

CP-violating axions

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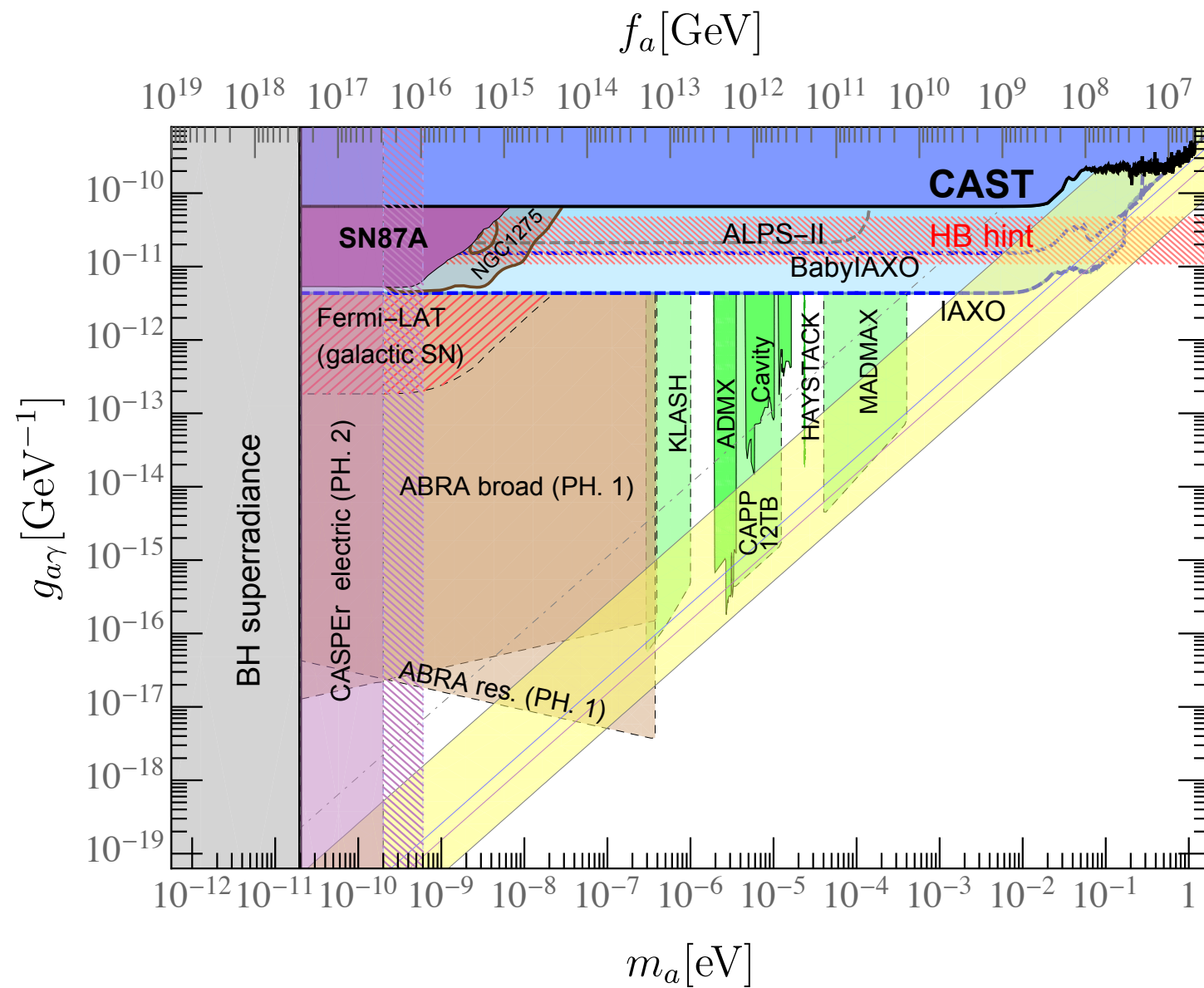
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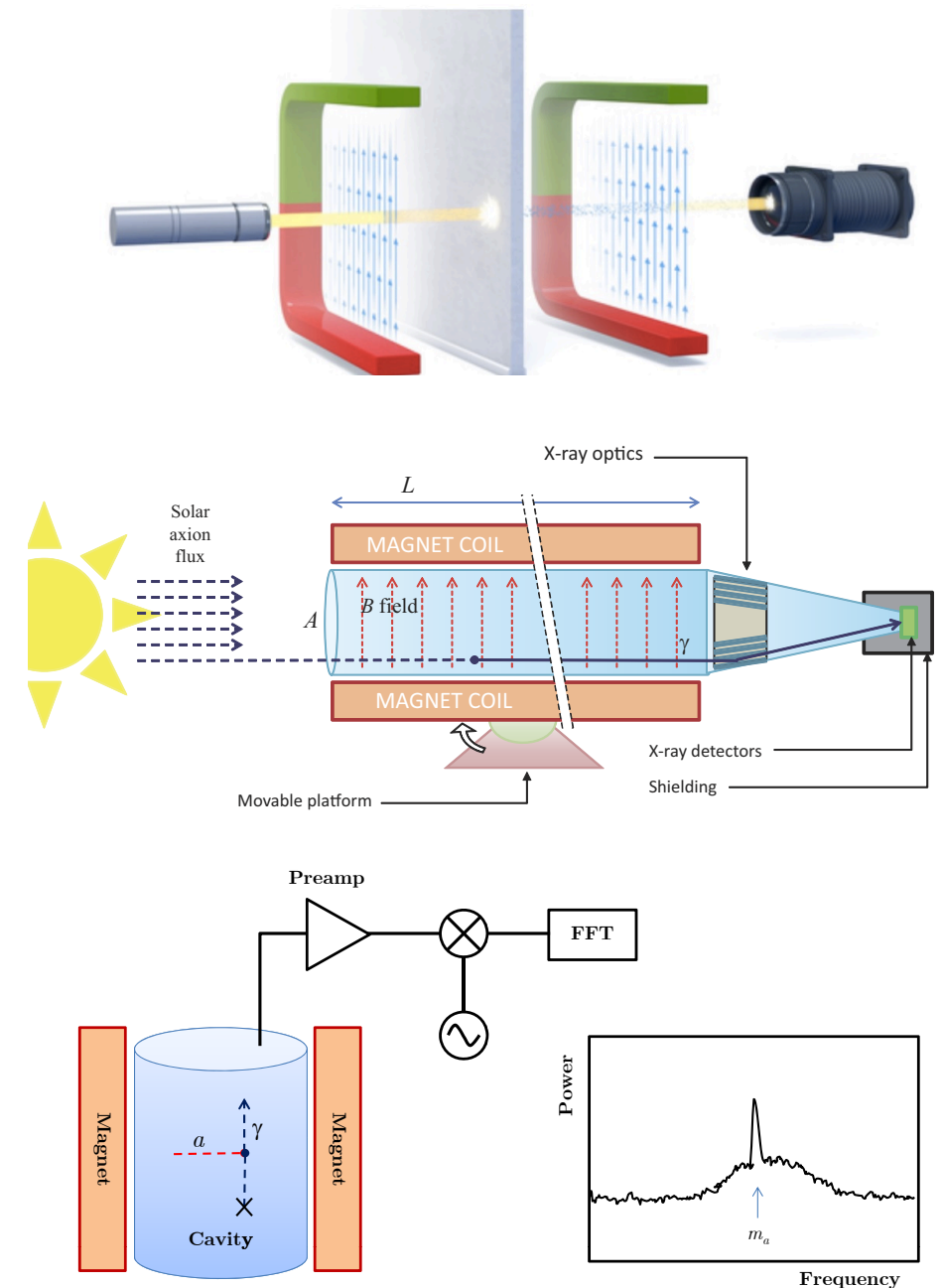
Dipartimento di Fisica e
Astronomia
"Galileo Galilei"



In 10 years from now ?

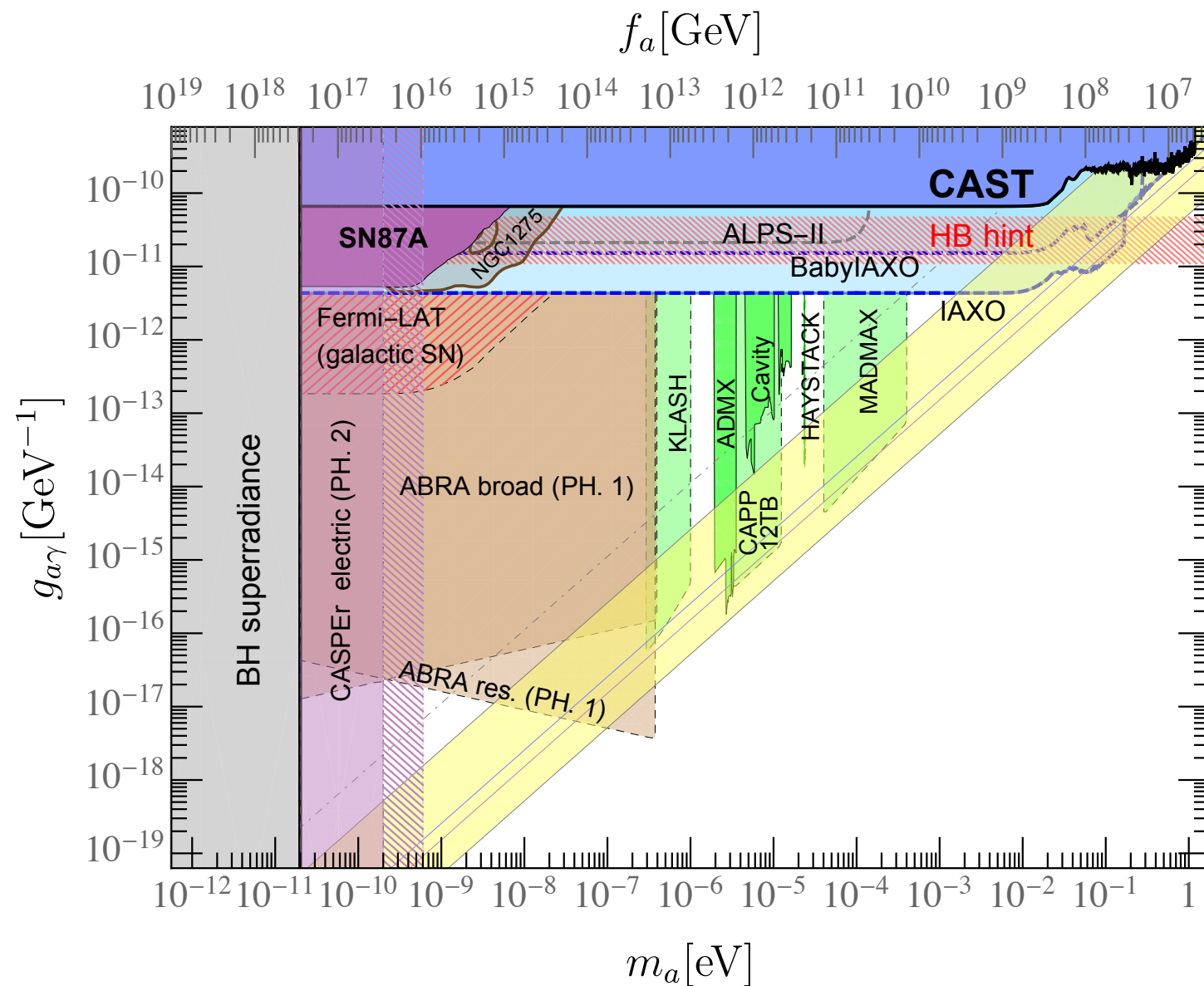


❖ An experimental opportunity



[LDL, Giannotti, Nardi, Visinelli 2003.01100 (Physics Reports)]

In 10 years from now ?



- ♣ An experimental opportunity
- ★ Time now to rethink the axion

1. QCD axion & CP

2. Axion-mediated forces

3. *Scalar* axion-nucleon coupling
(connection to CPV sources)

[LDL, Giannotti, Nardi, Visinelli 2003.01100 (Physics Reports)]

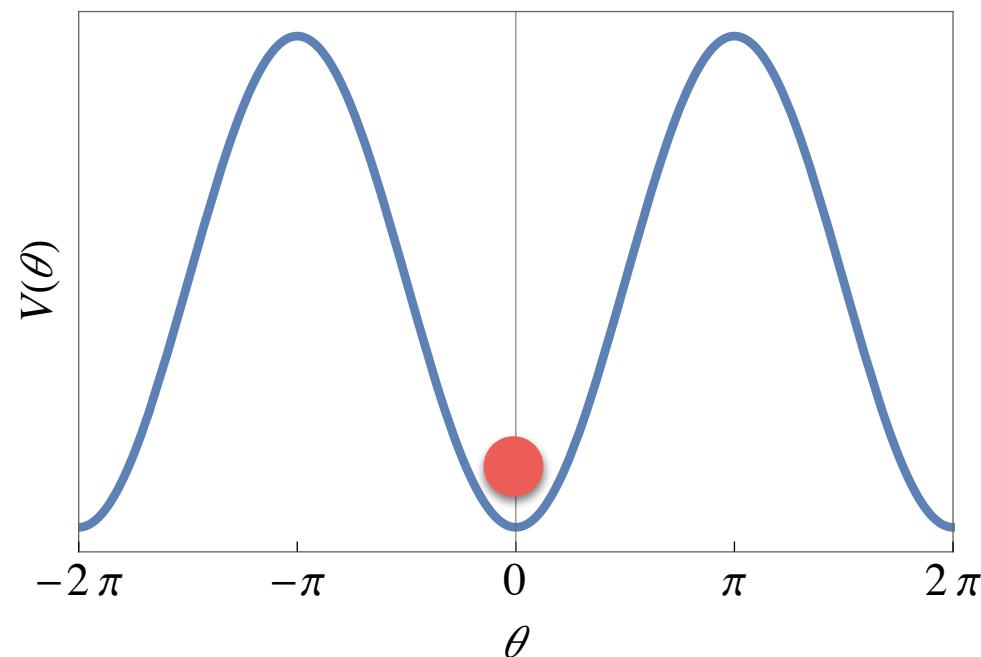
[Bertolini, LDL, Nesti 2006.12508 (Physical Review Letters)]

QCD axion

- Originally introduced to *wash-out* CP violation from strong interactions

$$\delta\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = \theta \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G\tilde{G} \quad |\theta| \lesssim 10^{-10} \quad (\text{strong CP problem})$$

→ promote θ to a dynamical field, which relaxes to zero via QCD dynamics



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

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

QCD axion [a closer look]

- Assume a spin-0 boson with a pseudo-shift symmetry $a \rightarrow a + \alpha f_a$

broken only by $\frac{a}{f_a} \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G\tilde{G}$  $E(0) \leq E(\langle a \rangle)$ [Vafa-Witten, PRL 53 (1984)]

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

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

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- Does the axion really relax to zero ?

$$\mathcal{D}\varphi \equiv dA_\mu^a \det(\not{D} + M)$$



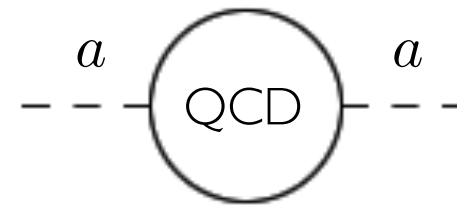
*path-integral measure positive definite
only for a vector-like theory (e.g. QCD)
does not apply to the SM !*

Estimating θ_{eff} in the SM

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

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

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



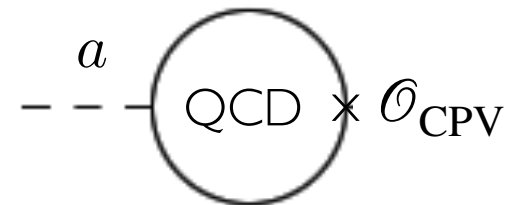
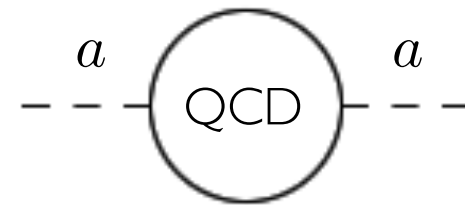
Estimating θ_{eff} in the SM


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

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

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

$$K' = \langle G\tilde{G}, \mathcal{O}_{\text{CPV}} \rangle$$



 $\theta_{\text{eff}} \equiv \frac{\langle a \rangle}{f_a} \simeq -\frac{K'}{K}$

Estimating θ_{eff} in the SM

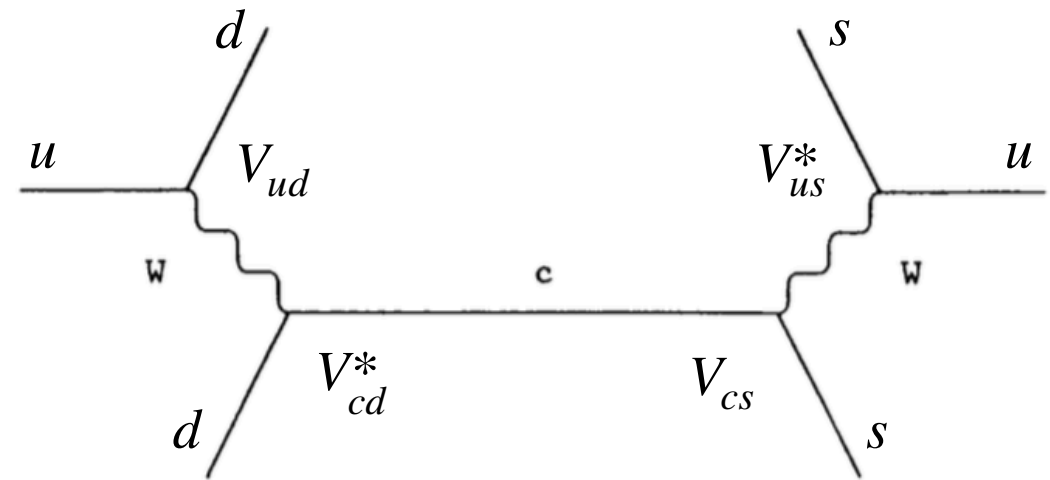
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$$K' = \langle G\tilde{G}, \mathcal{O}_{\text{CPV}} \rangle \sim \frac{G_F^2}{m_c^2} J_{\text{CKM}} \Lambda_\chi^{10}$$

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



[Georgi Randall, NPB276 (1986)]

$$\rightarrow \theta_{\text{eff}} \equiv \frac{\langle a \rangle}{f_a} \simeq -\frac{K'}{K} \sim G_F^2 \Lambda_\chi^4 J_{\text{CKM}} \sim 10^{-18}$$

Estimating θ_{eff} in the SM

- Two observations:

1. The Peccei-Quinn mechanism works accidentally in the SM

2. A no-lose theorem for the SM axion ?

$$d_n^{\text{axion}} \sim \underbrace{10^{-16} \theta_{\text{eff}}}_{10^{-34}} \text{ e cm}$$

$$d_n^{\text{SM}} \simeq 10^{-32} \text{ e cm}$$

$$|d_n^{\text{exp}}| \lesssim 10^{-26} \text{ e cm}$$

[For SM prediction see Pospelov Ritz hep-ph/0504231 + refs. therein]

needs huge improvements both from exp. and theory

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→ $\theta_{\text{eff}} \equiv \frac{\langle a \rangle}{f_a} \simeq -\frac{K'}{K} \sim G_F^2 \Lambda_\chi^4 J_{\text{CKM}} \sim \boxed{10^{-18}}$

is there another way to test the axion ground state ?

Axion-mediated forces

- θ_{eff} sources a scalar axion-nucleon coupling

$$\mathcal{L} \supset g_{aN}^S a \bar{N} N + g_{af}^P a \bar{f} i \gamma_5 f \quad \frac{\Lambda_\chi}{2} \frac{a^2}{f_a^2} \bar{N} N \xrightarrow{\langle a \rangle \neq 0} g_{aN}^S a \bar{N} N \quad \boxed{g_{aN}^S \sim \frac{\Lambda_\chi}{f_a} \theta_{\text{eff}}} \quad g_{af}^P \sim \frac{m_f}{f_a}$$

[Moody, Wilczek PRD30 (1984)]

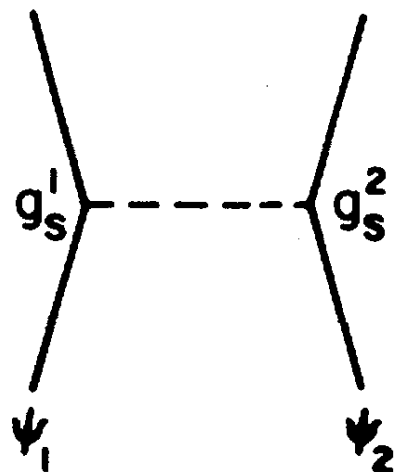
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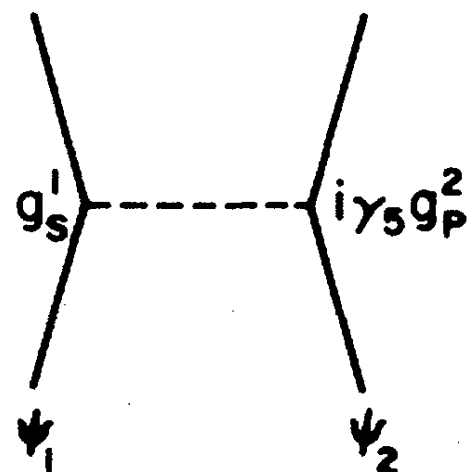
- New macroscopic forces from non-relativistic potentials*

[Moody, Wilczek PRD30 (1984)]



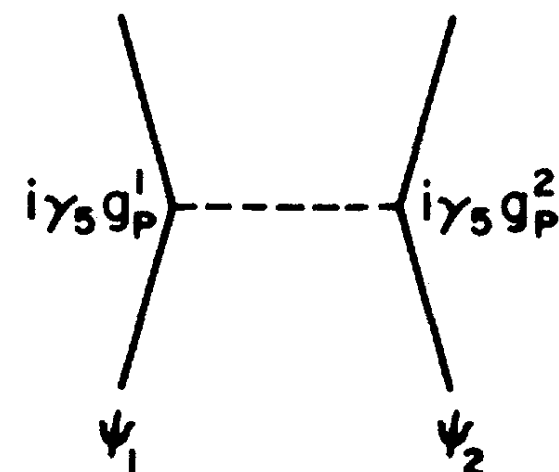
(a)

monopole-monopole



(b)

monopole-dipole



(c)

dipole-dipole

*does not rely on the hypothesis that the axion is DM

Axion-mediated forces

- θ_{eff} sources a scalar axion-nucleon coupling

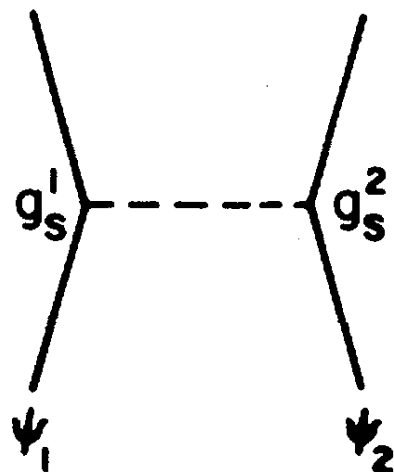
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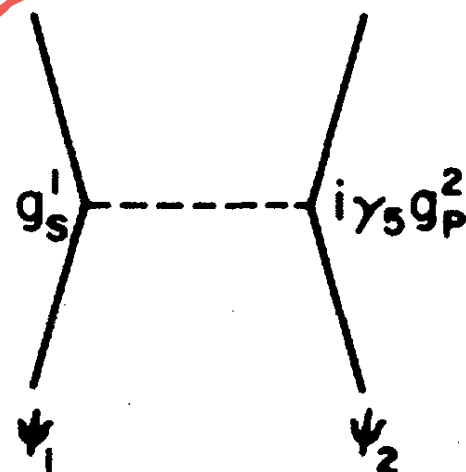
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(a)

monopole-monopole

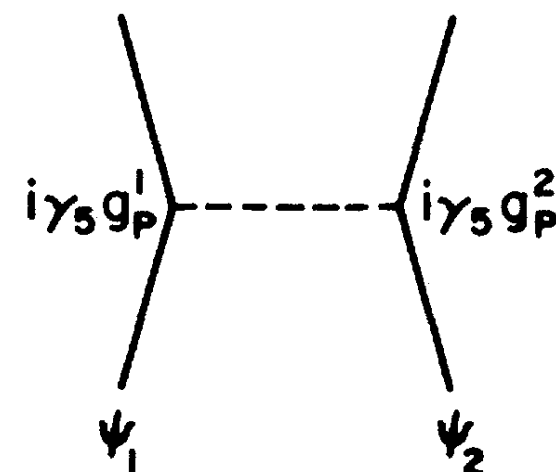
double θ_{eff} suppression



(b)

monopole-dipole

ARIADNE, QUAX-gpgs, ...
NMR enhancement



(c)

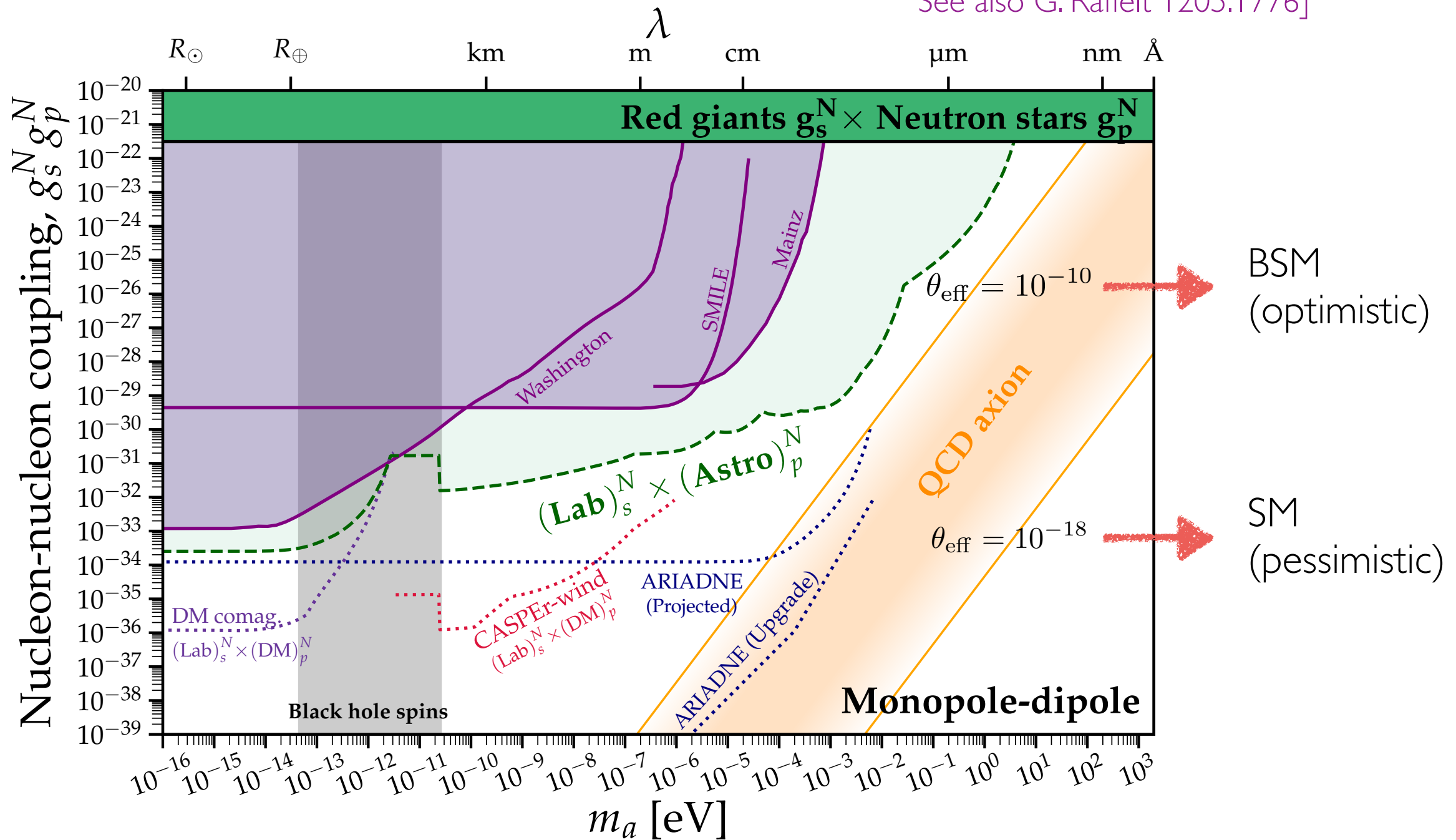
dipole-dipole

spin suppression + bkgd
from ordinary magnetic forces

Monopole-dipole

- ARIADNE will probe into the QCD axion region (depending on θ_{eff})

[O'Hare, Vitagliano 2010.03889,
See also G. Raffelt 1205.1776]



Axion-nucleon scalar coupling

- Moody-Wilczek formula

[Moody, Wilczek PRD30 (1984)]

$$g_{aN}^S = \frac{\theta_{\text{eff}}}{f_a} \frac{m_u m_d}{m_u + m_d} \langle N | \bar{u}u + \bar{d}d | N \rangle \simeq \theta_{\text{eff}} \left(\frac{17 \text{ MeV}}{f_a} \right)$$

- See also:

[Barbieri, Romanino, Strumia hep-ph/9605368 → Naive dimensional analysis

Pospelov hep-ph/9707431 → Meson tadpoles

Bigazzi, Cotrone, Jarvinen, Kiritsis 1906.12132 → isospin breaking]

- Two relevant questions:

1. How to connect g_{aN}^S to UV sources of CP violation?

2. How to properly impose the n EDM bound?

A new master formula

- Moody-Wilczek formula

[Moody, Wilczek PRD30 (1984)]

$$g_{aN}^S = \frac{\theta_{\text{eff}}}{f_a} \frac{m_u m_d}{m_u + m_d} \langle N | \bar{u}u + \bar{d}d | N \rangle \simeq \theta_{\text{eff}} \left(\frac{17 \text{ MeV}}{f_a} \right)$$

- From LO bary-meson chiral Lagrangian

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

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

meson tadpoles

iso-spin breaking

MW missed a factor 1/2

A new master formula

- Moody-Wilczek formula

[Moody, Wilczek PRD30 (1984)]

$$g_{aN}^S = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\theta_{\text{eff}}}{f_a} \frac{m_u m_d}{m_u + m_d} \langle N | \bar{u}u + \bar{d}d | N \rangle \simeq \frac{1}{2} \theta_{\text{eff}} \left(\frac{17 \text{ MeV}}{f_a} \right)$$

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meson tadpoles

iso-spin breaking

MW missed a factor 1/2

An application: Left-Right

- Low-scale (PQ)Left-Right with P-parity

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

4-quark op. from W_R exchange

$$\mathcal{O}_1^{ud} = (\bar{u}u)(\bar{d}i\gamma_5 d) \quad \xrightarrow{\text{chiral representation}} \quad c_3(U_{11}^\dagger U_{22} - U_{11}U_{22}^\dagger)$$

$$U = \exp \left[\frac{2i}{\sqrt{6}F_0} \eta_0 I + \frac{2i}{F_\pi} \Pi \right]$$

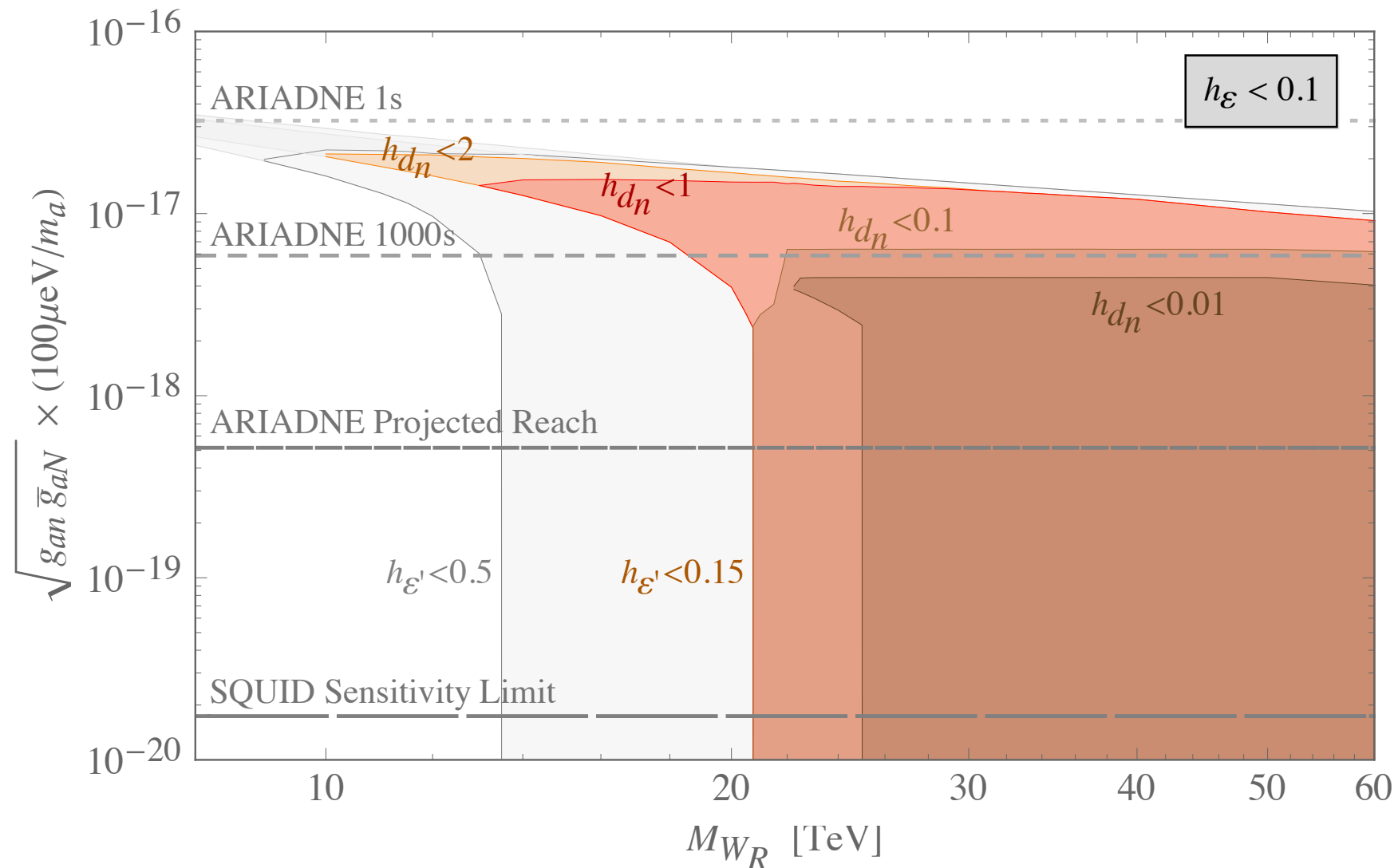
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\langle \pi^0 \rangle}{F_\pi} &\simeq \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \mathcal{C}_1^{[ud]} \frac{c_3}{B_0 F_\pi^2} \frac{m_u + m_d + 4m_s}{m_u m_d + m_d m_s + m_s m_u} \\ \frac{\langle \eta_8 \rangle}{F_\pi} &\simeq \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \mathcal{C}_1^{[ud]} \frac{\sqrt{3}c_3}{B_0 F_\pi^2} \frac{m_d - m_u}{m_u m_d + m_d m_s + m_s m_u} \\ \theta_{\text{eff}} &\simeq \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \mathcal{C}_1^{[ud]} \frac{2c_3}{B_0 F_\pi^2} \frac{m_d - m_u}{m_u m_d} \end{aligned}$$

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[Bertolini, LDL, Nesti [2006.12508](#)
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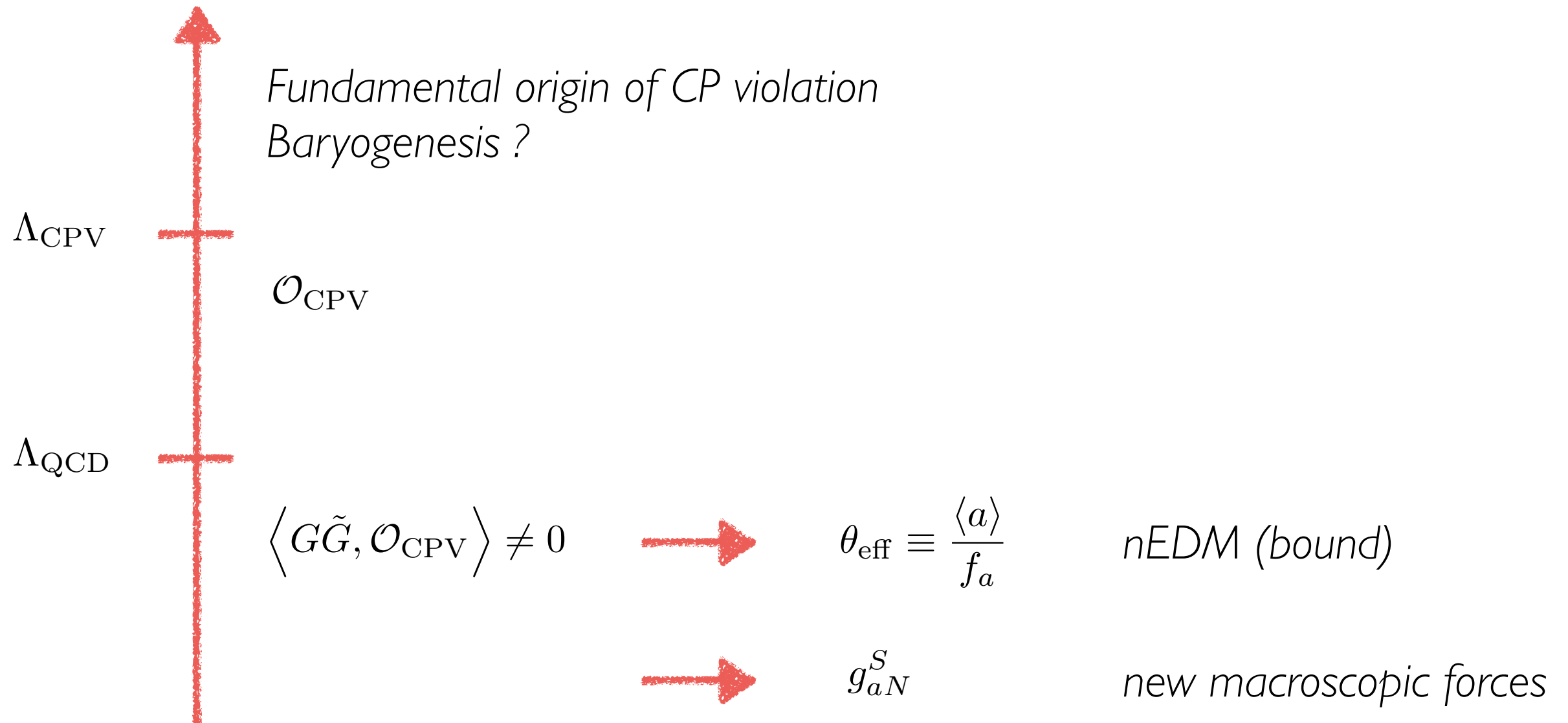
4 CPV observables (ε , ε' , d_n , \bar{g}_{aN}) function of a single phase α $\langle\Phi\rangle = \text{diag}\{v_1, e^{i\alpha}v_2\}$



$$h_{\mathcal{O}} \equiv \frac{\mathcal{O}^{\text{th}}}{\mathcal{O}^{\text{exp}}}$$

Conclusions

- Rethinking the axion as a portal to UV sources of CP-violation



strong CP problem or strong CP opportunity ?

Backup slides

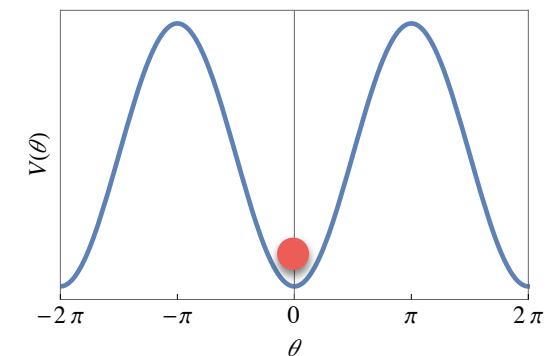
QCD axion & CP

- In absence of UV sources of CP violation (e.g. in QCD)

$$\begin{aligned}
 e^{-V_4 E(\theta_{\text{eff}})} &= \int \mathcal{D}\varphi e^{-S_0(\varphi) + i\theta_{\text{eff}} \int G\tilde{G}} \\
 \varphi \xrightarrow{\text{CP}} \varphi' &= \int \mathcal{D}\varphi' e^{-S_0(\varphi') + i\theta_{\text{eff}} \int G'\tilde{G}'} \\
 &= \int \mathcal{D}\varphi e^{-S_0(\varphi) - i\theta_{\text{eff}} \int G\tilde{G}} = e^{-V_4 E(-\theta_{\text{eff}})}
 \end{aligned}$$



$$E(\theta_{\text{eff}}) = E(-\theta_{\text{eff}})$$



- However CP is violated in the SM by the CKM phase

$$S_0(\varphi') \neq S_0(\varphi)$$

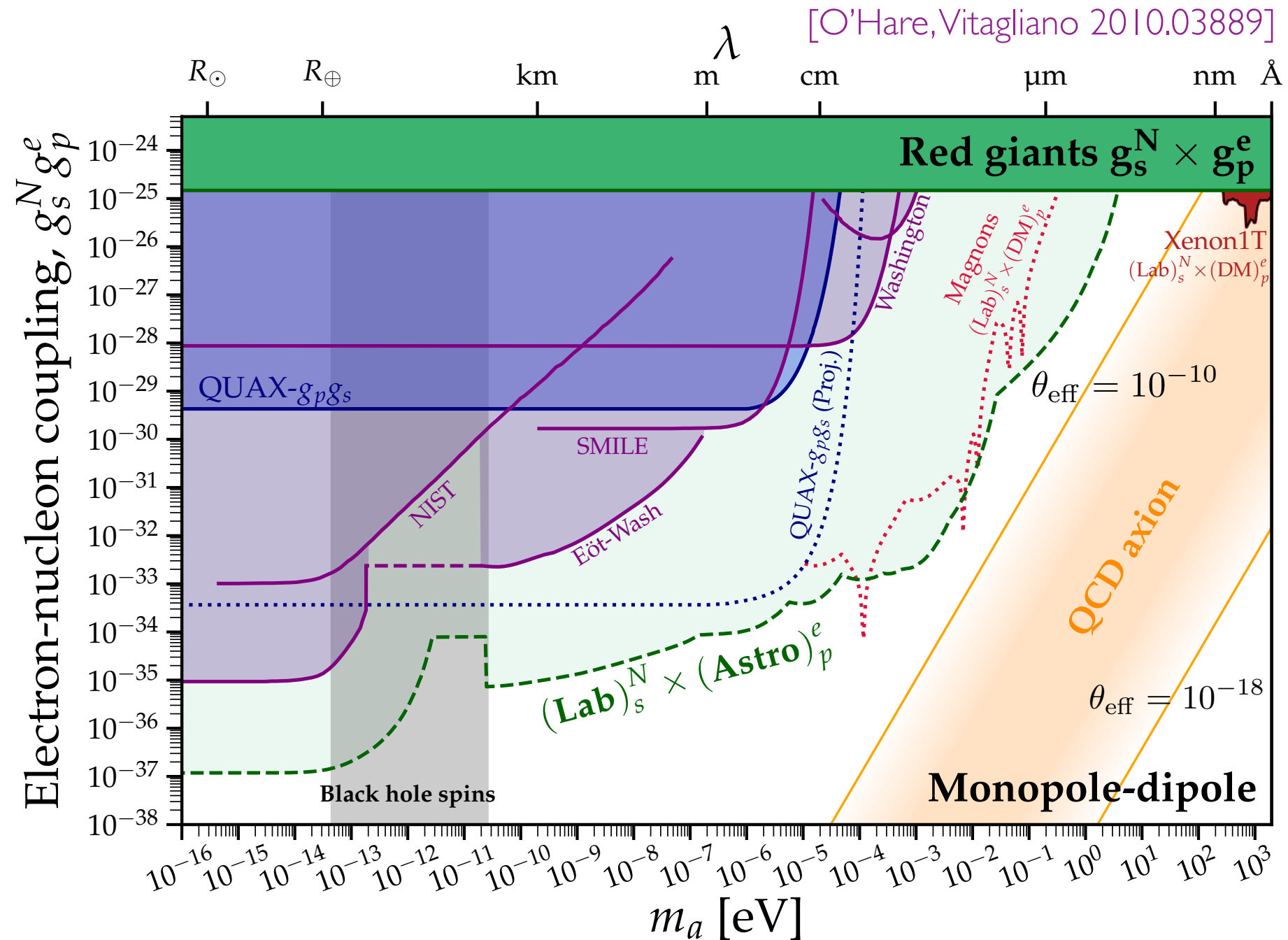


$$E(\theta_{\text{eff}}) \neq E(-\theta_{\text{eff}})$$

the CKM sources an odd piece for the potential, responsible for an axion VEV

Axion-mediated forces

- Monopole-dipole (electron)



Axion-mediated forces

- Monopole-Monopole

