

Axion Detection using Quantum Technologies and Materials



Christina Gao

09/09/2022



New Directions in Particle Physics, ICTP-SAIFR, São Paulo, Brazil

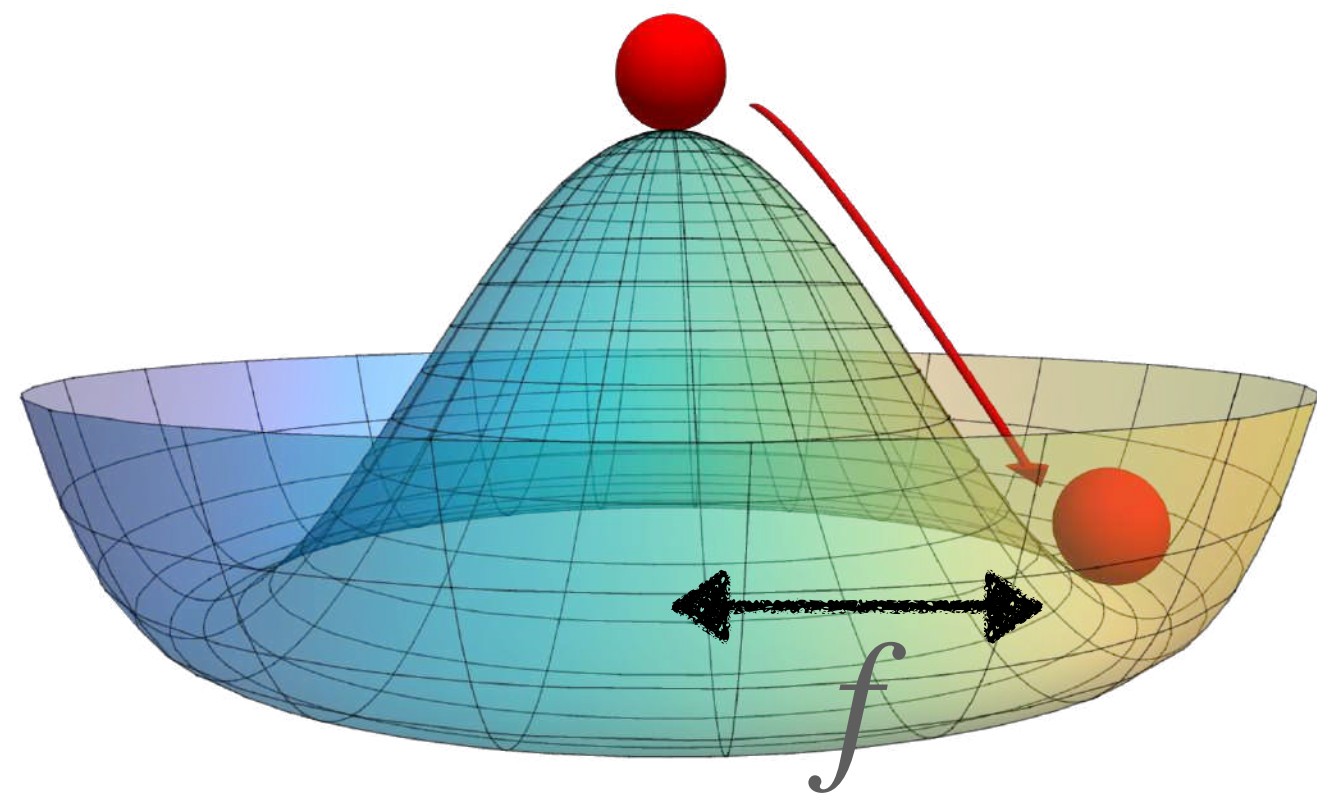


Axions are light Pseudo-scalars

- Goldstone bosons from new symmetries, naturally light.

Spontaneous
breaking

$$\Rightarrow \partial_\mu \left(\frac{a}{f} \right) \mathcal{O}_{\text{SM}}^\mu$$

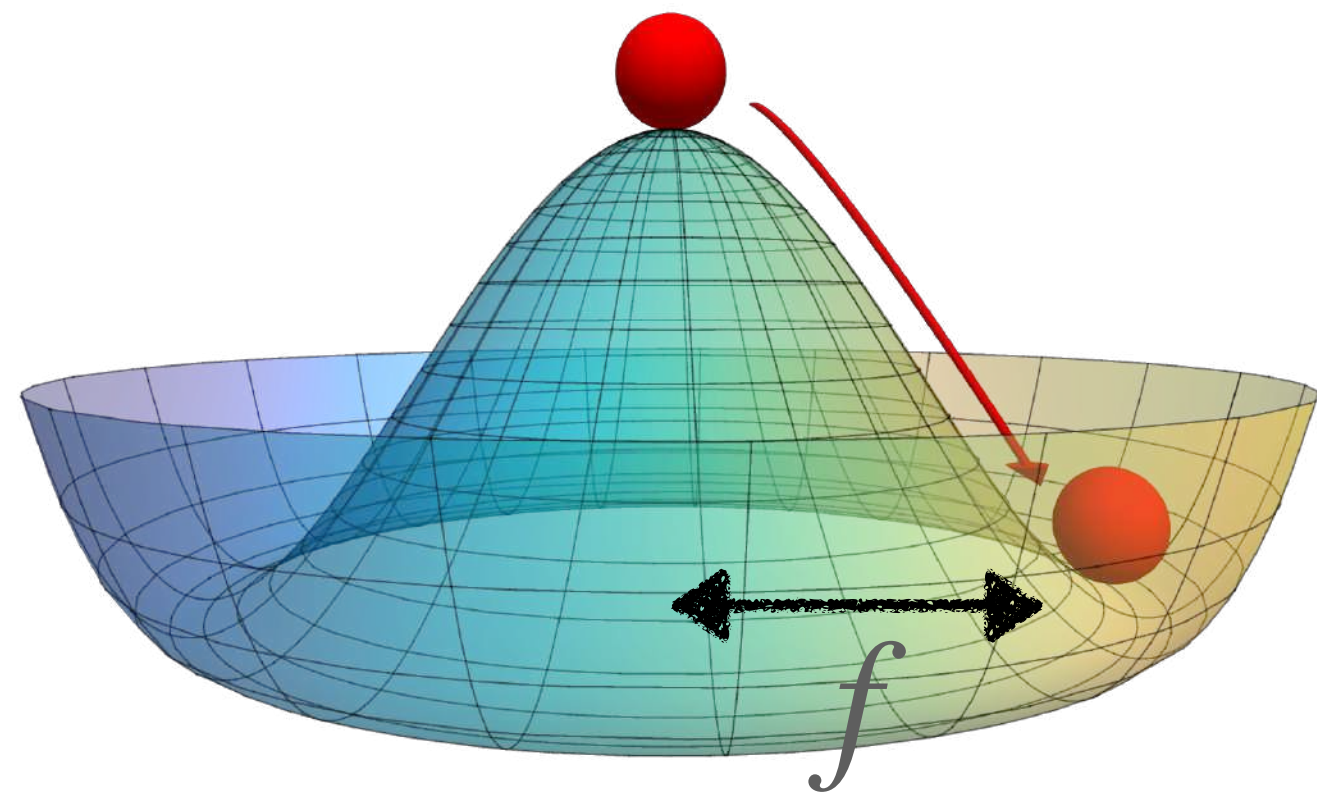


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- Couplings to SM are naturally small.

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Axions are light Pseudo-scalars

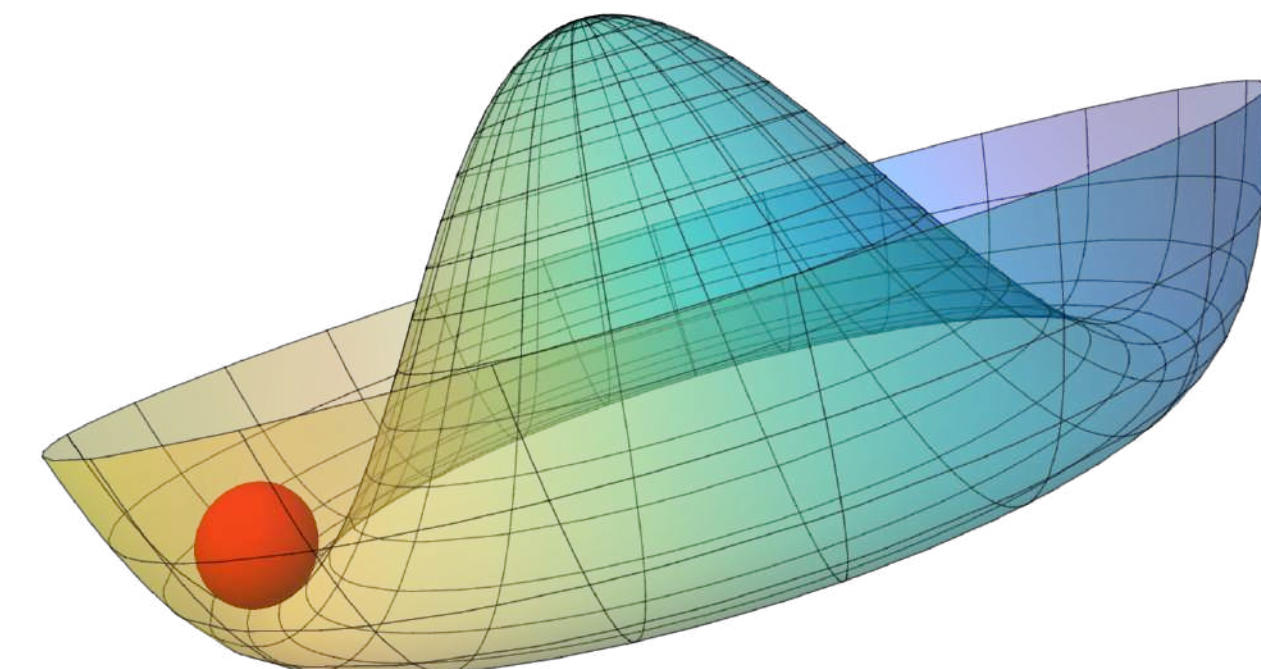
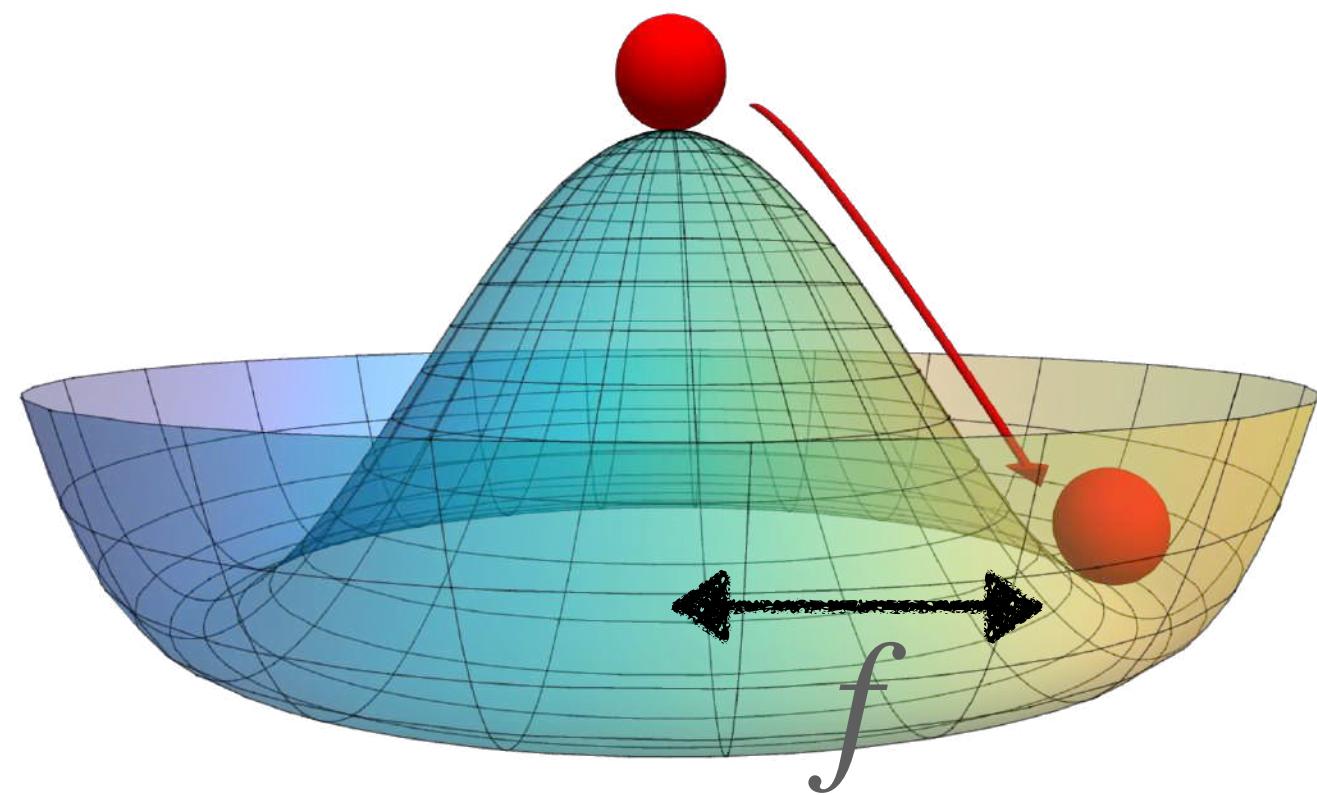
- Goldstone bosons from new symmetries, naturally light.
- Couplings to SM are naturally small.
- Axion's mass comes from breaking of the new symmetry.

Spontaneous
breaking

$$\Rightarrow \partial_\mu \left(\frac{a}{f} \right) \mathcal{O}_{\text{SM}}^\mu$$

Explicit
breaking

$$\Rightarrow V \left(\frac{a}{f} \right)$$



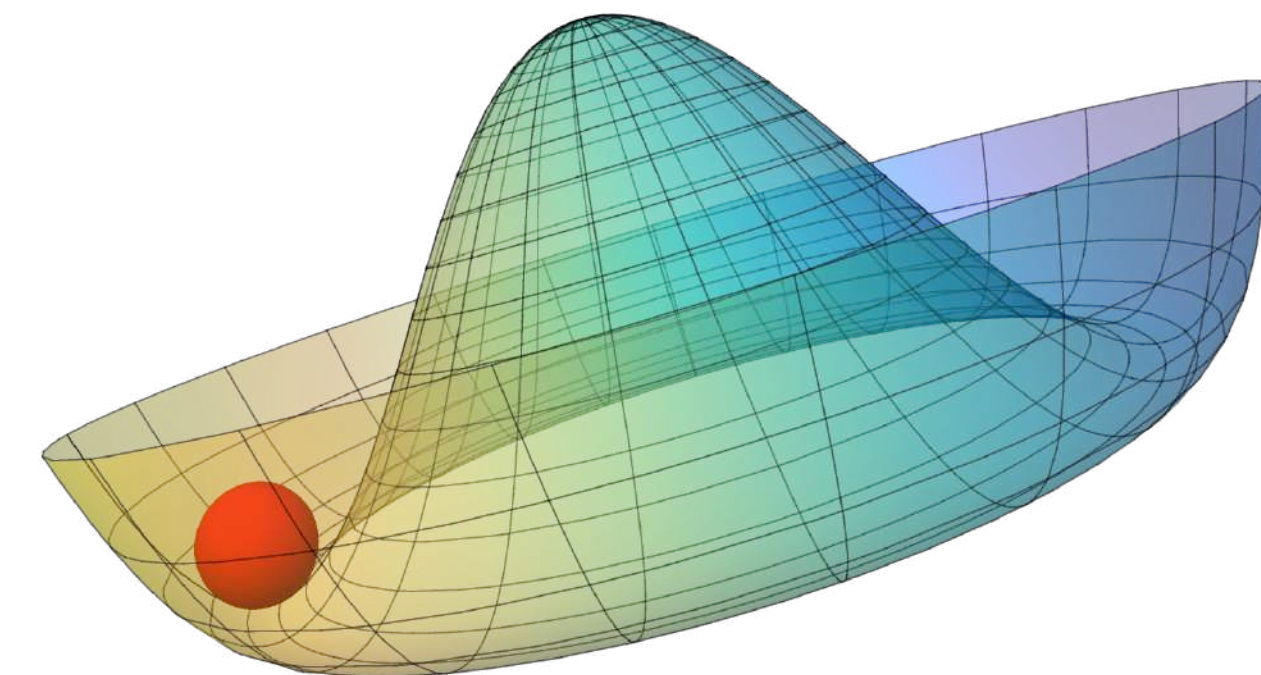
Axions can solve the Strong CP problem

- QCD Axion $m_a f_a \sim m_\pi f_\pi$

Peccei & Quinn (1977)
Weinberg (1978)
Wilczek (1978)

Kim (1979),
Dine et. al (1981)

$U(1)_{PQ} +$
QCD instantons



Axion Like Particles

- QCD Axion $m_a f_a \sim m_\pi f_\pi$

Peccei & Quinn (1977)
Weinberg (1978)
Wilczek (1978)

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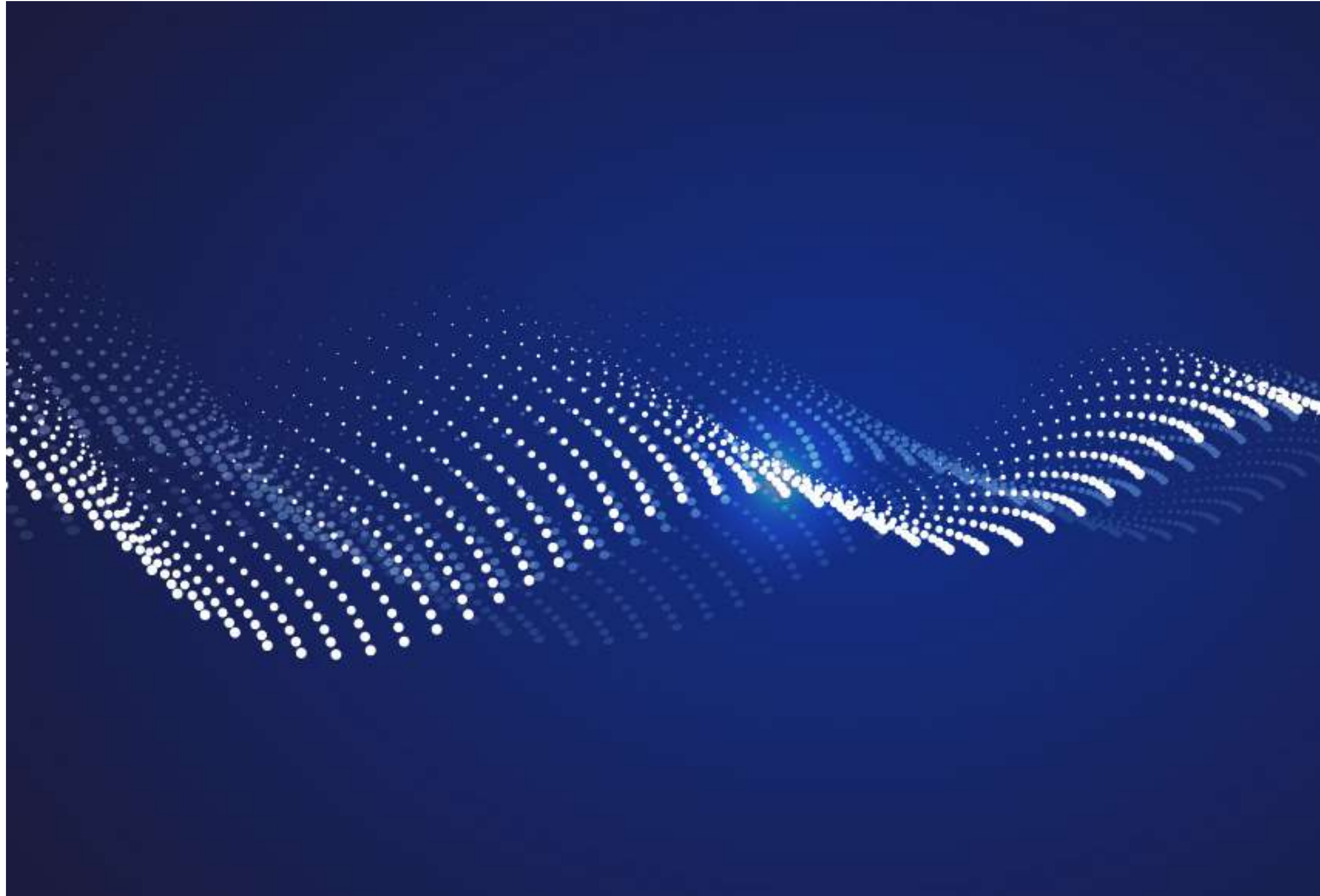
Svrcek & Witten (2006), Arvanitaki et. al (2009)

- Many axion-like particles (ALPs) from string theories

f is usually at Grand Unification scale: 10^{16} GeV

Masses of ALPs independently span a vast range.

Axions can be Dark Matter (DM)



Preskill et. al (1983), Abbott & Sikivi (1983), Dine & Fischler (1983)

- Large occupation number
- Cold dark matter $v \sim 10^{-3}c$
- Behave like wave

$$a_{\text{DM}}(t) \sim a_0 \cos(m_a t)$$

$$\rho_{\text{DM}} \simeq \frac{1}{2} m_a^2 a_0^2$$

This Talk

- Axion-photon coupling

- ◆ Superconducting radio-frequency (SRF) cavity, $< \sim 10 \mu\text{eV}$

CG, Roni Harnik (JHEP 2021)

- ◆ Microring resonator, $0.1 \sim 10 \text{eV}$, DM

Nikita Blinov, CG, Ryan Janish, Roni Harnik, Neil Sinclair (In progress)

- Axion-nucleon coupling

- ◆ Superfluid Helium Three, $\sim 0.1 \mu\text{eV}$, DM

CG, William Halperin, Yonatan Kahn, Man Nguyen, Jan Schütte-Engel, John William Scott ([2208.14454](#))

Joshua Foster, CG, Yonatan Kahn, Jan Schütte-Engel (In progress)

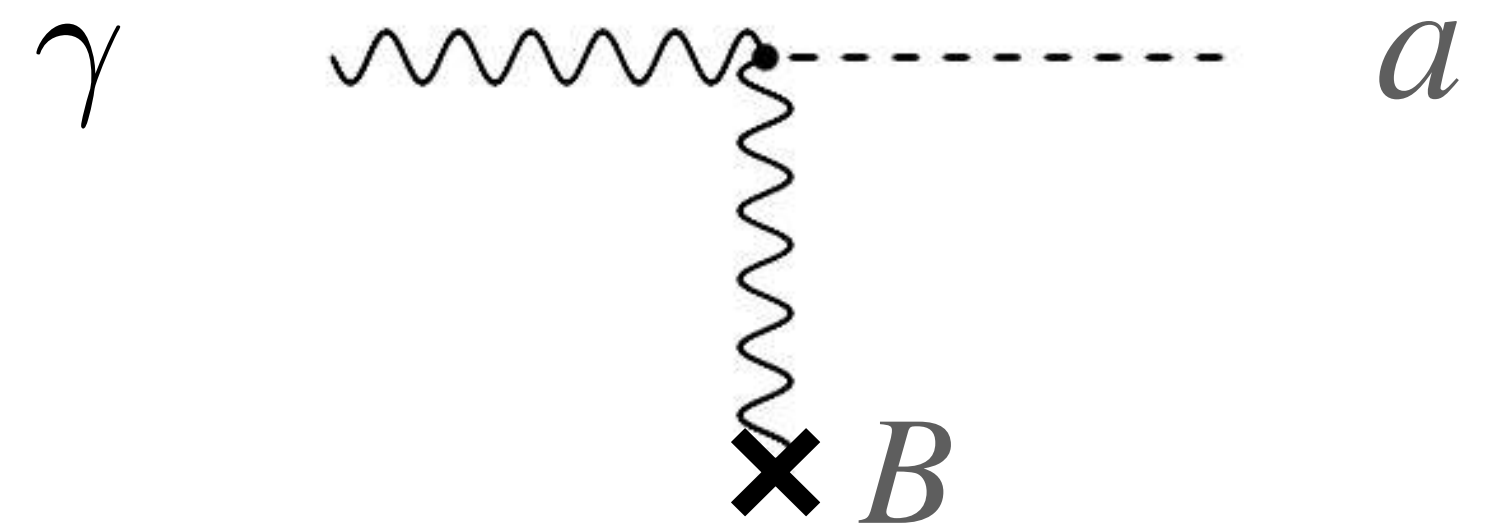
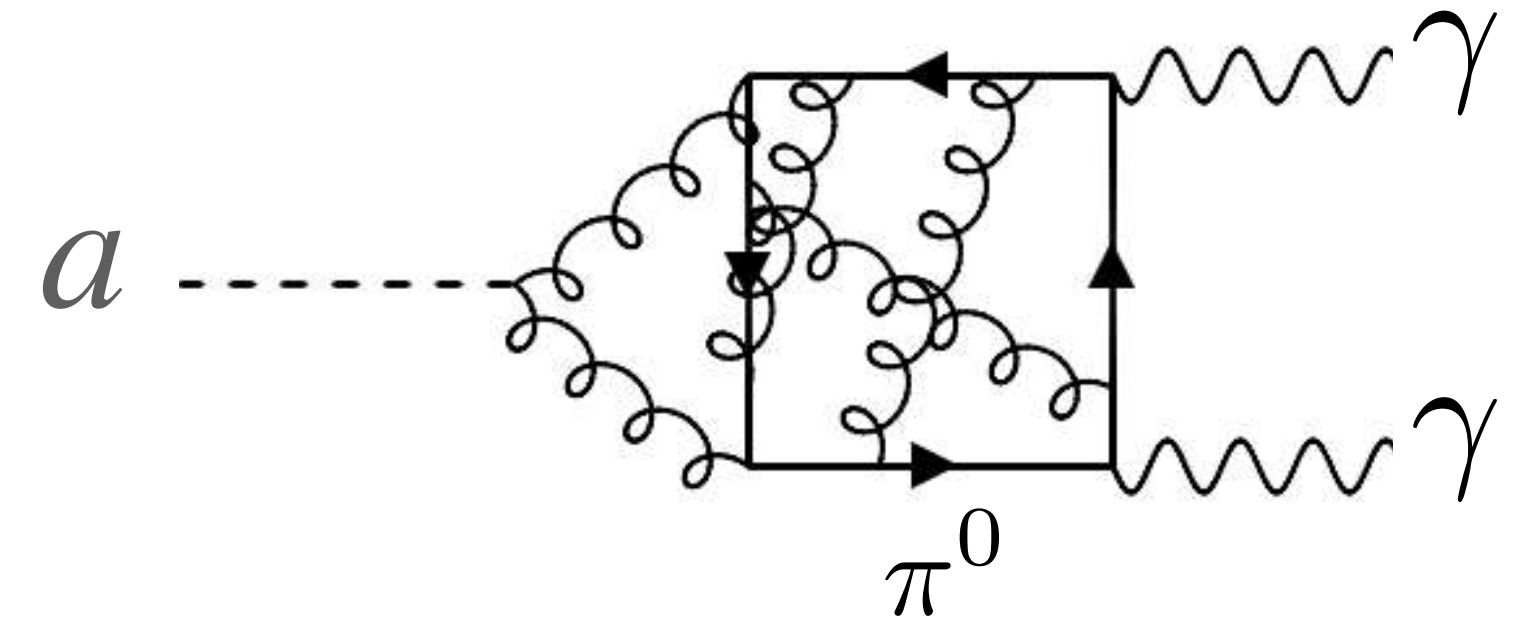
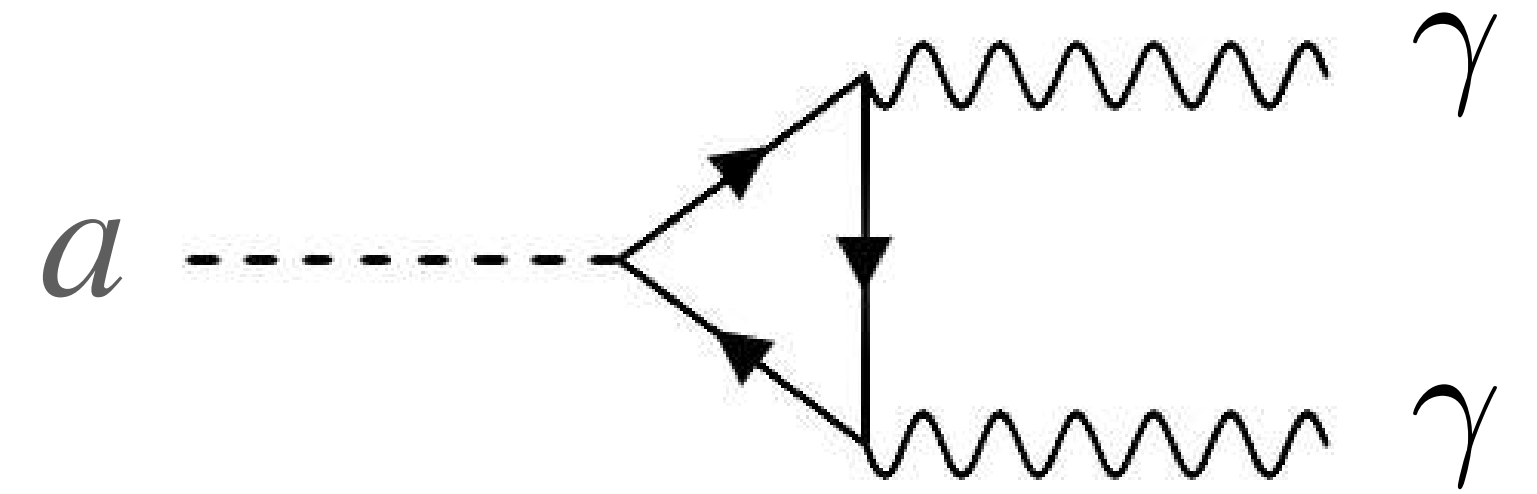
Axion's Two Photon Vertex

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} \supset -\frac{g}{4} a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

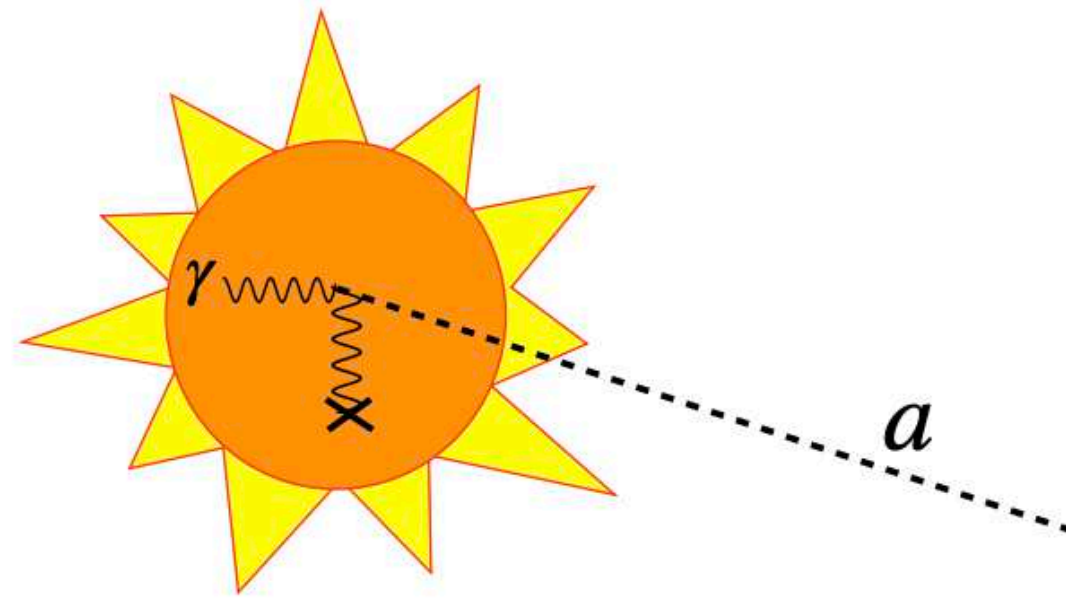
$$= ga \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}$$

$$g \propto 1/f$$

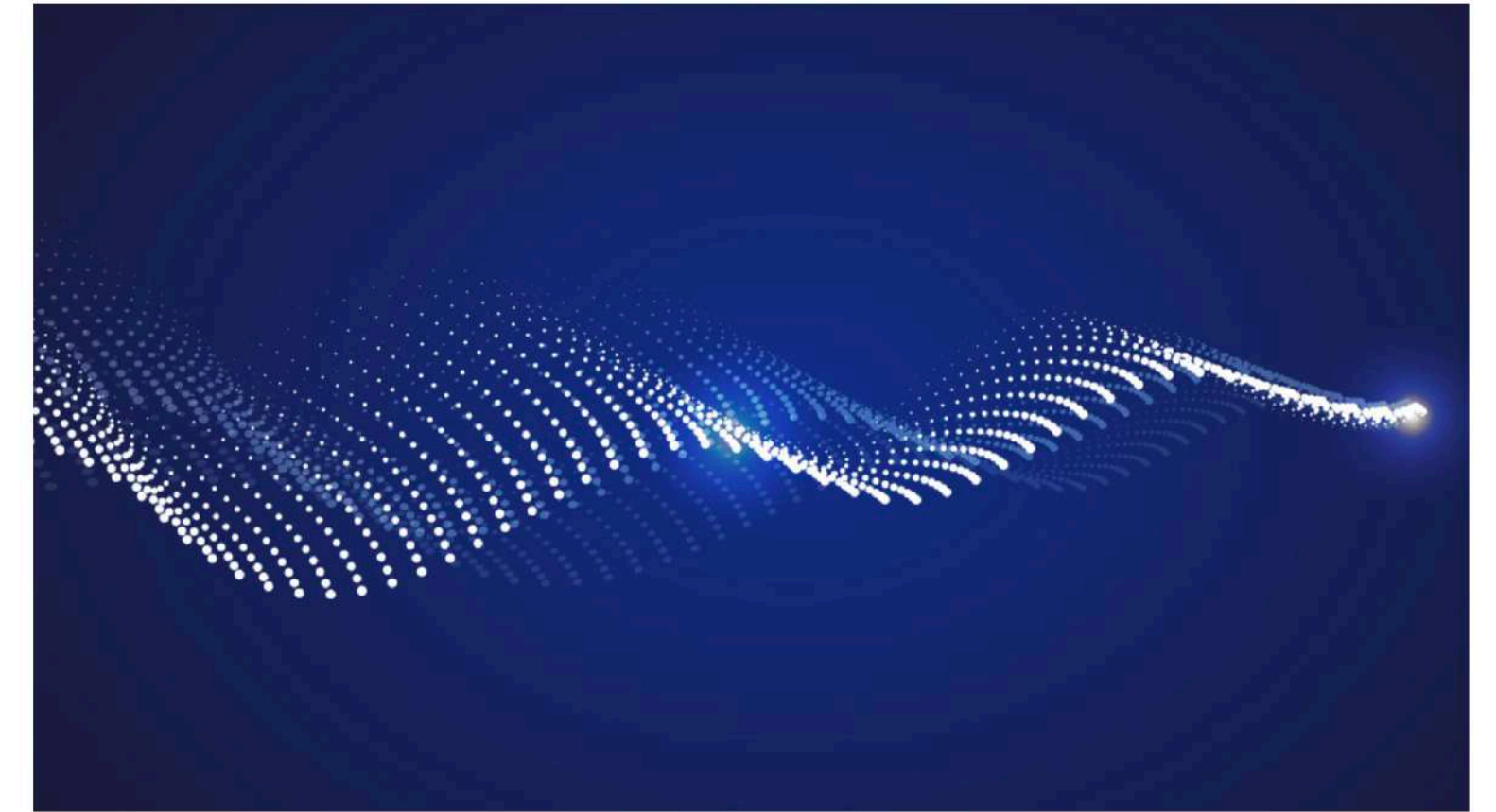
Axion searches usually rely on axion-photon conversion in a background magnetic field.



Sources of Axion Detection

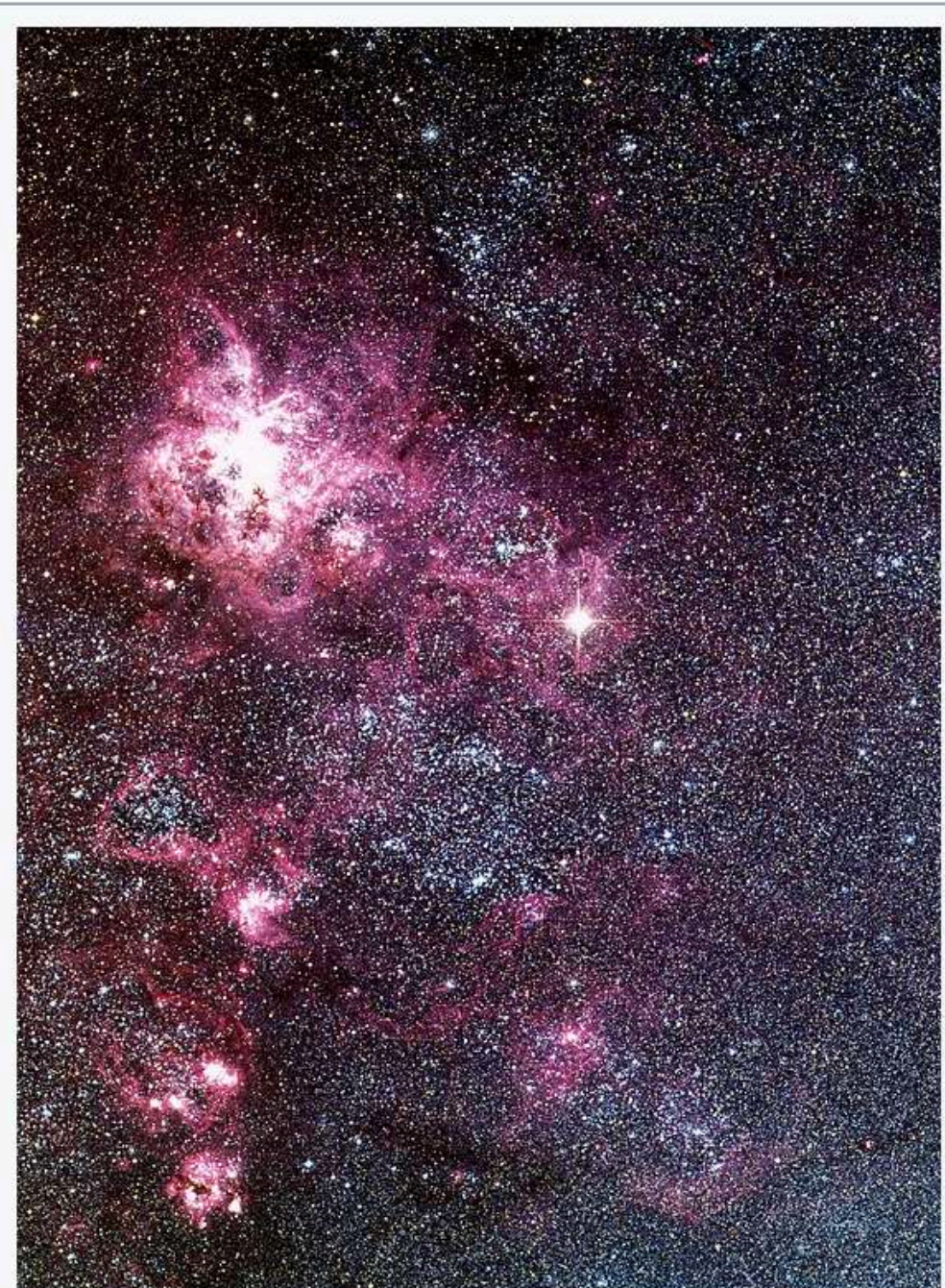


$$g a \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}$$



SN 1987A

- ◆ Solar axion
- ◆ Axion dark matter
- ◆ Other astronomical sources, e.g. SN 1987A
- ◆ Produced in the laboratory



Very narrow bandwidth, requires scanning

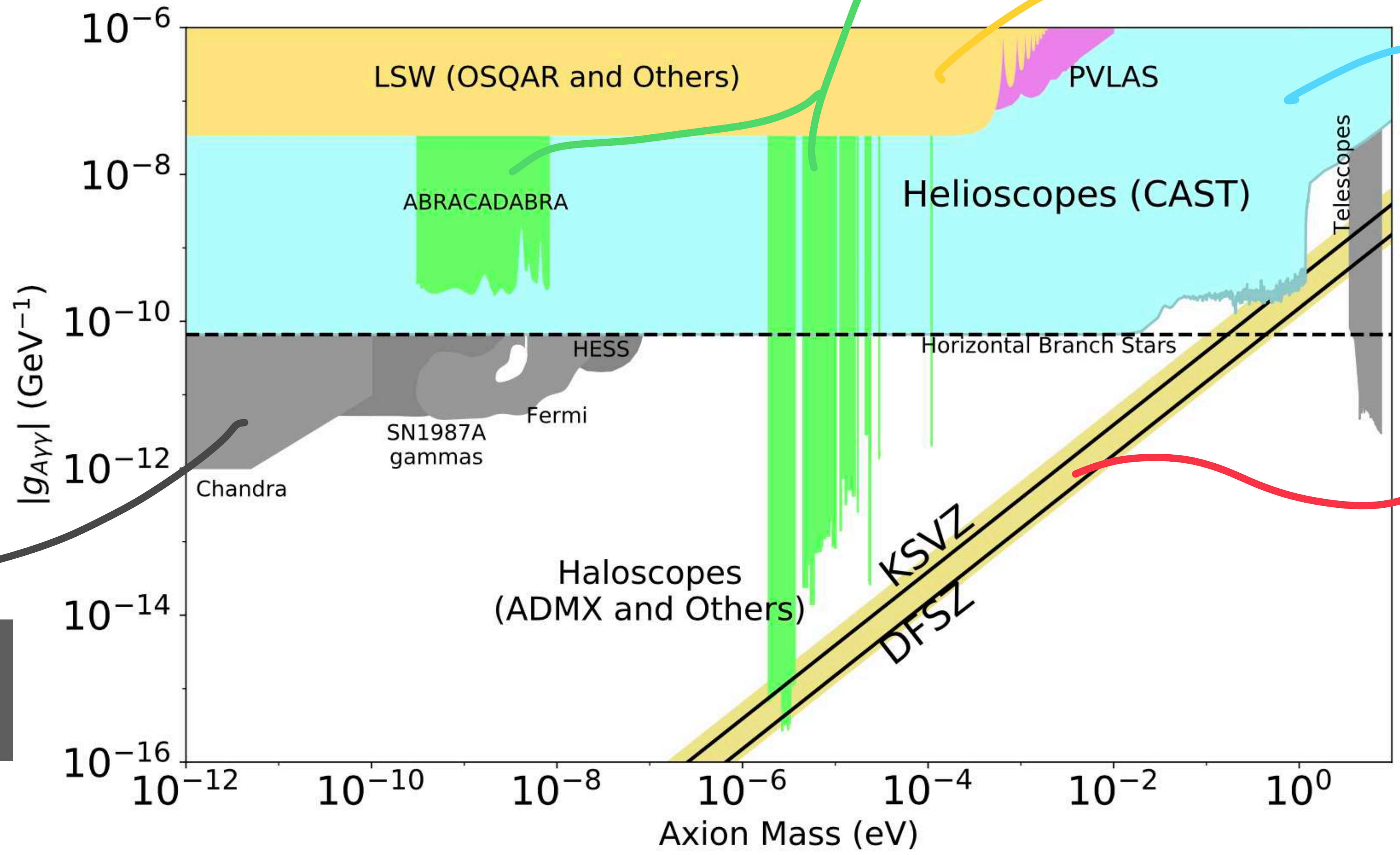
DM

Lab

Solar

Broadband, pretty robust

QCD axion



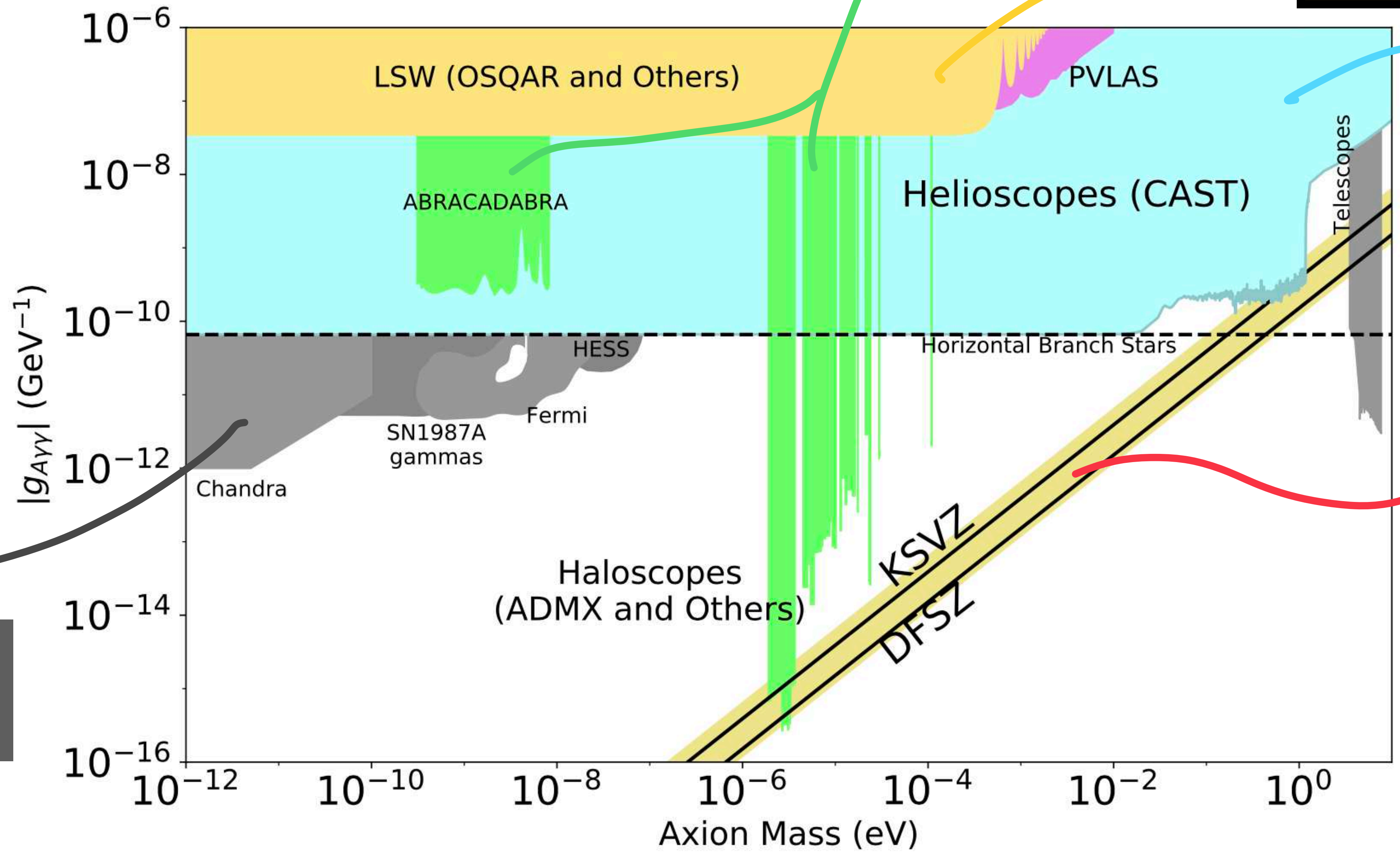
Astro

Relies on modeling of astrophysics

From The Review of Particle Physics (2020)

Very narrow bandwidth, requires scanning

Broadband, clean, can be improved by quantum technology!



DM Lab

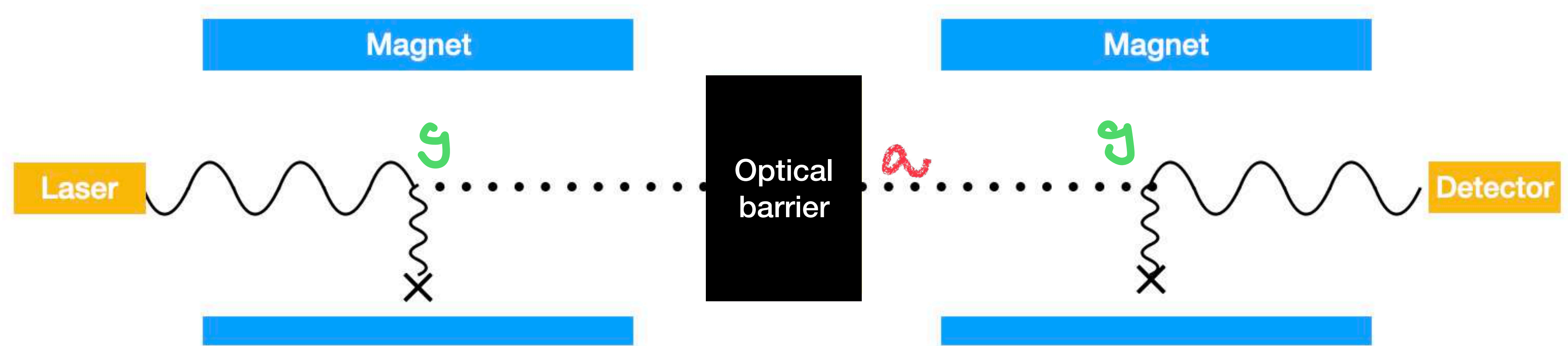
Solar
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Relies on modeling of astrophysics

Light-Shining-Through-Walls (LSW)

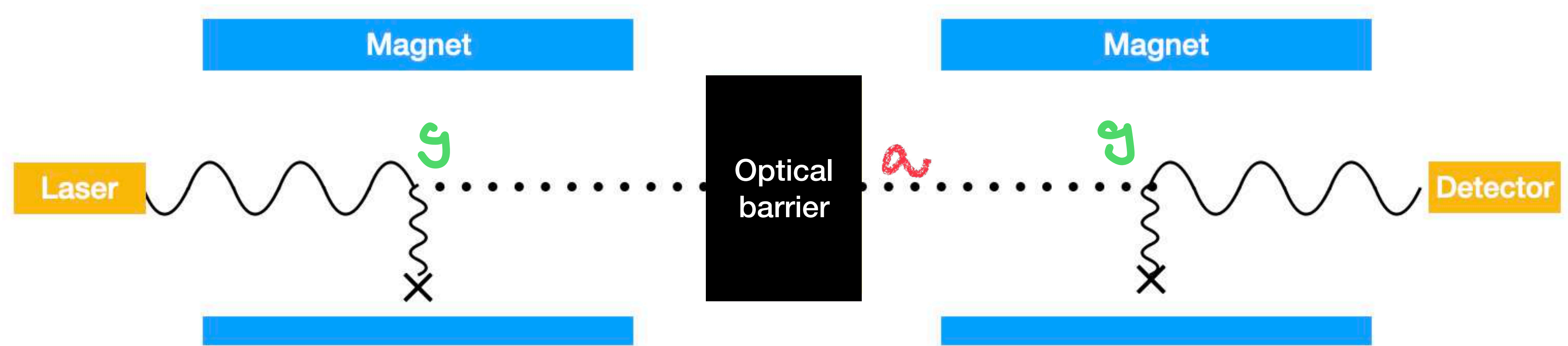
$$g a E \cdot B$$



- ♦ Tiny signal rate $\propto g^4$
- ❑ Want large number of photons to source the axion
- ❑ Want a low noise detector

Light-Shining-Through-Walls (LSW)

$$g a E \cdot B$$



♦ Tiny signal rate $\propto g^4$

High
Quality
Cavity

- Want large number of photons to source the axion
- Want a low noise detector

Quality Factor of Cavities

$$Q \equiv 2\pi \times \frac{\text{energy stored}}{\text{energy dissipated per cycle}}$$

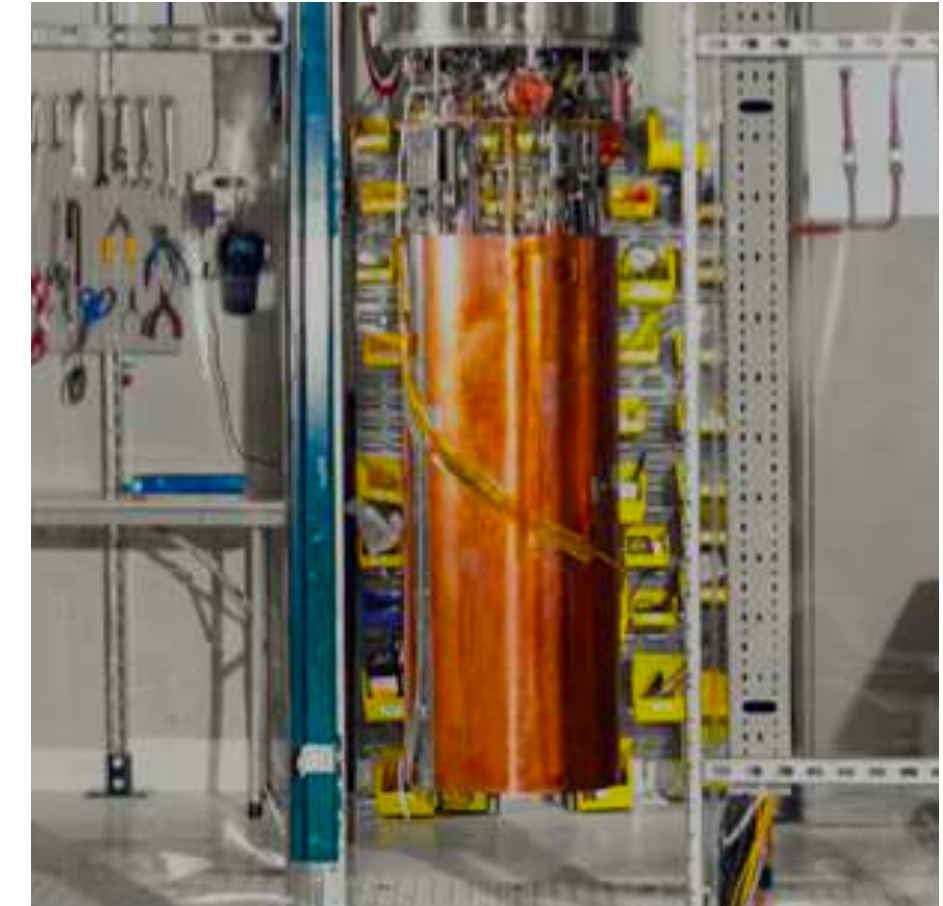
The **higher** the Q is, the **lower** the loss is, and the **larger** the number of photons are stored in a cavity.

Quality Factor of Cavities

Earth Ionosphere
 $Q = 3$



ADMX
 $Q \sim 10^5$



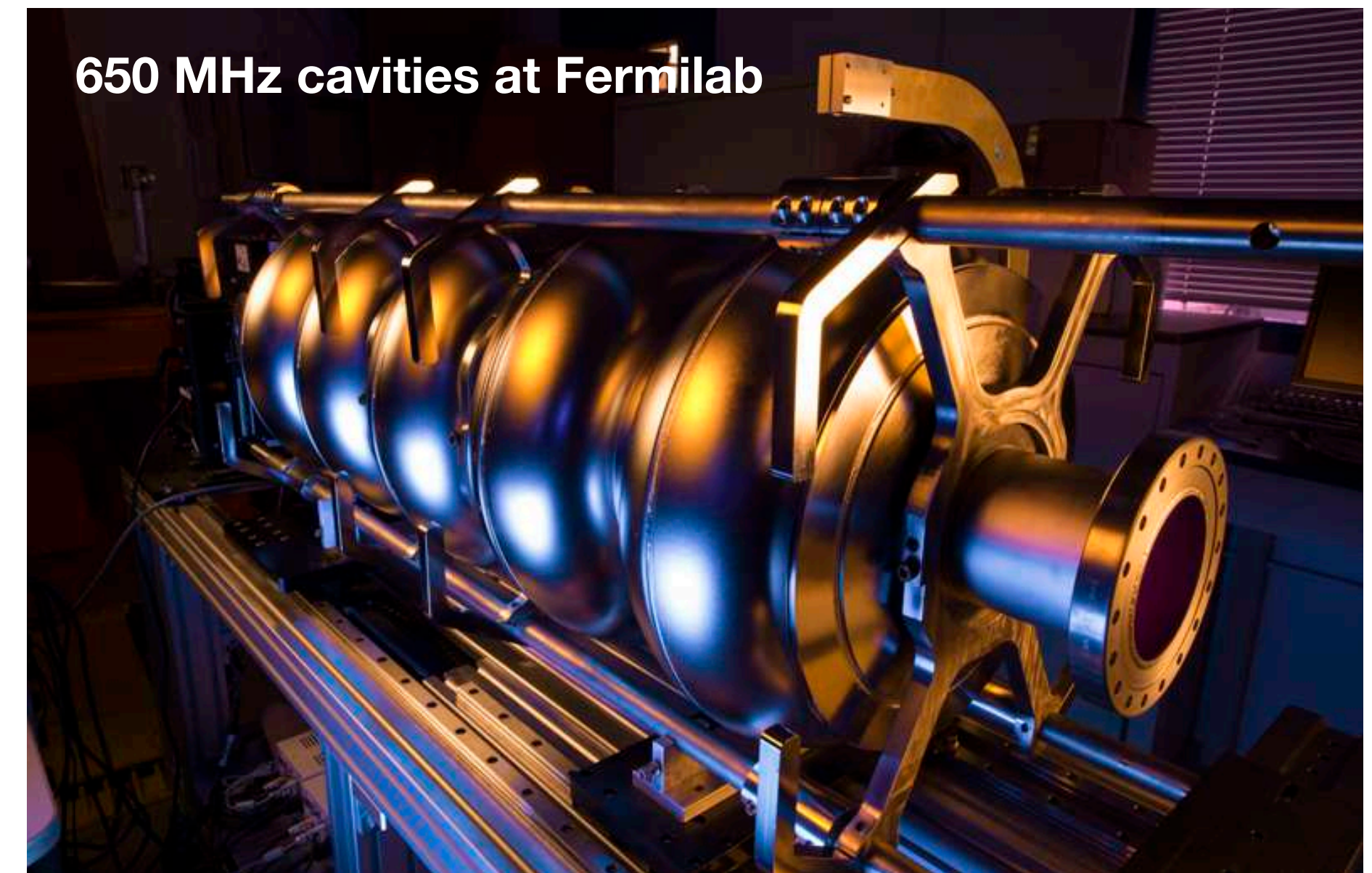
Phys. Rev. Lett. **127** (2021)

High quality cavities have $Q \gtrsim 10^7 \sim 10^{12}$
(depending on the resonant frequencies).

Superconducting Radio-frequency Cavities

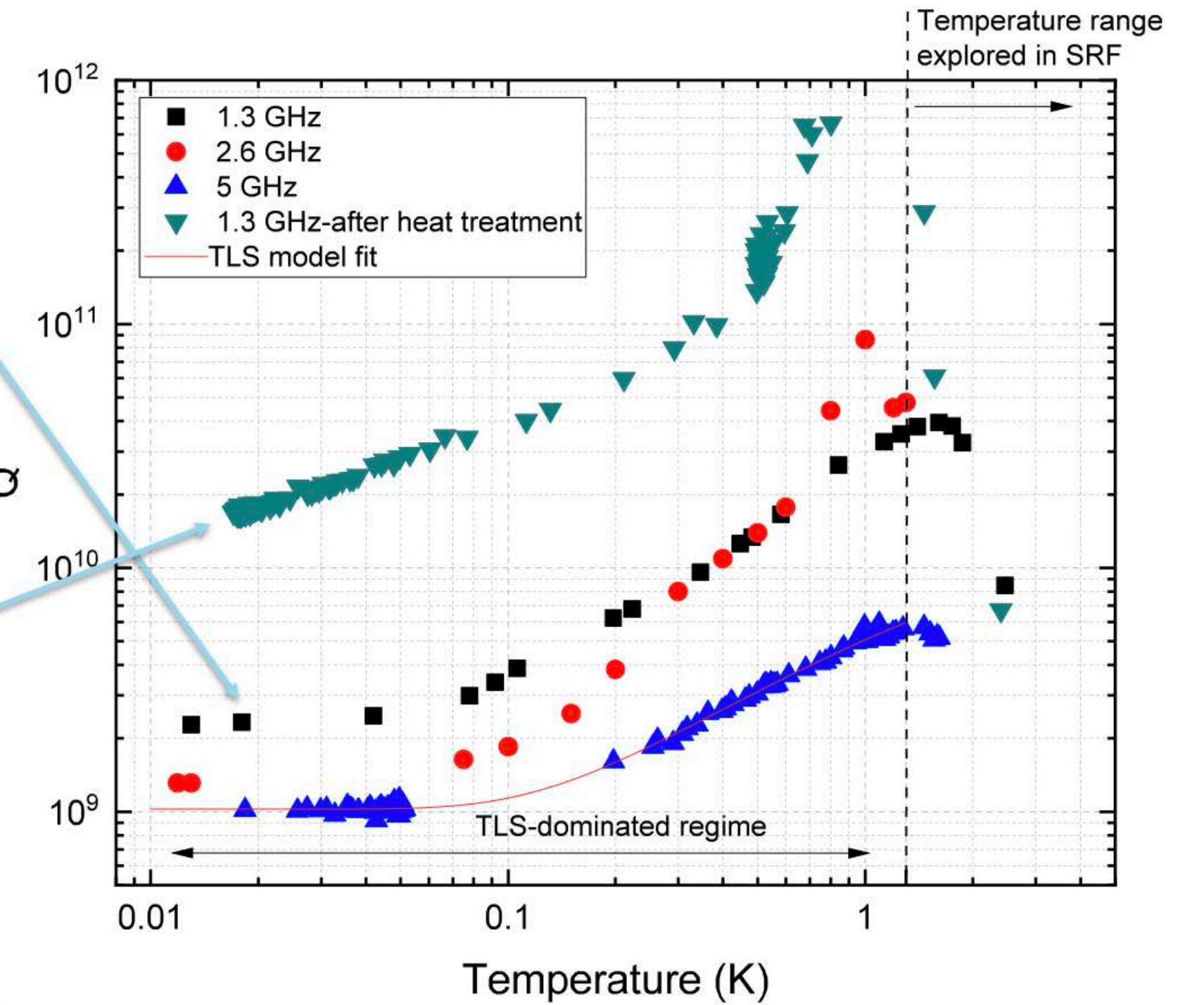
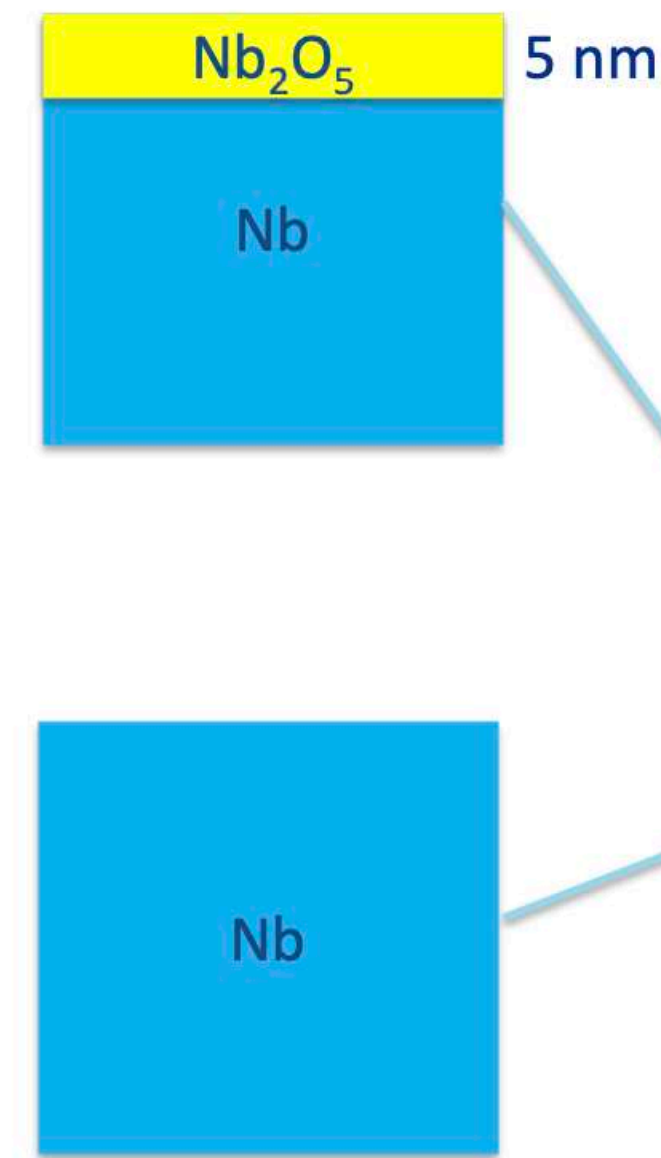
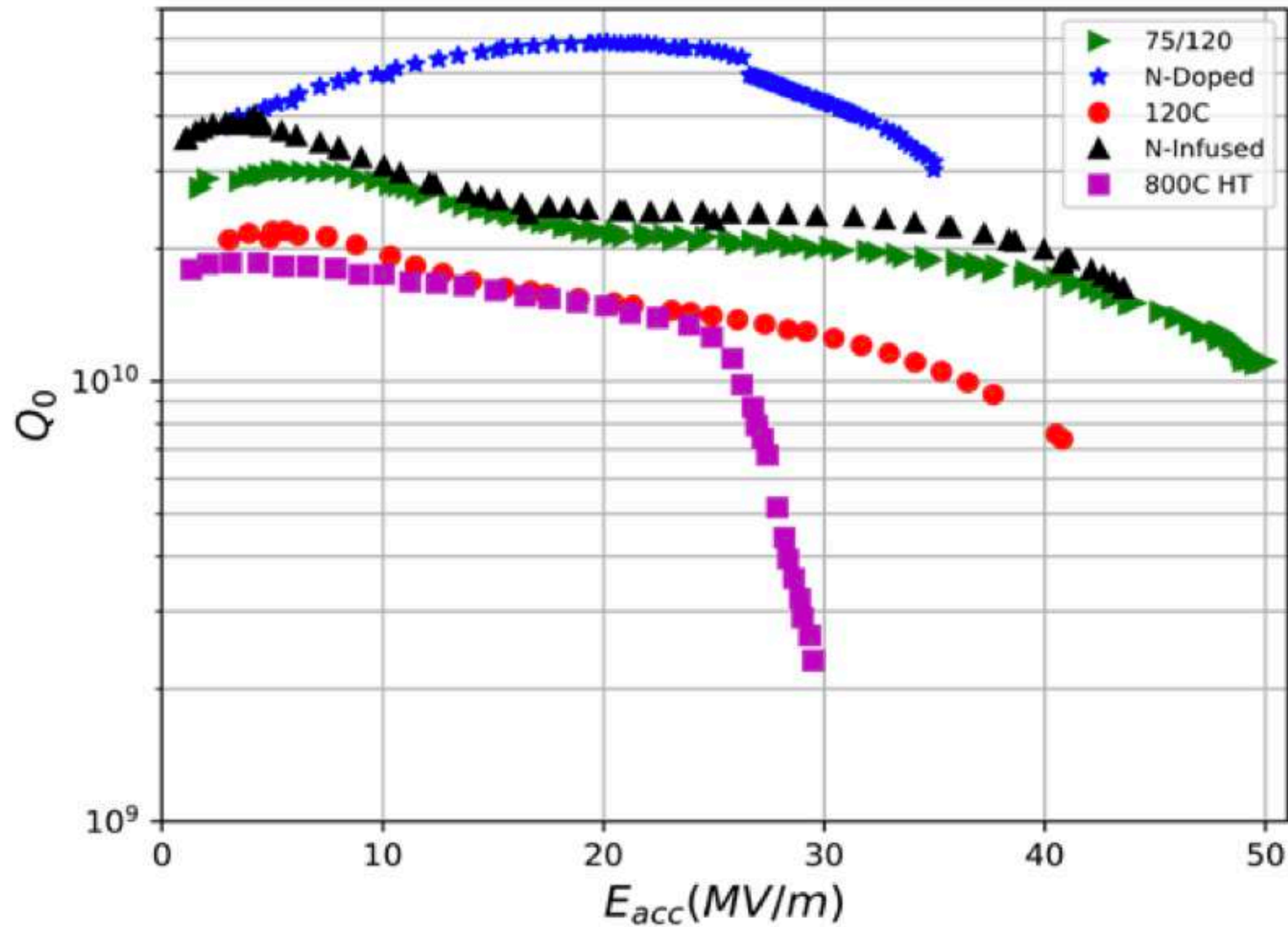
- ◆ Superconducting radio frequency (SRF) cavity has a resonance frequency around GHz ($10\mu\text{eV}$)
- ◆ $Q = 10^{10}$, can store 10^{26} photons with a field of peak amplitude

$$E_{\text{peak}} = 80 \text{ MV m}^{-1}$$



Superconducting Radio-frequency Cavities

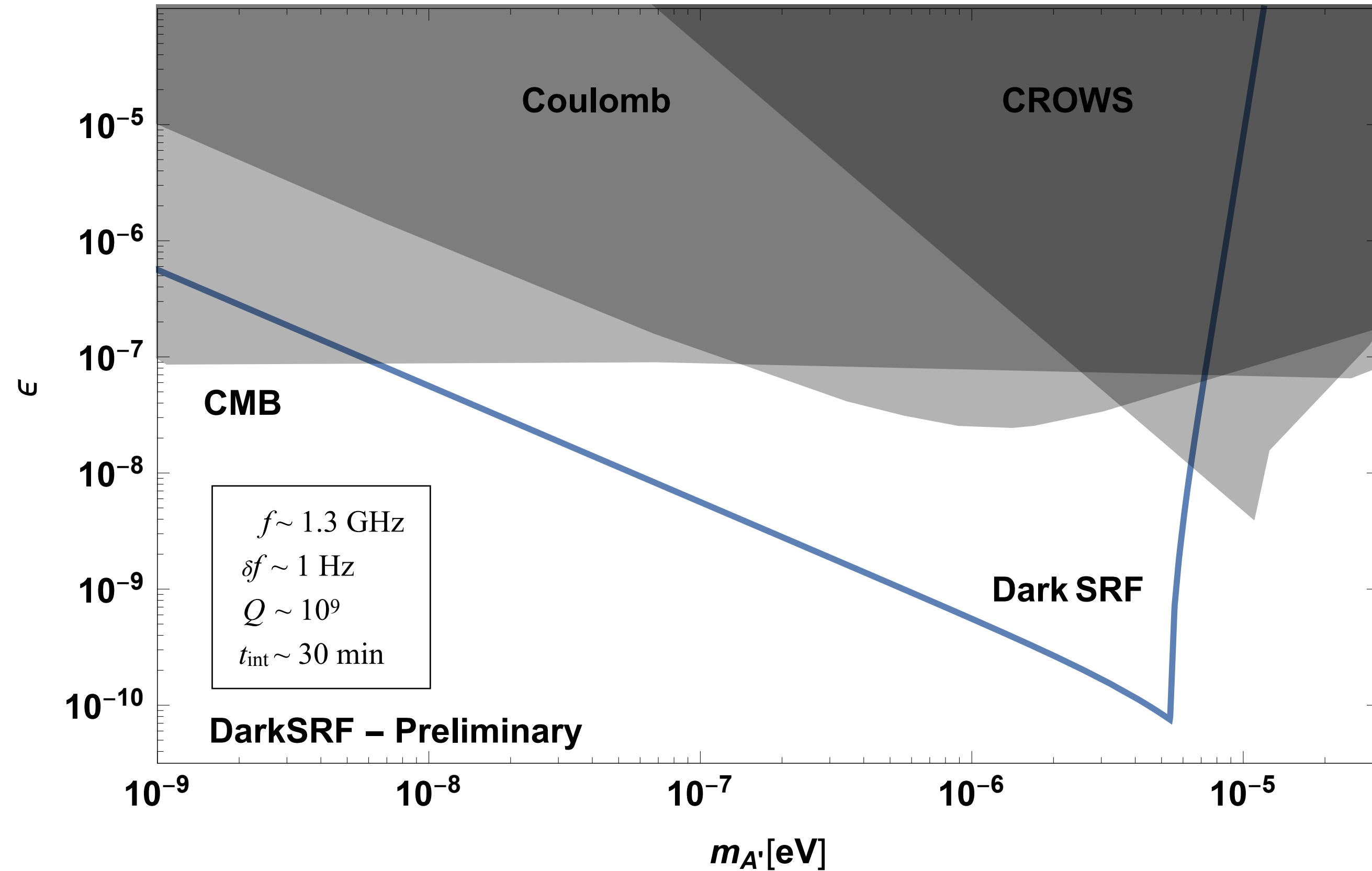
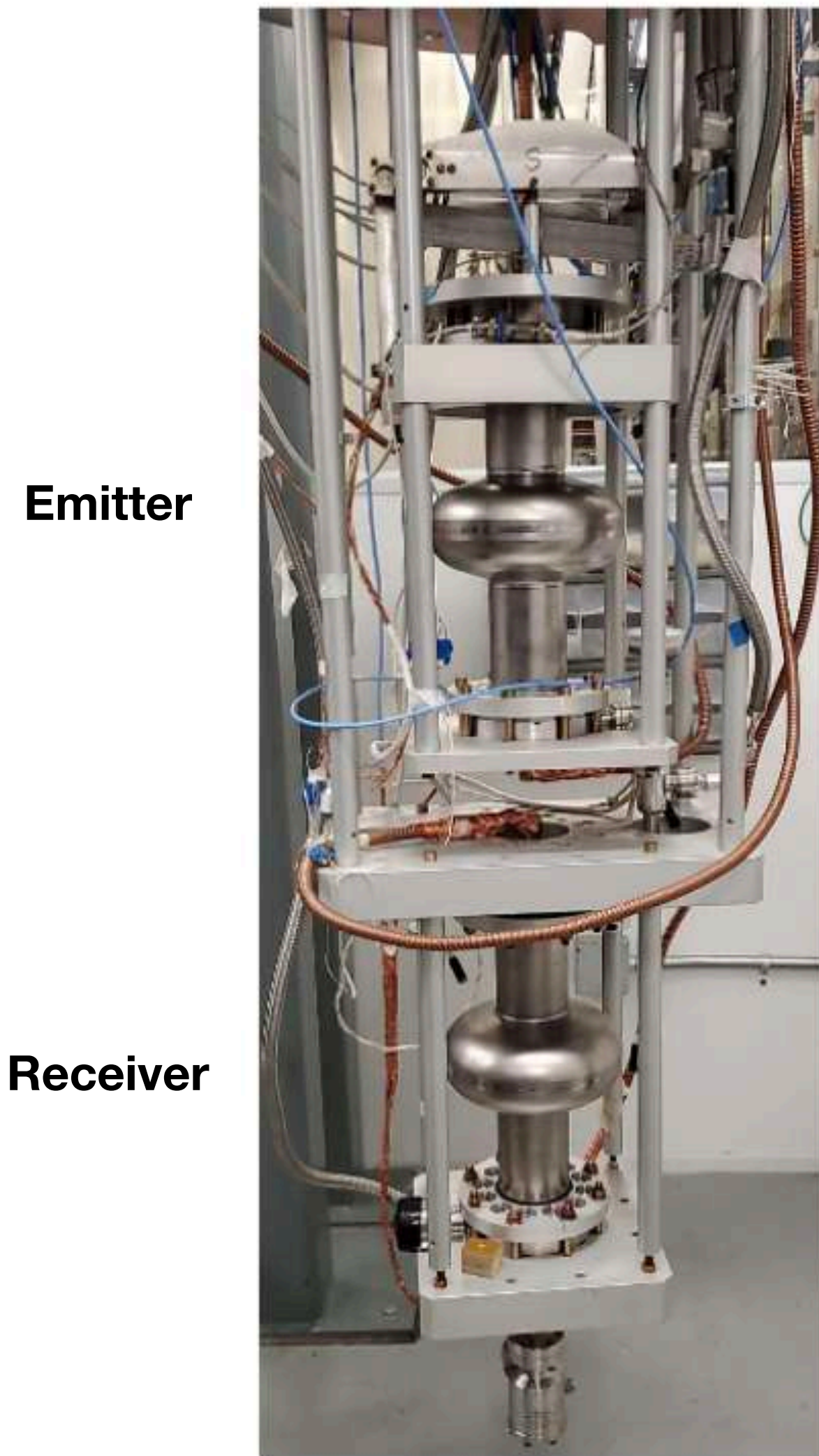
$$E_{acc} \sim \frac{1}{2} E_{peak}$$



A. Romanenko and D. I. Schuster
Phys. Rev. Lett. **119**, 264801 – Published 28 December 2017

<https://accelconf.web.cern.ch/srf2019/papers/mop031.pdf>

SRF Cavities - Dark SRF



**A dark photon LSW search at Fermilab using SRF cavities.
Demonstrated high Q and frequency control.**

Dark SRF - A. Grasselino, R. Harnik, S. Posen, Z. Liu, A. Romanenko (to appear).

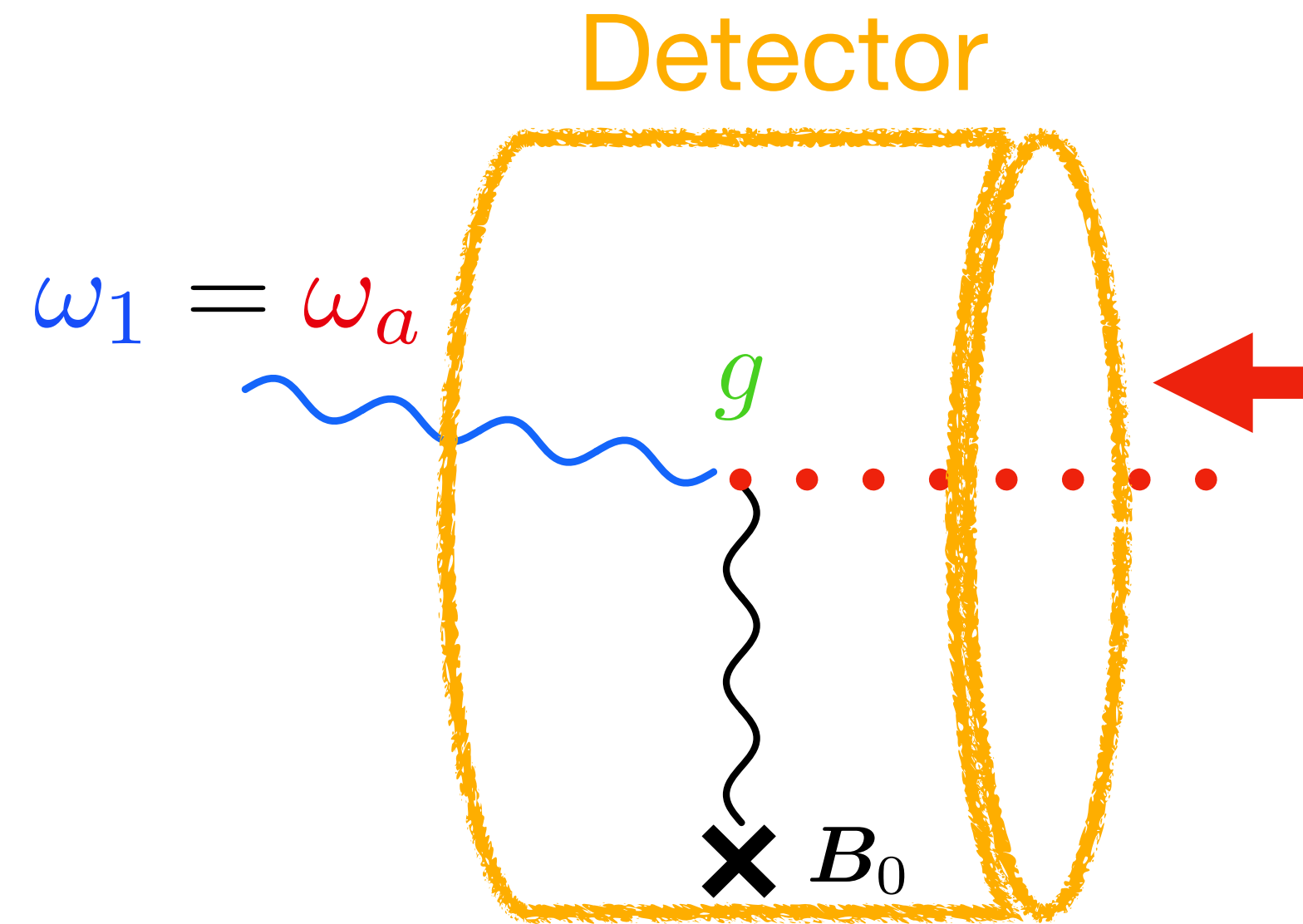
Superconducting Radio-frequency Cavities

Snowmass white paper

**“Searches for New Particles, Dark Matter,
and Gravitational Waves with SRF Cavities”**

Review of Cavity Axion Searches

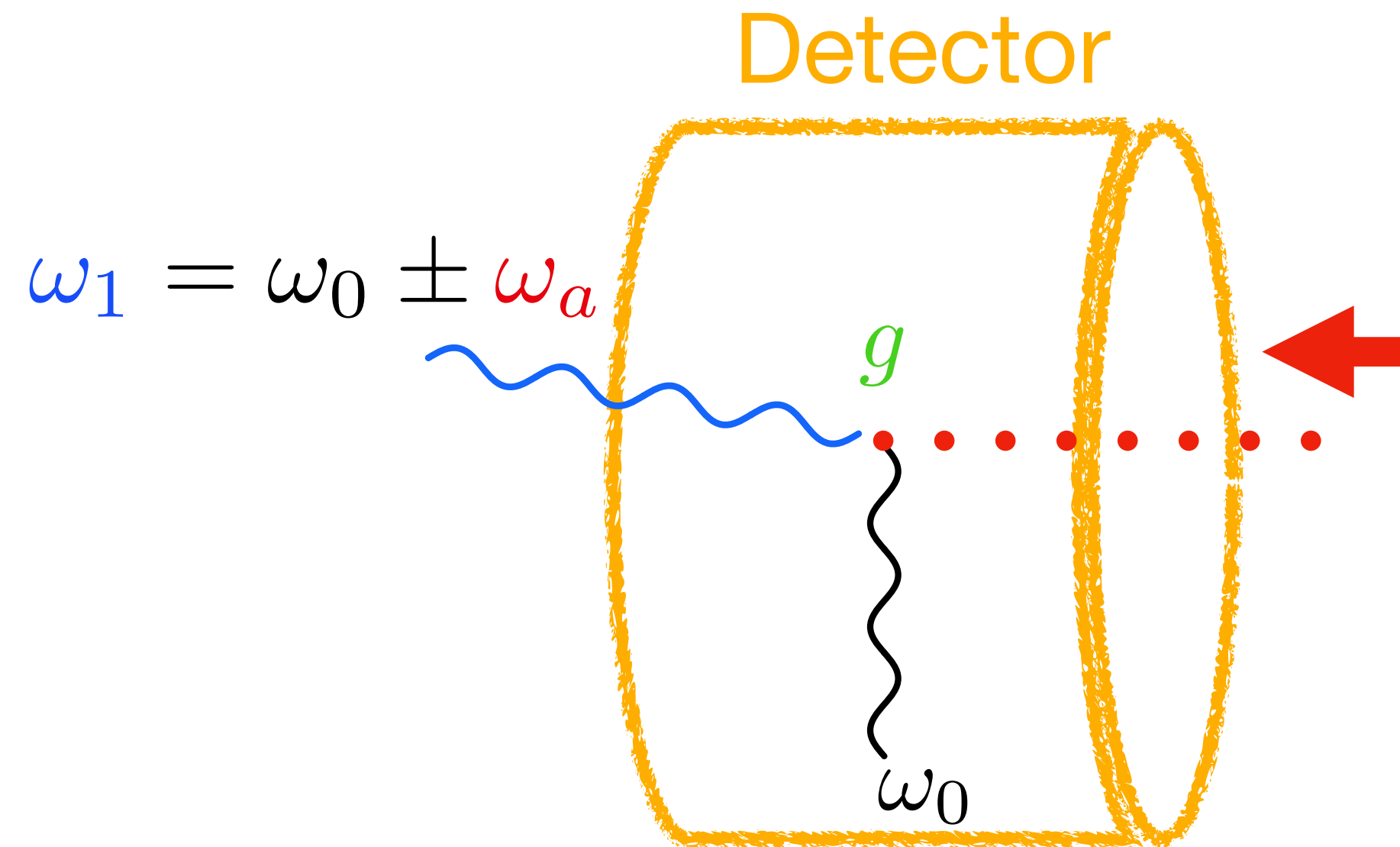
$$g a E_1 \cdot B_0$$



- ◆ a quiet cavity + static B
- ◆ signal ω_1 is a cavity mode, enhanced by Q .
- ◆ tiny $g \Rightarrow$ large B desired, but large B may penetrate SRF cavity.

Review of Cavity Axion Searches

$$g a \mathbf{E}_1 \cdot \mathbf{B}_0$$



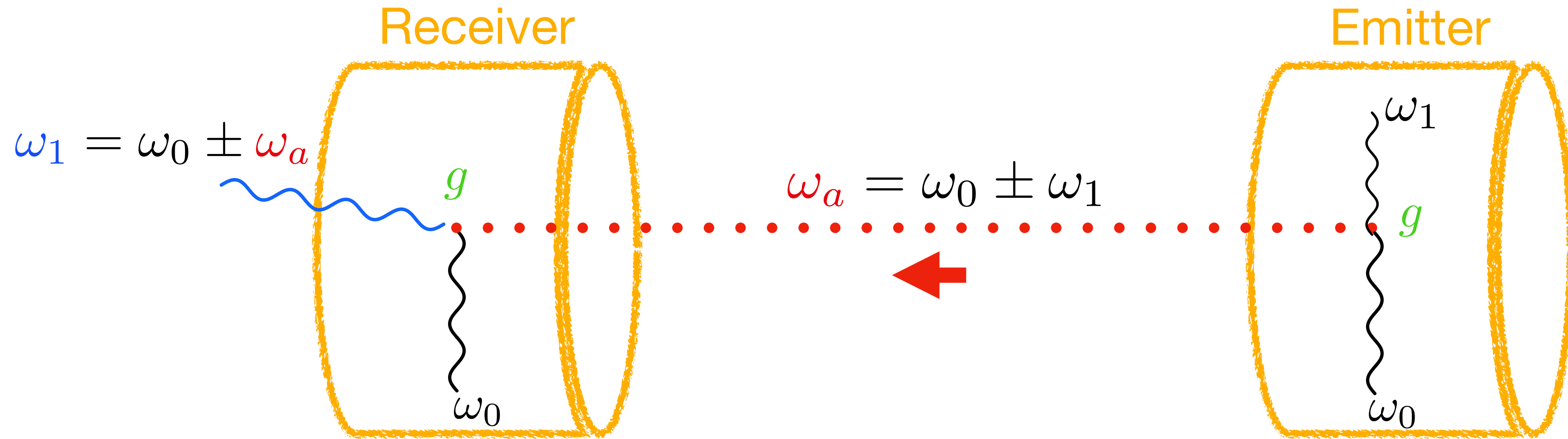
- ◆ static $B \rightarrow$ **active** cavity mode ω_0
- ◆ signal $\omega_1 = 2\text{nd}$ cavity mode
- ◆ frequency matching: $\omega_1 = \omega_0 \pm \omega_a$
- ◆ new DM axion search strategies

Sikivie (2010), Berlin et. al (2019)

Our proposal

LSW Axion Searches with SRF Cavities

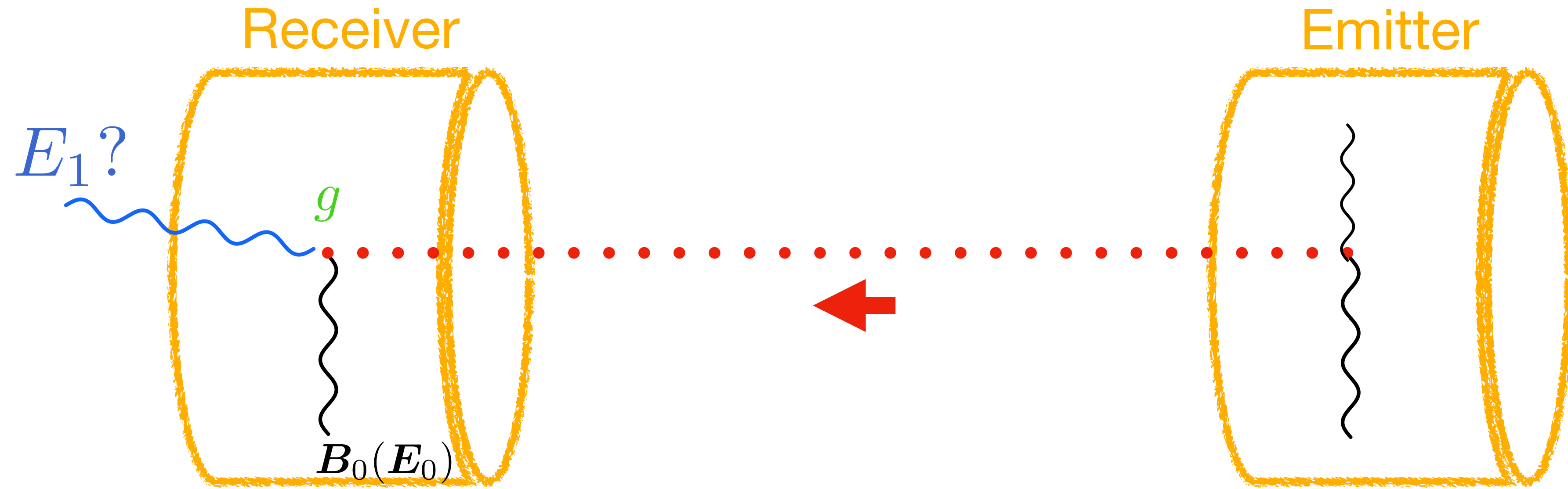
$$g a E_1 \cdot B_0$$



- ◆ 2 active cavity modes to source axion in the emitter.
- ◆ 3rd active mode in the receiver, satisfying frequency matching.

Signal Field

$$g a \mathbf{E}_1 \cdot \mathbf{B}_0$$



Maxwell's equations

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

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \partial_t \mathbf{E} - g_{a\gamma} (\mathbf{E} \times \nabla a - \mathbf{B} \partial_t a)$$

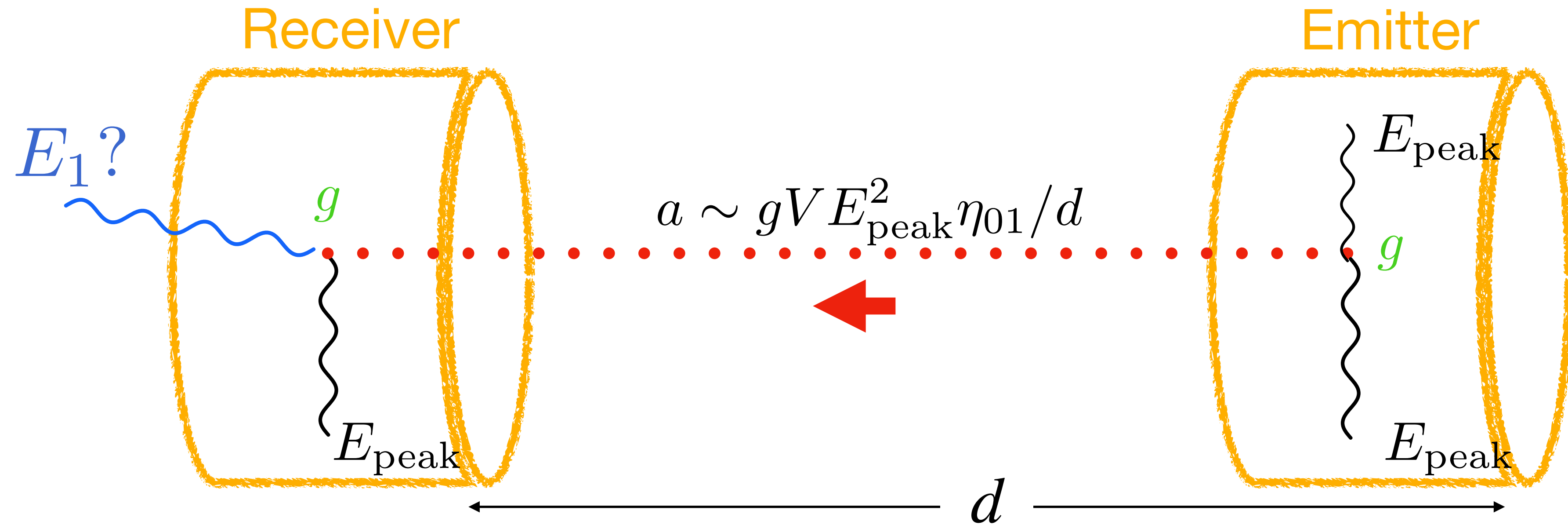
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\partial_t \mathbf{B}$$

(under natural unit)

Signal Power

$$g a \mathbf{E}_1 \cdot \mathbf{B}_0$$



$$P_{\text{sig}} = \frac{\text{energy}}{\text{time}} = \frac{1}{\tau_1} \int_V |\mathbf{E}_1|^2 \propto \frac{QV^3 g^4 \eta_{01}^4 E_{\text{peak}}^6}{d^2}$$

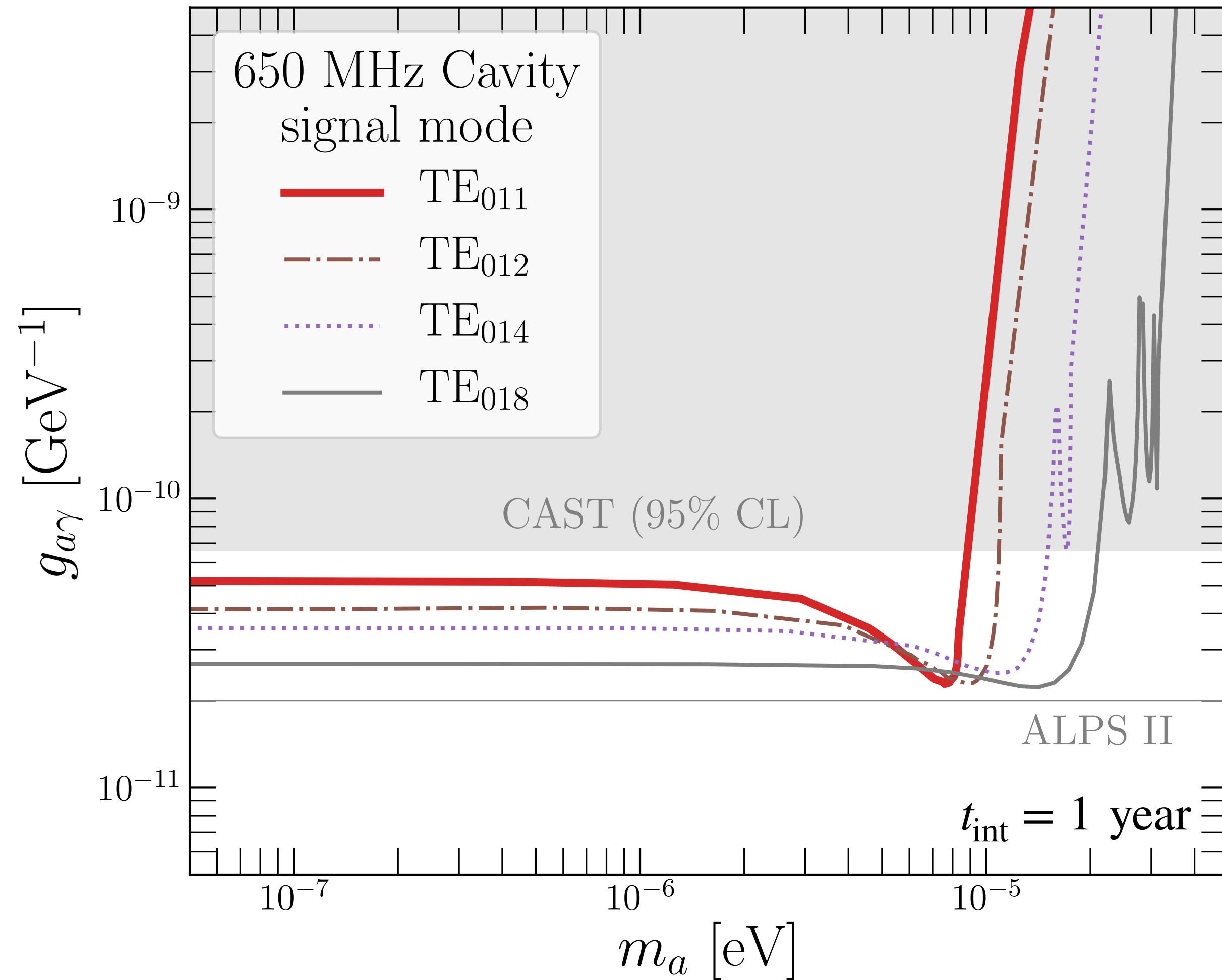
Q = quality factor

V = volume of cavity

η_{01} = geometric factor

E_{peak} = field amplitude

Sensitivity of the LSW Axion Search

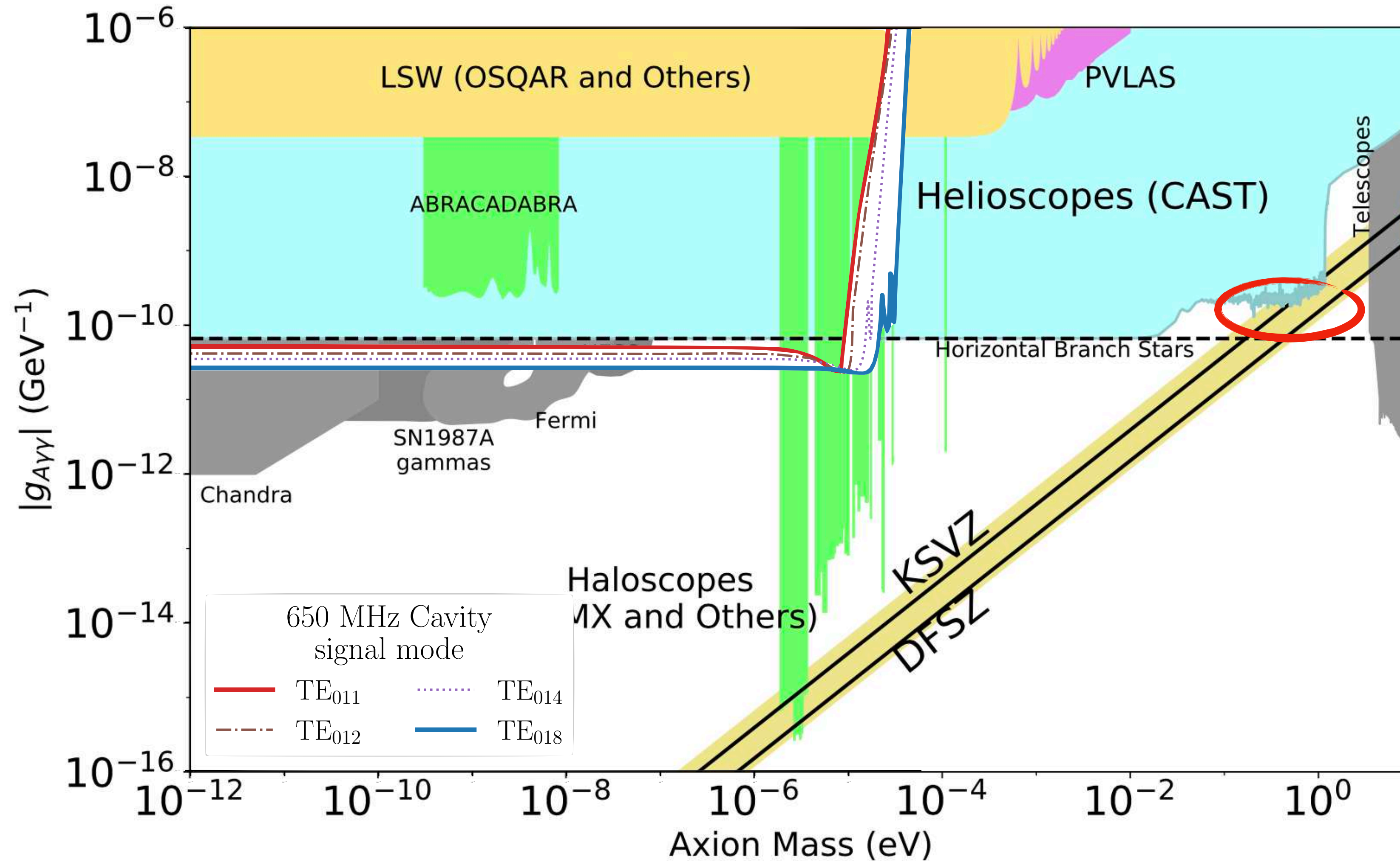


$$\text{SNR} = \frac{P_{\text{sig}}}{P_{\text{bkg}}} \sqrt{t_{\text{int}} \Delta \omega_1} > 5$$

$$Q = 10^{10}$$

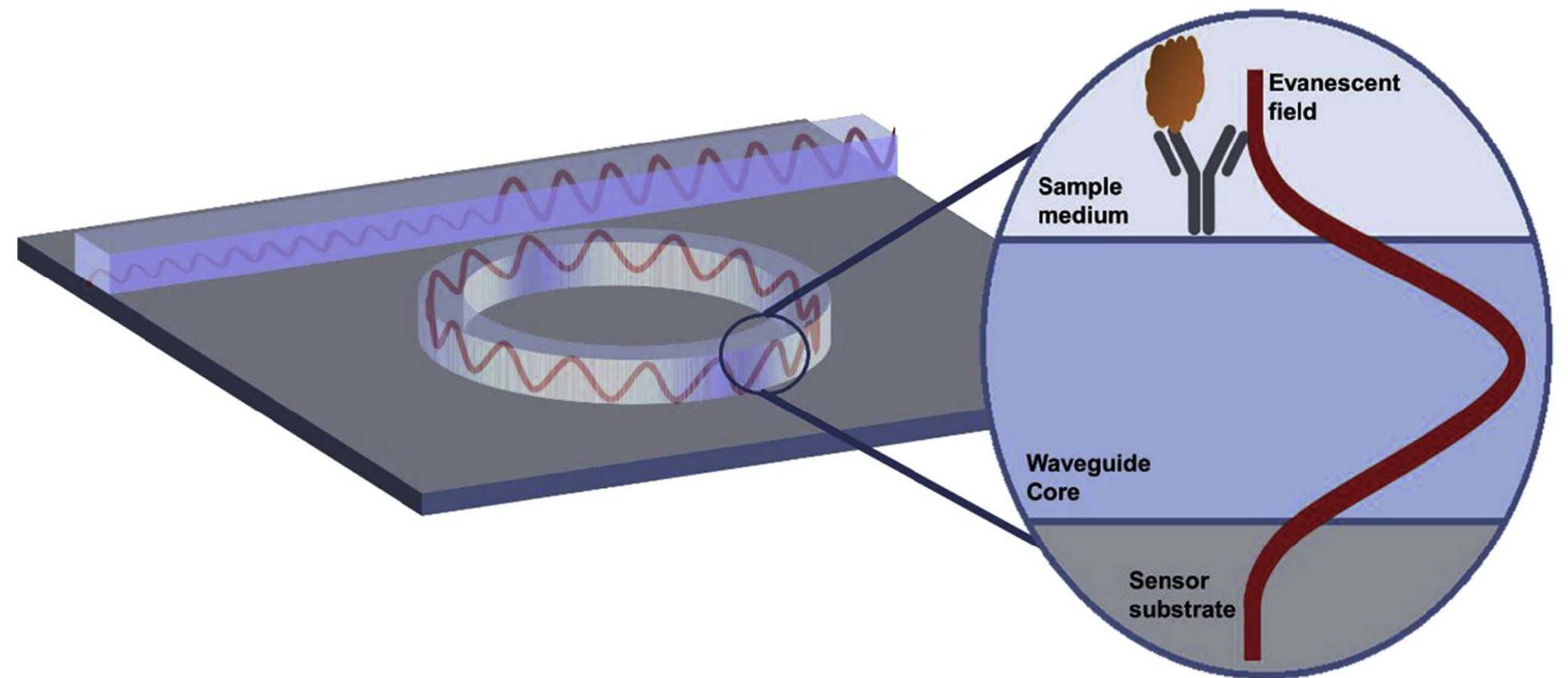
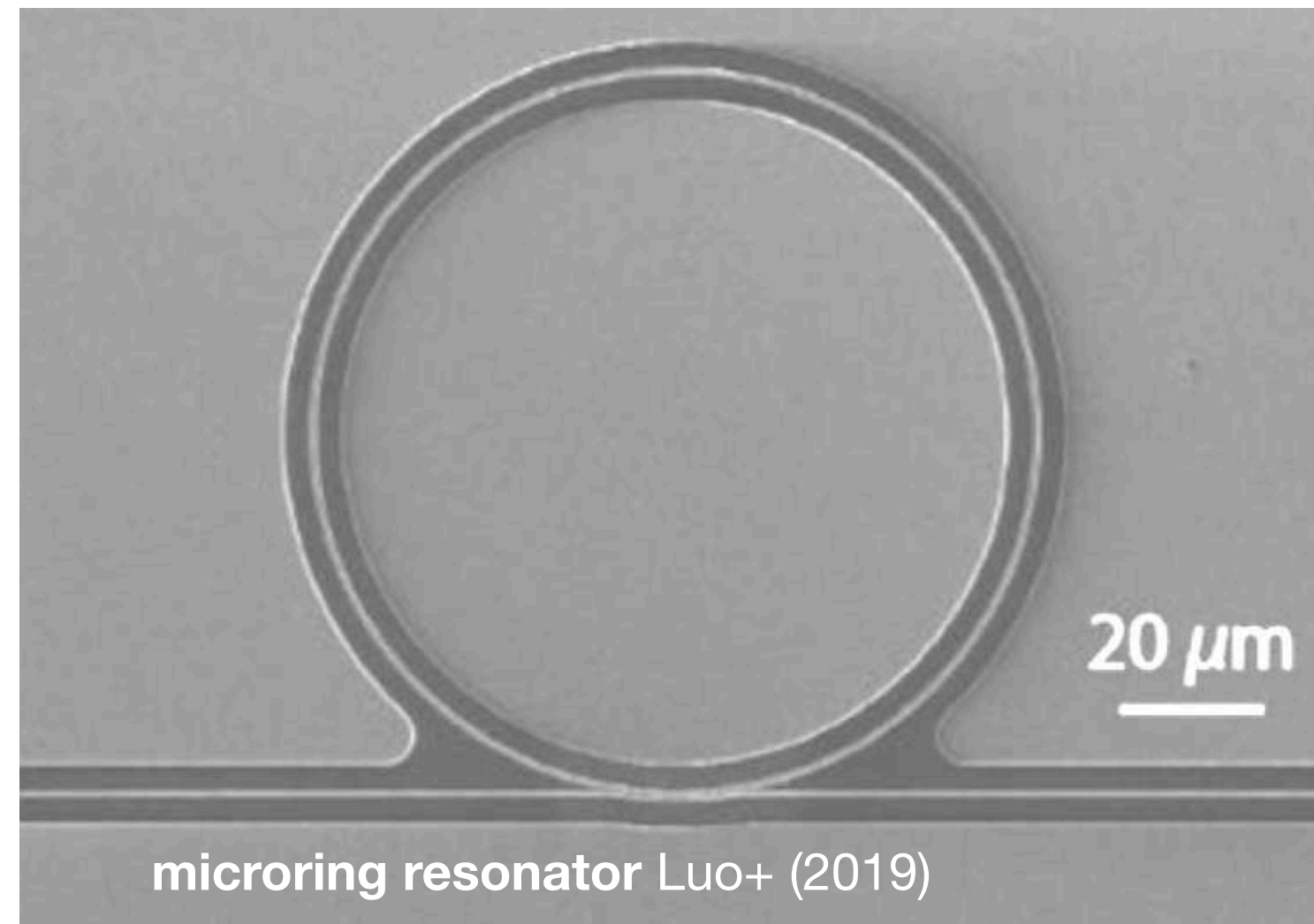
$$E_{\text{peak}} = 80 \text{ MVm}^{-1}$$

Axion Searches at Optical Frequency



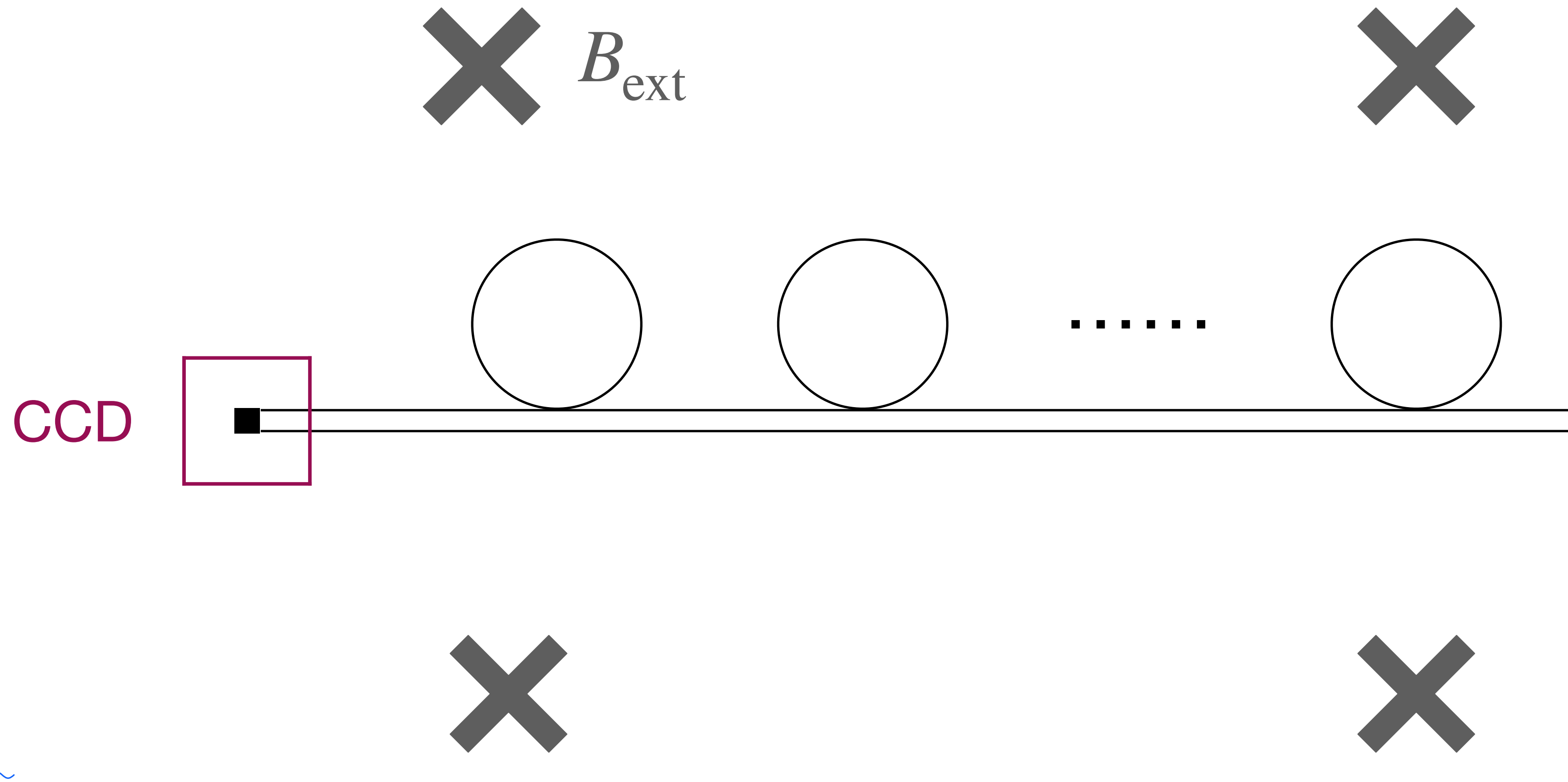
Axion Searches at Optical Frequency

Optical Cavity: eV



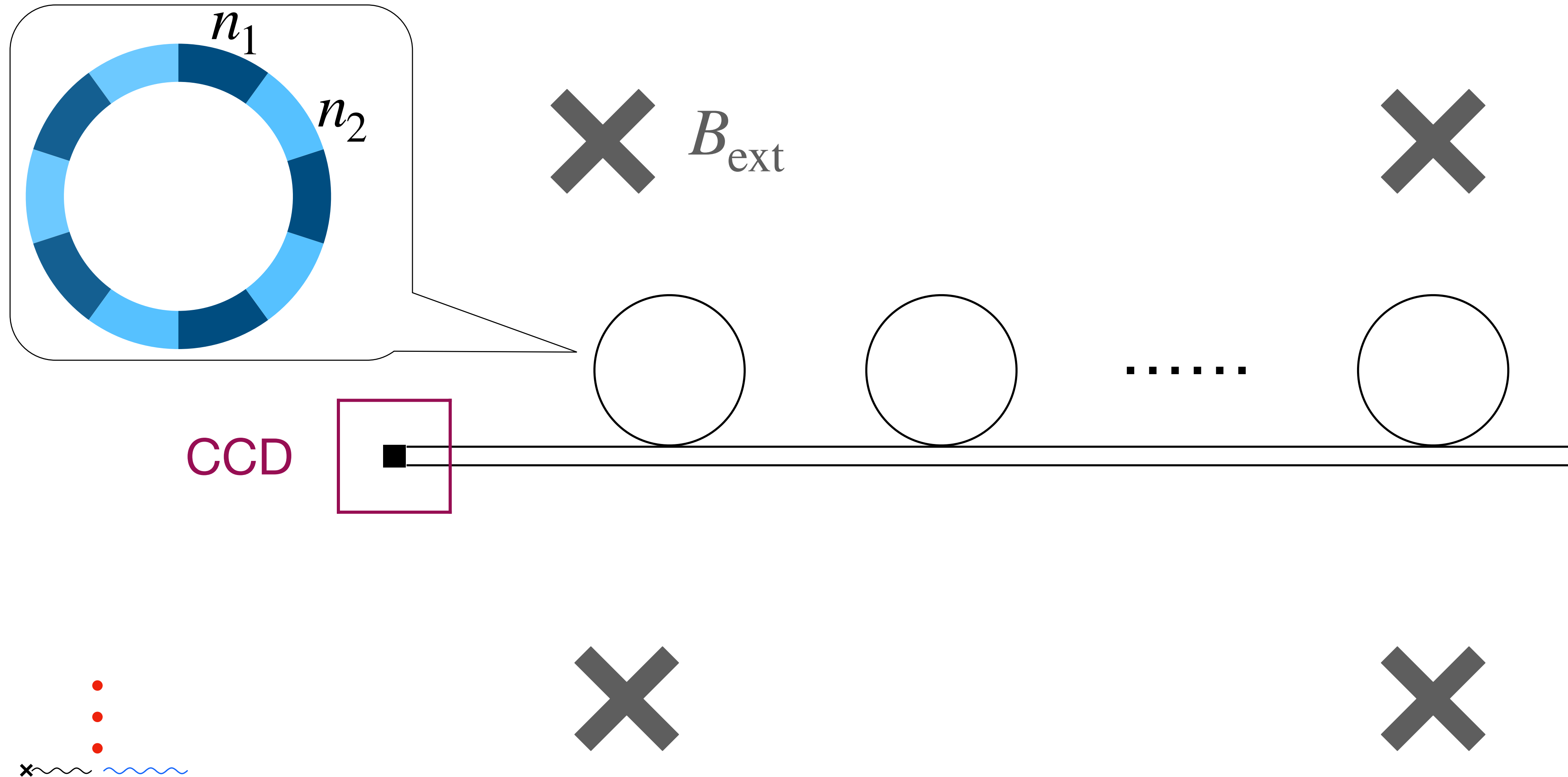
$Q \sim 10^7$
can be mass produced

Axion DM Searches on a Chip



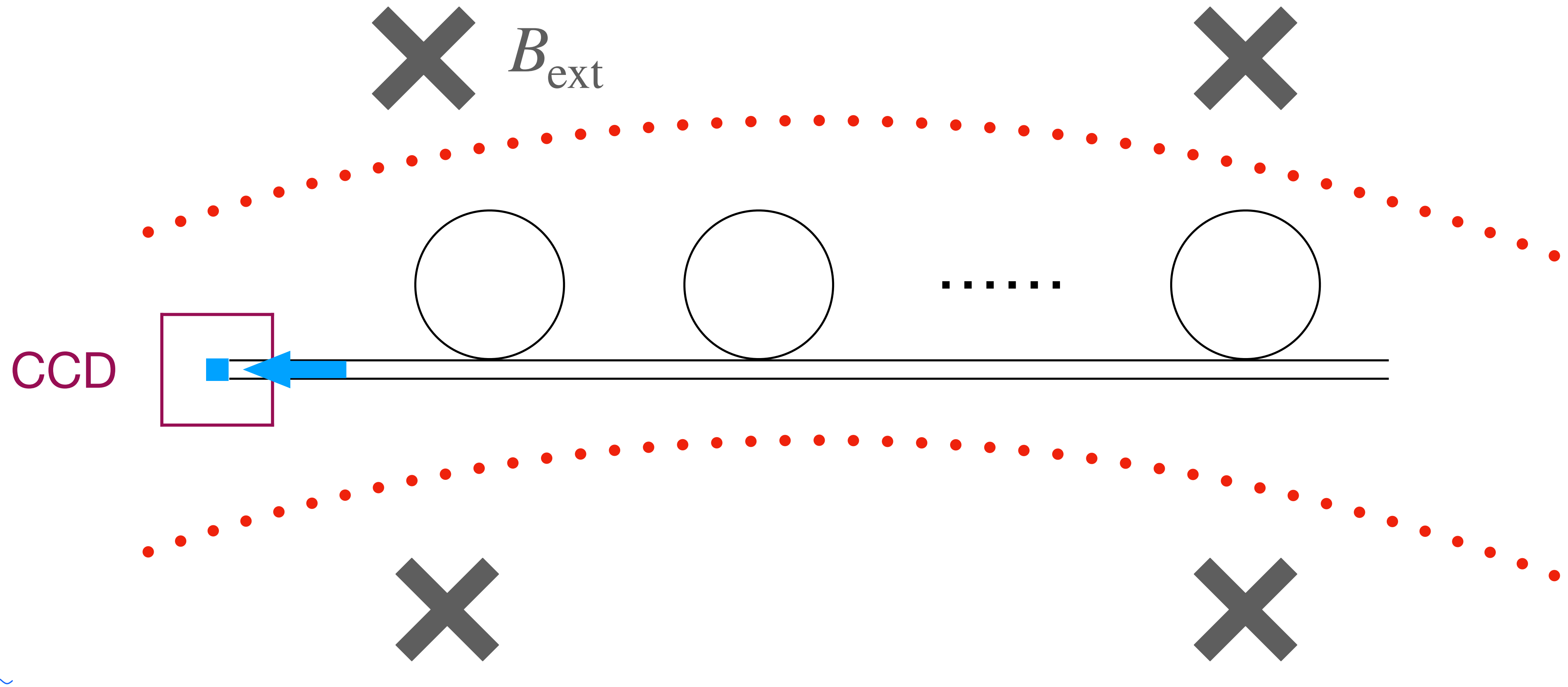
Signal photons can be resonantly produced if frequency and momentum match.

Axion DM Searches on a Chip



Signal photons can be resonantly produced if frequency and momentum match.

Axion DM Searches on a Chip

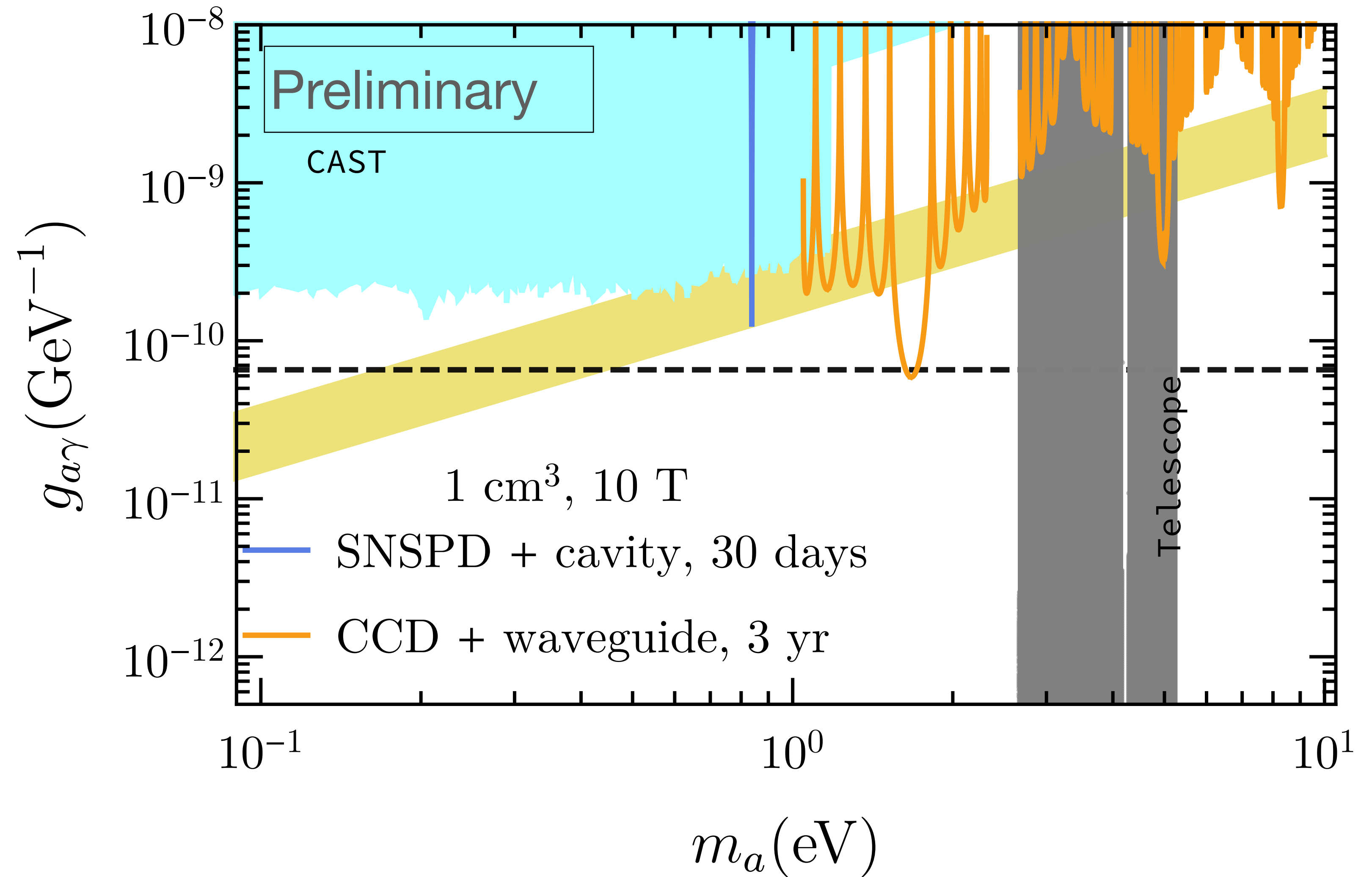


Signal photons can be resonantly produced if frequency and momentum match.

Axion DM Searches on a Chip

A million to a billion rings integrated
(printed) on to chips

Background: dark count



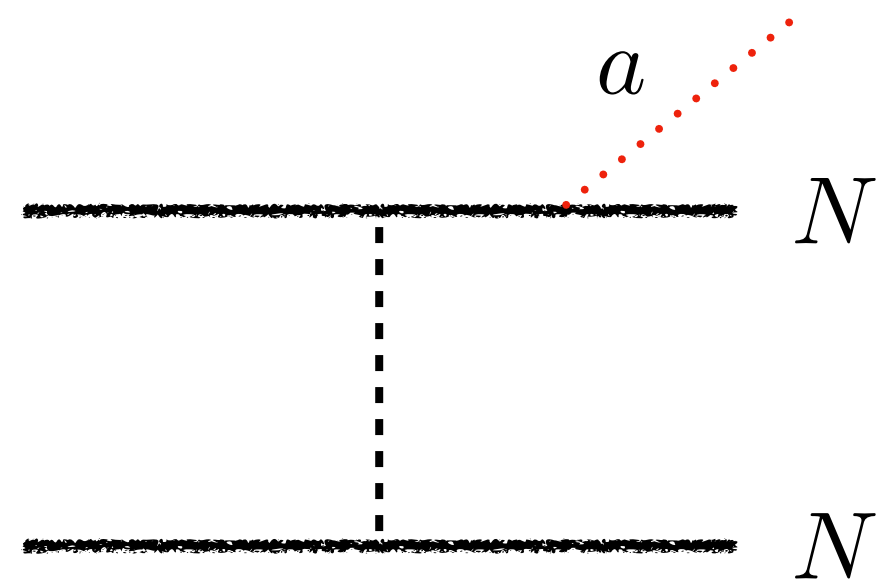
Axion Nucleon Coupling

Axions nucleon coupling

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} \supset g_{aN} \partial_{\mu} a \bar{N} \gamma^{\mu} \gamma^5 N \quad g_{aN} = \frac{1}{2f_a} c_N$$

- g_{aN} constrained by astrophysical processes, such as star cooling.

Beznogov et. al (2018) $g_{ann} < 2.8 \times 10^{-10} \text{GeV}^{-1}$ (90% C.L.) $m_a \ll 10 \text{keV}$



Axions couple to nuclear spins

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} \supset g_{aN} \partial_{\mu} a \bar{N} \gamma^{\mu} \gamma^5 N \quad g_{aN} = \frac{1}{2f_a} c_N$$

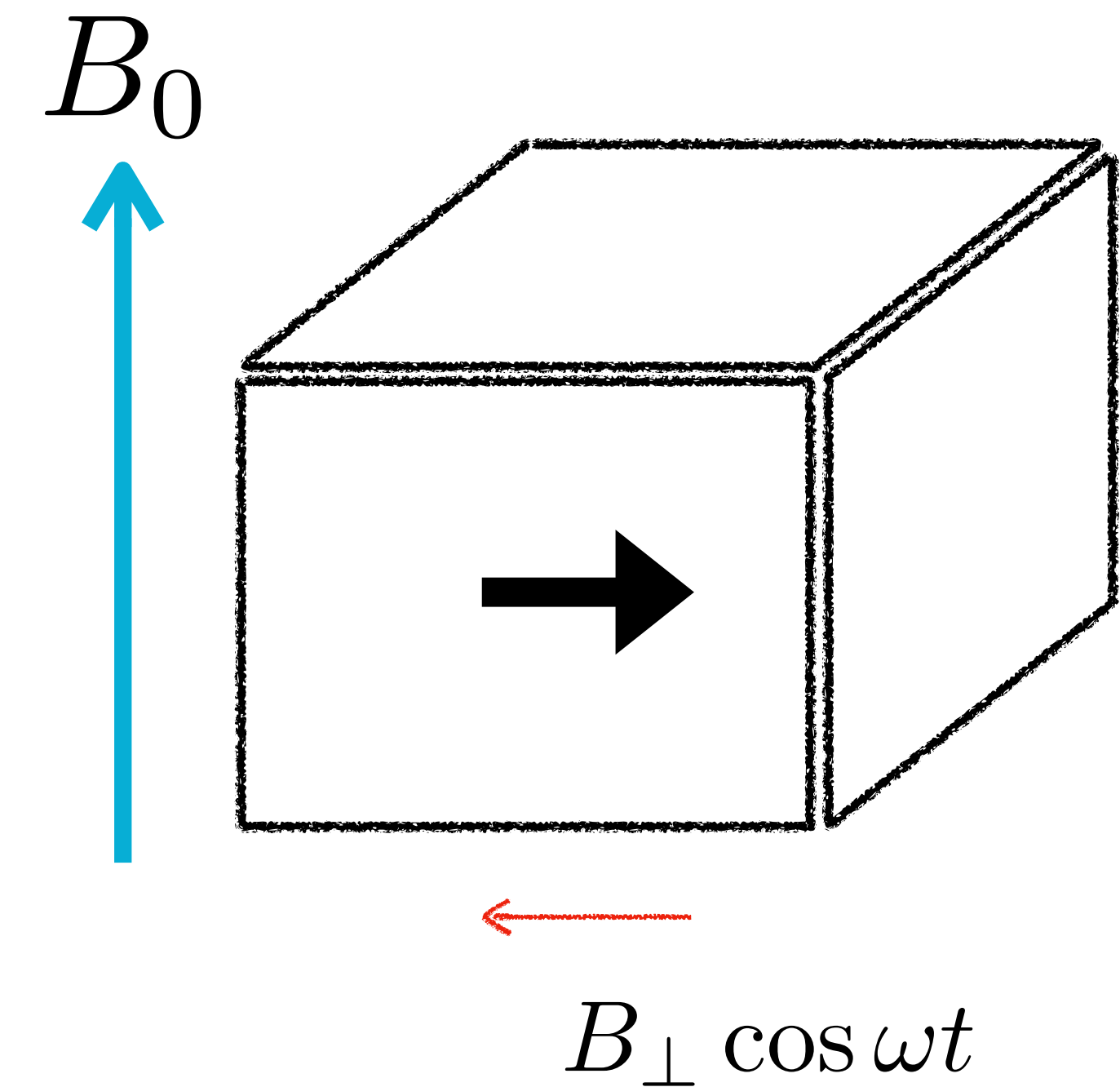
- g_{aN} allows us to search for axion DM using Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR).

$$H_{\text{eff}} \supset \vec{S} \cdot \underbrace{(g_{aN} \vec{\nabla} a)}_{\vec{B}_{a_{\text{DM}}}}$$
$$a_{\text{DM}}(t) \sim a_0 \cos(m_a t)$$

$$\vec{B}_{a_{\text{DM}}} \sim 10^{-16} \text{T} \left(\frac{g_{aN}}{10^{-10} \text{GeV}^{-1}} \right)$$

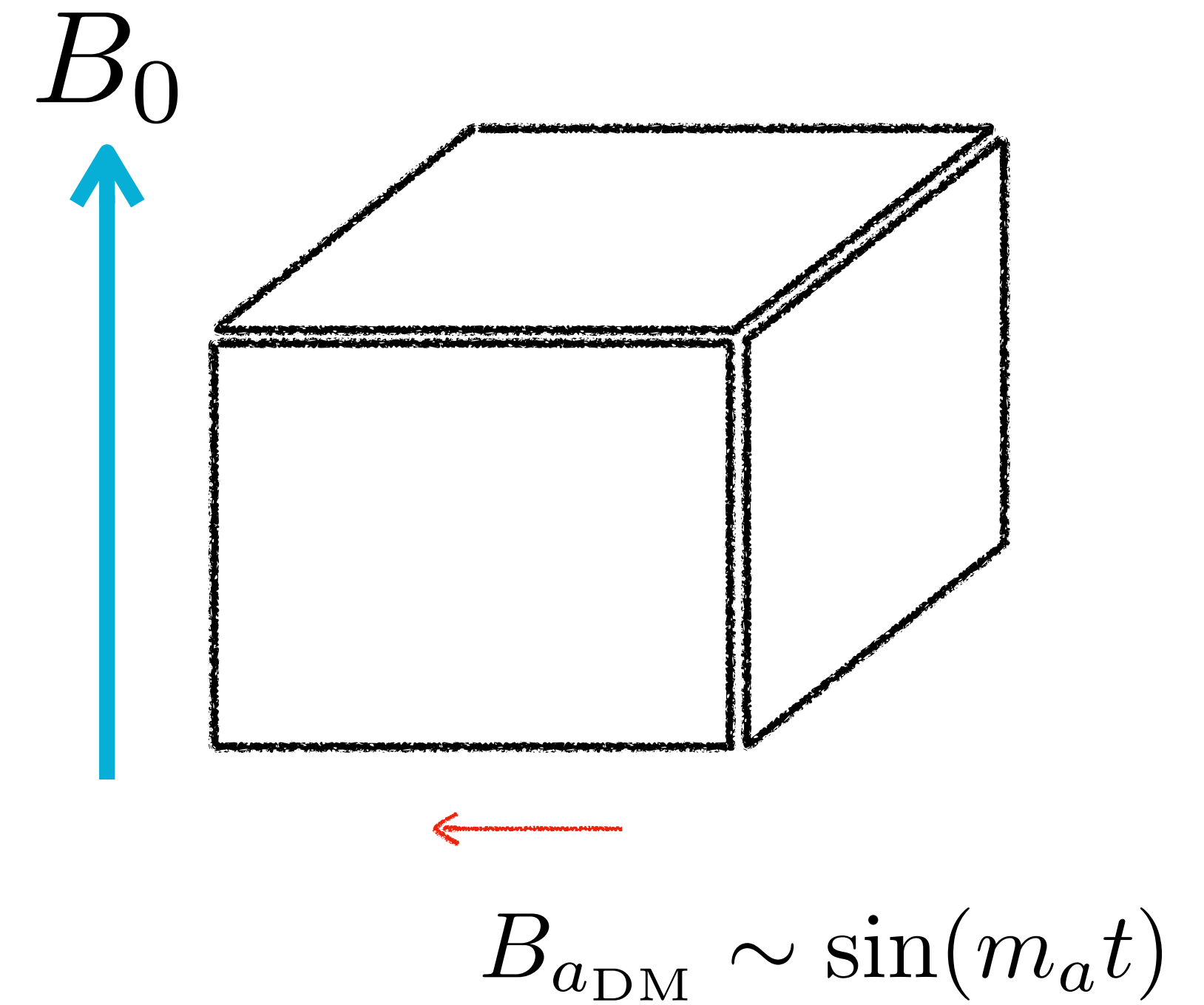
Nuclear magnetic resonance

- Resonance condition: $\omega = \omega_L = \gamma B_0$



NMR: axion DM search

- Tune B_0 to match axion mass with Larmor frequency ω_L



NMR: axion DM search

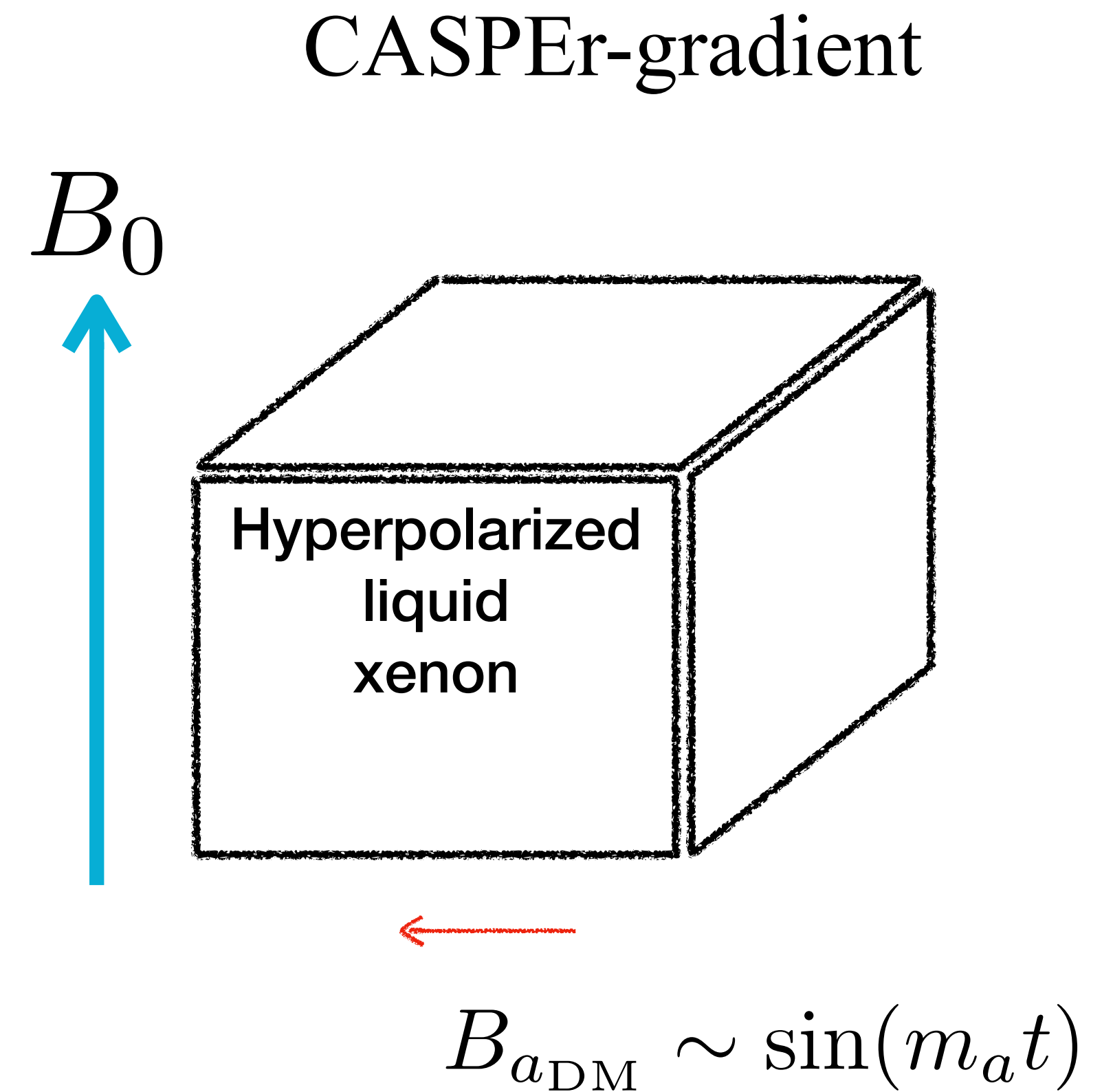
- Tune B_0 to match axion mass with Larmor frequency ω_L

- CASPER-gradient

$$g_{aN} < 5 \times 10^{-5} \text{GeV}^{-1} \text{ (95\% C.L.)}$$

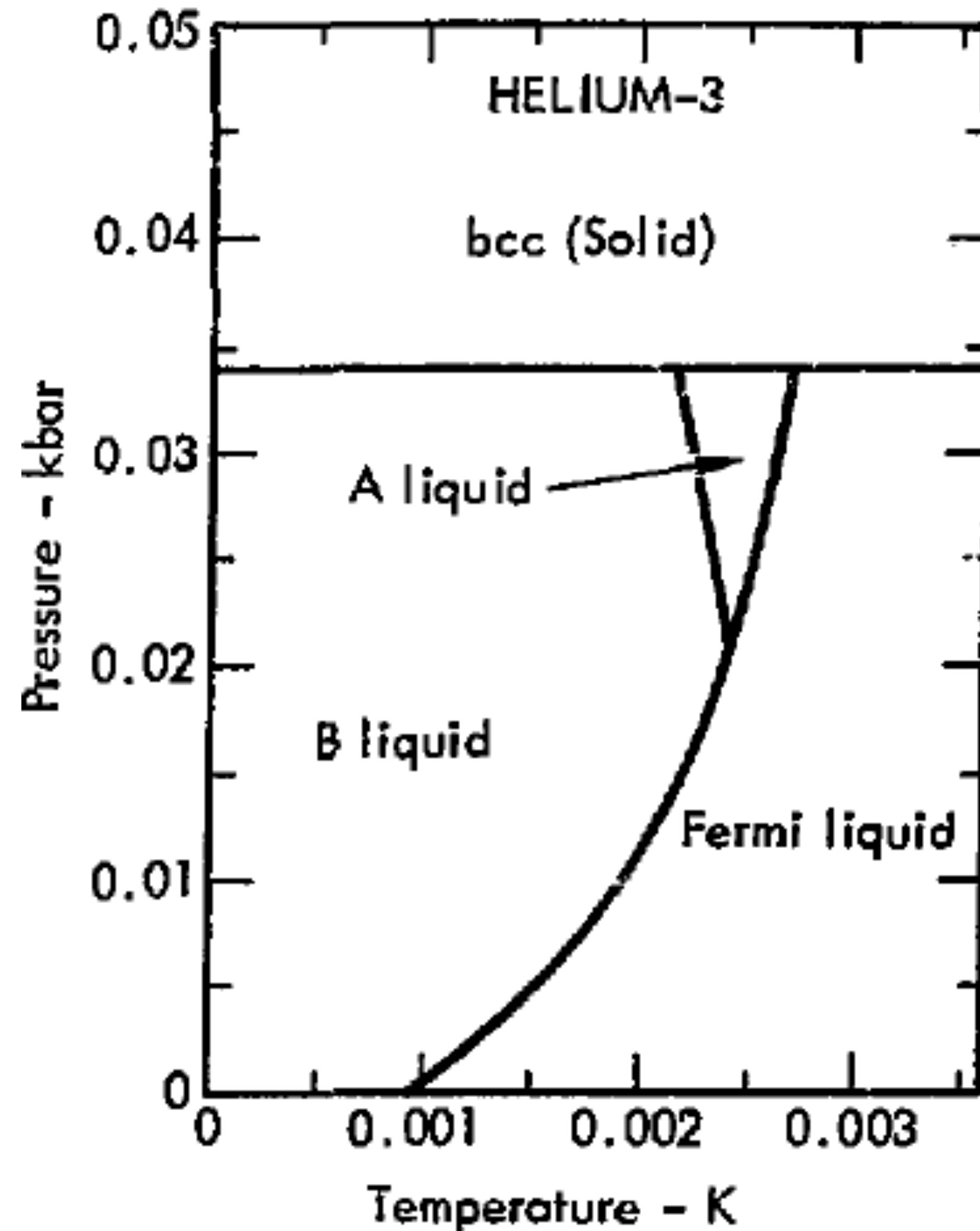
$$m_a \in (1e-22, 1.3e-17) \cup (1.8e-16, 7.8e-14) \text{eV}$$

- Many challenges to improve sensitivity, but direct evidence of g_{aN} is crucial for testing QCD axion.



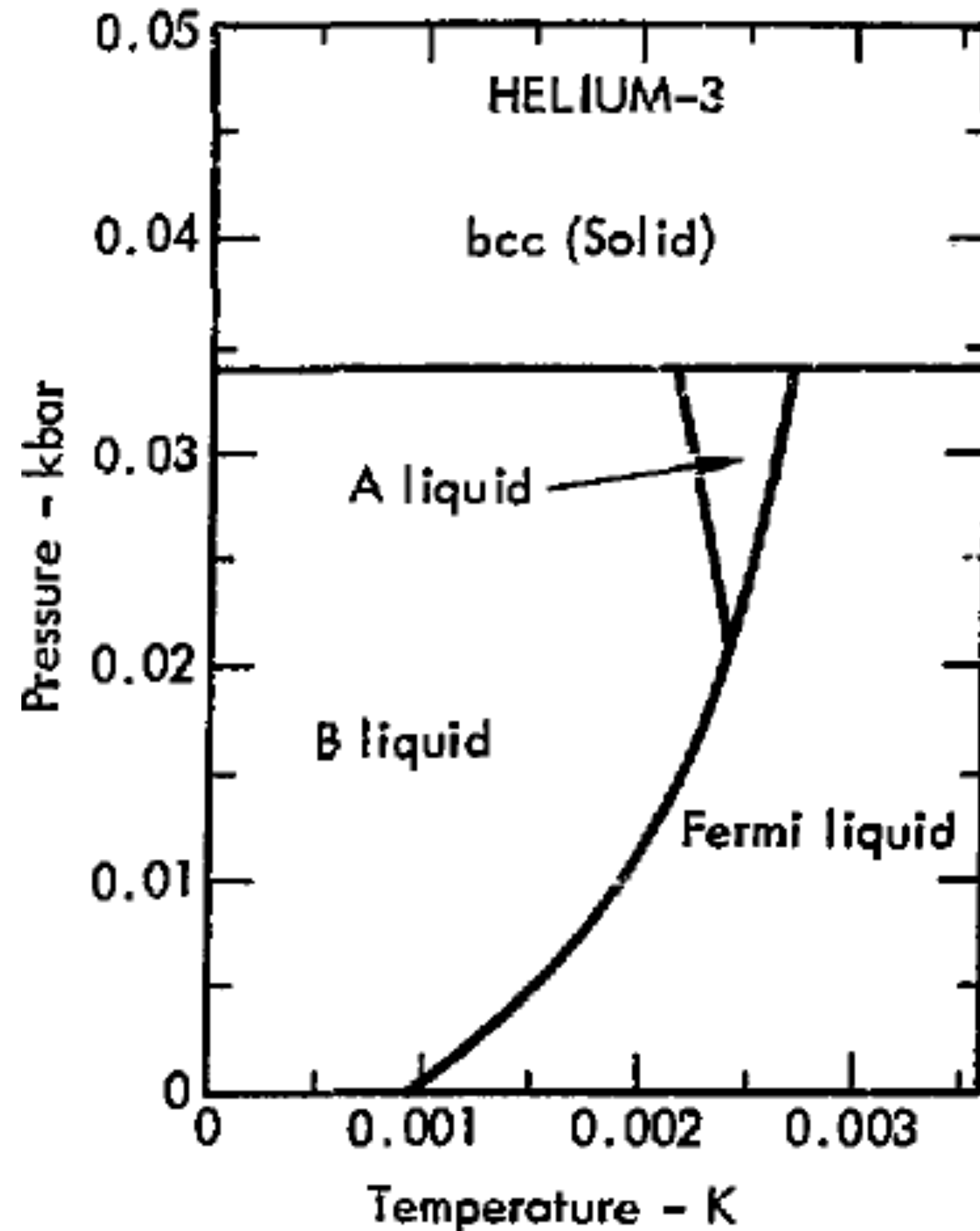
Superfluid Helium 3

Properties of ^3He



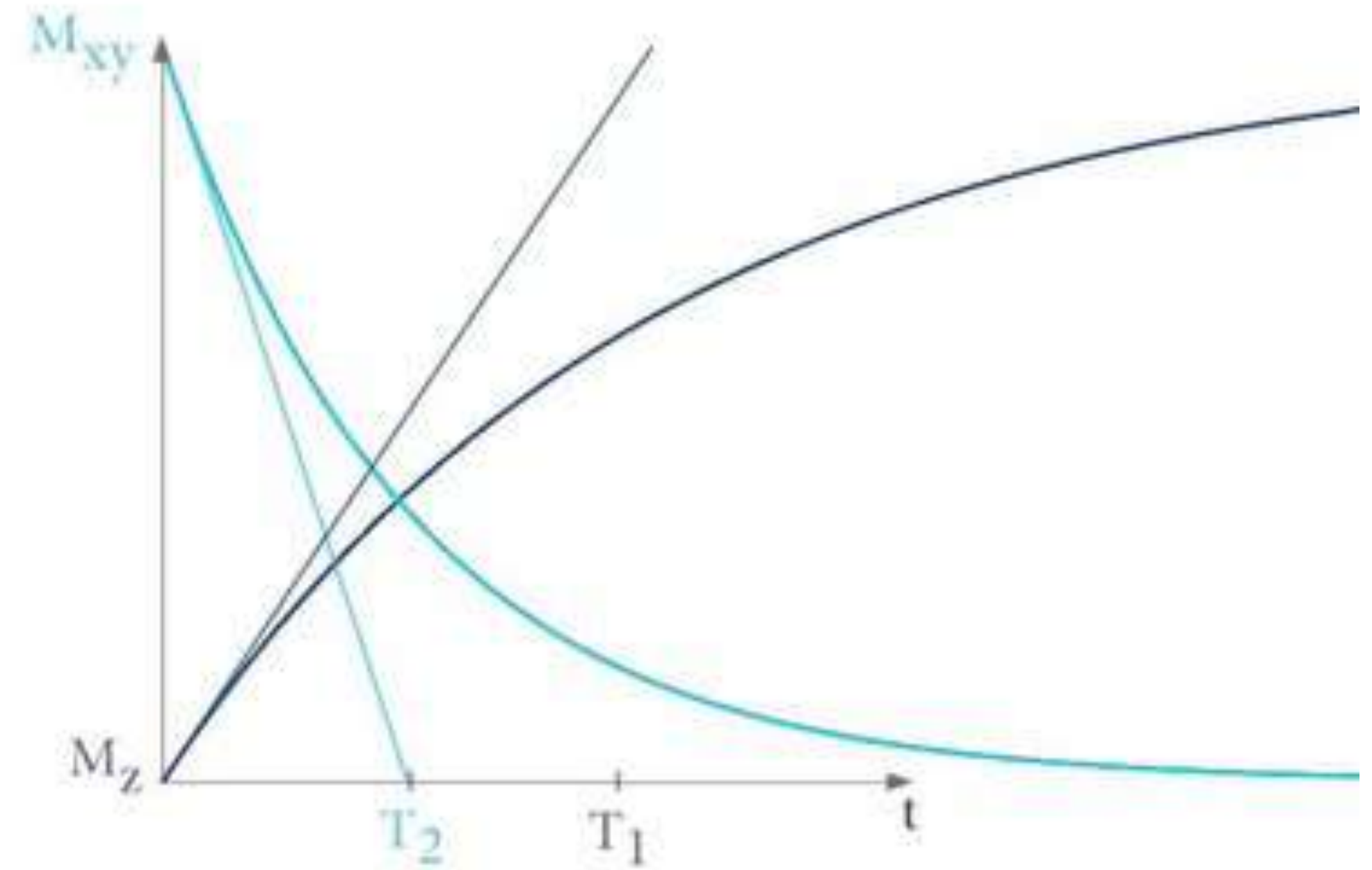
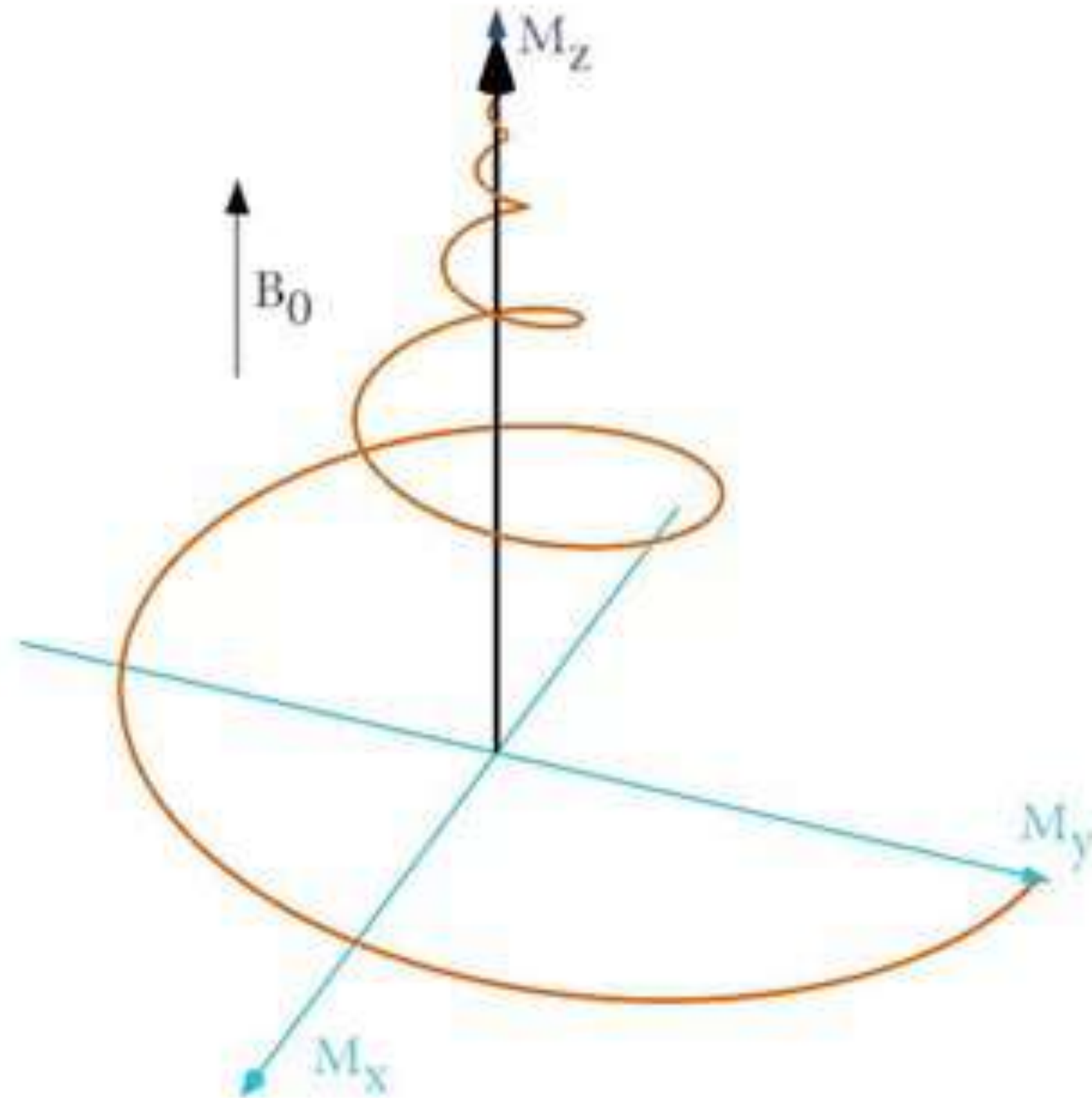
- Spin 1/2
- Very low temperature, superfluid phase (~ Bose Einstein Condensate)

Properties of ^3He



- Spin 1/2
- Very low temperature, superfluid phase (\sim Bose Einstein Condensate)
- Cooper pairs: $S = 1$ $L = 1$ magnons
- Our setup is based on the B phase, almost a perfect magnon BEC

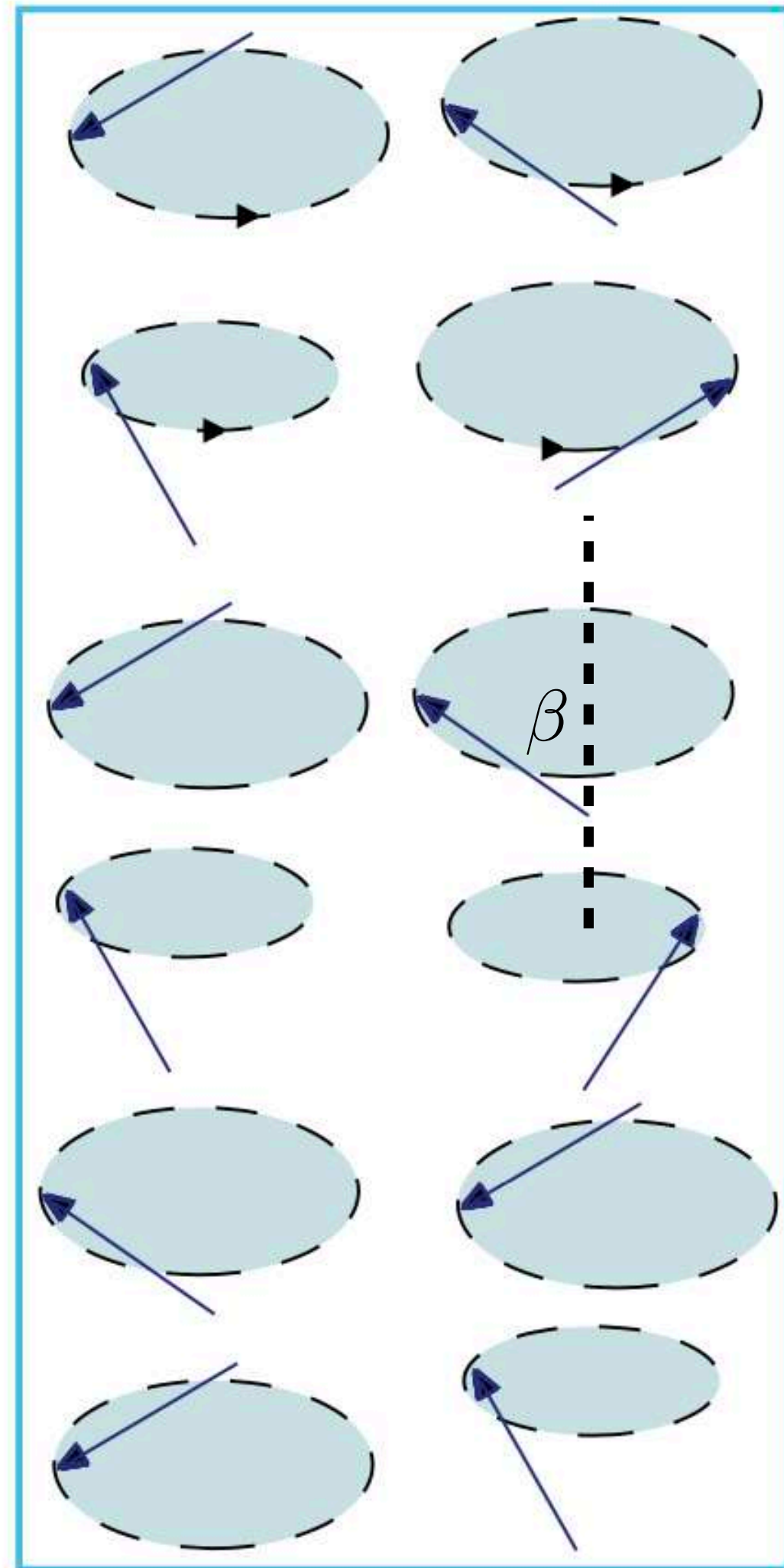
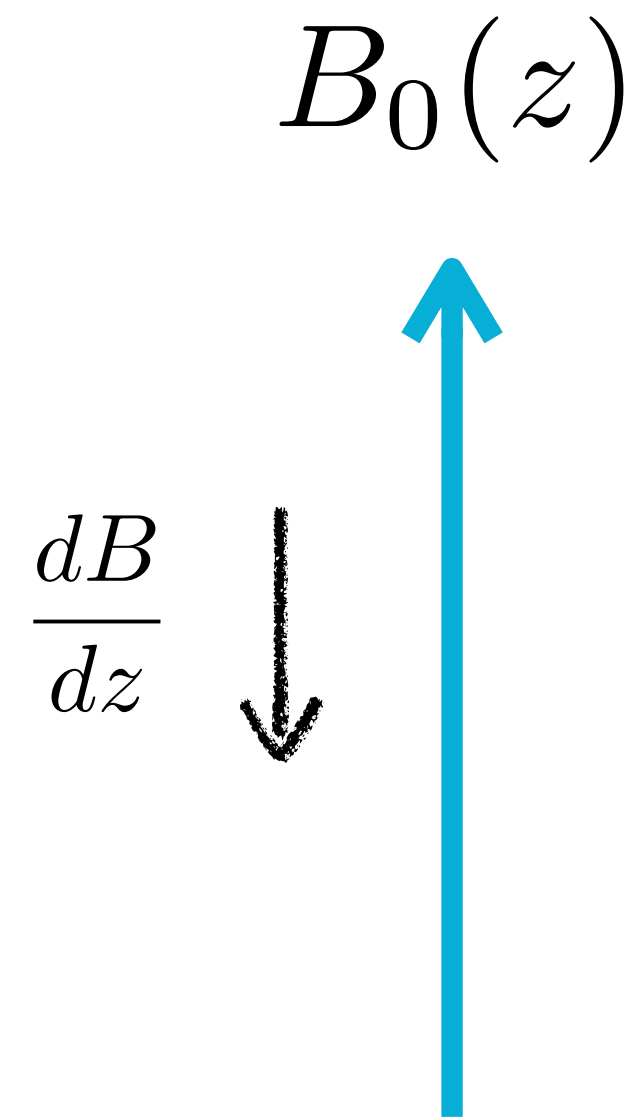
Pulsed NMR



Pulsed NMR with $^3\text{He} - \text{B}$

Bonkov & Volovik (2018)

pumping N magnons

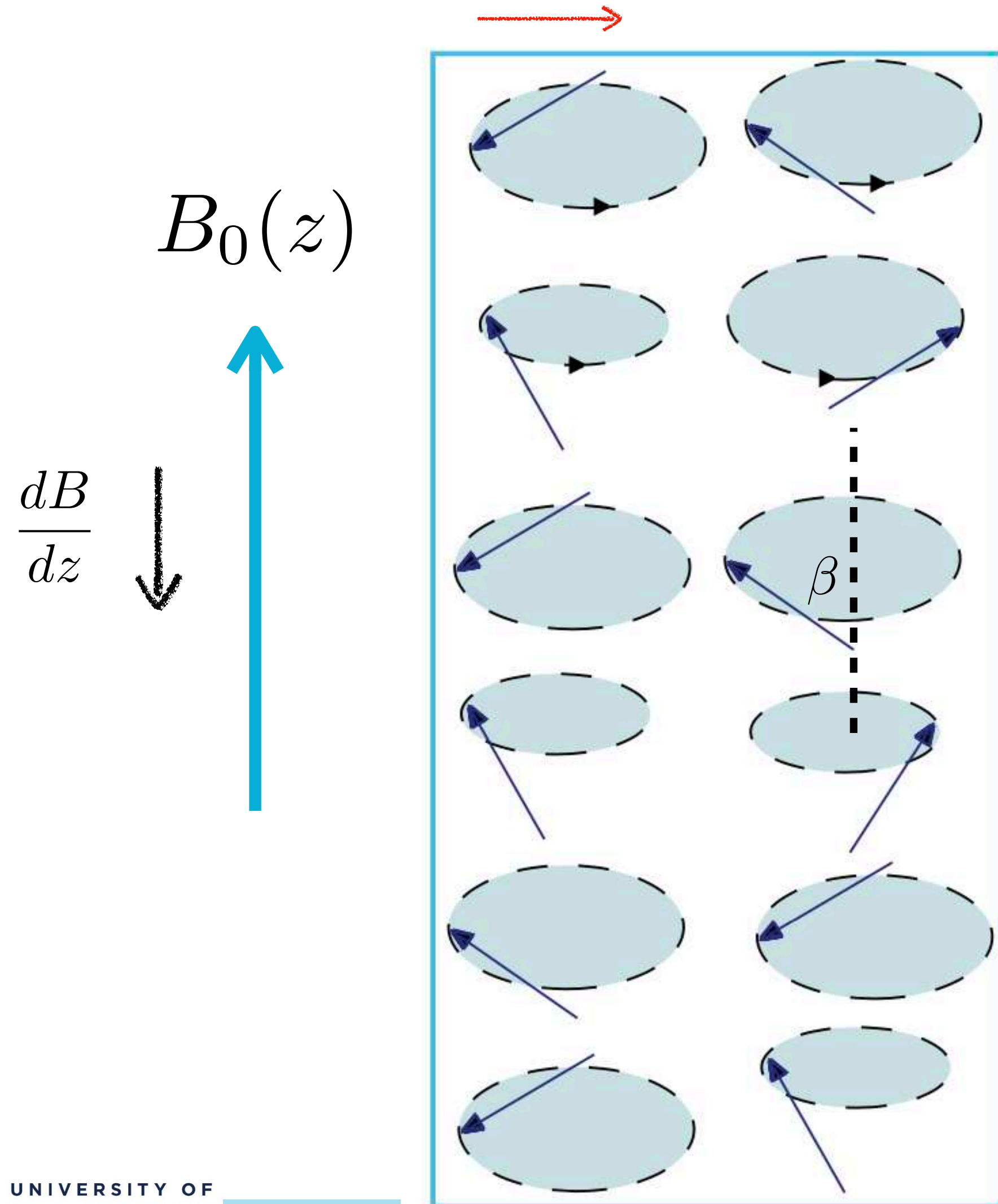


$$N = Vn, \quad n \propto 1 - \cos \beta$$

Pulsed NMR with $^3\text{He} - \text{B}$

Bonkov & Volovik (2018)

pumping N magnons



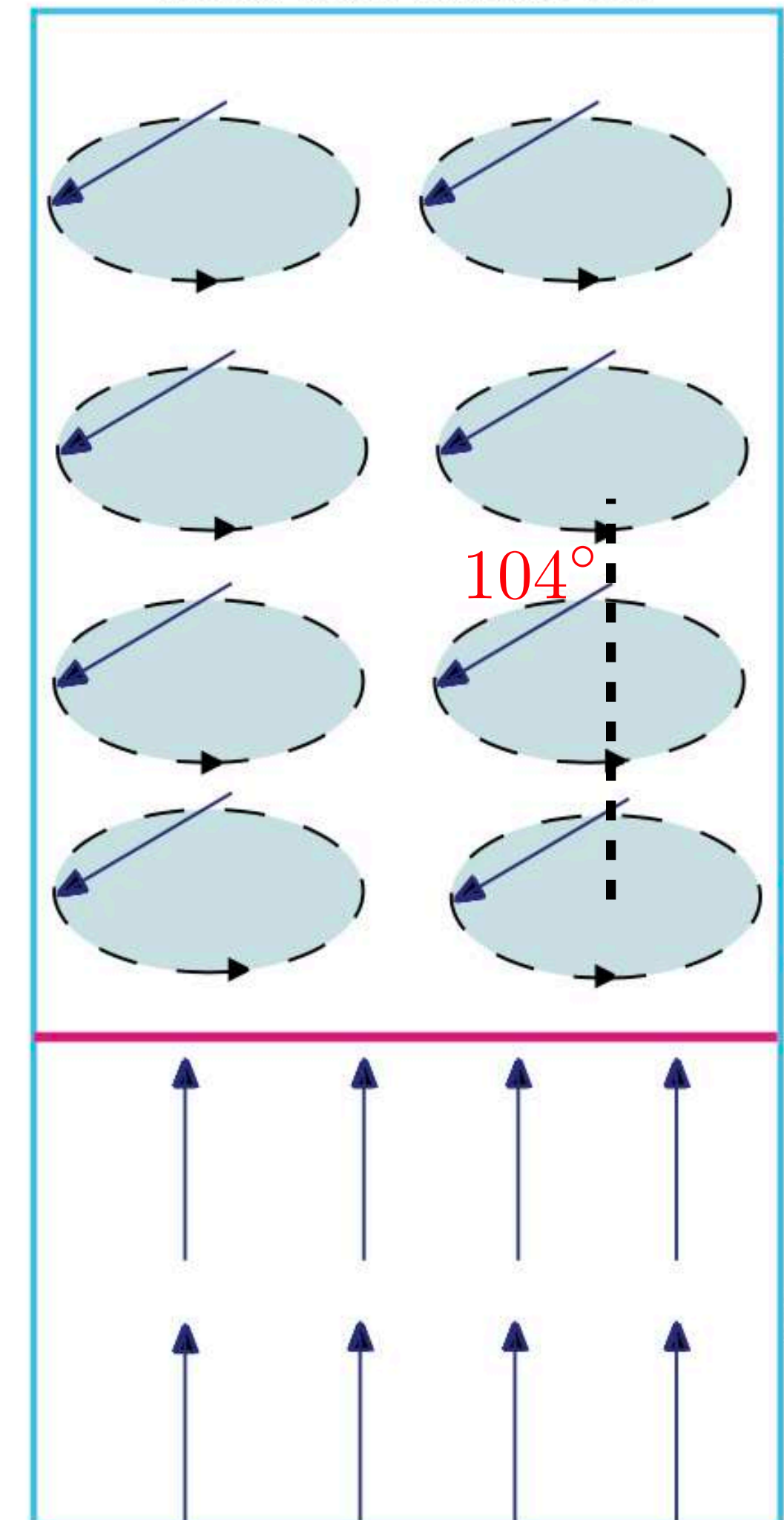
$$N = Vn, \quad n \propto 1 - \cos \beta$$

Fomin (1984)

$$V_{\text{HPD}} = \frac{N}{n_c}, \quad n_c \propto 1 - \cos 104^\circ$$

Leggett angle

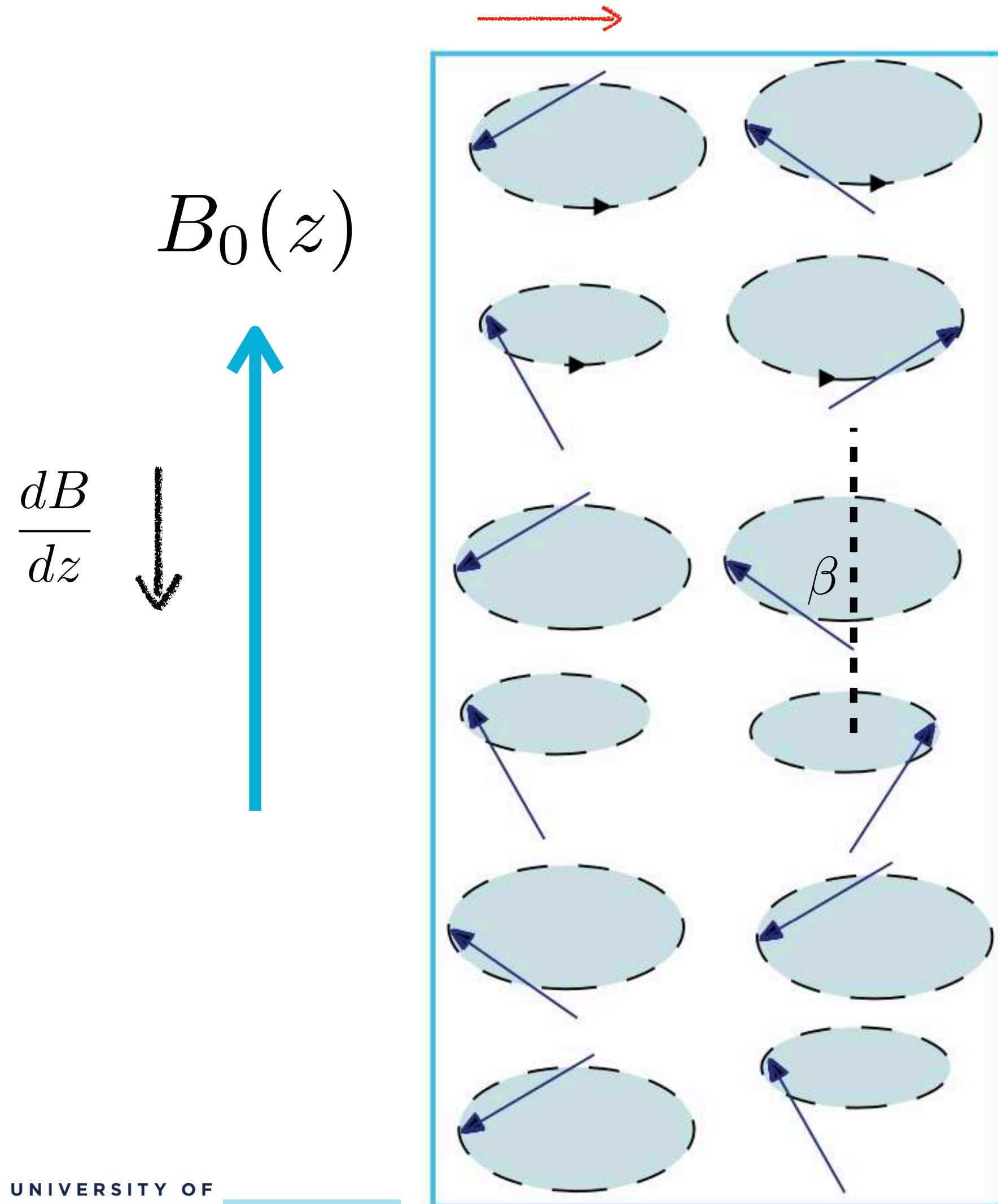
magnon BEC formed with the same N



Pulsed NMR with $^3\text{He} - \text{B}$

Bonkov & Volovik (2018)

pumping N magnons



$$N = Vn, \quad n \propto 1 - \cos \beta$$

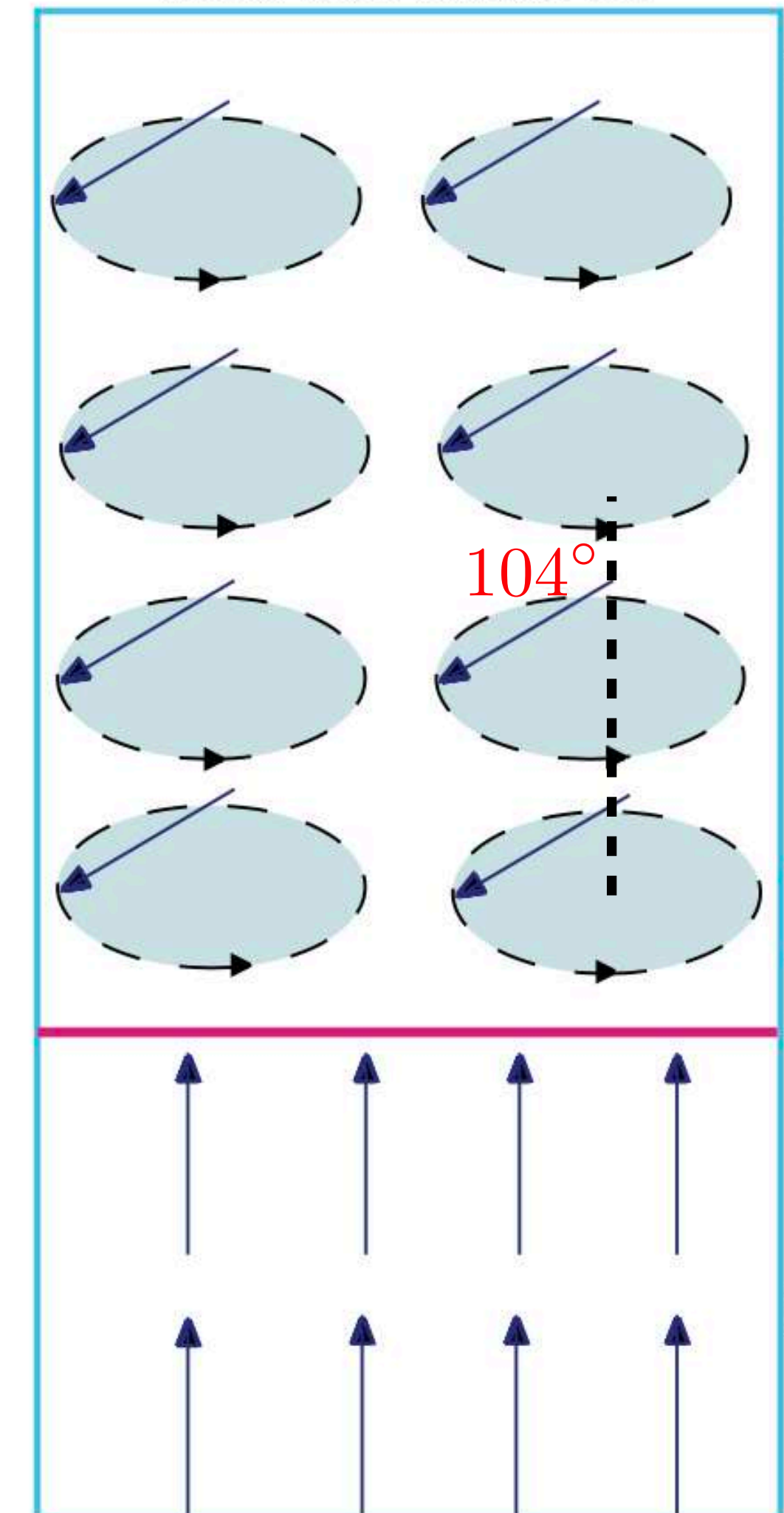
Fomin (1984)

$$V_{\text{HPD}} = \frac{N}{n_c}, \quad n_c \propto 1 - \cos 104^\circ$$

Leggett angle

$$\omega_L = \gamma B(z_{\text{wall}})$$

magnon BEC formed
with the same N



Pulsed NMR with $^3\text{He} - \text{B}$

coherent decay of BEC:
N decreases
 V_{HPD} **decreases**

Bonkov & Volovik (2018)

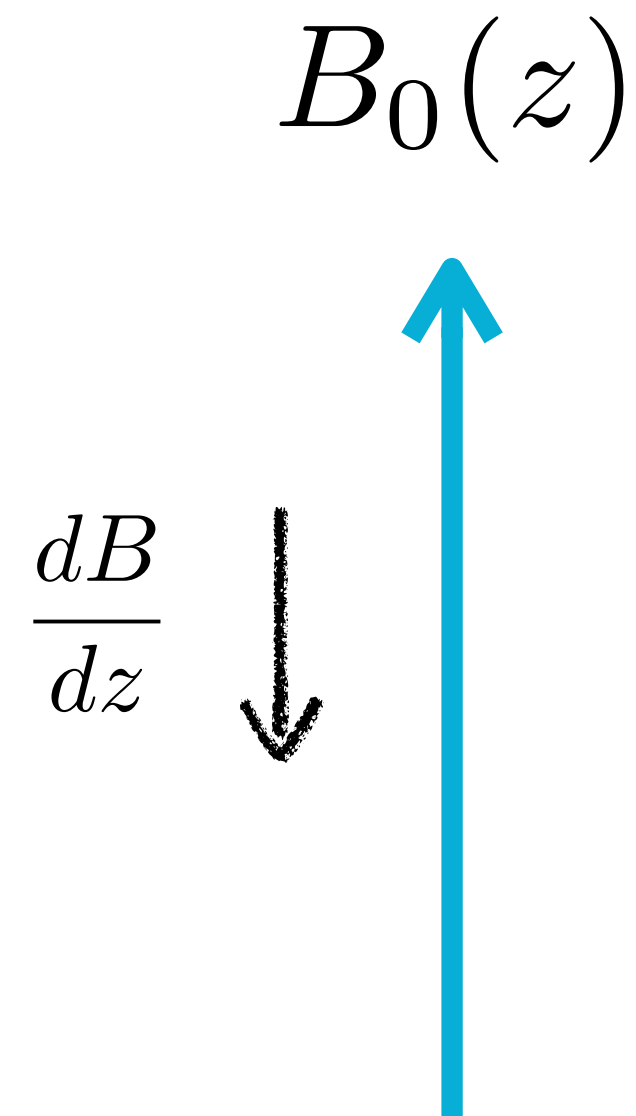
$$N = Vn, \quad n \propto 1 - \cos \beta$$

Fomin (1984)

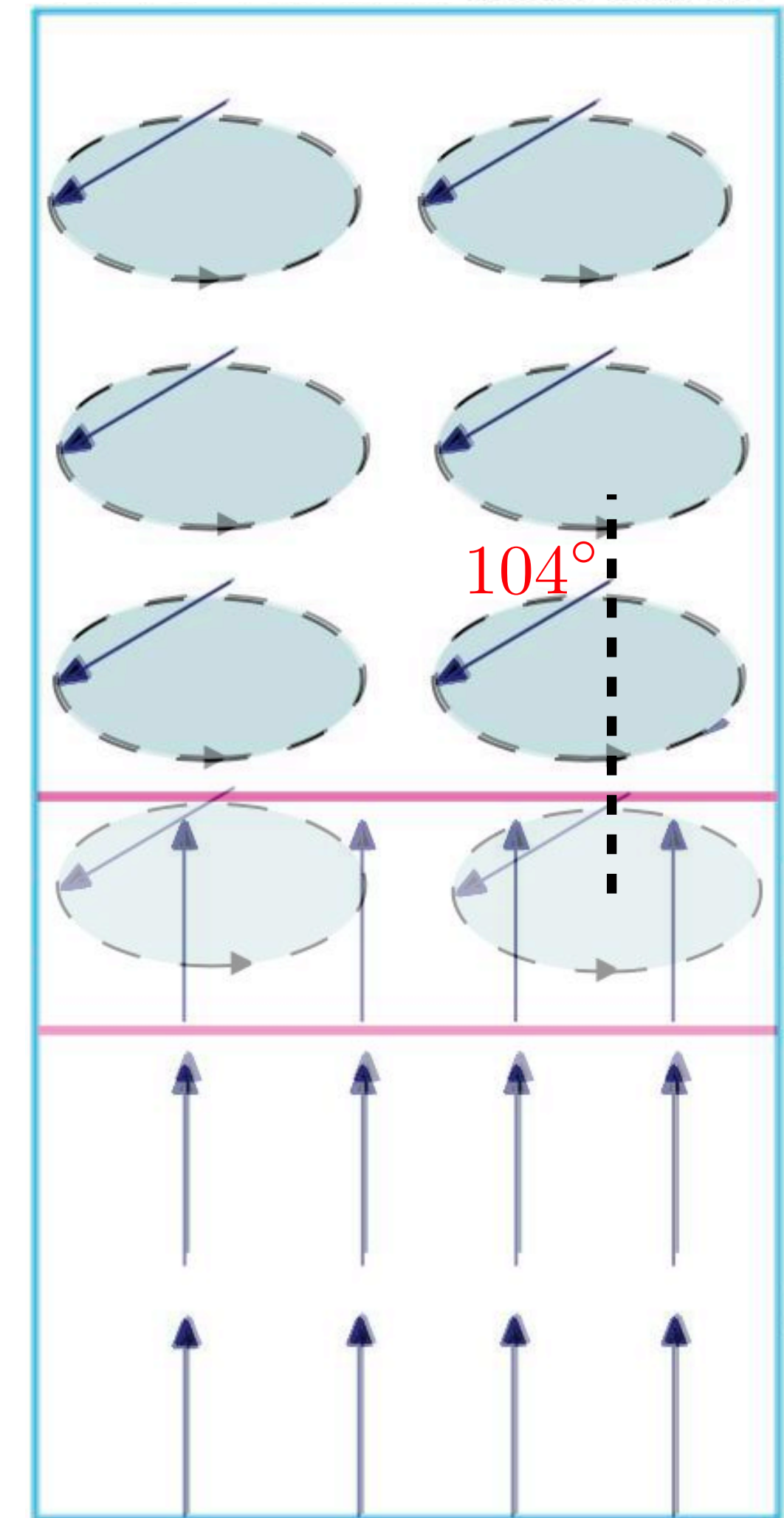
$$V_{\text{HPD}} = \frac{N}{n_c}, \quad n_c \propto 1 - \cos 104^\circ$$

Leggett angle

$$\omega_L = \gamma B(z_{\text{wall}})$$



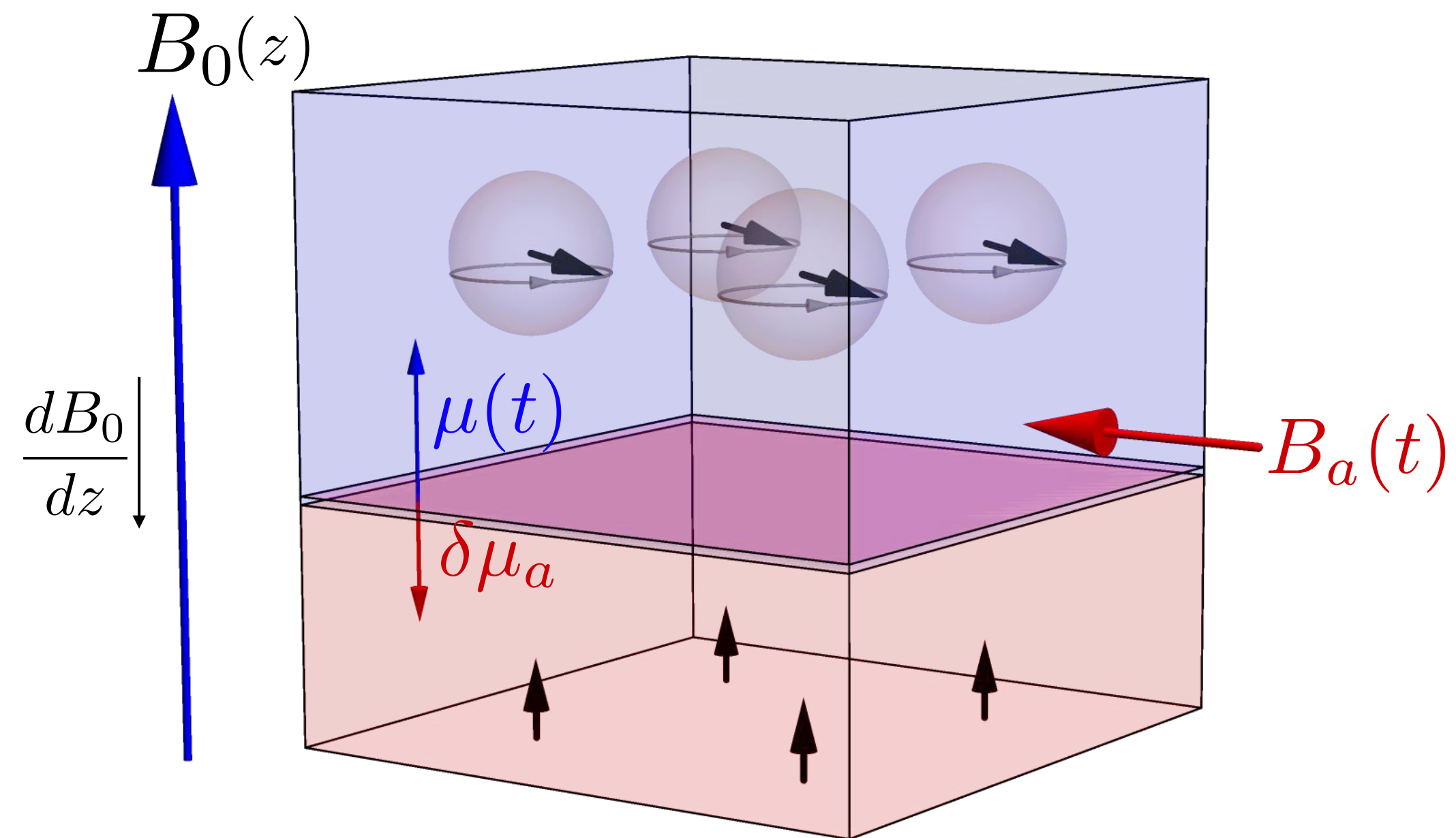
Decay of HPD $\rightarrow v_{\text{wall}} \rightarrow \omega_L(t)$



Adding axions

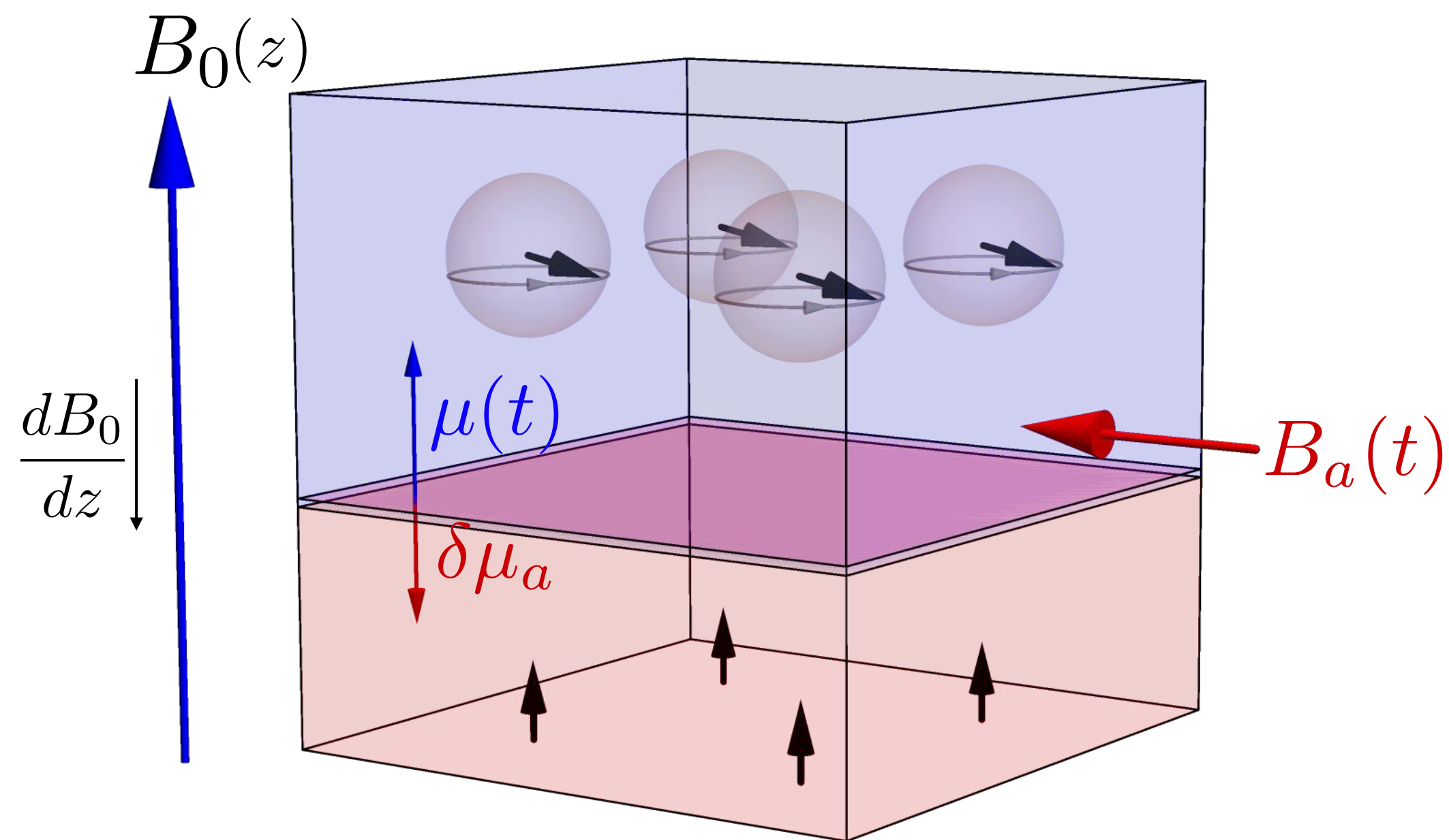
Axion DM detection with HPD

$$\vec{B}_{a\text{DM}} \sim \gamma^{-1} g_{aN} \vec{v} \sqrt{\rho_{\text{DM}}} \cos(m_a t + \phi_a)$$



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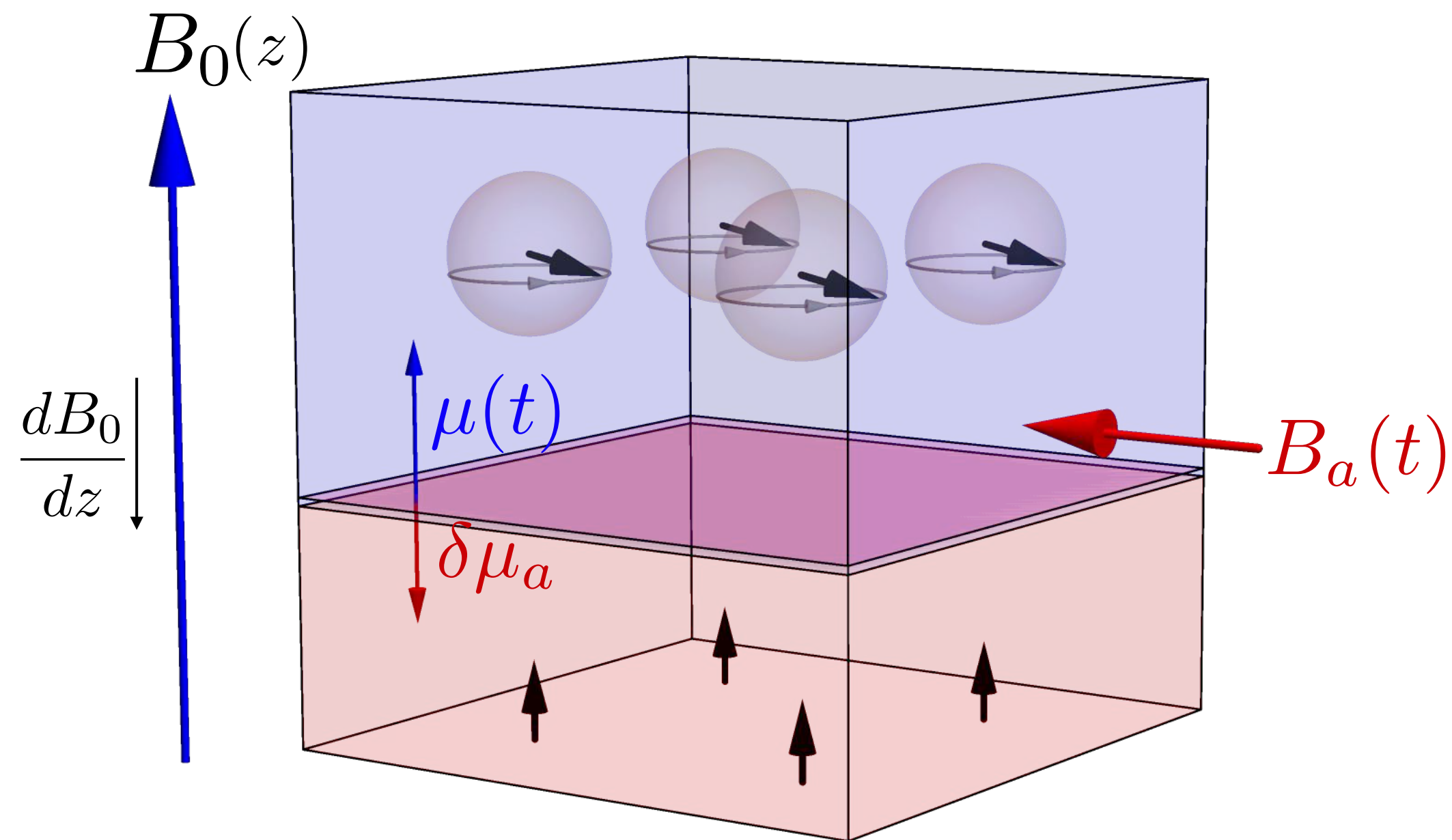


$$\frac{1}{N} \frac{dN}{dt} \sim -\frac{1}{T_1} - \gamma B_a \cos(m_a t + \phi_a) \sin(\omega_L(t)t)$$

- No axion: $N \sim e^{-t/T_1}$

Axion DM detection with HPD

$$\vec{B}_{a\text{DM}} \sim \gamma^{-1} g_{aN} \vec{v} \sqrt{\rho_{\text{DM}}} \cos(m_a t + \phi_a)$$



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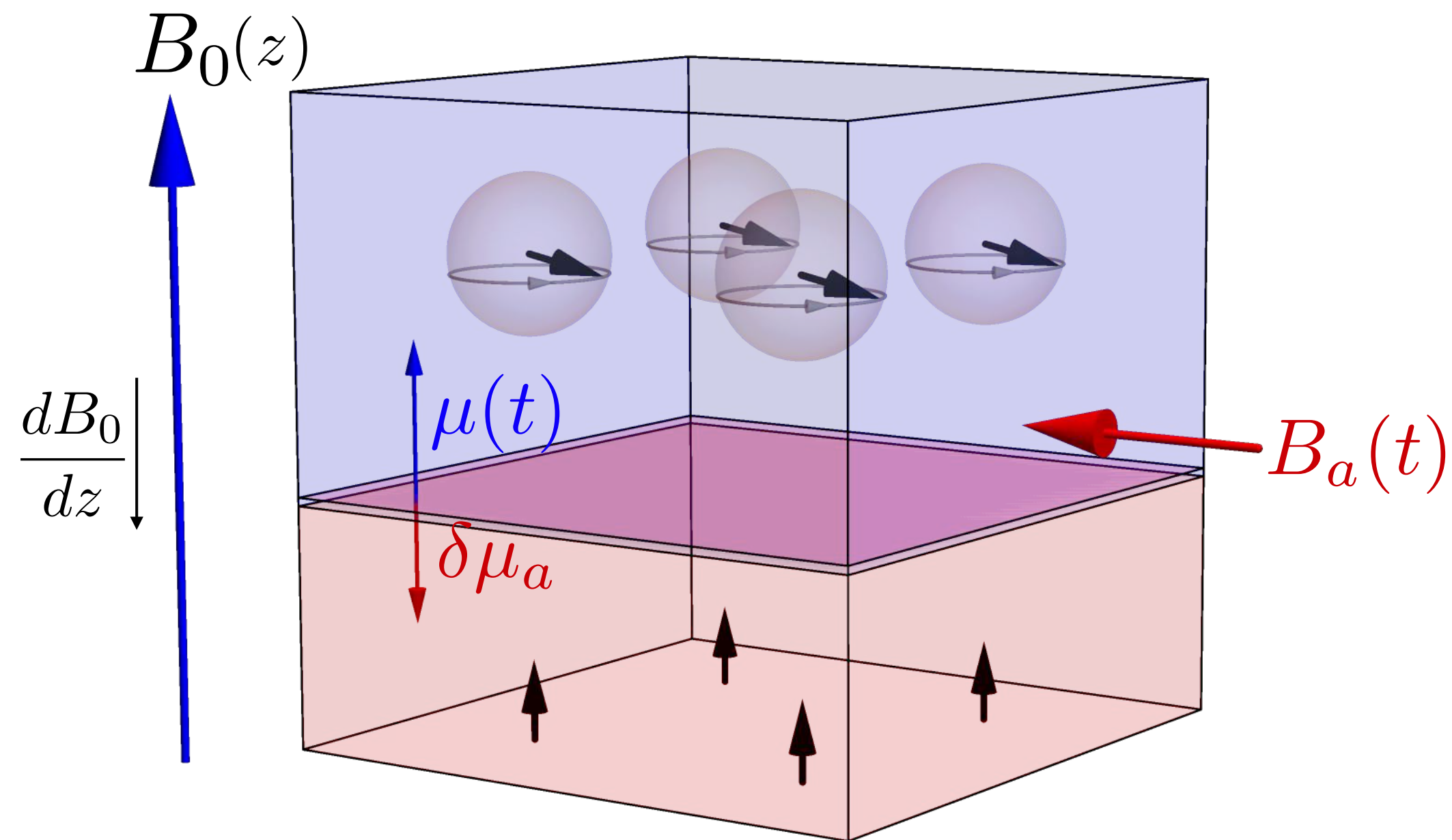
- No axion: $N \sim e^{-t/T_1}$
- When $\omega_L(t) = m_a \pm \Delta m_a$

$$N_a \sim \gamma B_a \tau_a \sin \phi_a$$

τ_a = axion coherence time

Axion DM detection with HPD

$$\vec{B}_{a\text{DM}} \sim \gamma^{-1} g_{aN} \vec{v} \sqrt{\rho_{\text{DM}}} \cos(m_a t + \phi_a)$$



$$\frac{1}{N} \frac{dN}{dt} \sim -\frac{1}{T_1} - \gamma B_a \cos(m_a t + \phi_a) \sin(\omega_L(t)t)$$

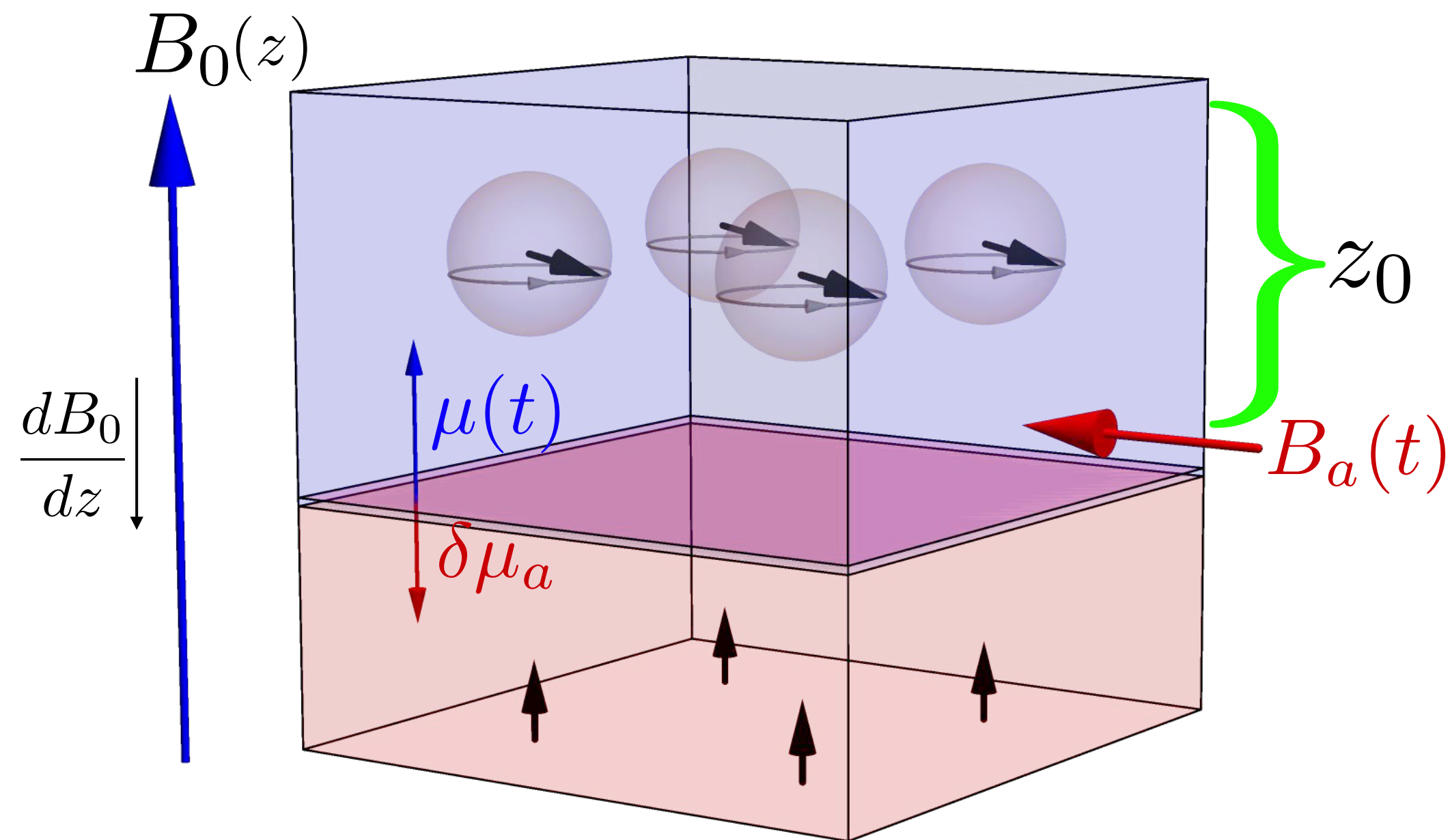
- No axion: $N \sim e^{-t/T_1}$
- When $\omega_L(t) = m_a \pm \Delta m_a$

$$N_a \sim \gamma B_a \tau_a \sin \phi_a$$

Since n_c is fixed by Leggett angle, $N_a \rightarrow \Delta V_{\text{HPD}} \rightarrow \Delta \omega_L$

Resonant frequency shift

$$\vec{B}_{a_{\text{DM}}} \sim \gamma^{-1} g_{aN} \vec{v} \sqrt{\rho_{\text{DM}}} \cos(m_a t + \phi_a)$$



$$\frac{\Delta\omega_L^{\text{DM}}}{\omega_L^0} \sim \gamma B_a \alpha z_0 \tau_a$$

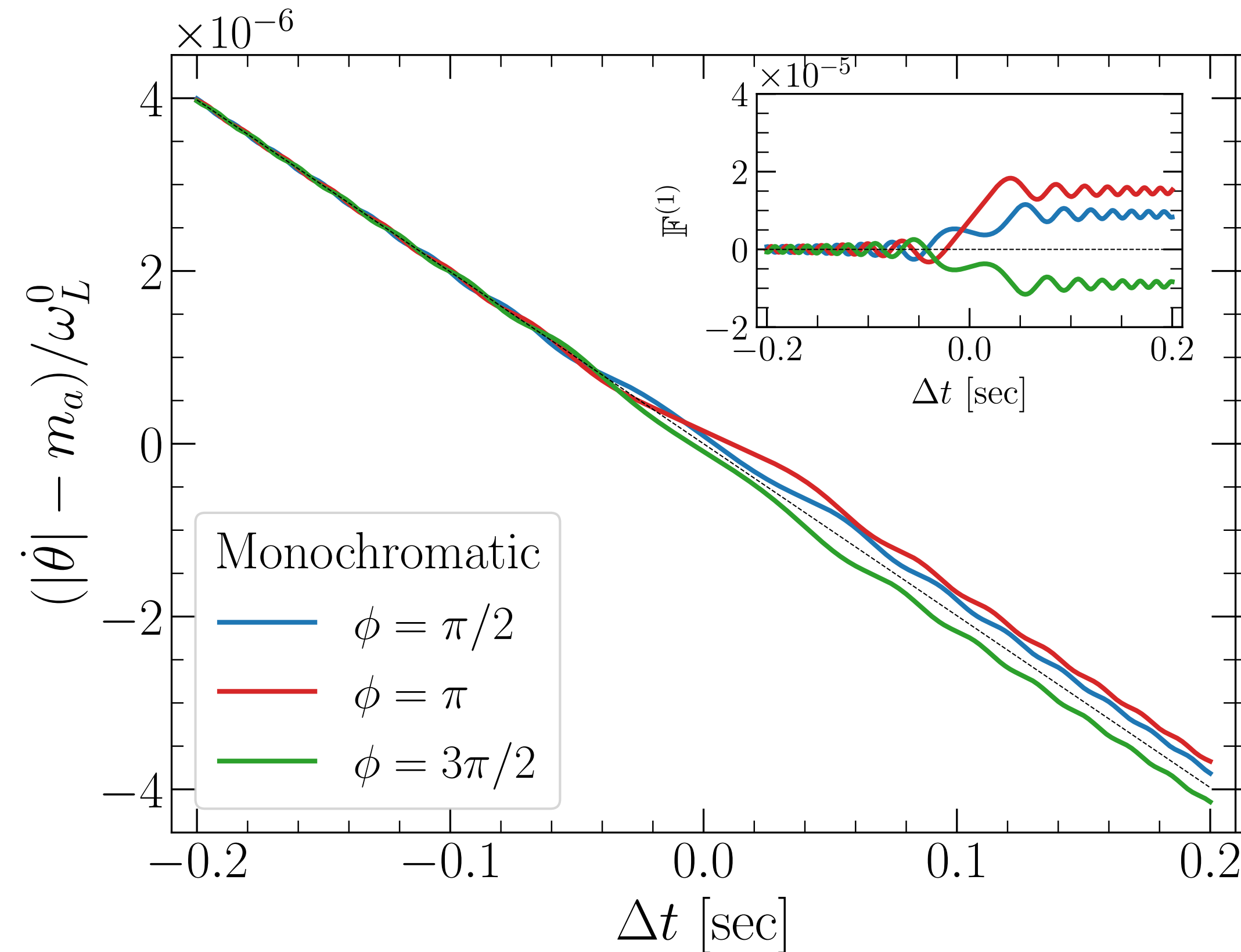
$$\alpha \equiv \left. \frac{dB}{dz} \frac{1}{B_0} \right|_{z_0}$$

$$\sim 3 \times 10^{-13} \left(\frac{g_{aN}}{10^{-10} \text{GeV}^{-1}} \right) \left(\frac{10^{-7} \text{eV}}{m_a} \right) \left(\frac{\alpha z_0}{0.02} \right)$$

Resonant frequency shift

$$\vec{B}_{a\text{DM}} \sim \gamma^{-1} g_{aN} \vec{v} \sqrt{\rho_{\text{DM}}} \cos(m_a t + \phi_a)$$

$$m_a \sim 10^{-7} \text{eV} \quad g_{aN} = 5 \times 10^{-5} \text{GeV}^{-1}$$



- Frequency can increase or decrease depending on the instantaneous phase.
- The frequency shift is permanent after $\omega_L < m_a$
- Resonance only works for transverse component of the axion wind.

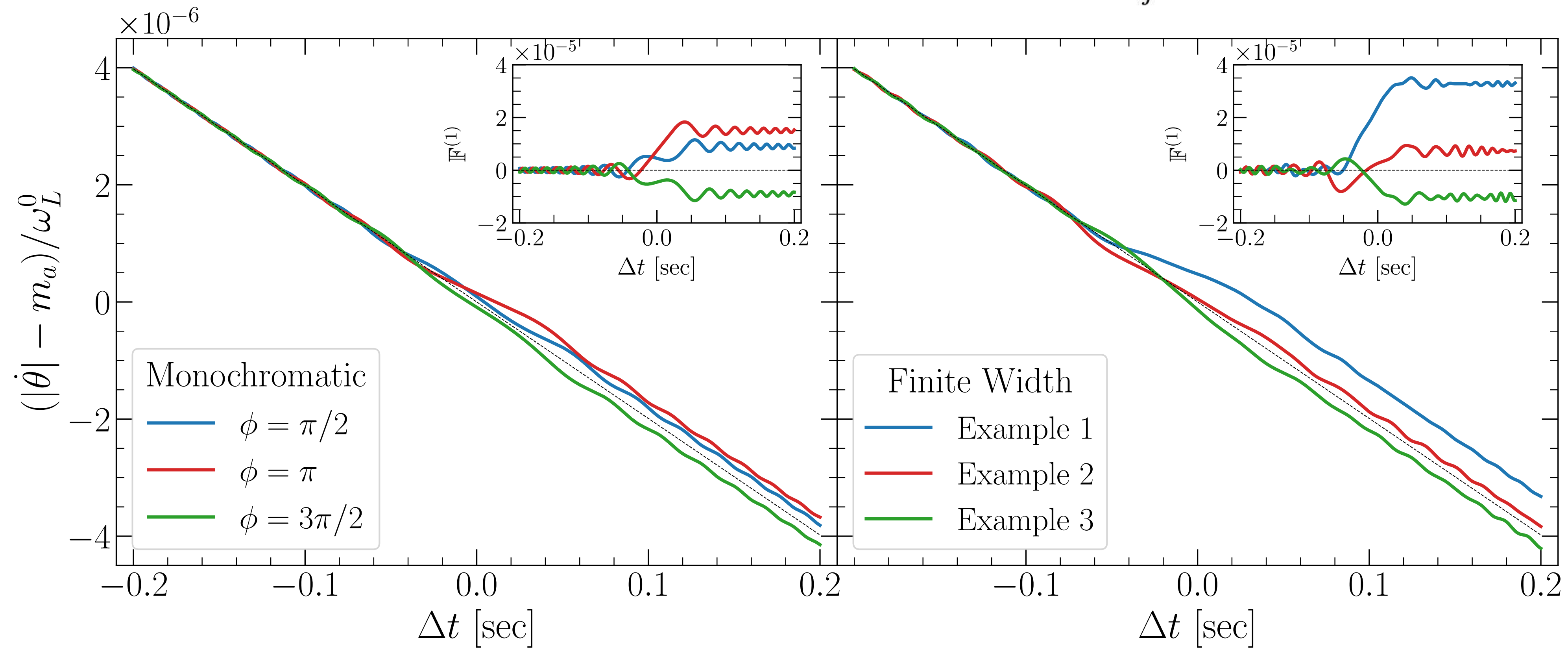
Resonant frequency shift

$$\vec{B}_{a\text{DM}} \sim \gamma^{-1} g_{aN} \vec{v} \sqrt{\rho_{\text{DM}}} \cos(m_a t + \phi_a)$$

$$m_a \sim 10^{-7} \text{eV} \quad g_{aN} = 5 \times 10^{-5} \text{GeV}^{-1}$$

$$\vec{B}_a = g_{aNN} \frac{\sqrt{2\rho_{\text{DM}}}}{\gamma} \vec{v}_0 \quad \text{Foster et. al (2018)}$$

$$\times \sum_j \alpha_j \sqrt{f(v_j) \Delta v} \cos(m_a (1 + v_j^2/2) t + \phi_j)$$

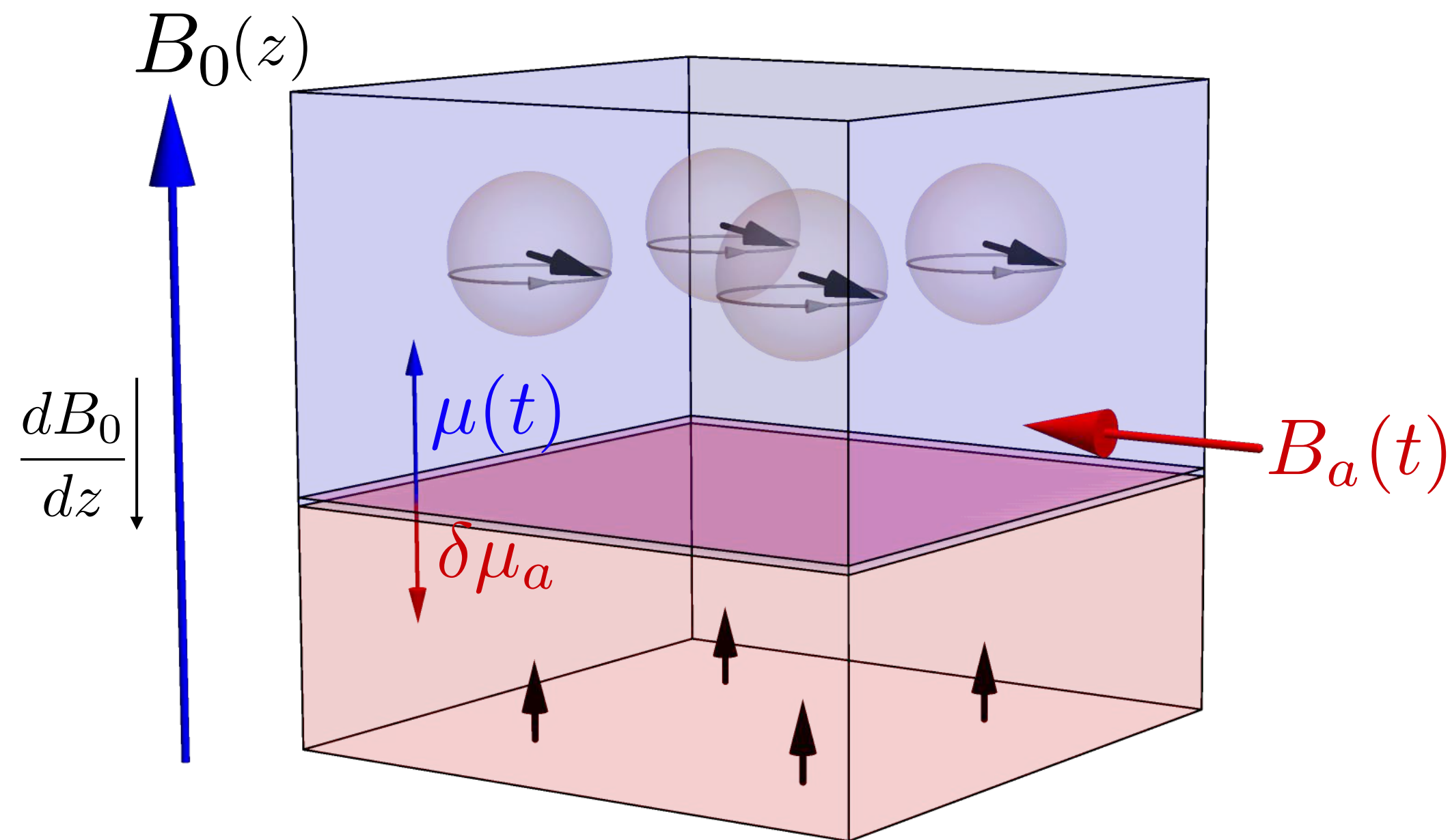


Scan axion mass

$$\vec{B}_{a\text{DM}} \sim \gamma^{-1} g_{aN} \vec{v} \sqrt{\rho_{\text{DM}}} \cos(m_a t + \phi_a)$$

$$\omega_L = \gamma B(z_{\text{wall}})$$

$$\alpha \equiv \left. \frac{dB}{dz} \frac{1}{B_0} \right|_{z_0}$$



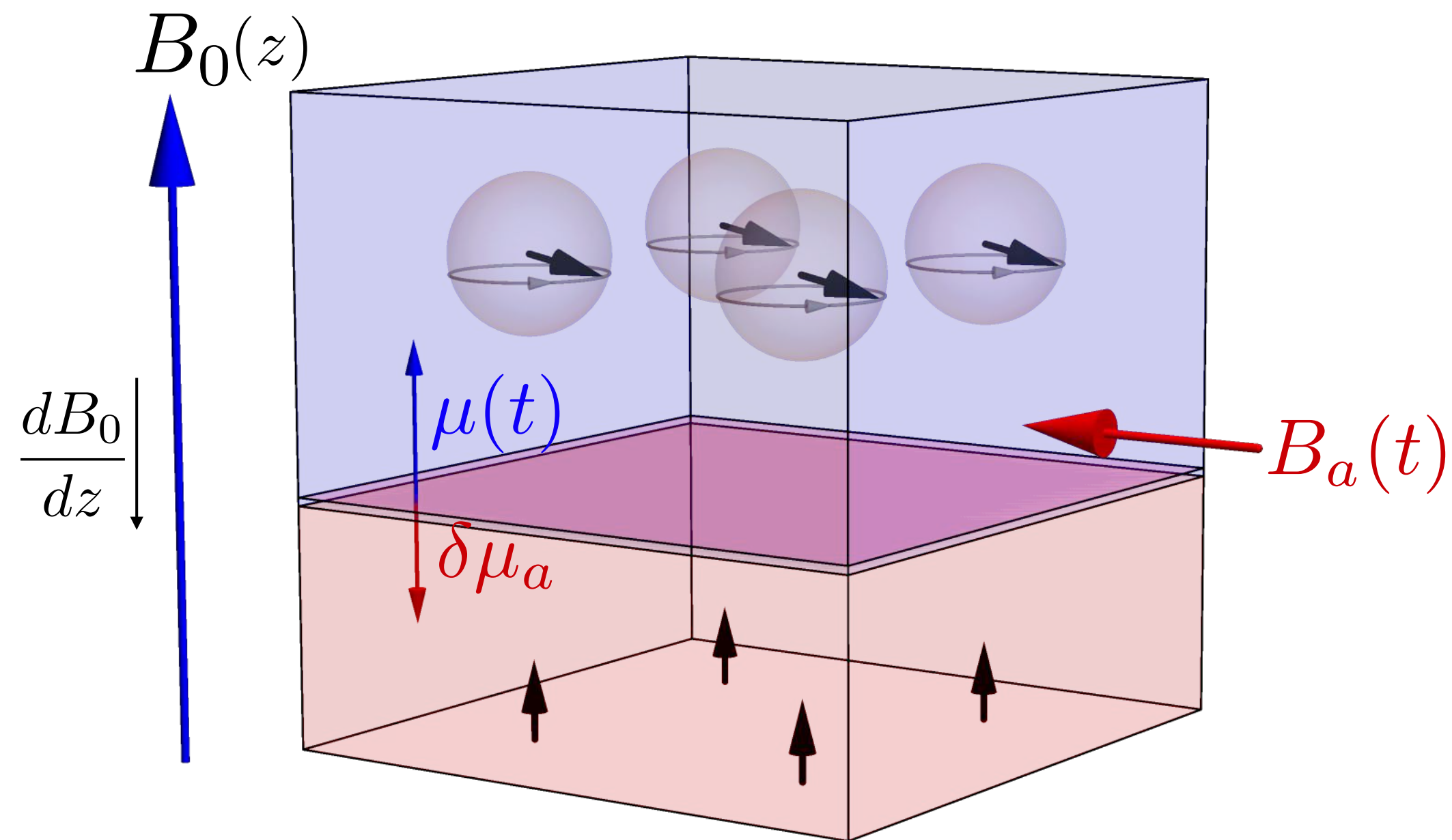
- Decay of HPD naturally sweeps through many axion masses.
- Choosing large gradient α covers more axion masses, but spends less time on each mass.
- Choosing small α may result in more than one axion coherence time spent on each axion mass.

Signal to noise

$$\vec{B}_{a\text{DM}} \sim \gamma^{-1} g_{aN} \vec{v} \sqrt{\rho_{\text{DM}}} \cos(m_a t + \phi_a)$$

$$\omega_L = \gamma B(z_{\text{wall}})$$

$$\alpha \equiv \left. \frac{dB}{dz} \frac{1}{B_0} \right|_{z_0}$$

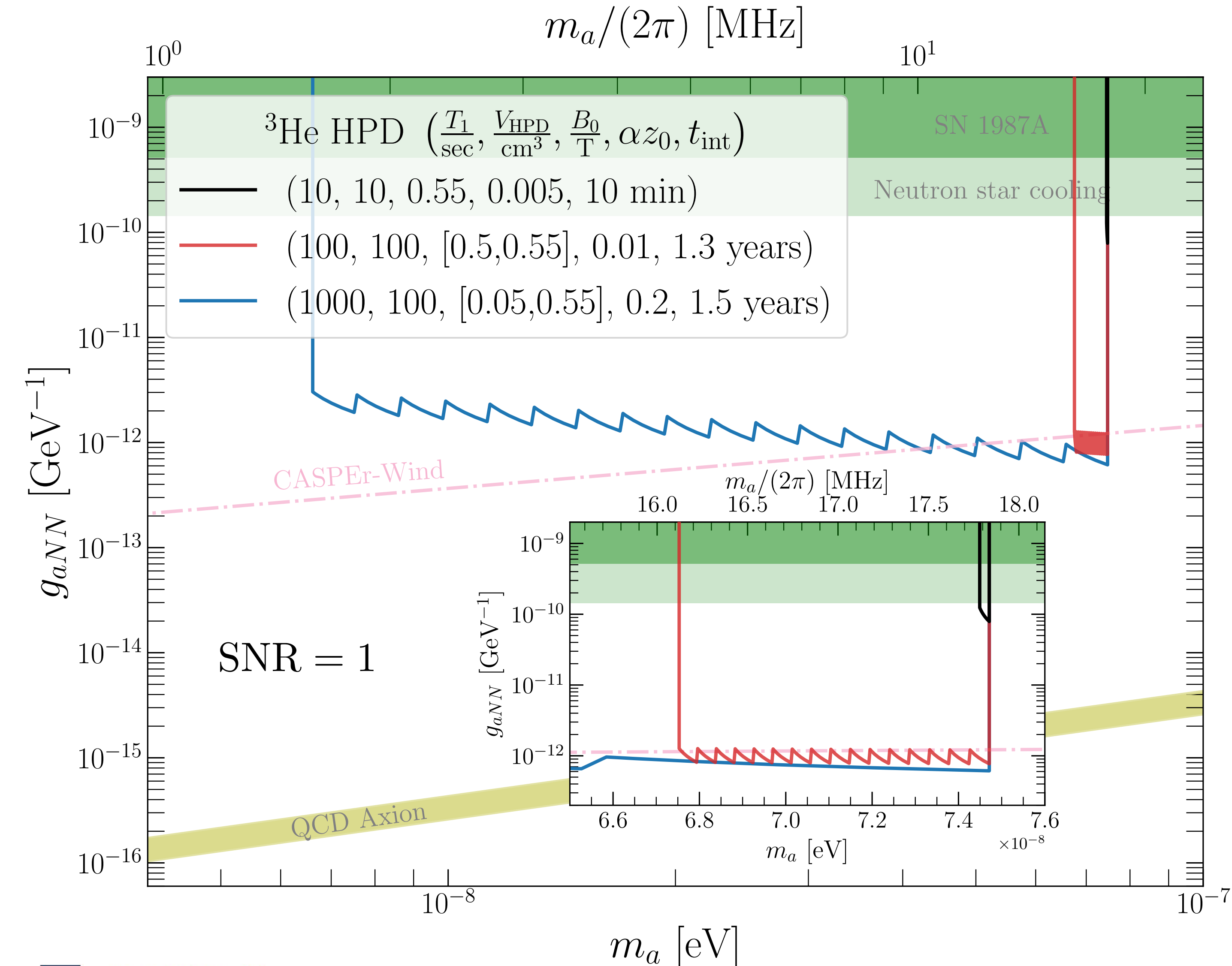


$$\frac{\Delta\omega_L^{\text{stochastic}}}{\omega_L^0} \sim \alpha z_0 \sqrt{\frac{\tau_a}{T_1}}$$

$$\text{SNR} \sim \mathcal{N}^{1/4} \frac{\Delta\omega^{\text{DM}}}{\Delta\omega^{\text{stochastic}}}$$

\mathcal{N} = number of experiments

Axion nucleon coupling limit



$$\text{SNR} \approx \gamma B_a \sqrt{V_{\text{HPD}} n_M} (T_1 t_{\text{int}})^{1/4} \times \min[\sqrt{t_r}, \sqrt{\tau_a}].$$

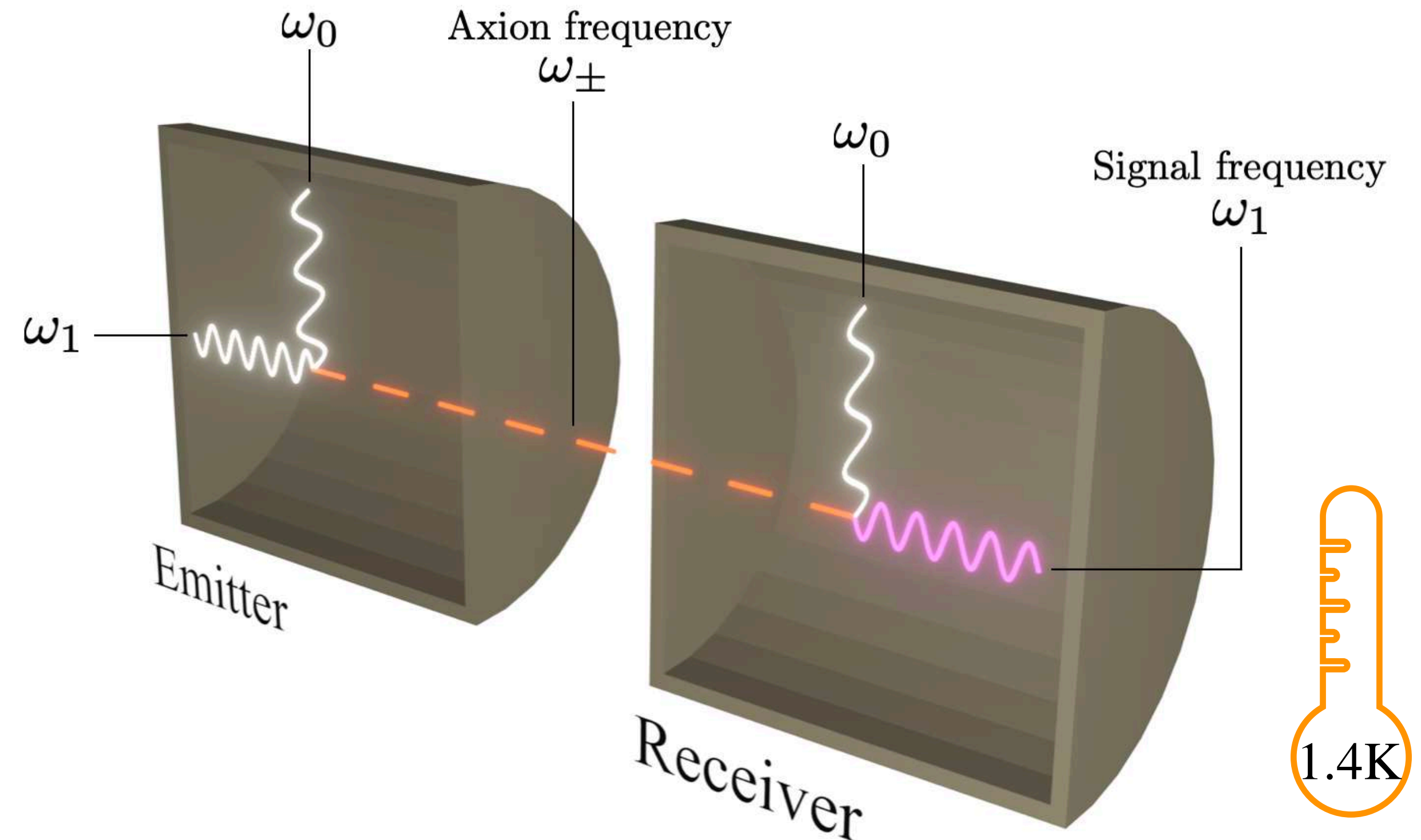
$$\mathcal{N} = t_{\text{int}}/T_1$$

- $B_0 \lesssim 0.55\text{T}$ to prevent $^3\text{He} - \text{B}$ from destabilization
- very compelling reach even with a conservative setup
- more careful statistical treatment required

Backups

Setup

- ◆ Fundamental frequency: 650 MHz
- ◆ Quality factor $Q = 10^{10}$
- ◆ $E_{\text{peak}} = 80 \text{ MVm}^{-1}$ (or 0.26 Tesla) for all active modes



Ongoing work at Fermilab SQMS center.

Z. Bogorad et al 19

R. Janish et al 19