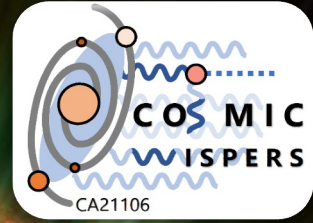




Frascati, 29 July 2025



Core-Collapse Supernovae shining in Axion-like particles



Alessandro Lella

Physics Department of «Aldo Moro» University in Bari
Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare

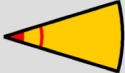
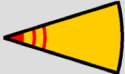


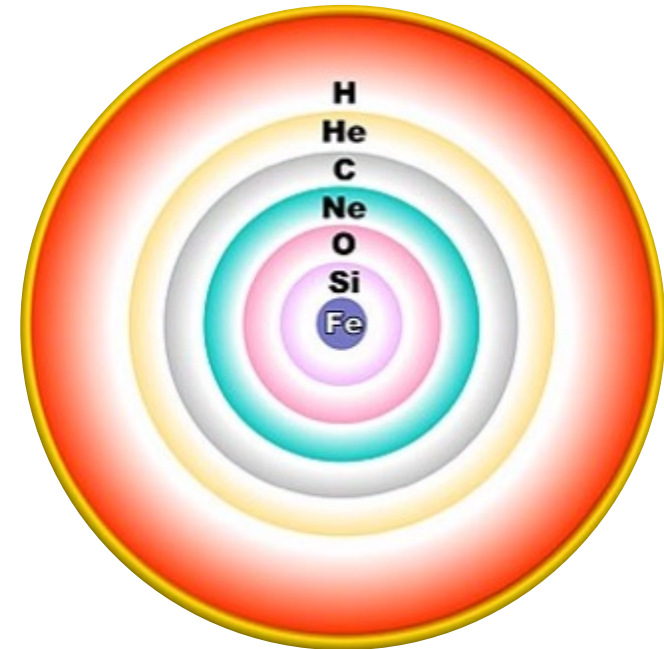
Core-collapse Supernovae

[H.T. Janka & al., Phys.Rept. 442 (2007)]

Massive Stars and Gravitational Collapse

Stars with masses $M \geq 8 M_{\odot}$ can induce heavier elements ignition.

Burning Phase		Dominant Process	T_c [keV]	ρ_c [g/cm ³]	L_{γ} [10 ⁴ L _{sun}]	L_v/L_{γ}	Duration [years]
	Hydrogen	H → He	3	5.9	2.1	–	1.2×10^7
	Helium	He → C, O	14	1.3×10^3	6.0	1.7×10^{-5}	1.3×10^6
	Carbon	C → Ne, Mg	53	1.7×10^5	8.6	1.0	6.3×10^3
	Neon	Ne → O, Mg	110	1.6×10^7	9.6	1.8×10^3	7.0
	Oxygen	O → Si	160	9.7×10^7	9.6	2.1×10^4	1.7
	Silicon	Si → Fe, Ni	270	2.3×10^8	9.6	9.2×10^5	6 days



Heavy elements collected in an “onion” structure with shells of burning elements around a degenerate iron core.

Phases of collapse

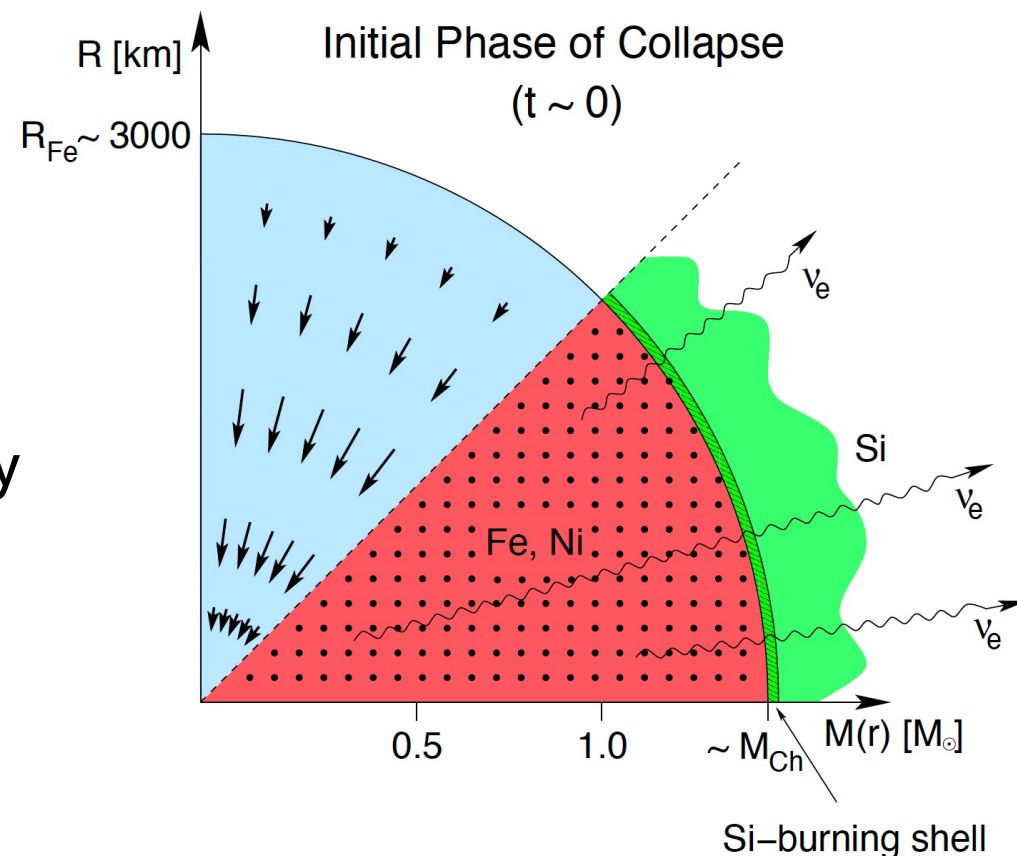
Electron degeneracy pressure counter-balances gravity until $M > M_{ch} \sim 5.8 Y_e^2 M_{\odot}$, ($Y_e \simeq 0.42$).

➤ Instability is mainly due to:

- $e^- + p \rightarrow n + \nu_e$: reduces Y_e and enrich neutron fraction.
- $\gamma + {}^{56}\text{Fe} \rightarrow 13\alpha + 4n$: subtracts energy and reduces degeneracy pressure.



Onset of the Collapse

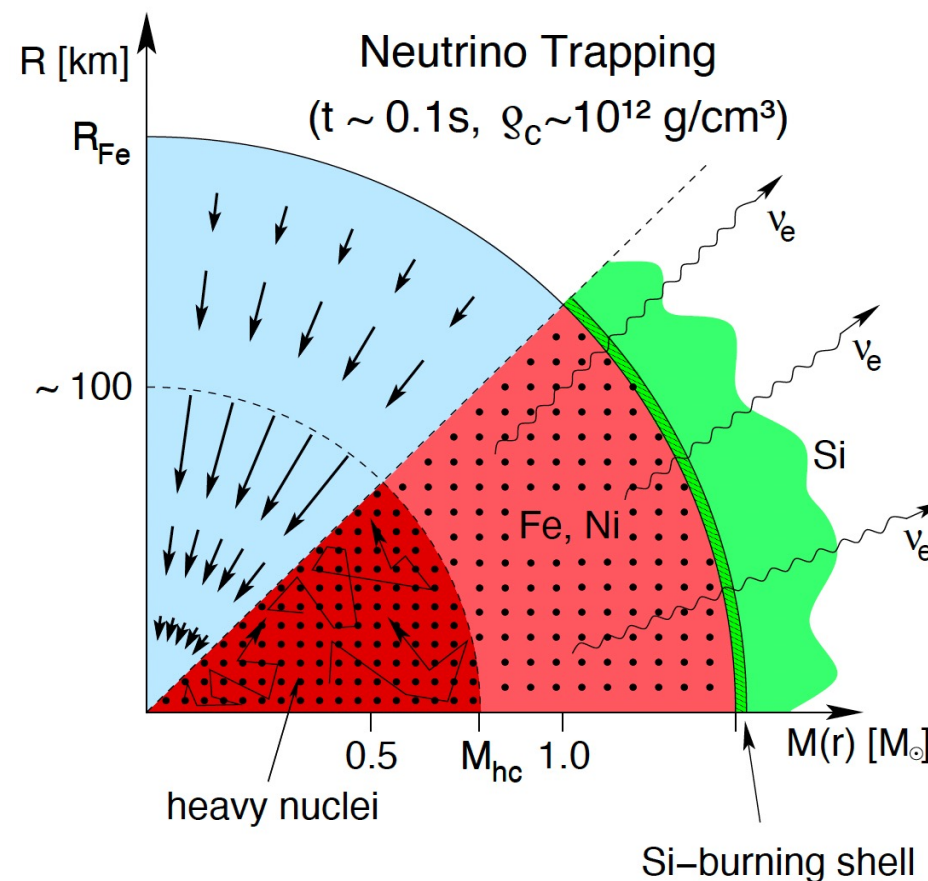


Phases of collapse

β -decays and other processes subtract energy from the core and collapse accelerates.

- Inner (homologous) core collapses at subsonic velocity, while outer layers at supersonic velocity
- When $\rho \sim 10^{12} \text{ g/cm}^{-3}$, ν -diffusion t_ν time is larger than the collapsing time scale t_d

Neutrino Trapping:
Emission from $R_\nu \sim 20 \text{ km}$

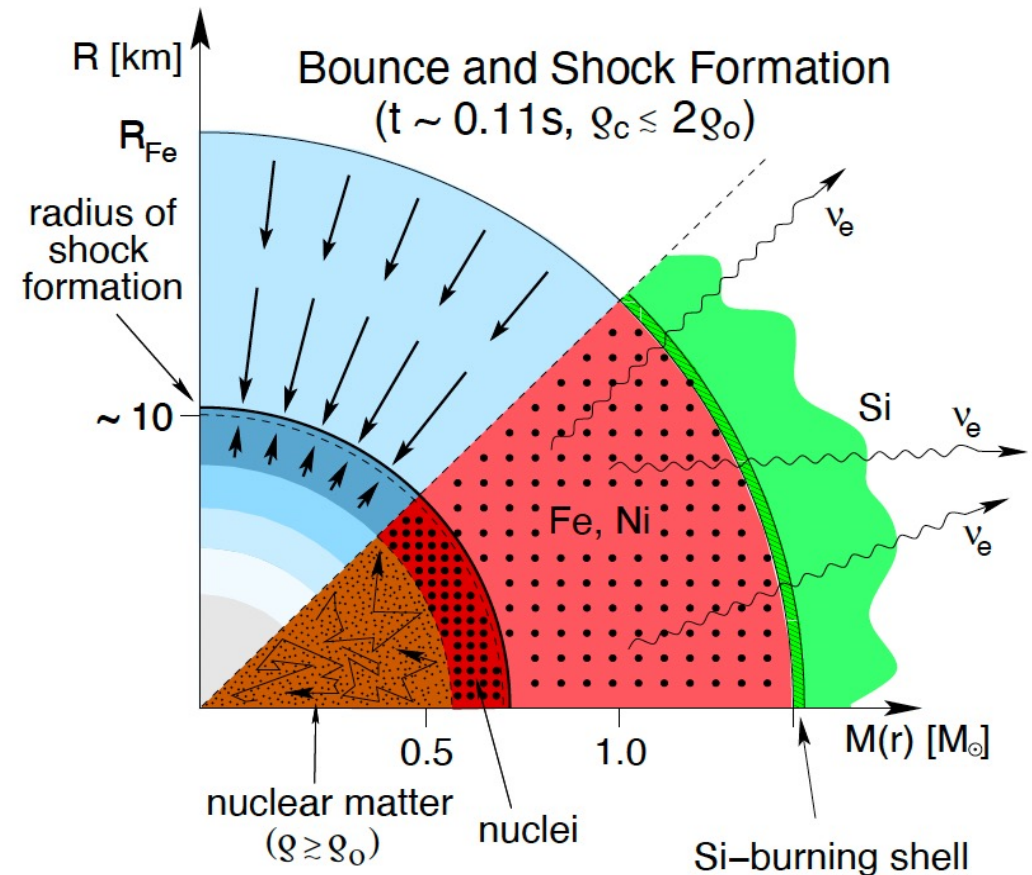


Phases of collapse

Nuclear density in the homologous core increases until $\rho > \rho_c \sim 10^{14} \text{g/cm}^{-3}$.

- Outer layers keep collapsing at supersonic velocity.
- In inner regions nuclear matter becomes incompressible

Formation of a shock-wave



Phases of collapse

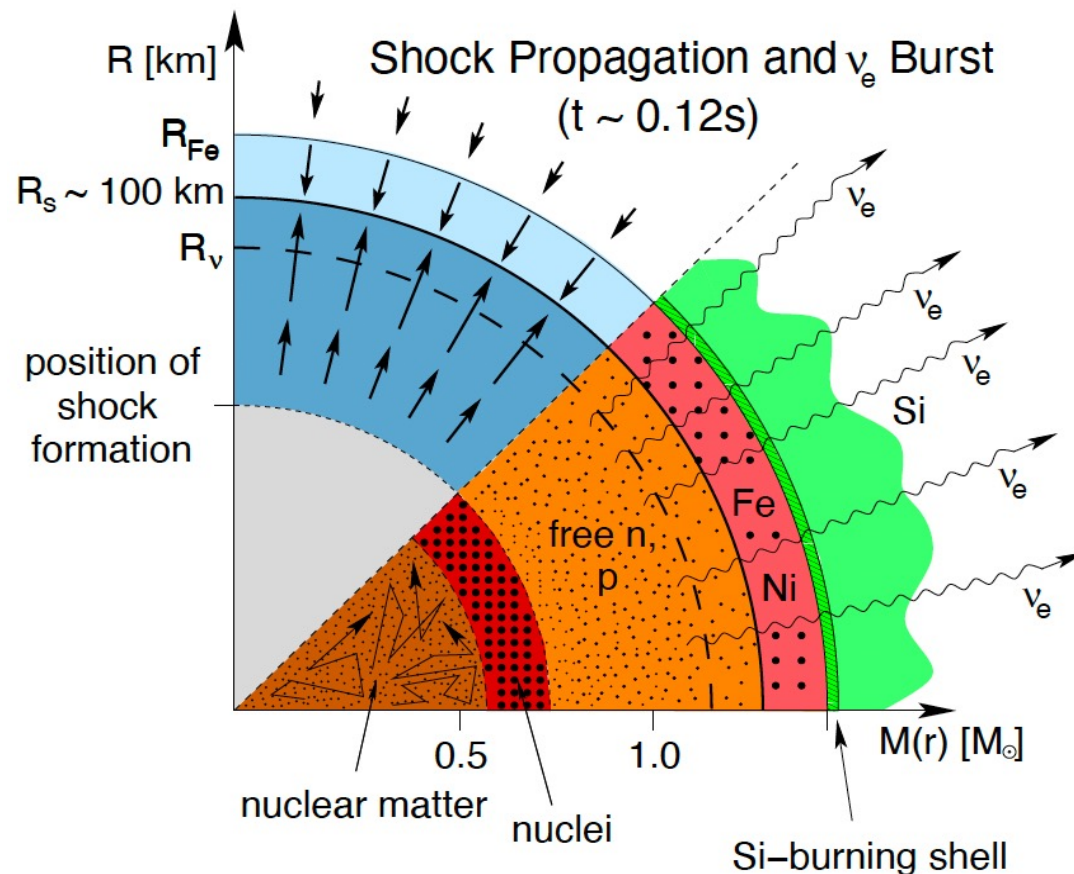
Along its path the shock wave dissociates heavy nuclei in outer layers of the core loosing some of its energy (8.8 MeV per nucleon).

- Reduction of coherent ν -scattering
- Strong enhancement of electron capture on free protons



Prompt ν_e -burst:

Short burst releasing $E \sim 10^{51}$ erg



Phases of collapse

The shock wave loses almost all of its energy and stalls at $R_s \sim 200$ Km

➤ Matter keeps infalling from above



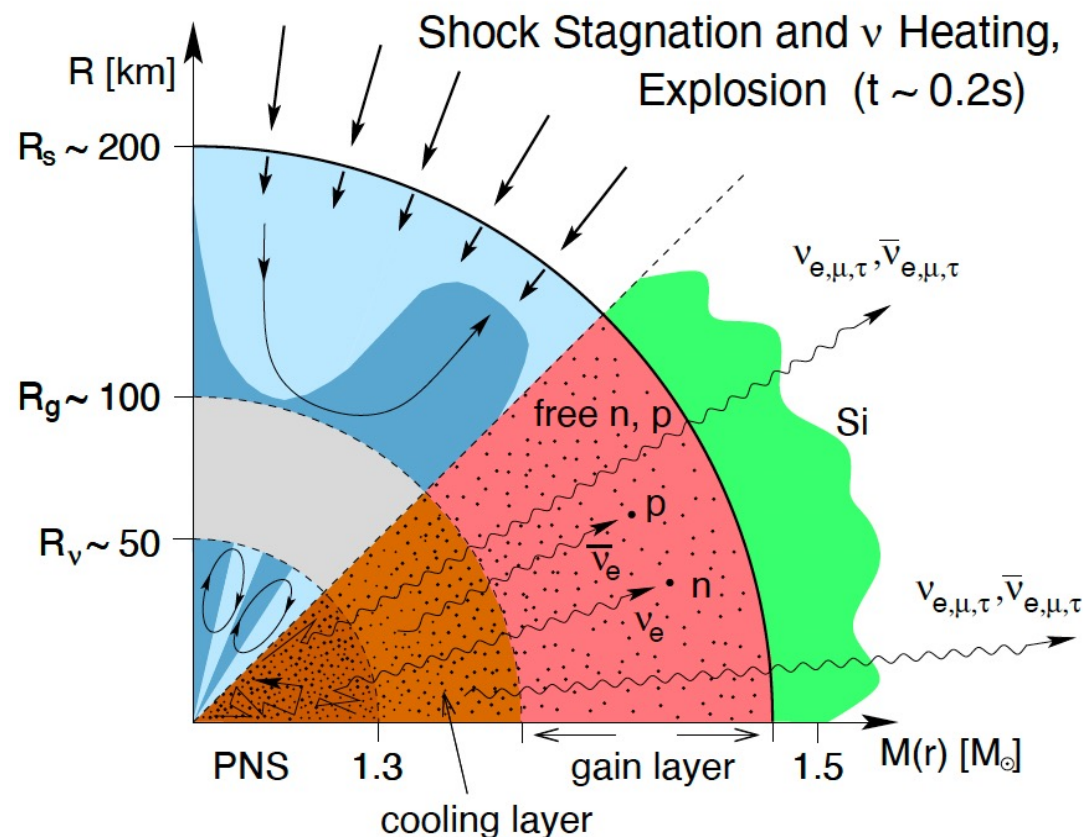
Formation of the PNS

➤ Neutrinos deposit energy behind the shock front:

- $\nu_e + n \rightarrow e^- + p$
- $\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow e^+ + n$



ν -heating and "hot bubble"



Phases of collapse

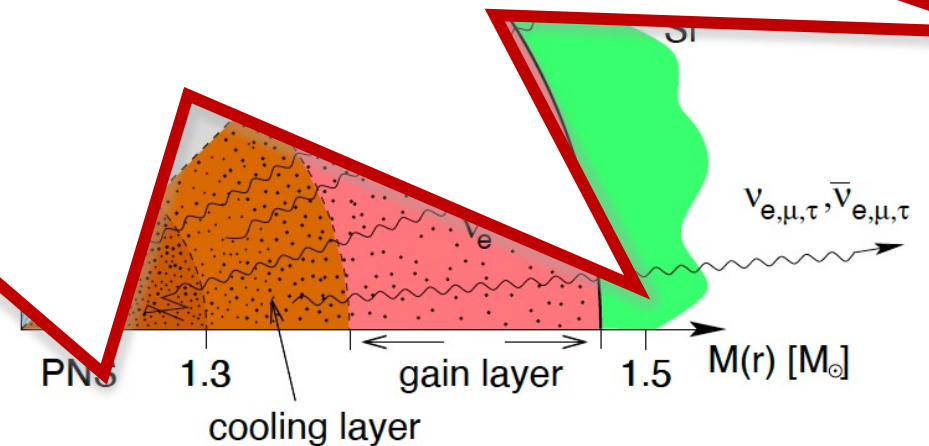
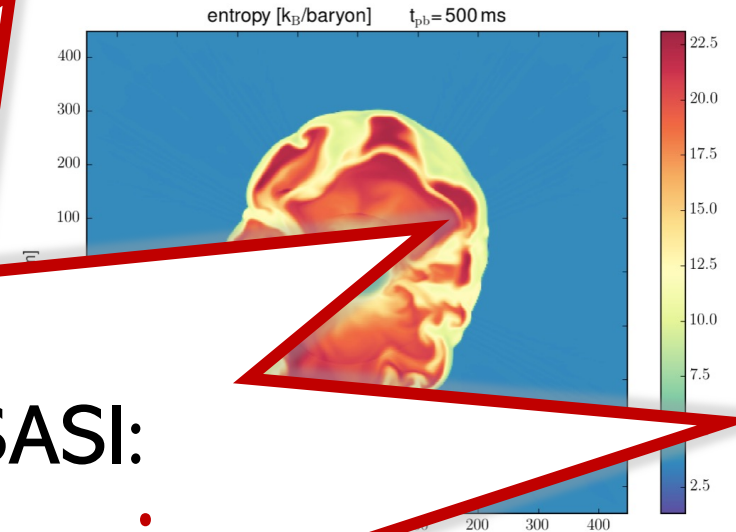
Neutrinos deposit energy in regions with low densities
(«Hot Bubbles»)

➤ At the **upper** end
pressure, low entropy

➤ At the **lower** end
pressure, high entropy

ν -heating + convection+ SASI: Delayed Explosion Scenario

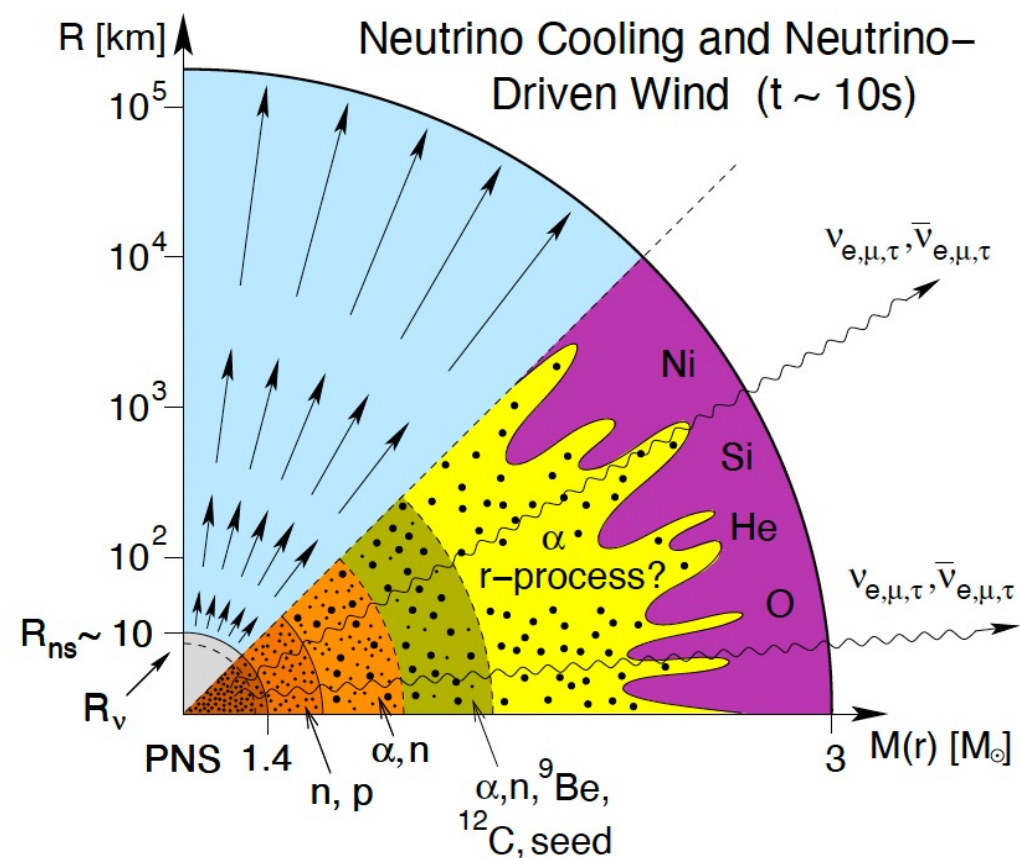
Post-shock convection and SASI
They help the shock revival



Phases of collapse

After the revival, the shock wave ejects all the SN mantle $E \sim 10^{51}$ erg.

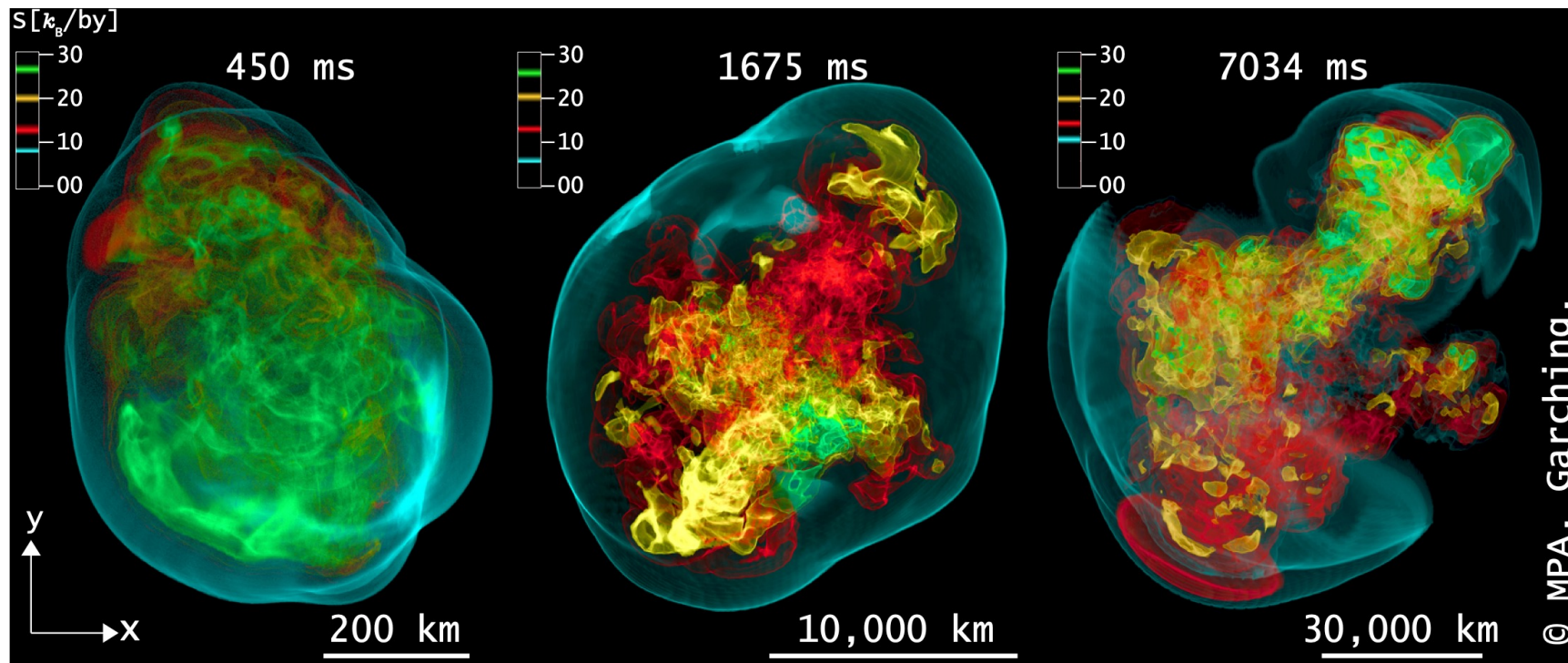
- Formation of a young Neutron Star at the centre ($R \sim 10$ km, $M \sim 1.5 M_{\odot}$).
- Cooling via neutrino emission of all species ($E \sim 10^{53}$ erg, $t \sim 10$ s).



Supernova simulations

Most of our knowledge about SN explosions is based on complex 3D simulations.

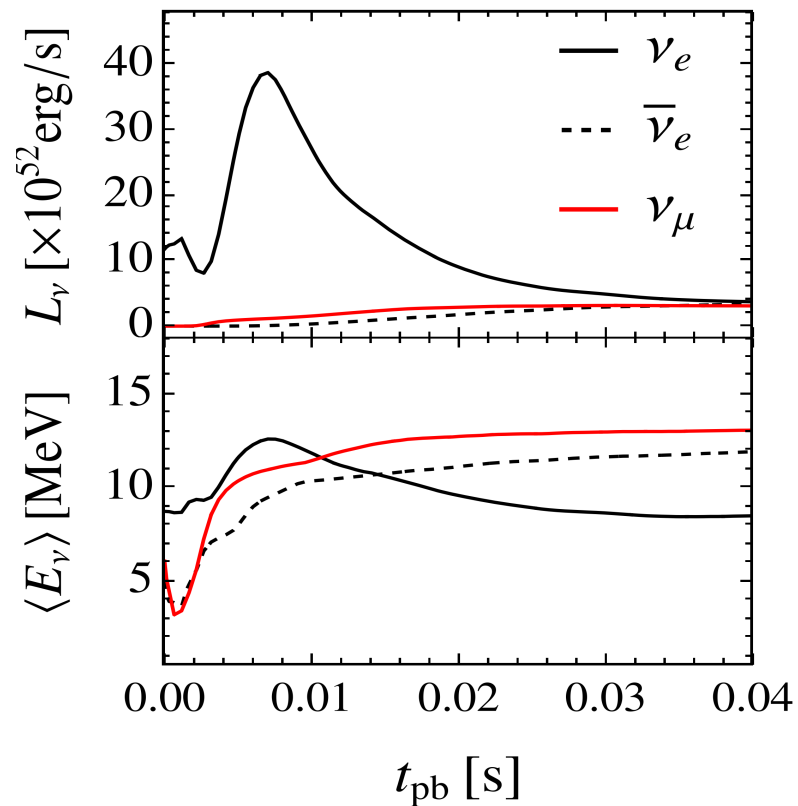
- Account for 3D neutrino transport equations
- Account for the effect of convection and SASI instabilities



Supernova neutrinos

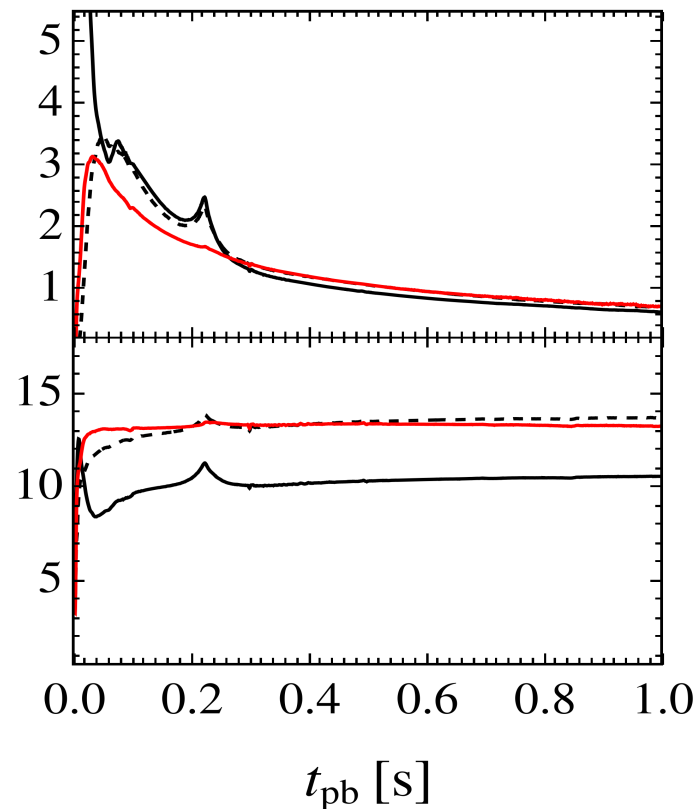
Neutronization burst

- Electron capture in the inner core



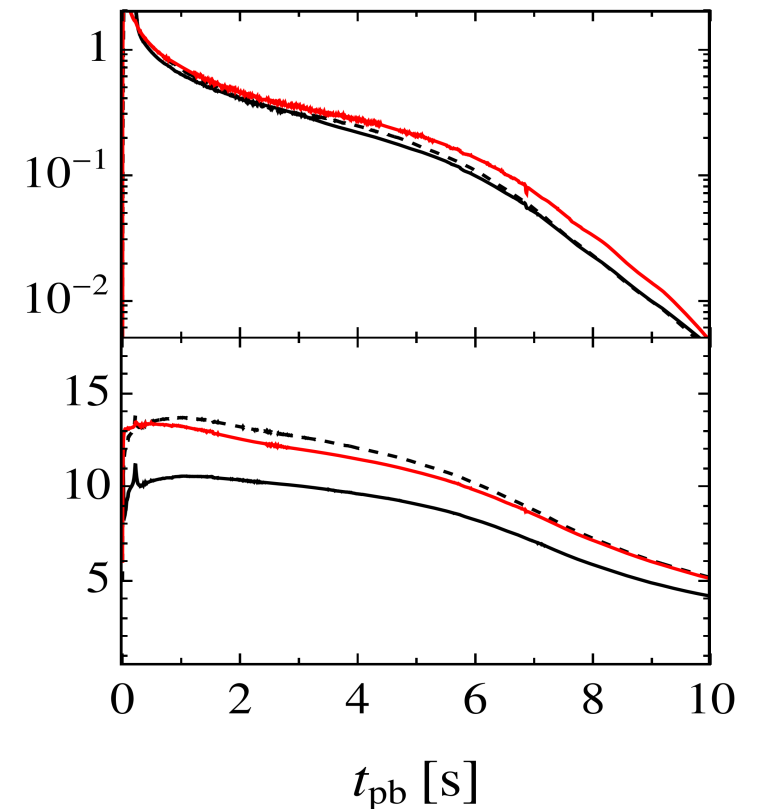
Accretion

- When shock stalls, ν powered by infalling matter

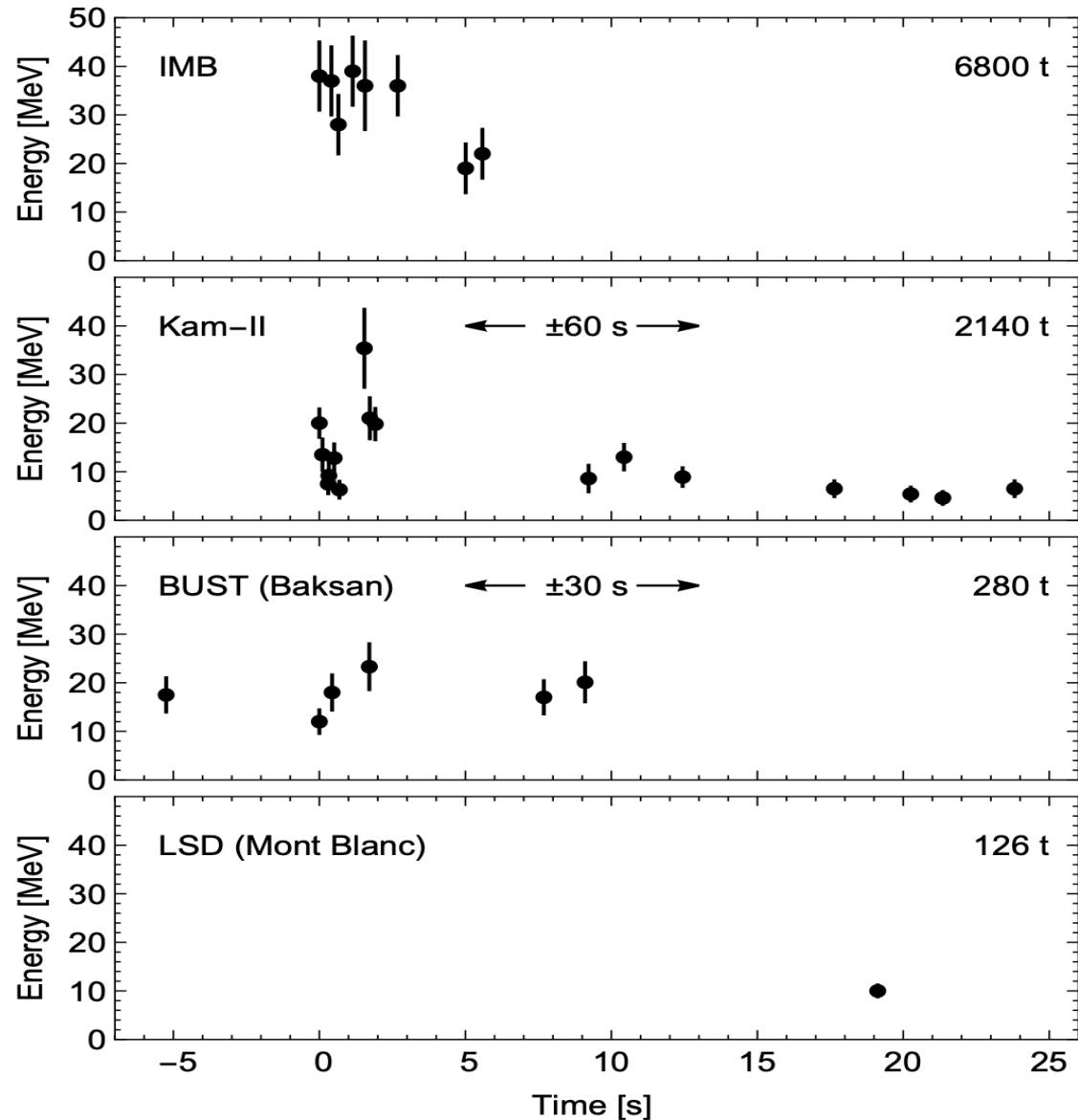


Cooling

- Cooling on ν diffusion time scale



SN 1987A



SN 1987A was the first and only SN event allowing for the observation of the associated neutrino burst so far.

➤ From SN 1987A neutrino burst observations:

- Duration of the burst ~ 10 s.
- $\langle E_\nu \rangle \approx 15$ MeV.

➤ Standard picture confirmed by SN 1987A observation.

Recent re-analysis showed that late time events are in tension with SN simulations.

[Fiorillo et al., Phys. Rev. D 108 (2023)]

ALP production in SNe

The QCD axion

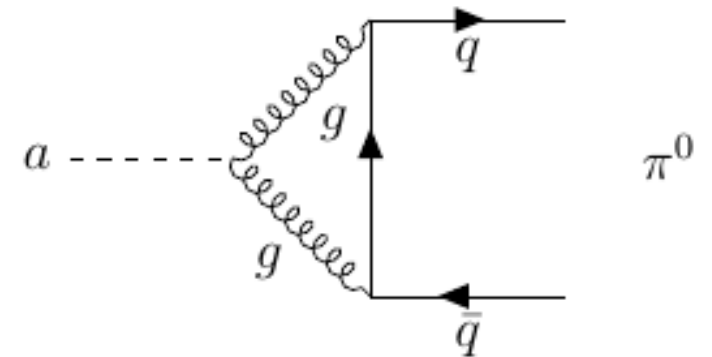
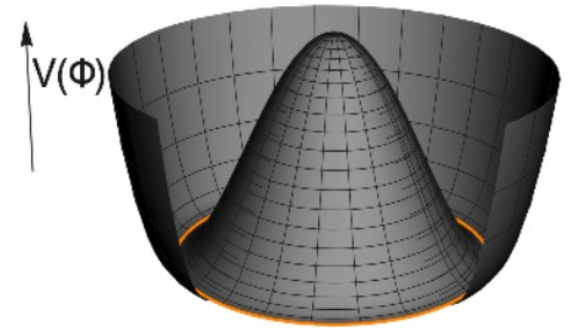
The *QCD axion* is a pseudoscalar particle postulated to solve the *Strong-CP problem* in QCD:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CP}} = \theta \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{\tilde{a}\mu\nu}$$

➔ PQ mechanism: global symmetry $U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$
spontaneously broken at f_a [*Peccei & Quinn, PRL 38 (1977)*]

The QCD axion acquires a small mass from its coupling to QCD.

$$m_a = 5.70(6)(4) \mu\text{eV} \left(\frac{10^{12} \text{GeV}}{f_a} \right)$$

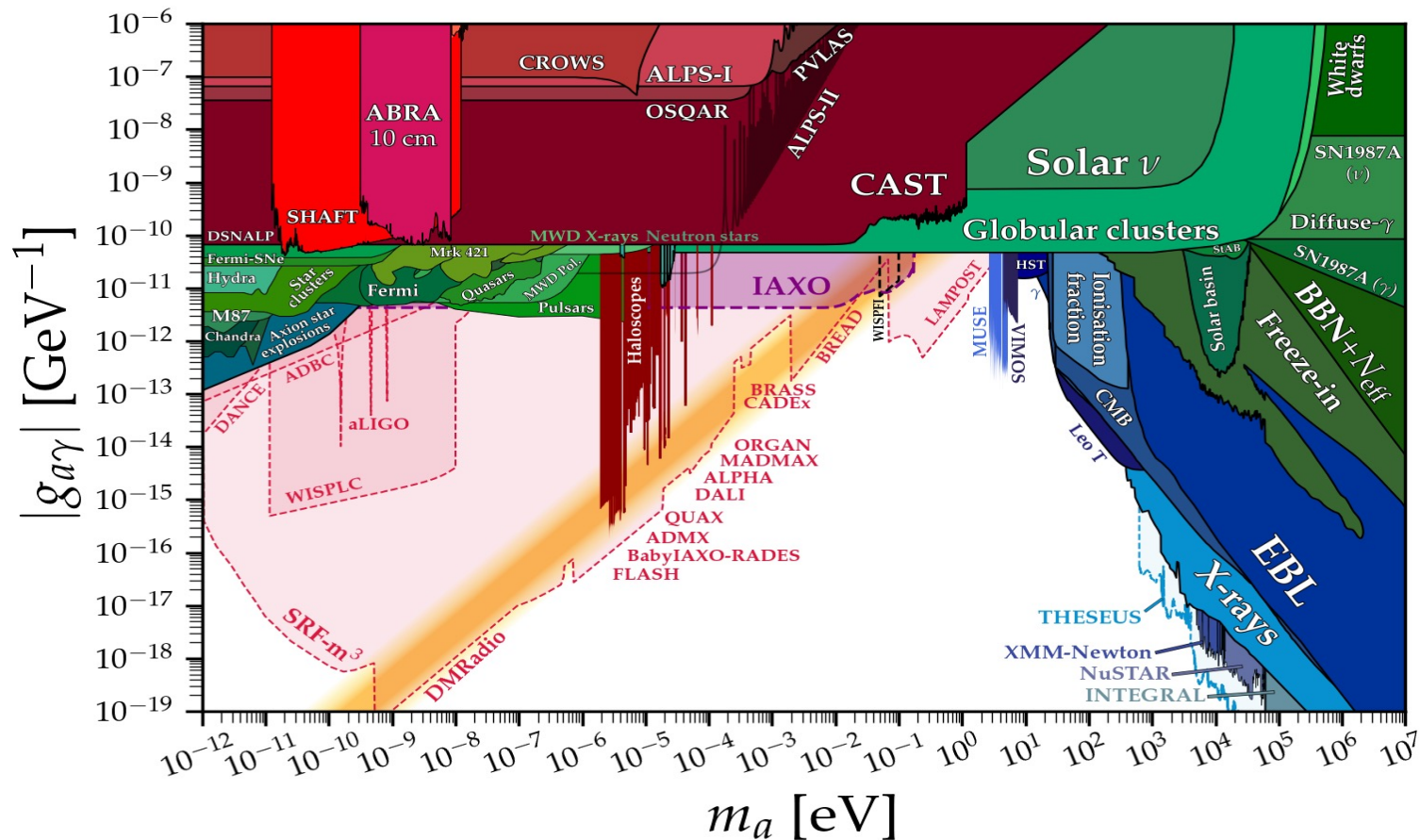


Axion-like particles

Many pseudoscalar particles behaving like the QCD axion emerge in UV extensions of Standard Model

- Vast landscape of axion-like particles (ALPs)
- No relation between ALP mass and couplings.

cajohare.github.io/AxionLimits/



ALP nuclear interactions

- Axions and ALPs could interact with all the Standard model particles.

$$\mathcal{L}_a \supset \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \frac{C_g}{f_a} a G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma} a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} - \sum_{\psi} \frac{g_{a\psi}}{2m_{\psi}} \bar{\psi} \gamma_{\mu} \gamma_5 \psi \partial^{\mu} a$$

- In ChPT interaction vertices with baryons and mesons [*Ho & al., Phys. Rev. D 107 (2023)*]

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = g_a \frac{\partial_{\mu} a}{2m_N} & \left[C_{ap} \bar{p} \gamma^{\mu} \gamma_5 p + C_{an} \bar{n} \gamma^{\mu} \gamma_5 n + \right. \\ & + \frac{C_{a\pi N}}{f_{\pi}} (i\pi^{+} \bar{p} \gamma^{\mu} n - i\pi^{-} \bar{n} \gamma^{\mu} p) + \\ & \left. + C_{aN\Delta} \left(\bar{p} \Delta_{\mu}^{+} + \overline{\Delta_{\mu}^{+}} p + \bar{n} \Delta_{\mu}^0 + \overline{\Delta_{\mu}^0} n \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

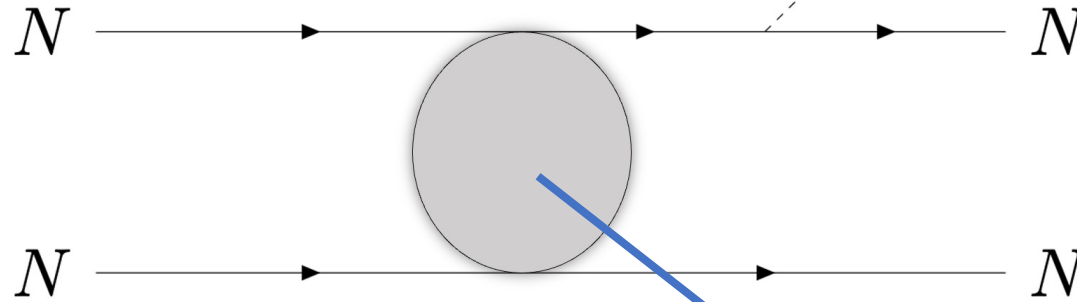
ALP production in SNe

➤ Nucleon-Nucleon bremsstrahlung

[Carenza & al., JCAP 10 (2019) 10,
Raffelt & Seckel, Phys. Rev. D 52 (1995),
Hempel, Phys. Rev. C 91 (2015),
Ericson and Mathiot, Phys. Lett. B 219 (1989)]

Effective nucleon masses

$$m_N \rightarrow m_N^*$$

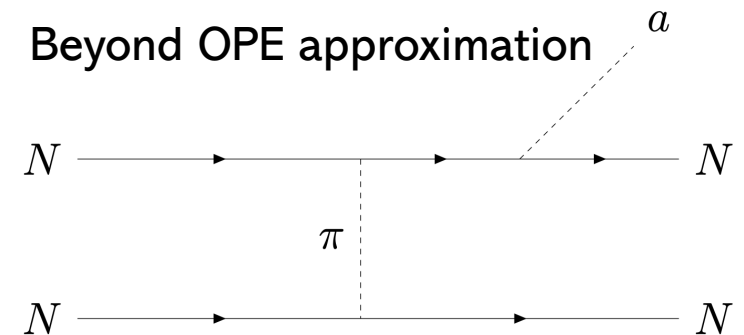


$$a \longrightarrow m_a \neq 0$$

AL & al., Phys. Rev. D 107 (2023)

Nucleons multiple scattering

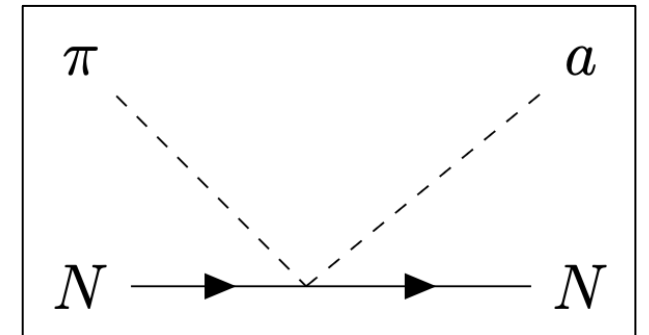
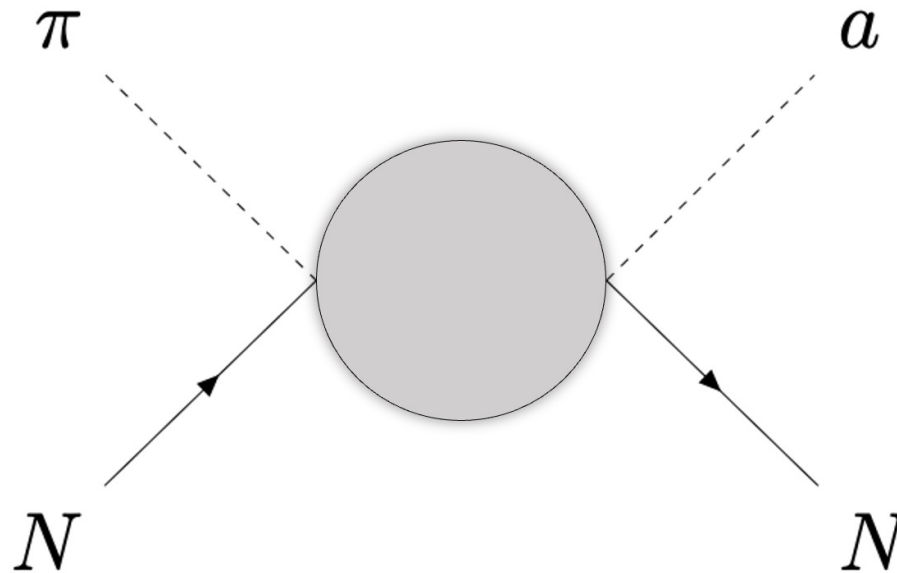
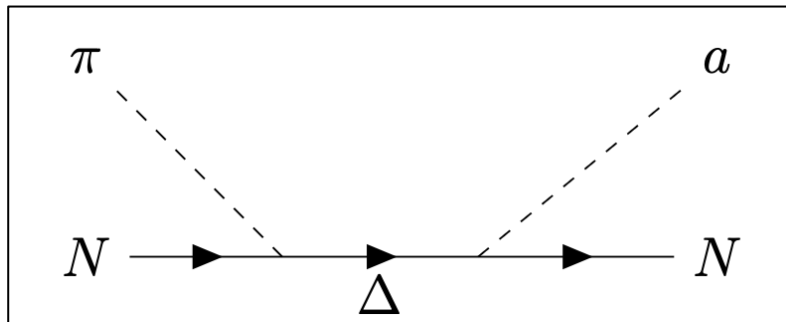
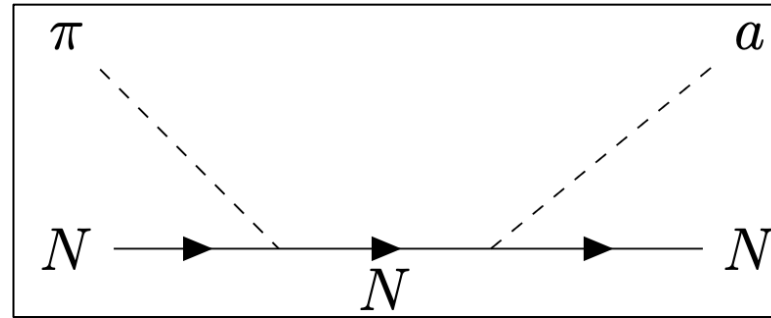
$$S_\sigma = \frac{\Gamma_\sigma}{\omega^2 + \Gamma^2} s_\sigma$$



ALP production in SNe

➤ Pion Conversions

*[Carenza & al., Phys.Rev.Lett. 126 (2021),
Choi & al., JHEP02 (2022) 143,
Ho & al., Phys. Rev. D 107 (2023)]*



ALP emission spectra

- If ALPs interact weakly with nuclear matter, they can *free-stream* through the SN volume

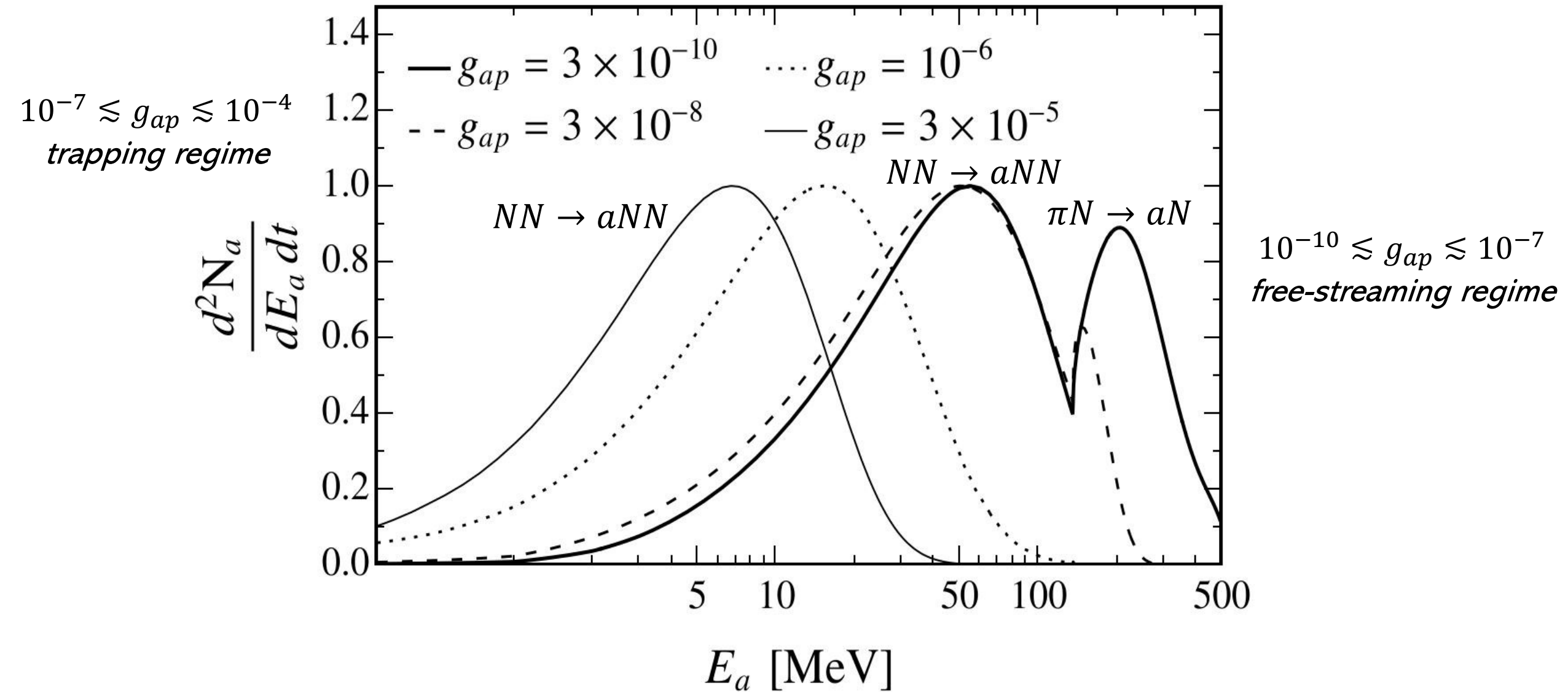
$$\frac{d^2 N_a}{dE_a dt} = \int_0^\infty 4\pi r^2 dr \frac{d^2 n_a}{dE_a dt}$$

- In case of strongly coupled ALPs, they could enter the *trapping regime*
[Caputo & al., Phys. Rev. D 105 (2022)]

$$\frac{d^2 N_a}{dE_a dt} = \int_0^\infty 4\pi r^2 dr \left\langle e^{-\tau(E_a, r)} \right\rangle \frac{d^2 n_a}{dE_a dt}$$

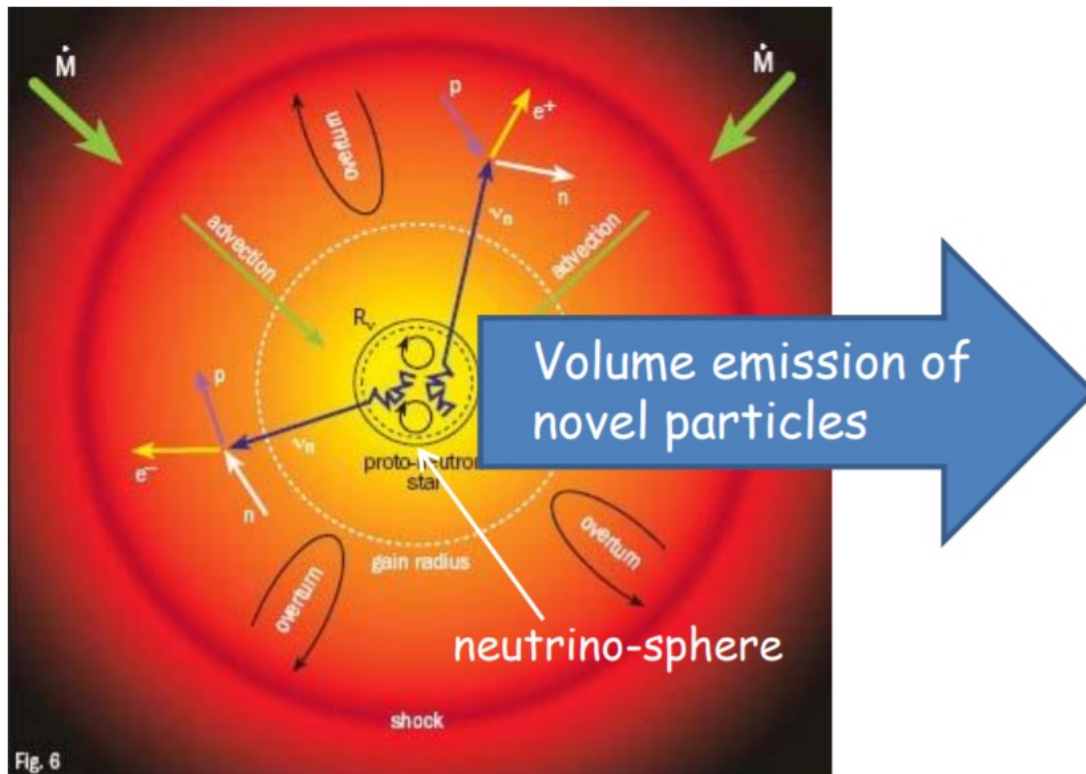
$$\tau \sim \int_0^\infty dr \lambda_a^{-1} \text{ optical depth for nuclear processes}$$


ALP emission spectra

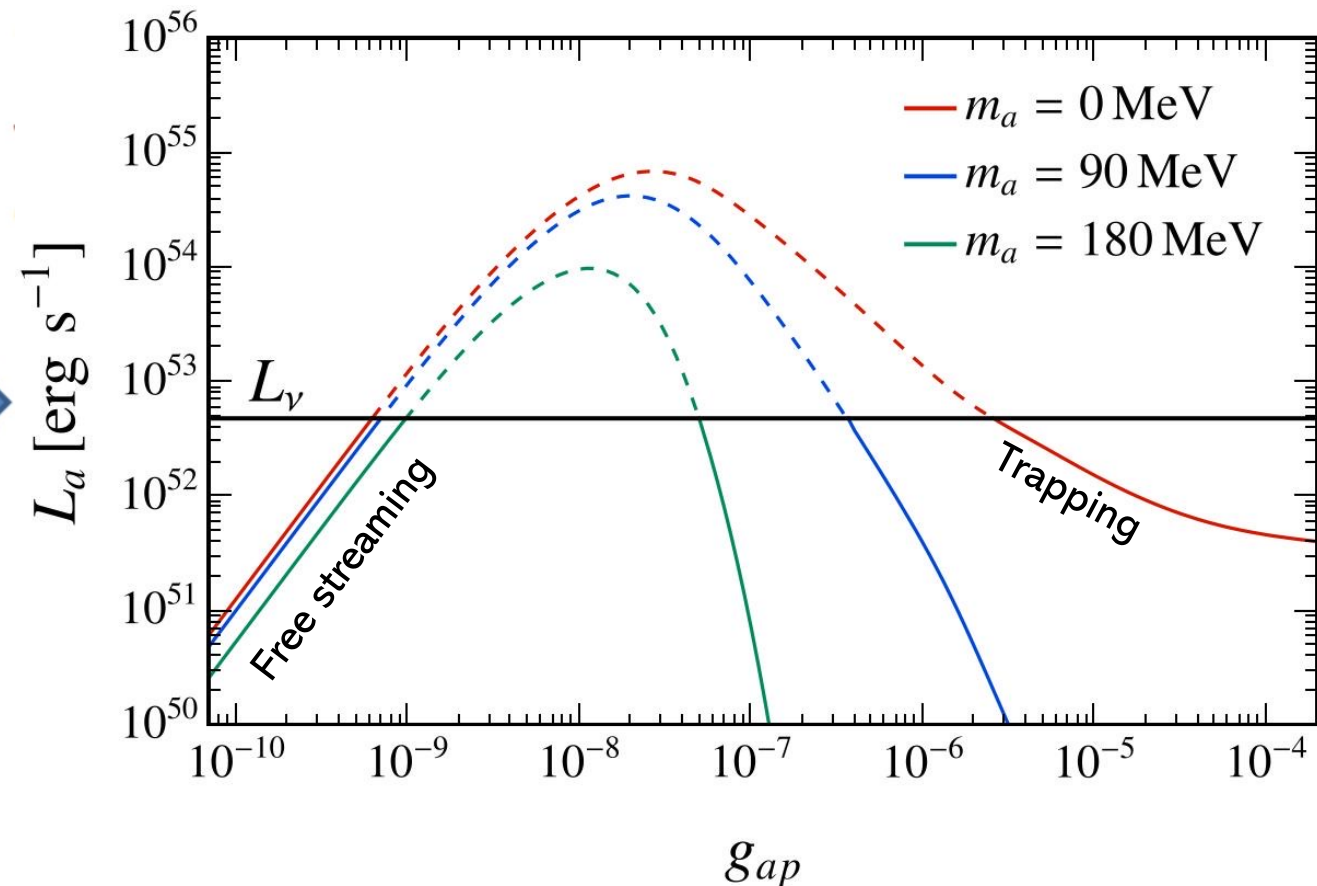


The energy-loss argument

Emission of exotic particles could cause an excessive energy-loss from SNe, affecting the neutrino burst.



[AL & al., Phys. Rev. D 109 (2024) 2]



[Raffelt & Seckel, Phys. Rev. Lett. 60 (1998)]

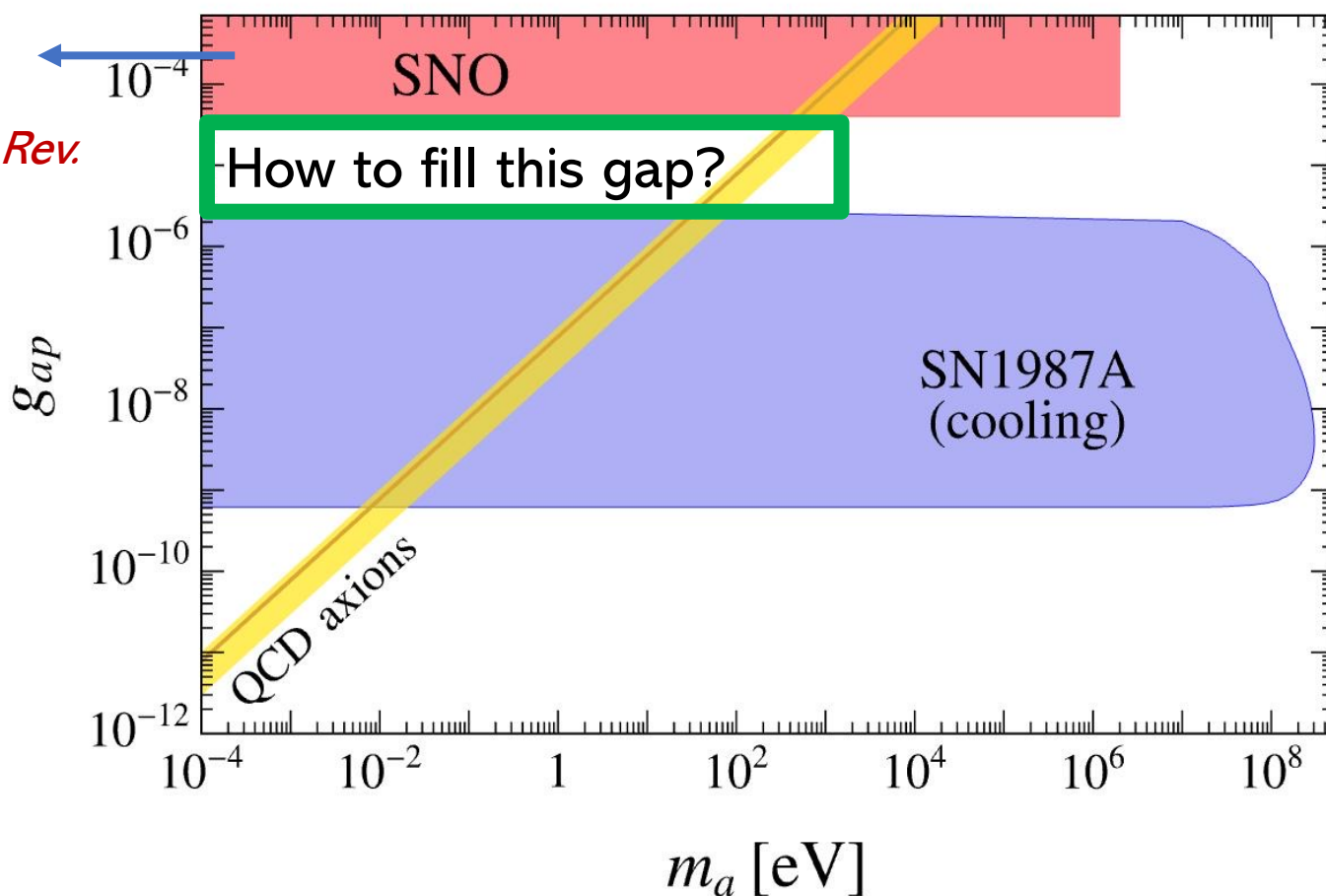
The energy-loss argument

Assuming that ALP emission did not shorten the duration of the neutrino burst more than $\sim 1/2$, we require that [*Raffelt, Phys. Rept. 198 (1990)*]:

$$L_a \lesssim L_\nu \quad \text{at } t_{\text{pb}} = 1 \text{ s}$$

Searches for solar axions in SNO.

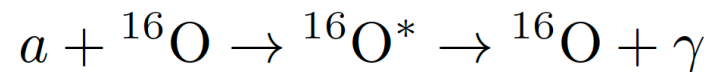
[*Bhusal et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 126 (2021)*]



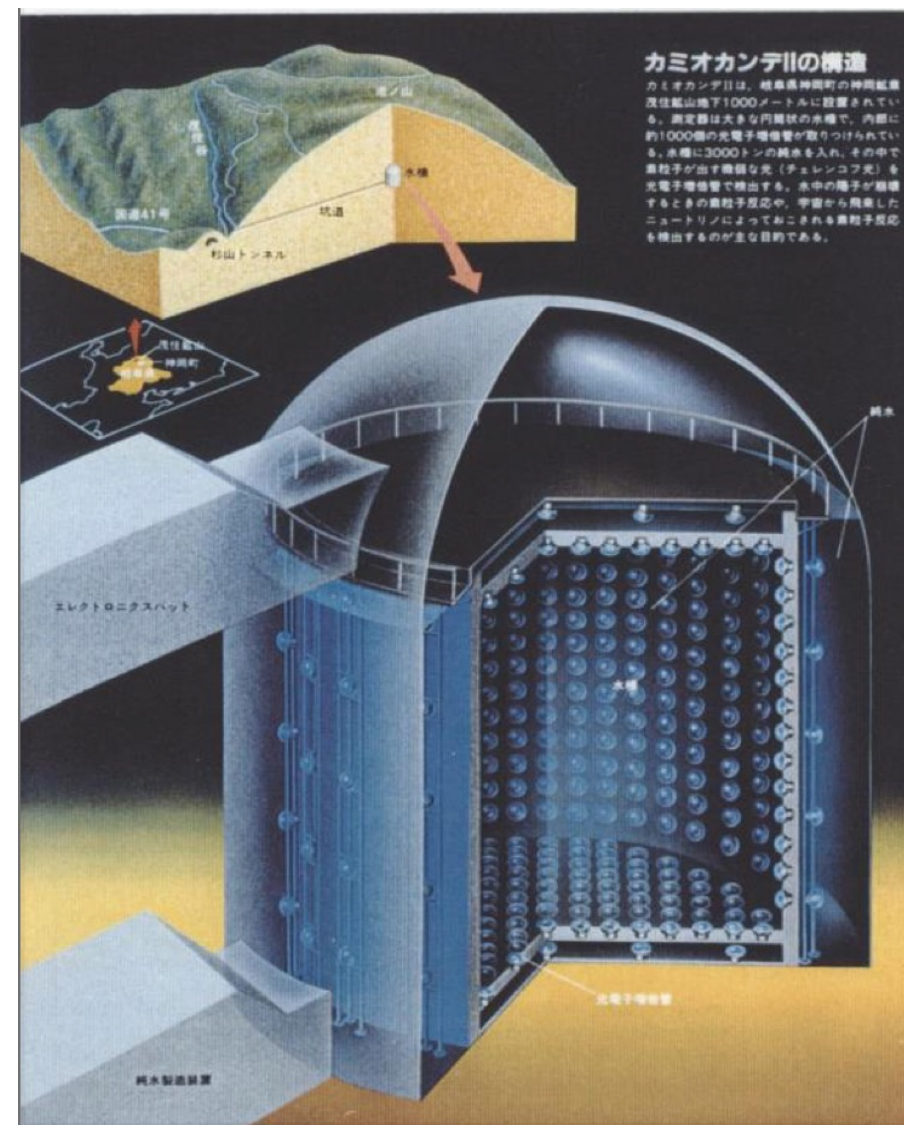
[*AL & al., Phys. Rev. D 109 (2024) 2*]

Axion signal in Kamiokande-II

- In case of strong couplings the ALP flux would have produced a signal in Kamiokande II.
- Seminal idea by Engel, Seckel and Hayes: look for axion-induced excitation of oxygen nuclei [*Engel et al., Phys. Rev. Let. 65 (1990)*].



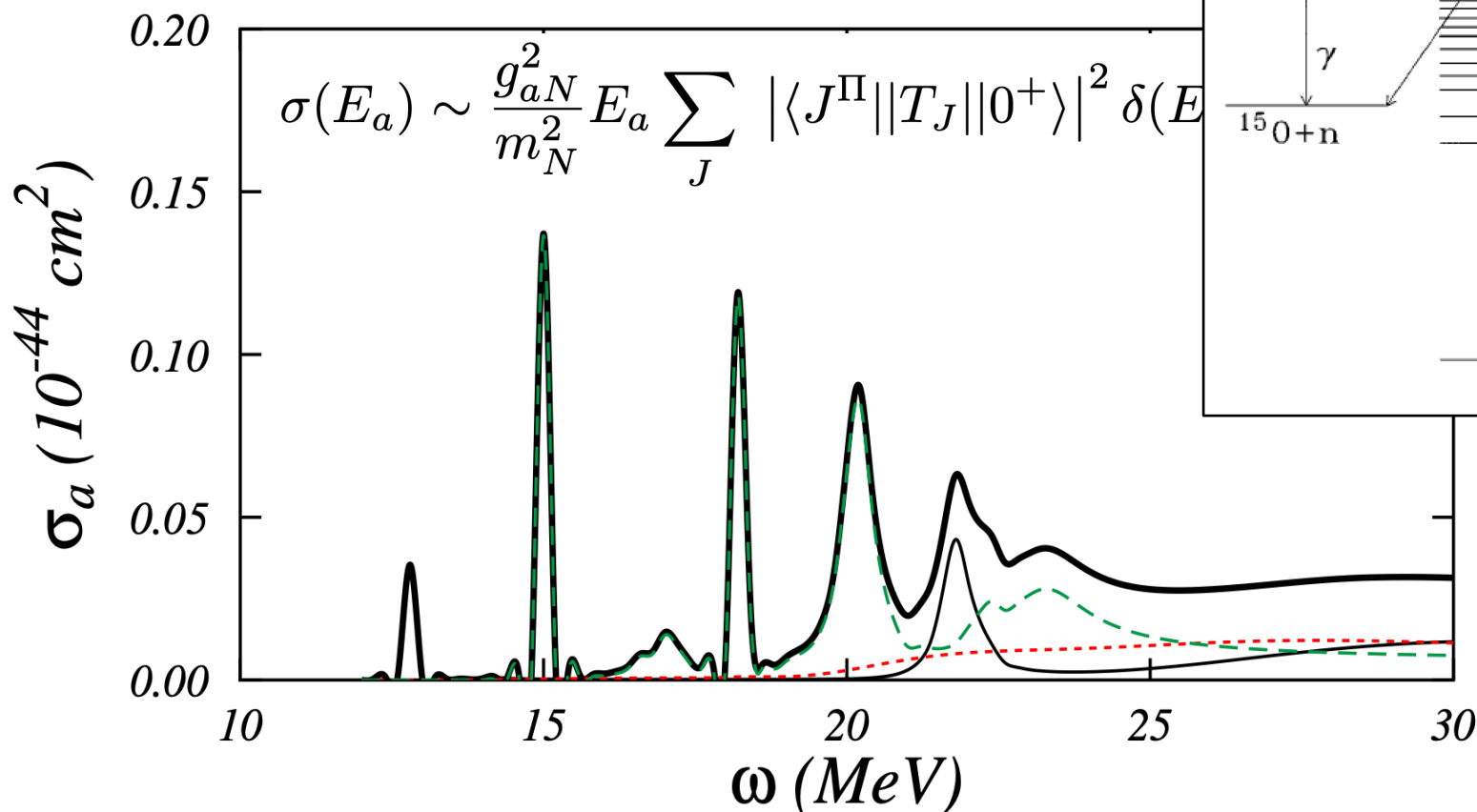
- The computation of the event rate requires:
 - SN explosion models
 - An adequate treatment of trapping regime
 - State-of-the-art nuclear models



Axion-oxygen cross section

Introducing $C_0 = (C_p + C_n)/2$ and $C_1 = (C_p - C_n)/2$, Axion-nucleons interactions reads

$$\mathcal{H}_{aN} = -\frac{g_{aN}}{2m_N} \partial_k a \underbrace{\bar{N} \gamma^k \gamma^5 (C_0 + C_1 \tau_3)}_{\text{Hadronic current}}$$

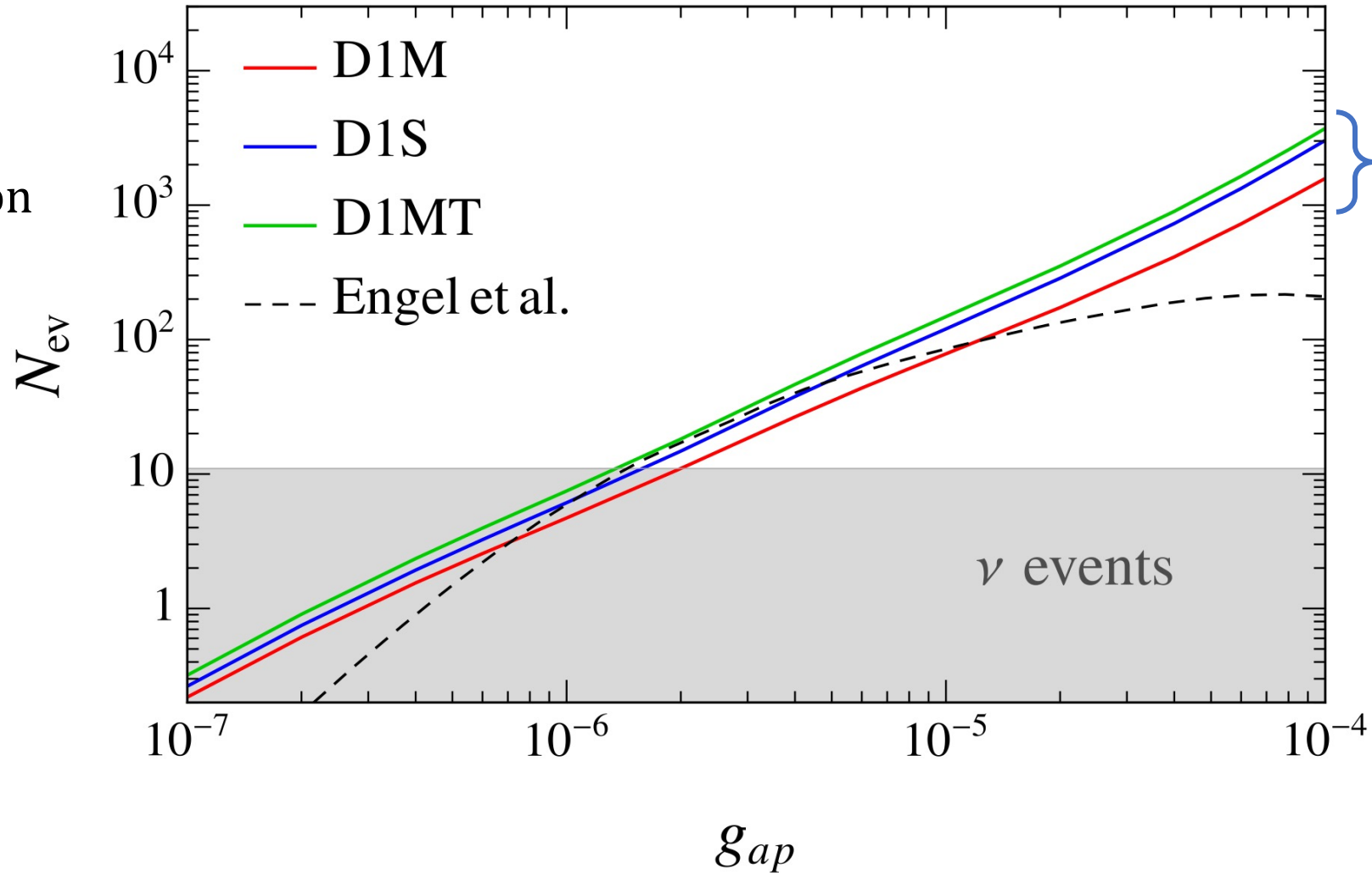


*[P. Carenza, G. Co',
 M. Giannotti, AL, G. Lucente,
 A. Mirizzi, T. Rauscher,
 Phys. Rev. C 109 (2024) 1]*

Events number in Kamiokande-II

$$N_{\text{ev}} = F_a \otimes \sigma \otimes \mathcal{R} \otimes \mathcal{E}$$

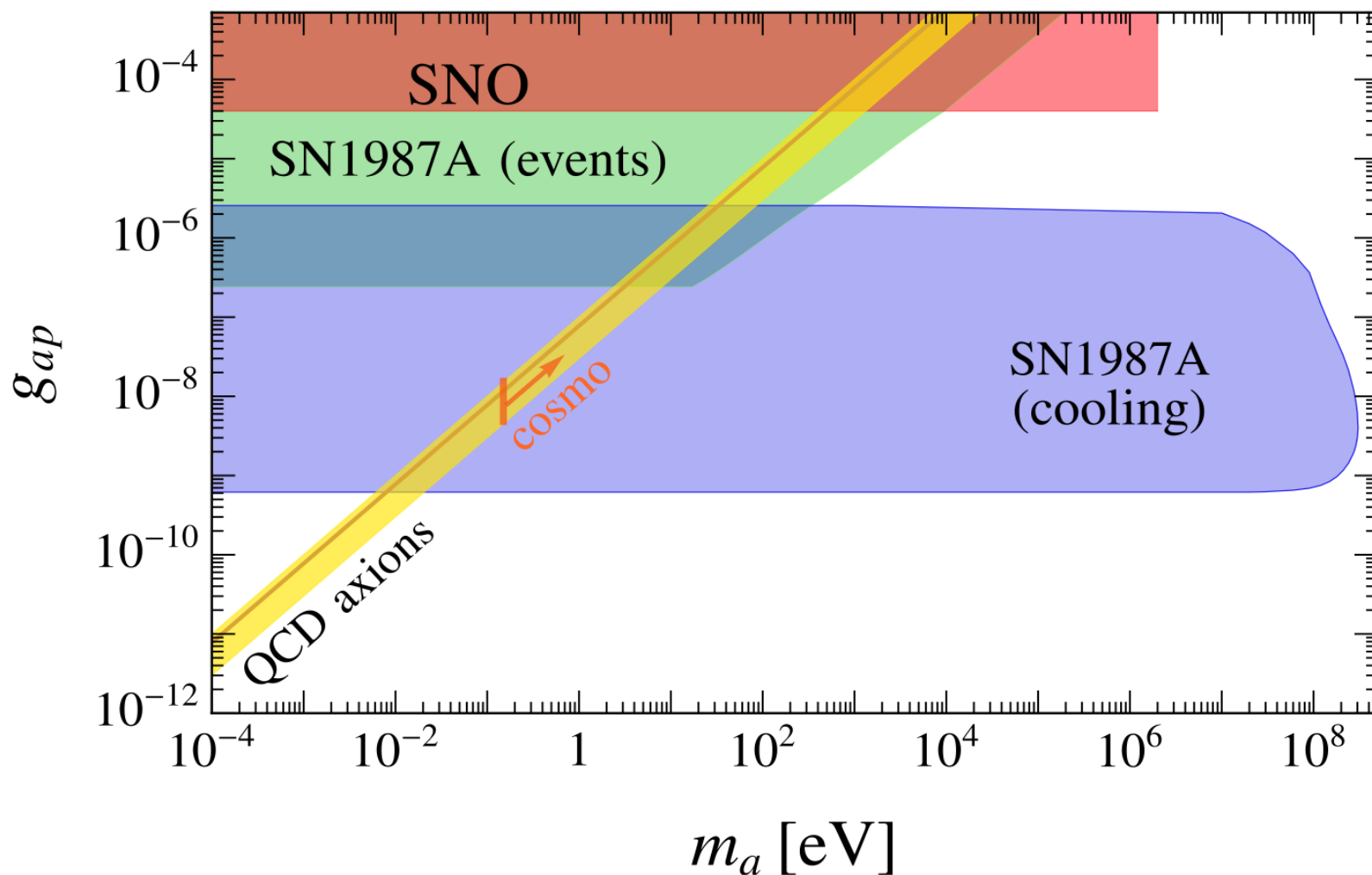
$M_{KII} \sim 2.4 \text{ kton}$



Axion events from SN 1987A

No excess in the background of K-II around SN 1987A event ($\bar{n}_{bkg} \simeq 0.02$ events/s)

[Kamiokande Coll., Phys. Rev. Lett. 58 (1987) 1490].



*[AL & al.,
Phys. Rev. D 109 (2024) 2]*

*[P. Carenza, G. Co', M. Giannotti, AL, G.
Lucente, A. Mirizzi, T. Rauscher,
Phys. Rev. C 109 (2024) 1]*

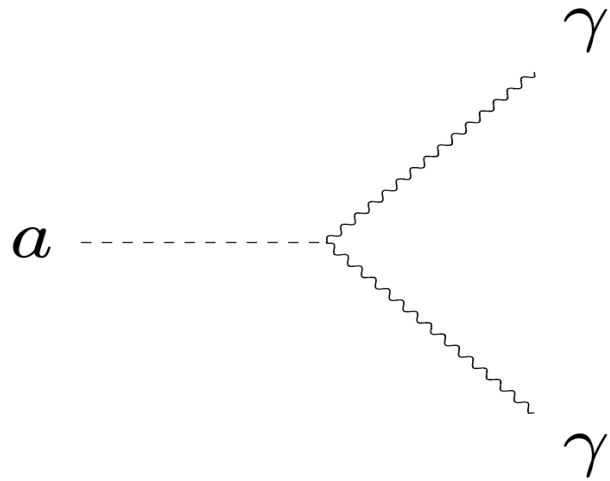
Observable signatures from decays

$$[m_a \sim \mathcal{O}(10)MeV]$$

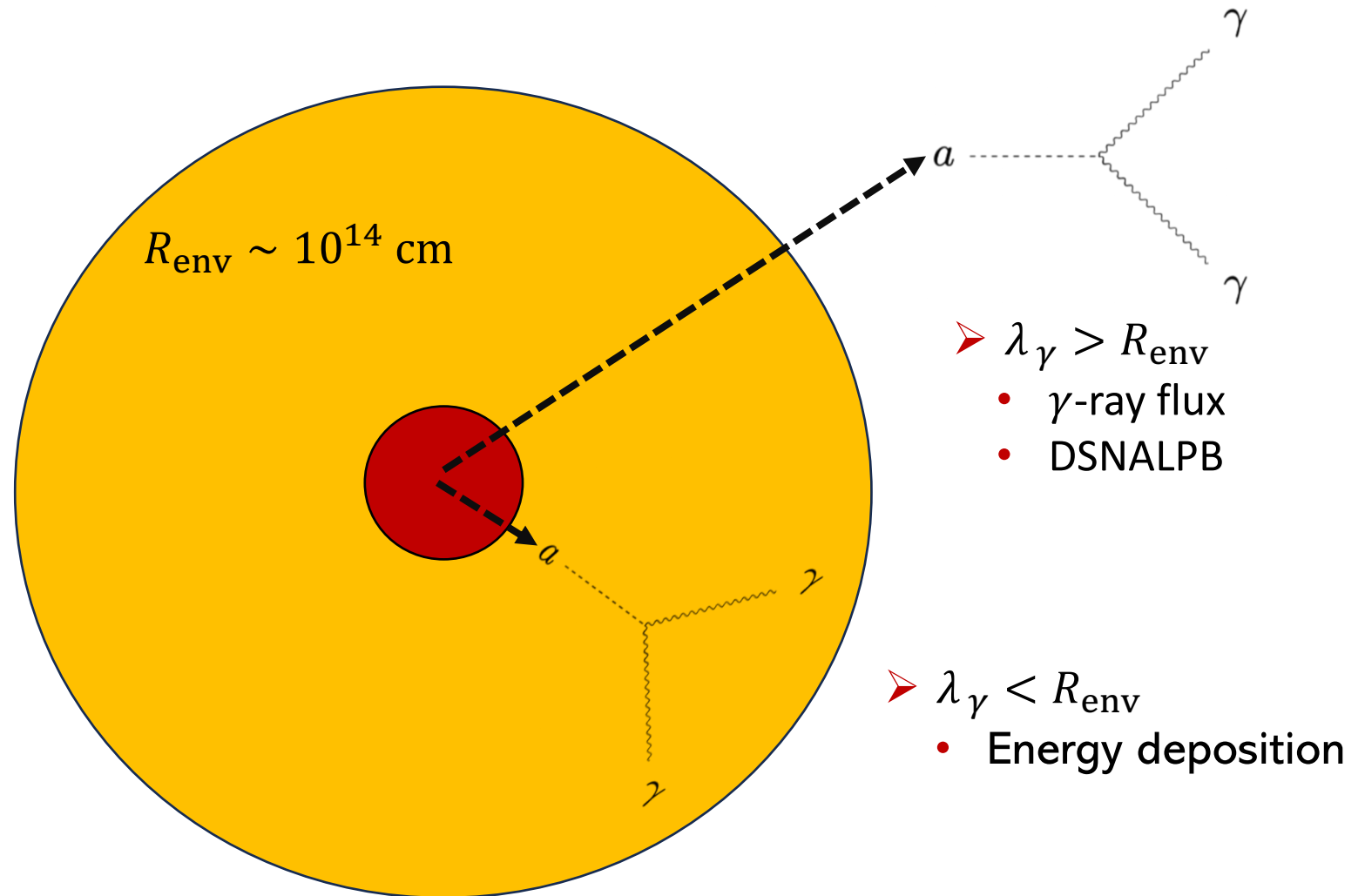
ALP decays

After being produced in the core, massive ALPs could decay into photon pairs.

$$\mathcal{L}_{a\gamma} = -\frac{1}{4}g_{a\gamma}F_{\mu\nu}\tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}a$$

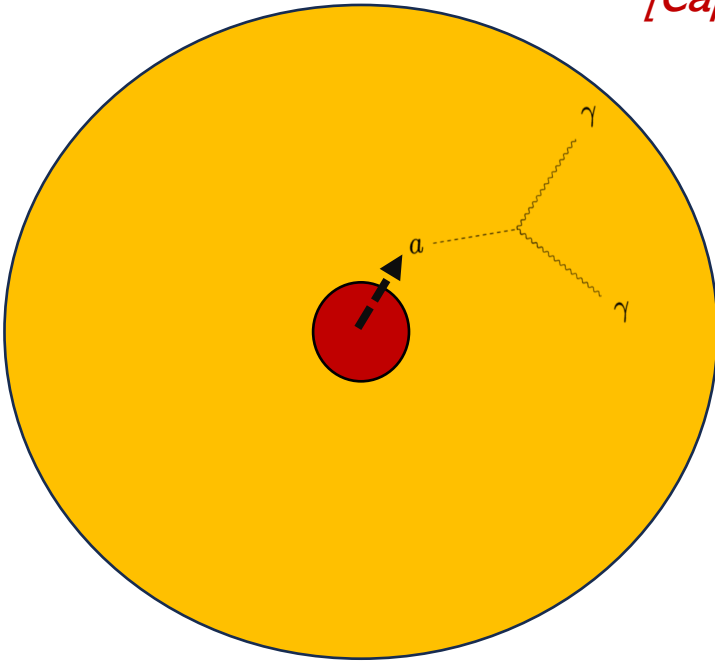


$$\Gamma_{a\gamma\gamma} = g_{a\gamma}^2 \frac{m_a^3}{64\pi}$$



Energy deposition

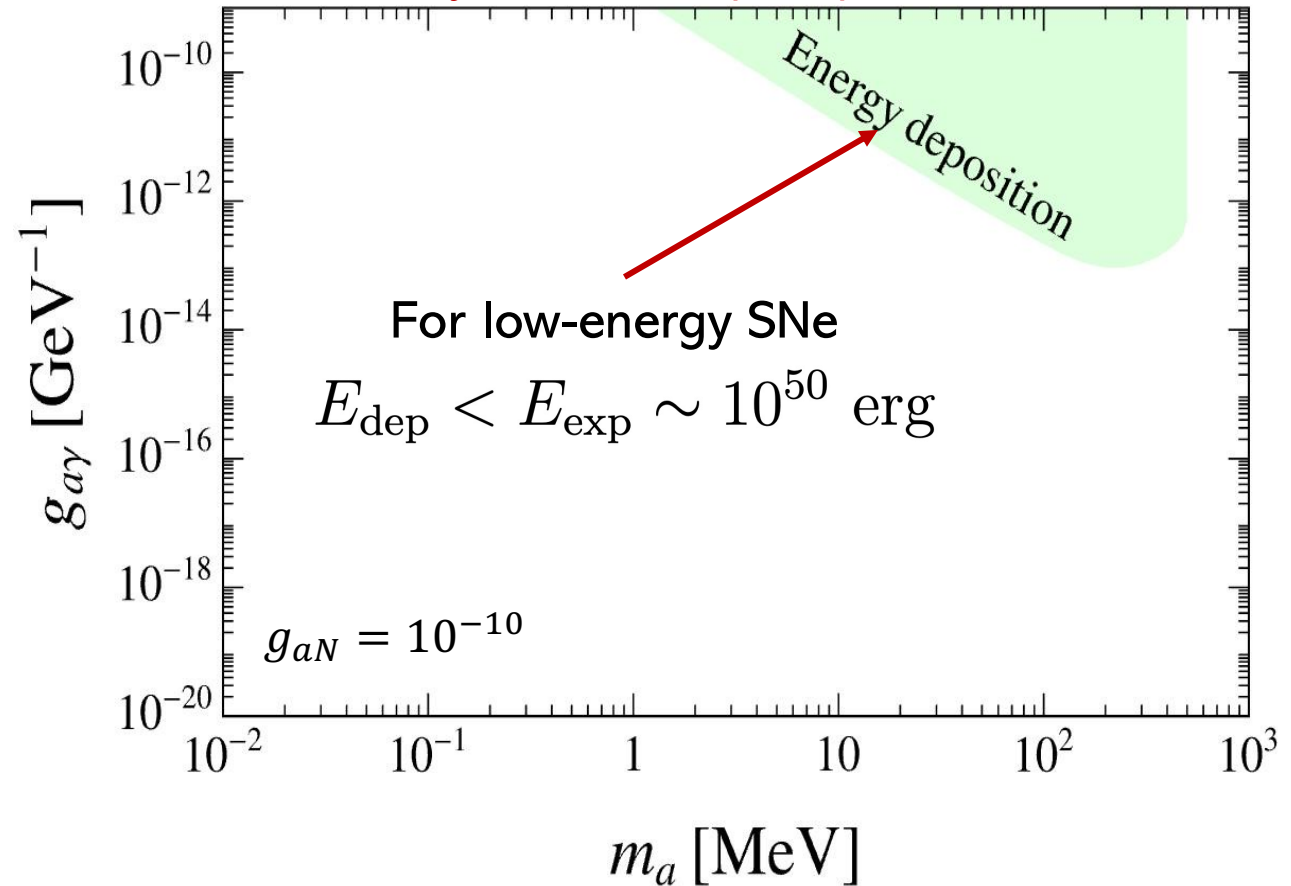
[Caputo et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 128 (2022)]



ALPs decaying inside the SN envelope would deposit energy in the mantle

$$E_{\text{dep}} = \int dt \int_0^{R_{\text{PNS}}} dr 4\pi r^2 \int_0^\infty d\omega_a \omega_a \frac{dn_a}{d\omega_a dt} \times \left[e^{-(R_{\text{PNS}}-r)/\lambda_\gamma} - e^{-(R_{\text{env}}-r)/\lambda_\gamma} \right]$$

AL & al., Phys. Rev. D 107 (2023)



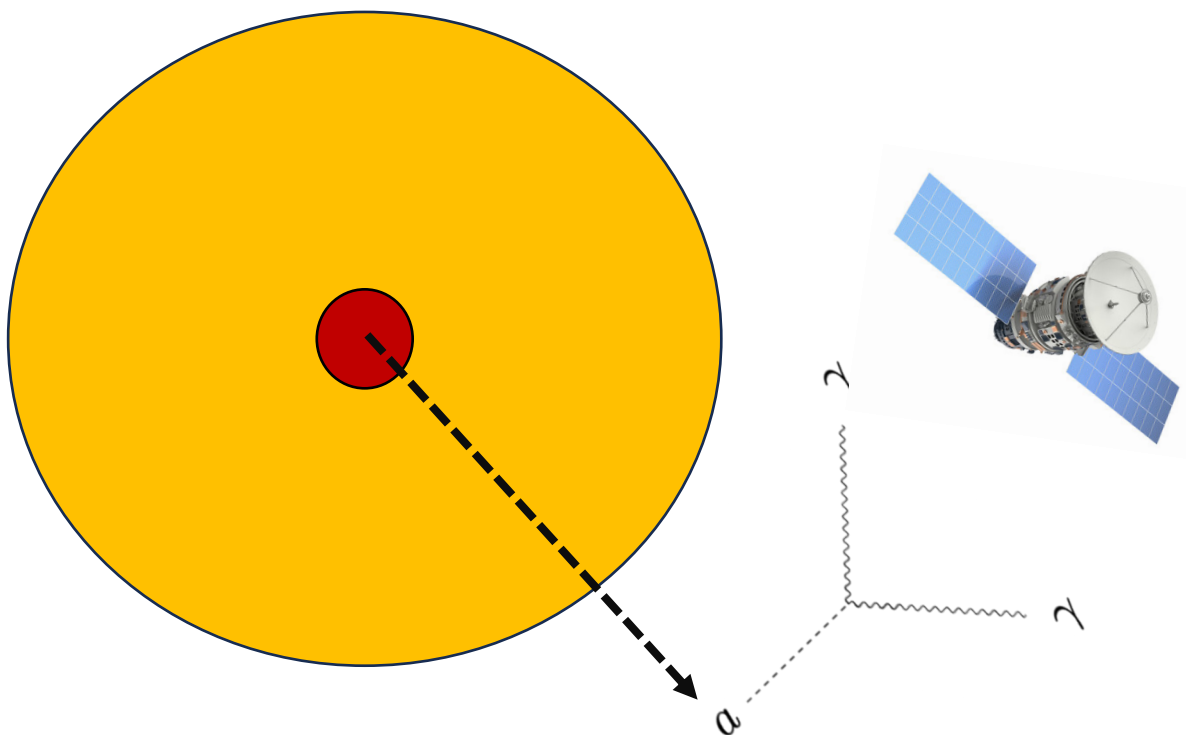
γ -ray bursts from SNe

[Jaeckel et al., Phys. Rev. D 98 (2018)]

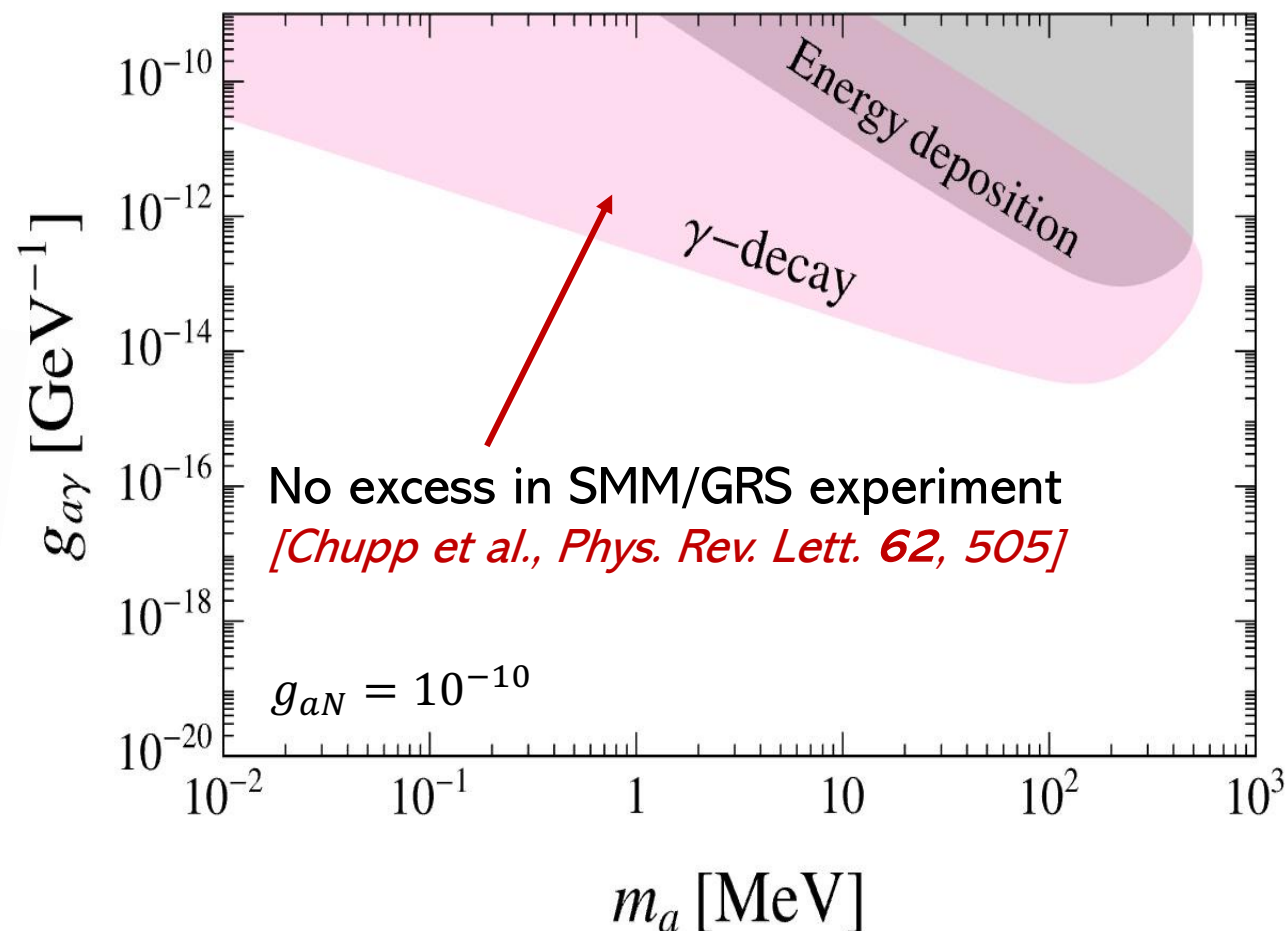
[Hoof & Schulz, JCAP 03 (2023) 054]

[Ravensburg et al., JCAP 07 (2023) 056]

ALPs decaying outside the SN envelope produce an additional photon flux



AL & al., Phys. Rev. D 107 (2023)



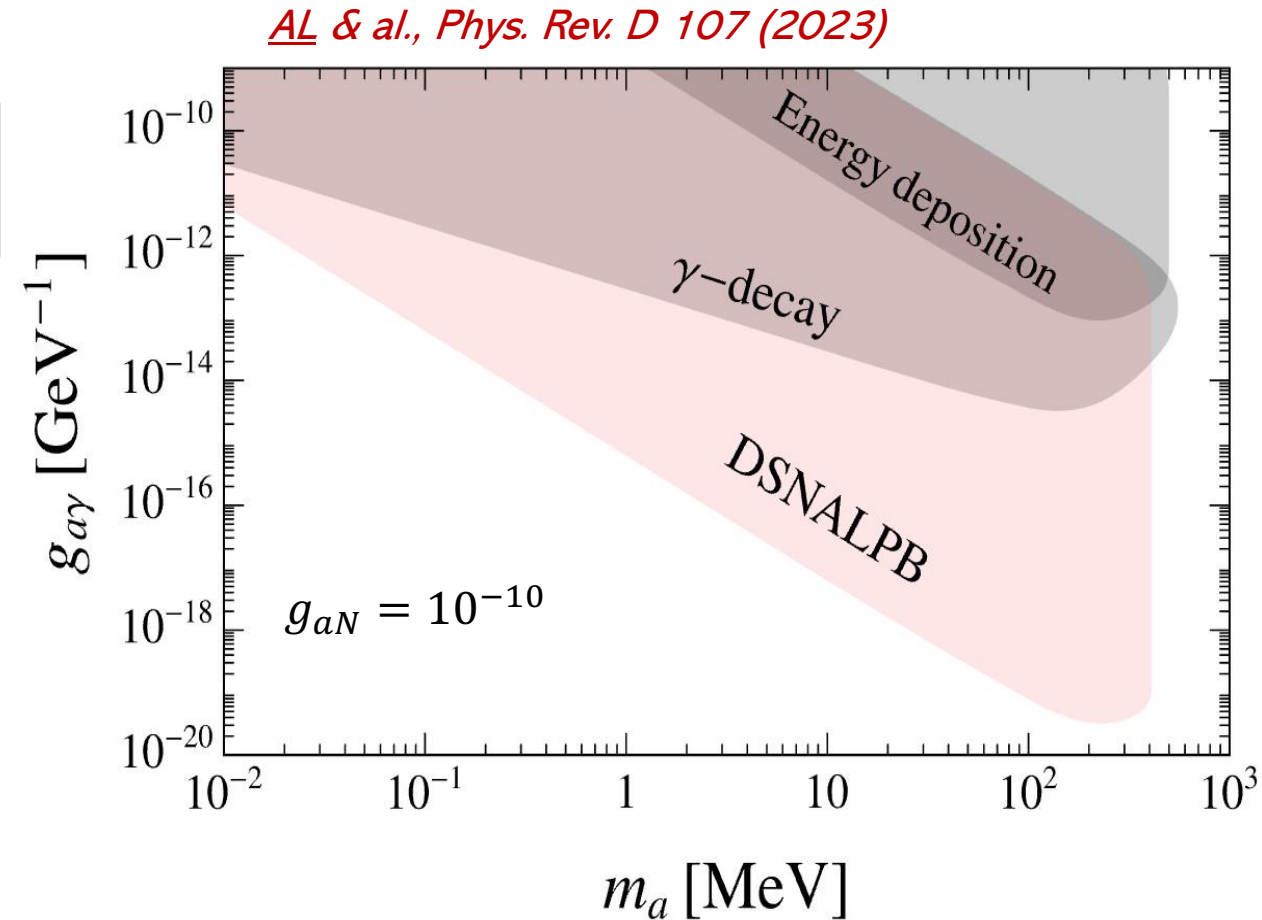
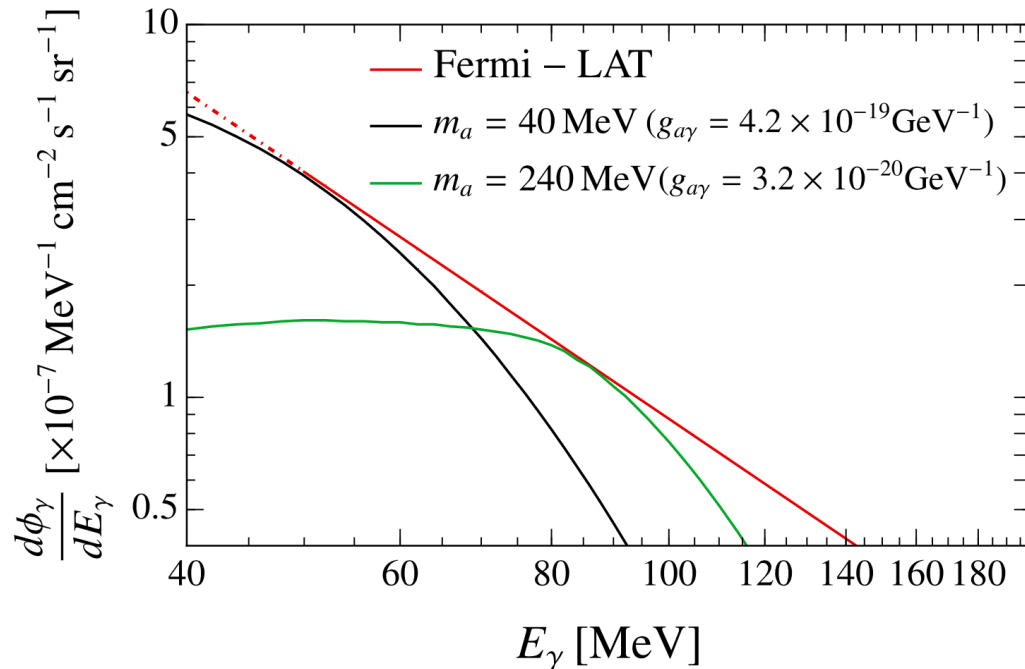
DSNALPB

[Beacom et al., Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 60 (2010)]

[Calore et al., Phys. Rev. D 102 (2020)]

ALPs emitted during all the past SN explosion could have given rise to a diffuse ALP background

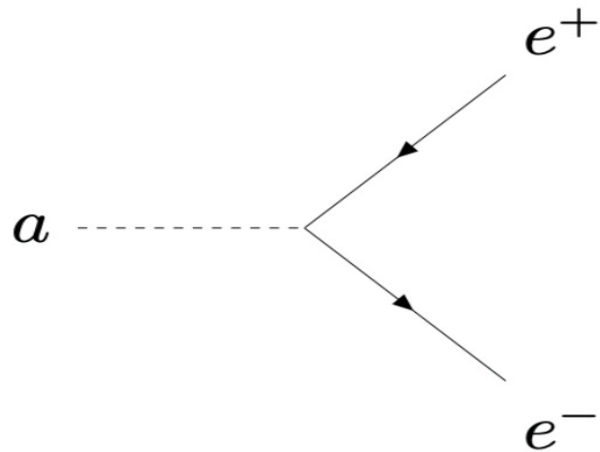
$$\frac{d\phi_{\gamma}^{\text{dif}}}{dE_{\gamma}} = \int_0^{\infty} (1+z) \frac{dN_{\gamma}(E_{\gamma}(1+z))}{dE_{\gamma}} [R_{SN}(z)] \left[\left| \frac{dt}{dz} \right| dz \right]$$



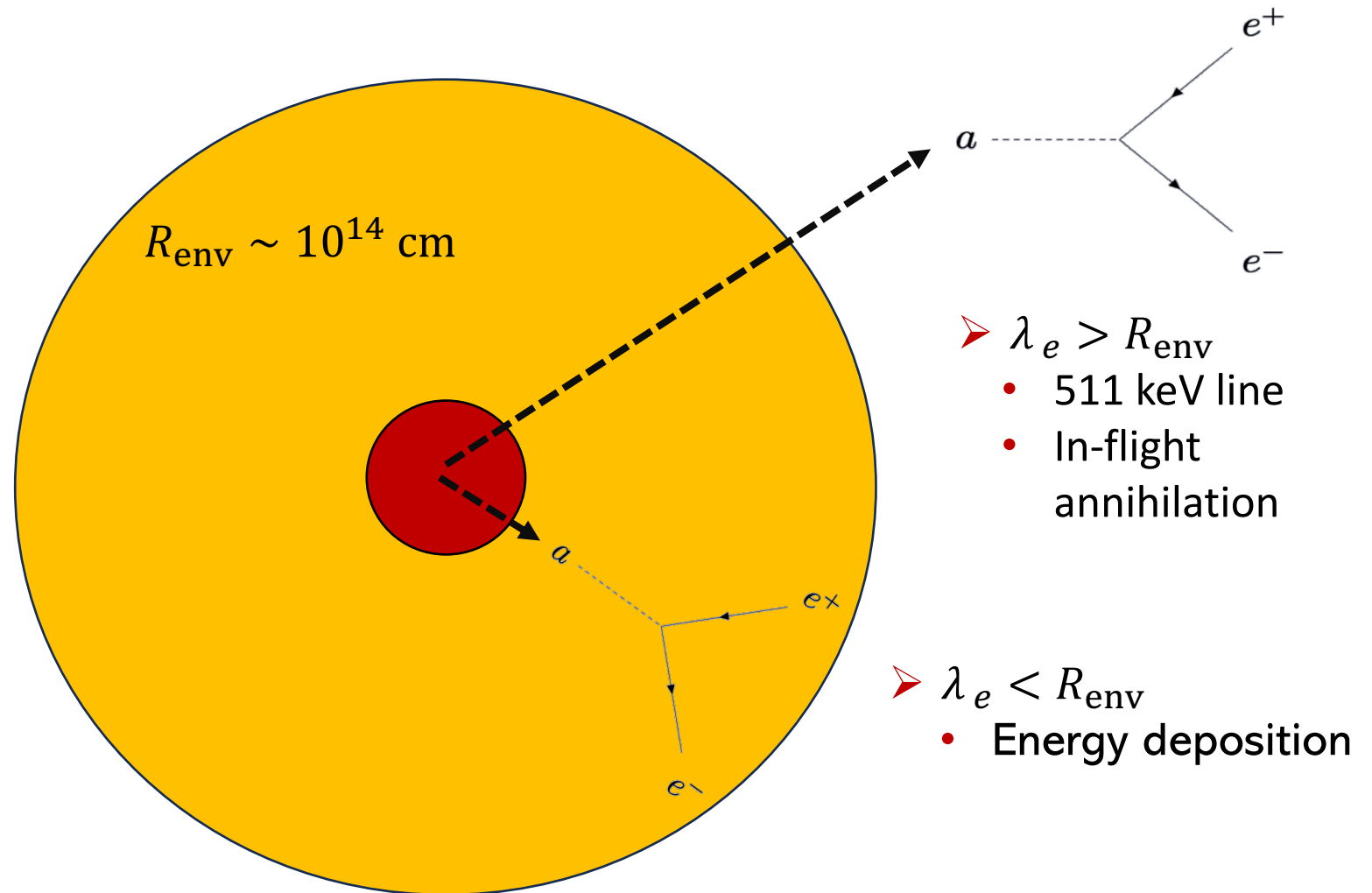
ALP decays

After being produced in the core, massive ALPs could decay into lepton pairs.

$$\mathcal{L}_{ae} = \frac{g_{ae}}{2m_e} (\bar{e} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 e) \partial^\mu a$$



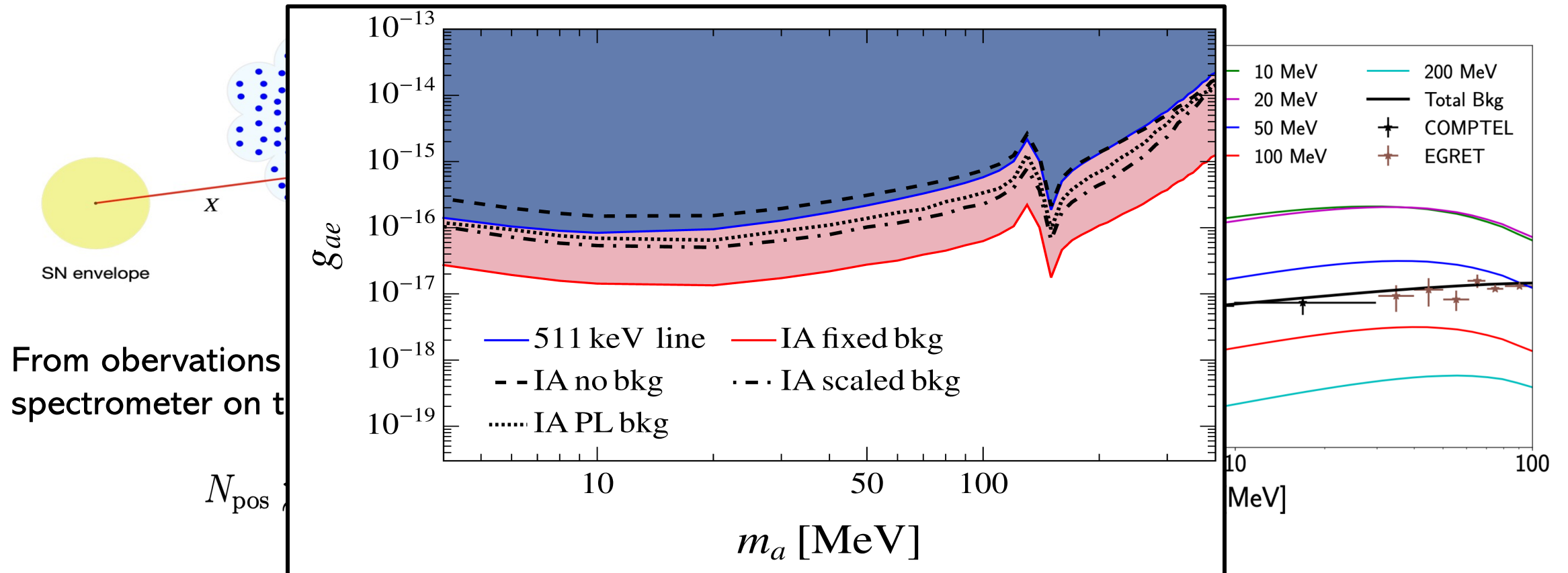
$$\lambda_e = \frac{8\pi}{g_{ae}^2 m_a} \sqrt{\frac{E_a^2 - m_a^2}{m_a^2 - 4m_e^2}}$$



ALP decays

ALP decaying in electrons may inject positrons in the intergalactic medium.

- Positrons annihilating at rest give contributions to the 511 keV signal
- Positrons annihilating in-flight may give rise to a diffuse bkg of soft gamma-rays

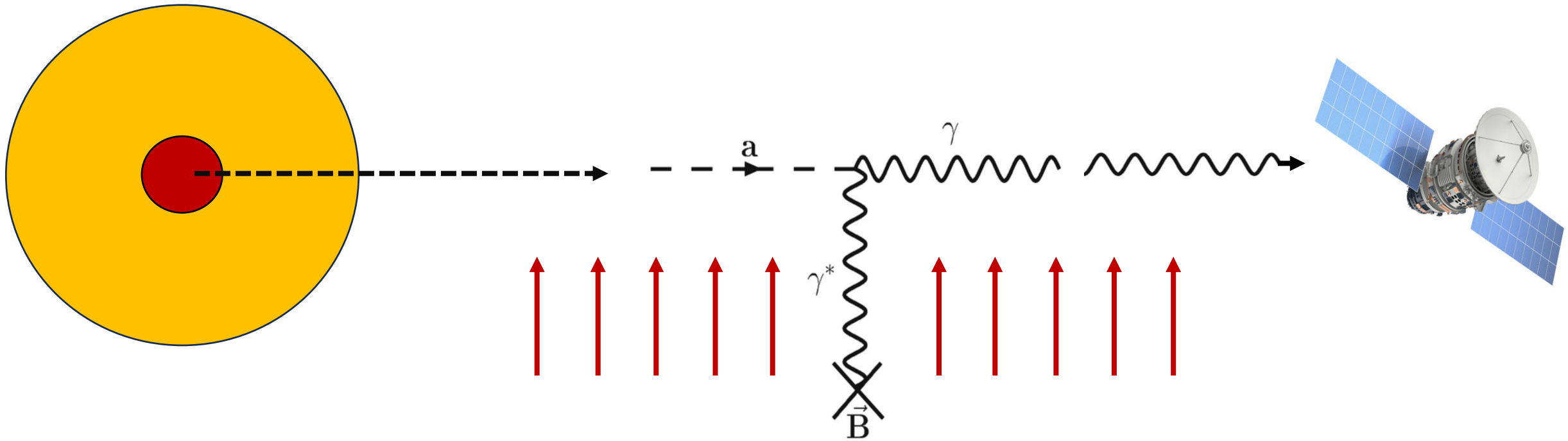


Observable signatures from conversions

$$[m_a < \mathcal{O}(1) \text{ neV}]$$

ALP conversions in B fields

Ultra-light ALPs can convert into photons in Galactic Magnetic fields



ALP conversions in B fields

Ultra-light ALPs can convert into photons in Galactic Magnetic fields

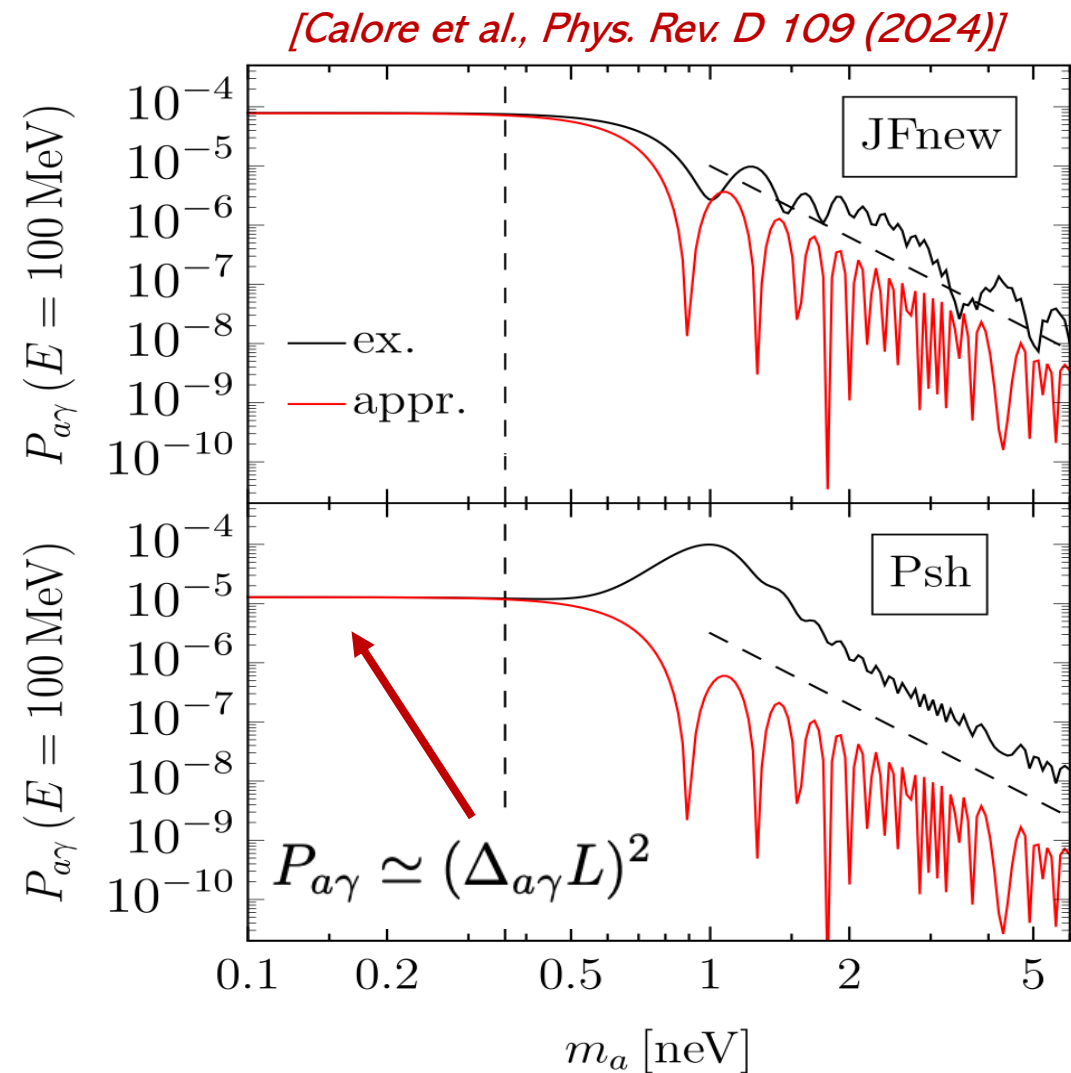
$$P_{a\gamma} = (\Delta_{a\gamma} L)^2 \frac{\sin^2(\Delta_{\text{osc}} L/2)}{(\Delta_{\text{osc}} L/2)^2}$$

$$\Delta_{\text{osc}} \equiv [(\Delta_a - \Delta_{\text{pl}})^2 + 4\Delta_{a\gamma}^2]^{1/2}$$

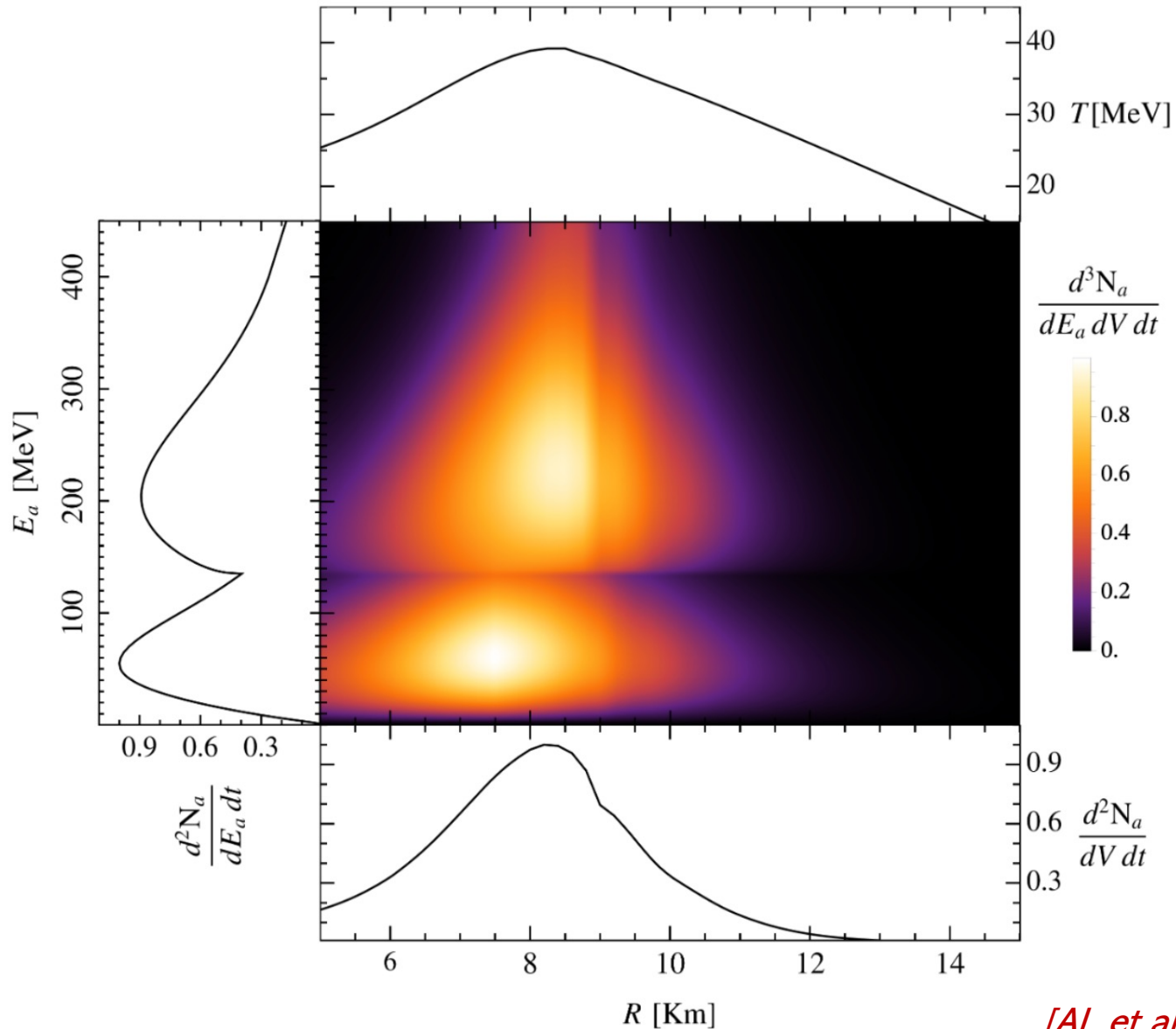
$$\Delta_{a\gamma} \simeq 1.5 \times 10^{-3} \left(\frac{g_{a\gamma}}{10^{-12} \text{ GeV}^{-1}} \right) \left(\frac{B_T}{10^{-6} \text{ G}} \right) \text{ kpc}^{-1},$$

$$\Delta_a \simeq -7.8 \times 10^{-5} \left(\frac{m_a}{10^{-11} \text{ eV}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{E}{100 \text{ MeV}} \right)^{-1} \text{ kpc}^{-1},$$

$$\Delta_{\text{pl}} \simeq -7.8 \times 10^{-7} \left(\frac{\omega_{\text{pl}}}{10^{-12} \text{ eV}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{E}{100 \text{ MeV}} \right)^{-1} \text{ kpc}^{-1}.$$



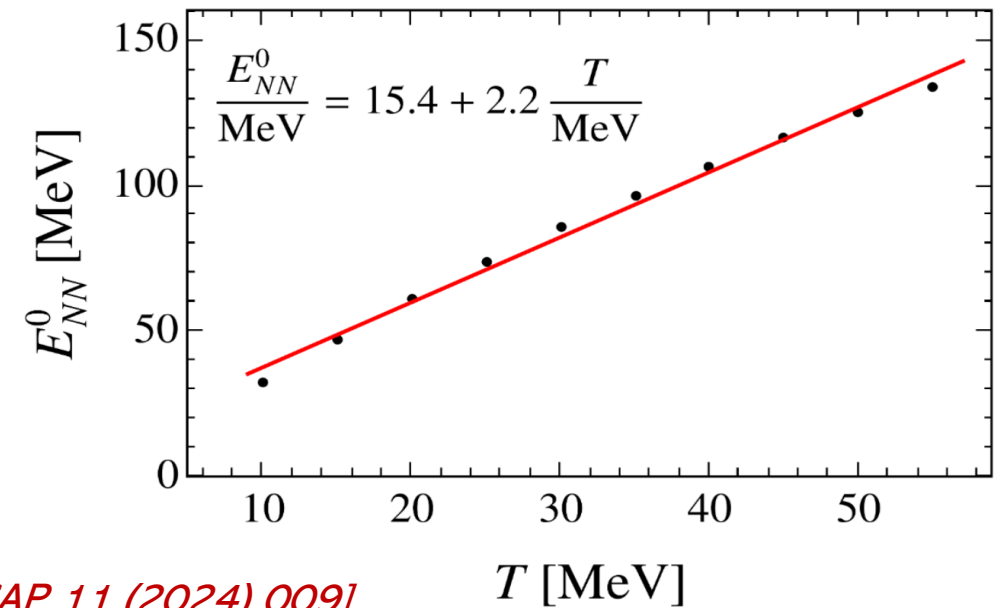
ALPs as messengers of PNS



ALPs can provide a lot of information about the PNS

$$\left(\frac{d^2 N_a}{dE_a dt} \right)_{NN} \propto \left(\frac{E_a}{E_{NN}^0} \right)^{\beta_{NN}} \exp \left[-(\beta_{NN} + 1) \frac{E_a}{E_{NN}^0} \right]$$

$$\left(\frac{d^2 N_a}{dE_a dt} \right)_{\pi N} \propto \left(\frac{E_a - \omega_c}{E_{\pi N}^0} \right)^{\beta_{\pi N}} \exp \left[-(\beta_{\pi N} + 1) \frac{E_a - \omega_c}{E_{\pi N}^0} \right]$$

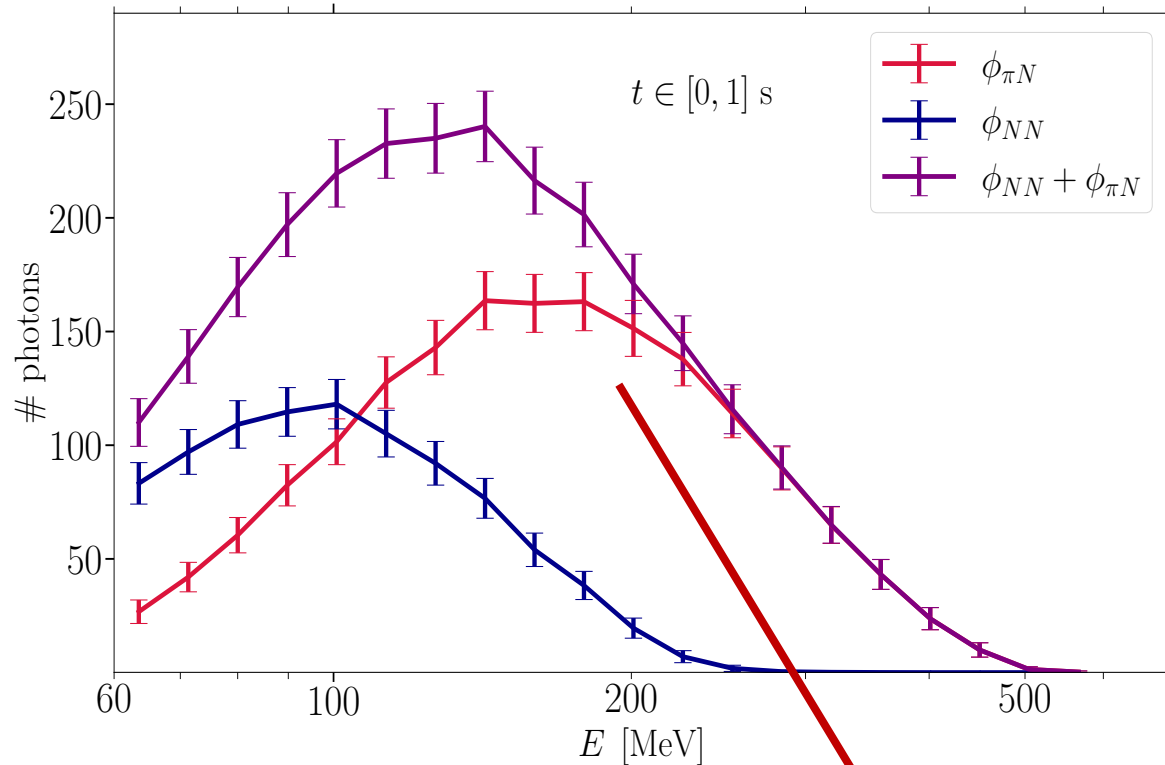


[AL et al., JCAP 11 (2024) 009]

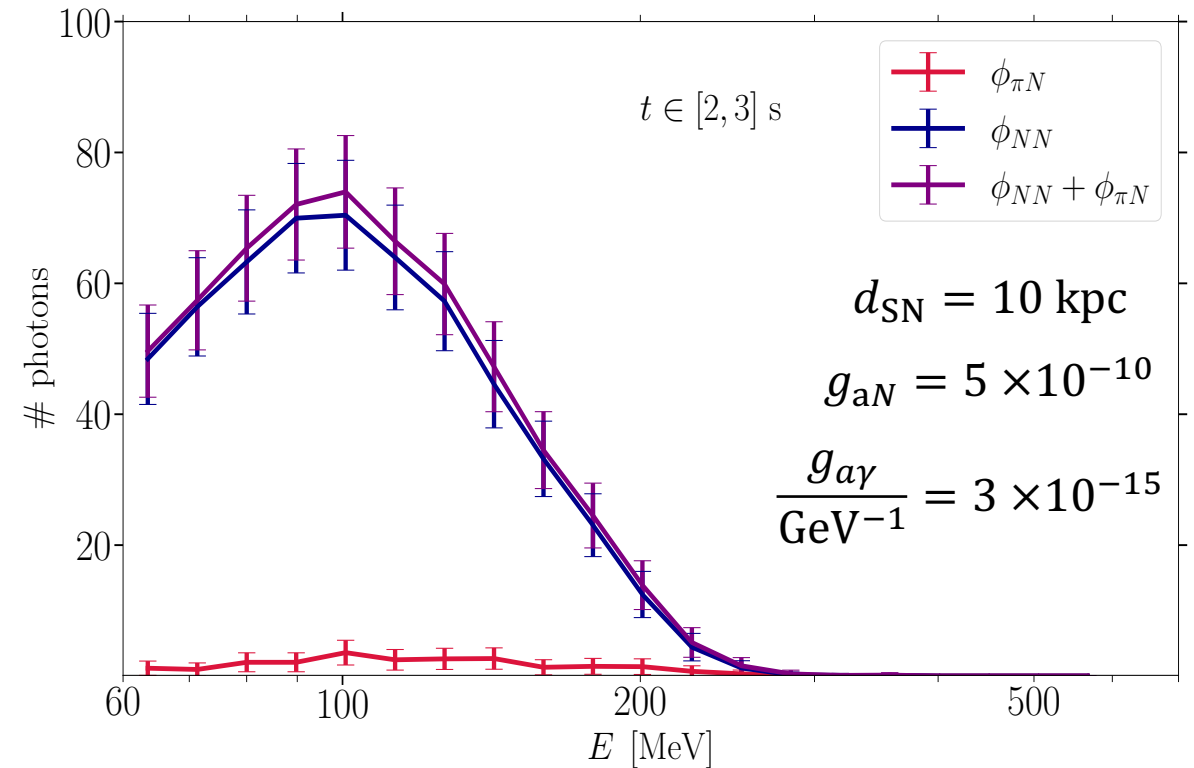
Fermi-LAT reconstruction of the signal

The ALP induced gamma-ray burst might be detected by the Fermi-LAT experiment

[AL et al., JCAP 11 (2024) 009]



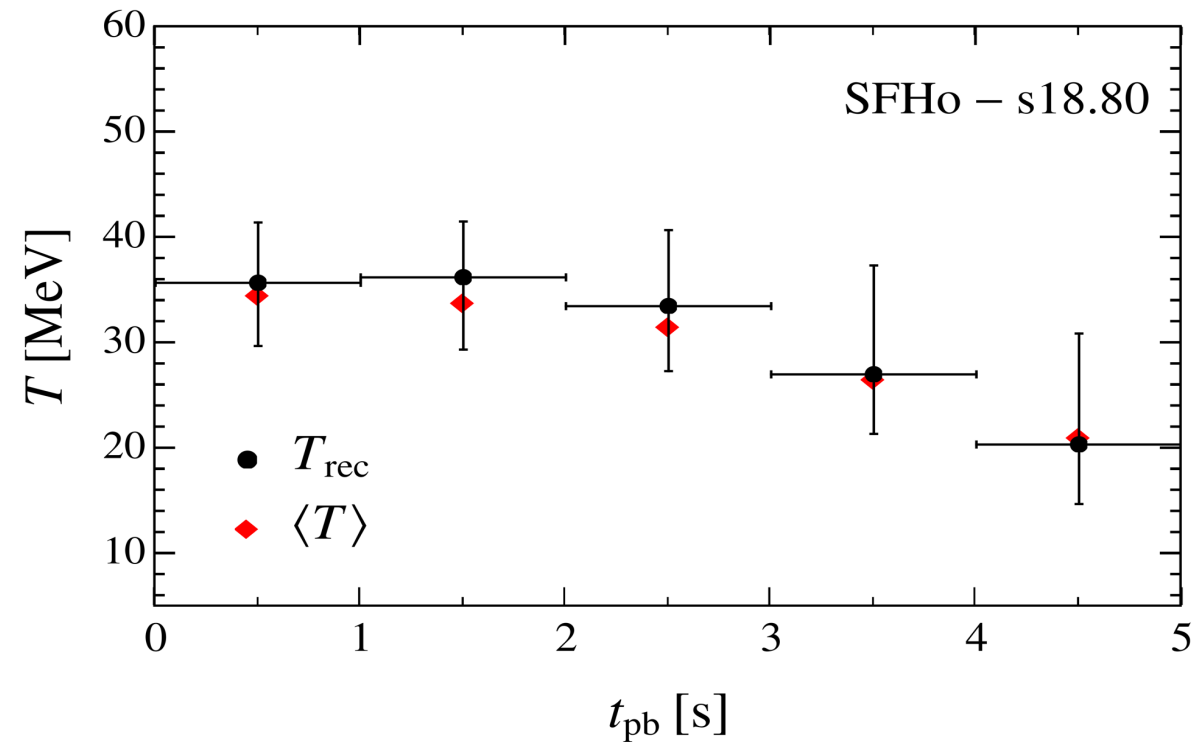
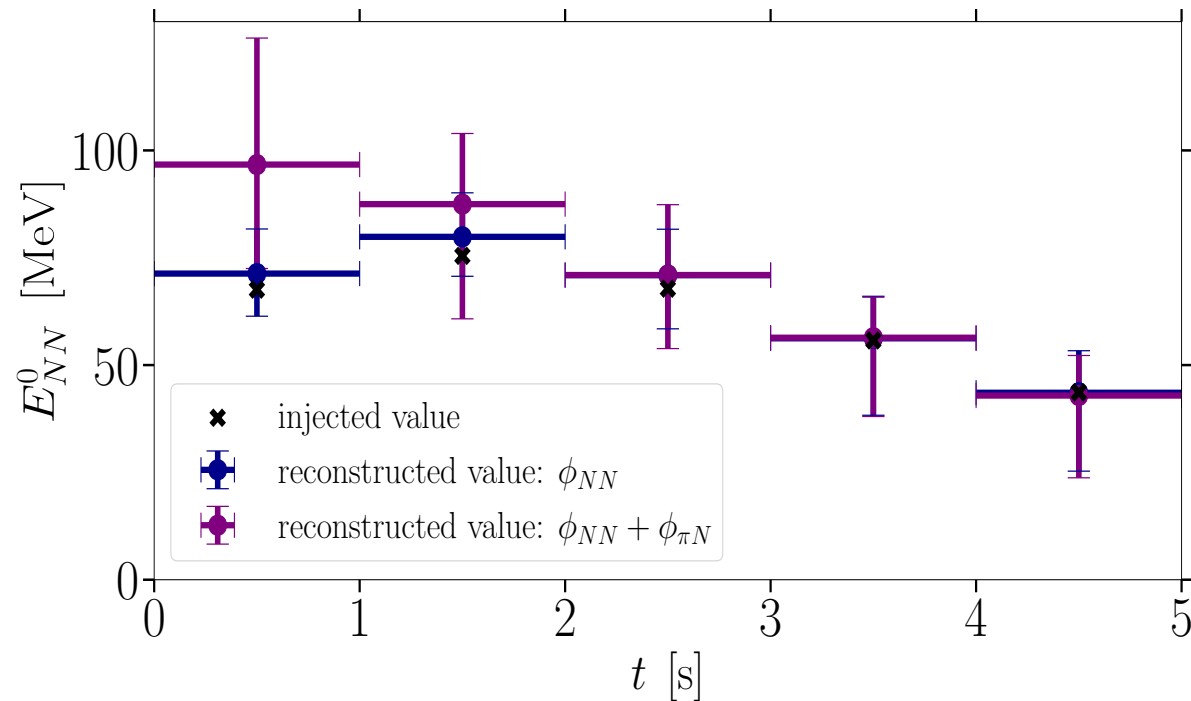
Evidence for the presence of pions in the core



Suppression of πN peak at $t_{pb} > 2$ s.

Fermi-LAT reconstruction of the signal

From parameter reconstruction one can estimate the average PNS temperature with high precision



[AL et al., JCAP 11 (2024) 009]

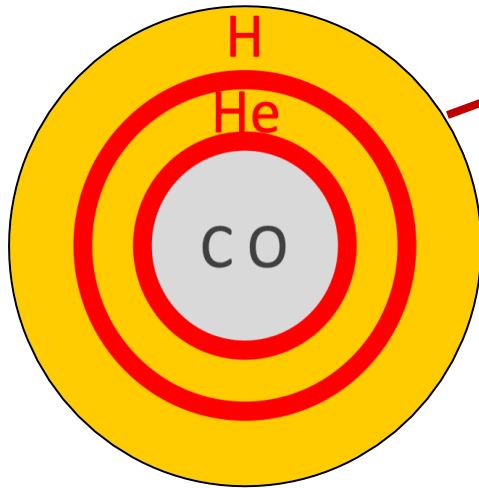
Take-home messages

- Because of the extreme conditions in the interior of the core, SNe are a powerful source of FIPs
- Axions and ALPs might be copiously produced in nuclear processes inside the SN core
- Observations of SN 1987A neutrino burst severely constrain ALP production mechanism
- A vast phenomenology for ALPs coupled with photons and electrons.
- What could we learn about SN conditions?

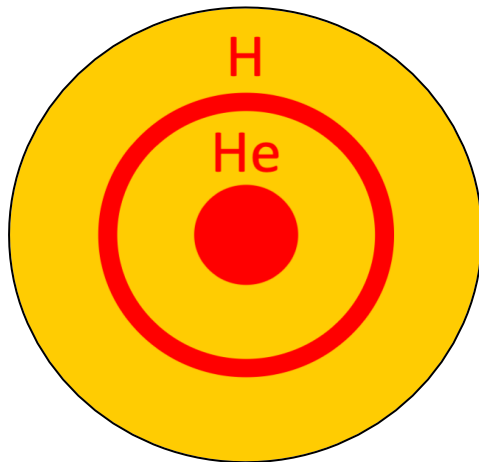
A night sky with the Milky Way galaxy visible, a silhouette of a tree in the foreground, and a desert landscape. The text "Thank you for your attention" is overlaid in the center.

**Thank you for your
attention**

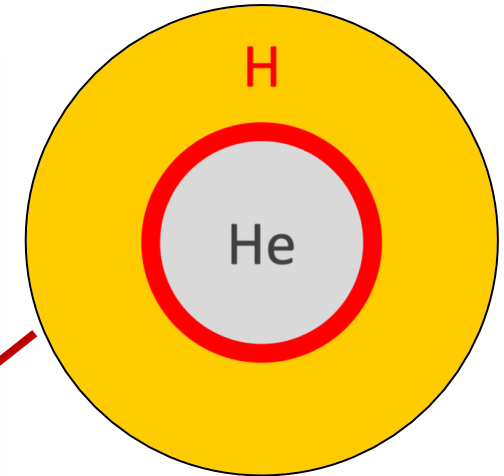
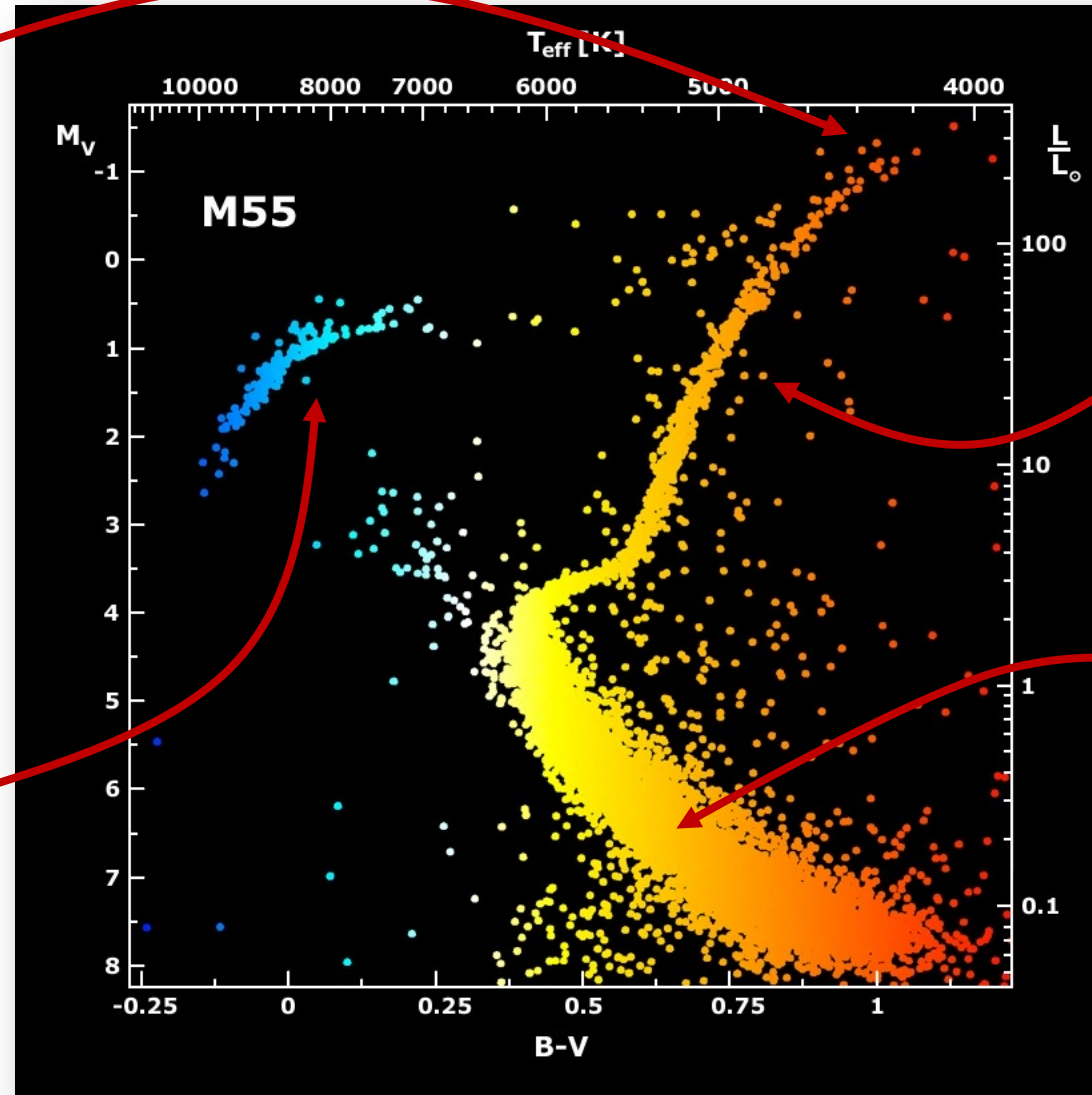
Low-mass stars ($M \leq 8M_{\odot}$)



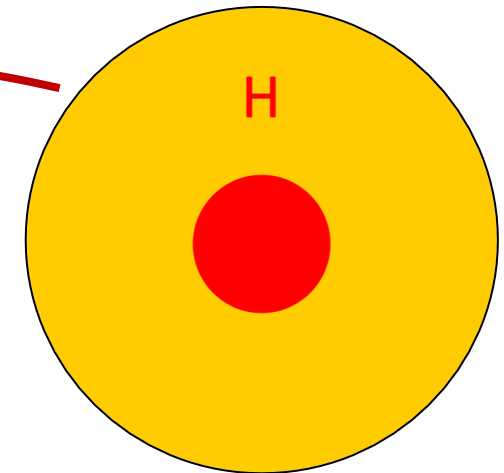
Asymptotic Giants



Horizontal Branch



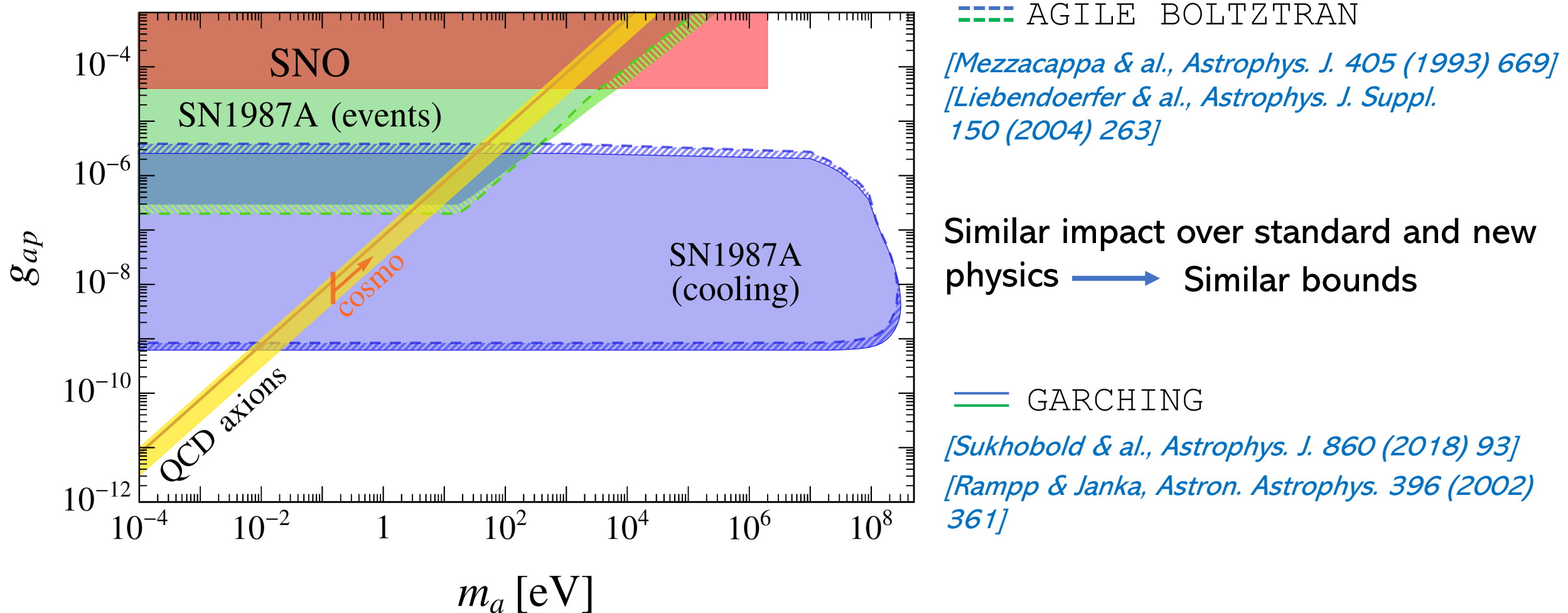
Red Giants



Main Sequence

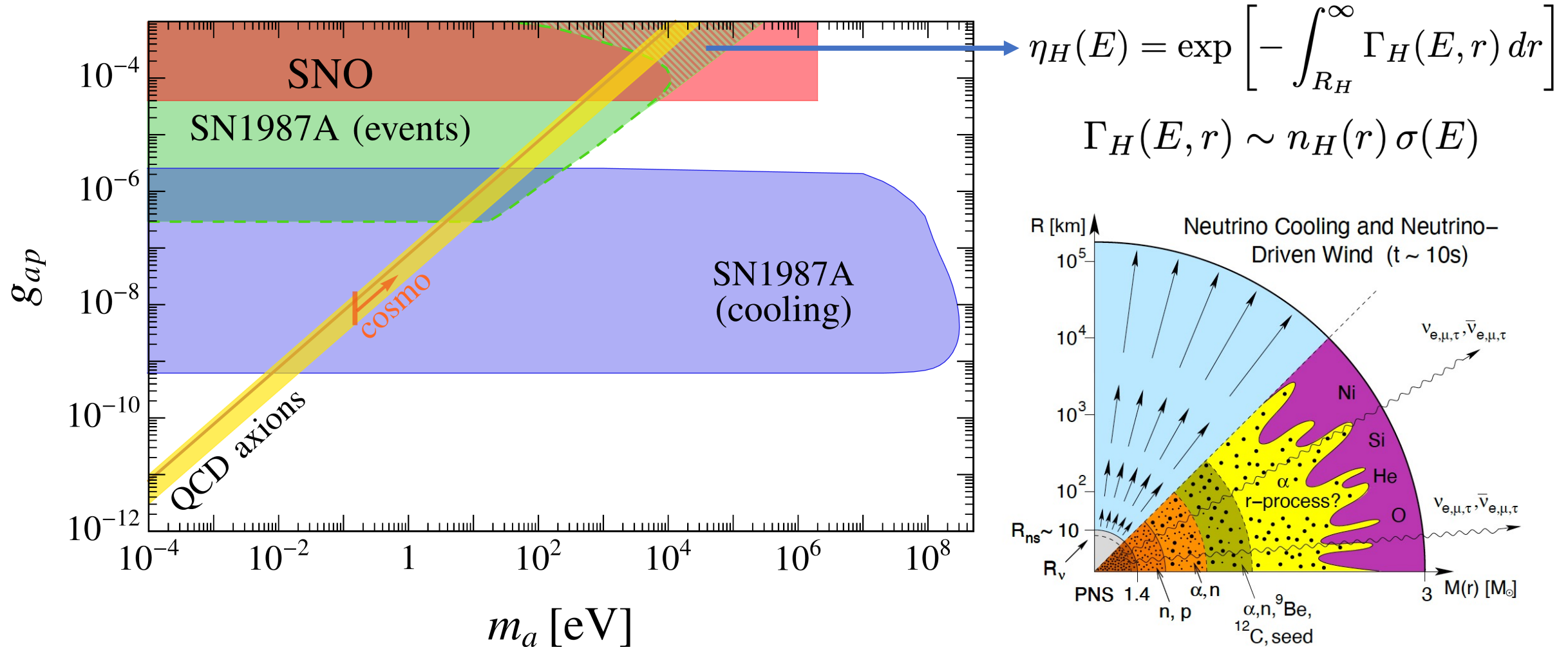
Uncertainties on SN bounds

Different SN models from same progenitors ($18.88 M_{\odot}$) show different temperature and density profiles.



Uncertainties on SN bounds

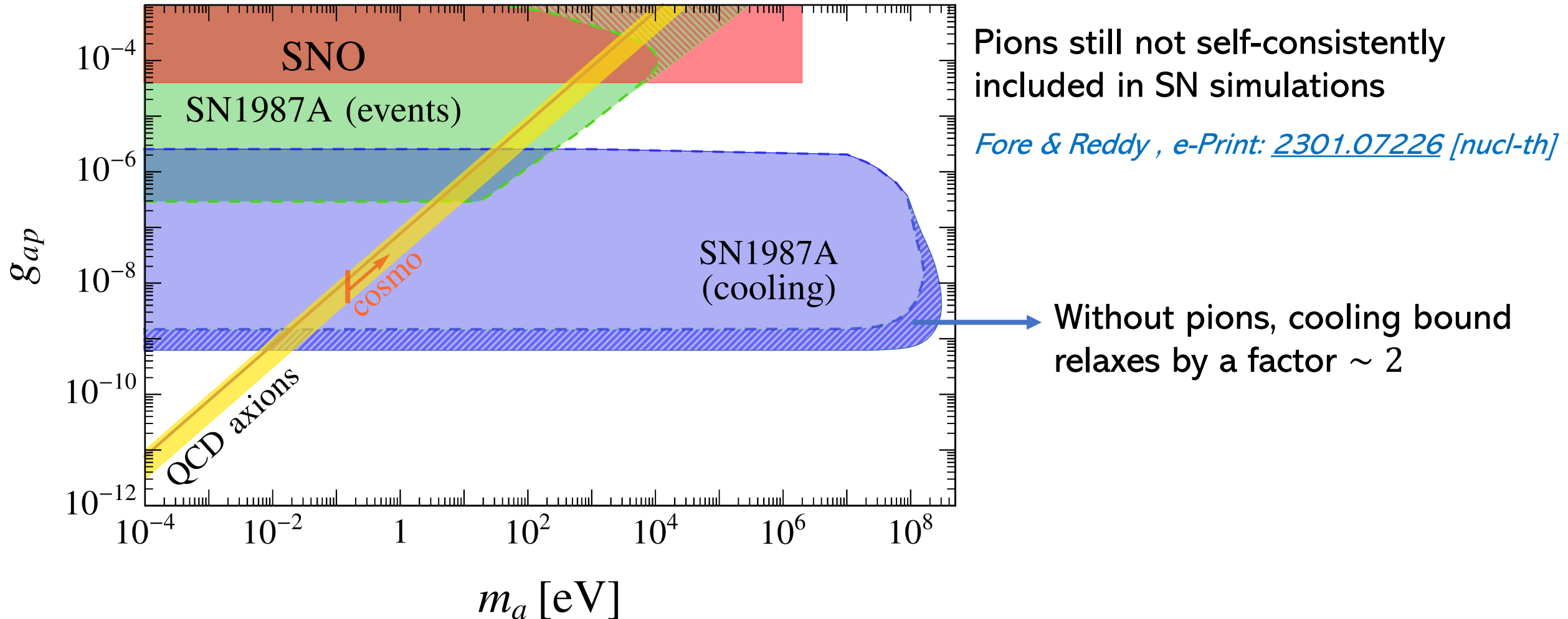
At very high couplings, escaping ALPs can be absorbed by heavy nuclei in the neutrino driven wind



Uncertainties on SN bounds

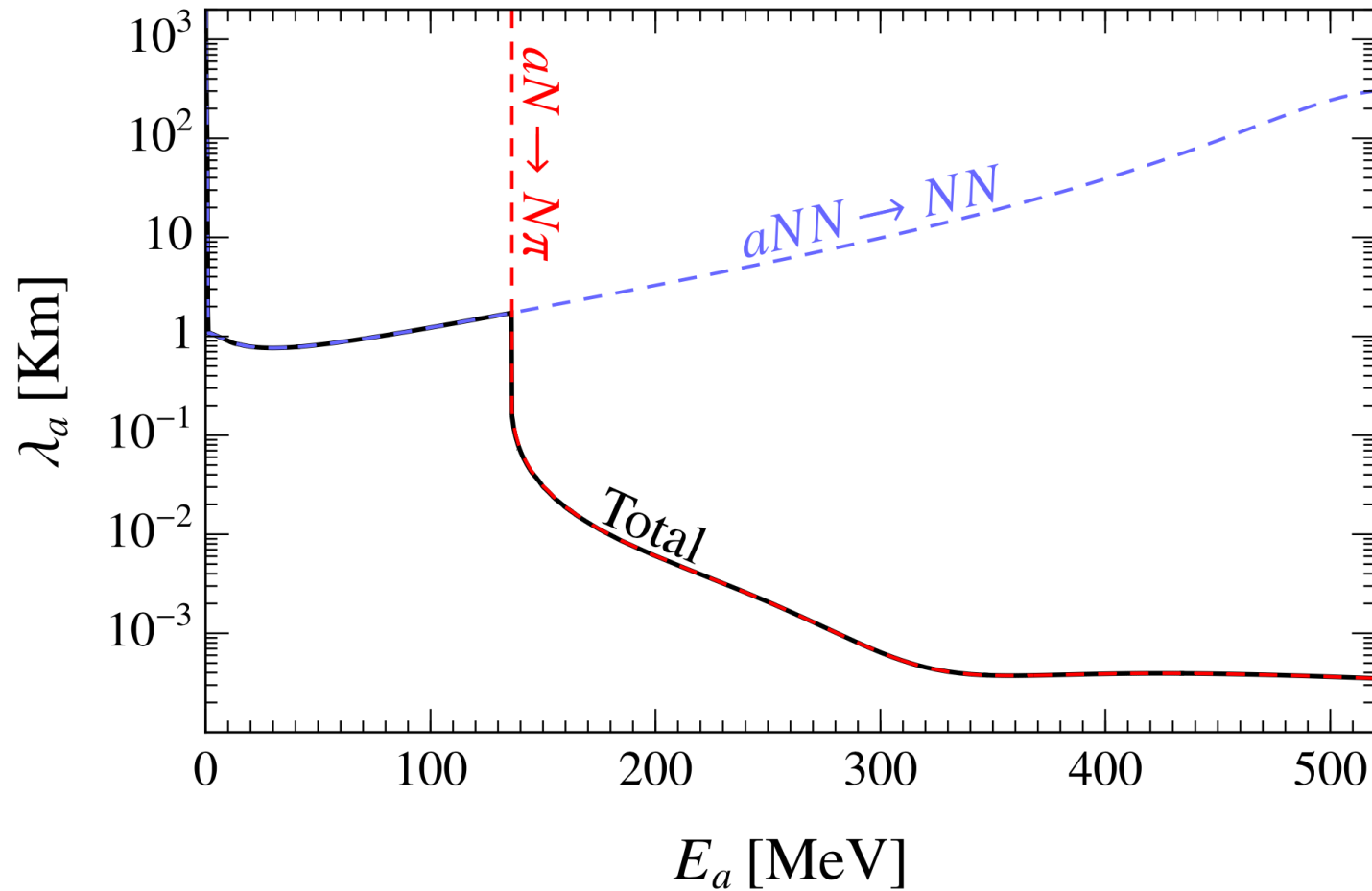
Strong interactions can enhance the pion fraction in the SN core

[Fore & Reddy, *Phys.Rev.C* 101 (2020) 3]



ALP mean free path

$$\lambda_a^{-1}(E_a) = \frac{1}{2|\mathbf{p}_a|} \frac{d^2 n_a(\chi E_a)}{d\Pi_a dt}$$



Detector resolution

- Detector energy resolution spreads detected energies around true photon energies.

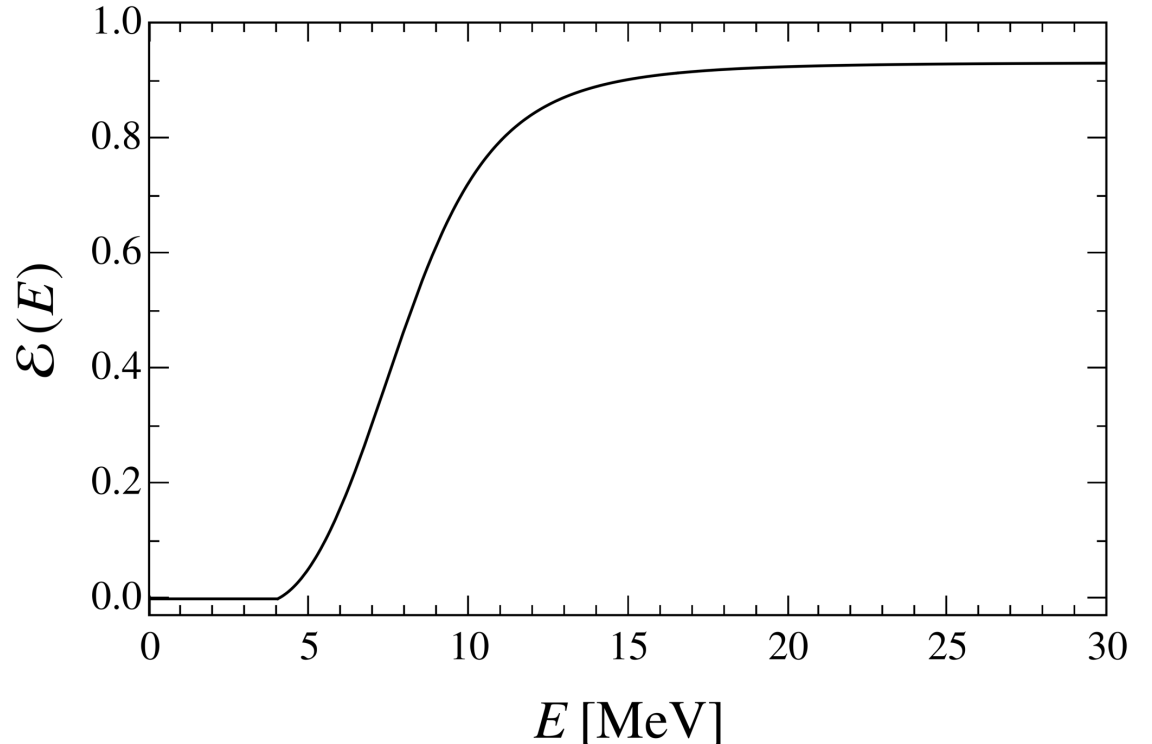
$$\mathcal{R}(E, \epsilon) = \sum_{\omega(\epsilon)} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-(E-\omega(\epsilon))^2/2\sigma^2} BR[\omega(\epsilon)]$$

where $\sigma_\gamma = \sqrt{0.6 E_\gamma(\epsilon) / \text{MeV}}$

- Detector efficiency can be modelled as
[Fiorillo et al., Phys. Rev. D 108 (2023)]

$$\mathcal{E} = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 4 \\ \frac{0.932}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{34}{12 - 7x + x^2}\right)^2}} & x \geq 4 \end{cases}$$

where $x = E / \text{MeV}$



ALP events from SN 1987A

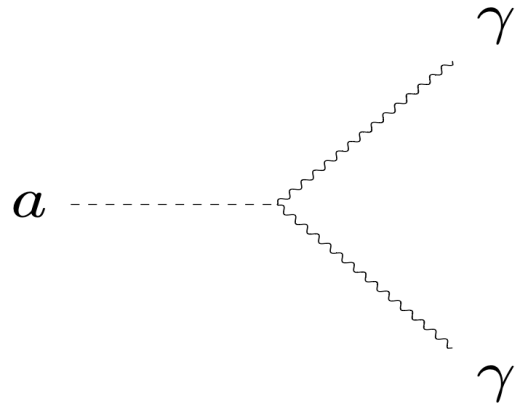
$$N_{\text{ev}} \lesssim \begin{cases} 2 \sqrt{\bar{n}_{\text{bkg}} \Delta t} & \text{if } m_a \lesssim 17 \text{ eV} \\ 2 \sqrt{\bar{n}_{\text{bkg}} \Delta t_a} & \text{if } m_a > 17 \text{ eV} \end{cases}$$

$$\Delta t \approx 12 \text{ s}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta t_a(m_a) &\approx t(E_{\text{min}}, m_a) - t(E_{\text{max}}, m_a) \\ &\approx 1.82 \text{ s} \left(\frac{m_a}{10 \text{ eV}} \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

ALP decays

- $\lambda_\gamma > R_{\text{env}}$
- γ -ray flux
- DSNALPB
- ALP basins

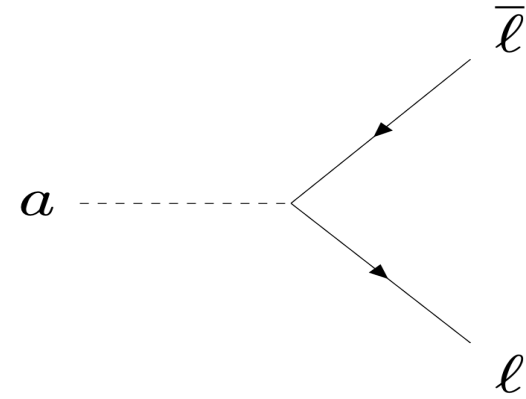


$$\lambda_\gamma = \frac{64\pi}{g_{a\gamma}^2} \frac{\sqrt{E_a^2 - m_a^2}}{m_a^4}$$

SN envelope radius $R_{\text{env}} \sim 3 \times 10^{14}$ cm

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ $\lambda_\gamma < R_{\text{env}}$ • Energy deposition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ $\lambda_\gamma > R_{\text{env}}$ • γ-ray flux • DSNALPB • ALP basins |
|--|--|

$$\mathcal{L}_{a\ell} = \sum_{\ell=e,\mu} \frac{g_{a\ell}}{2m_\ell} (\bar{\ell} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 \ell) \partial^\mu a$$



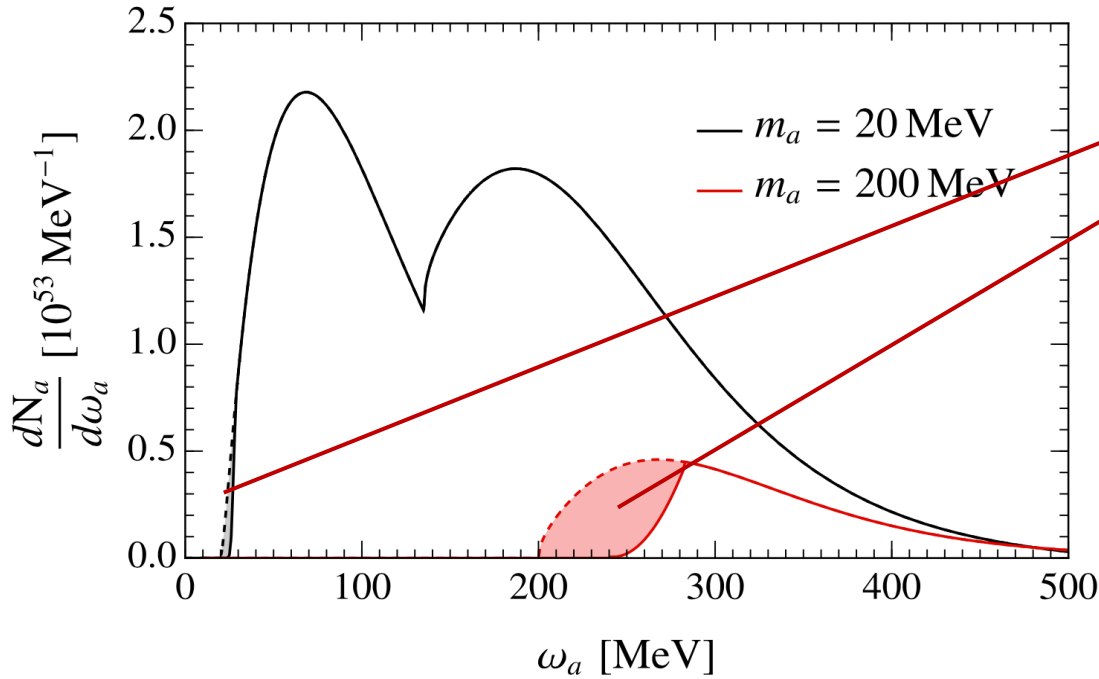
$$\lambda_\ell = \frac{8\pi}{g_{a\ell}^2 m_a} \sqrt{\frac{E_a^2 - m_a^2}{m_a^2 - 4m_\ell^2}}$$

SN envelope radius $R_{\text{env}} \sim 3 \times 10^{14}$ cm

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ $\lambda_\gamma < R_{\text{env}}$ • Energy deposition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ $\lambda_\gamma > R_{\text{env}}$ • 511 keV line • CXB |
|--|--|

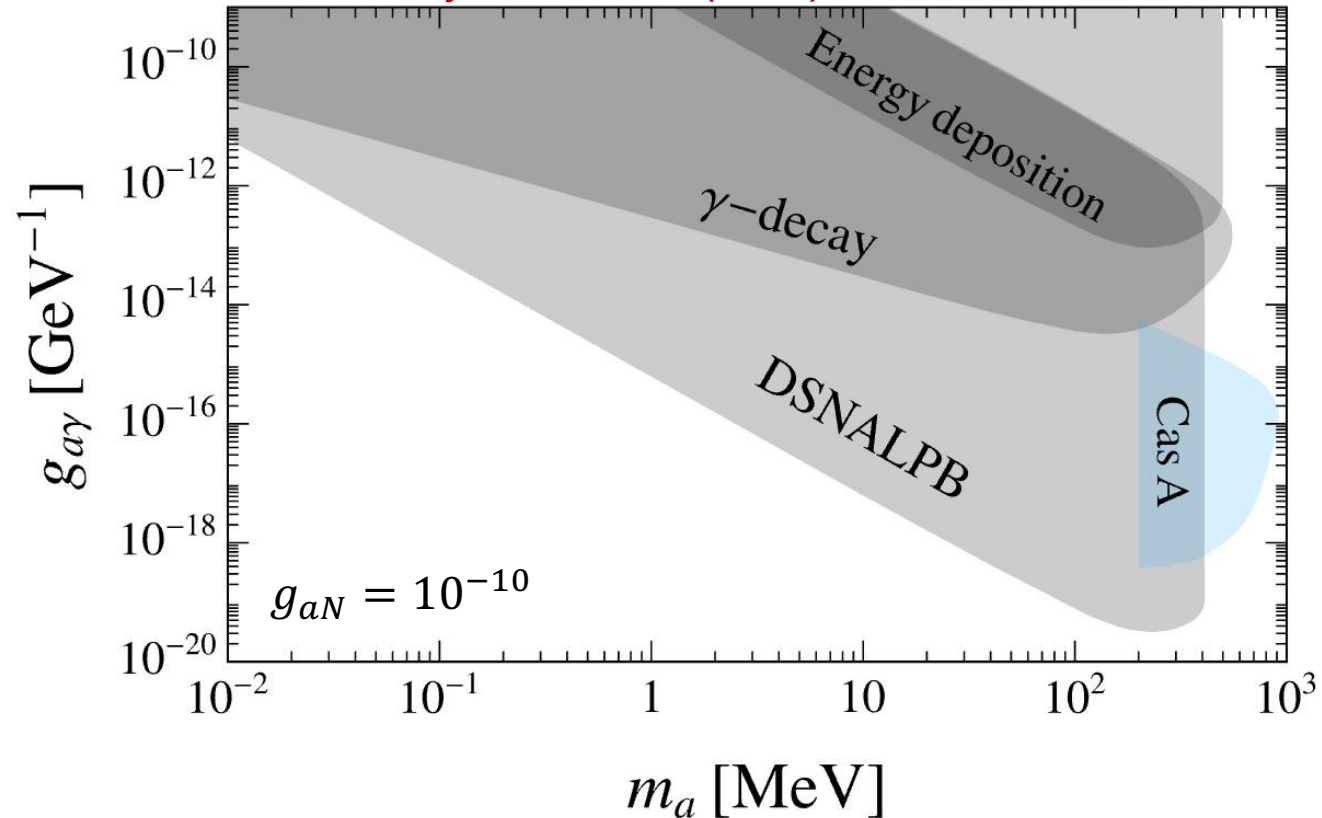
ALP Basins around SN remnants

[Hannestad & Raffelt, Phys. Rev. Lett. 88 (2002)]



Massive ALPs could remain trapped inside the PNS gravitational potential. Then, they decay at rest.

AL & al., Phys. Rev. D 107 (2023)



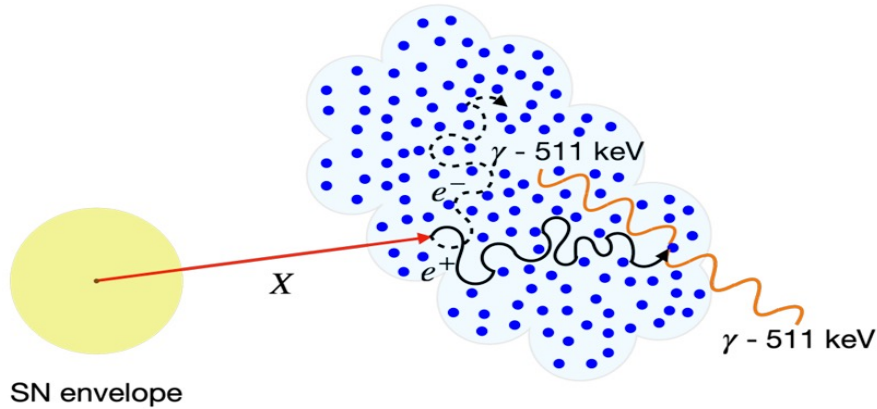
SN remnant Cas A ($d \approx 3.4 \text{ kpc}$, $t \approx 320 \text{ yrs}$).
No photon flux has been observed by Fermi-LAT:

$$\phi_{E>100 \text{ MeV}} \lesssim 2 \times 10^{-8} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

511 keV line

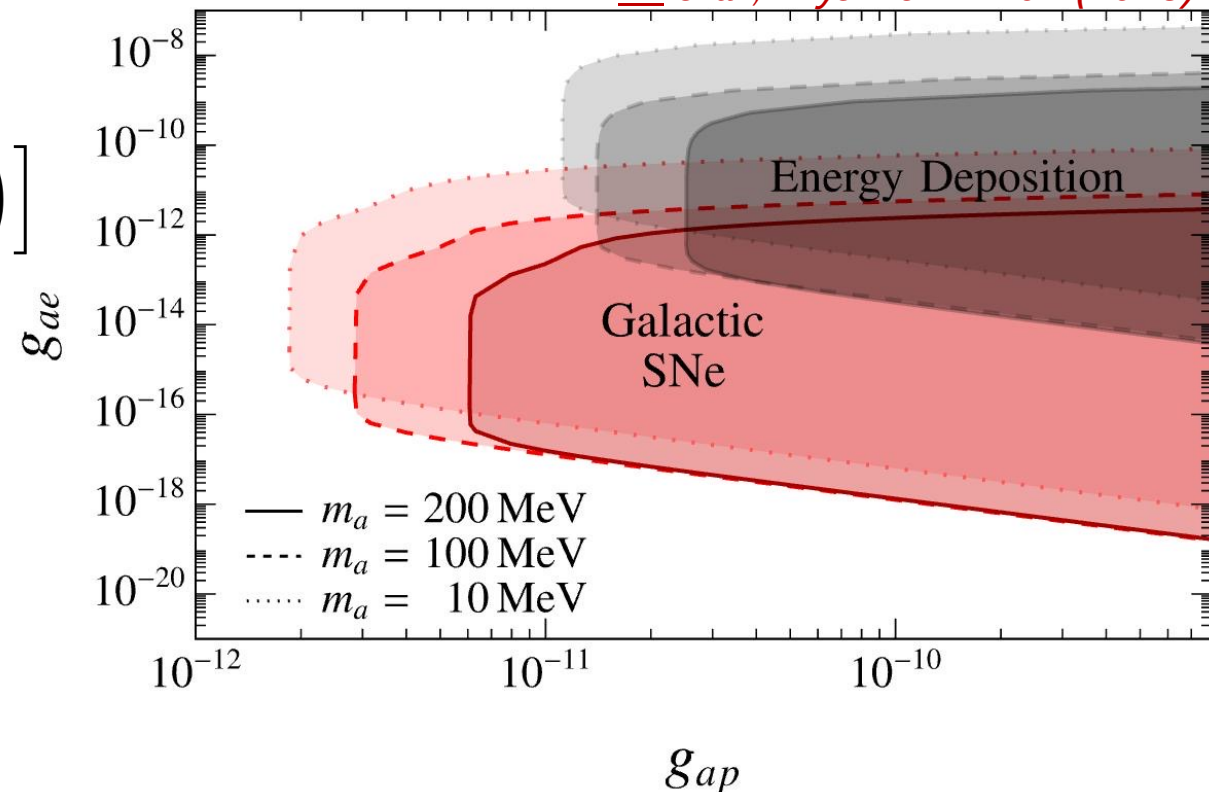
[Calore et al. , Phys. Rev. D 105 (2022) 4]

[Calore et al. , Phys. Rev. D 105 (2022) 6]



ALP leptonic decays would inject positrons in the interstellar medium. By annihilating with electrons, they may give rise to a photon signal at 511 keV.

AL & al., Phys. Rev. D 107 (2023)



$$N_{\text{pos}} = \int d\omega \frac{dN_a}{d\omega} \left(\epsilon_{II} e^{-R_{\text{env}}^{II}/\lambda_e} + \epsilon_I e^{-R_{\text{env}}^I/\lambda_e} \right) \left[1 - \exp \left(-\frac{r_G}{\lambda_e} \right) \right]$$

with $R_{\text{env}}^{II} \sim 3 \times 10^{14}$ cm, $R_{\text{env}}^I \sim 10^{12}$ cm and $r_G \sim 1$ kpc.

The SPI gamma-ray spectrometer on the INTEGRAL satellite provides the following constraint

$$N_{\text{pos}} \lesssim 1.4 \times 10^{52}$$

Cosmic X-Ray Background

[Calore et al. , Phys. Rev. D 105 (2022) 6]

If ALPs are produced in extragalactic SNe, the signal from annihilation is redshifted and contributes to the CXB

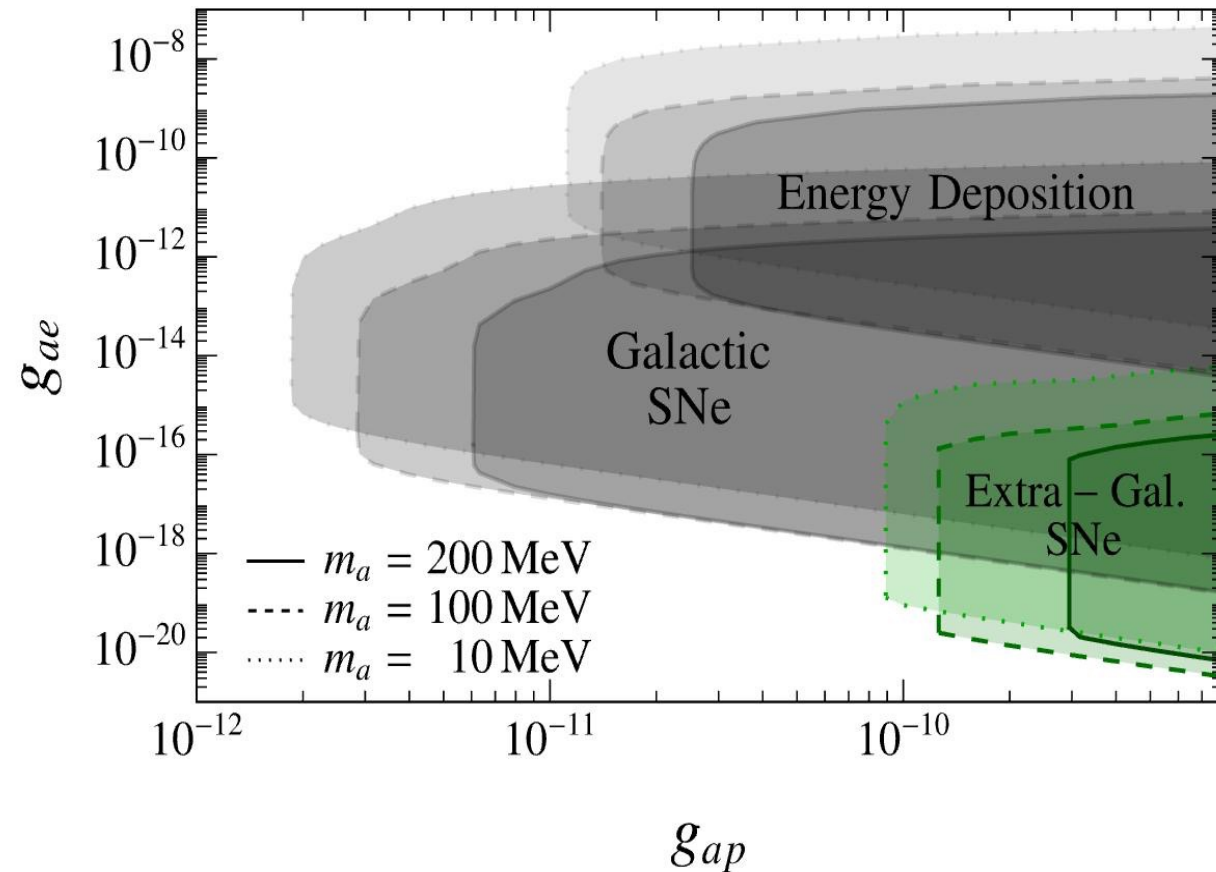
$$\frac{d\phi_\gamma}{dE_\gamma} = 2k_{ps} \frac{m_e}{E_\gamma^2} \int_{m_a}^{\infty} dE_a \frac{d^2\phi_a(E_a)}{dE_a dz_d}$$

Where

$$\frac{d^2\phi_a}{dE_a dz_d} = \int_{z_d}^{\infty} (1+z) \frac{dN_a(E_a(1+z))}{dE_a} e^{-\frac{z-z_d}{H_0\lambda_e}} \frac{R_{SN}(z)}{H_0\lambda_e} \left| \frac{dt}{dz} \right| dz$$

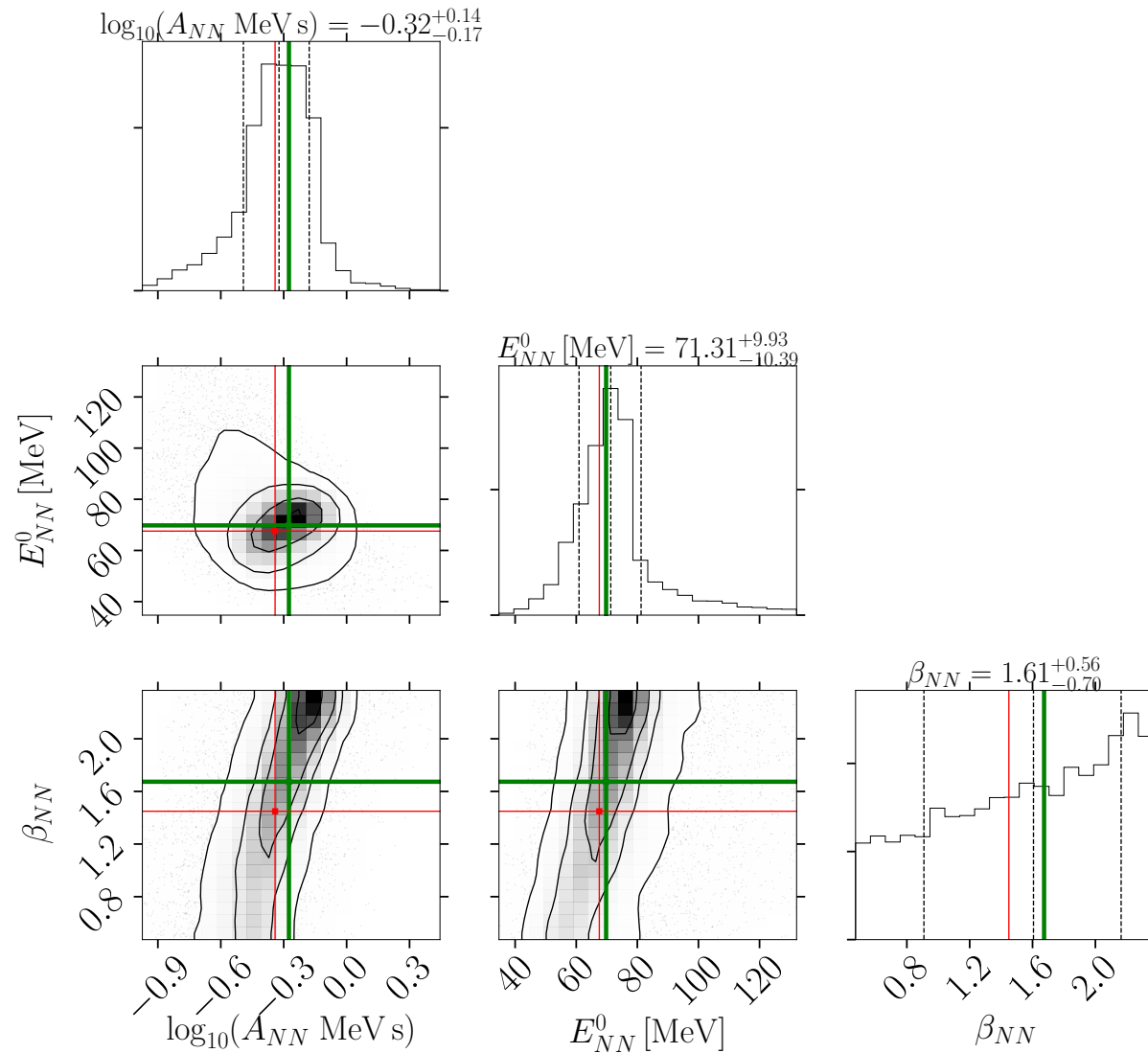
The induced CXB flux must not exceed the measurements by HEAO-1 and SMM experiments.

[AL & al., Phys. Rev. D 107 (2023)]



Fermi-LAT reconstruction of the signal

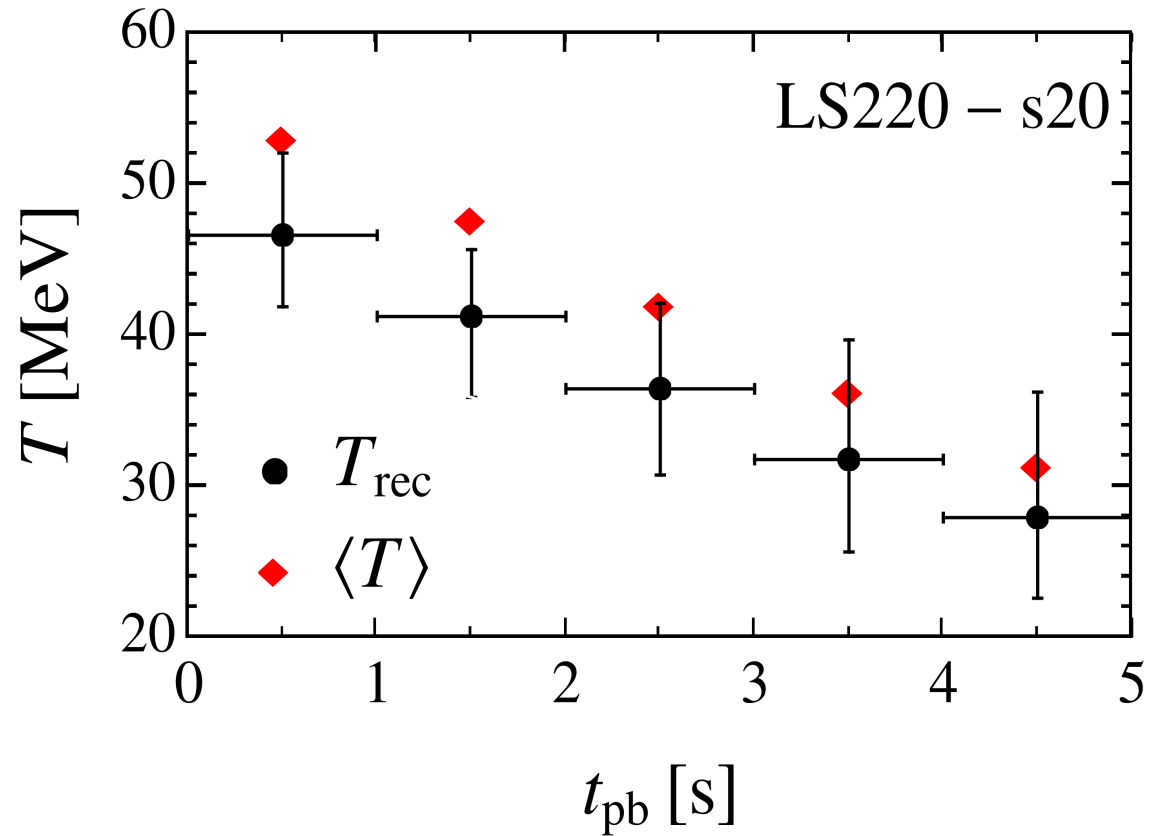
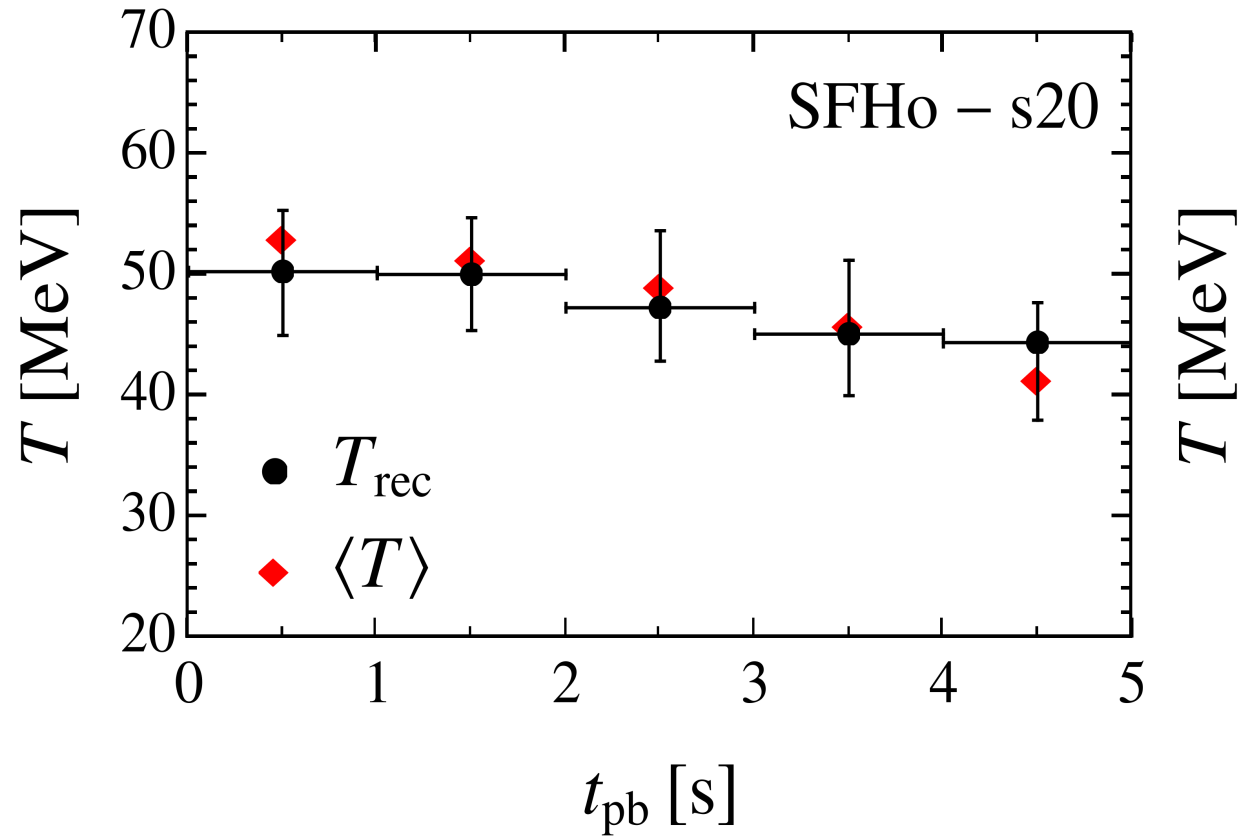
Parameter reconstruction in time interval $[0, 1]$ s



[AL et al., JCAP 11 (2024) 009]

Fermi-LAT reconstruction of the signal

Temperature reconstruction still works for other SN models.



[AL et al., JCAP 11 (2024) 009]

The UV Theory

Above $\Lambda_{QCD} \simeq 200$ MeV interactions with quark and gluons

$$\mathcal{L}_{aQCD} = c_g \frac{g_s^2}{32\pi^2} \frac{a}{f_a} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a\mu\nu} + \sum_q c_q \frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_a} \bar{q} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 q + \frac{(m_{a,0})^2}{2} a^2$$

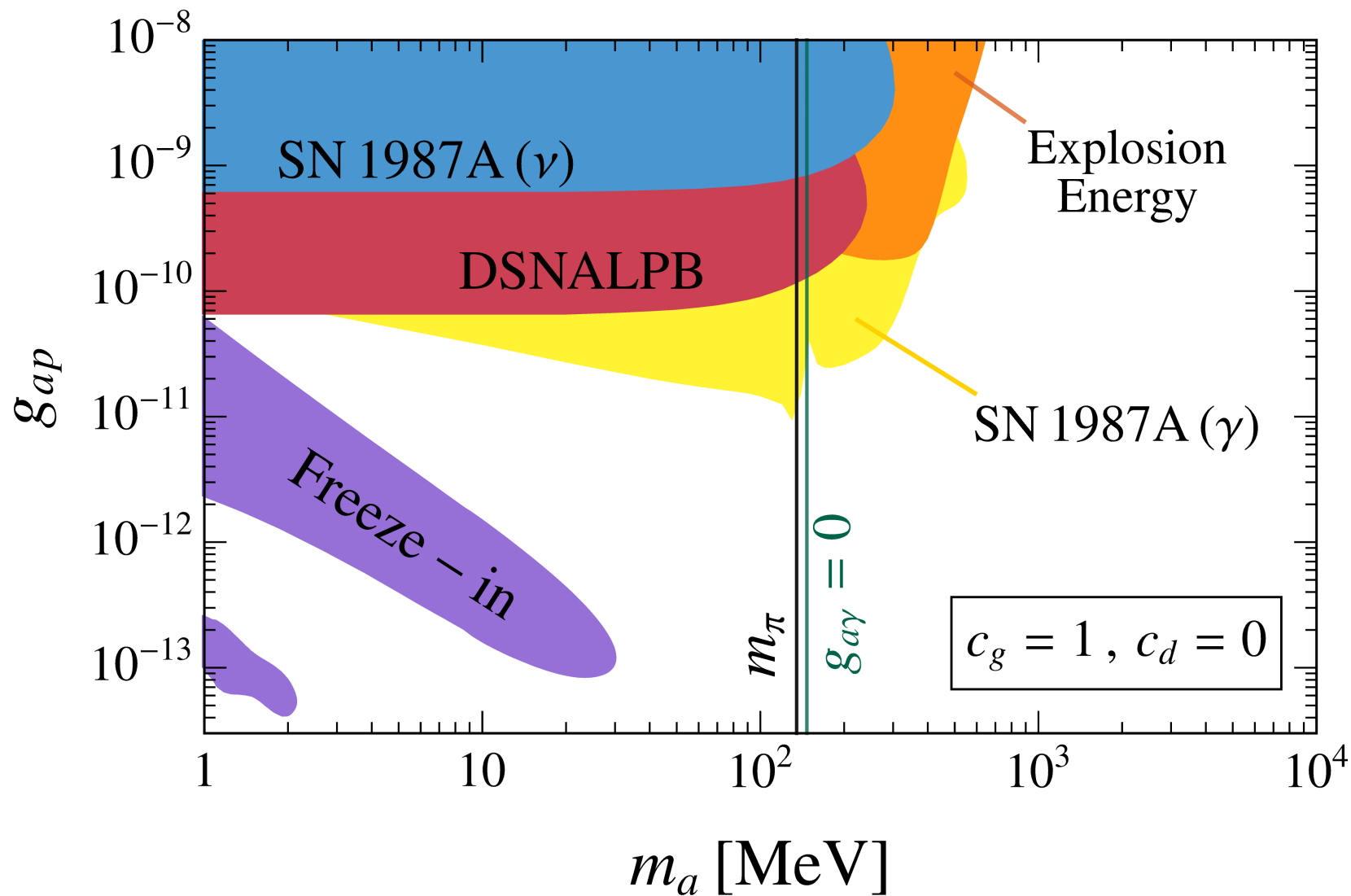
Then, at loop level [*Bauer et al., JHEP 12 (2017)*]

$$C_\gamma(c_g, c_u, c_d) = -1.92 c_g - \frac{m_a^2}{m_\pi^2 - m_a^2} \left[c_g \frac{m_d - m_u}{m_d + m_u} + (c_u - c_d) \right]$$

Irreducible photon coupling related to nuclear couplings ($C_n = 0, c_g = 1$)

$$g_{a\gamma} \simeq -9.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \left[\frac{1.53}{c_d - 0.33} + \frac{c_d + 0.24}{c_d - 0.33} \frac{m_a^2}{m_\pi^2 - m_a^2} \right] g_{ap}$$

Bounds on g_{ap}



[AL & al., Phys.Rev.D 110 (2024)]