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# Lab Searches for WISP(ish)s @ Low(ish) Energies

Joerg Jaeckel<sup>†</sup>

<sup>†</sup>IPPP Durham

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# WISPs\*

\*Weakly interacting sub-eV particles

# Coincidences?

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- Neutrino masses:  $m_\nu \sim \text{meV}$
  - Dark Energy scale:  $\rho_\Lambda \sim (\text{meV})^4$
  - Energy density of the Universe:  
 $\rho_{\text{today}} \sim (\text{meV})^4$
-

# Hints?

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• Neutrino masses:  $m_\nu \sim \text{meV}$

• Dark Energy scale:  $\rho_\Lambda \sim (\text{meV})^4$

• Energy density of the Universe:

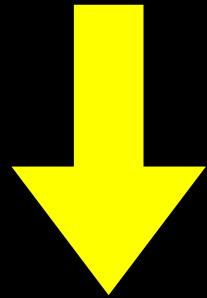
$$\rho_{\text{today}} \sim (\text{meV})^4$$

+

Some direct(ish) hints for WISP(ish)s  
WD energy loss, (hidden) CMB,  $\gamma$ -transparency,  
Pamela, DAMA, CoGent...

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Large scale



Small coupling

# Example: Axion coupling

- Effective higher dimensional coupling

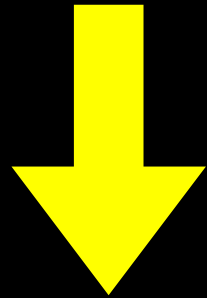
$$\mathcal{L}_{Int} = -\frac{1}{4}gaF^{\mu\nu}\tilde{F}_{\mu\nu} = -ga\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}$$

$$g \sim \frac{1}{f_a}$$

- Small coupling for **large** axion scale:

$$\text{Small} \longrightarrow g \sim \frac{\alpha}{2\pi f_a} \longleftarrow \text{Large}$$

Large scale



Small mass

# Example: Axion See-Saw

- The axion mass is small, too!

$$\text{Small} \rightarrow m_a \sim \frac{m_\pi f_\pi}{f_a} \leftarrow \text{Large}$$



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Pseudo-Goldstone Boson!

# Example: Axion See-Saw

- The axion mass is small, too!

$$m_a \sim \frac{m_\pi f_\pi}{f_a}$$

$$\sim 0.6 \text{ meV} \left( \frac{10^{10} \text{ GeV}}{f_a} \right)$$

Sub-eV mass



Large scale



**ZEITLUPE**

*Der Wachsflammenweiser*

# Experiments



# Plenty of Experiments

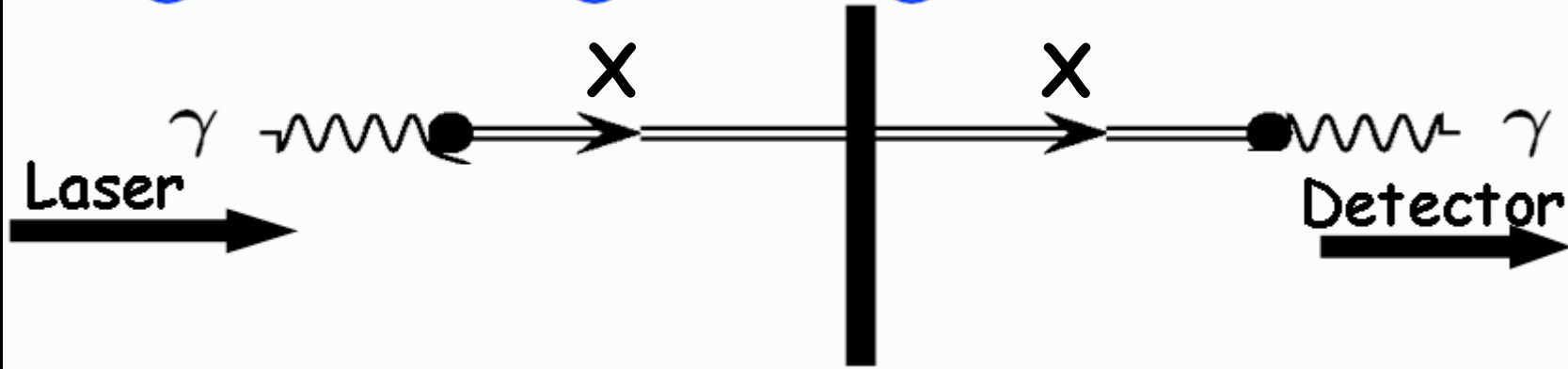
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- The “classics”
    - Light shining through walls
    - Helioscopes
    - Axion dark matter searches (Haloscopes)
    - Polarization experiments
  - Worth to revive: Tests of Coulomb's law
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Forces (see Seth Hoedl)
  - Searching at higher Masses
    - Fixed Target experiments
    - Mesons experiments
-

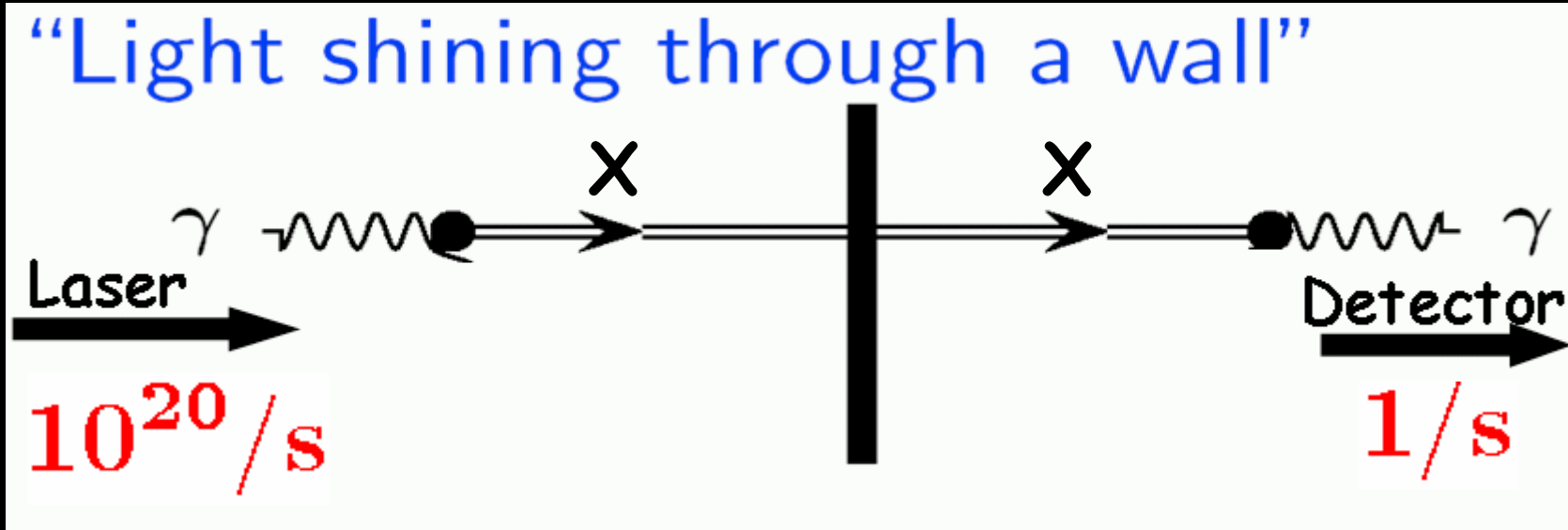
Light shining  
through walls

# Light shining through walls

“Light shining through a wall”



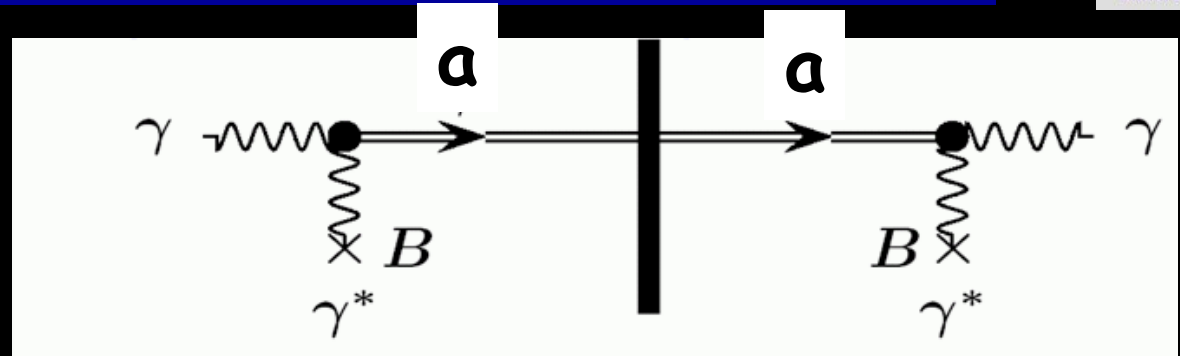
# Light shining through walls



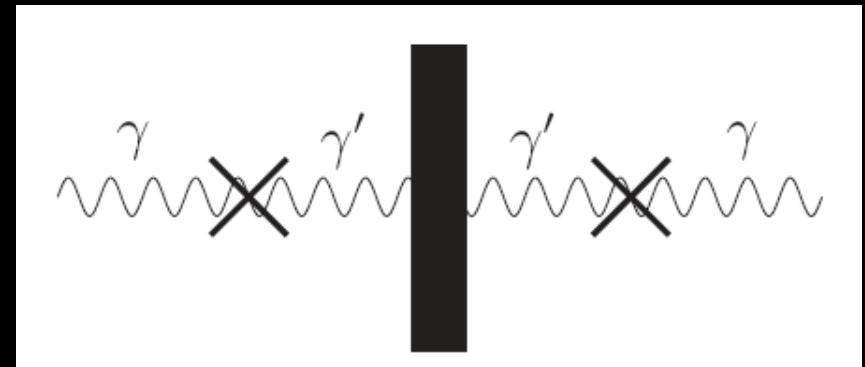
- Test  $P_{\gamma \rightarrow X \rightarrow \gamma} \lesssim 10^{-20}$
- Enormous precision!
- Study extremely weak couplings!

# WISPS=Weakly interacting sub-eV particles

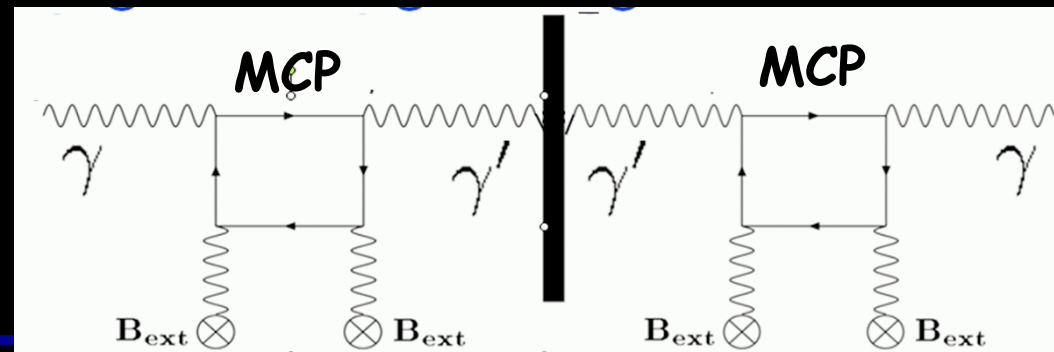
- **Axions**



- **Massive hidden photons (without B-field) = analog  $\nu$ -oscillations**



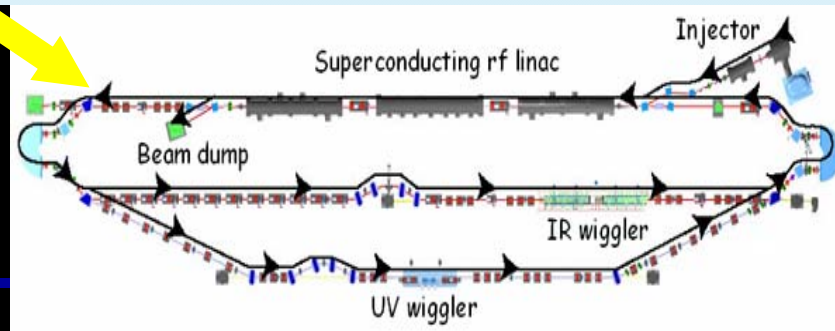
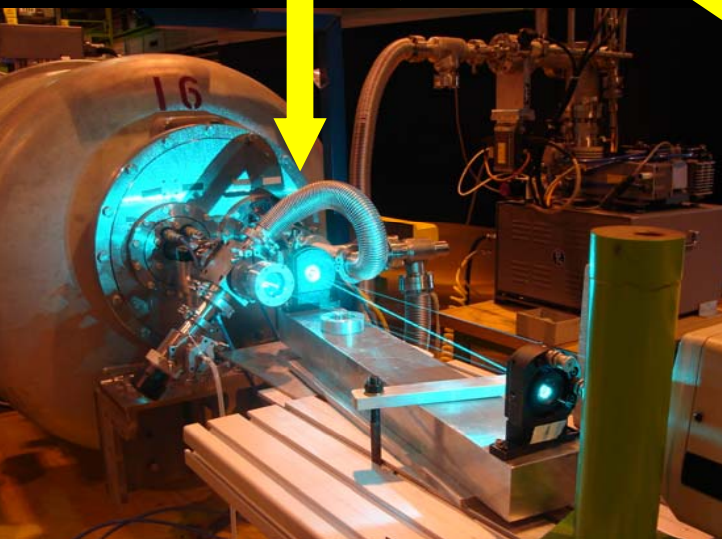
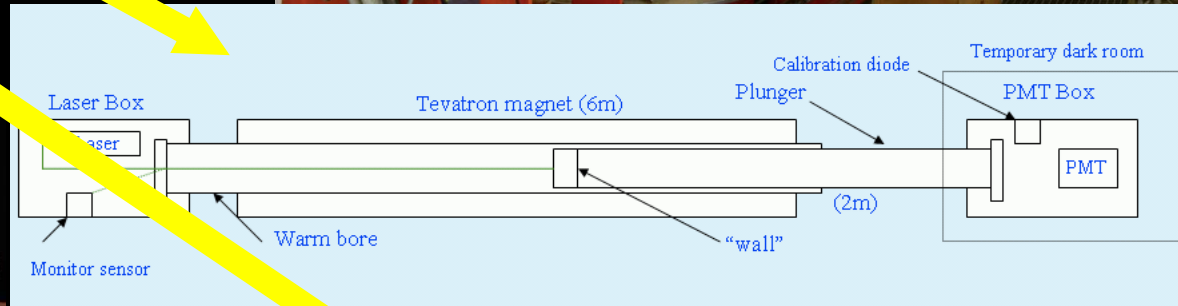
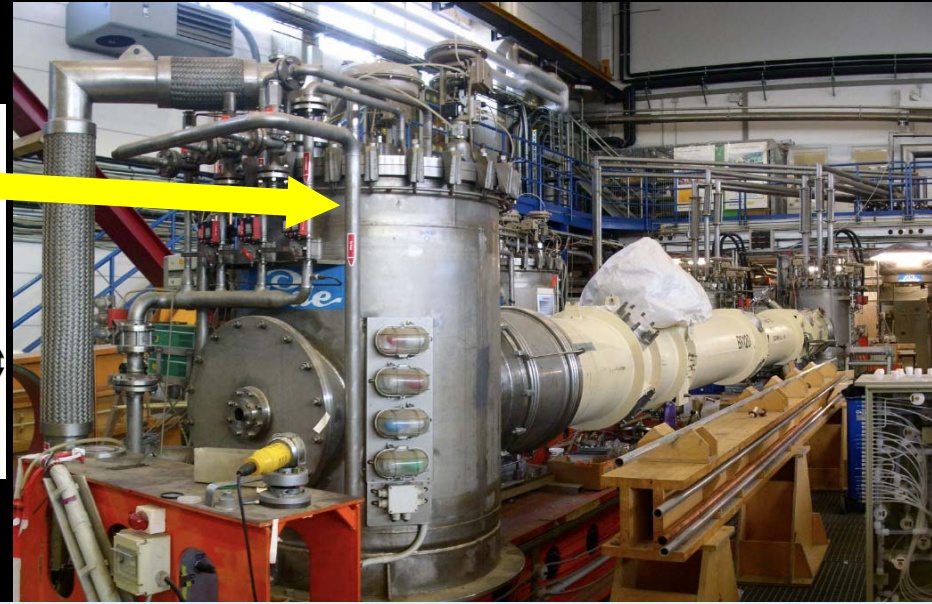
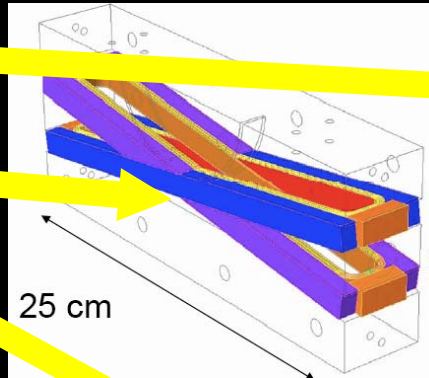
- **Hidden photon + minicharged particle (MCP)**



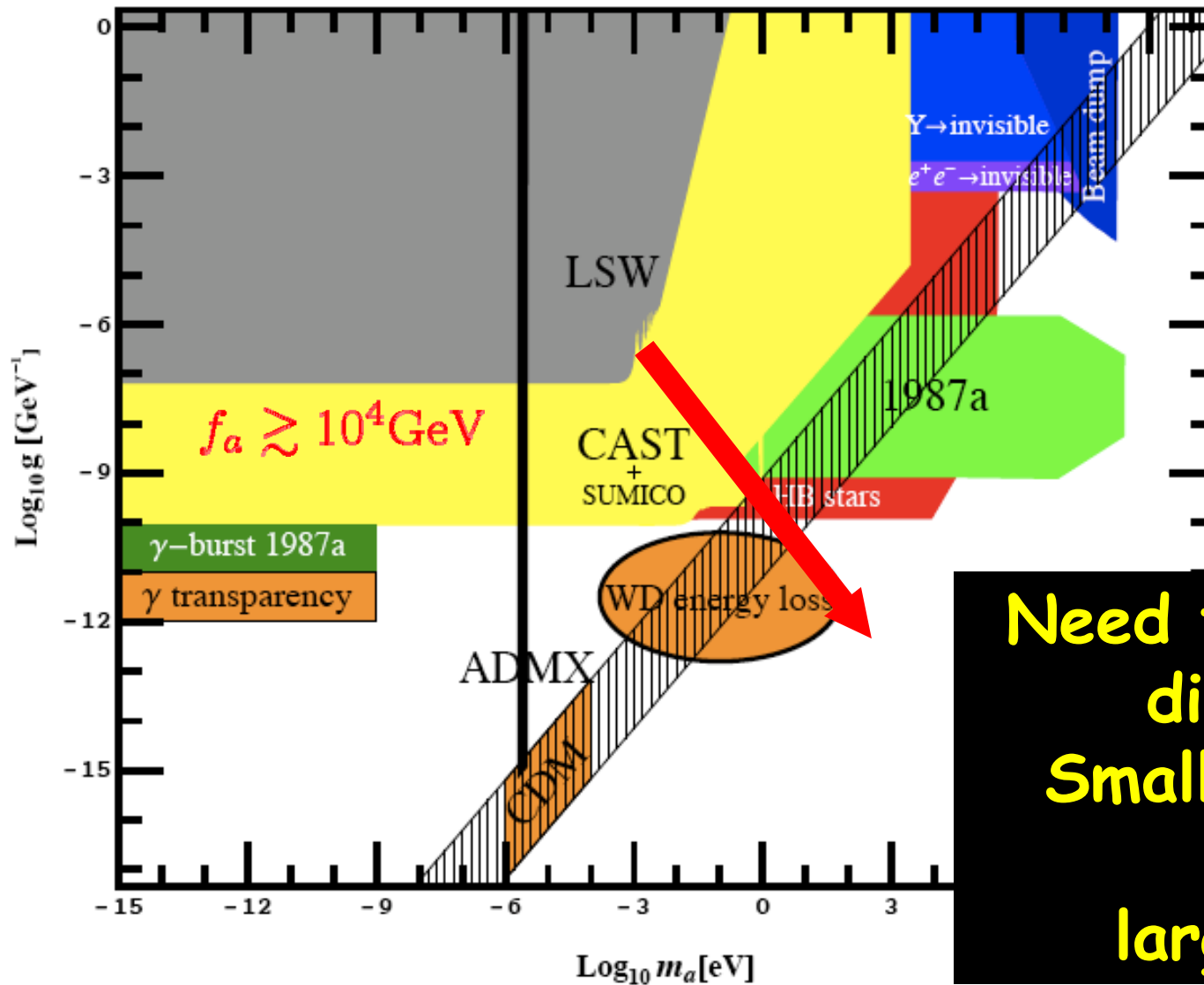


# Light Shining Through Walls

- A lot of activity
  - ALPS
  - BMV
  - GammeV
  - LIPPS
  - OSQAR



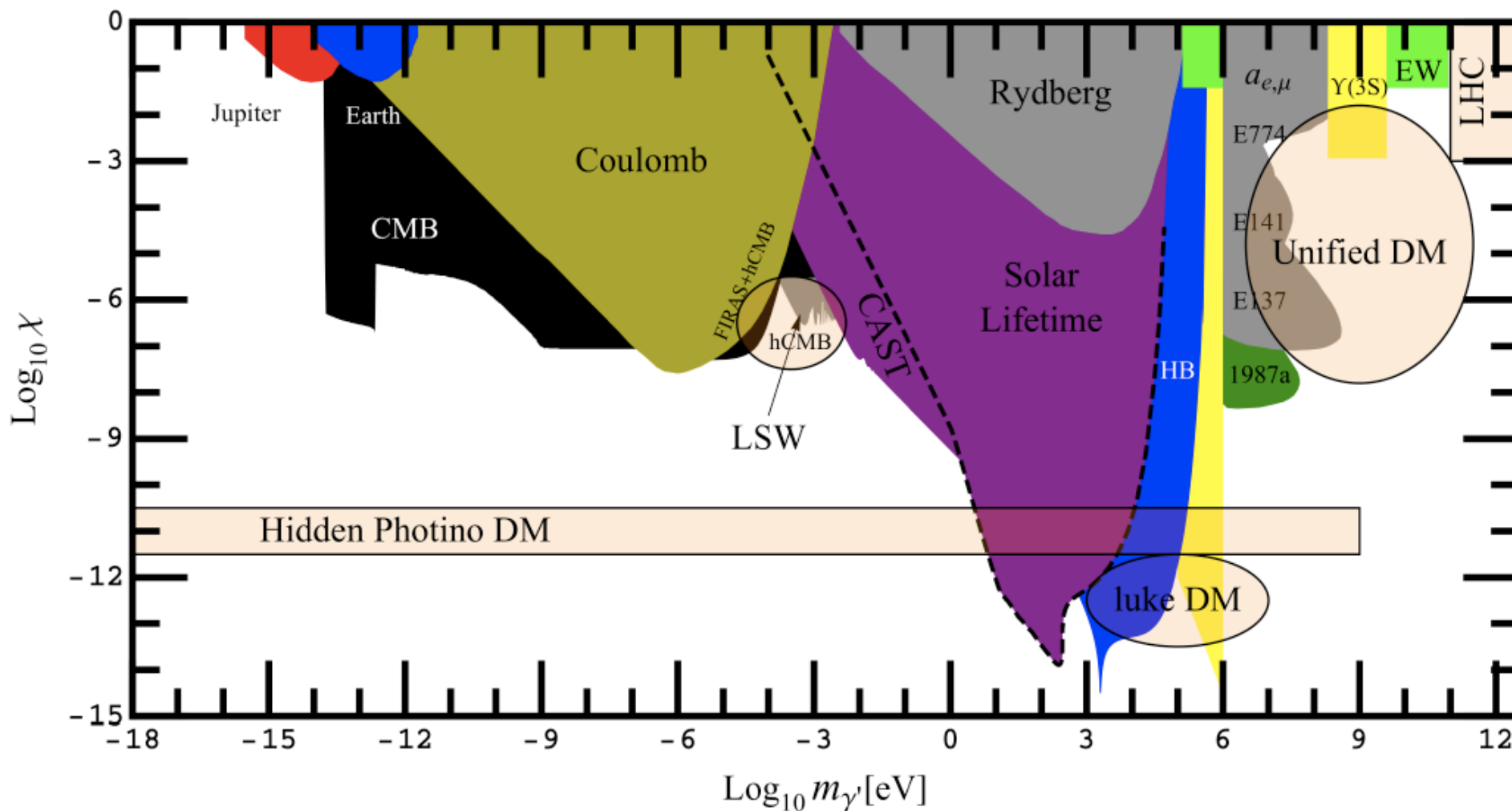
# Current Status: Axion(-like particles)



Need to go in this  
direction:  
Smaller coupling  
+  
larger mass

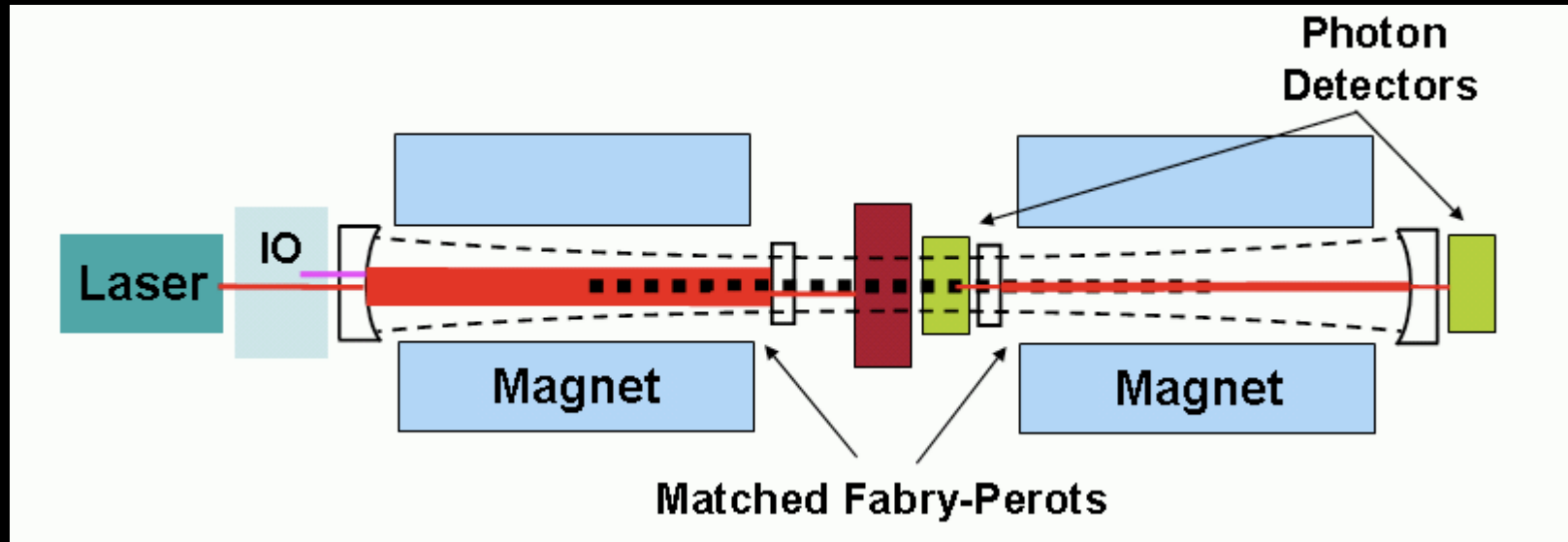
# Current status: Hidden Photons

- Already competitive + testing interesting area



# Future Improvements

- Resonant regeneration

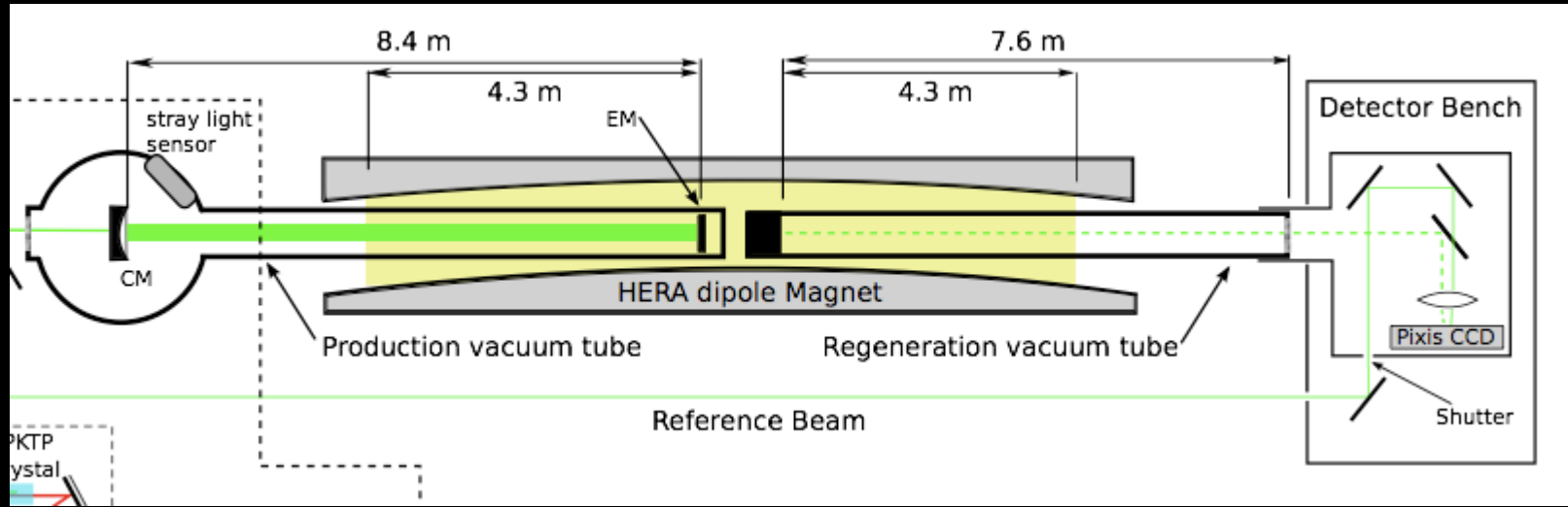


$$P_{\gamma \rightarrow X \rightarrow \gamma} \sim N_{pass,1} N_{pass,2} P_{\gamma \rightarrow X \rightarrow \gamma} (1 \text{ pass})$$

- Huge improvements possible  $N_{pass} \sim 10^5$  possible

# First/2 Implementation

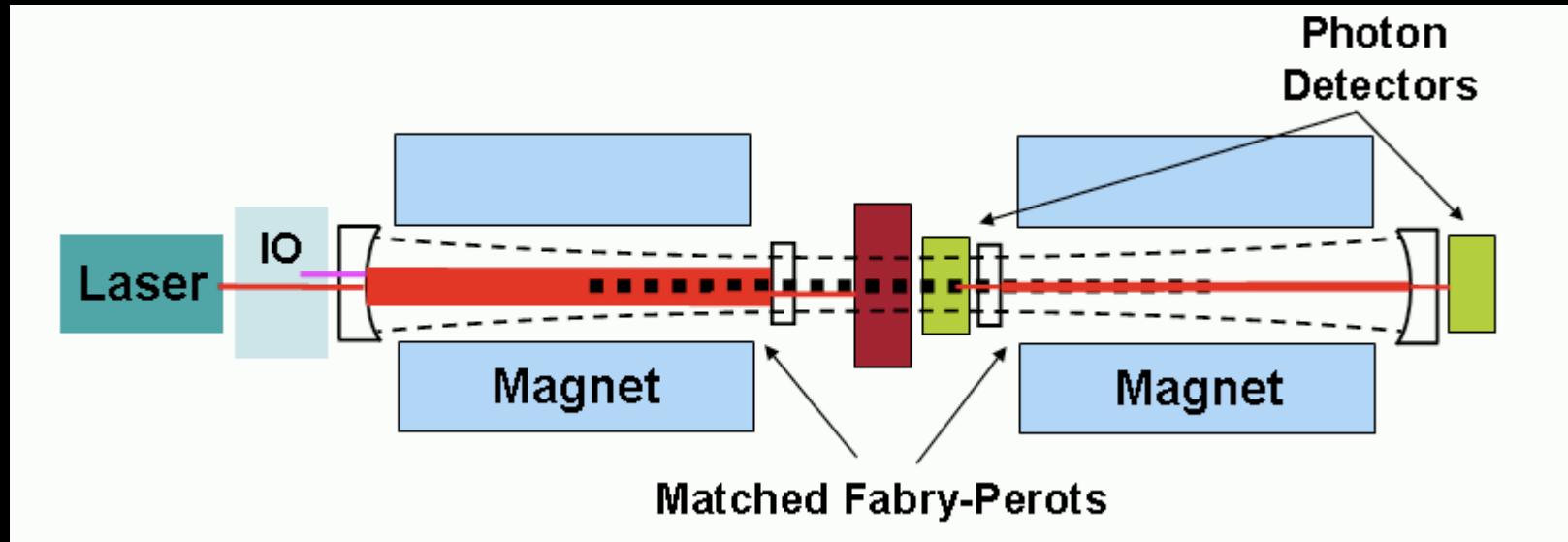
- ALPS has optical cavity in production region



(see talk by Klaus Ehret)

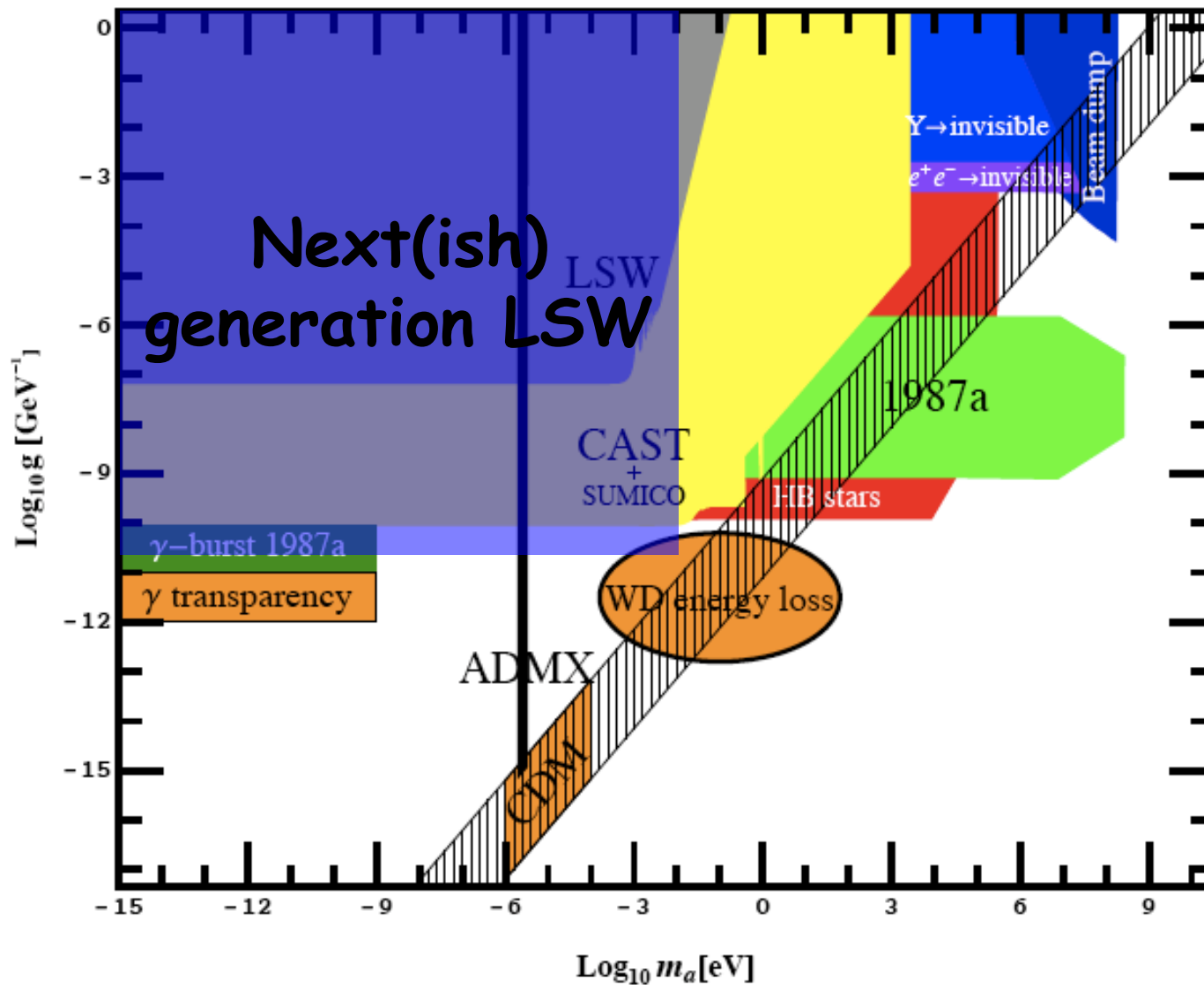
# Future Improvements

- Resonant regeneration



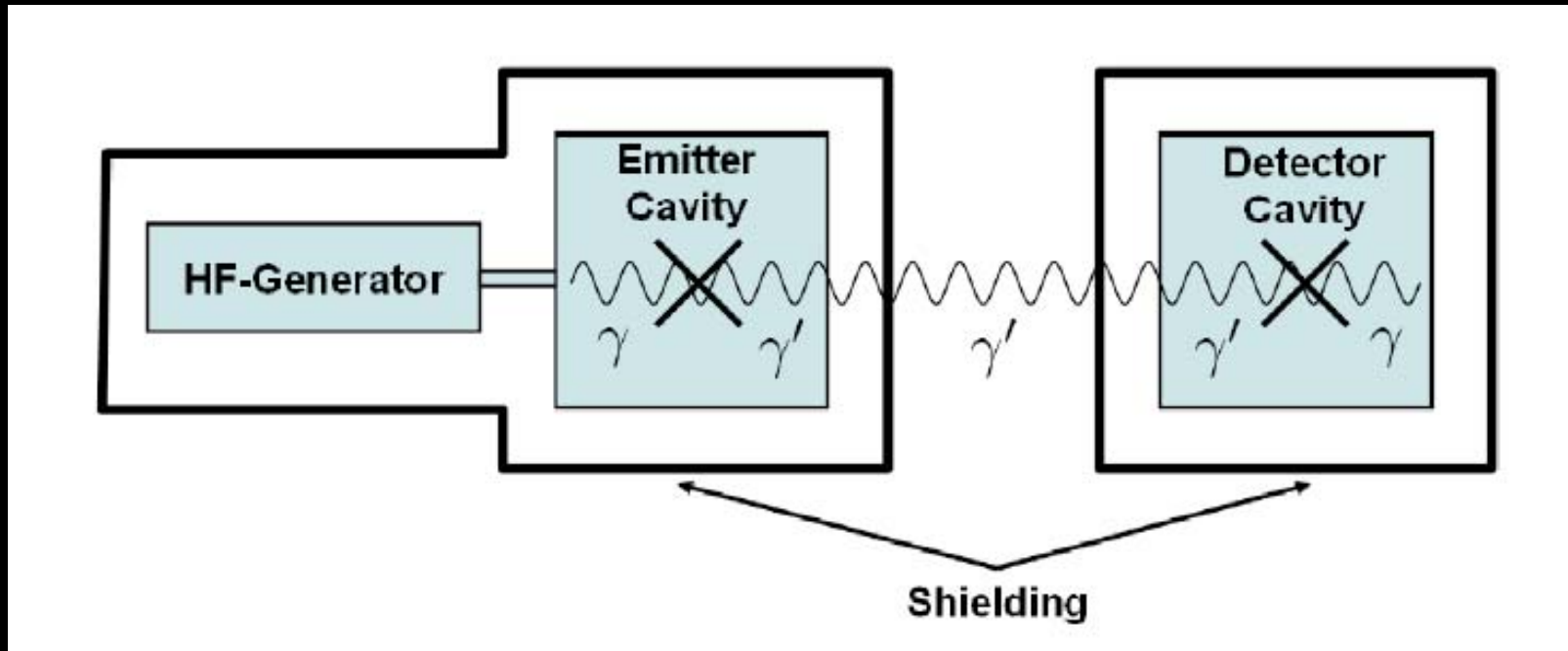
- More and stronger magnets  
(see talk by Paola Arias)
- Better detectors  
(see A. Engel and G. Cantatore)

# We might get there, soon :-)





# Microwave LSW



- Super-resonant  $N_{\text{pass}} \sim 10^{11}$  possible



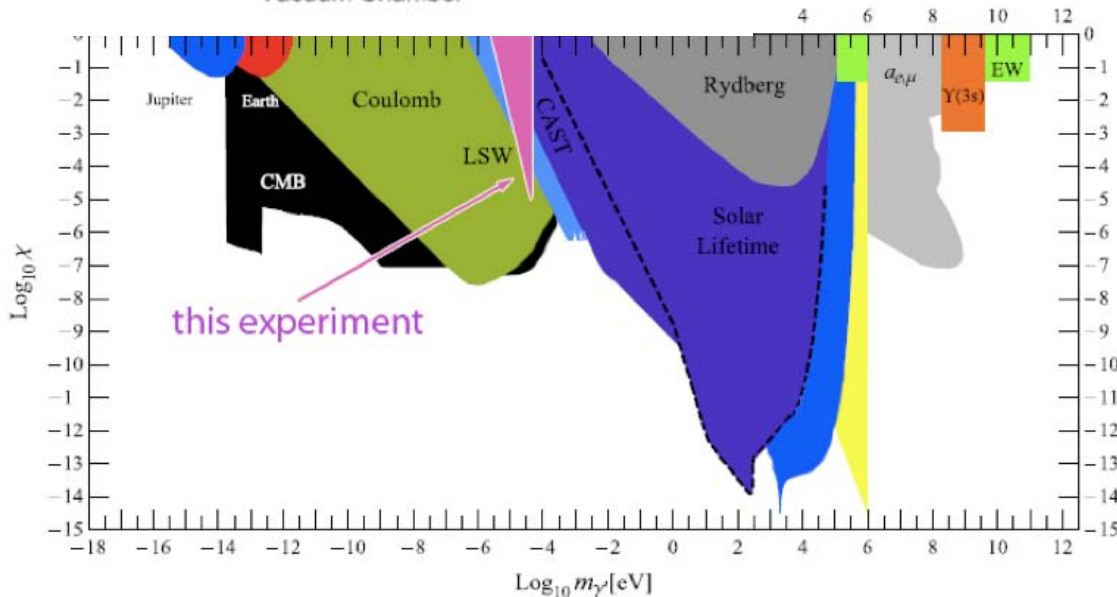
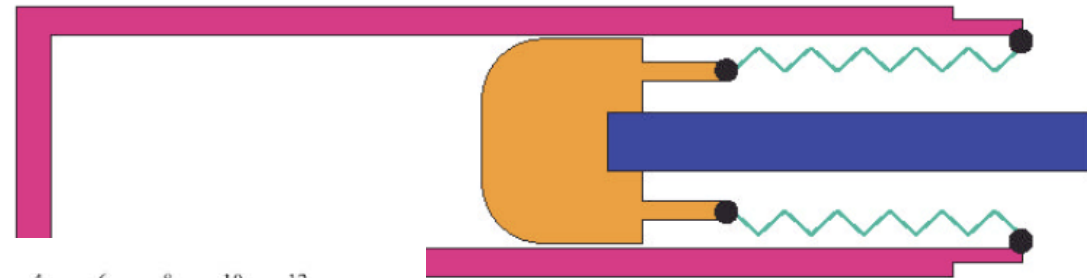
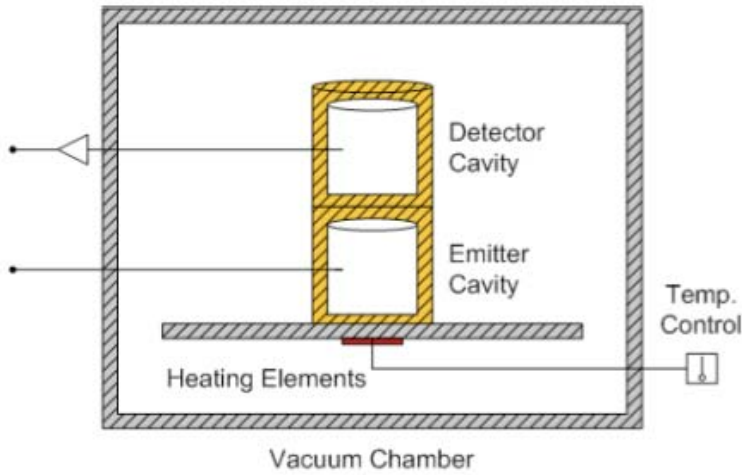
# It's underway: Australia + Yale Cavity Exp.

+ @CERN (Fritz Caspers) + @Daresbury

(Peter Williams)

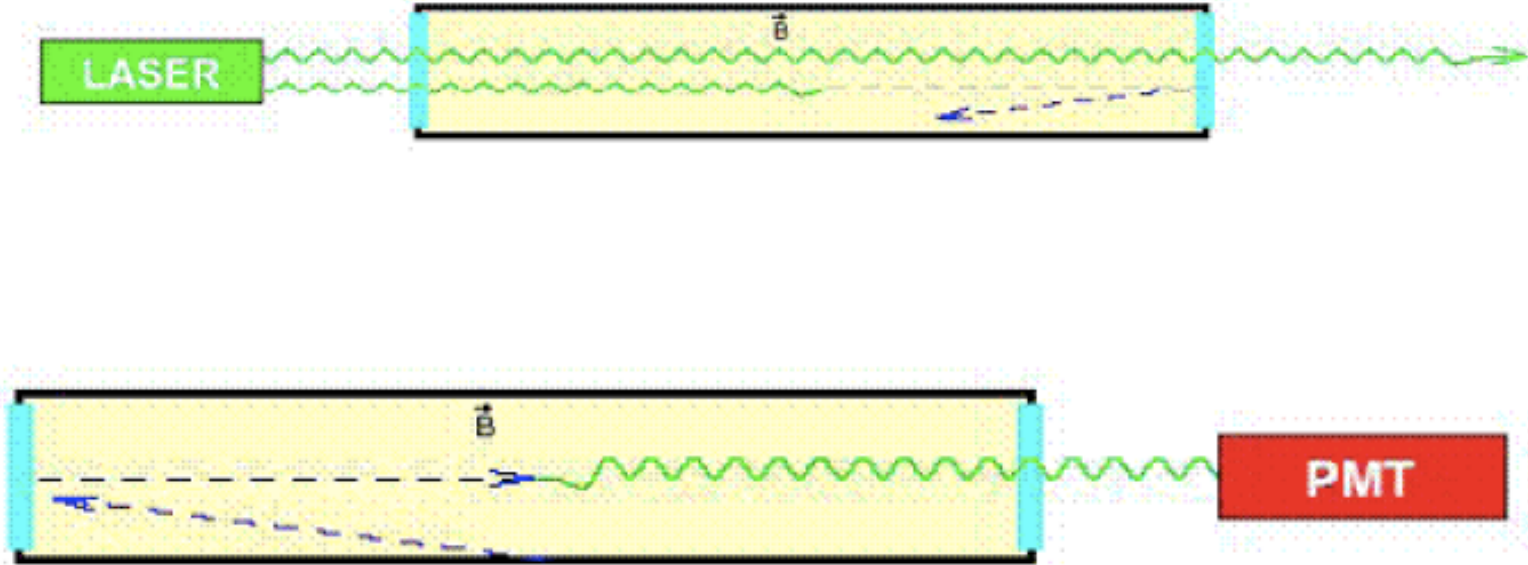
Cu Cavity with Tuning Plunger

See talk by Penny Slocum



# WISPs connected to Dark Energy...

- Testing Chameleons
- Afterglow Experiment

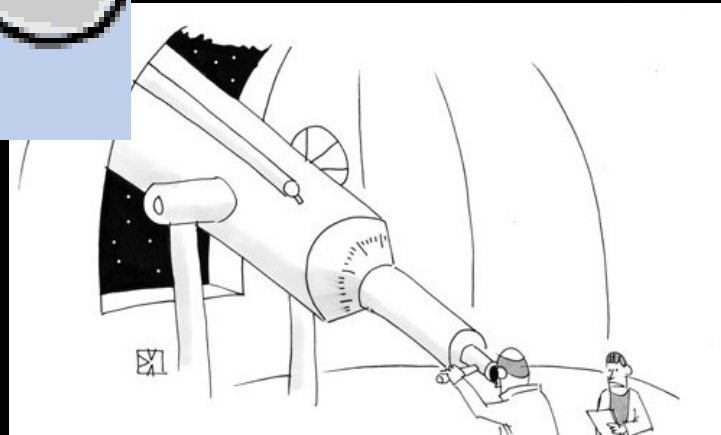
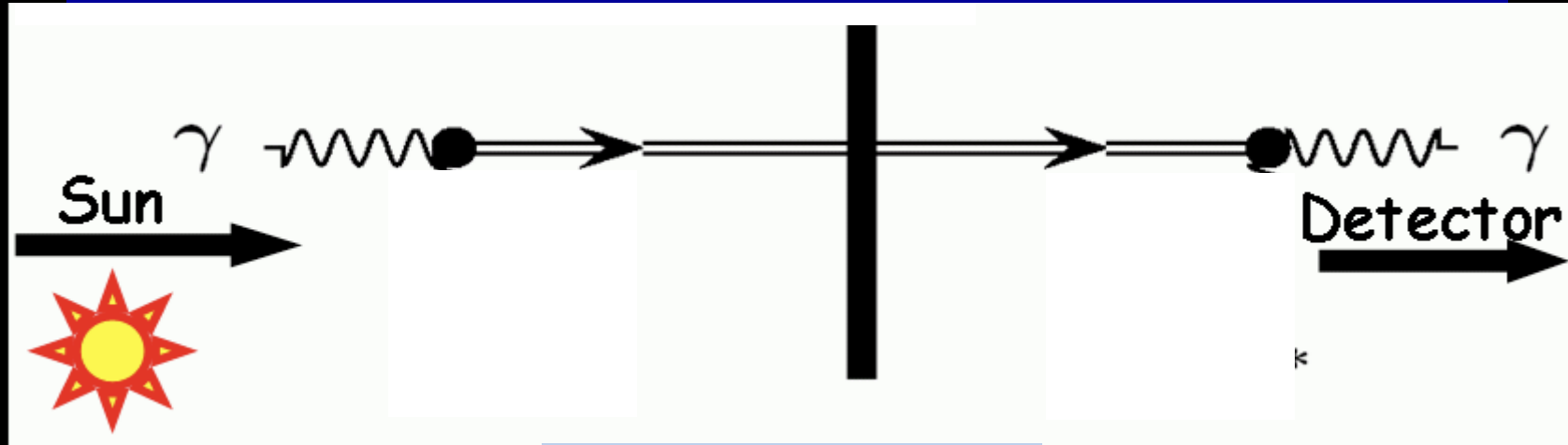


GammmeV

See talk by William Wester

Helioscopes

# Principle



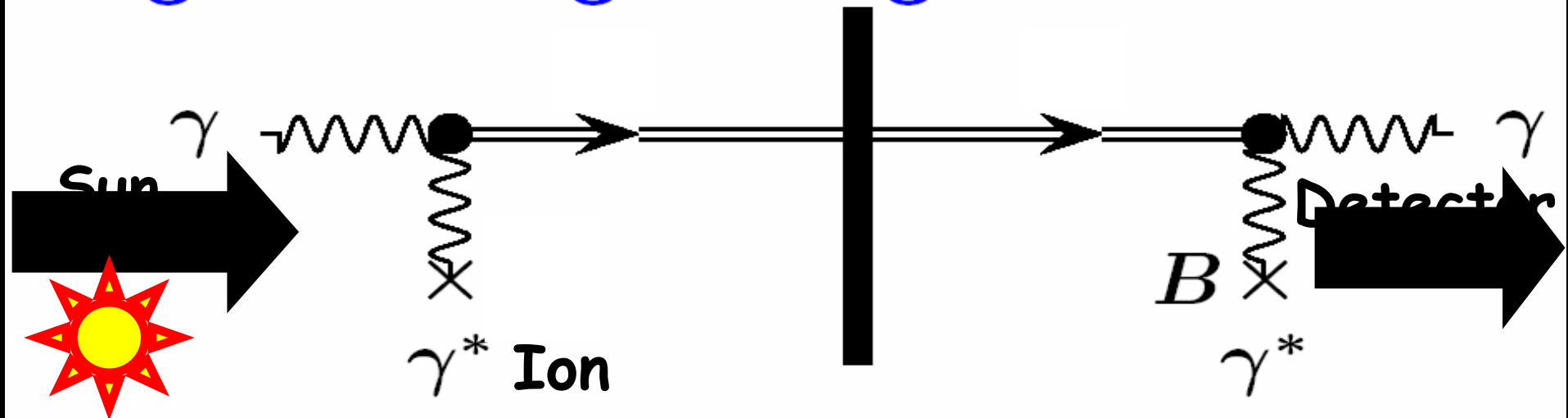
This isn't Dark matter,  
I just forgot to take off the lens cap

# Helioscopes

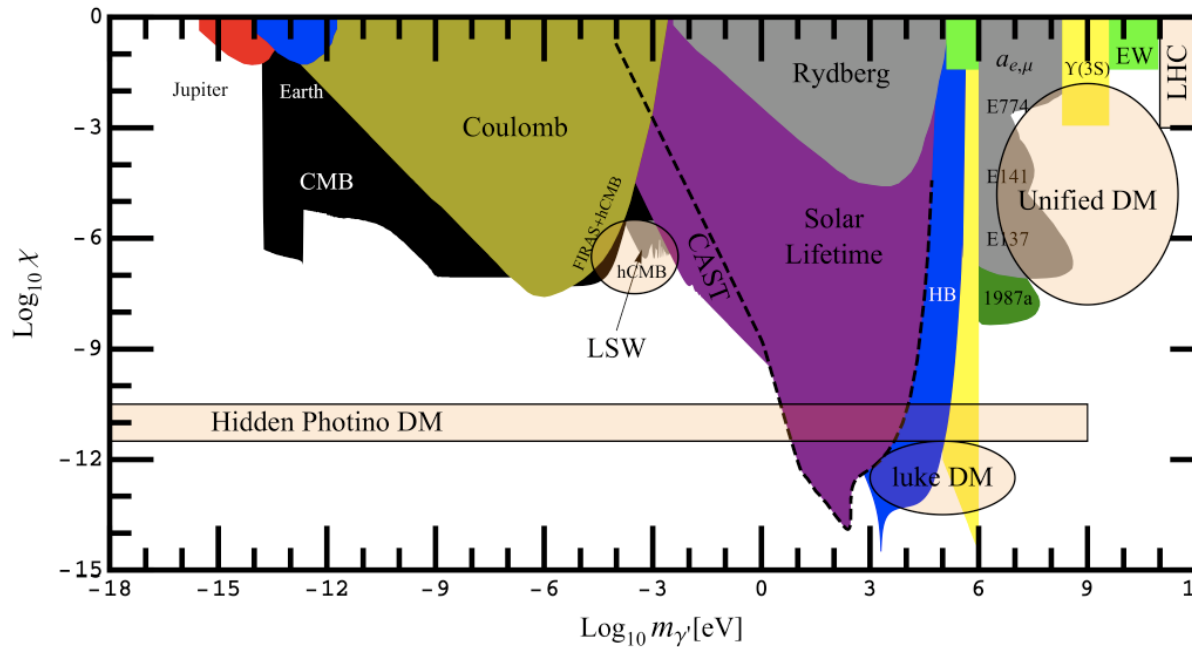
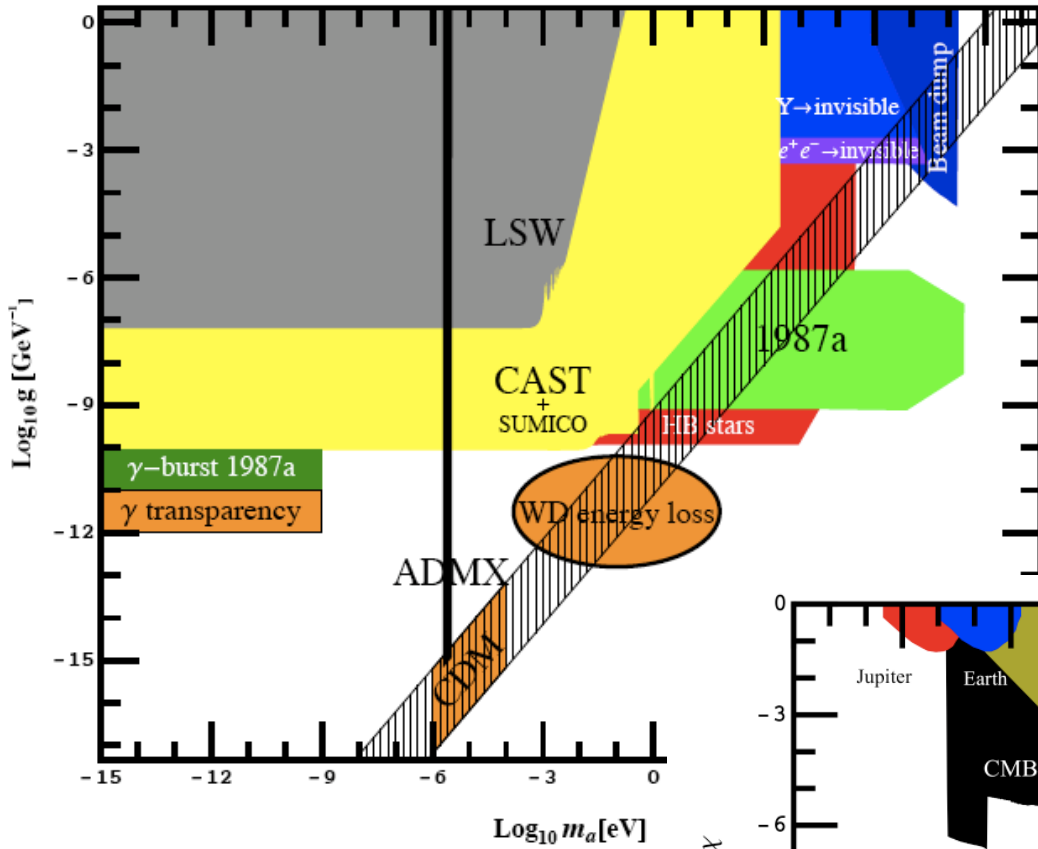
CAST@CERN  
SUMICO@Tokyo



“Light shining through a wall”



# Current Status: Very good



# Future

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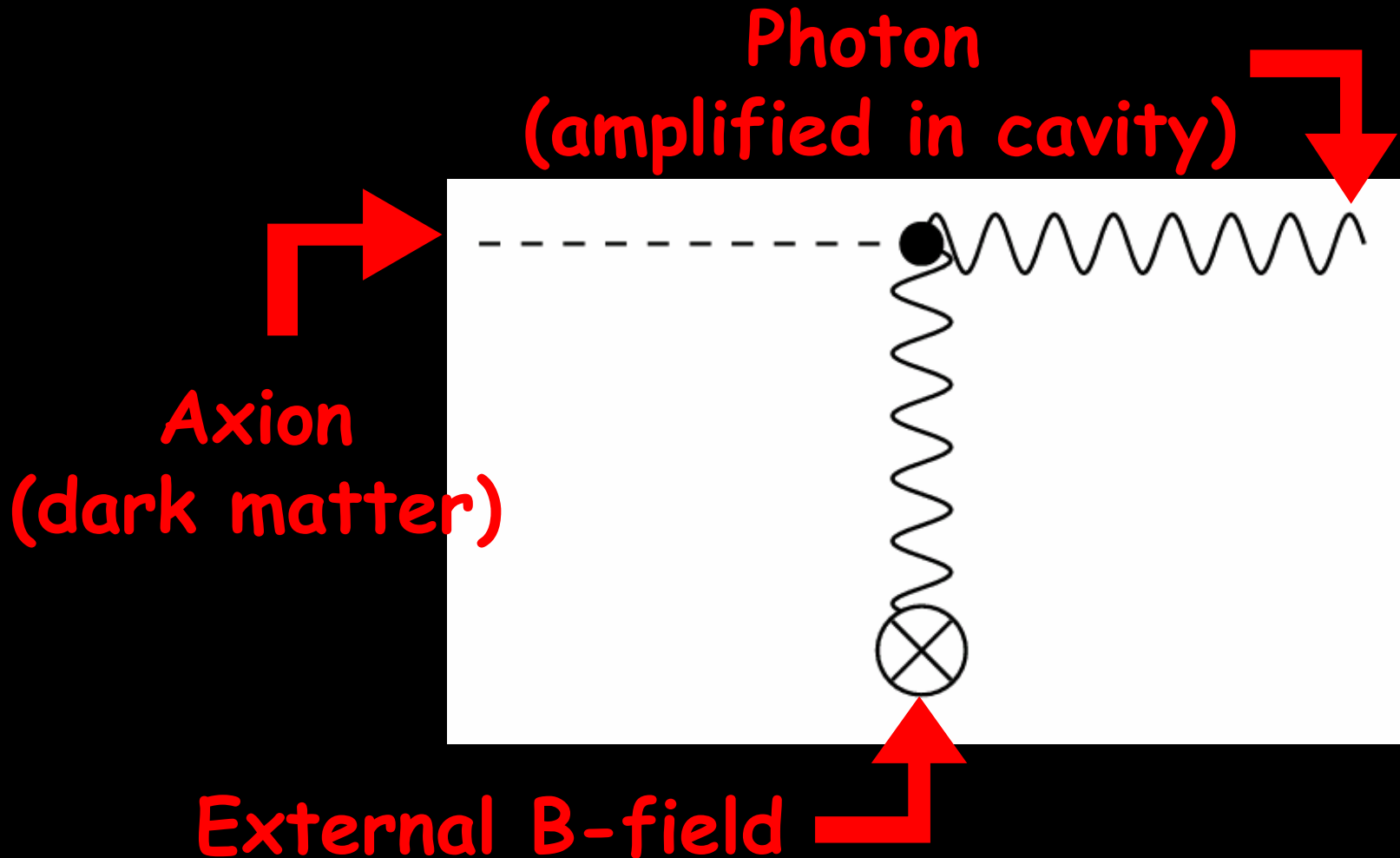
- Stronger magnet + wider aperture
  - More gas => touch axion line
-

Searching Axion  
Dark Matter:  
Haloscopes



# Two photon coupling

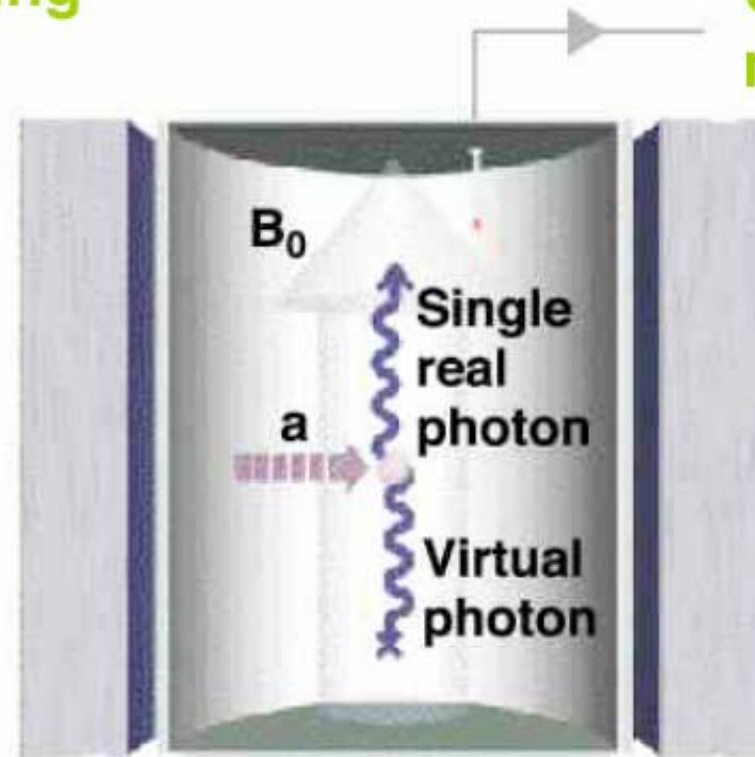
- Photon generation from axions!



# Axions in Cavity

Superconducting  
magnet

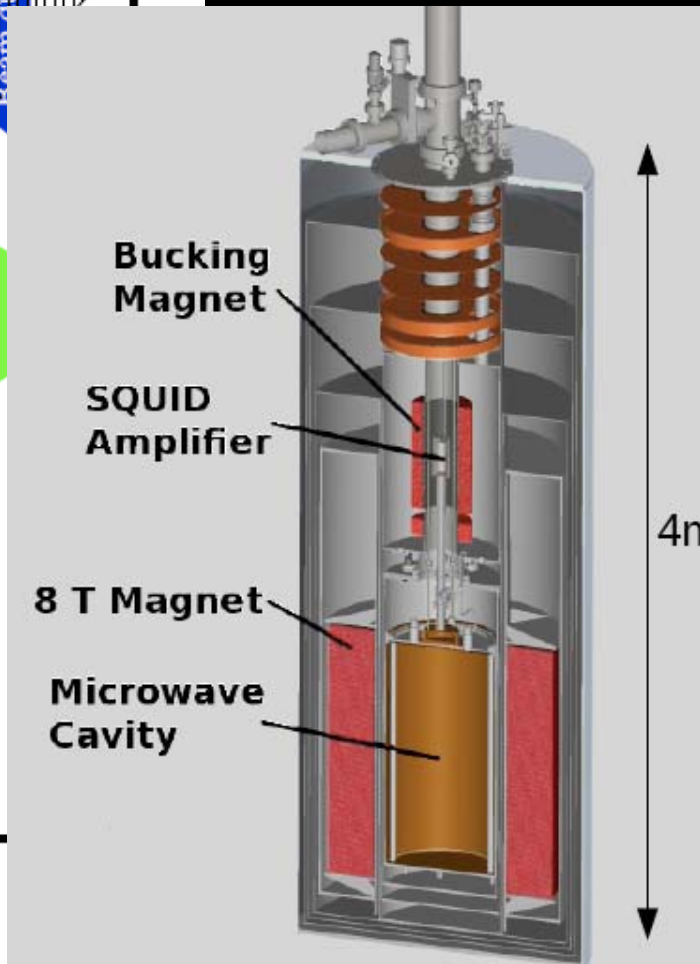
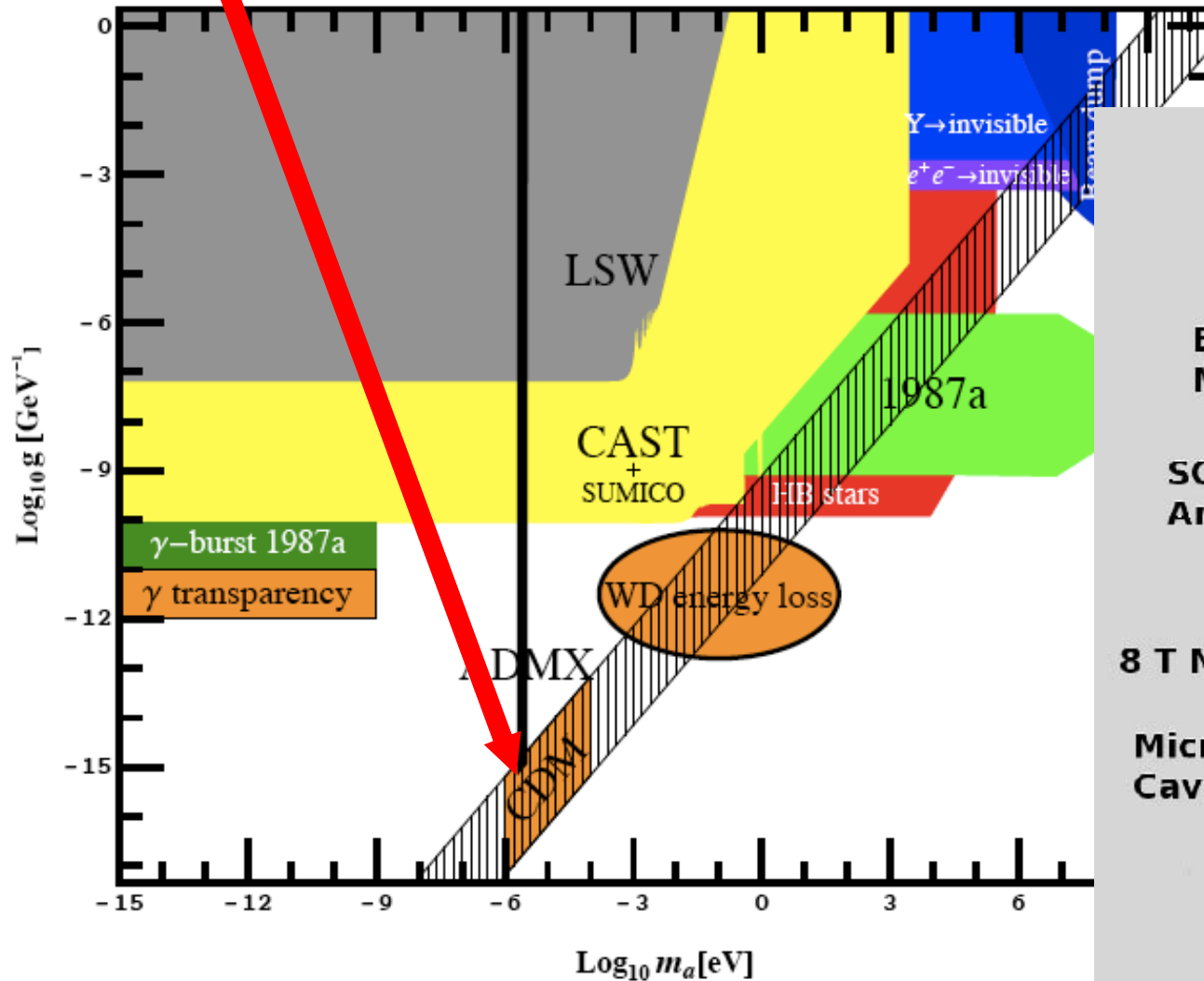
Ultra-low noise  
microwave receiver



High-Q microwave cavity

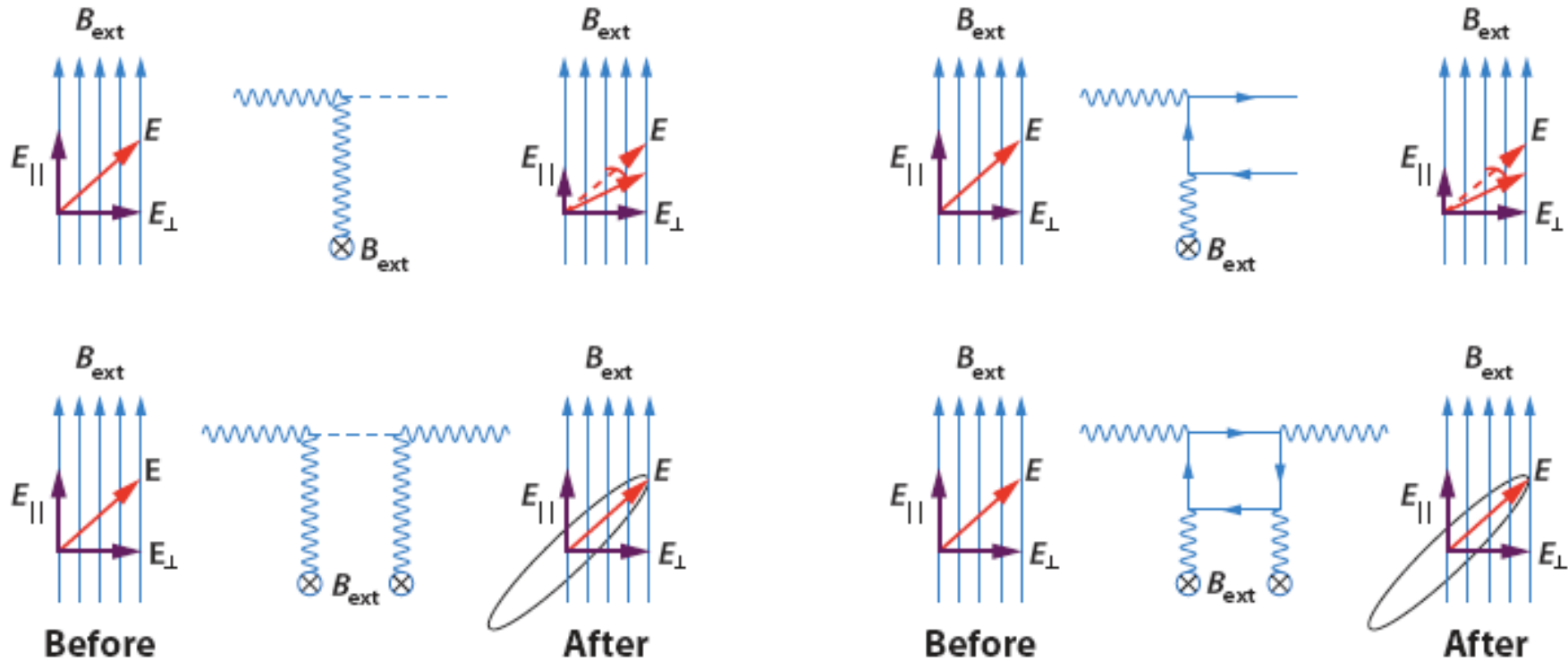
# Really testing axions!!!

- ADMX



# Laser Polarization Experiments

- Search for changes in Polarization



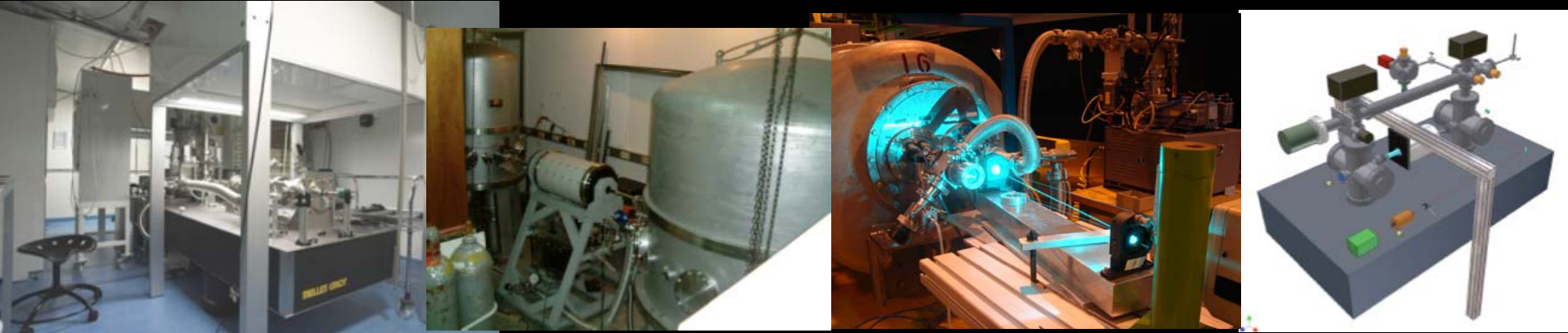
**Axions**

**Minicharged particles**

**+**

**Always QED**

# Currently BMV, Q&A, OSQAR, PVLAS II



- Not quite as sensitive
- But: Develop Cavity Technology  
Test QED effect!


Something to Revive?!?

Tests of Coulomb's law


# Test for hidden photons and MCPs

- WISPs modify Coulomb's law

- Hidden photons:


$$\delta V \sim \alpha q^2 \chi^2 \frac{\exp(-m_{\gamma'} r)}{r}$$

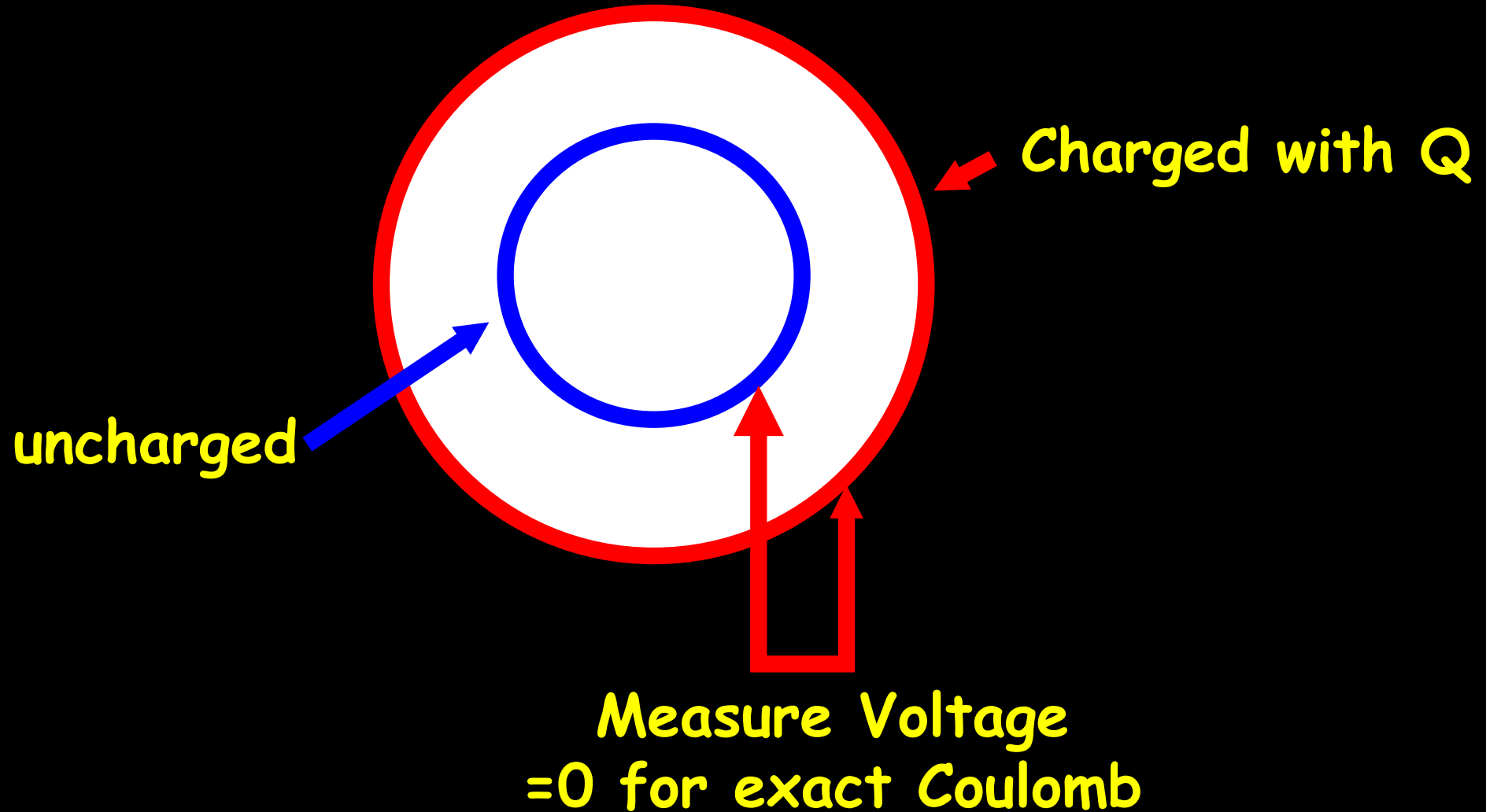
- Minicharged particles


$$\delta V(r) \approx \frac{Q\alpha}{r} \left[ \frac{\alpha\epsilon^2}{4\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{\exp(-2mr)}{(mr)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \right]$$

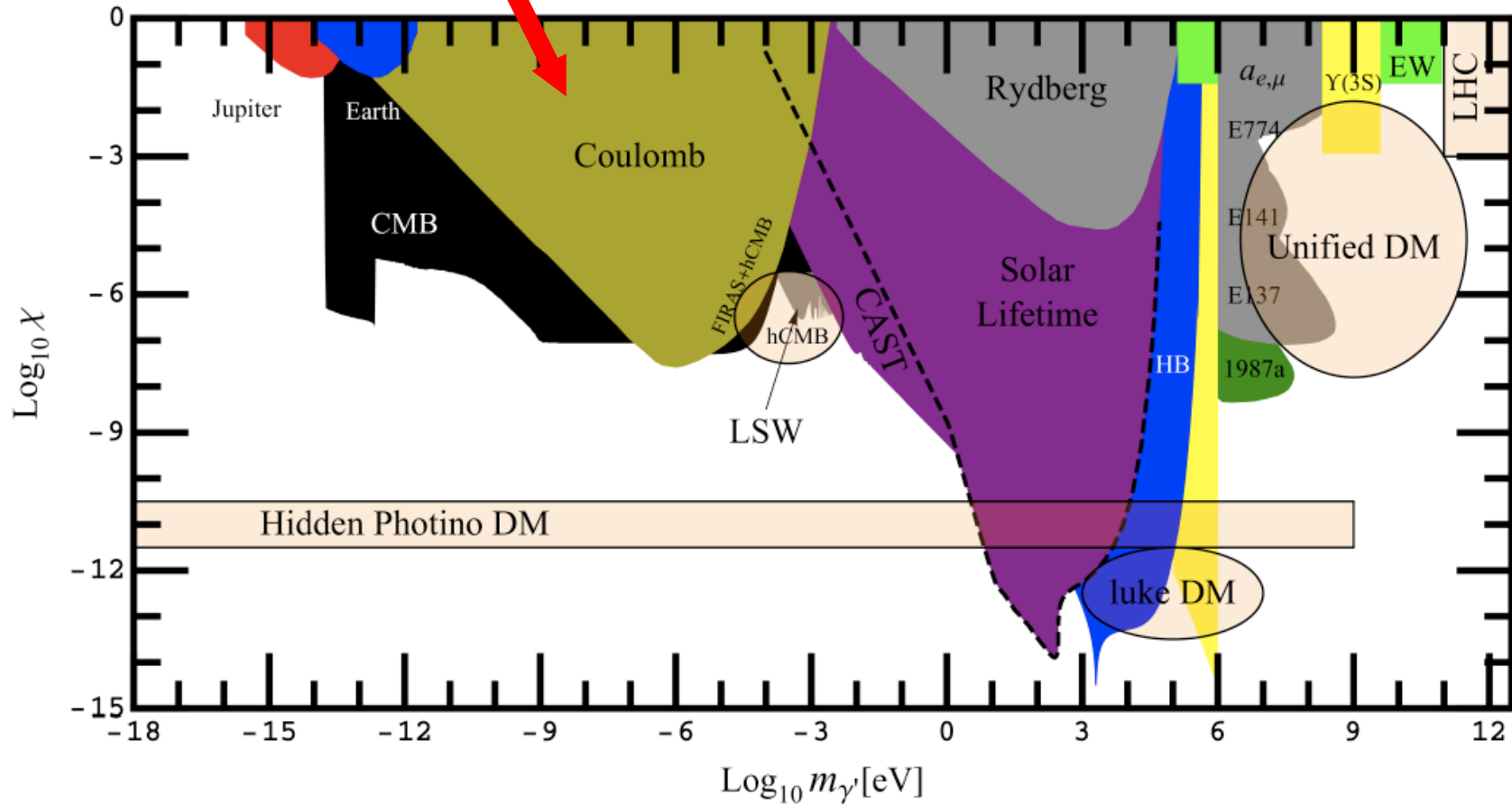


# Cavendish Experiments

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# Quite sensitive



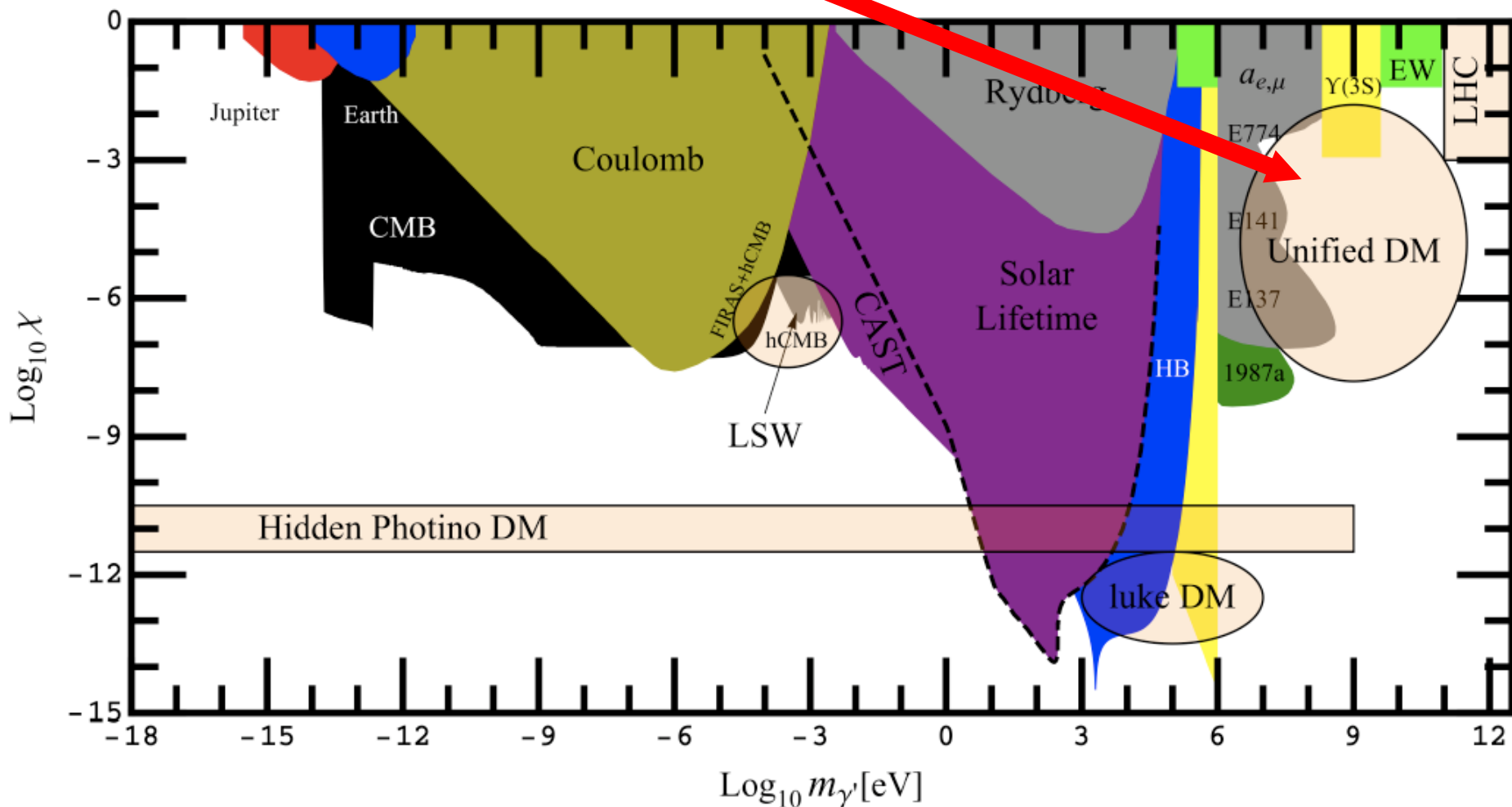
- Best experiment 39 years old!!!!

# WISPIshs\*

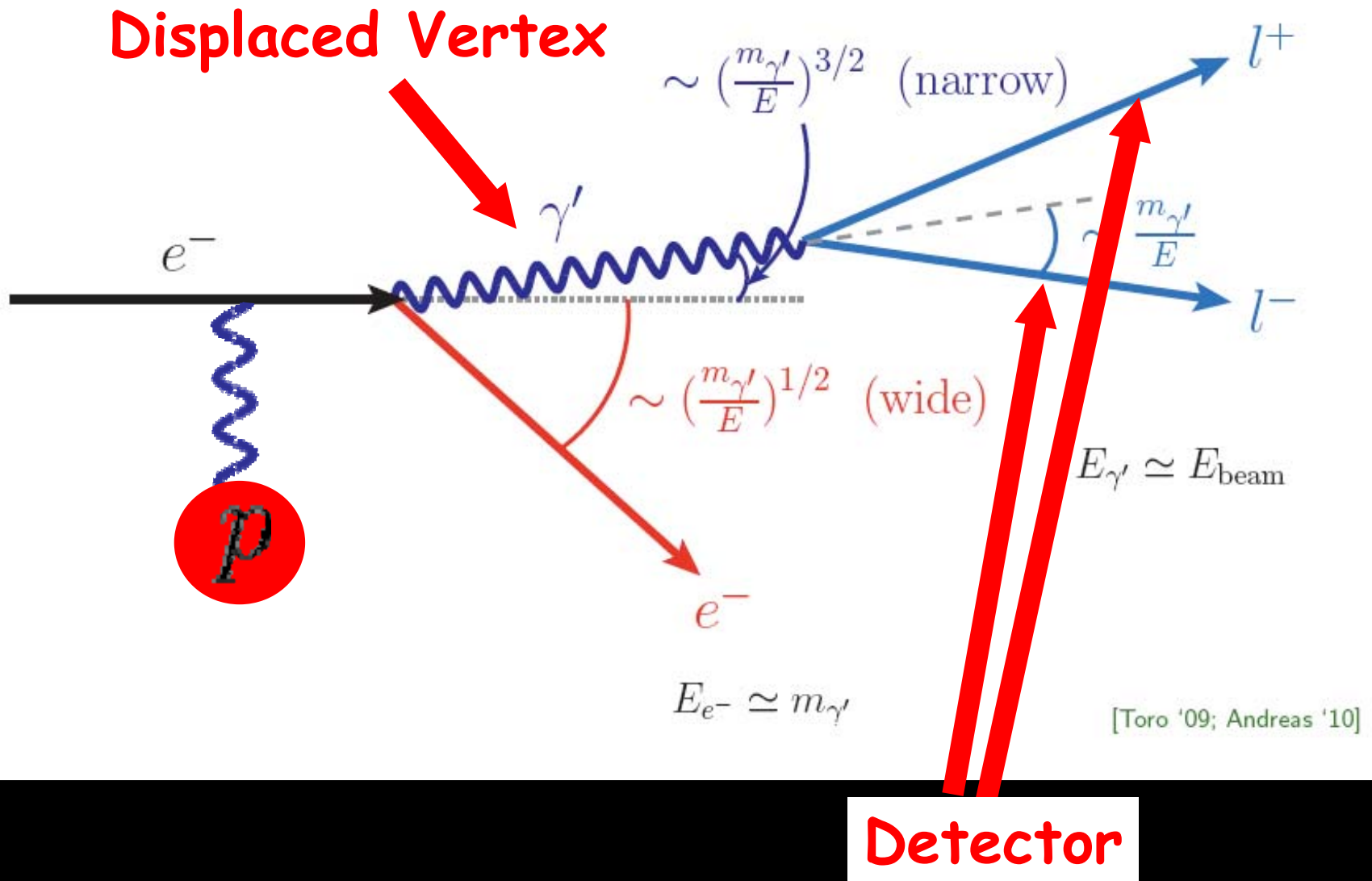
\*Weakly interacting sub-TeV particles

# Why?

- Lots of interest from astrophysics
- Pamela, DAMA, CoGent...



# Fixed targets



# Medium energy, high current

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- Medium energies of beam 100 MeV-50 GeV
  - BUT: High current  Test weak interactions
-

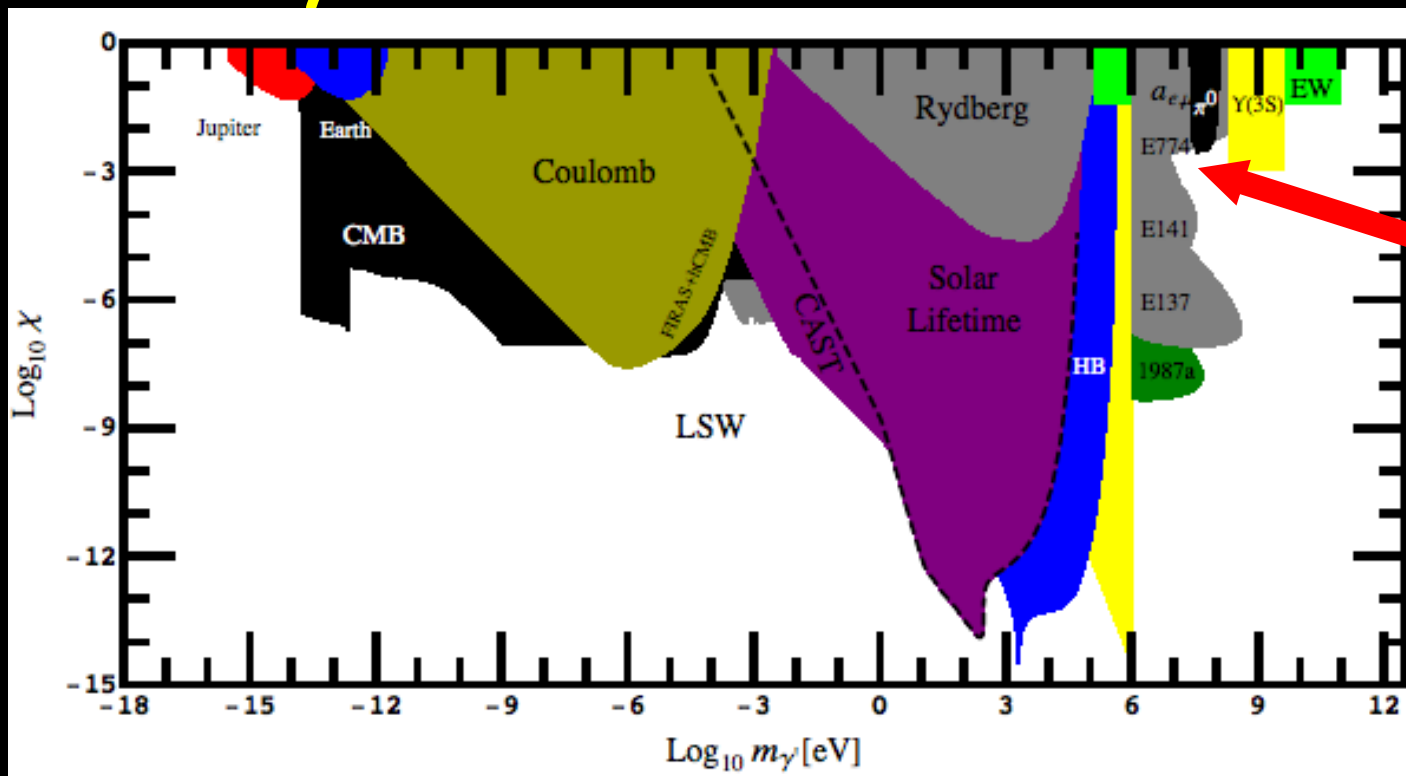
# Many beams, many chances...

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- DESY (see Sarah Andreas)
  - Jefferson Lab (see Andrei Afanasev)
  - Mainz Microtron
  - ...
-

# Towards another idea...

- Study  $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma' \rightarrow \gamma + e^+ e^-$
- Peak in the invariant mass at  $m_{\gamma'}$
- Displaced vertex
- Currently bound from  $BR \sim 4 \cdot 10^{-6}$





Conclusions

# Conclusions

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- Good Physics Case for Axions and WISP(ish)s  
➡ explore 'The Low Energy Frontier'

- Low energy experiments test energy scales much higher than accelerators  
➡ Complementary!

- Many  $O(20)$ !!!

Experiments are running or in planning!



HUGE discovery potential in the near future!

**Discover the WISP Islands**