

A Broadband/Resonant Experiment for Axion Dark Matter Detection

[arXiv:1602.01086]

Yoni Kahn

Princeton University

with Ben Safdi and Jesse Thaler @ MIT

TRIUMF Precision Workshop, 6/8/16

Axions and ALPS

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma\gamma} a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

Axions: $m_a \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}$

ALPs: $m_a, g_{a\gamma\gamma}$ independent

Axions: also couple to $G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}$

ALPs: not necessarily

Can be very light! Mass protected by a shift symmetry

$a \rightarrow a + \text{const.}$ because $F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$ is a total derivative

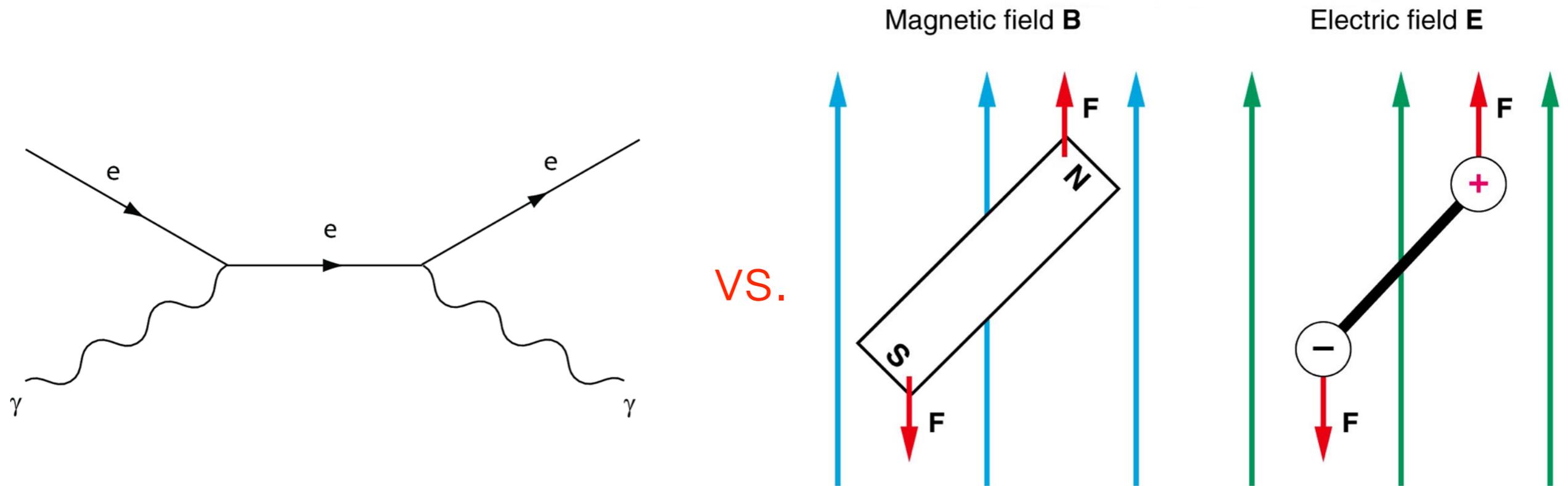
Motivations for light axions:

- Strong CP problem
- String theory

Can be DM either by thermal production ($> \text{eV}$)
or misalignment production ($< \text{eV}$)

ALP DM: field, not particle

Useful analogy:



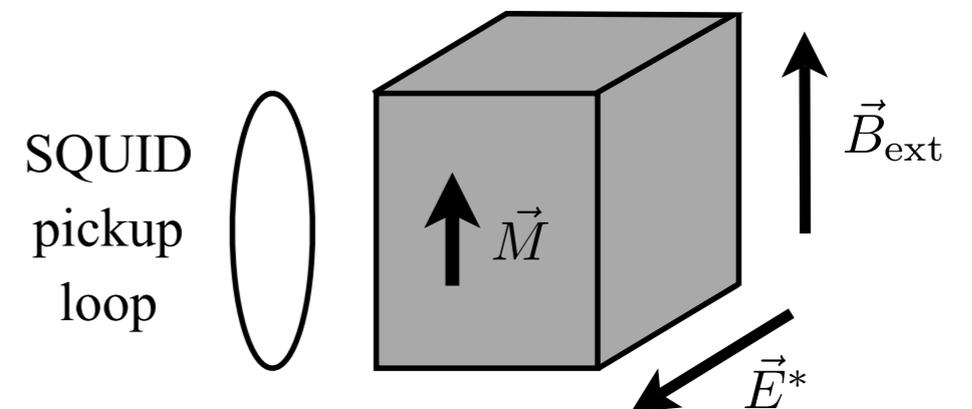
Light bosonic DM behaves **collectively**:
think in terms of charges and currents,
not Feynman diagrams

Strategies for ALP DM detection

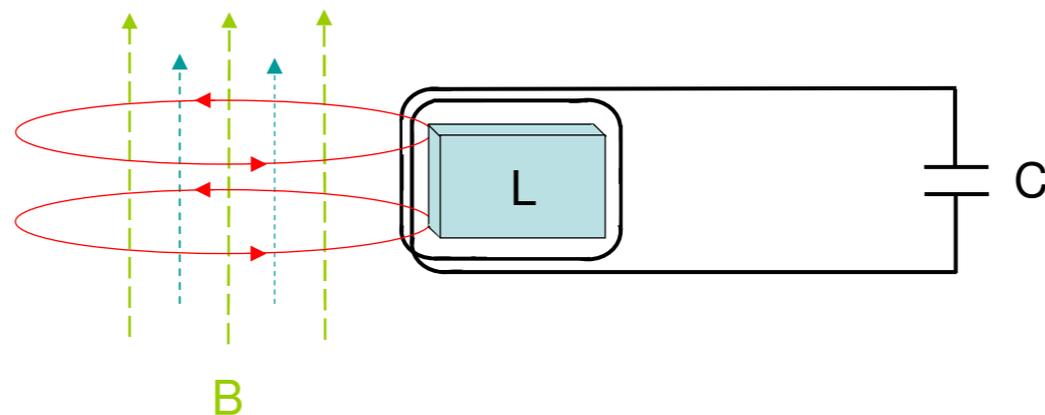
Resonant cavity (ADMX)



Nuclear EDMs (CASPER)



LC circuit (Thomas/Cabrera/Sikivie)



Signal is a **weak, oscillating magnetic field**

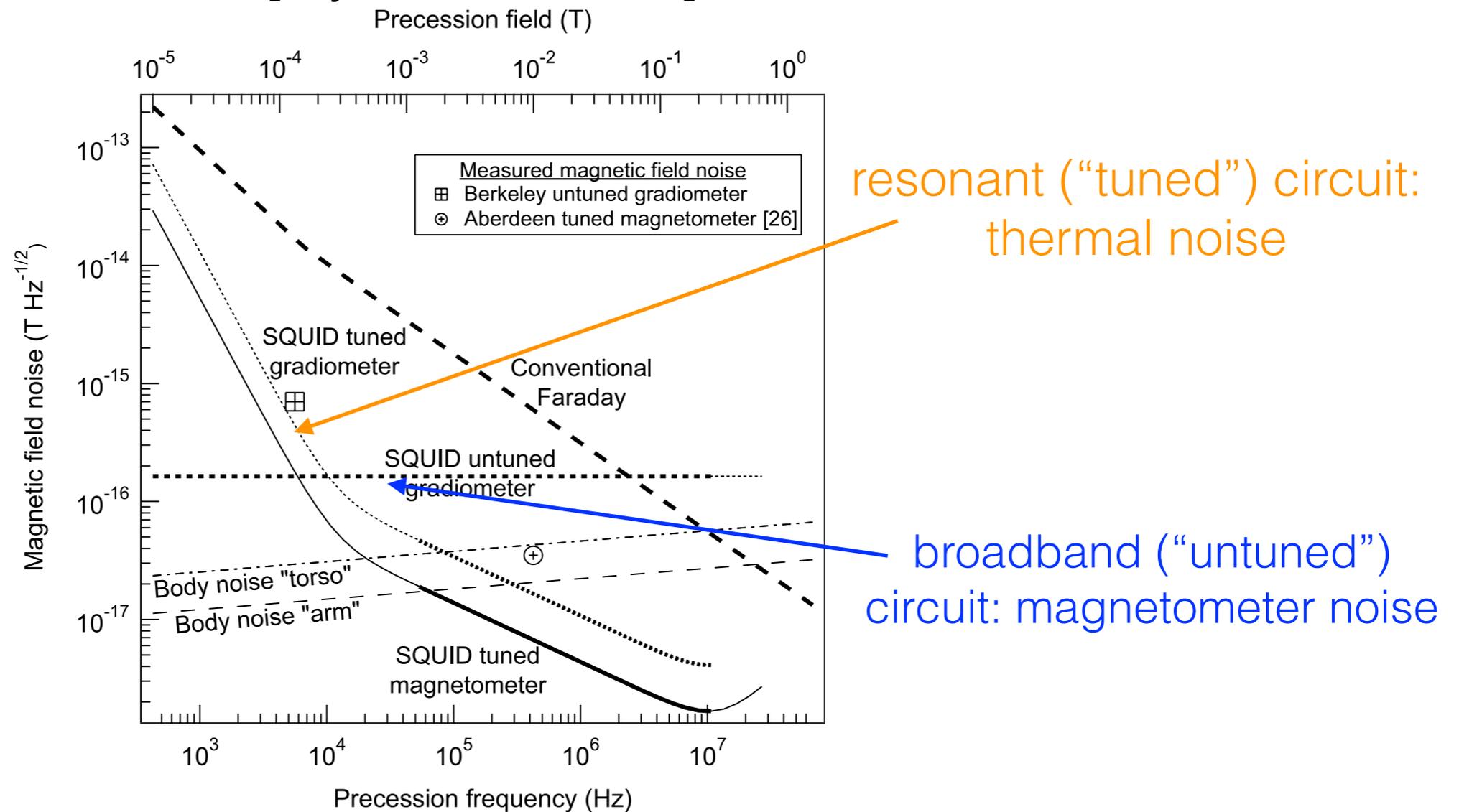
All require **resonance, scanning over frequencies**

Broadband + Resonant

Does axion DM detection **require** resonant enhancement?

Hints from precision magnetometry:

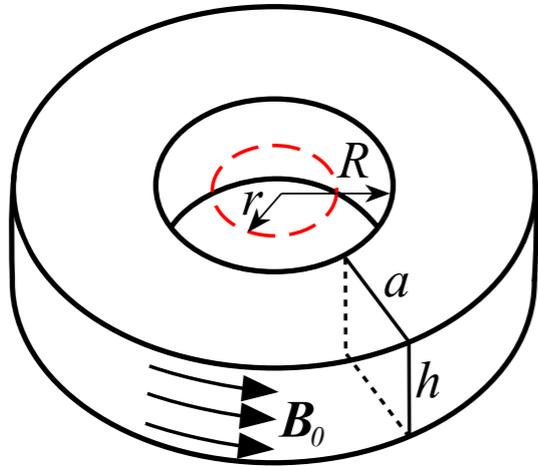
[Myers et al 2007]



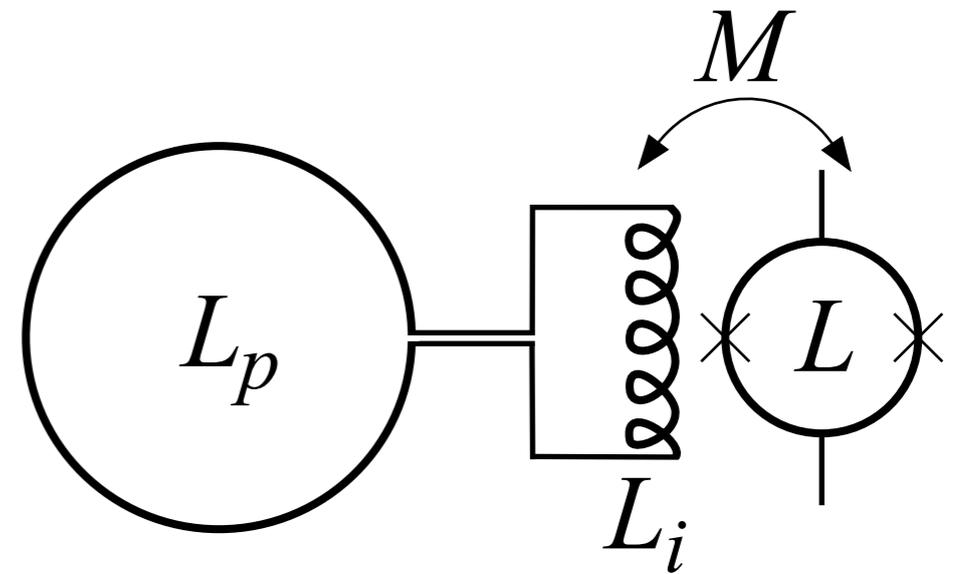
Requires superconducting pickup: **zero-field detection**

Outline

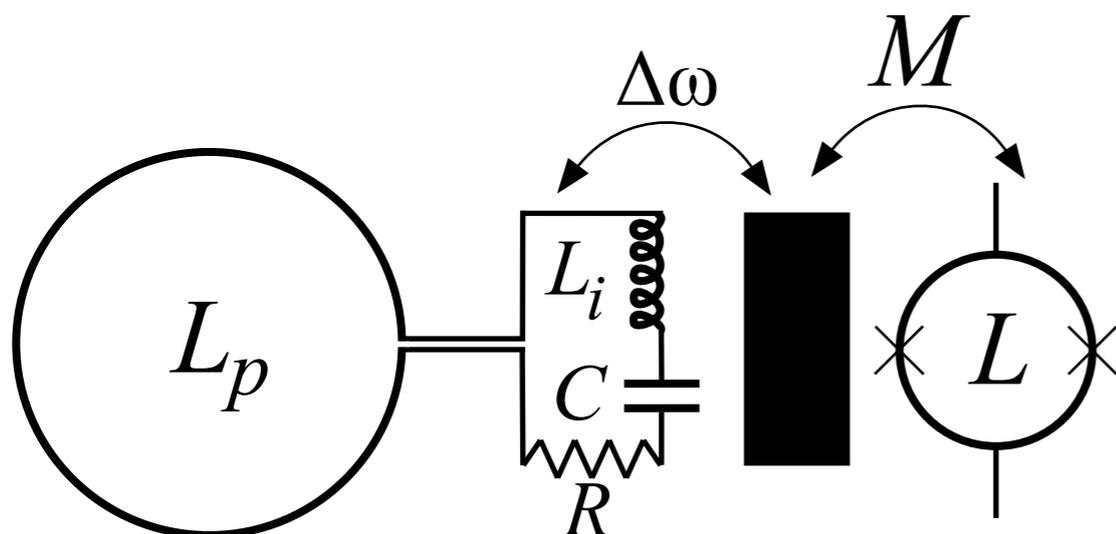
I. Experimental design



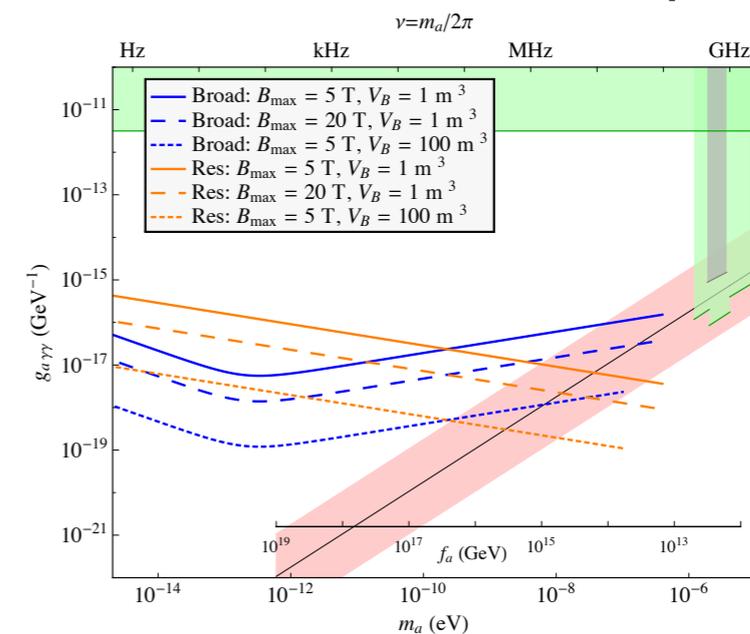
II. Broadband readout



III. Resonant readout

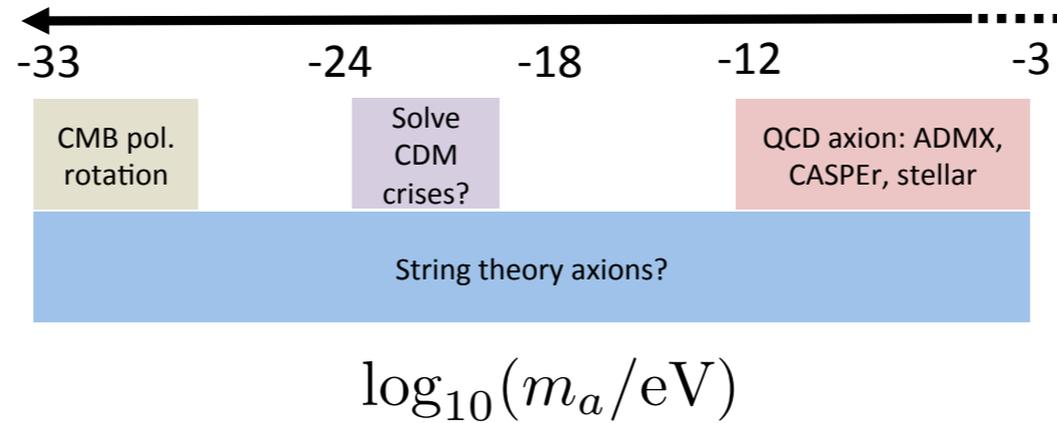


IV. Reach and comparison



Axion-like-particle (ALP) parameter space

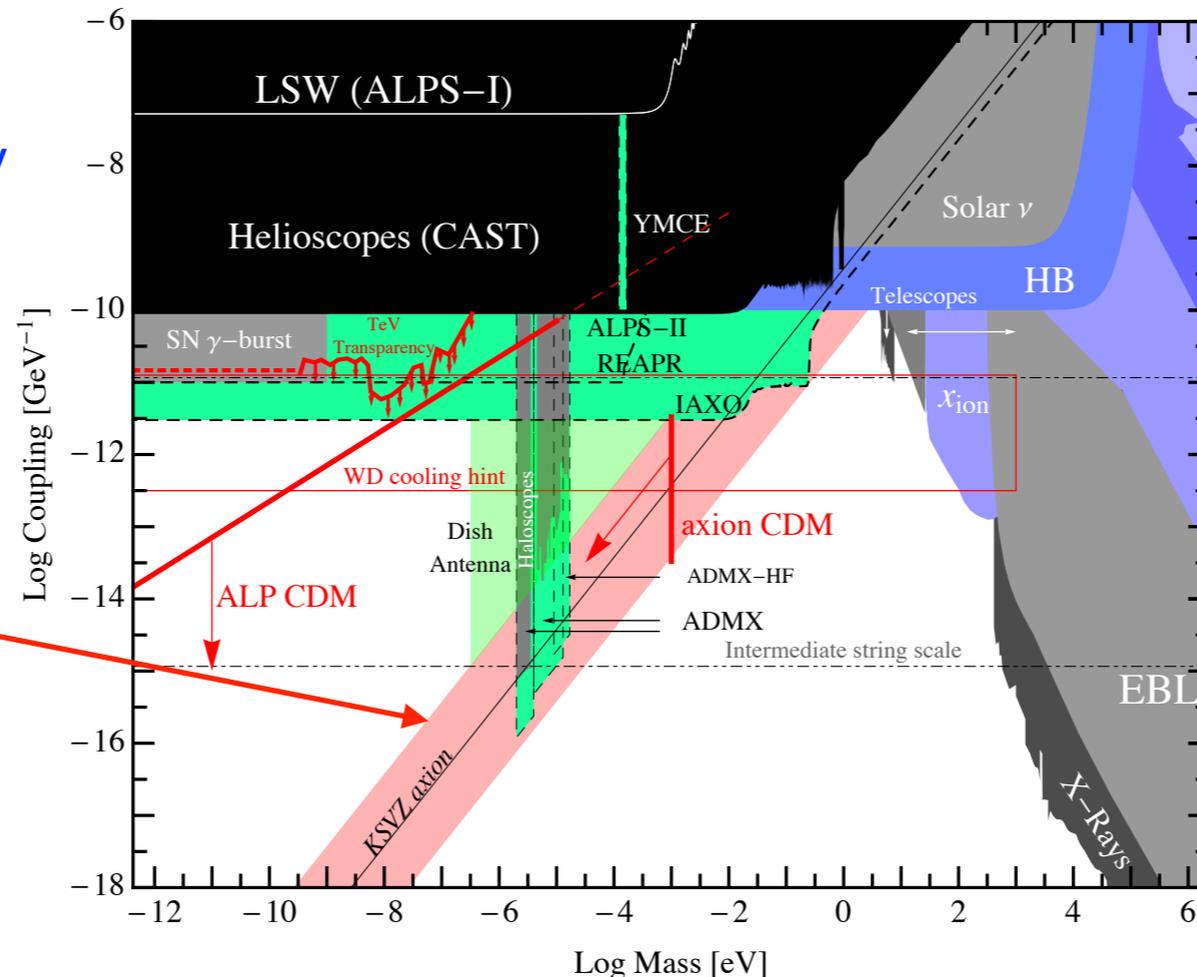
Enormous mass range:



[D. Marsh, 1510.07633]

Couples very weakly to photons:

QCD axion:
mass \propto coupling



[Snowmass, 1311.0029]

ALP DM: Properties today

Focus on mass range $m_a \ll 1\text{eV}$

Bosonic DM + macroscopic occupation # = classical field:

$$a(t) = a_0 \sin(m_a t) = \frac{\sqrt{2\rho_{\text{DM}}}}{m_a} \sin(m_a t)$$

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Spatially and temporally coherent on macroscopic scales:

$$\lambda \sim \frac{2\pi}{m_a v_{\text{DM}}} \approx 100 \text{ km} \frac{10^{-8} \text{ eV}}{m_a}$$

$$\tau \sim \frac{2\pi}{m_a v_{\text{DM}}^2} \approx 0.4 \text{ s} \frac{10^{-8} \text{ eV}}{m_a}$$

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In presence of background EM fields,
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$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}_r = -g_{a\gamma\gamma} \mathbf{B}_0 \cdot \nabla a$$

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gradients suppressed by $v_{\text{DM}} \sim 10^{-3}$

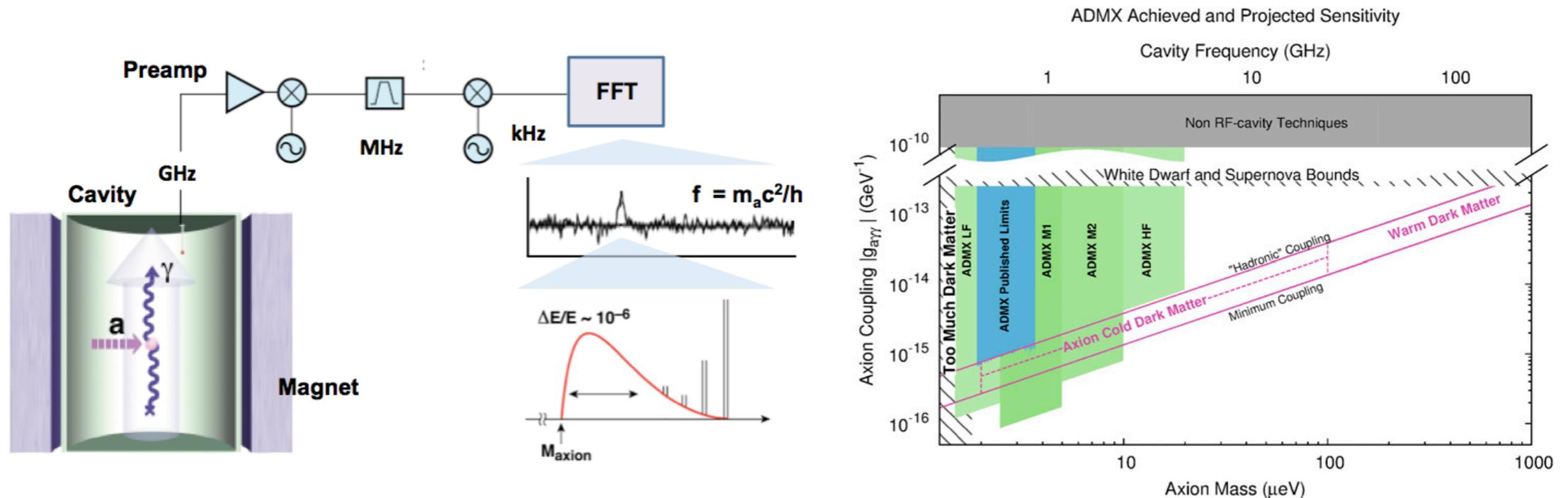
ADMX: resonant cavity detection

[see G. Rybka's talk for more details]

$$\mathcal{L} \supset a \mathbf{E} \cdot \langle \mathbf{B} \rangle$$

static B-field

$$P \sim g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 \frac{\rho_{\text{DM}}}{m_a} B_0^2 V Q$$



- Measures coupling to $F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$
- Measurement taken in external B field
- Cavity b.c. fix mass range to cavity size

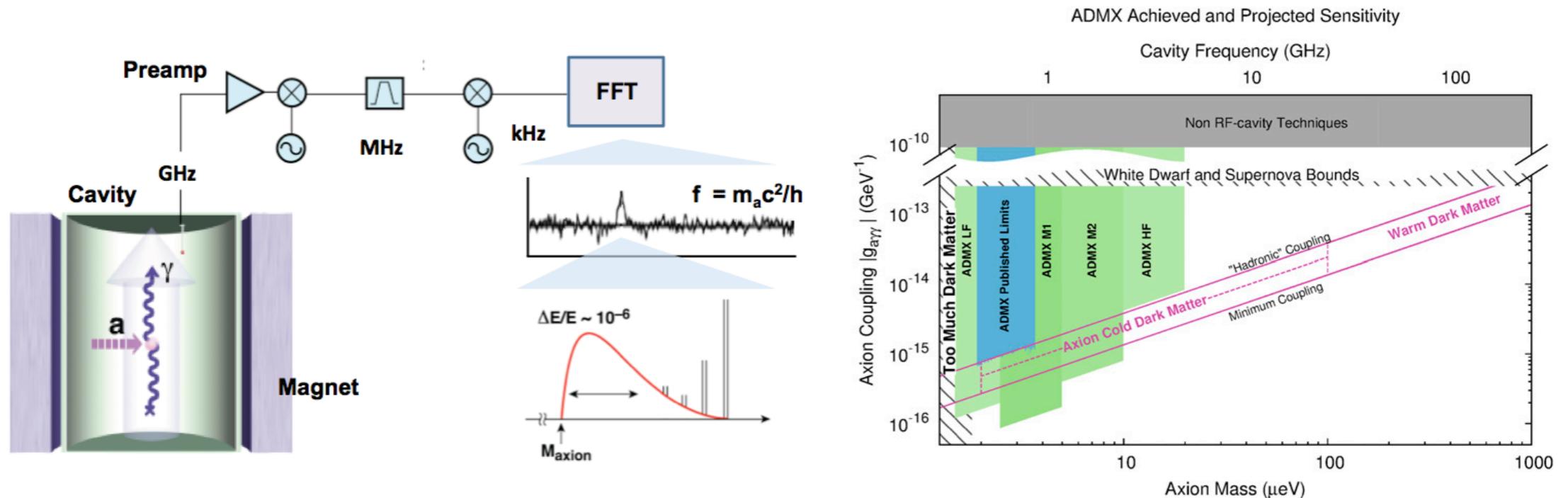
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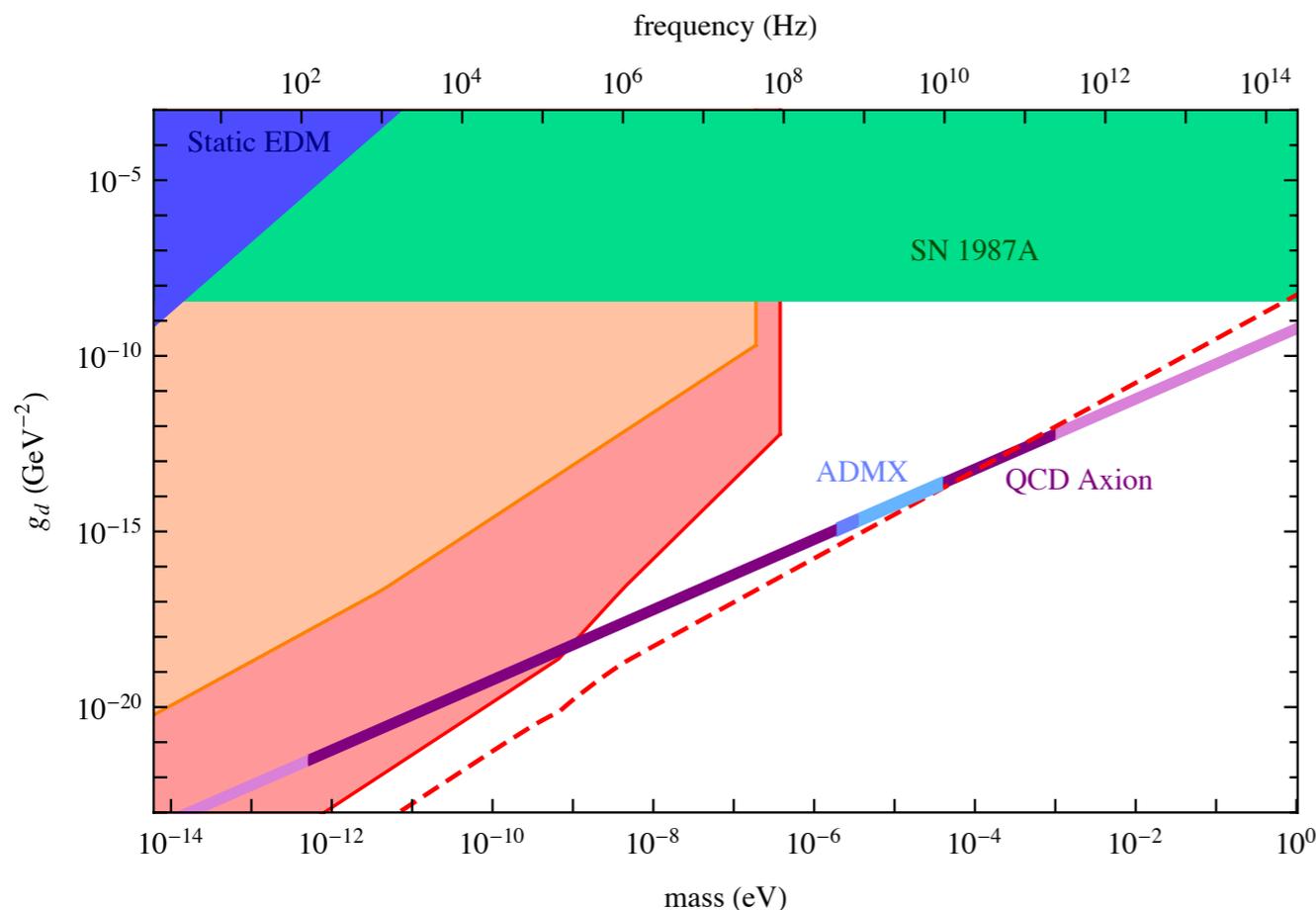
CASPER: NMR detection

[Budker et al., 1306.6089]

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{i}{2} \underbrace{g_d a}_{d_n} \bar{N} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \gamma_5 N F^{\mu\nu}$$

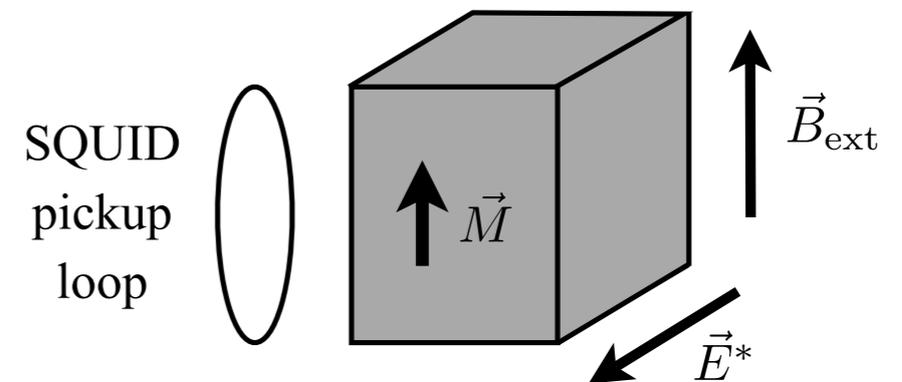
$d_n \approx 2.4 \times 10^{-16} \frac{a}{f_a} e \cdot \text{cm}$ for QCD

$$d_n = g_d \frac{\sqrt{2\rho_{\text{DM}}}}{m_a} \cos(m_a t)$$



resonance

$$M(t) \approx np\mu E^* \epsilon_S d_n \frac{\sin[(2\mu B_{\text{ext}} - m_a)t]}{2\mu B_{\text{ext}} - m_a} \sin(2\mu B_{\text{ext}} t)$$



- Measures coupling to $G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}$ through nucleon spin
- Measurement taken in external B (and E) field
- Sensitivity to much lower masses! Win by volume

Axion-sourced current

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B}_r = \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}_r}{\partial t} - g_{a\gamma\gamma} \left(\mathbf{E}_0 \times \nabla a - \mathbf{B}_0 \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} \right)$$

Axion-sourced current

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v_{DM} ≪ 1

Axion-sourced current

(quasistatic approximation)

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$v_{DM} \ll 1$

$$\implies \mathbf{J}_{\text{eff}} = g_{a\gamma\gamma} \sqrt{2\rho_{DM}} \cos(m_a t) \mathbf{B}_0$$

Current follows lines of \mathbf{B} , oscillates at axion mass

How to detect an oscillating current?

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- Radiated power (at infinity)
- Time-varying flux (locally)

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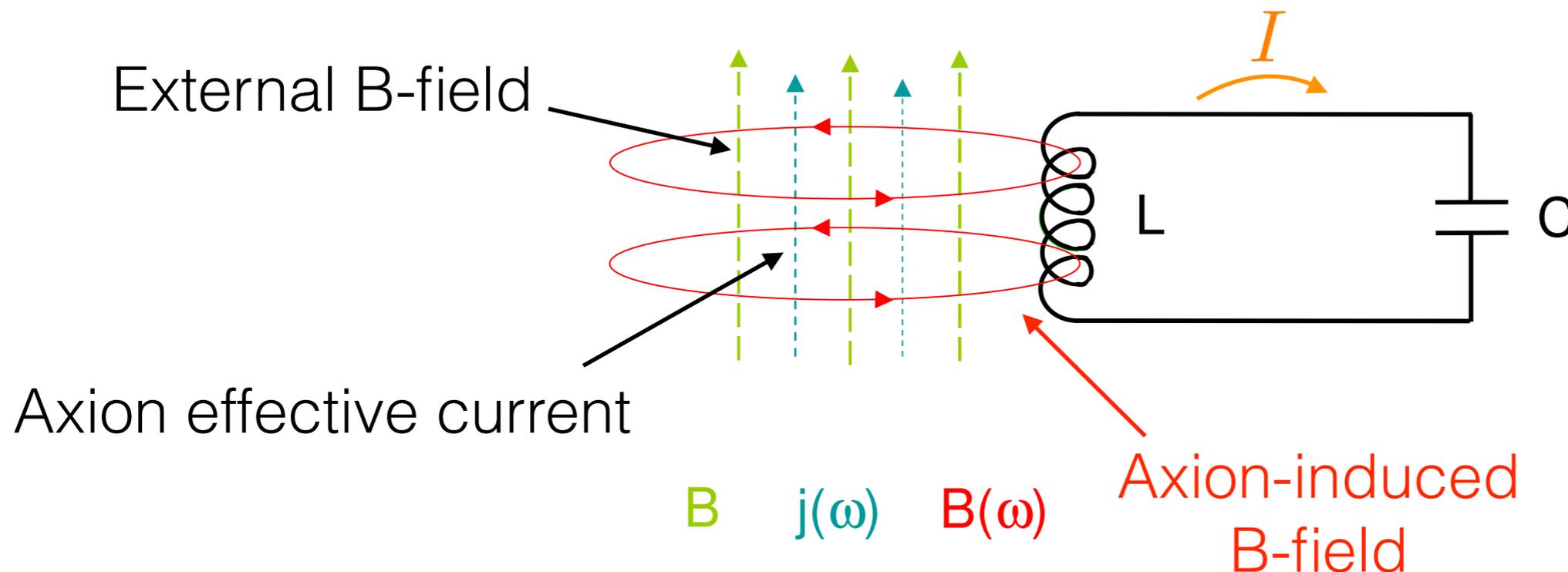
How to detect an oscillating current?

- Radiated power (at infinity)

- Time-varying flux (locally)

LC pickup

[S. Thomas and B. Cabrera; P. Sikivie et al, 1310.8545]



$$I = \frac{Q}{L} V_B g_{a\gamma\gamma} \sqrt{2\rho_{\text{DM}}} B_0$$

- Measures coupling to $F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$ (like ADMX)
- Measurement taken in external B-field
- Same volume enhancement, sensitivity to small m_a

Summary: existing proposals

- Resonant conversion: mass pinned to size of cavity
- Require some kind of tuning to attain resonance
- Signal detection in external fields

Goal: cover low masses, keep volume enhancement,
but detection in [zero external field region](#)

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ABRACADABRA!

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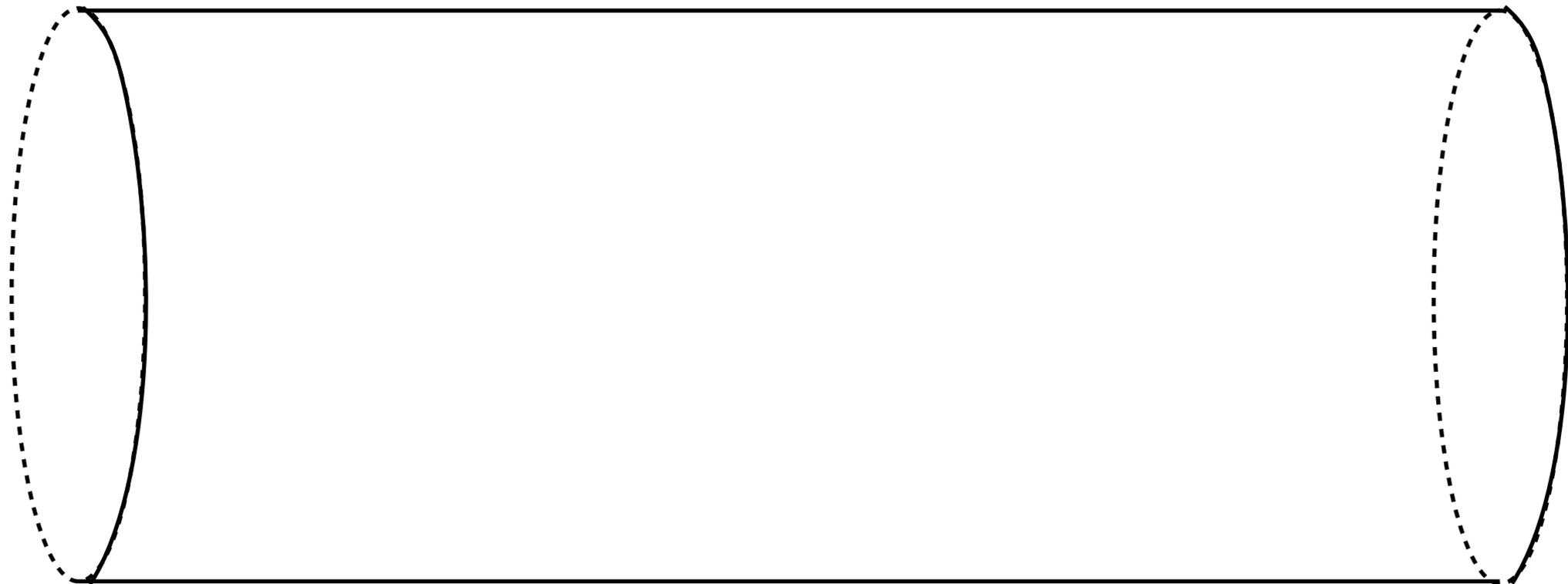
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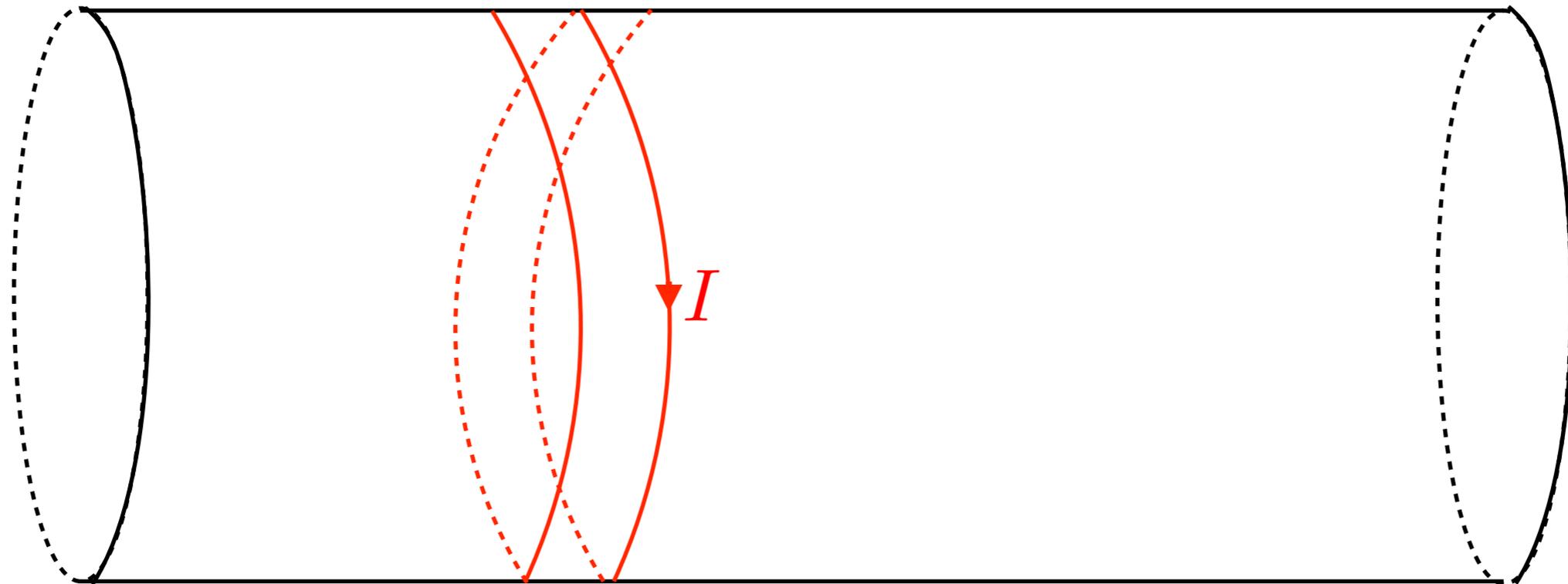
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(J. Thaler)

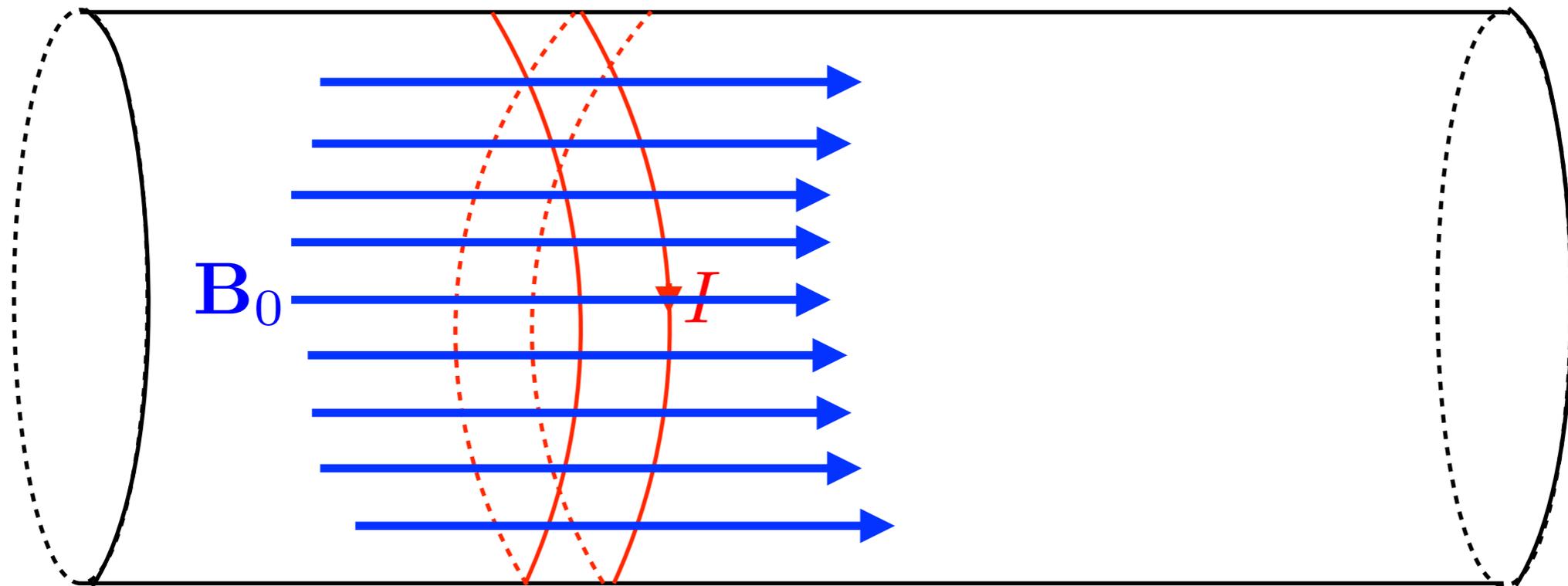
Toy example: solenoid



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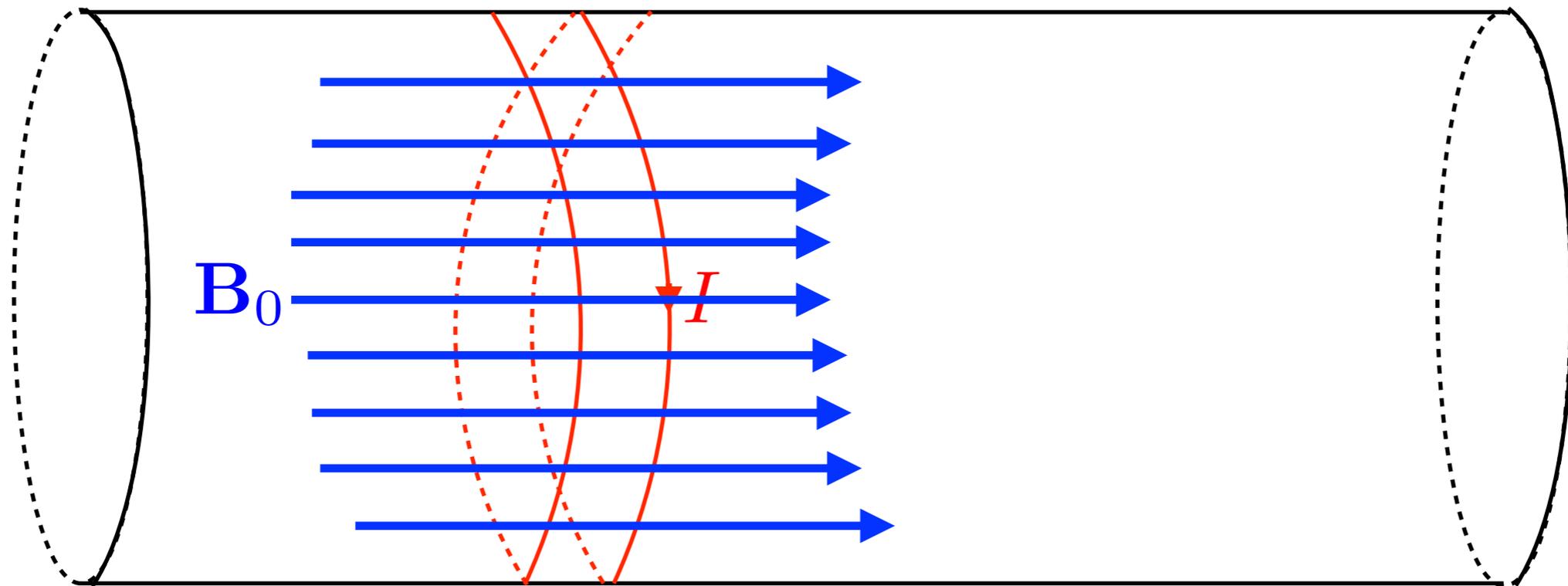


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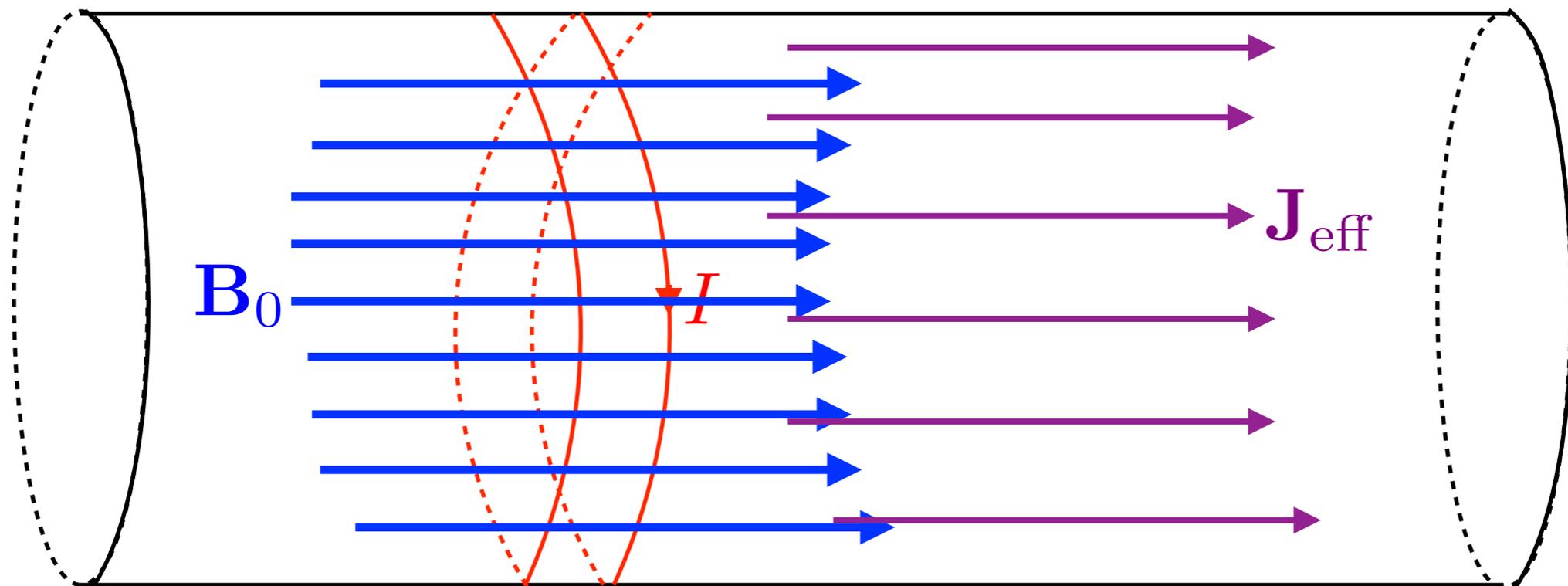
In the presence of axion DM:



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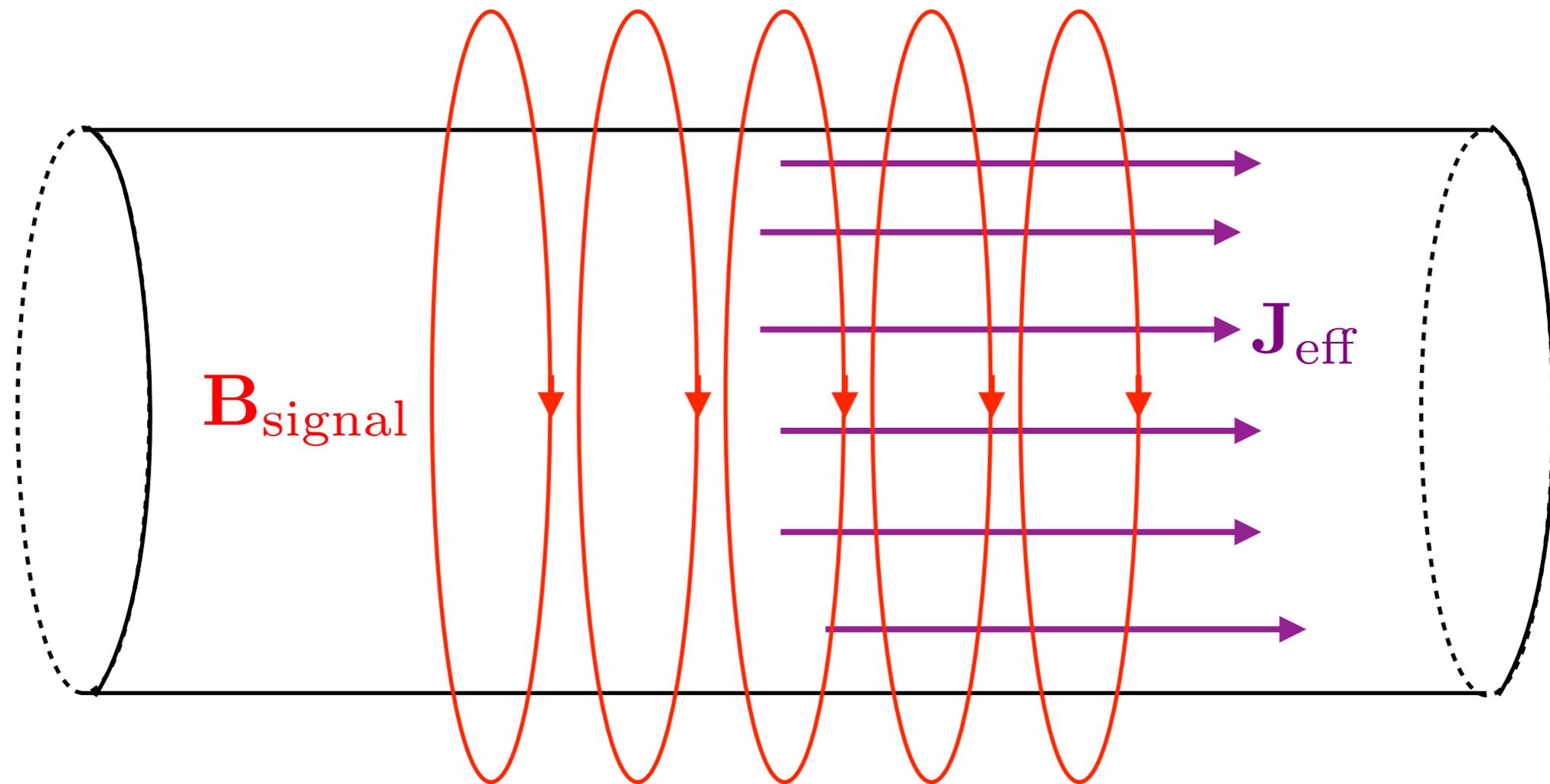


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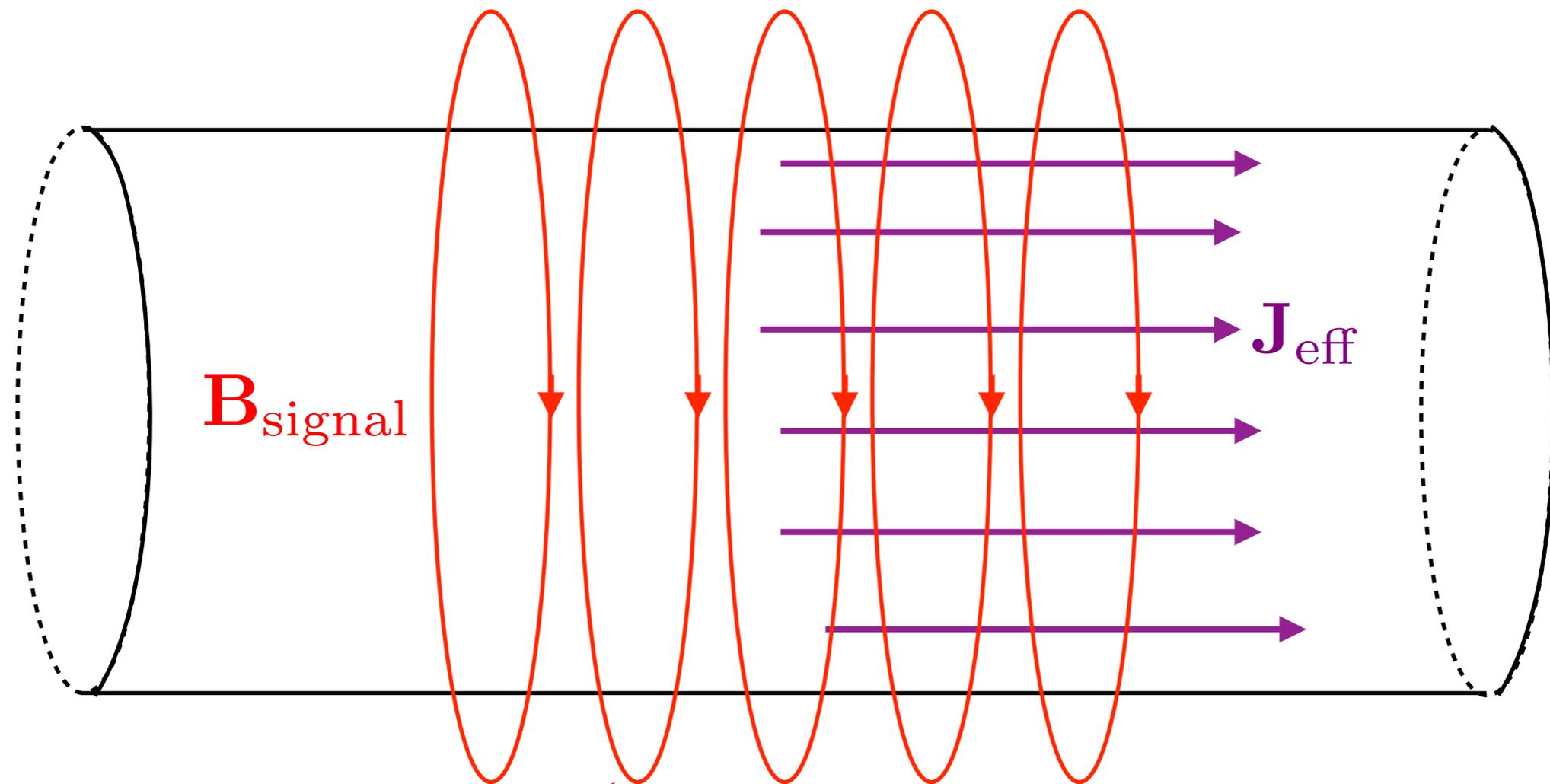
Current-carrying wire



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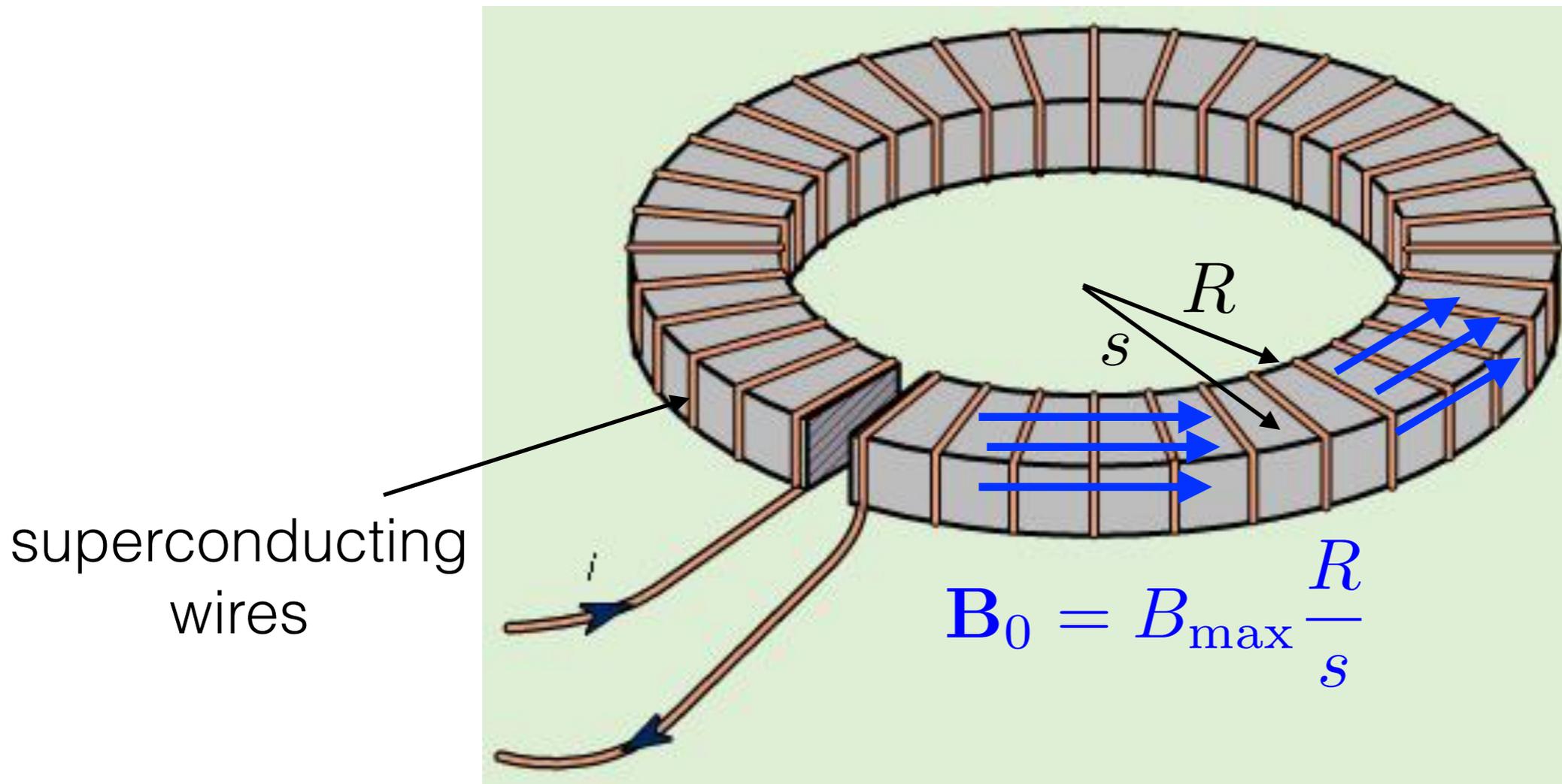
Current-carrying wire



Can detect axion-induced flux outside field region!

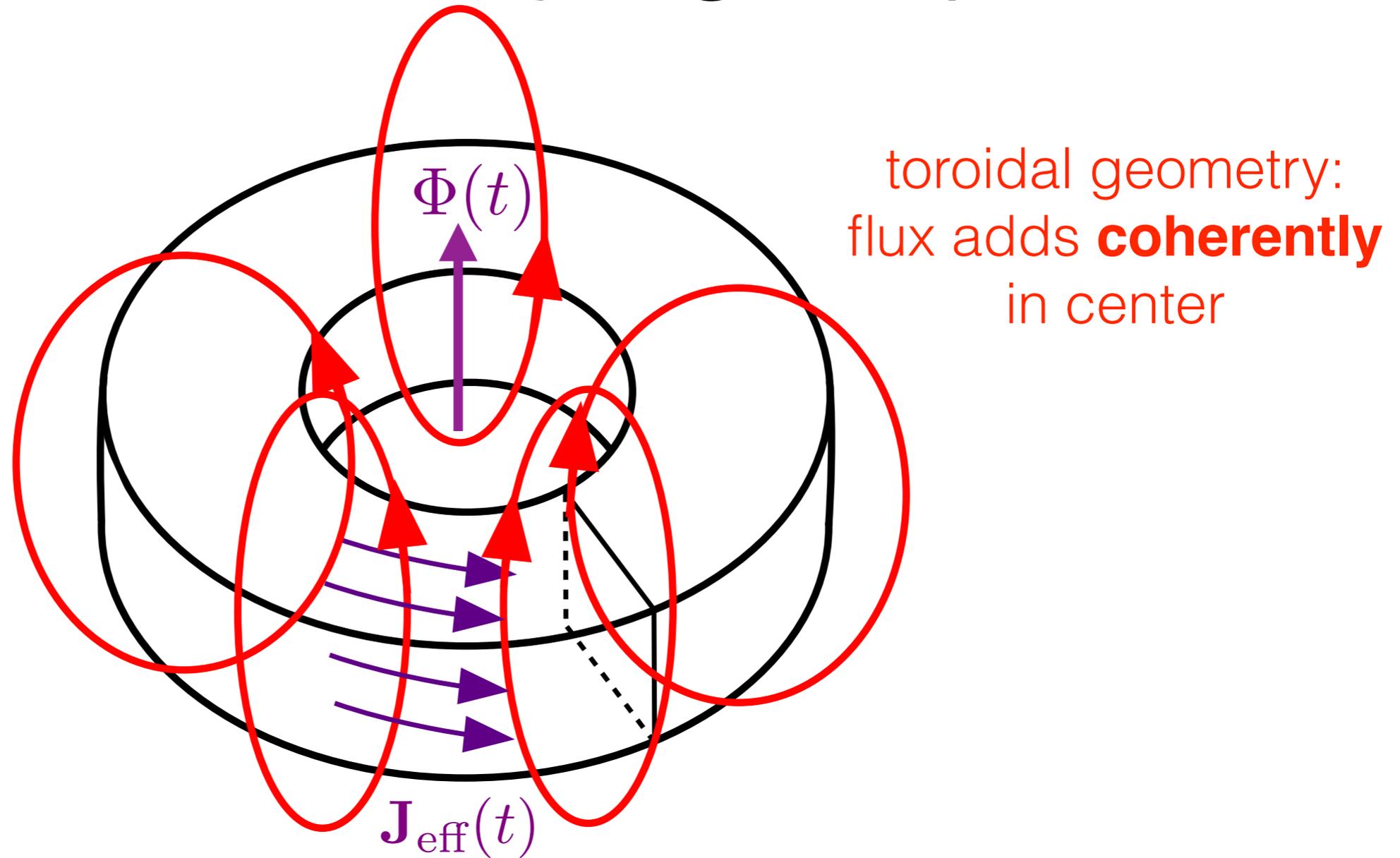
Toroid: no axion

Bend solenoid around into a toroid to reduce fringe fields



Magnetic field confined to toroid:
no flux through center

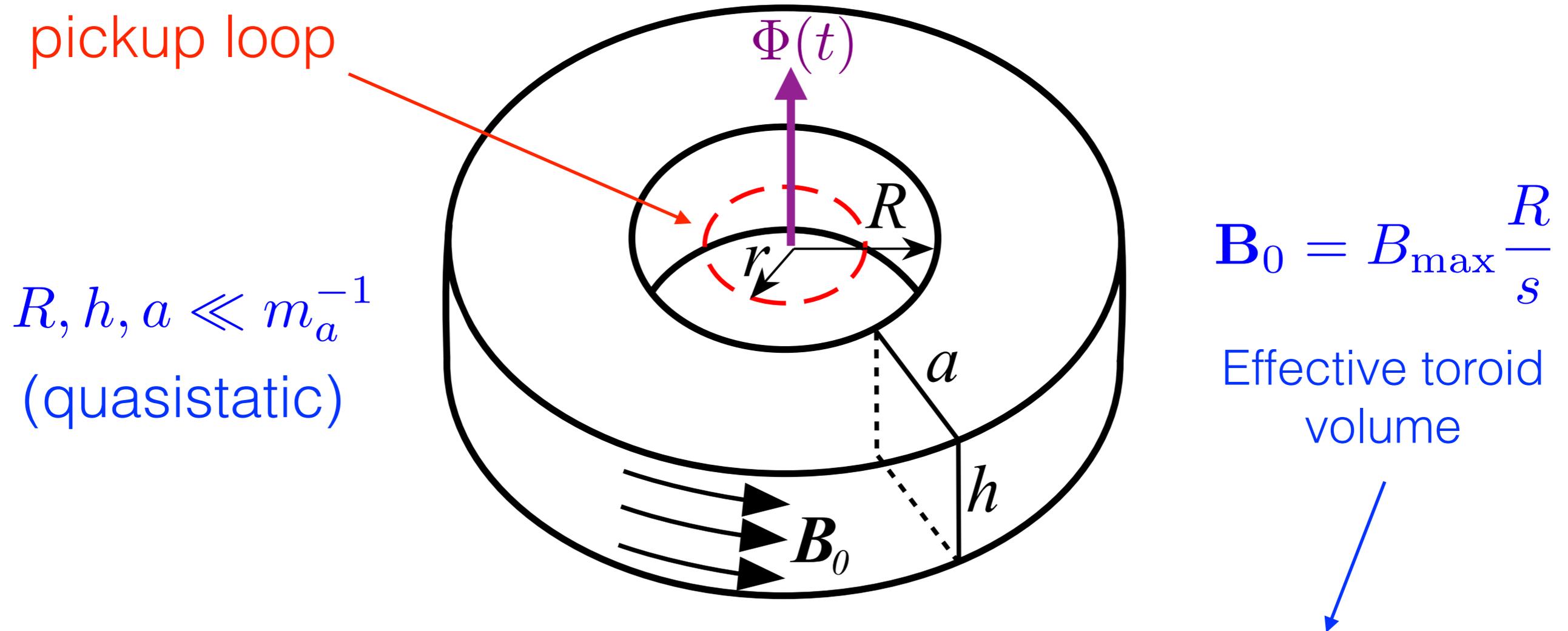
Toroid with axion: current-carrying loop



Signal: **time-varying flux** through center

Key point: measure signal in **zero-static-field** region!

Signal flux

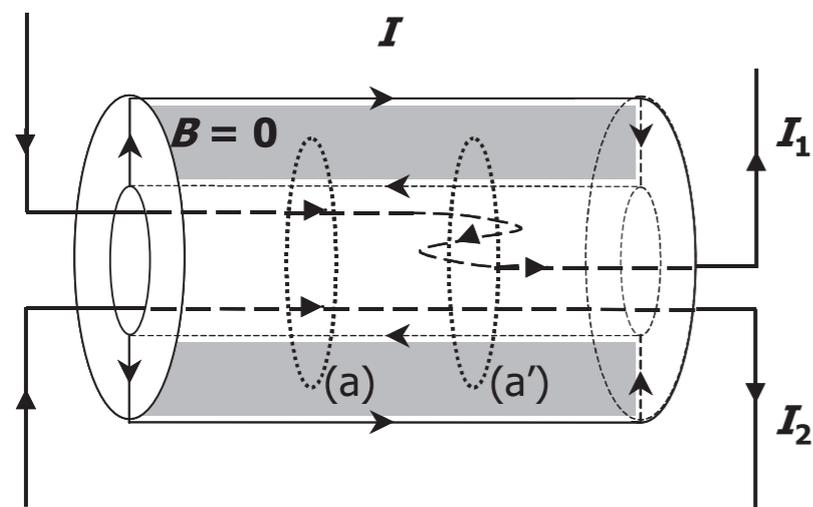


$$\Phi_{\text{pickup}}(t) = g_{a\gamma\gamma} B_{\max} \sqrt{2\rho_{\text{DM}}} \cos(m_a t) V_B$$

Couple this flux into SQUID magnetometer through either
broadband or resonant readout circuit

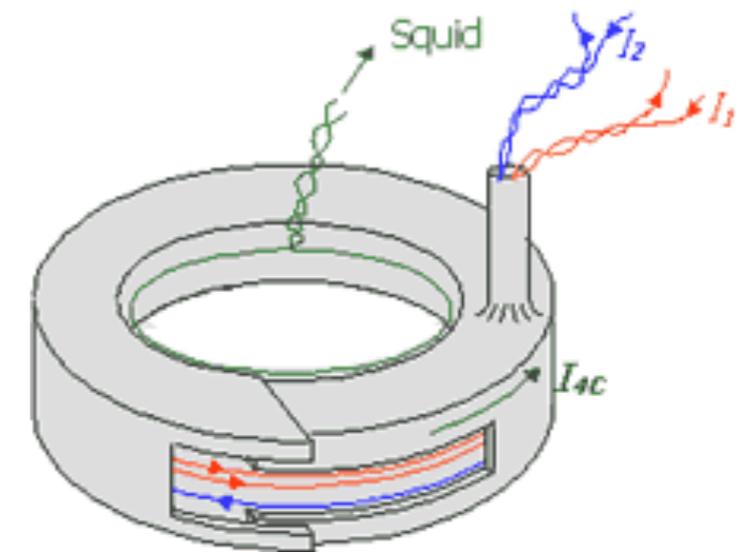
Self-screening?

Borrow analysis of cryogenic current comparators



$$I = -(I_1 + I_2)$$

solenoid



toroid

Meissner return current
actually generates signal!

Some rough numbers

GUT-scale KSVZ axion: $|g_{a\gamma\gamma}| = 2.2 \times 10^{-19} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$

$R = r = a = h/3 = 4 \text{ m}$: $V_B = 100 \text{ m}^3$

Average axion-induced B-field for $B_{\text{max}} = 5 \text{ T}$:

$$B_{\text{avg}} = 2.5 \times 10^{-23} \text{ T}$$

For 1 year of measurement, can achieve signal-to-noise of 1

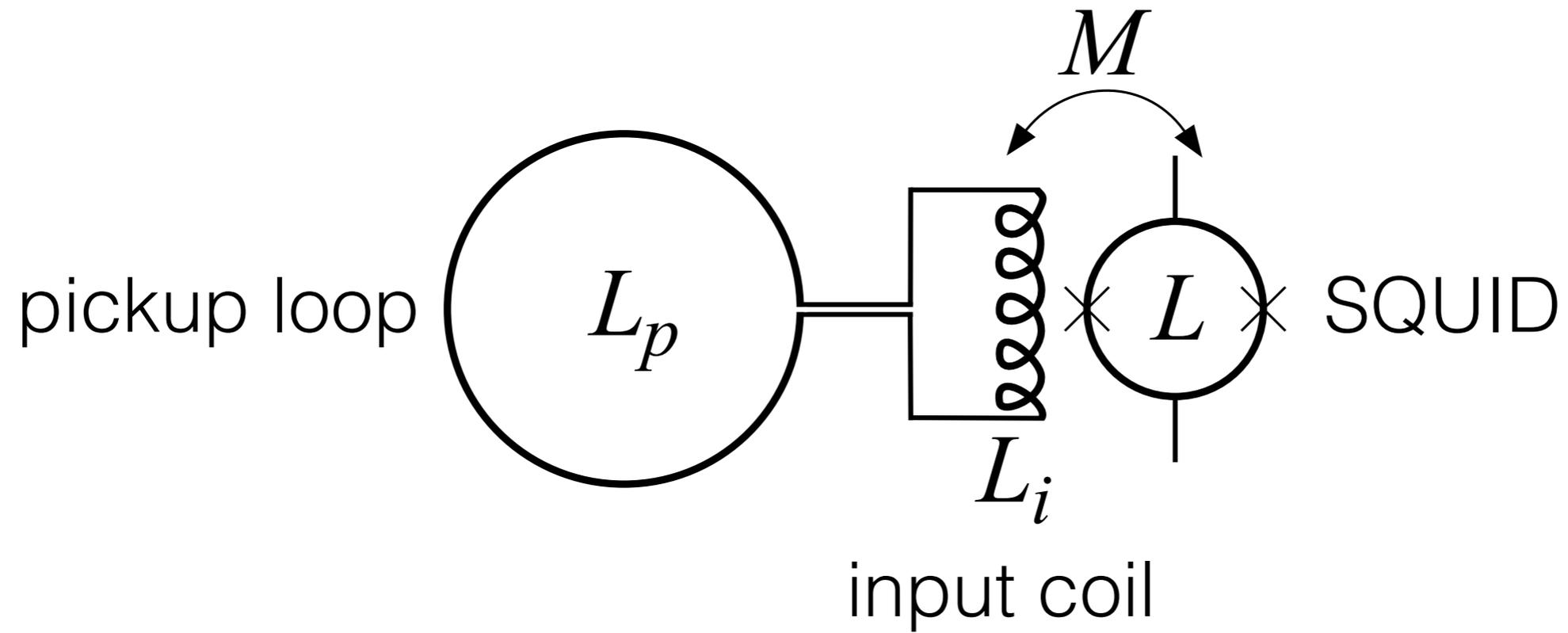
with $S_{\Phi}^{1/2} = 1.2 \times 10^{-19} \text{ Wb}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$

achievable by coupling to commercial SQUIDS!

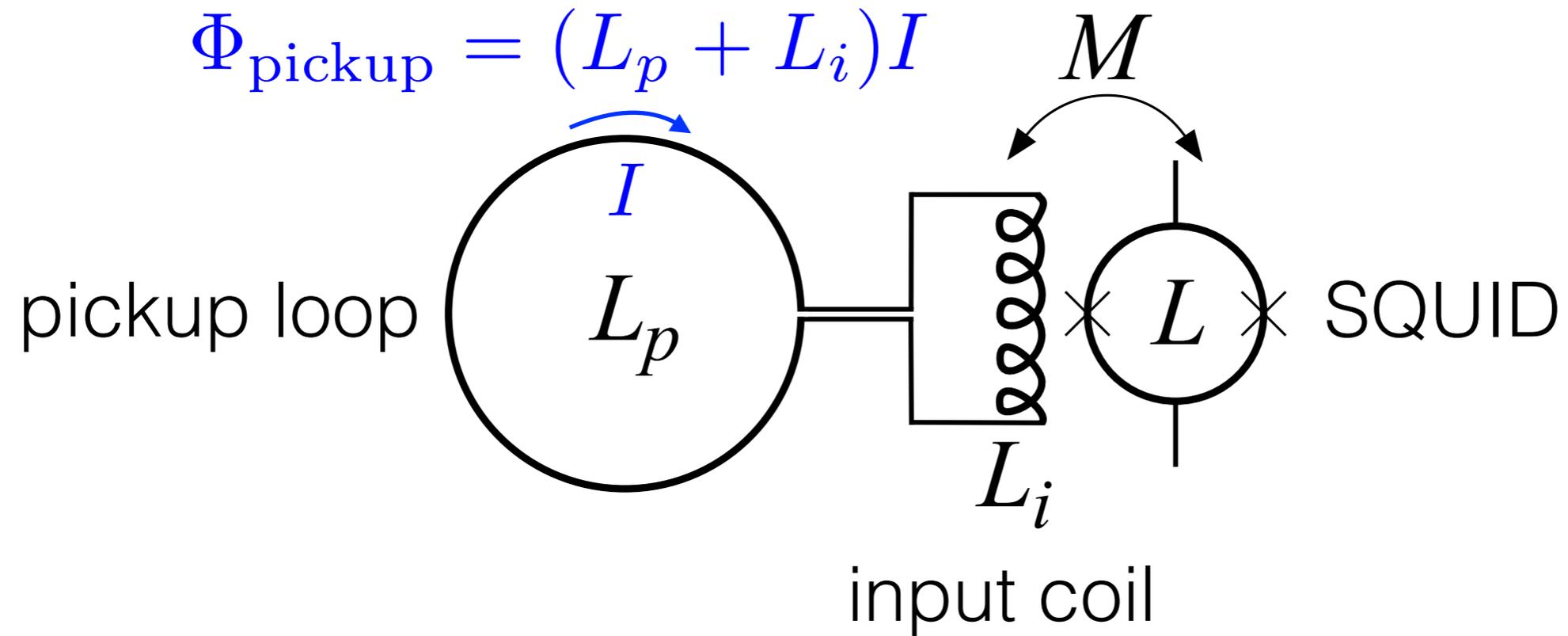
Assuming axion is all of DM, only free parameter is

$g_{a\gamma\gamma}$ as a function of m_a

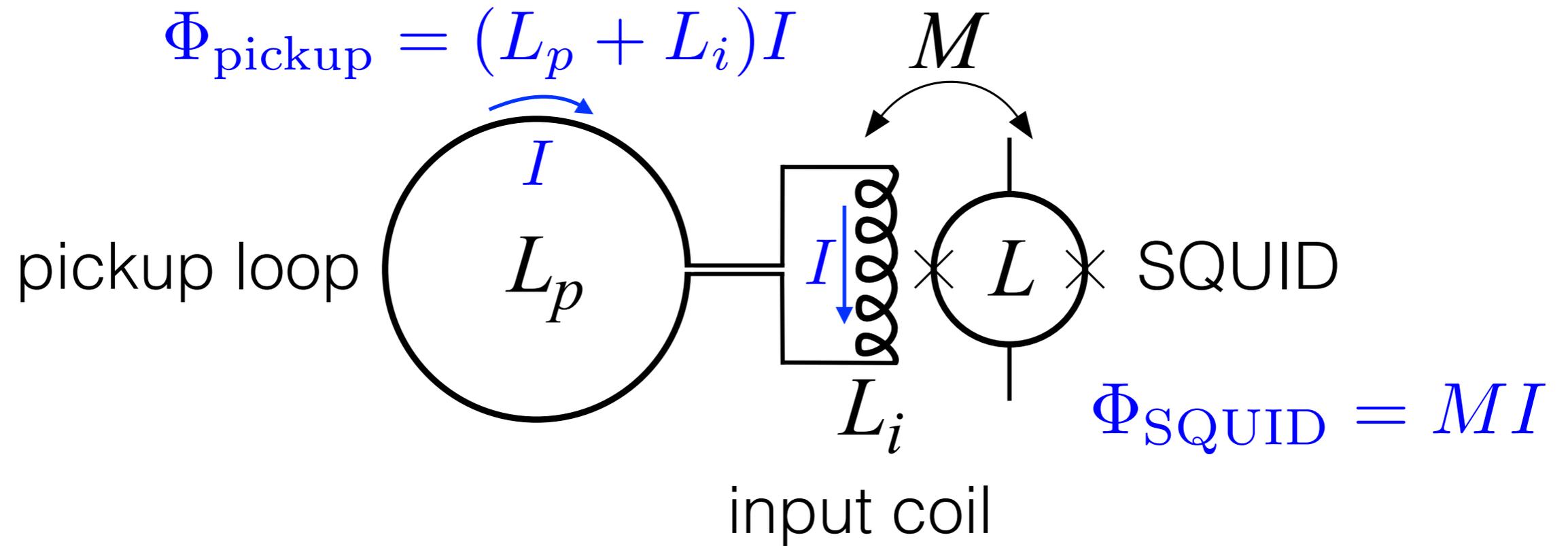
Broadband: readout circuit



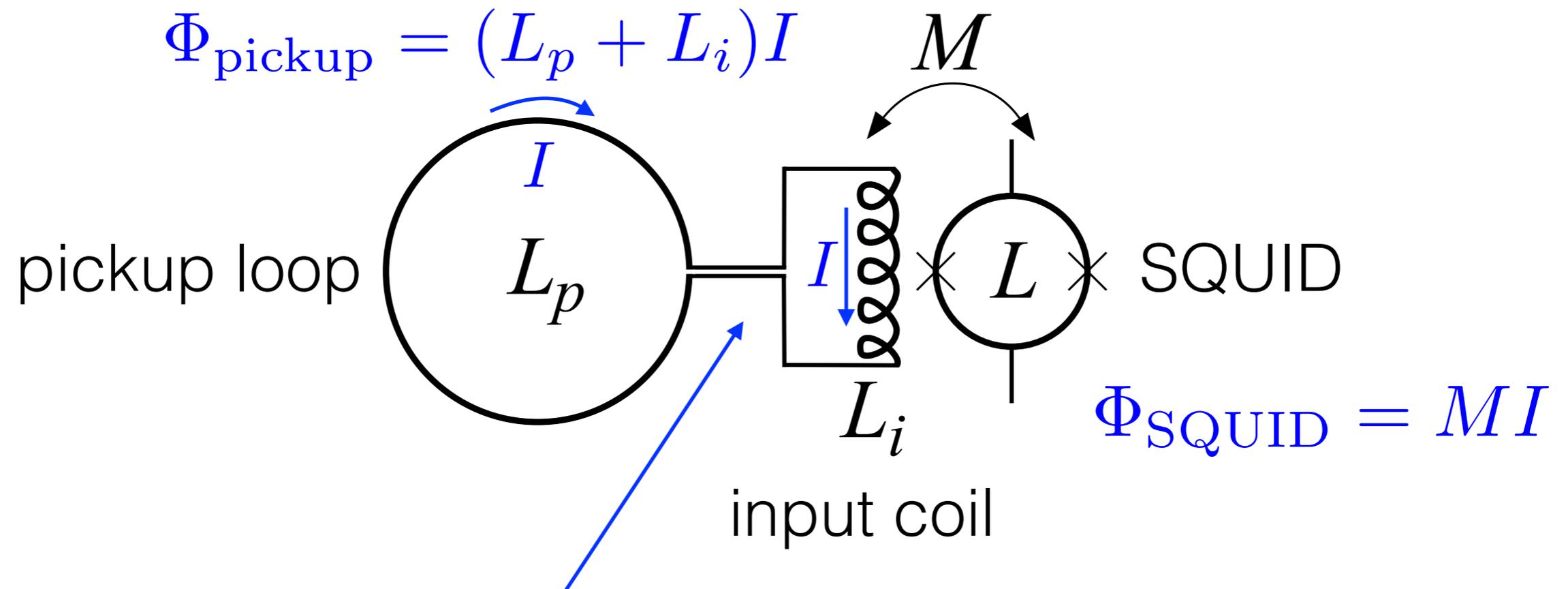
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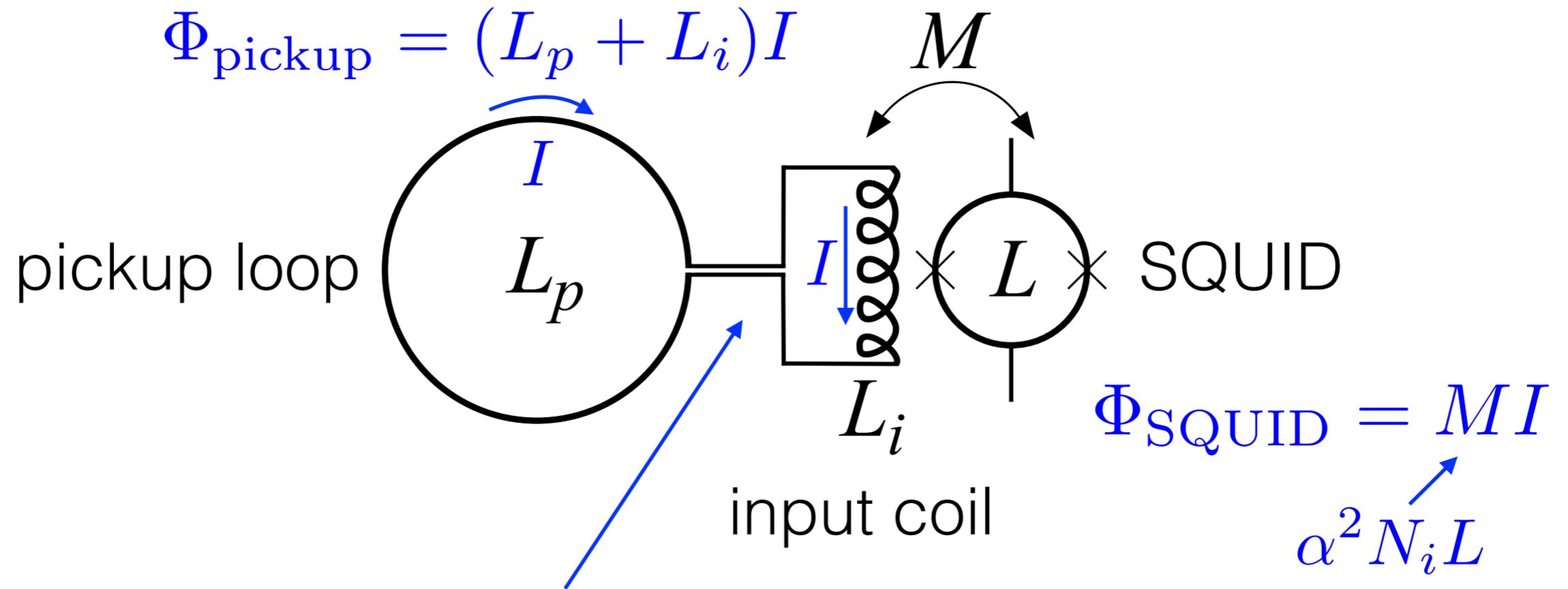


Broadband: readout circuit



pure superconducting = **zero** thermal noise (at low freq.)

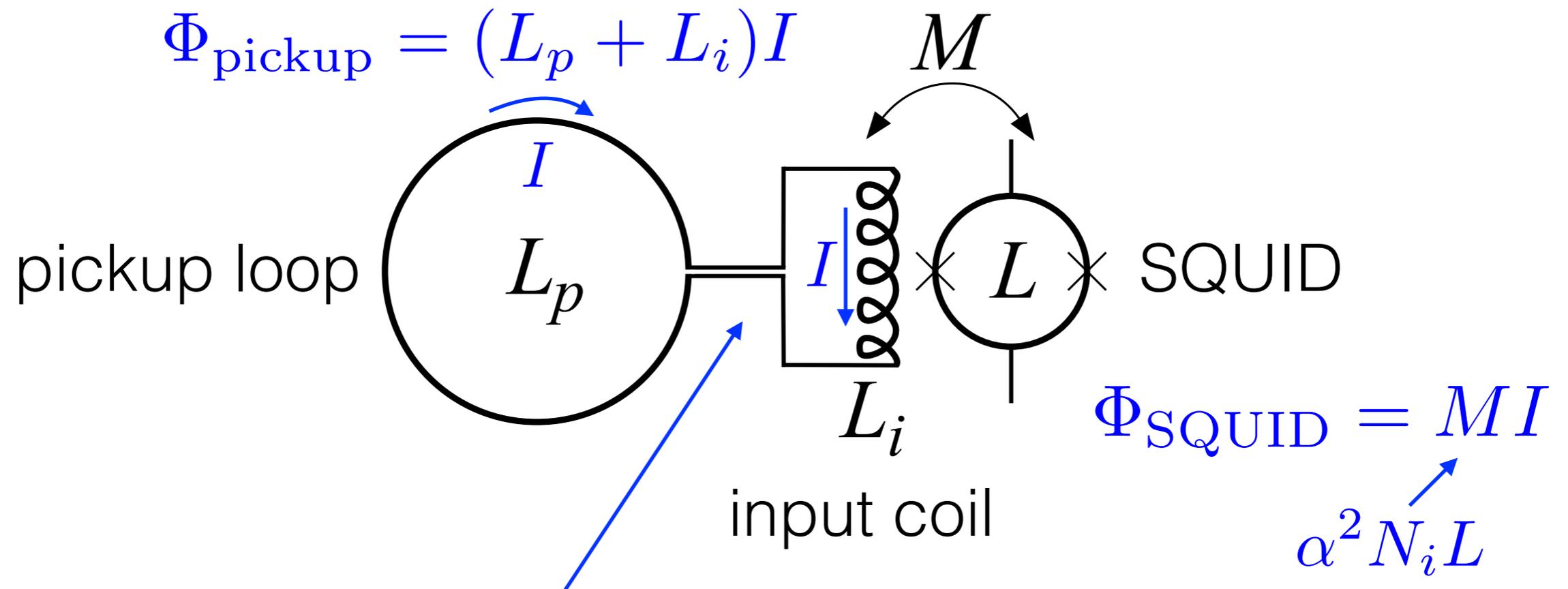
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Inductance matching: $L_i \approx L_p \implies \Phi_{\text{SQUID}} \approx \frac{\alpha}{2} \sqrt{\frac{L}{L_p}} \Phi_{\text{pickup}}$

Broadband: readout circuit

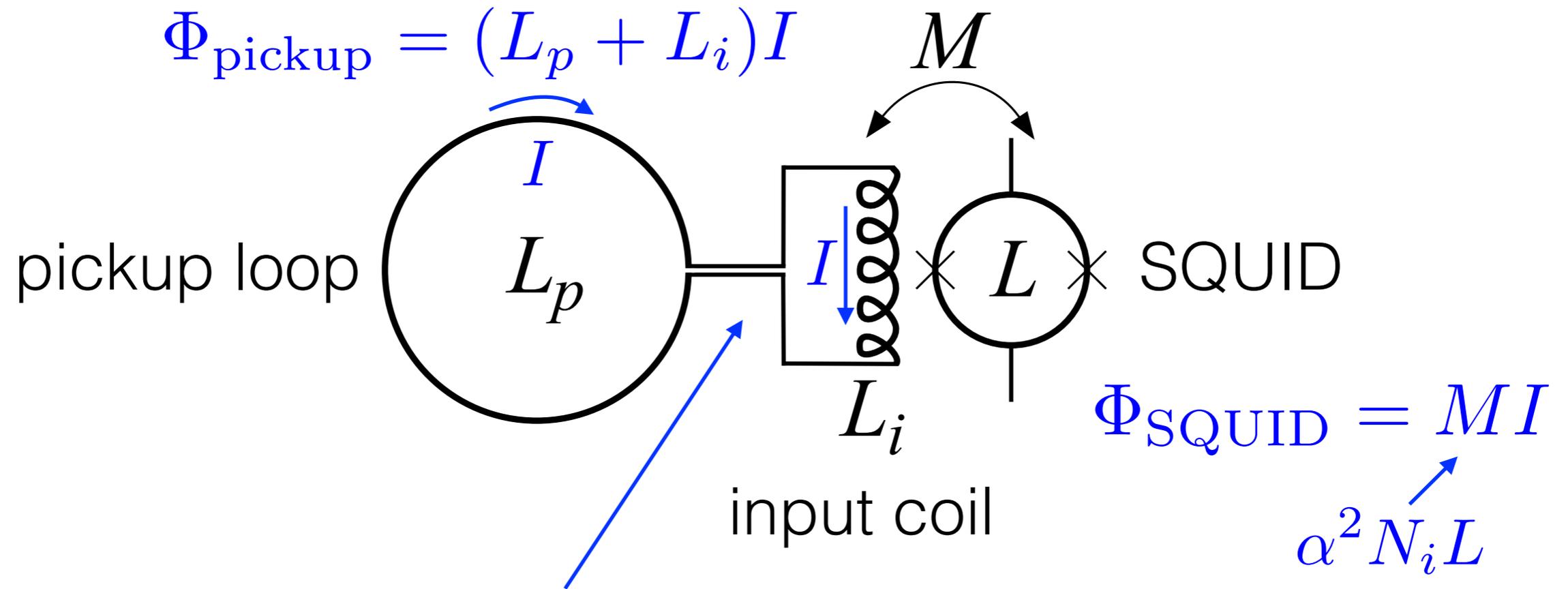


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Optimal coupling: $\frac{1}{2} \int \mathbf{B}^2 dV = \frac{\Phi^2}{2L_p} \longrightarrow \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\approx 0.01}$

Broadband: readout circuit

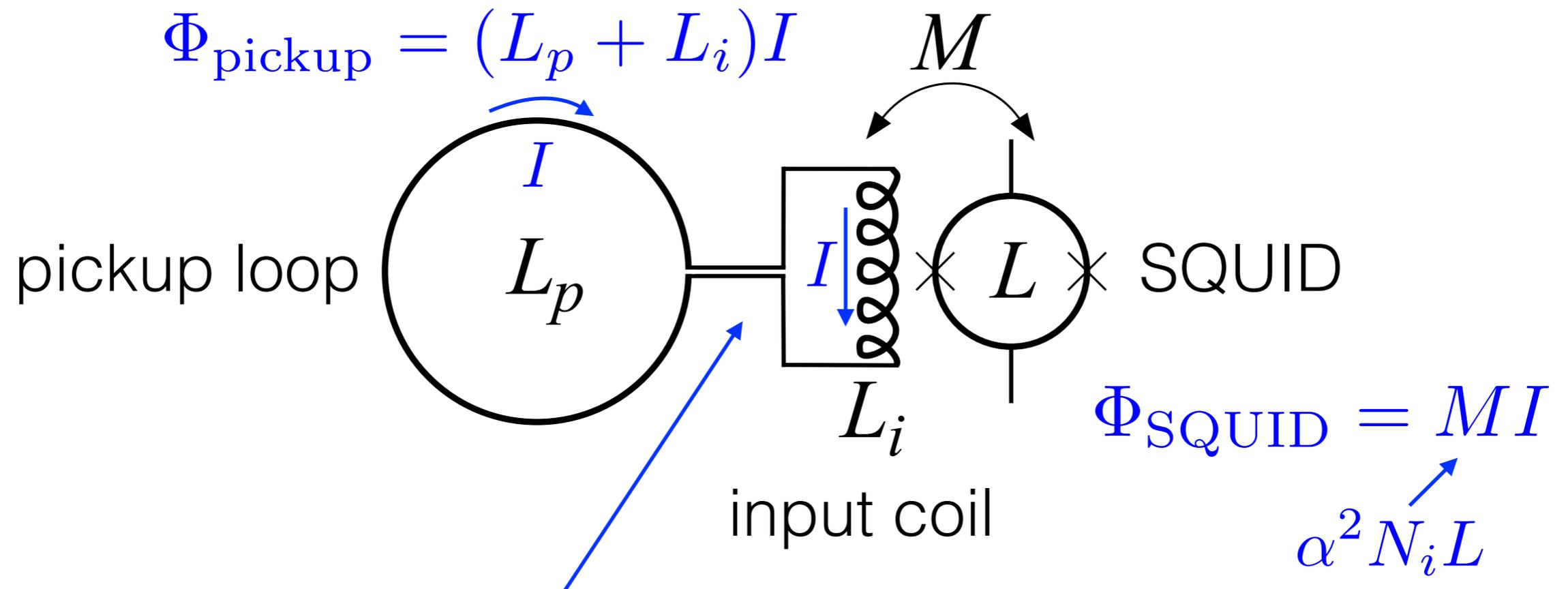


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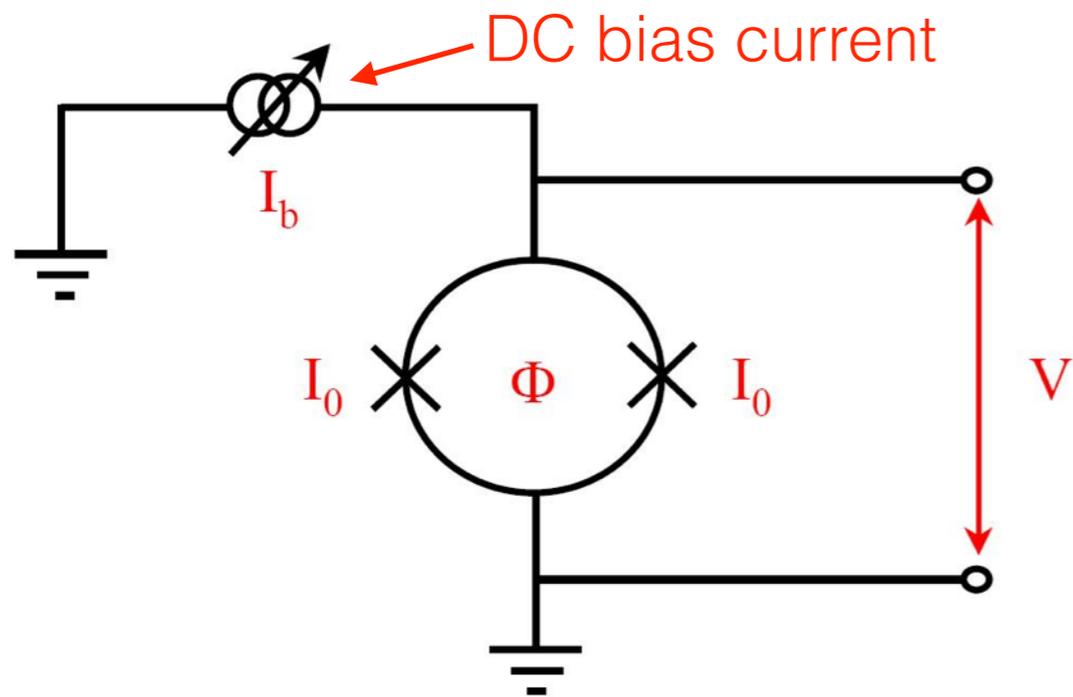
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Optimal coupling: $\frac{1}{2} \int \mathbf{B}^2 dV = \frac{\Phi^2}{2L_p} \longrightarrow \approx 0.01$

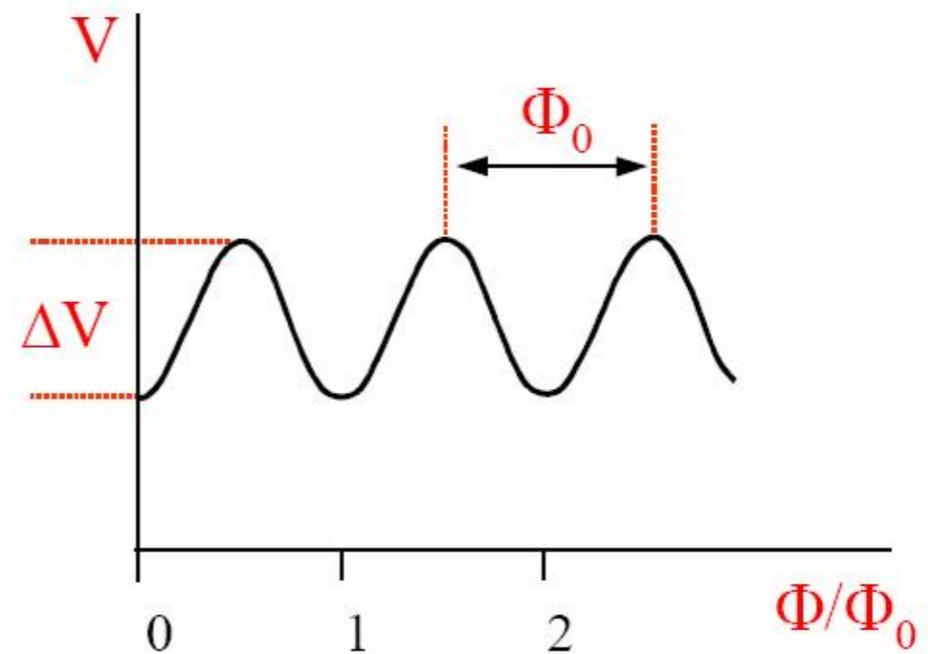
Broadband: response is frequency-independent!

(DC) SQUID basics

Cartoon picture: extremely sensitive flux-to-voltage amplifier



change in flux induces current across junction (DC Josephson effect)



measure extremely small fractions of Φ_0 by fitting sine curve

$$\Phi_0 = \frac{h}{2e} = 2.1 \times 10^{-15} \text{ Wb} = 2.1 \times 10^{-15} \text{ T} \cdot \text{m}^2$$

Broadband: SQUID noise

Typical SQUID noise (thermal voltage and current fluctuations):

$$S_{\Phi,0}^{1/2} \sim 10^{-6} \Phi_0 / \sqrt{\text{Hz}}$$

$$A_{\text{SQUID}} \sim (30 \mu\text{m})^2 \\ \implies \text{field sensitivity of} \\ 2 \text{ pT}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}} \text{ at SQUID}$$

Ultimate limit is shot noise:

$$S_{\Phi}^{1/2} = L S_{J,0}^{1/2} = \sqrt{\frac{11}{8} hL} / \sqrt{\text{Hz}} \quad \text{dominates below } \sim 60 \text{ mK}$$

For $L \sim 1 \text{ nH}$, only $\sim 0.5 \times$ typical noise,
not much improvement possible

Broadband: S/N and sensitivity

Take data for time t :

If $t < \tau$, S/N improves like \sqrt{t} (random walk)

Our regime is $t \gg \tau$: $S/N \sim |\Phi_{\text{SQUID}}| (t\tau)^{1/4} / S_{\Phi,0}^{1/2}$

$$S/N = 1$$

\implies sensitivity to

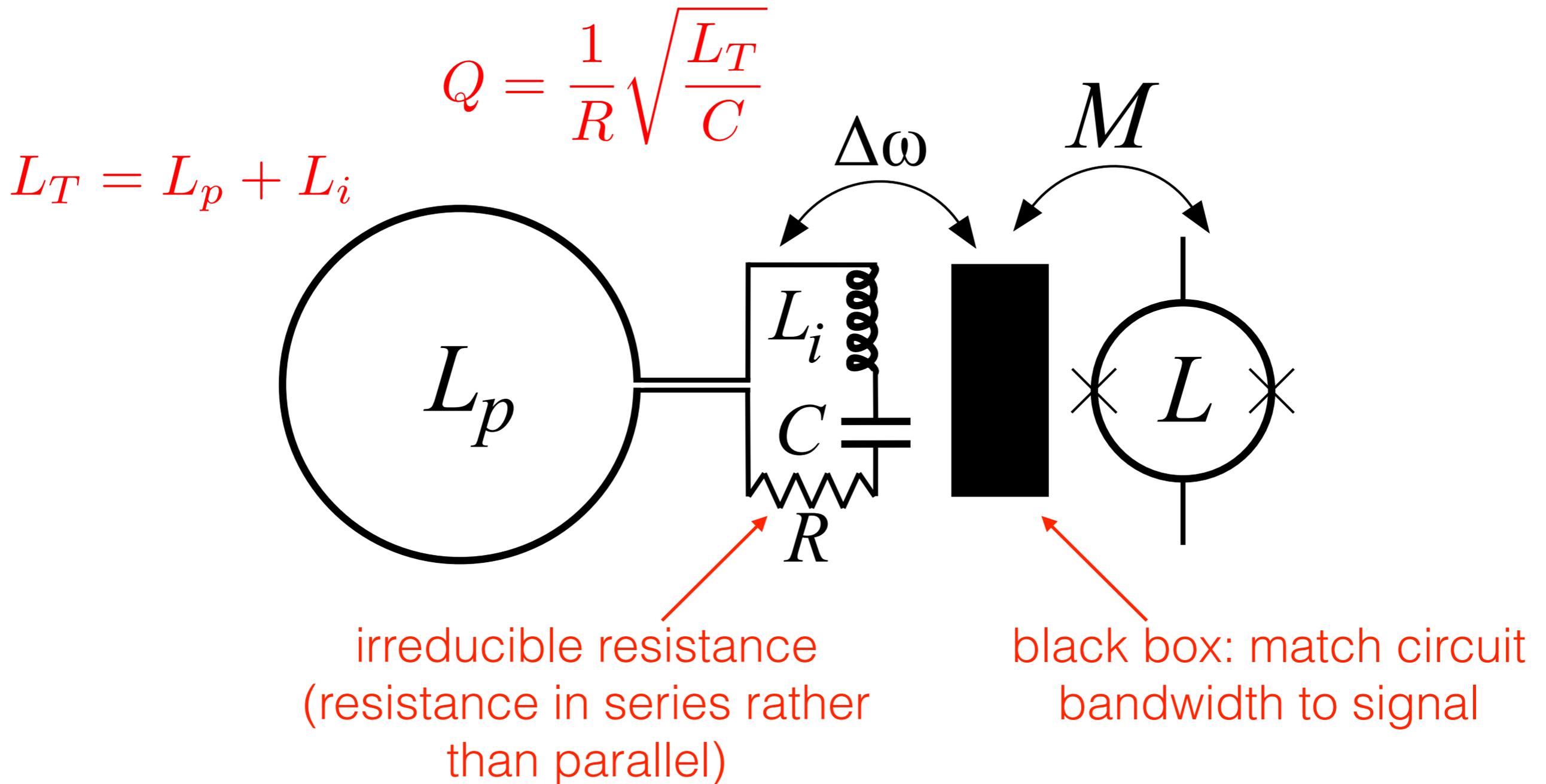
$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} > 6.3 \times 10^{-18} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \left(\frac{m_a}{10^{-12} \text{ eV}} \frac{1 \text{ year}}{t} \right)^{1/4} \frac{5 \text{ T}}{B_{\text{max}}} \times \left(\frac{0.85 \text{ m}}{R} \right)^{5/2} \sqrt{\frac{0.3 \text{ GeV/cm}^3}{\rho_{\text{DM}}} \frac{S_{\Phi,0}^{1/2}}{10^{-6} \Phi_0 / \sqrt{\text{Hz}}}}$$

improves at low masses
from coherence time

$R = r = a = h/3$:
tall toroid increases B-field energy

Scale up dimensions to 4m, can probe GUT-scale axions!

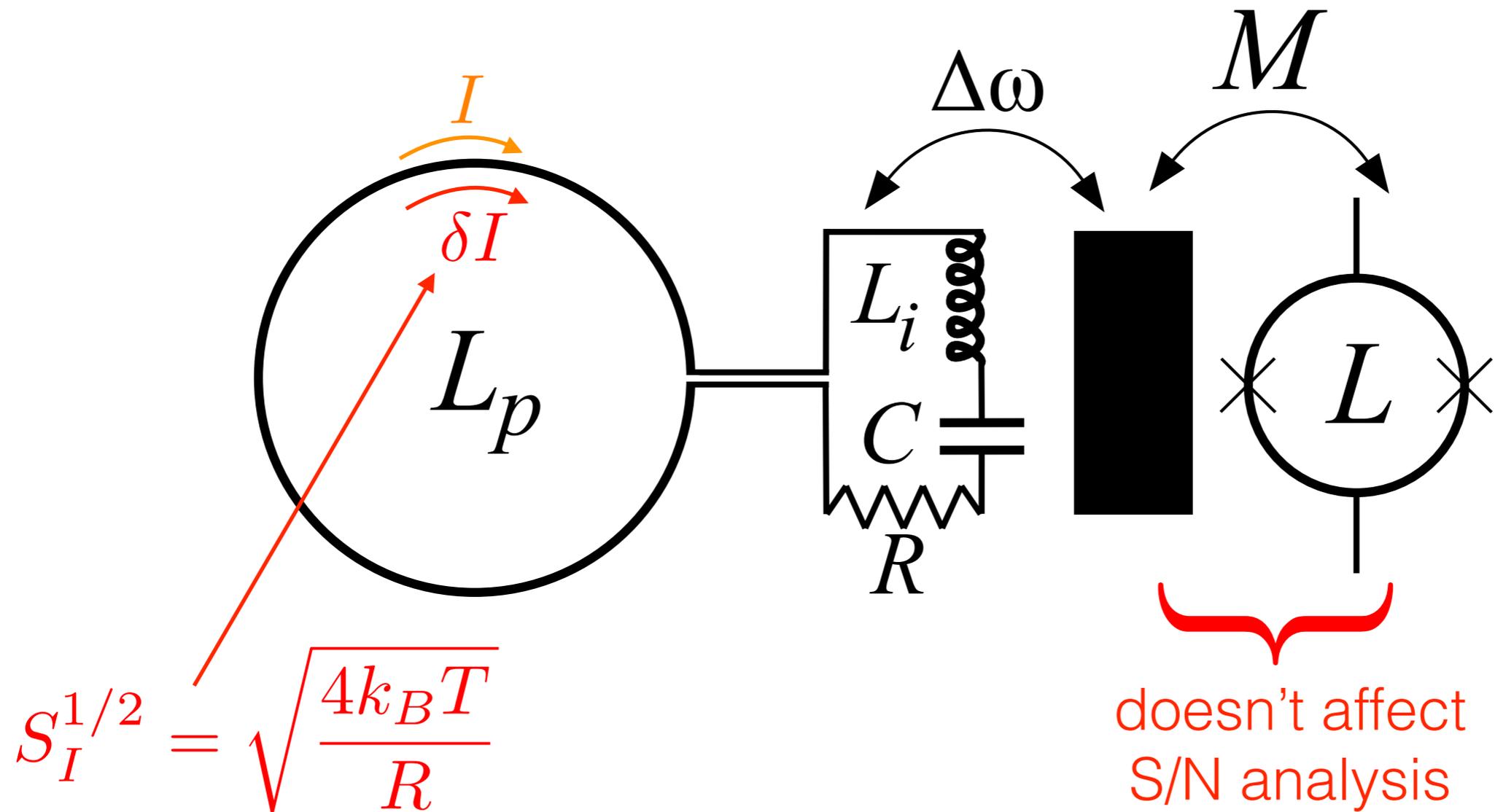
Resonant: readout circuit



New source of noise: thermal noise in pickup RLC circuit

Resonant: noise

Can show **thermal noise dominates** at 0.1 K up to $Q = 10^8$



Resonant: S/N and sensitivity

$$P_S = Q_0 \frac{m_a \Phi_{\text{pickup}}^2}{2L_T}, \quad P_N = k_B T \sqrt{\frac{m_a}{2\pi t_{\text{e-fold}}}}$$

energy stored
in tank circuit

each e-fold of frequency
scanned for equal time

$$P_S / P_N = 1$$

\Rightarrow sensitivity to

$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} > 9.0 \times 10^{-17} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \left(\frac{10^{-12} \text{ eV}}{m_a} \frac{20 \text{ days}}{t_{\text{e-fold}}} \right)^{1/4} \times \frac{5 \text{ T}}{B_{\text{max}}} \left(\frac{0.85 \text{ m}}{R} \right)^{5/2} \sqrt{\frac{0.3 \text{ GeV/cm}^3}{\rho_{\text{DM}}} \frac{10^6}{Q_0} \frac{T}{0.1 \text{ K}}}$$

improves at high masses

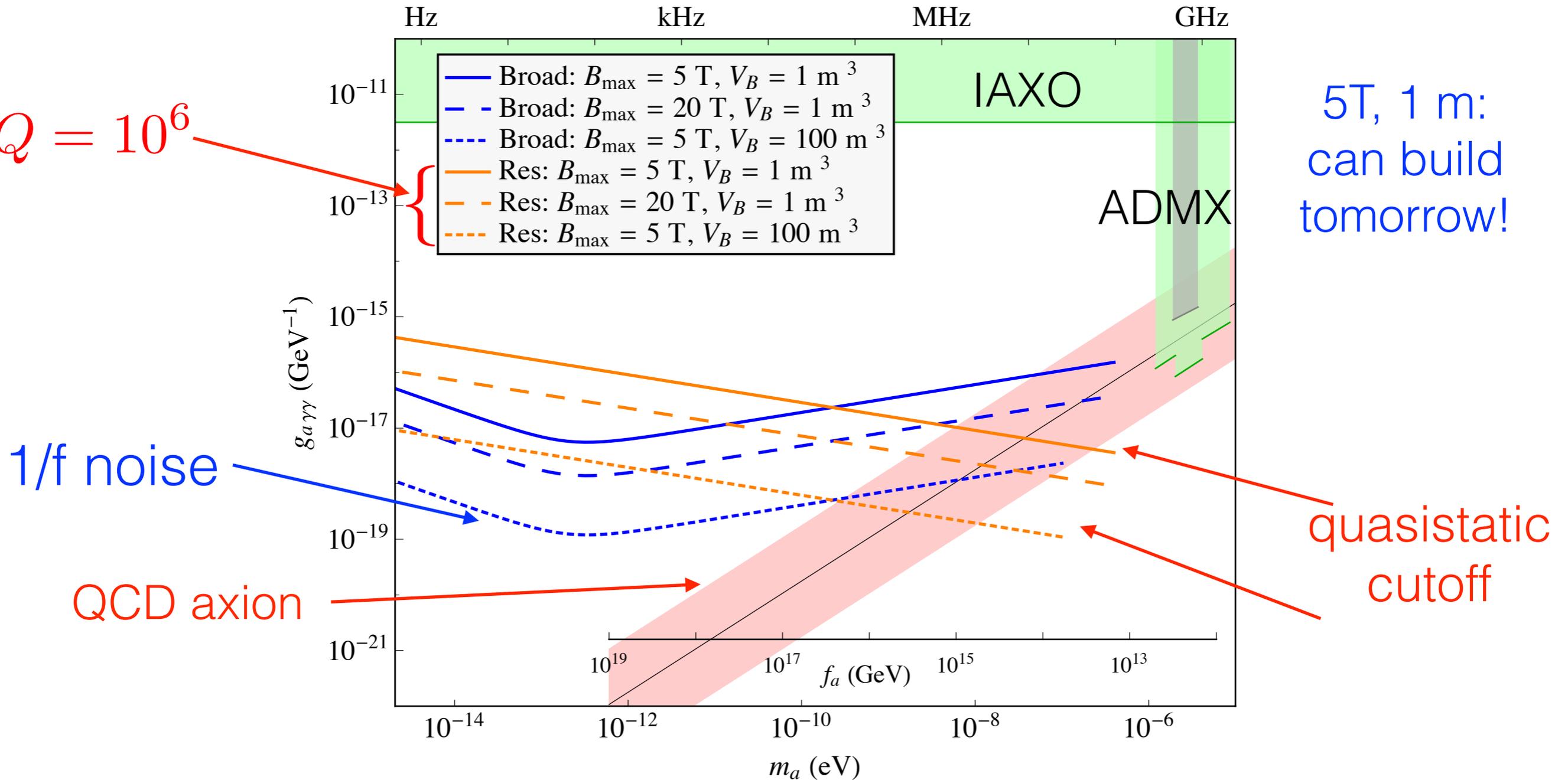
improves at low temp

Broadband and resonant reach

1 year **total** measurement time

$$\nu = m_a / 2\pi$$

$$Q = 10^6$$



With same experimental parameters,

broadband for low frequencies, resonant for high frequencies

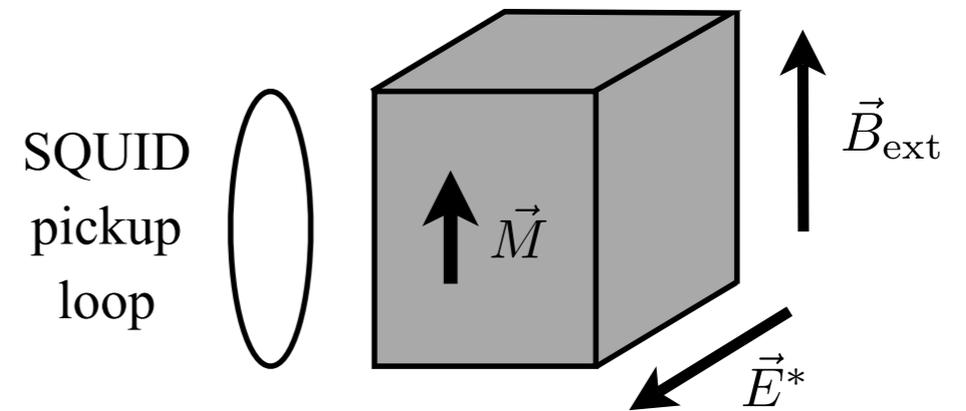
[Irwin et al. currently developing optimal readout combining both strategies]

Comparison to existing proposals

ADMX



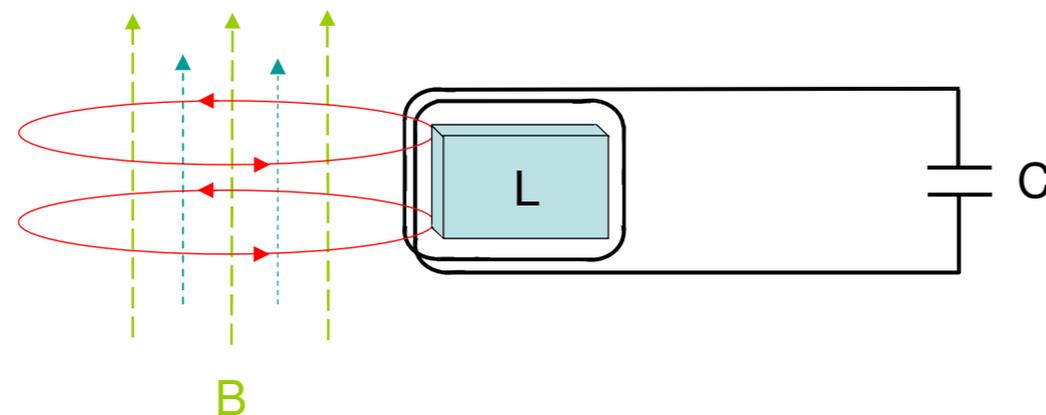
CASPEr



Complementary: we probe lower masses with volume enhancement

Complementary: we measure coupling to photons instead of nuclear EDMs, probe QCD axion for $f_a < M_{\text{GUT}}$

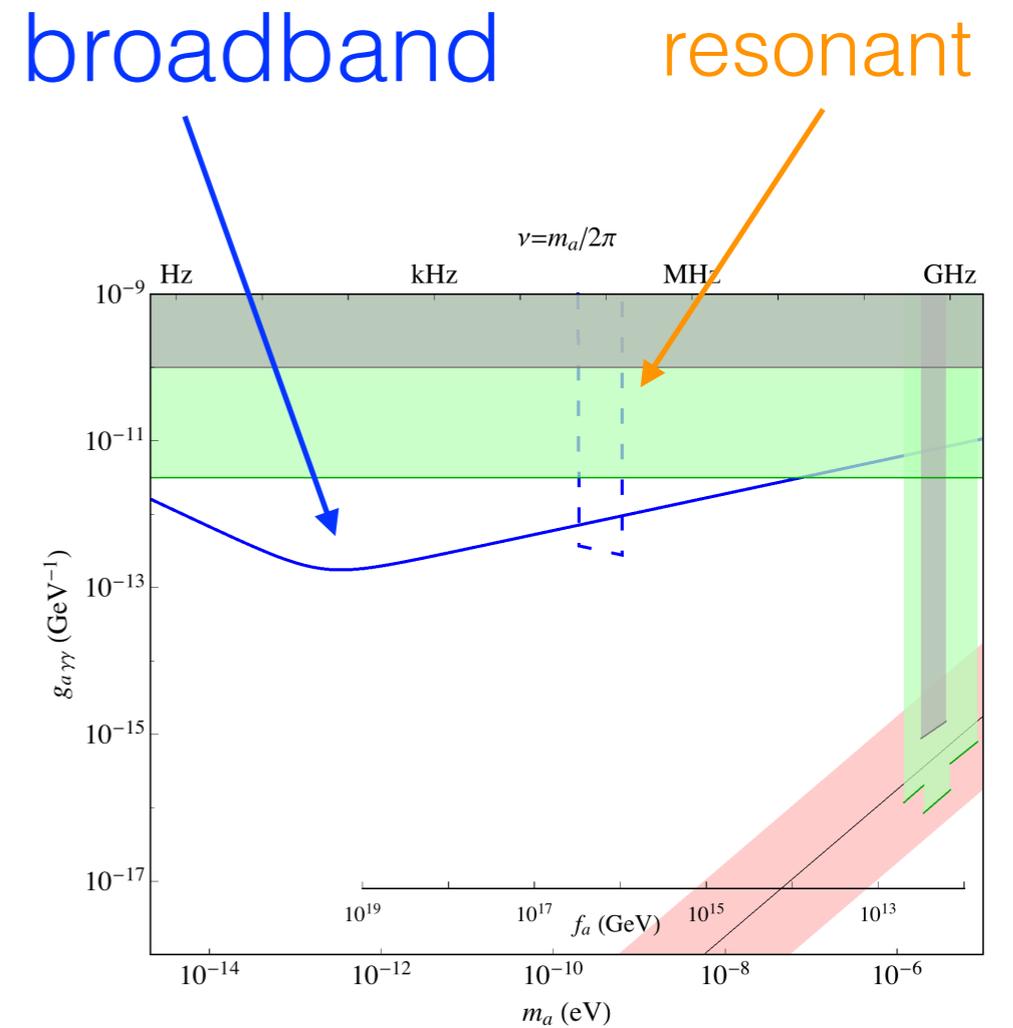
Thomas/Cabrera/Sikivie LC circuit



Our pickup is in zero-field region, advantages at low frequencies with broadband readout

MIT prototype

$R \sim 10$ cm

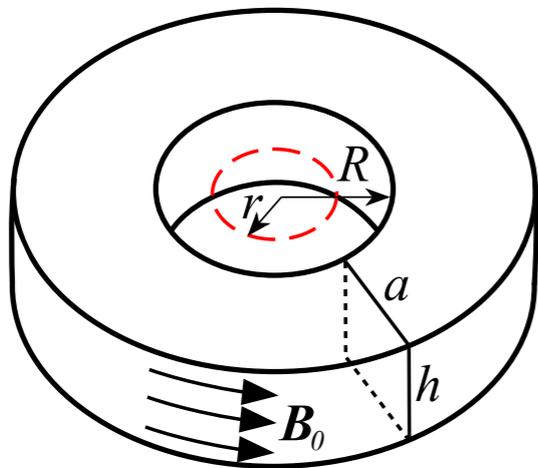


(1 month data-taking)

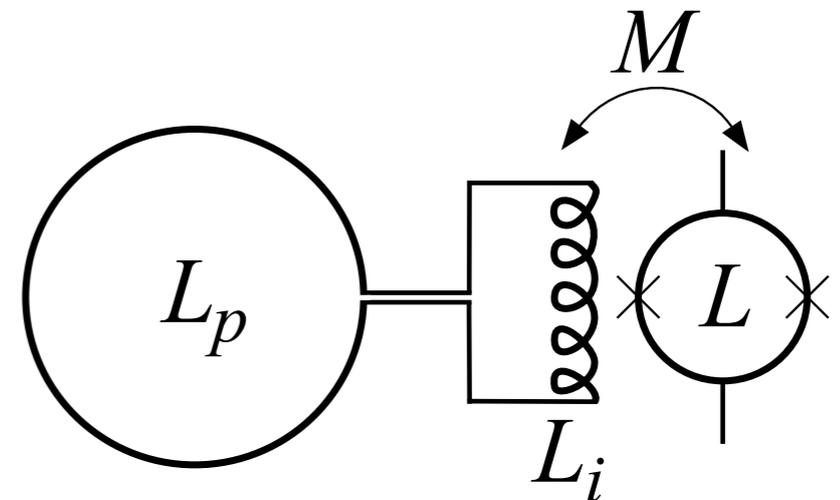
Interesting physics with first-stage experiment!

Summary

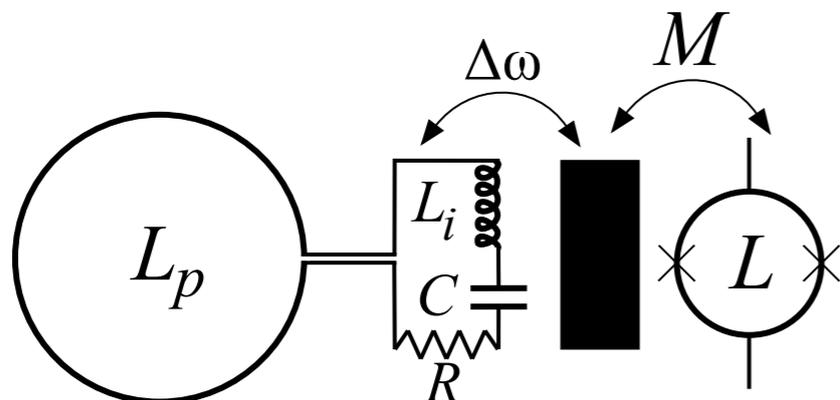
I. Zero-field pickup geometry



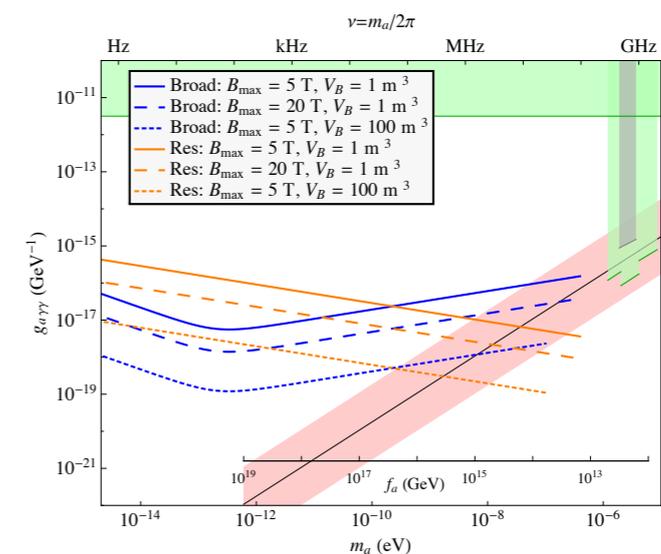
II. Broadband readout for low frequencies



III. Resonant readout for high frequencies



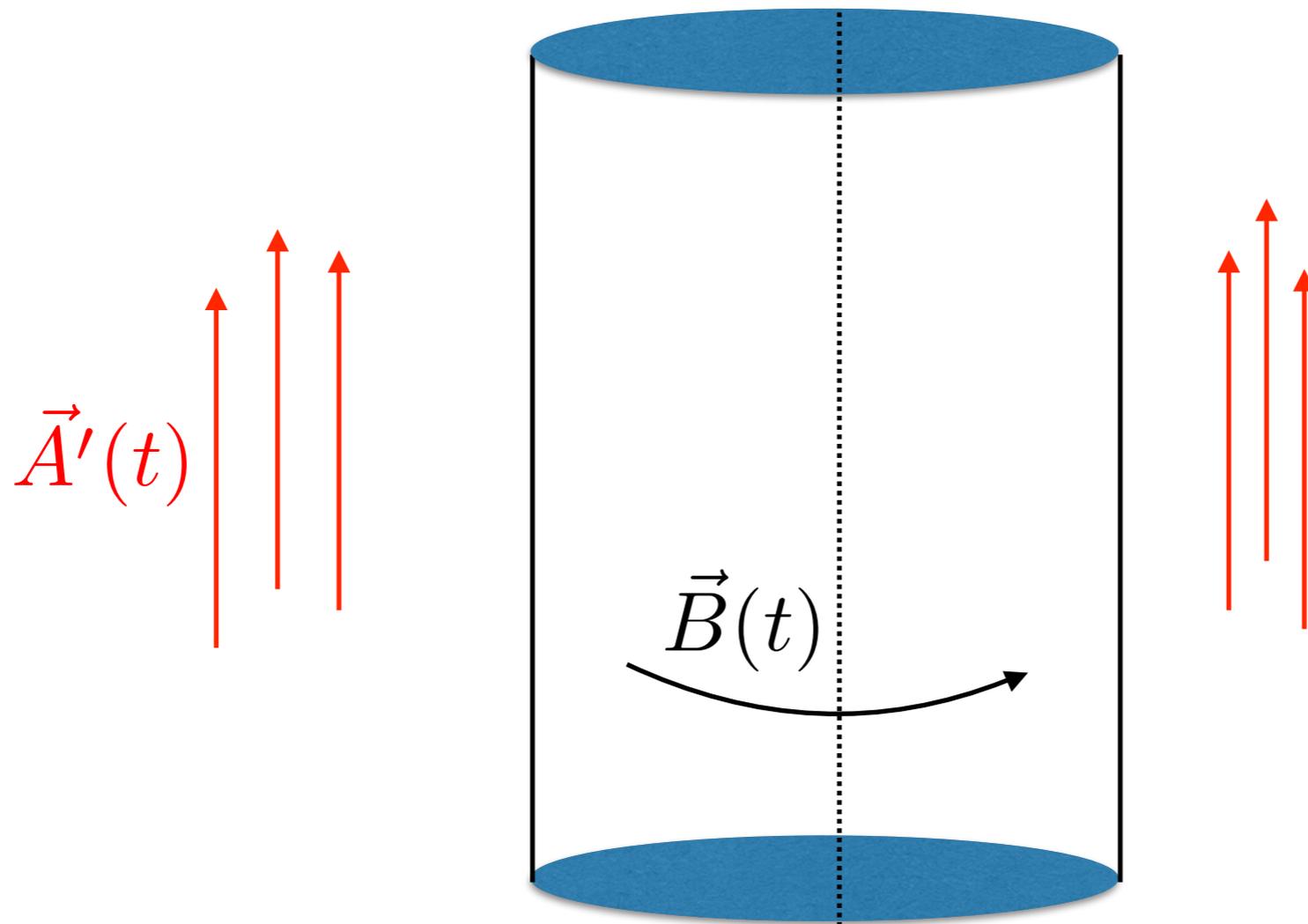
IV. Can probe the GUT-scale QCD axion!



Backup slides

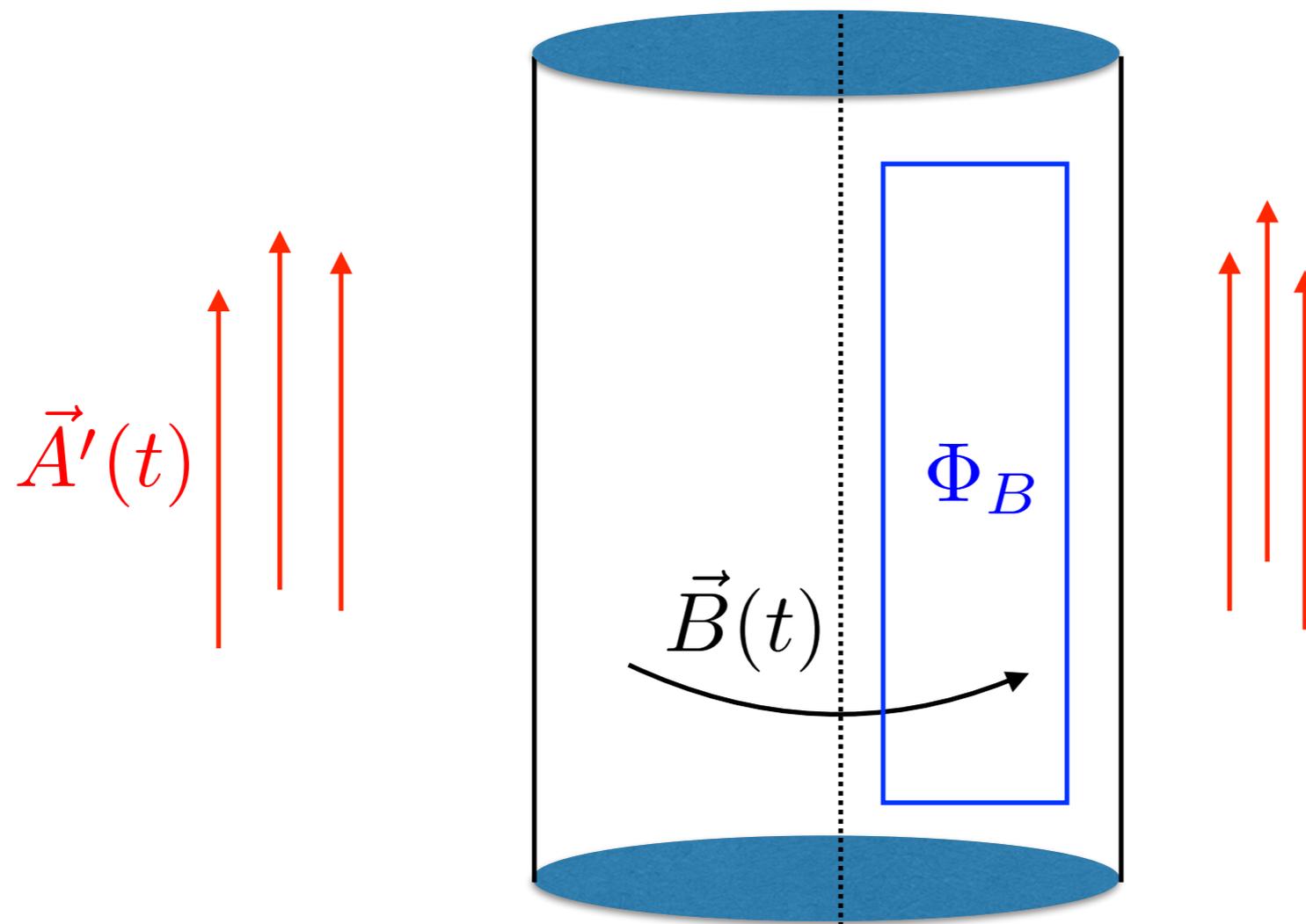
Dark photon applications

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{EM} - \frac{1}{4} F'_{\mu\nu} F'^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} m_{\gamma'}^2 A'_\mu A'^\mu - \epsilon e J_{EM}^\mu A'_\mu$$



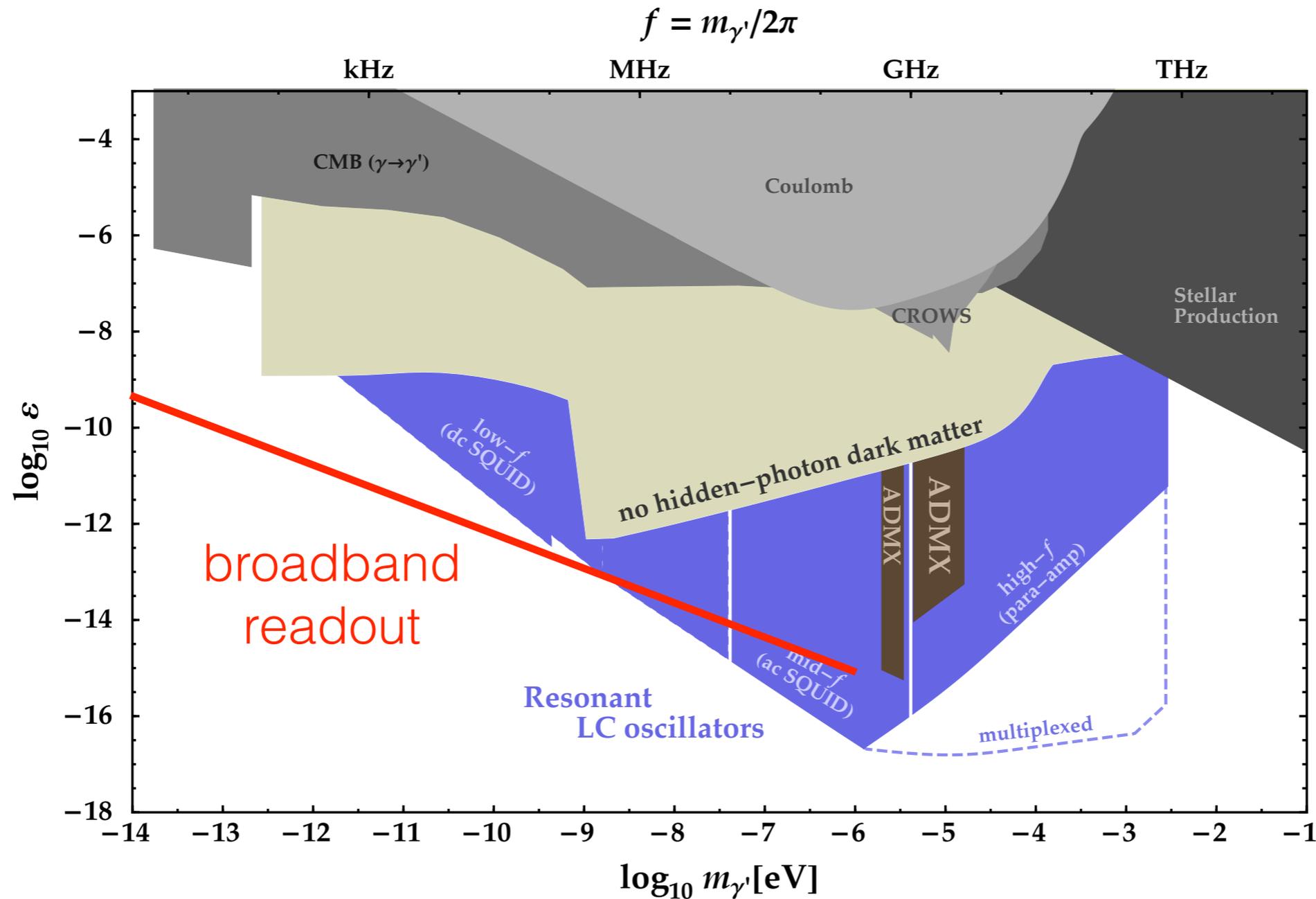
Dark photon applications

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{EM} - \frac{1}{4} F'_{\mu\nu} F'^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} m_{\gamma'}^2 A'_\mu A'^\mu - \epsilon e J_{EM}^\mu A'_\mu$$



Try detecting B-field with **broadband** strategy?
No tuning necessary!

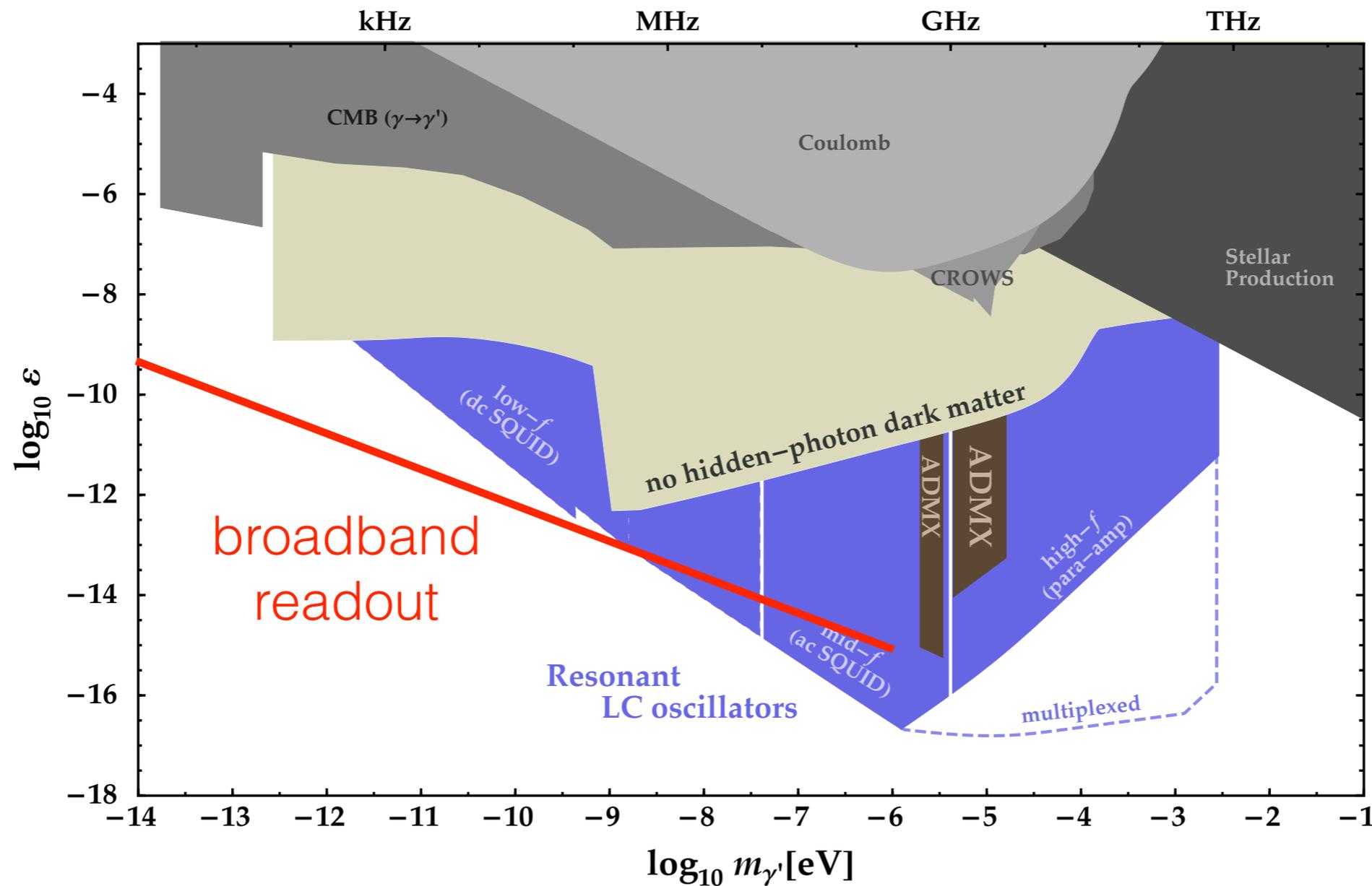
Broadband dark photon reach



[Chaudhuri et al.,
1411.7382]

Broadband dark photon reach

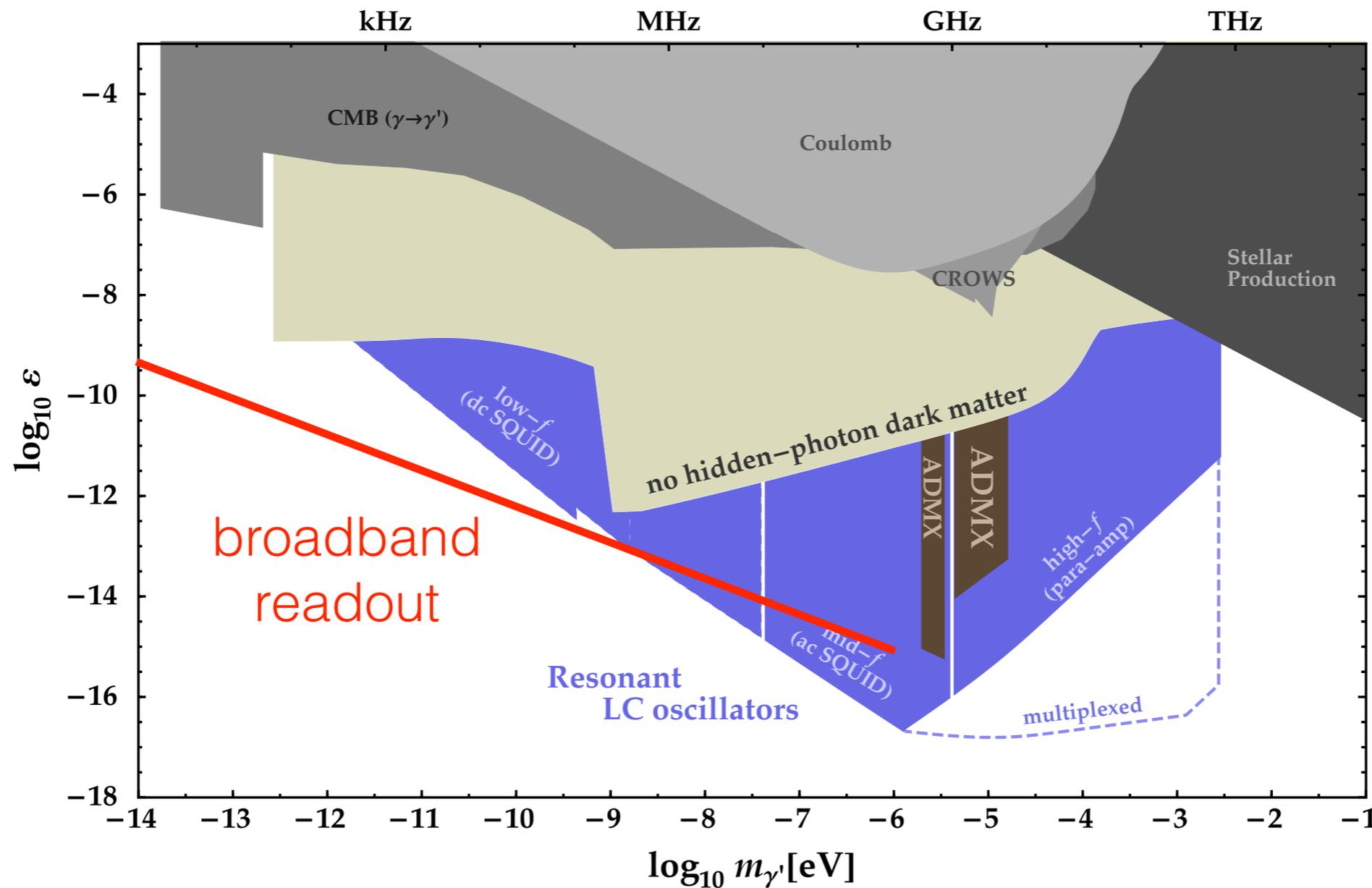
Assume $\Phi_{\text{SQUID}} = 0.025\Phi_B$, 1 year running as with axions
(energy conservation) $f = m_{\gamma'}/2\pi$



[Chaudhuri et al.,
1411.7382]

Broadband dark photon reach

Assume $\Phi_{\text{SQUID}} = 0.025\Phi_B$, 1 year running as with axions
(energy conservation) $f = m_{\gamma'}/2\pi$



[Chaudhuri et al.,
1411.7382]

Complementary to high-frequency LC readout

Resonant: bandwidth matching

$v_{DM} = 10^{-3} \implies$ intrinsic **signal** bandwidth:

$$\frac{\Delta\omega}{\omega} = 10^{-6}$$

Intrinsic **LC circuit** bandwidth: $\frac{\Delta\omega_{LC}}{\omega} = \frac{1}{Q} \quad Q = \frac{1}{R} \sqrt{\frac{L_T}{C}}$

have to wait at least one cycle: $\Delta\omega_{LC} > \frac{2\pi}{\Delta t}$

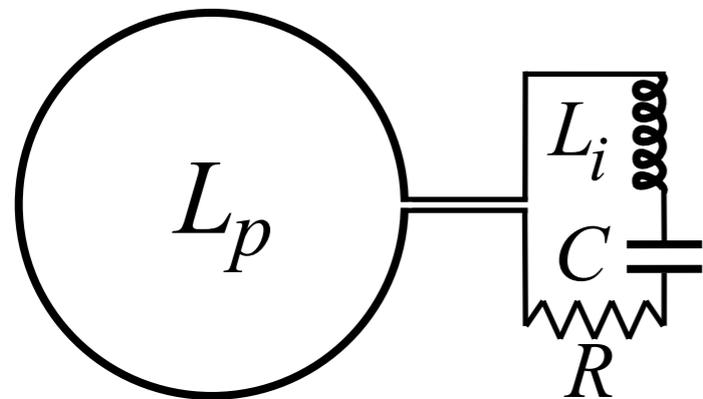
Can potentially use “black box” (e.g. feedback damping) to broaden bandwidth **without decreasing Q**:
take $Q = 10^6^*$ but larger may be possible

*comparable to existing Nb superconducting LC circuits

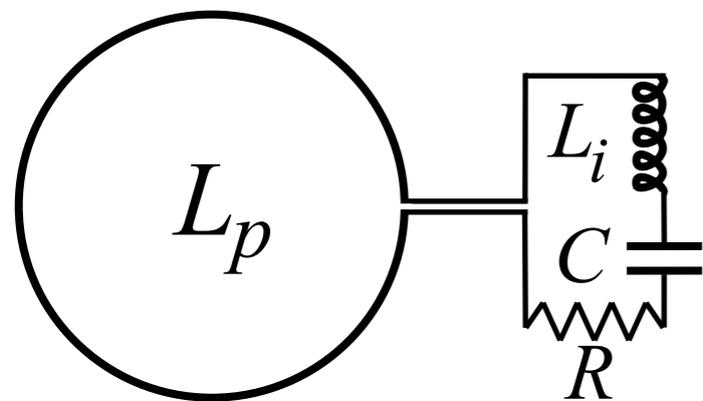
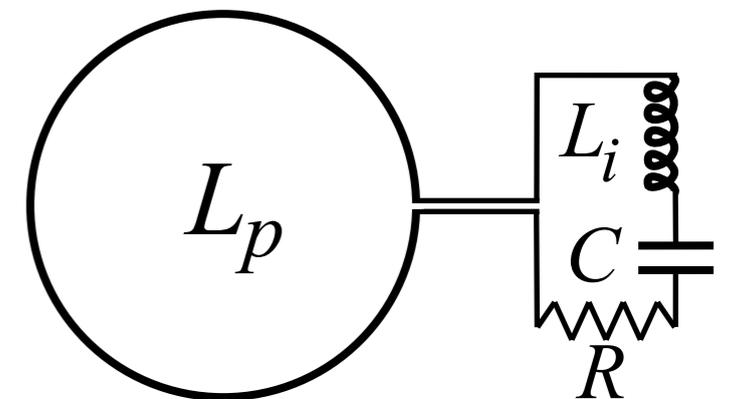
Broadband \neq non-resonant!

$$Q = \frac{1}{R} \sqrt{\frac{L_T}{C}} \quad \omega_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}$$

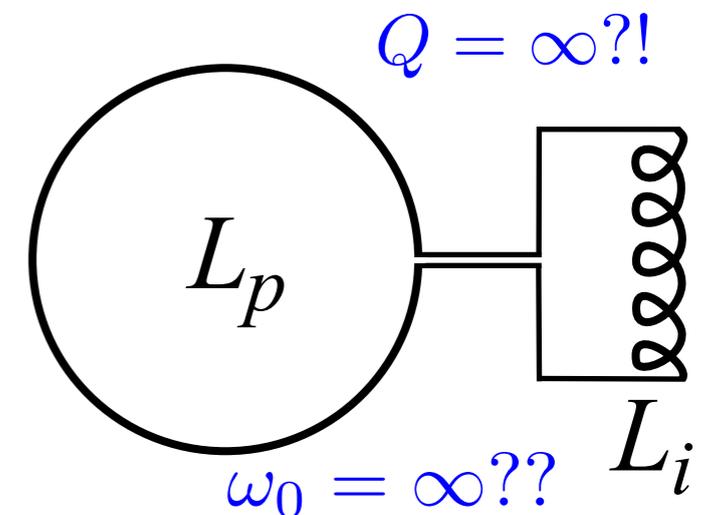
more noise,
wider bandwidth



$Q \rightarrow 1, L_T, C$ fixed

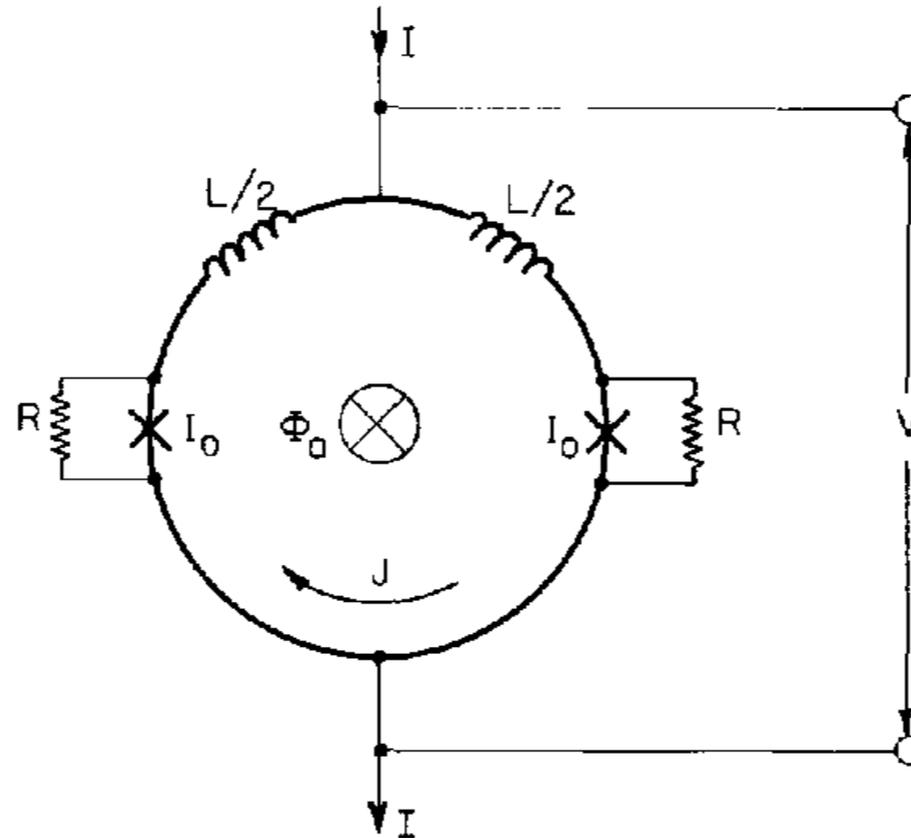


$R, C \rightarrow 0, L_T$ fixed



Q is not an appropriate variable
to describe a purely inductive circuit

Origin of SQUID noise



Junction shunt resistance introduces thermal noise:

$$S_V \approx 16k_B T R$$

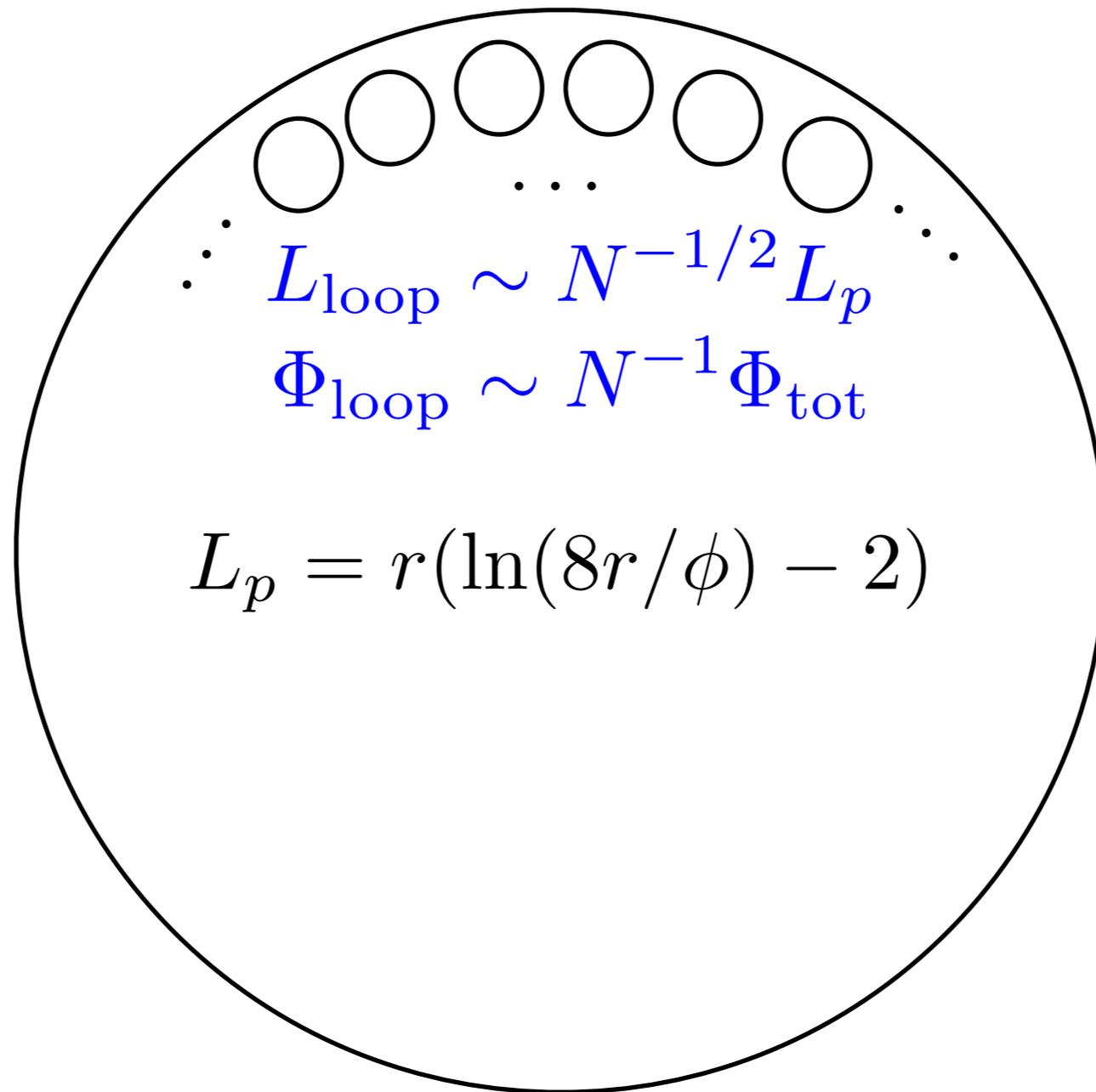
$$S_J \approx 11k_B T / R$$

always subdominant
in resonant circuit

(suppressed by narrow bandwidth)

Inductance matching

N loops
in parallel:



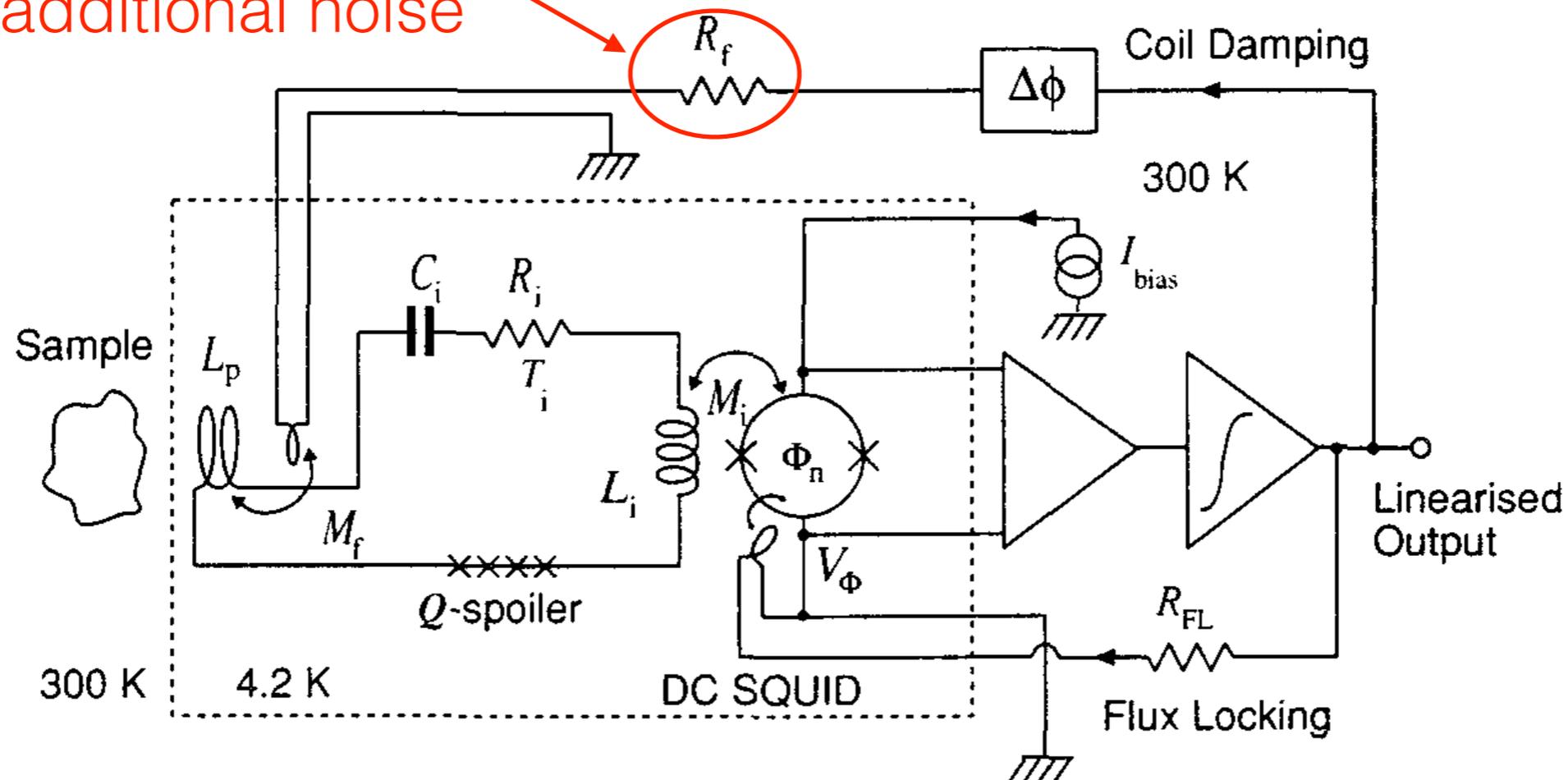
$$\Rightarrow L_{\text{eff}} \sim N^{-1/2} L_p$$

Could also use “pie-slice” loops (fractional-turn magnetometer),
or slitted sheath as in 1411.7382

Resonant: feedback damping

Trick from SQUID magnetometry:
can widen bandwidth **without increasing thermal noise**

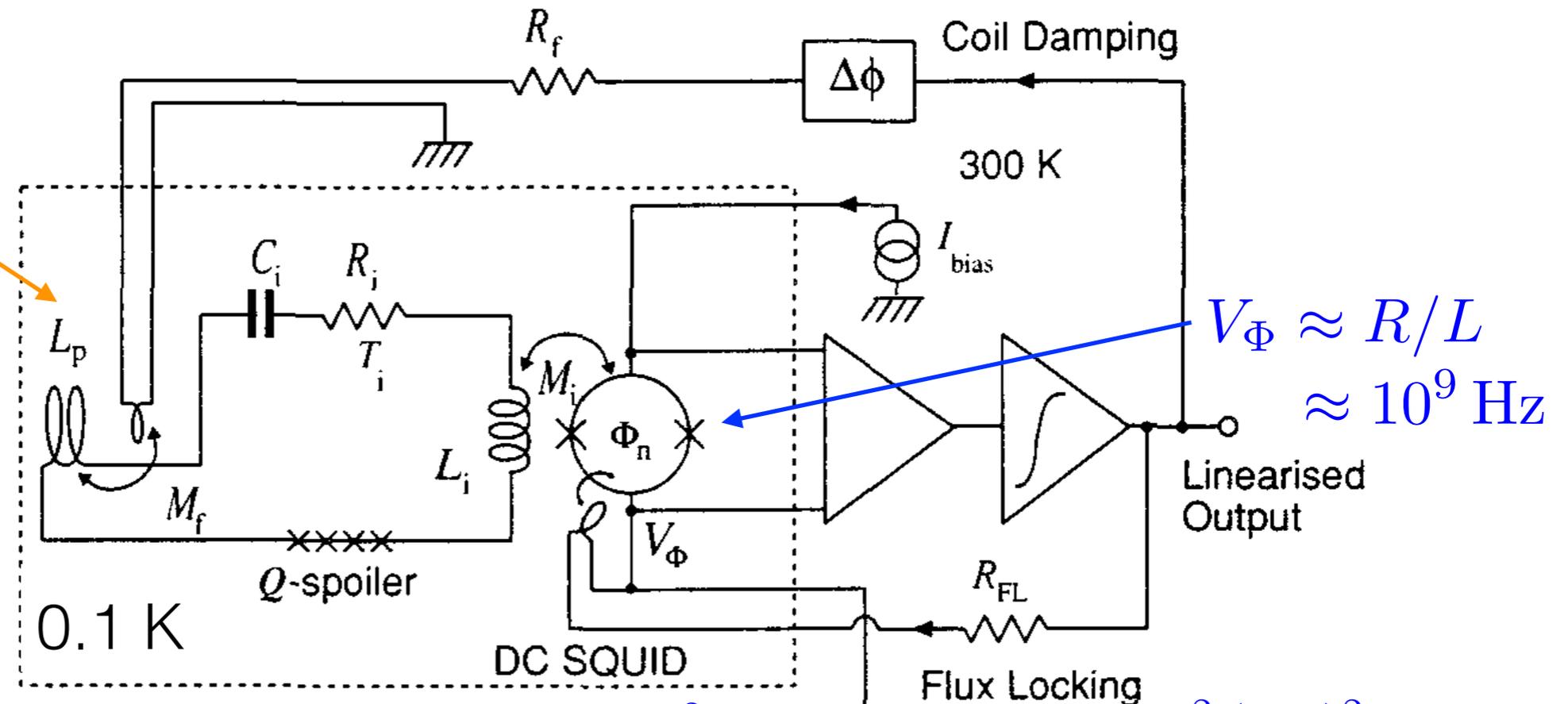
decreases loaded Q ,
but not part of resonant circuit
so no additional noise



[Seton et al. *Mag. Res. Mat.* 1999]

Dominance of thermal noise in resonant circuit

N_s turns



$$S_\Phi^T(f) = \frac{4k_B T L_T}{N_s^2 \omega Q_0} \quad S_\Phi^J(f) \approx \frac{M_i^2}{N_s^2} S_J(f) \quad S_\Phi^V(f) \approx \frac{L_T^2 (\Delta\omega)^2}{N_s^2 \omega^2 M_i^2 V_\Phi^2} S_V(f)$$

Optimize w.r.t. N_s :

$$S_\Phi(f) \approx \frac{4k_B T L_p}{\omega Q_0} \left[1 + \frac{4 \times 10^{-6} Q_0 \Delta\omega}{\alpha^2} \frac{\Delta\omega}{\omega} \frac{\omega}{V_\Phi} + 10^{-6} Q_0 \alpha^2 \frac{\omega}{V_\Phi} \left(\frac{11}{4} + \frac{S_{J,0}}{4k_B T} \right) \right]$$

thermal

$< 10^{-2}$

shot noise

Other noise sources

- Shielding noise: can reduce with superconducting shield
- Current noise: probably minimal if current-carrying wires are superconducting, but may contribute small azimuthal current. Can reduce with clever toroid winding, or envelop toroid in overlapping superconducting shield
- $1/f$ SQUID noise: dominant below 50 Hz, worse at low temperatures, maybe mitigate with modulation?