

# **Axion** (and other WISP) **Limits, summary plots, and data comparison**

Ciaran O'Hare

# AxionLimits

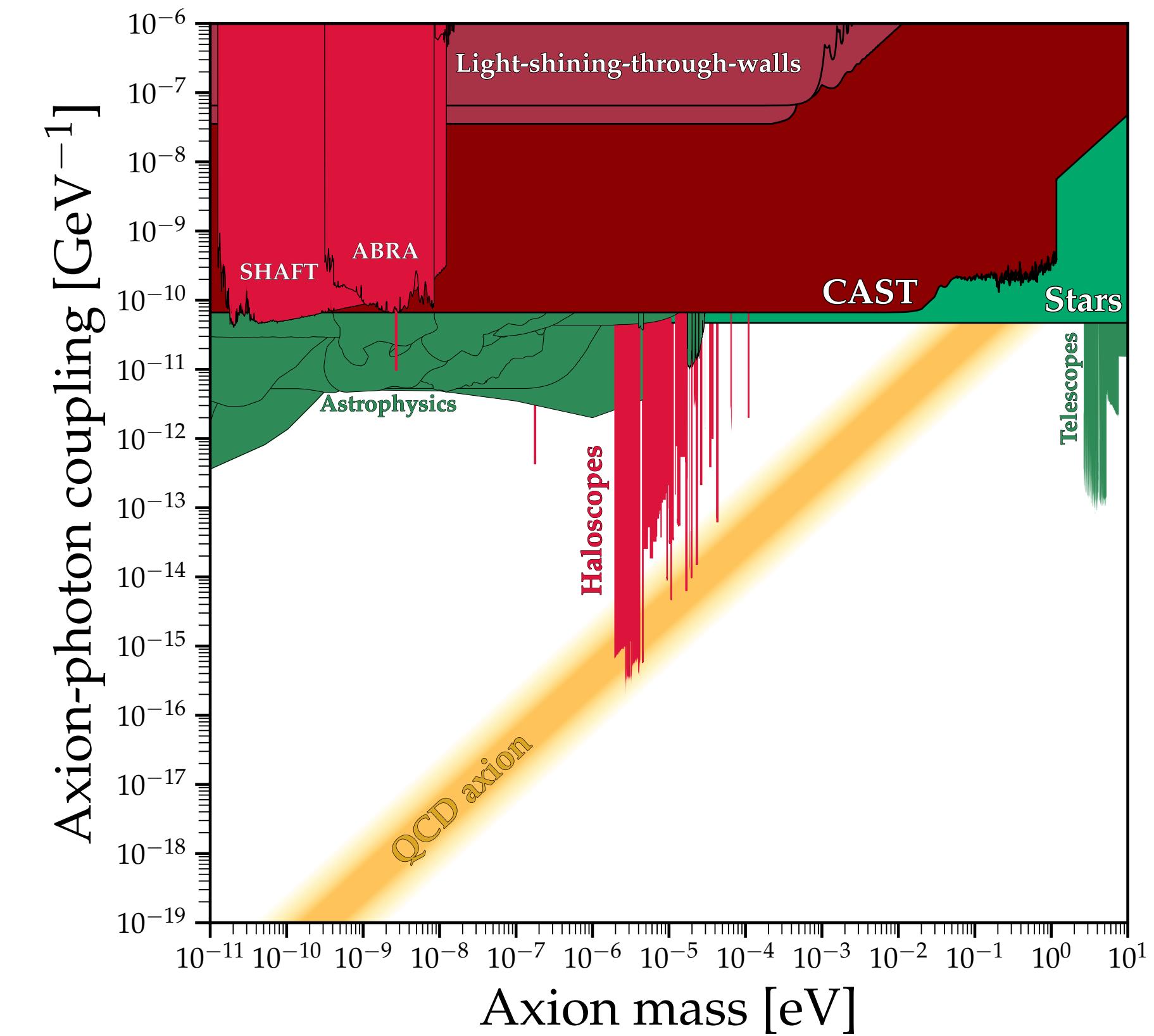
GitHub: <https://github.com/cajohare/AxionLimits>

Data for constraints and projections

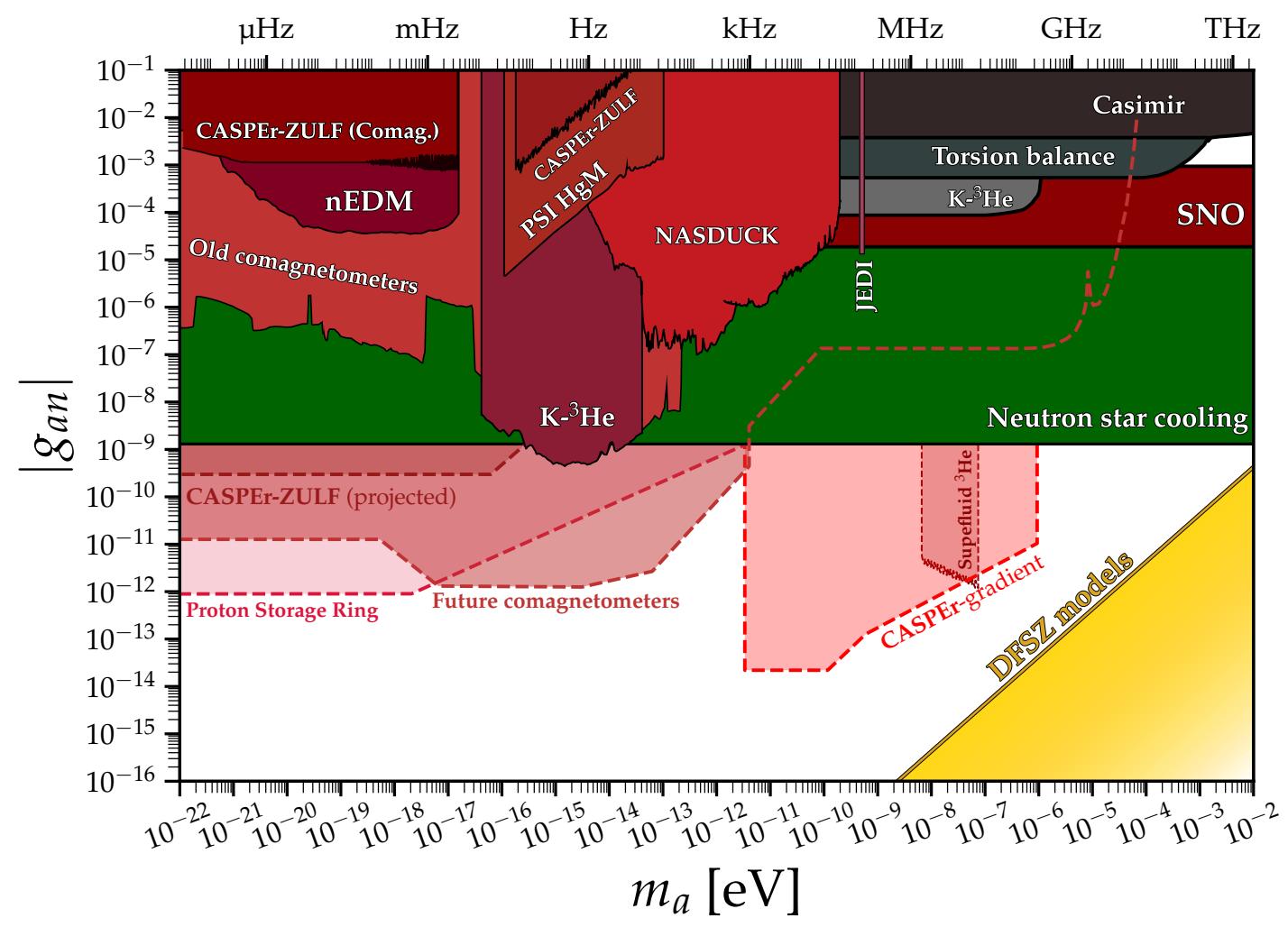
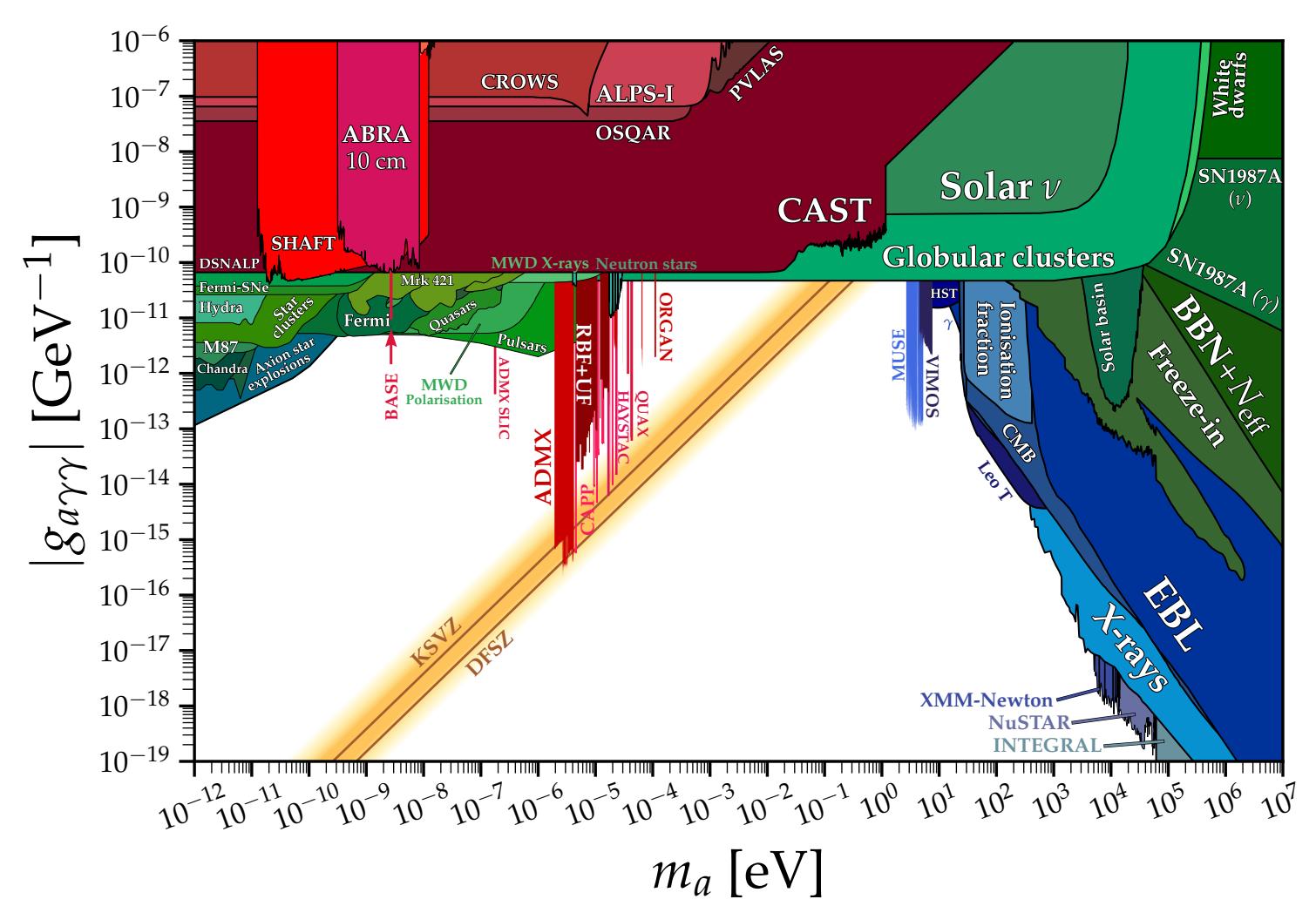
A screenshot of a GitHub commit history for the 'AxionLimits' repository. The commits are listed in chronological order from top to bottom:

- cajohare adding nustar decaying DM limit
- ..
- Projections adding DALI etc.
- ABRACADABRA.txt readme update
- ABRACADABRA\_run2.txt large update
- ADMX.txt .
- ADMX2018.txt .
- ADMX2019\_1.txt .
- ADMX2019\_2.txt .
- ADMX2021.txt adding new admx limit
- ADMX\_SLIC.txt .
- ADMX\_Sidecar.txt .
- ADMX\_Sidecar\_AC.txt .
- ADMX\_Sidecar\_JTWPAs.txt adding 2 new limits
- ALPS.txt corrections
- ALP\_CDM.txt readme update
- ATLAS\_PbPb.txt adding new DP and started on collider bounds
- ATLAS\_pp.txt adding ultralight axion bounds
- AxionStarExplosions-1.txt adding axion star explosions

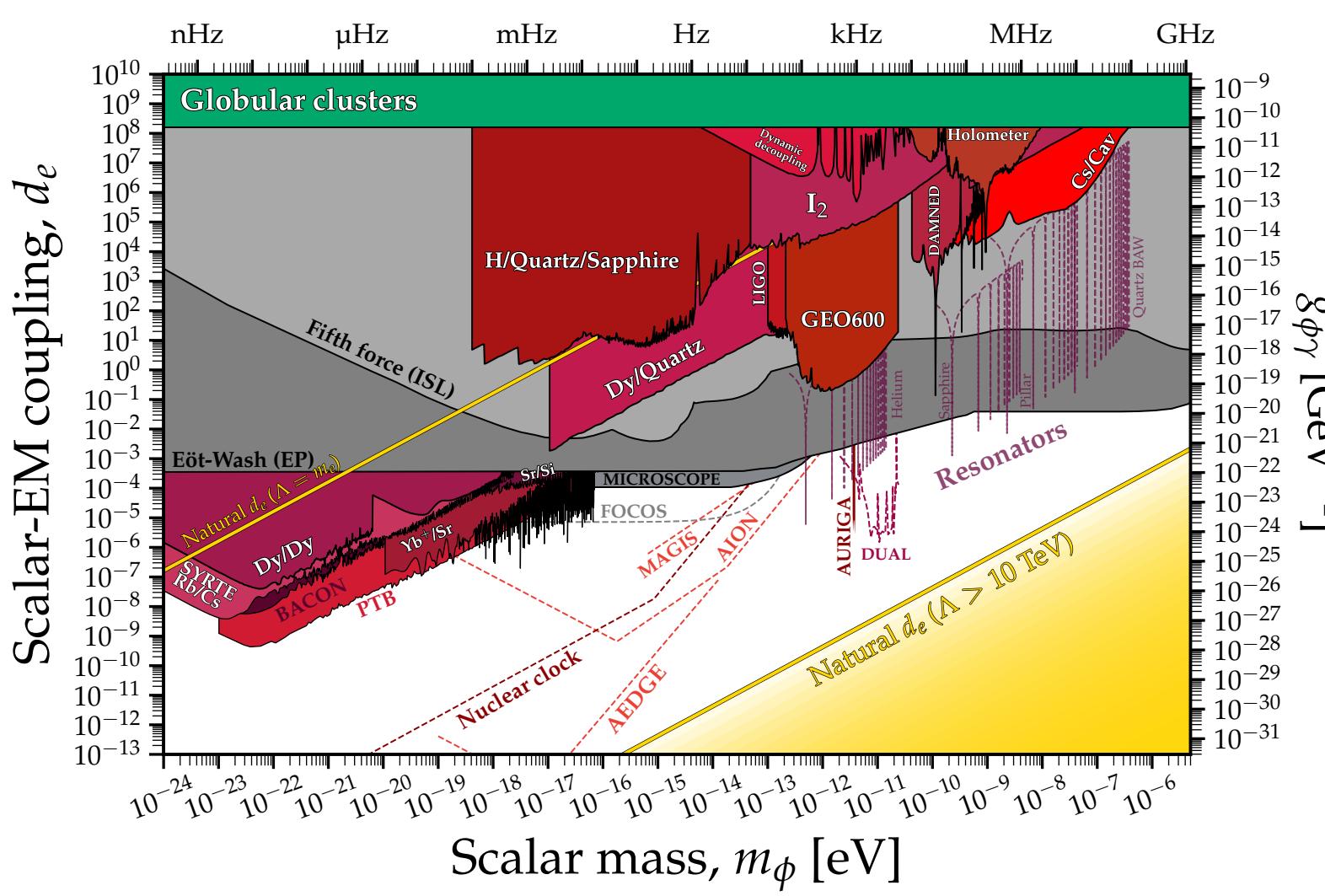
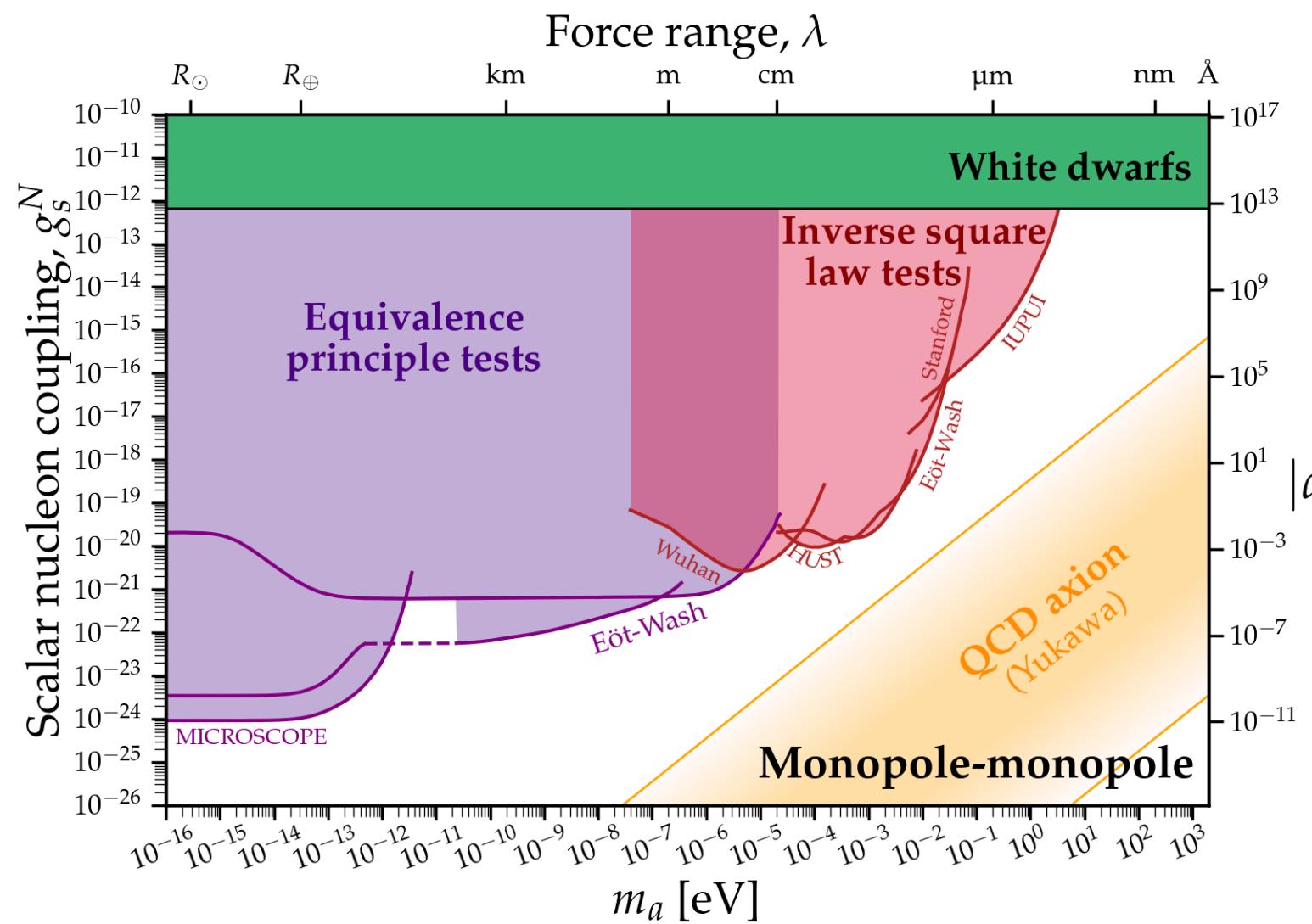
Plots via python notebooks



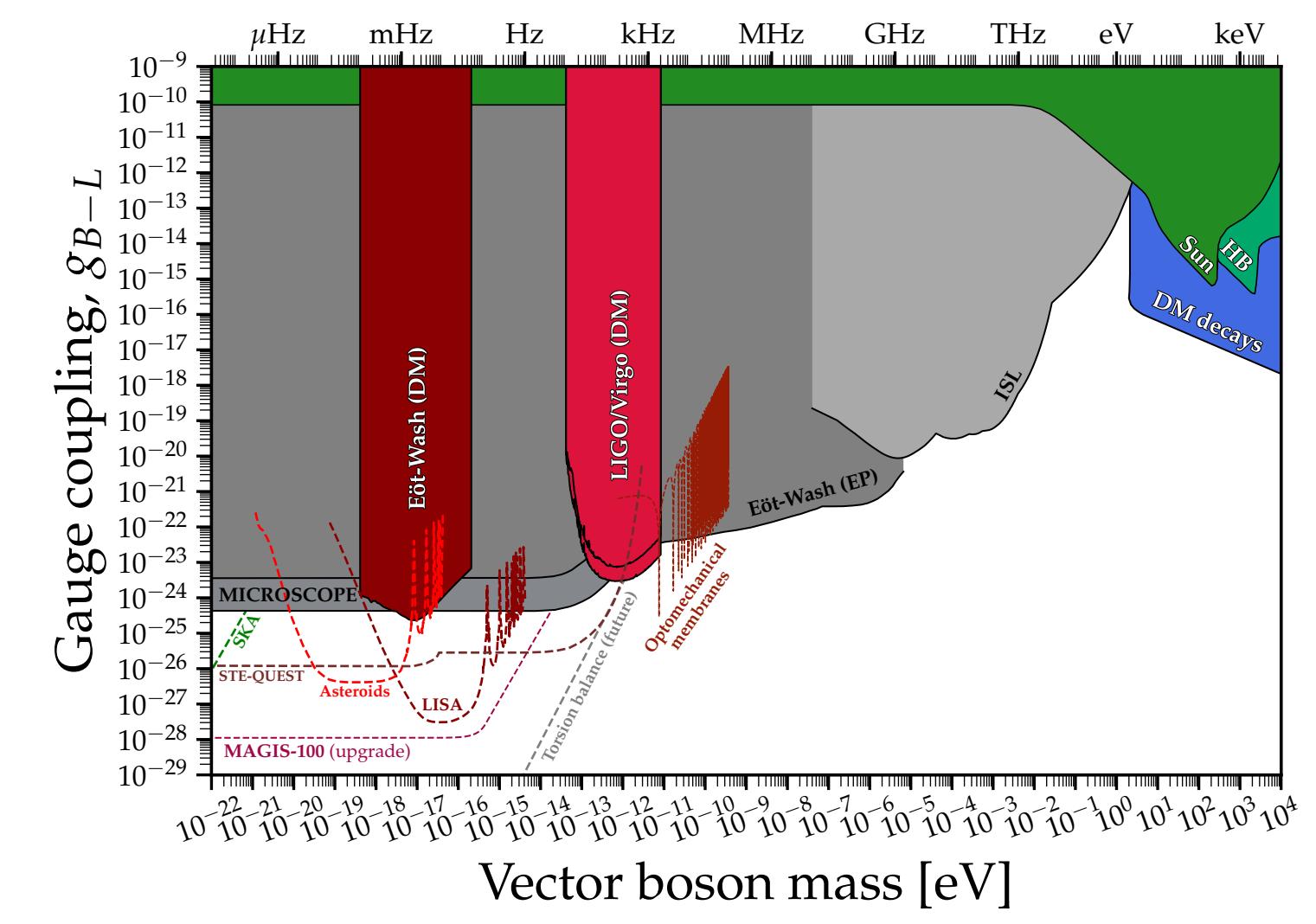
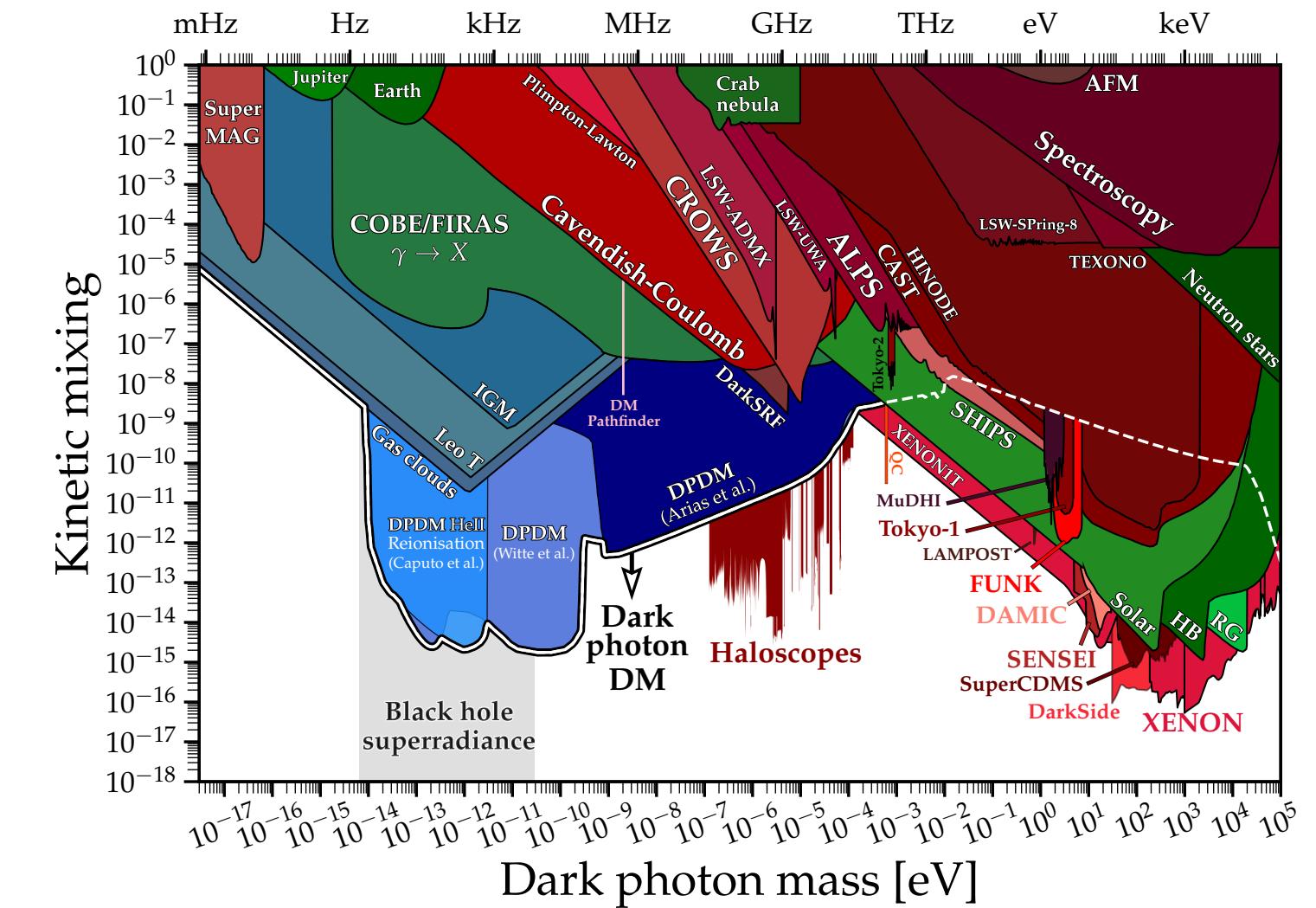
# Axions



# Scalars

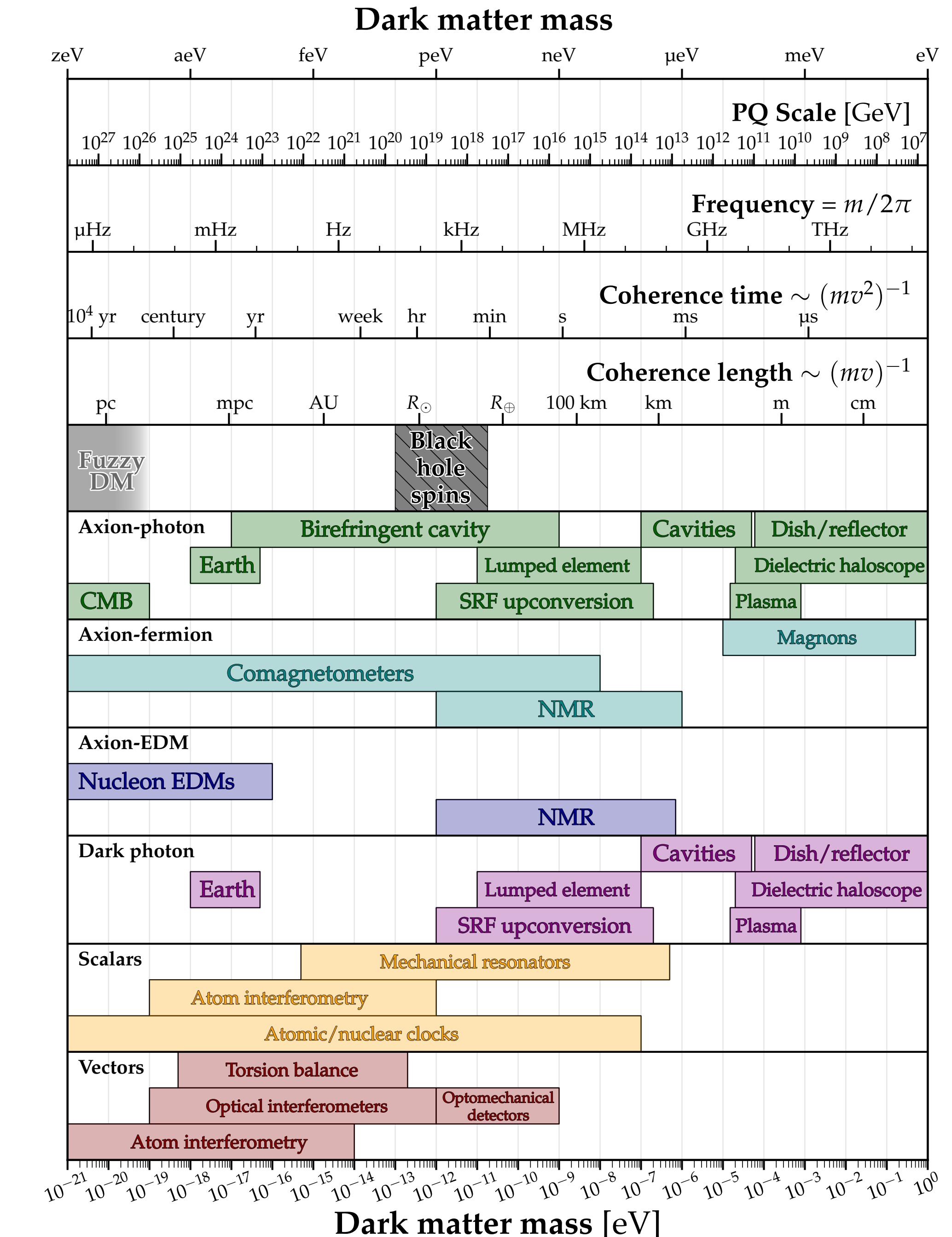
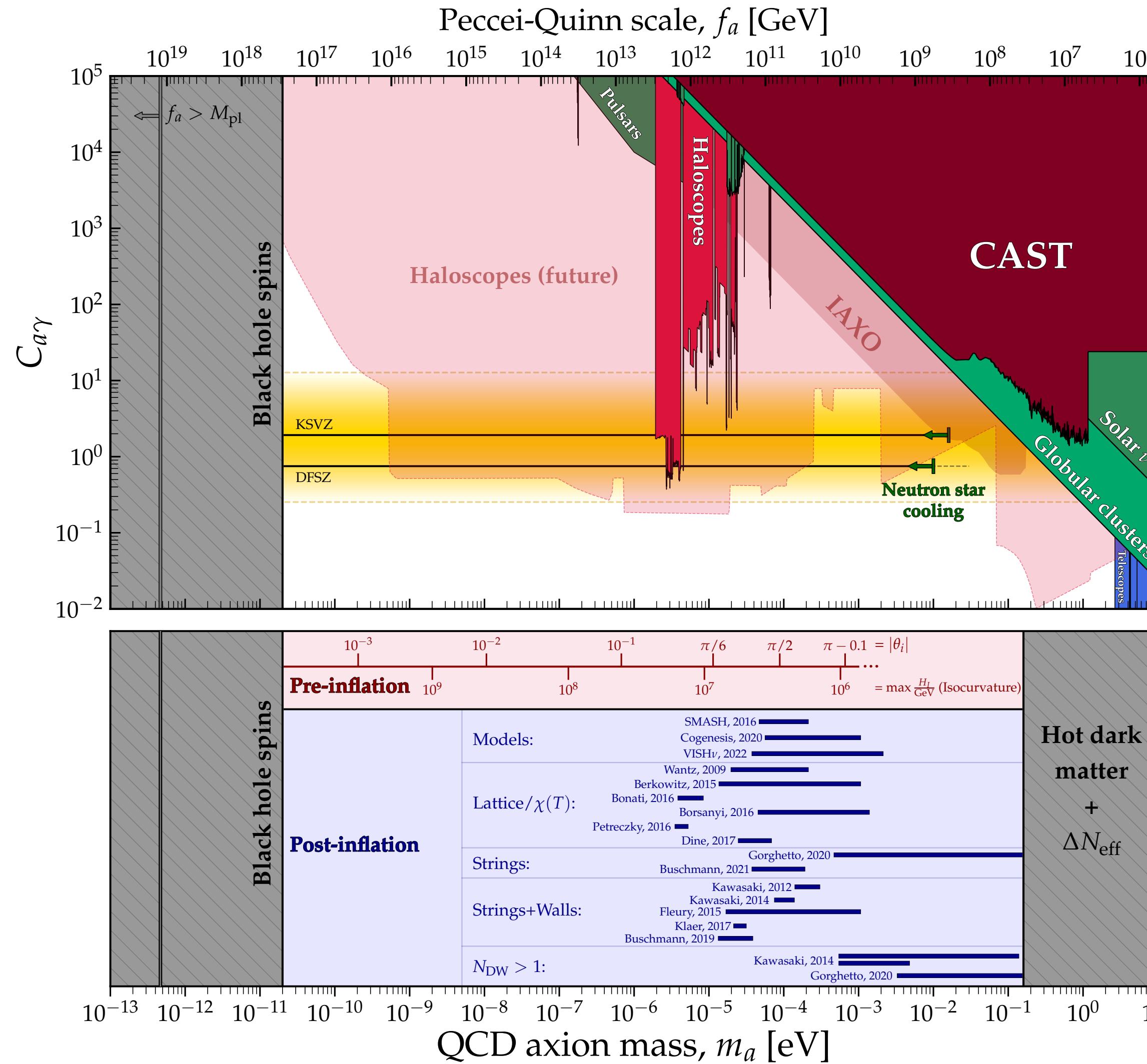


# Vectors



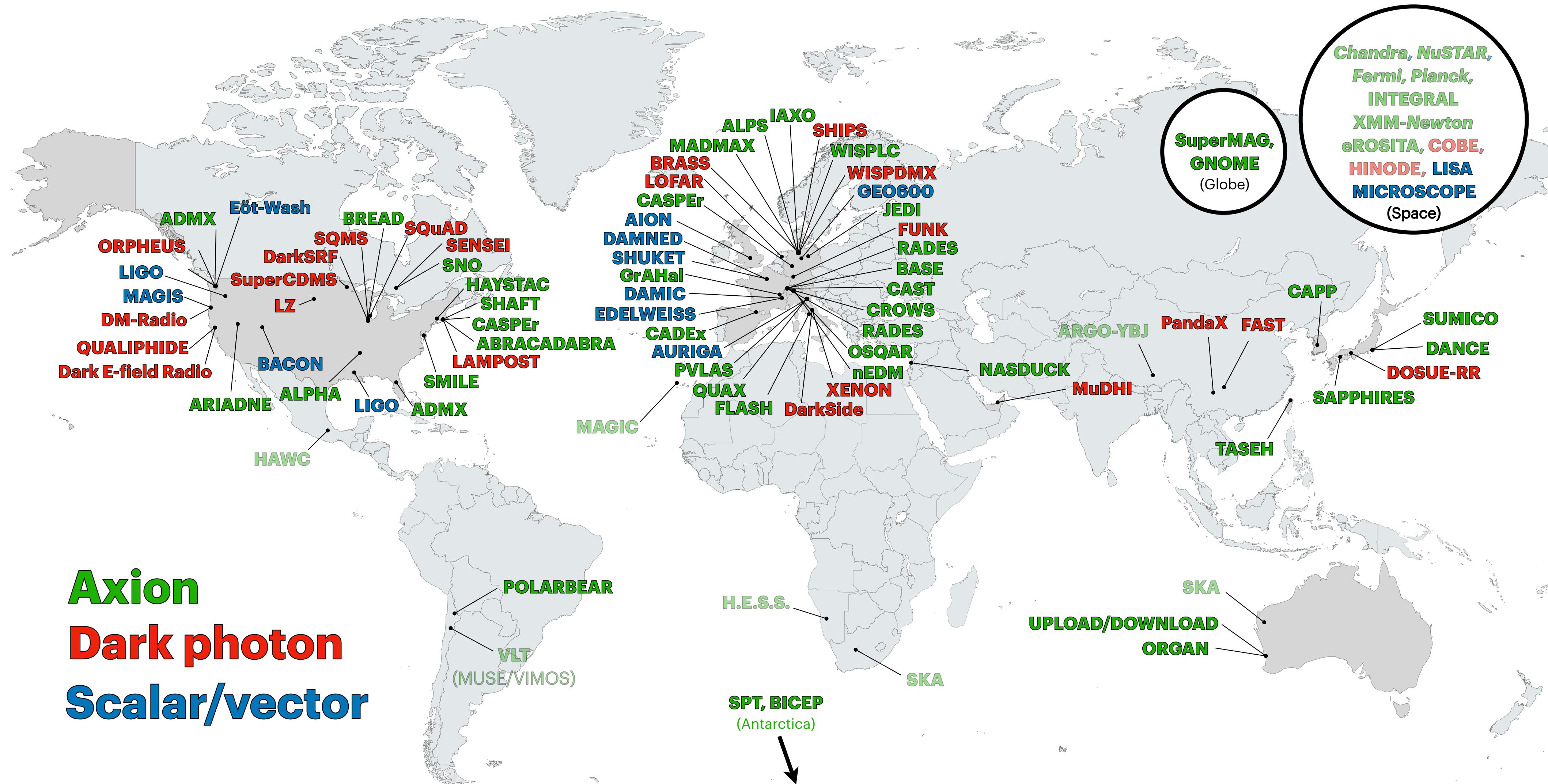
# AxionLimits

Recently added...



# AxionLimits

Work in progress...



# AxionLimits

Current scope:

## Axions/ALPs

- Axion-EDM/ $f_a$ :  $(a/f_a)G\tilde{G}$
- Axion-photon:  $\frac{1}{4}g_{a\gamma}aF_{\mu\nu}\tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$
- Axion-electron:  $\frac{g_{ae}}{2m_n}\partial_\mu a \bar{e}\gamma^\mu\gamma_5 e$
- Axion-neutron/proton:  $\frac{g_{an}}{2m_n}\partial_\mu a \bar{n}\gamma^\mu\gamma_5 n$

Mass range =  $[10^{-22}, 10^9]$  eV

Missing:  $g_{a\gamma}g_{ae}$ ,  $g_{a\gamma}g_{an}$ ,  $g_{aN}^1$ ,  $g_{aN}^3$ ,  $g_{a\mu}$

## Scalars

- Scalar-nucleon:  $g_{\phi n}\phi \bar{n}n$
- Scalar-electron:  $g_{\phi e}\phi \bar{e}e$
- Scalar-photon:  $\frac{1}{4}g_{\phi\gamma}\phi F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}$
- Scalar-nucleon x pseudoscalar-nucleon:  $g_s^N g_p^N$
- Scalar-nucleon x pseudoscalar-electron:  $g_s^N g_p^e$

Mass range =  $[10^{-22}, 10^3]$  eV

Missing:  $d_{\hat{m}}$ ,  $d_{\delta m}$ ,  $d_g$ ,  $d_i^{(2)}$

## Vectors

- Dark photon kinetic mixing:  $\frac{\epsilon}{2}X_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}$
- $B-L$  Gauge coupling:  $g_{B-L}V_\mu J_{B-L}^\mu$

Mass range =  $[10^{-22}, 10^3]$  eV

Missing:  $g_B$ ,  $g_L$ ,  $g_{L_\mu-L_\tau}$

Other WISPs missing: chameleon, relaxion, sub-eV sterile- $\nu$

# AxionLimits

Obvious room for improvement & input from community

- Constraints are very incomplete at  $>\text{MeV}$  masses (so far only axion-photon coupling goes that high)
- Bounds are mostly not true-to-source, and accuracy is driven largely by how easy a particular plot from a paper was to digitise. (Some people have sent me data directly - thank you!)
- Lacking several interesting couplings and coupling combinations
- Levels of model-dependence/assumption could be highlighted better on plots (discussed in later slides)
- Not user-friendly. Code is something of a Frankenstein, a lot of inconsistency and needs organisation and streamlining

# COST outcomes

One possible outcome of COST that could be very useful for the community is to put forward an agreed set of conventions:

## **Limits:**

- Consistent approach for reporting limits (e.g. CL)
- Agreed assumptions for dark matter searches: DM density, lineshape, handling of stochastic effects etc.
- Agree to avoid sloppy definitions of couplings (esp. the case for nucleons)
- Agreed tiers of theory model targets.  
e.g. when should a haloscope search “stop”?

## **Visualisation:**

- Agreed notation
- Consistent approach to summary plots where colours are used meaningfully to represent assumptions or some other feature

# COST outcomes

Common assumptions:

- Note WIMP DD community has already done this: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2105.00599>
- WISP DD may be more challenging but something should probably be attempted

## Recommended conventions for reporting results from direct dark matter searches

D. Baxter<sup>1</sup>, I. M. Bloch<sup>2</sup>, E. Bodnia<sup>3</sup>, X. Chen<sup>4,5</sup>, J. Conrad<sup>6</sup>, P. Di Gangi<sup>7</sup>,  
J. E. Y. Dobson<sup>8</sup>, D. Durnford<sup>9</sup>, S. J. Haselschwardt<sup>10</sup>, A. Kaboth<sup>11,12</sup>,  
R. F. Lang<sup>13</sup>, Q. Lin<sup>14</sup>, W. H. Lippincott<sup>3</sup>, J. Liu<sup>4,5,15</sup>, A. Manalaysay<sup>10</sup>,  
C. McCabe<sup>16</sup>, K. D. Mora<sup>17</sup>, D. Naim<sup>18</sup>, R. Neilson<sup>19</sup>, I. Olcina<sup>10,20</sup>,  
M.-C. Piro<sup>9</sup>, M. Selvi<sup>7</sup>, B. von Krosigk<sup>21</sup>, S. Westerdale<sup>22</sup>, Y. Yang<sup>4</sup>,  
N. Zhou<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>School of Physics and Astronomy, Tel-Aviv University, Tel-Aviv 69978, Israel

<sup>3</sup>University of California, Santa Barbara, Department of Physics, Santa Barbara, CA 93106, USA

<sup>4</sup>INPAC and School of Physics and Astronomy, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, MOE Key Lab for Particle Physics, Astrophysics and Cosmology, Shanghai Key Laboratory for Particle Physics and Cosmology, Shanghai 200240, China

<sup>5</sup>Shanghai Jiao Tong University Sichuan Research Institute, Chengdu 610213, China

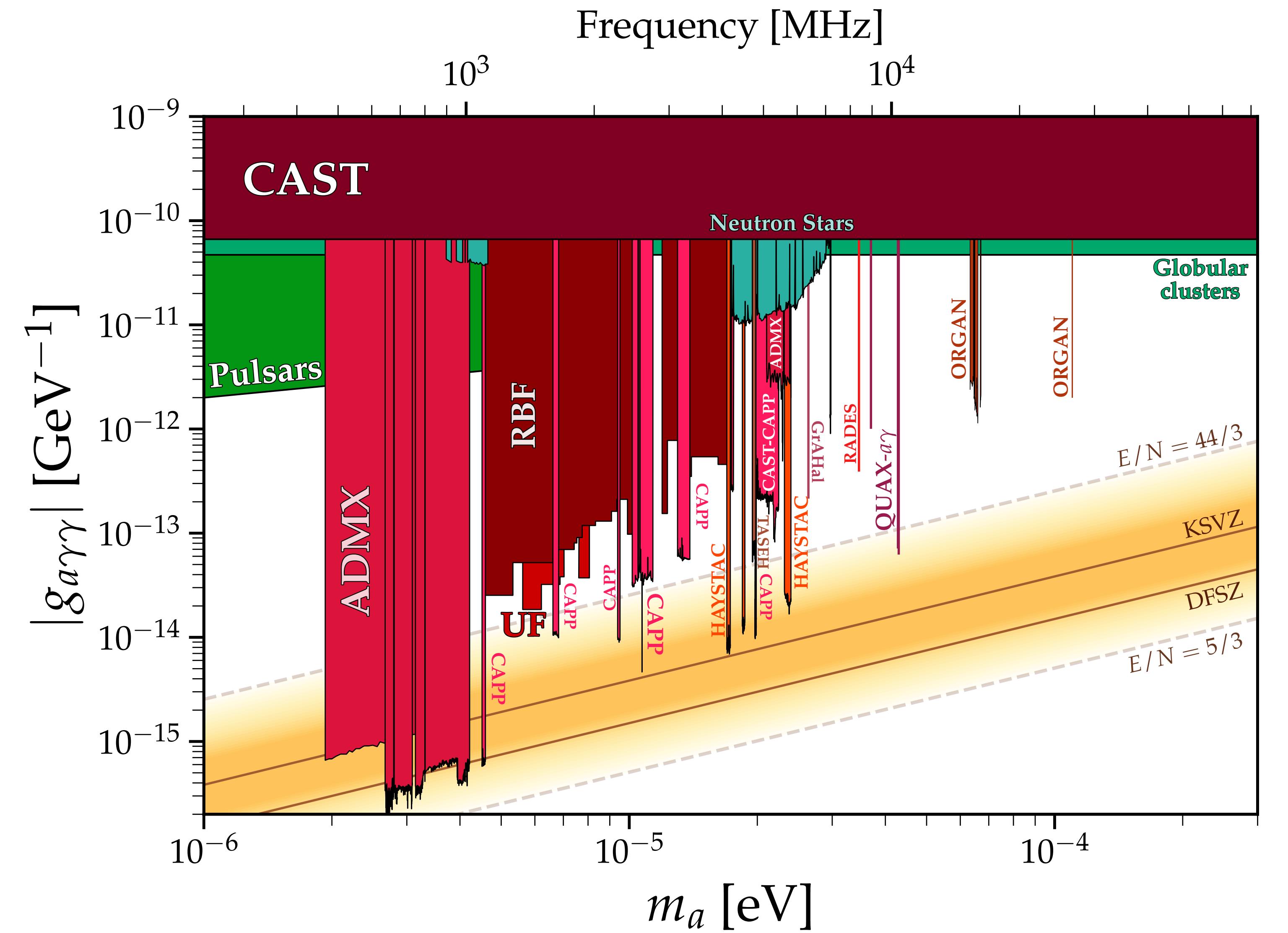
# AxionLimits

- One thing that would be great to address this, is a more systematised library for constraint data, e.g. via a Google spreadsheet:

Label	Interaction	File	Mass unit	Coupling unit	CL	Location	Type	DM density	Year	arxiv number
ADMX	axion-photon	AxionPhoton/ADMX2021.txt	eV	1/GeV	90	Washington, USA	darkmatter-haloscope	0.45	2021	2110.06096
Globular clusters	axion-photon	AxionPhoton/GlobularClusters.txt	eV	1/GeV	N/A	N/A	stellar-cooling	N/A	2022	2207.03102
CAST	axion-photon	AxionPhoton/CAST.txt	eV	1/GeV	95	CERN	stellar-helioscope	N/A	2017	1705.02290
ALPS	axion-photon	AxionPhoton/ALPS	eV	1/GeV	95	DESY	laboratory-LSW	N/A	2010	1004.1313

...

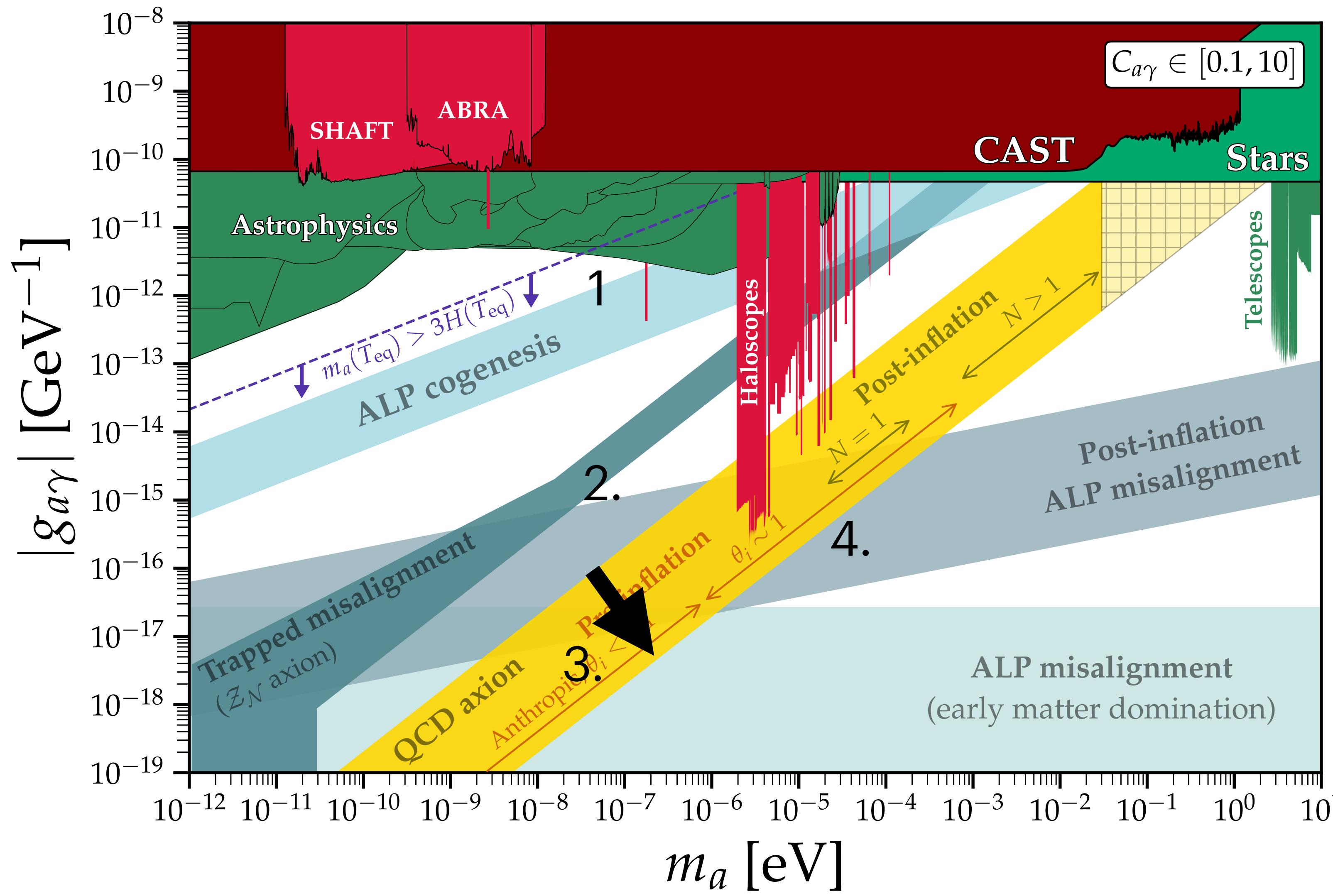
# COST outcomes



Perhaps the most critical area is axion haloscopes. Tight interplay between assumed dark matter signal model, reported CL, and ultimate theory target.

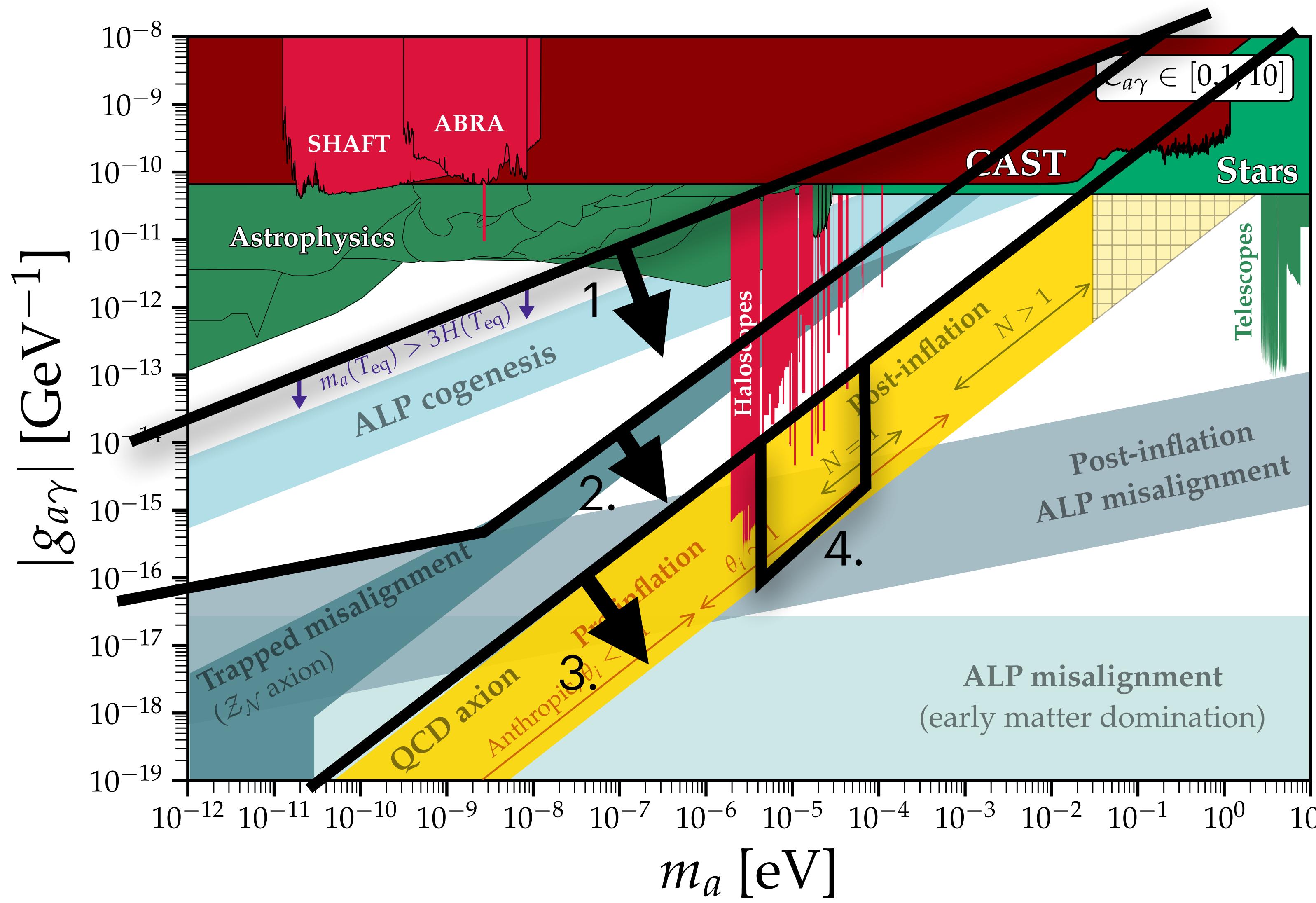
# COST outcomes

Theory targets for future searches and proposals. Clear synergy with WG1&2 needed



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Theory targets for future searches and proposals. Clear synergy with WG1&2 needed



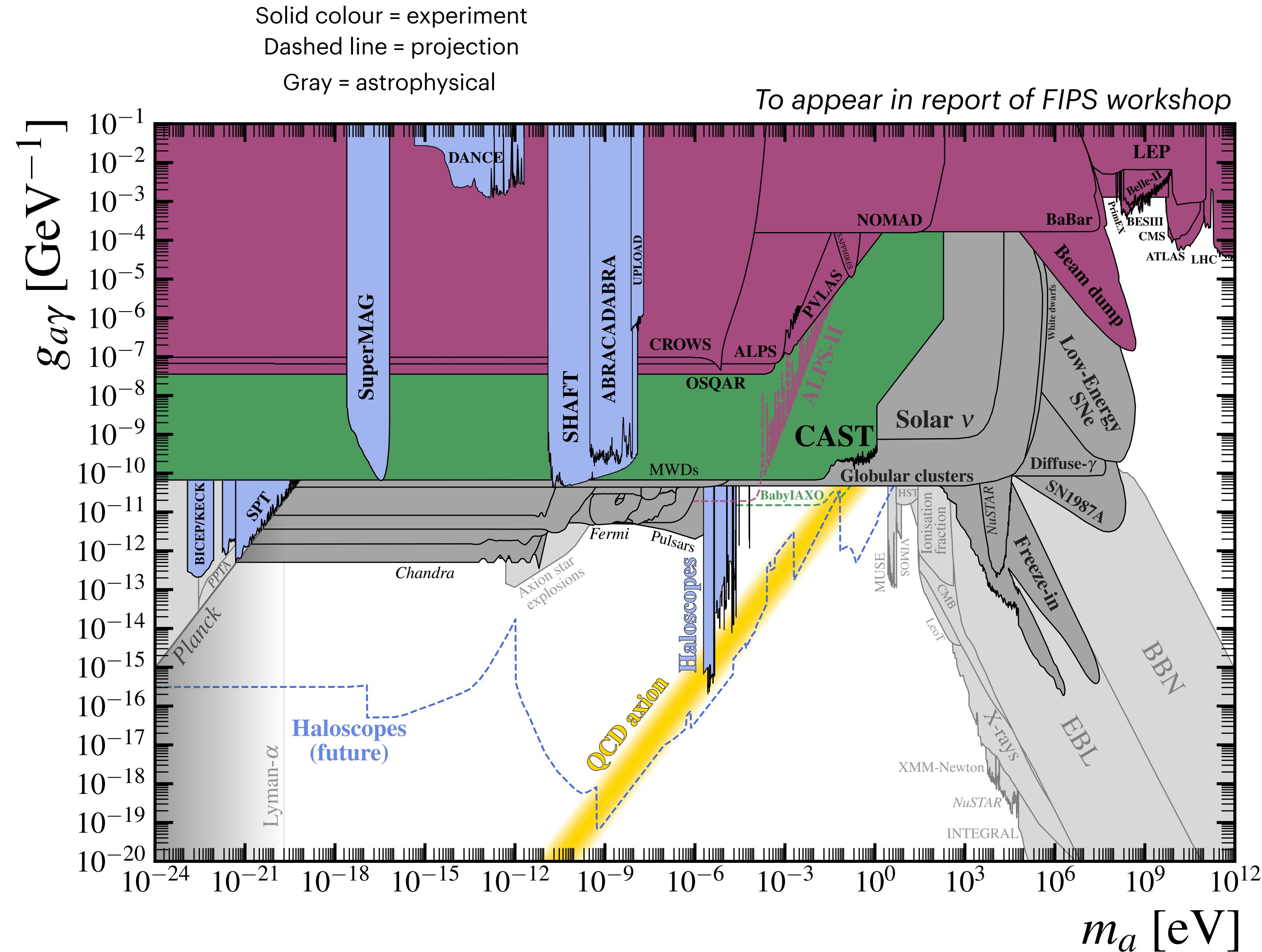
Example: ALP dark matter

1. Minimal ALP dark matter
2. Non-standard ALP/axion models
3. QCD axion
4. QCD axion + cosmological mass prediction

# Possible summary plot

Visualisation: Plots are already complicated enough, more care needs to be taken to use visual information in a meaningful way.

**Example:** color/transparency to represent layers of assumption and model-dependence



# Possible summary plot

Model-dependence:

**Axion-production** experiments  
(e.g. LSW, collider)

**Direct astrophysical** searches  
(e.g helioscopes)

**Indirect astrophysical** searches  
(Stellar cooling, axion-photon oscillations)

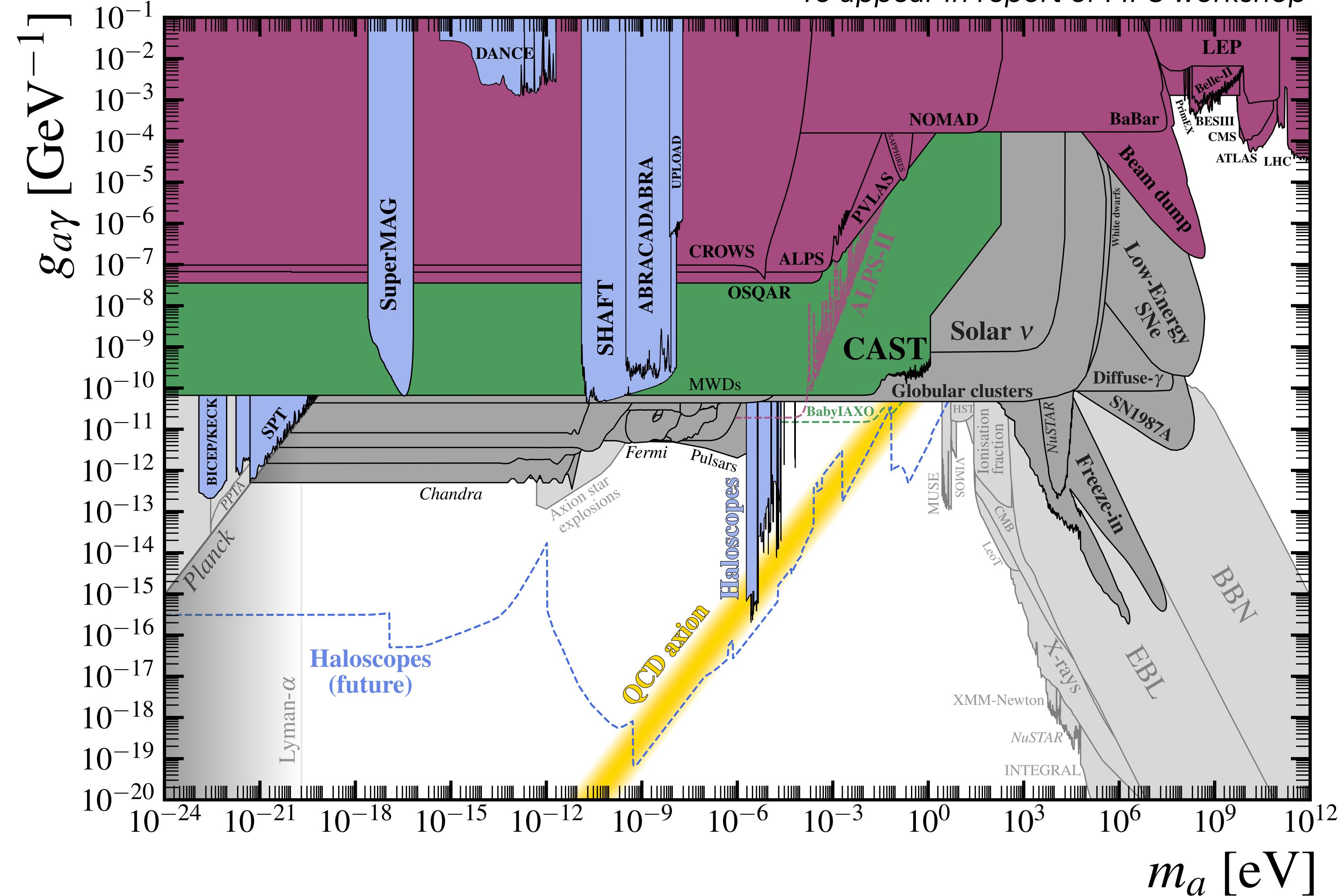
**Direct dark matter** searches  
(Haloscopes)

**Indirect dark matter** searches

Solid colour = experiment  
Dashed line = projection

Gray = astrophysical

To appear in report of FIPS workshop



# Possible summary plot

## Alternative ordering

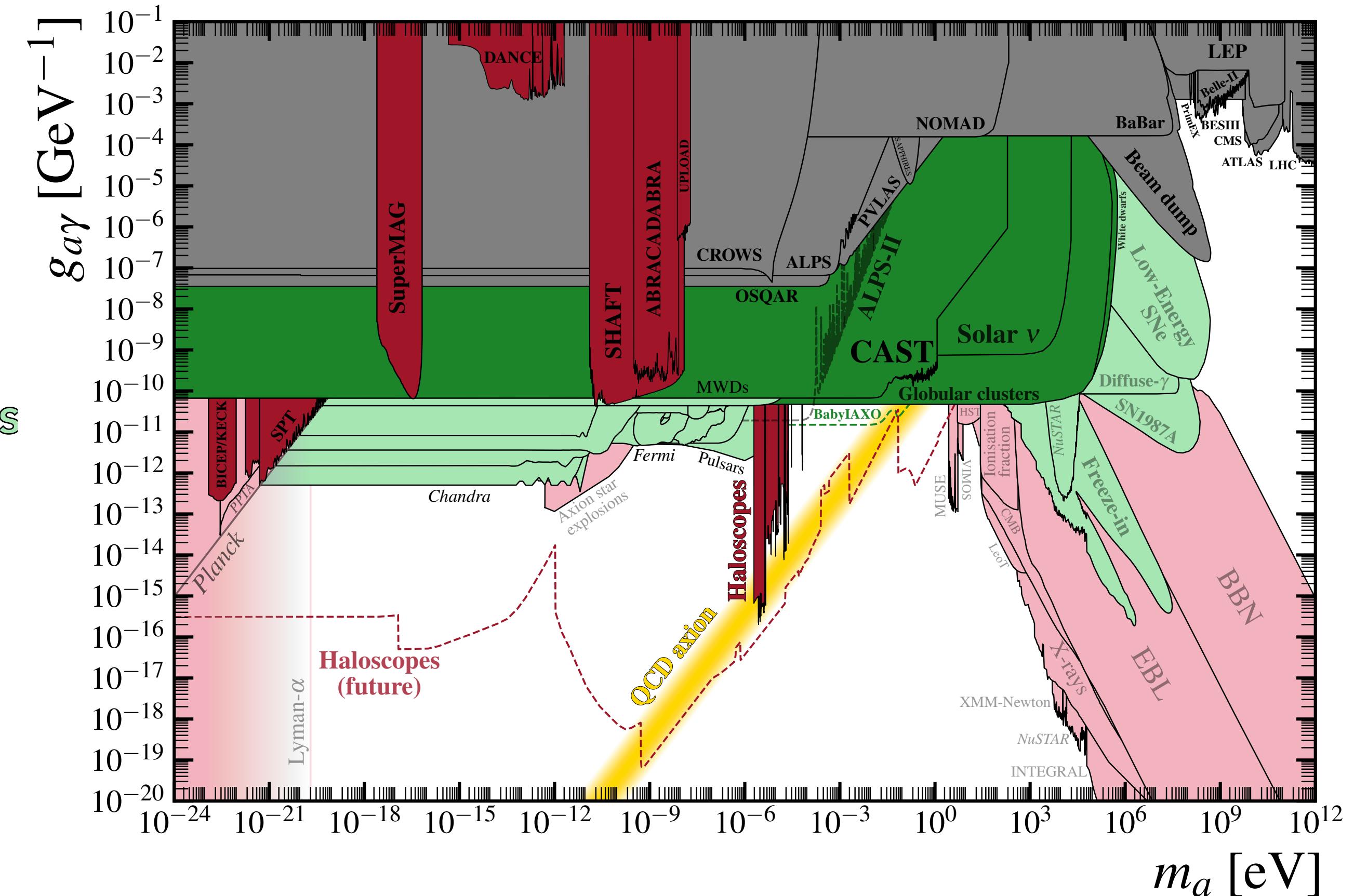
**Assumption-free**  
(e.g. LSW, collider)

**Assumption-free w/ minimal astro uncertainties**  
(e.g. helioscopes, solar- $\nu$ )

**Assumption-free w/ moderate astro uncertainties**  
(e.g. axion-photon oscillations/astrophysical B-fields)

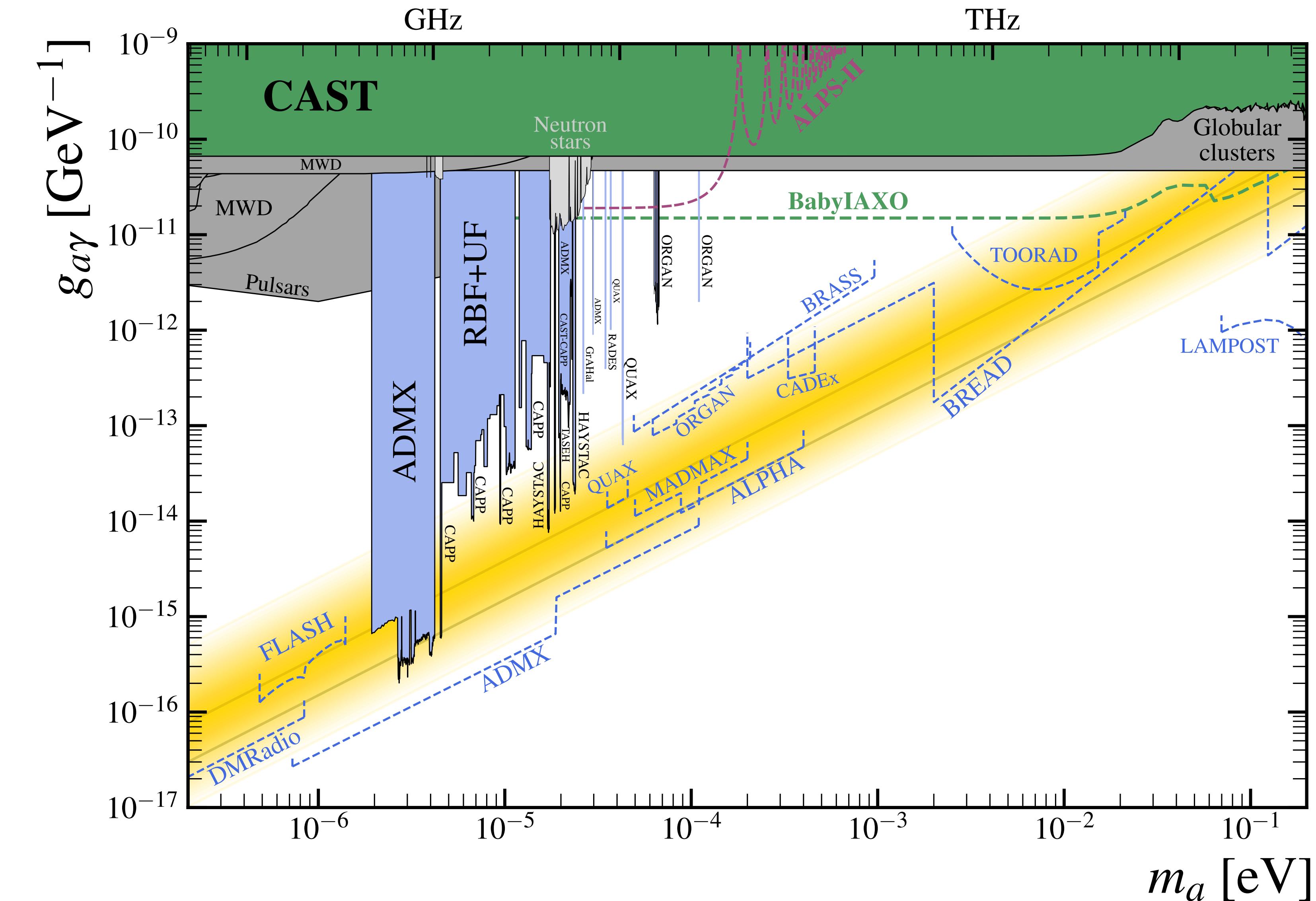
**Dark matter w/ minimal model-dependence**  
(e.g. haloscopes)

**Dark matter w/ moderate model-dependence**  
(e.g. cosmological dark matter bounds)



# Experimental projections

- No one knows how to interpret projected limits.
  - Assumptions aside, it becomes especially unclear when projections are displayed together on the same plot.
  - Most people (I think) just take them to be “marking territory”
  - Not always clear to what extent frequency range covered is based on existing/realistic technology.
  - Should projections be scaled to a common set of assumptions, or shown true to original publication?



The plots so far have been a community effort thanks to many helpful comments I've received over the last few years.

Please email me for requests/changes/updates etc.

[ciaran.ohare@sydney.edu.au](mailto:ciaran.ohare@sydney.edu.au)