

# UV/IR Flavour Connection in Axion Models

Xavier Ponce Díaz

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with Luca Di Luzio, Alfredo Guertera and Stefano Rigolin



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# Outline

1. Motivation
  - 1.1. **Strong-CP Problem** and axion solution
  - 1.2. **Flavour violation** in the **axion**
2. Flavour violation in DFSZ models
  - 2.1. **IR:** Flavour violation in the **axion**
  - 2.2. **UV:** Flavour violation in the **Higgs**
  - 2.3. **UV/IR** Connection
3. **Example** in the quark sector

# 1. Motivation: The Strong-CP Problem

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_q \bar{q} (i\not{D} - m_q e^{i\theta_q}) q - \frac{1}{4} G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu} + \frac{g_s^2}{32\pi^2} \theta G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a\mu\nu}$$

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$$\frac{g_s^2}{32\pi^2} \theta \int d^4x G_{(n)\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}_{(n)}^{a\mu\nu} = n\theta \quad \text{with } n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

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$\theta$  is not invariant  $q \rightarrow e^{i\alpha\gamma_5} q \rightarrow \begin{cases} \theta \rightarrow \theta - 2\alpha \\ \theta_q \rightarrow \theta_q + 2\alpha \end{cases}$

The physical quantity is then

$$\bar{\theta} = \theta + \sum_q \theta_q \stackrel{\text{SM}}{=} \theta + \arg \det Y_u Y_d$$

see Di Luzio et al. [2003.01100](#)

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A neutron Electric Dipole Moment (**nEDM**) is generated

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$$d_n = 2.4(1.0) \cdot 10^{-16} \bar{\theta} e \text{ cm} \quad \text{Pospelov, Ritz. [hep-ph/9908508](#)}$$

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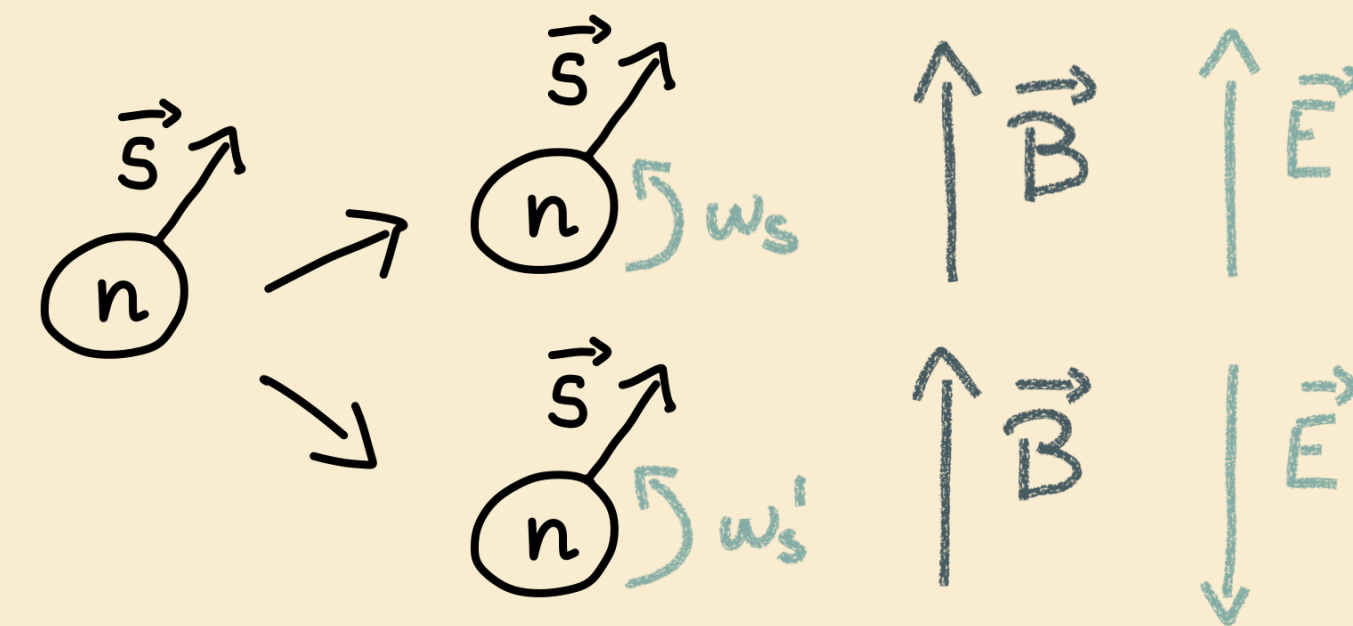
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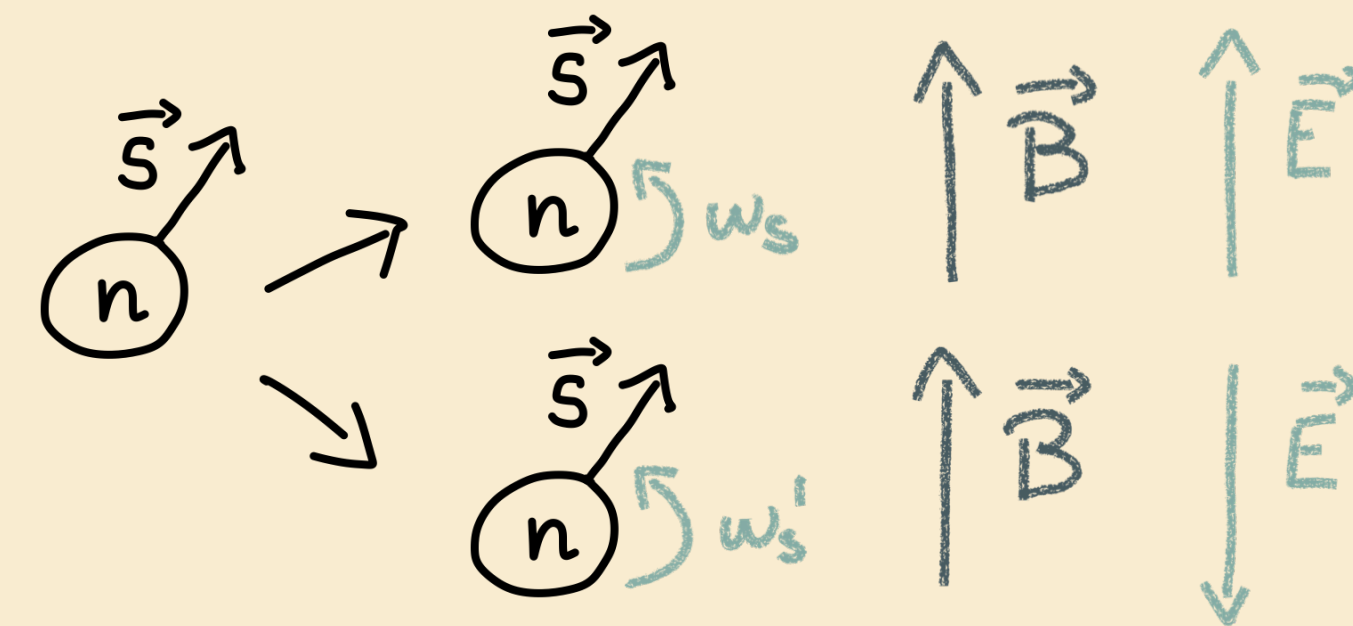
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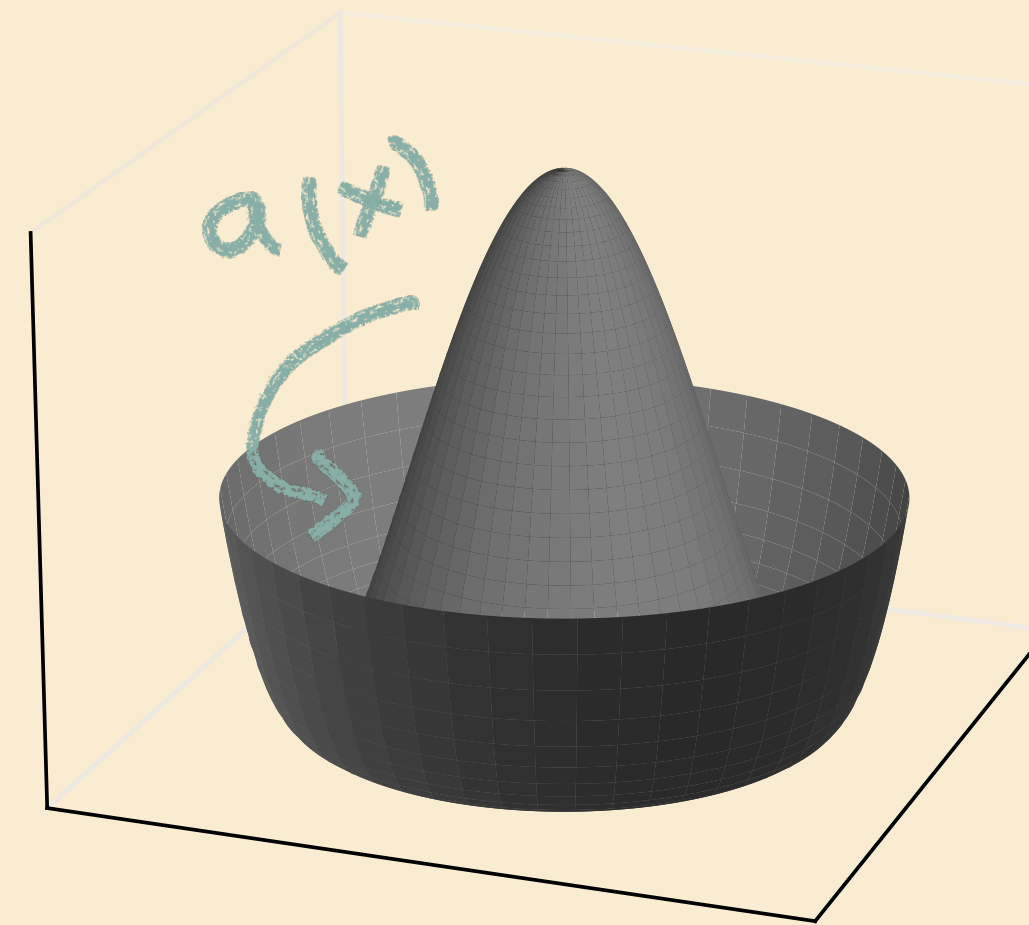
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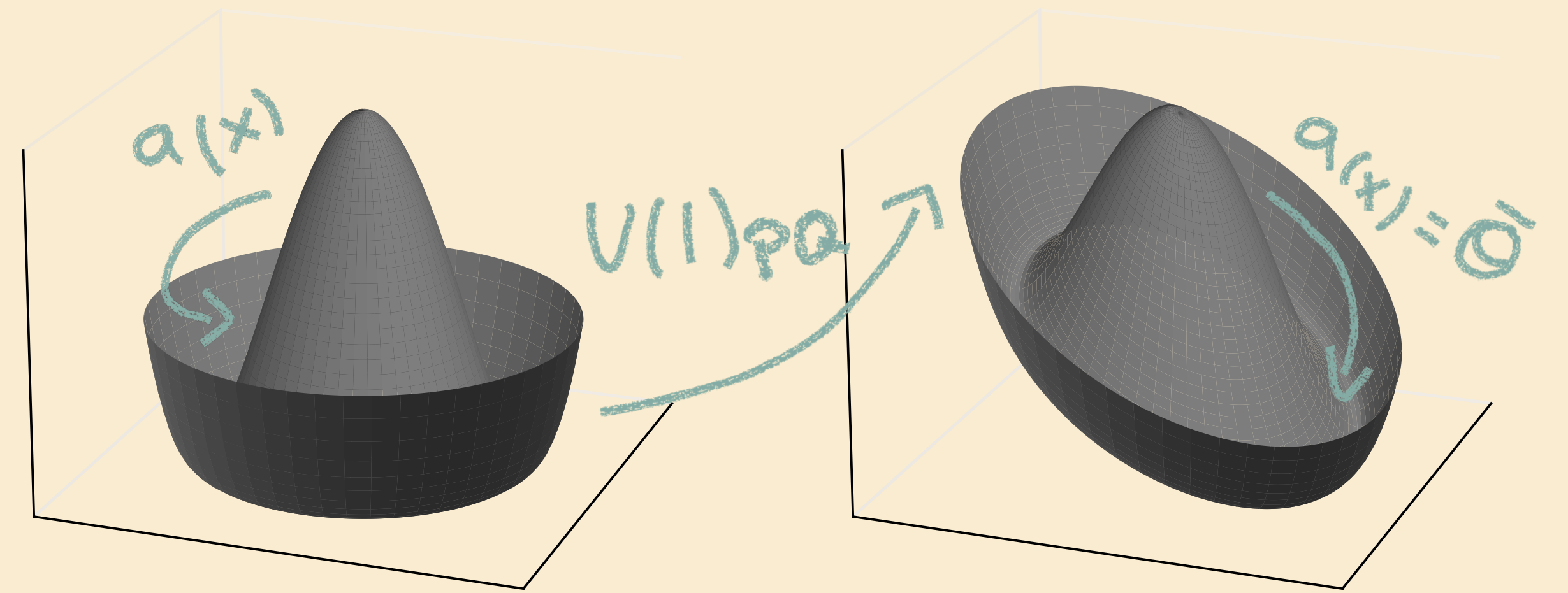
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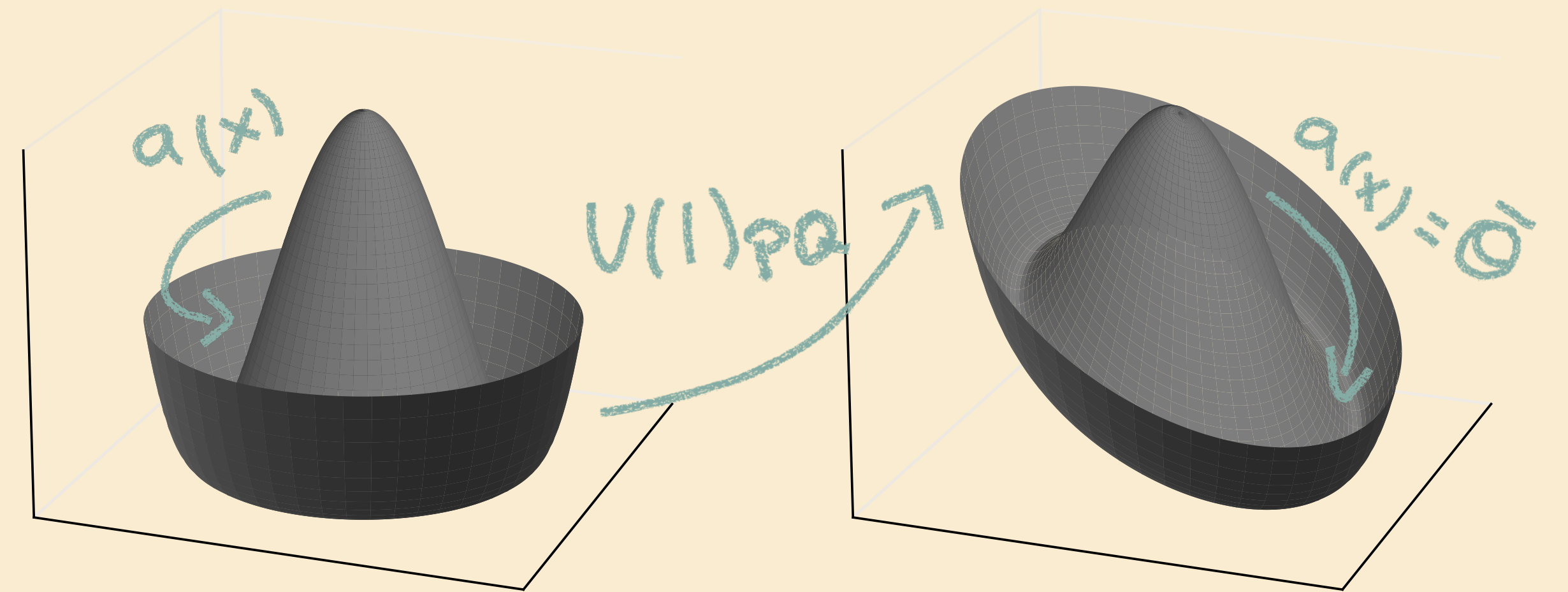
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The presence of a **pseudo-Nambu Goldstone Boson (pNGB)** was found by Weinberg and Wilczek

Weinberg PRL. 40 (1978) 223  
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Currently the PQ solution to the Strong-CP Problem is understood as:

$$U(1)_{PQ} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{an.} = \frac{g_s^2}{32\pi^2} \left( \frac{a}{f_a} + \theta \right) G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a\mu\nu}$$

**pNGB: the axion**

$f_a$  : axion decay constant

see Di Luzio *et al.* 2003.01100

**Shift symmetry** characteristic of pNGB  $a \rightarrow a - f_a \theta$

Vafa-Witten theorem:  
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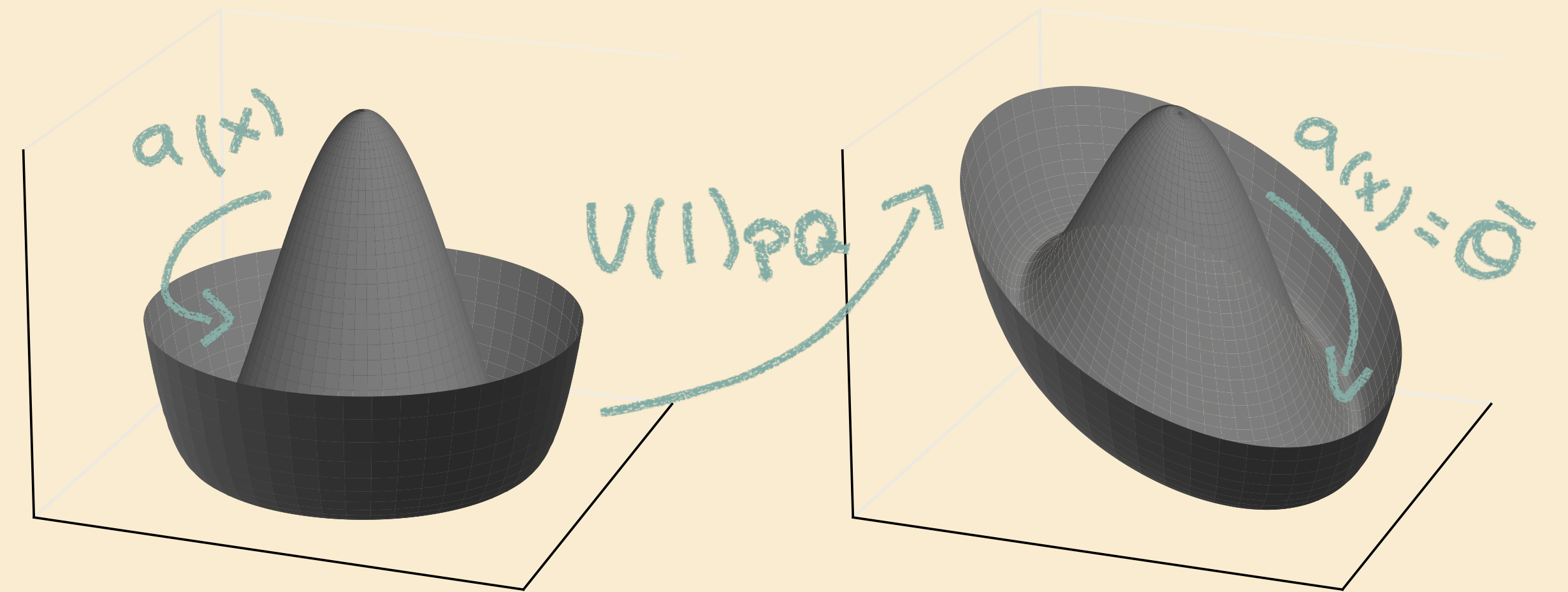
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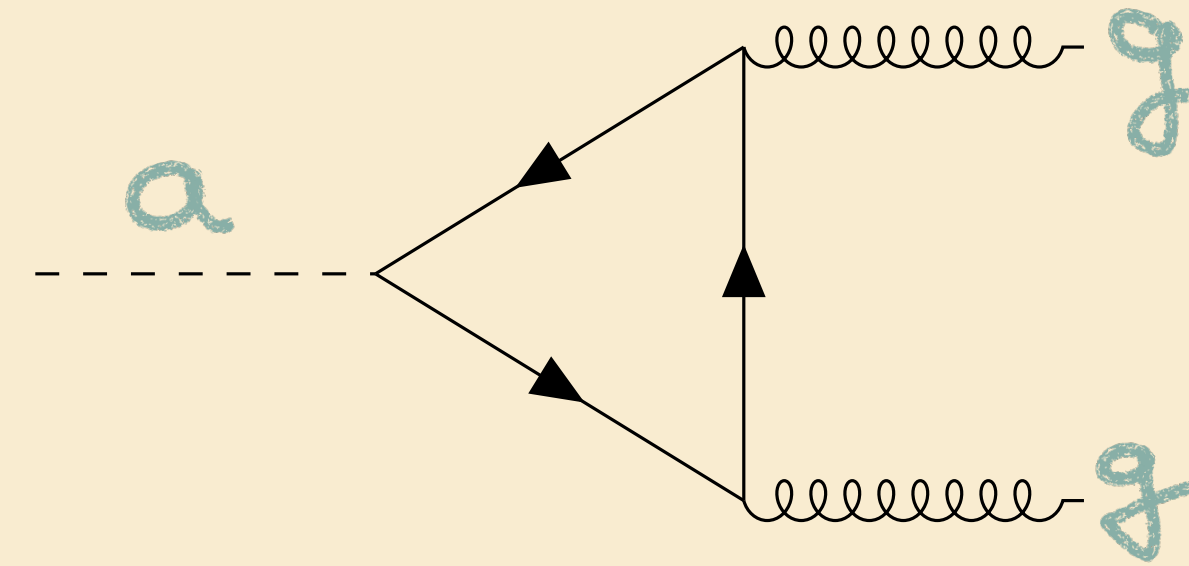
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$$m_a = \frac{\sqrt{m_u m_d}}{(m_u + m_d)} \frac{m_\pi f_\pi}{f_a} \simeq 5.7 \mu\text{eV} \left( \frac{10^{12} \text{ GeV}}{f_a} \right)$$

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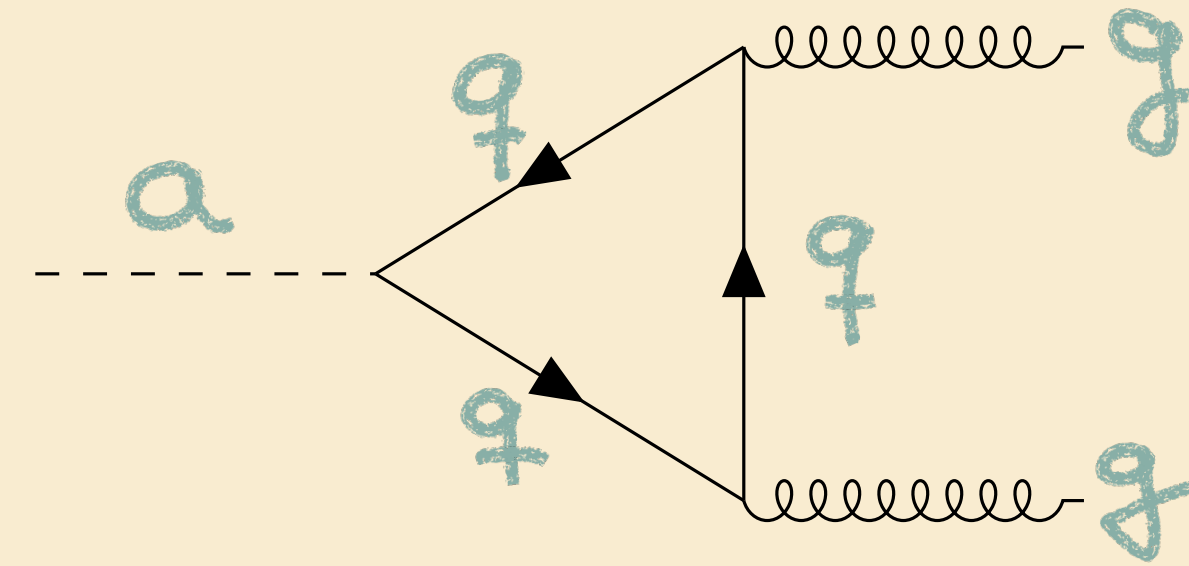
$$m_a \simeq 23 \text{ keV} \frac{2N_f}{\sin 2\beta}$$

$$\tan \beta = \frac{v_d}{v_u}$$

Couplings proportional to  $f_a \sim v$   
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DFSZ: Singlet + 2HDM (+ SM fermions)

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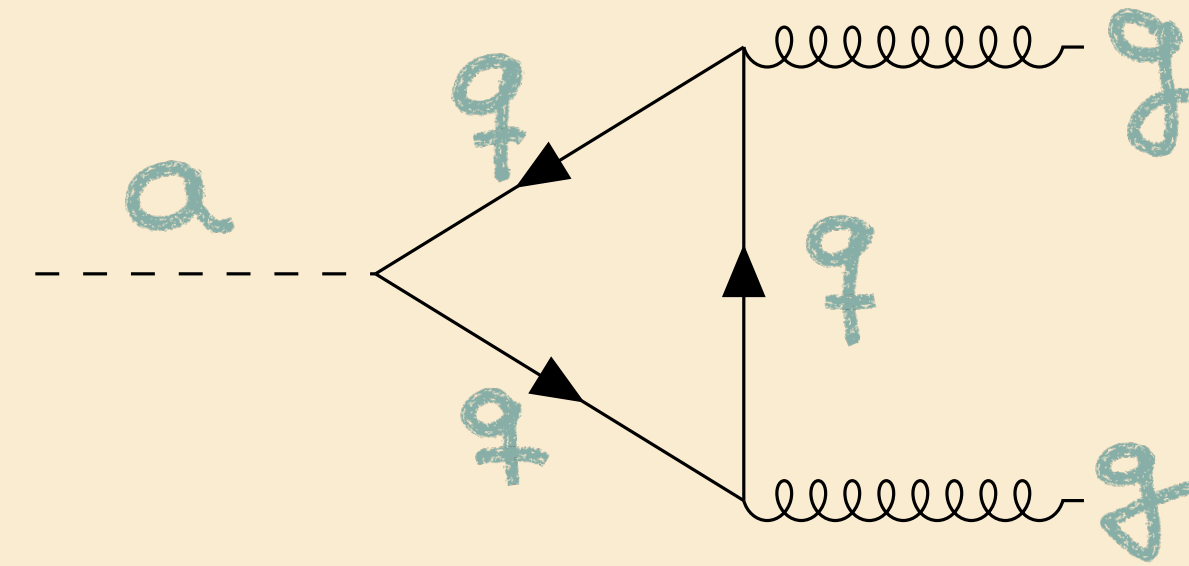
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$N$  : **QCD anomaly** coefficient

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$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{\partial^\mu a}{f_a} (\bar{q}_L \mathcal{X}_{q_L} \gamma_\mu q_L + \bar{u}_R \mathcal{X}_{u_R} \gamma_\mu u_R + \bar{d}_R \mathcal{X}_{d_R} \gamma_\mu d_R)$$

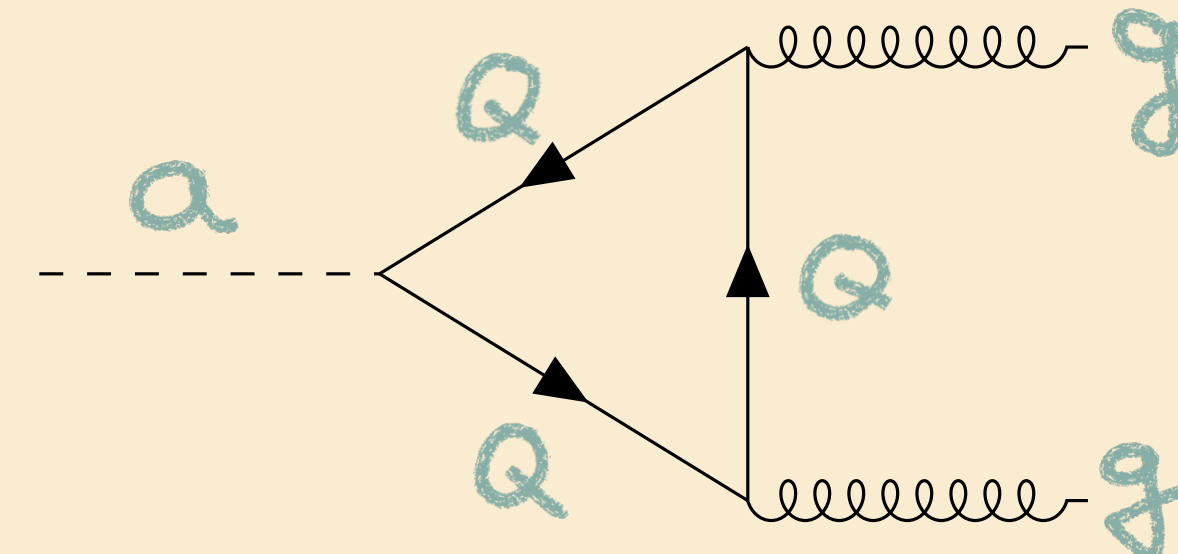
Zhitnitsky SJNP 31 (1980) 260  
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**KSVZ: Singlet + New Heavy Quarks**

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$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{KSVZ}} = \bar{Q}_L Q_R \phi$$

The anomalous coefficients depend on the **representation** of the heavy quarks.

The couplings to **fermions** are **model dependent**

Kim PRL 43 (1979) 103  
Shifman *et al.* NPB 166 (1980) 493.



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From where does the **flavour violation** arise?

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In the fermion **mass basis**:  $u_L \rightarrow V_{u_L} u_L, d_L \rightarrow V_{d_L} u_L, \dots$  with  $V_{\text{CKM}} = V_{u_L}^\dagger V_{d_L}$

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Condition for flavour violation:  $[\mathcal{X}_f, V_f] \neq 0$



**Necessary condition:**

$$\mathcal{X}_f \approx \mathbf{1}_3$$

For flavour violation, we require **non-universal** PQ-charges

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## Axiflapon/Flaxion

Ema, *et al.* [1612.05492](#) ,  
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The Froggatt-Nielsen mechanism to explain the **flavour puzzle** contains a **pNGB** that may solve the Strong-CP problem

$$\mathcal{L} = Y_{ij}^d \bar{q}_{Li} d_{Rj} H \left( \frac{\phi}{\Lambda} \right)^{\mathcal{X}_{qLi} - \mathcal{X}_{dRj}}$$



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$$Y_{\text{eff.}}^d \sim \begin{pmatrix} \lambda^7 & \lambda^6 & \lambda^6 \\ \lambda^6 & \lambda^5 & \lambda^5 \\ \lambda^4 & \lambda^3 & \lambda^3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \lambda = \frac{\langle \phi \rangle}{\Lambda} \simeq 0.2$$

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The Froggatt-Nielsen mechanism to explain the **flavour puzzle** contains a **pNGB** that may solve the Strong-CP problem

$$\mathcal{L} = Y_{ij}^d \bar{q}_{Li} d_{Rj} H \left( \frac{\phi}{\Lambda} \right)^{\mathcal{X}_{qLi} - \mathcal{X}_{dRj}}$$

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Non-universal charges!

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SM-like representations of the heavy quarks may induce flavour violation

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Non-universal charges, now in **4x4** flavour space. **Mixing with the heavy quark** induces axion flavour violation for lower generations (also in other sectors, e.g. Higgs).

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## DFSZ

To obtain non-universal charges we may couple **different generations** to different **Higgs**.

$$H_1^\dagger H_2 \phi \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_1 = s_\beta^2, \quad \mathcal{X}_2 = -c_\beta^2$$

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$$\chi_{qL} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & \\ & 0 & \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \chi_{dR} = \begin{pmatrix} c_\beta^2 & & \\ & c_\beta^2 & \\ & & c_\beta^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

We will focus on this type of model in **this talk**.

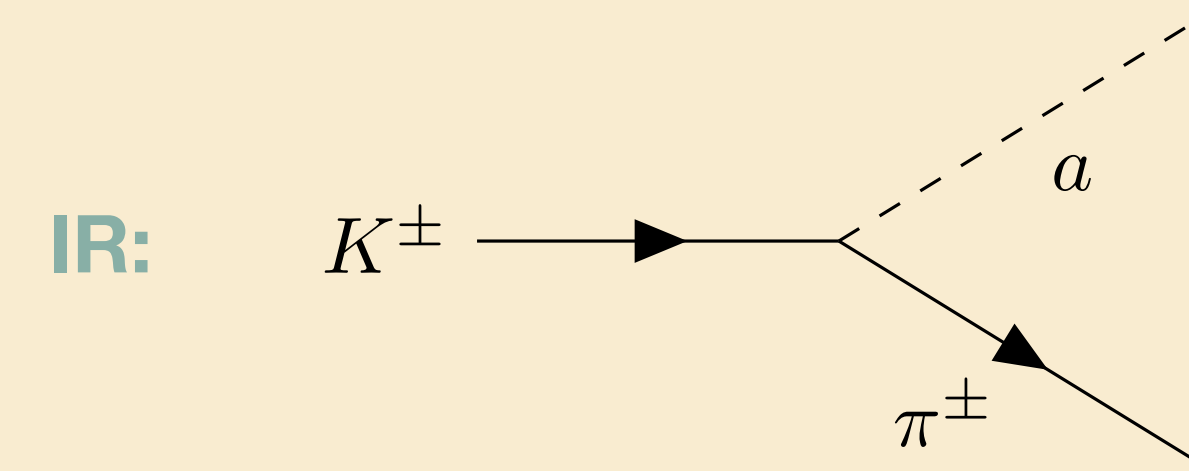
see for instance, Björkeröth *et al.* [1811.09637](#),  
Di Luzio, Guerrero, XPD, Rigolin [2304.04643](#)  
Cox *et al.* [2310.16348](#) ...

# Outline

1. Motivation
  - 1.1. Strong-CP Problem and axion solution
  - 1.2. Flavour violation in the axion
2. Flavour violation in DFSZ models
  - 2.1. **IR**: Flavour violation in the **axion**
  - 2.2. **UV**: Flavour violation in the **Higgs**
  - 2.3. **UV/IR** Connection
3. **Example** in the quark sector

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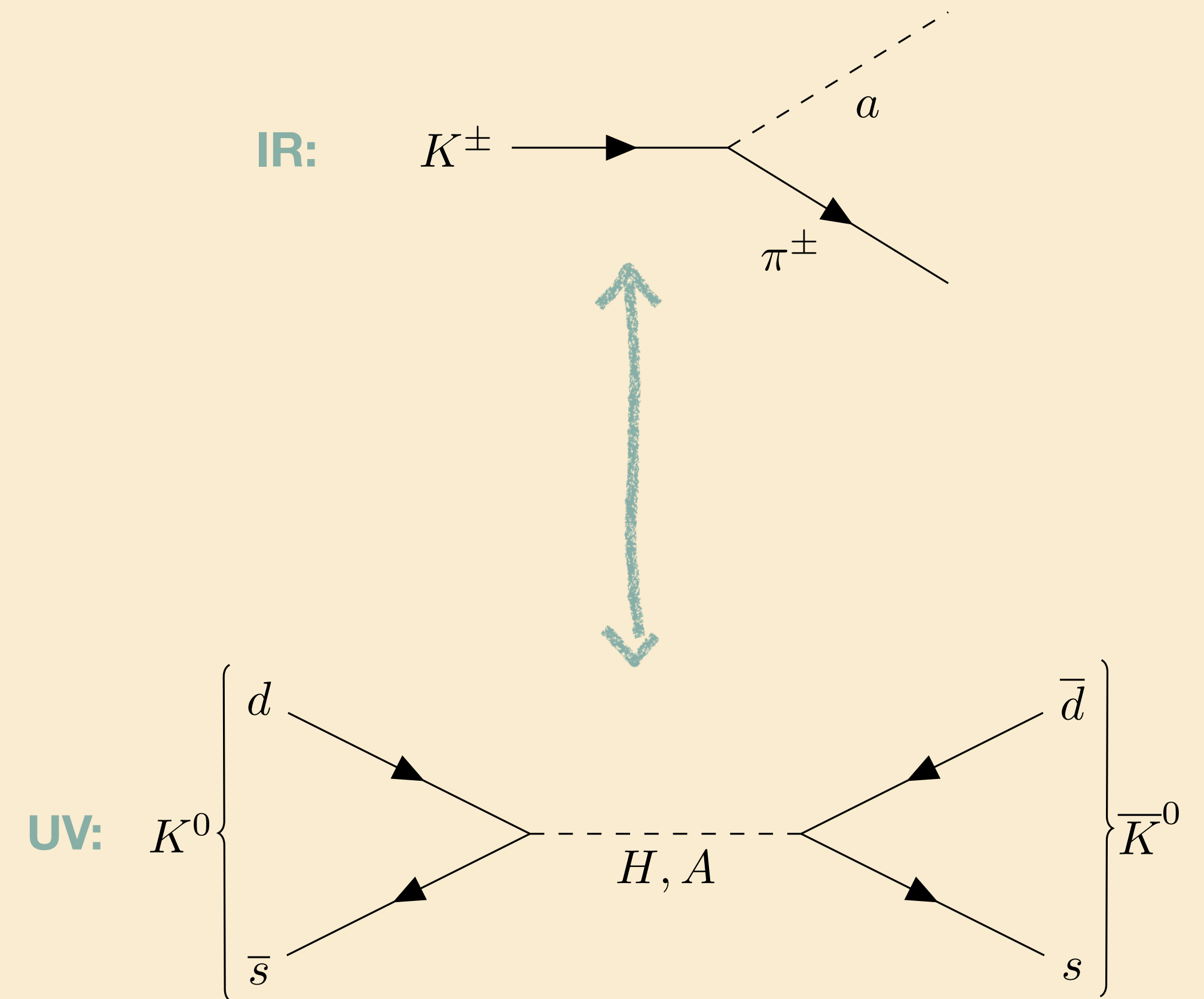
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## 2. IR: Flavour Violation in the Axion

$$\mathcal{L}_a \supset \sum_{f=u,d,e} \frac{\partial_\mu a}{f_a} \bar{f}_i \gamma^\mu \left( (C_f^L)_{ij} P_L + (C_f^R)_{ij} P_R \right) f_j,$$

$$C_f^{R,L} = V_{f_{R,L}}^\dagger \mathcal{X}_{f_{R,L}} V_{f_{R,L}}$$

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$$\mathcal{L}_a \supset \sum_{f=u,d,e} \frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_a} \bar{f}_i \gamma^\mu ((C_f^V)_{ij} + (C_f^A)_{ij} \gamma_5) f_j,$$

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**Diagonal** vector couplings **cancel**  
since the vector current is **conserved**

$$\frac{a}{f_a} \partial_\mu (\bar{q}_i \gamma^\mu q_i) = 0$$

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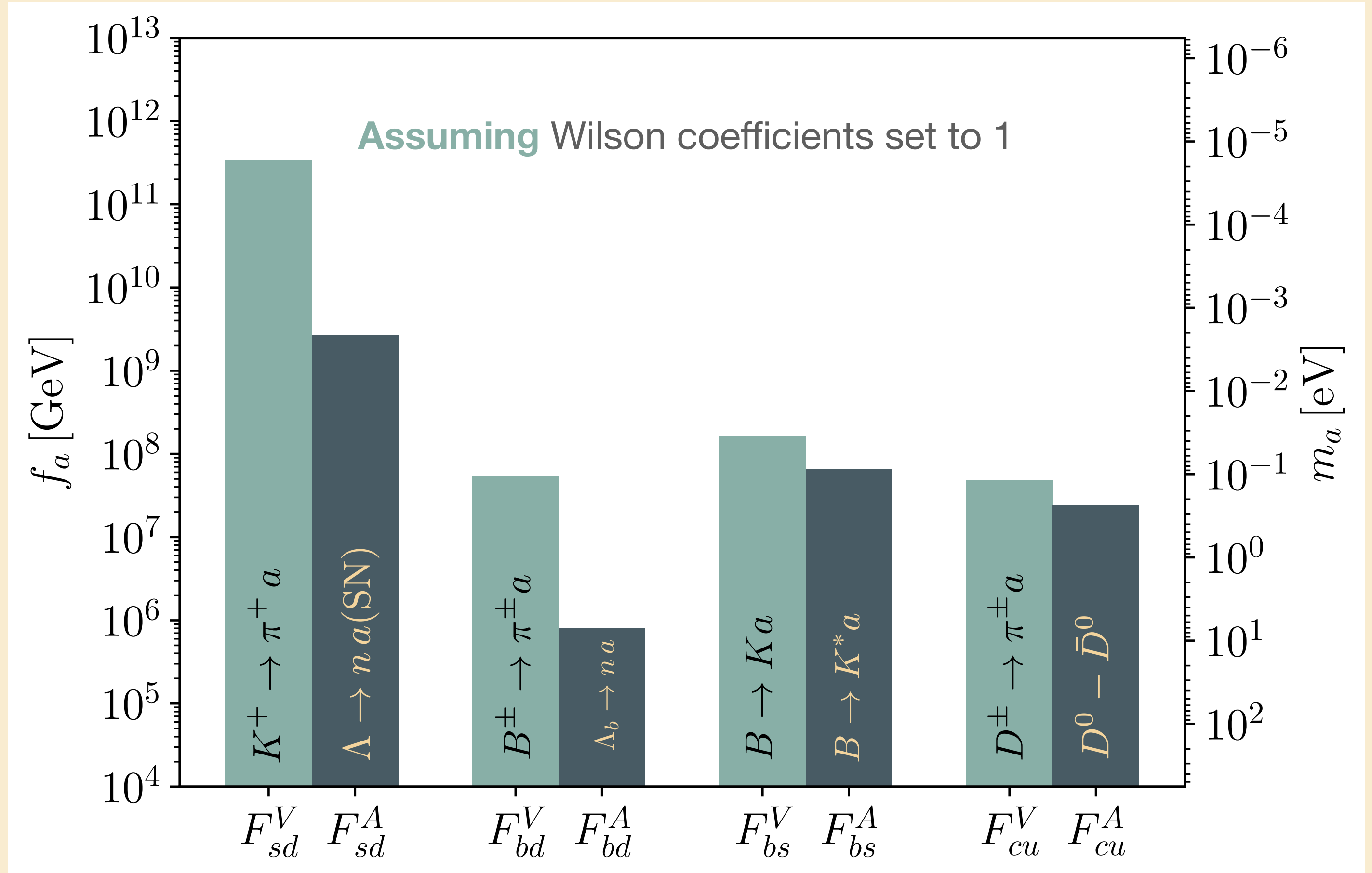
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Camalich et al. 2002.04623

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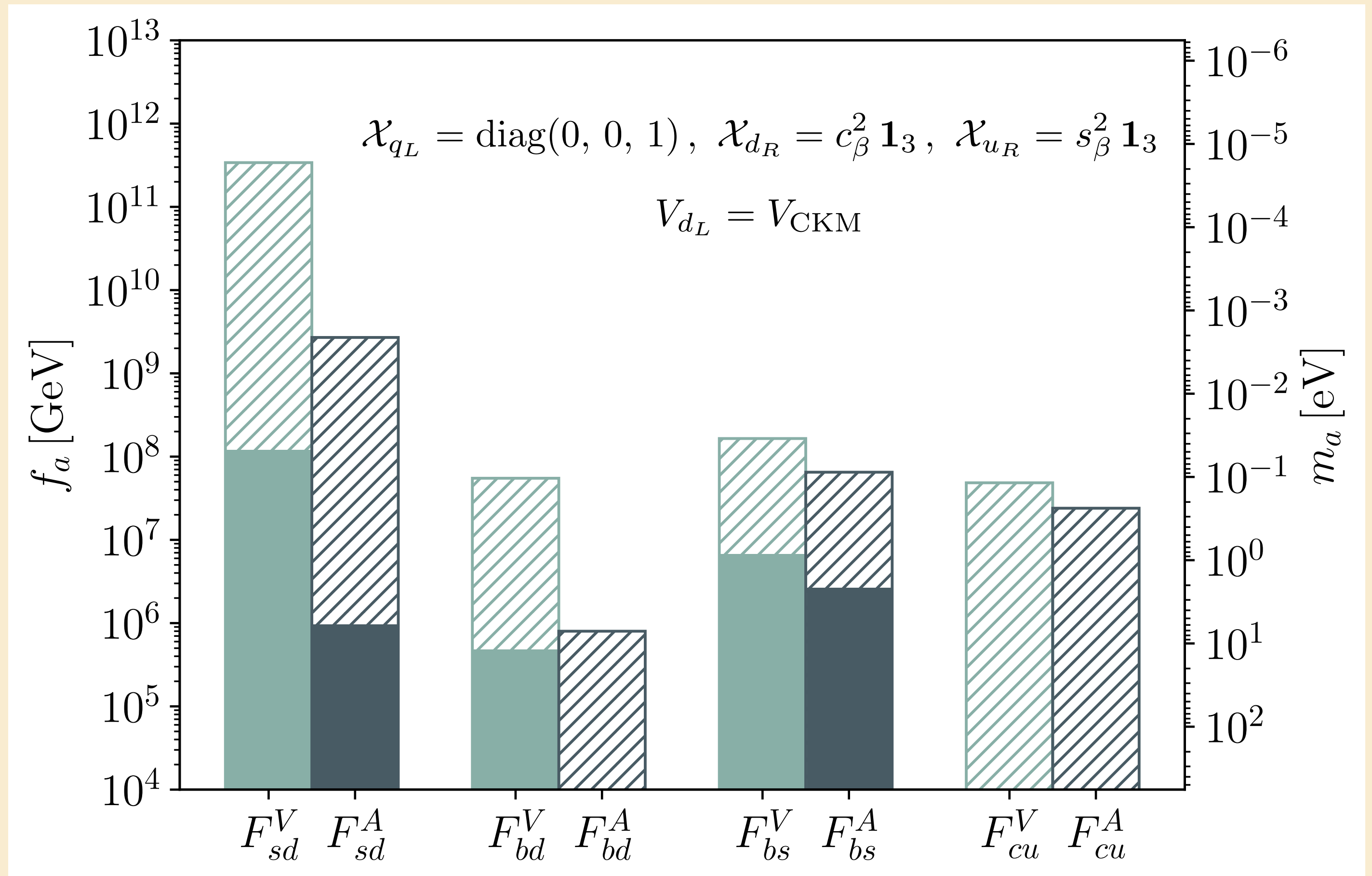
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Bounds very 'assumption'-dependent:

- **Unknown** fermion-mixing matrices
- Accidental **protection** due to **charges**



Camalich et al. 2002.04623

## 2. UV: Flavour Violation in the Higgs

$$\mathcal{L}_Y^{\text{PQ-2HDM}} = \bar{q}_L (Y_1^d H_1 + Y_2^d H_2) d_R + \dots$$

$$H_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -s_\beta H^+ \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(c_\beta v - s_\alpha h + c_\alpha H - i s_\beta A) \end{pmatrix} \quad H_2 = \begin{pmatrix} c_\beta H^+ \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(s_\beta v + c_\alpha h + s_\alpha H + i c_\beta A) \end{pmatrix}.$$

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**Example:**

$$\mathcal{X}_{q_L} = \text{diag}(0, 0, 1), \quad \mathcal{X}_{d_R} = \text{diag}(c_\beta^2, c_\beta^2, c_\beta^2)$$

New **heavy** degrees of freedom:  $H, A, H^+$

**SM Higgs:**  $h$

$$Y_1^d = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ y_{31}^d & y_{32}^d & y_{33}^d \end{pmatrix}, \quad Y_2^d = \begin{pmatrix} y_{11}^d & y_{12}^d & y_{13}^d \\ y_{21}^d & y_{22}^d & y_{23}^d \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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What is the relation between the flavour violation in the Higgs and the axion?

## 2. UV/IR Connection

On the one hand, **flavour violation** is **determined** in the **IR** by the **charges** of the axion

$$C_d^{R,L} = V_{d_{R,L}}^\dagger \mathcal{X}_{d_{R,L}} V_{d_{R,L}}$$

On the other hand, in the **UV** completion, **flavour violation** is **dependent** on the **Yukawa** structure

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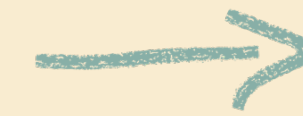
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But the **structure** of the **Yukawas** is **determined** by the **charges**!

$$\mathcal{L}_Y^{\text{PQ-2HDM}} = \bar{q}_L (Y_1^d H_1 + Y_2^d H_2^d) d_R + \dots$$

use PQ invariance



$$\begin{aligned} -\mathcal{X}_{q_L} Y_1^d + Y_1^d \mathcal{X}_{d_R} - \mathcal{X}_1 Y_1^d &= 0 \\ -\mathcal{X}_{q_L} Y_2^d + Y_2^d \mathcal{X}_{d_R} - \mathcal{X}_2 Y_2^d &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

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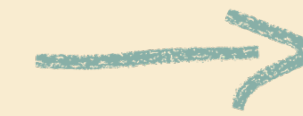
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Using the definition of the fermion mass matrix

$$M_d = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} c_\beta Y_1^d + \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} s_\beta Y_2^d$$

$$Y_1^d = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{v c_\beta} (\mathcal{X}_q M_d - M_d \mathcal{X}_d + \mathcal{X}_2 M_d),$$

$$Y_2^d = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{v s_\beta} (-\mathcal{X}_q M_d + M_d \mathcal{X}_d - \mathcal{X}_1 M_d).$$

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On the other hand, in the **UV** completion, **flavour violation** is **dependent** on the **Yukawa** structure

$$\epsilon_{ij}^d = (V_{d_L}^\dagger Y_2^d V_{d_R})_{ij}$$

But the **structure** of the **Yukawas** is **determined** by the **charges**!

$$\mathcal{L}_Y^{\text{PQ-2HDM}} = \bar{q}_L (Y_1^d H_1 + Y_2^d H_2^d) d_R + \dots \quad \text{use PQ invariance} \rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} -\mathcal{X}_{qL} Y_1^d + Y_1^d \mathcal{X}_{dR} - \mathcal{X}_1 Y_1^d &= 0 \\ -\mathcal{X}_{qL} Y_2^d + Y_2^d \mathcal{X}_{dR} - \mathcal{X}_2 Y_2^d &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Using the definition of the fermion mass matrix

$$M_d = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} c_\beta Y_1^d + \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} s_\beta Y_2^d$$

$$Y_1^d = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{v c_\beta} (\mathcal{X}_q M_d - M_d \mathcal{X}_d + \mathcal{X}_2 M_d),$$

$$Y_2^d = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{v s_\beta} (-\mathcal{X}_q M_d + M_d \mathcal{X}_d - \mathcal{X}_1 M_d).$$

All flavour violation of the Higgs sector is also encoded in the charges!

$$\epsilon^d = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{v s_\beta} \left( -C_d^L \hat{M}_d + \hat{M}_d C_d^R - \frac{\mathcal{X}_1}{2N} \hat{M}_d \right),$$

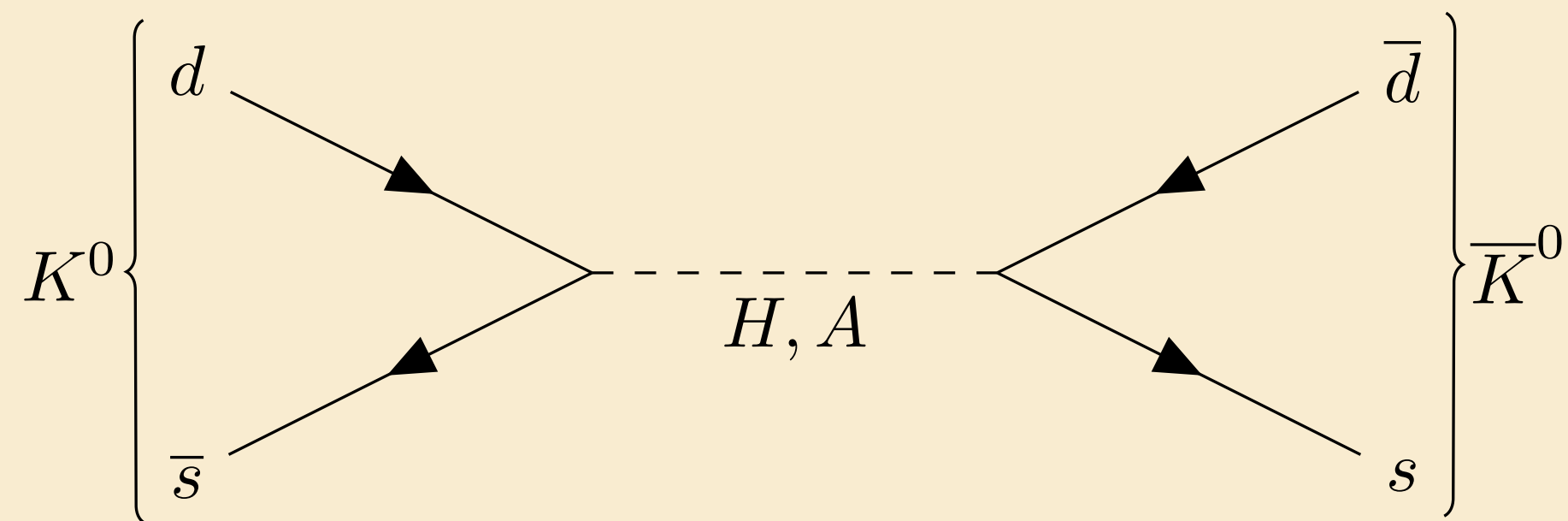
*diagonal*

Di Luzio, Guerrera, XPD, Rigolin [2304.04643](#)

# Outline

1. Motivation
  - 1.1. **Strong-CP Problem** and axion solution
  - 1.2. **Flavour violation** in the **axion**
2. Flavour violation in DFSZ models
  - 2.1. **IR**: Flavour violation in the **axion**
  - 2.2. **UV**: Flavour violation in the **Higgs**
  - 2.3. **UV/IR** Connection
3. **Example** in the quark sector

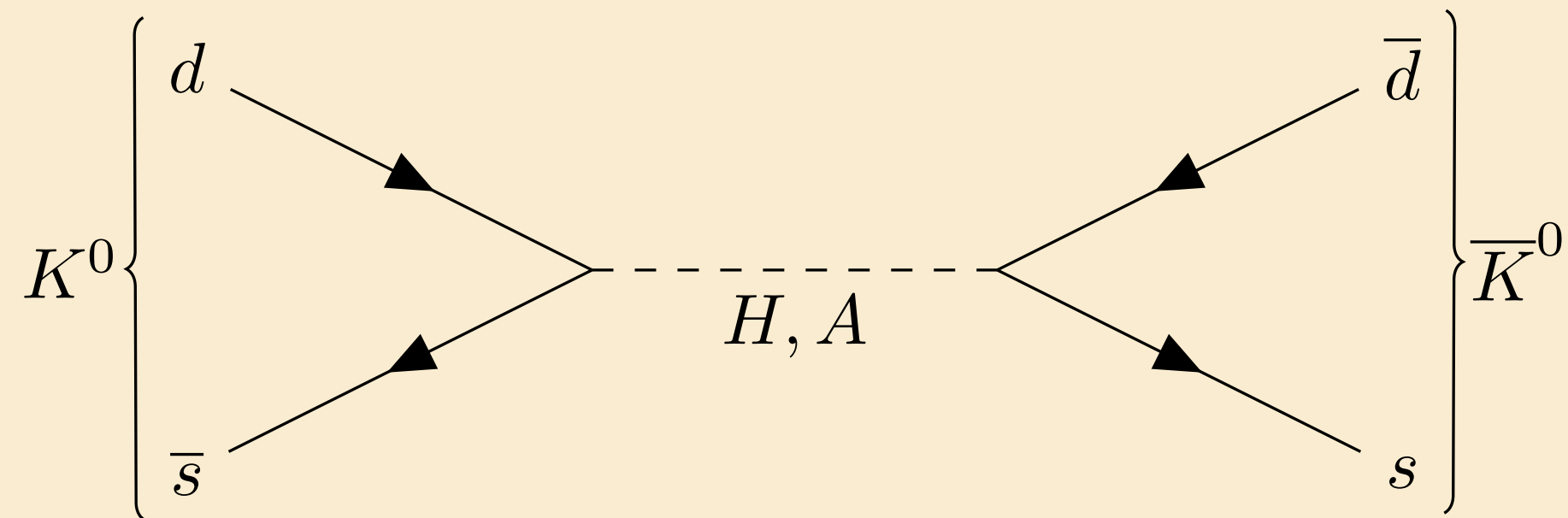
# 3. Examples: Quark sector



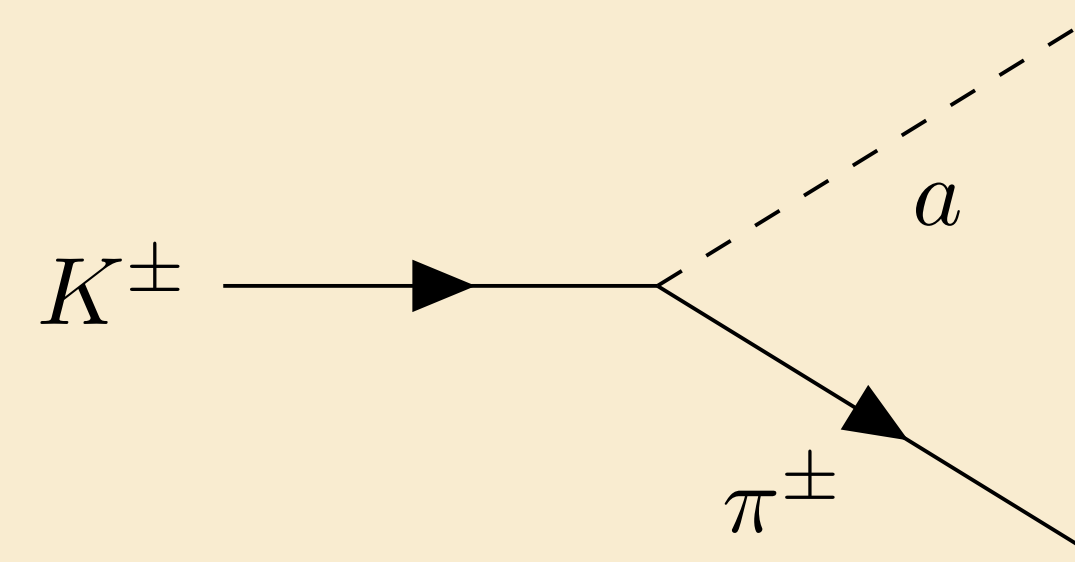
$$\frac{2|M_{12}^{\text{NP}}|}{3.5 \cdot 10^{-15} \text{ GeV}} \sim \left( \frac{4 \text{ TeV}}{s_{2\beta} m_H} \right)^2 \left| \frac{\epsilon_{12}^d \epsilon_{21}^{d*}}{y_s^2 \lambda^2} \right|,$$



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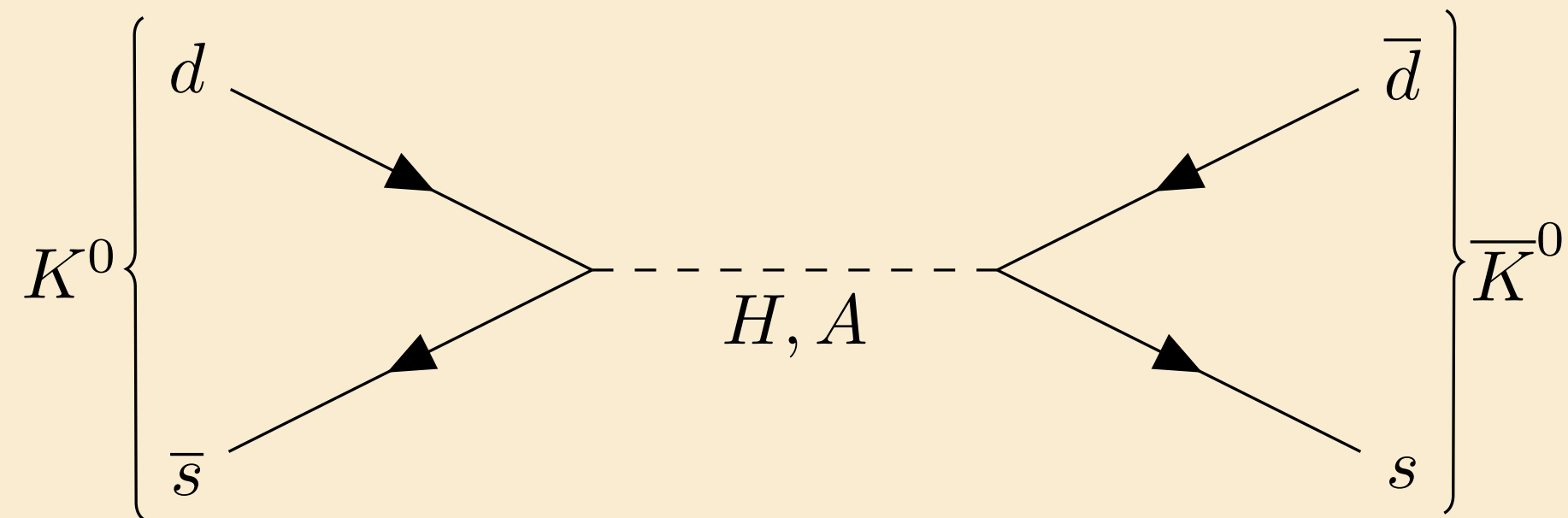


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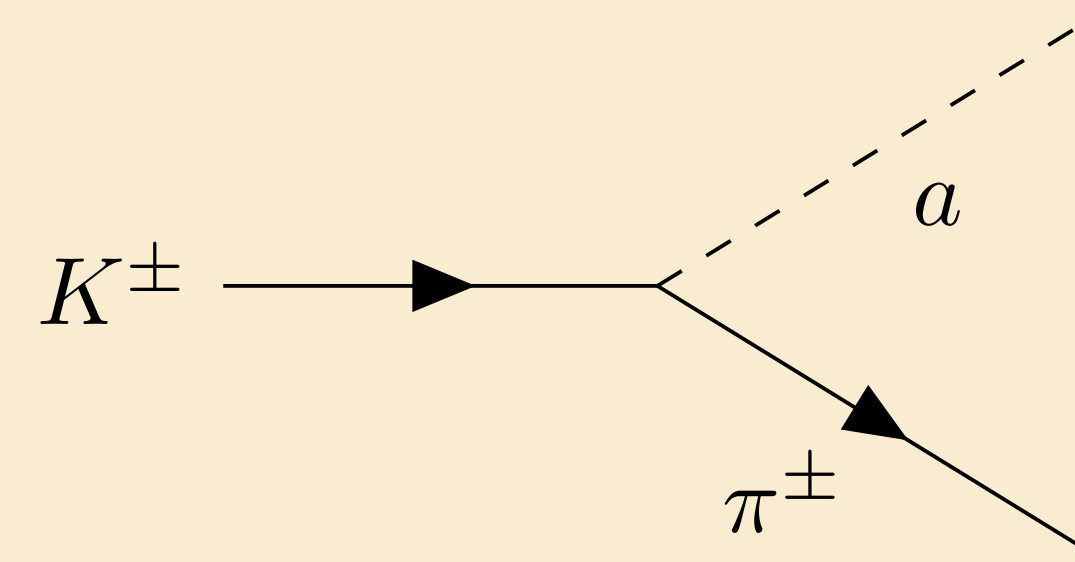


$$\text{Br}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ a) = (G_F f_K |V_{us}|^2)^{-2} \frac{m_K^2}{f_a^2} |C_{sd}^V|^2$$

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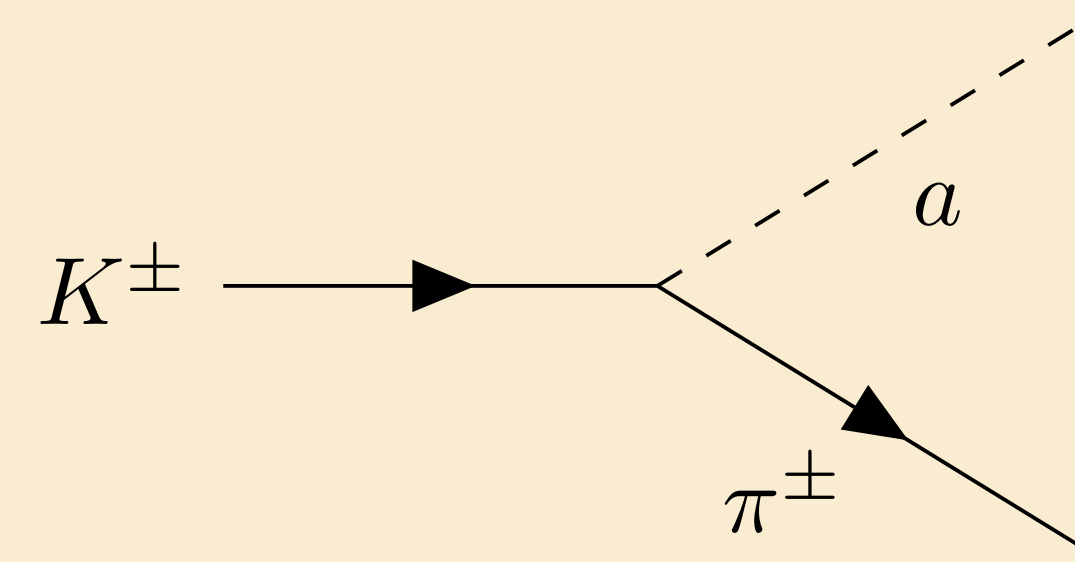
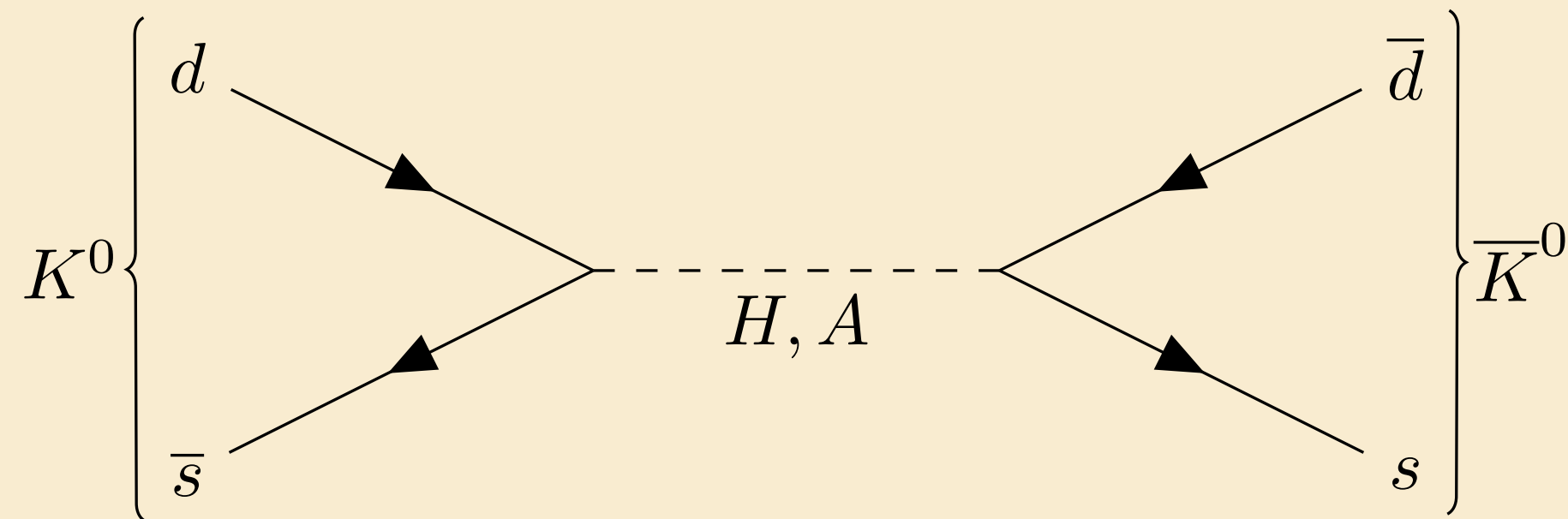
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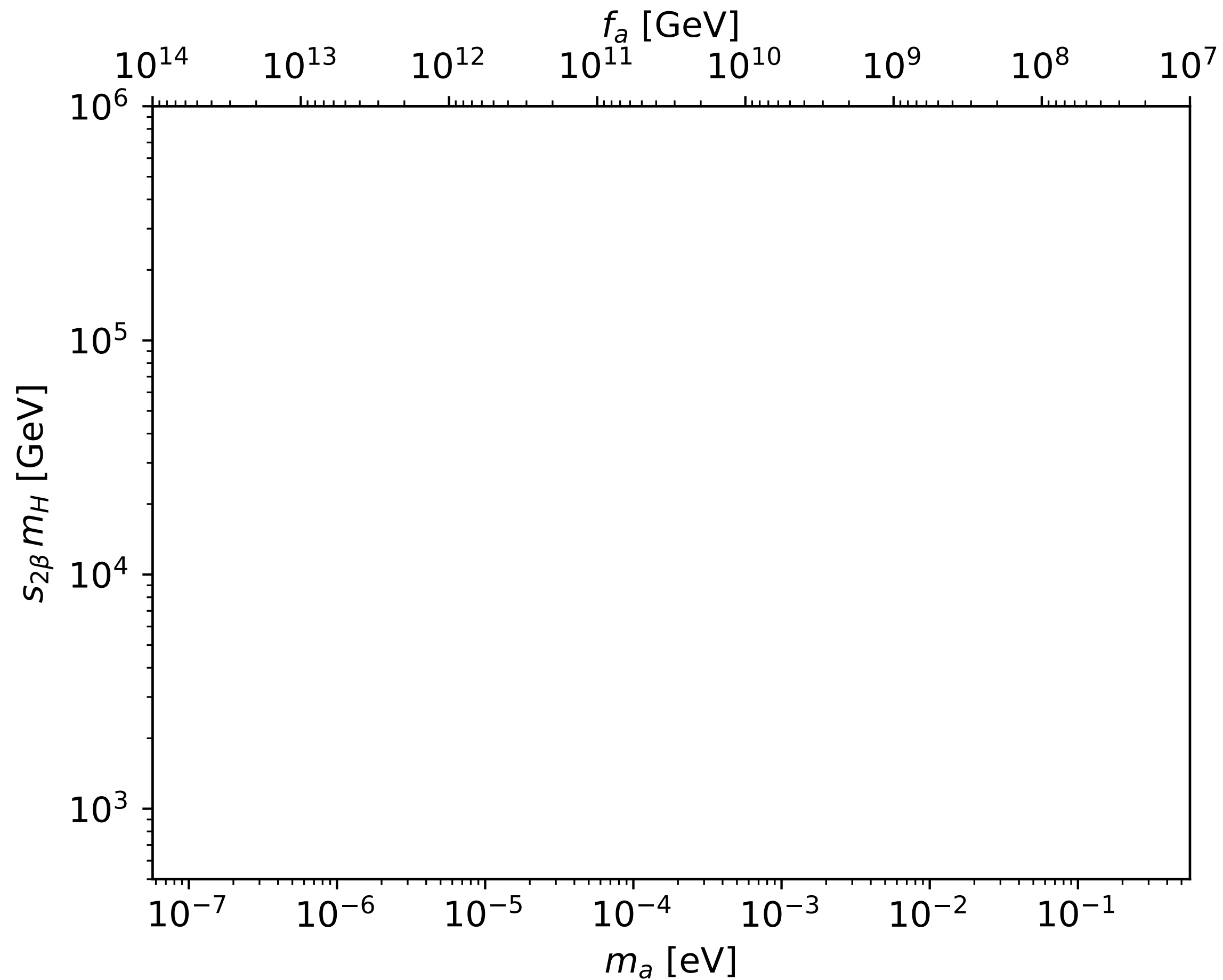
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## Simplifications:

- only flavour violation in LH-quarks or RH-quarks
- Alignment limit:  $c_{\alpha-\beta} = 0$   $m_A \simeq m_H$

$$\left( \frac{f_a}{10^{11} \text{ GeV}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{1 \text{ TeV}}{s_{2\beta} m_H} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\text{Br}(K \rightarrow \pi a)}{7.3 \cdot 10^{-11}} \right) = \frac{2|M_{12}^{\text{NP}}|}{3.5 \cdot 10^{-15} \text{ GeV}}$$

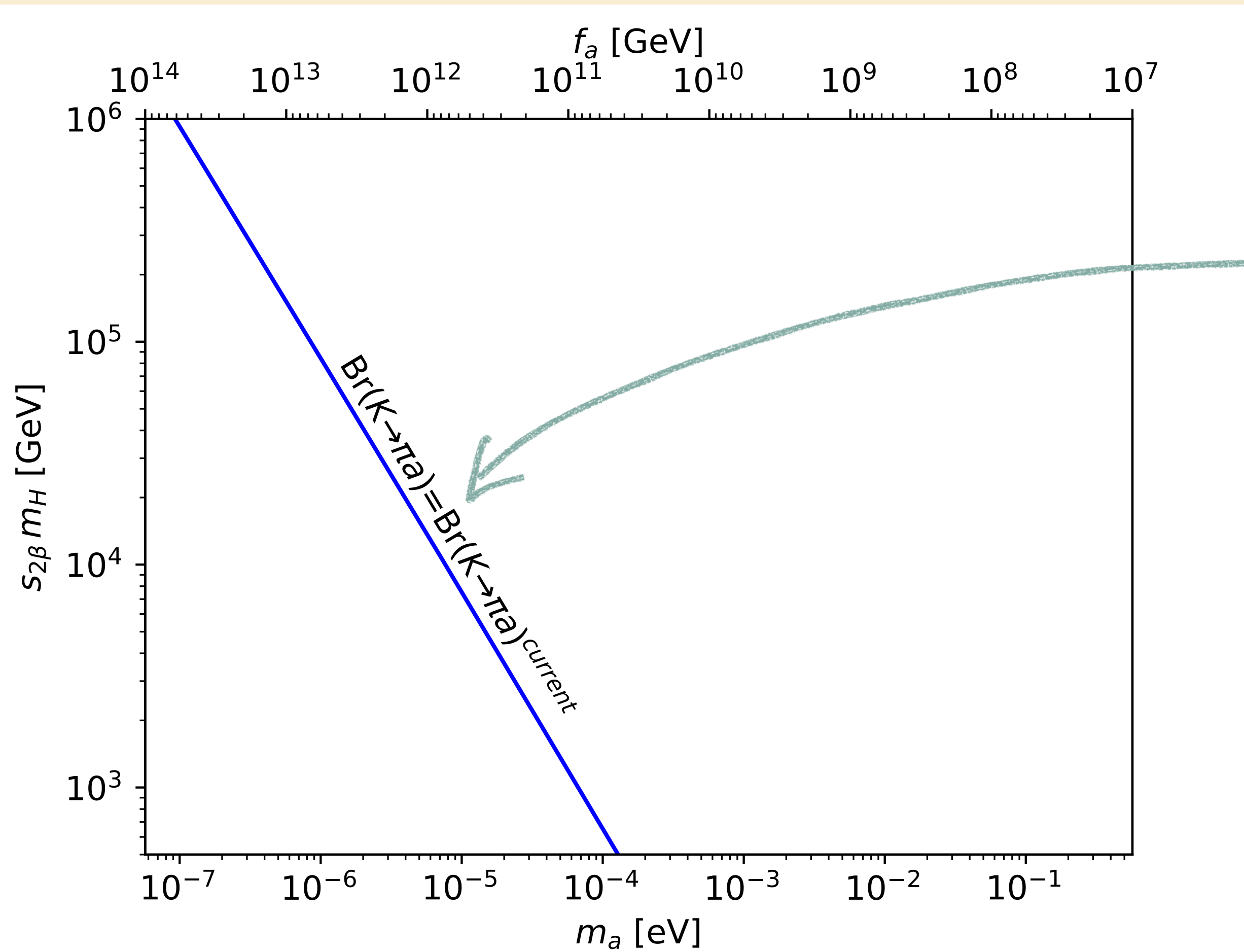
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Flavour violation in the  $s \rightarrow d$  transition

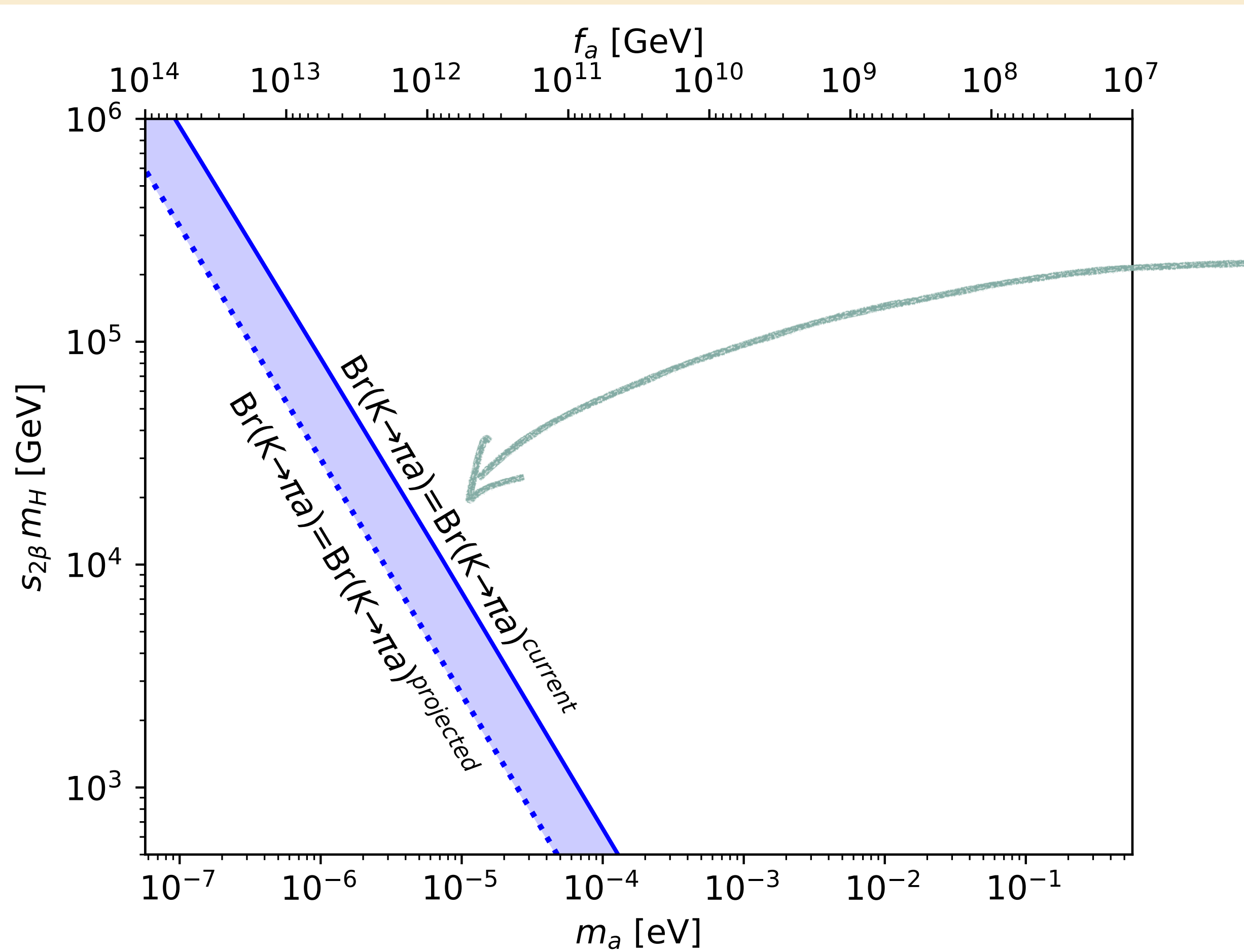
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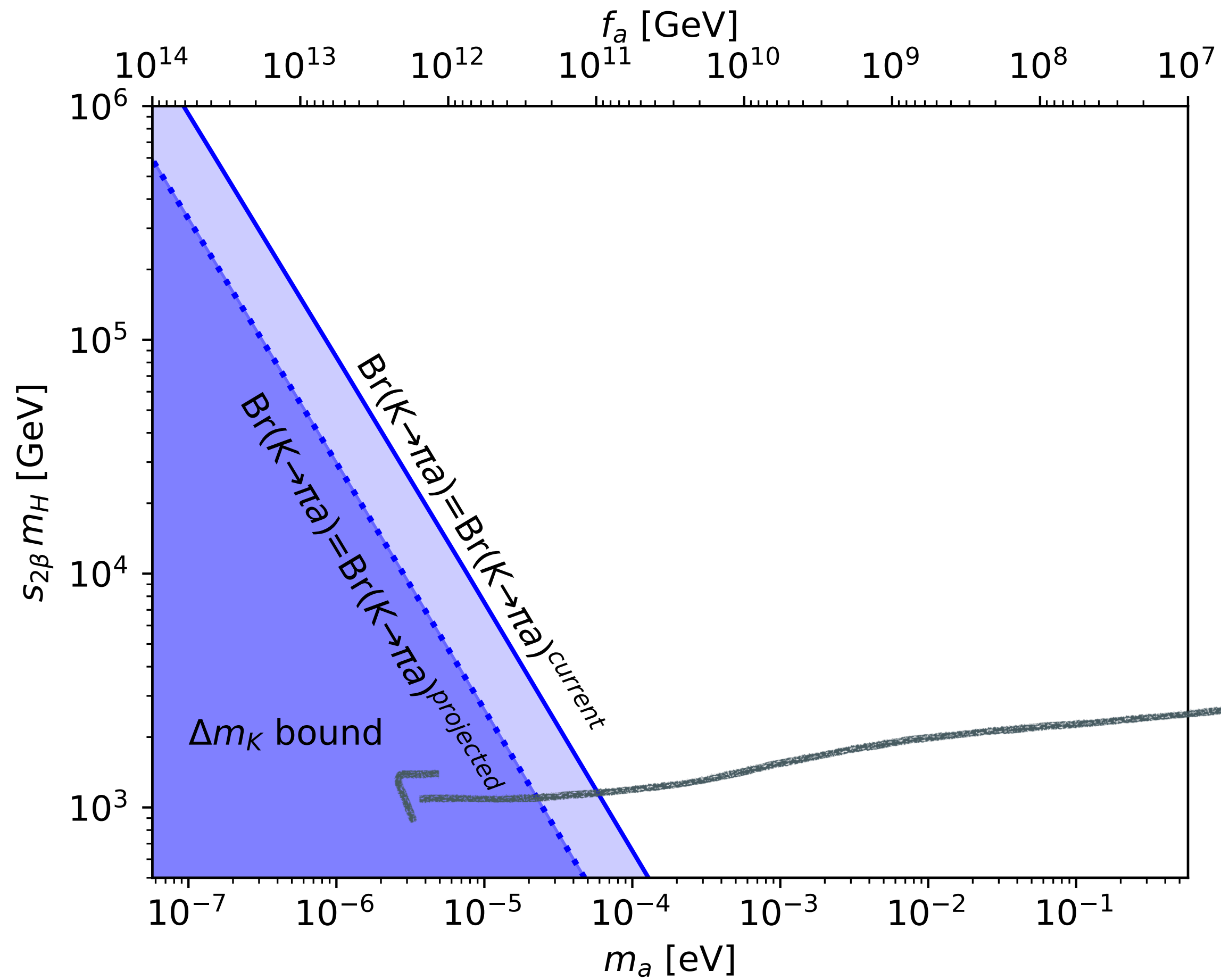
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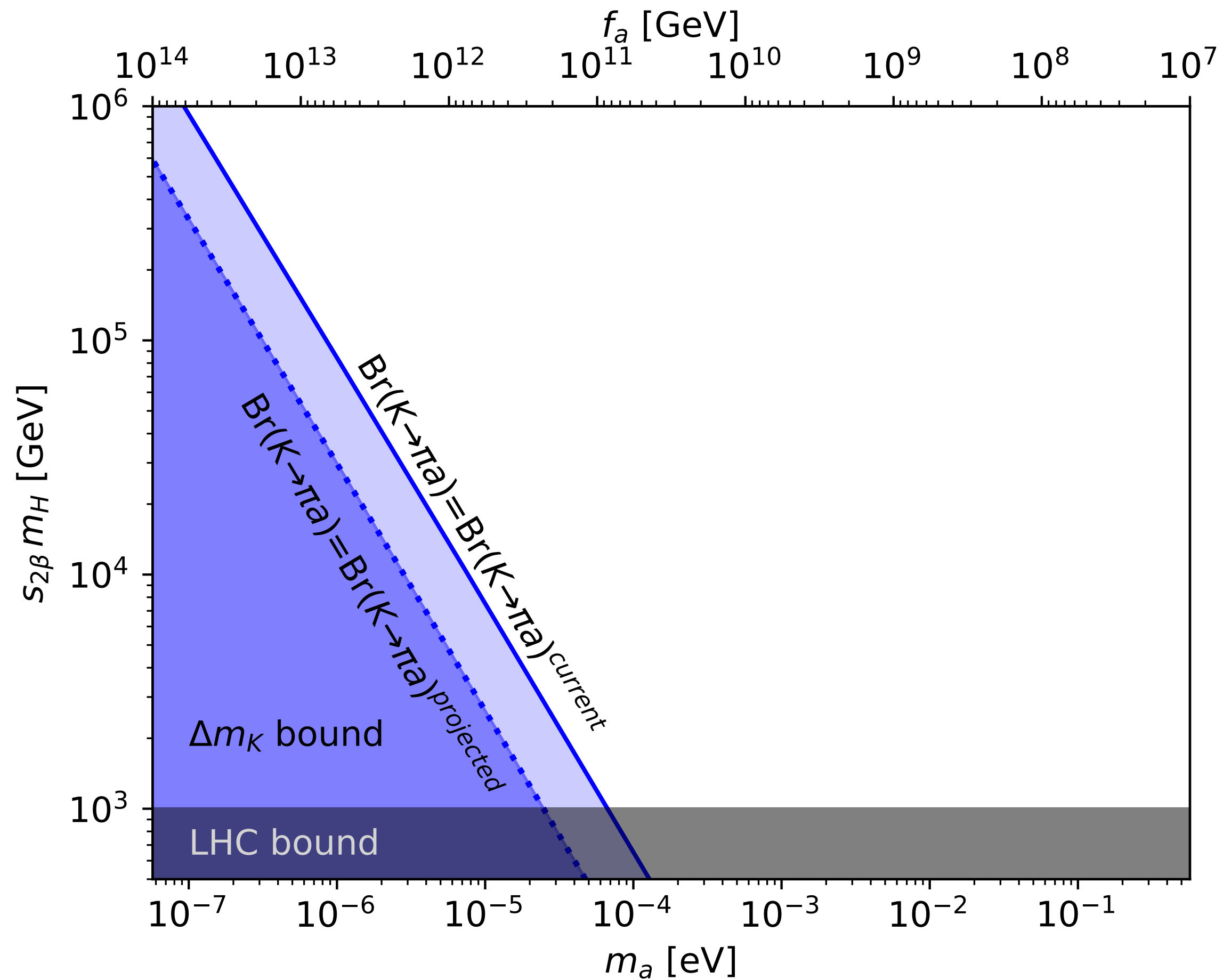
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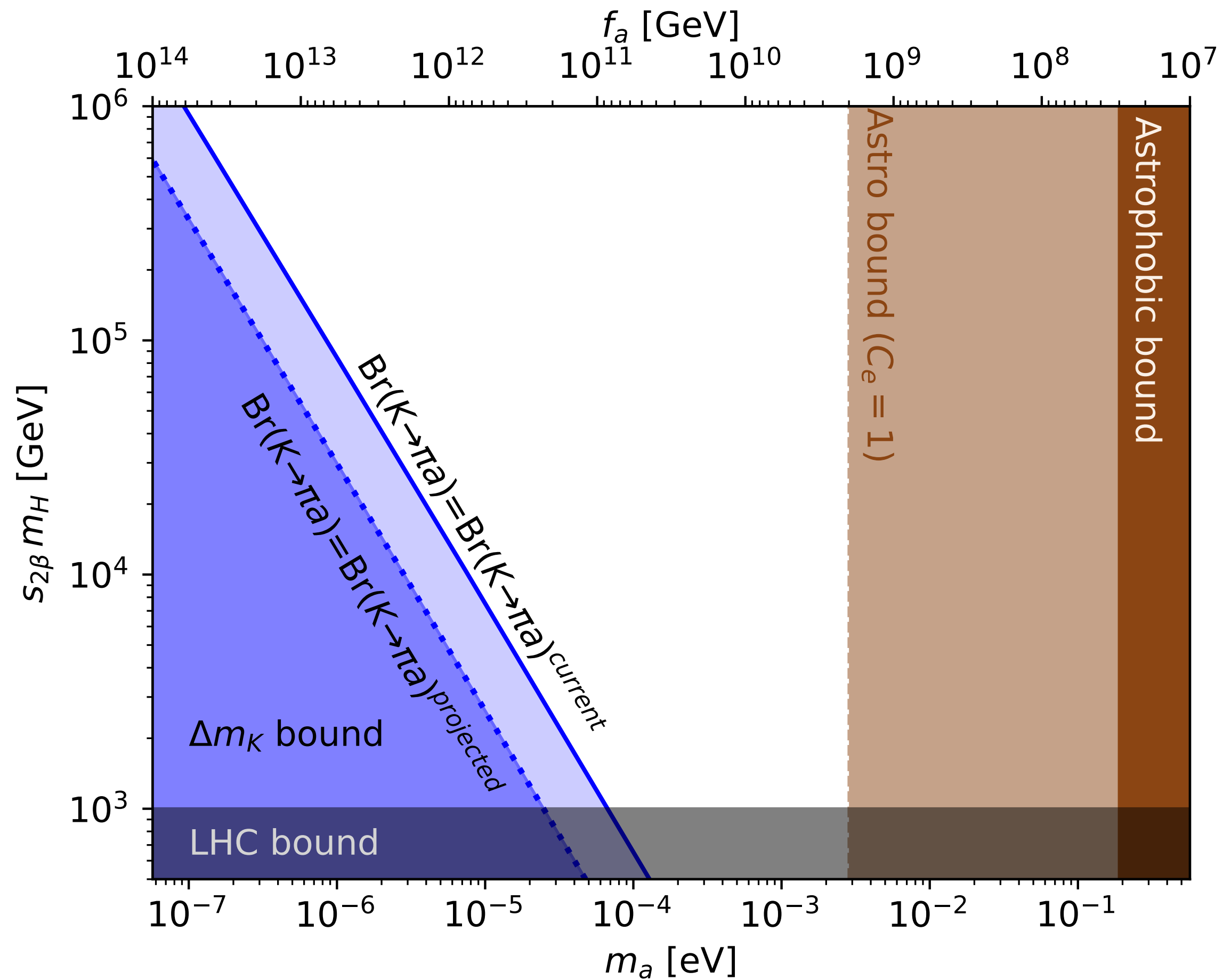


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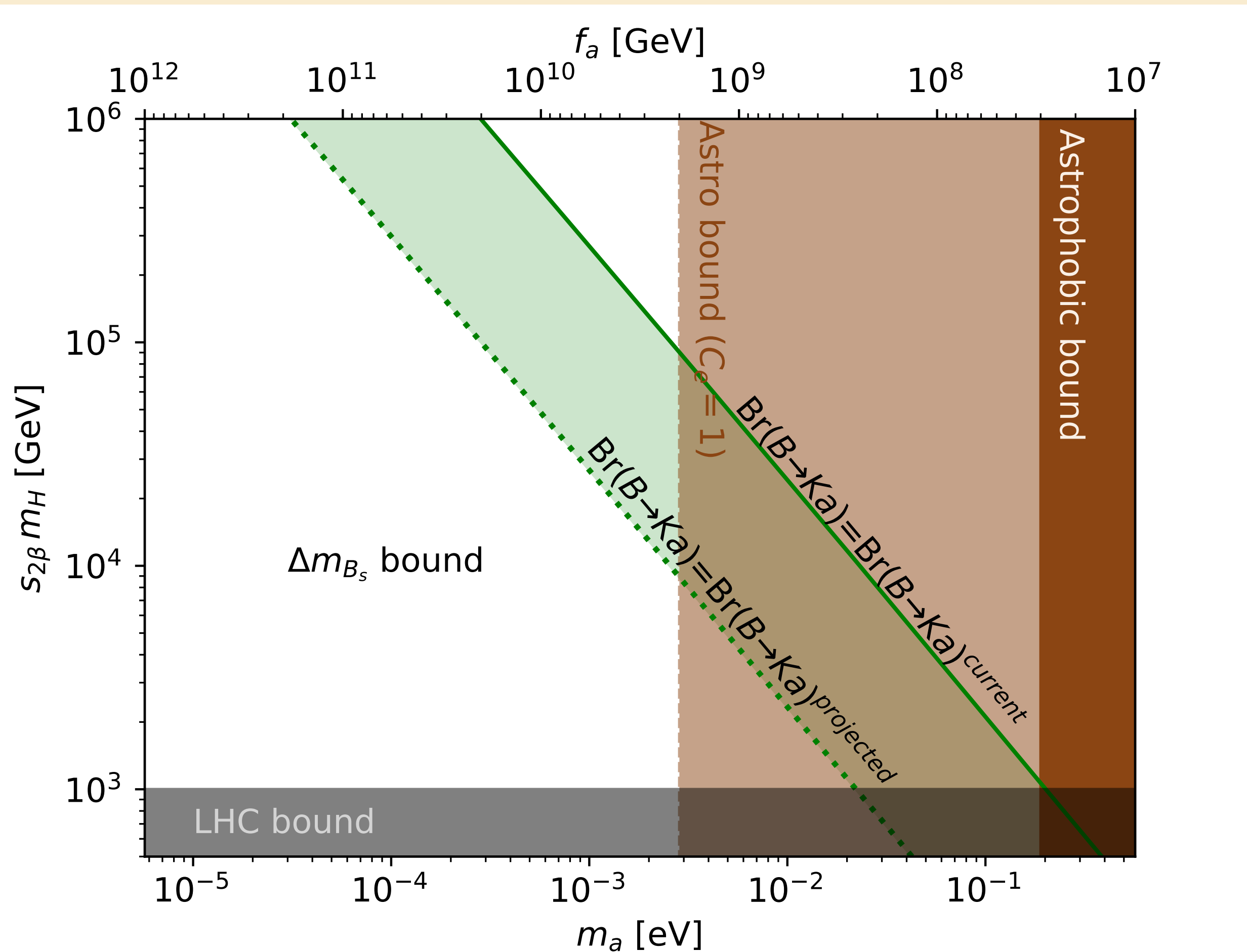
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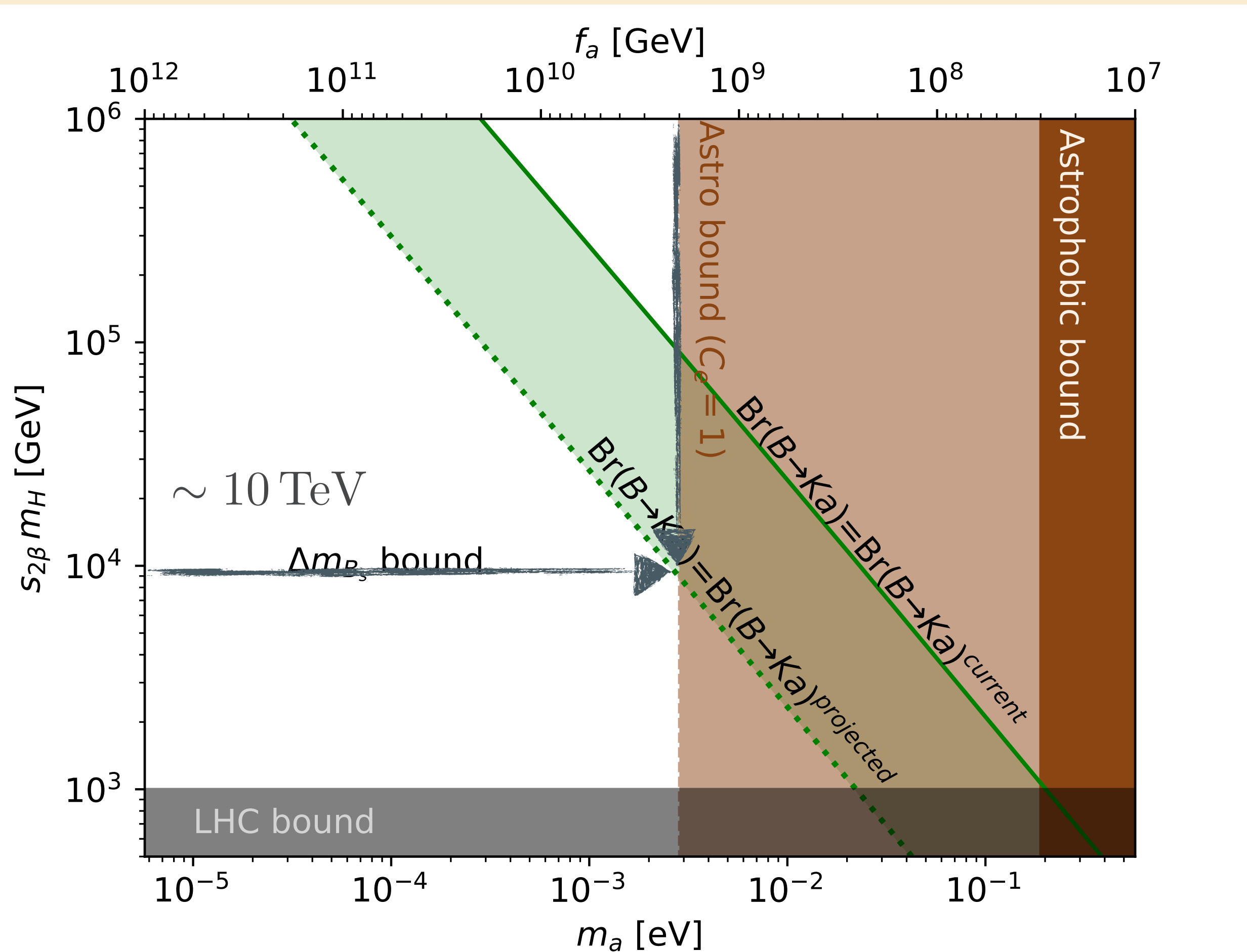
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Flavour violation in the  $b \rightarrow s$  transition

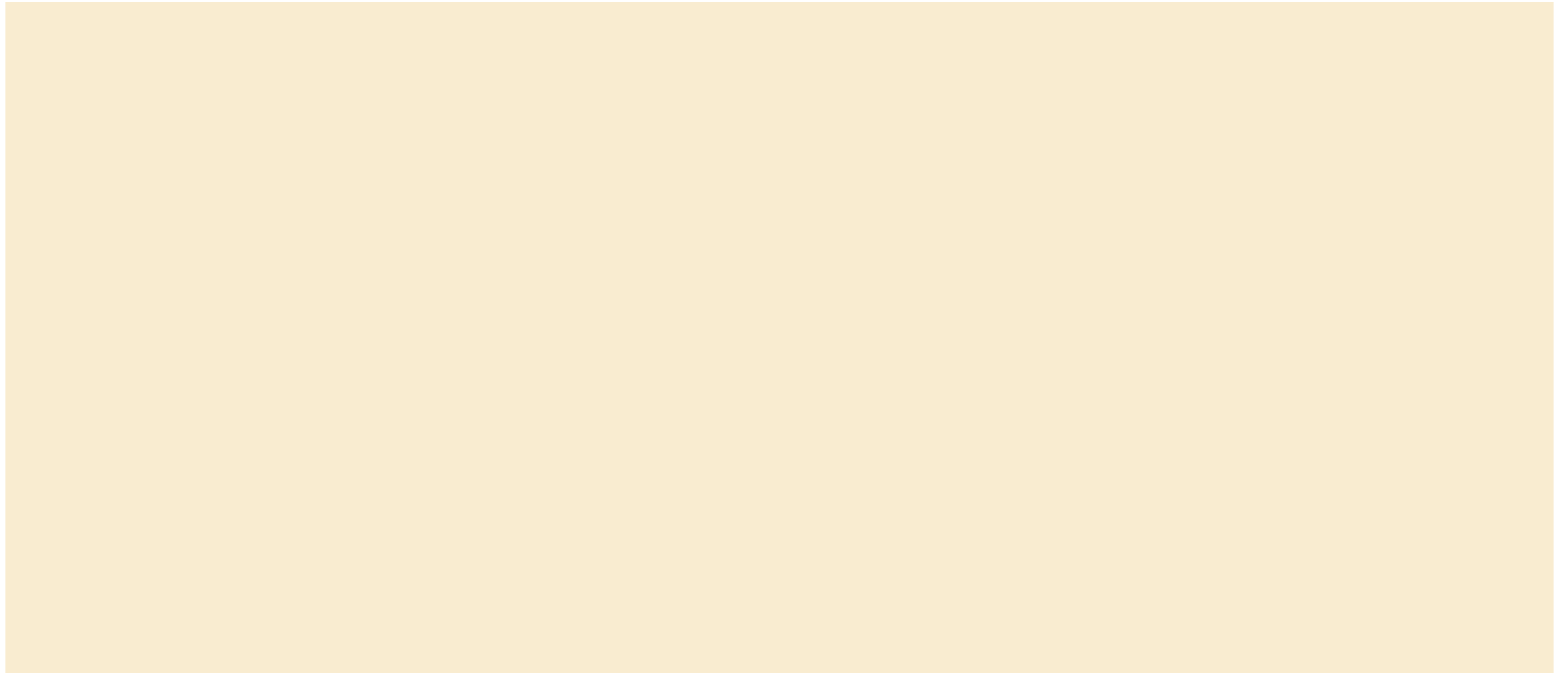
# 3. Examples: Quark sector



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**Thanks for your attention!**



This project has received funding from the European Union's **Horizon 2020** research and innovation programme under the **Marie Skłodowska-Curie** grant agreement **No 860881**.

BACKUP

# Scalar Potential: Alignment Limit

$$V(\Phi_1, \Phi_2) = M_{11}^2 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1 + M_{22}^2 \Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2 - (M_{12} \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 + \text{h.c.}) + \frac{\Lambda_1}{2} (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1)^2 + \frac{\Lambda_2}{2} (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2)^2 + \Lambda_3 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1) (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2) + \Lambda_4 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 + \text{h.c.}) + \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \Lambda_5 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2)^2 + [\Lambda_6 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1) + \Lambda_7 (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2)] \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 + \text{h.c.} \right\},$$

$$H_1 = \begin{pmatrix} G^+ \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(v + c_{\alpha-\beta}H - s_{\alpha-\beta}h - iG^0) \end{pmatrix}, \quad H_2 = \begin{pmatrix} H^+ \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(c_{\alpha-\beta}h + s_{\alpha-\beta}H - iA) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} m_H^2 & 0 \\ 0 & m_h^2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_{\alpha-\beta} & s_{\alpha-\beta} \\ -s_{\alpha-\beta} & c_{\alpha-\beta} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_1 v^2 & \Lambda_6 v^2 \\ \Lambda_6 v^2 & m_A^2 + \Lambda_5 v^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{\alpha-\beta} & -s_{\alpha-\beta} \\ s_{\alpha-\beta} & c_{\alpha-\beta} \end{pmatrix},$$

Alignment limit:

$$\Phi_1 = \begin{pmatrix} G^+ \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(v - h - iG^0) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Phi_2 = \begin{pmatrix} H^+ \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(H - iA) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$c_{\alpha-\beta} = 0, \quad c_{\alpha-\beta}^2 = \frac{\Lambda_6^2 v^4}{(m_H^2 - m_h^2)(m_H^2 - \Lambda_1 v^2)}$$

Two ways of achieving alignment:

**Decoupling:**

$$m_H^2 \simeq m_A^2 \gg v^2$$

$$m_h^2 \simeq \Lambda_1 \frac{v^2}{2}$$

**Non-decoupling:**

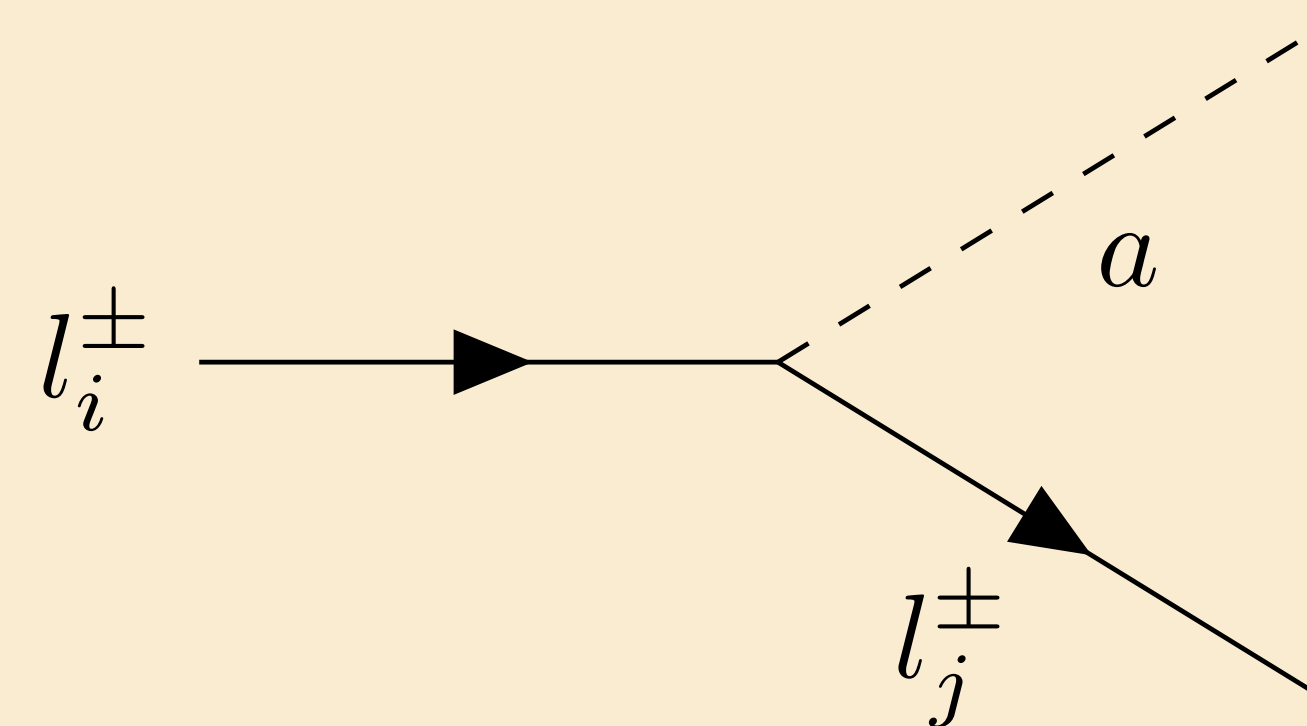
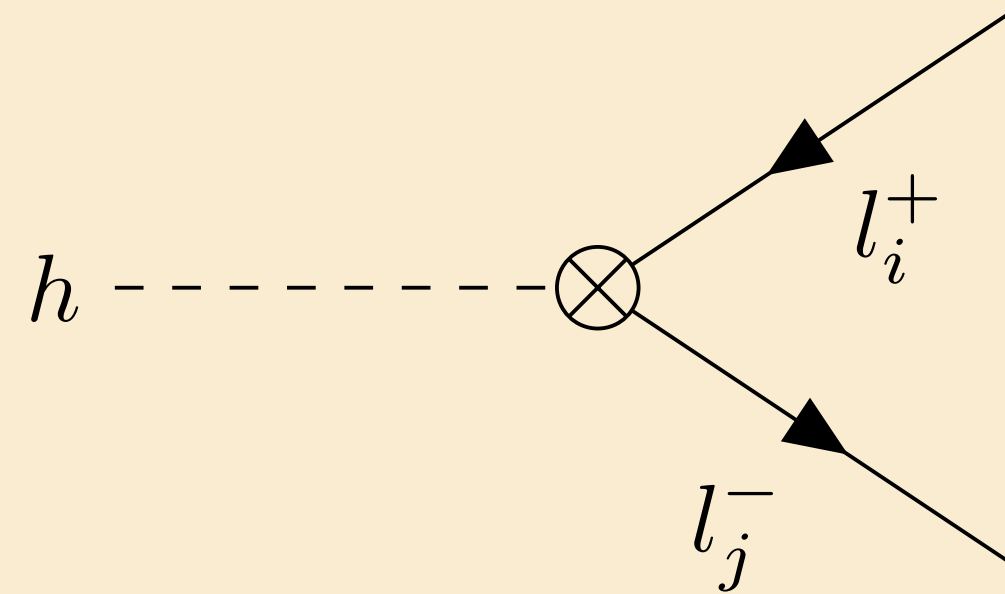
$$\Lambda_6 \rightarrow 0$$

$$m_A^2 + \Lambda_5 v^2 \simeq m_h^2$$

$$m_H^2 \simeq \Lambda_1 \frac{v^2}{2}$$

The new scalars can be at the EW scale

# Lepton Flavour Violation Example



$$\text{BR}(h \rightarrow l_i l_j) \simeq \frac{m_h}{16\pi\Gamma_h} \left( \frac{c_{\alpha-\beta}}{s_\beta c_\beta} \right)^2 \frac{m_{l_i}^2}{v^2} |(C_e^{L,R})_{ij}|^2,$$

$$\text{BR}(l_i \rightarrow l_j a) \simeq \frac{m_{l_i}^3}{16\pi\Gamma_{l_i}} \frac{|(C_e^{L,R})_{ij}|^2}{2f_a^2}$$

$$\text{BR}(h \rightarrow l_i l_j) \simeq \text{BR}(l_i \rightarrow a l_j) \frac{2m_h}{m_{l_i}} \frac{\Gamma_{l_i}}{\Gamma_h} \frac{f_a^2}{v^2} \left( \frac{c_{\alpha-\beta}}{c_\beta s_\beta} \right)^2$$

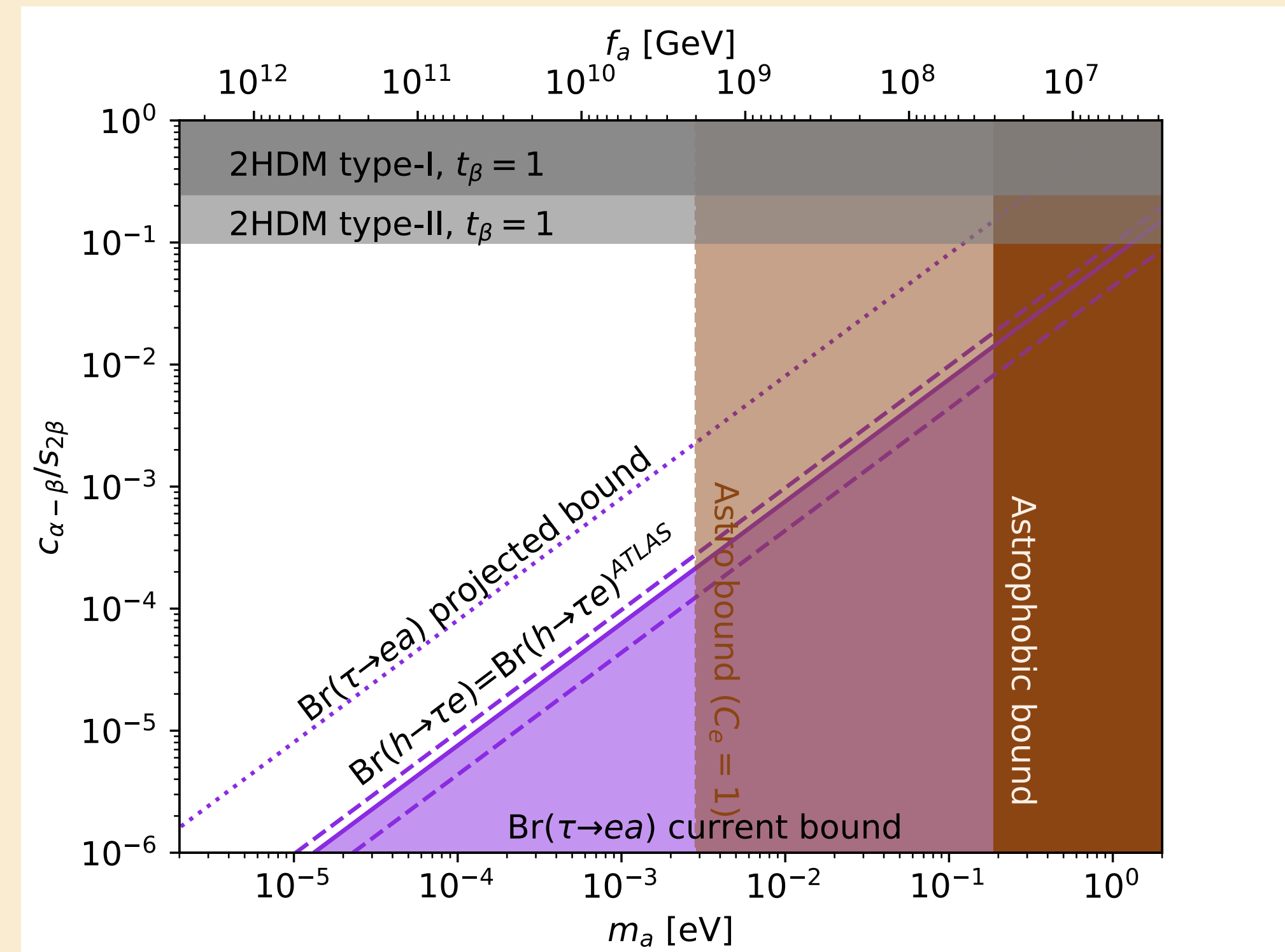
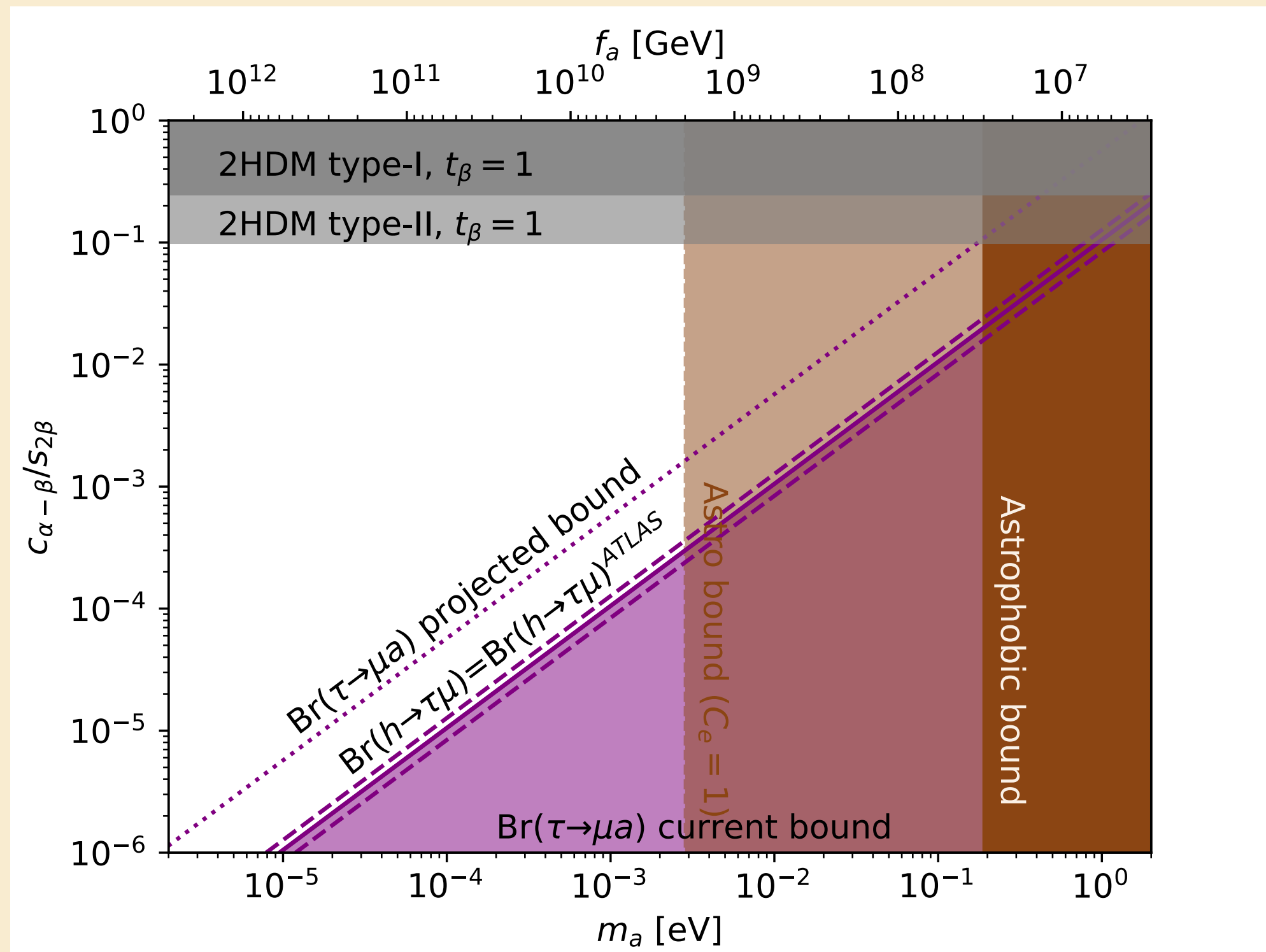
Some mild deviations at ATLAS

$$\text{BR}(h \rightarrow \tau e) = 0.09 \pm 0.06 \%$$

ATLAS [2302.05225](#)

$$\text{BR}(h \rightarrow \tau \mu) = 0.11_{-0.04}^{+0.05} \%$$

# Lepton Flavour Violation Example



$$\text{BR}(h \rightarrow l_i l_j) \simeq \text{BR}(l_i \rightarrow a l_j) \frac{2m_h}{m_{l_i}} \frac{\Gamma_{l_i}}{\Gamma_h} \frac{f_a^2}{v^2} \left( \frac{c_{\alpha-\beta}}{c_\beta s_\beta} \right)^2$$