

# Colliding light, tau $g - 2$ , and axion detectors

**Institute of Physics Joint APP/HEPP Conference**  
Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, UK  
5 April 2022

**Jesse Liu**  
University of Cambridge



# TODAY

## Two stories of creative interdisciplinary science

PHYSICAL REVIEW D  
covering particles, fields, gravitation, and cosmology

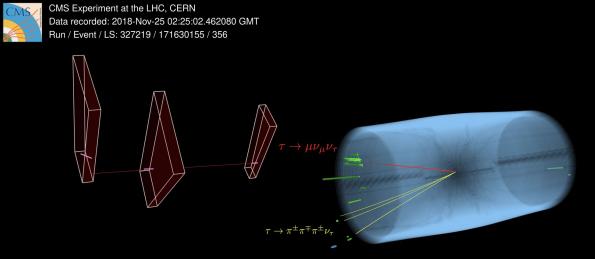
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Open Access

New physics and tau  $g - 2$  using LHC heavy ion collisions

Lydia Beresford and Jesse Liu  
Phys. Rev. D **102**, 113008 – Published 22 December 2020

CMS Experiment at the LHC, CERN  
Data recorded: 2016-Nov-25 02:25:02.462080 GMT  
Run / Event / LS: 327219 / 171630155 / 356



**Colliding light for tau  $g - 2$**   
**Invent heavy-ion probe of precision EWK & new physics**

Beresford & JL [1908.05180]  
PRD 102 (2020) 113008

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

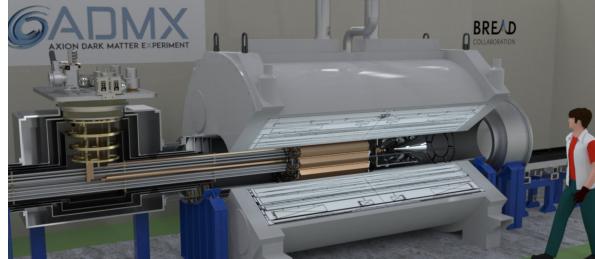
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Editors' Suggestion

Access

Broadband Solenoidal Haloscope for Terahertz Axion Detection

Jesse Liu, Kristin Dona, Gabe Hochin, Stefan Knirck, Noah Kurinsky, Matthew Malaker, David W. Miller, Andrew Sonnenchein, Mohammed H. Awida, Peter S. Barry, Karl K. Berggren, Daniel Bowring, Gianpaolo Carosi, Clarence Chang, Aaron Chou, Rakshya Khatriwada, Samantha Lewis, Juliang Li, Sae Woo Nam, Omid Noroozian, and Tony X. Zhou (BREAD Collaboration)  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 131801 – Published 28 March 2022



**BREAD: new axion detector**  
**meV dark matter observatory**  
**using quantum sensors**

JL, Dona et al [2111.12103]  
PRL 128 (2022) 131801

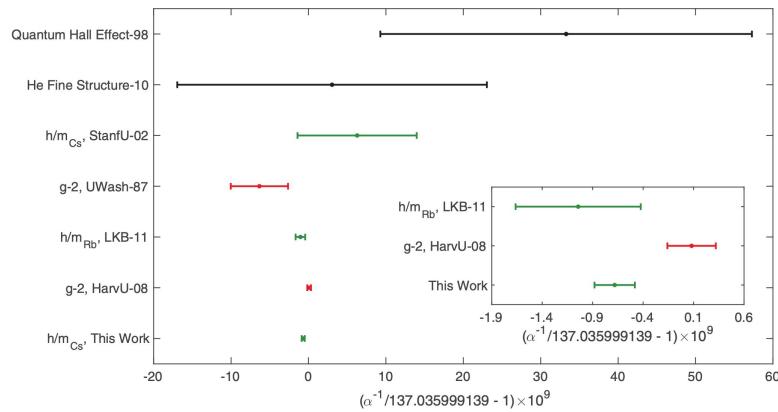
# $g_\ell - 2$ : cracks at the heart of the Standard Model?

$$g = \mu_f \cdot B = \frac{g_f e}{2m_f} S \cdot B + \text{Dirac (1928)} + \frac{\alpha}{\pi} + \text{Schwinger (1948)} + \text{Dark matter?}$$

Scalar Lepton:  $\bar{\mu}$ ,  $\bar{\chi}^0$ ,  $\mu$ ,  $\bar{\chi}^\pm$

Dark Matter:  $\mu$

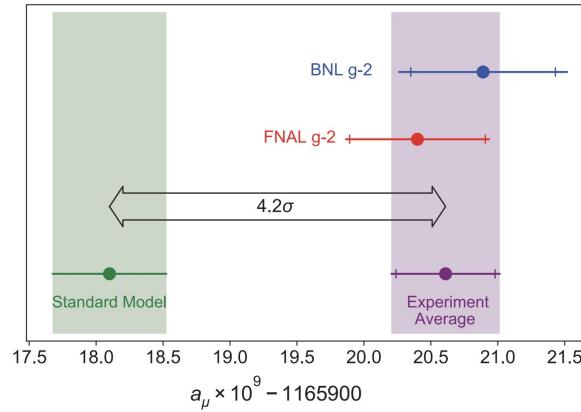
## Electron $g - 2$ ( $-2.5\sigma$ ?)



**0.2 parts per billion**

*“Triumph of quantum electrodynamics”*

## Muon $g - 2$ ( $+4.2\sigma$ ?)



**0.5 parts per million**

*“Hadronic ignorance or harbinger of new physics?”*

# What about tau g - 2?

***SHOCKING EXPERIMENTAL IGNORANCE!***

**Pressing problem: barely measured**

$$a_\tau^{\text{exp}} = -0.018(17)$$

DELPHI [[hep-ex/0406010](#)]

$$a_{\tau, \text{SM}}^{\text{pred}} = 0.00117721(5)$$

Eidelman, Passera [[hep-ph/0701260](#)]

**Not even testing 70 year old 1-loop QED**

$$\alpha/2\pi = 0.001162$$

Schwinger [[1948](#)]

**But 280x more sensitive to SUSY than muon**

$$\delta a_\ell \sim m_\ell^2/M_{\text{SUSY}}^2 \quad m_\tau^2/m_\mu^2 \sim 280$$

Martin, Wells [[hep-ph/0103067](#)]

SUMMER 2019

# ***PROPOSE CREATIVE SOLUTION***

## ***To important & interesting open problem***

**arXiv** > hep-ph > arXiv:1908.05180

Search...  
Help | Advanced

High Energy Physics – Phenomenology

[Submitted on 14 Aug 2019]

**New physics and tau  $g - 2$  using LHC heavy ion collisions**

Lydia Beresford, Jesse Liu

The anomalous magnetic moment of the tau lepton  $a_\tau = (g_\tau - 2)/2$  strikingly evades measurement, but is highly sensitive to new physics such as compositeness or supersymmetry. We propose using ultraperipheral heavy ion collisions at the LHC to probe modified magnetic  $\delta a_\tau$  and electric dipole moments  $\delta d_\tau$ . We introduce a suite of one electron/muon plus track(s) analyses, leveraging the exceptionally clean photon fusion  $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \tau\tau$  events to reconstruct both leptonic and hadronic tau decays sensitive to  $\delta a_\tau, \delta d_\tau$ . Assuming 10% systematic uncertainties, the current  $2 \text{ nb}^{-1}$  lead–lead dataset could already provide constraints of  $-0.0080 < a_\tau < 0.0046$  at 68% CL. This surpasses 15 year old lepton collider precision by a factor of three while opening novel avenues to new physics.

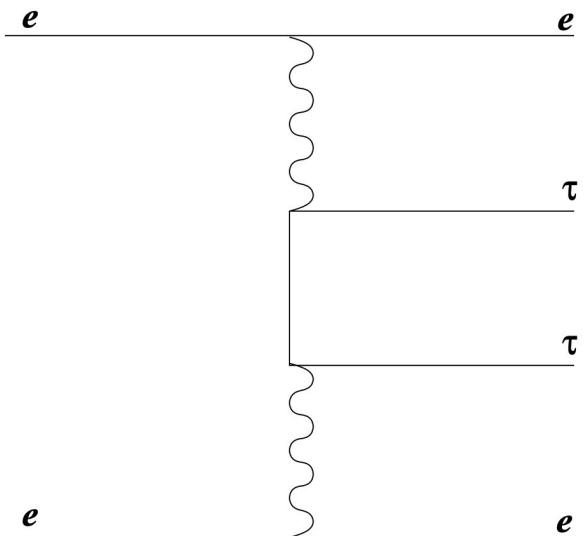


Beresford & JL PRD 102 (2020) 113008 [1908.05180]

If you like this, see also our dark matter paper PRL 123 (2019) 141801 [1811.06465]

# Think different: invent new heavy-ion analysis

PDG constraint of tau g- 2

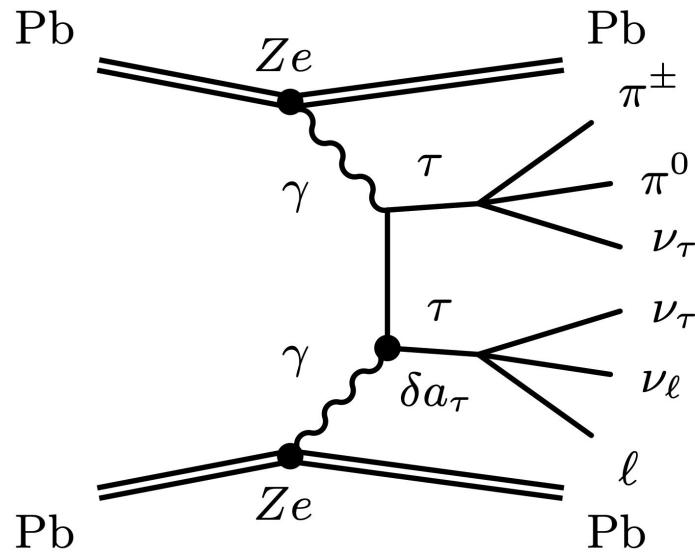


LEP photon collisions

$\sigma \sim 400 \text{ pb}$   
 $\Rightarrow 200\text{k events all years}$

DELPHI [[EPJC 35 \(2004\) 159-170](#)]

Proceed analogously @ LHC?



Not been seen at LHC

$\sigma \sim Z^4 \sim 500\,000 \text{ nb } (Z_{\text{Pb}} = 82)$   
 $\Rightarrow 1 \text{ million events already}$

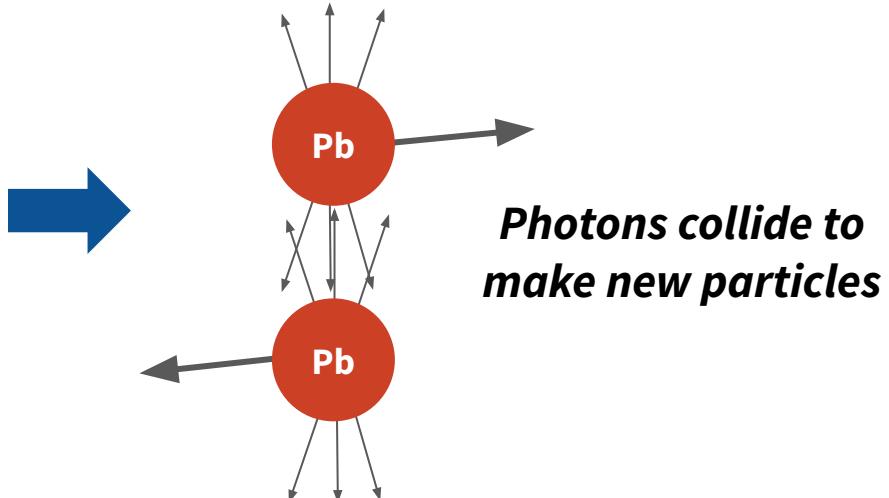
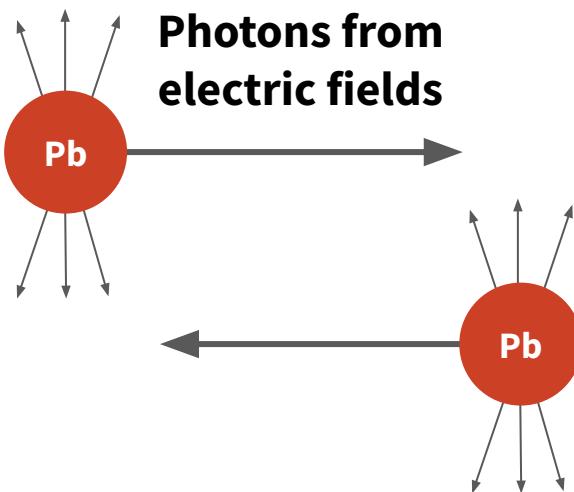
del Aguila, Cornet, Illana ([PLB 1991](#))  
Beresford, JL [[PRD 102 \(2020\) 113008](#)]

# Colliding light @ LHC

## Head-on Pb-Pb collisions



*Partons  
collide to  
make new  
particles*



Fermi (1925) [[hep-th/0205086](#)], Weizsäcker (1934), Williams (1934), Schwinger (1952), Budnev, Ginzburg, Meledin, Serbo (1975)  
ATLAS [[ATLAS HION Event Display](#)], Bruce et al [[1812.07688](#)]

## **STUNNING EVENTS**

**PbPb → Pb ( $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \tau\tau$ ) Pb**

1 month to collect data

No pileup  $\mu \sim 0.001$

Ultra loose triggers

→ ATLAS-EVENTDISPLAY-2018-009

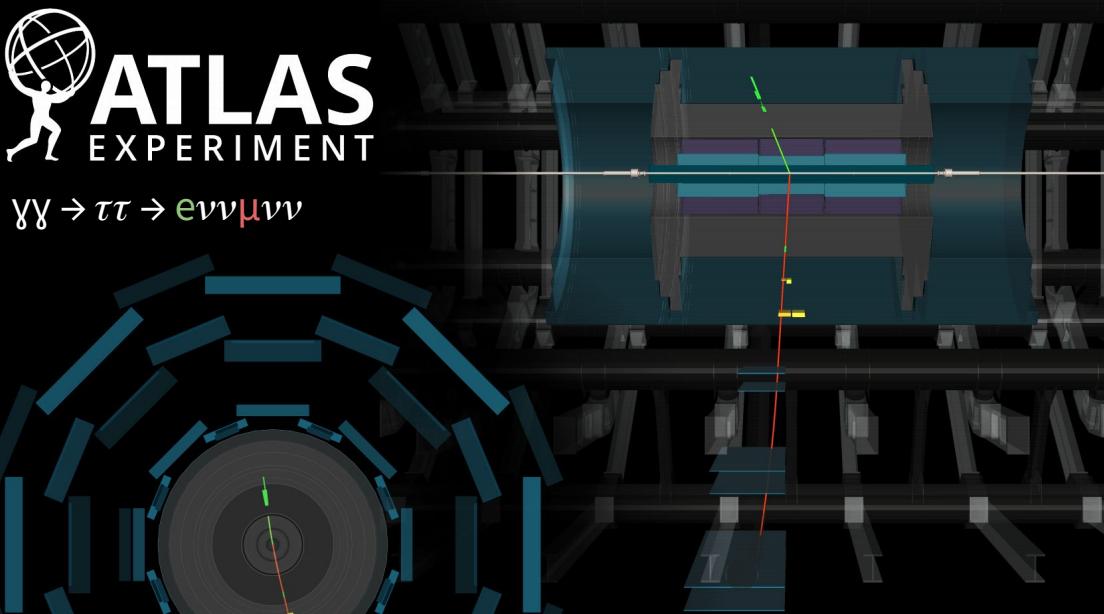
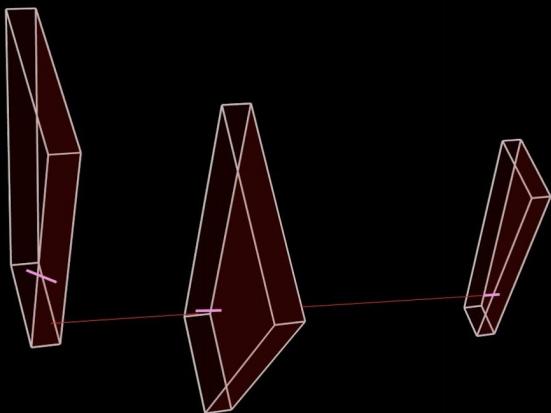
↓ SNOWMASS21-EF7\_EF6



CMS Experiment at the LHC, CERN

Data recorded: 2018-Nov-25 02:25:02.462080 GMT

Run / Event / LS: 327219 / 171630155 / 356

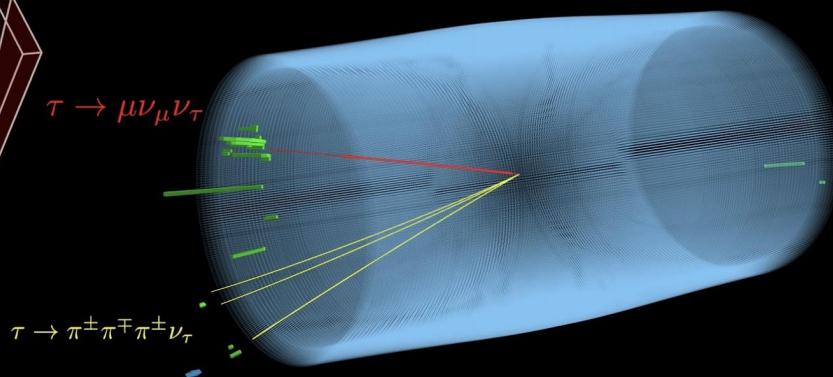


Pb+Pb, 5.02 TeV

Run: 365914

Event: 562492194

2018-11-14 18:05:31 CEST



“All calorimeter cells with a transverse energy above 500 MeV are shown ↑



# CMS announces breakthrough realizing our idea



**CMS-PAS-HIN-21-009: following 1 $\mu$  + 3-track strategy proposed by Beresford & JL [1908.05180]**

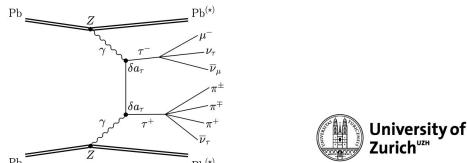
**Moriond  
EWK 2022**

First observation of the  $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \tau\tau$  process in heavy-ion collisions and the first LHC limits on  $(g - 2)_\tau$

Arash Jofrehei<sup>1</sup> for the CMS collaboration

<sup>1</sup>University of Zurich (UZH)

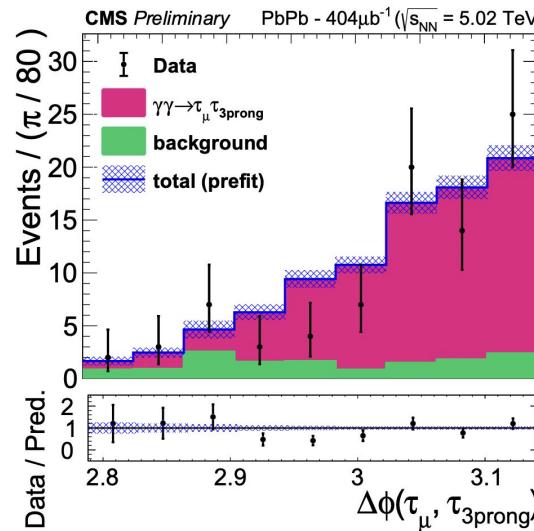
56th Rencontres de Moriond 2022  
Electroweak Interactions & Unified Theories



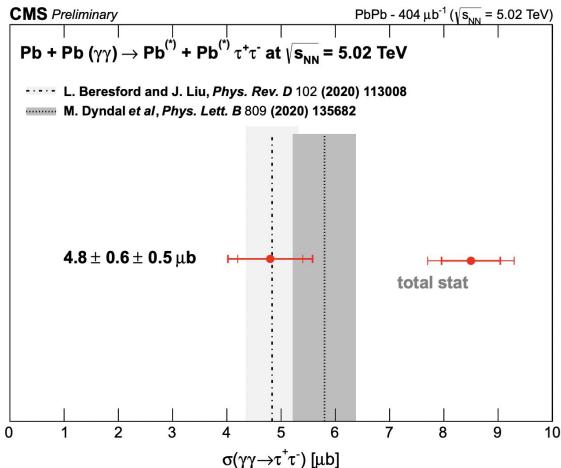
Arash Jofrehei (UZH)

Observation of  $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \tau\tau$  in PbPb

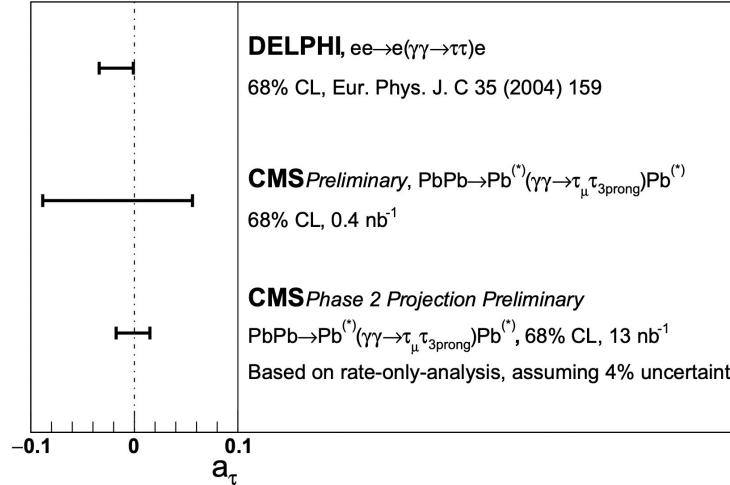
Moriond EW 2022 1 / 12



> 5 $\sigma$   
observation



**Cross  
section**



**DELPHI, ee  $\rightarrow$  e( $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \tau\tau$ )e**

68% CL, Eur. Phys. J. C 35 (2004) 159

**CMS Preliminary, PbPb  $\rightarrow$  Pb<sup>(+)</sup> ( $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \tau_\mu \tau_{3\text{prong}}$ )Pb<sup>(-)</sup>**

68% CL, 0.4 nb<sup>-1</sup>

**CMS Phase 2 Projection Preliminary**

PbPb  $\rightarrow$  Pb<sup>(+)</sup> ( $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \tau_\mu \tau_{3\text{prong}}$ )Pb<sup>(-)</sup>, 68% CL, 13 nb<sup>-1</sup>

Based on rate-only-analysis, assuming 4% uncertainty

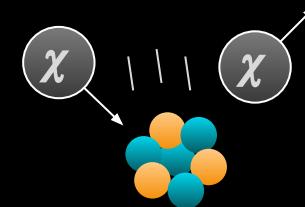
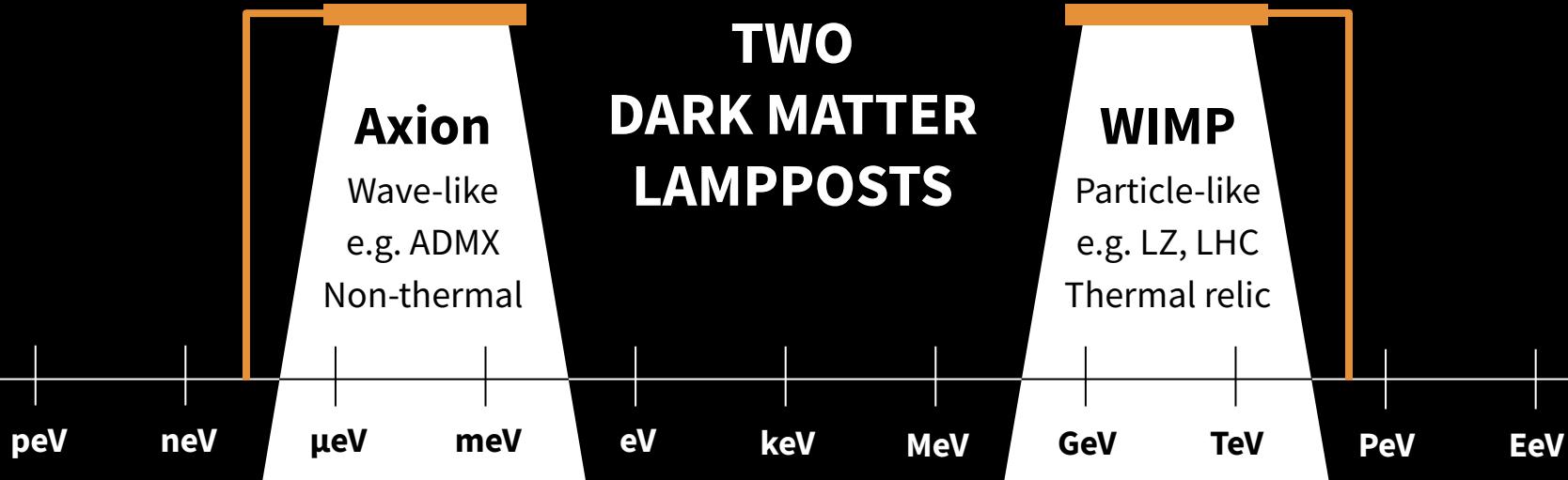
**Measure  
 $g_\tau - 2$**

**Remarkable results 😊 ...and just getting started!**

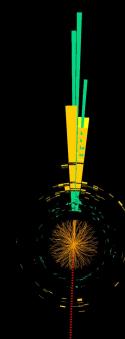
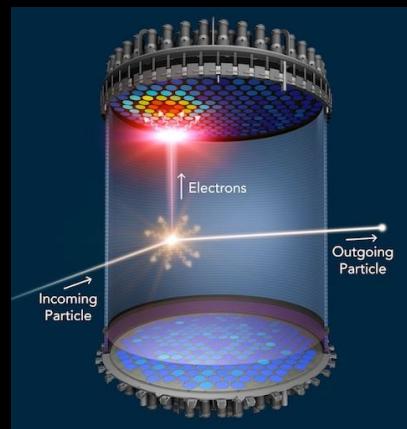
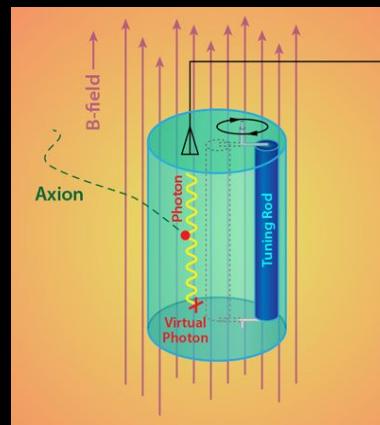
A photograph of a lush green garden. In the foreground, a mother mallard duck stands on a concrete edge next to a pond, facing right. Behind her, several ducklings are scattered across the grassy bank. The background features a large, ivy-covered stone building with arched windows and a prominent gargoyle. A street lamp and purple flowers are visible on the left.

PART 2

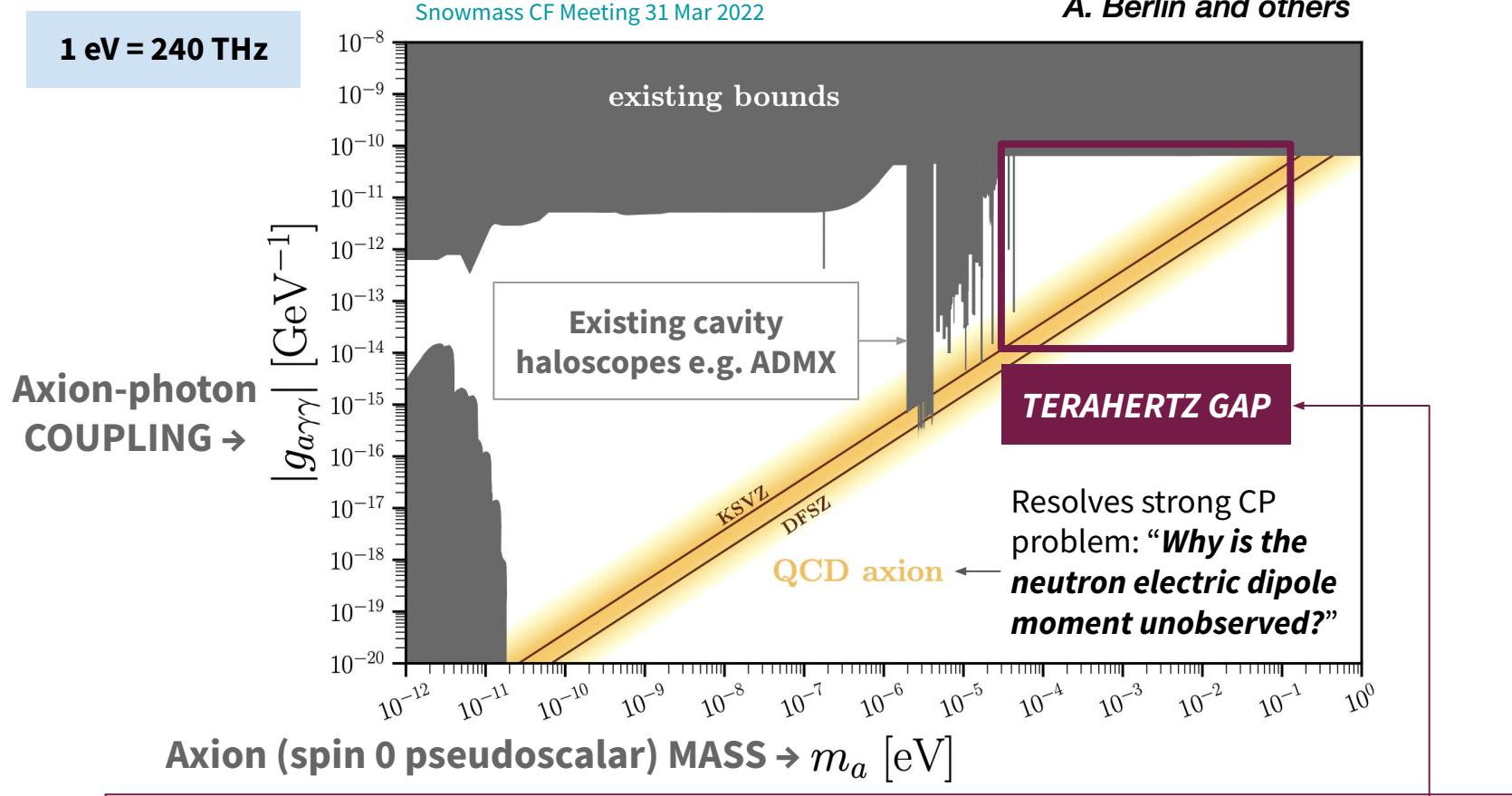
## BABY STEPS TOWARDS BREAD



[lz.ac.uk](http://lz.ac.uk)  
2102.10874



# Problem: terahertz axions evade current searches



**Problem 1: Desire broadband** but cavity haloscopes narrowband  $\Delta m/m \ll 1$

**Problem 2: Desire high mass** but scan rate\*  $R \sim f^{-14/3}$  impractical for  $m > 50 \mu\text{eV}$

**NEED CREATIVITY TO OVERCOME BOTH LONGSTANDING OBSTACLES**

# New: Broadband Reflector Experiment for Axion Detection

**BREAD**  
COLLABORATION

**SLAC** **NIST**

Lawrence  
Livermore  
National  
Laboratory

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
CHICAGO

UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE

Argonne  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Fermilab

MIT

NASA Goddard  
SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

ILLINOIS TECH

## PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

JL, Dona et al [2111.12103]

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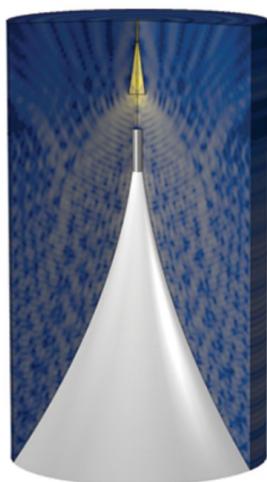
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### ON THE COVER

#### Broadband Solenoidal Haloscope for Terahertz Axion Detection

March 28, 2022

Simulation of the full electric field inside the conceptual design of the Broadband Reflector Experiment for Axion Detection (BREAD). Selected for an Editors' Suggestion.

Jesse Liu *et al.*

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 131801 \(2022\)](#)

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Jesse Liu, Kristin Dona, Gabe Hoshino, Stefan Knirck, Noah Kurinsky, Matthew Malaker, David W. Miller, Andrew Sonnenschein, Mohamed H. Awida, Peter S. Barry, Karl K. Berggren, Daniel Bowring, Gianpaolo Carosi, Clarence Chang, Aaron Chou, Rakshya Khatiwada, Samantha Lewis, Julian Li, Sae Woo Nam, Omid Noroozian, and Tony X. Zhou (BREAD Collaboration)

### Current Issue

Vol. 128, Iss. 13 — 1 April 2022

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Vol. 128, Iss. 12 — 25 March 2022

Vol. 128, Iss. 11 — 18 March 2022

Vol. 128, Iss. 10 — 11 March 2022

Vol. 128, Iss. 9 — 4 March 2022

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**Hot off the press: proposal paper published last week!**

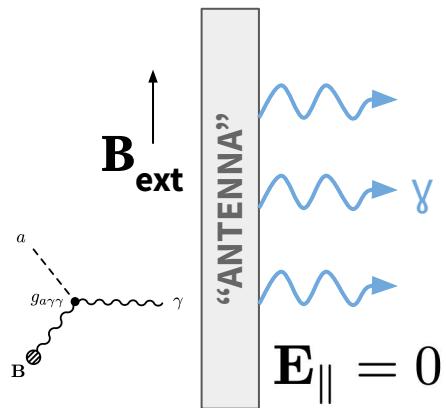


**On The Cover & Editors' Suggestion of PRL 😊**

R&D supported by US DOE HEP-QIS QuantISED & FNAL LRD

# BREAD observatory: convert → focus → detect

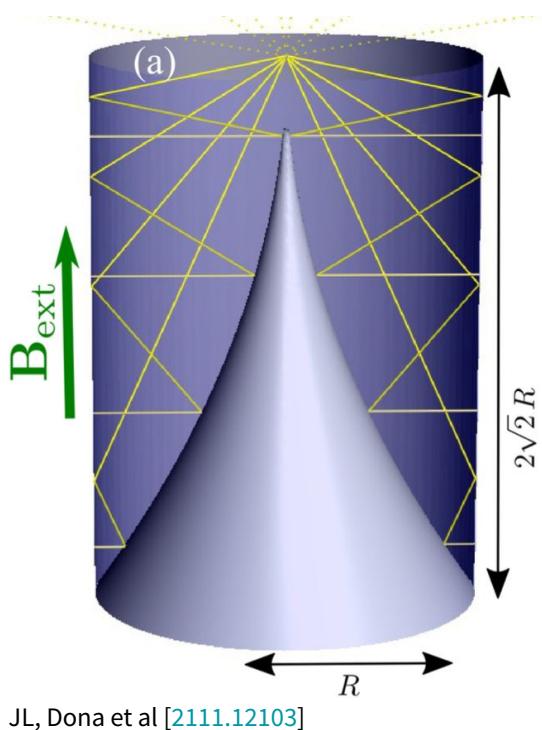
## 1 CONVERT axion dark matter into photons



Dark matter augments  
Ampère-Maxwell eq'n

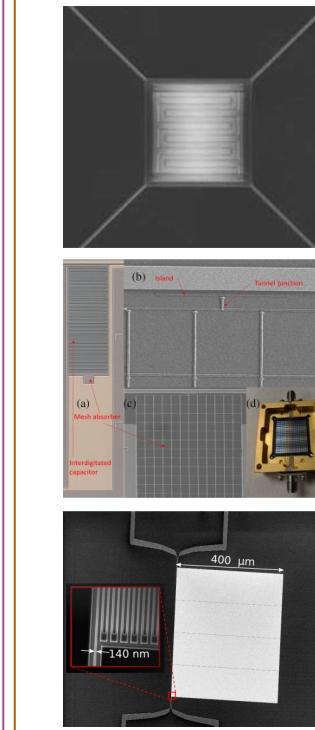
$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} - \partial_t \mathbf{E} = \mathbf{J}_{\text{DM}}$$
$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} \sqrt{2\rho_{\text{DM}}} \mathbf{B}_{\text{ext}}^{\parallel} \cos(m_a t)$$

## 2 FOCUS photons with parabolic reflector design



JL, Dona et al [2111.12103]

## 3 DETECT photons with low-noise quantum sensors



### EXAMPLE SENSORS

#### Transition Edge Sensor

Goldie et al [JLTP 2016]

#### Quantum Capacitance Detector

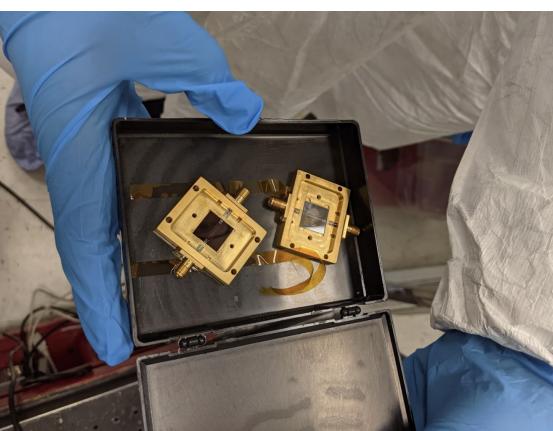
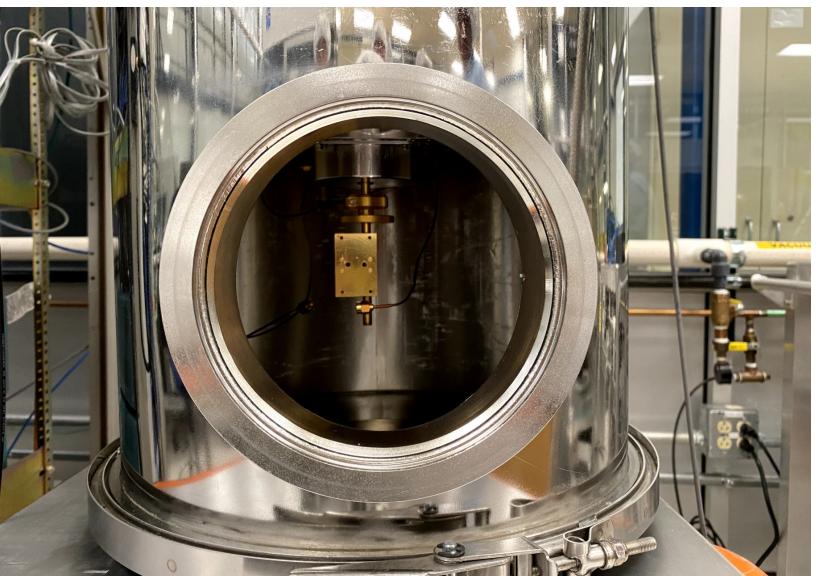
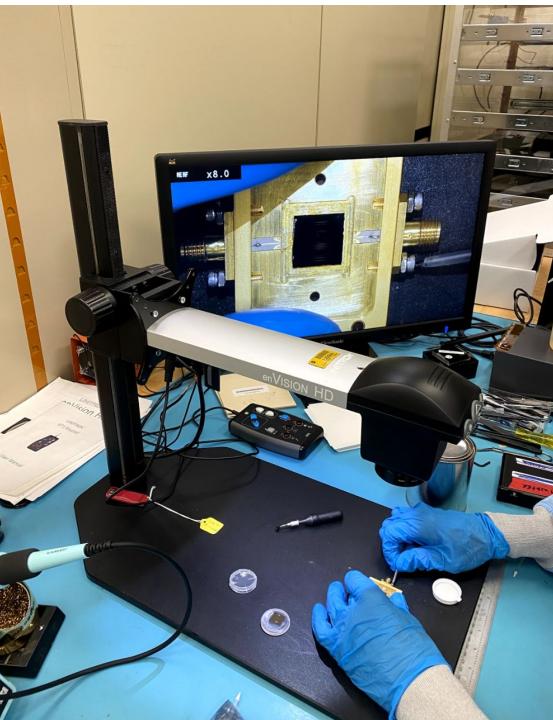
Echternach et al [JATIS 2021]

#### Superconducting Nanowire Single Photon Detector

Hochberg et al [1903.05101]

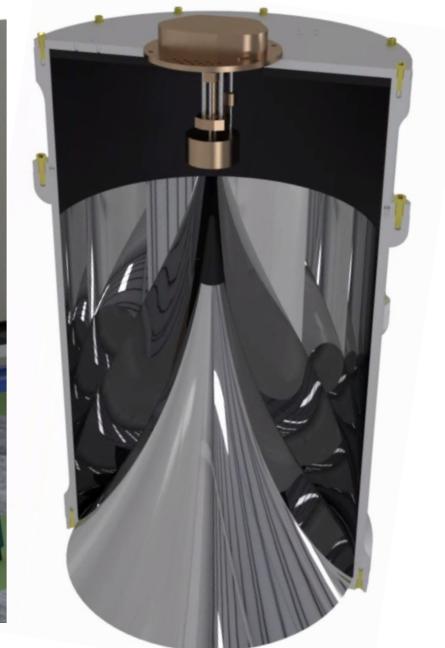
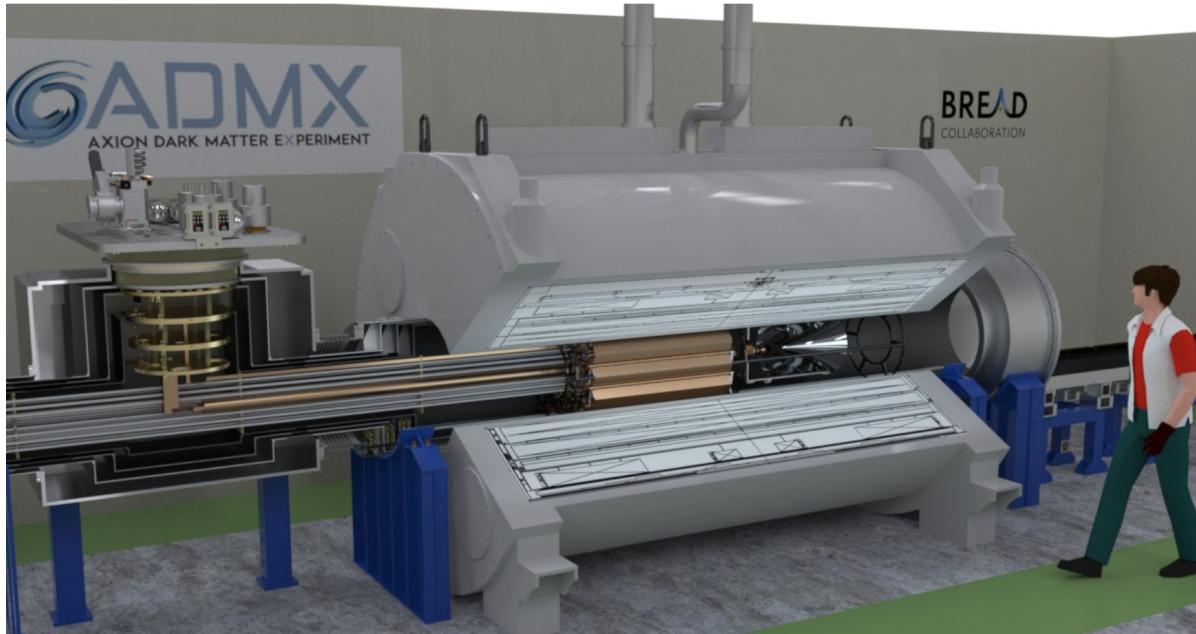
Kate Azar, Matthew Malaker, Gabe Hoshino  
(summer students) led detailed simulation studies

# Hands on: prepare sensor testing @ Fermilab for pilot



# Towards BREAD as flagship next-gen axion experiment

BREAD	Pilot	Stage 1	Stage 2a	Stage 2b
Axion $a$	—	✓	✓	✓
Dark photon $A'$	✓	✓	✓	✓
Experimental parameters				
$A_{\text{dish}}$ [m $^2$ ]	0.7	10	10	10
$B_{\text{ext}}$ [T]	—	10	10	10
$\epsilon_s$	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
$\Delta t$ [days]	10	10	1000	1000
NEP [W Hz $^{-1/2}$ ]	$10^{-14}$	$10^{-18}$	$10^{-20}$	$10^{-22}$
Coupling sensitivity (SNR = 5)				
$ g_{a\gamma\gamma}/g_{a\gamma\gamma}^{\text{KSVZ}} $	—	280	9.0	0.90
$ g_{a\gamma\gamma}/g_{a\gamma\gamma}^{\text{DFSZ}} $	—	740	23	2.3
$\kappa/10^{-14}$	8400	22	0.7	0.07



Submitted to the Proceedings of the US Community Study  
on the Future of Particle Physics (Snowmass 2021)

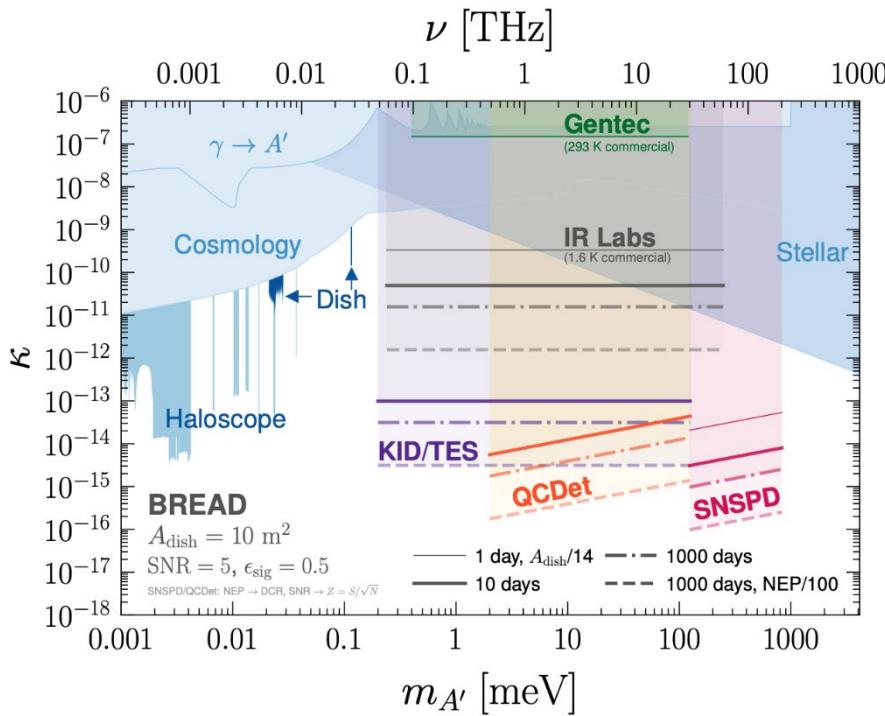
arXiv:2203.14923

## Snowmass 2021 White Paper Axion Dark Matter

C. B. Adams<sup>1</sup>, A. Agrawal<sup>2</sup>, R. BalaFendiev<sup>3</sup>, C. Bartram<sup>4</sup>, M. Baryakhtar<sup>4</sup>, H. Bekker<sup>5,6</sup>, P. Belov<sup>3</sup>, K. K. Berggren<sup>7</sup>, A. Berlin<sup>8</sup>, C. Boutan<sup>9</sup>, D. Bowring<sup>8</sup>, D. Budker<sup>5,6,10</sup>, G. Carosi<sup>11,4</sup>, S. S. Chakrabarty<sup>12</sup>, S. Chaudhuri<sup>13</sup>, S. Cheong<sup>14,15</sup>, A. Chou<sup>8</sup>, R. T. Co<sup>16</sup>, J. Conrad<sup>17</sup>, R. T. D'Agnolo<sup>18</sup>, M. Demarteau<sup>19</sup>, N. DePorzio<sup>20</sup>, A. V. Derbin<sup>21</sup>, L. Di Luzio<sup>22,23</sup>, A. Diaz-Morillo<sup>24</sup>, A. Droster<sup>10</sup>, N. Du<sup>11</sup>, K. Dunne<sup>17</sup>, B. Döbrich<sup>25</sup>, S. A. R. Ellis<sup>26</sup>, R. Essig<sup>27</sup>, J. Fan<sup>28</sup>, J. W. Foster<sup>29</sup>, J. T. Fry<sup>30</sup>, A. Gallo Rosso<sup>17</sup>, J. M. García Barceló<sup>24</sup>, I. G. Irastorza<sup>31</sup>, S. Gardner<sup>32</sup>, A. A. Geraci<sup>33</sup>, S. Ghosh<sup>34,35</sup>, M. Giannotti<sup>36</sup>, B. Gimeno<sup>37</sup>, D. Grin<sup>38</sup>, H. Grote<sup>39</sup>, M. Guzzetti<sup>4</sup>, M. H. Awida<sup>8</sup>, R. Henning<sup>40,41</sup>, S. Hoof<sup>42</sup>, V. Irsic<sup>43,44</sup>, H. Jackson<sup>10</sup>, D. F. Jackson Kimball<sup>45</sup>, J. Jaeckel<sup>46</sup>, M. Kagan<sup>14</sup>, Y. Kahn<sup>47</sup>, R. Khatiwada<sup>8,48</sup>, S. Knirck<sup>8</sup>, T. Kovachy<sup>33</sup>, P. Krueger<sup>49</sup>, S. E. Kuenstner<sup>15</sup>, N. A. Kurinsky<sup>14,50</sup>, R. K. Leane<sup>14,50</sup>, A. F. Leder<sup>10,51</sup>, C. Lee<sup>52</sup>, K. W. Lehnhert<sup>53,54,55</sup>, E. Lentz<sup>9</sup>, S. M. Lewis<sup>8</sup>, A. Lindner<sup>56</sup>, J. Liu<sup>44</sup>, M. Lynn<sup>2</sup>,

Figs: Don Mitchell

# Sensitivity: concept → pilot → full science program

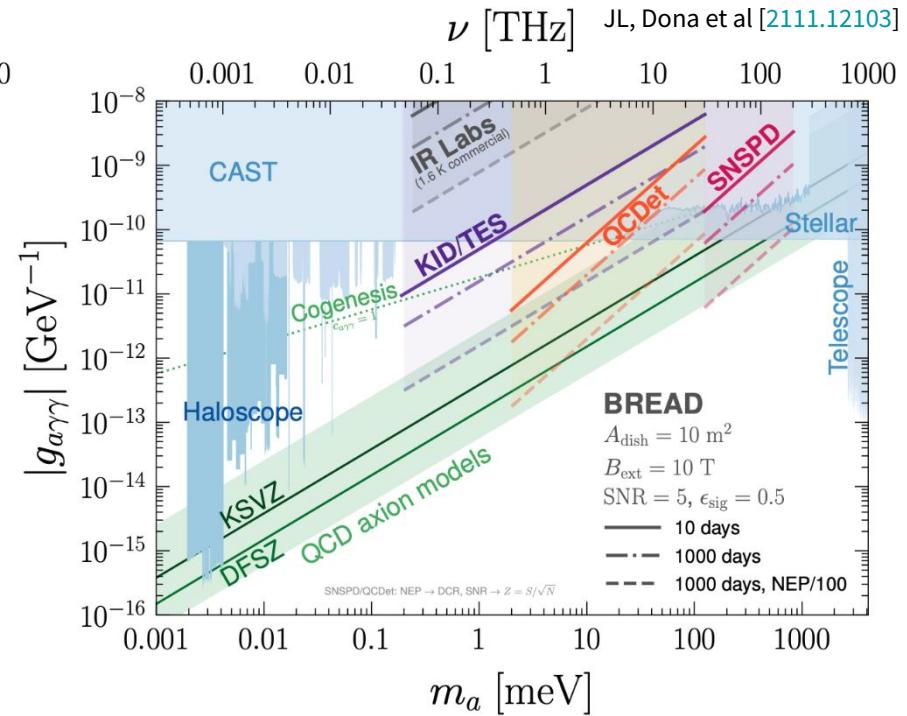


## DARK PHOTON (VECTOR)

Preparing “sourdough starter” pilot  
Near term ~3 years proof of principle

**BREAD**  
COLLABORATION

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left( \frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}}{10^{-12}} \right)^2 \\ \left( \frac{\kappa}{10^{-15}} \right)^2 \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{3.0}{\text{GeV}^2} \left( \frac{m_a}{\text{meV}} \right)^3 \left( \frac{10 \text{T}}{B_{\text{ext}}} \right)^2 \\ 11.9 \frac{2/3}{\alpha_{\text{pol}}^2} \frac{m_{A'}}{\text{meV}} \end{array} \right\} \left( \frac{\text{hour}}{\Delta t} \right)^{1/2} \frac{10 \text{m}^2}{A_{\text{dish}}} \frac{Z}{5} \frac{0.5}{\epsilon_s} \left( \frac{\text{DCR}}{10^{-2} \text{Hz}} \right)^{1/2} \frac{0.45 \text{GeV/cm}^3}{\rho_{\text{DM}}} .$$



## AXION (PSEUDOSCALAR)

Need high-field magnet & sensor R&D  
Longer term ~5-10 year timescale

## EPILOGUE

---

# Neutron magnetic moment

*When nature laughed in our 1930s faces*

**Theory: zero as it's neutral & pointlike**

**Nature: large AND negative haha ( $g - 2 = -5.8$ )**

Chadwick (1932), Bacher (1933), Tamm & Altshuler (1934), Rabi (1934), Alvarez & Bloch (1940), CODATA (2018)

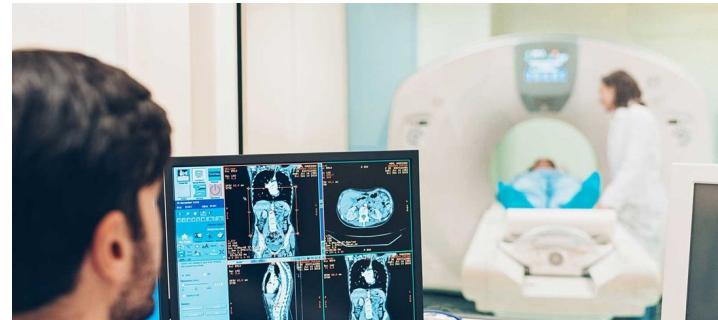
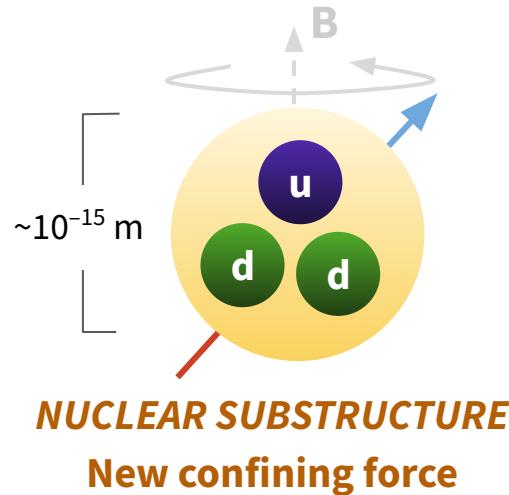
**Completely confounded expectation!**

# Neutron magnetic moment

*When nature laughed in our 1930s faces*

**Theory: zero as it's neutral & pointlike**  
**Nature: large AND negative hahaha ( $g - 2 = -5.8$ )**

Chadwick (1932), Bacher (1933), Tamm & Altshuler (1934), Rabi (1934), Alvarez & Bloch (1940), CODATA (2018)



hopkinsmedicine.org

**Today nuclear moments save lives  
with MRI medical imaging**

*Nobel prize in Physiology or Medicine 2003*

## CLIFFHANGER

# Neutron electric moment

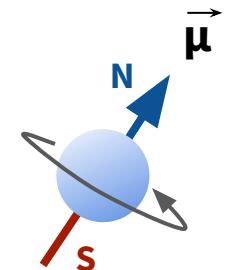
*REMAINS DEEPLY MYSTERIOUS TODAY*

### **MAGNETIC DIPOLE MOMENT (MDM)**

**Expectation:**  $g - 2 = 0$  (Dirac theory)

**Reality:** huge & negative! :O

**Solved:** new physics → QCD ✓

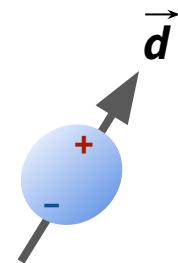


### **ELECTRIC DIPOLE MOMENT (EDM)**

**Expectation:** large (strong CP violation)

**Reality:** 0 to 1 part per billion! :O

**Solution:** new physics → axions?



# SUMMARY

*We must keep looking at Nature in unprecedented ways  
Even if – especially if – it completely defies expectation*

