

Axion detection with ^3He A1 phase

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Take home message

- With ^3He nucleon spin, both KSVZ and DFSZ type axions are detectable in principle.
- To reach the QCD band, we expect future quantum technologies.

Axion

Axion ... one of promising dark matter candidates

QCD axion ... axion with capability of explaining the small neutron electric dipole moment (c.f. water)

Primary candidates of QCD axions...

KSVZ axion...only coupled to nucleon spin ↔ DFSZ axion ...coupled to various spins other than nucleon spin

→ **With ^3He nucleon spin, we can target both types of QCD axion.**

Superfluid ^3He

Superfluid... (Cooper pairs) orbital angular momentum + spin angular momentum

^3He ...electrically neutral → angular momentum expected to be unexcited by axion or photon

∴ Fix angular momentum $L_z = 1$, study spin degree of freedom

$\vec{\phi} = (\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3)$ (spin (-1,1,0) respectively)

The following potential characterizes the ground state.

$$V = -\mu \vec{\phi}^* \cdot \vec{\phi} + \frac{\mu}{2v^2} (\vec{\phi} \cdot \vec{\phi}^*)^2 - \lambda (\vec{\phi}^* \times \vec{\phi}) \cdot (\vec{\phi} \times \vec{\phi}^*) + i\mu_N \vec{B} \cdot (\vec{\phi} \times \vec{\phi}^*)$$

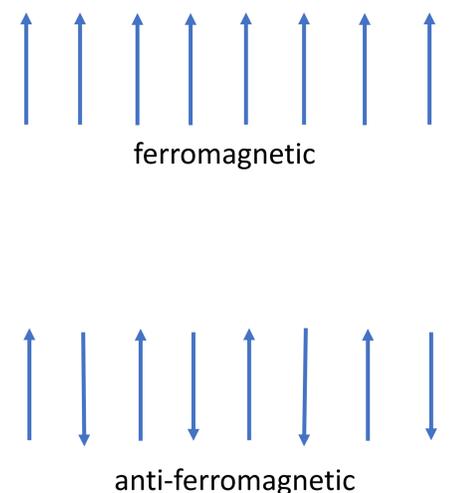
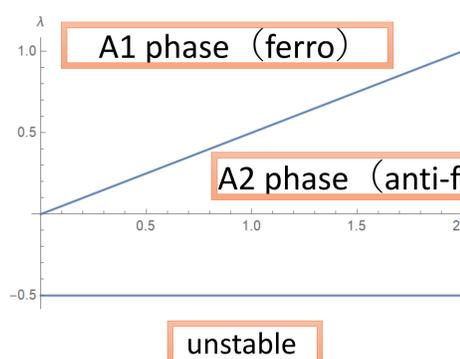
A1 phase... $\vec{\phi} = (a, ia, 0)$ expected **ferro magnetic**

A2 phase... $\vec{\phi} = (a, ib, 0)$ expected anti ferro magnetic

Which is deeper in potential ?

For $\vec{B} = (0,0,B)$, turning point is $\lambda = \mu_N B / 2v^2$

How to detect the axion ?

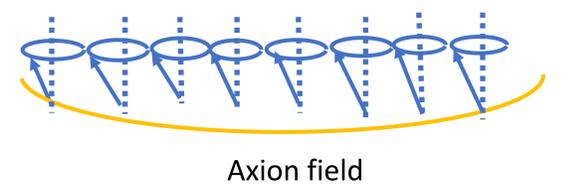


^3He nucleus consist of two protons (anti-symmetric) and a neutron → axion has interaction with neutron $L \supset \frac{c_{ann}}{2f_a} \partial_\mu a \bar{n} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 n$

In non-relativistic $H_{int} = -\frac{c_{ann}}{f_a} \rho_a^{\frac{1}{2}} \vec{v}_a \cdot \vec{S}_N$... **axion couples to the spin to excite them (magnon).**

If axion mass m_a resonantly matches Larmor frequency $g\mu_N B$, magnon excitation happens.

We will **catch the converted signal from the magnon to photon.**



Technical stuff

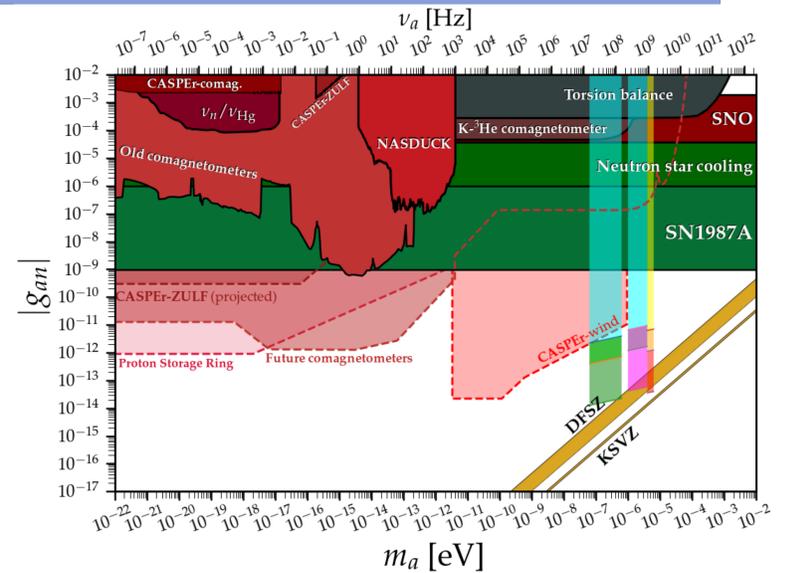
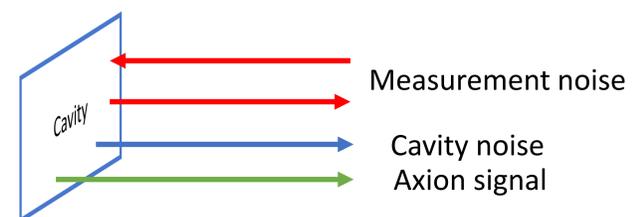
Thermal noise + Quantum noise

Thermal noise... the cooler, the smaller. We do not care so much in low temperature environment.

Quantum noise ... measurement produces noise (**standard quantum limit**).

Recent and future technologies attempt to **beat the standard quantum limit**.

Ex ... Josephson parametric amplifier (JPA). By **squeezing**, they can reduce the amount of potential quantum noise. It **makes signal to noise clearer**.



References

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[3]M. Malnou, D. A. Palken, B. M. Brubaker, Leila R. Vale, Gene C. Hilton, and K. W. Lehnert. Squeezed vacuum used to accelerate the search for a weak classical signal. Phys. Rev. X, 9(2):021023, 201

[4] Putting the squeeze on axions. Karl van Bibber, Konrad Lehnert and Aaron Chou. Physics today Vol72, No6.

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