



# LSW experiments in the microwaves



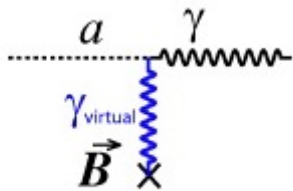
# + Outline

- Experimental overview
- LSW experimental scheme
- MW experiment design
- Magnets, detectors and cavities
- MW potential in the experimental landscape
- Conclusions

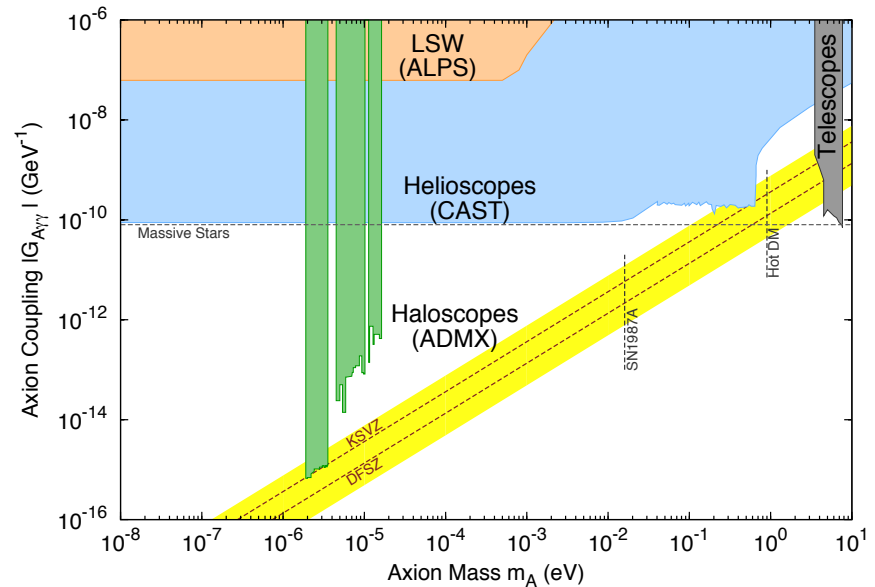
# Axions Experiments

3 classes of experiments: Haloscopic, Helioscopic, Laboratory (LSW)

Axion, like neutral pion couples to two photons via Primakoff effect)  
 Detected in a magnetic field H



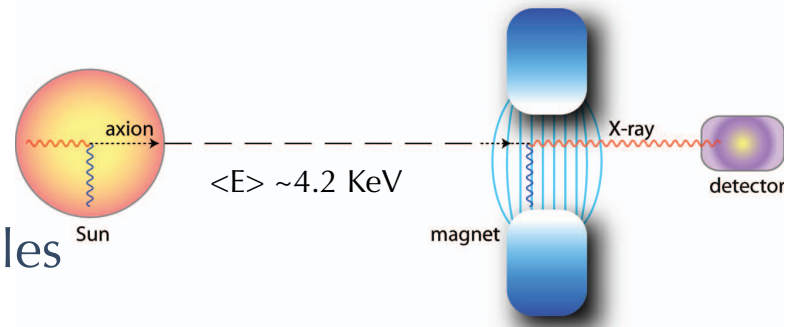
$m_a < 3 \times 10^{-3}$  eV from SN1987



Yellow band represent theoretical predictions from DFSZ and KSVZ axion models

Haloscopic: cavity like ADMX  
 Are the only experiments hitting the Peccei-Quin region

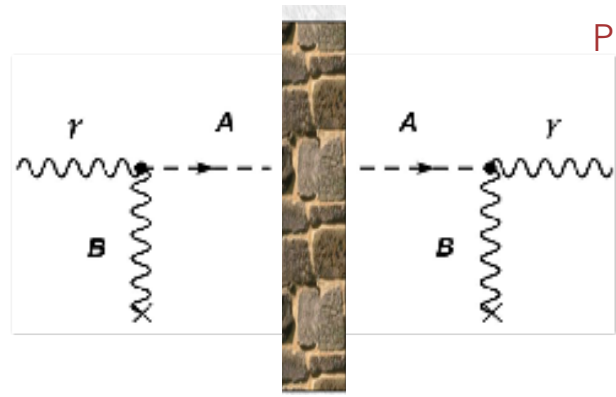
Helioscopic: depend on stellar models  
**CAST** (best limit at the moment) with LHC dipoles  
**IAXO** (next Helio. exp.)



# Light Shining through a Wall Experiments



P. Sikivie, Phys. Rev. Lett. **51**, 1415 (1983)



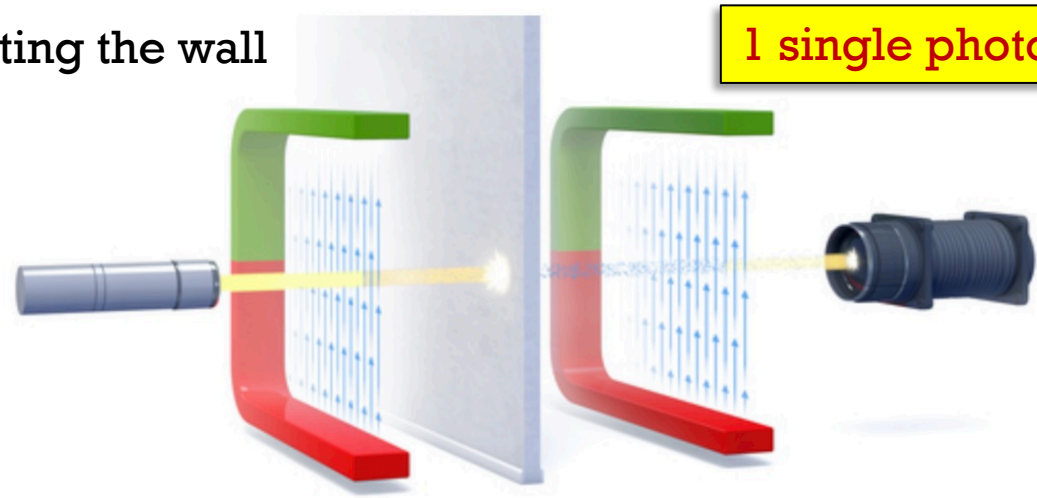
LAB experiment  
Laser Source  
Higher Luminosity

Double process  
Rate  $\sim G^4$

$$\dot{N}_{\text{evts}} \propto \dot{N}_\gamma P_{\gamma \rightarrow a} \times P_{a \rightarrow \gamma} \sim \dot{N}_\gamma G^4 H^4 L^4$$

Sensitivity on G linear with L and H, quartic root of luminosity (not depending on  $E_\gamma$ )

$10^{19}$  photons hitting the wall



1 single photon beyond the wall

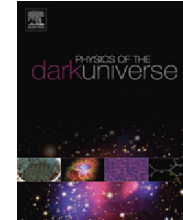




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## Physics of the Dark Universe

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/dark](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/dark)



### Axion-like particle searches with sub-THz photons



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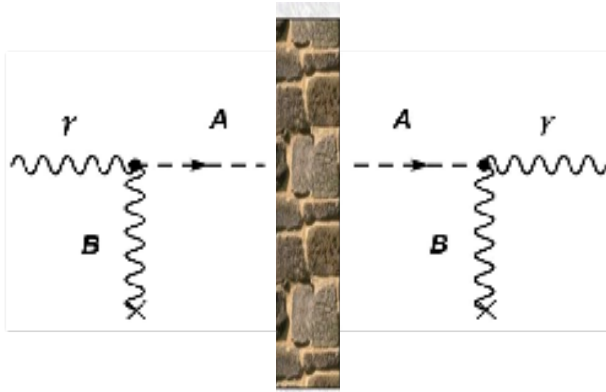
Light-Shining-through-Wall experiments

#### ABSTRACT

We propose a variation, based on very low energy and extremely intense photon sources, on the well established technique of Light-Shining-through-Wall (LSW) experiments for axion-like particle searches. With radiation sources at 30 GHz, we compute that present laboratory exclusion limits on axion-like particles might be improved by at least four orders of magnitude, for masses  $m_a \lesssim 0.01$  meV. This could motivate research and development programs on dedicated single-photon sub-THz detectors.

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# Optimization attempt of LSW scheme



Gyro-Klystrom Source  
Highest Luminosity

$$\dot{N}_{\text{evts}} \propto \dot{N}_{\gamma} P_{\gamma \rightarrow a} \times P_{a \rightarrow \gamma} \sim \dot{N}_{\gamma} G^4 H^4 L^4$$

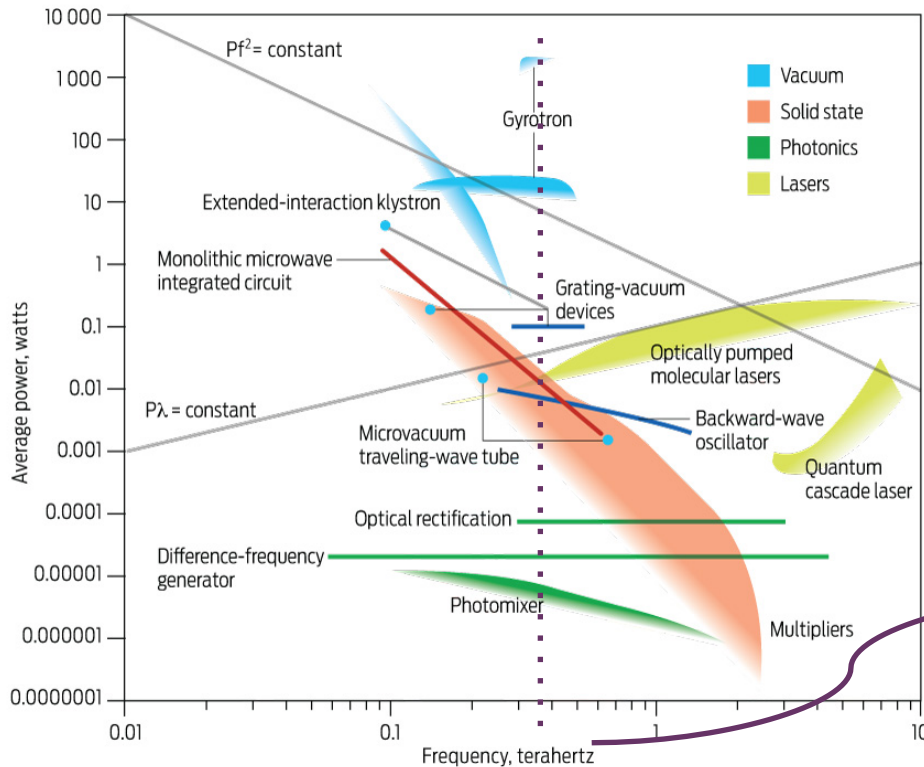
Sensitivity on G linear with L and H, quartic root of luminosity (not depending on  $E_{\gamma}$ )

The key points are:

- High Luminosity ( gyrotrons in the SubTHz region)
- intense H  $\sim$  11 Tesla with L  $\sim$  150 cm dipole
- Sub-THz **single photon** detector using TES

Optimal Working Point  $\sim$  **30-100 GHz** (microwaves)

# High Luminosity Photon Sources



photon-axion conversion probability depends on luminosity, not energy

$$\Rightarrow \text{Lumi} = P(\omega)/E(\omega)$$

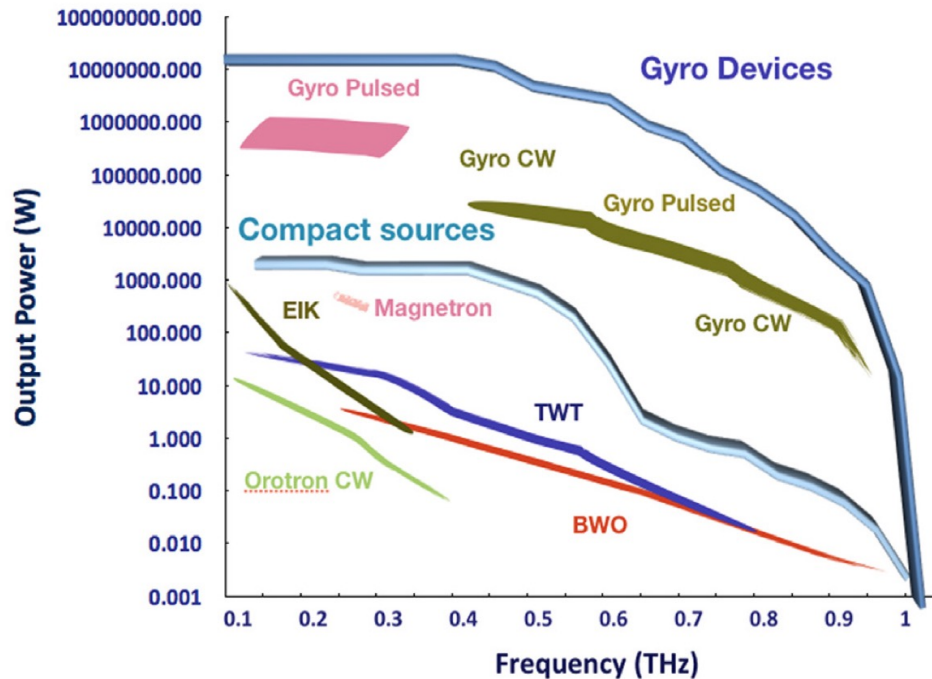
Reference:

30 GHz ~ 120  $\mu\text{eV}$  ~ 1 cm  
Micro-waves domain

- Klystrons and gyrotrons sources in the 30-100 GHz range.
- Power exceeding 1 MW in this frequency range
- Luminosity up to  $10^{28}$ - $10^{29}$   $\gamma/\text{s}$  in CW
- Lasers commonly used in LSW experiments  $\sim 10^{19}$   $\gamma/\text{s}$

# High Luminosity Photon Sources

Compact and Gyro THz sources and amplifiers



photon-axion conversion probability depends on luminosity, not energy

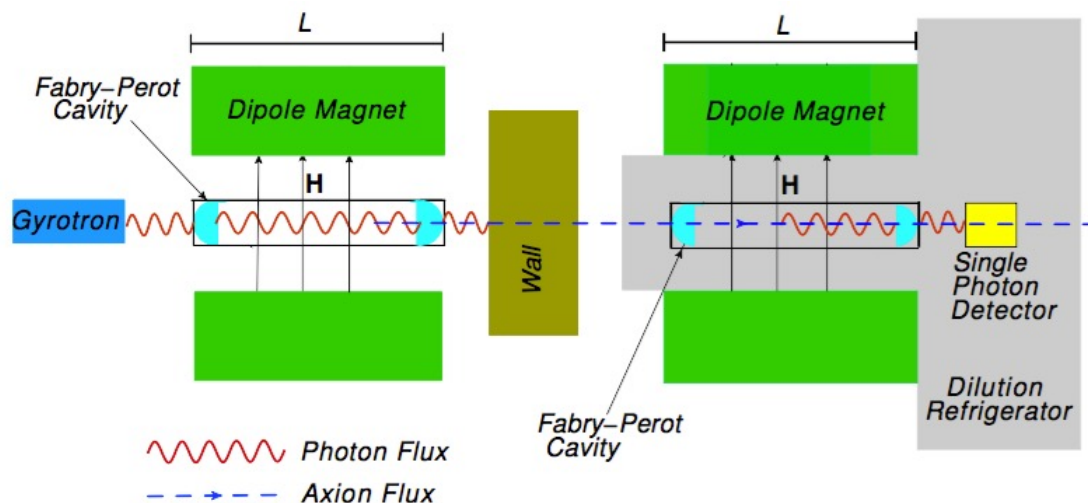
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Reference:

30 GHz  $\sim$  120  $\mu\text{eV}$   $\sim$  1 cm  
Micro-waves domain

- Klystrons and gyrotrons sources in the 30-100 GHz range.
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- Lasers commonly used in LSW experiments up to  $10^{19}$   $\gamma/\text{s}$

# Micro-Wave Experimental scheme

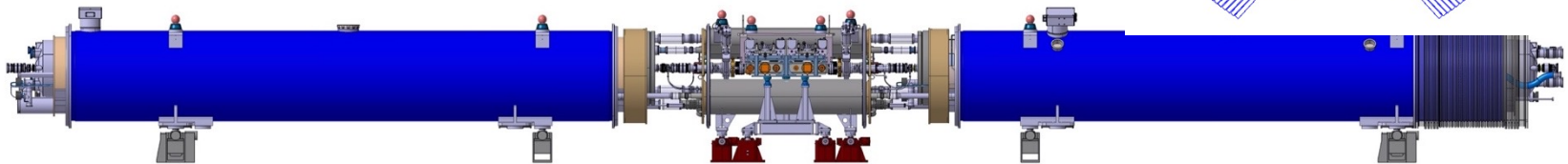
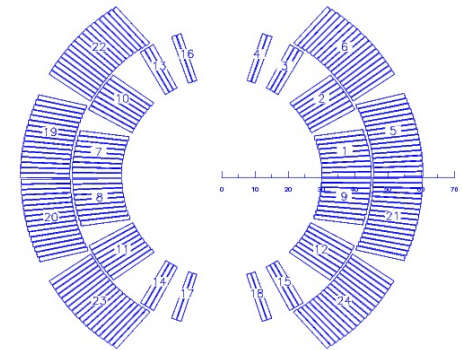
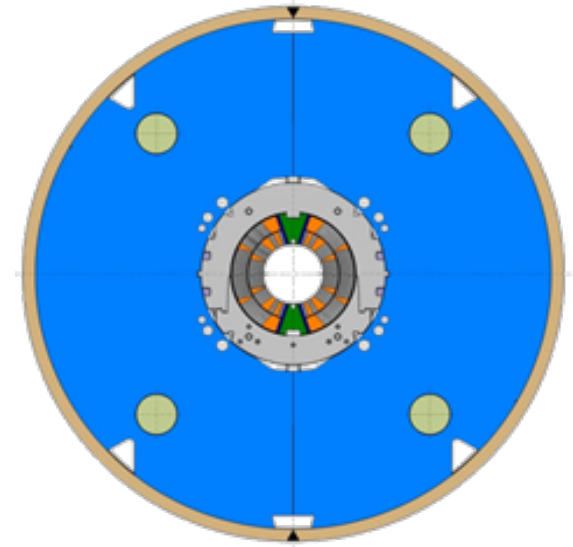


- Magnetic field:  $H = 11 \text{ T}$ ,  $L = 1.5 \text{ m}$
- Source: gyrotron;  $P \approx 100 \text{ kW}$ ,  $\Phi_\gamma = 10^{27} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ,  $\varepsilon_\gamma = 120 \text{ } \mu\text{eV}$  ( $\nu \approx 30 \text{ GHz}$ )
- Fabry-Perot cavity: finesse  $Q \approx 10^4$
- Sub-THz single-photon detection based on TES technology,  $\eta \approx 1$
- Possible second FP cavity behind the wall to enhance axion-photon conversion rate

P. Sikivie, D.B. Tanner and K. Van Bibber, Phys. Rev. Lett. 98, 172002 (2007)

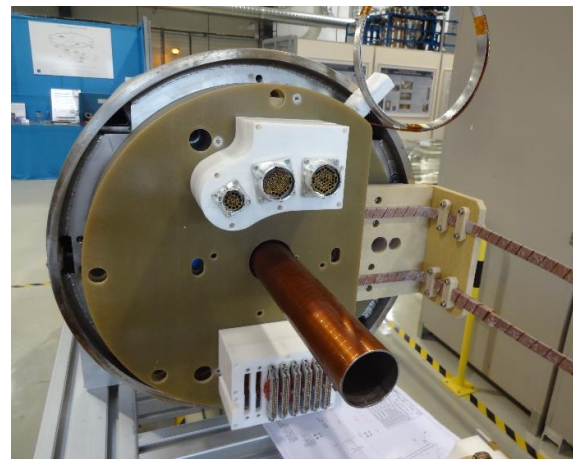
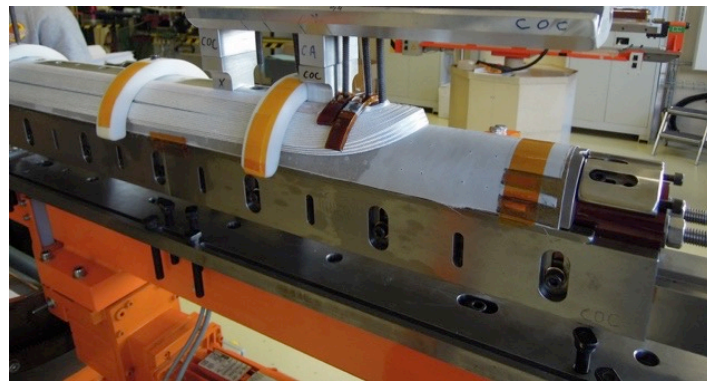
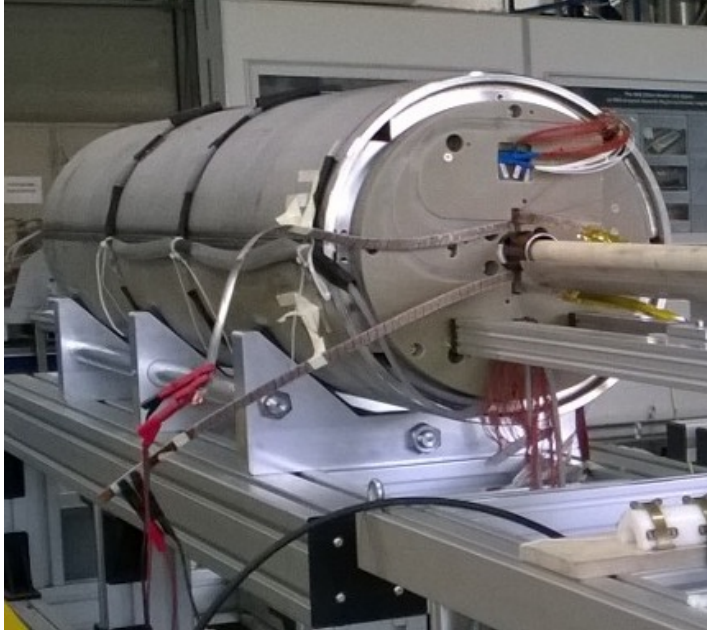
# 11T CERN dipole magnets

- The HL-LHC Project implies beams of larger intensity
  - Additional collimators are needed
- Two collimators to be installed on either side of interaction point 7
  - Replace a standard Main Dipole by a pair of shorter 11 T Dipoles
- 5 single aperture short models fabricated and tested by CERN TE-MS-C team
  - Bore field ranging from 10 to 12 T
  - 60 mm coil aperture
  - ~1.5 m magnetic length





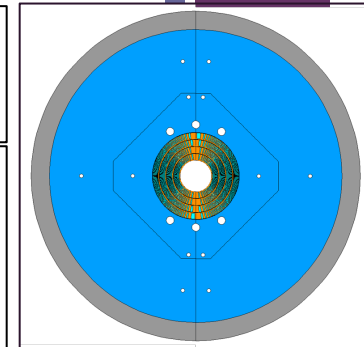
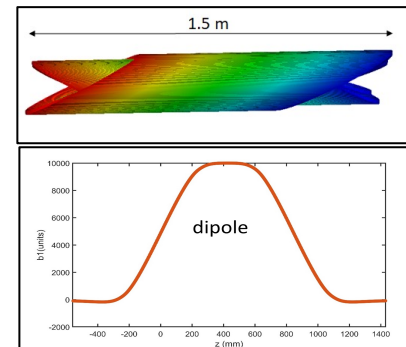
# 11T CERN dipole magnets



# + Berkley - CCT6 and TFD

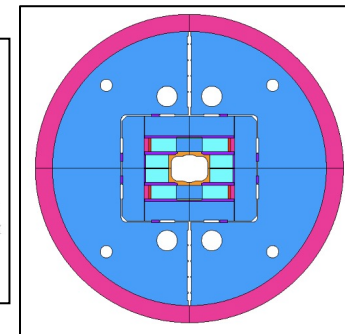
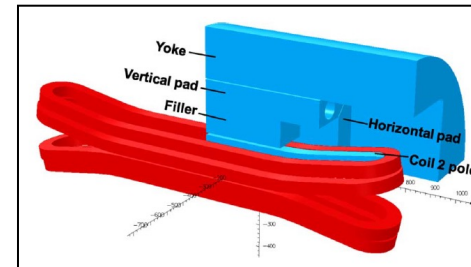
## ■ Canted Cos-Theta CCT6

- Goal:  $\text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$  magnet for testing HTS coils
- Round aperture with 120 mm diameter
- Target field: 12 T at 4.2 K over 200 mm length
- Design in progress; fabrication at LBNL expected in 2022-2023
- Funded by DoE HEP as part of the LBNL Magnet Development Program



## ■ Test Facility Dipole TDF

- Goal:  $\text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$  magnet for testing superconducting cables
- Rectangular aperture: 150x100 mm diameter
- Target field: 14-15 T at 4.2 K over ~800 mm length
- Design in progress; fabrication at LBNL expected in 2022-2024
- Funded by DoE HEP and FES (Fusion Energy Science)



# Transition Edge Sensor

TES operates within its superconducting transition. DC bias voltage applied.

When TES absorbs an incoming photon, it heats up above critical temperature  $T_c$ . Change of resistance and current flowing in the circuit, measured by a SQUID

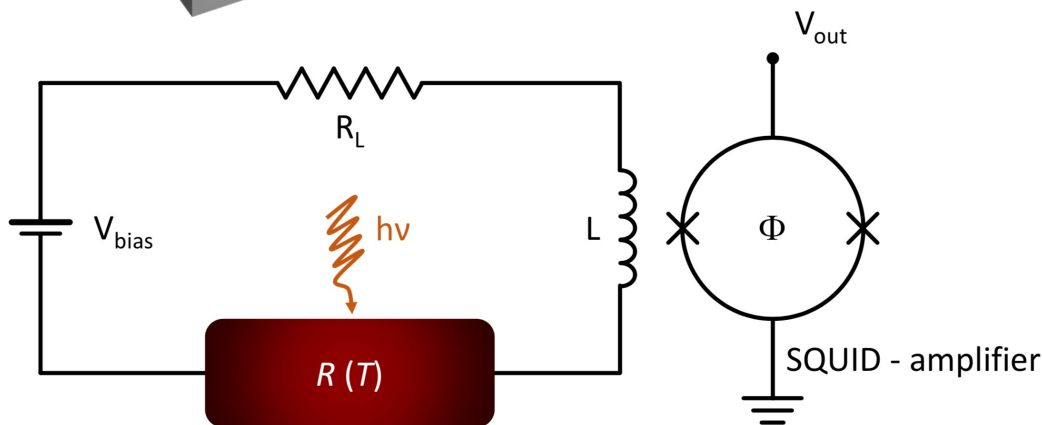
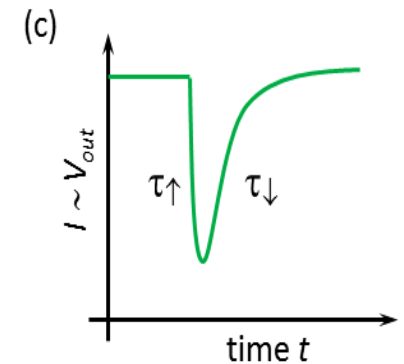
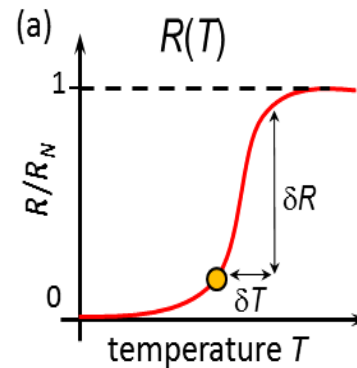
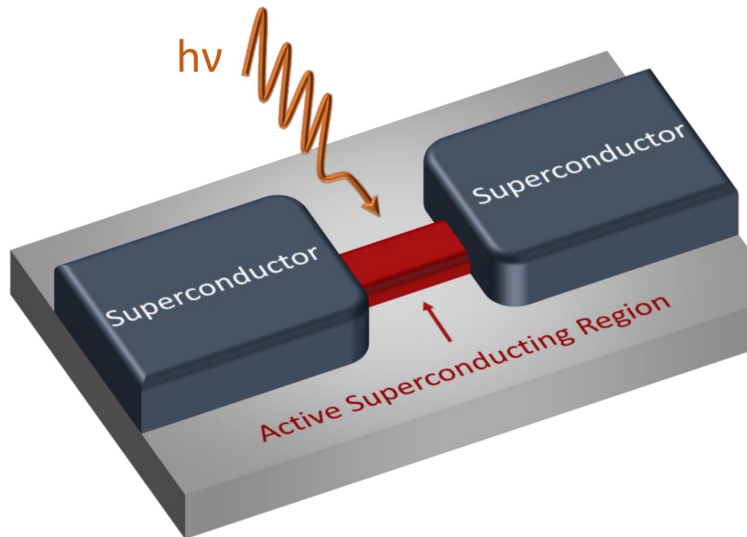


Figure of merit:

$$\alpha = \frac{T}{R} \frac{dR}{dT}$$

$R$  - resistance of active region

$T$  - temperature of active region

Energy resolution:

$$\Delta E \cong 2.35 \sqrt{2k_B T^2 \frac{C}{\alpha}}$$

$k_B$  - Boltzmann constant

Heat capacity:

$$C = \gamma V_{Active} T$$

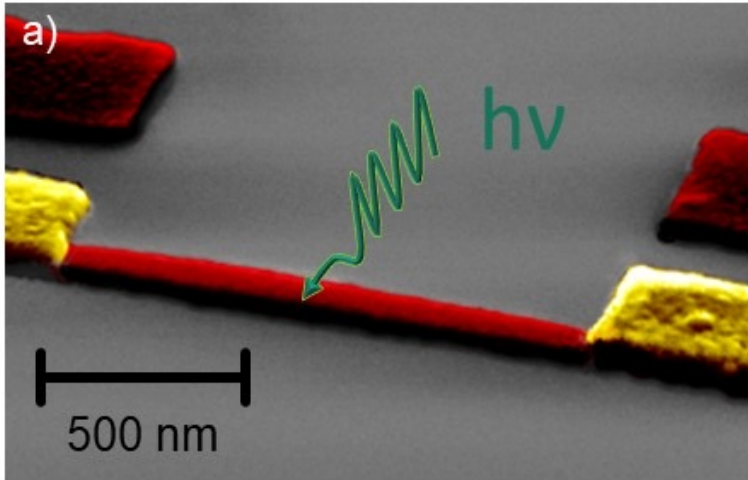
$\gamma$  - Sommerfeld coefficient

$V_{Active}$  - active region volume

# Transition Edge Sensor

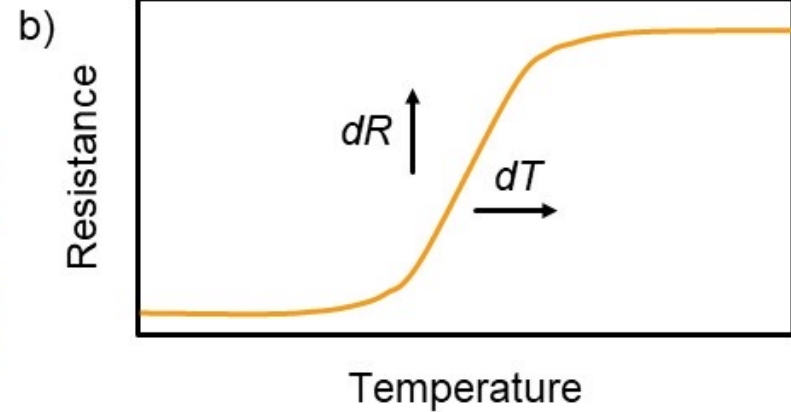
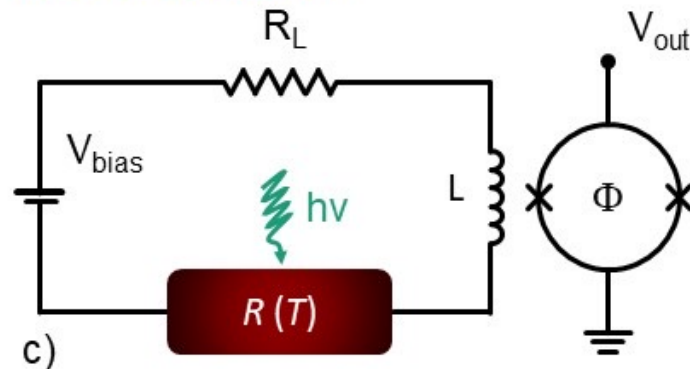
TES operates within its superconducting transition. DC bias voltage applied.

When TES absorbs an incoming photon, it heats up above critical temperature  $T_c$ .  
Change of resistance and current flowing in the circuit, measured by a SQUID



Active region

Lateral electrodes



Electro-thermal parameter

$$\alpha = \frac{T}{R} \frac{dR}{dT}$$

$R$  - resistance of active region

$T$  - temperature of active region

Energy resolution:

$$\Delta E \cong 2.35 \sqrt{2k_B T^2 \frac{C}{\alpha}}$$

$k_B$  - Boltzmann constant

Heat capacity:

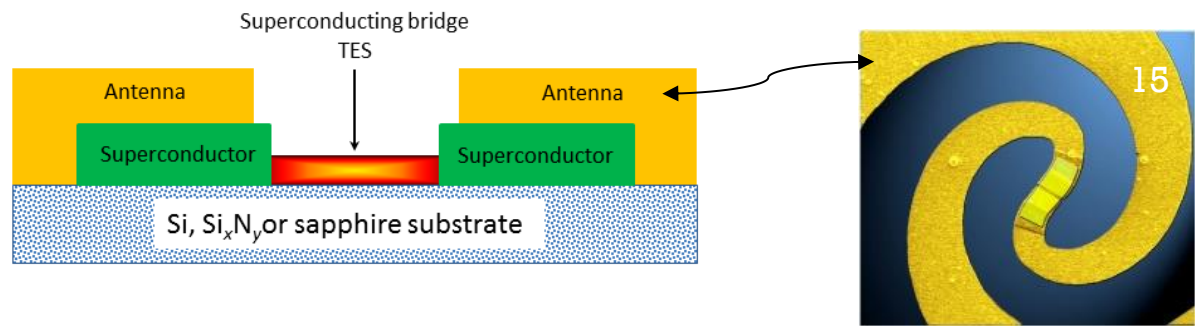
$$C = \gamma V_{Active} T$$

$\gamma$  - Sommerfeld coefficient

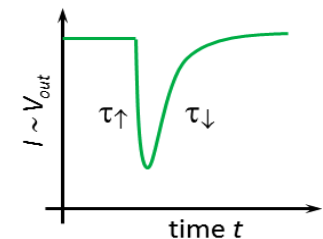
$V_{Active}$  - active region volume

d)

# TES detectors



- Sub-THz single photon detector
- Transition Edge Sensor **TES**: ultra-low critical temperature superconductor bridge between two superconducting electrodes. TES coupled to a log periodic antenna.
- Goal: Energy resolution below **10%**
- Tailoring active **volume** to reduce thermal capacitance ( $V \sim 300 \times 40 \times 20 \text{ nm}^3 < 10^{-3} \mu\text{m}^3$ )  
Material: choice of a Superconductor with low critical temperature ( $T_c \approx 30 - 50 \text{ mK}$ ) to have a good energy resolution bilayer Ti-Au, Al-Cu or Ti-Cu
- TES bridge Ti-Cu (gap  $\sim 20 \mu\text{eV}$ ), superconducting electrodes Nb (gap  $\sim 1 \text{ meV}$ )
- Very high efficiency
- Ultra low background/dark count





## Transition Edge Sensors: Critical Temperature

For axions detection:  $T_{C,Active} \sim 20\text{mK}$

Phys. Dark Universe **12**, 37 (2016)

$T_C$  suppression by spatial confinement

Phys. Rev. B **85**, 094508 (2012)C



Change  
width  $W$

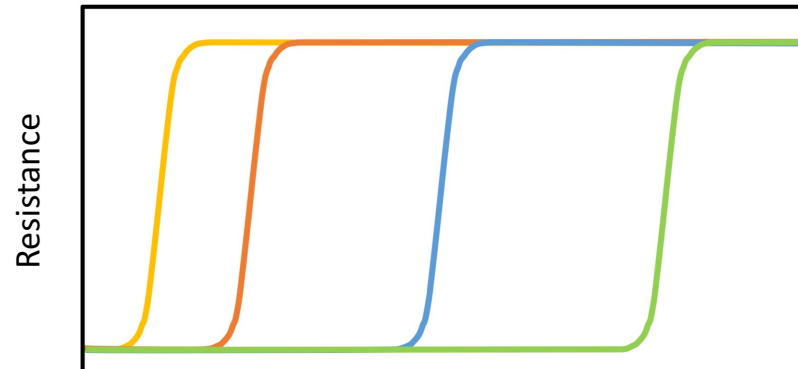
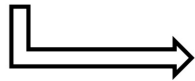
$T_C$  suppression by vertical inverse proximity effect

Superconductivity Of Metals And Alloys, Advanced Books Classics (Westview Press, 1999)

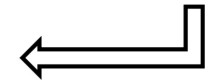


$t_N$ : thickness  $N$   
 $t_S$ : thickness  $S$

Reduction of the wire section:  
constant thickness  $t$   
smaller width  $W$



Bilayer:  
Normal metal  
Superconductor



Cu-Al bi-layers

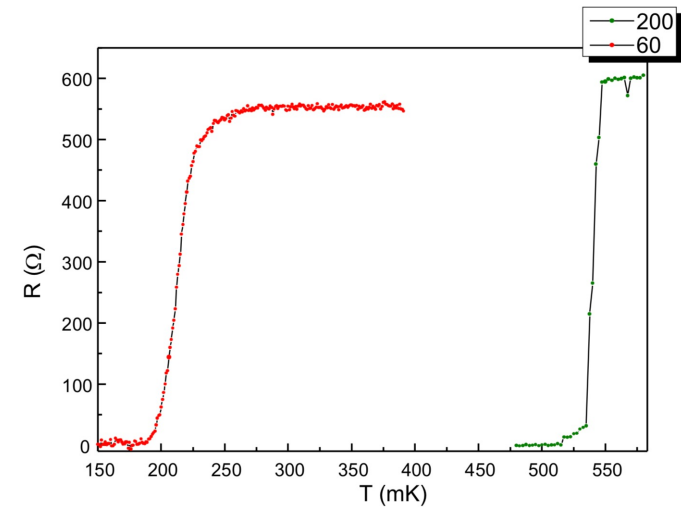
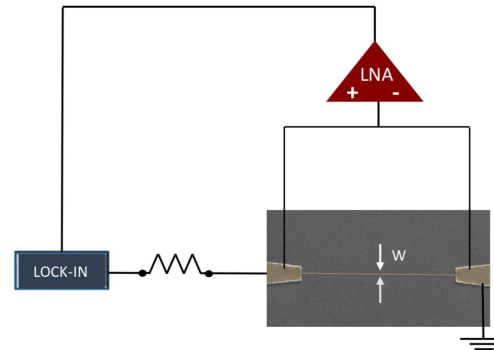
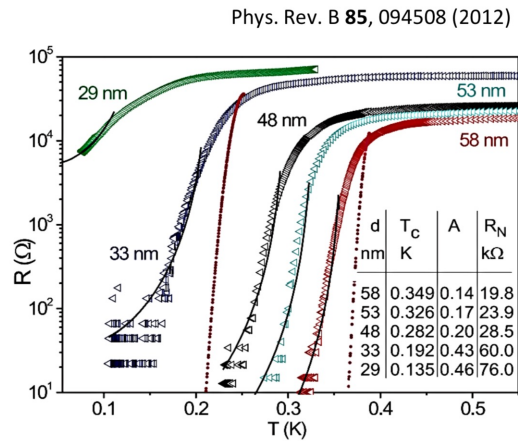
$T_c$



# $T_c$ dependence by spatial confinement

## Ti nanowires

Reduction of the wire section:  
constant thickness  $t$   
smaller width  $W$



The  $T_c$  decreases with the decrease of nanowire cross-section

Width $W$ (nm)	Thickness $t$ (nm)	$T_c$ (mK)
200	30	540
60	30	210

## $T_c$ suppression by vertical inverse proximity effect

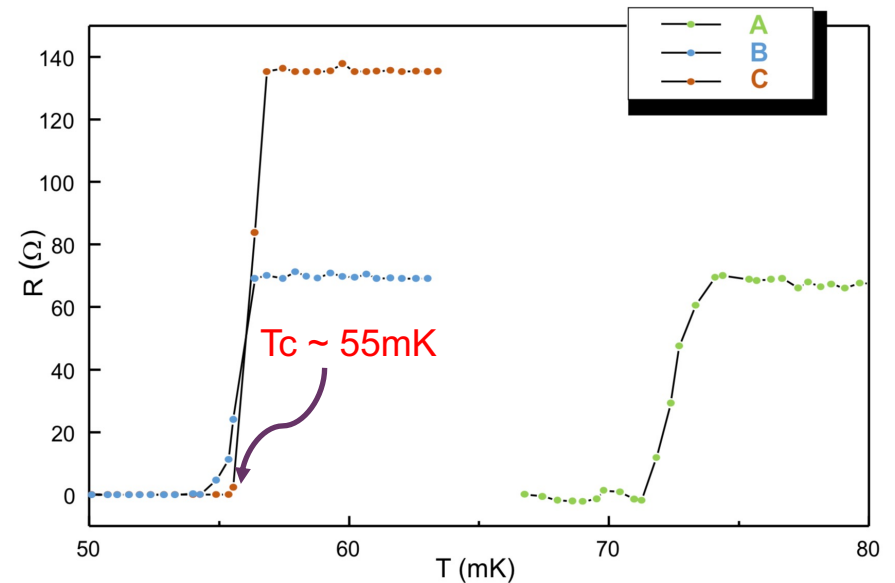
Cu/Al bilayer

Reduction of the wire section:  
constant width  $W$   
smaller thickness  $t$



$t_N$ : thickness Cu  
 $t_S$ : thickness Al

	A	B	C
$W$ (nm)	120	120	120
Cu Thickness (nm)	14	15	15.5
Al Thickness (nm)	10	10	10



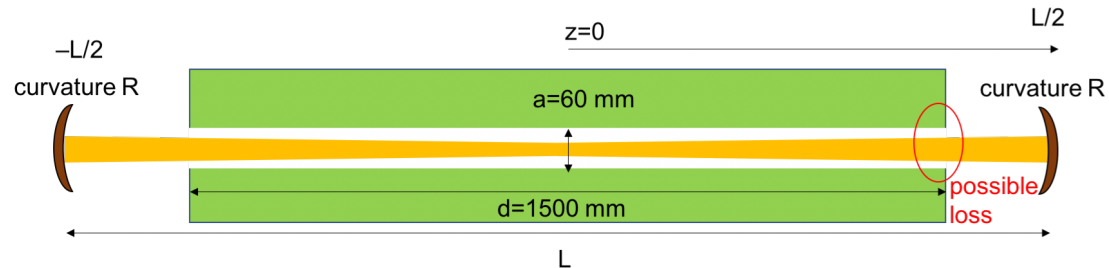
Low control on grain size for thin-film deposited at room temperature

# Generation and the Regeneration Cavities

Finesse of about  $10^4$  is expected

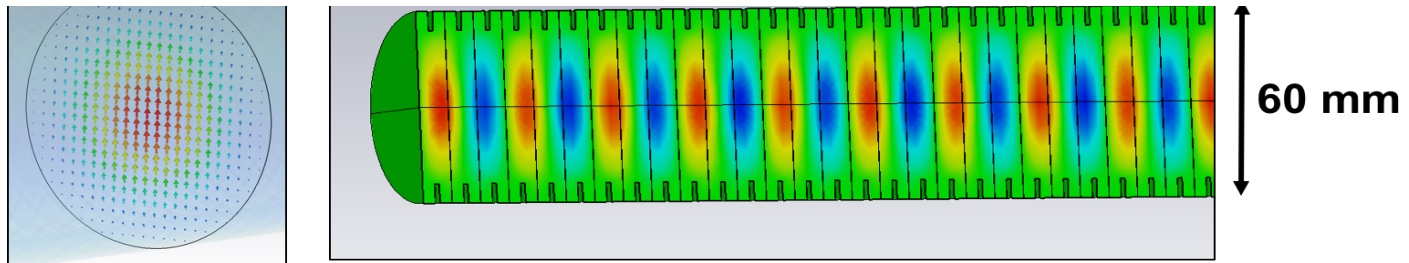
A classic Fabry Perot, in the range 30-100 GHz could bring to the beam confinement problem

The waist of the photon beam should be of few cm in order to have a total cavity length of 1.5 m to be fully inserted into the dipole magnet



A valid alternative could be a **corrugated waveguide** structure to confine millimetre waves in a linearly polarized HE11 mode

In high power applications it minimizes the power loss at the waveguide wall  
Need to investigate a set of materials suitable for application in high magnetic fields



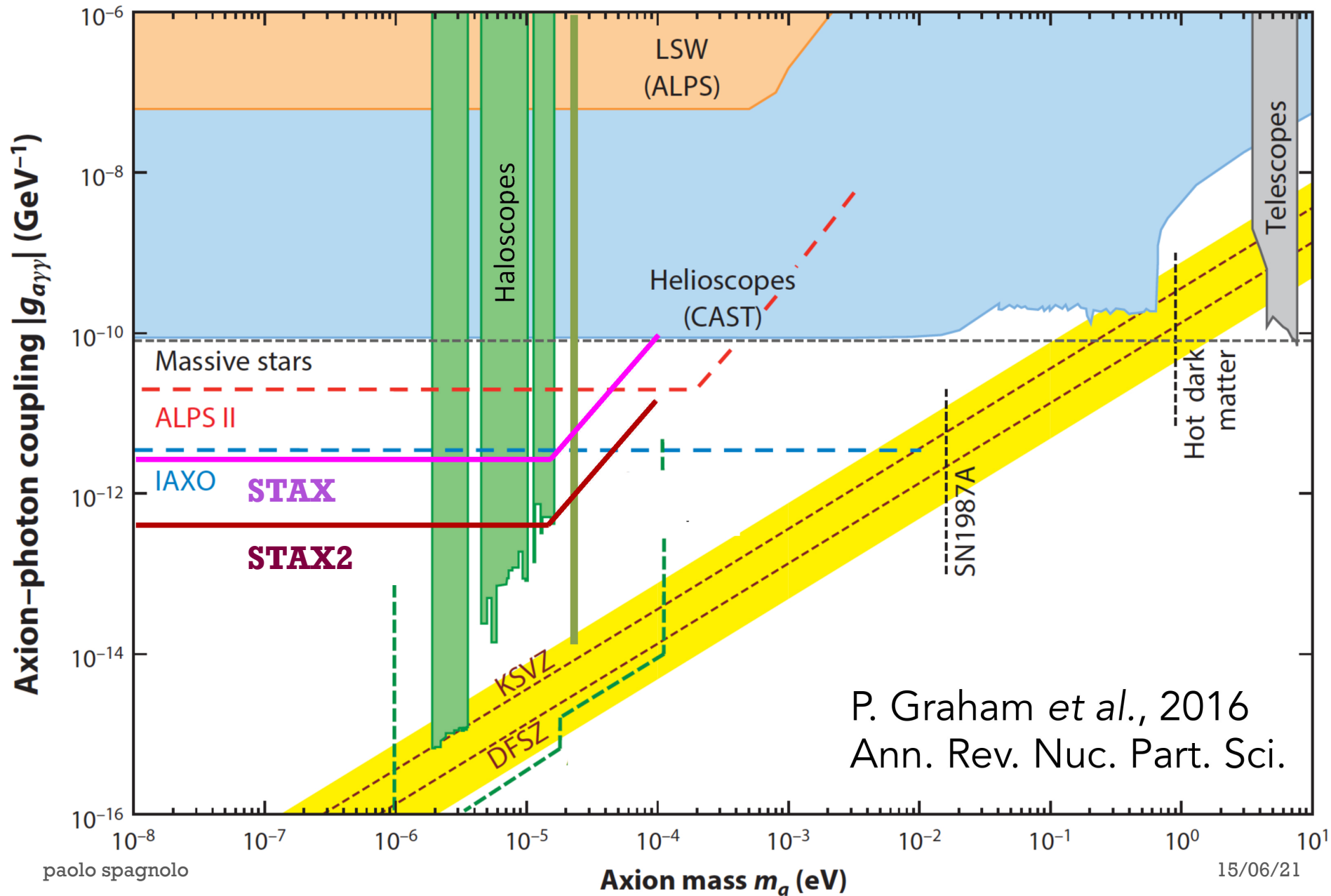
- Cu/Ti down to  $T_c \sim 20\text{-}30$  mK (via a cold deposition)
- Coupling with a SQUID read-out
- Test with a 30-100 GHz photon source
- R&D of the Fabry Perot
- Design of the log periodic antenna

- Work with a new concept Fabry Perot after the wall to enhance the finesse  $Q$
- An upgrade in  $Q$  translates into the need of a lower power of the source  $P/Q^2$

$$\dot{N}_{\text{evts}} \propto \dot{N}_{\gamma} P_{\gamma \rightarrow a} \times P_{a \rightarrow \gamma} \times Q \times Q'$$

- Fabry Perot with  $Q'$  exceeding  $10^{10}$  have been recently developed with superconducting cavities or *wispering galleries resonator*
- Material choice need to be shaped to work in this particular environment
  - Low temp
  - High B field
- High  $Q$  and lower  $P$  can drive the use of other (more refined and easier to handle) photon sources than gyrotrons (klystrons?)

# Constraints on $g_{A\gamma\gamma}$ vs. $m_A$





- A new optimized version of the LSW experiments is proposed
- The ambitious goal is to push limit on the *photon-axion* coupling  $g$  beyond stellar experiments (CAST) exclusion
- Development of Fabry-Perot and TES detectors could lead to a new generation of experiments in the field
- Important R&D need to be addressed to the scope

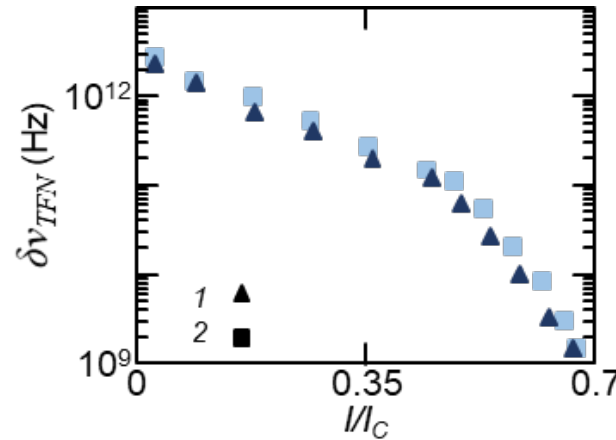
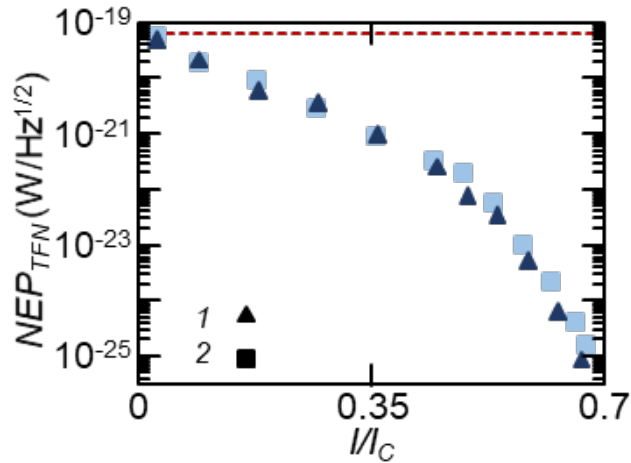
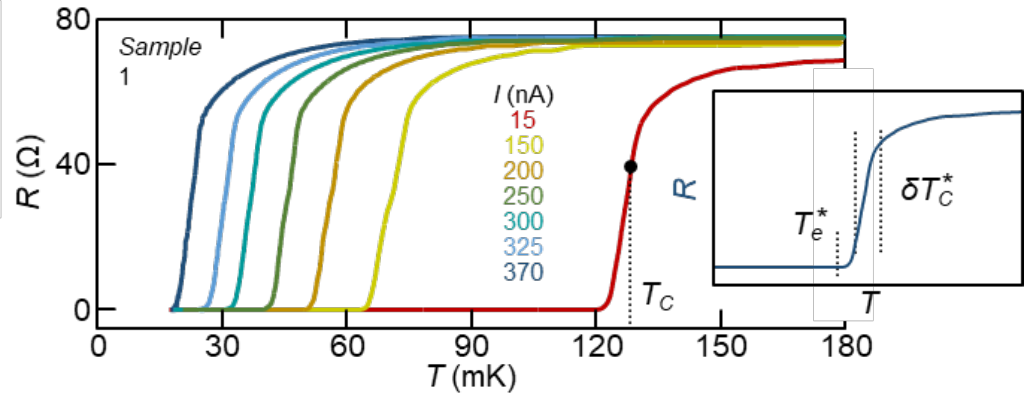
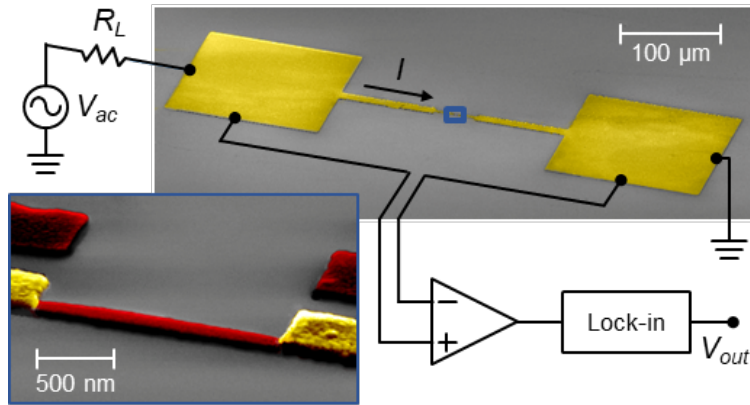
**Nanotech detectors could drive Searches of Light Dark Matter**

**BACK UP SLIDES**

# Josephson Escape Sensor (JES)

J. Appl. Phys. **128**, 194502 (2020);

<https://doi.org/10.1063/5.0021996>



**NEP:**  
 $1 \times 10^{-25} W/Hz^{1/2}$

**Frequency resolution:**  
**2 GHz**

# Gyrotrons (often used for military-purpose/radar)

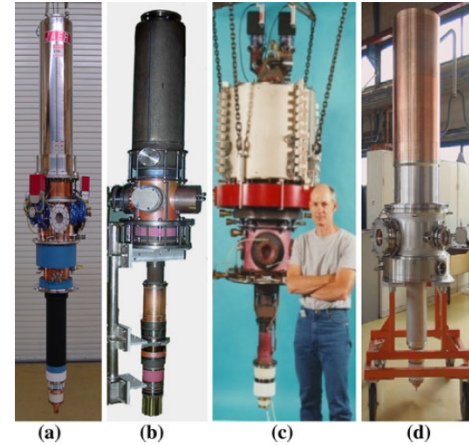
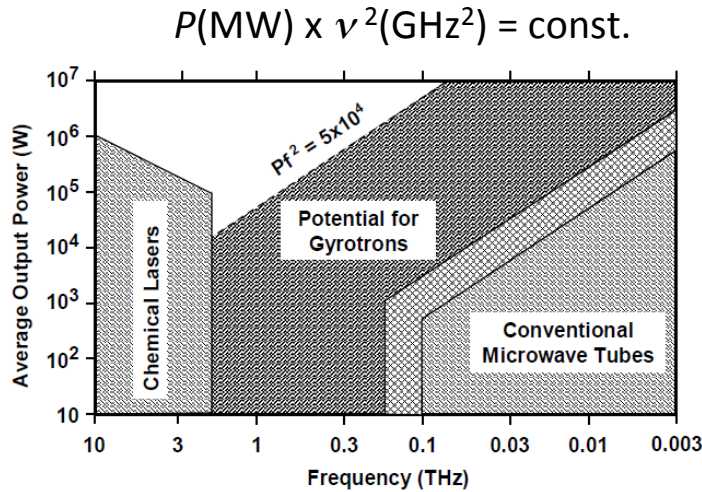
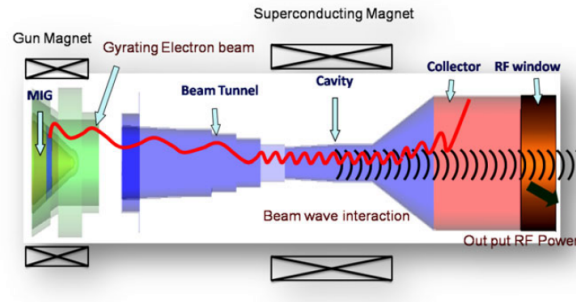


Fig. 2 Typical high power gyrotrons a JAERI/TOSHIBA 0.82 MW, 170 GHz, b GYCOM 1 MW, 170 GHz, c CPI 0.9 MW, 140 GHz, d TED 0.9 MW, 140 GHz

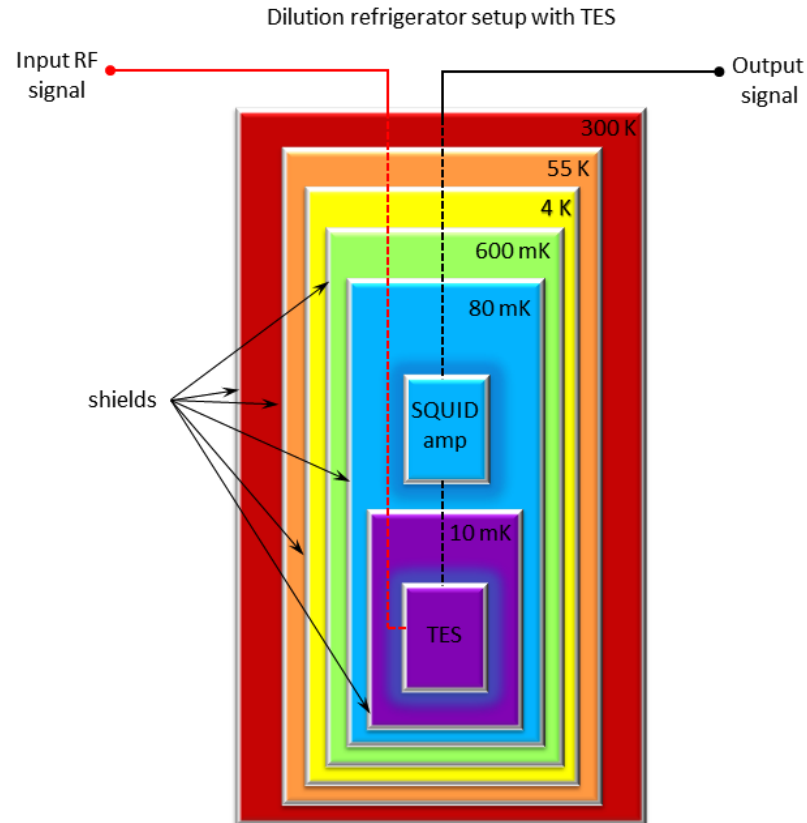
The operating region of gyrotrons



Now beyond 1 MW power

High-Power Cyclotron Autoresonance Maser (CARM)  
Up to 10-15 MW with 10-50 GHz

# Scheme of the temperatures in the experimental dilution cryostat set-up



**Figure 8** Scheme of the experimental setup of the TES based on a dilution refrigerator. The cryostat metallic shields reside at different temperatures from 300 K to below  $\sim 10$  mK. The enclosure containing the TES element is at the fridge base temperature whereas the readout SQUID amplifier is kept at 80 mK to improve its noise performance. Input microwave radiation is fed into the fridge, and thereby into the TES detector, via coaxial cables while the low-frequency output signal coming from the SQUID is read via conventional DC lines.

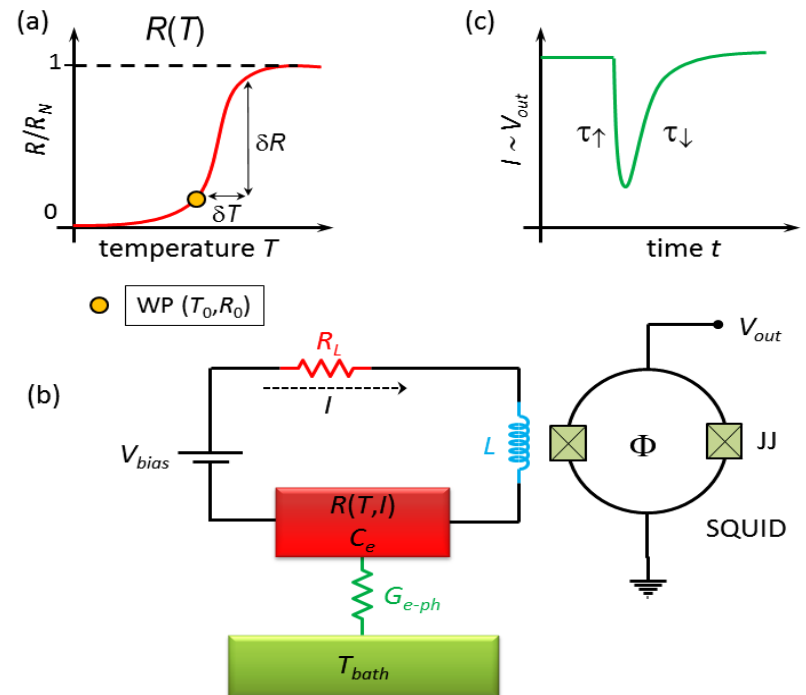
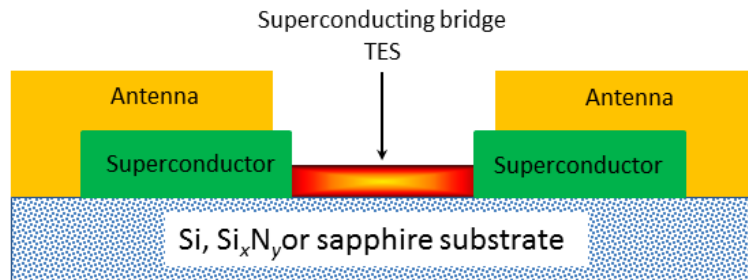
- Tailoring TES active **volume** to reduce thermal capacitance ( $V \sim 10^{-3}-10^{-4} \mu\text{m}^3$ )

$$\sigma_E \approx 0.3 \sqrt{k_B T_c^2 C_e}$$

$$C = \gamma V T \quad V \sim 300 \times 40 \times 20 \text{ nm}^3$$

- low-noise SQUID readout electronics optimization (operating at 80 mK)

- Sensitivity  $\delta T = \delta E / C_e$       thermalization  $T(t) = \exp(-t/\tau)$        $\tau = C_e / G$



- Dark count rate (phonon noise)  $< 6 \times 10^{-10} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- Black Body: at 10mK peaked around 0.6 GHz with a negligible rate of  $10^{-30} \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  photons irradiated
- Cosmic bkg:  $1 \mu\text{m}^{-2}/\text{min}$  with 10 eV released in 10nm of material saturates the TES, bkg. under control translated in a negligible dead time of the TES  $\sim 0.1\%$

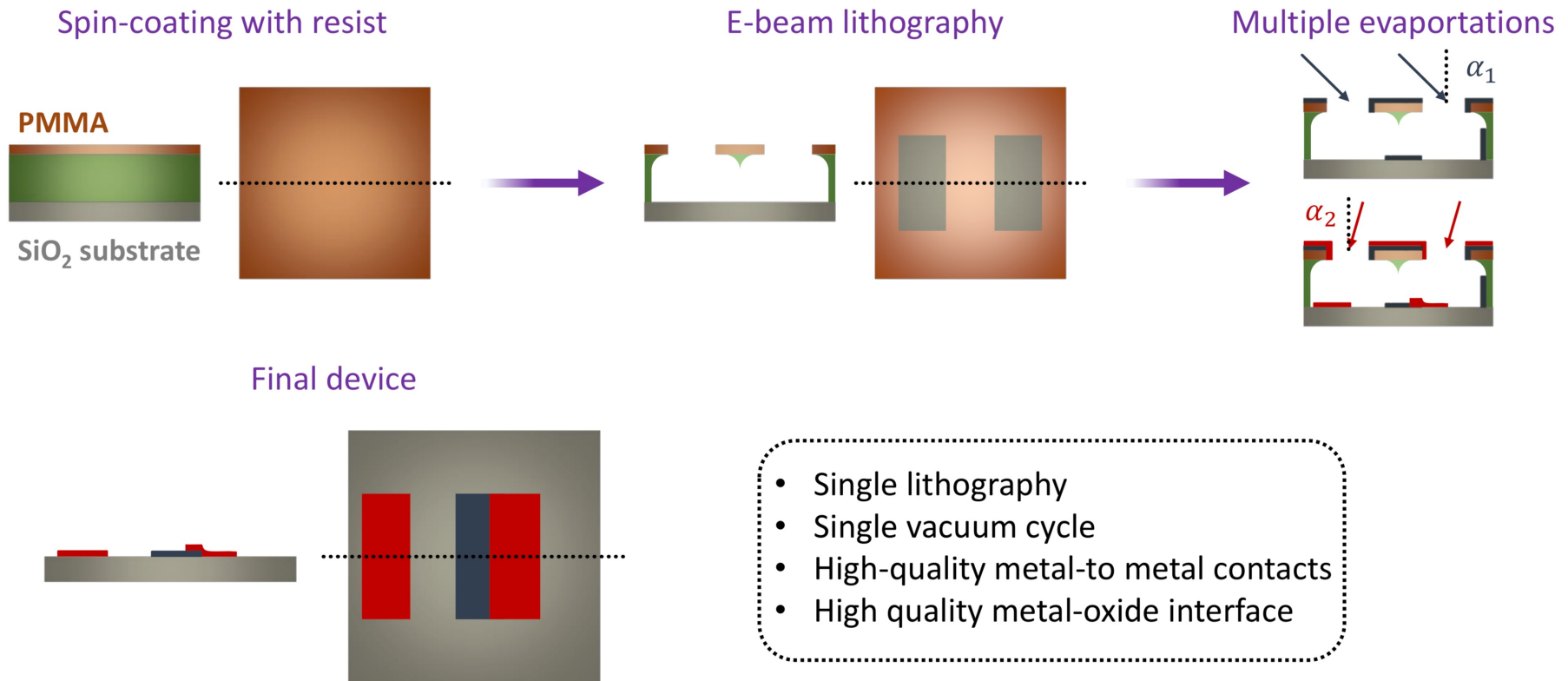
$$N_d = \frac{\beta_{eff}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{E_T/\sigma_E}^{\infty} \exp(-x^2/2) dx. \quad \text{dark count bkg rate}$$

where  $\beta_{eff} = 1/\tau_{eff}$  is the effective detection bandwidth, and  $E_T$  is the discrimination threshold energy.

$$\eta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{(E_T - h\nu)/\sigma_E}^{\infty} \exp(-x^2/2) dx. \quad \text{single photon quantum efficiency}$$



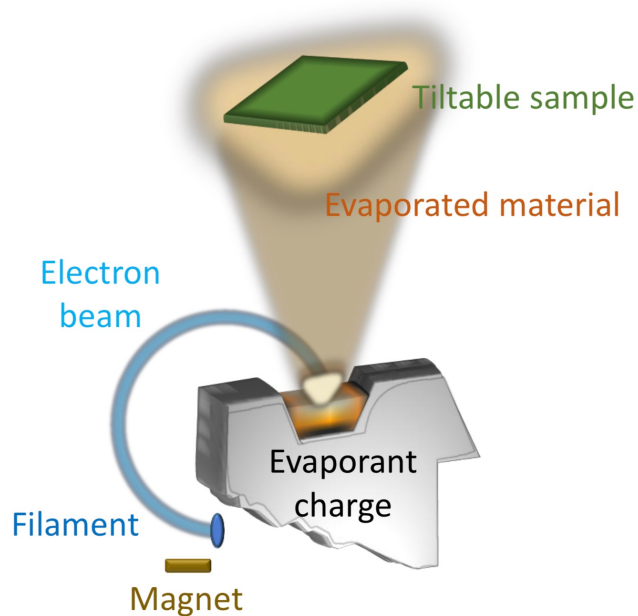
## Nano-fabrication: Shadow Mask Technique





- INFN LNF
- INFN PISA
- INFN SALERNO
- TIFPA
- INRIM
- CNR-NANO
- CNR-IFN

## Nano-fabrication: Electron Beam Evaporation



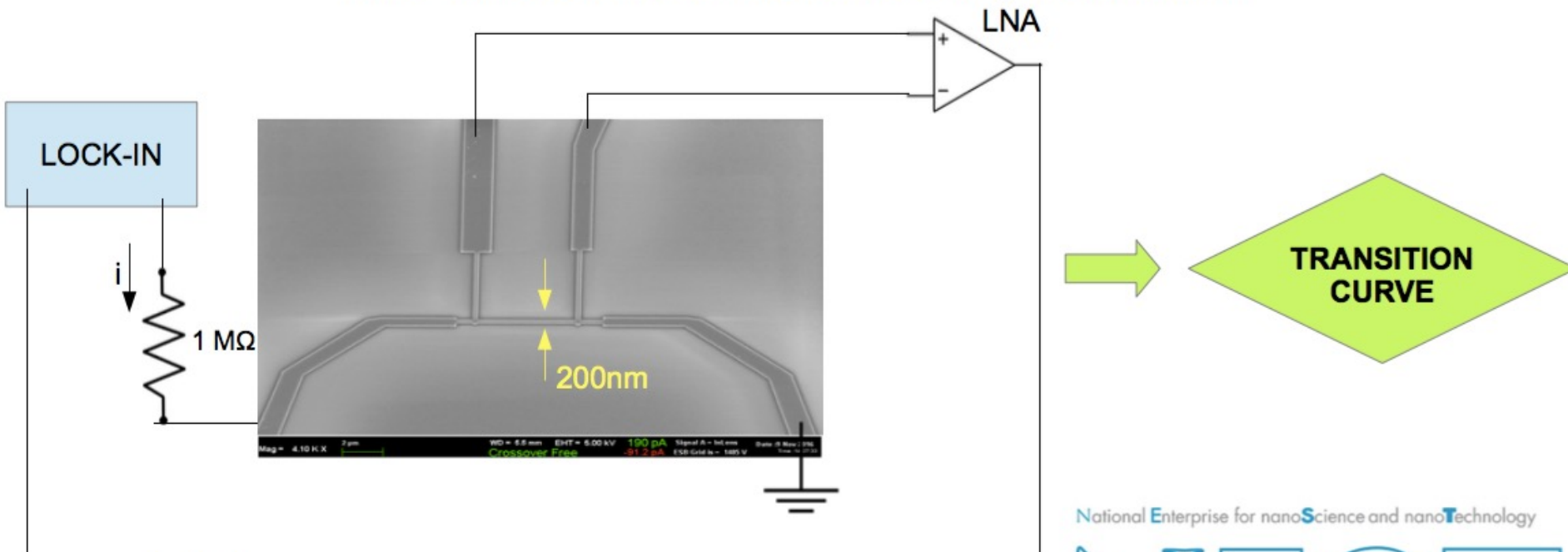
The deposition material undergoes the transition from solid to vapour state by means of electron bombardment

- Very low degree of contamination
- Deposition of uniform high-purity thin films
- Precise control of low or high deposition rates

Ultra-High Vacuum chamber



- **Cu/Al** and **Cu/Ti** bilayers designed as **5  $\mu\text{m}$  X 200 nm strip** of different total thickness and thickness ratio<sup>2/9</sup>
  - Fabrication via **e-beam lithography + e-beam evaporation**
  - 4-wires measurements of the resistance using a lock-in circuit



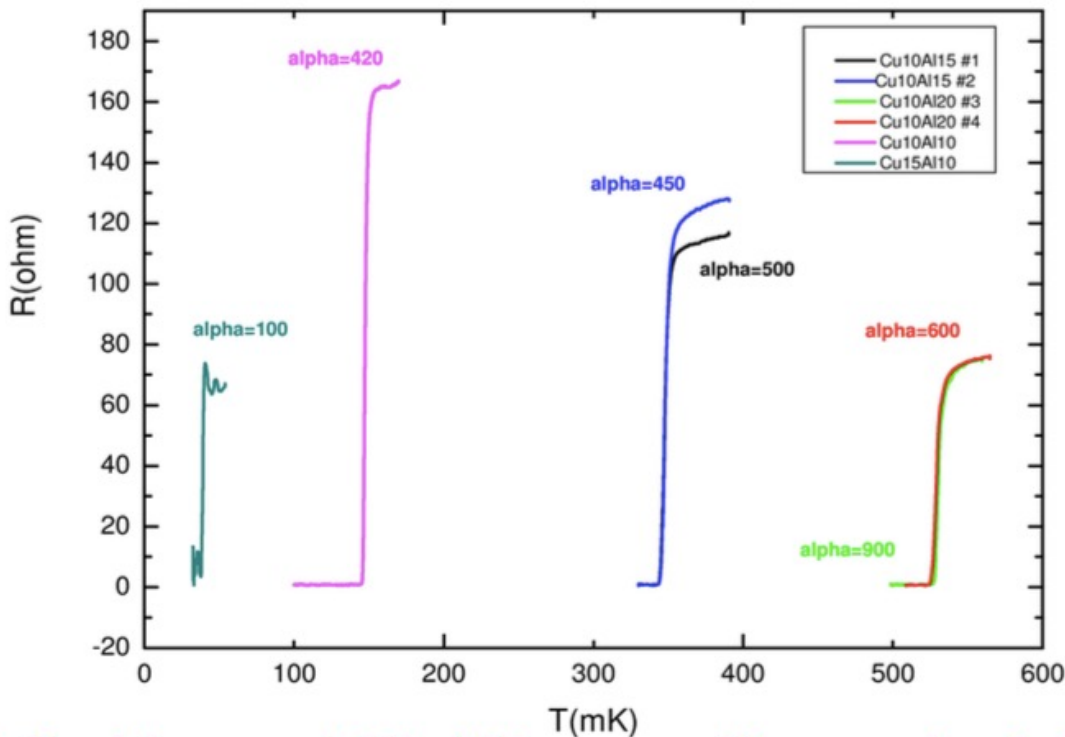
Yuri Venturini

National Enterprise for nanoScience and nanoTechnology

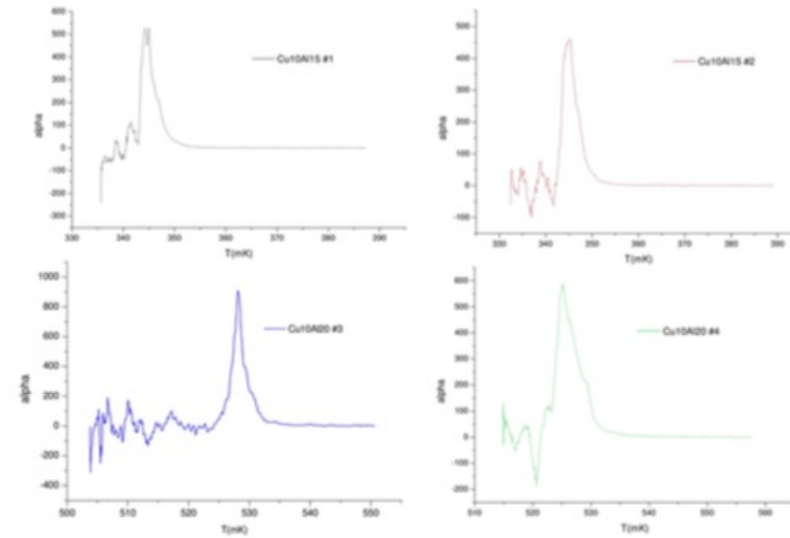
NEST

# Tc of Cu/Al bilayers (1)

all transitions are measured with a lock-in circuit with input current  $i = 6\text{nA}$ , except for Cu15Al10 ( $i=0.1\text{nA}$ )



Data analysis: extraction of  $\alpha = T/R * dR/dT$



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In the plot are reported the thicknesses and the max value of  $\alpha$

Parameter	ALPS	STAX	$g_{\text{ALPS}} / g_{\text{STAX}}$	STAX II	$g_{\text{ALPS}} / g_{\text{STAXII}}$
<b>Laser Power</b>	0.8 W	100 kW	18.8	1 MW	188
<b>Photon Energy</b>	2.327 eV	124 $\mu\text{eV}$	11.7	124 $\mu\text{eV}$	11.7
<b>Cavity Q-factor</b>	55.0	$10^4$	3.7	$10^8$	37
<b>H * L<sub>x</sub></b>	22 T m	7.5 T m	0.3	7.5 T m	0.3
<b>Detection Efficiency</b>	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
<b>Detector Noise</b>	$1.8 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ sec}^{-1}$	$10^{-9} \text{ sec}^{-1}$	34.0	$10^{-9} \text{ sec}^{-1}$	34
<b>Combined Improvement</b>			$\sim 10^4$		$\sim 8 \times 10^5$

# Dark photons

L.B. Okun, Sov. Phys.-JETP **56**, 502 (1982)

B. Holdom, Phys. Lett. B **166**, 196 (1986)

36

■ Massive vectors of hidden  $U(1)_h$

■ Visible and hidden-sector photons Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4}B^{\mu\nu}B_{\mu\nu} + eJ_{\text{em}}^\mu A_\mu \\ + e_h J_h^\mu B_\mu - \frac{1}{2}\mu^2 B^\mu B_\mu$$

$F^{\mu\nu}$  = field strength tensor for  $A^\mu$ ;  $B^{\mu\nu}$  = field strength tensor for  $B^\mu$  (paraphoton)

■ **A** and **B** rotated into **B**<sub>1</sub> and **B**<sub>2</sub>; mixing angle  $\chi < 10^{-2}$

**B**<sub>1</sub> and **B**<sub>2</sub> acquire masses  $m_1 = \mu\chi$ ,  $m_2 = \mu$

■ Photon field evolve as:

$$A(r) = \frac{1}{\chi^2+1}e^{-i(\epsilon_\gamma t - k_1 r)} [A(1 + \chi^2 e^{-iqr}) \\ + \chi B(e^{-iqr} - 1)]$$

$$k_1 = \epsilon_\gamma$$

$$k_2 = \sqrt{\epsilon_\gamma^2 - \mu^2}$$

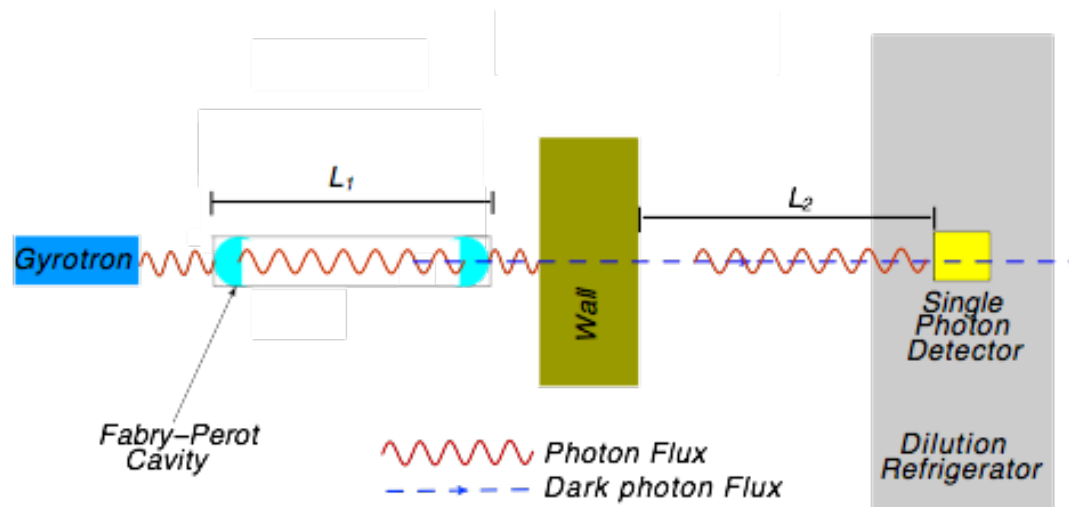
$$q = k_1 - k_2$$



# Dark photons

L.B. Okun, Sov. Phys.-JETP **56**, 502 (1982)  
 B. Holdom, Phys. Lett. B **166**, 196 (1986)

37



■ Conversion probability:  $P_{\gamma \rightarrow \gamma'}(r) = 4\chi^2 \sin^2\left(\frac{qr}{2}\right)$

$$P_{\gamma \rightarrow \gamma' \rightarrow \gamma} = P_{\gamma \rightarrow \gamma'}(L_1)P_{\gamma' \rightarrow \gamma}(L_2)$$

$$= 16\chi^4 \left[ \sin\left(\frac{qL_1}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{qL_2}{2}\right) \right]^2$$

■ Rate:  $\frac{dN_\gamma}{dt} = \eta \Phi_\gamma \left[ \frac{N_{\text{pass}} + 1}{2} \right] P_{\gamma \rightarrow \gamma' \rightarrow \gamma}$

$\Phi_\gamma$  = photon flux ( $\text{s}^{-1}$ ),  $\eta$  = detector efficiency

# Search for dark photons at STAX

L.M. Capparelli *et al.*, *Phys. Dark Univ.* **12**, 37 (2016)

- Exclusion limits STAX may achieve in case result
- **STAX** limits compared to
  - **ALPS LSW** results  
Lett. B **689**, 149 (2010)
  - **CROWS** results  
Rev. D **88**, 075014 (2013)
  - **Spring-8** results  
Lett. B **722**, 301 (2013)
  - **XENON10** results  
Lett. B **689**, 149 (2010)
  - Constraints on dark photons from measurements the **CMB**  
Astrophys. J. **473**, 576 (1996)
  - Searches for modifications of **Coulomb's Law**  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **61**, 2285 (1988)

