Broadband Reflector Experiment for Axion Detection (BREAD)

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Motivation: Cavity Experiments Scale Poorly to High Mass

- Sensitivity of resonant cavity axion search technique doesn't scale favorably with mass:
 - Cavity size matched to axion Compton wavelength $\lambda = h/m_a c$
 - Axion to photon conversion power proportional to volume $\propto \lambda^3 \propto 1/m_a^3$
- "Swiss watch problem" need large numbers of small cavities to maintain signal power as mass increases.



Axion-Induced Electromagnetic Radiation from Conducting Surface in Magnetic Field

- Axions interact with a static magnetic field producing an oscillating parallel electric field in free space
- A conducting surface in this field emits a plane wave perpendicular to surface.
- Radiated power is low:

$$P_{signal} = 8.27 \cdot 10^{-26} W \cdot \left(\frac{A}{10 \ m^2}\right) \left(\frac{B_{\parallel}}{10 \ \text{Tesla}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\rho_{DM}}{0.3 \ GeV/cm^3}\right) \left(\frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}}{3.92 \cdot 10^{-16} \ GeV^{-1}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1 \ \mu eV}{m_a}\right)^2$$

• But no detector tuning is required.





Magnetic Field Configuration

- Need to maximize component of magnetic field parallel to radiating surface **B**₁₁
- Spherical dish geometry not a good match to conventional magnet types.

Spherical dish radiator from Horns *et al.* concept paper:



"Dish antenna" (Horns et al., 2012)

BRASS experiment: Planar array of permanent magnets



Le Hoang Nguyen, Patras 2019 http://wwwiexp.desy.de/groups/astroparticle/brass/brassweb.htm

Large Solenoids

• How to use large volume solenoids to detect axions?

B ₀ ² V (T ² m ³)	Magnet	Application/ Technology	Location	Field (T)	Bore (m)	Len (m)	Energy (MJ)	Cost (\$M)
12000	ITER CS	Fusion/Sn CICC	Cadarache	13	2.6	13	6400	>500
5300	CMS	Detector/Ti SRC	CERN	3.8	6	13	2660	>4581
650	Tore Supra	Fusion/Ti Mono Ventilated	Cadarache	9	1.8	3	600	
430	Iseult	MRI/Ti SRC	CEA	11.75	1	4	338	
320	ITER CSMC	Fusion/Sn CICC	JAEA	13	1.1	2	640	>50 ²
290	60 T out	HF/HTS CICC	MagLab	42	0.4	1.5	1100	
250	Magnex	MRI/Mono	Minnesota	10.5	0.88	3	286	7.8
190	Magnex	MRI/Mono	Juelich	9.4	0.9	3	190	
70	45 T out	HF/Nb ₃ Sn CICC	MagLab	14	0.7	1	100	14
12	ADMX	Axion/NbTi mono	U Wash	7	0.5	1.1	14	0.4
5	900 MHz	NMR/Sn mono	MagLab	21.1	0.11	0.6	40	15

Compilation by Mark Bird, NHMFL



"Coaxial Dish": Optical Concentrator for Solenoid Magnets







• Rays emitted from cylindrical inner surface of solenoid are focused to a point after two reflections.

Design Legacy- 19th Century Lighthouse Mirrors



Bordier-Marcet's 'Fanal Sidereal Reflector. (1809)



Fanal Sidereal Lantern. (1811)

In 1809, Bordier-Marcet invented the 'Fanal Sidereal' reflector where two parabolic reflecting surfaces were placed one above the other. Each of the reflecting surfaces had a central hole where the lamp flame was placed. The Fanal Sidereal reflector was first used in the harbor lighthouse in Honfleur, France and the design was patented in 1812.

From https://uslhs.org/reflectors

Three Strategies to Measure Signal

Heterodyne

- high resolution
- Standard Quantum Limit (SQL): $k_B T_{noise} = hf$



Single Photon Counting



e.g., nanowire detectors SNSPDs, KIDs, QCDs, ... down to ~ 1 photon/day Fig.: Sae Woo Nam (NIST)

Sensitivity Projections-- Futuristic

- Assume the use of largest magnets currently available.
- 10 Tesla field x 10 m² bore area -> 10⁻²⁵ W signal power for KSVZ axions.
- Not enough signal power for detection with current state-of-art sensors. E.g. bolometer with 10⁻²⁰ W/Sqrt(Hz) noise equivalent power.
- However, sensor field is rapidly changing- new quantum technologies.



BREAD Sensitivity with State of Art THz Sensors



Proof of Concept Experiments: GigaBREAD and InfraBREAD

GigaBREAD: 10-20 GHz experiment with HEMT amplifier

InfraBREAD: 300 THz experiment (~1 micron) with Superconducting Nanowire Detectors (SNSPDs)



GigaBREAD Parts & Assembly















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Simulation of GigaBREAD Axion Response

- COMSOL Simulation of system response to axion-induced oscillating electric field.
- Includes effect of horn antenna impedance mismatch to signal mode.



GigaBREAD Reflection Measurements



• Measure reflected RF power with network analyzer (S₁₁)



Thermal Emission from Dish at Room Temperature



FPGA- Based Data Acquisition

- Off-the-shelf Xylinx FPGA board averages 4 million frequency channels in real time.
- Can search for a 1- MHz wide signal over 2-GHz bandwidth with negligible dead time.



Real-Time Averager





IF Frequency [MHz]

First Dark Matter Search with GigaBREAD

- 3.5 day run in an RF shielded room at University of Chicago.
- 10.7- 12.5 GHz
- Room temperature
- Off-the-shelf HEMT amplifier ~100 Kelvin added noise.
- No magnet (dark photon search)
- Scanning of vertical horn antenna position.





First Dark Photon Search with GigaBREAD

• 3.5 days of scanning at room temperature.



Next Step-Axion Search at Argonne Natl Lab



4 T MRI magnet at Argonne



InfraBREAD Dish Requirements

- At optical wavelengths, need best possible focusing to limit size of photosensor.
- Dark matter velocity dispersion limits focal spot to ~ 1 mm for a meter scale device.
- Reflector surface deviations need to be controlled at few micron level.
- Achievable by industry standard optical machining process (single point diamond turning) on various substrates (e.g. aluminum)



Focal plane Intensity Distribution





Measuring focal spot dispersion with laser

First Diamond Turned Reflector Segment from LLNL

- Single point diamond turning— standard technique for metal optics fabrication.
- Can achieve nanometer- level precision and smoothness.
- First of five segments for InfraBREAD meets requirements.
- Measure 12 nm RMS surface roughness by optical scattering.
- ~ 1% signal power loss to diffuse reflections.





SNSPD Testing for InfraBREAD

- Superconducting Nanowire Single Photon Detectors (SNSPDs) for BREAD supplied by MIT and JPL groups (See Matt Shaw's talk at this meeting)
- Largest devices made to date are 1 mm², well matched to our requirements.
- Measurements of efficiency and dark counts underway at Fermilab. Similar devices have achieved < 1 count per day backgrounds





100nm wide nanowires n SNSPD (15x15 μm area) from MIT







InfraBREAD Sensitivity Projection



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Summary

- The BREAD "cylindrical dish" design allows use of existing large—bore, high-field solenoids for broadband axion searches.
- Can provide a (small) signal for any mass where Compton wavelength fits inside the device.
- We developed fabrication techniques for BREAD reflector which will enable experiments from microwave to infrared (micro-eV to eV scale)
- Next challenge is low-noise readout! QCD axion discovery with this technique will require new generations of photon counting sensors with dark counts as low as ~1 count per day.

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Extra Slides

Existing Sensors

[Liu et al, BREAD collab., arXiv:2111.12103, PRL 128 (2022) 131801]

Photosensor	$rac{E}{\mathrm{meV}}$	$\frac{T_{\rm op}}{\rm K}$	$\frac{\rm NEP}{\rm W/\sqrt{Hz}}$	$\frac{A_{\rm sens}}{\rm mm^2}$	
Bolometers					
Gentec	[0.4, 120]	293	$1 \cdot 10^{-8}$	$\pi 2.5^2$	[https://www.gentec-eo.com/]
IR LABS	[0.24, 248]	1.6	$5\cdot 10^{-14}$	1.5^{2}	[https://www.irlabs.com/products/bolometers/]
KID/TES	[0.2, 125]	0.3	$2\cdot 10^{-19}$	0.2^2	[Ridder <i>et al</i> , J. Low Temp. Phys. 184, 60–65 (2016)], [Baselmans <i>et al,</i> Astro. Astroph. 601, A89 (2017)]
Single Photon C	Counters				
QCDet	[2, 125]	0.015	$\frac{\text{DCR}}{\text{Hz}} = 4$	0.06^{2}	[Echternach <i>et al.,</i> Nat. Astron. 2, 90–97 (2018)], [Echternach <i>et al.,</i> J. Astron. Telesc. Instrum. Syst. 7, 1–8 (2021)]
SNSPD	[124, 830]	0.3	$\frac{\text{DCR}}{\text{Hz}} = 10^{-4}$	0.4^{2}	[Hochberg, et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 123, 151802 (2019)] [Verma, <i>et al.</i> , arXiv:2012.09979 [physics.ins-det] (2020)]