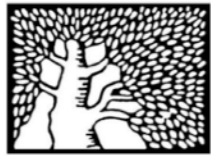


A systematic approach to axion production at finite density



מכון ויצמן למדע
WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

Konstantin Springmann

In collaboration with Michael Stadlbauer (TUM, MPP), Stefan Stelzl (EPFL) and Andreas Weiler (TUM)

Based on

2410.10945, and 2410.19902

Also 2003.04903

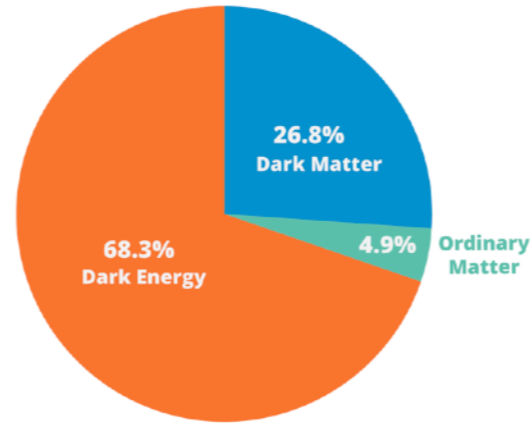
with Reuven Balkin (UCSC) and Javi Serra (IFT)



SN 1987A as seen from James Webb

Why Axions?

- Can be DM

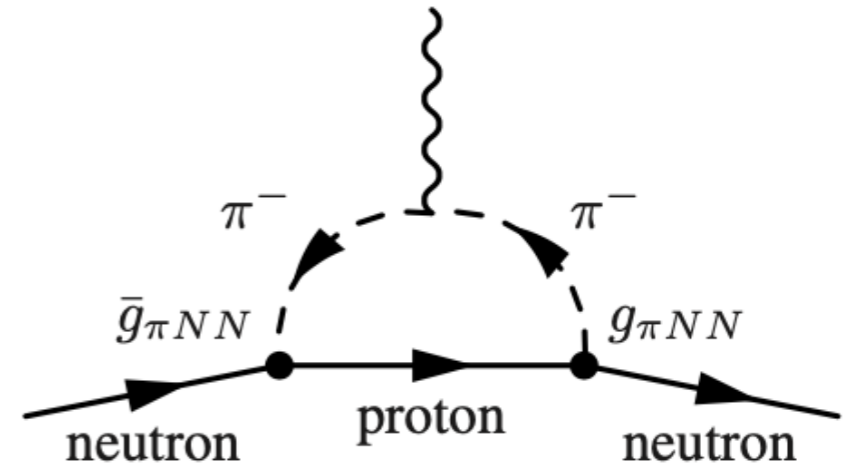


- Solves Strong CP Problem

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

$$\mathcal{L}_\chi \supset d_n \bar{n} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \gamma_5 n F_{\mu\nu}$$

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



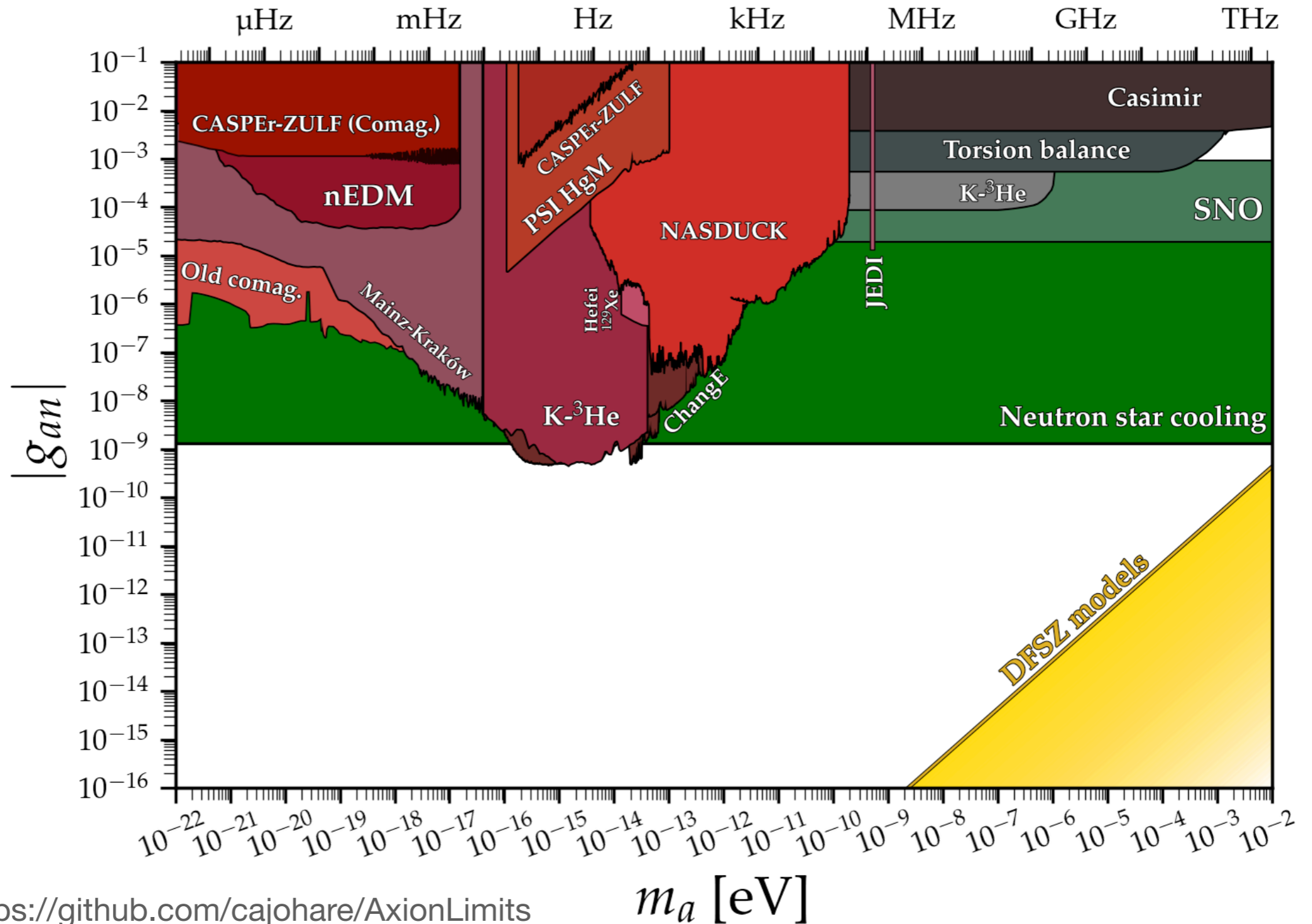
Crewther, Vecchia, Veneziano, Witten ('79)

Axion-Neutron coupling

Some of the strongest bounds from SN and NS cooling

$$g_{an} = c_n \frac{m_n}{f_a}$$

For recent astro bounds see e.g. Mirizzi et al. '19 (SN), Buschmann et al. (NS) '21



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

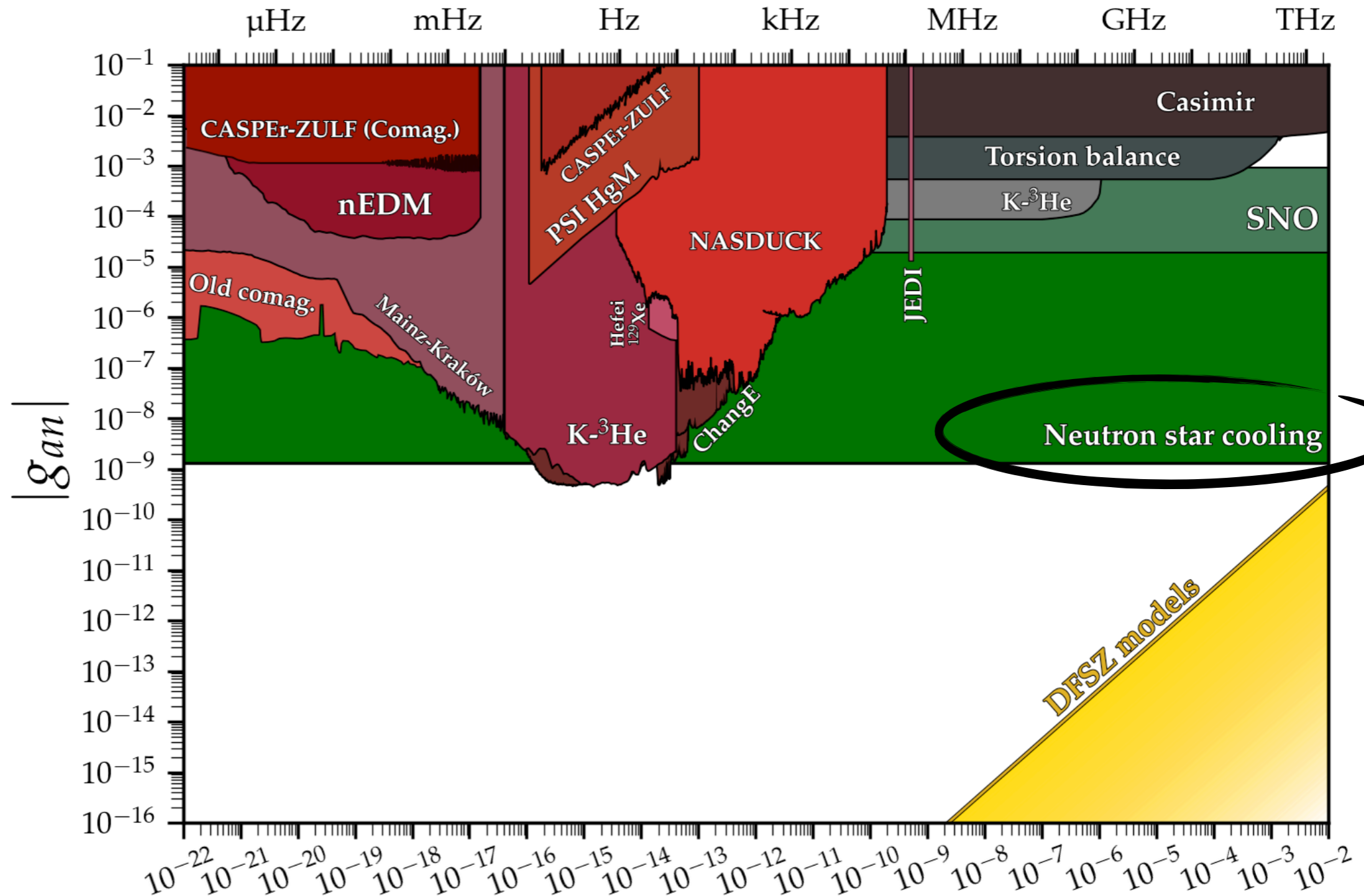
m_a [eV]

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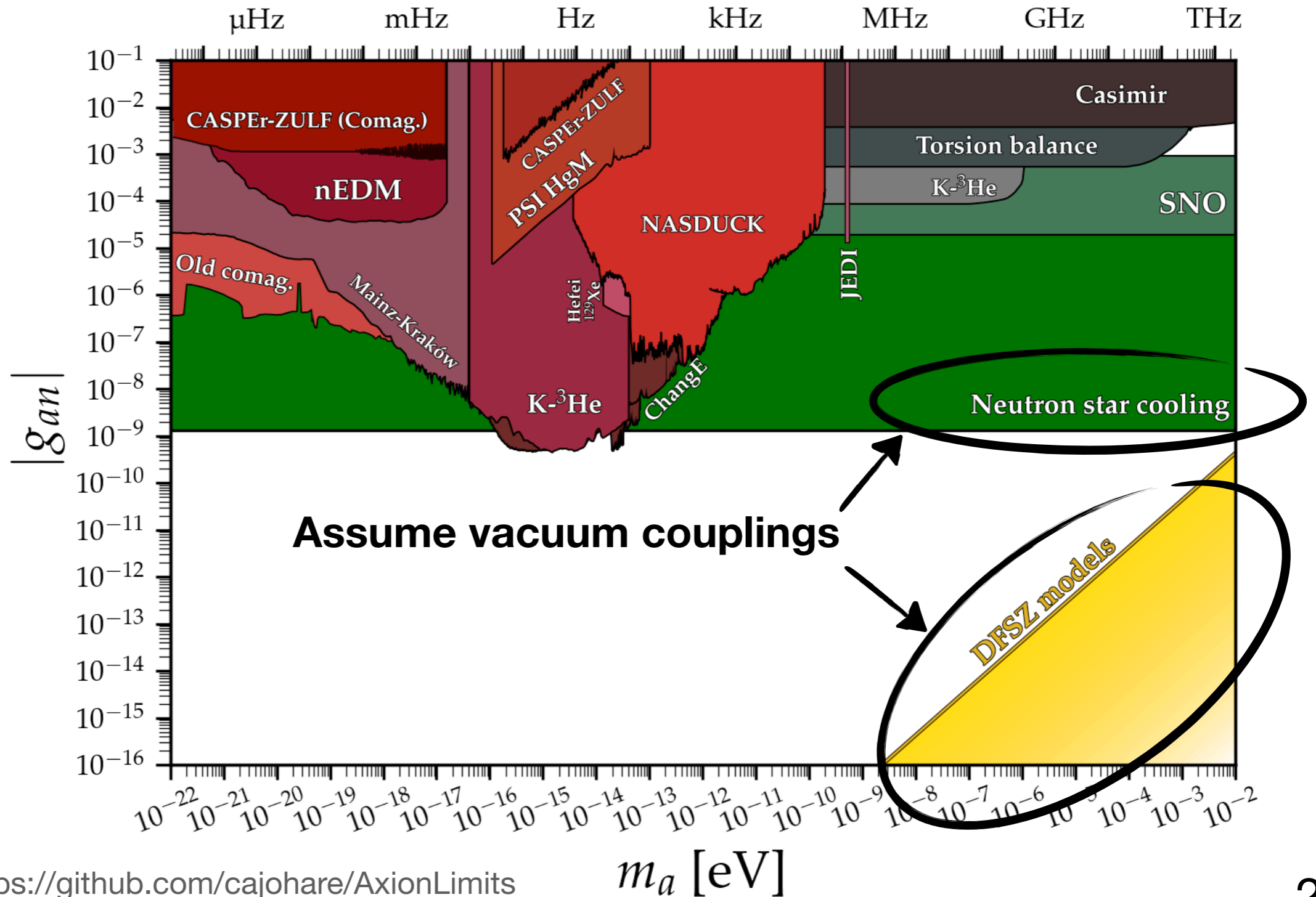


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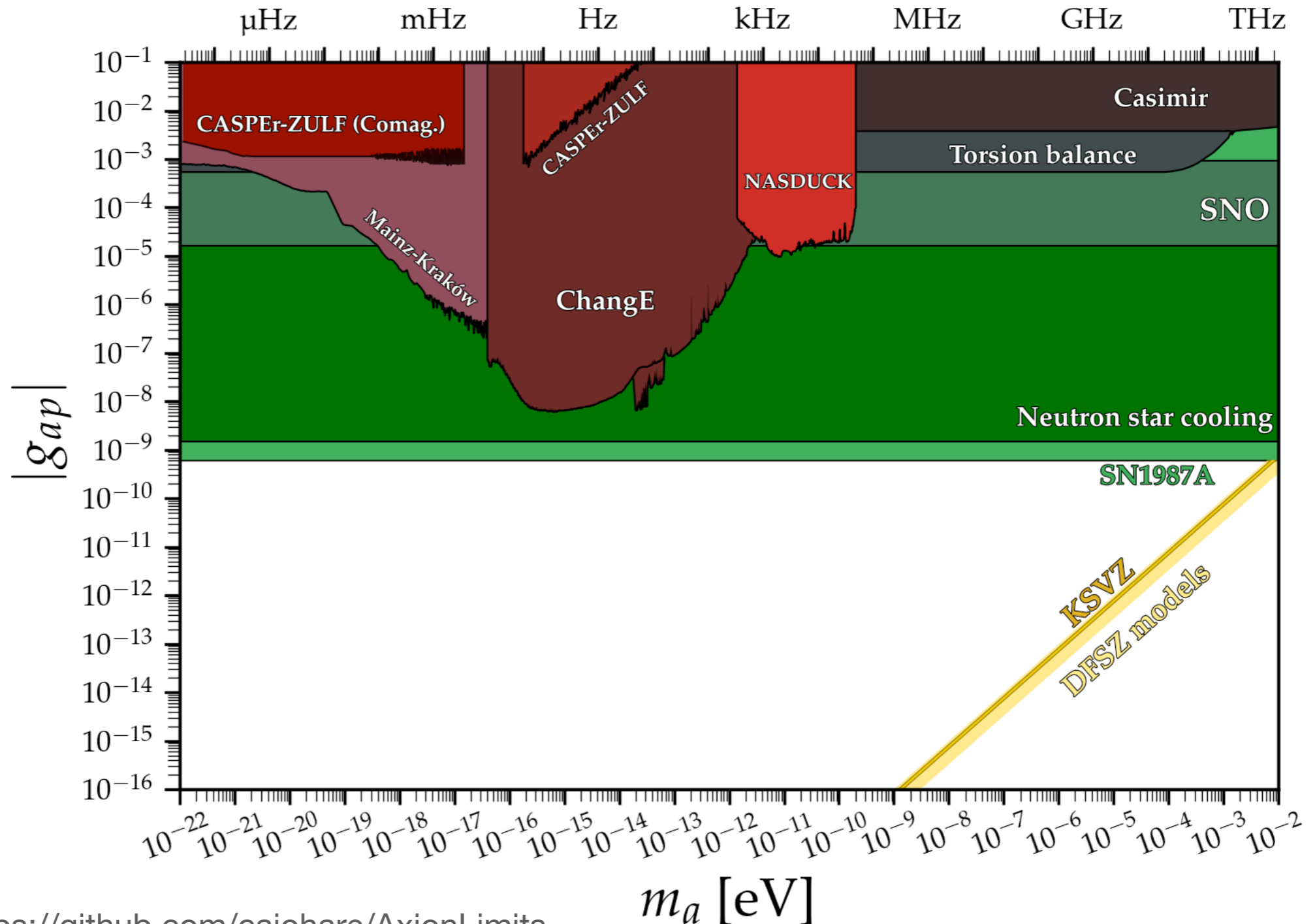


Axion-Proton coupling

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$$g_{ap} = c_p \frac{m_p}{f_a}$$



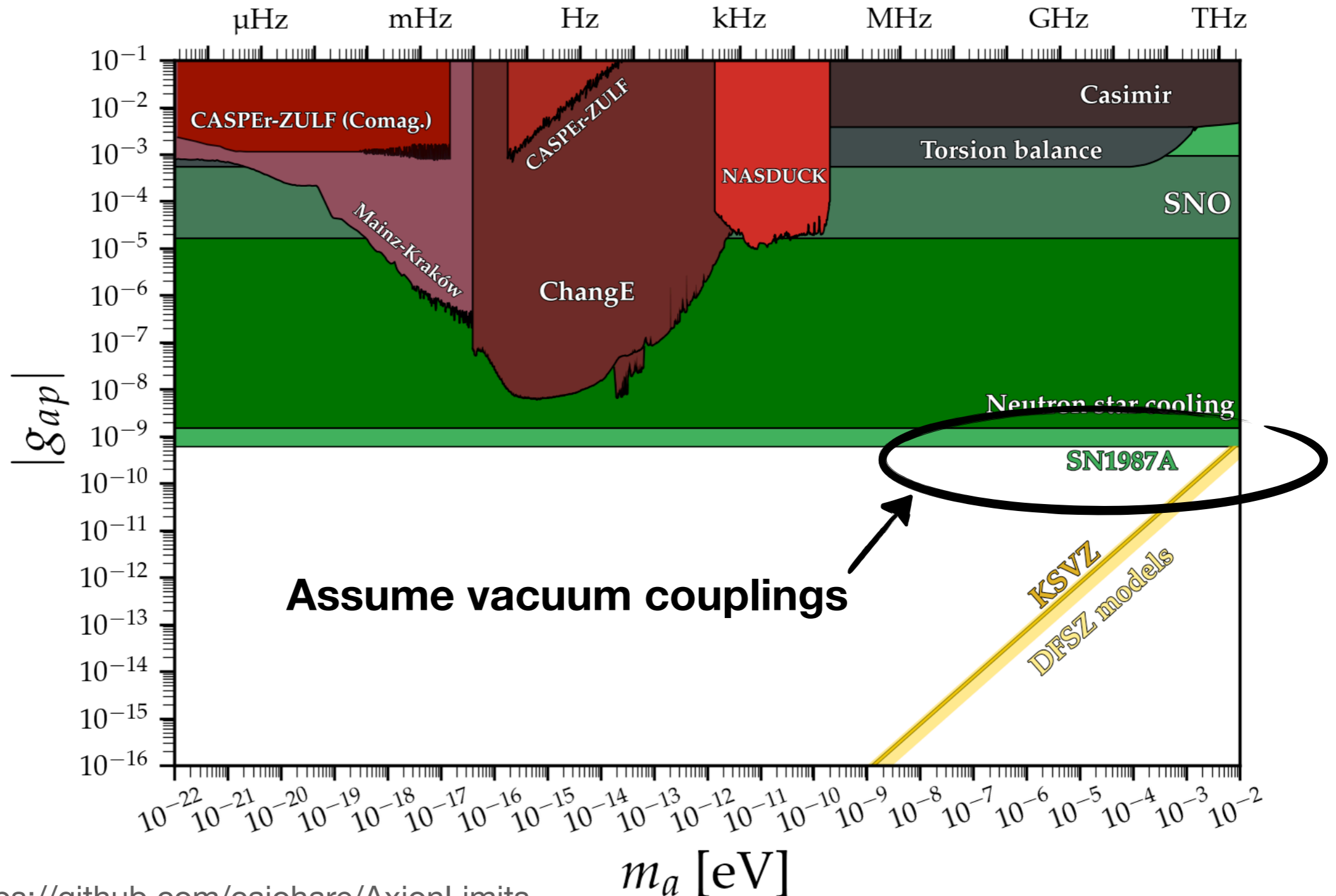
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Axion properties are highly susceptible to matter effects

Potential changes

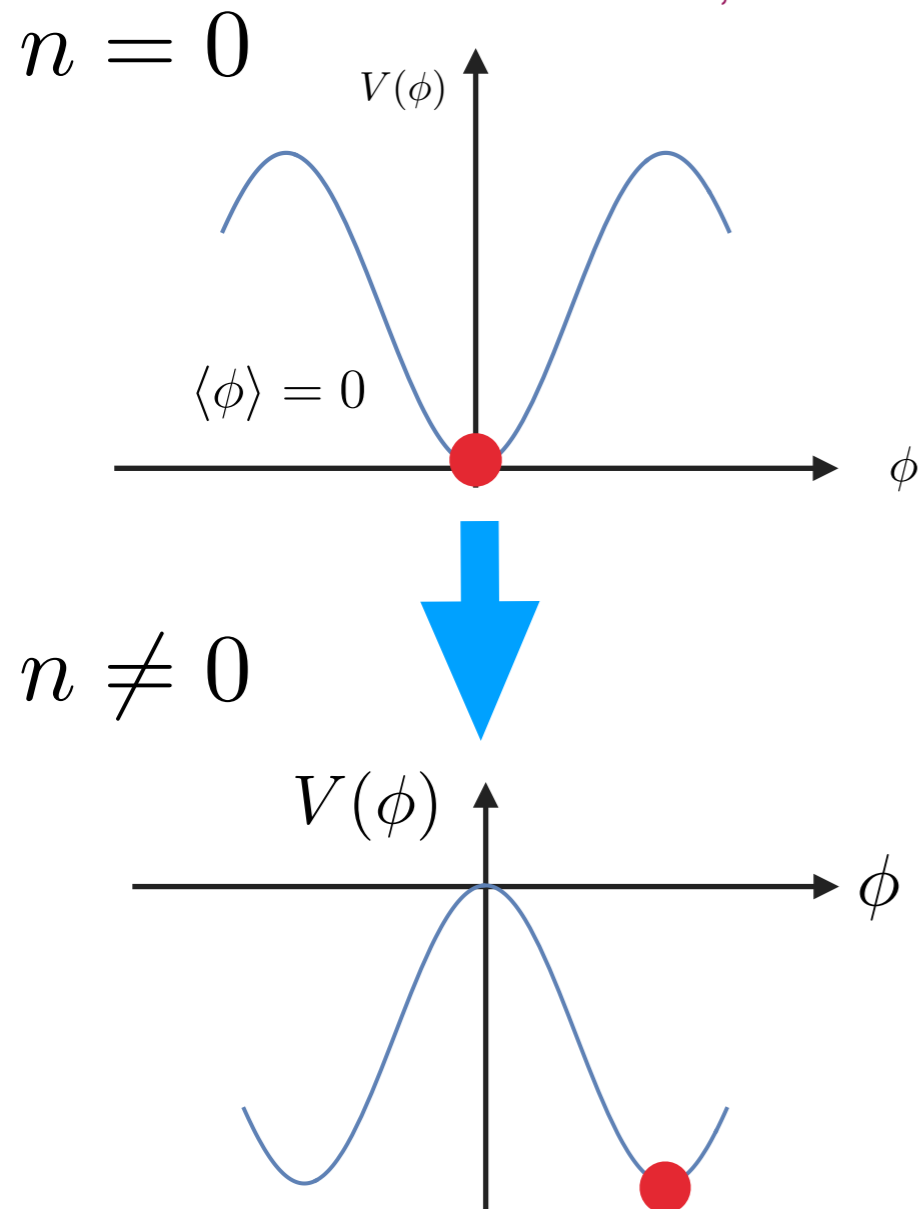
Couplings to matter change

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Potential changes

Couplings to matter change

2211.02661, 2307.14418, 2408.07740

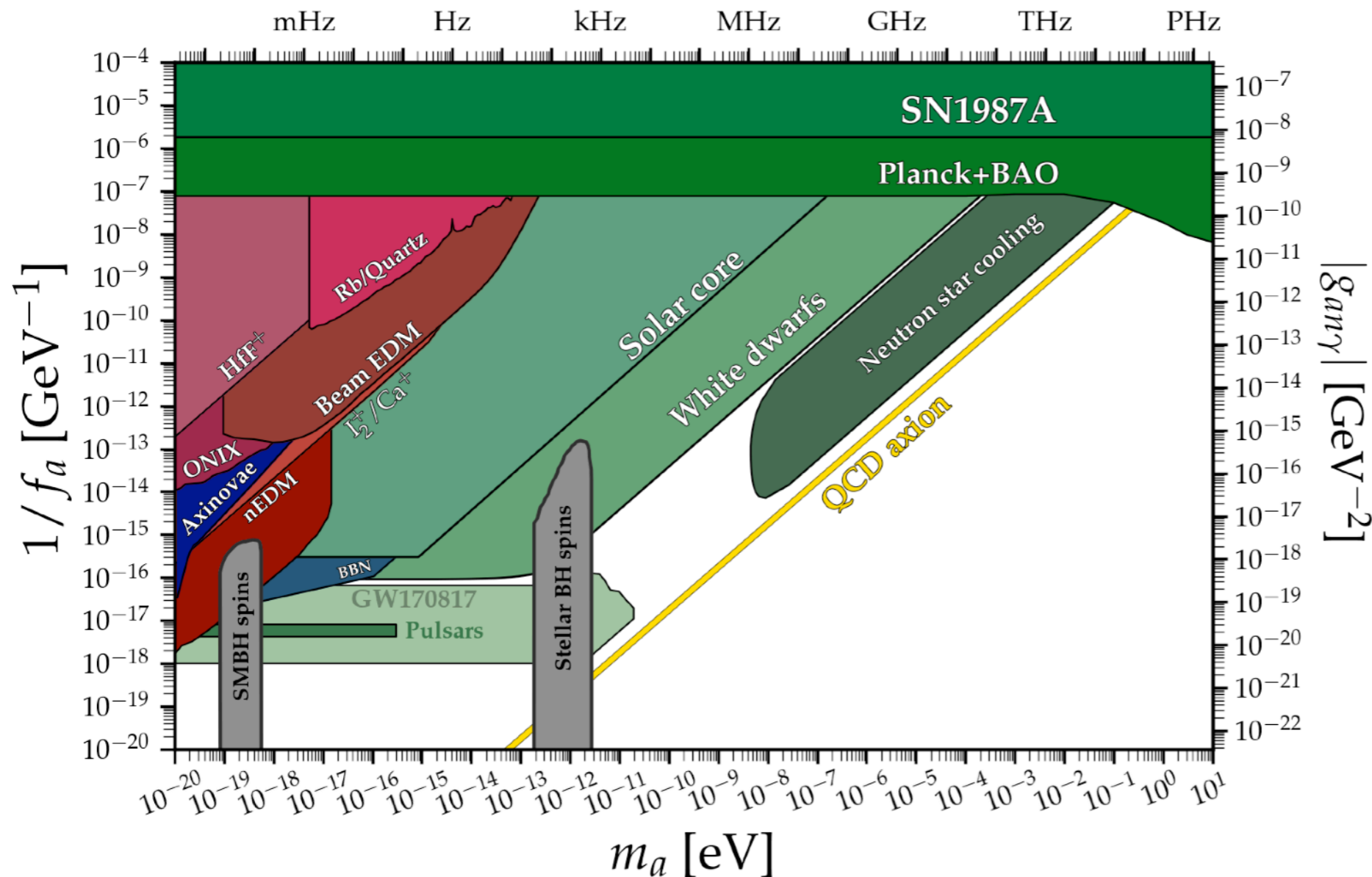


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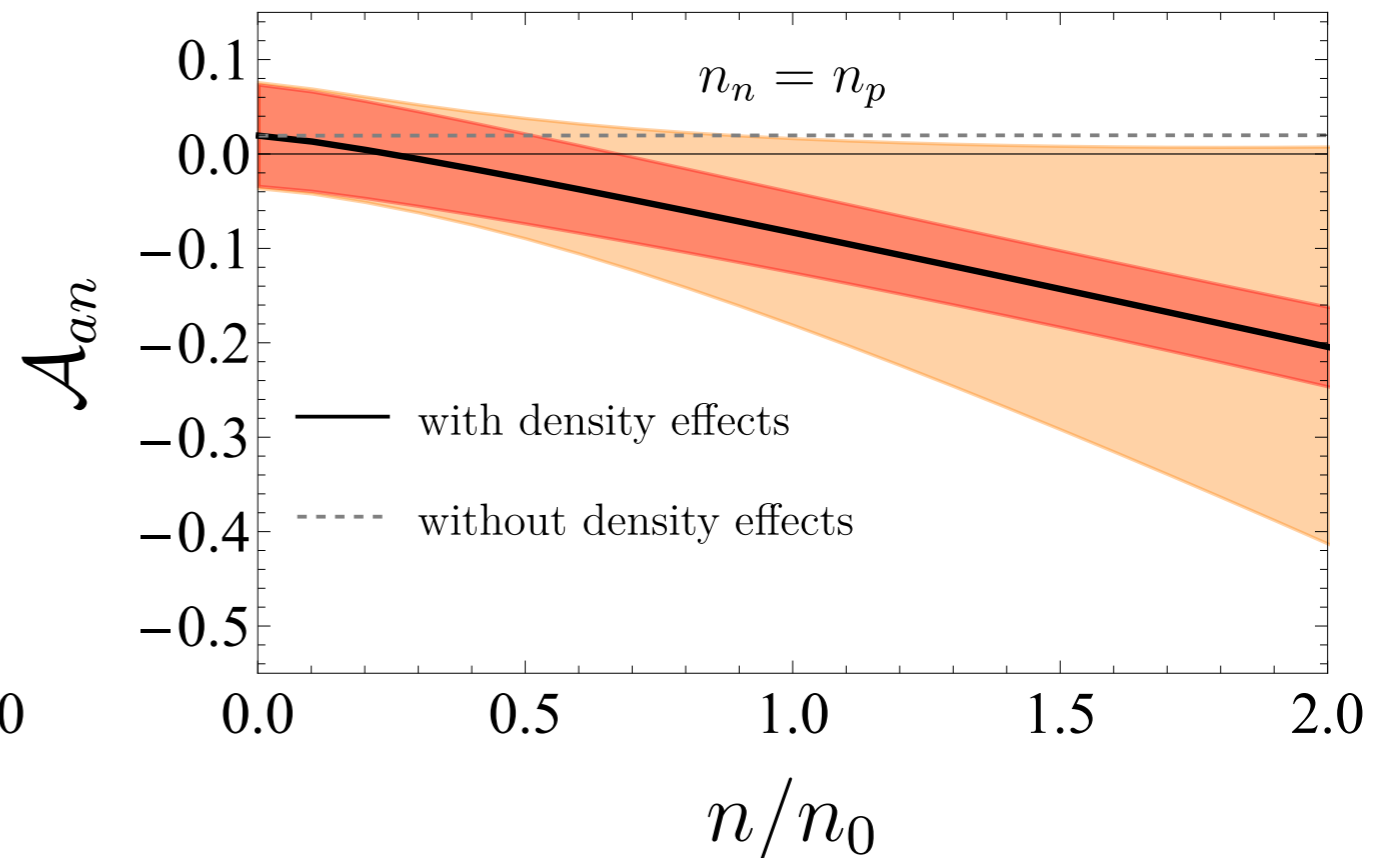
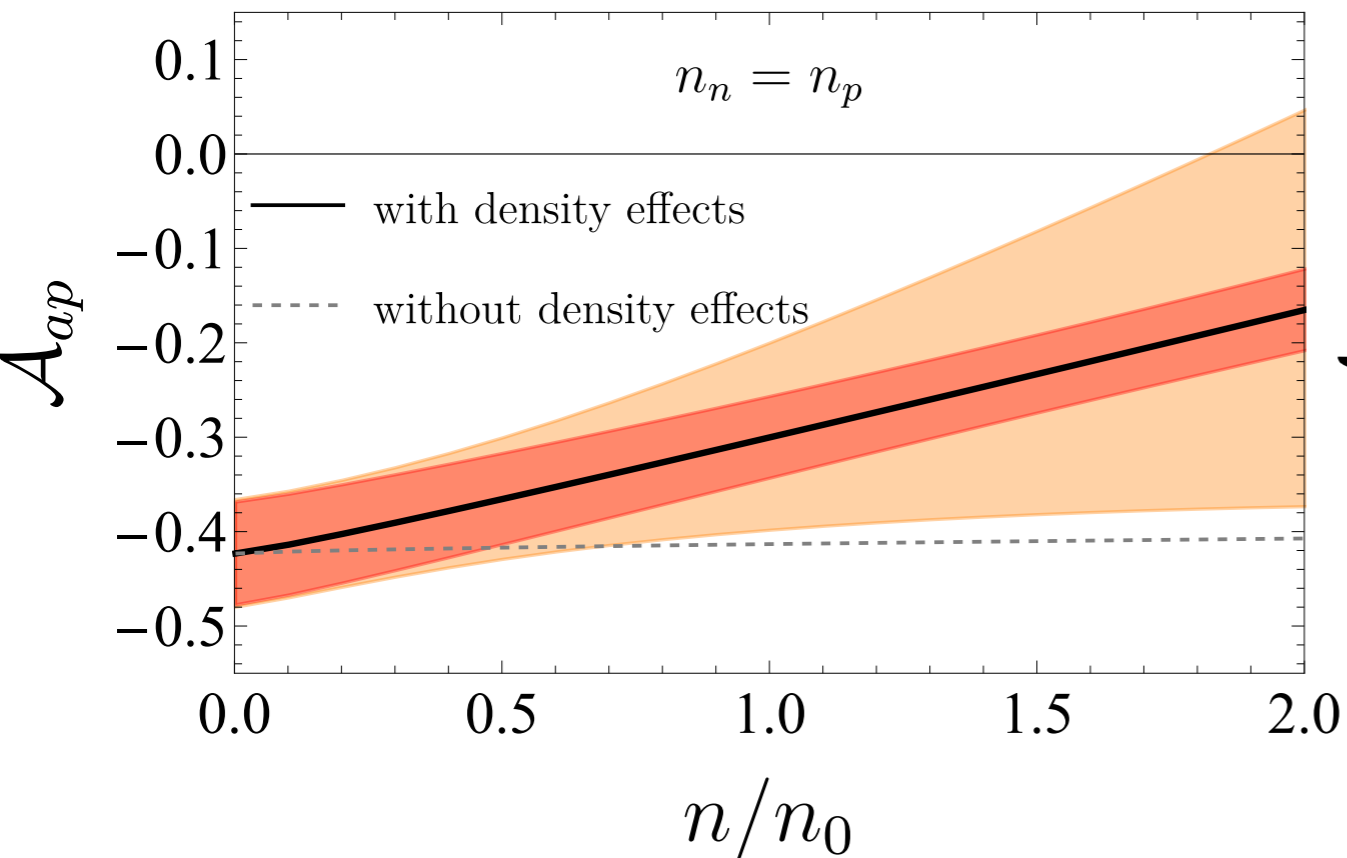
~~Potential changes~~

Couplings to matter change

Proton

2003.04903, 2410.10945

Neutron

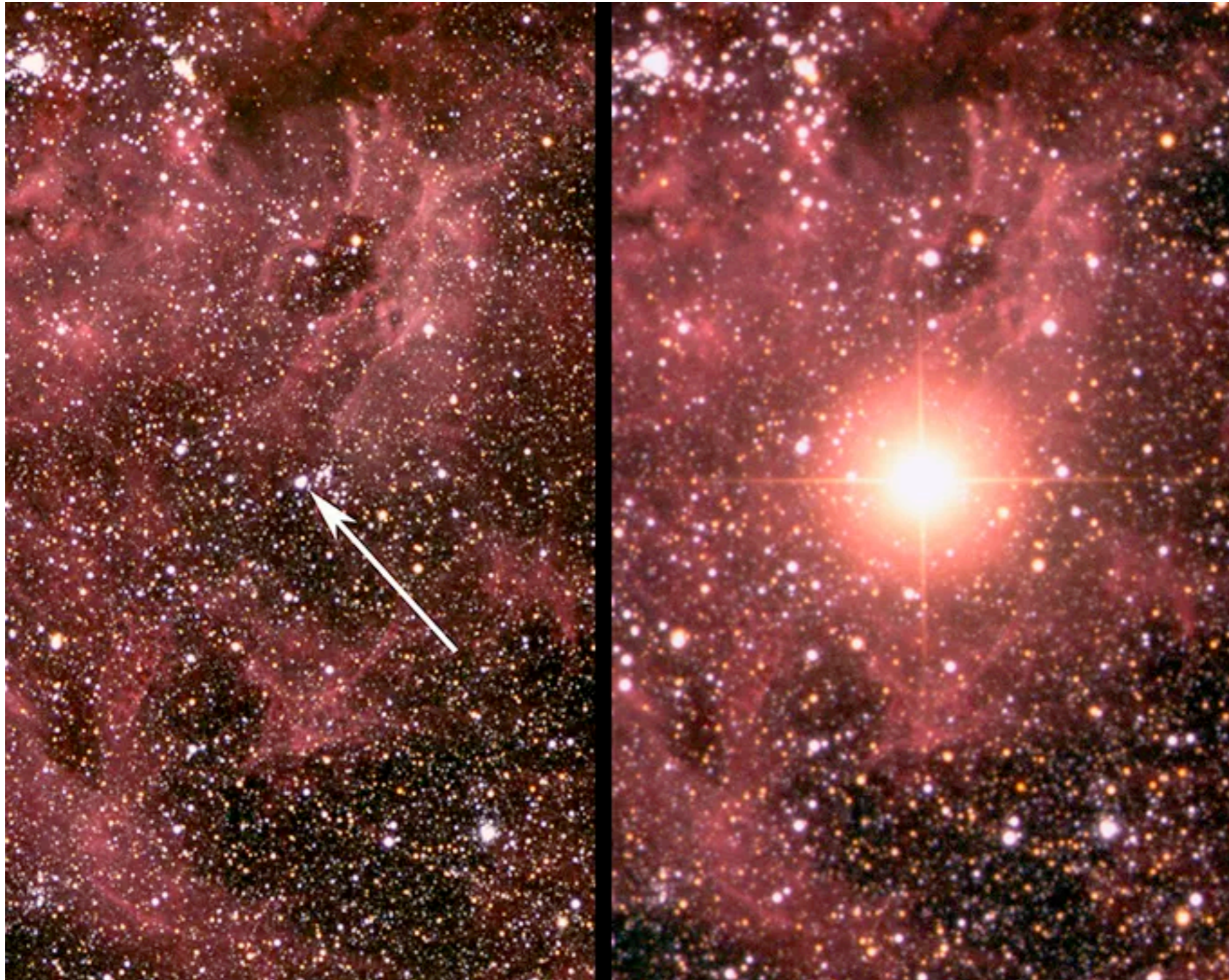


Outline

- **Supernova bound on the QCD axion**
- **Axion EFTs**
- **Couplings in vacuum and finite density**
- **Supernova bound revisited**
- **Astrophobic axions**

Bound from SN 1987A

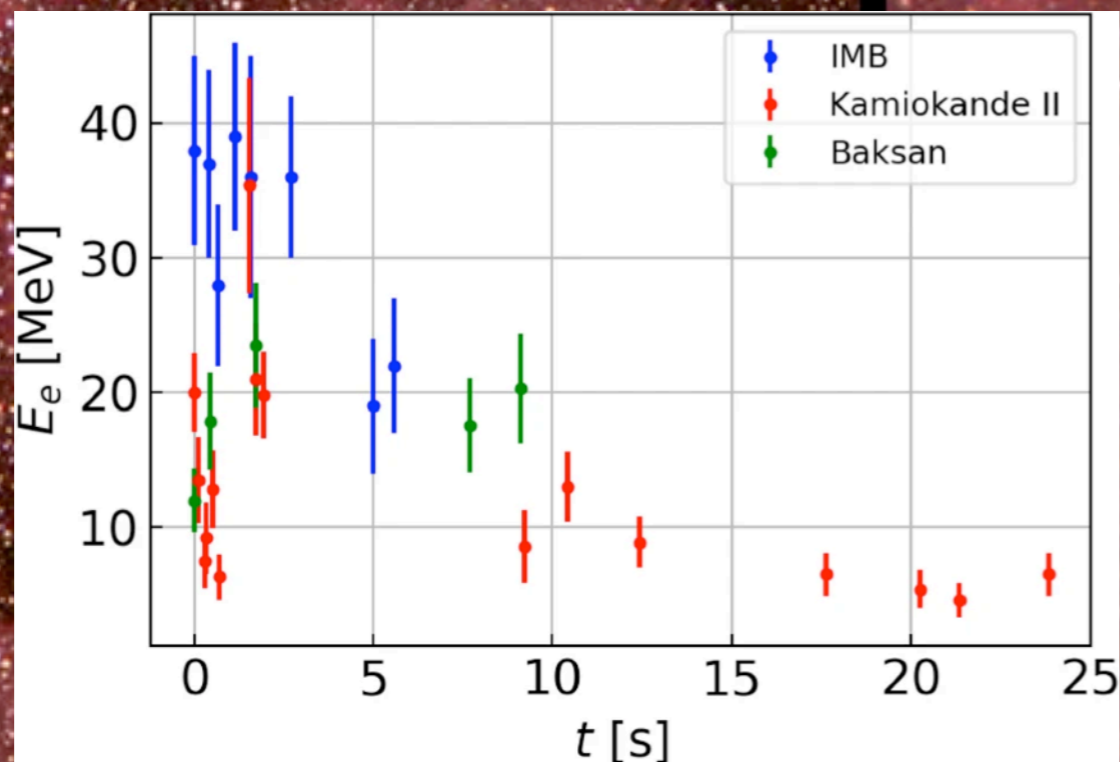
Have observed a core-collapse (type II) SN in 1987 in the Large Magellanic Cloud



Bound from SN 1987A

Have observed a core-collapse (type II) SN in 1987 in the Large Magellanic Cloud

- Neutrino burst observed in 3 indep. experiments
~ 20 neutrinos within ~ 10 sec



Bound from SN 1987A

- If new lightly coupled particle gets produced, it could shorten the duration of the neutrino signal

Raffelt criterion: $L_{\text{new}} \lesssim L_{\nu}(t = 1\text{s}) \simeq 3 \times 10^{52} \text{erg s}^{-1}$

Raffelt, Lect.Notes Phys. 741 (2008) 51-71

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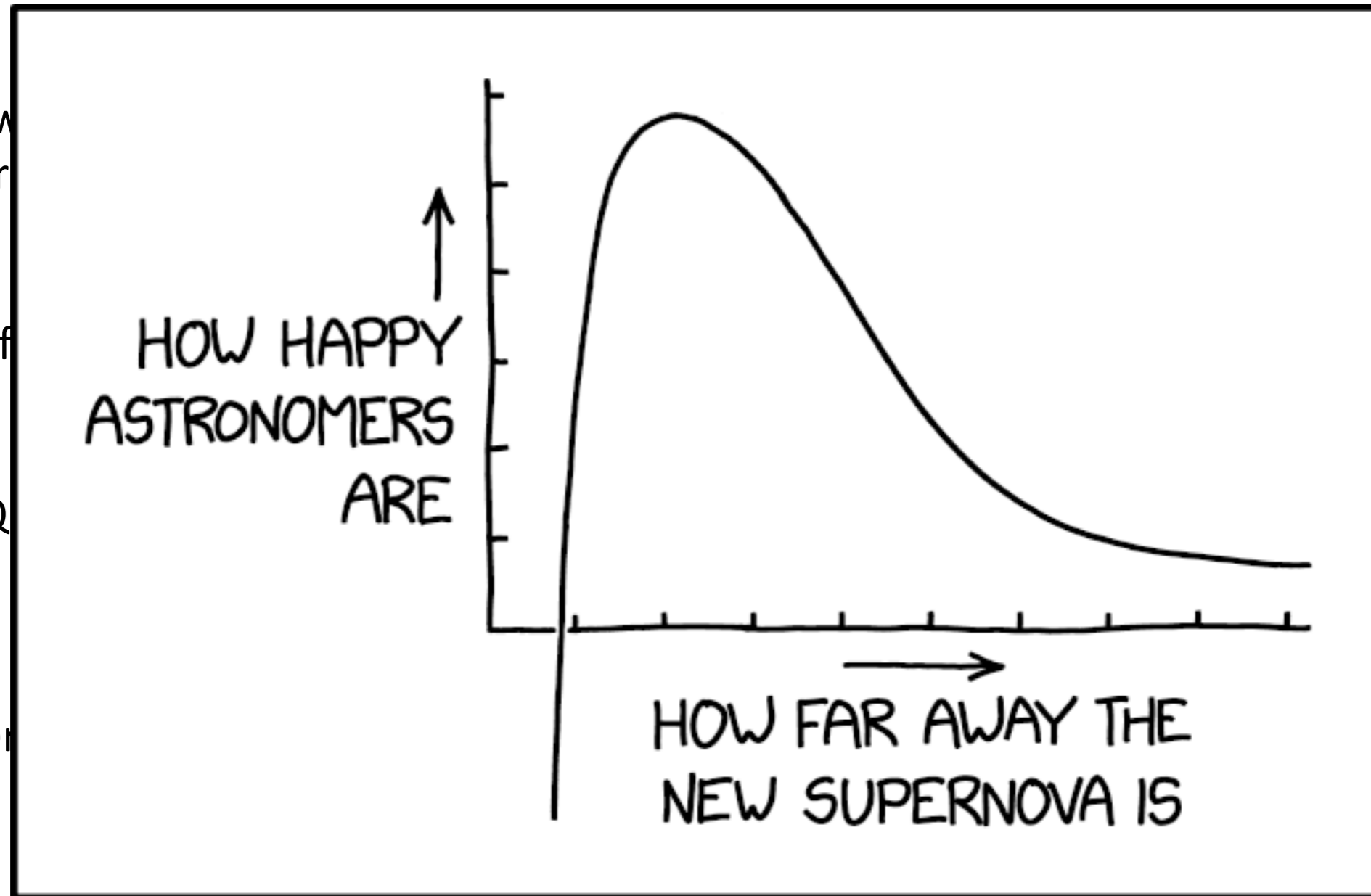
- Uncertainty in SN **dynamics** and **axion production**

Bar, Blum, D'Amico ('19)

Fransson et al. ('24)

Bound from SN 1987A

- If new neutrinos are detected
- For Q
- Uncer



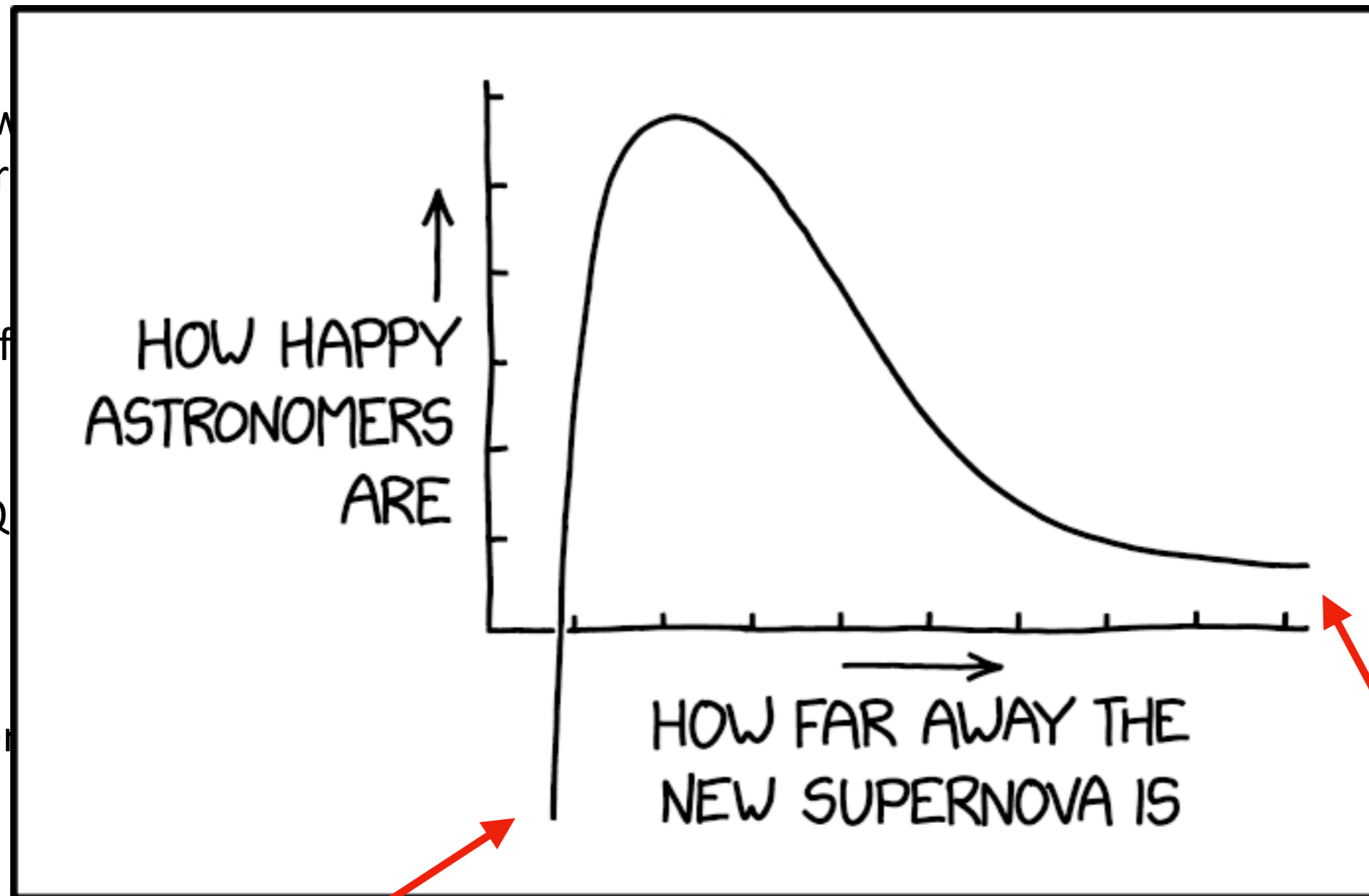
of the

741 (2008) 51-71

<https://xkcd.com/2878>

Bound from SN 1987A

- If new neutrinos
- Raff
- For Q
- Uncer



of the
741 (2008) 51-71

Actually dead

<https://xkcd.com/2878>

Bored to death

Bound from SN 1987A

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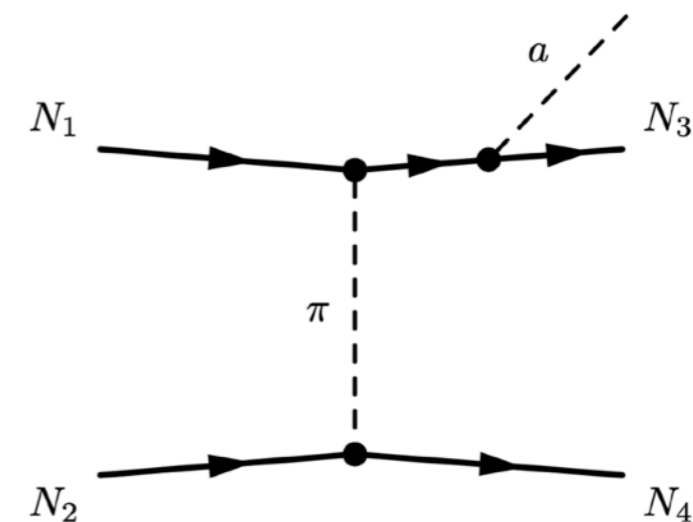
Focus on this

- Uncertainty in SN dynamics and **axion production**

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Fransson et al. ('24)

- Axions dominantly produced via Bremsstrahlung



Corrections to Bremsstrahlung

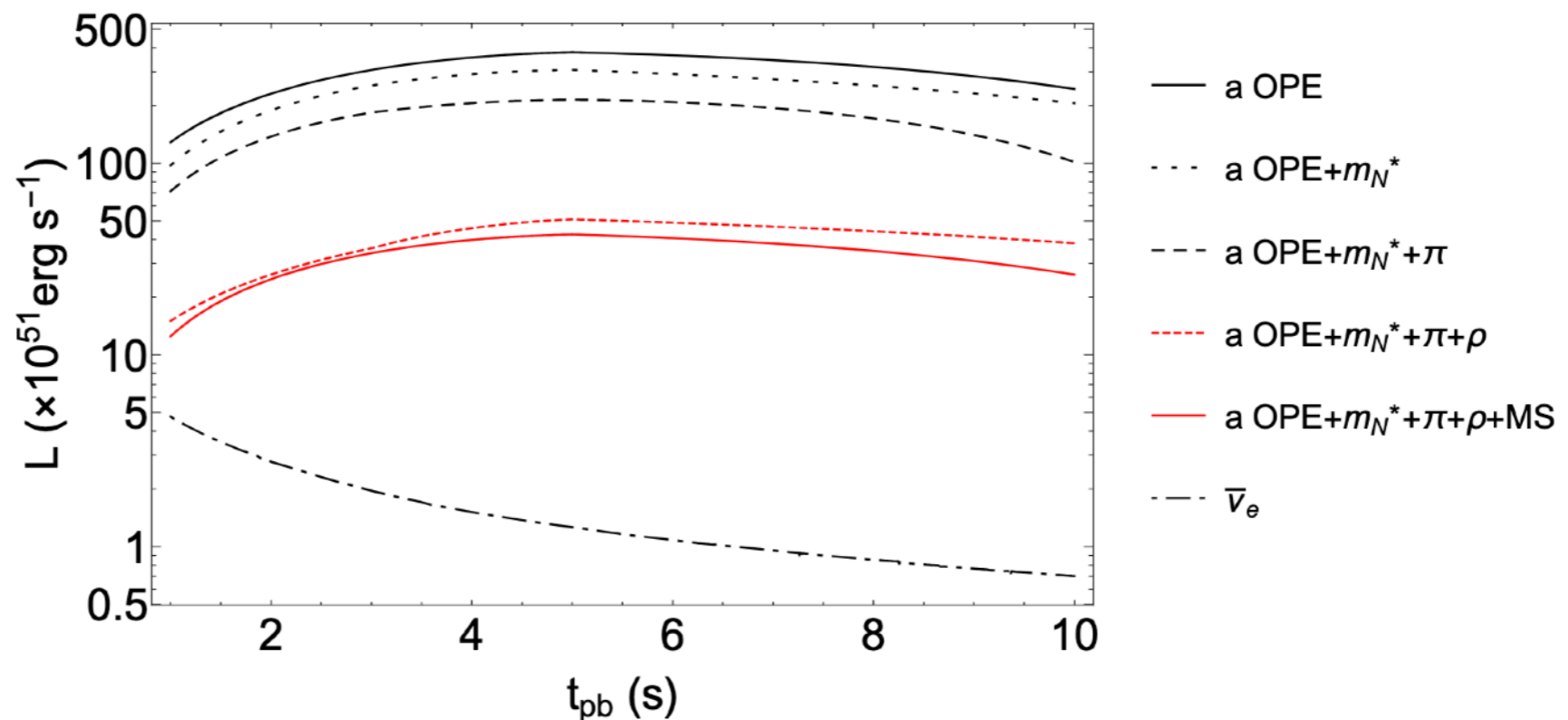
What has been done? Included corrections **phenomenologically**

- Multiply rate by fudge factors: $\Gamma_a = \Gamma_a^{\text{tree}} \gamma_f \gamma_p \gamma_h$ Chang, Essig, McDermott ('18)

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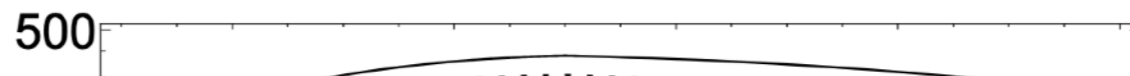
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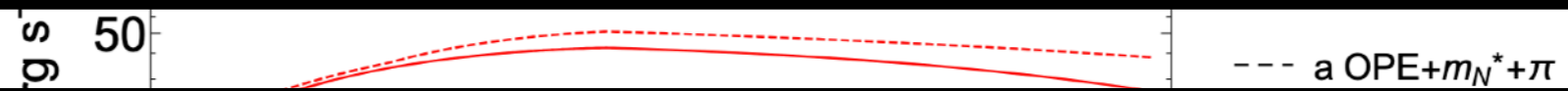
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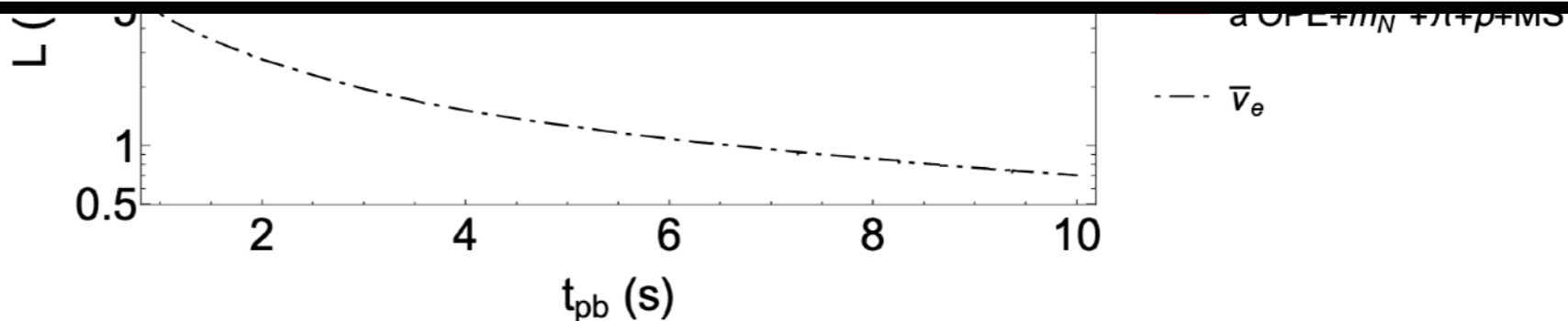
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No density dependence of couplings, double counting of effects



Systematic approach to axion production is needed



Axion-Nucleon coupling

- Axion-Nucleon coupling

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{f_a} \bar{N} c_N S \cdot \partial a N, \quad N = (p, n)^T \quad N_f = 2$$
$$c_N = G_A c_{u-d} \tau^3 + G_0 c_{u+d} \mathbf{1}$$

Villadoro et.al. 15'

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- Axion-nucleon vertex

$$= -\frac{1}{f_a} c_N S \cdot p_a.$$

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- KSVZ axion $c_p^{\text{KSVZ}} = -0.47(3), \quad c_n^{\text{KSVZ}} = +0.02(3)$

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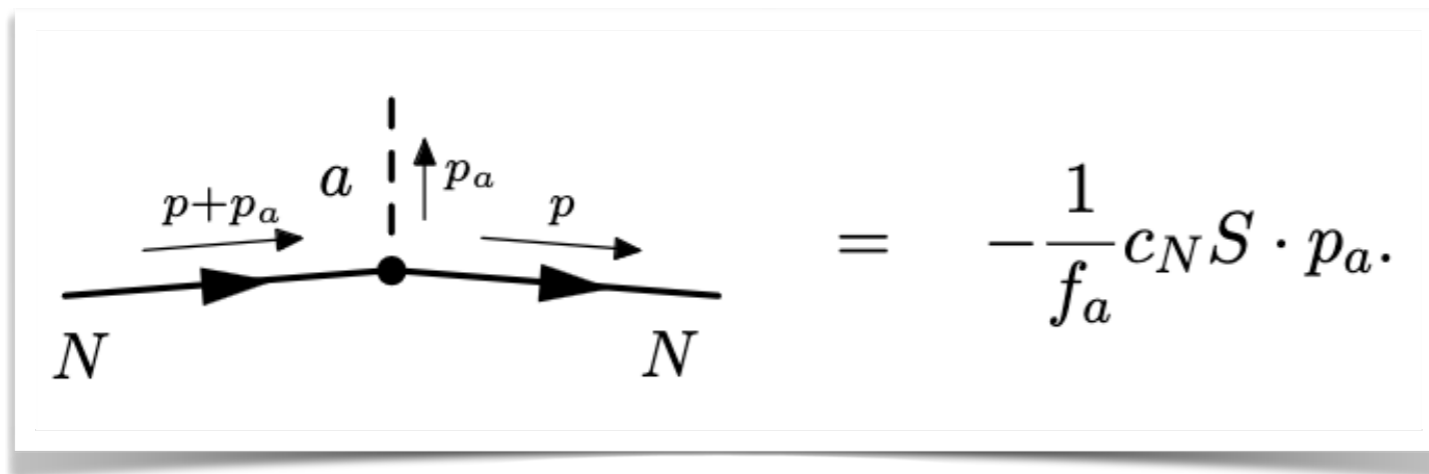
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Villadoro et.al. 15'

- Axion-nucleon vertex



Compatible with zero due to accidental cancellation

- KSVZ axion

$$c_p^{\text{KSVZ}} = -0.47(3), \quad c_n^{\text{KSVZ}} = +0.02(3)$$

Is this EFT valid in astrophysical environments?



This Hubble Space Telescope image shows Supernova 1987A within the Large Magellanic Cloud

Is this EFT valid in astrophysical environments?

Not really...

- Typical momenta $k_F \simeq (3\pi^2 n_0)^{1/3} \simeq 260 \text{ MeV}$ $n_0 \simeq 0.16 \text{ fm}^{-3}$

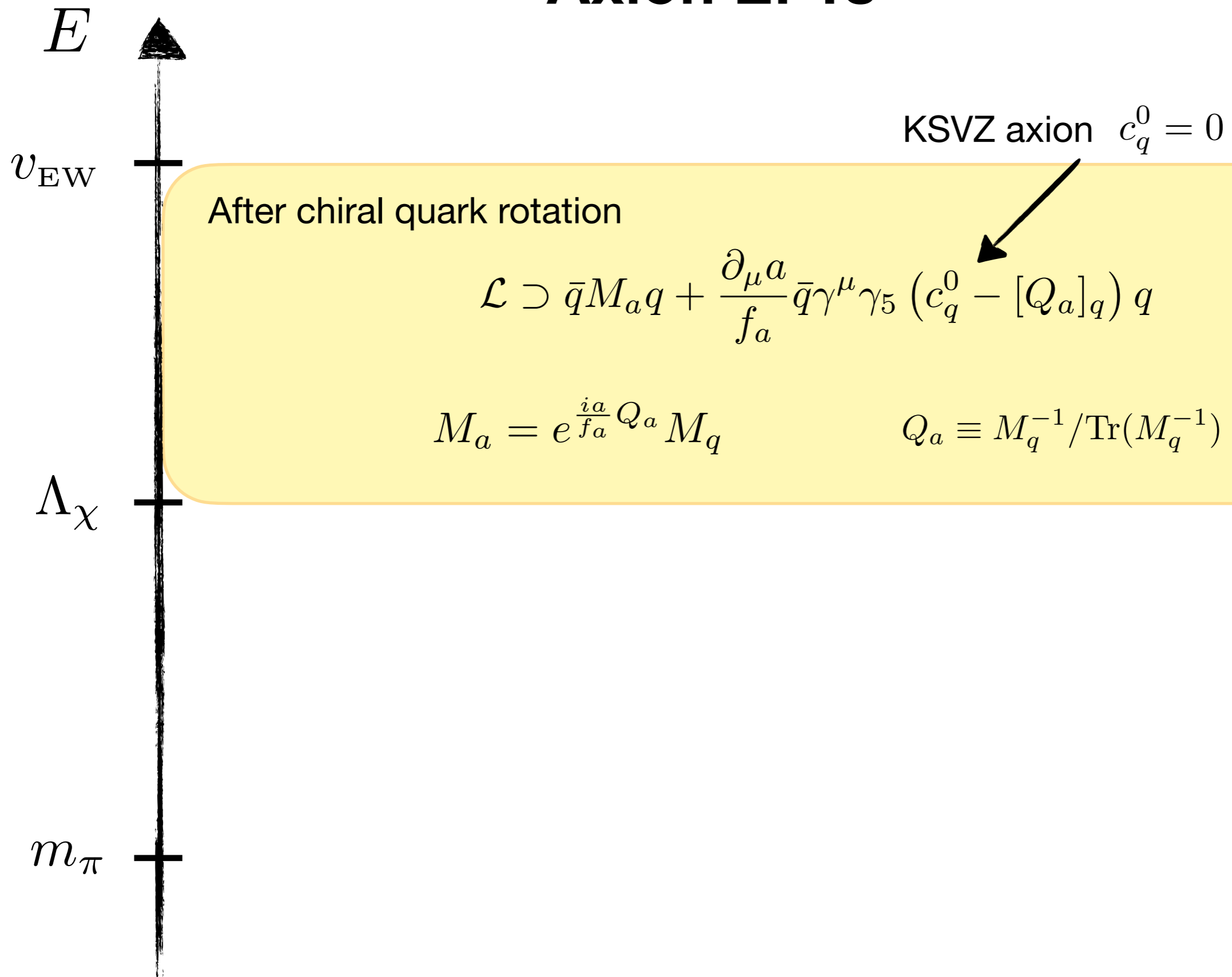
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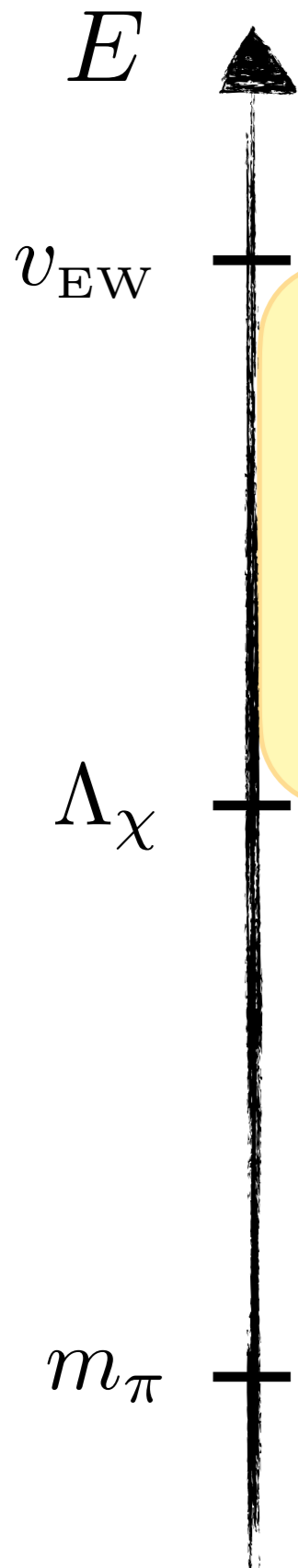
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Need to construct EFT of pions and nucleons!

Axion EFTs



Axion EFTs

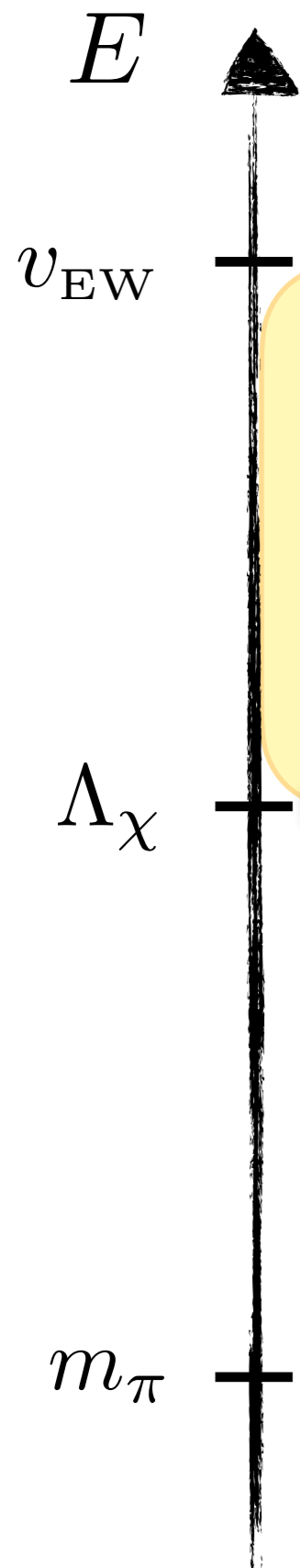


Can be mapped to QCD Lagrangian with external sources

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\bar{q}(s - i\gamma_5 p)q + \bar{q}\gamma^\mu\gamma_5(a_\mu + a_\mu^s)q$$

$$s = \text{Re } M_a \quad p = -\text{Im } M_a \quad a_\mu = c_{u-d} \frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_a} \tau^3 \quad a_\mu^s = c_{u+d} \frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_a} \mathbf{1}$$

Axion EFTs



QCD confines: $|\langle \bar{q}_L q_R \rangle| \equiv B f_\pi^2$

$$G_\chi = U(2)_L \times U(2)_R \rightarrow U(2)$$

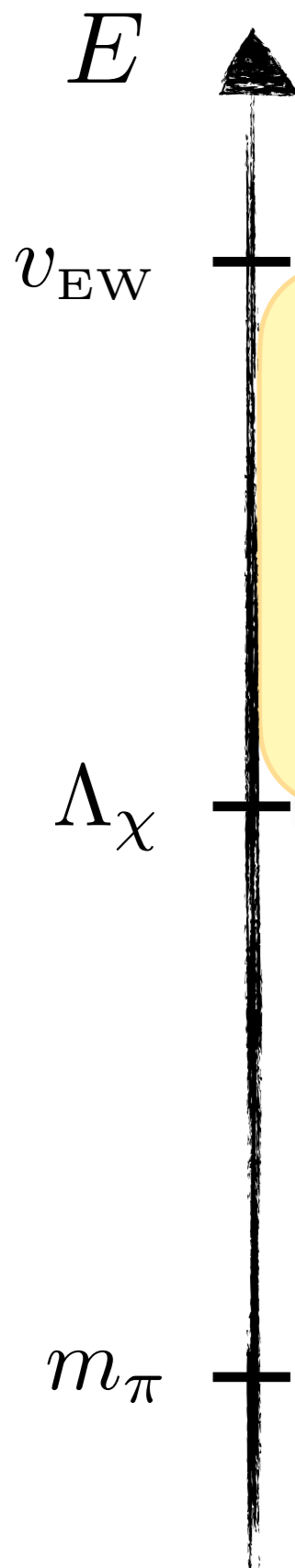
- EFT w/ Mesons and Baryons:

Chiral Perturbation Theory: spurion analysis

Weinberg ('79)

Gasser, Leutwyler ('85)

Axion EFTs



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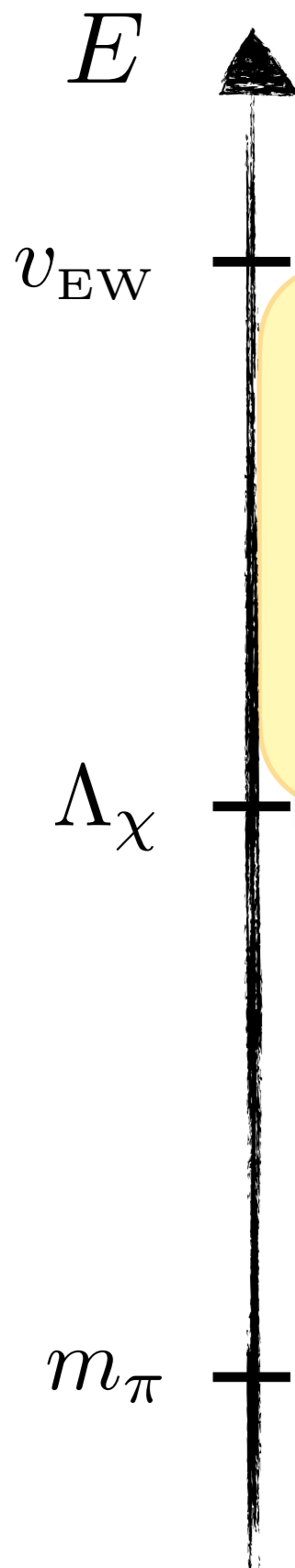
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- Heavy baryon limit:

$$p^\mu = m_N v^\mu + k^\mu \quad \Psi(x) = e^{-im_N v \cdot x} [N_v(x) + H_v(x)]$$

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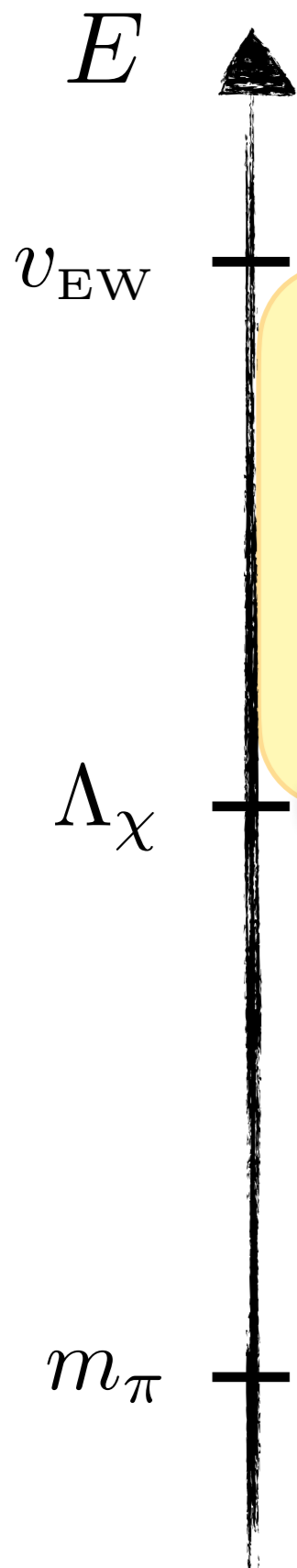
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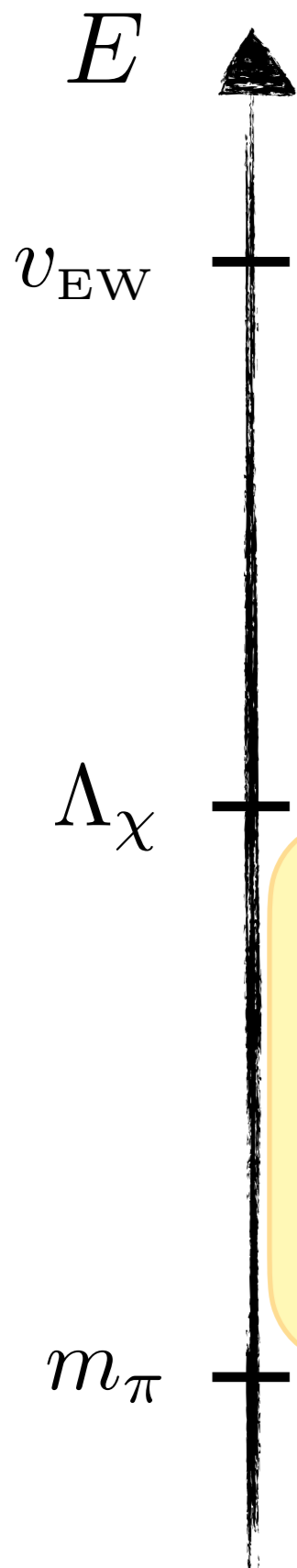
1 GeV

1 GeV

Resonances, e.g. $\Delta(1232)$

$\Lambda_\chi \sim (300 - 750) \text{ MeV}$

Axion EFTs



Can be mapped to QCD Lagrangian with external sources

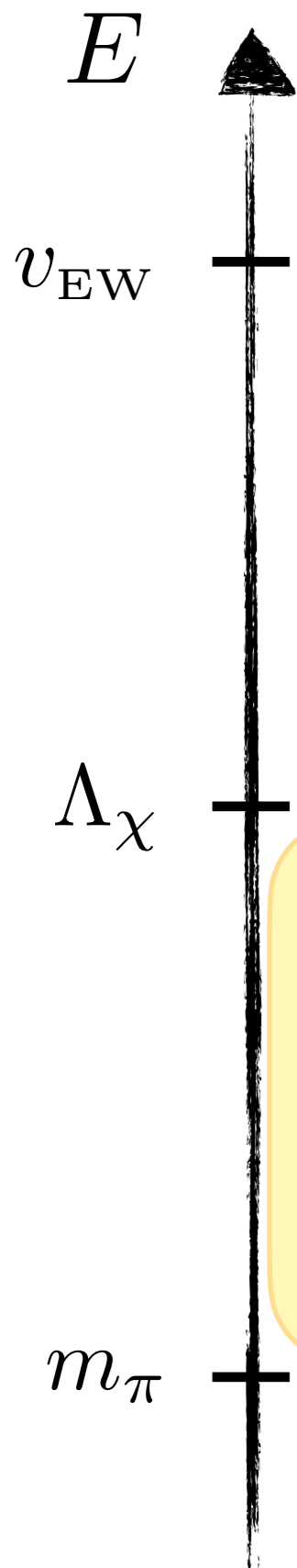
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LO:
$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi\pi}^{(2)} = \frac{f_\pi^2}{4} \text{Tr} [\nabla^\mu U (\nabla_\mu U)^\dagger + (\chi U^\dagger + \text{h.c.})]$$

$$U = e^{i\pi^a \tau^a / f_\pi} \quad \chi = 2BM_a$$

Axion EFTs



Can be mapped to QCD Lagrangian with external sources

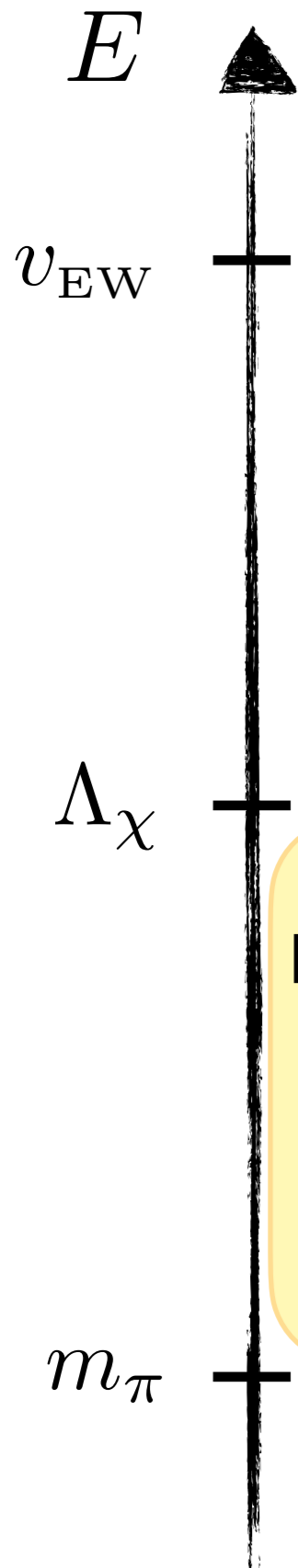
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LO: $\hat{\mathcal{L}}_{\pi N}^{(1)} = \bar{N} (i v \cdot D + g_A S \cdot u + g_0 S \cdot \hat{u}) N$

$$\hat{u}_\mu = c_{u+d} \left(\frac{\partial_\mu a}{f_a} \right) + \dots \quad u_\mu = - \left(\frac{\partial_\mu \pi^a}{f_\pi} \right) \tau^a + c_{u-d} \left(\frac{\partial_\mu a}{f_a} \right) \tau_3$$

Axion EFTs



Can be mapped to QCD Lagrangian with external sources

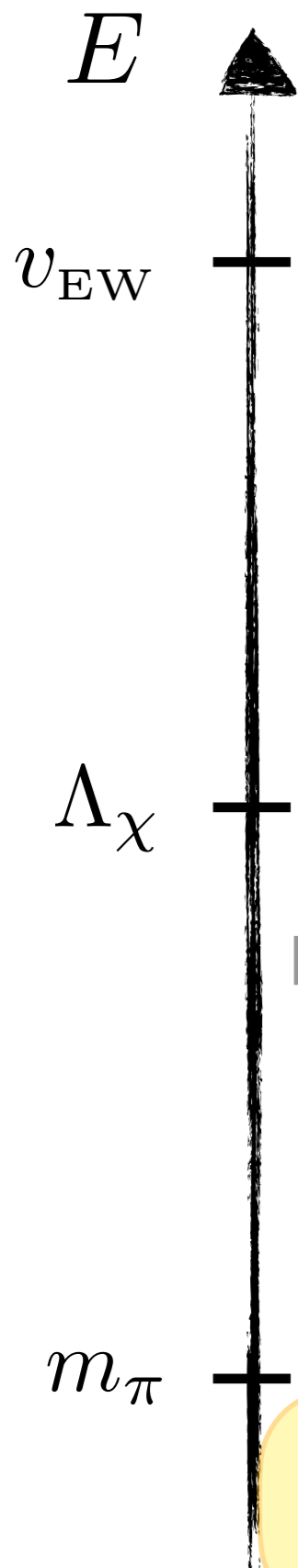
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NLO:

$$\hat{\mathcal{L}}_{\pi N}^{(2)} = \bar{N} \left[-\frac{1}{2m_N} (D^2 - (v \cdot D)^2 + ig_A \{S \cdot D, v \cdot u\} + ig_0 \{S \cdot D, v \cdot \hat{u}\}) \right. \\ \left. + \hat{c}_1 \langle \chi_+ \rangle + \frac{\hat{c}_2}{2} (v \cdot u)^2 + \hat{c}_3 (u \cdot u) + \frac{\hat{c}_4}{2} i\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} [u_\mu, u_\nu] v_\rho S_\sigma \right. \\ \left. + \hat{c}_5 \tilde{\chi}_+ + \frac{\hat{c}_8}{4} (v \cdot u)(v \cdot \hat{u}) + \hat{c}_9 (u \cdot \hat{u}) \right] N$$

Axion EFTs



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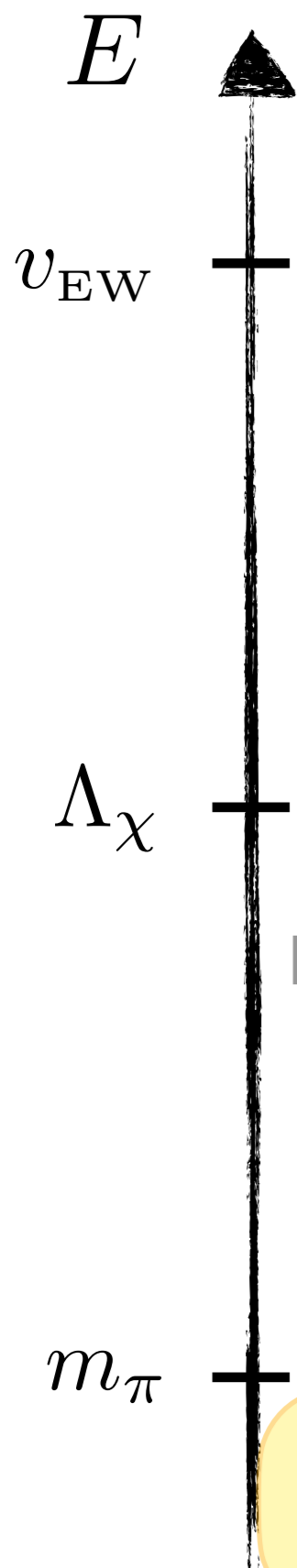
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Integrate out pions: theory of baryons and axion

Axion EFTs



Can be mapped to QCD Lagrangian with external sources

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\bar{q}(s - i\gamma_5 p)q + \bar{q}\gamma^\mu\gamma_5(a_\mu + a_\mu^s)q$$

$$s = \text{Re } M_a \quad p = -\text{Im } M_a \quad a_\mu = c_{u+d} \frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_a} \tau^3 \quad a_\mu^s = c_{u-d} \frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_a}$$

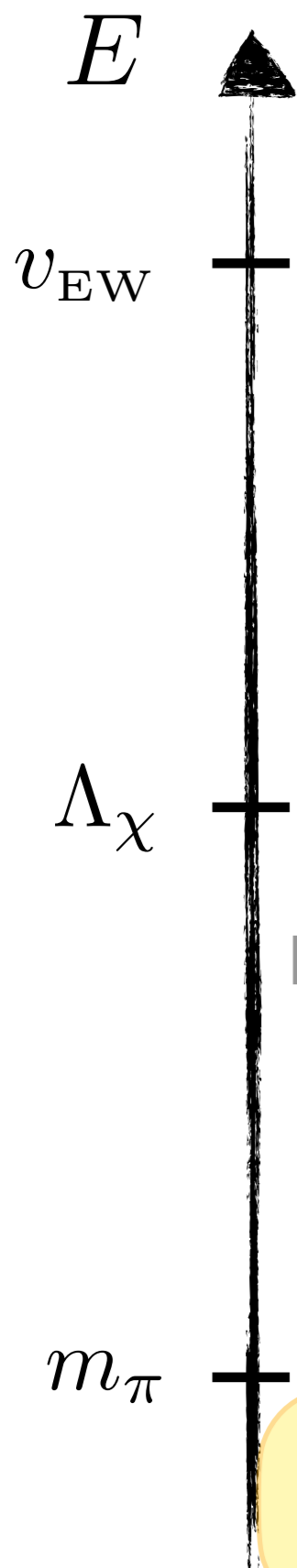
NLO: $\hat{\mathcal{L}}_{\pi N}^{(2)} = \bar{N} \left[-\frac{1}{2m_N} (D^2 - (v \cdot D)^2 + ig_A \{S \cdot D, v \cdot u\} + ig_0 \{S \cdot D, v \cdot \hat{u}\}) \right.$

$$+ \hat{c}_1 \langle \chi_+ \rangle + \frac{\hat{c}_2}{2} (v \cdot u)^2 + \hat{c}_3 (u \cdot u) + \frac{\hat{c}_4}{2} i\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} [u_\mu, u_\nu] v_\rho S_\sigma$$

$$\left. + \hat{c}_5 \tilde{\chi}_+ + \frac{\hat{c}_8}{4} (v \cdot u)(v \cdot \hat{u}) + \hat{c}_9 (u \cdot \hat{u}) \right] N$$

Match constants $G_A = g_A - \frac{g_A^3 m_\pi^2}{16\pi^2 f_\pi^2} + 4m_\pi^2 \bar{d}_{16} + \frac{g_A m_\pi^3}{6\pi f_\pi^2} (2\hat{c}_4 - \hat{c}_3)$

Axion EFTs



Can be mapped to QCD Lagrangian with external sources

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\bar{q}(s - i\gamma_5 p)q + \bar{q}\gamma^\mu\gamma_5(a_\mu + a_\mu^s)q$$

$$s = \text{Re } M_a \quad p = -\text{Im } M_a \quad a_\mu = c_{u+d} \frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_a} \tau^3 \quad a_\mu^s = c_{u-d} \frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_a}$$

NLO: $\hat{\mathcal{L}}_{\pi N}^{(2)} = \bar{N} \left[-\frac{1}{2m_N} (D^2 - (v \cdot D)^2 + ig_A \{S \cdot D, v \cdot u\} + ig_0 \{S \cdot D, v \cdot \hat{u}\}) \right.$

$$+ \hat{c}_1 \langle \chi_+ \rangle + \frac{\hat{c}_2}{2} (v \cdot u)^2 + \hat{c}_3 (u \cdot u) + \frac{\hat{c}_4}{2} i\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} [u_\mu, u_\nu] v_\rho S_\sigma$$

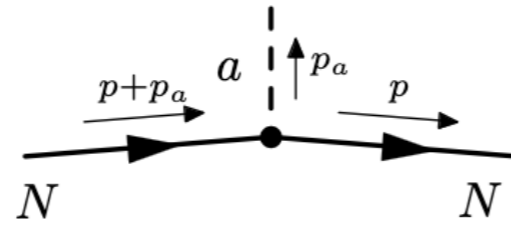
$$\left. + \hat{c}_5 \tilde{\chi}_+ + \frac{\hat{c}_8}{4} (v \cdot u)(v \cdot \hat{u}) + \hat{c}_9 (u \cdot \hat{u}) \right] N$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{aN} = \bar{N} \left[iv \cdot \partial + \frac{S \cdot \partial a}{f_a} (G_A c_{u-d} \tau^3 + G_0 c_{u+d} \mathbf{1}) + \sigma \langle \text{Re}(M_a) \rangle + \dots \right] N$$

Axion-Nuclon Coupling: Loop corrections

Corrections to the coupling can be calculated systematically in $\left(\frac{p}{4\pi f_\pi}\right)^\nu$

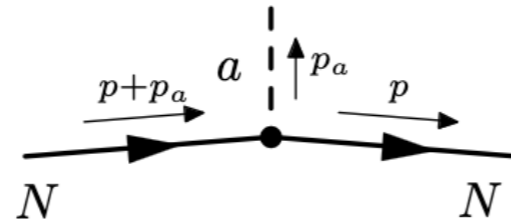
LO:



Axion-Nuclon Coupling: Loop corrections

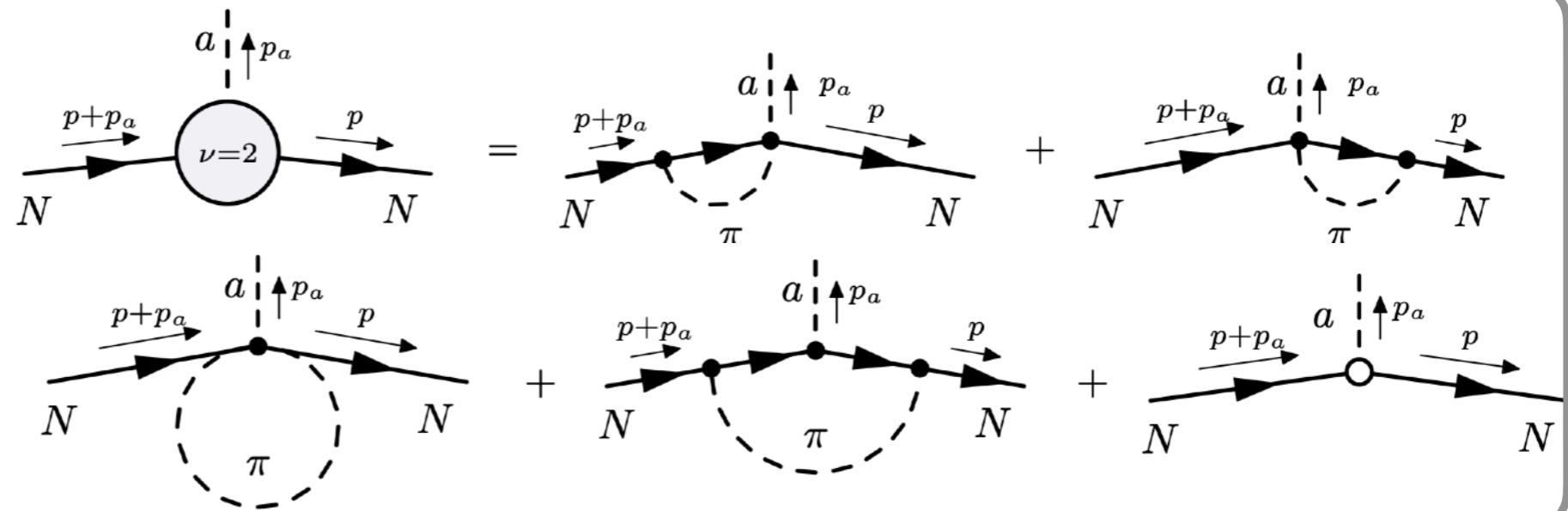
Corrections to the coupling can be calculated systematically in $\left(\frac{p}{4\pi f_\pi}\right)^\nu$

LO:



NLO:

$$\left(\frac{p}{4\pi f_\pi}\right)^2$$

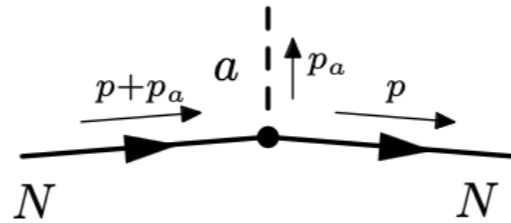


Vonk, Guo, Meißner (2000)

Axion-Nuclon Coupling: Loop corrections

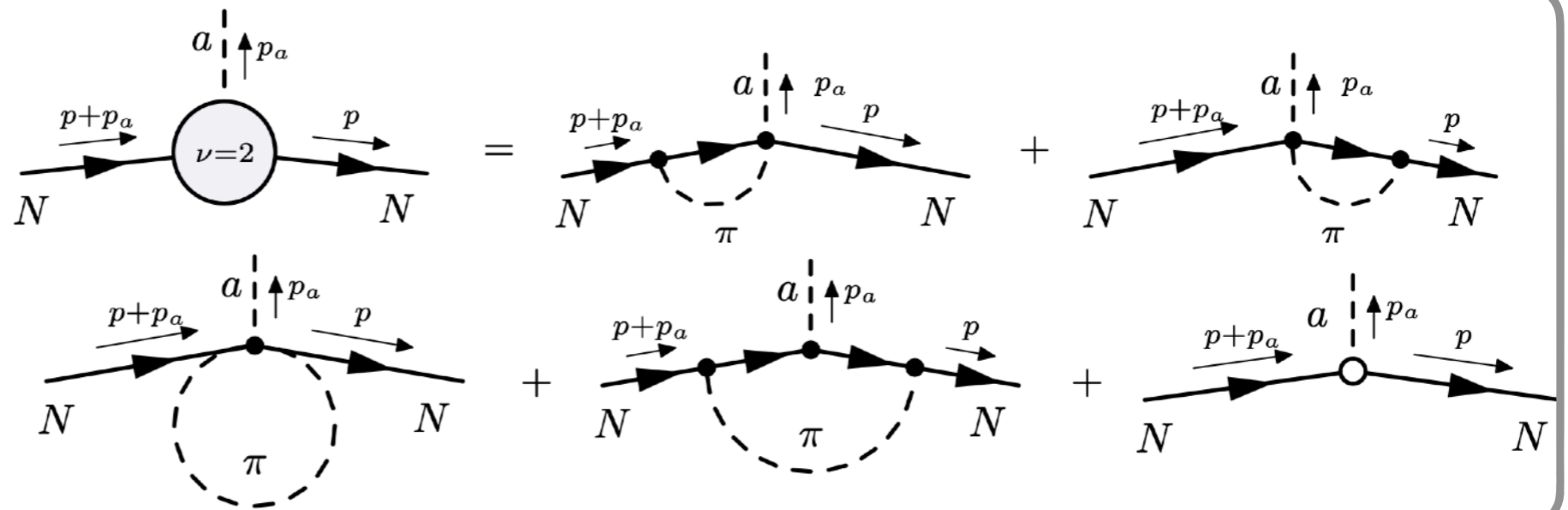
Corrections to the coupling can be calculated systematically in $\left(\frac{p}{4\pi f_\pi}\right)^\nu$

LO:



NLO:

$$\left(\frac{p}{4\pi f_\pi}\right)^2$$



Vonk, Guo, Meißner (2000)

NNLO:

Naively suppressed by $\left(\frac{p}{4\pi f_\pi}\right)^3$

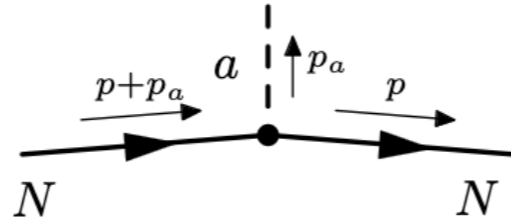
But low-lying $\Delta(1232)$ resonance enhances contribution $\left(\frac{p}{4\pi f_\pi}\right)^2 \left(\frac{p}{\Lambda_\chi}\right)$

$$\Lambda_\chi \sim (300 - 750) \text{ MeV}$$

Axion-Nuclon Coupling: Loop corrections

Corrections to the coupling can be calculated systematically in $\left(\frac{p}{4\pi f_\pi}\right)^\nu$

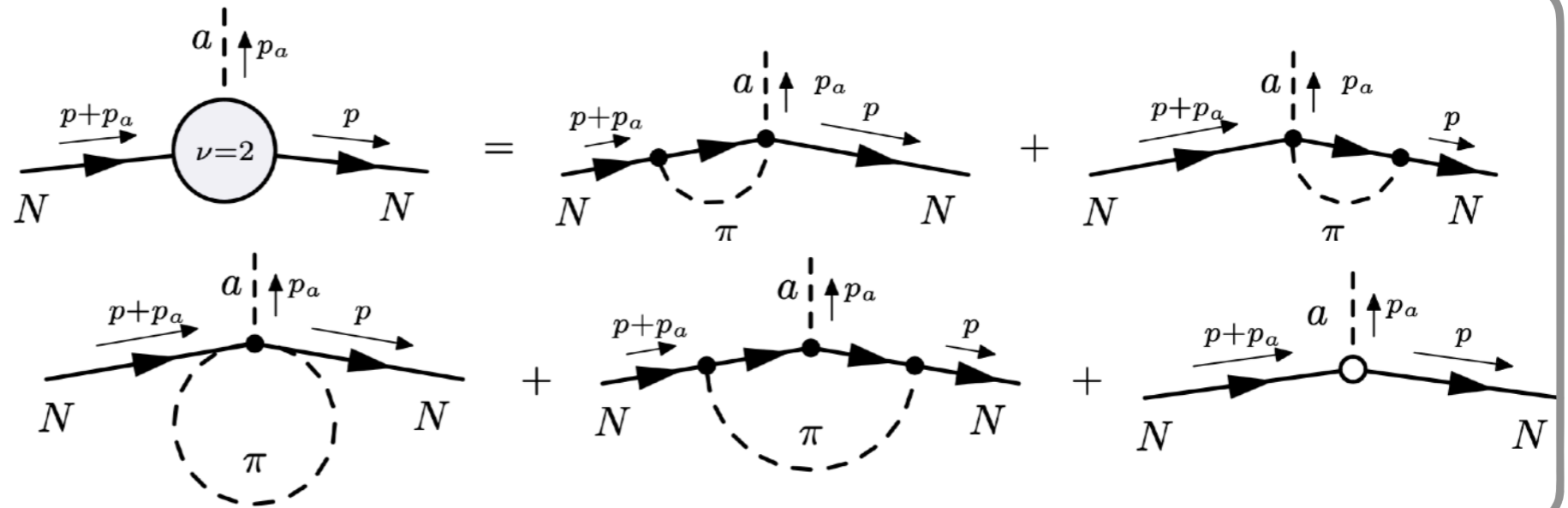
LO:



NLO:

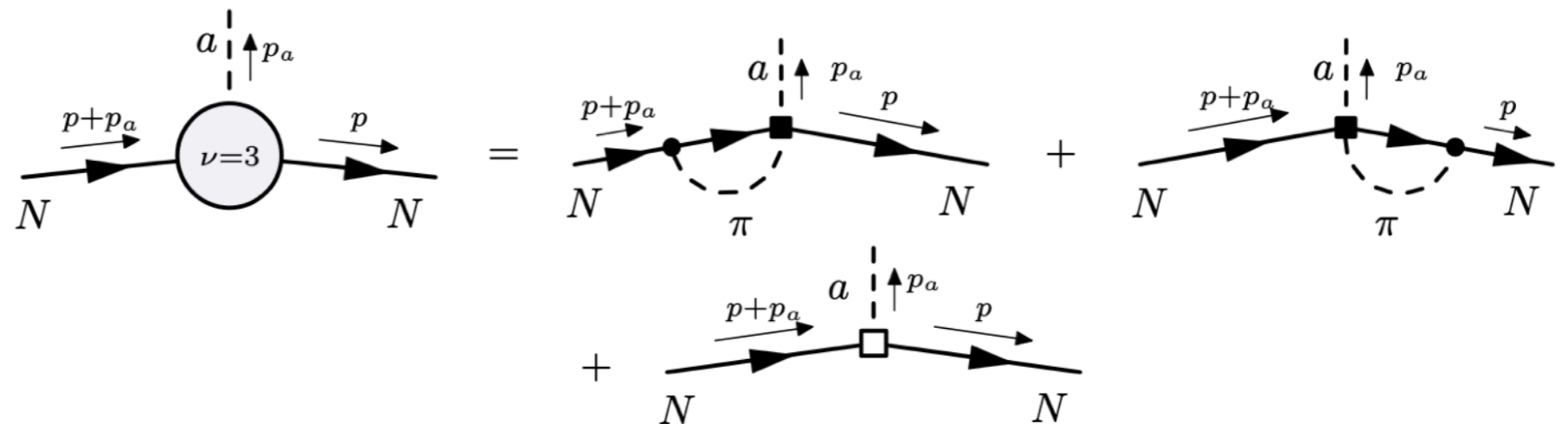
$$\left(\frac{p}{4\pi f_\pi}\right)^2$$

Vonk, Guo, Meißner (2000)



NNLO:

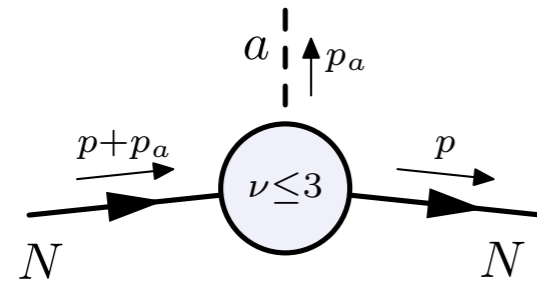
$$\left(\frac{p}{4\pi f_\pi}\right)^2 \left(\frac{p}{\Lambda_\chi}\right)$$



$$\Lambda_\chi \sim (300 - 750) \text{ MeV}$$

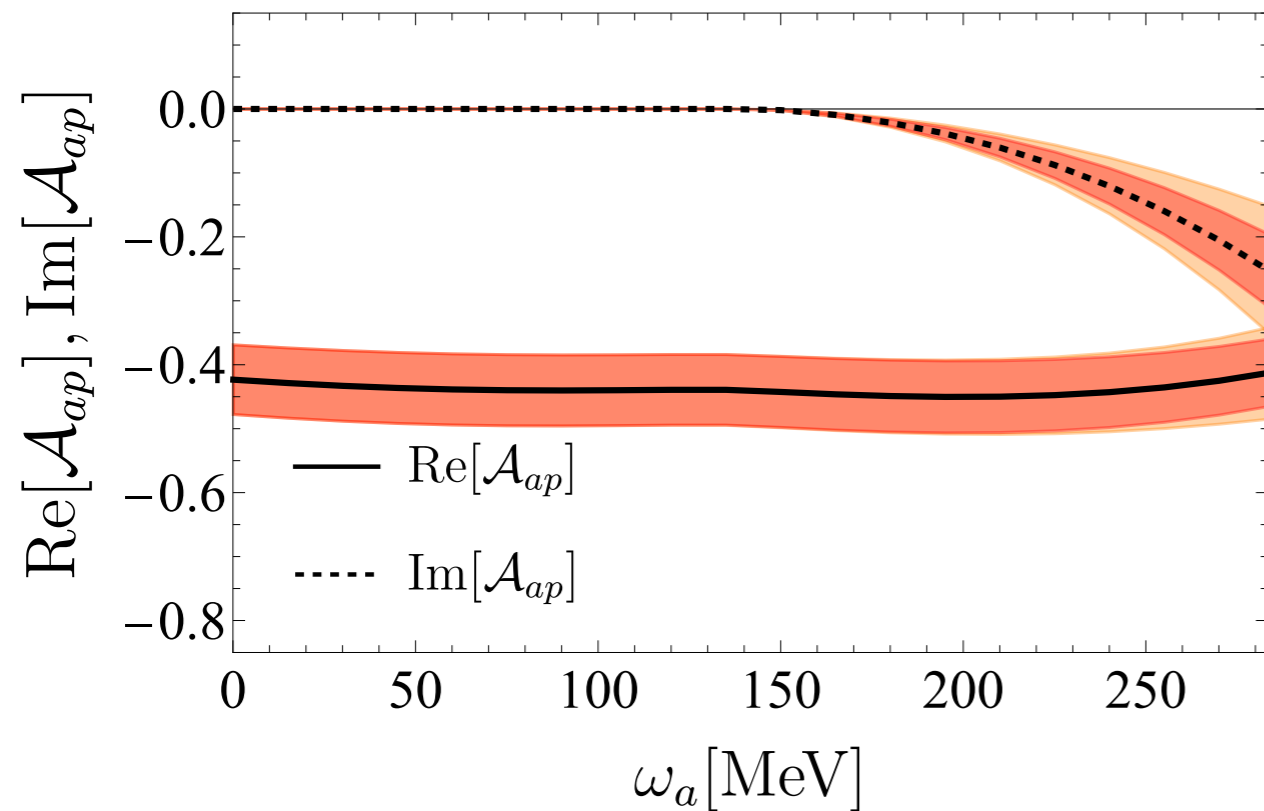
Axion-Nuclon Coupling: Loop corrections

Coupling depends on the axion energy! Can be written as

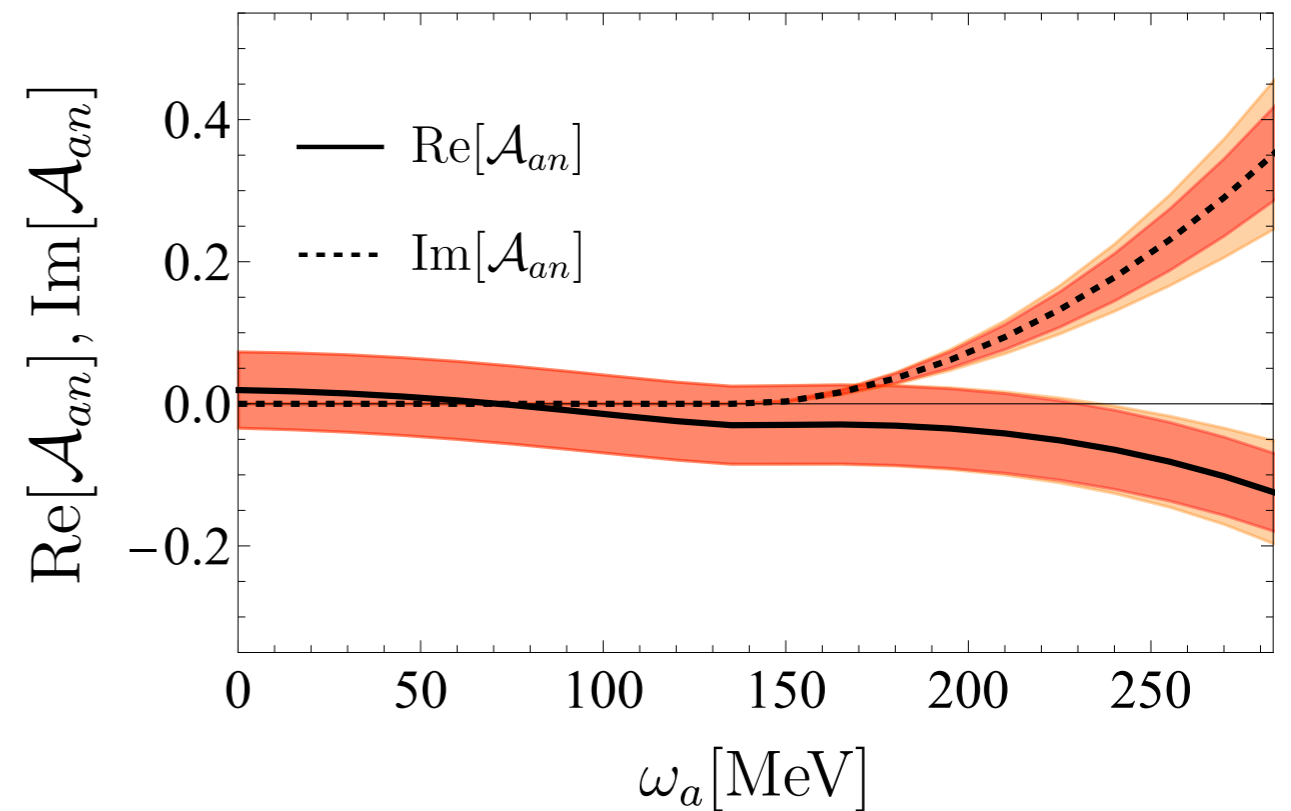


$$= -\frac{1}{f_a} \mathcal{A}^{\nu \leq 3}(\omega_a) S \cdot p_a - \frac{1}{f_a} \mathcal{B}^{\nu \leq 3}(\omega_a) S \cdot p$$

KSVZ

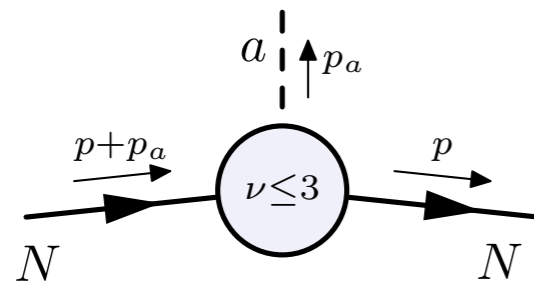


KSVZ

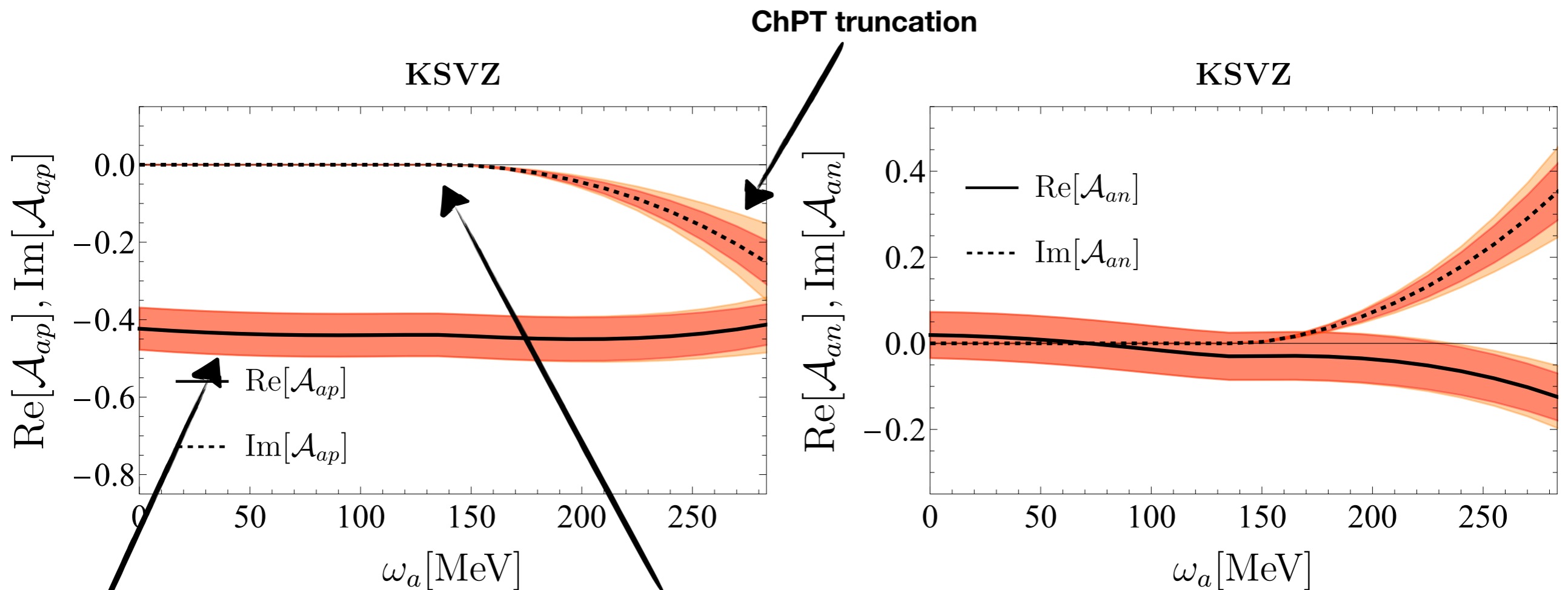


Axion-Nuclon Coupling: Loop corrections

Coupling depends on the axion energy! Can be written as



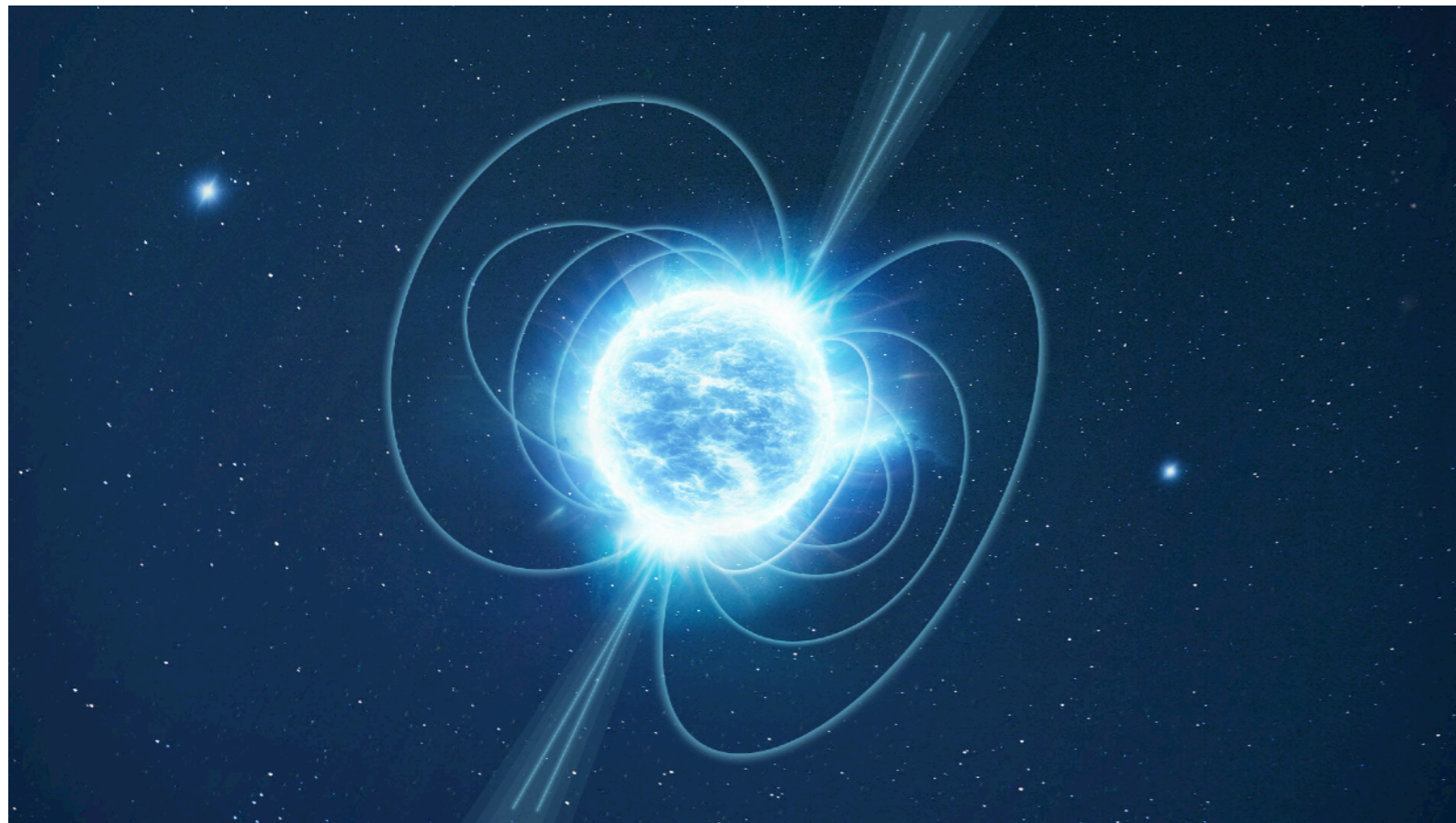
$$= -\frac{1}{f_a} \mathcal{A}^{\nu \leq 3}(\omega_a) S \cdot p_a - \frac{1}{f_a} \mathcal{B}^{\nu \leq 3}(\omega_a) S \cdot p$$



uncertainty in constants

Pion production threshold

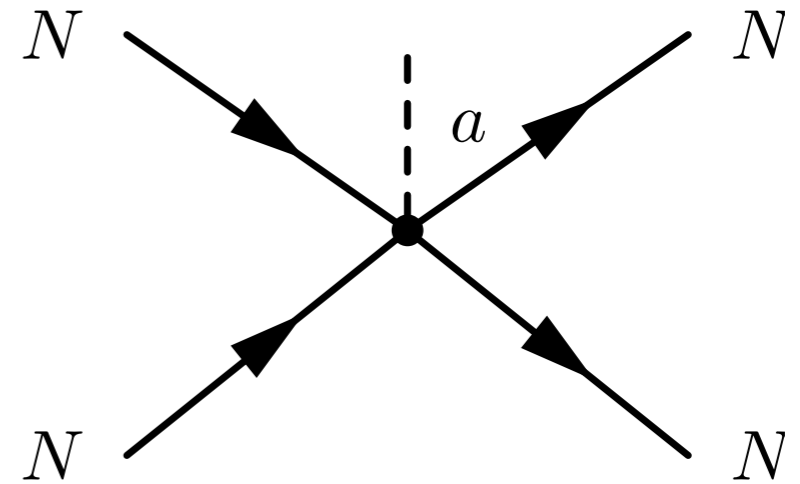
How does a density background change these couplings?



Axion-Nuclon Coupling: Finite density

- Schematic example:

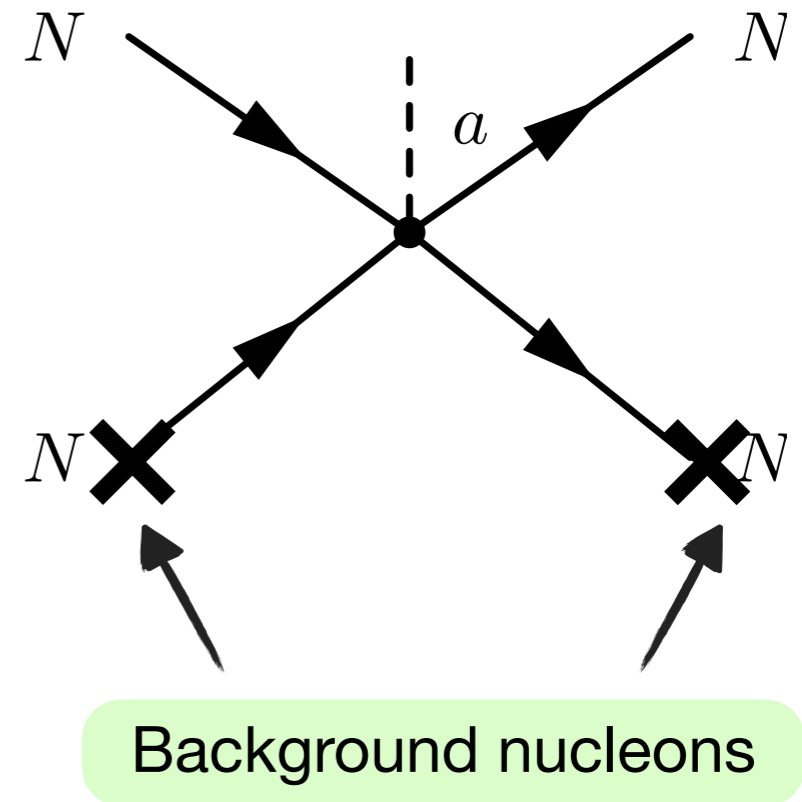
$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi NN}^{(2)} = \frac{c_D}{2f_\pi^2 \Lambda_\chi} (\bar{N}N)(\bar{N}S \cdot uN)$$



Axion-Nuclon Coupling: Finite density

- Schematic example:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi NN}^{(2)} = \frac{c_D}{2f_\pi^2 \Lambda_\chi} (\bar{N}N)(\bar{N}S \cdot uN)$$



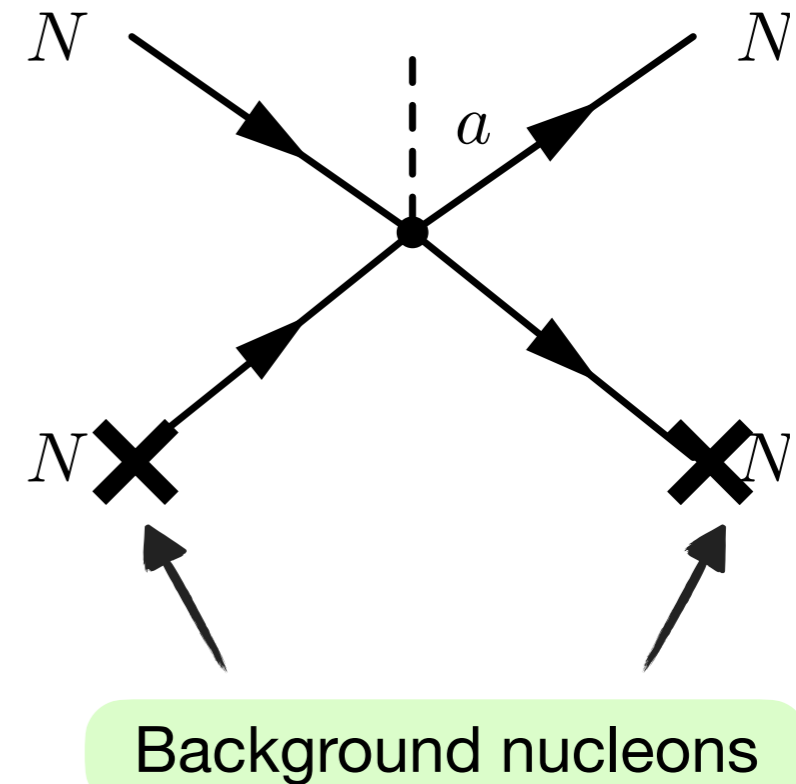
Axion-Nuclon Coupling: Finite density

- Schematic example:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi NN}^{(2)} = \frac{c_D}{2f_\pi^2 \Lambda_\chi} (\bar{N}N)(\bar{N}S \cdot uN)$$

$$\langle \bar{N}N \rangle = n$$

Number density



- Gives contribution to coupling: $\sim \frac{k_f^3}{(4\pi f_\pi)^2 \Lambda_\chi}$

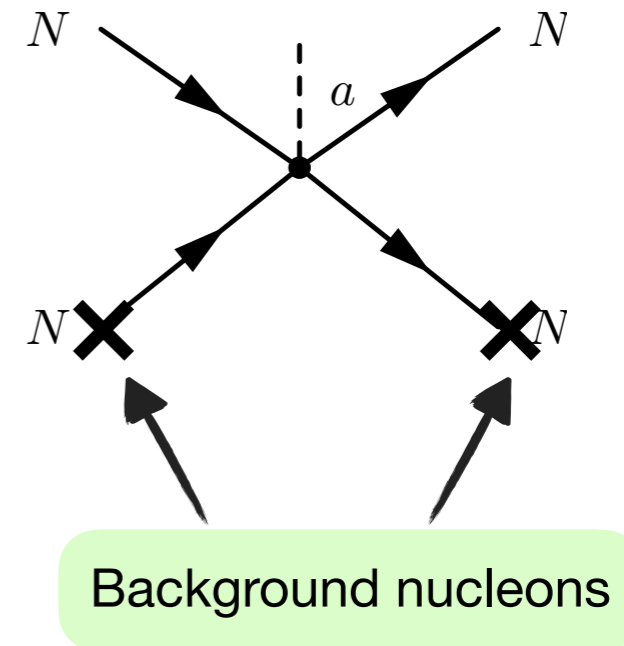
Axion-Nuclon Coupling: Finite density

- **Schematic example:**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi NN}^{(2)} = \frac{c_D}{2f_\pi^2 \Lambda_\chi} (\bar{N}N)(\bar{N}S \cdot uN)$$

$$\langle \bar{N}N \rangle = n$$

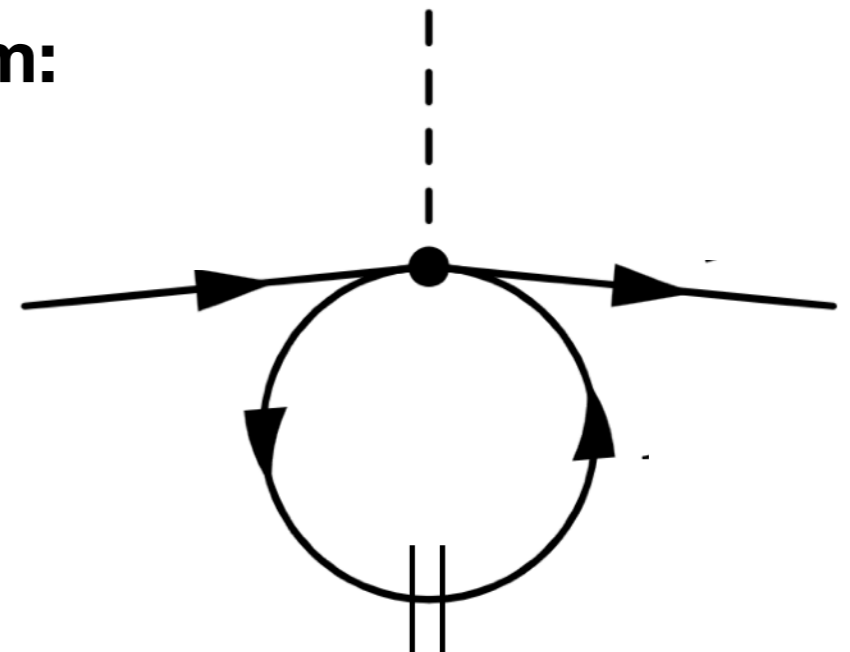
Number density



- **Systematically via QFT in Real-Time Formalism:**

Nucleon propagator at finite density

$$iG(k) = \frac{i}{k^0 + i\epsilon} - 2\pi\delta(k^0)\theta(k_f - |\vec{k}|)$$



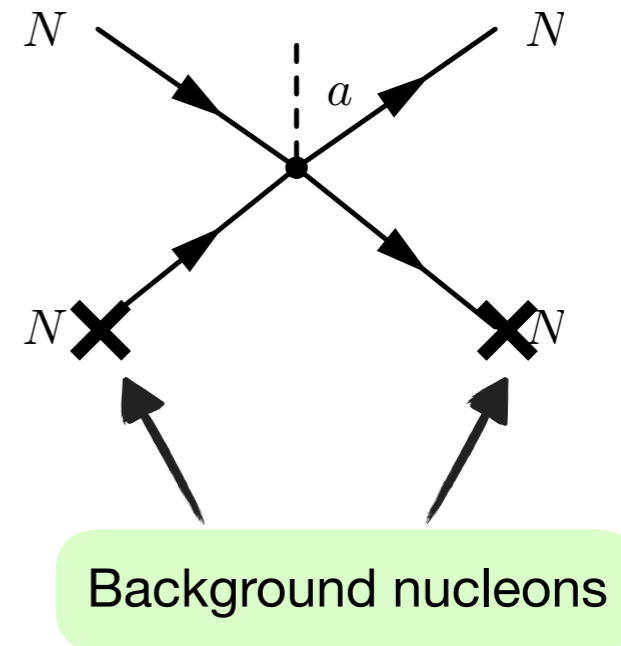
Axion-Nuclon Coupling: Finite density

- **Schematic example:**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi NN}^{(2)} = \frac{c_D}{2f_\pi^2 \Lambda_\chi} (\bar{N}N)(\bar{N}S \cdot uN)$$

$$\langle \bar{N}N \rangle = n$$

Number density



- **Systematically via QFT in Real-Time Formalism:**

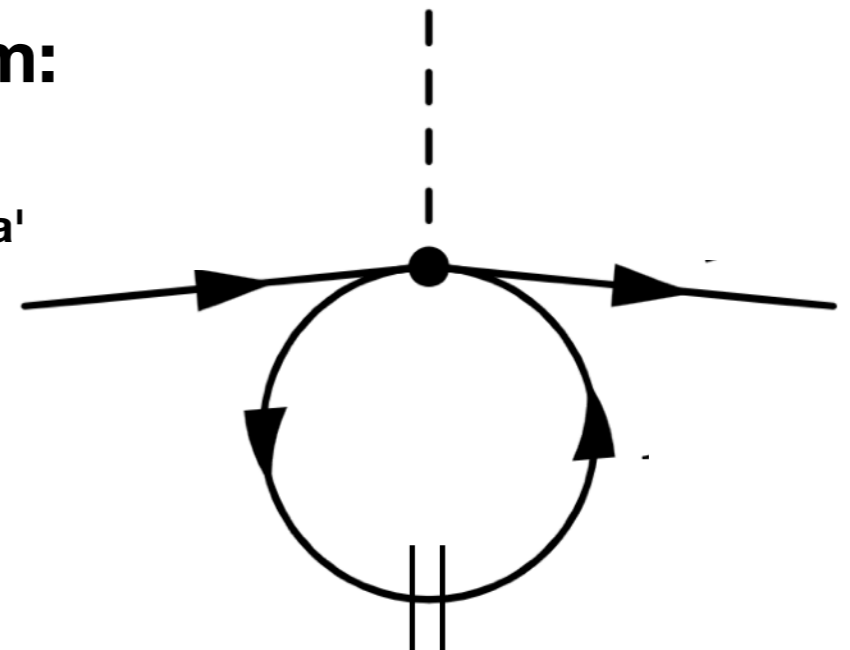
Nucleon propagator at finite density

Filled 'Fermi sea'

$$iG(k) = \frac{i}{k^0 + i\epsilon} - 2\pi\delta(k^0)\theta(k_f - |\vec{k}|)$$

NR fermion propagator

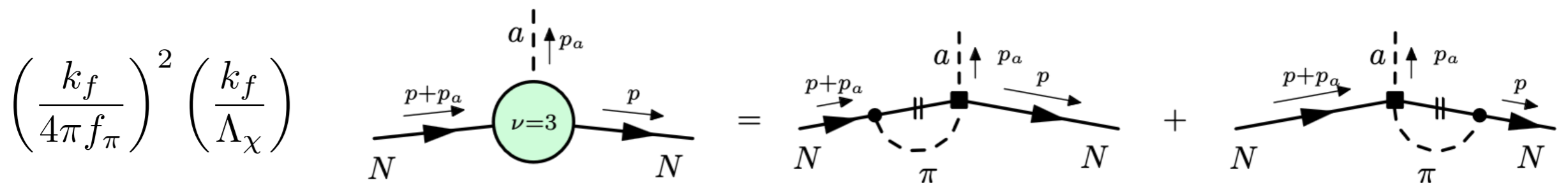
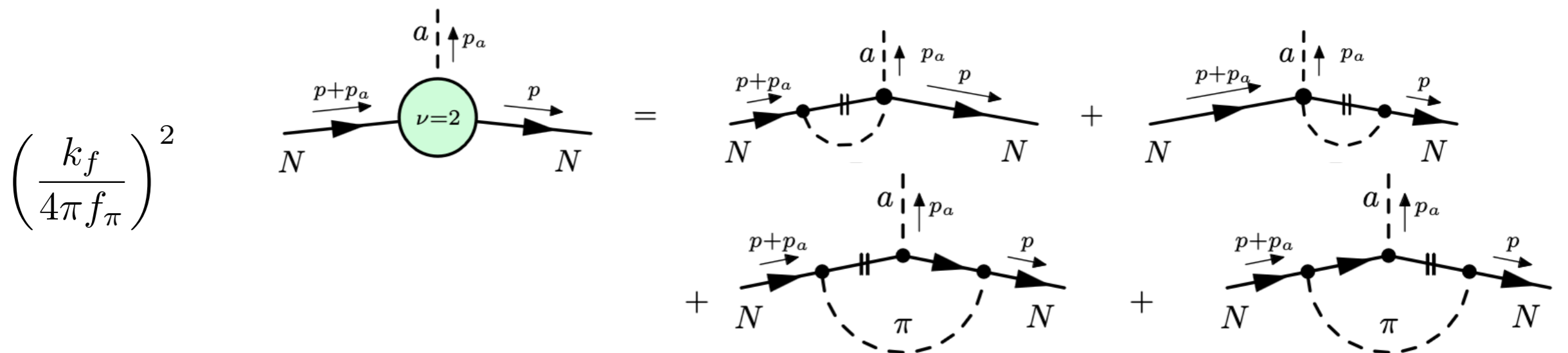
Furnstahl, Serot ('91)
Ghosh, Grossman, Tangarife, Zu, Yu ('22)



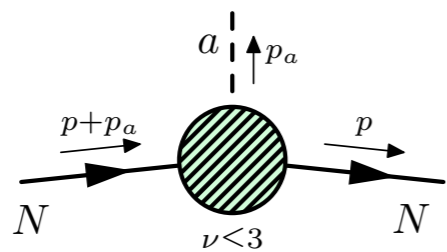
Axion-Nuclon Coupling: Finite density

Get corrections systematically

$$\left(\frac{p}{4\pi f_\pi} \right)^\nu \rightarrow \left(\frac{k_f}{4\pi f_\pi} \right)^\nu$$

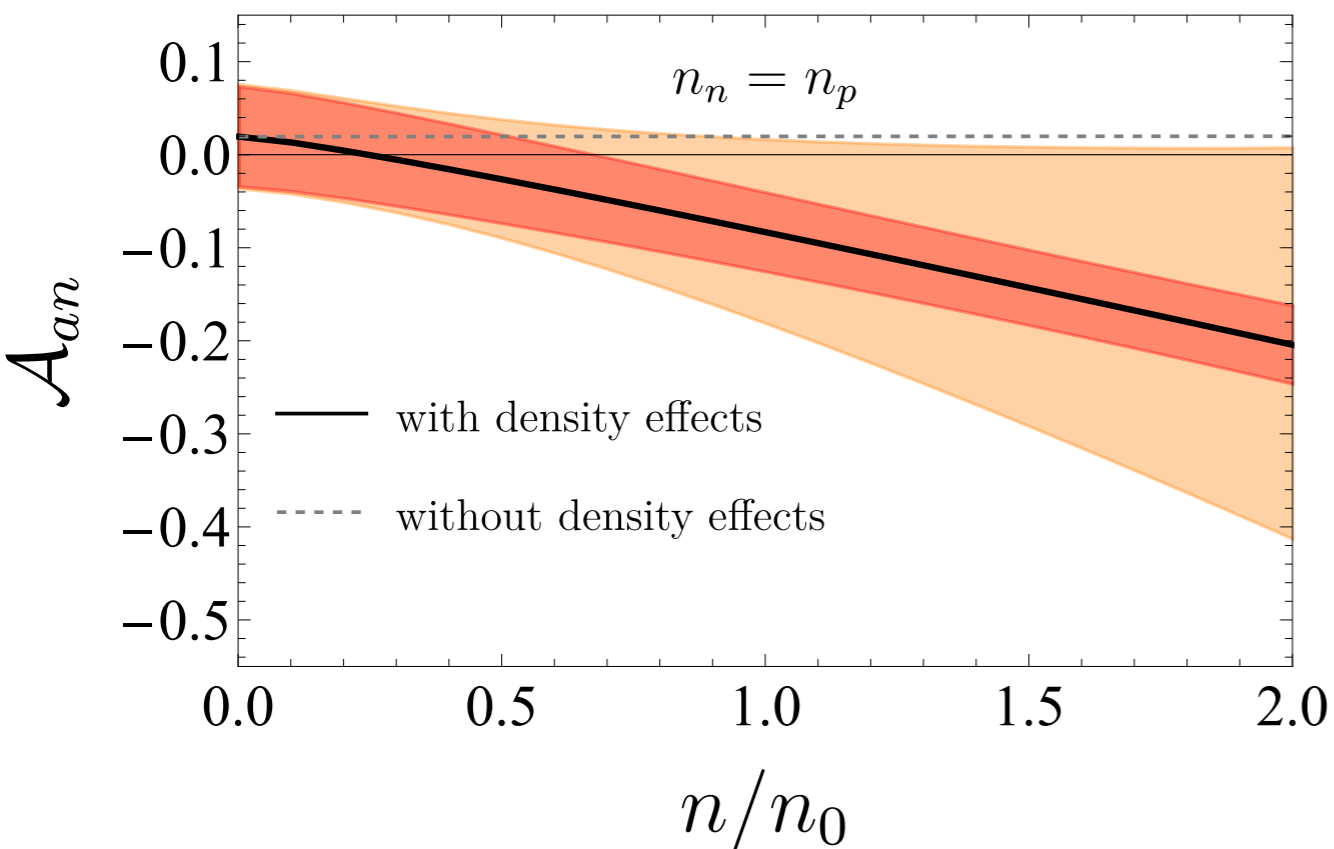


Axion-Nuclon Coupling: Finite density

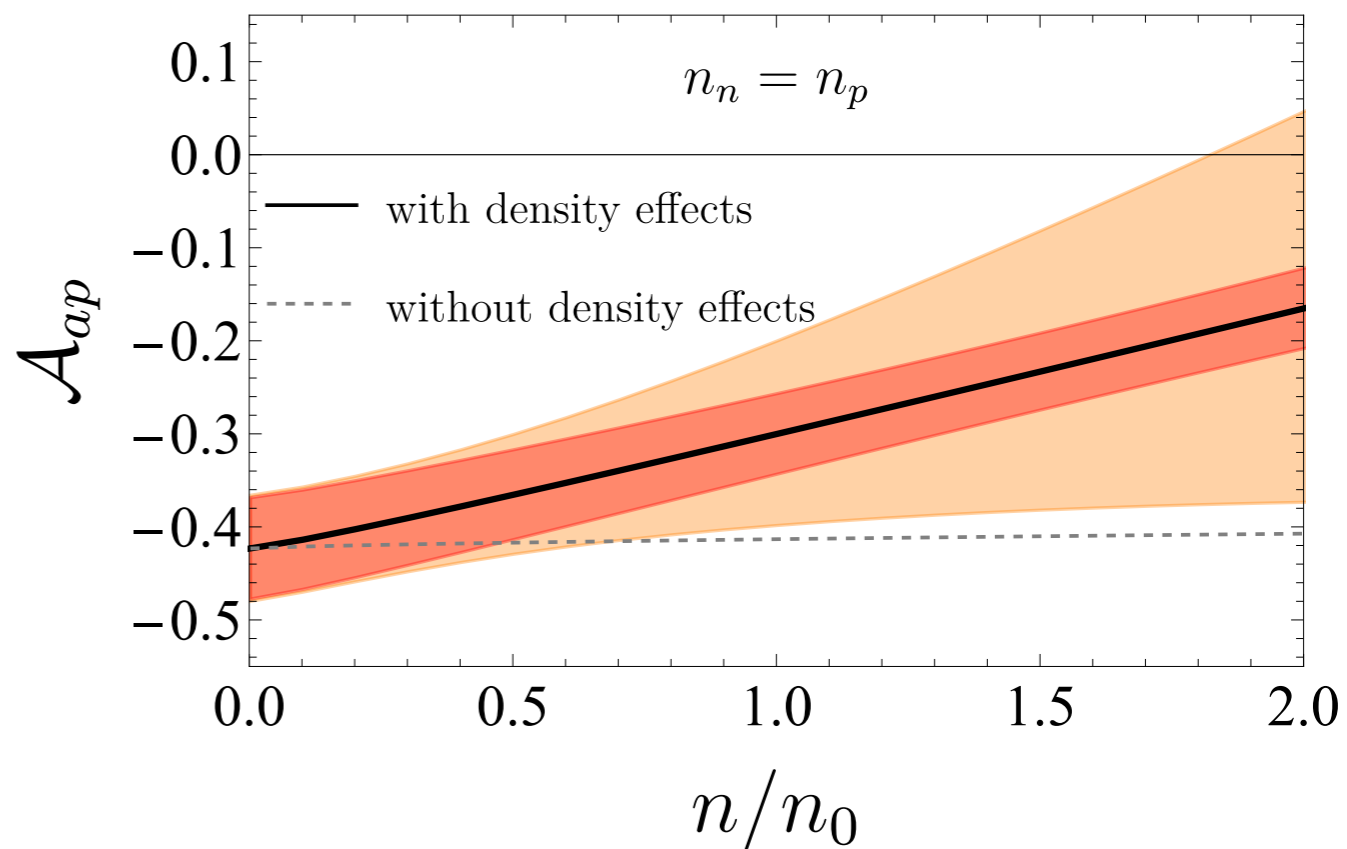


$$= -\frac{1}{f_a} \mathcal{A}^{\nu \leq 3}(k_f, p_a) S \cdot p_a - \frac{1}{f_a} \mathcal{B}^{\nu \leq 3}(k_f, p_a) S \cdot p$$

Neutron



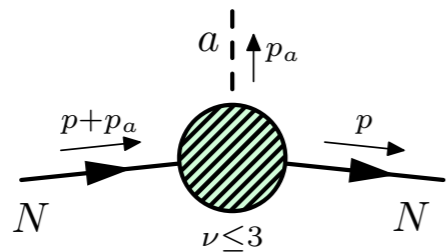
Proton



At finite density $\mathcal{A}_{an}^{\text{KSVZ}}(n_0) = -0.1(4)(9)$

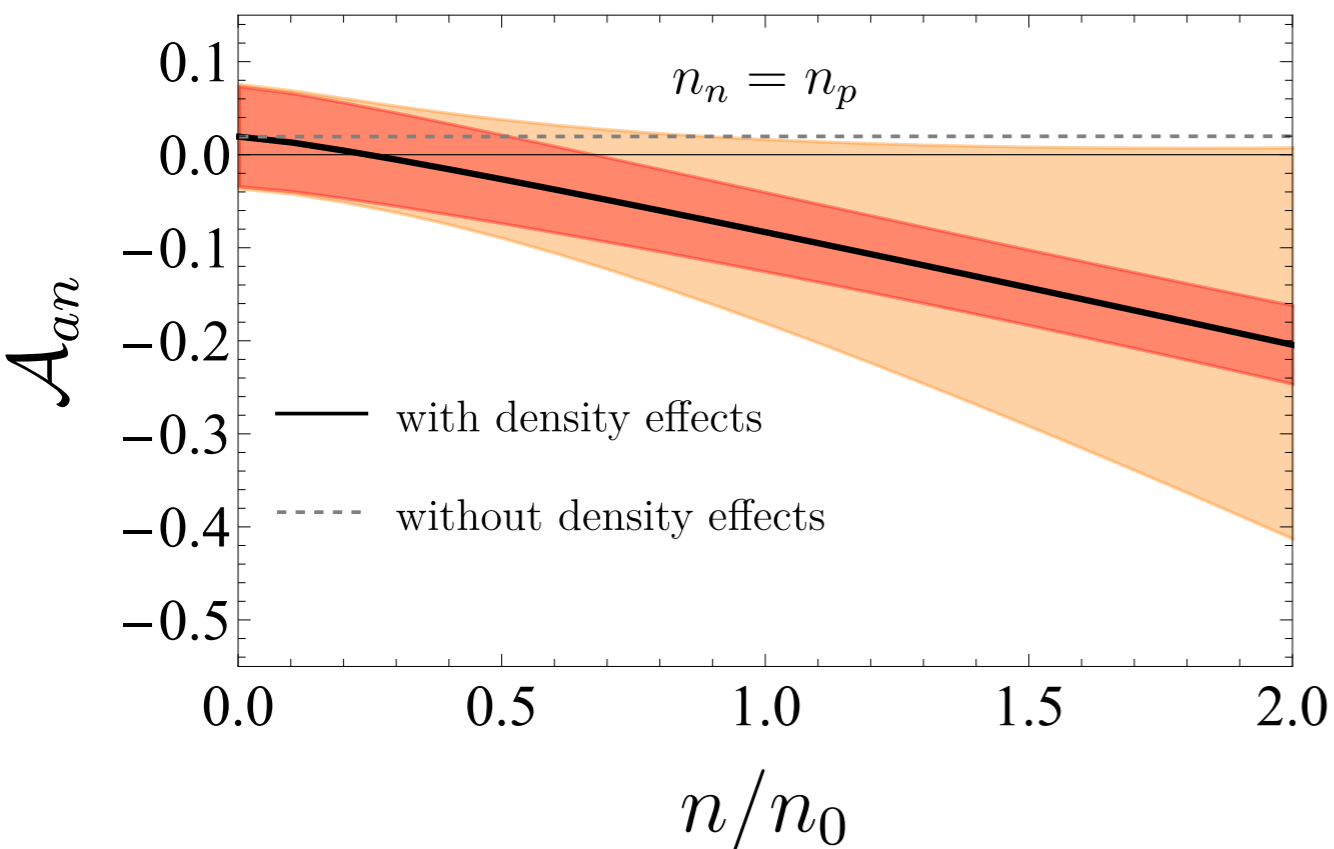
vs. vacuum $\mathcal{A}_{an}^{\text{KSVZ}}(0) = 0.02(5)$

Axion-Nuclon Coupling: Finite density

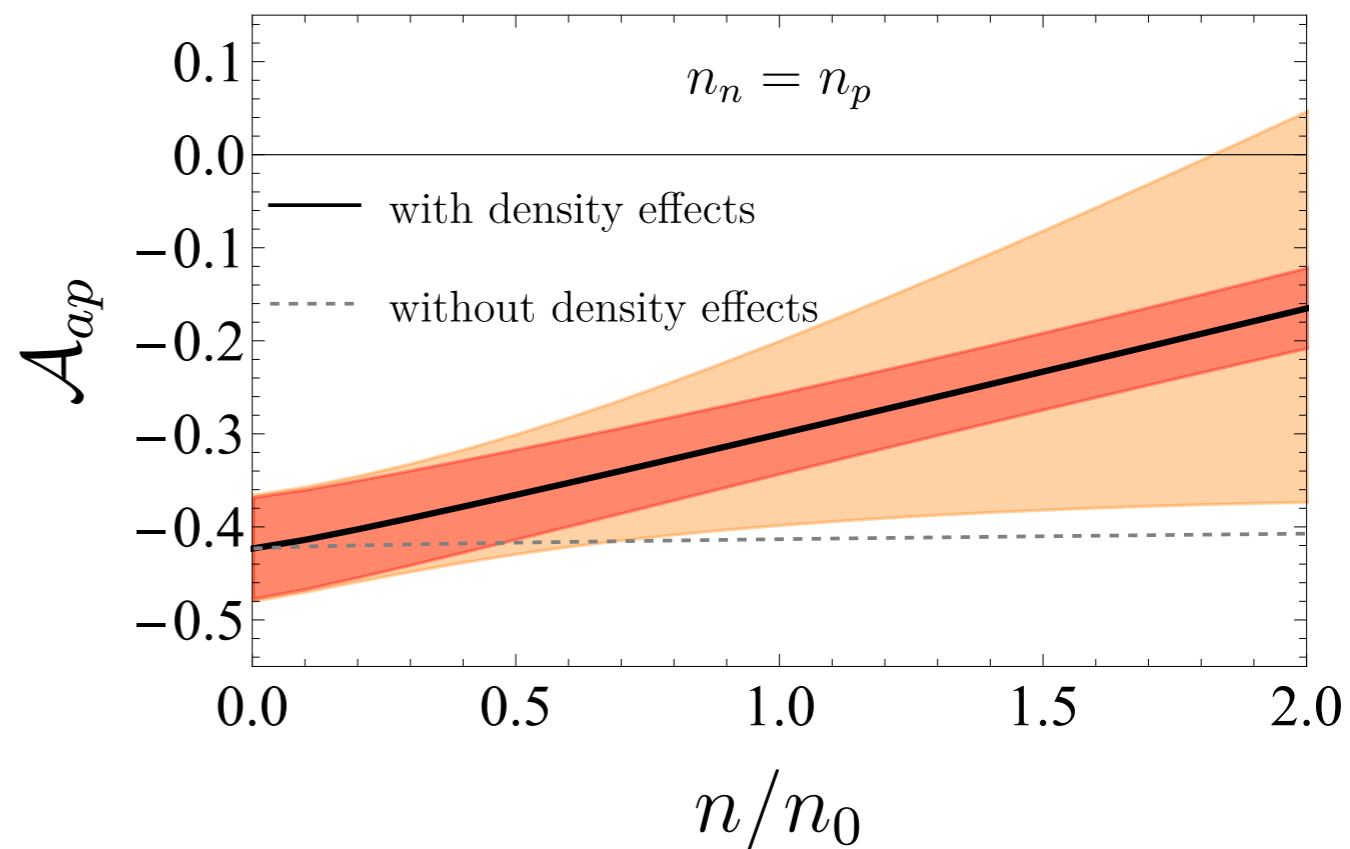


$$= -\frac{1}{f_a} \mathcal{A}^{\nu \leq 3}(k_f, p_a) S \cdot p_a - \frac{1}{f_a} \mathcal{B}^{\nu \leq 3}(k_f, p_a) S \cdot p$$

Neutron



Proton



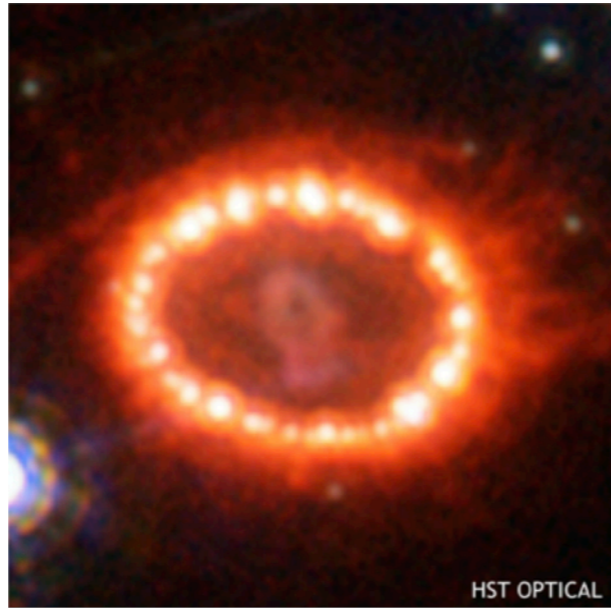
At finite density

$$\mathcal{A}_{an}^{\text{KSVZ}}(n_0) = -0.1(4)(9)$$

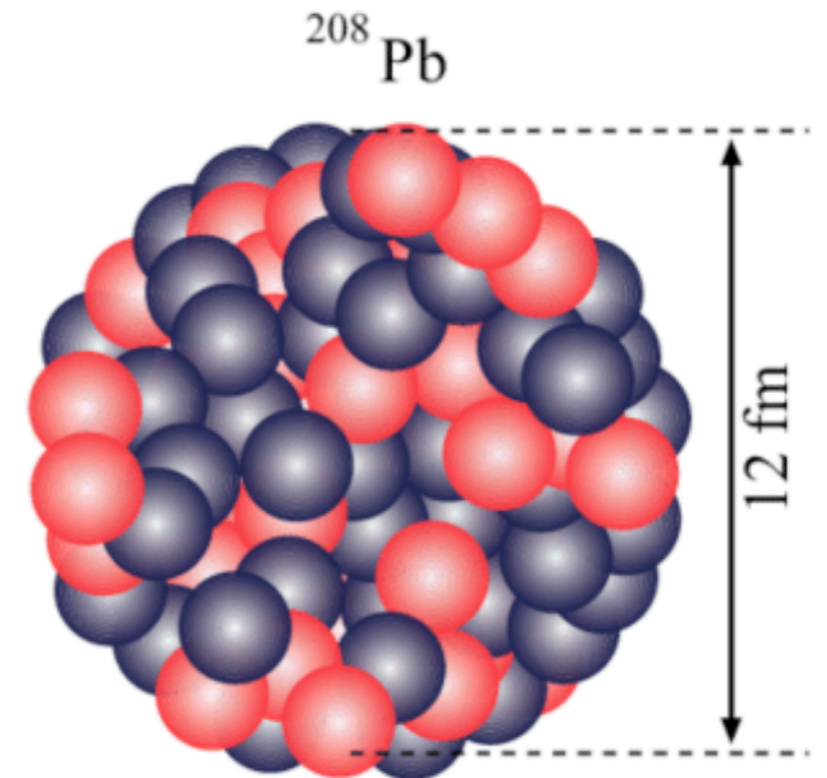
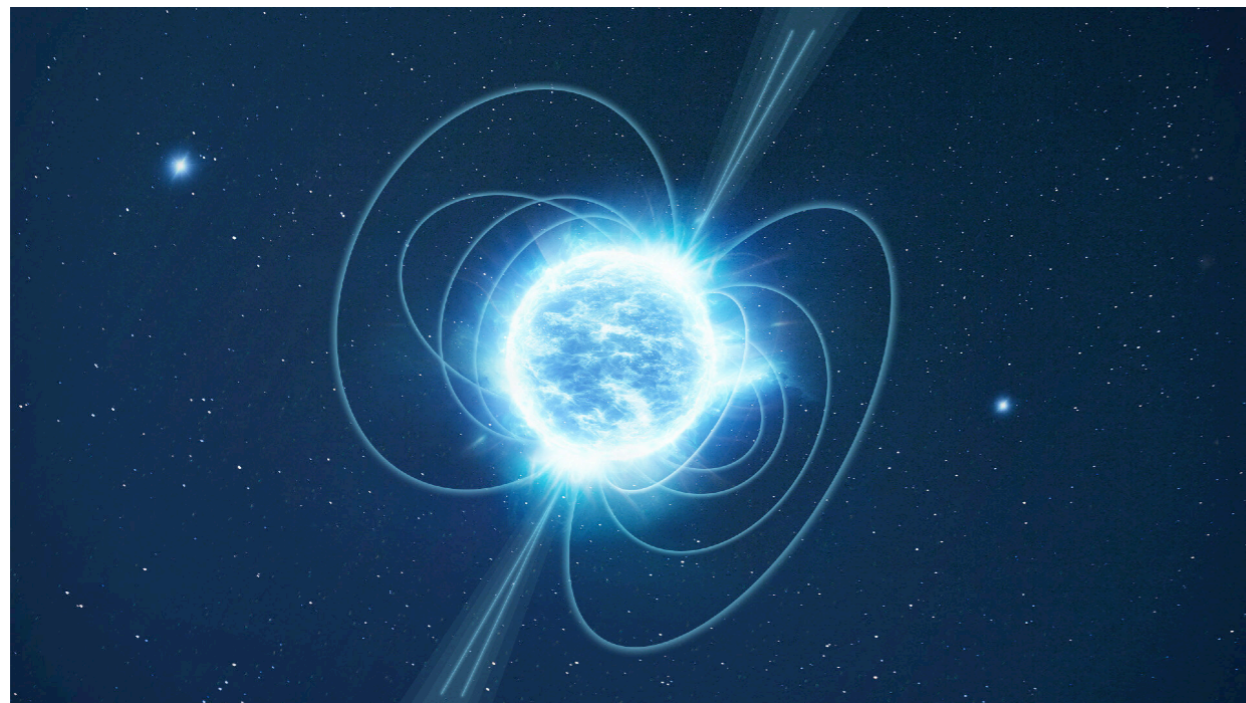
vs. vacuum

$$\mathcal{A}_{an}^{\text{KSVZ}}(0) = 0.02(5)$$

Accidental cancellation is lifted!



Implications for phenomenology



Supernova bound revisited

- Axion Luminosity

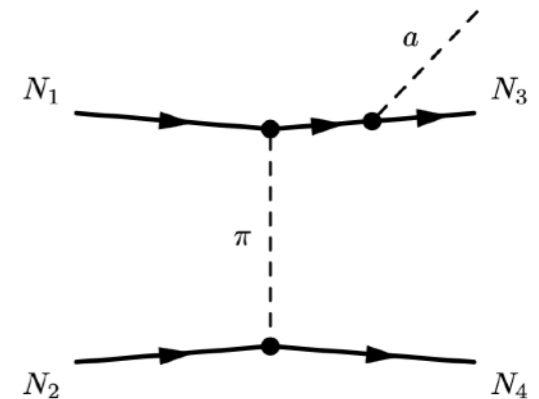
$$L_a = \int dr 4\pi r^2 \dot{\epsilon}_a(r)$$

With emissivity

$$\dot{\epsilon}_a = \int \prod_{i=1}^4 d\Pi_i d\Pi_a (2\pi)^4 S |\mathcal{M}|^2 \delta^{(4)}(\sum_i p_i - p_a) E_a f_1 f_2 (1 - f_3) (1 - f_4)$$

- Typically 1 pion exchange at tree level + pheno corrections

Chang, Essig, McDermott ('18) Carenza, Fischer, Giannotti, Guo, Martinez-Pinedo, Mirizzi ('19)

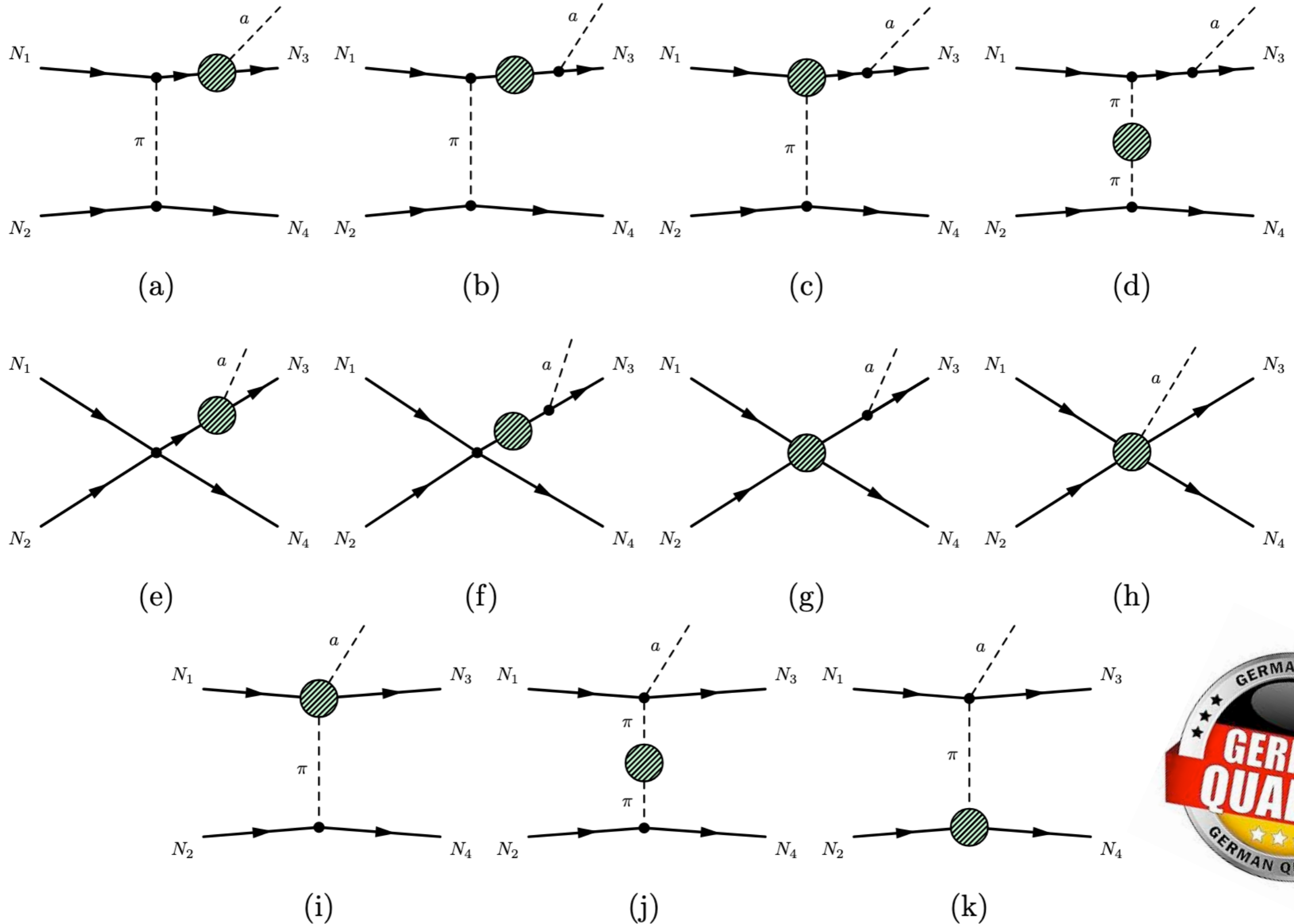


- Outlined all relevant corrections diagrammatically up to NNLO in chiral expansion

Allows to systematically account for all effects from first principles!

Supernova bound revisited

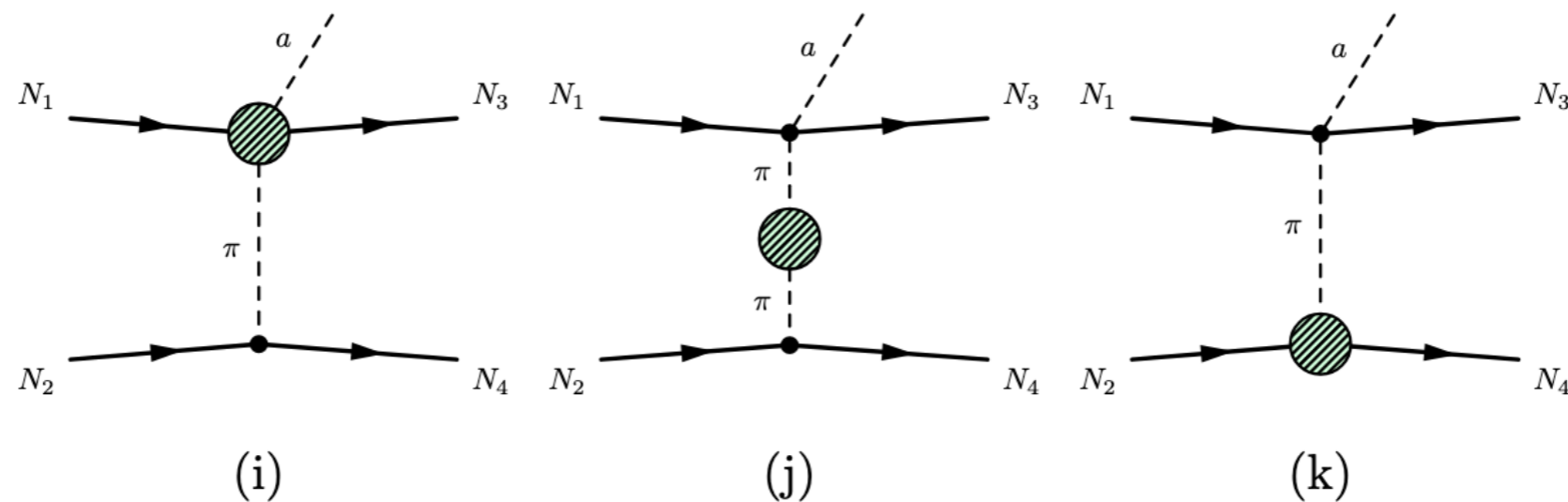
Relevant diagrams up to NLO



Supernova bound revisited

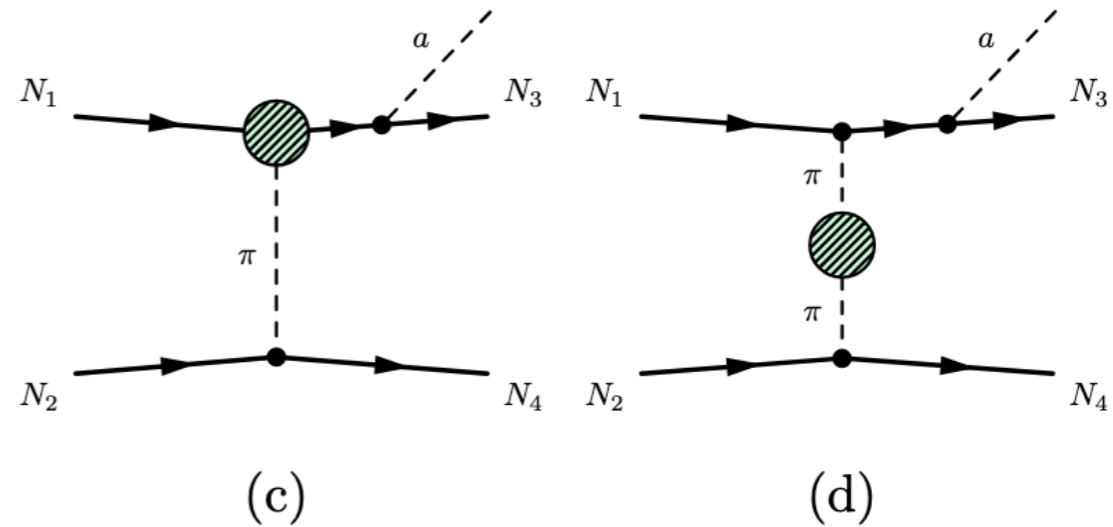
These are typically suppressed by $v \cdot k \simeq \frac{k^2}{2m_N}$

Choi, Kim, Seong, Shin ('21)



Supernova bound revisited

Neglected



Modification of nuclear interaction:

- Fudge factor γ_p

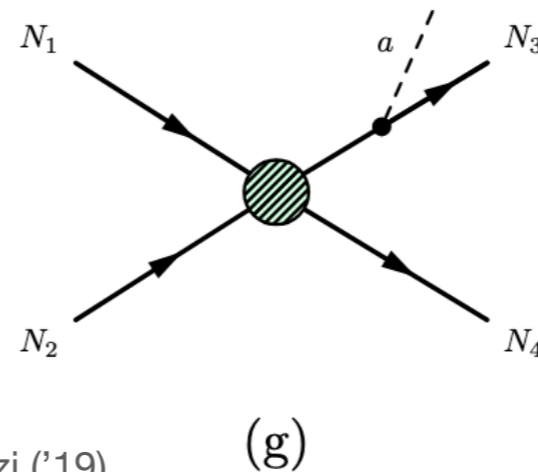
Chang, Essig, McDermott ('18)

- Phenomenologically modelled

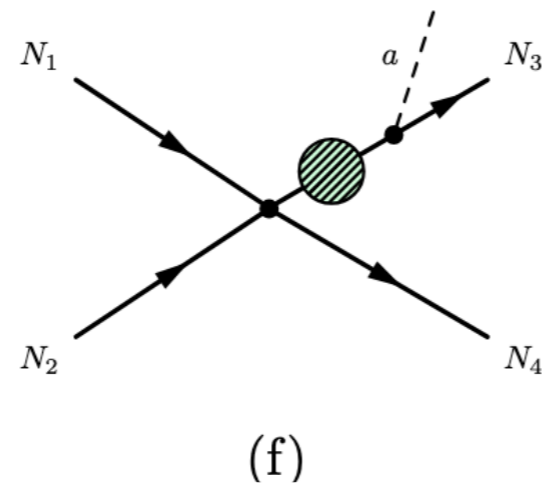
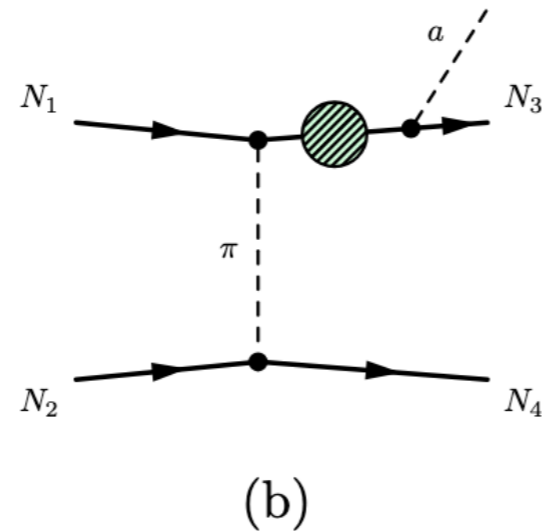
Ericson, T., & Mathiot, J.-F. 1989, Phys. Lett. B, 219, 507

Hannestad, Raffelt *Astrophys.J.* 507 (1998) 339-352

Carenza, Fischer, Giannotti, Guo, Martinez-Pinedo, Mirizzi ('19)



Supernova bound revisited



Modelled as nucleon re-scatterings

- Fudge factor γ_h

Raffelt, Seckel ('88)

Chang, Essig, McDermott ('18)

- Phenomenologically

Raffelt, Seckel ('88)

Carenza, Fischer, Giannotti, Guo, Martinez-Pinedo, Mirizzi ('19)

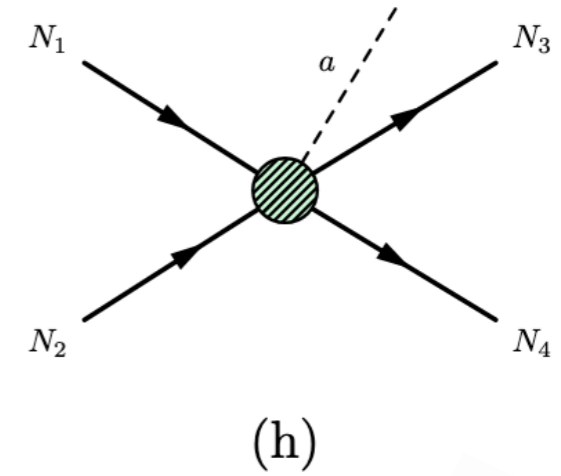
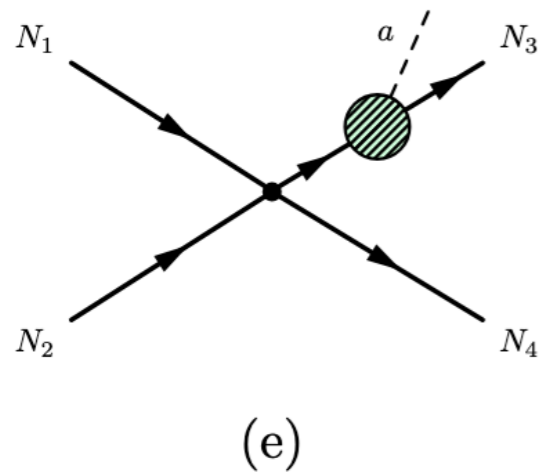
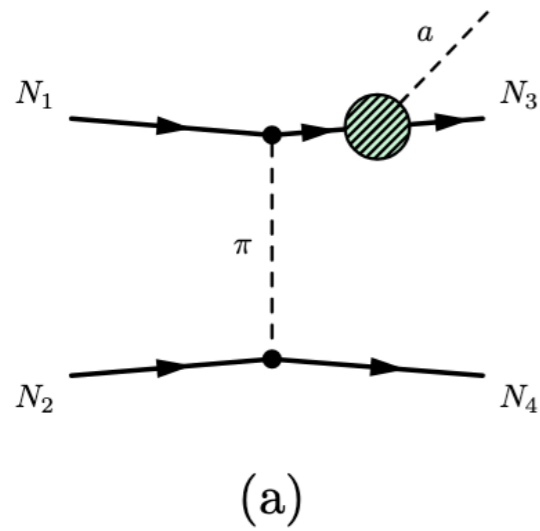
Neglected



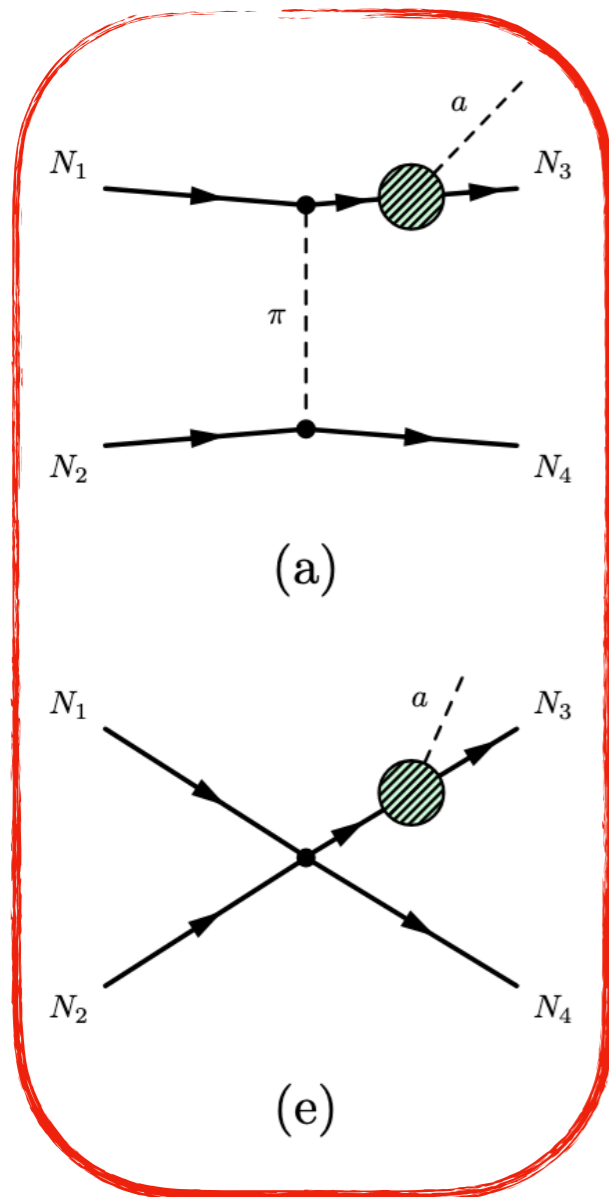
Supernova bound revisited

Outlined for the first time

KS, Stadlbauer, Stelzl, Weiler ('24)



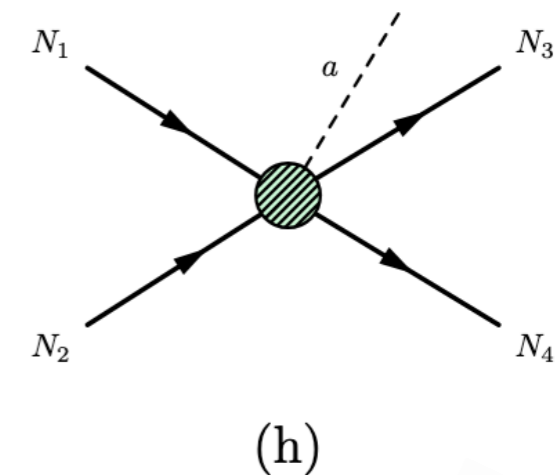
Supernova bound revisited



Outlined for the first time

KS, Stadlbauer, Stelzl, Weiler ('24)

← Modified couplings



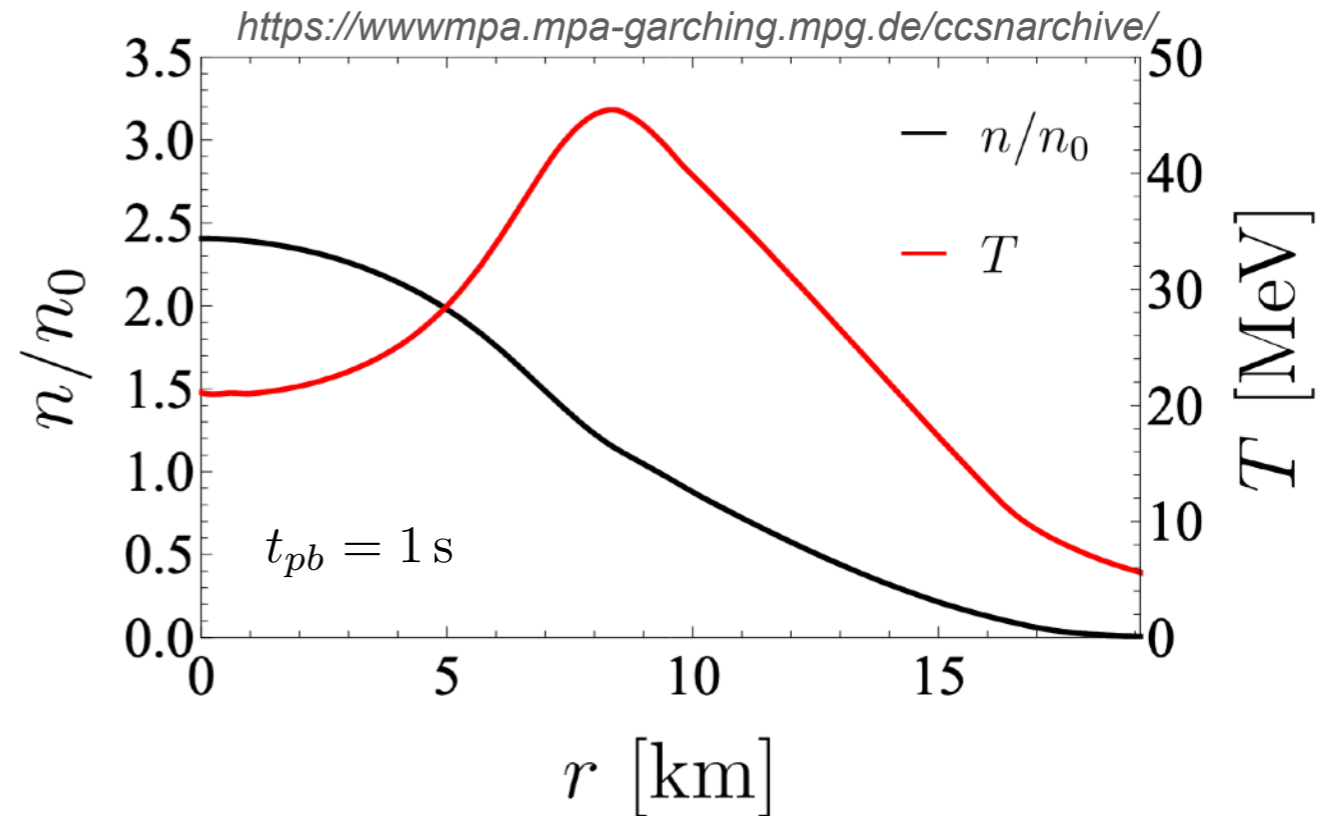
Focus on these for now.. but:

Fully systematic evaluation should take into account all diagrams up to given order

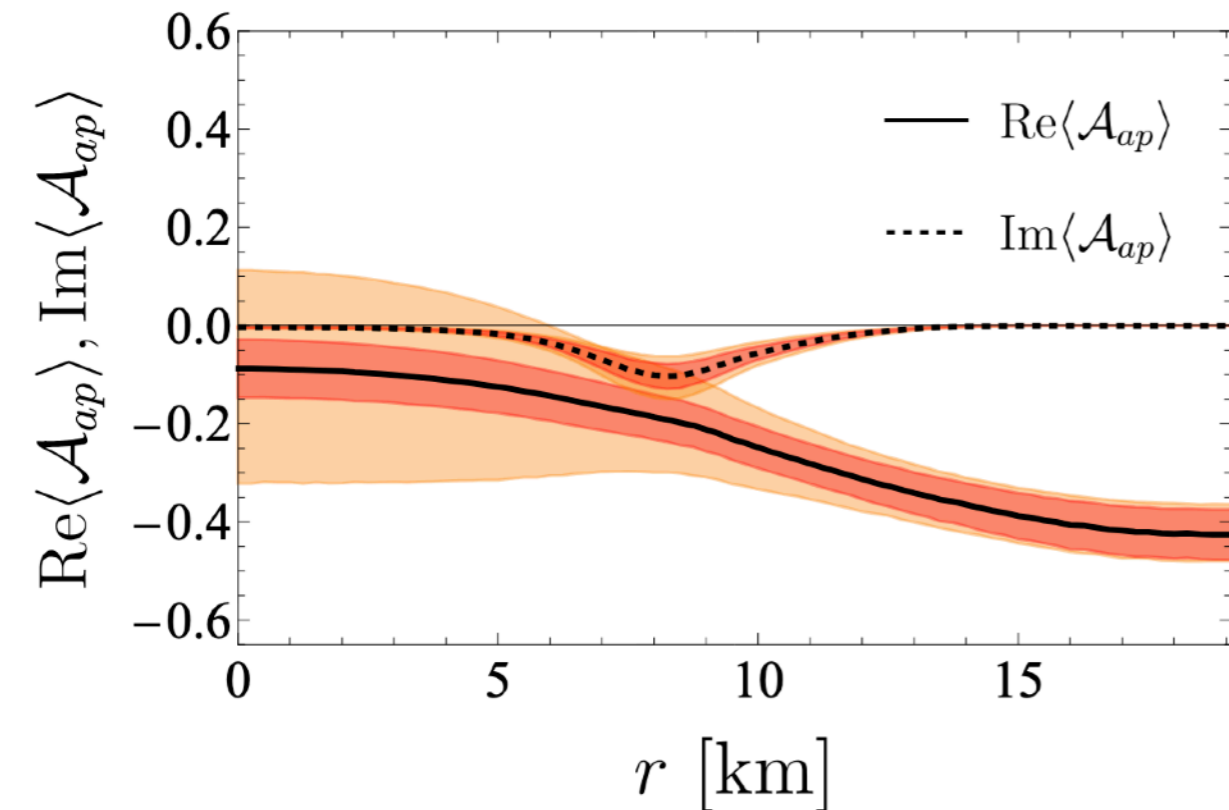


Supernova bound revisited

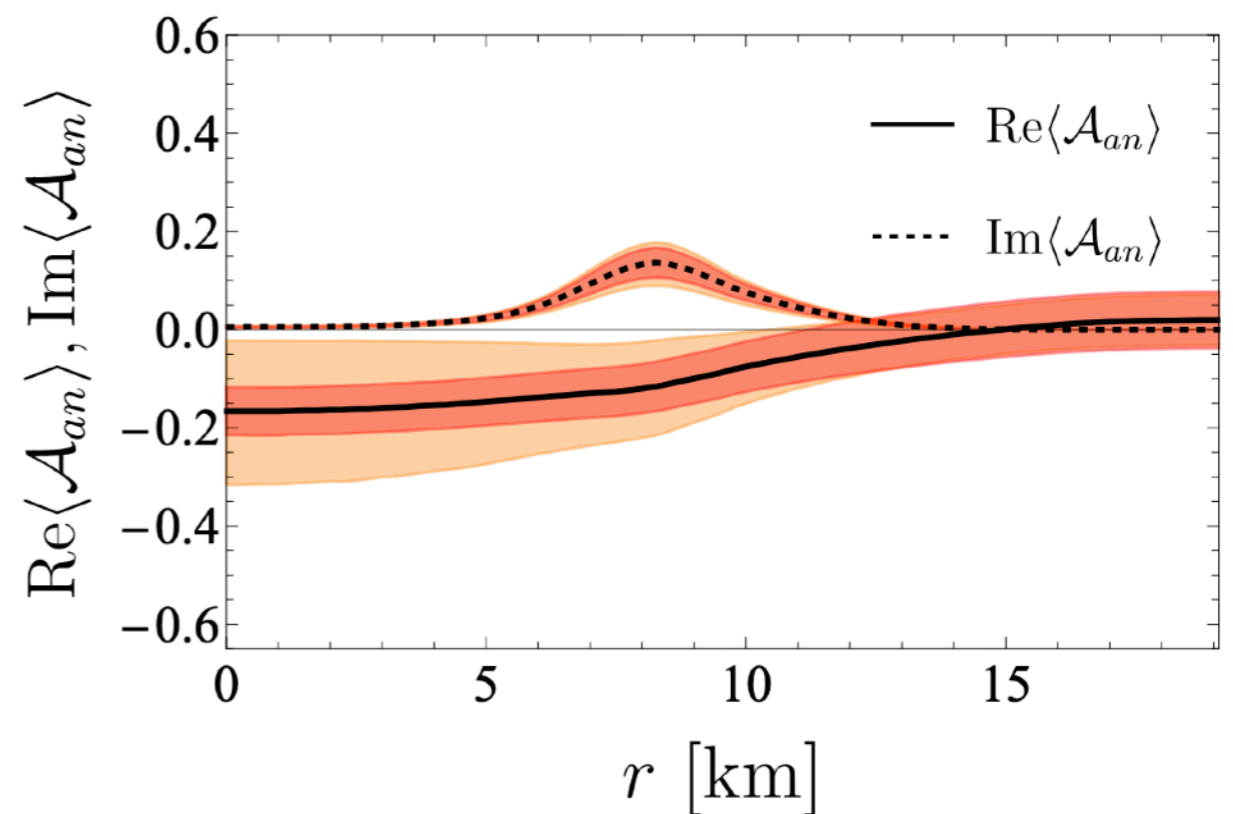
KSVZ axion couplings in a SN:



Proton



Neutron

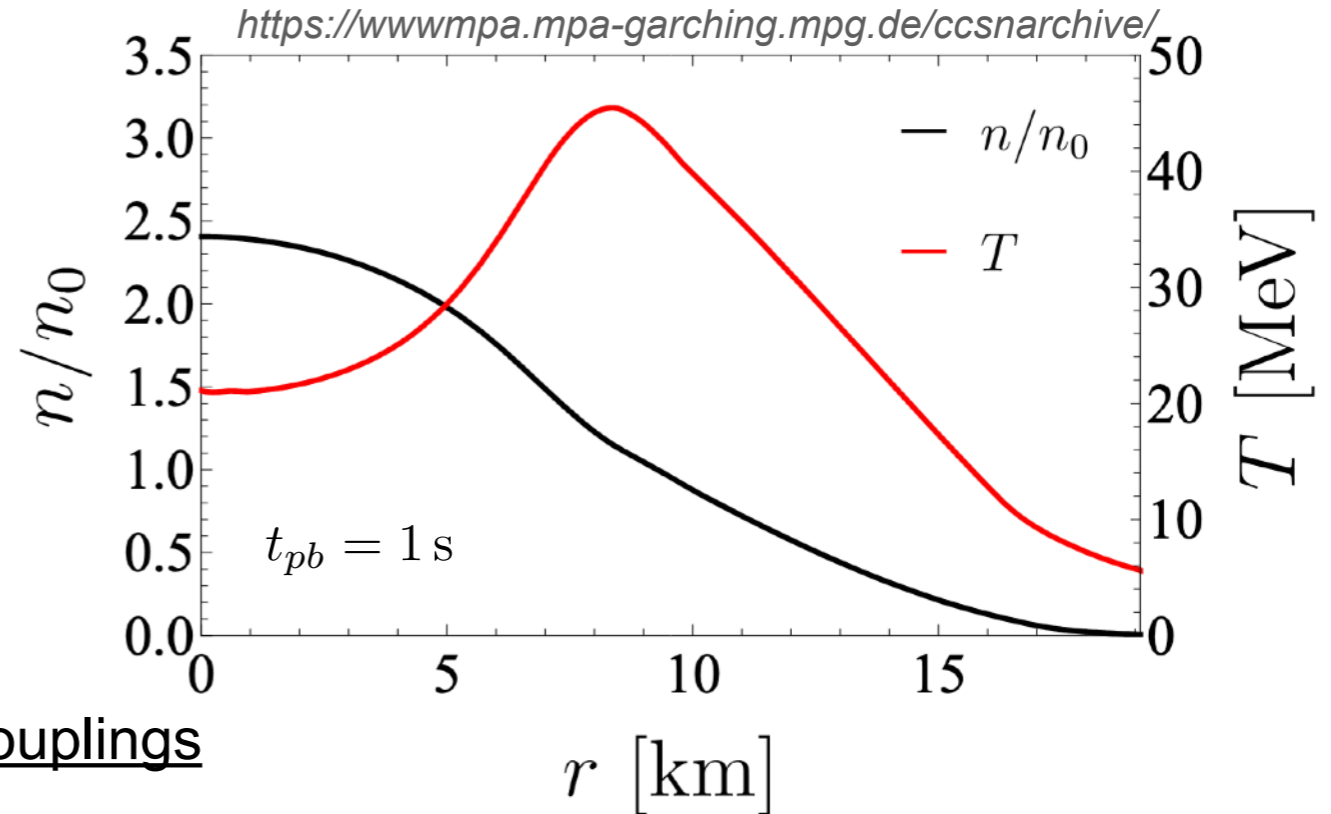


Supernova bound revisited

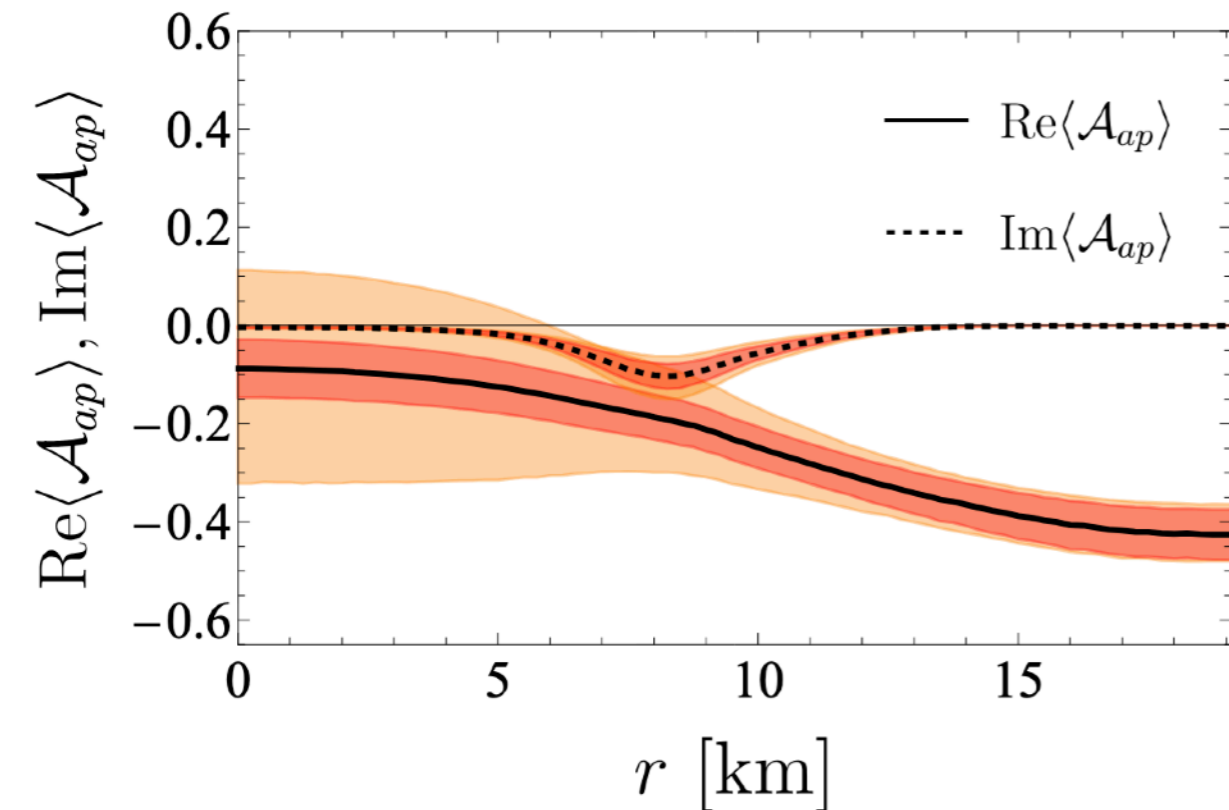
KSVZ axion couplings in a SN:

Available on  **GitHub**

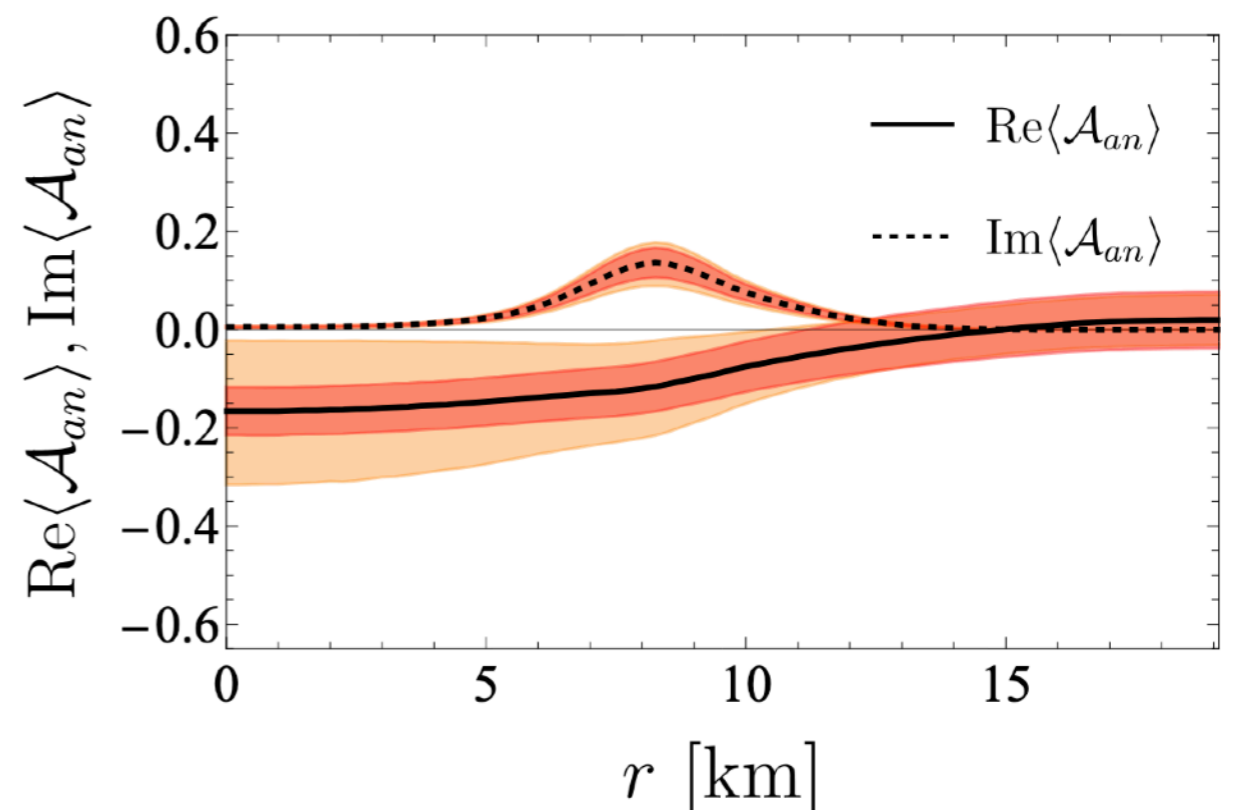
<https://github.com/michael-stadlbauer/Axion-Couplings>



Proton



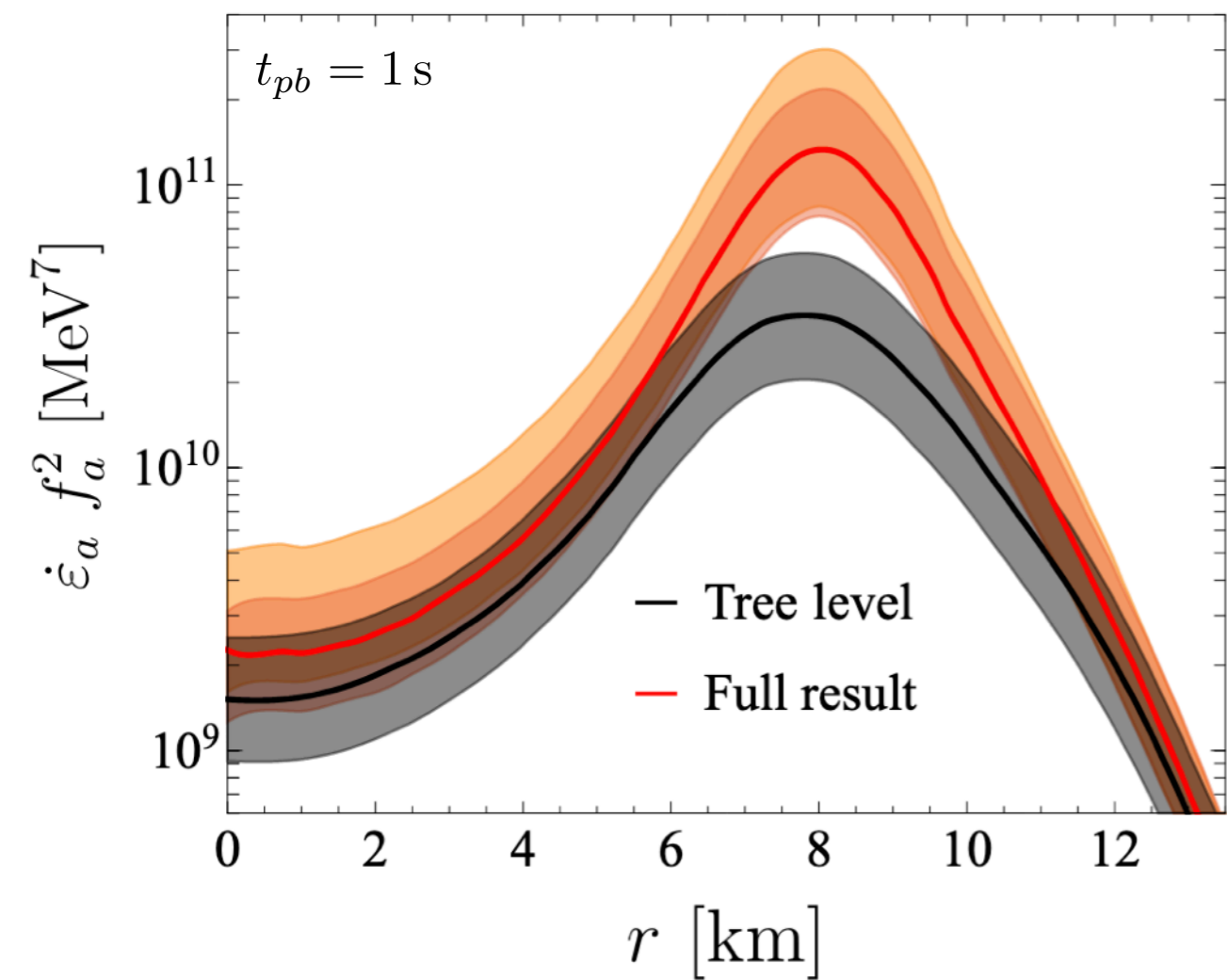
Neutron



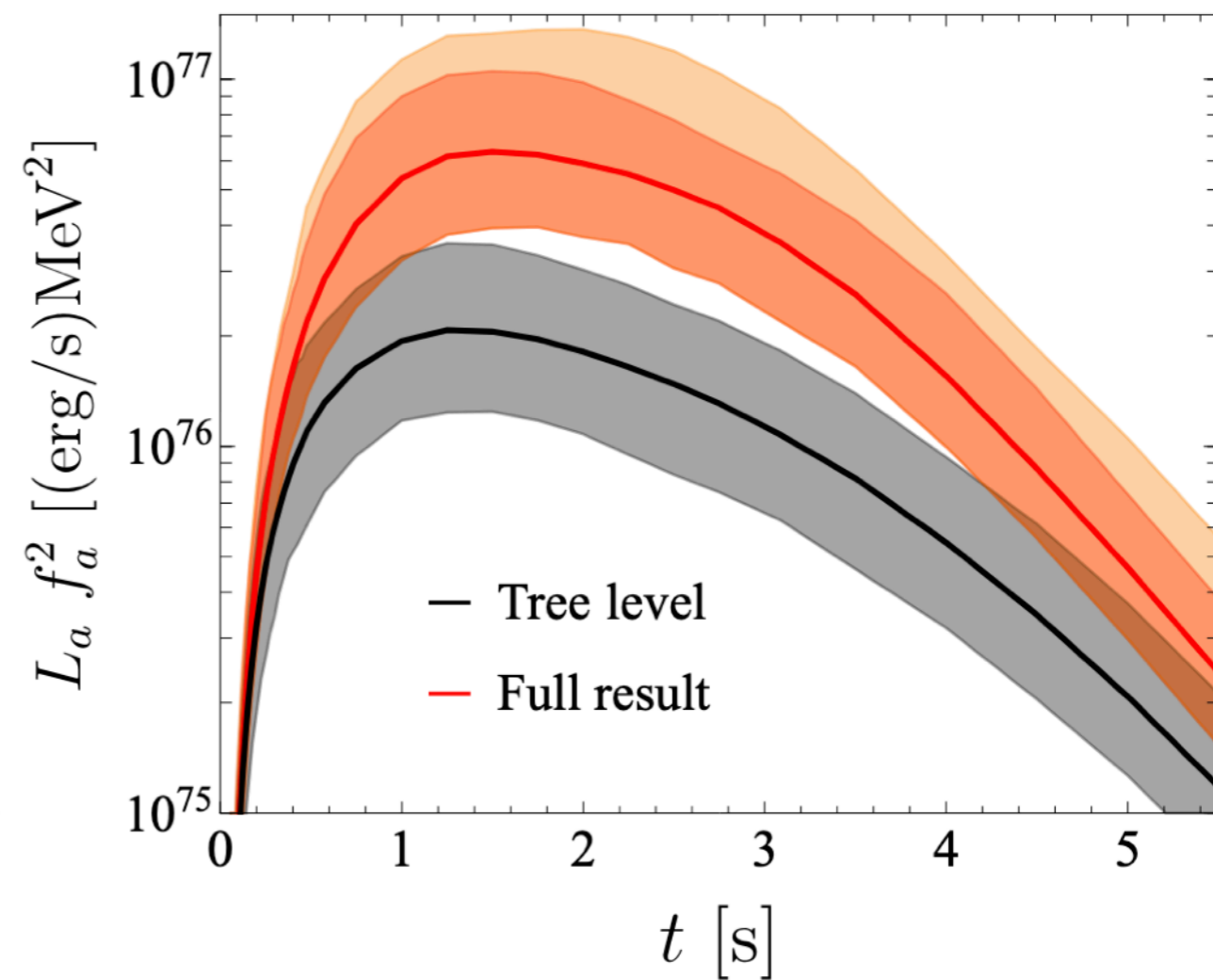
Supernova bound revisited

KSVZ axion

Emissivity



Luminosity

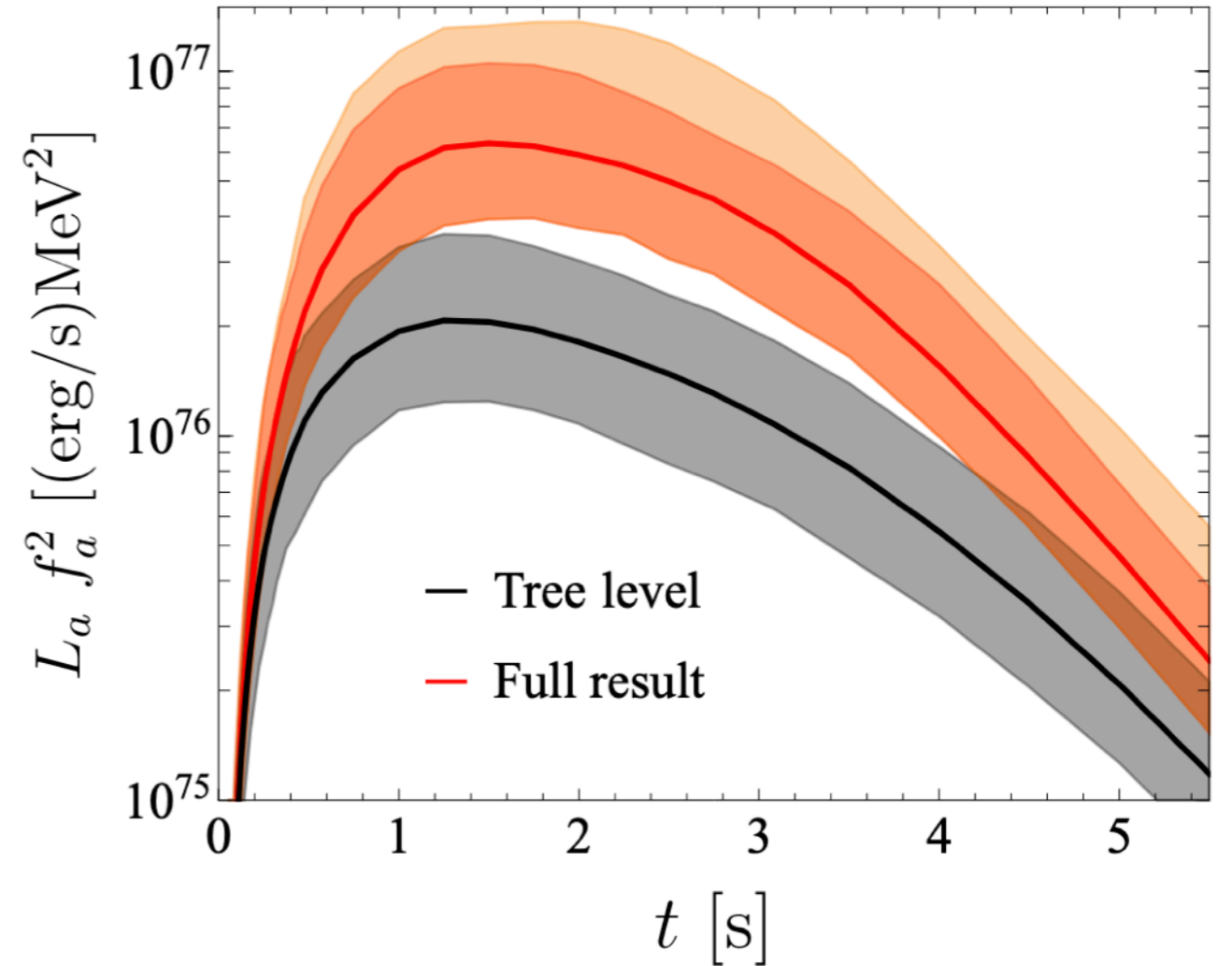
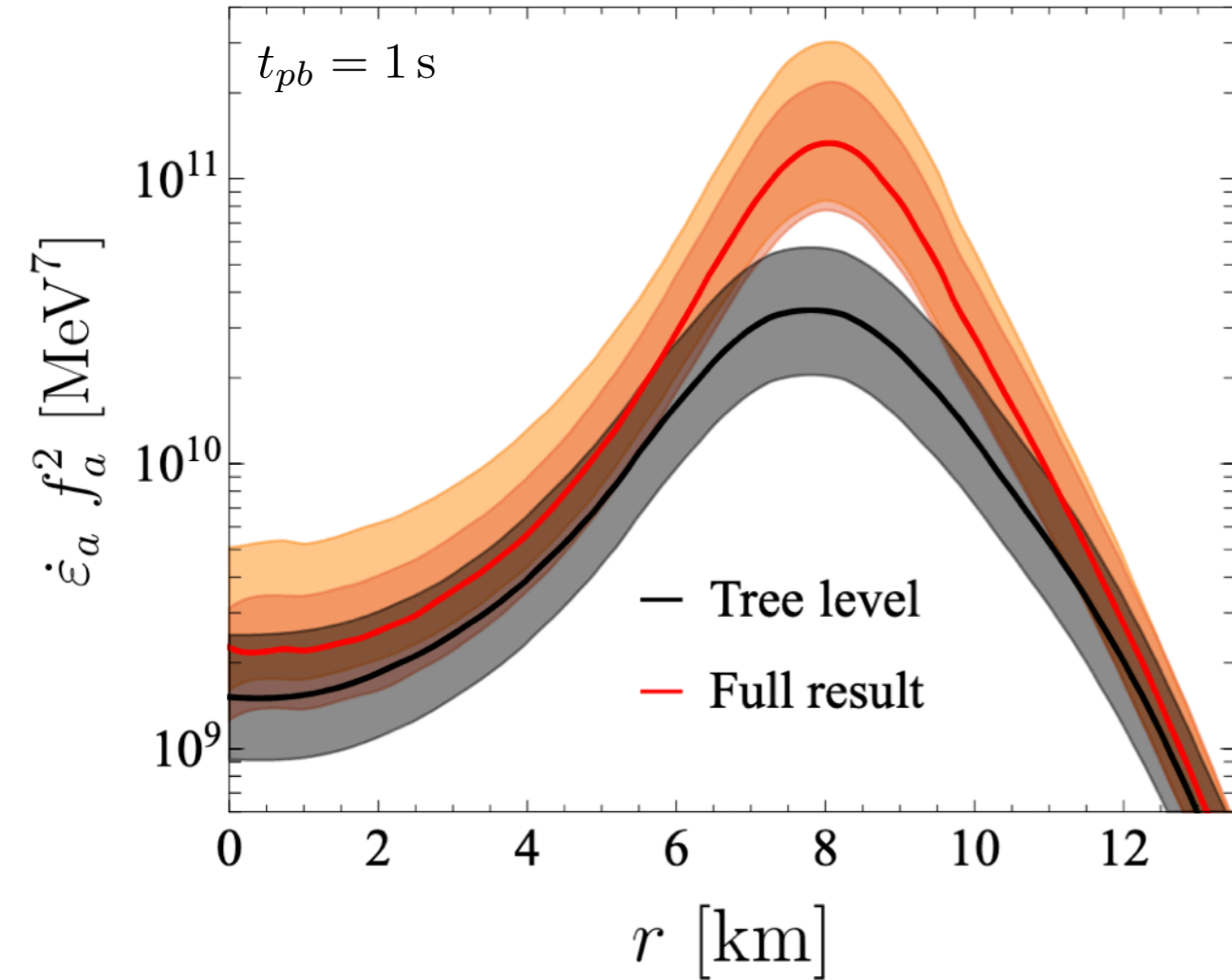


Supernova bound revisited

KSVZ axion

Emissivity

Luminosity



Tree level:

$$f_a \gtrsim 6.1_{-1.4}^{+1.7} \times 10^8 \text{ GeV}, \quad m_a \lesssim 9.8_{-2.2}^{+3.0} \text{ meV}.$$

Vertex corrections:

$$f_a \gtrsim 1.0_{-0.2}^{+0.5} \times 10^9 \text{ GeV}, \quad m_a \lesssim 5.9_{-2.0}^{+1.8} \text{ meV}.$$

Astrophobic axions

Derivative axion-nucleon couplings are **model-dependent**

Astrophobic axions

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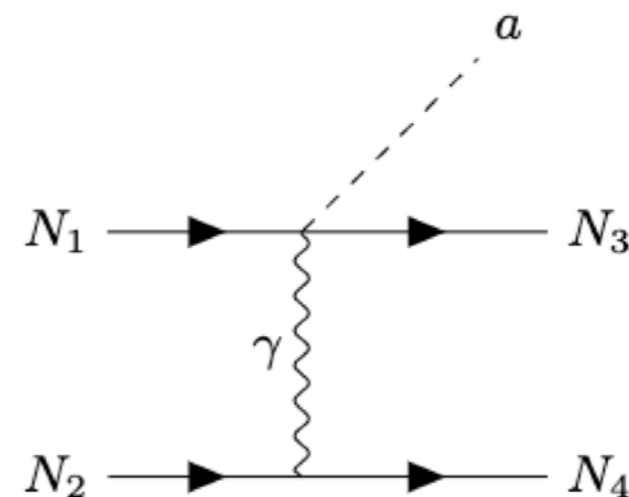
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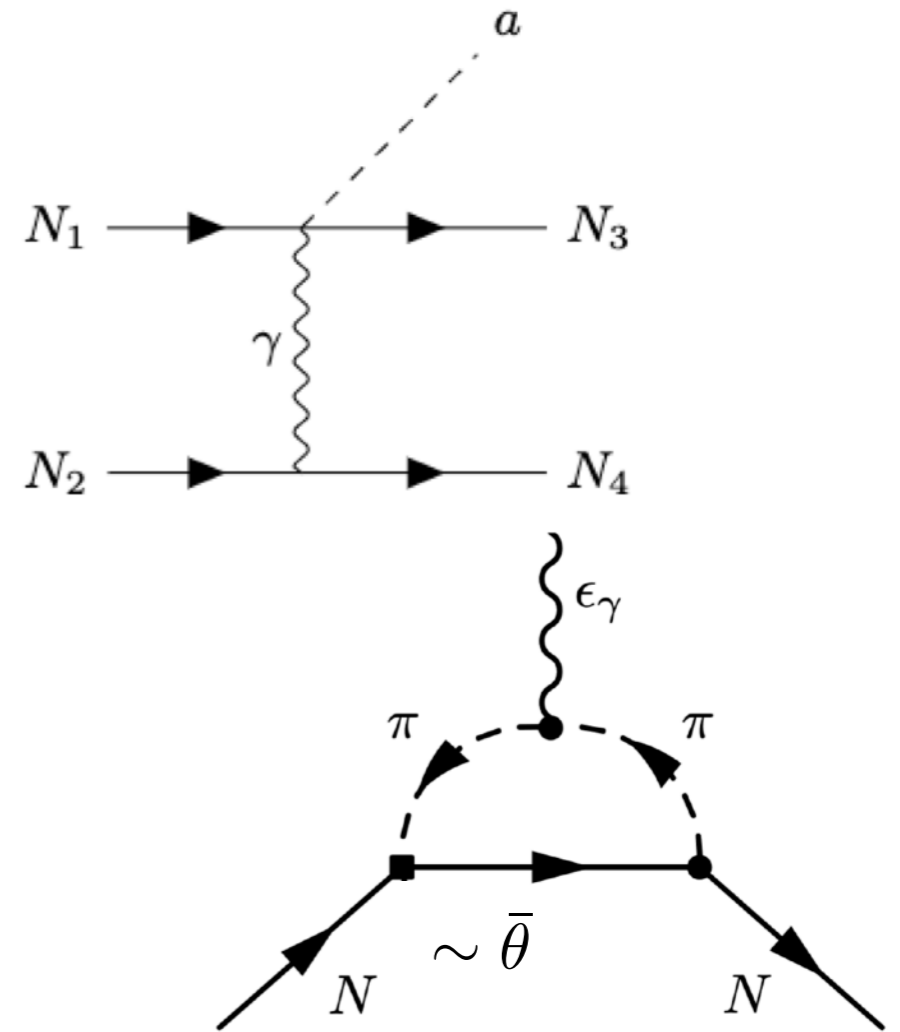
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EDM induced at 1-loop:

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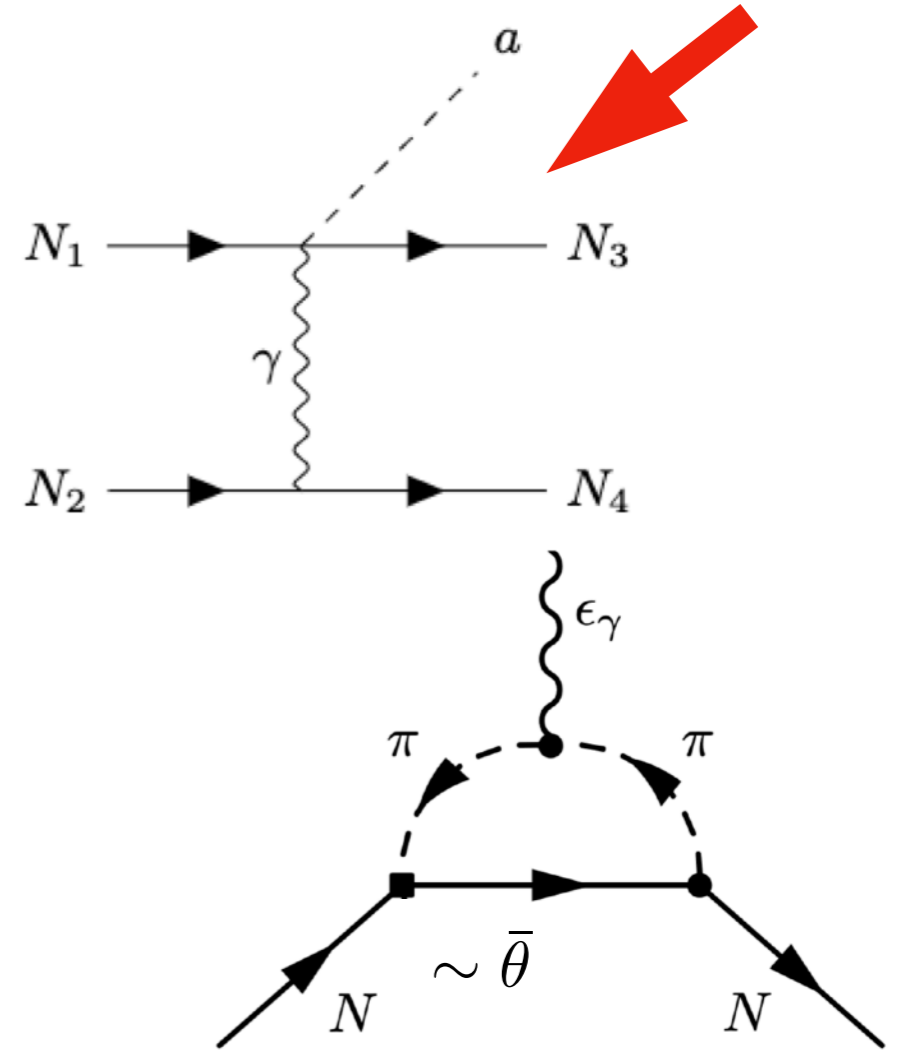
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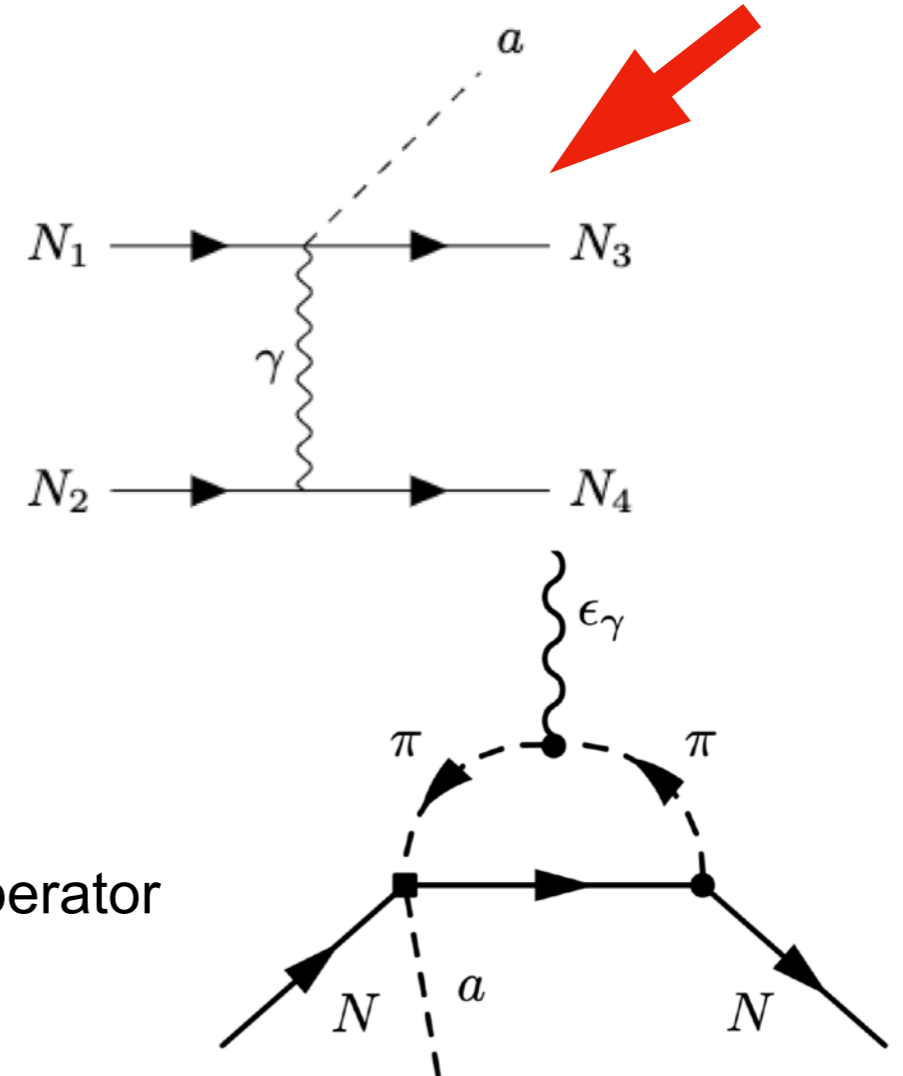
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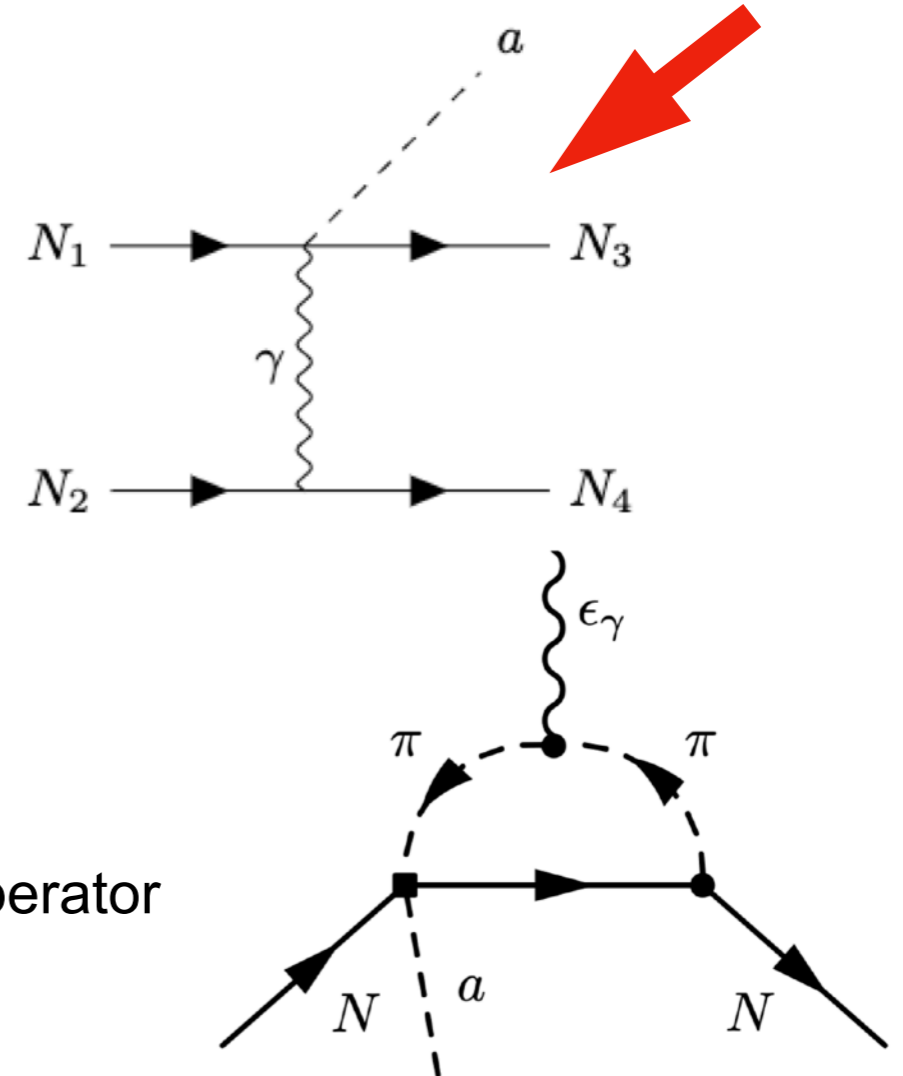
- NLO, shift-symmetry breaking, isospin-breaking

- Size of EDM operator can be determined

$$\frac{C_{aN\gamma}}{m_N} \sim \frac{m_\pi^2}{(4\pi f_\pi)^2} \hat{c}_5$$

Crewther, Vecchia, Veneziano, Witten ('79)

1 loop diagram



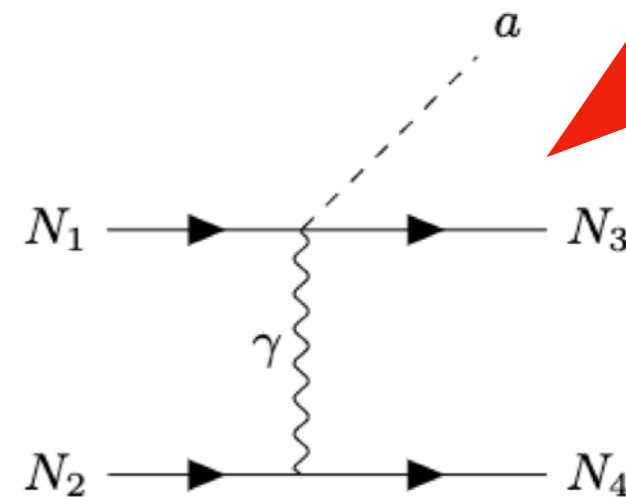
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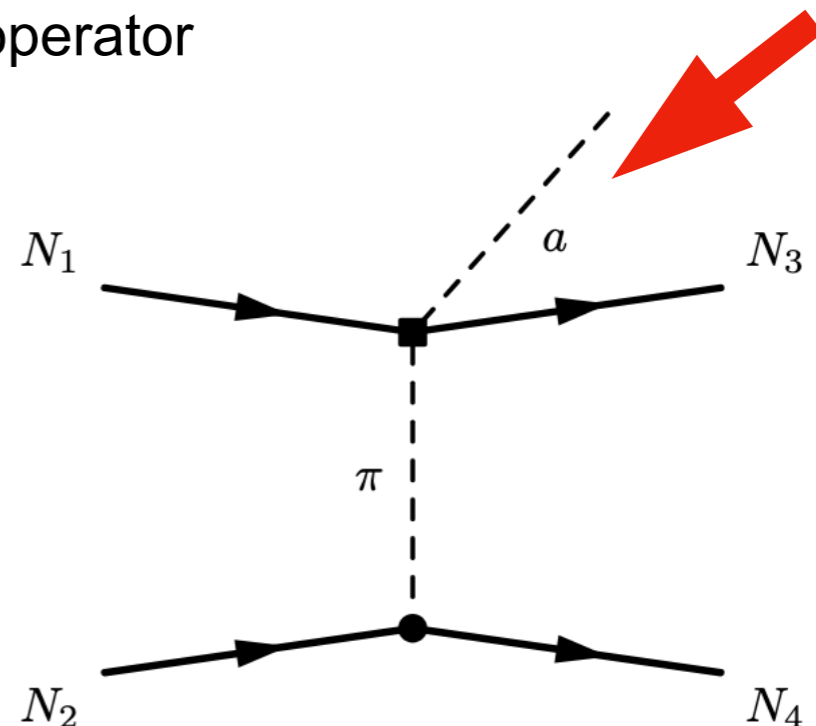
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- Induces a **tree-level** diagram

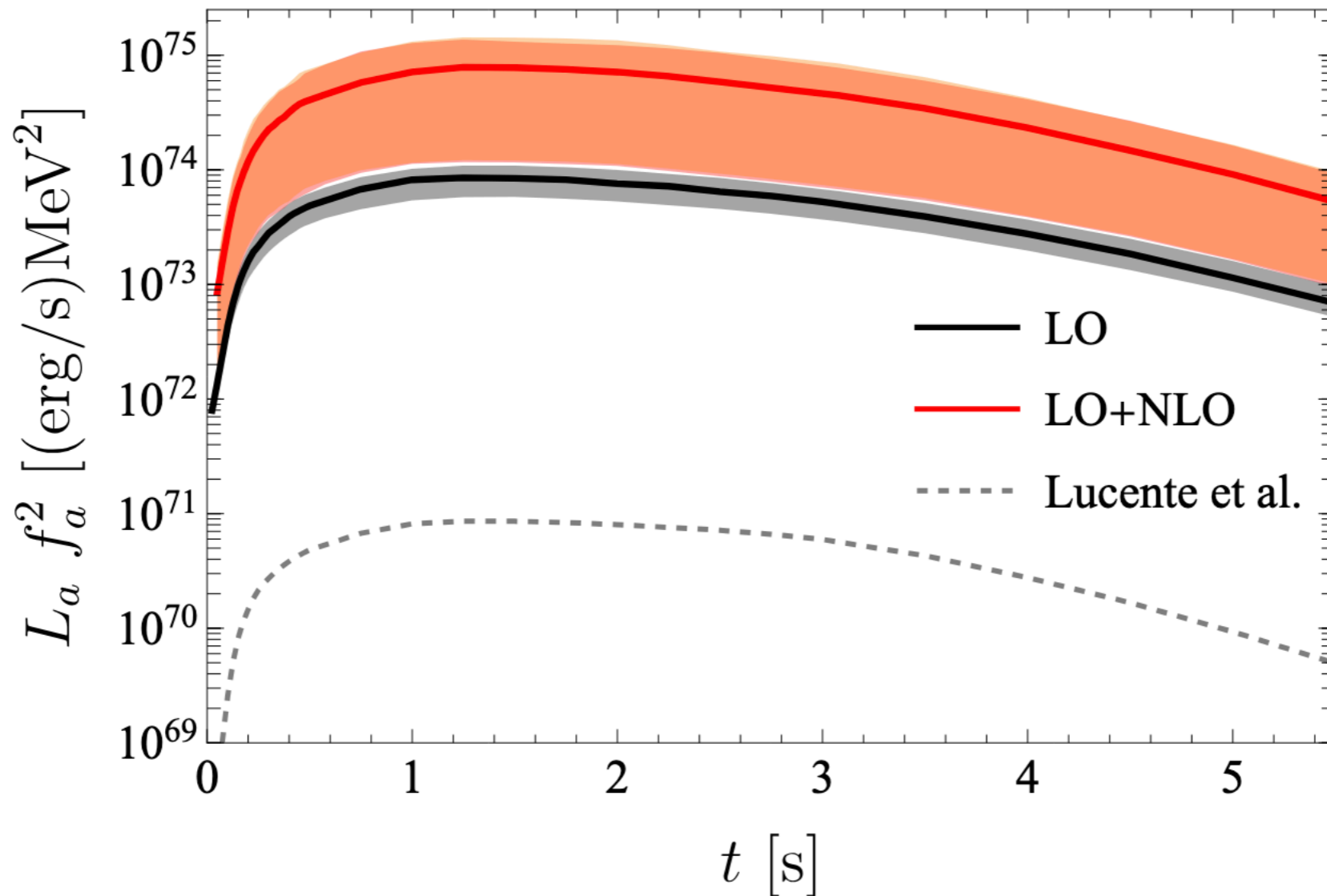


1 tree-level diagram

Astrophobic axions

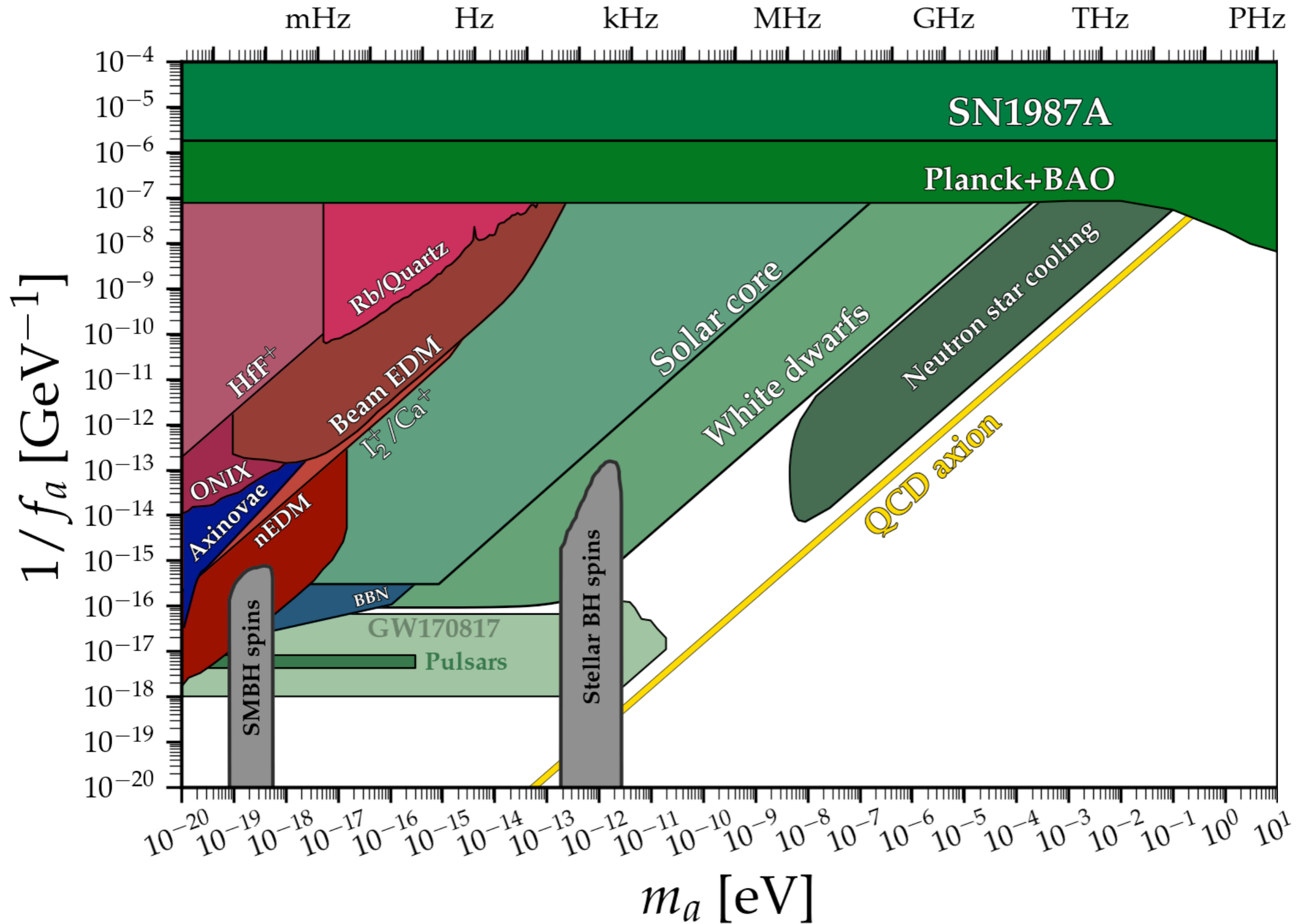
- Loose the loop-suppression compared to EDM operator

$$L_a^{\text{tree}, \hat{c}_5} \simeq (4\pi)^4 L_a^{\text{EDM}} \simeq 10^4 L_a^{\text{EDM}}$$

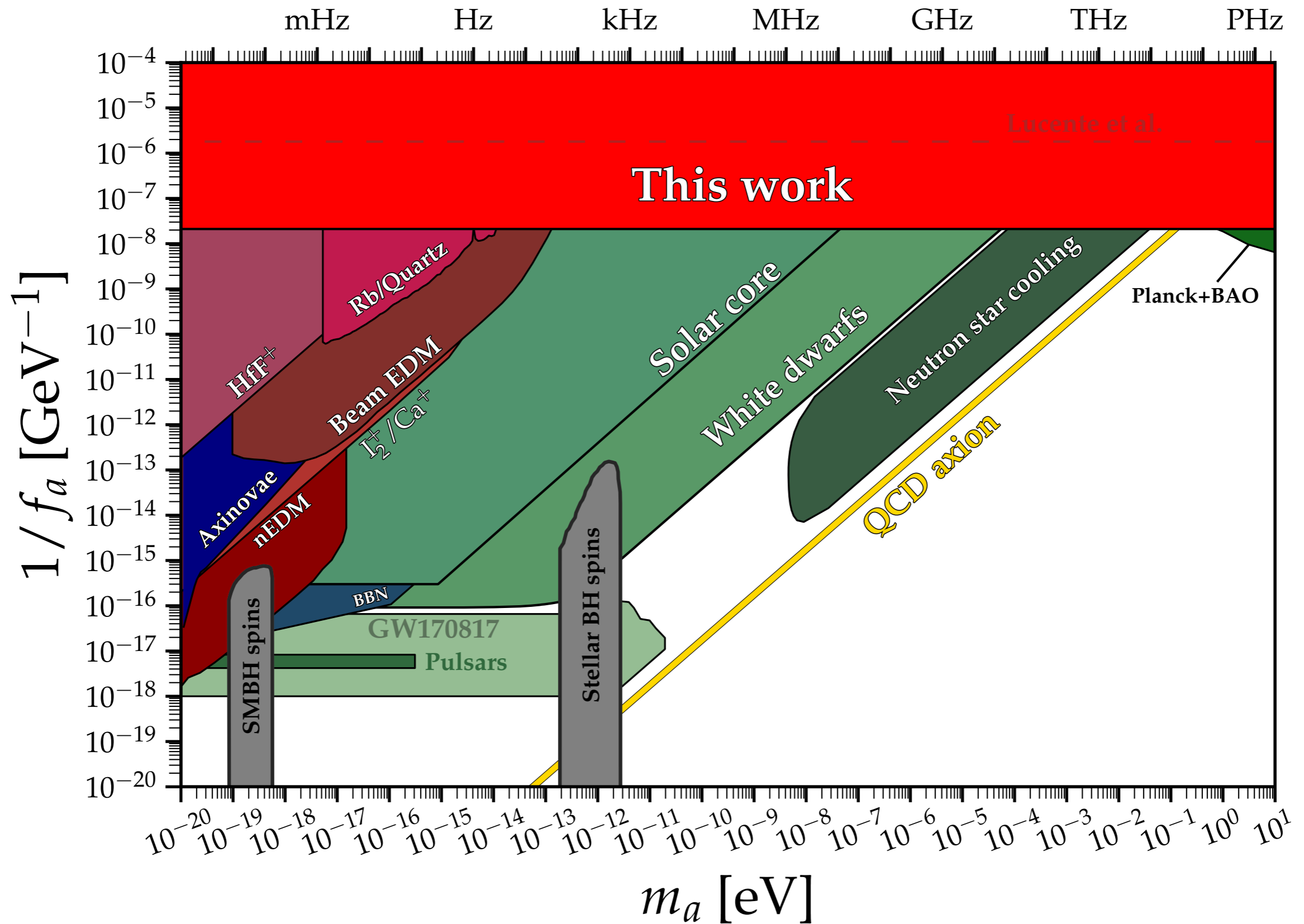


Strong universal bound on QCD axions: $f_a > 1.1_{-0.6}^{+0.4} \times 10^8 \text{ GeV}, \quad (68\% \text{ C.L.})$

Astrophobic axions



Astrophobic axions



Neutron Star Cooling

High densities inside NS of $n \sim O(\text{few})n_0$

ChPT expansion breaks down at these densities!

No way to consistently calculate the axion couplings

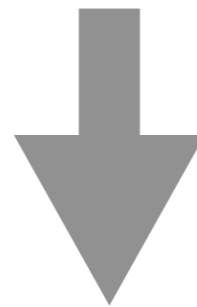
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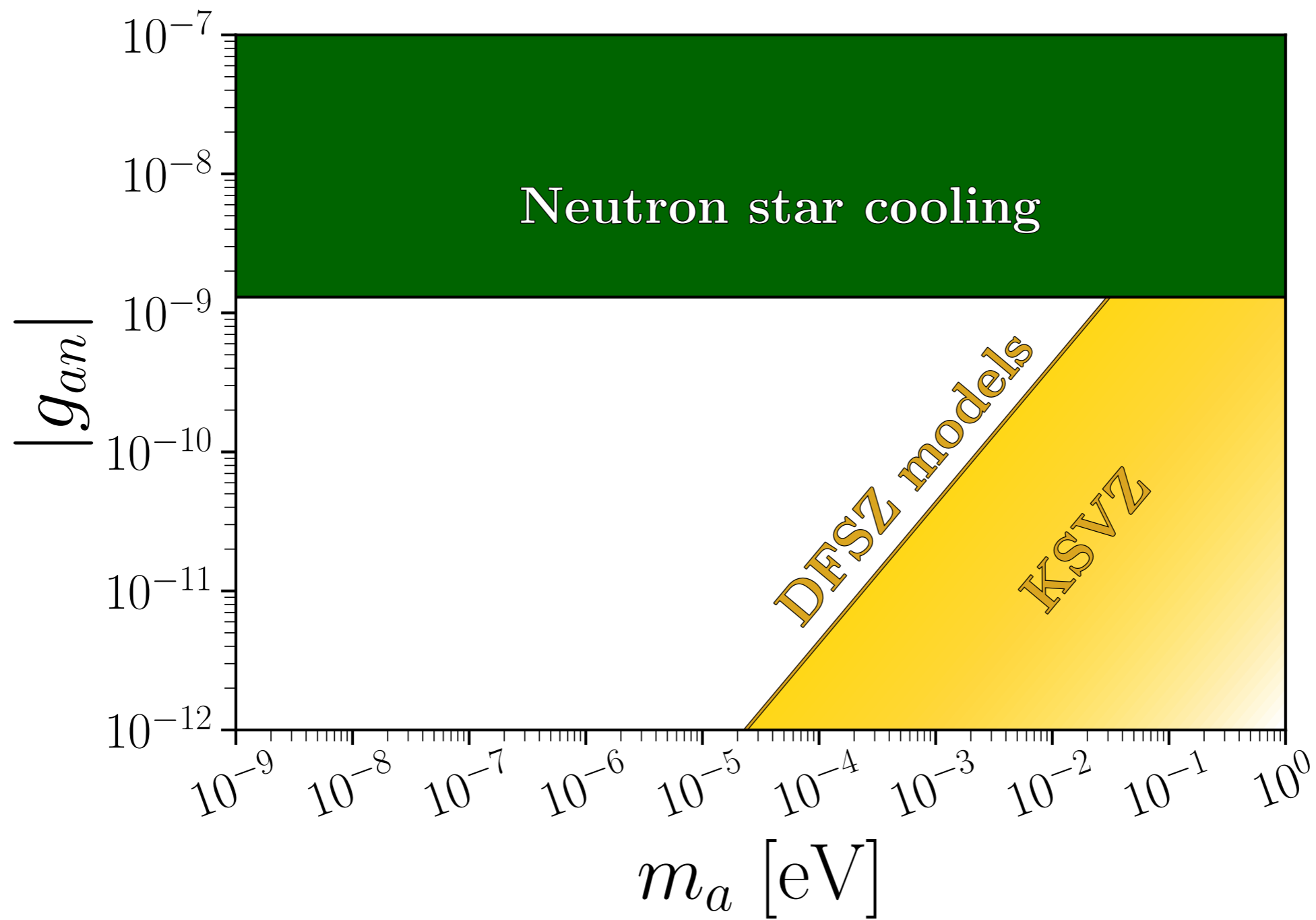
But also no reason for some to be small...



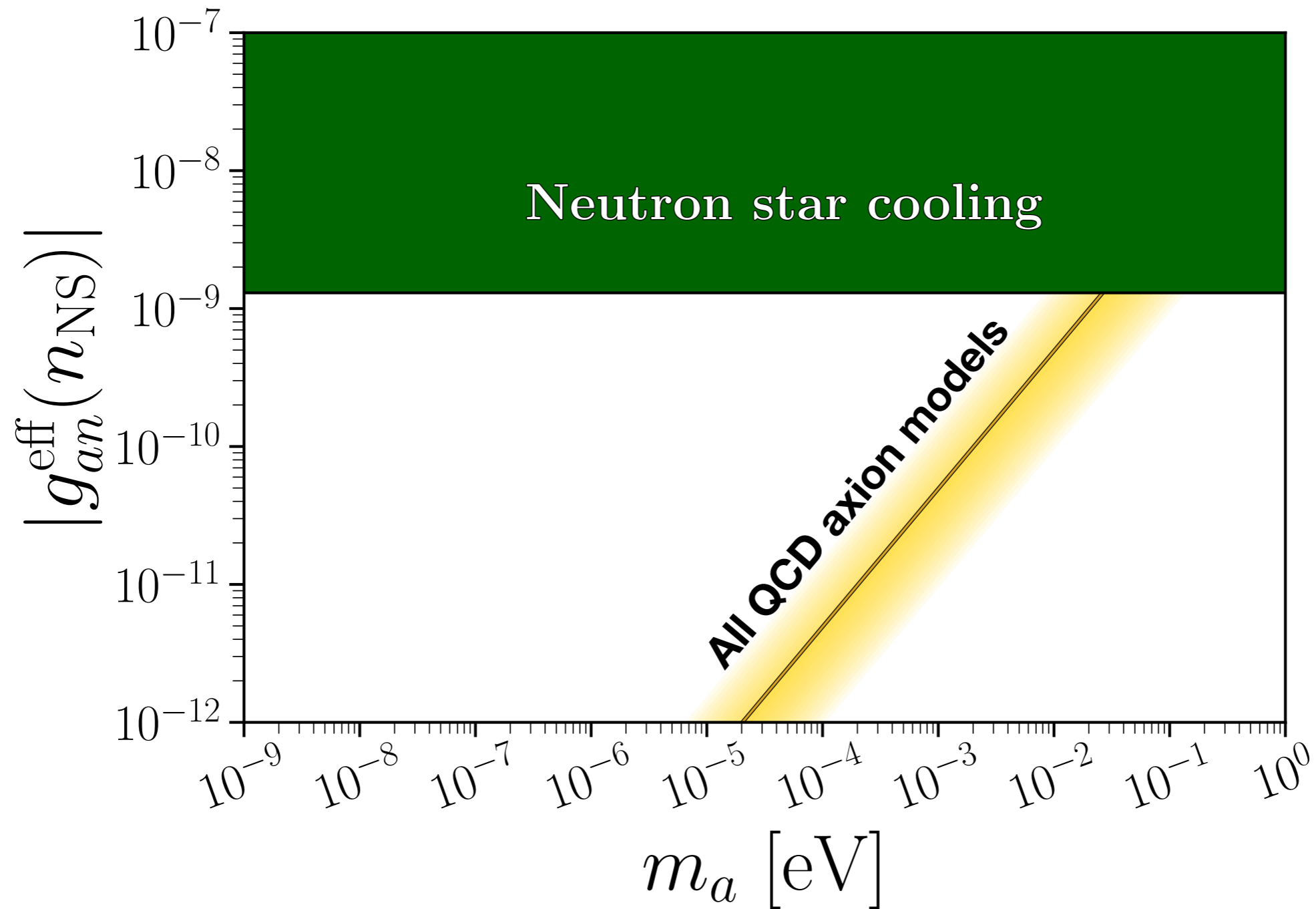
No distinction between models possible, only order of magnitude estimates

e.g. $|c_N| \sim O(0.3) \pm 0.3$

Neutron Star Cooling



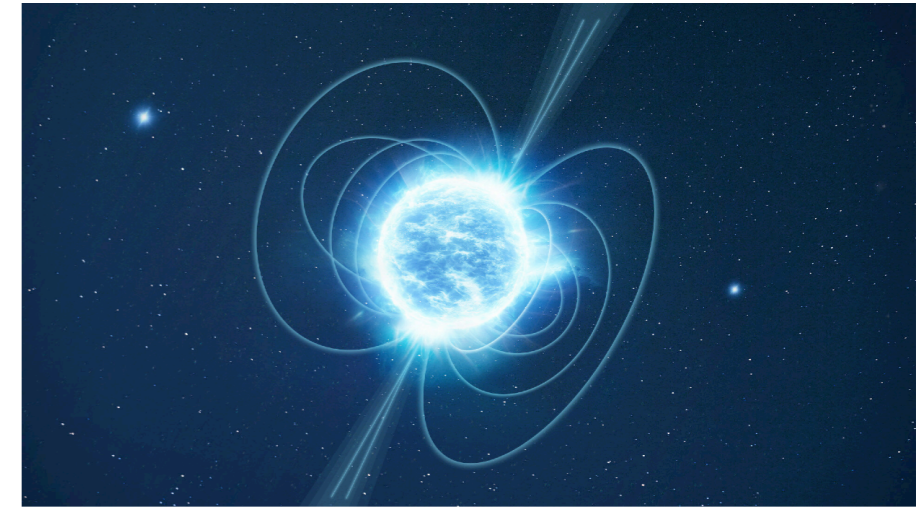
Neutron Star Cooling



Break down of EFT, hard to distinguish models

Conclusions

- **QCD axion couplings are density dependent!**
- **Systematic calculation of axion couplings within ChPT**
- **Significant changes of supernova bound**
- **Large uncertainty at high densities**



Thank you!

