XLVII Rencontres de Moriond on EW Interactions& Unified Theories

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Results from CAST & other Axion Searches

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Outline

- Axions
 - Physics
 - Motivation
 - The axion to photon coupling
- Axion searches
- Laboratory Experiments: ALPS
- Cold dark matter Axions: ADMX
- Solar Axions: CAST
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 - Recent Results & prospects
 - The IAXO project
- Conclusions

Axions & the strong CP problem

CP violation is allowed in strong interactions: $\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = \mathcal{L}_{pert} + \theta \frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} G\widetilde{G}$

Such violation is not observed experimentally!

→ the neutron EDM: $d_n < 3 \times 10^{-26} e cm \Rightarrow \theta \leq 10^{-10}$ why is θ so small?

→ the strong-CP problem the only outstanding flaw in QCD

The most natural solution: Peccei-Quinn global U(1)_{PQ} symmetry broken at a scale f_{PQ} , Appearance of a new field : Axion field

 $\Rightarrow \text{A new pseudoscalar particle the axion,} \\ \text{with mass:} \quad m_a = m_{\pi} \frac{f_{\pi}}{f_{PQ}} = 6 \text{ eV} \frac{10^6 \text{ GeV}}{f_{PQ}}$

All the axion couplings are inversely proportional to f_{PQ}^2 (= f_a^2)



Axion summary

Axion properties

- neutral pseudoscalar,
- practically stable,
- very low mass,
- very low interaction cross-sections
 - → Nearly invisible to ordinary matter

Axion origin

- Cosmological axions (cold dark matter)
- Solar axions



Open questions: dark matter

- Dark matter seems to consist ~21% of the universe, dominating the dynamics of galaxies and clusters of galaxies.
- The axion (or ALPs) is an excellent dark matter candidate



http://cdms.phy.queensu.ca/Public_Docs/Pictures/Rotationcurve_3.jpg

Open questions: the sun

> The solar corona heating

> The solar spectrum



Is there a new mechanism transporting energy from the core to the surface?

Open questions: white dwarfs

- White dwarfs cool too fast!
 - Observed in individual cases.
 - Seen in samples.
- Is there an unknown energy loss channel at work?
 - Emission of axions?





Open questions: TeV γ propagation

TeV photons should be absorbed by e⁺e⁻ pair production due to interaction with the extragalactic background light (EBL):

 $\gamma_{TeV} + \gamma_{eV} \rightarrow e^+ + e^-$

However, the TeV spectra of distant galaxies extend deep into the optical thick regions.

Could an axion or a Weakly Interacting Slim Particle, (WISP) be involved?



M. Meyer, 7th Patras Workshop on Axions, WIMPs and WISPs, 2011



TeV photons may "hide"

Axion searches

Search for **axion couplings**, most commonly the **axion to photon**

Parameter space:

(coupling constant g_{av} & axion mass m_a)



Cosmological & Astrophysical observations \rightarrow bounds on axion properties

- 1. Sun lifetime. $g_{a\gamma} \approx 2 5 \cdot 10^{-6} \,\text{GeV}^{-1} \longrightarrow 1000 \,\text{years}$
- 2. Stellar evolution. Globular clusters. $g_{a\gamma} \leq 10^{-10} GeV^{-1}$
- 3. White dwarf cooling. Axion would affect rotation frequency evolution.
 - 4. Supernova Sn1987a. v pulse precludes NN \rightarrow NNa for $m_a \sim 10^{-(3-0)} eV$.
- 5. Overclosure. $\Omega_a \propto f a^{\frac{7}{6}} \rightarrow m_a \geq 1 \mu e V/c^2$

Experimental axion searches

Laser experiments (*laboratory*):

 Photon regeneration - "invisible light shining through wall" (ALPS,OSCAR,LIPSS,GammeV...)

Polarization experiments (PVLAS)

Search for dark matter axions:

 Microwave cavity experiments (ADMX)

Search for solar axions:

- Bragg + crystal (SOLAX, COSME, DAMA)
- Helioscopes (SUMIKO, CAST)



The ALPS Experiment

Any Light Particle Search @ DESY: ALPS-I concluded in 2010



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Any Light Particle Search @ DESY: ALPS-I concluded in 2010



"Light-shining-through-a-wall" (LSW)

The ALPS-I experiment

<u>New:</u> realize an optical resonator inside the HERA dipole!



Lock by adapting the distance between the mirrors to the variations of the laser frequency.

<u>Limitation</u>: power density on the mirrors of \approx 50 kW/cm² (532 nm).

ALPS-I results

(PLB Vol. 689 (2010), 149, or http://arxiv.org/abs/1004.1313)

> Unfortunately, no light was shining through the wall!



ALPS-I results

(PLB Vol. 689 (2010), 149, or http://arxiv.org/abs/1004.1313)

• ALPS is the most sensitive experiment for WISP searches in the laboratory.



The ALPS-II potential and summary

Goal: reaching the region close to 10⁻¹¹ GeV⁻¹ in 2017 to probe astrophysical phenomena.

- Laser with optical cavity to recycle laser power, switch from 532 nm to 1064 nm, increase effective power from 1 to 150 kW.
- Magnet: upgrade to 12+12 straightened HERA dipoles instead of ¹/₂+¹/₂ used for ALPS-I.
- Regeneration cavity to increase WISP-photon conversions, single photon counter (superconducting transition edge sensor?)



Main challenges:

Getting the optical system running (at present no show stopper found) Getting the HERA dipoles straight (at present no show stopper found) Getting a TES detector running (first success) Setting up a 260 m long system (surveys under way, decision expected for 2015)

The Axion Dark Matter eXperiment



ADMX: Existing experiment at Washington university.



ADMX-HF in preparation at Yale.

Both experiments could probe a large part of the parameter space for dark matter axions!

ADMX: search for cold dark matter axions

- Due to the low axion mass, cold dark matter can not be detected by recoil techniques.
- Dark matter axions (or WISPs) have to convert into photons in a thoroughly shielded environment.
- The mass of the dark matter particle determines the energy to be detected. For axions it is in the microwave range.



ADMX sensitivity

Microstrip SQUID amplifiers (John Clarke, UCB Physics)

Operation at ~1 K

ADMX is the world's quietest spectral receiver: Sensitive to **one RF photon every two weeks**







quieter than current GaAs HFET amplifier

ADMX results

So far, no axion over an octave in mass! (1.9 - 3.6 µeV)



 $T_{Sys} = T + T_N$

PRL 80 (1998) 2043 PRD 64 (2001) 092003 ApJ Lett 571 (2002) 27 PRD 69 (2004) 011101(R) PRL 95 (9) 091304 (2005) PRD 74 (2006) 012006 PRL 104 (2010) 041301

Courtesy of Karl van Bibber UC Berkeley

 $T_{\scriptscriptstyle N}^{Squid} \propto T$

ADMX results

So far, no axion over an octave in mass! (1.9 - 3.6 µeV)



CAST: a helioscope "a la Sikivie"

Axions would be produced in the Sun's core and re-converted to x-rays inside an intense magnetic field. P. Sikivie, Phys. Rev. Lett. 51, 1415-1417 (1983)



CAST is using a prototype superconducting LHC dipole magnet able to track the Sun for about 1.5 hours during Sunrise and Sunset. Operation at T=1.8 K, I=13,000A, B=9T, L=9.26m



Expected signal

X-Ray excess during tracking at 1-10 keV region

CAST sensitivity per detector

0.3 counts/hour for g_{ayy} = 10⁻¹⁰ GeV⁻¹ and A = 14.5 cm²

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CAST detectors

Sunrise side **CCD + X-Ray Telescope** (prototype for the ABRIXAS Space mission)









	Typical rates
TPC	85 counts/h (2-12 keV)
ММ	25 counts/h (2-10 keV)
CCD	0.18 counts/h (1-7 keV)
New MM	1-2 counts/h (1-7) keV

Sunrise side Micromegsas detector

Sunset side Micromegas detectors



CAST physics program & main results

Proposal approved by CERN (13th April 2000) (2002)Commissioning CAST Phase I: vacuum operation (2003 - 2004) completed **CAST Phase II:** (2005-2011) ⁴He run, (2005–2006) *completed* $0.02 \text{ eV} < m_a < 0.39 \text{ eV}$ ³He run (2007-2011) *completed* ongoing analysis $0.39 \text{ eV} < m_a < ~1.20 \text{ eV}$ Low energy axions (2007 - 2011) in parallel with the main program ~ few eV range April 2011: Proposal to SPSC for 2012-2014

> Start of 3rd CAST phase, solar axions & chameleons

For $m_a < 0.02 \text{ eV}$:

 $g_{\alpha\gamma} < 0.88 \times 10^{-10} \ GeV^{-1}$

JCAP04(2007)010, CAST Collaboration PRL (2005) 94, 121301, CAST Collaboration

For m_a < 0.39 eV typical upper limit:

 $g_{\alpha\gamma} < 2.2 \times 10^{-10} \, GeV^{-1}$

JCAP 0902:008,2009, CAST Collaboration

For 0.39 $< m_a < 0.64 \text{ eV typical limit:}$

 $g_{\alpha\gamma} < 2.1 \times 10^{-10} \, GeV^{-1}$

PRL (2011) 107, 261302, CAST Collaboration

CAST byproducts:

High Energy Axions: Data taking with a HE calorimeter (JCAP 1003:032,2010)

14.4 keV Axions: TPC data (JCAP 0912:002,2009)

Low Energy (visible) Axions: Data taking with a PMT/APD. (arXiv:0809.4581)

CAST sensitivity

Axion to photon conversion probability:

$$\left| P_{a \to \gamma} = \left(\frac{Bg_{a\gamma}}{2} \right)^2 \frac{1}{q^2 + \Gamma^2/4} \left[1 - e^{-\Gamma L/2} - 2e^{-\Gamma L/2} \cos(qL) \right] \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{Vacuum:} \\ \Gamma = 0, \ m_{\gamma} = 0 \end{array} \right]$$

Coherence condition: $qL < \pi$, $|q| = \frac{m_a^2}{2E}$

For CAST phase I conditions (vacuum), coherence is lost for $m_a > 0.02 \text{ eV}$.

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

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

with
$$m_{\gamma} = \sqrt{\frac{4\pi\alpha N_e}{m_e}} \approx 28.9 \sqrt{\frac{Z}{A}\rho} \quad eV$$

 New discovery potential for each density (pressure) setting



Using a buffer gas...

- Precise knowledge and/or reproducibility of \geq each pressure setting is essential
- Gas **density homogeneity** along the magnet \succ bore during tracking is critical
 - ✓ Supperfluid ${}^{4}\text{He} @ 1.8 \rightarrow \text{temperature stability}$ along the cold bore
 - ✓ Hydrostatic pressure effects are not critical
 - parts of the magnet bores, outside the X magnetic field region, in higher temperatures. Variations during tracking, depended on the buffer gas density

To face that situation we:

- Precise measurement of the amount of gas ejected into the cold bores
- Installed temperature and pressure sensors at several points
- Computational Fluid Dynamics Simulation with the sensors' data as bounding conditions

Variation of gas density during tracking \rightarrow m_a scanning! new formulation of

the binned likelihood:



Zero counts detected contribution

One count detected contribution

CAST latest results (published)



³He limit exceeds expectations!

Detector improvements

CAST preliminary results for m_a > 0.64 eV/ c^2



Data taken during 2009 - 2010

3 additional months in 2011 to fill gaps and cover axion masses up to 1.15 eV/c^2

Exclusion plot includes:

- ✓ Sunrise MM 2010(gaps), 2011
- ✓ Sunset MM 2009, 2010, 2011
- ✓ X-Ray telescope 2010 (gaps)
- > Analysis to be completed
- Finalize CFSs for a moving magnet, to exclude signal excess



CAST prospects for axion searches



CAST new physics 2012-2014

Solar Chameleons

- Chameleons are DE candidates to explain the acceleration of the Universe
- Chameleon mass depends on the energy density of its environment
- Chameleon particles can be created by the Primakoff effect in a strong magnetic field. This can happen in the tachocline of the Sun.
- The chameleons created inside the sun eventually reach earth where they are energetic enough to penetrate the CAST experiment. Like axions, they can then be back-converted to X-ray photons.
- In vacuum, CAST observations lead to stronger constraints on the chameleon coupling to photons than previous experiments.



axion helioscope = chameleon helioscope @ LE!!

Sub-keV detector threshold + vacuum

Detection Prospects for Solar and Terrestrial Chameleons

Philippe Brax,^{1,*} Axel Lindner,² and Konstantin Zioutas³

Axion helioscope's FOM

• 3 parts drive the sensitivity of an axion helioscope



where b is the time- and area-normalized background of the detector, ϵ_d its efficiency; a is the focal spot area of the optics, ϵ_o its throughput, B is the magnet field strength, L its length, and A its cross sectional area; t is the exposure time.

Helioscopes' future(?): the IAXO proposal

- The International Axion Observatory
 - CAST principle with dramatically enlarging the aperture
 - Use of toroid magnet similar to ATLAS?
 - X-ray optics similar to satellite experiments.





New magnet "a la ATLAS"

- CAST enjoys one of the best existing magnets than one can "recycle" for axion physics
 LHC test magnet
- Only way to make a step further is to built a **new magnet**, specially conceived for this.
- Work ongoing, but best option up to know is a toroidal configuration:
 - Much bigger aperture than CAST: ~0.5-1 m / bore
 - Lighter than a dipole (no iron yoke)
 - Bores at room temperature



Cross section of the magnet





X-Ray optics

Light Path in XMM-Newton Telescope



~1900cm² (<150 eV), ~1500cm² (@ 2 keV), ~900cm² (@ 7keV), ~350 cm² (@ 10 keV).

Large magnet aperture

- → X-ray focusing device
 - Background reduction
 - Detector simplification

XMM mirror module



Conclusions

CAST, has completed Phase II by the end of 2011. During its 12 years of existence:

- has put the strictest experimental limit on axion searches for a wide m_a range
- has tested axion masses inside the region favored by QCD models (analysis of all data close to finish)

New searches for axions/WISPs will start in mid 2012

Different type axion searches are going on:

- ADMX is scanning the m_a-g_{ay} parameter space deep inside the QCD model region for dark matter axions.
 ADMX-II and ADMX-HF will widen this search in the near future
- ALPS has reached the strictest laboratory bounds on axion to photon coupling. Future upgrades will allow the search for ALPs beyond the limit of the HB stars

With the ongoing upgrades on laboratory experiments, helioscopes & haloscopes, a big part of QCD favored model region can be swept up to 2020

Prospects of axion searches in the next decade





End - Backup slides

Twice per year (March/September) direct optical check A camera on top of the magnet aligned with the bore axis Corrections for visible light refraction are taken into account



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The Magnet Pointing precision is well within our requirements (0.5 mrad)

CAST Status & Perspectives, Theopisti Dafni (UNIZAR), Moriond2010

Tracking system precision

Several yearly checks cross-check that the magnet is following the Sun with the required precision

GRID Measurements

 Horizontal and Vertical encoders define the magnet orientation

 Correlation between H/V encoders has been established for a number of points (GRID points)

 Periodically checked with geometer measurements



Sun Filming

- Twice a year (March September)
 Direct optical check. Corrected for optical refraction
- Verify that the dynamic Magnet Pointing precision (~ 1 arcmin) is within our aceptance



Operating in the sub-kev range

Low threshold

- Argon: good absorption efficiency in the energy range 1-7 keV
- Neon: higher gain (> factor 10)
 Single electron detection!!!
- Good absorption up to 3 keV
- Mixture of Ar-Ne can be used to cover all range 0.1-10 keV
- Study several Ne -ethane / isobutane mixtures
- Ongoing studies for Ar-He and Ar-cyclohexane mixtures







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Solar Paraphotons

- Converted from thermal photons inside the Sun due to kinetic mixing
- Region of interest for CAST 10 -3 < m < 10 eV
- Resonant production in a shell inside sun for m > 10⁻² eV
- Clear signature ring images r/R_o > 0.7
- CAST XRT/CCD our solar imaging system



Log₁₀(wp/eV)

-2

-3 -4

0.4

0.6

0.8

Cast Paraphoton sensitivity

New Vacuum Run (2×10⁶sec):

normal tracking, XRT FOV strongly limits sensitivity. \rightarrow Off-pointing \rightarrow Could be used to look for structure with good ε over reduced region



CAST sensitivity to Chameleons

 $\frac{dN}{d\omega}$

Non - resonant Spectrum



10-50-**0.1 mbar** vacuum 40-30-20-10-0,2 0,4 0,6 0,8 1,0 1,2 1,4 1,6 0,2 0,4 0,6 0,8 1,0 1,2 1,4 1,6 [keV] energy energy

The mass of the chameleon in the CAST pipe with vacuum is: $m_{ch} = 40 \,\mu eV$

The analogue spectrum [h⁻¹ keV⁻¹] of regenerated photons as predicted to be seen by CAST: matter coupling = 10°, B=30T in a shell of width $0.1R_{solar}$ around the tachocline (~ $0.7R_{solar}$).





1,8 2,0 [keV]

Non - resonant Spectrum