



# Direct Searches for Dark Matter Particles

Igor G. Irastorza  
CEA/Saclay

Workshop on Cosmology  
and Underground Labs  
Valencia, 6th March 2006

## Summary:

- The paradigm of Dark Matter
- Candidates for DM: WIMPs and axions
- Phenomenology of detection
- Direct Searches for WIMPs
- Direct Searches for Axions

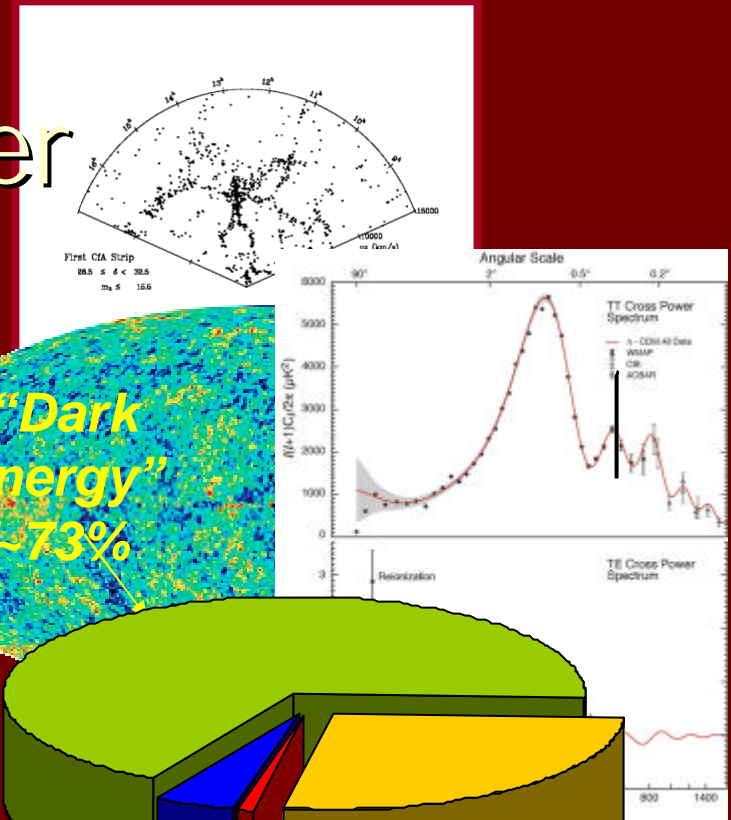
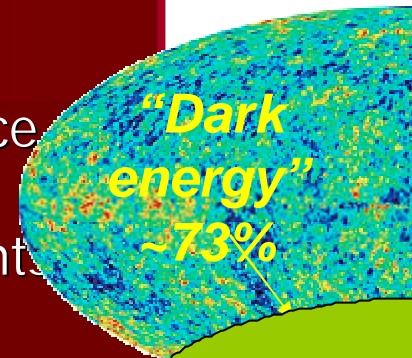
# Evidence for Dark Matter

## ■ Cosmological evidences:

- Multiple CMB observations. Last WMAP precision data adds evidence for  $\Lambda$ CDM cosmological model.
- Distant Supernova Ia measurements (universe is accelerating its expansion  $\rightarrow$  Dark energy).
- Large Scale Structure (cold dark matter).
- Nucleosynthesis, Lyman  $\alpha$  forest, ...

## ■ Galactic evidences:

- Galactic rotation curves
- Gravitational mass of galaxy clusters (oldest evidence; 1933 Zwicky)



**Baryonic**  
**< 5%**

**Visible**  
**< 1%**

**non baryonic**  
**Dark**  
**Matter**  
**~23 %**

See Spergel's talk

# What can Dark Matter be?

- Baryonic matter? **NO**
  - Dust, gas, planets, brown stars,... MACHOS (non visible conventional matter)
  - Ruled out by primordial Nucleo-synthesis, and the rest of cosmological observations.
  - Gravitational lensing of MACHOS → not enough
- Non baryonic, but standard, matter? **NO**
  - Neutrinos would be the only candidate in the SM. Ruled out by cosmological observations (they would constitute Hot Dark Matter)
- Non baryonic, beyond standard? **most probable**

# Candidates to Dark Matter

- Two main candidates attract most of the present activity in the field:

## WIMPS

Neutral  
Heavy  
Fermion

- Like the LSP of supersymmetric theories (usually the neutralino).
  - WIMP stands for Weakly Interacting Massive Particle (generic name).
- 
- Axions appear as Nambu-Goldstone bosons in the PQ spontaneous symmetry breaking.
  - More generically, we speak about **axion-like** particles, to refer to fundamental (pseudo)scalars of similar properties without referring to a specific theory model.

## AXIONS

Neutral  
Very light  
(pseudo)scalar

# Dark Matter WIMPs detection

WIMP  
galactic halo

In order to do predictions of expected WIMP fluxes/signals one has to make working **hypothesis** about how WIMPs are clustered in the galactic halo

WIMP  
phenomenology

- Mass
- WIMP-nucleon cross section
- SD/SI coupling?

$r_w$   
and

$f(v)$   
at Earth

→ Standard (=simpler) halo model

- Sphericity
- Isotropy
- Non-rotation
- Thermalization

→ Non-Standard

- Relaxing one or more of the above assumptions to some degree

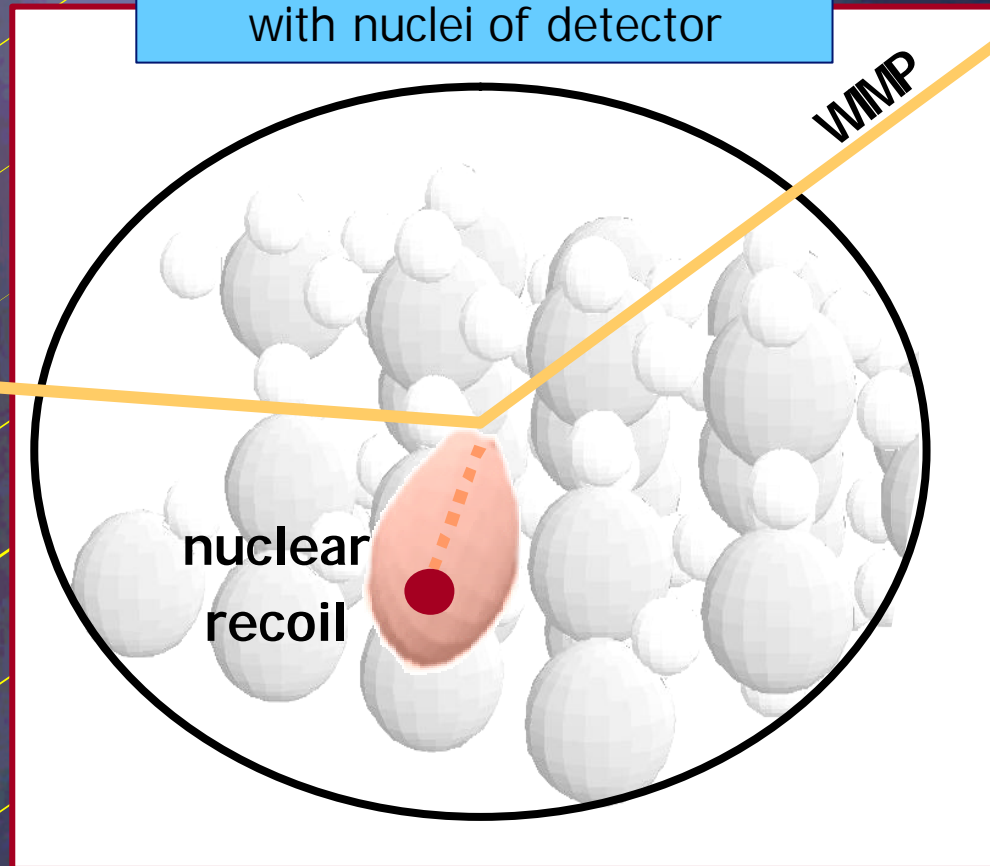
→ Must explain rotation curve of Milky Way



WIMP "wind"

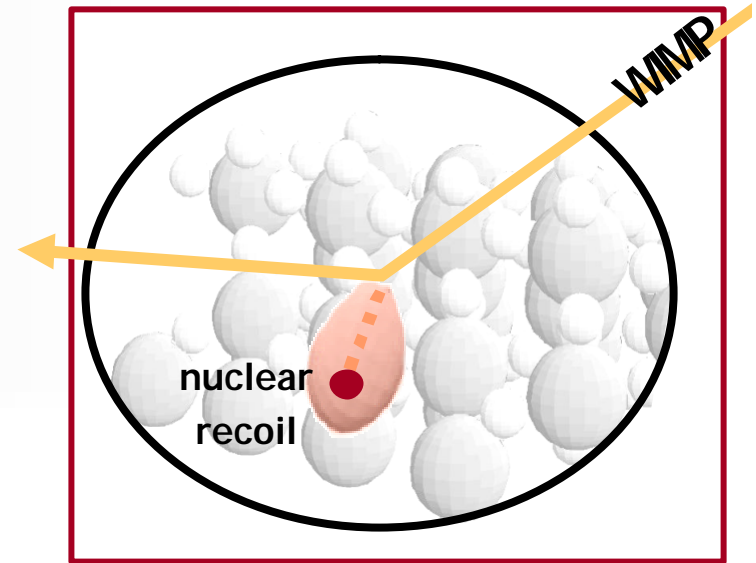
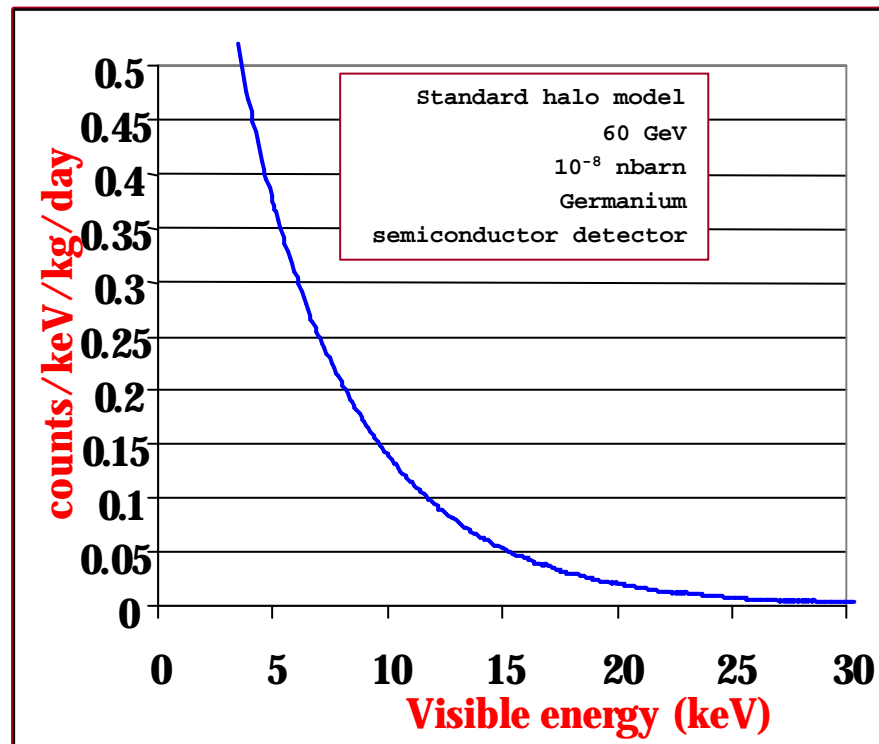
# WIMP detection

Effect looked for at laboratory:  
Elastic dispersion of WIMPs  
with nuclei of detector



# WIMP detection

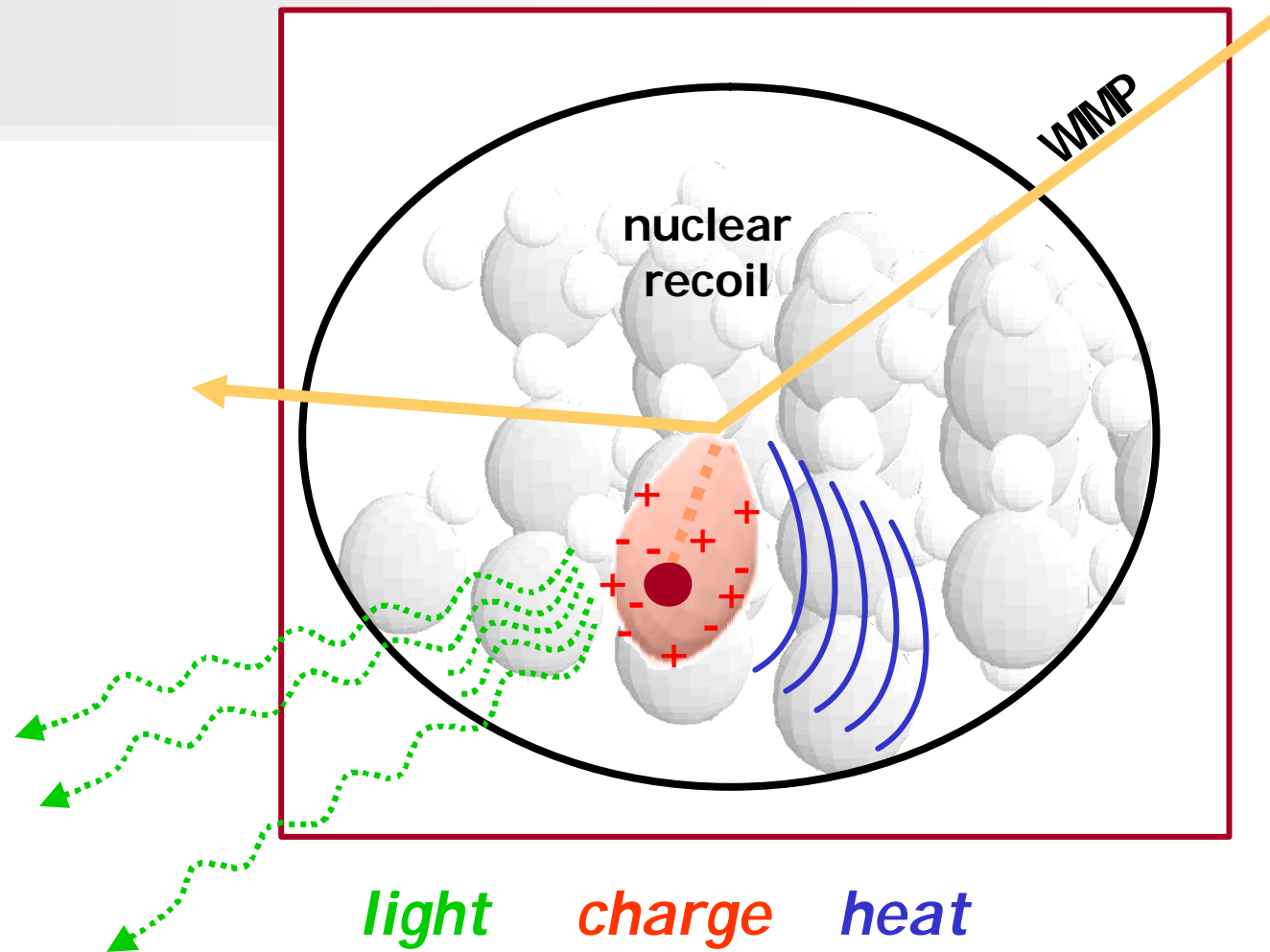
- Expected signal:  
**rare low energy event**



## Specific challenges:

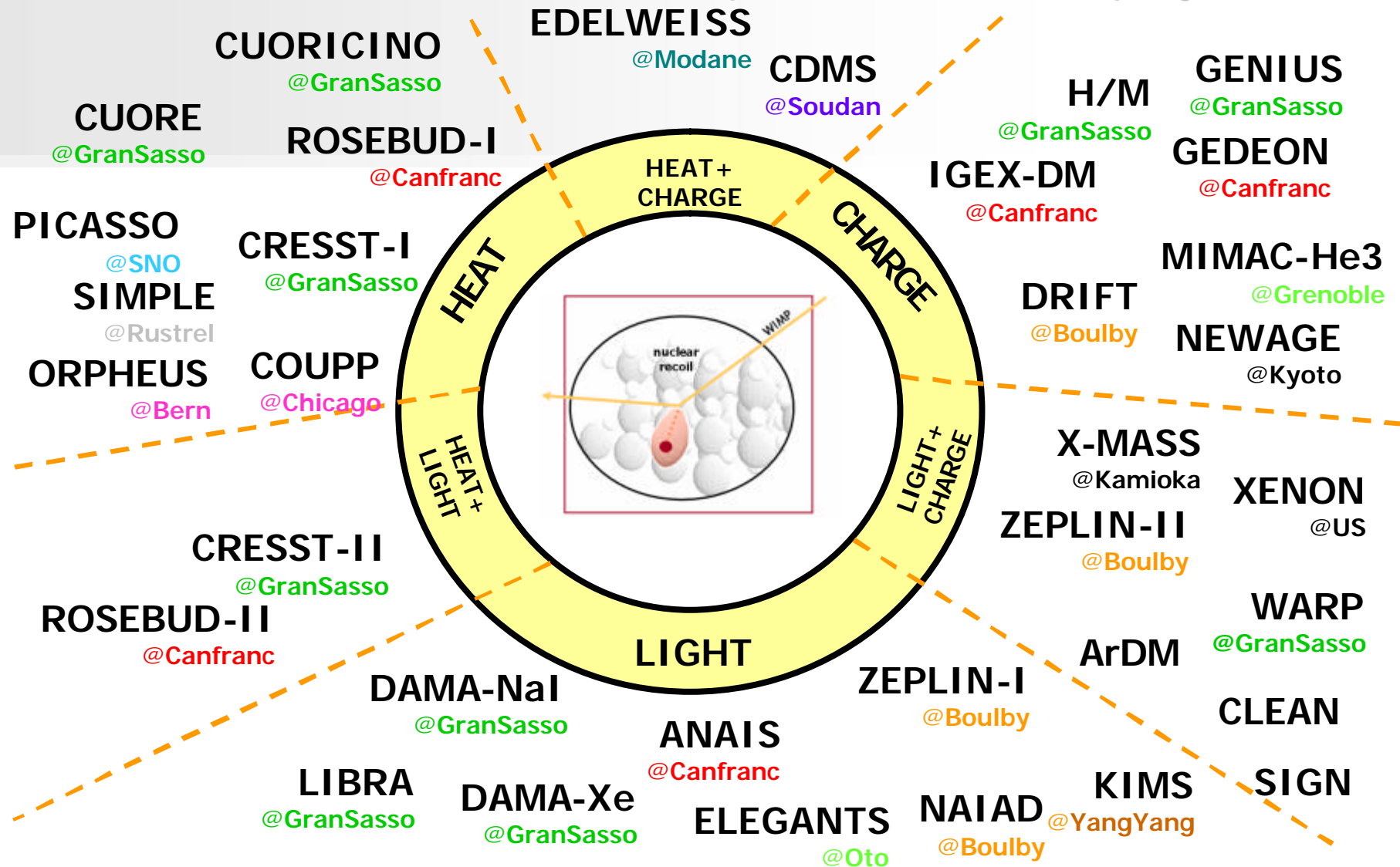
- ✓ Low threshold ( $\sim$ keV)
- ✓ Reasonable resolution
- ✓ Very low background at keV scale:
  - ✓ Radiopurity & rejection techniques
- ✓ Aim for large detector masses
- ✓ Great stability over time.

# WIMP detection mechanism

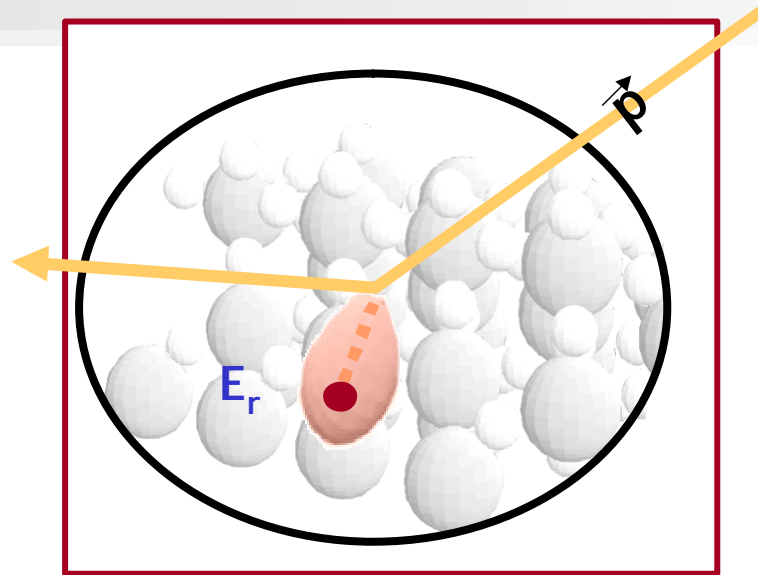
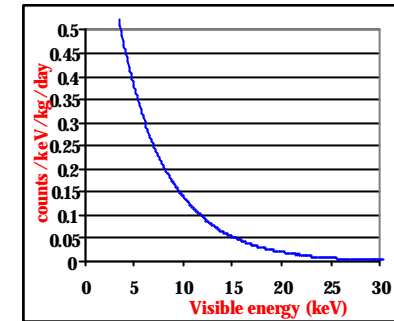




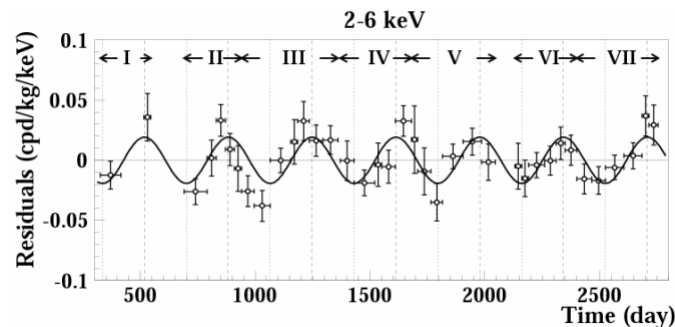
# WIMP detection: present efforts & projects



# WIMP signatures/features



- $E_r$  spectrum: very poorly identificative
- Nuclear/electron discrimination (leading present techniques)
- Independence of position (important for future larger detectors)
- **Rate changes:**
  - **Annual modulation:** at reach if large target mass (DAMA,...)
  - Diurnal variation. Some attempts in the past (COSME, SIERRA GRANDE). Very large statistics needed.
- **Target material dependence:**
  - Challenging, but good progress (ROSEBUD-II, CRÉSST-II). Maybe at reach soon.
- **Directionality:**
  - Challenging. Good progress (DRIFT, NEWAGE,...). Maybe at reach soon.



# Figures of merit for a WIMP detection technique?

- Degree of **signal identification** (amount of event information)
- Ability to **scale up**

← Essential for discovery claim

But equally important...

- Ability to achieve **low threshold**?
- Is there any **background** issue associated with the technique? (shielding, radiopurity, event discrimination)
- Ability to achieve **granularity** → self-shielding
- General complexity (stability of operation, calibration, robustness). Readiness for long term operation...

Ability to scale-up

Ability of signal identification  
(amount of information per event)

Classical Ge-diodes, scintillators

(only energy, statistical nuclear/electron discrimination)

IGEX, HM,...

DAMA,...

GENIUS, GERDA,

MAJORANA,...

DAMA, LIBRA,

ANAIS,...

Noble Liquids

(nuclear/electron discrimination)

ZEPLIN-I

ZEPLIN+, XENON,

XMASS,...

WARP, ArDM,...

Hybrid heat-charge bolometers

(nuclear/electron discrimination)

CDMS, EDELWEISS → ?

Hybrid light-charge bolometers

(nuclear/electron discr., A-dependence)

CRESST-II, ROSEBUD-II → ?

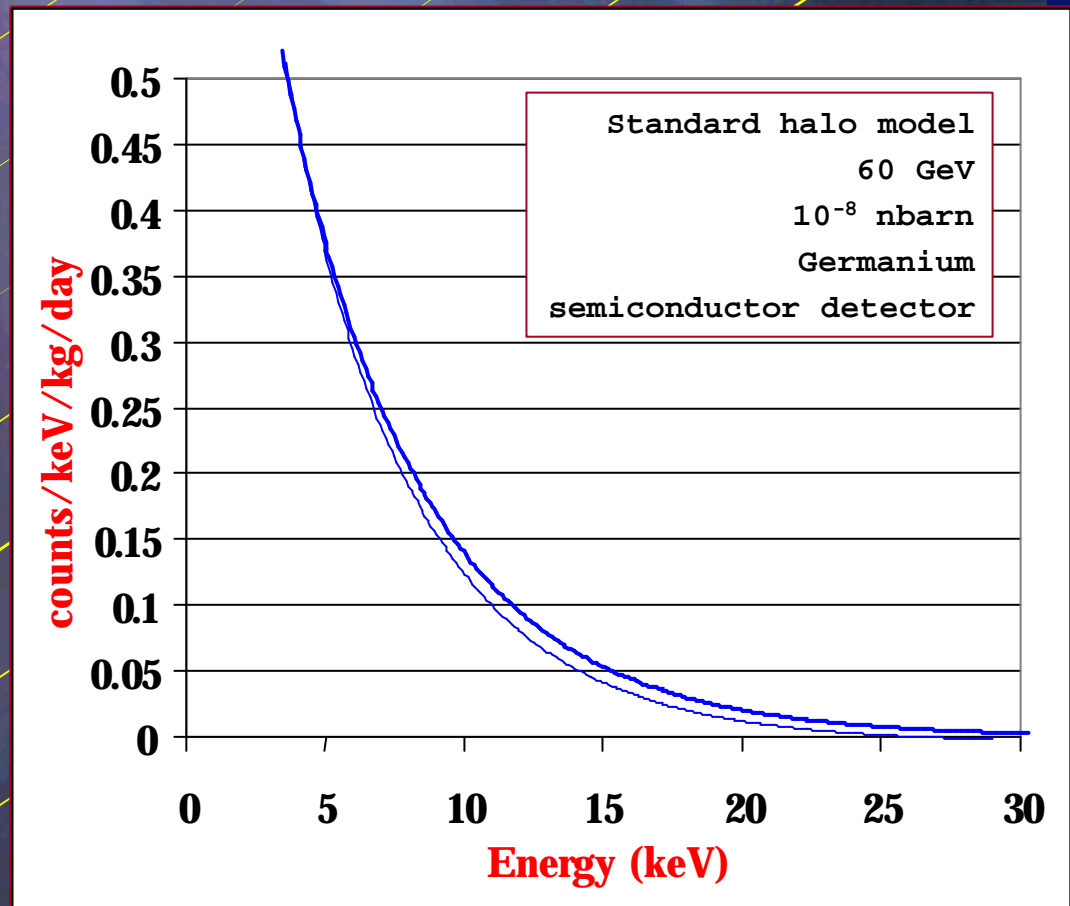
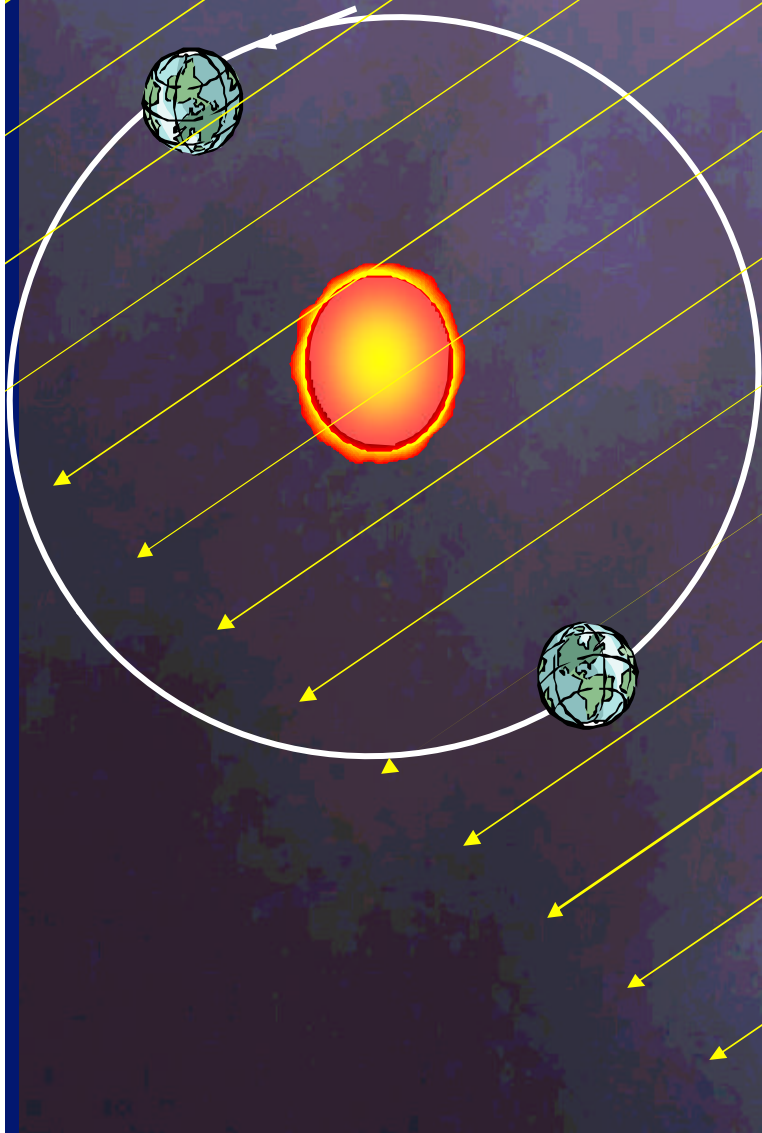
EURECA

Gas TPCs

(Recoil direction)

DRIFT,...

# Annual modulation signal





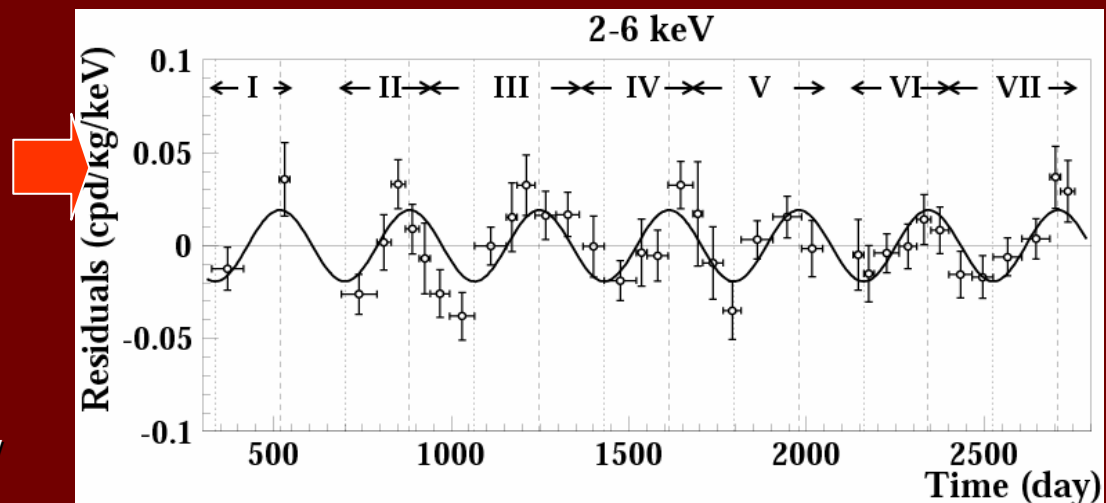
# DAMA-NaI

- 100 kg of ultrapure NaI(Tl) operating for about 7 years at Gran Sasso
- Looking for annual modulation of the data
- 107731 kg day statistics gathered
- Experiment out of operation in July 2002 to start work in LIBRA (which is taking data since March 2003).

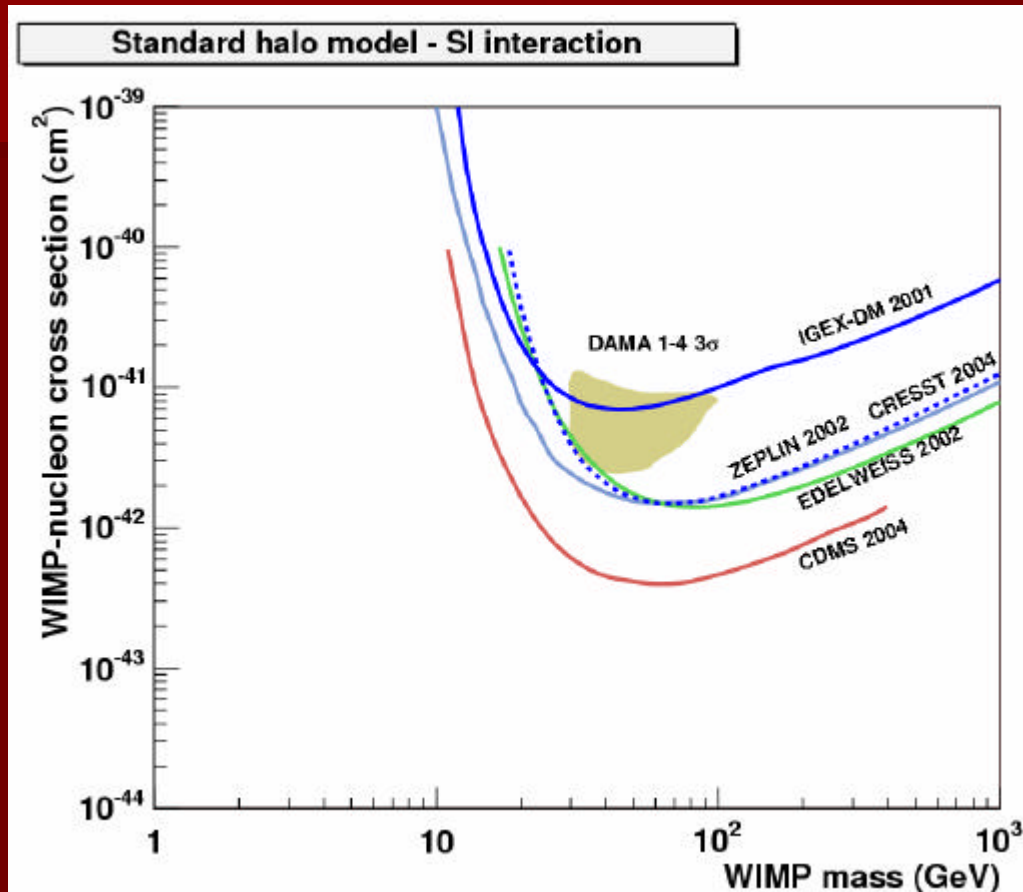


## POSITIVE CLAIM

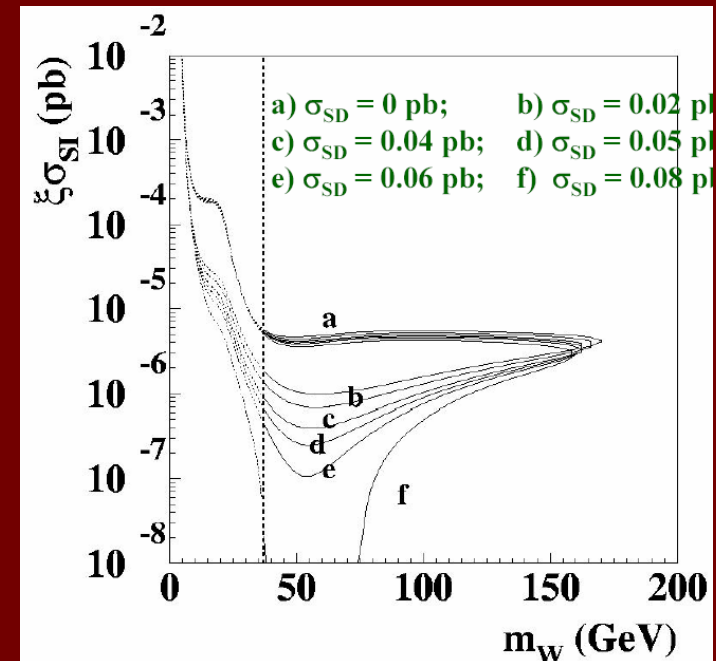
- Modulation detected along 7 years.
- $6.3\sigma$  statistical significance.
- No systematic effect found that can mimic that signal
- Modulation absent above 6 keV



# DAMA Positive result: WIMP interpretation



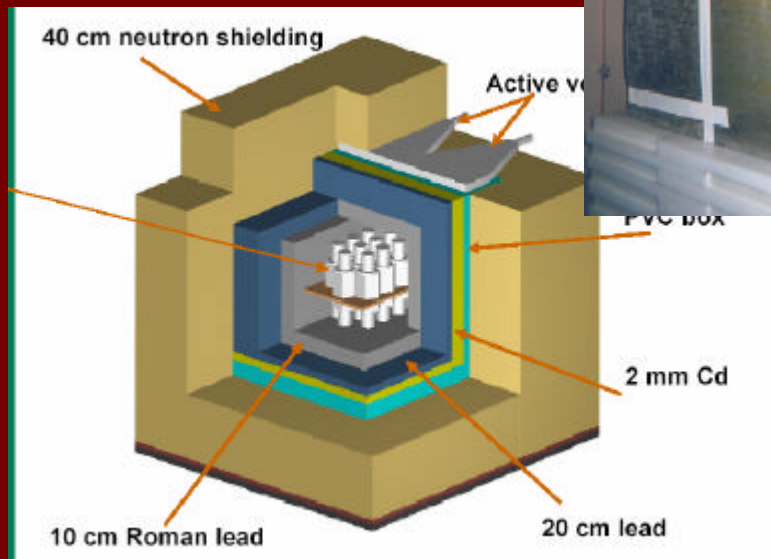
- Is the DAMA positive signal already excluded by other experiments? ←polemic point...
- Modification of the region for non-standard set of assumptions...



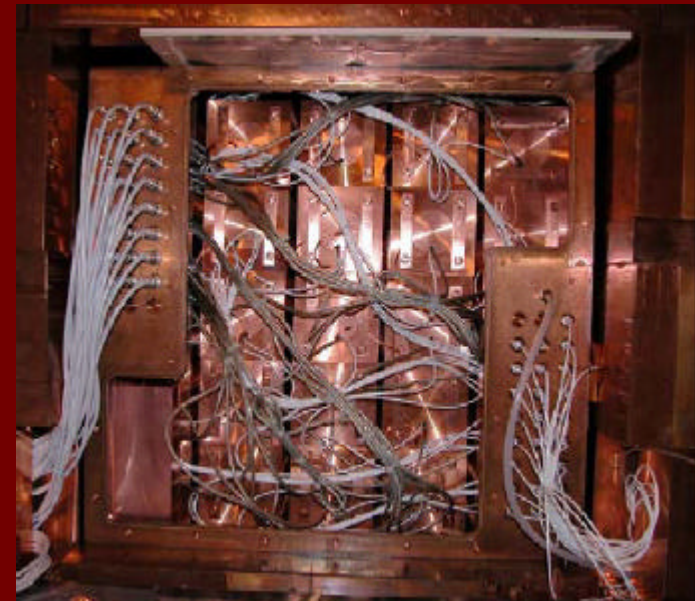
# Other NaI experiments that could refute/corroborate DAMA result

## ■ ANAIS in Canfranc:

- Prototyping phase finished.
- 100 kg available, being instrumented.



- LIBRA in DAMA: 250 kg taking data since March 2003 in Gran Sasso. Results will be released in 2008 at least.





# Noble Liquid detectors

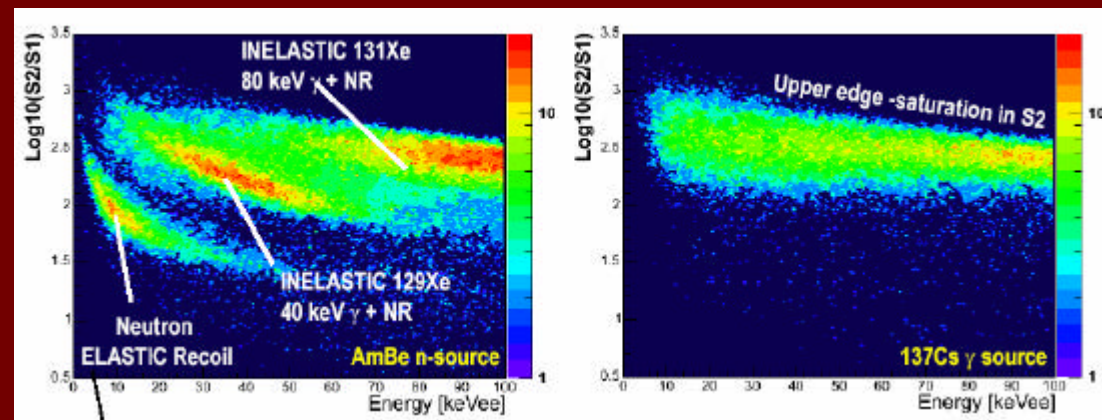
## XENON

- ZEPLIN-I (at Boulby) measures only scintillation. Statistical discrimination of the nuclear recoils by pulse decay time.
- 293 kg×days of data
- ZEPLIN-II (2 phase, 30 kg Xe) already installed underground.
- ZEPLIN-III surface commissioning
- XENON. Prototyping.
- XMASS. R&D with 100kg

- Nuclear/recoil discrimination (statistical or event-by-event)
- Good prospects for scaling-up
- Threshold? (rejection power at low energies?)
- Self-shielding

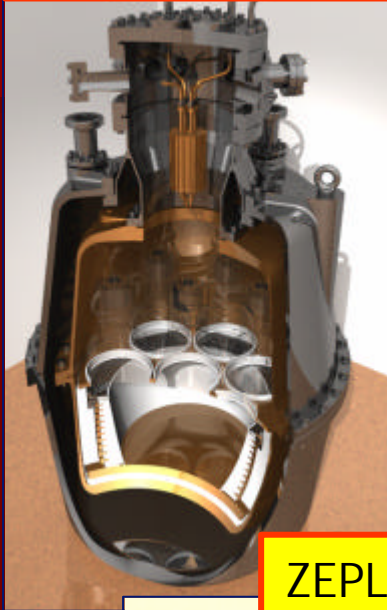
## ARGON

- WARP and ArDM. Work on ICARUS experience. Underground prototyping.
- DEAP. Developing stage.
- Also CLEAN with Neon.

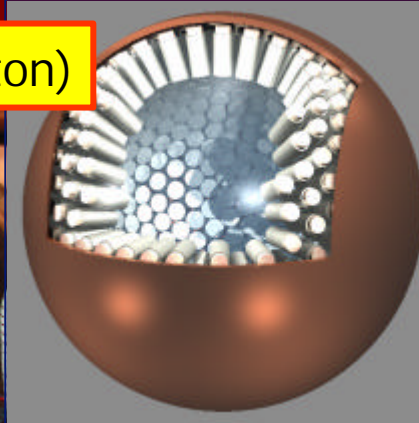
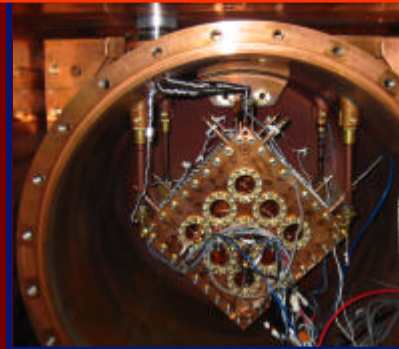


# Noble Liquid detectors

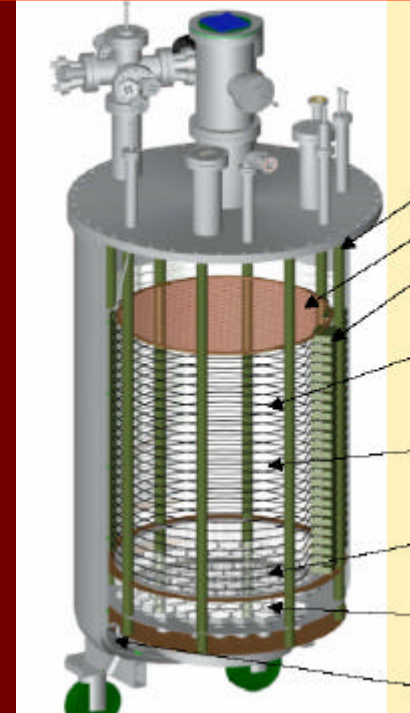
ZEPLIN-II (30 kg)



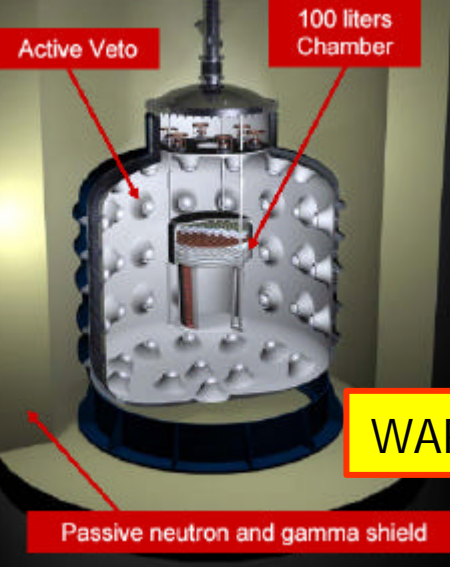
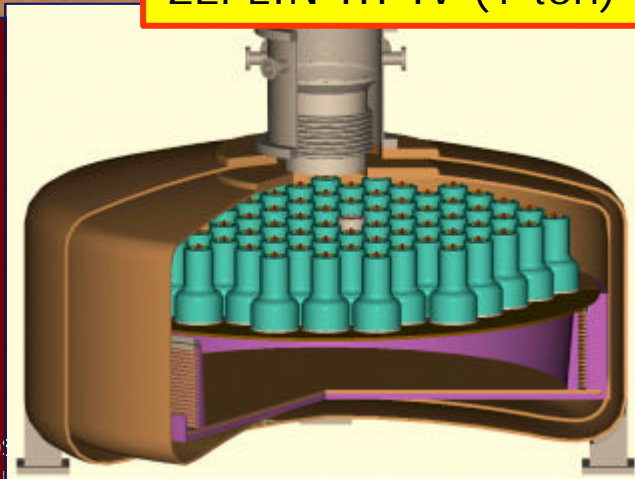
X-MASS (3 kg → 1 ton)



ArDM 850 kg prototype



ZEPLIN-III-IV (1 ton)



WARP 100l prototype



# Heat + charge detectors

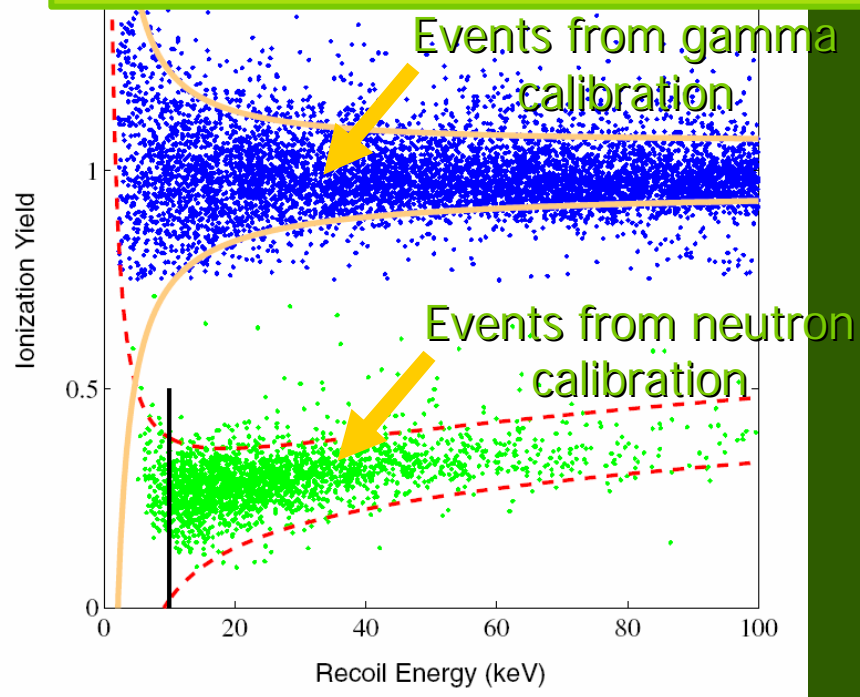
## CDMS

- Moved underground (Soudan) in 2003.
- 2 underground runs reported (57 kg d Ge)
- 1 event surviving cuts (10-100 keV),
  - while less than one of background expected (from misidentified electrons and neutrons)
- Work towards installation of 5 tower prototype (5 kg Ge)

## EDELWEISS

- 3 x 320 g Ge bolometers in operation underground in Modane.
- Last result (2003) released additional 45 kg·d (total 62 kg·d).
- 59 nuclear events observed, above a threshold of  $\sim 12$  keV. (Mostly surface events)
- EDELWEISS-II (10 kg) being installed underground.

- Nuclear/recoil discrimination demonstrated down to 10-15 keVr
- Leading experiments in the WIMP exclusion plot
- scaling-up?
- Complexity



# Heat+light detectors



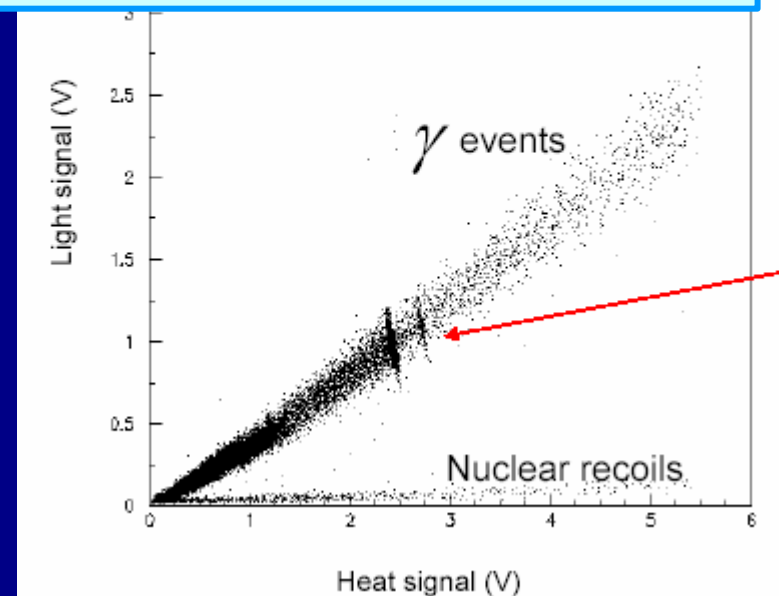
## ROSEBUD-II

- Concept first applied underground.
- Discrimination down to 8-12 keVr demonstrated.
- Only low mass prototypes tested.
- Work towards multitarget setup

- Nuclear/recoil discrimination
- Only technique with good prospects to reach the A-dependence WIMP signature
- scaling-up?
- Complexity

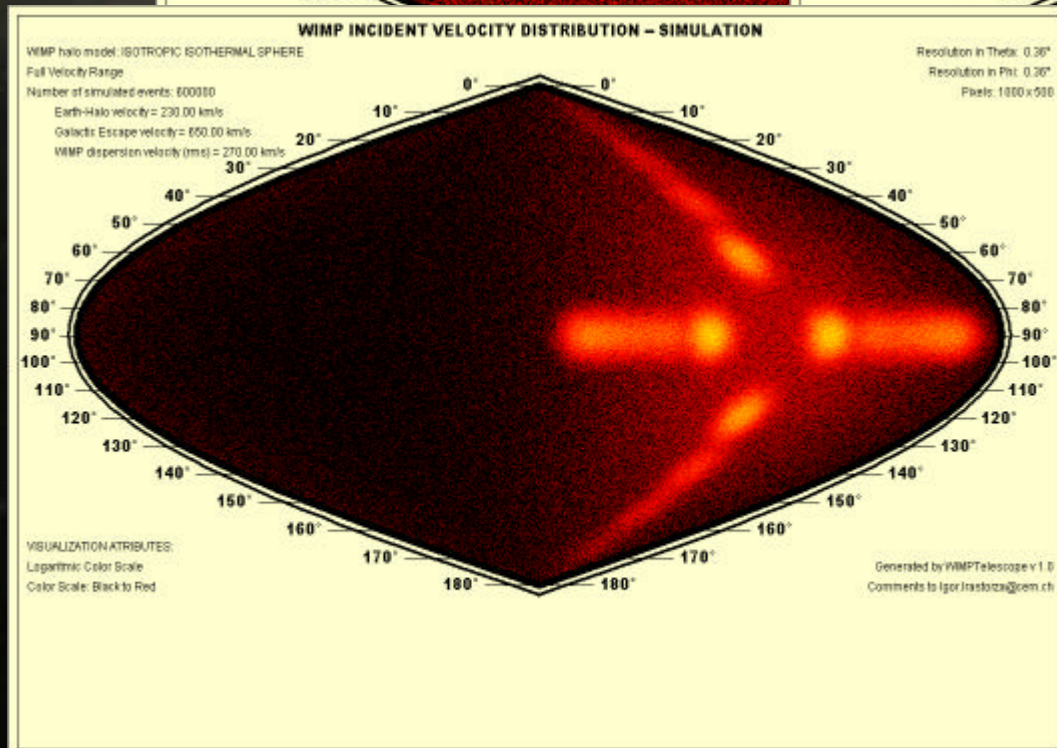
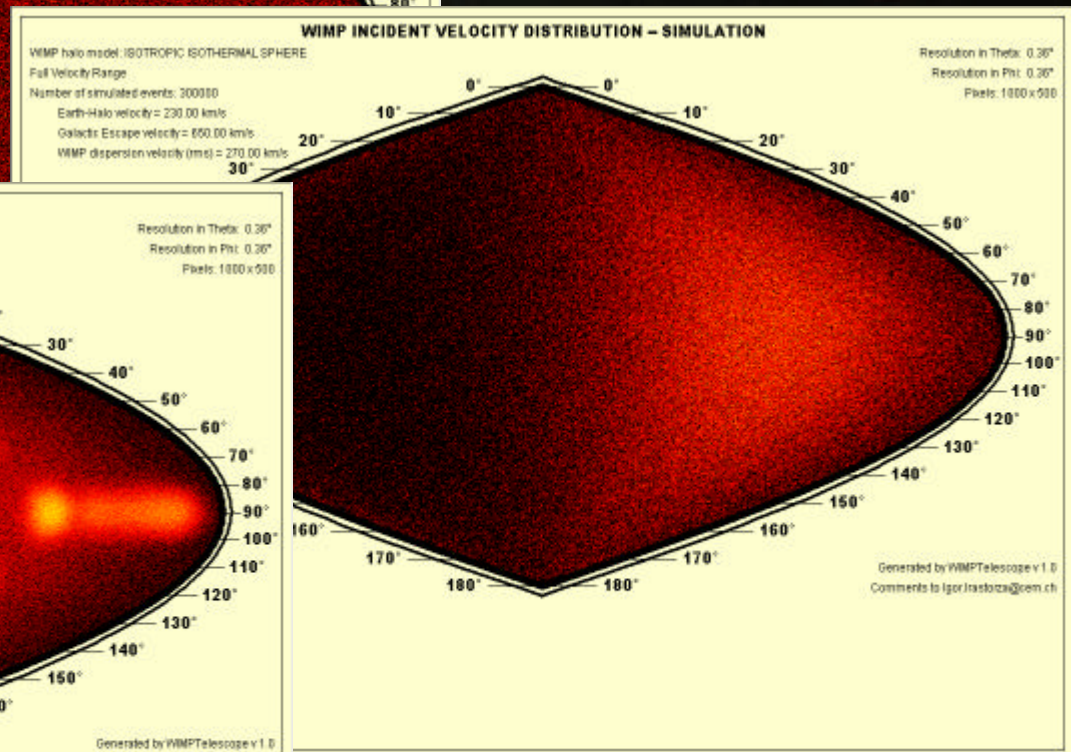
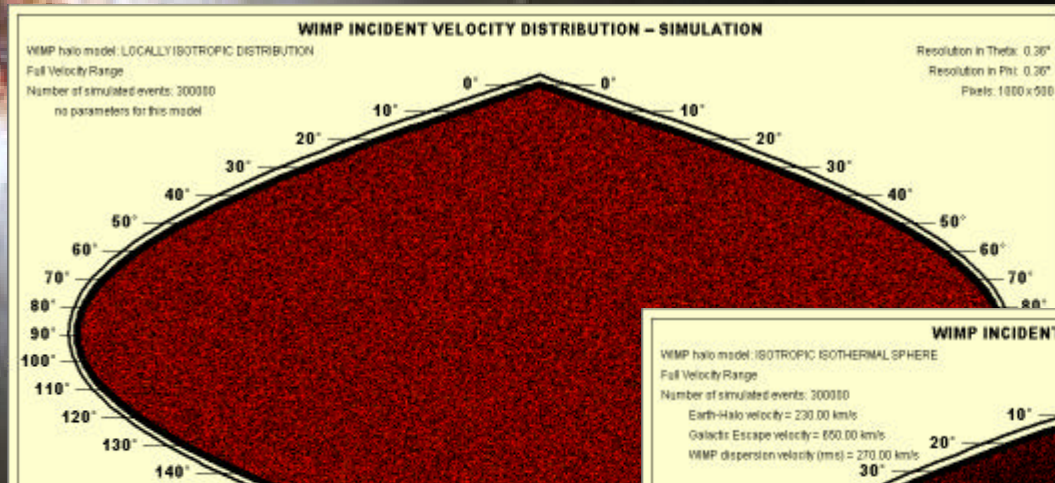
## CRESST-II

- Discrimination between different nuclei recoils (W and O) in same crystal.
- 20 kg d of CaWO<sub>2</sub> reported. Competitive exclusion produced.
- Work ongoing towards 10kg prototype.



# Directional signal

Background is isotropic



While the signal is not



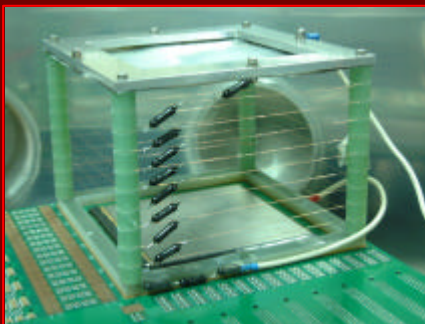
# Directional detectors

## DRIFT

- Negative Ion TPC concept proved by DRIFT-I.
- DRIFT-II: 2nd 1m<sup>3</sup> TPC installed underground and taking data.
- Work towards increasing volume instrumented.

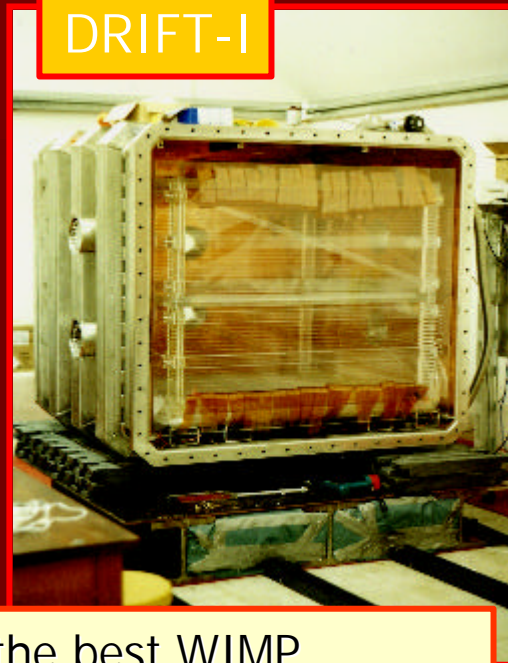
## NEWAGE

- Prototype small TPC with microdots readout.



Cosmology & Underground Labs,  
Valencia, 6 March 2006

## DRIFT-I



DRIFT-I @ Boulby

- Potentially the best WIMP signature
- Still clear demonstration of directionality threshold and resolution missing.
- scaling-up?
- Use of new technologies in TPCs?

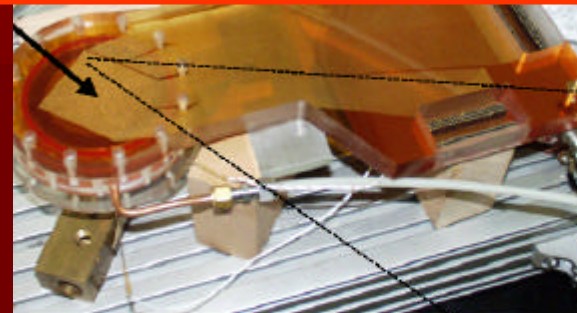
# New developments in TPC readouts

- Micropattern readouts have evolved enormously in the last years.
- Most popular options are MICROME GAS and GEMs
- They open the possibility of very high granularity (much higher than multiwires)
- Robustness, stability, easy (and cheap) construction.
- High potential in the application of this technologies to WIMP detection...

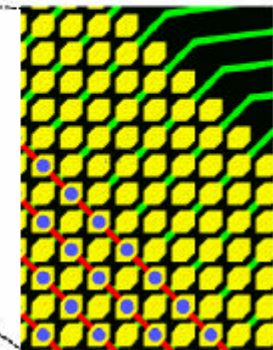
imagine a nucleus recoiling here →

## CAST Micromegas (first X-Y readout)

(Saclay)



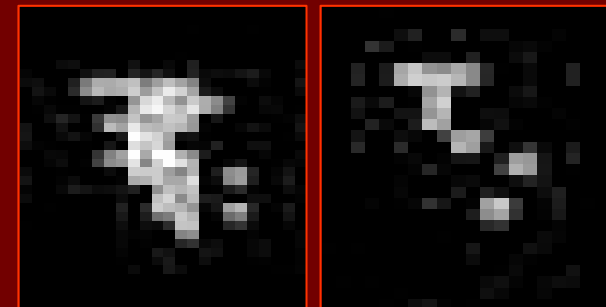
Readout plane and grid: made at CERN (R. de Oliveira)



## Medipix + Micromegas (NIKHEF + Saclay)

Images of 5.9 Fe<sup>55</sup> keV photon interacting in Argon  
Obtained with a Micromegas couple to a Medipix chip  
v.d.Graaf, TPC workshop, Paris, dec04

~500 mm





# Future of WIMP detection

- Presently (too?) many different techniques being explored. (→positive side)
- Next step: time to concentrate efforts?
- What is the most promising technique (or techniques) ?
- Not a clear answer yet. But maybe is time to start evaluating and forming bigger collaborations and experiments (it is indeed being done → ILIAS)
- At least 2 main lines must be followed (probably by different techniques):
  - The way towards large target masses (Noble Liquids?, ...)
  - The way towards the most identificative WIMP signal (Directionality?...)
- In any case, very exciting moment for WIMP searches

But what if there are no WIMPs...  
but AXIONs?

# AXION theory motivation

## ■ Peccei-Quinn solution to the strong CP problem

- New U(1) symmetry introduced in the SM:  
Peccei Quinn symmetry of scale  $f_a$
- The AXION appears as the Nambu-Goldstone boson of the spontaneous breaking of the PQ symmetry

$$\mathcal{L}_a = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu a)^2 - \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi f_a} a G \tilde{G}$$

q absorbed in  
the definition of a

axion – gluon  
vertex

- a  $\rightarrow$  qq transitions
- a –  $\pi^0$  mixing
- axion mass  $> 0$

$$m_a \simeq 0.6 \text{ eV} \frac{10^7 \text{ GeV}}{f_a}$$

# AXION phenomenology

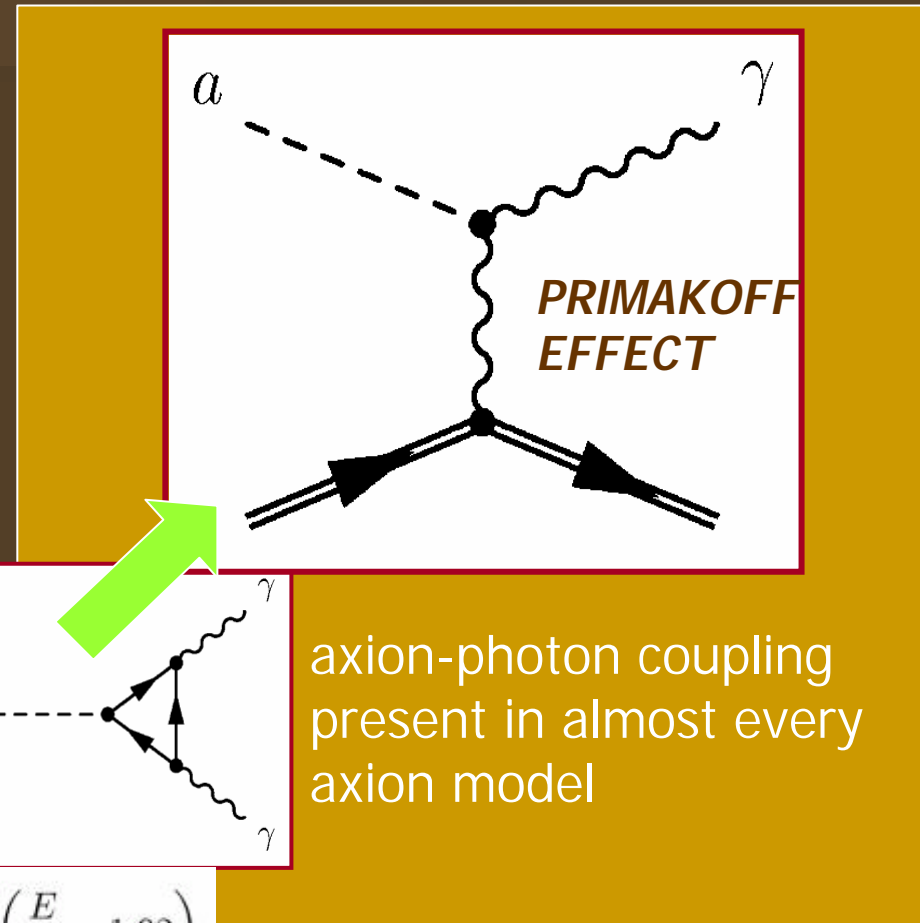
- The axion is...

- ✓ pseudoscalar
- ✓ neutral
- ✓ practically stable
- ✓ phenomenology driven by the breaking scale  $f_a$  and the specific axion model

- ✓ Couples to photon:

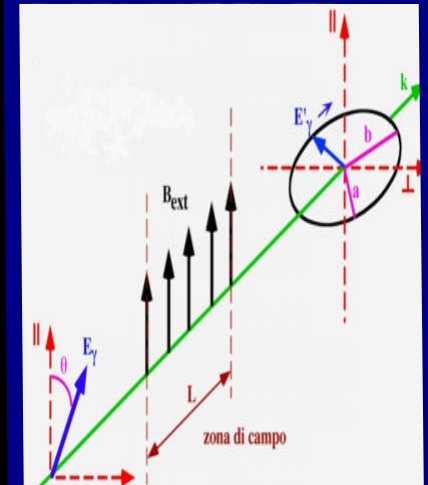
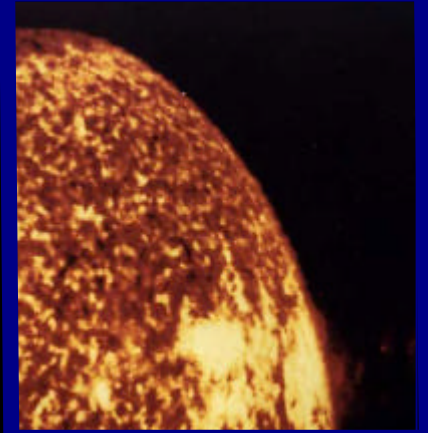
$$\mathcal{L}_{a\gamma} = g_{a\gamma\gamma}(\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B})a$$

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



# Axion Searches

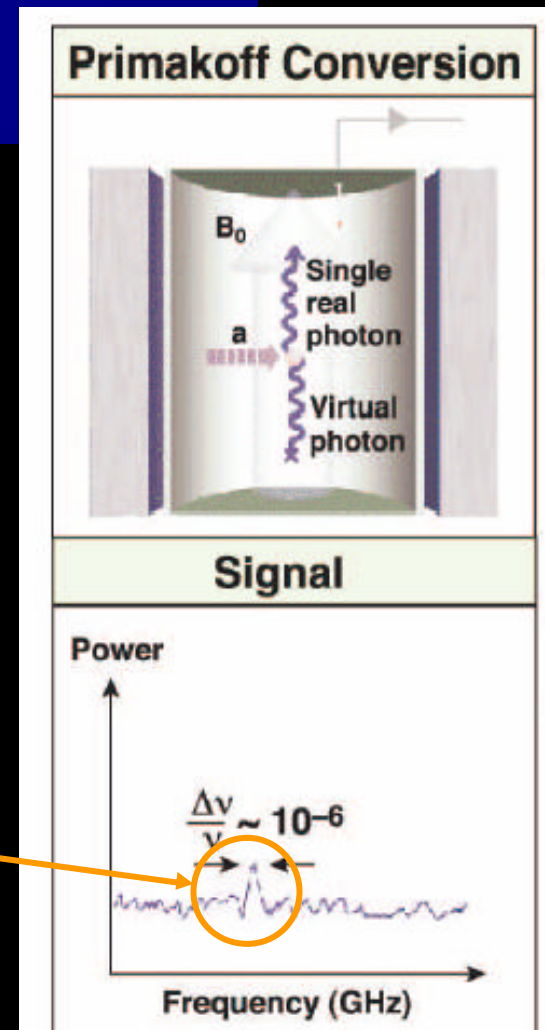
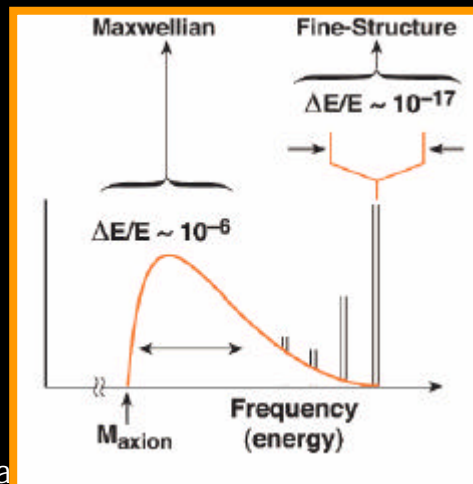
- Axions are searched in 3 different contexts (different sources of axions):
  - Dark matter axions (as relics of Big Bang):
    - Axion Haloscopes (**ADMX**, CARRACK)
  - Axions produced in the Sun:
    - Axion Helioscopes (Kyoto, **CAST**)
    - Crystal detectors (SOLAX, COSME, DAMA)
  - Axions produced in the laboratory
    - “Light shinning through wall” experiments
    - Vacuum birefringence experiments (**PVLAS** positive signal!)





# Dark Matter Axions: Haloscopes

- Resonant cavities (Sikivie, 1983)
  - Primakoff conversion inside a “tunable” resonant cavity
  - Energy of photon =  $m_a c^2 + O(\beta^2)$
  - Expected peak at right frequency (DM axions are non-relativistic)
  - Substructure of the peak may give information of the WIMP halo model



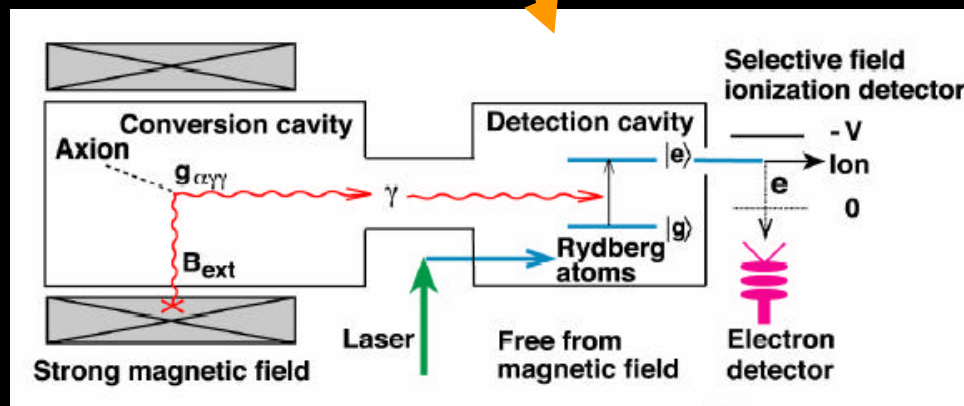
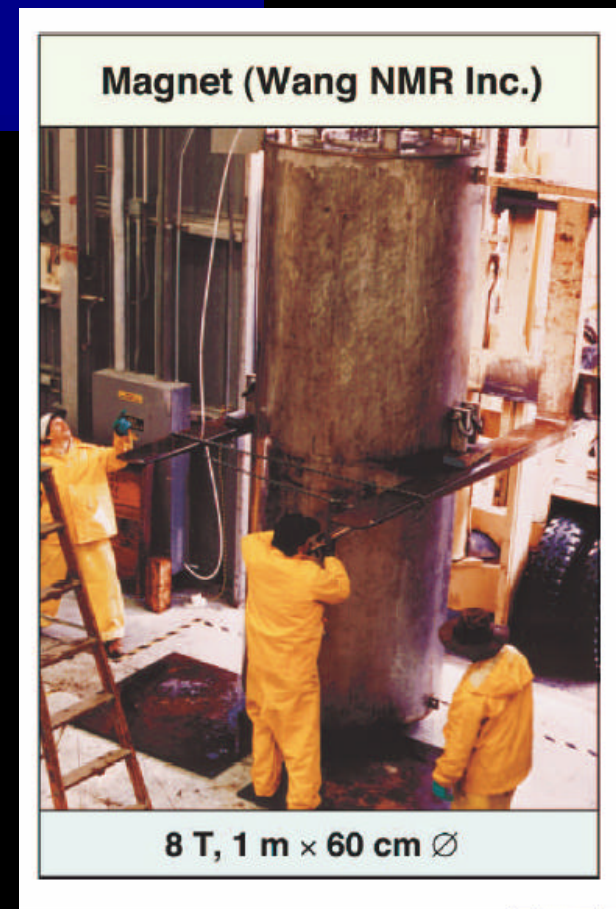
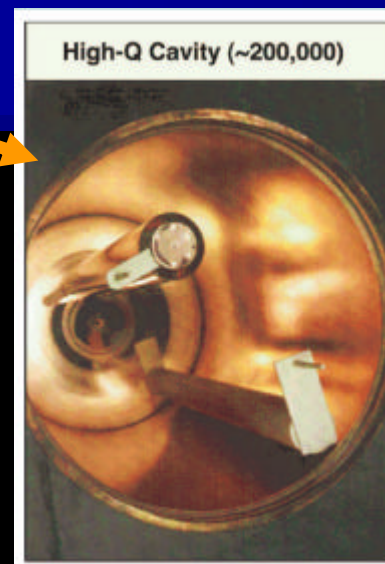
# Dark Matter Axions: Haloscopes

- ADMX in Livermore

- Development of SQUID technology for 2nd phase

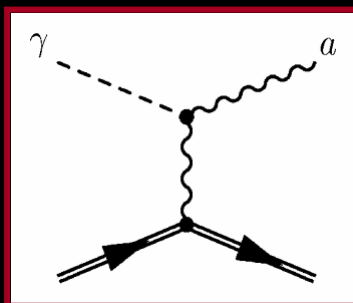
- CARRACK in Kyoto.

- Different detection approach: "single microwave quanta" detection.

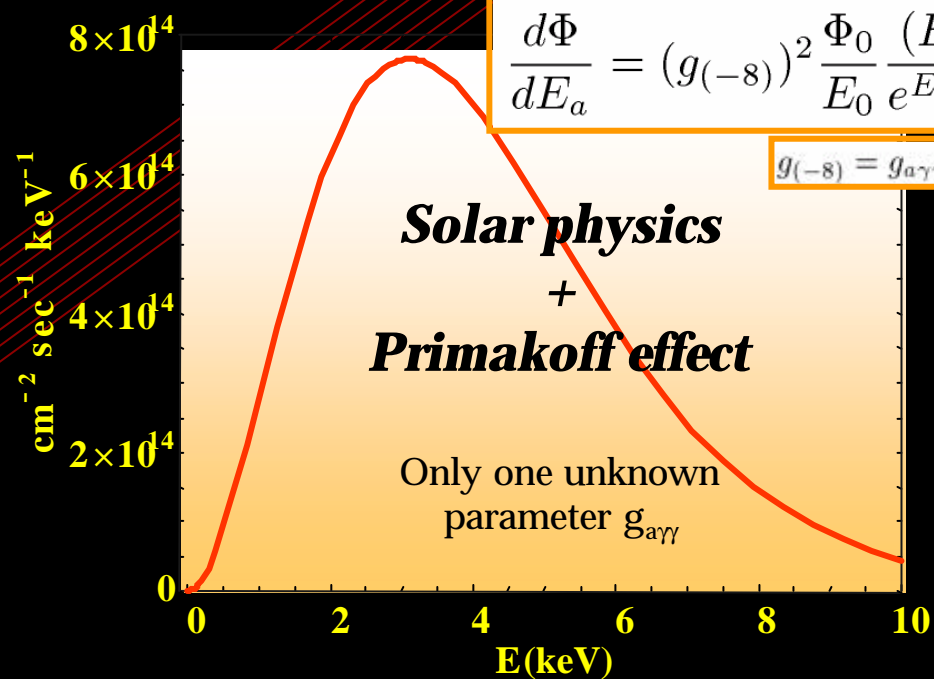


# Solar Axions

- Solar axions produced by photon-to-axion conversion of the solar plasma photons



➤ **Solar axion flux** [van Bibber PRD 39 (89)]



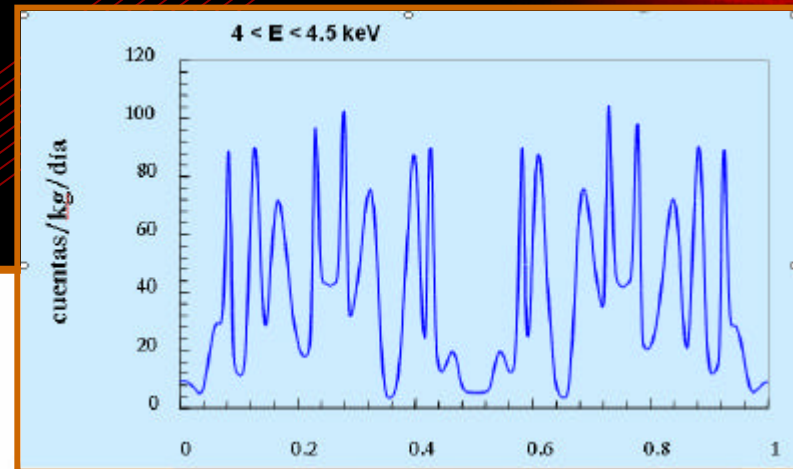
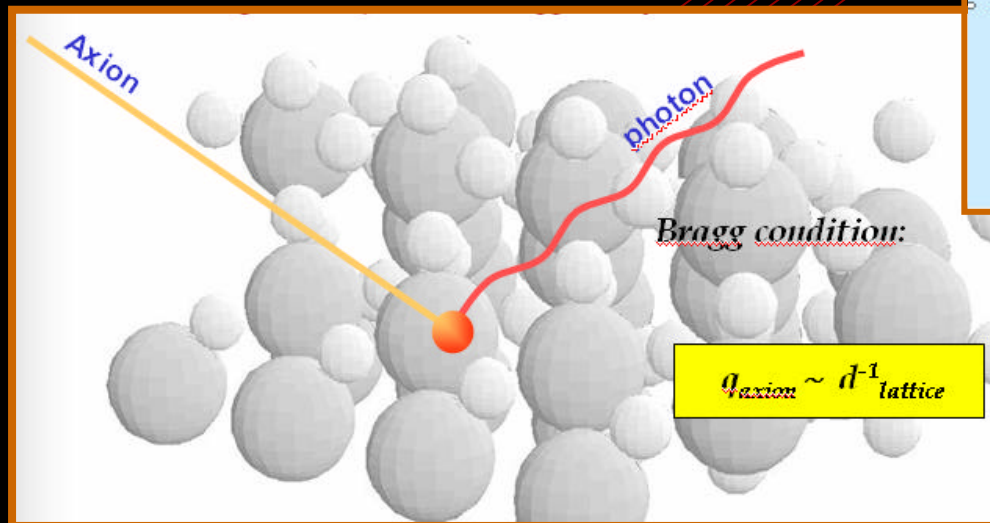
$$\frac{d\Phi}{dE_a} = (g_{(-8)})^2 \frac{\Phi_0}{E_0} \frac{(E_a/E_0)^3}{e^{E/E_0} - 1}$$

$$g_{(-8)} = g_{a\gamma\gamma} \times 10^8 / \text{GeV}^{-1}$$

axions

# Solar Axions

- Detecting Solar Axions with crystal detectors [Paschos/Zioutas PLB 323 (94)]
- By means of Primakoff-Bragg effect:
  - The periodic structure of the crystalline E field and the movement of the Sun produces a very characteristic time pattern that can be looked for.
- 3 experiments have provided limits using this technique: SOLAX, COSME, DAMA



- Limits can be obtained as byproducts of other experiments (WIMP exp.)
- But they don't compete with helioscopes...

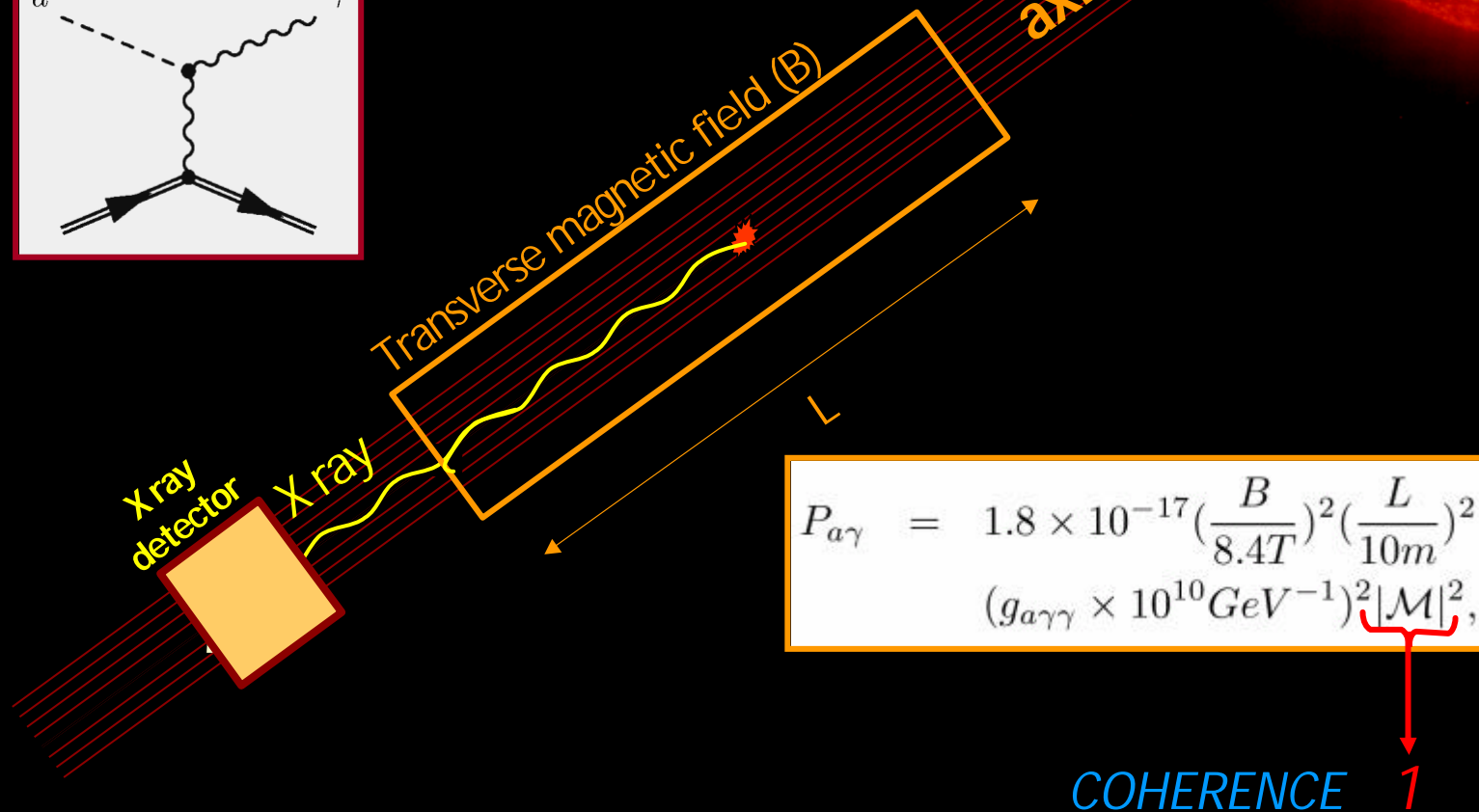
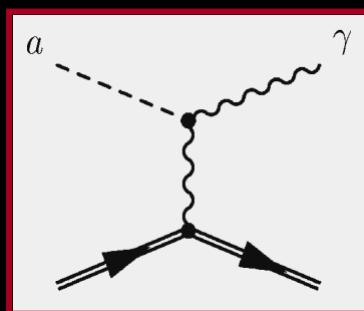


# Solar Axions

- Principle of detection (**axion helioscope**)

[Sikivie, PRL 51 (87)]

AXION PHOTON CONVERSION



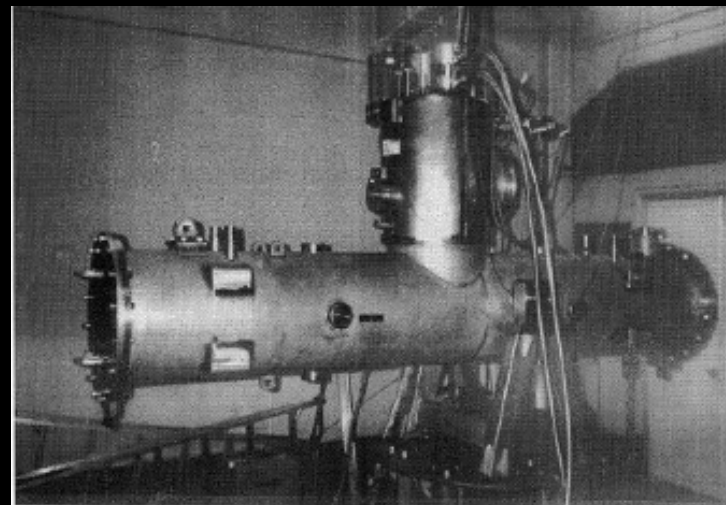
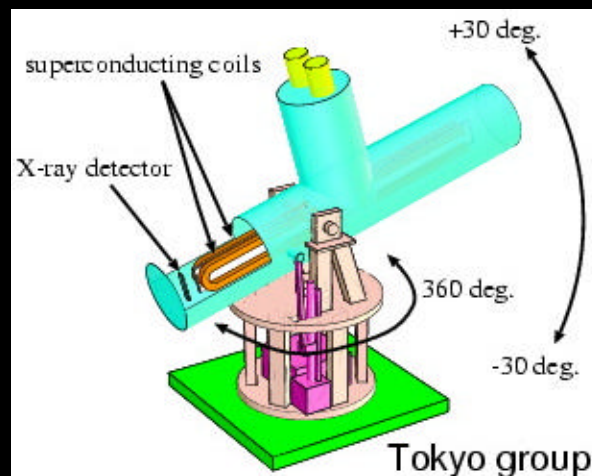
$$P_{a\gamma} = 1.8 \times 10^{-17} \left( \frac{B}{8.4T} \right)^2 \left( \frac{L}{10m} \right)^2 (g_{a\gamma\gamma} \times 10^{10} \text{GeV}^{-1})^2 |\mathcal{M}|^2,$$

COHERENCE 1

# Helioscopes

## ■ Previous helioscopes:

- First implementation at Brookhaven (just few hours of data)  
[Lazarus et al. PRL 69 (92)]
- TOKYO Helioscope: 2.3 m long 4 T magnet



## ■ Presently running:

- CERN Axion Solar Telescope (**CAST**)



# CERN Axion Solar Telescope (CAST)

- Decommissioned LHC test magnet (L=10m, B=9 T)
- Moving platform  $\pm 8^\circ V \pm 40^\circ H$  (to allow up to 50 days / year of alignment)
- 4 magnet bores to look for X rays
- 3 X rays detector prototypes being used.
- X ray Focusing System to increase signal/noise ratio.



# CAST experiment : STATUS

## ✓ 2003 data taking

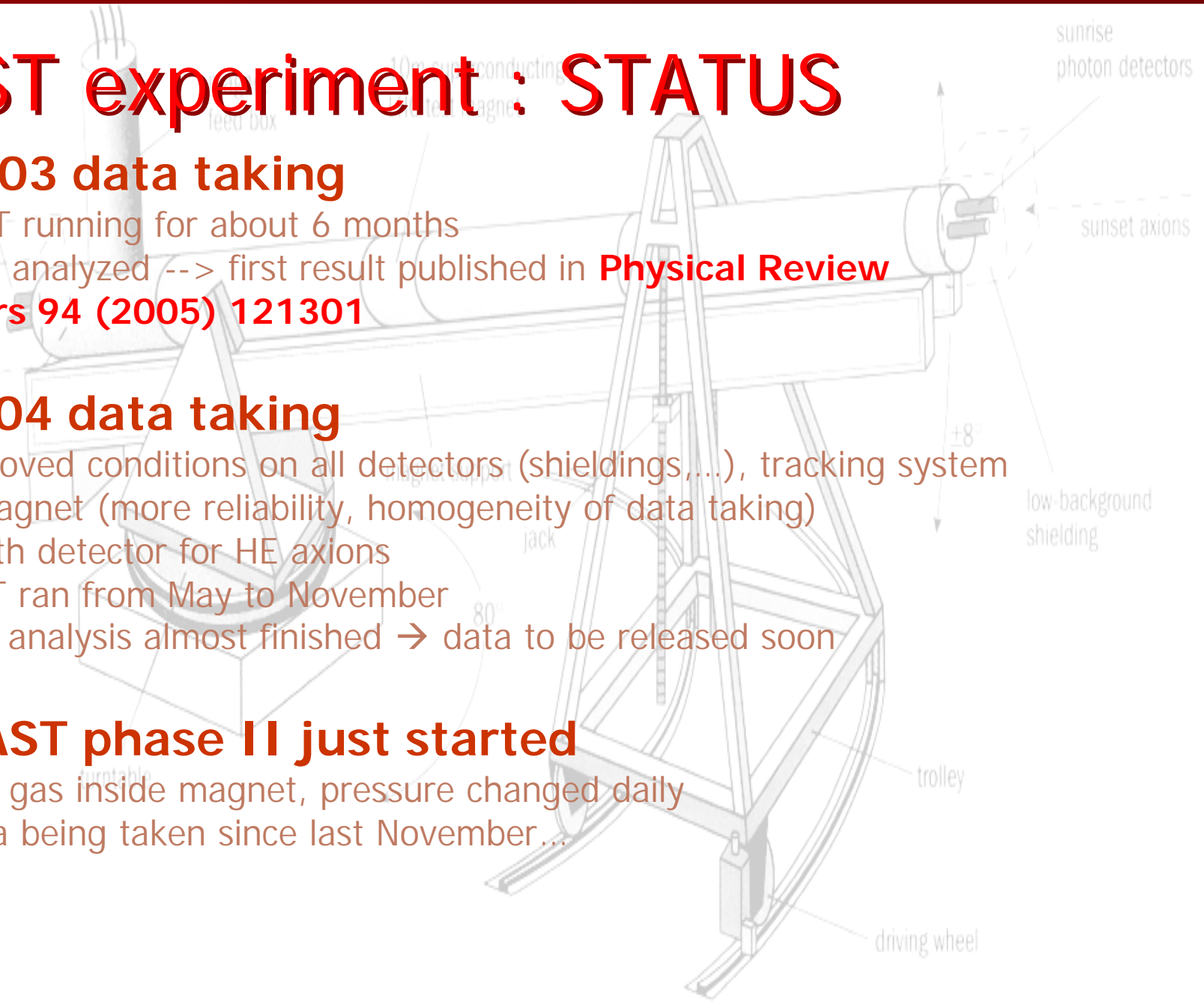
- ✓ CAST running for about 6 months
- ✓ Data analyzed --> first result published in **Physical Review Letters 94 (2005) 121301**

## ✓ 2004 data taking

- ✓ Improved conditions on all detectors (shieldings,...), tracking system and magnet (more reliability, homogeneity of data taking)
- ✓ Fourth detector for HE axions
- ✓ CAST ran from May to November
- ✓ Data analysis almost finished → data to be released soon

## ✓ CAST phase II just started

- ✓ He4 gas inside magnet, pressure changed daily
- ✓ Data being taken since last November...



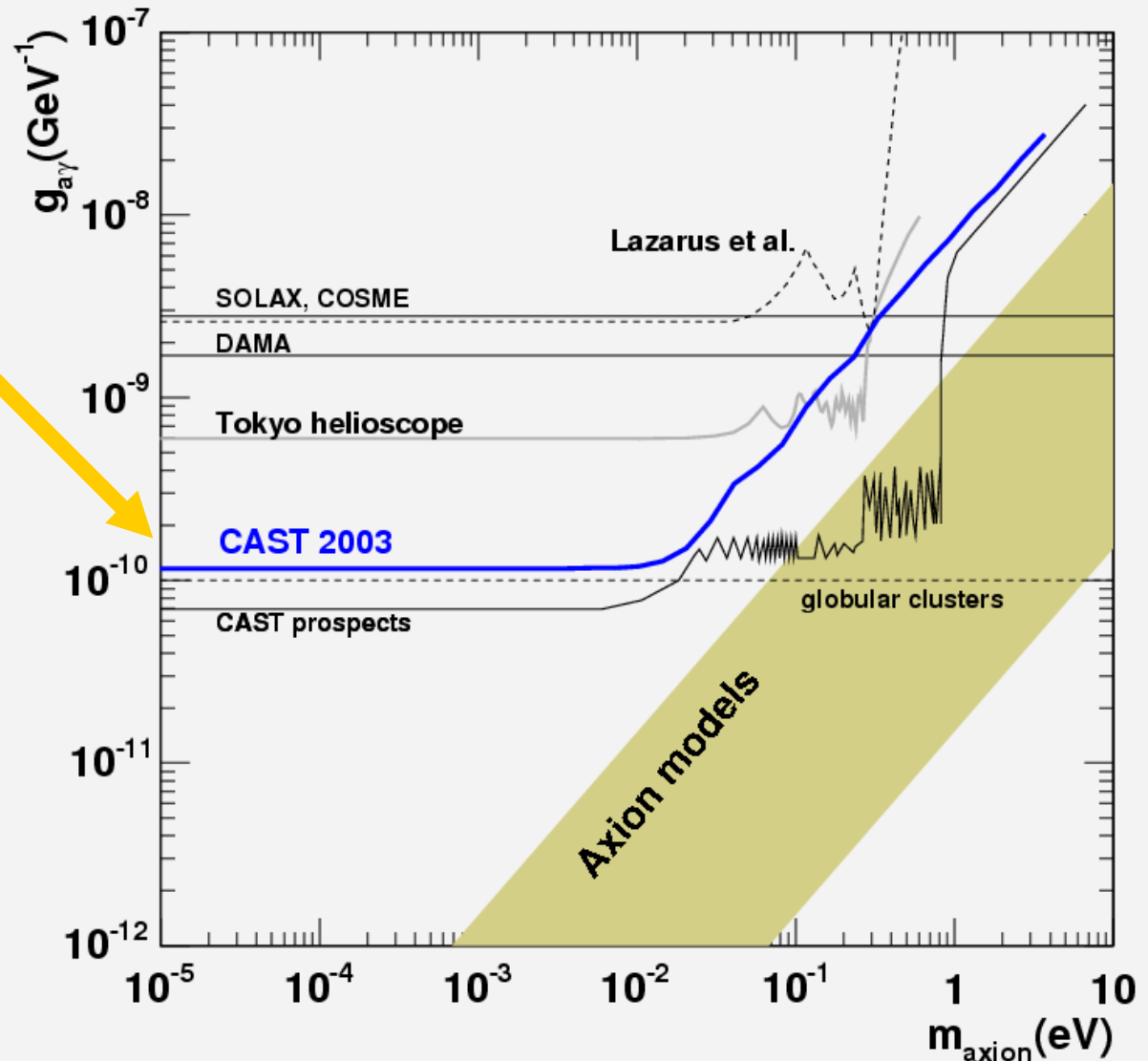
# CAST first results: 2003 data

Axion exclusion plot

$$g_{\text{agg}} < 1.16 \times 10^{-10} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$$

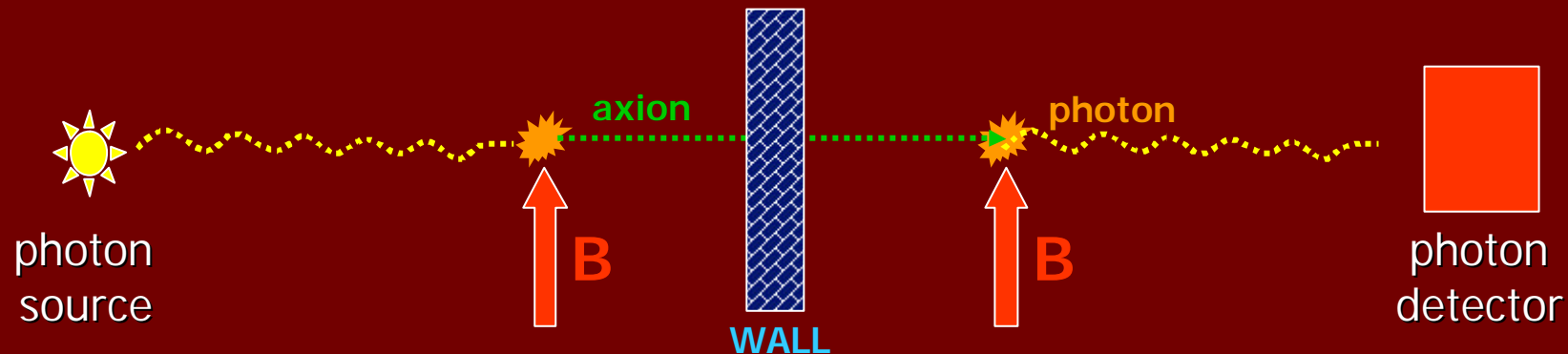
In the coherence region

- 2003 result (PRL 94(05))
- More to come...
- analysis of 2004 data ongoing
- phase II with buffer gas



# "Laboratory" axions

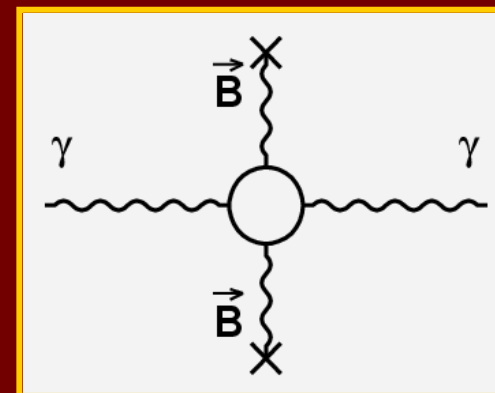
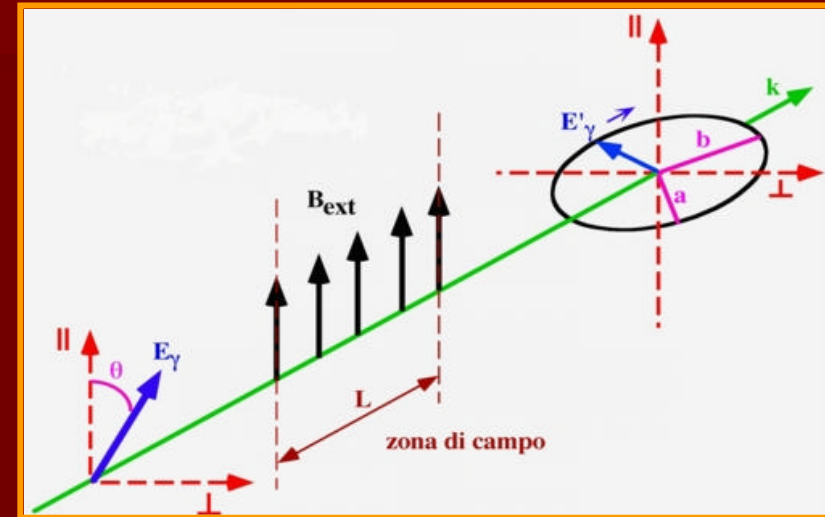
- The existence of the axions (or axion-like particles) can manifest in the laboratory:
  - "Light shinning through wall"



- Other more "subtle" effects → PVLAS experiment...

# PVLAS

- PVLAS was not designed to look for axions, but to study the “**vacuum magnetic birefringence**”
- QED predicts that vacuum must show a (very small) birefringence when a magnetic field is applied
- In particle physics language, polarized photons interact with the B field by means of this loop, provoking a phase out with respect perpendicular polarization (=ellipticity)

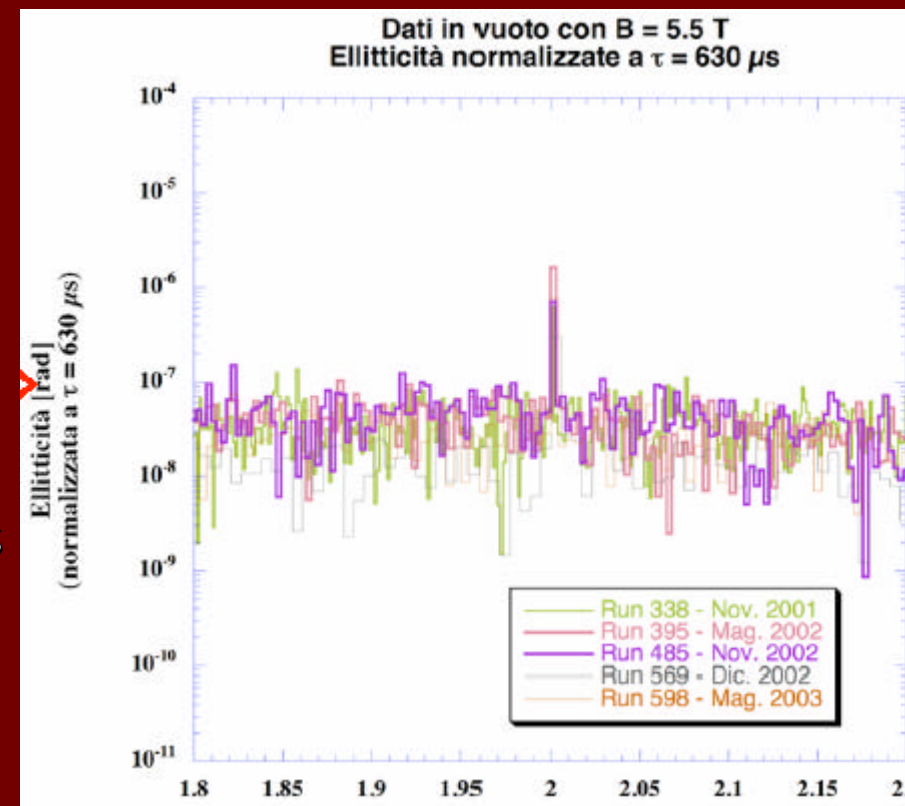




# PVLAS positive result

- Observed ellipticity signal is (for 5.5 T):
  - $\Delta n = 3.4 \times 10^{-18}$
- While QED prediction is
  - $\Delta n = 1.21 \times 10^{-22}$
- A factor  $> 10^4$  higher !!
- Other effects?
  - Systematics (the signal has survived all tests so far)
  - New physics?  
Speculations... axions?

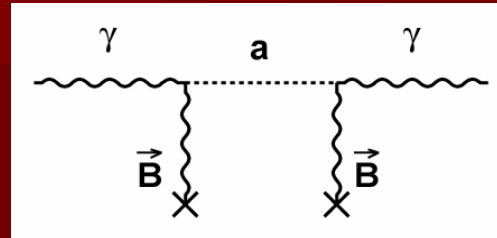
PVLAS group is checking the signal against all possible systematics since a few years



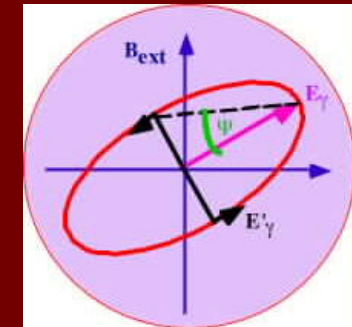


# PVLAS axion (?)

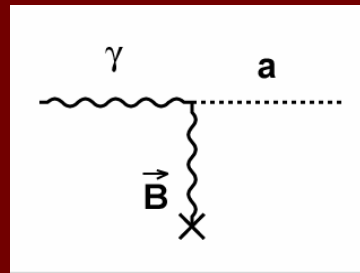
- Axions could produce vacuum magnetic birefringence (ellipticity).
- But also another effect, **dichroism**.



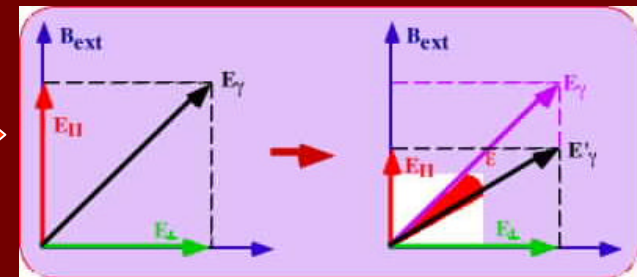
virtual production of axions



Ellipticity



Real production of axions

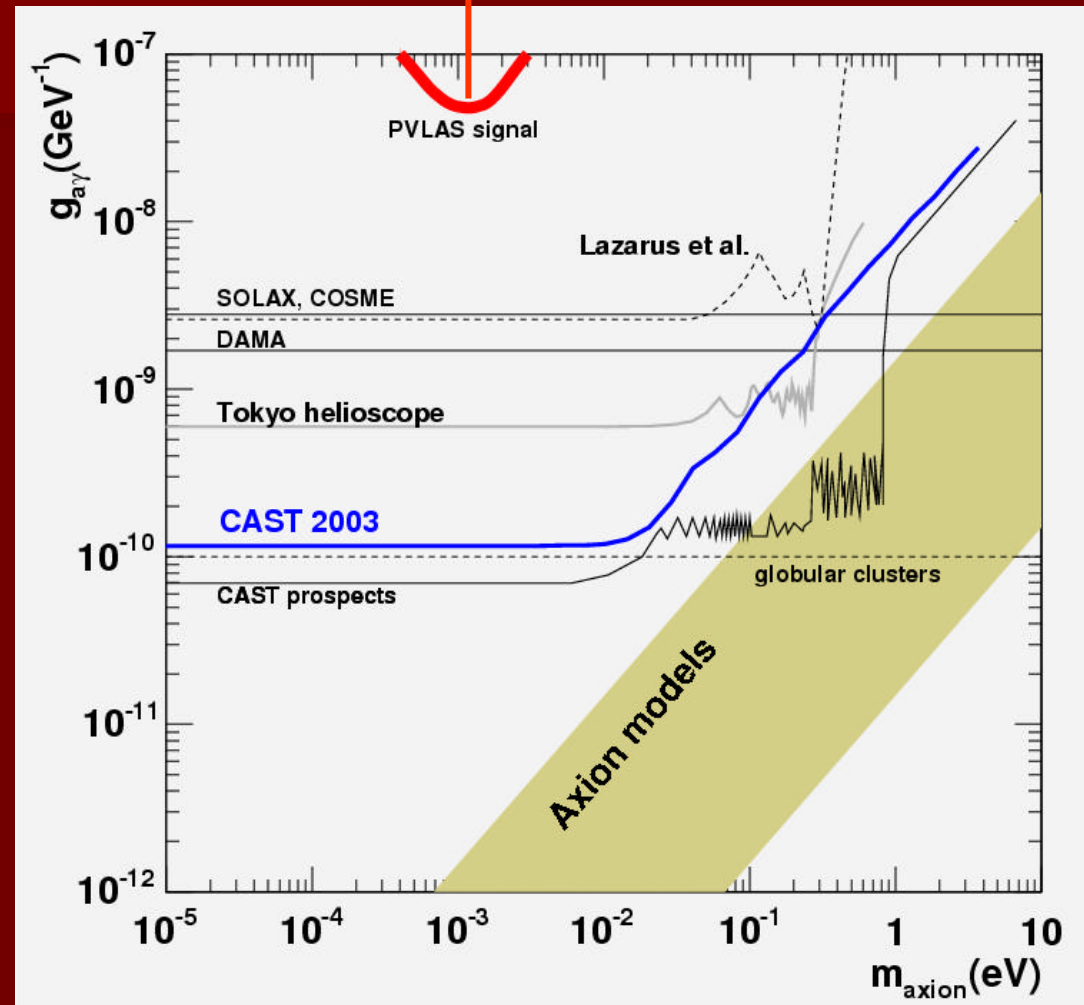


Rotation of polarization - **Dichroism**

**PVLAS also observe an effect of dichroism (with low statistics), which is NOT expected at all by QED.**

# PVLAS axion(?)

- In the standard scenario, PVLAS signal is not compatible with solar axion experiments (even just solar physics)



# Future axion searches

- Microwave cavities: ADMX developments.
- Attention focused on PVLAS possible signal. Experiments to confirm it. Proposal at CERN.
- Solar axions: CAST phase II ongoing. Larger helioscopes?. HERA magnets?
- Axions and astrophysics. Using X-ray telescopes data to look for axions.
- Axions underground (Primakoff-Bragg, TPCs...)
- Axion community still smaller than WIMP one, but it is growing and becoming very active.
- 1st ILIAS-CAST-CERN “Axion training” workshop at CERN last december, extremely successful.  
(<http://cast.mppmu.mpg.de/axion-training-2005/axion-training.php>)

# Conclusions

- **Growing evidence** for a “beyond-SM” Dark Matter candidate (axions and WIMPs are the favorites)
- **Big experimental effort** is under way. Many different strategies/developments being explored. Maybe is time to face big projects/collaborations.
- **Exciting** times for the field: **suspicious signals** both in WIMP and axion searches !!!