# Axions: Phenomenology and Detection

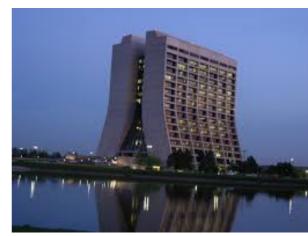
Surject Rajendran, The Johns Hopkins University

### **Grand Challenge of High Energy Physics**

Standard Model experimentally established









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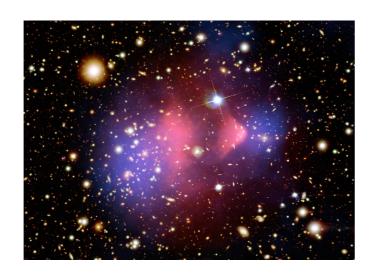




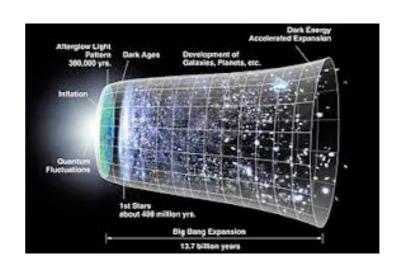
We know there is new physics out there



Matter? Universe?



**Dark Matter** 



Dark Energy



Hierarchy

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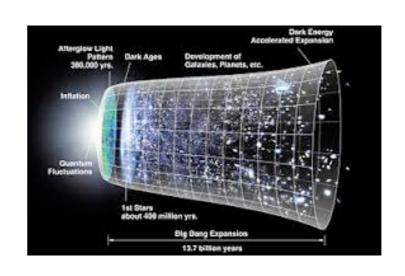
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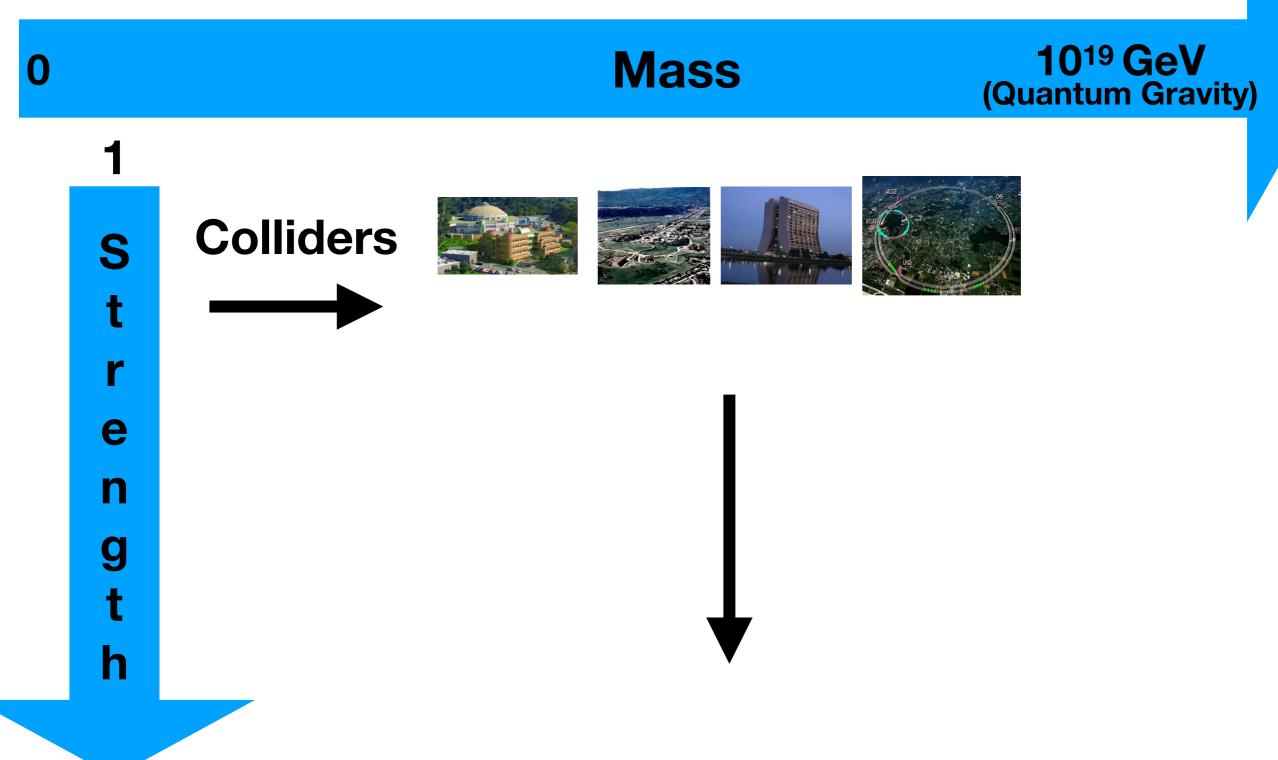
Hierarchy

Where is this new physics?

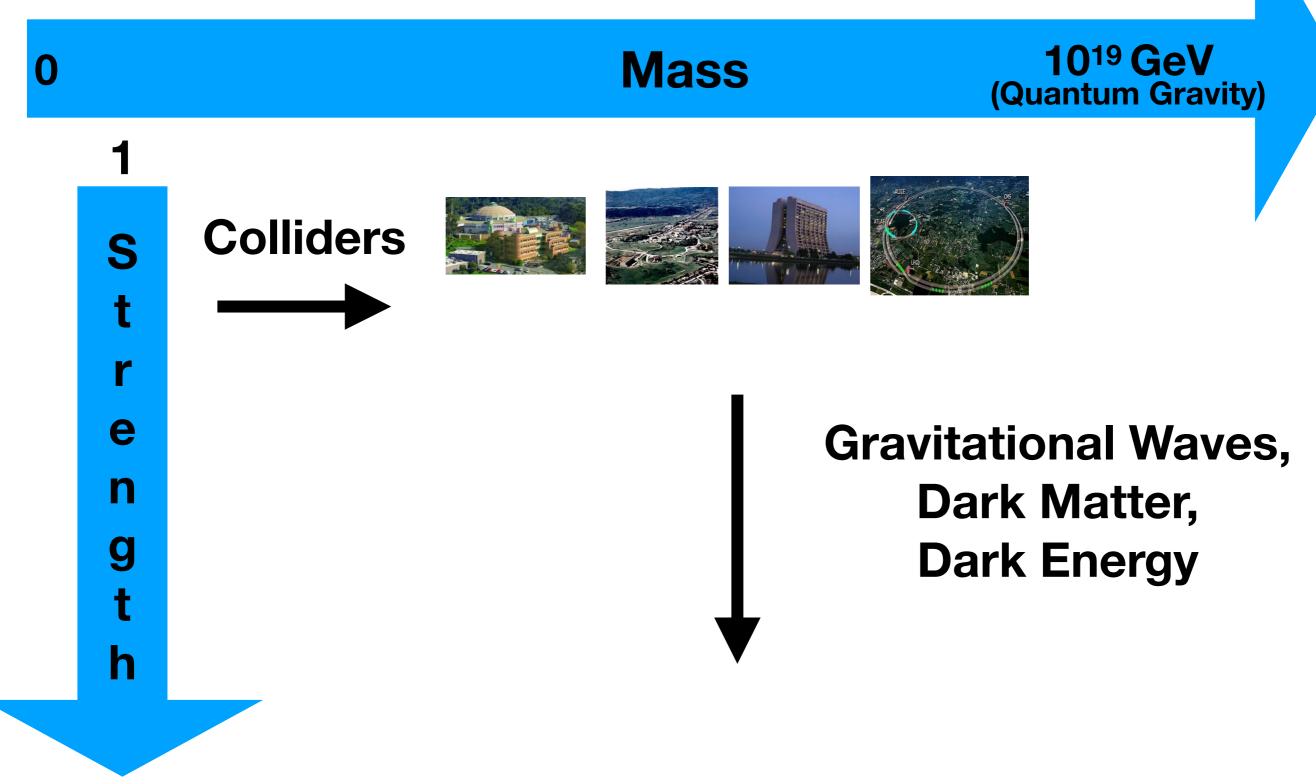
Mass? Strength?

10<sup>19</sup> GeV (Quantum Gravity) **Mass Colliders** S e h

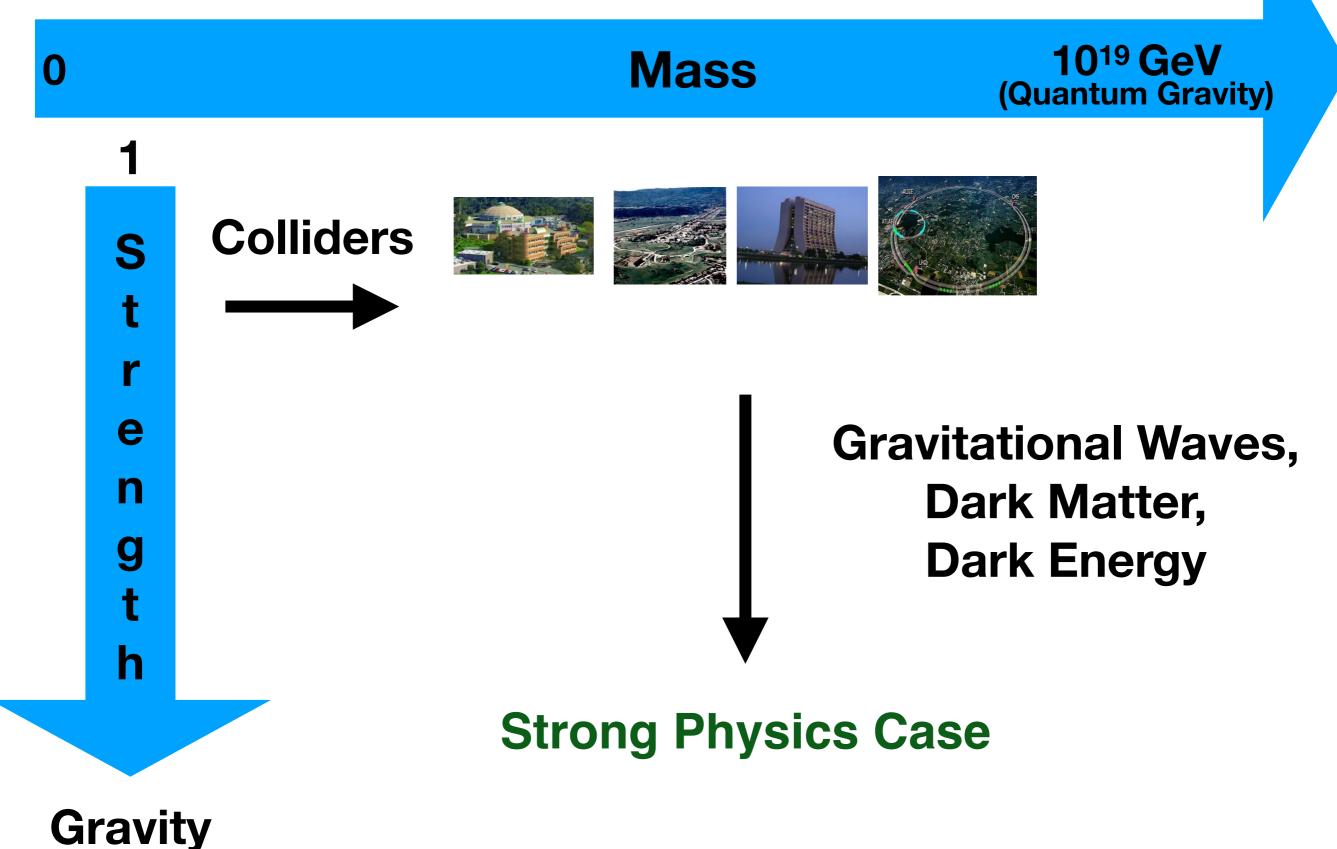
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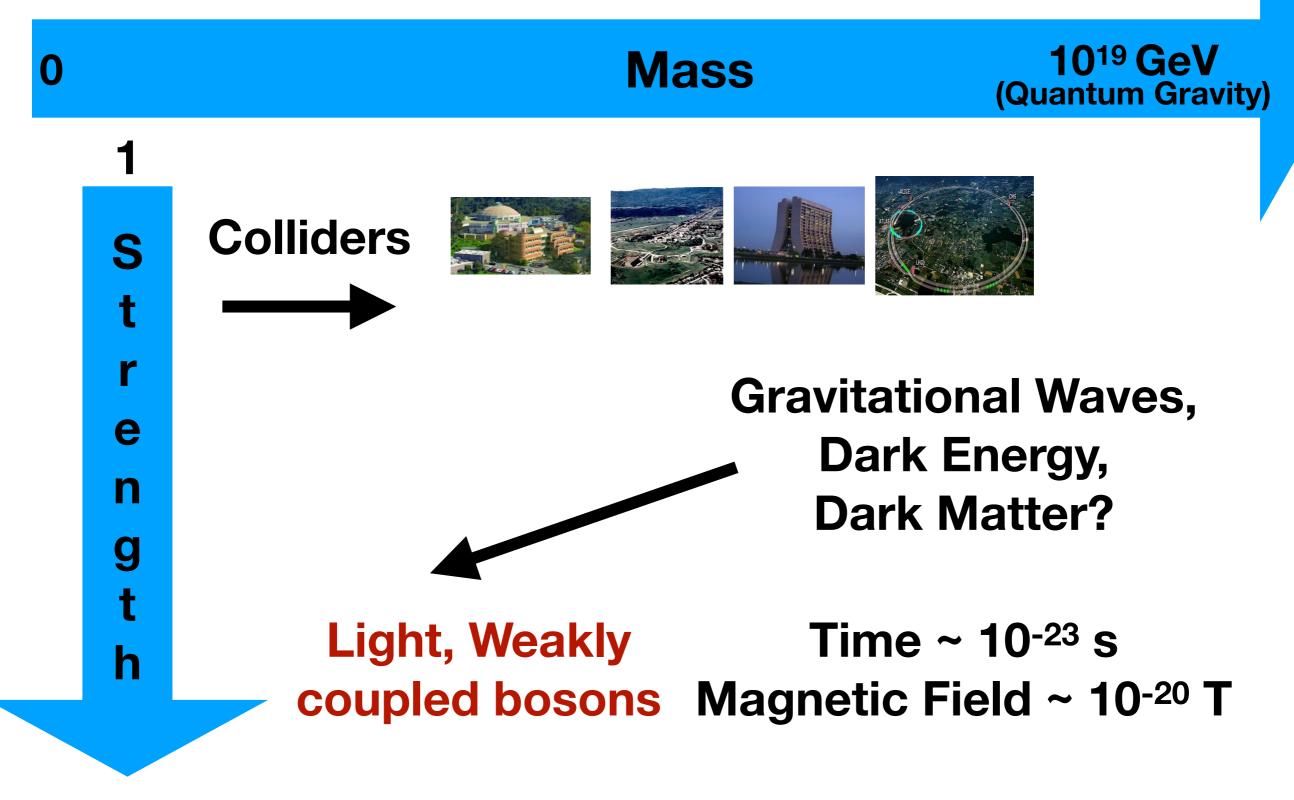
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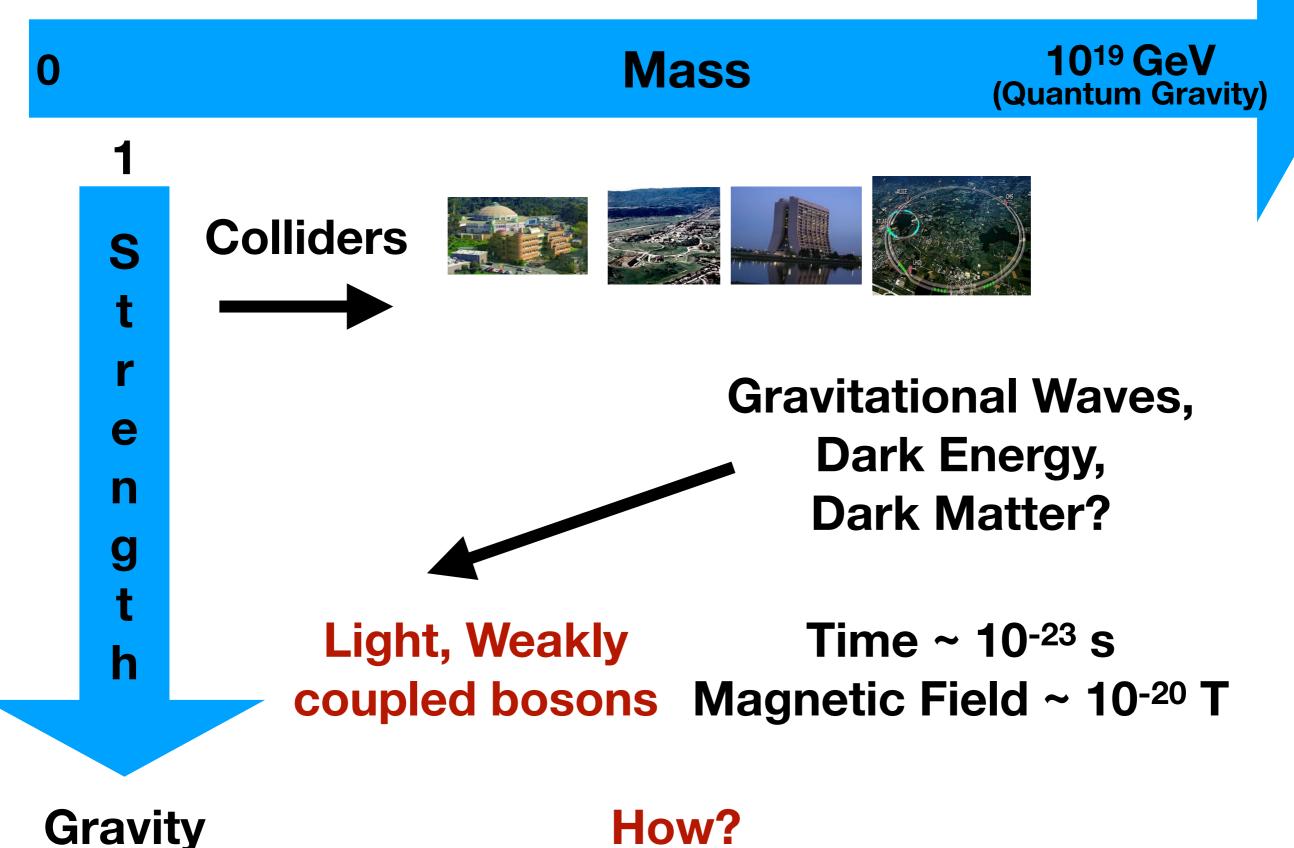
Mass? Strength?

10<sup>19</sup> GeV Mass (Quantum Gravity) **Colliders** S **Gravitational Waves,** e Dark Energy, **Dark Matter?** Light, Weakly h coupled bosons

Mass? Strength?

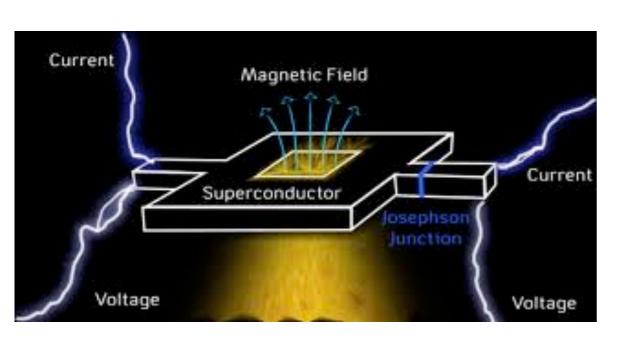


Mass? Strength?



### Quantum Sensors

# Impressive developments in quantum sensors in the past two decades



Magnetic Field 
$$\lesssim 10^{-16} \frac{T}{\sqrt{\text{Hz}}}$$

(SQUIDs, atomic magnetometers)

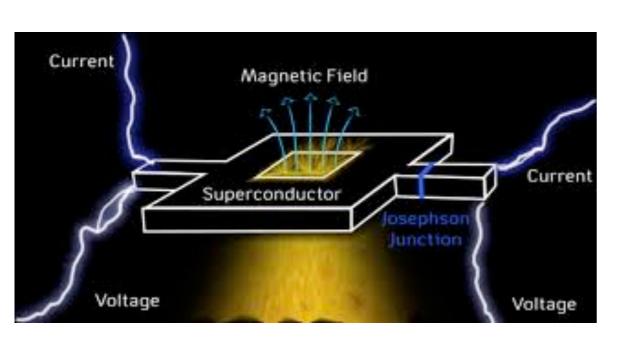


$$\begin{array}{ll} {\rm Accelerometers} & \lesssim 10^{-13} \frac{g}{\sqrt{\rm Hz}} \\ & \text{(atom and optical interferometers)} \end{array}$$

Rapid technological advancements

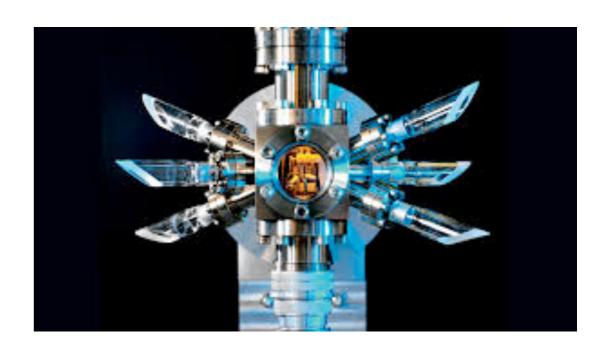
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Rapid technological advancements

Time to find gravitational waves, dark matter, maybe even dark energy?

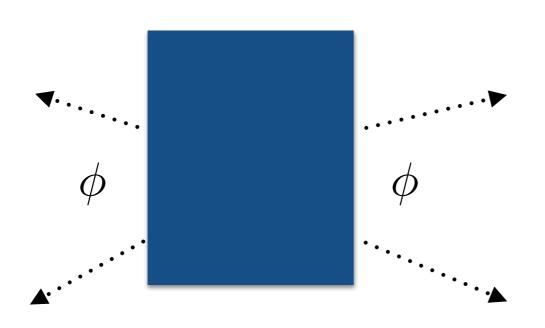
### **Outline**

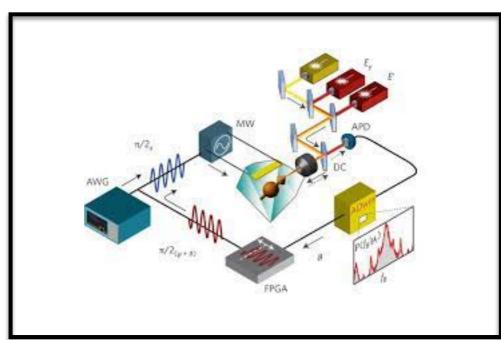
- 1. Theory Overview
  - 2. Experimental Landscape
  - 3. Conclusions

## Theory Overview

### Light Boson Detection

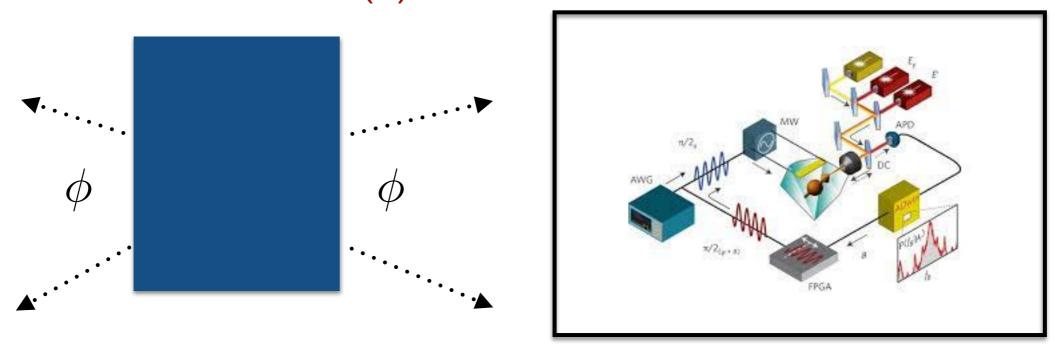
### (I) Local Source





### Light Boson Detection

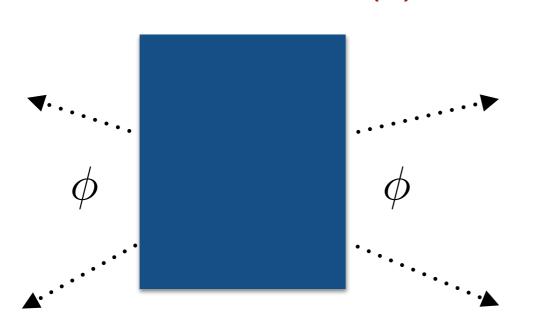
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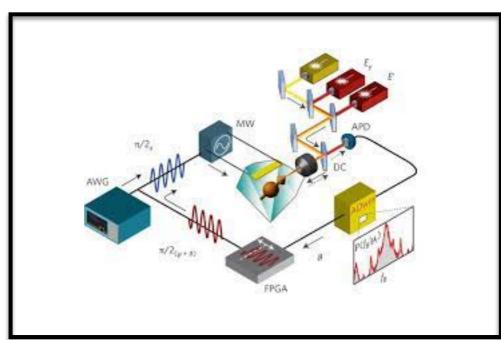


Null result directly relevant. Premium to produce and detect

### Light Boson Detection

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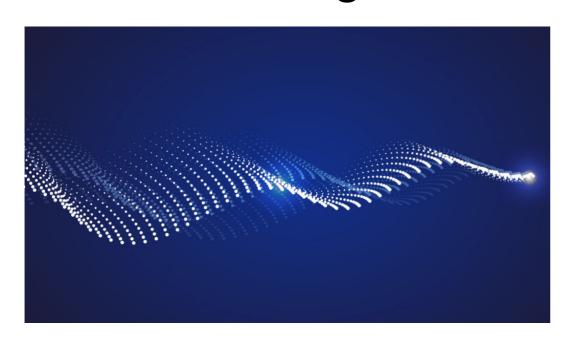


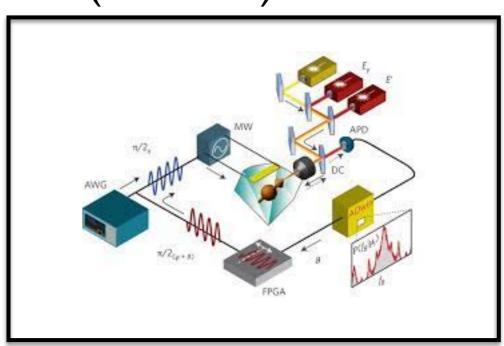


Null result directly relevant. Premium to produce and detect

### (2) Cosmic Source

Ultra-light dark matter (<< I eV)





#### **Photons**



$$\vec{E} = E_0 \cos(\omega t - \omega x)$$

Detect Photon by measuring time varying field

#### **Photons**

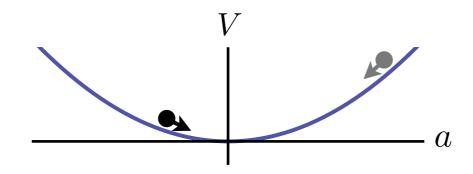


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#### Dark Bosons

Early Universe: Misalignment Mechanism

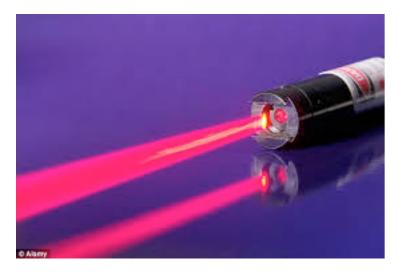


$$a(t) \sim a_0 \cos{(m_a t)}$$

Spatially uniform, oscillating field

$$m_a^2 a_0^2 \sim \rho_{DM}$$

#### **Photons**

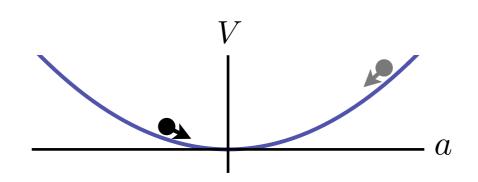


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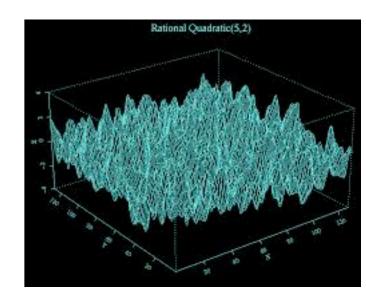


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#### Today: Random Field



Correlation length  $\sim 1/(m_a v)$ 

Coherence Time  $\sim I/(m_a v^2)$   $\sim I s (MHz/m_a)$ 

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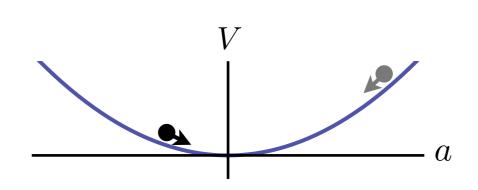


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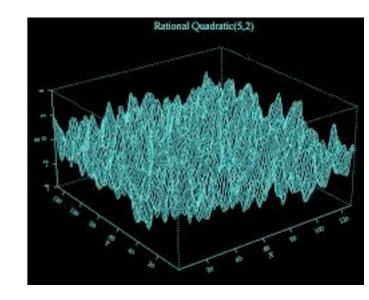


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Detect effects of oscillating dark matter field

Resonance possible. Q  $\sim 10^6$  (set by v  $\sim 10^{-3}$ )

Radiative corrections?

Look for symmetry structures

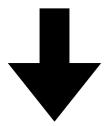
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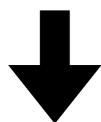


Axions or ultra weak coupling

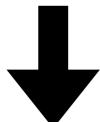
Many UV theories



E&M



QCD



Spin



Higgs

$$\left(\frac{a}{f_a}F\tilde{F}\right)$$
  $\left(\frac{a}{f_a}G\tilde{G}\right)\left(\frac{\partial_{\mu}a}{f_a}\bar{N}\gamma^{\mu}\gamma_5N\right)$   $\left(g\phi H^2\right)$ 

Radiative corrections?

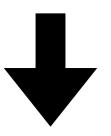
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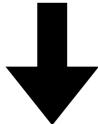


E&M

 $\left(\frac{a}{f_a}F\tilde{F}\right)$ 



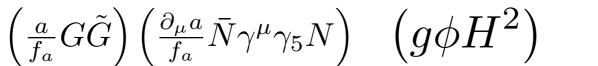
QCD



Spin

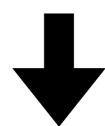


Higgs

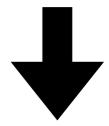


Higgs Portal/ Relaxion

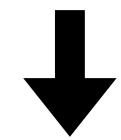
Anomaly free Standard Model couplings



Spin



E&M



Current

$$\left(\frac{F_{\mu\nu}^{'}}{f_{a}}\bar{N}\sigma^{\mu\nu}N\right) \quad \left(\epsilon F^{'}F\right)\left(gA_{\mu}^{'}J_{B-L}^{\mu}\right)$$

Dipole Kinetic moment Mixing

B-L

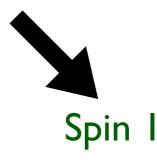
Axion-Like Particle

QCD Axion Axion-Like Particle

Radiative corrections?

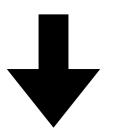
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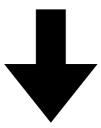


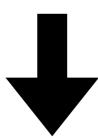


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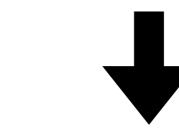
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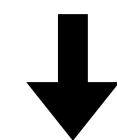






Anomaly free

Standard Model couplings



E&M

QCD

Spin

Higgs

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E&M

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$$\left(\frac{a}{f_a}F\tilde{F}\right)$$

$$(g\phi H^2)$$

$$\left(\frac{F'_{\mu\nu}}{f_a}\bar{N}\sigma^{\mu\nu}N\right)$$

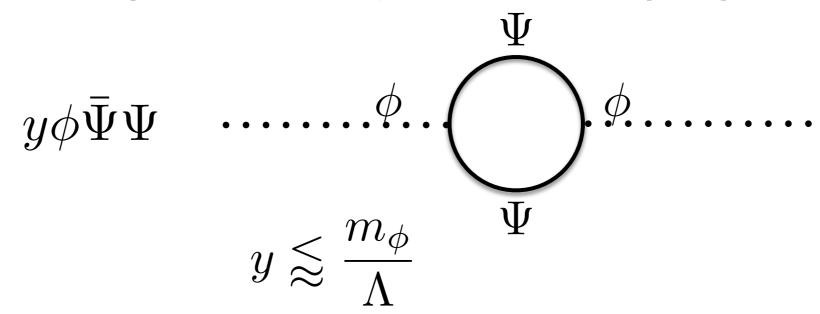
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**Kinetic** Mixing

Dark Matter  $\implies a = a_0 \cos(m_a t)$ 

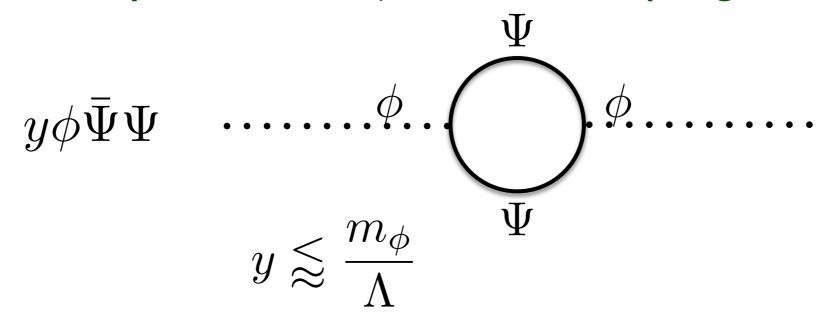
Radiative corrections?

Maybe no symmetries - just weak couplings?



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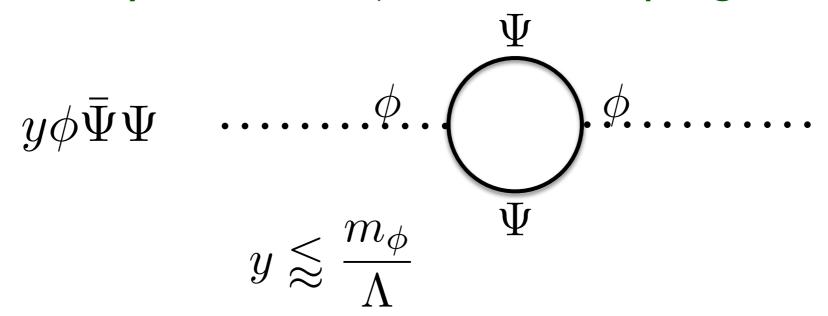


Out of fashion

Higgs ~ 2012

Radiative corrections?

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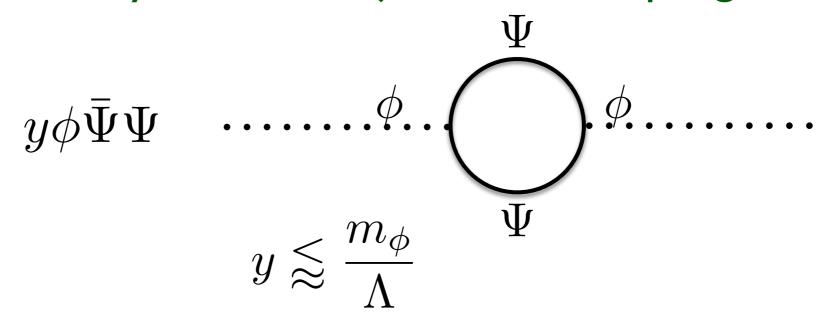
Higgs ~ 2012

Cosmological Constant ~ 4000 BC



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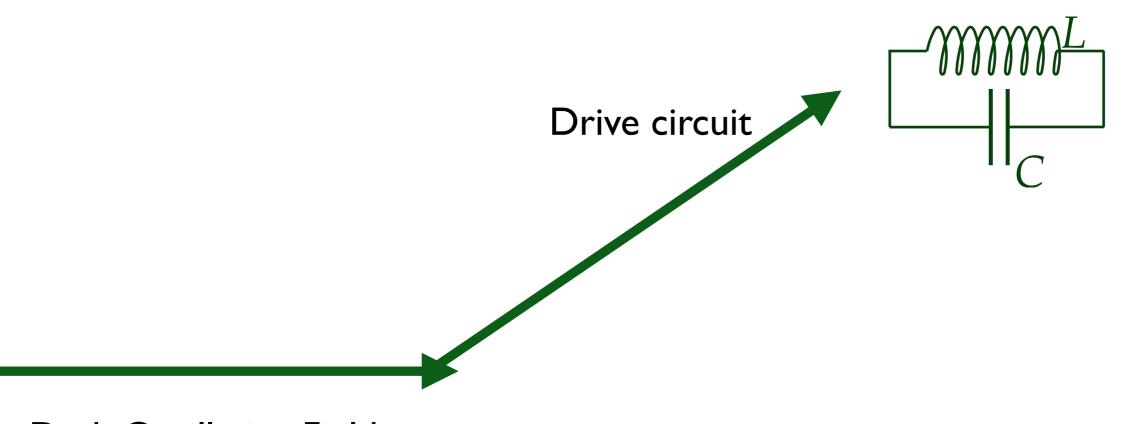
How to search?



What can a classical field do?

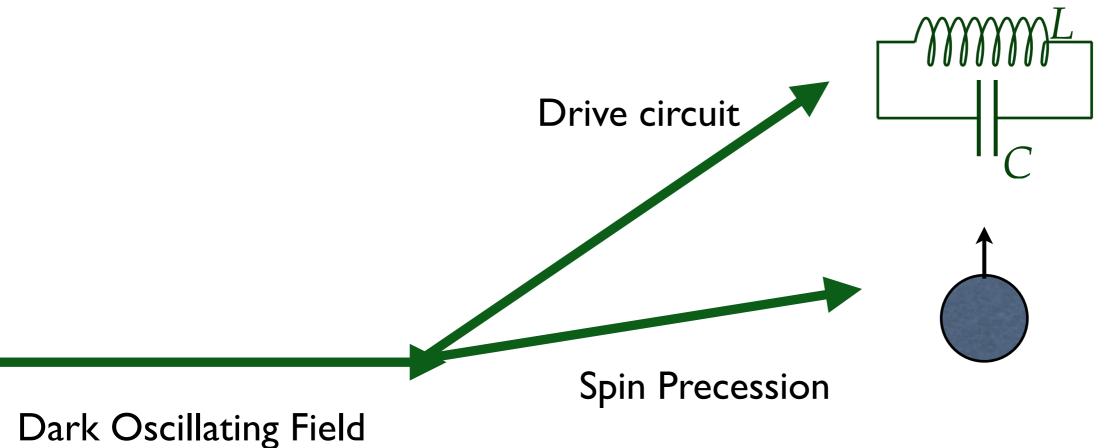
Dark Oscillating Field

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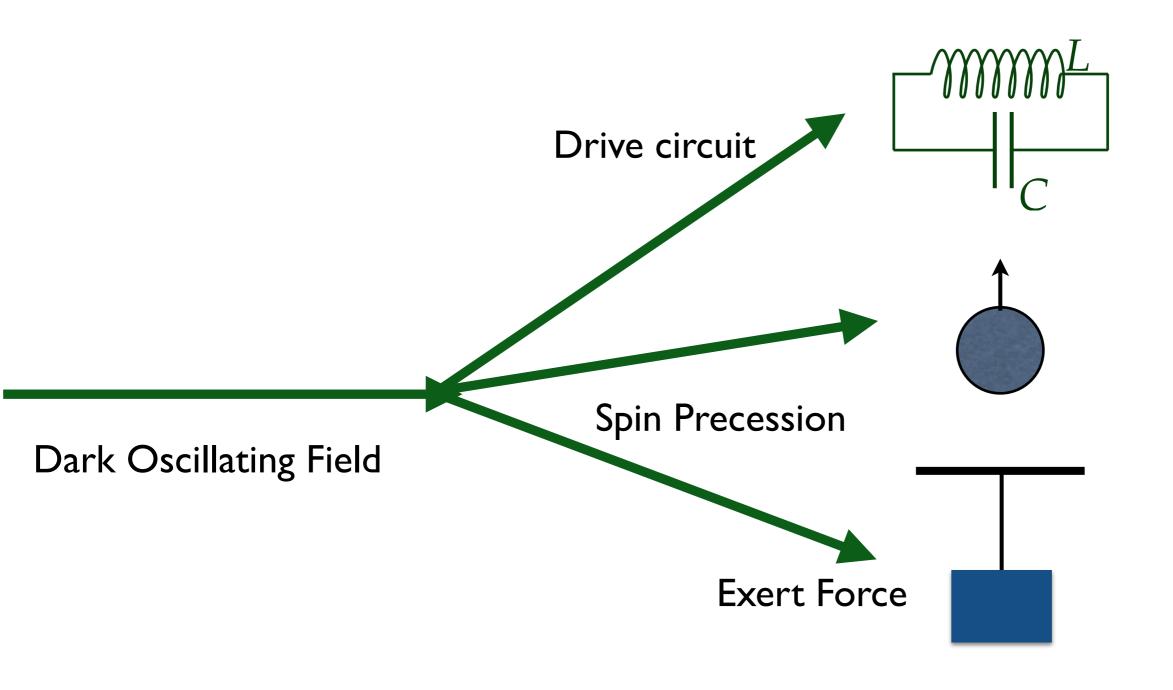


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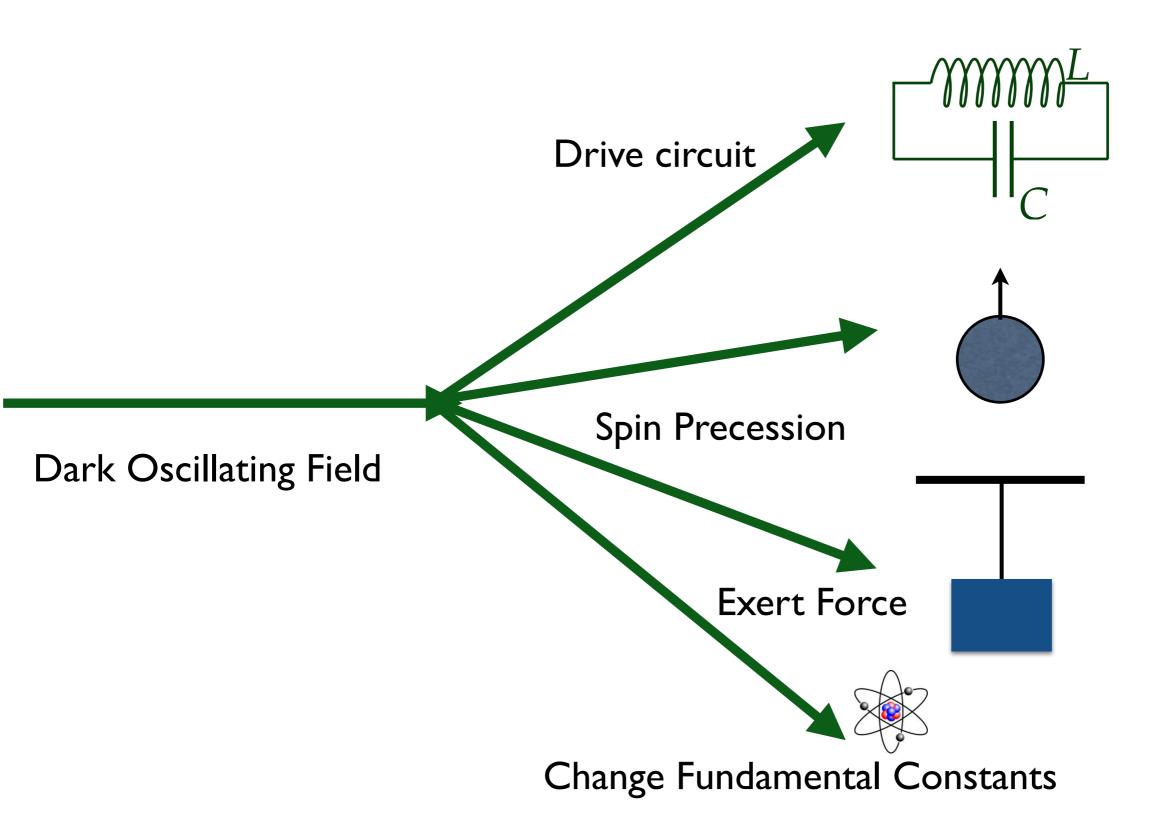
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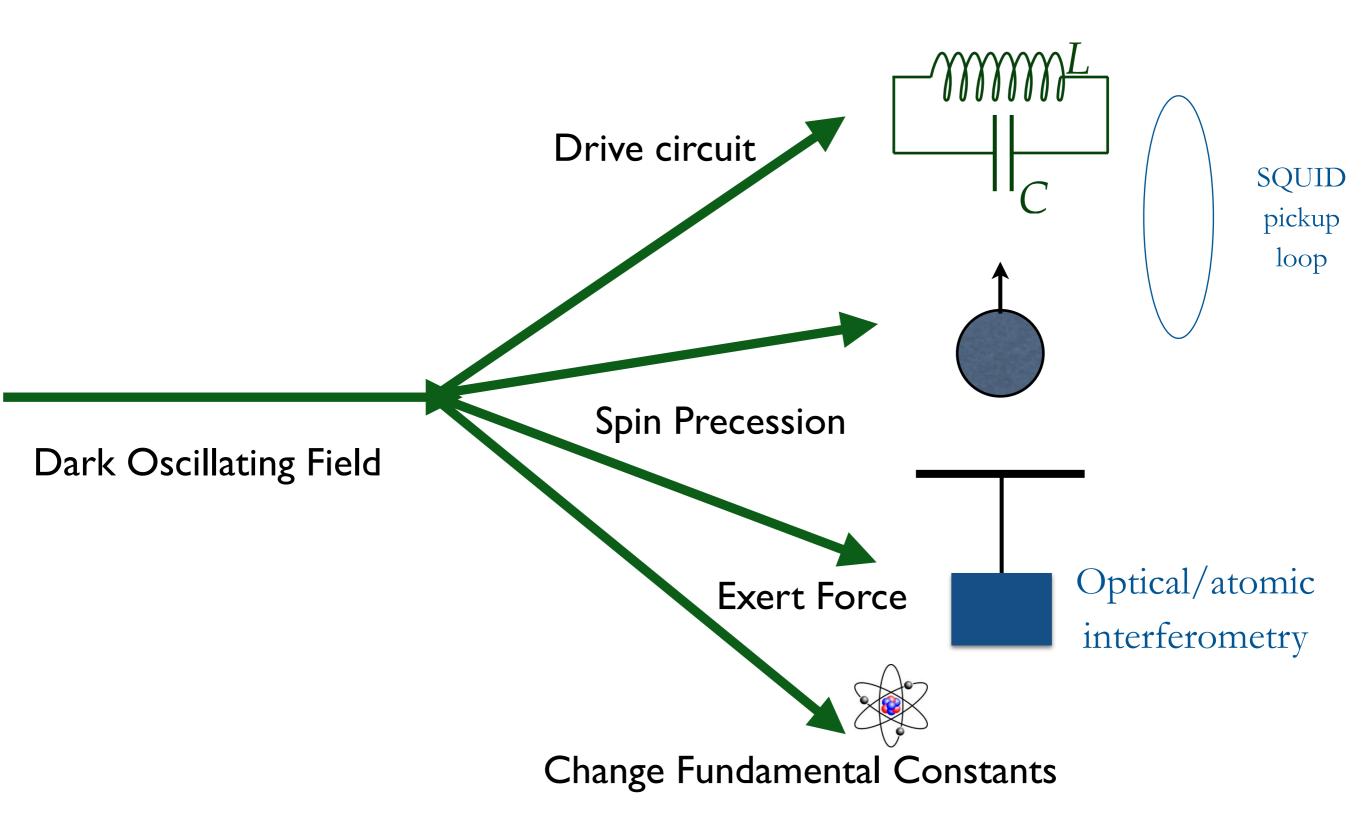


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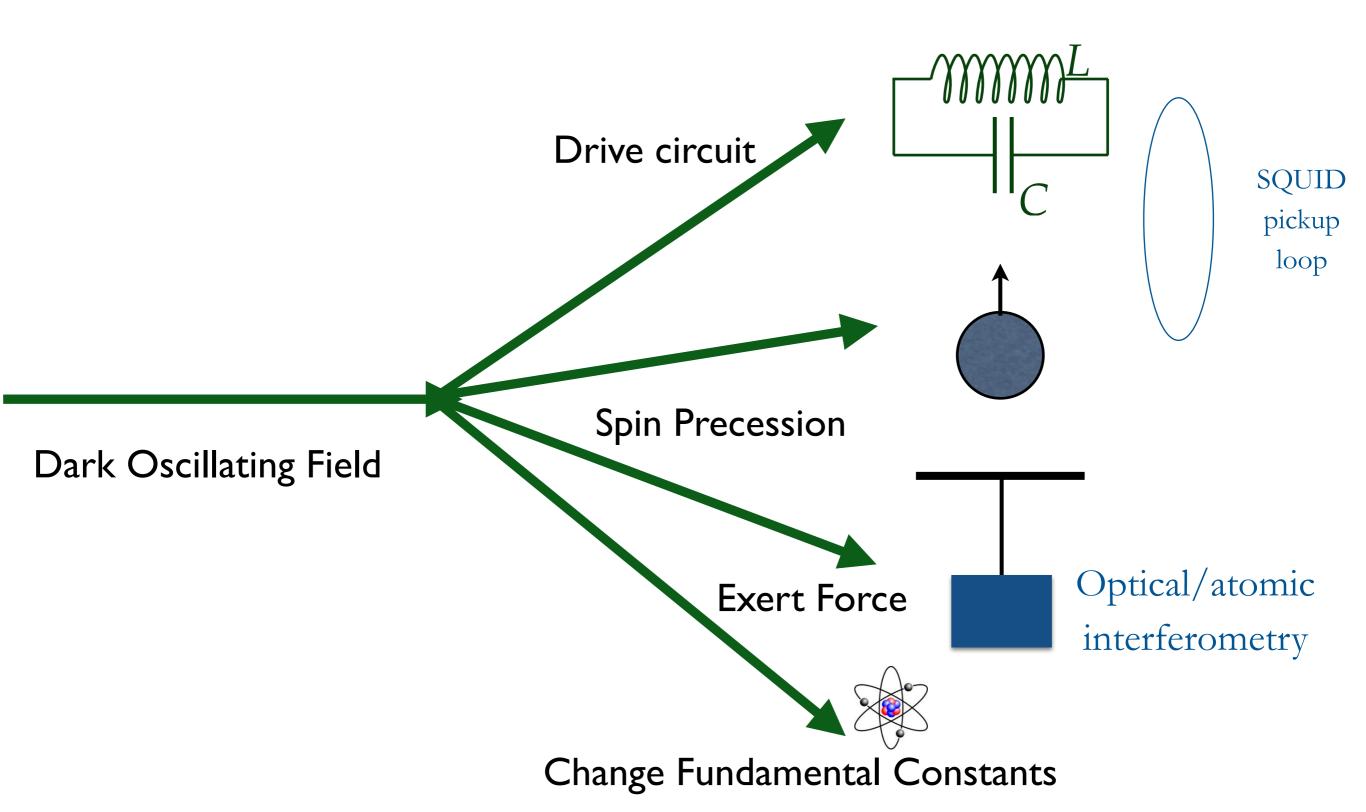
### Observable Effects

What can a classical field do?



### Observable Effects

What can a classical field do?



a/c effect, narrow bandwidth around dark matter mass

# Experimental Landscape

# Electromagnetic Resonators

## Axion Dark Matter

Spontaneously Broken Global Symmetry

Goldstone Boson: 
$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{a}{f_a} F \tilde{F}$$

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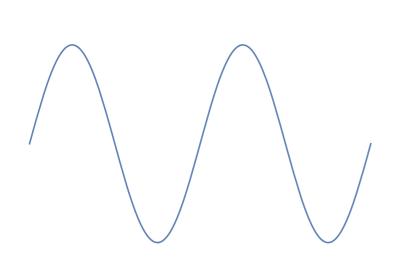
Goldstone Boson:  $\mathcal{L}\supset \frac{a}{f_a}F\tilde{F}$ In the presence of a magnetic field:  $\nabla\times B=\frac{\partial E}{\partial t}+\frac{\dot{a}}{f_a}B$ 

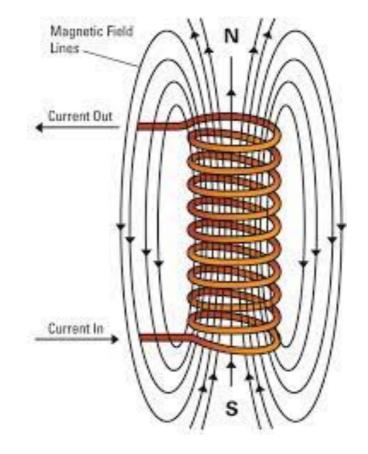
### Axion Dark Matter

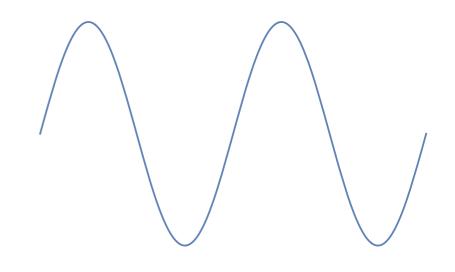
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oscillating axion field

oscillating electric field

### Dark Photon Dark Matter

Many theories/vacua have additional, decoupled sectors, new U(1)'s

Natural coupling (dim. 4 operator):  $\mathcal{L} \supset \varepsilon F F'$ 

mass basis:

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} \left( F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + F'_{\mu\nu} F'^{\mu\nu} \right) + \frac{1}{2} m_{\gamma'}^2 A'_{\mu} A'^{\mu} - e J_{EM}^{\mu} \left( A_{\mu} + \varepsilon A'_{\mu} \right)$$

photon with small mass and suppressed couplings to all charged particles

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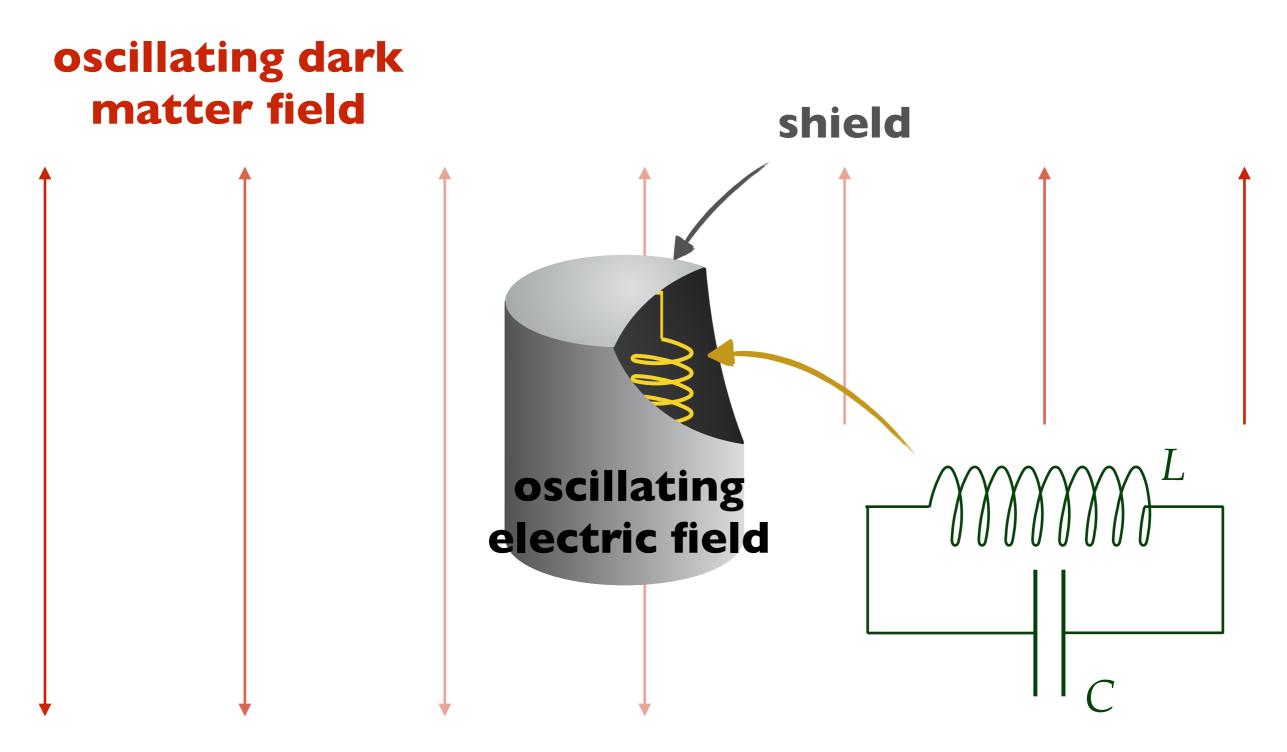
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photon with small mass and suppressed couplings to all charged particles

oscillating E' field (dark matter)

Charge sees small oscillating electric field

### Dark Matter Radio Station

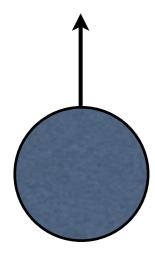


Tunable resonant circuit (a radio)

# Spin Precession

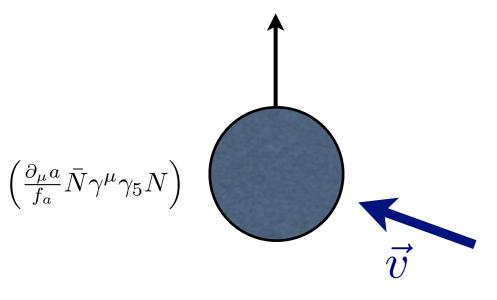
#### **General Axions**

#### Neutron



#### **General Axions**

# Neutron in Axion Wind

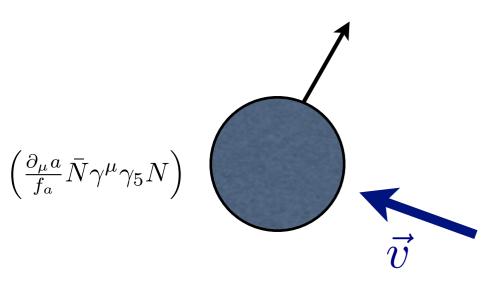


$$H_N \supset \frac{a}{f_a} \vec{v_a} \cdot \vec{S}_N$$

Spin rotates about dark matter velocity

#### **General Axions**

# Neutron in Axion Wind

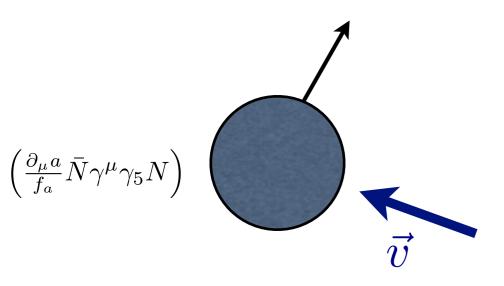


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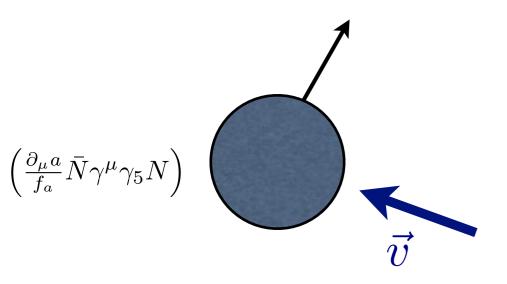
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Effective time varying magnetic field

$$B_{eff} \lesssim 10^{-16} \cos{(m_a t)} \text{ T}$$

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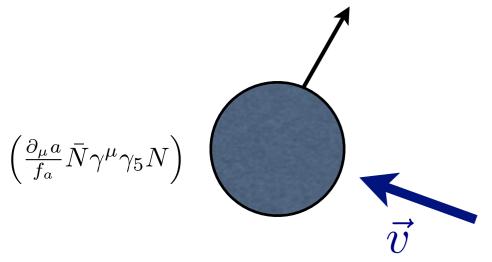
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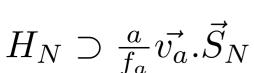
#### **General Axions**

**QCD** Axion

Neutron in Axion Wind



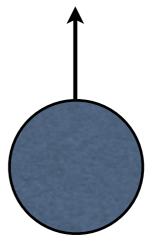




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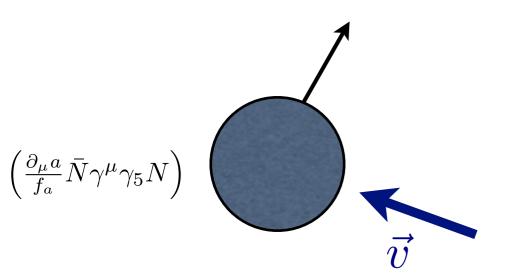
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#### **General Axions**

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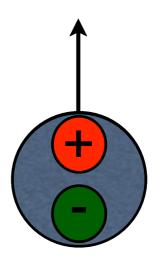
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#### **QCD** Axion

# Neutron in QCD Axion Dark Matter



 $\left(\frac{a}{f_a}G\tilde{G}\right)$ 

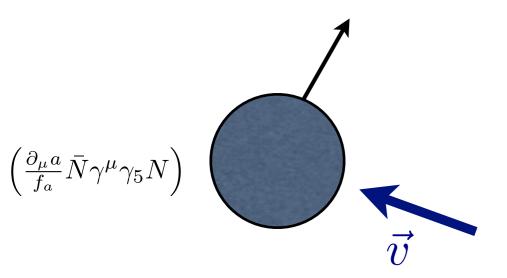
QCD axion induces electric dipole moment for neutron and proton

Dipole moment along nuclear spin

Oscillating dipole:  $d \sim 3 \times 10^{-34} \cos{(m_a t)} e \, \mathrm{cm}$ 

#### **General Axions**

# Neutron in Axion Wind



$$H_N \supset \frac{a}{f_a} \vec{v_a} \cdot \vec{S}_N$$

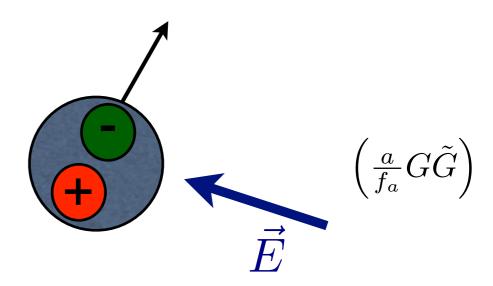
Spin rotates about dark matter velocity

Effective time varying magnetic field

$$B_{eff} \lesssim 10^{-16} \cos{(m_a t)} \text{ T}$$

### **QCD** Axion

# Neutron in QCD Axion Dark Matter



QCD axion induces electric dipole moment for neutron and proton

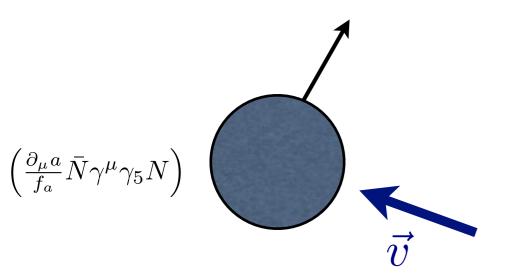
Dipole moment along nuclear spin

Oscillating dipole:  $d \sim 3 \times 10^{-34} \cos{(m_a t)} \ e \, \mathrm{cm}$ 

Apply electric field, spin rotates

#### **General Axions**

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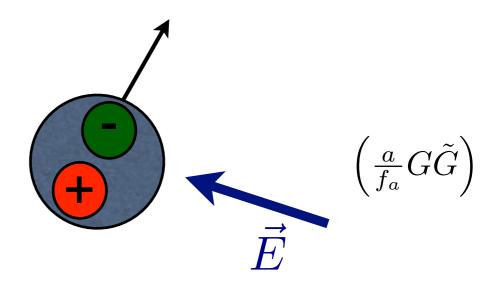
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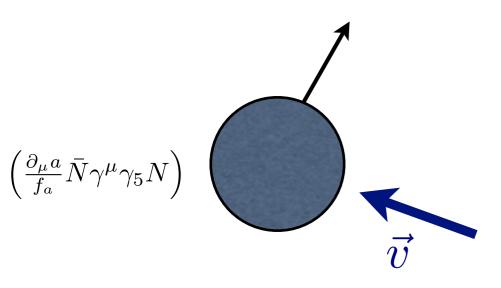
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#### **General Axions**

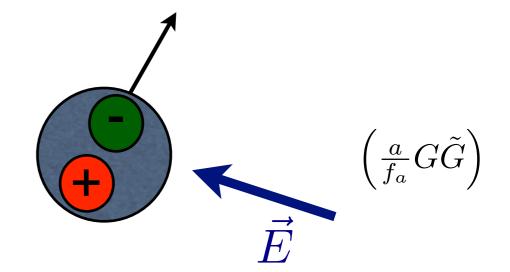
**QCD** Axion

Neutron in Axion Wind

Neutron in QCD Axion Dark Matter



Measure Spin Rotation, detect Axion



 $H_N \supset \frac{a}{f_a} \vec{v_a} \cdot \vec{S}_N$ 

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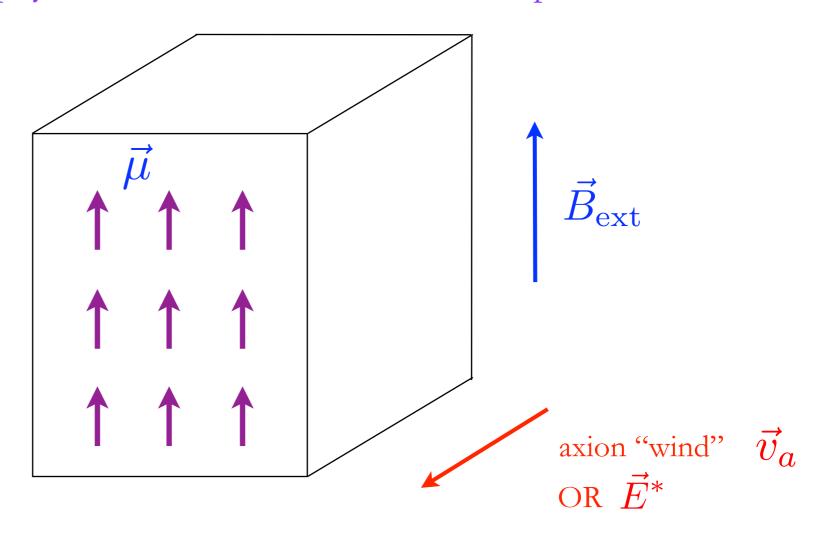
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### **CASPEr**

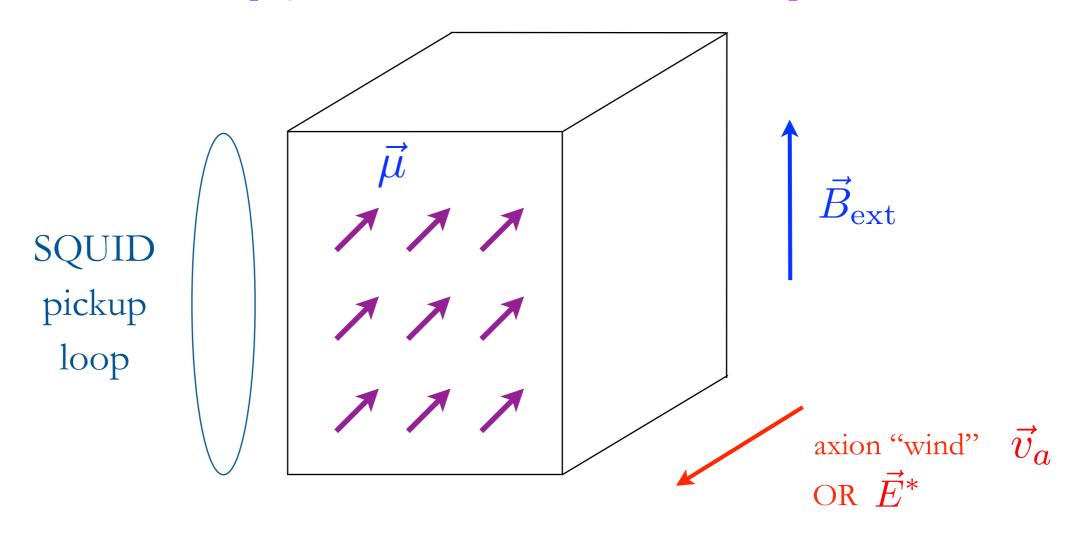
Axion affects physics of nucleus, NMR is sensitive probe



Larmor frequency = axion mass → resonant enhancement

### **CASPEr**

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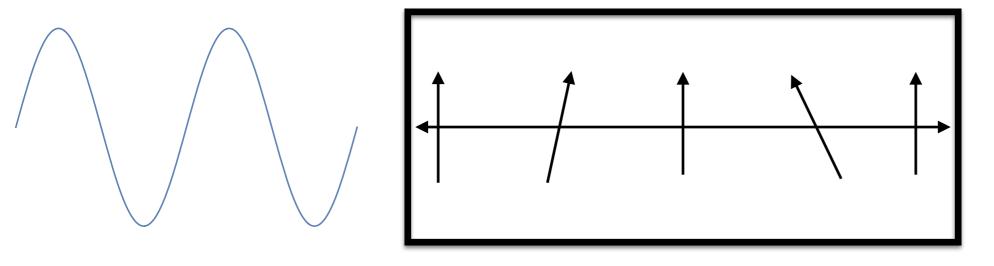
Larmor frequency = axion mass → resonant enhancement

SQUID measures resulting transverse magnetization

NMR well established technology, noise understood, similar setup to previous experiments

Example materials: LXe, ferroelectric PbTiO<sub>3</sub>, many others

## Axion Effects on Photon Spin



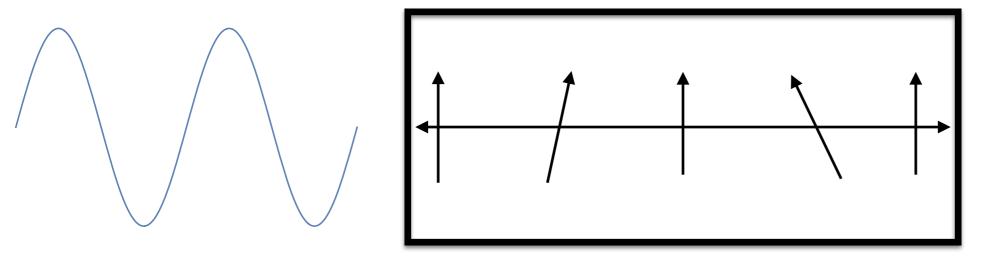
oscillating axion field

Photon
Polarization
Rotation

Left and Right Circularly Polarized light have different phase velocity

**Detect Interferometrically** 

# Axion Effects on Photon Spin



oscillating axion field

Photon
Polarization
Rotation

Left and Right Circularly Polarized light have different phase velocity

**Detect Interferometrically** 

**Electron Spin?** 

# Accelerations

### B-L Dark Matter

Anomaly Free Standard Model Current

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} \left( F'_{\mu\nu} F'^{\mu\nu} \right) + \frac{1}{2} m_{\gamma'}^2 A'_{\mu} A'^{\mu} - g J^{\mu}_{B-L} A'_{\mu}$$

Protons, Neutrons, Electrons and Neutrinos are all charged

Electrically neutral atoms are charged under B-L

Force experiments constrain  $g < 10^{-21}$ 

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Force experiments constrain  $g < 10^{-21}$ 

oscillating E' field (dark matter)

can accelerate atoms

Force depends on net neutron number - violates equivalence principle. Dark matter exerts time dependent equivalence principle violating force!

### The Relaxion

$$\mathcal{L} \supset (-M^2 + g\phi)|h|^2 + gM^2\phi + g^2\phi^2 + \dots + \Lambda^4\cos\frac{\phi}{f}$$

Hierarchy problem solved through cosmic evolution - does not require any new physics at the LHC

 $\phi$  is a light scalar coupled to higgs with small coupling g

$$\implies \frac{g\phi}{v} m_q \bar{q}q$$

Dark matter 
$$\phi \implies \phi = \phi_0 \cos(m_\phi (t - \vec{v} \cdot \vec{x}))$$

Time variation of masses of fundamental particles

$$\implies$$
 force on atoms  $\frac{g\nabla\phi}{v}m_q \sim \frac{gm_\phi\vec{v}}{v}m_q$ 

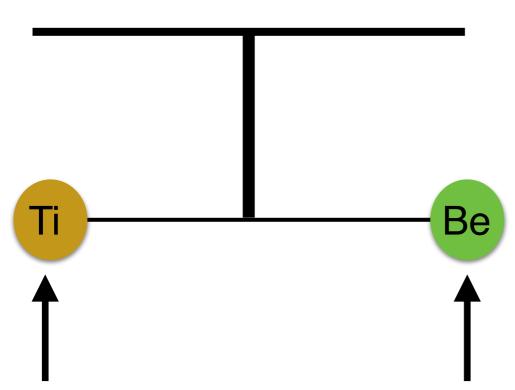
Force violates equivalence principle. Time dependent equivalence principle violation!

## **Detection Options**

Measure relative acceleration between different elements/isotopes.

Leverage existing EP violation searches and work done for gravitational wave detection

**Torsion Balance** 

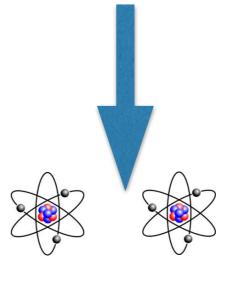


Force from dark matter causes torsion balance to rotate

Measure angle, optical lever arm enhancement

**Atom Interferometer** 

**Dark Matter** 

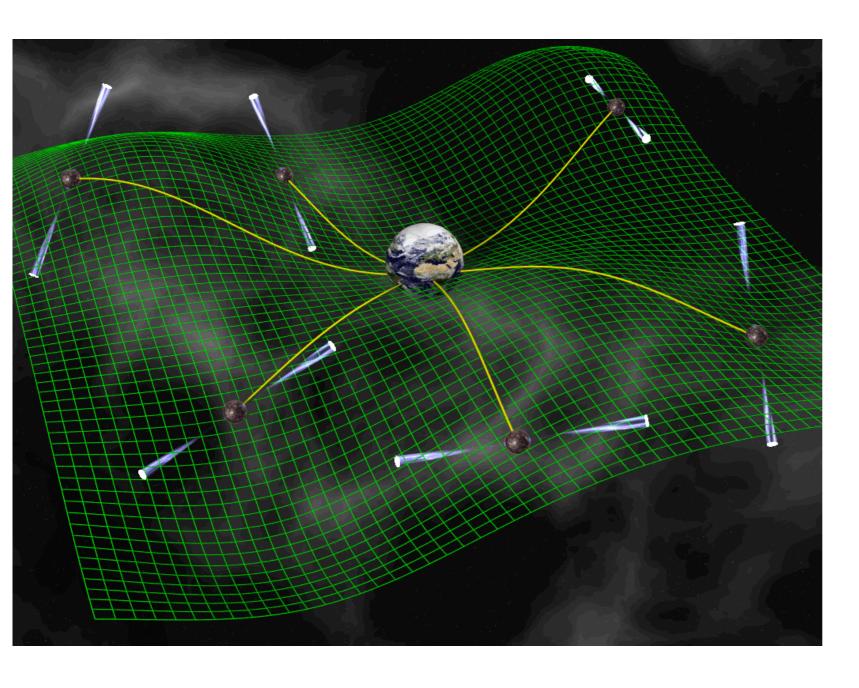


Differential free fall acceleration



Stanford Facility

# Pulsar Timing Arrays

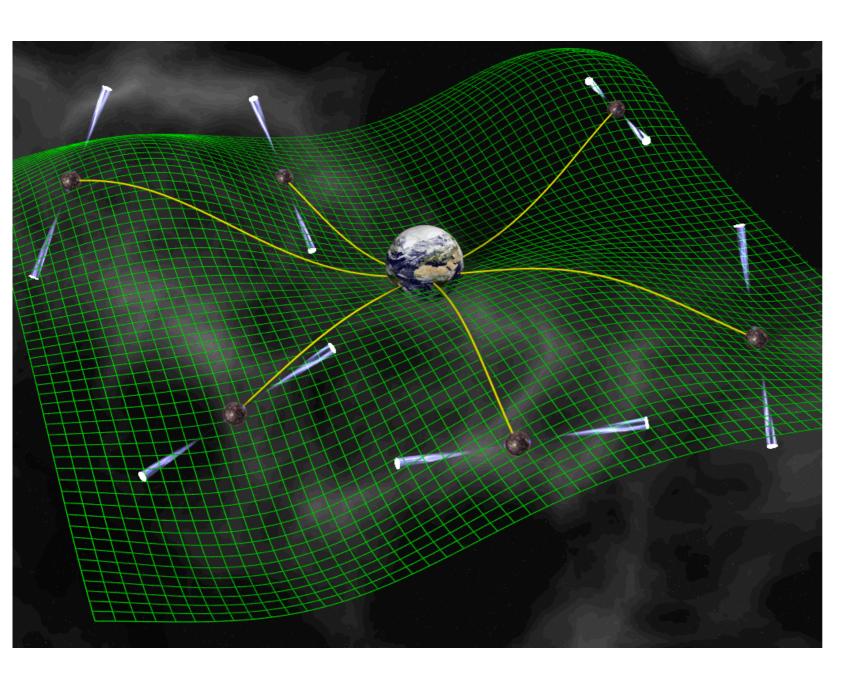


Pulsars are known to have stable rotation - can be used as clocks

Presently used to search for low frequency (100 nHz) gravitational waves.

Pulsar signal modulates due to gravitational wave passing between earth and the pulsar

# Pulsar Timing Arrays



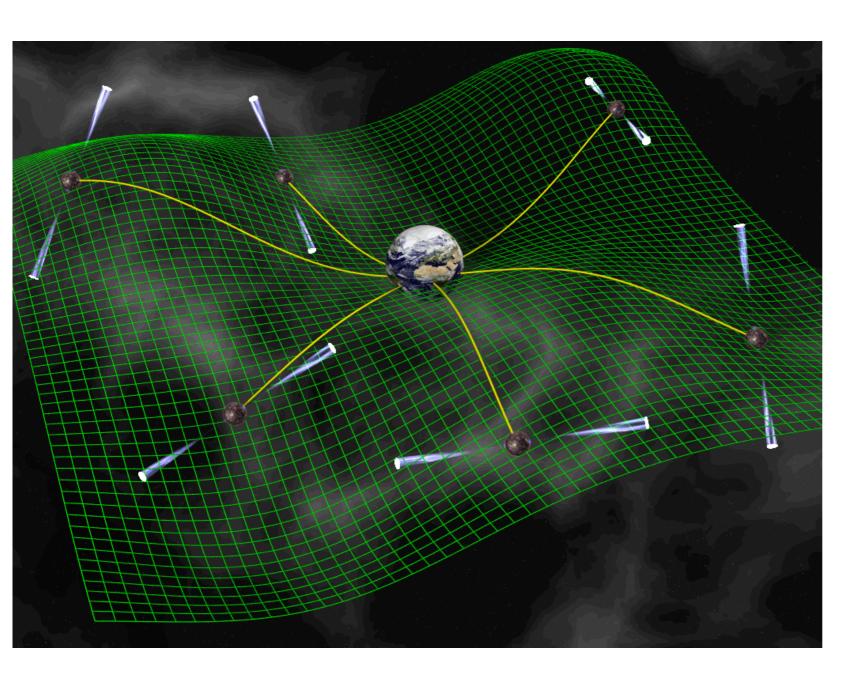
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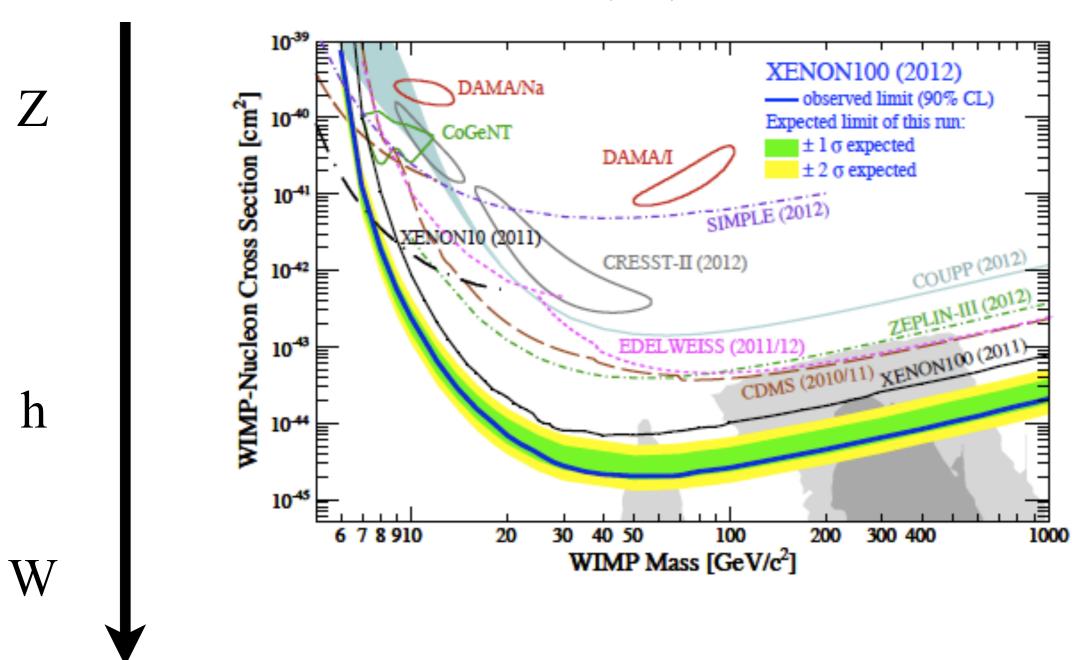
Relaxion changes electron mass at location of Earth - changes clock comparison

# Conclusions

## WIMPs

#### Scalable

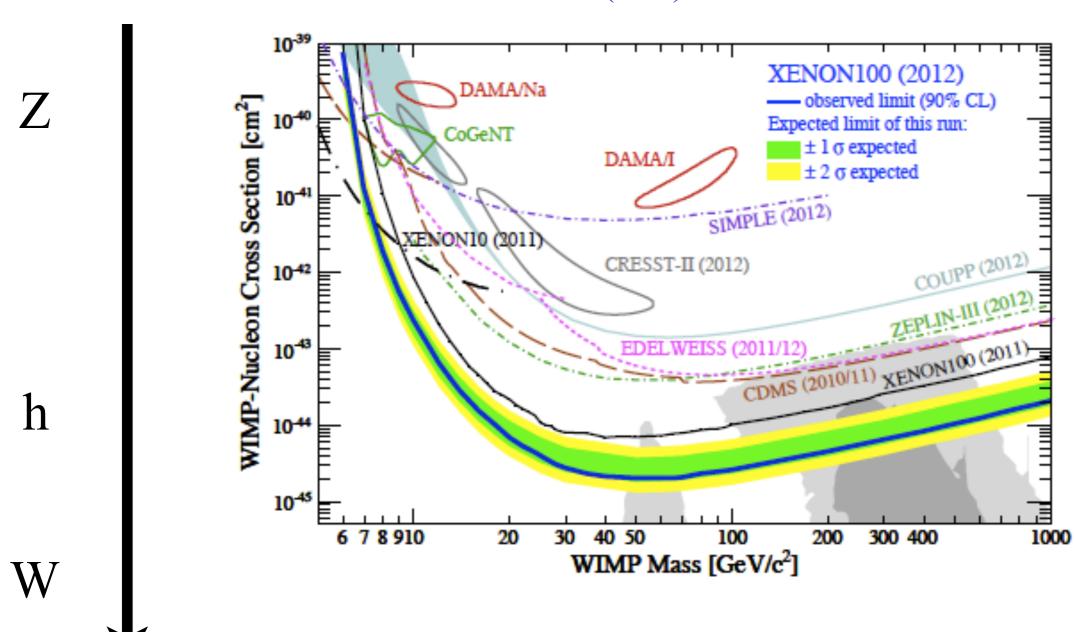
Goodman & Witten (1985):  $\sigma \sim 10^{-38} \, \mathrm{cm}^2$ 



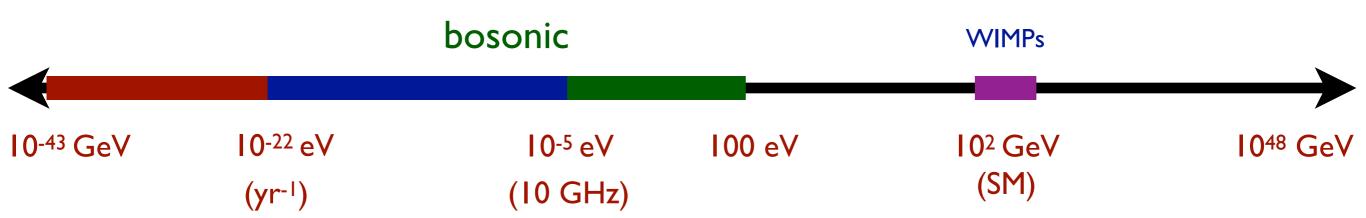
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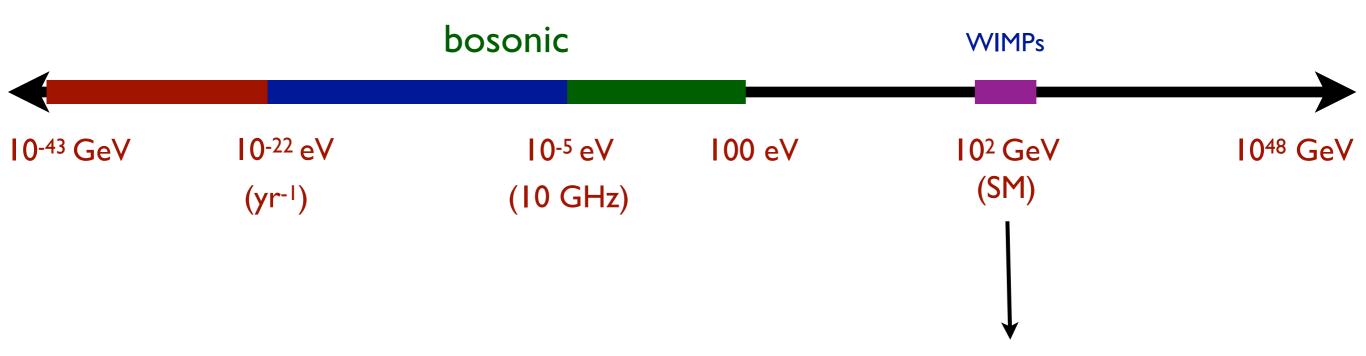
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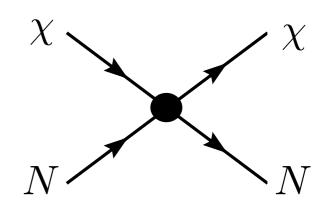


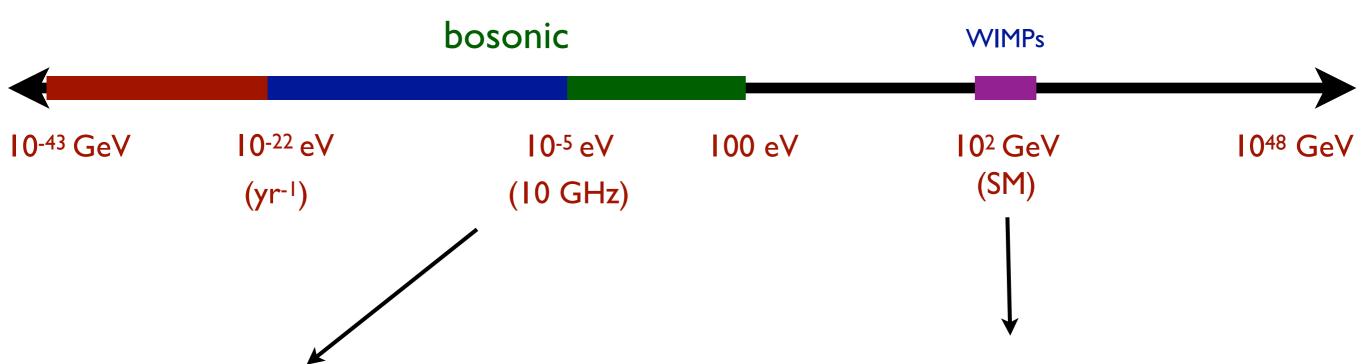
Similar approach seems possible in searching for oscillating fields





Search for single, hard particle scattering





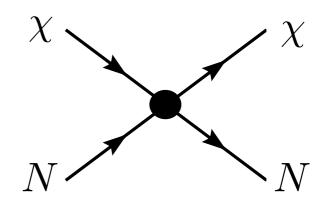
Time dependent moments of coherent classical field

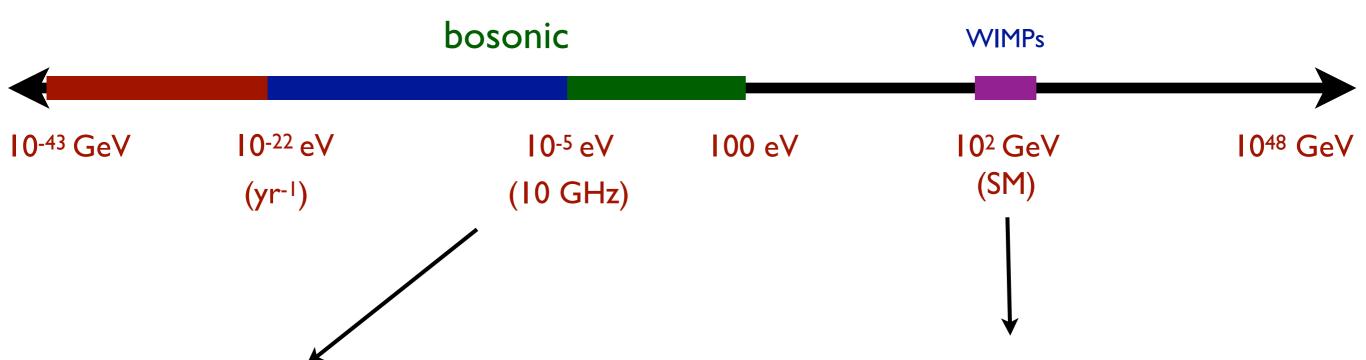
Interactions restricted by symmetry

Frequencies can naturally be lab accessible (nHz - 10 GHz)

Lab-scale experiments

Search for single, hard particle scattering



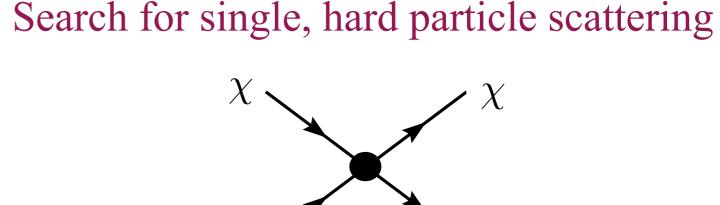


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How do we cover full range? What about Dark Energy?