

nEDM limits on ALP couplings to fermions



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Work in collaboration with


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arXiv:2403.12133



Axion-like particles (ALPs)

Axions and ALPs are:

- pseudo-Goldstone bosons of some new $U(1)$
- well motivated NP candidates 
- targeted by an extensive experimental program

	Axion	ALPs
Strong CP problem	✓	✗
Dark Matter	✓	✓
Cosmic Inflation	✓	✓
Baryogenesis	✓	✓

The ALP Effective Field Theory

ALP couplings to up- and down-type quarks:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_a \supset & \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu a \partial^\mu a - \frac{1}{2} m_a^2 a^2 \\ & + (\bar{u}_L \mathbf{M}_u u_R + \bar{d}_L \mathbf{M}_d d_R + \text{h.c.}) + \theta \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu} \\ & + \frac{\partial_\mu a}{f_a} (\bar{Q}_L \gamma^\mu \mathbf{C}_Q Q_L + \bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu \mathbf{C}_{u_R} u_R + \bar{d}_R \gamma^\mu \mathbf{C}_{d_R} d_R)\end{aligned}$$

[Georgi, Kaplan, Randall, *Phys. Lett. B* 169 (1986) 73-78]

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The ALP Effective Field Theory

ALP couplings to up- and down-type quarks:

$$\mathcal{L}_a \supset (\bar{u}_L \mathbf{M}_u u_R + \bar{d}_L \mathbf{M}_d d_R + \text{h.c.}) + \theta \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}$$

related by anomalous $U(1)_{\text{Axial}}$

\implies Physical combination is

$$\bar{\theta} = \theta + \text{Arg det}(\mathbf{M}_u \mathbf{M}_d)$$

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ALP couplings to up- and down-type quarks:

$$\mathcal{L}_a \supset \frac{\partial_\mu a}{f_a} \left(\bar{Q}_L \gamma^\mu \underbrace{C_Q Q_L + \bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu C_{u_R} u_R + \bar{d}_R \gamma^\mu C_{d_R} d_R}_{\text{CP-violation in flavor-nondiagonal entries}} \right)$$

CP-violation in flavor-nondiagonal entries

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The ALP Effective Field Theory

ALP couplings to up- and down-type quarks:

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CP-violation in flavor-nondiagonal entries

Will source CP violating observables e.g. the nEDM

ALP contributions to the nEDM

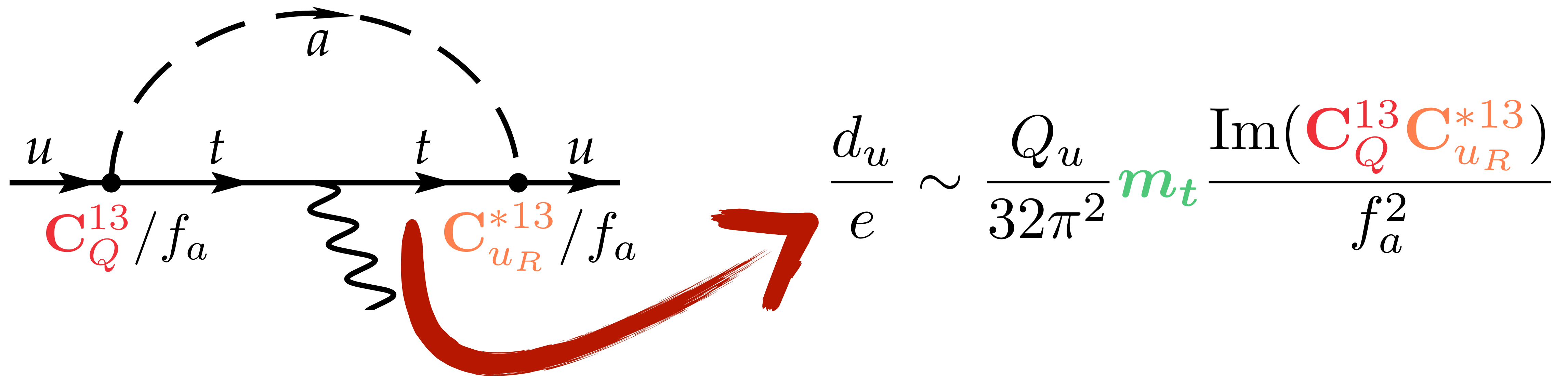
How can C_Q , C_{u_R} , C_{d_R} contribute?

nEDM sourced by $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bullet \text{ Quark EDMs and CEDMs} \\ \bullet \text{ The } \bar{\theta} \text{ parameter} \end{array} \right.$

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Corrections to the quark EDMs and CEDMs

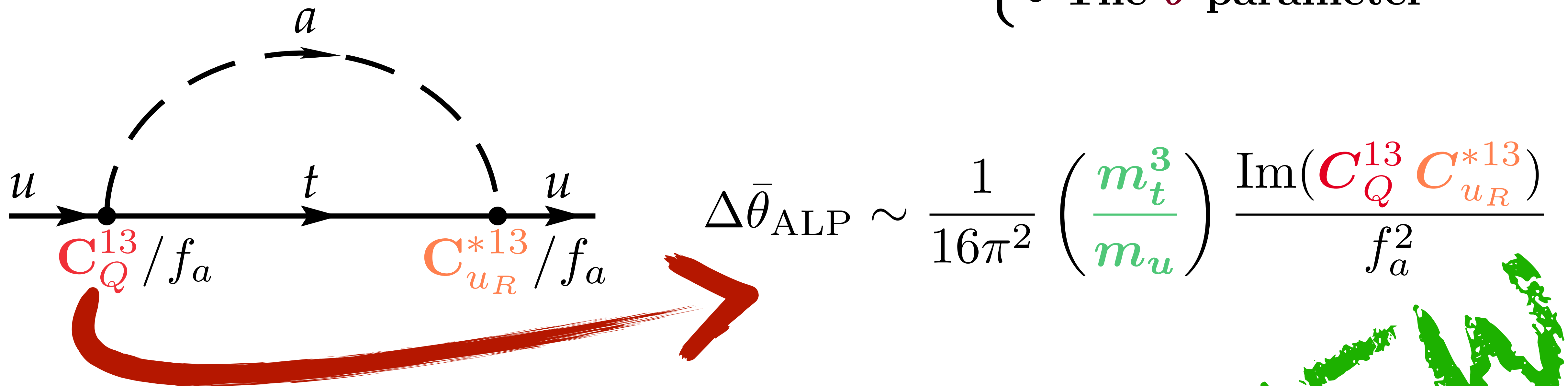
[Di Luzio et al., 2010.13760]

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ALP contributions to the nEDM

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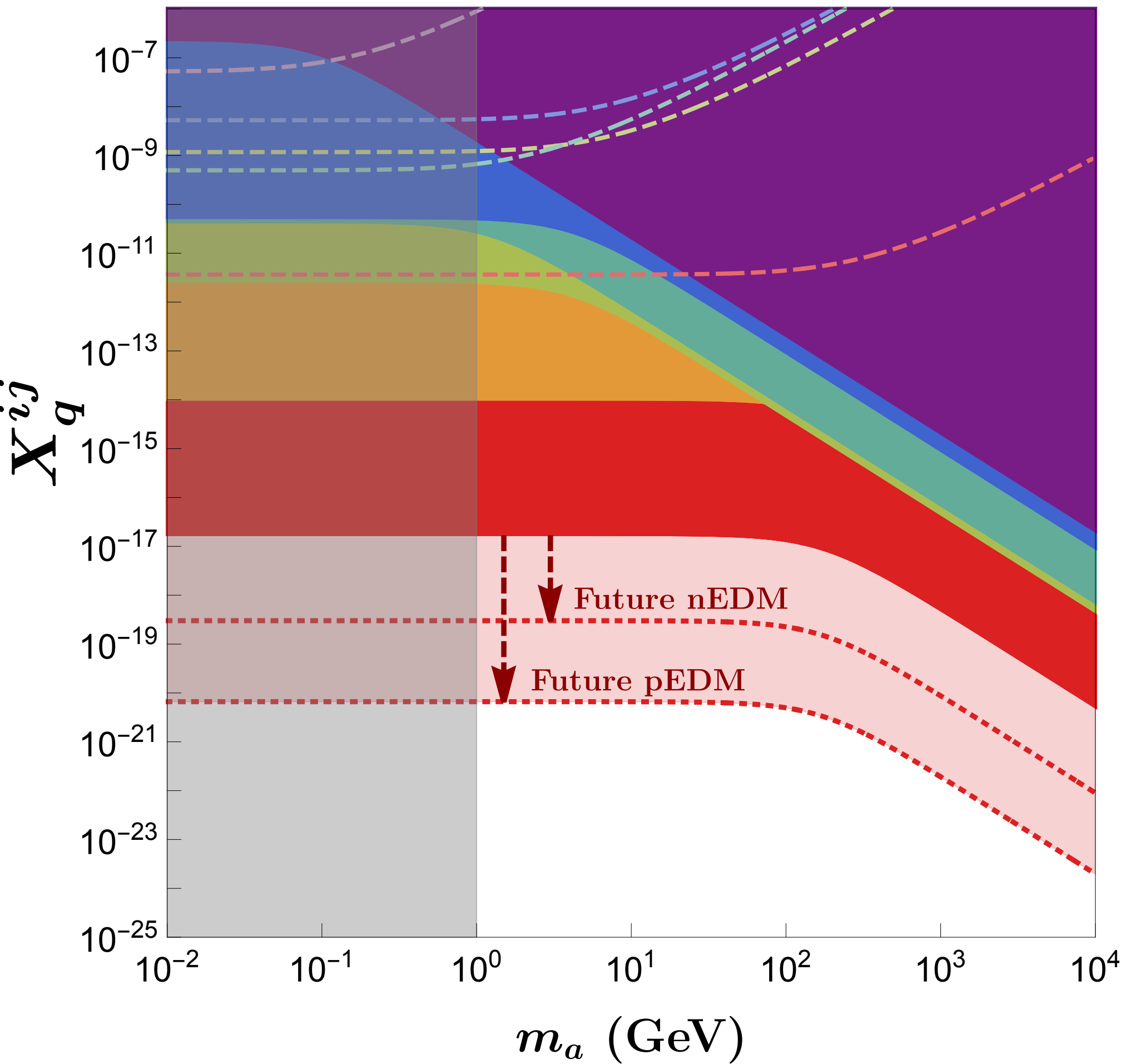


Corrections to $\bar{\theta} = \theta + \text{Arg det}(M_u M_d)$

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NEW

nEDM limits on ALP-fermion couplings



$$X_q^{ij} = \text{Im}(\mathbf{C}_L^{ij} \mathbf{C}_{qR}^{*ij}) / f_a^2 \text{ (GeV}^{-2}\text{)}$$

— X_u^{13}
⋯ X_u^{13}
- - - X_u^{13}

— X_u^{23}

— X_d^{13}
⋯ X_d^{13}
- - - X_d^{13}

— X_u^{12}
⋯ X_u^{12}
- - - X_u^{12}

— X_d^{23}
⋯ X_d^{23}
- - - X_d^{23}

— X_d^{12}
⋯ X_d^{12}
- - - X_d^{12}

Dotted lines:

$$\left. \frac{d_n}{e} \right|_{d_q, \tilde{d}_q} \sim \mathcal{O}(1) \times \frac{Q_u}{32\pi^2} m_t \frac{\text{Im}(\mathbf{C}_Q^{13} \mathbf{C}_{uR}^{*13})}{f_a^2}$$

OLD

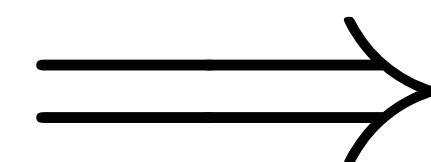
Solid regions:

$$\left. \frac{d_n}{e} \right|_{\bar{\theta}} \sim \frac{\mathcal{O}(10^{-3} \text{ GeV}^{-1})}{16\pi^2} \times \left(\frac{m_t^3}{m_u} \right) \frac{\text{Im}(\mathbf{C}_Q^{13} \mathbf{C}_{uR}^{*13})}{f_a^2}$$

NEW

General scalar theory

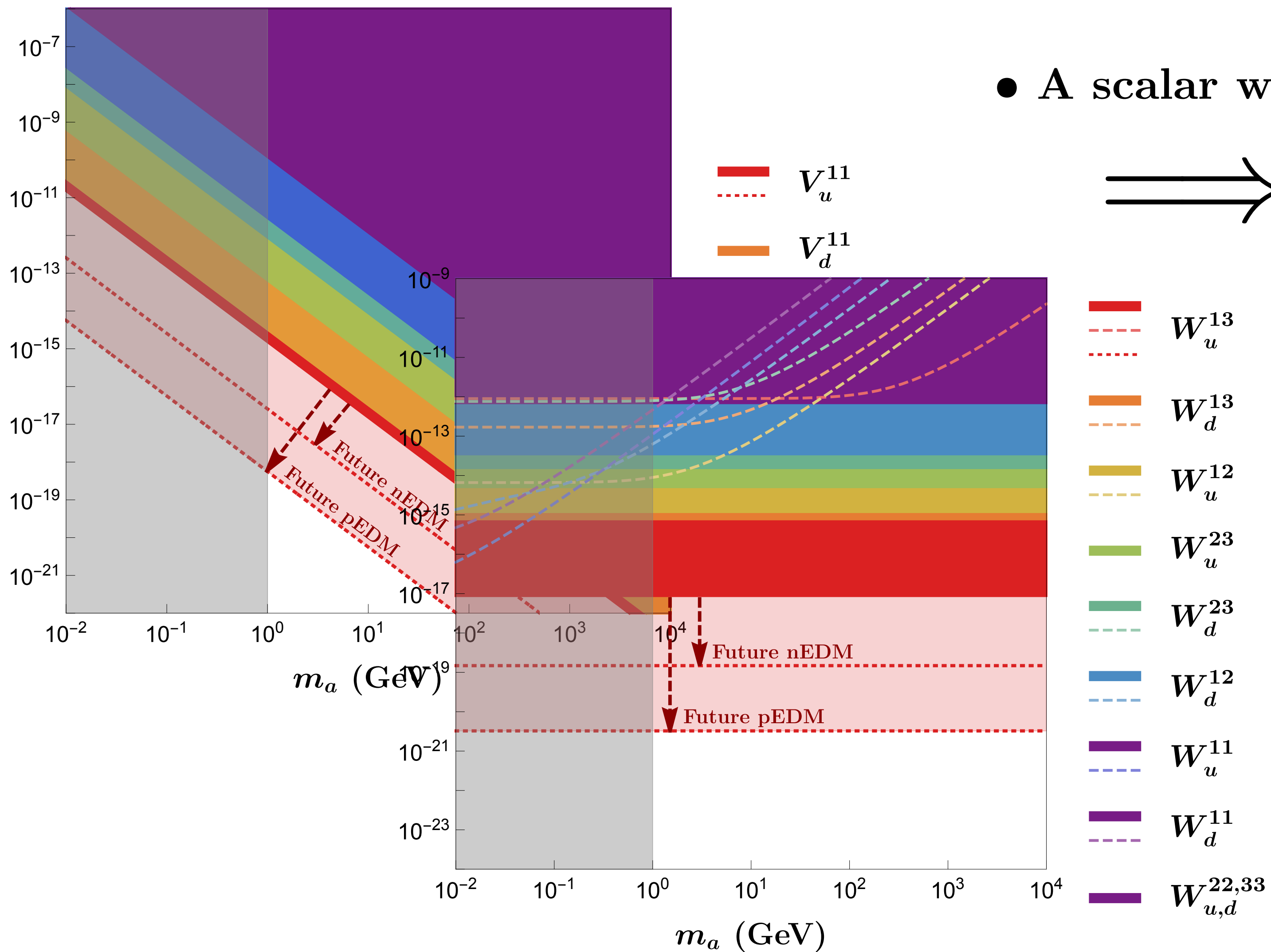
- A scalar which may not be a pseudo-Goldstone



More parametric freedom

We also

- Improved existing bounds
- Established new bounds



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