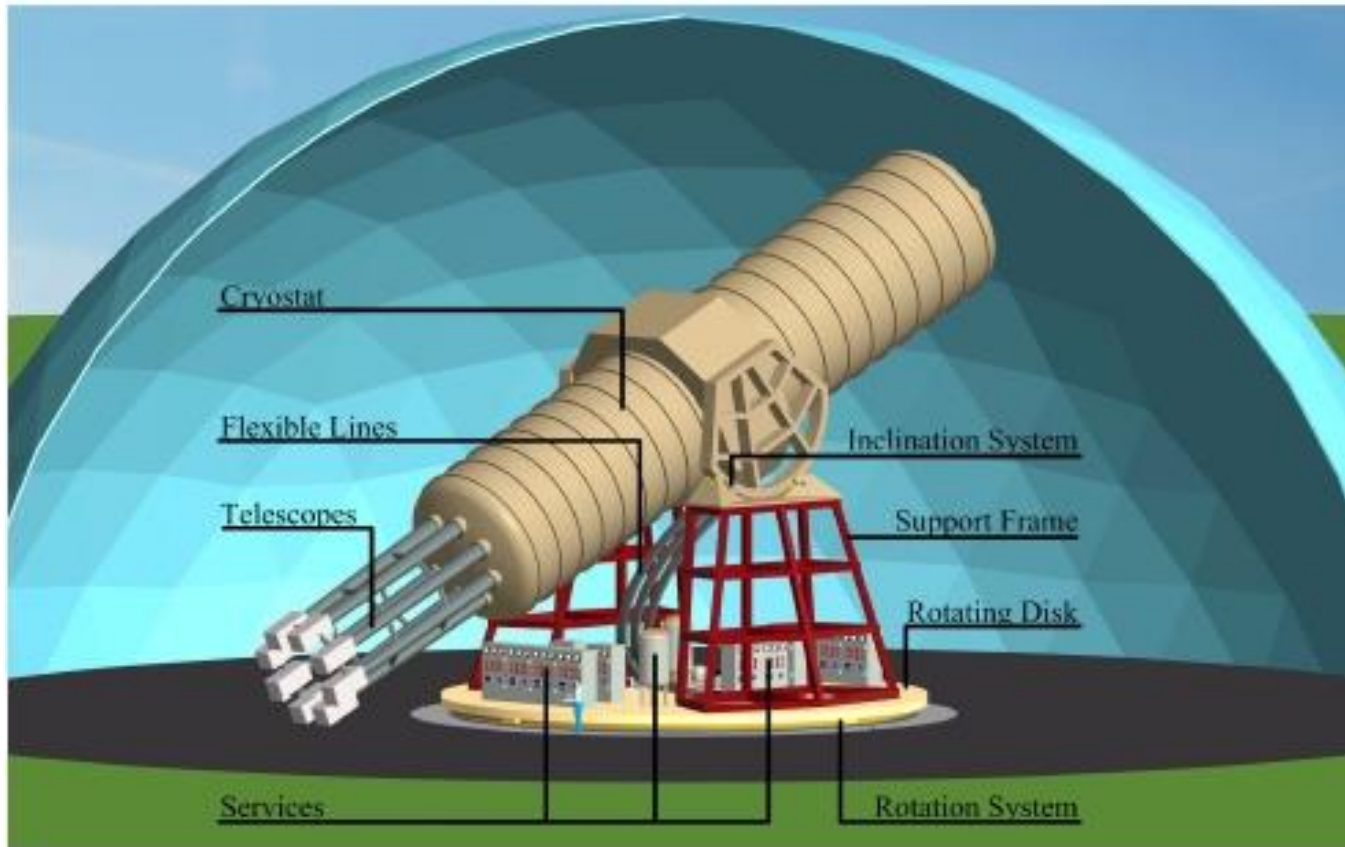


# The IAXO (International **A**xion **O**bservatory) Helioscope



Esther Ferrer Ribas, IRFU/SEDI

# Outline

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- **Axion searches, bounds**
- **Helioscope principle**
- **CAST**
- **IAXO concept and ingredients**
- **Sensitivity**
- **Status and plans**
- **Conclusions**

# Axion motivations in brief

---

- **Most elegant solution to the strong CP problem**
- Axion-like particles predicted by many extensions of the SM (string theory)
- Axions may solve the DM problem
- Hints for axions/ALPS:
  - Transparency of the Universe
  - Anomalous cooling of different types of star

# Axion properties

- Neutral Pseudoscalar
- Practically stable
- Very low mass
- Very low cross-section
- Coupling to photons

$$m_a \simeq 0.6 \text{ eV} \frac{10^7 \text{ GeV}}{f_a}$$



$$L_{a\gamma} = g_{a\gamma} (\vec{\mathbf{E}} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{B}}) a$$

$$g_{a\gamma} \propto 1/f_a$$

$$g_{a\gamma} \propto m_a$$

# Axion searches

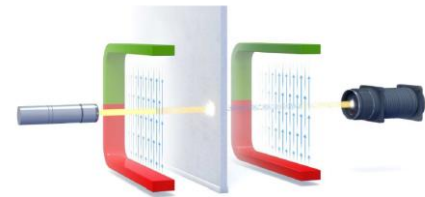
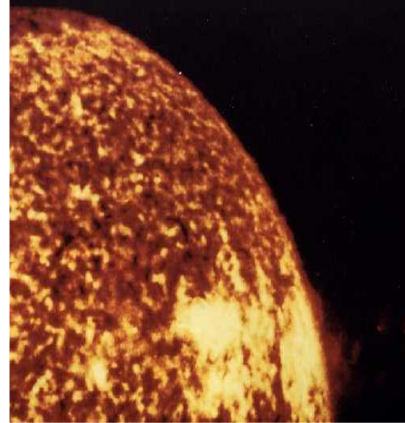
- Relic Axions
  - Axions that are part of galactic dark matter halo:
    - Axion Haloscopes (ADMX)

[Direct detection searches for axion dark matter](#), Gray Rybka *et al*, 2014 *Physics of the Dark Universe* 4

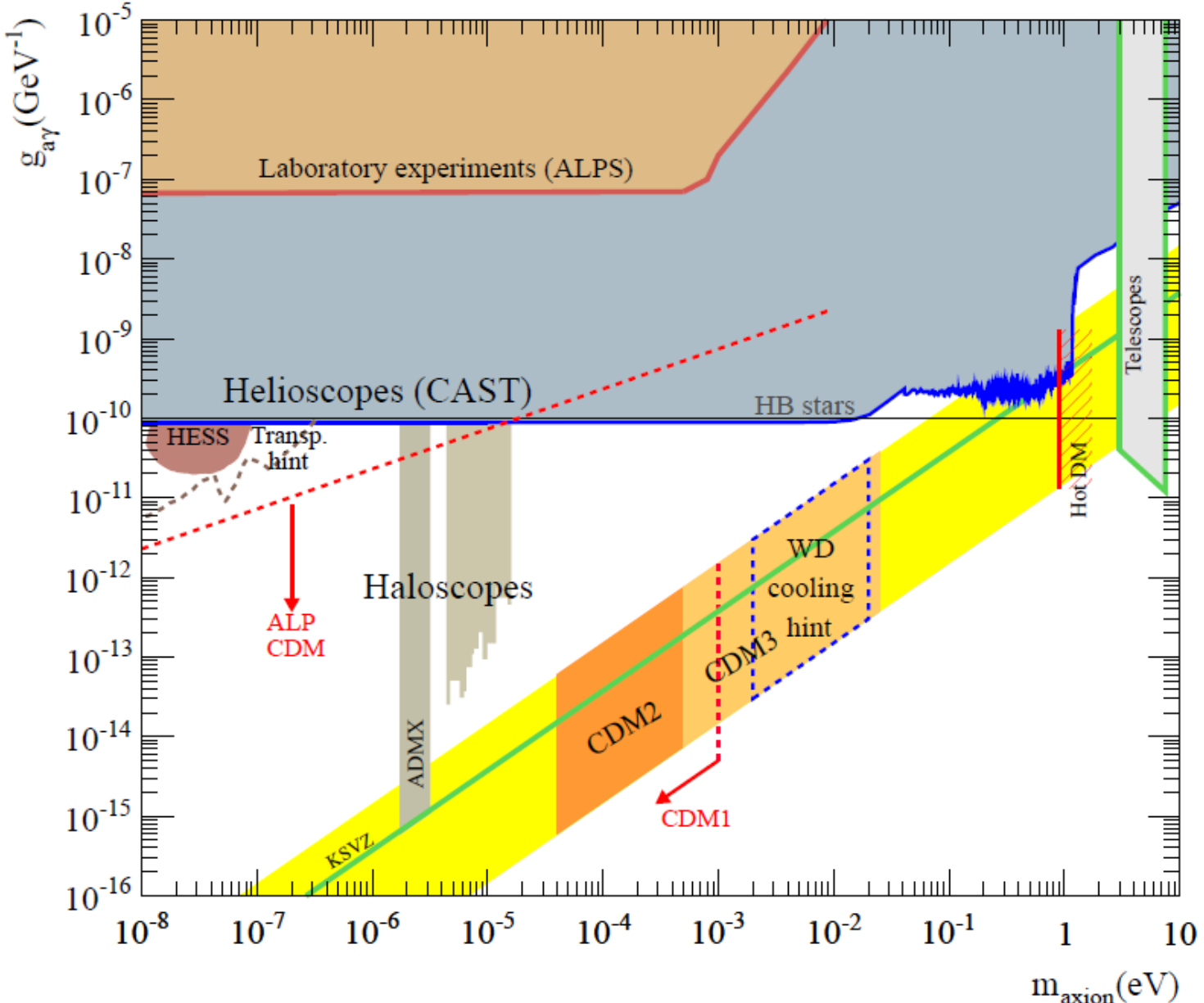
- Solar Axions
  - Emitted by the solar core.
    - Axion Helioscopes (SUMICO, CAST, IAXO)

- Axions in the laboratory
  - “Light shinning through wall” experiments (ALPS, OSQAR...)

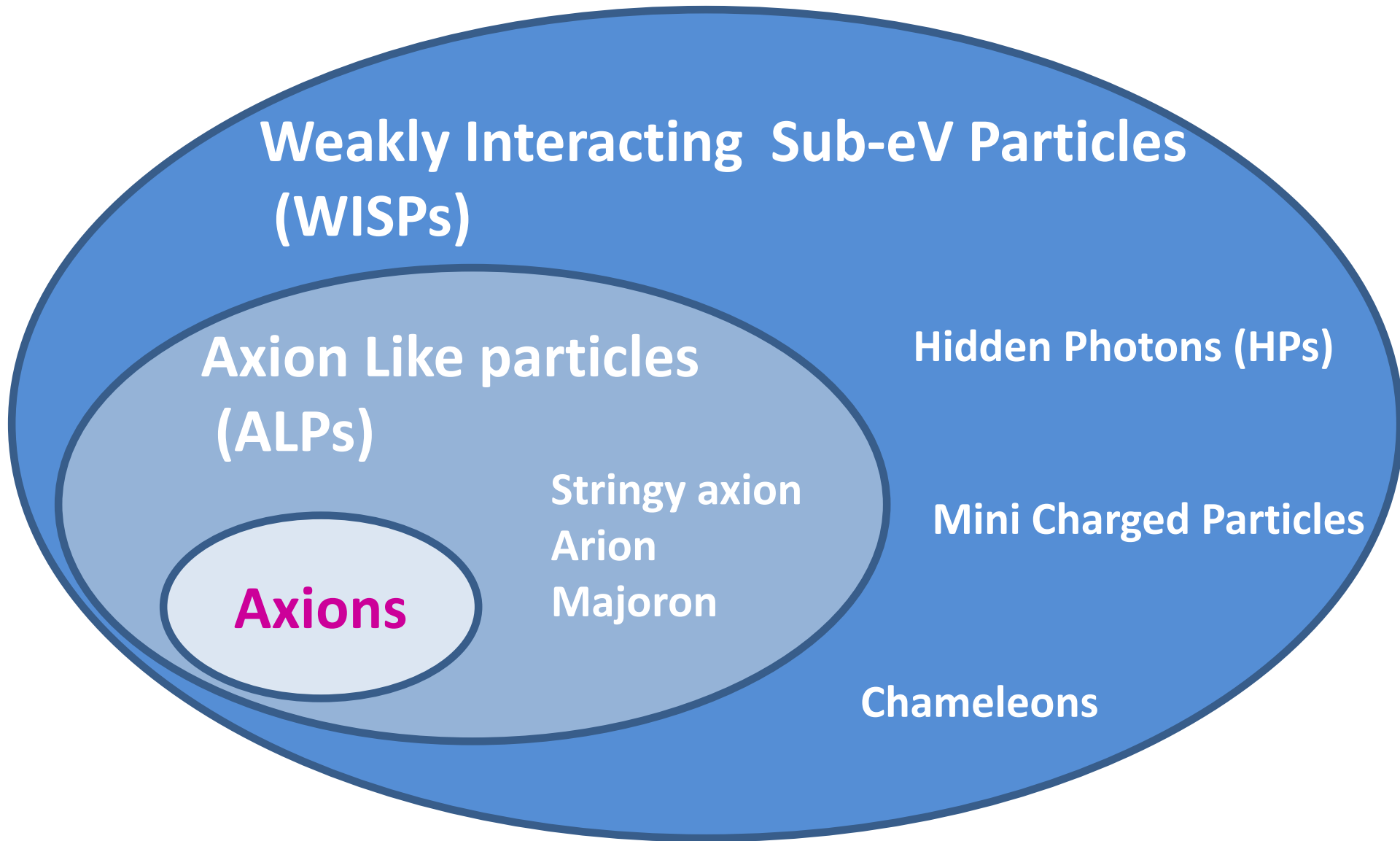
[Any light particle search II — Technical Design Report](#) R Bähre *et al* 2013 *JINST* 8 T09001



# Bounds: experimental, astrophysical, cosmological



# The WISPs zoo

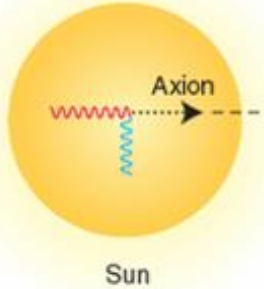


$g_{a\gamma}$  and  $m_a$  are two independent “phenomenological” parameters

# Helioscope physics

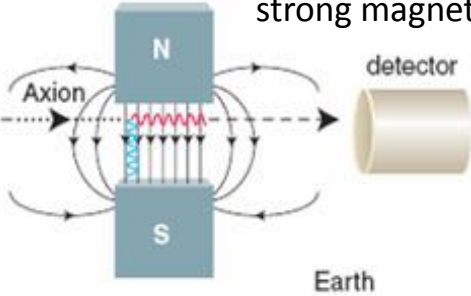
## Production in the Sun

Conversion of thermal photons into axions via Primakoff effect in the solar core



## Concept by P. Sikivie 1983

500 seconds  
Flight time



## Detection in CAST

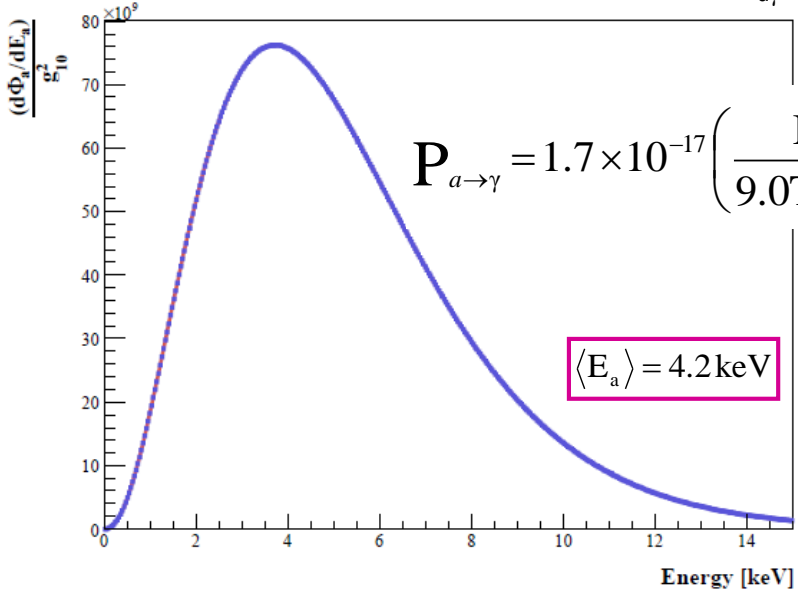
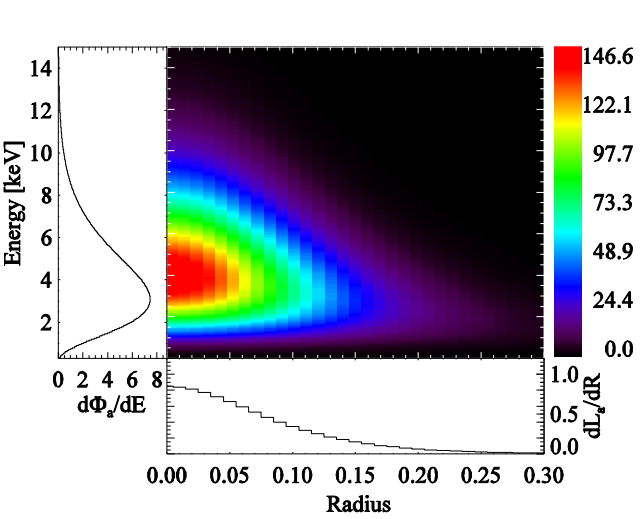
Conversion of axions into photons via the inverse Primakoff effect in a strong magnetic field

Expected number of photons:

$$N_\gamma = \int \frac{d\Phi_a}{dE_a} \cdot P_{a \rightarrow \gamma} \cdot S \cdot t \cdot dE_a$$

≈ 0.3 evts/hour

with  $g_{a\gamma} = 10^{-10} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$  and  $A = 14 \text{ cm}^2$



$$P_{a \rightarrow \gamma} = 1.7 \times 10^{-17} \left( \frac{B \cdot L}{9.0 \text{ T} \cdot 9.3 \text{ m}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{g_{a\gamma}}{10^{-10} \text{ GeV}^{-1}} \right)^2$$



# Helioscopes

- Brookhaven (a few hours of data): Lazarus et al. PRL 69 (92)
- Tokyo Helioscope (SUMICO): 2.3 m long 4 T magnet



No Liq. He  
B=4T, L=2.3m  
268A persistent current  
16 PIN photodiodes  
Altazimuth: Horiz.  $360^\circ$  ,  
vert.  $\pm 28^\circ$

Inoue et al. **Phys.Lett.B668:93-97,2008.**

**Presently running: CERN Axion Solar Telescope (CAST)**

# CAST (CERN Axion Solar Telescope)

## Sunset Detectors:

- 1 TPC (<2007)
- 2 Micromegas (>2008)

## Sunrise Detectors:

- 1 CCD+telescope
- 1 Micromegas

Signal: excess of x-rays while pointing at the Sun

LHC dipole :  $L = 9.3$  m,  $B = 9$  T

Rotating platform : vertical movement  $16^\circ$

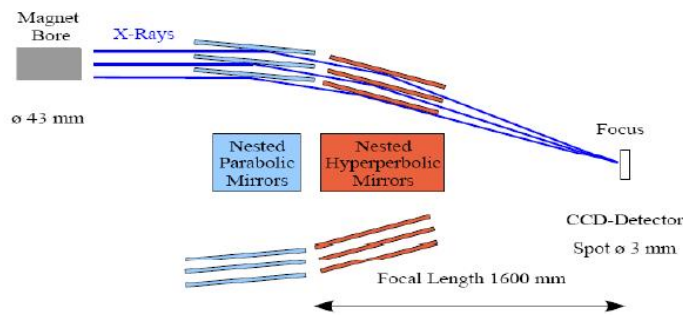
horizontal movement  $100^\circ$

Solar « Tracking »  $\sim 3$  h/day, background data rest of the day

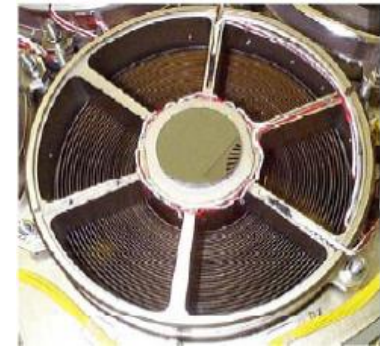
4 X-rays detectors

# Originalities of CAST

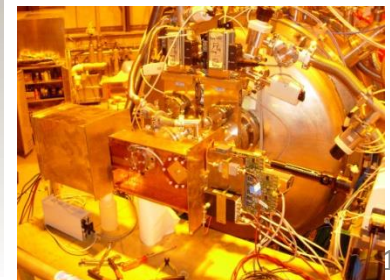
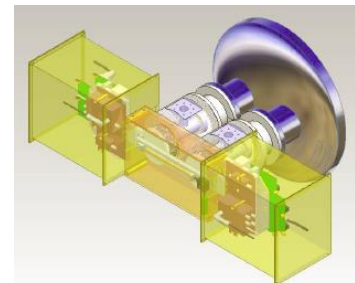
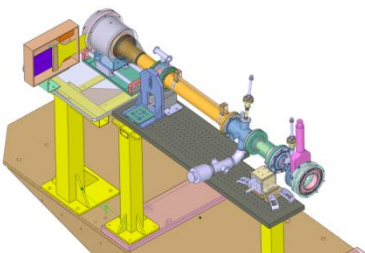
- Use of X-ray telescope → increase S/B noise → sensitivity improved by a factor 150 by focusing a  $\varnothing 43$  mm x-ray beam to  $\varnothing 3$  mm



3D View of a Mirror Module



- Low background techniques → shieldings, low radioactive materials, simulation and modeling of backgrounds....





# CAST results

## CAST Physics program

### 1) CAST Phase I, Vacuum

- $m_a < 0.02$  eV;  $g_{a\gamma\gamma} < 0.88 \cdot 10^{-10}$  GeV<sup>-1</sup>.

*PRL94 (2005) 121301 & JCAP04(2007)020.*

### 2) CAST Phase II, <sup>4</sup>He

- $P < 13.4$  mbar (1.8K), 160 steps
- $0.02 < m_a < 0.39$  eV;  $g_{a\gamma\gamma} < 2.2 \cdot 10^{-10}$  GeV<sup>-1</sup>

*JCAP02 (2009) 008*

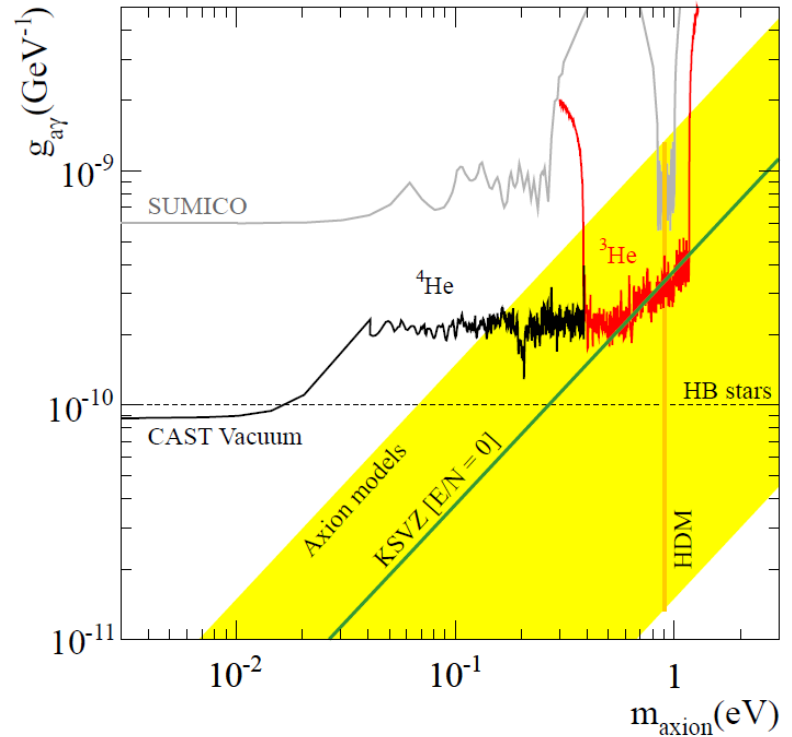
### 3) CAST Phase II, <sup>3</sup>He

- $P < 120$  mbar (1.8K), 160 steps
- $0.39 < m_a < 1.17$  eV;  $g_{a\gamma\gamma} < 3.3 \cdot 10^{-10}$  GeV<sup>-1</sup>

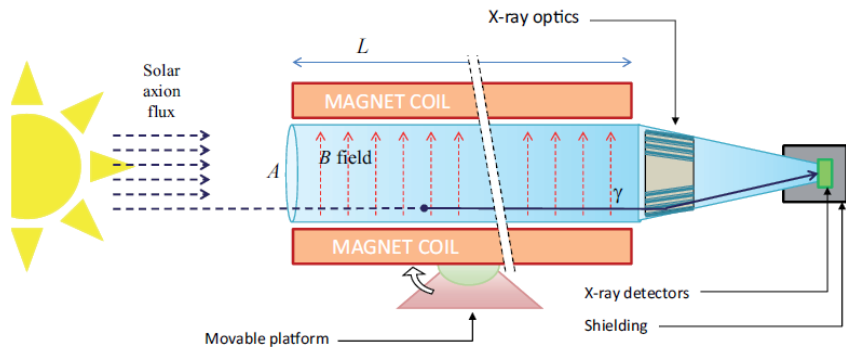
*PRL 107 (2011) 261302 & PRL 112 (2014) 091302*

## Current activities

- Revisiting the vacuum phase (2013-2015) with more sensitive detectors.
- Looking for non-hadronic axions and other WISPs (chamaleons, paraphotons, etc.)



# IAXO concept



JCAP 06 (2011) 013

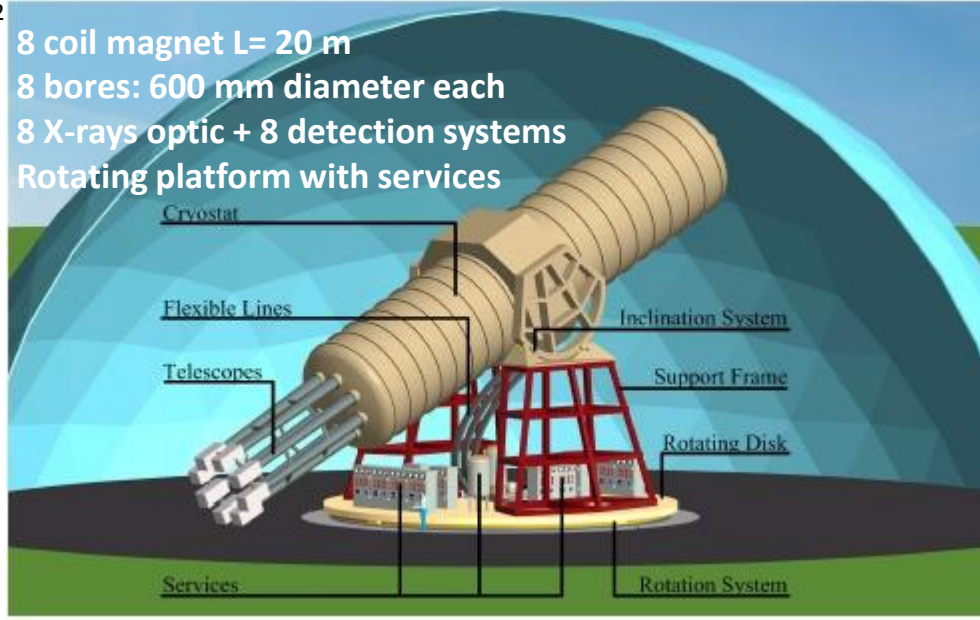
**No technology challenge (built on CAST experience)**

- ✓ New dedicated superconducting magnet
- ✓ Use of X-ray focalisation over ~m<sup>2</sup> area
- ✓ Low background detectors (improve bck by 1-2 orders of magnitude)

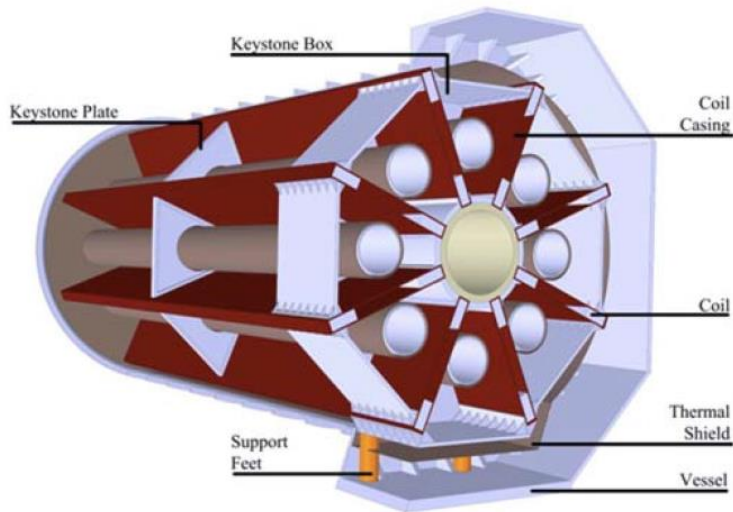
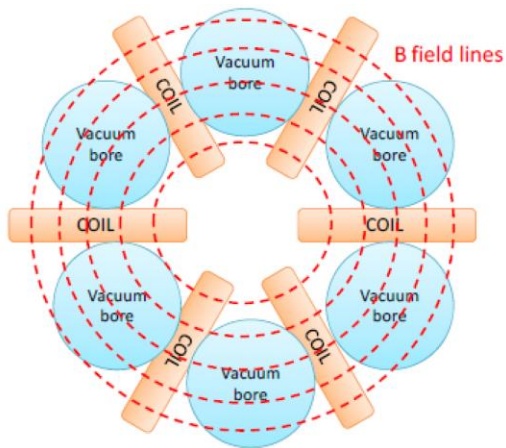
**Goal:** in terms of signal to background ratio **4-5 orders of magnitude** more sensitive in than CAST, which means sensitivity to axion-photon couplings down to a few  $\times 10^{-12}$  GeV<sup>-1</sup>

$$g_{a\gamma}^4 \propto \underbrace{b^{1/2} \epsilon^{-1}}_{\text{detectors}} \times \underbrace{a^{1/2} \epsilon_o^{-1}}_{\text{optics}} \times \underbrace{(BL)^{-2} A^{-1}}_{\text{magnet}} \times \underbrace{t^{-1/2}}_{\text{exposure}}$$

8 coil magnet L= 20 m  
 8 bores: 600 mm diameter each  
 8 X-rays optic + 8 detection systems  
 Rotating platform with services



# IAXO magnet



Optimised configuration: **TOROIDAL** with 8 bores  
25 m long, 5 m diameter and a peak field of 5.4 T

Property	Value
<b>Cryostat dimensions:</b>	Overall length (m) 25
	Outer diameter (m) 5.2
	Cryostat volume (m <sup>3</sup> ) ~ 530
<b>Toroid size:</b>	Inner radius, $R_{in}$ (m) 1.0
	Outer radius, $R_{out}$ (m) 2.0
	Inner axial length (m) 21.0
	Outer axial length (m) 21.8
<b>Mass:</b>	Conductor (tons) 65
	Cold Mass (tons) 130
	Cryostat (tons) 35
	Total assembly (tons) ~ 250
<b>Coils:</b>	Number of racetrack coils 8
	Winding pack width (mm) 384
	Winding pack height (mm) 144
	Turns/coil 180
	Nominal current, $I_{op}$ (kA) 12.0
	Stored energy, $E$ (MJ) 500
	Inductance (H) 6.9
	Peak magnetic field, $B_p$ (T) 5.4
	Average field in the bores (T) 2.5
<b>Conductor:</b>	Overall size (mm <sup>2</sup> ) 35 × 8
	Number of strands 40
	Strand diameter (mm) 1.3
	Critical current @ 5 T, $I_c$ (kA) 58
	Operating temperature, $T_{op}$ (K) 4.5
	Operational margin 40%
	Temperature margin @ 5.4 T (K) 1.9
<b>Heat Load:</b>	at 4.5 K (W) ~150
	at 60-80 K (kW) ~1.6

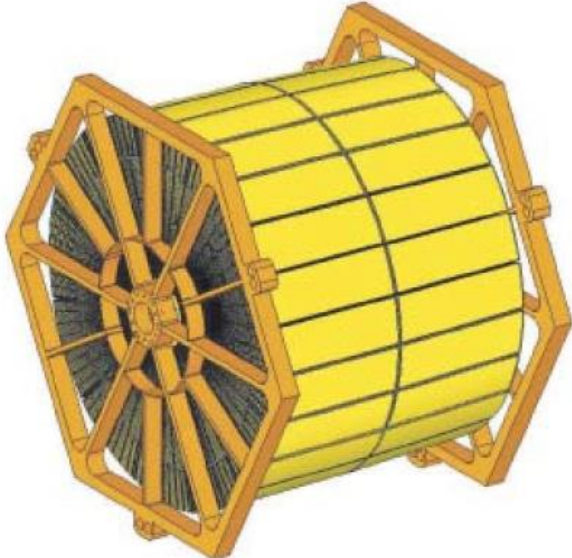
(ATLAS toroid 26 m long, 20 m diameter, peak field 3.9 T)

# IAXO x-ray optics

Each bore equipped with an X-ray optics  
 8 systems of 600 mm diameter each

Specifications:

- Refined imaging not needed
- Need to cover large area (cost-effective)
- Good throughput (0.3-0.5)
- Small focal point (~1 cm<sup>2</sup>)



Baseline : X-ray optics for NUSTAR satellite



Telescopes	8
<i>N</i> , Layers (or shells) per telescope	123
Segments per telescope	2172
Geometric area of glass per telescope	0.38 m <sup>2</sup>
Focal length	5.0 m
Inner radius	50 mm
Outer Radius	300 mm
Minimum graze angle	2.63 mrad
Maximum graze angle	15.0 mrad
Coatings	W/B <sub>4</sub> C multilayers
Pass band	1–10 keV
IAXO Nominal, 50% EEF (HPD)	0.29 mrad
IAXO Enhanced, 50% EEF (HPD)	0.23 mrad
IAXO Nominal, 80% EEF	0.58 mrad
IAXO Enhanced, 90% EEF	0.58 mrad
FOV	2.9 mrad



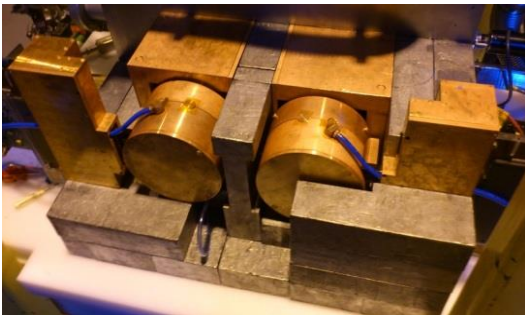
# IAXO low background detectors

Baseline: gaseous detectors (Micromegas)

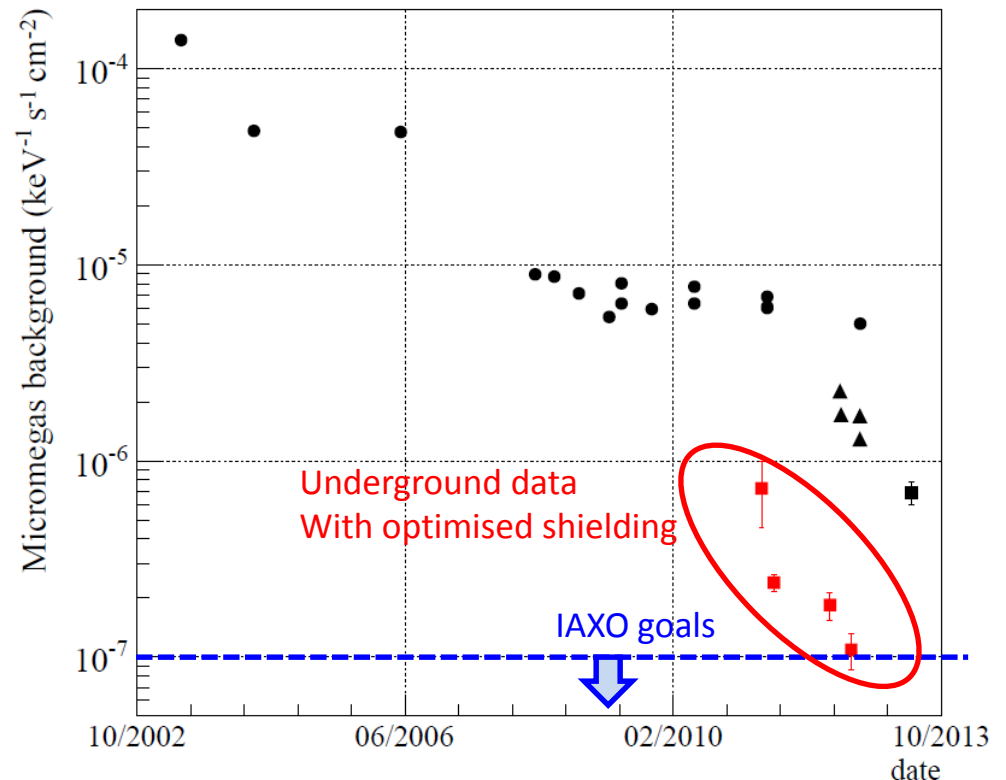
Goal: below  $10^{-7}$  c/keV/s/cm<sup>2</sup>

Key elements:

- Radiopure components
- Shielding
- Offline discrimination

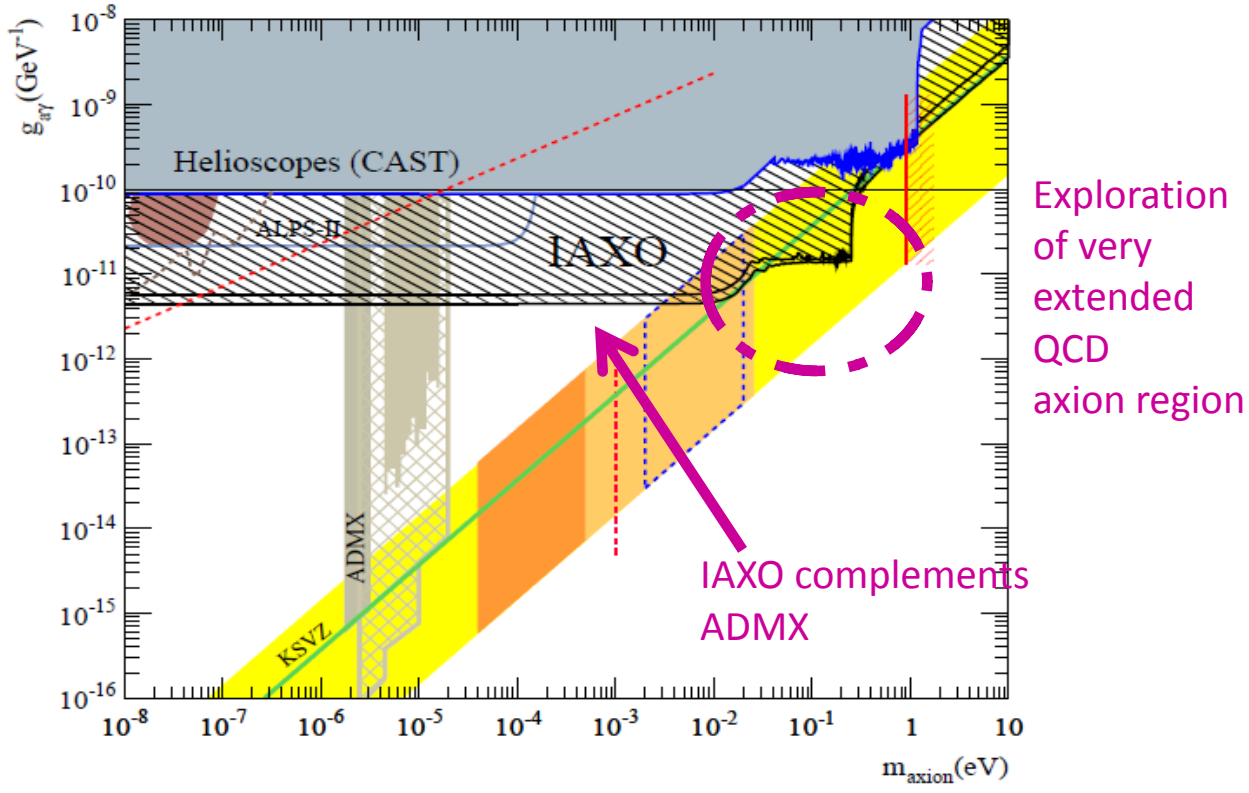


## Evolution of Micromegas CAST background

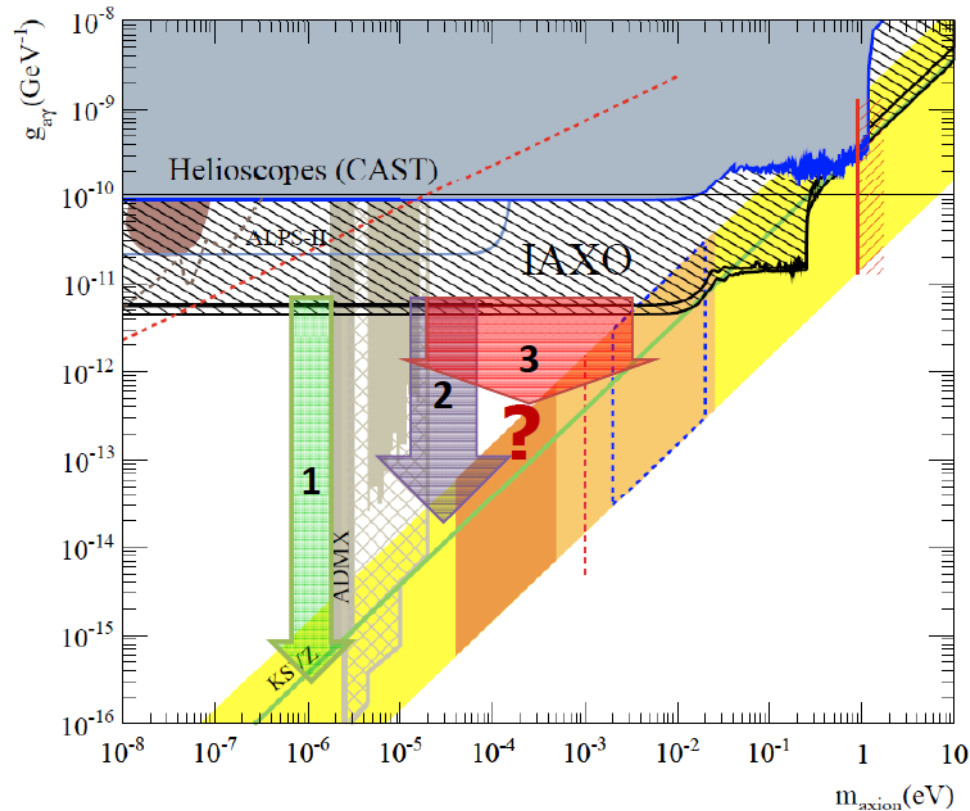




# IAXO sensitivity prospects



# Additional physics cases



IAXO would improve the sensitivity to  $g_{ae}$

Extending sensitivity to other ALP or WISP models at the low energy frontier: paraphotons, chameleons...

Extend the sensitivity to dark matter halo axions by the use of microwave cavities or dish antennas : **IAXO-DM**

→ **IAXO** as a « generic axion/ALP facility »

## Lots of new ideas, prospects under study

- Precession of nuclear spins (CASPERs): PRD 84, 055013 (2011) and arXiv:1306.6089
- Long thin cavities in dipole fields: PRD85 (2012) 035018
- Directional effect in long thin cavities: JCAP 1210 (2012) 022
- Dish antenna: JCAP 1304 (2013) 016
- Directional effect in dish antenna: arXiv:1307.7181
- LC circuit in B field: PRL 112, 131301 (2014)
- Active resonators: arXiv:1403.6720
- Cavity with wires: arXiv:1403.3121 (also old Sikivie paper)

# IAXO status of project

- 2011: First studies *Irtastorza et al. JCAP (2011) 1106:013*
- ASPERA/APPEC Roadmap acknowledges axion physics, CAST and recommends progress towards IAXO (C. Spiering Krakow 2012)
- IAXO is also present in US roadmapping (Snowmass and P5 process) (december 2013)
- 2013: Conceptual Design: *Armengaud et al. JINST 9 (2014) T05002*
- August 2013: Letter of Intent submitted to the **CERN SPSC [CERN-SPSC-2013-022]**
- January 2014: Recommendations of SPSC

## SPSC Draft minutes [Jan 2014]

The Committee **recognises** the physics motivation of an International Axion Observatory as described in the Letter of Intent SPSC-I-242, and considers that the proposed setup makes appropriate use of state-of-the-art technologies i.e. magnets, x-ray optics and low-background detectors.

The Committee **encourages** the collaboration to take the next steps towards a **Technical Design Report**.

The Committee recommends that, in the process of preparing the TDR, the possibility to **extend the physics reach** with additional detectors compared to the baseline goal should be investigated. The collaboration should be further strengthened.

Considering the required funding, the SPSC **recommends** that the R&D for the TDR should be pursuit within an MOU involving all interested parties.

TECHNICAL REPORT

## Conceptual design of the International Axion Observatory (IAXO)

E. Armengaud,<sup>a</sup> F.T. Avignone,<sup>b</sup> M. Betz,<sup>c</sup> P. Brax,<sup>d</sup> P. Brun,<sup>a</sup> G. Cantatore,<sup>e</sup>  
J.M. Carmona,<sup>f</sup> G.P. Carosi,<sup>g</sup> F. Caspers,<sup>c</sup> S. Caspi,<sup>h</sup> S.A. Cetin,<sup>i</sup> D. Chelouche,<sup>j</sup>  
F.E. Christensen,<sup>k</sup> A. Dael,<sup>a</sup> T. Dafni,<sup>f</sup> M. Davenport,<sup>c</sup> A.V. Derbin,<sup>l</sup> K. Desch,<sup>m</sup>  
A. Diago,<sup>f</sup> B. Döbrich,<sup>n</sup> I. Dratchnev,<sup>l</sup> A. Dudarev,<sup>c</sup> C. Eleftheriadis,<sup>o</sup>  
G. Fanourakis,<sup>p</sup> E. Ferrer-Ribas,<sup>a</sup> J. Galán,<sup>a</sup> J.A. Garcia,<sup>f</sup> J.G. Garza,<sup>f</sup> T. Gerasis,<sup>p</sup>  
B. Gimeno,<sup>q</sup> I. Giomataris,<sup>a</sup> S. Gninenko,<sup>r</sup> H. Gómez,<sup>f</sup> D. González-Díaz,<sup>f</sup>  
E. Guendelman,<sup>s</sup> C.J. Hailey,<sup>t</sup> T. Hiramatsu,<sup>u</sup> D.H.H. Hoffmann,<sup>v</sup> D. Horns,<sup>w</sup>  
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K. Jakovčić,<sup>aa</sup> J. Kaminski,<sup>m</sup> M. Kawasaki,<sup>ab</sup> M. Karuza,<sup>ac</sup> M. Krčmar,<sup>aa</sup>  
K. Kousouris,<sup>c</sup> C. Krieger,<sup>m</sup> B. Lakić,<sup>aa</sup> O. Limousin,<sup>a</sup> A. Lindner,<sup>n</sup> A. Liolios,<sup>o</sup>  
G. Luzón,<sup>f</sup> S. Matsuki,<sup>ad</sup> V.N. Muratova,<sup>l</sup> C. Nones,<sup>a</sup> I. Ortega,<sup>f</sup> T. Papaevangelou,<sup>a</sup>  
M.J. Pivovarov,<sup>g</sup> G. Raffelt,<sup>ae</sup> J. Redondo,<sup>ae</sup> A. Ringwald,<sup>n</sup> S. Russenschuck,<sup>c</sup>  
J. Ruz,<sup>g</sup> K. Saikawa,<sup>af</sup> I. Sawidis,<sup>o</sup> T. Sekiguchi,<sup>ab</sup> Y.K. Semertzidis,<sup>ag</sup> I. Shilon,<sup>c</sup>  
P. Sikivie,<sup>ah</sup> H. Silva,<sup>c</sup> H. ten Kate,<sup>c</sup> A. Tomas,<sup>f</sup> S. Troitsky,<sup>r</sup> T. Vafeiadis,<sup>c</sup>  
K. van Bibber,<sup>ai</sup> P. Vedrine,<sup>aj</sup> J.A. Villar,<sup>f</sup> J.K. Vogel,<sup>g</sup> L. Walckiers,<sup>c</sup> A. Weltman,<sup>aj</sup>  
W. Wester,<sup>ak</sup> S.C. Yildiz<sup>l</sup> and K. Zioutas<sup>al</sup>

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<sup>b</sup>Physics Department, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, U.S.A.

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<sup>e</sup>Instituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare (INFN), Sezione di Trieste and Università di Trieste, Trieste, Italy

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

<sup>g</sup>Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, CA, U.S.A.

<sup>h</sup>Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, U.S.A.

<sup>i</sup>Dogus University, Istanbul, Turkey

<sup>j</sup>Physics Department, University of Haifa, Haifa, 31905 Israel

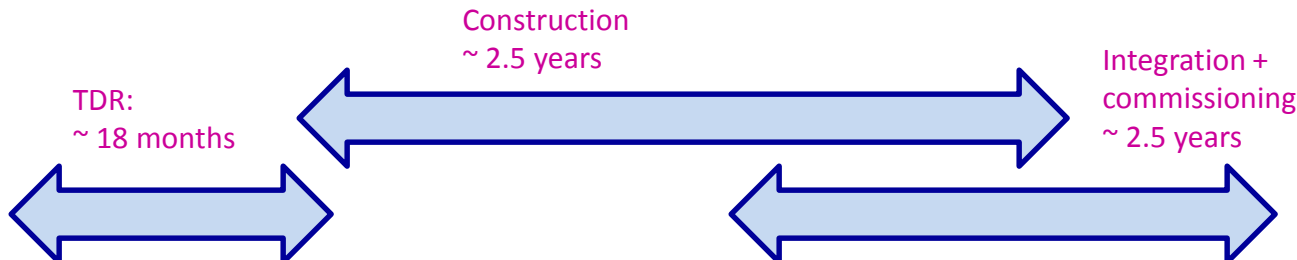
<sup>k</sup>Technical University of Denmark, DTU Space Kgs. Lyngby, Denmark

<sup>1</sup>Corresponding author.

2014 JINST 9 T05002

~80 authors

# IAXO timeline



Years		1				2				3				4				5				6			
Months		3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39	42	45	48	51	54	57	60	63	66	69	72
<b>Magnet</b>																									
Design	T0																								
	T1-T8																								
Demo coil																									
Production																									
Integration																									
Services																									
<b>Optics</b>																									
Optic design study																									
Prototype construction																									
Calibration																									
Finalize design																									
Build assembly machines																									
Procure mandrels & ovens																									
Build coating facilities																									
Slump glass																									
Deposit coatings																									
Assemble optics																									
Calibrate optics																									
Installation																									
<b>Detectors</b>																									
Prototype																									
Construction (incl. spares)																									
Installation & commissioning																									

# Short term plans

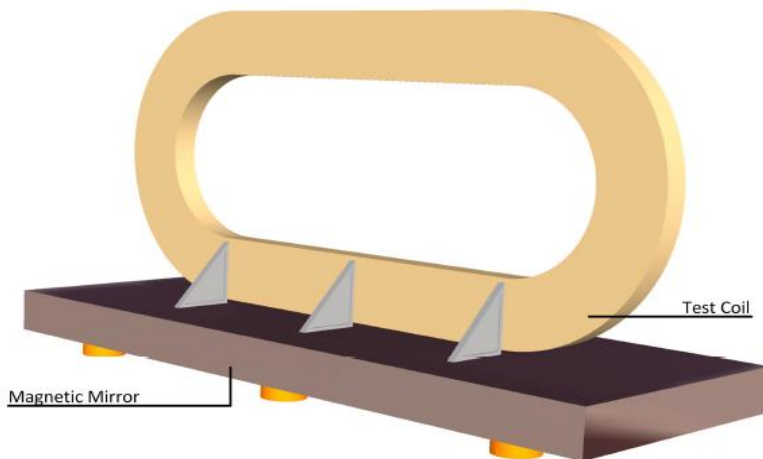
Complete a Technical Design Report:

- Construction of a demonstration coil IAXO-T0
- Construction of a prototype x-rays optics IAXO-X0
- Construction of a low background detector IAXO-D0
- Study and validate alternative detector technologies
- Feasibility for IAXO-DM

Site studies

Enlarge the collaboration

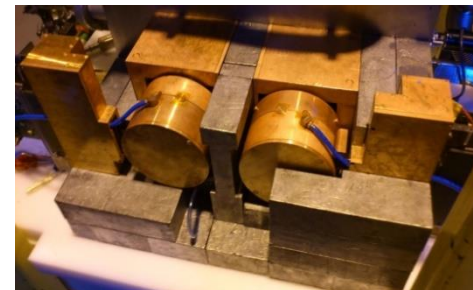
IAXO-T0



IAXO-X0



IAXO-D0



# Conclusions and next steps

**Axion searches → strong physics case**

Increasing experimental effort in the different axion searches strategies: solar axions, relic axions, laboratory axions...

CAST has been a very important milestone in axion research during the last decade

**IAXO can probe deep into unexplored axion-ALP parameter space**

IAXO could become next large project & a **generic axion facility with discovery potential in the next decade**

Need to continue with TDR & preparatory activities, formal endorsement & resources finding

- Construction of demonstration coil IAXO-T0
- Construction of a prototype x-ray optics IAXO-X0
- Construction of a prototype low background detector IAXO-D0
- Refine and update physics case
- Feasibility studies for IAXO-DM

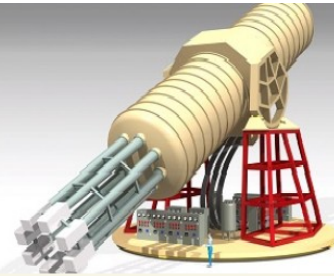
**Exciting work in front us: join us!**



# <http://iaxo.web.cern.ch/iaxo/>

## IAXO

*The International Axion Observatory*



[Home](#)   [The Experiment](#)   [Collaboration](#)   [Publications and conferences](#)   [Outreach](#)   [News](#)

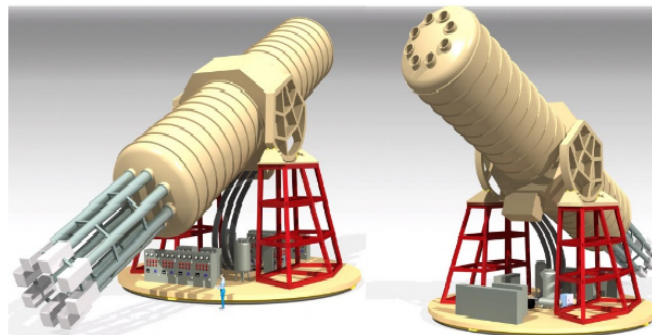


## Home

Welcome to the home page of the IAXO project!

The International Axion Observatory (IAXO) is a proposed fourth generation axion helioscope. It aims at a sensitivity much improved with respect to past and current axion searches, with real discovery potential.

The conceptual design of the experiment has been finished and a [Letter of Intent submitted to CERN](#). Recently, the SPSC has recognised the physics case of IAXO and has recommended to proceed with a Technical Design Report.



*Views of the conceptual design of IAXO*

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[IAXO in the CERN Courier](#)

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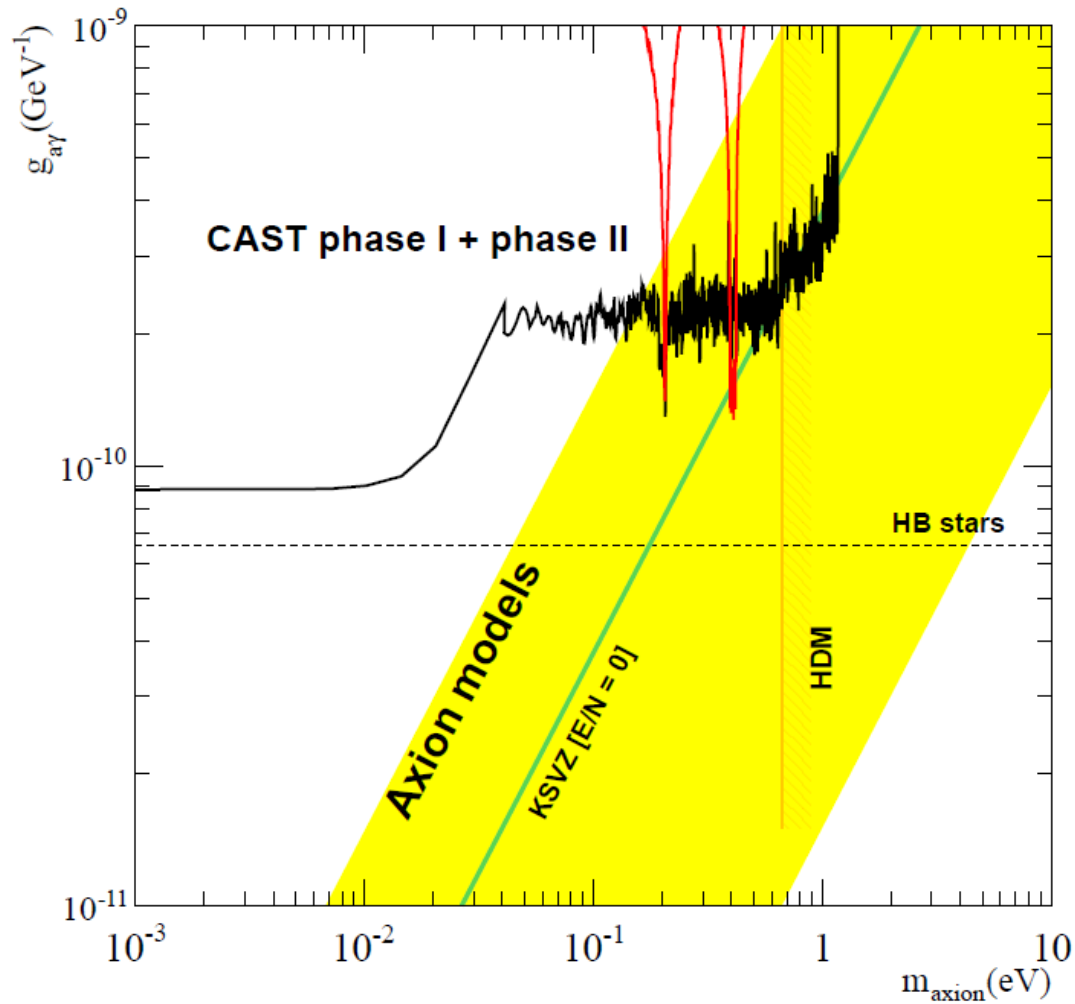
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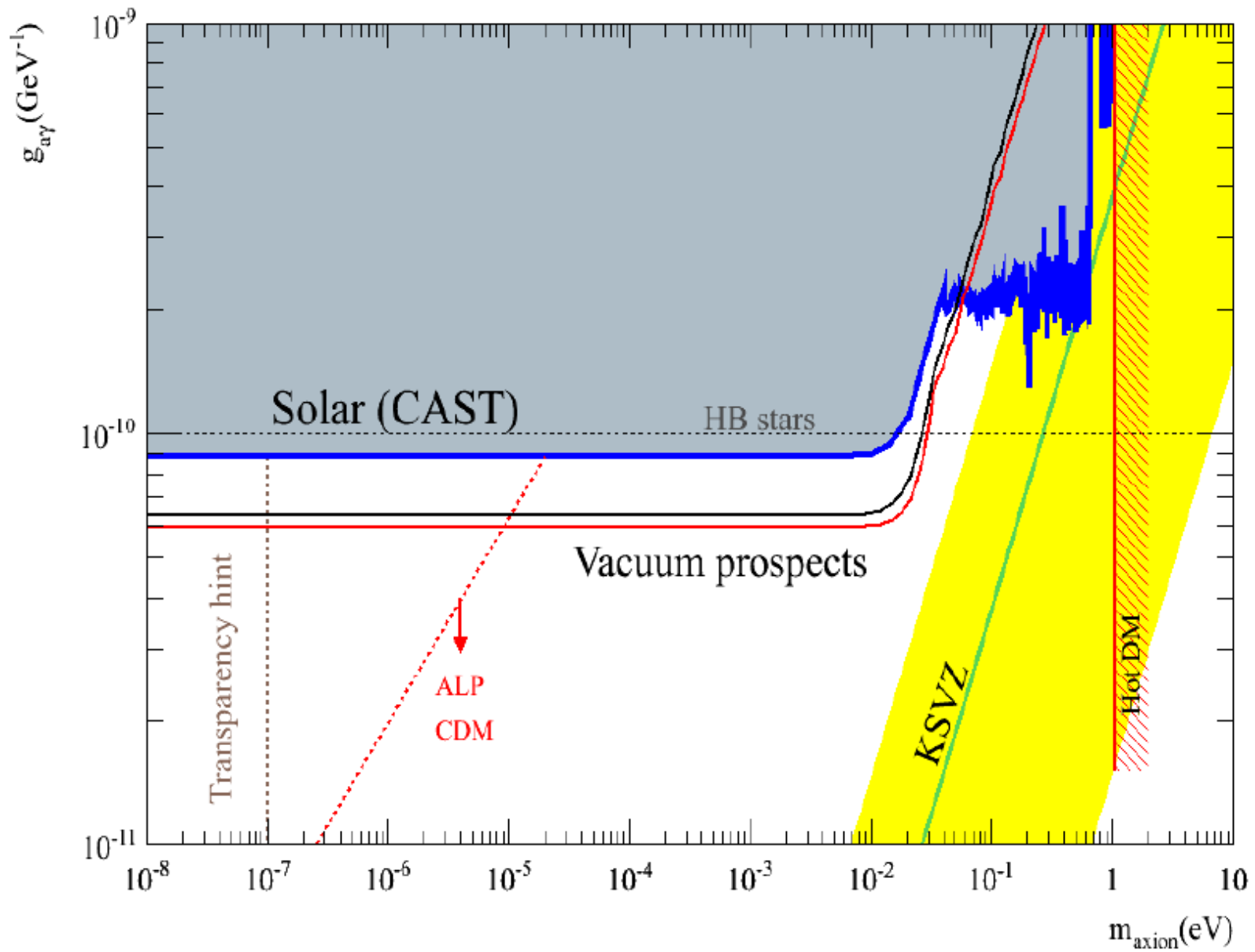
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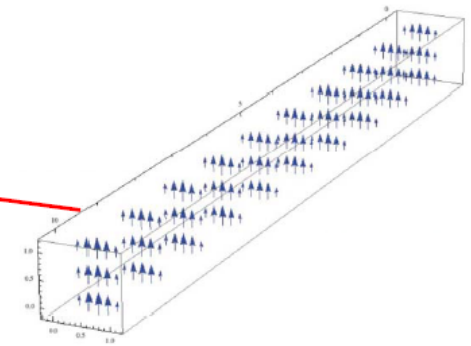
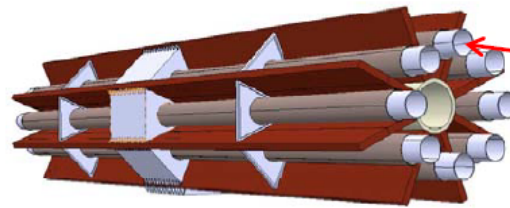


**New solar axion search in CAST with  $^4\text{He}$  Filling, Arik et al. Submitted to PRL**  
[arXiv:1503.00610](https://arxiv.org/abs/1503.00610) [hep-ex]



# IAXO-DM configurations?

- Prospects under study. Very motivated (encouraged by CERN SPSC)
- Needed new know-how (cavities, low noise microwave detectors...)
- Various possible arrangements in IAXO. Profit the huge magnetic volume available:
  1. Single large cavity tuned to low masses
  2. Thin long cavities tuned to mid-high masses. Possibility for directionality. Add several coherently?
  3. Dish antenna focusing photons to the center. Not tuned. Broadband search. Competitive at higher masses?



# Extending sensitivity to higher masses

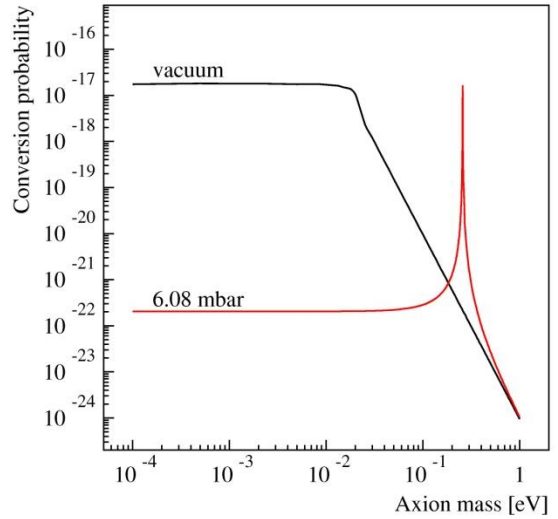
Axion to photon conversion probability:

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

Vacuum:  
 $\Gamma=0, m_\nu=0$

with  $q = \left| \frac{m_\gamma^2 - m_a^2}{2E_a} \right|$   $m_\gamma$  (eV) =  $\sqrt{\frac{4\pi\alpha N_e}{m_e}} \approx 28.9 \sqrt{\frac{Z}{A} \rho} \left( \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} \right)$

Coherence condition:  $qL < \pi$

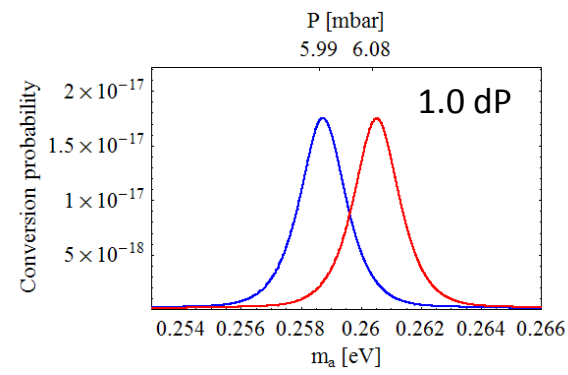


For CAST phase I conditions (vacuum), coherence is lost for  $m_a > 0.02$  eV

With the presence of a buffer gas it can be restored for a narrow mass range:

$$qL < \pi \Rightarrow \sqrt{m_\gamma^2 - \frac{2\pi E_a}{L}} < m_a < \sqrt{m_\gamma^2 + \frac{2\pi E_a}{L}}$$

e.g. for 50 mbar  $\Delta m_a \sim 10^{-3}$  eV



# IAXO costs

Item	Cost (MCHF)	Subtotals (MCHF)
<b>Magnet</b>		<b>31.3</b>
Eight coils based assembled toroid	28	
Magnet services	3.3	
<b>Optics</b>		<b>16.0</b>
Prototype Optic: Design, Fabrication, Calibration, Analysis	1.0	
IAXO telescopes (8 + 1 spare)	8.0	
Calibration	2.0	
Integration and alignment	5.0	
<b>Detectors</b>		<b>5.8</b>
Shielding & mechanics	2.1	
Readouts, DAQ electronics & computing	0.8	
Calibration systems	1.5	
Gas & vacuum	1.4	
Dome, base, services building and integration		3.7
<b>Sum</b>		<b>56.8</b>

Table 5: Estimated costs of the IAXO setup: magnet, optics and detectors. It does not include laboratory engineering, as well as maintenance & operation and physics exploitation of the experiment.