



Design of a superconducting magnetic shield closed on both ends for a high-sensitivity particle detector

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- In collaboration with the Plasma Science and Fusion Center of the M.I.T.
- The ABRACADABRA project aims at detecting axions.
- Axions are **hypothetical elementary particles**, candidates to explain the particle nature of dark matter.
- Experiment based on the principle that axions interact with static magnetic fields (and may change Maxwell's equations)



A Broadband/Resonant Approach to Cosmic Axion Detection with an Amplifying B-field Ring Apparatus





- Generation of a DC azimuthal magnetic field **B**₀
- The interaction 'B₀ axion' can be treated as an effective oscillating current J_{eff} flowing along B₀
- This current generates a real magnetic field B_{ind} which can be measured experimentally

Toroidal coil



12 cm

- A pick-up coil inductively coupled with a SQUID is located inside the bore of the tore
- The whole system is cooled down to 1.2 K
- Environmental magnetic noise must be below the current shot noise of the SQUID (i.e. **0.01 fT/** √Hz for *f* > 50 Hz)

Efficient



Pick-up coil

Questions of this work



- Magnetic shield closed on both ends, aspect ratio ~ 1
- Conventional ferromagnetic material should be avoided
- Only **Type-I superconductors** can be considered
- Shielding ensured by macroscopic current loops

✓ What is the most efficient geometry of the shield ?

- 'OPERA' modelling software : Linear *E-J* relationship
- 'ELEKTRA' module for analysis of eddy currents
- Type-I superconductor ~ conductor with $\sigma = 10^{30}$ S/m

✓ What are the modelling possibilities of 'OPERA' ?

Methodology

- Study magnetic shields of well-known, axisymmetric geometries
 - Compare :

1

2

Analytical
$$B(z)$$
OPERA
Ohm, $\sigma = 10^{30}$ S/mGetDP [2D]
London Equations

Investigate magnetic shields of various closed geometries adapted to the experiment

$$B_{\rm app} = 1 \text{ mT} \implies B_{\rm in} \implies SF = \frac{B_{\rm app}}{B_{\rm in}}$$

J. R. Claycomb and J. H. Miller Jr., *Rev. Sci. Instrum. vol. 70, pp. 4562-4598* (1999). GetDP: A General Environment for the Treatment of Discrete Problems, [Online]. <u>http://getdep.info</u>

Semi-closed tube with aspect ratio ~ 1





Open tube with aspect ratio ~ 10





- OPERA and GetDP results are coherent with analytical results.
- OPERA should not be used for handling SF > 10⁸ in this analysis

Shields closed on both ends for the application



Superconducting swiss-roll with 2 caps



2

- SF too low (≤ 4.1)
- The swiss roll shields itself
- Shielding mainly provided by the caps

Shields closed on both ends : axial field



2 Closed tube with one cap : influence of a hole



2 2 closed tubes head-to-foot : Transverse field



- Much smaller SF than in the axial field,
- Configuration with the highest SF anyway

(OPERA)

Summary and conclusions



'ABRACADABRA' : final prototype

- Shield made of 2 closed tubes, spin-coated with tin ($T_c = 3.72$ K), welded shut
- The experiments demonstrated the capabilities of thebroadband axion search ABRACADABRA-10 cm
- No evidence of an axion signal in the mass range $3.1 \times 10^{-10} 8.3 \times 10^{-9} \text{ eV}$



 $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho$ $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$ $\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$ $\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{J} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}$

J. L. Ouellet et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 122, 121802 (2019)

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