

Colour Unified Dynamical Axion

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Case Western Reserve Univ., Cleveland



H2020

elusi**o**ves

in**o**visiblesPlus

Why ?

Is the Higgs the only (fundamental?) scalar in nature?

Or simply the first one discovered?

The spin 0 window



The SM Higgs is a \sim doublet of $SU(2)_L$

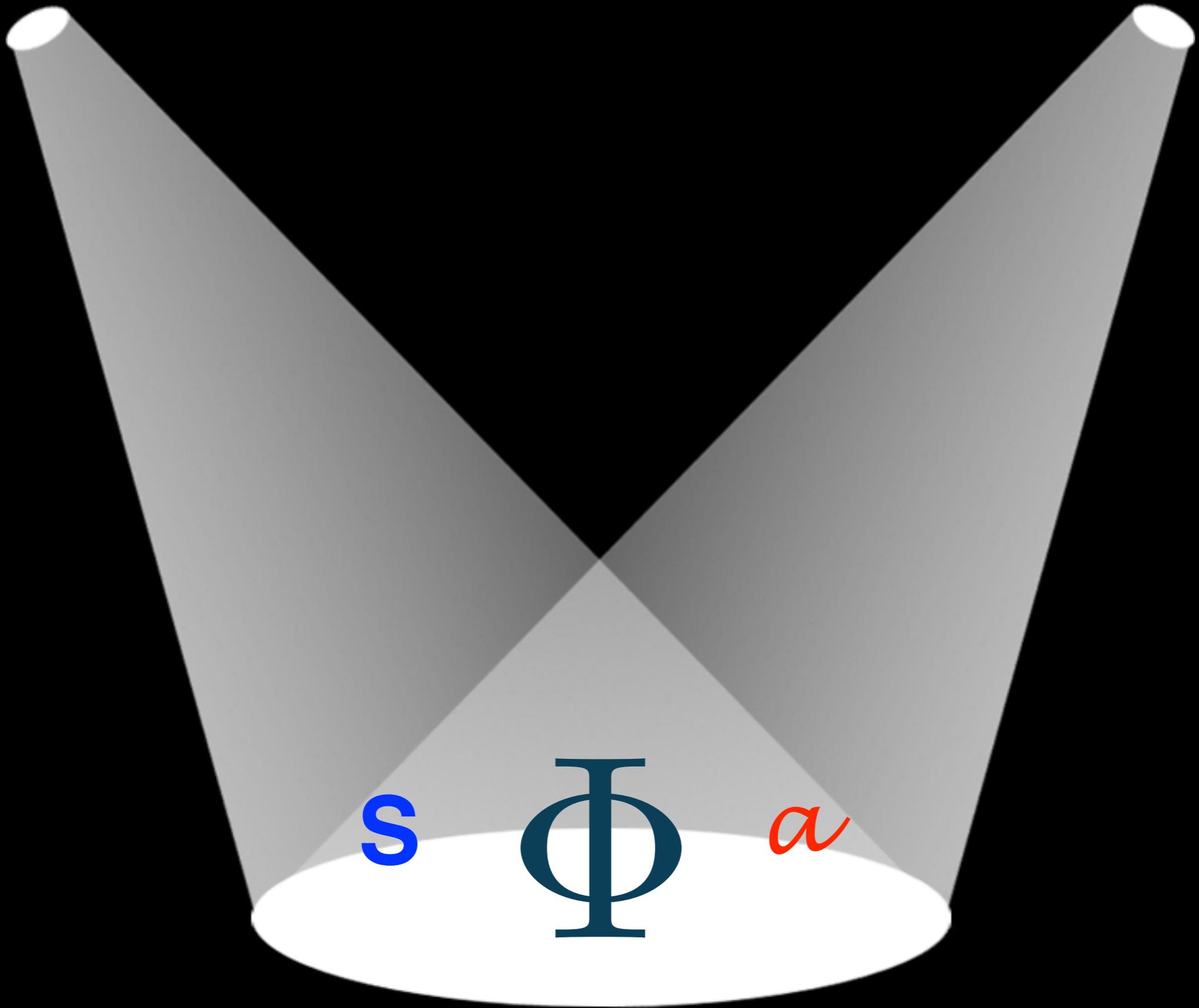
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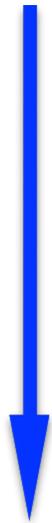
What about a singlet (pseudo) scalar?

Strong motivation from fundamental problems of the SM



Strong motivation for singlet (pseudo)scalars from fundamental SM problems

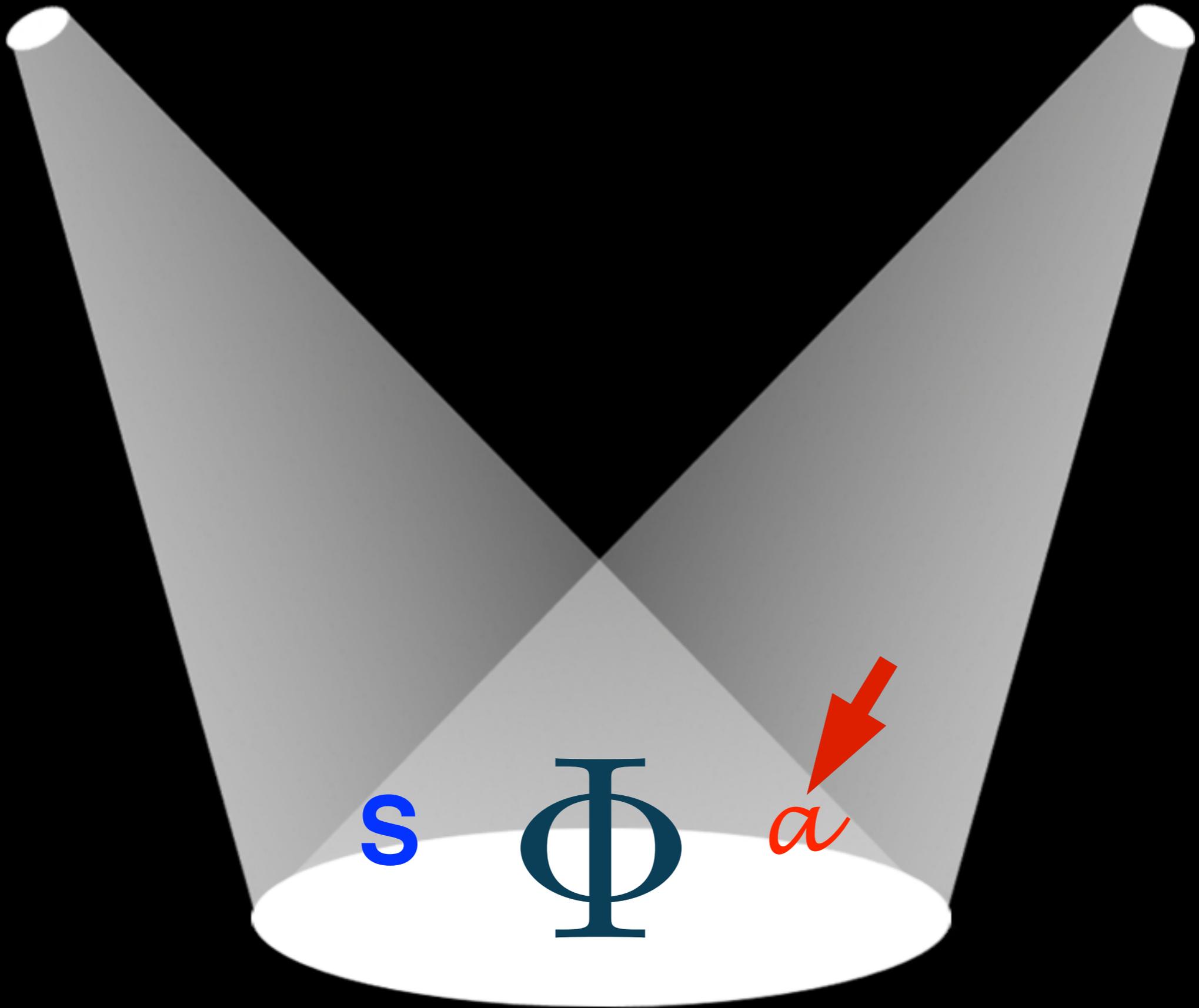
The nature of DM is unknown



It may be a (SM singlet) scalar **S**
the “Higgs portal”

$$\delta\mathcal{L} = \Phi^\dagger \Phi \mathbf{S}^2$$

S has polynomial couplings



Many small unexplained SM parameters

Hidden symmetries
can explain small parameters

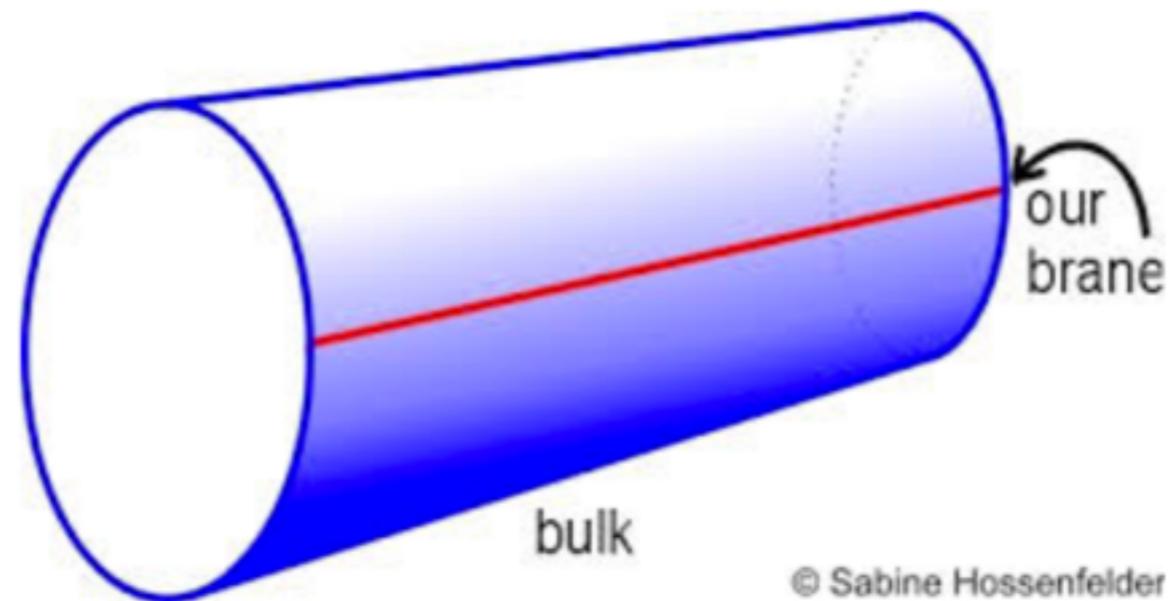


If spontaneously broken:
Goldstone bosons *a*

—> derivative couplings to SM particles

(Pseudo)Goldstone Bosons appear in many BSM theories

- * e.g. Extra-dim Kaluza-Klein: 5d gauge field compactified to 4d
the Wilson line around the circle is a GB, which behaves as an axion in 4d

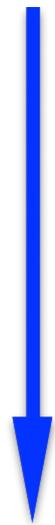


- * Majorons, for dynamical neutrino masses
- * From string models
- * The Higgs itself may be a pGB ! (“composite Higgs” models)
- * Axions a that solve the strong CP problem, and ALPs (axion-like particles)

.....

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Silveira+Zee; Veltman+Yndurain; Patt+Wilczek...

The strong CP problem

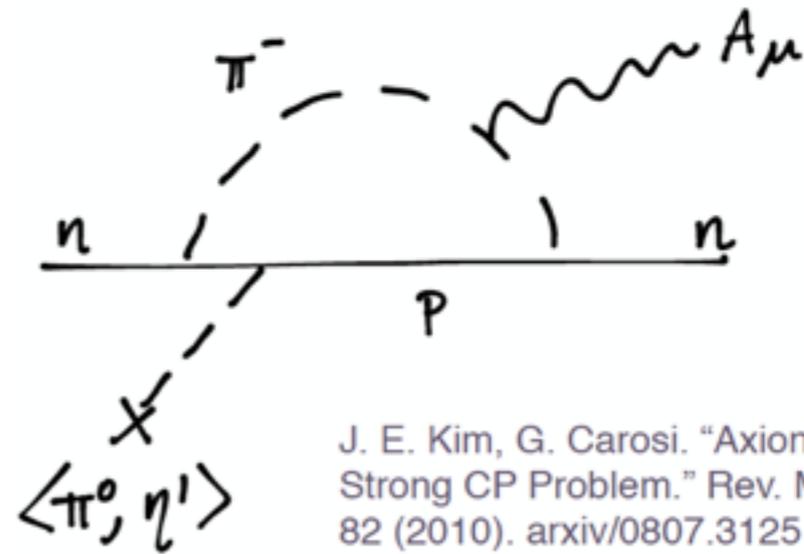
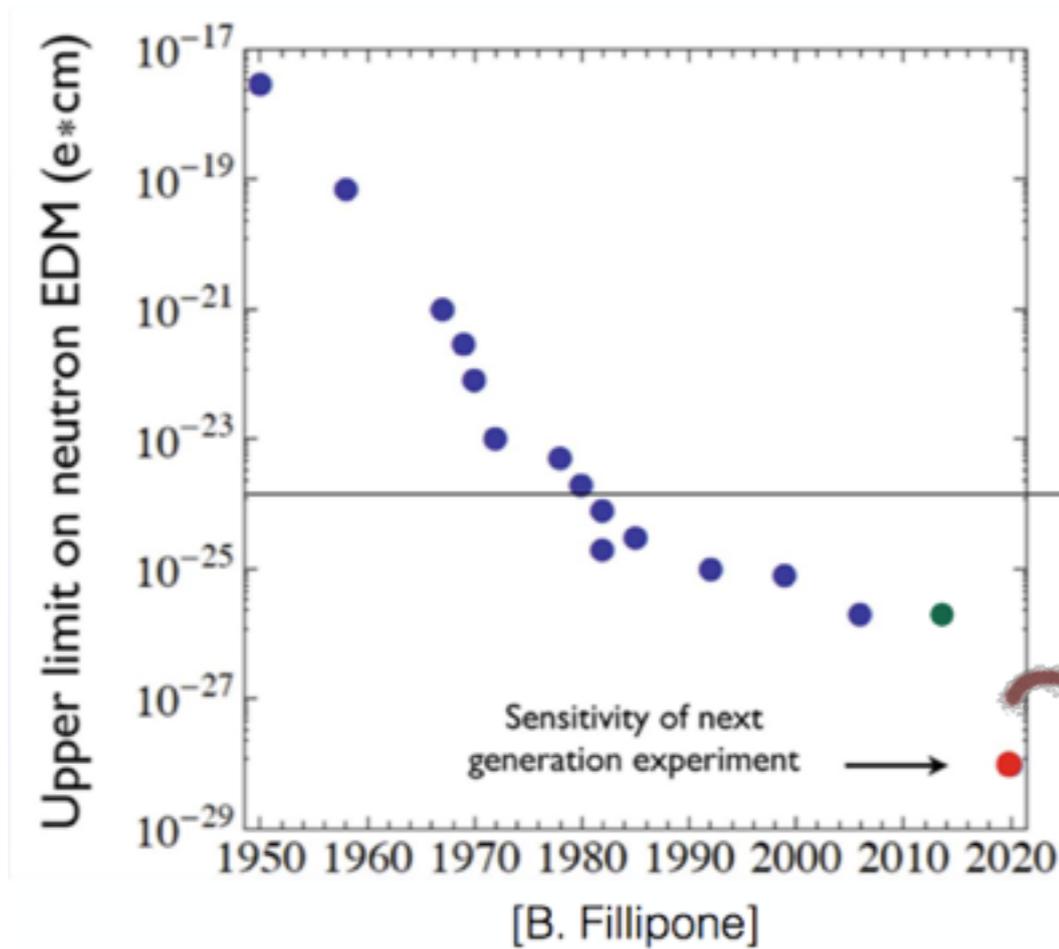
Why is the QCD θ parameter so small?

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} \supset \theta G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}$$

STRONG CP PROBLEM

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu} + \frac{g^2\theta}{32\pi^2}G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a\mu\nu} + \bar{q}Mq$$

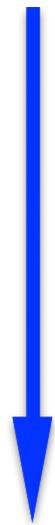
the only physical parameter is $\bar{\theta} = \theta + \arg \det M$



$$\bar{\theta} < 10^{-10}$$

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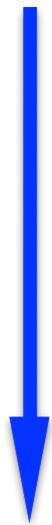
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A dynamical $U(1)_A$ solution

→ **the axion a**

It is a pGB: ~only derivative couplings

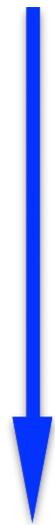
$$\partial_\mu a$$

Also excellent DM candidate

Peccei+Quinn; Wilczek...

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**An axion a is any Goldstone Boson of a global U(1)
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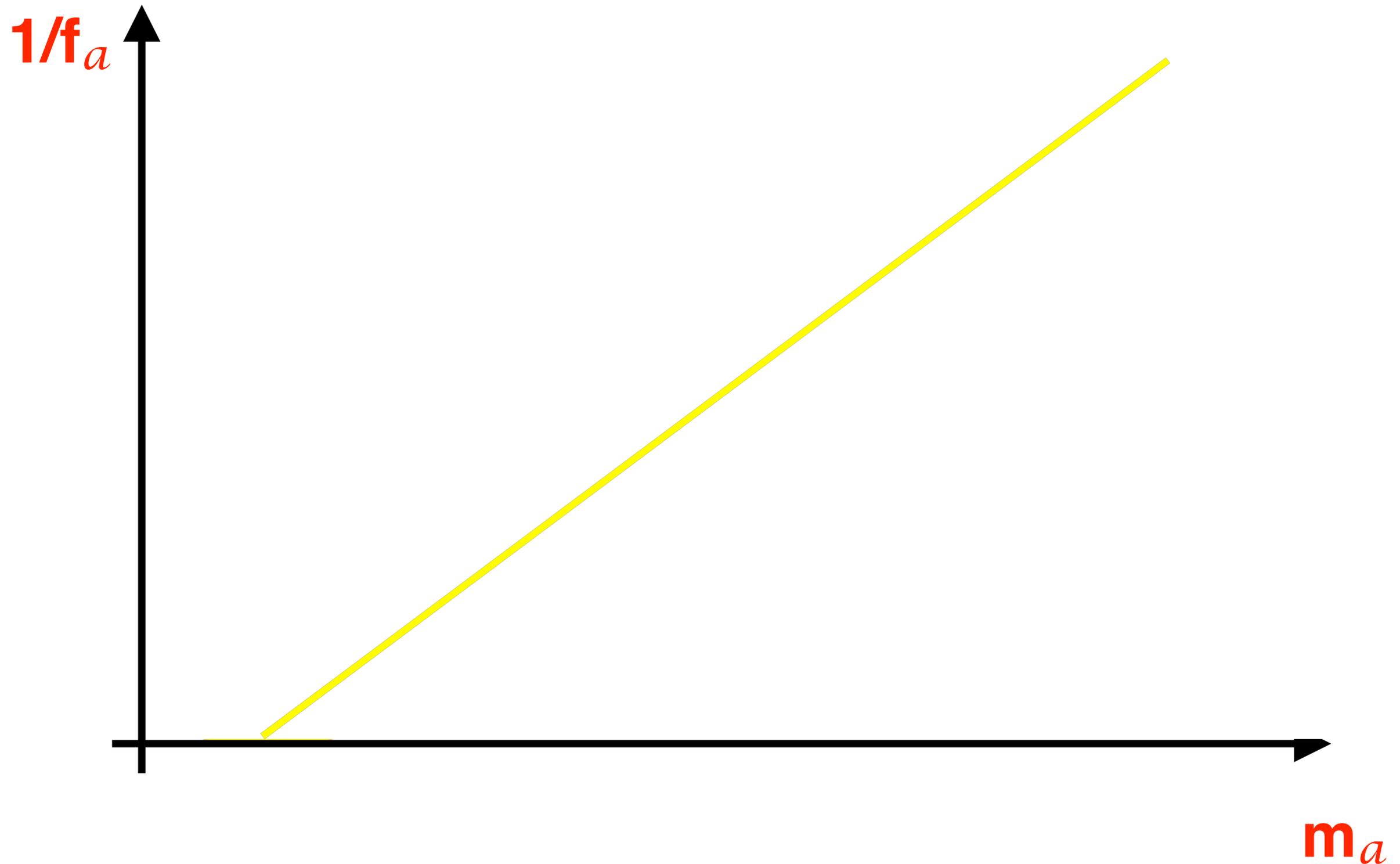
a can be elementary or composite (= dynamical)

pseudo-
↓
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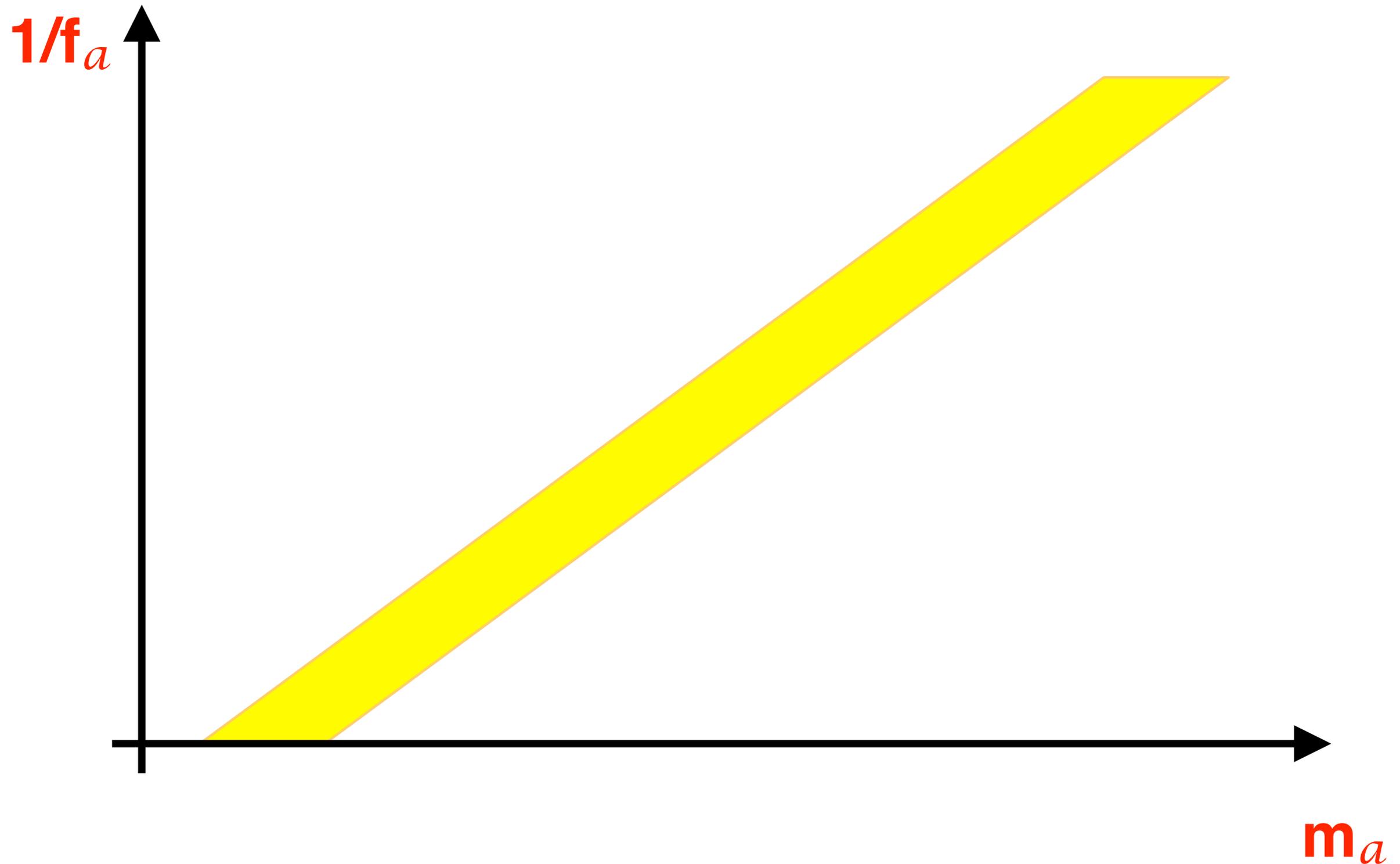
In “true axion” models (= which solve the strong CP problem):

$$m_a f_a = \text{cte.}$$



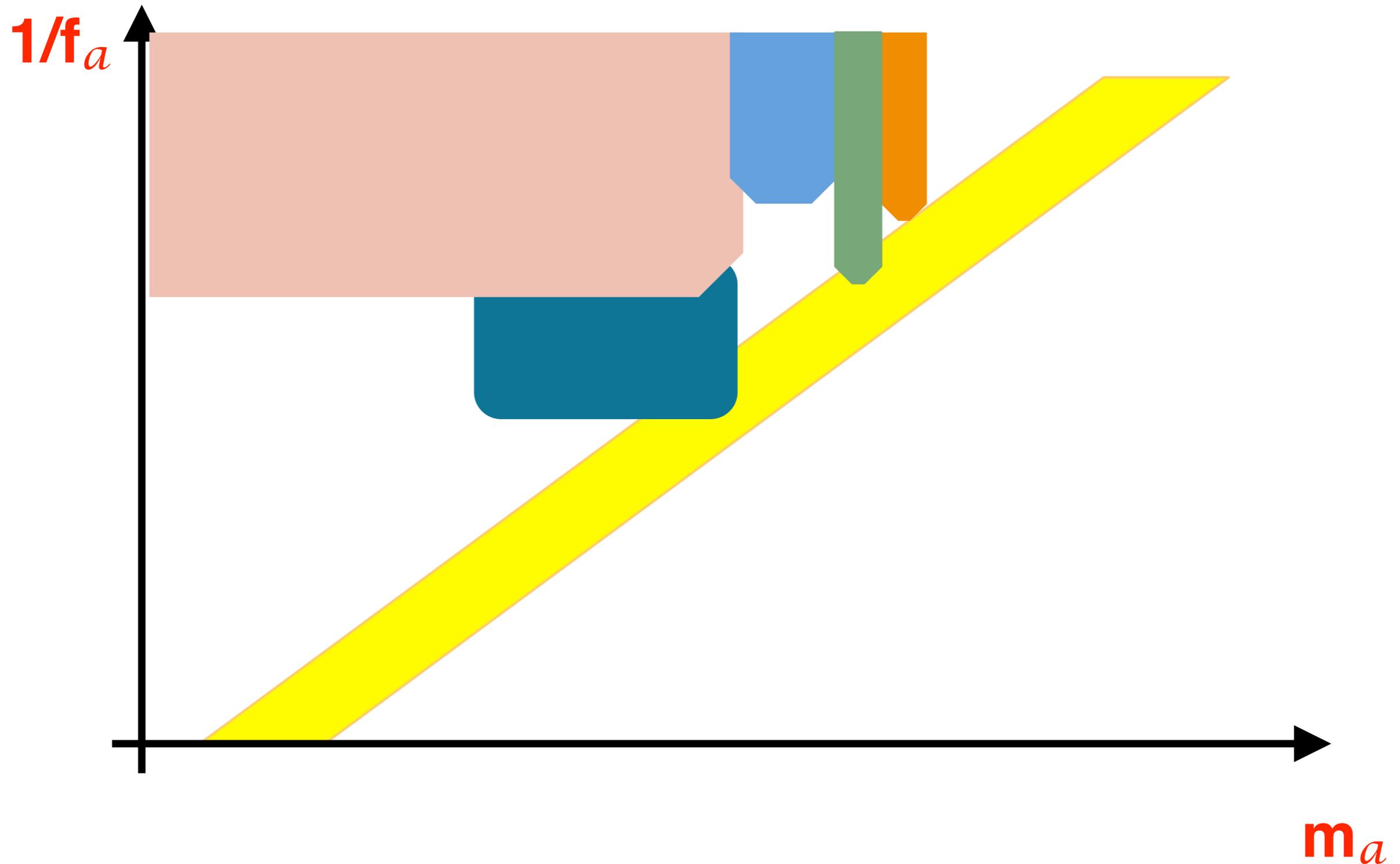
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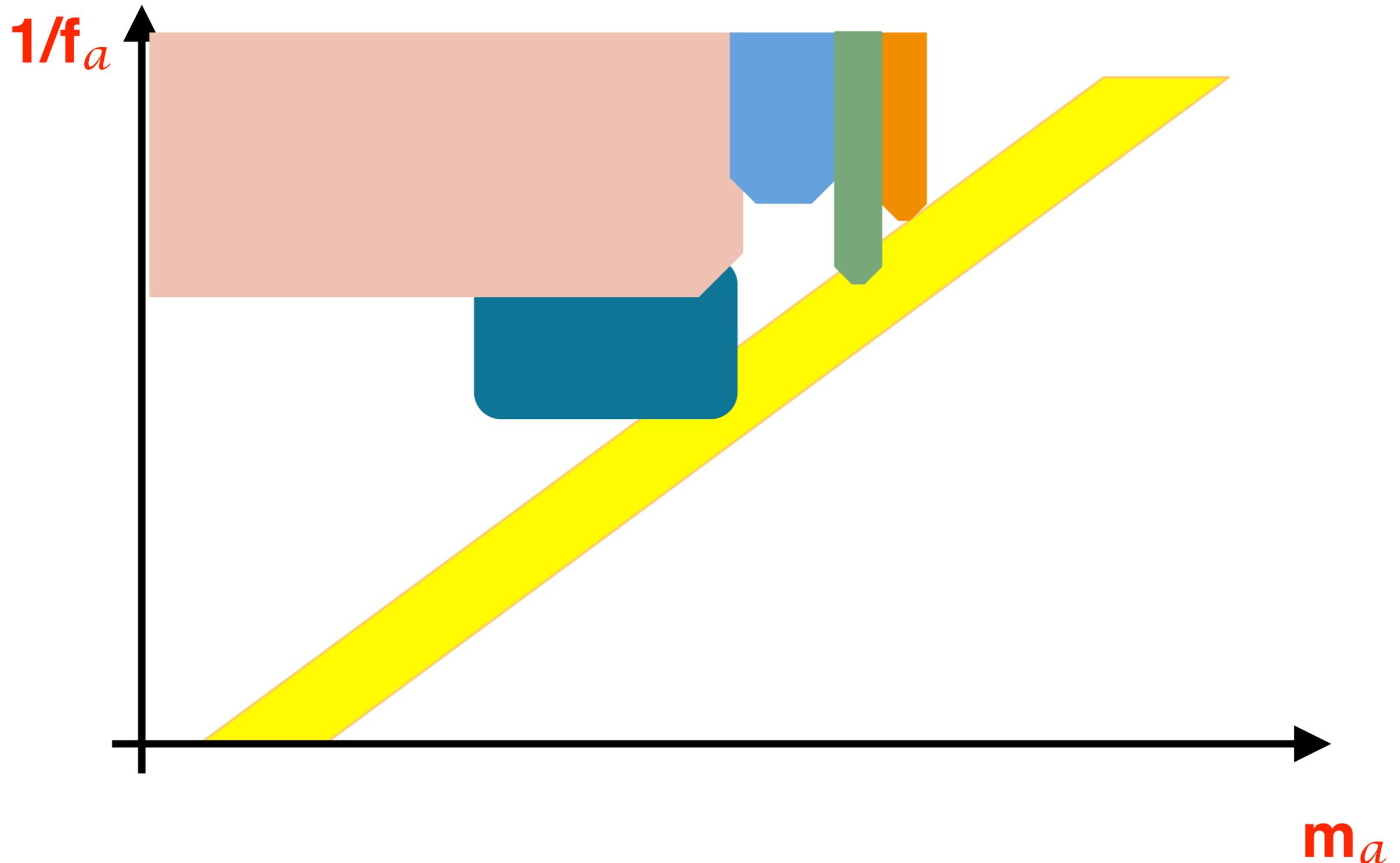
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The value of the constant is determined by the strong gauge group

m_a vs scale f_a

$$g_a \sim 1/f_a$$

In QCD-like theory $m_a^2 \neq 0$ because of explicit $U(1)_A$ breaking at quantum level (instantons, Λ)

$$m_a^2 f_a^2 = \frac{\Lambda^4}{1 + \Lambda^4 / (2m_q \langle \bar{\Psi}\Psi \rangle)}$$

$\Lambda \gg m_q$ $m_q \langle \bar{\Psi}\Psi \rangle \simeq m_\pi^2 f_\pi^2$ **QCD**

$\Lambda \ll m_q$ Λ^4

Choi et al. 1986

The “invisible axion” mass versus the η'_{QCD} mass

ANY model with only the SM QCD gauge group has to obey:

$$m_a^2 f_a^2 \sim m_\pi^2 f_\pi^2 \frac{m_u m_d}{(m_u + m_d)^2}$$

which in the limit $m_q \rightarrow 0$ vanishes

The reason is that there is only one anomalous current

$$G_c \tilde{G}_c \quad (\text{of QCD}) \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$$

for two singlet (pseudo) Goldstone bosons coupling to it:

$$\eta'_{\text{QCD}} \quad a$$

\rightarrow one must remain (almost) massless

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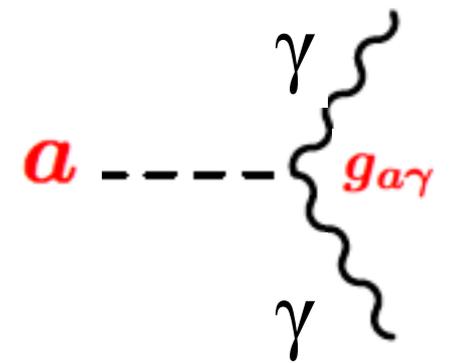
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$$10^{-5} < m_a < 10^{-2} \text{ eV} , \quad 10^9 < f_a < 10^{12} \text{ GeV}$$

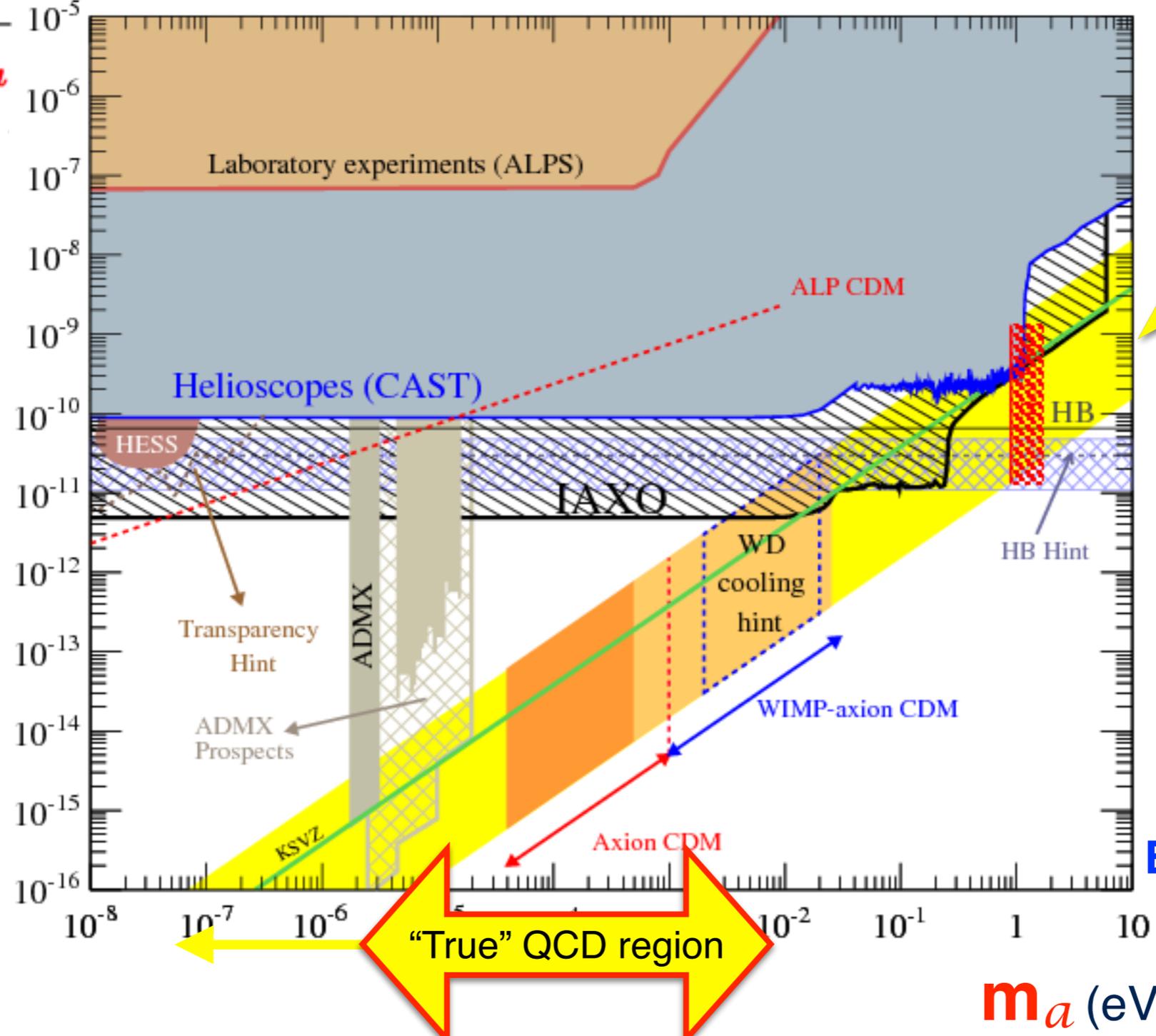
Because of SN and hadronic data, if axions light enough to be emitted (and $m_a f_a = \text{cte.}$)

“Invisible axion”

Intensely looked for experimentally...



$$g_{a\gamma} \sim \frac{\alpha}{8\pi f_a} \quad (\text{GeV}^{-1})$$



“True” QCD axion band

||
“Invisible axion”
e.g. KSVZ, DFSZ...

$$v \ll f_a \rightarrow$$

EW hierarchy problem

... and theoretically

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* **Models enlarging the strong SM gauge sector, with scale Λ' ?**

Dimopoulos+Susskind 79, Tye 81...Rubakov 97...Bereziani+Gianfagna+Gianotti 01... Hsu+Saninno 04...

Fukuda et al. 15.... Gherghetta+Nagata+Shifman, Chiang et al., Khobadize...

Hook and many collaborators, Dimopoulos et al. ...

2017: Agrawal+Howe....

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QCD

$\Lambda \gg m_q$ (top branch) $\Lambda \ll m_q$ (bottom branch)

Λ^4

Choi et al. 1986

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$$m_a^2 f_a^2 = \text{QCD part} + \text{extra} \quad ,$$

↑
extra source of instantons $G' \tilde{G}'$

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QCD

$\Lambda \gg m_q$ (upper branch)
 $\Lambda \ll m_q$ (lower branch)

Λ^4

Choi et al. 1986

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Λ^4 (circled in blue)

Choi et al. 1986

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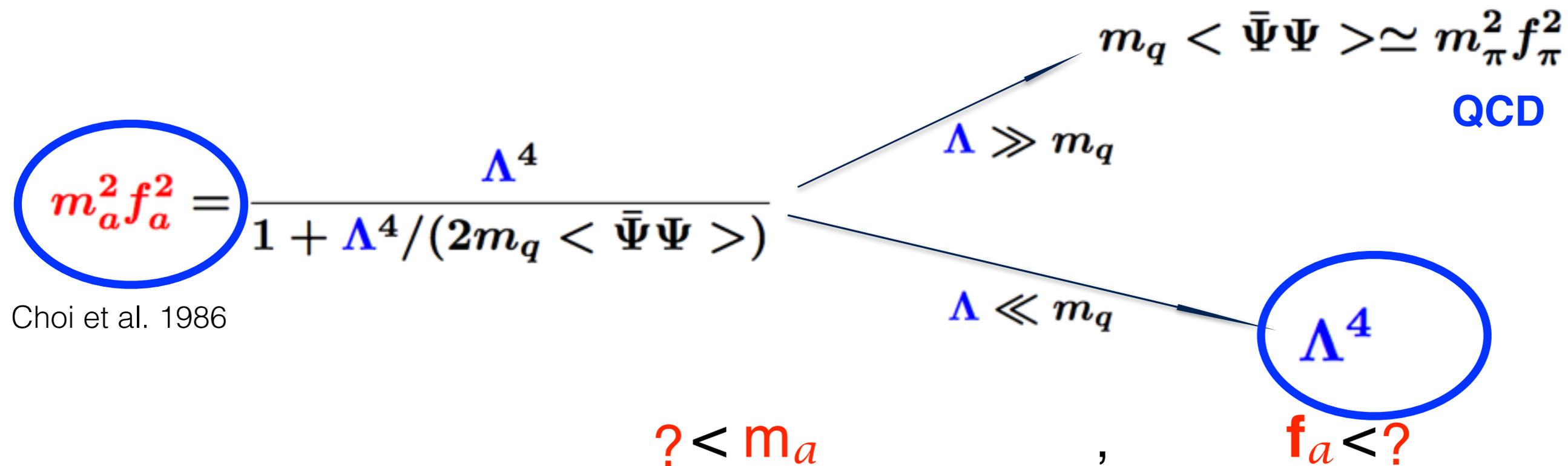
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Choi et al. 1986

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$$m_a^2 f_a^2 = m_\pi^2 f_\pi^2 + \Lambda'^4, \quad \Lambda' \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$$

relax the parameter space

Heavy axions

$m_a \neq 0$ due to explicit $U(1)_{PQ}$ breaking at QCD confinement scale Λ

$$\frac{a}{f_a} G \cdot \tilde{G} \quad \longrightarrow \quad m_a^2 f_a^2 = \frac{\Lambda^4}{1 + \Lambda^4 / (2m_q \langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle)}$$

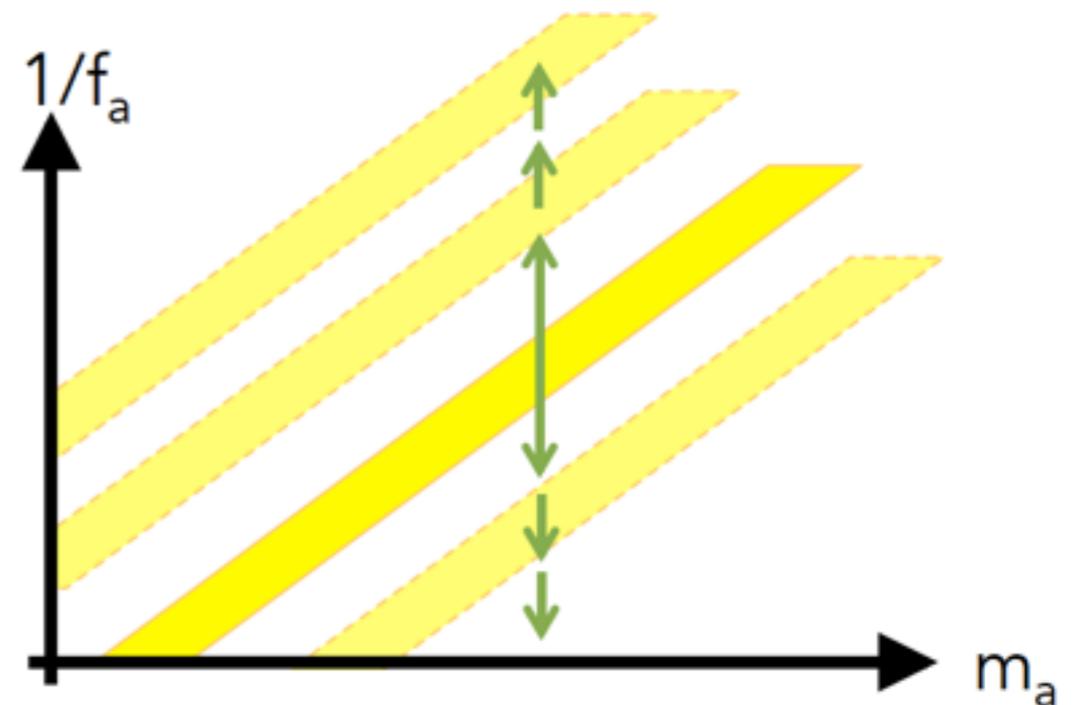
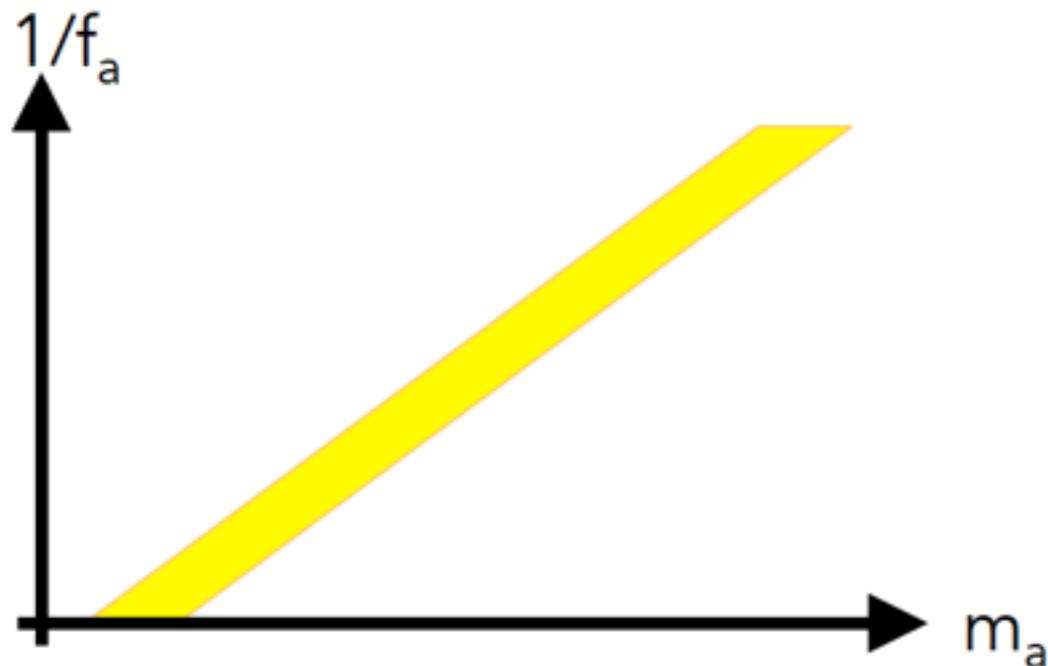
[Choi et al. 1966]

QCD: $\Lambda = \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$

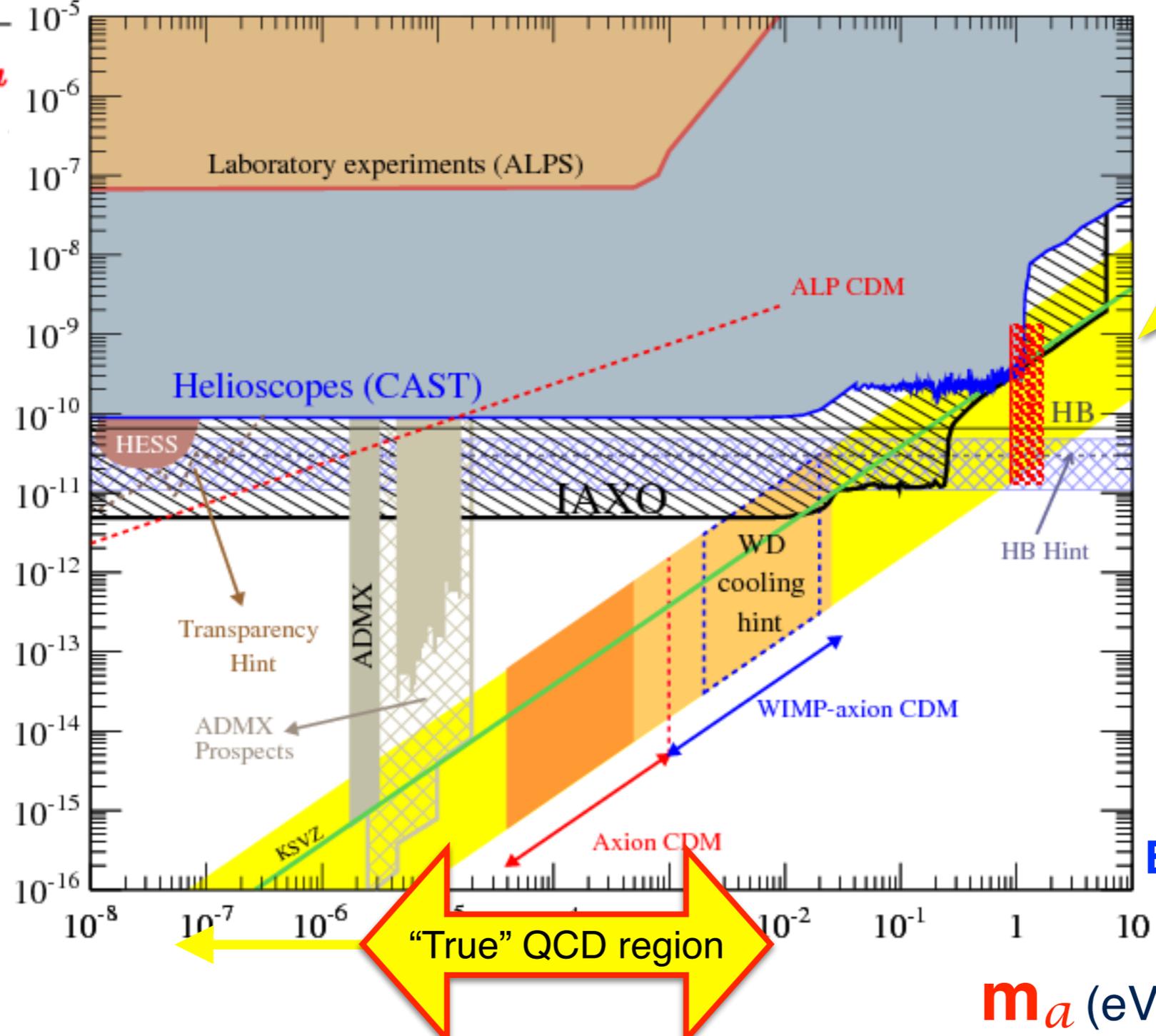
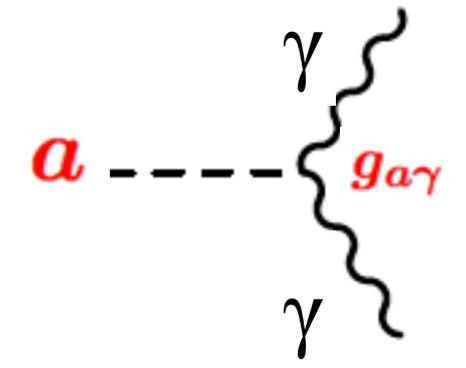
Extra confining group:
 $\Lambda = \Lambda' \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$

$$m_a^2 f_a^2 = m_q \langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle \simeq m_\pi^2 f_\pi^2$$

$$m_a^2 f_a^2 \sim \Lambda'^4$$



$$g_{a\gamma} \sim \frac{\alpha}{8\pi f_a} \quad (\text{GeV}^{-1})$$



“True” QCD axion band

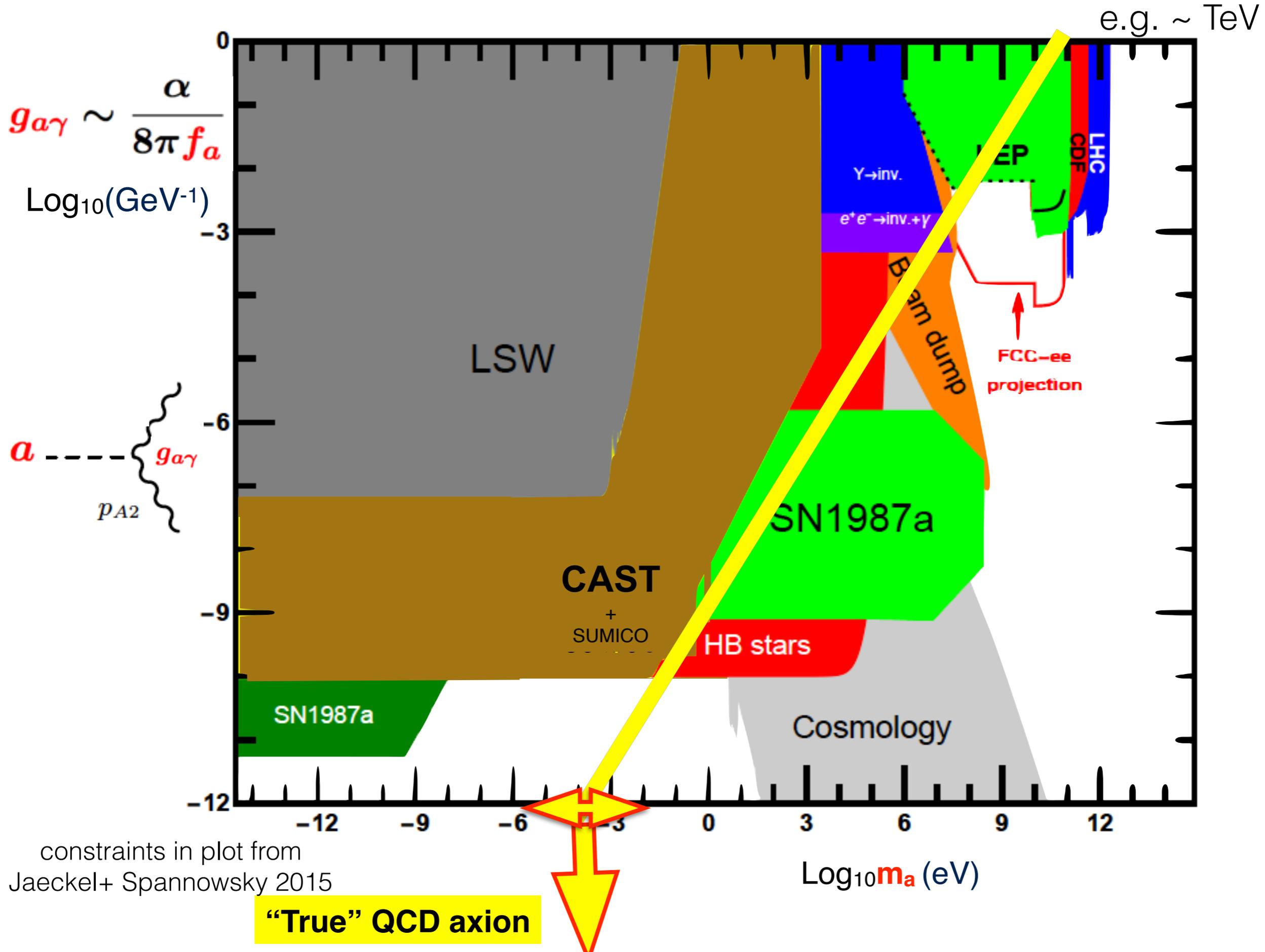
**“Invisible axion”
e.g. KSVZ, DFSZ...**

$v \ll f_a \rightarrow$
EW hierarchy problem

“True” QCD region

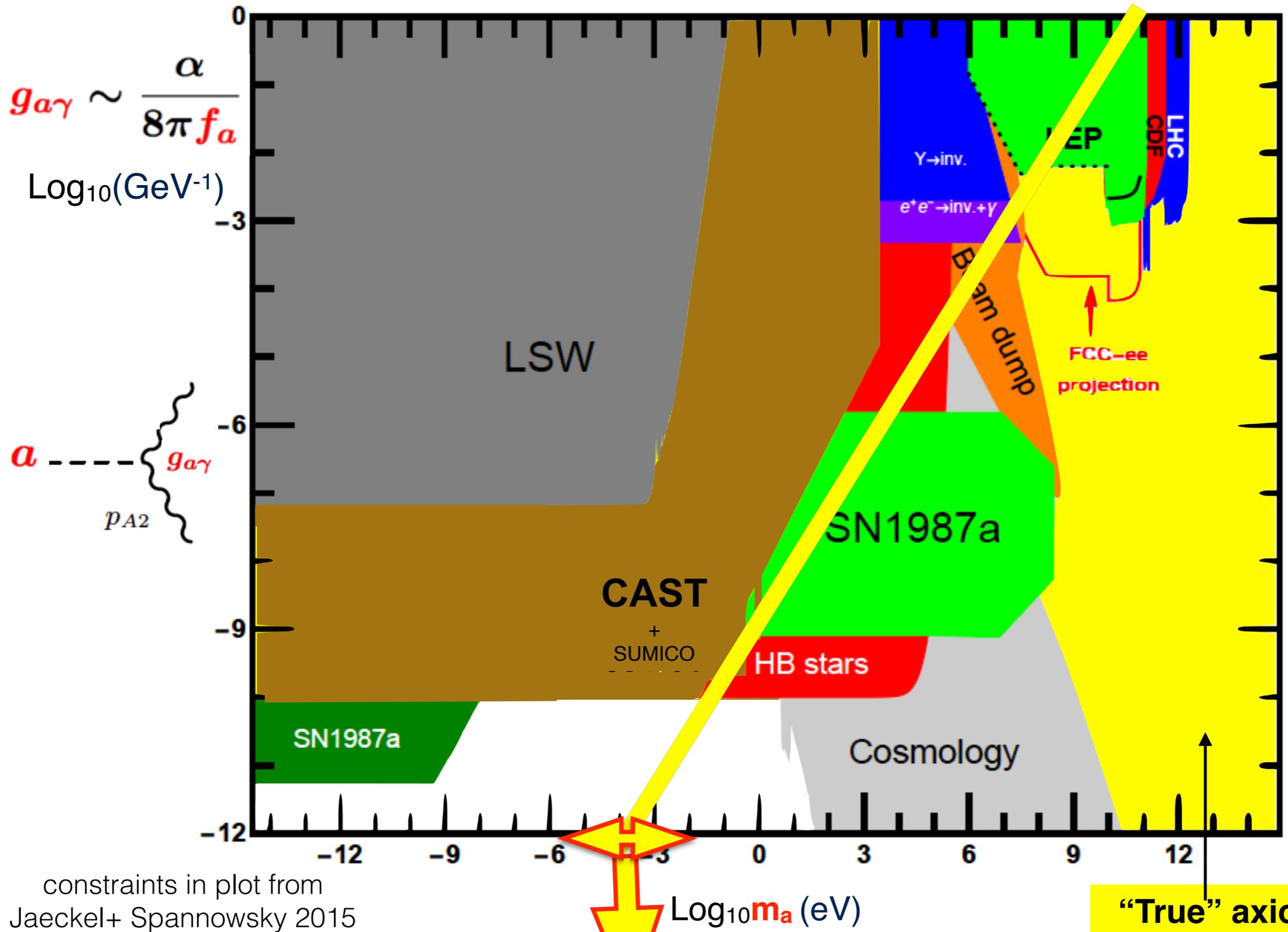
... let us zoom out

* Much territory to explore for heavy ‘true’ axions and for ALPs



constraints in plot from
Jaeckel+ Spannowsky 2015

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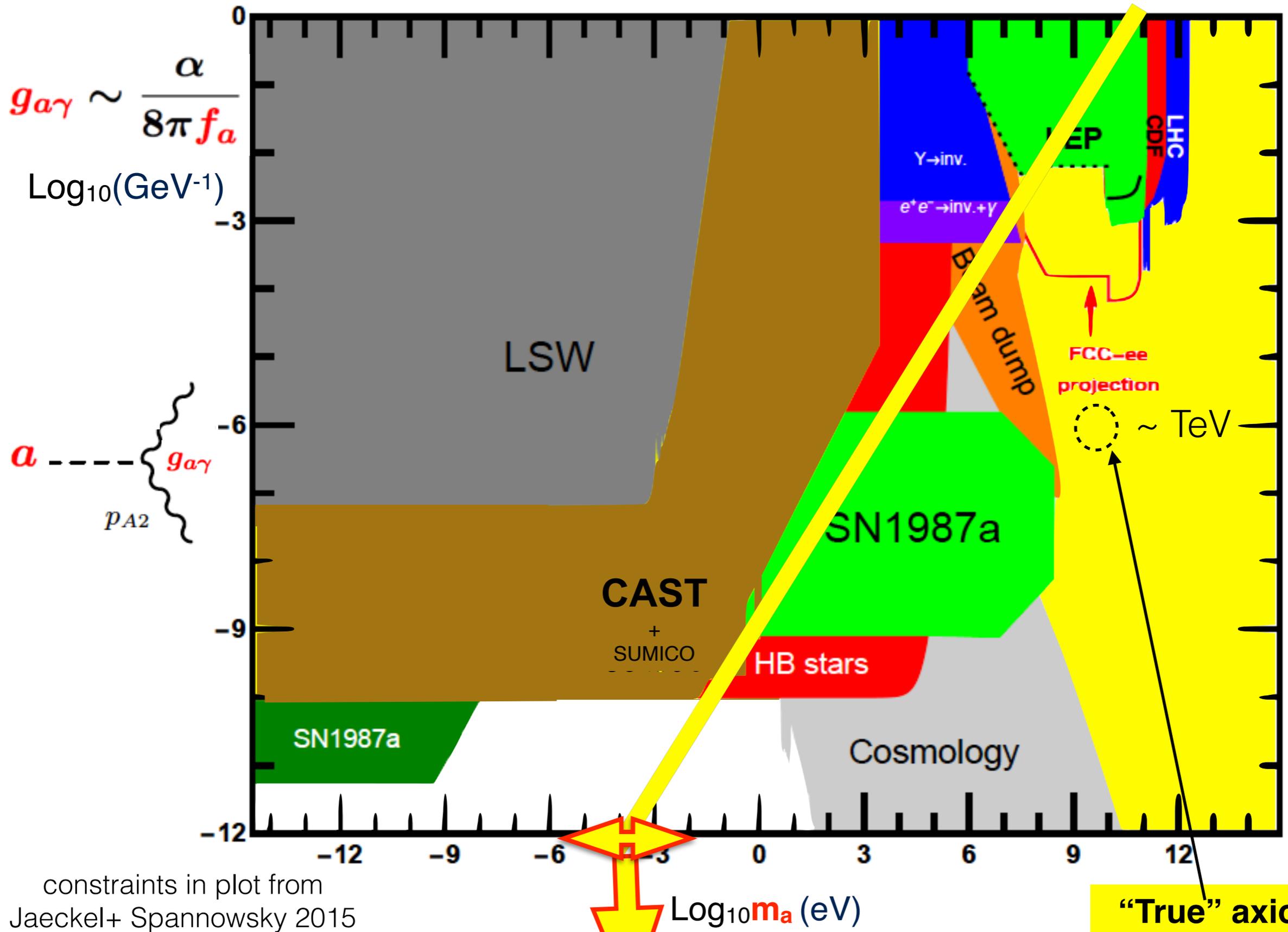


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“True” QCD axion

“True” axion region amplifies??

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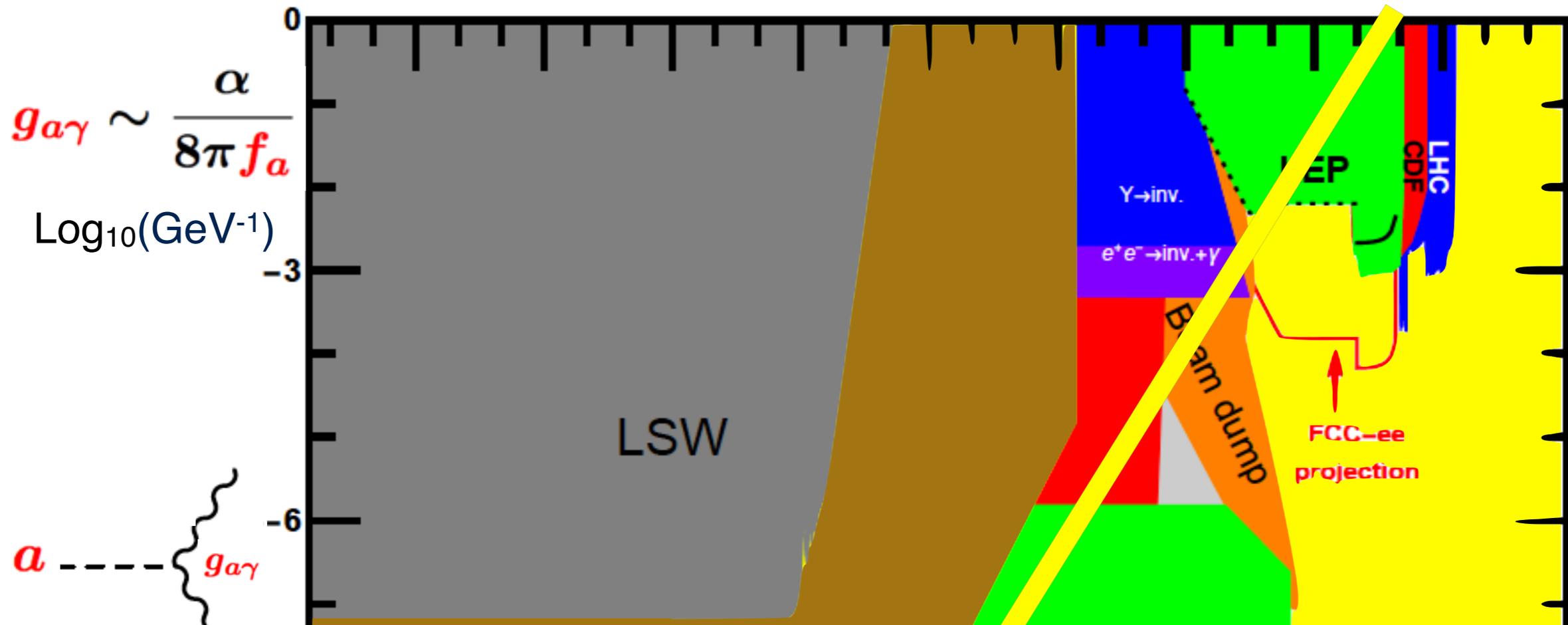


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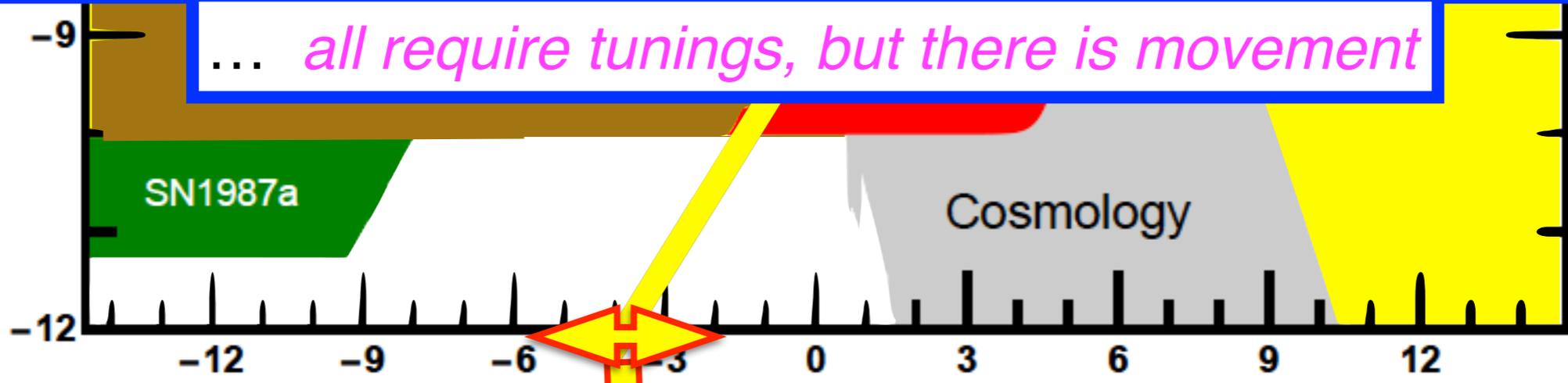
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—> e.g. $f_a \sim \text{TeV}$, $m_a \sim \text{MeV} - \text{TeV}$ still solve the strong CP problem

... all require tunings, but there is movement



constraints in plot from
Jaeckel+ Spannowsky 2015

“True” QCD axion

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A COLOR-UNIFIED DYNAMICAL AXION

New model to solve the SM strong CP problem, with heavy axions

First colour-unified model with massless quarks

Strong CP Problem and Massless Quarks

Under a chiral rotation:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} &\ni -m_q \bar{q}q - \theta \frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} G\tilde{G} \\ &\rightarrow -m_q \bar{q}e^{2i\gamma_5\alpha}q - (\theta - 2\alpha) \frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} G\tilde{G}\end{aligned}$$

If $m_q = 0$, then this rotation is just a shift $\theta \rightarrow \theta - 2\alpha$

$m_q = 0 \rightarrow U(1)_A$ classically exact

+ only broken by anomalies

van 't Hooft. "Computation of the Quantum Effects Due to a Four-Dimensional Pseudoparticle" Phys. Rev. D14 (1976)

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e.g. $m_u=0 \rightarrow \eta'_{\text{QCD}}$ is the axion

..... this SM solution does not seem to be realised (?)

van't Hooft. "Computation of the Quantum Effects Due to a Four-Dimensional 'seudoparticle'" Phys. Rev. D14 (1976)

Axicolor

K. Choi, J.E. Kim, "Dynamical axion" 1985

Massless quark charged under QCD and another confining group

$$\mathbf{SU(3)_c \times SU(\tilde{N})}$$

$$\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \ll \tilde{\Lambda}$$

need to reabsorb θ_c and $\tilde{\theta}$

Massless quark content

* When $SU(\tilde{N})$ confines:

$$SU(4)_L \times SU(4)_R \rightarrow SU(4)_V$$

$$15 = 8 + 3 + \bar{3} + 1$$

$$U(1)_L \times U(1)_R \rightarrow U(1)_V$$

the $\tilde{\eta}' : 1$

	$SU(3)_c$	$SU(\tilde{N})$
ψ	\square	\square
χ	$\underline{1}$	\square

two singlets + η'_{QCD}
vs.

two instanton sources:

→ one $m \sim 0$ invisible axion and very high f_a

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two singlets + η'_{QCD}
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two instanton sources:

$$\eta'_\chi = (\bar{\chi}\chi)$$

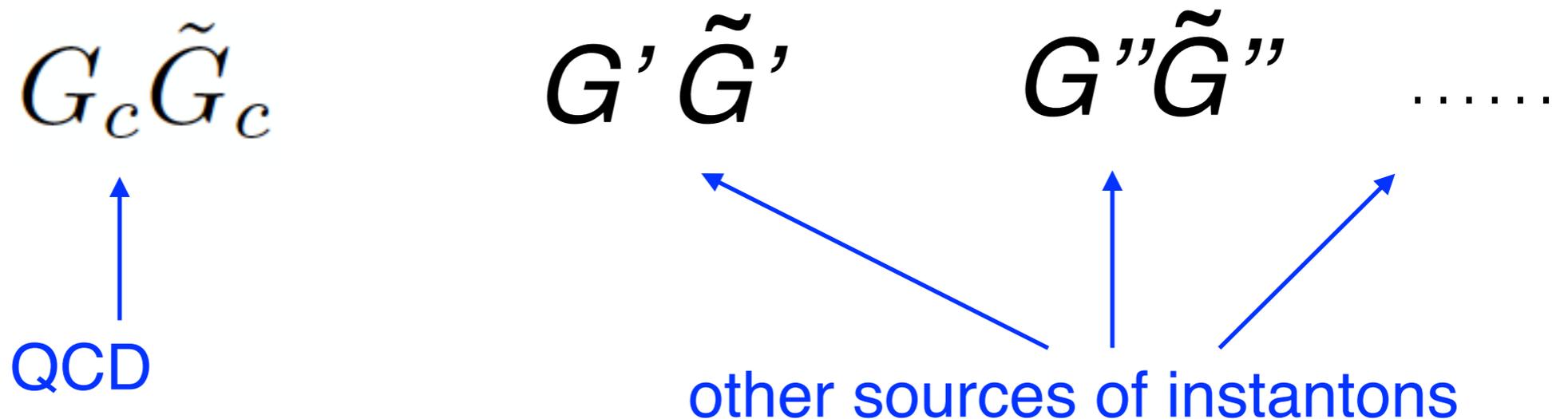
→ one $m \sim 0$ invisible axion and very high f_a

To know whether how heavy are the axion(s) of your BSM theory

Compare the number of pseudoscalars-coupled to anomalous currents:

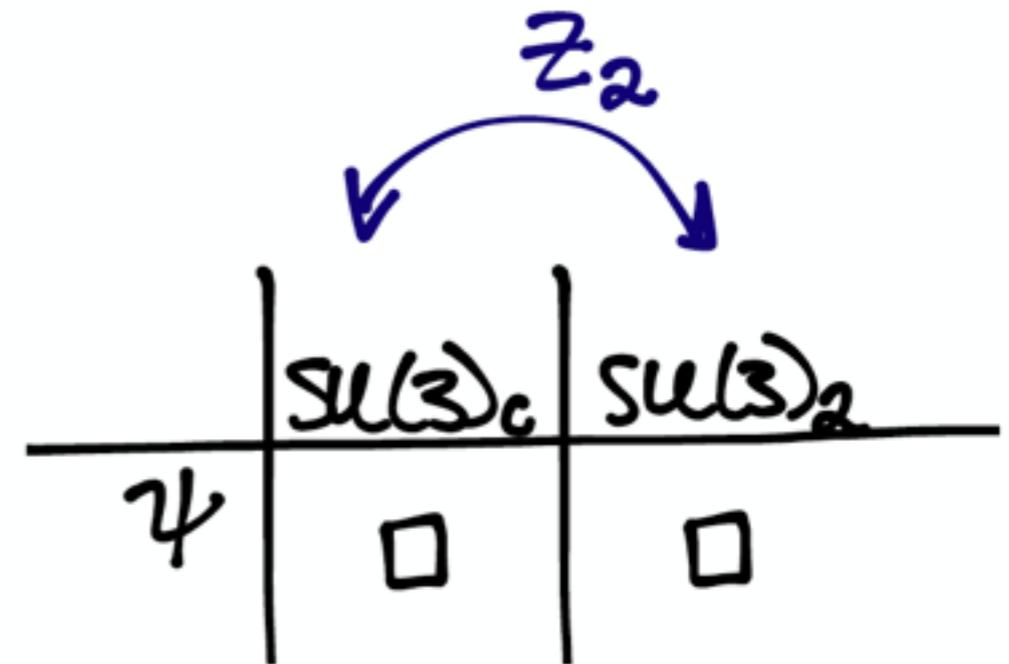
η'_{QCD} a_1 a_2 a_3

with how many sources of (instanton) masses



Massless Quarks and a Z_2

- ❖ Only one massless quark
- ❖ Complete Z_2 copy of the SM
- ❖ The $SU(3)_2$ θ -angle doesn't introduce new CP violating effects



A. Hook, "Anomalous solutions to the strong CP problem," Phys. Rev. Lett. 114 (2015)

→ only one dynamical axion, heavy

- ❖ Set up one Higgs VEV to be very large:

$$v_2 \gg v \quad \longrightarrow \quad m'_q \gg m_q \quad \longrightarrow \quad \Lambda'_{QCD} \gg \Lambda_{QCD}$$

it requires a complete mirror of SM and strong fine-tunings

Colour Unified Dynamical Axion

M.K. Gaillard, M.B. Gavela, P. Quilez, R. Houtz, R. del Rey

[arXiv:1805.06465](https://arxiv.org/abs/1805.06465)

$$SU(6) \supset SU(3)_c \times SU(\tilde{3})$$

Confinement scales: Λ_{QCD} $\tilde{\Lambda}$

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$\theta_c = \tilde{\theta} = \theta_6$

Confinement scales: Λ_{QCD} $\tilde{\Lambda}$

Solve strong CP problem with massless SU(6) fermion

We aim at $\tilde{\Lambda} \sim \text{TeV} \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$

Colour Unified Dynamical Axion

$$SU(6) \xrightarrow{\Lambda_{\text{CUT}}} SU(3)_c \times SU(\tilde{3}) \times U(1)$$

- ❖ The massless quark to absorb the unified group's θ_6

	$SU(6)$	$SU(2)_L$	$U(1)_Y$
Ψ_L	20	1	0

- ❖ Below unification scale:

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi(20) \rightarrow & (1, 1)(-3) + (1, 1)(+3) \\ & + (3, \bar{3})(-1) + (\bar{3}, 3)(+1) \end{aligned}$$

	$SU(3)_c$	$SU(\tilde{3})$
ψ_L	\square	$\bar{\square}$
$(\psi^c)_L$	$\bar{\square}$	\square
ψ_{ν_1}	1	1
ψ_{ν_2}	1	1

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Ψ_L	20	1	0

- ❖ Below unification scale:

Confined by $\tilde{\Lambda} \gg \Lambda$

+

Sterile neutrinos

	$SU(3)_c$	$SU(\tilde{3})$
ψ_L	\square	$\bar{\square}$
$(\psi^c)_L$	$\bar{\square}$	\square
ψ_{ν_1}	1	1
ψ_{ν_2}	1	1

Colour Unified Dynamical Axion

$$SU(6) \xrightarrow{\Lambda_{\text{CUT}}} SU(3)_c \times SU(\tilde{3}) \times U(1)$$

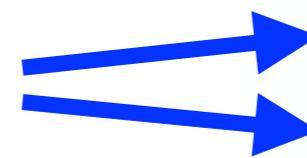
- ❖ The massless quark to absorb the unified group's θ_6

	$SU(6)$	$SU(2)_L$	$U(1)_Y$
Ψ_L	20	1	0

- ❖ Below unification scale:

we would have one massive dynamical axion

$$\eta'_\psi = (\bar{\psi}\psi)$$



	$SU(3)_c$	$SU(\tilde{3})$
ψ_L	\square	$\bar{\square}$
$(\psi^c)_L$	$\bar{\square}$	\square
ψ_{ν_1}	1	1
ψ_{ν_2}	1	1

The SM fermions

There is a problem: SM quarks have now SU(6) partners

$$Q_L^{(6)} \equiv \begin{array}{c} \text{SM} \\ \downarrow \\ (q, \tilde{q})_L \end{array} \quad U_R^{(6)} \equiv \begin{array}{c} \text{SM} \\ \downarrow \\ (u, \tilde{u})_R \end{array} \quad D_R^{(6)} \equiv \begin{array}{c} \text{SM} \\ \downarrow \\ (d, \tilde{d})_R \end{array}$$

1. Equal mass partners are phenomenologically forbidden

$$m_{\tilde{q}} > m_q \quad m_{\tilde{u}} > m_u \quad m_{\tilde{d}} > m_d$$

2. The partner fields need to decouple in order to separate the running of $SU(3)_c$ and $SU(\tilde{3})$

Removing the Unification Partners

Makes things difficult

$$Q_L^{(6)} \equiv (q, \tilde{q})_L$$

(Note: A red arrow points from the text 'Makes things difficult' to the $Q_L^{(6)}$ term. A blue arrow labeled 'SM' points from the q term to the text 'SM'.)

- ❖ Any scalar that gives $\tilde{q}, \tilde{u}, \tilde{d}$ a mass would have to be an $SU(2)_L$ doublet with a high VEV, affecting the W and Z bosons

$$\tilde{v} \gg v$$

- ❖ Leaving the quarks massless and in the theory when $SU(\tilde{3})$ confines would trigger EWSB at the confinement scale

$$\tilde{\Lambda} \gg v$$

➡ This requires more model building

Matter content above and below the CUT breaking

$$SU(6) \xrightarrow{\Lambda_{\text{CUT}}} SU(3)_c \times SU(\tilde{3})$$

	$SU(6)$	$SU(2)_L$		$SU(3)$	$SU(\tilde{3})$	$SU(2)_L$		
Q_L	\square	\square	$\xrightarrow{\Lambda_{\text{CUT}}}$	q_L	\square	$\mathbb{1}$	\square	} Goal: provide a mechanism for these fields to form mass terms
\bar{U}_R	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$		\bar{u}_R	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$	$\mathbb{1}$	
\bar{D}_R	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$		d_R	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$	$\mathbb{1}$	
Ψ	20	$\mathbb{1}$		\tilde{q}_L	$\mathbb{1}$	\square	\square	
				\tilde{u}_R	$\mathbb{1}$	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$	
				\tilde{d}_R	$\mathbb{1}$	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$	
				χ	\square	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$	
				$2\chi_\nu$	$\mathbb{1}$	$\mathbb{1}$	$\mathbb{1}$	

Matter content above and below the CUT breaking

Spoiler: we're going to introduce a new set of quarks to form mass terms with the tilde quarks

$$\kappa_q \overline{q'} \tilde{q}$$

$$\kappa_d \overline{d'} \tilde{d}$$

$$\kappa_u \overline{u'} \tilde{u}$$

	$SU(3)$	$SU(\tilde{3})$	$SU(2)_L$
q_L	□	1	□
\overline{u}_R	□	1	1
\overline{d}_R	□	1	1
\tilde{q}_L	1	□	□
\tilde{u}_R	1	□	1
\tilde{d}_R	1	□	1
ψ	□	□	1
$2\psi_\nu$	1	1	1

} Goal: provide a mechanism for these fields to form mass terms

A UV complete solution

Add a new group outside the CUT group

$$SU(6) \times SU(3') \xrightarrow{\Lambda_{\text{CUT}}} SU(3)_c \times SU(3)_{\text{diag}}$$

with prime fermions charged only under $SU(3')$

A UV complete solution

Add a new group outside the CUT group

$$SU(6) \times SU(3') \xrightarrow{\Lambda_{\text{CUT}}} SU(3)_c \times SU(3)_{\text{diag}}$$

with prime fermions charged only under $SU(3')$

	$SU(6)$	$SU(3')$	$SU(2)_L$
Q_L	\square	$\mathbb{1}$	\square
\bar{U}_R	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$	$\mathbb{1}$
\bar{D}_R	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$	$\mathbb{1}$
\bar{q}'_R	$\mathbb{1}$	$\bar{\square}$	\square
u'_L	$\mathbb{1}$	\square	$\mathbb{1}$
d'_L	$\mathbb{1}$	\square	$\mathbb{1}$
Ψ	20	$\mathbb{1}$	$\mathbb{1}$
Δ	\square	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$

❖ We can form terms like:

$$\bar{q}'_R \Delta^* Q_L$$

} These fields pair up with the tilde fields to form masses

← Scalar field responsible for CUT breaking

The CUT breaking

$$SU(6) \times SU(3') \xrightarrow{\Lambda_{\text{CUT}}} SU(3)_c \times SU(3)_{\text{diag}}$$

$$\mathcal{L} \ni \kappa_q \overline{q'_R} \Delta^* Q_L + \kappa_u u'_L \Delta \overline{U_R} + \kappa_d d'_R \Delta \overline{D_R} + \text{h.c.}$$

$$\langle \Delta \rangle = \Lambda_{\text{CUT}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \blacklozenge \text{ This VEV pattern grabs only the tilde quarks out of the spectrum}$$

$$\mathcal{L} \ni \Lambda_{\text{CUT}} \left(\kappa_q \overline{q'_R} \tilde{q}_L + \kappa_u u'_L \overline{\tilde{u}_R} + \kappa_d d'_L \overline{\tilde{d}_R} \right) + \text{h.c.}$$

- ★ This accomplishes the task of forming mass terms for the SU(6) partner fields $\tilde{q}, \tilde{u}, \tilde{d}$

The axion spectrum of the CUT theory

$$SU(6) \times SU(3')$$

θ_6

$\theta_{3'}$

two massless fermions so as to reabsorb both θ_6 and θ'

	$SU(6)$	$SU(3')$
Ψ	20	$\mathbb{1}$
χ	$\mathbb{1}$	\square

→ two dynamical axions with scale set by Λ_{diag} :

$$\eta'_\psi = (\bar{\psi}\psi)$$

$$\eta'_\chi = (\bar{\chi}\chi)$$

	$SU(6)$	$SU(3')$	$SU(2)_L$		$SU(3)$	$SU(3)_{diag}$	$SU(2)_L$
Ψ	20	1	1	$\xrightarrow{\Lambda_{CUT}}$	\square	$\bar{\square}$	1
χ	1	\square	1		1	\square	1
					24_ν	1	1

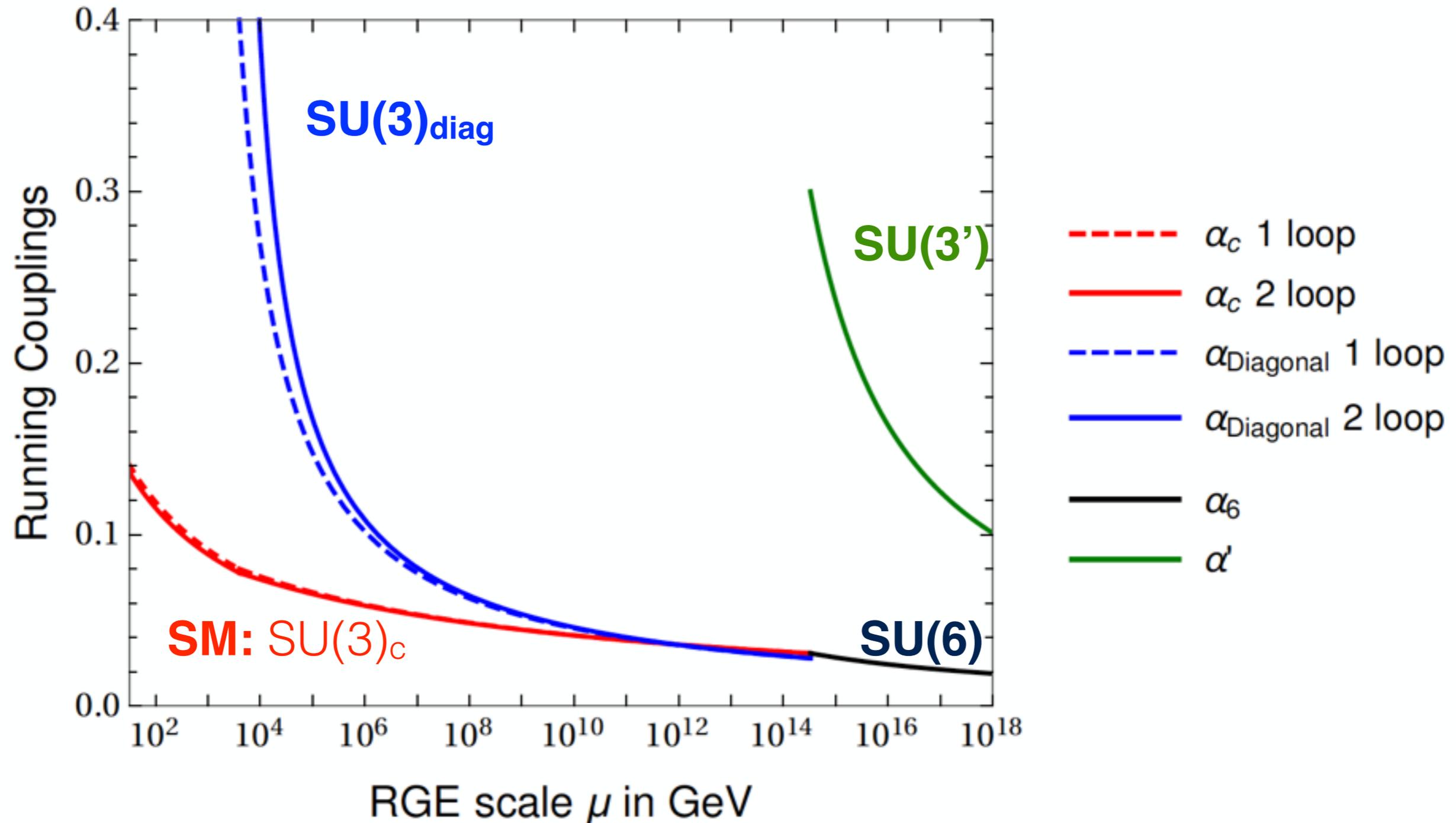
The two massless quarks

- Goal: $SU(3)_{diag}$ confines at a higher scale than $SU(3)_c$

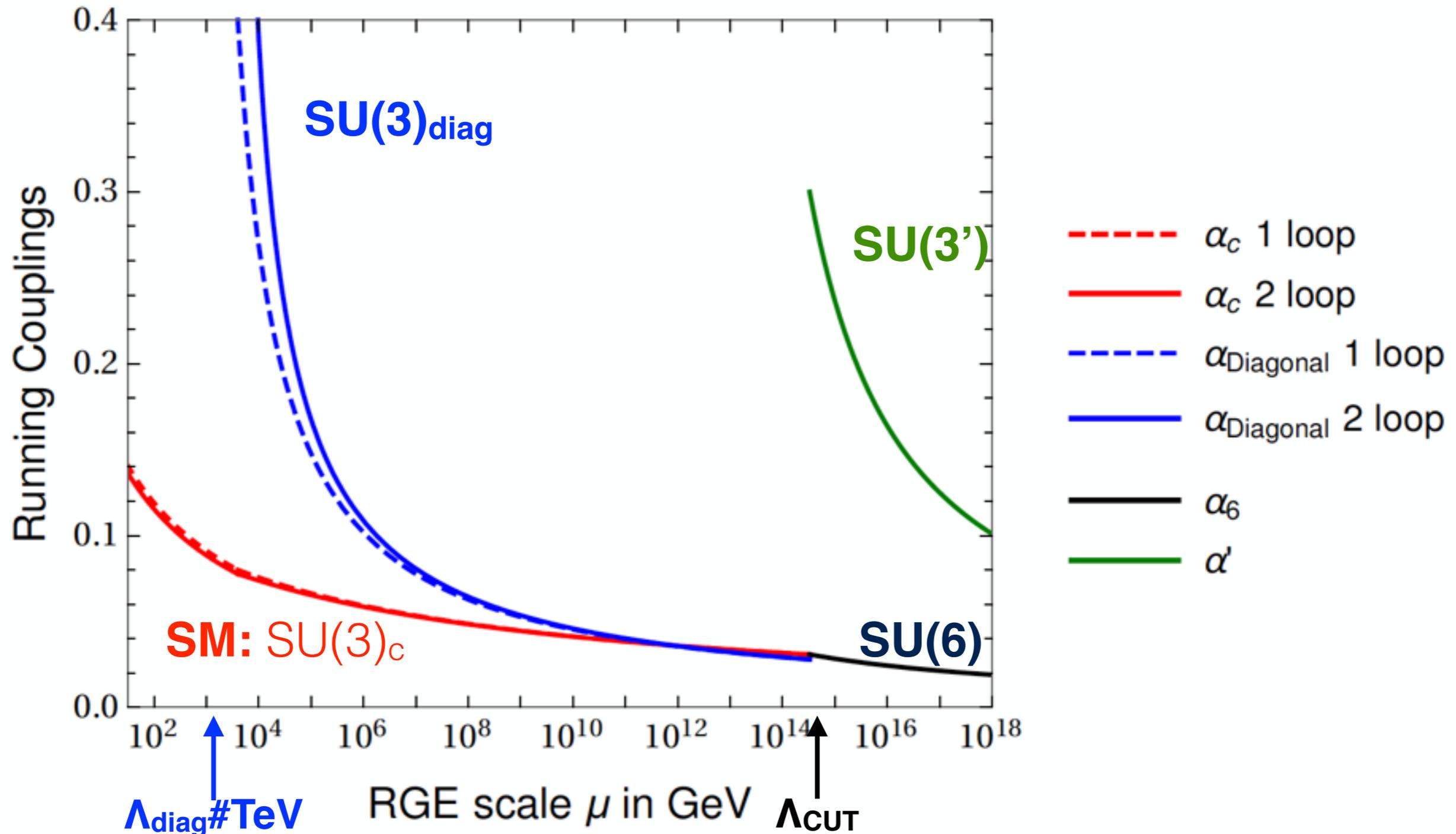
$$\frac{1}{\alpha_{diag}(\mu)} = \frac{1}{\alpha_6(\mu)} + \frac{1}{\alpha'(\mu)} \quad \mu = \Lambda_{CUT}$$

$$\alpha_c(\Lambda_{CUT}) = \alpha_6(\Lambda_{CUT})$$

Model I: Unification and Confinement



Model I: Unification and Confinement



Small Size Instantons (SSI) and Axion Mass

- Typically, at high energies (= small size) couplings are very small.
- The instanton density has an exponential suppression:

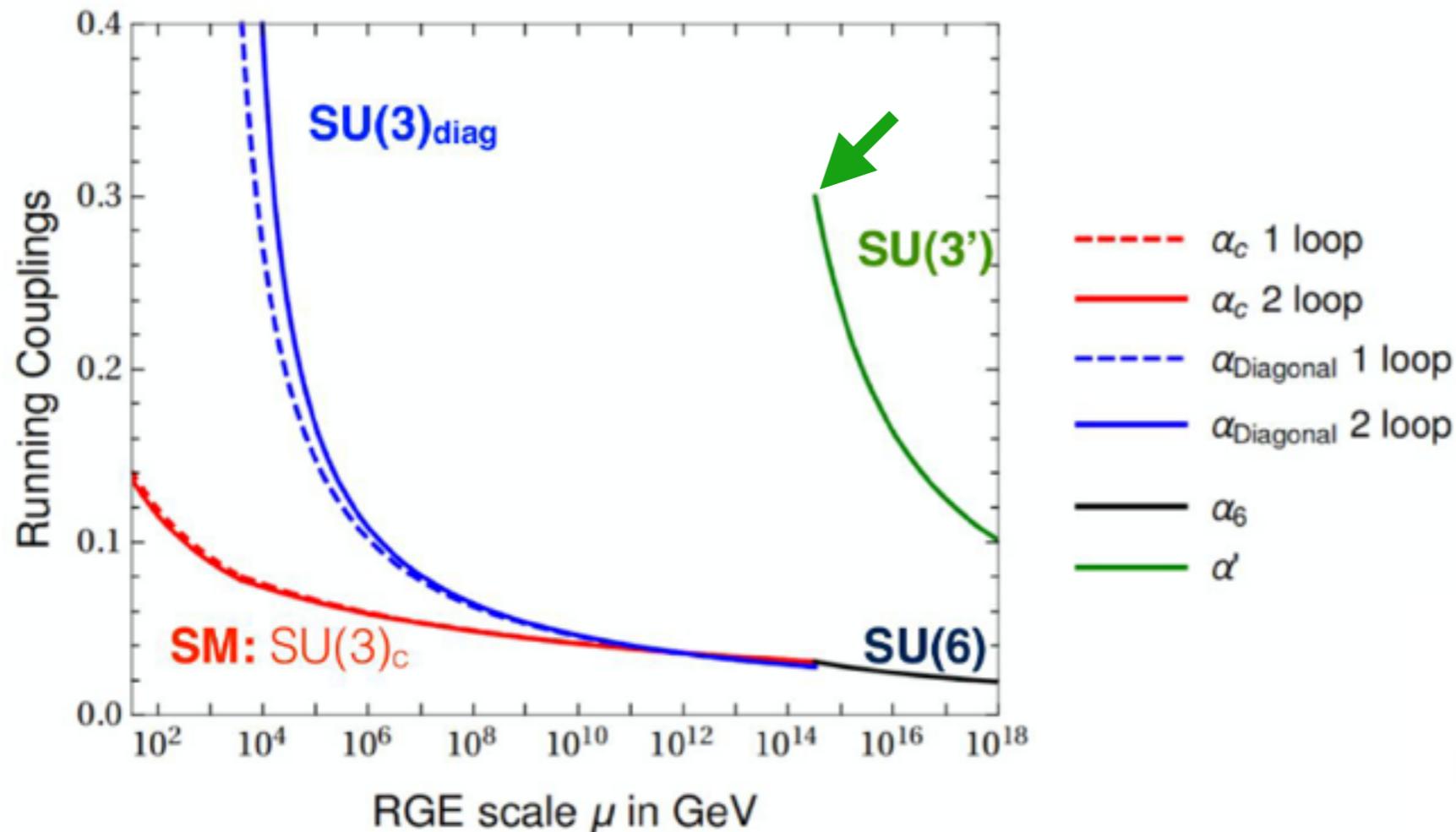
$$D[\alpha'(\mu)] \propto e^{-2\pi/\alpha'(\mu)}$$

Usually sizable only at the confinement scale

$$\left(e^{-2\pi/0.1} \sim 10^{-28} \right)$$

- New Physics can change the RG flow and induce a new source of axion mass

[Holdom+Peskin, 82]
 [Dine+Seiberg, 86]
 [Flynn+Randall, 87]
 [Agrawal+Howe, 17]



- Large coupling $\alpha' \sim 0.3$
- Large breaking scale

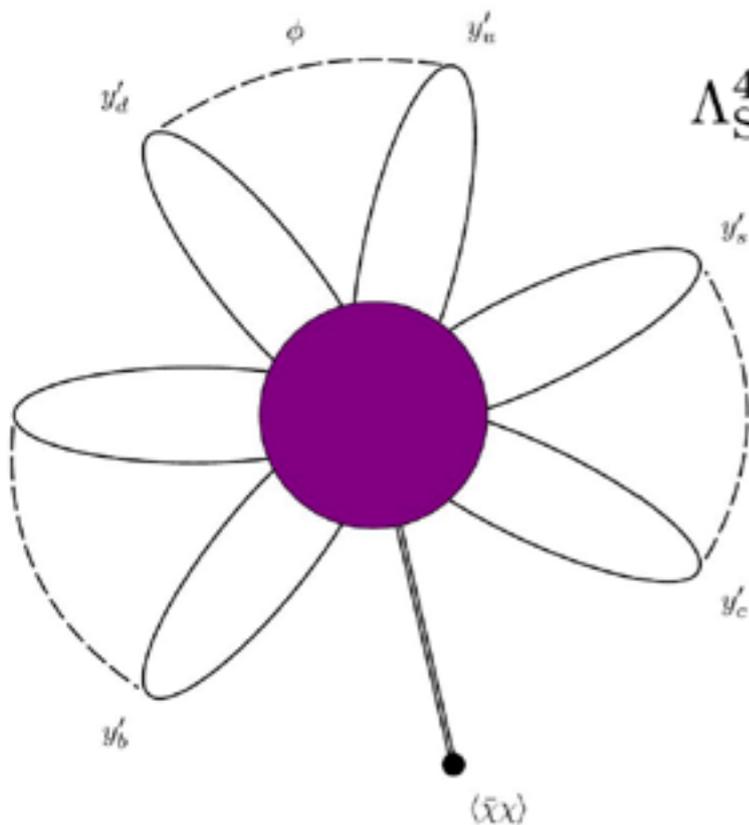
$$\Lambda_{CUT} \sim 10^{14-18} \text{ GeV}$$

New sizable contribution to the axion mass!!

Small Size Instantons (SSI) and Axion Mass

→ Dilute Instanton Gas approximation:

[t'Hooft, 73]
 [Callan+Dashen+Gross, 77]
 [Shifman+Vainshtein+Zakharov, 80]



$$\Lambda_{\text{SSI}}^4 = \underbrace{-C_{inst} \int \frac{d\rho}{\rho^5} \left(\frac{2\pi}{\alpha'(\rho)} \right)^{2N_c} e^{-2\pi/\alpha'(\rho)}}_{\text{Pure Yang-Mills Instanton}} \underbrace{\left(\frac{2}{3} \pi^2 \rho^3 \langle \bar{\chi} \chi \rangle \right) \frac{1}{(4\pi)^6} \prod_i y_u'^i y_d'^i}_{\text{Fermionic suppression}}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{eff} = \Lambda_{\text{SSI}}^4 \cos \left(2 \frac{\eta'_\chi}{f_d} \right)$$

$$\Lambda_{\text{SSI}} \gtrsim 20 \text{ TeV}$$

The effective potential for the three singlet pseudoscalars:

η'_{QCD} η'_{ψ} η'_{χ}

$$\mathcal{L}_{eff} = \Lambda_{\text{SSI}}^4 \cos\left(2 \frac{\eta'_{\chi}}{f_d}\right) + \Lambda_{\text{diag}}^4 \cos\left(2 \frac{\eta'_{\chi}}{f_d} + \sqrt{6} \frac{\eta'_{\psi}}{f_d}\right) + \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4 \cos\left(2 \frac{\eta'_{\text{QCD}}}{f_{\pi}} + \sqrt{6} \frac{\eta'_{\psi}}{f_d}\right)$$

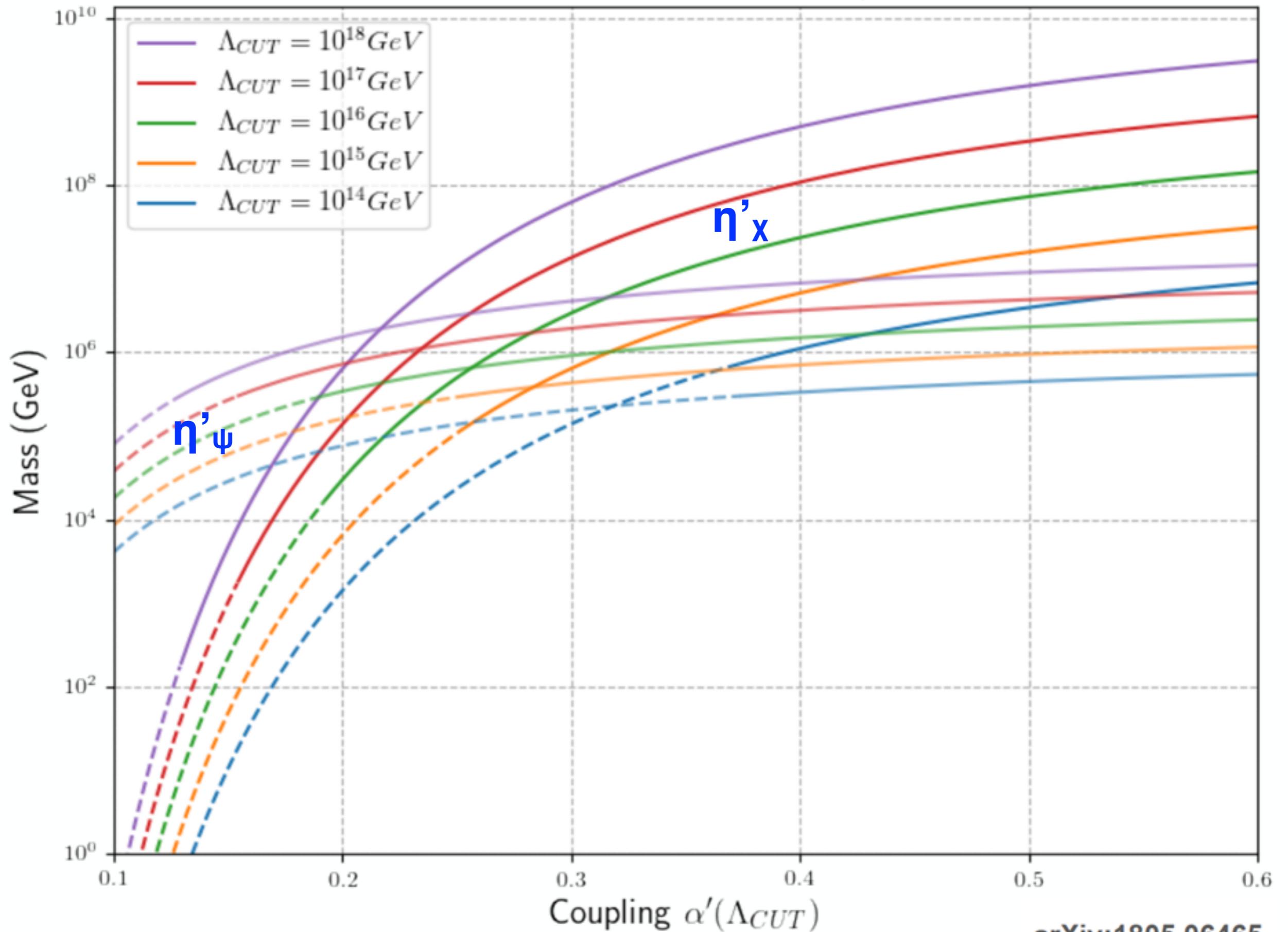
has three sources of mass \rightarrow two massive axions

Pseudoscalar potential and masses

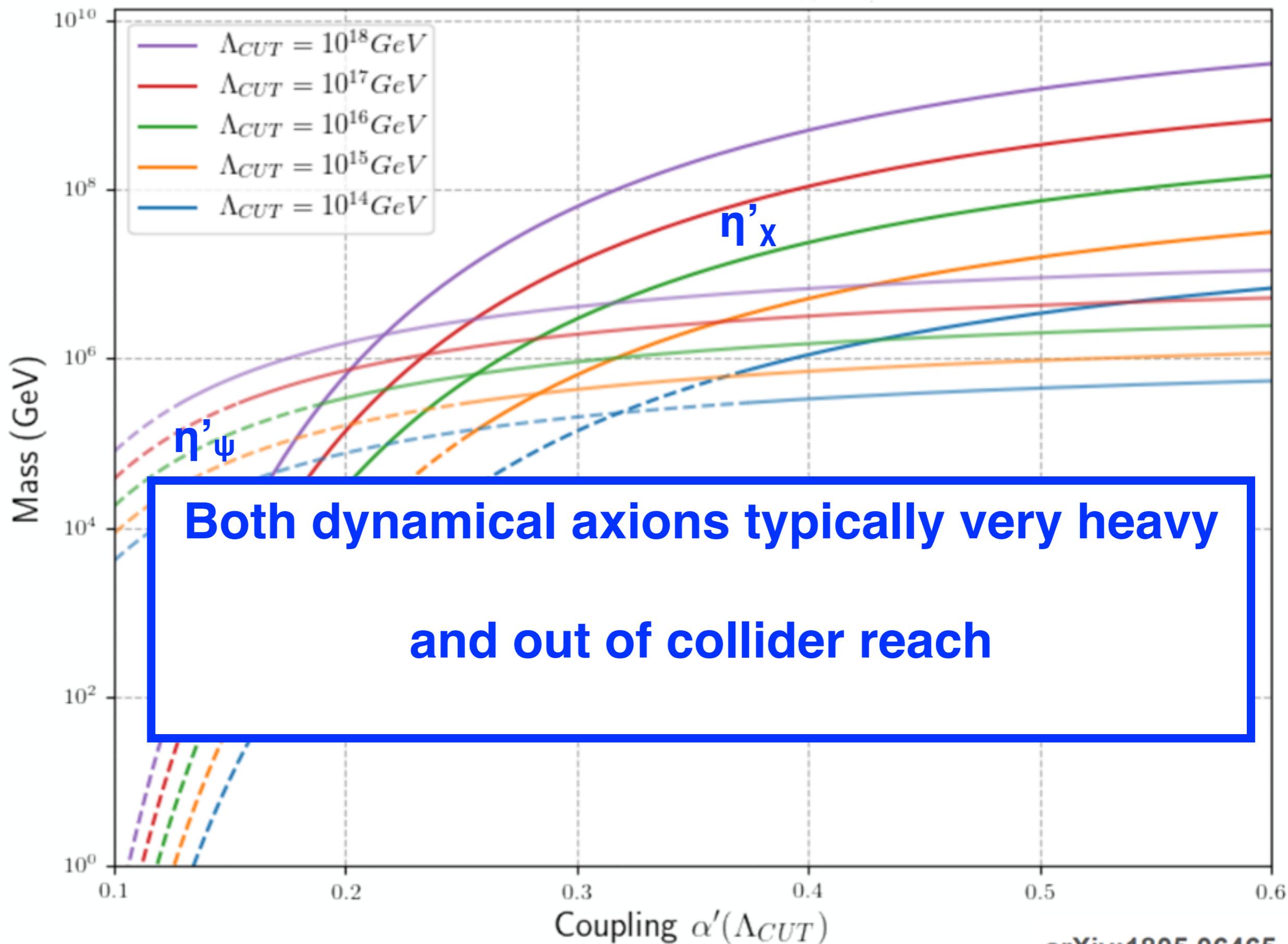
$$\mathcal{L}_{eff} = \underbrace{\Lambda_{\text{SSI}}^4 \cos\left(2 \frac{\eta'_\chi}{f_d}\right)}_{SU(3') \text{ SSI Instantons}} + \underbrace{\Lambda_{\text{diag}}^4 \cos\left(2 \frac{\eta'_\chi}{f_d} + \sqrt{6} \frac{\eta'_\psi}{f_d}\right)}_{SU(3)_{\text{diag}} \text{ Instantons at conf.}} + \underbrace{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4 \cos\left(2 \frac{\eta'_{\text{QCD}}}{f_\pi} + \sqrt{6} \frac{\eta'_\psi}{f_d}\right)}_{SU(3)_c \text{ Instantons at conf.}}$$

$$M_{\eta'_\chi, \eta'_\psi, \eta'_{\text{QCD}}}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \frac{(\Lambda_{\text{SSI}}^4 + \Lambda_d^4)}{f_d^2} & 2\sqrt{6} \frac{\Lambda_d^4}{f_d^2} & 0 \\ 2\sqrt{6} \frac{\Lambda_d^4}{f_d^2} & 6 \frac{(\Lambda_d^4 + \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4)}{f_d^2} & 2\sqrt{6} \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4}{f_\pi f_d} \\ 0 & 2\sqrt{6} \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4}{f_\pi f_d} & 4 \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4}{f_\pi^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Axion masses: $\eta'_\psi = (\bar{\psi}\psi)$ $\eta'_\chi = (\bar{\chi}\chi)$



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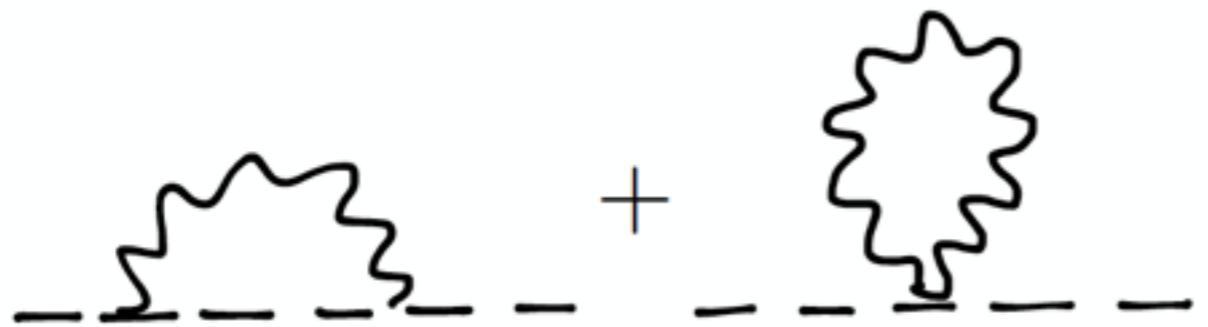


The low-energy observable spectrum

- ❖ The $U(4)$ flavor symmetry is broken by condensates: $\langle \psi\psi \rangle$ $\langle \bar{\chi}\chi \rangle$

$$U(4)_L \times U(4)_R \rightarrow U(4)_V$$

- ❖ This results in 16 pGB's. $16 = 8_c + \bar{3}_c + 3_c + 1_c + 1_c$
- ❖ The “pion” masses get pushed up to the cutoff of the theory via interactions with gluons



The diagram shows two Feynman diagrams representing self-energy corrections to a meson. The first diagram shows a dashed line with a wavy gluon loop. The second diagram shows a dashed line with a star-shaped gluon loop. These are summed and followed by a double arrow pointing to the right.

$$m^2(8_c) \approx \frac{9\alpha_c}{4\pi} \Lambda_{\text{diag}}^2$$
$$m^2(3_c) \approx \frac{\alpha_c}{\pi} \Lambda_{\text{diag}}^2$$

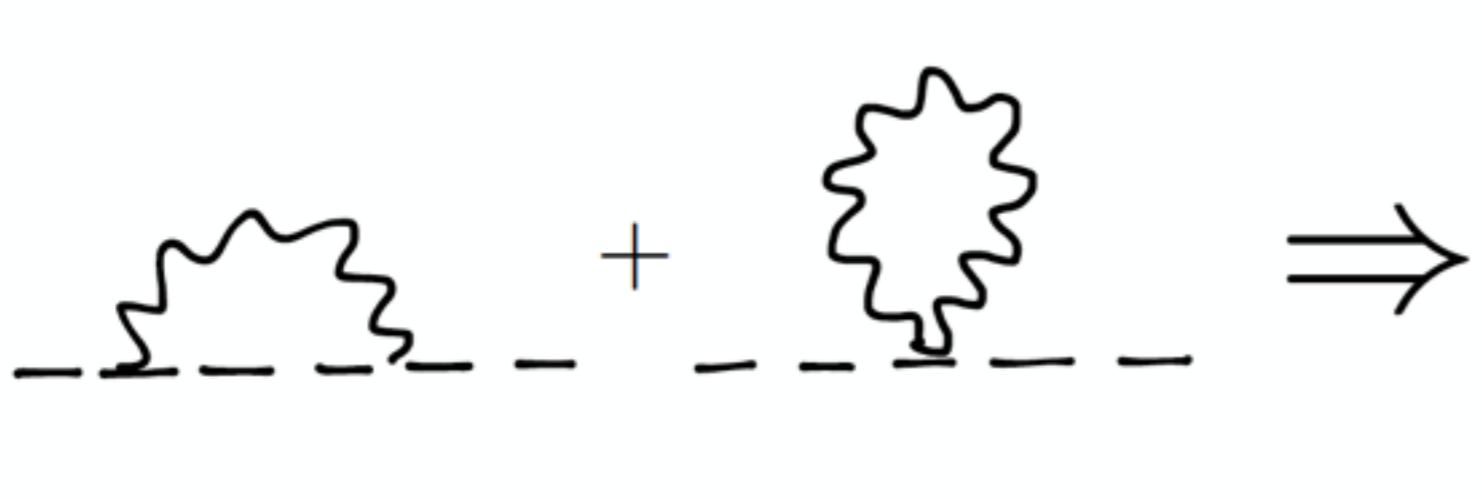
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QCD-colored “pions”

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The diagram shows two Feynman diagrams representing gluon loops. The first diagram is a dashed line with a wavy gluon loop. The second diagram is a dashed line with a star-shaped gluon loop. An arrow points from these diagrams to the following equations:

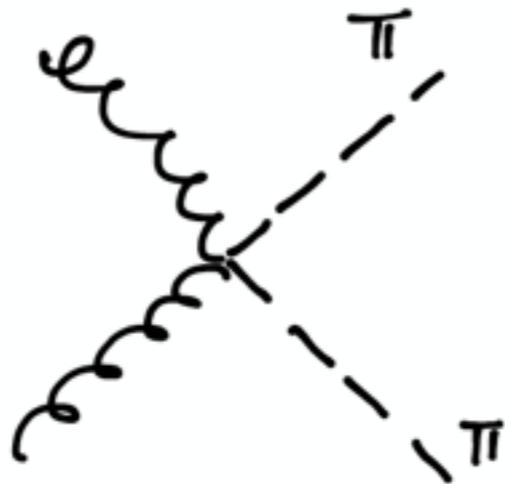
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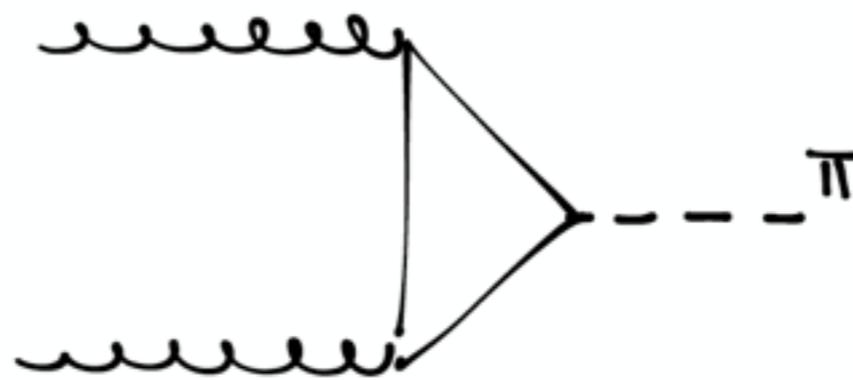
Collider Phenomenology

- ❖ Collider accessible states are QCD colored “pions”

$$\mathcal{L} \ni D_\mu \pi_d D^\mu \pi_d + \frac{\pi_d^a}{f_d} \frac{\alpha_s}{16\pi} d_{abc} G_{\mu\nu}^b \tilde{G}^{c\mu\nu}$$



- ❖ Pair produced

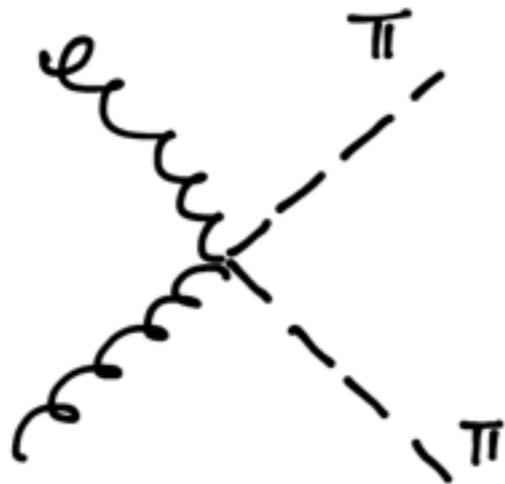


- ❖ Anomalous production

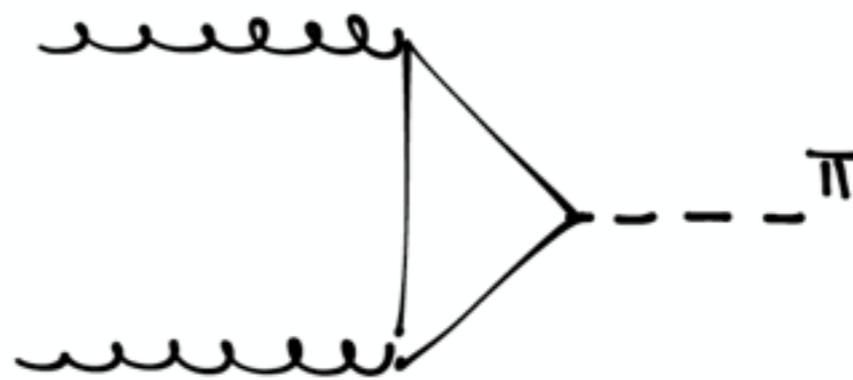
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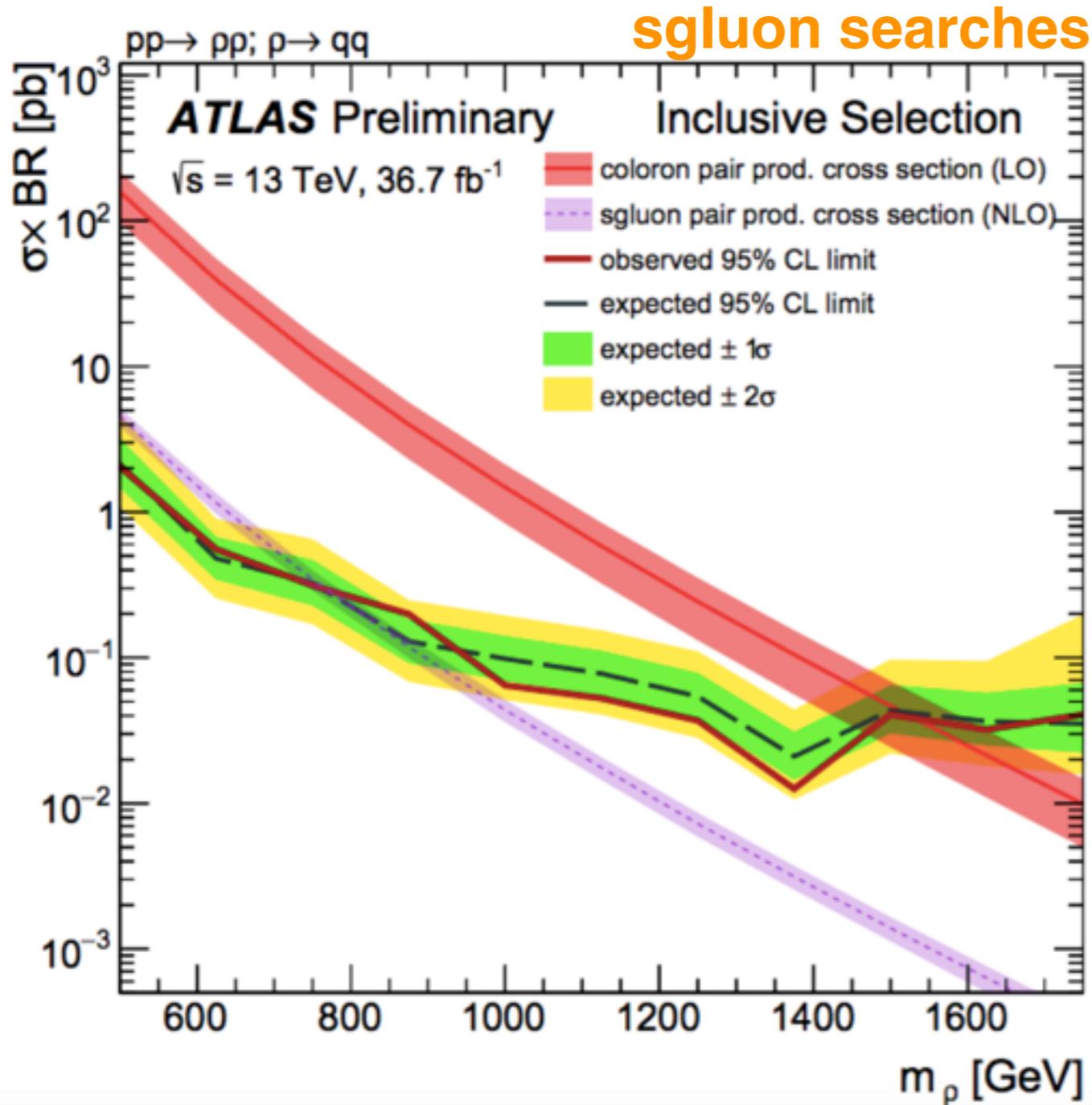


dominates production



dominates decay

Collider Phenomenology



- ❖ We have a bound on color octet scalars

$$m(\pi_d) \gtrsim 700 \text{ GeV}$$

$$m^2(8_c) \approx \frac{9\alpha_c}{4\pi} \Lambda_{\text{diag}}^2$$

$$\Lambda_{\text{diag}} \approx 3 \text{ TeV}$$

We also developed another UV completion

Same CUT gauge group

$$SU(6) \times SU(3') \xrightarrow{\Lambda_{\text{CUT}}} SU(3)_c \times SU(3)_{\text{diag}}$$

but instead of adding a second massless fermion as in

model I:

	$SU(6)$	$SU(3')$
Ψ	20	$\mathbb{1}$
χ	$\mathbb{1}$	\square

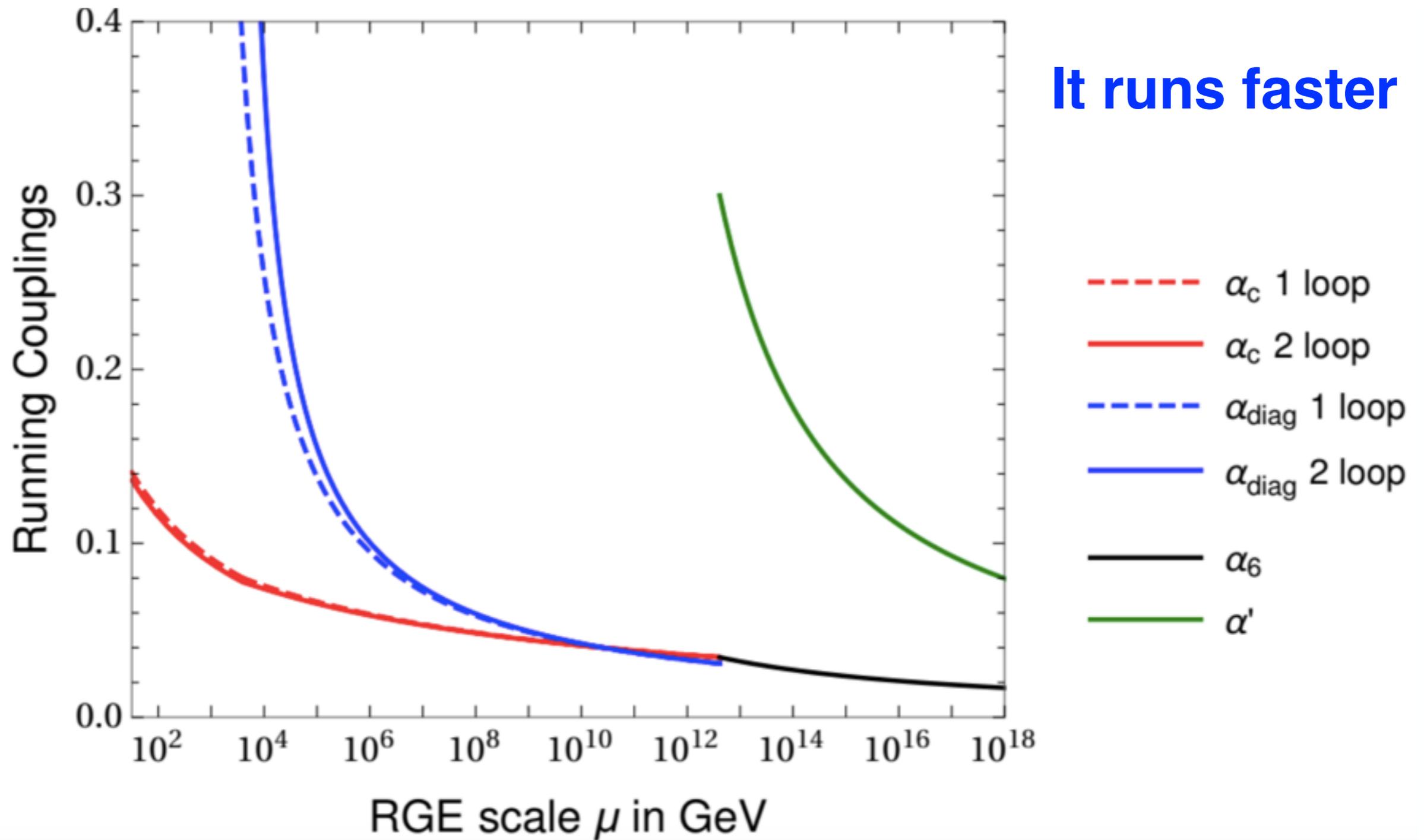
we added a second scalar Δ_2 :

model II:

	$SU(6)$	$SU(3')$
Ψ	20	$\mathbb{1}$
Δ_2	\square	$\bar{\square}$

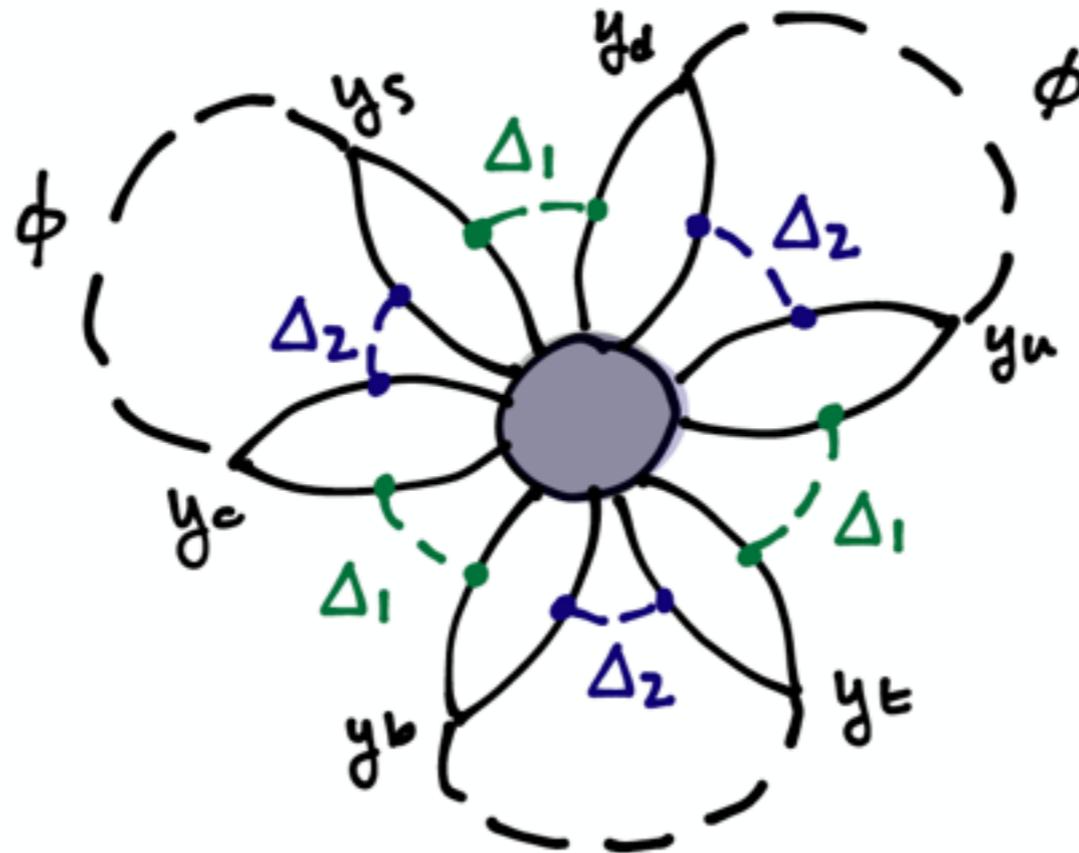
Δ , Δ_2 and the prime fermions have now PQ charges

Model II: Small Size Instanton Contribution



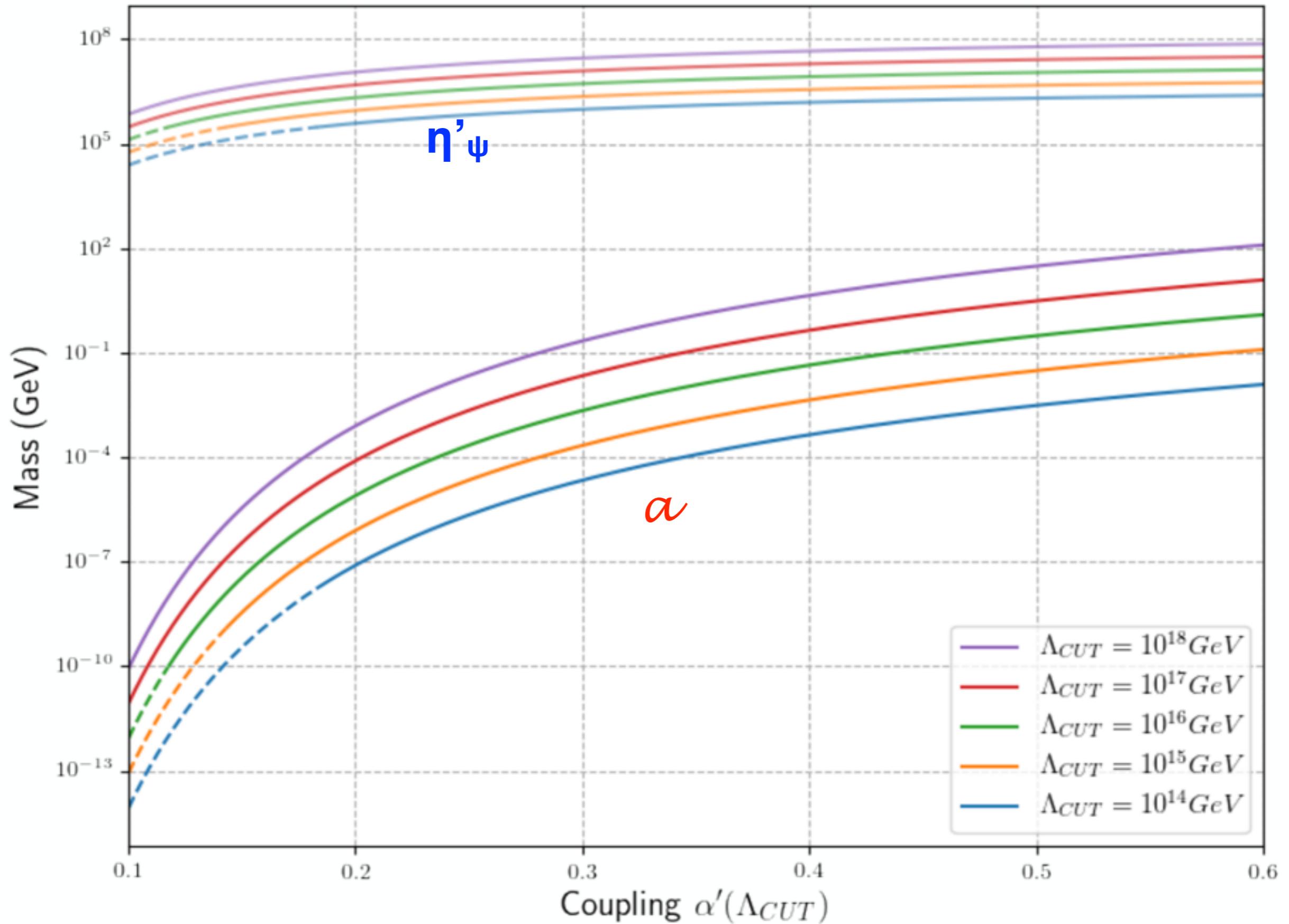
Model II: Small Size Instanton Contribution

The prime Yukawa couplings to the Higgs are now forbidden by PQ symmetry

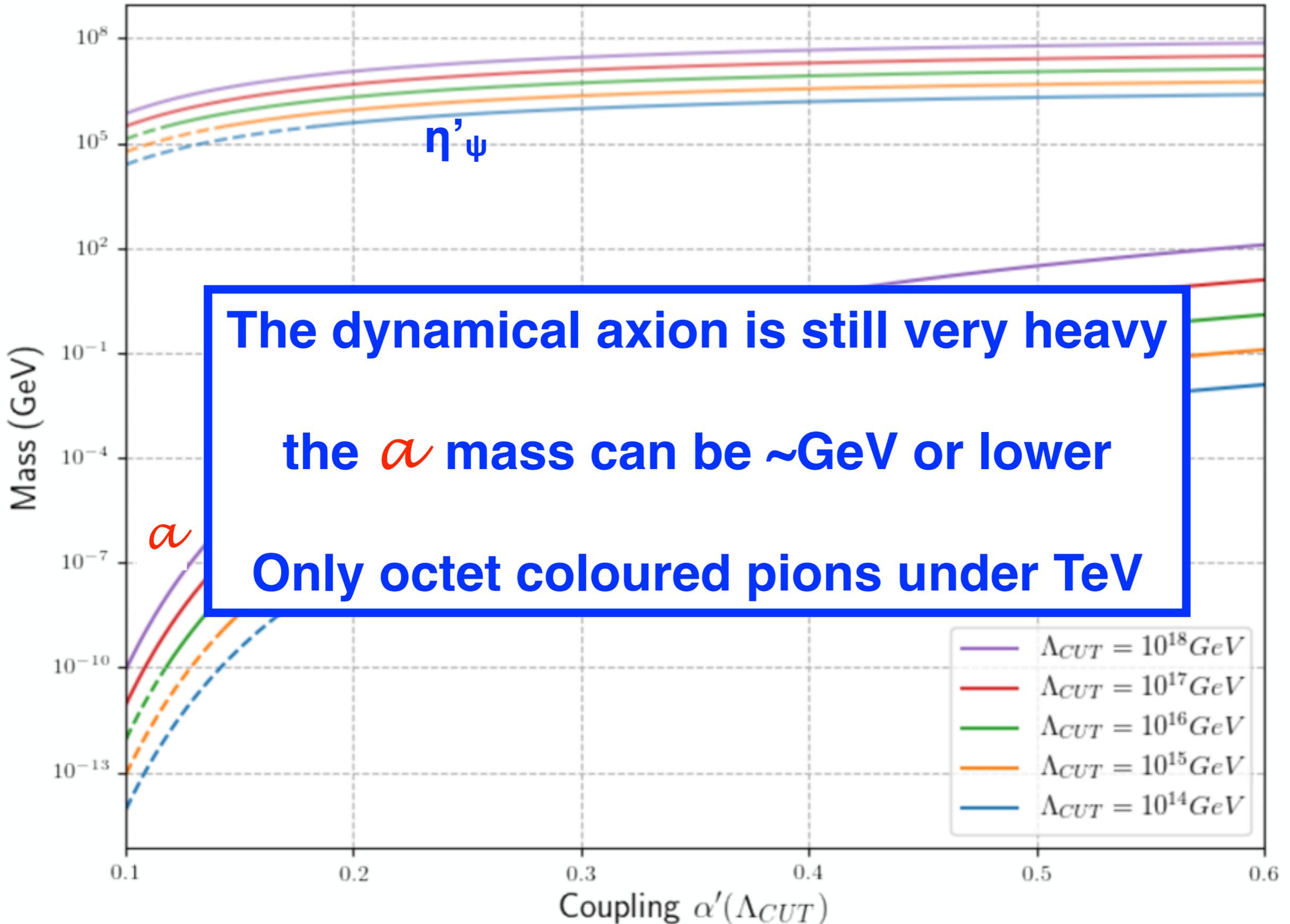


$$\Lambda_{SSI}^4 = - \int \frac{d\rho}{\rho^5} D[\alpha'(1/\rho)] \frac{1}{(4\pi)^{18}} \prod_i Y_{u_i}^{SM} Y_{d_i}^{SM} (\kappa_q^i)^2 \kappa_u^i \kappa_d^i$$

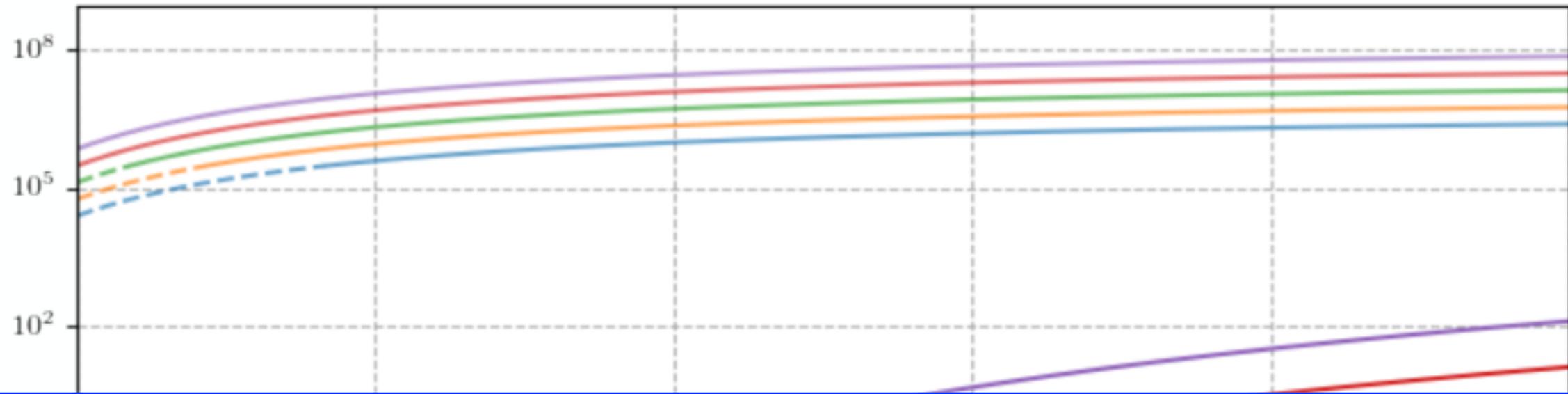
Axion masses: a , $\eta'_\psi = (\bar{\psi}\psi)$



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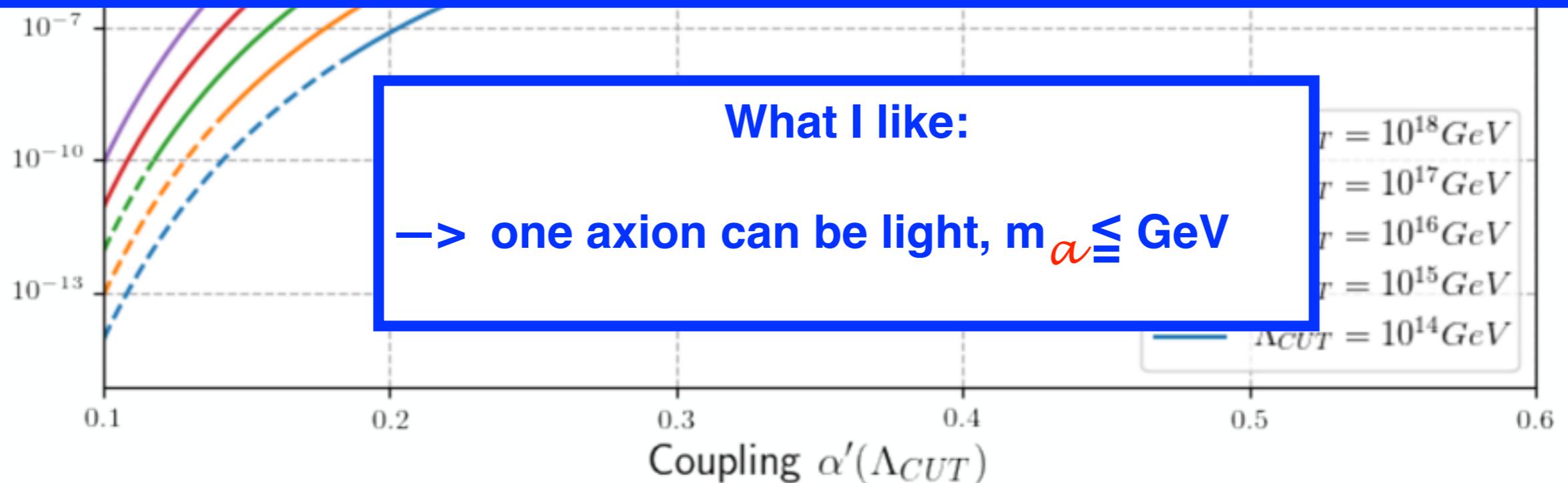


Axion masses: a, η'_ψ



What I don't like of model II:

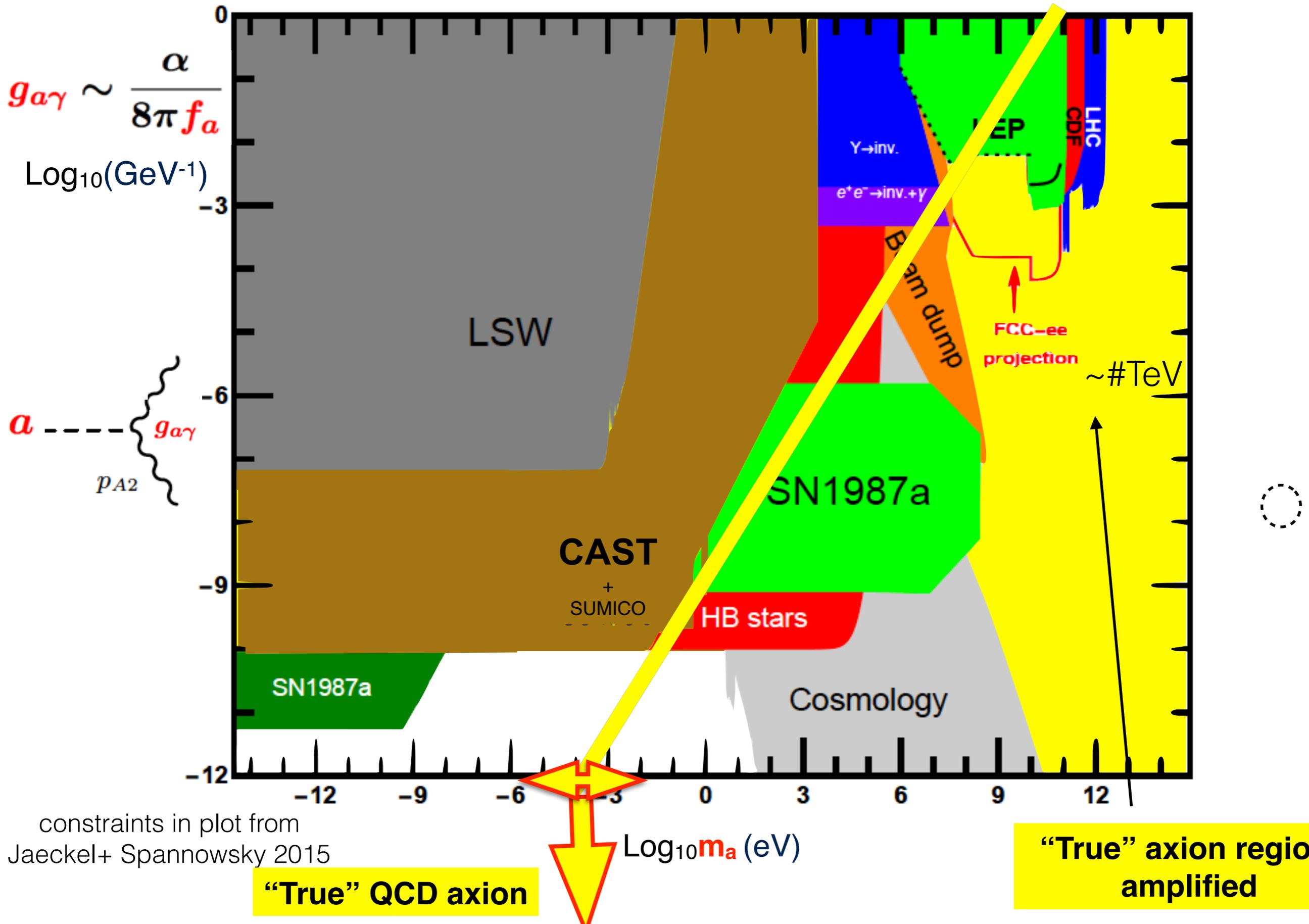
- > it is a hybrid solution, with one axion dynamical and one elementary
- > one PQ scale is $\sim \Lambda_{CUT}$ —> it contributes to EW hierarchy via scalar potential



What I like:

- > one axion can be light, $m_a \leq \text{GeV}$

* Much territory to explore for heavy ‘true’ axions



constraints in plot from
 Jaeckel+ Spannowsky 2015

Conclusions

New solution to strong the CP problem:

Colour unification with massless quarks $SU(6) \times SU(3')$

This is a proof of concept

- > Axions heavy due to small-size instantons
- > (\sim massless) Sterile neutrinos, basically invisible
- > Colored mesons observable at colliders

***The $\{m_a, f_a\}$ region that solves the strong CP problem
is amplified***

Backup

Massless Quarks and a Z_2

- ❖ Only one massless quark
- ❖ Complete Z_2 copy of the SM
- ❖ The $SU(3)_2$ θ -angle doesn't introduce new CP violating effects



A. Hook, "Anomalous solutions to the strong CP problem," Phys. Rev. Lett. 114 (2015)

- ❖ Set up one Higgs VEV to be very large:

$$v_2 \gg v \quad \longrightarrow \quad m'_q \gg m_q \quad \longrightarrow \quad \Lambda'_{QCD} \gg \Lambda_{QCD}$$

it requires a complete mirror of SM and strong fine-tunings

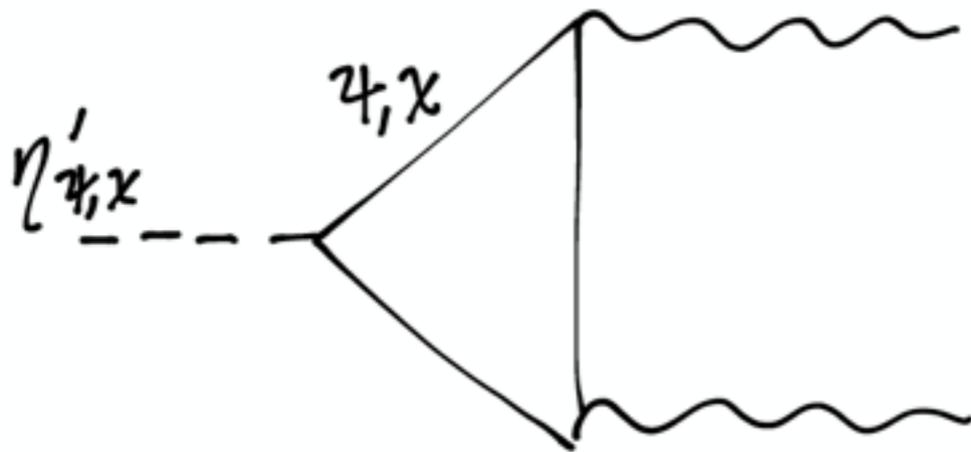
The η' Pseudoscalars

❖ The associated currents of the QCD singlets are:

$$j_{\psi_A}^\mu = \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 t^9 \psi \equiv f_d \partial^\mu \eta'_{\psi} \quad \text{❖ } t^9 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \mathbf{1}_{3 \times 3}$$

$$j_{\chi_A}^\mu = \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \chi \equiv f_d \partial^\mu \eta'_{\chi} \quad \text{❖ } f_d \text{ is the pGB scale:}$$

$$\Lambda_{\text{diag}} \leq 4\pi f_d$$



$$\partial_\mu j_{\psi_A}^\mu = -\sqrt{6} \frac{\alpha_6}{8\pi} G_6 \tilde{G}_6$$

$$\partial_\mu j_{\chi_A}^\mu = -2 \frac{\alpha'}{8\pi} G' \tilde{G}'$$

The θ' Issue

$$\mathcal{L} \ni \theta_6 \frac{\alpha_6}{8\pi} G_6 \tilde{G}_6 + \theta' \frac{\alpha'}{8\pi} G' \tilde{G}'$$



$$\mathcal{L} \ni (\theta_6 + \theta') \frac{\alpha_{\text{diag}}}{8\pi} G_{\text{diag}} \tilde{G}_{\text{diag}} + \theta_6 \frac{\alpha_c}{8\pi} G_c \tilde{G}_c$$

- ❖ The θ' can contaminate the visible sector via Δ
- ❖ θ' must be removed \Rightarrow This requires more model building
- ❖ Note that this comes from the problem of decoupling unification partners

Solution to the Strong CP problem

- Any source of axion mass breaks the PQ symmetry, **do SSI spoil the Strong CP solution?**
- Breaking pattern imposes:

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \bar{\theta}_6 \frac{\alpha_6}{8\pi} G_6 \tilde{G}_6 + \bar{\theta}' \frac{\alpha'}{8\pi} G' \tilde{G}' \longrightarrow (\bar{\theta}_6 + \bar{\theta}') \frac{\alpha_{\text{diag}}}{8\pi} G_{\text{diag}} \tilde{G}_{\text{diag}} + \bar{\theta}_6 \frac{\alpha_c}{8\pi} G_c \tilde{G}_c$$

- Therefore the potential reads:

$$\mathcal{L}_{eff} = \Lambda_{\text{SSI}}^4 \cos\left(-2 \frac{\eta'_\chi}{f_d} + \bar{\theta}'\right) + \Lambda_{\text{diag}}^4 \cos\left(-2 \frac{\eta'_\chi}{f_d} - \sqrt{6} \frac{\eta'_\psi}{f_d} + \bar{\theta}' + \bar{\theta}_6\right) + \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4 \cos\left(-\sqrt{6} \frac{\eta'_\psi}{f_d} + \bar{\theta}_6\right)$$

- The alignment of the 3 terms in the potential result in a CP-conserving minimum

$$\left\langle \bar{\theta}' - 2 \frac{\eta'_\chi}{f_d} \right\rangle = 0, \quad \left\langle \bar{\theta}_6 - \sqrt{6} \frac{\eta'_\psi}{f_d} \right\rangle = 0$$

**Strong CP problem
solved**

Matter Content Above and Below CUT Breaking

	$SU(6)$	$SU(3')$	$SU(2)_L$		$SU(3)$	$SU(3)_{diag}$	$SU(2)_L$	
Q_L	\square	$\mathbb{1}$	\square	$\xrightarrow{\Lambda_{CUT}}$	q_L	\square	$\mathbb{1}$	\square
\bar{U}_R	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$	$\mathbb{1}$		\bar{u}_R	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$	$\mathbb{1}$
\bar{D}_R	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$	$\mathbb{1}$		\bar{d}_R	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$	$\mathbb{1}$
\bar{q}'_R	$\mathbb{1}$	$\bar{\square}$	\square		ψ	\square	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$
u'_L	$\mathbb{1}$	\square	$\mathbb{1}$		$2\psi_\nu$	$\mathbb{1}$	$\mathbb{1}$	$\mathbb{1}$
d'_L	$\mathbb{1}$	\square	$\mathbb{1}$		\tilde{q}_L	$\mathbb{1}$	\square	\square
Ψ	20	$\mathbb{1}$	$\mathbb{1}$		\tilde{u}_R	$\mathbb{1}$	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$
Δ	\square	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$		\bar{d}_R	$\mathbb{1}$	$\bar{\square}$	$\mathbb{1}$
					\bar{q}'_R	$\mathbb{1}$	$\bar{\square}$	\square
					u'_L	$\mathbb{1}$	\square	$\mathbb{1}$
					d'_L	$\mathbb{1}$	\square	$\mathbb{1}$

Massless quark sector

Obtain mass near the CUT breaking scale

Prime sector

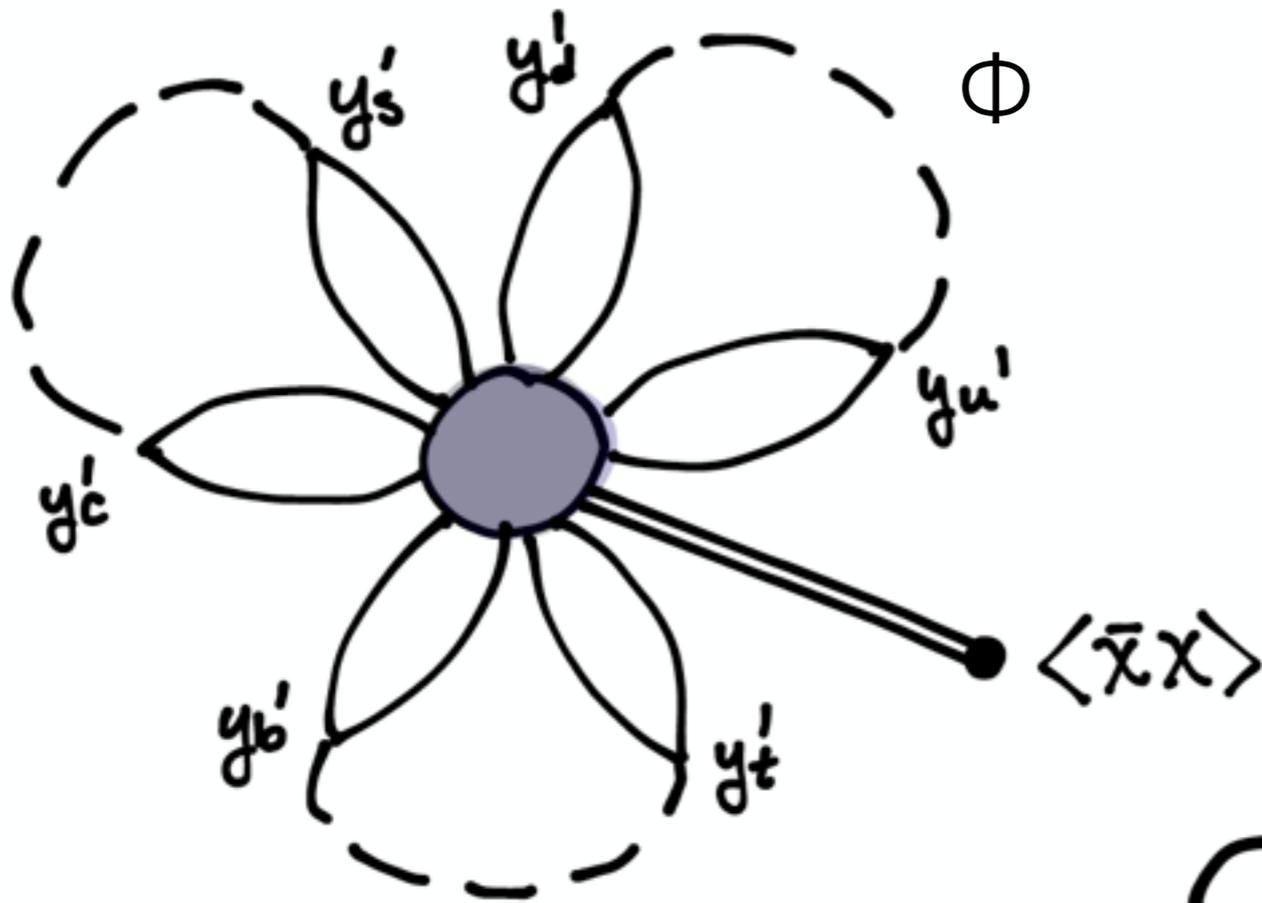
The most general Lagrangian includes also Higgs-prime fermions
Yukawa couplings:

$$\mathcal{L} \ni y'_u q'_L \Phi u'^c_L + y'_d q'_L \tilde{\Phi} d'^c_L + \text{h.c.}$$

Numerically they give irrelevant corrections

Small Size Instantons with Fermions

- ❖ Adding fermion effects gives an instanton suppression



M. A. Shifman, A. I. Vainshtein, V. I. Sakharov, "Instanton Density in a Theory with Massless Quarks," Nucl. Phys. B163 (1980)

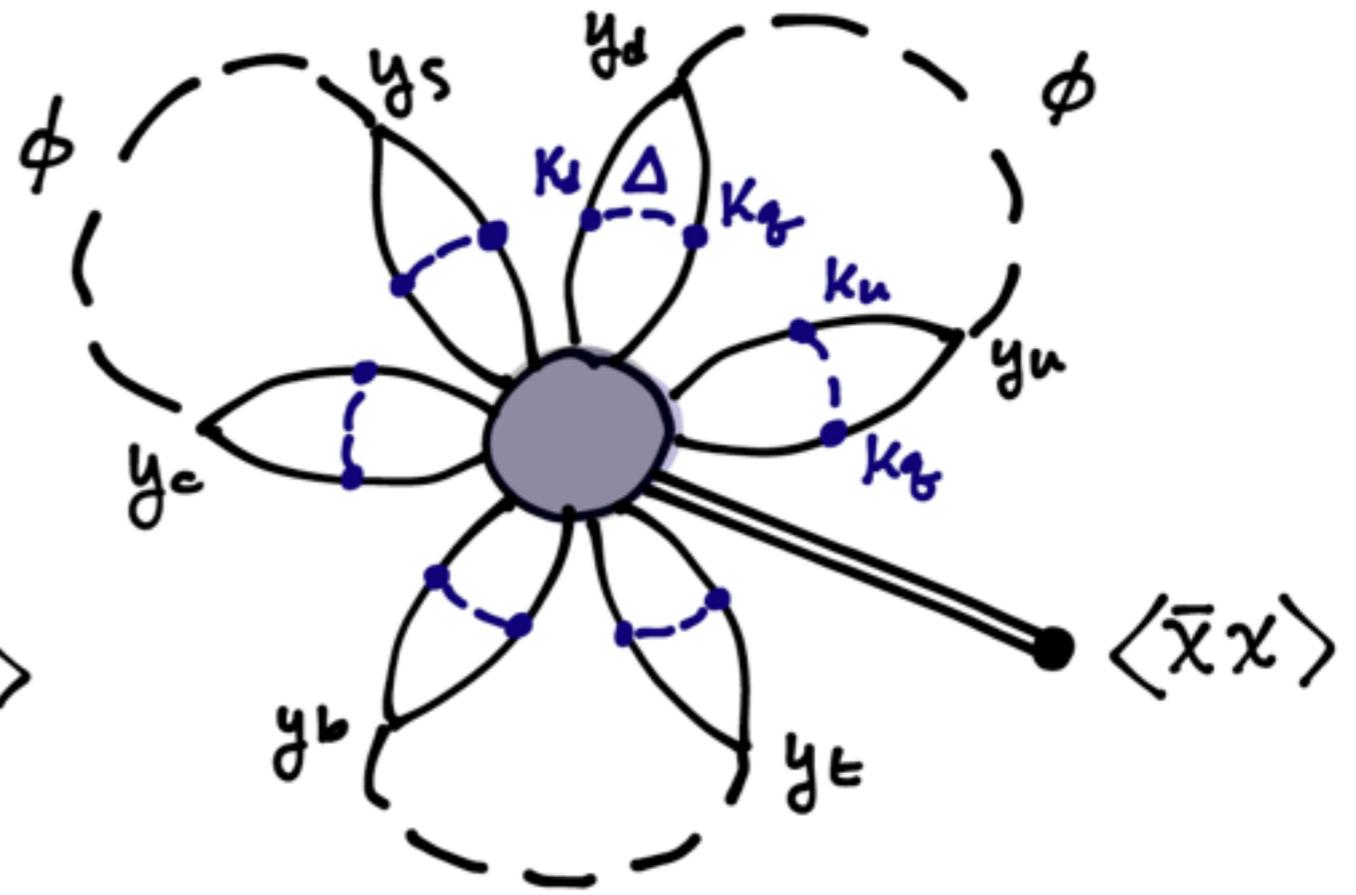
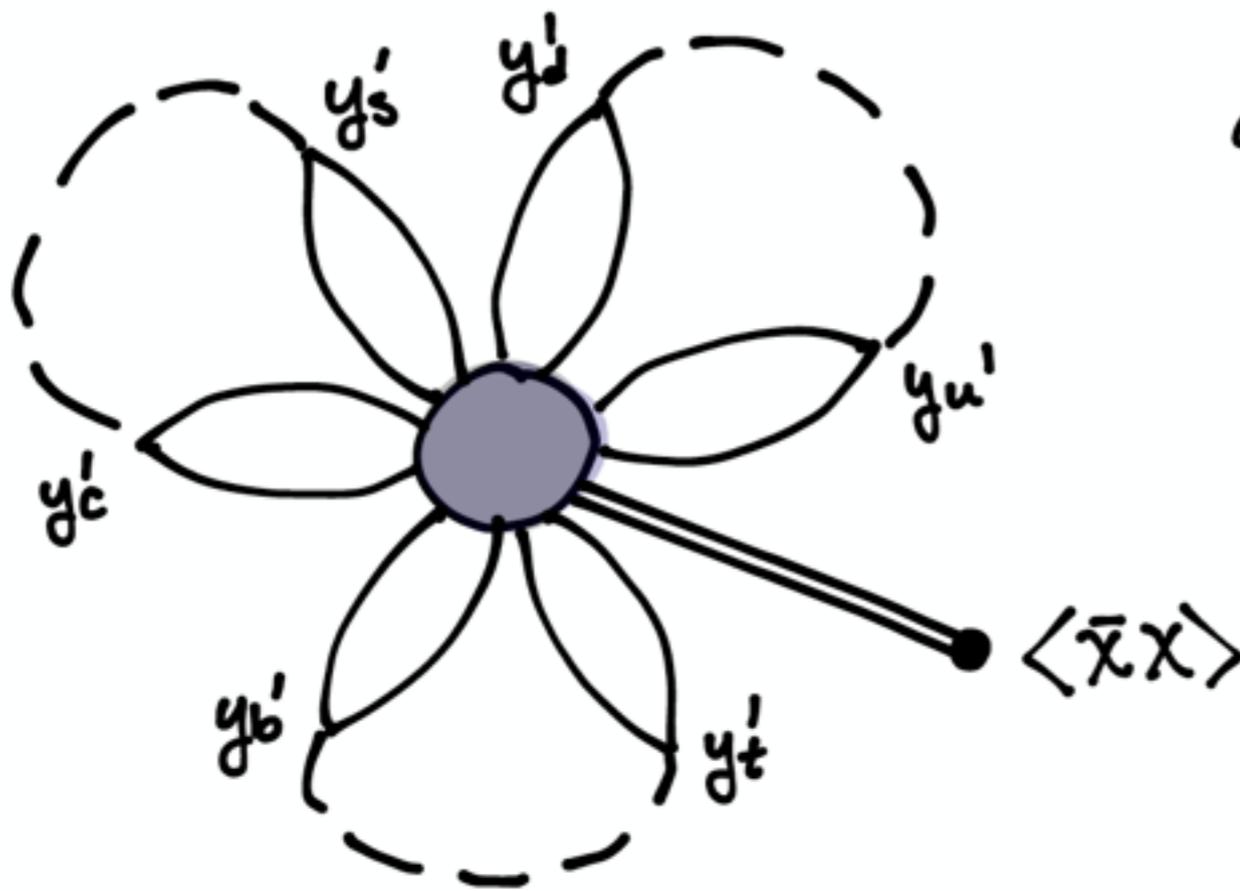
J. Flynn, L. Randall, "A computation of the small instanton contribution to the axion potential." Nucl. Phys. B208 (1987)

instanton
suppression factor

$$\Lambda_{SSI}^4 = - \int \frac{d\rho}{\rho^5} D[\alpha'(1/\rho)] \left(\frac{2}{3} \pi^2 \rho^3 \langle \bar{\chi} \chi \rangle \right) \frac{1}{(4\pi)^6} \prod_i y_u'^i y_d'^i$$

Small Size Instantons with Fermions

- Adding fermion effects gives an instanton suppression



$$\Lambda_{SSI}^4 = - \int \frac{d\rho}{\rho^5} D[\alpha'(1/\rho)] \left(\frac{2}{3} \pi^2 \rho^3 \langle \bar{\chi} \chi \rangle \right) \frac{1}{(4\pi)^{18}} \prod_i Y_{ui}^{SM} Y_{di}^{SM} (\kappa_q^i)^2 \kappa_u^i \kappa_d^i$$

Small Size Instantons and Axion Mass

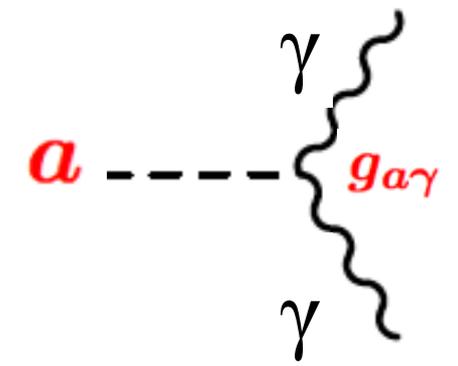
- ❖ With the fermion suppression, the benchmark $\alpha'(\Lambda_{\text{CUT}}) = .3$ gives:

$$\Lambda_{SSI}^4 \simeq 5.8 \times 10^{-11} \Lambda_{\text{diag}}^3 \Lambda_{\text{CUT}} \longrightarrow \Lambda_{SSI} \sim \text{few TeV}$$

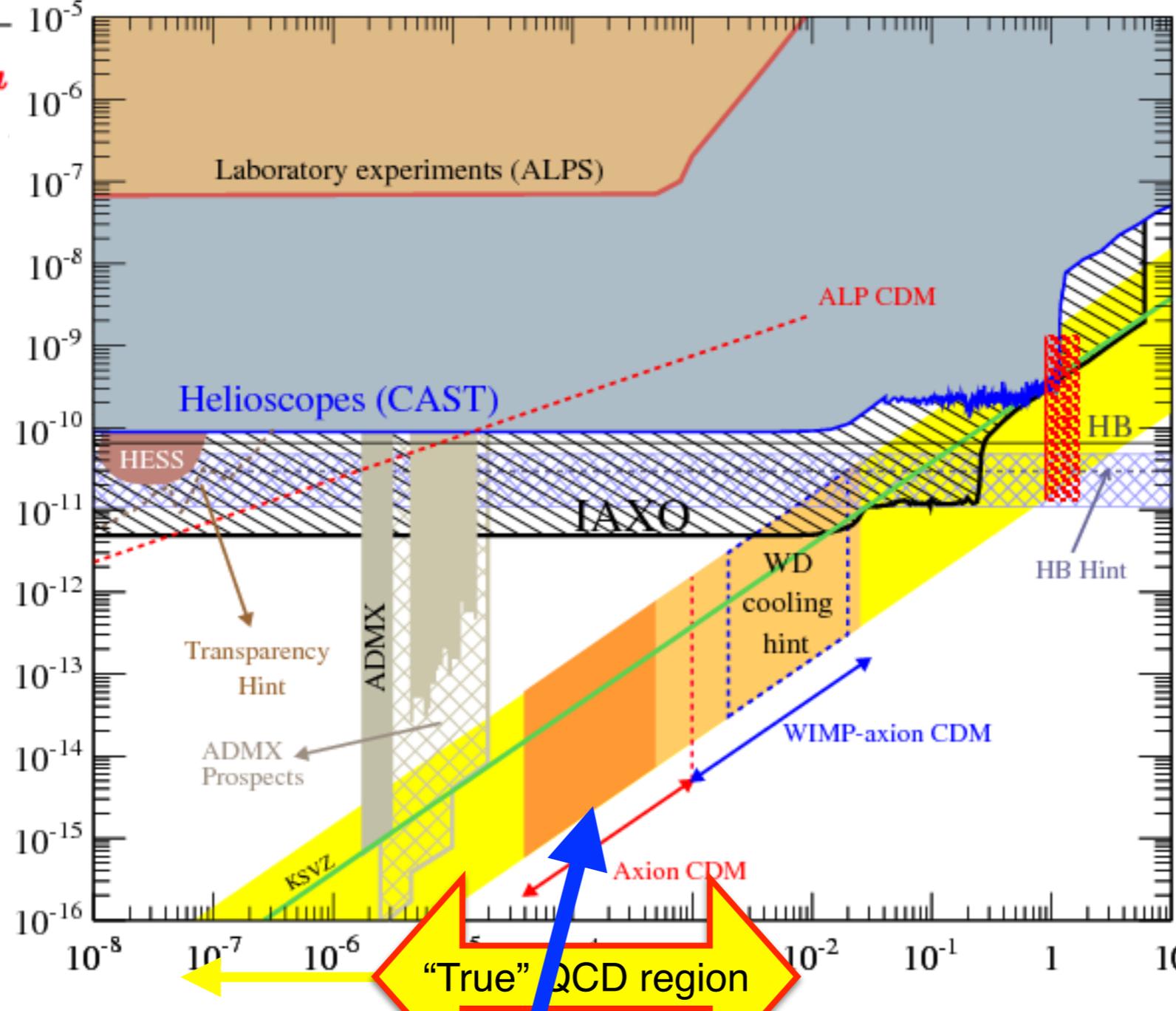
- ❖ The instanton effects generate a new contribution to the effective potential

$$\delta \mathcal{L}_{eff} = \Lambda_{SSI}^4 \cos \left(2 \frac{\eta'_\chi}{f_d} \right)$$

Intensely looked for experimentally...



$$g_{a\gamma} \sim \frac{\alpha}{8\pi f_a} \quad (\text{GeV}^{-1})$$



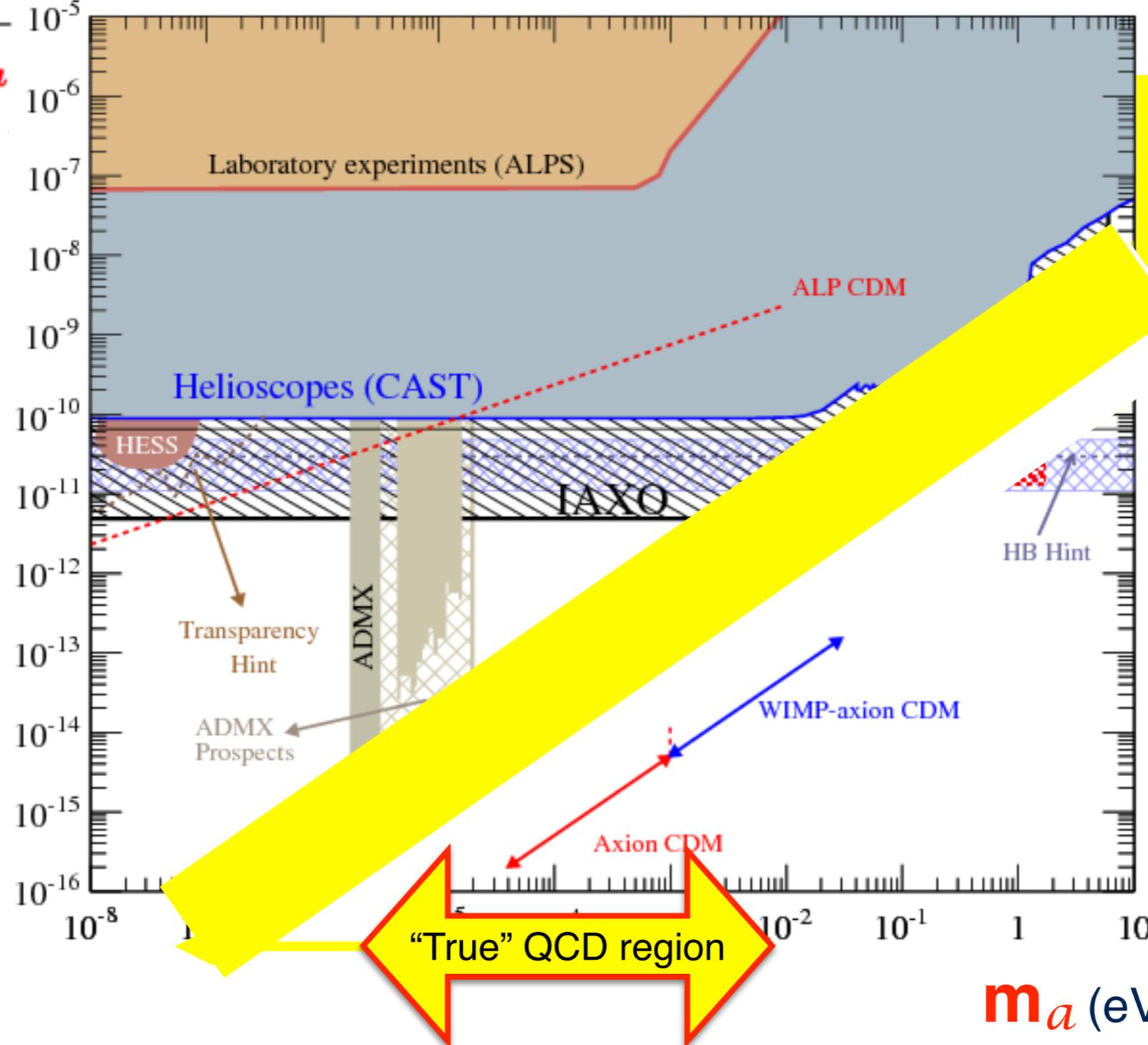
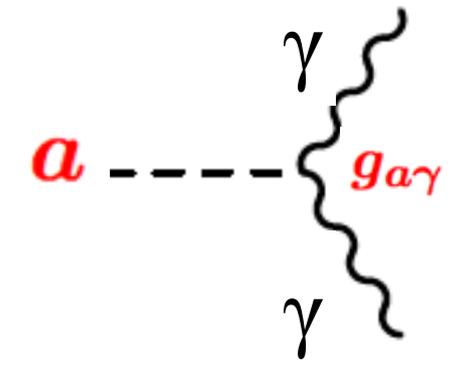
“True” QCD axion band

||
“Invisible axion”
e.g. KSVZ, DFSZ...

$v \ll f_a \rightarrow$
EW hierarchy problem

Much activity in estimating the value of the “cte.” = $m_a f_a$ with lattice QCD. 2015: Cortona et al. ;Trunin et al.; 2016: Borsanyi et al., Petreczky et al., Taniguchi et al., Frison et al.

$$g_{a\gamma} \sim \frac{\alpha}{8\pi f_a} \quad (\text{GeV}^{-1})$$



**Refined KSVZ axion band:
up and thinner**

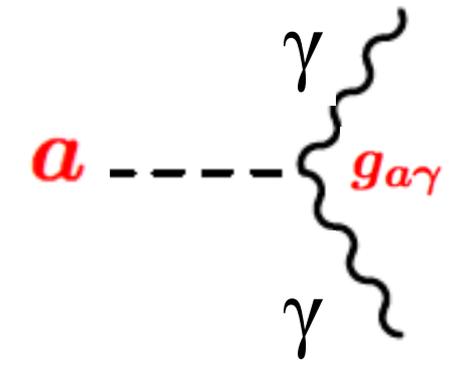
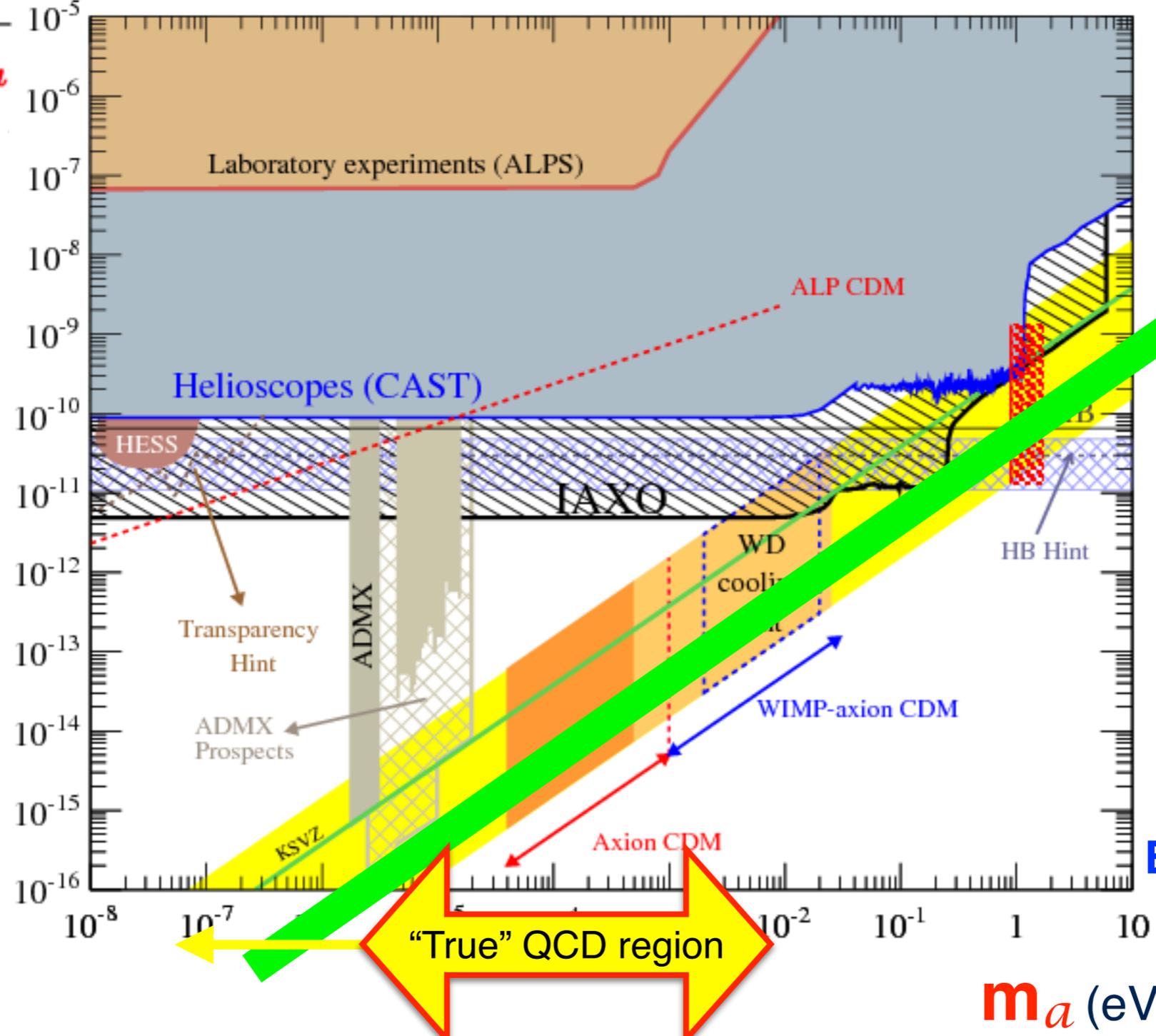
from Ω_{DM}
+ Landau-poles analysis
(Luzio+Mescia+Nardi 2017)

$v \ll f_a \rightarrow$
EW hierarchy problem

"True" QCD region

... and theoretically

$$g_{a\gamma} \sim \frac{\alpha}{8\pi f_a} \quad (\text{GeV}^{-1})$$



QCD axiflavor band
(creative view)

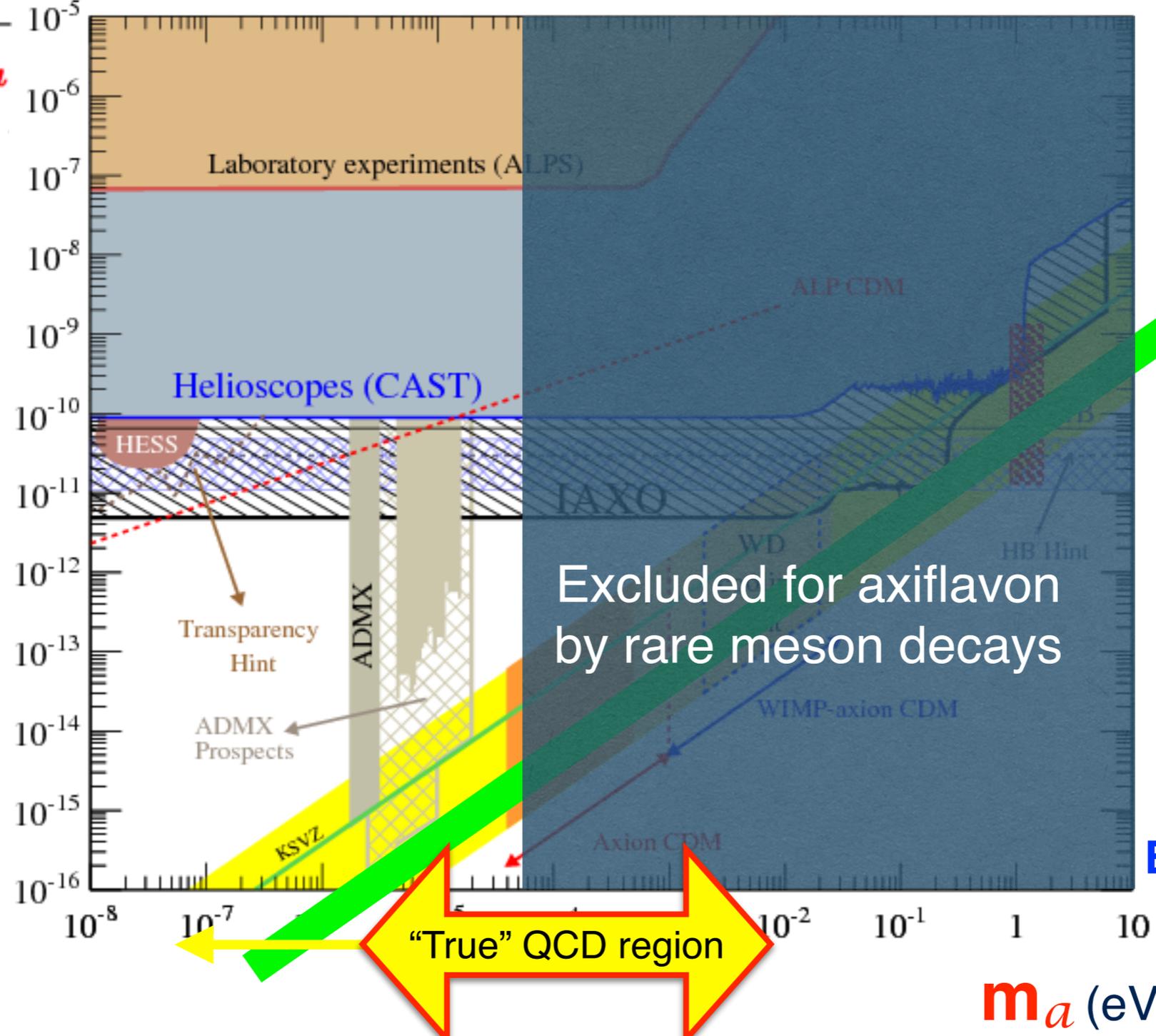
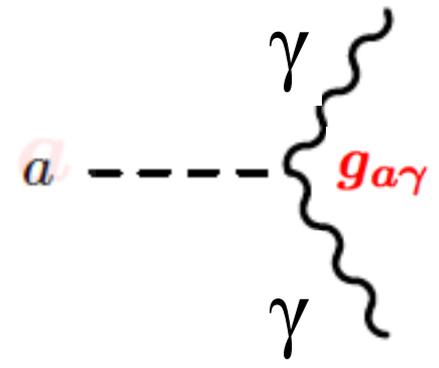
(Wilczek 82,
Calibbi et al. 2016)

Identify U(1) of
Peccei-Quinn
with Froggatt-Nielsen's

$v \ll f_a \rightarrow$
EW hierarchy problem

... and theoretically

$$g_{a\gamma} \sim \frac{\alpha}{8\pi f_a} \quad (\text{GeV}^{-1})$$



QCD axiflavor band
(creative view)

(Calibbi et al. 2016)

Excluded for axiflavor
by rare meson decays

$v \ll f_a \rightarrow$
EW hierarchy problem

“True” QCD region

... and theoretically