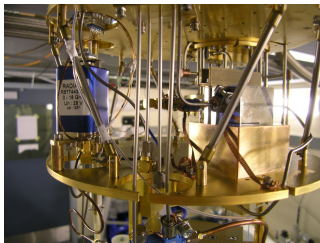


# Particle Physics at the Yoctowatt Scale: The ADMX-HF Experiment

Ben Brubaker



WIDG Seminar  
November 18, 2014

# Questions I hope to address

- Why do we think axions exist?
- Why do we think dark matter is made of axions?
- What parameter space is available to axions?
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# The Strong CP Problem

- The axion is a pseudoscalar field motivated by the Peccei-Quinn solution to the **strong CP problem**.
- CP Violation: asymmetry between processes involving matter and antimatter.
- Two independent sources of CP Violation in QCD from different sectors of the theory: net effect is captured in a parameter  $\theta$ .
- Neutron EDM searches constrain  $\theta < 10^{-10}$ .
- The strong CP problem: why is  $\theta$  so small?

# Solving the Strong CP Problem: Axions

- CP-violating term in QCD Lagrangian is

$$\mathcal{L} \subset \theta F_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{F}^{a\mu\nu}$$

If  $\theta$  were a field instead of a parameter, the strong CP problem would solve itself!

- Goal: introduce an **axion** field  $a$  with QCD coupling of the form

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$$\mathcal{L} \subset \frac{a}{f_a} F_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{F}^{a\mu\nu}$$

- The axion is the Goldstone boson of a new symmetry spontaneously broken at a scale  $f_a$ .
- Axion mass and all couplings suppressed by  $f_a \Rightarrow m_a \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}$ .

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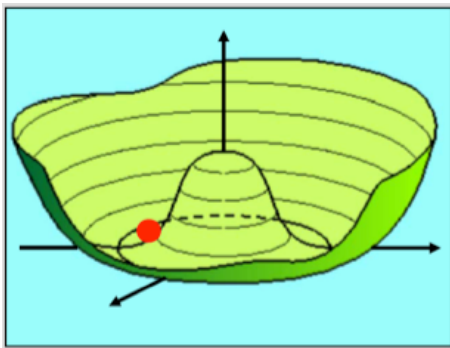
# Axions and Dark Matter



- $m_a \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}$ : sufficiently light axions interact very weakly with standard model fields.

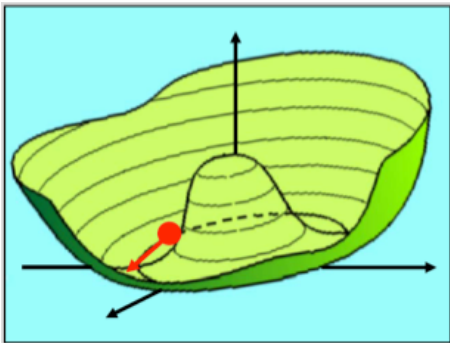


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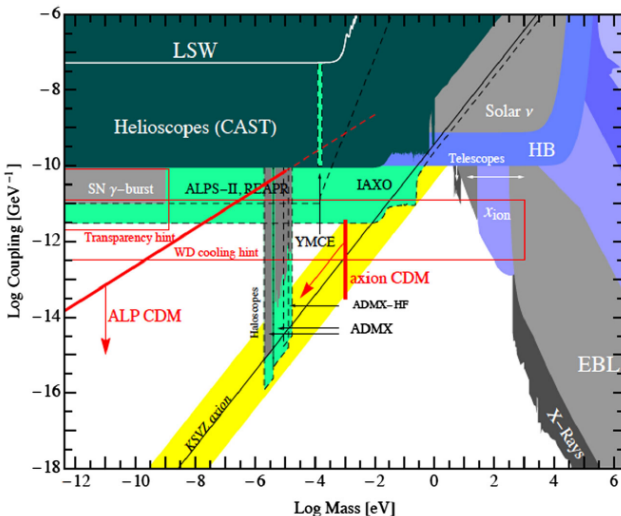


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- Misalignment produces cold axions in large numbers.
- Axions can account for cold dark matter!

# Questions I hope to address

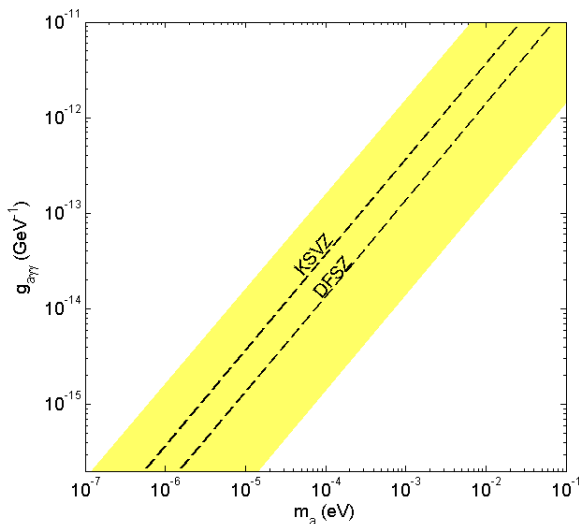
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# Axion Parameter Space

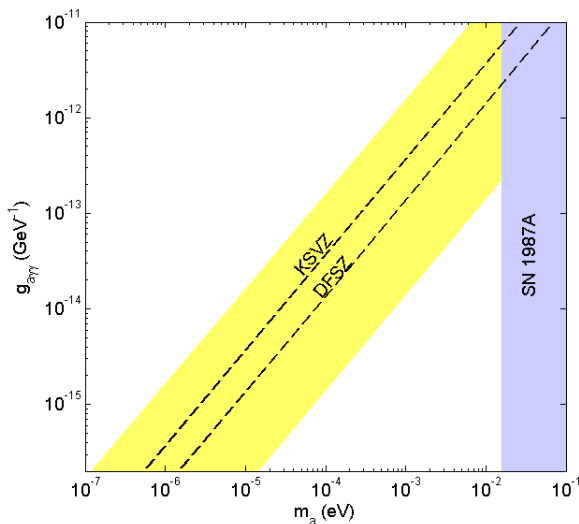


\*: A. Ringwald, Phys. Dark. Univ. 1, 116 (2012).

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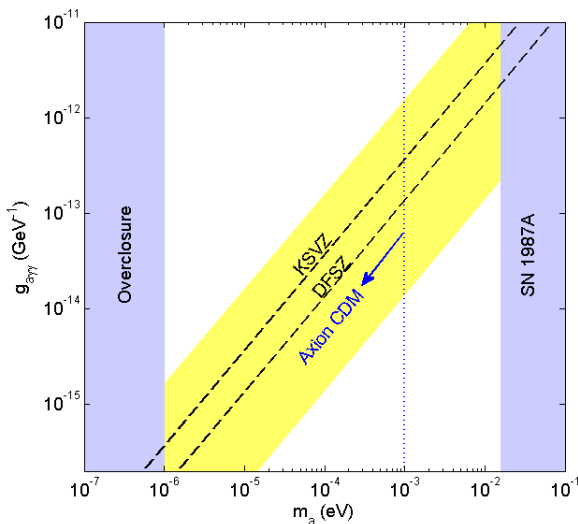


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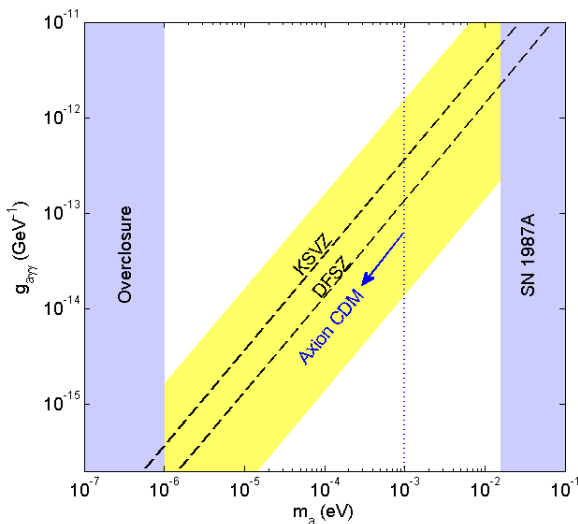
- SN 1987A axion emission too efficient for  $m_a \gtrsim 10$  meV.

# Axion Parameter Space



- SN 1987A axion emission too efficient for  $m_a \gtrsim 10$  meV.
- $\Omega_a \propto m_a^{-7/6}$ : axion dark matter fraction negligible for  $m_a \gtrsim 1$  meV.
- too much dark matter for  $m_a \lesssim 1$   $\mu$ eV.

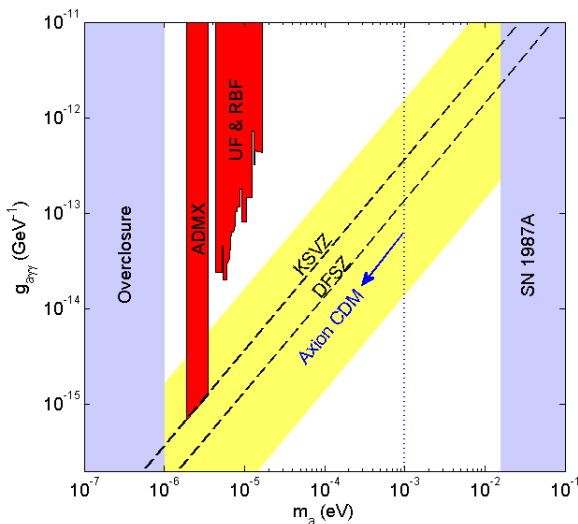
# Axion Parameter Space



- (At least) 3 orders of magnitude to scan.



# Axion Parameter Space



- (At least) 3 orders of magnitude to scan.
- Coupling is so small that we must use intrinsically narrow-band resonant detection.

# Questions I hope to address

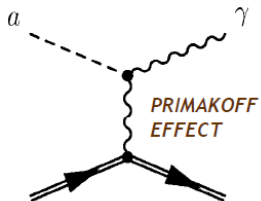
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# Properties of Axion CDM



- Very light particles  $\Rightarrow$  huge number density.
- Virialization:  $v \sim 270$  km/s  $\rightarrow \beta \sim 10^{-3}$ .
- Axion signal “quality factor:”
 
$$Q_a = E_{\text{mass}}/E_{\text{kin}} = \beta^{-2} \sim 10^6.$$
- De Broglie wavelength:  $\lambda_a \sim \pi/m_a\beta \sim 100$  m for  $m_a \sim 10^{-5}$  eV.
- Coherent effects on laboratory scales  $\Rightarrow$  more like a classical field than particles.

# Microwave Cavity Axion Searches – Concept



- Sikivie\*: search for axions with photon coupling  $\mathcal{L} \subset g_{a\gamma\gamma} a \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}$ .
- The Primakoff Effect: classical field at one leg to compensate for weakness of vertex.

- Kinematics:  $m_a = \nu \sim 250 \text{ MHz} - 250 \text{ GHz}$ .
- Resonant enhancement by  $Q$  of cavity.
- Cryogenics and low-noise amplifier to reduce noise.

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

# Microwave Cavity Axion Searches – Signal

## Conversion Power:

$$P \sim g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 (\rho_a / m_a) B^2 Q_c V C_{nml}$$

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- Virtual photon number density
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- Effective volume occupied by cavity mode  
⇒ best for low-order TM modes:  $L \sim \nu^{-1}$
- $P \sim 5 \times 10^{-23} \text{ W}$  ( $\approx 1 \text{ } 10 \text{ keV WIMP event/year}$ )

# Microwave Cavity Axion Searches – Noise

## The Radiometer Equation:

$$\text{SNR} = \frac{P}{kT_S} \sqrt{\frac{t}{\Delta\nu_a}}$$

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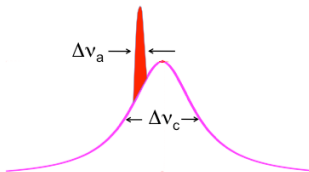
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$$Q_a \gg Q_c \Rightarrow \Delta\nu_a \ll \Delta\nu_c.$$



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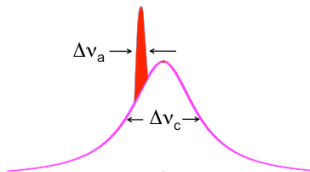
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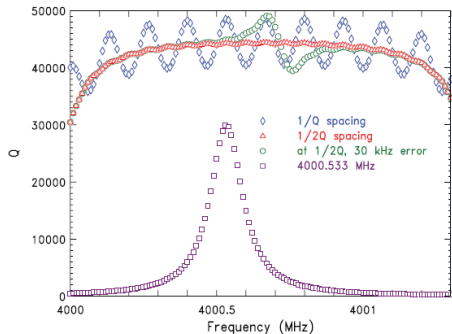
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- Measurement time: axion signal remains constant, noise decreases as  $1/\sqrt{t}$ .

# Microwave Cavity Axion Searches – Scan Rate

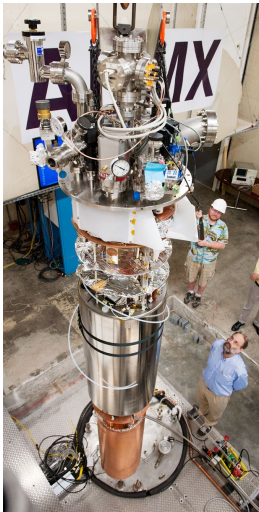


- After each measurement, tune cavity resonance by half-linewidth:
- Scan rate:

$$\frac{d\nu}{dt} \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}^4 \frac{m_a^2}{T_S^2} B^4 Q_c V^2$$



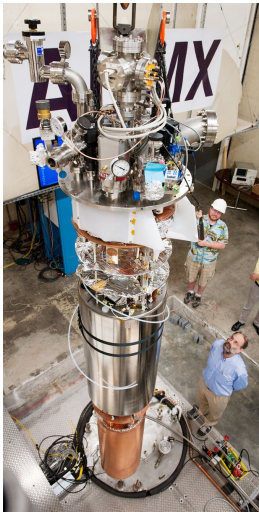
# ADMX (The Axion Dark Matter eXperiment)



- Collaboration of **U. Washington (host)**, U. Florida, LLNL, UC Berkeley, NRAO, Sheffield U.
- 1996-2009: excluded KSVZ axions with  $1.9 \mu\text{eV} < m_a < 3.6 \mu\text{eV}$  (460 – 860 MHz).\*

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- Current focus is reducing  $T_S$  to improve scan rate:
  - Liquid Helium → Dilution refrigerator expected in 2015.
  - Will improve  $\frac{dy}{dt}$  by factor of 400!
  - Enabled by SQUID technology.

\*: S. J. Asztalos et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **104**, 041301 (2010).

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# ADMX-HF (High-Frequency)

- Will scan in parallel with ADMX starting around 5 GHz ( $\sim 20 \mu\text{eV}$ ).
- Will serve as an R&D testbed for extending the microwave cavity search principle to higher frequencies.
- Microwave cavity experiments get hard at high frequencies, but we can reach the axion model band with current technology.
  - Dilution refrigerator in initial design.
  - Tunable Josephson Parametric Amplifiers (JPAs): ultra-low-noise amplifiers developed  $\sim 2009$ .

# ADMX-HF Collaboration

- Yale University (host)

Steve Lamoreaux, Yulia Gurevich, Ben Brubaker, Sid Cahn

- UC Berkeley

Karl Van Bibber, Tim Shokair, Austin Lo, Maria Simanovskaia,  
Jaben Root

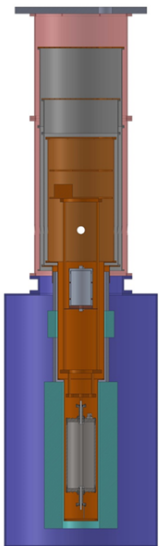
- Lawrence Livermore National Lab

Gianpaolo Carosi

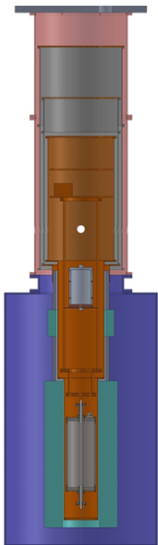
- CU Boulder/JILA

Konrad Lehnert, Dan Palken

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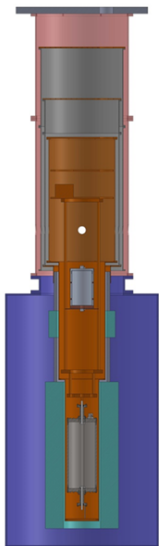


# ADMX-HF Layout



- 9 T superconducting solenoid

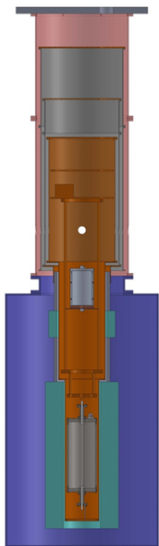
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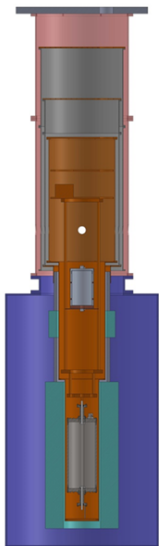


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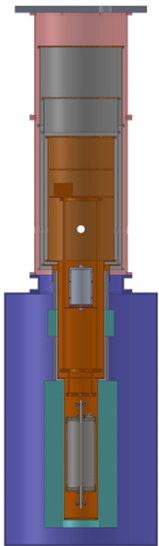
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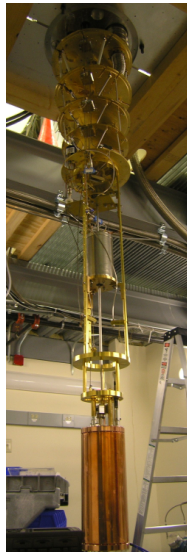


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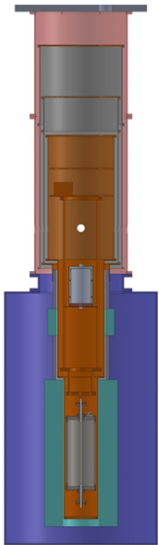
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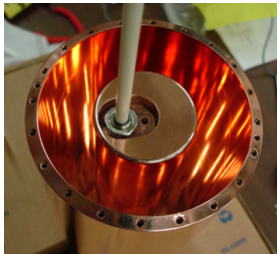
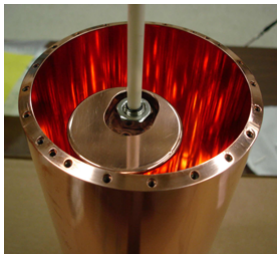
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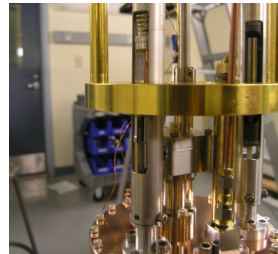
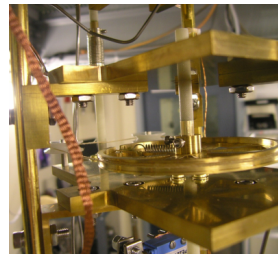
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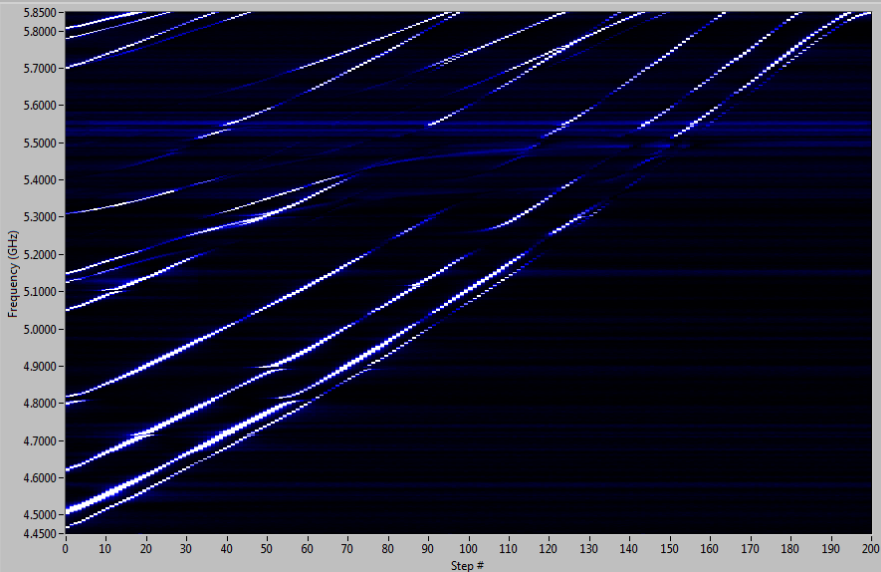
# Cavity and Motion Control



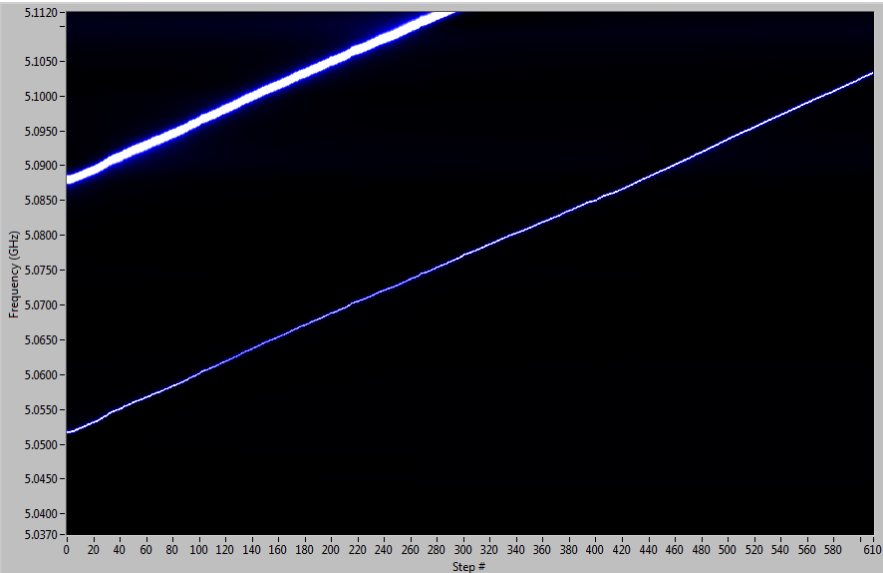
- $Q_c \sim 20,000$ , tunable from 3.5 to 5.85 GHz.
- Tuning via rotation of off-axis Cu rod.
- Cryogenic motion control via stepper motors and kevlar lines –  $0.003^\circ$  precision.
- No heat load from motion control at 100 mK.



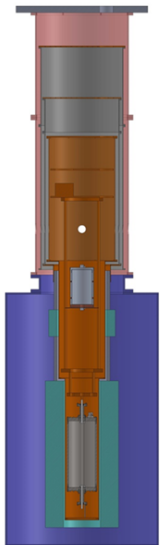
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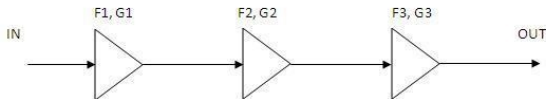


# Quantum Limits on Noise Performance

- Linear detection: measuring amplitude and phase simultaneously  
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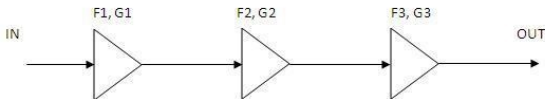
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- Need to amplify signal: all loss to room temperature degrades SNR.
- Noise performance of first amplifier is critical:



$$F_n = F_1 + \frac{F_2 - 1}{G_1} + \frac{F_3 - 1}{G_1 G_2} + \dots + \frac{F_n - 1}{G_1 G_2 \dots G_{n-1}}$$

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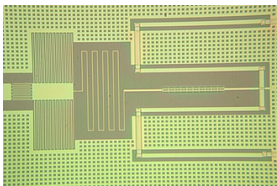


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- The Standard Quantum Limit: A phase-insensitive linear amplifier must add noise  $\geq h\nu/2$ .\*

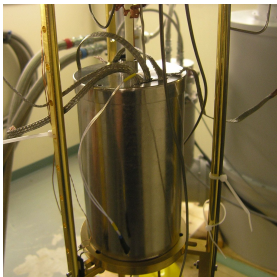
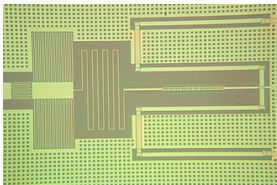
\*: C. M. Caves, Phys. Rev. D **26**, 1817 (1982).

# Josephson Parametric Amplifier



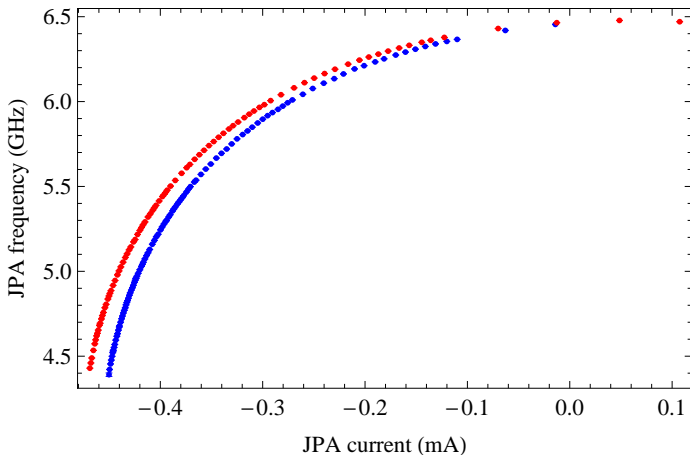
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- Energy transfer from an intense pump tone near resonance to nearby frequencies.
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# Josephson Parametric Amplifier



- An LC circuit with nonlinear SQUID inductance  $\Rightarrow$  parametric gain.
- Energy transfer from an intense pump tone near resonance to nearby frequencies.
- The JPA gain is phase-sensitive: no standard quantum limit!
- Narrow-band, but SQUID inductance also a function of flux  $\Rightarrow$  resonance is tunable, but very good magnetic shielding required.

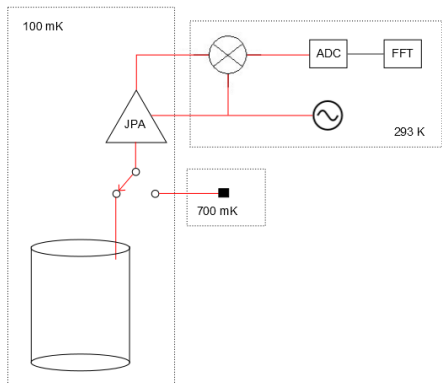
# JPA Tuning



In 5 T field (blue) and no field (red)

# Signal Chain

Analysis is conceptually simple, requires minimal data processing:



- Cavity signal is mixed down to MHz and digitized for  $t \sim 25$  min.
- Compute power spectrum and look for excess power in each axion-width bin.
- Step resonance by  $\Delta\nu_C/2$  and repeat  $O(10^4)$  times.
- $T_S$  calibrated in situ using blackbody source at known temperature.

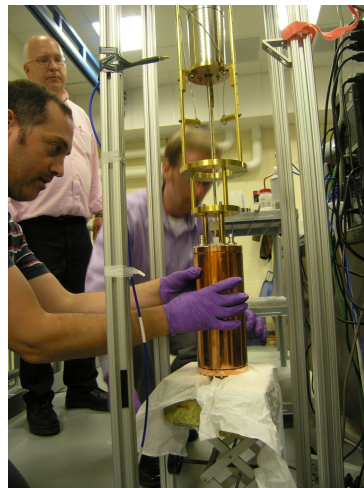
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## Recent Progress – Summer 2014

- 6/23-7/1: cavity delivered to Yale, characterized on teststand and in fridge.



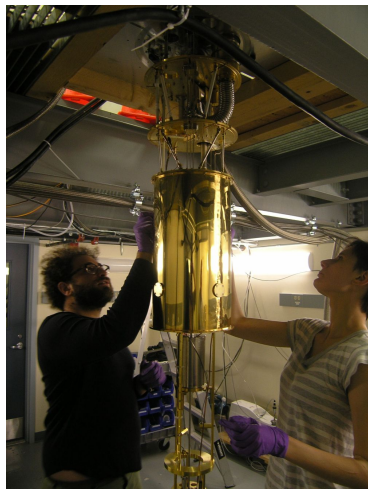
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- 7/20-9/8: system warm; upgrades to motion control, signal chain.



# Recent Progress – Fall 2014

- 9/15-10/24: second cold commissioning run:
  - Cold motion control tests: repeatable 100 kHz stepping
  - Successful simultaneous tuning of cavity and JPA.
  - Measurement of total added noise above zero-point motion:  $(0.3 \pm 0.15) h\nu$ : JPA is sub-quantum-limited!
  - Proof-of-principle axion data: two points,  $t = 200$  s at  $B = 3.7$  T  
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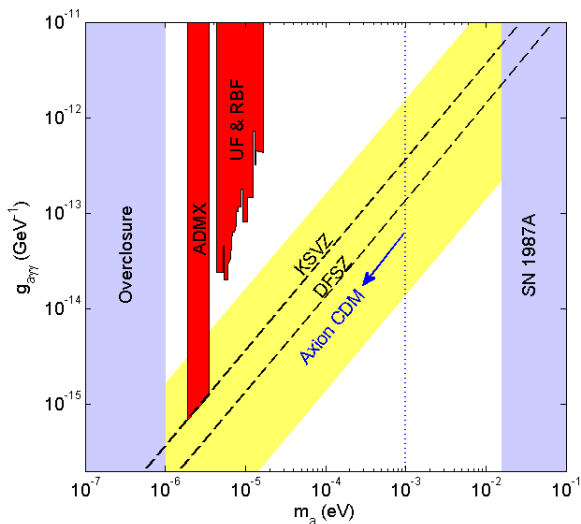
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- 10/29-11/11: system warm for cryocooler upgrade.
- Late 2014: reconfigure magnetic shielding to mitigate JPA gain fluctuations due to vibration in inhomogeneous field.

# Questions I hope to address

- Why do we think axions exist?
- Why do we think dark matter is made of axions?
- What parameter space is available to axions?
- What are the principles of microwave cavity axion detection?
- How are these principles realized in ADMX-HF at Yale?
- What is the current status of ADMX-HF?
- **What does ADMX-HF hope to accomplish?**

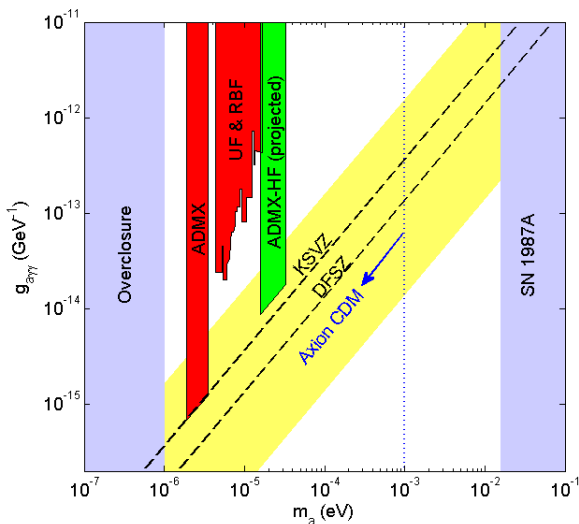
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- Full data run beginning early 2015!



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- Three years of data with current technology:  
16 – 33  $\mu\text{eV}$  at  
 $1.5 \times \text{KSVZ}$



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- Boost  $Q_C$ : Hybrid superconducting-normal cavities.
- Evade SQL: Single-photon detection and/or squeezed states.
- Avoid  $V$  suppression: Higher-order modes and/or power-combining cavities.

# Extra Slides

# Hybrid Superconducting Cavities

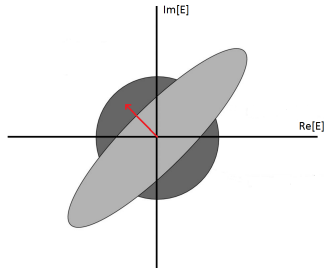
- Superconducting cavities: high  $Q$ , but not in high field.
- Type-II superconducting thin films:  $(B_{c1})_{\parallel} \sim (\lambda/d)^2$  for  $d < \lambda$ .
- With appropriate coatings on barrel and copper endcaps, we can increase  $Q$  by  $\sim$  the aspect ratio of the cavity ( $\sim 6\times$ ).
- Promising materials: NbTiN, NbN, MgB<sub>2</sub>.
- Field uniformity ( $B_r < 50$  G) built in to ADMX-HF design.
- Challenges: good microwave reflectivity, proximity effect, details of stoichiometry, etc.

# Single Photon Detection and Squeezed States

- Single-photon detection  $\Rightarrow$  no spectral resolution: thermal noise from whole cavity band but no standard quantum limit!

- $\frac{\delta P_\ell}{\delta P_{\text{sp}}} \sim \sqrt{\frac{Q_c}{Q_a}} e^{h\nu/kT} > 1$  above  $\sim 10$  GHz, or lower with better  $Q_c$ .\*

- Squeezed states: beat SQL without sacrificing phase information!
- Axion signal uncorrelated with lab phase reference on long timescales.
- Practical utility limited by loss in commercial components, but may soon be worthwhile.

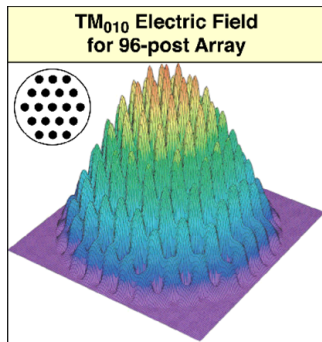


\*: S. K. Lamoreaux et al., Phys. Rev. D **88**, 035020 (2013).

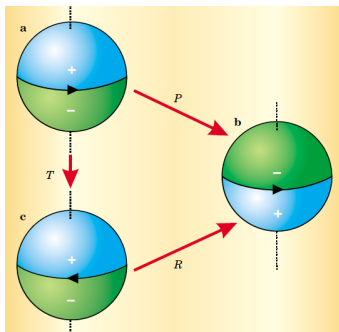


# Large volumes at high frequencies

- Higher-order TM modes of a large cavity:  $C_{0n0} \propto \nu^{-2}$  (better than  $V \propto \nu^{-3}$ ), but mode crossings are increasingly a problem for  $n \gtrsim 3$ .
- Power-combining multiple small cavities in a large magnetic field volume: practical challenges keeping resonances in step.
- Photonic band gap cavities?

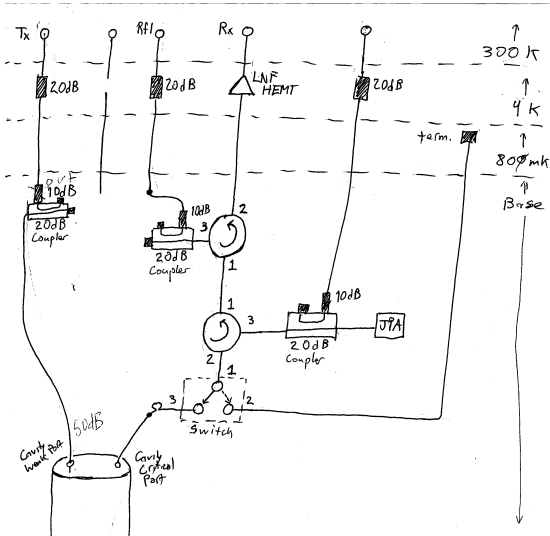


# Symmetry Violation and EDMs



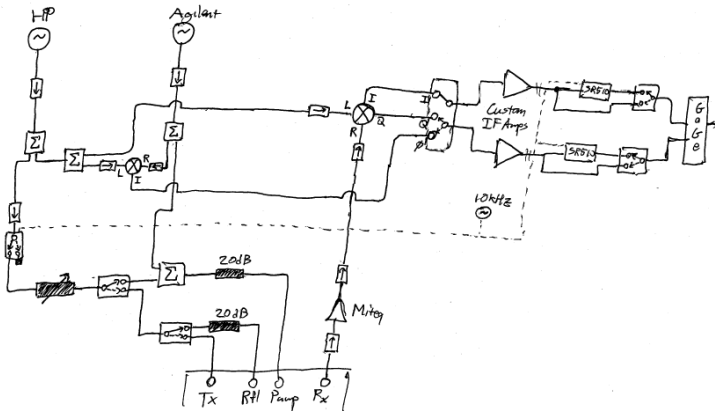
- By Wigner-Eckart Theorem, expectation values of vector operators must point along spin quantization direction.
- Magnetic and Electric Dipole Moments transform oppositely under  $P$  and  $T$  reversal.
- $CP$  violation in QCD  $\Rightarrow$  neutron EDM. Non-observation constrains  $\theta < 10^{-10}$  rad

# Microwave Layout



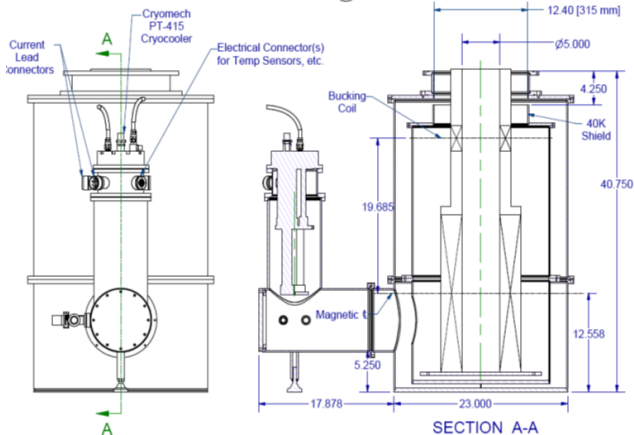
- 3 paths for injection into fridge: transmission, reflection, JPA pump.
- Cryo microwave switch (Radiall) and terminator at still plate for hot/cold load measurement.
- Second-stage amplifier: LNF LNC4\_8A:  
 $T_N \approx 3$  K.

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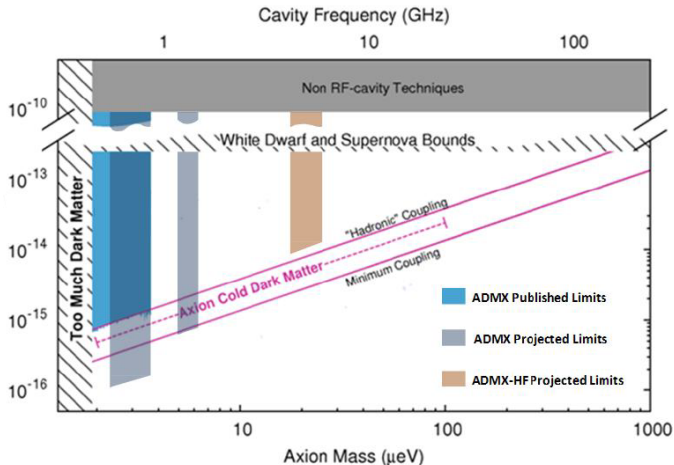
- GaGe ADC: 14 bits, 2 GS memory, 50 MS/s max sampling.
- Lock-in detection for network analysis.

# Magnet



- 9 T field at 72 A
- Liquid cryogen free
- Persistent
- 16.5 cm bore

# ADMX near-term projections



\*: I. Stern, arXiv:1403.5332 (2014).

# Cold Dark Matter Axions?

- If axions are so light, why do they form CDM rather than HDM?
- Thermal relic axions *do* form hot dark matter, like neutrinos, but there is a non-thermal axion production mechanism.
- The misalignment mechanism: anomalous PQ symmetry breaking at  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \Rightarrow$  a condensate of zero-momentum axions.\*
- Sikivie argues that axions can re-thermalize through gravitational interactions and form a BEC.†

\*: J. Preskill, M. Wise, and F. Wilczek, Phys. Lett. B **120**, 127 (1983).

†: P. Sikivie and Q. Yang, Phys. Rev. Lett. **103**, 111301 (2009).

## Photos and figures from

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- N. Fortson, P. Sandars, and S. Barr, *Physics Today* **56** (6), 33 (2003).