





Axion Detection: Techniques Experiments & Instrumentation

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Australian Government Australian Research Council





Australian National Universitv



















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Overview

- Dark Matter Problem
- Axions
- Axion Detectors
- Haloscopes
- Current Generation: ADMX, ORGAN
- Future

• Quick look back to Standard Model

• Quick look back to Standard Model



Standard Model of Elementary Particles

• Quick look back to Standard Model



Standard Model of Elementary Particles

- Just a handful of particles
- Most of the regular matter made of just three of these things

• All of biology, chemistry



- All of biology, chemistry
- People, planets, stars





- All of biology, chemistry
- People, planets, stars
- But we've known for a while that there's a lot more stuff...





Dark Universe

- Most of Universe made of DE, DM
- What is DM?



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- What is DM?
 - Doesn't interact with light
 - Has mass
 - ~5x as much as the regular matter



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- What is DM?
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 - New particles?



Evidence

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 - Galactic Rotation Curves
 - Gravitational Lensing
 - CMB Anisotropies

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- Main pieces of evidence:
 - Galactic Rotation Curves
 - Gravitational Lensing
 - CMB Anisotropies
- What we know:
 - Has mass
 - Weakly coupled to SM (no EM, no strong interaction, maybe weak?)

• Looking back at our standard model of particle physics:



Standard Model of Elementary Particles

• Looking back at our standard model of particle physics:



- Broadly candidates come in a few classes:
 - Weakly Interacting Massive Particles
 - Weakly Interacting Sub-eV Particles
 - Sterile Neutrinos
 - Massive Compact Halo Objects
 - Others...

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~THE OTHER DARK MATTER~







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- Strong CP problem in quantum chromodynamics
- There exist natural CP violating terms within the QCD Lagrangian

$$\mathscr{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{n_f g^2 \theta}{32\pi^2}F_{\mu\nu}\tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} + \bar{\psi}(i\gamma^{\mu}D_{\mu} - me^{i\theta'\gamma_5})\psi$$

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- Key point: if θ is non-zero, CP symmetry is violated, and measurable effects would occur
- Specifically, neutron would develop electric dipole moment



- Experiments constrain neutron EDM to be very small if non-zero
- So, a fine tuning problem emerges in this otherwise very precise theory
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- Possible solution: introduce a new broken symmetry to QCD which has the effect of "cancelling out" the heta term
- Peccei and Quinn in 1977
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- Has some mass
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- When this symmetry is broken at some point in the Universe's history, a particle is created which has been named the axion
- Has some mass
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- Most properties governed by a single unknown parameter:

$$m_a \propto \frac{1}{f_a}$$
 $g_{a\gamma\gamma} \propto \frac{1}{f_a}$

• f_a is a number which defines the energy level at which the symmetry breaks, and is completely unconstrained by this theory

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- Experiments attempt to exploit this coupling
- Plenty of other couplings, too electrons, nucleons, etc



From CA O'Hare's Axion Limit Plotting Tool


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Axion Detectors

• Going to focus on axion-photon coupling



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 - Light shining through a wall
 - Helioscope
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• ALPS, OSQAR





From CA O'Hare's Axion Limit Plotting Tool

• Assume axions generated in the sun, stream to earth

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- Track sun with telescope-like structures, convert axions back to photons

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- CAST, IAXO
- CAST in particular is a long running, broadband experiment
- Also doesn't assume local DM density of axions





From CA O'Hare's Axion Limit Plotting Tool

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$$hf = m_a c^2 + \frac{1}{2}m_a v_a^2$$

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- Velocity comes from velocity of DM halo with respect to detector ($v_a \approx 10^{-3}c$ for isothermal halo model, but possibly much narrower for other models)
- Mass is unknown
- So: narrowband photon signal of an unknown frequency is generated
- If resonant cavity has correct frequency, photons resonate inside cavity, and can be read out



- If resonant cavity has correct frequency, photons resonate inside cavity, and can be read out
- Embed tuneable resonant cavity inside magnet, and wait for axion conversion to occur inside





- Detector must be very well shielded from environment, to reduce ambient photon noise
- Thermal photons are also dominant noise source -> cryogenic temperatures
- Also, cryogenics allows for strong superconducting magnets, and quantum technology in readout
- Cavity must be tuneable



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- Thermal photons are also dominant noise source -> cryogenic temperatures
- Also, cryogenics allows for strong superconducting magnets, and quantum technology in readout
- Cavity must be tuneable
- A bunch of haloscopes these days: ADMX, ORGAN, CAPP, QUAX, MADMAX, etc



- Expected Signal
- Note: Shape of signal, its motion in time will shed light on nature of DM distribution



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- Difficult engineering problem

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$$\frac{df}{dt} \propto \frac{1}{SNR_{qoal}^2} \frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}^4 B^4 C^2 V^2 \rho_a^2 Q_L Q_a}{m_a^2 (k_B T_n)^2}$$

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Top-down view of cavity cross-section as rod tunes

Haloscopes Detector Design

$$\frac{df}{dt} \propto \frac{1}{SNR_{goal}^2} \frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}^4 B^4 C^2 V^2 \rho_a^2 Q_L Q_a}{m_a^2 (k_B T_n)^2}$$

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• Things set by nature

Haloscopes Detector Design $\frac{df}{dt} \propto \frac{1}{SNR_{acd}^2} \frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}^4 B^4 C^2 V^2 \rho_a^2 Q_L Q_d}{m_a^2 (k_B T_n)^2}$

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- Things to do with readout, refrigeration system, magnet

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 - C 'form factor', to do with EM field pattern of resonant mode

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 - C 'form factor', to do with EM field pattern of resonant mode
 - V volume, inversely proportional to frequency
 - Q quality factor, how long photons live inside resonator

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• Form factor

$$C = \frac{\left(\int \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}_0 \, dV\right)^2}{\left(\int \vec{B}_0 \cdot \vec{B}_0 \, dV\right) \left(\int \vec{E} \cdot \vec{E} \, dV\right)}$$

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- For typical haloscopes, only TMOnO modes have non zero C
- Very uniform modes, hard to tune -> need for tuning rods







40,000 receptors in stripes on the bill

Platypus turns head in saccades to locate prey

Best accuracy is outwards and downwards

Muscles of prey create small electrical signals

A Search for Halo Axions

by

Edward John Daw

Bachelor of Arts, New College, Oxford University, England.

Submitted to the Department of Physics in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

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February 1998

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• Only certain modes (TMOnO modes) are axion sensitive

- Only certain modes (TMOn0 modes) are axion sensitive
- As they tune they run into intruder modes



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- As they tune they run into intruder modes
- This is a significant design issue in all resonant haloscope experiments





- Experiment upgraded in the 2000s
- Implemented a SQUID-based amplifier

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- Phys. Rev. Lett 104, 041301 (2010)





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ADMX Searches - Current Generation

- Run 1a Run 1d with current setup
- Hosted at University of Washington
- Custom Dil Fridge ~100 mK
- Custom magnet 8T
- Uses Josephson Parametric Amplifier
- Targets ~650 ~1200 MHz



Images borrowed from Chelsea Bartram

ADMX Searches - Current Generation



$$\frac{df}{dt} \propto \frac{1}{SNR_{aoal}^2} \frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}^4 B^4 C^2 V^2 \rho_a^2 Q_L Q_a}{m_a^2 (k_B T_n)^2}$$

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- Noise temperature goes up
- Solution -> more cavities in sync





- Haloscope in Australia
- Many cavities together
- The Oscillating Resonant Group AxioN Experiment

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- Mass range of interest 60-200 micro-eV
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 - SMASH model
 - Josephson Junction results

Unifying Inflation with the Axion, Dark Matter, Baryogenesis, and the Seesaw Mechanism

Guillermo Ballesteros, Javier Redondo, Andreas Ringwald, and Carlos Tamarit Phys. Rev. Lett. **118**, 071802 – Published 15 February 2017

Possible Resonance Effect of Axionic Dark Matter in Josephson Junctions

Christian Beck Phys. Rev. Lett. **111**, 231801 – Published 2 December 2013



- Mass range of interest 60-200 micro-eV
- Motivations:
 - SMASH model
 - Josephson Junction results
 - High mass range relatively unexplored
- Broken down into Phases:
 - Phase 1 targeted 1 GHz scans ~month(s) scale
 - Phase 2 wider scans with enhanced sensitivity, broken into 5 GHz chunks, ~year scale





Phase 1

- Targeted scans around 15 GHz and 26 GHz
- Commenced in 2021, completed 2023
- Traditional, ADMX-like haloscope technology
- HEMT amplifiers



Phase 1a



Phase 1a

• Also limits on dark photons and scalar dark matter



https://arxiv.org/abs/2212.01971
Phase 1a

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Phase 1b















Future Haloscopes



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- Things to do with resonant cavity
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- Even harder at higher frequencies for a few reasons...

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- Another option ReBCO tapes, some success in this area recently



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- SIS Josephson Junctions, SNSPDs, MKIDs...

• Layer of superconductor – insulator – superconductor

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Josephson tunnel junction

> L. S. Kuzmin et al., IEEE Transactions on Applied Superconductivity, 2018

- Layer of superconductor insulator superconductor
- Exhibits Josephson effect: supercurrent across junction until critical current reached -> becomes
 resistive



L. S. Kuzmin et al., IEEE Transactions on Applied Superconductivity, 2018

- Can be used as weak current sensor in the GHz range...in principle
- 10s of μeV + energy thresholds



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• Samples under testing both for ORGAN and other haloscopes (QUAX, etc)



Conclusions

- Axions are cool particles (and good DM candidates)
- There are a variety of ways to search for them
- Most focus on axion-photon coupling
- Haloscopes are an increasingly common experiment
- Lots of room for innovation!
- ADMX and ORGAN are two such experiments in different mass ranges
- Future haloscopes will require new instrumentation and technology
- Quantum technology is a common area of pursuit for haloscope searches

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