

The CAST Collaboration

First results from the CERN Axion Solar Telescope (CAST)

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PRL, in press (2005)



Axion Physics in a Nut Shell

Particle-Physics Motivation	Solar and Stellar Axions
CP conservation in QCD by Peccei-Quinn mechanism → Axions $a \sim \pi^0$ $m_{\pi^0} \approx m_a$	Axions thermally produced in stars, e.g. by Primakoff production $\gamma \rightarrow a$
For $f_a > f_\pi$ axions are “invisible” and very light	• Limits from avoiding excessive energy drain • Search for solar axions (CAST)
Cosmology	Search for Axion Dark Matter
In spite of small mass, axions are born non-relativistically (“non-thermal relics”) → “Cold dark matter” candidate $m_a = 1-1000 \mu\text{eV}$	Microwave resonator (1 GHz = 4 μeV) Cosmic String Primakoff conversion $\times B_{\text{ext}}$

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Axion Physics in a Nut Shell

Particle-Physics Motivation	Solar and Stellar Axions
<p>CP conservation in QCD by Peccei-Quinn mechanism</p> <p>\rightarrow Axions $a \sim \pi^0$</p> $m_\pi f_\pi \approx m_a f_a$ <p>For $f_a \gg f_\pi$, axions are “invisible” and very light</p>	<p>Axions thermally produced in stars, e.g. by Primakoff production</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limits from avoiding excessive energy drain • Search for solar axions (CAST)
Cosmology	Search for Axions in Matter
<p>In spite of small mass, axions are born non-relativistically (“non-thermal relics”)</p> <p>\rightarrow “Cold dark matter” candidate $m_a \sim 1-1000 \mu\text{eV}$</p> <p>Cosmic String</p>	<p>See upcoming talk by Karl van Bibber (Livermore)</p> <p>N</p> <p>halo</p> <p>inversion</p> <p>B_{ext}</p>

Source: S. Blennow, Max-Planck-Institut für Physik, München, Germany
CERN Colloquium, 29 March 2007

The CP Problem of Strong Interactions

Characterizes degenerate QCD ground state (Θ vacuum)		Phase of Quark Mass Matrix
Standard QCD Lagrangian contains a CP violating term	$L_{\text{CP}} = -\frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} (\Theta - \arg \det M_q) \text{Tr } \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}$ $0 \leq \Theta \leq 2\pi$	
Induces a neutron electric dipole moment (EDM) much in excess of experimental limits	$d_n \approx \Theta 10^{-16} \text{ e cm} \approx \frac{\Theta}{10^2} \mu_n < 10^{-25} \text{ e cm}$	
$\Theta < 10^{-9}$ Why so small?		

Source: S. Blennow, Max-Planck-Institut für Physik, München, Germany
CERN Colloquium, 29 March 2007

Dynamical Solution

Peccei & Quinn 1977 - Wilczek 1978 - Weinberg 1978		
Re-interpret Θ as a dynamical variable (scalar field)	$\Theta \rightarrow a(x)$	Pseudo-scalar axion field
		Peccei-Quinn scale, Axion decay constant
$L_{\text{CP}} = -\frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \Theta \text{Tr}(G\tilde{G})$	\Rightarrow	$L_{\text{CP}} = -\frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \frac{a(x)}{f_a} \text{Tr}(G\tilde{G})$
<p>$\Theta = 0$</p>	<p>Potential (mass term) induced by L_{CP} drives $a(x)$ to CP-conserving minimum</p>	<p>CP-symmetry dynamically restored</p> <p>gluon</p> <p>gluon</p>
$(\text{Axion mass}) \sim (\text{Pion mass}) \times \frac{f_\pi}{f_a}$		<p>Axions generically couple to gluons and mix with π^0</p>
$f_\pi \approx 93 \text{ MeV}$ Pion decay constant		

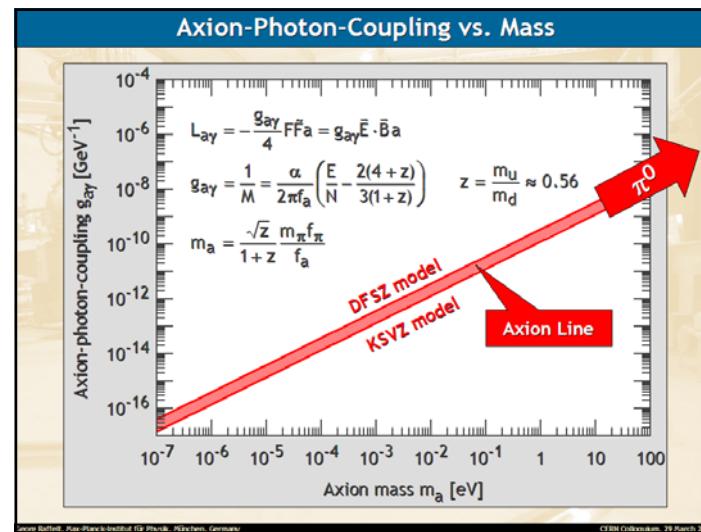
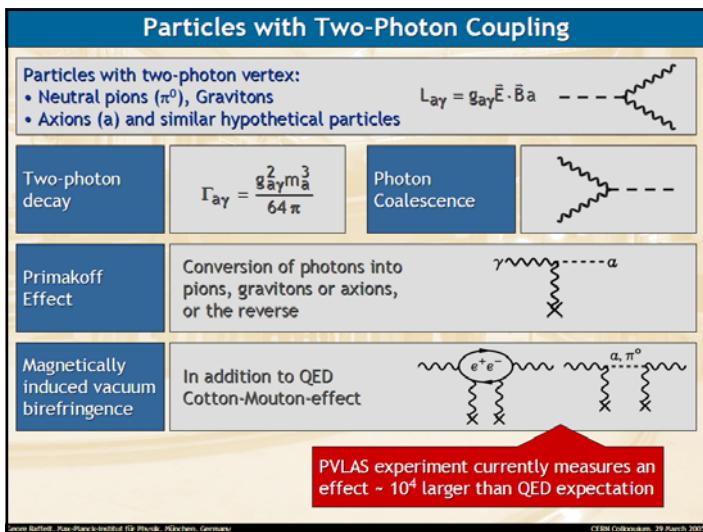
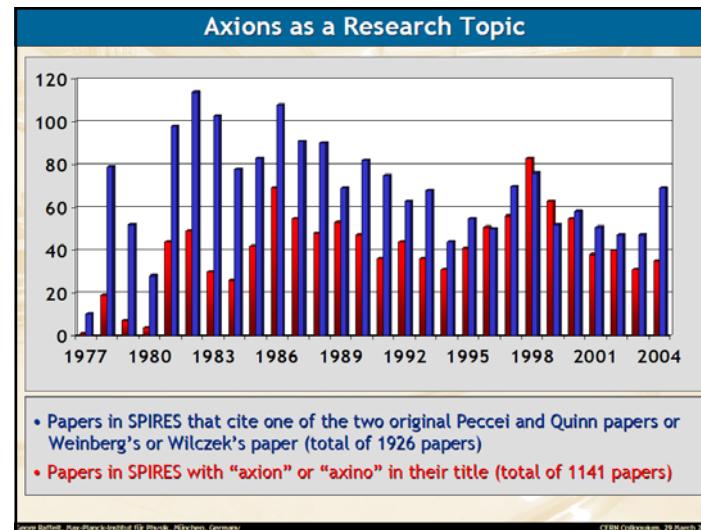
Source: S. Blennow, Max-Planck-Institut für Physik, München, Germany
CERN Colloquium, 29 March 2007

Axions as Pseudo Nambu-Goldstone Bosons

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The realization of the Peccei-Quinn mechanism involves a new chiral $U(1)_P$ symmetry, spontaneously broken at a scale f_a • Axions are the corresponding Nambu-Goldstone mode
<p>$E \approx f_a$</p> <p>$U_{\text{PO}}(1)$ spontaneously broken</p> <p>Higgs field settles in “Mexican hat”</p>
<p>$E \approx \Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \ll f_a$</p> <p>$U_{\text{PO}}(1)$ explicitly broken by instanton effects</p> <p>Mexican hat tilts</p> <p>Axions acquire a mass</p>

Source: S. Blennow, Max-Planck-Institut für Physik, München, Germany
CERN Colloquium, 29 March 2007

Windows of Opportunity	
Axions	Alternatives
Solve strong CP problem by Peccei-Quinn dynamical symmetry restoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Massless up-quark Spontaneous CP violation Fine tuning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cosmic cold dark matter candidate Direct detection possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supersymmetric particles Superheavy particles Sterile Neutrinos Many others ... (but usually not experimentally accessible)
Search for new physics at $E \gg \text{TeV}$ in low-energy experiments (Axions Nambu-Goldstone boson of spontaneously broken symmetry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neutrino masses (see-saw) Proton decay Monopoles Deviation from Newton's Law (e.g. large extra dimensions)



Dimming of Supernovae without Cosmic Acceleration

Axion-photon-oscillations in intergalactic B-field domains dim photon flux

- Effect grows linearly with distance
- Saturates at equipartition between photons and axions (unlike grey dust)

Mixing matrix

$$\frac{1}{2\omega} \begin{pmatrix} \omega_{pl}^2 & g_{ay}B\omega \\ g_{ay}B\omega & m_a^2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 10.8 n_e \omega^{-1} & 0.15 g_{ay}^2 B \\ 0.15 g_{ay}^2 B & 7.8 \times 10^{-4} m_a^2 \omega^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \text{Mpc}^{-1}$$

Domain size ~ 1 Mpc
Field strength ~ 1 nG
a-γ-coupling ~ 10^{-10} GeV⁻¹
Axion mass < 10^{-16} eV

Photon energy ~ 1 eV
Electron density ~ 10^{-7} cm⁻³
(average baryon density)

Chromaticity depends sensitively on assumed values and distribution of n_e and B

Csaki, Kaloper & Terning (hep-ph/0111311, hep-ph/0112212, astro-ph/0409596). Erlich & Grojean (hep-ph/0111335). Deffayet, et al. (hep-ph/0112118). Christensson & Fairbairn (astro-ph/0207525). Mörtzell et al. (astro-ph/0202153). Mörtzell & Goobar (astro-ph/0303081). Bassett (astro-ph/0311495). Ostman & Mörtzell (astro-ph/0410501).

Search for Solar Axions

Axion Helioscope (Sikivie 1983)

Axion-Photon-Oscillation

Primakoff production

Tokyo Axion Helioscope
 (Results since 1998)

CERN Axion Solar Telescope (CAST)
 (Data since 2003)

Alternative technique:
 Bragg conversion in crystal
 Experimental limits on solar axion flux from dark-matter experiments
 (SOLAX, COSME, DAMA, ...)

8
6
4
2
0

0 2 4 6 8 10

Axion energy [keV]

Primakoff Process in the Sun

Interaction Lagrangian	$L_{ay} = -\frac{1}{4} g_{ay} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} a = g_{ay} \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B} a$
Primakoff cross section	$\frac{d\sigma_{\gamma \rightarrow a}}{d\Omega} = \frac{g_{ay}^2 Z^2 \alpha}{8\pi} \frac{ \vec{k}_a \times \vec{k}_\gamma ^2}{ \vec{k}_a - \vec{k}_\gamma ^4}$
Conversion rate (screening effects, no nuclear recoil)	$\Gamma_{\gamma \rightarrow a} = \frac{g_{ay}^2 T k_S^2}{32\pi} \left[\left(1 + \frac{k_S^2}{4E^2} \right) \ln \left(1 + \frac{4E^2}{k_S^2} \right) - 1 \right]$
Screening scale (non-relativistic non-degenerate)	$k_S^2 = \frac{4\pi\alpha}{T} n_B \left(Y_e + \sum_j Z_j^2 Y_j \right)$

- G. Raffelt, "Astrophysical axion bounds diminished by screening effects", Phys. Rev. D 33 (1986) 897 (Part of GR's Ph.D. Thesis)
- Consistent with results from FTD methods, see Altherre, Petitgirard & del Rio Gaztelurrutia, Astropart. Phys. 2 (1994) 175

Axion Flux from 1982 vs. 2004 Solar Model

Solar Axion Spectra - 1982 vs. 2004 Solar Model Comparison

2004 SM
1982 SM

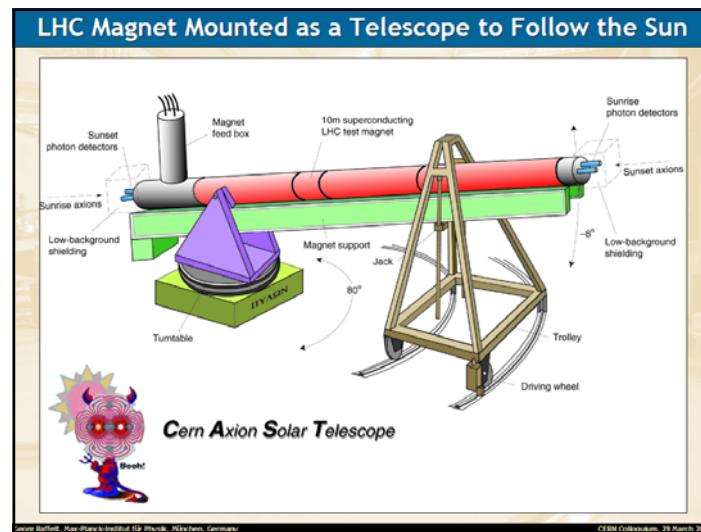
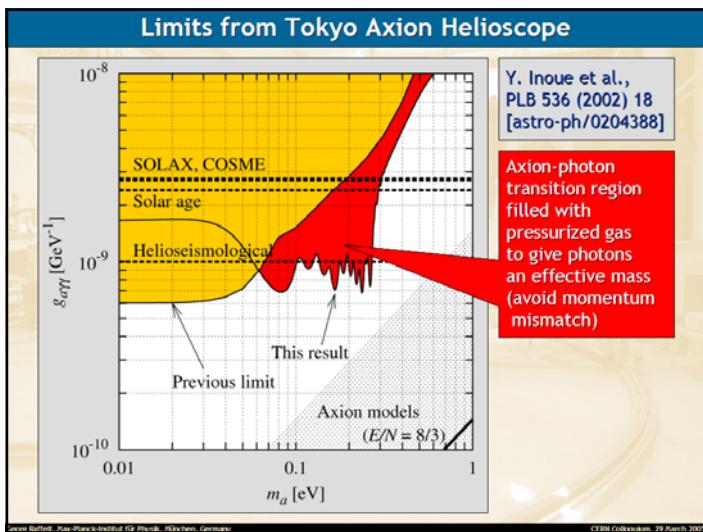
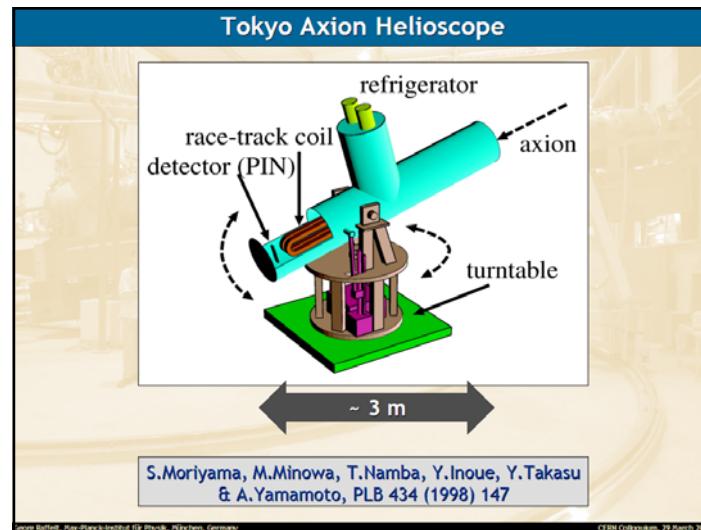
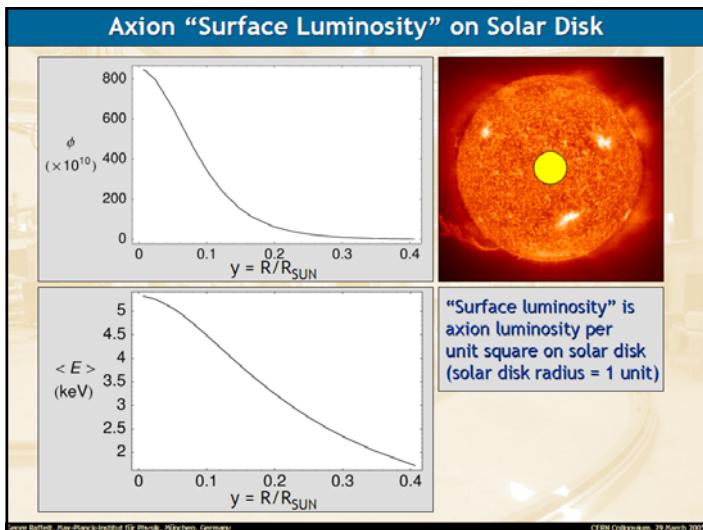
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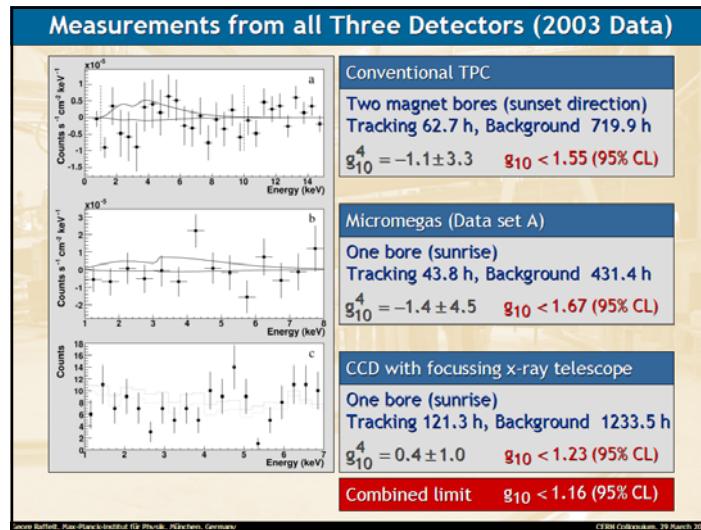
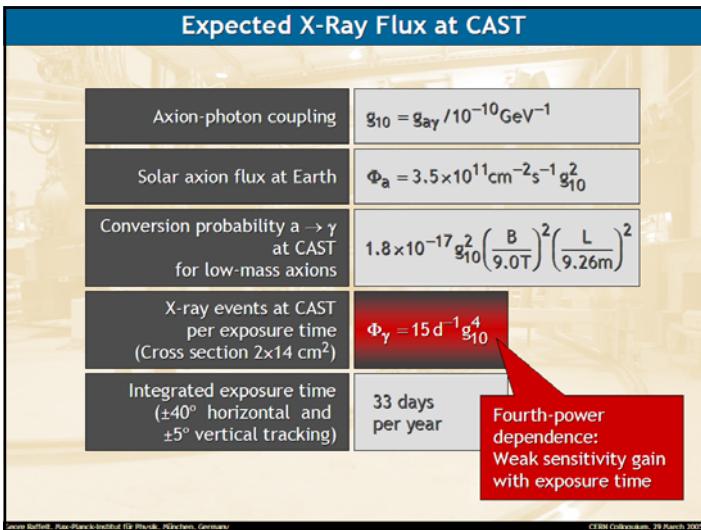
0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14

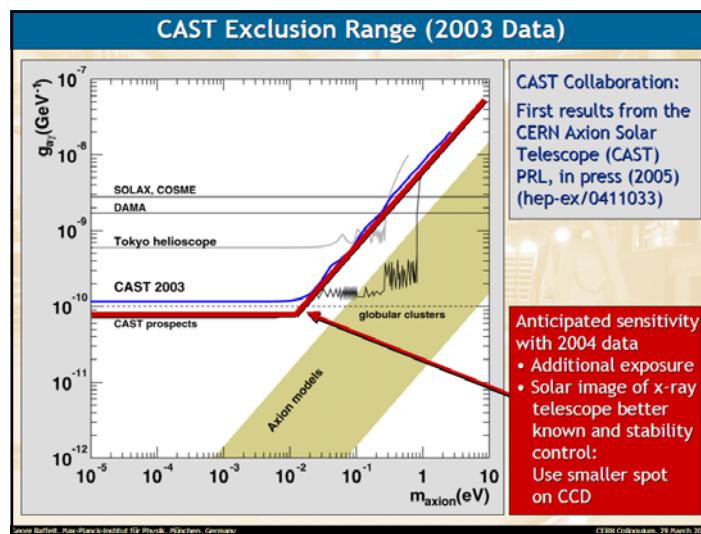
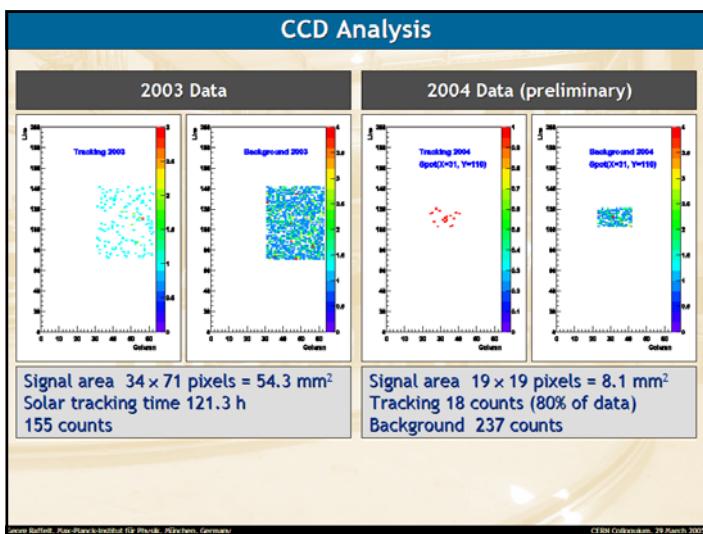
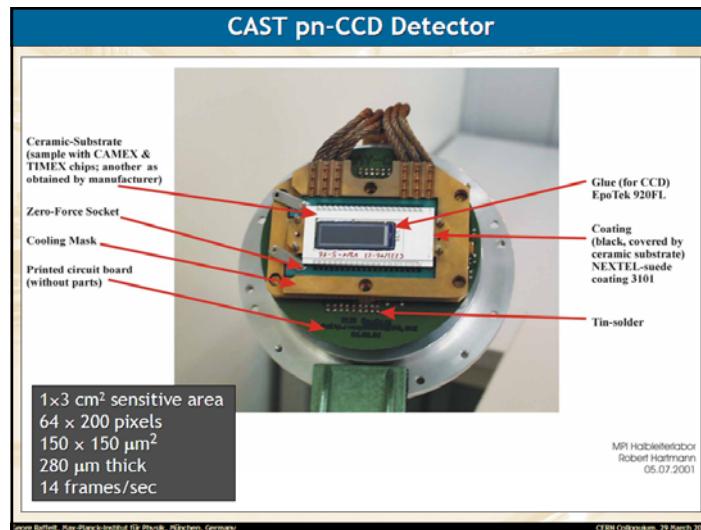
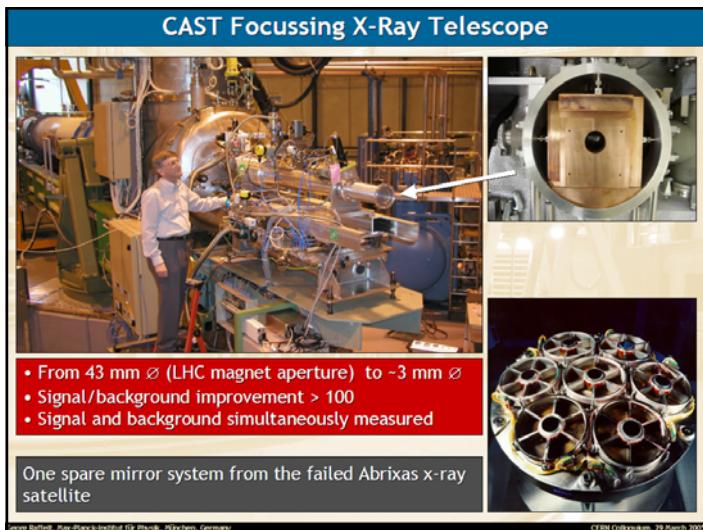
E (keV)

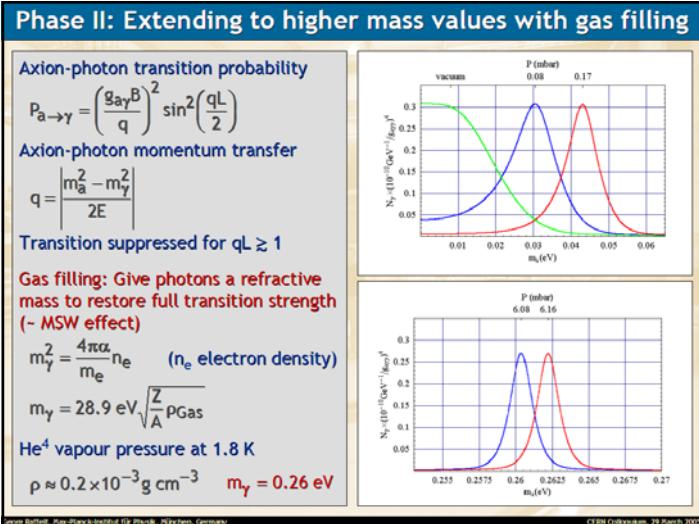
New calculation by Pasquale Serpico (MPI Physik)

[1] Bahcall et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. 54 (1982) 767
[2] Bahcall & Pinsonneault, PRL 92 (2004) 121301







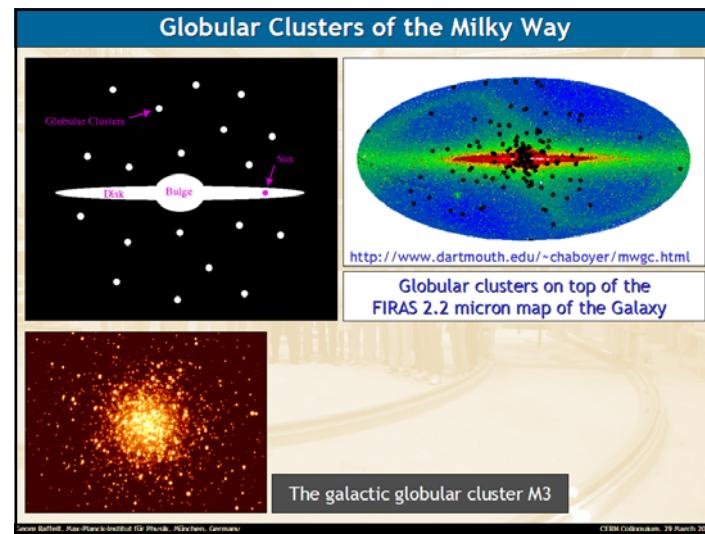
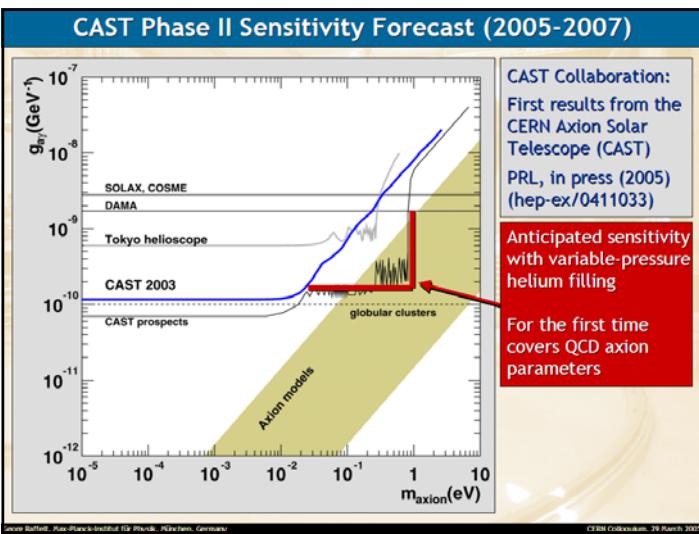


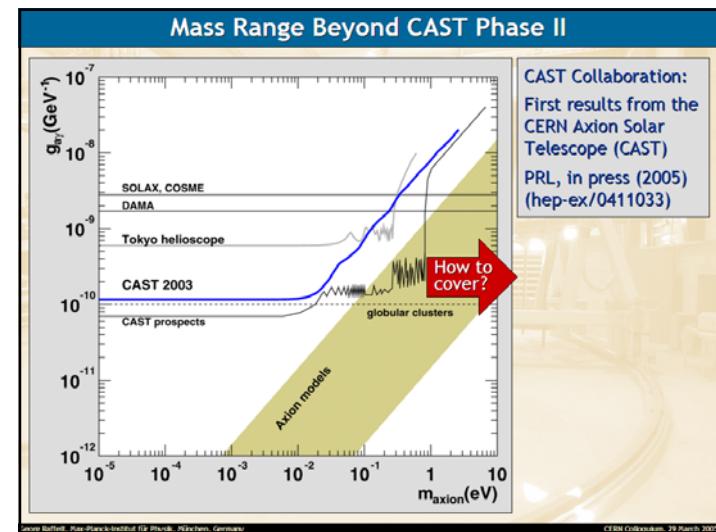
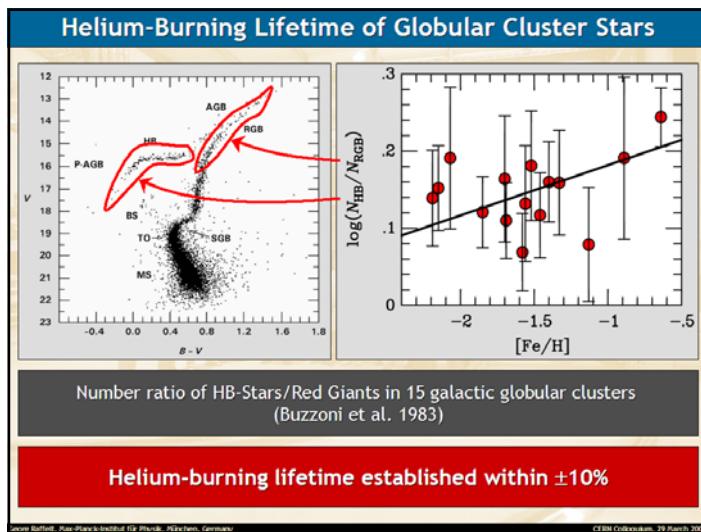
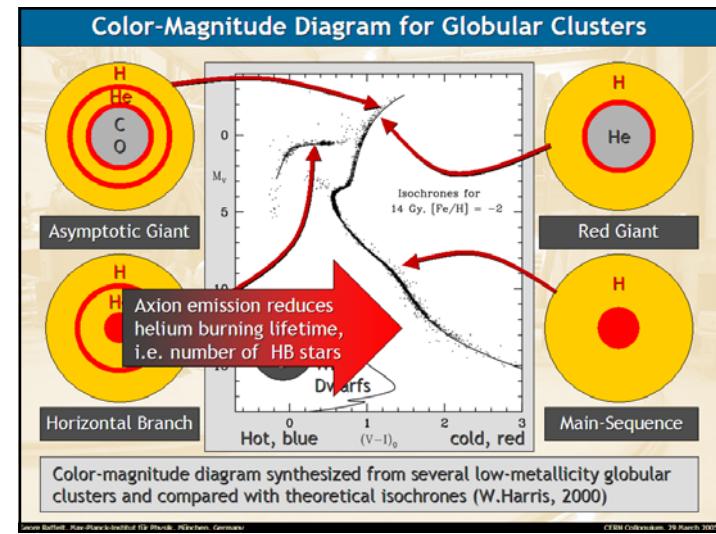
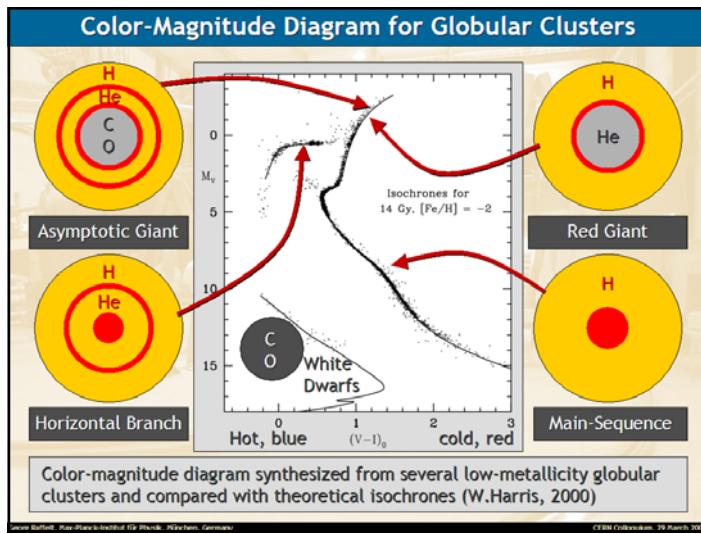
CAST Phase II (Variable pressure helium filling)

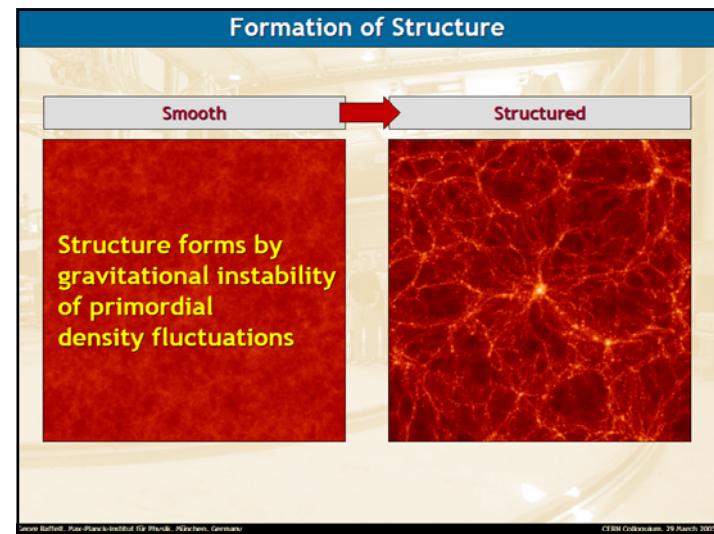
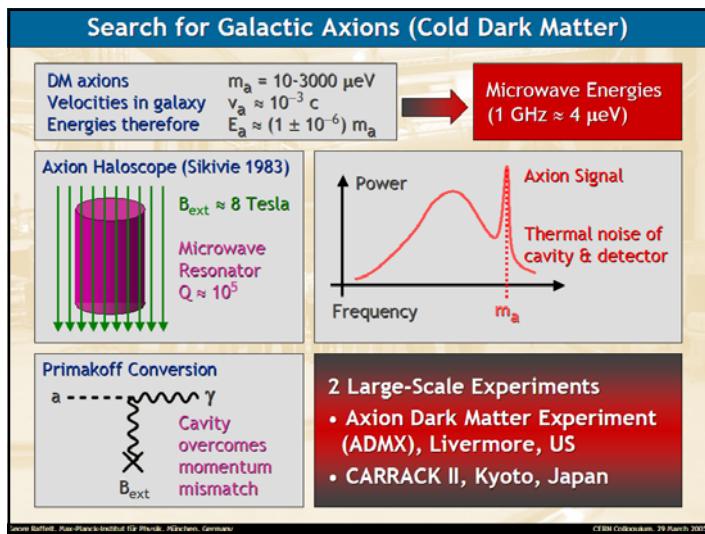
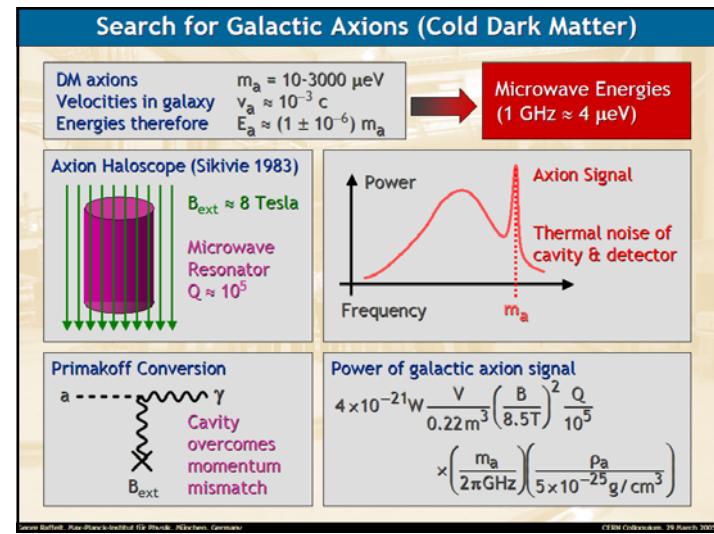
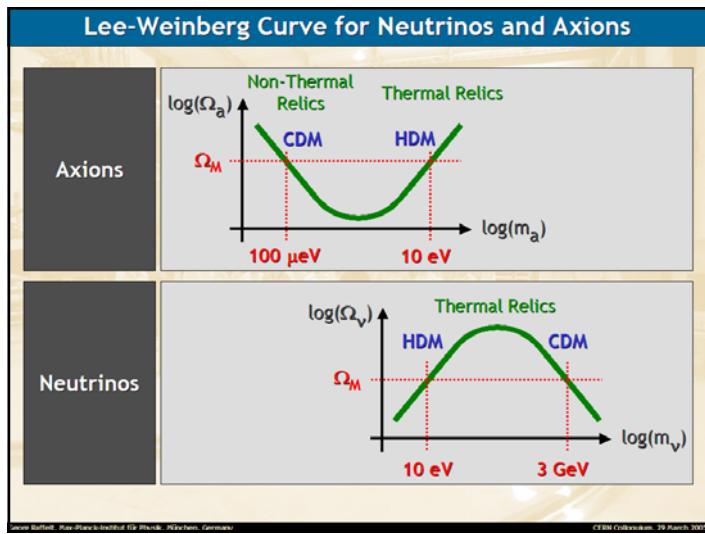
Step 1		He⁴ at T = 1.8 K, p < 6 mbar 0.02 < m_a < 0.26 eV 70 pressure settings ($\Delta p = 0.08$ mbar) 1.5 h Sun tracking each setting
Step 2	Option A	He³ at T = 1.8 K, p < 60 mbar m_a < 0.8 eV
	Option B	He⁴ at T = 5.4 K, p < 180 mbar Gas cell inside cold bore m_a < 1.4 eV

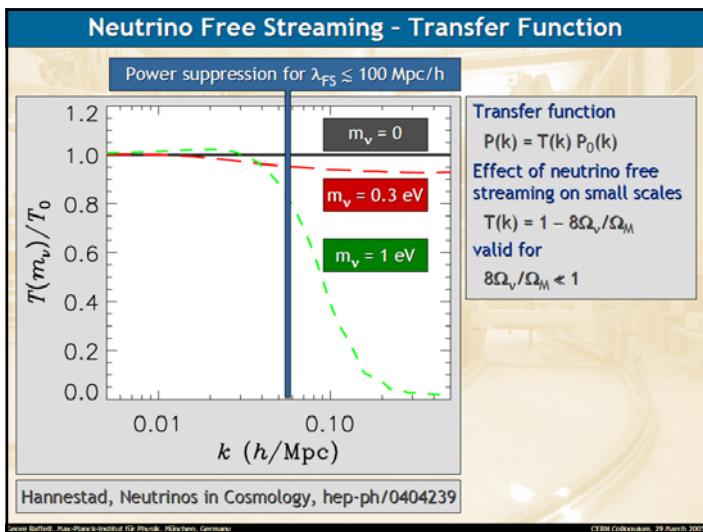
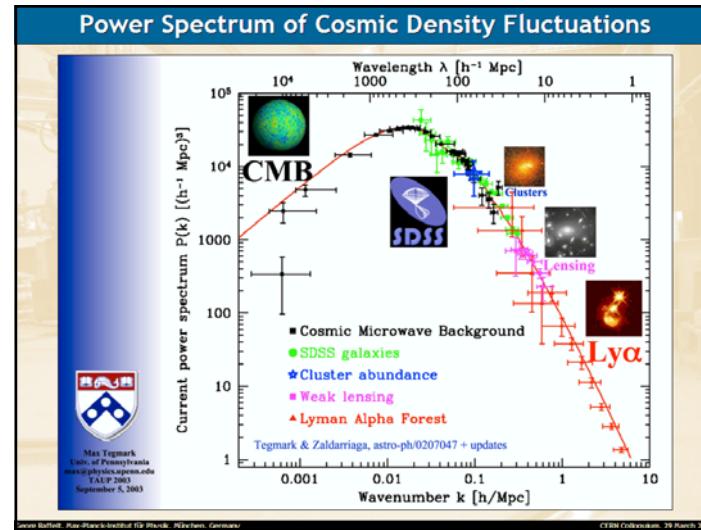
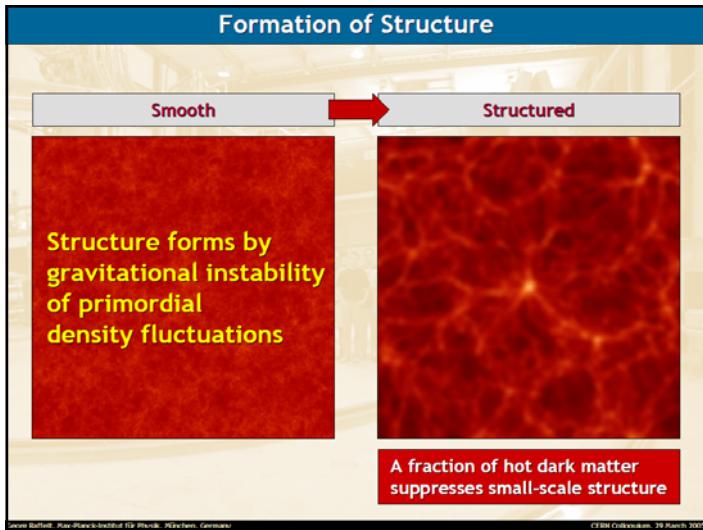
- CAST Phase II approved by CERN Research Board on 2 Dec 2004 for 2005-2007 (3 years)
- MoU of collaborating institutions in preparation
- Lawrence Livermore National Lab (California) intends to join (second x-ray telescope, helium-3 for gas-filling)

Source: J. Baffert, Max-Planck-Institut für Physik, München, Germany
CERN Colloquium, 29 March 2007









Recent Cosmological Limits on Neutrino Masses

Authors	$\Sigma m_\nu/\text{eV}$ (limit 95%CL)	Data / Priors
Spergel et al. (WMAP) 2003	0.69	WMAP, CMB, 2dF, σ_8 , H_0
Hannestad 2003	1.01	WMAP, CMB, 2dF, H_0
Tegmark et al. 2003	1.8	WMAP, SDSS
Barger et al. 2003	0.65	WMAP, CMB, 2dF, SDSS, H_0
Crotty et al. 2004	1.0	WMAP, CMB, 2dF, SDSS, H_0
Hannestad 2004	0.65	WMAP, SDSS, SN Ia gold sample, Ly- α data from Keck sample
Seljak et al. 2004	0.42	WMAP, SDSS, Bias, Ly- α data from SDSS sample

Source: J. Silk, Max-Planck-Institut für Physik, München, Germany
CERN Colloquium, 29 March 2007

