## Phenomenology 2020 Symposium



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## The High Quality QCD Axion and the LHC

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The QCD axion provides an elegant solution to the Strong CP Problem. While the minimal realization is vulnerable to the so-called "Axion Quality Problem", I will consider a more robust realization in the presence of a mirror sector related to the Standard Model by a (softly broken)  $Z_2$  symmetry. Interestingly, the resulting "heavy" axion has a large and uncharted parameter space where it behaves as a Long-Lived Particle (LLP). By considering the defining axionic coupling to gluons, I will argue that the long-lived nature of the signal can be used to veto background, and evaluate the prospect of discovery of GeV scale axions at the HL-LHC.

## **Summary**

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