

# Status of the OSQAR Experiments at CERN

by Andrzej Siemko & Pierre Pugnât (CERN)  
on behalf of the  OSQAR collaboration

*Optical Search for QED vacuum magnetic  
birefringence, Axion & photon Regeneration*

*PATRAS Workshop, DESY Hamburg, 20 June*

# The OSQAR Collaboration *at present*

► 22 Members from 9 Institutes (CZ, FR, PL & CERN)



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# Outline

- Scientific Motivations
- Overview of the OSQAR Experiments
  - “n-1” Experiment *i.e. Vacuum Magnetic Birefringence*
  - Photon Regeneration Experiment
- Preliminary Phase of the OSQAR Photon Regeneration Experiment
  - First results for Axion Like Particle (ALP) Searches
- Short & Long Term Perspectives
  - R&D
  - Expected results
- Summary & Outlook

# The Magneto-Optical Properties of the Quantum Vacuum from QED: *The Vacuum Magnetic Birefringence*

- VMB from the QED Theory: Euler-Heisenberg Lagrangian,  
*i.e. Taylor expansion of gauge and Lorentz invariants*

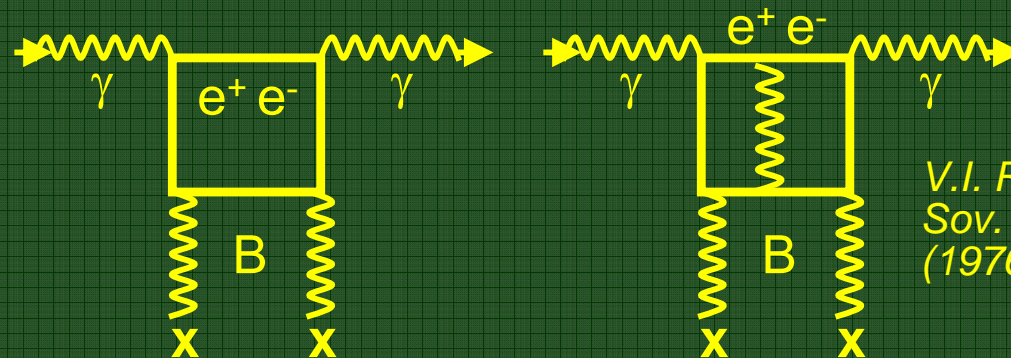
$$L = \frac{1}{2}(E^2 - B^2) + \frac{2\alpha^2}{45m^4} \left[ (E^2 - B^2)^2 + 7(E \cdot B)^2 \right] + \dots$$

$$E, B \ll m^2/e \sim 10^{18} \text{ V/m}, 10^9 \text{ T} \\ \text{and } \omega \ll m$$

Heisenberg & Euler, *Z. Physik* 38 (1936) 314

Weisskopf, *K. Danske Vidensk. Selk. Mat.-fys. Medd.* 14 n° 6 (1936)

Schwinger, *Phys. Rev.* 82 (1951) 664



V.I. Ritus, *Sov. Phys. JETP* 42 (1976) 774

- Tensors of permittivity & permeability of the vacuum:

$$\epsilon_{ik} = \delta_{ik} + \frac{4\alpha^2}{45m^4} \left[ 2(E^2 - B^2)\delta_{ik} + 7B_i B_k \right] + \dots$$

$$\mu_{ik} = \delta_{ik} + \frac{\alpha^2}{45m^4} \left[ 2(B^2 - E^2)\delta_{ik} + 7E_i E_k \right] + \dots$$

**NB:** Heaviside-Lorentz units ( $1 \text{ T} = 195 \text{ eV}^2$  &  $1 \text{ m} = 5.07 \times 10^6 \text{ eV}^{-1}$ )

# “Pure” QED prediction – *The Vacuum Magnetic Birefringence*

$$n_{\perp} = 1 + 7 A_e B^2 \sin^2 \phi$$

$$n_{\parallel} = 1 + 4 A_e B^2 \sin^2 \phi$$

S. L. Adler, *Ann. Phys.* 67 (1971) 599

$$\Delta n = 4.0 \times 10^{-24} B^2$$

$\Delta n \approx 3.6 \cdot 10^{-22}$  in 9.5 T field

$$\varepsilon = \pi \frac{l}{\lambda} \Delta n \sin 2\phi = \pi \cdot l \cdot C \cdot B^2 \sin 2\phi$$

Analogue to the Cotton-Mouton effect

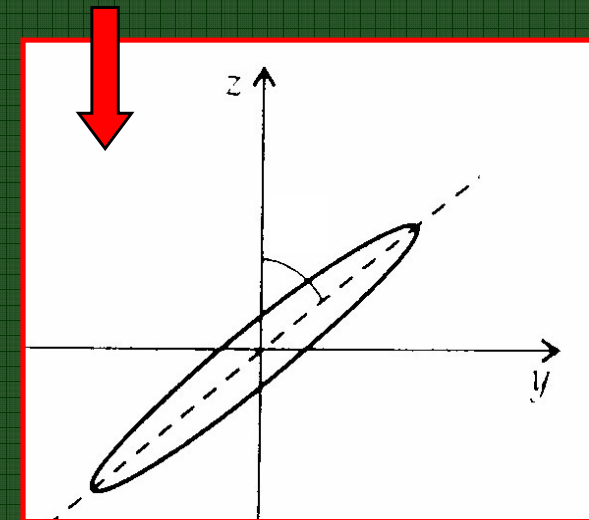
$$\varepsilon \approx 2 \cdot 10^{-10} \text{ for } l = 250 \text{ km and } \lambda = 1.55 \mu\text{m}$$

2<sup>nd</sup> order correction to the Lagrangian, i.e.  $O(\alpha^3)$ , gives a  $\Delta n$  correction of 1.45% with respect to the dominant term.

► Measurement of the QED birefringence down to this level is also targeted

A challenge for optical metrology  $\Rightarrow$  High-field magnet, optical cavity & ...

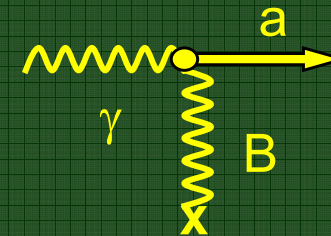
As a consequence, a linear polarized light becomes “slightly” elliptical



# Beyond the pure QED - Contribution of Axions/ALPs to the VMB + Linear Dichroism

- The Euler-Heisenberg Lagrangian can be further extended to include contributions of hypothetical neutral light spin-zero particles that couple to 2-photons such as axions:

$$L_{a\gamma\gamma} = \frac{1}{M} \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B} a$$



- A linearly polarized laser beam propagating in vacuum is expected to acquire, in presence of a transverse  $B$  field, a small apparent rotation  $\theta$  & ellipticity  $\varepsilon$  expressed in the limit  $m^2 l / 4\omega \ll 1$ :

$$\theta \approx \frac{B^2 l^2}{16 M^2} \sin 2\phi$$

$$\varepsilon \approx \frac{B^2 l^3 m^2}{96 \omega M^2} \sin 2\phi$$

*L. Maiani et al.  
Phys. Lett. 175B  
(1986) 359*

$\phi$  is the polarization angle of the light /  $B$ ,  $M$  the inverse coupling constant,  $m$  the axion mass &  $\omega$  the photon energy.

# Interest in Axions

- Axions Physics

- axions are theoretically necessary - the only known solution of the “strong CP-problem“
- without axions the neutron dipole electric moment is unnaturally small

$$d_n = O(1) \frac{m_u \sin \theta}{f_\pi^2} \approx 10^{-16} \theta \text{ e cm}$$

while experimentally  $d_n < 3 \cdot 10^{-26}$

- axions couple to gluons (solving the strong CP-problem) and to photons (basis of OSQAR experiment)
- “Massive” Axions (0.1-1.8 MeV) excluded after extensive search in nuclear transition, particle decays (1978-1987)  
⇒ “Invisible” axion models in the range  $10^{-6}$ - $10^{-2}$  eV,

*“Small can also be beautiful”*

# OSQAR - Summary of Scientific Motivations

Results are in practice guaranteed

- Test of QED down to an unprecedented level (i.e.  $\Delta n \sim 10^{-22}$ ) & of Quantum Mechanics
- Axion ?
- New Physics at sub-eV (ALPs, millicharged-particles, paraxions, Chameleons...) ?
- Identification of the DM component (Non-SUSY) ?

► Also, another way of doing Particle Physics based on Lasers and High Magnetic Field



# OSQAR is complementary to CAST...

- Solar observatory: From past to present...



*K. Zioutas in CERN Courier of June 2008*



- CAST sensitivity for Axion search is x10 better than OSQAR phase-2 but more model dependant,  
Ex. Solar models do not take into account magnetic fields  
*⇒ Are huge solar magnetic fields (up to 100 T & more in bulk) could provide already an efficient axion-photon conversion within the sun ?*
- OSQAR Phase-3 (*not before ~2012*) can be competitive with CAST...

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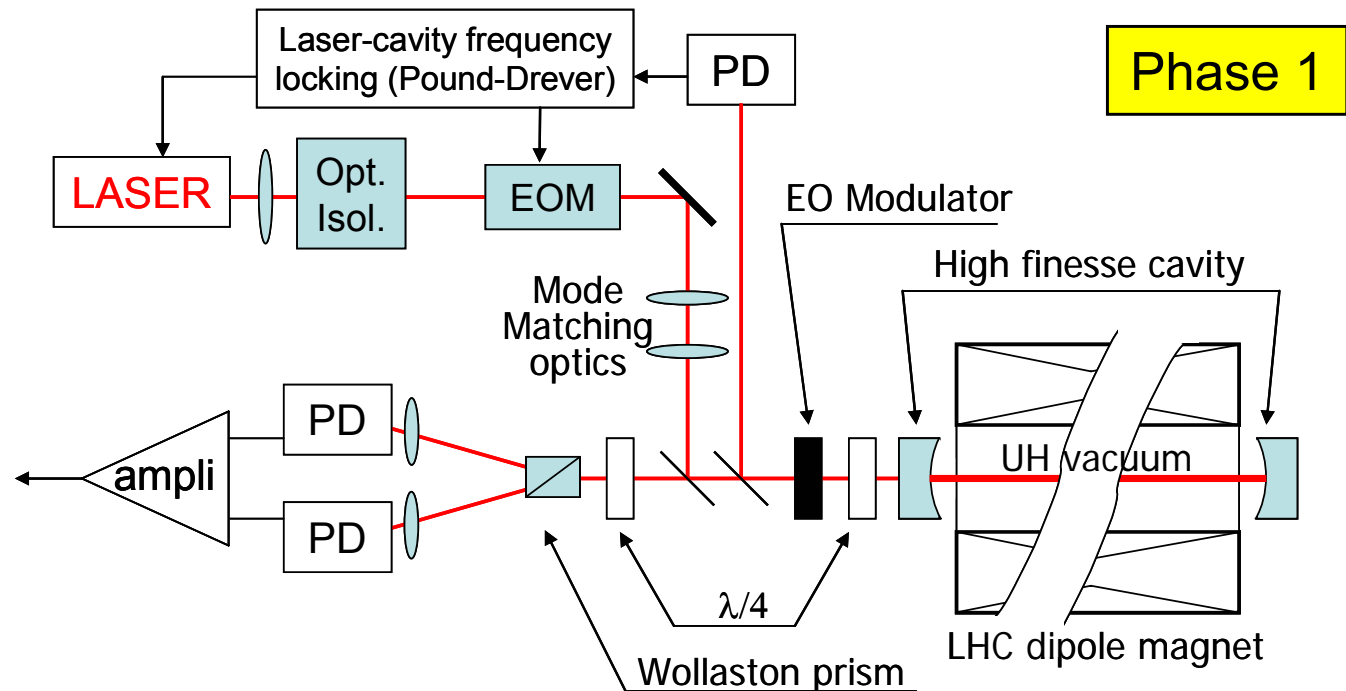
# Optical Precision Measurements for QED Test & Axion Search

## *The “n-1 Experiment”*

# VMB & Linear Dichroism measurements for Axion/ALP Search: *Principle & Proposed Optical Scheme*

- Axions  $\Rightarrow$  Change of the linear polarisation of a laser beam after propagation in the vacuum with  $B$  transverse:
  - Elliptical
  - “Pseudo”-rotation
- Background for the ellipticity coming from the QED VMB  $\Rightarrow$  Physics is guaranteed
- Very small effects  $\sim 10^{-14}$  rad / T<sup>2</sup> km<sup>3</sup>  $\Rightarrow$  optical cavity to increase the path in  $B$

P. Pugno, L. Duvillaret, M. Finger, M. Kral, A. Siemko, J. Zicha  
 Czechoslovak Journal of Physics, Vol.55 (2005), A389;  
 Optical scheme with inputs from D. Romanini.



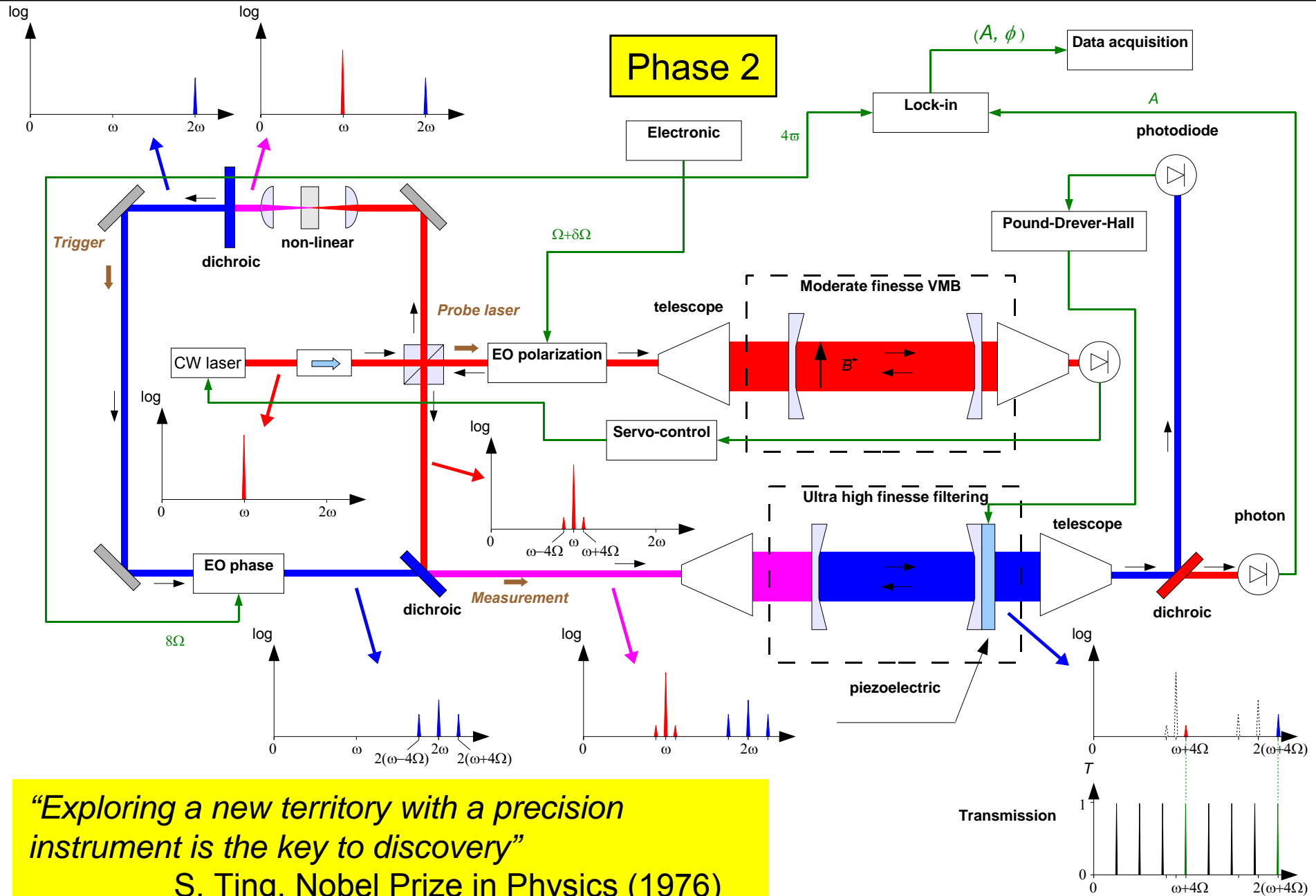
$$\tilde{P}_{\text{opt}} \approx 1 + \Psi \sin(4\Omega t + \phi) + \Theta \cos(4\Omega t + \phi)$$

Field Modulation at 1-10 mHz & dedicated filtering techniques

L. Maiani, R. Petronzio, and E. Zavattini, Phys. Lett. 175B (1986) 359

# Metrology,...

From L. Duvillaret, G. Vitrant



*“Exploring a new territory with a precision instrument is the key to discovery”*  
 S. Ting, Nobel Prize in Physics (1976)

# Experiment for Photon Regeneration from Axion or other scalar or pseudo-scalar

*“An invisible light shining through a wall”*

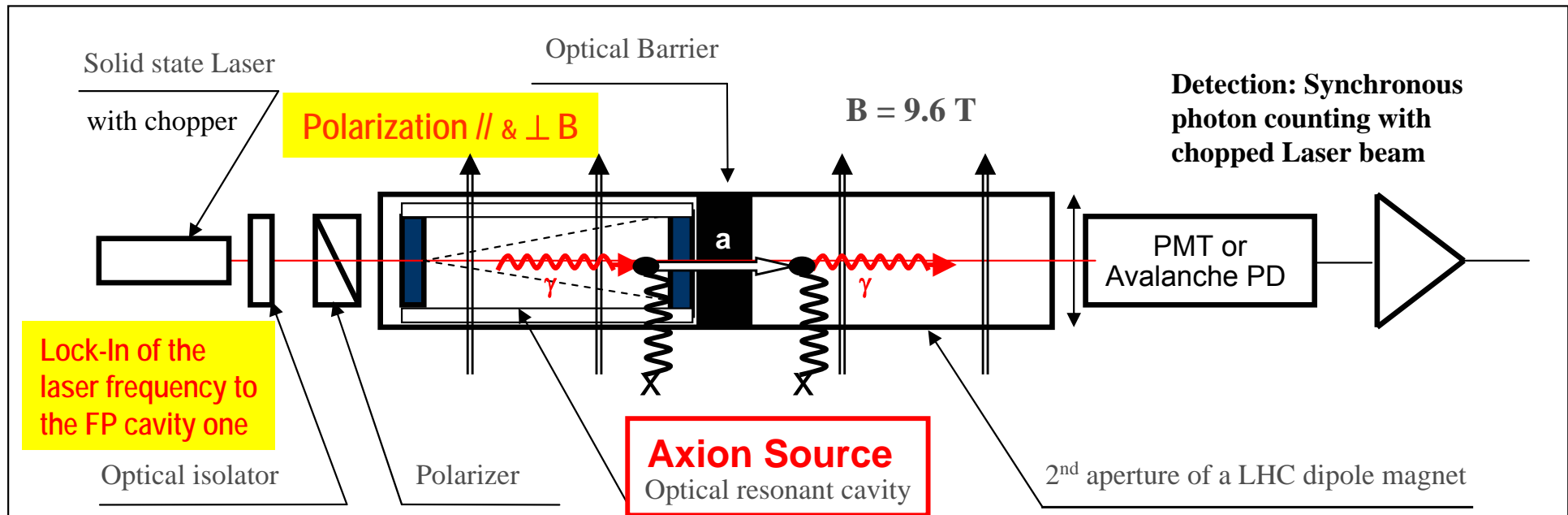
K. van Bibber et al.  
PRL 59 (1987) 759

# Direct Axion/ALP Search Experiment

## Photon Regeneration

P. Sikivie, PRL 51 (1983) 11415  K. van Bibber et al. PRL 59 (1987) 759

In the limit  $qL \ll 1$   
 $P(a \rightarrow \gamma) = P(\gamma \rightarrow a) \approx \frac{B^2 L^2}{4M^2}$   $R \approx \frac{\eta P}{h\nu} \frac{N}{2} \left( \frac{B^2 l^2}{4M^2} \right) \left( \frac{B^2 L^2}{4M^2} \right)$



Nd-YAG laser: Power  $P = 0.1 - 10 \text{ kW}$   
 $\lambda = 1064 \text{ nm}$   
 Optical cavity:  $F = 10^4 - 10^5$ ,  $l = 7 \text{ m}$   
 Detection part:  $L = 7 \text{ m}$

Expectations: Improvement of the present reference result of Cameron et al. Phys. Rev. D47 (1993) 3707  
 $\sim R \times 10^7$  with 1 magnet & 100 W

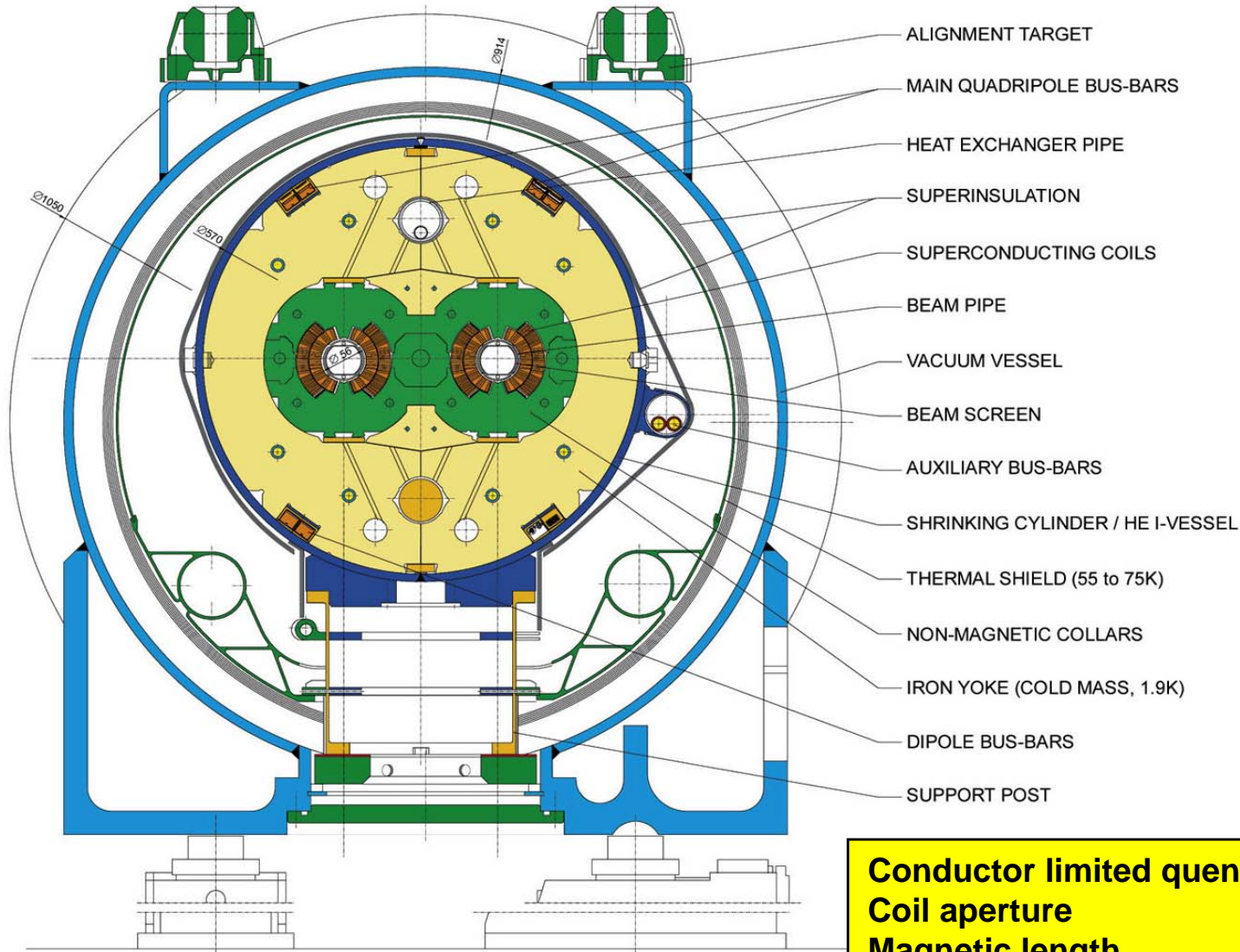
# Unique opportunity with LHC dipoles

Experiment	BFRT	PVLAS	BMV	OSQAR
Status	Terminated	Achieved	Achieved/ Phase-1/Phase-2	Phase-1/Phase-2
$\lambda$ (nm)	514.5	1064	1064	1550
Finesse of the FP cavity	N ~ 250	120 000	50 000/200 000/ 1 000 000	10 000/1 000
Sensitivity (rad/Hz <sup>1/2</sup> )	10 <sup>-8</sup>	10 <sup>-6</sup> /10 <sup>-7</sup>	10 <sup>-8</sup>	10 <sup>-8</sup> /10 <sup>-10</sup>
<i>B</i> (T)	4	6	14.3 (during 0.1 s)	9.5
<i>B</i> <sup>2</sup> <i>l</i> (T <sup>2</sup> m) for QED Test	140	36	28	1 290
<i>B</i> <sup>2</sup> <i>l</i> <sup>2</sup> (T <sup>2</sup> m <sup>2</sup> ) for ALPs Search	1 240	36	4	18 460
<i>B</i> <sup>2</sup> <i>l</i> <sup>3</sup> (T <sup>2</sup> m <sup>3</sup> ) for ALPs Search	10 900	36	0.5	263 910
Magnetic duty cycle ( <i>R</i> )*	~1	~1	10 <sup>-4</sup>	~1



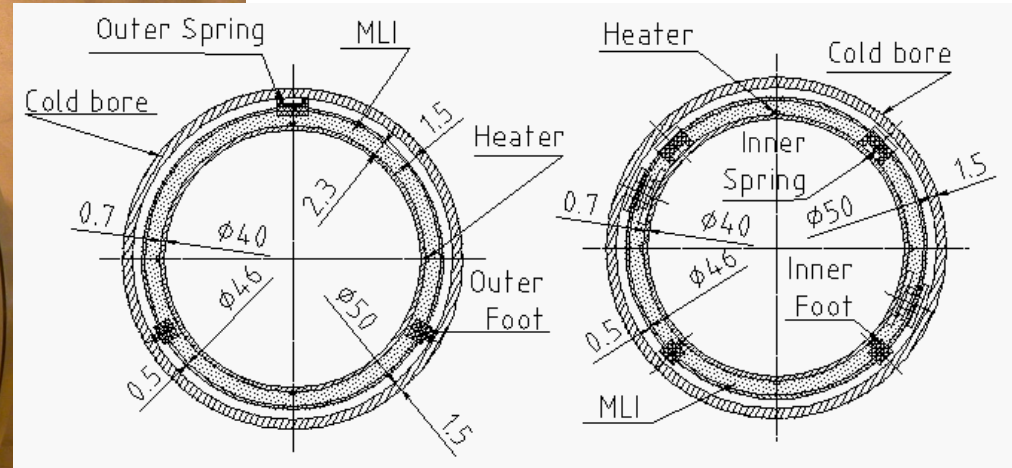
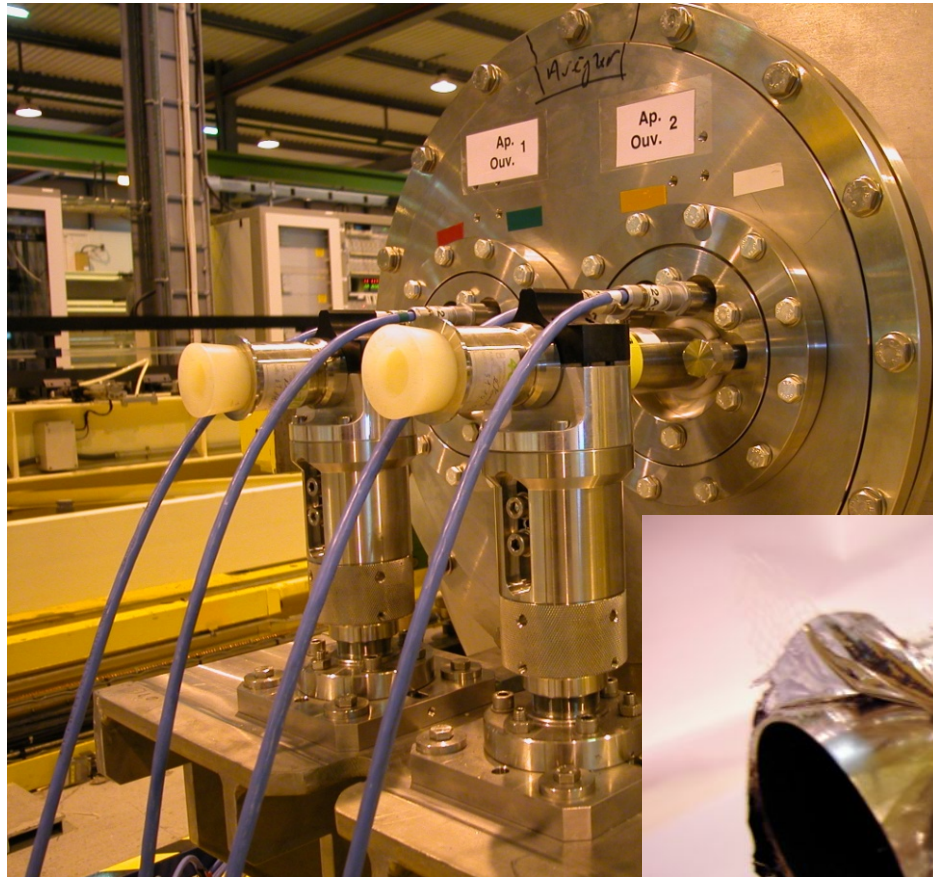
# LHC superconducting main dipoles

## Cross-section



<b>Conductor limited quench field @ 1.9 K</b>	<b>9.76 T</b>
<b>Coil aperture</b>	<b>56 mm</b>
<b>Magnetic length</b>	<b>14.3 m</b>

# Base Line: *use of warm bores i.e. anticryostats inserted inside cold bores*

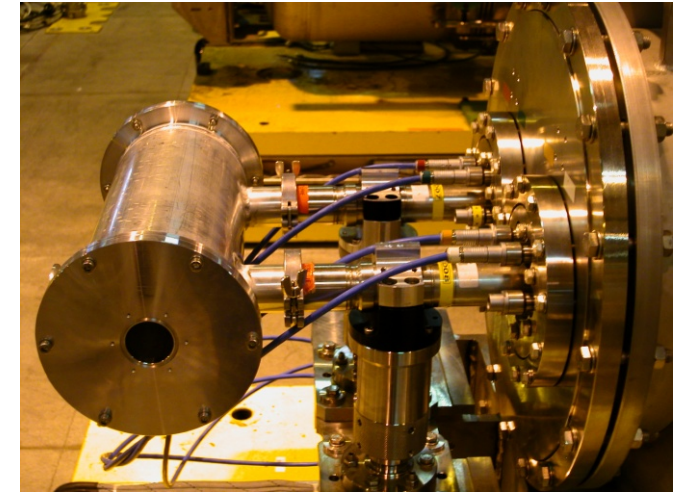
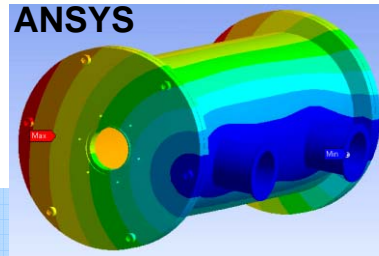
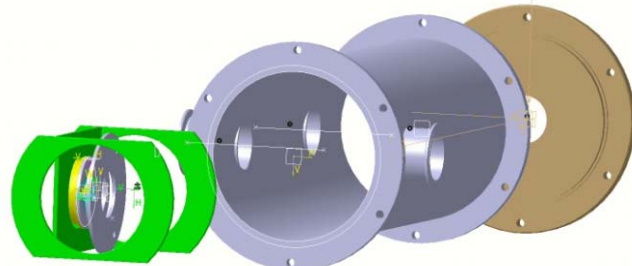
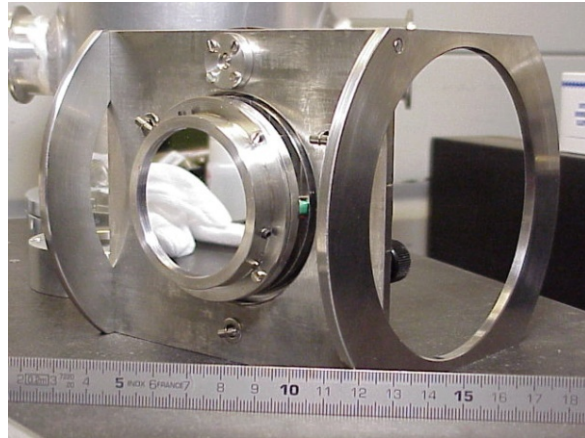


Specially designed for the cold tests of LHC cryomagnets  $\Rightarrow$  is re-used for OSQAR

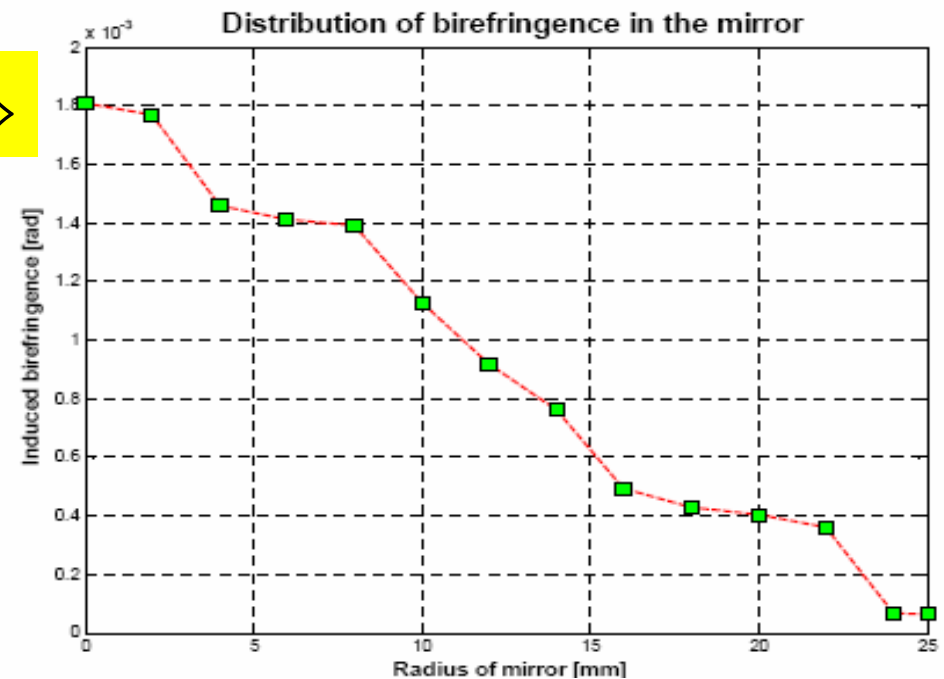
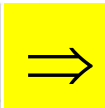
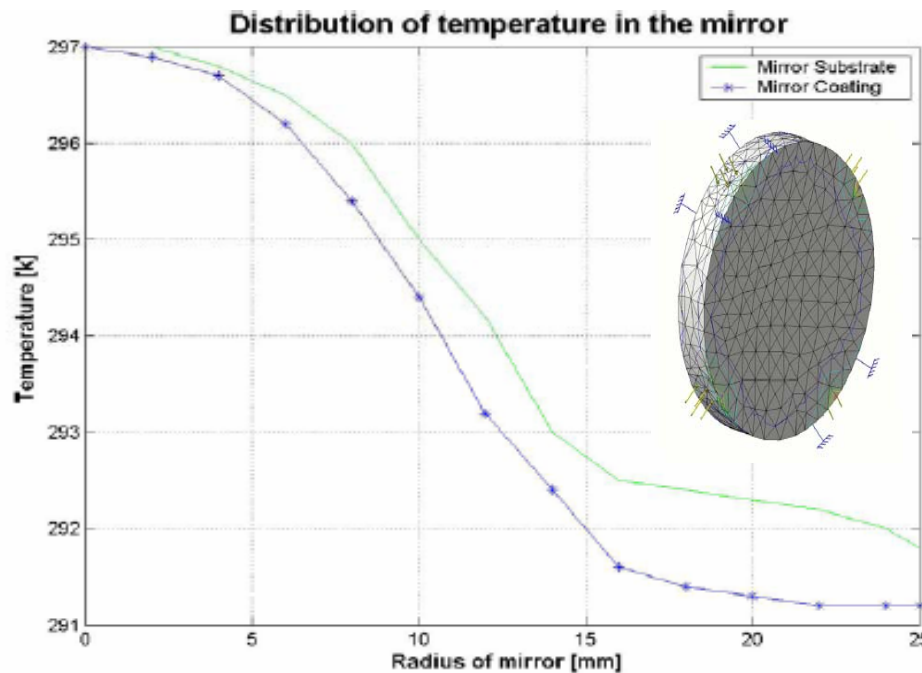
O. Dunkel, P. Legrand and P. Sievers: "A warm bore anticryostat for series magnetic measurements of LHC superconducting dipole and short-straight section magnets", *CRYOGENICS CEC/ICMC, 2003, Anchorage, Alaska; CERN-LHC-Project-Report-685*

# VMB & Dichroism Measurements

Prototyping Phase – *PhD M. Král*



Study of vibration eigenmodes (f, amplitude) →

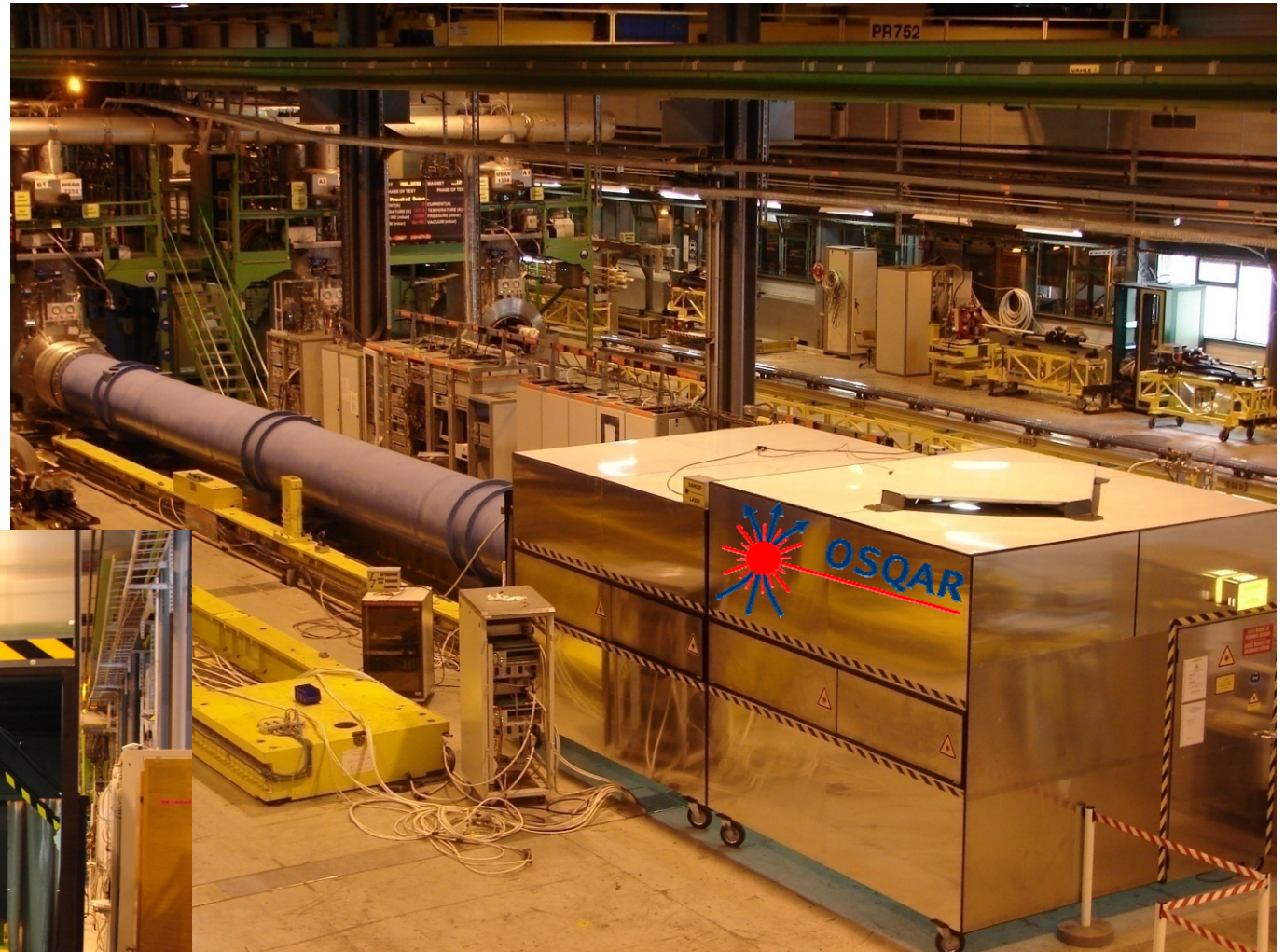


# Re-use a part of the Test Infrastructure of LHC superconducting Magnets



# Safety Issues $\Rightarrow$ Construction of protection chamber against laser radiation (Class-4 laser)

- ▶ Use of Class-4 laser
  - $\Rightarrow$  High risk to eyes and skin
  - $\Rightarrow$  Protection against direct beam, specular and diffuse reflections



▶ Also Fire Hazard has to be mastered

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# PVLAS Results

## NEWS & VIEWS

### PARTICLE PHYSICS

# The first axion?

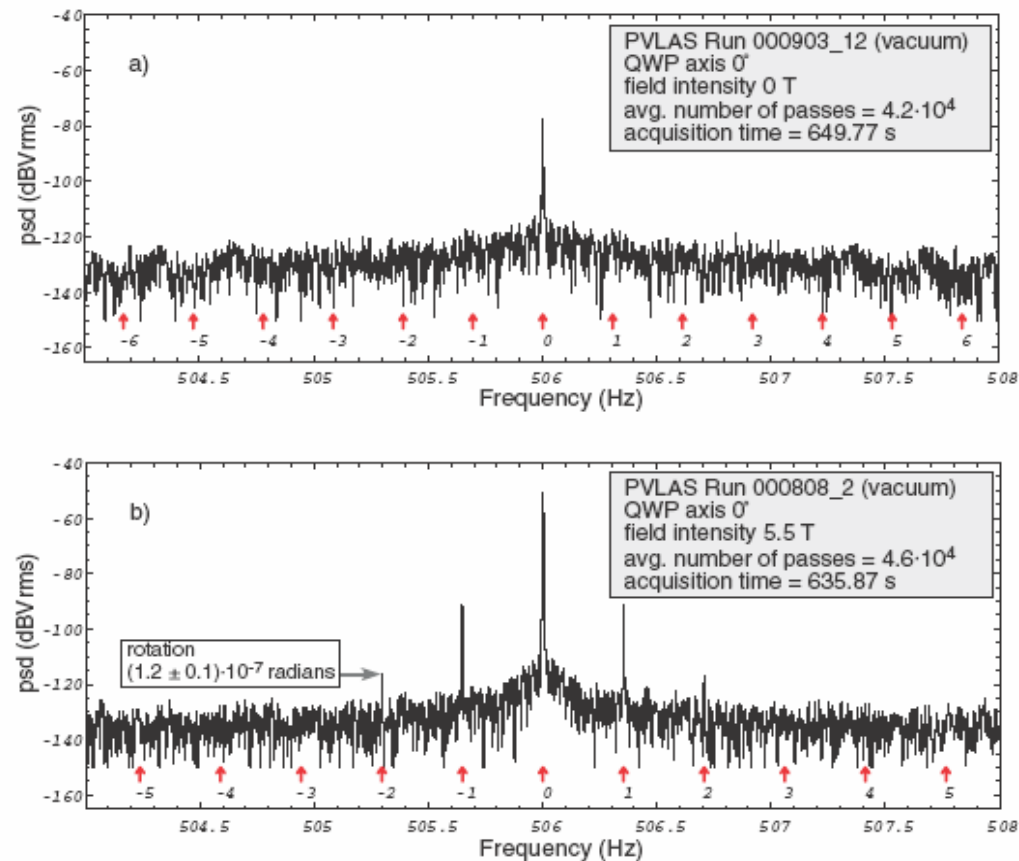
Steve Lamoreaux

**For almost 30 years, the hunt has been on for a ghostly particle proposed to plug a gap in the standard model of particle physics. The detection of a tiny optical effect might be the first positive sighting.**

Writing in *Physical Review Letters*<sup>1</sup>, Emilio Zavattini and colleagues of the Italian PVLAS collaboration report that a magnetic field can be used to rotate the polarization of a light wave in a vacuum. Although this is the first experimental evidence for such an effect, there is a well-rehearsed, but controversial, explanation for it: the existence of a never-before-seen, chargeless, spinless and near-massless particle — the axion. Has the elusive axion finally allowed itself to be glimpsed?

As befits the potentially revolutionary nature of the PVLAS result, the jury is still out. Such a direct verification would, however, propel it to a place among the most significant in the history of physics. ■

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e-mail: lamore@lanl.gov



# The one-century old Abraham-Minkowski Controversy

**Question:** What is the relationship between the energy  $E$  and the momentum  $p$  of a photon in a medium of refraction index  $n$  ?

- Abraham (1909)  
From SR &  $p = E v/c^2$   
$$p = E / n c$$

- Minkowski (1908)  
From QM &  $\lambda = h/p$   
$$p = n E / c$$

“Quite puzzling” knowing the success of QED,... reviewed recently in Nature

Vol 444|14 December 2006

nature

## NEWS & VIEWS

OPTICS

### Momentum in an uncertain light

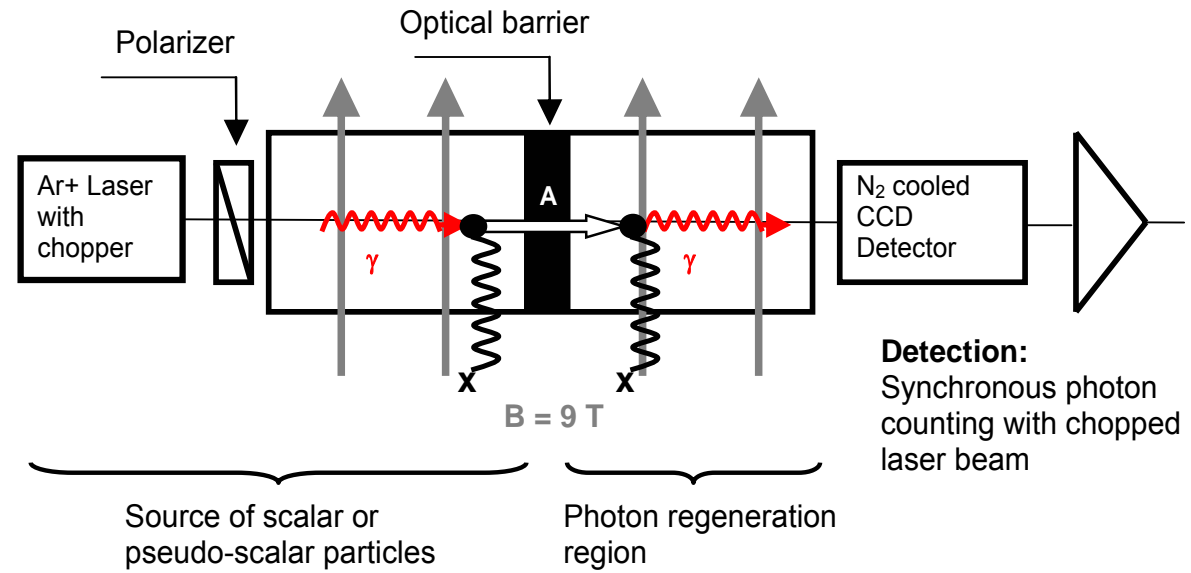
Ulf Leonhardt

How much momentum does light transfer to a material through which it passes? This is a surprisingly opaque matter, contested for almost a century, that is still the object of theory and experimentation.

“Whenever the wave aspects dominate, the Minkowski momentum appears, but when the particle aspects are probed, the Abraham momentum is relevant.”



# Use of a gaseous amplifier medium for Axion $\leftrightarrow$ Photon



$$\frac{dN_\gamma}{dt} = \frac{P}{\omega} \eta P_{\gamma \leftrightarrow A}^2$$

$$\text{with } P_{\gamma \leftrightarrow A} = \frac{1}{4\beta_A \sqrt{\epsilon}} (g_{A\gamma\gamma} BL)^2 \left( \frac{2}{qL} \sin \frac{qL}{2} \right)^2$$

$$\text{and } q \approx \left| \frac{m_\gamma^2 - m_A^2}{2\omega^2} \right| \approx \frac{m_A^2}{2\omega^2} - (n-1)\omega$$

“Group velocity Matching”

Maximum of  $P_{\gamma \leftrightarrow A}$  for  $qL \rightarrow 0$  i.e.  $(n-1) = 8.61 \times 10^{-8}$  for  $m_A = 1 \text{ meV}$  (PVLAS)

i.e.  $N_2$  gas at the pressure of 0.31 mbar

P. Sikivie, PRL 51 (1983) 11415

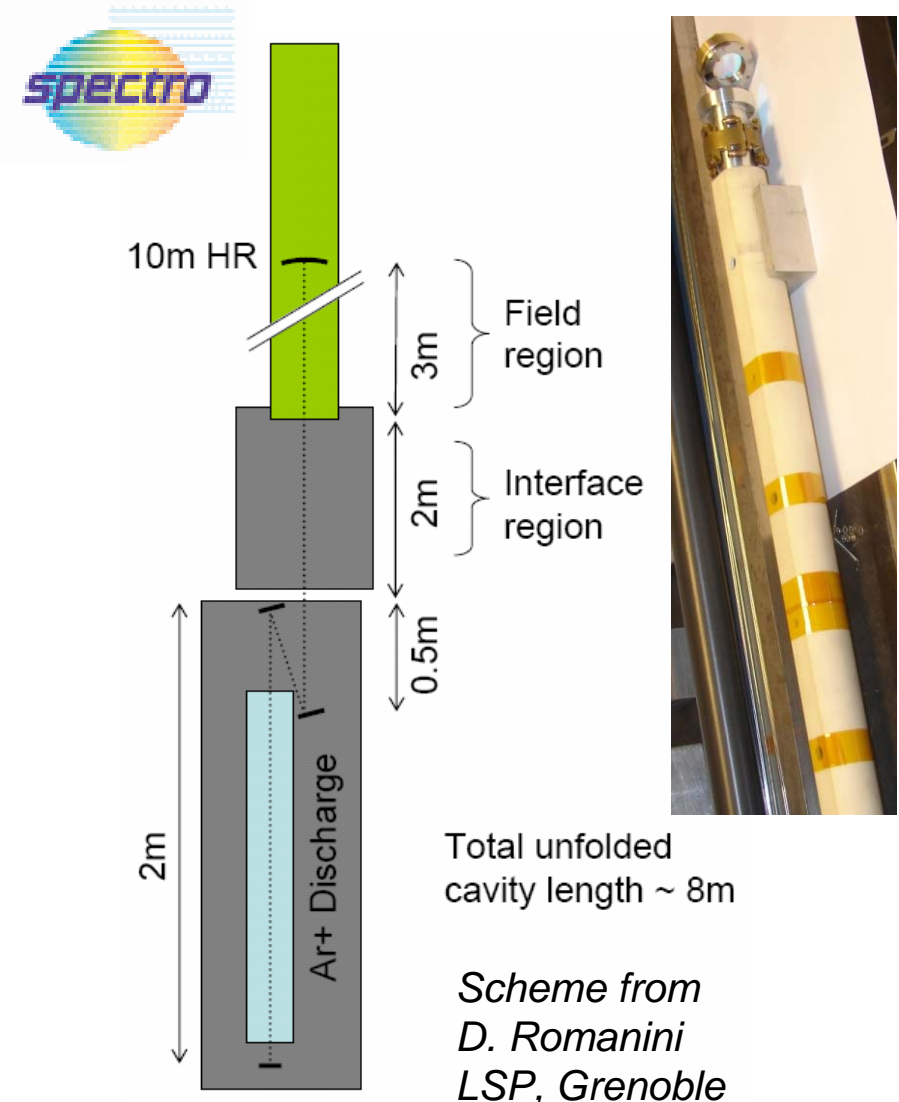
K. van Bibber et al. PRL 59 (1987) 759

$\Leftarrow$  If  $k_\gamma = \omega/n$ , i.e. Abraham momentum, and not the Minkowski one i.e.  $k_\gamma = \omega n$

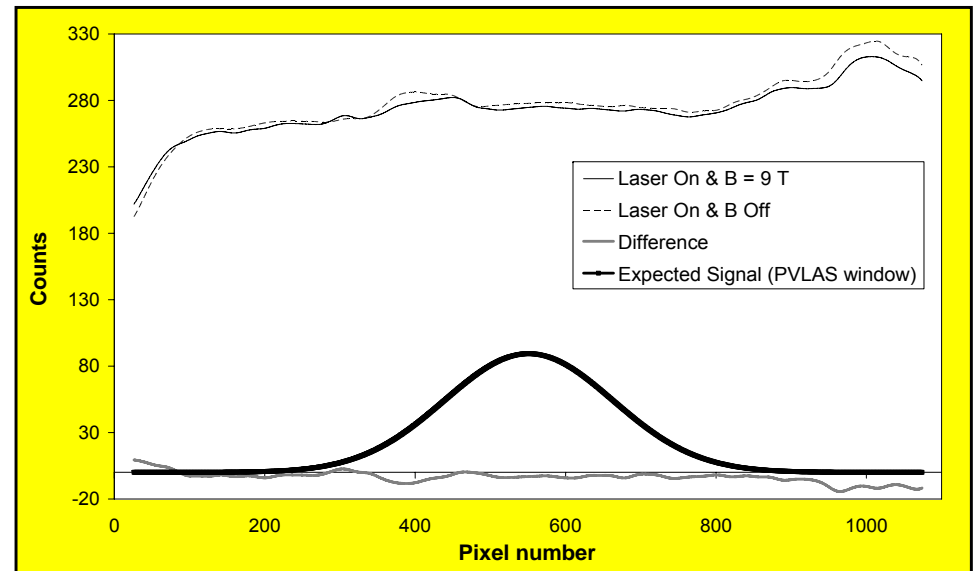
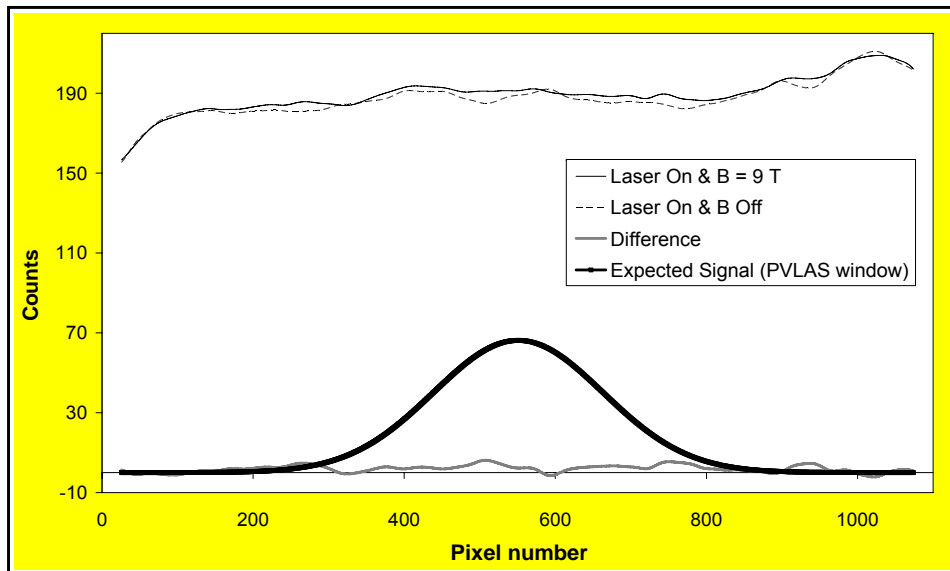
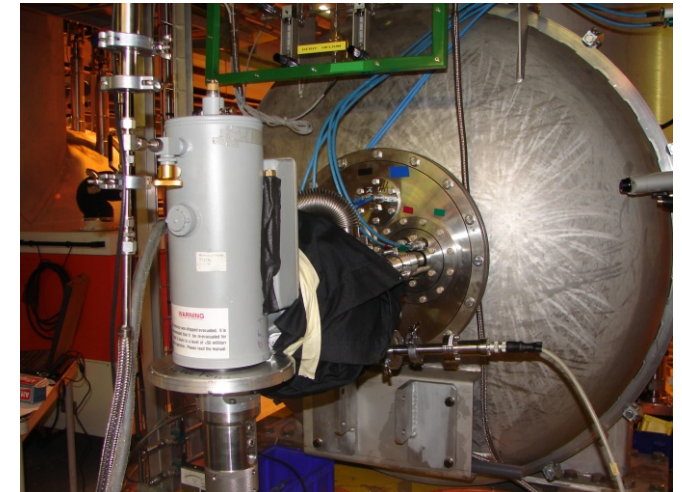
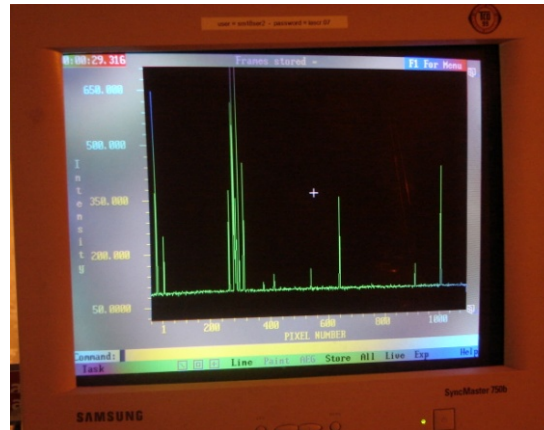
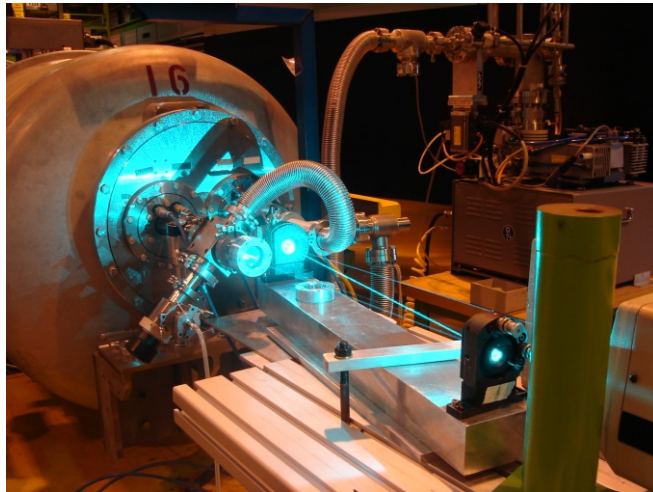
With  $g_{A\gamma\gamma} = 2 \times 10^{-6} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$ ,  $B = 9 \text{ T}$ ,  $L \approx 7.15 \text{ m}$ ,  $\eta \approx 32.5\%$ ,  $\frac{dN_\gamma}{dt} \approx 420 \text{ photons/s}$  at 16 W

# Photon Regeneration Experiment using 18 W Ar<sup>+</sup> laser R&D for 0.1-1 kW intra-cavity CW optical power

- Use of Ar<sup>+</sup> laser (488 & 514 nm) from the LSP; R&D with R<sub>max</sub> output coupler (> 99.55 %)
- Mirror integration inside the LHC magnet aperture with a Z-fold cavity (*alternative with a linear one*)
- For Axion/ALP search: Detection with a LN<sub>2</sub> cooled CCD Camera of Princeton Instrument, 1100 pixels of 5 mm height densely packed over 27 mm, QE ≈ 50%, DC/pix ≈ 0.1/mn



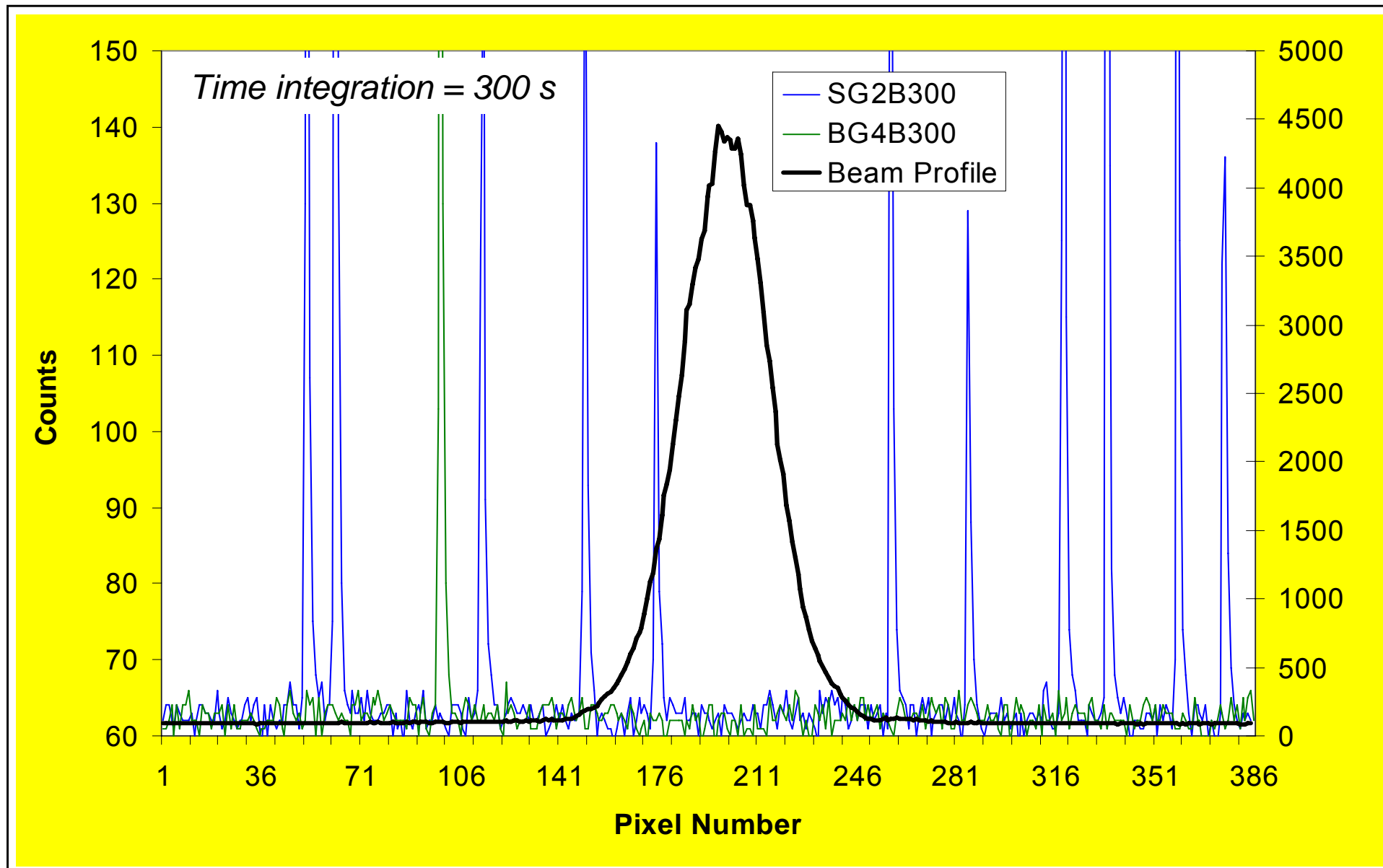
# Photon Regeneration 1<sup>st</sup> results with 18 W Ar+ laser & N<sub>2</sub> gas



***PVLAS result cannot be due to a new light spin-0 particle (submitted, arXiv: 0712.3362), also reported from BMV & GammeV***

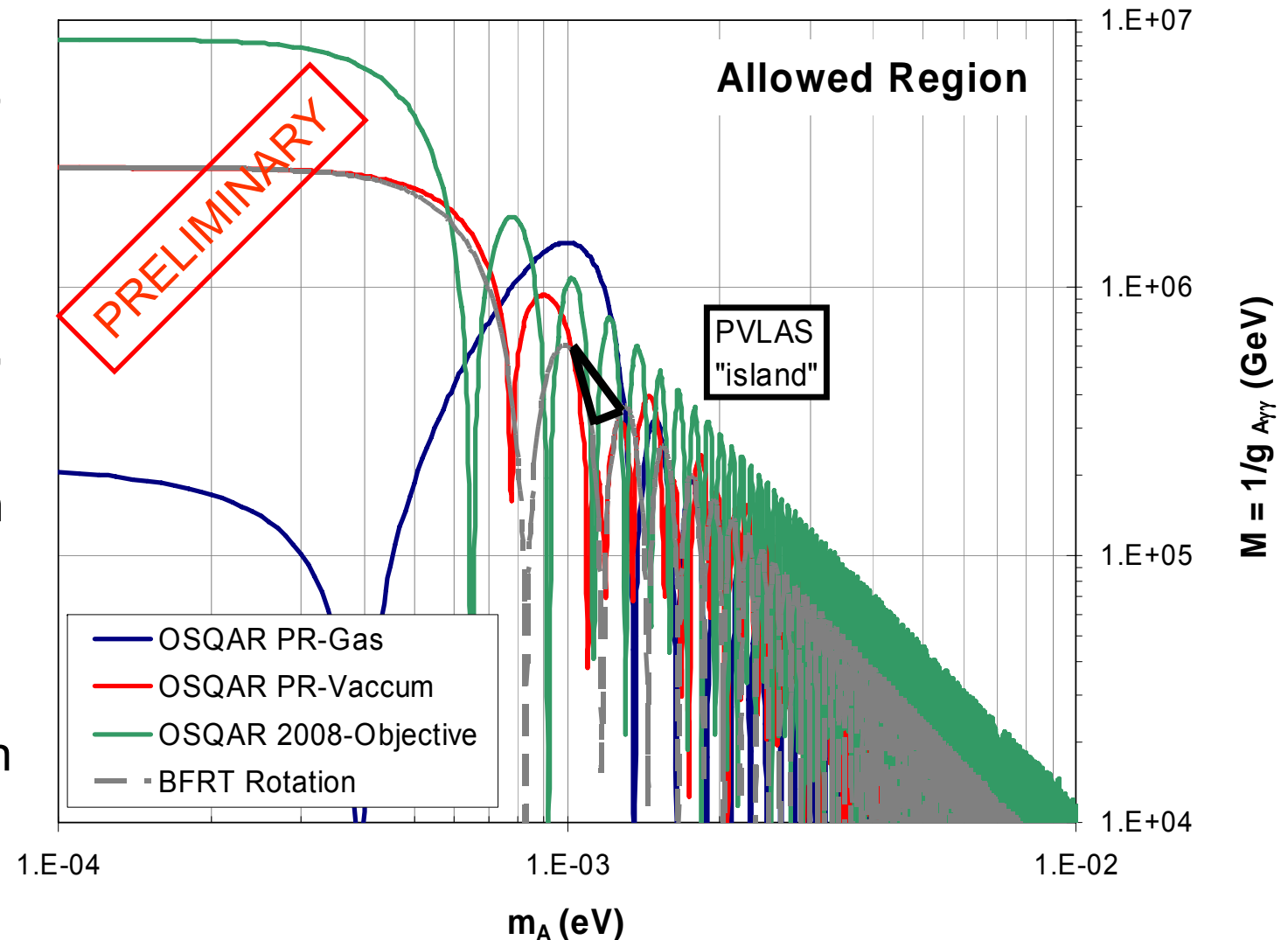
# Photon Regeneration Raw Data within vacuum

## Polarization // B



# Results Overview including the expected in 2008

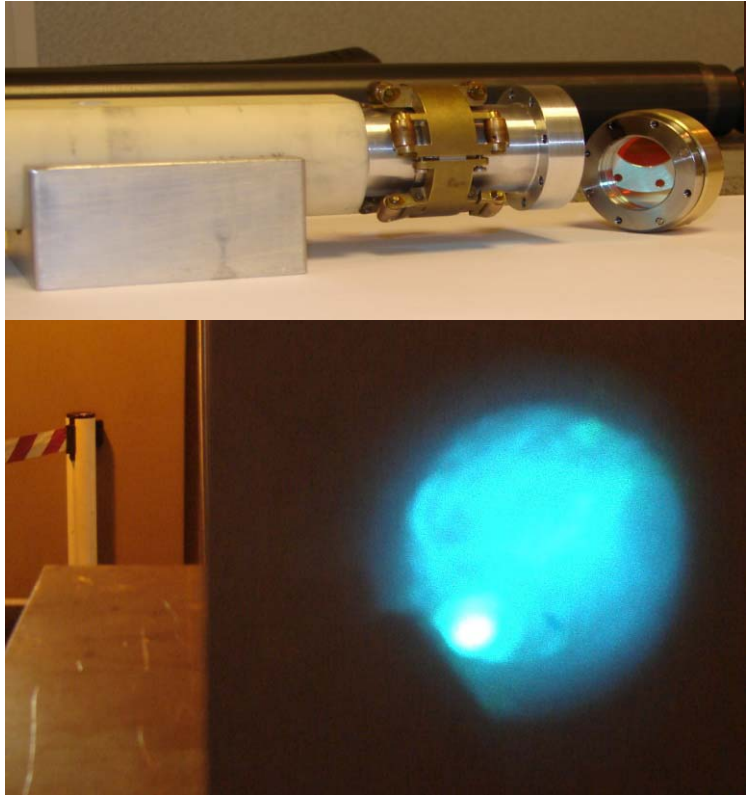
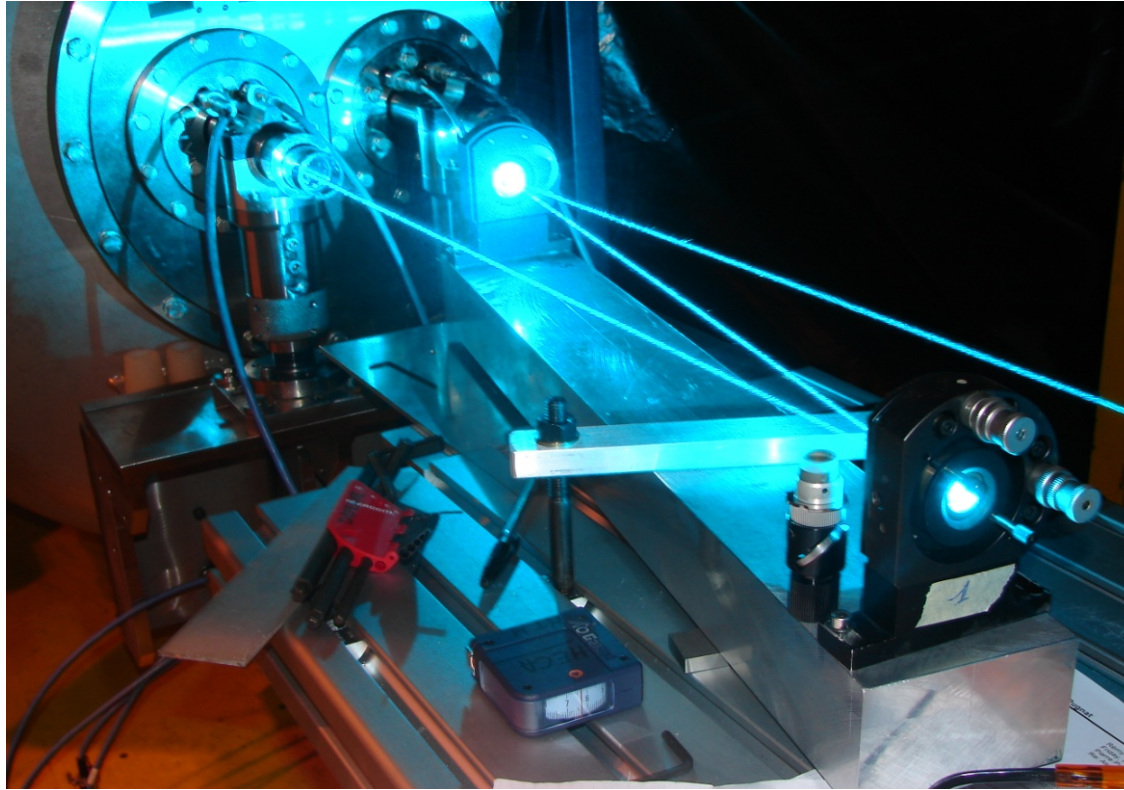
- PVLAS Results cannot be due to standard Axions
- Our results, as well as the ones of 2 other teams, exclude the interpretation of PVLAS data with the discovery of a new light spin-0 particle,...
- PVLAS retraction  
arXiv: 0706.3419



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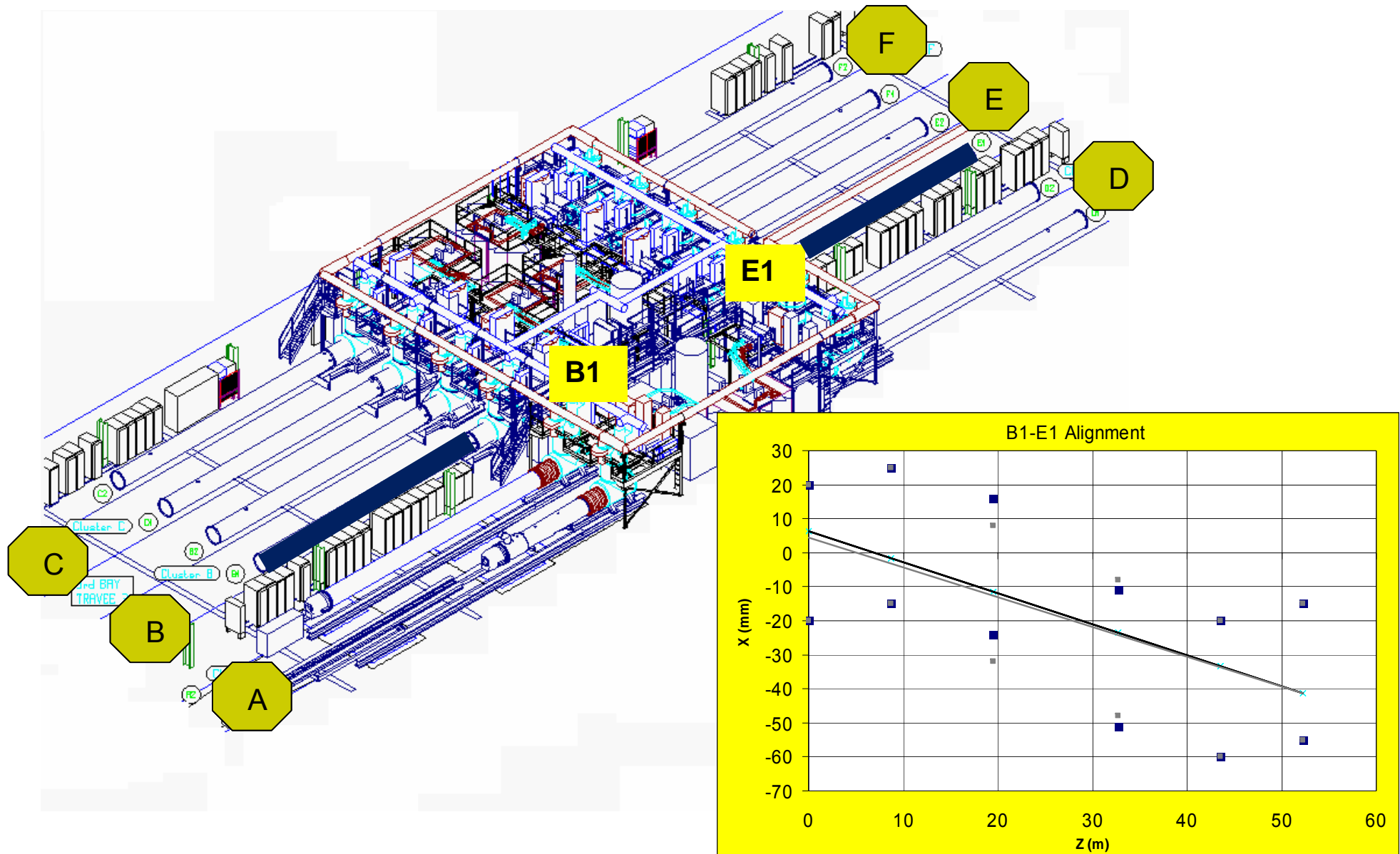
# Encouraging results obtained with the extended laser cavity but more R&D required



Shortcut to MOV00954.Ink

- Laser cavity extended up to 5 m inside the magnet; the intra-cavity CW power obtained was larger than few 100 W
- Problem to align the spot with the CCD detector  $\Rightarrow$  use of 2 dipoles to avoid to develop tricky fine tuning mechanical devices.

# Test benches at SM18 dedicated to the OSQAR photon regeneration runs in 2008







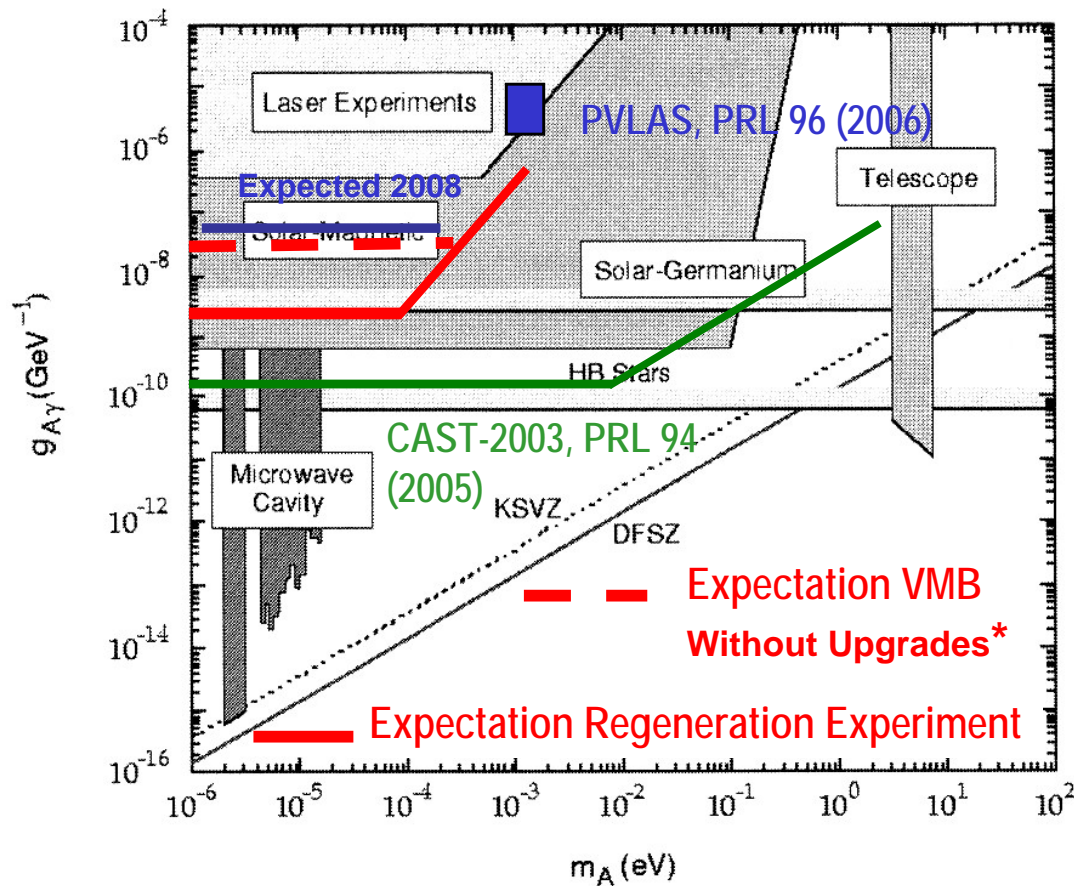
	<b>Photon Regeneration Experiment</b>	<b>VMB Experiment</b>
<b>Phase 0</b> <i>Preliminary Phase</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. 1 LHC dipole</li> <li>. Cross Check of PVLAS result: <b>done in 2007; negative result &amp; publication submitted</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. 1 LHC dipole</li> <li>. Measurement of the Cotton-Mouton effect of air at ambient pressure as a Proof of Principle: <b>done in 2005</b></li> </ul>
<b>Phase 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. 2 LHC dipoles aligned</li> <li>. Axion source made of Ar+ laser beam of 18 W (CW) within the aperture of one LHC dipole (<u>1<sup>st</sup> milestone foreseen in 2008</u>)</li> <li>. Axion source made of Ar+ laser in extended cavity of 19.6 m long, i.e. the length of one LHC dipole, for an expected intra-cavity power of 0.1-1 kW (<u>2<sup>nd</sup> milestone foreseen in 2009</u>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. 1 LHC dipole</li> <li>. Low RIN Laser coupled to a Fabry-Pérot (FP) cavity of 19.6 m long</li> <li>. <b>Measurement of the 1<sup>st</sup> order VMB</b> &amp; combined Analysis with final results of the phase-2 of the Photon Regeneration Experiment for Axion/ALPs searches (<u>4<sup>th</sup> milestone foreseen in 2011-12</u>)</li> </ul>
<b>Phase 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. 2 LHC dipoles aligned</li> <li>. Nd:YAG laser of 1-2.5 kW (CW) coupled to a FP cavity of 19.6 m long</li> <li>. Sensitivity approaching the best cosmological constraints (<u>3<sup>rd</sup> milestone foreseen in 2010-11</u>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. 1 LHC dipole</li> <li>. Low RIN Laser coupled to a FP cavity of 19.6 m long + ultra high finesse FP filtering cavity</li> <li>. <b>Measurement of the 2<sup>nd</sup> order VMB</b> (<u>5<sup>th</sup> milestone foreseen in 2013-14</u>)</li> </ul>

# OSQAR Experiments

## Expected results



From C. Hagmann, K. van Bibber, L.J. Rosenberg, *Physics Lett. B*, vol.592, 2004



\*P. Pugnati, et al. *Czech Journal of Physics*, Vol.55 (2005), A389;  
*Czech Journal of Physics*, Vol.56 (2006), C193;

### • Photon regeneration Experiment

- **Preliminary Phase** to check PVLAS results; 1 dipole with/without gas (*done*)
  - **Phase-1**: 2 dipoles, CW laser beam, extra & intra cavity to improve BFRT results (2008 & 2009)
  - **Phase-2**: 2 dipoles, CW laser beam & High Finesse FP cavity (2010-2011)
  - **Phase-3**: more than 2 dipoles to be competitive with CAST
- “**n-1 Experiment**” i.e. VMB & Linear Dichroism
- **Phase-1&2** : Measurements of QED prediction in  $O(\alpha^2)$  &  $O(\alpha^3)$  respectively within 1 dipole (2012 & 2014)

# Longer term: Towards the “axionic” laser

## Resonantly Enhanced Axion-Photon Regeneration

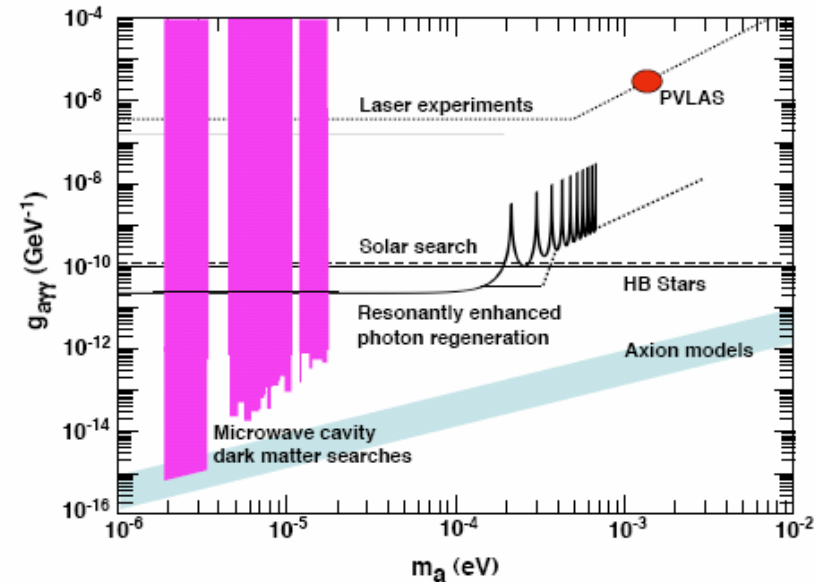
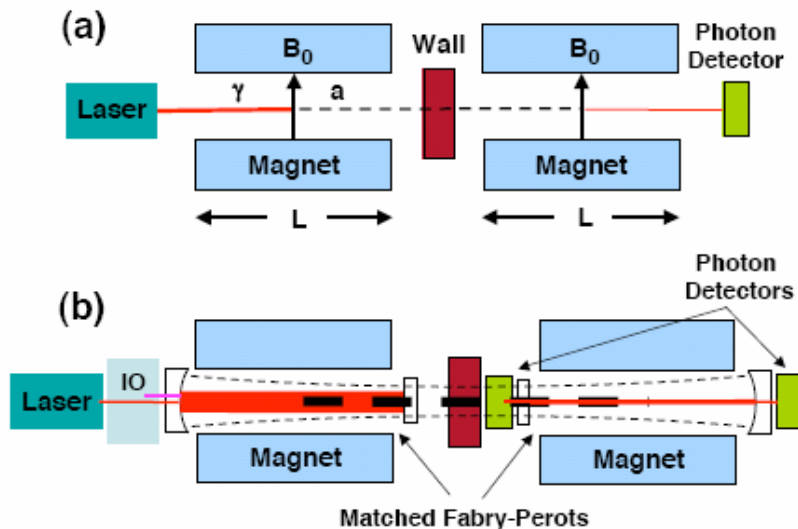
P. Sikivie,<sup>a,b</sup> D.B. Tanner,<sup>a</sup> and Karl van Bibber<sup>c</sup>

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<sup>c</sup> Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, CA 94550, USA

Phys. Rev. Lett. 98, 172002 (2007)



With 4 + 4 LHC Dipoles, i.e. Experiment  $\sim 140$  m long,...

# Summary



- OSQAR aims to answer to both the following questions:
  - *What is the magnetization of the vacuum ?*  
Heisenberg & Euler (1936), Weisskopf (1936), Iacopini & Zavattini (1979),  
Maiani, Petronzio & Zavattini (1986)
  - *Can a light shin through a wall ?*  
P. Sikivie (1983), K. van Bibber et al. (1987)
- **First results from the photon regeneration experiment:  
So far no light shinning trough the wall**
- The significance of OSQAR is:
  - to test the QED down to an unprecedented level i.e.  $n-1 \approx 10^{-22} - 10^{-24}$
  - to detect “new” particles beyond the standard model that can couple to photons such as paraphotons, scalar or pseudo-scalar like Axions/ALPs, millicharged fermions,...
  - And also, the spin-off from the development of novel optical techniques for electrical and magnetic field measurements
  - Emerging field: Laser-based Particle/Astroparticle Physics

- “Feasibility study of an experiment to measure the Vacuum Magnetic Birefringence”, *Czech. J. Phys.* 55 (2005) A389-A396, <http://doc.cern.ch/archive/electronic/cern/preprints/at/at-2005-009.pdf>
- *Letter of Intent*, OSQAR coll. , CERN-SPSC-2005-034, 17 October 2005  
<http://doc.cern.ch//archive/electronic/cern/preprints/spsc/public/spsc-2005-034.pdf>
- “QED test and axion search in LHC superconducting dipoles by means of optical techniques” , *Czech. J. Phys.* 56 (2006) C193-C202
- *Invited Presentation* to the Workshop “Axions at the Institute for Advanced Study”, IAS Princeton (NJ), 20-22 October 2006 <http://www.sns.ias.edu/~axions/schedule.shtml>
- *OSQAR Proposal*, CERN-SPSC-2006-035, SPSC-P-331, 9 November 2006  
<http://doc.cern.ch//archive/electronic/cern/preprints/spsc/public/spsc-2006-035.pdf>
- “Axion Searches at present and in the Near Future”, R. Battesti, P. Pagnat *et al.* , to appear in the *Lecture Notes in Physics* (2008), Volume on Axions, (Springer-Verlag)  
[http://arxiv.org/PS\\_cache/arxiv/pdf/0705/0705.0615v1.pdf](http://arxiv.org/PS_cache/arxiv/pdf/0705/0705.0615v1.pdf)
- “First results from the OSQAR photon regeneration experiment: No light shining through a wall”, P. Pagnat *et al.* , submitted <http://arxiv.org/abs/0712.3362>
- *Proposal* submitted in February 2008 by L. Duvillaret on the behalf of the OSQAR collaboration to the French funding agency (ANR Programme Blanc)