

# photoproduction of axion-like-particles

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#### the quest for new physics coupling to the SM energy stronger interaction frontier indirect probes high energy colliders intensity frontier flavour factories and longer lifetime more precision frontier tabletop new particle $\overline{m}_{e}$ $m_h$ $m_p$ mass GeV MeV TeV (new physics scale) shorter distance



## axion like particles - ALPs

- originally the Axion, part of a solution to the strong CP problem (PC)
- pseudo-Goladstone mode
- portal to dark matter and/or dark sector
- if very light, it is a dark matter candidate
- \* predicted by string theory

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focus the effective ALP photon interaction

$$\mathscr{L}_{\rm eff} = \frac{a}{4\Lambda} F^{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu}$$

 $m_a \in [\text{MeV, GeV}] \quad \Lambda \gg m_a$ 

#### well motivated BSM scenario











decay to  $\gamma\gamma$ 

#### PrimEx/GlueX @ J-Lab

Aloni, Fanelli, YS, Williams 1903.03586



prompt/displaced decay to  $\gamma\gamma$ 

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**PrimEx/GlueX** (a) J-Lab

LUXE-NPOD @ DESY

Aloni, Fanelli, YS, Williams 1903.03586 Bai, Blackburn, Borysov, Davidi, Hartin, Heinemann, Ma, Perez, Santra, YS, Tal Hod, 2107.13554





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Gamma-Factory @ CERN

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Balkin, Krasny, Ma, Safdi, YS

2105.15072









Primakoff production of ALPs and  $P = \pi^0$ ,  $\eta$  are similar

$$\frac{d\sigma_{\gamma N \to aN}^{\text{elastic}}}{dt} = \frac{\Gamma_{a \to \gamma \gamma}}{\Gamma_{P \to \gamma \gamma}} \frac{\mathscr{H}(m_N, m_a, s, t)}{\mathscr{H}(m_N, m_p, s, t)} \frac{d\sigma_{\gamma N \to PN}^{\text{elastic}}}{dt}$$

at the forward region

data-driven signal normalization (cancel form-factor and flux dependence)





## ALP photons coupling



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#### LUXE-NPOD: new physics searches with an optical dump at LUXE

Bai, Blackburn, Borysov, Davidi, Hartin, Heinemann, Ma, Perez, Santra, YS, Tal Hod, 2107.13554



Ritus, 1985 LUXE, 1909.00860, 2102.02032



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excellent source of GeV scale photons

#### the photon spectrum



 $\chi \xi^2 > 1$  for non perturbative region

$$\chi = \frac{eE_e}{m_e^3} \mathscr{E}_L \left(1 + \beta_e \cos \theta\right), \quad \xi = \frac{e\mathscr{E}_L}{m_e \omega_L}$$

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 $10^{-4}$ 

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outgoing Compton photon spectrum

# can be used for new physics searches in particular with photon and/or electron coupling



#### new physics production at LUXE



#### secondary ALPs production



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#### secondary ALPs production







number of ALPs













backgrounds (based on GEANT 4 simulation):

1. charged particles - bended by a magnetic field (1.5T of 1m)

2. fake photons - 
$$N_{2n \to 2\gamma} \approx 5 \times 10^8 f_{n \to \gamma}^2 e^{-10f_{n \to \gamma}} R_{sel}$$
  
 $N_{n\gamma \to 2\gamma} \approx 1 \times 10^6 f_{n \to \gamma} e^{-10f_{n \to \gamma}} R_{sel}$ 

3. real photons -  $N_{2\gamma} \approx 8 \times 10^2 R_{\rm sel}$  dominant

 $R_{\rm sel}$  - event selection rejection  $f_{n \rightarrow \gamma}$  - neutron fake rate

depend on detector technology (energy, pointing and timing resolutions)



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 $R_{\rm sel}, f_{n \to \gamma} \lesssim 10^{-3}$ for background free achievable with current technologies (CMS/LHCb/SHiP)

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#### ALP reach estimation

 $E_e = 16.5 \text{ GeV}$   $N_e = 1.5 \times 10^9$   $N_{\text{BX}} = 10^7 L_S = 1.0 \text{ m}$   $L_D = 2.5 \text{ m}$   $R_D = 1.0 \text{ m}$   $E_{\gamma,\text{min}} = 0.5 \text{ GeV}$ 











#### Probing ALPs at the CERN Gamma Factory

Balkin, Krasny, Ma, Safdi, YS 2105.15072



use this huge photon flux for BSM

#### production



production



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$$m_a = 1 \text{ MeV}$$

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(A): 
$$E_{\gamma_{\text{GF}}} = 1.6 \,\text{GeV}$$
  $\frac{dN_{\gamma}}{dt} = 10^{16} \,\text{sec}^{-1}$   
(B):  $E_{\gamma_{\text{GF}}} = 0.2 \,\text{GeV}$   $\frac{dN_{\gamma}}{dt} = 10^{17} \,\text{sec}^{-1}$   
(A):  $E_{\gamma_{\text{GF}}} = 0.02 \,\text{GeV}$   $\frac{dN_{\gamma}}{dt} = 10^{18} \,\text{sec}^{-1}$ 

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# Outlook

- primEx/GlueX prompt search
- LUXE-NPOD: open the door to novel type of beam dump experiments, connect BSM and high intense QED LUXE is proposed experiment at DESY and Eu.XFEL (pass CD0 stage)
- the CERN Gamma-Factory

all probe different and unexplored ALP (and scalar) parameter space



Backups

 $-\frac{4\pi\alpha_{s}c_{g}}{\Lambda}a\,G^{\mu\nu}\tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}$ 

 $F_a = |\Lambda/(32\pi^2 c_g)|$ 







#### ALP gluons coupling $-\frac{4\pi\alpha_s c_g}{\Lambda} a G^{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}$ $F_a = |\Lambda/(32\pi^2 c_g)|$



**KOTO**  $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 a \rightarrow 4\gamma$ 



## LUXE-NPOD backgrounds

