

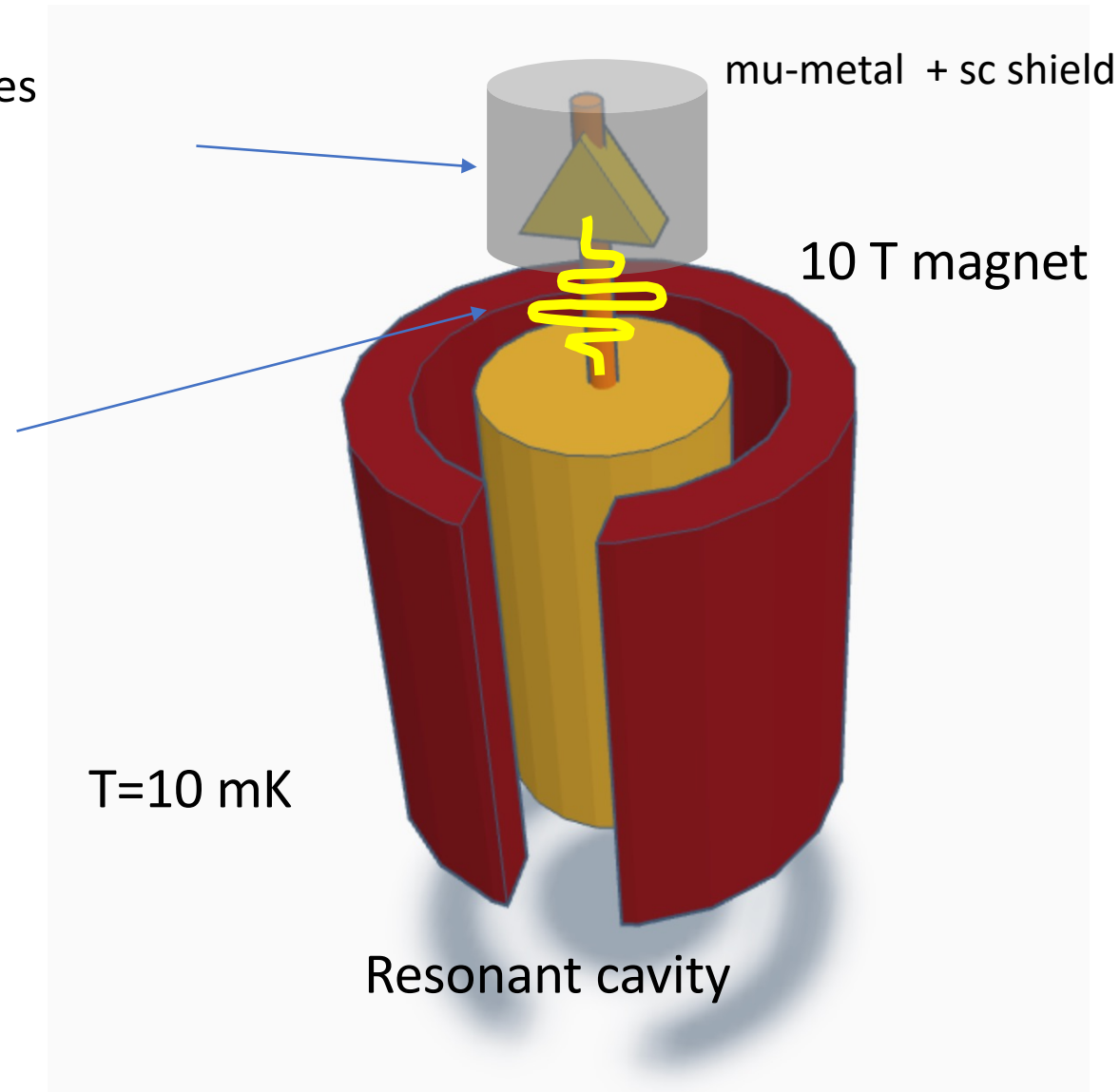




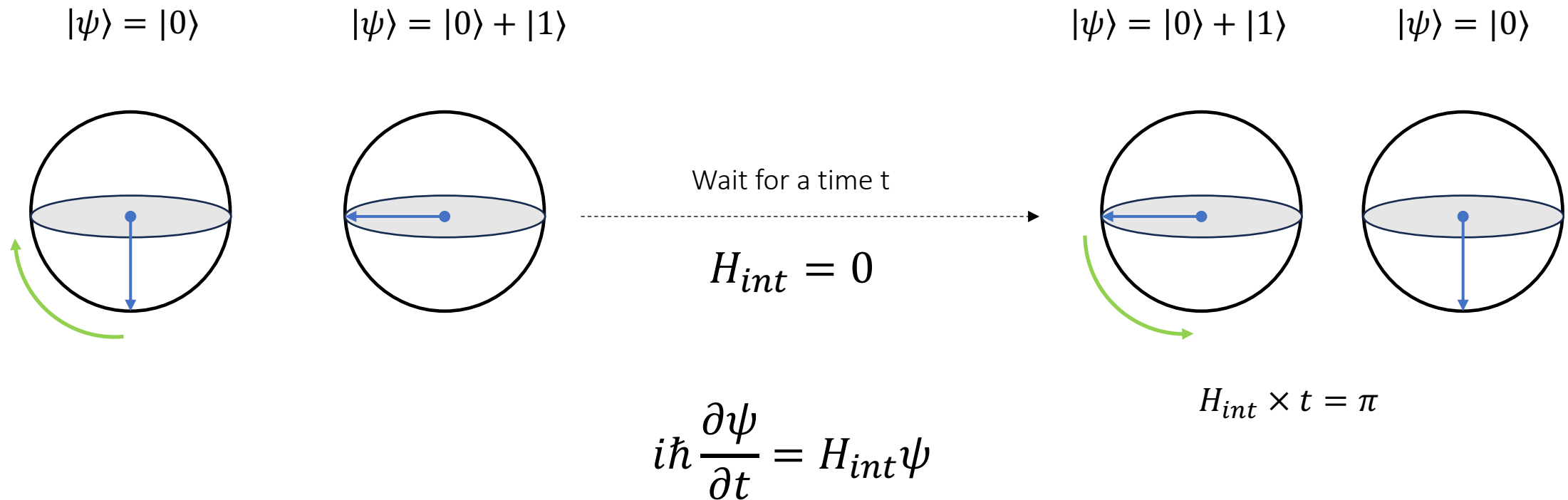
# Itinerant Photon Detection

Superconducting devices  
must be placed in a B-  
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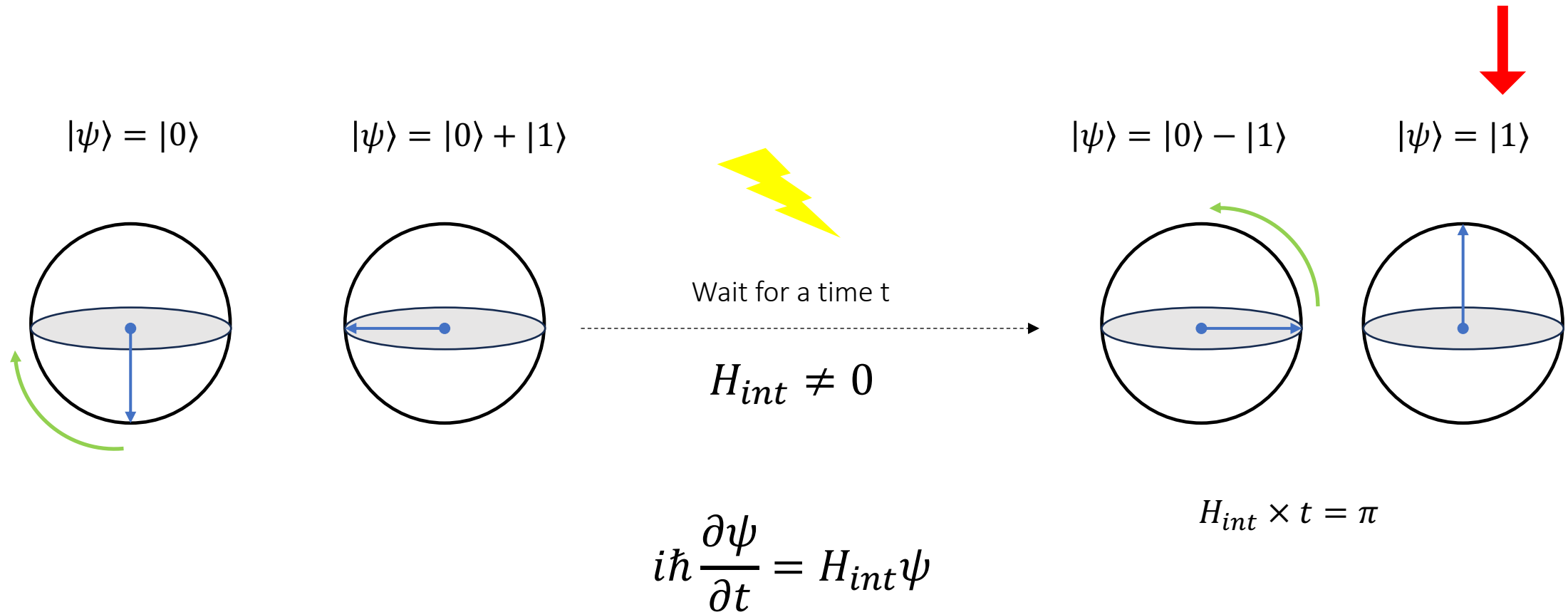
We must detect the photon  
Traveling in the coax cable!  
→ *Itinerant photon detection*



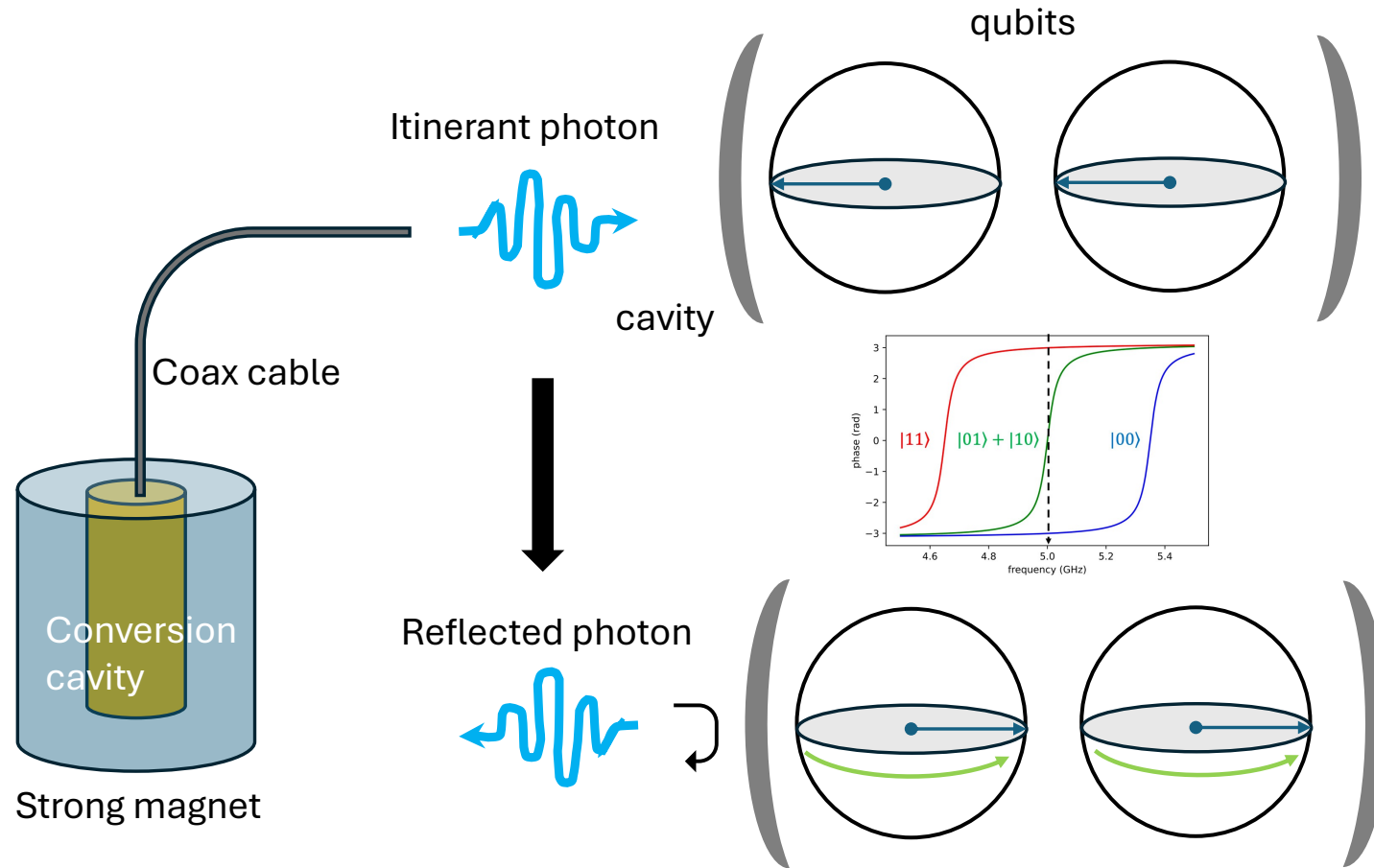
# Quantum Sensing with SC Qubits



# Quantum Sensing with SC Qubits



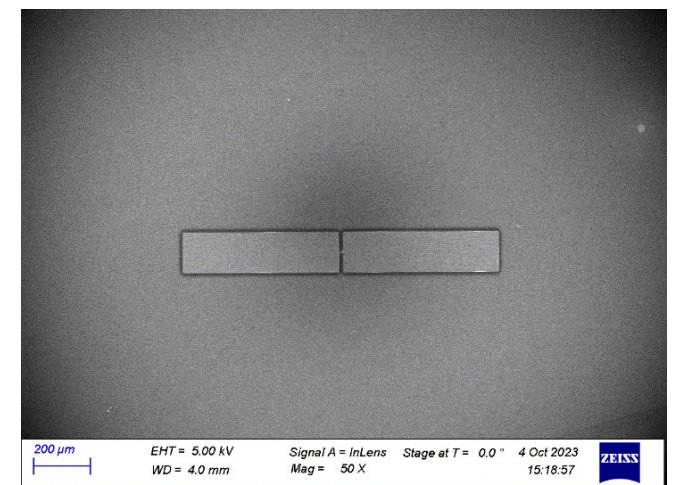
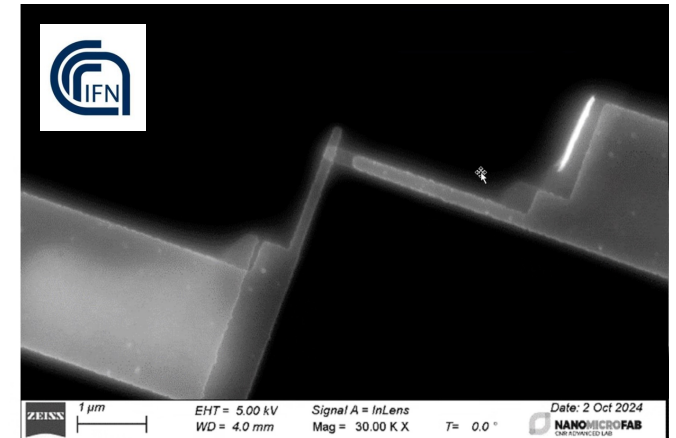
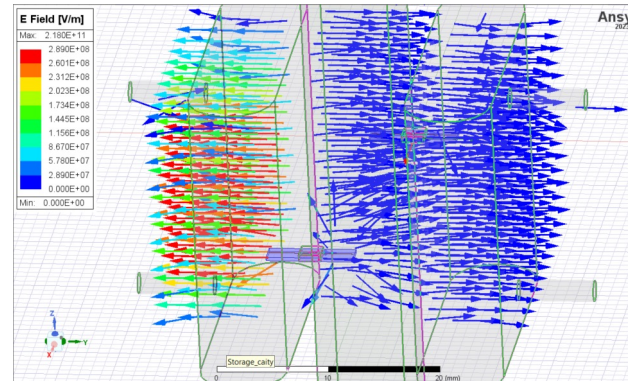
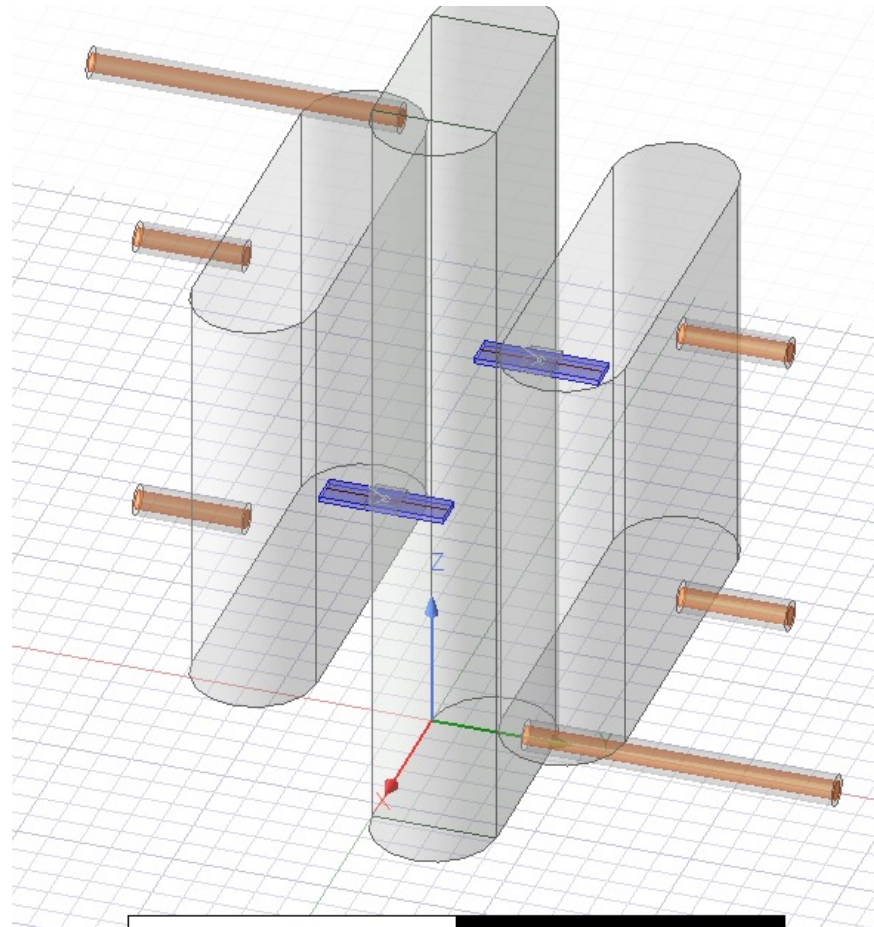
# Two Qubits Detection Scheme



Kono et al. *Nature Phys* **14**, 546–549 (2018)

A D'Elia *Appl. Sci.* 2024, 14(4), 1478

# Two Qubits Detector



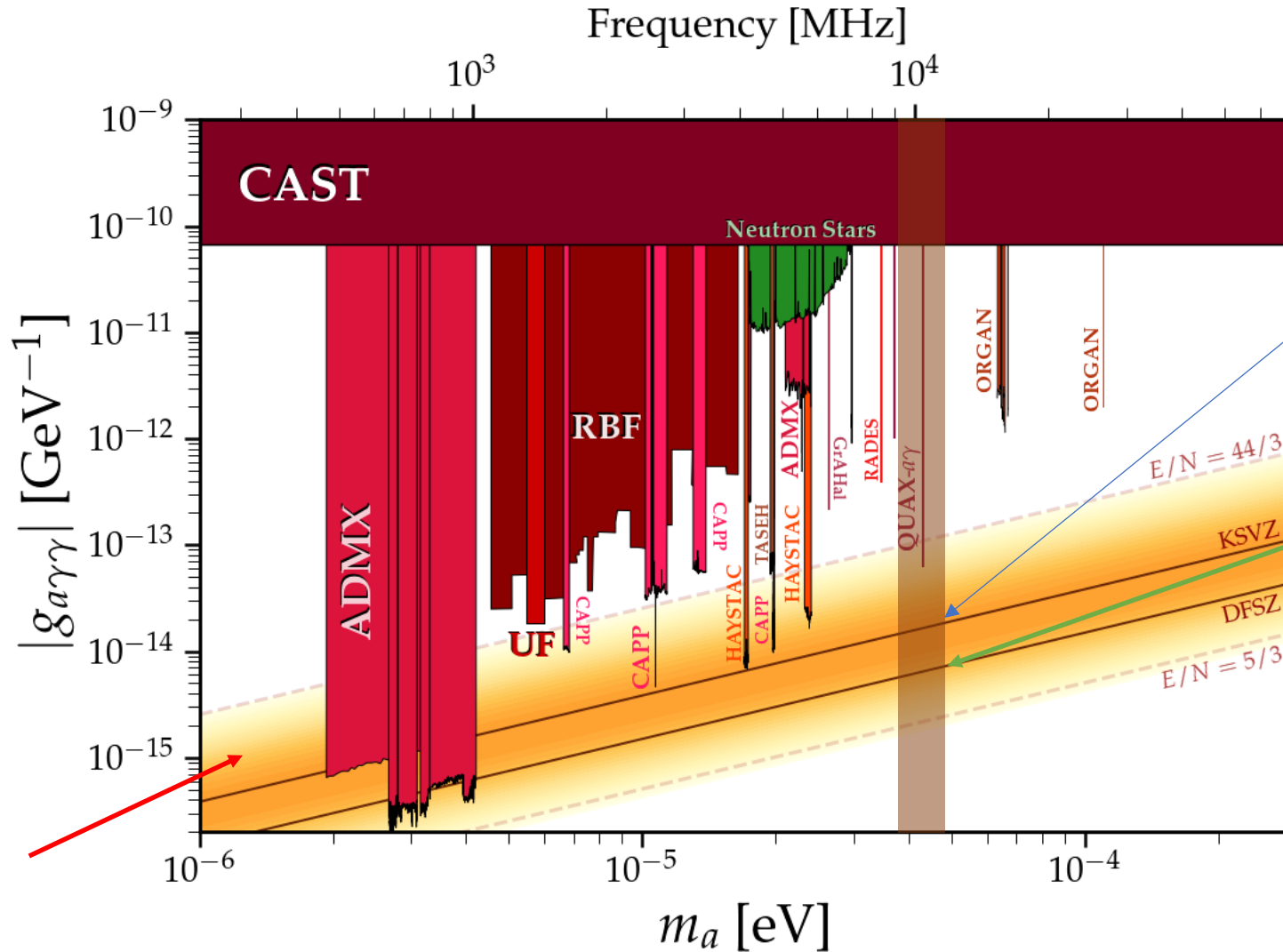
# QUAX LNF&LNL 2023-2025

## LNF:

- Superconducting cavity
- $Q_0 > 2 \times 10^5$
- $B=9T$
- Multicavity

## LNL:

- Dielectric cavity  $Q_0 > 10^6$
- $B=14 T$
- Single cavity



What about the low mass limit?

Next years with noise at Quantum Limit

Beyond Quantum Limit with photon counter (ongoing R&D)

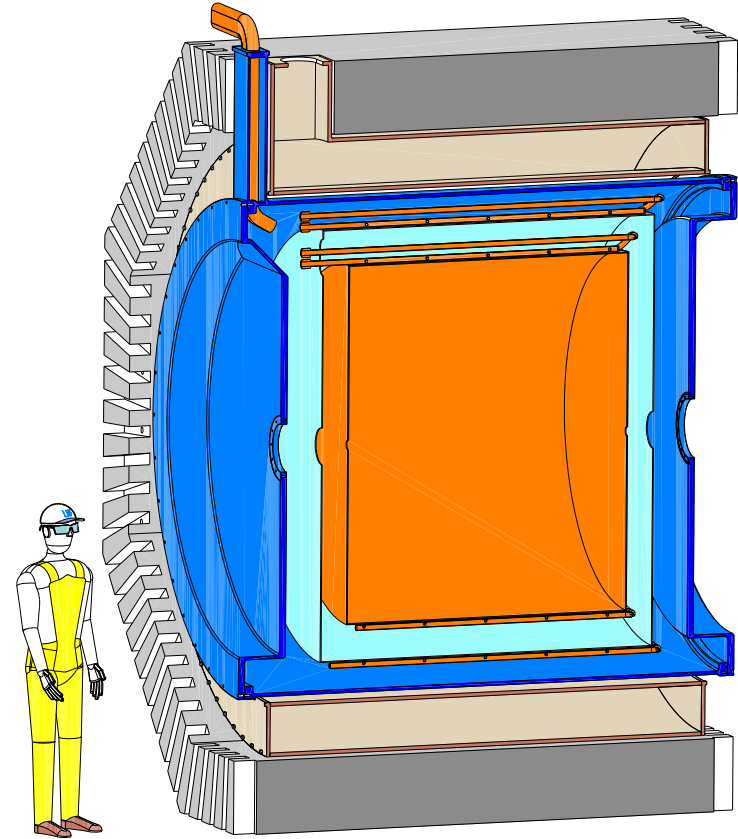
See arXiv:2403.02321 for LNL R&D on photon counter

# FLASH

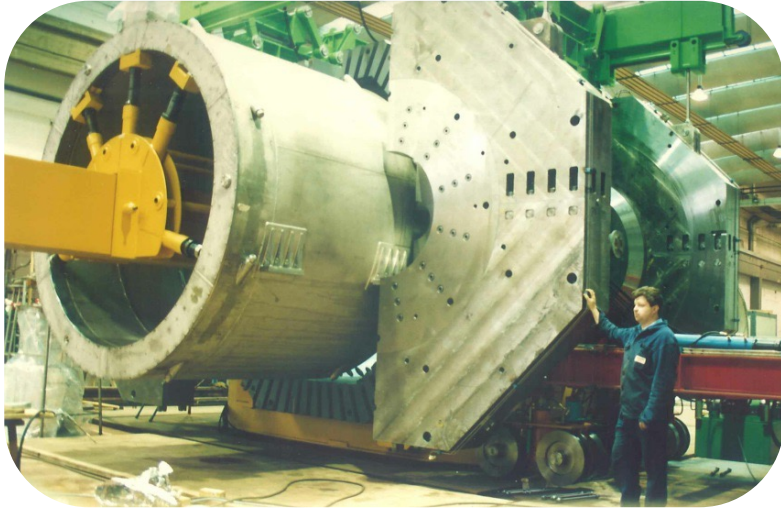
## Finuda magnet for Light Axion Search Haloscope

A large cryogenic resonant-cavity in a high static magnetic field which is planned to probe new physics in the form of dark matter (DM) axions, scalar fields, chameleons, hidden photons, as well as high frequency gravitational waves (GWs) in the frequency range (100–300) MHz.

The experiment will make use of the cryogenic plant and magnet of the FINUDA experiment at INFN-LNF.



*“The future search for low-frequency axions and new physics with the FLASH resonant cavity experiment at Frascati National Laboratories”*  
Physics of the Dark Universe 42 (2023) 101370



# FINUDA

Fisica Nucleare a DAFNE

<b>B(T)</b>	<b>1.1</b>
I(A)	2845
R(m)	1.4
L(m)	2.2



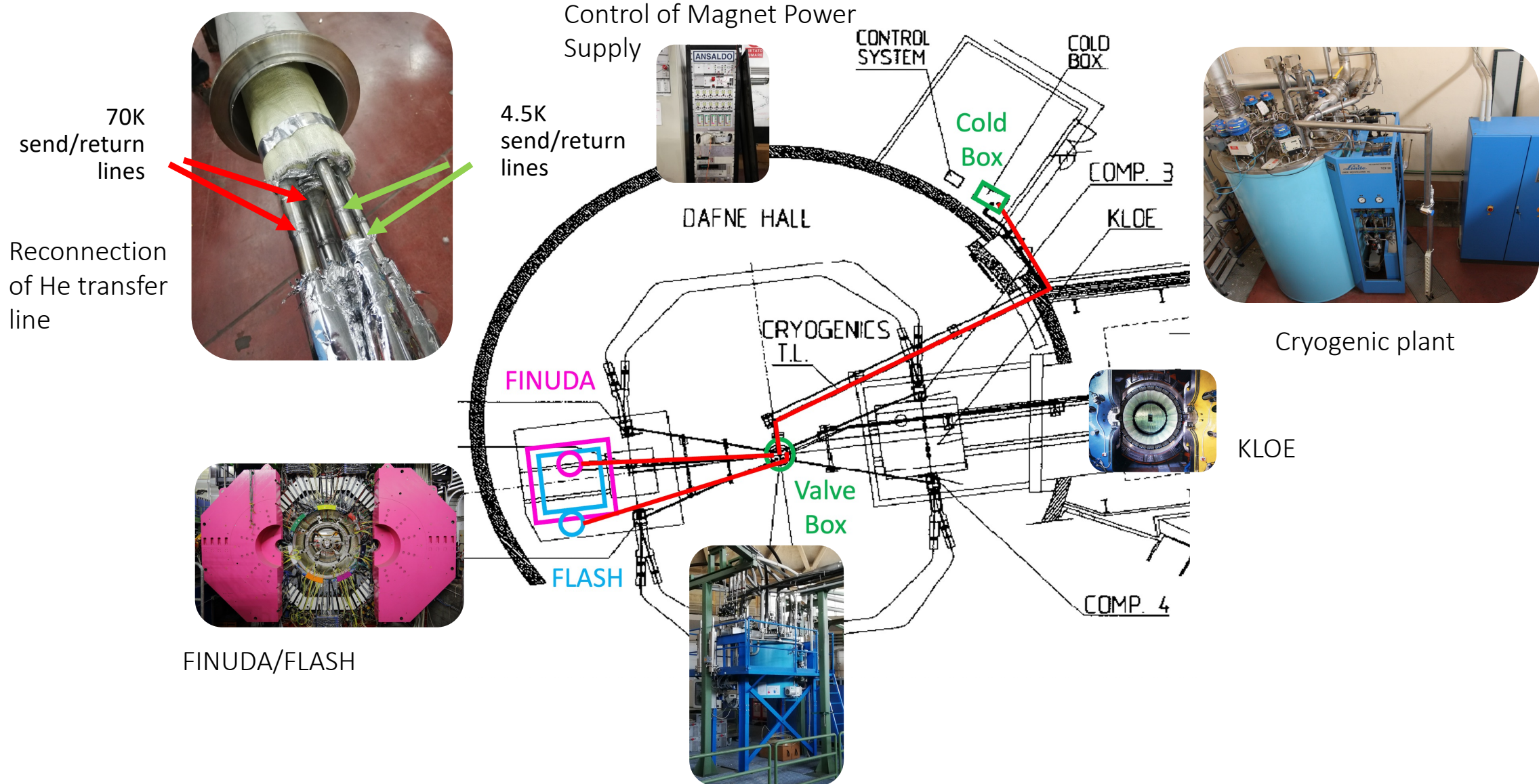
Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare

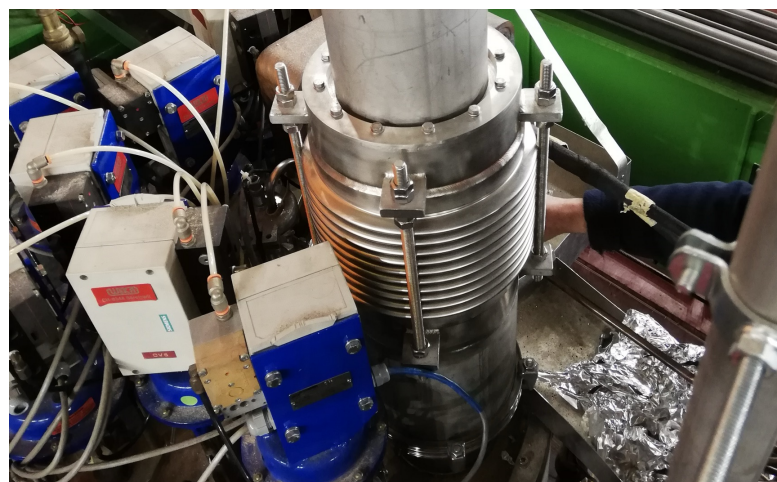
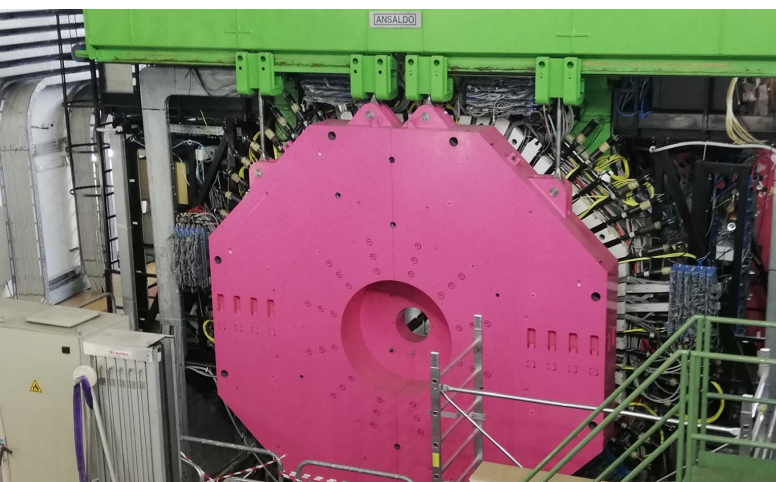
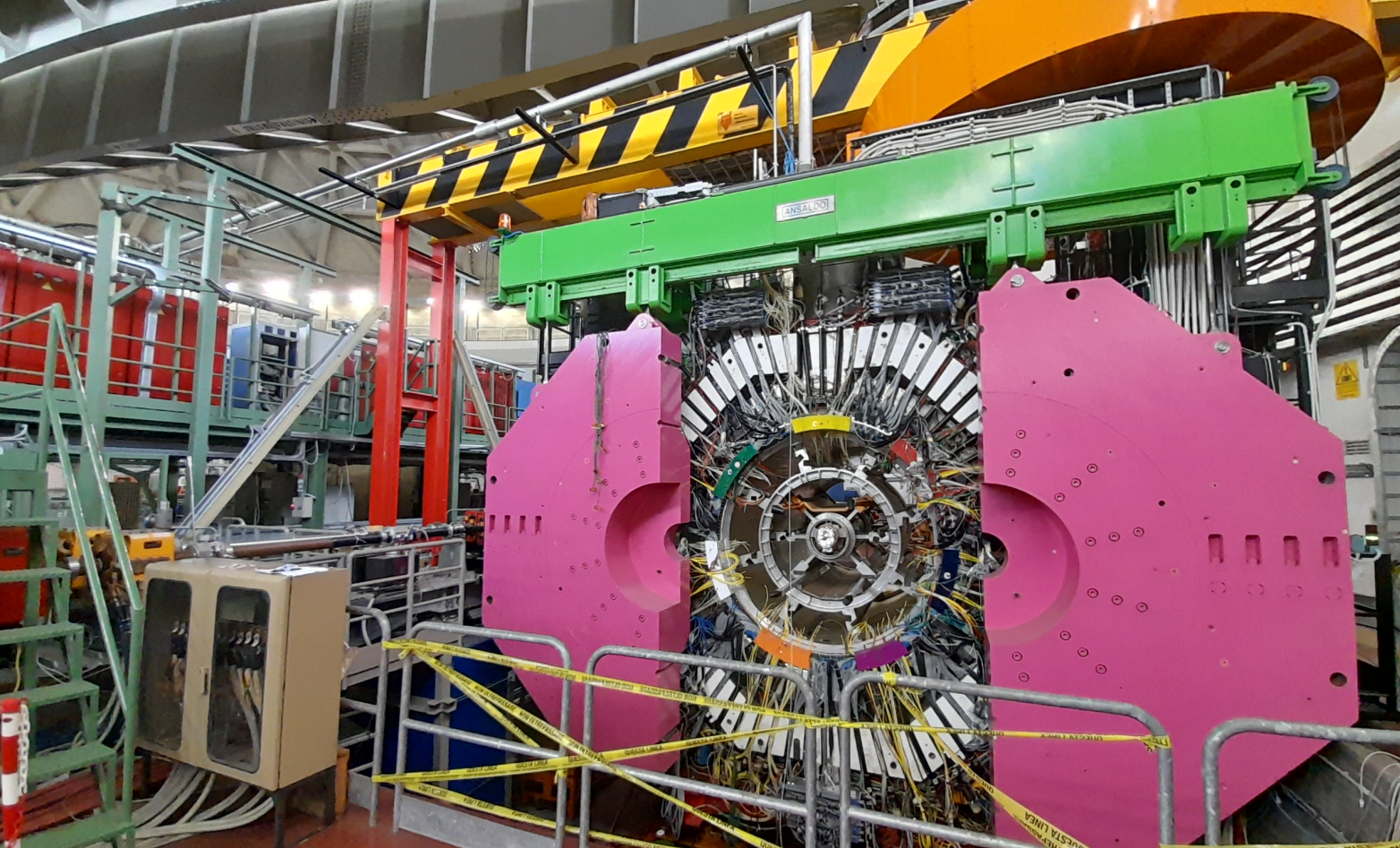




# Commissioning of the FINUDA Magnet at LNF

Last Operated in 2007



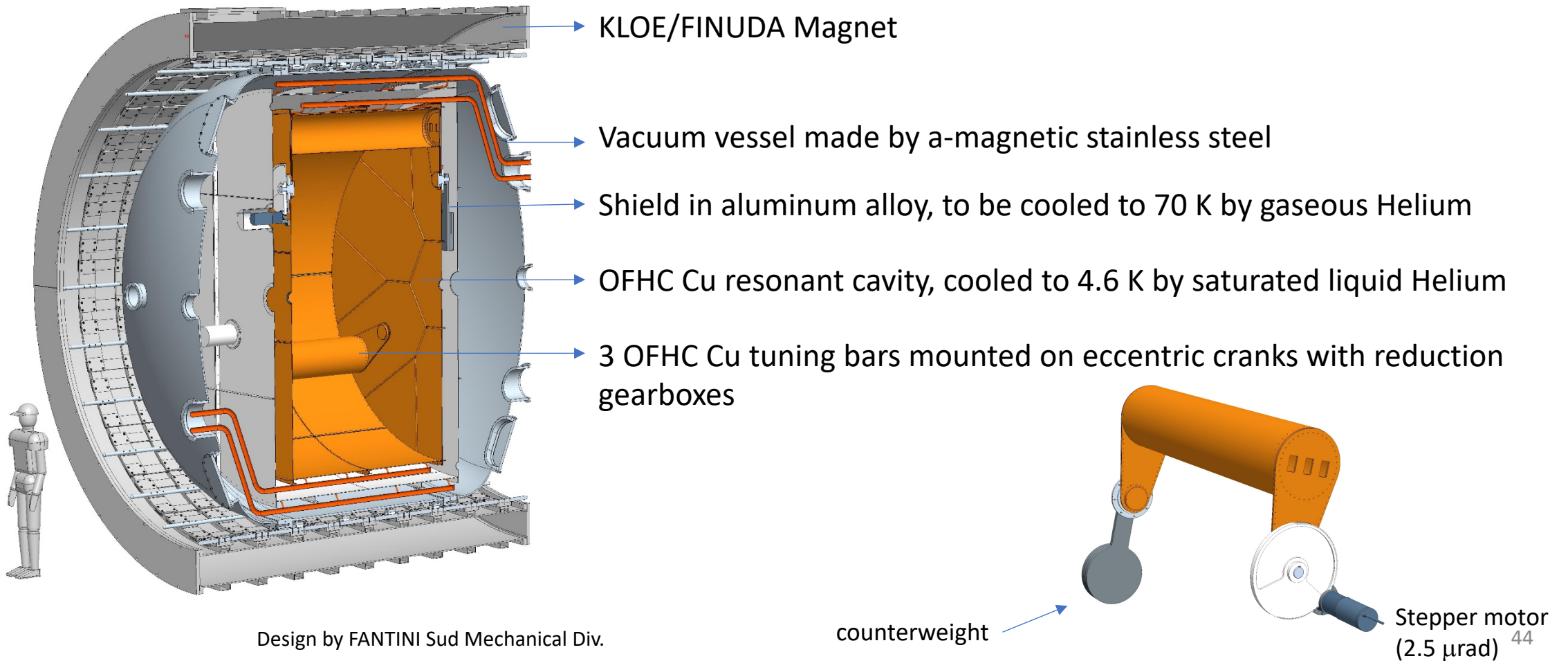


# Successful Test of the FINUDA Magnet

- After a series of operations, the cryogenic plant was finally put back into operation. On Jan the 19th 2024, FINUDA was cooled down to 4 K and energized with a current of 2706 A, generating a magnetic field of 1.05 T.

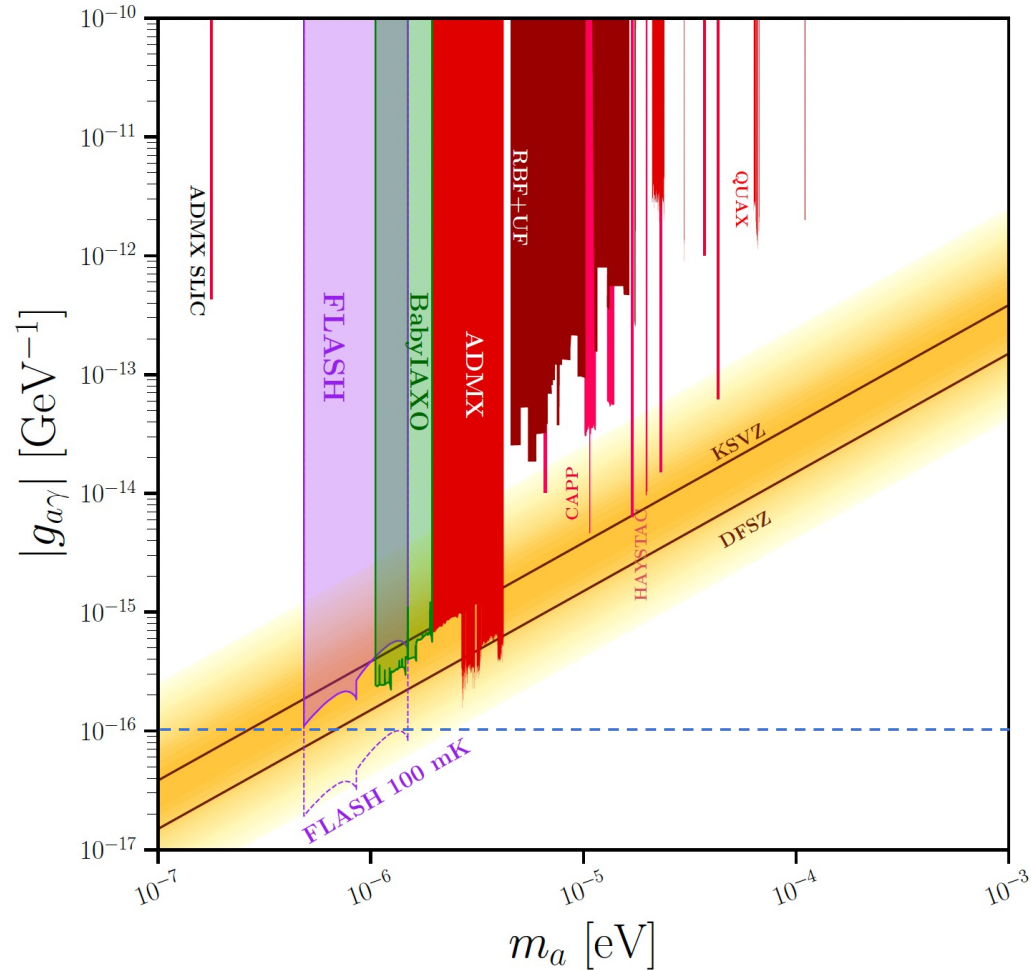


# THE FLASH Cryostat and Resonant Cavity



# FLASH Physics Reach

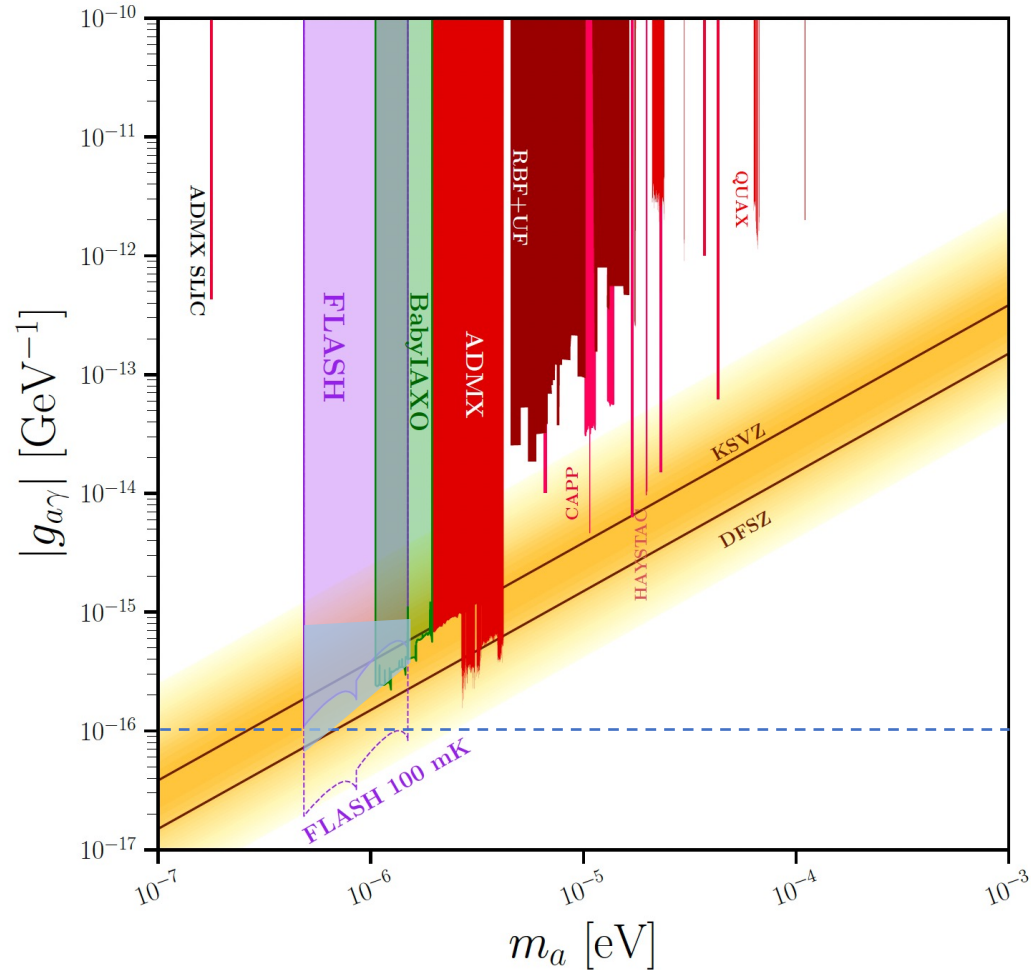
With Cu cavity at 4.5 K



Parameter	Value
$\nu_c$ [MHz]	150
$m_a$ [ $\mu\text{eV}$ ]	0.62
$g_{a\gamma\gamma}^{\text{KSVZ}}$ [ $\text{GeV}^{-1}$ ]	$2.45 \times 10^{-16}$
$Q_L$	$1.4 \times 10^5$
$C_{010}$	0.53
$B_{\text{max}}$ [T]	1.1
$\beta$	2
$\tau$ [min]	5
$T_{\text{sys}}$ [K]	4.9
$P_{\text{sig}}$ [W]	$0.9 \times 10^{-22}$
Scan rate [ $\text{Hz s}^{-1}$ ]	8
$m_a$ [ $\mu\text{eV}$ ]	0.49 - 1.49
$g_{a\gamma\gamma}$ 90% c.l. [ $\text{GeV}^{-1}$ ]	$(1.25 - 6.06) \times 10^{-16}$

# FLASH Physics Reach

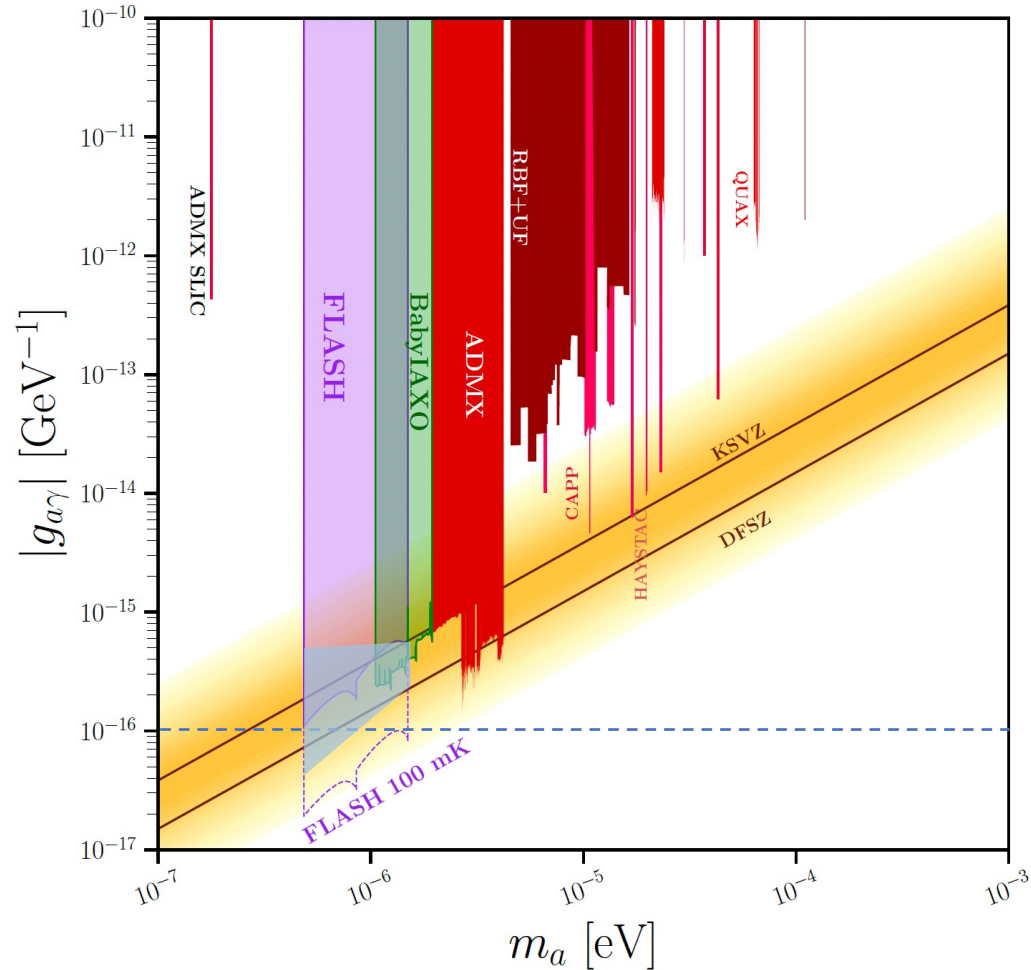
With Cu cavity at 1.9 K



Parameter	Value
$\nu_c$ [MHz]	150
$m_a$ [ $\mu\text{eV}$ ]	0.62
$g_{a\gamma\gamma}^{\text{KSVZ}}$ [ $\text{GeV}^{-1}$ ]	$2.45 \times 10^{-16}$
$Q_L$	$1.4 \times 10^5$
$C_{010}$	0.53
$B_{\text{max}}$ [T]	1.1
$\beta$	2
$\tau$ [min]	5
$T_{\text{sys}}$ [K]	4.9
$P_{\text{sig}}$ [W]	$0.9 \times 10^{-22}$
Scan rate [ $\text{Hz s}^{-1}$ ]	8
$m_a$ [ $\mu\text{eV}$ ]	0.49 - 1.49
$g_{a\gamma\gamma}$ 90% c.l. [ $\text{GeV}^{-1}$ ]	$(0.8 - 3.96) \times 10^{-16}$

# FLASH Physics Reach

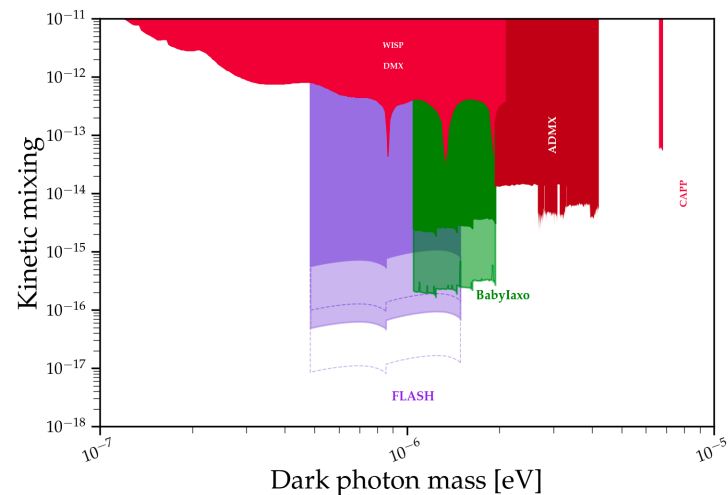
With NbTi cavity at 1.9 K



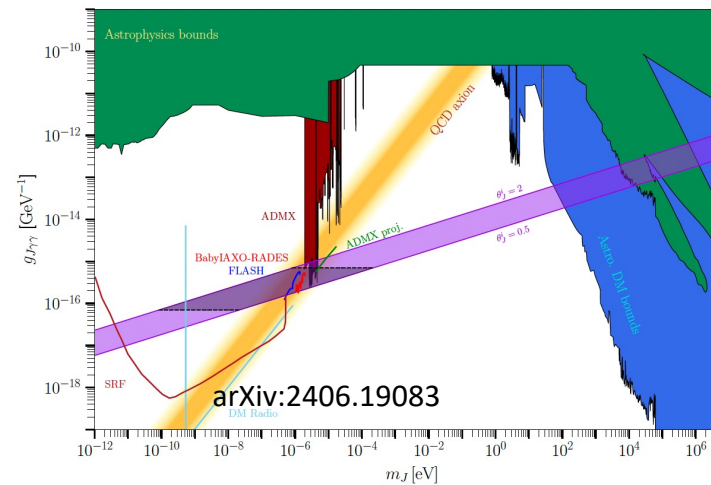
Parameter	Value
$\nu_c$ [MHz]	150
$m_a$ [ $\mu\text{eV}$ ]	0.62
$g_{a\gamma\gamma}^{\text{KSVZ}}$ [ $\text{GeV}^{-1}$ ]	$2.45 \times 10^{-16}$
$Q_L$	$6.7 \times 10^5$
$C_{010}$	0.53
$B_{\text{max}}$ [T]	1.1
$\beta$	2
$\tau$ [min]	5
$T_{\text{sys}}$ [K]	4.9
$P_{\text{sig}}$ [W]	$0.9 \times 10^{-22}$
Scan rate [ $\text{Hz s}^{-1}$ ]	8
$m_a$ [ $\mu\text{eV}$ ]	0.49 - 1.49
$g_{a\gamma\gamma}$ 90% c.l. [ $\text{GeV}^{-1}$ ]	$(0.37-1.8) \times 10^{-16}$

# FLASH Physics Reach

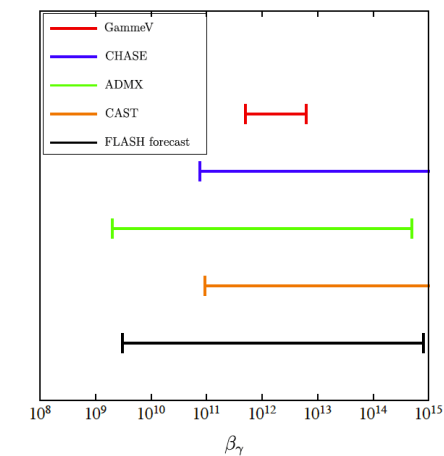
## Vector Dark Matter



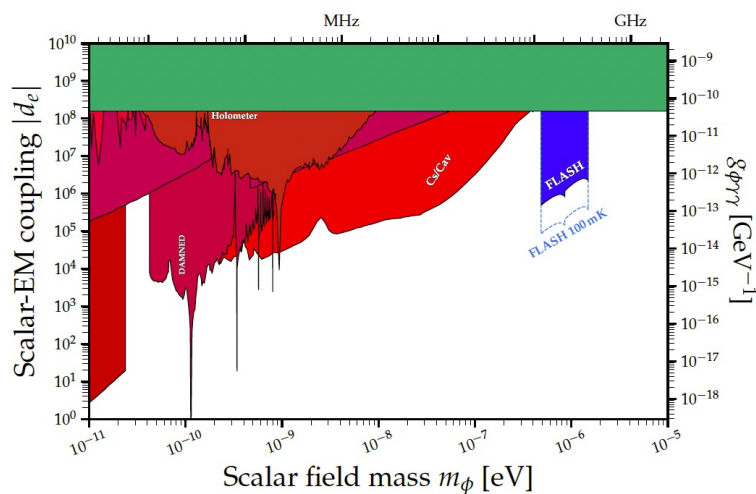
## Majoron



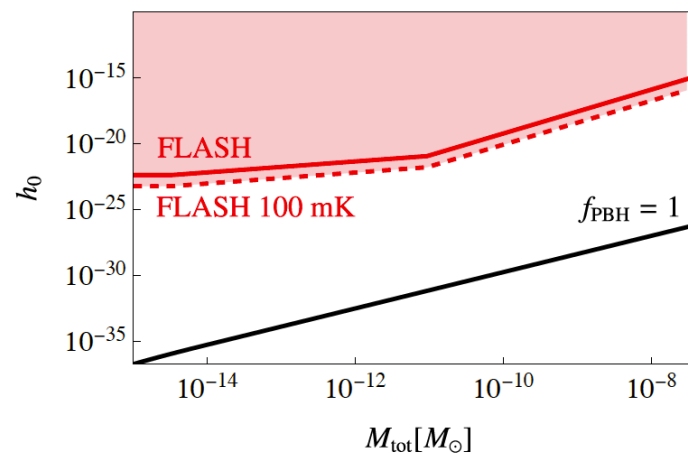
## Chameleons



## Scalar Dark Matter



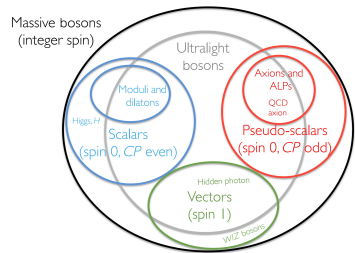
## HFGW



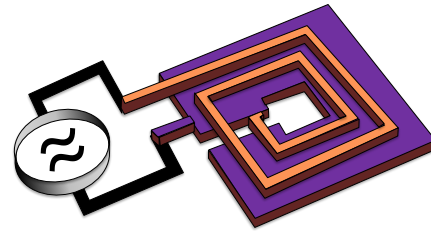


# Design Study and R&D for the TDR

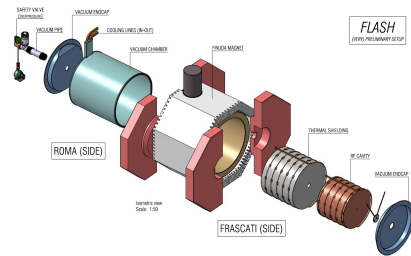
Goal: TDR ready for Summer 2026



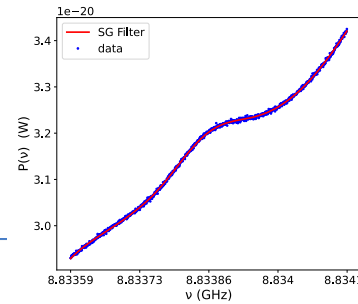
## WP1 Physics Reach



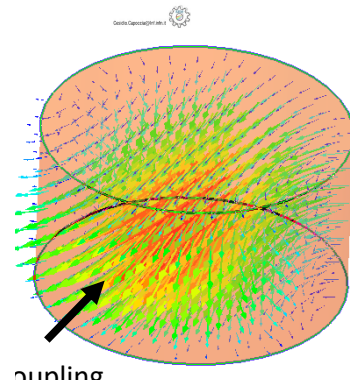
## WP4 Signal Amplification and DAQ



## WP2 Mechanical Design and Cryogenics



## WP5 Data Analysis and Computing



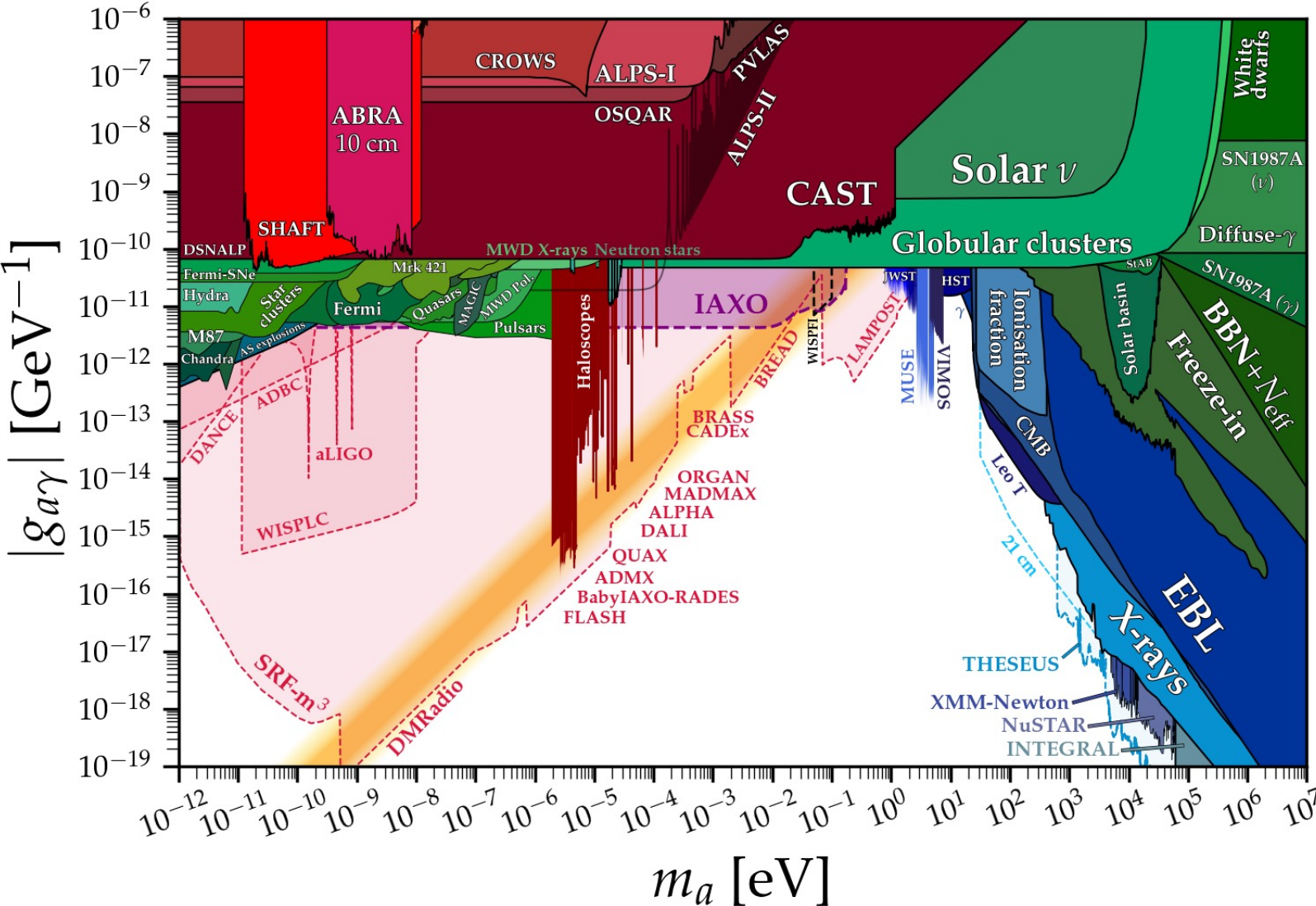
## WP3 RF Cavity

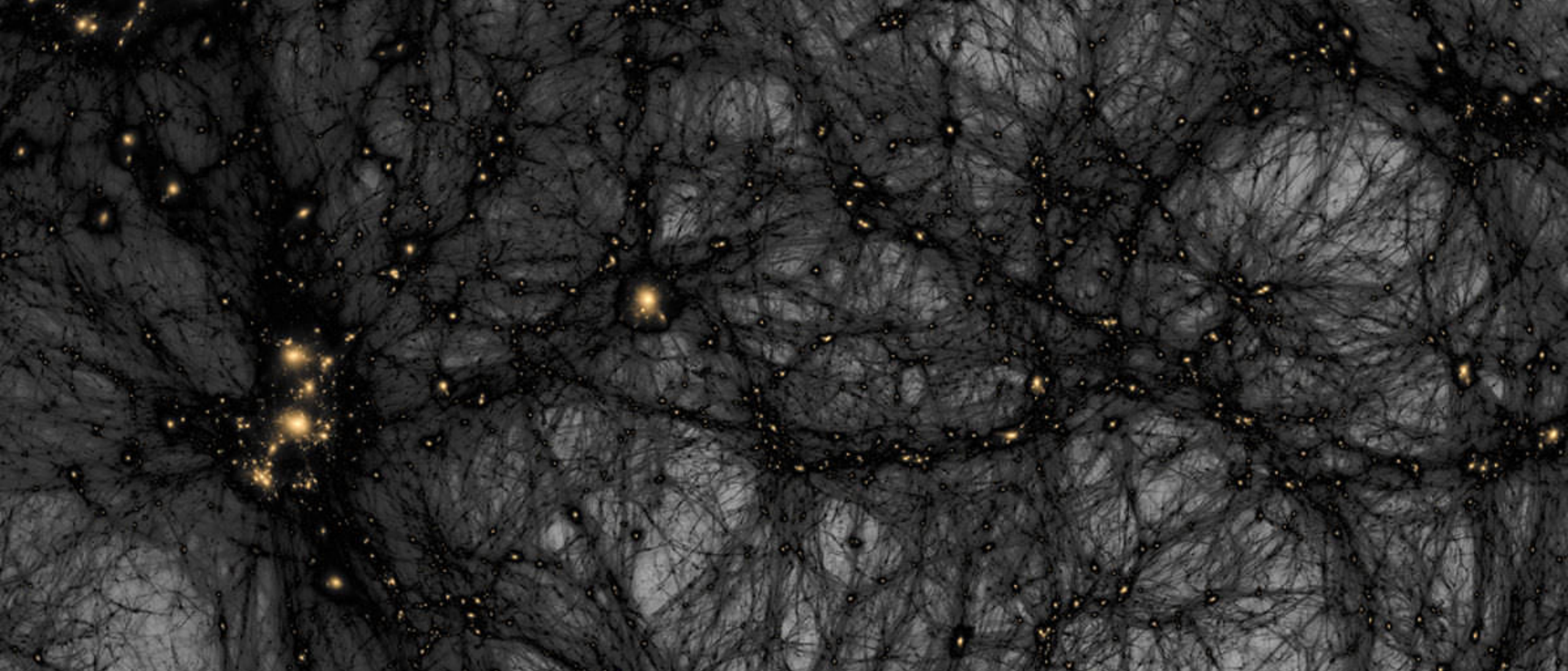


## WP6 Decommissioning of FINUDA and FLASH Commissioning



# Global Effort to Probe the Full QCD-Axion Band in the Next 10 Years





The End