

Modelling the Solar Axion Spectrum with Self-Consistent PIC–MC Plasma Simulations



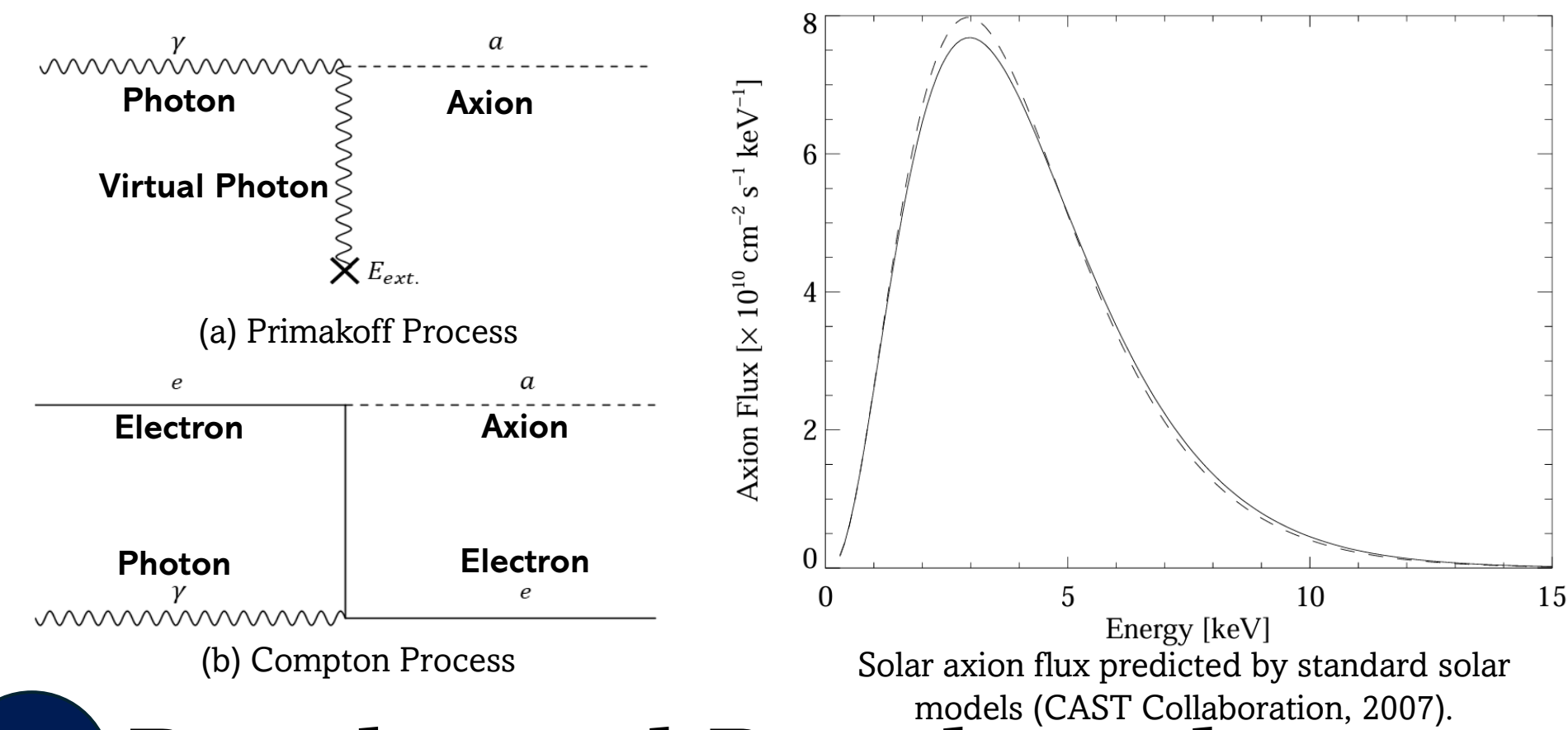
UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD
Osiris
4.0

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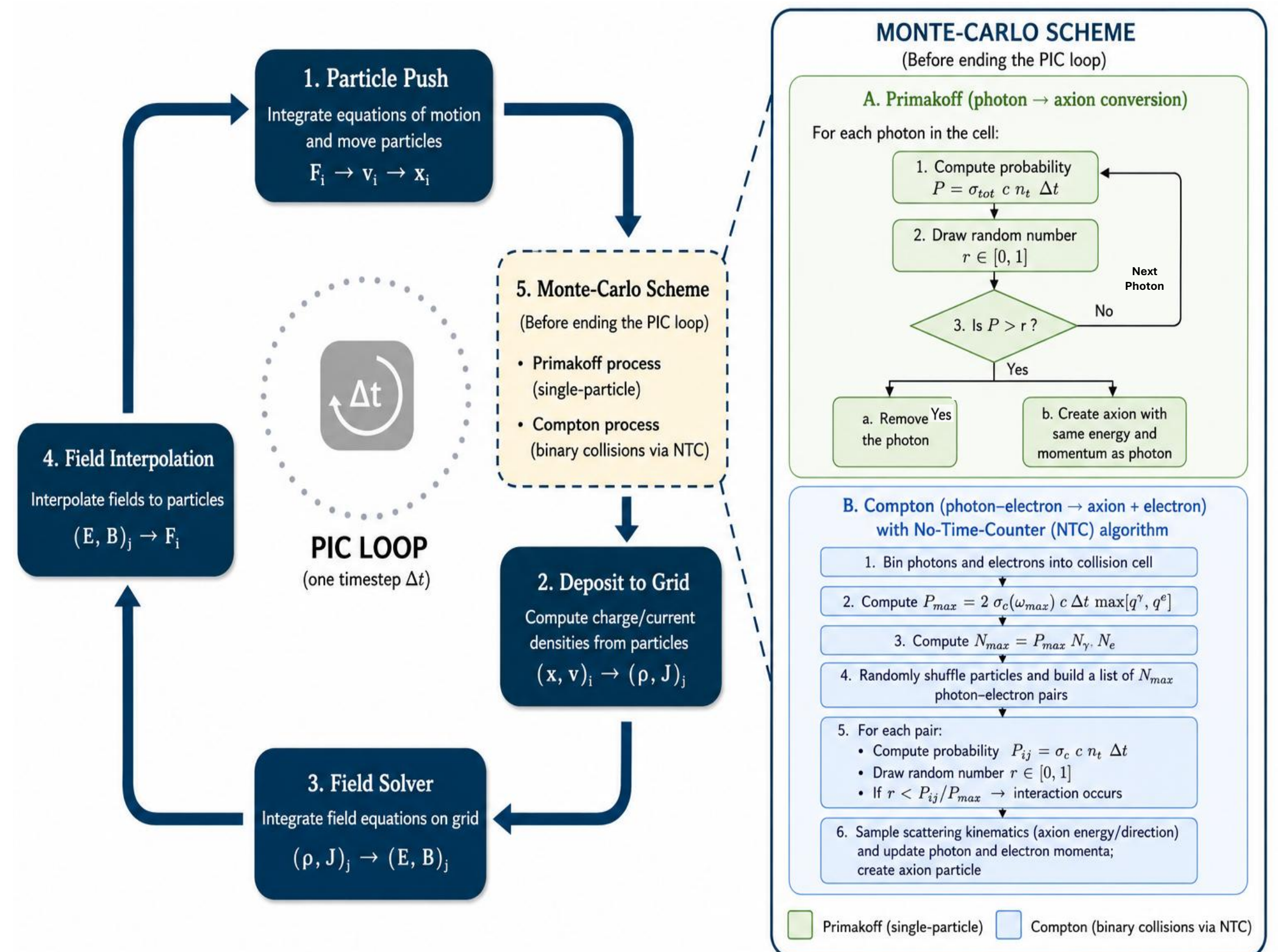
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1 Introduction

Axions are dark matter candidates that can be produced in stellar plasmas through the Primakoff and Compton processes. Accurate predictions of axion spectra are essential for axion searches. We extend the OSIRIS Particle-in-Cell (PIC) code to model axion dynamics in plasmas, laying the foundation for self-consistent axion modelling in PIC frameworks.



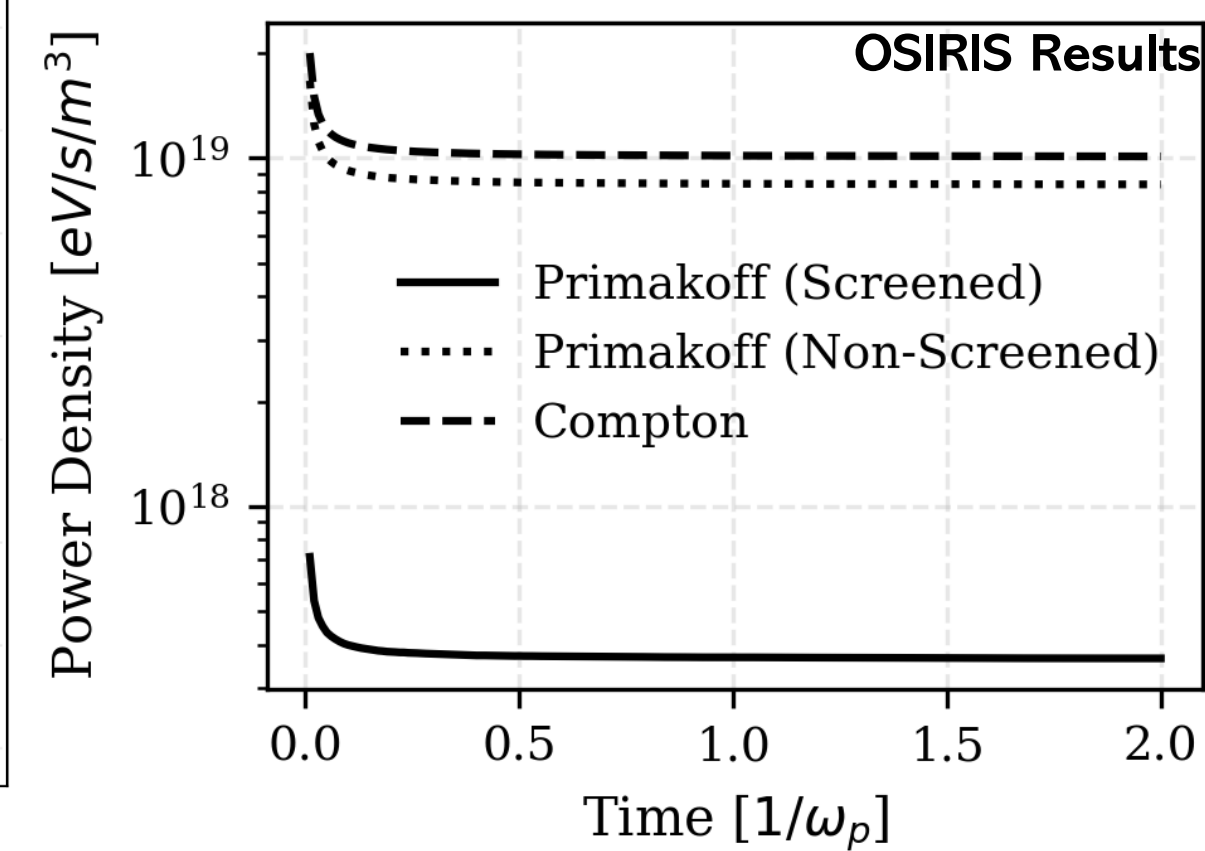
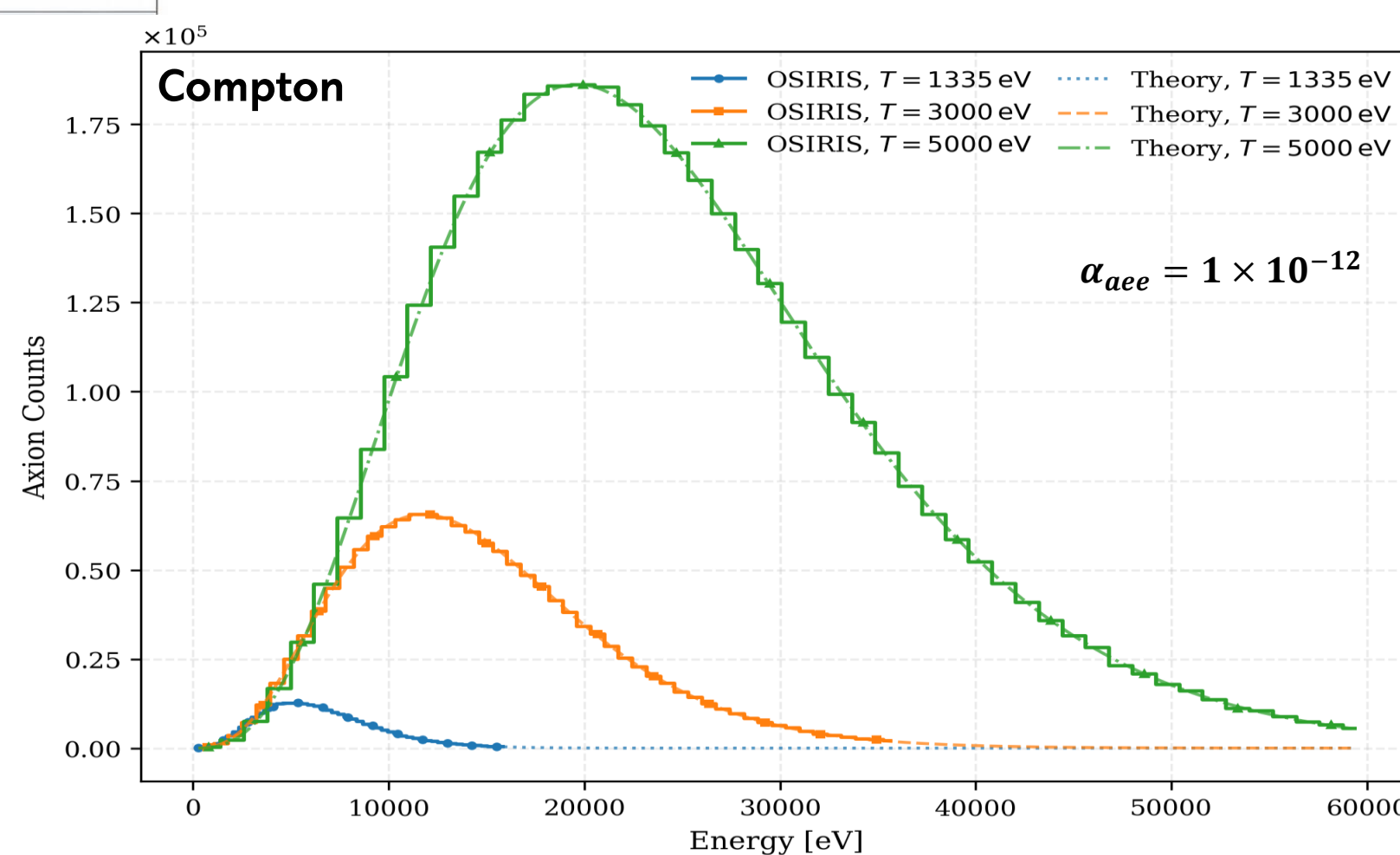
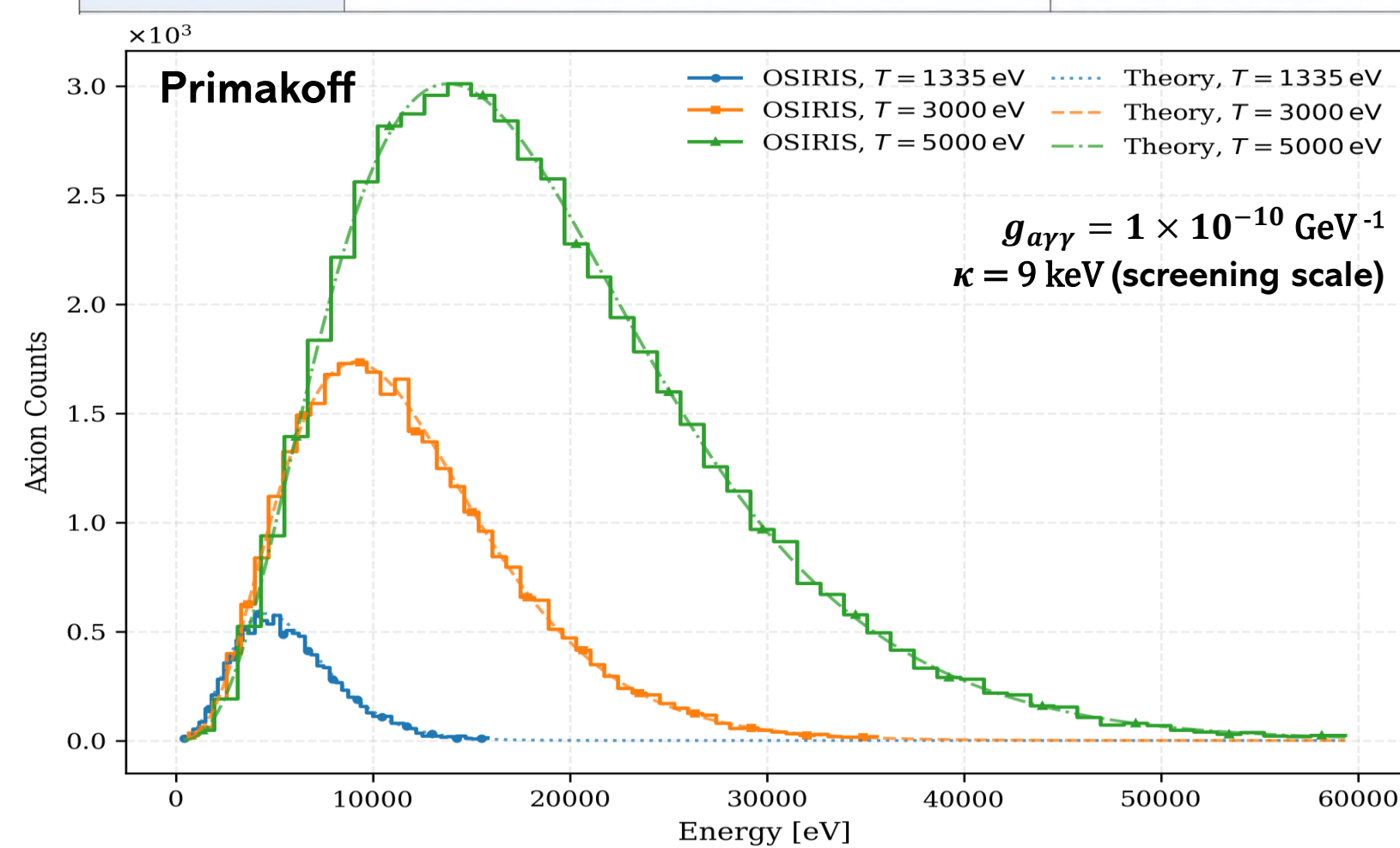
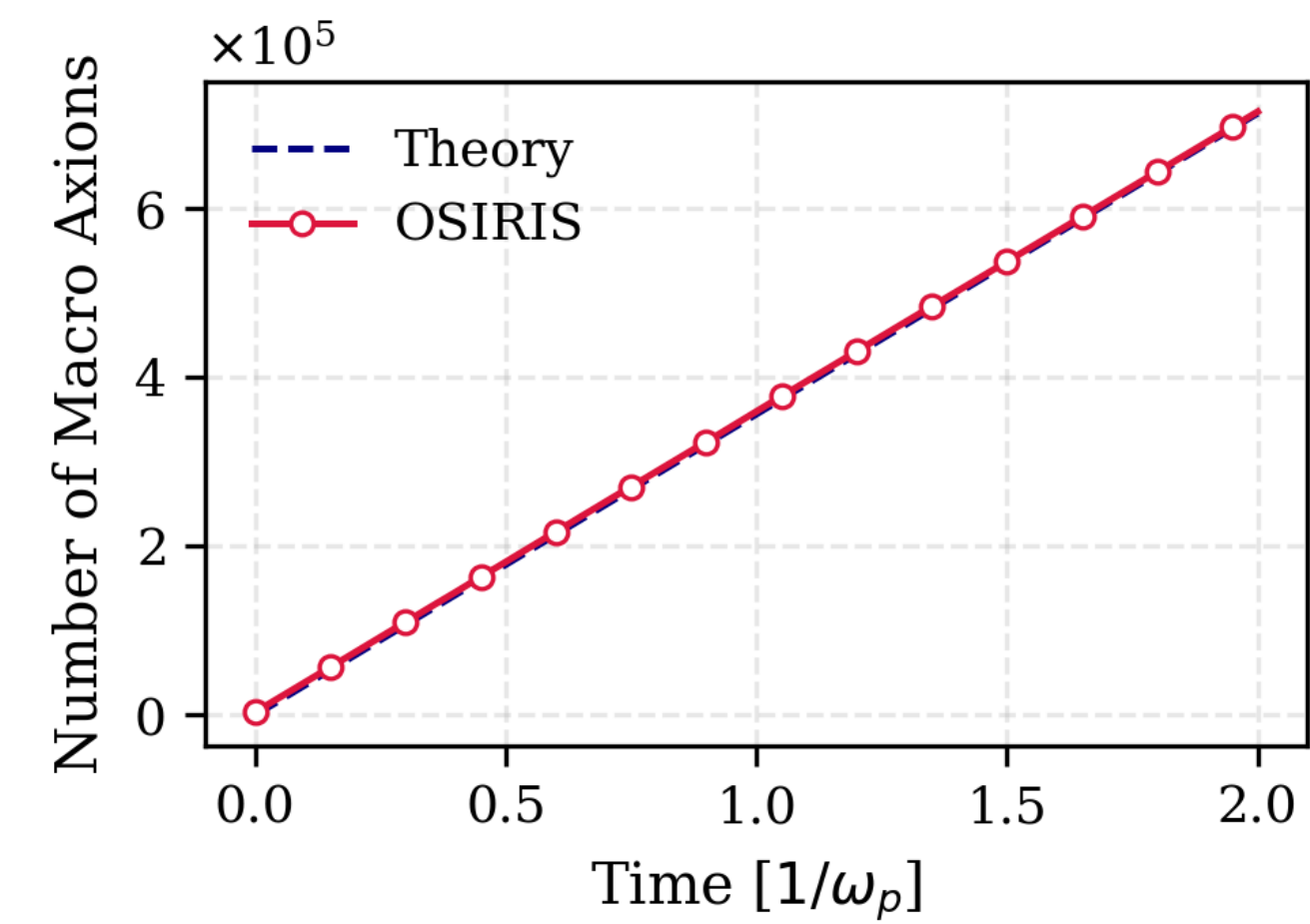
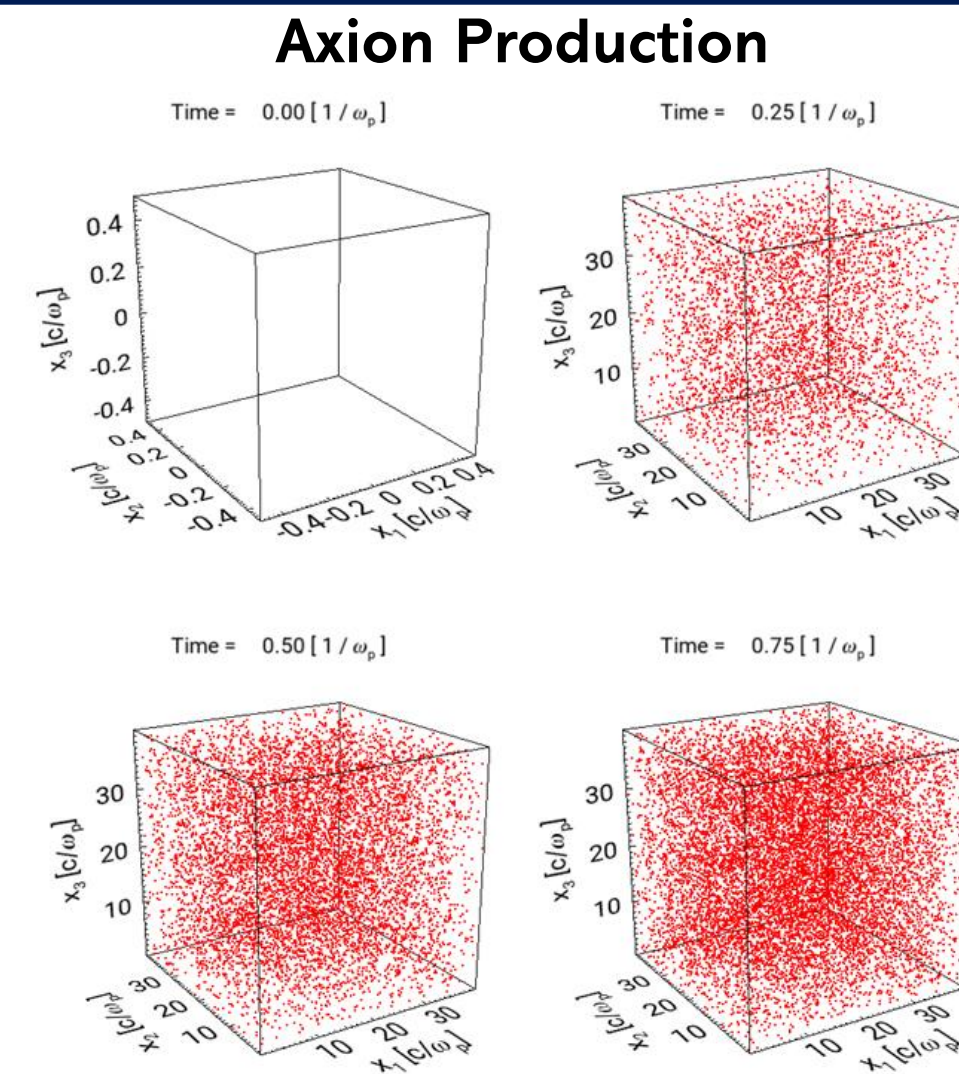
2 Method



3 Results and Benchmark

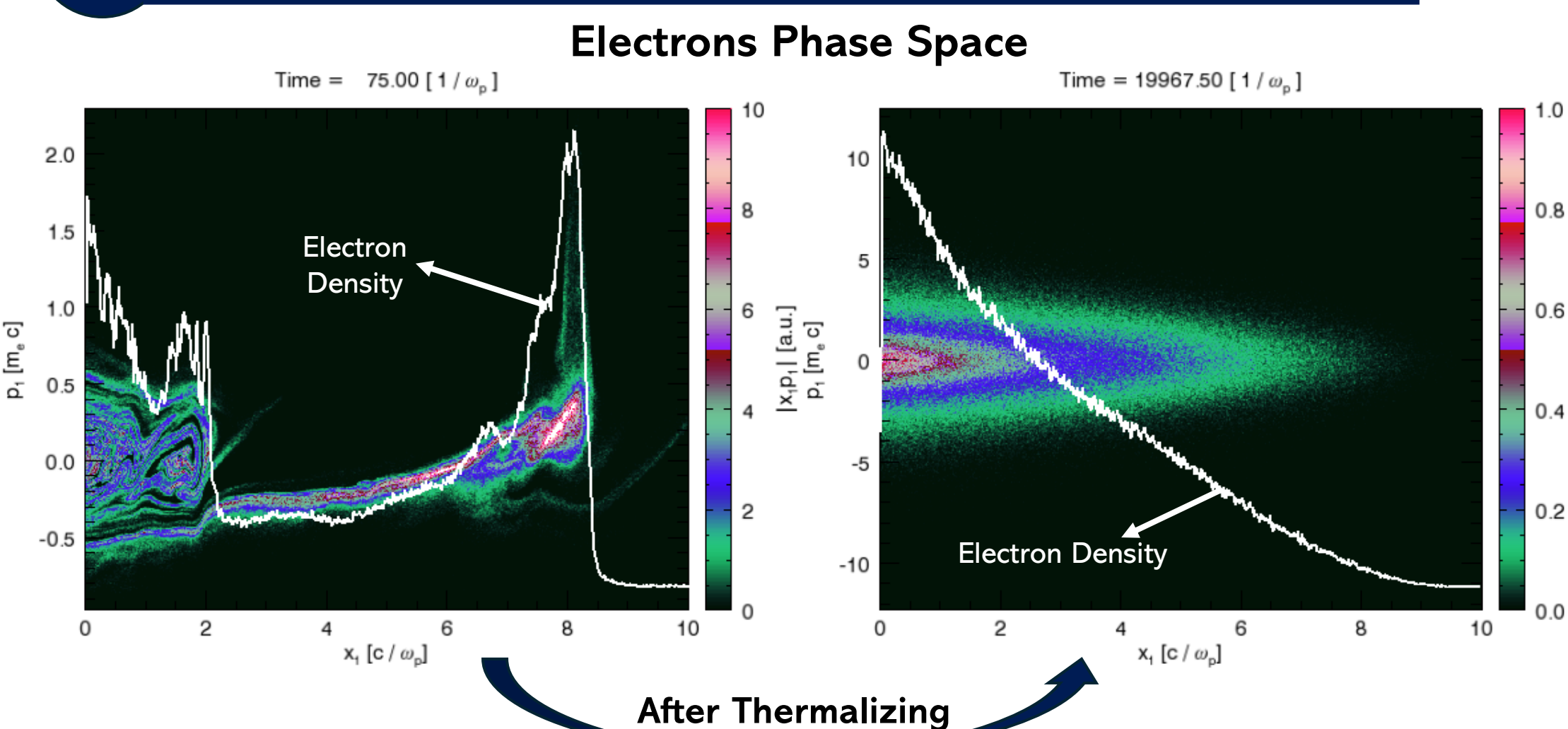
SIMULATION SETUP			
Simulation Parameters		Plasma Conditions	
Boundary conditions	Periodic	Temperature	$T = 1.55 \times 10^7 \text{ K} = 1335 \text{ eV}$
Simulation box	$V_{\text{box}} = (40 l_s)^3 = \left(40 \frac{c}{\omega_p}\right)^3$	Plasma frequency	$\omega_p = 7.1 \times 10^{17} \text{ s}^{-1}$
Grid resolution	10^3 cells	Electron / ion density	$n_i = n_e = 1.58 \times 10^{32} \text{ m}^{-3}$
Time step	$dt = 0.01$	Photon density	$n_\gamma = 2.5 \times 10^{28} \text{ m}^{-3}$

AXION PRODUCTION PROCESSES AND RELEVANT CROSS SECTIONS		
Process	Cross Section	Definitions of Symbols
Primakoff cross section	$\sigma_p(\omega) = Z^2 \left(\frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}}{4\pi} \right)^2 \frac{\pi}{2} \left[\left(1 + \frac{\kappa^2}{4\omega^2} \right) \ln \left(1 + \frac{4\omega^2}{\kappa^2} \right) - 1 \right]$	Z = nuclear charge number $g_{a\gamma\gamma}$ = axion-photon coupling constant e = elementary charge ω = photon energy κ = inverse screening length
Compton cross section	$\sigma_c(\omega) = \frac{4\pi}{3} \frac{\alpha \alpha_{aee}}{m_e^2} \left(\frac{\omega}{m_e} \right)^2$	α = fine-structure constant α_{aee} = axion-electron coupling constant m_e = electron mass ω = photon energy



4 Future Work

Implementation Agrees with Analytical Predictions



5 Conclusion

- First PIC-MC implementation of solar axion production.
- Primakoff and Compton production channels integrated into OSIRIS.
- Axion spectra reproduced in excellent agreement with analytical predictions.
- Solar-core axion energy-loss rates computed self-consistently.
- Framework readily extensible to relativistic and unstable plasmas, opening the way to future axion studies in laboratory and astrophysical environments.

References:

- Georg G. Raffelt. Astrophysical axion bounds diminished by screening effects. Phys. Rev. D, 33:897–909, Feb 1986.
- F. Del Gaudio, T. Grismayer, R. A. Fonseca, and L. O. Silva. Compton scattering in particle-in-cell codes. Journal of Plasma Physics, 86(5), October 2020.
- Miles Radford, Ahmed Alsulami, et al. An axion framework for Particle-in-Cell codes with Monte-Carlo sampling: emission, absorption, and detailed balance in plasmas. Arxiv: 2604.24627.
- CAST Collaboration. An improved limit on the axion-photon coupling from the CAST experiment (2007).
- (In progress) Ahmed Alsulami, et. al. Modelling the Solar Axion Spectrum with Self-Consistent PIC–MC Plasma Simulations.