

Axionic and Phonon Polaritons for Axion Dark Matter Detection

Jan Schütte-Engel

*PNU-IBS workshop on Axion Physics: Search for axions,
Haeundae, Busan, South Korea, 07/12/23*

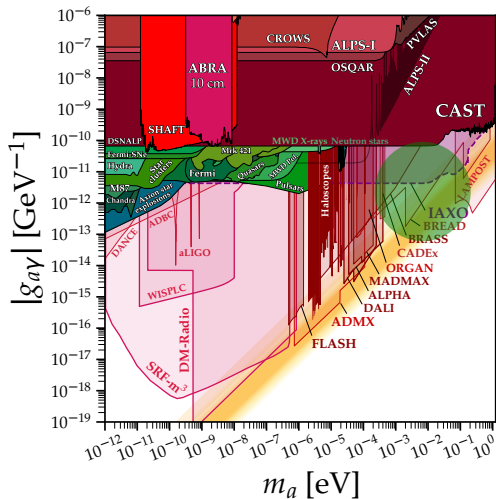
[[JSE](#), D.J.E. Marsh, A.J. Millar, et al. 21], [D. J. E. Marsh, K.C. Fong, E. Lentz, L. Smejkal, M. Ali, 18] [[D.J.E. Marsh](#), J.I. McDonald, A.J. Millar, [JSE](#) 22]



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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



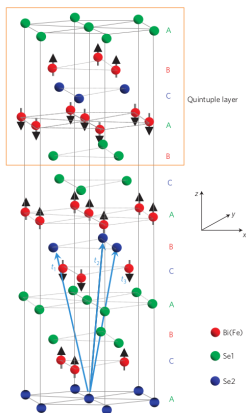
Constraints on Dark Matter axions



adapted from cajohare.github.io/AxionLimits/

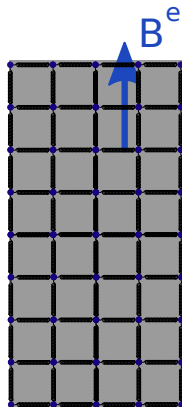
Axion DM Detection with

Axion quasiparticles



[Li, Wang, Qi, Zhang 10]

Phonons

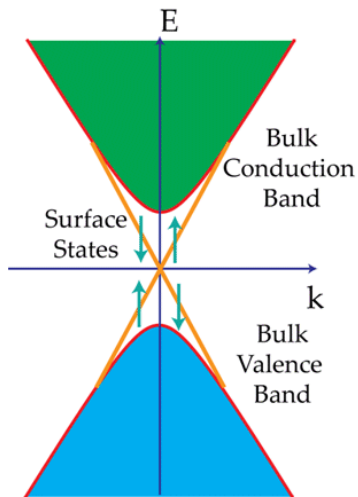


Axion Quasiparticles (AQs)

Axion Quasiparticles (AQs)

arise in materials with $\mathcal{L} \supset \delta\Theta \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}$

Topological insulator in a nutshell



[hoffman.physics.harvard]

- Topological insulator is insulating in the bulk and conducting on the surface
- Physical realization for example: Bi_2Te_3 or Bi_2Se_3

Effective description of topological insulator

- Topological insulator

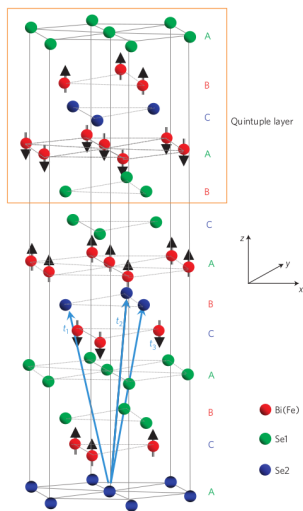
$$S_{TI} = \int d^3x dt (\epsilon E^2 - \frac{1}{\mu} B^2) + \underbrace{\frac{\theta}{2\pi} \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \int d^3x dt \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}}_{S_\theta}$$

- θ is periodic in 2π

$$\theta \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} \xrightarrow{T} -\theta \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} \xrightarrow{\theta \text{ periodic}} (-\theta + 2\pi) \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} \xrightarrow{T \text{ inv.}} \theta = \pi$$

- Time reversal invariant insulator $\theta = 0, \pi$ ($\theta = 0$ normal insulator, $\theta = \pi$ topological insulator)
- Most topological insulators have T symmetry.

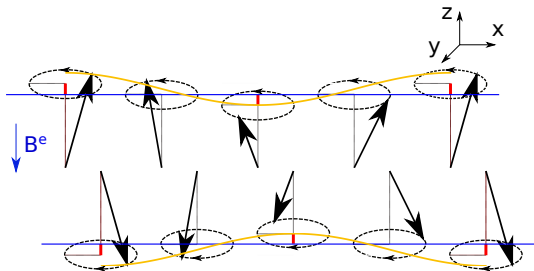
Dynamical Axion field in Topological Magnetic Insulator



[Li, Wang, Qi, Zhang 10]

- Add P or T breaking terms $\Rightarrow \theta$ deviates from $0, \pi$, realization in antiferromagnetic phase
- Antiferromagnetic phase has spin wave excitations (Magnons) which behave as a dynamical axion field
- Suggested material: $(\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Fe}_x)_2\text{Se}_3$

Dynamical AQs in antiferromagnets



Néel vector $\mathbf{M}^- = \frac{1}{2} (\langle \mathbf{S}_A \rangle - \langle \mathbf{S}_B \rangle)$

AQ is longitudinal spin wave

$$\delta\Theta(\mathbf{x}, t) = \delta M_z^-(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{\alpha}{4\pi^2} \delta\Theta \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}$$

[Li, Wang, Qi, Zhang 10], [Afflek 89]

Other suggested material candidates

- $\text{Mn}_2\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_5$ [Cao, Han, et al. 21]
- Weyl semimetal [J. Gooth, B. Bradlyn et al. 19]
- topological paramagnetic insulator [Wang, Lian, Zhang, 16]

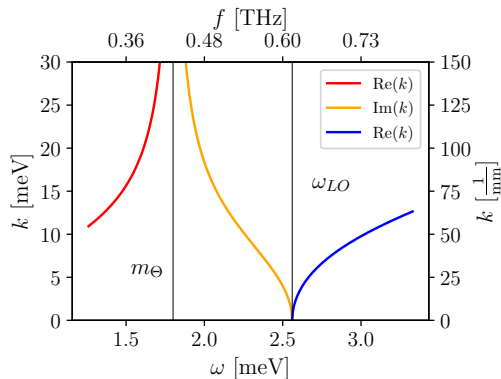
Detecting Axion Quasiparticles

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} &= -\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \nabla \Theta \cdot \mathbf{B}^e, \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{H} - \partial_t \mathbf{D} &= \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \mathbf{B}^e \partial_t \Theta, \\ \partial_t^2 \delta \Theta + m_\Theta^2 \delta \Theta &= \frac{1}{f_\Theta^2} \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}^e.\end{aligned}$$

with $\mathbf{D} = n^2 \mathbf{E}$, $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{B}$ and $\Theta \equiv \delta \Theta + \Theta^0$

Axion polariton dispersion relation

Mixing of AQ with photons \Rightarrow axion polariton (collective mode is coupled linearly to photons)



$$k^2 = n_\Theta^2 \omega^2$$

$$n_\Theta^2 = n^2 \left[\frac{b^2}{m_\Theta^2 - \omega^2} + 1 \right]$$

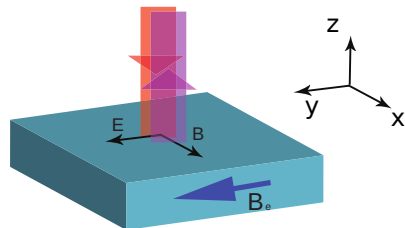
$$m_\Theta = 2 \text{ meV}$$

$$\omega_{LO} = \sqrt{m_\Theta^2 + b^2}$$

$$b = \frac{\alpha}{\pi\sqrt{2}} \frac{B^e}{nf_\Theta} = 1.6 \text{ meV} \left(\frac{25}{n^2} \right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{B^e}{2\text{T}} \right) \left(\frac{70 \text{ eV}}{f_\Theta} \right).$$

Detecting Axion Quasiparticles

THz time domain spectroscopy



[Li, Wang, Qi, Zhang 10]

In the medium:

$$E(z) = C_+ e^{i\omega n_\theta z} + C_- e^{-i\omega n_\theta z}$$

$$\delta\Theta(z) = D_+ e^{i\omega n_\theta z} + D_- e^{-i\omega n_\theta z}$$

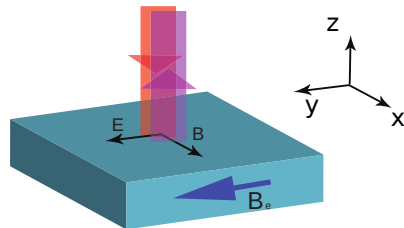
Boundary conditions:

$$\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \cdot (\mathbf{D}_{\text{vac}} - \mathbf{D}_{\text{mat}}) = 0,$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \times (\mathbf{H}_{\text{vac}} - \mathbf{H}_{\text{mat}}) = 0.$$

Detecting Axion Quasiparticles

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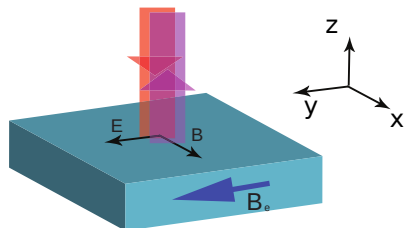
$$\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \cdot (\mathbf{D}_{\text{vac}} - \mathbf{D}_{\text{mat}}) = 0,$$
$$\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \times (\mathbf{H}_{\text{vac}} - \mathbf{H}_{\text{mat}}) = 0.$$

Short aside:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = -\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \nabla \Theta \cdot \mathbf{B},$$
$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} - \partial_t \mathbf{D} = \frac{\alpha}{\pi} (\mathbf{B} \partial_t \Theta - \mathbf{E} \times \nabla \Theta),$$

Detecting Axion Quasiparticles

THz time domain spectroscopy



[Li, Wang, Qi, Zhang 10]

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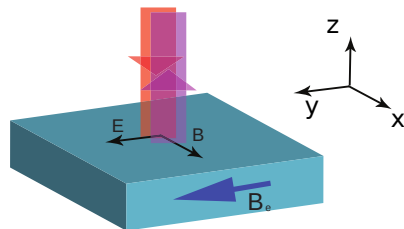
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Short aside:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D}_e = 0$$
$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H}_e - \partial_t \mathbf{D}_e = 0,$$

Detecting Axion Quasiparticles

THz time domain spectroscopy



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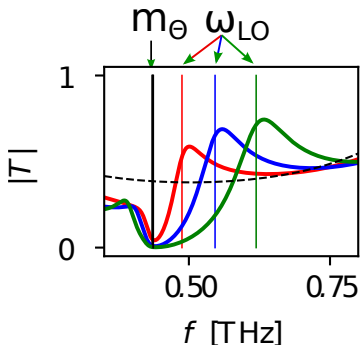
$$\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \cdot (\mathbf{D}_{\text{vac}} - \mathbf{D}_{\text{mat}}) = 0,$$
$$\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \times (\mathbf{H}_{\text{vac}} - \mathbf{H}_{\text{mat}}) = 0.$$

Short aside:

$$\mathbf{n} \cdot (\mathbf{D}_{\Theta, \text{vac}} - \mathbf{D}_{\Theta, \text{mat}}) = 0$$
$$\mathbf{n} \times (\mathbf{H}_{\Theta, \text{vac}} - \mathbf{H}_{\Theta, \text{mat}}) = 0$$

where $\mathbf{D}_\Theta = \mathbf{D} + \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \Theta \mathbf{B}$, $\mathbf{H}_\Theta = \mathbf{H} - \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \Theta \mathbf{E}$.

Transmission spectra



$$n_\Theta^2 = n^2 \left[1 + \frac{b^2}{m_\Theta^2 - \omega^2 - i\Gamma_m \omega} + i \frac{\Gamma_\rho}{\omega} \right]$$

$d = 0.03$ mm

Magnon losses: $\Gamma_m = 10^{-1}$

Photon losses: $\Gamma_\rho = 10^{-1}$

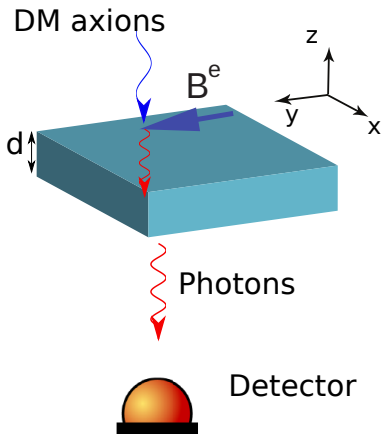
(artificial large losses to make effect clearer.)

[Bayrakci et al. 06]

$$T = \frac{2in_\Theta}{(n_\Theta^2 + 1) \sin \Delta + 2in_\Theta \cos \Delta} + \mathcal{O} \left(\left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \Theta^0 \right)^2 \right)$$

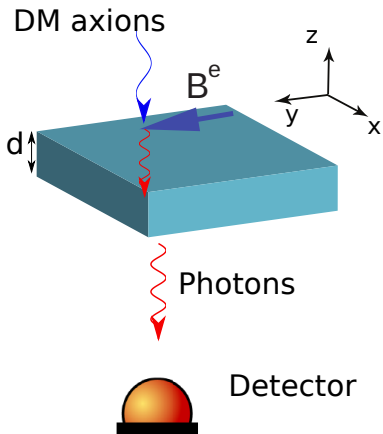
with $\Delta = dk_\Theta$

Axion dark matter detection with AQs



Surface Area $A = (20 \text{ cm})^2$

TOORAD (Topological
Resonant Axion Detection)



Surface Area $A = (20 \text{ cm})^2$

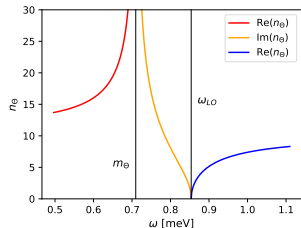
TOORAD (Topological Resonant Axion Detection)

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} &= -\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \nabla \Theta \cdot \mathbf{B}^e \\ &\quad - g_{a\gamma} \nabla a \cdot \mathbf{B}^e, \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{H} - \partial_t \mathbf{D} &= \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \mathbf{B}^e \partial_t \Theta \\ &\quad + g_{a\gamma} \mathbf{B}^e \partial_t a, \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} &= 0, \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{E} + \partial_t \mathbf{B} &= 0, \\ \partial_t^2 \delta \Theta + m_\Theta^2 \delta \Theta &= \frac{1}{f_\Theta^2} \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}^e, \\ (\partial_t^2 - \nabla^2 + m_a^2) a &= g_{a\gamma} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}^e. \end{aligned}$$

Effective description: axion induced E -field excites material with effective refraction index n_Θ

$$\partial_z^2 E(z) + \omega^2 n_\Theta^2(\omega) E(z) = -\omega^2 E_a$$

Physical understanding

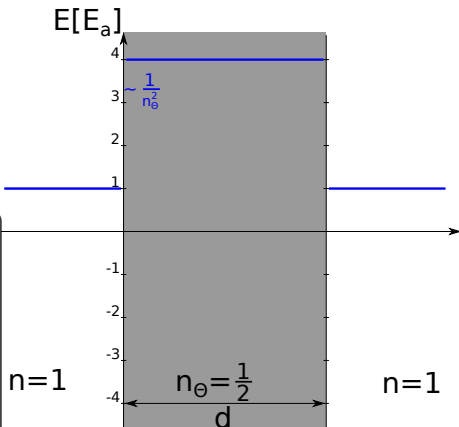


Resonance condition:

$$\pi = n_{\Theta}(\omega_{\text{res}})\omega_{\text{res}}d$$

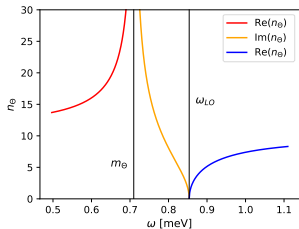
$$n_{\Theta}(\omega) = n \left[\frac{b^2}{m_{\Theta}^2 - \omega^2} + 1 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$b \sim$ ext. B-field



Principle similar to dielectric haloscopes. Matching E and B -fields at interfaces. Similarities to Fabry-Perot cavity.

Physical understanding

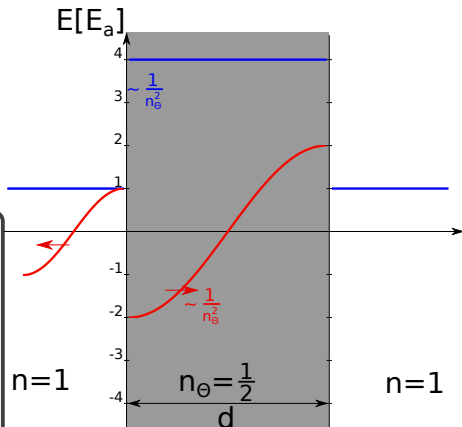


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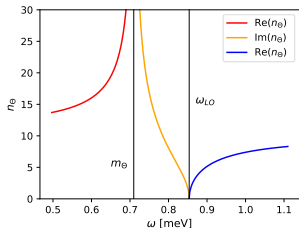
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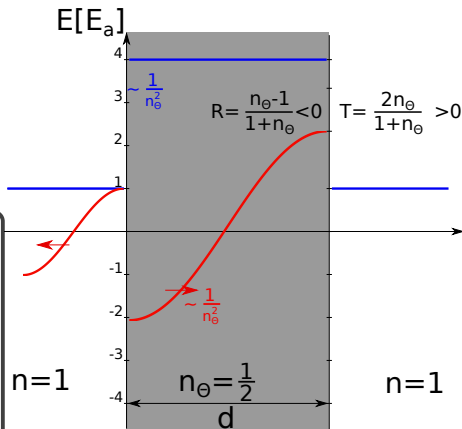


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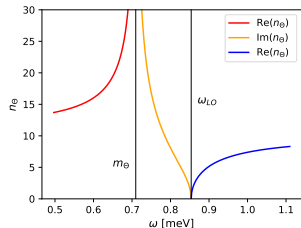
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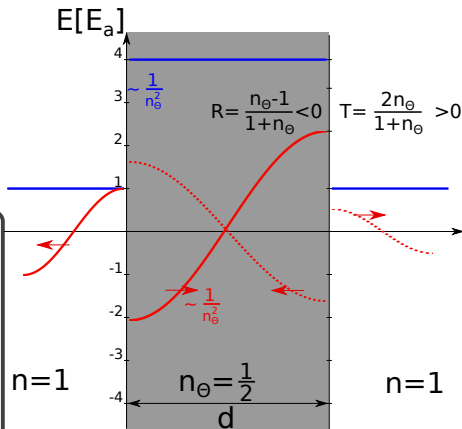


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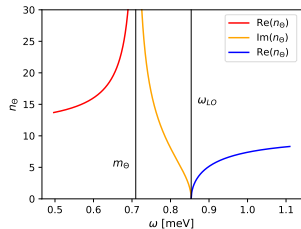
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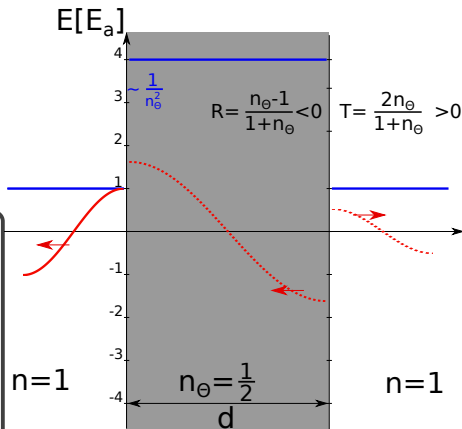


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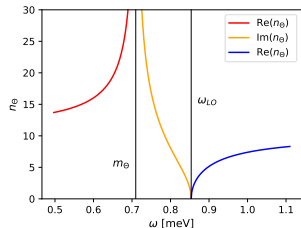
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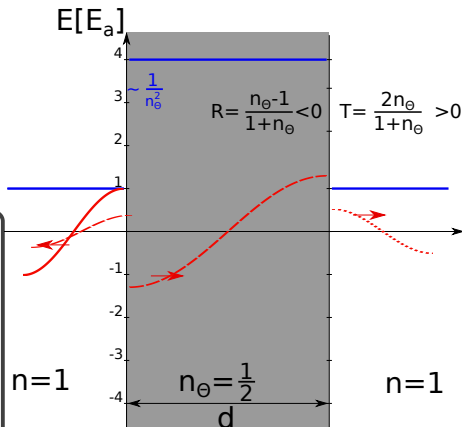


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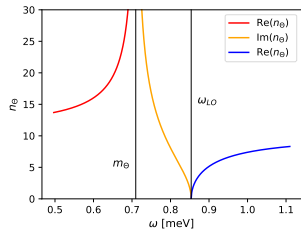
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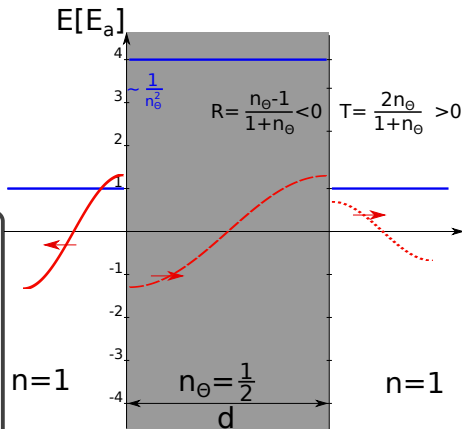


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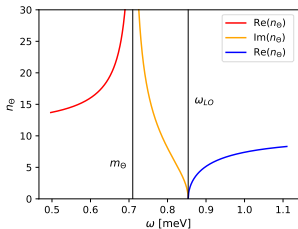
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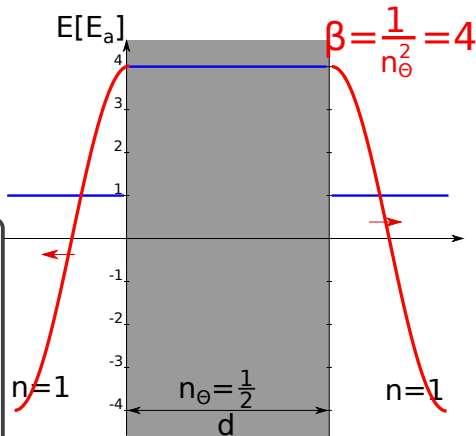


Resonance condition:

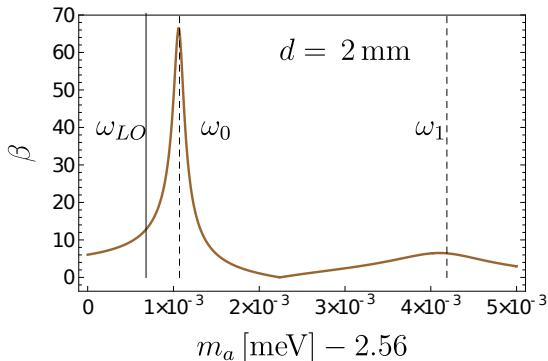
$$\pi = n_{\Theta}(\omega_{\text{res}})\omega_{\text{res}}d$$

$$n_{\Theta}(\omega) = n \left[\frac{b^2}{m_{\Theta}^2 - \omega^2} + 1 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

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Principle similar to dielectric haloscopes. Matching E and B -fields at interfaces. Similarities to Fabry-Perot cavity.



External B -field fixed in figure. Changing it shifts resonance peaks
 \Rightarrow scan different axion masses.

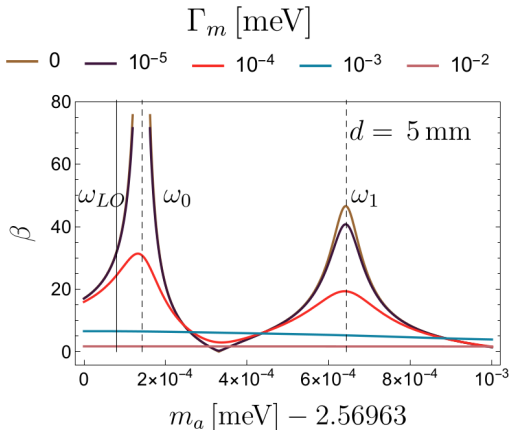
$$\beta = \frac{E_{\text{out}}}{E_a}$$

$$\beta = \frac{\sin(\Delta/2) (1 - n_{\Theta}^2)}{n_{\Theta} (n_{\Theta} \sin(\Delta/2) + i \cos(\Delta/2))}$$

Resonance condition:

$$\Delta = \Delta_j = n_{\Theta}(\omega_j)\omega_j d = (2j + 1)\pi, \quad j \in \mathbb{N}_0$$

Including losses

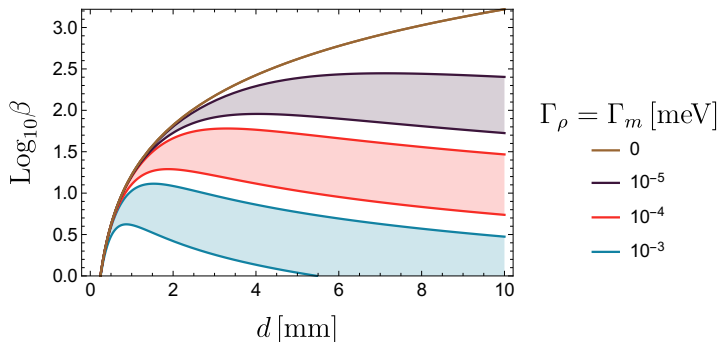


$$n_{\Theta}^2 = n^2 \left[1 + \frac{b^2}{m_{\Theta}^2 - \omega^2 - i\Gamma_m \omega} + i \frac{\Gamma_{\rho}}{\omega} \right]$$

$$\gamma_j = \frac{4b^2 \Delta_j^2}{n^2 \omega_{LO}^4 d^3} + \left(\Gamma_m + \frac{b^2}{\omega_{LO}^2} \Gamma_{\rho} \right)$$

$$\beta(\omega_j) = \frac{4b^2}{n^2 \omega_{LO}^2 d \gamma_j}$$

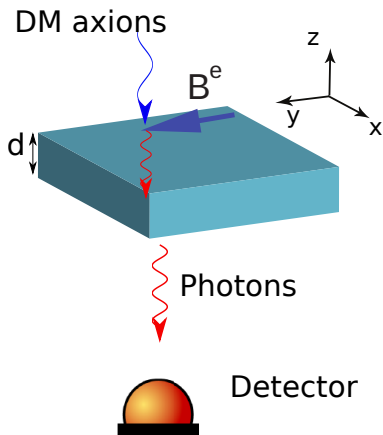
Optimal thickness



Bands indicate changing refractive index n .

$$d_{\text{opt}} = \frac{2}{\omega_{\text{LO}}} \left(\frac{\Delta_j}{n} \right)^{\frac{2}{3}} \left(\frac{1}{\frac{\Gamma_\rho}{\omega_{\text{LO}}} + \frac{\Gamma_m \omega_{\text{LO}}}{b^2}} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}.$$

Single photon detection



Number of signal events per time

$$\lambda_s = \eta \frac{|E_a|^2}{2\omega} \beta^2 A$$

η photon counting efficiency, A surface area,

$$E_0 = g_{a\gamma} B^e \frac{\sqrt{2\rho_a}}{m_a}$$

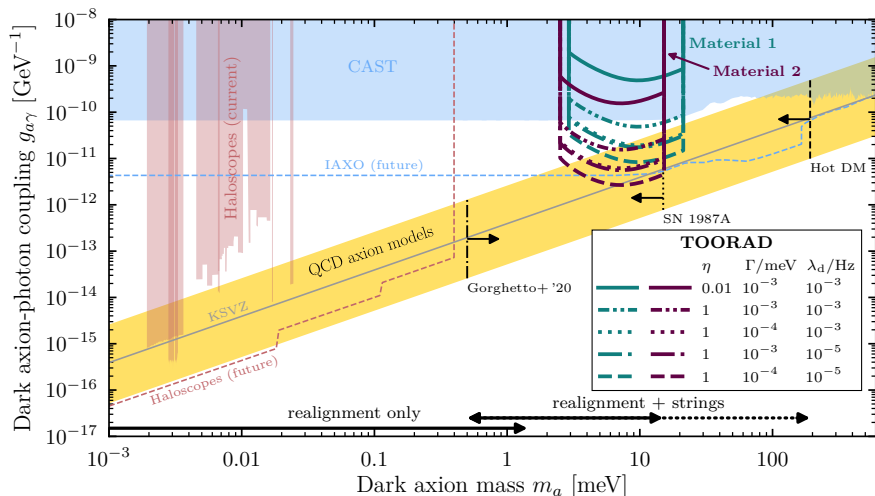
Single photon counting

$$\lambda_s < \frac{1}{\tau} + 2\sqrt{\frac{\lambda_d}{\tau}}$$

[Bityukov, Krasnikov, 98]

λ_d dark count rate, τ measurement time.

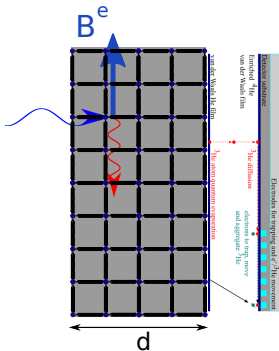
Sensitivity reach



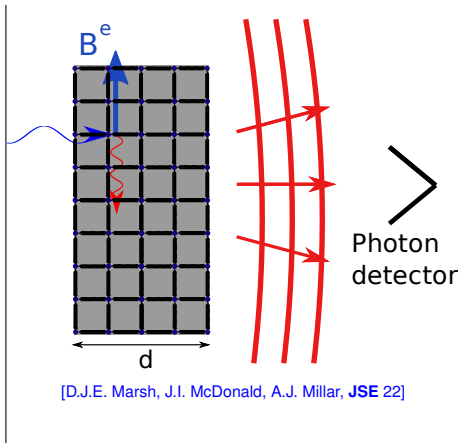
Material 1: $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Fe}_x\text{Se}_3$, Material 2: $\text{Mn}_2\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_5$

values for the detector parameters: [Fong and Schwab 12], [Hocherg et al. 19]

Axion DM detection with phonon polaritons



[A. Mitridate, T. Trickle, Z. Zhang, K.M. Zurek, 20]
 example for single phonon readout scheme [S. A. Lyon et al.
[arxiv:2201.00738](https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.00738)].



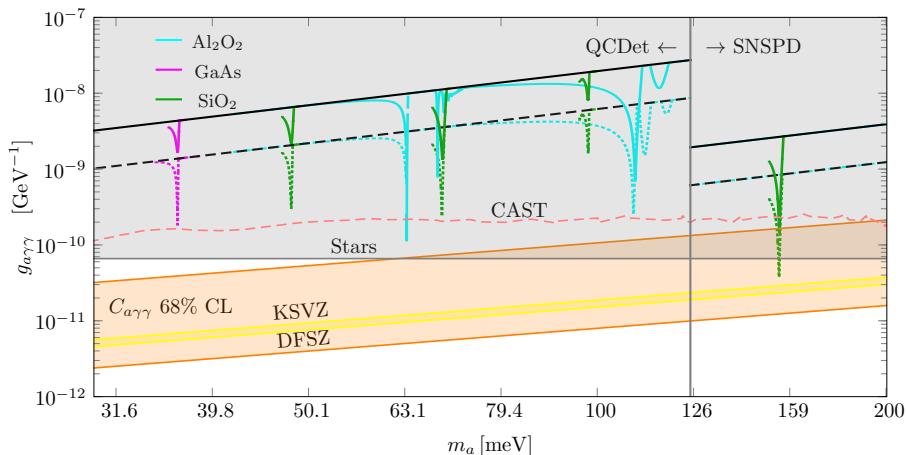
[D.J.E. Marsh, J.I. McDonald, A.J. Millar, *JSE* 22]

Effective description

$$n^2(\omega) = \epsilon_\infty \left(1 + \frac{\omega_{\text{pl}}^2 / \epsilon_\infty}{\omega_{\text{TO}}^2 - \omega^2 - i\omega\Gamma} + i\frac{\Gamma_\rho}{\omega} \right).$$

compare to

$$n_\Theta^2 = n^2 \left[1 + \frac{b^2}{m_\Theta^2 - \omega^2 - i\Gamma_m\omega} + i\frac{\Gamma_\rho}{\omega} \right]$$



black: dish antenna, integration time one month per resonance, $A = (0.1\text{m})^2$, more optimistic dashed (100 times better dark count rate) and losses dominated by impurities.

High frequency Gravitational wave detection

GW photon mixing

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4}\eta^{\mu\alpha}\eta^{\nu\beta}F_{\mu\nu}F_{\alpha\beta}$$

In curved spacetime:

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\sqrt{-g}\frac{1}{4}g^{\mu\alpha}g^{\nu\beta}F_{\mu\nu}F_{\alpha\beta}$$

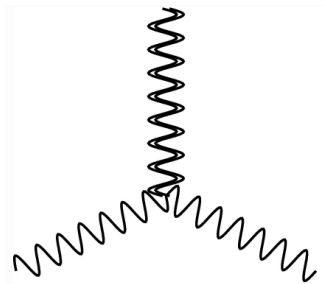
Linearized Gravity

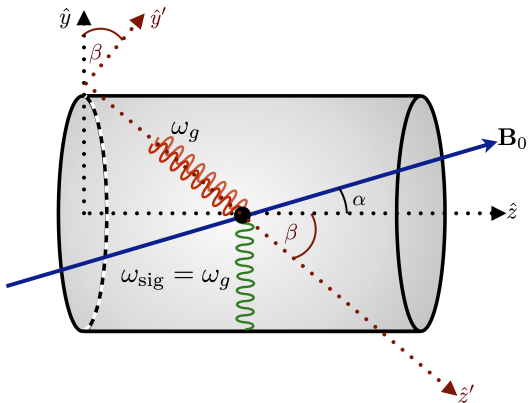
$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}$$

Then Lagrangian contains terms of the form:

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4}\eta^{\mu\alpha}h^{\nu\beta}F_{\mu\nu}F_{\alpha\beta}$$

cf. axions $\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4}g_{a\gamma}aF_{\mu\nu}\tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$

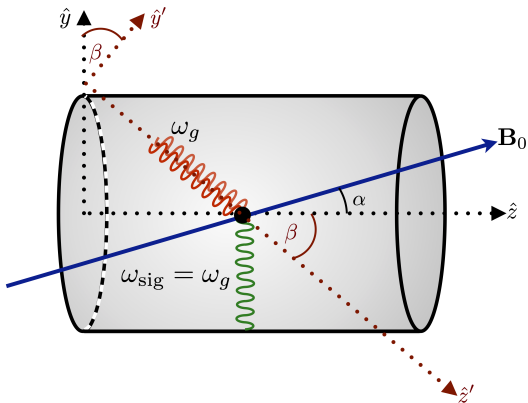




Signals can arise from

Mixing GW with photons

Movement of walls (free charges)
in static external B -field induce a
current

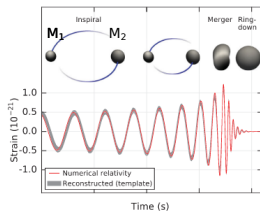


Signals can arise from

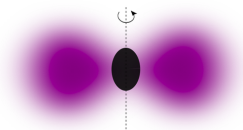
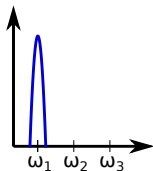
Mixing GW with photons

Movement of walls (free charges) in static external B -field induce a current

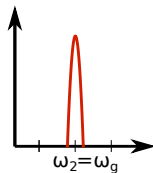
Signal in two benchmark scenarios



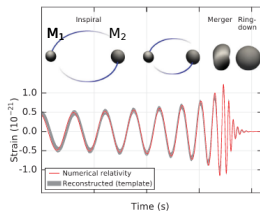
- Keep cavity fixed
- Sweep through all cavity modes



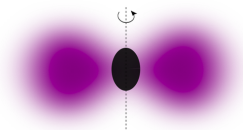
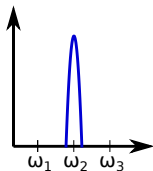
- Change cavity to scan different resonance frequencies
- GW frequency from superradiant cloud fixed



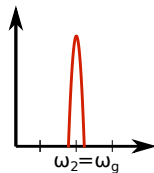
Signal in two benchmark scenarios



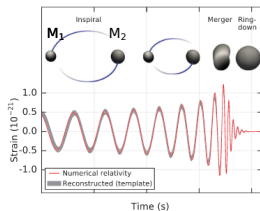
- Keep cavity fixed
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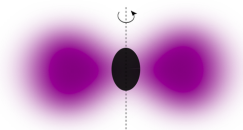
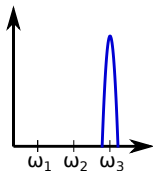
- Change cavity to scan different resonance frequencies
- GW frequency from superradiant cloud fixed



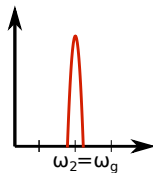
Signal in two benchmark scenarios



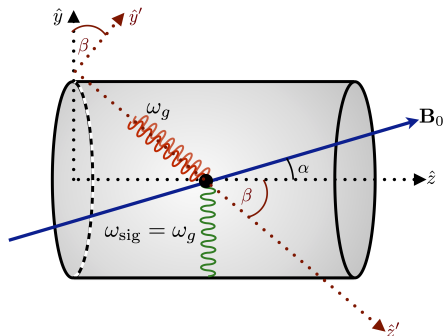
- Keep cavity fixed
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- Change cavity to scan different resonance frequencies
- GW frequency from superradiant cloud fixed



Sensitivity estimate

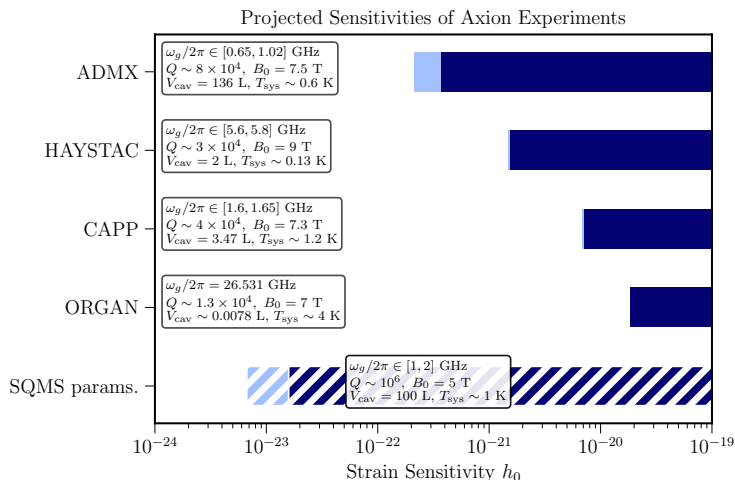


$$\text{SNR} \simeq \frac{P_{\text{sig}}}{T_{\text{sys}}} \sqrt{\frac{t_{\text{int}}}{\Delta\nu}}$$

$$h_0 \gtrsim 3 \times 10^{-22} \times \left(\frac{1 \text{ GHz}}{\omega_g/2\pi}\right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{0.1}{\eta_n}\right) \left(\frac{8 \text{ T}}{B_0}\right) \left(\frac{0.1 \text{ m}^3}{V_{\text{cav}}}\right)^{5/6} \times \\ \times \left(\frac{10^5}{Q}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{T_{\text{sys}}}{1 \text{ K}}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{\Delta\nu}{10 \text{ kHz}}\right)^{1/4} \left(\frac{1 \text{ min}}{t_{\text{int}}}\right)^{1/4}$$

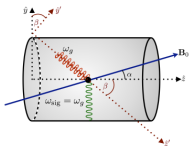
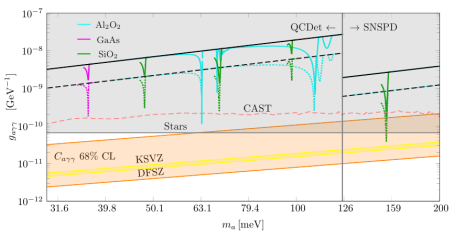
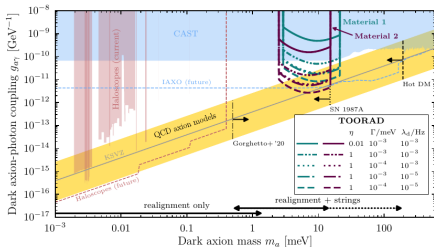
$$\text{Bandwidth } \Delta\nu = \frac{\omega_g}{2\pi Q}.$$

Sensitivity of existing axion experiments

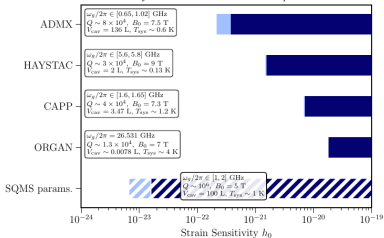


[A. Berlin, D. Blas, R. Tito D'Agnolo, S. A.R. Ellis, R. Harnik, Y. Kahn 21]

Existing axion experiments only need to reanalyze their data!



Projected Sensitivities of Axion Experiments



Thank you for your attention