



ALP dark matter search via Alkali-Noble-Gas Haloscopes

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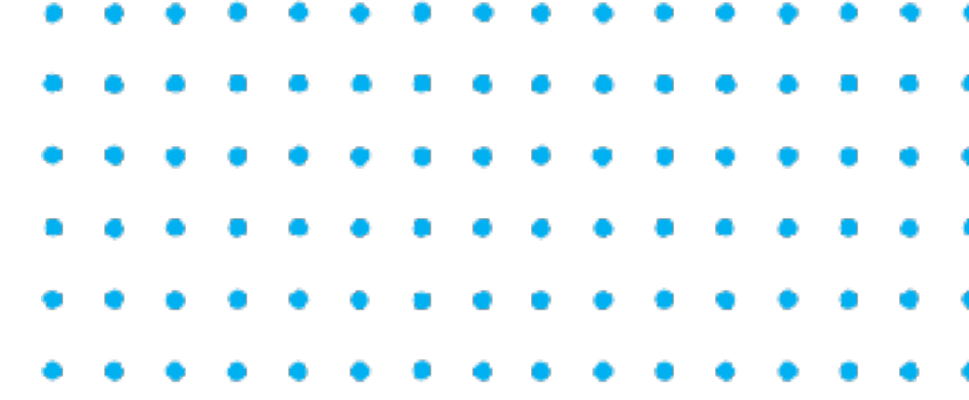
Beihang University

第四届高能物理理论与实验融合发展研讨会

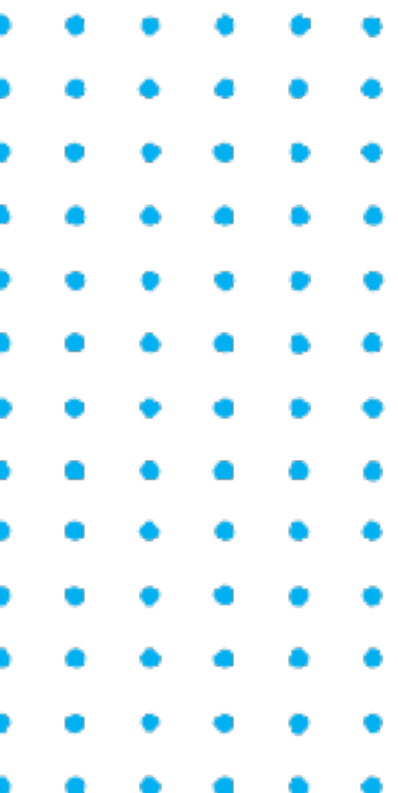
Base On: Commun.Phys. 7 (2024) 1, 226[arXiv:2309.00231]
Rept.Prog.Phys. 88 (2025) 5, 057801[arXiv:2306.08039]



Outline

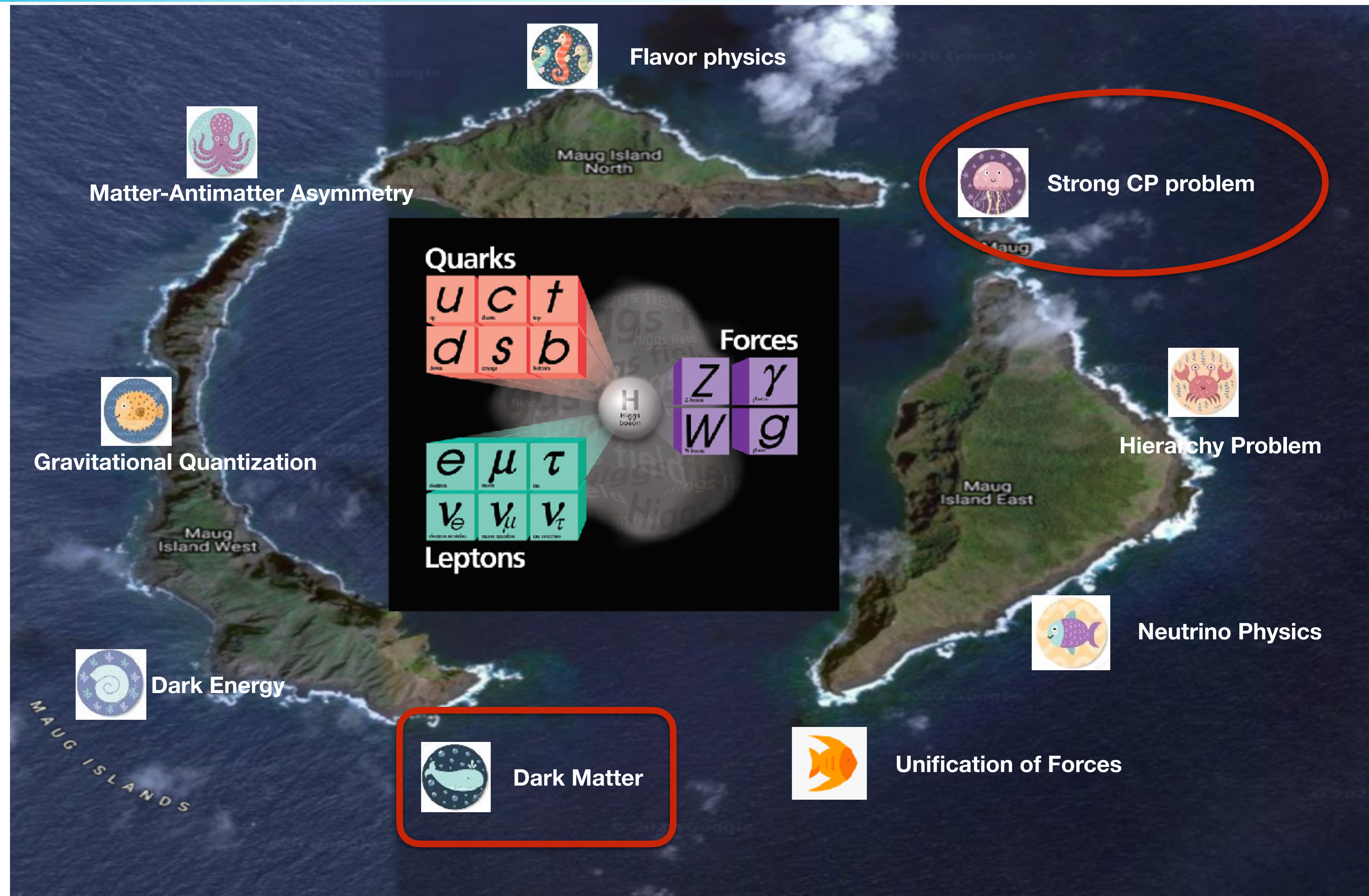
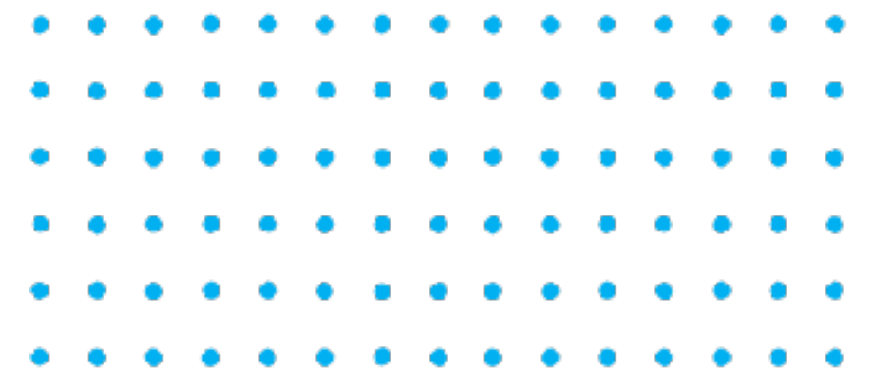


- Strong CP problem and QCD Axion
- ALP Dark Matter
- ALP DM search via NMR method
- Summary



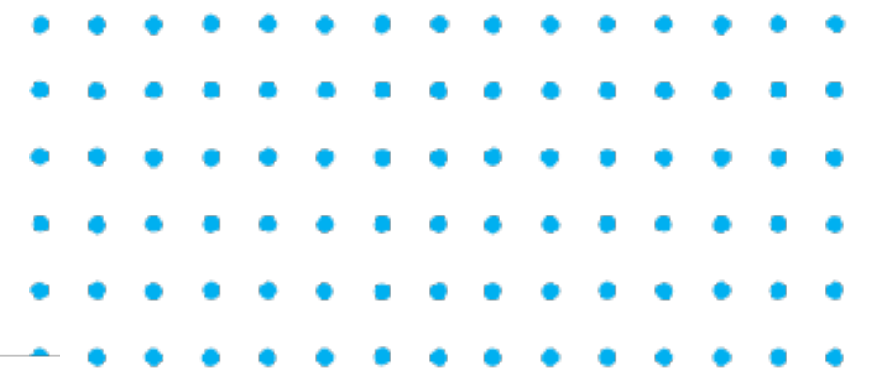


SM and New Physics



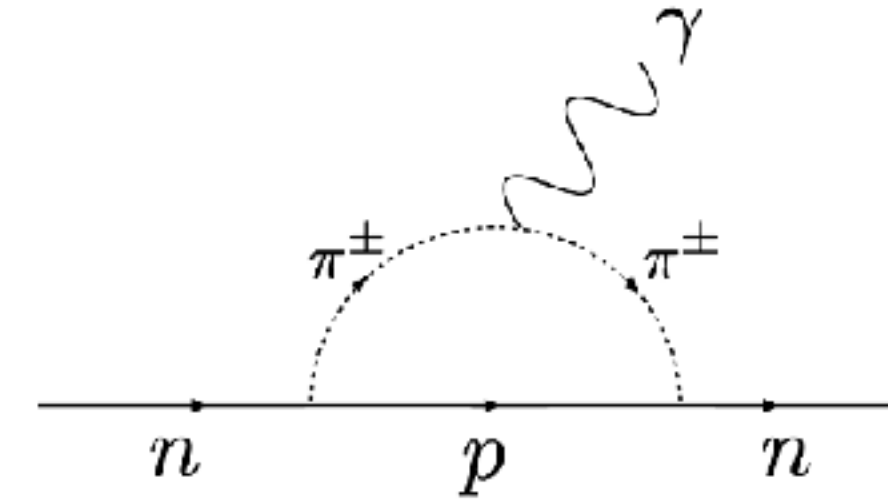


Strong CP problem



- Low-energy QCD done predict

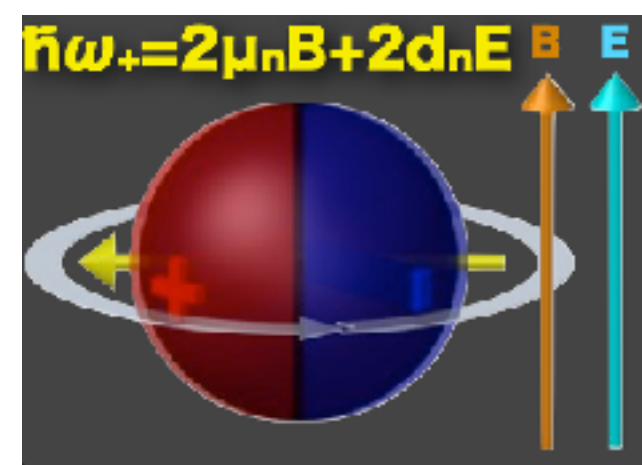
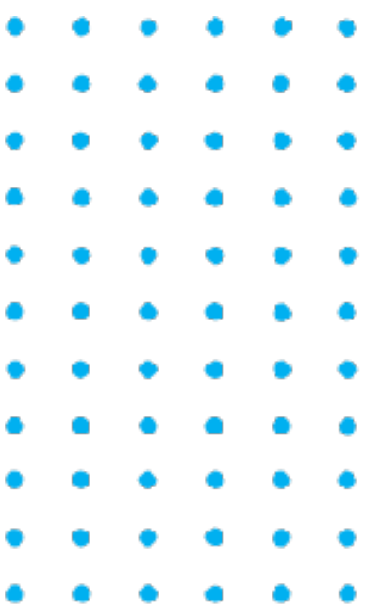
$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{\bar{\theta} g_s^2}{32\pi^2} G\tilde{G}$$



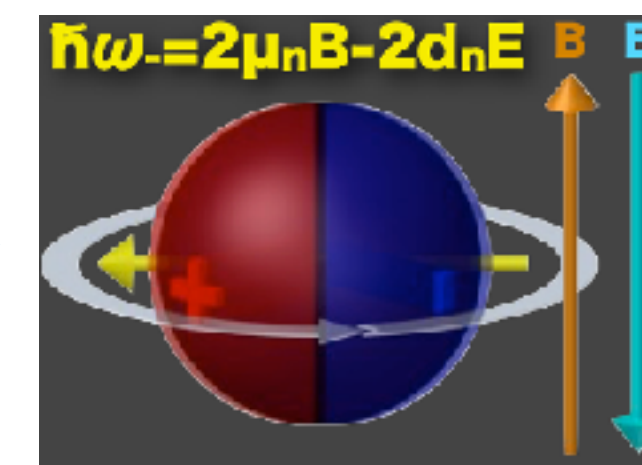
- Based on above QCD, we can build a theory for meson, then induce the neutron eDM at nucleon level

$$d_n = \frac{e\bar{\theta}g_A c_+ \mu}{8\pi^2 f_\pi^2} \log \frac{\Lambda^2}{m_\pi^2} \sim 3 \times 10^{-16} \bar{\theta} \text{ e cm}$$

- Precession measurement

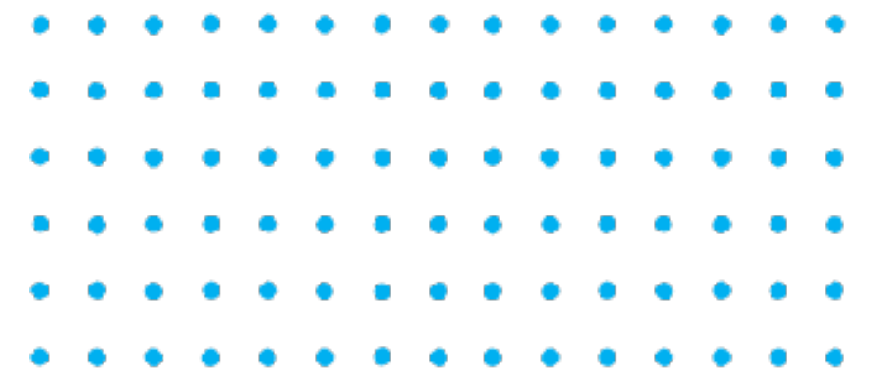


$$d_n = \frac{\hbar \Delta\omega}{4E} \leq 10^{-26} \text{ e cm}$$





Solution to Strong CP problem



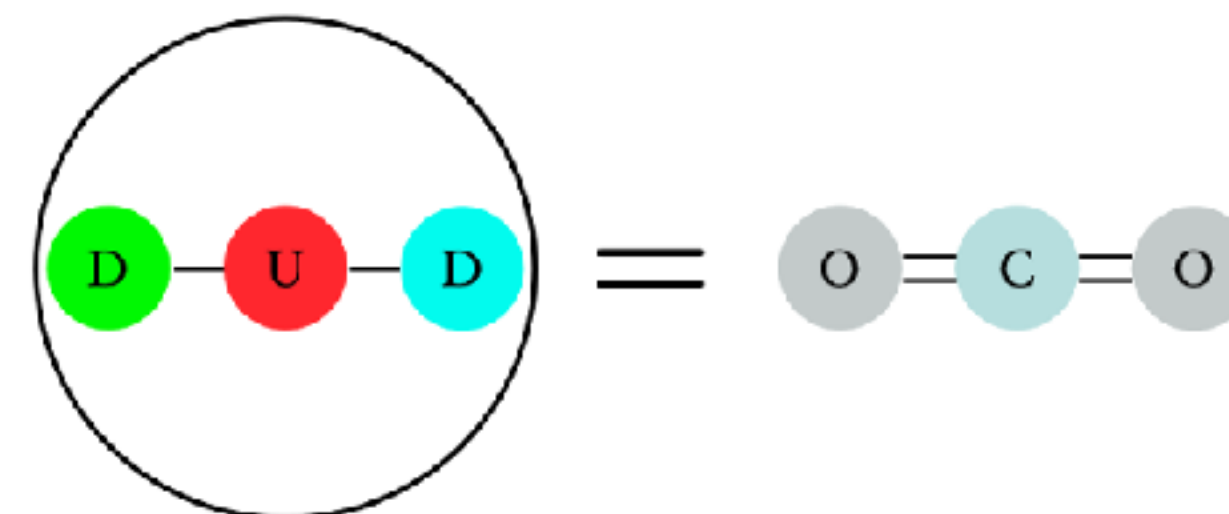
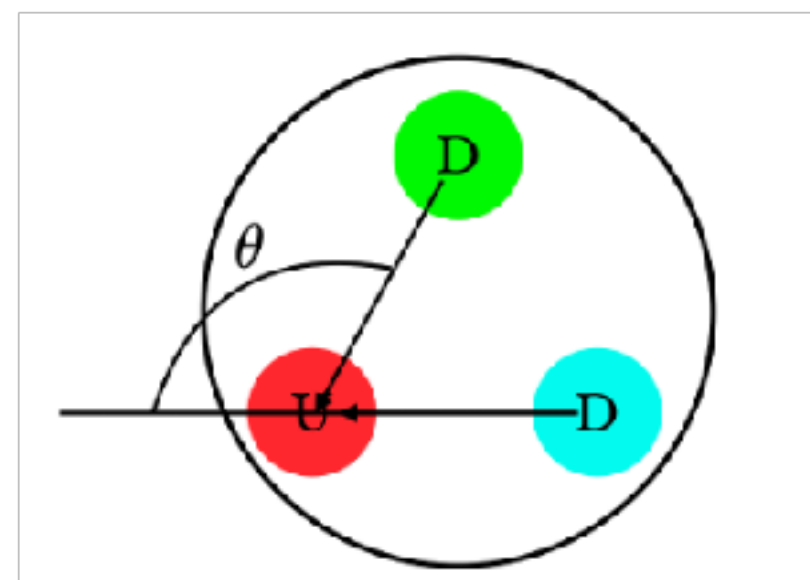
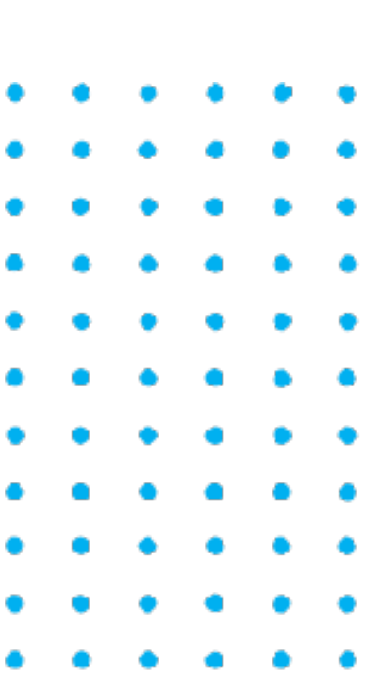
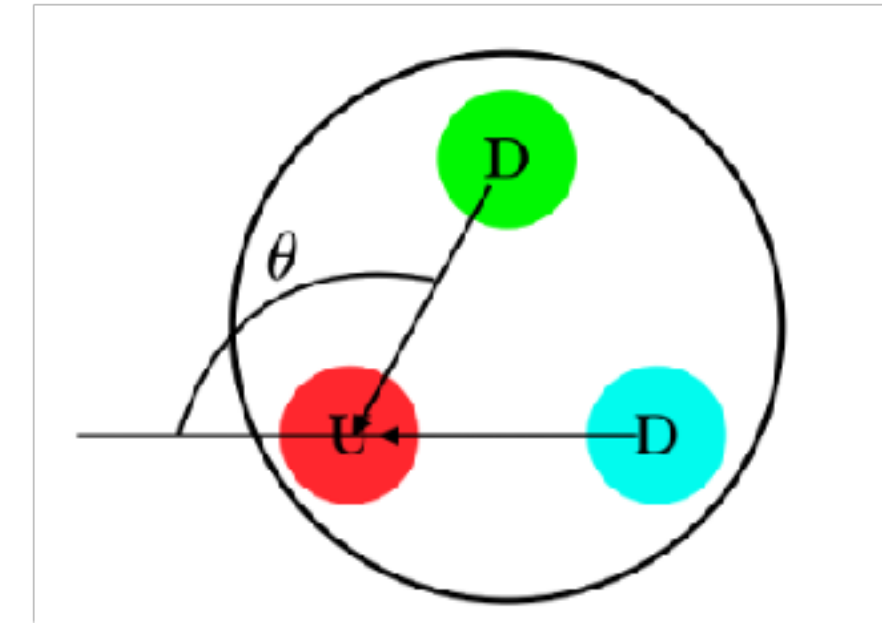
- The neutron eDM in classical formula

$$\vec{d} = \sum q \vec{r}$$

- Use the neutron has a size $r_n \sim 1/m_\pi$

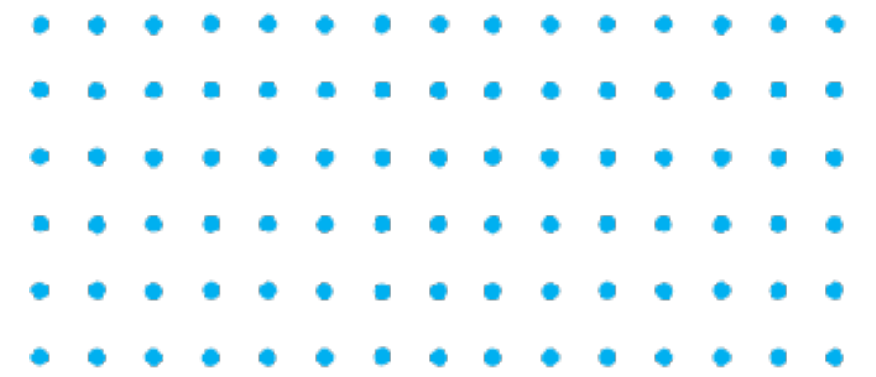
$$|d_n| \approx 10^{-13} \sqrt{1 - \cos \theta} e \text{ cm}$$

- Comparing to the experiment results, we need $\cos \theta = 1$





Solution to Strong CP problem



- The EFT consists of a single new particle, the axion (a), and a single new coupling (f_a)

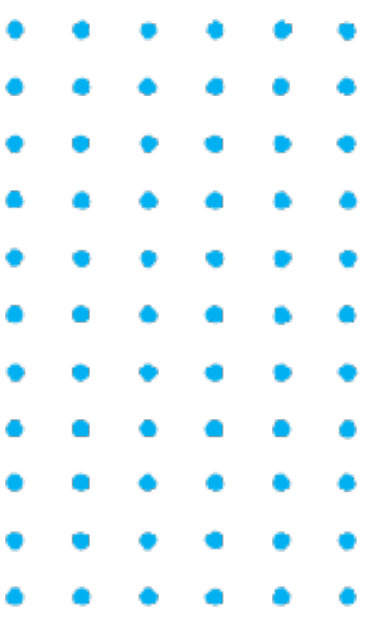
$$\mathcal{L} \supset \left(\frac{a}{f_a} + \bar{\theta} \right) \frac{1}{32\pi^2} G\tilde{G}$$

- The axion obeys an anomalous symmetry

$$a \rightarrow a + \alpha f_a, \theta \rightarrow \theta - \alpha$$

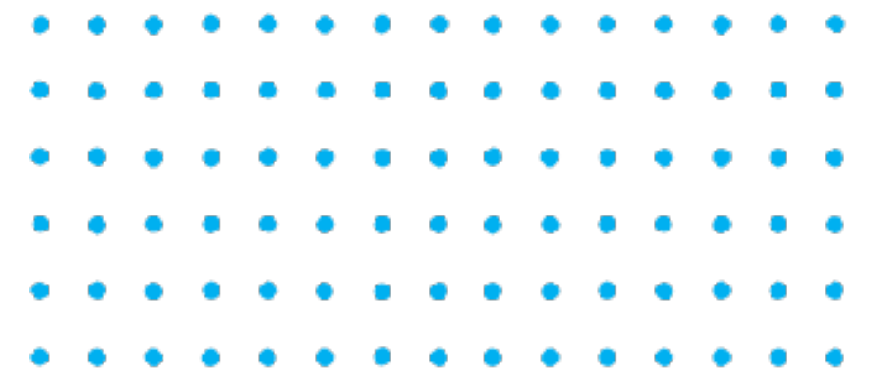
- UV completions of the QCD axion will occasionally generate other couplings, (To quark coupling can be generated by RG evolution)

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{a}{f_B} \frac{1}{32\pi^2} B\tilde{B} + \frac{a}{f_W} \frac{1}{32\pi^2} W\tilde{W} + \frac{\partial_\mu a}{f_Q} Q^\dagger \sigma^\mu Q$$





Solution to Strong CP problem



- The axion potential is

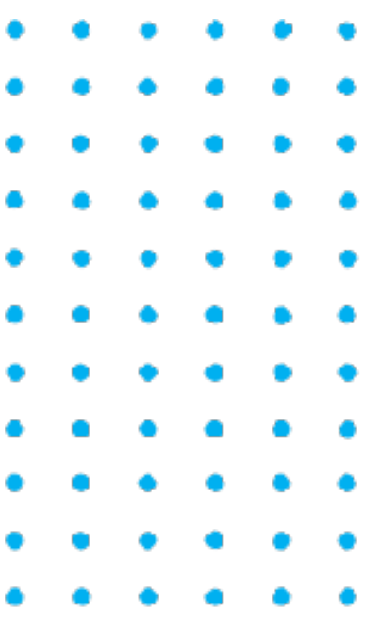
$$V = -m_\pi^2 f_\pi^2 \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_u m_d}{(m_u + m_d)^2} \sin^2 \frac{\bar{\theta}}{2}} \quad \rightarrow \quad V = -m_\pi^2 f_\pi^2 \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_u m_d}{(m_u + m_d)^2} \sin^2 \left(\frac{a}{2f_a} + \frac{\bar{\theta}}{2} \right)}$$

- To solve strong CP problem

$$d_n = \frac{e\bar{\theta}g_A c_+ \mu}{8\pi^2 f_\pi^2} \log \frac{\Lambda^2}{m_\pi^2} \sim 3 \times 10^{-16} \bar{\theta} \text{ ecm} \quad \rightarrow \quad d_n \propto \frac{a}{f_a} + \bar{\theta} = 0$$

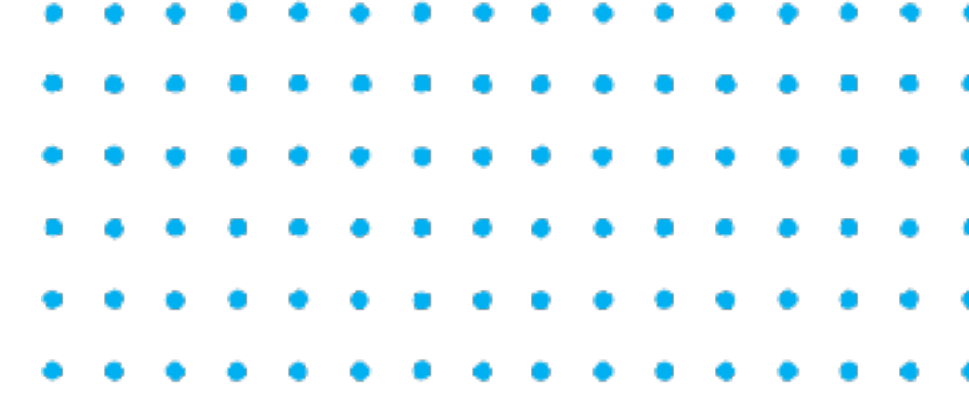
- QCD axion mass relationship, expand V at the minimal potential, with small a/fa

$$V = -m_\pi^2 f_\pi^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{m_u m_d}{(m_u + m_d)^2} \frac{m_\pi^2 f_\pi^2}{f_a^2} a^2 \quad \rightarrow \quad m_a = \frac{m_\pi f_\pi}{f_a} \frac{\sqrt{m_u m_d}}{m_u + m_d} \simeq 5.7 \left(\frac{10^{12} \text{ GeV}}{f_a} \right) \mu\text{eV}$$

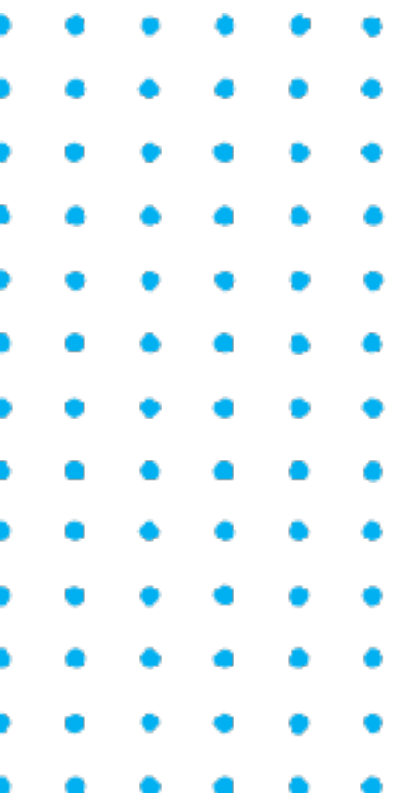




Outline

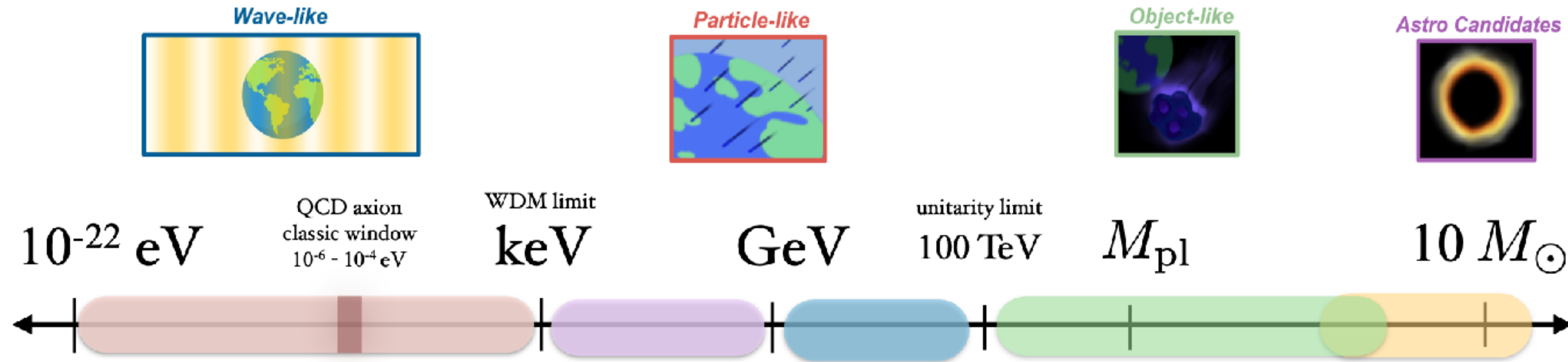
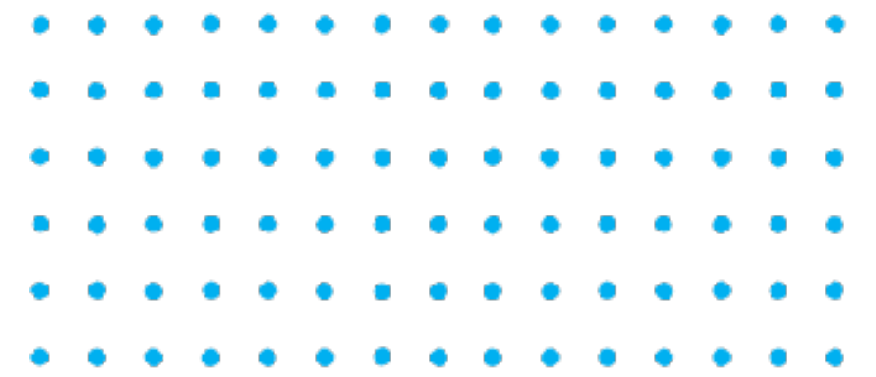


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Dark Matter Candidates



“Ultralight” DM
non-thermal
bosonic fields

“Light” DM
dark sectors
sterile ν
can be thermal

WIMP

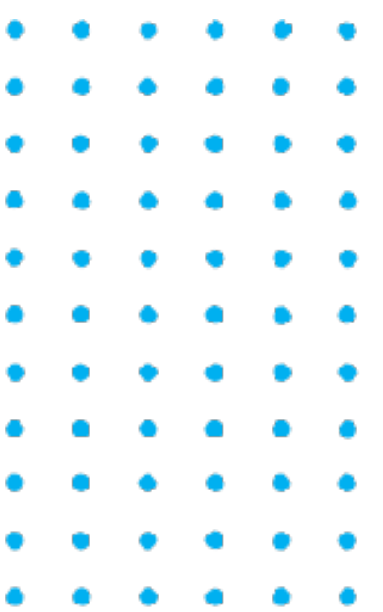
Composite DM
(Q-balls, nuggets, etc)

Primordial
black holes

Today's focus

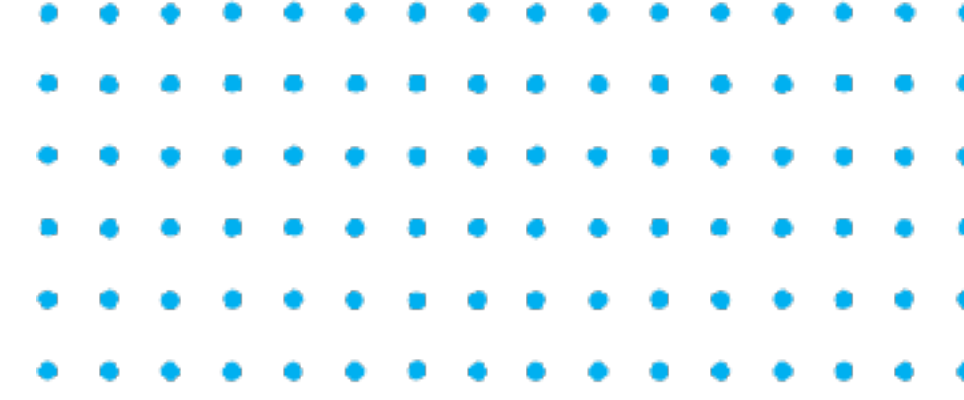


HEP at a cross-road: explore all directions!





Ultralight Dark Matter-Axion



- Production: Misalignment

$$\ddot{a} + 3H(t)a + m_a^2 a = 0 \quad \longrightarrow$$

$$a(t) = a_0 \quad (H \gg m_a)$$

$$a(t) = a_0 \sin(m_a t) \quad (H \ll m_a)$$

- QCD Axion having a very small mass

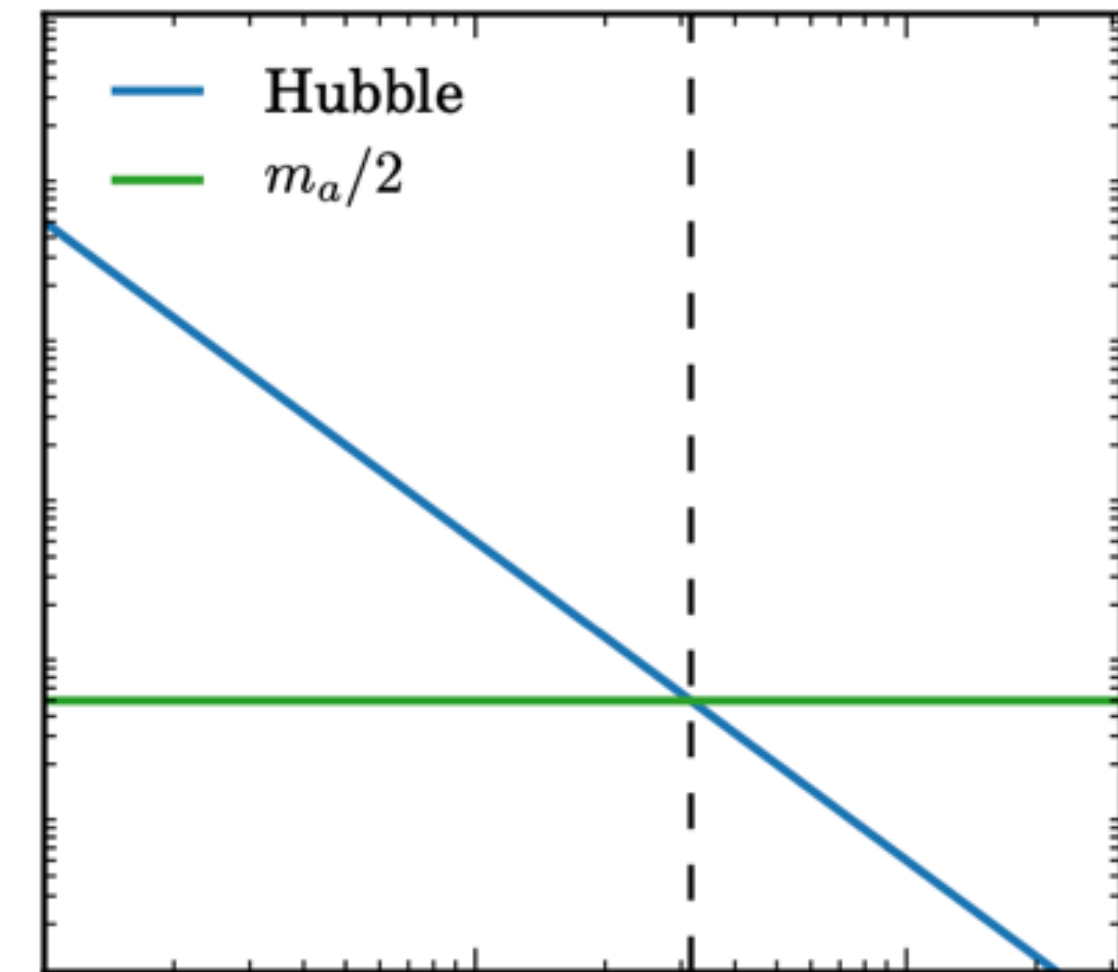
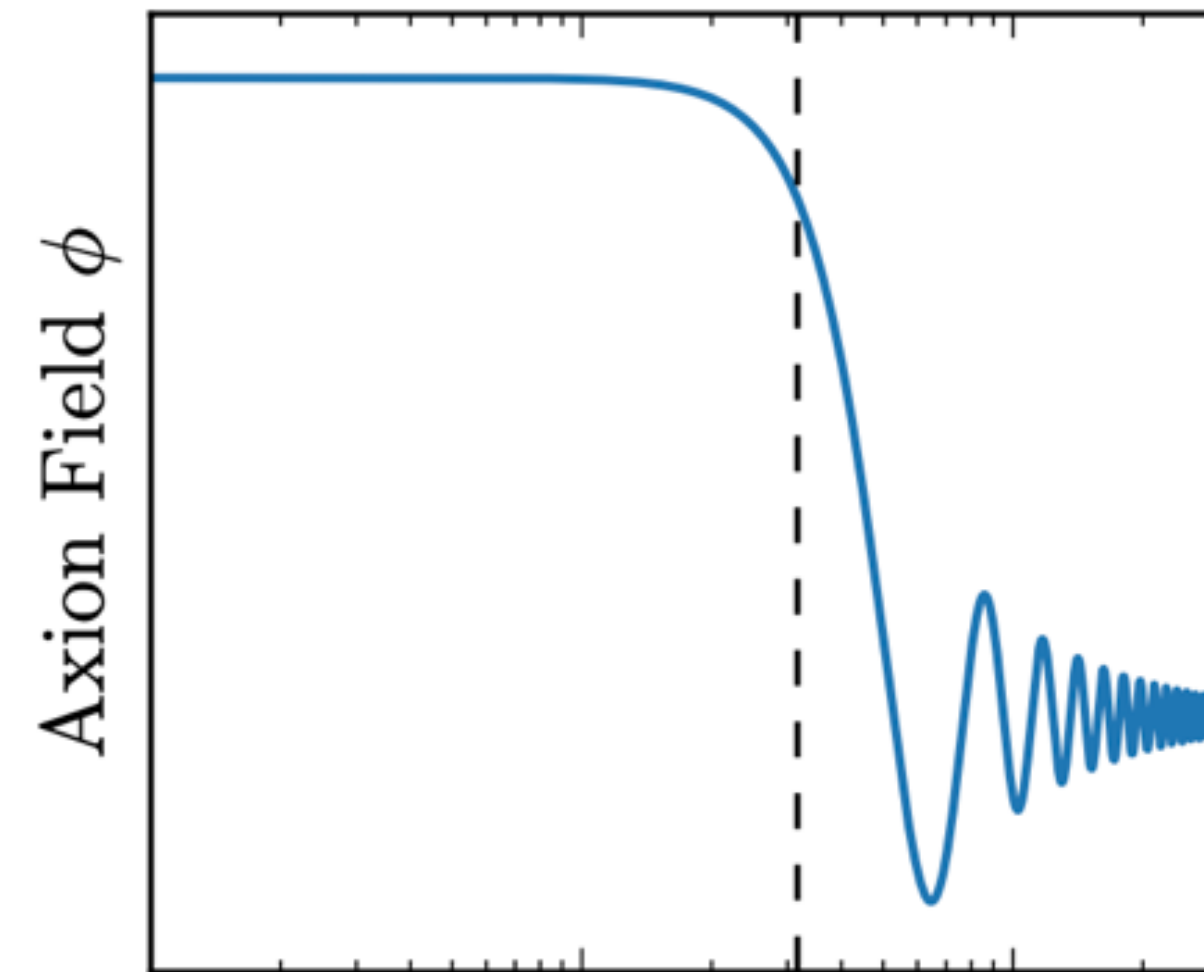
$$m_a \simeq 6 \times 10^{-6} \text{eV} \left(\frac{10^{12} \text{GeV}}{f_a} \right)$$

- The Axion energy density will be

$$\Omega_a \sim 0.15 \left(\frac{f_a}{10^{12} \text{GeV}} \right)^{7/6}$$

- The critical time change from field to particle

$$H(t_{\text{osc}}) \approx m_a/2$$





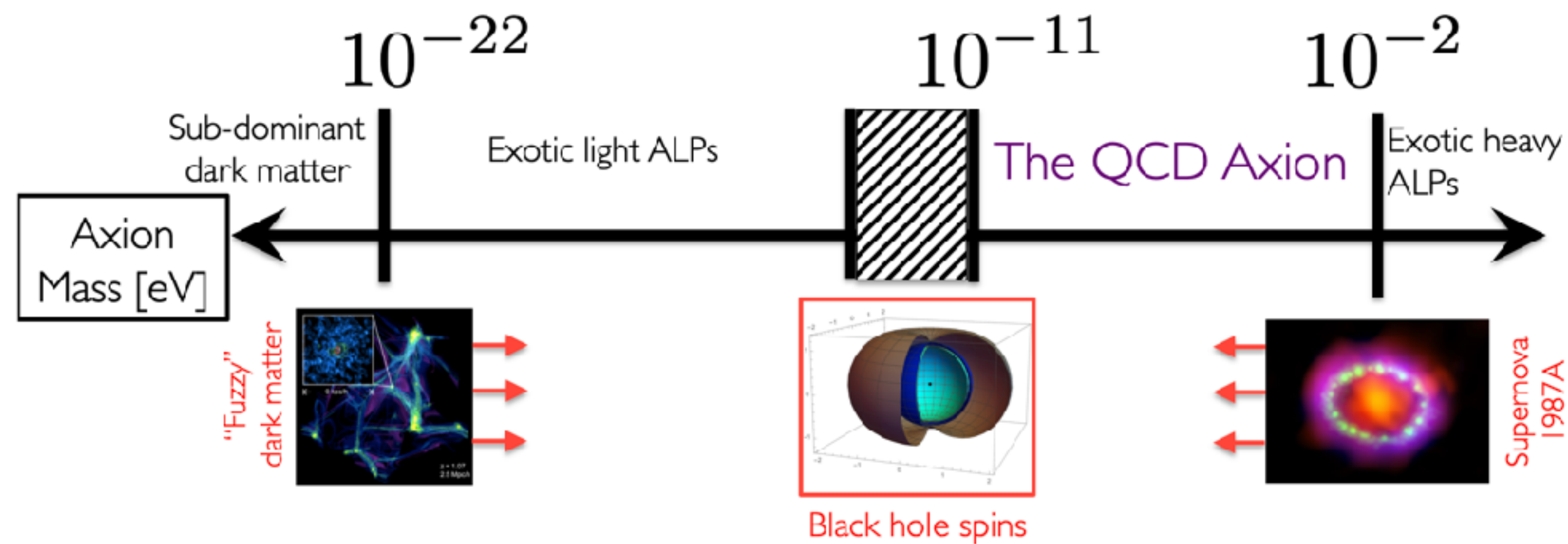
Ultralight Dark Matter-ALP

- The ALP Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_a^{\text{int}} \supset \frac{\alpha}{8\pi} \frac{C_{a\gamma}}{f_a} a F \tilde{F} + C_{af} \frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_a} \bar{f} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 f + \frac{C_{a\pi}}{f_a f_\pi} \partial_\mu a [\partial \pi \pi \pi]^\mu - \frac{i}{2} \frac{C_{an\gamma}}{m_n} \frac{a}{f_a} \bar{n} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \gamma_5 n F^{\mu\nu}$$

- The ALP energy density will be

$$\Omega_{\text{ALP}}^{\text{MIS}} h^2 = 0.12 \left(\frac{m_a}{4.7 \times 10^{-19} \text{eV}} \right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{f_a}{10^{16} \text{GeV}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\Omega_m h^2}{0.15} \right)^{3/4} \left(\frac{1 + z_{\text{eq}}}{3.4 \times 10^3} \right)^{-3/4} \Theta_i^2$$





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Nuclear magnetic resonance method

- Axion couples to SM particles

$$\mathcal{H}_\sigma = g_{aNN}\sqrt{2\rho_{\text{DM}}}\cos(m_a t)\vec{v}\cdot\vec{\sigma}_N = \gamma\vec{B}_{\text{ALP}}\cdot\vec{\sigma}$$

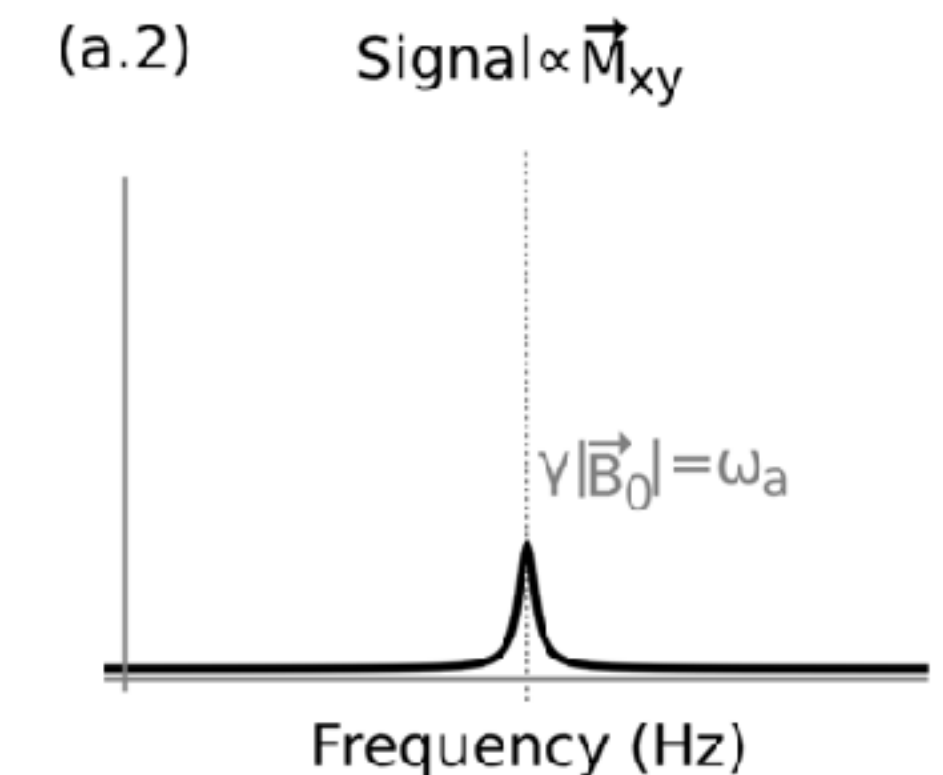
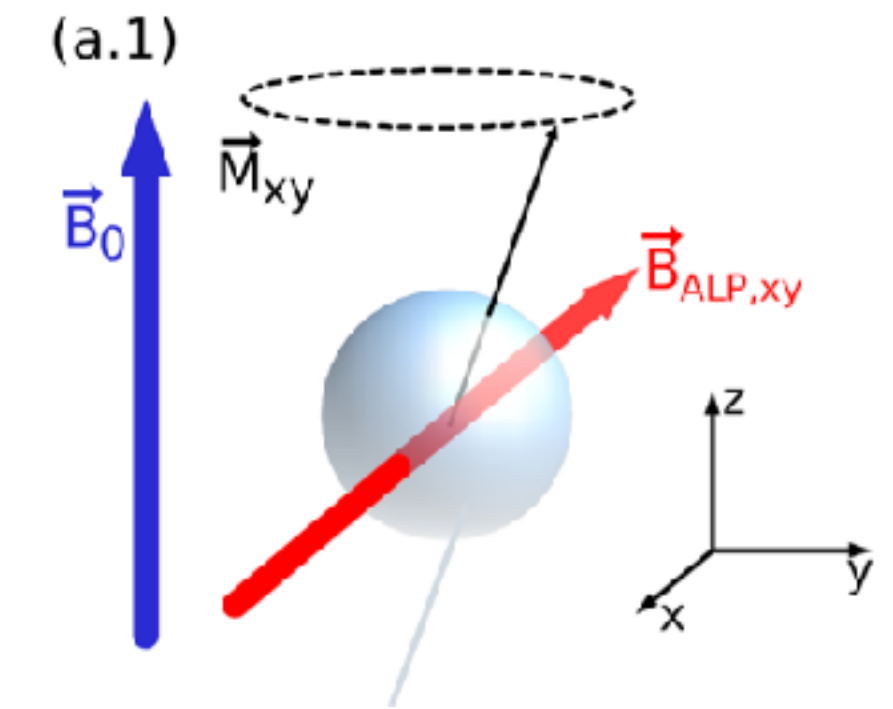
- Oscillate the mass at Larmor frequency

$$\vec{B}_{\text{ALP}} = g_{aNN}\sqrt{2\rho_{\text{DM}}}\cos(m_a t) = g_{aNN}\sqrt{2\rho_{\text{DM}}}\cos(\omega_a t)$$

- Bloch Equations

$$\frac{d\vec{M}}{dt} = \gamma\vec{M}\times\vec{B} \quad \text{Generate transverse from longitudinal}$$

Time varying Axion B_{ALP} drives spin precession $\rightarrow$ produces transverse magnetization





Comagnetic resonance method

- Bloch Equation: Describe the evolution of macroscopic spin systems

$$\dot{S}_{\perp} = \boxed{i\gamma B_z S_{\perp}} - \boxed{i\gamma \left(B_{\perp} + \frac{b_{\perp}}{\gamma} \right) S_z} - \boxed{\Gamma S_{\perp}}$$

Torque: generates transverse from longitudinal

Decaying excitations: causes stabilization

Creating macroscopic polarization : generates a non-trivial steady state solution

- If B_z is constant & $\dot{S}_{\perp} = 0$

Signal: Generated from ALP

$$S_{\perp}(\omega = m_a) = \frac{\boxed{b_{\perp}} + \gamma B_{\perp}(\omega = m_a)}{(\gamma B_z - \boxed{m_a}) + i\Gamma} \boxed{S_z}$$

Spin in Z direction

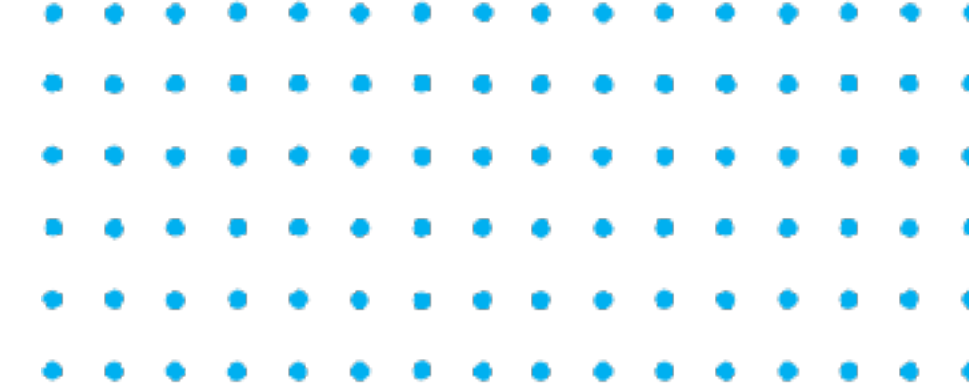
Controlled Resonance Frequency

ALP mass

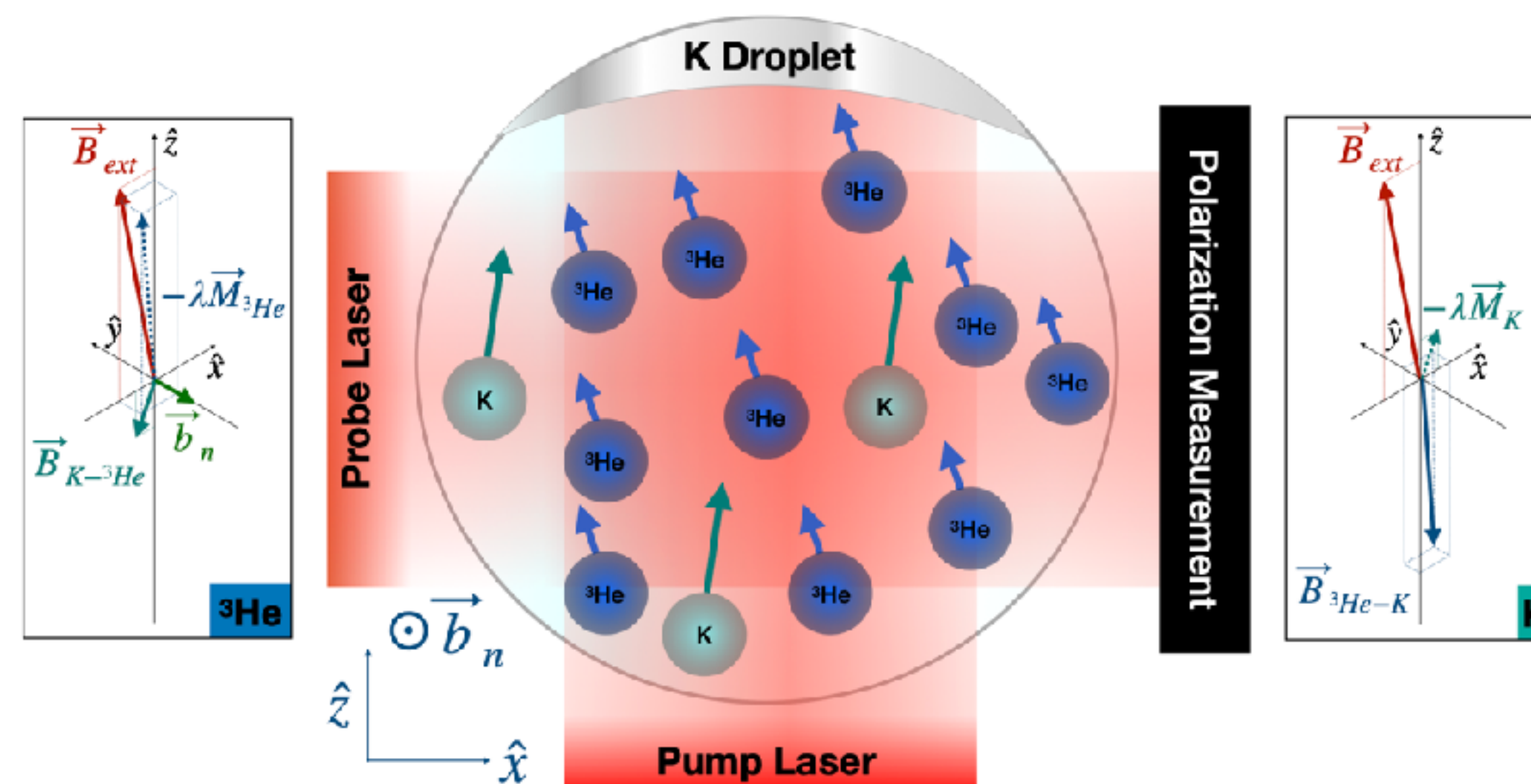
Decoherence Rate



Comagnetic resonance method



Magnetometers can measure ALPs. Alkali magnetometers are easy to work with, while Noble magnetometers are more sensitive.



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- At the compensation point:

1. any magnetic noise (at low frequencies) has no effect on the alkali spins!

2. the two species are “in resonance”, allowing for a fast response to sudden changes.

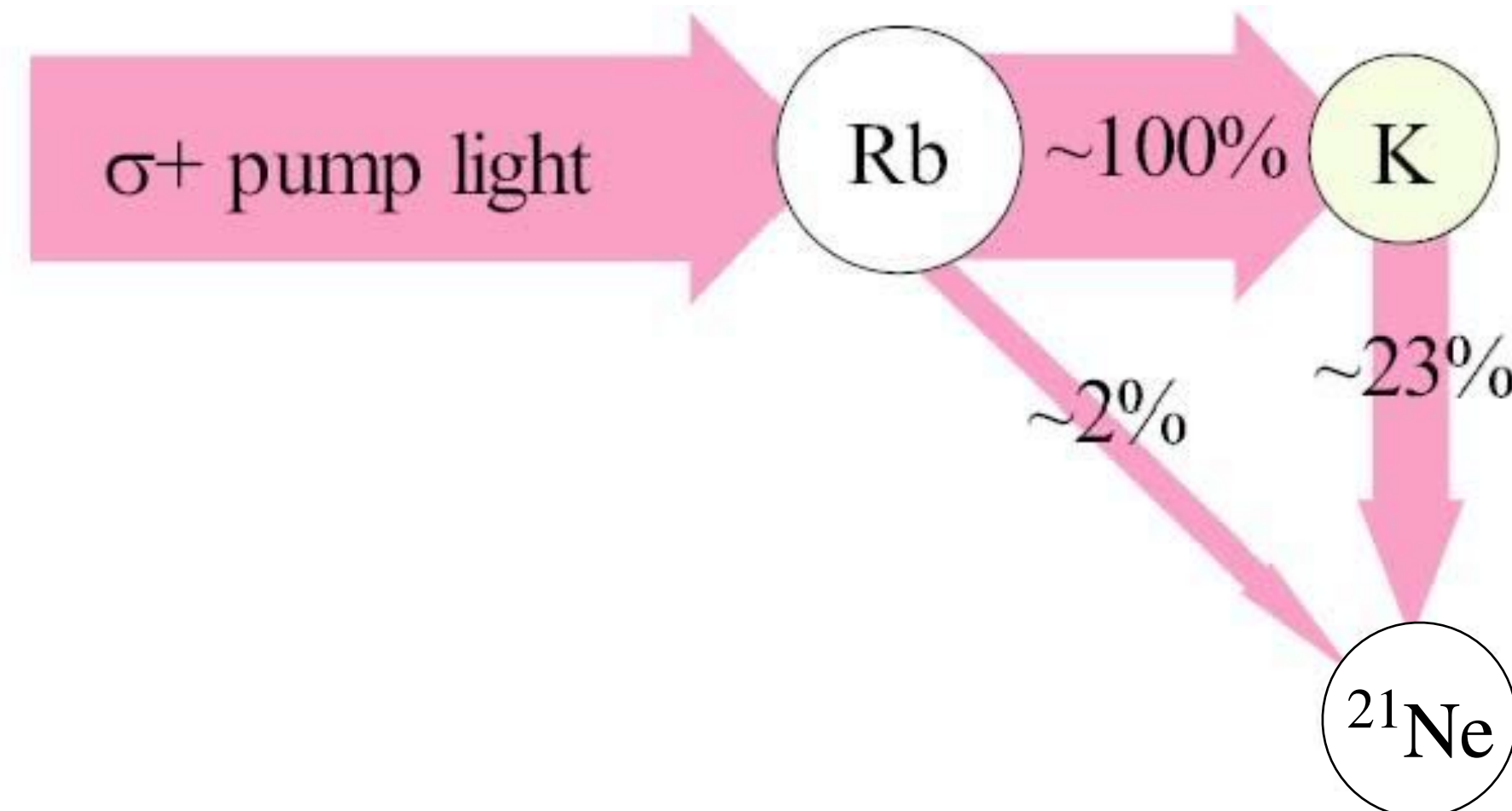


Comagnetometer—Optical pumping

- The ^{21}Ne polarization rate is

$$\frac{dP_{\text{Ne}}}{dt} = \Gamma_{\text{SE}} (P_A - P_{\text{Ne}}) - \Gamma_{\text{Ne}} P_{\text{Ne}}$$

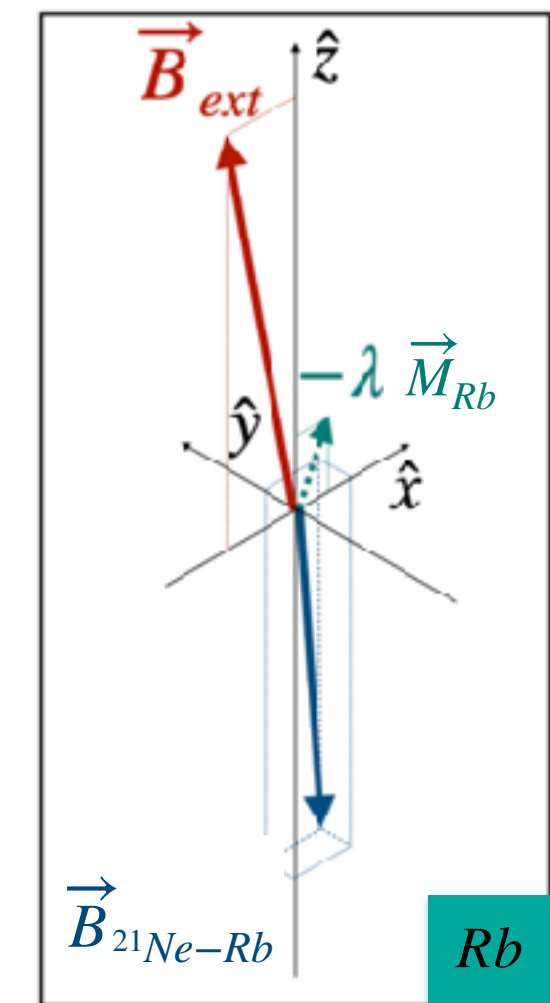
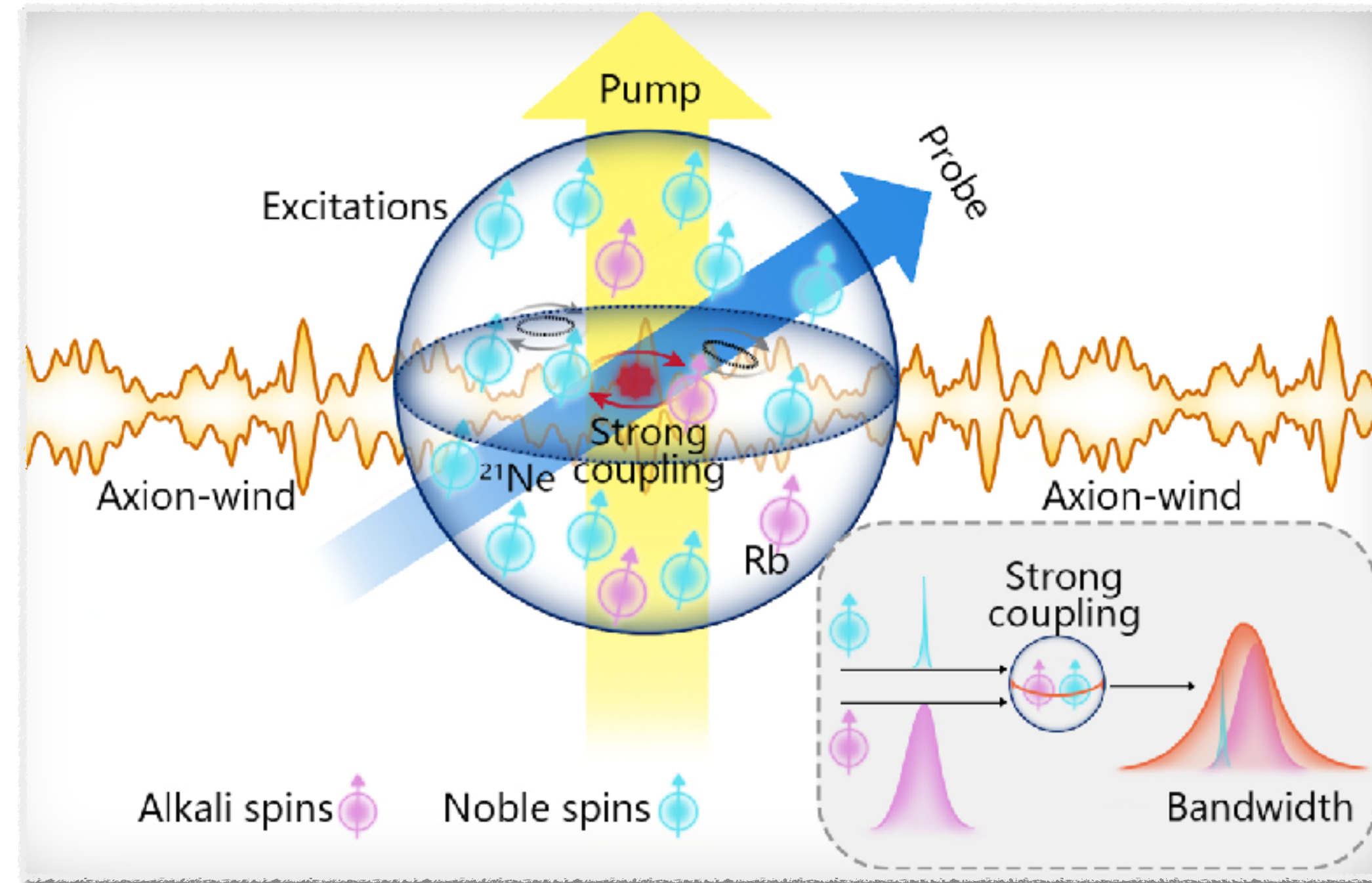
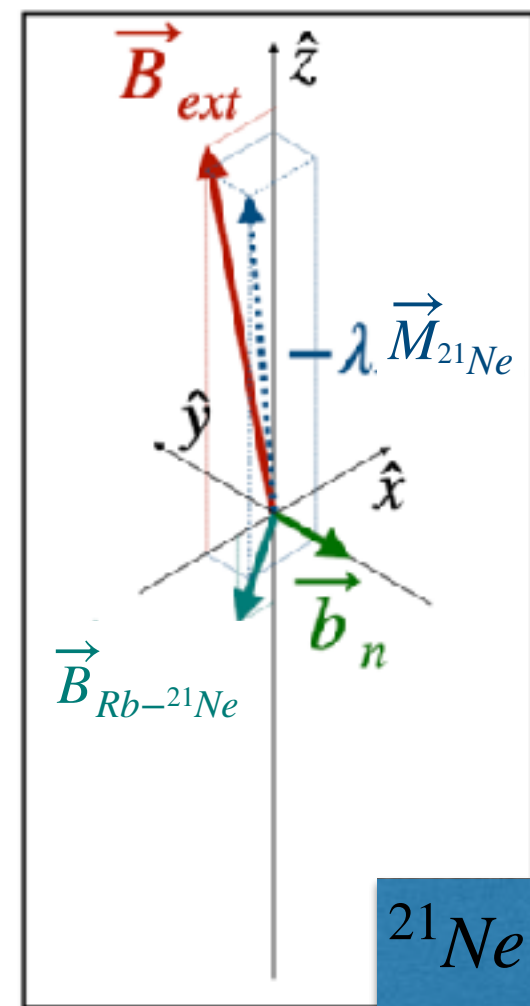
- Spin-exchange Rate: $\Gamma_{\text{SE}} = k_{\text{K}}[\text{K}] + k_{\text{Rb}}[\text{Rb}]$





Comagnetometer in Hybrid Spin Resonance

Magnetometers can measure ALPs. Alkali magnetometers are easy to work with, while Noble magnetometers are more sensitive.





Comagnetometer in Hybrid Spin Resonance

- Bloch Equation

$$\frac{\delta \mathbf{P}^e}{\delta t} = \frac{\gamma_e}{Q} \left[\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{L} + \lambda M_0^n \mathbf{P}^n + \mathbf{b}^e \right] \times \mathbf{P}^e - \boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{P}^e + \frac{R_p \mathbf{S}_p + R_m \mathbf{S}_m + R_{se}^n \mathbf{P}^n}{Q} - \frac{\{R_1^e, R_2^e, R_2^e\}}{Q} \mathbf{P}^e$$

$$\frac{\delta \mathbf{P}^n}{\delta t} = \gamma_n \left(\mathbf{B} + \lambda M_0^e \mathbf{P}^e + \mathbf{b}^n \right) \times \mathbf{P}^n - \boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{P}^n + R_{se}^e \mathbf{P}^e - \{R_1^n, R_2^n, R_2^n\} \mathbf{P}^n$$

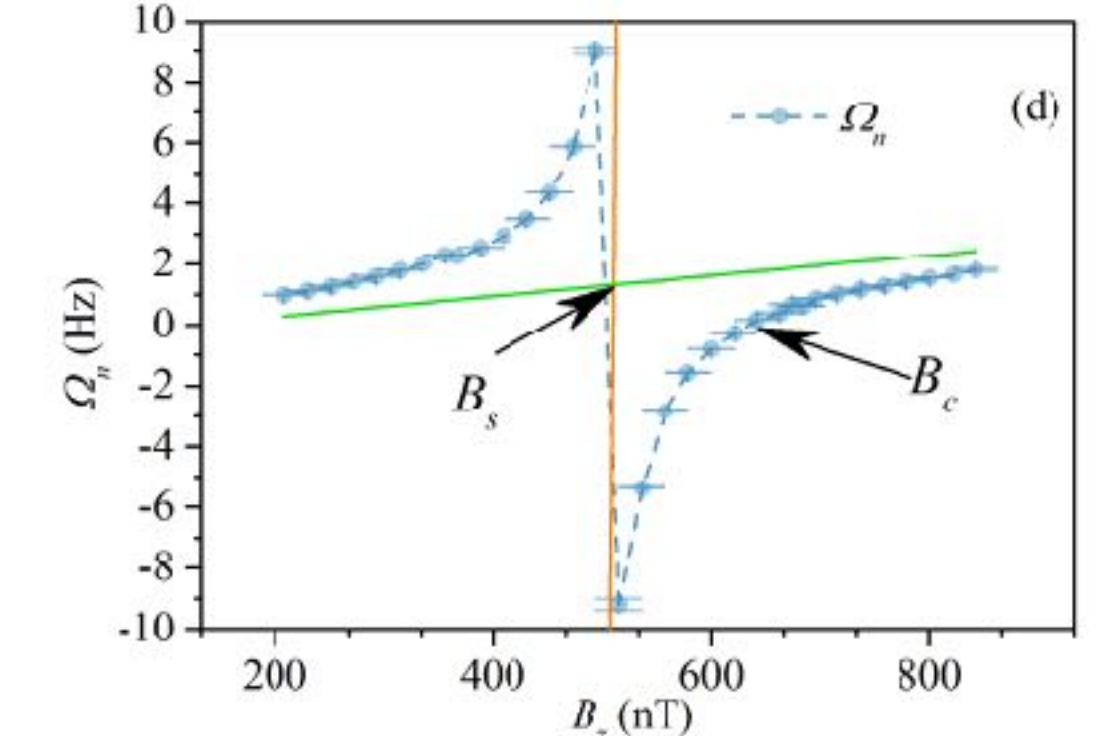
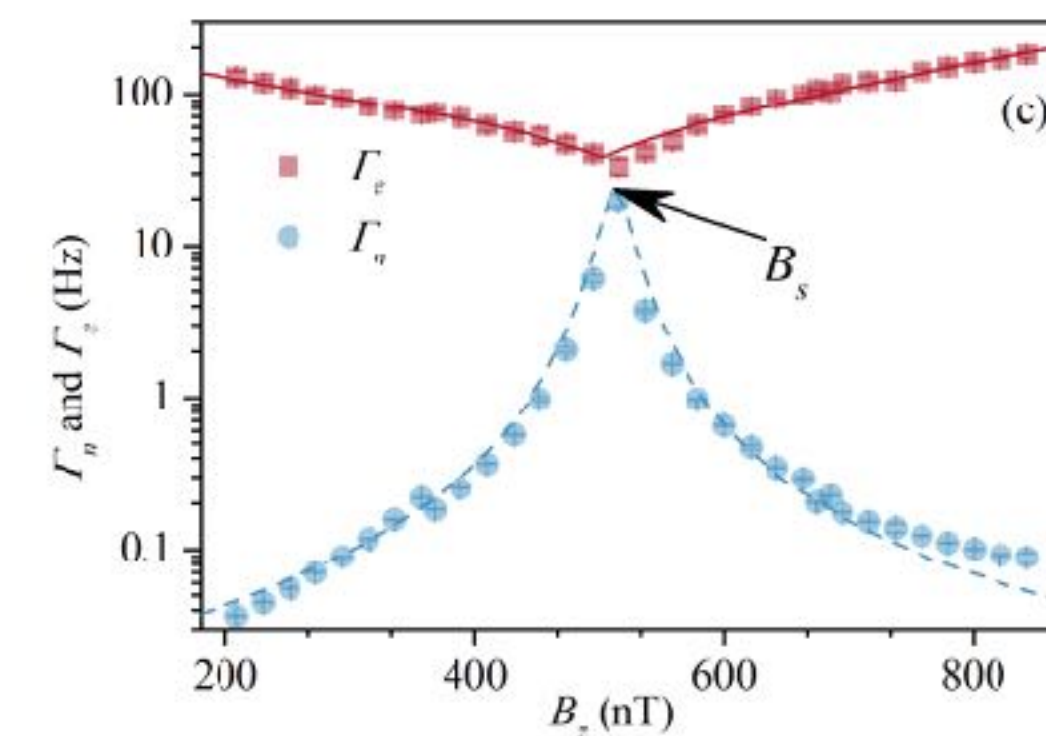
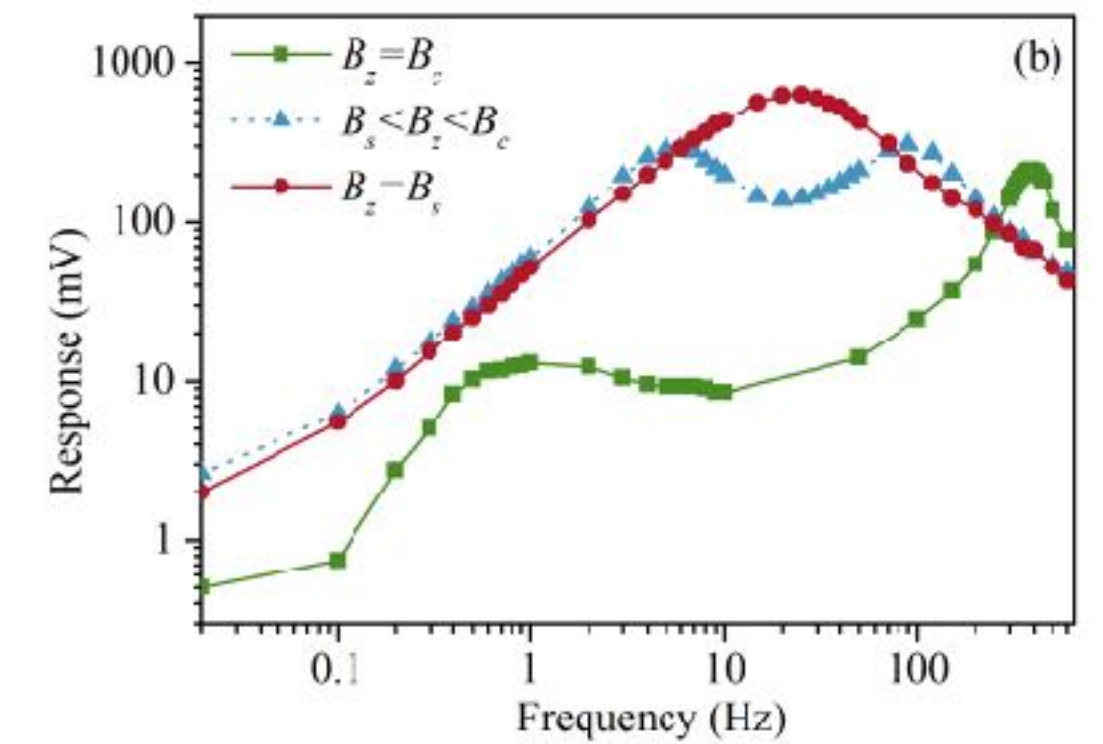
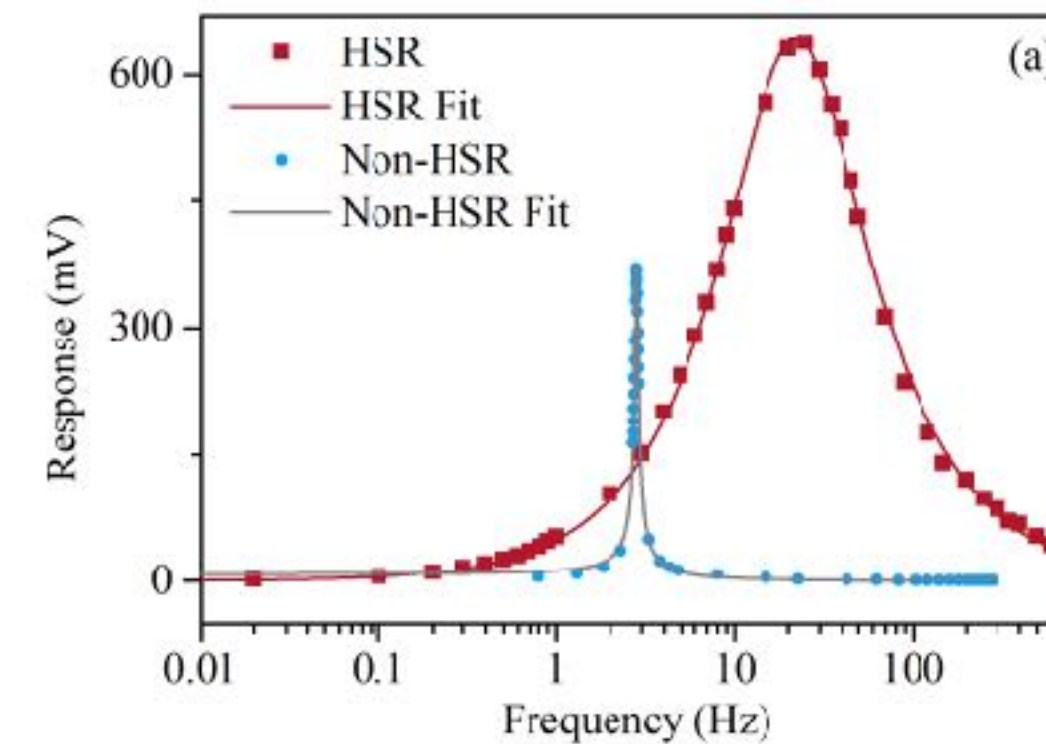
- Method: tune external B field to make Larmor frequency equal (HSR region)

$$\omega_{\text{alkali}} = \gamma_{\text{alkali}} \left(\hat{B}_{\text{ext}} + \hat{B}_{\text{noble}} \right)$$

$$\omega_{\text{noble}} = \gamma_{\text{noble}} \left(\hat{B}_{\text{ext}} + \hat{B}_{\text{alkali}} \right)$$

- Require $\omega_{\text{alkali}} = \omega_{\text{noble}}$

$$B_{\text{HSR}} \sim -B_{\text{noble}}$$





Comagnetometer HSR search on ALP DM

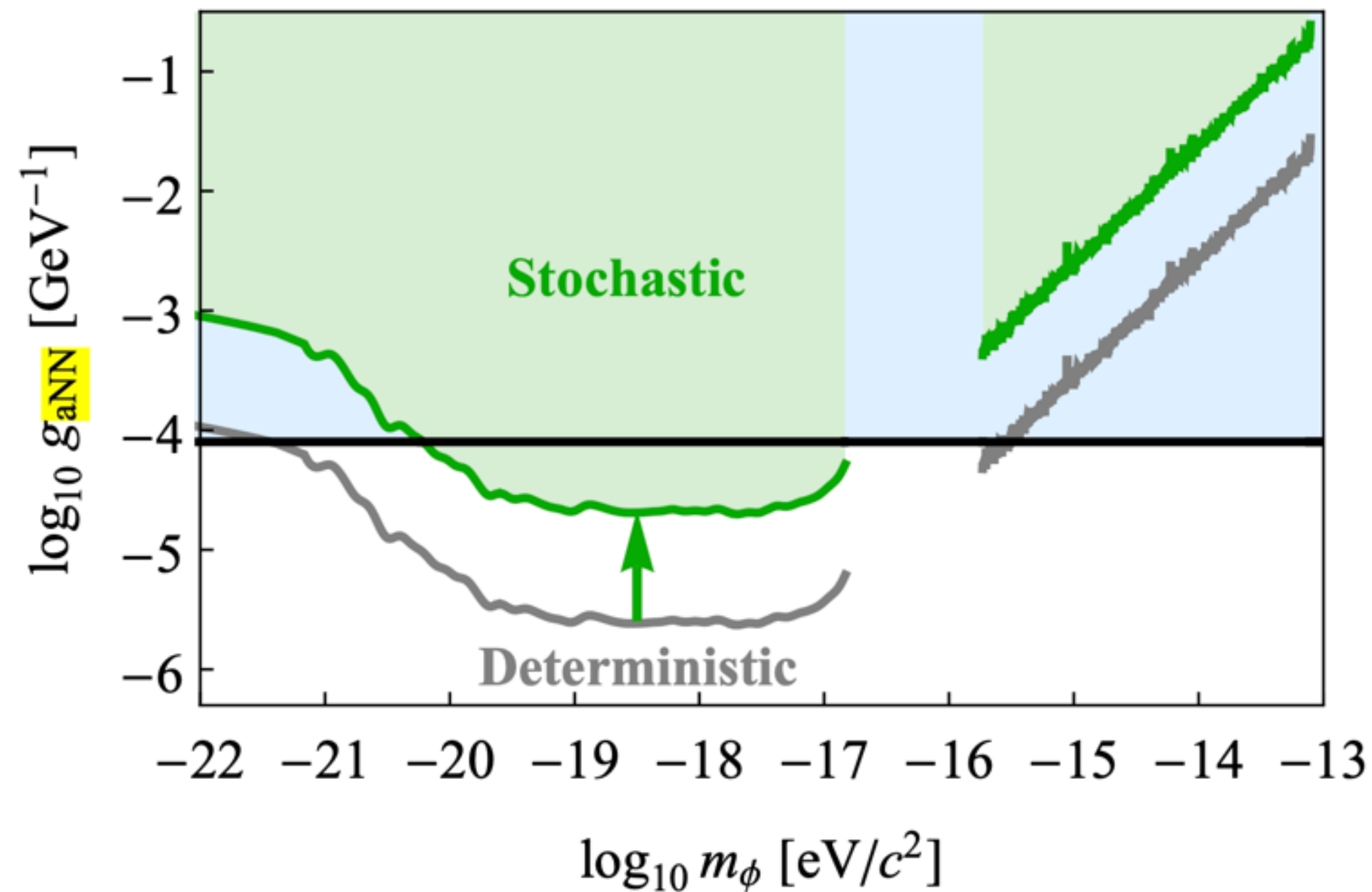
- Random phase in different p mode

$$\nabla a(x) = \sum_p \sqrt{\frac{2N_p}{V\omega_p}} \cos(\omega_p t - \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{x} + \phi_p) \mathbf{p}$$

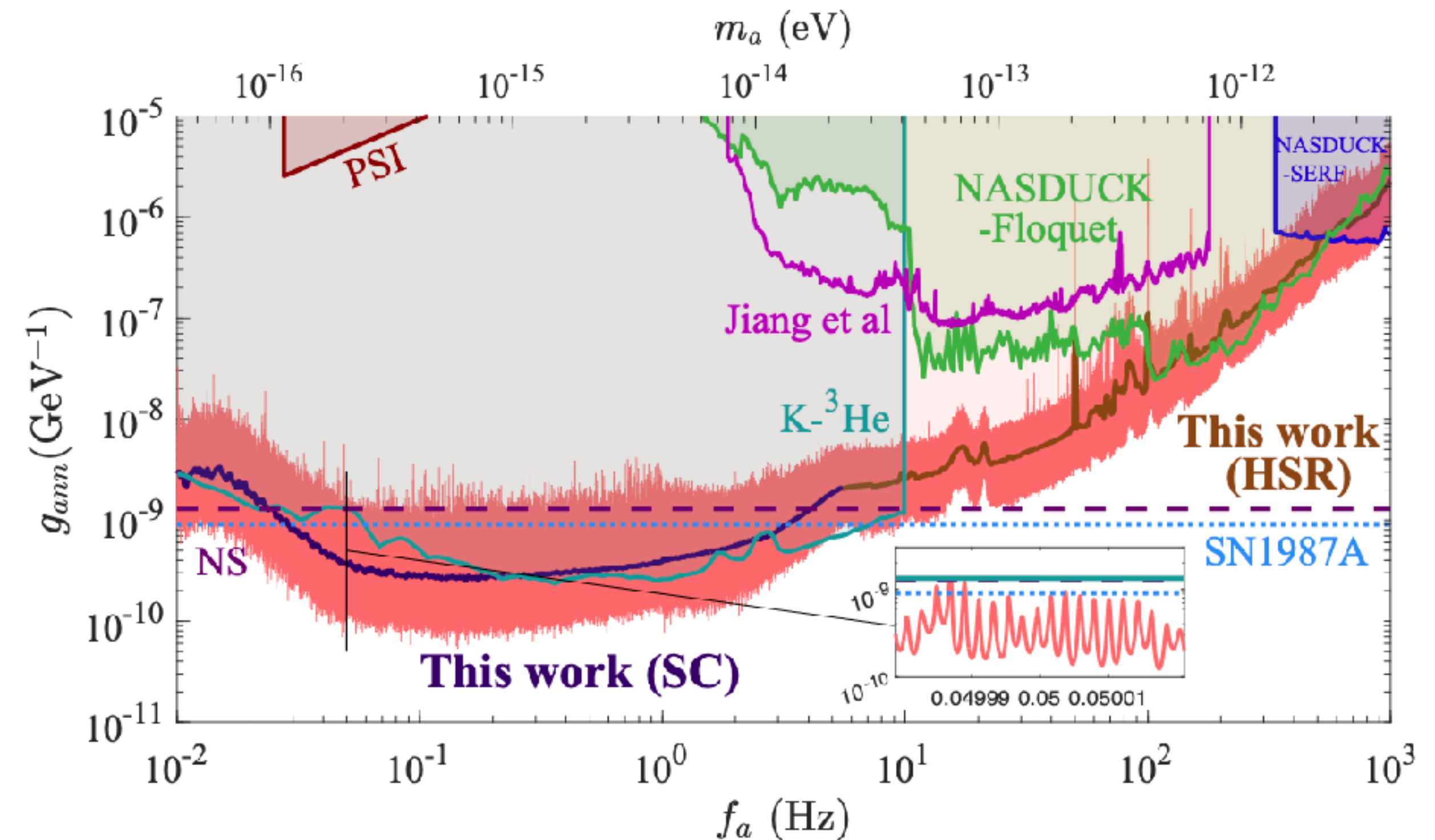
ϕ_p : is uniform random variable in $[0, 2\pi]$

$N_p = \rho_{\text{DM}} V f(p) (\Delta p)^3 / \omega_p$: is mean occupation number of p mode

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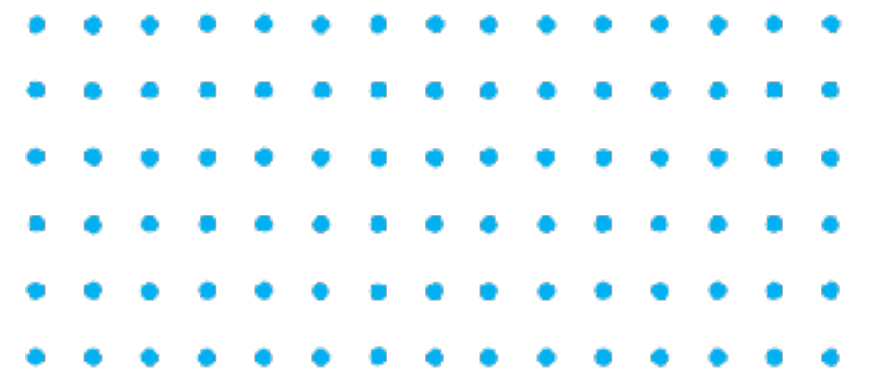


$$\gamma_{95\%}^{\text{stoch}} = 8.4 \gamma_{95\%}^{\text{det}}$$





Summary



- ALP have potential to solve strong CP problem
- Ultra-light ALP can be dark matter
- ALP dark matter can be detected with spin precession experiments.

Thank you!