

# A non-tracking axion helioscope

*J. Galan (SJTU)*  
*Axions & IAXO in Spain*  
*27-28 October 2016*

# Helioscope seminal papers

VOLUME 51, NUMBER 16

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

17 OCTOBER 1983

1983

## Experimental Tests of the “Invisible” Axion

P. Sikivie

*Physics Department, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611*

(Received 13 July 1983)

THIRD SERIES, VOLUME 39, NUMBER 8

15 APRIL 1989

## Design for a practical laboratory detector for solar axions

K. van Bibber

*Physics Department, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, University of California, Livermore, California 94550*

P. M. McIntyre

*Physics Department, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843*

D. E. Morris

*Physics Division, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720*

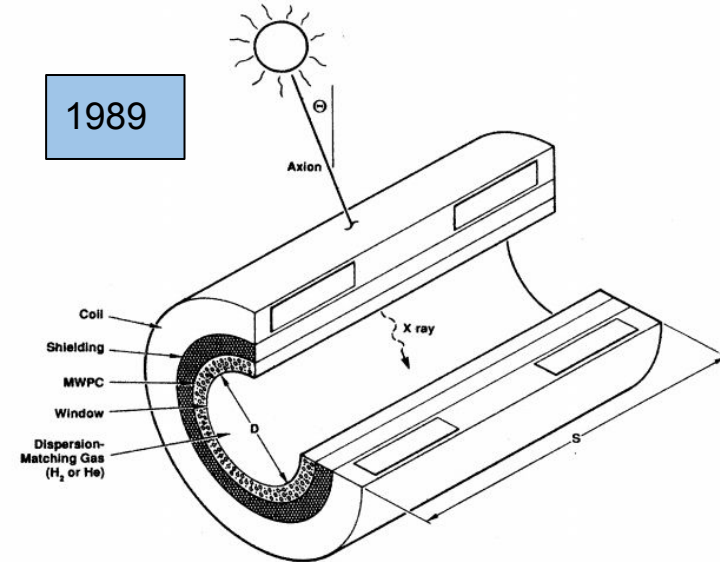
G. G. Raffelt

*Institute for Geophysics and Planetary Physics, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, University of California, Livermore, California 94550*

*and Astronomy Department, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720*

(Received 19 September 1988)

1989



# Pionering helioscope searches using non-tracking helioscopes

VOLUME 69, NUMBER 16

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

19 OCTOBER 1992

## Search for Solar Axions

D. M. Lazarus and G. C. Smith

Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York 11973

R. Cameron,<sup>(a)</sup> A. C. Melissinos, G. Ruoso,<sup>(b)</sup> and Y. K. Semertzidis<sup>(c)</sup>

Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York 14627

F. A. Nezrick

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, P.O. Box 500, Batavia, Illinois 60510

(Received 22 May 1992)

1992

## First helioscope

A non-tracking helioscope (a la Sikivie)  
Taking data when magnet pipe is on Sun  
field of view.

$g_{ag} < 3.6 \times 10^{-9} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$  for  $m_a < 30 \text{ meV}$   
Also running using low pressure  
buffer gas

## Experimental Search for Solar Axions via Coherent Primakoff Conversion in a Germanium Spectrometer

F. T. Avignone III,<sup>1</sup> D. Abriola,<sup>2</sup> R. L. Brodzinski,<sup>3</sup> J. I. Collar,<sup>4</sup> R. J. Creswick,<sup>1</sup> D. E. DiGregorio,<sup>2</sup> H. A. Farach,<sup>1</sup>  
A. O. Gattone,<sup>2</sup> C. K. Guérard,<sup>1,2</sup> F. Hasenbalg,<sup>2</sup> H. Huck,<sup>2</sup> H. S. Miley,<sup>3</sup> A. Morales,<sup>5</sup> J. Morales,<sup>5</sup> S. Nussinov,<sup>6</sup>  
A. Ortiz de Solórzano,<sup>5</sup> J. H. Reeves,<sup>3</sup> J. A. Villar,<sup>5</sup> and K. Zioutas<sup>7</sup>

(SOLAX Collaboration)

1997

<sup>1</sup>Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina 29208

<sup>2</sup>Department of Physics, TANDAR Laboratory, C.N.E.A., Buenos Aires, Argentina

<sup>3</sup>Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Richland, Washington 99352

<sup>4</sup>CERN, CH-1211 Geneva, 23 Switzerland

<sup>5</sup>Laboratorio de Física Nuclear y Altas Energías, Universidad de Zaragoza, Zaragoza, Spain

<sup>6</sup>Department of Physics, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel

<sup>7</sup>Department of Physics, University of Thessaloniki, GR54006 Thessaloniki, Greece

(Received 17 June 1998)

## First Underground helioscopes

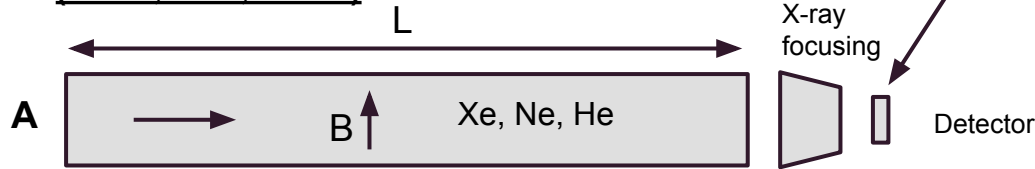
COSME, SOLAX, CDMS, DAMA

These experiments give similar upper  
limits for the coupling

$g_{ag} < 1.7\text{-}2.7 \times 10^{-9} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$   $m_a < 1 \text{ keV}$

# Two helioscope techniques for axion detection

## Tracking Helioscope - Photon transmission (CAST, IAXO, Sikivie)

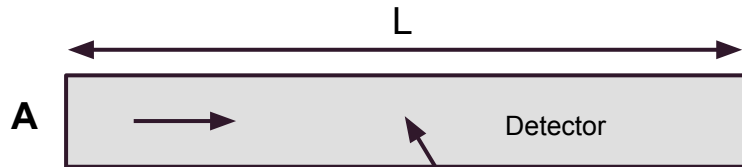


Photons detected **at the end** of magnet bore

Number of photons found at a distance L

$$P_\gamma = \frac{(B/2M)^2}{q^2 + \Gamma^2/4} \left[ 1 + e^{-\Gamma L} - 2e^{-\Gamma L/2} \cos(qL) \right]$$

## Non-tracking helioscope - Photon absorption



Photons detected **inside** the magnet bore

Starts to be competitive  
for higher masses ~eV

Number of photons absorbed  
along a distance L

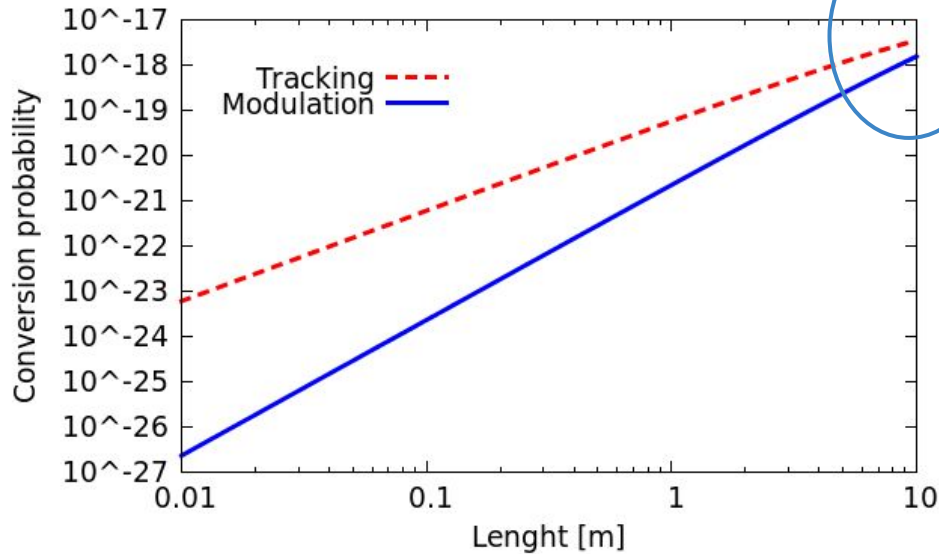
$$P_\gamma = \frac{(B/2M)^2}{q^2 + \Gamma^2/4} \Gamma L$$

# Absorbed or transmitted photon component

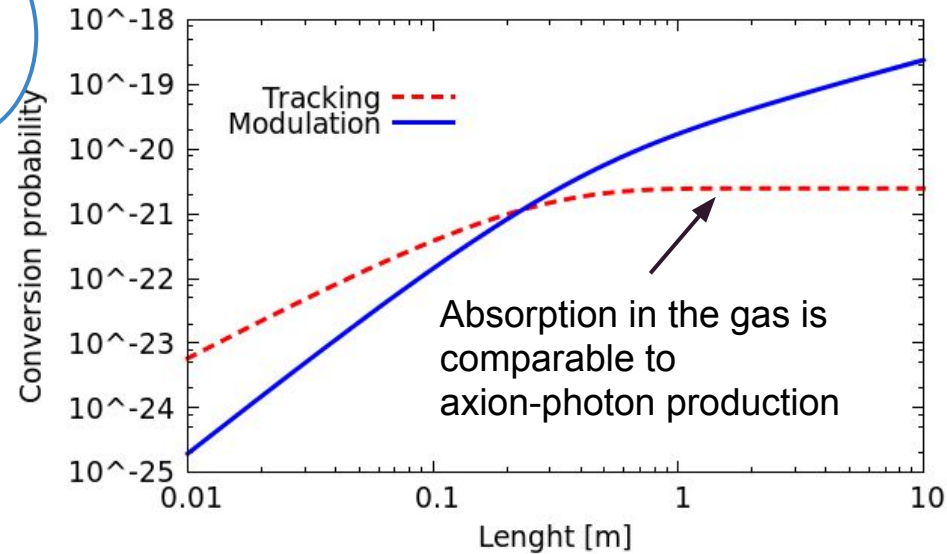
Pressures at environment temperature ...

Corresponding to latest CAST pressure settings

### Helium at 10 bar ( $m_a \sim 0.85$ eV)



### Xenon at 100 mbar ( $m_a \sim 0.4$ eV)



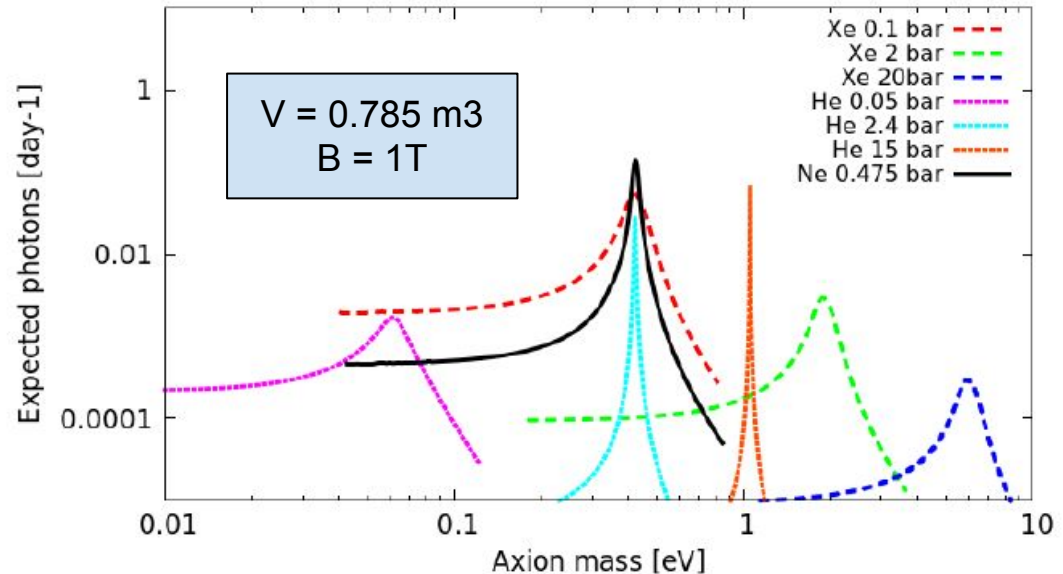
# Conversion probability as a function of the axion mass

Helium	Neon	Argon	Xenon
100 mbar - 10 bar	20 mbar - 10 bar	4 mbar - 10 bar	4 mbar - 10 bar
86 meV - 0.86 eV	137 meV - 1.94 eV	51 meV - 2.57 eV	79 meV - 4.05 eV

Conversion probability resonances at different gases and mixtures

Effective axion mass related to gas conditions

$$m_{\gamma}^2 = 4\pi r_o (N_A / A m_u) \rho f_1$$



# A magnetic TPC for helioscope searches

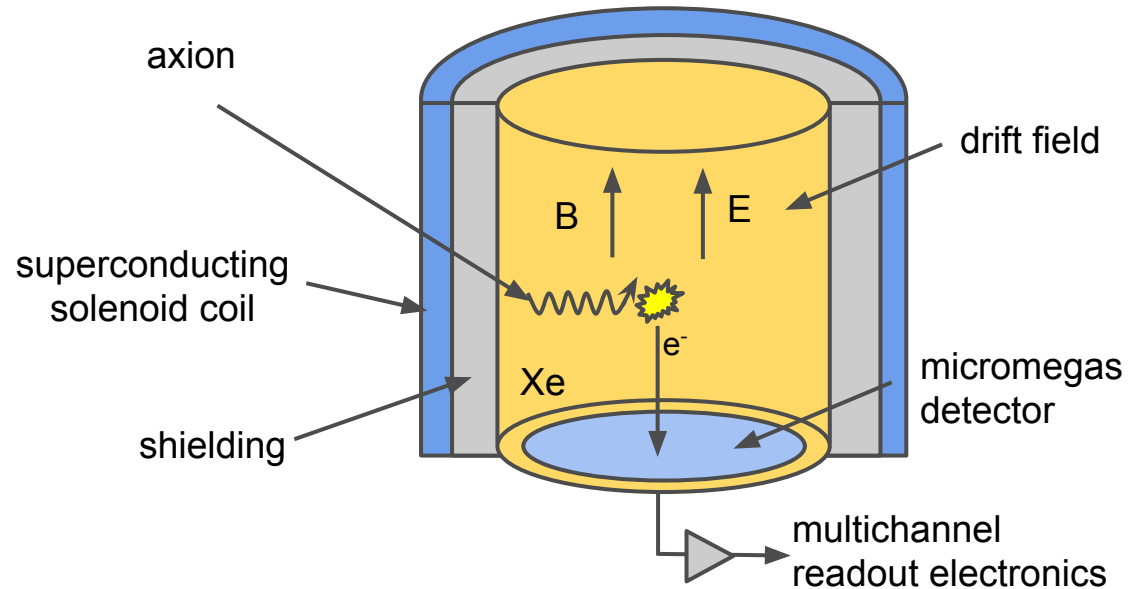
The transmitted photon component goes typically as  $L^2$ , thus **a long pipe is usually the best suitable geometry.**

However, for the axion-photon component absorbed is just proportional to  $L$ , thus (for high  $\Gamma$ ) we can use **any volume geometry**

$$P_\gamma = \frac{(B/2M)^2}{q^2 + \Gamma^2/4} \Gamma L$$

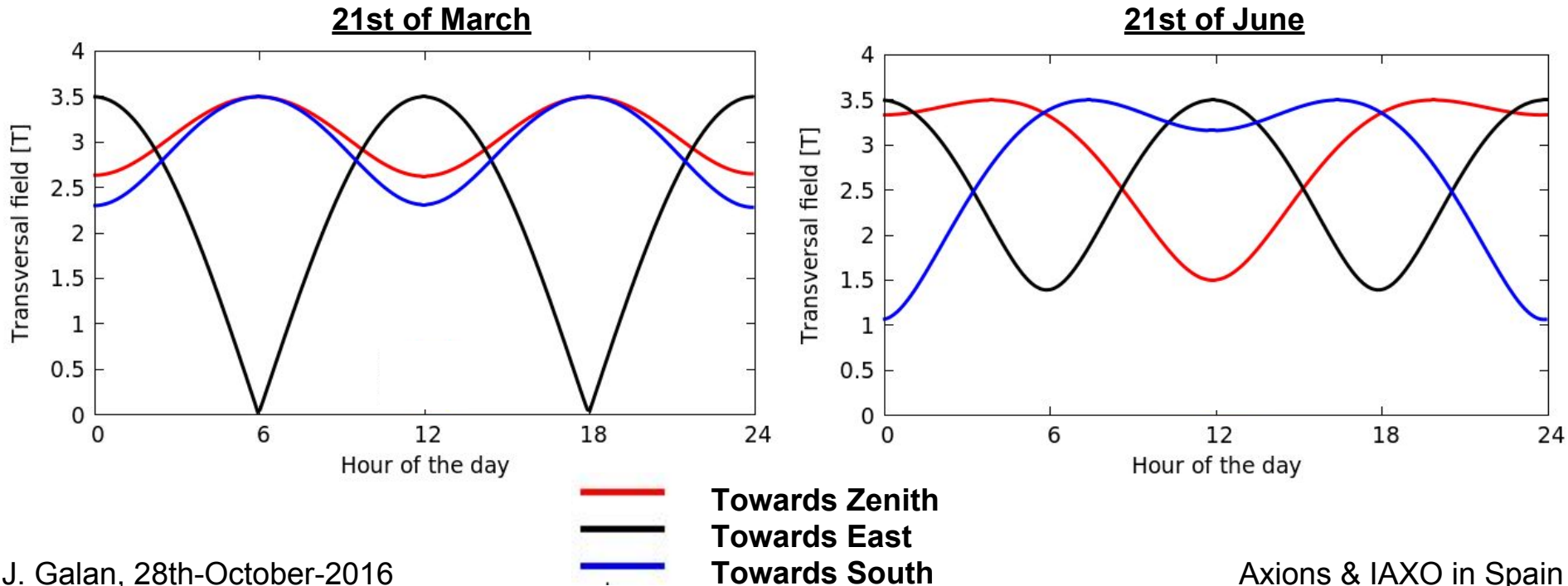
This technique is especially interesting if  $\Gamma L \gg 1$ .  
High Z gases

## A possible conceptual TPC-magnet design



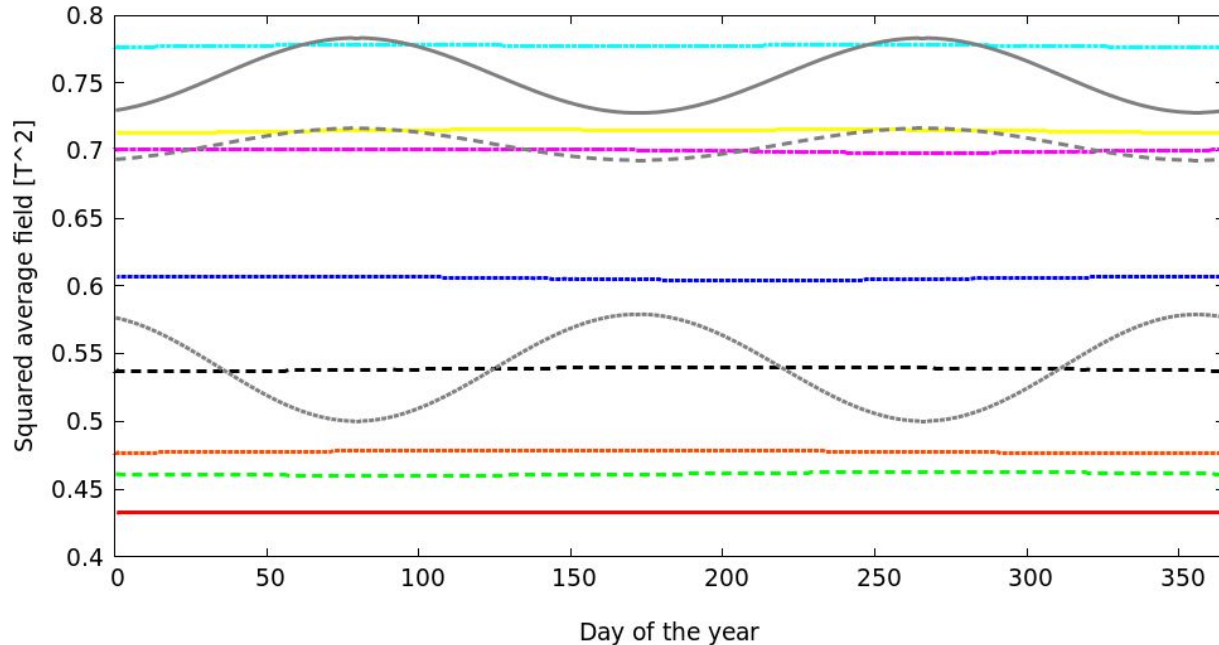
# Daily modulation due to Earth rotation

The effective magnetic field for axion-photon conversion modulates.  
We must consider only the transversal component to the axion propagation  
direction that changes along the day.





# Annual solar axion modulation (daily averaged)



3 Different TPC magnetic field orientations are shown for Solar axions.



Effective field  $\sim 0.75 B^2$  for a field perpendicular to the ground.  
24h taking data = 18h tracking

Different sky positions are also shown. Negligible effect on annual modulation.



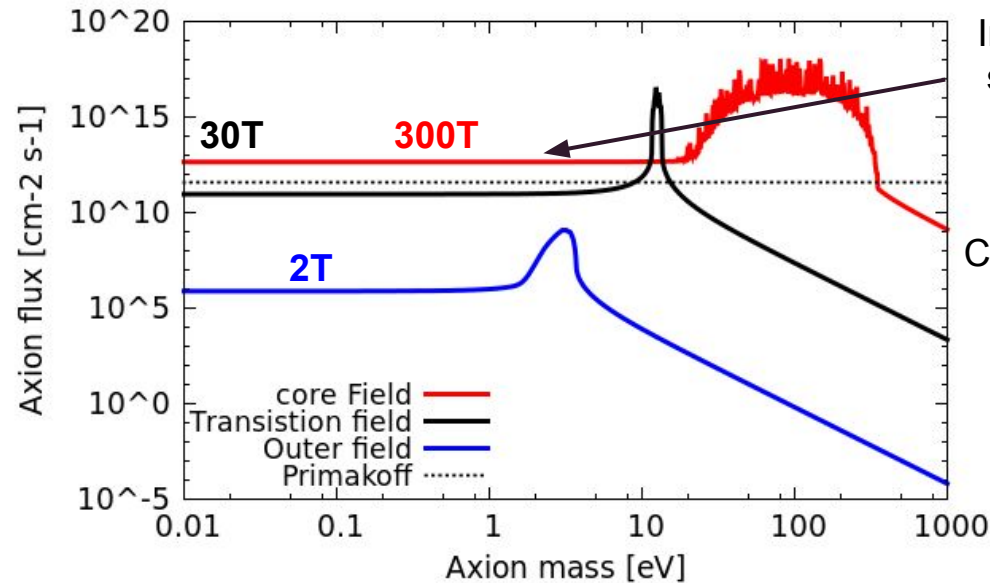
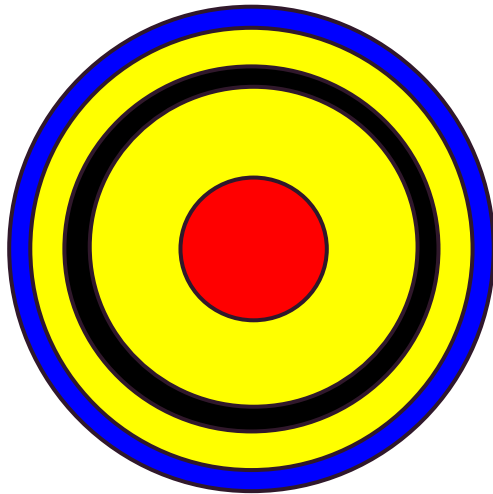
The **Annual** modulation pattern is exclusive of the Sun.

# Full angular acceptance ( $4\pi$ )

S.Couvidat, S. Turck-Chieze, A. Kosovichev, APJ 599, 1434 (2003)

—————> Magnetic fields

The Sun  
magnetic fields



In the core **3000T** are still allowed without effect on Solar observables.

Calculation considering factor 10 reduction

**300T**

# Solar axion production within the Sun magnetic fields

S.Couvidat, S. Turck-Chieze, A. Kosovichev, APJ 599, 1434 (2003)

TABLE 4  
MODELS WITH MAGNETIC FIELD

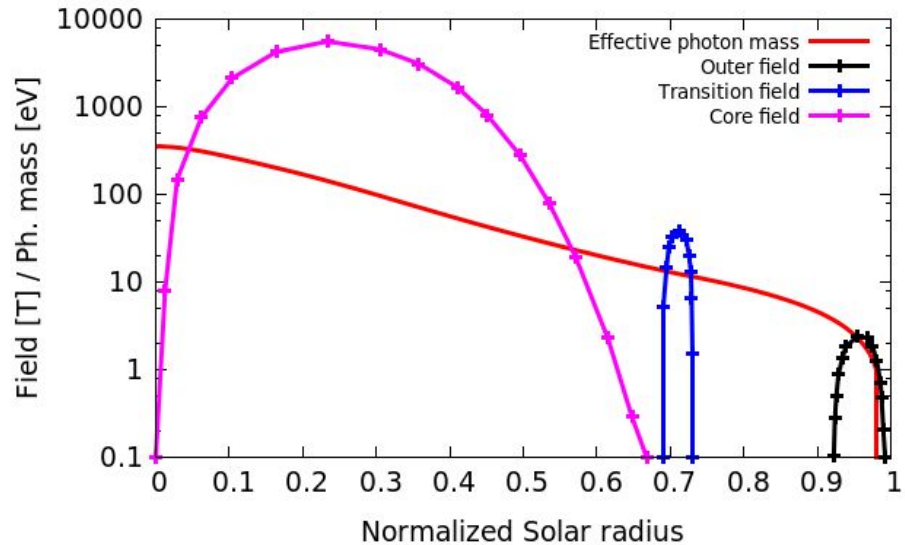
Name	$B_0$ (T)	Center <sup>a</sup> ( $R_\odot$ )	$(P_{\text{mag}}/P_{\text{gas}})_{\text{max}}$
Seismic <sub>1</sub> B <sub>1</sub> .....	$10^4$	0.236	$2.85 \times 10^{-2}$
Seismic <sub>1</sub> B <sub>11</sub> .....	$5 \times 10^3$	0.236	$6.96 \times 10^{-3}$
Seismic <sub>1</sub> B <sub>12</sub> .....	$3 \times 10^3$	0.236	$2.49 \times 10^{-3}$
Seismic <sub>1</sub> B <sub>13</sub> .....	$1 \times 10^3$	0.236	$2.80 \times 10^{-4}$
Seismic <sub>1</sub> B <sub>2</sub> .....	30	0.712	$6.15 \times 10^{-5}$
Seismic <sub>1</sub> B <sub>21</sub> .....	50	0.712	$1.71 \times 10^{-4}$
Seismic <sub>1</sub> B <sub>3</sub> .....	2	0.96	$1.34 \times 10^{-4}$
Seismic <sub>1</sub> B <sub>31</sub> .....	3	0.96	$3.02 \times 10^{-4}$

<sup>a</sup> Radius at which  $P_{\text{mag}}$  is maximum.

9). The precision we have on the solar sound speed rules out a magnetic field with such a profile and an intensity as large as  $B_0 = 10^4$  T. Actually, we can put an upper limit for a (toroidal) magnetic field in the radiative zone of about  $3 \times 10^3$  T (seismic<sub>1</sub>B<sub>12</sub> model). If  $B_0 \leq 10^3$  T, then  $c_s$  is not sensitive enough to  $P_{\text{mag}}$ , and we cannot draw any conclusion about

Assuming scattering factor for  $H f_1 = 1$  and a purely Hydrogen Sun composition

$$m_\gamma \simeq 28.77 \sqrt{\rho(r)} [g/cm^3] \text{ eV}$$



# Large volume TPCs for rare event searches

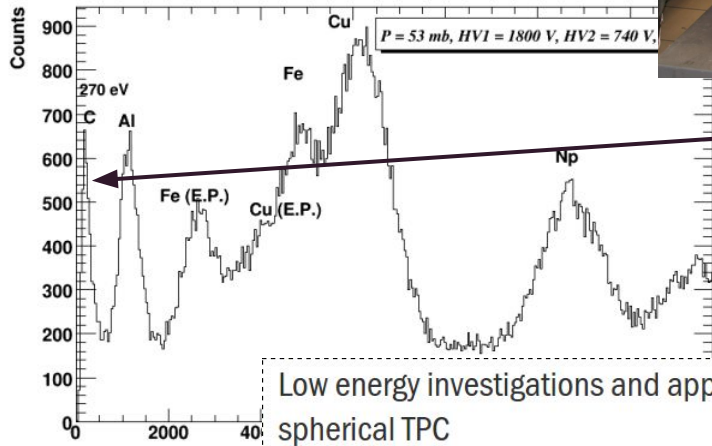
## SEDINE spherical TPC

running at LSM

Record background levels actually  
around **10 cpd/m<sup>3</sup>/keV**



Ultra low energy  
threshold TPC  
270 eV C peak



Low energy investigations and applications with the  
spherical TPC

E Bougamont<sup>1</sup>, P Colas<sup>1</sup>, J Derre<sup>1</sup>, I Giomataris<sup>1</sup>, G Gerbier<sup>1</sup>, M Gros<sup>1</sup>, P Magnier<sup>1</sup>, X F Navick<sup>1</sup>, P Salin<sup>3</sup>,

I Savvidis<sup>2</sup> [Show full author list](#)

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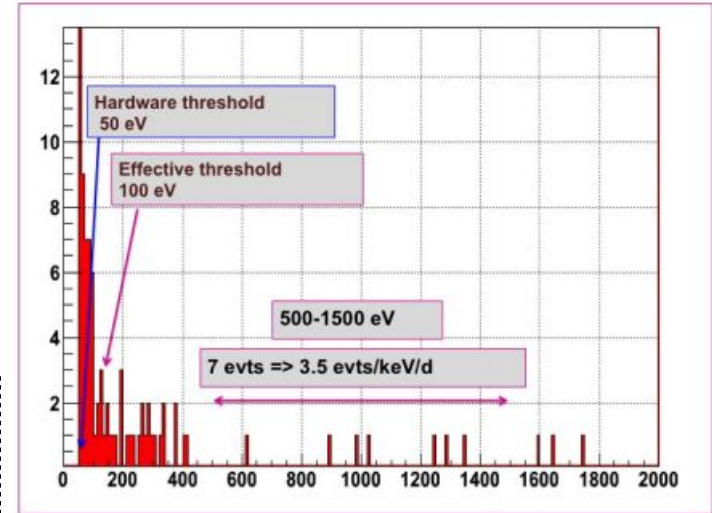
[Journal of Physics: Conference Series, Volume 309, Number 1](#)

Simplest TPC, low intrinsic radiopurity.

Single channel

Field cage and vessel same entity

[arXiv:1412.0161 \[astro-ph.IM\]](#)



# TREX-DM

## Gaseous time projection chambers for rare event detection: results from the T-REX project. II. Dark matter

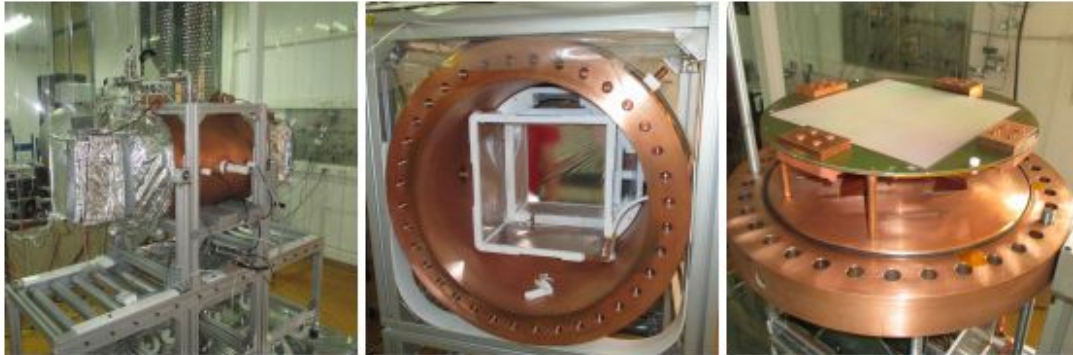
I.G. Irastorza, F. Aznar, J. Castel, S. Cebrián, T. Dafni, J. Galán, J.A. Garcia, J.G. Garza, H. Gómez,

D.C. Herrera [Show full author list](#)

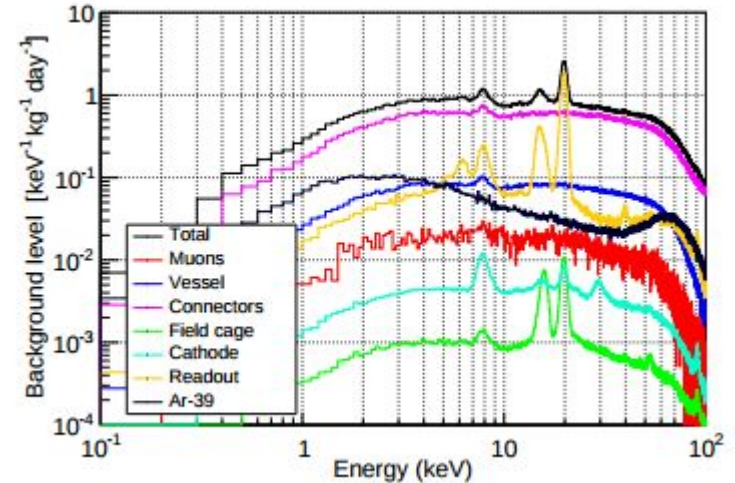
Published 19 January 2016 • © 2016 IOP Publishing Ltd and Sissa Medialab srl

*Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics*, Volume 2016, January 2016

TREX-DM to be installed at LSC next year



Simulated background considering the  
radiopurity of different detector components



# Existing magnet facilities

PC-MAG facility at DESY



( $R=1.7\text{m}$   $L=1.06\text{m}$ ) 1.6 T magnet

“Portable” light weight magnet.



Goliath magnet at CERN

SEHT test station at  
CEA Saclay (France)

$21 \text{ T}^2\text{m}^3$

+10cm shielding  
 $8 \text{ T}^2\text{m}^3$



Axions & IAXO in Spain

# AMELIE Search sensitivity prospects

1-year data taking  
75 days per pressure setting

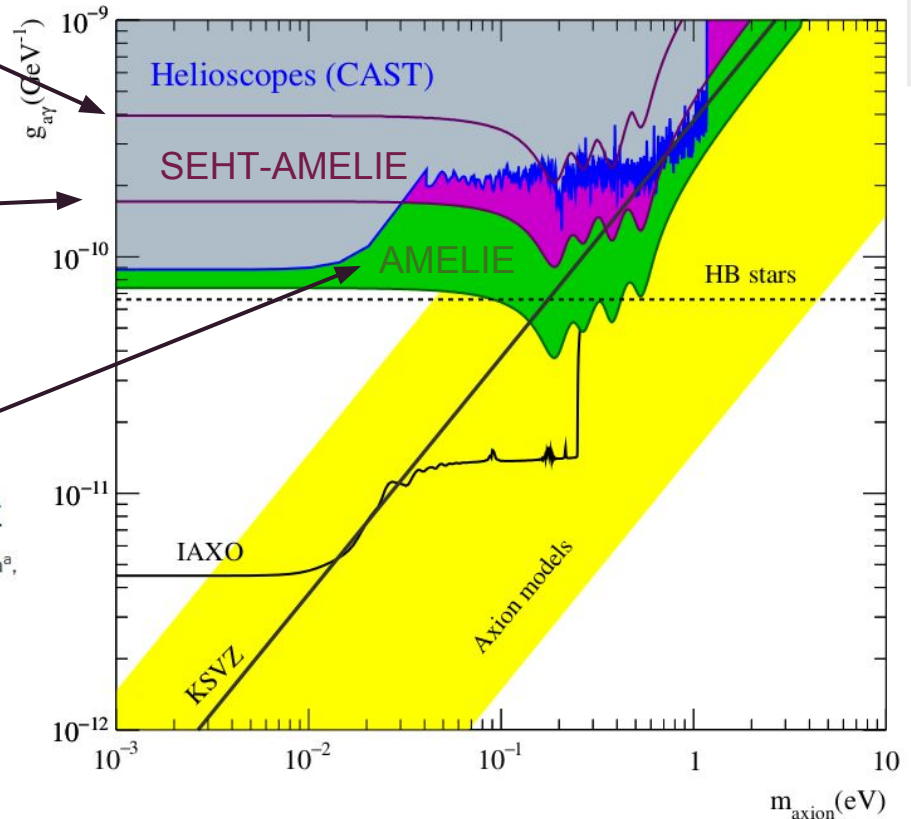
1000 cpd m<sup>3</sup> keV<sup>-1</sup>

7.7 T<sup>2</sup> m<sup>3</sup>

Level reachable underground 1 cpd m<sup>3</sup> keV<sup>-1</sup>

10-year data taking program 0.1 cpd m<sup>3</sup> keV<sup>-1</sup>

20 T<sup>2</sup>m<sup>3</sup>



Exploring 0.1–10 eV axions with a new helioscope concept

J. Galán<sup>a</sup>, T. Dafni<sup>a</sup>, E. Ferrer-Ribas<sup>b</sup>, I. Giomataris<sup>b</sup>, F.J. Iguaz<sup>a</sup>, I.G. Irastorza<sup>a</sup>, J.A. García<sup>a</sup>, J.G. Garza<sup>a</sup>, G. Luzon<sup>a</sup>, T. Papaevangelou<sup>b</sup> [Show full author list](#)

Published 4 December 2015 • © 2015 IOP Publishing Ltd and Sissa Medialab srl  
Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics, Volume 2015, December 2015

2.5T average field, R=30cm L=20m  
1-magnet bore IAXO = 35 T<sup>2</sup>m<sup>3</sup>

# Conclusions

- An independent technique for solar axion searches competitive with running experiments.
- Full angular sensitivity (allows to observe the full solar disk + CAB?). And not high accuracy alignment required.
- Improved gas density stability and broader axion mass coverage with a single setting. Longer data taking periods.
- Enables searches to very low energies (few  $\sim 200\text{eV}$ ). Since detector and conversion volume are the same entity.
- Synergies with existing Rare event searches underground, TRES-DM.



# Backup Slides

# Production probability in a magnetic gas

$$i\partial_z \begin{pmatrix} A(z) \\ a(z) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} E_a - m_\gamma^2/2E_a - i\Gamma/2 & B' \\ B' & E_a - m_a^2/2E_a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A(z) \\ a(z) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P_a(z) = |a(z)|^2 = \frac{B'^2}{q^2 + \Gamma^2/4} [1 + e^{-\Gamma z} - 2e^{-\Gamma z/2} \cos(qz)]$$

$$P_\gamma(z) = |A(z)|^2 = e^{-\Gamma z} \left\{ 1 - \frac{B'^2}{q^2 + \Gamma^2/4} e^{\Gamma z/2} \cos(qz) + \mathcal{O}(B'^4) \right\}$$

0                      0

Photon in the dense plasma will be quickly absorbed.  
**The coherence length will depend on the mean free path of the photon.**

## Mean probability to convert a photon into axion

In practice we just integrate the probability of a photon to reach a distance  $z$  by the conversion probability at  $z$

$$P_{\gamma a} = \int_0^\infty P_\gamma(z) P_a(z) dz \longrightarrow \boxed{P_{\gamma a} = \frac{1}{6} \frac{B'^2}{q^2 + \Gamma^2/4}}$$

# Solar axion flux integration

Considering only the transversal component  
we obtain the mean conversion probability  
per photon integrated to  $4\pi$

$$P_{\gamma a} = \frac{1}{6} \frac{B_{\perp}'^2}{q^2 + \Gamma^2/4} = \frac{\pi^2}{96} \frac{B_o'^2}{q^2 + \Gamma^2/4}$$

photon irradiance in thermal equilibrium

$$\frac{d\phi_a}{dE} = \frac{1}{4\pi d_{\odot}^2} \int_{V_{Sun}} P_{\gamma a} d^3\mathbf{r} \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{E^3}{e^{E/T} - 1}$$

Flux in  $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1} \text{keV}^{-1}$

# Solar axion production in the Sun inner magnetic fields

S.Couvidat, S. Turck-Chieze, A. Kosovichev, APJ 599, 1434 (2003)

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MODELS WITH MAGNETIC FIELD

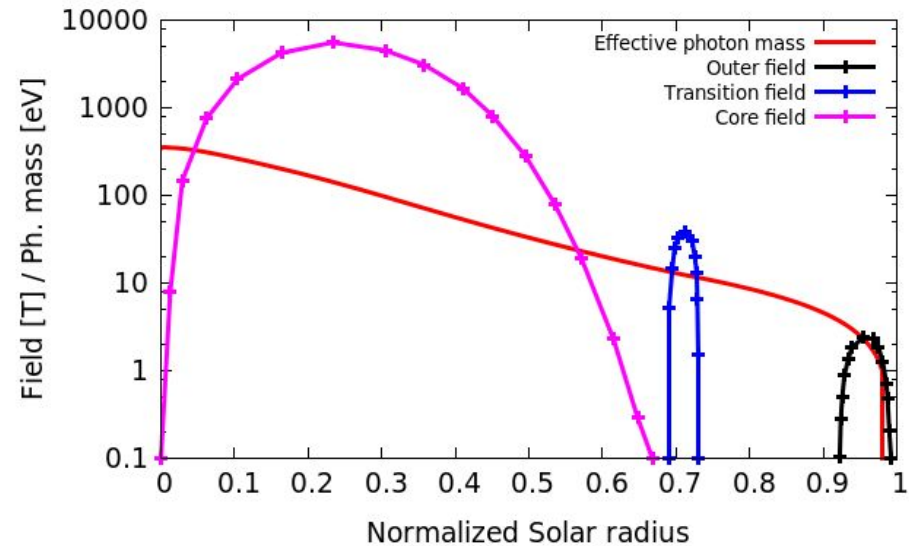
Name	$B_0$ (T)	Center <sup>a</sup> ( $R_\odot$ )	$(P_{\text{mag}}/P_{\text{gas}})_{\text{max}}$
<del>Seismic<sub>1</sub>B<sub>1</sub>.....</del>	<del><math>10^4</math></del>	<del>0.236</del>	<del><math>2.85 \times 10^{-2}</math></del>
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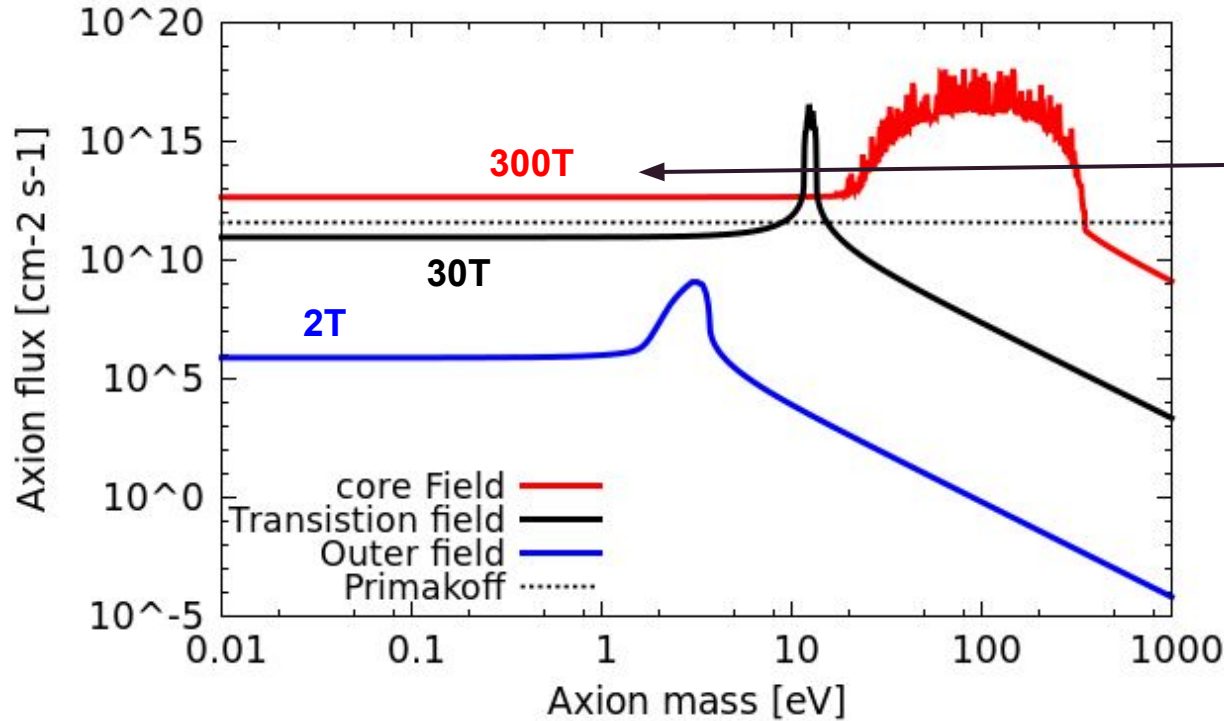
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Assuming scattering factor for H  $f_1 = 1$  and a purely Hydrogen Sun composition

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# Solar axion production in the Sun inner magnetic fields

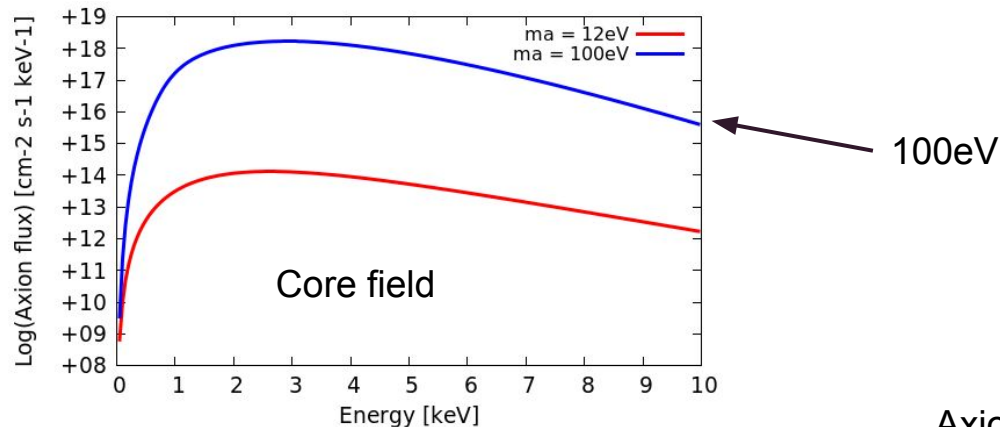
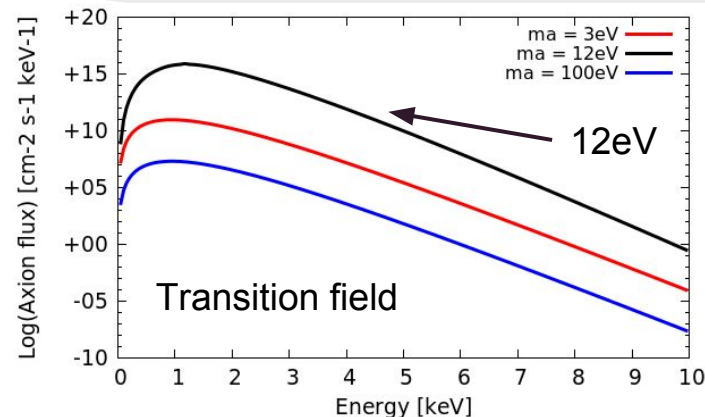
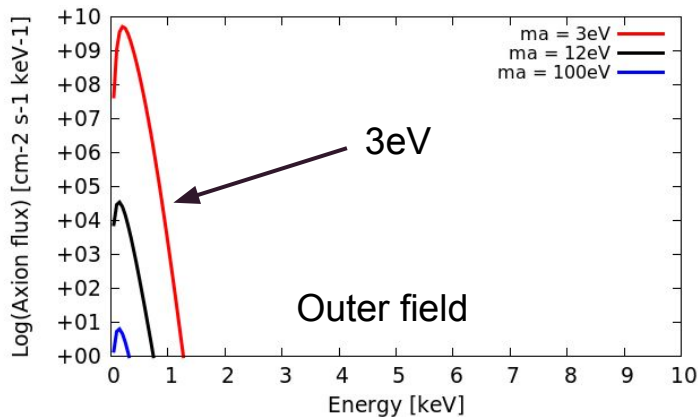


In the core **3000T** are **still allowed** without effect on Solar observables.

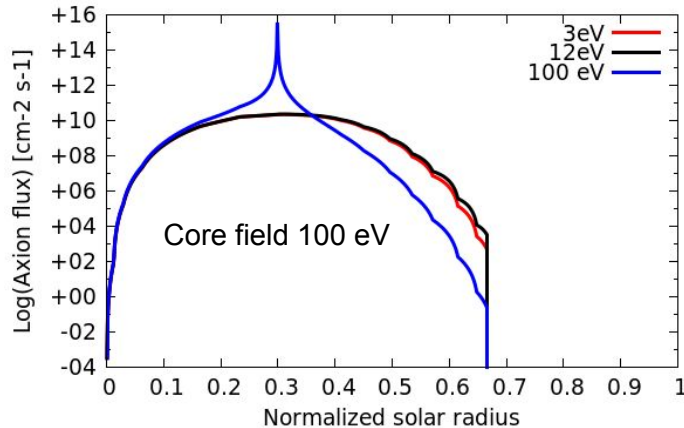
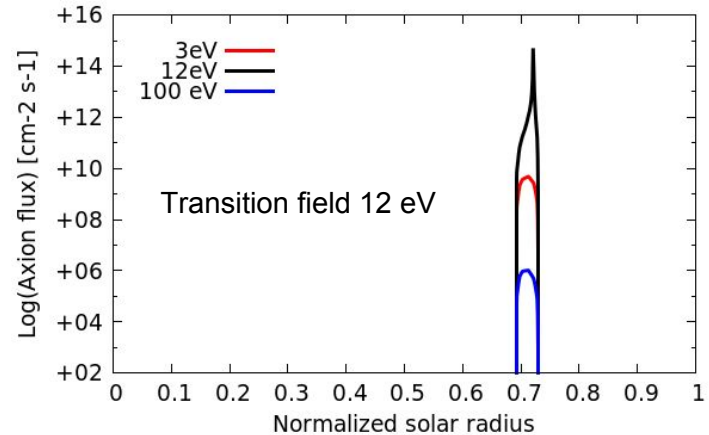
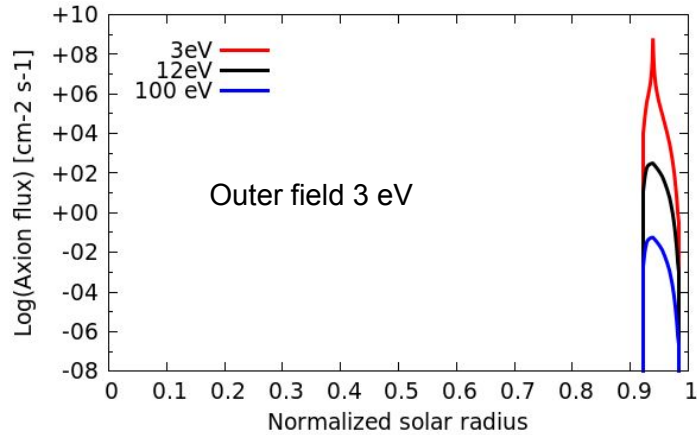
Calculation considering factor 10 reduction

**300T**

# Solar axion spectrum generated by the different magnetic regions



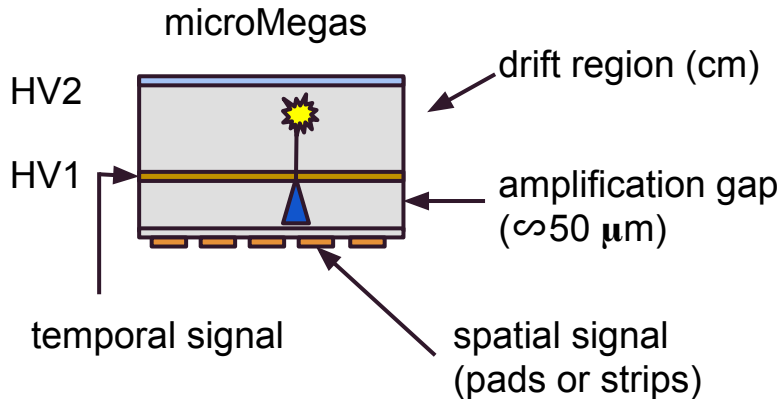
# Differential axion flux production as a function of R



# Spherical TPC Detection principle

**Micromegas** : Best results in terms of energy resolution and spatial resolution (few  $\mu\text{m}$ )

Main advantage of micromegas is that amplification takes place in a **short amplification gap**



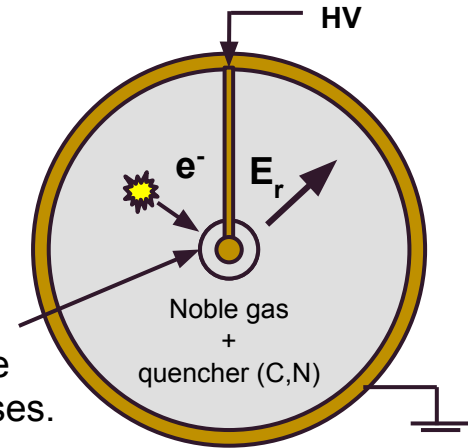
**Micromegas** : Amplification given by  $(HV1-HV2)/d$

**Spherical TPC** : Amplification given by HV and  $R_{\text{sensor}}$ . Definition of amplification gap and drift region relies on **strong field variation near the sensor**.

**Low noise (few eV)**  
**Spherical geometry**

**Simplified read-out**  
**price for decreased**  
**spatial resolution**

**Intense field.**  
Enough to produce  
avalanche processes.





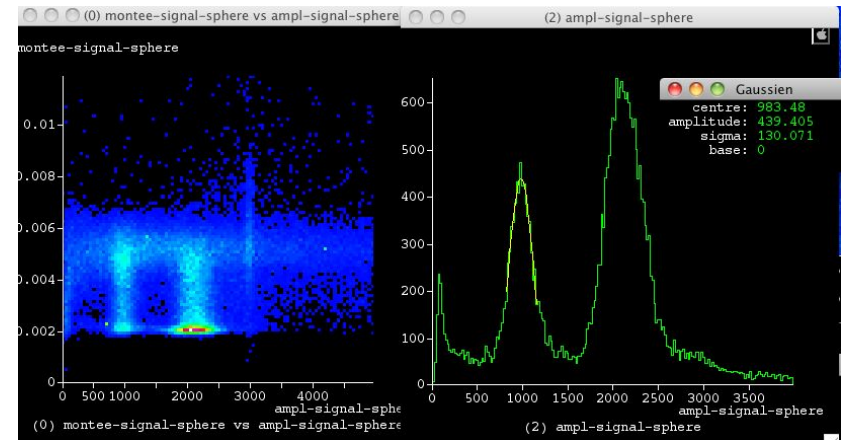
# A spherical TPC for particle physics (neutrons, neutrinos, DM, ...)

Existing spheres running in ground and underground laboratories  
(NEWS collaboration)

- **Large volume**
- Simplified read-out
- **Gas pressure flexibility** : from few mbar to several bar
- Good energy resolution
- **Low energy threshold**
- Field cage and vessel are one single entity.

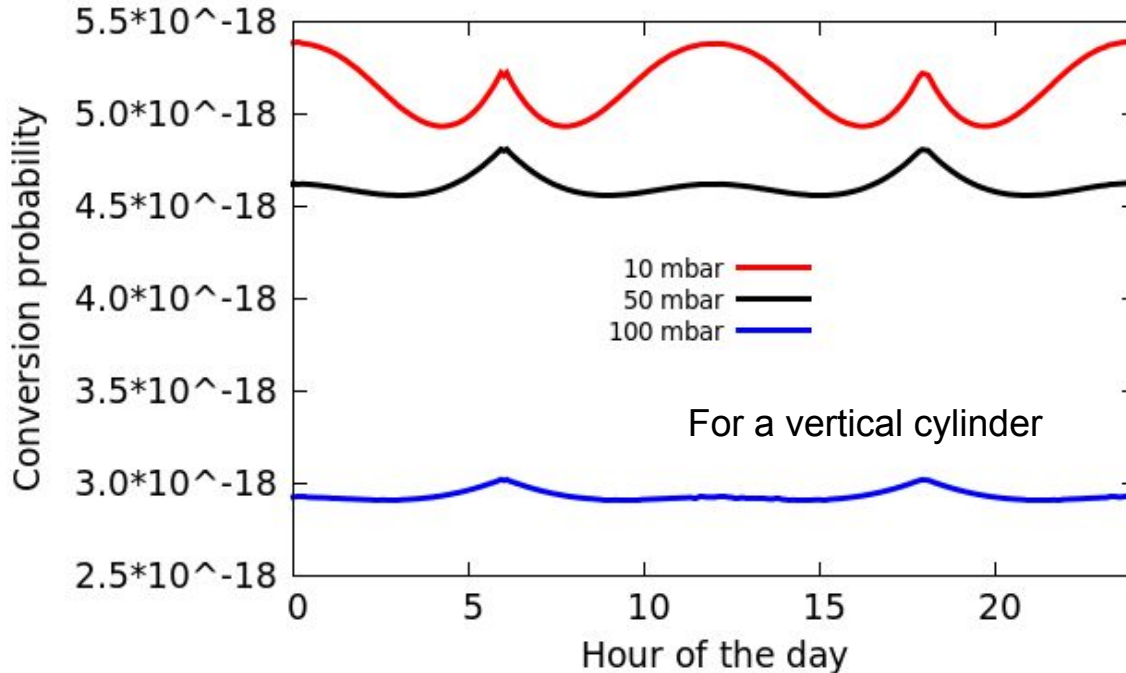
Home made Ar-37 source: irradiating Ca-40 powder with fast neutrons  $7 \times 10^6$  neutrons/s

Irradiation time 14 days. Ar-37 emits K(2.6 keV) and L(260 eV) X-rays (35 d decay time)



# Effective conversion probability (Geometrical factor)

There is a geometrical factor to consider due to the different coherence lengths traversing the chamber.



Conversion probability is reduced when  $\Gamma L$  is not  $\gg 1$ . And this relation does not apply

$$P_\gamma = \frac{(B/2M)^2}{q^2 + \Gamma^2/4} \Gamma L$$

## Efficiency loss in Xenon

10 mbar	21.5%
50 mbar	11.9%
100 mbar	6.9%
500 mbar	1.4%
5 bar	0.13%

Small diurnal effect and negligible annual variations