

Axion-photon coupling: models vs. experiments

The strong CP puzzle & Axions
LPSC Grenoble - 15.05.18

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Outline

1. Strong CP & the axion solution
2. Current limits and search strategies
3. Axion-photon coupling
4. Beyond standard DFZS/KSVZ benchmarks

The strong CP problem

- CP violation in QCD

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = \sum_q \bar{q} (i\not{D} - m_q e^{i\theta_q}) q - \frac{1}{4} G_a^{\mu\nu} G_{\mu\nu}^a - \theta \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G_a^{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}^a \quad (\tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}^a = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} G^{a,\rho\sigma})$$

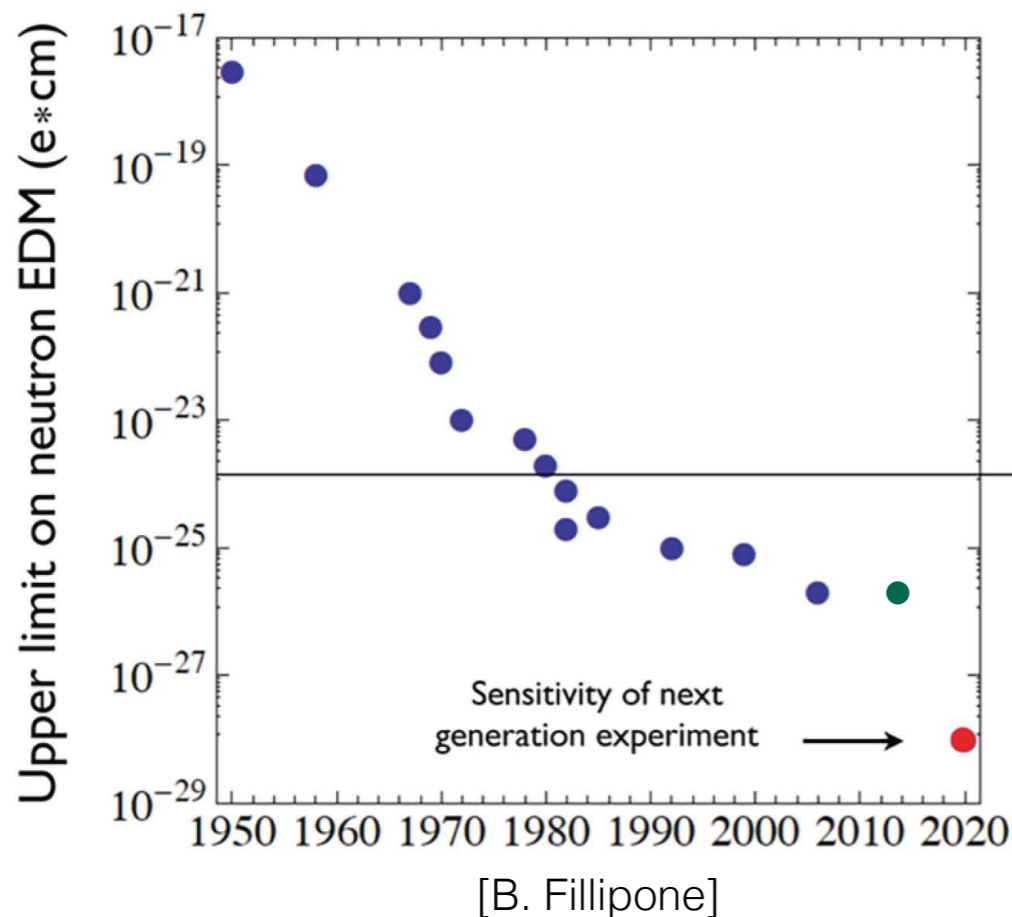
$$\bar{\theta} = \theta - \sum_q \theta_q \text{ invariant under a chiral transformation } (q \rightarrow e^{i\gamma_5 \alpha} q)$$

The strong CP problem

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$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = \sum_q \bar{q} (i\not{D} - m_q e^{i\theta_q}) q - \frac{1}{4} G_a^{\mu\nu} G_{\mu\nu}^a - \theta \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G_a^{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}^a$$

- Non-zero neutron EDM



$$d_n \approx \frac{e |\bar{\theta}| m_\pi^2}{m_n^3} \approx 10^{-16} |\bar{\theta}| e \text{ cm}$$

[Baluni PRD 19 (1979),
Crewther et al. PLB 88 (1979)]



$$|\bar{\theta}| \lesssim 10^{-10}$$

why so small ?

“Small value” problems

- Strong CP: qualitatively different from other small value problems of the SM

- $\bar{\theta} \propto J_{\text{CKM}} \log \Lambda_{\text{UV}}$ radiatively stable (unlike $m_H^2 \ll \Lambda_{\text{UV}}^2$)

[Ellis, Gaillard NPB 150 (1979)]

[Khriplovich, Vainshtein NPB 414 (1994)]



Fig. 9. Generic topology of a class of divergent CP violating 14th-order diagrams in the Kobayashi-Maskawa model [21,22].

- it evades explanations based on environmental selection (unlike $y_{e,u,d} \sim 10^{-6} \div 10^{-5}$)

nuclear physics and BBN practically unaffected for $\bar{\theta} \lesssim 10^{-2}$

[Ubbaldi, 0811.1599]

[Kaloper, Terning, 1710.01740, Dine et al, 1801.03466]

→ theoretically motivated to look for an explanation of strong CP *independently* of other small value problems

Axion solution

- PQ mechanism

[Peccei, Quinn PRL 38 (1977), PRD 16 (1977)]

- assume a global $U(1)_{PQ}$: i) QCD anomalous and ii) spontaneously broken

- axion: PGB of $U(1)_{PQ}$ breaking


[Weinberg PRL 40 (1978), Wilczek PRL 40 (1978)]

$$a(x) \rightarrow a(x) + \delta\alpha f_a$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \left(\bar{\theta} + \frac{a}{f_a} \right) \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G_a^{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}^a - \frac{1}{2} \partial^\mu a \partial_\mu a + \mathcal{L}(\partial_\mu a, \psi)$$

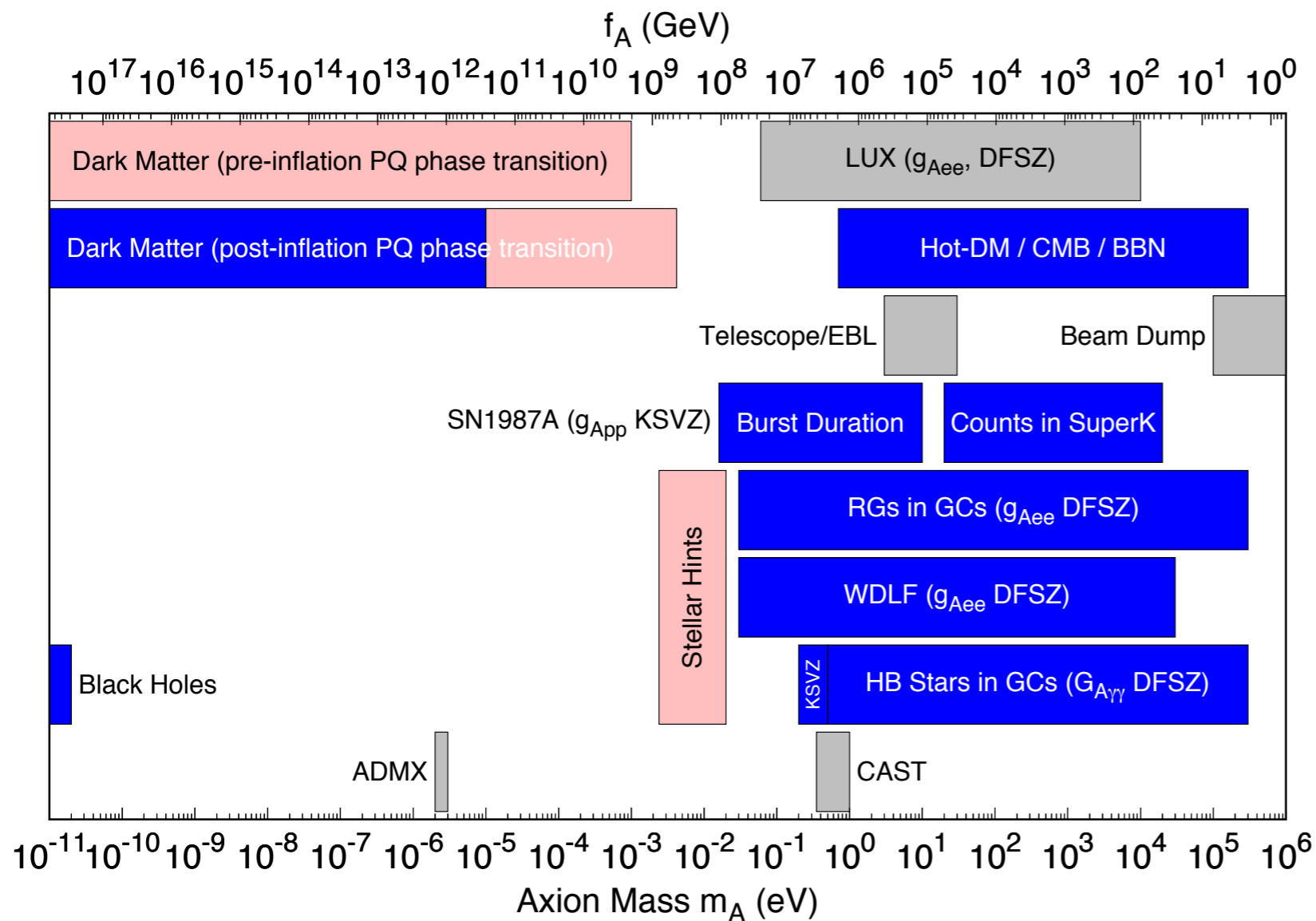
- theta term *dynamically* relaxed to zero on the axion ground state: $\langle a(x) \rangle = -\bar{\theta} f_a$

Axion solution

- PQ mechanism [Peccei, Quinn PRL 38 (1977), PRD 16 (1997)]
 - assume a global $U(1)_{PQ}$: i) QCD anomalous and ii) spontaneously broken
 - axion: PGB of $U(1)_{PQ}$ breaking [Weinberg PRL 40 (1978), Wilczek PRL 40 (1978)]
- UV completions: $f_a \gg v$  invisible axion (phase of a SM singlet)
 - DFSZ axion: [Zhitnitsky SJNP 31 (1980), Dine, Fischler, Srednicki PLB 104 (1981)]
SM quarks charged under PQ (requires 2HDM)
 - KSVZ axion: [Kim PRL 43 (1979), Shifman, Vainshtein, Zakharov NPB 166 (1980)]
new vector-like quarks charged under PQ

Axion landscape

- axion mass $m_a \simeq m_\pi \frac{f_\pi}{f_a} \simeq 6 \text{ meV} \frac{10^9 \text{ GeV}}{f_a}$
- axion couplings $\sim 1/f_a$



[Ringwald, Rosenberg, Rybka, Particle Data Group (2017)]

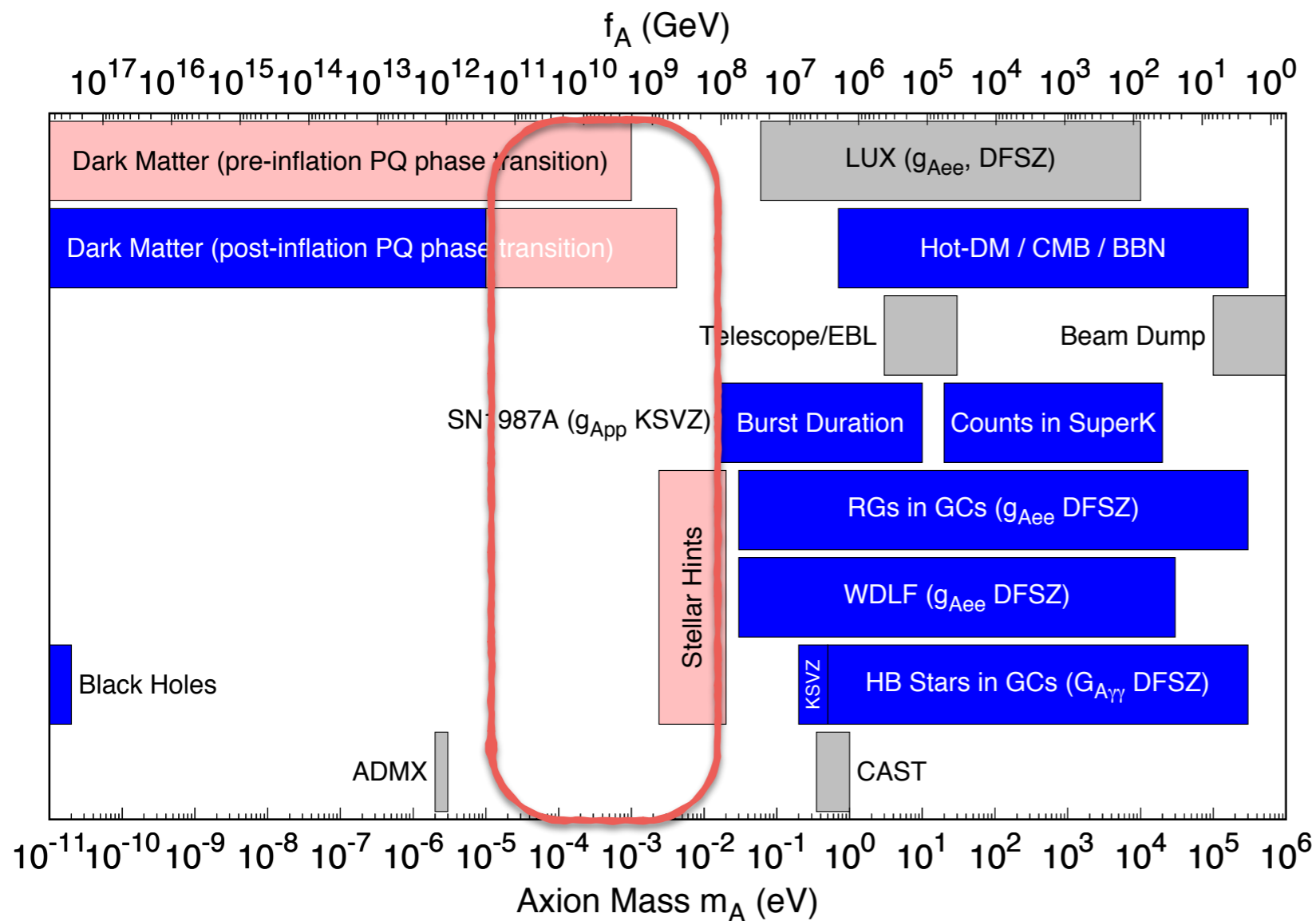
Lab exclusions

Astro/cosmo exclusions

DM explained / Astro Hints

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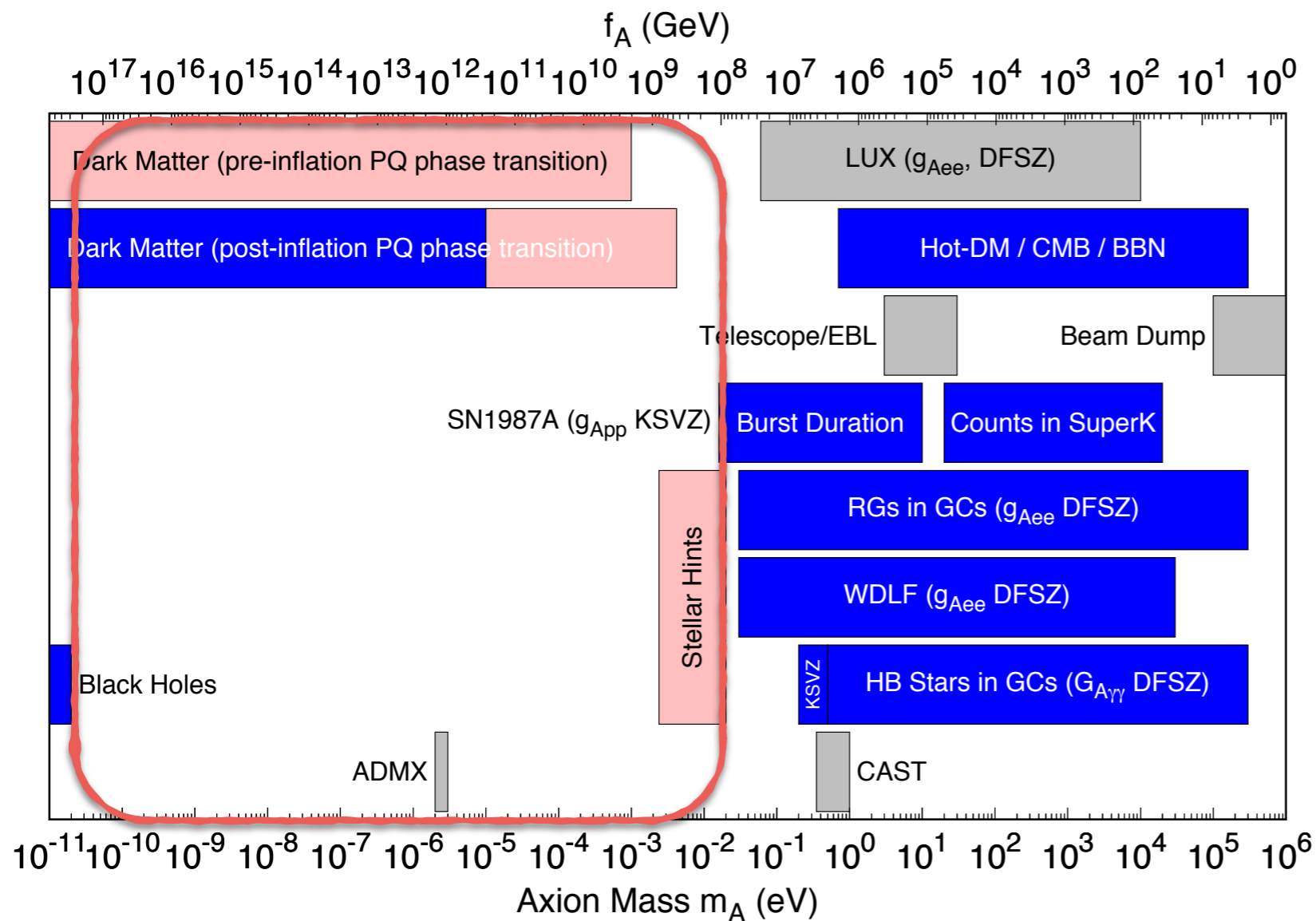
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[Ringwald, Rosenberg, Rybka, Particle Data Group (2017)]

Lab exclusions

Astro/cosmo exclusions

DM explained / Astro Hints

Current limits and search strategies

- Astrophysical bounds

- Star evolution
- White dwarf cooling
- Supernova SN1987A

$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} \lesssim 6.6 \times 10^{-11} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$$

$$g_{aee} \lesssim 1.3 \times 10^{-13} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$$

$$g_{aNN} \lesssim 3 \times 10^{-7} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$$

[For a collection see e.g. Raffelt, hep-ph/0611350, Giannotti et al., I708.02111]

(KSVZ)



$$f_a \gtrsim 4 \times 10^8 \text{ GeV}$$

- The translation of the bound on f_a requires the specification of a UV completion

- e.g. axion-nucleon coupling can be sizeably suppressed in the presence of a generation dependent PQ symmetry (**astrophobic axion**)

[LDL, Mescia, Nardi, Panci, Ziegler, I712.04940]

[👉 see R. Ziegler's talk]

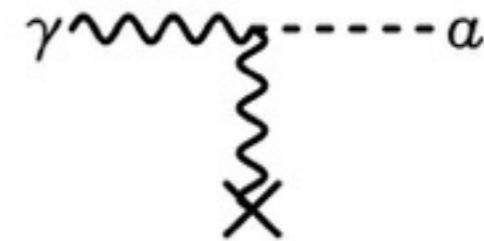
Current limits and search strategies

- Astrophysical bounds
- Most laboratory search techniques are sensitive to $g_{a\gamma\gamma}$

[For a collection see e.g. Raffelt, hep-ph/0611350, Giannotti et al., 1708.02111]

Primakoff effect: axion-photon transition in external static E or B field

$$\mathcal{L}_{a\gamma\gamma} = -\frac{1}{4}g_{a\gamma\gamma} a F \cdot \tilde{F} = g_{a\gamma\gamma} a \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}$$



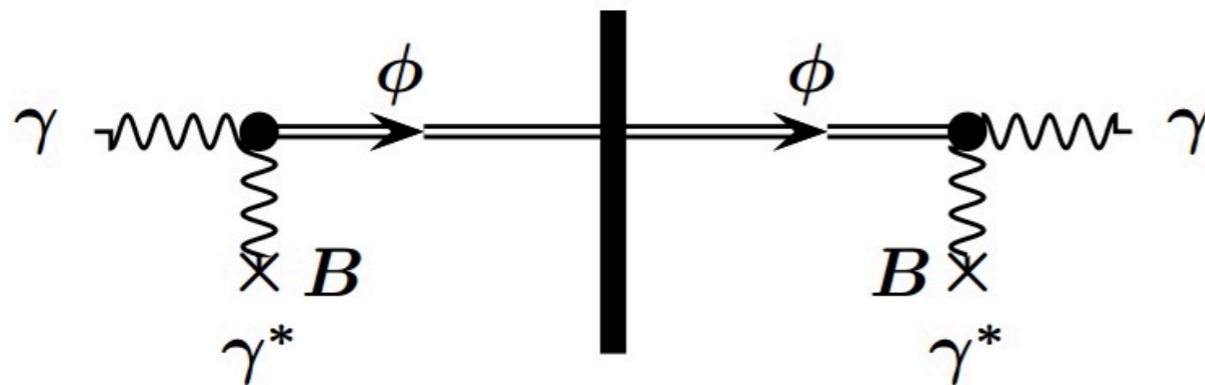
- Light Shining through Walls
- Haloscopes (axion Dark Matter)
- Helioscopes (axions from the Sun)

[See e.g. Redondo, Ringwald hep-ph/1011374]

[Sikivie PRL 51 (1983)]

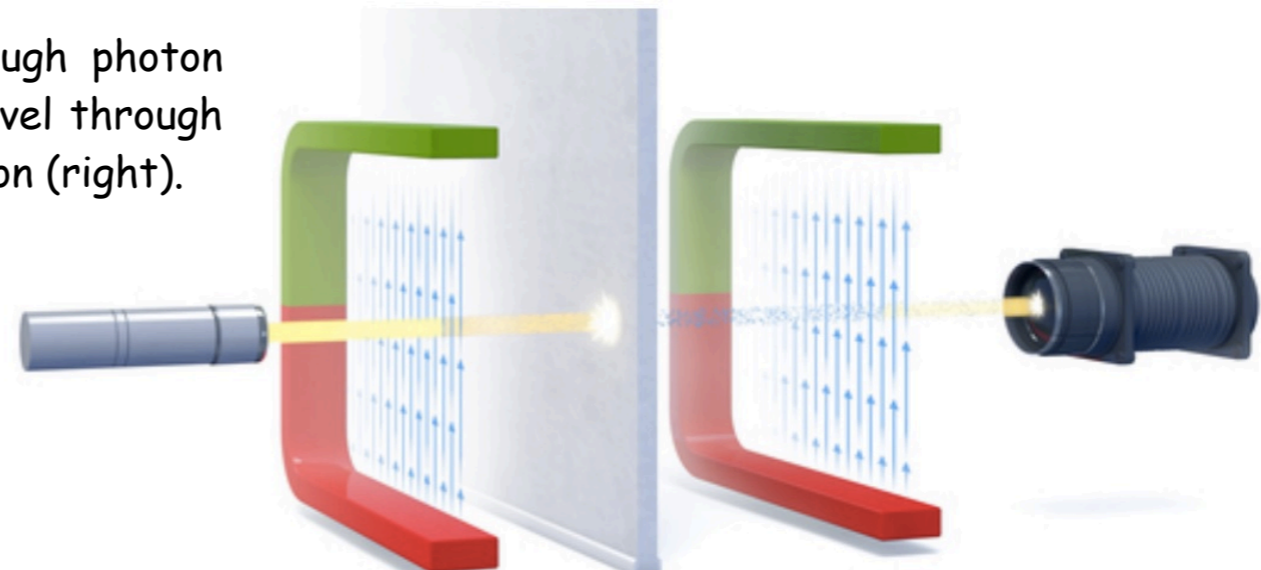
Light Shining through Walls (LSW)

- Any Light Particle Search (DESY): **ALPS-I** (2007-2010) and **ALPS-II** (2013-...)



Schematic view of axion (or ALP) production through photon conversion in a magnetic field (left), subsequent travel through a wall, and final detection through photon regeneration (right).

Artist view of a light shining through a wall experiment



- LSW experiments pay a $g_{a\gamma\gamma}^4$ suppression

Haloscopes

- Look for DM axions with a microwave resonant cavity

[ see N. Crisosto's talk]

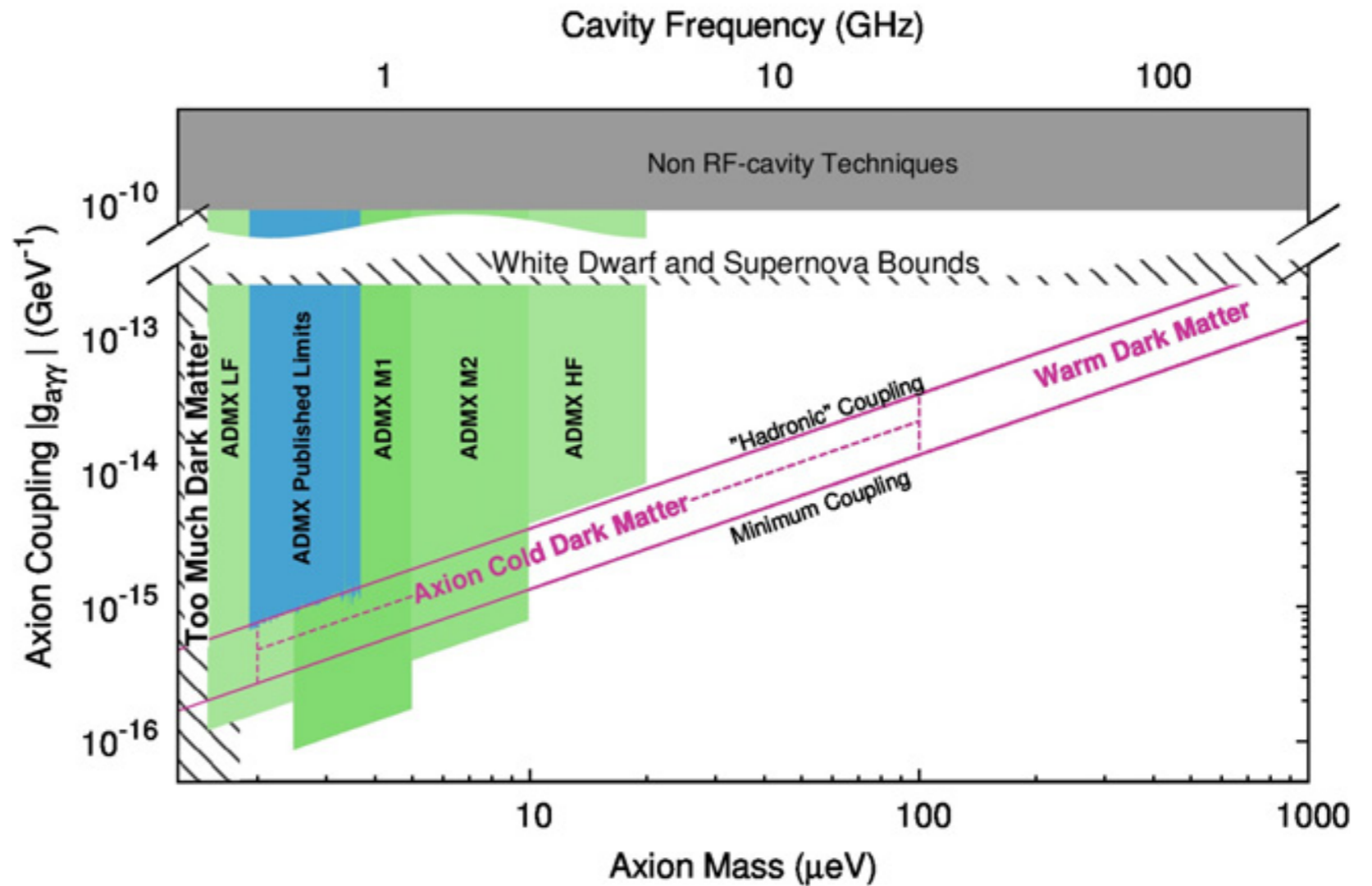
- power of axions converting into photons in an EM cavity

$$P_a = C g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 V B_0^2 \frac{\rho_a}{m_a} Q_{\text{eff}}$$

- resonance condition: need to tune the frequency of the EM cavity on the axion mass

Haloscopes

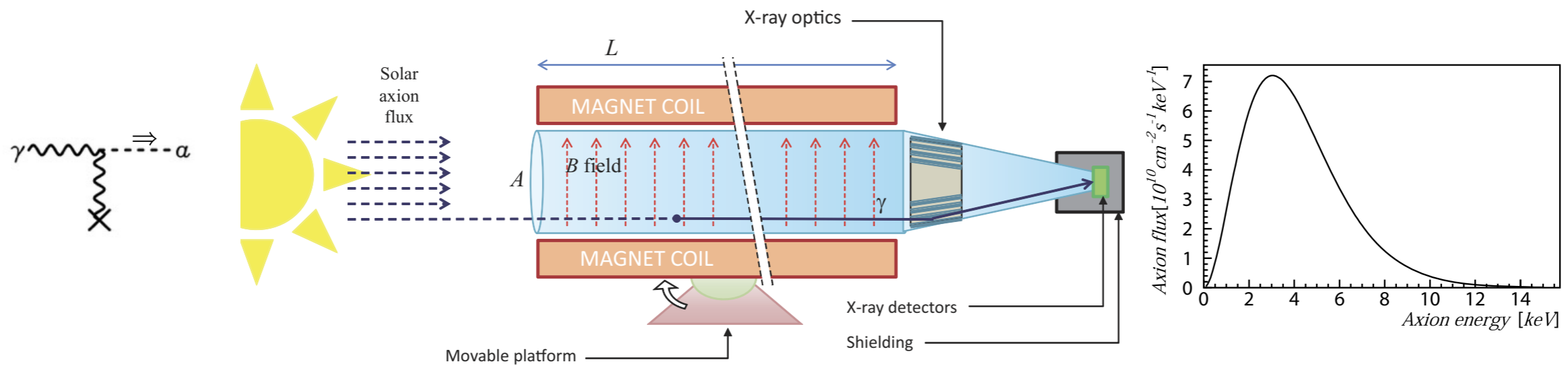
- Look for DM axions with a microwave resonant cavity [👉 see N. Crisosto's talk]
- Axion Dark Matter eXperiment (ADMX) (U. of Washington)



[ADMX Collaboration, Phys. Dark Univ. 4 (2014)]

Helioscopes

- The Sun is a potential axion source



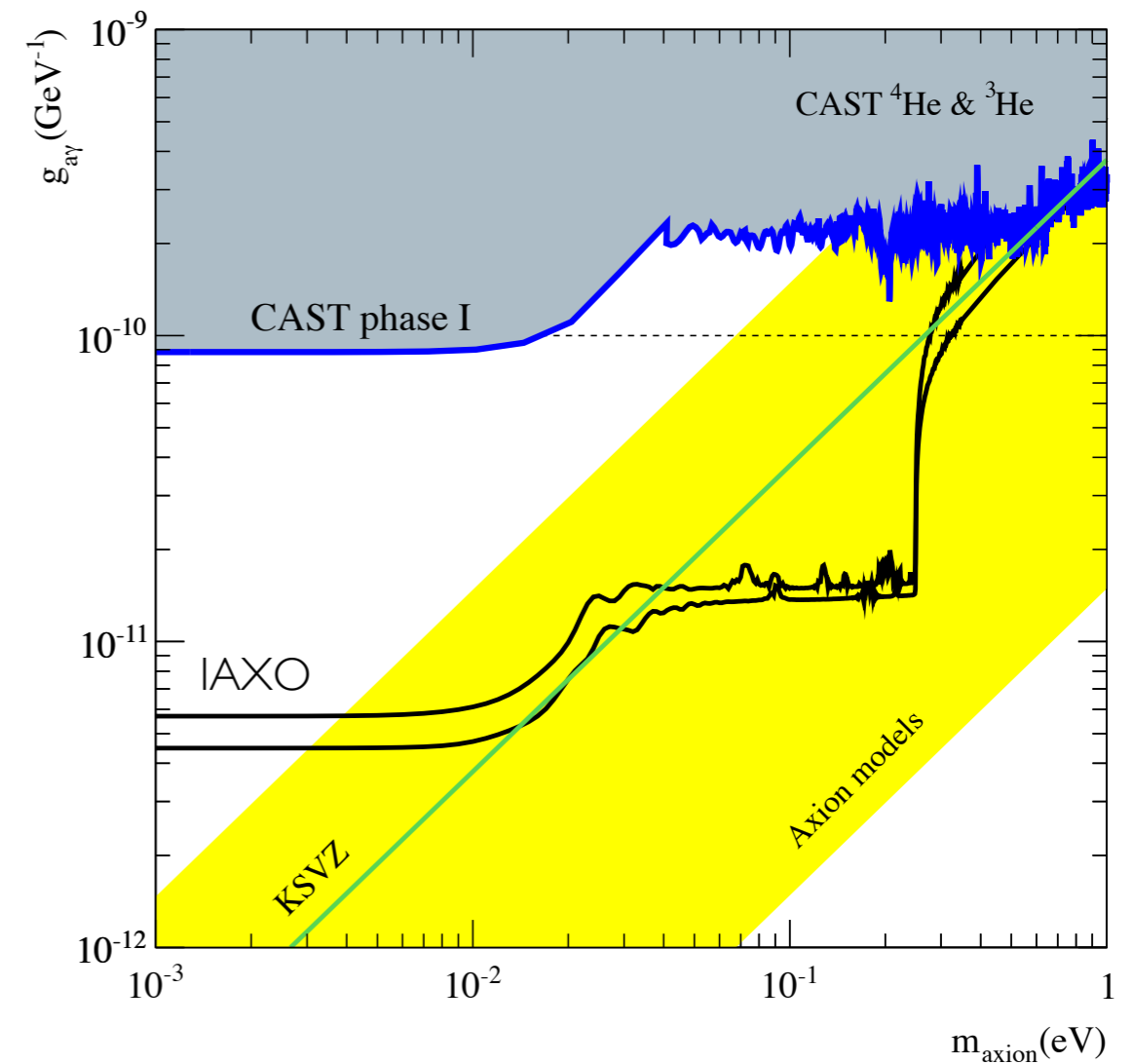
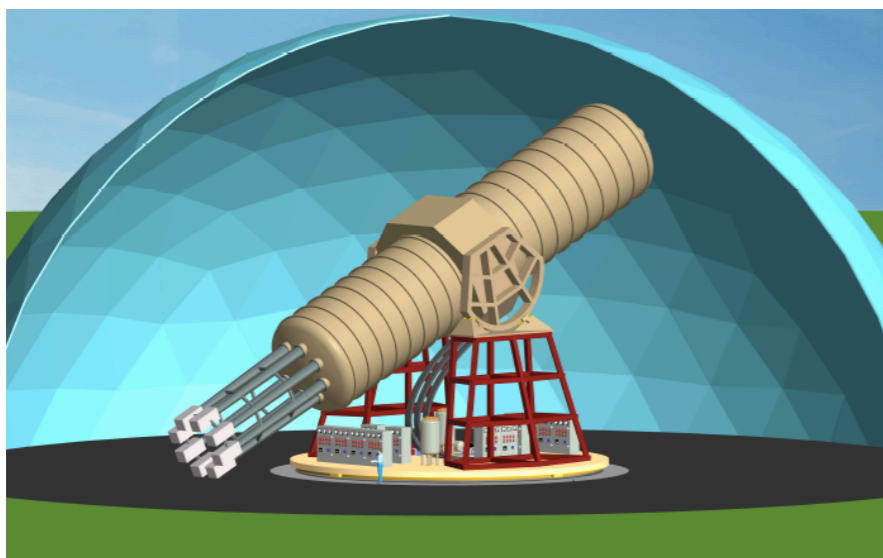
- macroscopic B-field can provide a coherent axion-photon (x-ray) conversion rate over a big volume

Helioscopes

- The Sun is a potential axion source
 - CERN Axion Solar Telescope (**CAST**)



- International AXion Observatory (**IAXO**)



[IAXO "Letter of intent", CERN-SPSC-2013-022]

New exp. proposals [incomplete list!]

PHYSICAL REVIEW X **4**, 021030 (2014)

Proposal for a Cosmic Axion Spin Precession Experiment (CASPER)

Dmitry Budker,^{1,5} Peter W. Graham,² Micah Ledbetter,³ Surjeet Rajendran,² and Alexander O. Sushkov⁴

PRL **113**, 161801 (2014)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending
17 OCTOBER 2014

Resonantly Detecting Axion-Mediated Forces with Nuclear Magnetic Resonance

Asimina Arvanitaki¹ and Andrew A. Geraci^{2,*}

PRL **117**, 141801 (2016)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

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30 SEPTEMBER 2016

Broadband and Resonant Approaches to Axion Dark Matter Detection

Yonatan Kahn,^{1,*} Benjamin R. Safdi,^{2,†} and Jesse Thaler^{2,‡}

PRL **118**, 091801 (2017)

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3 MARCH 2017

Dielectric Haloscopes: A New Way to Detect Axion Dark Matter

Allen Caldwell,¹ Gia Dvali,^{1,2,3} Béla Majorovits,¹ Alexander Millar,¹ Georg Raffelt,¹ Javier Redondo,^{1,4}
Olaf Reimann,¹ Frank Simon,¹ and Frank Steffen¹
(MADMAX Working Group)

Searching for galactic axions through magnetized media: The QUAX proposal

R. Barbieri^{a,b}, C. Braggio^c, G. Carugno^c, C.S. Gallo^c, A. Lombardi^d, A. Ortolan^d, R. Pengo^d,
G. Ruoso^{d,*}, C.C. Speake^e

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **91**, 084011 (2015)

Discovering the QCD axion with black holes and gravitational waves

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(Received 16 December 2014; published 7 April 2015)

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **91**, 011701(R) (2015)

Search for dark matter axions with the Orpheus experiment

Gray Rybka,^{*} Andrew Wagner,[†] Kunal Patel, Robert Percival, and Katileiah Ramos
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(Received 16 November 2014; published 21 January 2015)

CULTASK, The Coldest Axion Experiment at CAPP/IBS/KAIST in Korea

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New exp. proposals [incomplete list!]

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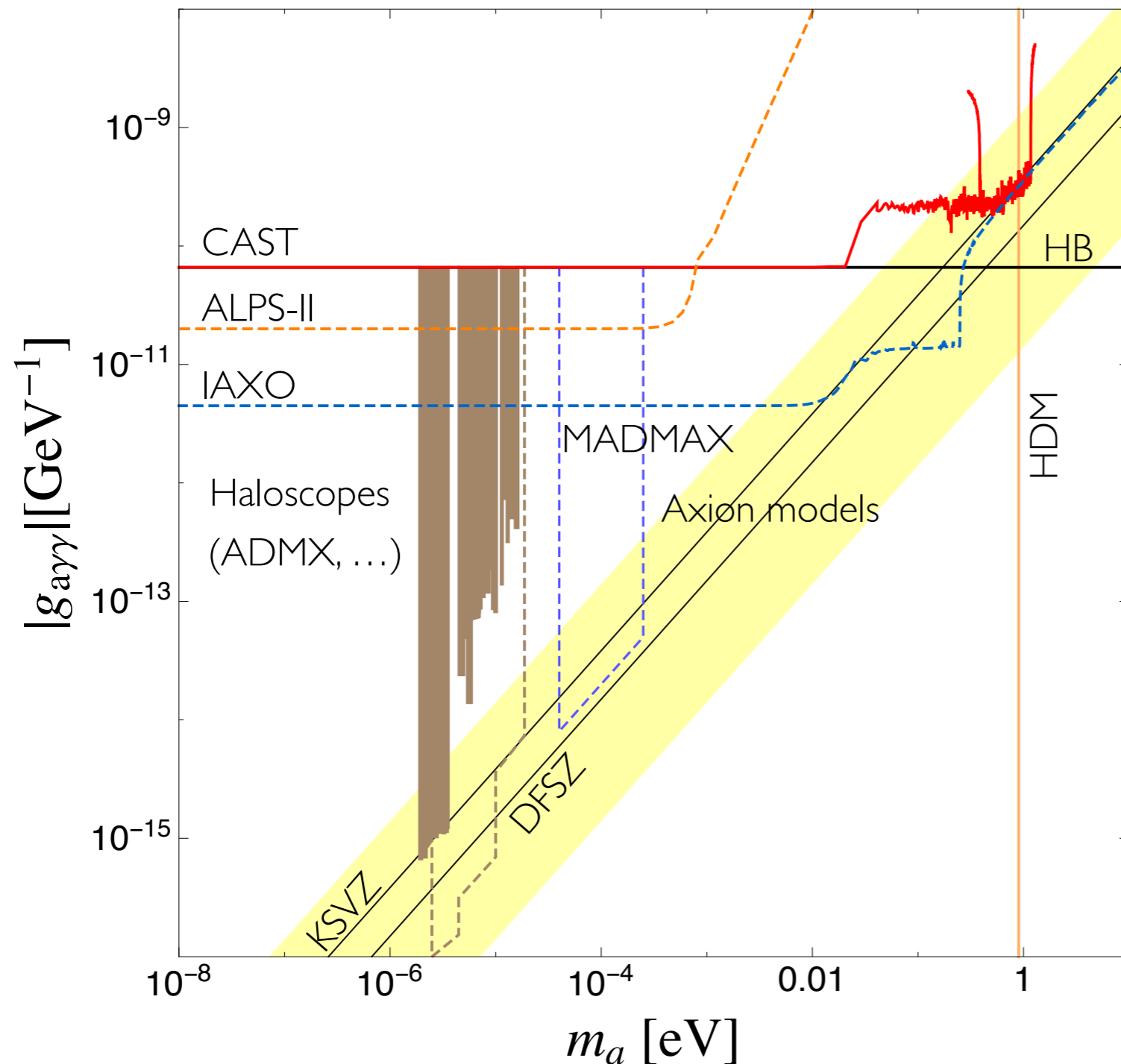
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Need to know where to search



$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} = \frac{m_a}{\text{eV}} \frac{2.0}{10^{10} \text{ GeV}} \left(\frac{E}{N} - 1.92 \right)$$

E/N anomaly coefficients,
depend on UV completion

$$|E/N - 1.92| \in [0.07, 7]$$

[Particle Data Group (since end of 90's).
Chosen to include some representative
KSVZ/DFSZ models e.g. from:
- Kaplan, NPB 260 (1985),
- Cheng, Geng, Ni, PRD 52 (1995),
- Kim, PRD 58 (1998)]

KSVZ axions

- Field content

Field	Spin	$SU(3)_C$	$SU(2)_L$	$U(1)_Y$	$U(1)_{PQ}$
Q_L	1/2	\mathcal{C}_Q	\mathcal{I}_Q	\mathcal{Y}_Q	\mathcal{X}_L
Q_R	1/2	\mathcal{C}_Q	\mathcal{I}_Q	\mathcal{Y}_Q	\mathcal{X}_R
Φ	0	1	1	0	1

- PQ charges carried by a vector-like quark $Q = Q_L + Q_R$

- original KSVZ model assumes $Q \sim (3, 1, 0)$, but in general only $\mathcal{C}_Q \neq I$ required

$$\partial^\mu J_\mu^{PQ} = \frac{N\alpha_s}{4\pi} G \cdot \tilde{G} + \frac{E\alpha}{4\pi} F \cdot \tilde{F}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} N &= \sum_Q (\mathcal{X}_L - \mathcal{X}_R) T(\mathcal{C}_Q) \\ E &= \sum_Q (\mathcal{X}_L - \mathcal{X}_R) Q_Q^2 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{anomaly coeff.}$$

and a SM singlet Φ containing the “invisible” axion ($f_a \gg v$)

$$\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [\rho(x) + f_a] e^{ia(x)/f_a}$$

KSVZ axions

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Φ	0	1	1	0	1

- Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_a = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{PQ}} - V_{H\Phi} + \mathcal{L}_{Qq} \quad |\mathcal{X}_L - \mathcal{X}_R| = 1$$

- $\mathcal{L}_{\text{PQ}} = |\partial_\mu \Phi|^2 + \bar{Q} i \not{D} Q - (y_Q \bar{Q}_L Q_R \Phi + \text{H.c.}) \quad \longrightarrow \quad m_Q = y_Q f_a / \sqrt{2}$

- $V_{H\Phi} = -\mu_\Phi^2 |\Phi|^2 + \lambda_\Phi |\Phi|^4 + \lambda_{H\Phi} |H|^2 |\Phi|^2 \quad \longrightarrow \quad m_\rho \sim f_a$

- \mathcal{L}_{Qq} $d \leq 4$ mixing with SM quarks (depends in Q-gauge quantum numbers)

Q stability

- Symmetry of the kinetic term

$$U(1)_{Q_L} \times U(1)_{Q_R} \times U(1)_\Phi \xrightarrow{y_Q \neq 0} U(1)_{PQ} \times U(1)_Q$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{PQ} = |\partial_\mu \Phi|^2 + \bar{Q} i \not{D} Q - (y_Q \bar{Q}_L Q_R \Phi + \text{H.c.})$$

- $U(1)_Q$ is the Q-baryon number: if exact, Q would be stable



cosmological issue if thermally produced
in the early universe !

Q stability

- Symmetry of the kinetic term

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- $U(1)_Q$ is the Q-baryon number: if exact, Q would be stable

- if $\mathcal{L}_{Qq} \neq 0$ $U(1)_Q$ is further broken and Q-decay is possible

[Ringwald, Saikawa, 1512.06436]

- decay also possible via $d > 4$ operators (e.g. Planck-induced)

 stability depends on Q representations

Selection criteria

- We require: [for $T_{\text{reheating}} > m_Q \sim f_a$ (post-inflat. PQ breaking)]

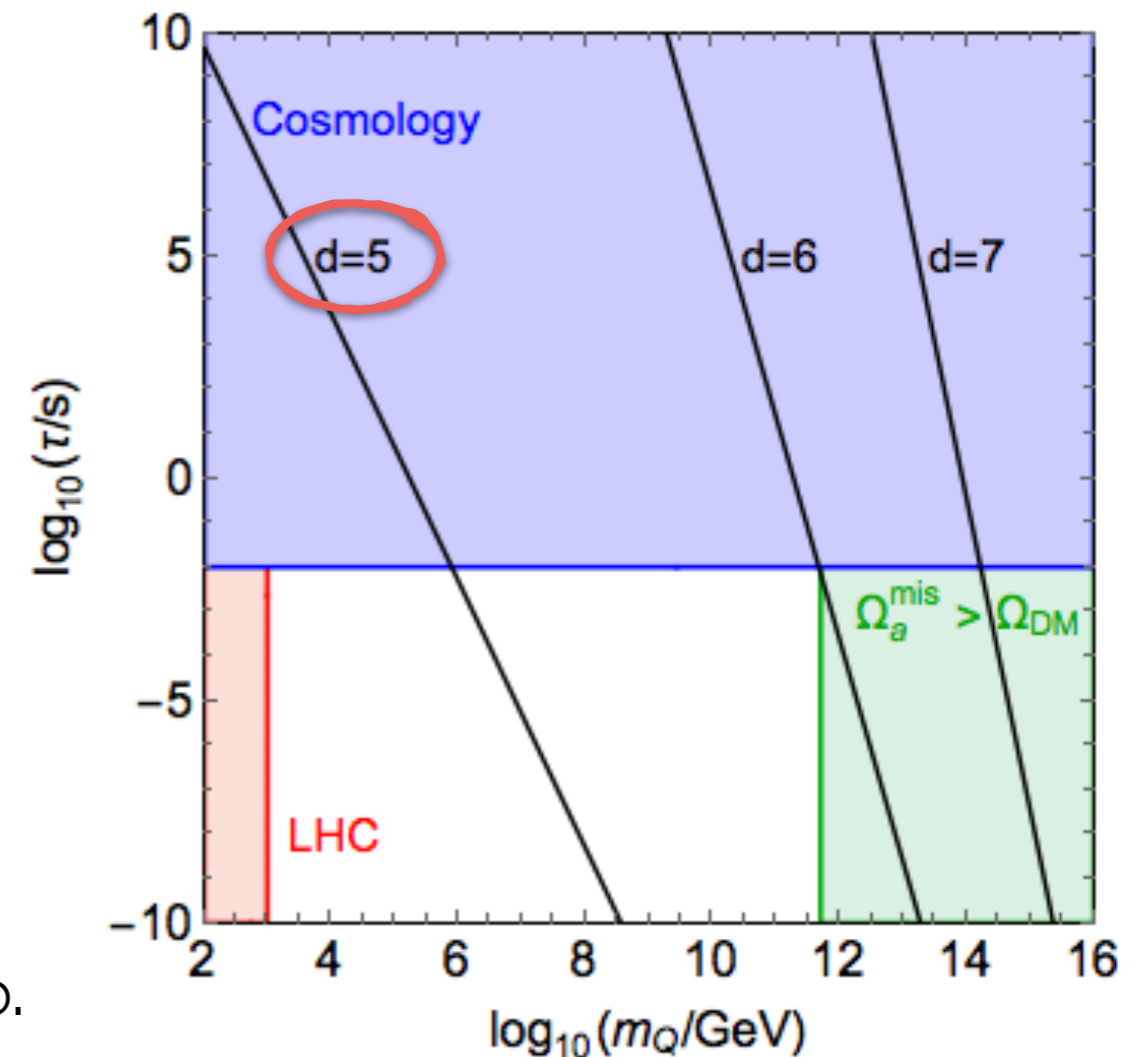
I. Q sufficiently short lived $\tau_Q \lesssim 10^{-2}$ s

- decays via $d=4$ operators are fast enough
- decays via effective operators

$$\mathcal{L}_{Qq}^{d>4} = \frac{1}{M_{\text{Planck}}^{(d-4)}} \mathcal{O}_{Qq}^{d>4} + \text{h.c.}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{NDA}} = \frac{1}{4(4\pi)^{2n_f-3} (n_f-1)! (n_f-2)!} \frac{m_Q^{2d-7}}{M_{\text{Planck}}^{2(d-4)}}$$

→ “safe” Q must allow for $d=4$ or 5 decay op.



Selection criteria

- We require:

1. Q sufficiently short lived $\tau_Q \lesssim 10^{-2}$ s

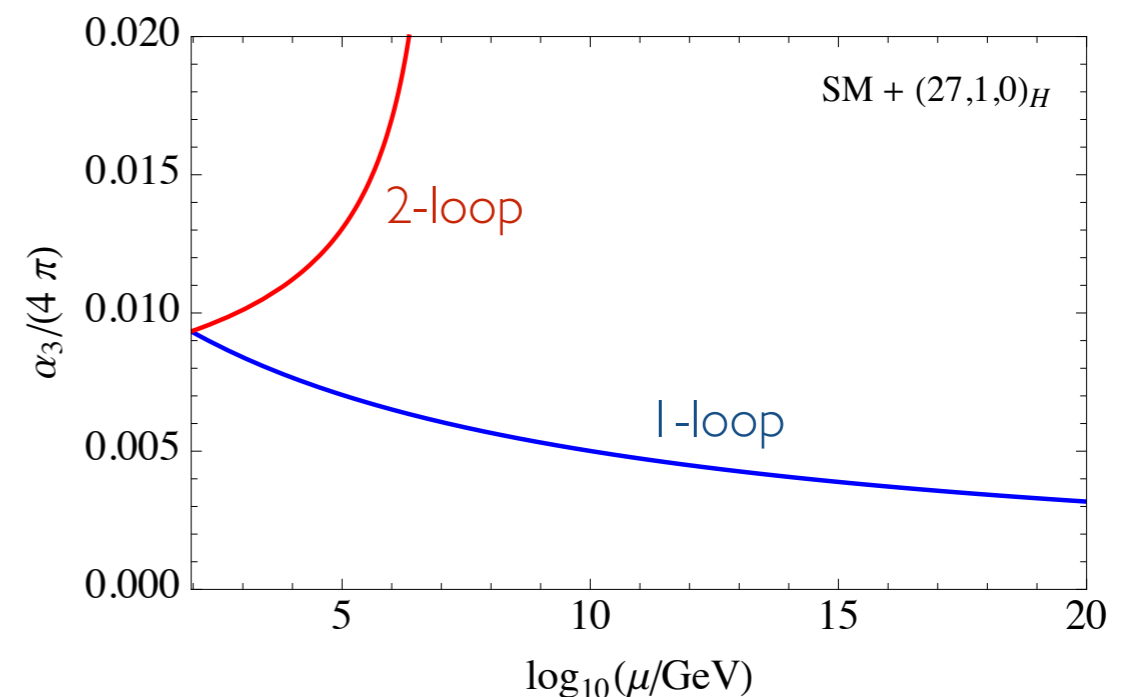
2. No Landau poles below 10^{18} GeV

- bound on Q multiplet dimensionality

$$\mu \frac{d}{d\mu} g_i = -b_i g_i^3 \quad b_i = \text{gauge -matter}$$

N.B. two-loop effects crucial if 1-loop b.f. is accidentally small

[LDL, Gröber, Kamenik, Nardecchia, 1504.00359]



Selection criteria

- We require:
 1. Q sufficiently short lived $\tau_Q \lesssim 10^{-2}$ s
 2. No Landau poles below 10^{18} GeV
 3. Absence of domain walls [see backup slides]
 4. Q-assisted unification [see backup slides]

Phenomenologically preferred Q's

- Only 15 Q's survive

R_Q	\mathcal{O}_{Qq}	$\Lambda_{\text{Landau}}^{2\text{-loop}} [\text{GeV}]$	E/N
(3, 1, -1/3)	$\bar{Q}_L d_R$	$9.3 \cdot 10^{38} (g_1)$	2/3
(3, 1, 2/3)	$\bar{Q}_L u_R$	$5.4 \cdot 10^{34} (g_1)$	8/3
(3, 2, 1/6)	$\bar{Q}_R q_L$	$6.5 \cdot 10^{39} (g_1)$	5/3
(3, 2, -5/6)	$\bar{Q}_L d_R H^\dagger$	$4.3 \cdot 10^{27} (g_1)$	17/3
(3, 2, 7/6)	$\bar{Q}_L u_R H$	$5.6 \cdot 10^{22} (g_1)$	29/3
(3, 3, -1/3)	$\bar{Q}_R q_L H^\dagger$	$5.1 \cdot 10^{30} (g_2)$	14/3
(3, 3, 2/3)	$\bar{Q}_R q_L H$	$6.6 \cdot 10^{27} (g_2)$	20/3
(3, 3, -4/3)	$\bar{Q}_L d_R H^{\dagger 2}$	$3.5 \cdot 10^{18} (g_1)$	44/3
($\bar{6}$, 1, -1/3)	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} d_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$2.3 \cdot 10^{37} (g_1)$	4/15
($\bar{6}$, 1, 2/3)	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} u_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$5.1 \cdot 10^{30} (g_1)$	16/15
($\bar{6}$, 2, 1/6)	$\bar{Q}_R \sigma_{\mu\nu} q_L G^{\mu\nu}$	$7.3 \cdot 10^{38} (g_1)$	2/3
(8, 1, -1)	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} e_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$7.6 \cdot 10^{22} (g_1)$	8/3
(8, 2, -1/2)	$\bar{Q}_R \sigma_{\mu\nu} \ell_L G^{\mu\nu}$	$6.7 \cdot 10^{27} (g_1)$	4/3
(15, 1, -1/3)	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} d_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$8.3 \cdot 10^{21} (g_3)$	1/6
(15, 1, 2/3)	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} u_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$7.6 \cdot 10^{21} (g_3)$	2/3

$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} = \frac{m_a}{\text{eV}} \frac{2.0}{10^{10} \text{ GeV}} \left(\frac{E}{N} - 1.92(4) \right)$$

$$\frac{E}{N} = \frac{\sum_Q \mathcal{Q}_Q^2}{\sum_Q T(\mathcal{C}_Q)}$$

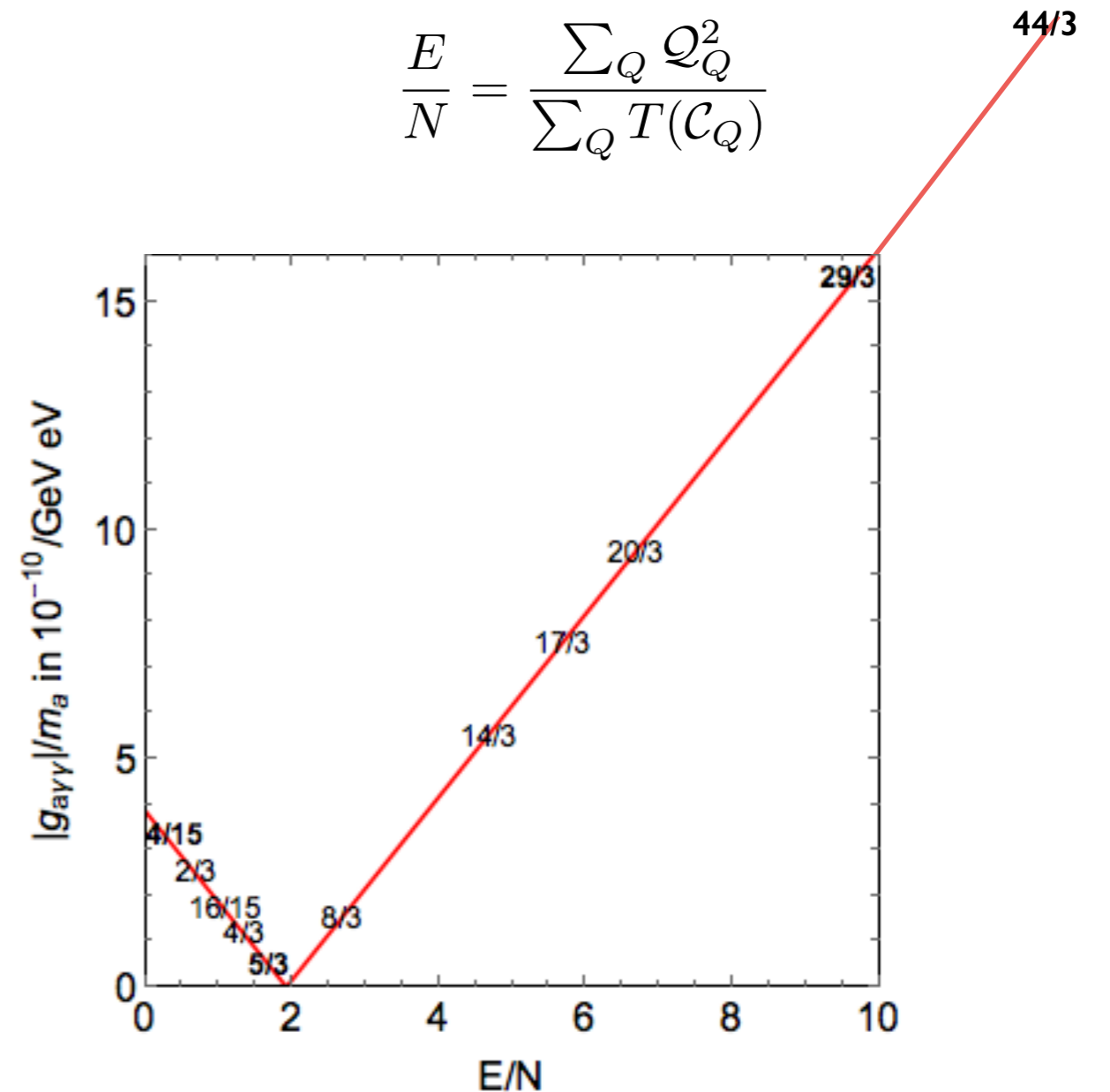
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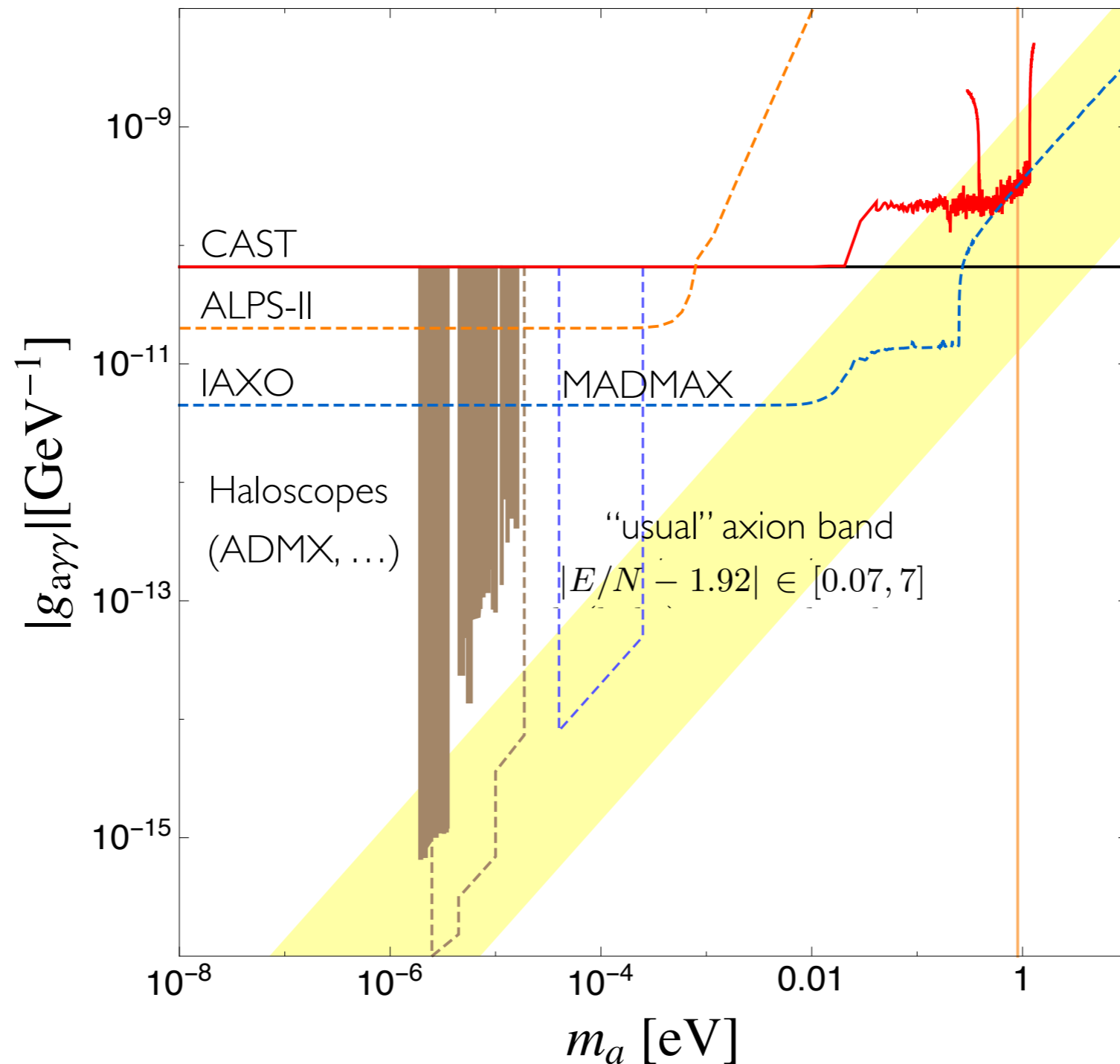
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	(3, 2, 1/6)	$\bar{Q}_R q_L$	$6.5 \cdot 10^{39} (g_1)$	5/3
	(3, 2, -5/6)	$\bar{Q}_L d_R H^\dagger$	$4.3 \cdot 10^{27} (g_1)$	17/3
	(3, 2, 7/6)	$\bar{Q}_L u_R H$	$5.6 \cdot 10^{22} (g_1)$	29/3
	(3, 3, -1/3)	$\bar{Q}_R q_L H^\dagger$	$5.1 \cdot 10^{30} (g_2)$	14/3
R_Q^s	(3, 3, 2/3)	$\bar{Q}_R q_L H$	$6.6 \cdot 10^{27} (g_2)$	20/3
	(3, 3, -4/3)	$\bar{Q}_L d_R H^{\dagger 2}$	$3.5 \cdot 10^{18} (g_1)$	44/3
	($\bar{6}$, 1, -1/3)	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} d_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$2.3 \cdot 10^{37} (g_1)$	4/15
	($\bar{6}$, 1, 2/3)	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} u_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$5.1 \cdot 10^{30} (g_1)$	16/15
	($\bar{6}$, 2, 1/6)	$\bar{Q}_R \sigma_{\mu\nu} q_L G^{\mu\nu}$	$7.3 \cdot 10^{38} (g_1)$	2/3
	(8, 1, -1)	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} e_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$7.6 \cdot 10^{22} (g_1)$	8/3
	(8, 2, -1/2)	$\bar{Q}_R \sigma_{\mu\nu} \ell_L G^{\mu\nu}$	$6.7 \cdot 10^{27} (g_1)$	4/3
	(15, 1, -1/3)	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} d_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$8.3 \cdot 10^{21} (g_3)$	1/6
	(15, 1, 2/3)	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} u_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$7.6 \cdot 10^{21} (g_3)$	2/3

$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} = \frac{m_a}{\text{eV}} \frac{2.0}{10^{10} \text{ GeV}} \left(\frac{E}{N} - 1.92(4) \right)$$

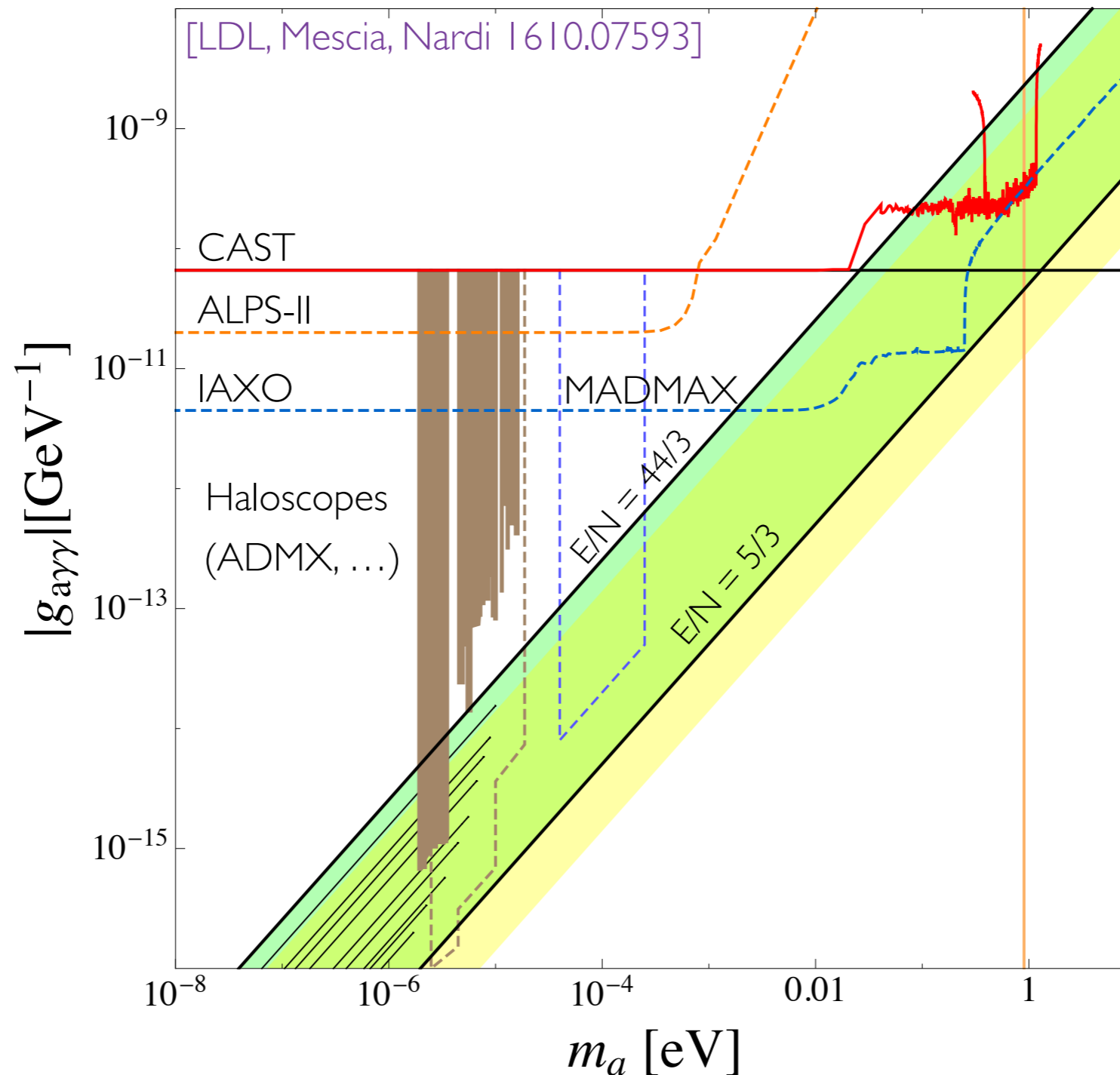
$$\frac{E}{N} = \frac{\sum_Q \mathcal{Q}_Q^2}{\sum_Q T(\mathcal{C}_Q)}$$



Redefining the axion window



Redefining the axion window



More Q's

- What about $N_Q > 1$?

- combined anomaly factor for $R_Q^1 + R_Q^2 + \dots$: $\frac{E_c}{N_c} = \frac{E_1 + E_2 + \dots}{N_1 + N_2 + \dots}$

- Strongest coupling (compatible with LP criterium) is given by

$$(3, 3, -4/3) \oplus (3, 3, -1/3) \ominus (\bar{6}, 1, -1/3) \quad \longrightarrow \quad E_c/N_c = 170/3$$

- Complete decoupling within theoretical error is possible as well:

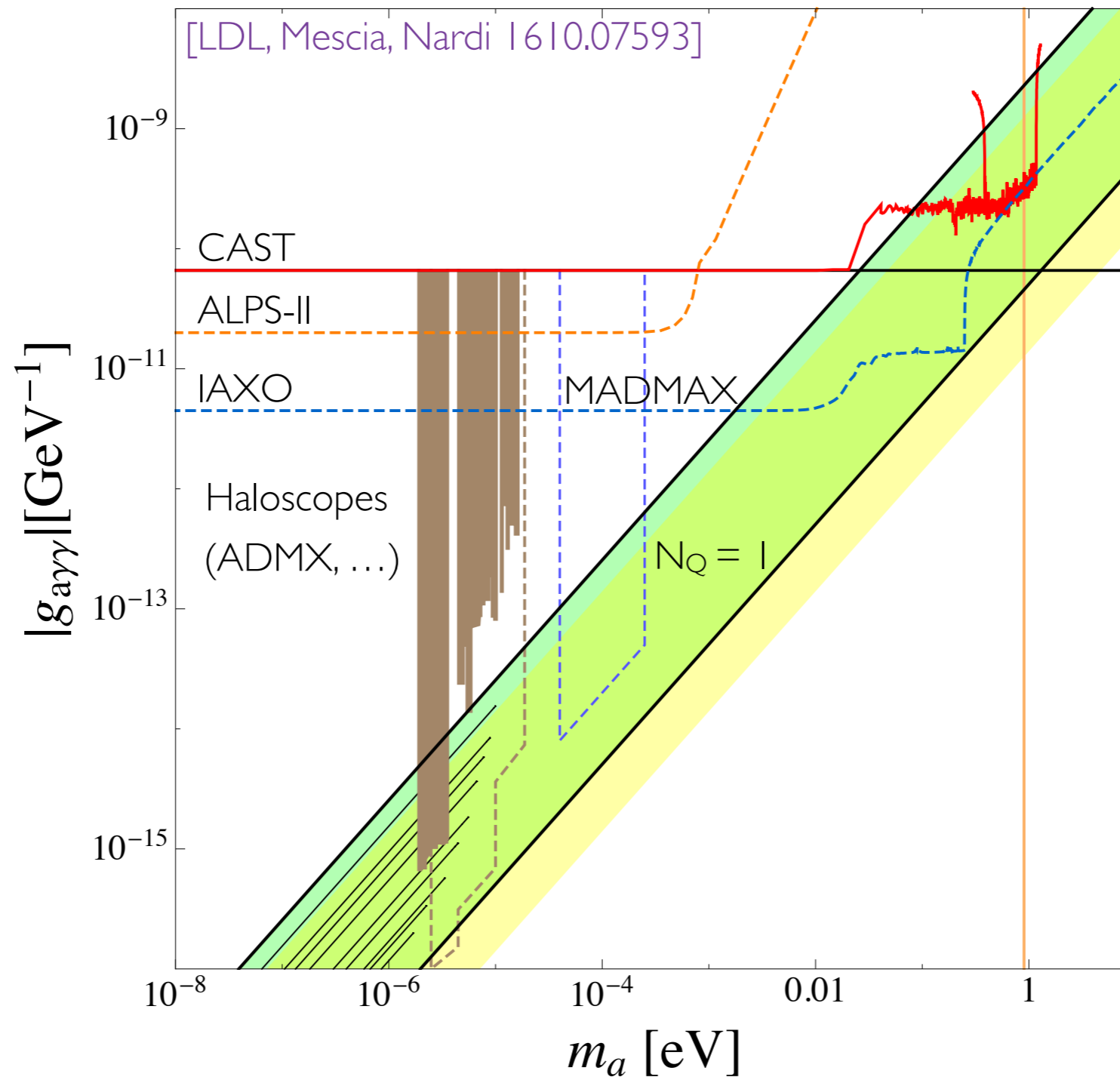
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} (3, 3, -1/3) \oplus (\bar{6}, 1, -1/3) \\ (\bar{6}, 1, 2/3) \oplus (8, 1, -1) \\ (3, 2, -5/6) \oplus (8, 2, -1/2) \end{array} \right\} E_c/N_c = (23/12, 64/33, 41/21) \approx (1.92, 1.94, 1.95)$$

$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} = \frac{m_a}{\text{eV}} \frac{2.0}{10^{10} \text{ GeV}} \left(\frac{E_c}{N_c} - 1.92(4) \right) \quad \text{[Theoretical error from NLO } \chi\text{PT Grilli di Cortona et al., 1511.02867]}$$

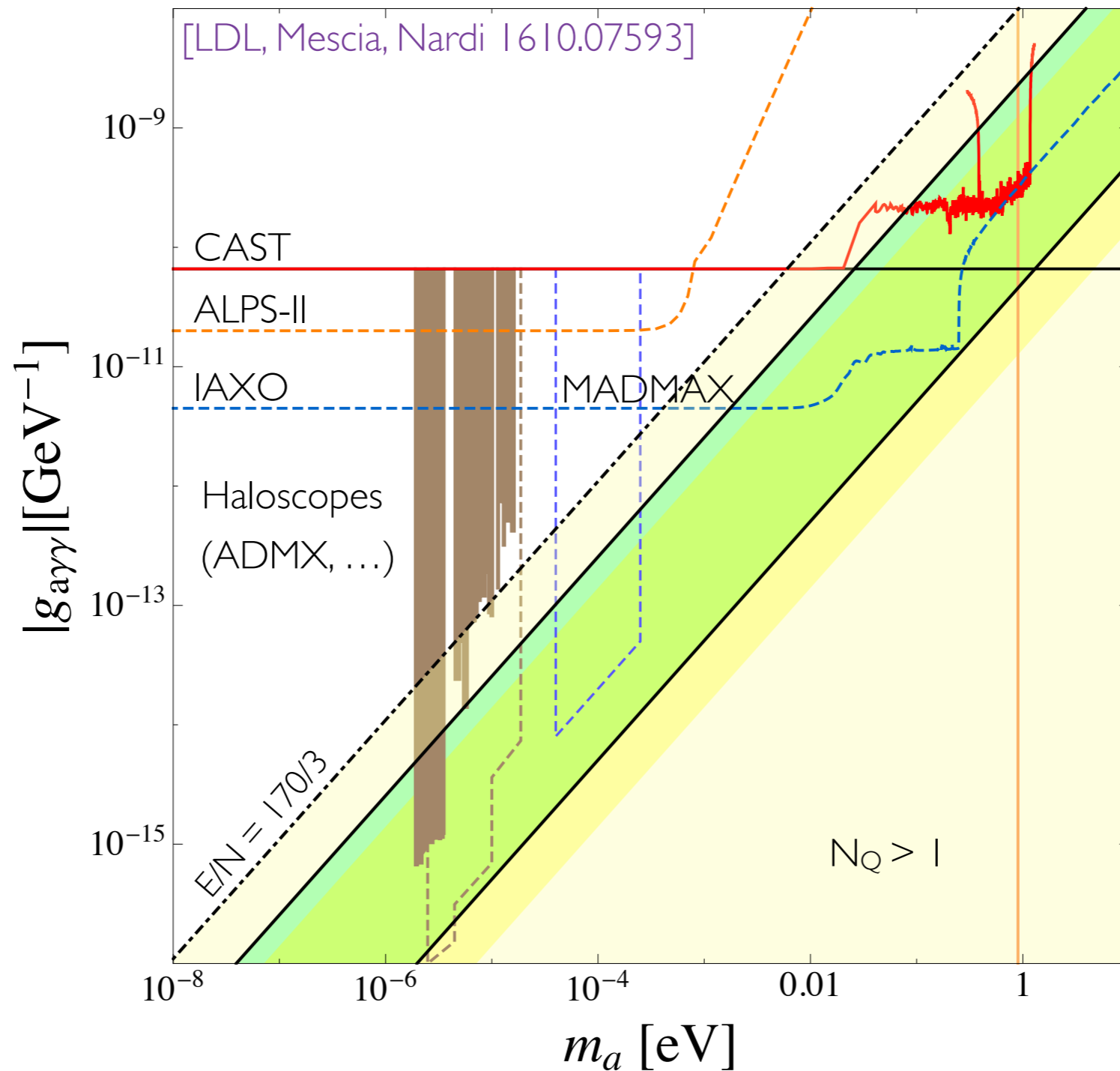
“such a cancellation is immoral, but not unnatural”

[D. B. Kaplan, (1985)]

More Q's



More Q's



KSVZ in pre-inflationary scenarios

- What about $T_{\text{reheating}} < m_Q$? [LDL, Mescia, Nardi 1705.05370]
 - condition on Q decay is relaxed, but Landau pole still applies
- $m_Q \sim y_Q f_a < 5 \cdot 10^{11}$ GeV
 - $N_Q = 1$: $(E/N)_{\text{max(pre)}} = 2.5 (E/N)_{\text{max(post)}}$
 - $N_Q > 1$: $(E/N)_{\text{max(pre)}} = 1.2 (E/N)_{\text{max(post)}}$
 - *axion-photon coupling well-described by post-inflationary axion window*
- $f_a \gg 5 \cdot 10^{11}$ GeV (requires $\theta_0 \ll 1$) softens Landau pole condition
 - *arbitrarily large axion-photon coupling at the cost of tuning initial mis. condition*

DFSZ-like axions

- Potentially large E/N due to electron PQ charge

$$\frac{E}{N} = \frac{\sum_j \left(\frac{4}{3} X_u^j + \frac{1}{3} X_d^j + X_e^j \right)}{\sum_j \left(\frac{1}{2} X_u^j + \frac{1}{2} X_d^j \right)}$$

- with n_H Higgs doublets and a SM singlet ϕ , enhanced global symmetry

$$U(1)^{n_H+1} \rightarrow U(1)_{\text{PQ}} \times U(1)_Y$$

must be explicitly broken in the scalar potential via non-trivial invariants (e.g. $H_u H_d \Phi^2$)



non-trivial constraints on PQ charges of SM fermions

DFSZ-like axions

- Potentially large E/N due to electron PQ charge

$$\frac{E}{N} = \frac{\sum_j \left(\frac{4}{3} X_u^j + \frac{1}{3} X_d^j + X_e^j \right)}{\sum_j \left(\frac{1}{2} X_u^j + \frac{1}{2} X_d^j \right)} \quad \mathcal{L}_Y = Y_u \bar{Q}_L u_R H_u + Y_d \bar{Q}_L d_R H_d + Y_e \bar{L}_L e_R H_e + \text{h.c.}$$

- With 2 or 3 Higgs doublets, DFSZ remains within $N_Q = 1$ KSVZ window

- $n_H = 2$

DFSZ-I: $X_e = X_d \quad E/N = 8/3$

DFSZ-II: $X_e = -X_u \quad E/N = 2/3$

- $n_H = 3$

DFSZ-III: $X_e \neq X_{u,d} \quad E/N_{(\text{max})} = -4/3$

DFSZ-like axions

- Potentially large E/N due to electron PQ charge

$$\frac{E}{N} = \frac{\sum_j \left(\frac{4}{3} X_u^j + \frac{1}{3} X_d^j + X_e^j \right)}{\sum_j \left(\frac{1}{2} X_u^j + \frac{1}{2} X_d^j \right)}$$

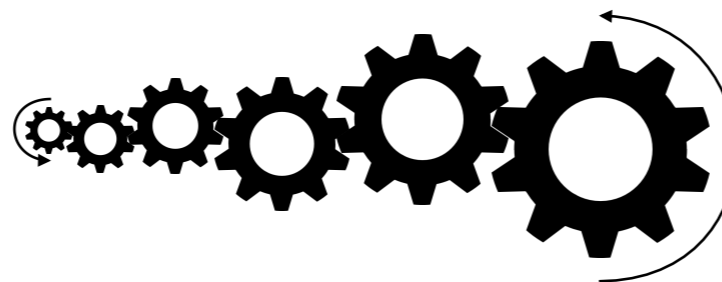
$$\mathcal{L}_Y = Y_u \bar{Q}_L u_R H_u + Y_d \bar{Q}_L d_R H_d + Y_e \bar{L}_L e_R H_e + \text{h.c.}$$

- With 2 or 3 Higgs doublets, DFSZ remains within $N_Q = 1$ KSVZ window
- Clockwork-like scenarios allow to **boost** E/N [LDL, Mescia, Nardi 1705.05370]
 - n up-type doublets which *do not couple* to SM fermions ($n \approx 50$ from LP condition)

$$(H_u H_d \Phi^2)$$

$$(H_k H_{k-1}^*)(H_{k-1}^* H_d^*)$$

$$(H_e H_n)(H_n H_d)$$



[Giudice, McCullough]

$$E/N \sim 2^n$$

[See also Farina et al. 1611.09855, for KSVZ clockwork]

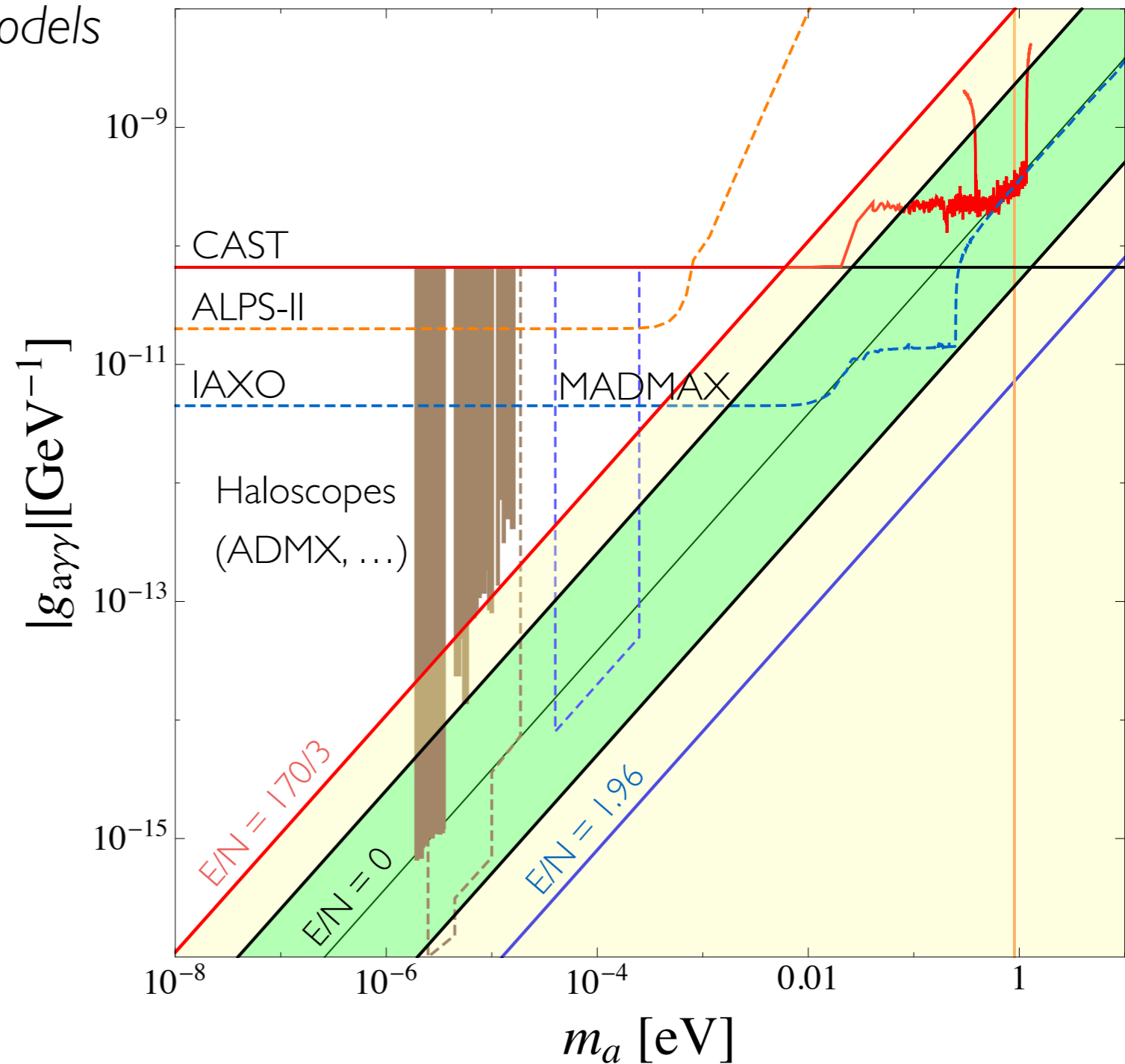
Summary axion-photon

Region of 'realistic' KSVZ/DFSZ axion models

Going **above red** line requires either:

- i) very exotic constructions
- ii) tuning $\theta_0 \ll 1$ (KSVZ pre-inflat.)

Going **below blue** line requires a 'tuning in theory space' $< 2\%$



Conclusions

- The QCD axion is a well-motivated BSM scenario
 - solves the strong CP problem
 - provides an excellent DM candidate
 - Healthy experimental program
 - experiments are entering now the preferred window for the QCD axion
- *Take home message: axion couplings might sizeably deviate from the standard DFSZ/KSVZ benchmarks (relevant when confronting exp. sensitivities and bounds)*

Backup slides

Axion coupling to photons

- Axion effective Lagrangian

[See e.g. Grillo di Cortona et al., 1511.02867]

$$\mathcal{L}_a = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu a)^2 + \frac{a}{f_a} \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{4} a g_{a\gamma\gamma}^0 F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \quad g_{a\gamma\gamma}^0 = \frac{\alpha_{em}}{2\pi f_a} \frac{E}{N}$$

field-dependent chiral transformation to eliminate aGG term:

$$q = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow e^{i\gamma_5 \frac{a}{2f_a} Q_a} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix}$$

$\text{tr } Q_a = 1$

Axion coupling to photons

- Axion effective Lagrangian

[See e.g. Grillo di Cortona et al., 1511.02867]

$$\mathcal{L}_a = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu a)^2 + \frac{a}{f_a} \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \cancel{G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}} + \frac{1}{4} a g_{a\gamma\gamma}^0 F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

$$g_{a\gamma\gamma}^0 = \frac{\alpha_{em}}{2\pi f_a} \frac{E}{N}$$



$$\mathcal{L}_a = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu a)^2 + \frac{1}{4} a g_{a\gamma\gamma} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

$$q = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow e^{i\gamma_5 \frac{a}{2f_a} Q_a} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{tr } Q_a = 1$$

$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} = \frac{\alpha_{em}}{2\pi f_a} \left[\frac{E}{N} - 6 \text{tr} (Q_a Q^2) \right] = \frac{\alpha_{em}}{2\pi f_a} \left[\frac{E}{N} - \frac{2}{3} \frac{4m_d + m_u}{m_d + m_u} \right] = \frac{m_a}{\text{eV}} \frac{2.0}{10^{10} \text{ GeV}} \left(\frac{E}{N} - 1.92(4) \right)$$

$$Q_a = \frac{M_q^{-1}}{\langle M_q^{-1} \rangle} \quad (\text{no axion-pion mixing})$$

model independent
depends on UV completion

Boosting E/N in DFSZ

1. Consider $(H_u H_d \Phi^2)$ and normalize $\mathcal{X}_\Phi \equiv q$; $\implies \mathcal{X}_u = -2q$; $\mathcal{X}_d = 0$

2. Define $H_1 = H_u$. Add n up-type doublets:

$$(H_k H_{k-1}^*)(H_{k-1}^* H_d^*) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathcal{X}_k = -2^k q$$

3. Finally, couple also the “lepton” Higgs H_e

$$(H_e H_n)(H_n H_d) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathcal{X}_e = 2^{n+1} q$$

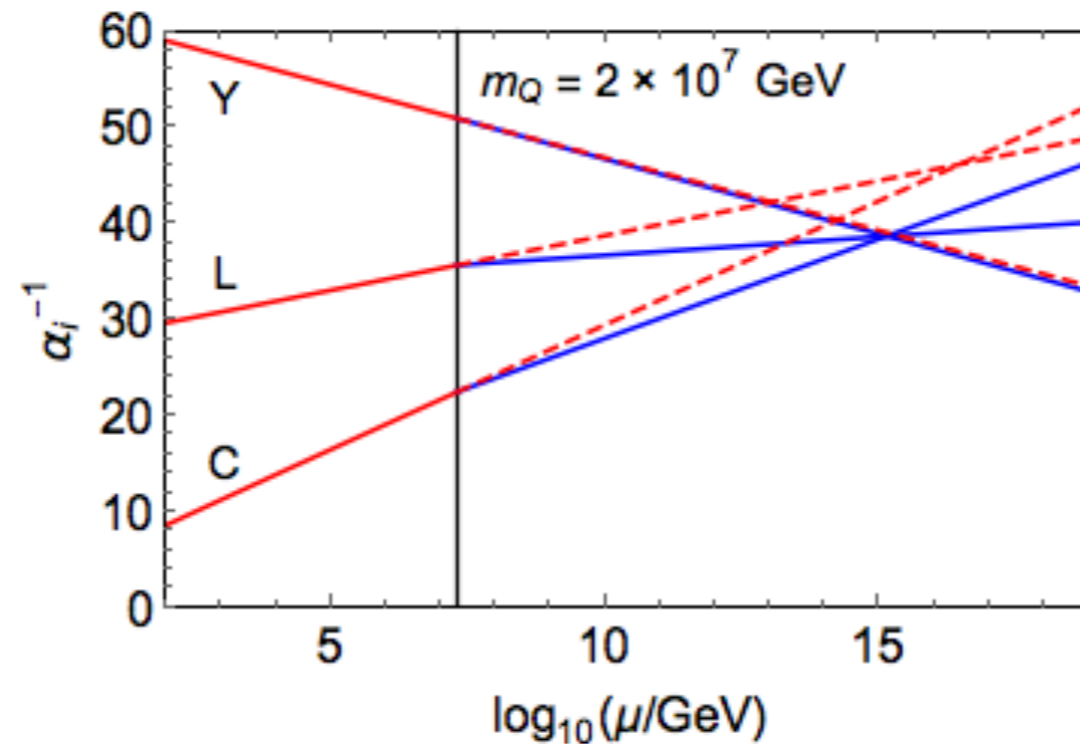
One can obtain in this way:

$$\frac{E}{N} = \frac{2}{3} + 2 \frac{\mathcal{X}_u + \mathcal{X}_e}{\mathcal{X}_u + \mathcal{X}_d} \sim 2^{n+1}$$

- $n \lesssim 50$ from Landau pole condition

Unificaxion

- Some Q's might improve gauge coupling unification [Giudice, Rattazzi, Strumia, 1204.5465]
 - out of all our 15 cases, just one works well: $Q \sim (3, 2, 1/6)$



Unificaxion

- Some Q 's might improve gauge coupling unification [Giudice, Rattazzi, Strumia, 1204.5465]
 - out of all our 15 cases, just one works well: $Q \sim (3, 2, 1/6)$
- Conceiving a UV model remains, however, a non-trivial challenge
 - $Q \in \psi_{\text{GUT}}$
 - $m_Q \lesssim f_a \ll M_{\text{GUT}}$

$$[\text{PQ}, \text{GUT}] = 0$$

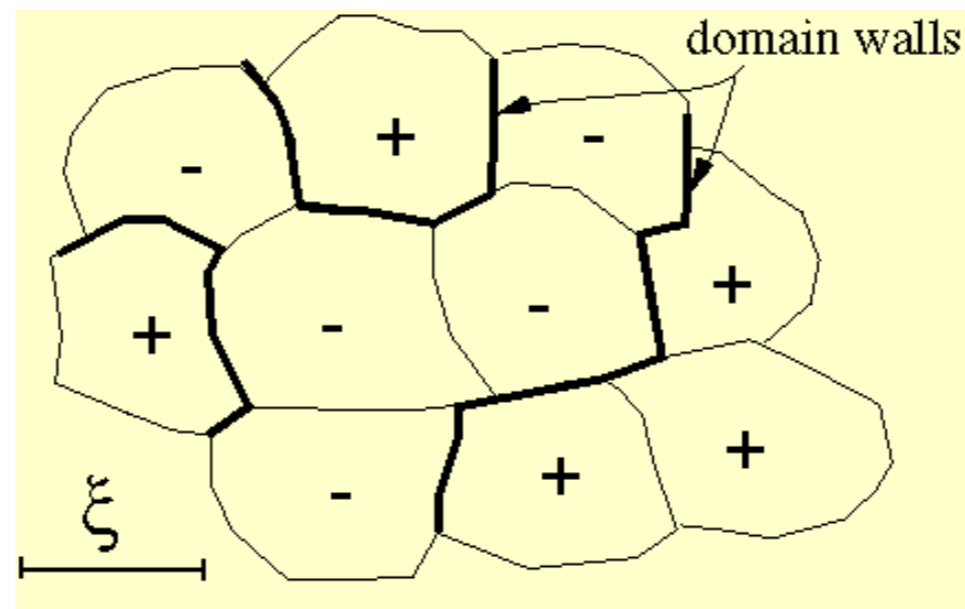


$$m_{\psi_{\text{GUT}}} = \mathcal{O}(f_a)$$

- a complete GUT multiplet doesn't help !

DW problem

- $U(1)_{\text{PQ}} \longrightarrow Z_{N_{\text{DW}}}$ explicitly broken by QCD effects
 - $a(x)$ defined in $[0, 2\pi v_a]$ $\langle \Phi(x) \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} v_a e^{ia(x)/v_a}$
 - axion potential periodic in $\Delta a = \frac{2\pi v_a}{N_{\text{DW}}} \quad (N_{\text{DW}} = 2N) \quad \longrightarrow \quad N_{\text{DW}}$ degenerate vacua
- SSB of a discrete symmetry leads to (stable) DW configurations, whose energy density can easily overclose the Universe



DW problem

R_Q	\mathcal{O}_{Qq}	$\Lambda_{\text{LP}}^{R_Q} [\text{GeV}]$	E/N	N_{DW}
$(3, 1, -1/3)$	$\bar{Q}_L d_R$	$9.3 \cdot 10^{38} (g_1)$	$2/3$	1
$(3, 1, 2/3)$	$\bar{Q}_L u_R$	$5.4 \cdot 10^{34} (g_1)$	$8/3$	1
$(3, 2, 1/6)$	$\bar{Q}_R q_L$	$6.5 \cdot 10^{39} (g_1)$	$5/3$	2
$(3, 2, -5/6)$	$\bar{Q}_L d_R H^\dagger$	$4.3 \cdot 10^{27} (g_1)$	$17/3$	2
$(3, 2, 7/6)$	$\bar{Q}_L u_R H$	$5.6 \cdot 10^{22} (g_1)$	$29/3$	2
$(3, 3, -1/3)$	$\bar{Q}_R q_L H^\dagger$	$5.1 \cdot 10^{30} (g_2)$	$14/3$	3
$(3, 3, 2/3)$	$\bar{Q}_R q_L H$	$6.6 \cdot 10^{27} (g_2)$	$20/3$	3
$(3, 3, -4/3)$	$\bar{Q}_L d_R H^{\dagger 2}$	$3.5 \cdot 10^{18} (g_1)$	$44/3$	3
$(\bar{6}, 1, -1/3)$	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} d_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$2.3 \cdot 10^{37} (g_1)$	$4/15$	5
$(\bar{6}, 1, 2/3)$	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} u_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$5.1 \cdot 10^{30} (g_1)$	$16/15$	5
$(\bar{6}, 2, 1/6)$	$\bar{Q}_R \sigma_{\mu\nu} q_L G^{\mu\nu}$	$7.3 \cdot 10^{38} (g_1)$	$2/3$	10
$(8, 1, -1)$	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} e_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$7.6 \cdot 10^{22} (g_1)$	$8/3$	6
$(8, 2, -1/2)$	$\bar{Q}_R \sigma_{\mu\nu} \ell_L G^{\mu\nu}$	$6.7 \cdot 10^{27} (g_1)$	$4/3$	12
$(15, 1, -1/3)$	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} d_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$8.3 \cdot 10^{21} (g_3)$	$1/6$	20
$(15, 1, 2/3)$	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} u_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$7.6 \cdot 10^{21} (g_3)$	$2/3$	20

DW problem - solutions

- Inflation can dilute them away (pre-inflationary PQ breaking)
- $N_{\text{DW}} = 1$

R_Q	O_{Qq}	$\Lambda_{\text{LP}}^{R_Q} [\text{GeV}]$	E/N	N_{DW}
$(3, 1, -1/3)$	$\bar{Q}_L d_R$	$9.3 \cdot 10^{38} (g_1)$	$2/3$	1
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$(8, 1, -1)$	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} e_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$7.6 \cdot 10^{22} (g_1)$	$8/3$	6
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$(15, 1, -1/3)$	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} d_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$8.3 \cdot 10^{21} (g_3)$	$1/6$	20
$(15, 1, 2/3)$	$\bar{Q}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} u_R G^{\mu\nu}$	$7.6 \cdot 10^{21} (g_3)$	$2/3$	20

+ new solutions with 2 Q's by combining 8 and 6 with opposite PQ charge

$$T(8) = 3$$

$$T(6) = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$N_{\text{DW}}(6 \oplus 8) = 2(T(8) - T(6)) = 1$$

DW problem - solutions

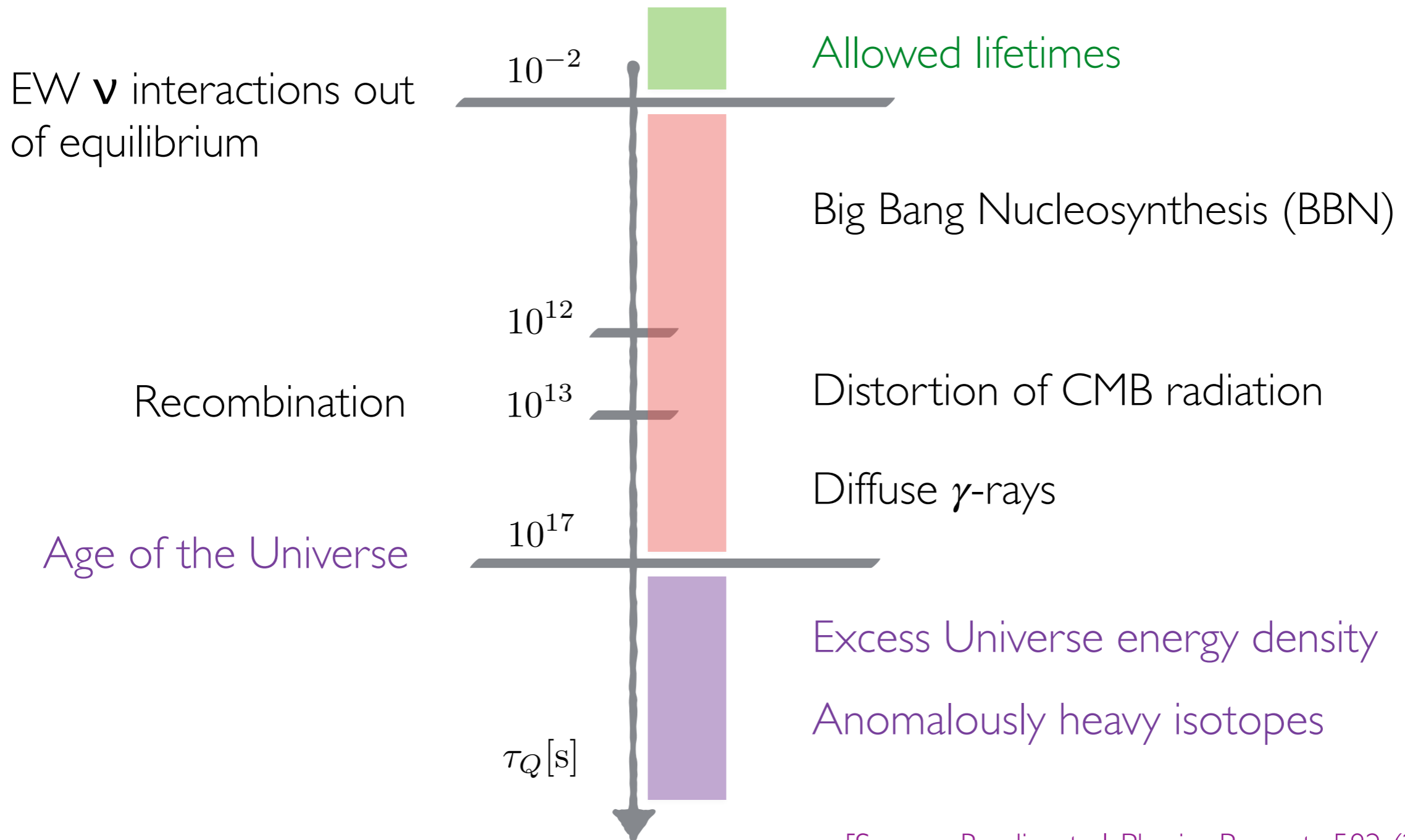
- Inflation can dilute them away (pre-inflationary PQ breaking)
- $N_{\text{DW}} = 1$
- Explicit PQ breaking

[Sikivie (1982)]

$$\delta V = -\xi(\phi e^{-i\delta} + h.c.) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \delta V_a = -2v_a \xi \cos\left(\frac{a}{v_a} - \delta\right) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \bar{\theta} \sim \frac{\xi}{m_a^2 f_a}$$

- large enough so that a unique vacuum takes over before DWs dominate energy density
- small enough so that PQ solution is not ruined

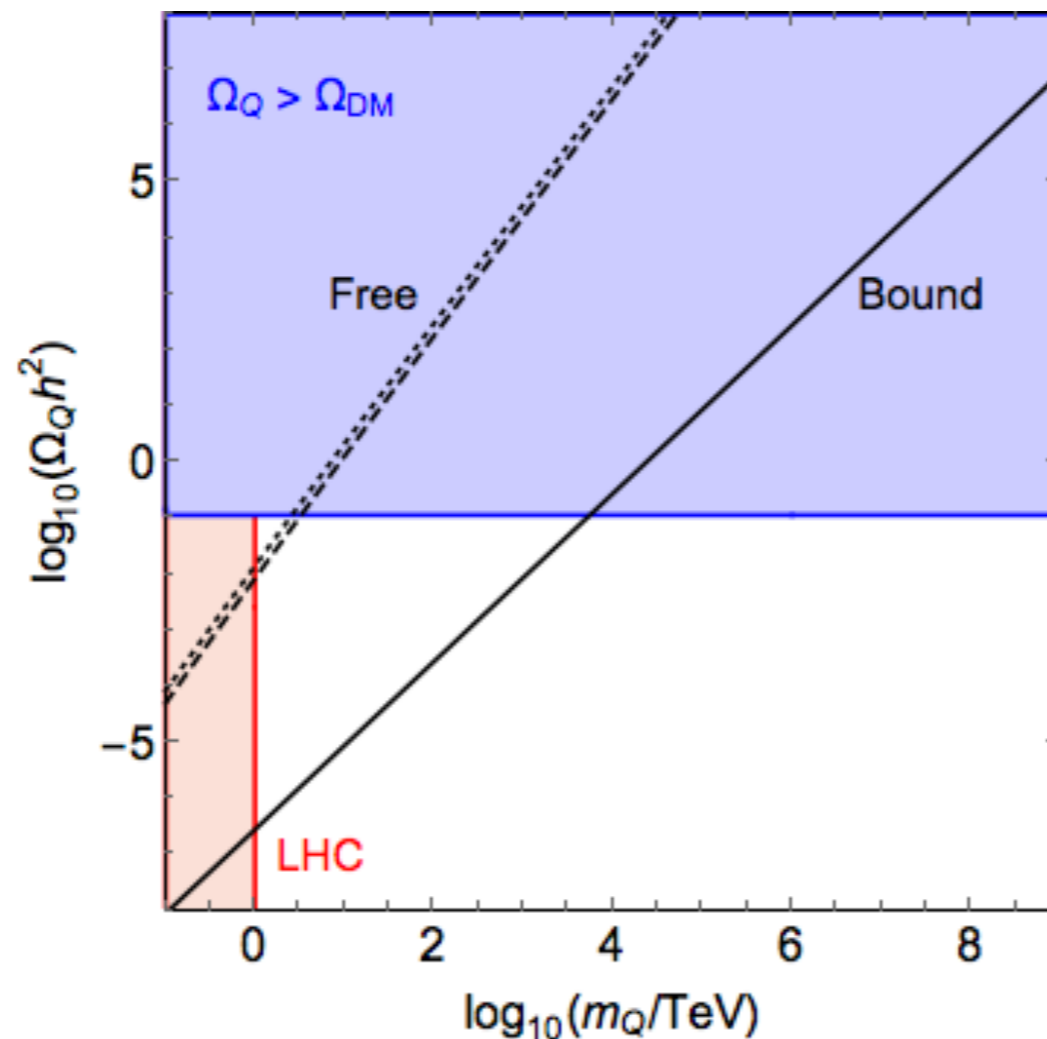
Cosmological constraints on τ_Q



[See e.g. Burdin et al. Physics Reports 582 (2015) 1–52]

Heavy Q's relic density (I)

- $T_{\text{reheating}} > m_Q$ (thermal distribution of Q's as initial condition)
- Reliable estimates on Ω_Q remain an **open issue**, but Q abundances still too high



[Rich literature: e.g.
Dover, Gaiser, Steigman PRL 42 (1979),
Nardi, Roulet PLB 245 (1990),
Arvanitaki et al., hep-ph/0504210,
Kang, Luty, Nasri, hep-ph/0611322,
Jacob, Nussinov, 0712.2681
Kusakabe, Takesako, 1112.0860]

Heavy Q's relic density (2)

- above $T_C \sim 180$ MeV: perturbative annihilation

$$(\Omega_Q h^2)^{\text{Free}} = 2.0 \left(\frac{x_{fo}}{25} \right) \left(\frac{g_*}{106.75} \right)^{-1/2} \left(\frac{\langle \sigma v \rangle_{Q\bar{Q}}}{10^{-10} \text{ GeV}^{-2}} \right)^{-1} \approx 8 \cdot 10^{-3} \left(\frac{m_Q}{\text{TeV}} \right)^2$$

- below $T_C \sim 180$ MeV: heavy Q's get confined in color singlets and annihilation may restart via the formation of intermediate bound states (e.g. $\bar{Q}q + Qqq \rightarrow \bar{Q}Q + qqq$)



[Kang, Luty, Nasri, hep-ph/0611322]

$$(\Omega_Q h^2)^{\text{Bound}} = 8.7 \cdot 10^{-12} \left(\frac{R_{\text{had}}}{\text{GeV}^{-1}} \right)^{-2} \left(\frac{T_C}{180 \text{ MeV}} \right)^{-3/2} \left(\frac{m_Q}{\text{GeV}} \right)^{3/2}$$

- however QQ, QQQ, \dots bound states (so far not taken into account) would hinder it

[Kusakabe, Takesako, 1112.0860]

Q stability & PQ quality

- Symmetry of the kinetic term

$$U(1)_{Q_L} \times U(1)_{Q_R} \times U(1)_\Phi \xrightarrow{y_Q \neq 0} U(1)_{PQ} \times U(1)_Q$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{PQ} = |\partial_\mu \Phi|^2 + \bar{Q} i \not{D} Q - (y_Q \bar{Q}_L Q_R \Phi + \text{H.c.})$$

- $U(1)_Q$ is the Q-baryon number. If exact, Q would be stable

- if $\mathcal{L}_{Qq} \neq 0$ $U(1)_Q$ is further broken and Q-decay is possible

- Global symmetries expected to be broken by Planck-scale physics

- $U(1)_{PQ}$ and $U(1)_Q$ breaking effective operators (can consistently coexist)

$$V_\Phi^{d>4} \ni \frac{\Phi^N}{M_{\text{Planck}}^{N-4}} \quad \longrightarrow \quad N > 10 \text{ not to ruin the PQ solution}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{Qq}^{d>4} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{responsible for Q decay (even for } \mathcal{L}_{Qq} = 0 \text{)}$$

Accidental symmetries

- Assume a suitable discrete (gauge) symmetry \mathbb{Z}_N ensuring
 1. $U(1)_{PQ}$ arises accidentally and is of the required *high quality*
 2. $U(1)_Q$ is either broken at the ren. level, or it can be of sufficient *bad quality*
- An example with $Q \sim d_R$. Under \mathbb{Z}_N (with $\omega \equiv e^{i2\pi/N}$)

$$Q_L \rightarrow Q_L, \quad Q_R \rightarrow \omega^{N-1} Q_R, \quad \Phi \rightarrow \omega \Phi,$$

$\mathbb{Z}_N(q)$	$d \leq 4$	$d = 5$	$(\mathcal{X}_L, \mathcal{X}_R)$
1	$\bar{Q}_L d_R$	$\bar{Q}_L \gamma_\mu q_L (D^\mu H)^\dagger$	(0, -1)
ω	$\bar{Q}_L d_R \Phi^\dagger$		(-1, -2)
ω^{N-2}	–	$\bar{Q}_L d_R \Phi^2, \bar{Q}_R q_L H^\dagger \Phi$	(2, 1)
ω^{N-1}	$\bar{q}_L Q_R H, \bar{Q}_L d_R \Phi$	–	(1, 0)

 ensures that the minimum dimension of the $U(1)_{PQ}$ breaking operators in $V_\Phi^{d>4}$ is N , while the dim of the $U(1)_Q$ breaking operators depends on $\mathbb{Z}_N(q)$