Axion search experiments Exploring the low-energy frontier



K. Desch University of Bonn Graduiertenkolleg Freiburg 22/07/2020



ADMX

**ALPS IIc** 

Three biggest questions of particle physics (arguably):

- Why are we here? (Baryon asymmetry of Universe)
- Why are we sub-dominant? (The Dark "World" gravitates, what else?)
- Is our world fine-tuned?

The (QCD) axion is possibly addressing two of them

#### Outline

- (At least) five reasons to like Axions
- Axions and ALPS: What are they?
- Axions and ALPS: How to find them?

## Before telling you what the axion actually is, should like it!



[https://www.particlezoo.net/collections/all]

Five reasons to like Axions and ALPS: Axions...

1. ... may solve the strong CP problem

QCD Lagrangian admits CP-violating term(s):

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} G^{a}_{\mu\nu} G^{a\mu\nu} + i\bar{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}D_{\mu}\psi - \bar{\psi}M\psi - \theta \frac{1}{32\pi^{2}} G^{a}_{\mu\nu}\tilde{G}^{a\mu\nu}$$
$$\mathcal{L}_{CP} = -\frac{\alpha_{s}}{8\pi} \left(\theta - \arg \det M_{q}\right) \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}G^{\mu\nu}$$
$$\vec{\theta} \in (0, 2\pi)$$



induces (e.g.) electric dipole moment of neutron:  $d_n \approx \bar{\theta} \cdot 10^{-3} e \text{ fm}$ measurement:  $d_n < 0.30 \times 10^{-12} e \text{ fm} \rightarrow \bar{\theta} \leq 10^{-10} \rightarrow \text{ppt}$  fine tuning Five reasons to like Axions and ALPS : Axions...

### 2. ... may be the Dark Matter

Despite their small mass, axions are viable Dark Matter candidates Abundance depends on (complicated) details of early universe physics (which I don't understand 😞)



[Redondo]

Five reasons to like Axions and ALPS : Axions and/or ALPS...

### 3. ... may explain anomalous star cooling

Emission of Axions strongly constrained from too fast cool down of stars

Some stars appear to cool down faster than expected (stellar cooling anomaly)!

#### <u>Bounds:</u>

Stellar system	Bound
RGB stars	$g_{ae} \le 4.3 \times 10^{-13}$
WDs	$g_{ae} \le (3-4) \times 10^{-13}$
HB stars	$g_{a\gamma} \le 0.65 \times 10^{-10} \ {\rm GeV^{-1}}$
SN 1987A	$g_{ap} \le 6 \times 10^{-10}$
NS	Similar to SN 1987A
Red Giants White dwarfs	Neutron

<u>Anomalies:</u>



Five reasons to like Axions and ALPS: Axions...

# 4. ... may explain anomalous

TeV transparency of the sky



[Horns, Meyer; Troitsky; ...]

Five reasons to like Axions and ALPS

Axions...

- 1. ... may solve the strong CP problem
- 2. ... may be the Dark Matter
- 3. ... may explain anomalous star cooling
- 4. ... may explain TeV transparency
- 5. ... are well-motivated by string theory



#### Outline

- (At least) five reasons to like Axions
- Axions and ALPS: What are they?
- Axions and ALPS: How to find them?



$$\mathcal{L}_{CP} = -\frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \bar{\theta} \, \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu} \qquad \longrightarrow \qquad \mathcal{L}_{CP} = -\frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \frac{a(x)}{f_a} \, \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}$$

a(x): Axion field

- f<sub>a</sub> : "Peccei-Quinn scale"
- a(x) arises as from spontaneously broken U(1) at (large) scale  $f_a$
- a(x) acquires a mass (potential)
- a(x) is driven to minimum (CP-conserving)
- a(x) has a generic coupling to gluons





R. Peccei

& H. Quinn (1977)



F. Wilczek (1978)



S. Weinberg (1978)

# The (QCD) Axion mass

- $E \sim f_a$  (large)
- spontaneously broken symmetry
- Axion = Nambu-Goldstone
   Boson (massless)





## $\rm E \sim \Lambda_{\rm QCD}$

- QCD instanton effects break
   U(1) explicitely
- "tilted mexican hat"
- Axion = Pseudo-Nambu-Goldstone Boson (massive)
- drives Potential to  $\Theta = 0$
- CP symmetry restored





after Raffelt

 $m_a \simeq 6 \,\mathrm{meV}(10^9 \,\mathrm{GeV}/f_a)$ 

### The QCD-Axion



#### Axionlike Particles (ALPS)



Axion  $m_a \sim 1/f_a$ ALPS  $m_a$  and  $f_a$  independent

ALPS may arise "generically" from "any" broken U(1) symmetry...

There may be more than one ALP

QCD Axion mass predictions?

- QCD axion mass is essentially unconstrained (due to unknown  $f_a$ )  $m_a \simeq 6 \,\mathrm{meV}(10^9 \,\mathrm{GeV}/f_a)$
- If QCD axion = dark matter, mass constrained by observed DM density but axion cosmology is complicated and model-dependent



• Stellar cooling anomalies favour ~ few meV axions/ALPs

#### Outline

- (At least) five reasons to like Axions
- Axions and ALPS: What are they?
- Axions and ALPS: How to find them?

### Axion phenomenology

Most axion experiments exploit the (effective) axion-photon coupling

- QCD axion via its gluon coupling and mixing with  $\pi^{0}$
- Primakoff(-like) effect

$$\mathcal{L}_{a\gamma} \equiv -\frac{g_{a\gamma}}{4} a F^{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu} = g_{a\gamma} \,\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} \,a$$

• QCD axion: axion mass ~ axion-photon coupling

$$g_{a\gamma} = \frac{\alpha}{2\pi f_a} C_{\gamma}$$
  $C_{\gamma} \sim 0.75$  (-1.92) for DFSZ (KSVZ) (benchmark models)

- DFSZ model also predicts a significant axion-electron coupling
- ALPs: any combination of mass and photon-coupling





### Axion decay?

yes, but 🙂

$$\Gamma_{A \to \gamma\gamma} = \frac{G_{A\gamma\gamma}^2 m_A^3}{64 \pi} = 1.1 \times 10^{-24} \text{ s}^{-1} \left(\frac{m_A}{\text{eV}}\right)^5$$



$$m_A = \frac{z^{1/2}}{1+z} \frac{f_\pi m_\pi}{f_A} = \frac{0.60 \text{ meV}}{f_A/10^{10} \text{ GeV}}$$

m <sub>A</sub> [eV]	τ <b>[T<sub>universe</sub>]</b>	f <sub>A</sub> [LHC]
1	10 <sup>6</sup>	10 <sup>2</sup>
0.0001	10 <sup>26</sup>	10 <sup>6</sup>

[A. Lindner]

### State-of-the art



Figure 91.1: Exclusion plot for ALPs as described in the text. [PDG]

a lot to do!

### New Axion experiments

"Haloscopes" Axion source: Dark Matter Halo (if axions are the DM)

"Light shining through wall" Axion source: laser + B-field

~eV

~µeV

#### "Helioscopes"

Axion source: Sun ~µeV (rather unavoidable, if axions exist, robust prediction)

#### Other (not covered here)



### Haloscope experiments (search for ambient DM axions)

а

 $\sim \gamma$ 

#### 1. Cavity haloscope:

- exploit mixing of axion field with photon field in strong B field
- additional source term in Maxwell's equations
- if m<sub>a</sub>c = hv → conversion of axion field to photon field in resonant microwave cavity
- needs scanning of resonance frequency of cavity (axion mass unknown)
- tradeoff between quality factor and sensitivity
- limited to small masses (cavitiy size) f[GHz] = 0.66 m<sub>a</sub> [μeV]

 $ec{
abla} \cdot ec{D} = 
ho_f + g_{a\gamma\gamma} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_0}{\mu_0}} ec{B} \cdot ec{
abla} a,$   $ec{
abla} imes ec{H} = ec{J}_f + rac{\partial ec{D}}{\partial t} - g_{a\gamma\gamma} \sqrt{rac{\epsilon_0}{\mu_0}} \left( ec{B} rac{\partial a}{\partial t} + ec{
abla} a imes ec{E} 
ight),$   $ec{
abla} \cdot ec{B} = 0,$ 

 $ec{
abla} imes ec{E} = -rac{\partial ec{B}}{\partial t},$ 



Experiments: ADMX (US), CAST/CAPP, RADES (CERN), CAPP (Korea), ...



а

### Haloscope experiments (search for ambient DM axions)

2. <u>Dielectric haloscope:</u>

- exploit mixing of axion field with photon field in strong B field
- at <u>surfaces</u> with transition of  $\varepsilon \rightarrow$  (microwave) photon emission
- build layered structure with many transitions
- broadband enhancement of signal through interference
- needs scanning of resonance frequency of cavity (axion mass unknown)
- enter o(10 µeV) mass region



(MAgnetized Disc and Mirror Axion eXperiment)



Parameter	Results
J <sub>E</sub>	50 A/mm <sup>2</sup>
By (0,0,0)	-8.82 T
Bpeak (x,y,0)	9.85 T
Bpeak	9.87 T
Overfield (B <sub>peak</sub> /B <sub>0</sub> )	11.8 %
FoM	94.4 T <sup>2</sup> m <sup>2</sup>
H+ / H- (Z = 0.0 m)	-0.9 % / 5.0 %
Energy	482 MJ
Volume	4.435 m <sup>3</sup>
Length	5.0 m



MADMAX site: HERA Halle Nord, using H1 yoke DESY.

 Copper mirror with heater and thermometer

 Saphire discs

 Saphire discs

 Image: Saphire disc

 Image:

- large volume + large field magnet needed (FOM ~ B<sup>2</sup> \* A)
- dielectric discs (1.2 m<sup>2</sup> LaAlO<sub>3</sub> or Saphire)
- µm precise alignment of discs at 4K
- scan by movement of discs

#### Haloscope experiments: prospects



## Light-Shining-Through-Wall Experiments

- exploit mixing of axion field with photon field in strong B-field
- enhance conversion through optical resonator
- FOM ~ B<sup>2</sup> \* L<sup>2</sup>



- full "theoretical control" (no dependence on astrophysics/cosmology for axion production)
- small rate  $\sim g_{av}^4 \rightarrow$  not sensitive to QCD-Axion (but interesting ALP parameter space)
- "broadband" sensitivity independent of  $m_a$  (as long as  $o(m_a) < o(1/L)$ )

Leading experiment: ALPS (Any Light Particle Search) at DESY

ALPS IIc experiment

- Using 2 strings of 12 HERA SC dipoles each
- Aperture > 46 mm: straightening required

Status (April)

- All magnets including two spares successfully modified, tested and painted.
- First magnets installed in the tunnel.
- Critical milestone: close experimental vacuum in 2020.







#### LSW experiments: prospects



### Axions from the sun: Helioscope experiments



- Solar axions produced (mainly) in the core of the sun
- Energy <E> ~ 4.2 keV
- rather robust prediction

[CAST coll., JCAP 0704:010,2007]

#### Helioscopes – Axions from the sun – axion-electron-coupling



#### Helioscopes



#### Helioscopes: sensitivity



31



# The IAXO project

### IAXO parameters

Parameter	CAST	ΙΑΧΟ
B [T]	9	2,5
L [m]	9,3	20
A <sub>bore</sub> [m <sup>2</sup> ]	0.003	2.3
$f^*_{Magnet} \sim B^2 L^2 A$	1	300
b [keV <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ]	10 <sup>-6</sup>	1-5 x 10 <sup>-8</sup>
ε <sub>detector</sub>	0,7	0,7
ε <sub>optics</sub>	0,3	0,5
A <sub>bore</sub> /A <sub>spot</sub>	200	14500
E <sub>solar tracking</sub>	0,12	0,5

### IAXO magnet (CDR design)





Magnet optimization figure of merit:  $f_M = L^2 \int B^2(x,y) dx dy - f_M = L^2 \int B^2(x,y) dx dy \to L^2 B^2 A$ 

B: superconducting NbTi at 4.5K  $\rightarrow$  B<sub>peak</sub> 6 T , B<sub>us</sub> –

L: as long as reasonably possible (rotatable): L =

A: driven by optics, D=60/70 cm per bore, n=8

Baseline design inspired by ATLAS toroid, large " reasonable cost



#### IAXO optics



#### Overall FOM ~ S/VB B scales with sensitive area $\rightarrow$ focus sensitive area to smallest achievable size $\rightarrow$ small focal length S scales with efficiency of optics $\rightarrow$ high efficiency at small angles $\rightarrow$ large focal length





Demagnification ~ 14400 Efficiency ~ 0.7

ightarrow improves sensitivity by factor 84 w.r.t. no optics

### IAXO detectors

Name of the game:

- high efficiency for single soft X-ray photons copes
- at lowest possible background

In addition:

- low threshold (< 1 keV)
- good energy resolution

Multitude of technologies

- gaseous (Micromegas, InGrid)
- semiconductors (SDD, ...)
- cryogenic (MMC, TES, ...)



Several technologies already studied in CAST

### IAXO detectors

Background goal: o(1) background events/keV during 5 years of operation

sensitive signal area o(1 cm<sup>2</sup>), solar observation time o(10<sup>8</sup>) seconds

 $\rightarrow$  ultimate background level goal: 10<sup>-8</sup> keV<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-2</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>

Market leader: Microbulk Micromegas

- design for radiopurity
- passive shielding
- offline discrimination

Active shielding will get us to  $10^{-7} \text{ keV}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ Further R&D towards  $10^{-8}$  ongoing (materials, gas)



### IAXO detector baseline: small Micromegas detector



IAXO Pathfinder operated in CAST

nature physics

ARTICLES PUBLISHED ONLINE: 1 MAY 2017 | DOI: 10.1038/NPHYS4109

**OPEN** 

#### New CAST limit on the axion-photon interaction

CAST Collaboration<sup>†</sup>

Hypothetical low-mass particles, such as axions, provide a compelling explanation for the dark matter in the universe. Such particles are expected to emerge abundantly from the hot interior of stars. To test this prediction, the CERN Axion Solar Telescope (CAST) uses a 9 T refurbished Large Hadron Collider test magnet directed towards the Sun. In the strong magnetic field, solar axions can be converted to X-ray photons which can be recorded by X-ray detectors. In the 2013-2015 run, thanks to low-background detectors and a

Here, we report the best limit on t CAST, which now reaches similar le

 $g_{a\gamma} < 0.66 \times 10^{-10} \,\text{GeV}^{-1}$ at 95% CL

World best limit to date.



### IAXO detectors: InGrid/GridPix

Micromegas on a pixel readout chip (Timepix/Timepix3) Low energy threshold (~200 eV) Topological (charged) background rejection Robust energy measurement (counting) Already being used in CAST







#### 300 nm Silicon-Nitride at 1.5 bar overpressure





### BabyIAXO: paving the way for IAXO

Original plan: build realistic TDR prototypes for main subsystems (magnet, optics, detectors)

Developed into a full-fledged experiment with sensitivity ~100xCAST and ~0.01xIAXO with its own physics potential.



BabyIAXO@DESY

Telescope mount: CTA MST prototype at Adlershof is well suited to hold the BabyIAXO magnet (instead of CTA mirrors)



Uwe Schneekloth | BabyIAXO Drive & Support System, Oct. 2019 Page 4



Has already been shipped to Hamburg



[First parts of BabyIAXO telecope mount in HERA hall south]

#### Helioscope experiments: prospects



#### Altogether now



# **Timelines**

[A. Lindner, DESY PRC 04/20]

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

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



DESY: also a center for experimental axion physics in this decade?

Program well aligned with other international axion searches.

DESY. Axion Experiments | 89th PRC open session, 8 April 2020 | Axel Lindner

Finally... Hot: A new kid on the (helioscope) block: Xenon1t

$$\mathcal{L}_{aee} = g_{ae} \frac{\partial_{\mu}a}{2m_{e}} \bar{\psi}_{e} \gamma^{\mu} \gamma^{5} \psi_{e} = -ig_{ae}a\bar{\psi}_{e} \gamma^{5} \psi_{e} \qquad a - \cdots - \int_{\mathbf{f}}^{\mathbf{f}} \text{ ``keV axions from sun can kick off} electrons from (Xe) atoms$$

[XENON collaboration, 2006.09721 [hep-ex]]

### Summary and Conclusions

- Axions (and ALPS) are a well motivated extension of the Standard Model
- Could solve more than one of the most burning problems
- Experimental exploration needs several complementary experiments
- DESY as a European centre for axions in this decade?



https://www.symmetrymagazine.org/article/the-other-darkmatter-candidate

## Axions and WISPs Bad Honnef Physics School August 2-7, 2020 August 19-24 2021 Physikzentrum Bad Honnef, Germany Organizers: Igor Irastorza (Zaragoza), Joerg Jaeckel (Heidelberg), Klaus Desch (Bonn)

5-day school for students (Master's, PhD students, early career postdocs) working on or interested in Axions/ALPs/WISPs in experiment or theory

#### **Confirmed lecturers/topics:**

Gaia Lanfranchi (INFN, Frascati): Axions and light particles at accelerators Axel Lindner (DESY): Axion experiments David J. E. (Doddy) Marsh (Göttingen): Axion cosmology Javier Redondo (Zaragoza): Axion astrophysics Andreas Ringwald (DESY): Axion theory Special lecture: Pierre Sikivie, Laureate of the Sakurai Prize 2020 Excursion to Effelsberg 100m Radiotelescope Poster session, Exercises

#### Fee: 200 € full board and lodging (for DPG members 100 €) Web: <u>https://www.dpg-physik.de/veranstaltungen/2020/axions-and-wisps?set\_language=en</u> <u>Registration (open): Registration</u> (not yet...)





