

# Searching for Dark Matter Axions with ADMX

## AXION DARK MATTER EXPERIMENT

Chelsea Bartram,  
on behalf of the ADMX Collaboration

February 20, 2021

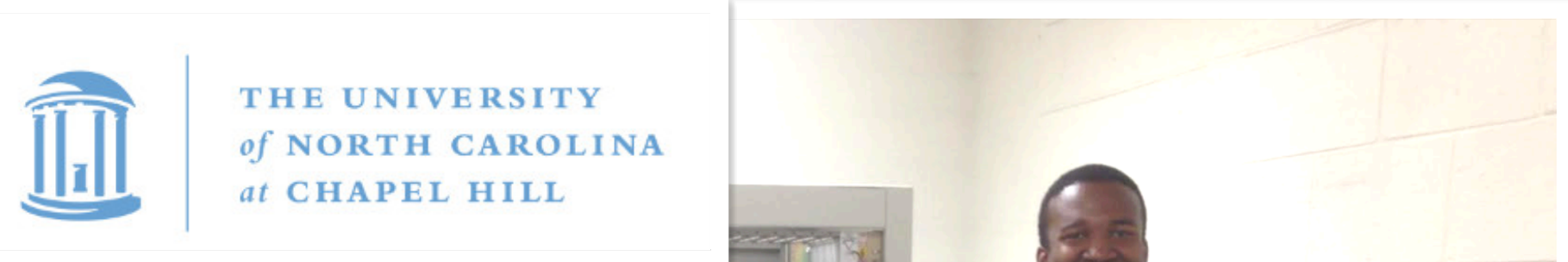
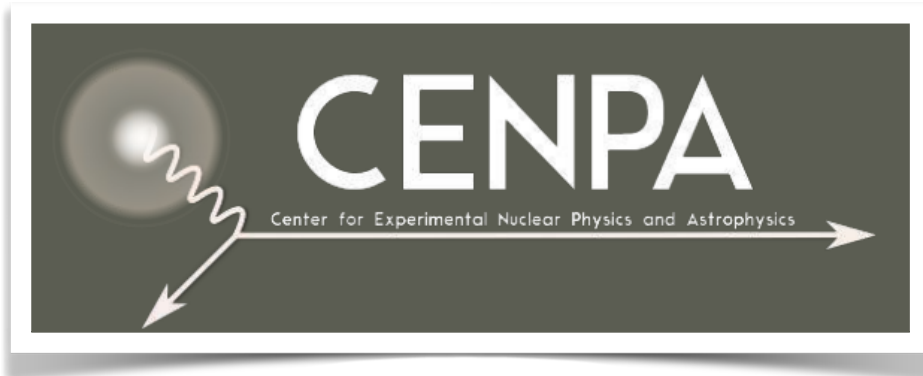
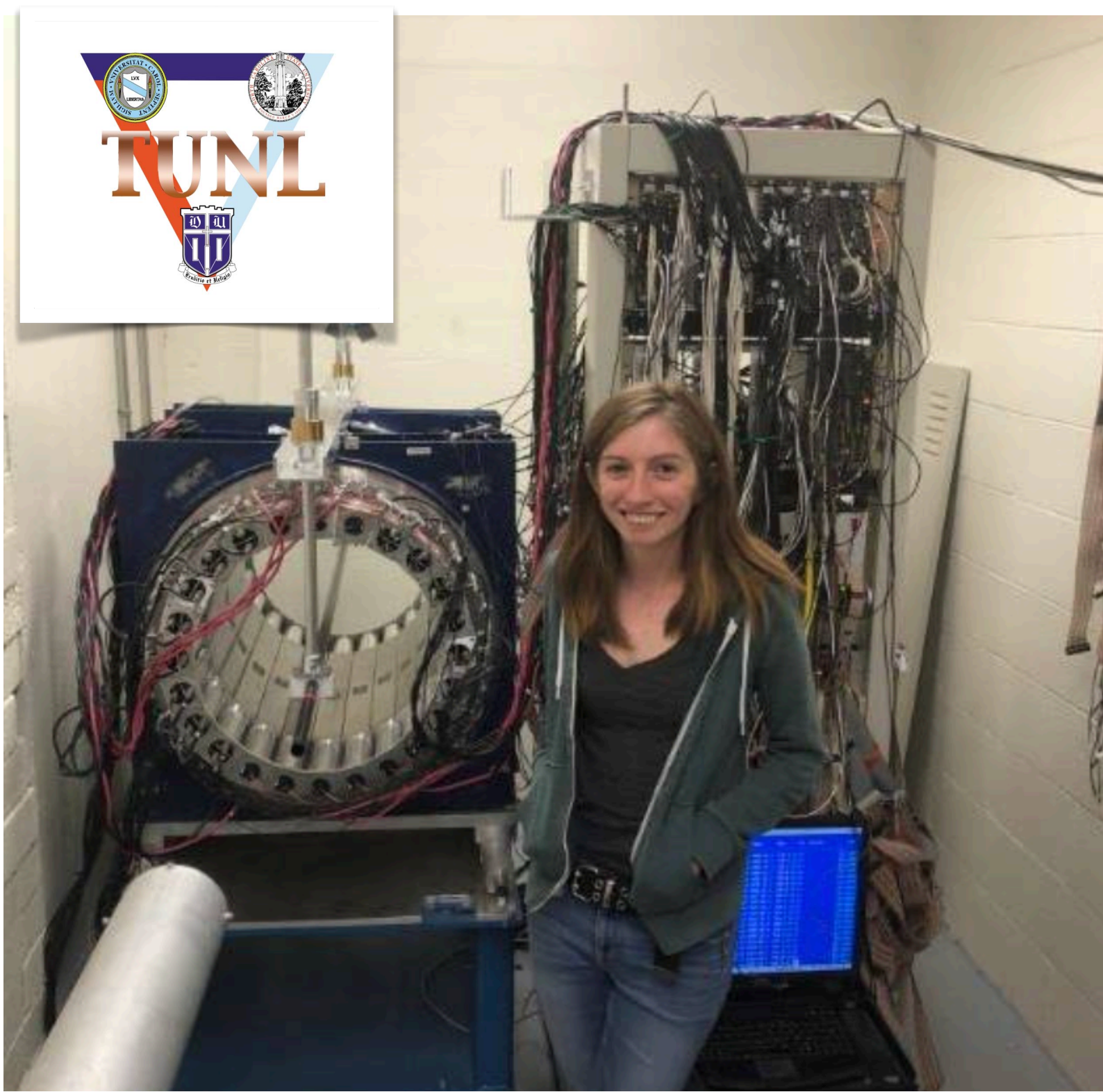




# Who am I?

## Chelsea Bartram

I am a nuclear/particle physicist!





85% of the matter  
content in the  
universe is  
unknown!

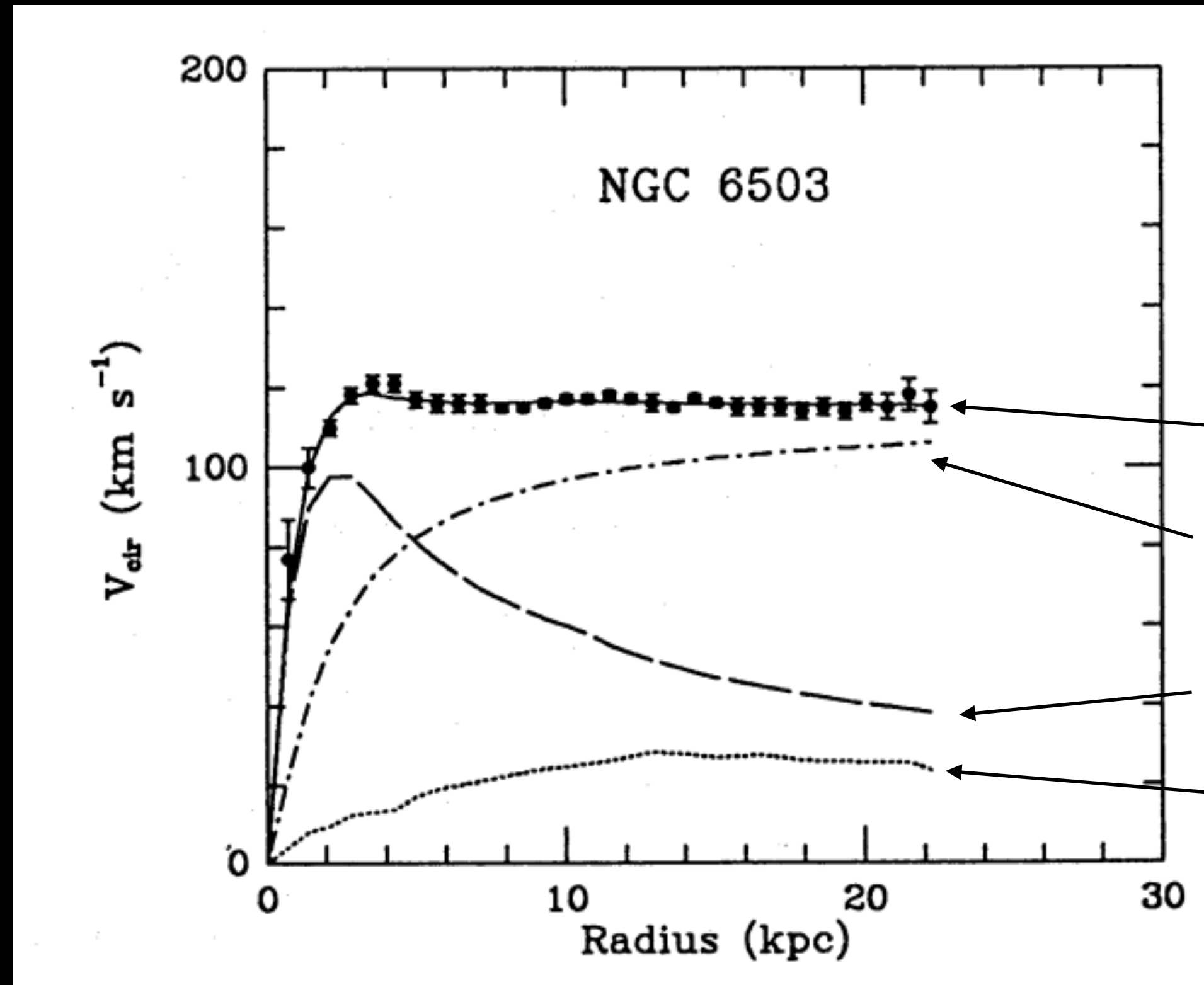


# Ok, but how do we know it exists?



# Galactic Rotation Curves

Vera Rubin working at her observatory





# Bullet Clusters

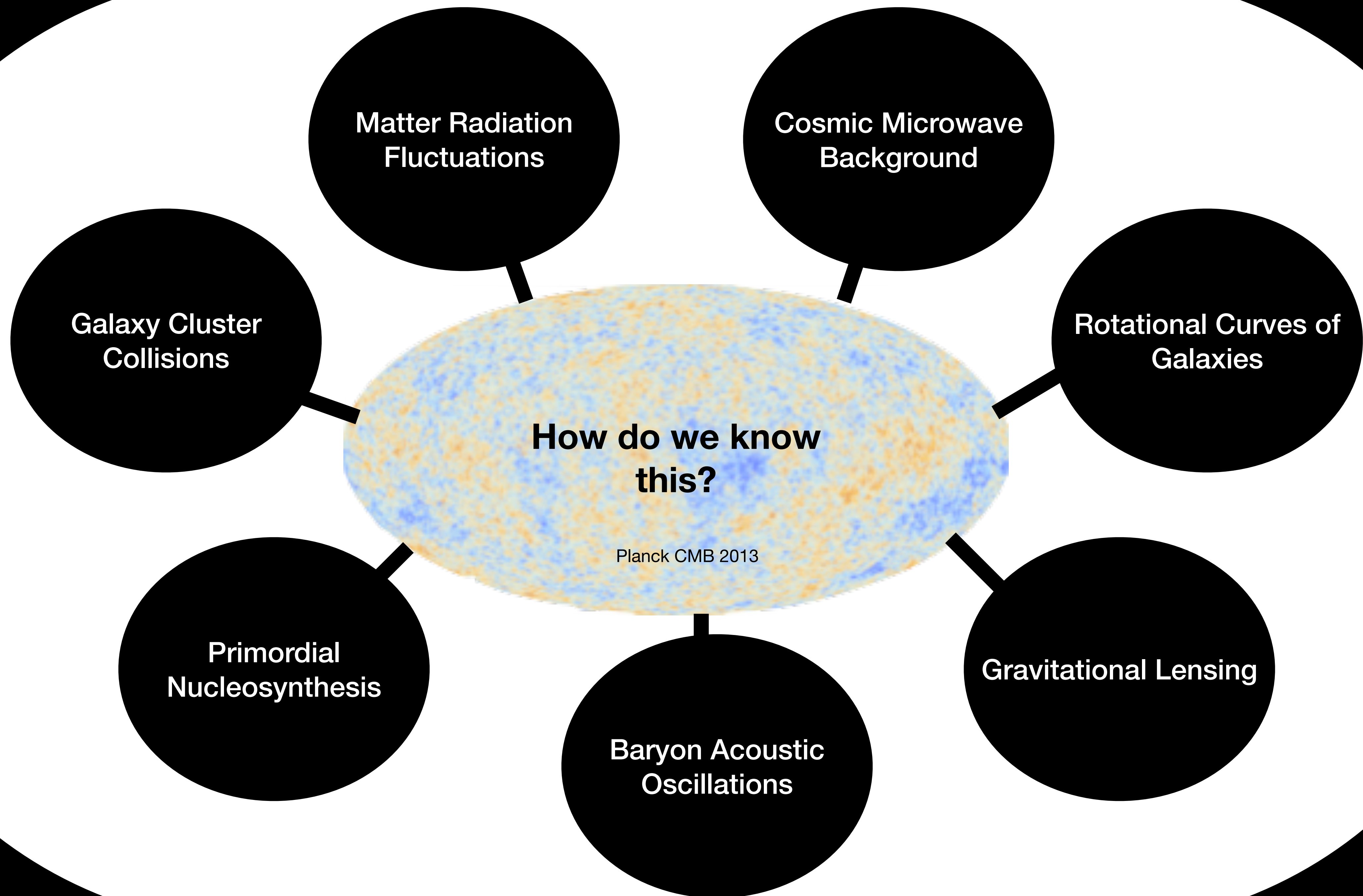
Bullet Cluster  
Composite: NASA, Markevitch  
etal., Clowe et al

Baryonic (“Ordinary”) matter is  
slowed by the collision due to  
interactions.

Dark matter (detected by  
gravitational lensing) is not.









# Ok, but where is the dark matter?



# Ok, but where is the dark matter?



## Your local coffee shop?



# Ok, but where is the dark matter?



## Your local coffee shop? Actually, yes!



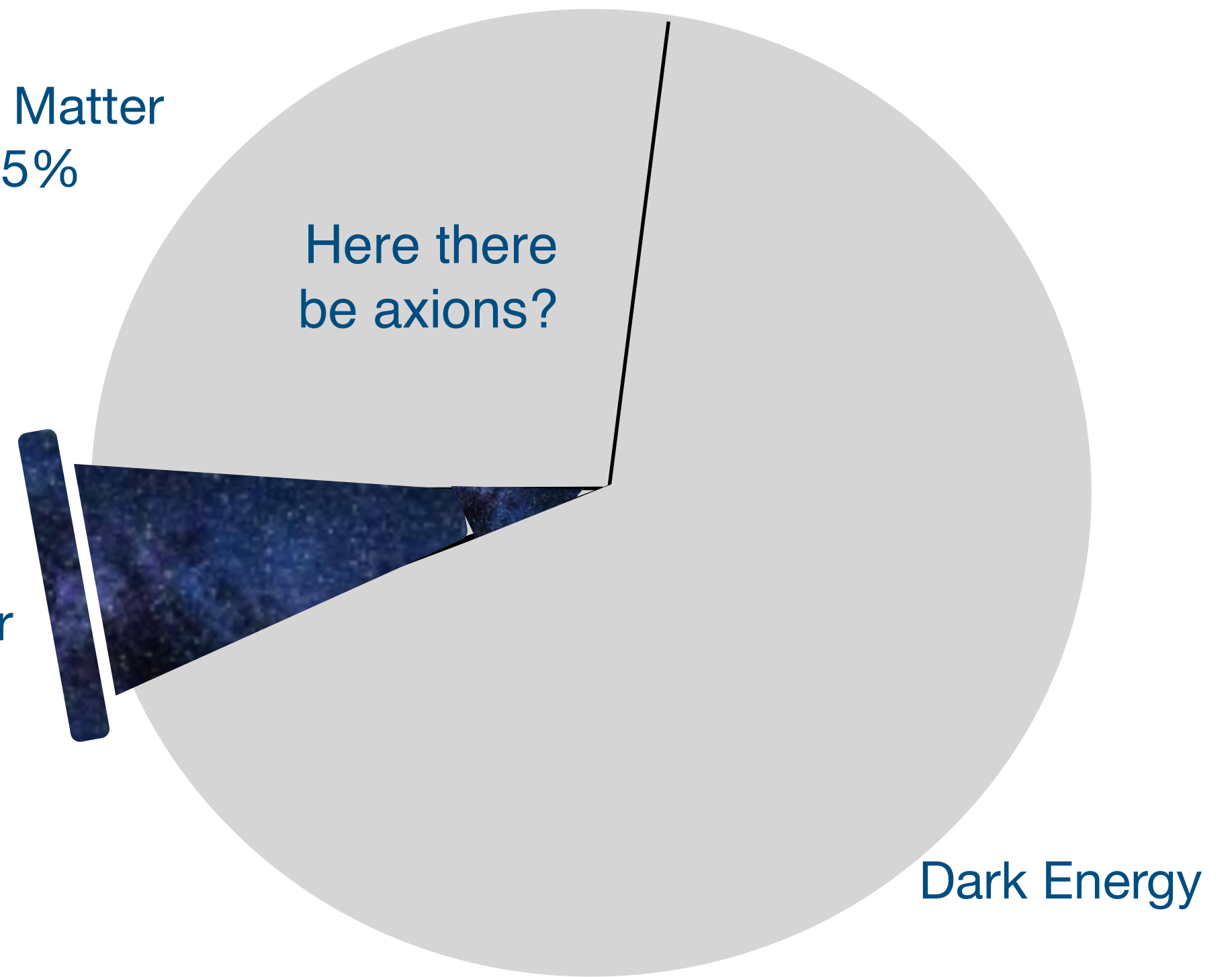
**Because dark matter is  
everywhere around us!**



# In Summary

**85% of the matter content of the universe is unknown!**

- Indirect observations tell us:
  - Dark matter concentrated near galaxies
  - Interacts via gravity, unclear if other interactions
  - Cold (non-relativistic)
  - Feebly interacting
  - Very stable
  - Non-baryonic



Vera Rubin working in her lab

Rubin, Vera C. "Rotation curves of high-luminosity spiral galaxies and the rotation curve of our galaxy." *Symposium-International Astronomical Union*. Vol. 84. Cambridge University Press, 1979.



# Axion Dark Matter eXperiment (ADMX)

- Experiment to search for dark matter called ‘axions’.
- ADMX is the most sensitive axion dark matter search!
- ADMX is currently a global collaboration of 11 institutions.

Sponsors



Primary Sponsor



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA**



**Berkeley**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



Lawrence Livermore  
National Laboratory

**UF** UNIVERSITY of  
**FLORIDA**



The  
University  
Of  
Sheffield.

 **Fermilab**

 **Los Alamos**  
NATIONAL LABORATORY



GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT  
GÖTTINGEN



**Axions are “wave-like”**





# What does this mean?

$$a(\vec{x}, t) = \frac{\sqrt{(2\rho_{DM})}}{m_a} \cos(m_a t + \mathcal{O}(\nu_{DM})\vec{x})$$

$\rho_{DM}$ : dark matter density

$m_a$ : axion mass





# What does this mean?

Calculate de Broglie wavelength of axions:

$$\lambda \approx \frac{2\pi}{mv} \approx 10 \text{ m} - 100 \text{ km}$$

Wavelength of the Conversion Photon: ~meter

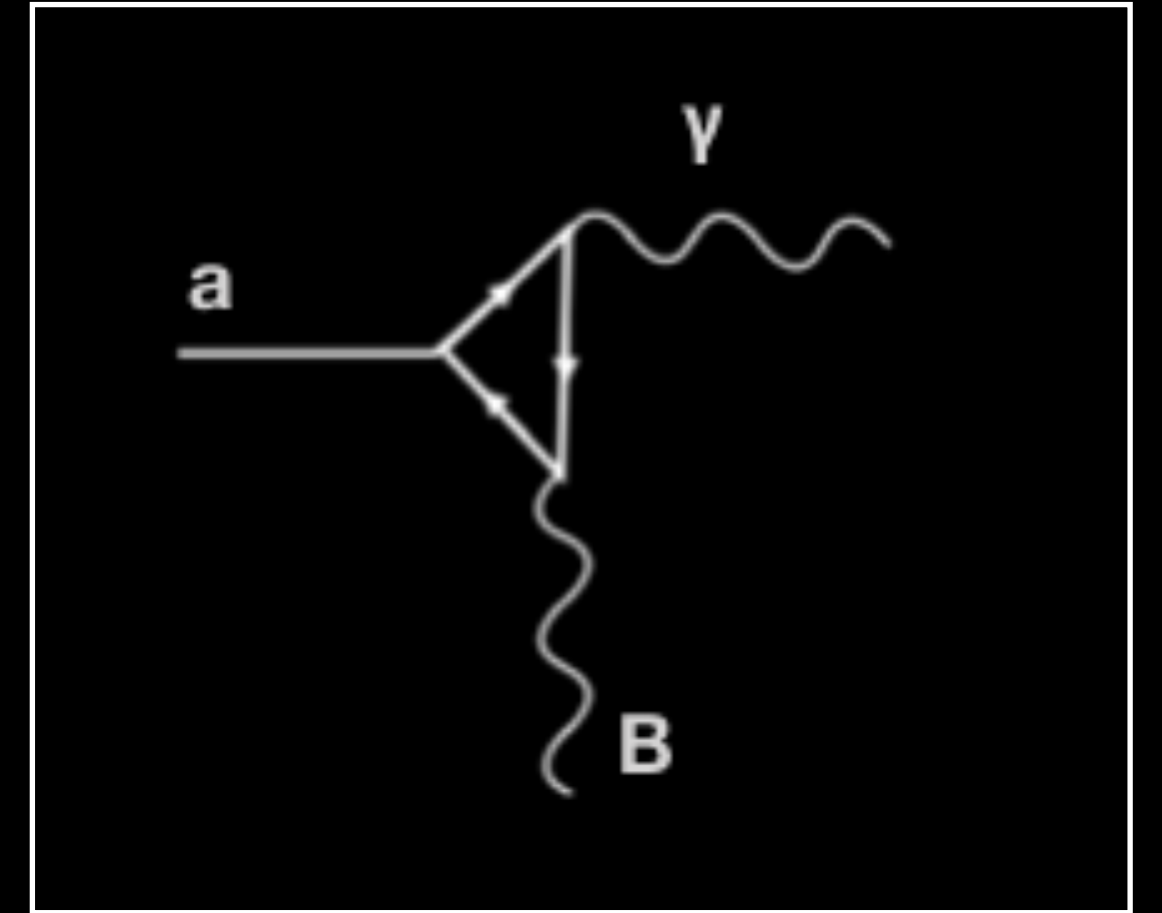
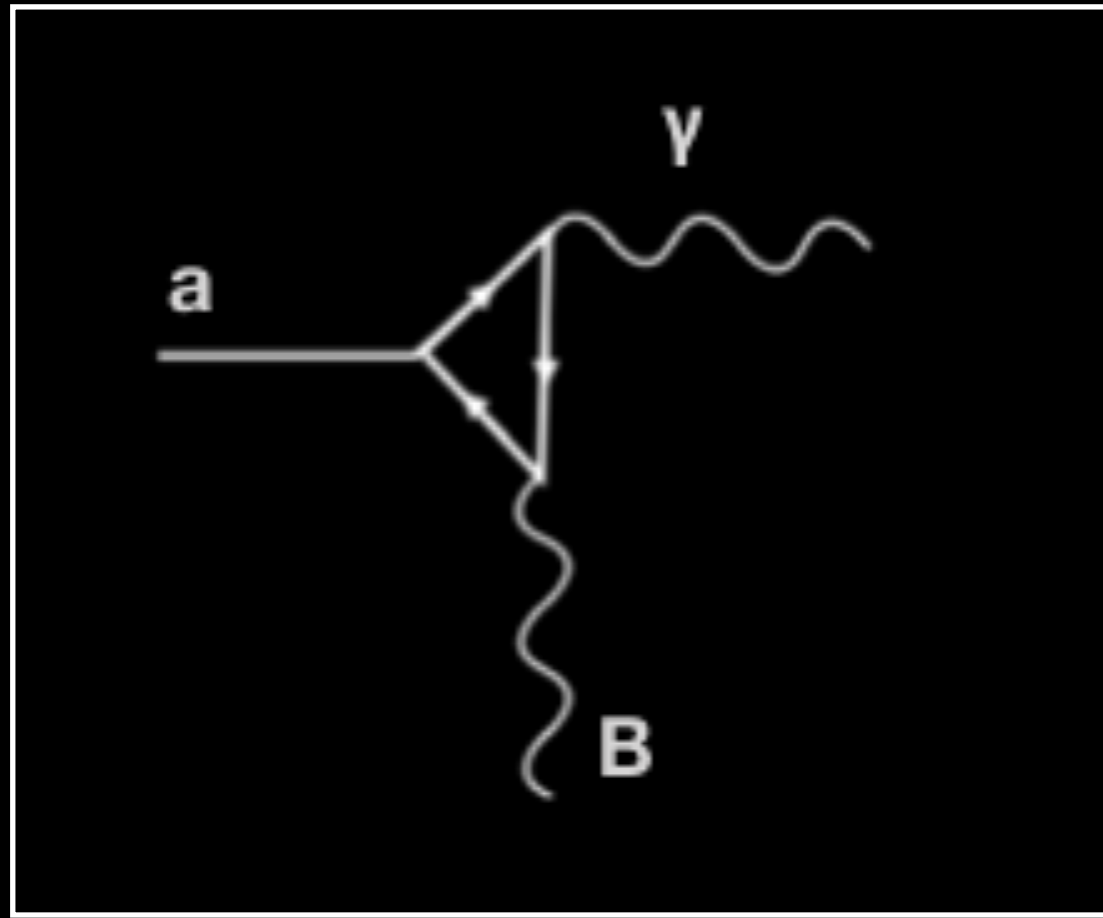
Axions behave more like particles than like waves





# How do we detect axions?

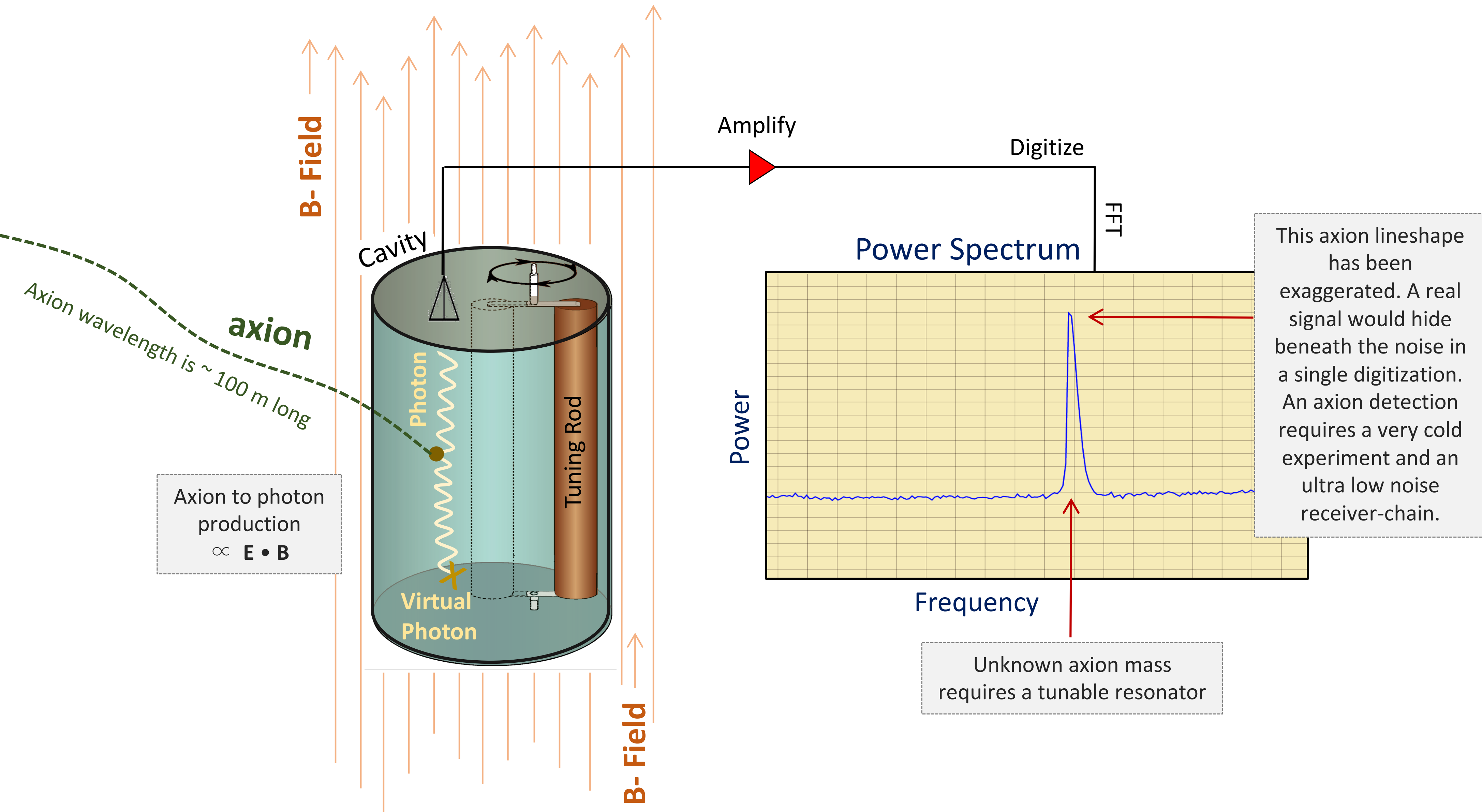
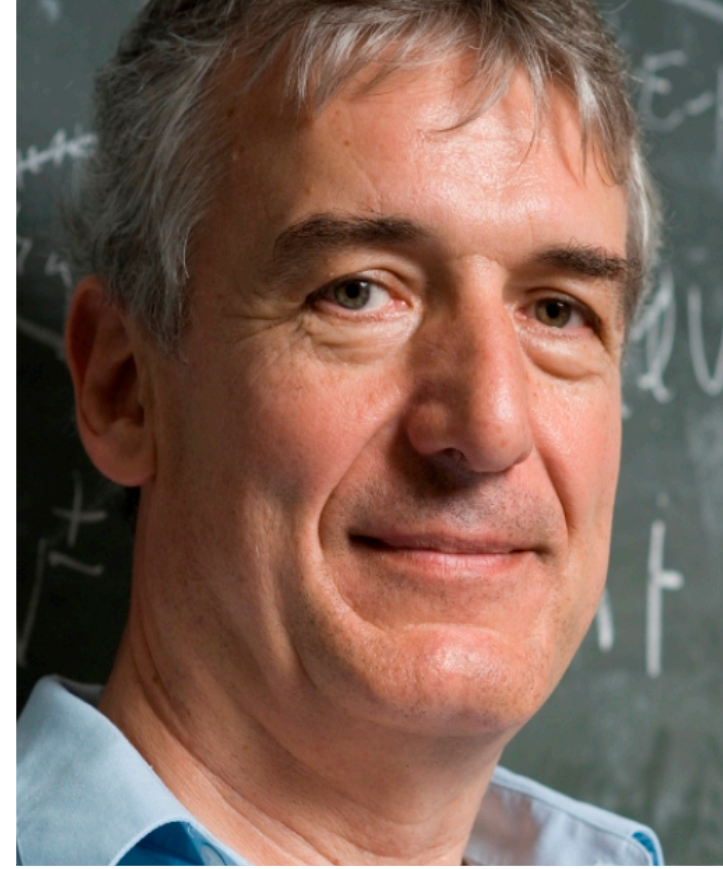
## Axion Haloscope



**What's a haloscope?**  
**A big metal cavity in a magnetic field,  
connected to a radio.**



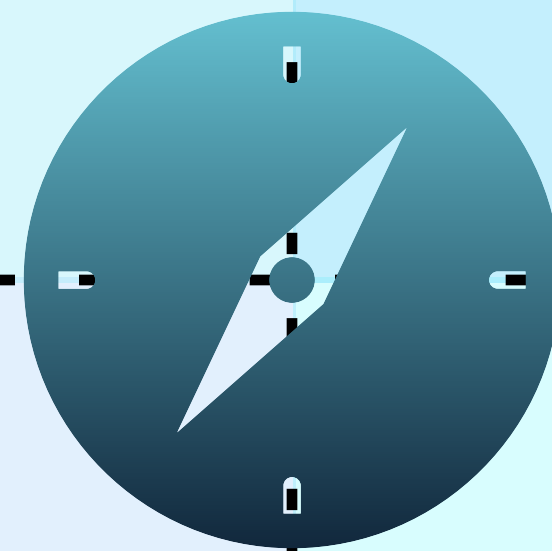
# The Axion Haloscope





**SINGLE PHOTONS  
(LIGHT PACKETS)**

**COLD TEMPERATURES**

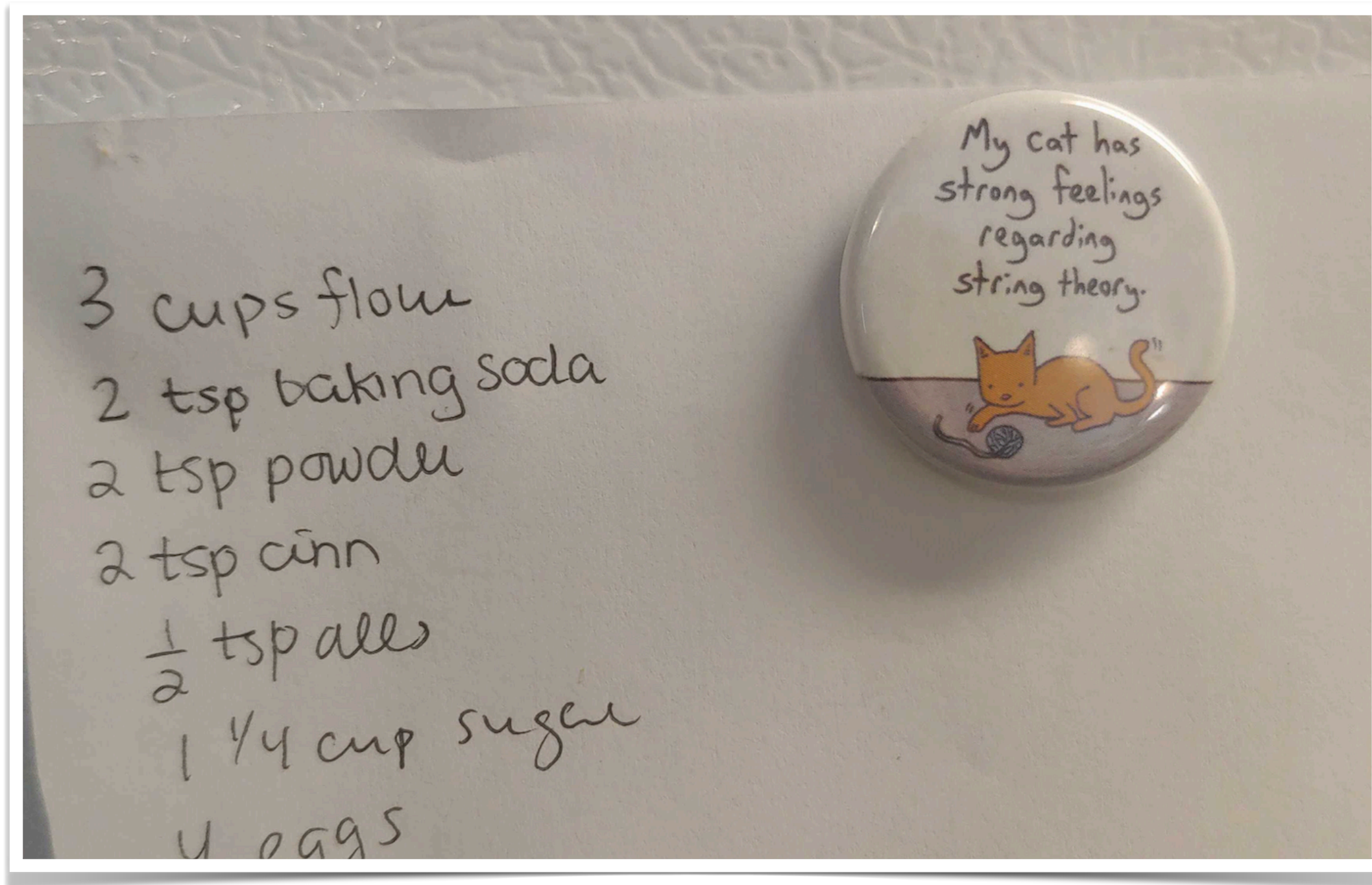


**FANCY AM RADIOS**

**HIGH MAGNETIC FIELDS**



# How strong are these magnetic fields?



Typical refrigerator magnet: 100 Gauss

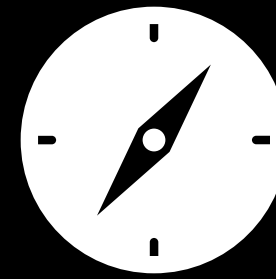


Typical MRI magnet at a hospital: 30,000 Gauss

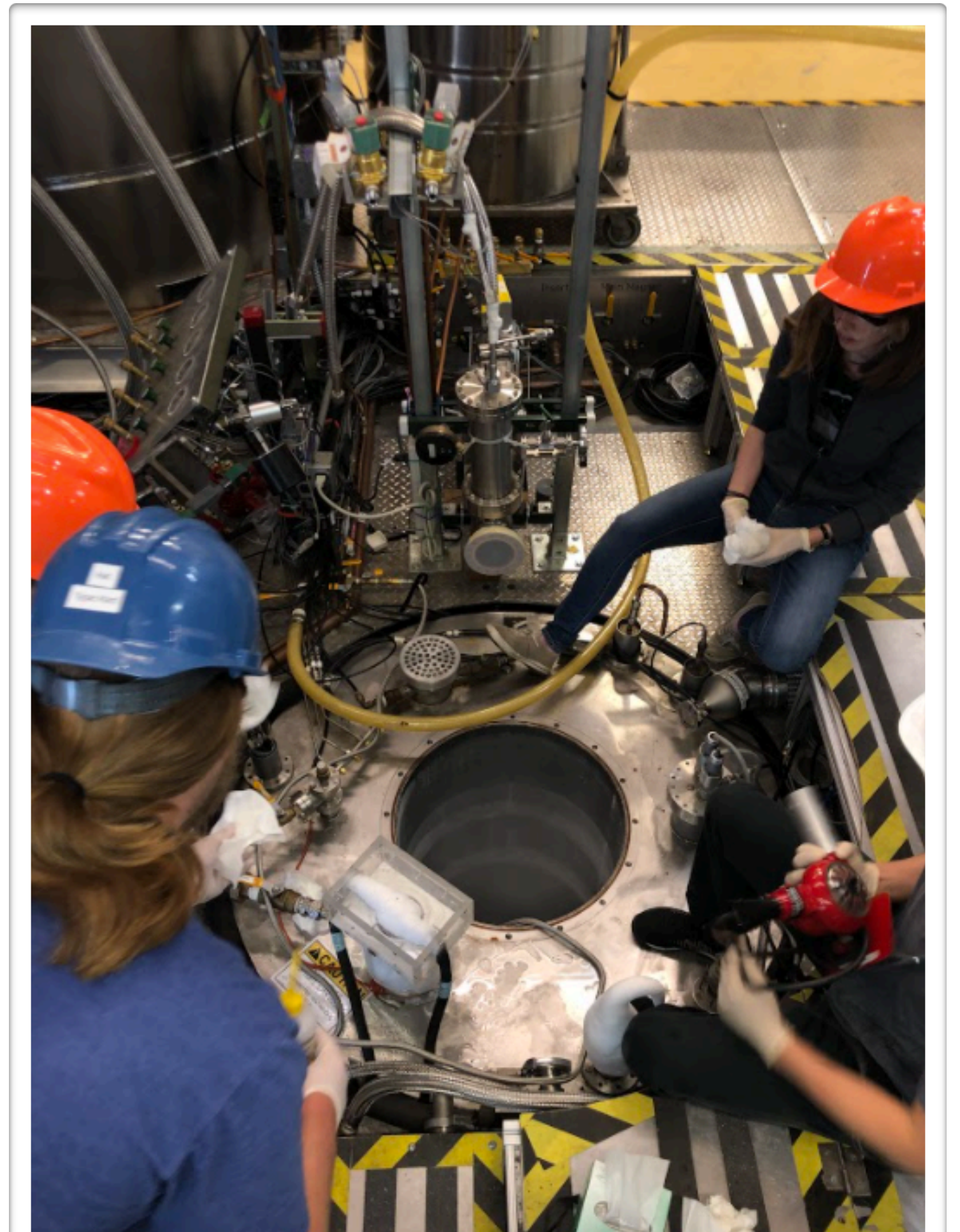


# How strong is our magnetic field?

70,000 Gauss!



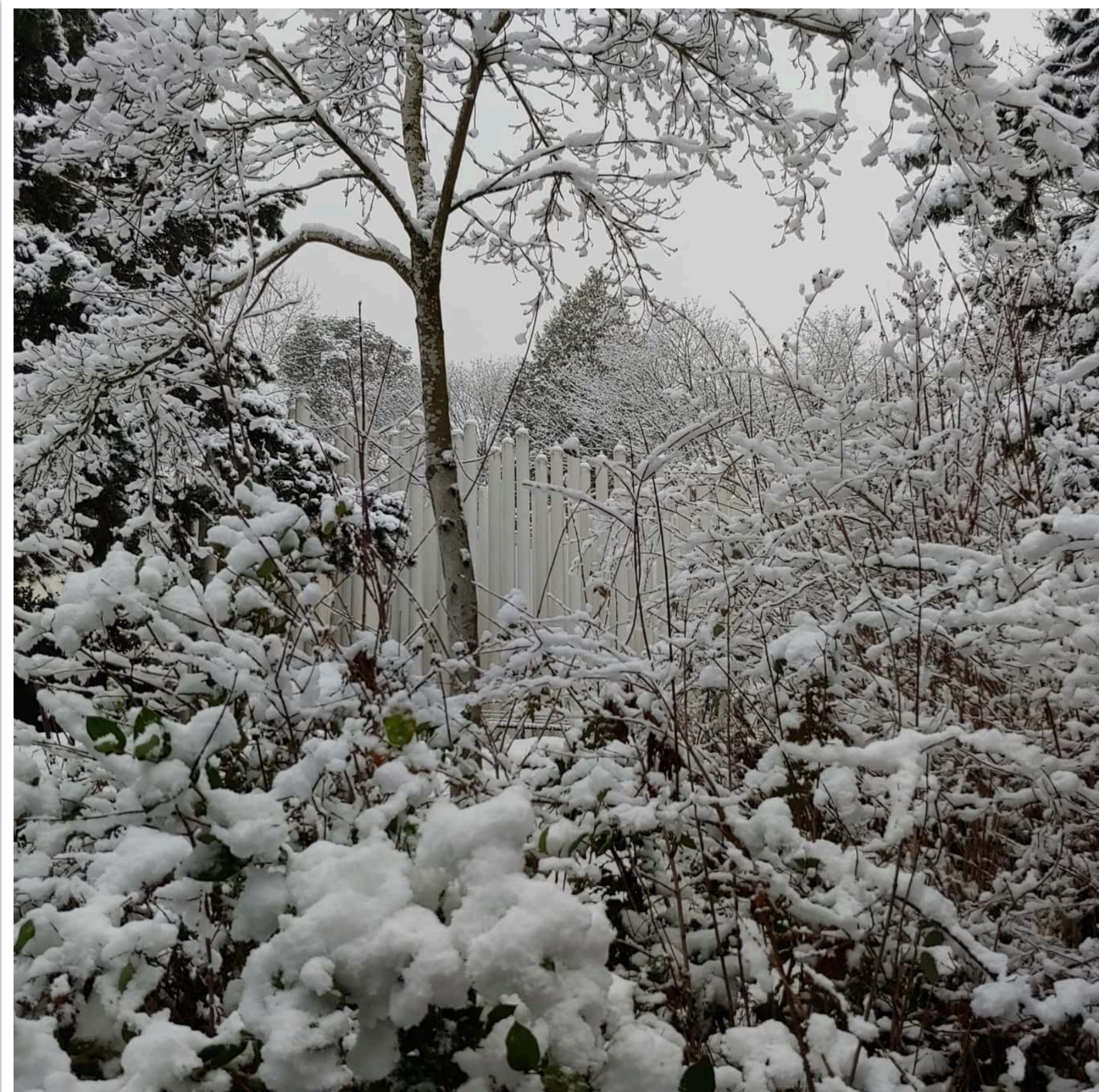
ADMX Magnet



ADMX Magnet Bore



# How cold is ADMX?



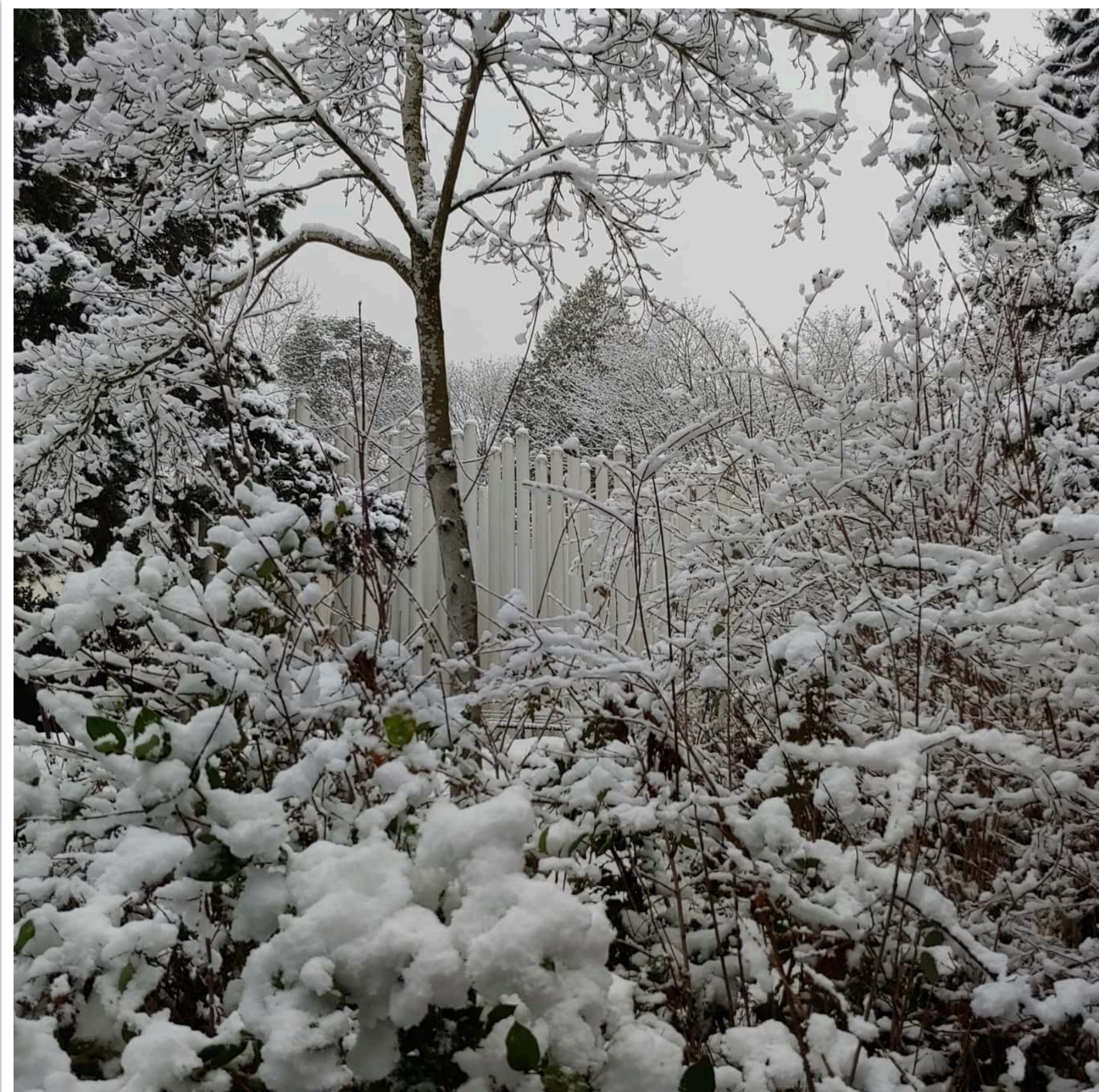
Is it colder than our  
snow last week?

Is it colder than  
icicles?





# How cold is ADMX?



Is it colder than our  
snow last week?

Is it colder than  
icicles?

YES!





# How cold is ADMX?

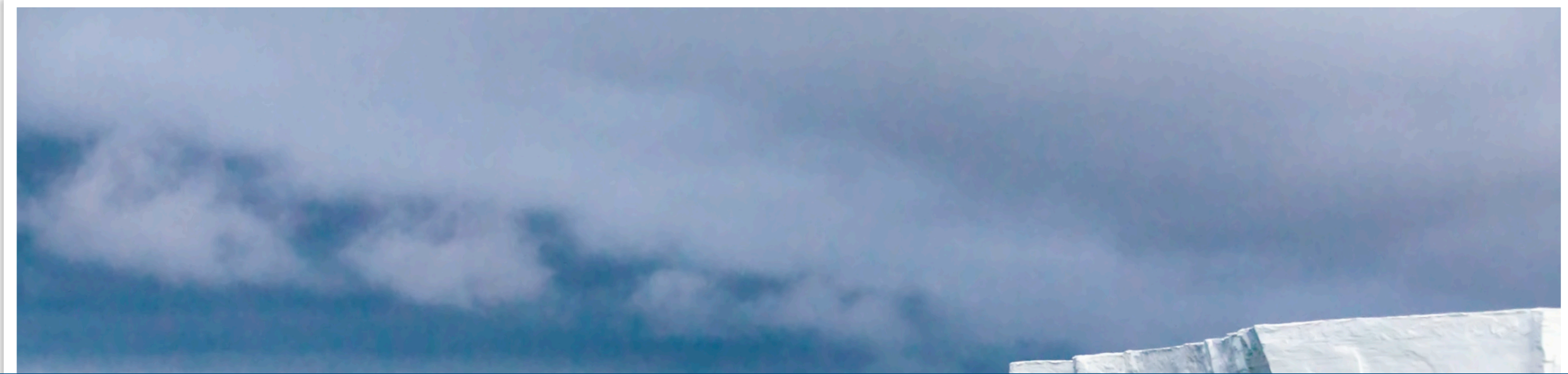
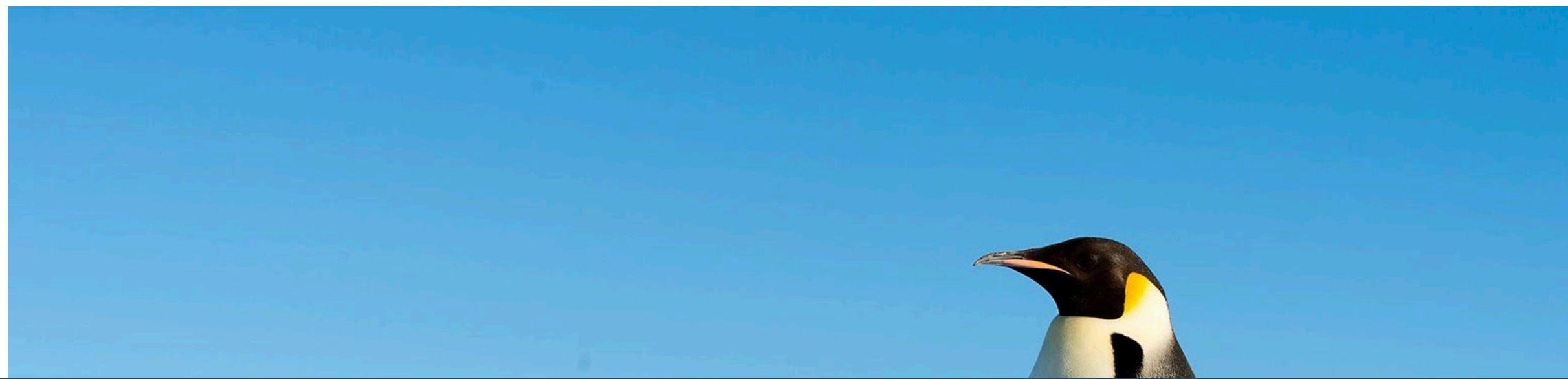
Is it colder than Antarctica?



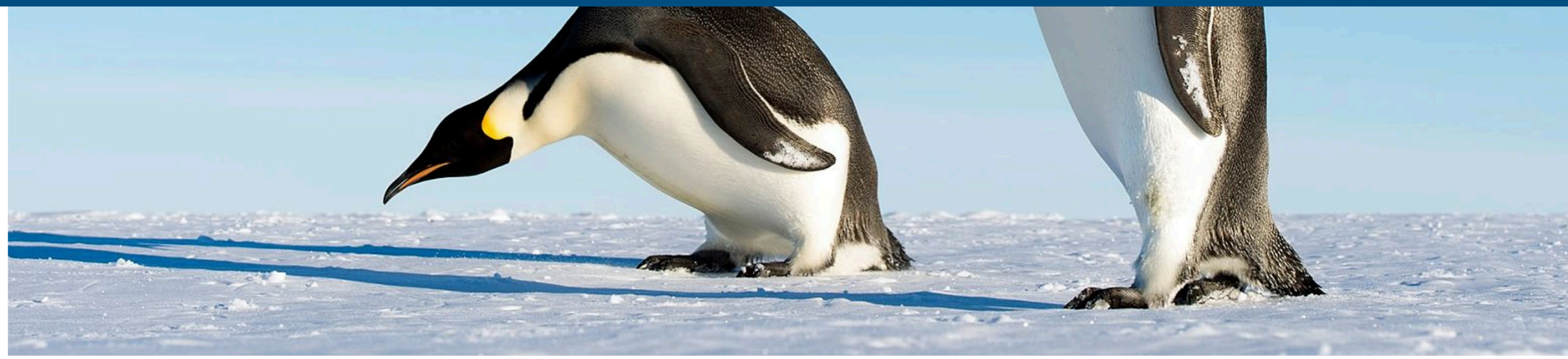


# How cold is ADMX?

Is it colder than Antarctica?



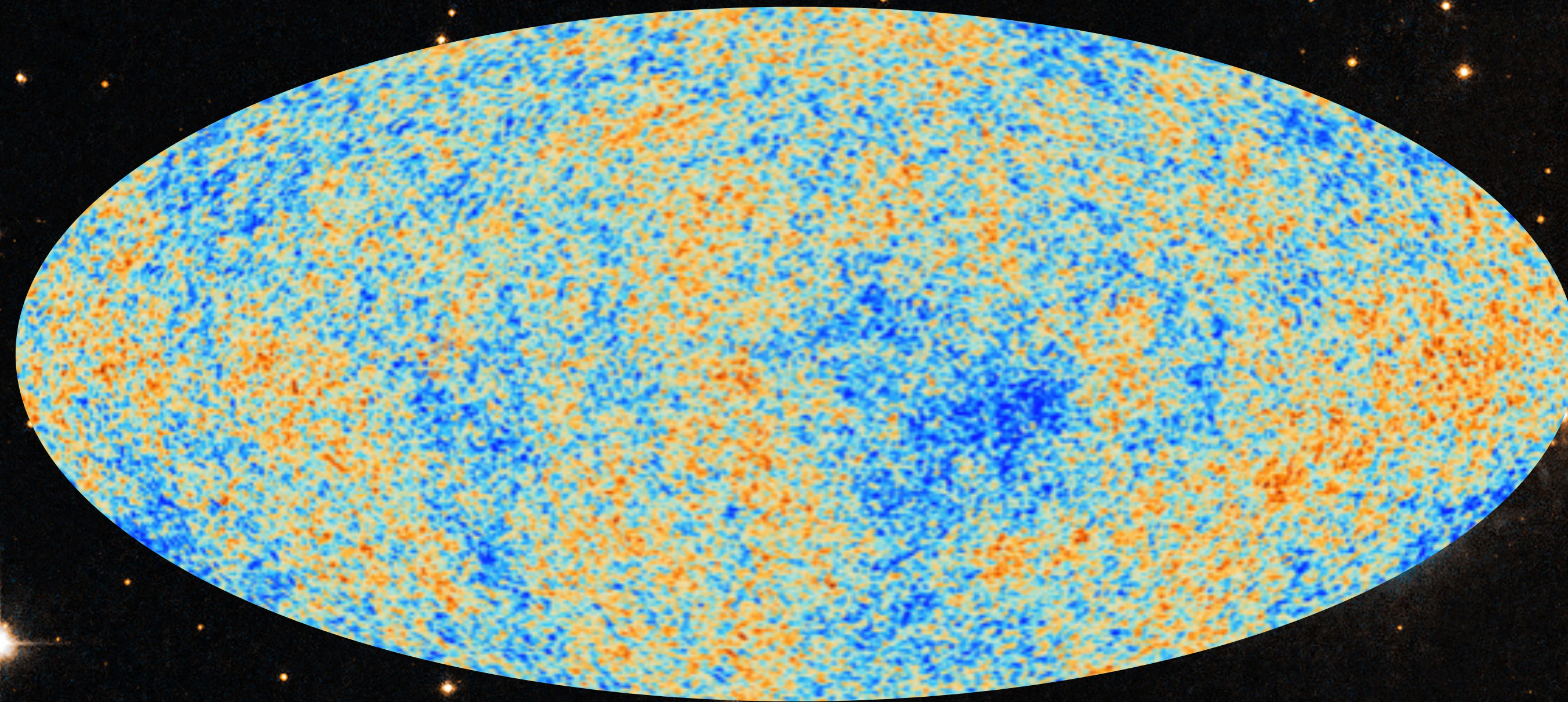
YES!





# How cold is interstellar space?

Determined by the Cosmic Microwave Background



Originated from the Big Bang

Planck Results

Planck Experiment



# How cold is interstellar space?

2.7 K

-454.81 F

## Is ADMX colder than interstellar space?

YES!

Planck Experiment

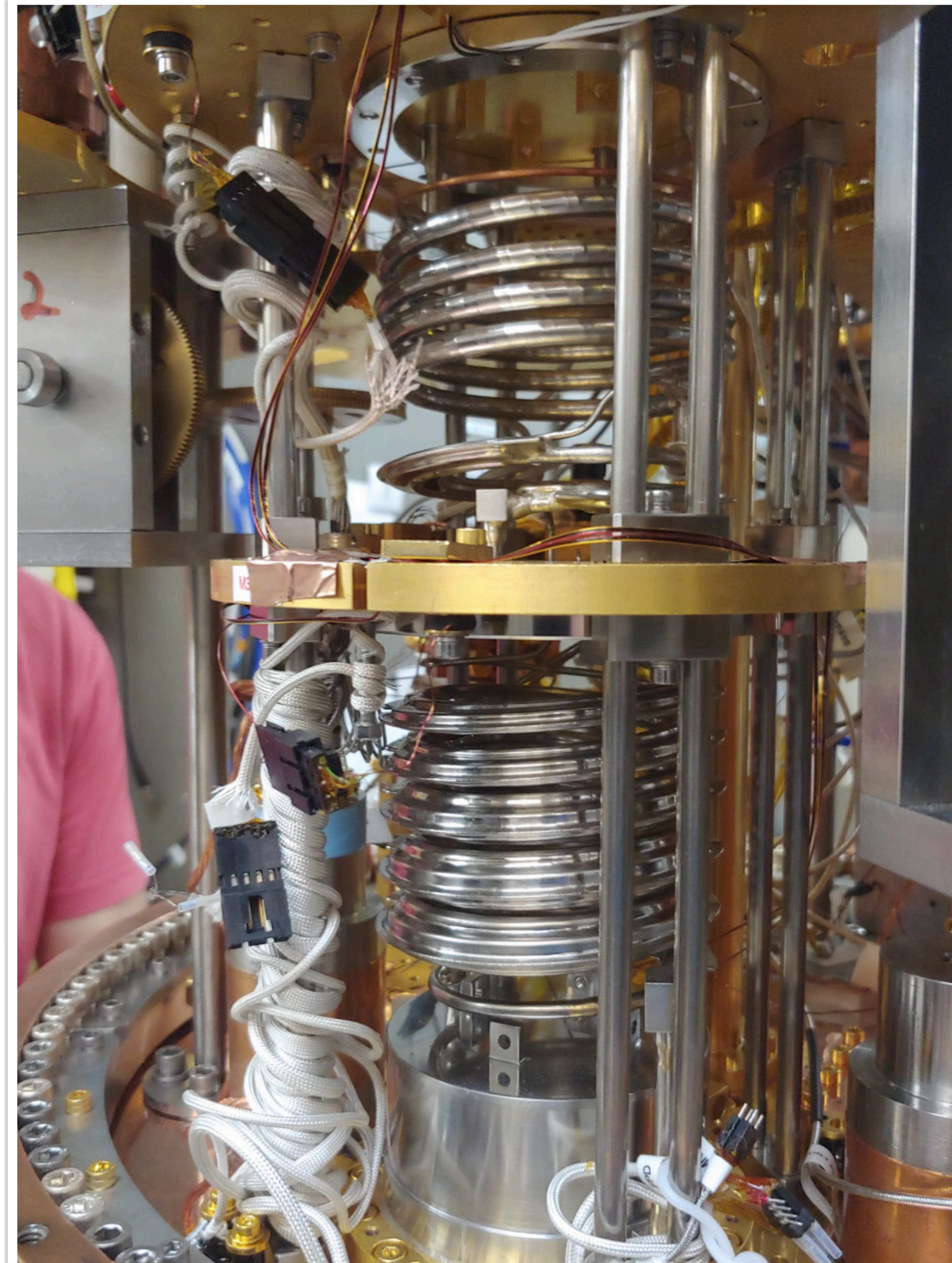


# How cold is ADMX?

100 mK

-459.49 F

Dilution Refrigerator  
Uses Liquid Helium





# Removing the insert from the magnet bore

Can see from the  
from that it is very  
cold!





# How small is the signal from axions?

# 10<sup>-24</sup> Watts!

[illegible]



# How small is the signal from axions?

$10^{-24}$  Watts!

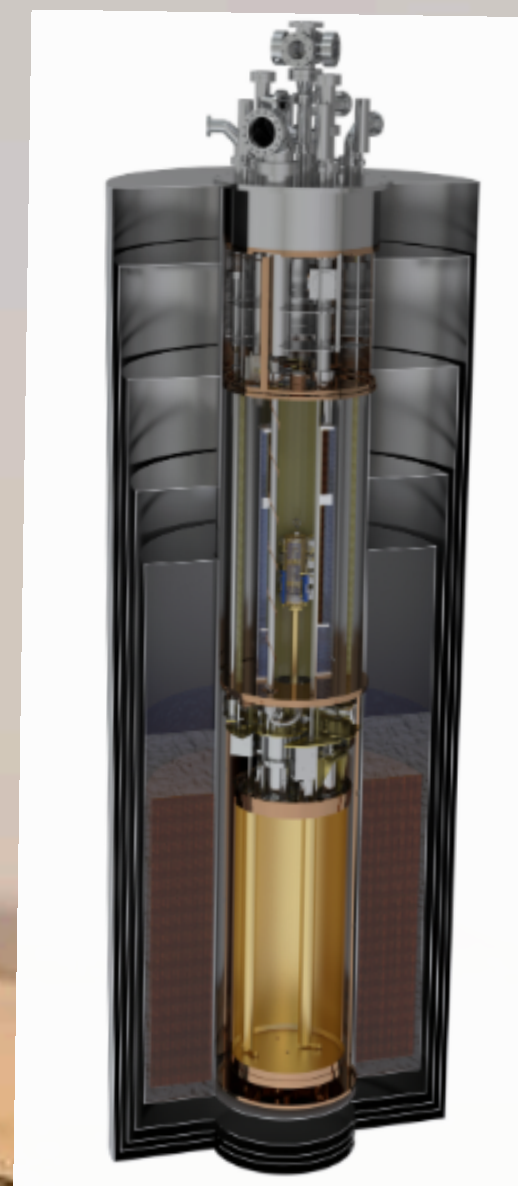
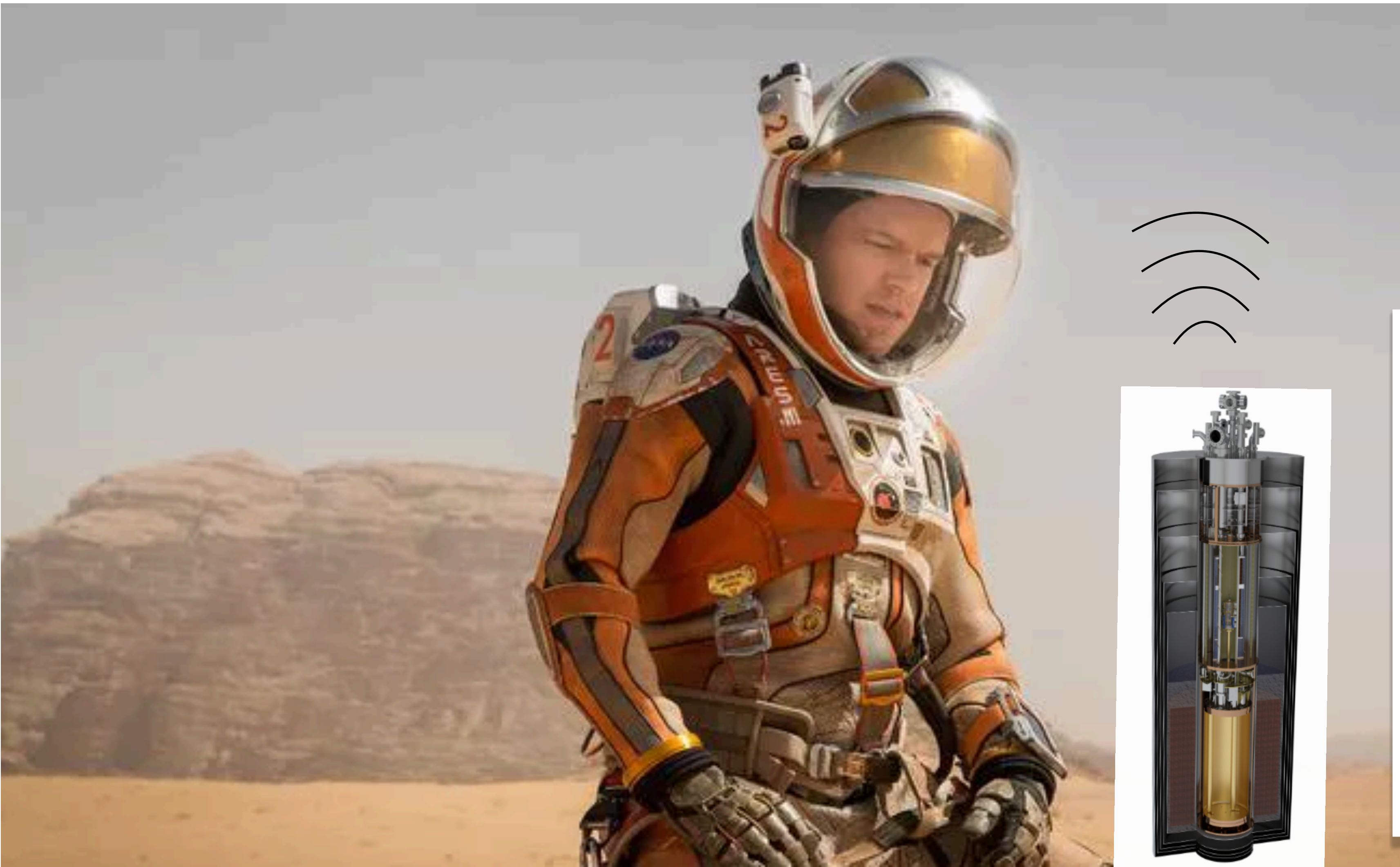
We call this a “yoctowatt”.

We haven't named any numbers small than this.



# 4 Bars on Mars

So if you are Mark Watney and you happen to be stuck on Mars, maybe try building an ADMX style cell phone?



Shout out to NASA  
and Perseverance!





# Resonant Cavities



Many musical instruments  
are resonant cavities that  
support standing waves

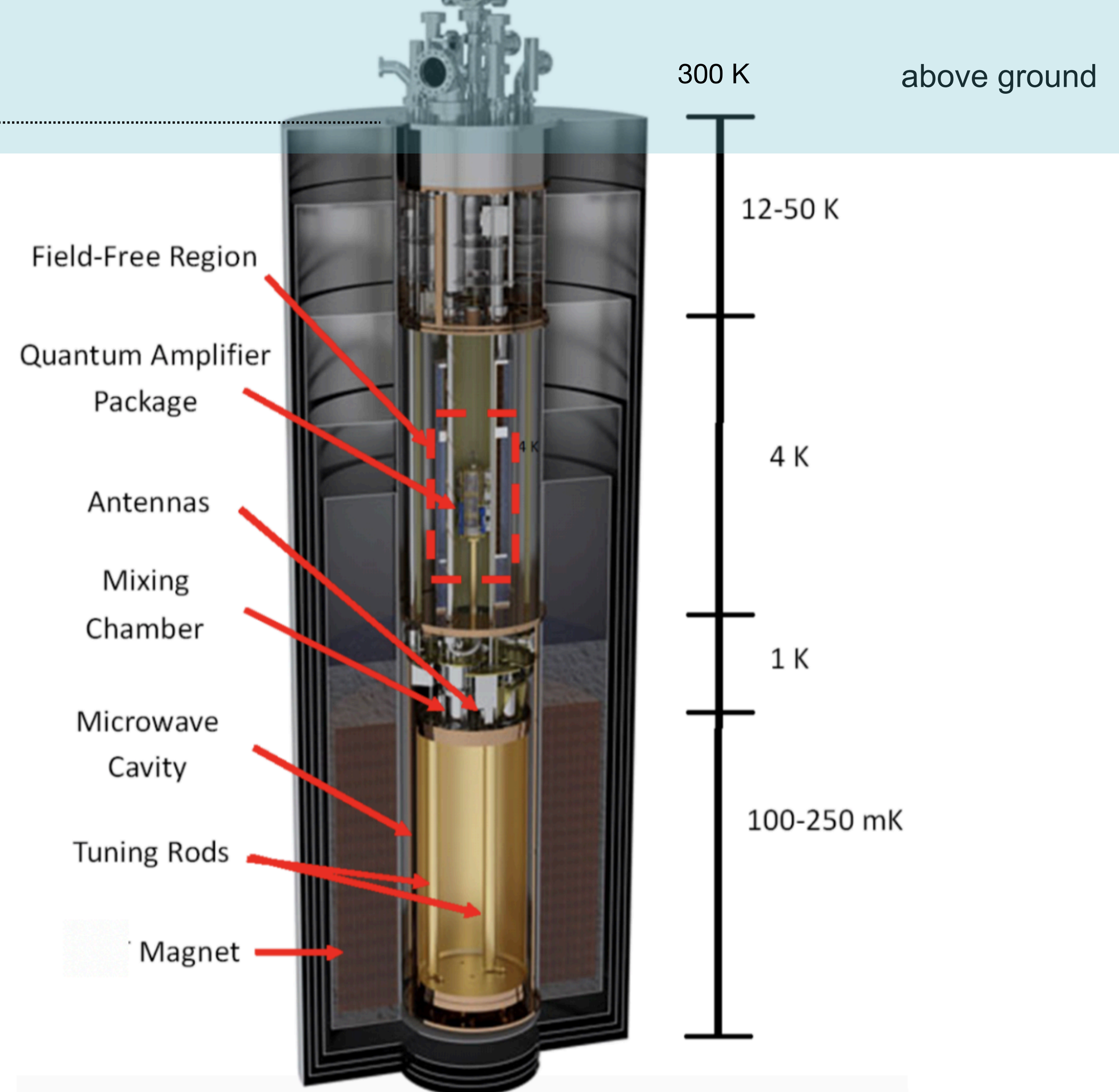
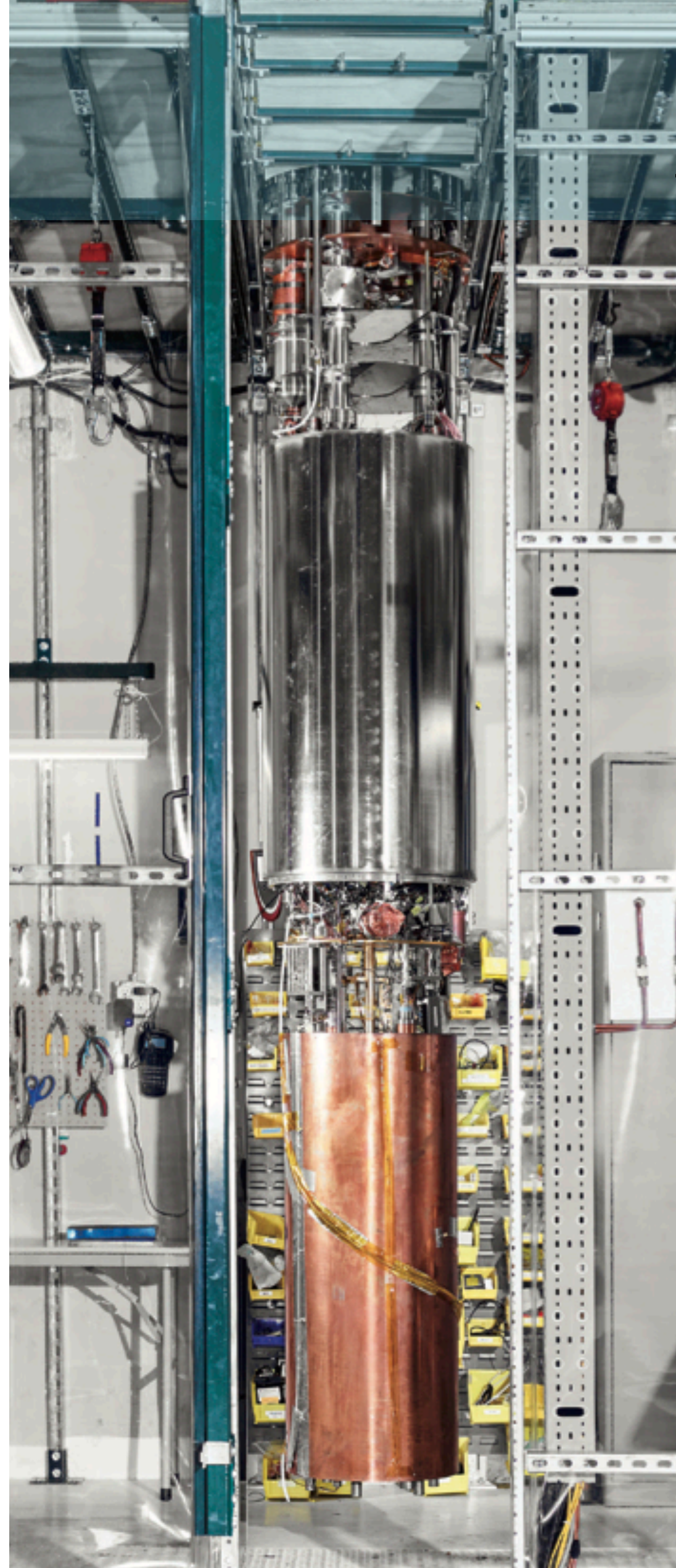


Our resonant cavity is electromagnetic in nature  
Idea is still the same!  
Can tune by changing the “boundary conditions”

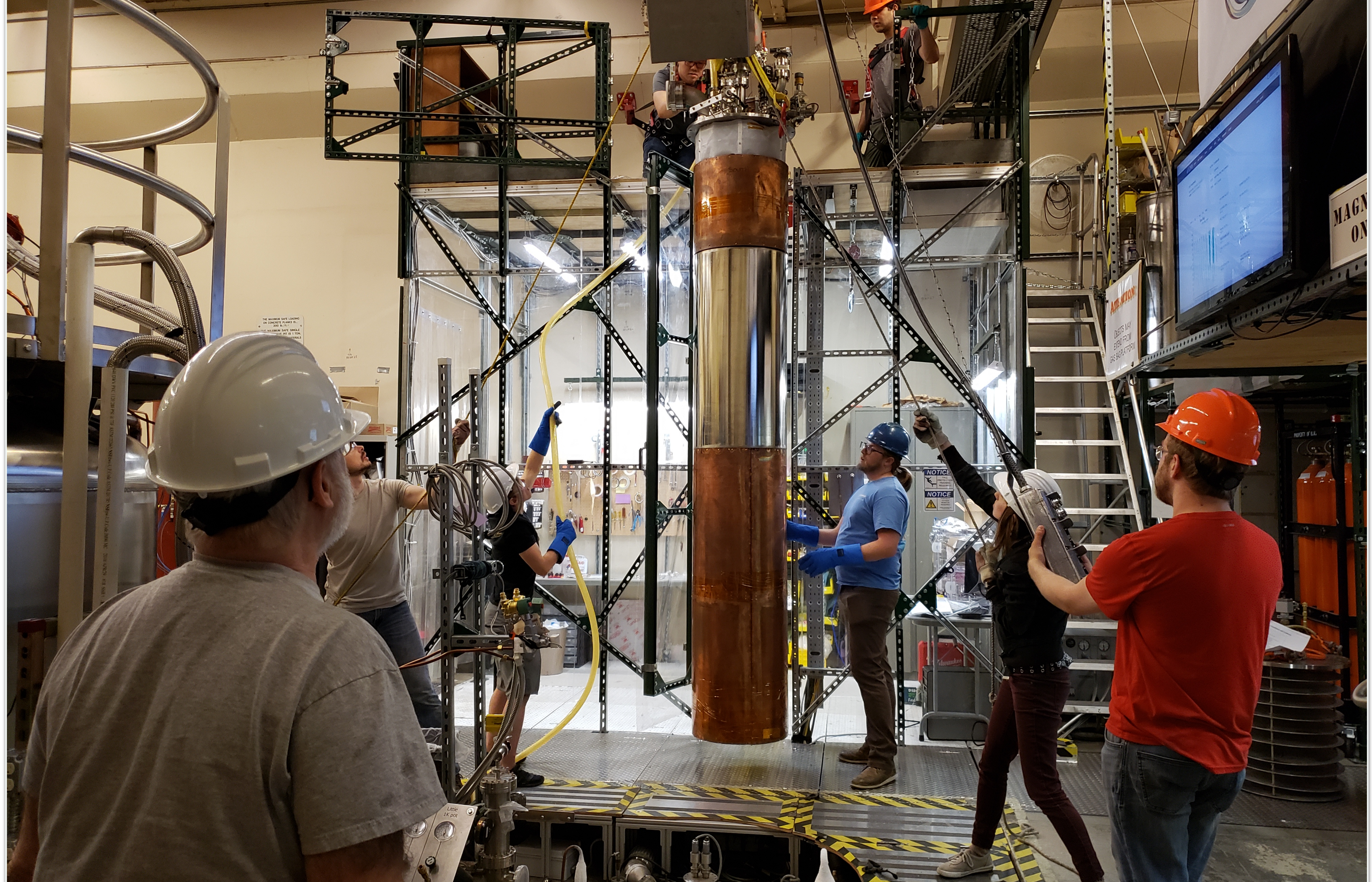


# ADMX

- Dil Fridge: Reaches ~100 mK
- Superconducting magnet:  
~can reach up to 8 T
- Quantum electronics:  
Josephson Parametric Amplifier (JPA)
- Field cancellation coil
- Microwave cavity and electronics

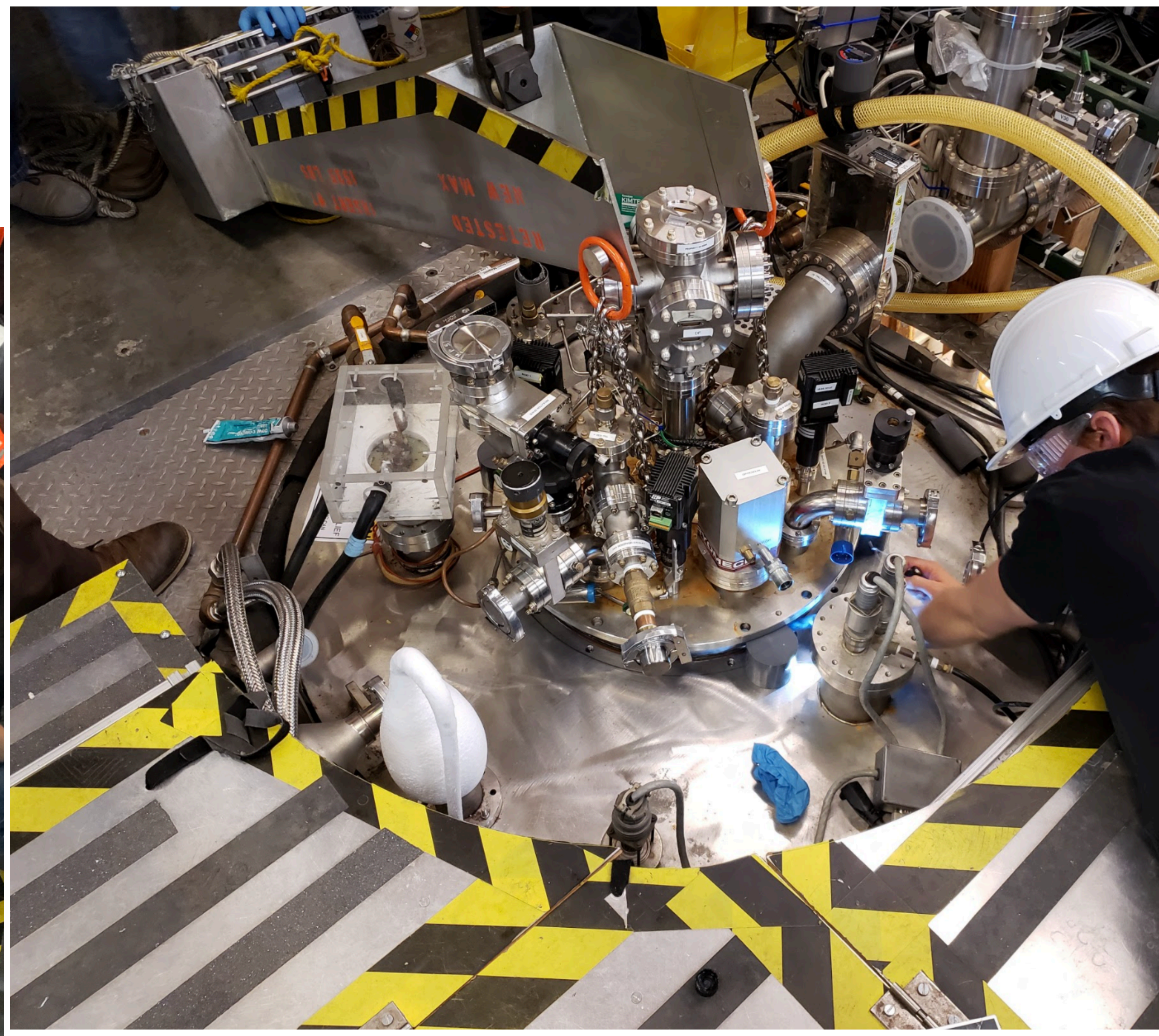




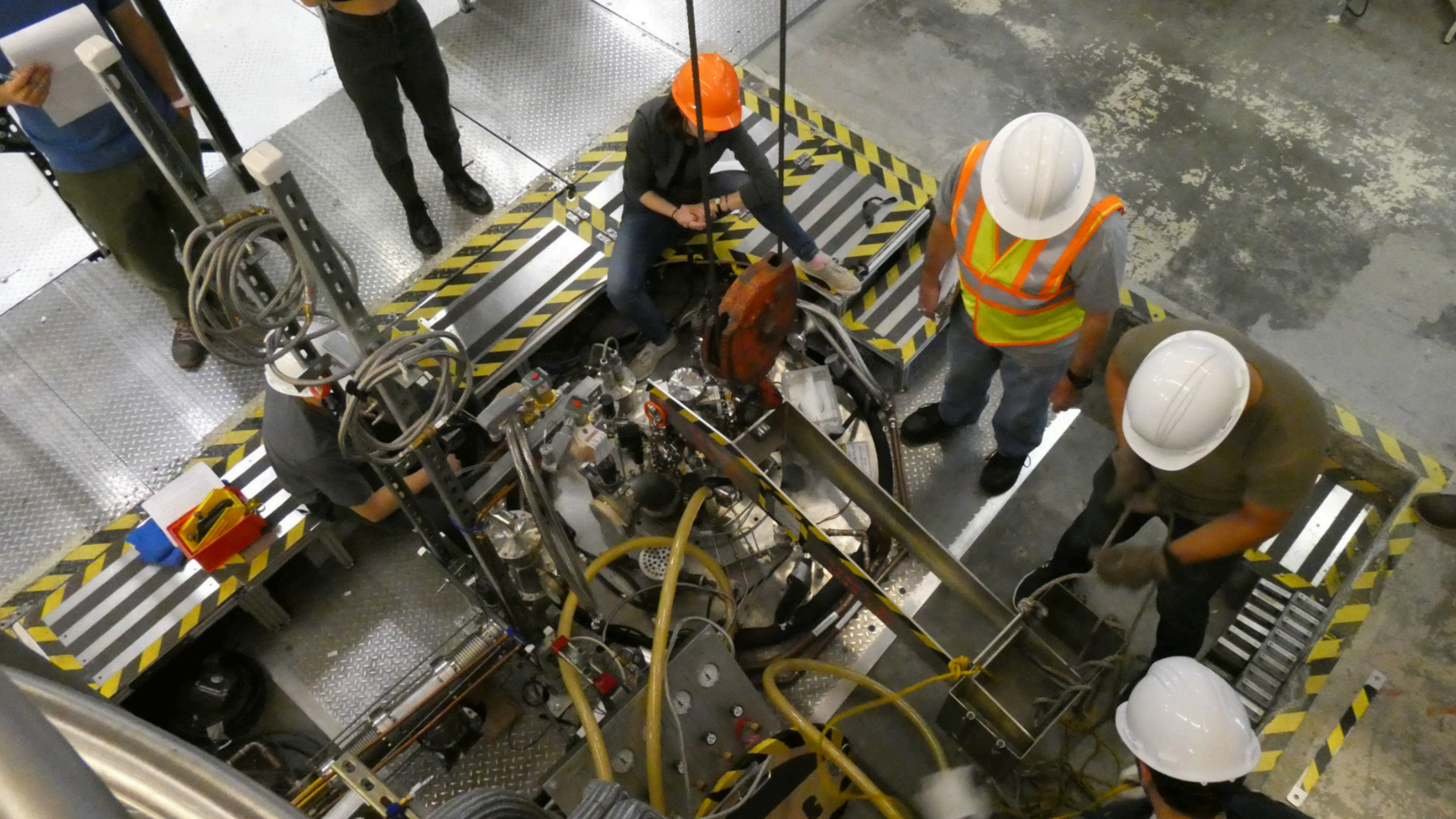




# Working on top of the experiment



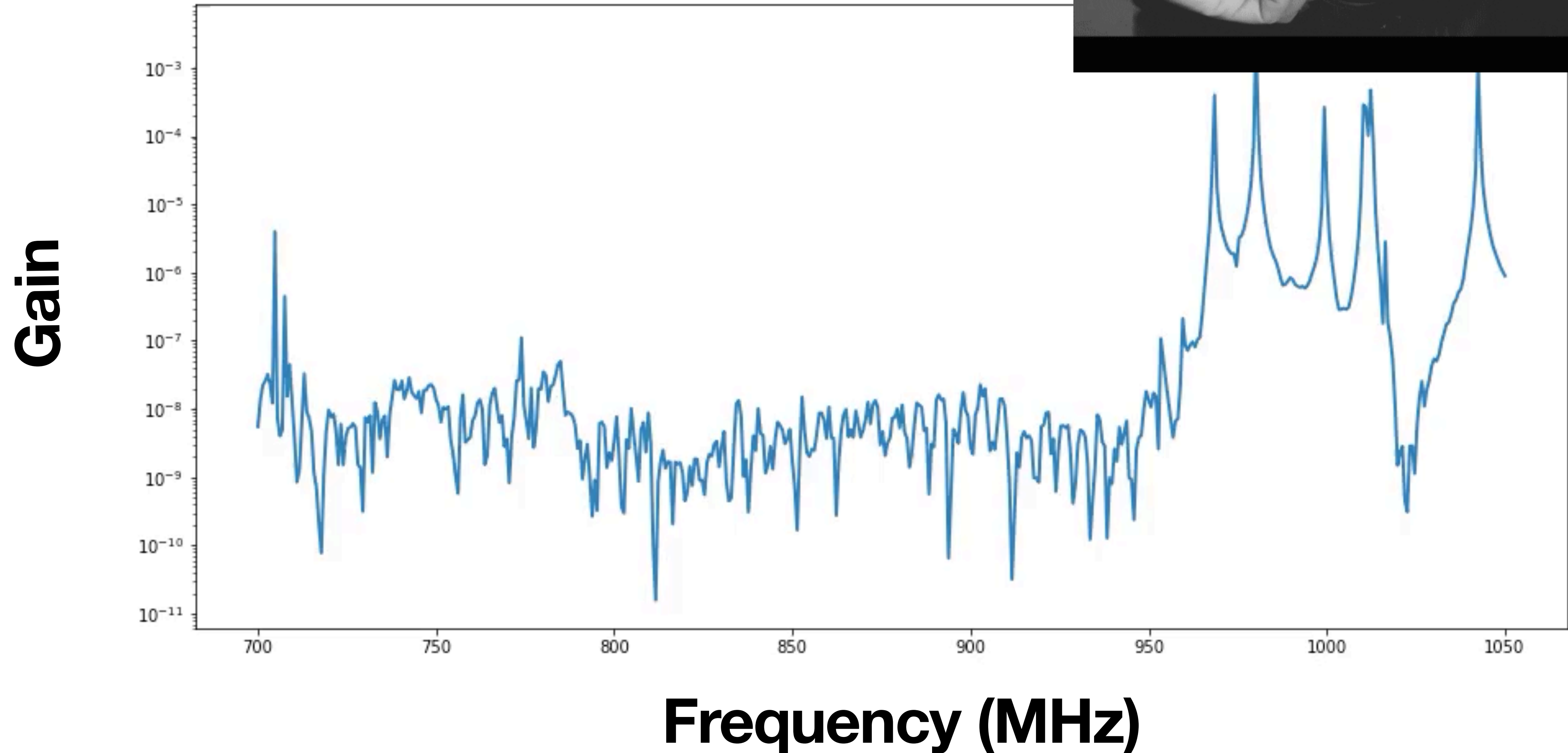






# Tuning an AM Radio

**Peaks = greater axion sensitivity**









One day, we will know  
what this one is....

<https://www.particlezoo.net/>

Dark Matter Plushie  
I think it *\*should\** be  
the axion!





# Thank you!

## May the dark matter be with you!

This work was supported by the U.S. Department of Energy through Grants No DE-SC0009800, No. DE-SC0009723, No. DE-SC0010296, No. DE-SC0010280, No. DE-SC0011665, No. DEFG02-97ER41029, No. DE-FG02-96ER40956, No. DEAC52-07NA27344, No. DE-C03-76SF00098 and No. DE-SC0017987. Fermilab is a U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, HEP User Facility. Fermilab is managed by Fermi Research Alliance, LLC (FRA), acting under Contract No. DE-AC02-07CH11359. Additional support was provided by the Heising-Simons Foundation and by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory LDRD offices.







# **ADMX Collaboration Fermilab Collaboration Meeting in 2018**