

# The Canfranc Axion Detection Experiment



**Alicia Gómez, on behalf of the CADEX Collaboration**

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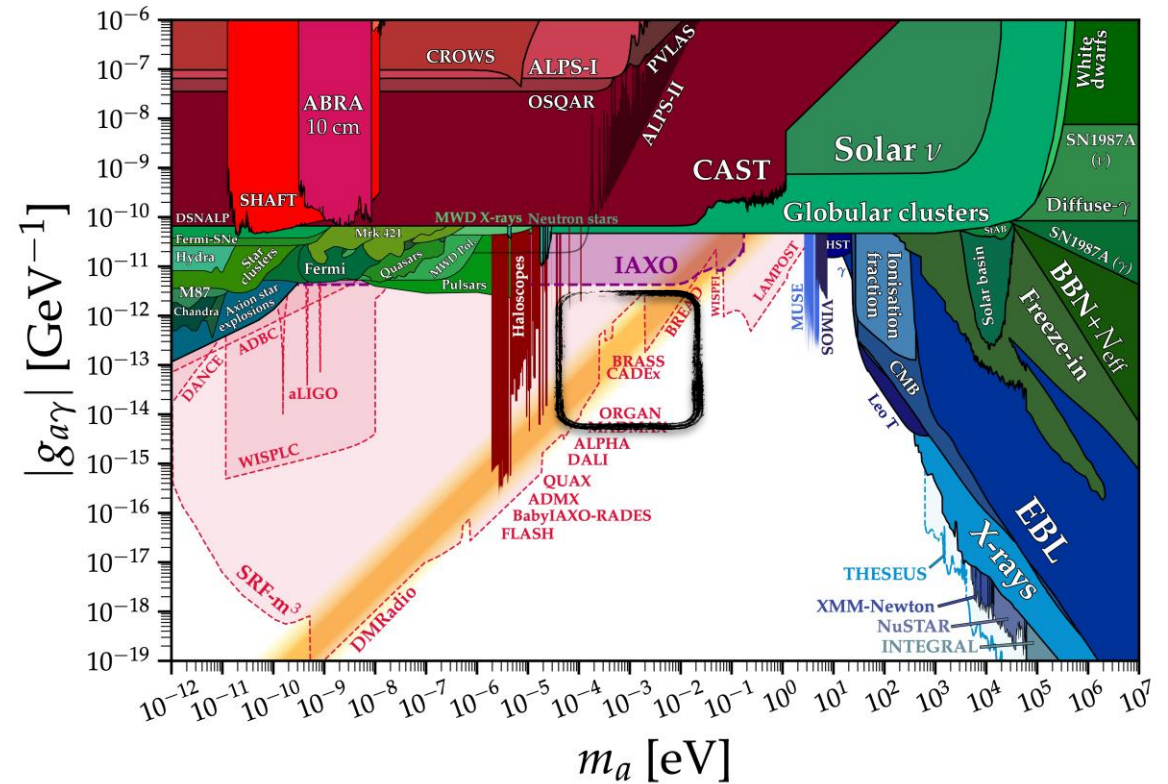
CENTRO DE ASTROBIOLOGÍA · CAB  
ASOCIADO AL NASA ASTROBIOLOGY PROGRAM



# Motivation

- Inverse Primakoff effect: axion-photon conversion in strong magnetic fields.
- Photon frequency  $\propto$  axion mass.
- Detection traditionally based on haloscopes and heterodyne receivers.
  - Standard quantum limit for heterodyne detectors at 100 GHz: 2.5 K
  - Very slow search for wide ranges

Looking for axions in the mm/submm/Far-IR desert



# The challenging THz desert

## Detection system

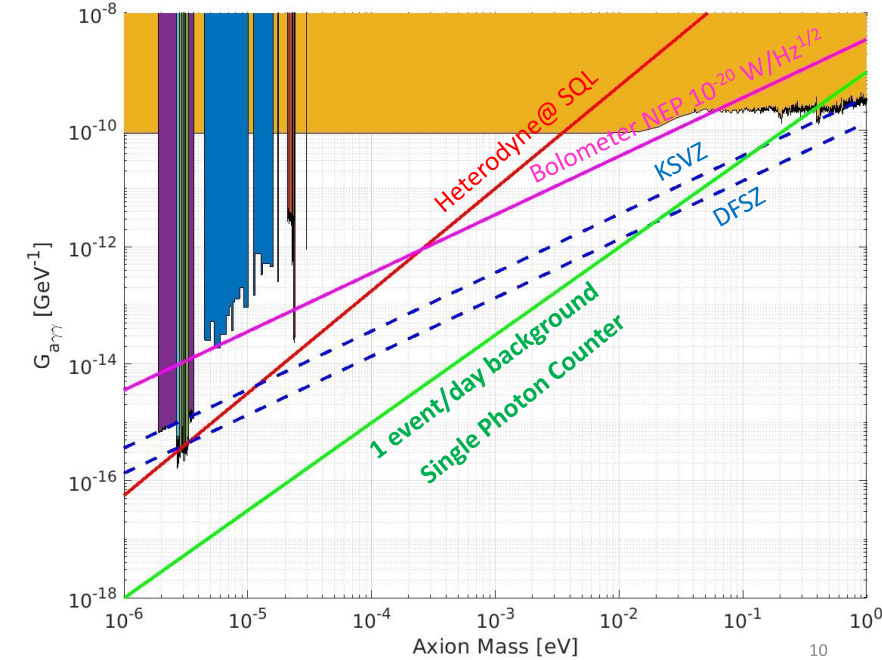
- Use of direct detectors with **state-of-the-art sensitivities**.
- But... **Sensitive to cosmic rays**, so underground lab needed.

## Haloscopes:

- **High frequency resonant cavities**.
  - Need technological demonstration.

## Detection system must be:

- **Spectroscopic** to detect the expected narrow spectral feature.
- **Polarimetric** to detect the expected linear polarization.



**CADEx can be considered as a technological platform**

# The CADEX Collaboration

CADEX: a novel and challenging experiment to search for dark matter axions in the range 330–460  $\mu\text{eV}$  (W-band  $\rightarrow$  86–110 GHz). Also sensitive to dark photons.

Novel detection system:  
**Haloscope + KIDs**

Estimate  $5\sigma$  sensitivity assuming:

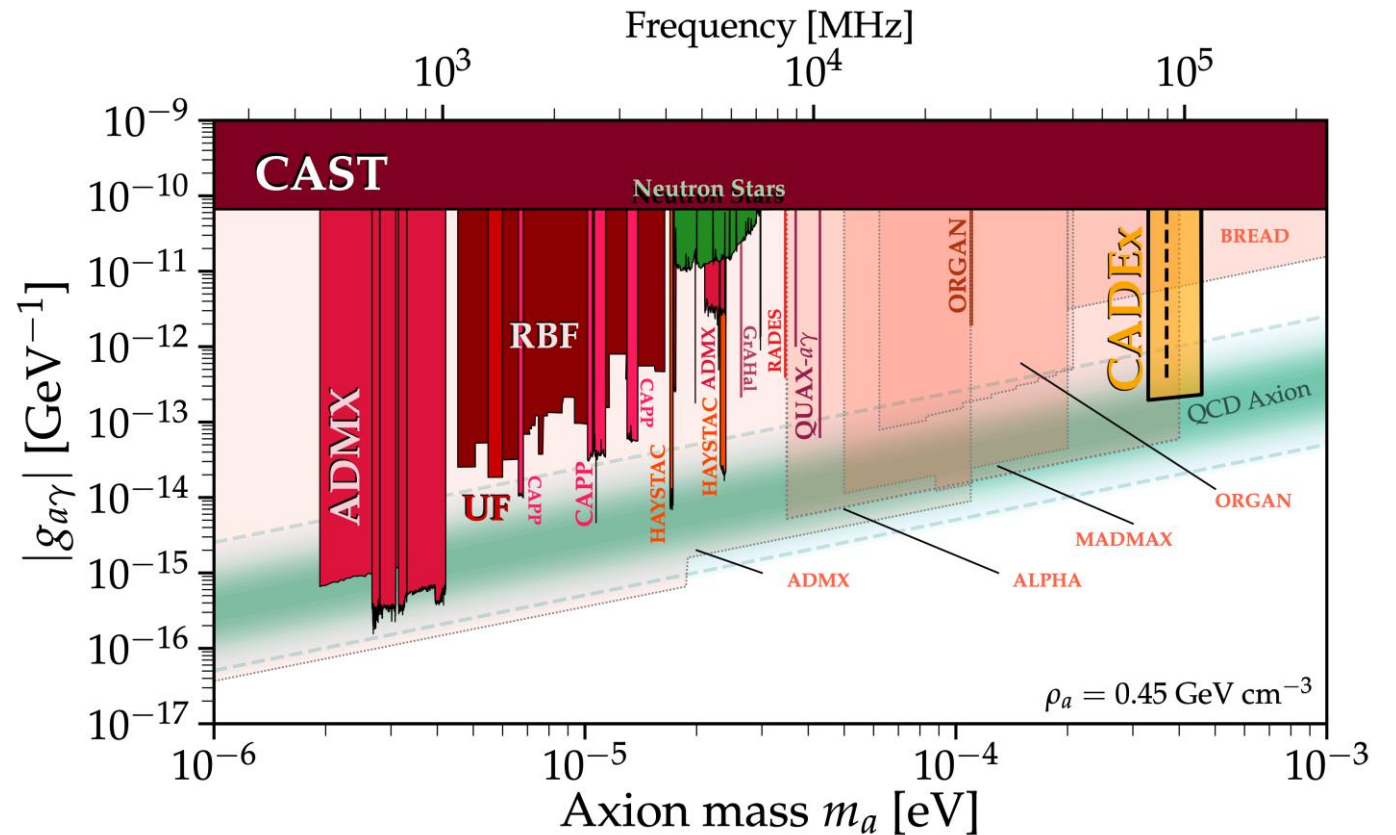
Magnetic field:  $B = 8\text{T}$

Total cavity volume:  $V = 0.2\text{L}$

Cavity quality factor:  $Q_0 = 2 \times 10^4$

----- 3 month exposure with NEP =  $10^{-19} \text{ W}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$

———— 8 year scan with NEP =  $3 \times 10^{-20} \text{ W}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$



# The CADEX Collaboration

[JCAP 11 (2022) 044, [arXiv:2206.02980](https://arxiv.org/abs/2206.02980)]

The Canfranc Axion Detection Experiment (CADEX): search for axions at 90 GHz with Kinetic Inductance Detectors

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More than 30 people from 11 institutions



Science

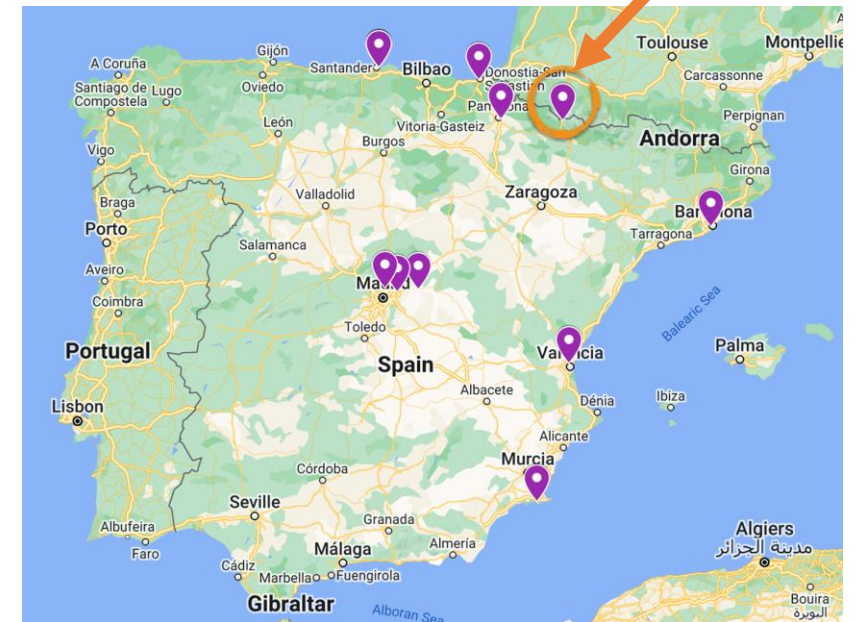
Optics

Haloscopes

Cryogenics

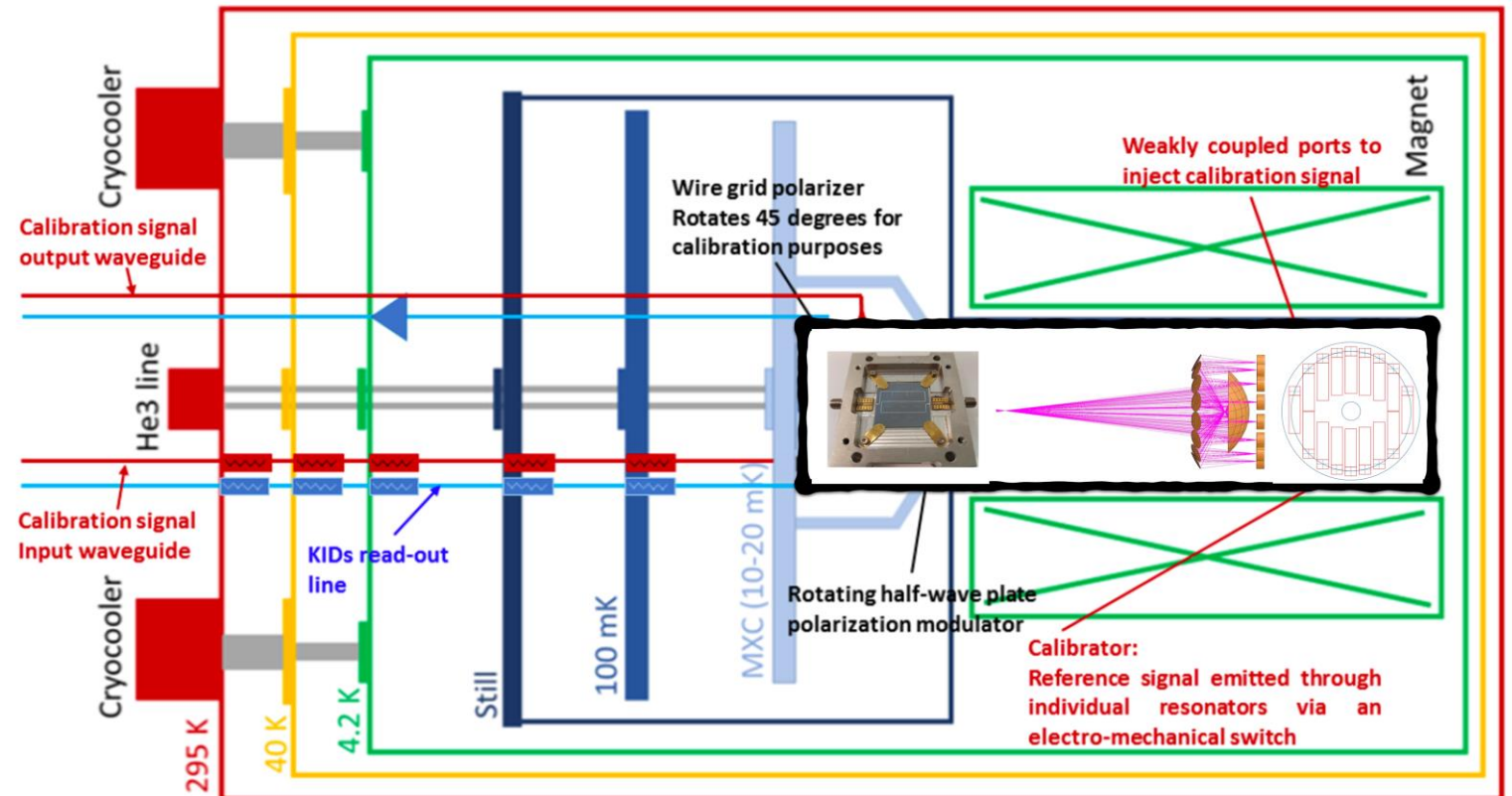
Detectors

Data Reduction



- Immerse **haloscope** array in high static **B = 8-10 T**.
- Aim to discriminate the **polarized** axion-photon conversion signal from the unpolarized background.
- Detection system based on **Kinetic Inductance Detectors**.
- Cryogenic background at **T = 100 mK**.

## *Technological challenges*

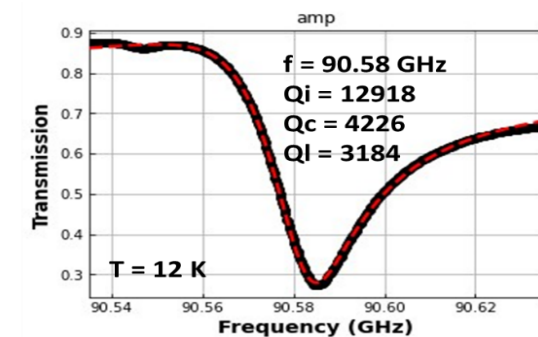
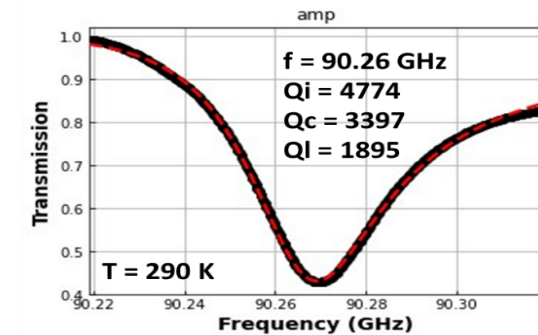
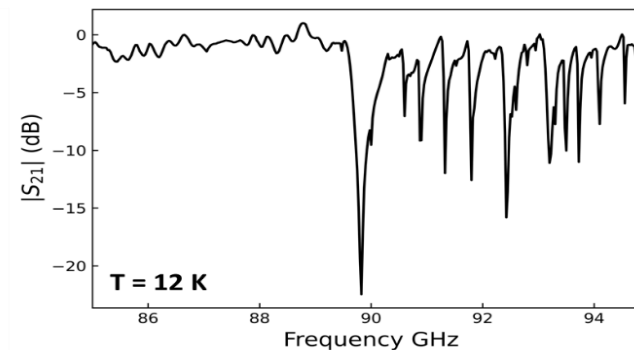
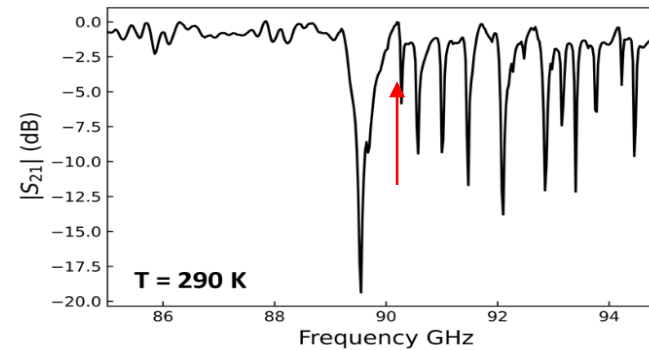
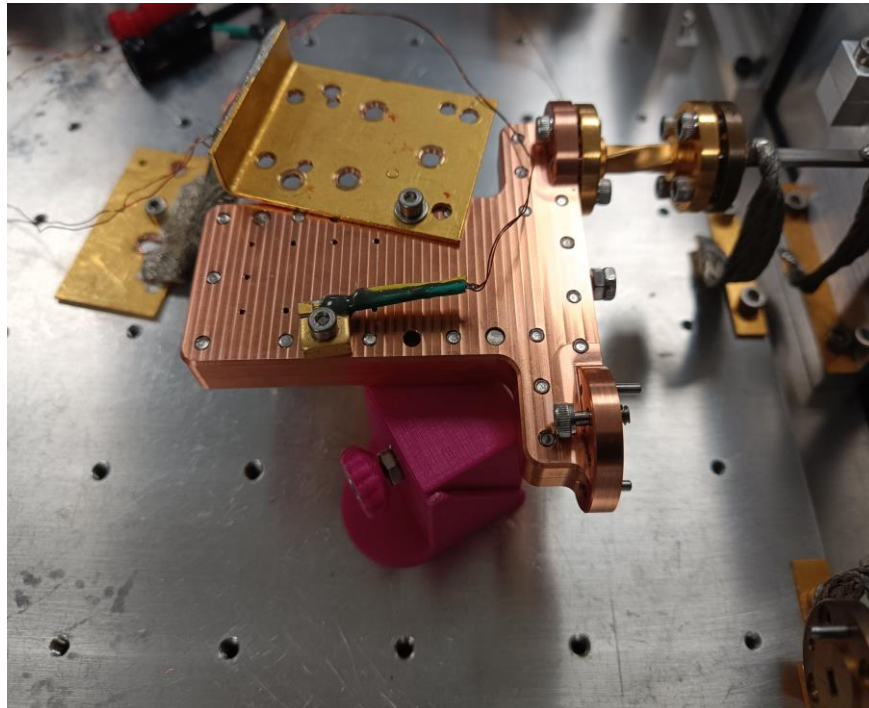


# CADEX status: Haloscope

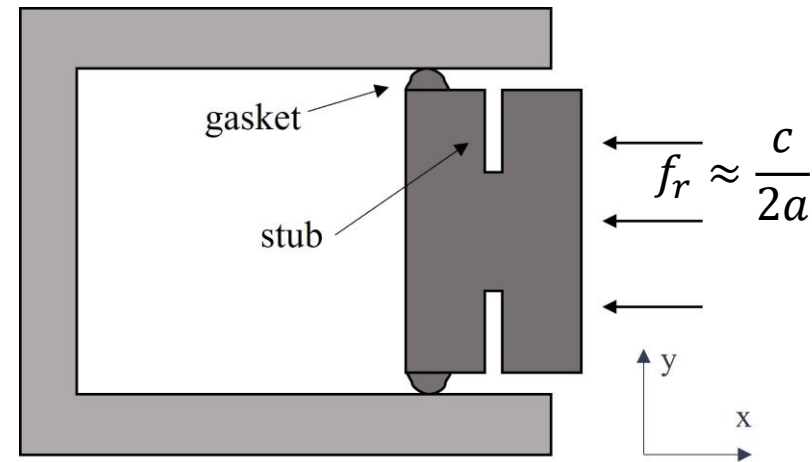
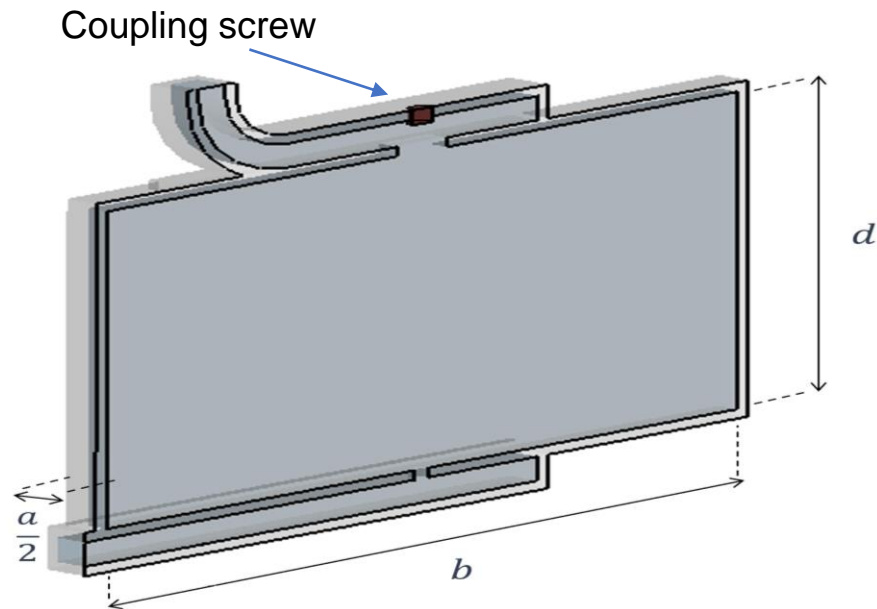
- Pushing 3D Cavities to the **W-band** while maintaining very **high quality factor** (Q).

$$f_r = \frac{c}{2} \sqrt{\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2}}$$

Dimensions  $a \approx 1.7$  mm and  $b = 40a$  gives a resonance frequency of  $f_r = 90$ GHz



- Pushing 3D Cavities to the **W-band** while maintaining very **high quality factor** (Q).
- Develop **tunable cavities** to scan frequency range  $f_r \in [86,111]$  GHz and tune Q.

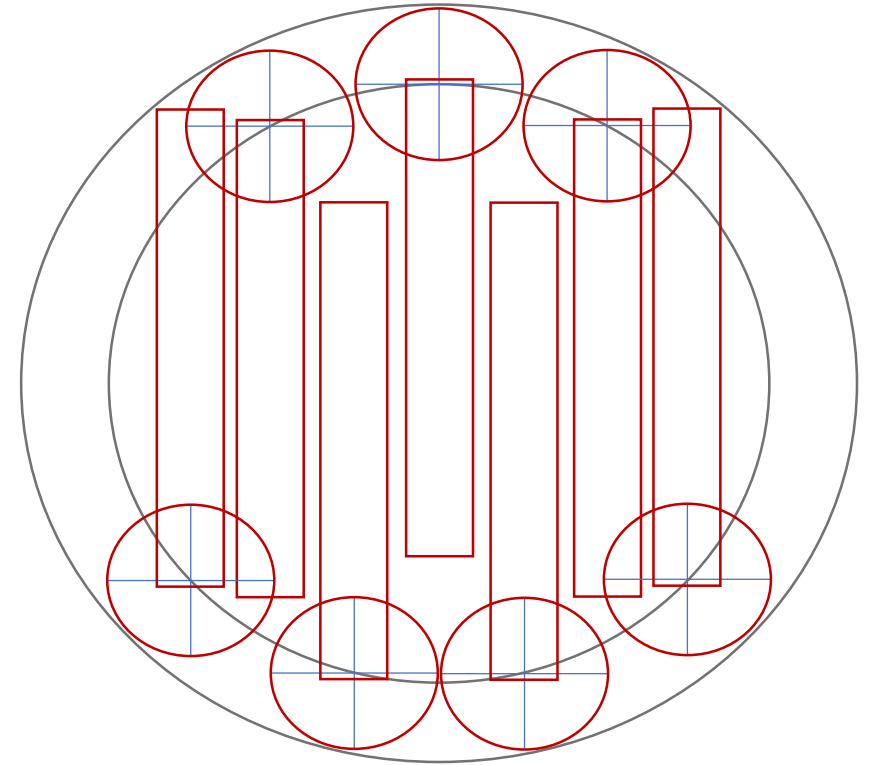




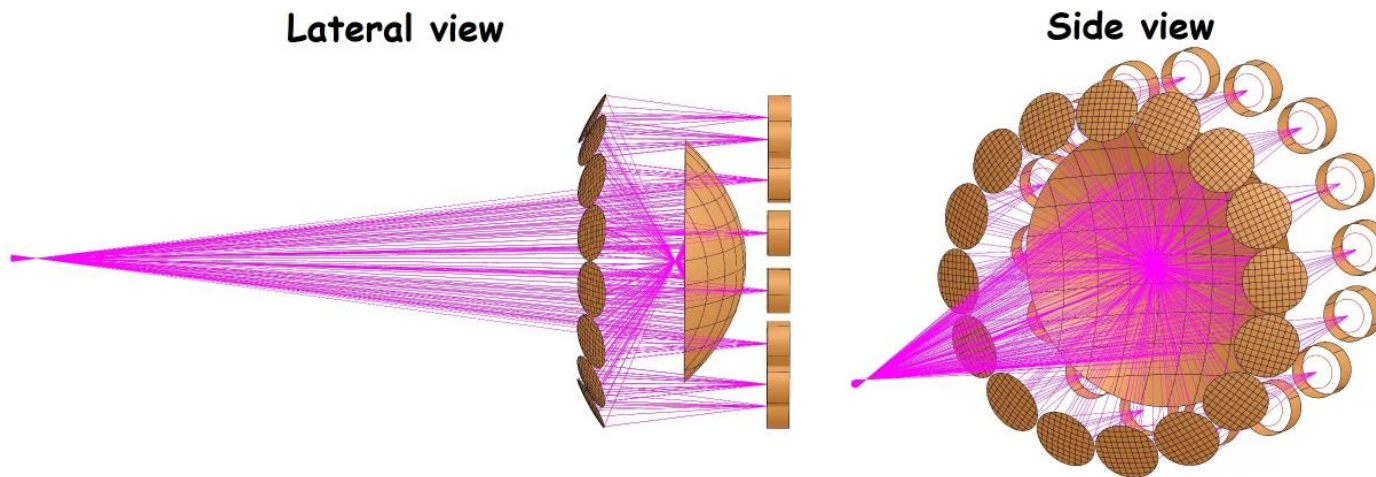
- Pushing 3D Cavities to the **W-band** while maintaining very **high quality factor** (Q).
- Develop **tunable cavities** to scan frequency range  $f_r \in [86,111]$  GHz and tune Q.
- Need to **maximize volume** to increase the sensitivity.

*Detected axion-photon conversion power  $P$ :*

$$P_d = \frac{\beta}{(1 + \beta)^2} g_{a\gamma}^2 \frac{\rho_a}{m_a} B^2 C \mathbf{V} \mathbf{Q}$$

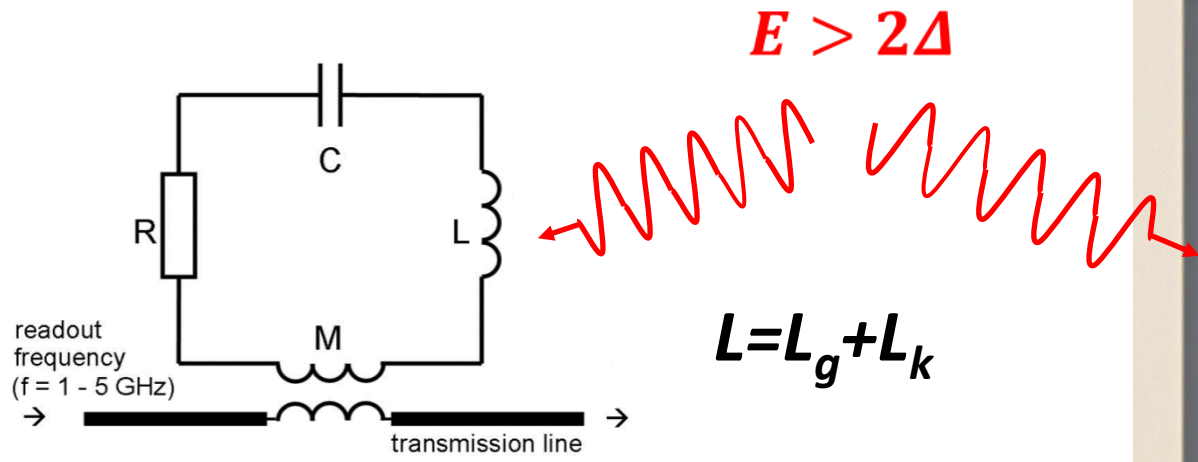


- Quasi-optical system based on 16 horn antennas apertures **focus signal** going out from the haloscope to the detection system.
- **Polarization** needs to be preserved.
- To be fitted in the 100 mK space within the cryogenic system.
- Filters are mandatory to diminish **out-of-band background signal**.



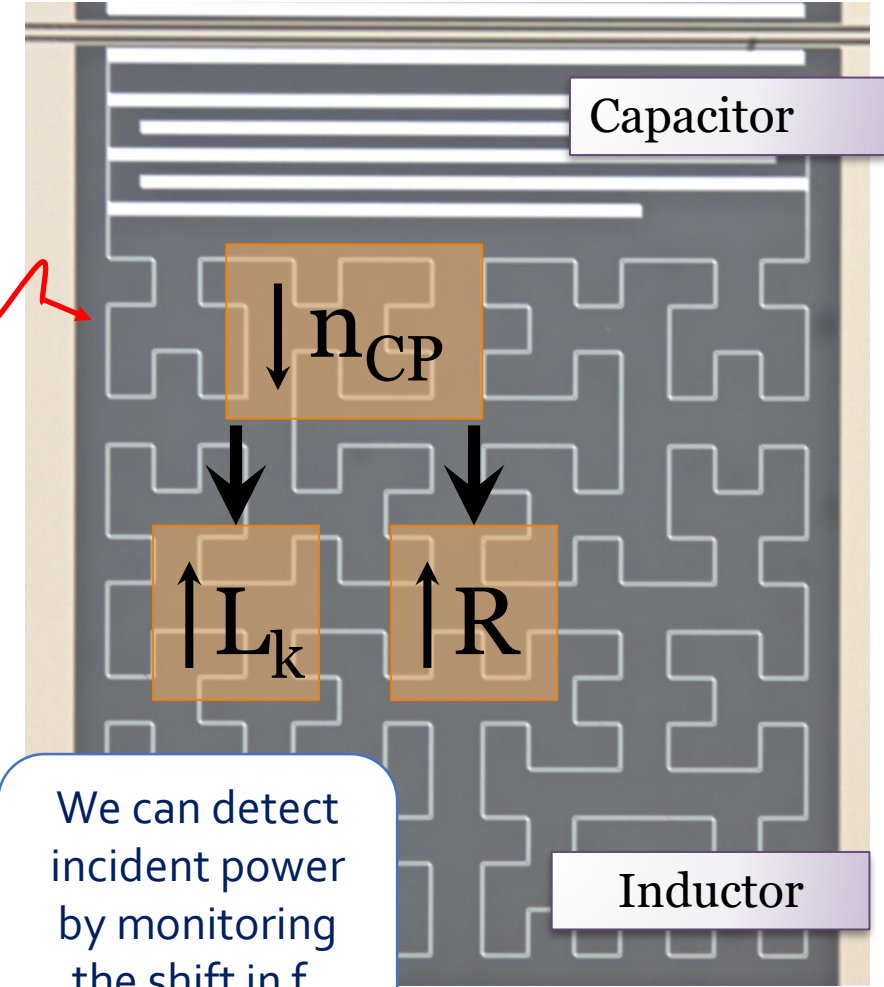
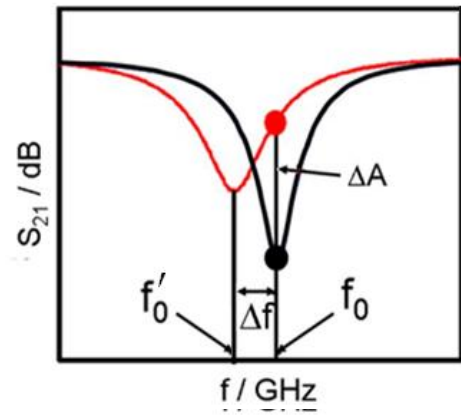
# CADEx status: Kinetic Inductance Detectors

➤ Detection system based on superconducting **Kinetic Inductance Detectors**.



$$f_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}$$

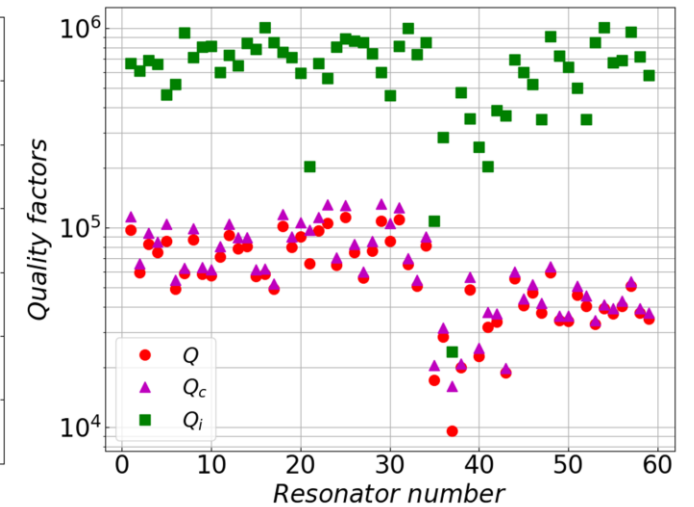
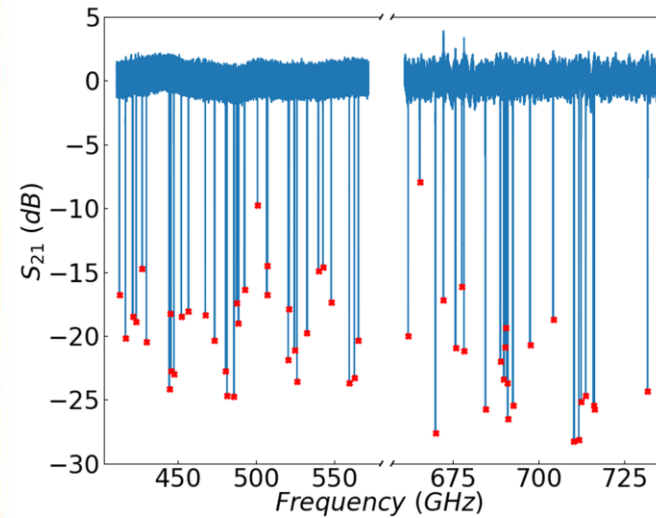
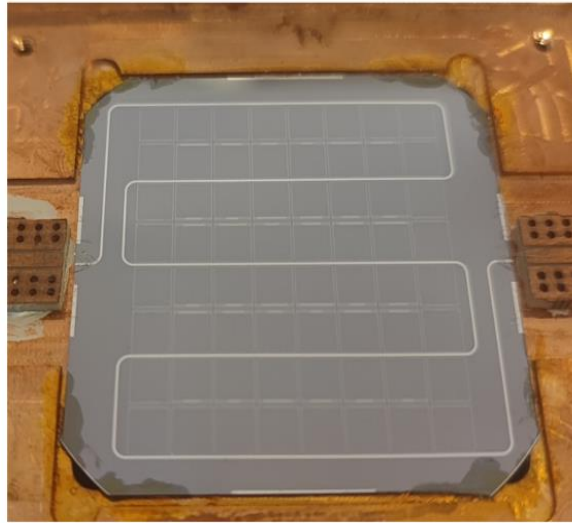
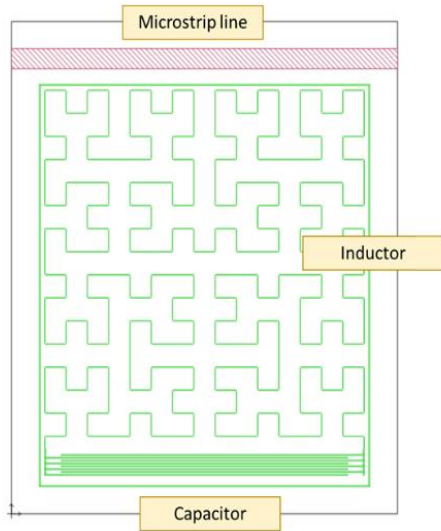
$$f' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L'C}}$$



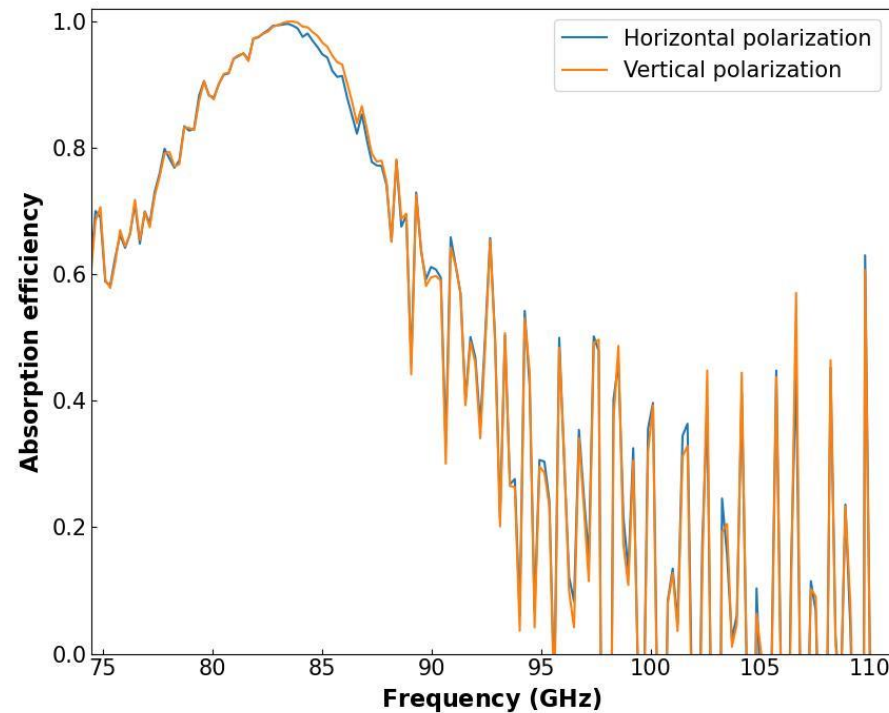
We can detect incident power by monitoring the shift in  $f_0$ .

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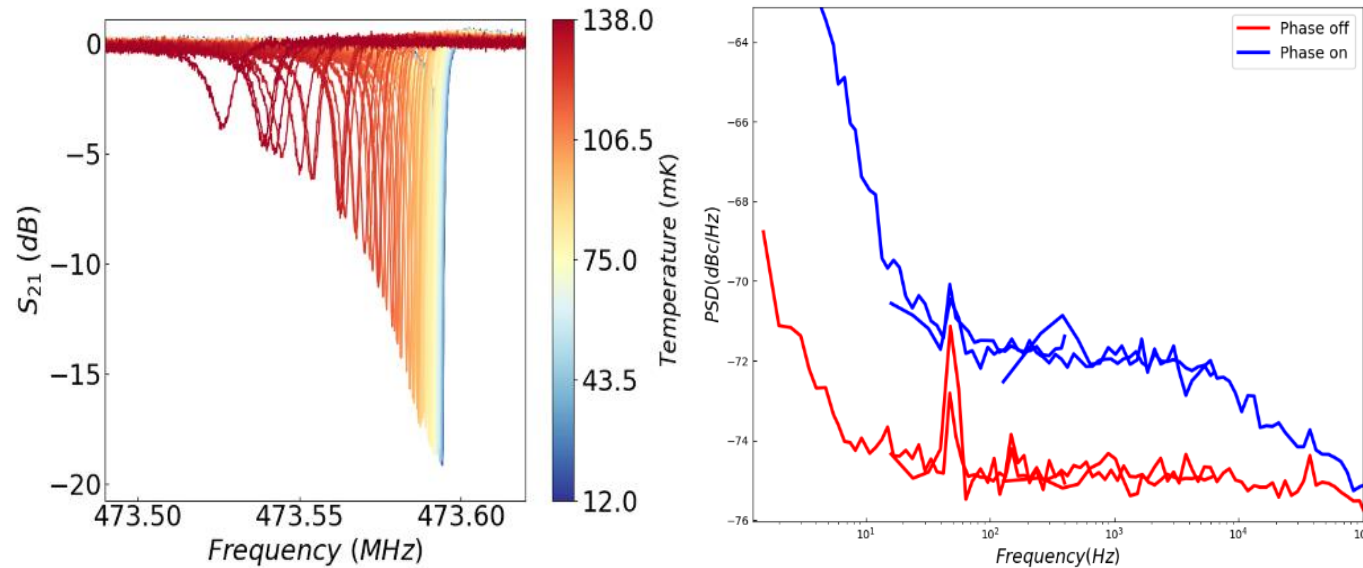
- Detection system based on superconducting **Kinetic Inductance Detectors**.
- A 64 LEKID camera based on **Ti/Al bilayer** has been developed and characterized.



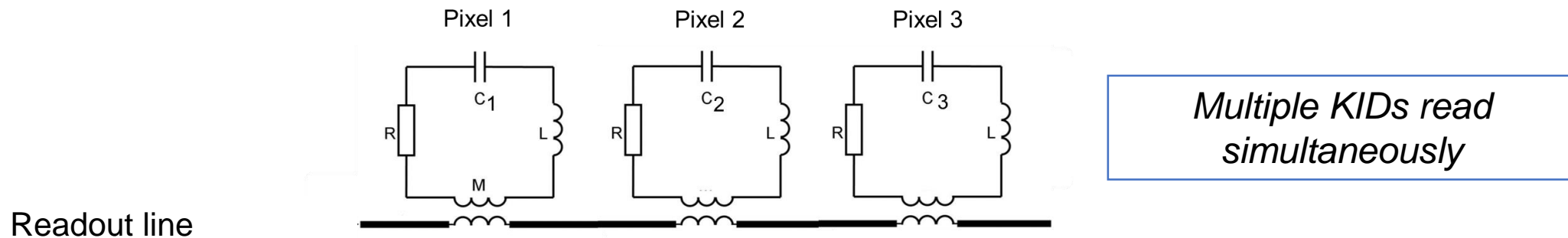
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- Room temperature quasi-optical **polarization characterization** demonstrated.
- KIDs **responsivity** and  $1/f$  **noise characterization** ongoing.
- A contract for the fabrication of the **multipixel readout system** for KIDs is ongoing.



# CADEx Timeline

*CADEx already accepted by Canfranc Underground Laboratory (LSC) under Eol-31-2021*

➤ **Design and Demonstration Phase (2 years)**

Cryostat acquisition, installation and operation.

Full quasi-optical design.

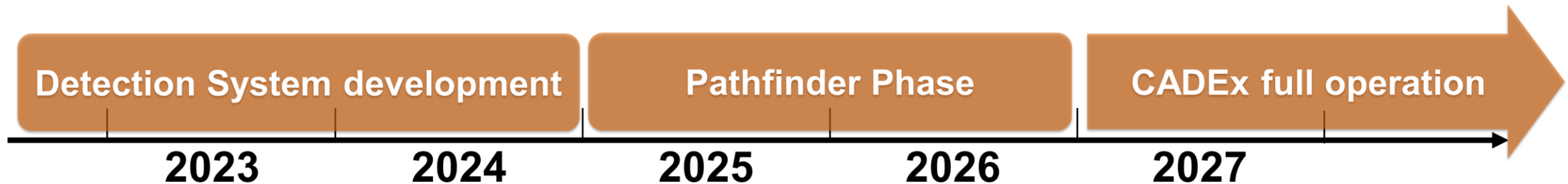
Demonstration of key technology (haloscope and detectors) in the lab.

➤ **Pathfinder Phase (2 years)**

First prototype of the full CADEx system to be installed and tested in LSC facility. Optimization

➤ **Operation Phase (8 years)**

Upgrade the experiment to improve the sensitivity & efficient non-resonant waveguide haloscope. Installation & Commissioning. Full Operation.





*Thanks for your attention!!!*



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*Primera Reunión Presencial De Planes Complementarios de Astrofísica y Altas Energías*

