



SNOWMASS 2021:

# Quantum Sensors for Wavelike Dark Matter Searches

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California State University – East Bay

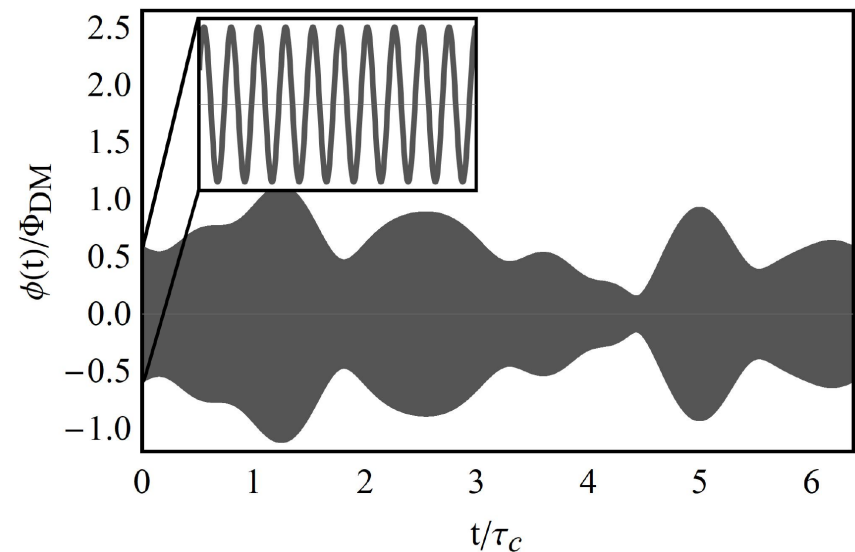
# Preliminaries

- Many theories of beyond-the-Standard-Model physics predict the existence of ultralight bosons which could be the dark matter.
- Phenomenology of ultralight bosonic dark matter is well-described locally by oscillating field → wavelike dark matter.
- Limited number of “portals” via which wavelike dark matter can interact with Standard Model particles: photons, gluons, fermions, etc.
- Experiments target different portals, mass/frequency ranges.
- Given the broad range of theoretical ideas, it is important to cast a wide experimental net.

# Ultralight bosonic dark matter

Many bosons occupy a single mode.

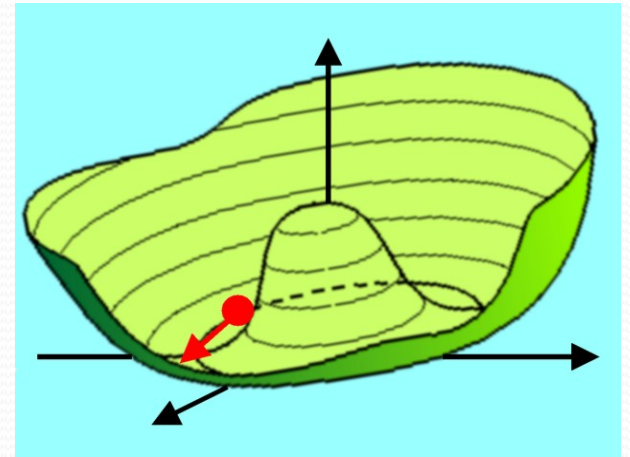
Standard Halo Model + negligible self-interactions:  
manifest as a classical oscillating field with a coherence length  
given by their deBroglie wavelength.



# Axions, ALPs, & Hidden Photons

The QCD axion mass is given by:

$$m_a \sim \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}{f_a} .$$

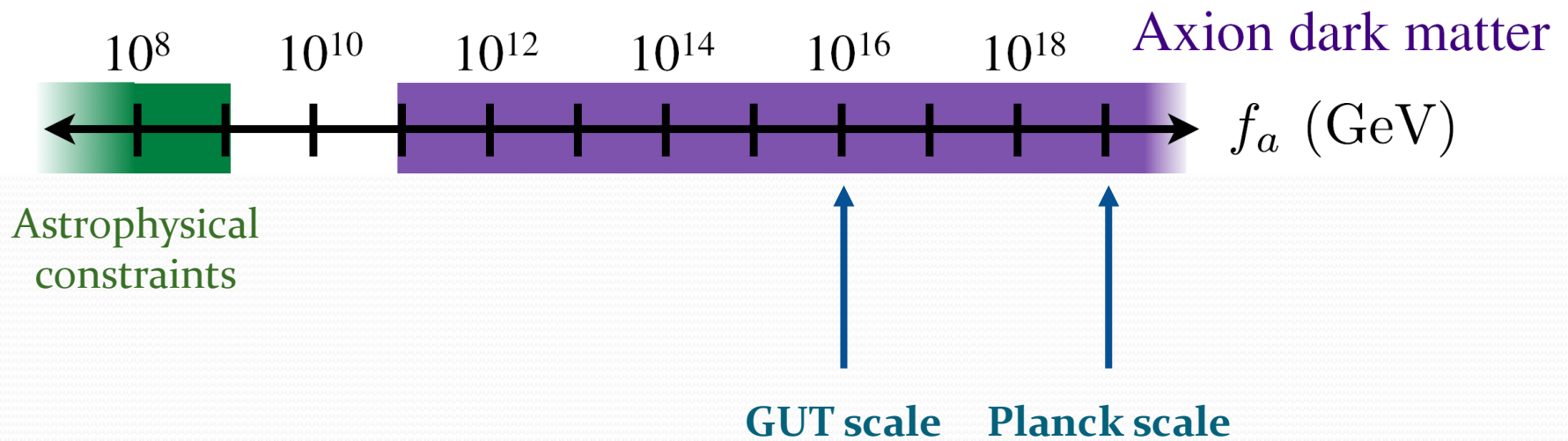


$f_a \rightarrow$  symmetry breaking scale,  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \sim 200 \text{ MeV} \rightarrow$  QCD scale.

Axion-like particles (ALPs) may have different  $\Lambda$  and  $f$  (e.g., string theories, relaxion scenario).

Hidden photons have a different phenomenology.

# Axion/ALP dark matter



# QCD axion Compton frequency

Oscillation frequency of the axion field is determined by the axion mass:

$$m_a \sim \frac{(200 \text{ MeV})^2}{f_a} \sim \text{MHz} \times \left( \frac{10^{16} \text{ GeV}}{f_a} \right) .$$

$f_a$  at  $10^{13}$  GeV scale  $\rightarrow$  GHz frequencies,

$f_a$  at GUT scale  $\rightarrow$  MHz frequencies,

$f_a$  at Planck scale  $\rightarrow$  kHz frequencies.

# Portals

Different classes of bosons couple differently to Standard Model particles and fields, generating a variety of observables:

Spin	Type	Operator	Interaction	DM effects
0	Scalar	$\phi h^\dagger h, \phi^n \mathcal{O}_{\text{SM}}$	Higgs portal or dilaton	Fundamental constant variation
		$a G^{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}$	Axion QCD	Nucleon EDM
	Pseudoscalar	$a F^{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu}$	Axion E&M	EMF along $B$ field
		$(\partial_\mu a) \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \psi$	Axion fermion	Spin torque
1	Vector	$F'_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$	Vector-photon mixing	EMF in vacuum
		$F'_{\mu\nu} \bar{\psi} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \psi$	Dipole operator	Spin torque
	Axial vector	$A'_\mu \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \psi$	Minimally coupled	Spin torque

Safronova, Budker, DeMille, Jackson Kimball, Derevianko, and Clark,  
*Rev. Mod. Phys.* **90**, 025008 (2018).

# Axion couplings

$$\frac{a}{f_a} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$



Coupling to electromagnetic field

$$\frac{a}{f_a} G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}$$



Coupling to gluon field:  
nuclear EDMs

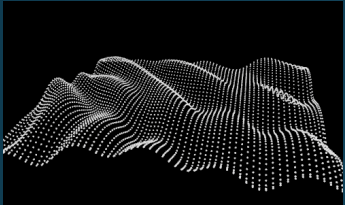
$$\frac{\partial_\mu a}{f_a} \bar{\Psi}_f \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \Psi_f$$



Coupling to fermion spins



# Ultralight bosonic dark matter



Ultralight bosonic  
dark matter =  
oscillating field

Ultralight spin-0 & spin-1 bosons

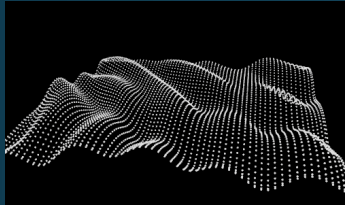
QCD axion

Axion-like particles (ALPs)

Moduli & other scalar particles

Dark/hidden photons

# Portals and observables



Ultralight bosonic  
dark matter =  
oscillating field

Ultralight spin-0 & spin-1 bosons

QCD axion  
Axion-like particles (ALPs)  
Moduli & other scalar particles  
Dark/hidden photons

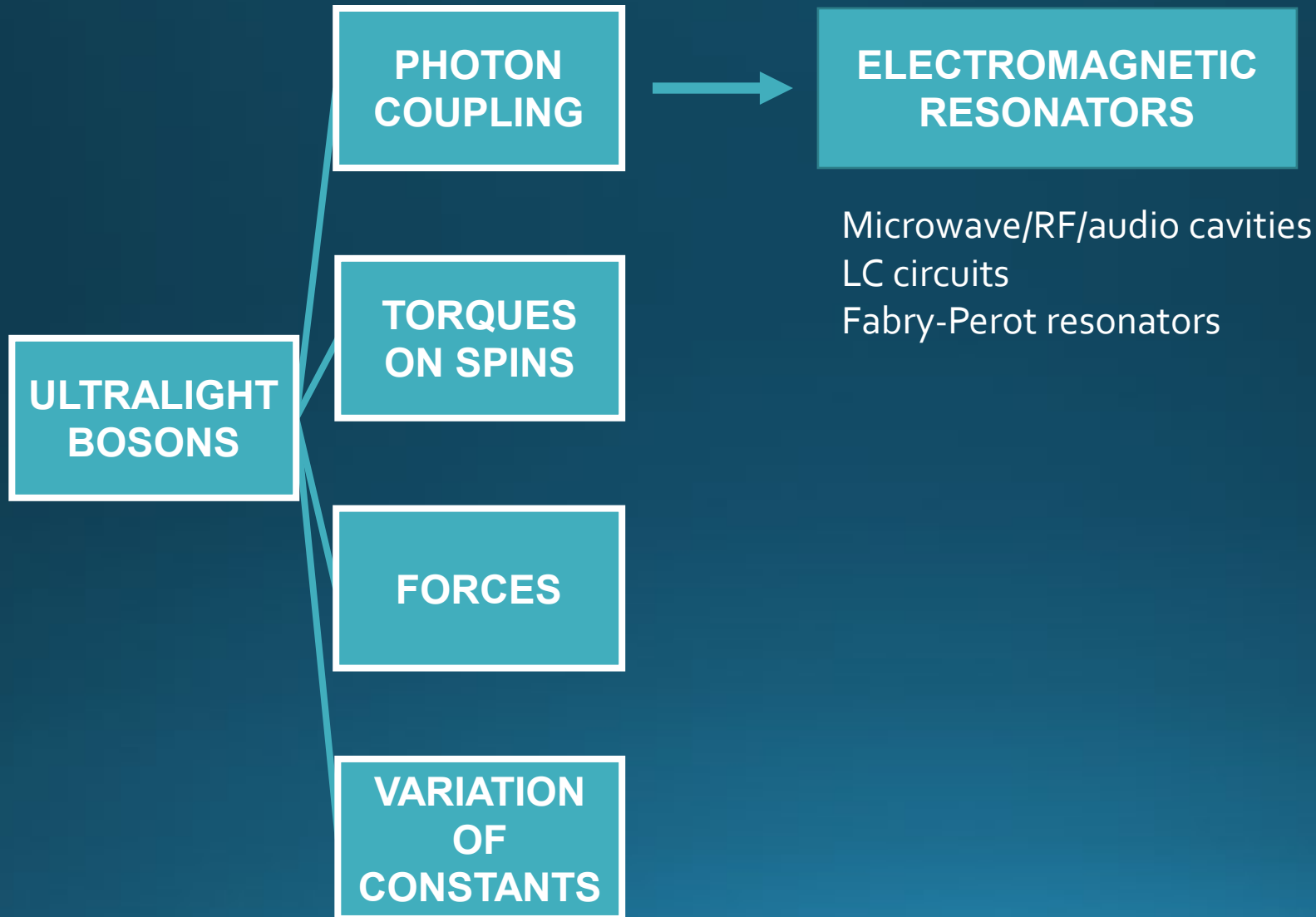
PHOTON COUPLING

TORQUES ON SPINS

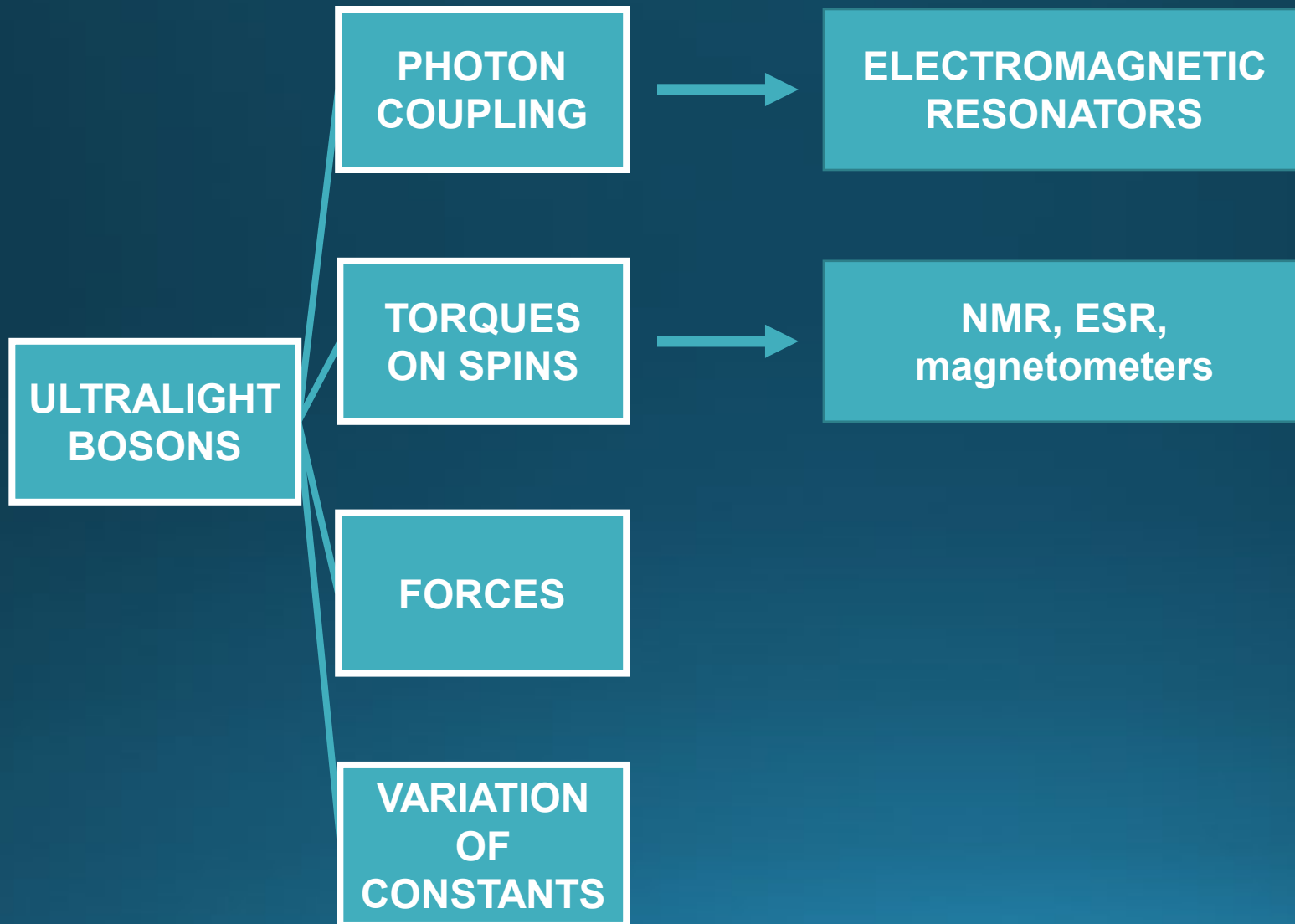
FORCES

VARIATION OF  
“CONSTANTS”

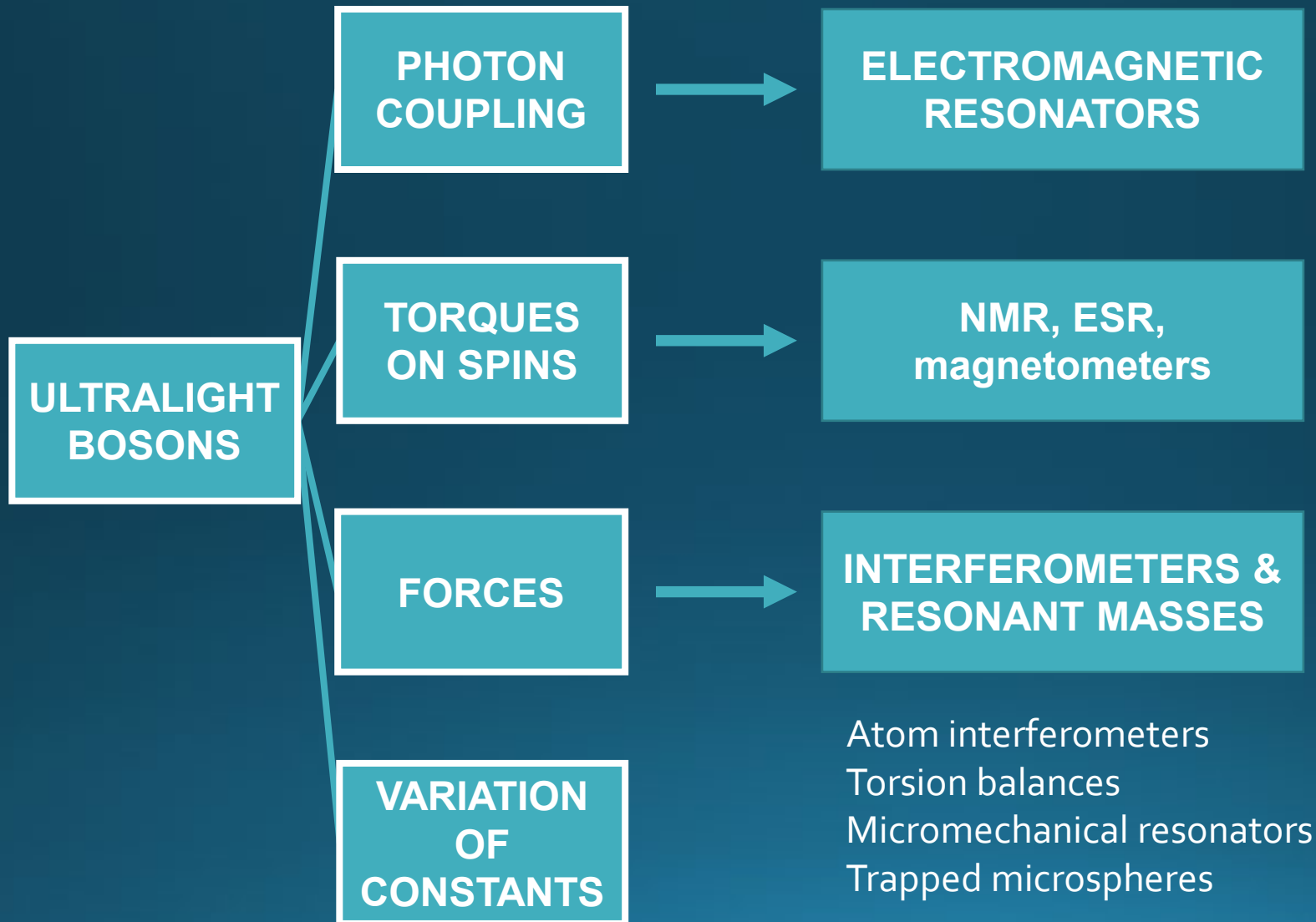
# Experimental techniques



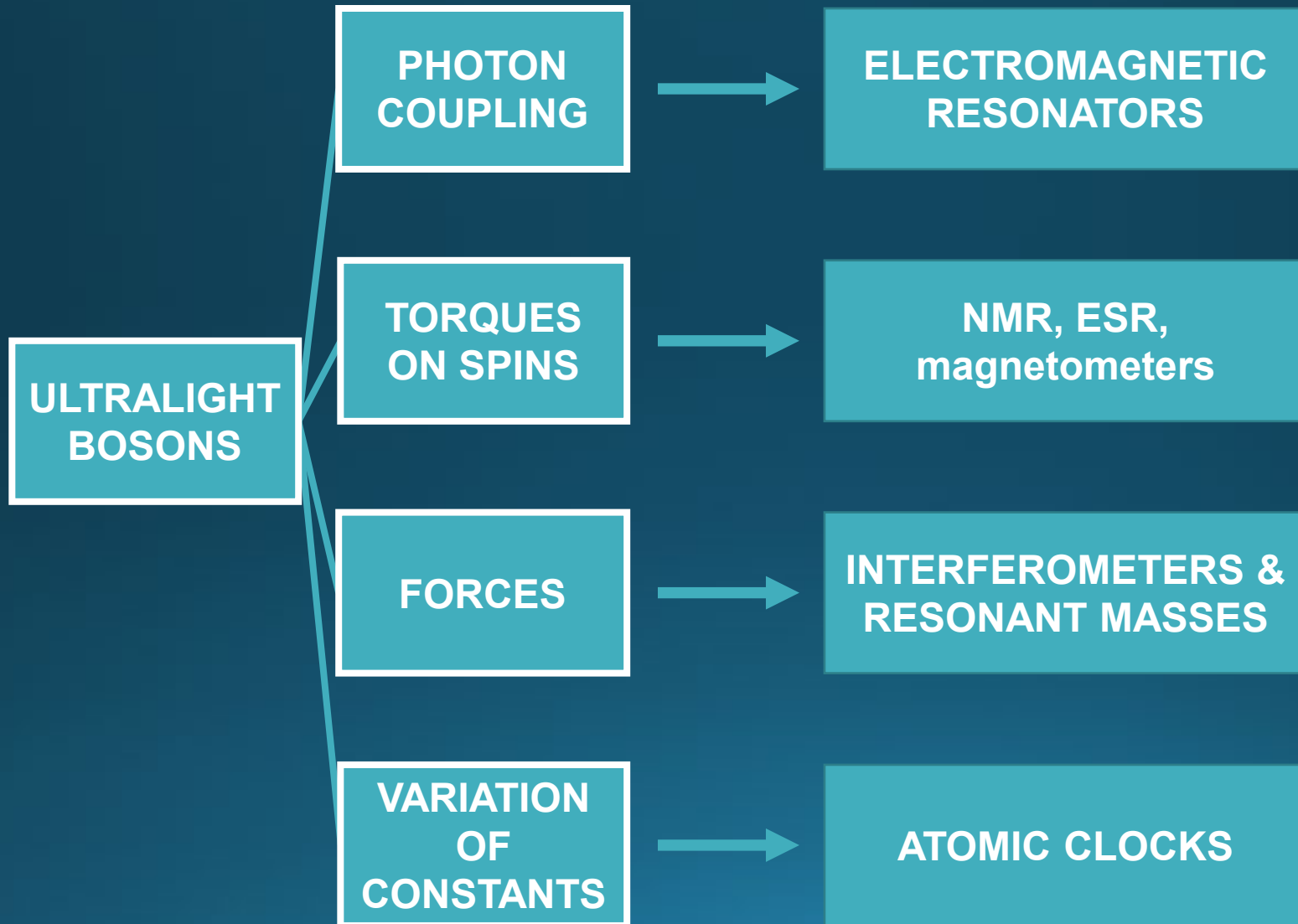
# Experimental techniques



# Experimental techniques



# Experimental techniques



# Examples

**ADMX & HAYSTAC**

**PHOTON  
COUPLING**

**EM RESONATORS**

**ULTRALIGHT  
BOSONS**

**TORQUES  
ON SPINS**

**NMR & ESR**

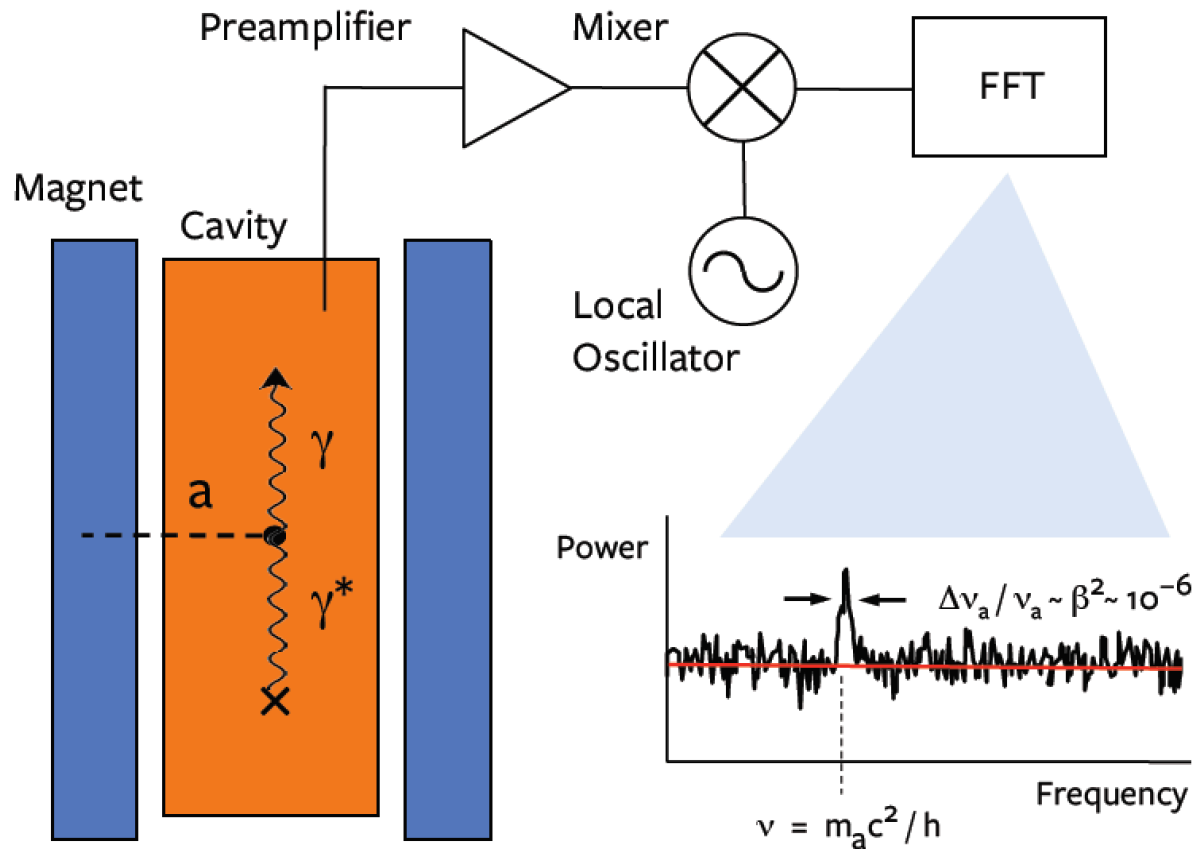
**FORCES**

**INTERFEROMETERS**

**VARIATION  
OF  
CONSTANTS**

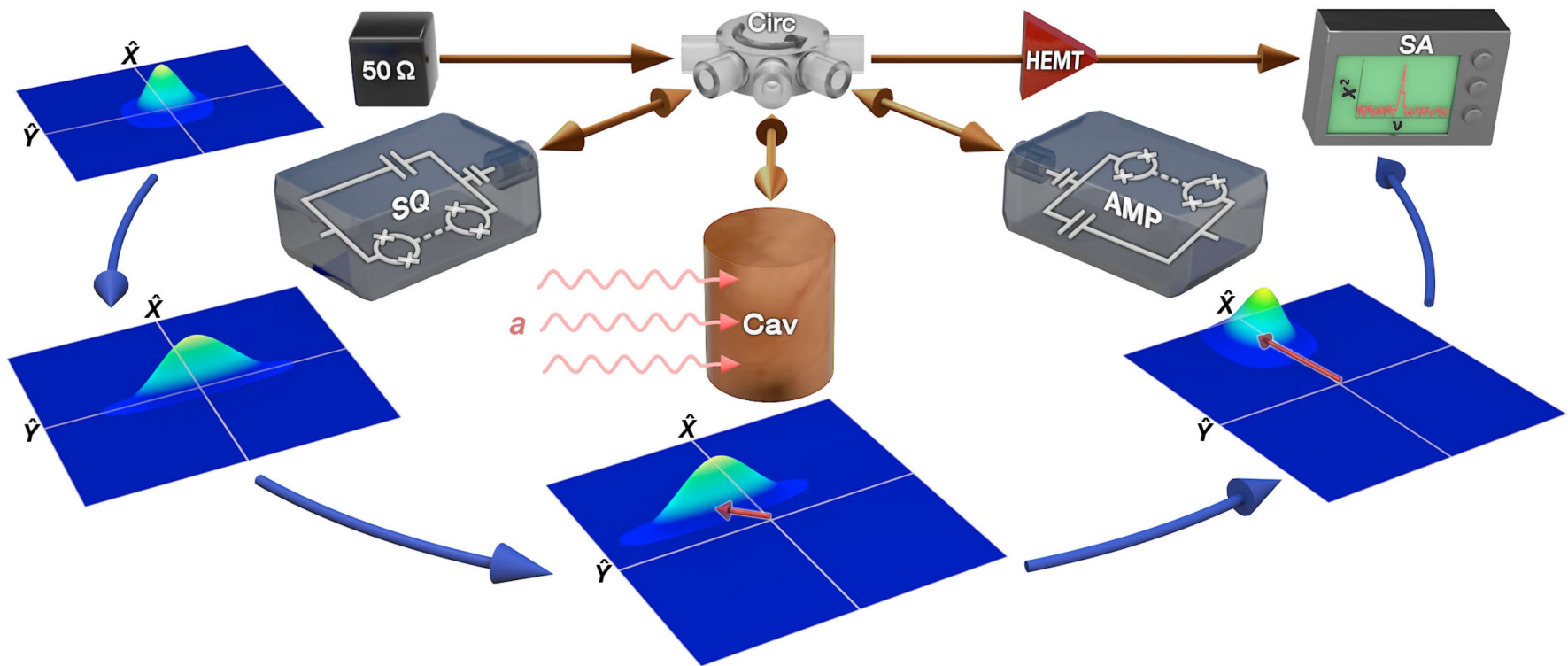
**CLOCKS**

# ADMX: Axion Dark Matter eXperiment

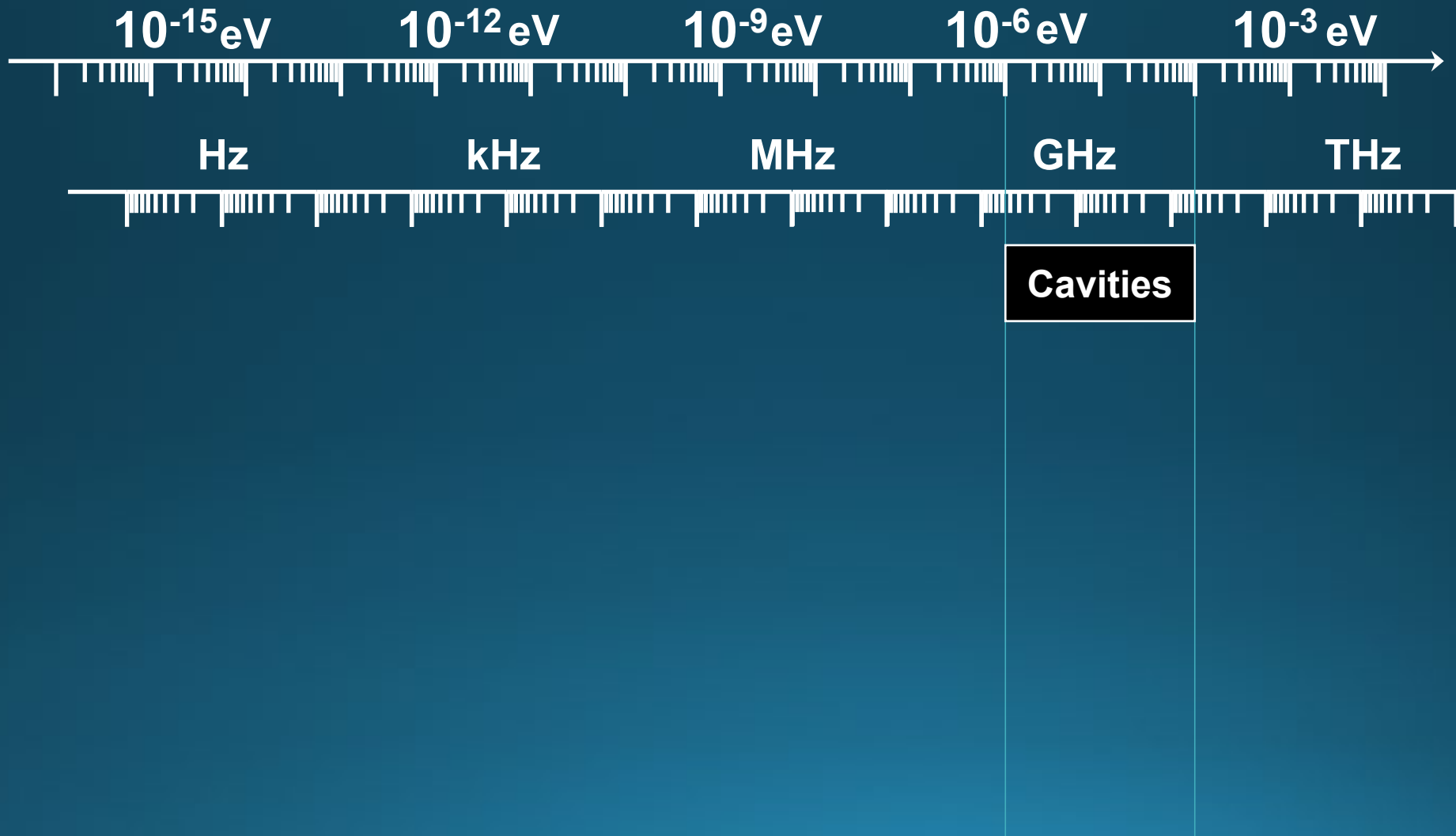




# HAYSTAC: Haloscope at Yale Sensitive to Axion CDM



# Mass/frequency range



# Examples

**NEW LIGHT  
BOSONS**

**PHOTON  
COUPLING**

**EM RESONATORS**

**ADMX & HAYSTAC**

**DM Radio &  
ABRACADABRA**

**TORQUES  
ON SPINS**

**NMR & ESR**

**FORCES**

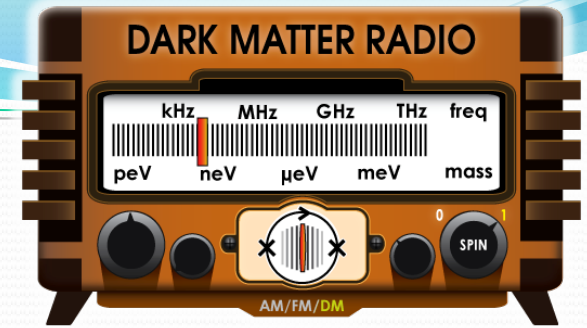
**INTERFEROMETERS**

**VARIATION  
OF  
CONSTANTS**

**CLOCKS**

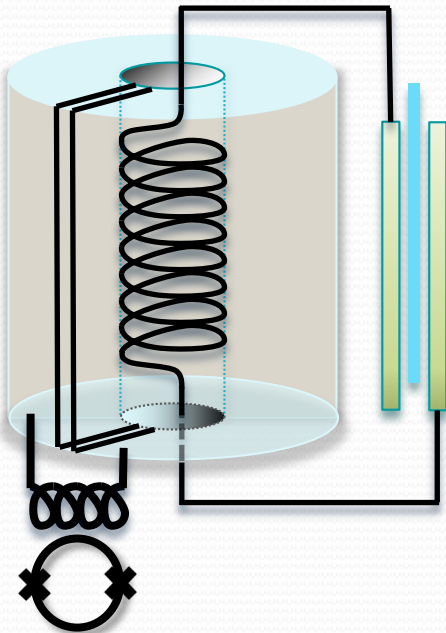
# DM Radio/ABRACADABRA

Superconducting lumped-element detector



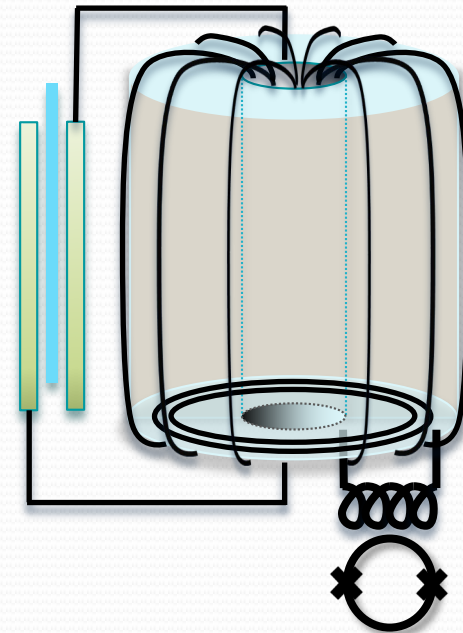
## Axions

(with applied B-field)

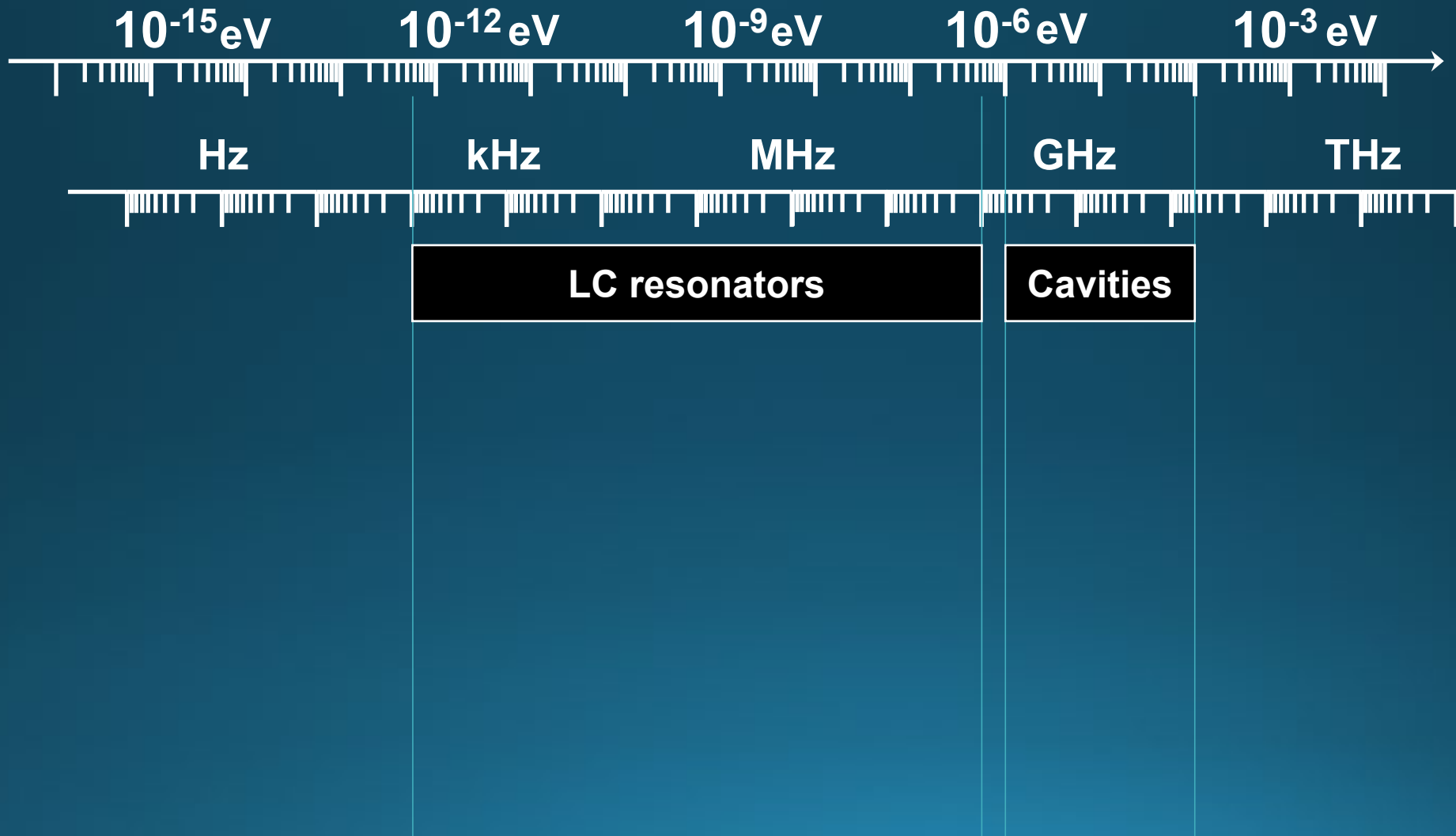


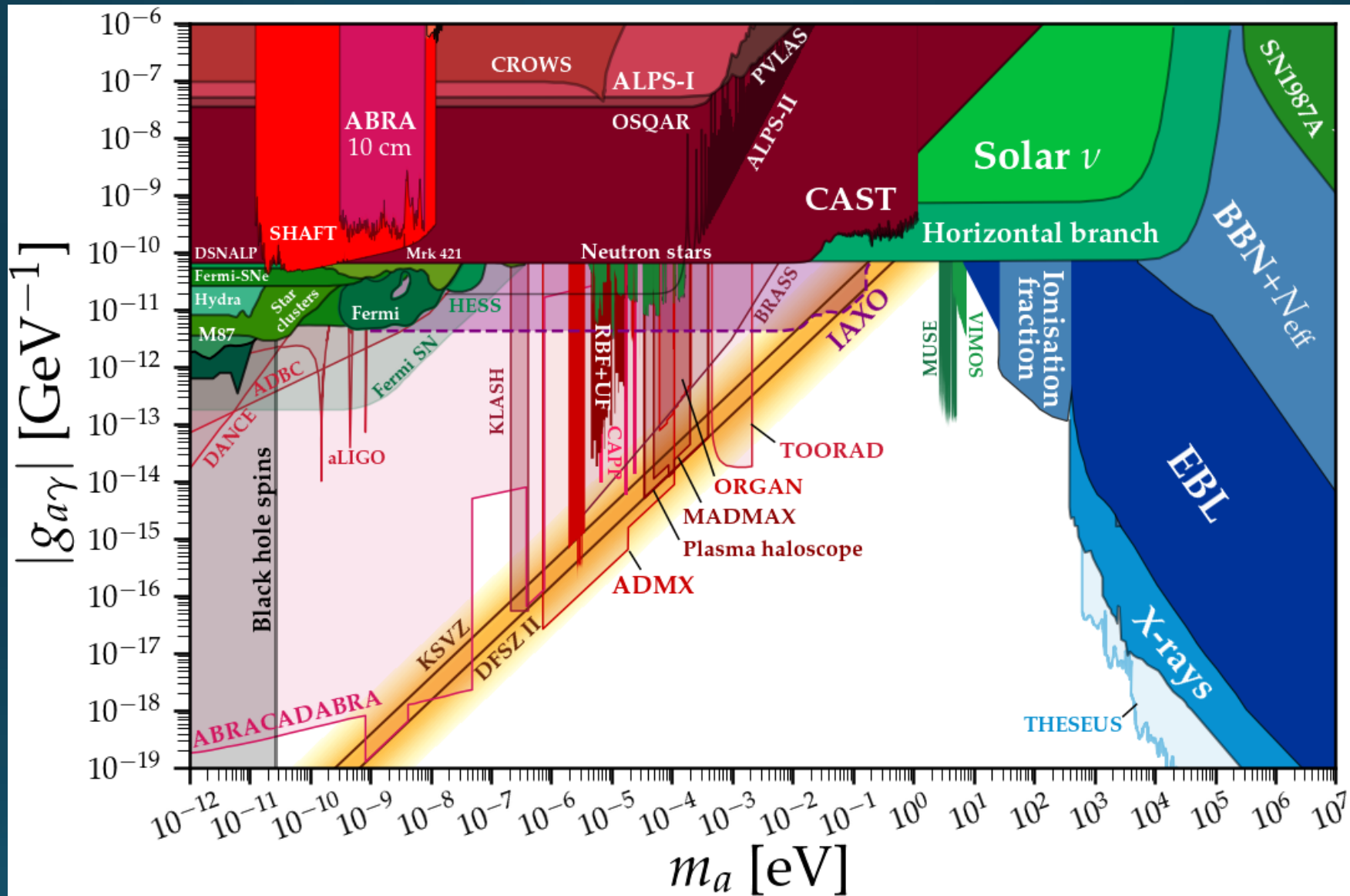
## Hidden Photons

(no B-field required)



# Mass/frequency range





# Examples

NEW LIGHT  
BOSONS

PHOTON  
COUPLING

EM RESONATORS

ADMX & HAYSTAC

DM Radio &  
ABRACADABRA

TORQUES  
ON SPINS

NMR & ESR

CASPEr

FORCES

INTERFEROMETERS

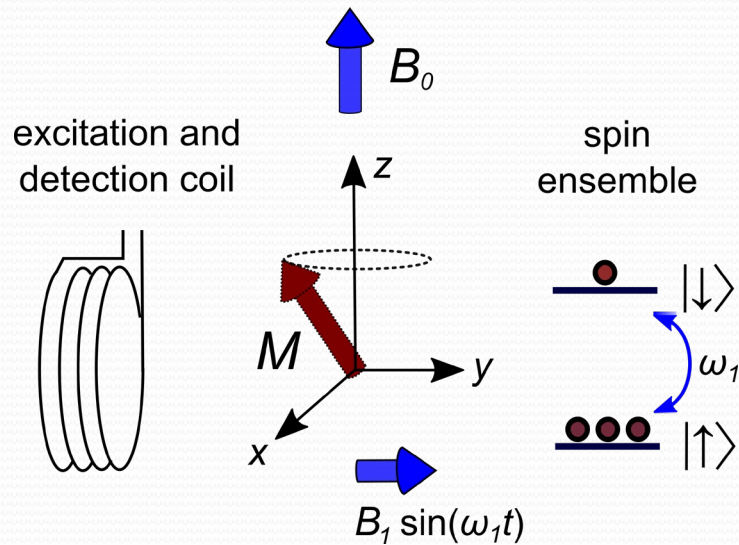
VARIATION  
OF  
CONSTANTS

CLOCKS

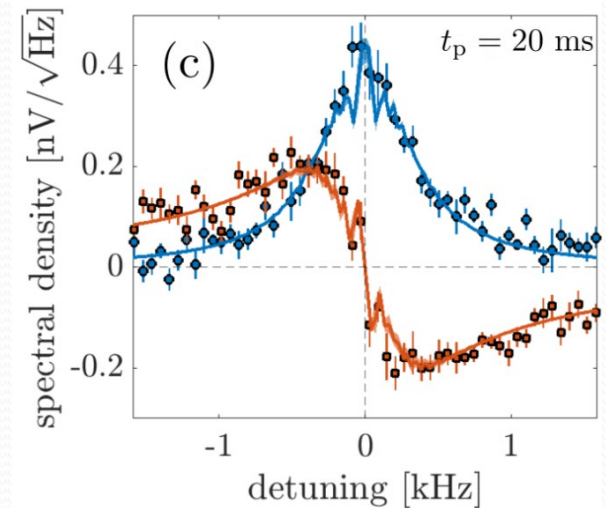


# CASPEr: Cosmic Axion Spin Precession Experiment

NMR-based search for axion-induced EDM and axion-spin couplings.



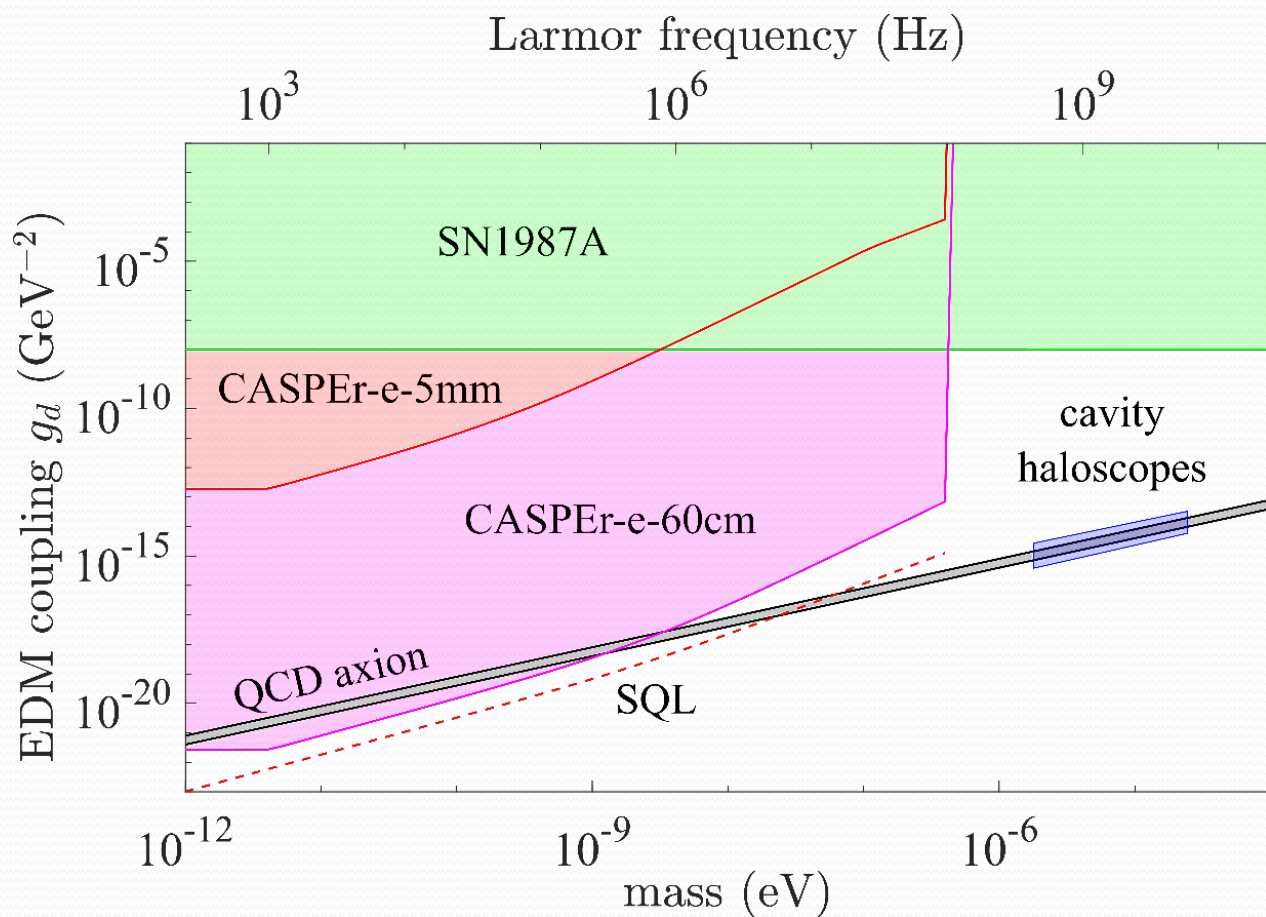
$^{207}\text{Pb}$  NMR at 4 K



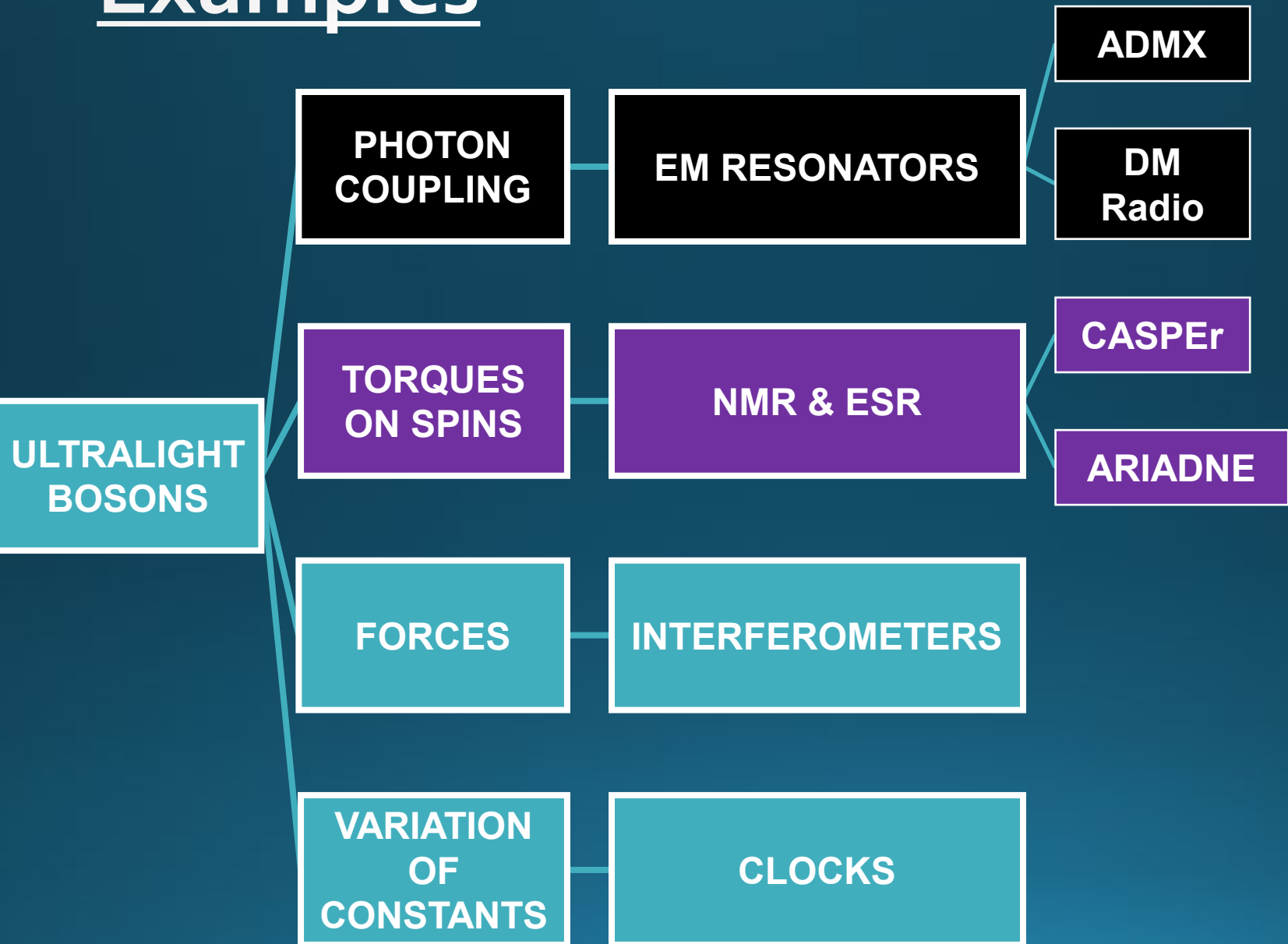




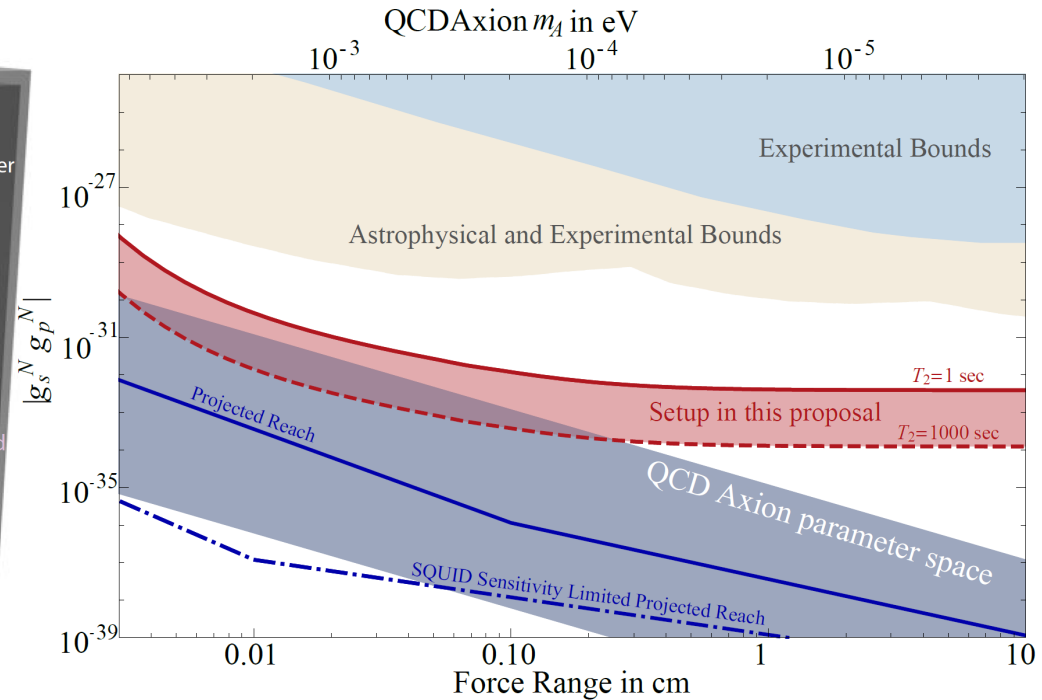
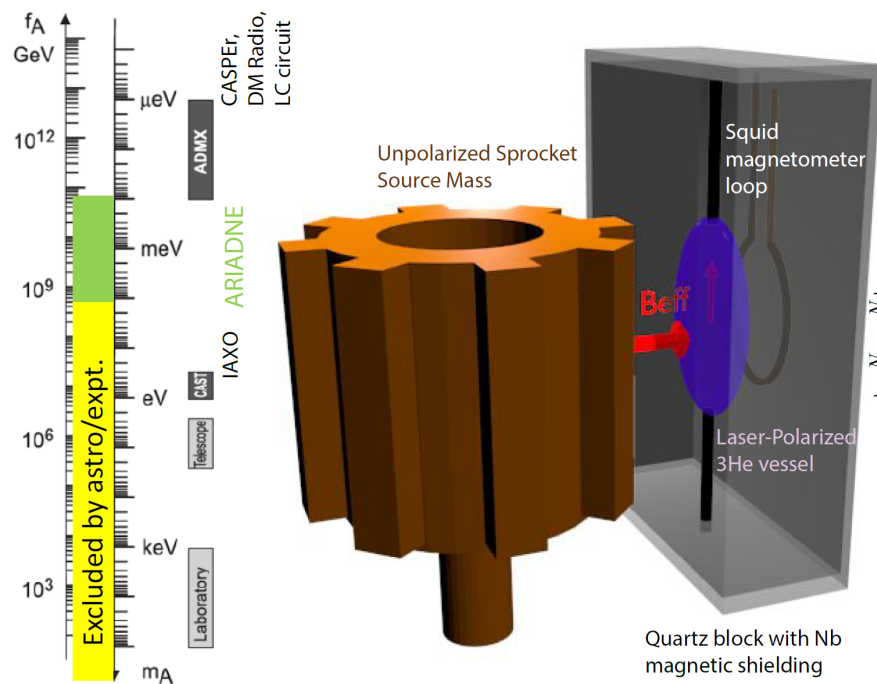
# CASPER: Cosmic Axion Spin Precession Experiment



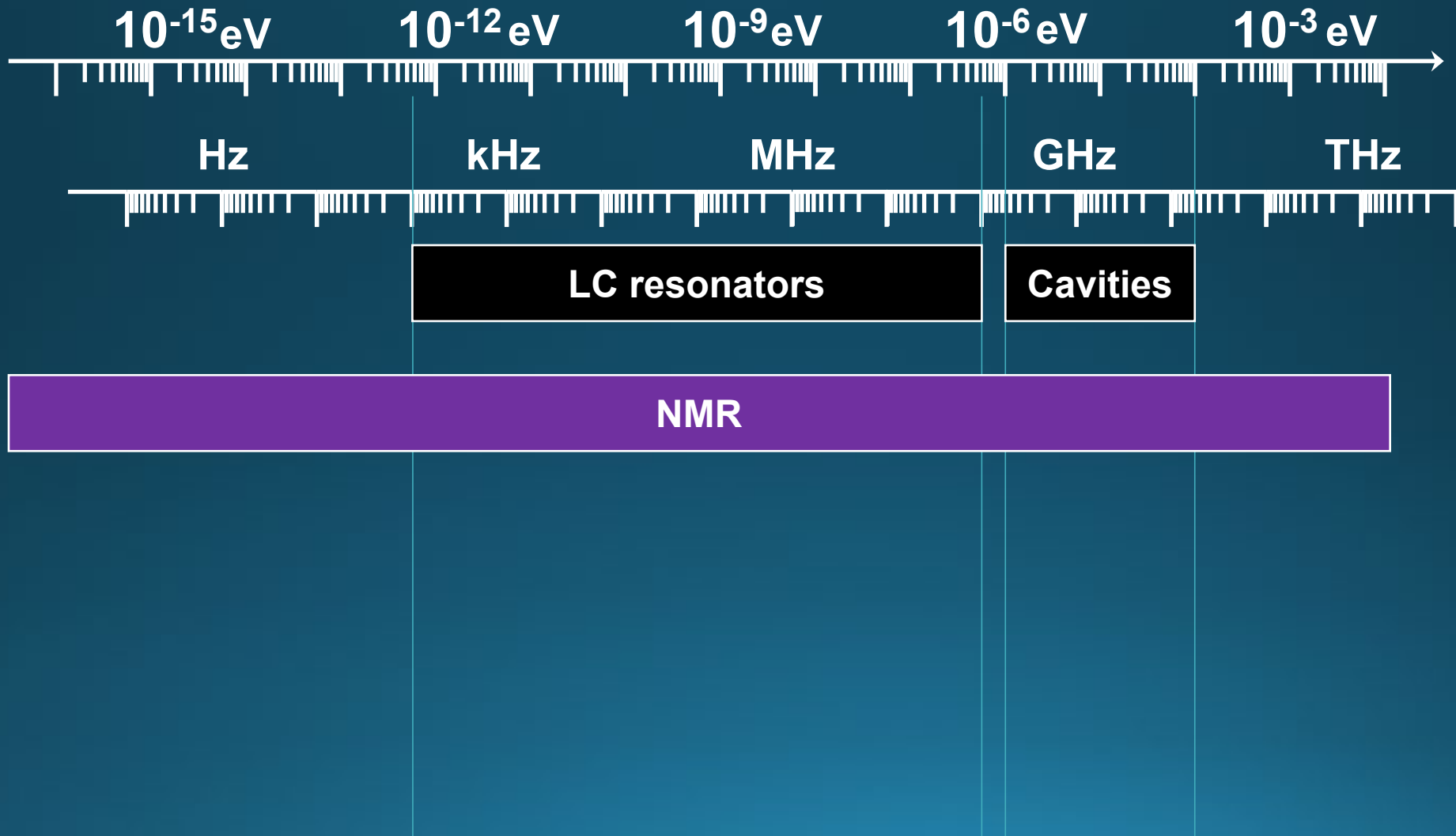
# Examples



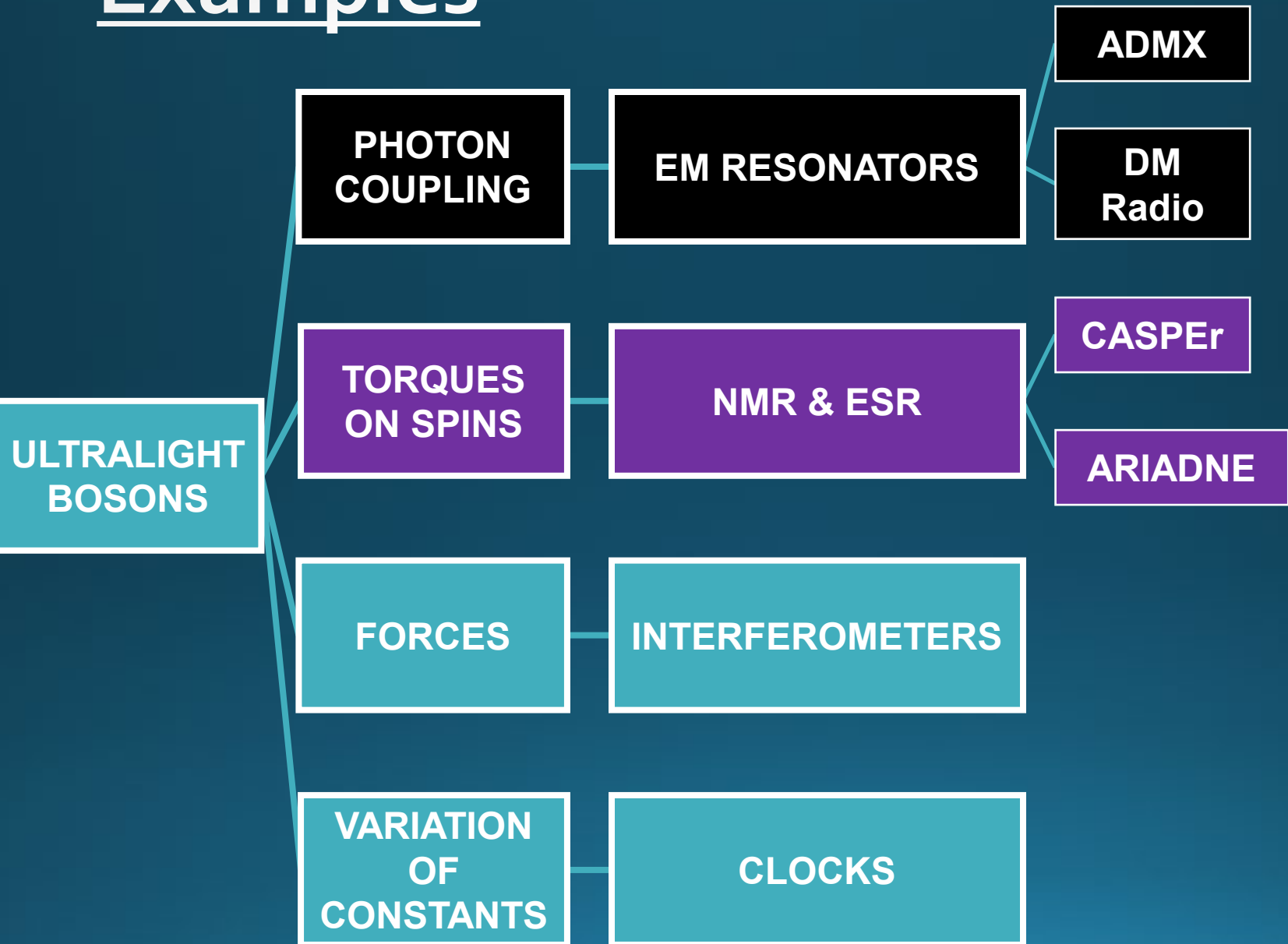
# ARIADNE: (Axion Resonant InterAction Detection Experiment)



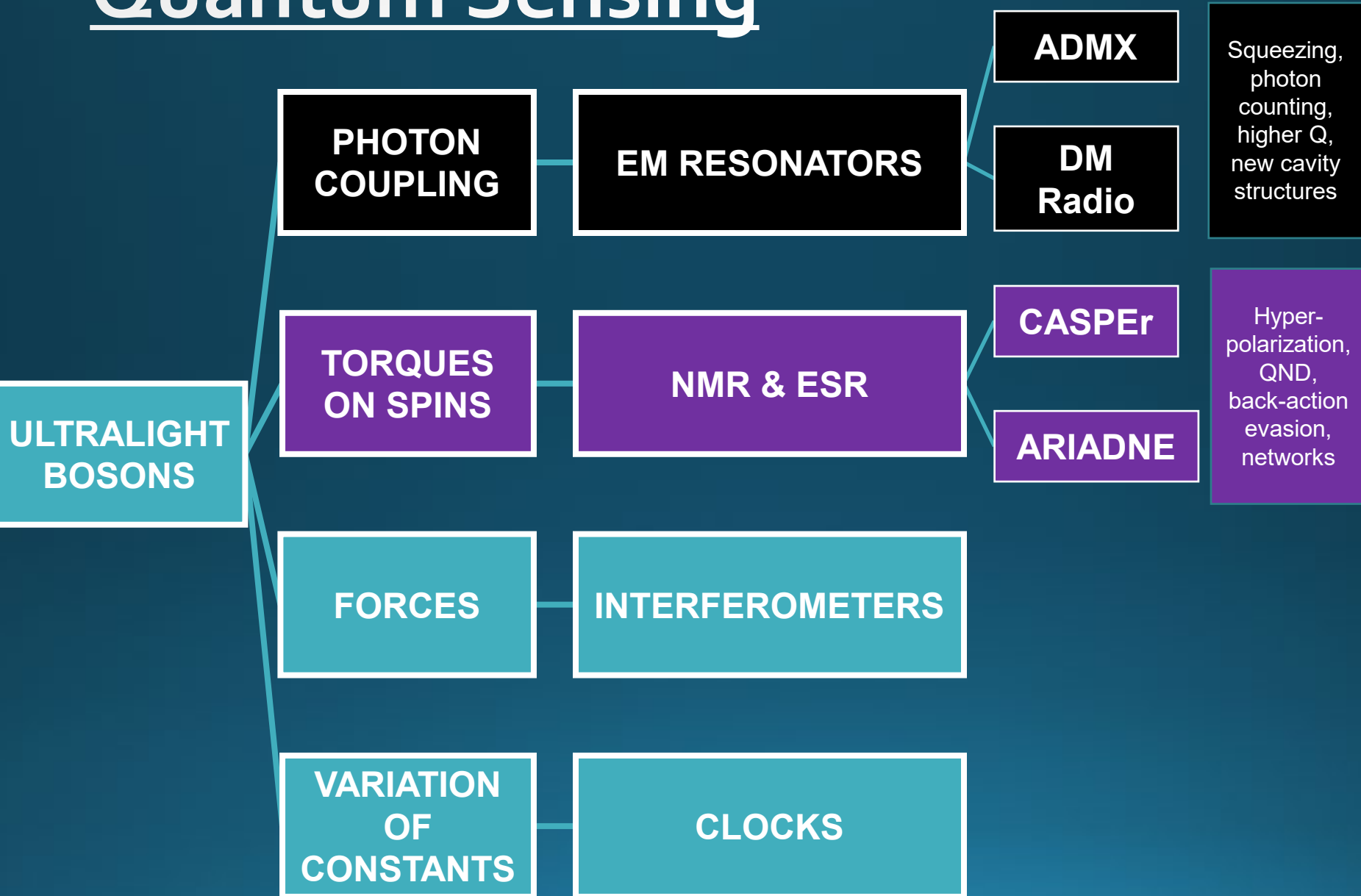
# Mass/frequency range



# Examples



# Quantum Sensing

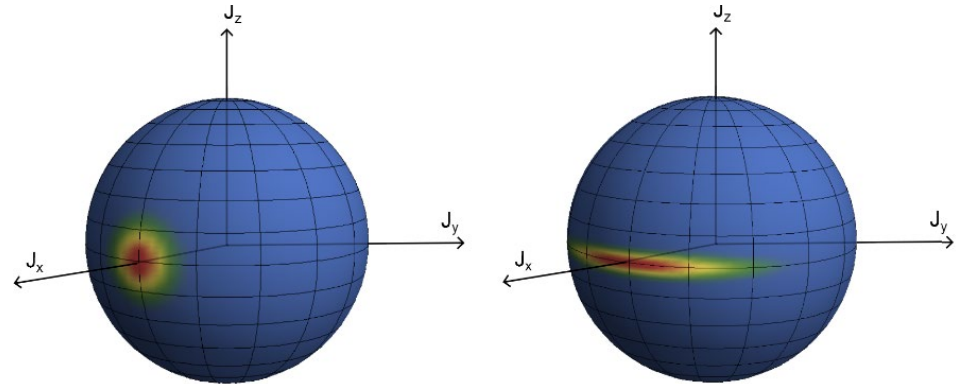


# Quantum Sensing

Detector figures of merit can sometimes be improved by making use of quantum correlations: entanglement & squeezing

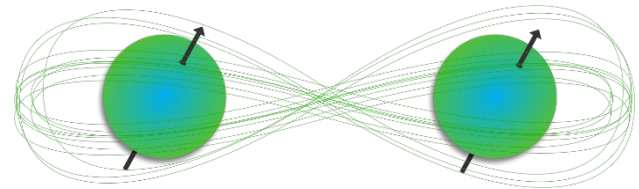
## ➡ Measurements beyond SQL

[LIGO collab., *Nature Photon.* **7**, 613 (2013)]  
[O. Hosten, et al., *Nature* **529**, 505 (2016)]



## ➡ QND measurements, back-action evasion

[D. B. Hume, et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **99**, 120502 (2007)]  
[I. Lovchinsky, et al., *Science* **351**, 836 (2016)]

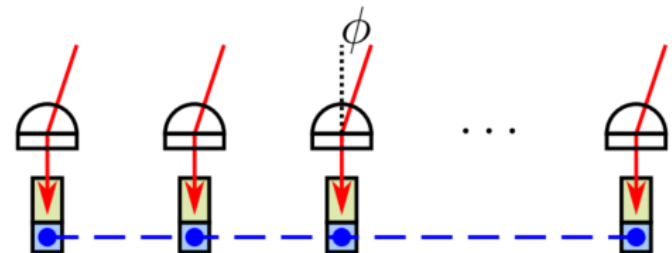


## ➡ Dynamic Hamiltonian engineering of many-body spin systems

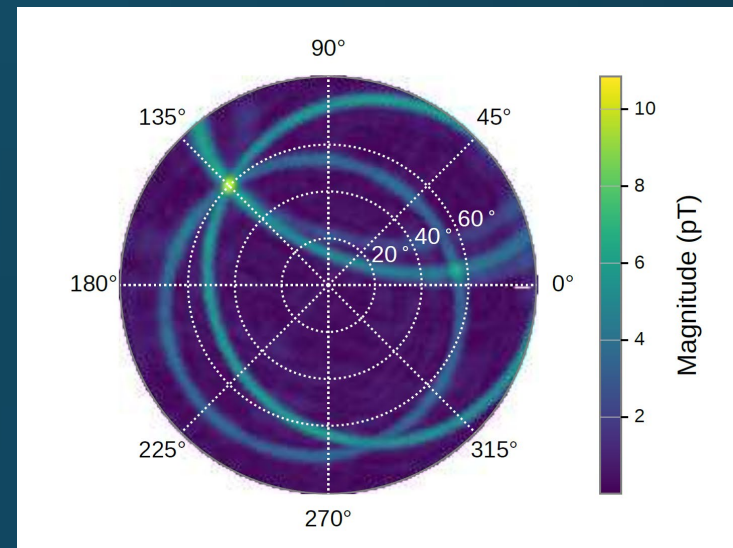
[J. Choi, et al., *Phys. Rev. X* **10**, 031002 (2020)]

## ➡ Quantum sensor networks

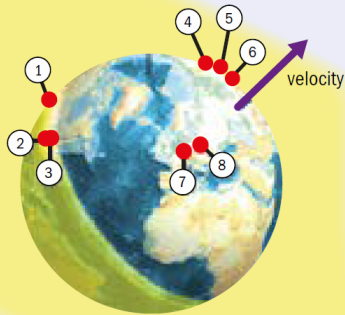
[D. Gottesman, et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **109**, 070503 (2012)]  
[E. Khabiboulline, et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **123**, 070504 (2019)]



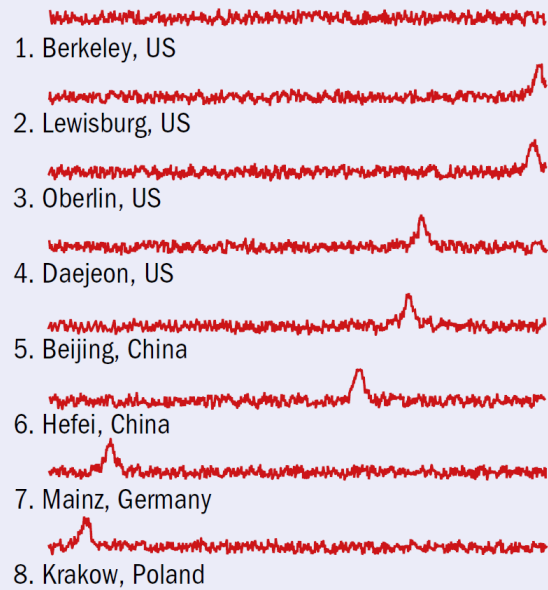
# Global Network of Optical Magnetometers to search for Exotic Physics (GNOME)



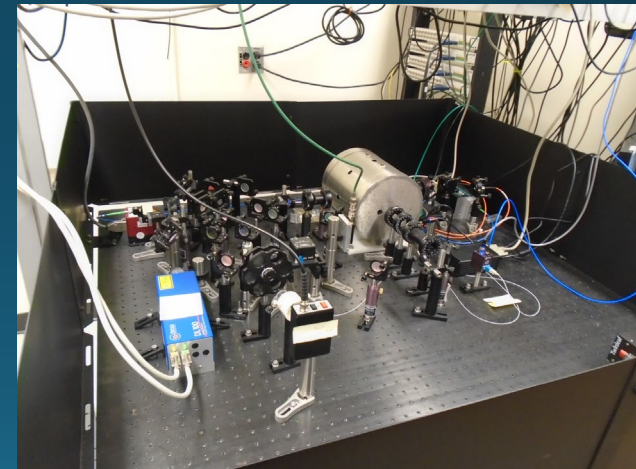
topological defect



magnetic signals



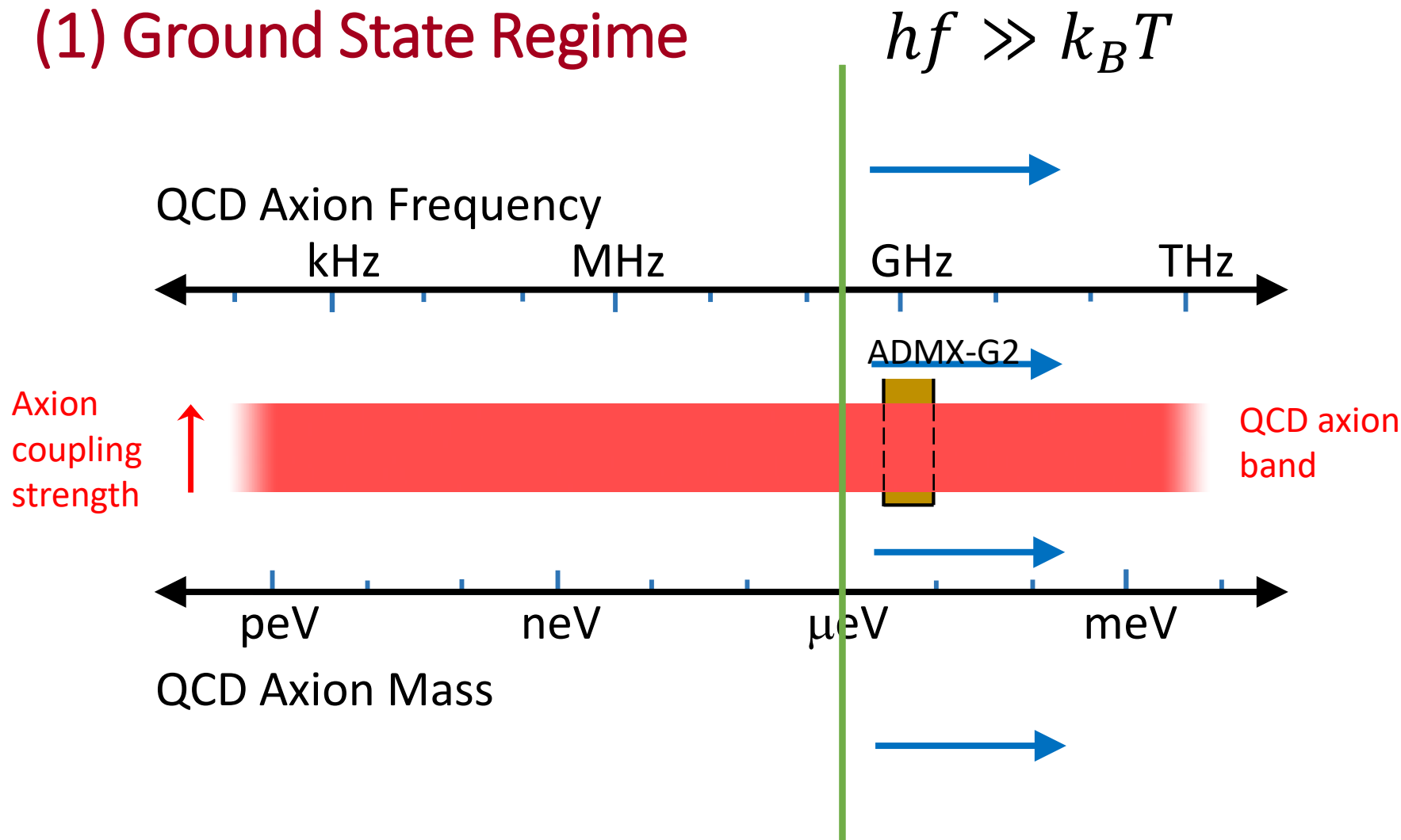
A. Wickenbrock





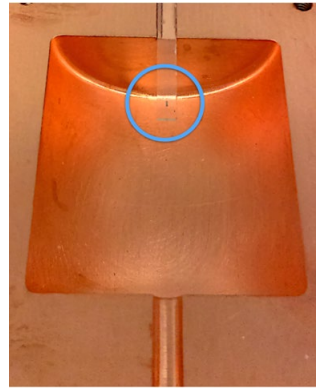
# Quantum Sensing

## (1) Ground State Regime

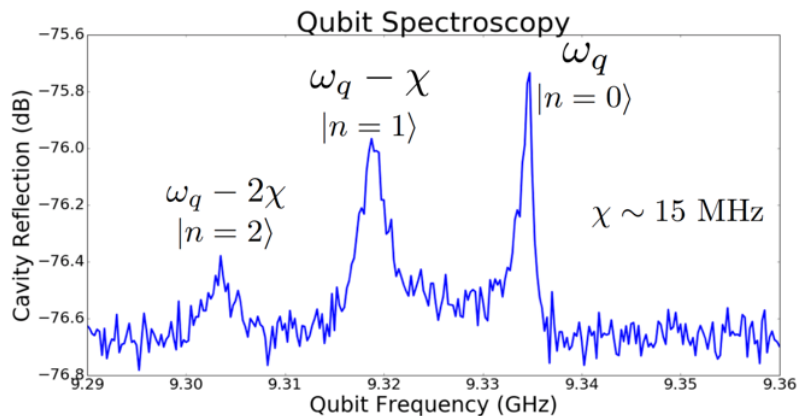


# Ground state measurement: QND photon counting

Akash Dixit, Aaron Chou, David Schuster



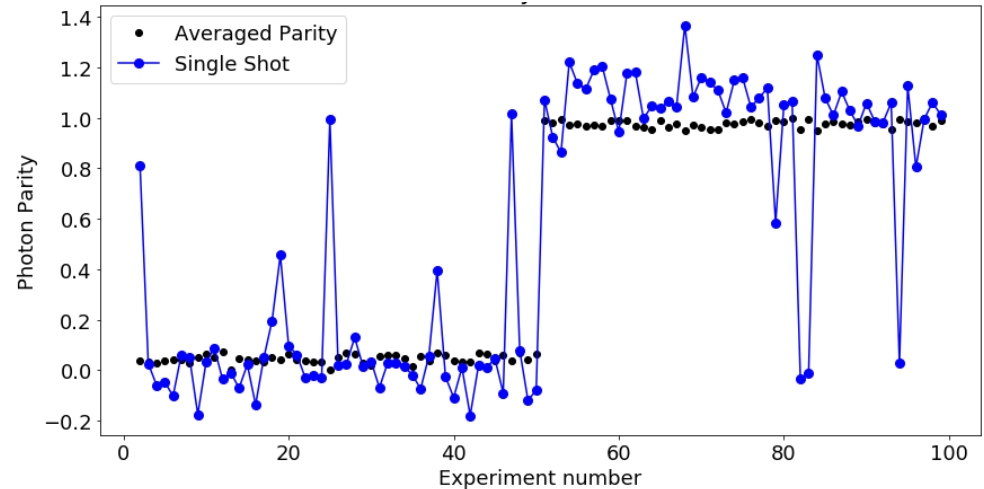
Use qubit as an atomic clock whose frequency depends on the number of photons in the cavity. The electric field of even a **single photon** will exercise the non-linearity of the qubit oscillator and shift its frequency.



Count # of photons by measuring the quantized frequency shift of the qubit.

Figure Credit: Aaron Chou, FNAL

Repeatedly measure the clock frequency to determine whether the cavity contains 0 or 1 photon:

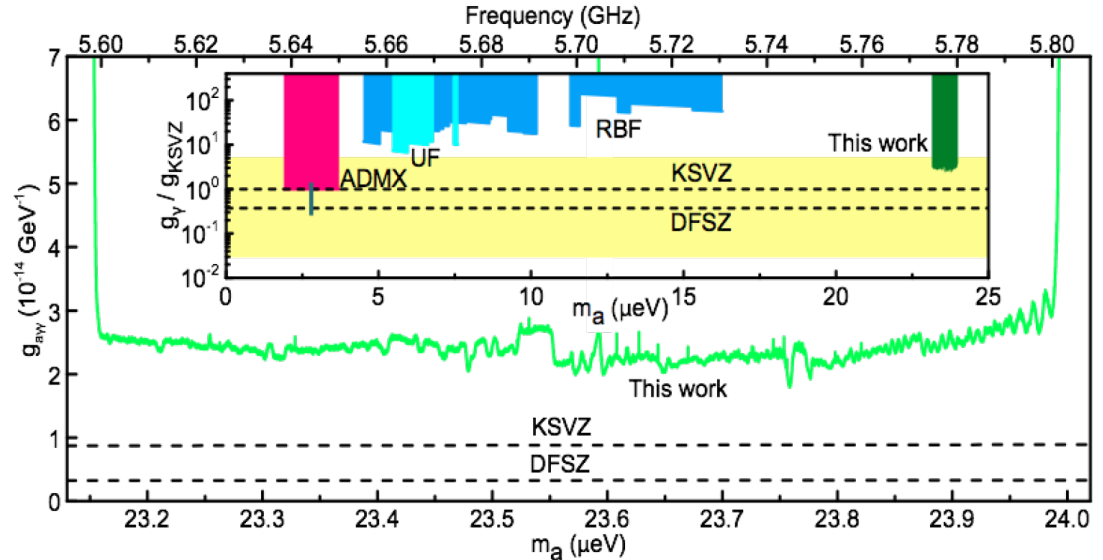


Many QND measurements agree that the cold cavity contains 0 photons

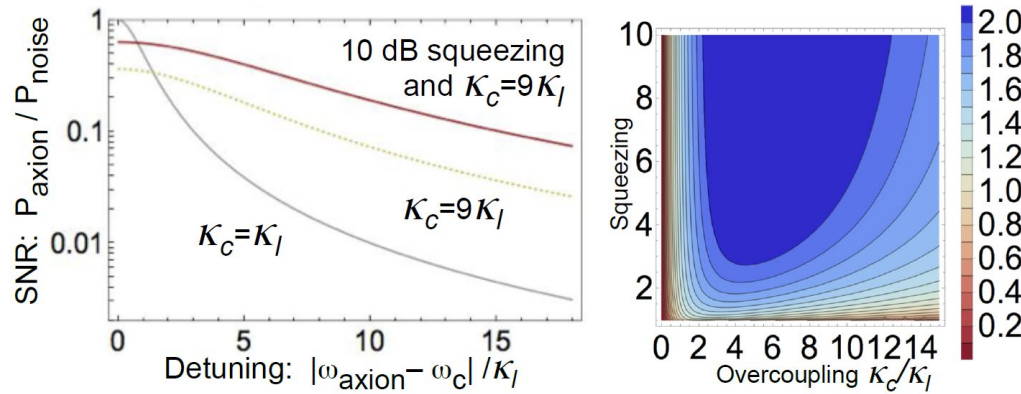
Many QND measurements of the single photon **without absorbing it**.

Inject 1 photon

# HAYSTAC: Acceleration through squeezing



HAYSTAC run 1 & 2 combined exclusion plot

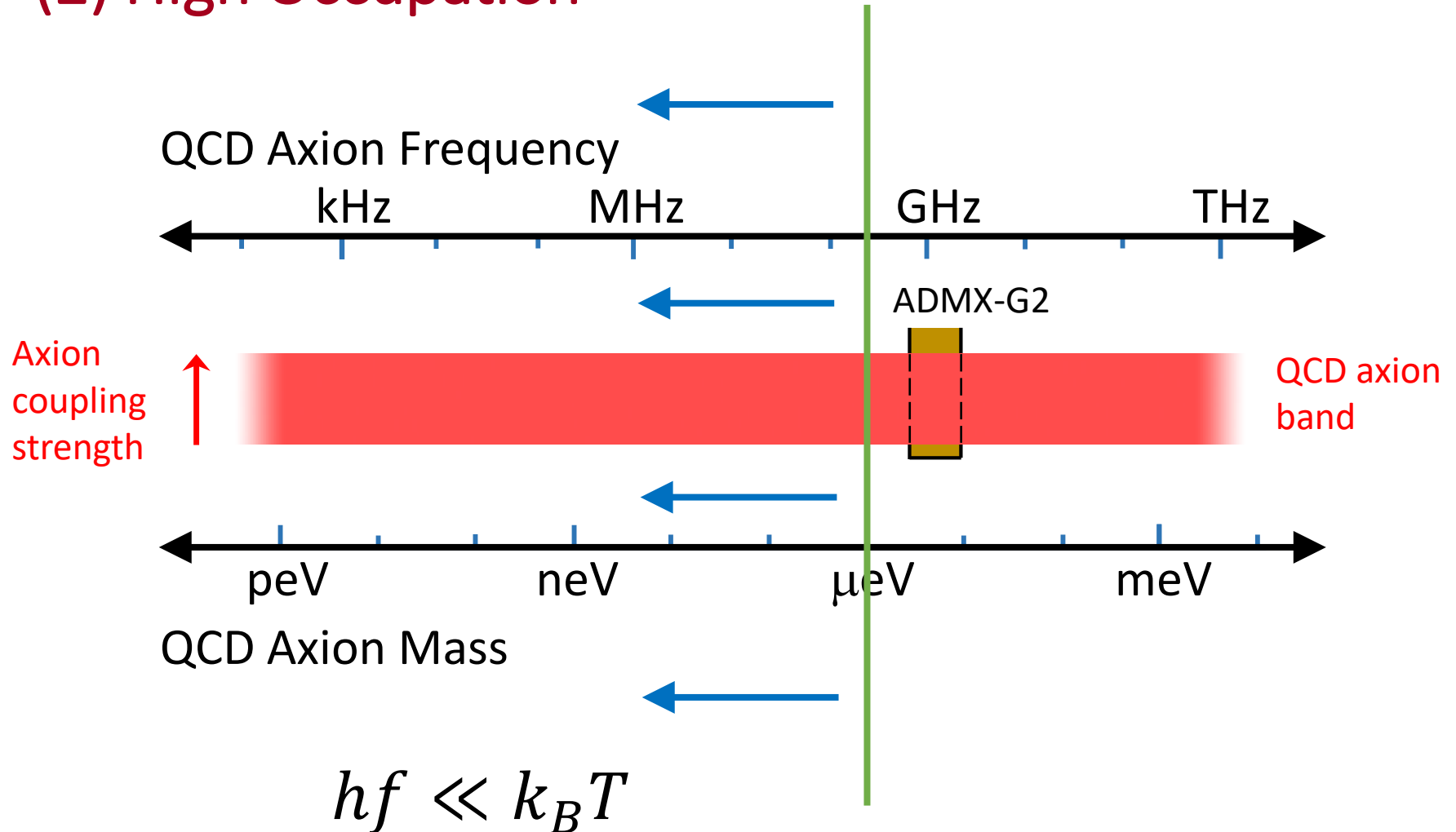


HAYSTAC Phase II squeezed state receiver  
projected acceleration

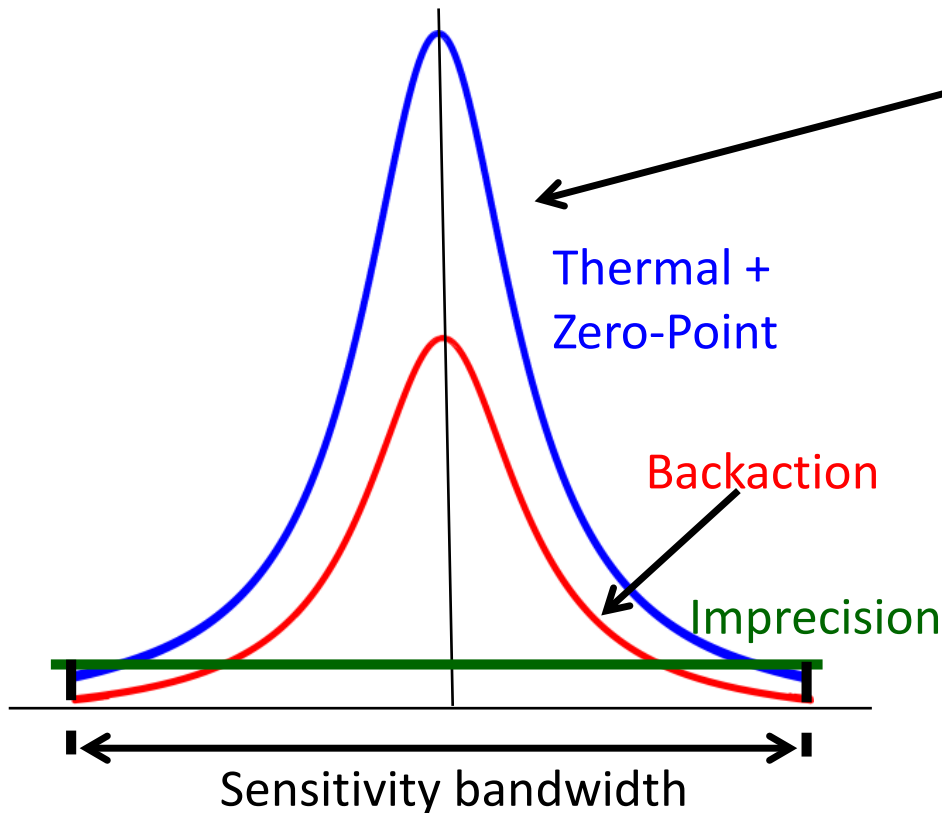
Droster, Alex G., and Karl van Bibber.  
"HAYSTAC Status, Results, and Plans."  
*arXiv:1901.01668* (2019).

# Quantum Sensing

## (2) High Occupation



# Photon counting is useless when $hf \ll k_B T$



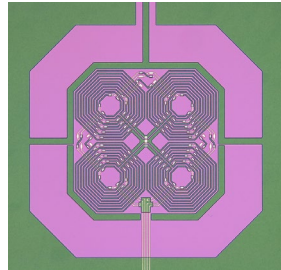
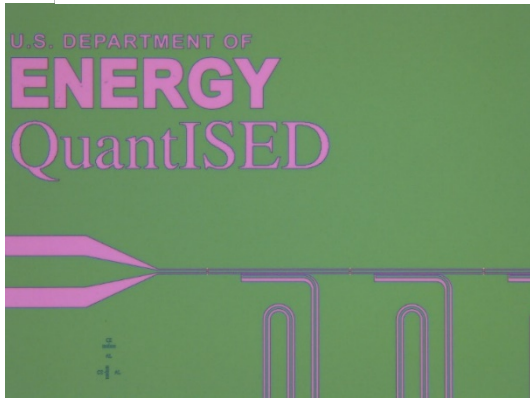
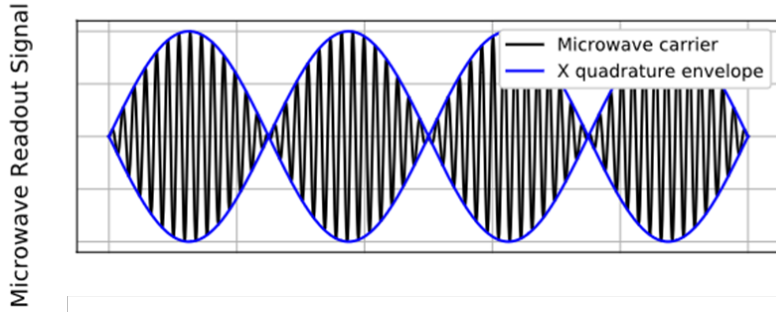
- $\sqrt{N}$  thermal fluctuations in the number of resonator photons
- Sensitivity not improved by photon counting
- Goal: reduce backaction & imprecision noise to widen sensitivity bandwidth.

→ **Backaction evasion**

Implement **backaction evasion** protocol to reduce both imprecision and backaction noise below the standard quantum limit, increasing the sensitivity bandwidth

# High Occupation: RF Quantum Upconverters

## Quantum Backaction Evasion



**30 dB of phase-sensitive  
gain achieved**



**SLAC**

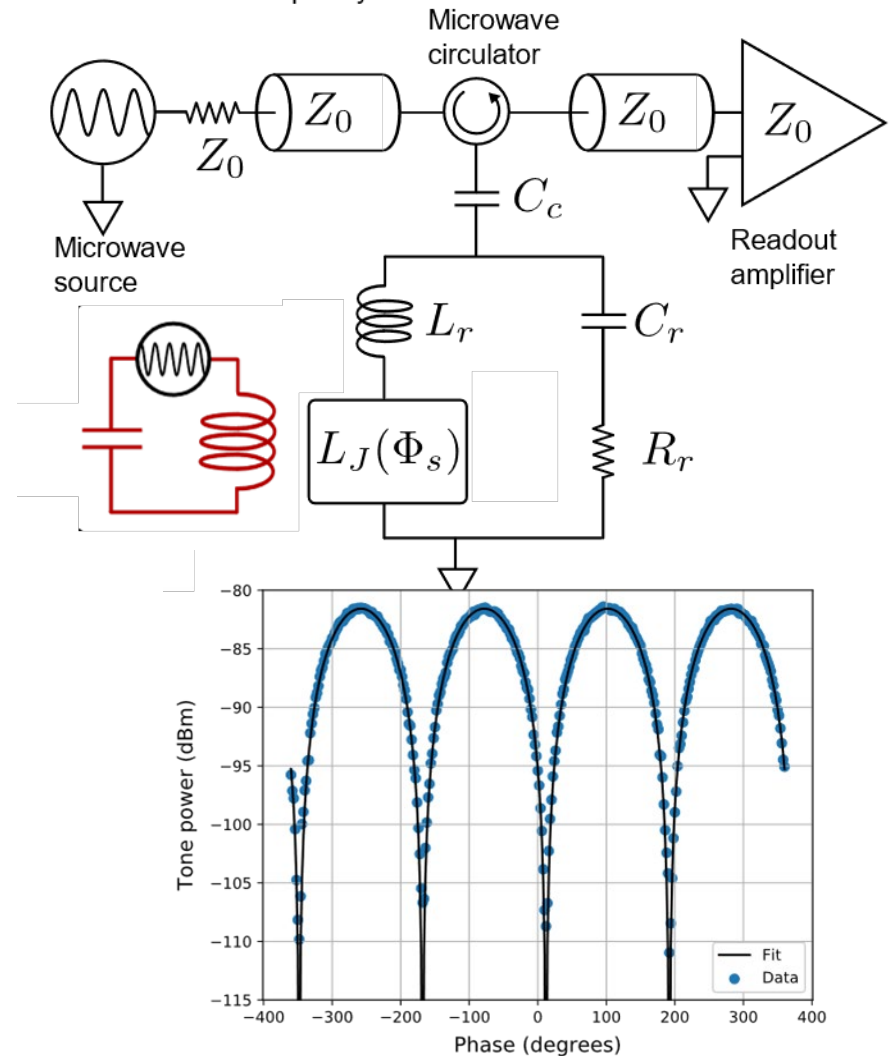


Figure Credit: Kent Irwin, Stanford/SLAC