

Color Unified Dynamical Axion

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Strong CP problem

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD} \supset \mathcal{L}_{CP} = -\bar{q} m e^{i\beta} q + \theta_{QCD} \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a\mu\nu}$$

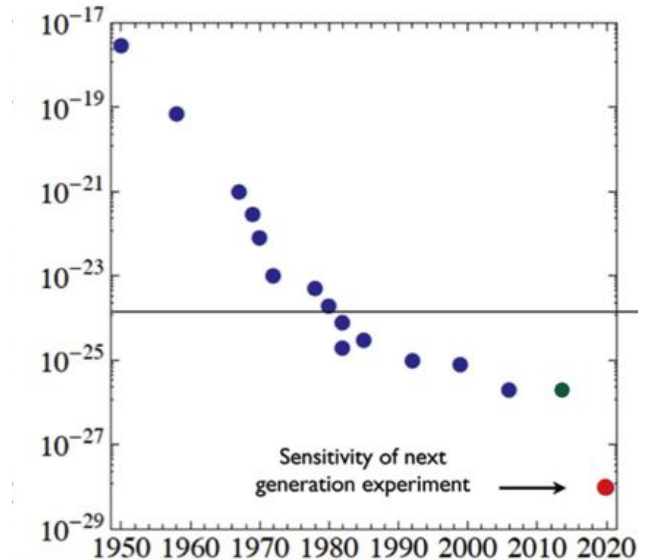
One physical CPV phase: $\bar{\theta} = \theta_{QCD} + \arg \det M$

$$d_n \approx 10^{-16} |\bar{\theta}| e \cdot \text{cm} \quad \bar{\theta} \lesssim 10^{-10}$$

Why is it so small?



Neutron EDM (Electric Dipole Moment)



[B.Fillipone via diLuzio]

Strong CP problem: massless quark solution

→ Under a chiral rotation: $U(1)_A : \quad q \rightarrow e^{\frac{\alpha}{2} i \gamma_5} q$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -m_q \bar{q} q - \theta \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G \tilde{G} \longrightarrow -m_q \bar{q} e^{i\alpha \gamma_5} q - (\theta - \alpha) \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G \tilde{G}$$

→ If $m_q = 0$, the phase θ can be fully reabsorbed $\implies$ **Strong CP Problem solved!**

→ No different from usual PQ solution: $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow U(1)_{PQ} \text{ classically conserved} \\ \rightarrow \text{Explicitly broken by the QCD anomaly} \\ \rightarrow \text{Spontaneously broken at } f_a \text{ (by } \langle \bar{q} q \rangle) \end{array} \right.$

[Peccei+Quinn 77]

→ Most economical option: Massless up quark, disfavored by lattice data [Manohar et al 16, PDG]

→ Exotic massless quark ψ **How do we hide it?**

Massless quark content

→ New confining group $\tilde{\Lambda} \gg \Lambda_{QCD}$

◆ $SU(\tilde{N})$ confines, bound states $m \sim \tilde{\Lambda}$

◆ **Problem:** new CP violating phase $\tilde{\theta}$

	$SU(3)_c$	$SU(\tilde{N})$
ψ	$\square$	$\square$
χ	1	$\square$

→ Add another massless quark χ

→ $SU(\tilde{N})$ Confines + Chiral Symmetry Breaking:

$$U(4)_L \times U(4)_R \xrightarrow[\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle]{\langle \bar{\chi}\chi \rangle} U(4)_V$$

pseudo-Goldstone Bosons (pGB): $16 = 8 + 3 + \bar{3} + \mathbf{1 + 1}$

The η' become dynamical axions



$$4\pi f_a \sim \tilde{\Lambda}$$

My definition of axion:

“Any Goldstone Boson of a global $U(1)$ symmetry, exactly conserved at the classical level but explicitly broken by instantons”

→ Two axions: $\bar{\psi}\psi$ $\bar{\chi}\chi$

2 ~~PQ~~ instantons $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Lambda_{QCD} \\ \tilde{\Lambda} \end{array} \right.$  3 pseudoscalars $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bar{\psi}\psi \\ \bar{\chi}\chi \\ \eta'_{QCD} \end{array} \right.$

→ One axion remains light:

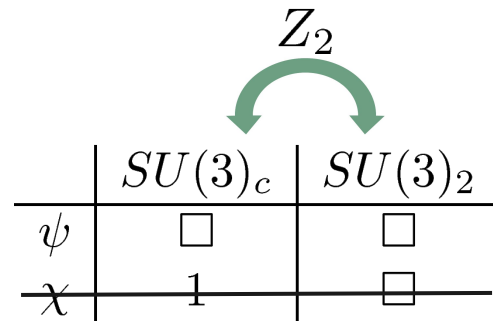
$$m_{a_1}^2 f_a^2 \sim \tilde{\Lambda}^4 \quad m_{\eta'}^2 f_\pi^2 \sim \Lambda_{QCD}^4 \quad m_{a_2}^2 f_a^2 \sim m_\pi^2 f_\pi^2 \frac{m_u m_d}{(m_u + m_d)^2}$$

UV completion of a usual invisible axion

Alternatives to the dynamical Axion

- Only one massless quark and a Z_2 [Hook 15]
- Complete copy of the SM
- The Z_2 ensures $\theta_2 = \theta_{QCD}$
- No light axion: $m^2 \sim \frac{\Lambda_2^4}{f_a^2}$
- The mirror EW sector has a large vev:

$$v_2 \gg v \implies m'_q \gg m_q, \implies \Lambda' \gg \Lambda_{QCD}$$



In our work: UNIFICATION

Color Unified Dynamical Axion: First try

→ Unification allows to identify the two phases: only one massless quark needed

$$SU(6) \xrightarrow{\Lambda_{\text{CUT}}} SU(3)_c \times SU(\tilde{3}) \times U(1)$$

→ SM quarks are embedded in fundamentals of SU(6)

$$Q_L \equiv (q, \tilde{q})_L, \quad U \equiv (u, \tilde{u})_R, \quad D \equiv (d, \tilde{d})_R$$

Problem: Need to decouple the SM quark partners

1. Without spoiling SM quark masses
2. Without breaking EW at a high scale
3. In order to separate the running of the two groups .

We need an extra prime sector

Over Unification scale:

	$SU(6)$	$SU(2)_L$	$U(1)$
Ψ_L	20	1	0

Bellow unification scale:

	$SU(3)_c$	$SU(\tilde{3})$
ψ_L	$\square$	$\square$
ψ_L^c	$\bar{\square}$	$\square$
$2 \times \psi_\nu$	1	1

Color Unified Dynamical Axion: The real thing

$$SU(6) \times SU(3') \xrightarrow{\Lambda_{\text{CUT}}} SU(3)_c \times SU(3)_{\text{diag}}$$

→ Spontaneously broken by the vev of Δ

$$\langle \Delta \rangle = \Lambda_{\text{CUT}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Allows for a large mass for the tilde sector without spoiling the SM quark masses

$$\kappa_q q'_L \Delta^* Q_L \longrightarrow \Lambda_{\text{CUT}} \kappa_q q'_L \tilde{q}_L$$

	$SU(6)$	$SU(3')$
Q_L	$\square$	1
U_L^c	$\bar{\square}$	1
D_L^c	$\bar{\square}$	1
Ψ_L	20	1
q'_L	1	$\bar{\square}$
$u_L'^c$	1	$\square$
$d_L'^c$	1	$\square$
Δ	$\square$	$\bar{\square}$

	$SU(3)_c$	$SU(3)_{\text{diag}}$	$SU(2)_L$	$U(1)_Y$
q_L	$\square$	1	$\square$	$\frac{1}{6}$
$\tilde{q}_L$	1	$\square$	$\square$	$\frac{1}{6}$
u_L^c	$\bar{\square}$	1	1	$-\frac{2}{3}$
$\tilde{u}_L^c$	1	$\bar{\square}$	1	$-\frac{2}{3}$
d_L^c	$\bar{\square}$	1	1	$\frac{1}{3}$
$\tilde{d}_L^c$	1	$\bar{\square}$	1	$\frac{1}{3}$
ψ_L	$\square$	$\bar{\square}$	1	0
ψ_L^c	$\bar{\square}$	$\square$	1	0
$2 \times \psi_\nu$	1	1	1	1
q'_L	1	$\bar{\square}$	$\square$	$-\frac{1}{6}$
$u_L'^c$	1	$\square$	1	$\frac{2}{3}$
$d_L'^c$	1	$\square$	1	$-\frac{1}{3}$
—	—	—	1	0

Color Unified Dynamical Axion

$$\mathcal{L} \ni \Lambda_{\text{CUT}} \left\{ \kappa_q q'_L \tilde{q}_L + \kappa_u u'^c_L \tilde{u}^c_L + \kappa_d d'^c_L \tilde{d}^c_L \right\} + \text{h.c.}$$

→ Successfully decoupled tilde and prime quarks $m \sim \Lambda_{\text{CUT}}$

→ **Problem:** with an extra gauge group $\implies$ extra CP phase, two options:

◆ **Model I:** Add an extra massless quark χ

	$SU(6)$	$SU(3)'$
ψ	$\square$	$\square$
χ	1	$\square$

◆ **Model II:** Add an extra scalar Δ_1, Δ_2

Hybrid solution with a dynamical axion and a fundamental one.



We will focus on

Running of the gauge couplings

→ At the breaking scale:

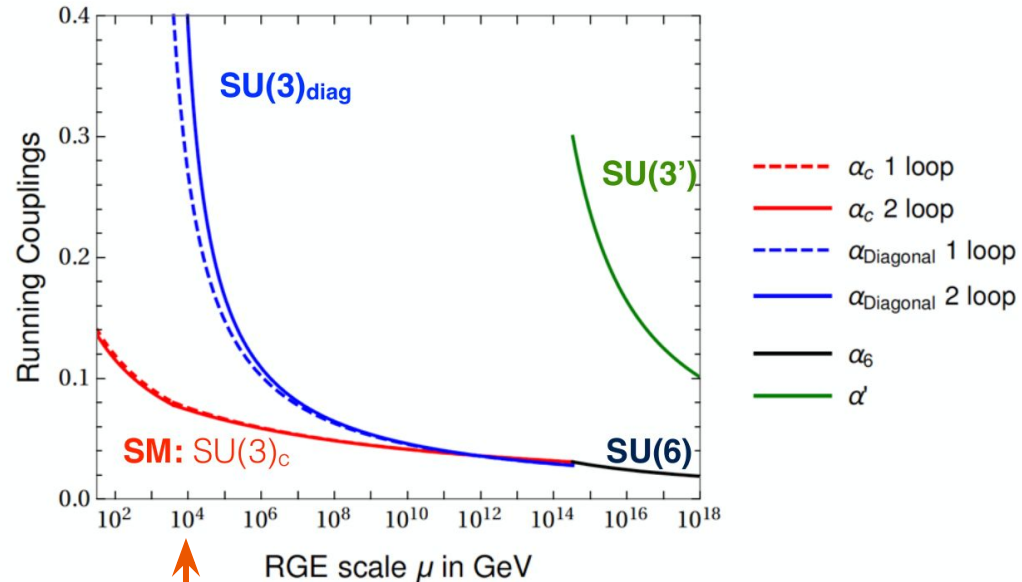
$$\frac{1}{\alpha_{\text{diag}}(\mu)} = \frac{1}{\alpha_6(\mu)} + \frac{1}{\alpha'(\mu)}$$

$$\alpha_c(\Lambda_{\text{CUT}}) = \alpha_6(\Lambda_{\text{CUT}})$$

$SU(3)_{\text{diag}}$ **confines before QCD**

$$\Lambda_d \gg \Lambda_{QCD}$$

$$SU(6) \times SU(3') \xrightarrow{\Lambda_{\text{CUT}}} SU(3)_c \times SU(3)_{\text{diag}}$$



10 TeV

Confinement and χ SB of the $SU(3)_{\text{diag}}$

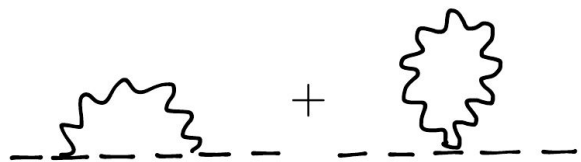
→ Chiral symmetry breaking by the condensates: $\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle$, $\langle \bar{\chi}\chi \rangle$

$$U(4)_L \times U(4)_R \xrightarrow{\Lambda_d} U(4)_V$$

	$SU(3)_c$	$SU(3)_{\text{diag}}$
ψ	$\square$	$\square$
χ	1	$\square$

→ Results in 16 pGB's: $16 = 8_c + 3_c + \bar{3}_c + 1_c + 1_c$ **become dynamical axions**

→ The “axipions”, through quadratically divergent gluon loops, get a large mass:



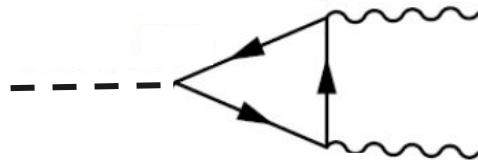
$$\Rightarrow \begin{aligned} m^2(8_c) &\approx \frac{9\alpha_c}{4\pi} \Lambda_{\text{diag}}^2 & \bar{\psi} t^a \psi, \\ m^2(3_c) &\approx \frac{\alpha_c}{\pi} \Lambda_{\text{diag}}^2 & \bar{\psi} \chi, \bar{\chi} \psi \end{aligned}$$

The η' pseudoscalars

→ Anomalous currents $\implies$ Anomalous couplings of the pseudoscalars:

$$j_{\psi_A}^\mu = \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \psi \equiv f_d \partial^\mu \eta'_\psi,$$

$$j_{\chi_A}^\mu = \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \chi \equiv f_d \partial^\mu \eta'_\chi,$$



$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{\alpha_6}{8\pi} \frac{\sqrt{6} \eta'_\psi}{f_d} G_6 \tilde{G}_6 - \frac{\alpha'}{8\pi} \frac{2 \eta'_\chi}{f_d} G' \tilde{G}' \quad \xrightarrow{\Lambda_{CUT}}$$

Confinement $\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{\alpha_c}{8\pi} \frac{\sqrt{6} \eta'_\psi}{f_d} G_c \tilde{G}_c - \frac{\alpha_{\text{diag}}}{8\pi} \left(2 \frac{\eta'_\chi}{f_d} + \sqrt{6} \frac{\eta'_\psi}{f_d} \right) G_{\text{diag}} \tilde{G}_{\text{diag}}$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \Lambda_{\text{diag}}^4 \cos \left(2 \frac{\eta'_\chi}{f_d} + \sqrt{6} \frac{\eta'_\psi}{f_d} \right) + \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4 \cos \left(2 \frac{\eta'_{\text{QCD}}}{f_\pi} + \sqrt{6} \frac{\eta'_\psi}{f_d} \right)$$

Incorporating η'_{QCD} ↗

- 3 anomalous pseudoscalars
- 2 sources of mass/breaking

Another light axion model?

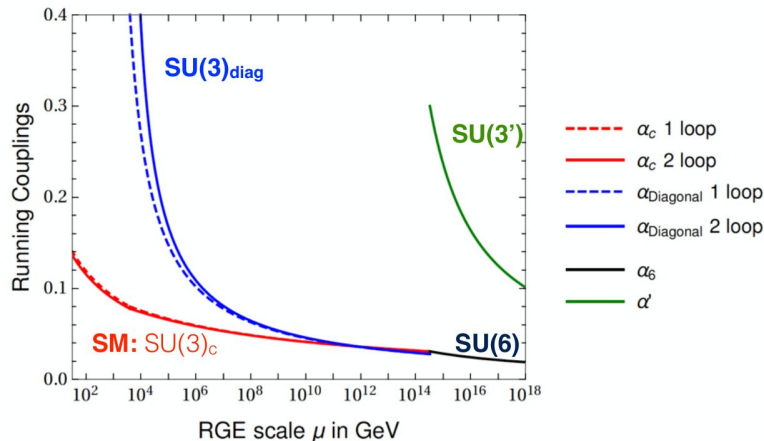
Small Size Instantons and axion mass

- Typically, at high energies (= small size) couplings are very small.
- The instanton density has an exponential suppression:

$$D[\alpha'(\mu)] \propto e^{-2\pi/\alpha'(\mu)} \quad \text{Usually sizable only at the confinement scale} \quad \left(e^{-2\pi/0.1} \sim 10^{-28} \right)$$

- New Physics can change the RG flow and induce a new source of axion mass

[Holdom+Peskin, 82]
[Dine+Seiberg, 86]
[Flynn+Randall, 87]
[Agrawal+Howe, 17]



- Large coupling $\alpha' \sim 0.3$
- Large breaking scale

$$\Lambda_{CUT} \sim 10^{14-18} \text{ GeV}$$

New sizable contribution to the axion mass!!

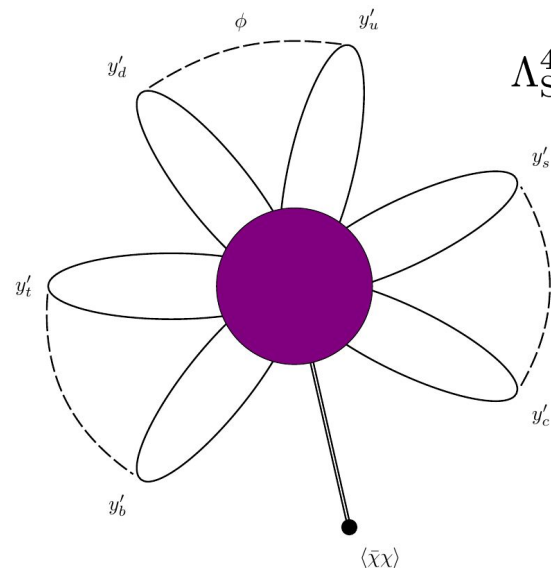
Small Size Instantons and axion mass

→ Dilute Instanton Gas approximation:

[t'Hooft, 73]

[Callan+Dashen+Gross, 77]

[Shifman+Vainshtein+Zakharov, 80]



$$\Lambda_{\text{SSI}}^4 = \underbrace{-C_{inst} \int \frac{d\rho}{\rho^5} \left(\frac{2\pi}{\alpha'(\rho)} \right)^{2N_c} e^{-2\pi/\alpha'(\rho)}}_{\text{Pure Yang-Mills Instanton}} \underbrace{\left(\frac{2}{3} \pi^2 \rho^3 \langle \bar{\chi} \chi \rangle \right) \frac{1}{(4\pi)^6} \prod_i y'_u y'_d}_\text{Fermionic suppression}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{eff} = \Lambda_{\text{SSI}}^4 \cos \left(2 \frac{\eta'_\chi}{f_d} \right)$$

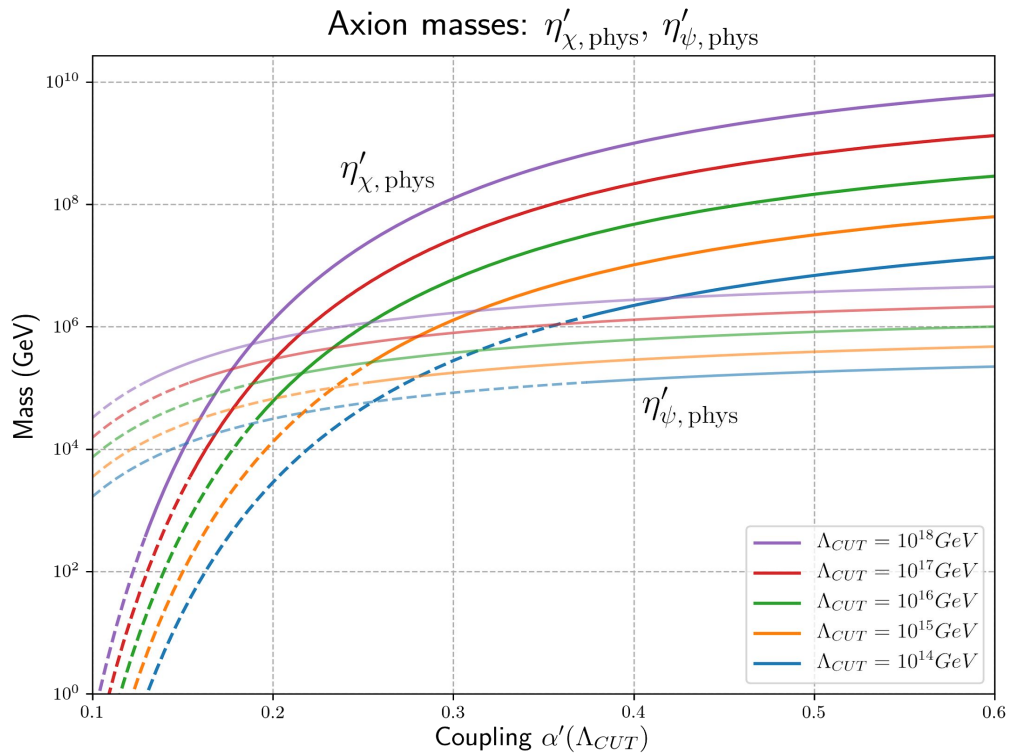
$$\Lambda_{SSI} \gtrsim 20 \text{ TeV}$$

Dynamical axion potential and masses

$$\mathcal{L}_{eff} = \underbrace{\Lambda_{\text{SSI}}^4 \cos\left(2 \frac{\eta'_\chi}{f_d}\right)}_{SU(3') \text{ SSI Instantons}} + \underbrace{\Lambda_{\text{diag}}^4 \cos\left(2 \frac{\eta'_\chi}{f_d} + \sqrt{6} \frac{\eta'_\psi}{f_d}\right)}_{SU(3)_{\text{diag}} \text{ Instantons at conf.}} + \underbrace{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4 \cos\left(2 \frac{\eta'_{\text{QCD}}}{f_\pi} + \sqrt{6} \frac{\eta'_\psi}{f_d}\right)}_{SU(3)_c \text{ Instantons at conf.}}$$

$$M_{\eta'_\chi, \eta'_\psi, \eta'_{\text{QCD}}}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \frac{(\Lambda_{\text{SSI}}^4 + \Lambda_d^4)}{f_d^2} & 2\sqrt{6} \frac{\Lambda_d^4}{f_d^2} & 0 \\ 2\sqrt{6} \frac{\Lambda_d^4}{f_d^2} & 6 \frac{(\Lambda_d^4 + \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4)}{f_d^2} & 2\sqrt{6} \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4}{f_\pi f_d} \\ 0 & 2\sqrt{6} \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4}{f_\pi f_d} & 4 \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4}{f_\pi^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Dynamical axion masses



Solution to the Strong CP problem

- Any source of axion mass breaks the PQ symmetry, **do SSI spoil the Strong CP solution?**
- Breaking pattern imposes:

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \bar{\theta}_6 \frac{\alpha_6}{8\pi} G_6 \tilde{G}_6 + \bar{\theta}' \frac{\alpha'}{8\pi} G' \tilde{G}' \longrightarrow (\bar{\theta}_6 + \bar{\theta}') \frac{\alpha_{\text{diag}}}{8\pi} G_{\text{diag}} \tilde{G}_{\text{diag}} + \bar{\theta}_6 \frac{\alpha_c}{8\pi} G_c \tilde{G}_c$$

- Therefore the potential reads:

$$\mathcal{L}_{eff} = \Lambda_{\text{SSI}}^4 \cos\left(-2 \frac{\eta'_\chi}{f_d} + \bar{\theta}'\right) + \Lambda_{\text{diag}}^4 \cos\left(-2 \frac{\eta'_\chi}{f_d} - \sqrt{6} \frac{\eta'_\psi}{f_d} + \bar{\theta}' + \bar{\theta}_6\right) + \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4 \cos\left(-\sqrt{6} \frac{\eta'_\psi}{f_d} + \bar{\theta}_6\right)$$

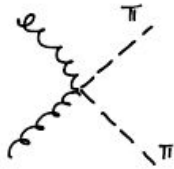
- The alignment of the 3 terms in the potential result in a CP-conserving minimum

$$\left\langle \bar{\theta}' - 2 \frac{\eta'_\chi}{f_d} \right\rangle = 0, \quad \left\langle \bar{\theta}_6 - \sqrt{6} \frac{\eta'_\psi}{f_d} \right\rangle = 0$$

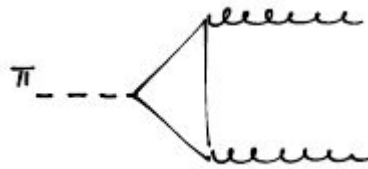
**Strong CP problem
solved**

Low energy Spectrum and Phenomenology

- No light axion.
 - ◆ Both axions too heavy for colliders
- Sterile fermions ψ_ν with couplings suppressed by Λ_{CUT} (basically invisible)
- QCD Coloured “axipions” are collider accessible, octets:



Pair produced

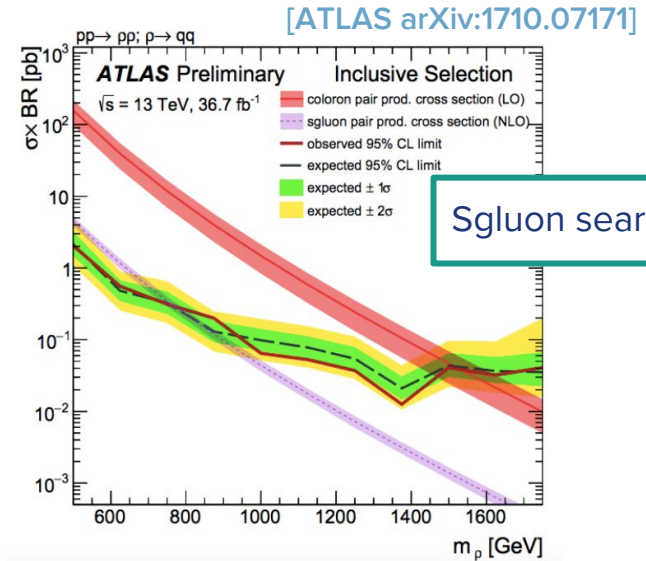


Anomalous decay

$$m(8_c) \gtrsim 770 \text{ GeV}$$

$$m^2(8_c) \approx \frac{9\alpha_c}{4\pi} \Lambda_{\text{diag}}^2$$

$$\Lambda_{\text{diag}} \gtrsim 3 \text{ TeV}$$



Conclusions

- Strong CP problem solved with **massless quarks** and **unification**.

$$SU(6) \times SU(3') \xrightarrow{\Lambda_{\text{CUT}}} SU(3)_c \times SU(3)_{\text{diag}}$$

- Unified partners of the SM quarks are **successfully decoupled**.
- New gauge group confines the massless quarks into heavy bound states $O(\text{TeV})$.
- Small size instantons provide a new source of axion mass:
 - ◆ **No light axion** results.
- The three scales $\Lambda_{\text{CUT}} \gg \Lambda_{\text{diag}} \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$ are naturally separated by the running.
- Most promising collider signals come from the exotic pion color octet.

Thank you!