





INVESTIGATING THE DARK SECTOR WITH THE PADME EXPERIMENT

P. Gianotti for the PADME collaboration



Outline

Dark Matter issue

Dark Matter production with positron beams

Frascati Lab

The X17 Anomaly

PADME status, plans and prospects



The Nature of Dark Matter

Despite its abundance, we don't yet know what is made of.

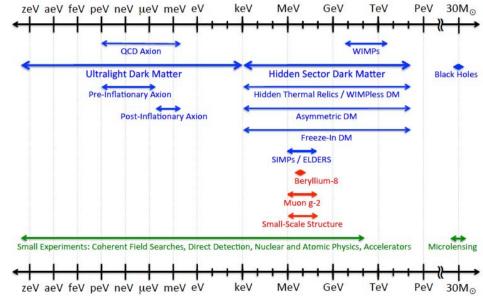
Theorized WIMPs haven't yet shown up.

Physicists are looking for signals in region previously unexplored.

The "new" approach rather than relying on a single experiment is trying to form a net of small dedicated experiments.

Theories are postulating DM could be lighter than previously thought. It could be made of other not yet discovered particles: **Axions, ALP**, **Dark Higgs, X17.**

Dark Sector Candidates, Anomalies, and Search Techniques



arXiv:1707.04591v1 [hep-ph] 14 Jul 2017



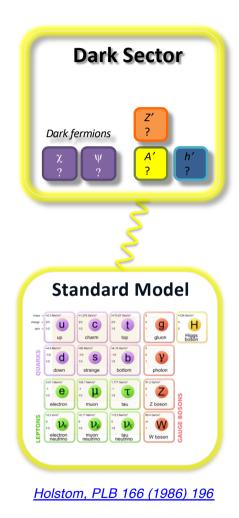
New Forces

There are many attempts to look for new physics phenomena to explain Universe **dark matter** and dark energy.

One class of simple models just adds an additional $U_D(1)$ symmetry to SM, with its corresponding vector boson (A')

$U(1)_{Y}+SU(2)_{Weak}+SU(3)_{Strong}[+U_{D}(1)]$

The **A'** could itself be the **mediator** between the **visible** and the **dark sector** mixing with the ordinary photon. The effective interaction between the fermions and the dark photon is parametrized in term of a factor ε representing the mixing strength.



The search for this new mediator A' is the main goal of the PADME experiment at LNF.



A' production and decay

Bremsstrahlung

Production

A' can be produced using e^+ via:

- Bremsstrahlung: $e^+N \rightarrow e^+NA'$
- Annihilation associate production: $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma A'$
- Annihilation direct production: $e^+e^- \rightarrow A'$

For the A' decay two options are possible:

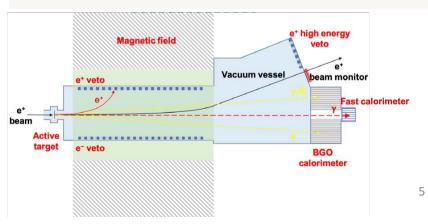
- No dark matter particles lighter than the A':
 - $A' \rightarrow e^+e^-, \mu^+\mu^-$, hadrons, "visible" decays
- For $M_{AI} < 210$ MeV A' only decays to e^+e^- with $BR(e^+e^-) = 1$
- Dark matter particles χ with $2M_{\gamma} < M_{A'}$
 - A' will dominantly decay into pure DM
 - $BR(l^+l^-)$ suppressed by factor ε^2
 - $A' \rightarrow \gamma \gamma \sim 1$. These are the so called **"invisible"** decays

PADME aims to produce A' via the reaction: This technique allows to identify the A' even if it is Annihilation stable or decays into dark sector particles $\chi \overline{\chi}$.

Know e⁺ beam momentum and position, measuring the recoil photon position and energy

 $e^+e^- \rightarrow A'\gamma$

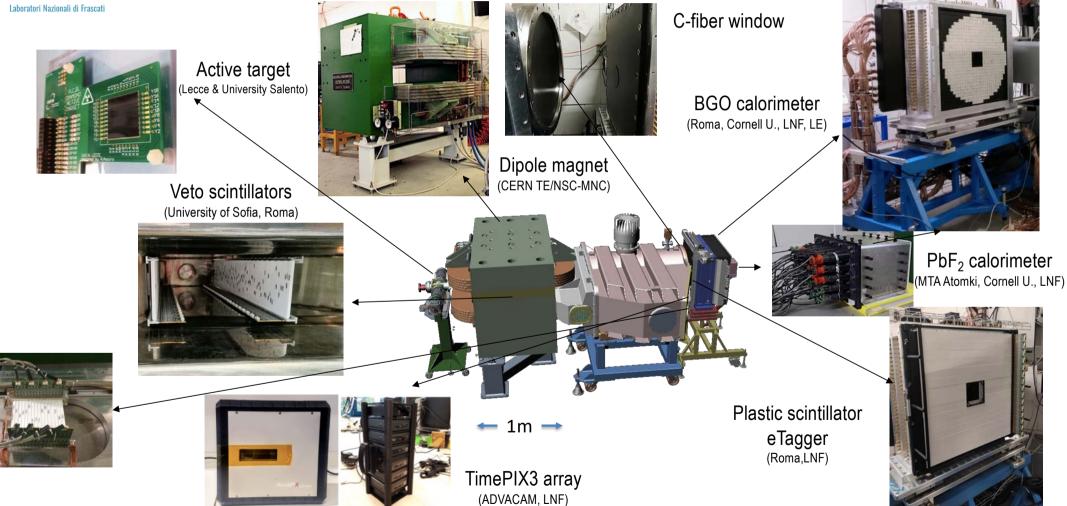
$$M^2_{miss} = (\bar{P}_{e^+} + \bar{P}_{e^-} - \bar{P}_{\gamma})^2$$



Only a minimal assumption: A' couples to leptons



The PADME detector components



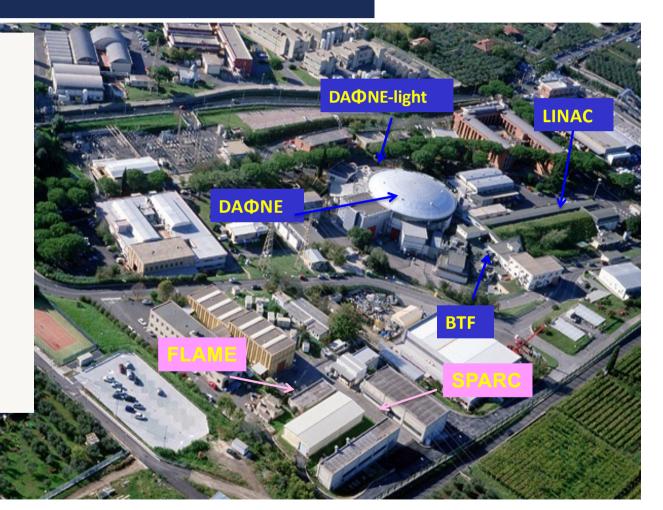


Frascati Laboratory of INFN

LNF is the largest and the oldest of the 4 laboratories that INFN owns in Italy.



Since its foundation is devoted to particle physics with accelerators and novel particle detector development.





Electron Synchrotron (1959-1975) E=1 GeV

> AdA 1960-1965 E.c.m. 500 MeV

ADONE (1968-1993) E.c.m. 3 GeV 100 m

DAΦNE (1999) E.c.m. 1020 MeV 100 m

> SPARC LAB (2004) E=150 MeV LINAC





B. Touschek









N. Cabibbo

The LNF accelerators history

LNF-54/48 (1954) Il progetto italiano di un elettrosinerotone.

G. SALVINI Istituto di Fisica dell'Università - Pisa Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare - Sezione Acceleratore

The Frascati Storage Ring.

C. BERNARDINI, G. F. CORAZZA, G. GHIGO Laboratori Nazionali del CNEN - Frascuti

B. TOUSCHER Istitulo di Fisica dell'Università - Roma Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare - Sezione di Roma

(ricevuto il 7 Novembre 1960)



the "Bible" VOLUME 124, NUMBER 5

Electron-Positron Colliding Beam Experiments

N. CABIBBO AND R. GATTO Istituti di Fisica delle Università di Roma e di Cagliari, Italy and Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati del C.N.E.N., Prascati, Roma, Italy (Received June 8, 1961)

e+/e- were stored at 250 MeV colliders in the world 1961 AdA Frascati Italy 1964 VEPP2 Novosibirsk URSS

AdA was the first matter antimatter storage ring

with a single magnet (weak focusing) in which

1965	ACO	Orsay	France
1969	ADONE	Frascati	Italy
1971	CEA	Cambridge	USA
1972	SPEAR	Stanford	USA
1974	DORIS	Hamburg	Germany
1975	VEPP-2M	Novosibirsk	URSS
1977	VEPP-3	Novosibirsk	URSS
1978	VEPP-4	Novosibirsk	URSS
1978	PETRA	Hamburg	Germany
1979	CESR	Cornell	USA
1980	PEP	Stanford	USA
1981	SpS	CERN	Switzerland
1982	P-pbar	Fermilab	USA
1987	TEVATRON	Fermilab	USA
1989	SLC	Stanforrd	USA
1989	BEPC	Beijing	China
1989	LEP	CERN	Switzerland
1992	HERA	Hamburg	Germany
1994	VEPP-4M	Novosibirsk	Russia
1999	DAΦNE	Frascati	Italy
1999	KEKB	Tsukuba	Japan
2000	RHIC	Brookhaven	USA
2003	VEPP-2000	Novosibirsk	Russia
2008	BEPCII	Beijing	China
2009	LHC	CERN	Switzerland
2009	LHC	CERN	Switzerland



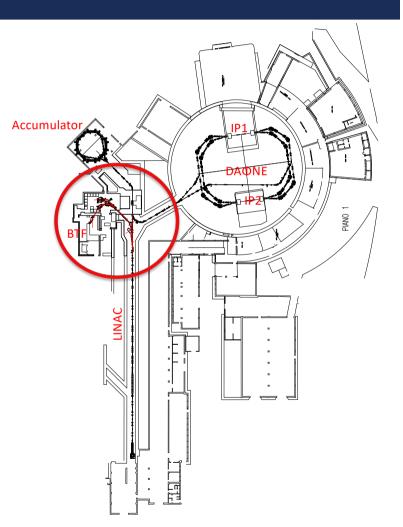
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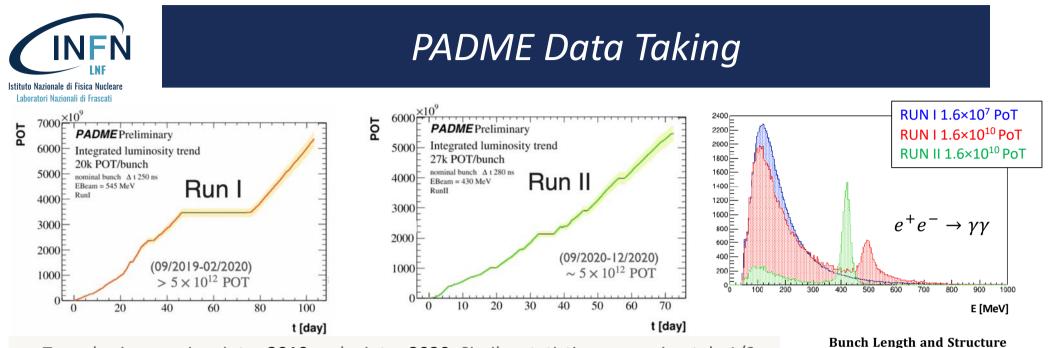


LNF LINAC beam line

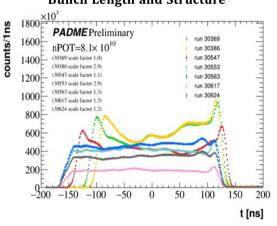
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	electrons	positrons	
Maximum beam energy (E _{beam})[MeV]	800 MeV	550 MeV	
Linac energy spread [∆p/p]	0.5%	1%	
Typical Charge [nC]	2 nC	0.85 nC	
Bunch length [ns]	1.5 - 40		
Linac Repetition rate	1-50 Hz	1-50 Hz	
Typical emittance [mm mrad]	1	~1.5	
Beam spot σ [mm]	<1 mm		
Beam divergence	1-1.5 mrad		

- Able to provide electrons and positrons
- PADME Duty cycle aprox 50*200 ns= 10⁻⁶ s
- The accessible M_{A'} region is limited by E_{beam}
 - 0-23.7 MeV can be explored with 550 MeV e^+ beam





- Two physics runs in winter 2019 and winter 2020. Similar statistics, approximately 1/2 of minimal goal (10¹³ particles-on-target). Slightly lower beam momentum in Run II, 430 MeV/c, wrt to Run I, 490 MeV/c
- Run Ia secondary beam; Run 1b primary beam->Reduced beam-induced background
- Run II wrt Run I:
 - Detailed MC simulation of beamline <u>JHEP 09 (2022), 233</u>
 - Improved vacuum separation between experiment and beamline
 - Less beam-induced background with primary wrt secondary beam
 - Longer beam bunch to reduce pile-up

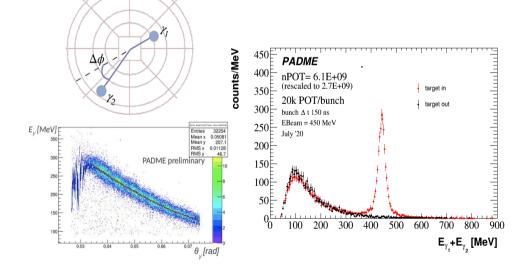


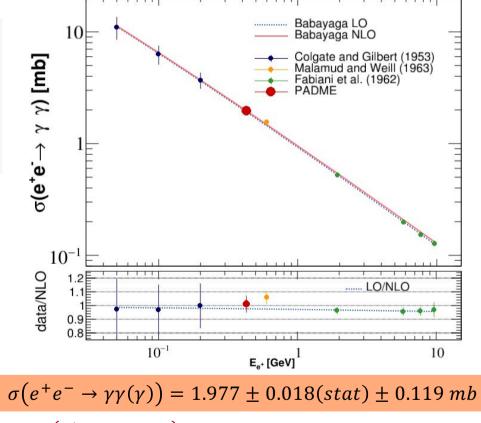


$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ cross section

Phys.Rev.D 107 (2023) 012008

- Below 0.6 GeV known only with 20% accuracy.
- Can be sensitive to sub-GeV new physics since available measurement $e^+e^- \rightarrow non - charged$ particles.
- Used 10% of Run II sample.
- Tag-and-probe method on two back-to- back clusters exploiting energy-angle correlation.





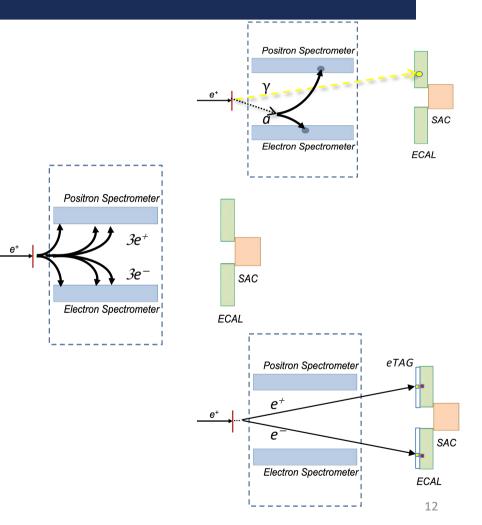
QED@NLO $\sigma(e^+e^- \to \gamma\gamma(\gamma)) = 1.9478 \pm 0.0005(stat) \pm 0.0020(syst) mb$ Phys.Lett.B 663 (2008) 209-213 11



Dark Sector Studies at PADME

The PADME approach can explore the existence of any new particle produced in e^+e^- annihilations:

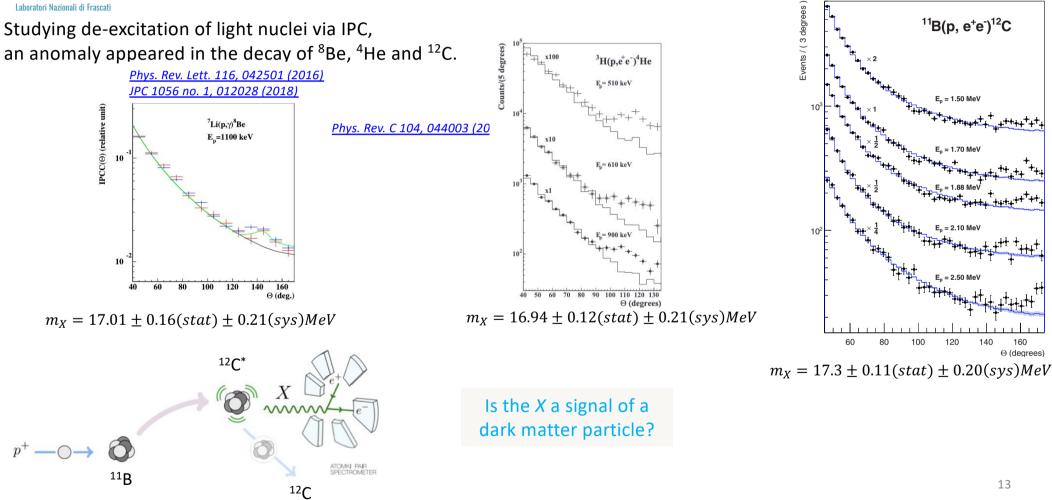
- Axion Like Partiles $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma a$ visible decays: $a \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$, ee invisible decay: $a \rightarrow \chi \bar{\chi}$
- Dark Higgs $e^+e^- \rightarrow h'A'$; $h' \rightarrow A'A'$ final state: $A'A'A' \rightarrow e^+e^-e^+e^-e^+e^-$
- X_{17} Boson $e^+e^- \rightarrow X_{17}$; $X_{17} \rightarrow e^+e^$ tuning beam energy and slightly modifying the detector





The ⁸Be anomaly

Phys. Rev. C 106, L061601 (2022)





Theoretical interpretation

- All the three anomalies $\gtrsim 7\sigma$, hard to claim statistical fluctuations
- The introduction of a new particle improves the fits to the data
- SM explanations strongly disfavoured ⁸Be [<u>PLB 773 (2017) 159-175</u>] ⁴He [<u>PRD (2021) 2104.04808</u>]
- ⁸Be ⁴He ¹²C anomalies are kinematically & dynamically consistent for V (and AV) [PRD 102 (2020) 036016]
- For ¹²C the effect was predicted, and then confirmed by experimental data [PRD 2006.01151 [hep-ph]]
- X17 couples differently to up and down quarks. Coupling to electron neutrino is also allowed in the framework of NSI [<u>Phys. Rev. D 108, 015009 (2023)</u>]

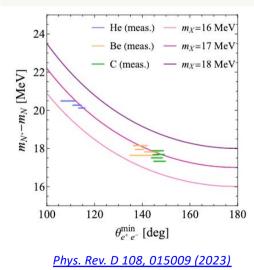


TABLE III. Nuclear excited states N_* , their spin-parity $J_*^{P_*}$, and the possibilities for X (scalar, pseudoscalar, vector, axial vector) allowed by angular momentum and parity conservation, along with the operators that mediate the decay and references to the equation numbers where these operators are defined. The operator subscripts label the operator's dimension and the partial wave of the decay, and the superscript labels the X spin. For example, $\mathcal{O}_{4P}^{(0)}$ is a dimension-four operator that mediates a *P*-wave decay to a spin-0 X boson.

N _*	$J_*^{P_*}$	Scalar X	Pseudoscalar X	Vector X	Axial Vector X
⁸ Be(18.15)	1+		$\mathcal{O}_{AP}^{(0)}(27)$	$\mathcal{O}_{5P}^{(1)}$ (37)	$\mathcal{O}_{3S}^{(1)}$ (29), $\mathcal{O}_{5D}^{(1)}$ (34)
¹² C(17.23)	1-	$\mathcal{O}_{4P}^{(0)}$ (27)		$\mathcal{O}_{3S}^{(1)}$ (29), $\mathcal{O}_{5D}^{(1)}$ (34)	$\mathcal{O}_{5p}^{(1)}(37)$
⁴ He(21.01)	0-		$\mathcal{O}_{3S}^{(0)}(39)$		$\mathcal{O}_{4P}^{(1)}(40)$
⁴ He(20.21)	0+	$\mathcal{O}_{3S}^{(0)}$ (39)		$\mathcal{O}_{4P}^{(1)}$ (40)	

Phys.Rev.D 102 (2020) 036016



X17 study @ PADME

X17 can be resonantly produced with positron beams [Phys.Rev. D97 (2018) no.9, 095004]

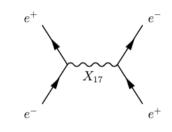
Using constraints from Atomki measurements two spin-parity assumptions have been considered [Darmé et al. Phys. Rev. D 106 (2022) 115036]

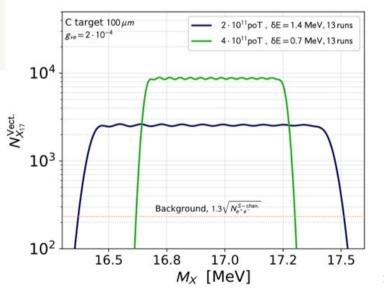
• vector boson 1⁻⁻ $\mathcal{N}_{X_{17}}^{\text{Vect.}} \simeq 1.8 \cdot 10^{-7} \times \left(\frac{g_{ve}}{2 \cdot 10^{-4}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1 \text{ MeV}}{\sigma_E}\right)$

• pseudoscalar particle 0⁻⁺
$$\mathcal{N}_{X_{17}}^{\mathrm{ALP}} \simeq 5.8 \cdot 10^{-7} \times \left(\frac{g_{ae}}{\mathrm{GeV}^{-1}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1 \mathrm{~MeV}}{\sigma_E}\right)$$

The data taking strategy consists in counting $e^+ e^-$ events varying beam energy in small steps in the range $E \in [265; 297]$ MeV.

The sensitivity of the scan depends on the energy step ΔE used in the scan.



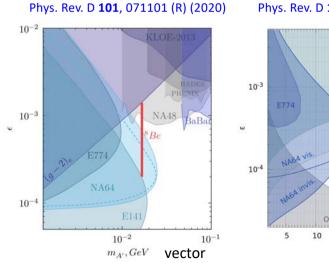


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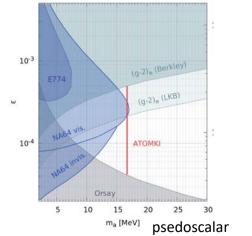


X17 study @ PADME

- Same ATOMKI observables: 2 leptons in the final state, but different production reaction
- Expected cross section enhancement from resonant production in e⁺e⁻ annihilations at E_e+~283 MeV
- Main backgrounds:
 - Bhabha scattering, both from the *s* channel and *t* channel
 - Two clusters in the calorimeter produced in $\gamma\gamma$ events



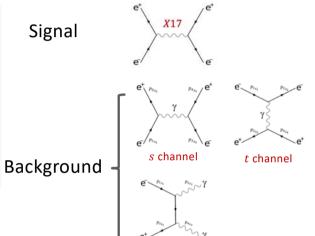
Phys. Rev. D **104**, L111102 (2021)



Phys. Rev. D 106 (2022) 115036

TABLE I. Expected number of background and signal events per 1×10^{10} positrons on target. The *t*-channel values before selection cuts correspond to e^{\pm} with energies larger than 1 MeV. The acceptance cuts do not include the $\gamma\gamma$ tagging from the ETag. BG, background; Ev., events; Acc., acceptance; ch., channel.

BG process	No. of Ev.	No. of Ev. in Acc.	Acc.
$e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ (t- ch.)	5.4×10^{7}	6.9×10^{4}	0.13%
$e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ (s-ch.)	3.2×10^4	6.4×10^{3}	20%
$e^+e^- ightarrow \gamma\gamma$	$2.9 imes 10^5$	1.3×10^{4}	4.5%
$e^+e^- \rightarrow X_{17} \rightarrow e^+e^-$	1250	250	20%



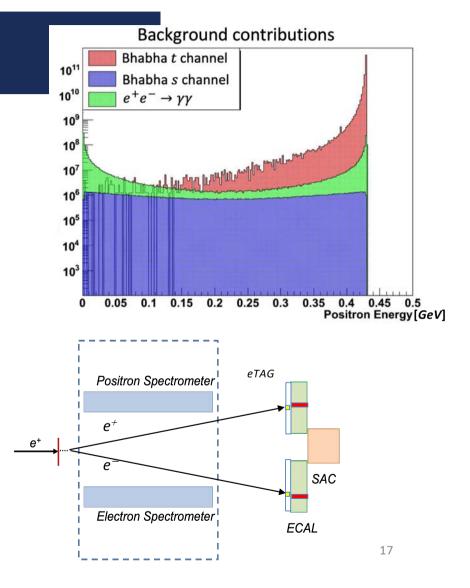


PADME X17 setup

PADME veto spectrometers cannot be used to constrain e^+e^- vertices **not coming from the production target.**

Idea: identify $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ using the BGO calorimeter, as for $\gamma\gamma$ events.

- With **magnet off** the *e*⁺*e*⁻ will reach ECal
 - Precise measurement (3%) of electron-positron pair momentum and angles;
 - Reconstruction of invariant mass of the pairs (small pile-up).
- To identify clusters of photons or electrons in ECal
 - New detector: Electron tagger (eTAG) plastic scintillator slabs with same ECal vertical size.

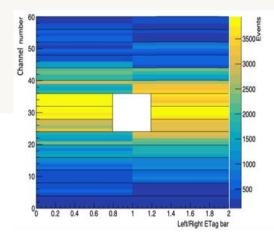


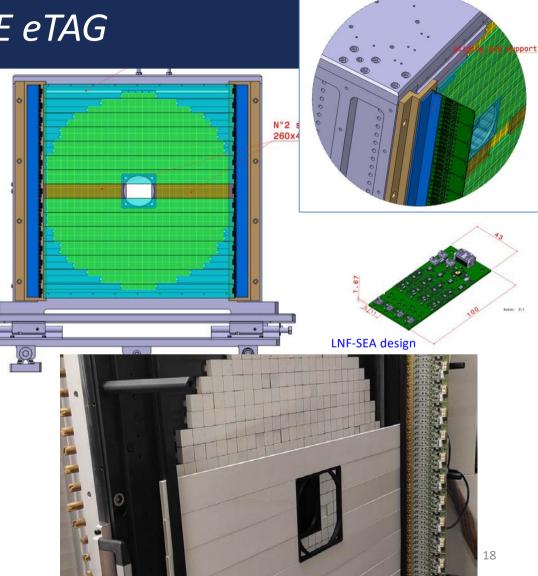


PADME eTAG

The new **eTAG** has been designed and assembled (2021-2022):

- 16 scintillators BC408 (600x45x5 mm³);
- readout with 4 SiPMs (Hamamatsu S13360) on both sides. Same electronic cards developed for the veto detectors;
- Mechanical structure attached to the Ecal frame.

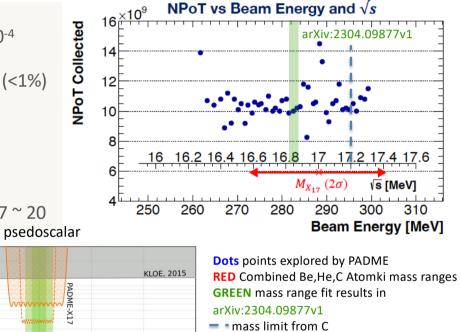




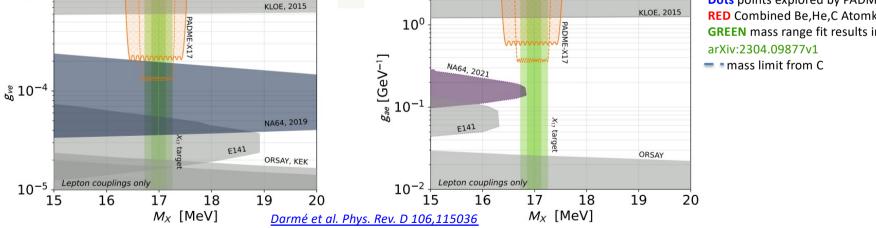


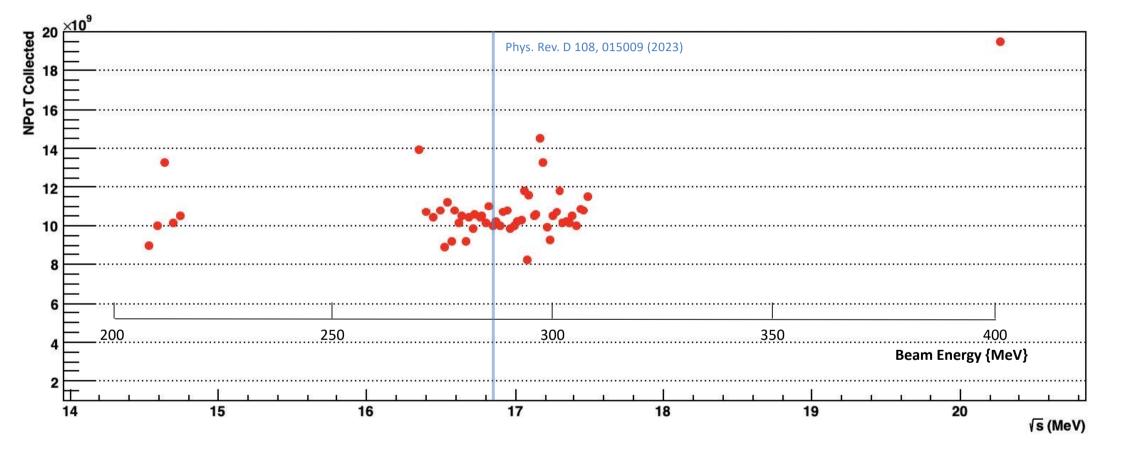
Run III Expected results

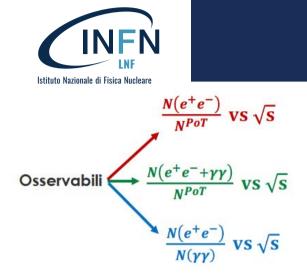
- Background from Bhabha scattering under control down to ε = few 10⁻⁴
- Challenge: achieve a precise luminosity and systematic errors control (<1%)
- Collected 10¹⁰ POT per each point of the scan
- PADME maximum sensitivity in the vector case
- The PADME precision on M_{X17} measurement: $\Delta M_{X17} = (17.47-16.36)/47 \sim 20$ KeV vector psedosca



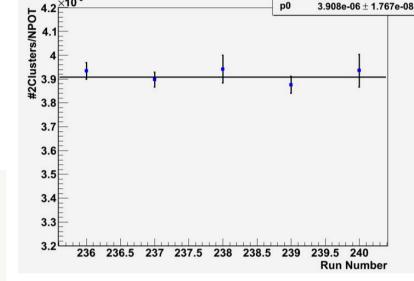
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Analysis Strategy



 χ^2 / ndf

2.022/4

- - Stability ~0.8% over the 5 runs @402 MeV ٠
 - evidence of relative $\sigma_{\text{NPOT}} < 0.5\%$
 - Good χ^2 means no significant systematic ٠ over statistical errors

Several observables can be used with different outcomes:

- $N(2cl)/N_{Pot}$ = existence of X_{17}
 - High statistical significance
 - No Etag related systematic errors
- $N(2e)/N(2\gamma)$ = existence of X₁₇
 - lower statistical significance due to 2γ cross section
 - Independent from N_{Pot}
- N_{e+e-}/N_{PoT} = vector nature of X₁₇
 - Systematic errors due to ETag tagging efficiency stability
- N_{yy}/N_{PoT} = pseudoscalar nature of X₁₇
 - Systematic errors due to ETag tagging efficiency stability



Conclusions

The PADME experiment searches for signals of dark matter in positron annihilations:

- PADME is the first experiment to study the reaction e⁺e⁻ → γ A' with a model independent approach;
- Three data takings: analysis is ongoing;
- Many physics items can be explored:
 - visible/invisible dark photons, ALPs search, Fifth force, dark Higgs, **X17 boson**





Backup



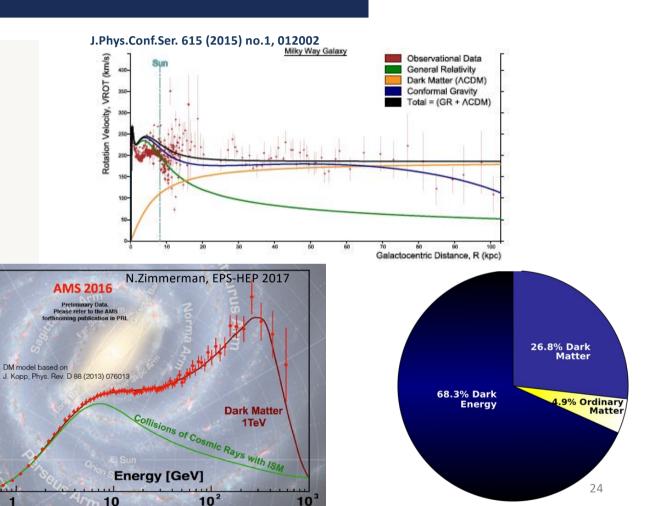
The Dark Matter issue

From Cosmological and Astrophysical observations of gravitational effects, something else than ordinary Baryonic matter should exist.

The abundance of this new entity is 5 times larger than SM particles.

Positron Spectrum E³ Flux [GeV³](s sr m² GeV)] 21

Dark Matter is the best indication of physics beyond SM (BSM)

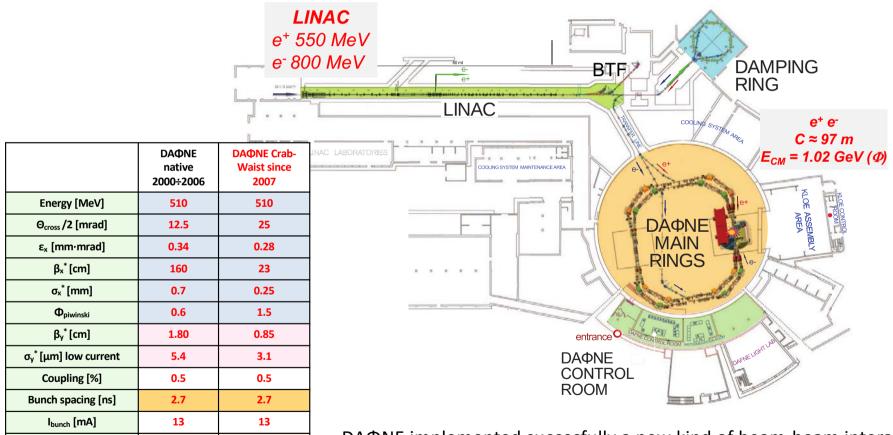




σ_z [mm]

N_{bunch}

DAONE Complex



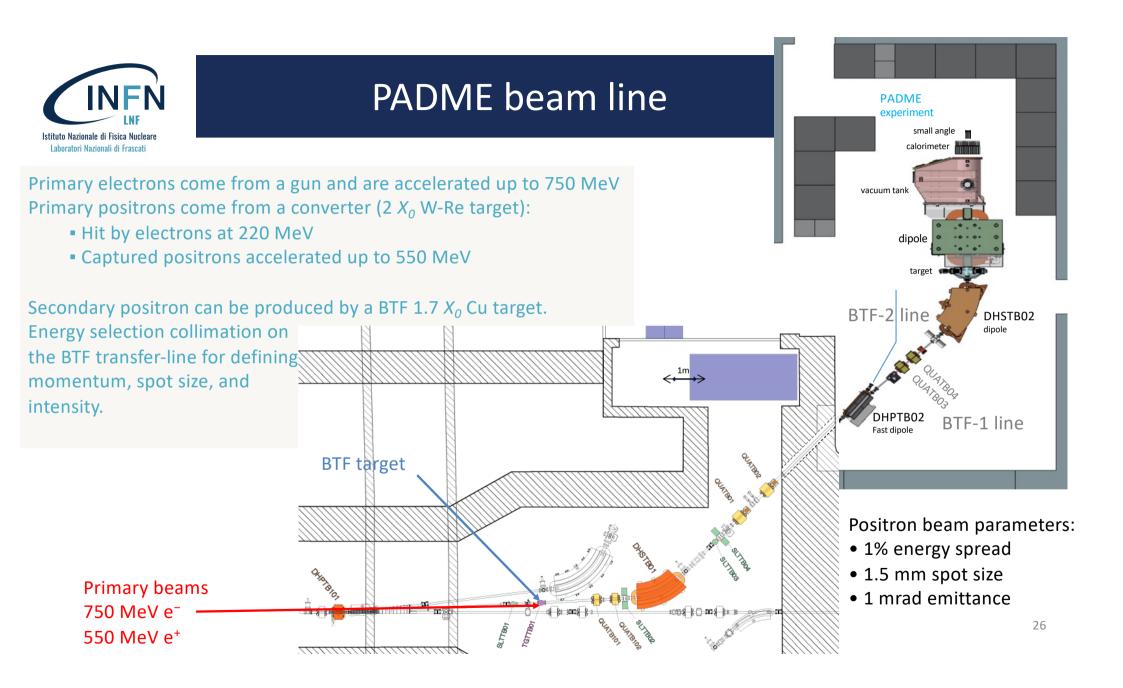
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120

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120

DAONE implemented succesfully a new kind of beam-beam interaction: the Crab-Waist collision scheme





Signal and Background

PADME signal events consist of single photons measured with high precision and efficiency by a forward **BGO calorimeter**.

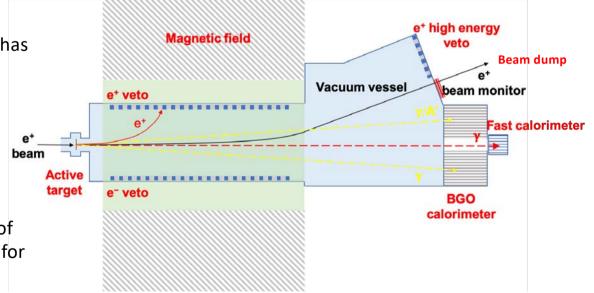
Since the **active target** is extremely thin (~100 μm), the majority of the positrons do not interact. A **magnetic field** is mandatory to precisely measure their momentum before deflecting them on a **beam dump**.

The main source of background for the A' search are Bremsstrahlung events. This is why the **BGO calorimeter** has been designed with a central hole.

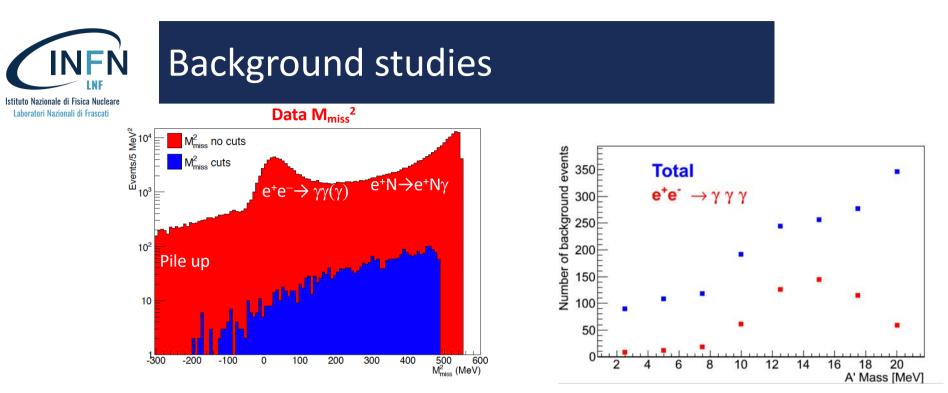
A fast calorimeter vetos photons at small angle (θ <1°) to cut backgrounds:

$$e^+N \rightarrow e^+N\gamma; e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma\gamma; e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\gamma$$

In order to furtherly reduce background, the inner sides of the **magnetic field** are instrumented with **veto** detectors for positrons/electrons.



For higher energy positron another **veto** is placed at the end of the vacuum chamber.



- BG sources are: $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$, $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma\gamma(\gamma)$, $e^+N \rightarrow e^+N\gamma$, Pile up
- Pile up contribution is important but rejected by the maximum cluster energy cut and M_{Miss2}.
- Veto inefficiency at high missing mass (E(e⁺) ≃ E(e⁺)beam)
- New Veto detector introduced to reject residual BG
- New sensitivity estimate ongoing



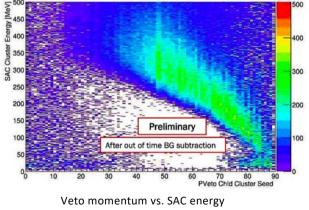
Single photon events

PVeto Clusters/Channel Data-Data No Target July 2019 **PADME** preliminary MC-MC No Diamond MC-MC No Target nPOT=9.3×109 Analytical formula E_{beam}=490 MeV, 23 ke⁺/150 ns bunch 10⁵ Data/MC staMC No Targe alAnalytical formul 60 70 10 20 30 50 40 80 **PVeto Cluster Seed Channel**

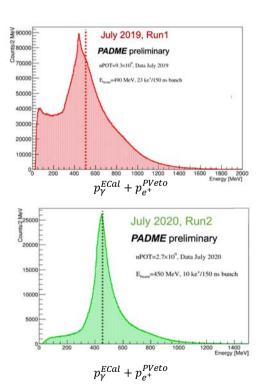
Essential for dark photon analysis

Physics backgrouns dominated by Bremsstrahlung:

- Measured with no-target runs and subtracted
- Bremstrahlung photon distribution in agreement with Monte Carlo simulation and analytical calculation
- Main systematic uncertainties:
 - Background normalization
 - Positron momentum scale
 - n POT calibration



490 MeV, primary beam, $\Delta t < 1$ ns





Expected results

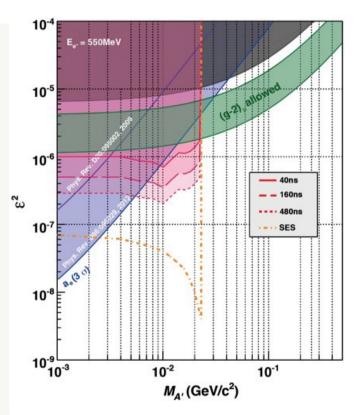
The possibilities of the PADME experiment are tightly linked with the characteristics of the positron beam.

The picture is showing the PADME expected sensitivity as a function of the beam characteristics. PADME started taking data in Oct. 2018 with a bunch length of ~ 250 ns. In 2020 bunch length reached 350 ns.

 2.5×10^{10} fully GEANT4 simulated 550 MeV e⁺ on target events. Number of BG events is extrapolated to 1×10^{13} positrons on target.

With a 60% efficiency and a bunch length of 200 ns $4x10^{13}$ POT = 20000 e⁺/bunch x2 x3.1x10⁷s x 0.6x49 Hz

$$\frac{\Gamma(e^{\dagger}e^{-} \to A'\gamma)}{\Gamma(e^{\dagger}e^{-} \to \gamma\gamma)} = \frac{N(A'\gamma)}{N(\gamma)} \frac{Acc(\gamma\gamma)}{Acc(A'\gamma)} = \varepsilon \cdot \delta$$



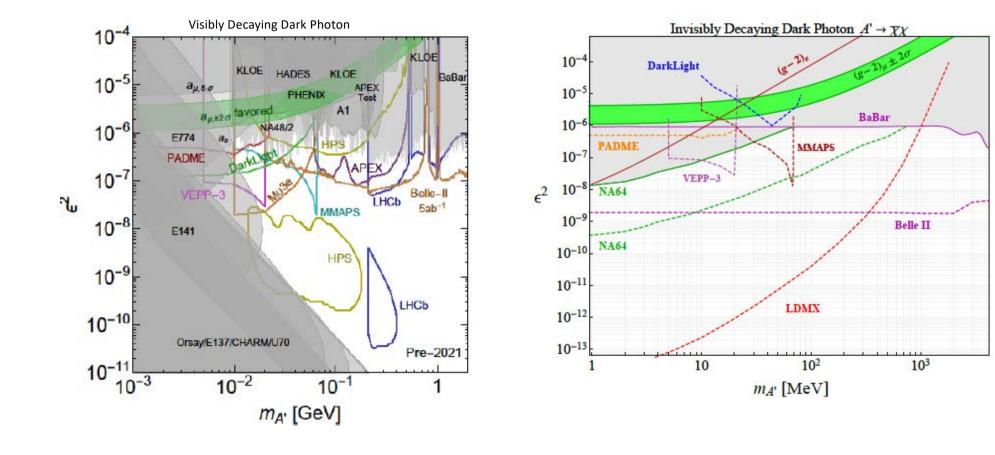
Background cross-sections

Table 1: Dominant background contributions to the missing mass technique

Background process	$\sigma \ (E_{beam} = 550 \text{ MeV})$	Comment
$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	1.55 mb	6.5 UK (550) (1997) (20
$e^+N \rightarrow e^+N\gamma$	4000 mb	$E_{\gamma} > 1 MeV$, on carbon
$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\gamma$	0.16 mb	$E_{\gamma} > 1 MeV$, CalcHEP ¹⁶)
$e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-\gamma$	188 mb	$E_{\gamma} > 1 MeV$, CalcHEP

Cross sections values derived by CalcHEP at the sqrt(s) = 17 MeV

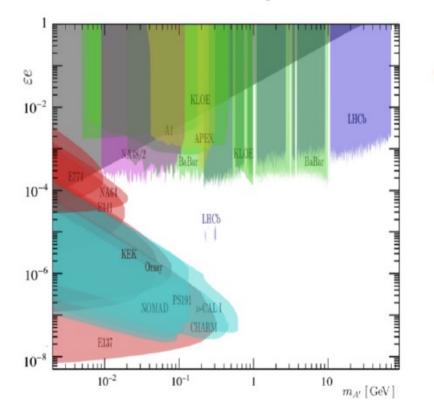
$e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$	515.8 mb
$e^+e^- ightarrow \gamma\gamma$	2.73 mb



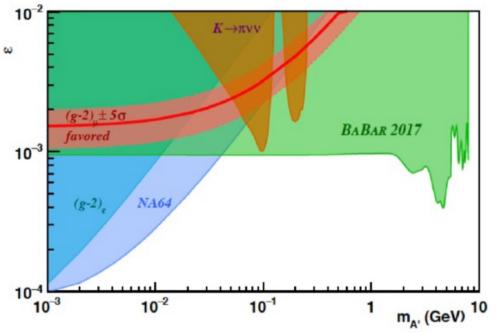


Status of exclusion

Visible decays



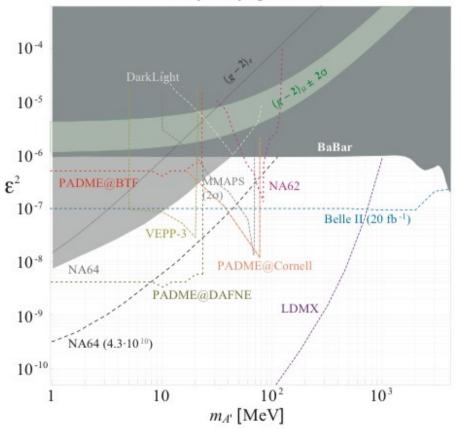
Invisible decays





PADME prospects

Invisibly Decaying Dark Photon



PADME sensitivity is limited by:

- the Linac duty-cycle 50Hz x (40-250) ns/bunches
- Beam energy 550 MeV limits M_{A'} < 23.7MeV</p>

There are plans to move PADME to other positron beam line:

- Cornell
- Jlab
- DAFNE extracted beam