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Axion and ALP searches with NA62 and RADES

Babette Döbrich (CERN) based on work within the NA62 collaboration and the RADES team

Marseille, 24/08/18



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The axion in popular culture...

| the BiG BANG THEORY | Cosmology DARK MATTER Neuteron CR | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| | PROTON DECAY AXIONS | |

Sheldon looks for a new field of study... after BICEP 2 announcement The Relationship Diremption, Aired April 10, 2014

Why Axions? The strong CP problem!



- make $\bar{\Theta} \equiv a(x)/f_a$ dynamical \rightarrow zero through potential Peccei & Quinn, 77
- realized w global U(1)_{PQ} spontaneously broken at f_a, the axion is phase (Goldstone boson) of this symmetry

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Weinberg, Wilczek, 78





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Weinberg, Wilczek, 78

- originally $f_a \sim \Lambda_{\rm EW}$ (see arXiv:1710.03764 for revival)
- $f_a \gg \Lambda_{\rm EW}$ 'invisible axion models' 'KSVZ' & 'DFSZ' Kim, Shifman, Vainshtein, Zakharov

& Dine, Fischler, Srednicki, Zhitnitsky

"I named them after a laundry detergent, since they clean up a problem with with an axial current." (Nobel lecture 2004)



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- $m \sim 0.6 \mathrm{meV}/(f_a/10^{10} \mathrm{GeV}) \rightarrow \mathrm{pseudo-Goldstone\ boson}$
- couple to photons: Primakoff effect \rightarrow basis of most experiments

[good reading: 9506229 Sikivie's Pooltable]

[Figure taken from Redondo, BD, 1311.5341]



• Axion ColdDM via (misalignment) 📱 🔊 🤉

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2 Axion Searches with Haloscopes

3 Set-up: NA62



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Dark Matter Axions (Haloscopes)



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Dark Matter Axions (Haloscopes)



[plot taken from review: 1801.08127 by Irastorza/Redondo]



- Axions & ALPs \rightarrow dark matter candidate \rightarrow Haloscope [Sikivie '83] **resonant** technique $f_{\text{cavity}} \sim \omega_{\text{photon}} \sim m_{\text{axion}}$
- results obtained in Axion Band: ADMX and HAYSTACK
 - \odot $\vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}$ (only certain modes OK)
 - © very narrow band (tuning)





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Interlude: the problem with large axion masses



- $\bullet~$ Axion not overabundant above masses of $\sim 10^{-6} eV$
- naively: large m → lower
 resonance f → lower dimension
- Output power from cavity: $P \sim g^2 \frac{\rho}{m} B^2 \ V \ Q \ G$
- Quality factor $Q \sim 1/\Delta f
 ightarrow long scan times$
- $Q \sim \frac{V}{\delta S}$ Volume to surface ratio: gets bad at large Volumes
- proposed soln's: larger *B* (CAPP), superconducting cavity, very low *T*_{noise}, dielectric layers (MADMAX)...

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Interlude: RADES concept explored at CERN Melcon et al [1803.01243]



Melcon et al [1803.01243]



- RADES at CERN: retain large volume at high resonance frequencies large using subcavities $m \sim 34 \mu \text{eV}$
- sub-cavity sets resonance scale
- only first resonant mode couples to the axion



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Interlude: RADES concept explored at CERN Melcon et al [1803.01243]



- RADES at CERN: retain large volume at high resonance frequencies large using subcavities m ~ 34μeV
- sub-cavity sets resonance scale
- only first resonant mode couples to the axion
- 5-cavities prototype tested this winter 2017/2018
- currently conceiving larger number of sub-cavities and tuning

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Interlude: RADES concept explored at CERN Melcon et al [1803.01243]



Analytical model vs Simulations (Preliminary results)



- RADES at CERN: retain large volume at high resonance frequencies large using subcavities m ~ 34μeV
- sub-cavity sets resonance scale
- only first resonant mode couples to the axion
- 5-cavities prototype tested this winter 2017/2018
- currently conceiving larger number of sub-cavities and tuning
- now 3 prototypes exploring these aspects

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ALPs at higher masses

want to produce DM or something 'mediating' it



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ALPs at higher masses



- Some models of Dark Matter propose MeV mass, very weakly-coupled particles e.g.
- production needs sufficiently high energy & high intensity & long detection volumes
- fixed target facility is an obvious choice

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Important parameters in the fixed-target setup



- Beam energy & type (e, p, μ), number of beam particles shot on target, composition of target material
- 'shield length' and length & volume of the decay region
- background rejection by shield or detector capabilities
- detector types for decay products: charged/neutral Standard Model Particles or scattering of DM itself
- timeline of data-taking and cost

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- detector types for decay products: charged/neutral Standard Model Particles or scattering of DM itself
- timeline of data-taking and cost
- An experiment perfect for long-lived exotics searches is taking data as we speak: NA62

NA62 and $K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$: motivation and state of art



- ultra-rare FCNC decay, theory prediction: $(K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}) = (8.4 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-11}$ Buras et al. JHEP 1511, 33
- experiment at BNL, E949 (2008), stopped Kaons: BR $(K \to \pi \nu \bar{\nu}) = (17.3^{+11.5}_{-10.5}) \times 10^{-11}$ Phys. Rev. D 79, 092004

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- experiment at BNL, E949 (2008), stopped Kaons: BR($K \to \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$) = $(17.3^{+11.5}_{-10.5}) \times 10^{-11}$ Phys. Rev. D 79, 092004
- NA62 primary goal: measurement of BR($K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$) with 10% signal acceptance (decay in flight) $\Rightarrow 10^{13}K^+$ in fiducial volume
- BR correlated with flavor observables & sensitive to new physics, e.g. flavored axion models Phys. Rev. D 95, 095009 (2017)

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NA62 rationale

A Kaon's life:

- BR($K \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0$) $\simeq 0.21$
- BR($K
 ightarrow \mu^+
 u$) \simeq 0.64
- BR($K \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^+$) $\simeq 0.06$

Detector system

- Kaon: KTAG, GTK, CHANTI
- Pion: STRAW, CHOD, RICH
- $\bullet~\gamma$ Vetoes: LAV, IRC, SAC, LKr
- MUV system: μ & Hadron



unseparated 750 MHz beam at GTK3 (6.6 % Kaons at 75 GeV, 1 % bite)



NA62 rationale II & requirements

•
$$m_{\rm miss}^2 = (P_K - P_\pi)^2$$

- 10¹² background rejection!
- kinematic $\mathcal{O}(10^4)$
- high-efficiency veto: $\mathcal{O}(10^8)$ rejection of π^0 for $E(\pi^0) > 40 {\rm GeV}$
- particle ID μ vs π : rejection of $\mathcal{O}(10^7)$ for $15 < p_{\pi^+} < 35 \text{GeV}$
- \bullet timing subdetectors $\mathcal{O}(100 \mathrm{ps})$





 \downarrow R1 \downarrow R2

1 event in 2016 data (see R. Marchevski, June seminar)



$$\begin{split} &BR(K^+ \to \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) < 11 \times 10^{-10} @~90\% ~CL \\ &BR(K^+ \to \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) < 14 \times 10^{-10} @~95\% ~CL \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} & \text{Expected limit:} \quad BR(K^+ - \pi^{\pm 0} \nu \bar{\nu}) < 10 \times 10^{-10} @ 95\% \ CL \\ & \text{For comparison} \quad BR(K^+ - \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = 2.8^{+4.4}_{-2.4} \times 10^{-10} @ 68\% \ CL \\ & BR(K^+ - \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu})_{SM} = (0.84 \pm 0.10) \times 10^{-10} & \text{SM prediction} \\ & BR(K^+ - \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (1.73^{+1.15}_{-1.06}) \times 10^{-10} & \text{BNL E949/E787 Kaon Decay at Rest} \end{split}$$

- Processing of 2017 data ongoing (20-fold present statistics)
- 2018: data taking ongoing \rightarrow This topic deserves

its own talk! \rightarrow stop here :-)

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 \leftarrow beam collimator (TAX) 'open'

$$\Rightarrow$$
 K^+ to detector \downarrow



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protons on target (POT) main measurement: BR $\mathcal{O}(10^{-10})$: $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ 1) Kaon decay with exotic: $\rightarrow \pi a$

 $\leftarrow \text{ beam collimator (TAX) 'open'}$

$$\Rightarrow$$
 K^+ to detector \downarrow



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protons on target (POT) can produce exotics

> main measurement: BR $\mathcal{O}(10^{-10})$: $K^+ \to \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ 1) Kaon decay with exotic: $\to \pi a$ 2) parasitically: e.g. exotic $\to I^+I^$ n.b. \sim half the protons don't interact in target

 \leftarrow beam collimator (TAX) 'open'

 \Rightarrow K^+ to detector \downarrow

+ exotic away from beamline



protons on target (POT) can produce exotics

> main measurement: BR $\mathcal{O}(10^{-10})$: $K^+ \to \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ 1) Kaon decay with exotic: $\to \pi a$ 2) parasitically: e.g. exotic $\to l^+ l^-$ 3) dedicated data-taking e.g. axion $\to \gamma \gamma$

will be used as example later on

 $\leftarrow \text{ beam collimator closed} \rightarrow \text{dump}$

 $\Rightarrow \quad \mbox{exotics to detector} \downarrow \label{eq:product}$ with much reduced backgrounds







3 Set-up: NA62



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Heavy ALPs coupled to photons



 following projections based on Primakov production with in equivalent photon approximation (photon-from-proton) and 0 background assumption (see later...)

Detailed example: understanding ALP contours



production is not exactly forward (but not relevant for the moment)
NA62: d_{tax} ~ 81m, L_{tracker} ~ 65m, L_{calo} ~ 135m

Detailed example: understanding ALP contours



- production is not exactly forward (but not relevant for the moment)
- NA62: $d_{
 m tax} \sim$ 81m, $L_{
 m tracker} \sim$ 65m, $L_{
 m calo} \sim$ 135m
- CHARM: $d_{\rm dump} \sim 480$ m, $L_{\rm tracker} \sim 35$ m but offset 5m from beam-axis $\rightarrow A_{\rm effective} = 0.09 \rightarrow N_{\rm POT, effective} \sim 2 \times 10^{17}$
- NuCal: $d_{
 m dump}\sim 64$ m, $L_{
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 m GeV}$

Detailed example: understanding ALP contours



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 m GeV}$
- general picture persists for other use-cases \rightarrow reason for parasitic triggers: complementary sensitivity also, e.g. for ALPs to l^+l^- + Dark Photons + Heavy Neutral Leptons...

Thanks for listening :-)

we are in the middle of 2018 NA62 data-taking

- NA62 first result for main analysis channel just released
- analysis of $\mathcal{O}(10^{16})$ POT in dump-mode ongoing for neutral & charged final states
- analysis of $\mathcal{O}(10^{17})$ POT in parastic mode on-going for charged final states

we are taking new data with the RADES cavity from mid-september

- our aim is to delevop a cavity concept sensitive to QCD axions $\gg 10 \mu {\rm eV}$
- test cavity performance validated, working on several improvements

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Additional slides/backup

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Supplement: Projections for DM Axions with RADES

From JCAP 05, 040: Melcón,[...], BD et al.



ightarrow QCD Axion relation: $g_{a\gamma} \equiv 2 \times 10^{-16} C_{a\gamma} \frac{m_a}{\mu eV} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$ KSVZ and yellow band: Axion models

→ note: prospect 'Axiflavon' reach for NA62: $m_a \gtrsim 10^{-5} \text{eV}$ [PRD 95, 095009]

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Charged bkg rejection: 2016 data $\mathcal{O}(10^{15})$ POT



- Track quality (association with CHOD, LKr hits in time) + acceptance (CHOD, LKr, MUV3)
- Vertex quality: two-track-distance $<1{\rm cm},$ vertex-position 105< z <165 m
- further veto (rhs): $E_{\rm LKr, additional} < 2$ GeV; IRC, SAC, LAV no hits with \pm 5ns, CHANTI no candidate within \pm 5ns
- no events in signal region at TAX even with standard K^+ beam at $\mathcal{O}(10^{15})$ POT, background rejection OK for $\mathcal{O}(10^{15})$ POT in standard conditions and $\mathcal{O}(10^{16})$ in dump

2+3) Exotic from dumped-beam: prospects

- Parasitic to $\pi \nu \bar{\nu}$: flavored axion, invisible Dark Photons, heavy Neutrinos, Dark Scalars...
- **2** Trigger Parasitic to $\pi\nu\bar{\nu}$: $\mu\pi + \mu\mu$ away from beamline: 2017: $\mathcal{O}(10^{17})$ POT, sizable statistics $\mathcal{O}(10^{18})$ POT possible this year
- Image: dump-mode: sizable statistics $\mathcal{O}(10^{18})$ reserved for future, but some channels discovery potential with moderate statistics (e.g. ALP $\mathcal{O}(10^{16})$)
 Current Run
 Run3
 Run4



Under study / definition, interaction/synergy with the Physics Beyond Collider CERN initiative

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Fiducial cross-section: importance of being boosted



fiducial cross-section

- requirement: reach the decay volume and detect two γ with certain geometrical constraints in Calorimeter
- two examplary parameter points of the fiducial cross-section

analysis impact

probability to reach decay volume ~ exp(-l_{absorber}/l_d), l_d = γβτ ~ E_a/m 64π/m³g²
 large (g, m) more boosted, possibility to choose appropriate signal box for such (g, m)

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2016 data: $\sim 10^{11} {\it K}^+$ useful for analysis



- K^+ decay into single charged track, π^+ PID, γ & multi-track rejection
- Performances: GTK-KTAG-RICH timing: O(100 ps), $\gamma/\text{multi-track}$ rejection: 3×10^{-8} , overall π^+ ID: 64%,

Single Event Sensitivity and background budget

| SES = | 1 | $N_{\pi\pi} \cdot D$ | $\cdot D$ |
|-------|--|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | $\overline{N_K \cdot (A_{\pi\nu\nu} \cdot \epsilon_{RV} \cdot \epsilon_{trig})}$ | $N_K = \frac{1}{A_{\pi\pi}}$ | $\overline{BR_{\pi\pi}}$ |

| Number of K^+ Decays | ${ m N_K} = (1.21 \pm 0.02) 	imes 10^{11}$ | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| Acceptance $K^+ \to \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ | $A_{\pi\nu\nu} = 0.040 \pm 0.001$ | | |
| PNN trigger efficiency | $\epsilon_{trig} = 0.87 \pm 0.02$ | | |
| Random veto | $\epsilon_{RV} = 0.76 \pm 0.04$ | | |
| SES | $(3.15\pm0.01_{\rm stat}\pm0.24_{\rm syst})	imes10^{-10}$ | Process | Expected events in R1+R2 |
| Expected SM $K^+ \to \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ | $0.267 \pm 0.001_{stat} \pm 0.020_{syst} \pm 0.032_{ext}$ | $K^+ \to \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu} \ (SM)$ | $0.267 \pm 0.001_{stat} \pm 0.020_{syst} \pm 0.032_{ext}$ |
| | | Total Background | $0.15\pm0.09_{\rm stat}\pm0.01_{\rm syst}$ |
| | | $K^+ \to \pi^+ \pi^0(\gamma)$ IB | $0.064 \pm 0.007_{stat} \pm 0.006_{syst}$ |
| | | $K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu(\gamma)$ IB | $0.020 \pm 0.003_{stat} \pm 0.003_{syst}$ |
| | | $K^+ \to \pi^+\pi^- e^+ \nu$ | $0.018^{+0.024}_{-0.017} _{stat} \pm 0.009_{syst}$ |
| | | $K^+ \to \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$ | $0.002 \pm 0.001_{stat} \pm 0.002_{syst}$ |
| | | Upstream Background | $0.050^{+0.090}_{-0.030} _{stat}$ |

- N_K computed from $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0$ on control trigger stream (D = 400), w/o γ and multiplicity rejection and modified m_{miss}^2 -cut
- Expected number of events from 2016 data: BR_{SM theory}/SES
- validation of background expectations in control regions, see e.g. https://indico.cern.ch/event/714178/ for details

Background modelling by conventional beams group

M.Rosenthal



- Geant4 beamline model, aim: potential optimization of beamline for future longer exotics/dump runs
- can provide valuable input for data already on tape

Benchmarking the Muon Halo + secondaries



- impressive benchmark for single charged tracks; reduction factor: > \$\mathcal{O}\$(10⁵)
- ongoing benchmarking for coincident charged tracks (e⁺e⁻), suspicion of double-bremsstrahlung with 'lost tracks' as di-γ background



Benchmarking continued

- Characteristic muon distribution reproduced
- Rates at higher momenta estimated from extrapolation
- Absolute scaling of data and MC differs by factor ~5
 - → under investigation (comp. expensive)

L.Gatignon, 13-06-2018

Marseille, 24/08/18



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