# AXION Searches at INFN

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#### Introduction - Dark Matter

#### Cosmic Microwave Background - Anisotropy





 $\begin{cases} \Omega_{\Lambda} \approx 68\% \\ \Omega_{DM} \approx 26\% \\ \Omega_{b} \approx 6\% \end{cases}$ 

Plank 2018 results - arXiv:1807.06209





Big-Bang Nucleosynthesis

Hubble Diagram from type Ia Supernovae

#### **Baryon Acoustic Oscillations - DESI**









https://www.explainxkcd.com/wiki/index.php/2035:\_Dark\_Matter\_Candidates

# **DM** Candidates



https://www.explainxkcd.com/wiki/index.php/2035:\_Dark\_Matter\_Candidates

# **DM** Candidates



# Mass $m_a = 5.70(7) \left(\frac{10^{12} GeV}{f_a}\right) \mu eV \simeq \frac{m_\pi f_\pi}{f_a}$

Present limit:  $f_a > 10^9 GeV$ 

Coupling  

$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} = \frac{\alpha_{em}}{2\pi f_a} \left(\frac{E}{N} - 1.92(4)\right)$$

Lifetime

$$\Gamma_{a \to \gamma\gamma} = \frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 m_a^3}{64\pi} = 1.1 \times 10^{-24} s^{-1} \left(\frac{m_a}{eV}\right)^5$$



#### Axion Limits



Stellar physics:Constraints on stellar lifetime or energy-loss rates.

Astronomy: No DM  $a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  decays seen in the visible region from galaxies with telecopes. Similar searches with X-rays and extragalactic background light (EBL) or H ionization.











#### Laboratori Nazionali di Legnaro (LNL)













$$\nabla^2 E - \partial_t^2 E = -g_{a\gamma\gamma} B_0 \partial_t^2 a$$

Solving the equation inside a cylindrical resonant cavity, the signal power is

$$P_{\rm sig} = \left(g_{\gamma}^2 \frac{\alpha^2}{\pi^2} \frac{\hbar^3 c^3 \rho_a}{\Lambda^4}\right) \times \left(\frac{\beta}{1+\beta} \omega_c \frac{1}{\mu_0} B_0^2 V C_{mnl} Q_L\right)$$



 $\beta$  antenna coupling to cavity V cavity volume  $C_{mnl}$  mode dependent factor about 0.6 for TM010

 $Q_L$  cavity "loaded" quality factor

Sikivie Phys. Rev. D 32,11 (1985)

# The LNL Haloscope



- B=8 T
- Dilution Refrigerator
- Tcavity 110 mK
- TWPA
- T<sub>noise</sub>=2 K
- Dielectric Cavity
- Sapphire tuner
- Q=2.5×10<sup>5</sup>
- VC<sub>030</sub>=0.034 L



Search for galactic axions with a traveling wave parametric amplifier PHYSICAL REVIEW D 108, 062005, arXiv:2304.7505 (2023)

#### High-Q Microwave Dielectric Resonator for Axion Dark-Matter Haloscopes







#### Reversed Kerr TWPA



6 mm transmission line composed by 700 cells made of superconducting nonlinear asymmetric inductive elements (SNAIL)



$$\begin{split} \varphi(z,t) &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{Pump} & \mathsf{Signal} \\ [A_p(z)e^{i(k_p z - \omega_p t)} + A_s(z)e^{i(k_s z - \omega_s t)} \\ &+ A_i(z)e^{i(k_i z - \omega_i t)} + \mathrm{c.c.}], \\ & \mathsf{Idler} \end{split}$$

$$\omega_s + \omega_i = 2\omega_p$$

A. Ranadive et al. Kerr reversal in josephson metamaterial and traveling wave parametric amplification. Nature Communications, 13(1):1737, Apr 2022.

#### Results of LNL Axion Search in 2022



Search for galactic axions with a traveling wave parametric amplifier
PHYSICAL REVIEW D 108, 062005, arXiv:2304.7505 (2023)

RUN	$\nu_c-10.353~{\rm GHz}$	Cavity $Q_L$	$\beta$	Ref Peak
n	(Hz)			(a.u.)
389	522  600	230000	21.6	179
392	494  100	240000	23.8	185
394	468 800	245000	24.2	186
395	468 800	245000	24.2	187
397	439 800	245000	22.7	175
399	418 500	245000	22.6	191
401	393 100	$250\ 000$	22.5	186
404	365 400	$255\ 000$	23.5	193



# QUAX@LNF: The LNF Axion Haloscope





#### December 2023 Run

- Cavity temperature 30 mK
- Magnetic Field B=8 T
- Frequency 8.8 GHz
- Copper cavity Q<sub>0</sub>=50,000 with tuner
- HEMT amplifier
- Tnoise 4K
- 2 weeks data taking
- 6 MHz scan



# Cavity Tuning





 $\alpha$  (deg)

6 MHz of frequency scan

Rod Rotation Angle [deg]

#### Acquisition Chain







# QUAX@LNF Results for 2023 Run

- 24 runs, 1 hour each, 250 kHz of frequency steps
- Average exclusion 90% c.l.  $g_{a\gamma\gamma} = 2 \times 10^{-13} \ GeV^{-1}$
- Preprint arXiv:2404.19063



$\nu_c  [\text{GHz}]$	$Q_L$	$\beta$
8.83176900	32345	0.5206
8.83203080	32228	0.519
8.83229550	32273	0.5082
8.83255580	32332	0.5141
8.83282190	32387	0.5097
8.83307310	32401	0.5078
8.83334500	32300	0.5097
8.83360070	32503	0.5058
8.83386200	32540	0.5075
8.83412790	32752	0.5014
8.83438580	32573	0.5026
8.83464620	32904	0.5005
8.83490660	32957	0.4984
8.83516350	32863	0.4951
8.83542850	32872	0.4947
8.83568970	33326	0.4881
8.83594630	33051	0.489
8.83620570	33056	0.4894
8.83646975	33104	0.4857
8.83672330	33584	0.4823
8.83698660	33529	0.4803
8.83724500	33659	0.4823
8.83750860	33639	0.4793
8.83776640	33450	0.4793

## QUAX LNF&LNL 2023-2025















# COLD@LNF

CryOgenic Laboratory for Detectors:

- Axion Dark Matter Experiments
- Quantum Sensing with Superconducting Devices
- Type II and HTC Superconducting Cavities



**ICSC** Centro Nazionale di Ricerca in HPC, Big Data and Quantum Computing











# The Superconducting Qubit

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$$E = \frac{Q^2}{2C} - E_J \cos 2\pi \phi / \phi_0$$







#### Qubit in a 3D Resonator



#### Quantum Sensing with SC Qubits



Appl. Sci. 2024, 14(4), 1478

#### Quantum non-demolition detection of an itinerant photon



The qubit dephasing during the gate interval results in an erroneous phase flip of the qubit. The qubit dephasing also contributes dominantly to the dark-count probability of 0.0147 ± 0.0005.

Need to match dispersive shift with resonator width!

Dark count rate

$$R = \frac{p(1|0)}{T_2} \approx \frac{1\%}{26\,\mu s} = 385\,Hz$$

Kono et al. Nature Phys 14, 546-549 (2018)

#### Two Qubits Scheme

0 - Initial state

 $|Q_1Q_2
angle_{\overline{\gamma}}=|0
angle imes|0
angle$ 

1 - Prepare the qubits in 0+1 state

 $|Q_1Q_2\rangle = rac{1}{2}(|0
angle + |1
angle) imes (|0
angle + |1
angle)$ 

2a - If no photons arrive, nothing happens. Complete Ramsey cycle

 $|Q_1Q_2
angle_{\overline{\gamma}}=|0
angle imes|0
angle$ 

2b - If instead a photon arrives

$$\begin{aligned} |Q_1 Q_2 \rangle_{\gamma} &= \frac{1}{2} \Big( e^{-i\pi} |00\rangle + |10\rangle + |01\rangle + e^{i\pi} |11\rangle \Big) \\ &= \frac{-1}{2} (|00\rangle - |10\rangle - |01\rangle + |11\rangle) \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} (|0\rangle - |1\rangle) \times (|0\rangle - |1\rangle) \end{aligned}$$



3 - Completing the Ramsey cycle

 $|Q_1Q_2\rangle_{\gamma} = |1
angle imes |1
angle$ 

#### Dark count rate

$$R = \frac{p(1|0)^2}{T_2/2} \approx \frac{2 \times 10^{-4}}{26 \,\mu s} = 8 \,Hz$$

Appl. Sci. 2024, 14(4), 1478

#### Two Qubits Scheme



#### R&D on cavity fabrication





R&D on qubit fabrication (CNR-IFN)





### QUAX LNF&LNL 2023-2025





Galactic axion search at 100 MHz (0.5-1.5 µeV)



# Large Superconducting Magnets at LNF



#### FINUDA→FLASH

B(T)	1.1
I(A)	2845
R(m)	1.4
L(m)	2.2





#### KLOE→KLASH

B(T)	0.6
I(A)	2300
R(m)	2.43
L(m)	4.4

Physics of the Dark Universe 42 (2023) 101370



INFN

# THE F(K)LASH Cryostat and Resonant Cavity



- KLOE/FINUDA Magnet
- Vacuum vessel made by a-magnetic stainless steel

counterweight

- Shield in aluminum alloy, to be cooled to 70 K by gaseous Helium
- OFHC Cu resonant cavity, cooled to 4.6 K by saturated liquid Helium
- 3 OFHC Cu tuning bars mounted on eccentric cranks with reduction gearboxes

Stepper motor

(2.5 µrad)

Design by FANTINI Sud Mechanical Div.

## Sensitivity to Axions and ALPS



Parameter	Value
$ \nu_{c}  [\mathrm{MHz}] $	150
$m_a  [\mu \mathrm{eV}]$	0.62
$g_{a\gamma\gamma}^{\rm KSVZ}$ [GeV <sup>-1</sup> ]	$2.45\times10^{-16}$
$Q_L$	$1.4 \times 10^5$
$C_{010}$	0.53
$B_{\max}$ [T]	1.1
eta	2
$ au~[{ m min}]$	5
$T_{\rm sys}$ [K]	4.9
$P_{\rm sig}$ [W]	$0.9\times10^{-22}$
Scan rate $[Hz s^{-1}]$	8
$m_a  [\mu \mathrm{eV}]$	0.49 - 1.49
$g_{a\gamma\gamma}$ 90% c.l. [GeV <sup>-1</sup> ]	$(1.25 - 6.06) \times 10^{-16}$





# Light Primordial Black Hole Dark Matter with Ultra-high-frequency Gravitational Waves







A. Berlin Phys. Rev. D 105, 116011

Franciolini Phys. Rev. D 106, 103520 2022

# FLASH Sensitivity to HFGW

Sensitivity limited also by short duration time of the HFGW from PBHs. Gain 1 or 2 order of magnitudes wrt GHz cavities:

- Signal power scales as Radius<sup>2</sup>
- Q factor effective as long as Ncycles~Q



 $t_{int} \simeq 2.72 \cdot 10^{-14} \text{ s } \times \left(\frac{M_c}{10^{-5} M_{\odot}}\right)^{-5/3} \left(\frac{\nu}{200 \text{ MHz}}\right)^{-8/3} \left(\frac{10^6}{Q}\right)$ 

Mode	Resonant Frequency [MHz]	Q factor (@4°K)
TM010	109.5	626e3
TM011	166.1	526e3
TM012	272.3	752e3
TM110	174.4	790e3
TM111	214.5	598e3
TM112	304.7	712e3
TM210	233.7	915e3
TM211	264.9	664e3
TM212	342.1	755e3



#### Commissioning of the FINUDA Magnet – Last Operated in 2007





## Successful Test of the FINUDA Magnet

After a series of operations, the cryogenic plant was finally put back into operation. On Jan the 19th 2024, FINUDA was cooled down to 4 K and energized with a current of 2706 A, generating a magnetic field of 1.05 T.



#### Global Effort to Probe the Full QCD-Axion Band in the Next 10 Years



#### DARK SECTOR AT LNF

LY MILLING MILLING



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#### Microwave Photon Detector Based on Current Biased JJ



Switching detector: Microwave photons trigger the transition of the JJ to the normal state

L. S. Kuzmin *et al.*, "Single Photon Counter Based on a Josephson Junction at 14 GHz for Searching Galactic Axions," in *IEEE Transactions on Applied Superconductivity*, vol. 28, no. 7, pp. 1-5, Oct. 2018, Art no. 2400505, doi: 10.1109/TASC.2018.2850019.

#### Microwave Photon Detector Based on Current Biased JJ







IEEE TRANS APP SUP, VOL. 32, NO. 4, 2022; doi: 10.1109/TASC.2022.3148693

IEEE TRANS APP SUP 2022 DOI 10.1109/TASC.2022.3218072

#### Microwave Photon Detector Based on Current Biased JJ





Few photons (5 zJ) sensitivity. Large room for improvement. Work ongoing.



IEEE TRANS APP SUP, VOL. 32, NO. 4, 2022; doi: 10.1109/TASC.2022.3148693

IEEE TRANS APP SUP 2022 DOI 10.1109/TASC.2022.3218072

## Nanowire Transition Edge Sensor



Tune transition temperature by proximity effect



# TES Nanowire NEST





A (Red) AlCu B (Blue) Al electrode IP (Yellow) Al-O tunnel probe

F. Paolucci et al., J. Appl. Phys. 128, 194502 (2020)

Direct measurement of nanowire properties:

- Tc
- Transition steepness
- e-ph coupling
- bilayer E<sub>gap</sub>







#### **TES Nanowire NEST**

Lenght	1.5 μm
Width	100 nm
t <sub>Al</sub>	10.5 nm
t <sub>Cu</sub>	15 nm

t	5-10 ms
С	5×10 <sup>-20</sup> J/K
G	5×10 <sup>-15</sup> W/K
$\sigma_{n}$	100-200 GHz
NEP	30-50 zW/√Hz





# Antenna Characterization at Room Temperature

Finline design for collecting signal from waveguide to coplanar chip where TES is deposited



#### Antenna Characterization at Room Temperature



Observed variation of thermistor resistance at finline resonant frequency (33 GHz)

S11 measurements with VNA gives compatible results.

#### Measurement of NTC e PTC thermistors





Waveguide with antenna and TES will be termally anchored, with OFHC components realized in Pisa mechanical workshop, to the mixing chamber plate and connected to the SQUID.

