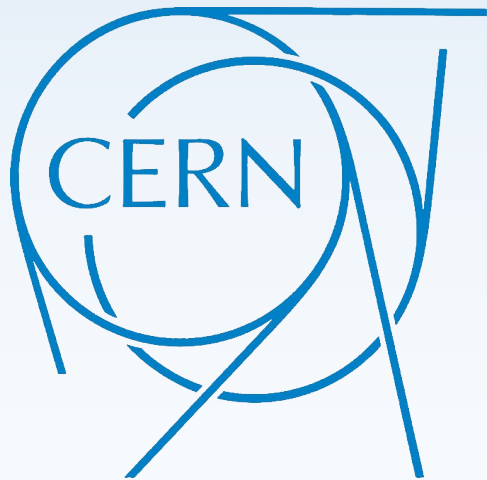


# AXION-LIKE ALPs



FERNANDO ARIAS ARAGÓN

Based on 2211.04489 in collaboration  
with Jérémie Quevillon and Christopher Smith



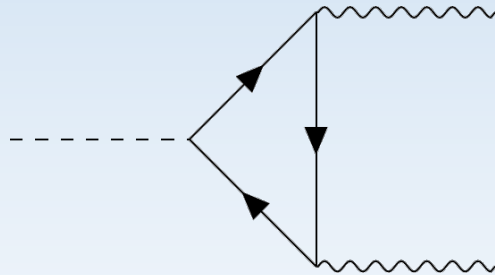
# The Strong CP Problem – The Axion Mechanism

- Purely gauge terms proportional to total derivatives can be added to the SM Lagrangian

$$\theta_{QCD} \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G^{a\mu\nu} \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}^a$$

$$\frac{\alpha_X}{8\pi} X^{a\mu\nu} \tilde{X}_{\mu\nu}^a = \partial_\mu K^\mu; \quad K^\mu = \frac{\alpha_X}{4\pi} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \left( X_\nu^a \partial_\alpha X_\beta^a + \frac{1}{3} f_{abc} X_\nu^a X_\alpha^b X_\beta^c \right)$$

- The  $G\tilde{G}$  term is related to quark masses through the chiral anomaly



$$\bar{\theta} = \theta_{QCD} + \text{Arg}(\text{Det}(M_u M_d))$$

- The observable parameter,  $\bar{\theta}$  is bound by its relation to the neutron EDM,  $d_n$

Crewther, Di Vecchia, Veneziano & Witten, 1980

$$d_n \sim \bar{\theta} \times 10^{-16} e \cdot \text{cm}, \quad \bar{\theta} \lesssim \mathcal{O}(10^{-10})$$

Baker et al., 0602020 Afach et al., 1509.04411

- Why is a dimensionless parameter so small?

# The Strong CP Problem – The Axion Mechanism

Peccei and Quinn, PRL 38 (1977) 1440-1443 and PRD 16 (1977) 1791-1797

- $\bar{\theta}$  becomes dynamical by introducing an axial global symmetry  $U(1)_{PQ}$ , broken spontaneously

Weinberg, PRL 40 (1978) 223-226

Wilczek, PRL 40 (1978) 279-282

- Its NGB, the axion  $a$ , couples to gluons through the chiral anomaly

$$\mathcal{L}_{aGG} = \frac{a}{f_a} \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G^{a\mu\nu} \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}^a \longrightarrow \theta_{eff} = \bar{\theta} + \frac{a}{f_a}$$

- Non-perturbative QCD creates a potential that ensures CP conservation

$$V_{eff} \sim 1 - \sqrt{1 + \cos\left(\bar{\theta} + \frac{a}{f_a}\right)} \longrightarrow \langle a \rangle = -f_a \bar{\theta}$$

- The original model, the PQWW axion broke  $U(1)_{PQ}$  with **two Higgs doublets**
- As a consequence, the axion scale was too low and should have been observed already

$$f_a \sim v \approx 246 \text{ GeV}$$

- More elusive axions are required!

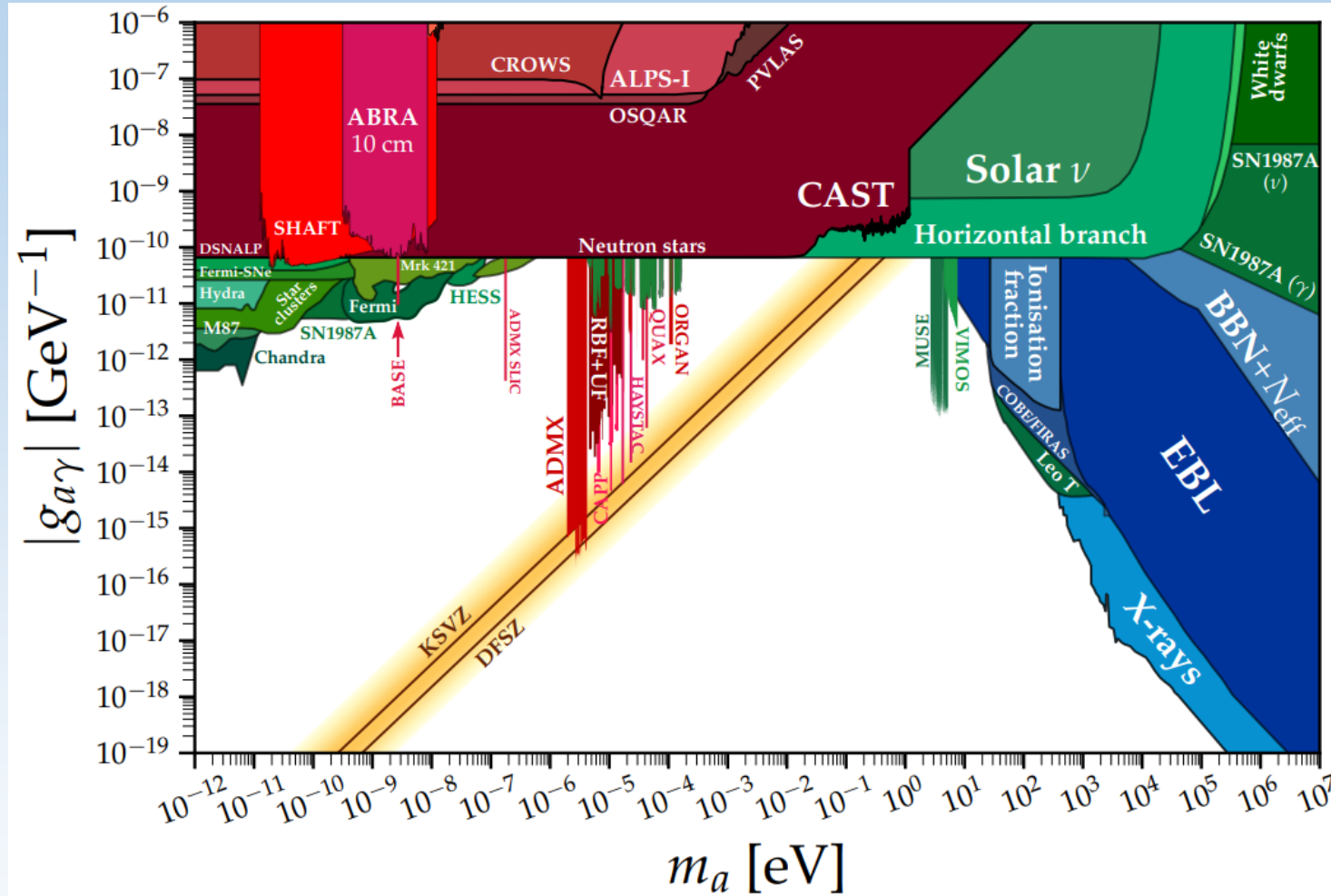
# The Strong CP Problem – Invisible Axions

- DFSZ Axion (2HDM+ $\phi_{PQ}$ )  
A. R. Zhitnitsky, Sov. J. Nucl. Phys. 31 (1980)  
M. Dine, W. Fischler, M. Srednicki, Phys. Lett. B104 (1981)
  - Adds a new scalar SM singlet,  $\phi$ , to the PQWW particle content
  - $\phi$  is charged under  $U(1)_{PQ}$  with  $\phi^2 H_u^\dagger H_d$  and has a VEV  $v_\phi \gg v \approx 246$  GeV
  - The axion arises as a combination of the different pseudoscalars, with a scale  $f_a \simeq \frac{v_\phi}{2} \gg v$
- KSVZ Axion  
J. E. Kim, PRL 43 (1979)  
M. A. Shifman, A. I. Vainshtein, V. I. Zakharov, Nucl. Phys. B166 (1980)
  - The SM is neutral under  $U(1)_{PQ}$ , only vector heavy quark  $Q$  and singlet complex scalar  $\sigma$  have PQ charges
  - The axion is the angular part of  $\sigma$ , invisible thanks to the large VEV  $v_\sigma \gg v$
  - KSVZ axion couples to SM fermions at a two-loop level
- Axion-gluon coupling implies a scale-mass relation shared by all these axions

$$m_a = 5.691(51) \left( \frac{10^9 \text{ GeV}}{f_a} \right) \text{ meV}$$

# The Strong CP Problem – Invisible Axions

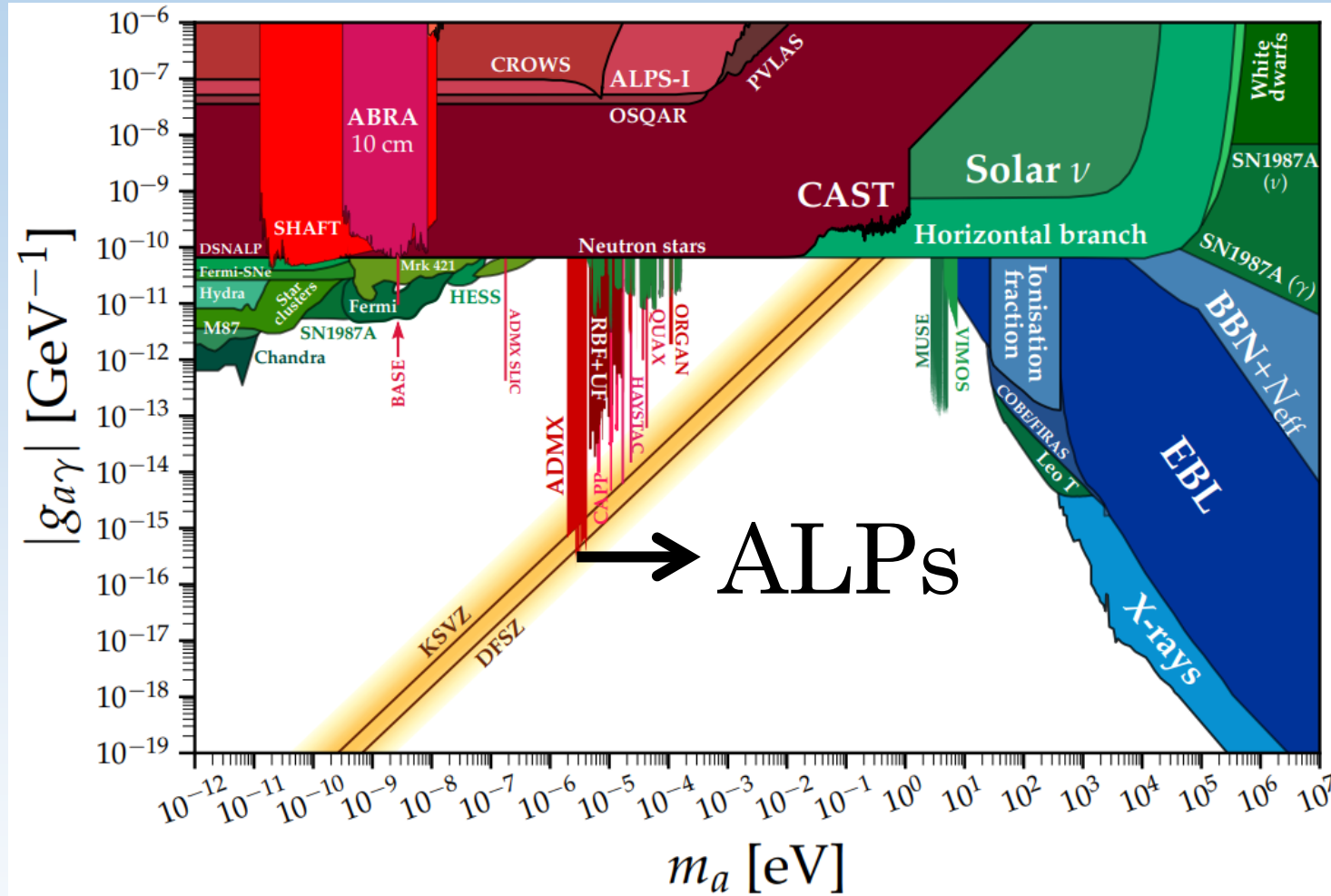
PDG 2022



$$m_a = 5.691(51) \left( \frac{10^9 \text{ GeV}}{f_a} \right) \text{ meV}$$

# The Strong CP Problem – Invisible Axions

PDG 2022



$$m_a \times 5.691(51) \left( \frac{10^9 \text{ GeV}}{f_a} \right) \text{ meV}$$

# ALPs in Effective Field Theories

- EFTs useful for model independent studies
- ALP EFT: derivative fermionic + anomalous bosonic couplings

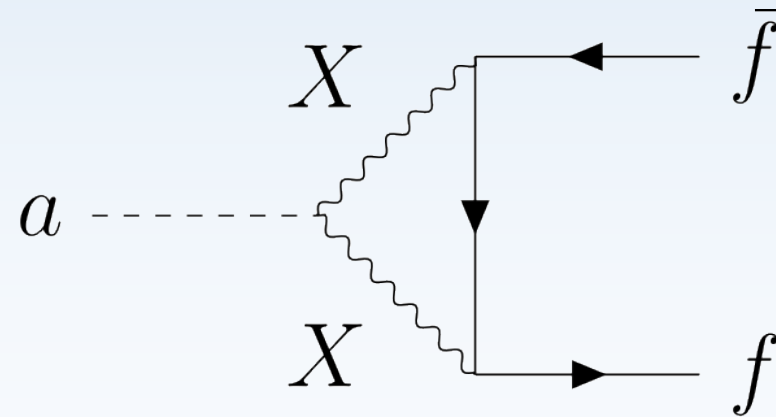
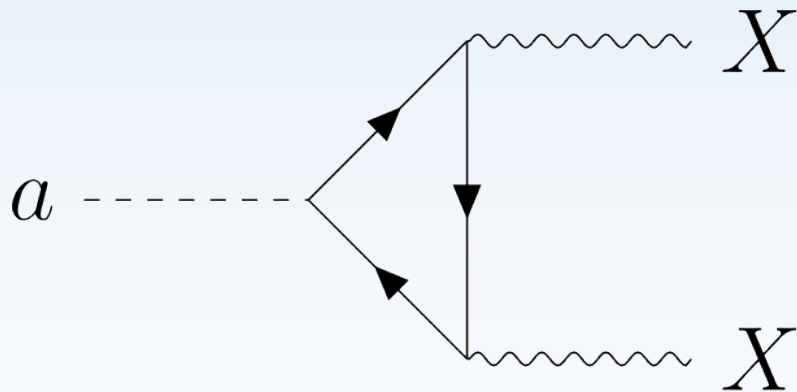
$$\mathcal{L}_{ALP} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu a \partial^\mu a - m_a^2 a a) - i \sum_f \frac{\chi_f}{v_a} \partial^\mu a \bar{f} \gamma_\mu f + \frac{a}{16\pi^2 v_a} \left( g_s^2 \mathcal{N}_C G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a,\mu\nu} + g^2 \mathcal{N}_L W_{\mu\nu}^i \tilde{W}^{i,\mu\nu} + g'^2 \mathcal{N}_Y B_{\mu\nu} \tilde{B}^{\mu\nu} \right)$$

- $m_a$  and  $v_a$  no longer correlated
- ALP couplings,  $\chi_f$  and  $\mathcal{N}_X$ , independent in this approach
- Is this situation reasonable from a UV point of view?

# ALPs in Effective Field Theories

J. Quevillon and C. Smith, 1903.12559

- Anomalous character of  $U(1)_{PQ}$  tricky when considering W and Z bosons
- Imposing consistency conditions reduces number of free parameters
- DFSZ-like ALP: pseudoscalar coupling to fermions  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{N}_X \equiv f(\chi_f)$
- KSVZ -like ALP: couplings to heavy quarks  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{N}_X \Rightarrow \chi_f \equiv f(\mathcal{N}_X)$
- These scenarios represent benchmark for ALP searches

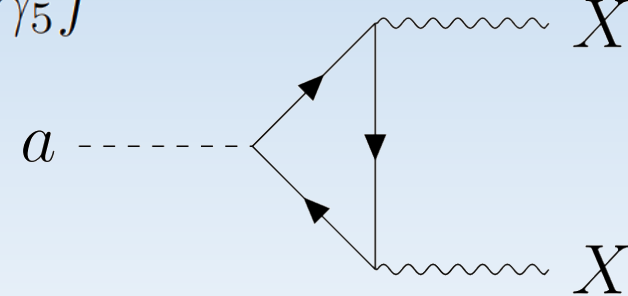




# DFSZ-like ALPs

- Original DFSZ: 2HDM plus extra scalar  $\phi_{PQ}$
- Generalized DFSZ: pseudoscalar coupling to fermions with three independent  $\chi_f$

$$\mathcal{L}_{DFSZ} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu a \partial^\mu a - m_a^2 a a) - i \sum_{f=u,d,e} \frac{m_f}{v_a} \chi_f a \bar{f} \gamma_5 f$$



- One-loop induced couplings to gauge bosons

$$\mathcal{L}_{gauge}^{eff} = \frac{a}{4\pi v_a} \left( g_{agg} G^{a\mu\nu} \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}^a + g_{a\gamma\gamma} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} + g_{aZ\gamma} Z_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} + g_{aZZ} Z_{\mu\nu} \tilde{Z}^{\mu\nu} + g_{aWW} W^{+\mu\nu} \tilde{W}_{\mu\nu}^- \right)$$

$$g_{aV_1 V_2} = -2i\pi\sigma \sum_{f=u,d,e} m_f \chi_f \left( g_{V_1}^f g_{V_2}^{f'} \mathcal{T}_{PVV}(m_f) + g_{A_1}^f g_{A_2}^{f'} \mathcal{T}_{PAA}(m_f) \right)$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{PVV}(m) = \frac{-i}{2\pi^2} m C_0(m^2)$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{PAA}(m) = \frac{-i}{2\pi^2} m (C_0(m^2) + 2C_1(m^2))$$

# DFSZ-like ALPs

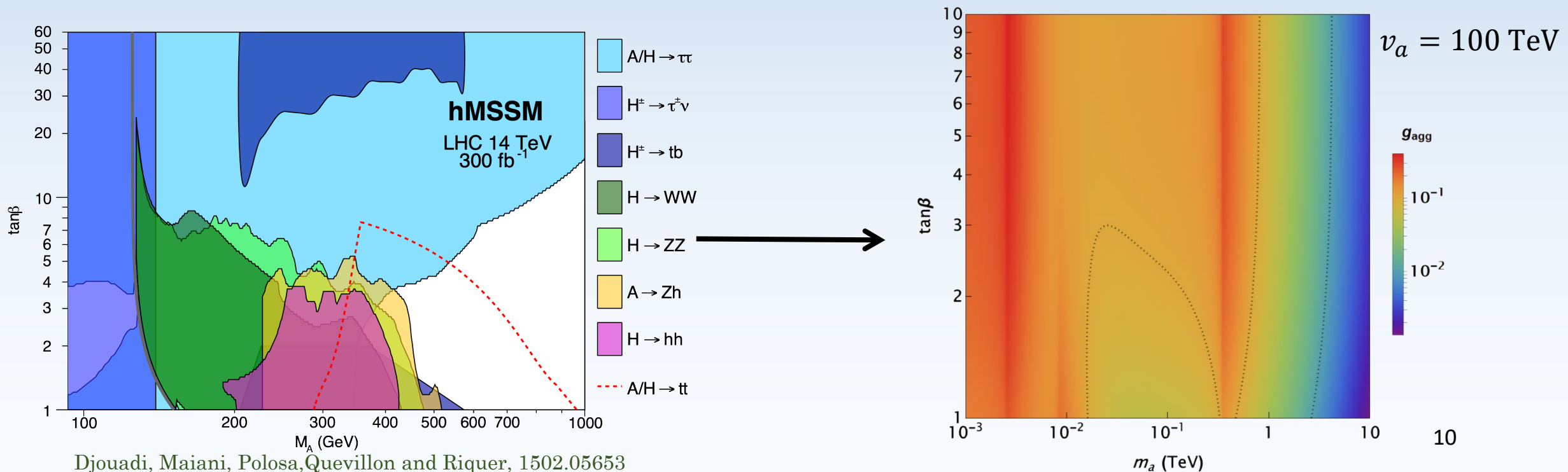
- Four physical parameters,  $\chi_f/v_a$  and  $m_a$  as opposed to seven in the generic EFT
- $g_{aXX}$  now a function of the ALP mass
- Non-linear correlations among EW  $g_{aXX}$  in the broken phase
- Measuring  $g_{agg}$ ,  $g_{a\gamma\gamma}$  and  $g_{az\gamma}$  fixes  $g_{aWW}$  and  $g_{aZZ}$  in the pure EFT
- In DFSZ-like scenario one degree of freedom remains: curve in the  $g_{aWW}$  and  $g_{aZZ}$  space

# DFSZ-like ALPs – A more constrained case

- Micmicking the 2HDM type-II pseudoscalar couplings:

$$\chi_u = \frac{x^2}{1+x^2}, \quad \chi_d = \chi_e = \frac{1}{1+x^2} \quad x = \tan \beta = v_u/v_d$$

- Allows to recast pseudoscalar searches for 2HDM on the DFSZ-like ALP parameter space



# KSVZ-like ALPs

- After integrating out heavy quarks, ALP-gauge boson  $SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$  invariant couplings

$$\mathcal{L}_{KSVZ} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu a \partial^\mu a - m_a^2 a a) + \frac{a}{16\pi^2 v_a} \left( g_s^2 \mathcal{N}_C G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a,\mu\nu} + g^2 \mathcal{N}_L W_{\mu\nu}^i \tilde{W}^{i,\mu\nu} + g'^2 \mathcal{N}_Y B_{\mu\nu} \tilde{B}^{\mu\nu} \right)$$

$$g_{agg} = \alpha_s \mathcal{N}_C$$

$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} = \alpha (\mathcal{N}_L + \mathcal{N}_Y)$$

$$g_{a\gamma Z} = 2\alpha (-\mathcal{N}_L/t_W + t_W \mathcal{N}_Y)$$

$$g_{aZZ} = \alpha (\mathcal{N}_L/t_W^2 + t_W^2 \mathcal{N}_Y)$$

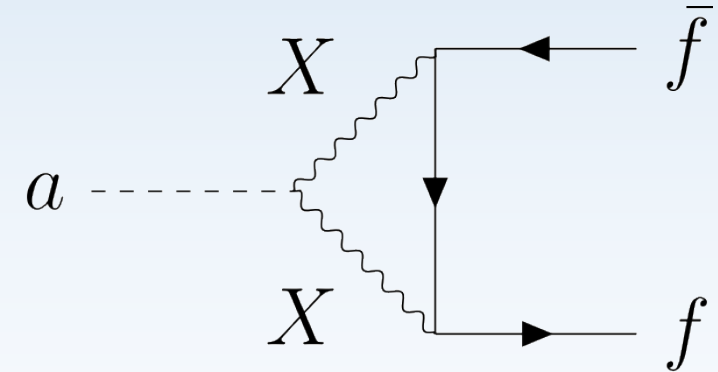
$$g_{aWW} = \frac{2\alpha}{s_W^2} \mathcal{N}_L$$

- One-loop coupling to SM fermions

$$\mathcal{L}_{fermion}^{eff} = \sum_{f=u,d,e} \frac{m_f}{v_a} c_{af} a \bar{f} \gamma_5 f$$

$$c_{af} = 16 \left( \alpha^2 Q_f^2 (\mathcal{N}_L + \mathcal{N}_Y) + \alpha_s^2 \frac{4}{3} \mathcal{N}_C \right) I_0 - \frac{\alpha^2 (\mathcal{N}_L/t_W^2 + t_W^2 \mathcal{N}_Y)}{s_W^2 c_W^2} I_{ZZ}$$

$$+ \frac{16\alpha^2 Q_f (T_f^3 - 2Q_f s_W^2) (-\mathcal{N}_L/t_W + t_W \mathcal{N}_Y)}{s_W c_W} I_{\gamma Z} - \frac{4\alpha^2 \mathcal{N}_L}{s_W^4} \sum_{f'} V_{ff'} I_{WW}$$

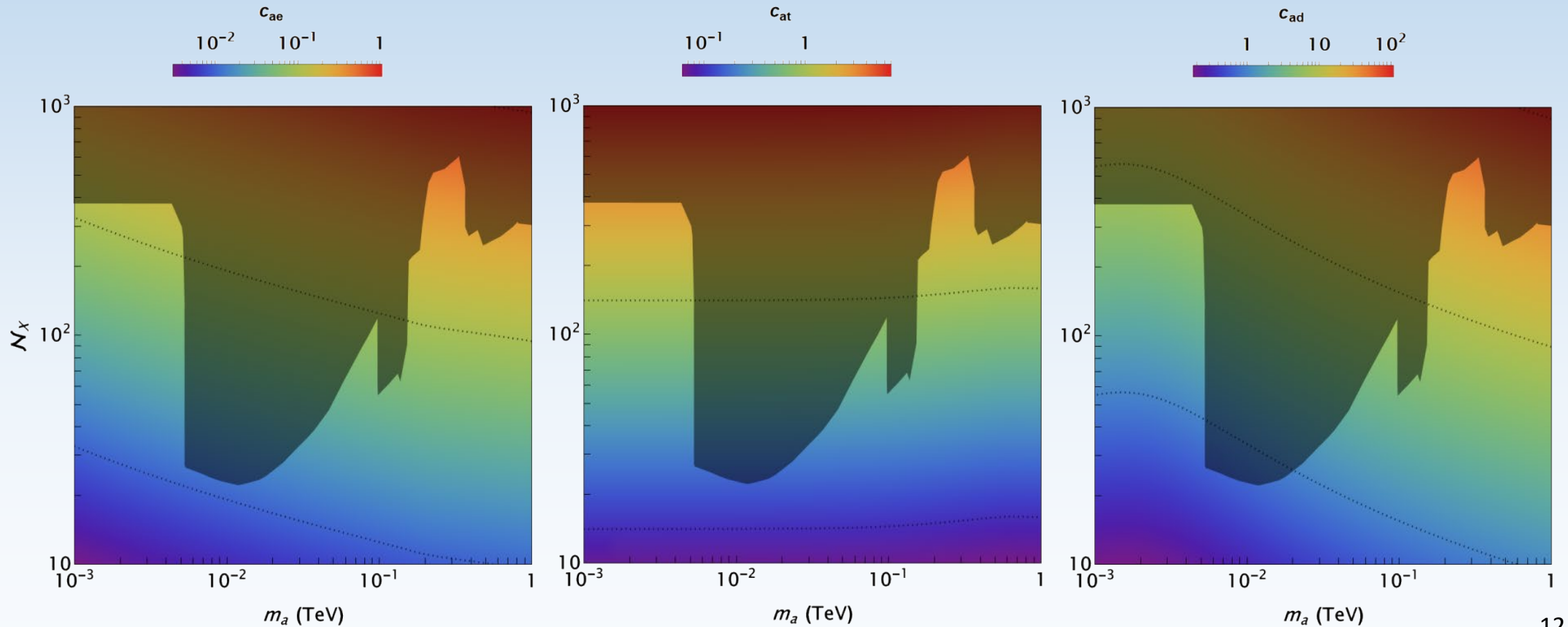


# KSVZ-like ALPs

- Parameter space easy to bound with, for example, limits on  $g_{a\gamma\gamma}$

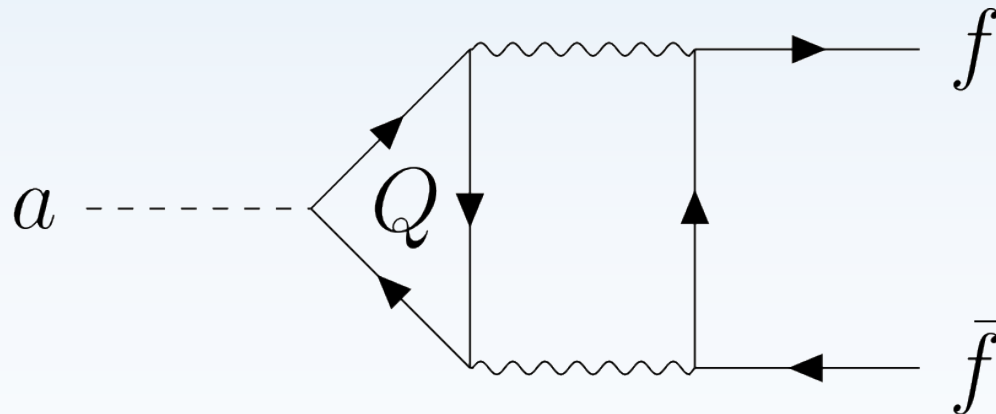
$$\mathcal{N}_C = \mathcal{N}_L = \mathcal{N}_Y \equiv \mathcal{N}_X$$

$$v_a = 1 \text{ TeV}$$



# KSVZ-like ALPs

- The fermion one-loop coupling arises from an infinite diagram
- Regularizing this diagram may introduce scheme-dependence due to  $\gamma_5$
- Dependence removed by projecting fermion pair on the  $J^{CP} = 0^{-+}$  state
- This yields a result with more physical meaning than other schemes
- Renormalization scale  $\mu = v_a$  identified from two-loop finite process



# Conclusions

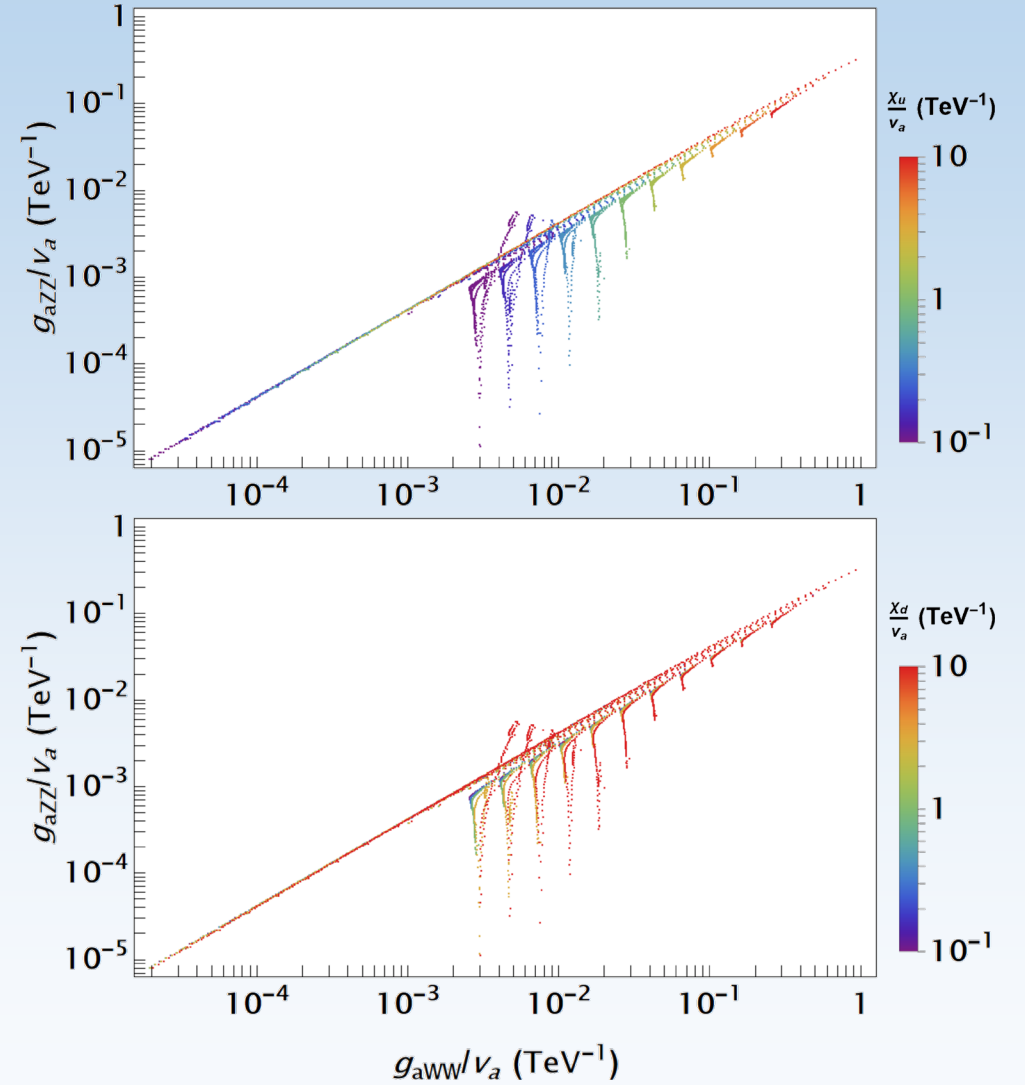
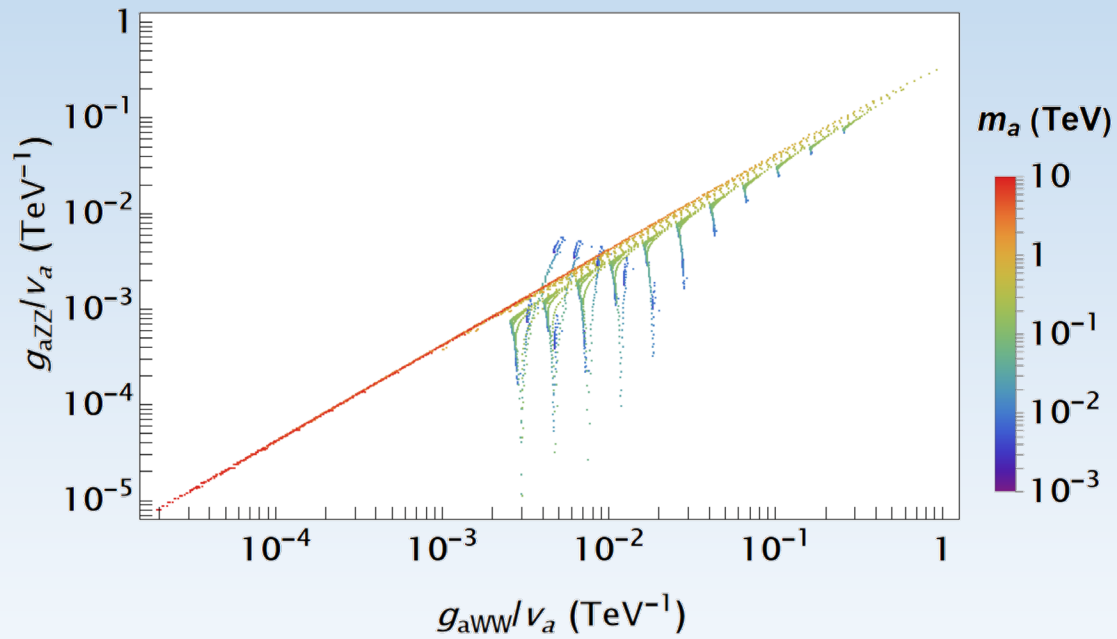
- DFSZ-like and KSVZ-like benchmarks presented
- Inconsistencies and scheme dependences avoided
- Different set of parameters identified, reduced with respect to pure EFT
- Scenarios easy to constrain, in particular DFSZ-like through 2HDM searches
- Full dedicated analysis with all bounds required!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION



# DFSZ-like ALPs

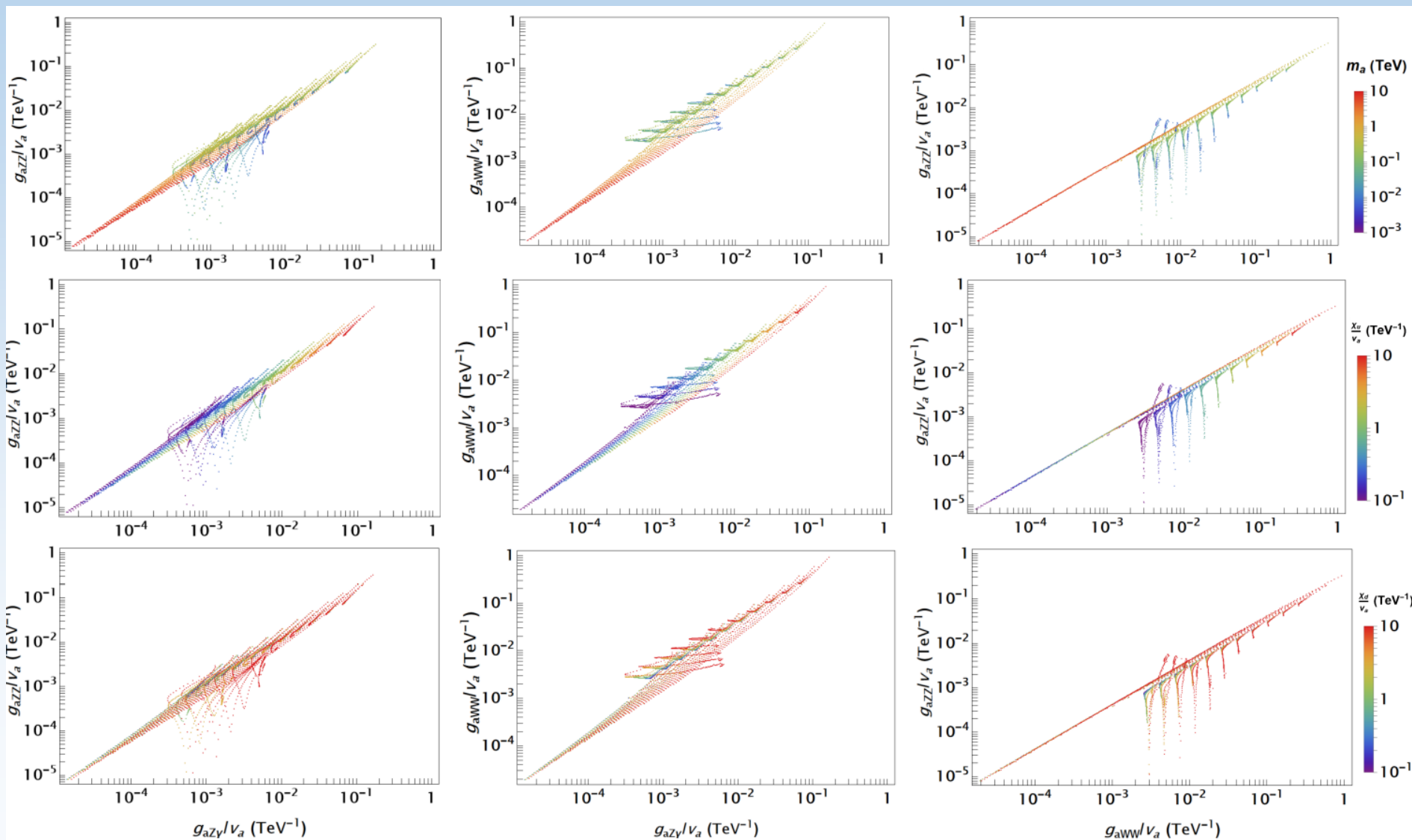
$$g_{a\gamma\gamma}/v_a = 0$$
$$v_a = 1 \text{ TeV}$$



$$g_{a\gamma\gamma}/v_a = 0$$

# DFSZ-like ALPs

$$v_a = 1 \text{ TeV}$$



# KSVZ-like ALPs

$$I_0 = \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{k^2 - (k \cdot p)^2 / m_a^2}{k^2 (p - k)^2 ((p_1 - k)^2 - m_f^2)}$$

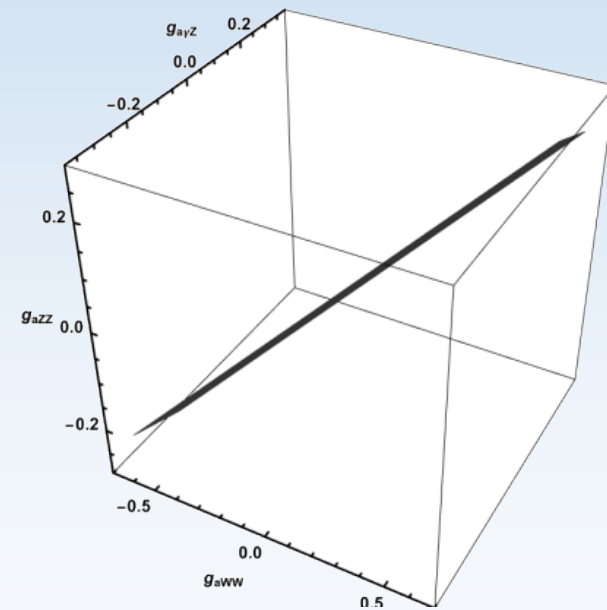
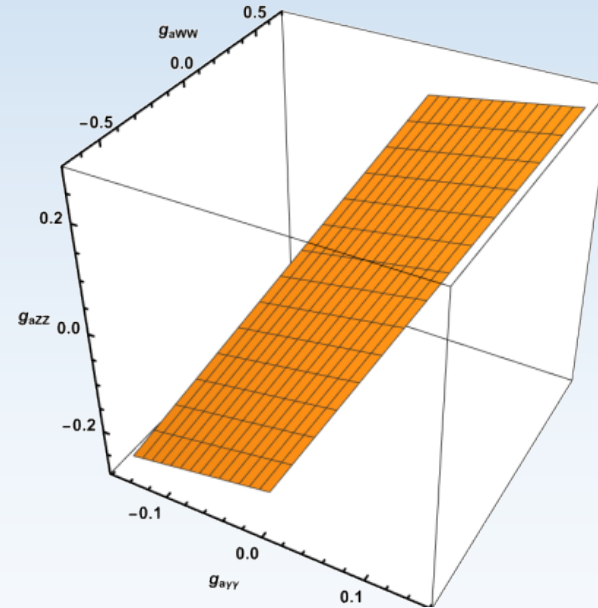
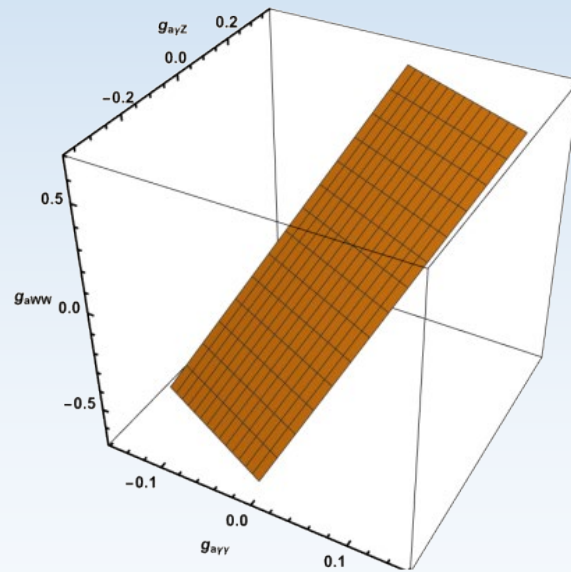
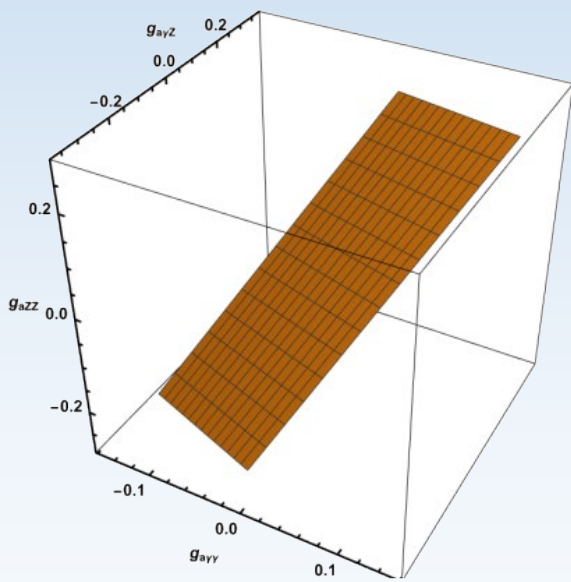
$$I_{\gamma Z} = \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{k^2 - (k \cdot p)^2 / m_a^2}{(k^2 - M_Z^2) (p - k)^2 ((p_1 - k)^2 - m_f^2)}$$

$$I_{ZZ} = \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{((k \cdot p) - 2(k \cdot p_1) + 2F_f k^2) - 2F_f (k \cdot p)^2 / m_a^2}{((p_1 - k)^2 - m_f^2) (k^2 - M_Z^2) ((p - k)^2 - M_Z^2)}$$

$$I_{WW} = \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{((k \cdot p) - 2(k \cdot p_1) + 2k^2) - 2(k \cdot p)^2 / m_a^2}{((p_1 - k)^2 - m_{f'}^2) (k^2 - M_W^2) ((p - k)^2 - M_W^2)}$$

# KSVZ-like ALPs

- ALP-gauge boson couplings independent of the ALP mass
- Linearly dependent on only two free parameters,  $\mathcal{N}_L$  and  $\mathcal{N}_Y$



# KSVZ-like ALPs

$$P_{S=0} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2p^2}} \left( -\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma\mu\nu} (p_1^\rho p_2^\sigma - p_1^\sigma p_2^\rho) \sigma^{\mu\nu} + (p^2 - 2m_f(\not{p}_1 + \not{p}_2)) \gamma_5 \right)$$

$$\mathcal{M}(a \rightarrow f \bar{f}) = \bar{u}(p_1) T(a \rightarrow f \bar{f}) v(p_2) = \bar{u}(p_1) \gamma_5 v(p_2) F(a \rightarrow f \bar{f})$$

$$F(a \rightarrow f \bar{f}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2p^2}} \text{Tr}(P_{S=0} T(a \rightarrow f \bar{f}))$$

# KSVZ-like ALPs

- Photon contribution to ALP-fermion coupling in Larin's scheme

$$c_{af}^{\gamma\gamma} = c \left( D_\epsilon + \ln \frac{\mu^2}{m_f^2} - \frac{4}{3} \right) + \dots$$

- Our computation

$$c_{af}^{\gamma\gamma} = c \left( D_\epsilon + \ln \frac{\mu^2}{m_f^2} + \frac{5}{3} \right) + \dots$$

- Full two-loop computation

$$c_{af}^{\gamma\gamma} = c \left( 0 + \ln \frac{m_Q^2}{m_f^2} + \frac{17}{6} + \frac{5}{27} \frac{m_f^2}{m_Q^2} \ln \frac{m_Q^2}{m_f^2} + \frac{11}{54} \frac{m_f^2}{m_Q^2} + \dots \right)$$