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PIANO NAZIONALE
DI RIPRESA E RESILIENZA



Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare

Imperfect Axions

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Luca Di Luzio



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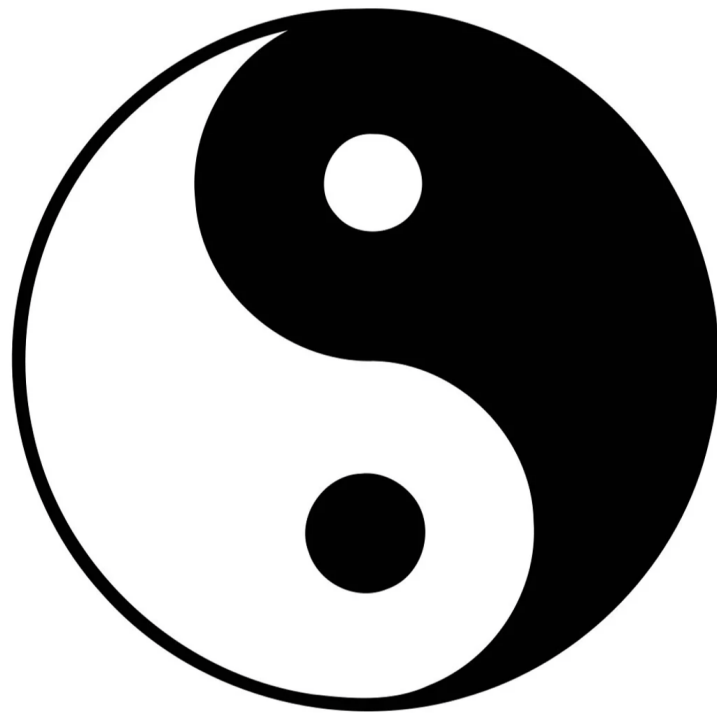


Outline

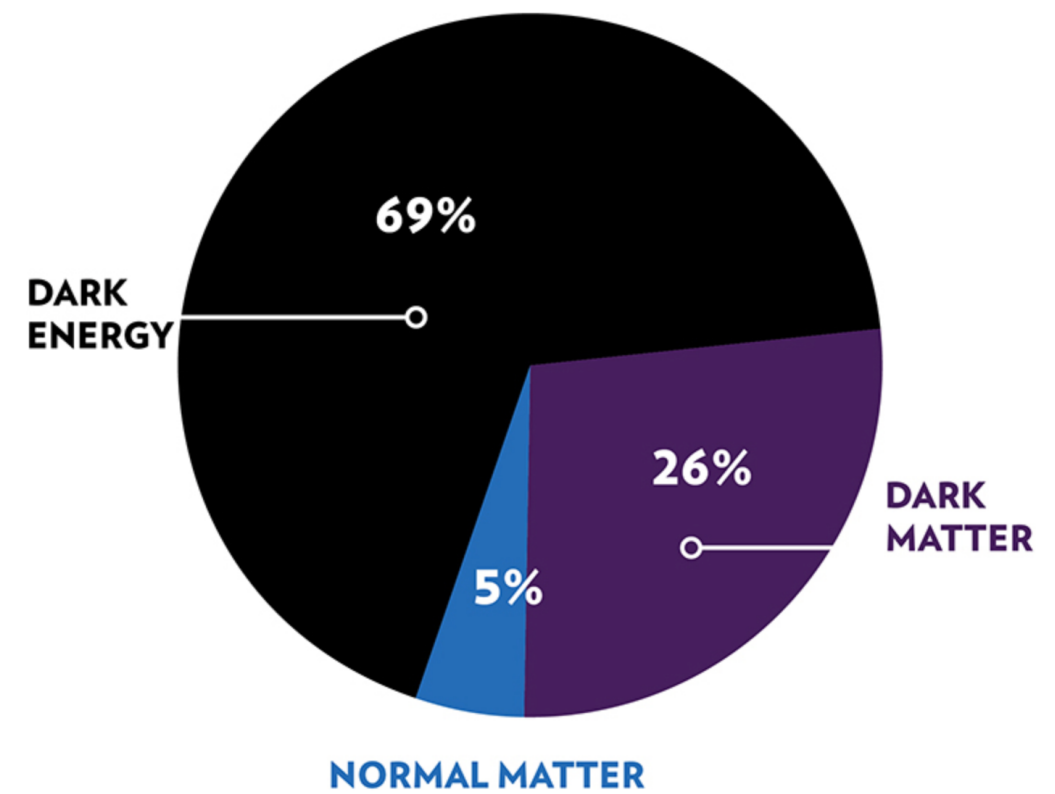
1. Imperfect axions = CP violation & PQ breaking
2. CP-violating axions and new macroscopic forces
3. PQ quality problem
4. PQ quality from the interplay of GUT/flavor symmetries

The QCD axion

Strong CP problem



Dark Matter



The QCD axion

Strong CP problem

$$\delta\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = \theta \frac{g_s^2}{32\pi^2} G\tilde{G} \quad |\theta| \lesssim 10^{-10}$$

promote θ to a dynamical field (axion)
which relaxes to zero

$$\theta \rightarrow \frac{a}{f_a} \quad \text{with} \quad \langle a \rangle = 0$$

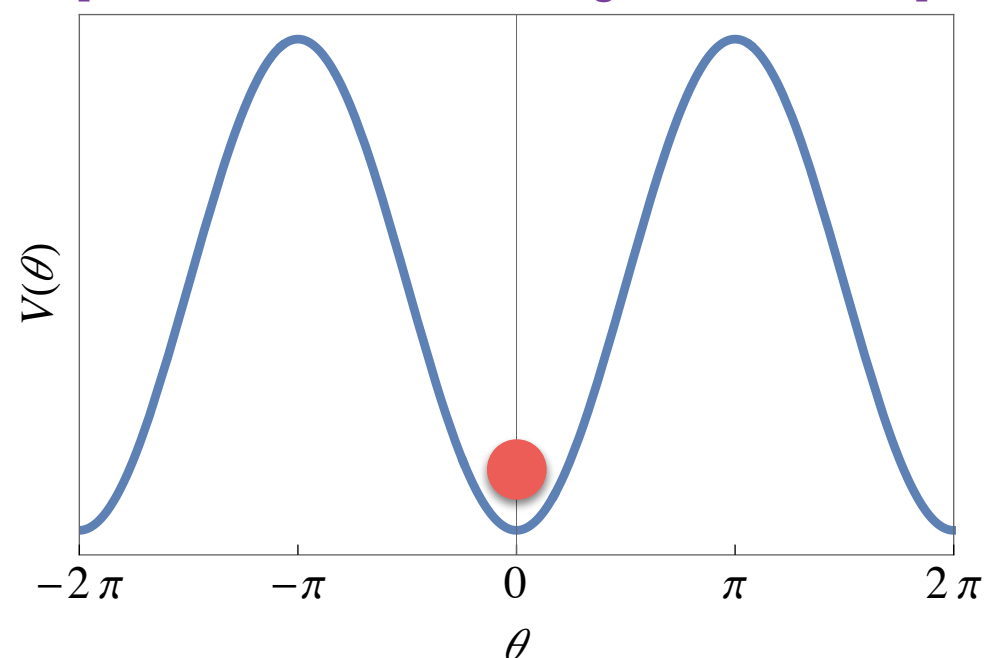
Dark Matter

Ω_{DM} (non-thermal production)

i) *misalignment (axion oscillations)*

ii) *topological defects: strings & domain walls*

[Peccei, Quinn '77, Weinberg '78, Wilczek '78]

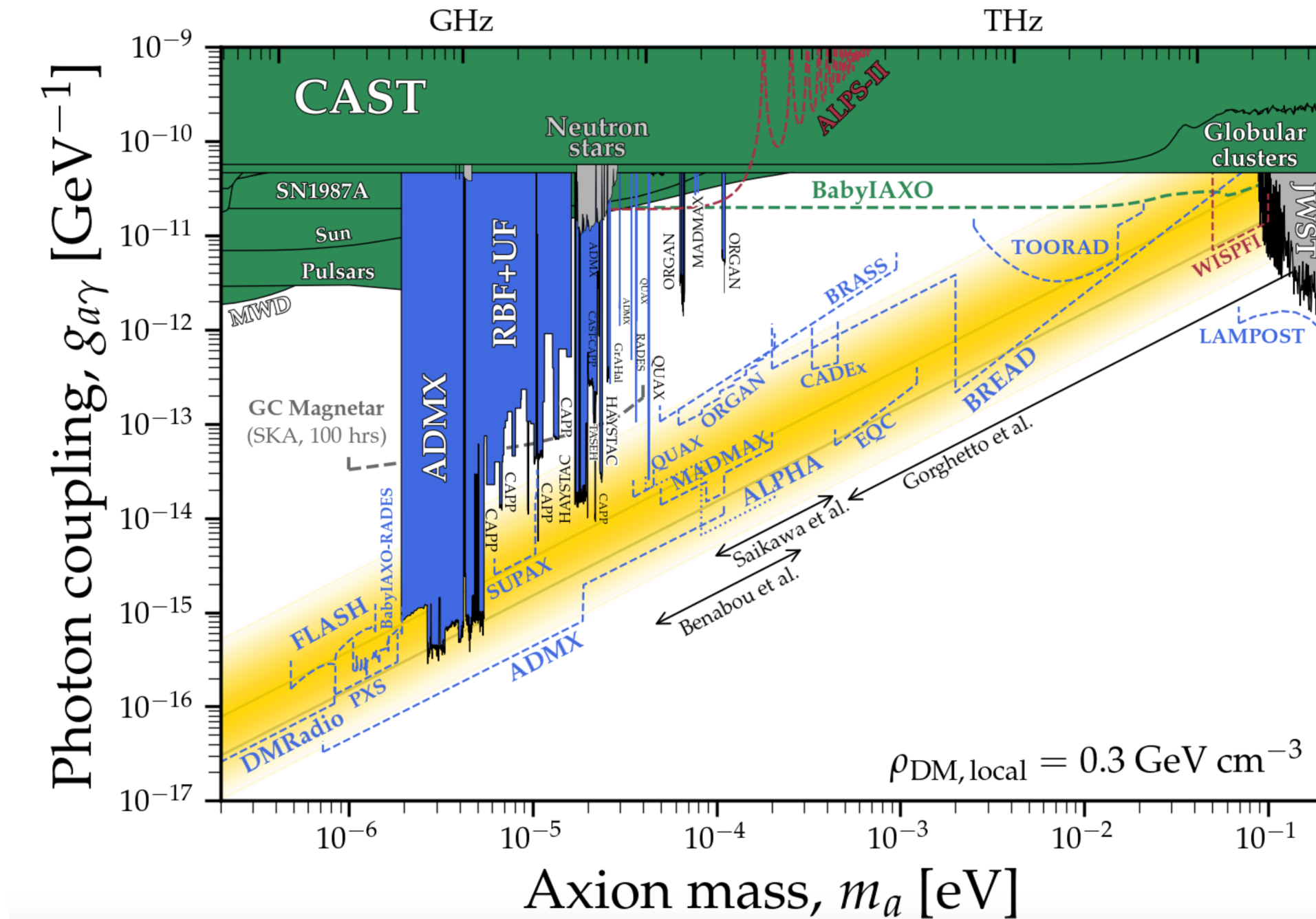


[Preskill, Wise, Wilczek '83
Abbott, Sikivie '83
Dine, Fischler '83,
Davies '86,
Harari, Sikivie '87, ...]

The axion hunt

- The QCD axion DM hypothesis could be tested in the next two decades

[<https://cajohare.github.io/AxionLimits>]



Back to PQ mechanism

- New spin-0 boson with a pseudo-shift symmetry $a \rightarrow a + \kappa f_a$

broken by $\frac{a}{f_a} \frac{g_s^2}{32\pi^2} G\tilde{G}$  $E(0) \leq E(\langle a \rangle)$ [Vafa, Witten [PRL 53 \(1984\)](#)]

Back to PQ mechanism

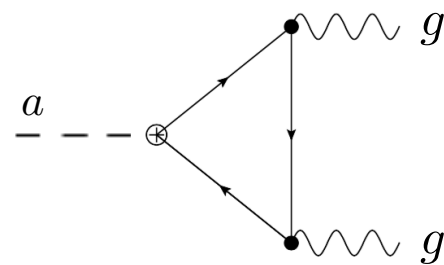
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broken by $\frac{a}{f_a} \frac{g_s^2}{32\pi^2} G\tilde{G} \quad \longrightarrow \quad E(0) \leq E(\langle a \rangle) \quad [\text{Vafa, Witten } \text{PRL } 53 (1984)]$

- its origin* can be traced back to a global $U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$ [Peccei, Quinn '77, Weinberg '78, Wilczek '78]

1. spontaneously broken (the axion is the associated pNGB)

2. QCD anomalous



$$\partial^\mu J_\mu^{PQ} = \frac{N\alpha_s}{4\pi} G \cdot \tilde{G}$$

*axions can also arise as zero modes from string theory compactification

[Witten [PLB 149 \(1984\)](#), ...]

Back to PQ mechanism

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$$\theta_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\langle a \rangle}{f_a}$$

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-V_4 E(\theta_{\text{eff}})} &= \int \mathcal{D}\varphi e^{-S_0 + i\theta_{\text{eff}} \int G\tilde{G}} \\ &= \left| \int \mathcal{D}\varphi e^{-S_0 + i\theta_{\text{eff}} \int G\tilde{G}} \right| \\ &\leq \int \mathcal{D}\varphi \left| e^{-S_0 + i\theta_{\text{eff}} \int G\tilde{G}} \right| = e^{-V_4 E(0)} \end{aligned}$$

(path-integral measure positive definite for a vector-like theory, e.g. QCD)

Imperfect axions

- Does the axion really relax to zero ?
 - PQ mechanism is **imperfect** already in the SM (due to CKM)

$$\theta_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\langle a \rangle}{f_a} \sim G_F^2 f_\pi^4 j_{\text{CKM}} \approx 10^{-18}$$

[Georgi, Randall [NPB 276 \(1986\)](#)]

Imperfect axions

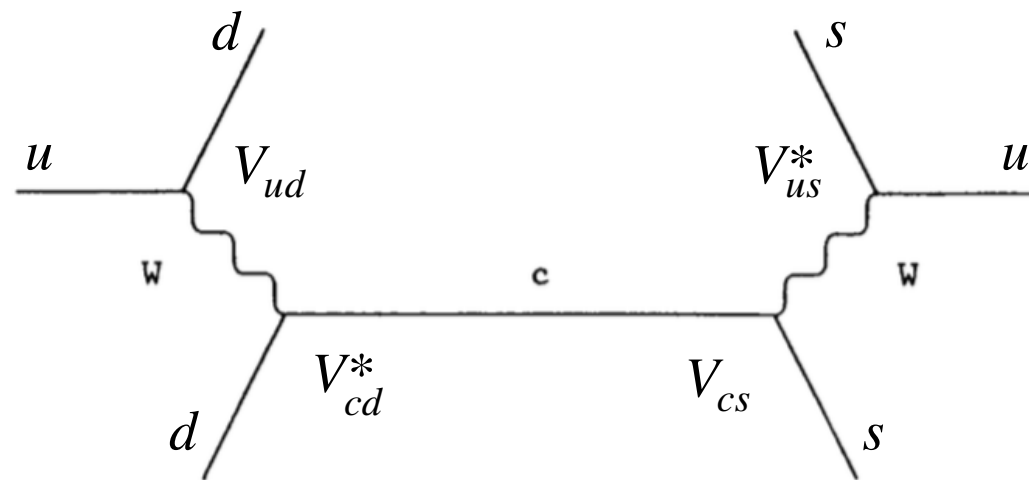
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$$\text{Im } V_{ud} V_{cd}^* V_{cs} V_{us}^* \simeq 3 \times 10^{-5}$$



Imperfect axions

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 - $U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$ is not expected to be exact (being a **global** symmetry)

$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{PQ-break}} = \frac{\phi^d}{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}^{d-4}} \quad \begin{array}{c} \theta_{\text{eff}} \equiv \frac{\langle a \rangle}{f_a} \lesssim 10^{-10} \\ \longrightarrow \\ \phi \sim f_a e^{i \frac{a}{f_a}} \end{array} \quad \left(\frac{f_a}{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}} \right)^{d-4} f_a^4 \lesssim 10^{-10} \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4$$

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$$\xrightarrow{\quad} \quad d \gtrsim 9 \quad (\text{for } \Lambda_{\text{UV}} \sim M_{\text{Pl}} \text{ and } f_a \sim 10^9 \text{ GeV})$$

PQ-quality problem

[Georgi, Hall, Wise [NPB 192 \(1981\)](#)
 Barr, Seckel [PRD 46 \(1992\)](#)
 Kamionkowski, March-Russell [PLB 282 \(1992\)](#)
 Holman+ [PLB 282 \(1992\)](#), ...]

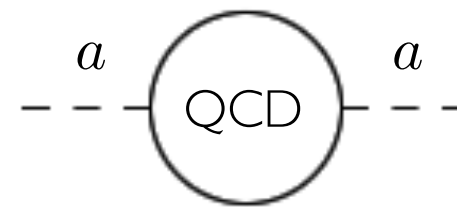
CPV beyond CKM

- Axion potential in the presence of $\mathcal{O}_{\text{CPV}}$

e.g. $\mathcal{O}_{\text{CPV}} = \frac{1}{\Lambda_{\text{CPV}}^2} (\bar{q}q)(\bar{q}i\gamma_5 q)$

$$V(a) \simeq \frac{1}{2} K \left(\frac{a}{f_a} \right)^2$$

$$K = \langle G\tilde{G}, G\tilde{G} \rangle \sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4$$



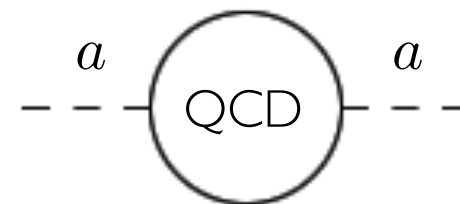
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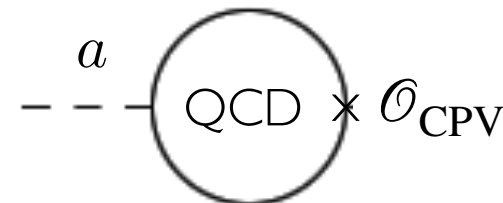
e.g. $\mathcal{O}_{\text{CPV}} = \frac{1}{\Lambda_{\text{CPV}}^2} (\bar{q}q)(\bar{q}i\gamma_5 q)$

$$V(a) \simeq \frac{1}{2} K \left(\frac{a}{f_a} \right)^2 + K' \left(\frac{a}{f_a} \right)^4$$

$$K = \langle G\tilde{G}, G\tilde{G} \rangle \sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4$$



$$K' = \langle G\tilde{G}, \mathcal{O}_{\text{CPV}} \rangle \sim \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^6}{\Lambda_{\text{CPV}}^2}$$

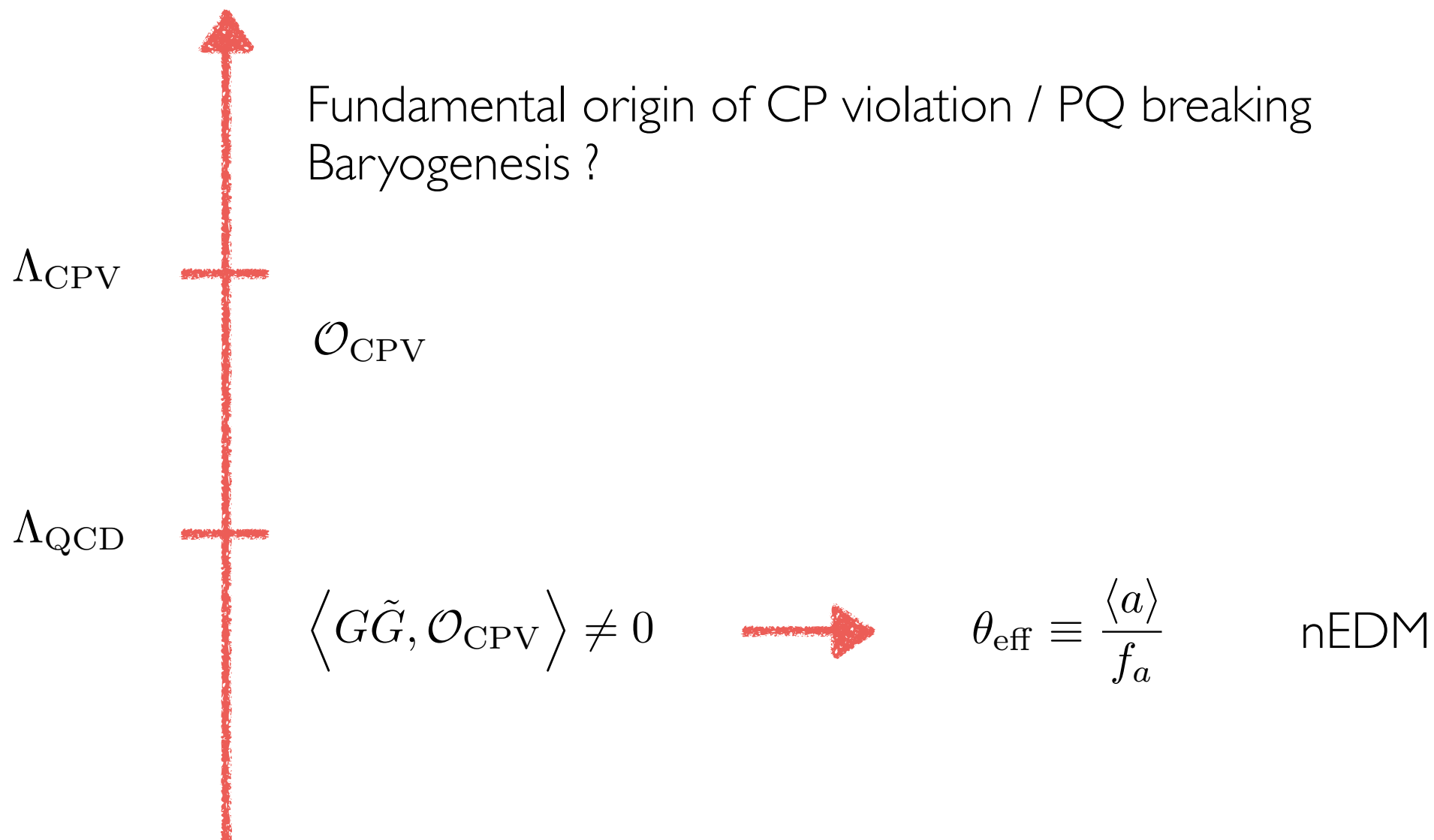


→ $\theta_{\text{eff}} \equiv \frac{\langle a \rangle}{f_a} \simeq -\frac{K}{K'} \sim \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}{\Lambda_{\text{CPV}}^2} = 10^{-10} \left(\frac{100 \text{ TeV}}{\Lambda_{\text{CPV}}} \right)^2$

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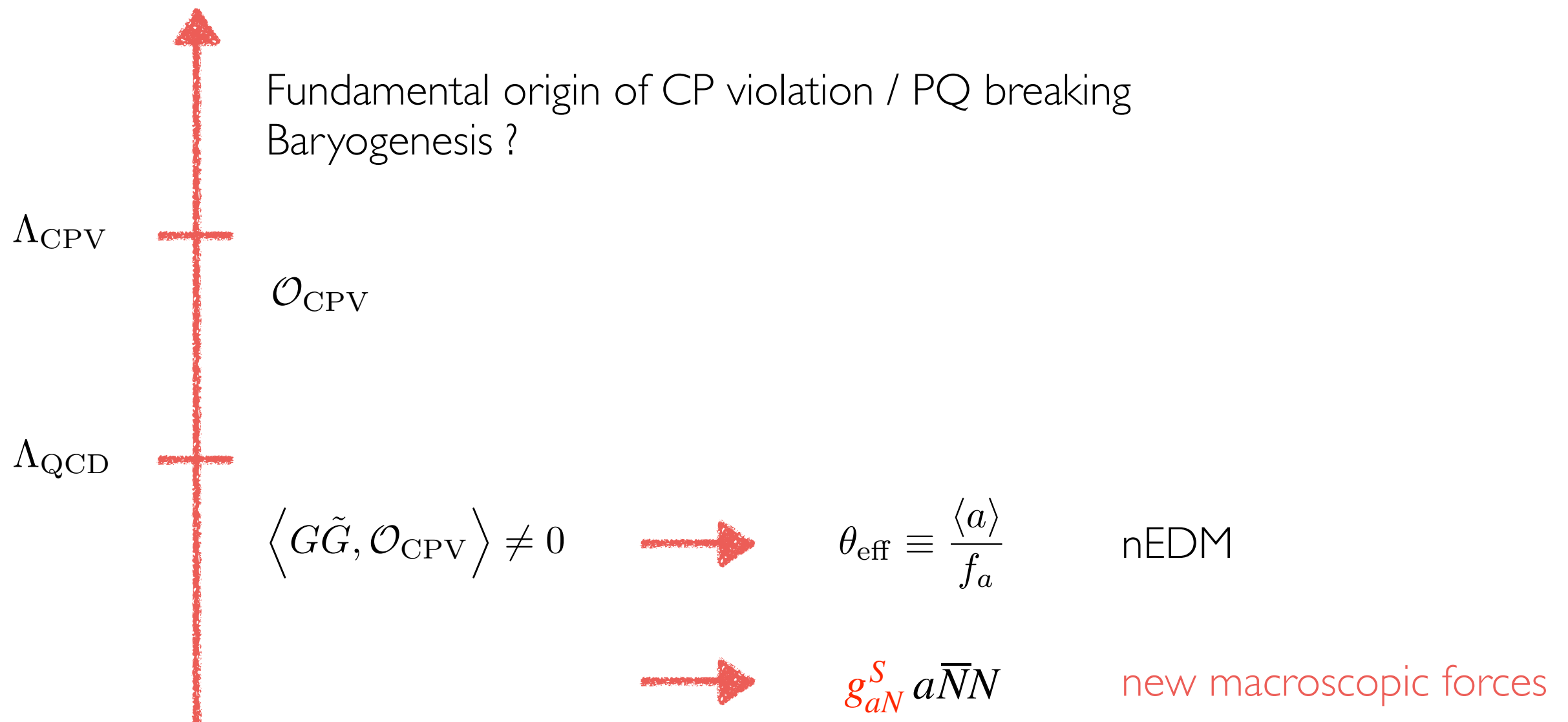
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CP-violating axions

- $\mathcal{L} \supset g_{aN}^P a \bar{N} i \gamma_5 N + g_{aN}^S a \bar{N} N$ $g_{aN}^S \sim \frac{f_\pi}{f_a} \theta_{\text{eff}}$  from UV sources of CP-violation or PQ breaking

[Moody, Wilczek [PRD 30 \(1984\)](#)
Barbieri, Romanino, Strumia [hep-ph/9605368](#)
Pospelov [hep-ph/9707431](#)
Bertolini, LDL, Nesti [2006.12508](#)
Okawa, Pospelov, Ritz [2111.08040](#)
Dekens, de Vries, Shain [2203.11230](#)]

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[Dekens, de Vries, Shain 2203.11230\]](#)

- From LO bary-meson chiral Lagrangian

[\[Bertolini, LDL, Nesti 2006.12508](#)
[PRL 126 \(2021\)\]](#)

$$g_{an,p}^S \simeq \frac{4B_0 m_u m_d}{f_a(m_u + m_d)} \left[\pm (b_D + b_F) \frac{\langle \pi^0 \rangle}{F_\pi} + \frac{b_D - 3b_F}{\sqrt{3}} \frac{\langle \eta_8 \rangle}{F_\pi} - \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} (3b_0 + 2b_D) \frac{\langle \eta_0 \rangle}{F_\pi} - \left(b_0 + (b_D + b_F) \frac{m_{u,d}}{m_d + m_u} \right) \theta_{\text{eff}} \right]$$

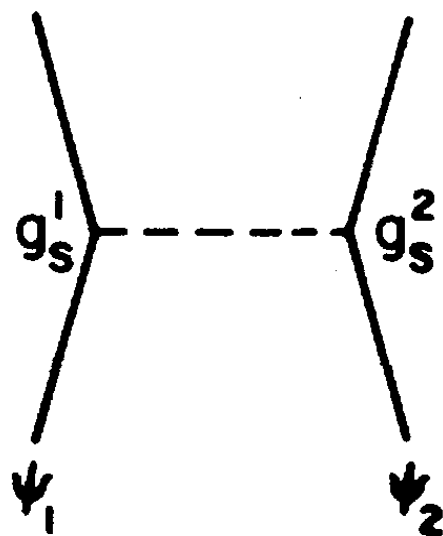

 $g_N^S \not\propto d_n$ due to meson tadpoles
 (de-correlates scalar coupling from nEDM)

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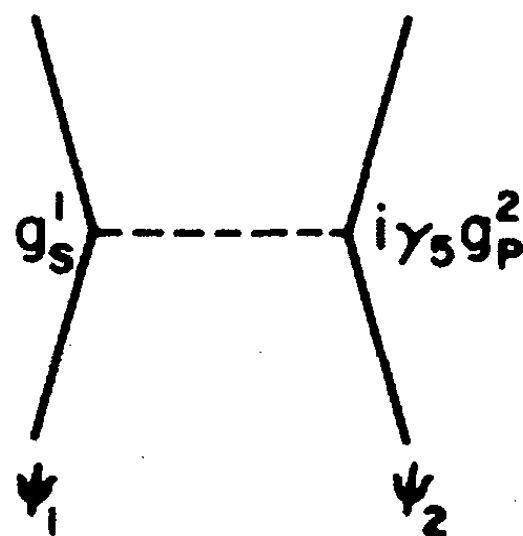
 from UV sources of CP-violation or PQ breaking

New macroscopic forces from non-relativistic potentials [Moody, Wilczek [PRD 30 \(1984\)](#)]



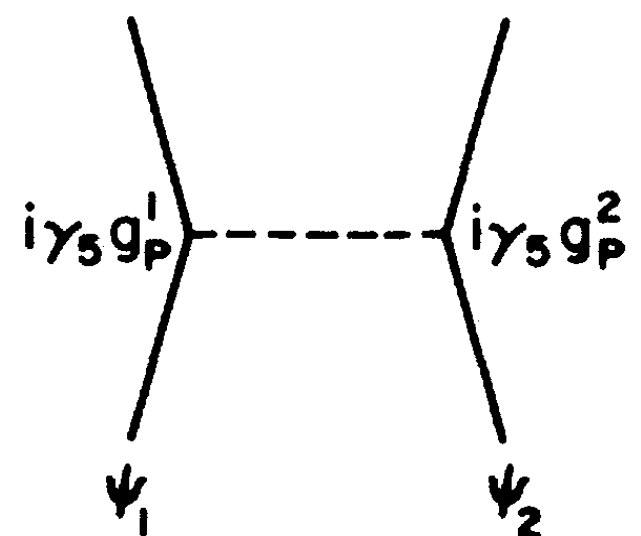
(a)

monopole-monopole



(b)

monopole-dipole



(c)

dipole-dipole

$$V(r) = \frac{-g_s^1 g_s^2 e^{-m_\varphi r}}{4\pi r}$$

$$V(r) = (g_s^1 g_P^2) \frac{\hat{\sigma}_2 \cdot \hat{r}}{8\pi M_2} \left[\frac{m_\varphi}{r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \right] e^{-m_\varphi r}$$

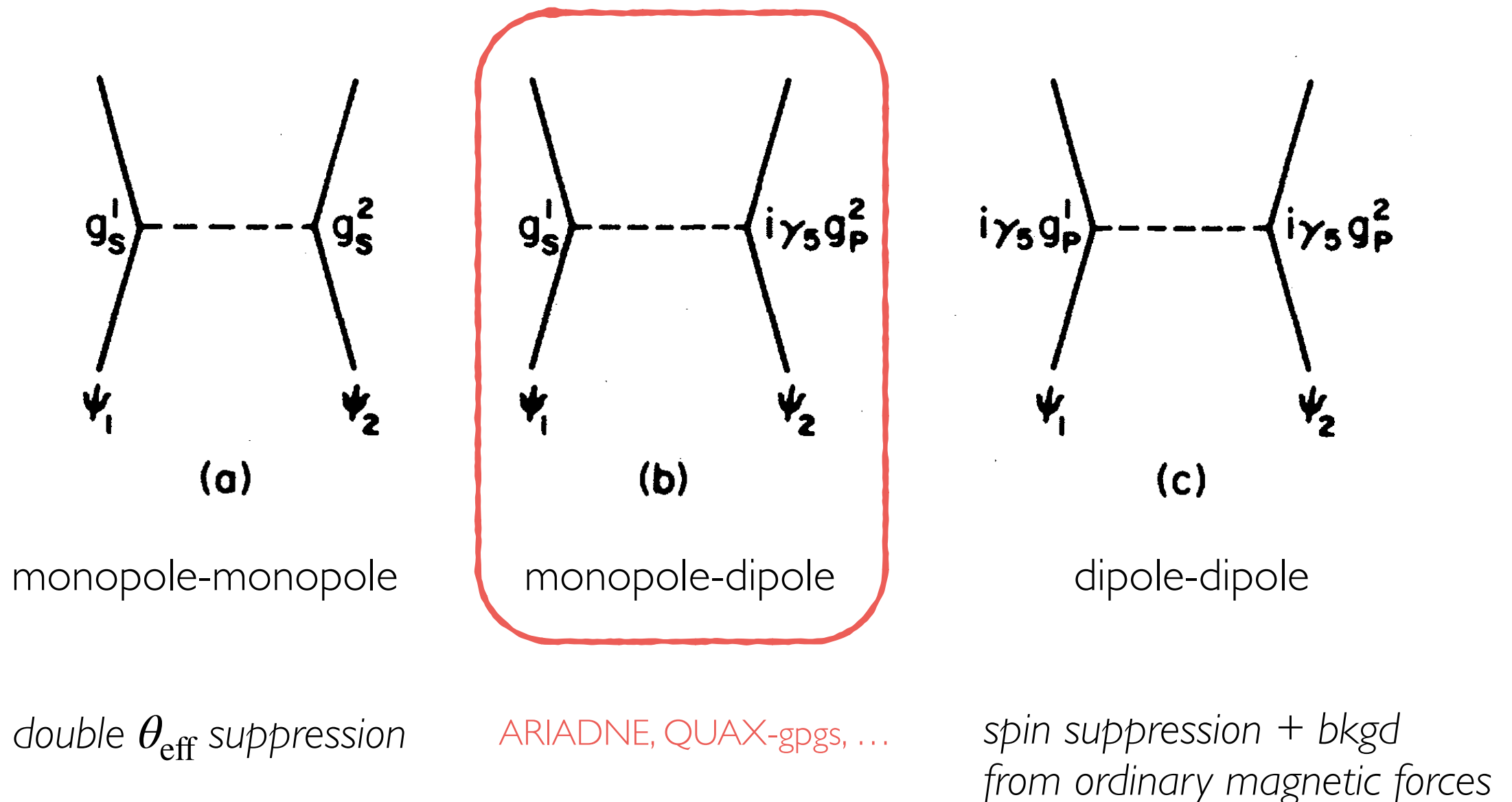
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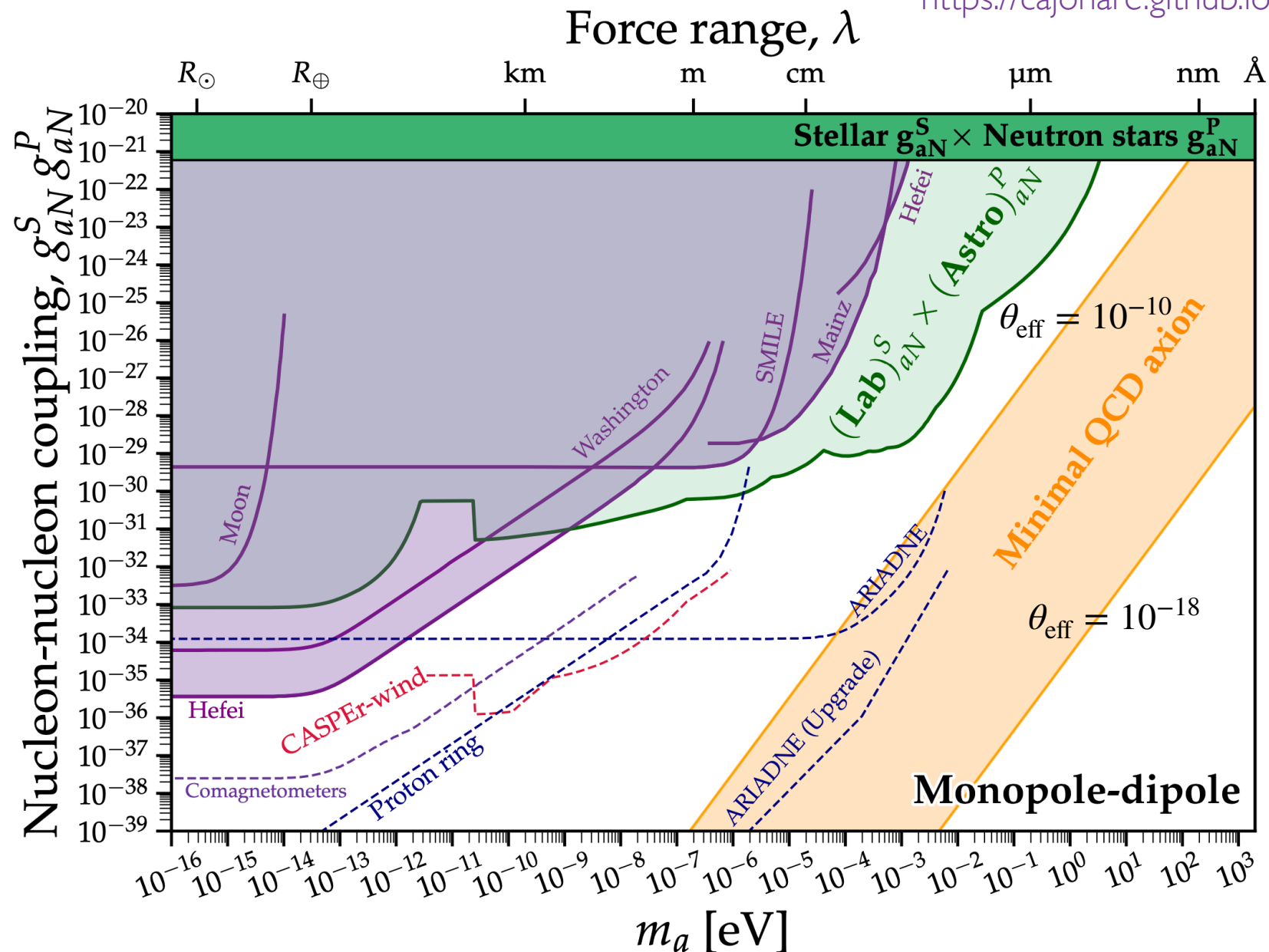


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[O'Hare, Vitagliano 2010.03889
<https://cajohare.github.io/AxionLimits>]

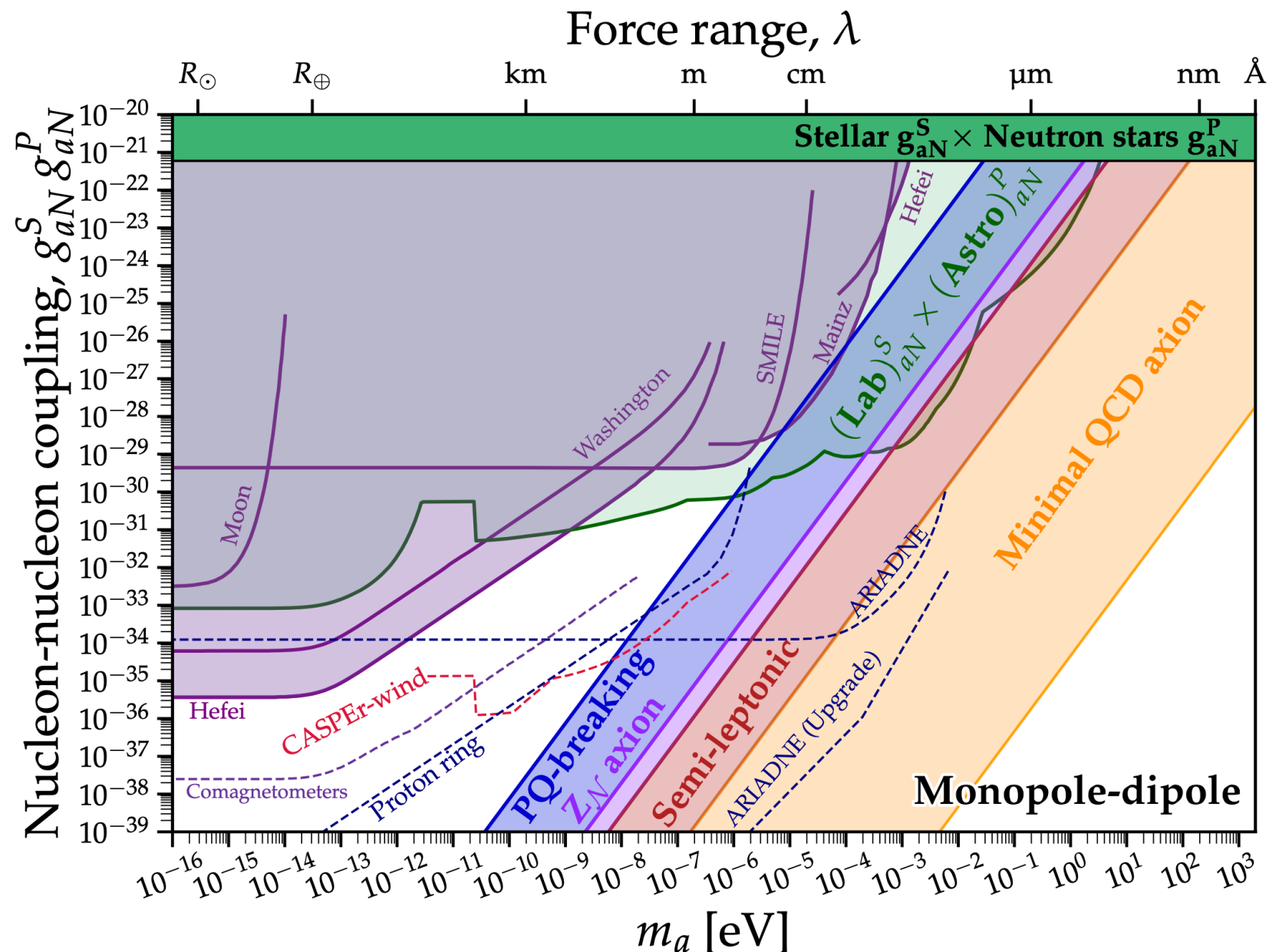


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[LDL, Gisbert, Nesti, Sørensen [2407.15928](#)]



The need for a “PQ theory”

- $U(1)_{PQ}$ often imposed ‘by hand’, while a proper PQ theory should:
 1. realise the PQ as an **accidental** symmetry
 2. protect the $U(1)_{PQ}$ against UV sources of PQ breaking (**PQ-quality problem**)

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- Many attempts based on extra discrete/continuous gauge symmetries
 - solution to PQ-quality problem **hidden in the UV**
 - ad-hoc gauge symmetries

(e.g. $\mathbf{Z}_9$ symmetry acting on ϕ allows only ϕ^9 terms and higher)

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can the PQ symmetry emerge from well-motivated gauge structures, such as GUT or flavor symmetries ?

Accidental $SO(10)$ axion

- Automatic $U(1)_{PQ}$ in $SO(10)$, upon **gauging** the flavor group $SU(3)_f$ [LDL 2008.09119]

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[See also Chang, Senjanovic [PLB 188 \(1987\)](#)]

$$\psi_{16}^i = \begin{pmatrix} u_L^1 & u_L^2 & u_L^3 & \nu_L & u_R^{1c} & u_R^{2c} & u_R^{3c} & \nu_R^c \\ d_L^1 & d_L^2 & d_L^3 & e_L & d_R^{1c} & d_R^{2c} & d_R^{3c} & e_R^c \end{pmatrix}^i \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$



$$U(3) = U(1)_{PQ} \times SU(3)_f$$

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 $U(3) = U(1)_{PQ} \times SU(3)_f$

$$\psi_{16} \rightarrow e^{i\alpha} \psi_{16} \quad \text{born as a PQ symmetry, due to chiral } SO(10) \text{ embedding}$$

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Field	Lorentz	$SO(10)$	$\mathbb{Z}_4$	$SU(3)_f$	$\mathbb{Z}_3$	$U(1)_{PQ}$
ψ_{16}	$(1/2, 0)$	16	i	3	$e^{i2\pi/3}$	1
$\psi_1^{1,\dots,16}$	$(1/2, 0)$	1	1	$\bar{3}$	$e^{i4\pi/3}$	0
ϕ_{10}	$(0, 0)$	10	-1	$\bar{6}$	$e^{i2\pi/3}$	-2
ϕ_{16}	$(0, 0)$	16	i	$\bar{3}$	$e^{i4\pi/3}$	-1
$\phi_{\overline{126}}$	$(0, 0)$	$\overline{126}$	-1	$\bar{6}$	$e^{i2\pi/3}$	-2
ϕ_{45}	$(0, 0)$	45	1	1	1	0

- $U(1)_{PQ}$ arises **accidentally** in the renormalizable Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_Y = y_{10} \psi_{16} \psi_{16} \phi_{10} + y_{\overline{126}} \psi_{16} \psi_{16} \phi_{\overline{126}} + \text{h.c.}$$

$$\mathcal{V}_2 = |\phi_{10}|^2 + |\phi_{\overline{126}}|^2 + \phi_{45}^2 + |\phi_{16}|^2,$$

$$\mathcal{V}_3 = \phi_{16}^2 \phi_{10}^* + \text{h.c.},$$

$$\mathcal{V}_4 = \mathcal{V}_2^2\text{-terms} + \phi_{10}^2 \phi_{\overline{126}}^{*2} + \phi_{10} \phi_{\overline{126}} \phi_{\overline{126}}^{*2} + \phi_{16}^2 \phi_{10}^* \phi_{45} + \text{h.c.}$$

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Leading PQ-breaking operator is $\phi_{16}^6 \phi_{\overline{126}}^3$ ($d=9$)

(protection neatly understood in terms of $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_3$ center)

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- Axion in a linear combination of 16 and 126 phases

$$f_a = \frac{V_{\overline{126}} V_{16}}{3\sqrt{V_{16}^2 + 4V_{\overline{126}}^2}}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 SO(10) \times U(1)_{PQ} &\xrightarrow{\langle \phi_{45} \rangle_{B-L}} SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \times U(1)_{B-L} \times U(1)_{PQ} \\
 &\xrightarrow{V_{\overline{126}}} SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y \times U(1)'_{PQ} \\
 &\xrightarrow{V_{16}} SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y
 \end{aligned}$$

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- Anomalons** (cancel $SU(3)_f$ gauge anomalies)

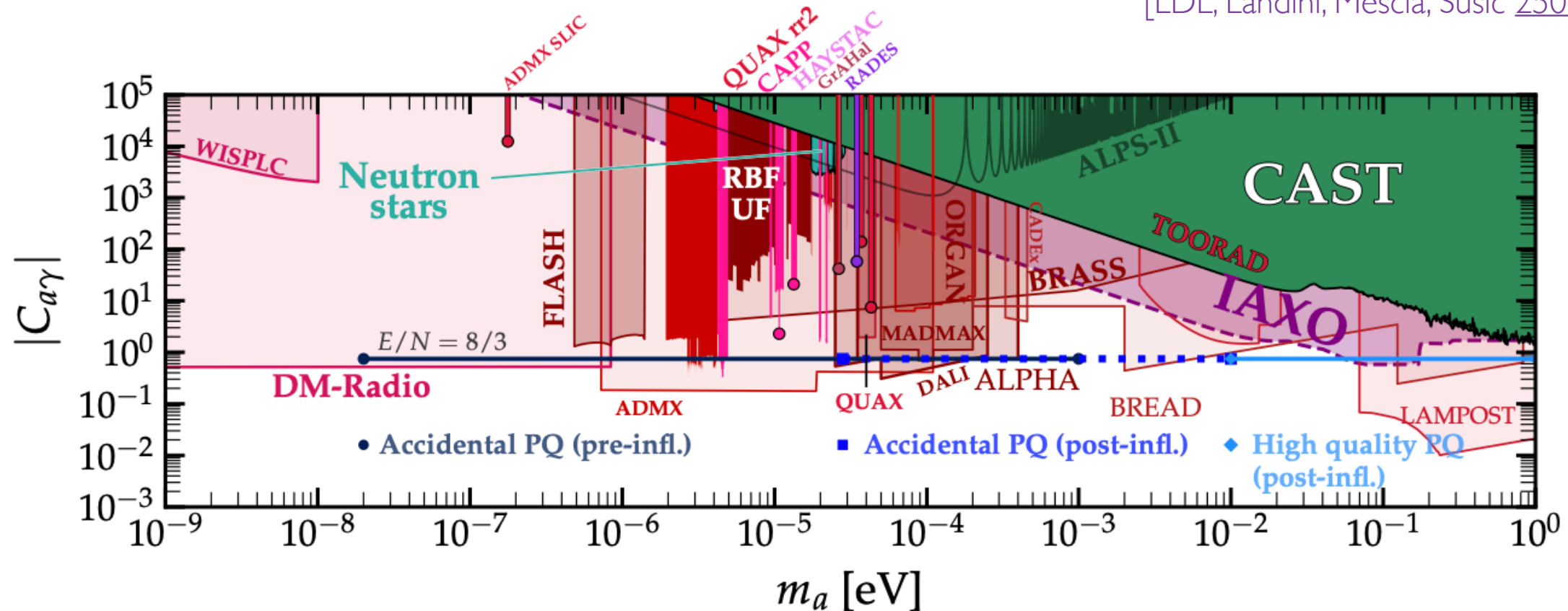
massless at the renormalizable level  related to the emergence of $U(1)_{PQ}$

parametrically light, zero mass lifted by effective operators, e.g. $\frac{1}{M_{Pl}^2} \psi_1 \psi_1 \phi_{16}^2 \phi_{\overline{126}}$

Accidental $SO(10)$ axion

[LDL 2008.09119]

[LDL, Landini, Mescia, Susič 2503.16648]

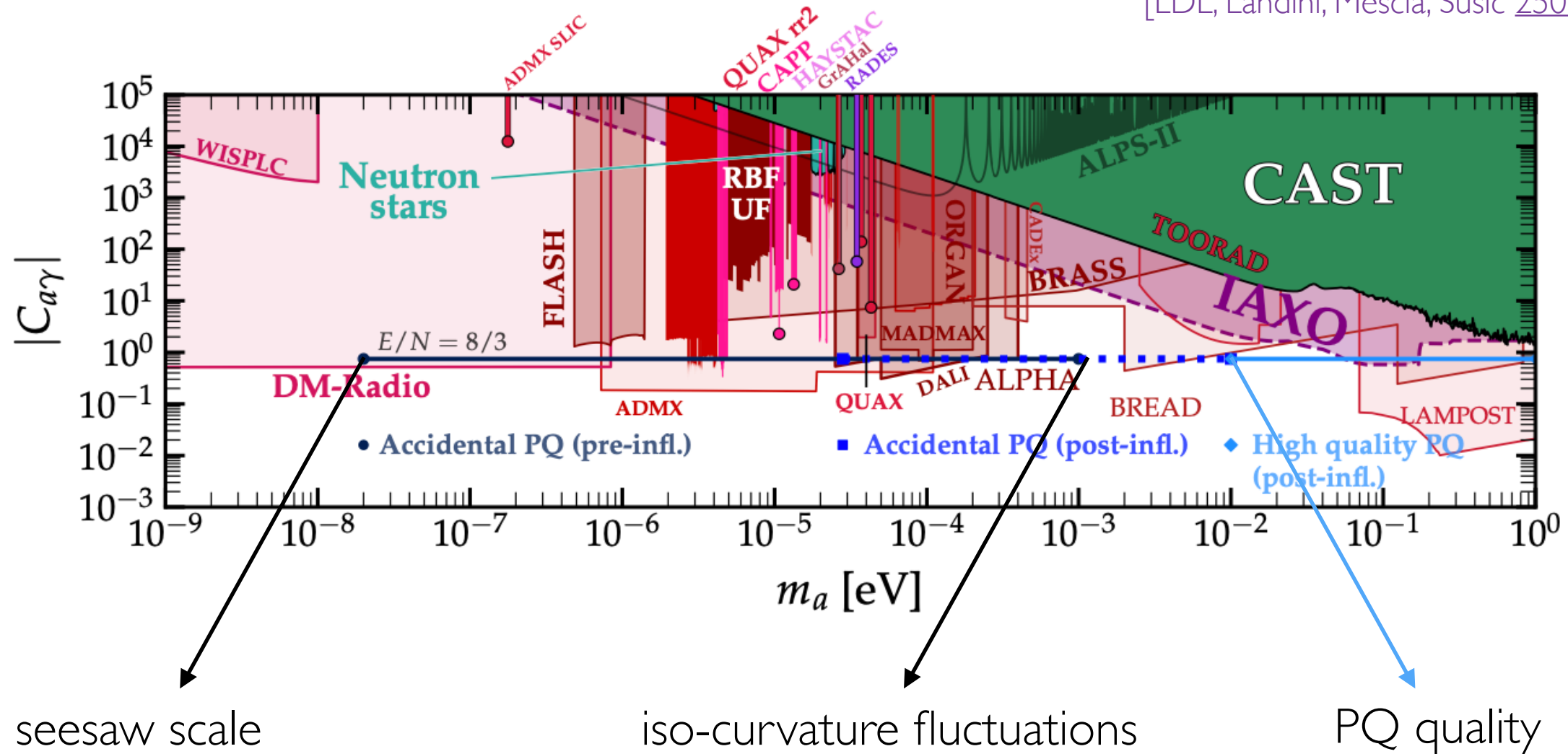


a PQ theory could tell us where to search in an otherwise huge param. space !

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Accidental Pati-Salam axion

- We recently studied a simpler version of the theory

[LDL, Landini, Mescia, Susič [2503.16648](#)]

Field	Lorentz	Pati-Salam	$\mathbb{Z}_4$	$SU(3)_{f_R}$	$\mathbb{Z}_3$	Generations	$U(1)_{PQ}$
Q_L	$(1/2, 0)$	$(4, 2, 1)$	$+i$	1	$+1$	3	$+3$
Q_R	$(0, 1/2)$	$(4, 1, 2)$	$+i$	3	$e^{i2\pi/3}$	1	$+1$
Ψ_R	$(0, 1/2)$	$(1, 1, 1)$	$+1$	$\bar{3}$	$e^{i4\pi/3}$	8	$+2$
Φ	$(0, 0)$	$(1, 2, 2)$	$+1$	$\bar{3}$	$e^{i4\pi/3}$	$N_\Phi \geq 1$	$+2$
Σ	$(0, 0)$	$(15, 2, 2)$	$+1$	$\bar{3}$	$e^{i4\pi/3}$	$N_\Sigma \geq 2$	$+2$
Δ	$(0, 0)$	$(10, 1, 3)$	-1	6	$e^{i4\pi/3}$	1	$+2$
χ	$(0, 0)$	$(4, 1, 2)$	$+i$	$\bar{3}$	$e^{i4\pi/3}$	1	-1
ξ	$(0, 0)$	$(15, 1, 3)$	$+1$	1	$+1$	1	0

Table 1: Field content of the Pati-Salam model and relative transformation properties under the Lorentz group, $SU(4)_{PS} \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \times SU(3)_{f_R}$, its $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_3$ center, and the accidental $U(1)_{PQ}$. Exotic fermions, which ensure $SU(3)_{f_R}$ anomaly cancellation, are highlighted in light gray. Note that the $U(1)_{PQ}$ charge of Ψ_R is fixed by non-renormalizable operators, while ξ is not charged under $U(1)_{PQ}$ being a real scalar field.

Accidental Pati-Salam axion

- We recently studied a simpler version of the theory [LDL, Landini, Mescia, Susič [2503.16648](#)]
 - ✓ SM flavor structure
 - ✓ anomalon-neutrino spectrum  high-quality PQ predicts sub-eV anomalons
 - ✓ anomalon contribution to ΔN_{eff}
 - ✓ axion phenomenology (degenerate with SO(10) model)
 - ✗ Landau pole emerges one order of magnitude above f_a

Conclusions

- Axion imperfections lead to interesting phenomenology

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- CP violation / PQ breaking enhance axion-mediated forces
 - axion as a low-energy portal to new sources of CP violation beyond CKM
- New solution to PQ quality problem based on GUT/flavor symmetries
 - predicts a somewhat heavy axion $m_a \gtrsim 0.01$ eV
 - anomalous as low-energy remnants of UV mechanism responsible for PQ quality

Backup slides

PQ breaking & monopole-dipole

- Axion scalar coupling to atomic system $\frac{A}{Z}X$

[LDL, Gisbert, Nesti, Sørensen [2407.15928](#)
See also Zhang [2209.09429](#)]

$$g_{aX}^S \equiv \frac{A-Z}{A} g_{an}^S + \frac{Z}{A} g_{ap}^S + \frac{Z}{A} g_{ae}^S$$

- leverage PQ-breaking in the electron Yukawa sector

$$\mathcal{L}_{\cancel{\text{PQ}}} \supset -e^{i\delta} \left(\frac{\phi}{\Lambda} \right)^n \frac{\sqrt{2}m_e}{v} \bar{L}_L H e_R + \text{h.c.}$$



$$g_{ae}^S = n \left(\frac{f_a}{\sqrt{2}\Lambda} \right)^n \frac{m_e}{f_a} \sin \delta$$

$$\theta_{\text{eff}} \simeq \frac{n}{2\pi^2} \left(\frac{f_a}{\sqrt{2}\Lambda} \right)^n \frac{m_e^4}{\chi_{\text{QCD}}} \sin \delta \ln \left(\frac{v}{1 \text{ GeV}} \right)$$

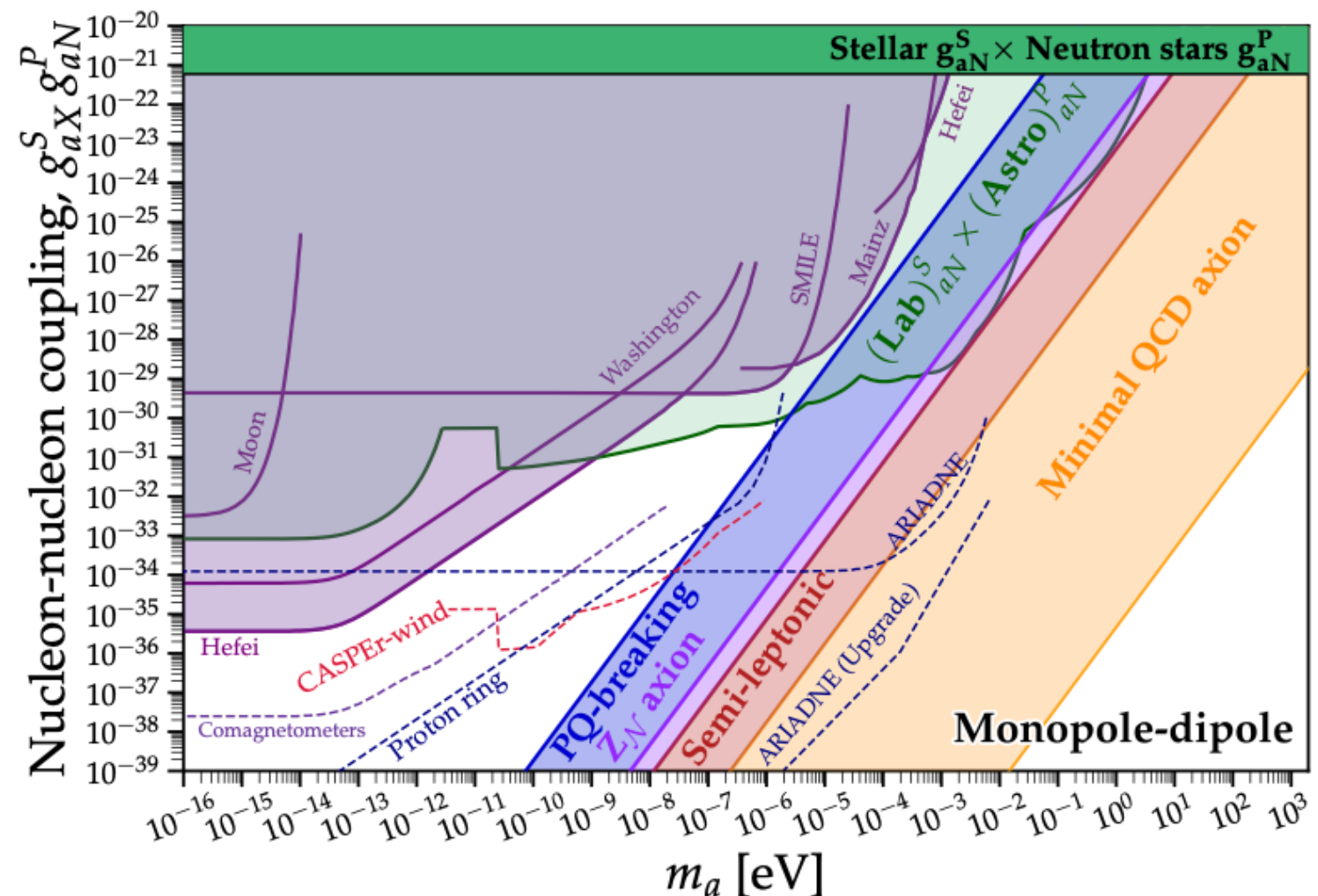
- nEDM bound relaxed due to loop and chirality suppression

PQ breaking & monopole-dipole

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PQ quality in Pati-Salam model

- PQ-breaking operators

[LDL, Landini, Mescia, Susič [2503.16648](#)]

$$\Delta^4 \Delta^* \chi^{*6}, \quad \Phi^{2-k} \Sigma^k \Delta^2 \chi^{*4}, \quad \Phi^{4-k} \Sigma^k \Delta \chi^{*2}, \quad \Phi^{4-k} \Sigma^k \Sigma^2,$$

$$\xrightarrow{V_\chi \sim V_\Delta \sim V} \quad \frac{V^{11}}{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}^7}, \quad \frac{v^2 V^6}{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}^4}, \quad \frac{v^4 V^3}{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}^3}, \quad \frac{v^6}{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}^2},$$

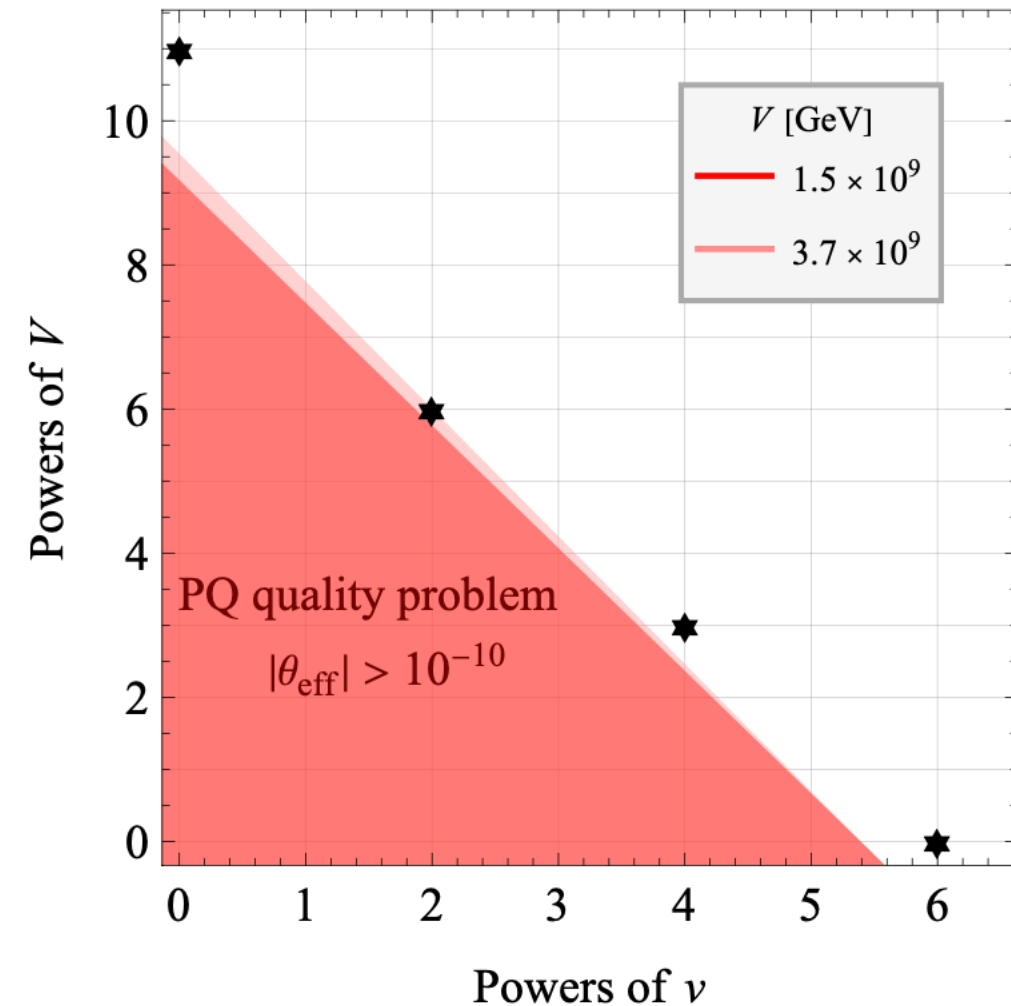
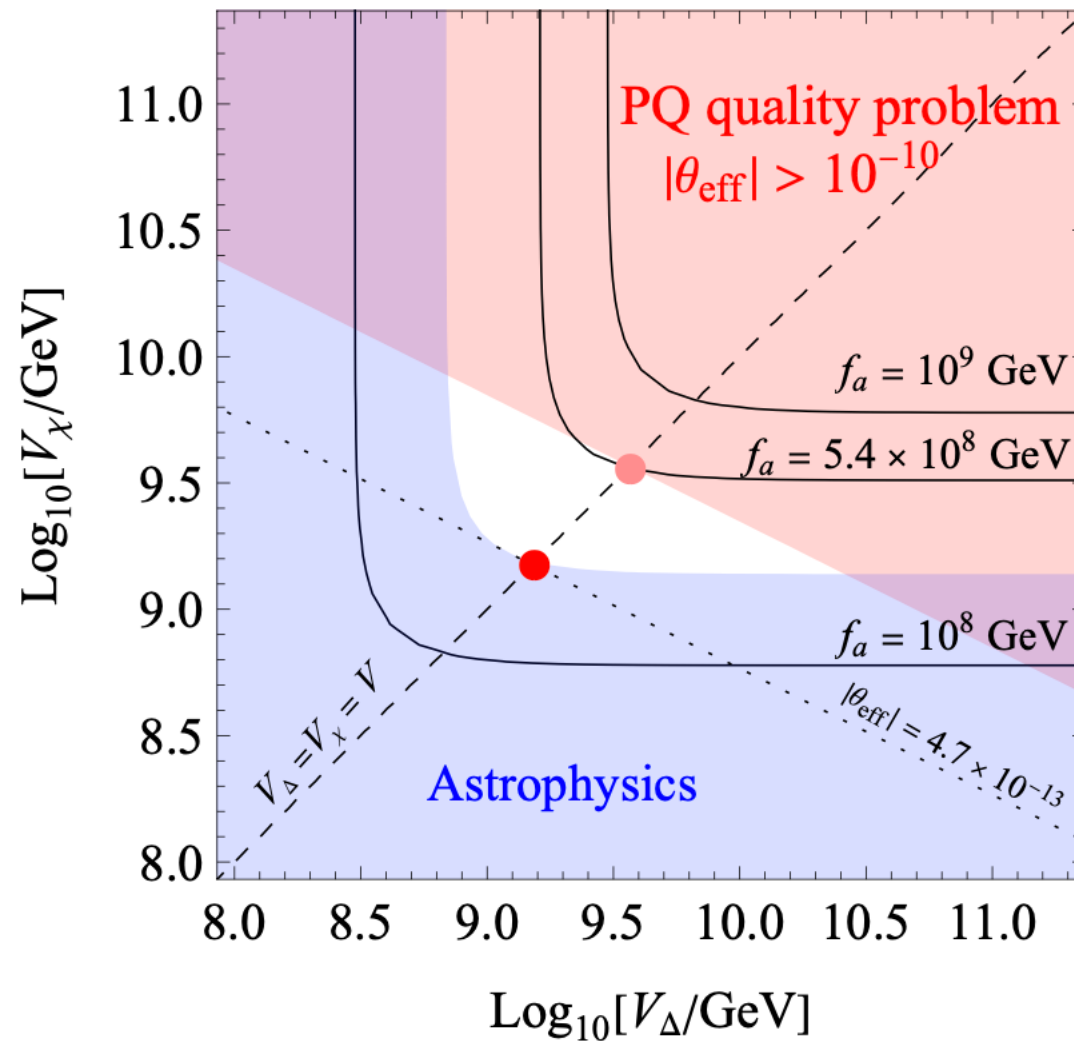
$$f_a = \frac{V_\chi V_\Delta}{3\sqrt{V_\chi^2 + 4V_\Delta^2}}$$

$$\Lambda_{\text{UV}} \sim M_{\text{Pl}} = 1.22 \times 10^{19} \text{ GeV}$$

PQ quality in Pati-Salam model

- PQ quality condition $\frac{v^m V^n}{\Lambda_{UV}^{n+m-4}} \lesssim 10^{-10} \chi_{\text{QCD}}^4$

[LDL, Landini, Mescia, Susiç [2503.16648](#)]



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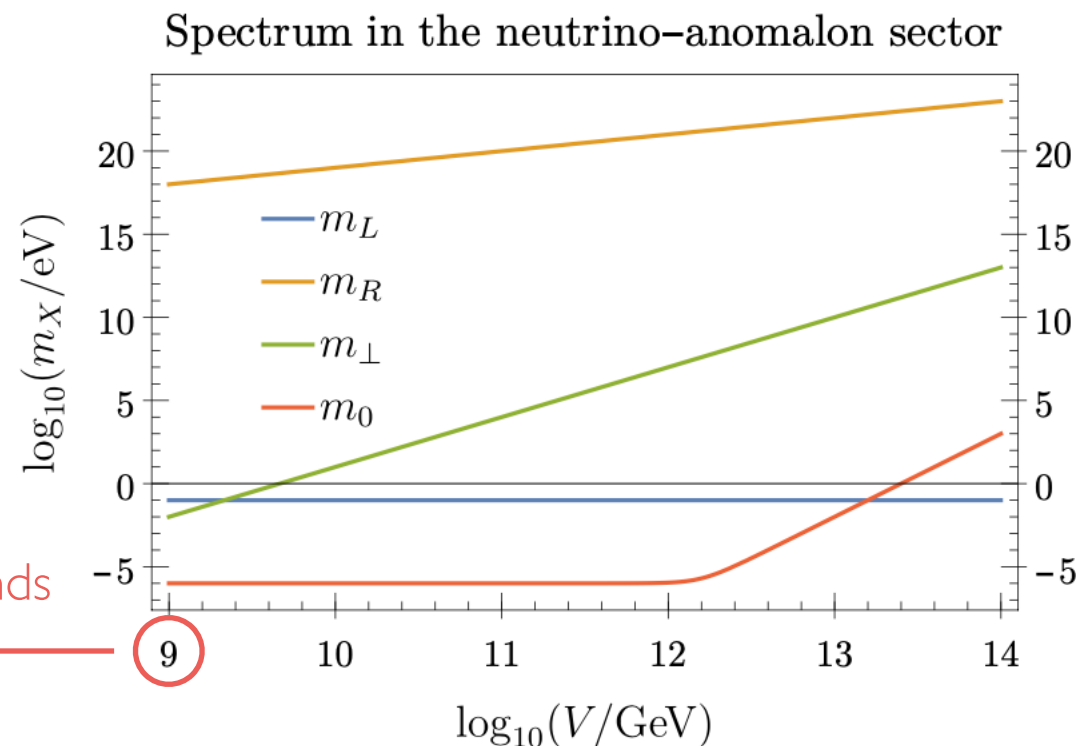
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Anomalon spectrum

- $L \oplus R \oplus \Psi_{\perp} \oplus \Psi_0$ basis (3+3+16+8)

[LDL, Landini, Mescia, Susič [2503.16648](#)]

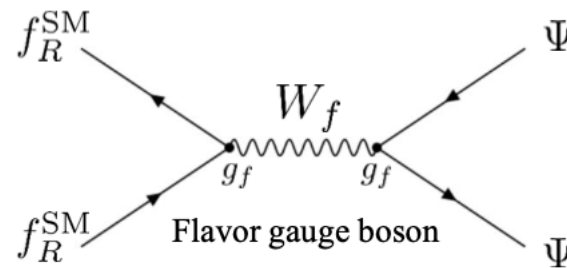
$$\begin{pmatrix} M_{LL} & M_{LR} & M_{L\Psi_{\perp}} & M_{L\Psi_0} \\ M_{RL} & M_{RR} & M_{R\Psi_{\perp}} & M_{R\Psi_0} \\ M_{\Psi_{\perp}L} & M_{\Psi_{\perp}R} & M_{\Psi_{\perp}\Psi_{\perp}} & M_{\Psi_{\perp}\Psi_0} \\ M_{\Psi_0L} & M_{\Psi_0R} & M_{\Psi_0\Psi_{\perp}} & M_{\Psi_0\Psi_0} \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} \frac{v^2 V}{\Lambda_{UV}^2} & yv & l \frac{vV}{\Lambda_{UV}} & \tilde{l} \frac{vV^2}{\Lambda_{UV}^2} \\ \cdot\cdot & V & r \frac{V^2}{\Lambda_{UV}} & \tilde{r} \frac{V^4}{\Lambda_{UV}^3} \\ \cdot\cdot & \cdot\cdot & \frac{V^3}{\Lambda_{UV}^2} & \frac{v^2}{\Lambda_{UV}} + \frac{V^5}{\Lambda_{UV}^4} \\ \cdot\cdot & \cdot\cdot & \cdot\cdot & \frac{v^2}{\Lambda_{UV}} + \frac{V^5}{\Lambda_{UV}^4} \end{pmatrix}$$



Anomalons & ΔN_{eff}

- Production channels:

I. Flavor interactions



[LDL, Landini, Mescia, Susič [2503.16648](#)]

$$\Delta N_{\text{eff}} = \frac{8}{7} \left(\frac{11}{4} \right)^{4/3} \frac{\rho_{\Psi}}{\rho_{\gamma}} \simeq 1.13 \frac{N_{\Psi}}{24} \left(\frac{106.75}{g_s(T_{\text{dec}})} \right)^{4/3} \rightarrow \text{too large if thermally produced}$$

- to avoid thermalization: small gauge coupling or low reheating temperature

$$g_{f_R} \ll 10^{-9} \left(\frac{V}{10^9 \text{ GeV}} \right) \left(\frac{g_*(m_{W_{f_R}})}{106.75} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$T_{\text{RH}} \ll V \left(\frac{g_*^{1/2}(T_{\text{RH}}) V}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^{1/3} \simeq 10^6 \text{ GeV} \left(\frac{V}{10^9 \text{ GeV}} \right)^{4/3} \left(\frac{g_*(T_{\text{RH}})}{106.75} \right)^{1/6}$$

- freeze-in production generically small, but could saturate ΔN_{eff} bound

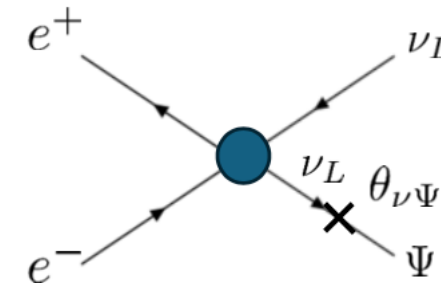
Anomalons & ΔN_{eff}

- Production channels:

[LDL, Landini, Mescia, Susič [2503.16648](#)]

1. Flavor interactions

2. Neutrino-anomalon conversion: $e^+e^- \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_L\nu_L \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_L\Psi_m$



- non-resonant scenario $m_\Psi \gtrsim m_\nu$

$$Y_\Psi^{\nu\text{-mix}}|_{m_\Psi \gg m_\nu} \sim 2.5 \times 10^4 \left(\frac{10.75}{g_{\text{SM}}} \right)^{3/2} \sum_{m=1}^{N_\Psi} \left(|\theta_{\nu\Psi_m}|^2 \frac{m_{\Psi_m}}{\text{keV}} \right)$$

- resonant scenario $m_\Psi \lesssim m_\nu$



expect larger contribution to ΔN_{eff} / stronger constraints on mixing angles

Axion GUTs

- Motivated by a coincidence of scales

$$M_{\text{GUT}}, M_{B-L} \longleftrightarrow f_a$$

In fact, explored since the early the 80's (as soon as the axion went “invisible”)

$$SU(5) \times U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$$

[Wise, Georgi, Glashow [PRL 402 \(1981\)](#)

...

Co, D'Eramo, Hall [1603.04439](#)

LDL, Ringwald, Tamarit [1807.09769](#)

Fileviez Perez, Murgui, Plascencia [1908.01772](#)]

$$SO(10) \times U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$$

[Reiss [PLB 109B \(1982\)](#)

Lazarides [PRD 25 \(1982\)](#)

Mohapatra, Senjanovic [Z. Phys. C 17 \(1983\)](#)

...

Bajc, Melfo, Senjanovic, Vissani [hep-ph/0510139](#)

Altarelli, Meloni [1305.1001](#)

Ernst, Ringwald, Tamarit [1801.04906](#)]

$$SU(9) \times U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$$

[Georgi, Hall, Wise [NPB 192 \(1981\)](#)]

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$$SO(10) \times U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$$

- Why now ?
 - p-decay & magnetic monopoles elusive, axion exp.'s may offer a fresh window on GUTs
 - axion mass fixed* in terms of the GUT scale (model dependent)
 - *useful input for haloscope searches*

*requires the axion to belong to a non-trivial representation of the GUT group

Axion GUTs

- Axion GUT models discrimination ?

[Ernst, LDL, Ringwald, Tamarit [1811.11860](#)]

