

# Exploring the Dark Matter ALPS

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Standard

ALP Dark Matter

# What are ALPs?

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- Axion-like particles
  - Very light (sub-eV) bosons
  - Very weakly coupled
  - Often: Pseudo-Goldstone bosons  
(arising from spontaneous symmetry breaking at scale  $f_a$ )
-

- Potential for Pseudo-Goldstones:

$$V(\phi) = \Lambda^4 \left[ 1 - \cos \left( \frac{\phi}{f_a} \right) \right]$$



Explicit  
symmetry breaking

Scale of  
spontaneous  
symmetry breaking

- Mass:  $m_\phi = \frac{\Lambda^2}{f_a}$

Naturally light!  
(For large  $f_a$ )

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# Couplings fixed by $f_a$

- Photon coupling

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{4} g_{\phi\gamma\gamma} \phi F^\mu \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu}$$

$$g_{\phi\gamma\gamma} \sim \frac{\alpha}{4\pi f_a}$$

- Gluon coupling

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{4} g_{\phi gg} \phi G^\mu \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}$$

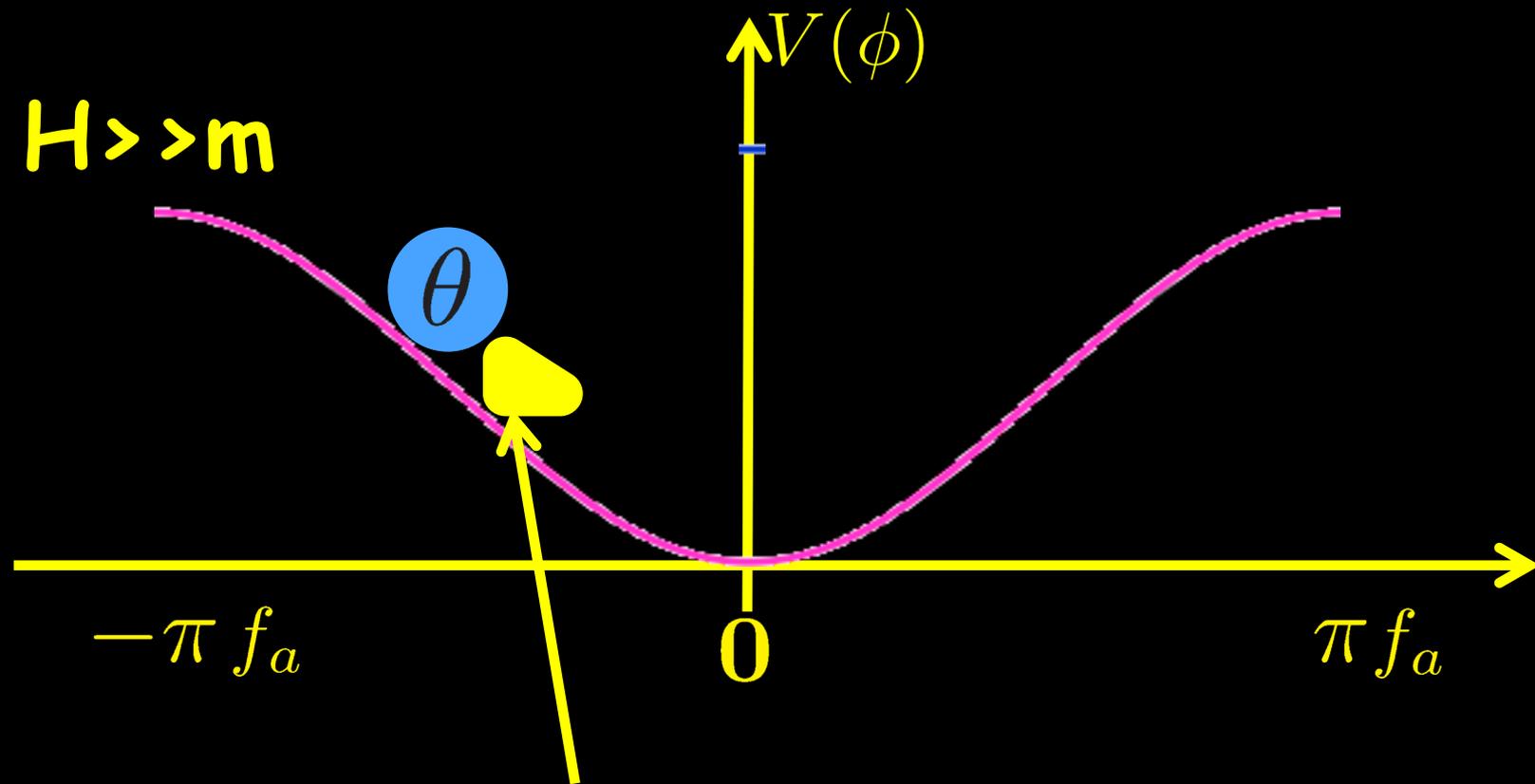
$$g_{\phi gg} \sim \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi f_a}$$

At low energies  
electric dipole coupling


$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{i}{2} g_d \phi \bar{N} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \gamma^5 N F^{\mu\nu}$$

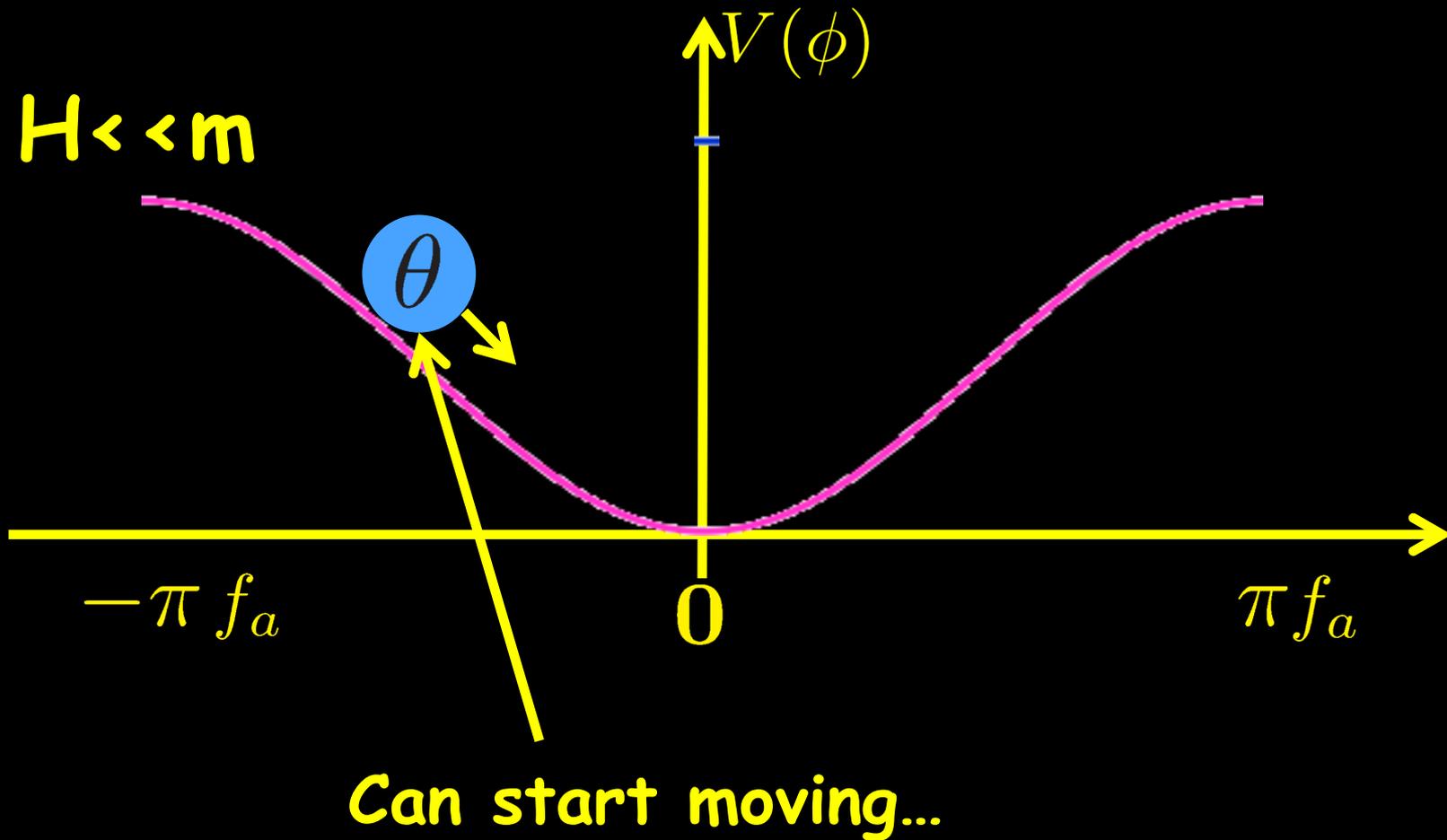
$$g_d \sim 10^{-6} \text{GeV}^2 \left( \frac{10^{10} \text{GeV}}{f_a} \right)$$

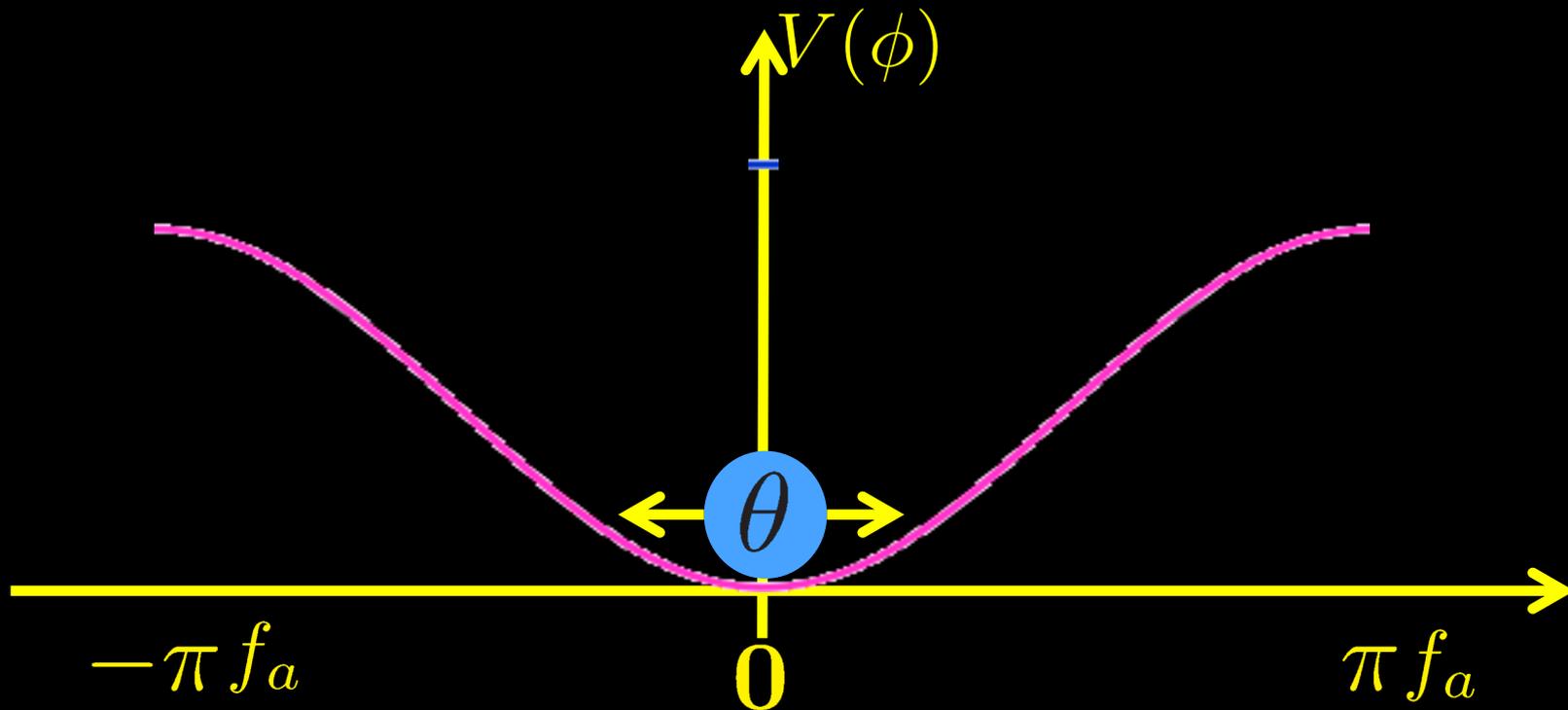
# The ALP has no clue where to start



Field is stuck because of Hubble "breaking"

# The ALP has no clue where to start

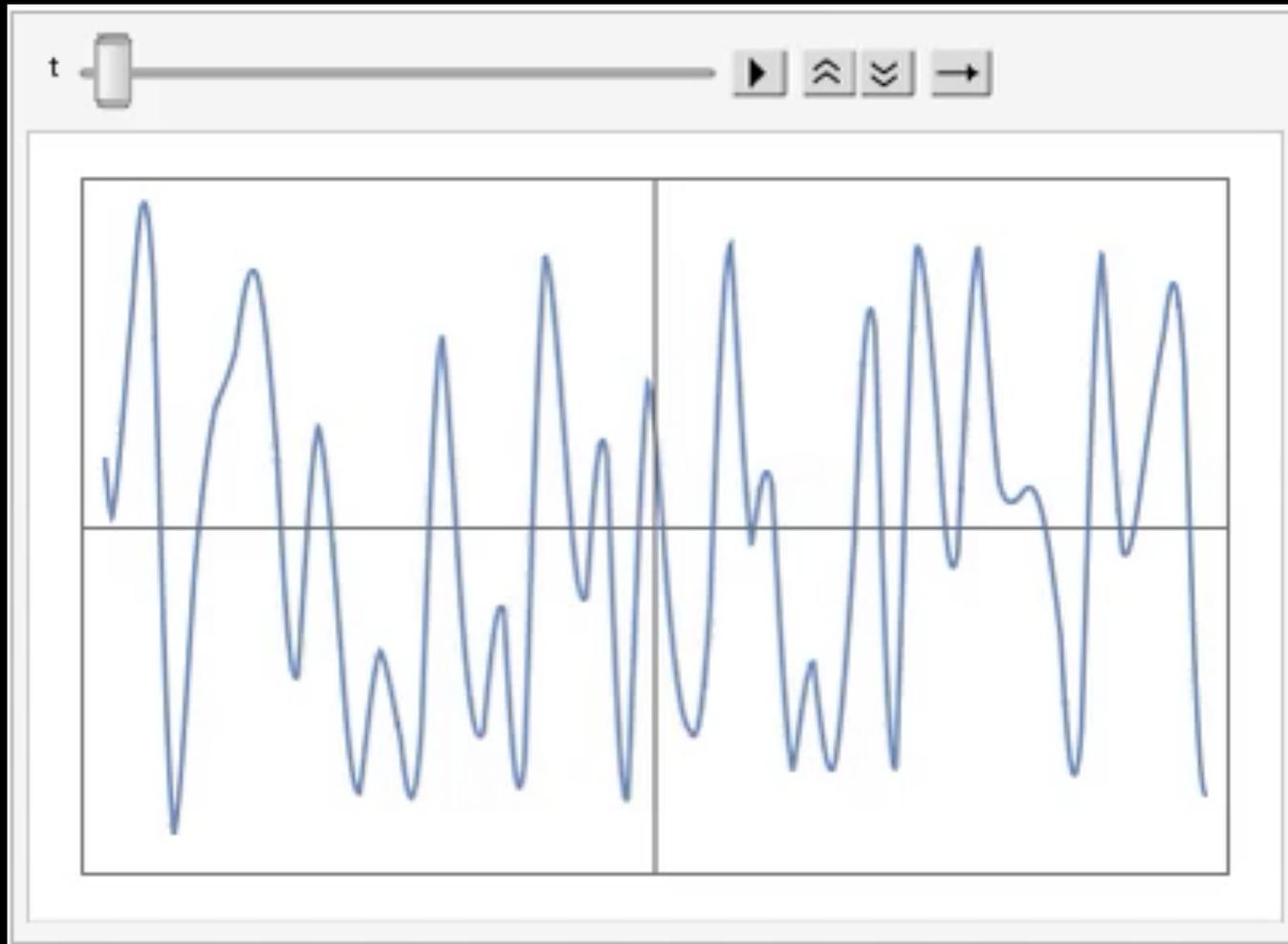




- Oscillations contain energy
- behave like non-relativistic particles ( $T=0$ )

# Why Cold? Inflation!

Field  
value



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

# Dark Matter Density

- Depends on the initial field value

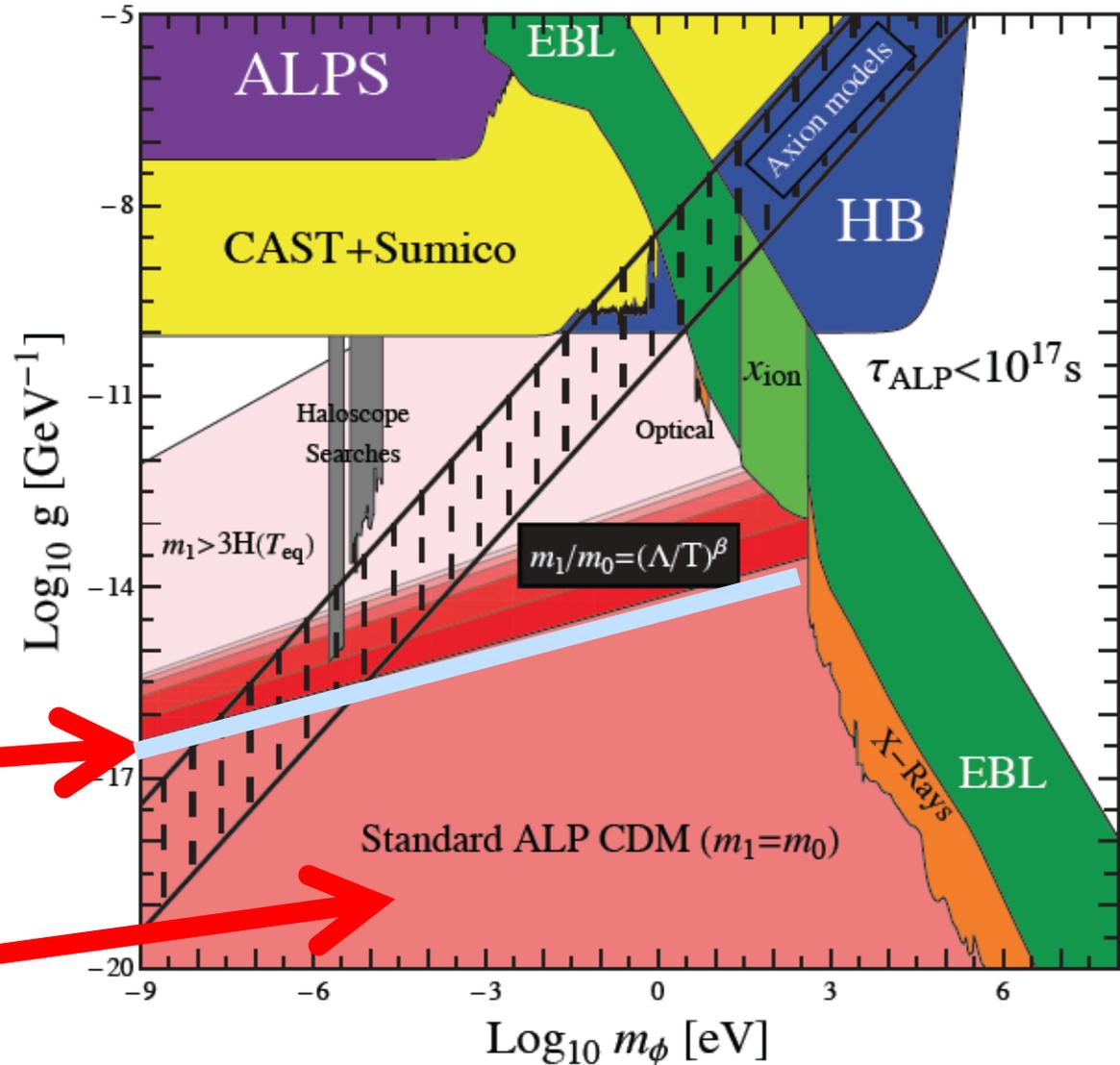
$$\rho_{\phi,0} \simeq 0.17 \frac{\text{keV}}{\text{cm}^3} \times \sqrt{\frac{m_0}{\text{eV}}} \sqrt{\frac{m_0}{m_1}} \left( \frac{\phi_1}{10^{11} \text{ GeV}} \right)^2 \mathcal{F}(T_1)$$


- Pseudo-Goldstone

→ Field value  $\phi_1 \leq \pi f_a$

Naturally  $\phi_1 \sim \pi f_a$

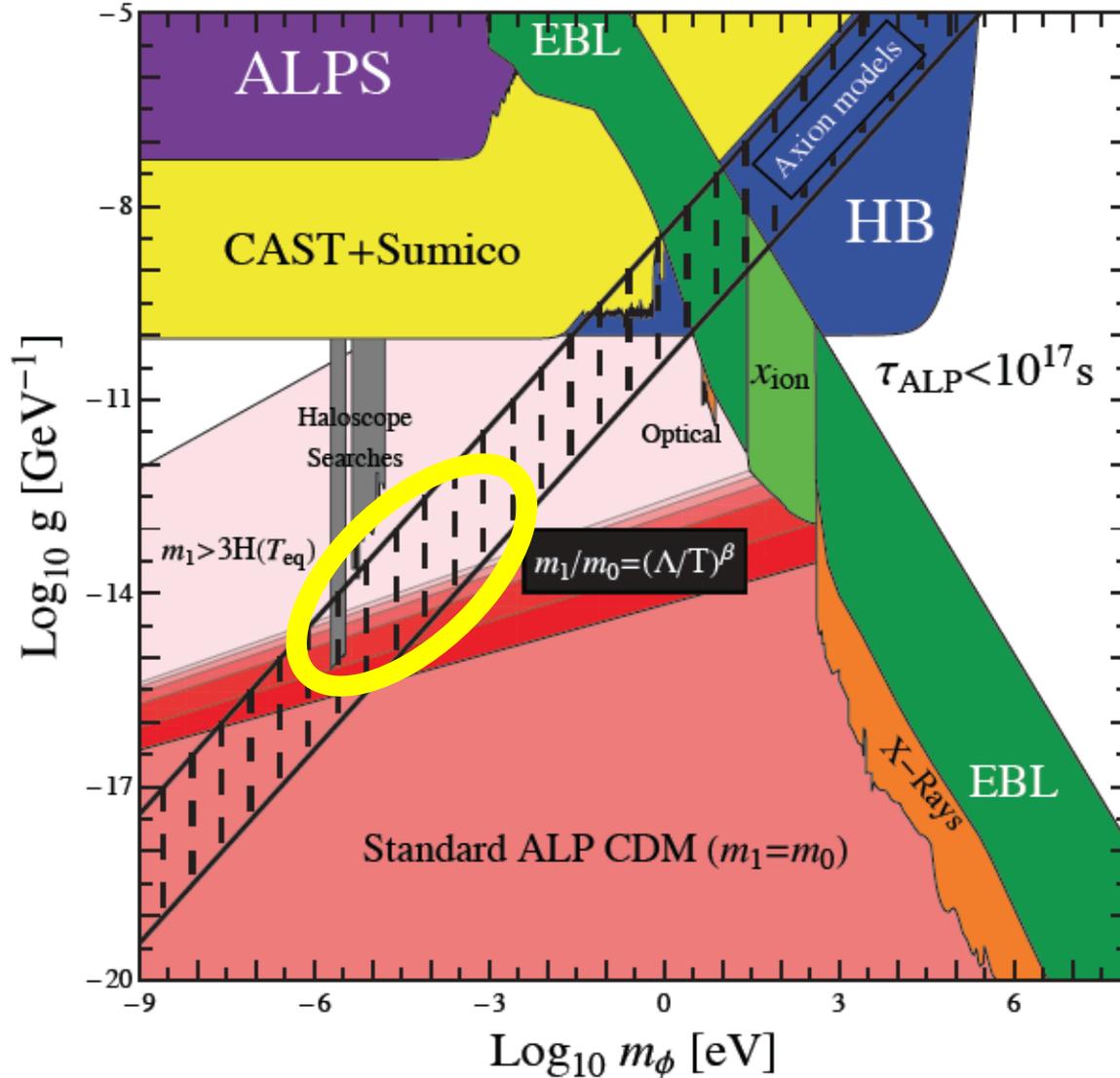
# Axion(-like particle) Dark Matter



Natural

Possible

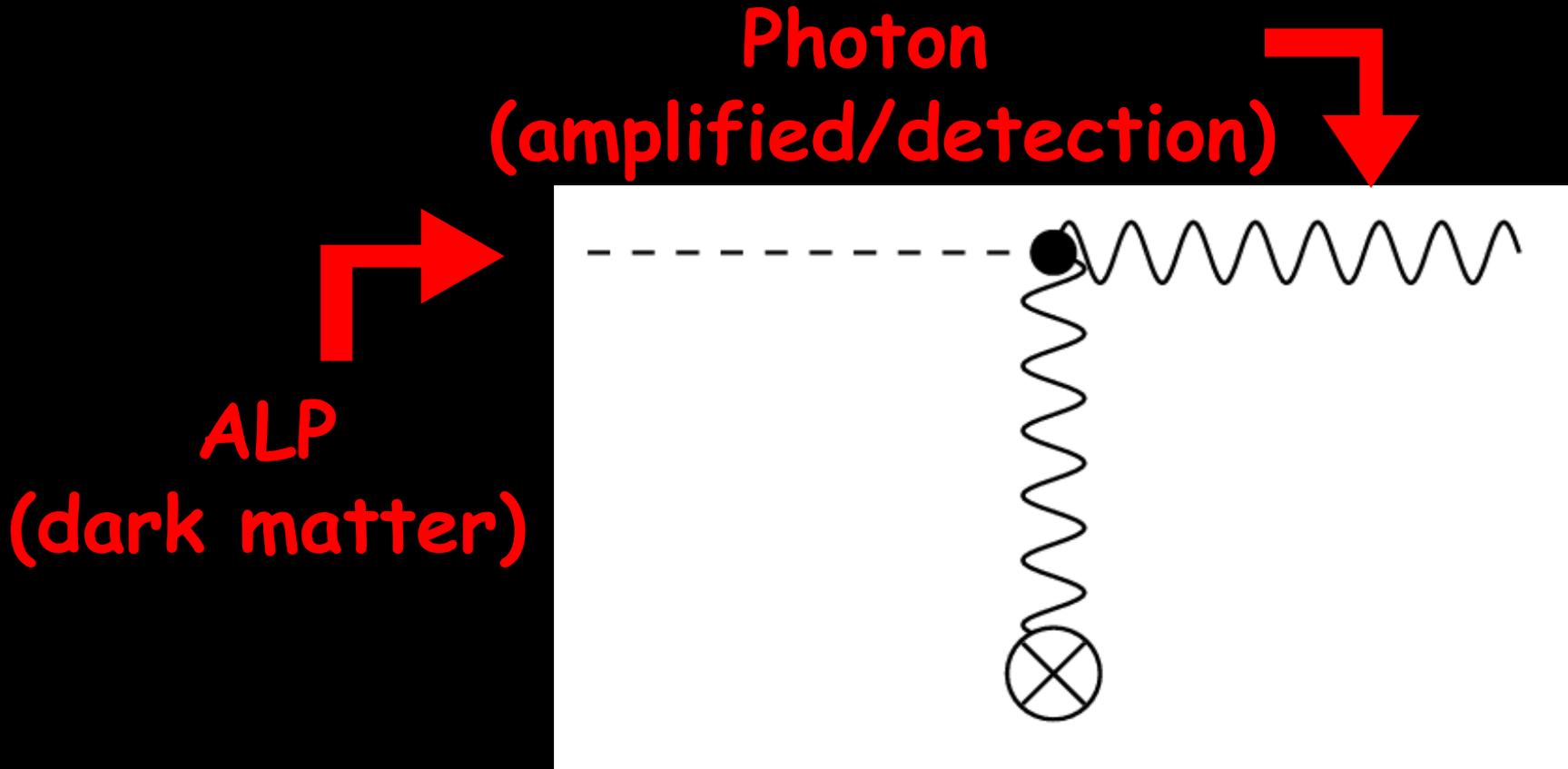
# Axion Dark Matter



Detecting WISPy  
DM

# Use a plentiful source of axions

- Photon Regeneration



# Many efforts underway ☺

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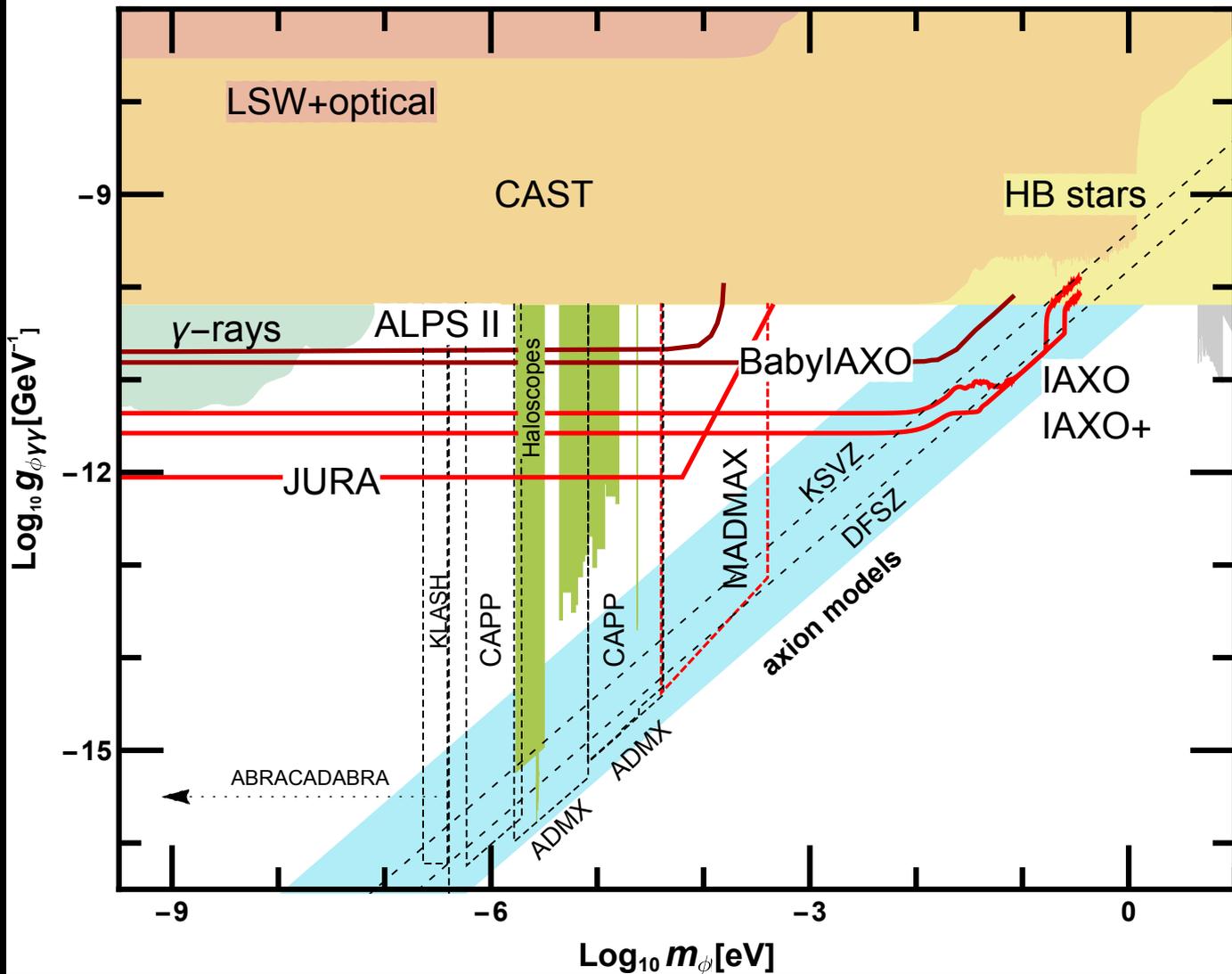
- **ADMX**
- **MadMax**
- **CAPP-CULTASK**
- **+ Many more: Abracadabra, Alps, Ariadne, Casper, EDM ring, FUNK, Haystac, HeXeniA Iaxo, Organ, Rades, Sensei, Quax....**

# Many efforts underway ☺

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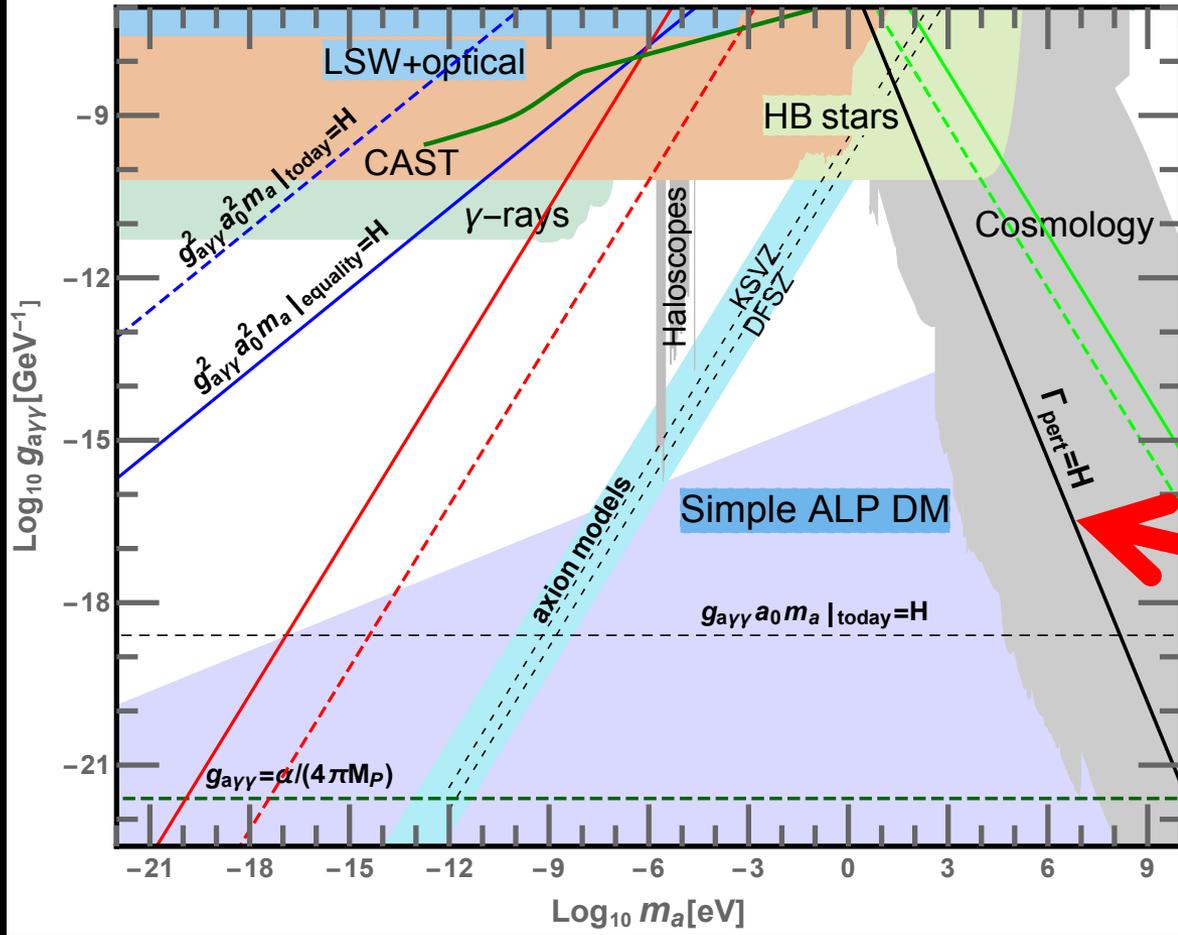
- ADMX
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# A Bright Future



A little  
surprising stability

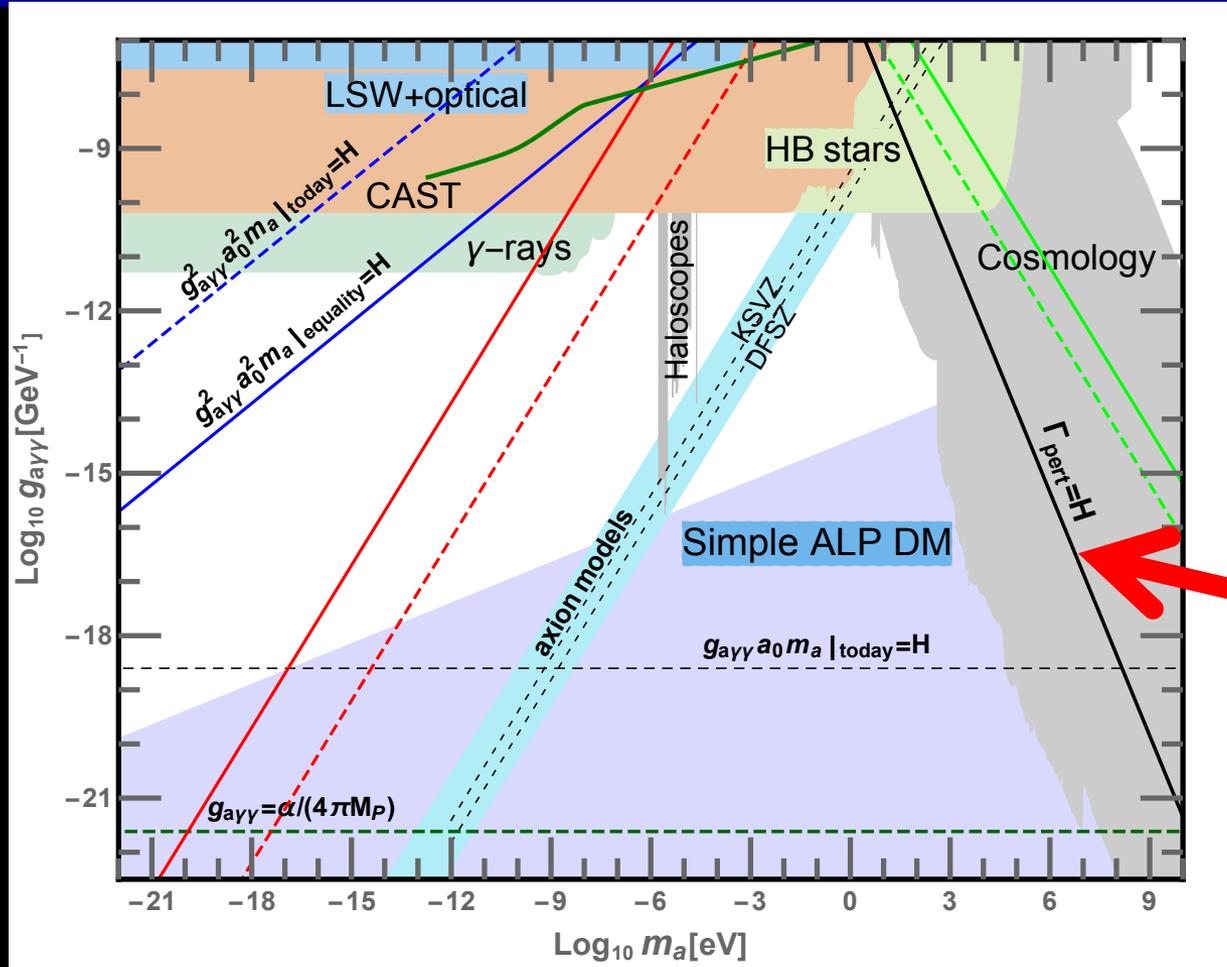
# Axion Dark Matter



**Standard  
Stability  
bound**

$$\Gamma_{\text{pert}} = \frac{g_{\phi\gamma\gamma}^2 m_{\phi}^3}{64\pi}$$

# Axion Dark Matter

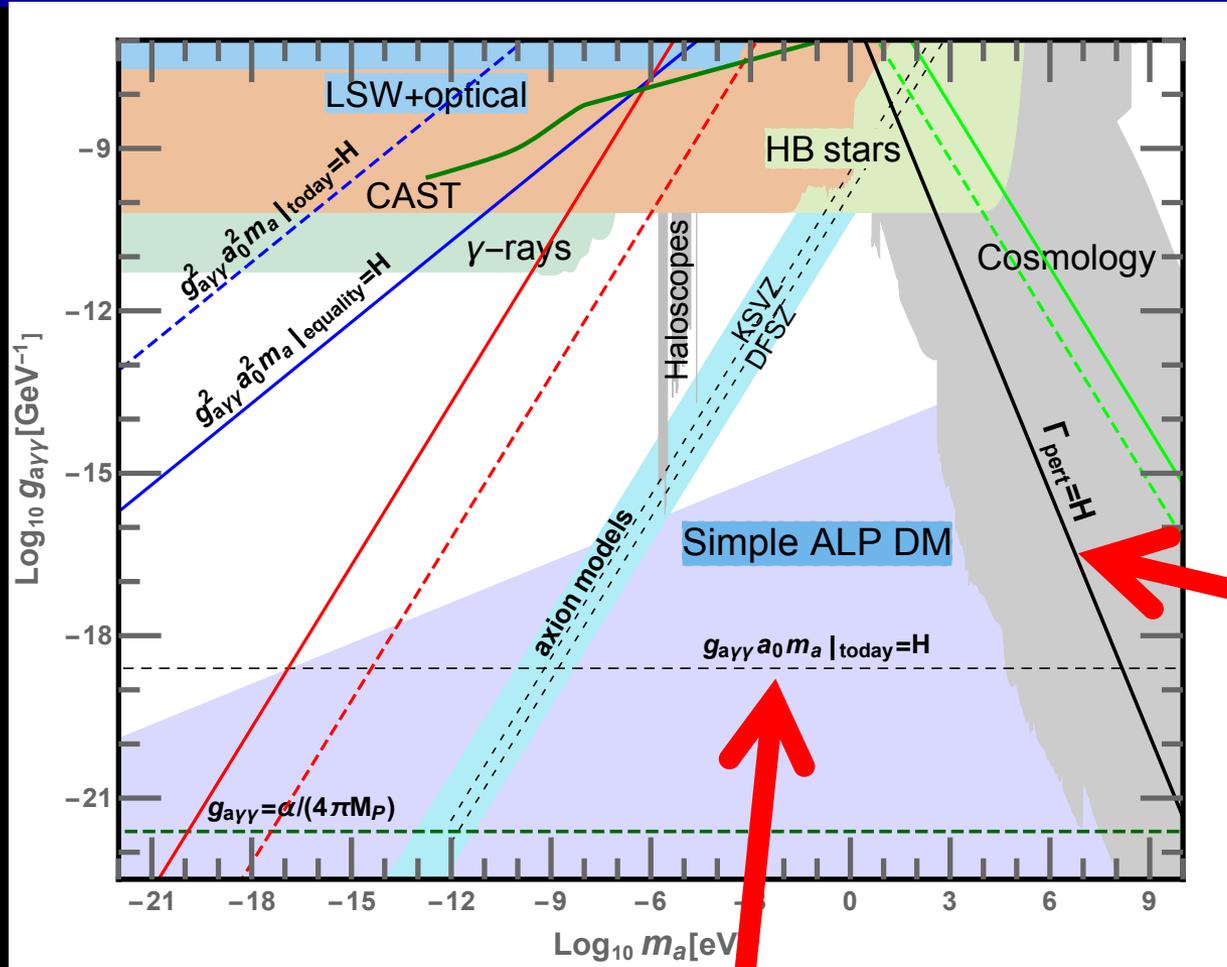


**Standard  
Stability  
bound**

$$\Gamma_{\text{pert}} = \frac{g_{\phi\gamma\gamma}^2 m_\phi^3}{64\pi}$$

**However: ALP field is extremely coherent  
→ Bose enhancement possible**

# Axion Dark Matter

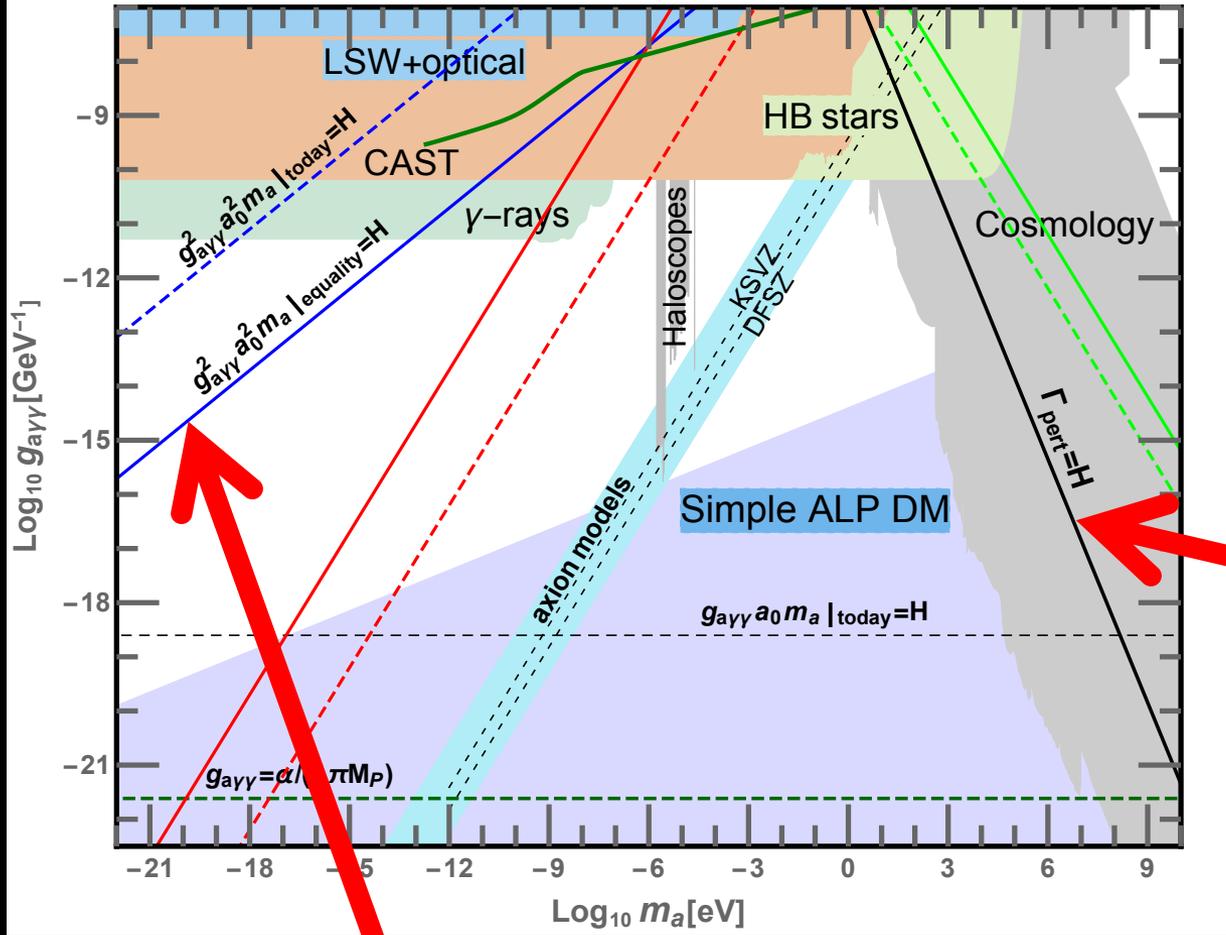


**Standard  
Stability  
bound**

$$\Gamma_{\text{pert}} = \frac{g_{\phi\gamma\gamma}^2 m_{\phi}^3}{64\pi}$$

**Without expansion/structure this would set a limit  
(basically one ALP has to decay in the Universe  
for Bose enhancement to start)**

# Axion Dark Matter



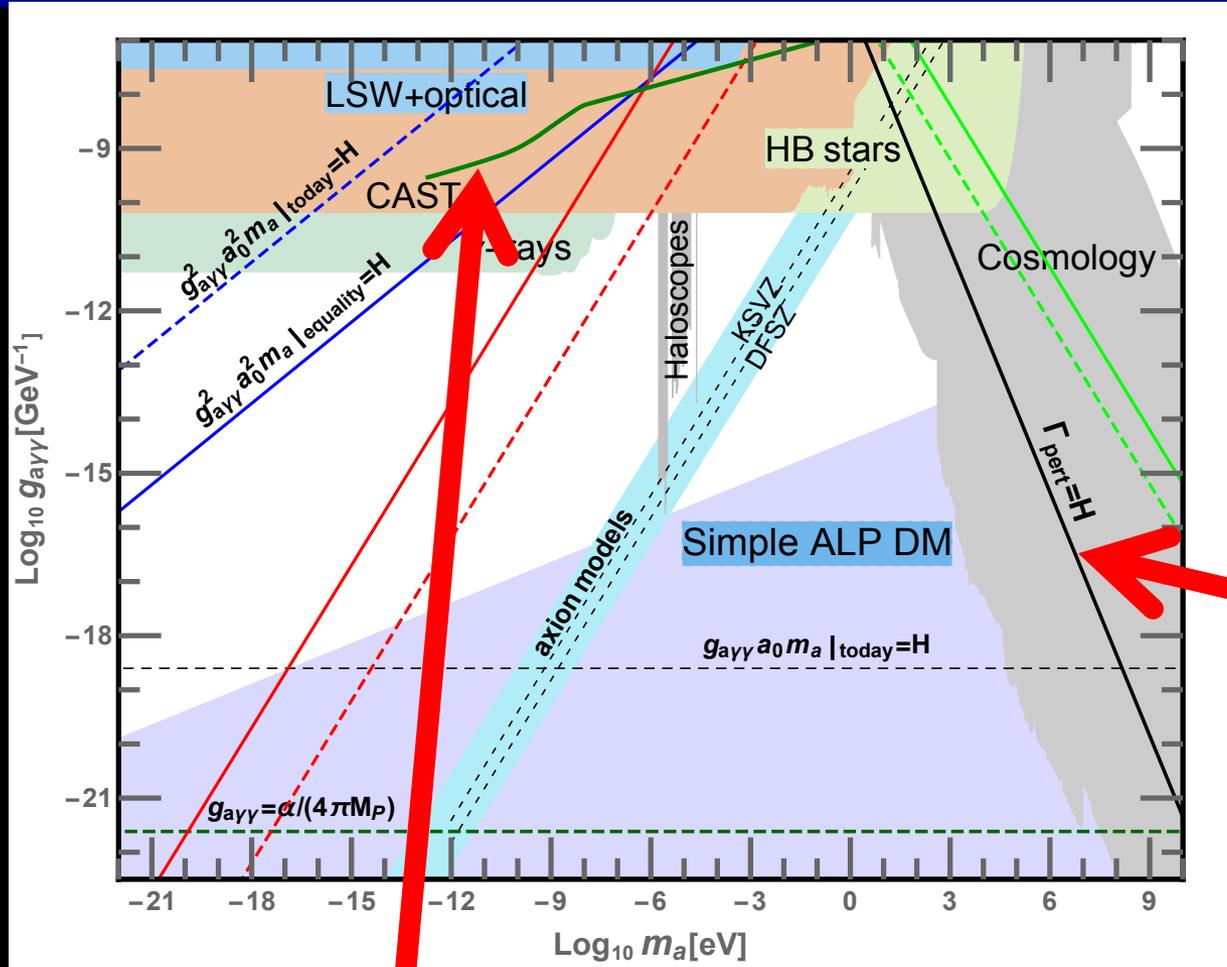
**Standard  
Stability  
bound**

$$\Gamma_{\text{pert}} = \frac{g_{\phi\gamma\gamma}^2 m_\phi^3}{64\pi}$$

**Including expansion**

(a second ALP has to decay before the photons from the first have red-shifted sufficiently)

# Axion Dark Matter



**Standard  
Stability  
bound**

$$\Gamma_{\text{pert}} = \frac{g_{\phi\gamma\gamma}^2 m_\phi^3}{64\pi}$$

**Photons have mass in Plasma**

**→ Prevents decay if  $m_\phi \lesssim 2m_\gamma$**

# Exploring Beyond the Standard Scenario

Going  
Monodromic

# Monodromy potential

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$$V(\phi) = \Lambda^4 \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{f} + \gamma\right)$$

Monodromy add-on



"Axion" potential  
(pseudo-Goldstone pot.)

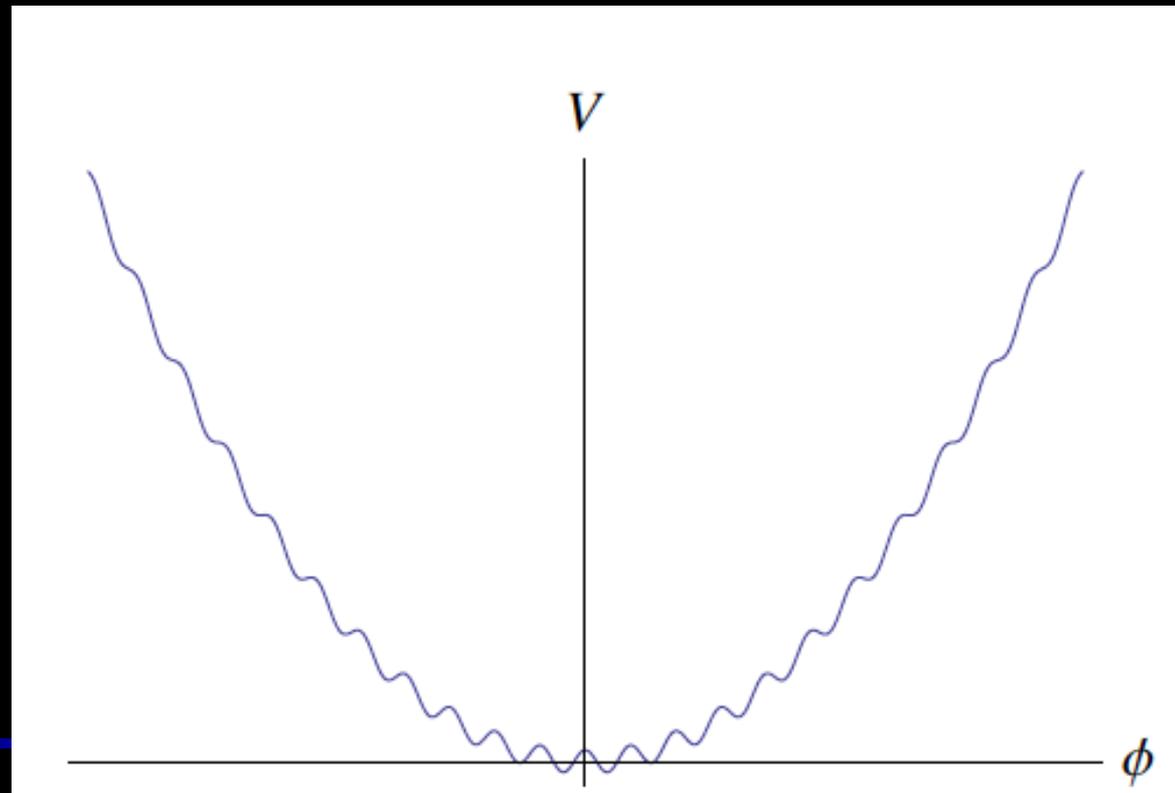


# Monodromy potential

$$V(\phi) = \frac{1}{2}m^2\phi^2 + \Lambda^4 \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{f} + \gamma\right)$$

Funny potential

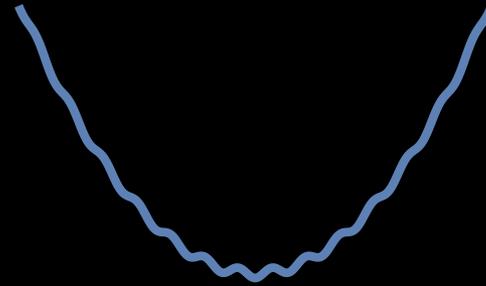
+ enlarged  
field range



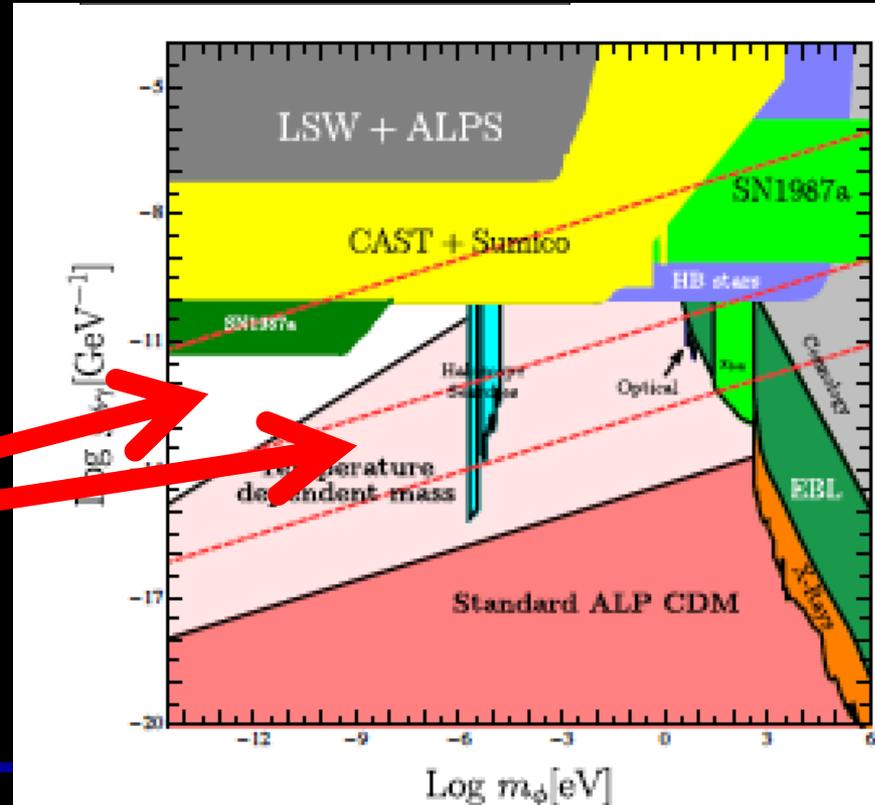
# Advantages

- Allows to start with higher energy density  
→ More DM

VS

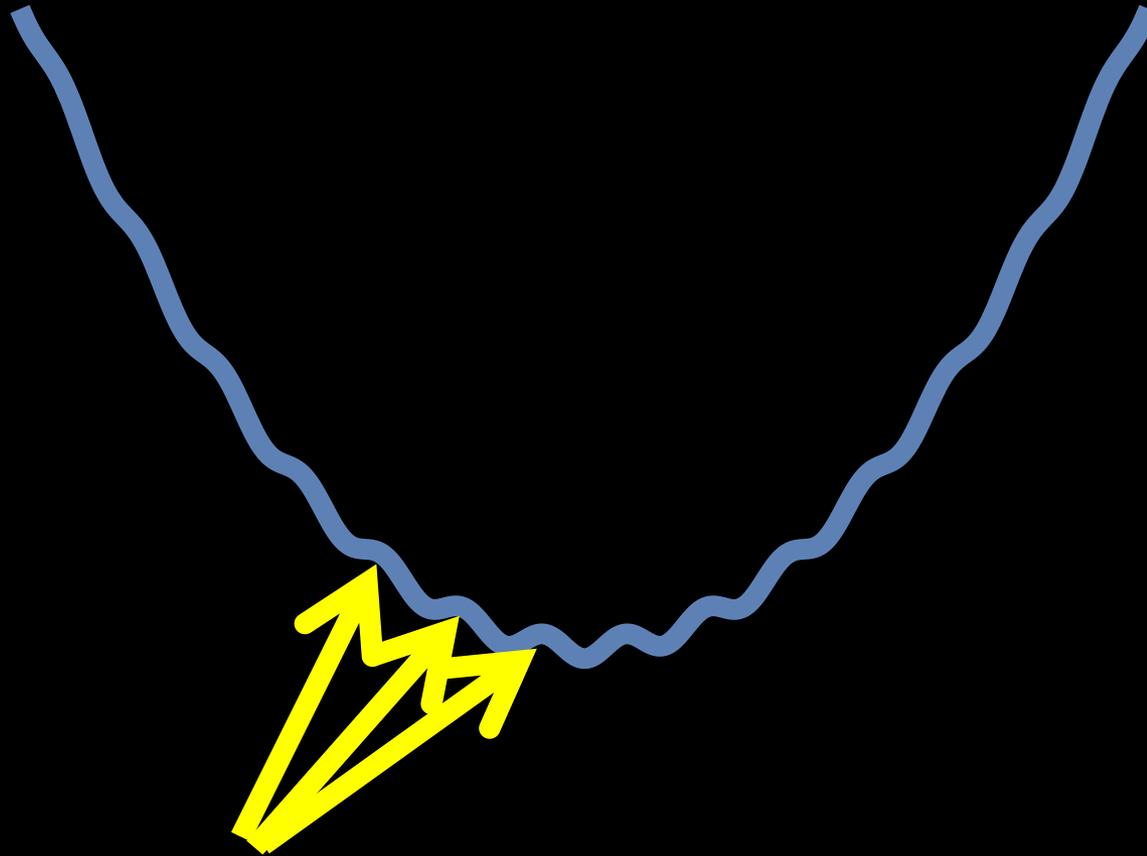


Models  
in this region!



# Interesting Phenomena??

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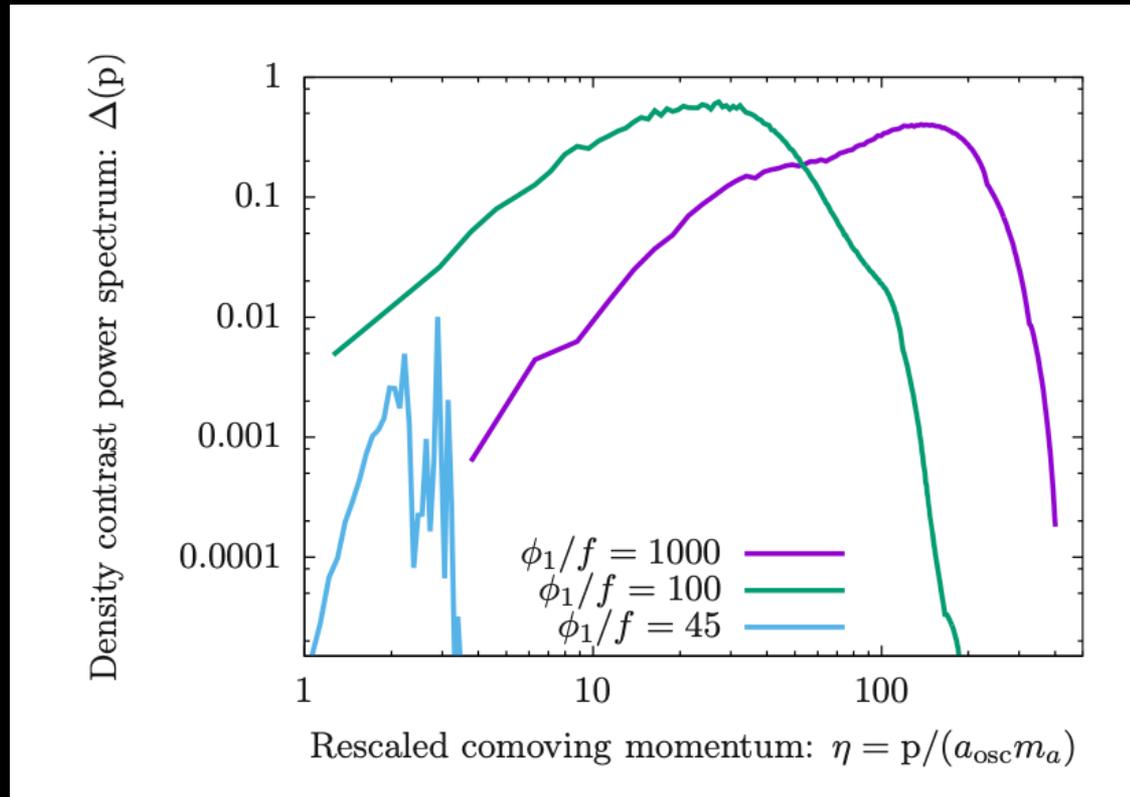


Regions with "negative mass"

Instability + Parametric Resonance

→ Particle Production with  $p \neq 0$ ?!?

# Large $O(1)$ fluctuations



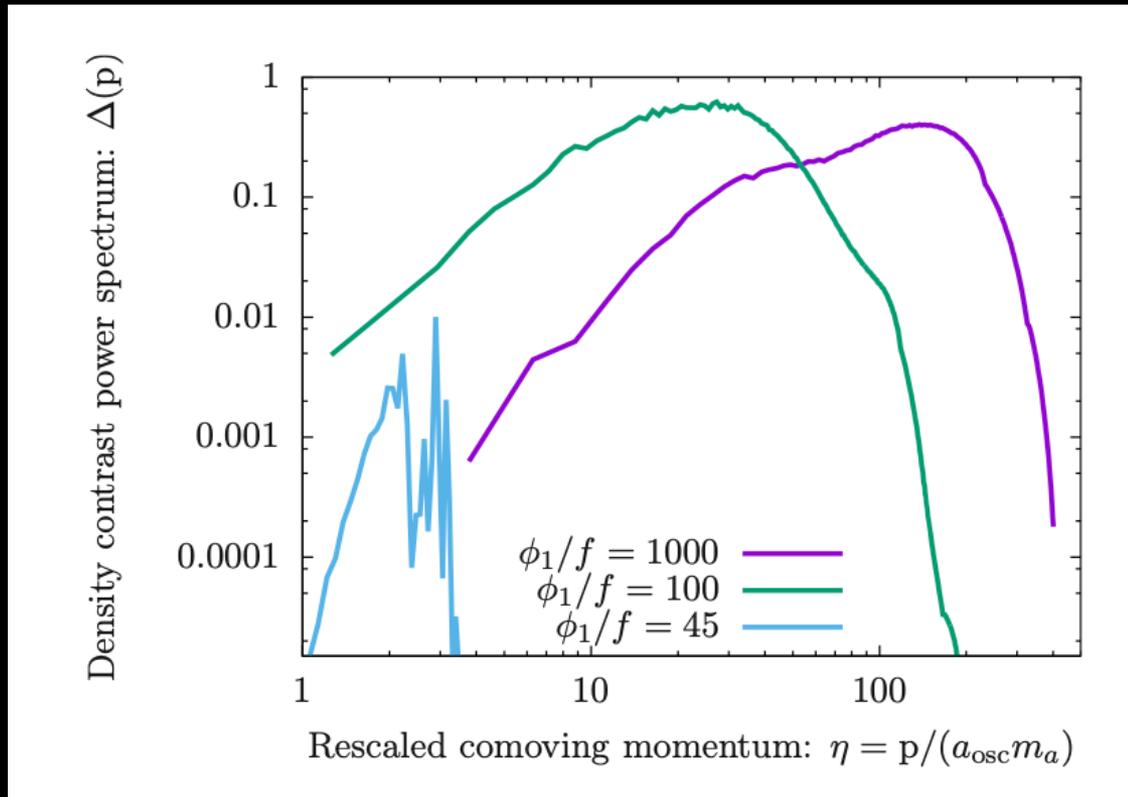
Fluctuations on small scales

→ no problem with isocurvature

→ Too small to collapse into miniclusters

$$R_{\text{today}}^{\text{in structure}} \sim (10^5 - 10^6) \text{km} \sqrt{\frac{eV}{m_a} \frac{a_{\text{structure}}}{a_{\text{today}}}},$$

# Large $O(1)$ fluctuations



Fluctuations on small scales

→ no problem with isocurvature)

→ Too small to collapse into miniclusters

- Can we see such structures?

- Account for it in direct detection strategy

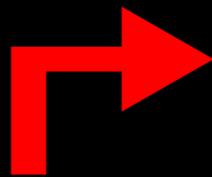
$$R_{\text{today}}^{\text{in structure}} \sim (10^5 - 10^6) \text{km} \sqrt{\frac{eV}{m_a} \frac{a_{\text{structure}}}{a_{\text{today}}}},$$

Charging it

No conserved charge

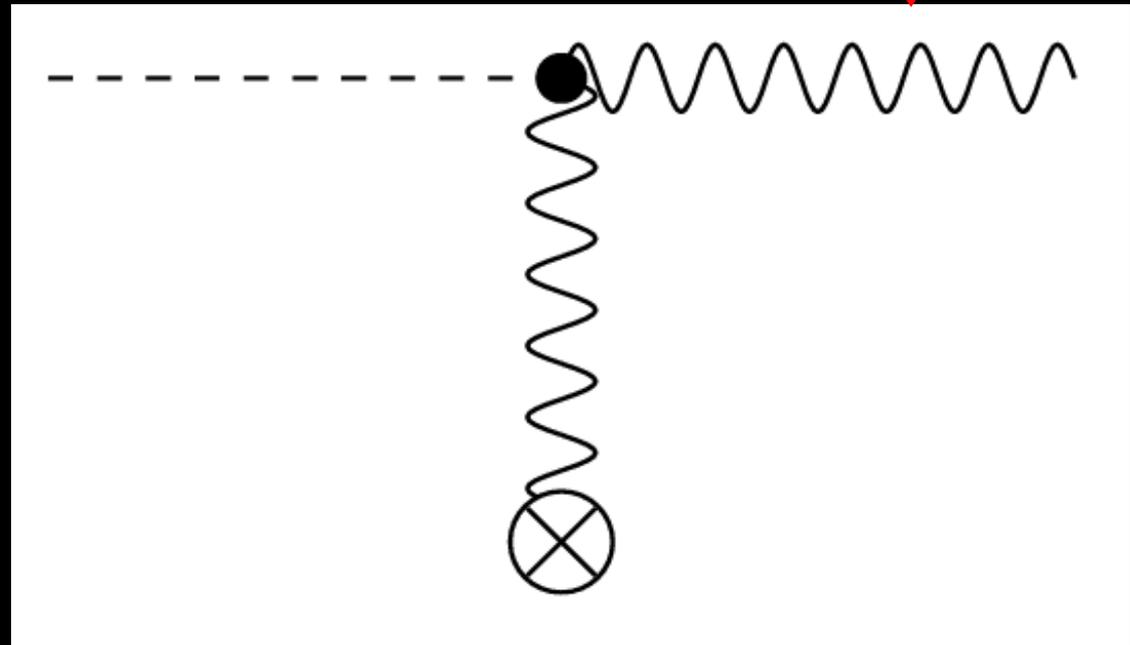
→ absorption possible

Photon  
„absorbed in detector“

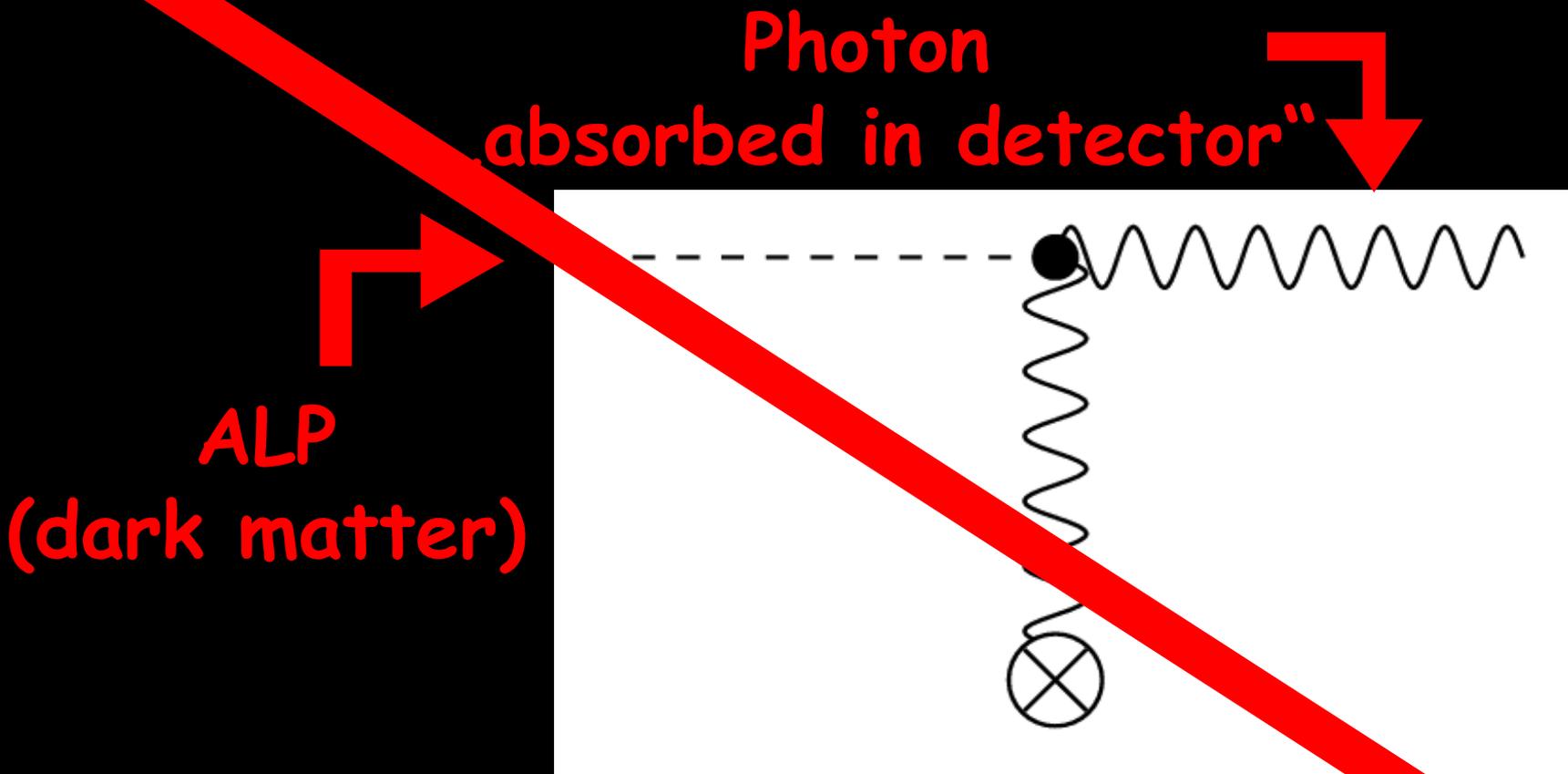


ALP

(dark matter)

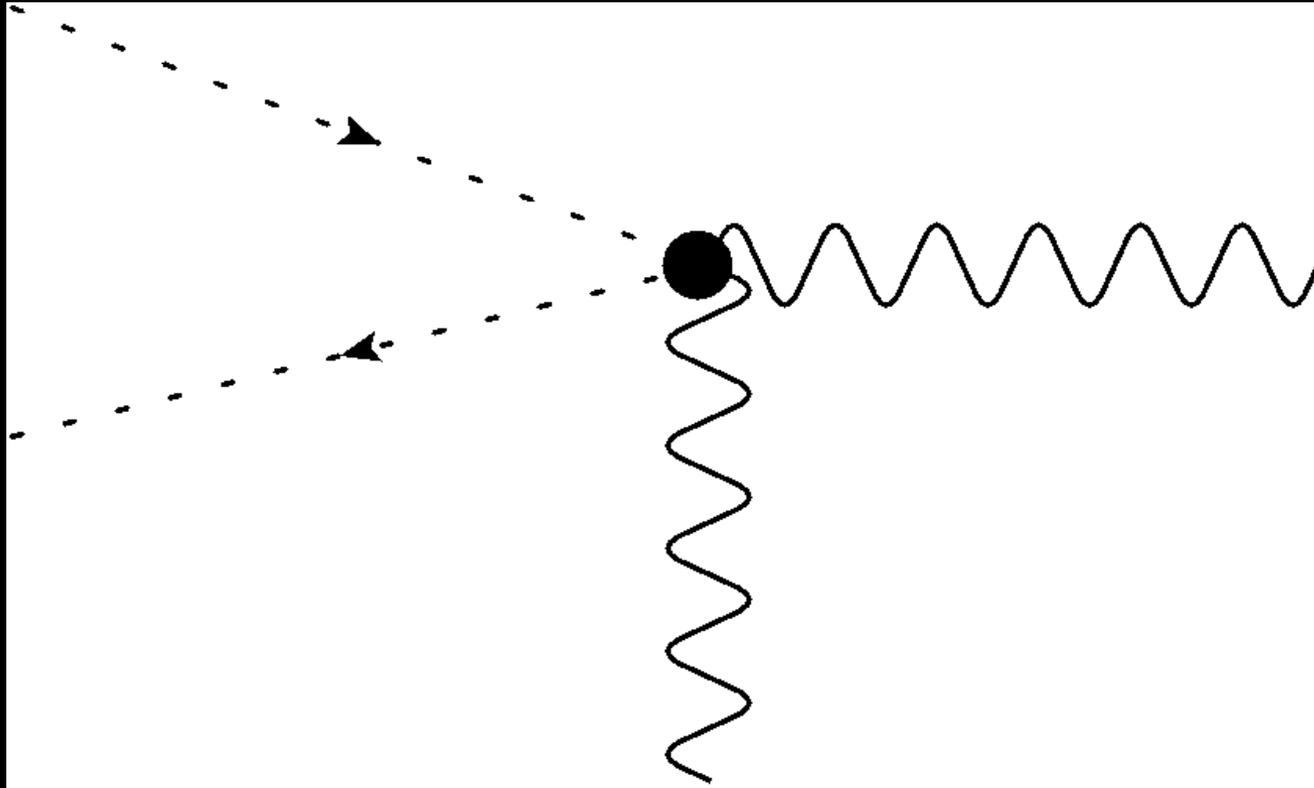


# With conserved charge



# With conserved charge

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Need particle and antiparticle to combine → suppressed

Higher order interaction → suppressed

→ Need new methods for detection!

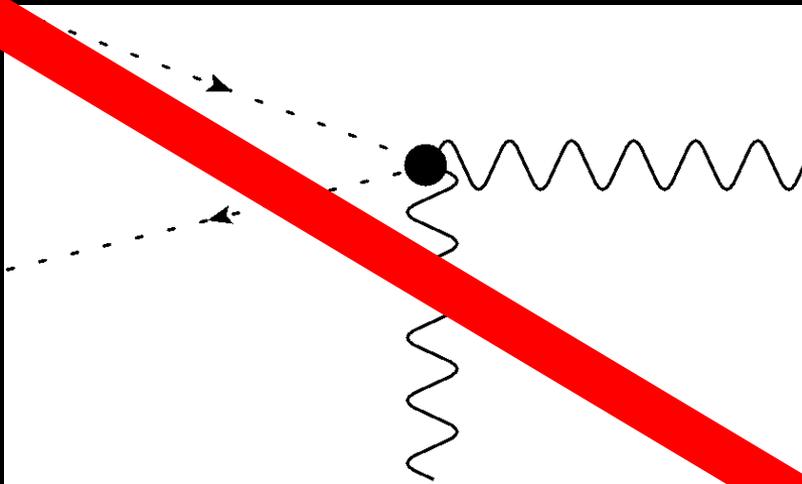
# Assymmetric Charge

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- DM could (mostly) consist of only one type of charge
- Natural mechanism Affleck-Dine

→ No antiparticles

→



→ Need new methods for detection!

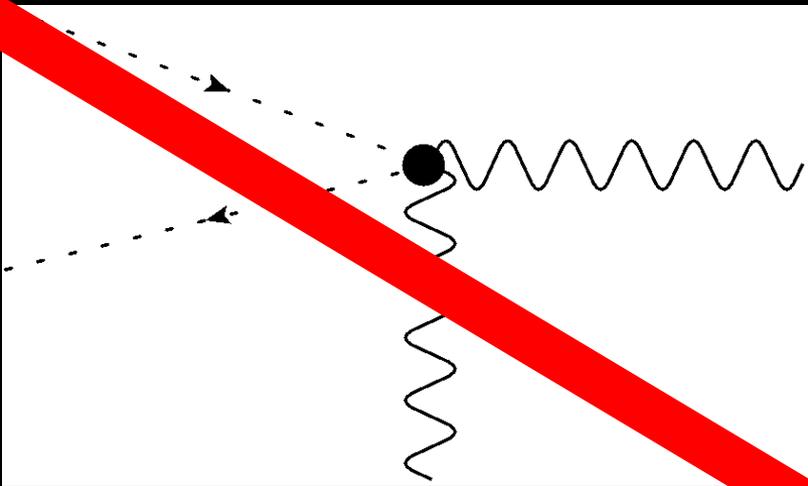
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# Assymmetric Charge

- DM could (mostly) consist of only one type of charge
- Natural mechanism Affleck-Dine

→ No antiparticles

→



→ Need new methods for detection!

→ Possibility for new large structures: Q-Balls

Conclusions

# Conclusions

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- Dark Matter may be ALPy 😊
  - New Search opportunities!
  - Searches ongoing!
  
  - Unusual places may be viable
  - Crazy things to explore!
  - Novel Detection techniques required

# Conclusions

- Dark Matter may be Axiony/WISPy ☺
  - New Search opportunities!
  - Searches ongoing!
  - Unusual places may be viable
  - Crazy things to explore!
  - Novel Detection techniques required

Columbus' Theory: Tenerife - Jakarta ~ 3000 miles

Actual distance: ~ 7300 miles

<https://spectrum.ieee.org/tech-talk/at-work/test-and-measurement/columbus-geographical-miscalculations>

Lesson:

Theory doesn't have to be correct  
in order to find something ;-).

→ Go Explore + Be prepared  
for surprises