

(1)

Experimental observation of  
magnetically induced:

LINEAR DICHRISM ON  
VACUUM.

by

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and myself.

These results have been obtained  
at the PVLAS APPARATUS built  
and operating at the:

LABORATORI NAZIONALI DI LEGNARO

(L.N.L.);  
LEGNARO, PADOVA ITALY

Fig 2 → + Breakfast

(2)



Specifically built in order to obtain significant experimental informations on VACUUM using optical Techniques

Our full experimental program is to detect and measure the two following properties (eventually) acquired by VACUUM due to the presence of a magnetic field ( $\vec{B}_0$ ):

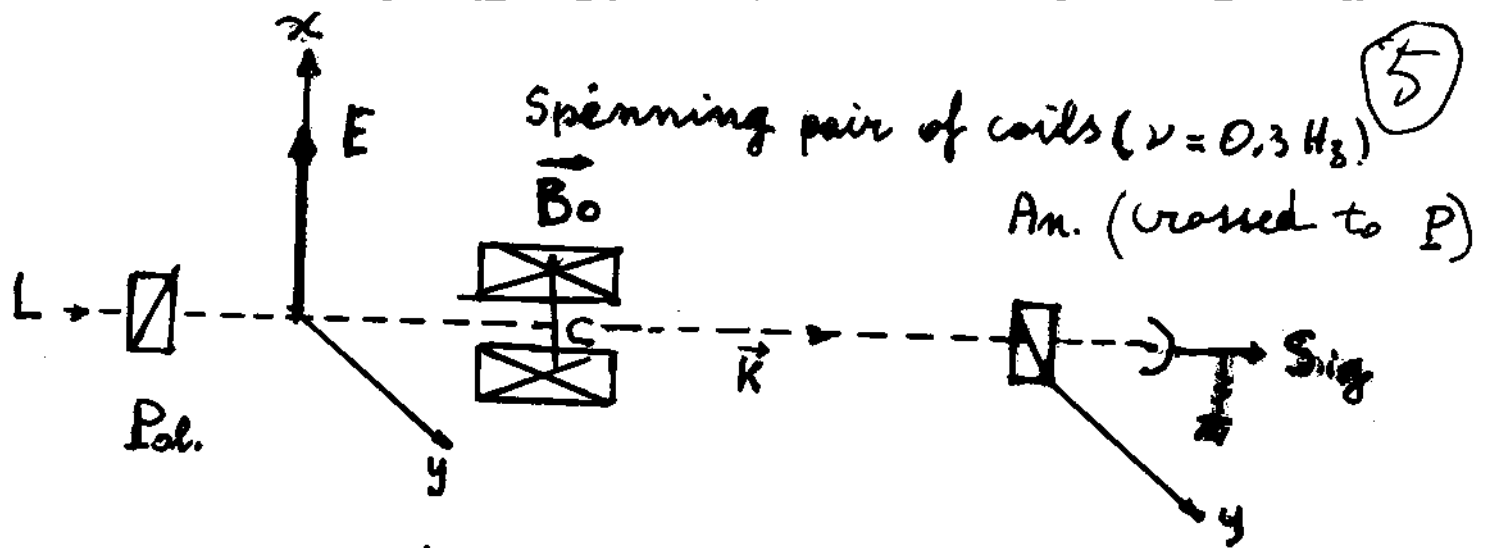
- 1) Linear Birefringence
- 2) Linear dichroism.

In this communication I report experimental results on

Linear dichroism induced on Vacuum by a static magnetic field ( $\vec{B}_0$ ).

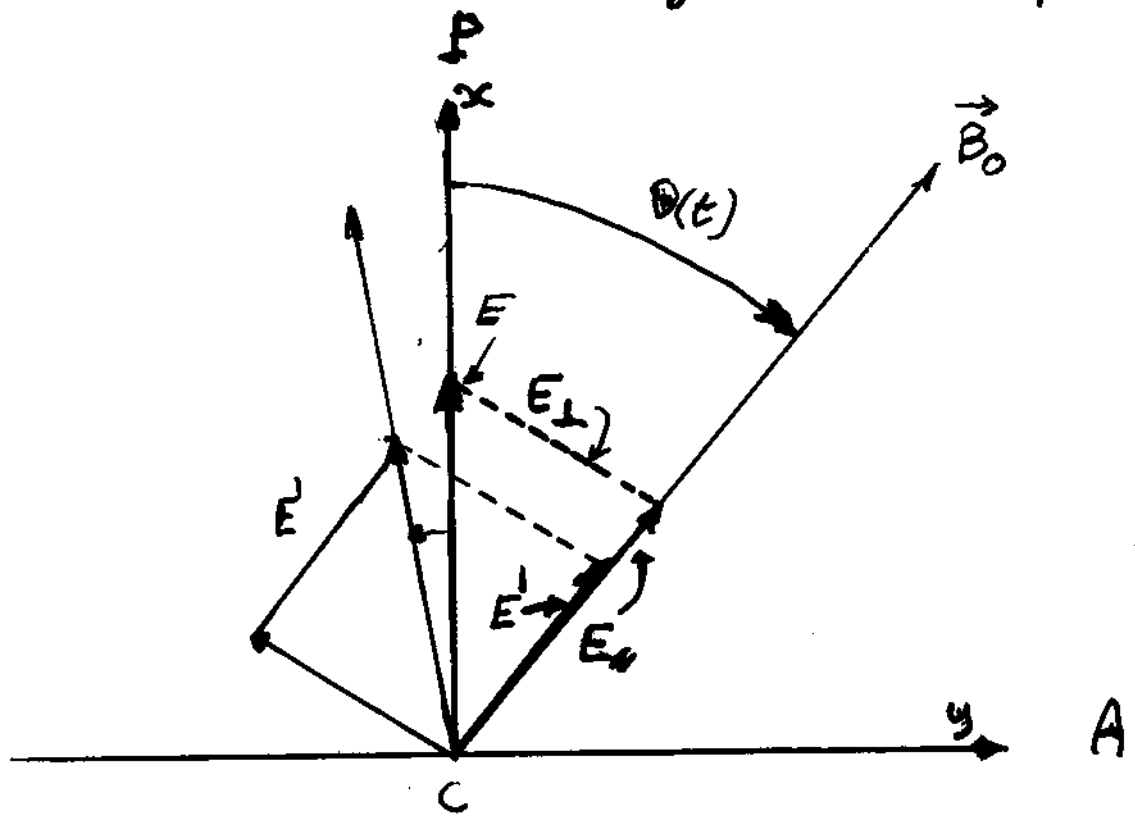


Selective absorption (by the magnetized vacuum) of polarised light, according to its polarization-orientation with respect to the  $\vec{B}_0$  direction.



if  $|\vec{B}_0| = 0 \rightarrow S_{sig} = 0$  : beam in vacuum

for  $\vec{B}_0 \neq 0$   $\vec{B}_0$  stays in  $xy$  plane



Suppose there is a selective absorption of the  $E_{\parallel}$  component: (average value  $q$ )

$$E_{\parallel} \rightarrow q E_{\parallel} = E' = E'' \quad q < 1$$

FIG. 6

Initially  
- no absorption -

$$E e^{-i\xi} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ P \\ A \end{pmatrix}$$

With absorp.

$$E e^{-i\xi} \begin{pmatrix} (q-1) \cos^2 \theta(t) + 1 \\ \frac{q-1}{2} \sin 2\theta(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Sig } A = \frac{q-1}{2} E \sin 2\theta(t)$$

So max. rot. signal =  $\Delta\alpha = \frac{q-1}{2} \text{ rad.}$

Notice  $\Delta\alpha \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow q \neq 1$

Therefore observing a magnetically induced dichroism in VACUUM means detect a (rotational) signal of a linearly polarized radiation beam that goes through the "magnetized vacuum" with its propagation vector  $\vec{k}$  orthogonal to  $\vec{B}_0$ .

↓  
OUR experim. results →

With

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} L = 110 \text{ cm} \\ \vec{B}_0 = 5.5 \text{ Tesla} \end{array} \right\} \text{ We find}$$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \frac{q-1}{2} = -(3.7 \pm 0.4) 10^{-12} \text{ rad/Pass}$$

putting  $\bar{N}$  of passes = 52000  
gives:

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \text{rat. signal} = \Delta\alpha = (2.2 \pm 0.2) 10^{-7} \text{ rad}$$

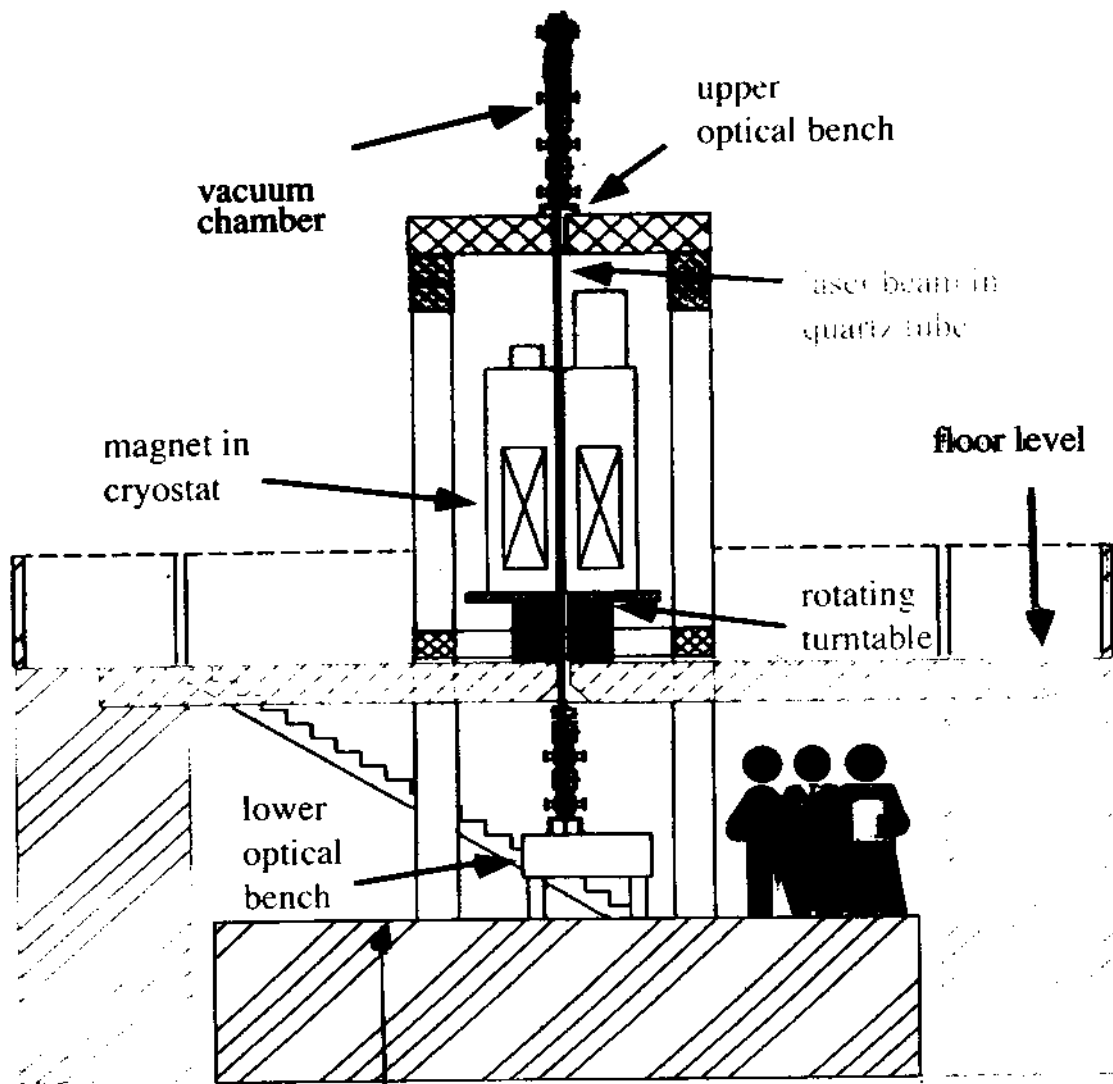
i.e. We observe a change in the amplitude of the polarization component parallel to the  $\vec{B}_0$  field (in fact a decrease).

What happened to the missing part?

- + At this point, before speaking of additional experimental results
- + compare our to others results,
- + how to proceed to understand what is happening,
- + near future plans, etc.

let me briefly present the P.V.L.A.S. apparatus.





- The floor of the pit was constructed to be **seismically isolated** from the rest of the building. It lays on 15 meter pylons sunk in sand.

- The optics is mounted on two **granite optical tables**: the lower one on the floor of the pit and the upper one on top of a **granite structure 8 meters high** also resting on the floor of the pit.

- The cryostat containing the superconducting magnet is fixed on a rotating turntable which in turn is fixed to a **reinforced concrete beam** ~~laying~~ **lying** across the pit but resting on the building floor: when the platform is rotating the field  $B_0$  of the superconducting magnet rotates remaining always on a horizontal plane:  $\nu = 0,3 \text{ Hz}$ .

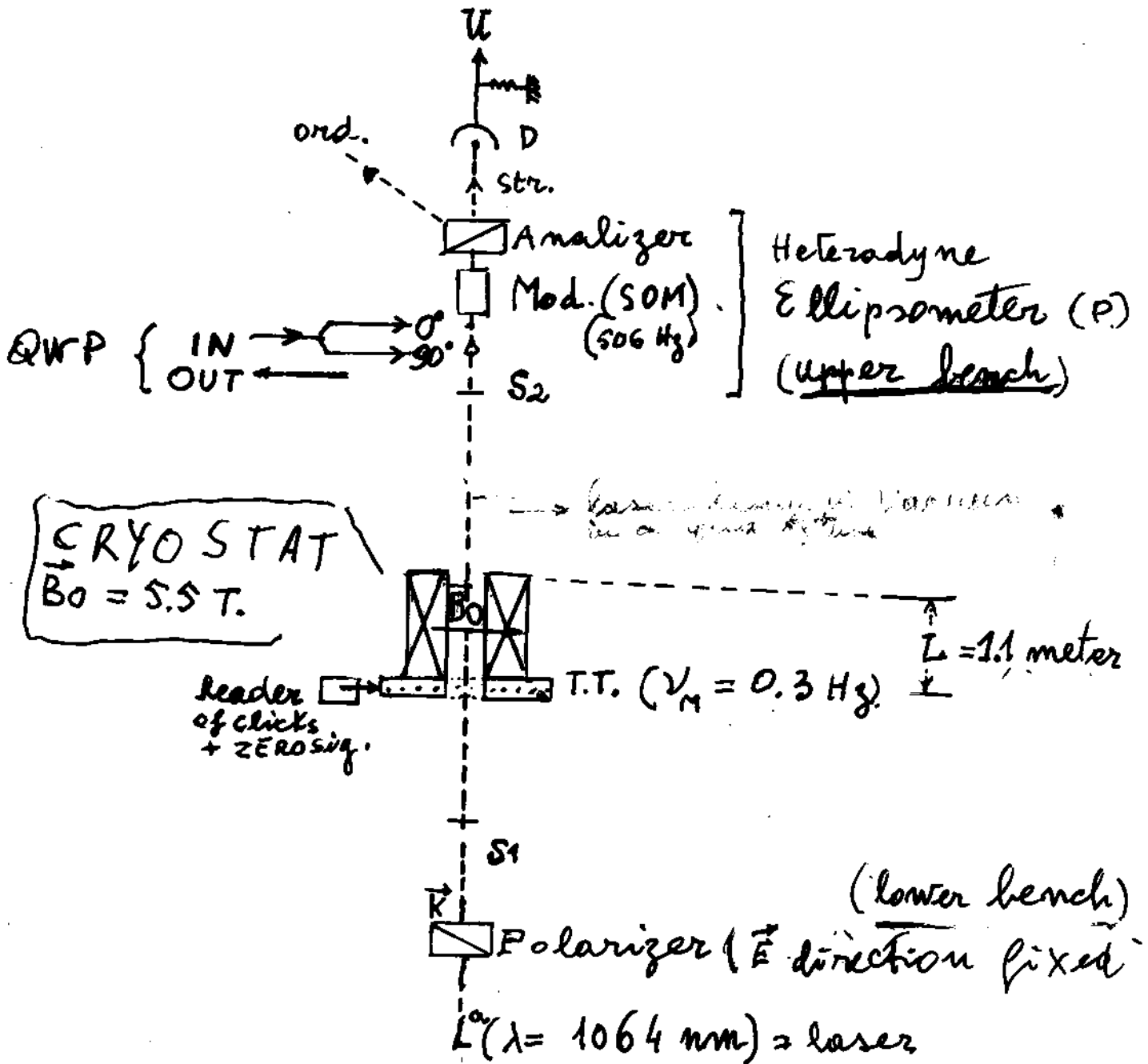
- As a result the concrete beam and cryostat are **mechanically decoupled** from all the optical parts.



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# DICHROISM (of VACUUM + $\vec{E}$ )

↑ vertical direction:  $\vec{B}_0$  contained in horizontal plane while T.T. table rotates.



[SOM STRESS. OPT. Mod.]

[S1 S2 → F.P. cavity locked with laser  
640 cm long]

[T.T. Turning Table  
(with hole center)]

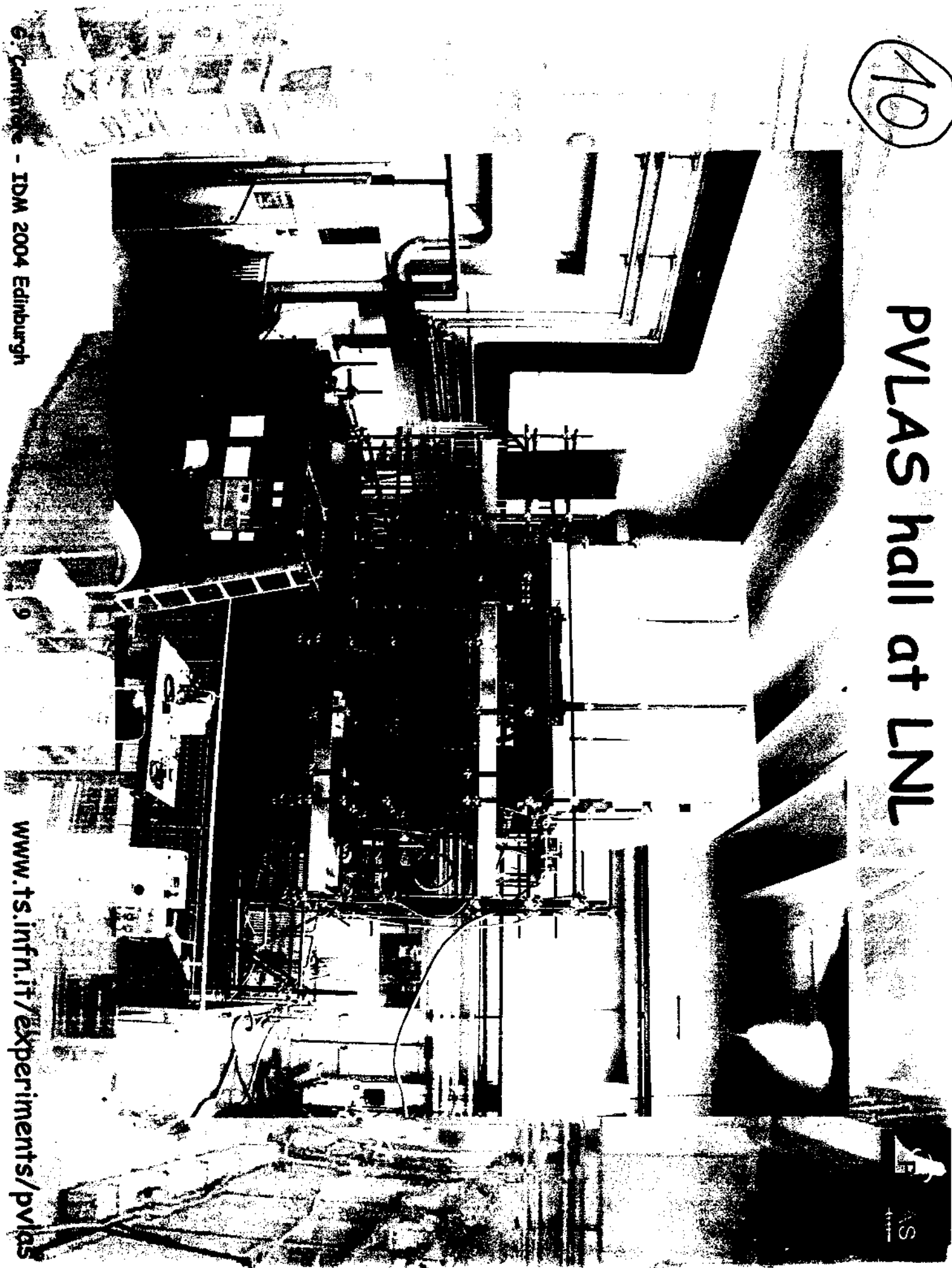
• Laser beam in vacuum  $< 5 \times 10^{-8}$  mbar.

1 - "Interaction region" area 1.1 m.

fig 10

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# PVLAS hall at LNL



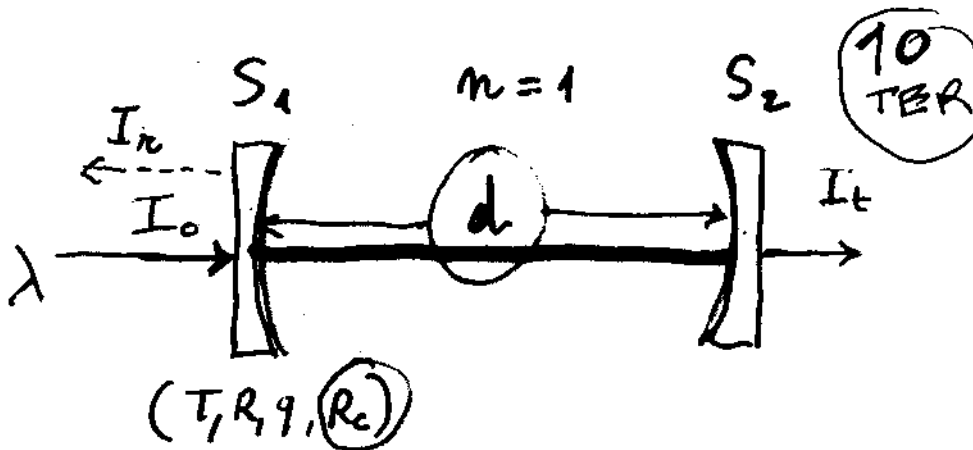
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[www.ts.infn.it/experiments/pvlas](http://www.ts.infn.it/experiments/pvlas)



MAIN PARAMETERS OF THE PVLAS APPARATUS

- MAGNET
  - DIPOLE, 6T, Temp. 4.2 K,  $\vec{B}_0 \rightarrow$  HORIZONTAL, 1 m FIELD ZONE =  $L_m$  VERY IMPORTANT  
↓
- CRYOSTAT
  - ROTATION FREQ. (TYPICAL)  $\sim 300$  MHz, SLIDING CONTACTS, WARM BORE
- LASER
  - 1064 nm, 100 mW, FREQUENCY-LOCKED TO THE FABRY-PEROT CAVITY
- FABRY-PEROT OPTICAL CAVITY S1 S2
  - 6.4 m LENGTH, FINESSE  $\sim 10^5$ , OPTICAL PATH IN THE INTERACTION REGION  $\sim 60$  Km
- HETERODYNE ELLIPSO METER
  - S.O.M. = ELLIPTICITY MODULATOR, QUARTER-WAVE PLATE (ON-OFF), HIGH EXTINCTION ( $\sim 10^{-7}$ )
- SOM provides ellipticity carrier for heterodyne
- DETECTION CHAIN.
  - PHOTODIODE WITH ~~LOW~~-NOISE AMPLIFIER
- DAQ
  - DEMODULATED AT LOW FREQUENCY AND PHASE-LOCKED TO THE MAGNETIC FIELD INSTANTANEOUS DIRECTION
  - HIGH SAMPLING FREQUENCY (8.2 kHz)
  - DIRECT ACQUISITION
- DICROISM CONFIGURATION QWP in  $\begin{cases} \rightarrow 0^\circ \\ \rightarrow 90^\circ \end{cases}$
- Ellipticity " " QWP out



**FABRY-PÉROT**  
 $\left(\frac{2d}{\lambda} = \text{intero}\right)$   
 ↳ résonance

$$\left(\frac{I_t}{I_0}\right) = \eta_t^0 \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{2F}{\pi}\right) \sin^2 \delta} \left(\frac{I_r}{I_0}\right)$$

$$\delta = 2\pi \frac{2d}{\lambda}$$

$$\eta_t^0 = \left(\frac{TF}{\pi}\right)^2$$

$$\lambda = 1060 \text{ nm} \quad \nu = 3 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

$$F = \frac{2\pi C}{2d} \quad (\tau)$$

linewidth  
 $(\geq 10^5)$   $\approx$  reflex  
 $= R \Rightarrow \frac{2F}{\pi}$

$$\eta_t^0 = \left(\frac{TF}{\pi}\right)^2$$

ratio  $I_t/I_0$  at reson.  
 $> 10\%$

$$\Delta \nu_c = \frac{1}{2\pi(\tau)}$$

(curva Airy)

Cavity linewidth  
 $(\sim 300 \text{ Hz} \div 400 \text{ Hz})$

$$Q = \frac{\nu_{\text{light}}}{\Delta \nu_c}$$

quality factor  
 $(\sim 10^{12})$

$$\nu_{\text{FSR}} = \frac{c}{2d}$$

free spectral range  
 $(25 \text{ MHz})$

Th.  $\left\{ \begin{aligned} F &= \frac{\pi \sqrt{R}}{1-R} \\ \eta_t^0 &= \left(\frac{TF}{\pi}\right)^2 \end{aligned} \right.$

$\sim 10^{-5}$   $\rightarrow$  perdite

$$T + R + q = 1$$

$\dots \rightarrow \sim \frac{2}{3}$

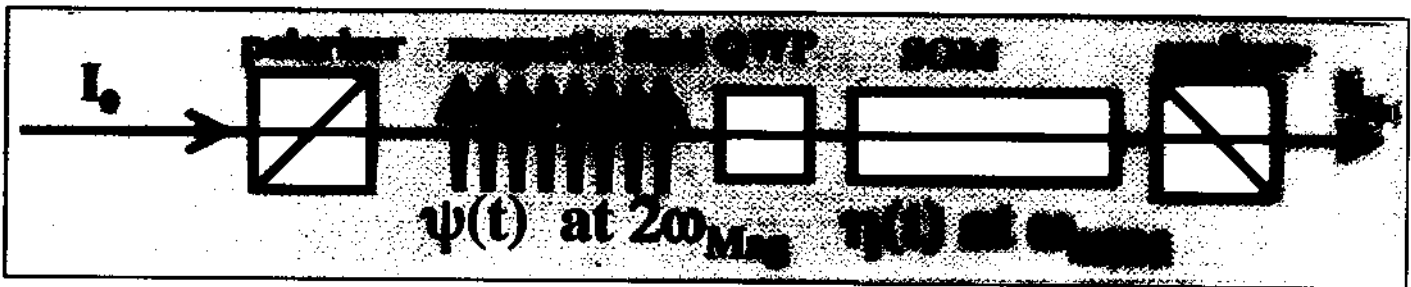
$$N_{\text{refl.}} \approx \frac{2F}{\pi} \approx \frac{2}{\pi}$$

(1)

For Dichroism CONFIGURATION

# Measurement principle

- Static measurement is excluded.
- Modulate the field and add a carrier signal with a modulator at  $\omega_{SOM}$
- Rotating the field at  $\Omega$  produces an ellipticity at  $2\Omega$   $\times$   
( $B^2$  dependence) and  $\Delta\alpha$  at  $2\Omega$   $\times$



Ideally

$$I_{Tr} = I_0 \left[ \sigma^2 + (\Psi(t) + \eta(t))^2 \right] =$$

$$= I_0 \left[ \sigma^2 + (\Psi(t)^2 + \eta(t)^2 + 2\Psi(t)\eta(t))^2 \right]$$

Main frequency components:

- $2\omega_{SOM}$  from  $\eta(t)^2$
- $\omega_{SOM} \pm 2\Omega_{Mag}$  from  $2\Psi(t)\eta(t)$

$$2\sin a \sin b = [\cos(a-b) - \cos(a+b)]$$

$$I_{Tr} = I_0 \left[ \sigma^2 + (\Psi(t) + \eta(t) + \alpha_s(t))^2 \right]$$

$$= I_0 \left[ \sigma^2 + \underbrace{\eta(t)^2}_{\text{Desired signal}} + \underbrace{2\Psi(t)\eta(t)}_{\text{Desired signal}} + \underbrace{2\alpha_s(t)\eta(t)}_{\text{Birefringence noise}} + \dots \right]$$

Normalization

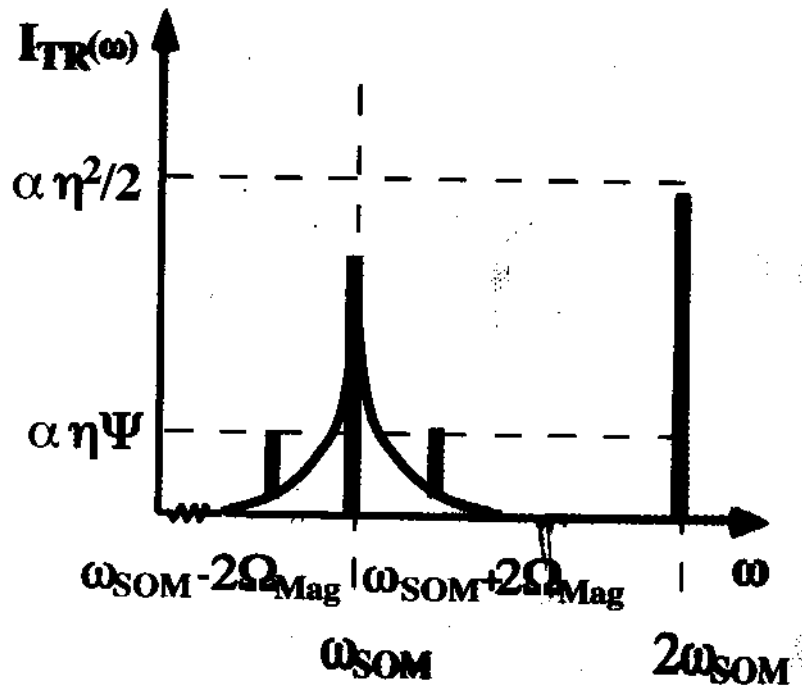
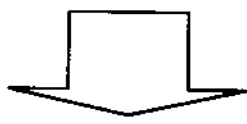
Desired signal

Birefringence noise

$$\Psi(t) = \Psi_0 \sin(2\Omega_{Mag} t); \quad \eta(t) = \eta_0 \sin(\omega_{SOM} t + \varphi)$$

$$2\Psi(t)\eta(t) = \Psi_0 \eta_0 \left\{ \cos((\omega_{SOM} - 2\Omega_{Mag})t + \varphi) - \cos((\omega_{SOM} + 2\Omega_{Mag})t + \varphi) \right\}$$

A small, time-varying signal can be extracted from a large noise background with the heterodyne technique.



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In order to verify that everything is working as due (and under control) we measured the birefringence of some gases ( $N_2$ ,  $Ne$ ) and found in experiment to where to appear in a polar plot as far as regards their PHASES

Notice  $N_2$  opposite to  $Ne$

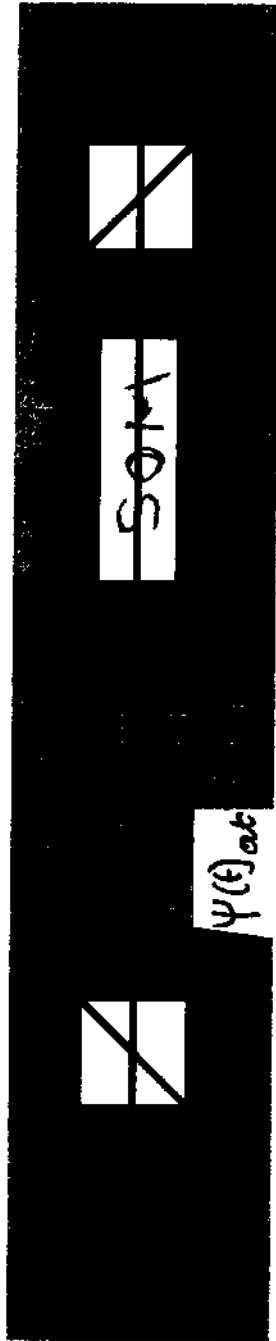
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→ ELLIPTICITY CONFIGURATION

# Measurement principle

- Static measurement is excluded.
- Modulate the field and add a carrier signal at  $\omega_{SOM}$
- Rotating the field at  $\Omega$  produces an ellipticity at  $2\Omega$



Ideally,  $0^\circ$   $45^\circ$   $90^\circ$

$$I_{Tr} = I_0 \left[ \sigma^2 + (\Psi(t) + \eta(t))^2 \right] = I_0 \left[ \sigma^2 + \Psi(t)^2 + \eta(t)^2 + 2\Psi(t)\eta(t) \right]$$

Main frequency components at  $\omega_{SOM} \pm 2\Omega_{Mag}$  and  $2\omega_{SOM}$

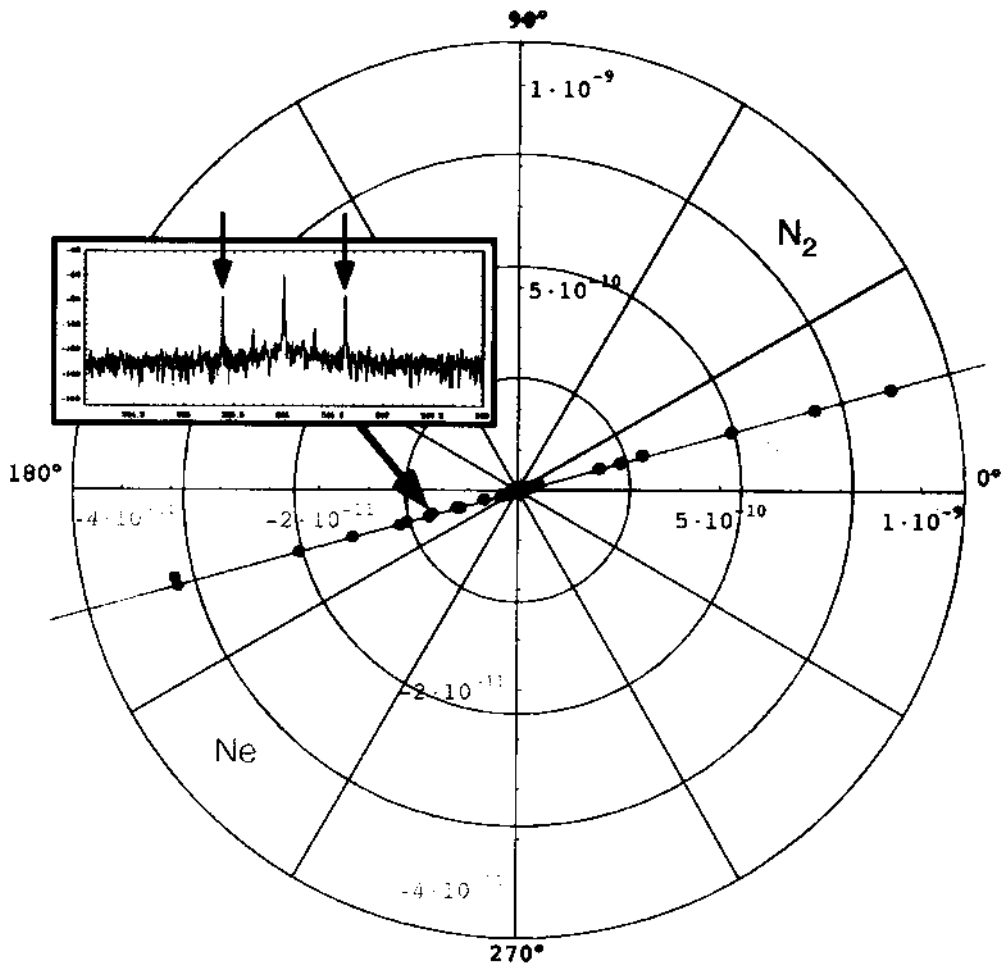


SOM = STRESS OPTICAL MODULATOR



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- PHYSICAL INFORMATION IS EXTRACTED BY ANALYSING AMPLITUDE AND PHASE OF THE FREQUENCY COMPONENTS OF THE LIGHT TRANSMITTED THROUGH THE ELLIPOSONETER

# Sensitivity

**Shot noise sensitivity for PVLAS is**

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \sqrt{\frac{4e}{I_0 q}} &= 2 \cdot 10^{-8} / \sqrt{\text{Hz}} \approx 150 \text{ mV} \\ &+ \text{ altri (parall.)} \end{aligned} \right.$$

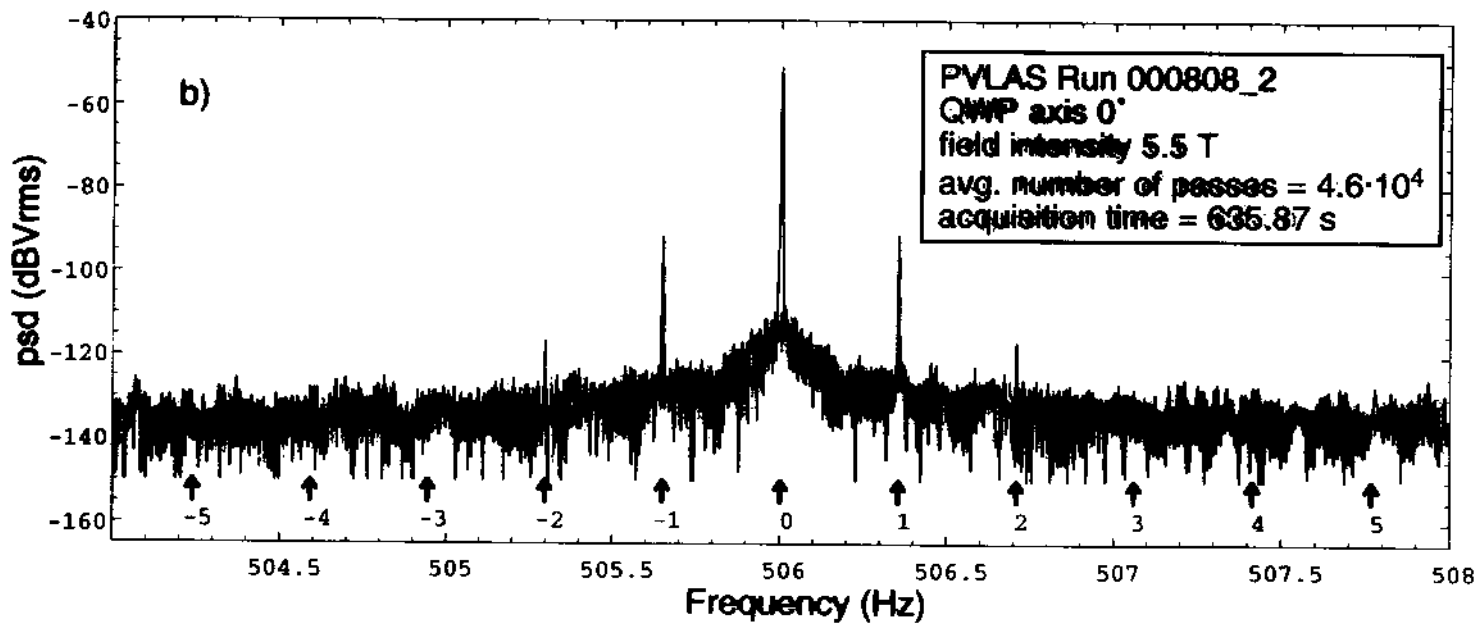
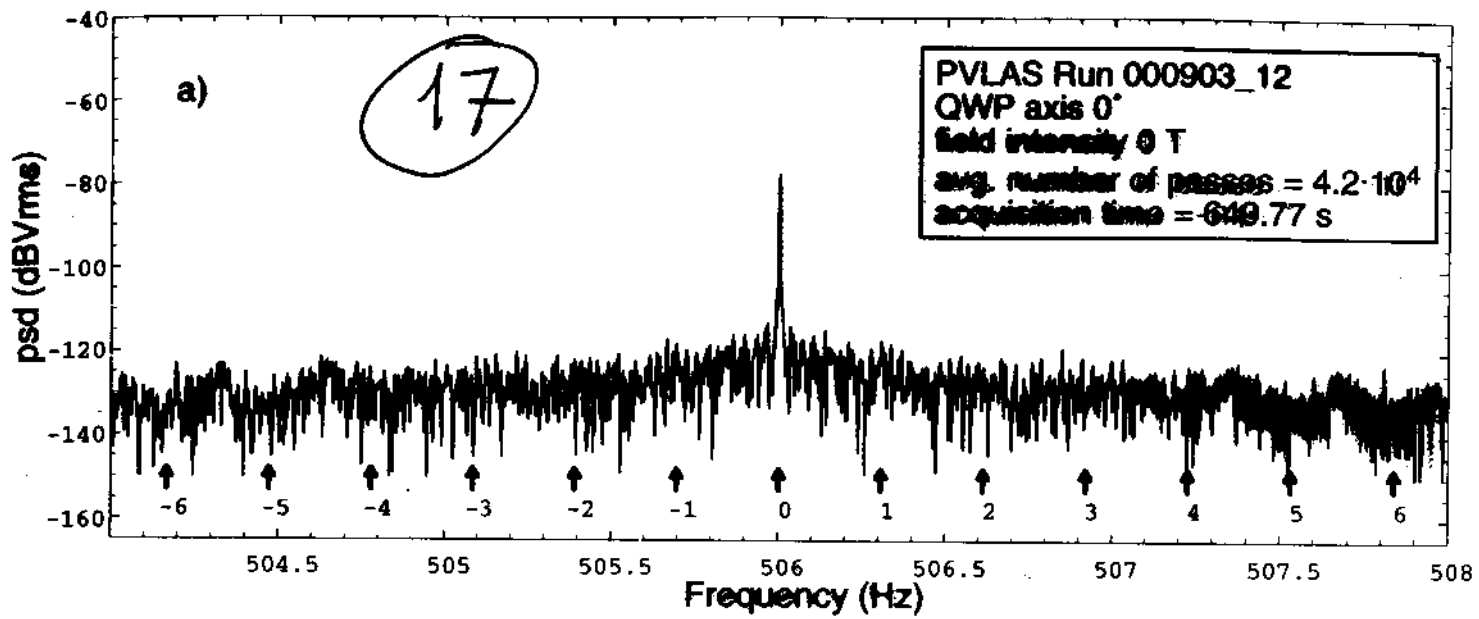
**Present sensitivity for PVLAS is**

$$\approx 2 \cdot 10^{-7} / \sqrt{\text{Hz}}$$

*(corrente sensibile 3 dB  
a 10 Hz da 1/5 (1/2) (1/3) quindi  
due mca)*

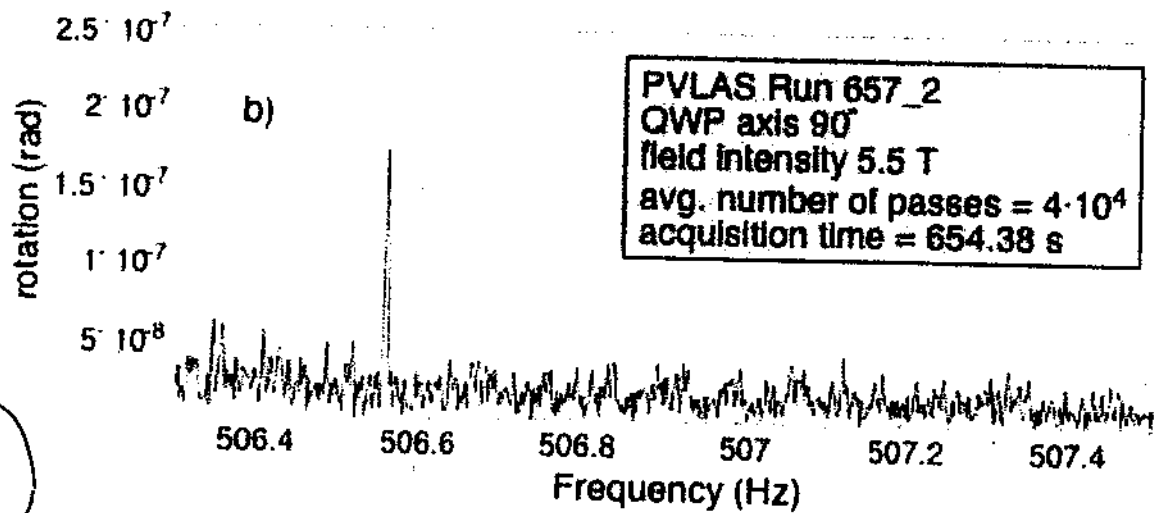
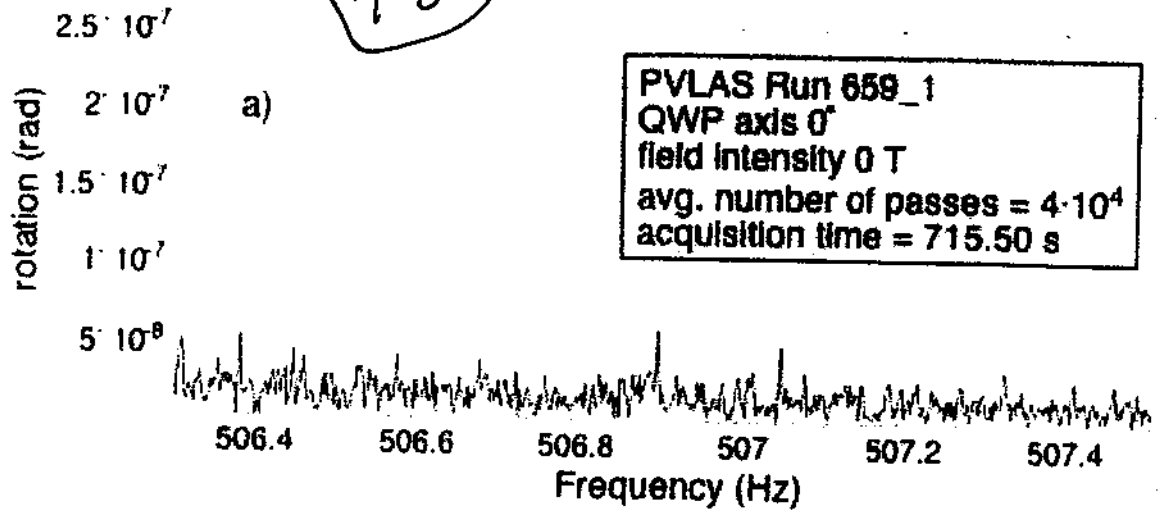
**Dichroism signal from PVLAS is**

$$= (2.2 \pm 0.3) \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ rad}$$



Segnali intorno a 506 e decine

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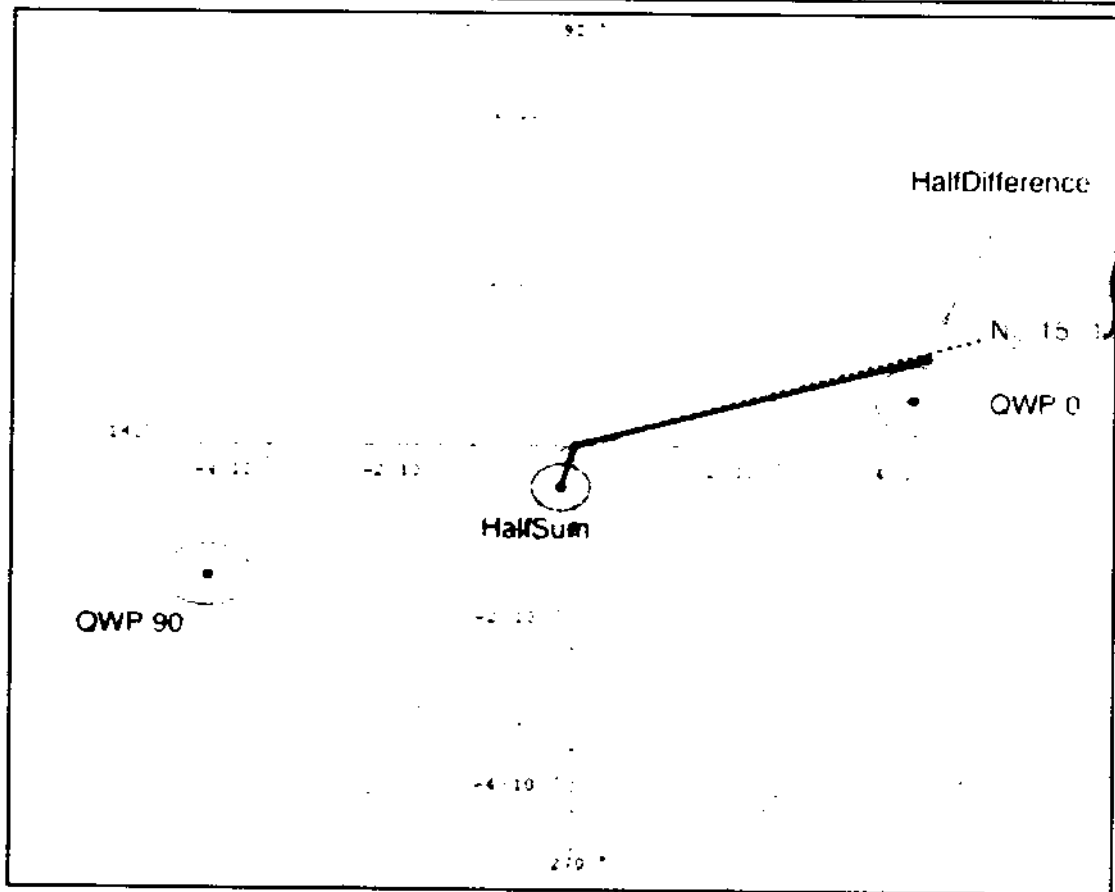
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# Results for the measured dichroism in vacuum

- - QWP 90°: Result of weighted average with the quarter wave plate at 90°
- - QWP 0°: Result of weighted average with the quarter wave plate at 0°
- ..... N<sub>2</sub>: Physical axis defined by measuring the Cotton-Mouton effect in Nitrogen

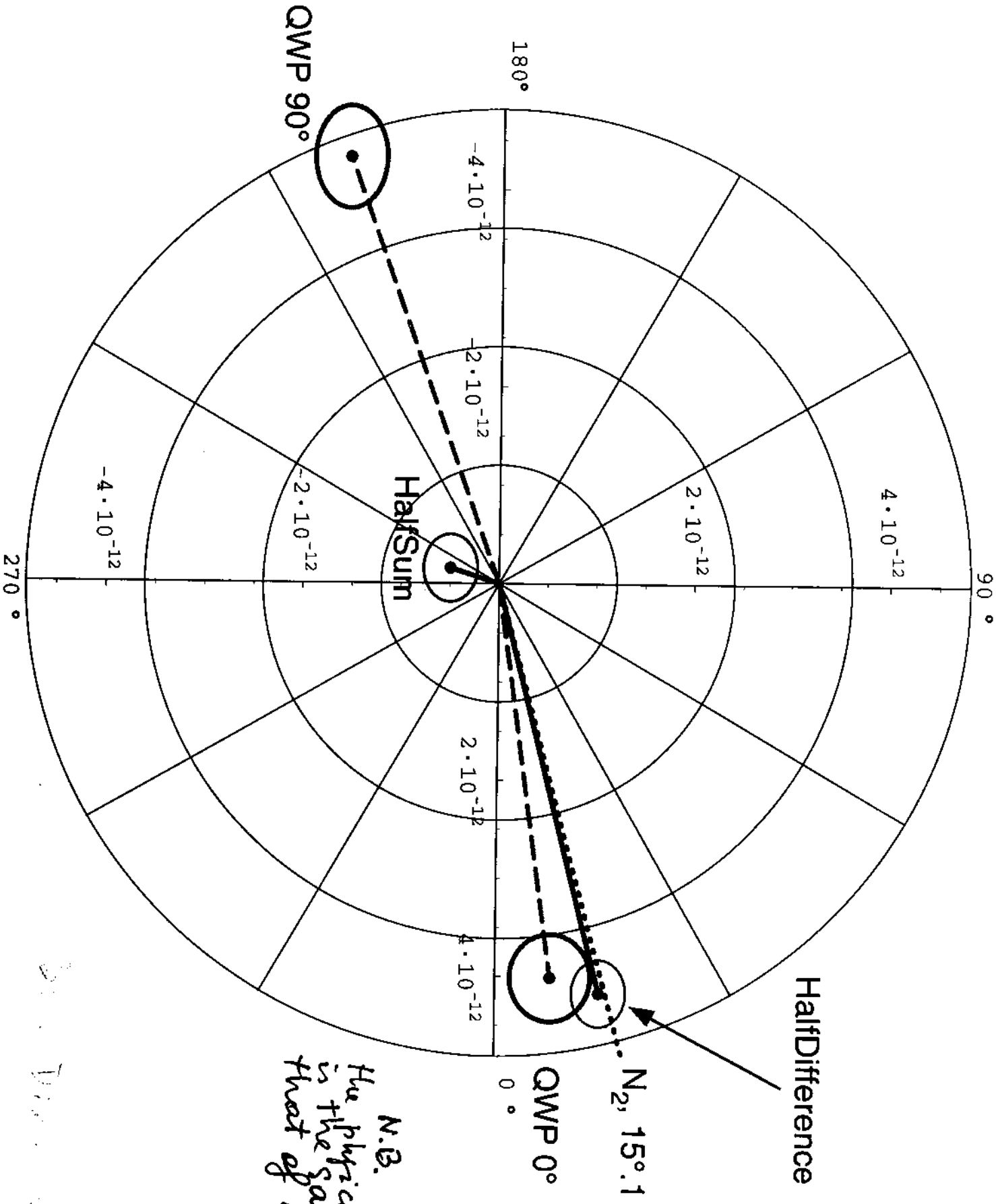
— HalfDifference:  $\frac{\overline{QWP90^\circ} - \overline{QWP0^\circ}}{2} = \text{Dichroism}$

— HalfSum:  $\frac{\overline{QWP90^\circ} + \overline{QWP0^\circ}}{2} = \text{Spurious signal}$



**Dichroism signal =  $(2.2 \pm 0.3) \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ rad}$  =  $\Delta \alpha$**

The phase of the vacuum dichroism equals the phase of the Nitrogen Cotton-Mouton effect: both in turn agree with the expect axis of asymmetry



N.B.  
The physical axis  
is the source as  
that of Neon

20.10.1950

⊗

# Final result

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$$\Delta\alpha^{\text{max}} = -\frac{q-1}{2} = (2.2 \pm 0.3) 10^{-7} \text{ rad}$$

with the conditions

$$l_m = 110 \text{ cm}$$

$$N = 52000 = \frac{2}{\pi} F$$

$$|B_0| = 5.51 \text{ Tesla}$$

$$F = \frac{\pi c \tau}{\alpha_{Mi}} ; \tau \text{ measured}$$

$$420 \leq \tau \leq 620 \mu\text{s}$$

[accordo accordo o disaccordo con B.N.L. ?]

QUESTION what is the origin of  $q \neq 1$  ?

- 1) Possible unexpected systematic mistake
- 2) if real : is it an absorption ? a mixing ?  
(of photons).

We have planned a "near-future" shut down in order to rebuild the apparatus correcting same malfunctions that we have learned.

Among others:

- a) Simic general insulations
- b) correct, via optical feedback, the residual beam movements: improve the housing of the optical pieces
- c)  $\lambda \rightarrow \lambda' = \frac{1}{2}$  (532 nm) "green" (one can see it!)
- d) improve the phonics - shielding

3) Maybe we seeing a strong QED-QCD interference  
- ending with photon splitting -

⊗ DECIDED The most important thing now is determine [me] to see if our apparatus is O.K



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Hypothesis  
~~absorption~~

Mixing (particle of  
mass  $m_e c^2$ )  
↓

We have an  
expression to  
which compare  
the obtained  
results

However test of  
coherence

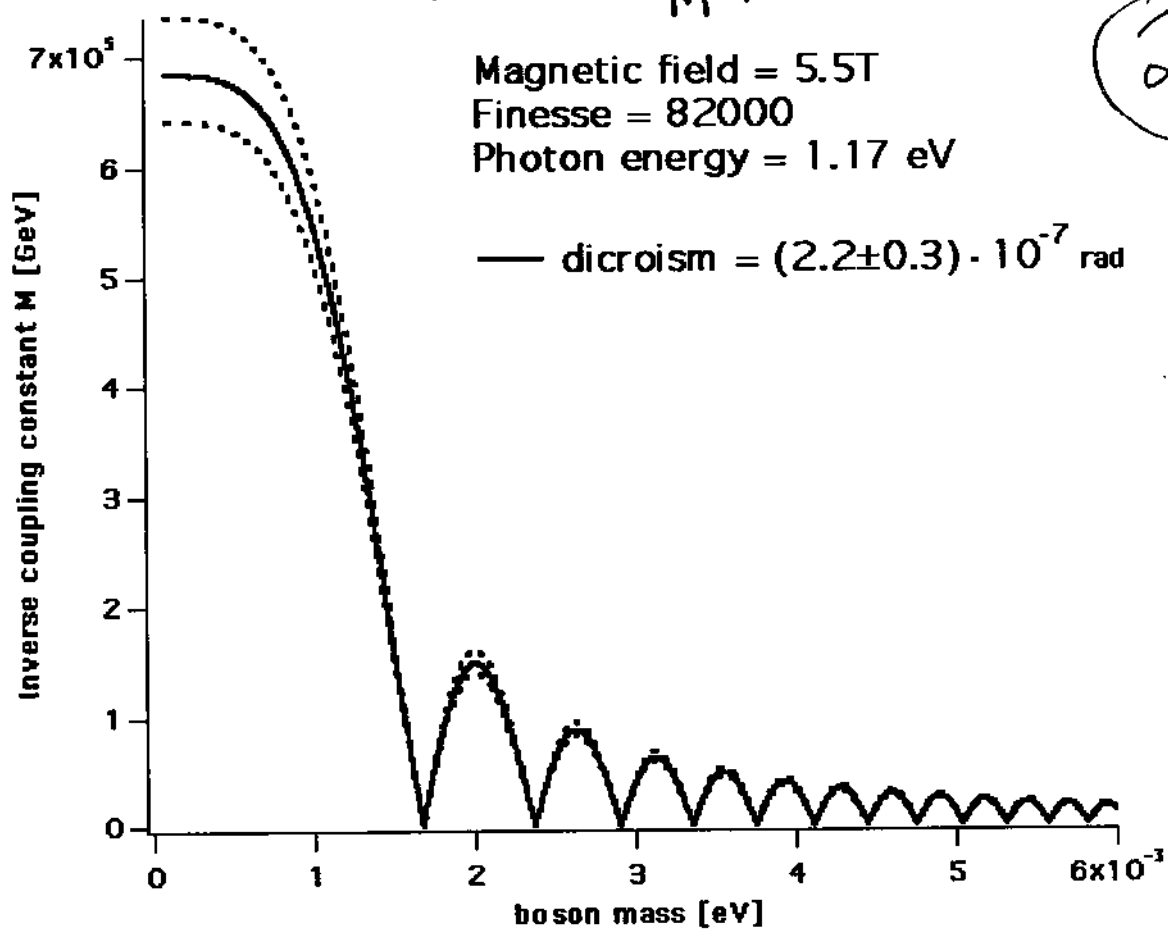
$$m_e < \frac{2\pi\hbar\omega}{L\Delta}$$

↓  
 $\sim 1.3 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ eV}$

↓  
method to find  $m_e c^2$

→ Hypothesis: the observed rotation due to a mixing of the photons (of the beam) with a light boson (mass =  $m_b c^2$ ) neutral and with a coupling to two photons  $\frac{1}{M} \text{GeV}^{-1}$

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Natural Heaviside-Lorentz units

$$\Delta \alpha = \epsilon = -\sin(2\alpha) \left( \frac{BL}{4M} \right)^2 N \left( \frac{\sin x}{x} \right)^2$$

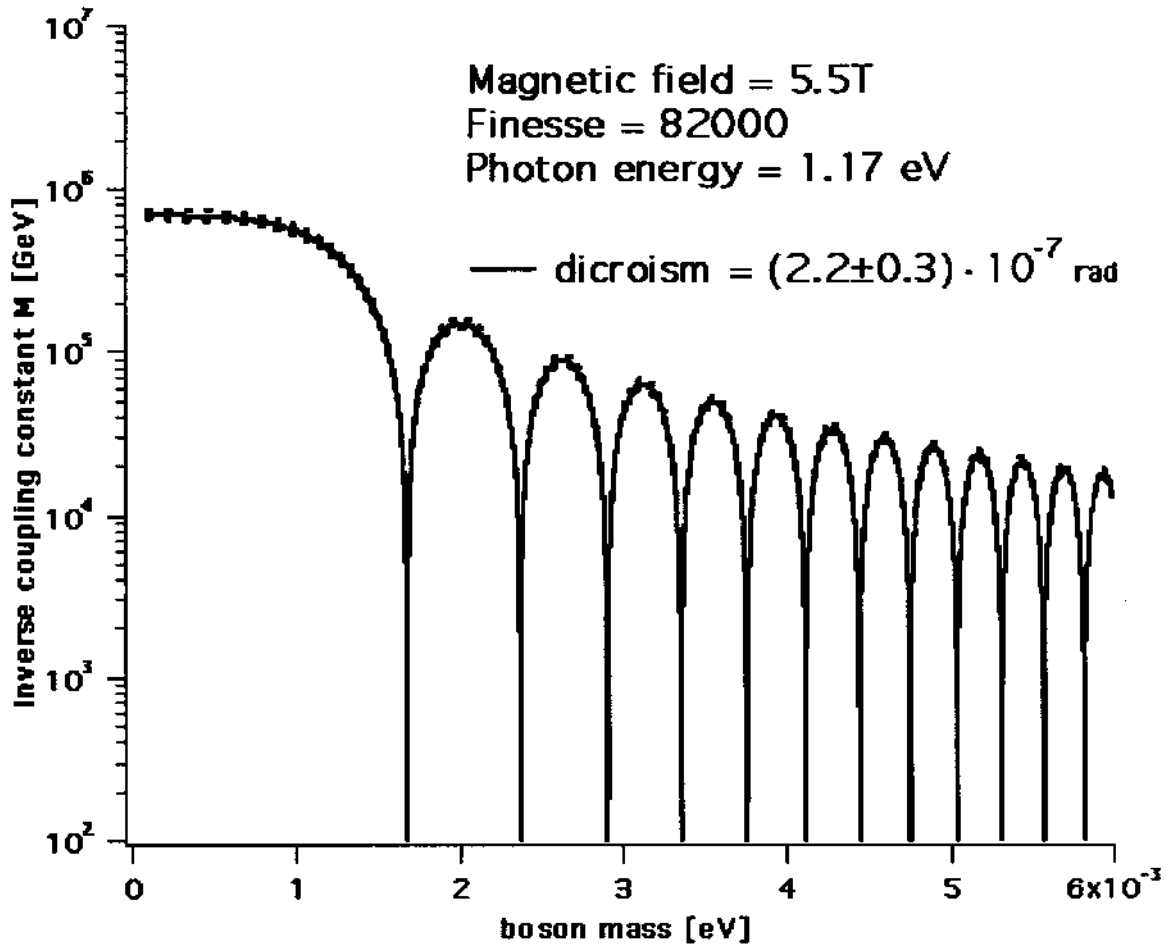
$$x = \frac{L}{2} \left[ \frac{k_m^2}{2k} + (n-1)k \right]$$

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}; \quad N = \frac{2F}{\pi}; \quad k_m = \frac{mc}{\hbar}$$

$m_b c^2$  = mass of the boson.

← rotation signal if due to a boson mixing with a  $\gamma$

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Neutral Heaviside-Lorentz units

$$\bar{N} = \frac{2}{\pi} \text{Finesse} \approx 52000$$

Expecting to finish analyzing data in approximately 2000.

- ① Adapt expression for  $\Delta\alpha$  coming from the Hypothesis of "existing" a light BOSONS (of mass  $m_b c^2$ ), neutral, coupled to two photons with a c.c.  $\frac{1}{M} \text{gev}^{-1}$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \Delta\alpha^0 &= \left(\frac{BL}{4M}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\sin x}{x}\right)^2 \cdot N \\ x &= \frac{L}{2} \left[ \frac{k_m^2}{2k} + (n-1)k \right] \end{aligned} \right\} \textcircled{A}$$

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$

$$N = \frac{2}{\pi} F$$

$$k_m = \frac{m_b c^2}{\hbar c}$$

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BIS

$n$  = index of refraction (1 atm.) of neon

$$n-1 = 6.7 \cdot 10^{-5}$$

- ② take many data with different pressure of neon

- ③ do fits of expression  $\textcircled{A}$  after subtracted the signal due to the Cotton-Mouton effect of neon (component proportional to pressure)

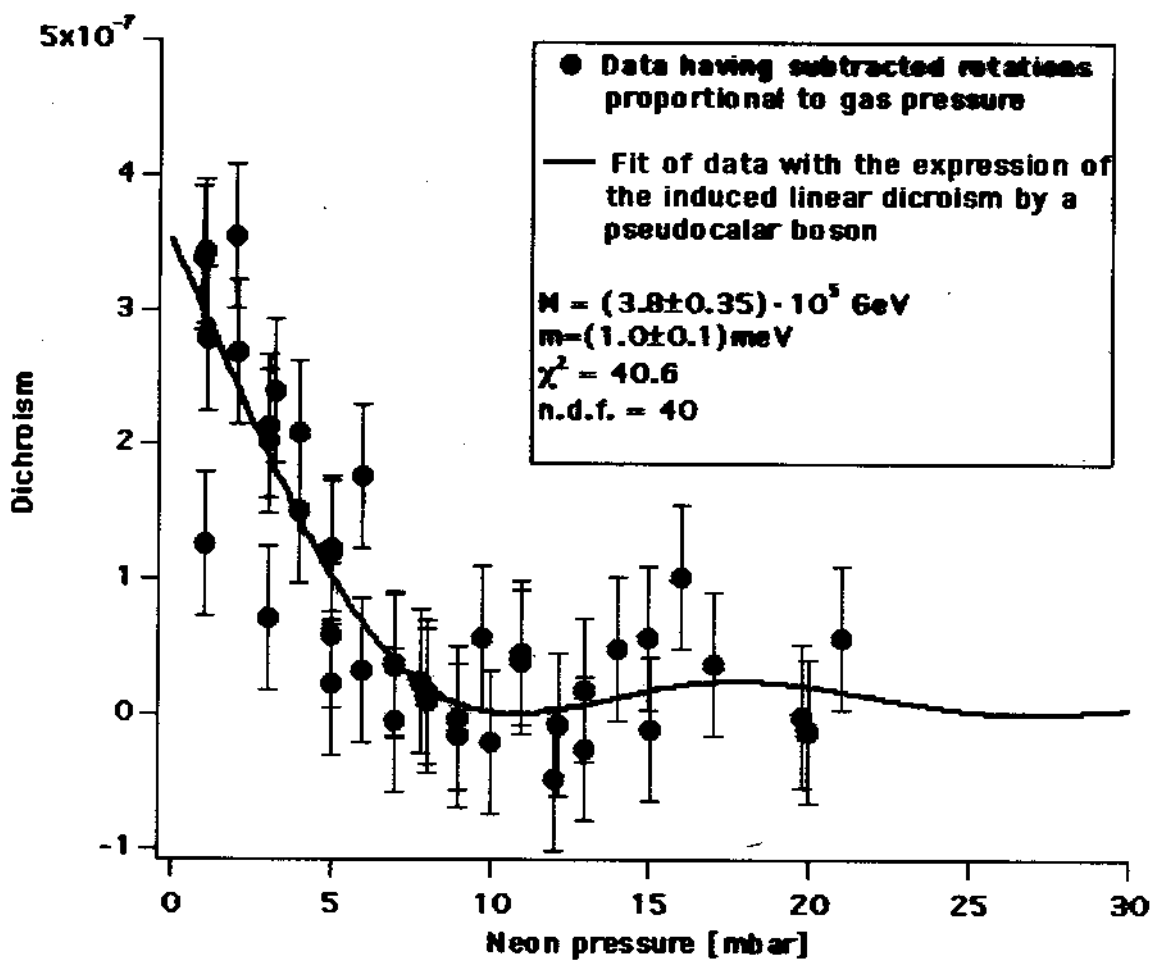
this to deduce  $m_b c^2 =$  mass of the "hypothetical boson"

↳ then produce the test of coherence for our apparatus (see preceding page)

24  
BIS

# Dichroism Vs. Neon pressure

QWP  $\sigma$



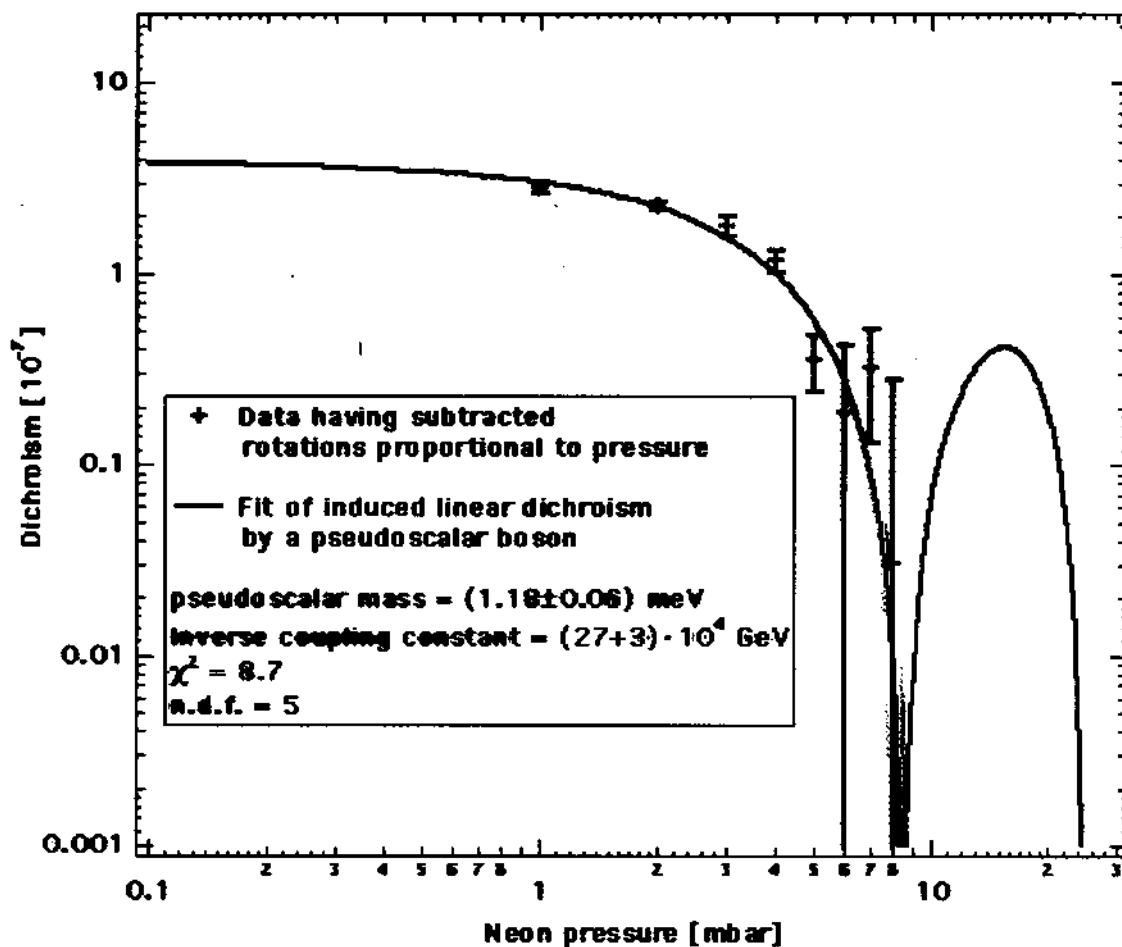
$M = (3.8 \pm 0.35) \cdot 10^5 \text{ GeV}$   
 $m = (1.0 \pm 0.1) \text{ meV} \longrightarrow \left[ (1.0 \pm 0.1) < 1.3 \right] 10^3 \text{ eV}$   
 - O.K. -

- $P_{\text{Neon}} = 0 \Rightarrow \text{Dichroism} = (2.9 \pm 0.4) \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ rad}$
- Vacuum dichroism =  $(2.2 \pm 0.3) \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ rad}$

all referred to number of passes  $\approx 52000$ .

surprisingly big!

# Dichroism Vs. Neon pressure



QWP  $0^\circ$



Universita' degli studi di Ferrara  
Dipartimento di Fisica



The cryostat showing  
the quench protection  
system.



quench  
diagnost.  
resistive

$L_M$  small to preserve  
the relative phase  
between the light boson  
and the photon's field.

$L_{MAGNET} = 11$

$$m_b < m_0 = \frac{2\pi\omega}{L_M}$$
$$m_0^2 \approx (1.310^{32} \text{eV})^2$$

Tucson, Arizona 2003

inequality to be verified.

⊗ ⊗ ⊗

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	$m_a$ [eV]	$M$ [GeV]	$g_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{M}$ [GeV <sup>-1</sup> ]
PVLAS ALL DATA VACUUM ROTATION	$(1.0 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-3}$	$(3.8 \pm 0.4) \times 10^5$	$(2.6 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-6}$
BERT [PRD 47, 9 (1993)] ELLIPTICITY DATA ONLY	$[(1.0 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-3}]$	$\geq (4 \times 10^5)$	$\leq 2.5 \times 10^{-6}$

Compatible with a photon-lepton mixing mechanism  
 $m_{\nu} c^2 \approx (1.0 \pm 0.1) \text{ MeV}$  ;  $M^{-1} = (3.8 \pm 0.35) 10^5 \text{ GeV}$



- ① We observe in vacuum  
a polarization rotation signal

$$\Delta d \neq 0$$

- ② a possible interpretation  
is to assume the existence  
of a very light, neutral,  
pseudoscalar boson coupled  
to two photons. TEST coherence D.K.

- ③ With these Hypotheses  
we obtain

$$m_b = 1 \pm 0.1 \text{ meV}$$

$$g_{\gamma\gamma} = (2 \div 3) 10^{-6} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$$

- ④ We plan to confirm these  
results in the near future  
by using energy doubled  
laser photons.

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