

# Axion dark matter in the post-inflationary Peccei-Quinn symmetry breaking scenario

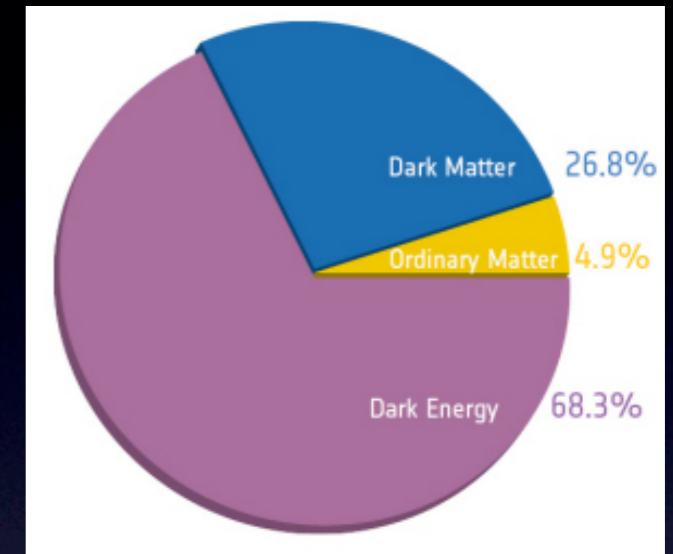
Ken'ichi Saikawa (DESY)

A. Ringwald, KS, PRD93, 085031 (2016) [arXiv:1512.06436]

M. Kawasaki, KS, T. Sekiguchi, PRD91, 065014 (2015) [arXiv:1412.0789]

# Dark matter

- Recent astrophysical observations
  - 27% of the total energy of the universe is occupied by unknown matter
  - “Invisible”  
(Interaction with ordinary matters is weak)



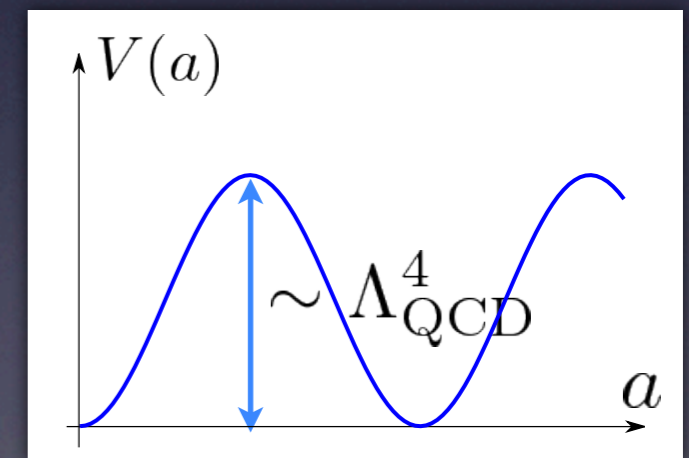
Credit: ESA and the Planck Collaboration

- Physics beyond the standard model
  - A well motivated candidate : **axion**
- How they are produced, and how they evolved ?  
→ Key to understand the nature of dark matter
- Prediction for axion dark matter depends largely on the early history of the universe

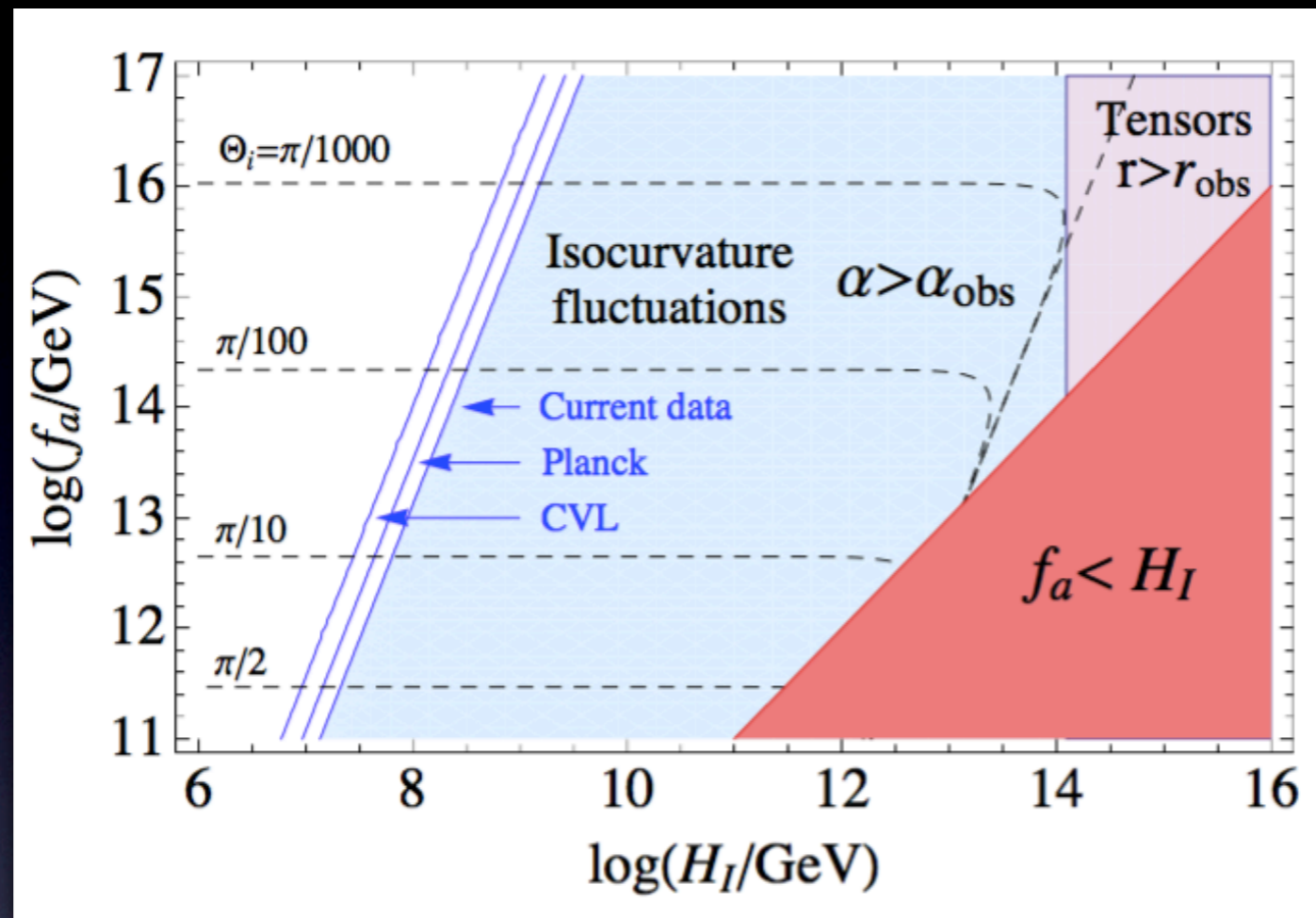
Strong CP problem

# QCD axion as dark matter candidate

- Motivated by **Peccei-Quinn mechanism** Peccei and Quinn (1977) as a solution of the strong CP problem
- Spontaneous breaking of global U(1) Peccei-Quinn (PQ) symmetry at a scale  $F_a \simeq 10^{8-11} \text{ GeV}$  “axion decay constant”
- Nambu-Goldstone theorem  
→ **emergence of the (massless) particle  $\equiv$  axion**  
Weinberg (1978), Wilczek (1978)
- **Axion has a small mass (QCD effect)**  
→ pseudo-Nambu-Goldstone boson  
$$m_a \sim \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}{F_a} \sim 6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV} \left( \frac{10^{11} \text{ GeV}}{F_a} \right)$$
  
 $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \simeq \mathcal{O}(100) \text{ MeV}$
- Tiny coupling with matter + non-thermal production  
→ **good candidate of cold dark matter**



# Axions in the inflationary universe



Hamann, Hannestad, Raffelt and Wong (2009)

- PQ symmetry is broken before inflation if  $F_a > \max[H_I/2\pi, T_{\text{max}}]$   
 $H_I$ : Hubble parameter during inflation  
 $T_{\text{max}}$ : maximum temperature of the thermal bath after inflation
- In this case, axion field during inflation leads to isocurvature fluctuations that are severely constrained unless  $H_I$  is sufficiently small
- In the following, we focus on the post-inflationary PQ symmetry breaking scenario:

$$F_a < \max[H_I/2\pi, T_{\text{max}}]$$

# Axionic string and axionic domain wall

Peccei-Quinn field (complex scalar field)

$$\Phi = |\Phi| e^{ia(x)/\eta}$$

$a(x)$ : axion field

$$F_a = \eta/N_{\text{DW}}$$

String formation  $T \lesssim F_a$

Spontaneous breaking of  $U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$

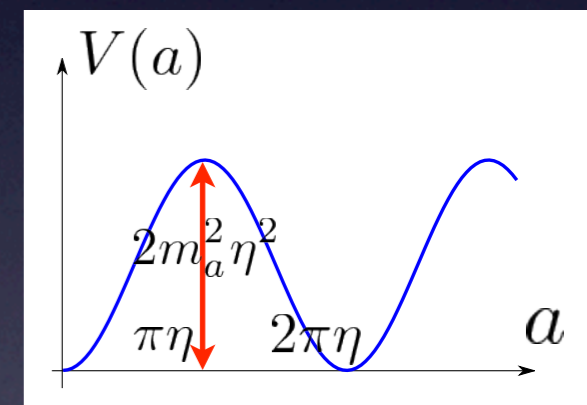
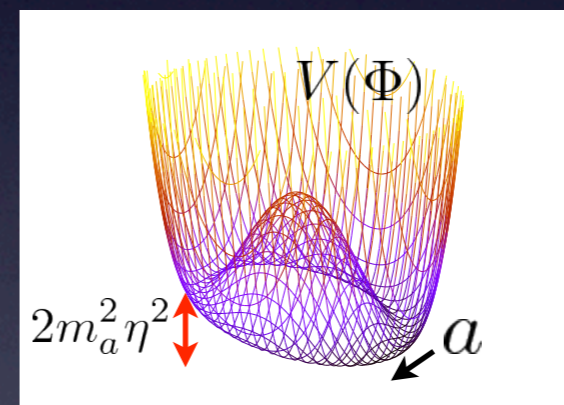
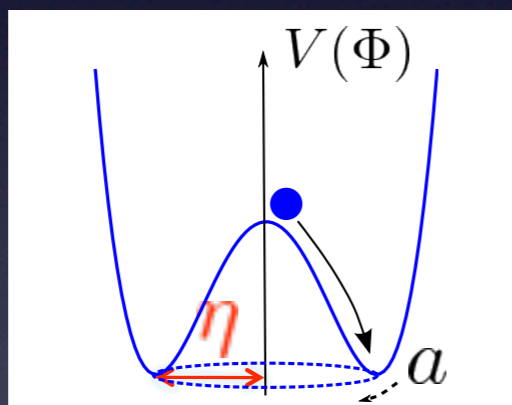
$$V(\Phi) = \frac{\lambda}{4} (|\Phi|^2 - \eta^2)^2$$

Domain wall formation  $T \lesssim 1\text{GeV}$

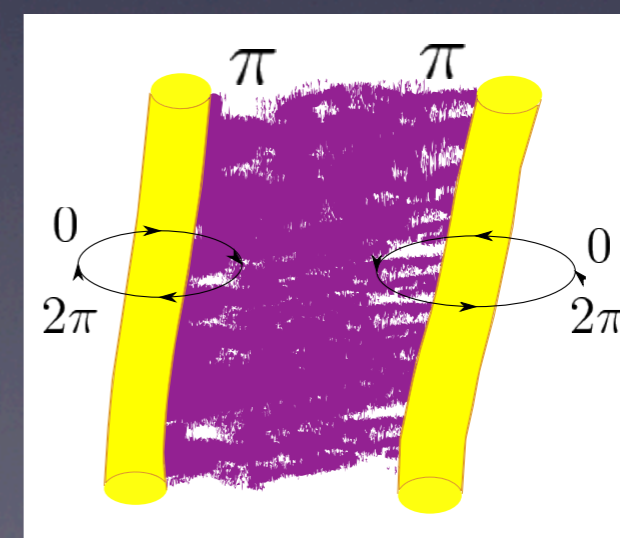
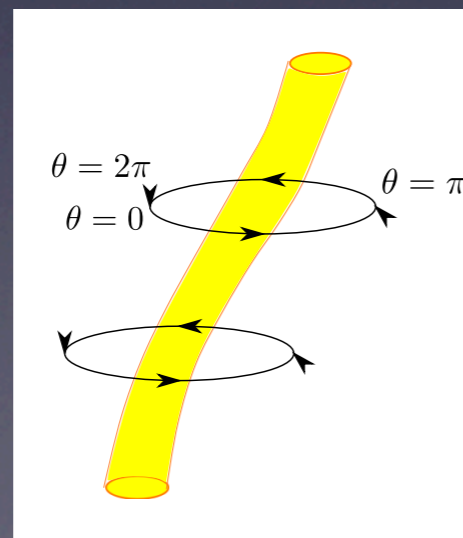
QCD effect

$$V(\Phi) = \frac{\lambda}{4} (|\Phi|^2 - \eta^2)^2 + m_a^2 \eta^2 (1 - \cos(a/\eta))$$

Field space



Coordinate space



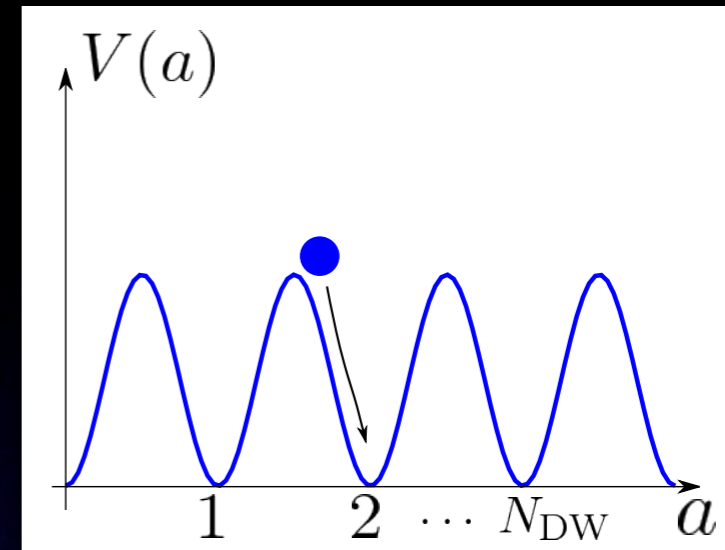
Strings attached by domain walls

# Domain wall problem

Domain wall number  $N_{DW}$  (vacuum degeneracy)

$$V(a) = \frac{m_a^2 \eta^2}{N_{DW}^2} (1 - \cos(N_{DW} a / \eta))$$

$N_{DW}$ : Integer determined by QCD anomaly,  
which depends on particle physics model



$N_{DW} = 1$  for Kim-Shifman-Vainshtein-Zakharov (KSVZ) models

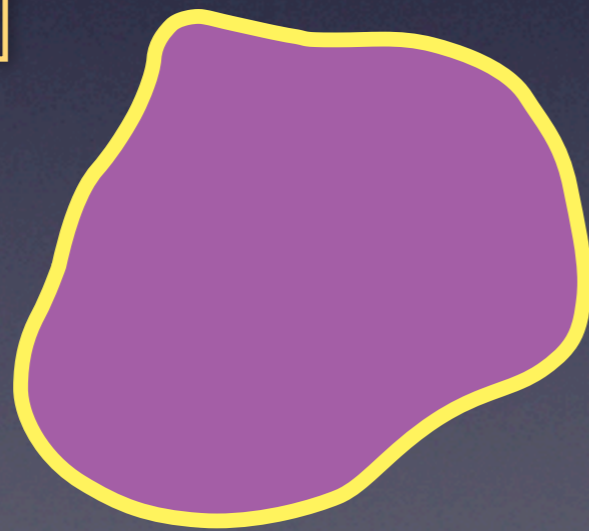
Kim (1979), Shifman, Vainshtein and Zakharov (1980)

$N_{DW} = 6$  for Dine-Fischler-Srednicki-Zhitnitsky (DFSZ) models

Zhitnitsky (1980), Dine, Fischler and Srednicki (1981)

$N_{DW} = 1$

string



Collapse to produce additional axions

$N_{DW} > 1$

wall

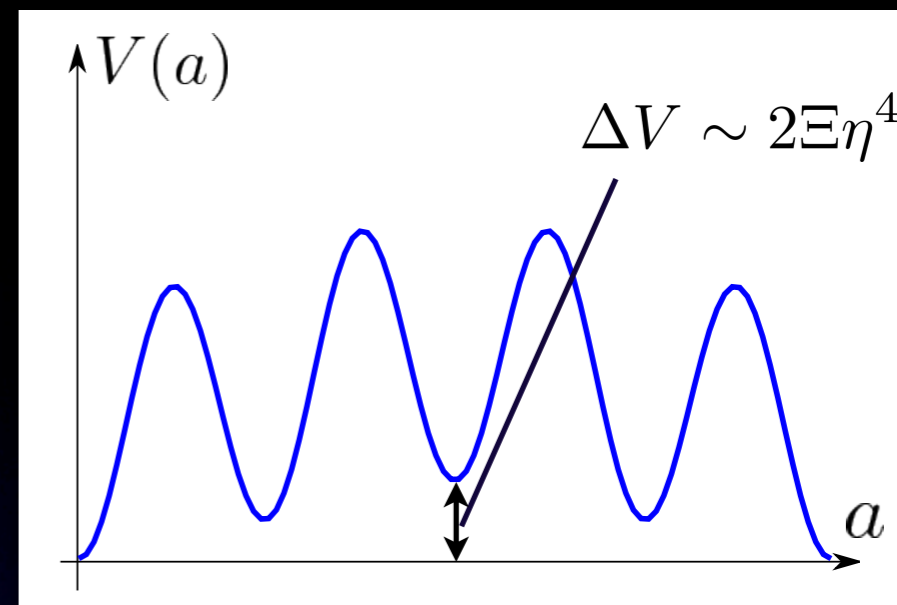


$N_{DW} = 3$

Stable, coming to overclose the universe  
“Domain wall problem”

- The domain wall problem for  $N_{\text{DW}} > 1$  might be avoided by introducing an **explicit symmetry breaking term (bias term)** Sikivie (1982)

$$V(a) = \frac{m_a^2 \eta^2}{N_{\text{DW}}^2} \left( 1 - \cos \left( \frac{N_{\text{DW}} a}{\eta} \right) \right) + \frac{\Delta V_{\text{bias}}}{\text{lifts degenerate vacua}}$$



- Origin of the bias term ?
  - $U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$  may not be an exact symmetry: any global symmetry can be spoiled by gravitational effects Holman et al. (1992), Kamionkowski and March-Russell (1992), Barr and Seckel (1992), Ghigna, Lusignoli and Roncadelli (1992), Dine (1992)
  - We can assume that the PQ symmetry is not *ad hoc* but instead an **accidental symmetry** of an exact discrete  $Z_N$  symmetry (with large N) Choi, Nilles, Ramos-Sanchez and Vaudrevange (2009)
  - Planck-suppressed operators allowed by the  $Z_N$  symmetry work as the bias term

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{g}{M_{\text{Pl}}^{N-4}} \Phi^N + \text{h.c.}, \quad g = |g| e^{i\Delta}$$



$$\Delta V_{\text{bias}}(a) = -2\Xi\eta^4 \cos \left( N \frac{a}{\eta} + \Delta_D \right)$$

$$\Xi = \frac{|g| N_{\text{DW}}^{N-4}}{(\sqrt{2})^N} \left( \frac{F_a}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^{N-4}, \quad \Delta_D = \Delta - N\bar{\theta}$$

$\bar{\theta}$  : contribution from the QCD  $\theta$  parameter and the phase of the quark masses

# Annihilation mechanism of domain walls

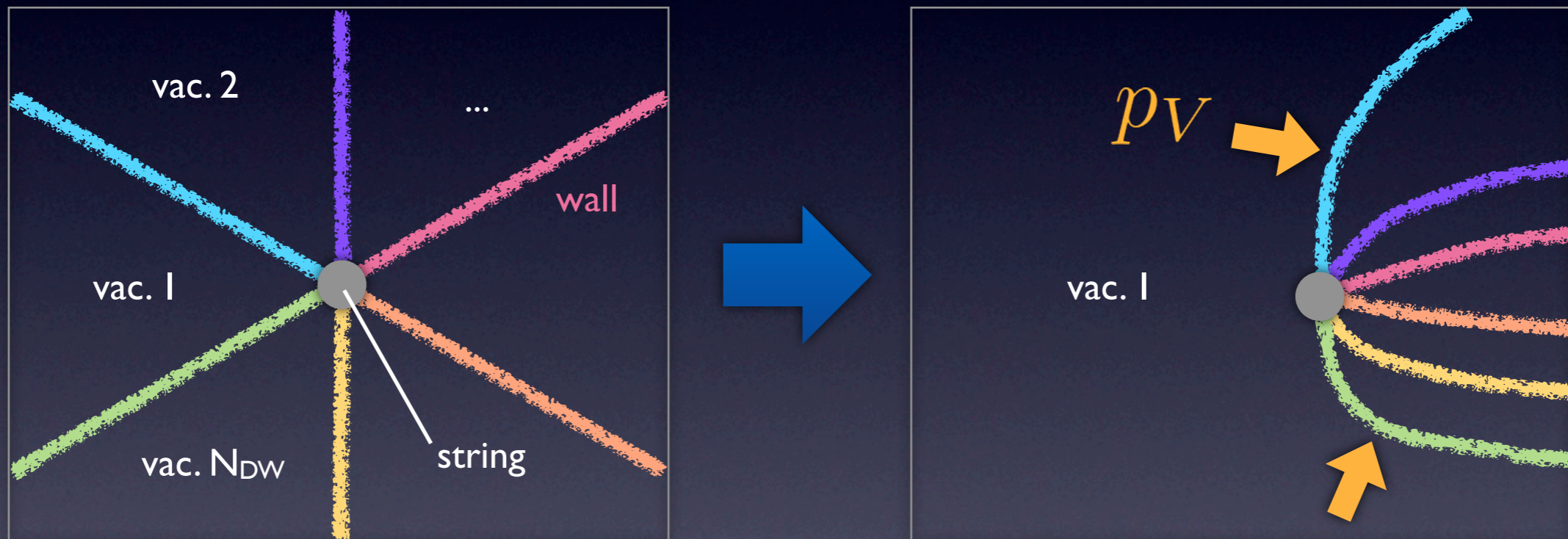
The bias term acts as a pressure force  $p_V$  on the wall

$$p_V \sim \Delta V_{\text{bias}} \sim \Xi \eta^4$$

Annihilation occurs when the tension  $p_T$  becomes comparable with the pressure  $p_V$

$$p_T \sim \sigma_{\text{wall}}/R \sim m_a \eta^2 / N_{\text{DW}}^2 R$$

$R$ : curvature radius of walls  
 $\sigma_{\text{wall}}$ : surface mass density of walls



Decay time

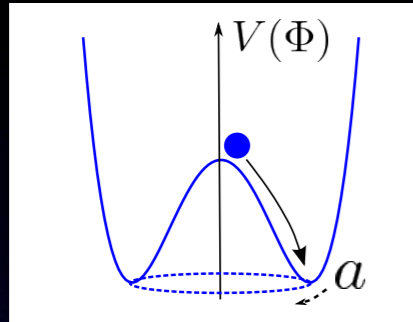
$$t_{\text{dec}} \sim R|_{p_V=p_T} \sim \frac{m_a}{N_{\text{DW}}^2 \Xi \eta^2}$$

$$\sim \mathcal{O}(10^{-6}) \text{ sec} \left( \frac{6}{N_{\text{DW}}} \right)^4 \left( \frac{10^{-51}}{\Xi} \right) \left( \frac{10^9 \text{ GeV}}{F_a} \right)^3$$



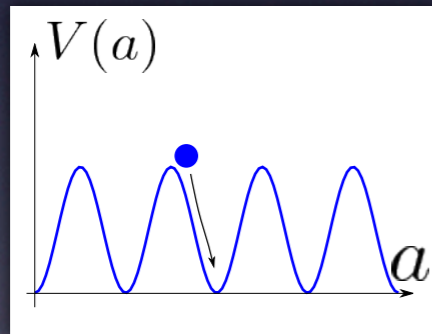
# Production of axions in the early universe

(post-inflationary PQ symmetry breaking scenario)



$$T \lesssim F_a \simeq 10^{8-11} \text{ GeV}$$

$$T \lesssim 1 \text{ GeV}$$



Inflation

PQ symmetry breaking  
• Formation of strings

QCD phase transition  
• Axion acquires a mass  
• Formation of domain walls

$$N_{\text{DW}} = 1$$

$$N_{\text{DW}} > 1$$

Immediately after formation

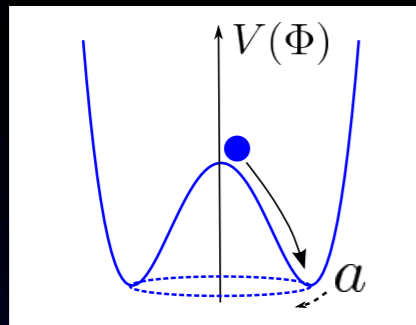
String-wall networks exist for a long time

Collapse of string-wall systems

Annihilation of domain walls before they overclose the universe

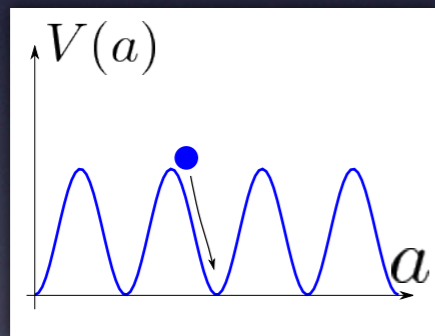
# Production of axions in the early universe

(post-inflationary PQ symmetry breaking scenario)



$$T \lesssim F_a \simeq 10^{8-11} \text{ GeV}$$

$$T \lesssim 1 \text{ GeV}$$



Inflation

PQ symmetry breaking  
• Formation of strings

QCD phase transition  
• Axion acquires a mass  
• Formation of domain walls

(i) Coherent oscillation  
(realignment mechanism)

$$\Omega_{a,\text{real}}$$

$$N_{\text{DW}} = 1$$

$$N_{\text{DW}} > 1$$

Immediately after  
formation

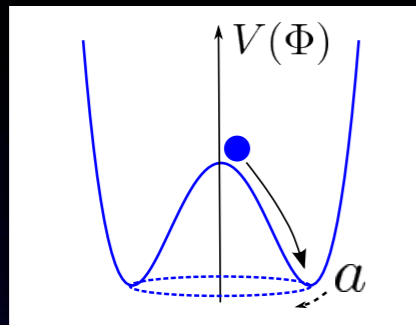
String-wall networks exist  
for a long time

Collapse of string-wall systems

Annihilation of domain walls  
before they overclose the universe

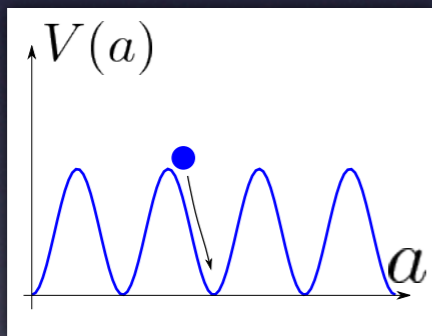
# Production of axions in the early universe

(post-inflationary PQ symmetry breaking scenario)



$$T \lesssim F_a \simeq 10^{8-11} \text{ GeV}$$

$$T \lesssim 1 \text{ GeV}$$



Inflation

PQ symmetry breaking  
• Formation of strings

QCD phase transition  
• Axion acquires a mass  
• Formation of domain walls

(ii) Radiation from strings

$$\Omega_{a,\text{string}}$$

(i) Coherent oscillation  
(realignment mechanism)

$$\Omega_{a,\text{real}}$$

$$N_{\text{DW}} = 1$$

$$N_{\text{DW}} > 1$$

Immediately after  
formation

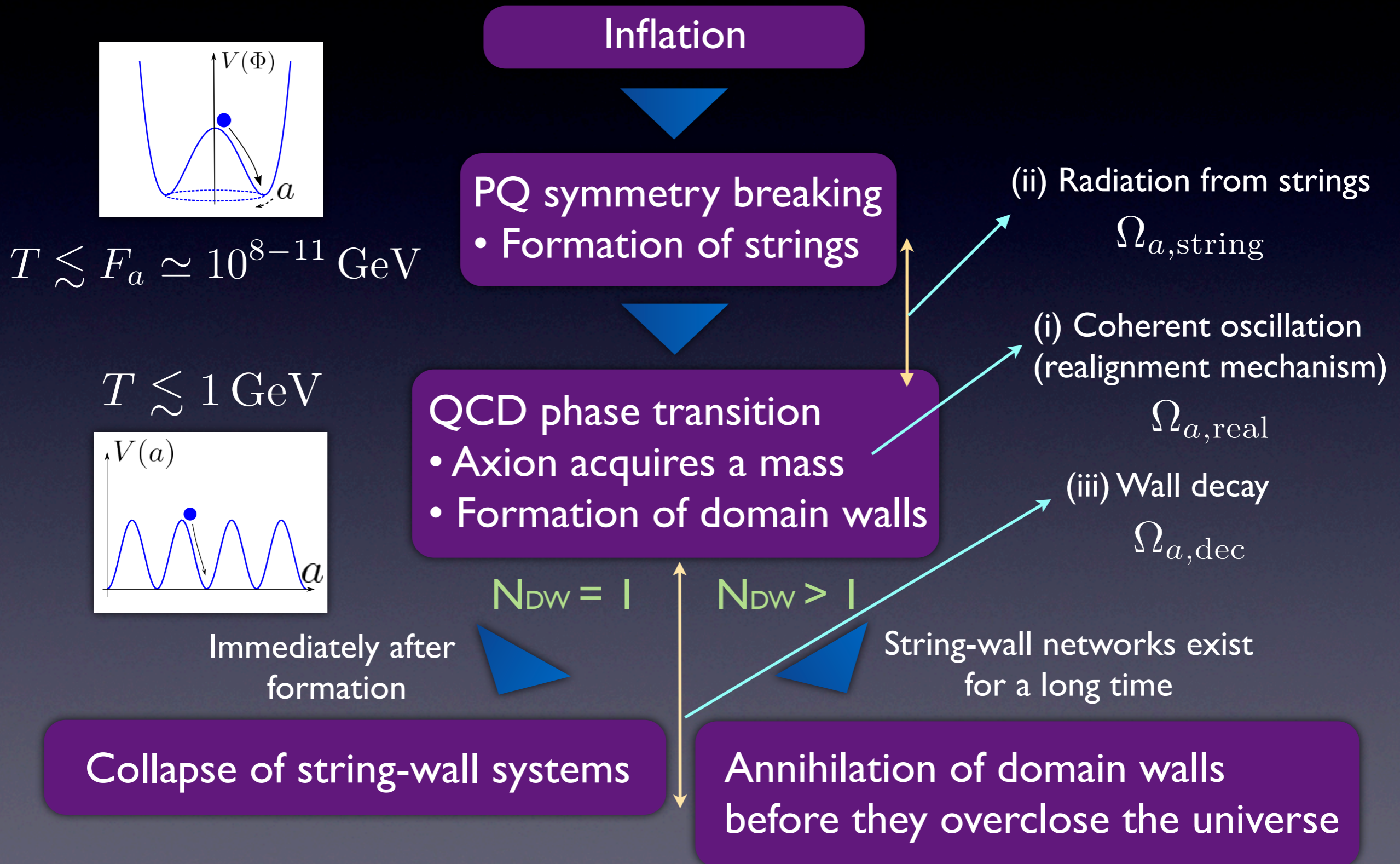
String-wall networks exist  
for a long time

Collapse of string-wall systems

Annihilation of domain walls  
before they overclose the universe

# Production of axions in the early universe

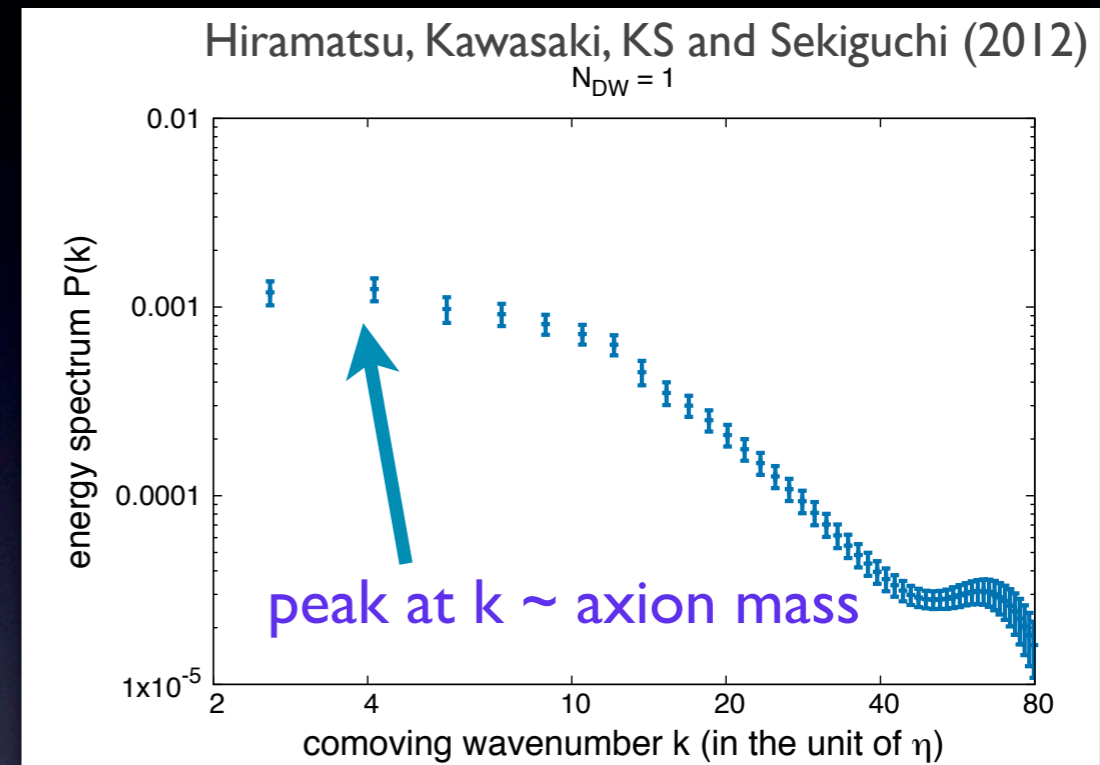
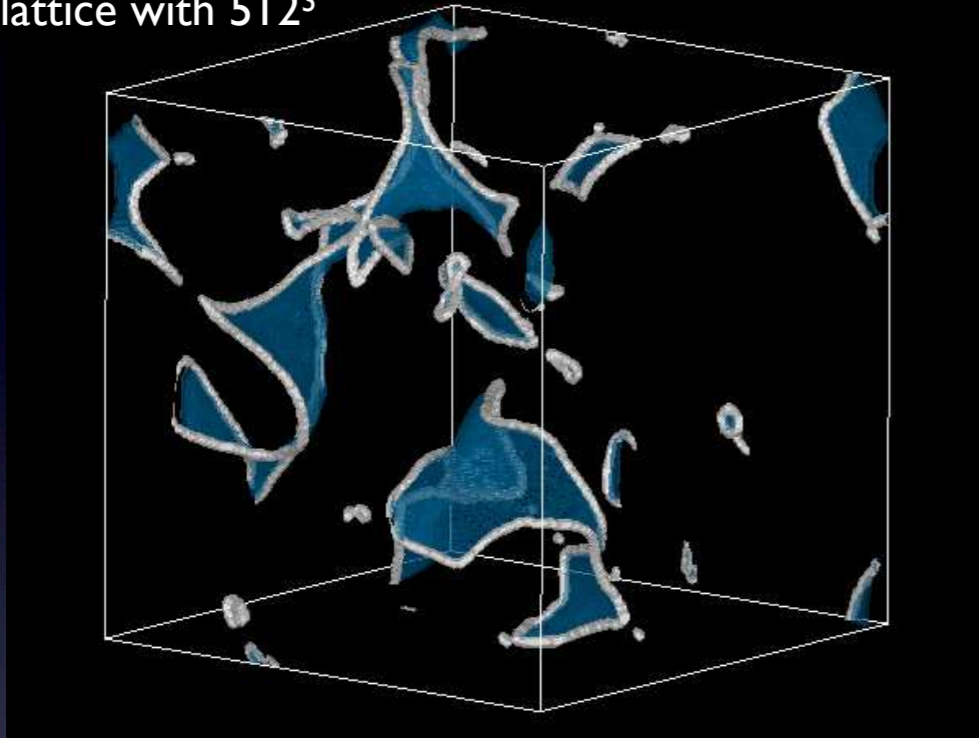
(post-inflationary PQ symmetry breaking scenario)



# Numerical simulation of string-wall systems

- Energy spectrum of radiated axions is estimated and the total relic abundance of axions is computed by using the results of numerical simulations

3D lattice with  $512^3$



- For  $N_{DW} = 1$  (KSVZ-like models), axion density from the decay of string-wall systems  $\Omega_{a,dec}$  is comparable to axion densities from other sources

$$\Omega_{a,dec} \sim \Omega_{a,real} \sim \Omega_{a,string}$$

- Constraint on the Peccei-Quinn scale

$$\Omega_{a,tot} \leq \Omega_{CDM}$$

$$\Omega_{a,tot} = \Omega_{a,real} + \Omega_{a,string} + \Omega_{a,dec}$$



$$F_a \lesssim (4.6-7.2) \times 10^{10} \text{ GeV}$$

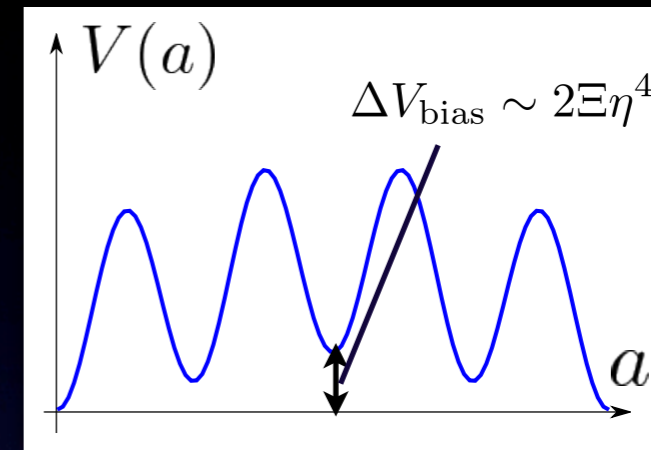
$$m_a \gtrsim (0.8-1.3) \times 10^{-4} \text{ eV}$$

# $N_{\text{DW}} > 1$ (DFSZ-like models): long-lived domain walls

Hiramatsu, Kawasaki, KS and Sekiguchi (2013),  
Kawasaki, KS and Sekiguchi (2015), Ringwald and KS (2016)

- Domain walls are long-lived and decay due to the bias term

$$\Delta V_{\text{bias}} = -2\Xi\eta^4 \cos((Na)/\eta + \Delta_D)$$



- For small bias

Long-lived domain walls emit a lot of axions which might exceed the observed matter density

**Cosmology → large bias is favored**

- For large bias

Bias term shifts the minimum of the potential and might spoil the original Peccei-Quinn solution to the strong CP problem

$$\bar{\theta} = \frac{2\Xi N N_{\text{DW}}^3 F_a^2 \sin \Delta_D}{m_a^2 + 2\Xi N^2 N_{\text{DW}}^2 F_a^2 \cos \Delta_D} < 7 \times 10^{-12}$$

$\Delta_D$ : phase of the bias term

**CP → small bias is favored**

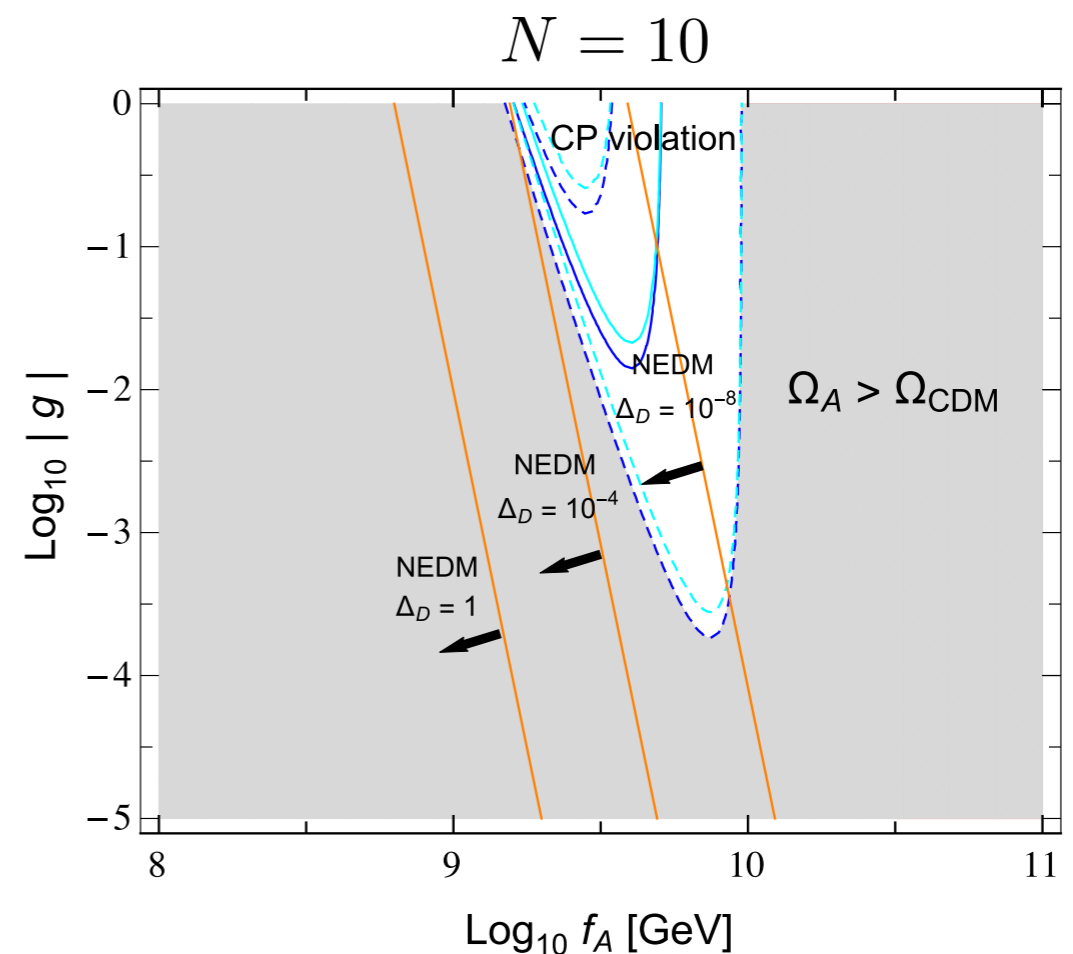
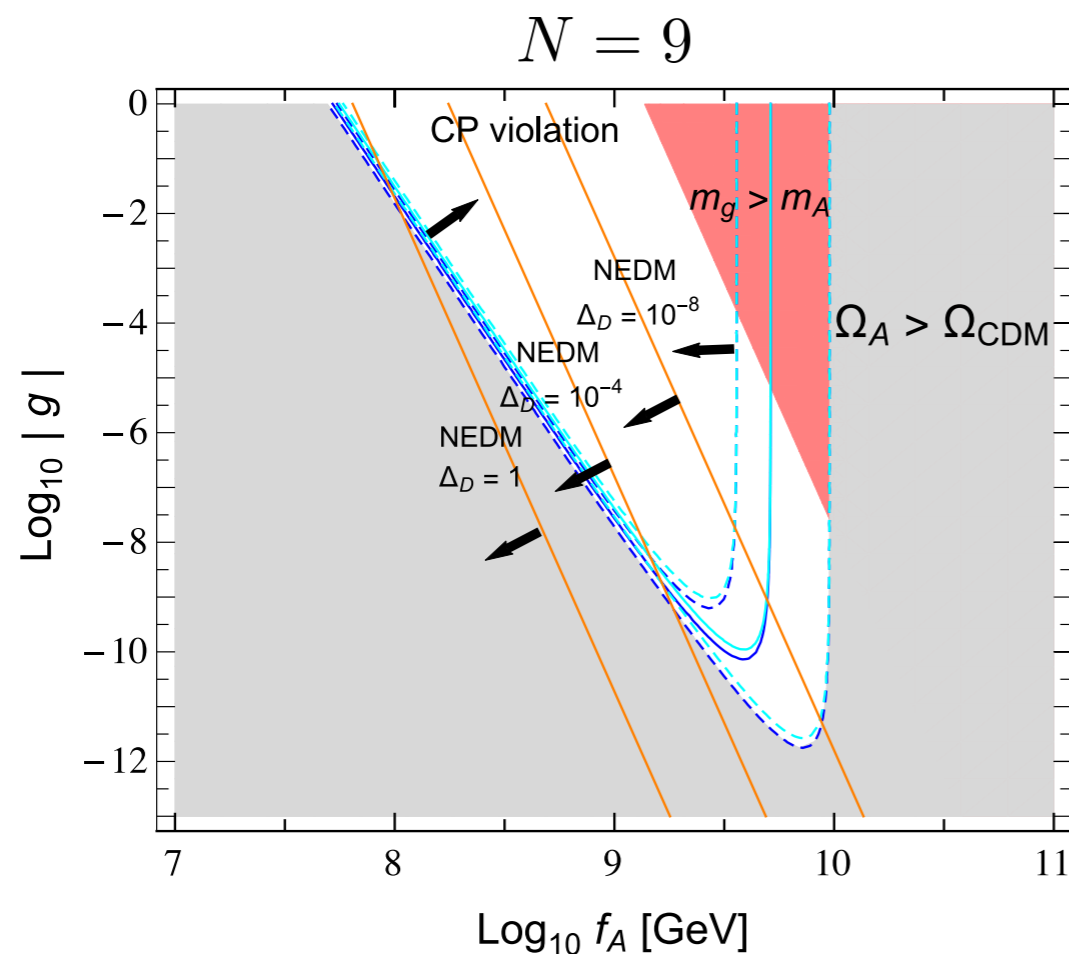
- Consistent parameters ?

- Constraints on the bias parameter (= on the coefficient  $g$ )

$$\bar{\Xi} = \frac{|g| N_{\text{DW}}^{N-4}}{(\sqrt{2})^N} \left( \frac{F_a}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^{N-4} \leftarrow \mathcal{L} \supset \frac{g}{M_{\text{Pl}}^{N-4}} \Phi^N + \text{h.c.}$$

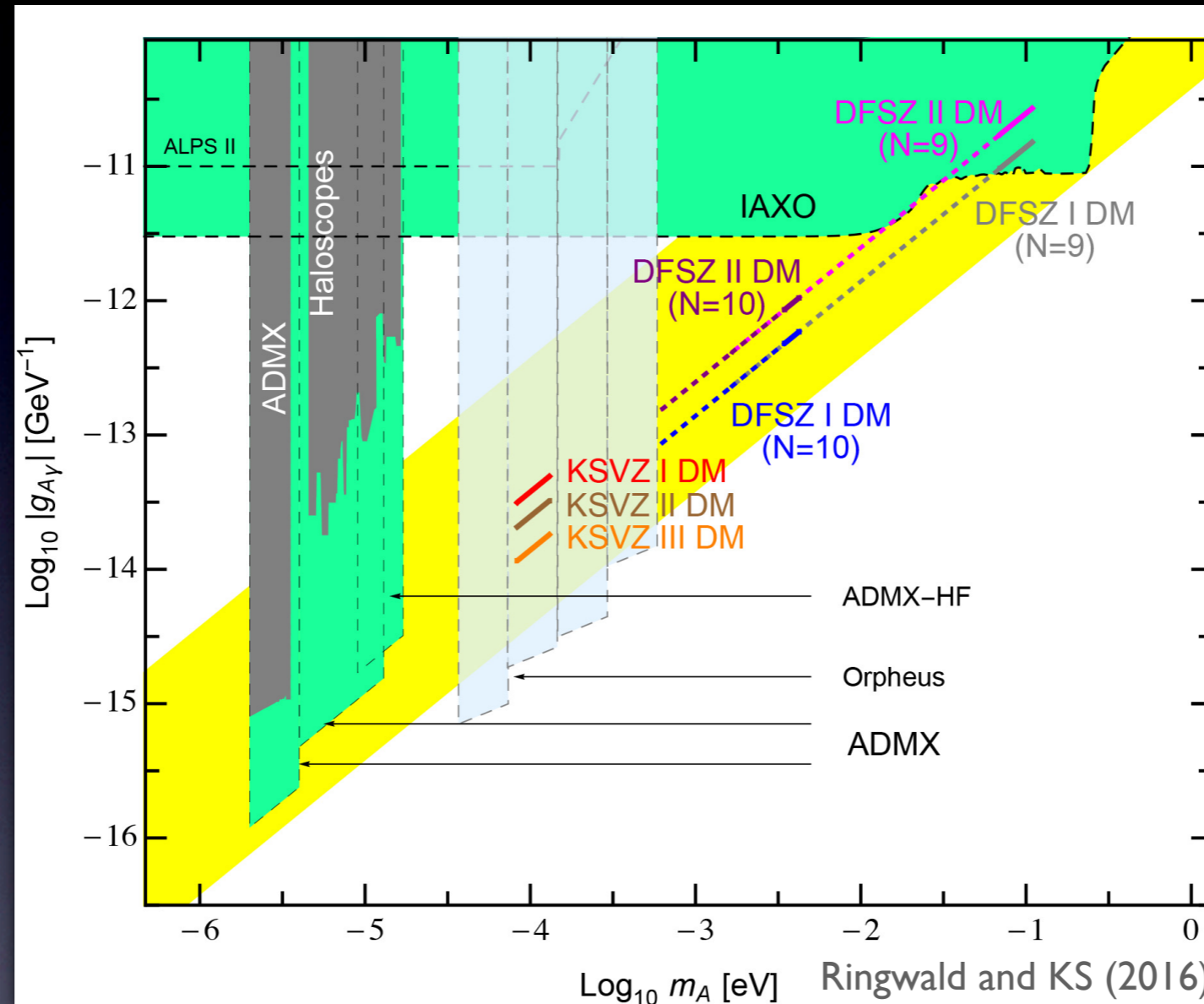
- Axion energy density  $\Omega_{a,\text{real}} + \Omega_{a,\text{string}} + \Omega_{a,\text{dec}} \leq \Omega_{\text{CDM}}$
- Neutron electric dipole moment (NEDM)  $\bar{\theta} < 0.7 \times 10^{-11}$
- Loopholes appear if the order of the discrete symmetry is  $N = 9$  or  $10$ , but some tuning of the phase parameter  $\Delta_D$  is required

Ringwald and KS (2016)



# Search for axion DM

Search space in photon coupling  $g_{a\gamma} \sim \alpha/(2\pi F_a)$  vs. mass  $m_a$



- CDM abundance can be explained at higher  $m_a$  due to the additional contribution from long-lived string-wall systems for DFSZ models
- Every axion dark matter model gives a distinctive prediction for coupling parameters which can be probed by future experimental studies



# Conclusion

- If the PQ symmetry is broken after inflation, axions from string-wall systems give additional contributions to the CDM abundance
- Axion can be the dominant component of dark matter if

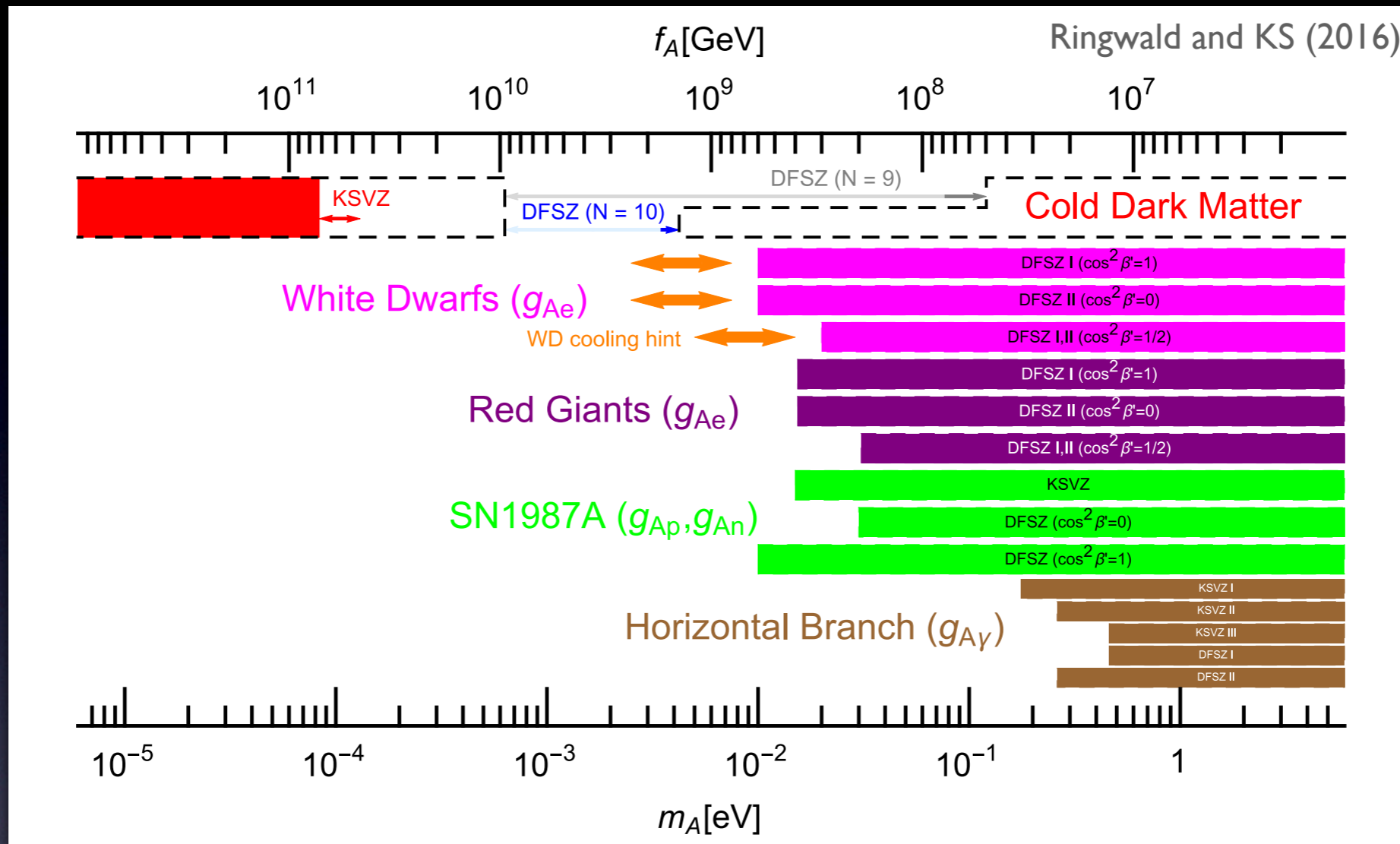
$$m_a \simeq (0.8-1.3) \times 10^{-4} \text{ eV} \quad \text{for } N_{\text{DW}} = 1 \text{ (KSVZ-like models)}$$

$$m_a \simeq \mathcal{O}(10^{-4}-10^{-2} \text{ eV}) \quad \text{for } N_{\text{DW}} > 1 \text{ (DFSZ-like models)}$$

- These predictions depend strongly on the early history of the universe according to the detailed construction of the models (i.e. domain wall number  $N_{\text{DW}}$ , structure of the bias term, etc.)
- Future experimental searches will probe broad parameter ranges, which can provide rich information about underlying particle physics models, as well as the early history of the universe

Backup

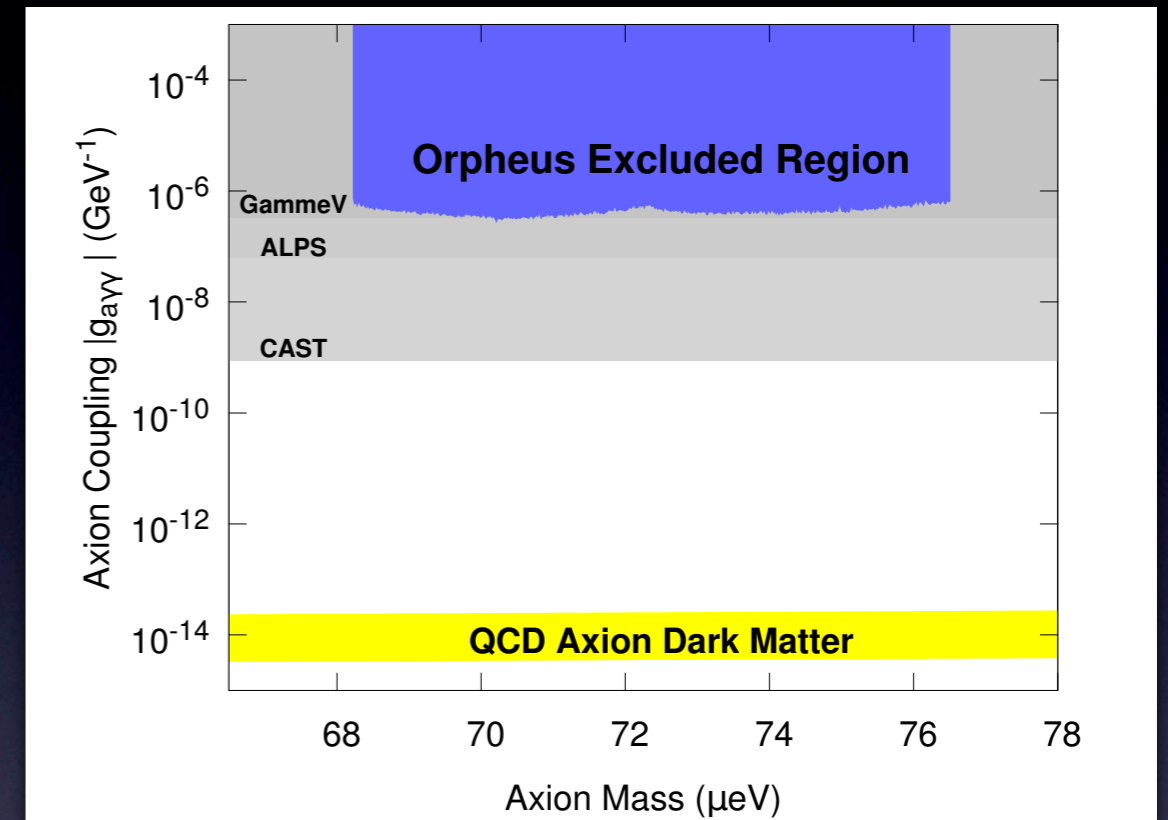
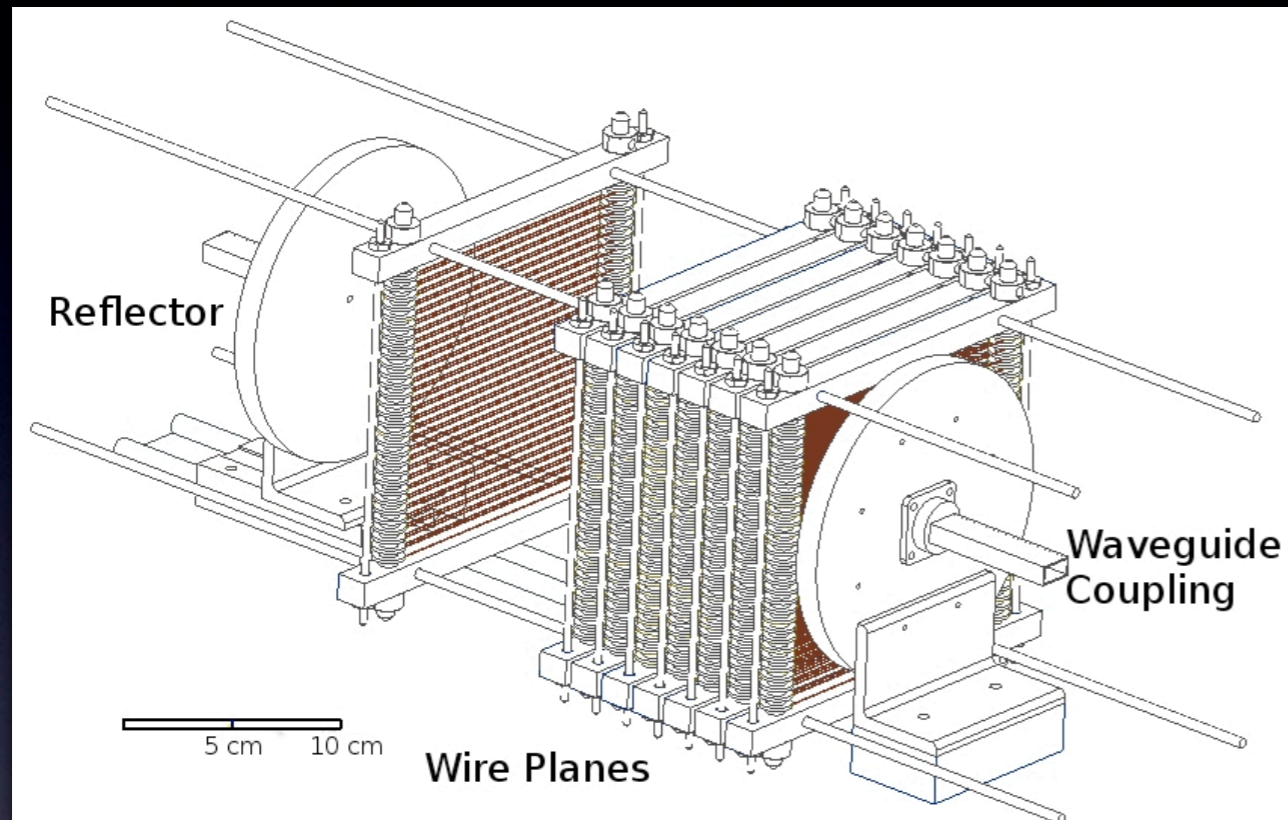
# Astrophysical and cosmological constraints



- Astrophysical observations give lower (upper) bounds on  $F_a$  ( $m_a$ )
- Dark matter abundance gives upper (lower) bounds on  $F_a$  ( $m_a$ ) [and also a lower (upper) bound for DFSZ models]
- DFSZ models can explain CDM abundance at lower  $F_a$  (higher  $m_a$ ) due to the additional contribution from long-lived string-wall systems

# Orpheus

Rybka, Wagner, Patel, Percival, Ramos and Brill (2015)



- Open Fabry-Perot resonator and a series of current-carrying wire planes
- Searches for axion like particles in the  $68.2\text{-}76.5\mu\text{eV}$  mass range were demonstrated
- Potentially searches in the mass range  $40\text{-}400\mu\text{eV}$  in the future

# KSVZ models

- Additional complex SM singlet scalar  $\sigma$  ( $= \Phi$ ) and color triplet exotic quark  $Q$

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{yukawa}}$

$$= Y_{ij} \bar{q}_{iL} \tilde{H} u_{jR} + \Gamma_{ij} \bar{q}_{iL} H d_{jR} + G_{ij} \bar{L}_i H l_{jR} + \mathcal{L}_Q + \text{H.c.}$$

TABLE I. The  $Z_N$  charges (for  $N = 9, 10$ ), where  $\omega_N \equiv e^{i2\pi/N}$ , of the KSVZ action models, leaving the Yukawa interactions (2.1), (2.3), and (2.4) invariant.

	$q_L$	$u_R$	$d_R$	$L$	$l_R$	$H$	$Q_L$	$Q_R$	$\sigma$
$Z_9$	1	$\omega_9$	$\omega_9^8$	1	$\omega_9^8$	$\omega_9$	1	$\omega_9$	$\omega_9^8$
$Z_{10}$	1	$\omega_{10}^6$	$\omega_{10}^4$	1	$\omega_{10}^4$	$\omega_{10}^6$	$\omega_{10}^5$	$\omega_{10}^6$	$\omega_{10}^9$

- Different possibilities according to the  $U(1)_Y$  hypercharge  $Y_{Q_R}$  of  $Q_R$

$$Y_{Q_R} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{(KSVZ I)} \\ -\frac{1}{3} & \text{(KSVZ II)} \\ \frac{2}{3} & \text{(KSVZ III)} \end{cases}$$

TABLE II. The  $U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$  charge assignments leaving (2.1) (KSVZ I), (2.1) plus (2.3) (KSVZ II), or (2.1) plus (2.4) (KSVZ III) invariant.

Model	$q_L$	$u_R$	$d_R$	$L$	$l_R$	$H$	$Q_L$	$Q_R$	$\sigma$
KSVZ I	0	0	0	0	0	0	1/2	-1/2	1
KSVZ II	3/2	3/2	3/2	0	0	0	1/2	-1/2	1
KSVZ III	-1/2	-1/2	-1/2	0	0	0	1/2	-1/2	1

$$\mathcal{L}_Q = \begin{cases} y_Q \bar{Q}_L \sigma Q_R & \text{(KSVZ I)} \\ y_Q \bar{Q}_L \sigma Q_R + y'_Q \bar{Q}_L \sigma^* d_R & \text{(KSVZ II)} \\ y_Q \bar{Q}_L \sigma Q_R + y''_Q \bar{Q}_L \sigma u_R + y'''_Q \bar{q}_L \tilde{H} Q_R & \text{(KSVZ III)} \end{cases}$$

# DFSZ models

- A complex SM singlet  $\sigma$  ( $= \Phi$ ) and two Higgs doublets  $H_u$  and  $H_d$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{yukawa}} = \begin{cases} \Gamma_{ij} \bar{q}_{iL} H_d d_{jR} + Y_{ij} \bar{q}_{iL} \tilde{H}_u u_{jR} + G_{ij} \bar{L}_i H_d l_{jR} + \text{H.c.} & \text{(DFSZ I)} \\ \Gamma_{ij} \bar{q}_{iL} H_d d_{jR} + Y_{ij} \bar{q}_{iL} \tilde{H}_u u_{jR} + G_{ij} \bar{L}_i H_u l_{jR} + \text{H.c.} & \text{(DFSZ II)} \end{cases}$$

$$V(H_u, H_d, \sigma) = \lambda H_d^\dagger H_u \sigma^{*2} + \text{H.c.} + (\text{Hermitian terms})$$

- The orthogonality of the axion field and the NG boson eaten by the  $Z^0$  boson implies

$$X_u = x \xi_v \quad \text{and} \quad X_d = x^{-1} \xi_v$$

where

$$\xi_v = \frac{2}{x + x^{-1}}$$

$$x \equiv \frac{v_d}{v_u} \equiv \tan \beta'$$

$$\langle H_u^0 \rangle = v_u / \sqrt{2}$$

$$\langle H_d^0 \rangle = v_d / \sqrt{2}$$

TABLE III. The  $Z_N$  charges (for  $N = 9, 10$ ) of the DFSZ action models, leaving interactions (2.5) and (2.7) (DFSZ I) or (2.6) and (2.7) (DFSZ II) invariant.

	$q_L$	$u_R$	$d_R$	$L$	$l_R$	$H_u$	$H_d$	$\sigma$
$Z_9$ (DFSZ I)	1	$\omega_9^6$	$\omega_9^5$	1	$\omega_9^5$	$\omega_9^6$	$\omega_9^4$	$\omega_9$
$Z_9$ (DFSZ II)	1	$\omega_9^4$	$\omega_9^7$	1	$\omega_9^5$	$\omega_9^4$	$\omega_9^2$	$\omega_9$
$Z_{10}$ (DFSZ I)	1	$\omega_{10}^3$	$\omega_{10}^9$	1	$\omega_{10}^9$	$\omega_{10}^3$	$\omega_{10}$	$\omega_{10}$
$Z_{10}$ (DFSZ II)	1	$\omega_{10}^3$	$\omega_{10}^9$	1	$\omega_{10}^7$	$\omega_{10}^3$	$\omega_{10}$	$\omega_{10}$

TABLE IV. The  $U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$  charge assignments, where  $X_u$  and  $X_d$  are some real numbers satisfying the condition  $X_u + X_d = 2$ , leaving (2.5) and (2.7) (DFSZ I) or (2.6) and (2.7) (DFSZ II) invariant.

Model	$q_L$	$u_R$	$d_R$	$L$	$l_R$	$H_u$	$H_d$	$\sigma$
DFSZ I	0	$X_u$	$X_d$	0	$X_d$	$X_u$	$-X_d$	1
DFSZ II	0	$X_u$	$X_d$	0	$-X_u$	$X_u$	$-X_d$	1

# Couplings to other particles

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = -\frac{\alpha}{8\pi} C_{A\gamma} \frac{A}{f_A} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{N=p,n} C_{AN} \frac{\partial_\mu A}{f_A} \bar{\psi}_N \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \psi_N + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\ell=e,\mu,\tau} C_{A\ell} \frac{\partial_\mu A}{f_A} \bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \ell$$

where  $C_{Ap} = (C_{Au} - \eta)\Delta u + (C_{Ad} - \eta z)\Delta d + (C_{As} - \eta w)\Delta s$

$$C_{An} = (C_{Au} - \eta)\Delta d + (C_{Ad} - \eta z)\Delta u + (C_{As} - \eta w)\Delta s$$

$$\eta = (1 + z + w)^{-1}, \quad z = m_u/m_d = 0.38-0.58, \quad w = m_u/m_s$$

$$\Delta u = 0.84 \pm 0.02, \quad \Delta d = -0.43 \pm 0.02, \quad \Delta s = -0.09 \pm 0.02 \quad \text{Raffelt (2008)}$$

## Axion-photon coupling

$$g_{A\gamma} = \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \frac{C_{A\gamma}}{f_A}$$

## Axion-electron coupling

$$g_{Ae} = \frac{C_{Ae} m_e}{f_A}$$

## Axion-nucleon coupling

$$g_{AN} = \frac{C_{AN} m_N}{f_A}$$

Model	$C_{A\gamma}$	$C_{Au}$	$C_{Ad}$	$C_{As}$	$C_{A\ell}$
KSVZ I	$-\frac{2}{3} \frac{4+z}{1+z}$	0	0	0	0
KSVZ II	$\frac{2}{3} - \frac{2}{3} \frac{4+z}{1+z}$	0	0	0	0
KSVZ III	$\frac{8}{3} - \frac{2}{3} \frac{4+z}{1+z}$	0	0	0	0
DFSZ I	$\frac{8}{3} - \frac{2}{3} \frac{4+z}{1+z}$	$\frac{1}{3} \sin^2 \beta'$	$\frac{1}{3} \cos^2 \beta'$	$\frac{1}{3} \cos^2 \beta'$	$\frac{1}{3} \cos^2 \beta'$
DFSZ II	$\frac{2}{3} - \frac{2}{3} \frac{4+z}{1+z}$	$\frac{1}{3} \sin^2 \beta'$	$\frac{1}{3} \cos^2 \beta'$	$\frac{1}{3} \cos^2 \beta'$	$-\frac{1}{3} \sin^2 \beta'$

# Total axion abundance for $N_{\text{DW}} = 1$

Kawasaki, KS and Sekiguchi (2015)

$$\Omega_{a,\text{real}}h^2 \simeq 4.63 \times 10^{-3} \left( \frac{F_a}{10^{10}\text{GeV}} \right)^{1.19} \left( \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}{400\text{MeV}} \right)$$

$$\Omega_{a,\text{string}}h^2 \simeq (7.3 \pm 3.9) \times 10^{-3} \left( \frac{F_a}{10^{10}\text{GeV}} \right)^{1.19} \left( \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}{400\text{MeV}} \right)$$

$$\Omega_{a,\text{dec}}h^2 \simeq (3.7 \pm 1.4) \times 10^{-3} \left( \frac{F_a}{10^{10}\text{GeV}} \right)^{1.19} \left( \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}{400\text{MeV}} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_{a,\text{tot}}h^2 &= \Omega_{a,\text{real}}h^2 + \Omega_{a,\text{string}}h^2 + \Omega_{a,\text{dec}}h^2 \\ &< \Omega_{\text{CDM}}h^2 \simeq 0.11 \end{aligned}$$



$$F_a \lesssim (4.6-7.2) \times 10^{10} \text{ GeV}$$

- Wall decay contribution is comparable to others
- cf. bound from astrophysics:  $F_a > 4 \times 10^8 \text{ GeV}$



# Total axion abundance for $N_{\text{DW}} > 1$

Kawasaki, KS and Sekiguchi (2015)

$$\Omega_{a,\text{tot}} h^2 = \Omega_{a,\text{real}} h^2 + \Omega_{a,\text{string}} h^2 + \Omega_{a,\text{dec}} h^2$$

$$\Omega_{a,\text{real}} h^2 \simeq 4.63 \times 10^{-3} \left( \frac{F_a}{10^{10} \text{GeV}} \right)^{1.19} \left( \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}{400 \text{MeV}} \right)$$

$$\Omega_{a,\text{string}} h^2 \simeq (7.3 \pm 3.9) \times 10^{-3} \times N_{\text{DW}}^2 \left( \frac{F_a}{10^{10} \text{GeV}} \right)^{1.19} \left( \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}{400 \text{MeV}} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_{a,\text{dec}} h^2 &\simeq 1.23 \times 10^{-6} \times [7.22 \times 10^3]^{\frac{3}{2p}} \times \frac{1}{\tilde{\epsilon}_a} \frac{2p-1}{3-2p} C_d^{\frac{3}{2}-p} \\ &\times \mathcal{A}_{\text{form}}^{\frac{3}{2p}} \left[ N_{\text{DW}}^4 \left( 1 - \cos \left( \frac{2\pi N}{N_{\text{DW}}} \right) \right) \right]^{1-\frac{3}{2p}} \left( \frac{\Xi}{10^{-52}} \right)^{1-\frac{3}{2p}} \\ &\times \left( \frac{F_a}{10^{10} \text{GeV}} \right)^{4+\frac{3(4p-16-3n)}{2p(4+n)}} \left( \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}{400 \text{MeV}} \right)^{-3+\frac{6}{p}} \quad \text{where } n = 6.68 \end{aligned}$$

$\Omega_{a,\text{dec}} h^2$  is the contribution from long-lived string-wall systems, which depends on three (four) model parameters  $(F_a, \Xi, N_{\text{DW}})$  (and  $N$ ).

Other parameters  $(\mathcal{A}_{\text{form}}, p, \tilde{\epsilon}_a, C_d)$  can be determined from numerical simulations.