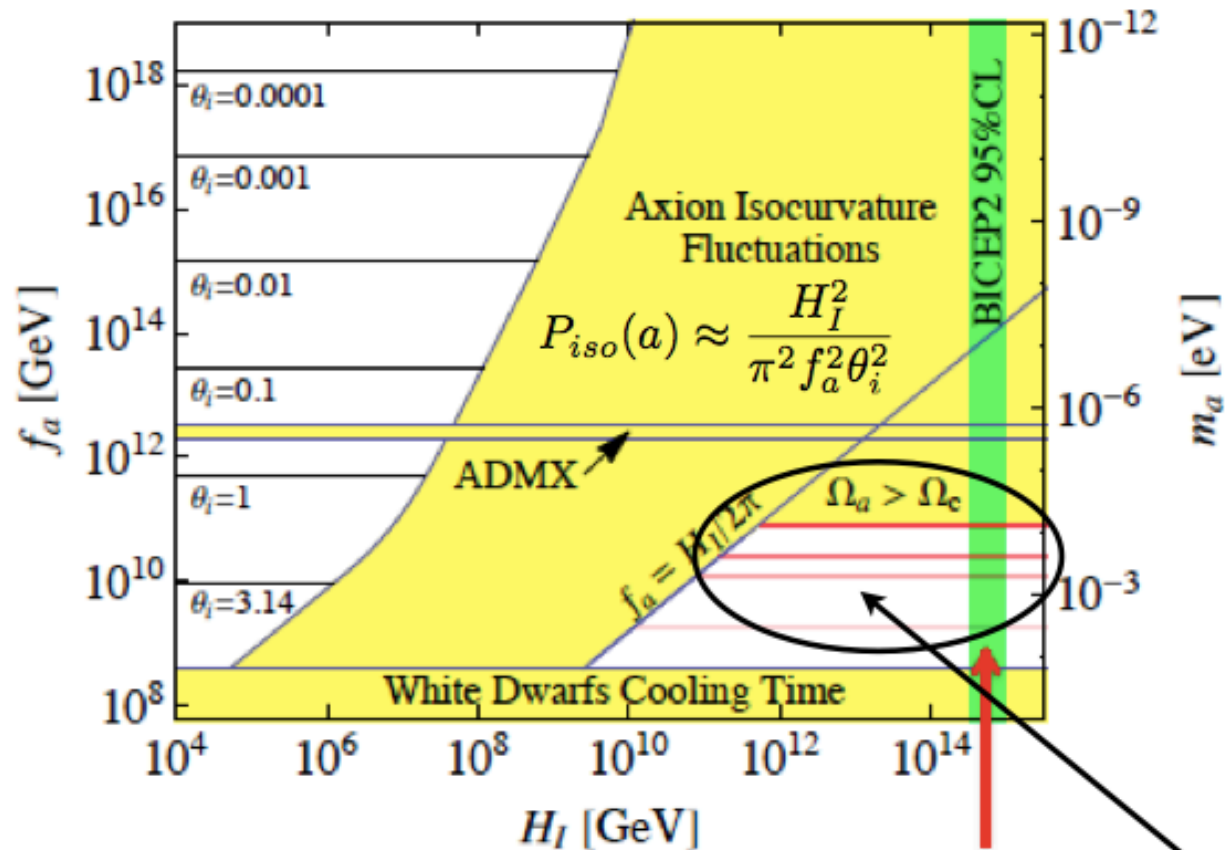


# FROM BARBIERI TALK JAN.2015

## QCD Axions in cosmology

$$m_a f_a \approx 10^{-4} \text{ eV} \cdot 10^{11} \text{ GeV}$$



$$\Omega_a h^2 \approx 0.16 \left( \frac{m_a}{10^{-5} \text{ eV}} \right)^{-1.18} \theta_i^2 \quad \theta_i = \frac{a_i}{f_a} \quad \theta_i^2 = \frac{\pi^2}{3}$$

(Axion Like Particles:  $m$  and  $f$  unrelated)

# The strong CP problem

- The QCD lagrangian contains a term that foresees CP violation

Standard QCD Lagrangian contains a CP violating term

Characterizes degenerate QCD ground state ( $\Theta$  vacuum)

Phase of Quark Mass Matrix

$$L_{CP} = -\frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} (\underbrace{\Theta - \arg \det M_q}_{0 \leq \Theta \leq 2\pi}) \text{Tr} \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}$$

The parameter  $\theta$  is unprescribed by the theory, it is expected to be  $\theta \sim 1$ . QCD interaction actually depends on  $\theta$  through its difference with the **phase of the quark mass matrix**:

$$\bar{\theta} = \theta - \arg \det(m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n)$$

Induces a neutron electric dipole moment (EDM) much in excess of experimental limits

$$d_n \approx \bar{\Theta} 10^{-16} \text{ e cm} \approx \frac{\bar{\Theta}}{10^2} \mu_n < 3 \times 10^{-26} \text{ e cm}$$

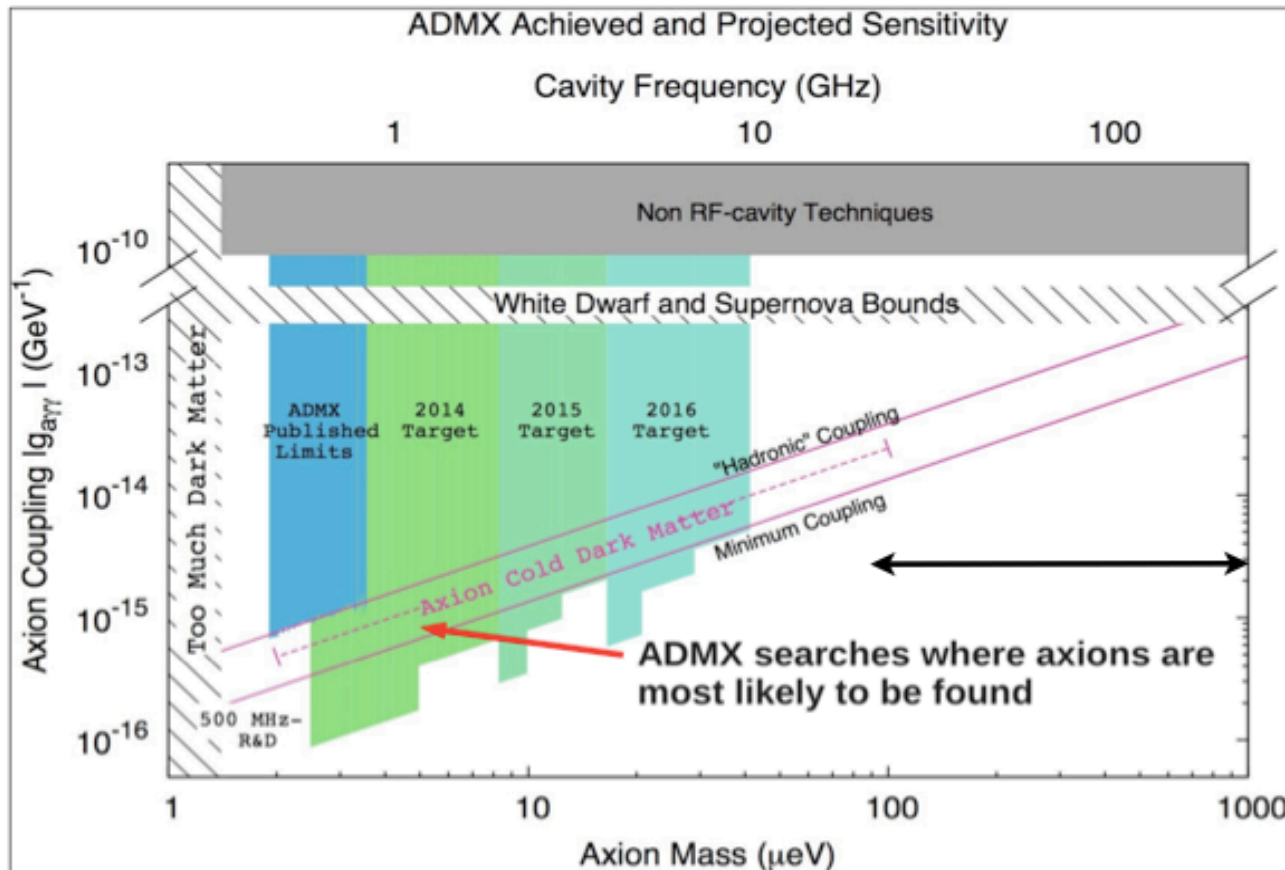
$\bar{\Theta} \lesssim 10^{-10}$  Why so small?

**VERY FINE TUNING! -> STRONG CP PROBLEM**

# FROM BARBIERI TALK JAN > 2015

## The classic search

$$\mathcal{L}_{a\gamma\gamma} = - \left( \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \frac{g_\gamma}{f_a} \right) a \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B} = -g_{a\gamma\gamma} a \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}$$



Not easy to explore the most relevant region

$$10^{-4} \lesssim m_a / \text{eV} \lesssim 10^{-3}$$

Rybka

ADMX

# Axion electron interaction

- The interaction of the axion with the a spin 1/2 particle

$$L = \bar{\psi}(x)(i\hbar\cancel{\partial}_x - mc)\psi(x) - a(x)\bar{\psi}(x)(g_s + ig_p\gamma_5)\psi(x)$$

- In the non relativistic approximation

$$i\hbar\frac{\partial\varphi}{c\partial t} = \left[ -\frac{\hbar^2\nabla^2}{2m} + g_s ca - i\frac{g_p}{2m}\vec{\sigma} \cdot (-i\hbar\vec{\nabla}a) \right] \varphi$$

The interaction term has the form of a **spin - magnetic field interaction** with  $\vec{\nabla}a$  playing the role of an effective magnetic field

$$H_a = -\vec{S} \cdot \left[ \frac{g_p}{m_e} \nabla a \right]$$

$$B_a = \frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{g_p}{m_e} \sqrt{\frac{\rho_a \hbar^3}{m_a c}} \frac{p_s}{\hbar} = 9.2 \cdot 10^{-23} \left( \frac{m_a}{10^{-4} \text{ eV}} \right)$$

# FROM BARBIERI TALK JAN. 2015

## The coupling to spin

$$L = \bar{\psi}(x)(i\hbar\cancel{\partial}_x - mc)\psi(x) - a(x)\bar{\psi}(x)(g_s + ig_p\gamma_5)\psi(x)$$

$$g_p = A_\Psi \frac{m_\Psi}{f_a} \quad (g_s = 10^{-(12\div 17)} g_p \frac{\text{GeV}}{m_\Psi}) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{DFSZ } g_p(e) \approx 1 \\ \text{KSVZ } g_p(e) \approx 10^{-3} \end{array}$$

$$\text{NRL: } i\hbar \frac{\partial \varphi}{c \partial t} = \left[ -\frac{\hbar^2 \nabla^2}{2m} + g_s c a - \underbrace{i \frac{g_p}{2m} \vec{\sigma} \cdot (-i\hbar \vec{\nabla} a)} \right] \varphi$$

$$\gamma \vec{B}_{eff} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$$

$$\gamma = \frac{e}{2m_\Psi}$$

A coupling to the spin and to the Electric field

$$L \approx \frac{\alpha_S}{4\pi} \frac{a}{f_a} G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu} \quad \Rightarrow \quad d \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{E}$$

$$d \approx 10^{-16} \frac{a}{f_a} (e \cdot \text{cm})$$

# Experimental parameters

**Axion mass**

$$10^{-4} eV \leq m_a \leq 10^{-3} eV$$

**Equivalent RF magnetic field**

$$10^{-22} \text{ Tesla} \leq B \leq 10^{-21} \text{ Tesla}$$

**Working frequency**

$$20 \text{ GHz} \leq \nu \leq 200 \text{ GHz}$$

Electron Larmor Frequency

$$\nu_{larmor} = \gamma_e B_0 ; \quad \gamma_e = 28 \text{ GHz/T}$$

$$0.7 \text{ T} \leq B_0 (\text{T}) \leq 7 \text{ T}$$

**Magnetizing field**

Measurement at the quantum limit

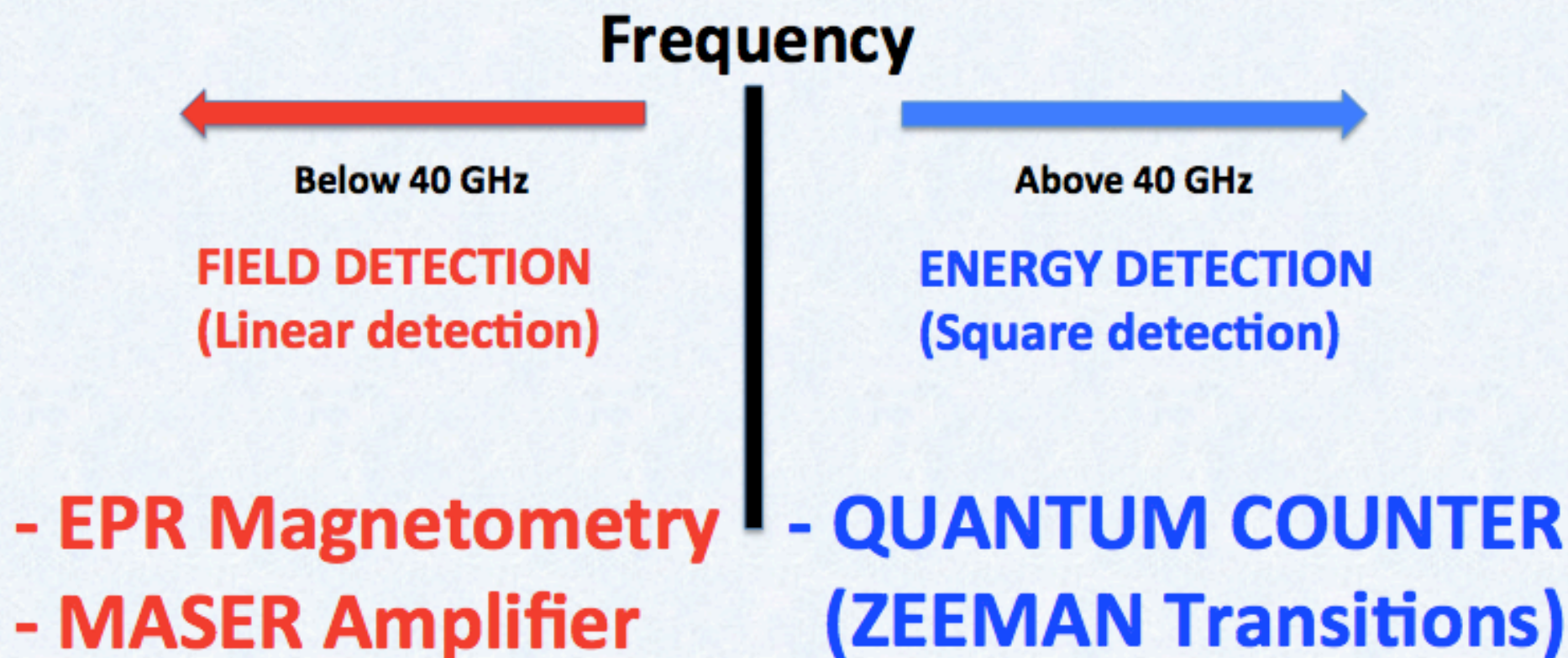
$$T_{spin} \leq \frac{\mu_b B_0}{K_b}, T_{lattice} \leq \frac{\hbar \nu}{K_b}$$

$$100 \text{ mK} \leq T (\text{K}) \leq 1 \text{ K}$$

**Working temperature**

# Detection issues

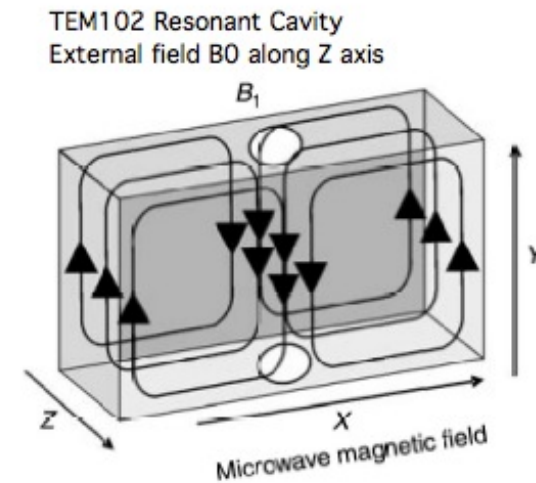
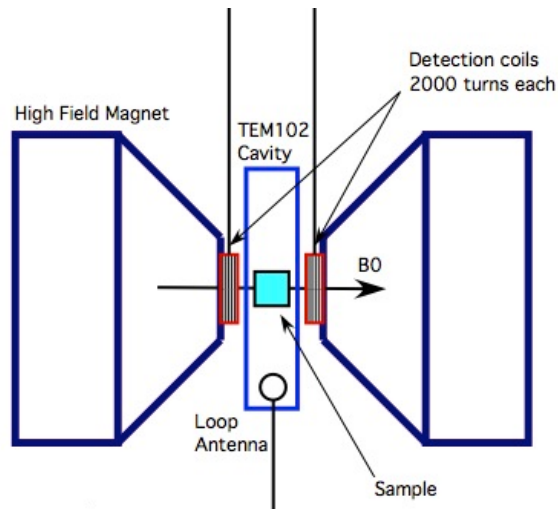
The working frequency lies in a region at the interface of two different regimes for best detection sensitivity



In either case to reach quantum limit sensitivity  $1/100$  -1 mole of a magnetized sample at cryogenic temperature is necessary

# ESR / MR Magnetometry

- We exploit the Magnetic Resonance (MR) inside a magnetized material (Electron Spin Resonance - ESR)



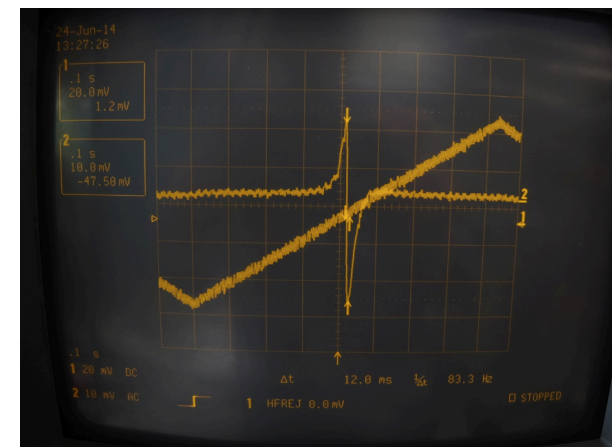
ESR/MR resonances inside a magnetic media can be tuned by an **external magnetizing field** and lies in the **multi GHz range** (radio frequency)

$$\text{Bohr magneton } \mu_B = \frac{e\hbar}{2m_e} = 9.27 \cdot 10^{-24} \text{ J T}^{-1}$$

$$\text{Gyromagnetic ratio } \gamma_e = ge/(2m) = g_e\mu_B/\hbar = 1.76 \cdot 10^{11} \text{ rad s}^{-1} \text{ T}^{-1}$$

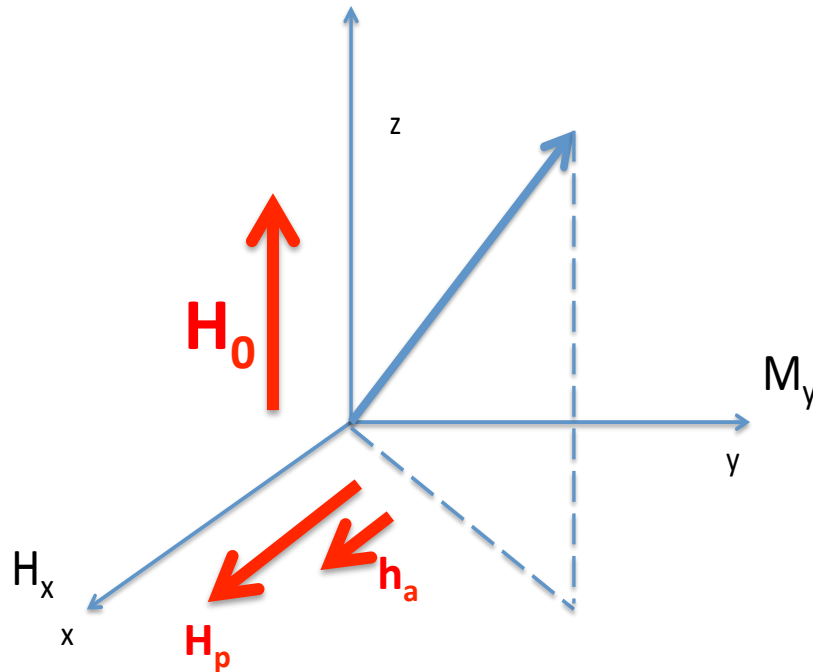
$$\text{Larmor frequency } \omega_L = \gamma_e B_0$$

**1 T -> 28 GHz**





# Longitudinal Detection of axion field



- We magnetize the sample along the z-axis and orient the sample in order to have the equivalent **axion field**  $h_a$  in the transverse direction
- **$H_0$  amplitude** matches the searched value of the **axion mass**
- We drive the sample with a **pump field**  $H_p$  at the Larmor frequency

The total driving radio-frequency field is then

$$H_x = H_p \cos \omega_p t + h_a \cos \omega_a t \quad \omega_p \cong \omega_a \cong \omega_{\text{Larmor}} = \gamma H_0$$

$$\omega_p - \omega_a \cong \omega_D \neq 0 \quad \omega_p + \omega_a \cong 2\omega_p \quad \text{Also Present}$$

# Longitudinal Detection of axion field

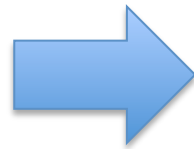
We can define some sort of gain  $G_m$  for the **low frequency field component**  $\mu_0 m_z$  with respect to the **high frequency one**  $h_a$

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_0 m_z(t) &= \frac{1}{2} \mu_0 M_0 \gamma^2 T_1 T_2 H_p h_a \cos \omega_D t \\ &= G_m h_a \cos \omega_D t\end{aligned}$$

$$G_m = \frac{1}{2} \mu_0 M_0 \gamma^2 T_1 T_2 H_p$$

If we put some relevant numbers (already published)

$$\begin{aligned}T_1 &= 10^{-3} \text{ s} \\ T_2 &= 3 \times 10^{-7} \text{ s} \\ M_0 &= 200 \text{ A/m}\end{aligned}$$



We obtain  $G_m > 1$

for a pump field of  $H_p \sim 1 \text{ nT}$

Can we get enough gain  $G_m$  to be able to reach a measurable low frequency value from the axion field  $h_a \sim 10^{-22} \text{ T}$ ?



- find the right material
- power dissipated in the cryogenic system
- noises in the system

# MASER AS LOW RF MICROWAVE FIELD AMPLIFIER AND NEUTRAL PARTICLE DETECTOR

## Bloembergen Paramagnetic Maser 4 Level System

Exploiting Electron – Phonon Coupling Through Lattice

*Howarth: The*

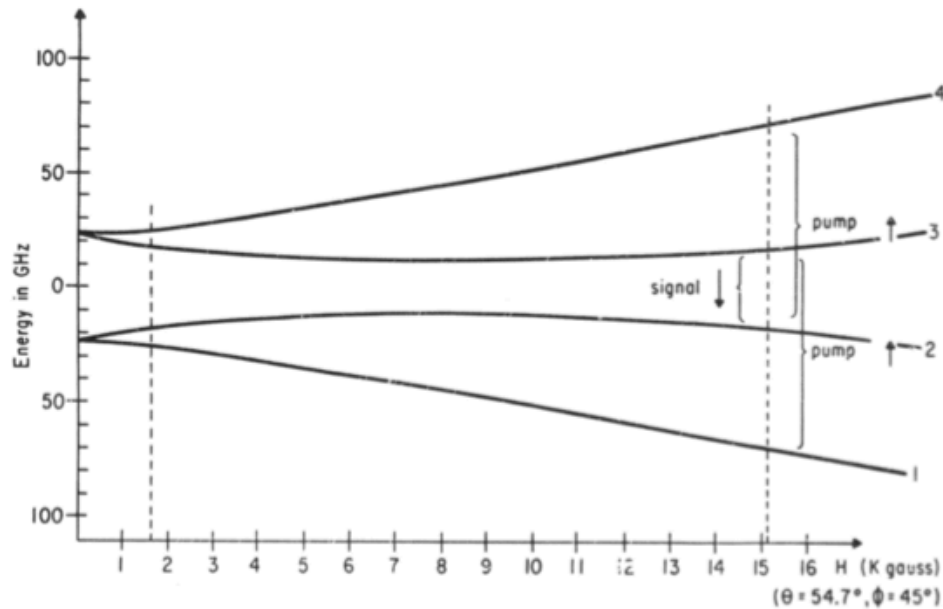
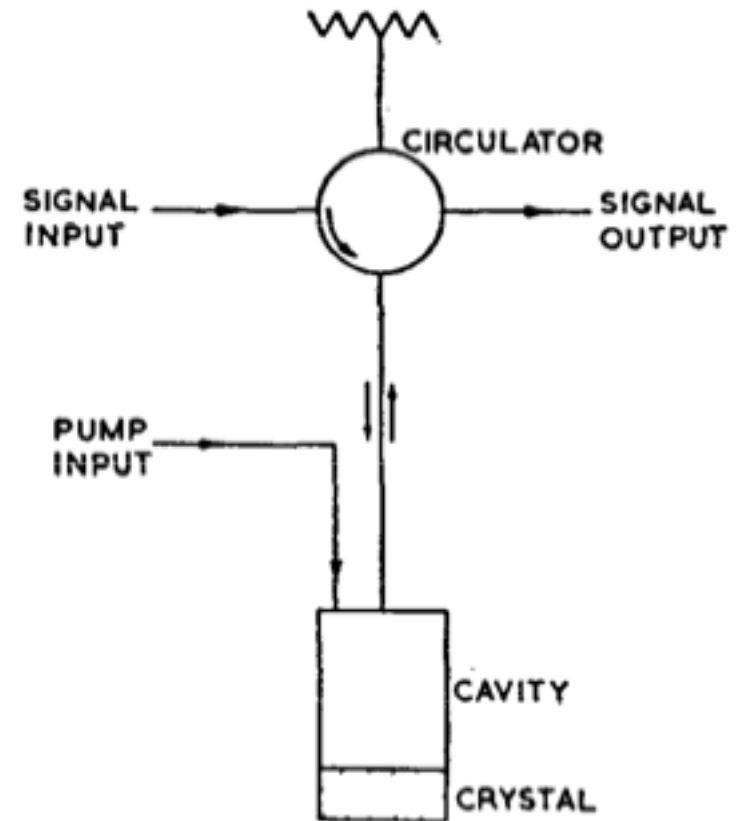


Figure 5 - Push-pull Energy Levels in Rutile

$$P_{diss} (W) = \frac{1}{2\mu_0} \omega_p H_p^2 M_0 \gamma T_2 V_S$$



**Power Stimulated Emission :** 
$$\frac{N_{32}}{6KT} h^2 (\nu_{31} - 2\nu_{32}) B_{32} \rho_{32} \nu_{32}$$

$$P = \frac{N \hbar^2 \nu_{32}}{3KT} (\nu_{21} - \nu_{32}) W_{32} \quad \text{Where} \quad W_{32} = \gamma^2 B_{ax}^2 T_2$$

**Quantum Maser Noise :** 
$$P_{masernoise} = \hbar \nu_{32} \Delta \nu_{32} \quad \text{or} \quad P_{masernoise} = \hbar \nu_{32} T_2^{-1}$$

**Minimum Detectable B field:** 
$$\frac{B}{\text{Hz}^{1/2}} = \frac{10^{-19} T}{\sqrt{\text{Hz}}}$$

**Minimum Cross Section Attainable:** 
$$\sigma_{\min} (\text{cm}^2) \approx \frac{e^{-\frac{\hbar \nu_{12}}{KT}}}{\Phi}$$

**WEAK CROSS SECTION SEEMS ATTAINABLE 10-43 cm<sup>2</sup>**

## Axion Dark Matter Detection Using Atomic Transitions

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Dark matter axions may cause transitions between atomic states that differ in energy by an amount equal to the axion mass. Such energy differences are conveniently tuned using the Zeeman effect. It is proposed to search for dark matter axions by cooling a kilogram-sized sample to millikelvin temperatures and count axion induced transitions using laser techniques. This appears to be an appropriate approach to axion dark matter detection in the  $10^{-4}$  eV mass range.

$$\mathcal{L}_{a\bar{f}f} = -\frac{g_f}{2f_a} \partial_\mu a \bar{f}(x) \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 f(x)$$

$$H_{a\bar{f}f} = +\frac{g_f}{2f_a} \left( \vec{\nabla} a \cdot \vec{\sigma} + \partial_t a \frac{\vec{p} \cdot \vec{\sigma}}{m_f} \right)$$

### ZEEMAN TRANSITION RATE With 1 Mole of Polarized Electrons

$$N_A R_i = g_i^2 N_A v^2 \frac{2\rho_a}{f_a^2} \min(t, t_1, t_a)$$

$$N_A R_i = \frac{2 * 10^3}{\text{sec}} \left( \frac{\rho_a}{\text{GeV} / \text{cm}^3} \right) \left( \frac{10^{11} \text{GeV}}{f_a} \right)^2 \left( \frac{v^2}{10^{-6}} \right) \left( \frac{\min(t, t_1, t_a)}{\text{sec}} \right)$$

**Hz Rate**

# Axion Dark Matter detection by laser spectroscopy of ultracold molecular oxygen



P. Sikivie's idea: dark matter axions may induce magnetic dipole (M1) transitions between atomic or molecular states that differ in energy by an amount equal to the axion mass.

Following this suggestion, we propose an experiment which aims at detecting molecular transitions in a gas system in the  $10^{-3}$  eV mass range.

Experimentally, this involves the preparation of a sub-Kelvin, mole-sized molecular gas sample through a buffer-gas-cooling (BGC) process in a He-3 environment. In addition, the molecular species should be sensitive enough to the application of an external magnetic field and well-suited to a single-particle spectroscopic interrogation technique as well.

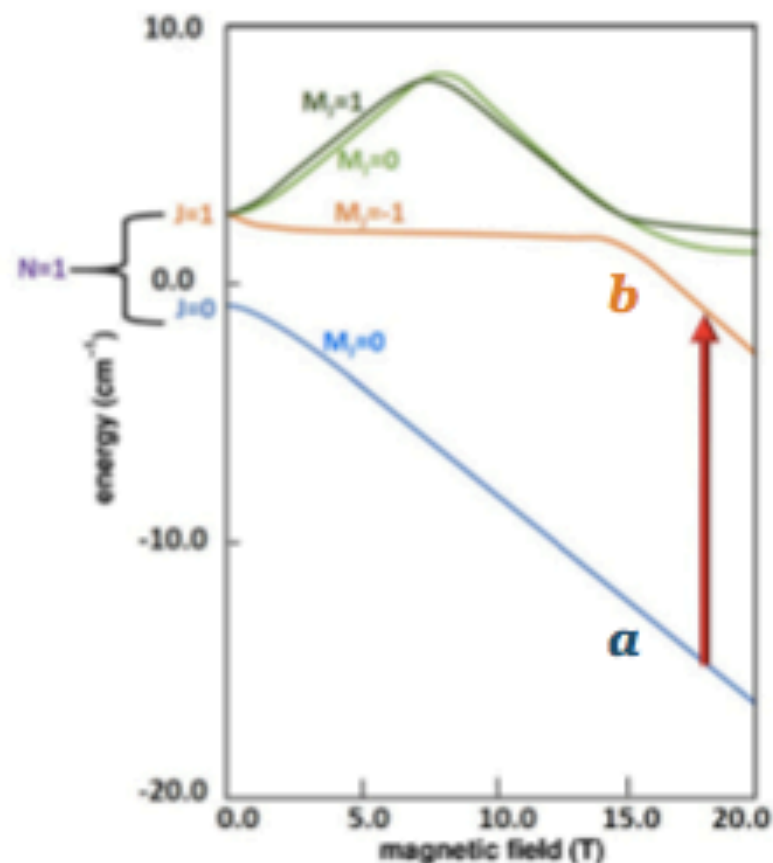


Already cooled by BGC (with He-4)

Paramagnetic (magnetic moment =  $2\mu_B$ )

Well-suited to resonance-enhanced multi-photon ionization (REMPI) spectroscopy

# The axion transition



Zeeman effect in the  $X\ ^3\Sigma_g^-(v=0)$  ground state

$N$  = rotational angular-momentum quantum number

$J$  = spin-rotational component

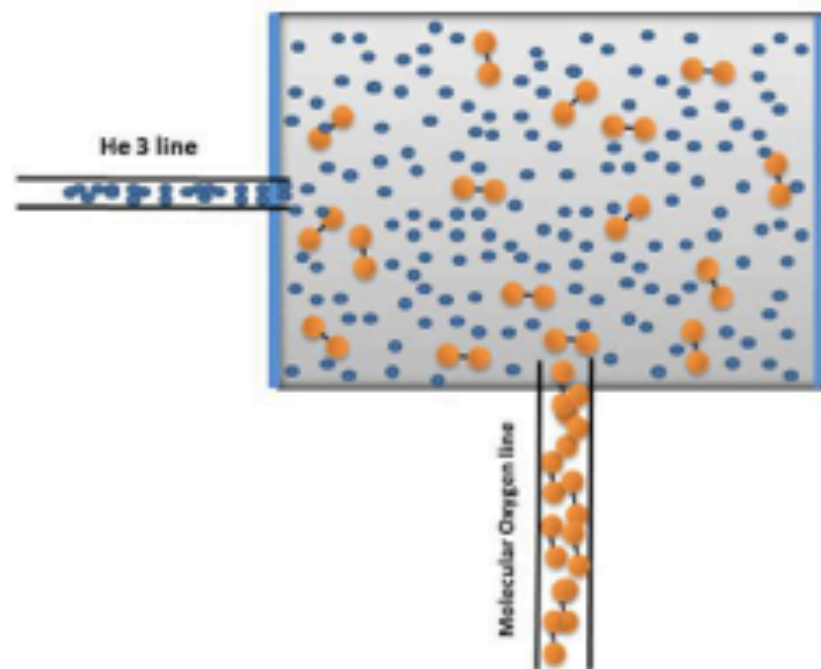
$M_J$  = magnetic quantum number

M1 selection rules:

$\Delta J = 0, \pm 1$  ( $J = 0 \rightarrow 0$ ),  $\Delta M_J = 0, \pm 1$ , and  $\pi_u = \pi_l$ , where  $\pi_u$  ( $\pi_l$ ) denotes the parity of the transition's lower (upper) level.

At this point in the discussion, we choose the rotational level  $(N = 1, J = 0, M_J = 0) \equiv a$  and  $(N = 1, J = 1, M_J = -1) \equiv b$  as the lower and upper level of the axion transition, respectively. In this way, the energy difference  $W_{ba}(B) \equiv W(b, B) - W(a, B)$  ranges from  $11\text{ cm}^{-1}$  for  $B = 12\text{ T}$  to  $15.5\text{ cm}^{-1}$  for  $B = 18\text{ T}$ . Correspondingly, for a temperature of  $T = 280\text{ mK}$ , the quantity  $Q = N_A \exp[-W_{ba}(B)/(k_B T)]$  ranges from 0.17 to  $1.5 \cdot 10^{-10}$ , with  $k_B$  being the Boltzmann constant and  $N_A$  the Avogadro number. This quantitative statement expresses the fact that, when a mole of  $^{16}\text{O}_2$  is considered, all the  $N_A$  molecules occupy the axion transition's lower level ( $a$ ), whereas level  $b$  is in fact depopulated

# Buffer-gas-cooling source



Here, both translational and internal degrees of freedom of the desired molecular species, at initial temperature  $T_0$ , are cooled in a cryogenic cell via collisions with a thermal bath of helium-3 (buffer gas) at temperature  $T_{He}$  and density  $n_{He}$ .

$$T_{He} = 280 \text{ mK,}$$

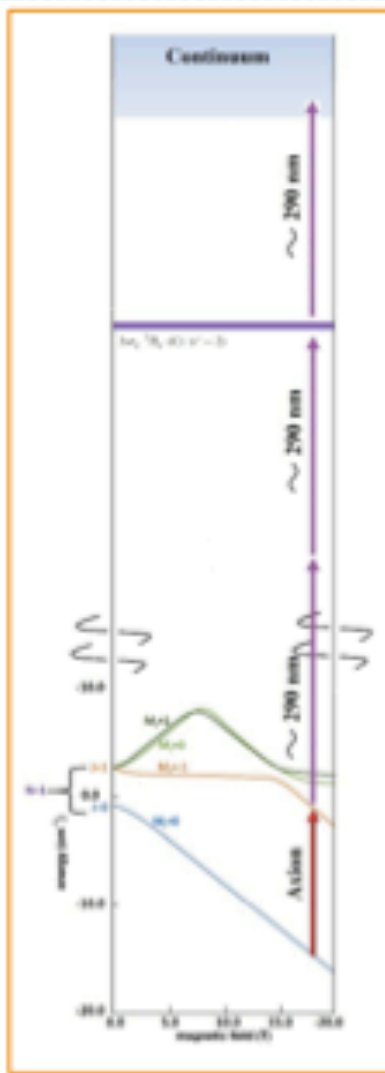
corresponding vapor

$$\text{density } n_{He} = 3 \cdot 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

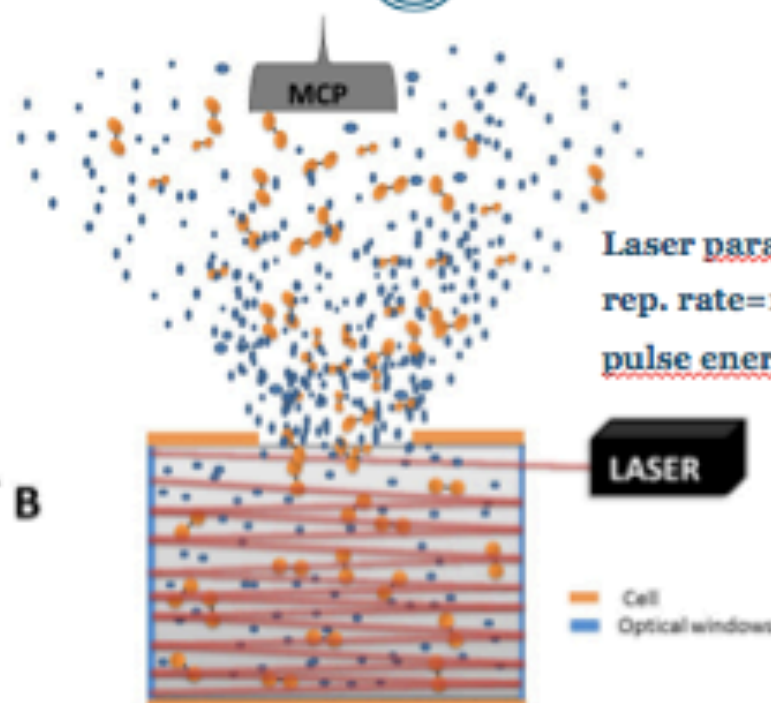
Assuming that the maximum molecular density that can be cooled down to  
 $T_{He}$  is  $n_{max} = (1/30) n_{He} = 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , a 10-liter-volume cell is needed to provide  
 $N_{BGC} = 10^{19}$  oxygen molecules in level  $\alpha$



# REMPI detection



↑ B



Laser parameters:

rep. rate=10 Hz; pulse duration=10 ns,

pulse energy=200 mJ, line width=0.3 cm<sup>-1</sup>

Through multiple reflections, the laser beam interacts with one third of the buffer-gas-cell volume. Thus, with an acquisition time of t=3 hours,, it is possible to realize one mole of oxygen molecules that have been exposed to the axion field:

# The axion as a source of an effective $\vec{B}$

## 1. By the Dark Matter wind

$$\vec{B}_{eff} = \frac{g_p}{e} \vec{\nabla} a = \frac{g_p}{e} m_a \vec{v} a_0 \cos m_a t$$

$$m_a \approx 10^{-4} eV \quad (\text{as reference}) \quad \omega = m_a \approx 100 \text{ GHz}$$

$$f_a \approx 10^{11} \text{ GeV}$$

$$m_a a_0 \approx \sqrt{\rho_{DM}} \approx 0.3 \text{ GeV/cm}^3 \quad v \approx 10^{-3}$$

$$\text{coherence length} \quad \lambda_a^C \approx \frac{1}{m_a v} \approx 3 \text{ m}$$

$$\text{coherence time} \quad \tau_a \approx \frac{2\pi}{m_a v^2} \approx 10^{-4} \text{ sec}$$

$$B_{eff} \approx 10^{-22} \text{ Tesla} \frac{m_a}{10^{-4} eV}$$

(on electrons)

(1000 bigger on nucleons)