

# Intro to Axions

## Particle Physics @ Low Energies

J. Jaeckel<sup>\*\*\*</sup>

S. Abel<sup>†</sup>, J. Berges<sup>\*\*</sup>, B. Doebrich<sup>z</sup>, L. Gastaldo<sup>\*\*</sup>,  
M. Goodsell<sup>xx</sup>, H. Gies<sup>o</sup>, F. Kahlhoefer<sup>\*</sup>, S. Knirck<sup>\*\*</sup>,  
V. Khoze<sup>†</sup>, A. Lobanov<sup>y</sup>, J. Redondo<sup>x</sup>,  
A. Ringwald<sup>\*</sup>, U. Schmidt<sup>\*\*</sup>, K. Schmidt-Hoberg<sup>\*</sup>  
and The FUNK Collaboration

<sup>\*\*</sup>ITP Heidelberg, <sup>z</sup>CERN, <sup>†</sup>IPPP Durham, <sup>\*</sup>DESY,  
<sup>y</sup>MPIfR Bonn, <sup>x</sup>U. Zaragoza, <sup>xx</sup>Paris LPTHE, <sup>o</sup>ITP Jena



This used to be a funny slide.

# Where we want to go...

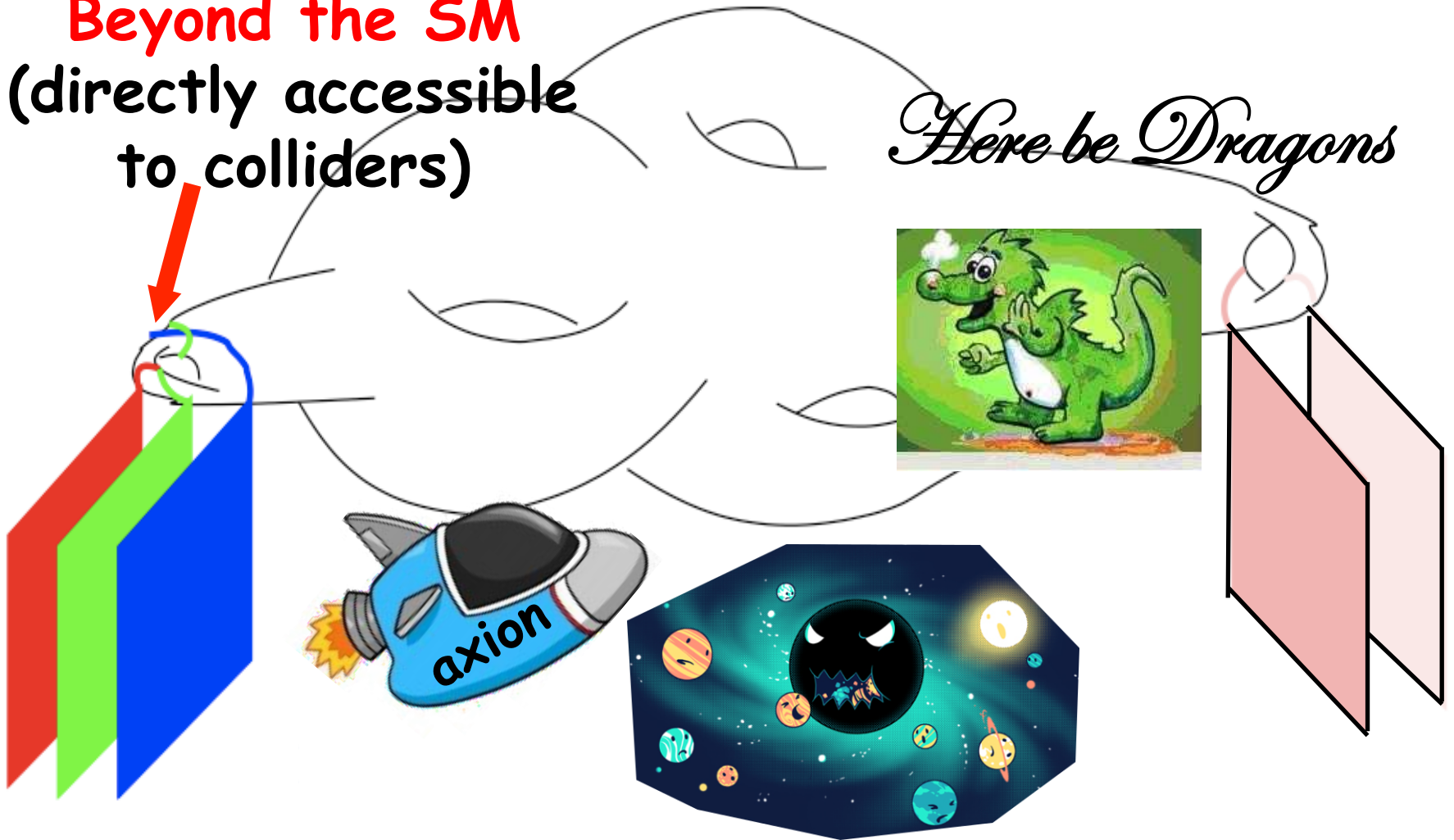
The Standard Model

+

**Beyond the SM**  
(directly accessible  
to colliders)

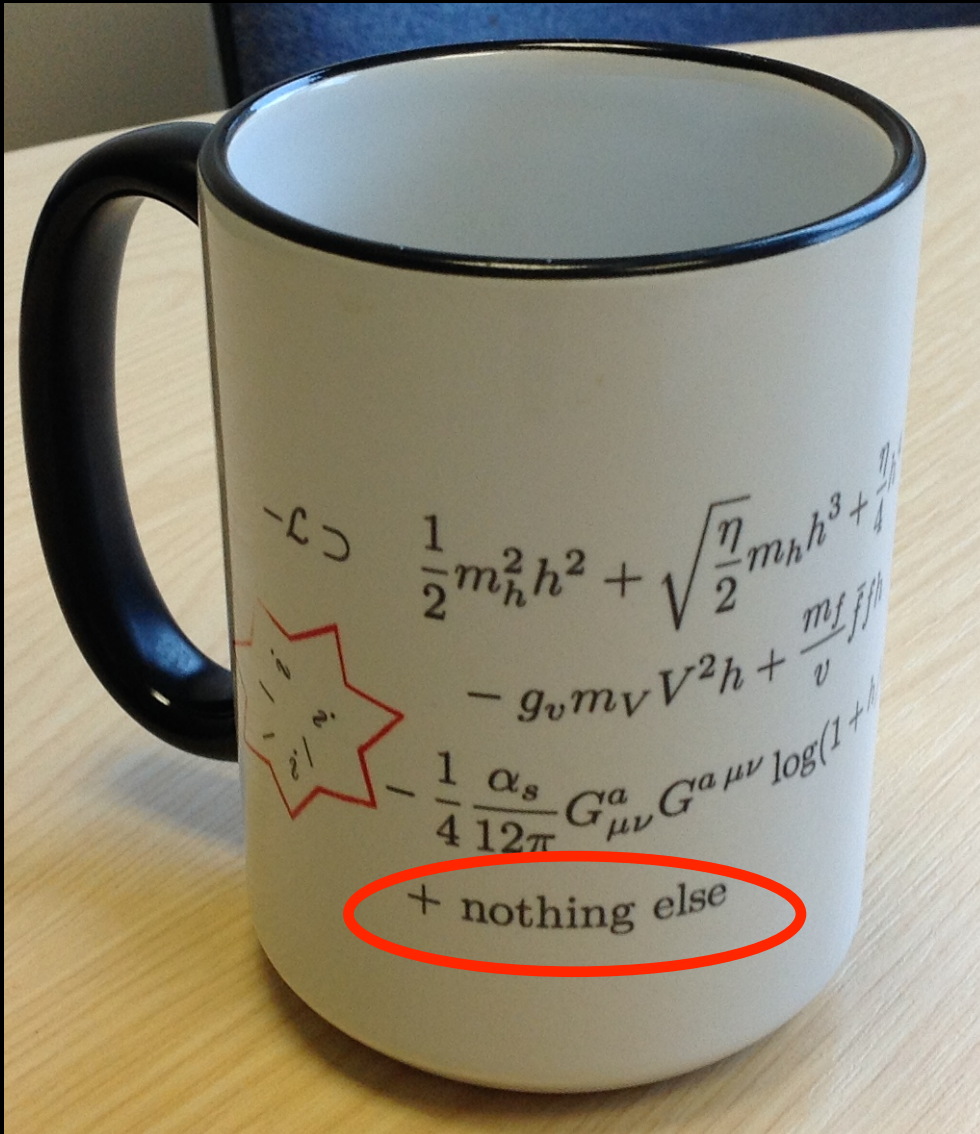
The Hidden Sector

*Here be Dragons*



**We need...**

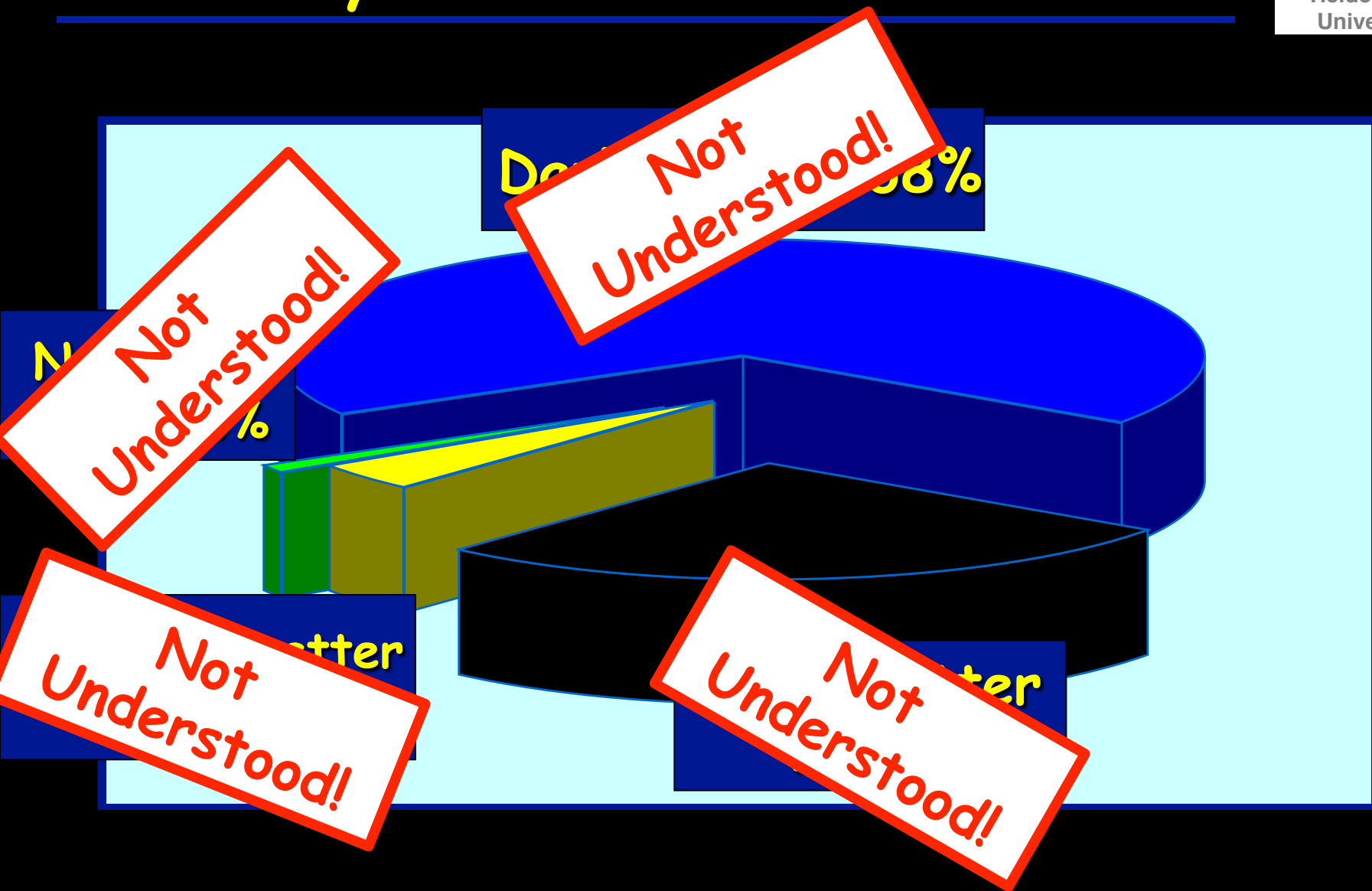
**Physics beyond the  
Standard Model**



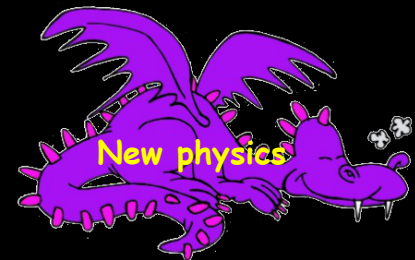
$$-\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2}m_h^2 h^2 + \sqrt{\frac{\eta}{2}}m_h h^3 + \frac{\eta}{4}h^4$$
$$-g_v m_V V^2 h + \frac{m_f \bar{f} f}{v}$$
$$-\frac{1}{4} \frac{\alpha_s}{12\pi} G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu} \log(1 + \frac{h}{v})$$

+ nothing else

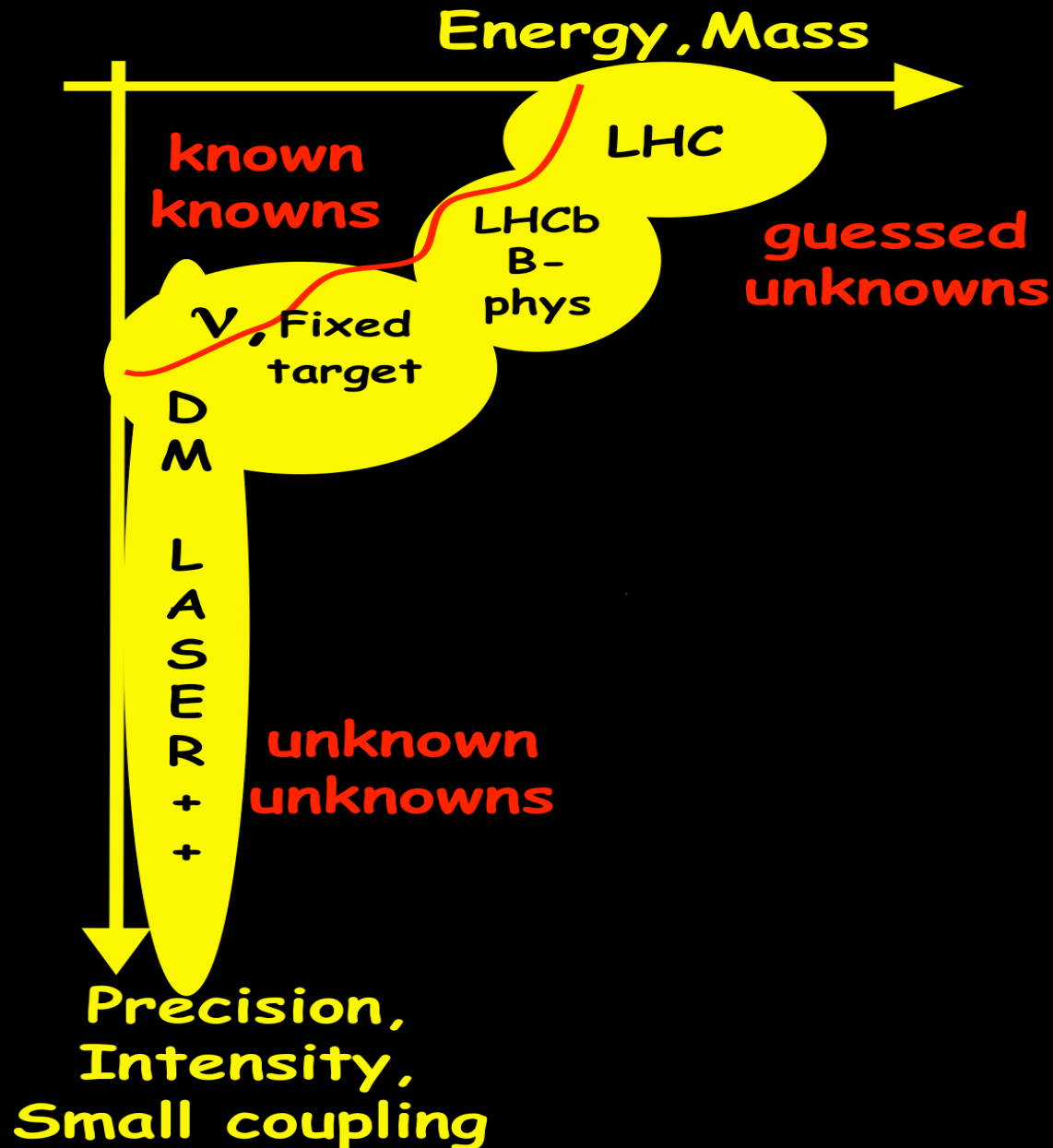
# Inventory of the Universe



# Where does it hide?

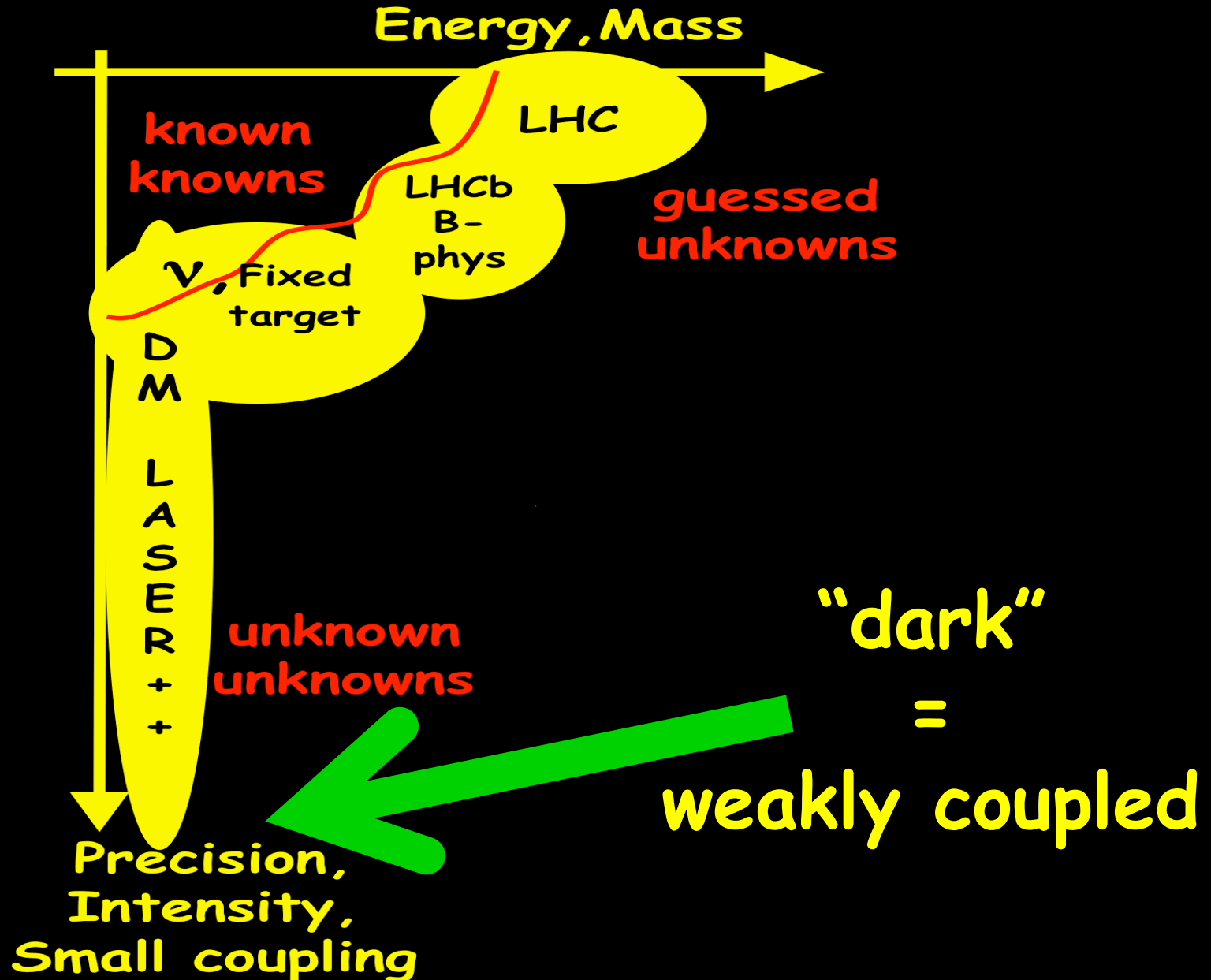


# Exploring is (at least) 2 dimensional





# Exploring is (at least) 2 dimensional



What are Axiom?  
And why do we need them?

A „visible“ Hint  
for new Physics

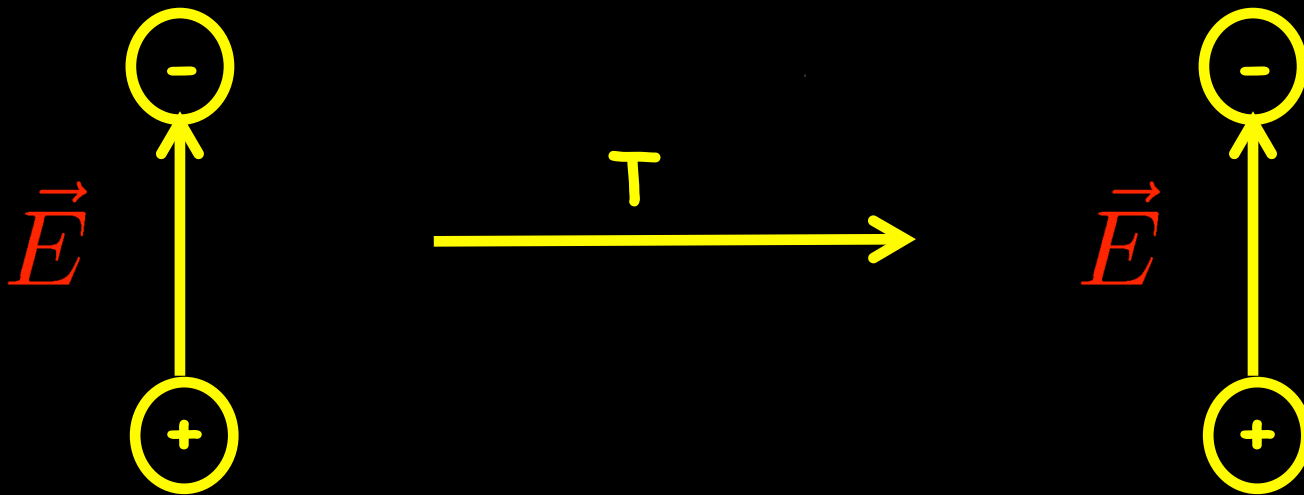
The strong CP Problem

# A dirty little secret...

$$S = \int d^4x \left[ -\frac{1}{4} G^{\mu\nu} G_{\mu\nu} - \frac{\theta}{4} G^{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu} + i\bar{\psi} D_\mu \gamma^\mu \psi + \bar{\psi} M \psi \right]$$

”  $\sim \theta \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}$ ”

- The  $\theta$ -term violates time reversal (T=CP)!

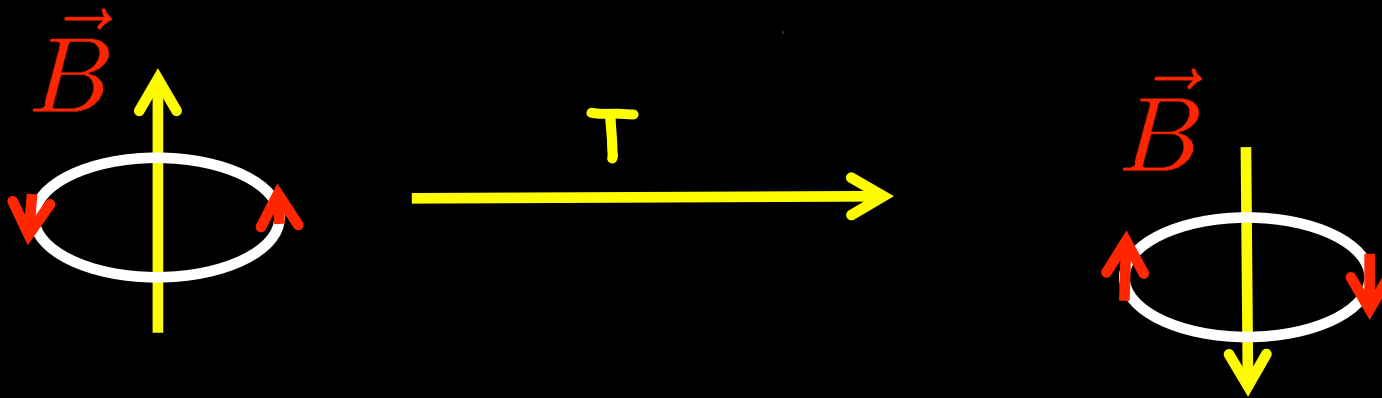


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$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \text{CP} & \\ \vec{E} & \longrightarrow & \vec{E} \\ \vec{B} & \longrightarrow & -\vec{B} \\ \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B} & \longrightarrow & -\vec{E} \cdot \vec{B} \end{array}$$

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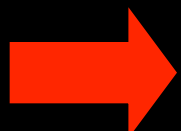
$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \text{T} & \\ \vec{E} & \longrightarrow & \vec{E} \\ \vec{B} & \longrightarrow & -\vec{B} \\ \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B} & \longrightarrow & -\vec{E} \cdot \vec{B} \end{array}$$

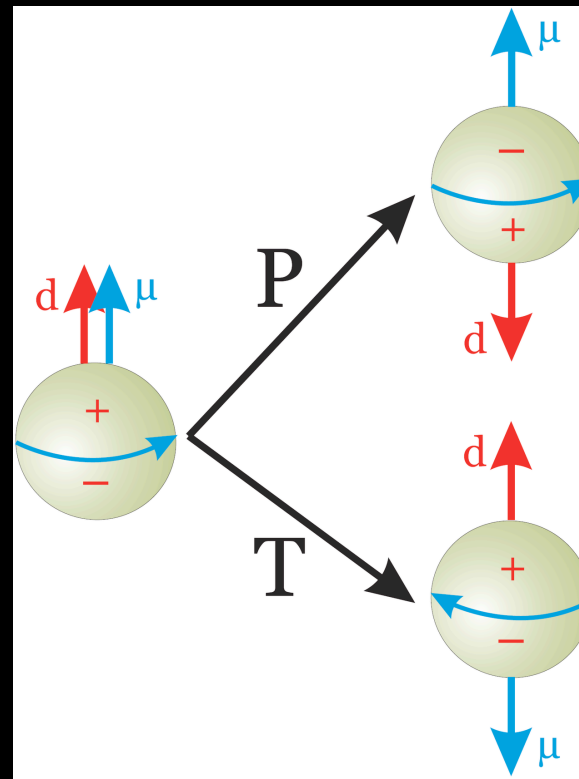
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”  $\sim \theta \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}$ ”

- The  $\theta$ -term violates time reversal (T=CP)!
- Connected to strong interactions!

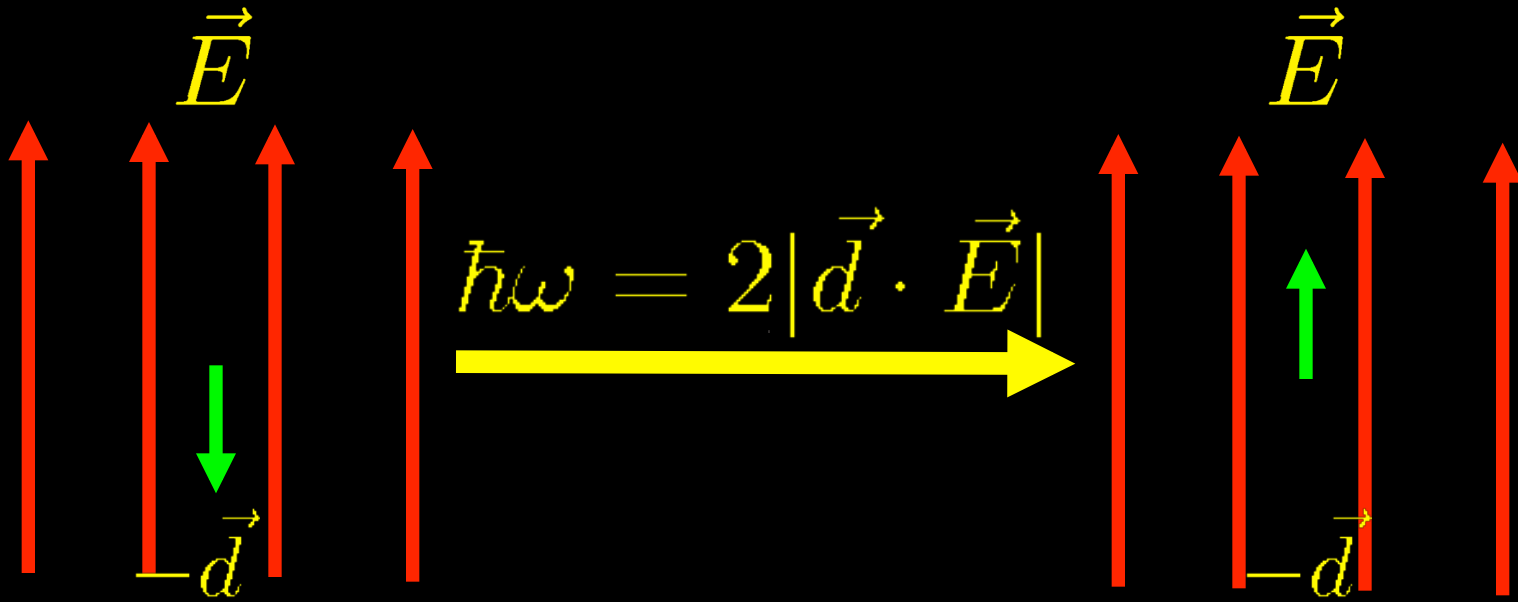
 **Electric  
dipole moment  
of the neutron!**





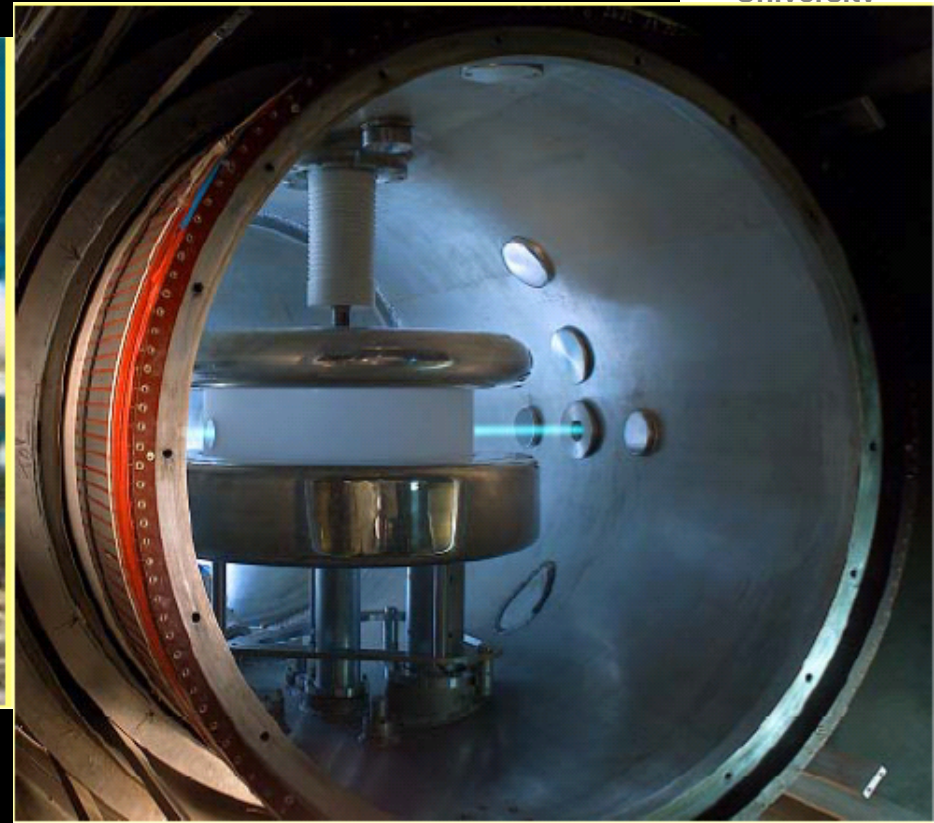
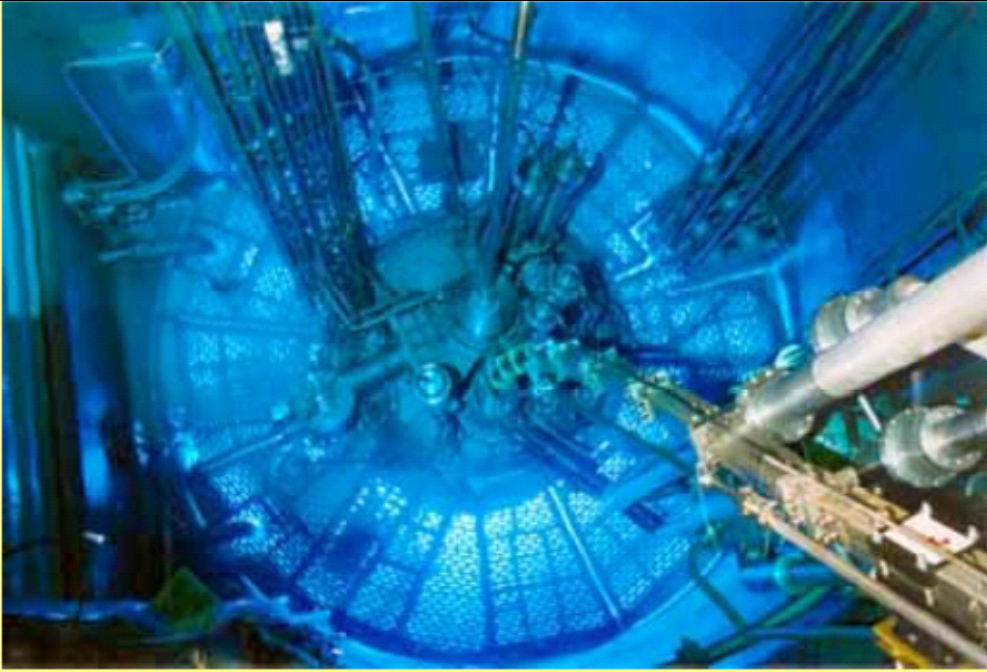
# Measure neutron electric dipole moment

- $\theta$  would cause neutron EDM  $\longrightarrow$  Experiment



$\longrightarrow$  Measure transition frequency.

# No neutron electric dipole moment...



$$|\vec{d}| < 3 \cdot 10^{-26} \text{ e cm} \\ = 3 \cdot 10^{-13} \text{ e fm}$$

# What do we expect?

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- Two mass scales in the game:

$$m_q \sim 1 - 10 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \sim 300 \text{ MeV}$$

$$d_n \sim e \times \text{length} \times \theta \sim e \times \frac{m_q}{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2} \times \theta$$

$$\sim (3 - 30) \times 10^{-16} e \text{ cm } \theta$$

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# Implications

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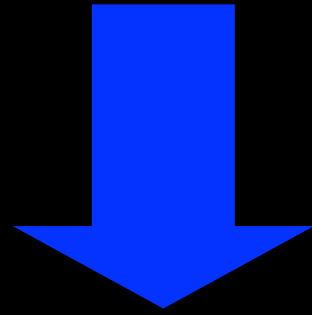
- Detailed calculation gives

$$|\vec{d}| \sim 1 - 10 \times 10^{-16} e \text{ cm } \theta$$

  $|\theta| < 3 \cdot 10^{-9}$

 **Extremely unnatural!**

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Strong CP Problem

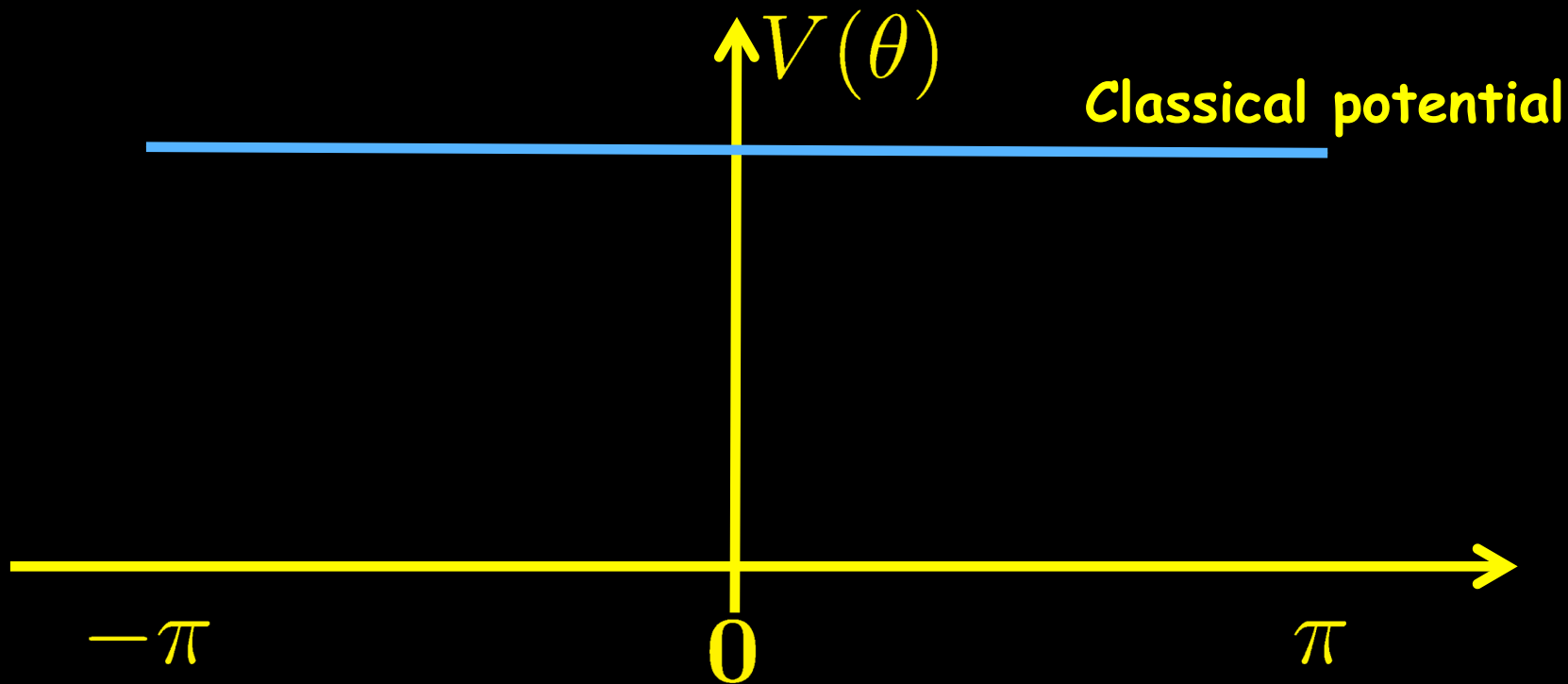
The axion solution  
to the strong CP problem

In pictures...

# The axion solution to the strong CP problem

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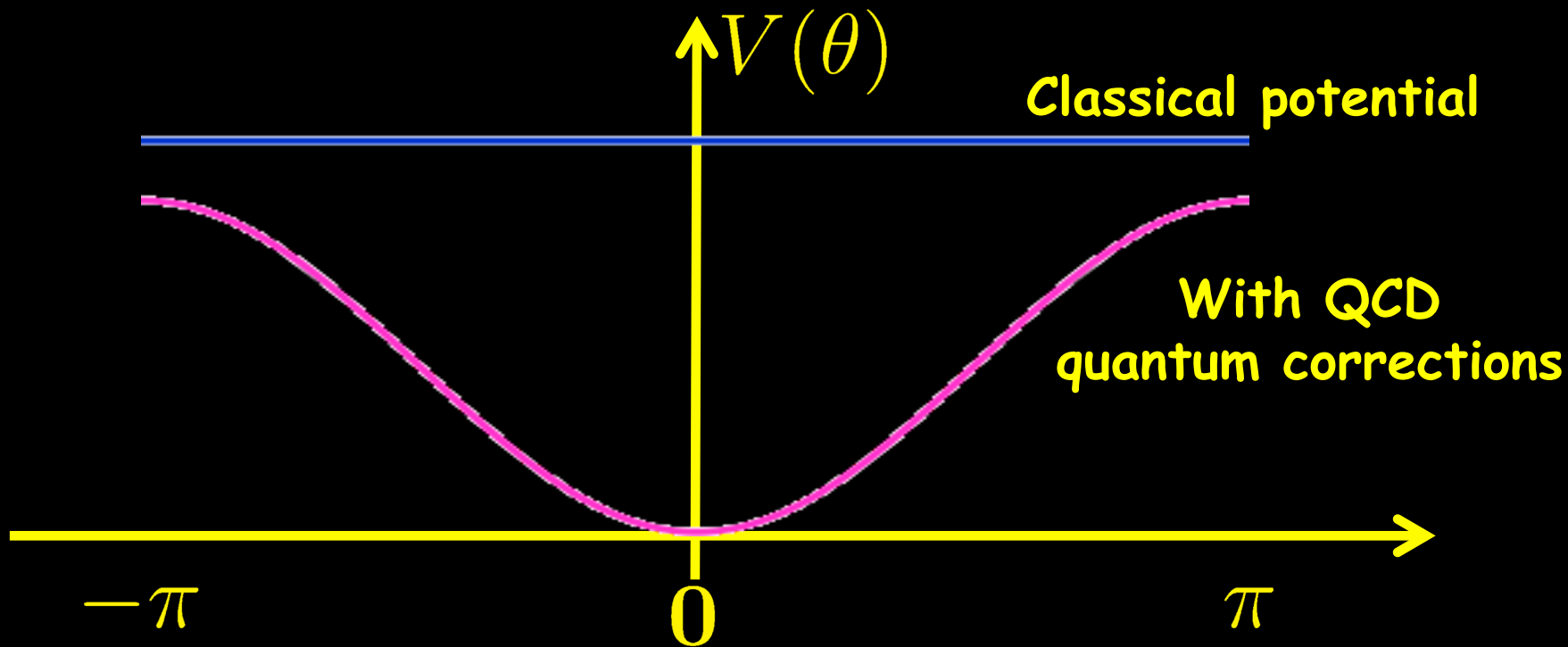
- Make  $\theta$  dynamical  $\rightarrow$  it can change its value





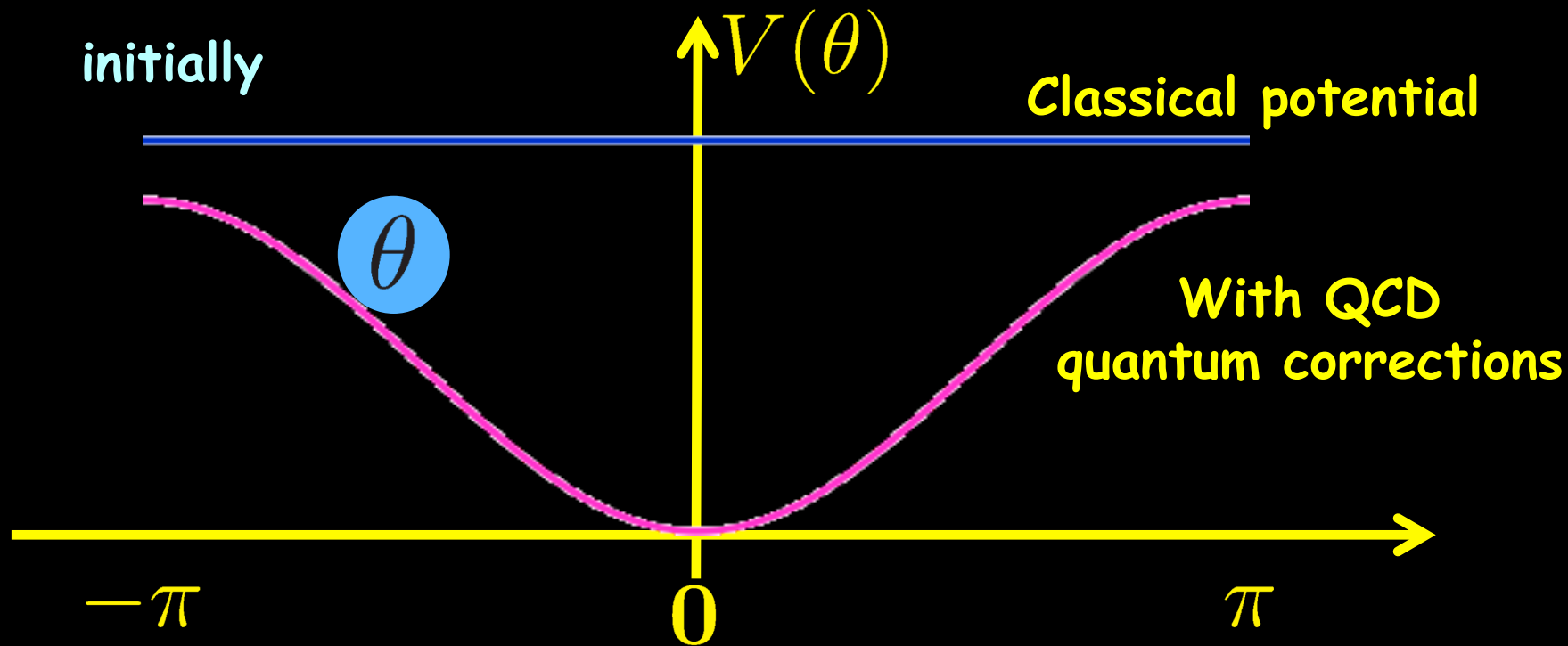
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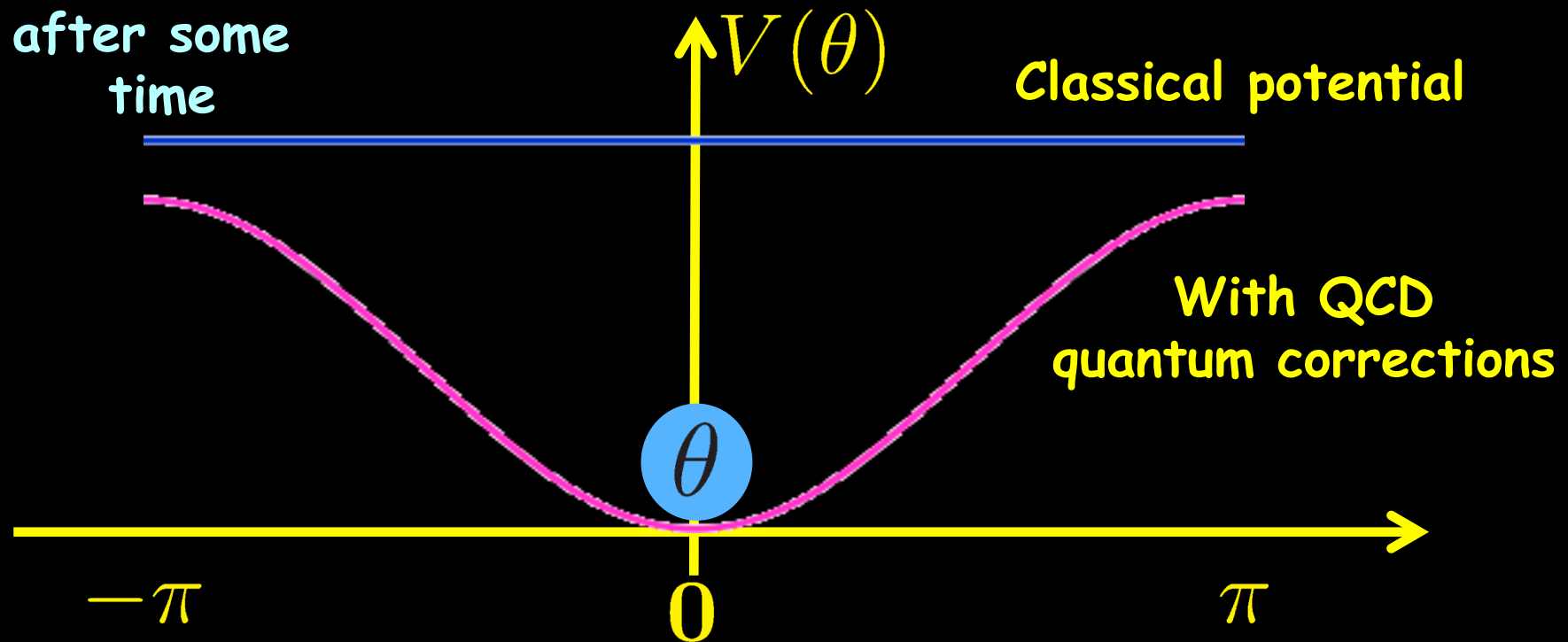
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# The axion solution to the strong CP problem

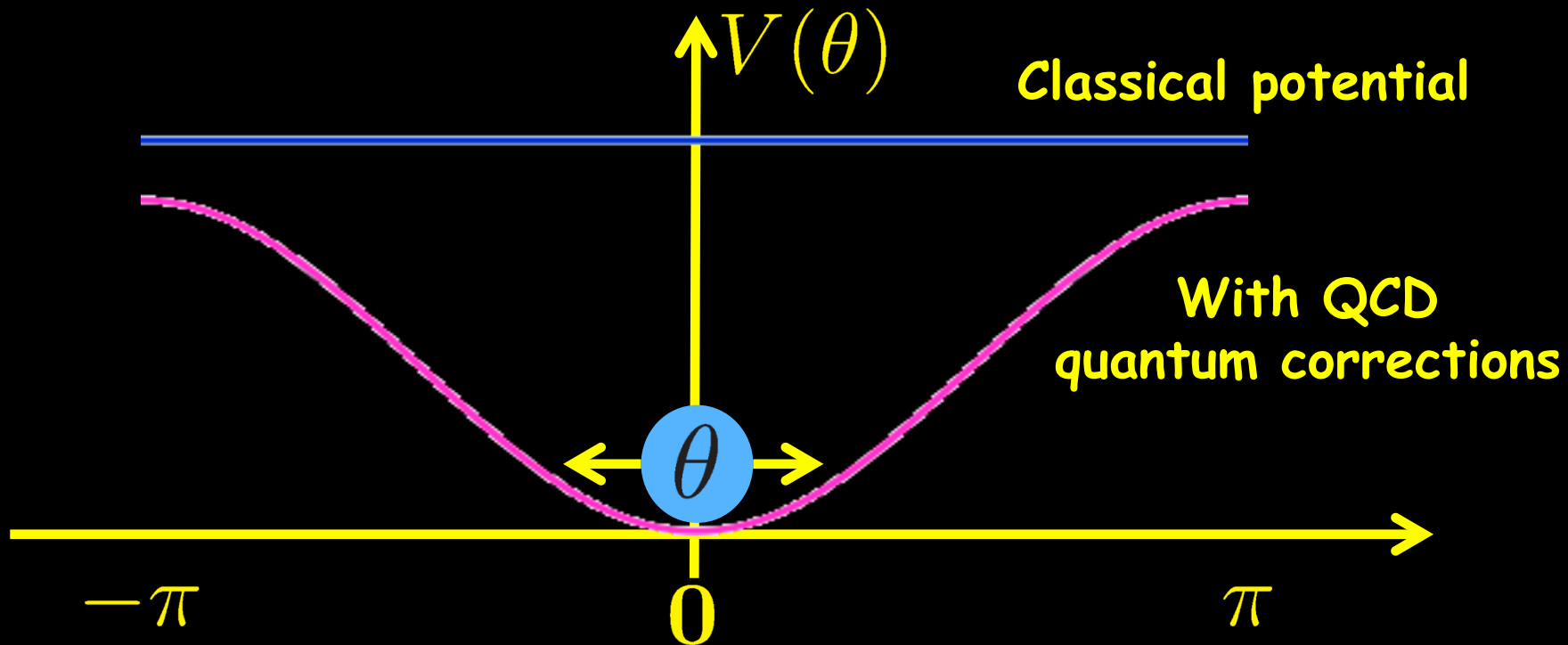
- Make  $\theta$  dynamical  $\rightarrow$  it can change its value



$\rightarrow$  QCD likes to be CP conserving (if we allow it)

# The axion solution to the strong CP problem

- Make  $\theta$  dynamical  $\rightarrow$  it can change its value



$\rightarrow$  Can still move

$\rightarrow$  new particle = axion

- Classical flatness from symmetry
- Quantum corrections are small
- New **light** particle: **The Axion**  
(it's a **Weakly Interacting Sub-eV Particle**)



In Equations...

# A Dynamical $\theta$

---

- **Idea:**
  - Make  $\theta$  a dynamical degree of freedom a
  - Let  $a$  have no tree level potential
  - Let  $a$  have only derivative couplings
- **Then:**

$$\begin{aligned}\exp\left(-\int_x V(a)\right) &= \left| \int \mathcal{D}A_\mu \exp(-S_{eff}[\phi, A^\mu]) \exp\left(-1\frac{a}{32\pi^2} \int_x G^{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}\right) \right| \\ &\leq \int \mathcal{D}A_\mu \left| \exp(-S_{eff}[\phi, A^\mu]) \exp\left(-1\frac{a}{32\pi^2} \int_x G^{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}\right) \right| \\ &\leq \int \mathcal{D}A_\mu \exp(-S_{eff}[\phi, A^\mu]) \\ &\leq \exp\left(-\int_x V[0]\right)\end{aligned}$$

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# A Dynamical $\theta$

---

- **Idea:**
  - Make  $\theta$  a dynamical degree of freedom a.
  - Let a have no tree level potential
  - Let a have only derivative couplings
- **Then:**

$$\Rightarrow V[a = \theta = 0] \leq V[\theta] \quad \forall \theta$$

$\Rightarrow \theta = a$  will evolve to  $a = \theta = 0$

$\Rightarrow$  CP is conserved

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# What is a?

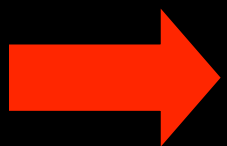
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- **Properties:**

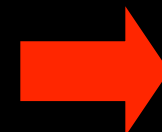
- Let  $a$  be a dynamical degree of freedom.
- Let  $a$  have no tree level potential
- Let  $a$  have only derivative couplings

- $a \in [0, 2\pi]$  since

$$\int d^4x \frac{F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}}{32\pi^2} = n \in \mathbb{Z}$$



$a$  is Goldstone boson  
of a  $U(1)$  symmetry



**Axion!**

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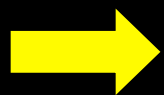
# Peccei-Quinn Symmetry

- Toy model:

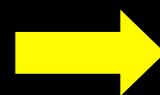
$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F^2 + i\bar{\psi}D_\mu\gamma^\mu\psi - |\partial_\mu\phi|^2 - \mu^2|\phi|^2 - \lambda|\phi|^4 \\ + \bar{\psi}\left(Y\phi\frac{1+\gamma_5}{2} + Y^*\phi^*\frac{1-\gamma_5}{2}\right)\psi$$

- **U(1):**  $\phi \rightarrow \exp(i\beta)\phi$   
 $\psi \rightarrow \exp\left(-i\frac{\beta}{2}\gamma_5\right)\psi$

- If  $\mu^2 < 0$  we have SSB



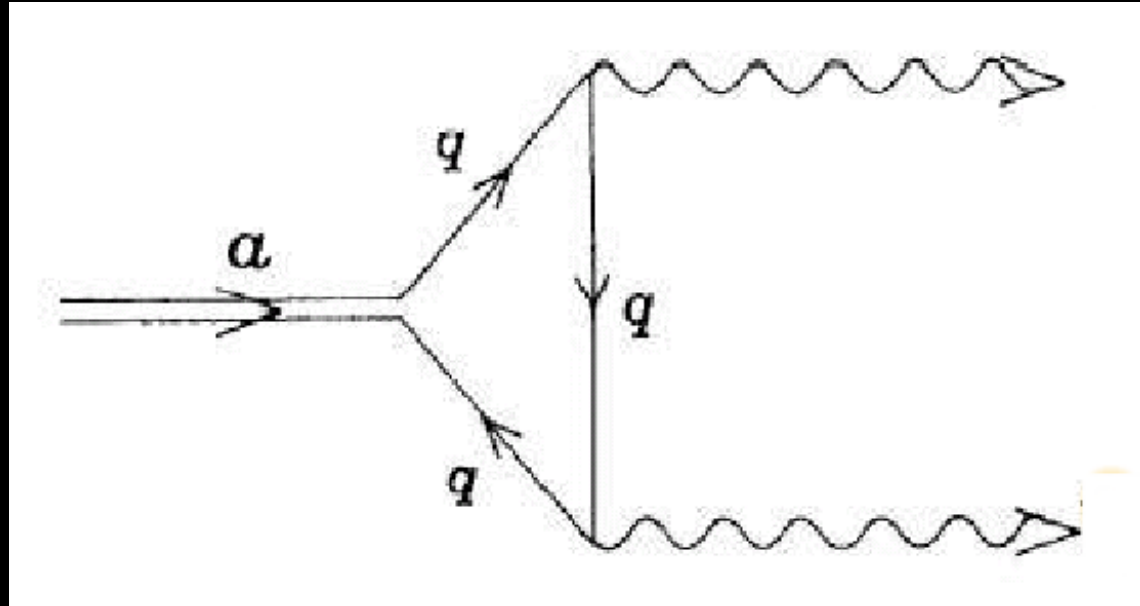
Phase is Goldstone



Use it as Axion

# The Coupling to $G\tilde{G}$ and $F\tilde{F}$

- A diagram



- And a dimensional argument:

$$g \sim \frac{1}{\text{mass}} \sim \frac{1}{f_a}$$

# The Coupling to $F \tilde{F}$

- Adler-Bell-Jackiw anomaly

$$\partial_\mu j^\mu = \frac{g^2}{16\pi^2} F^{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu}$$

- Chiral rotations not a good symmetry: it is anomalous

$$d\mu' = \mathcal{D}\psi' \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi}' = d\mu \exp \left( -1 \int_x \frac{\beta}{2} \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \text{Tr} F^{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu} \right)$$

$$\psi' = \exp \left( -i \frac{\beta}{2} \gamma_5 \right) \psi = \frac{a}{f_a}$$

# The Coupling to $F \tilde{F}$

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$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{\alpha}{4\pi f_a} a F^{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu}$$

# The mass of the Axion

- $U(1)_{PQ}$  is not exact. It's anomalous!

➡ Goldstone ➡ Pseudogoldstone

- Dimensional considerations

- SSB scale

$$\sim f_a$$

- Quark masses

$$\sim m_q \sim m_\pi$$

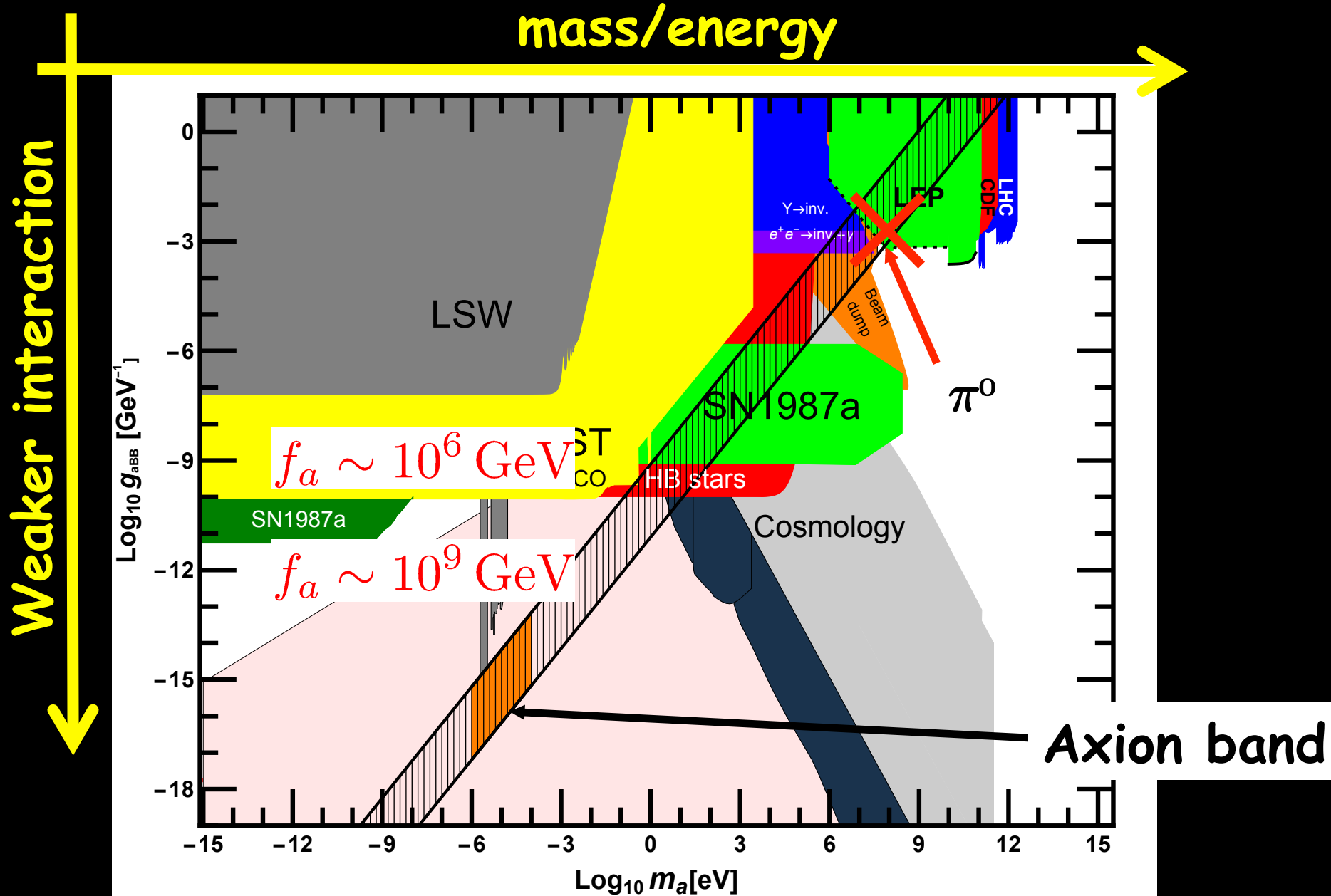
- QCD scale

$$\sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$$

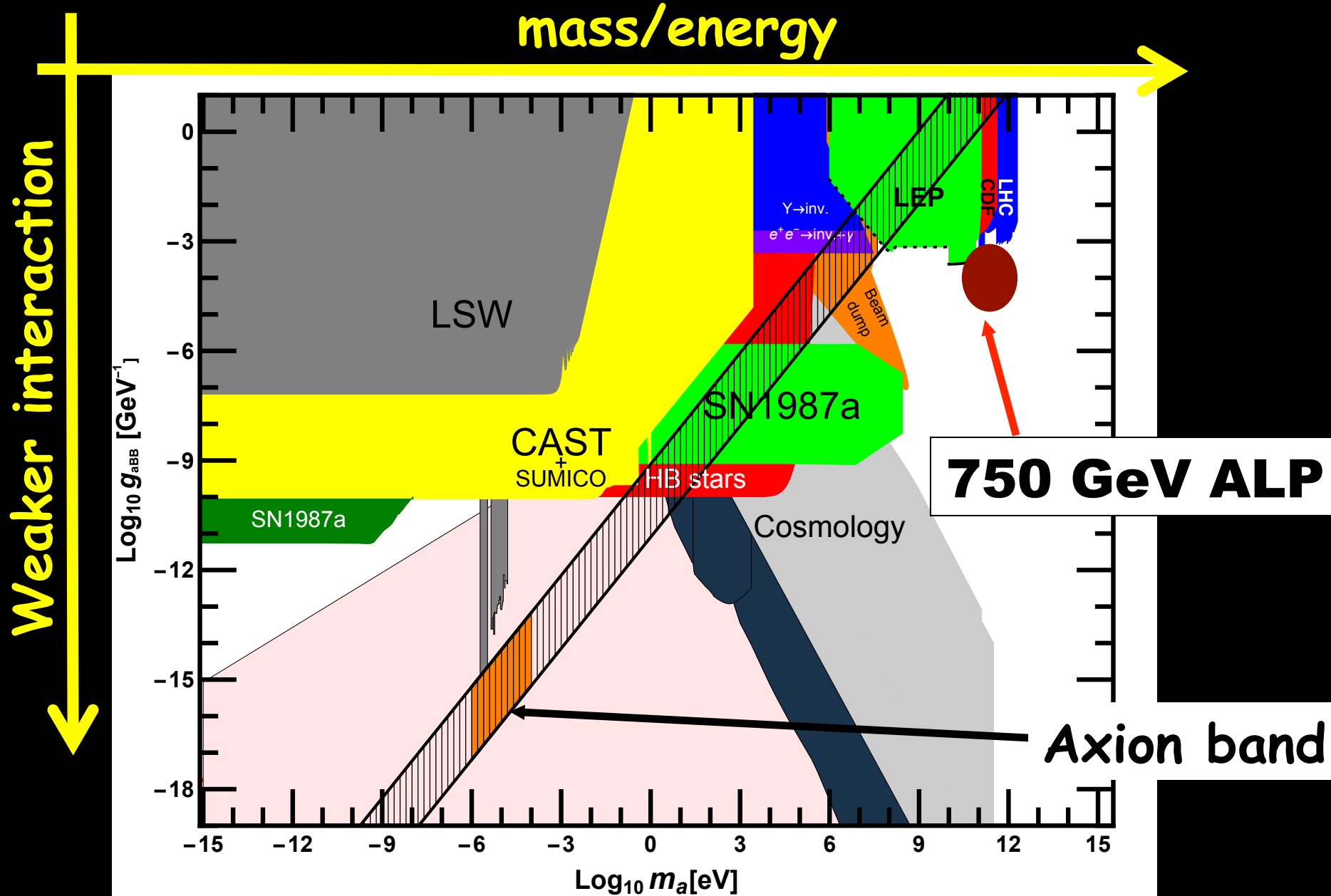
➡ PseudoGoldstone mass

$$m_a^2 \sim \frac{m_\pi^2 \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}{f_a^2}$$

# Axion-like Particles

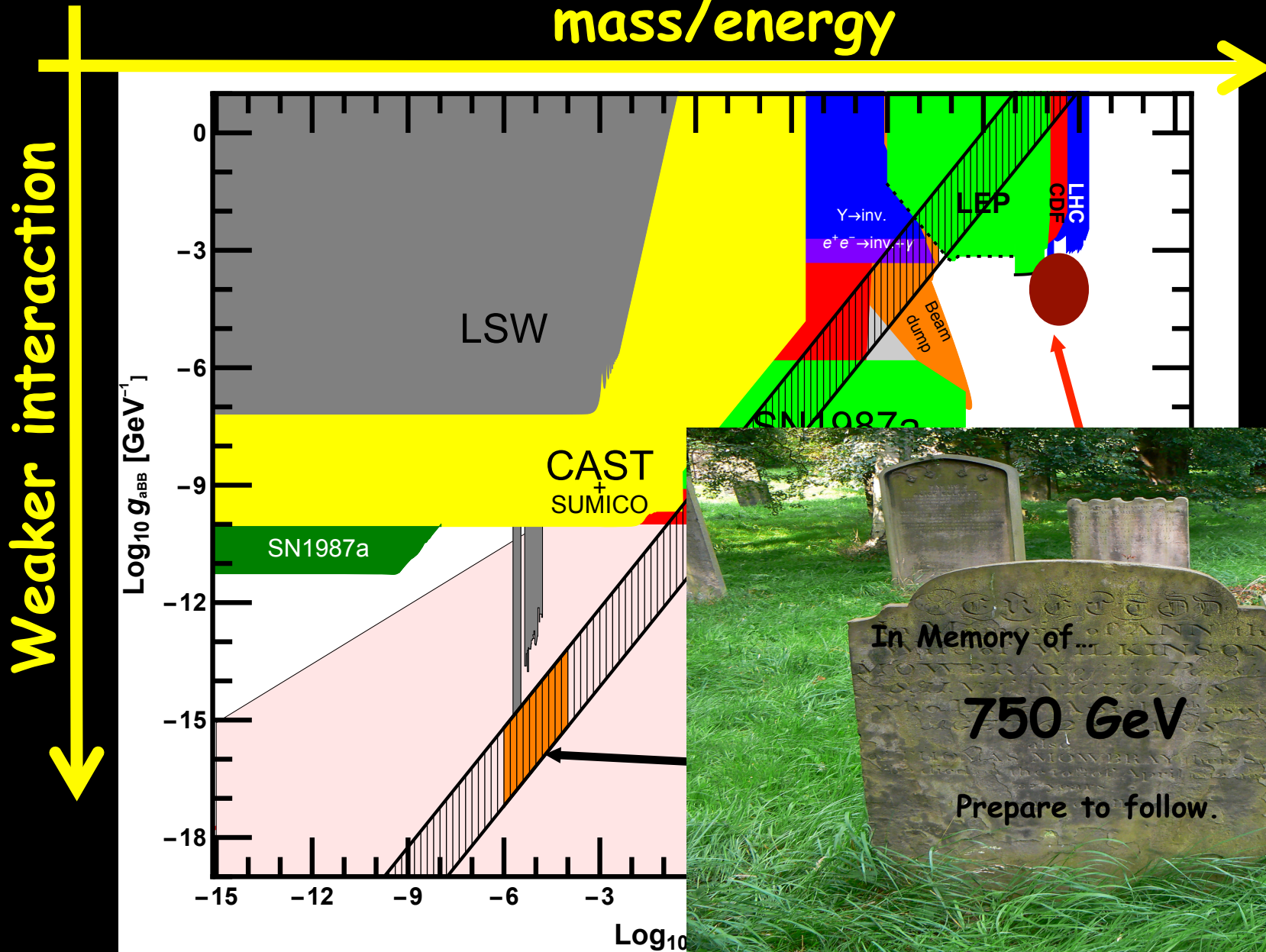


# Axion-like Particles





# Axion-like Particles

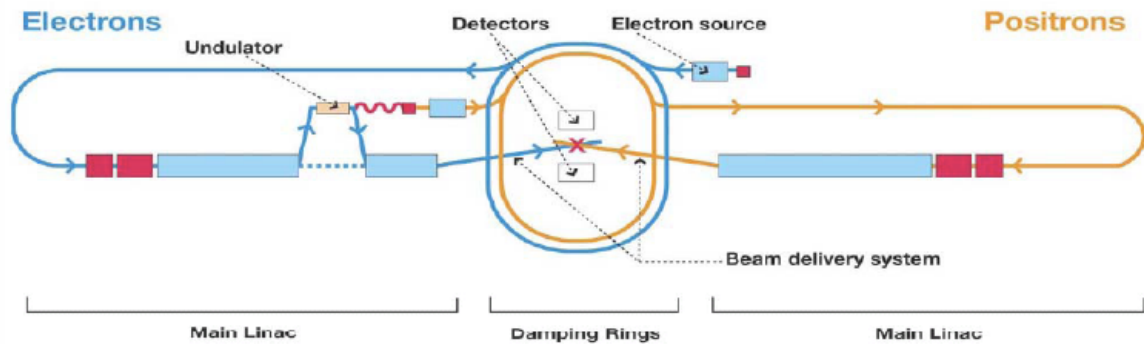
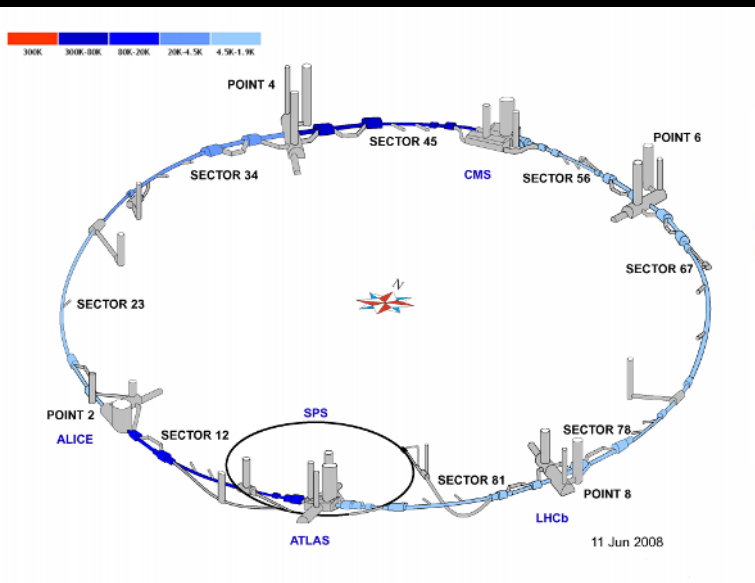


How to find the Axion...

# Exploring fundamental high energy physics...

- The direct approach: **MORE POWER**

**LHC, Tevatron + ILC, CLIC**



- Detects most things within energy range
- E.g. may find SUSY particles, WIMPs etc.

# But...

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- May miss very weakly interacting matter (Axions, WIMPs, WISPs...)
- Current maximal energy few TeV

# But...

---

- May miss very weakly interacting matter (Axions, WIMPs, WISPs...)
- Current maximal energy few TeV
  
- Man it's DANGEROUS...



# But...

---

- May miss very weakly interacting matter (Axions, WIMPs, WISPs...)
- Current maximal energy few TeV
  
- Or much much more horrifying:

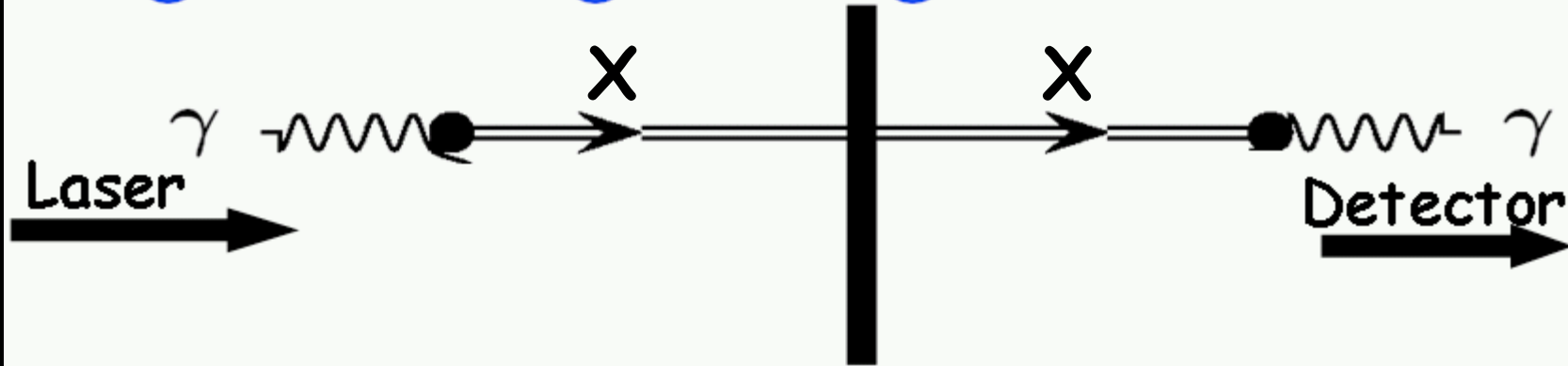
**NO SIGNAL ABOVE BACKGROUND!**

# The Power of Low Energy Experiments

Complementary approaches

# Light shining through walls

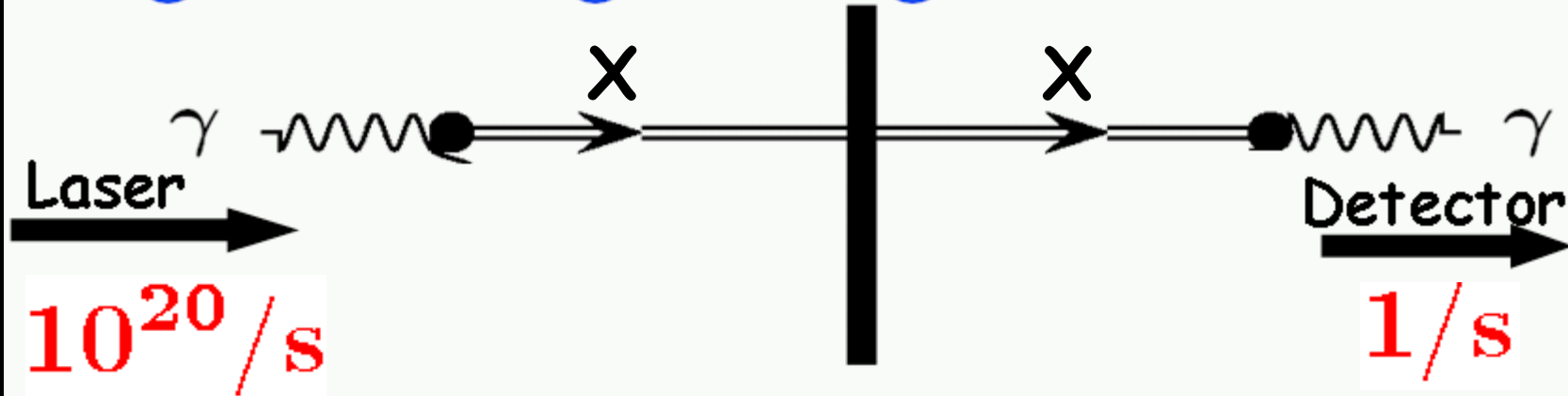
“Light shining through a wall”





# Light shining through walls

“Light shining through a wall”

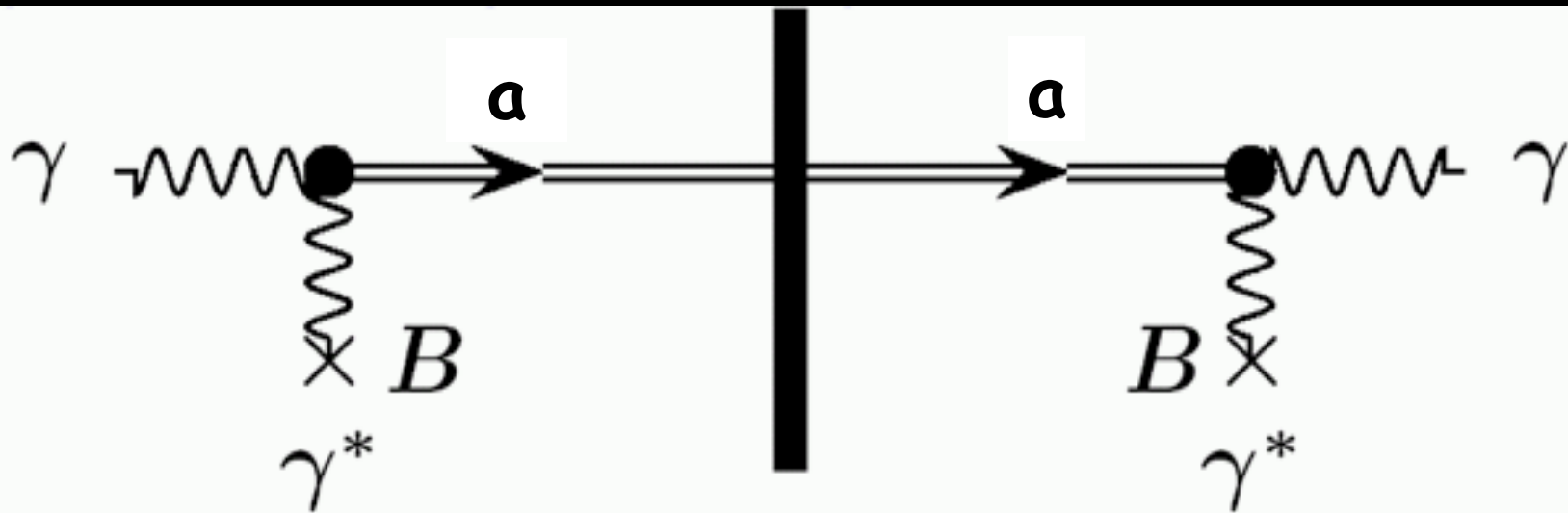


- **Test**  $P_{\gamma \rightarrow X \rightarrow \gamma} \lesssim 10^{-20}$
- **Enormous precision!**
- **Study extremely weak couplings!**

# Photons coming through the wall!

- It could be Axion(-like particle)s!

- Coupling to two photons:  $\frac{1}{M} a \tilde{F} F \sim \frac{1}{M} a \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}$



$$P_{\gamma \rightarrow a \rightarrow \gamma} \sim N_{\text{pass}} \left( \frac{BL}{M} \right)^4$$

# Light Shining Through Walls

- A lot of activity

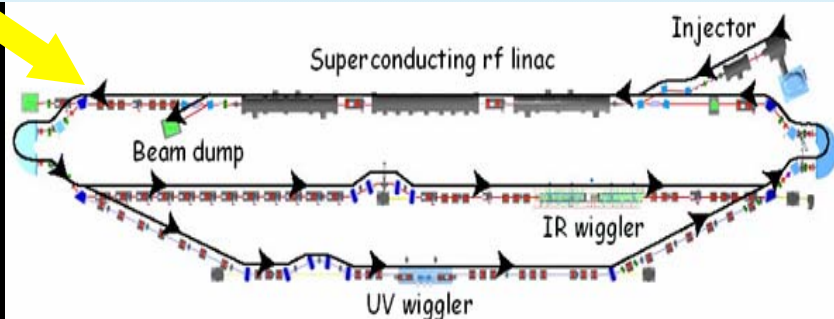
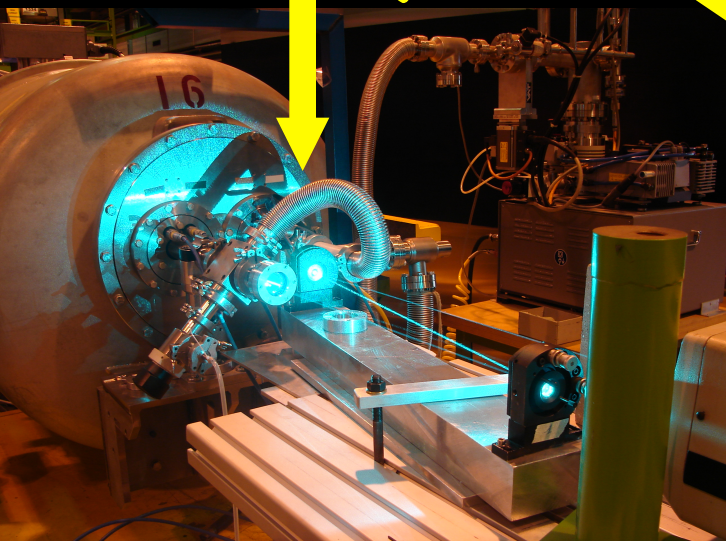
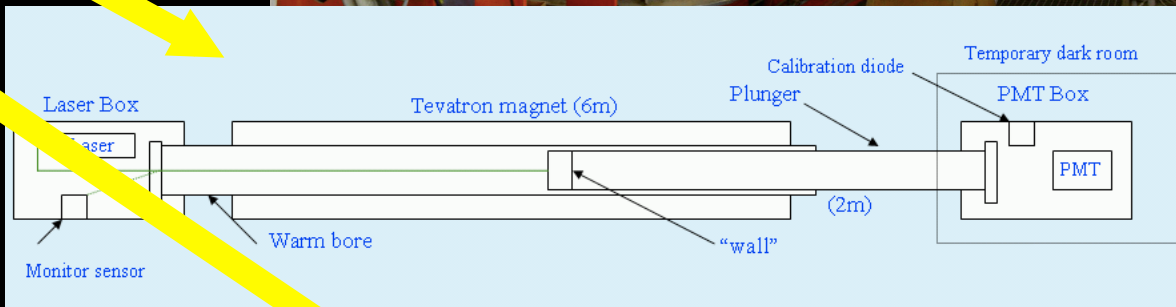
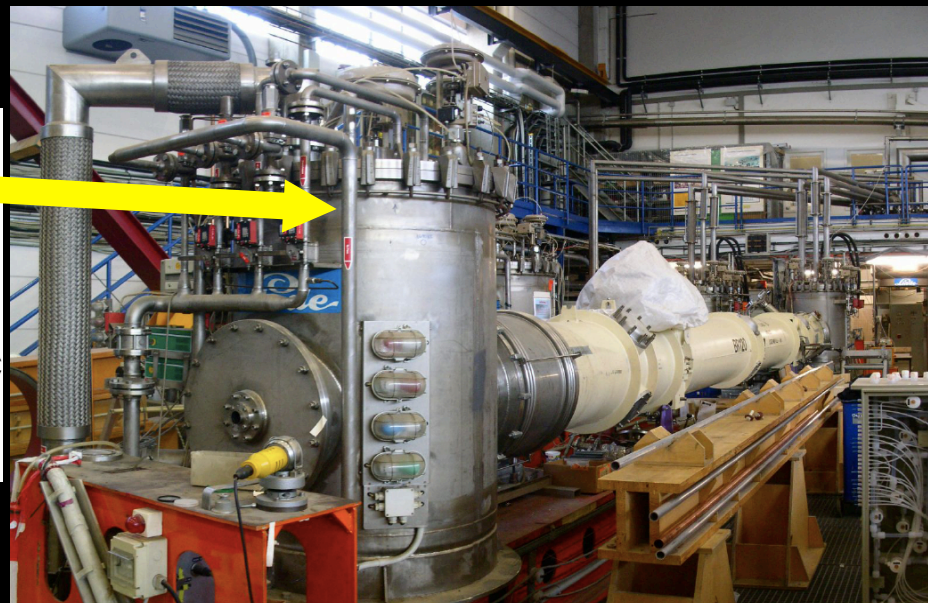
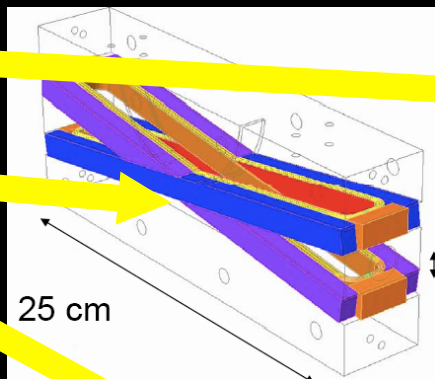
- ALPS

- BMV

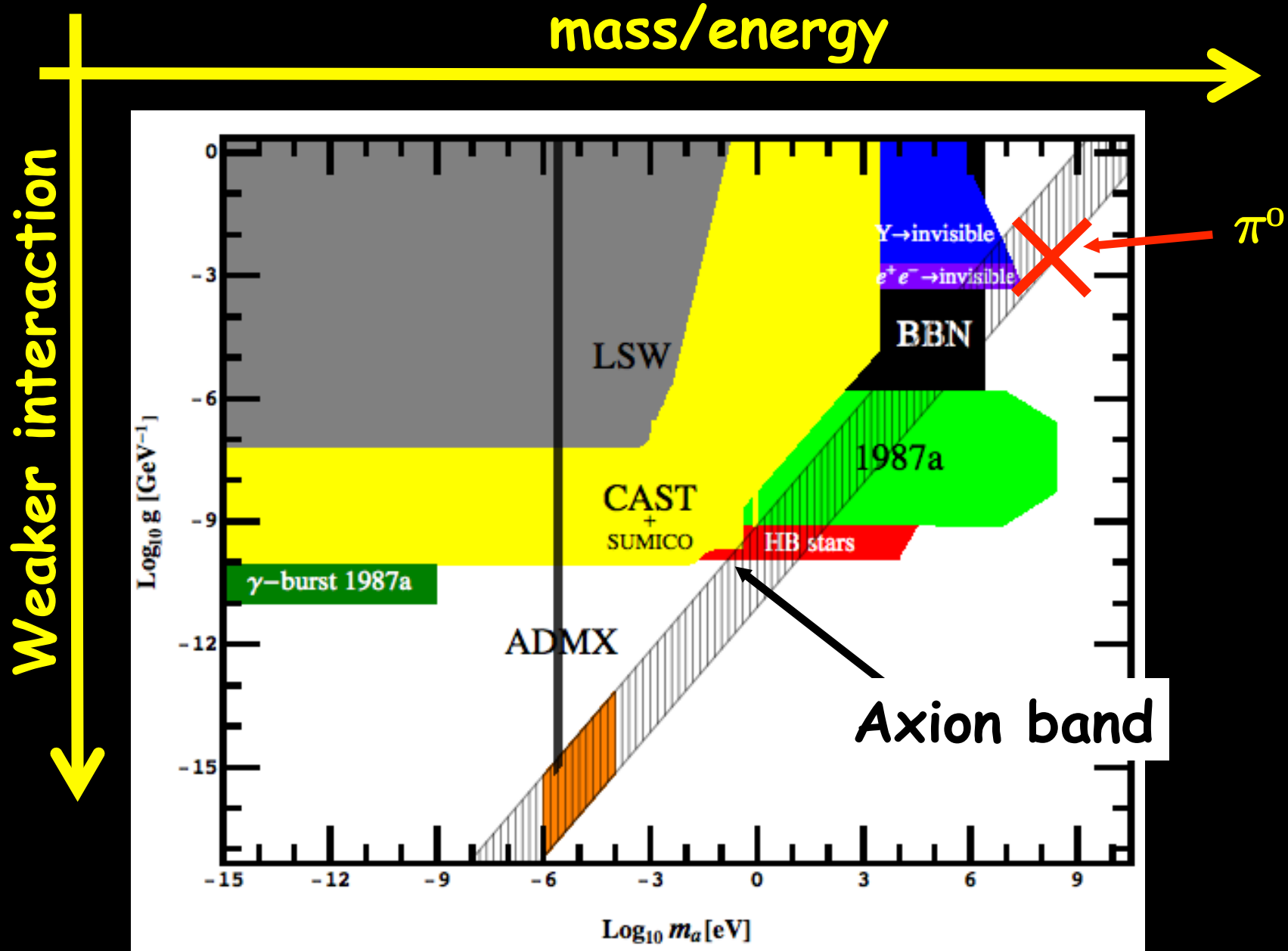
- GammeV

- LIPPS

- OSQAR



# Small coupling, small mass

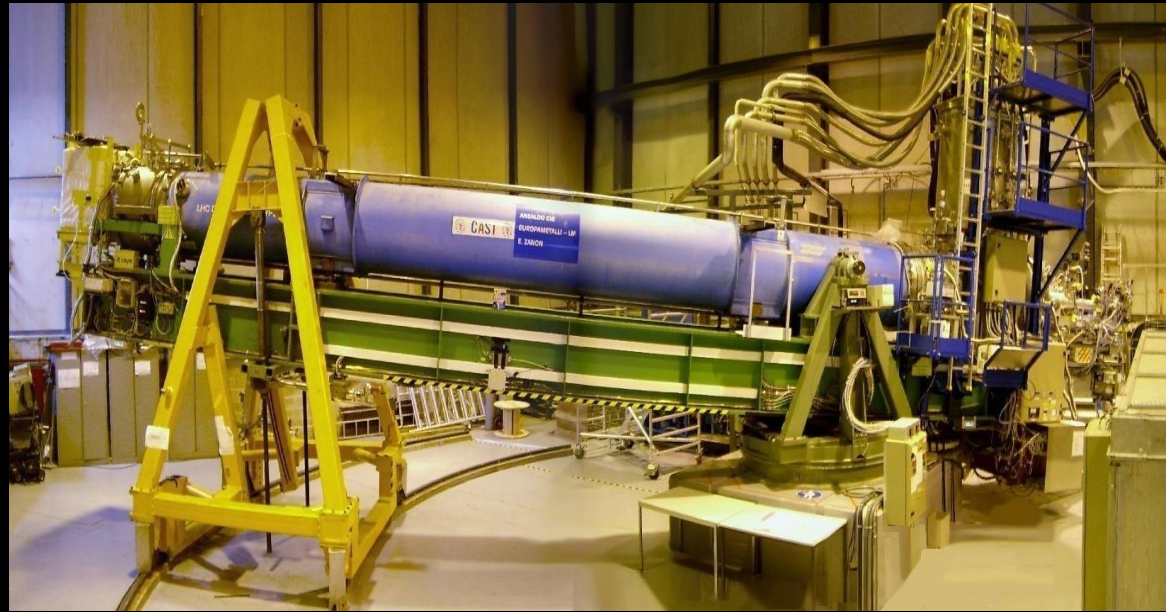


# Helioscopes

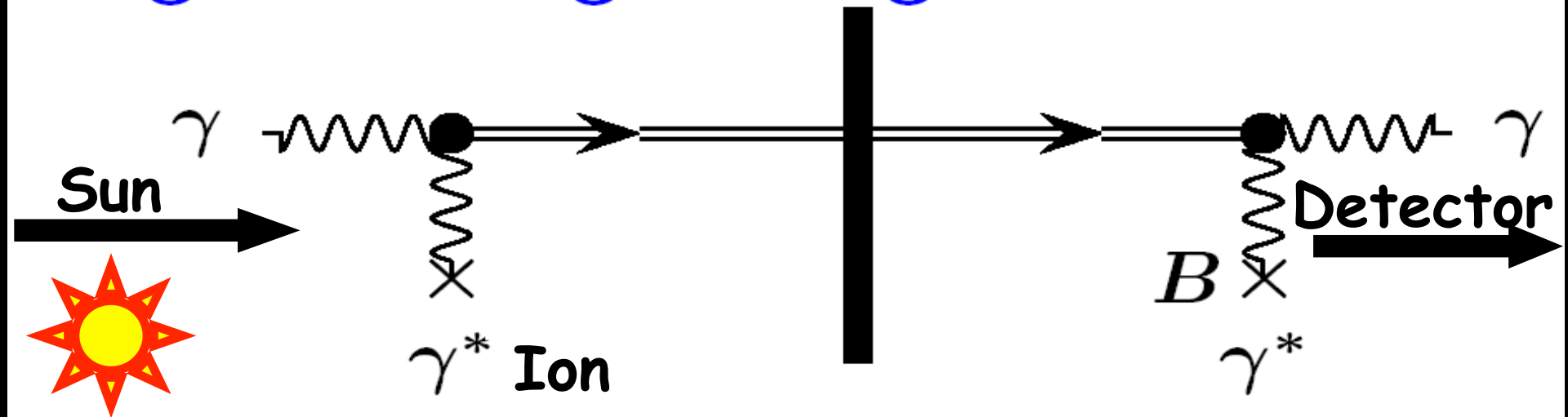
CAST@CERN

SUMICO@Tokyo

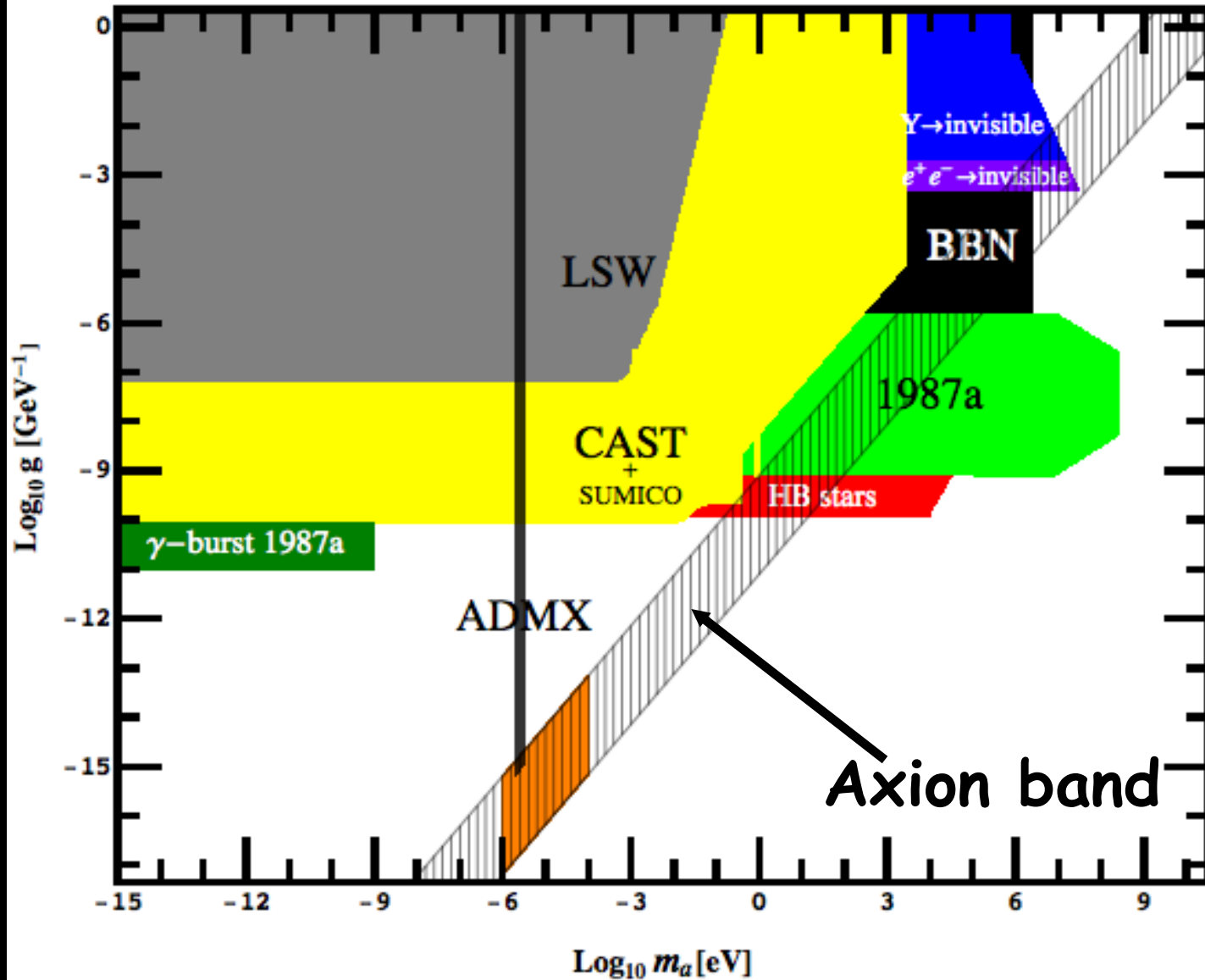
SHIPS@Hamburg



“Light shining through a wall”

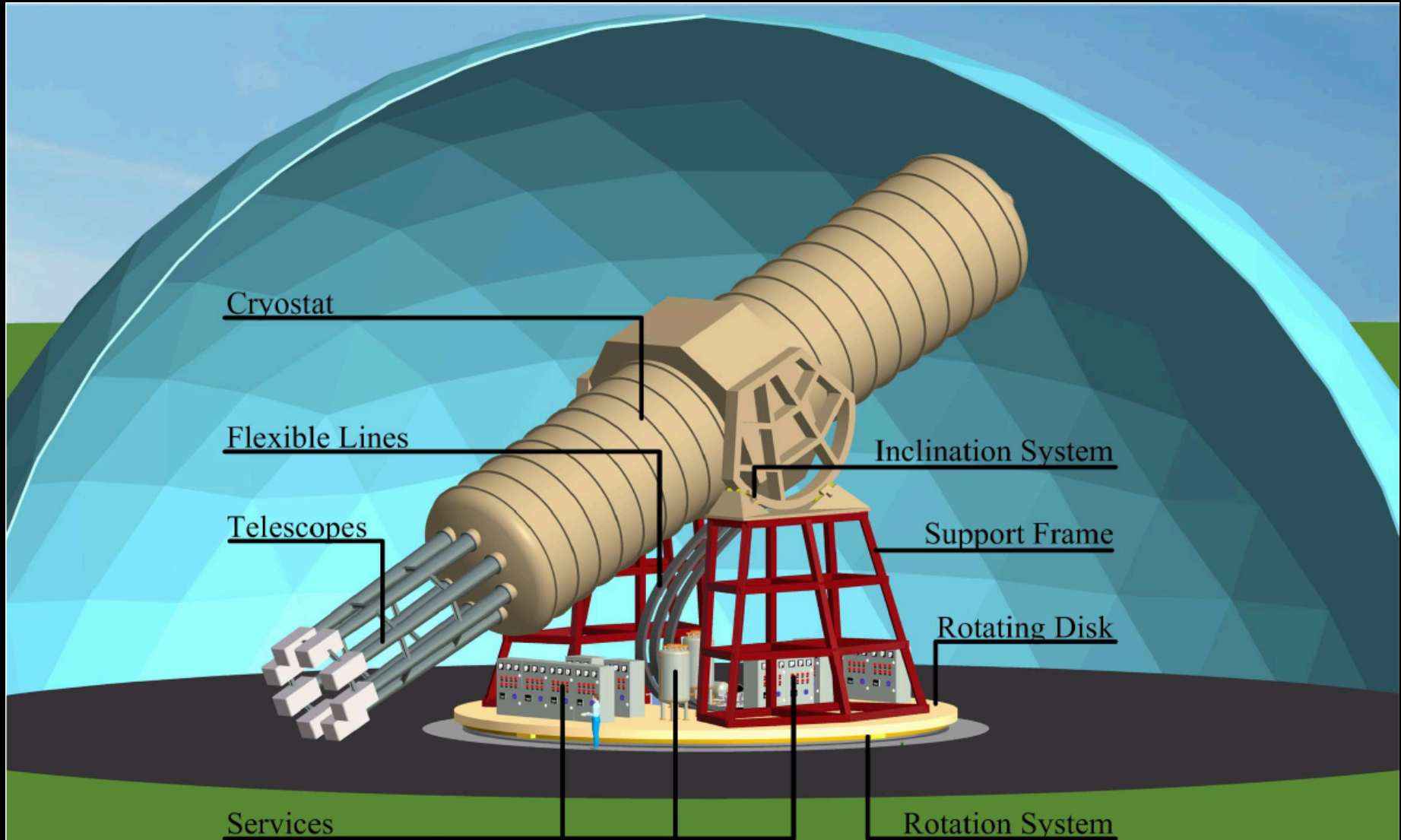


# Sensitivity

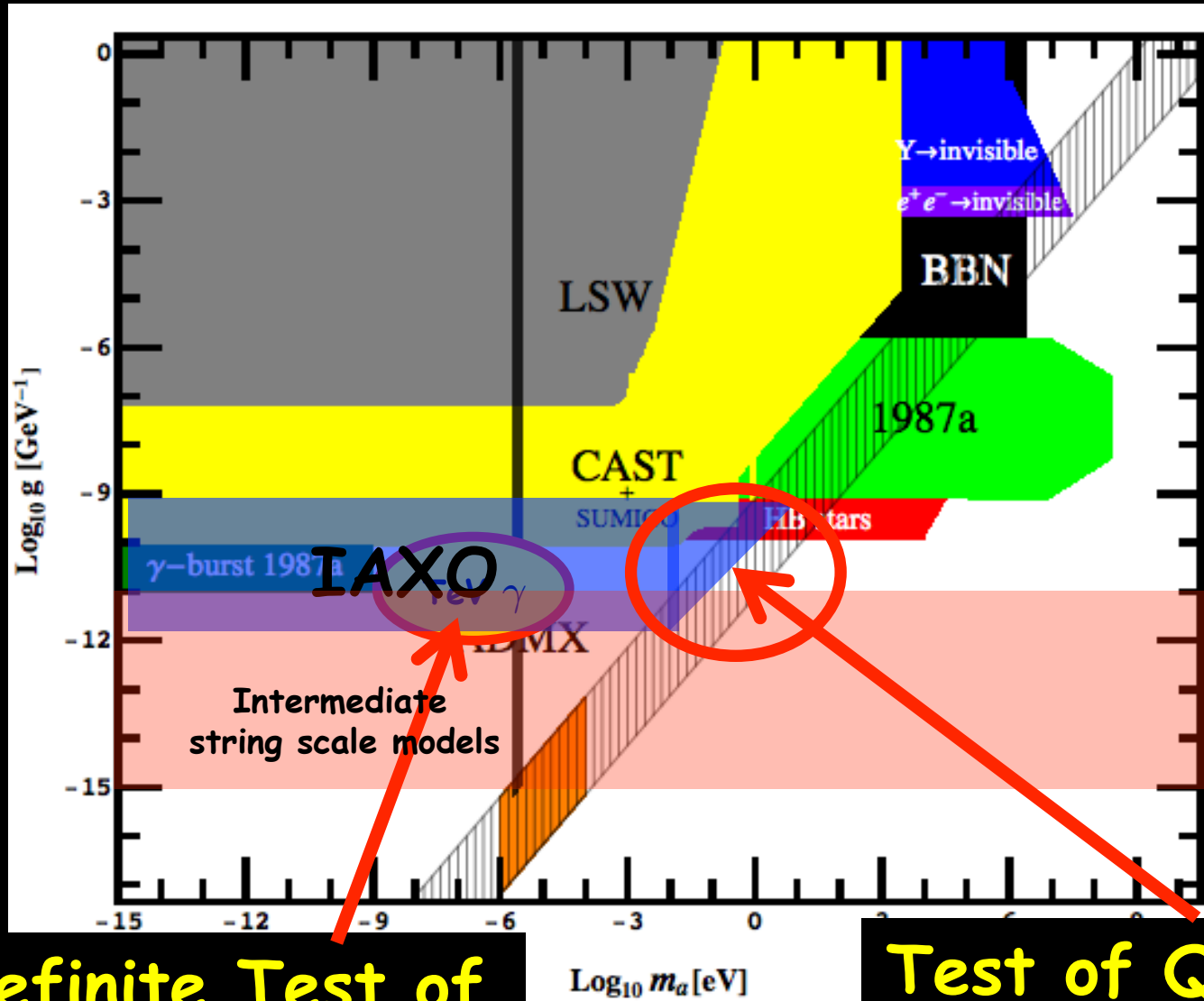


# Going to the future: IAXO

## The International Axion Observatory



# An interesting area...



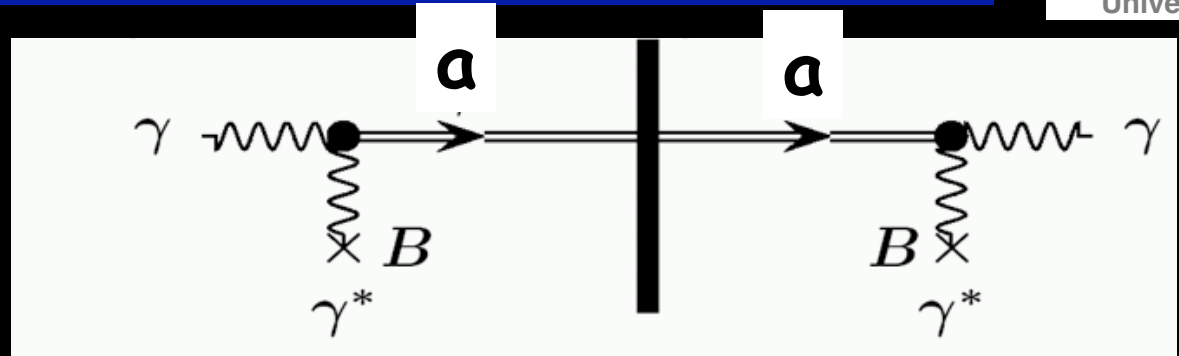
Definite Test of  
TeV transparency

Test of QCD axion  
+ white dwarf anomaly

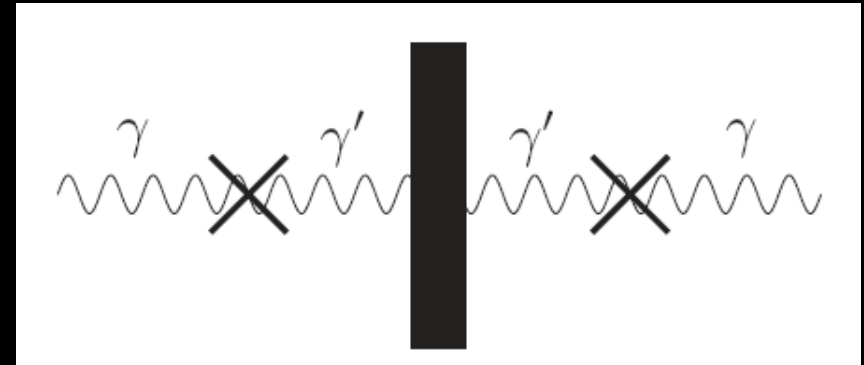


# WISPS=Weakly interacting sub-eV particles

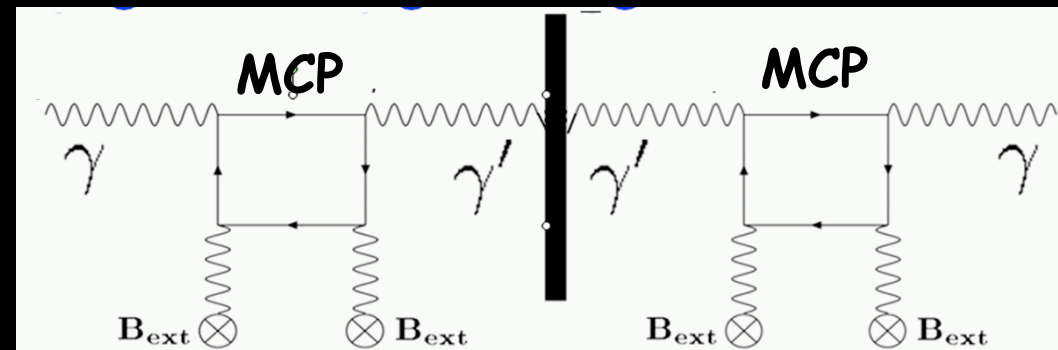
- **Axions**



- **Massive hidden photons (without B-field) = analog  $\nu$ -oscillations**



- **Hidden photon + minicharged particle (MCP)**



Axions and ALPs  
from  
String Theory

# String theory

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- Attempt to unify SM with gravity
- New concept: strings instead of point particles

# String theory: Moduli and Axions

- String theory needs Extra Dimensions

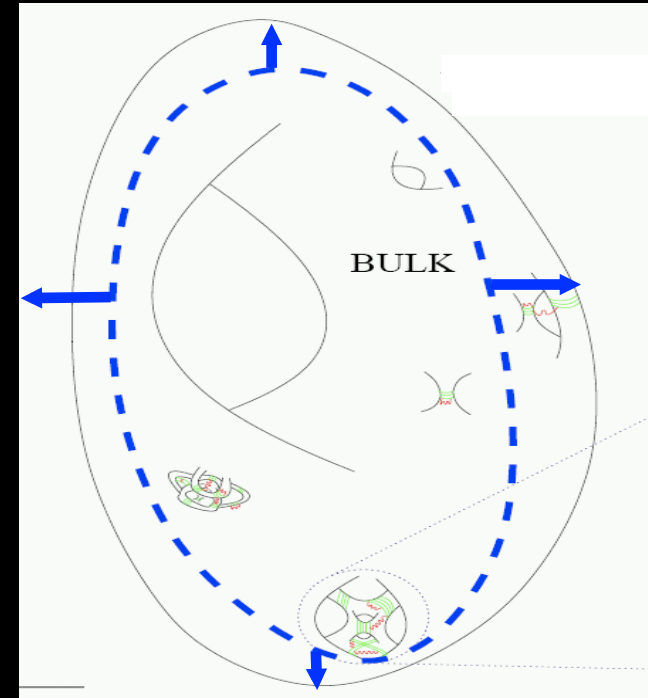


Must compactify

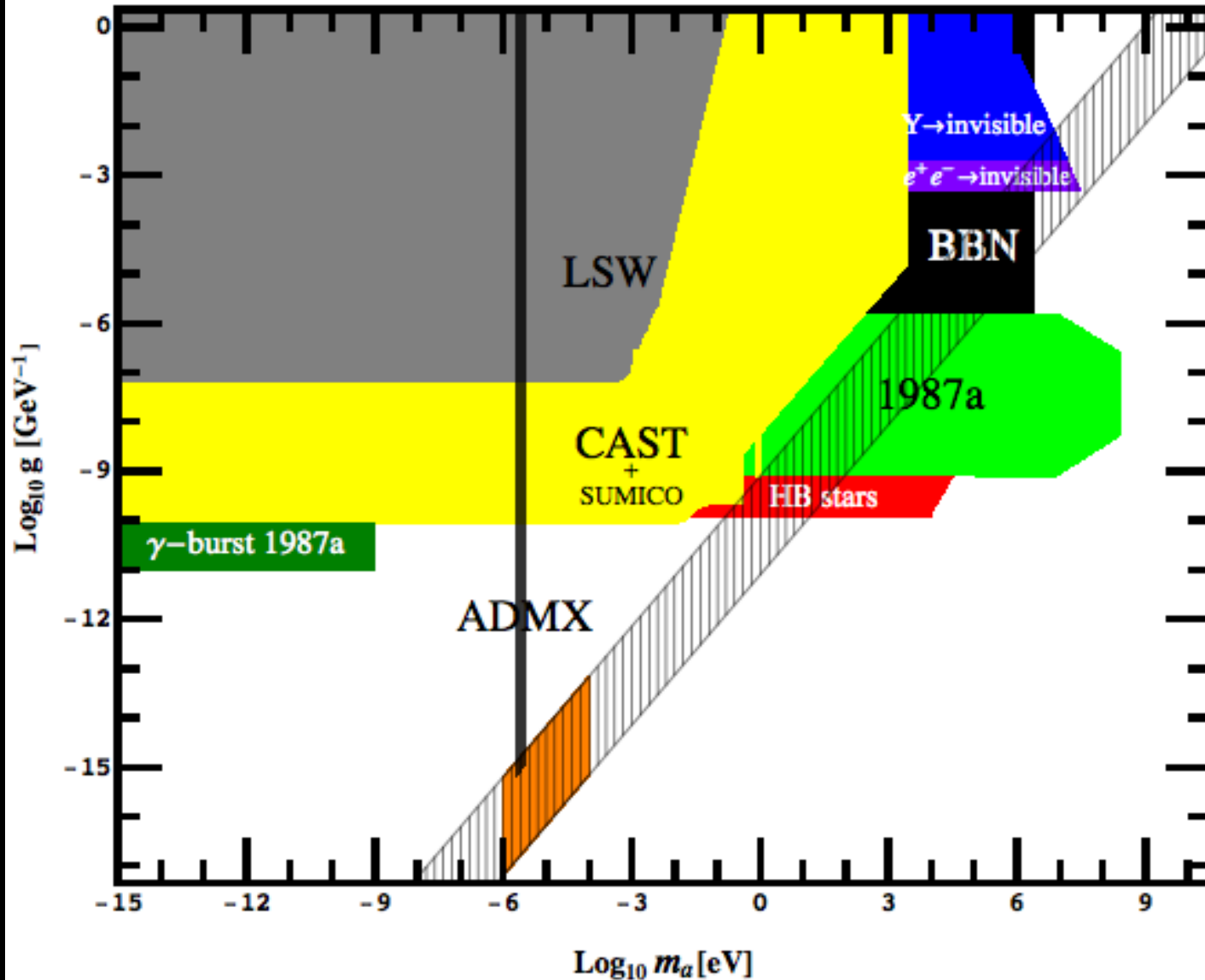
- Shape and size deformations correspond to fields:  
**Moduli and Axions**  
Connected to the fundamental scale, here string scale



**Axion/ALP candidates**



# Axion (like particles): Where are we?



# Axions and Moduli

---

- Gauge field terms

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{g^2} F^2 + i\theta F \tilde{F}$$

- + Supersymmetry/supergravity

$$\mathcal{L} = \text{Re}[f(\Phi)] F^2 + \text{Im}[f(\Phi)] F \tilde{F}$$



Scalar ALP/moduli coupling **+** pseudoscalar ALP coupling

---

# Axions and Moduli

---

- Gauge couplings always field dependent  
(no free coupling constants)
  - Axions + Moduli always present in String theory
-

- “Axion scale” related to fundamental scale

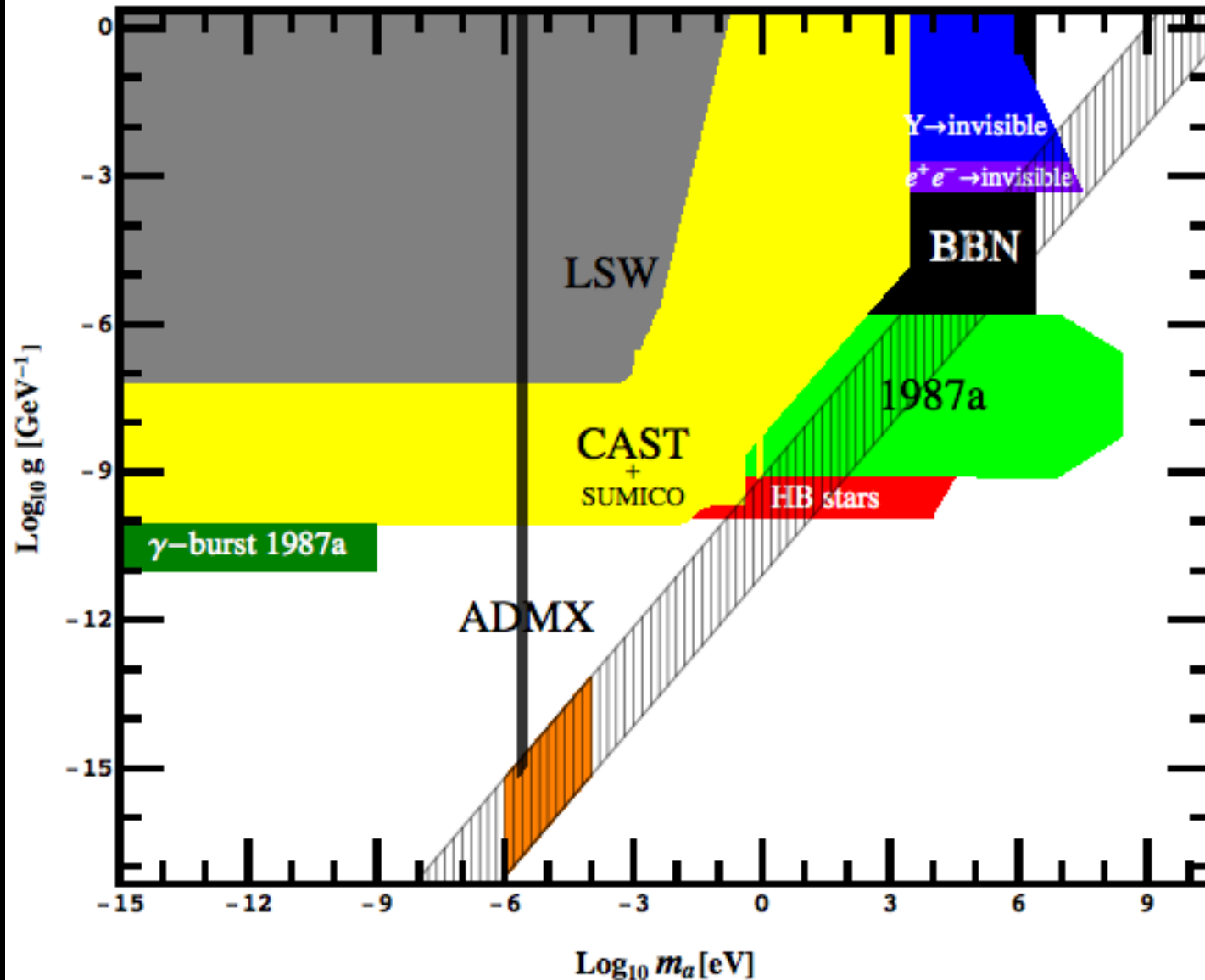
$$f_a \sim \frac{M_P}{\text{Volume}^x} \sim M_s \left( \frac{M_s}{M_P} \right)^y$$

- If QCD axion:  $m_a$  fixed
- However, if not QCD axion

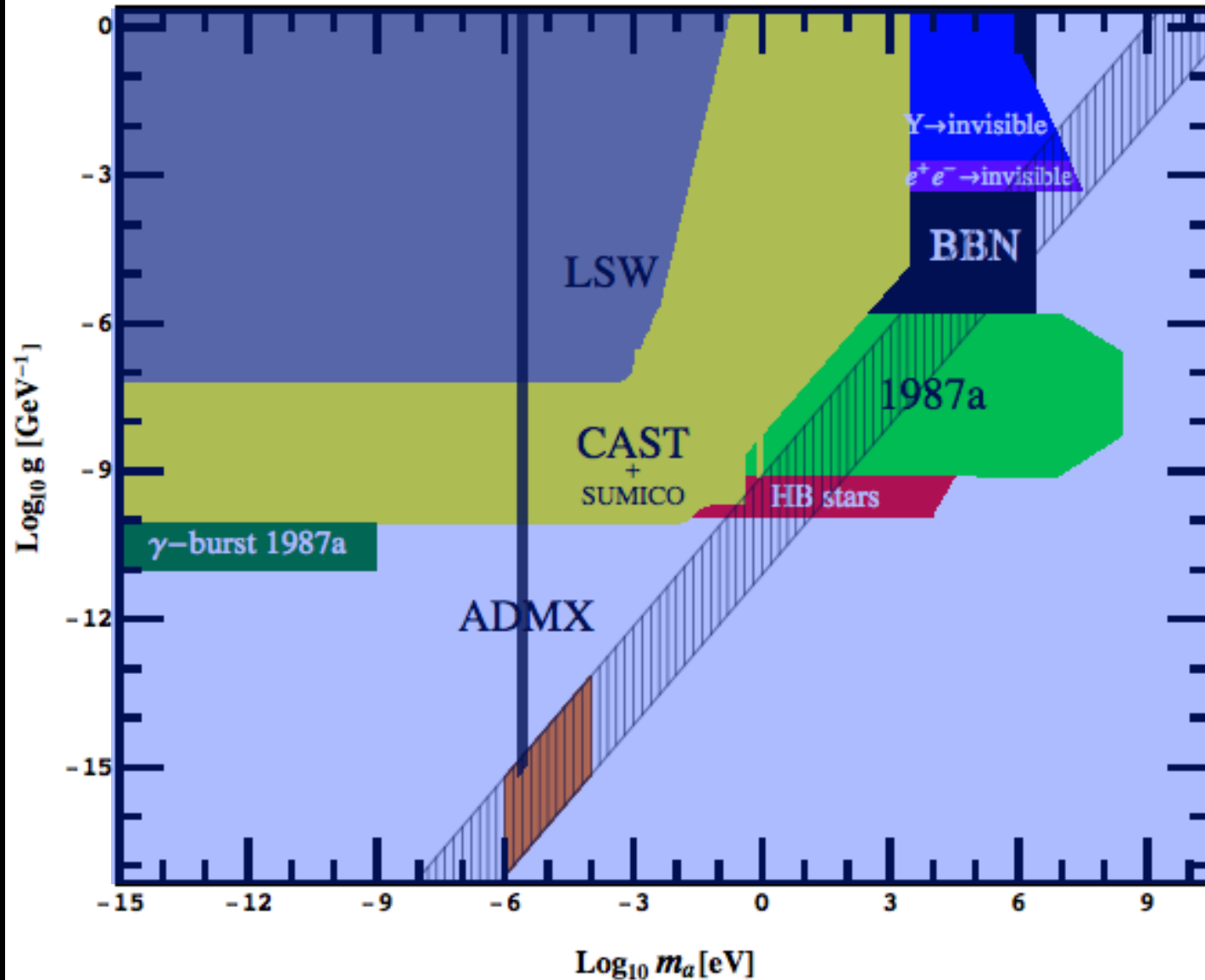
$$m_{\text{ALP}} \sim \frac{\Lambda^2}{f_a} \quad \text{(nearly) arbitrary}$$



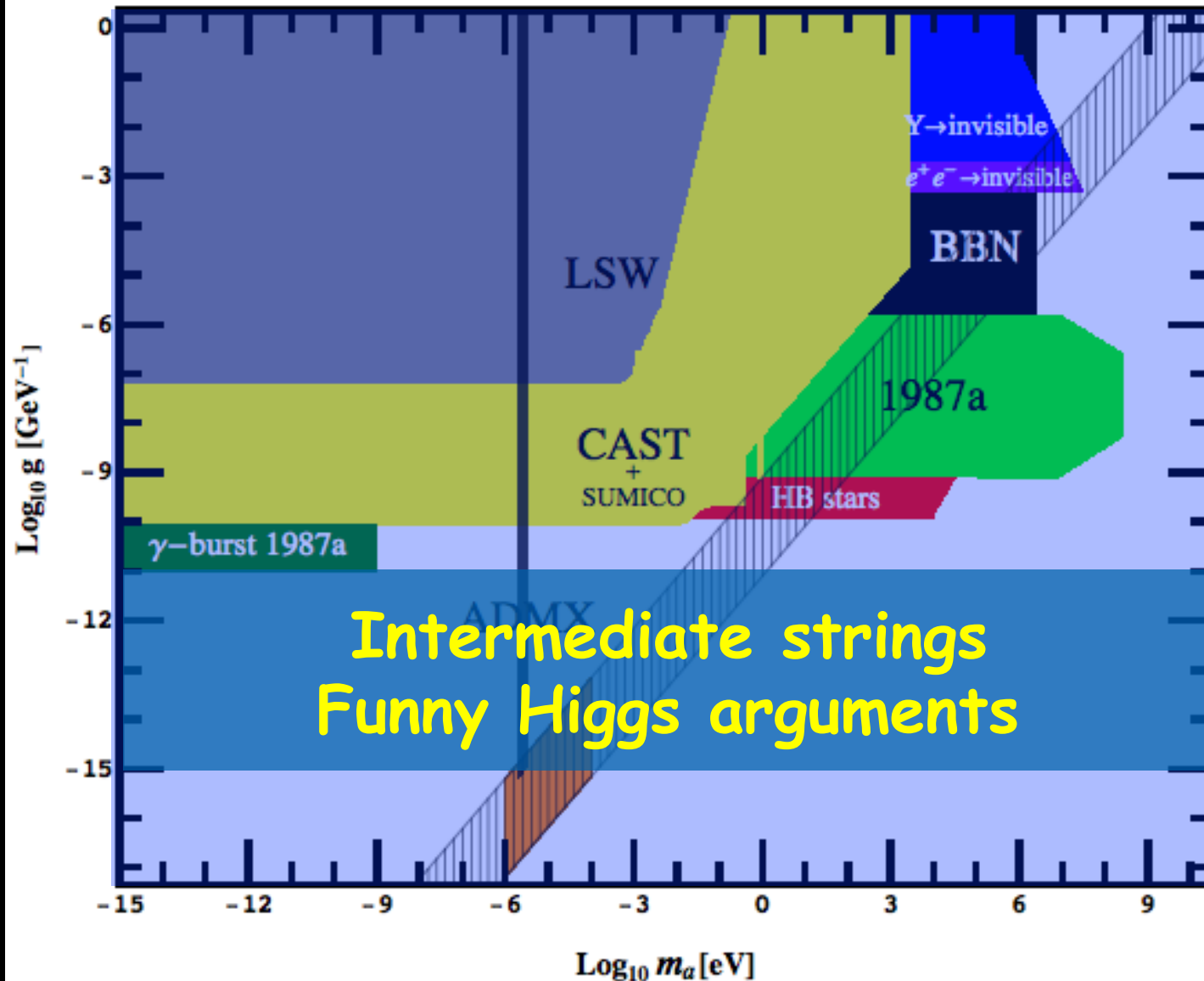
# Axion (like particles): Where are we?



# Axion (like particles): Where are we?



# Axion (like particles): Where are we?



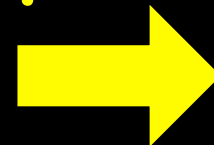
Dark Matter(s)

Can Dark Matter  
be Axiony/WISPy?  
(Weakly Interacting Sub-eV Particley)  
Slim

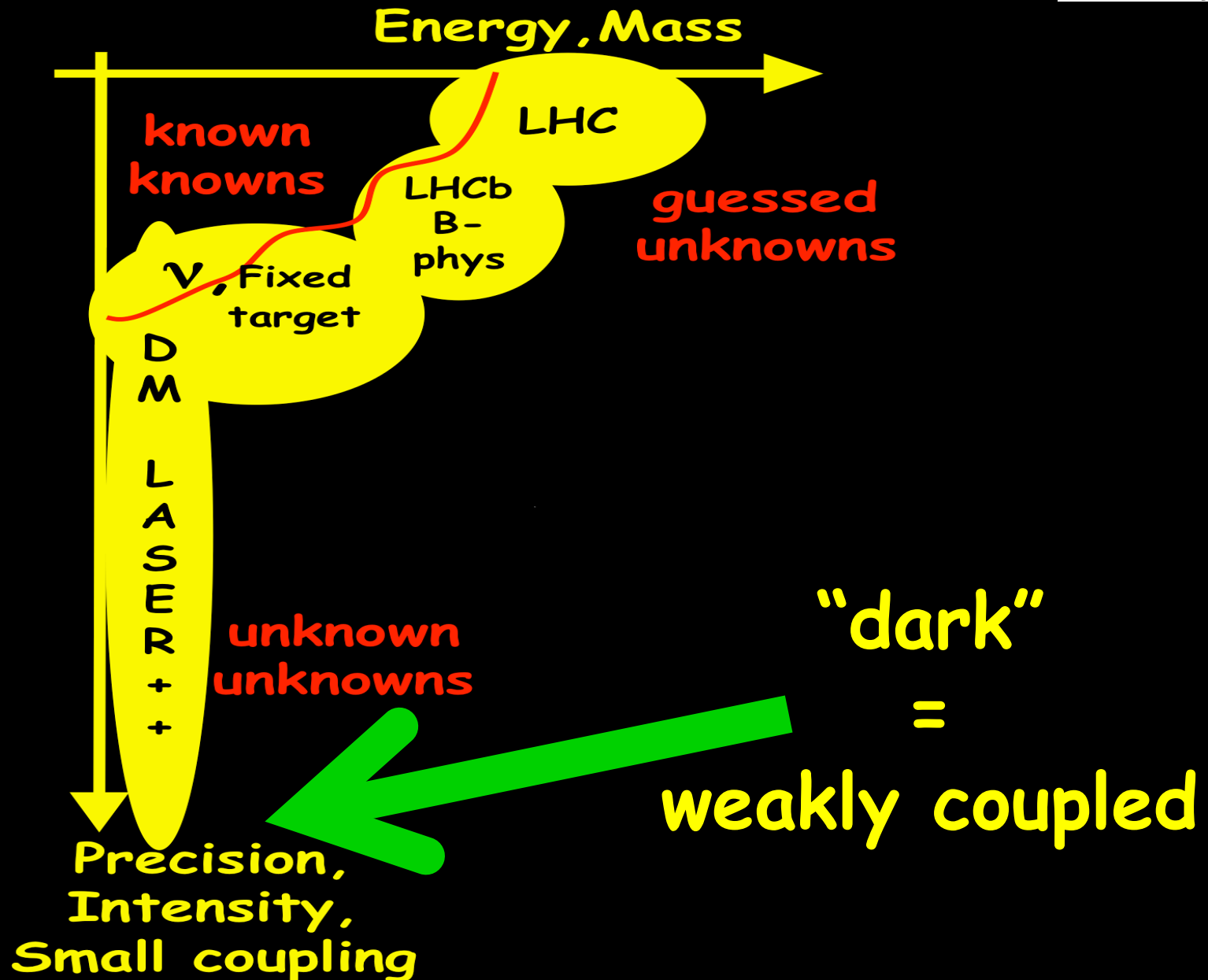
# Properties of Dark Matter

---

- Dark matter is dark, i.e.  
it doesn't radiate!  
(and also doesn't absorb)
- very, very weak interactions with light  
and with ordinary matter
- Exactly the property of  
Axions/WISPs



# Exploring is (at least) 2 dimensional

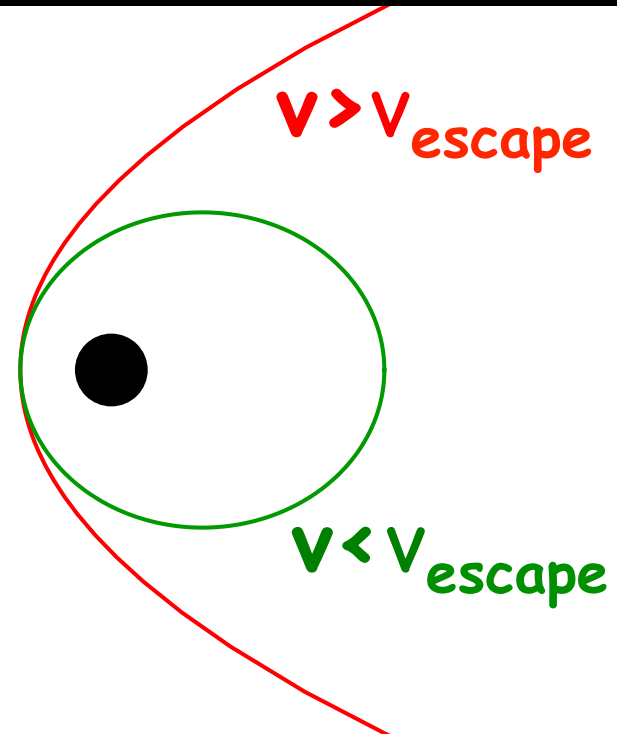


# A common prejudice

- Dark Matter has to be heavy:  $m_{\text{DM}} \gtrsim \text{keV}$ .
- Prejudice based on thermal production!  
and/or fermionic DM!

Both assumptions give  
minimal velocity

→ galaxy,  
i.e. structure,  
formation inhibited!





# Weakly interacting sub-eV DM

---

- Has to be non-thermally (cold!!!) produced

→ See misalignment mechanism ✓

- Bosonic!

→ Axion(-like particles)  
Hidden Photons ✓

---

# Dark matter has to be heavy...

---

Dark matter has to be heavy  $m_{\text{DM}} \gtrsim \text{keV}$ ?

---

# Dark matter has to be heavy...

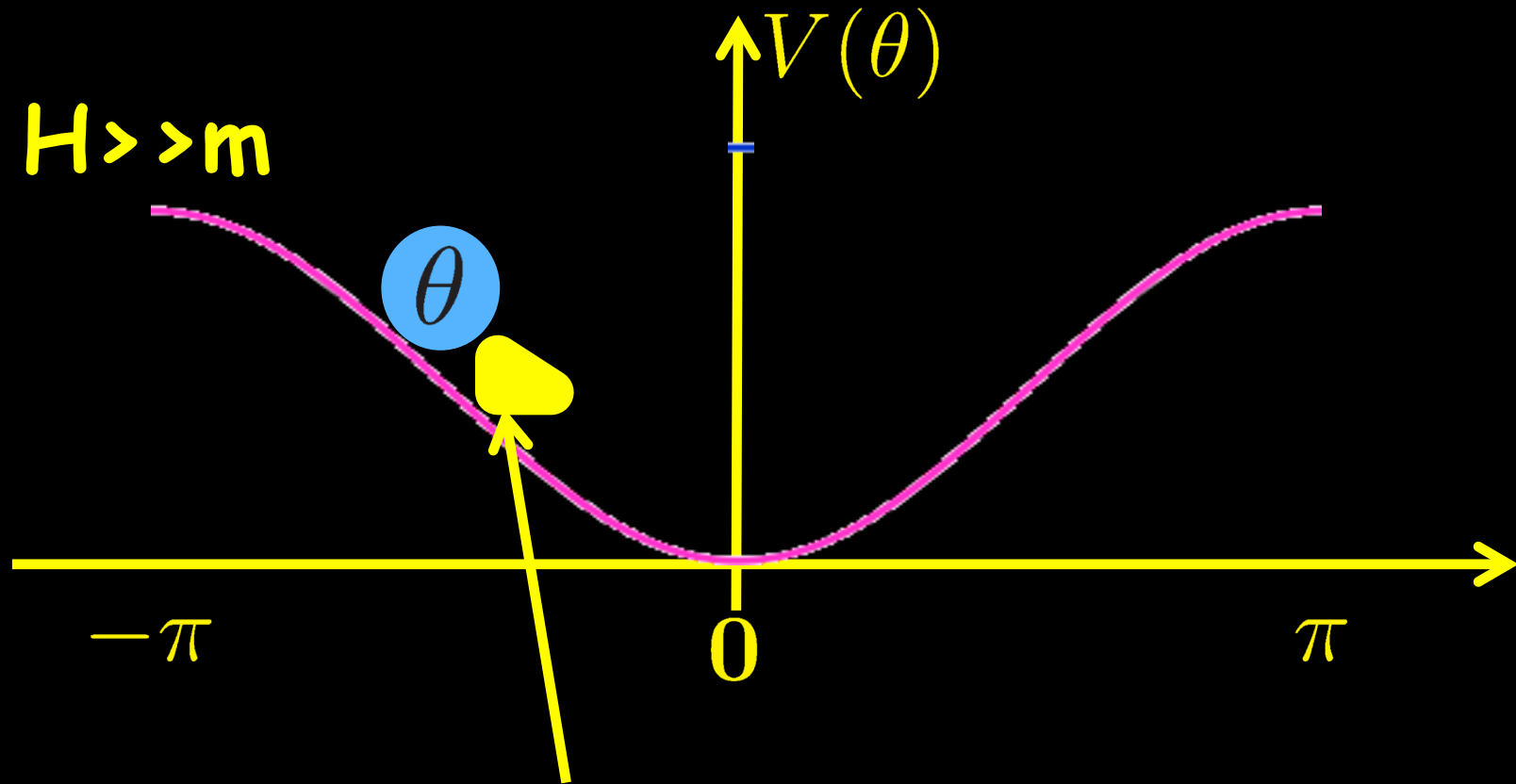
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**SUPERGOLD DARK MATTER**

# The axion has no clue where to start

---

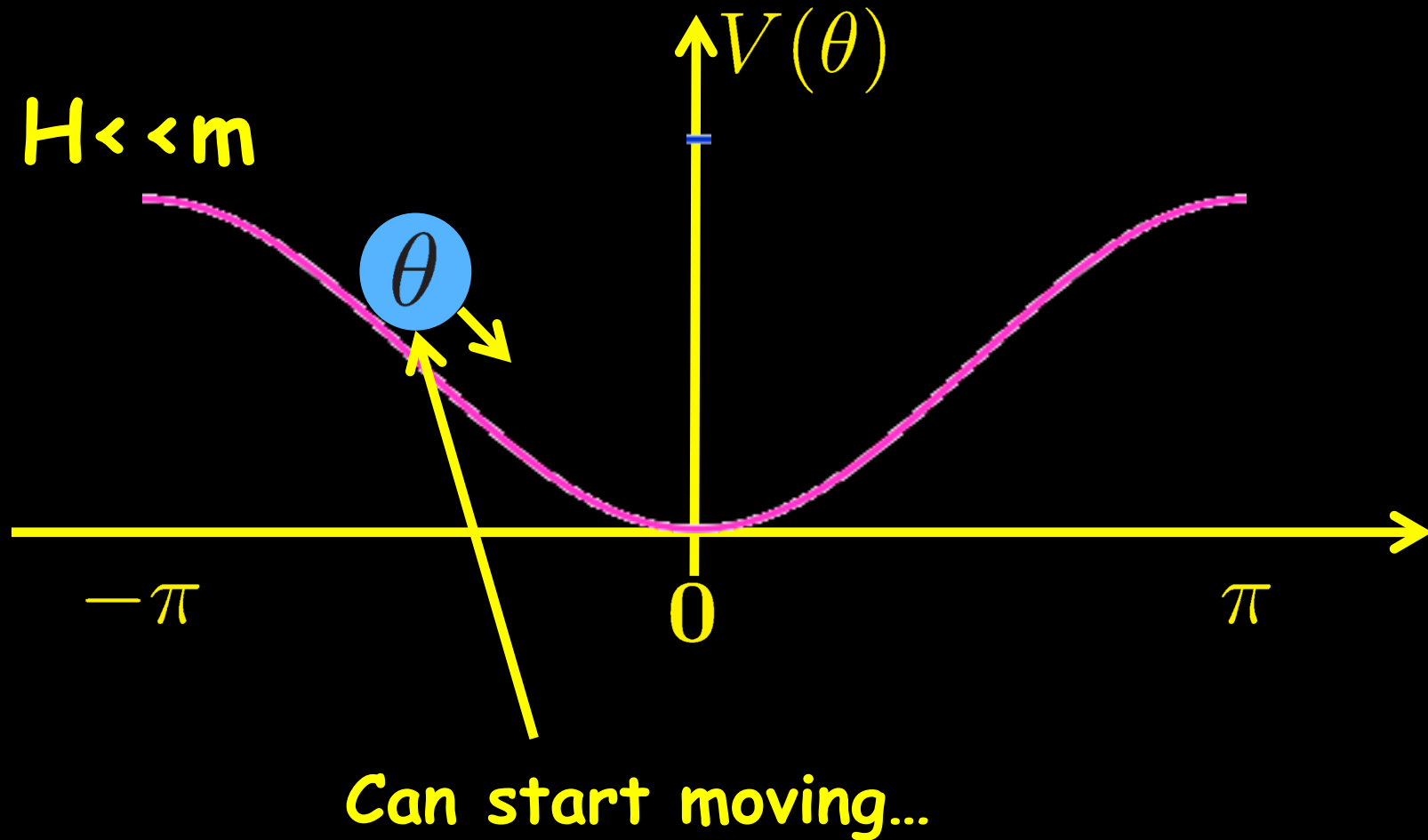


Field is stuck because of Hubble "breaking"

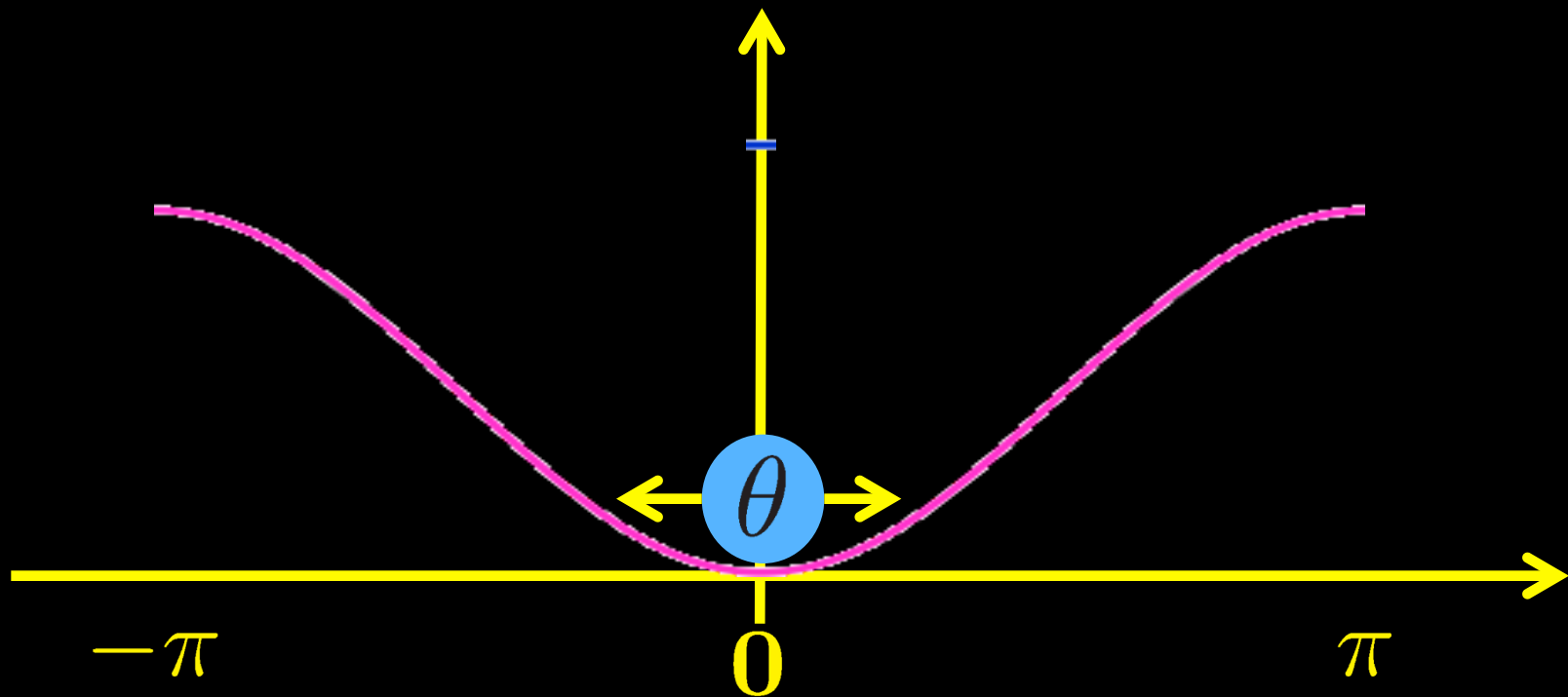
---

# The axion has no clue where to start

---



# The axion solution to the strong CP problem



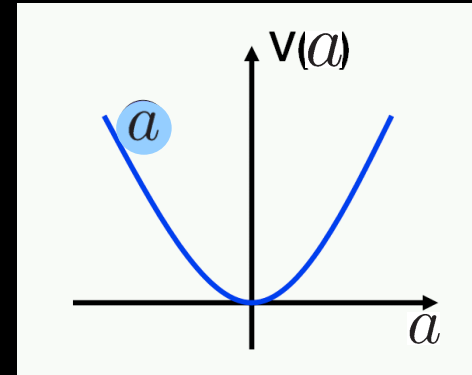
- Oscillations contain energy
- behave like non-relativistic particles ( $T=0$ )

# Axion Dark Matter

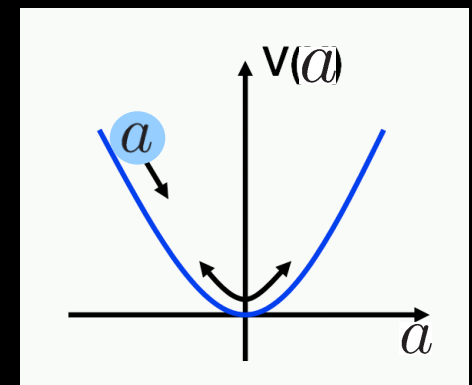
$$\ddot{a} + 3H\dot{a} + m_a^2 a = 0$$

$$H = \frac{\dot{R}(t)}{R(t)}$$

•  $H \gg m_a \rightarrow$  overdamped oscillator



•  $H \ll m_a \rightarrow$  damped oscillator

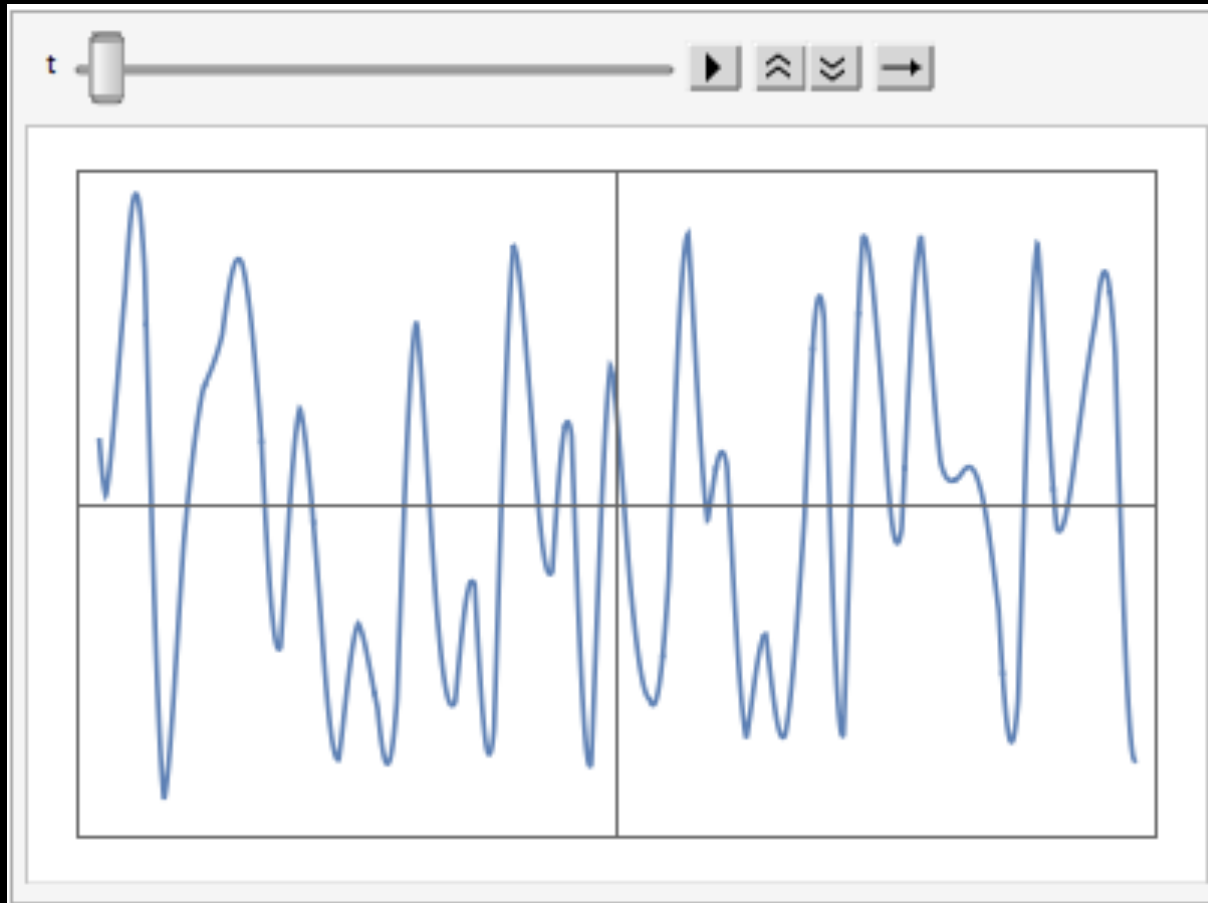


$$\rho_a(t) = \frac{\rho_{ini}}{R^3(t)} \rightarrow \text{Dark Matter}$$



# Why Cold? Inflation!

Field  
value



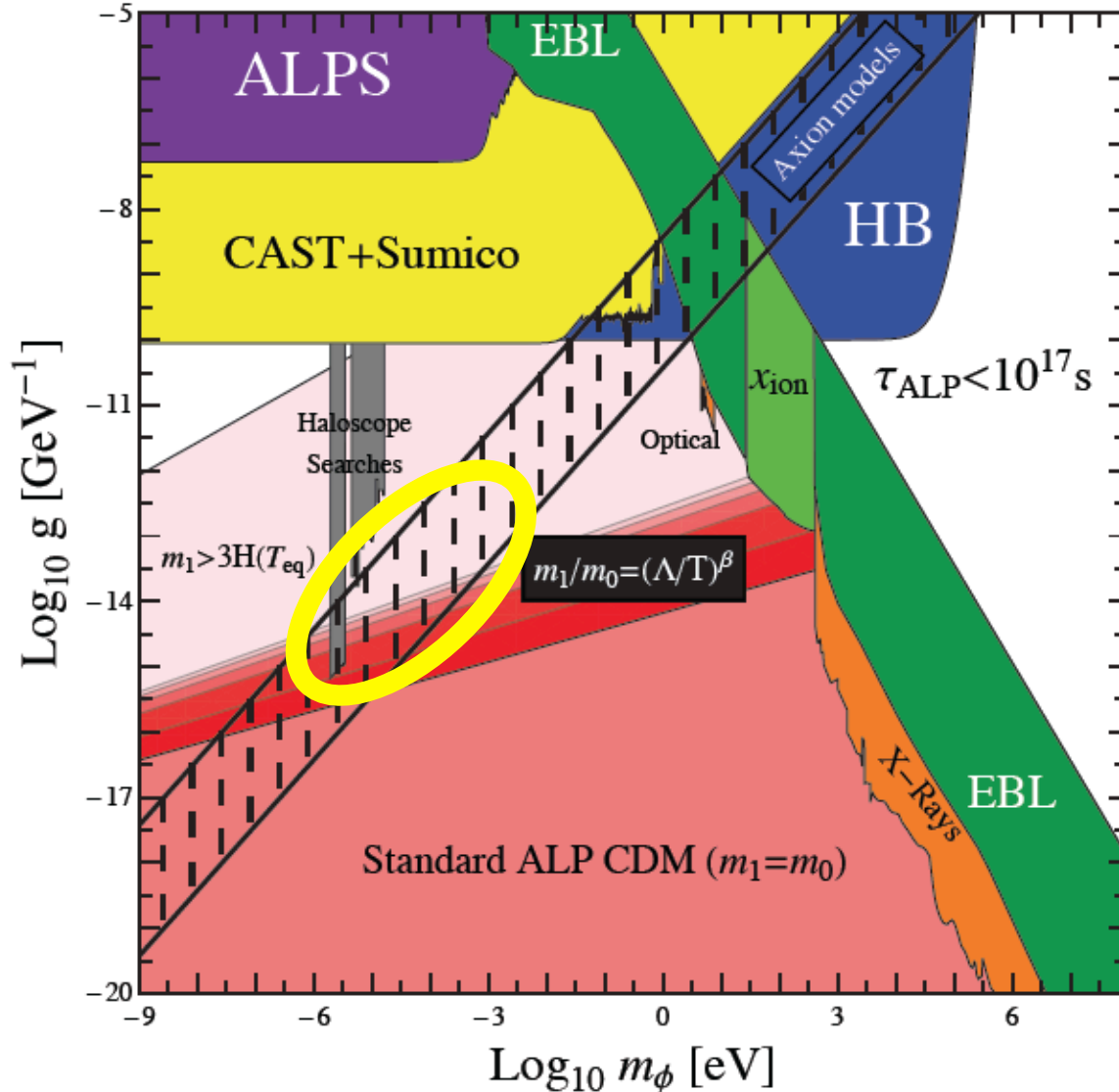
space

$$velocity \sim \frac{p}{m} \sim \frac{\hbar}{m} \frac{d}{dx} \rightarrow 0$$

# Axion(-like particle) Dark Matter

$\sim 10^7 \text{ GeV}$

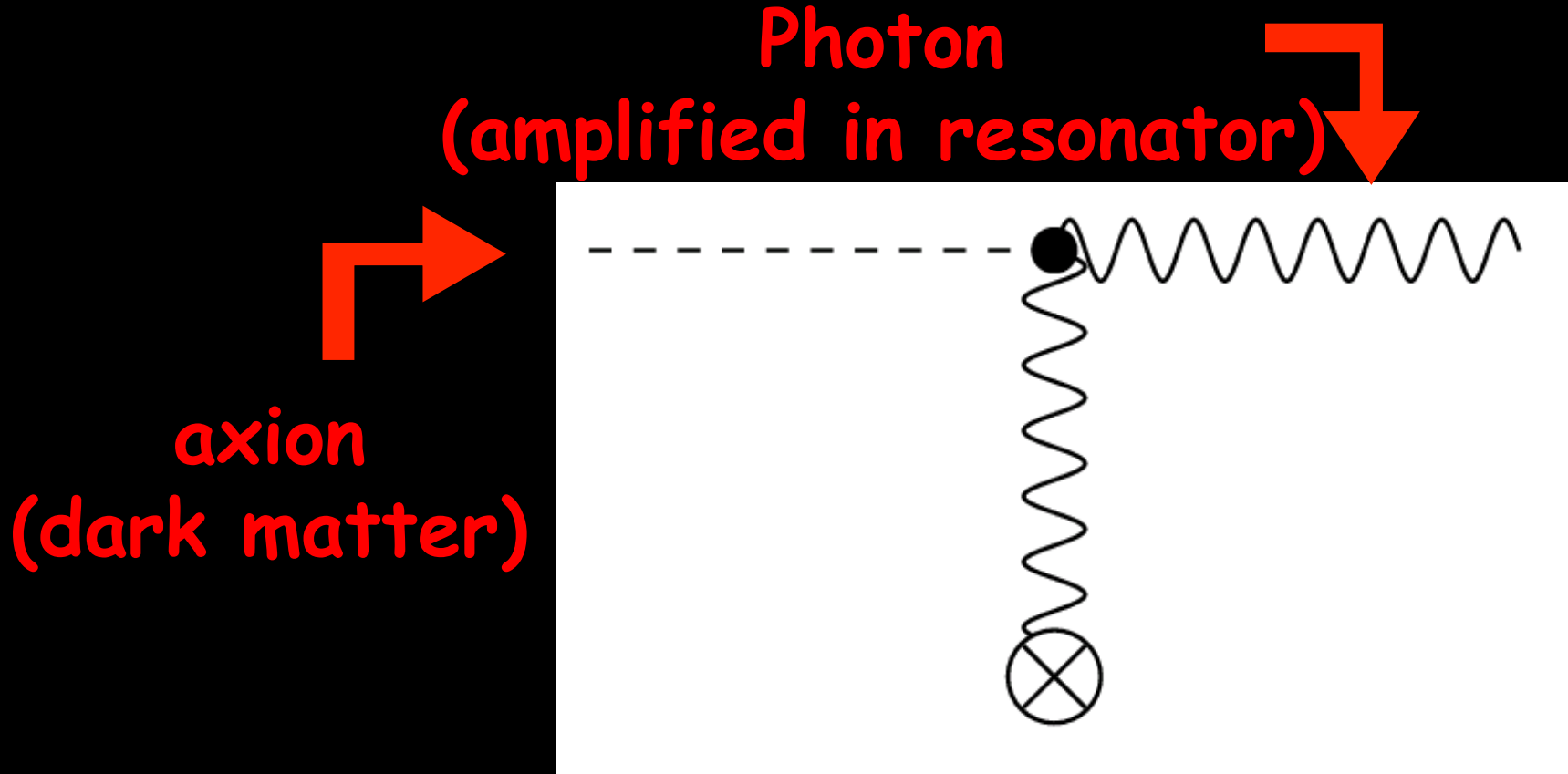
$\sim 10^{12} \text{ GeV}$



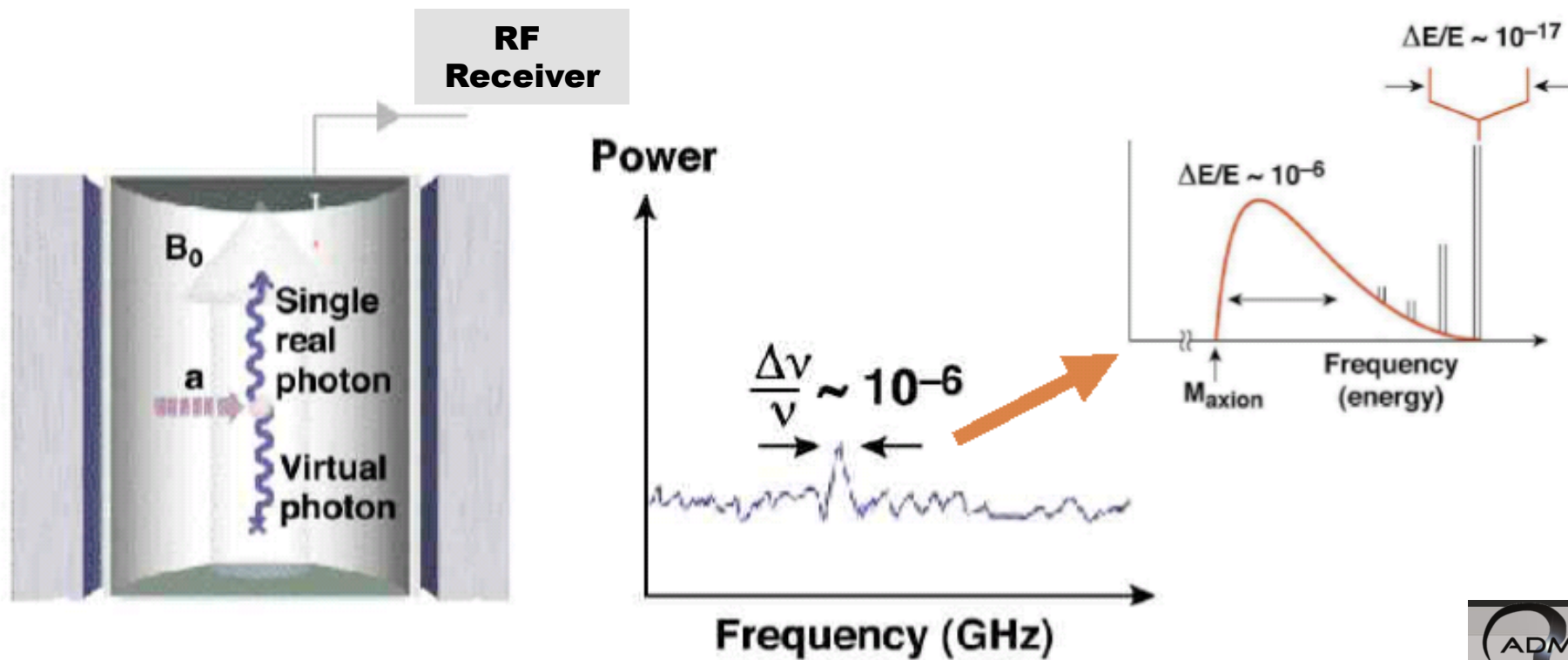
Detecting  
Axion/WISPy  
DM

# Use a plentiful source of axions

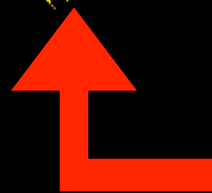
- Photon Regeneration



# Signal: Total energy of axion

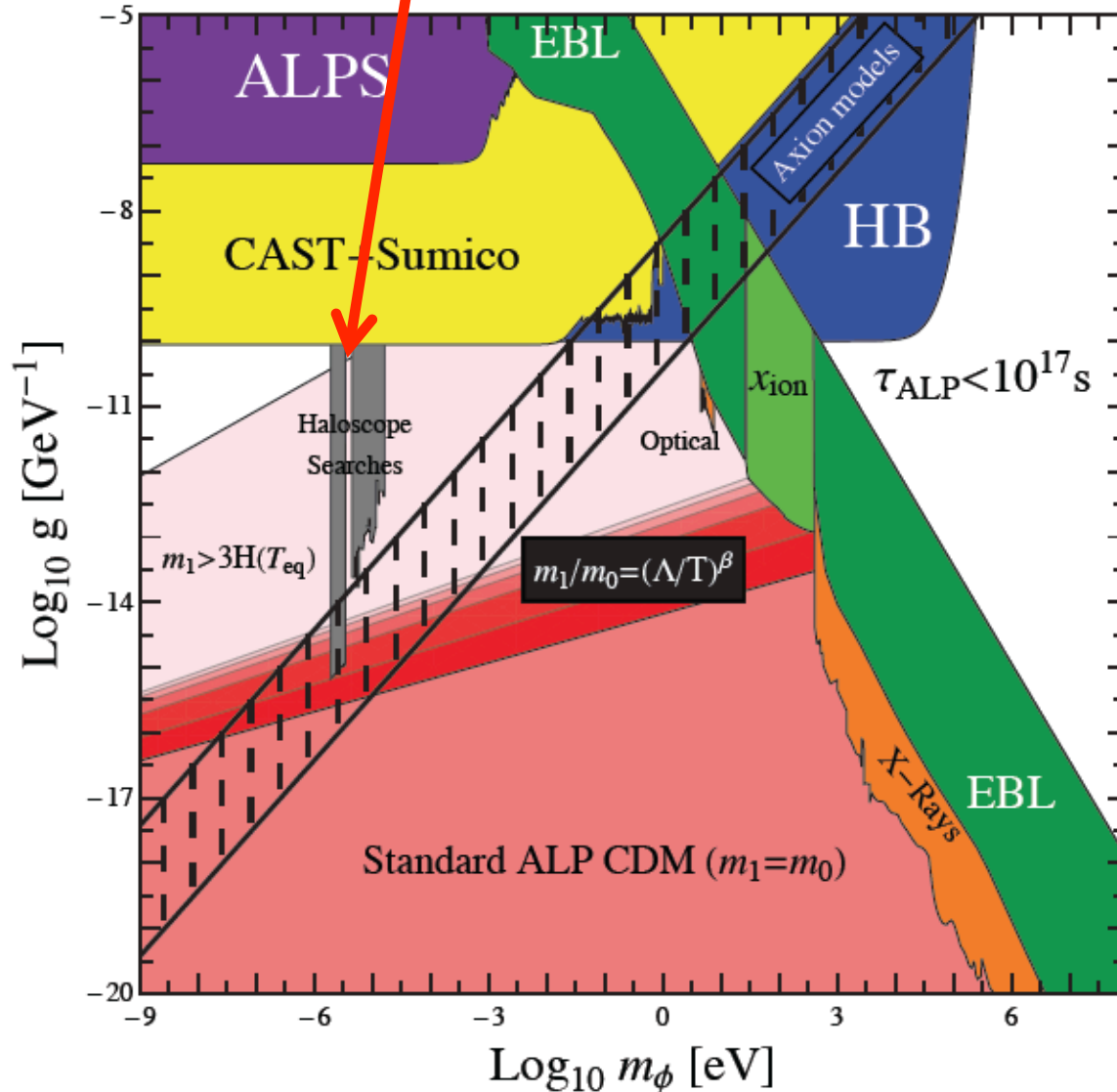


$$h\nu = m_a c^2 [1 + \mathcal{O}(\beta^2 \sim 10^{-6})]$$

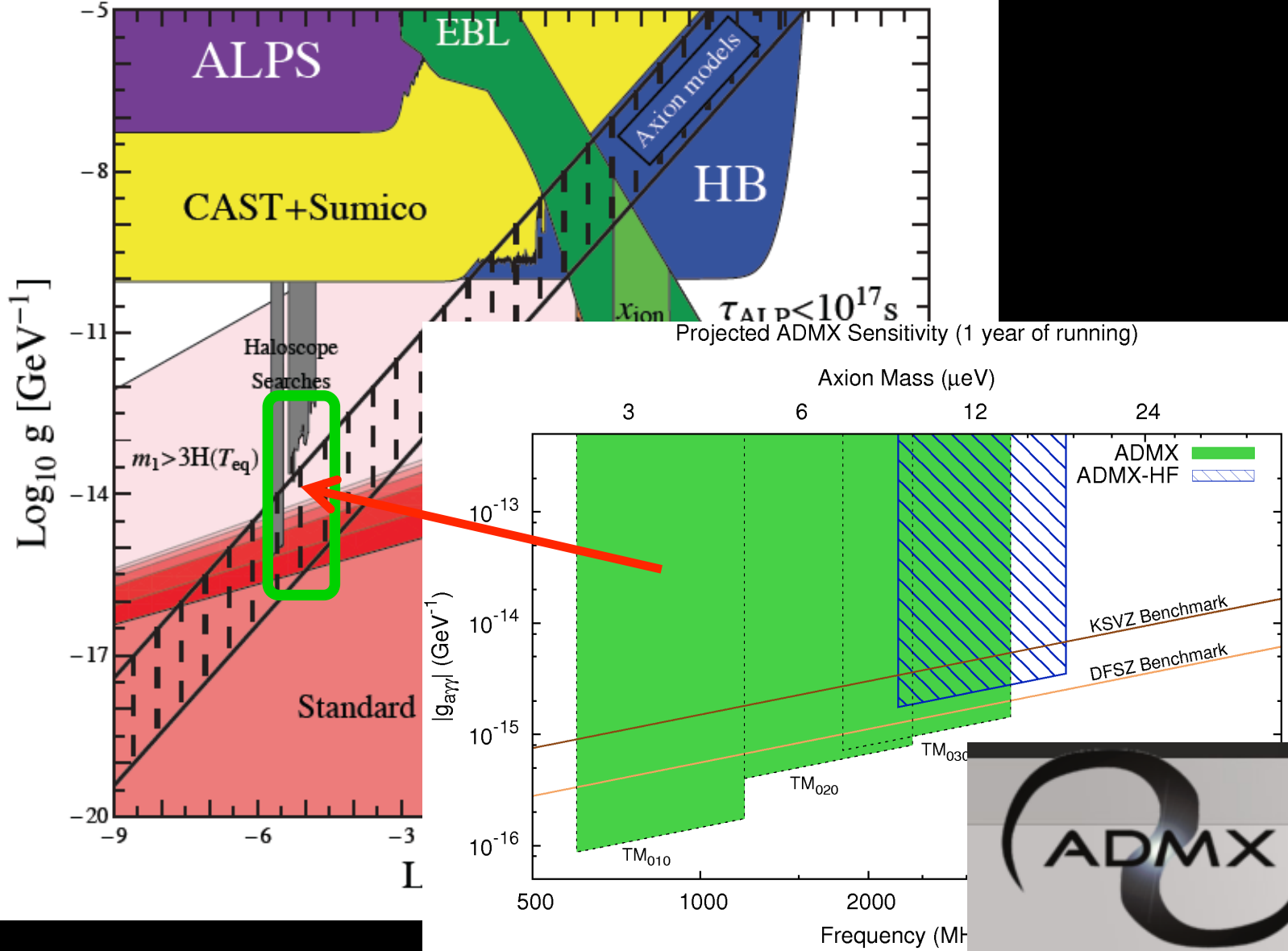


Virial velocity  
in galaxy halo!

# An extremely sensitive probe!!!



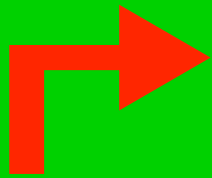
# A discovery possible any minute!



# Electricity from Dark Matter ;-).

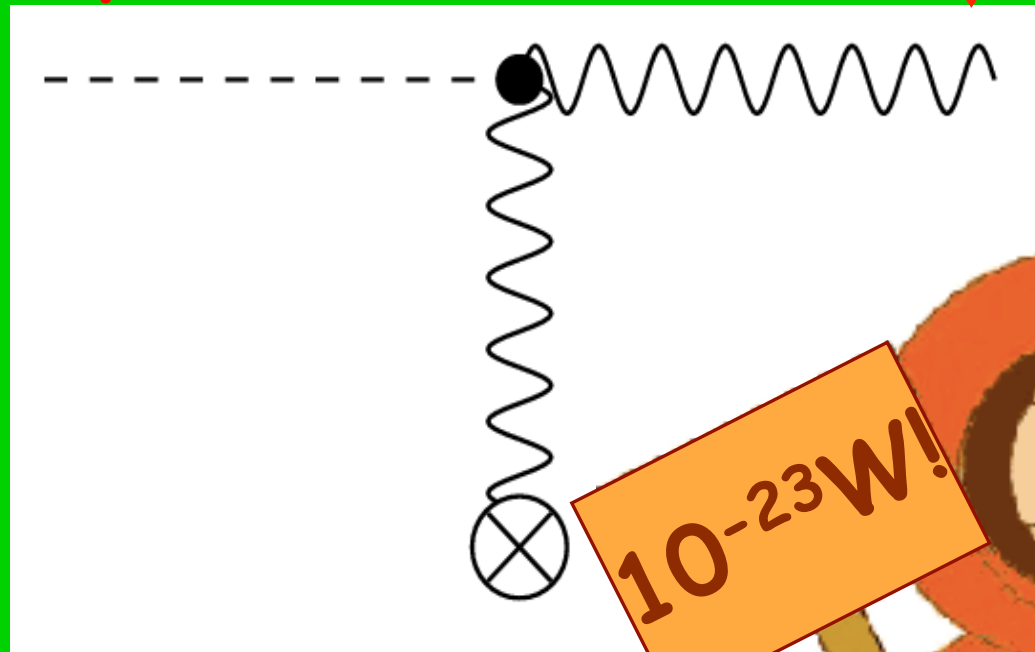
- Photon Regeneration

Photon  
(amplified in resonator)



axion

(dark matter)



$10^{-23} \text{W!}$





# Really sustainable Energy

---

- Galaxy contains  $(6-30)\times 10^{11}$  solar masses of DM

→  $(3-15)\times 10^{43}$  TWh

@100000 TWh per year (total world today)

→  $10^{38}$  years ☺

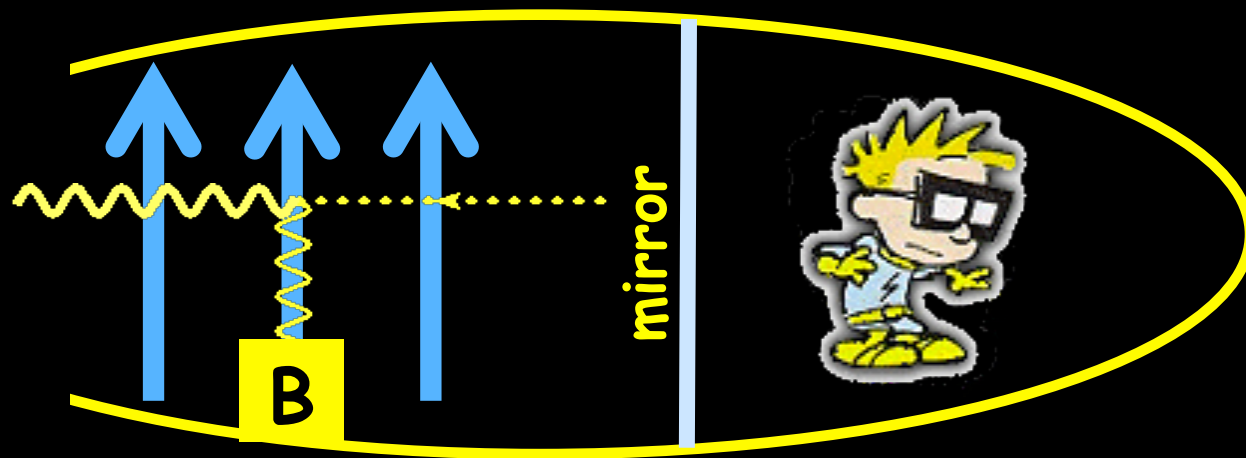
DM power

$$\rho * v \sim 300 \text{ MeV/cm}^3 * 300 \text{ km/s} \sim 10 \text{ W/m}^2$$

compared to  $2 \text{ W/m}^2$  for wind

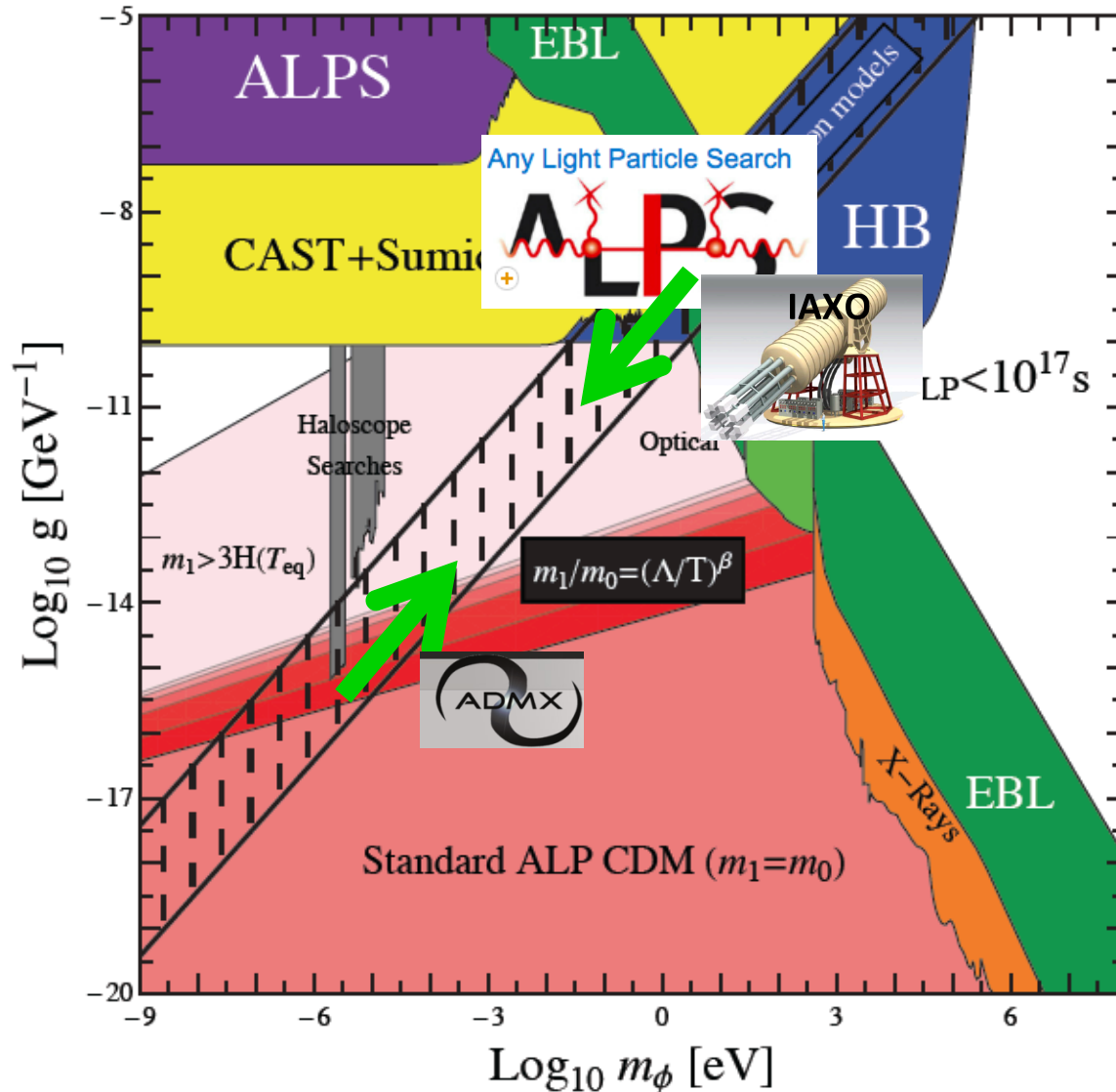
---

# How "the axion" works



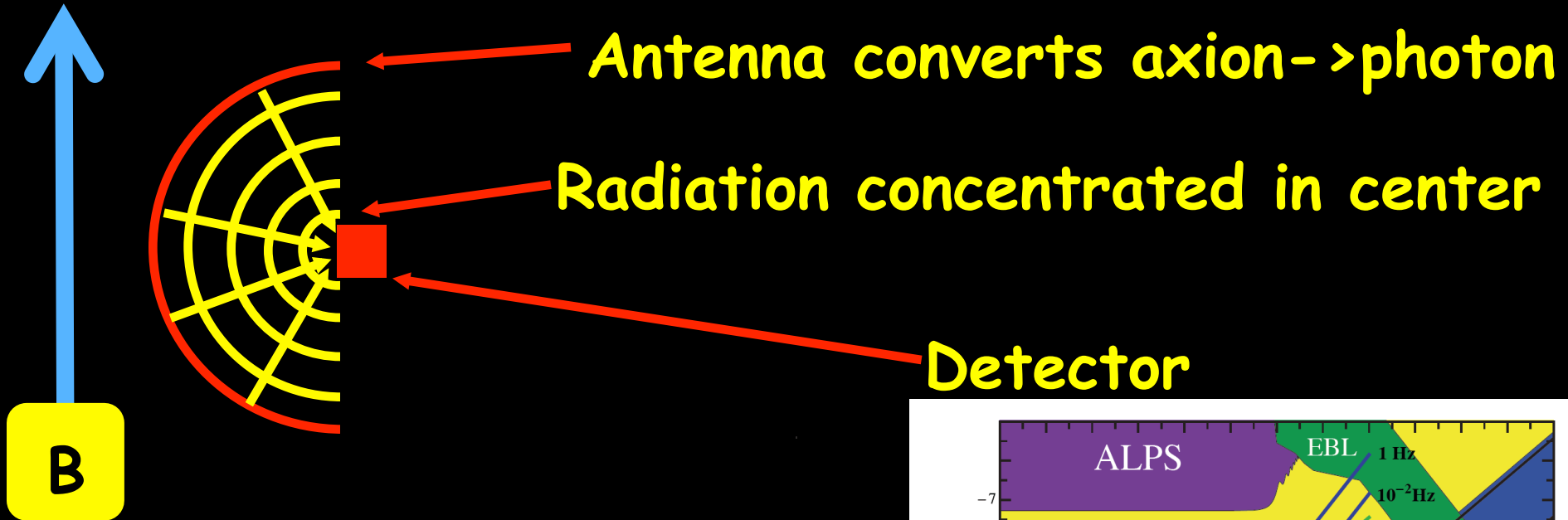
Superconducting  
magnets

# Encircling the axion...

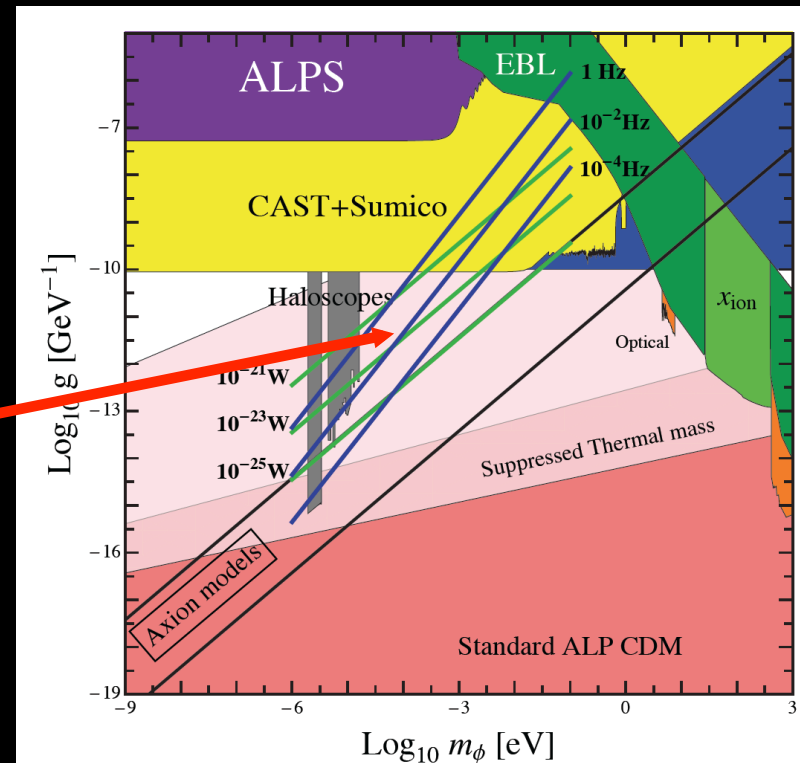


# Broadband Search Strategy

# Dark Matter Antenna



Probes here;  
very sensitive!!



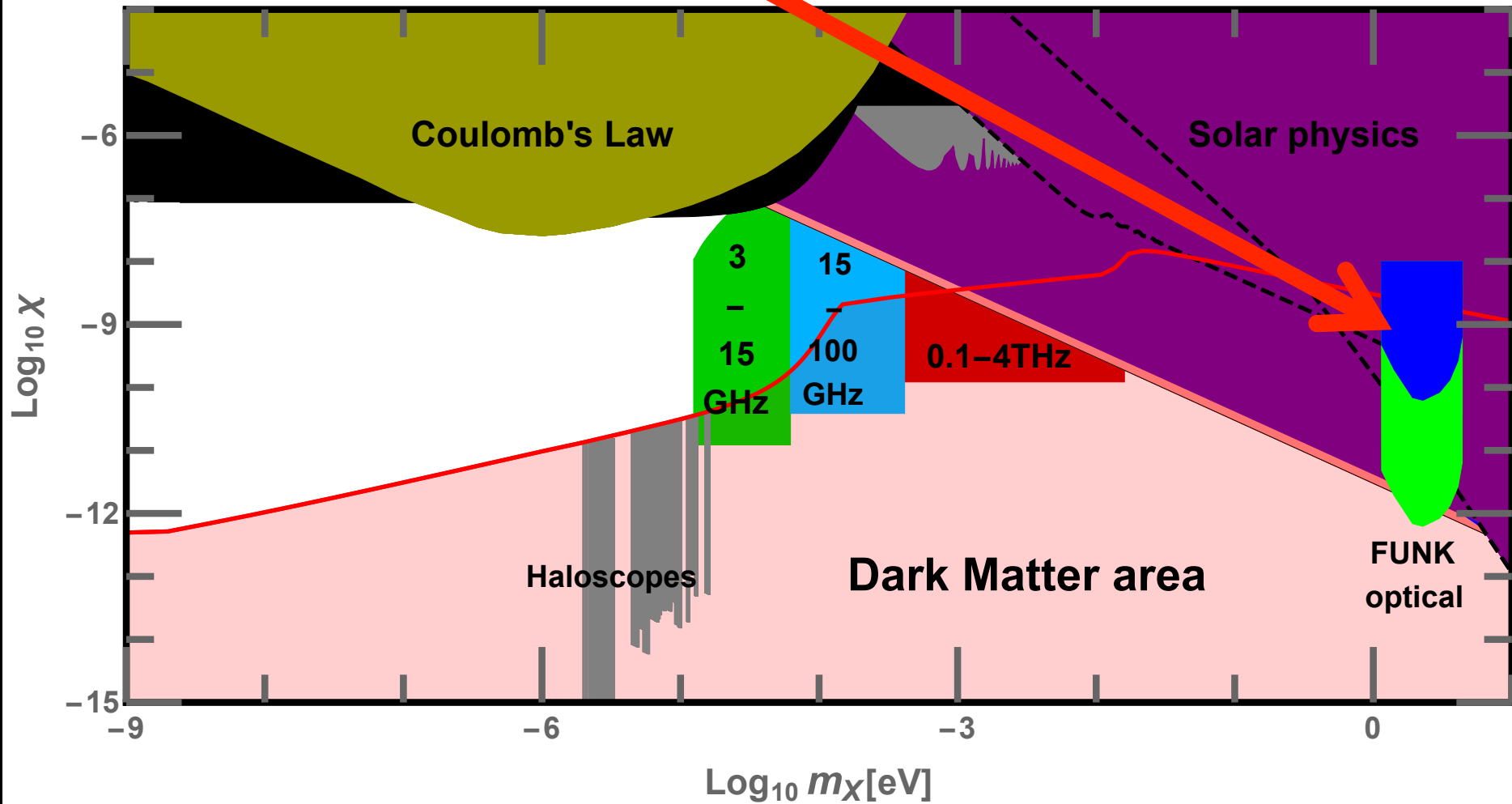
# The FUNK Experiment

## Recycle Auger mirror

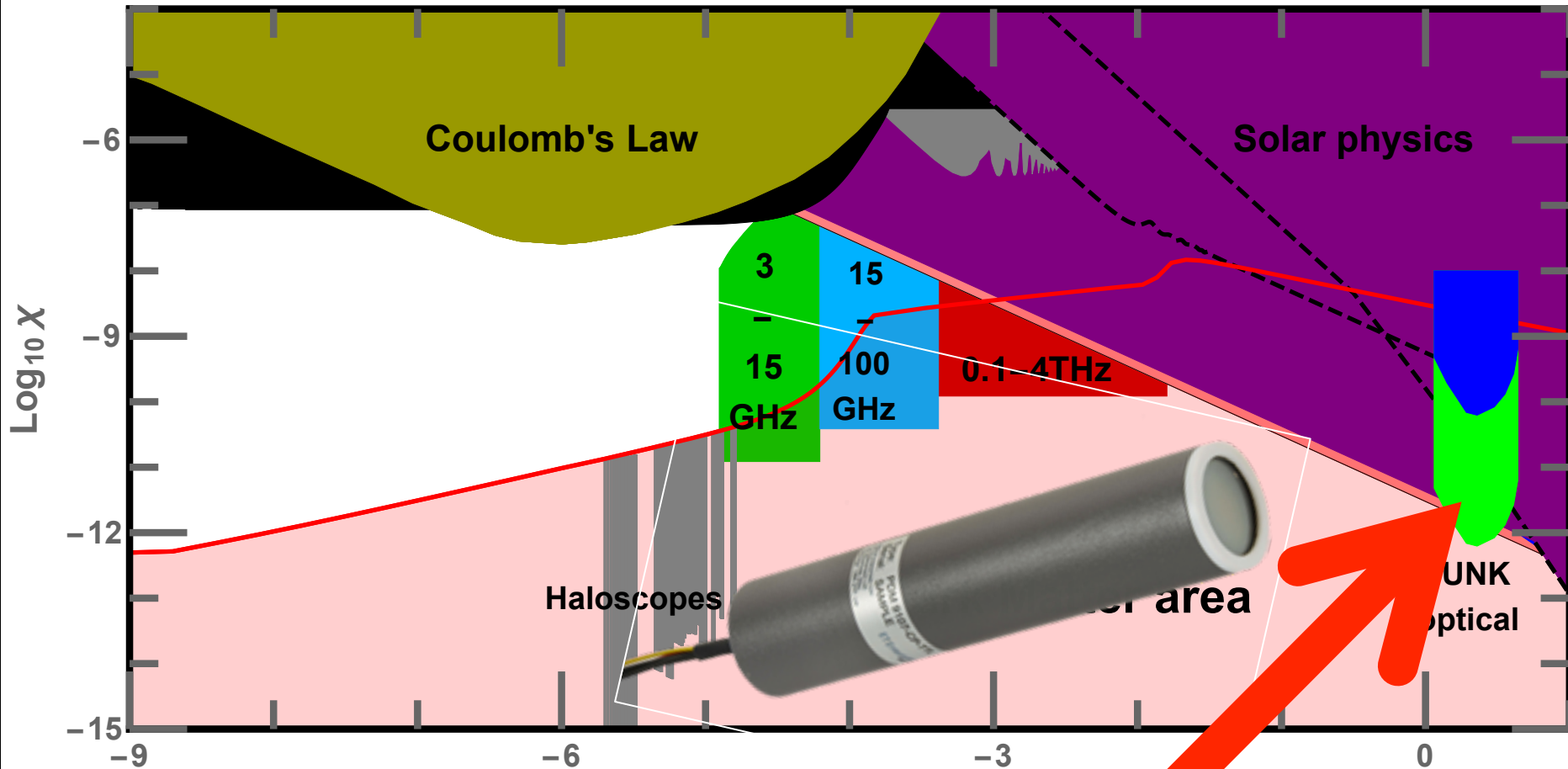
Detector



# First Results



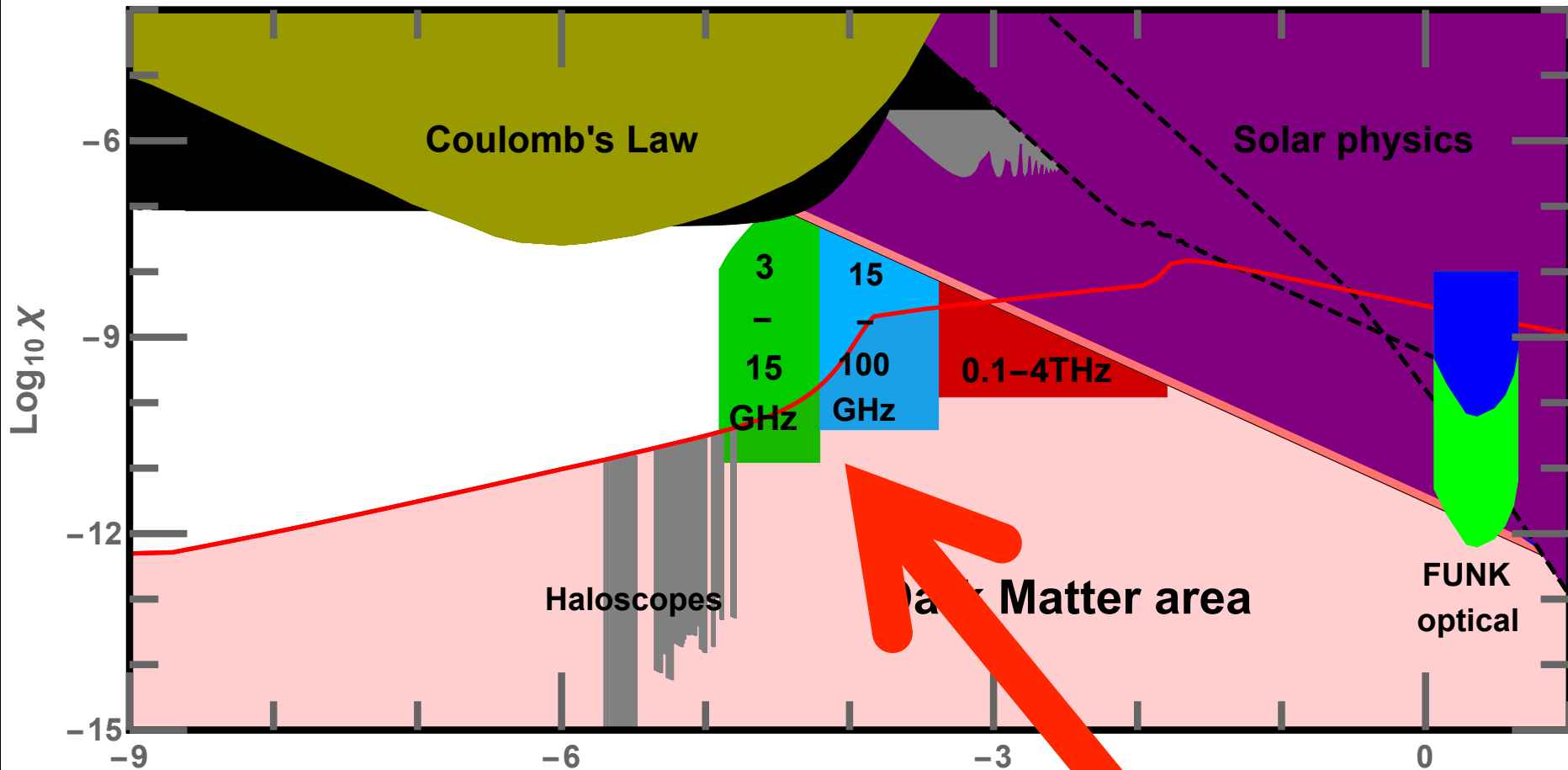
# Upgrade: The PMT 9000(+107)



Discovery Potential 😊!!!



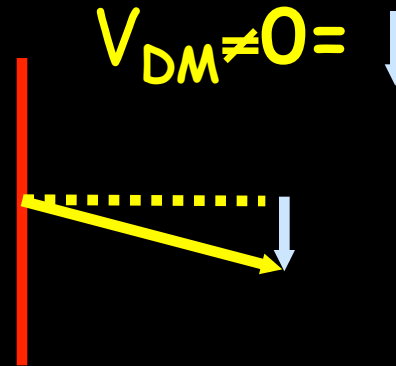
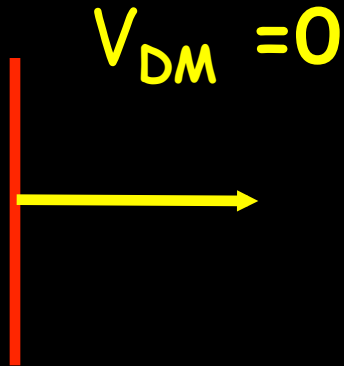
# The next years → Lower frequency



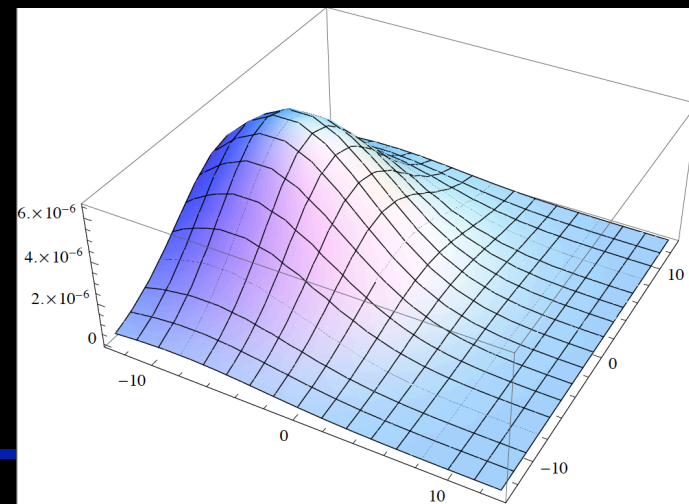
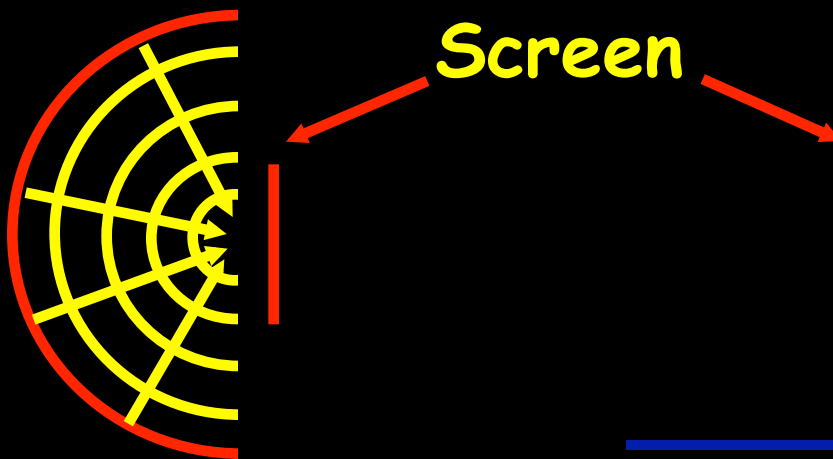
Discovery Potential 😊!!!

# A Dream for Astrology ehm Astronomy

- Emission from moving dark matter



- A picture of the DM-velocity distribution



New couplings:  
A spin experiment

# Looking for oscillating dipoles

- Remember:

Axion field controls electric dipole moment:

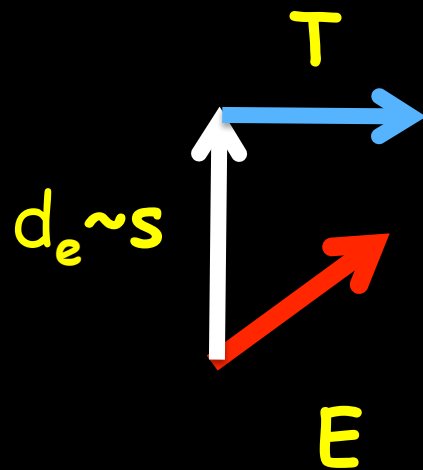
$$d_e \sim \theta \sim \frac{a}{f_a}$$

- Dipole moments follow the oscillating axion field  
→ Tiny oscillating electric dipole

$$d_e \sim 10^{-35} e \text{ cm} \cos(m_a t)$$

# In an electric field

---



Energy in an electric field

$$H = -\mathbf{d} \cdot \mathbf{E} = -c_{ES} \cdot \mathbf{E}.$$

Torque tries to tilt dipole moment/spin

$$\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{d} \times \mathbf{E} = c_{ES} \times \mathbf{E}.$$

---

# Dealing with oscillation

**Problem:** the dipole moment is rapidly oscillating  $\sim m_a$

→ Danger of cancellation

**Solution:** Rotate spin to compensate

→ Use Spin Precession in magnetic field

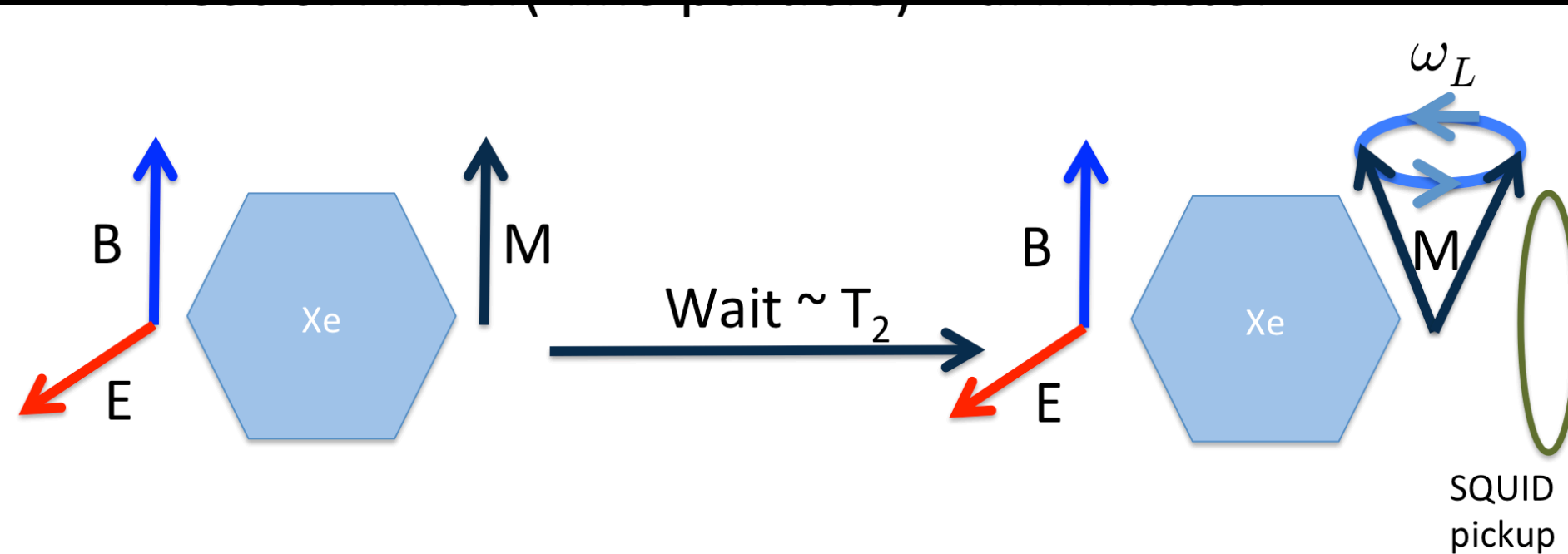
$$\omega_L = 2\mu B$$



Resonance when  $\omega_L = m_a$

# Modification of Xenon EDM

## Modification of Xenon EDM experiment to be sensitive to time varying nuclear EDM



### Proposal for a Cosmic Axion Spin Precession Experiment (CASPER)

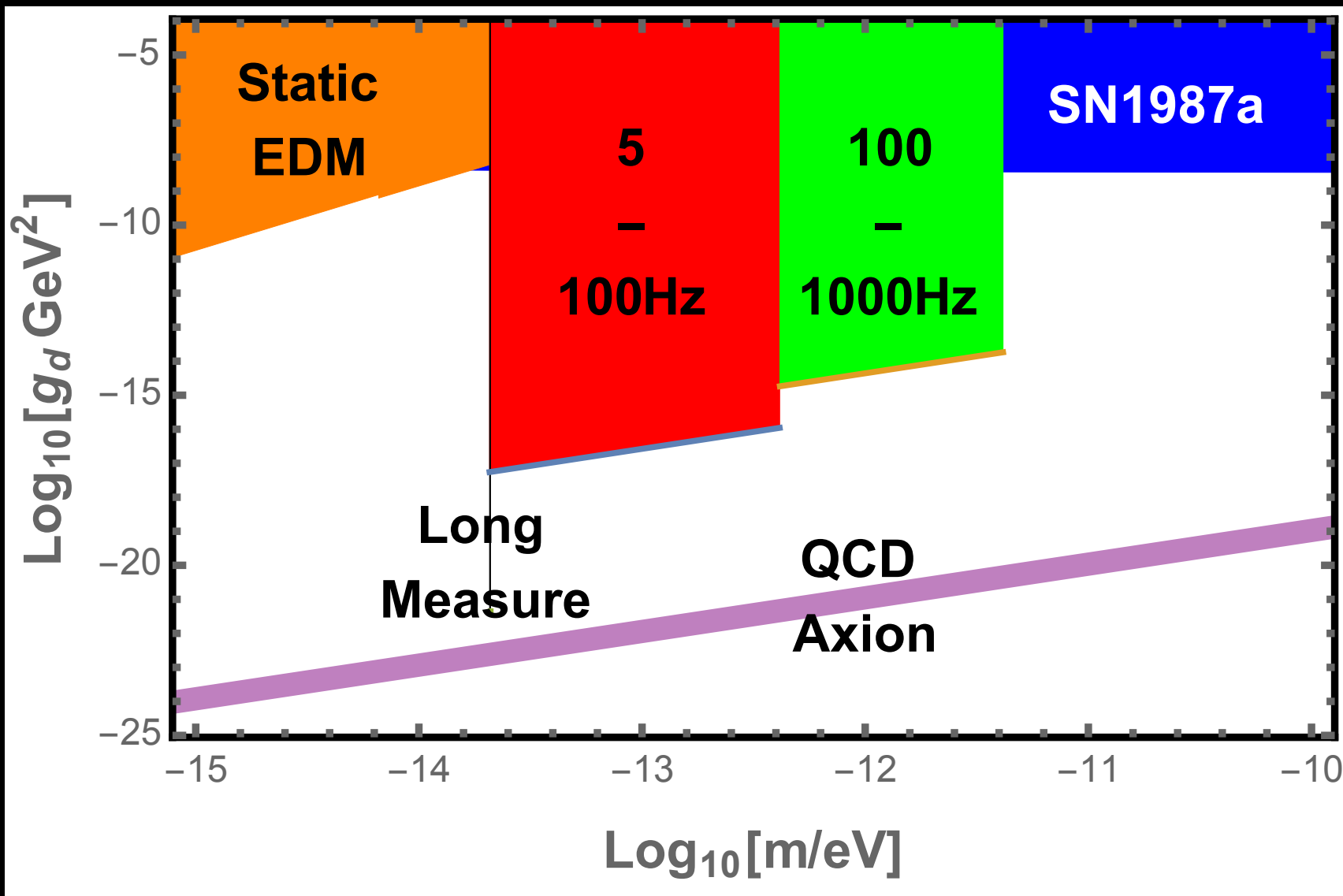
Dmitry Budker (UC, Berkeley & LBNL, NSD), Peter W. Graham (Stanford U., ITP), Micah Ledbetter (Unlisted, US, CA), Surjeet Rajendran (Stanford U., ITP), Alex Sushkov (Harvard U., Phys. Dept.).

Published in *Phys.Rev. X*4 (2014) no.2, 021030

DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevX.4.021030](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevX.4.021030)

e-Print: [arXiv:1306.6089](https://arxiv.org/abs/1306.6089) [hep-ph] | [PDF](#)

# Sensitivity





Conclusions

# Conclusions

- Good Physics Case for Axions and WISPs

➡ explore 'The Low Energy Frontier'

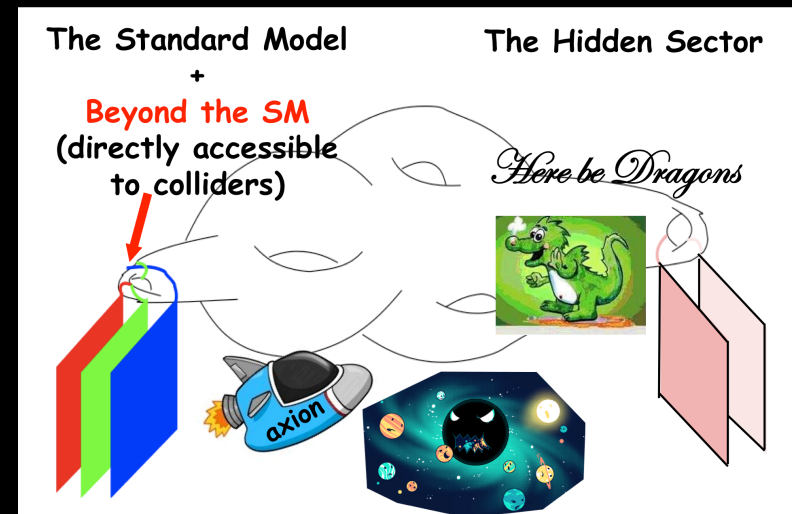
- Low energy experiments test energy scales much higher than accelerators

➡ Complementary!

- May provide information on hidden sectors and thereby into the underlying fundamental theory

- Dark Matter may be WISPy ☺

➡ New cool Experiments underway.



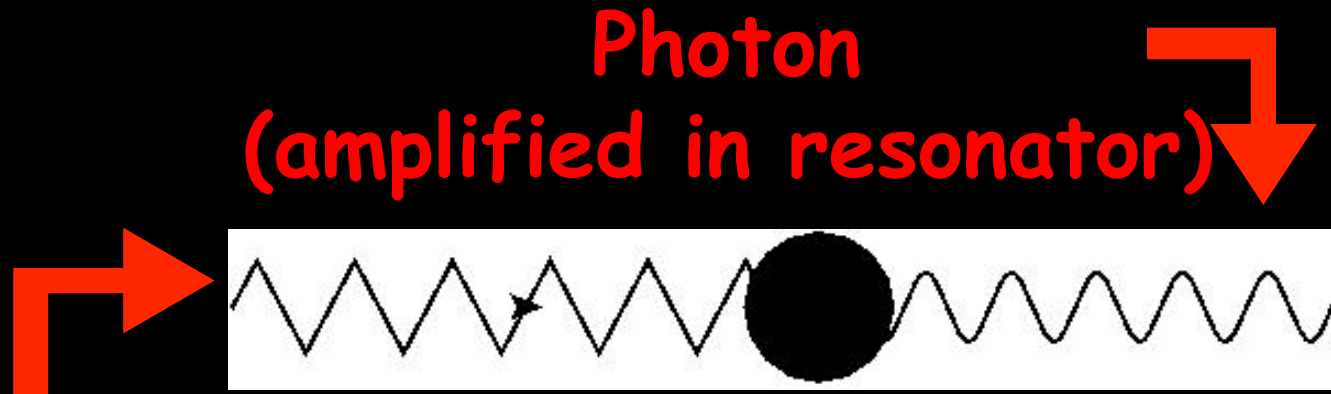
Axions  
and  
Hidden sector



Beyond ALPs

# Hidden photons

- Photon Regeneration



Hidden photon

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge}} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{(A)}^{\mu\nu} F_{(A)\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4} F_{(B)}^{\mu\nu} F_{(B)\mu\nu} + \frac{\chi}{2} F_{(A)}^{\mu\nu} F_{(B)\mu\nu},$$

„Our“ U(1)

„Hidden“ U(1)

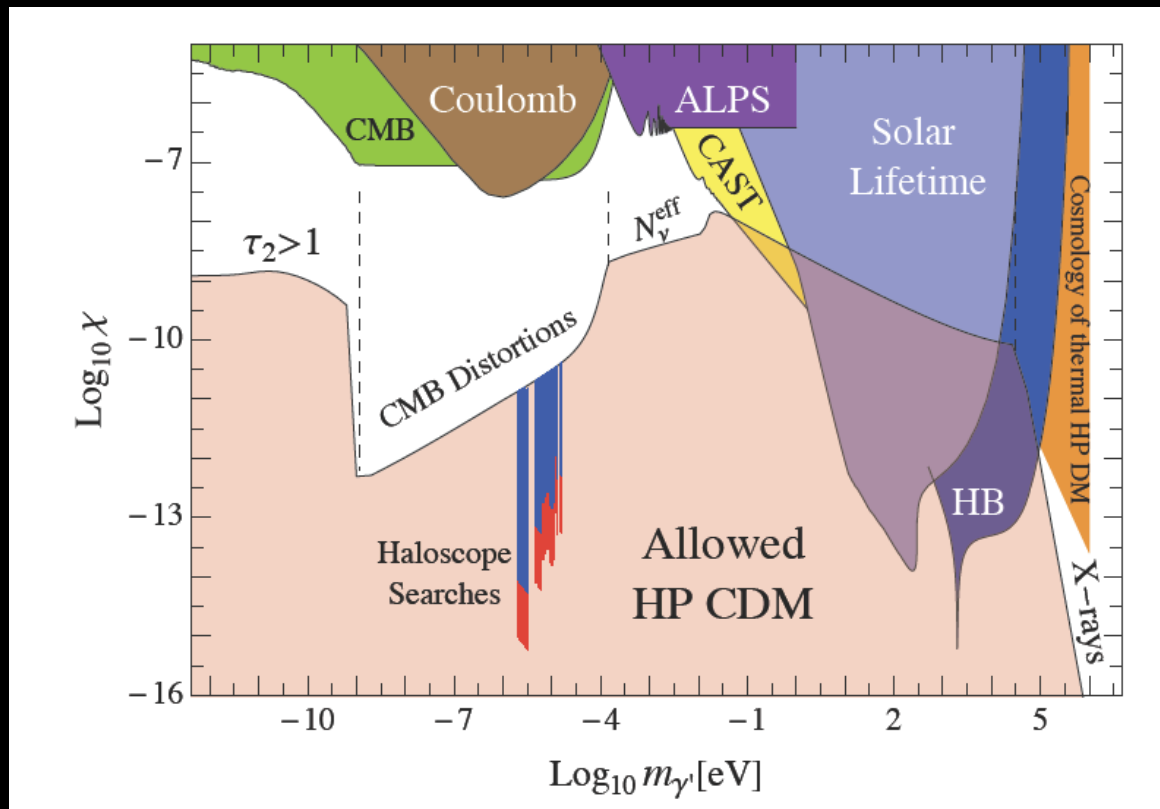
Mixing

+ Mass

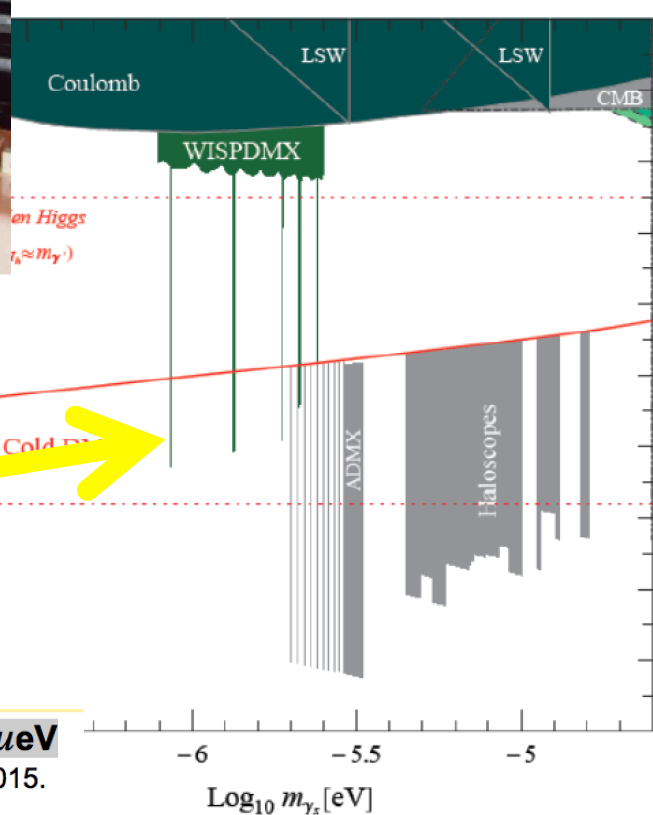
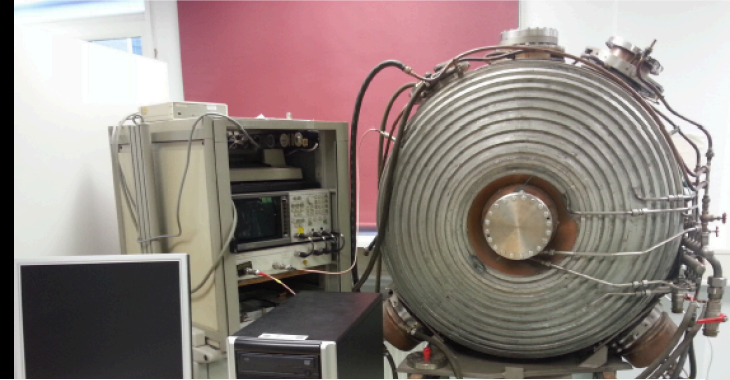
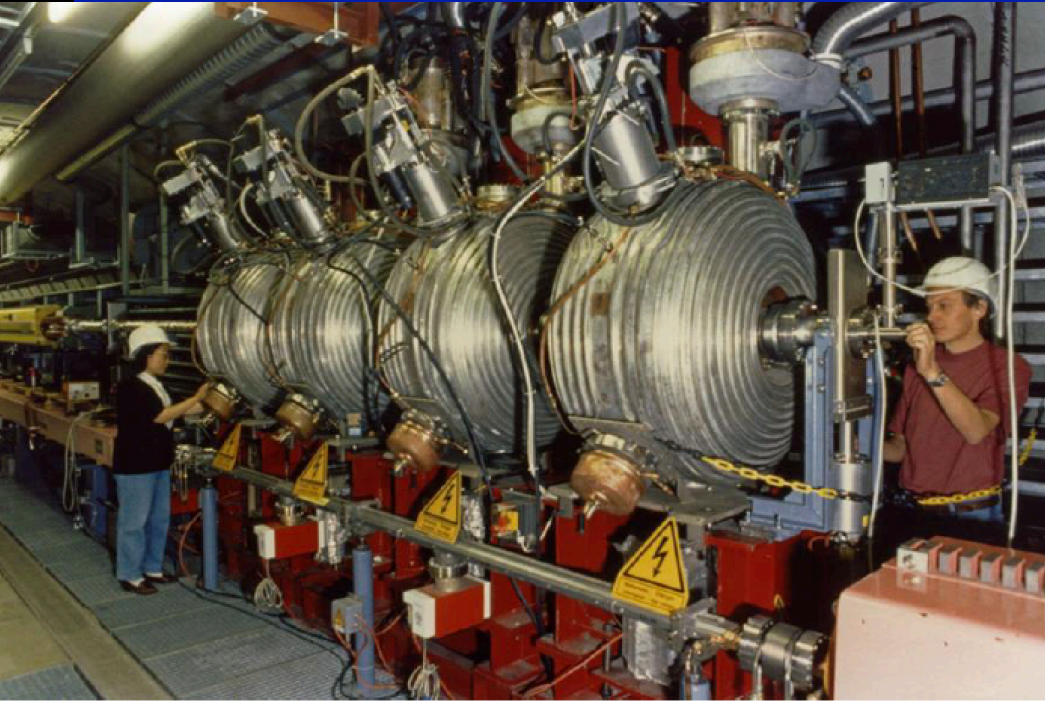
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = \frac{1}{2} m_{\gamma'}^2 X^\mu X_\mu$$

# Also for hidden photons!!!

- There are other very light DM candidates
- E.g  
extra (hidden) U(1) bosons=hidden photons!!!



# @ DESY + Bonn: WISPDMMX



## New Results!

### 1. WISPDMMX: A haloscope for WIMP Dark Matter between $0.8\text{-}2 \mu\text{eV}$

Le Hoang Nguyen, Dieter Horns, Andrei Lobanov, Andreas Ringwald. Nov 10, 2015.

DESY-15-185

e-Print: [arXiv:1511.03161](https://arxiv.org/abs/1511.03161) [physics.ins-det] | [PDF](#)