

Axion and Microwave Photon

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Outline

- Axion and dark matter
 - Strong CP problem
 - Dark matter
- Axion detection
 - Detection principle
 - Searching strategies
- Microwave detection
 - Power amplifiers
 - Single photon detectors
 - Thermal detectors
- Summary



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Strong CP problem

QCD vacuum structure adds an extra terms to L_{QCD}

$$L_{\theta} = \frac{\theta}{8\pi} \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G^a_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{a,\mu\nu}$$

- Violates CP symmetry proportionally to θ
- Not predictable by theory, must be measured
- CP-violation term induces charge separation
 - Neutron electric dipole moment (nEDM)
 - Experimental value is very tiny
 - $d_n < 10^{-26} \text{ ecm} \Rightarrow \theta < 10^{-10}$
 - Theoretically, $\theta = 0$ if a quark is massless (X)
- Strong CP problem
 - Naturalness problem $(0 < \theta_{the} < 2\pi vs. \theta_{exp} \sim 0)$





PQ mechanism and axion

- Peccei & Quinn (1977)
 - New global $U_{PQ}(1)$ symmetry w/ scalar field a(x)

$$L_{\theta} = \left(\frac{\theta - \frac{a(x)}{f_a}}{f_a}\right) \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G^a_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{a,\mu\nu}$$

- Spontaneously broken at energy scale f_a
- Induces a potential with minimum at $a(x) = \theta \times f_a$
- Dynamic solution to the strong CP problem
- Wilczek & Weinberg (1978)
 - (pseudoscalar) Goldstone boson => Axion
 - Axion mass depends on energy scale f_a

$$m_a = m_p \frac{f_p}{f_a} \gg 6 \, eV \frac{10^6 \, GeV}{f_a}$$

 For f_a ~ EW scale => m_a ~ 100 keV => PQWW axion excluded by collider experiments











Invisible axion

- J.E. Kim (1979)
 - Proposed very light axions with a very large f_a (in early universe)

$$m_a \gg 6 \ meV \frac{10^{12} \ GeV}{f_a}$$

Spanned axion mass by many orders of magnitude

Axion interactions

- Quarks, gluons, photons, leptons,...
- Model dependent on PQ charge assignment
 - KSVZ Heavy quark (ex. $g_{\gamma} = -0.97$)
 - $DFSZ Higgs doublet (ex. g_v = 0.36)$





 $= -g_{a\gamma\gamma}a\vec{E}\cdot\vec{B}$



Axion dark matter

- Cosmic axion (1983)
 - May account for dark matter
 - Neutral, stable, and feeble integrations
 - Cosmological constraint: $f_a < 10^{12} \text{ GeV}$
 - Too light axions would be overproduced in early universe
 - Astronomical observation: SN1987A







Axion dark matter

KILLING TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE



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Detection principle

- Coupling with photons
 - Primakoff effect
 - Energetic photons + EM of nuclei
 => pseudoscalar particles



- Conversion of axions to photons in a magnetic field (1983)
 - Axions "borrow" virtual photons from the magnetic field to turn into real photons $L = -a \quad a\vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}$





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Main approaches ΚΔΙΣΤ

- Haloscope
 - DM axions in our galactic halo
 - Microwave resonators
 - ADMX, HASTAC, CAPP,...

Helioscope

- Solar axions
- Emitted by the solar core
- CAST, IAXO,...
- Photon regeneration
 - Light Shining through Wall
 - Axion generation at the lab
 - ALPS,...





Axion Parameter Space



Frequency range: 1 GHz ~ 1 THz (microwave region)

Physical Quantities

Conversion power





- theoretical parameters

Haloscope in a Nutshell





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Electromagnetic spectrum



Power detection

- Typical detection scheme for axion search experiments
 - w/ transistor-based amplifiers
 - Significant electrical shot noise is added
 - Typical power $\sim 10^{-23} W$
 - ~1 photon/s at 10 GHz
 - *T_{add}* ~ 5 K (~10 photons)
- Quantum technology
 - Josephson effects
 - Subject to the quantum limit
 - Amplitude v & phase φ
 - $\Delta v \times \Delta \phi > hbar$
 - Standard quantum limit (SQL)
 - $T_{SQL} \approx 50 \text{ mK} \times \text{f} \text{ [GHz]}$







Josephson effect

- Josephson junction (JJ)
 - Two superconductors separated by a thin insulator
 - Building block of microwave quantum electronics
- DC Josephson effect
 - $\delta => potential across the insulator$
 - DC current w/o external field
- AC Josephson effect
 - V_{DC} across the junction, ϕ varies with t
 - Oscillating current
 - Voltage-to-frequency converter
- A broad range of application
 - Non-dissipative and non-linear
 - SQUID (magnetometer)
 - Superconducting qubit (quantum computation and information)
 - Standard representation of voltage







SQUID



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- Superconducting Quantum Interference Device
 - Two JJs in a loop
 - Sensitive magnetometer via Josephson effect
- Principle
 - $\Phi = 0, I_a = I_b = I/2$
 - $\Phi \neq 0$, $I_a \neq I_b => V$ (to cancel Φ)
- Quantum noise limited amplifiers
 - Standard Quantum Limit: $T_{SQL} \approx 50 \text{ mK} \times f \text{ [GHz]}$









MSA



Microstrip SQUID Amplifier

- SQUID washer + insulating layer + SC microstrip coil
 - L and C between washer and coil determines the resonant frequency
- RF input signal couples with a SQUID via a mutual inductance





JPA

Capacitor



SQUID

Josephson Parametric Amplifier

- LC resonator with an array of SQUIDs
- Parametric (inductance) gain from a pump tone



Linear amp. vs. SPD



- Linear amplifiers are subject to the fundamental limit
 - Standard quantum limit (SQL)
 - *T*_{SQL} ≈ 50 *mK* × *f* [GHz])
 - Linear dependence on frequency
 - cf. T_{phy} (< 100 mK) is fixed by experimental setup
 - At high frequencies, T_{SQL} is predominant



- Not subject to the SQL
- Well developed in optics
- Very challenging in microwave regime ($E_{mw} \sim 10^{-6} E_{opt}$)
- Recently actively being developed for Qubit in the GHz range (quantum information processing)



Qubit

- Quantum bit
 - Basic units of quantum information
 - Two-state (two-level) quantum mechanical systems
 - Analogous to classical bits: |0) and |1)
 - Superposition and entanglement
 - Represented by the Bloch sphere
- Examples

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- Electron spin: up & down
- Photon polarization: horizontal & vertical
- Atom energy state: |g) & |e)



A state is represented by a point on the surface of the Bloch sphere



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Josephson-junction qubit

- Single atoms or ions
 - Well know qubit systems
 - Parameters are fixed by nature and hard to control
- Superconducting circuits on a chip (artificial atoms)
 - Analogous to processors in classical computers
 - Very flexible in design and tunable parameters
 - For nonlinearity, JJs are integrated





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Qubit refinements



Tunable Josephson energy





Improved connectivity

3-junction flux qubit



Flux-noise reduction



Charge-flux qubit



Charge-noise reduction

Fluxonium



Charge-noise reduction

C-shunt flux qubit



Charge-noise reduction



Tunable coupling

Tunable-gap flux qubit



Tunable Josephson energy

SPD – Current-biased JJ





SPD – Irreversible qubit counting





Rydberg atoms

- General properties
 - Alkali (hydrogen-like) atoms
 - Large principle quantum number, n
 - 10 < n < 150
 - Classical size r
 - $r = n^2 a_0$ (a_0 : Bohr radius)
 - Tunable transition frequency between |g) and |e)
 - Via stark effect
- Peculiar properties
 - Large transition dipole moment
 - Strong coupling with EM field
 - $\Delta E_n = E_{n+1} E_n \sim GHz$ (ex. $\Delta E_{100} \approx 7$ GHz)
 - Long life time: $\tau \sim msec$ (ex. $\tau_{100} \approx 1 msec$)
- Good for MW photon detection



Stark Effect





(b)

Energy [cm⁻¹]

-9.25

-9.3

9.35

-9.4

-9.45

-9.5

-9.55

0

108 manifold

b/w

111s and 111p

110d

111p

109d

107manifold

50

Detection principle



109manifold

108 manifold

100

Electric field

[mV/cm]

Energy

150

adiabatic (slow

200





1bs

Rydberg atom cavity detector



CARRACK experiment

Rev. Mod. Phys. 75, 777 (2003)



Bolometer

- Thermal detector
 - No need to collect electron
 - Material with small heat capacity (C)
 - Large thermal conductance (G)
 - Fundamental limit by thermodynamics



Transition Edge Sensor (TES)

Temperature [mK]





Graphene-based bolometer



Nature 586, 42 (2020)



Summary



- Axion is a hypothetical particle to address fundamental questions in physics
 - Strong CP problem & dark matter
- Axion is detectable in the form of microwave photons under strong magnetic field
- Various principles have been developed
 - Power detection
 - Linear amplifier, SQUID, JPA
 - Single photon detection
 - Qubit excitation / Rydberg atom
 - Thermal detection
 - Bolometer

Photon detection in the microwave domain has a wide range of applications



Thank you for your attention!

Frequency tuning







Conductor rod (TM₀₁₀)



Dielectric rod (TM₀₁₀)





Form factor



Cavity mode and external field



 $C_{mnp} = \frac{\left|\int \vec{E}_{c} \cdot \vec{B}_{0} dV\right|^{2}}{\int \varepsilon \left|\vec{E}_{c}\right|^{2} dV \int \left|\vec{B}_{0}\right|^{2} dV}$

For cylindrical cavities

- z-direction for TM modes
- φ φ -direction for TE modes

TM₀₁₀ mode

- Maximum form factor
- Typical cavity mode for axion haloscopes

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