

Title: Particle Physics Seminar

Speakers: Zhen Liu

Series: Particle Physics

Date: December 03, 2019 - 1:00 PM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/19120011>

LHC Opportunities in Long-Lived Signatures

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University of Maryland
Dec.2nd, 2019



Outline

- Long-lived particles at the LHC: overview
- Opportunities:
 - High Quality Axion
 - Heavy Neutral Lepton
 - DM & Coannihilation
 - Opportunity in Timing and HGCal

What is LLP?

Long-lived particles in the standard model:

- approximate symmetries;
- kinematic suppressions;

For BSM particles:

- Prompt particles being actively probed;
- Detector Stable particles are probed as missing energy or EM charged stable particles.

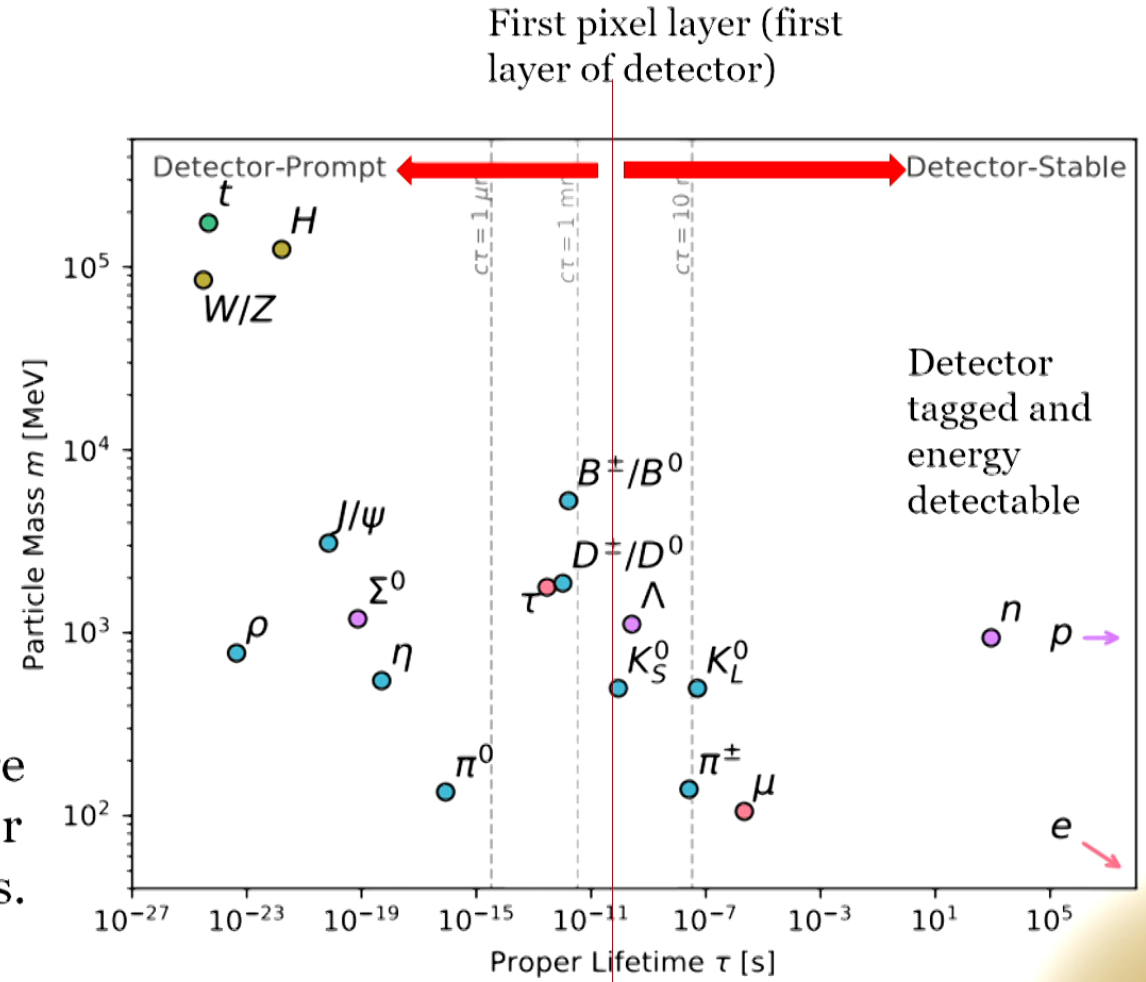


Fig. credit: L. Lee @ ATLAS

Why Long-Lived BSM Particles? Supersymmetry

- R-Parity-Violating, small B/L-violating couplings

$$c\tau_{RPV} \sim 1 \text{ m} \left(\frac{100 \text{ GeV}}{\tilde{m}} \right) \left(\frac{10^{-8}}{\lambda_{RPV}} \right)^2$$

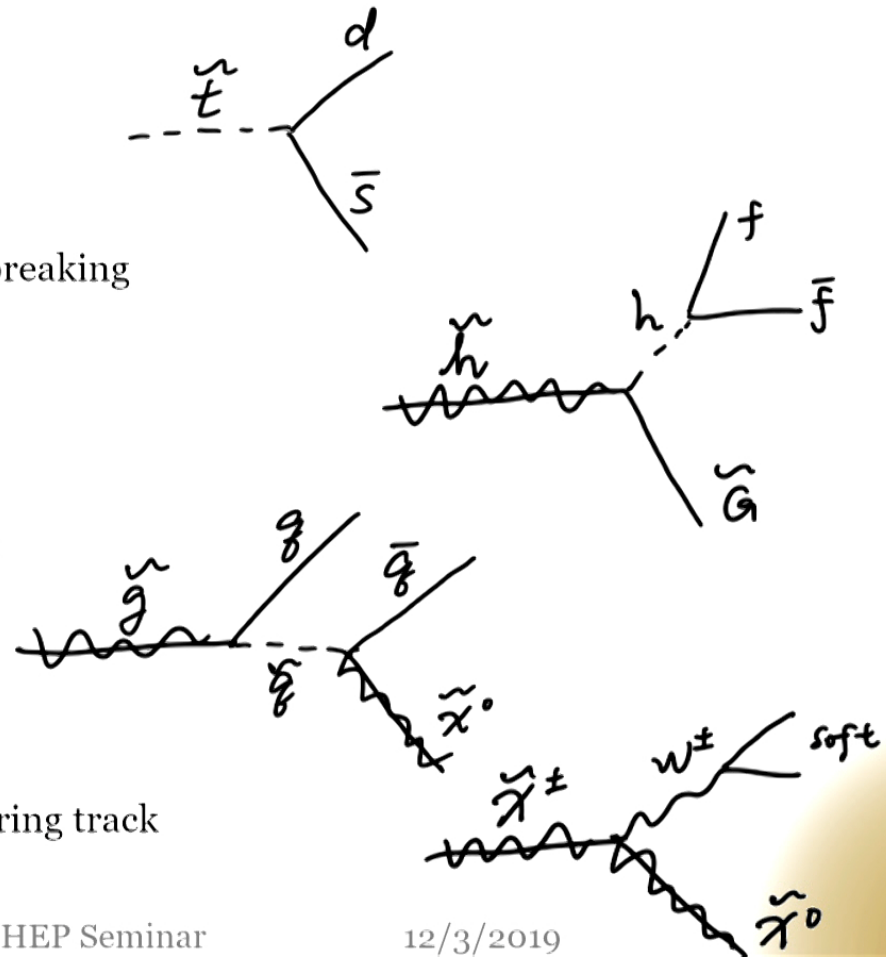
- Gauge mediation—suppressed couplings via SUSY breaking scale

$$c\tau_{GMSB} \sim 10 \text{ m} \left(\frac{100 \text{ GeV}}{\tilde{m}} \right)^5 \left(\frac{\sqrt{F}}{100 \text{ TeV}} \right)^4$$

- Mini-split spectrum—suppressed couplings through “decoupled” heavy particles

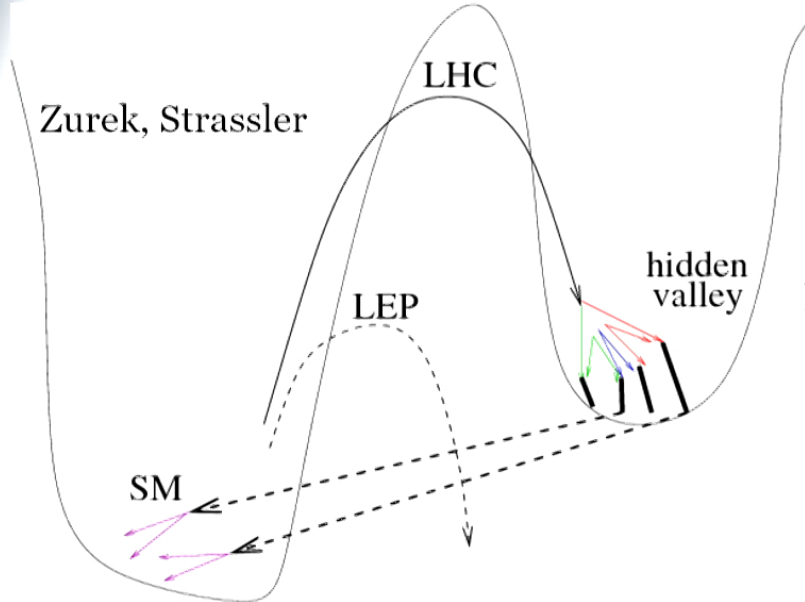
$$c\tau_{\text{mini-split}} \sim 1 \text{ mm} \left(\frac{\text{TeV}}{m_{\tilde{g}}} \right)^5 \left(\frac{m_{\tilde{q}}}{\text{PeV}} \right)^4$$

- Pure Wino/Higgsino—nearly degenerated, disappearing track



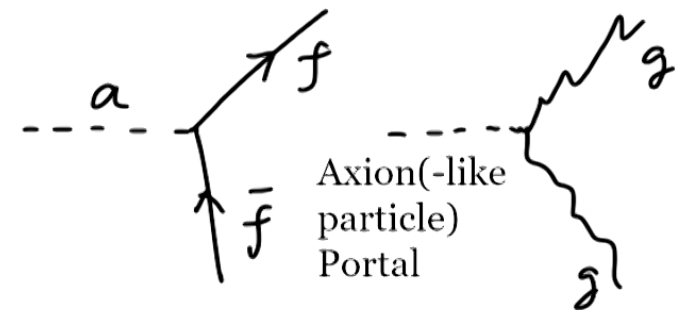
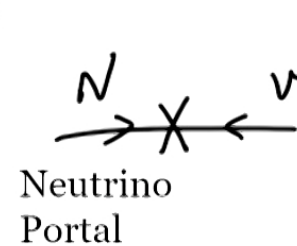
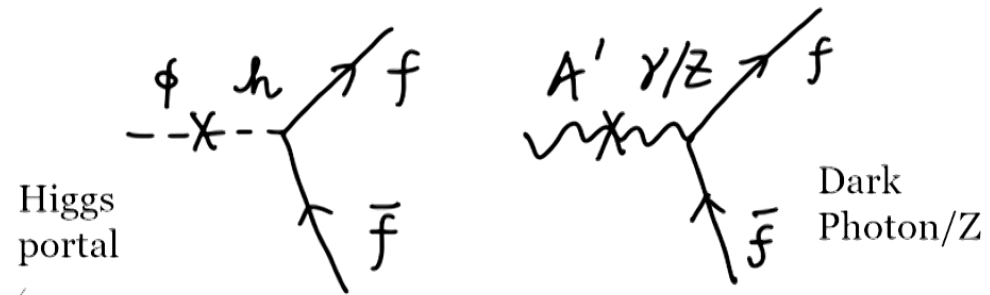
Why Long-Lived BSM Particles? Hidden Valley

Hidden sector feeble couplings to SM via various portals, suppressed by the smallness of the couplings



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LLP Opportunities @ LHC



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LLP: A rich program

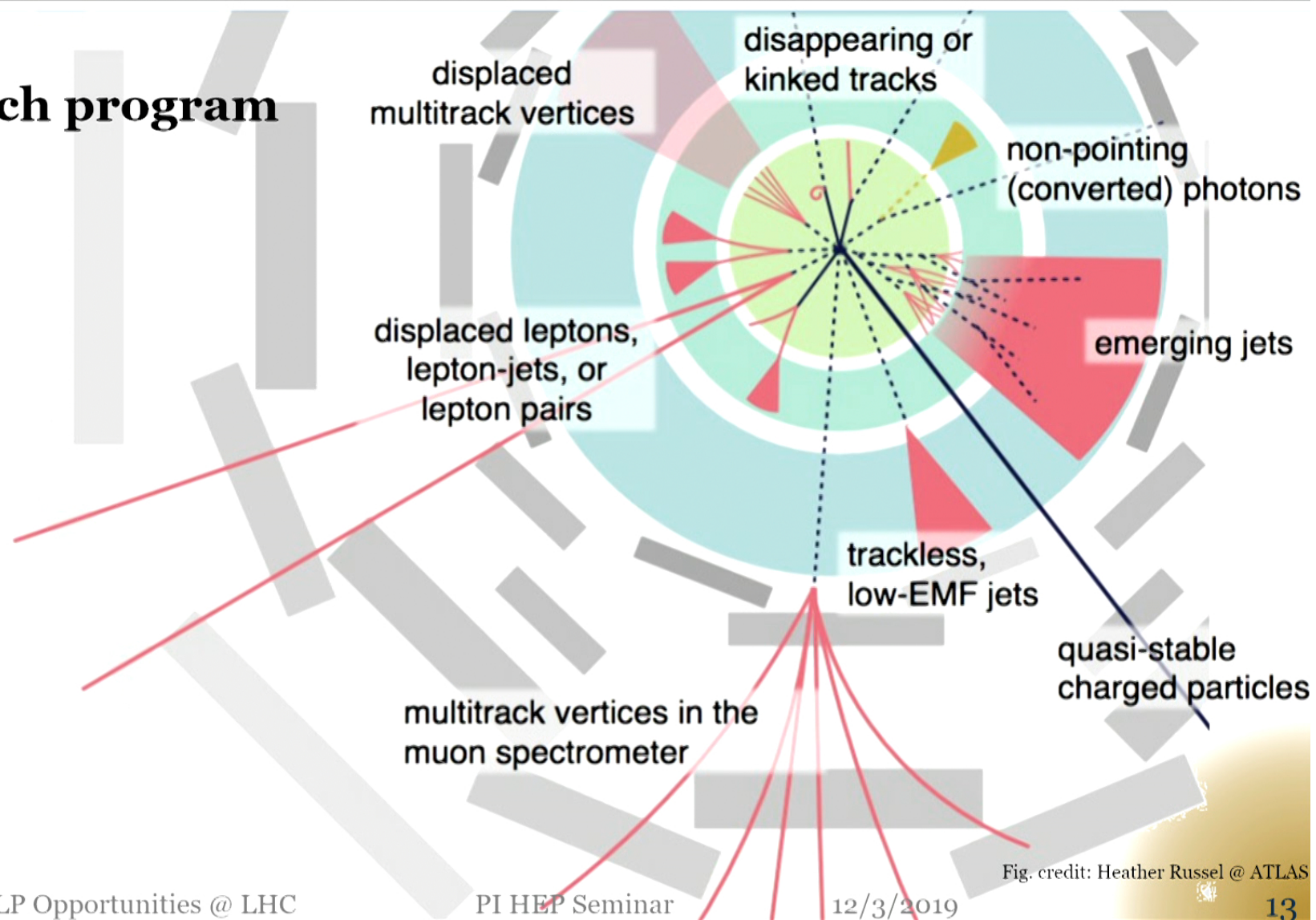


Fig. credit: Heather Russel @ ATLAS

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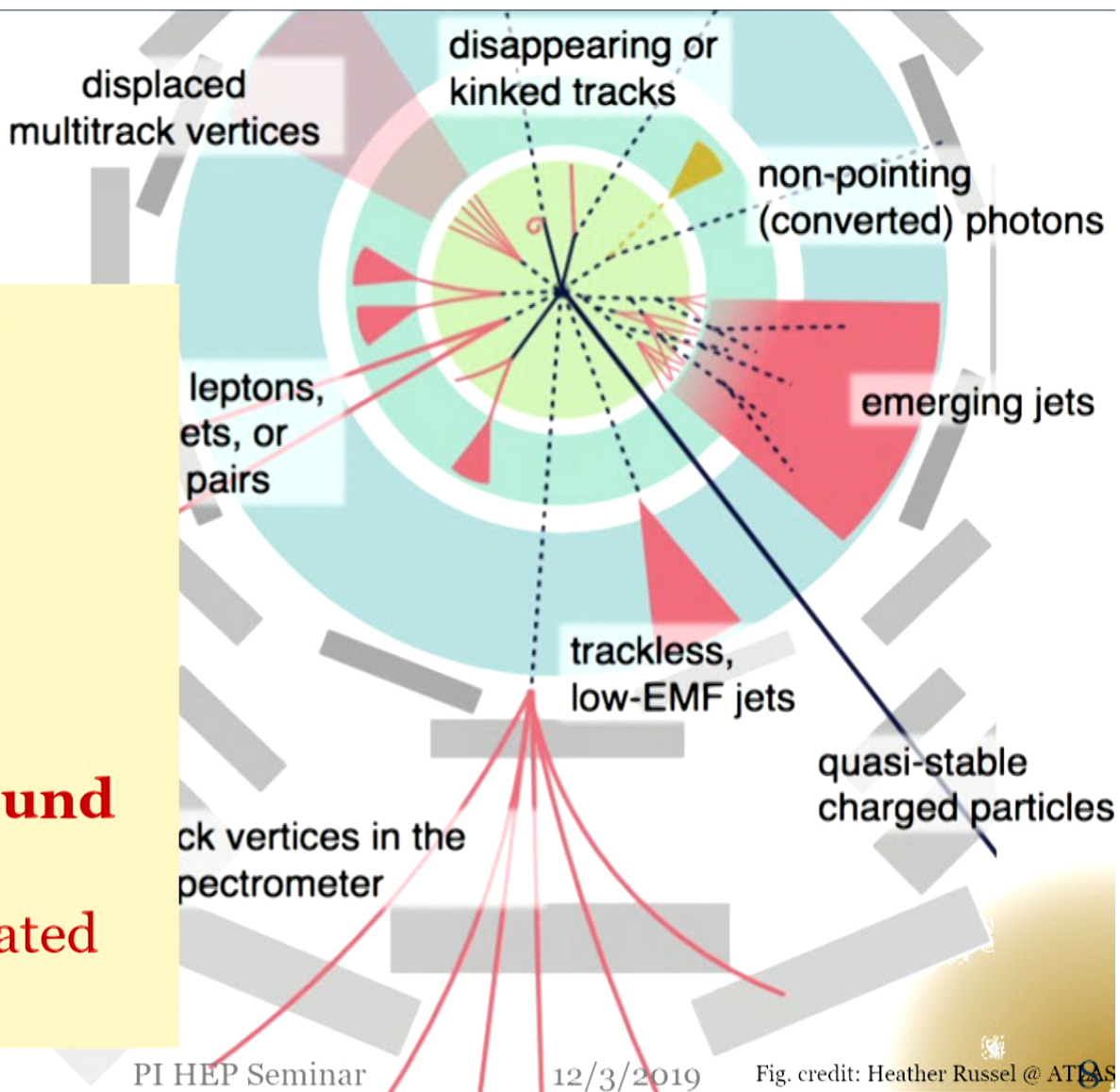
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But, a new experimental challenge.

LHC detectors designed for prompt signals. For LLPs:

- ☹️trigger
- ☹️reconstruction
- 😊standard model background
- ☹️non-standard background

Huge uncharted well-motivated territories to explore!



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Fig. credit: Heather Russel @ ATLAS

A veritable Renaissance of Long-Lived Particles

The world is planning on conducting new experiments searching for these hidden long-lived particles.

MATHUSLA

Codex-B

AL3X

FASER

SHiP

NA62

SeaQuest

MoEDAL

MilliQan

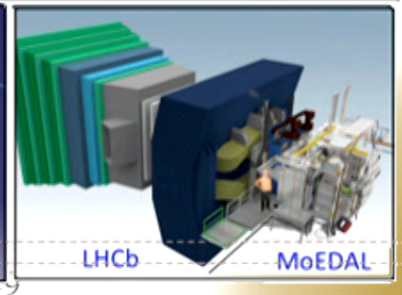
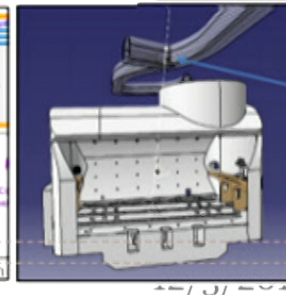
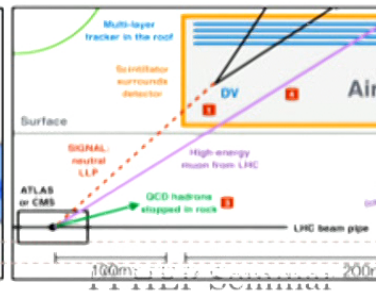
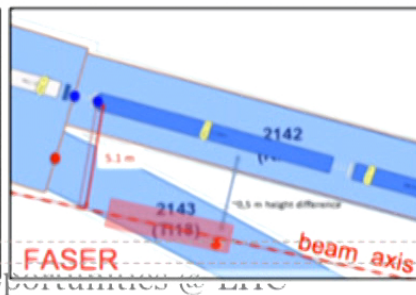
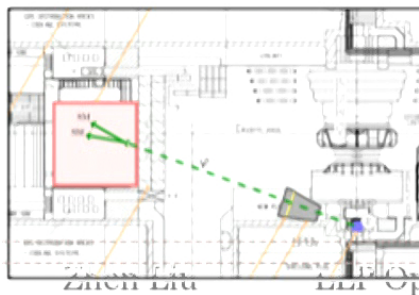
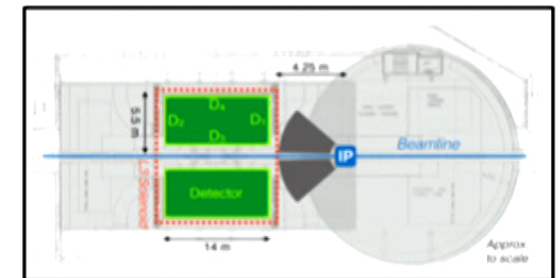
Central/Hard LLPs

Forward/lighter LLPs

Beamdump experiments

monopole
millicharged particles

Search for LLPs



Outline

- Long-lived particles at the LHC: overview
- Opportunities:
 - High Quality Axion Hook, Kumar, **Liu**, Sundrum, [1911.12364](#)
 - Heavy Neutral Lepton
 - DM & Coannihilation
 - Opportunity in Timing and HGCal

Strong CP puzzle

$$L \supset \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \theta \tilde{G} G + y_u \bar{Q}_L \tilde{H} u_R + y_d \bar{Q}_L H d_R$$

$$\bar{\theta} \equiv \theta + \text{ArgDet}[Y_u Y_d] \leq 10^{-10}$$

While $\text{ArgDet}[Y_u Y_d]$ anticipated around $\delta_{CKM} \sim O(1)$

Strong CP puzzle of QCD

- Four simple solutions
- ~~1. Universe is Left-Right symmetric~~ *Weak interactions*
 - ~~2. Universe is Time reversal invariant~~ *Kaon oscillations*
 - ~~3. Massless up quark~~ *Lattice*
 4. Axions

Strong CP puzzle

$$L \supset \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \theta \tilde{G}G + y_u \bar{Q}_L \tilde{H} u_R + y_d \bar{Q}_L H d_R$$

$$\bar{\theta} \equiv \theta + \text{ArgDet}[Y_u Y_d] \leq 10^{-10}$$

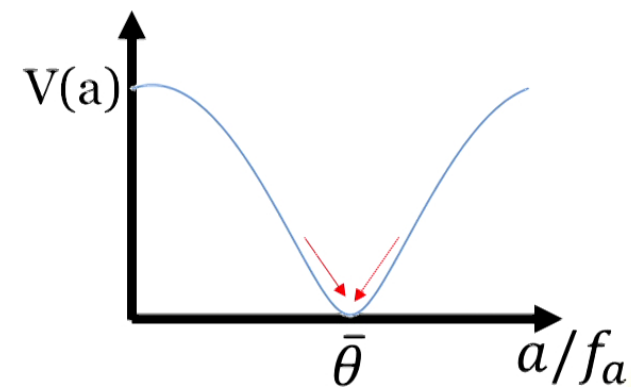
While $\text{ArgDet}[Y_u Y_d]$ anticipated around $\delta_{CKM} \sim O(1)$

Strong CP puzzle of QCD

Dynamical solution:

QCD Axion a as a pseudo
Nambu-Goldstone boson

$$\frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \left(\theta - \frac{a}{f_a} \right) \tilde{G}G$$



The Quality Problem

The axion fakes a dynamical angle.
How good of an imposter is it?

Dynamical solution:
QCD Axion a as a pseudo
Nambu-Goldstone boson

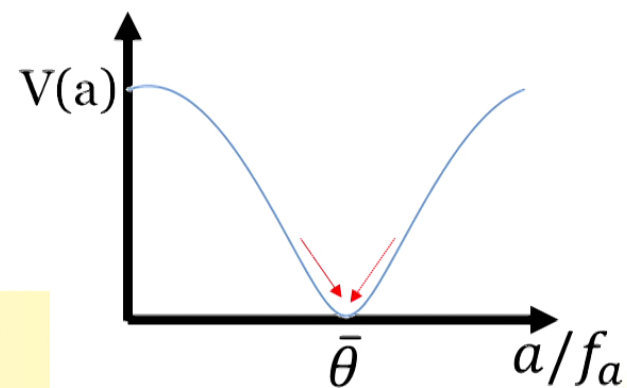
$$V \approx -(100 \text{ MeV})^4 \cos \left(\bar{\theta} - \frac{a}{f_a} \right) + \Lambda_{\text{contamination}}^4 \cos \left(\theta' - \frac{a}{f_a} \right) \quad \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \left(\theta - \frac{a}{f_a} \right) \tilde{G}G$$

$$\Lambda_{\text{contamination}} < 0.1 \text{ MeV}$$

There are also many other scales :
GUT, Inflation, Gravity, Dark matter

$$V = \frac{\Phi^{14}}{M_{pl}^{10}} \quad \Phi \equiv e^{i \frac{a}{f_a}}$$

Leading order gravity suppressed operators must be suppressed by 10 powers of the Planck scale!



The Quality Problem and reinforced Axion potential

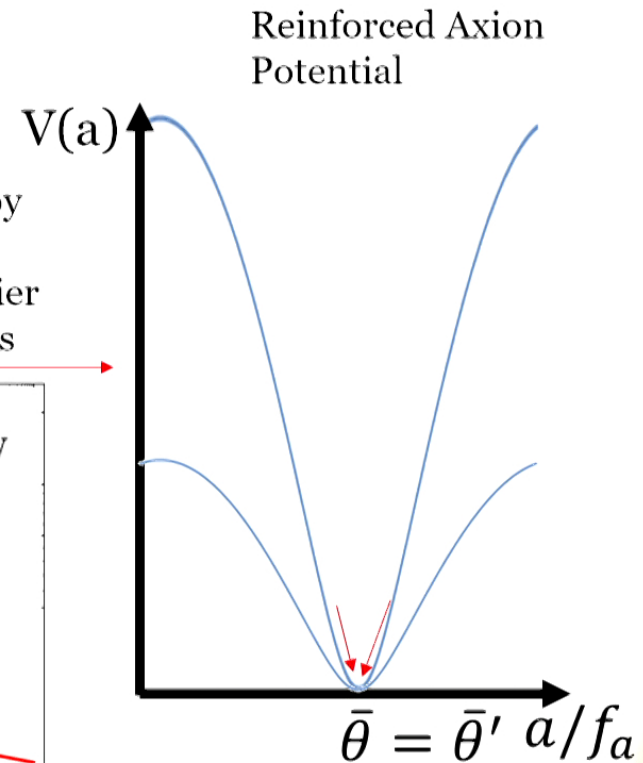
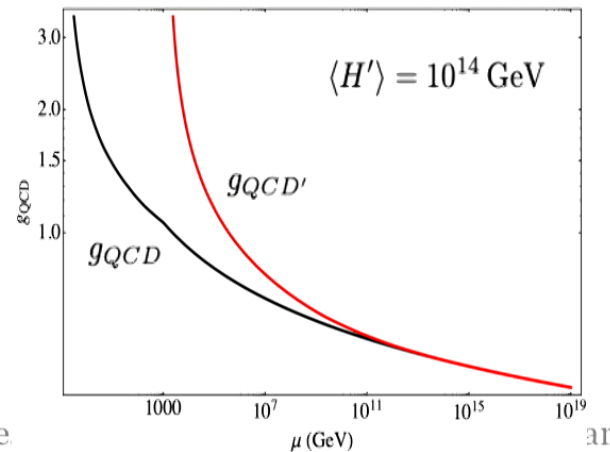
Mirror QCD + Weak with Z2 symmetry,
one axion couples to both and **solve both**
 strong CP puzzles dynamically.

$$m_a \simeq \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}{f_a}$$



$$m_a \simeq \frac{\sqrt{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4 + \Lambda_{\text{QCD}'}^4}}{f_a}$$

Instead, through soft Z2 breaking by giving Mirror Higgs large VEV
 → massive fermions decouples earlier
 → mirror QCD run fast and confines



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The Quality Problem and reinforced Axion potential

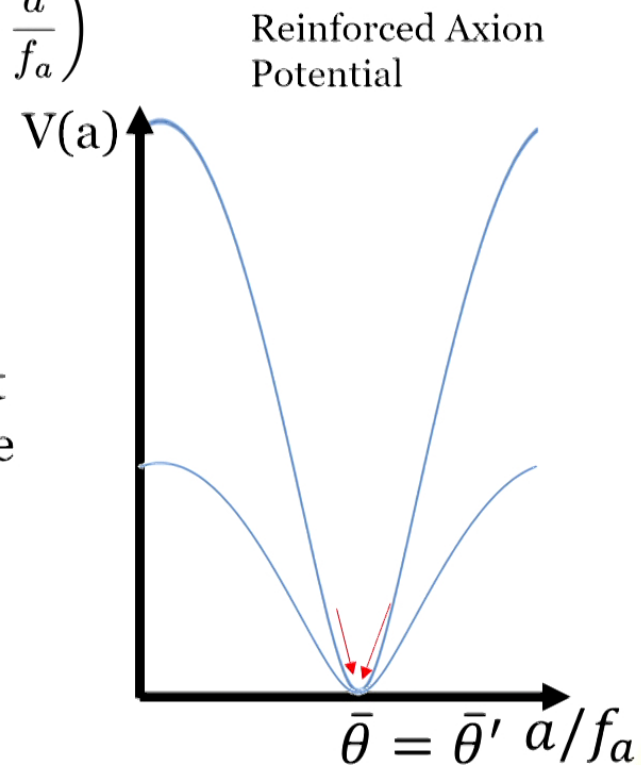
Makes the Quality problem better

$$V \approx -(100 \text{ MeV})^4 \cos\left(\bar{\theta} - \frac{a}{f_a}\right) - (10^8 \text{ MeV})^4 \cos\left(\bar{\theta} - \frac{a}{f_a}\right) \\ + \Lambda_{\text{contamination}}^4 \cos\left(\theta' - \frac{a}{f_a}\right)$$

$$\Lambda_{\text{contamination}} < 10^5 \text{ MeV}$$

If the Higgs mass were the only thing different between the two copies, the neutron angles are still the same!

Flavor structure of the SM ensures that any change occurs at 7-loops and beyond
Not true for a generic theory!



The Quality Problem and reinforced Axion potential

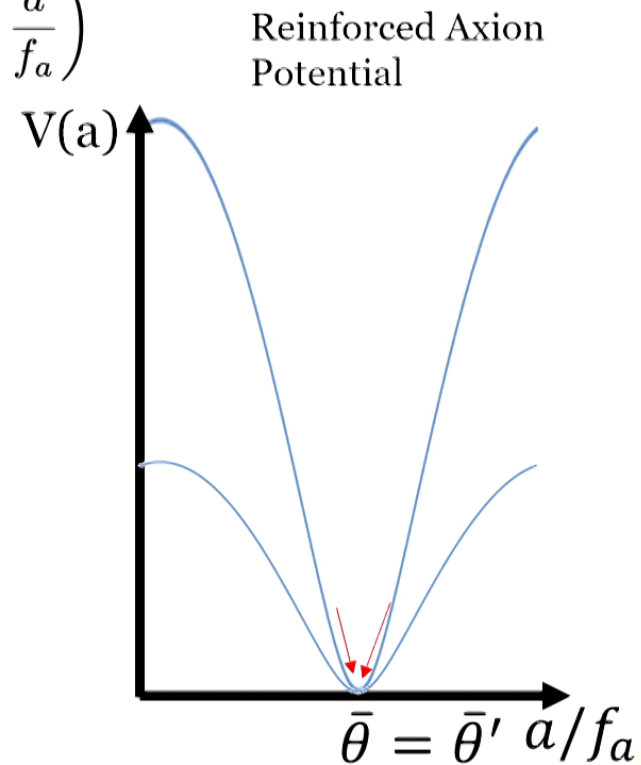
Makes the Quality problem better

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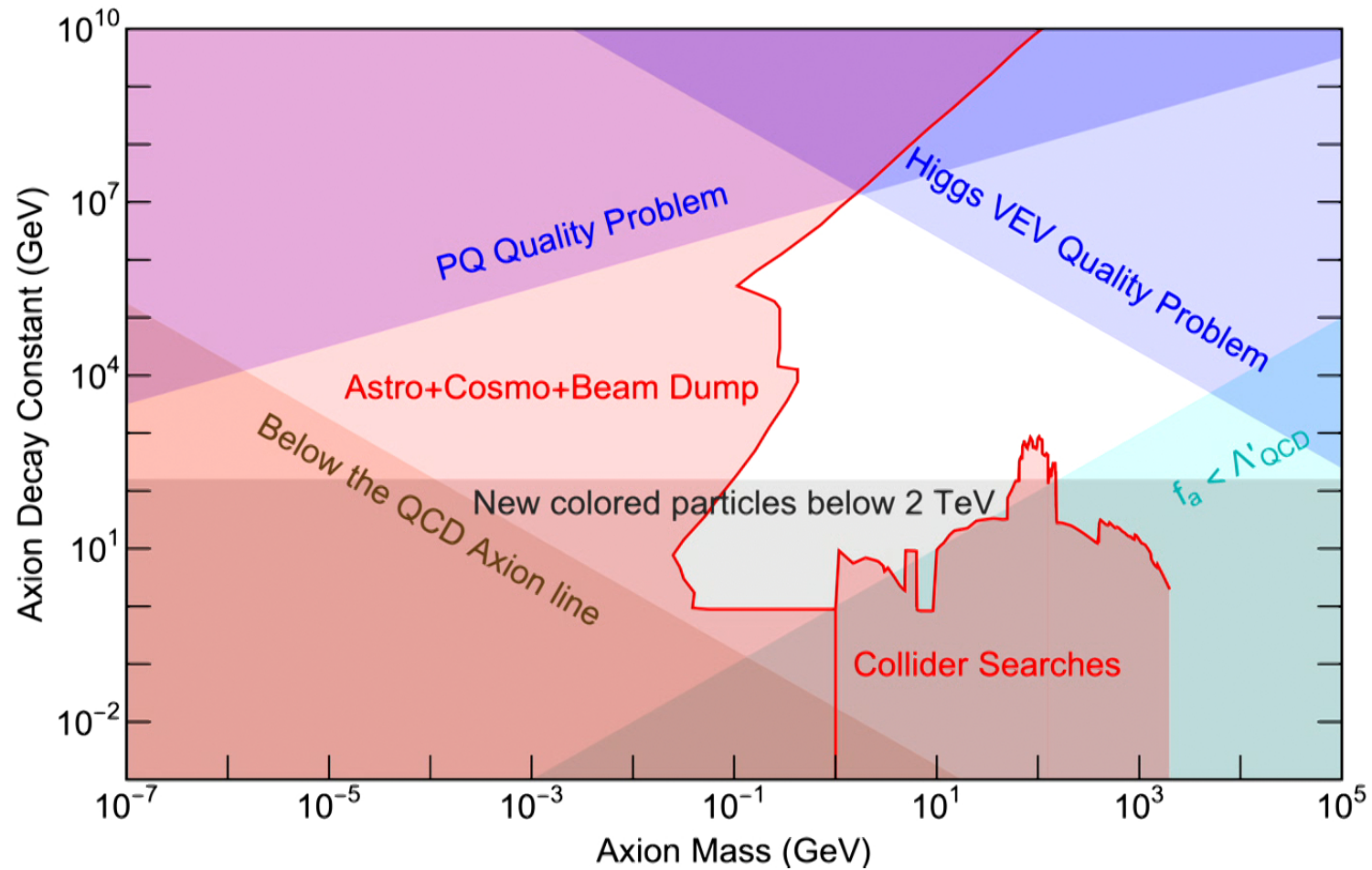
But generates a new quality problem:

$$\frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} \left(\frac{H H^\dagger}{M_{pl}^2} G \tilde{G} + \frac{H' H'^\dagger}{M_{pl}^2} G' \tilde{G}' \right) \\ H' \lesssim 10^{14} \text{ GeV}$$



$$\frac{a}{8\pi f_a} \left(c_3 \alpha_3 G\tilde{G} + c_2 \alpha_2 W\tilde{W} + c_1 \alpha_1 B\tilde{B} \right)$$

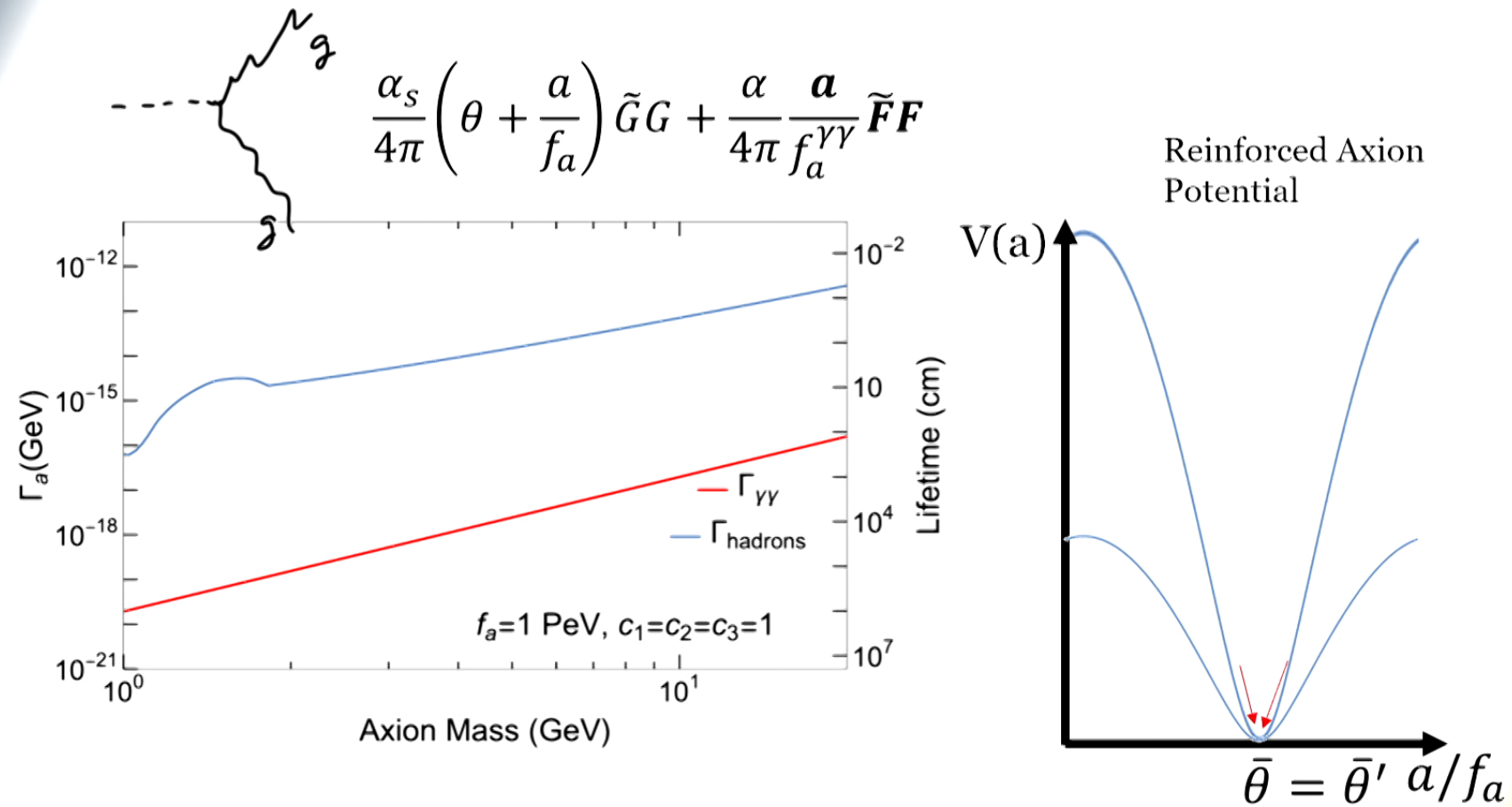
Preferred parameter space



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Long-lived Axions



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$$\frac{a}{8\pi f_a} \left(c_3 \alpha_3 G\tilde{G} + c_2 \alpha_2 W\tilde{W} + c_1 \alpha_1 B\tilde{B} \right)$$

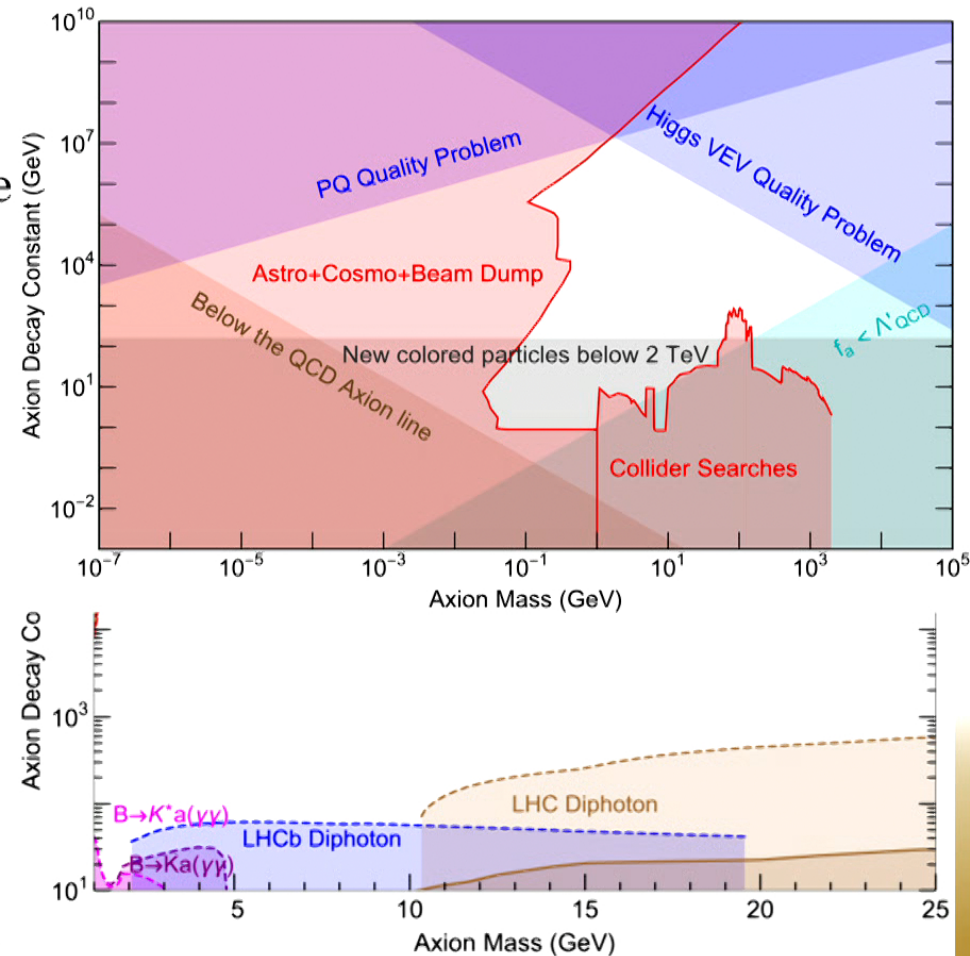
Preferred parameter space

$\tilde{G}G$ the defining coupling for strong CP
Constraints and studies in the GeV scale
realm **very minimal**.

The existing studies focus on **photonic**,
Higgs decays and **leptonic** couplings.

Hadronic mode buried
under QCD background

$$\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \left(\theta + \frac{a}{f_a} \right) \tilde{G}G + \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} \frac{a}{f_a} \tilde{F}F$$



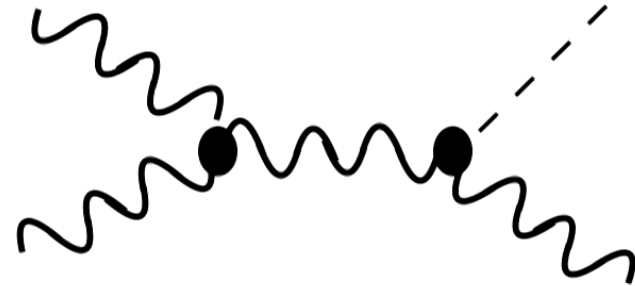
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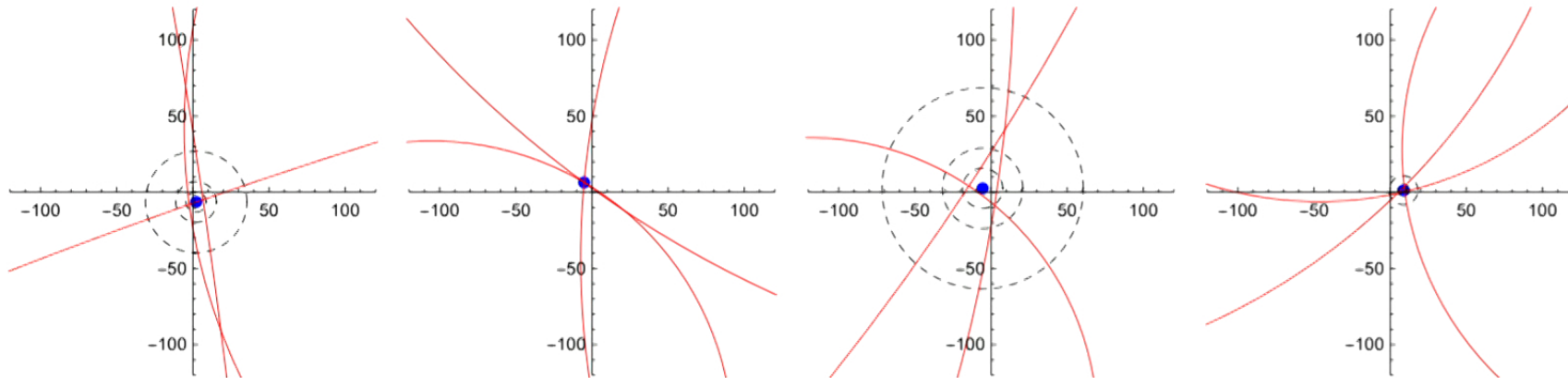
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Displaced track trigger: crucial ingredient

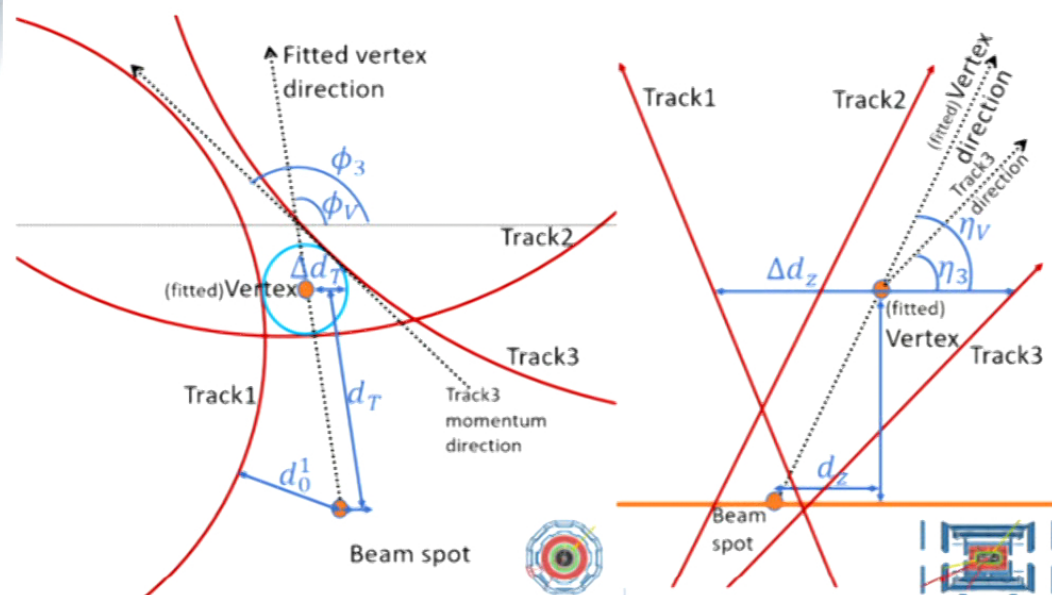
- At least three tracks (within an L1 jet) with $p_T > 2$ GeV;
- Amongst the above tracks, at least three of them have the transverse impact parameter $d_0 > 1$ mm;
- The pseudo-rapidity of the tracks to be $|\eta| < 2.4$;
- The signal decay location in the transverse plane, $d_T < 35$ cm to have enough hits in the tracker outer layers;
- The H_T of the event to be greater than 100 GeV.²



Long-lived signals are produced and decayed through a same vertex



Analysis: 2D-4D vertexing selection



Background: 10^{12} to begin with (post triggering);
 2D-4D vertexing reduces it to 10^3
 Track/jet information matching between different
 subdetectors can further reduce it to < 1

1. The 2D common vertex has a minimal distance to the interaction point of 0.5 cm and maximal distance of 35 cm, $0.5 \text{ cm} < d_T < 35 \text{ cm}$;
2. The 2D tracks fit a common vertex with standard deviation $\Delta d_T < 1 \text{ cm}$;
3. The 2D common vertex is sufficiently displaced away from the interaction point, $d_T / \Delta d_T > 5$;
4. The corresponding 4D vertex has a standard deviation in z direction $\Delta d_z < 5 \text{ cm}$;
5. The corresponding 4D vertex has a z -direction location $d_z < 20 \text{ cm}$;
6. The corresponding 4D vertex has a standard deviation in time $\Delta d_t < 500 \text{ ps}$;
7. The corresponding 4D vertex has a time $d_t < 1000 \text{ ps}$;
8. The tracks are within 0.4 in pseudorapidity of the reconstructed displaced jet direction $|\eta_i - \eta_V| < 0.4$ for all the three tracks;
9. The tracks are within 0.4 in azimuthal angle of the reconstructed displaced jet direction $|\phi_i - \phi_V| < 0.4$ for all the three tracks;

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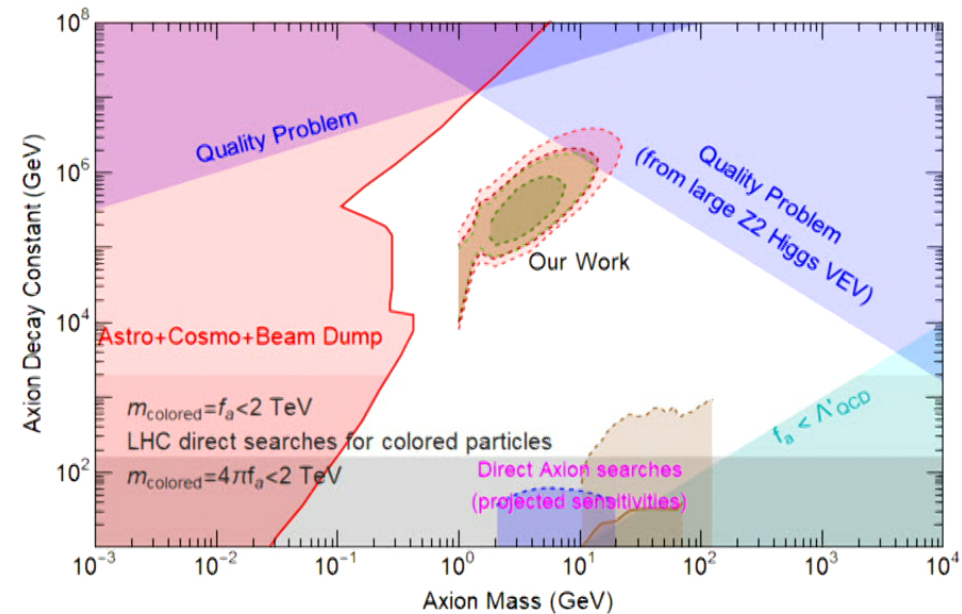
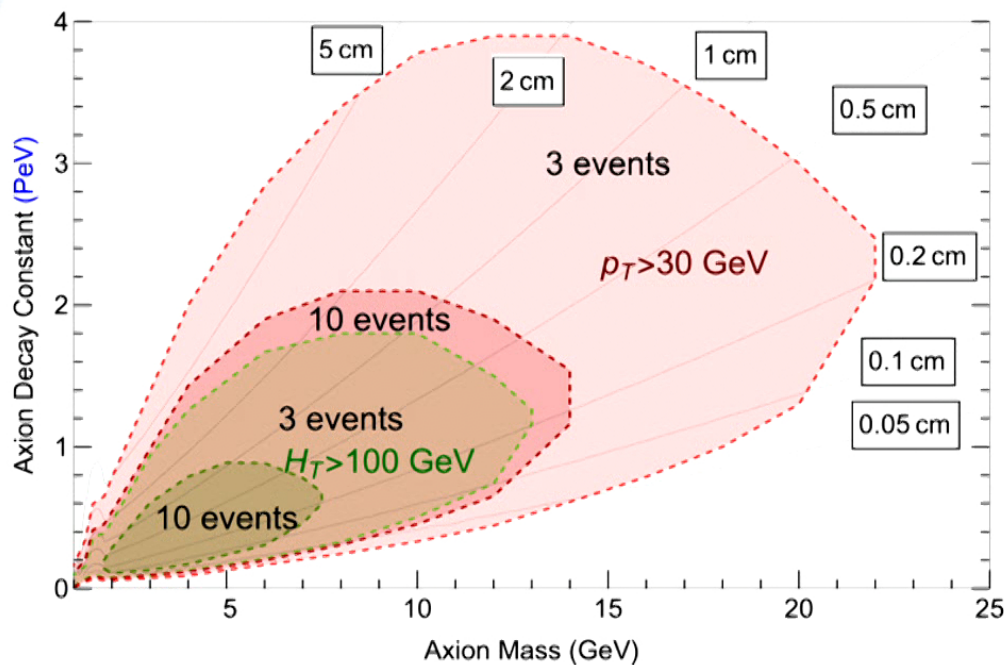
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A displaced track trigger enables searches for axions

Unique singly produced LLPs making the LHC main detectors the major place to look for them:

Long lifetime = low production rate



We employ a 2D-4D vertexing selection for displaced jet to veto the fake track background, demonstrating the plausibility of this search.

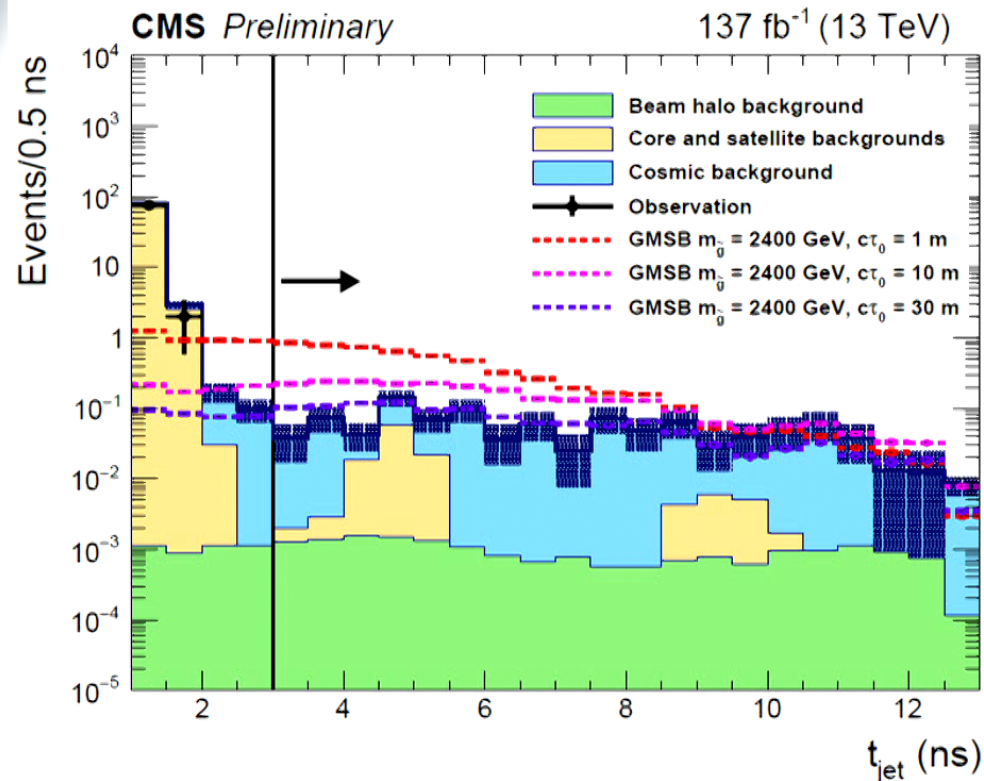
Outline

- Theory Overview & Community Efforts
- Theory Opportunities:
 - High quality QCD Axion
 - Heavy Neutral Lepton
 - DM & Coannihilation
 - Opportunity in Timing and HGCal

J. Liu, **ZL**, LT Wang, [1805.05957](#)

J. Liu, **ZL**, LT Wang, XP Wang, in progress

New searches and new insights!



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Background	Prediction
Beam halo	$0.02^{+0.06}_{-0.02}$ (stat) $^{+0.05}_{-0.01}$ (syst)
Core and satellite bunches	$0.11^{+0.09}_{-0.05}$ (stat) $^{+0.02}_{-0.02}$ (syst)
Cosmics	$1.0^{+1.8}_{-1.0}$ (stat) $^{+1.8}_{-1.0}$ (syst)

Beam halo **small**

Core and satellite bunches **small** but one shall try to improve by precision timing

Cosmics **small** (for this analysis, no need to do cosmic veto yet but there are many ways) and scale with time but not luminosity

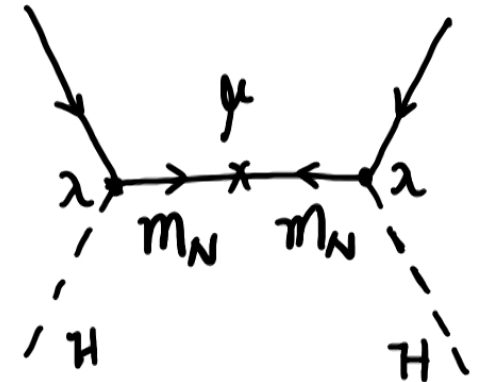
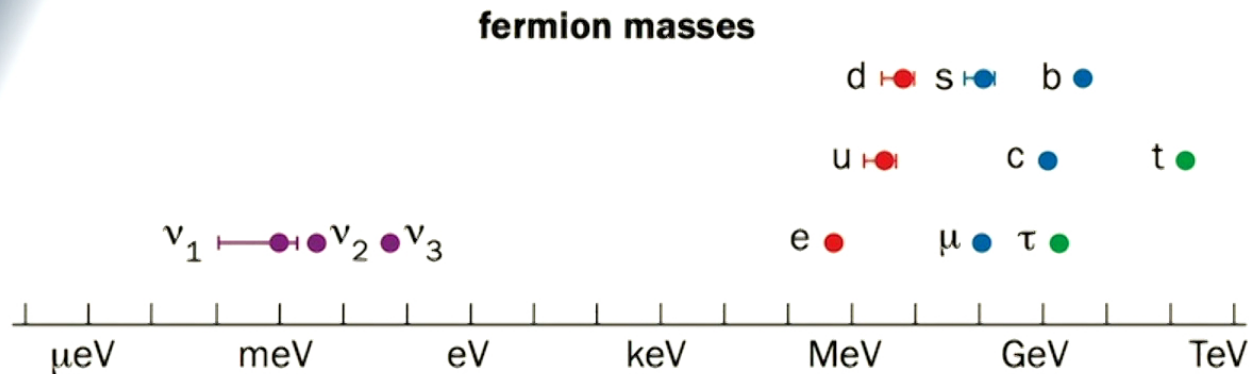
Lot of theory & experimental activities:

- L1 trigger under development
- Delays in all subdetectors under development
- Pheno studies on mass reconstruction
- Pheno studies on jet substructure
- Pheno studies on delayed dark photons
- ...

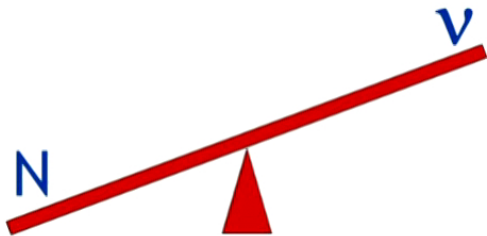
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Neutrino Mass Puzzle also leads to LLPs



$$L_{IR} \ni -m_N \bar{N} N - (\lambda \bar{L} \tilde{H} N_R + \mu N_L^2 + h.c.)$$



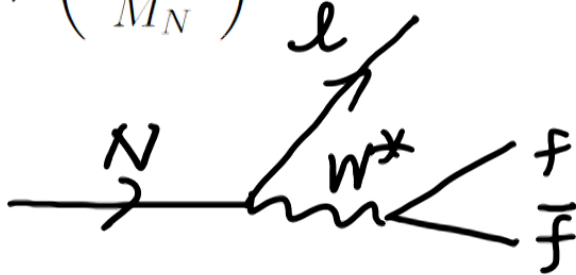
$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \lambda v_{EW} & 0 \\ \lambda v_{EW} & 0 & m_N \\ 0 & m_N & \mu \end{pmatrix}$$

In the $\mu \rightarrow 0$ limit, one Dirac Neutrino and one massless Wyle Fermion
 $\rightarrow \mu \neq 0$, lightest eigenstate

$$m_\nu \approx \mu \left(\frac{\lambda v_{EW}}{M_N} \right)^2$$

Neutrino Mass Puzzle also leads to LLPs

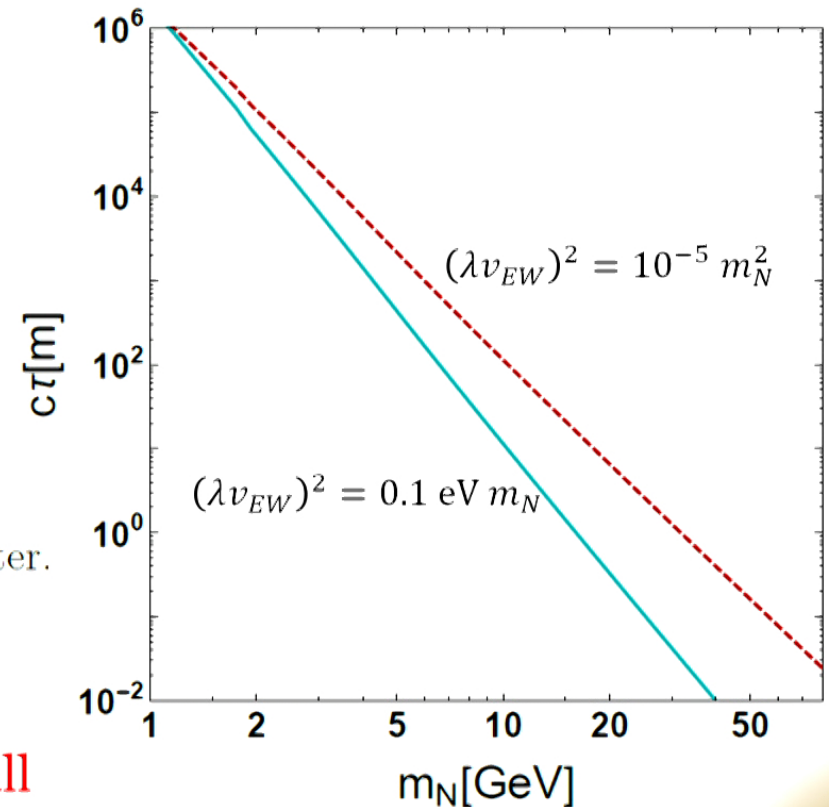
$$m_\nu \approx \mu \left(\frac{\lambda v_{EW}}{M_N} \right)^2$$



Right-handed neutrino N is long-lived:

$$c\tau \simeq 7 \times 10^3 \times \left(\frac{\text{GeV}}{m_N} \right)^5 \left(\frac{0.01 \text{ eV}}{m_\nu} \right) \left(\frac{\mu}{\text{MeV}} \right) \text{ meter.}$$

But where do these **small parameters** come from?



... and it's well-motivated.

Toy example:

$$L_{UV} \supset L_{QCD'} + \frac{LH u' d' d'}{M^3} + \frac{(u'_c d'_c d'_c)^2}{M^5}$$

(u' d' d') confines to Neutron' = N

$$L_{IR} \ni -m_N \bar{N} N - (\lambda \bar{L} \tilde{H} N_R + \mu N_L^2 + h.c.)$$

$\Lambda_{QCD'}$
 $\left(\frac{\Lambda_{QCD'}}{M}\right)^3$
 $\Lambda_{QCD'} \left(\frac{\Lambda_{QCD'}}{M}\right)^5$

Chacko, Fox, **Liu**, Harnik, in progress

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Summary

- Theory & Experimental landscape
- Large class of motivated models for LLPs, mainly classified into SUSY and Hidden Valleys
- Opportunities/Challenges
 - **LHC main detectors have great potential for LLPs**
 - High Quality Axion (low mass hadronic LLP)
 - Heavy Neutral Lepton (low mass semi-leptonic LLP)
 - DM & Coannihilation (soft visible energy LLP)
 - Timing and HGCal (new dimensions of information greatly boost LLP program)

Thank you!