

# Electroweak Axion Portal to Dark Matter

arXiv:2405.02403

Ngan H. Nguyen  
(Steve)

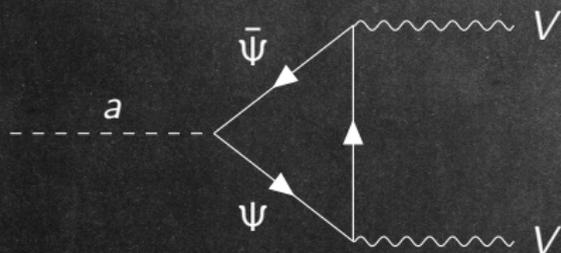
Johns Hopkins University, 3400 N Charles St., Baltimore, MD  
21218, USA

TeVPA, Chicago, August 29, 2024

In collaboration with Stephanie Allen, Albany Blackburn, Oswaldo Cardenas,  
Zoe Messenger, and Brian Shuve

# Motivation

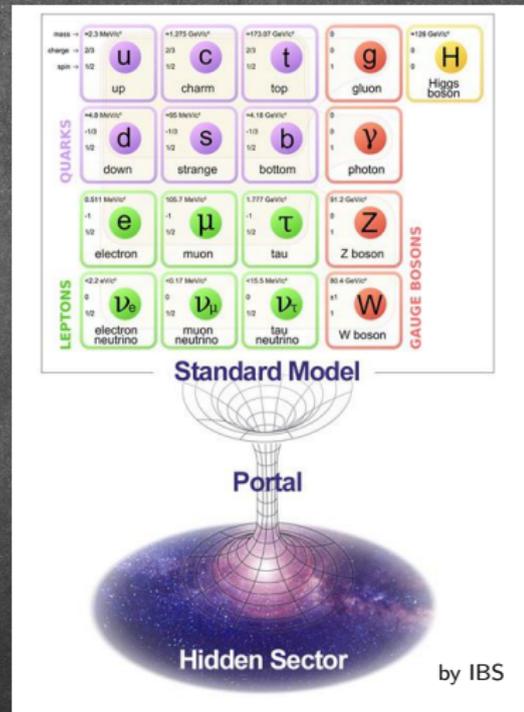
- The low-mass pseudo-Goldstone bosons, which arise from the breaking of an anomalous (chiral) global symmetry are referred to as axion-like particles (ALPs).
- ALPs can be found in many models of physics beyond the SM such as supersymmetric theories and string theory.
- ALPs can couple to the gauge fields in a manner proportional to the gauge field.



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge-ALP}} = -\frac{g_{aV}}{4} a V_{\mu\nu} \tilde{V}^{\mu\nu} \quad (1)$$

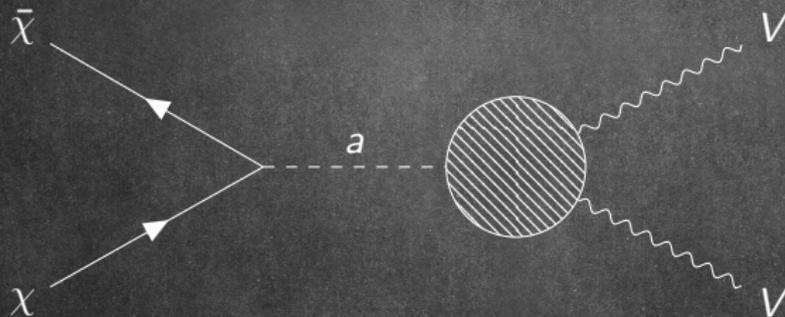
# Motivation

- ALPs can naturally have any mass, which arise from explicit symmetry breaking.
- The coupling strength of the ALP is inversely proportional to the scale of spontaneous symmetry breaking ( $g_{aV} \sim 1/f$ )
- ALPs are ideal candidates to act as mediators to the hidden sector via the so-called “axion portal.”



# Model: Mediator EFT

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge-ALP}} = -\frac{C_{aB}}{4} a B_{\mu\nu} \tilde{B}^{\mu\nu} - \frac{C_{aW}}{4} a W_{\mu\nu}^b \tilde{W}^{b\mu\nu} \quad (2)$$



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{DM-ALP}} = -\frac{1}{2f} \partial_\mu a \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \chi \quad (3)$$

# Model: Mediator EFT

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge-ALP}} = -\frac{C_{aB}}{4} a B_{\mu\nu} \tilde{B}^{\mu\nu} - \frac{C_{aW}}{4} a W_{\mu\nu}^b \tilde{W}^{b\mu\nu} \quad (2)$$



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{DM-ALP}} = -\frac{1}{2f} \partial_\mu a \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \chi \quad (3)$$

# Benchmark

Goals: concrete predictions between indirect detection, colliders, and relic abundance (thermal freeze-out and freeze-in).

$$(1) : C_{aW} = 0, C_{aB} = \frac{\alpha_Y Q_Y^2}{\pi f} \quad \leftarrow \text{Hypercharge}$$

$$(2) : C_{aW} = \frac{\alpha_W T(R)}{\pi f}, C_{aB} = 0 \quad \leftarrow \text{SU}(2)$$

	Small coupling	Large coupling
$Q_Y$	1	10
$T(R)$	1/2	110

# Thermal dark matter abundance

	Secluded ( $M_a < M_\chi$ )	Annihilation to SM ( $M_a \geq M_\chi$ )
Dominant mode	$\chi\bar{\chi} \rightarrow aa$	$\chi\bar{\chi} \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ (or other EW pairs)
Resonance	NA	$M_a \sim 2M_\chi$

Propagator analytical approximation near resonance:

$$\frac{1}{(s - M_a^2)^2 + M_a^2 \Gamma_a^2} \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{M_a \Gamma_a} \delta(s - M_a^2) \quad (4)$$

FeynRules  $\longrightarrow$  micrOMEGAs  $\longrightarrow$  DM thermal relic  
(except at resonance)

# Results: Indirect Detection

- Gamma-ray line searches:

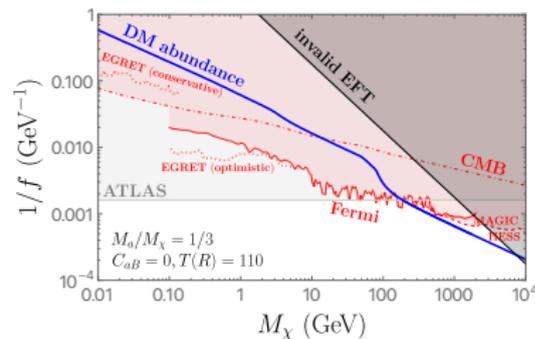
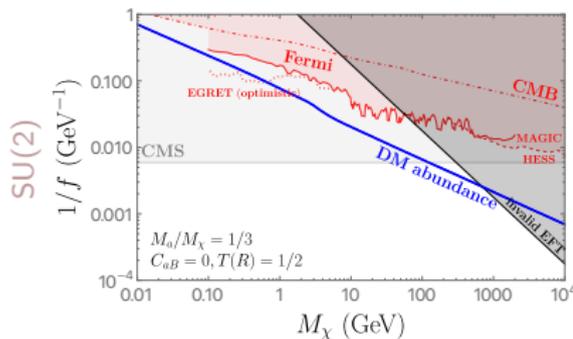
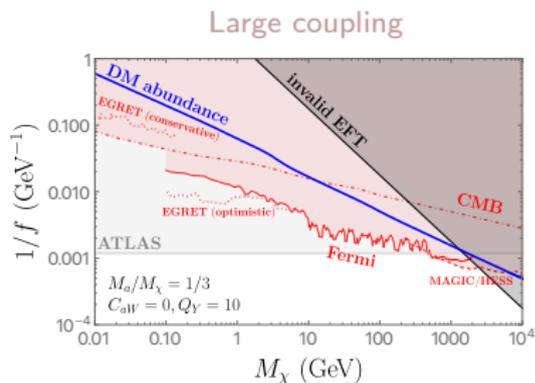
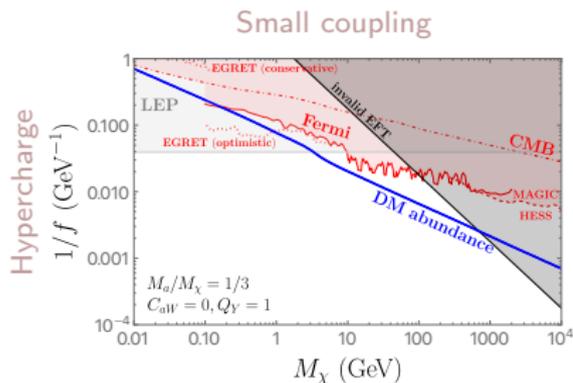
- ERGET
- Fermi LAT
- MAGIC
- HESS

- Diffusive CMB:

- Planck Satellite

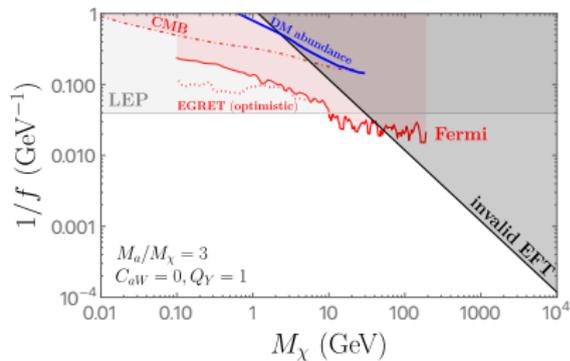
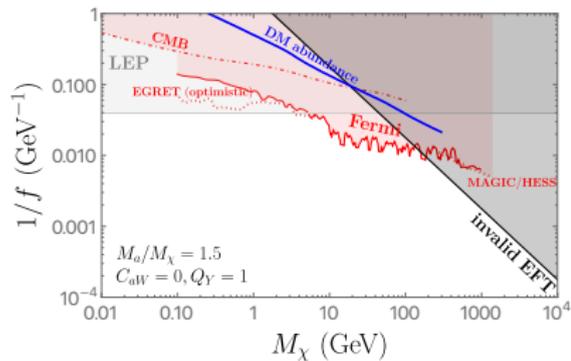


# Results: Indirect Detection ( $M_a < M_\chi$ )



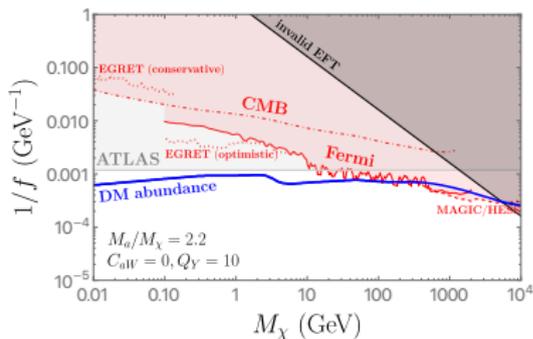
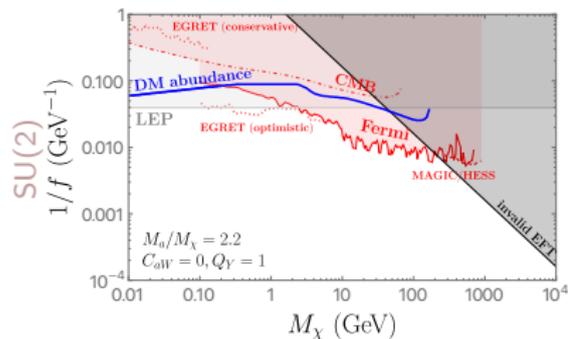
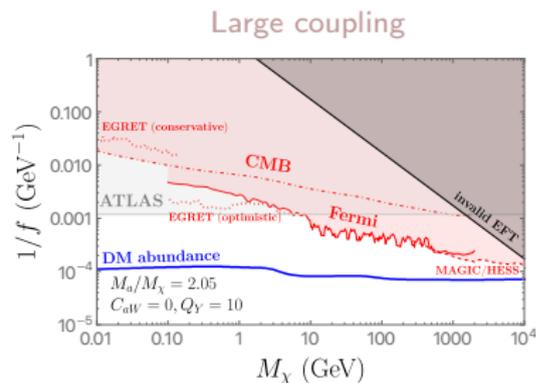
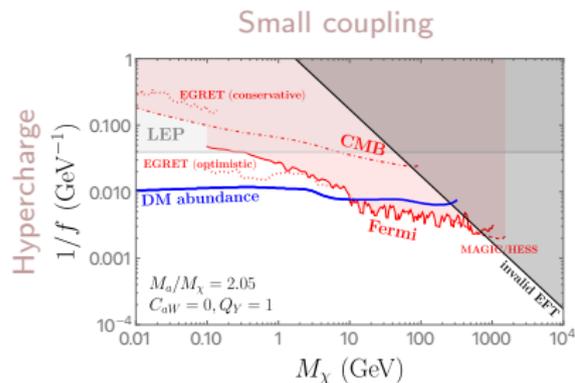
# Results: Indirect Detection ( $M_a > M_\chi$ )

## Small hypercharge coupling

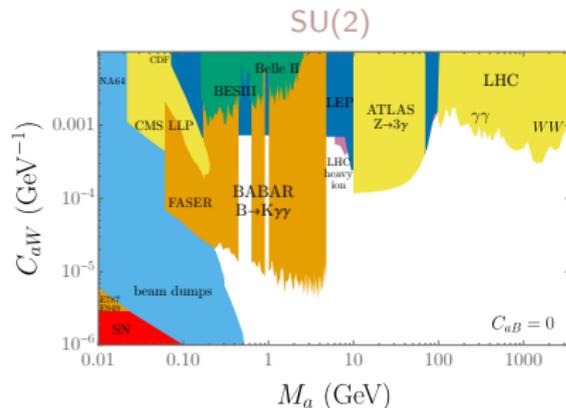
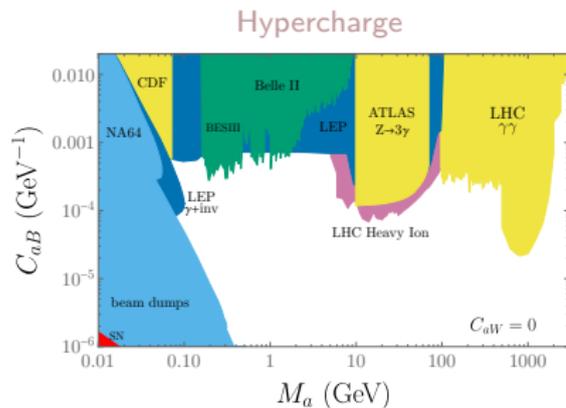


Other cases are comparable.

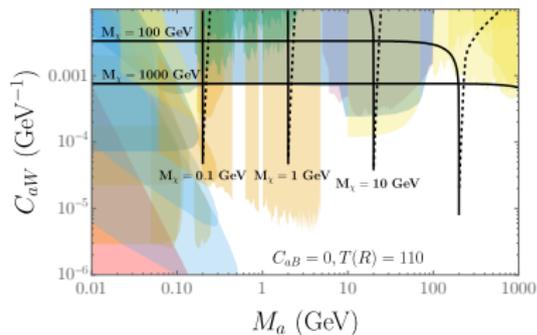
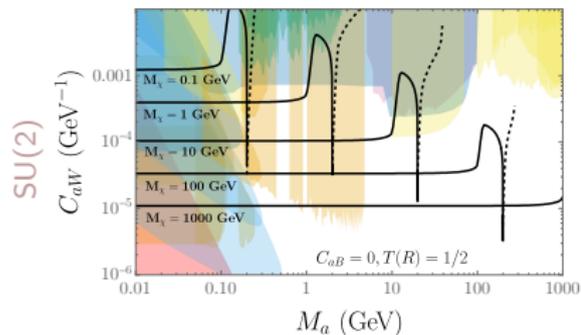
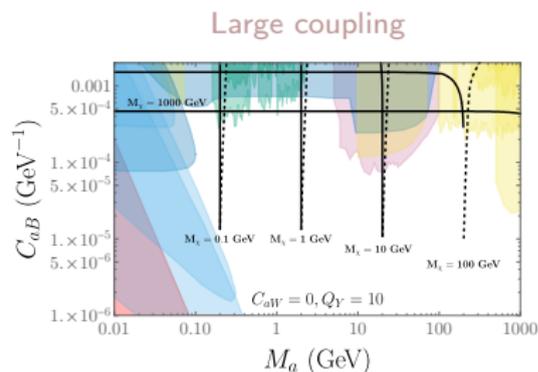
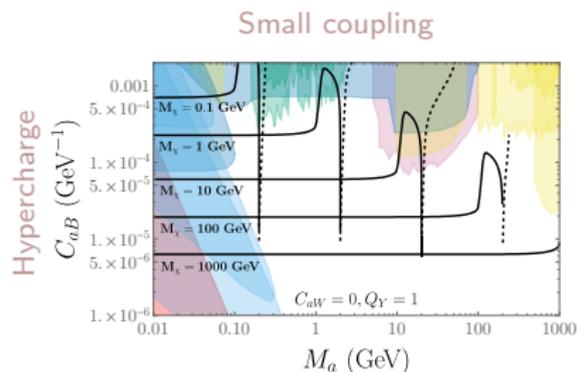
# Results: Indirect Detection ( $M_a \sim 2M_\chi$ )



# Results: Accelerator and collider searches for ALPs



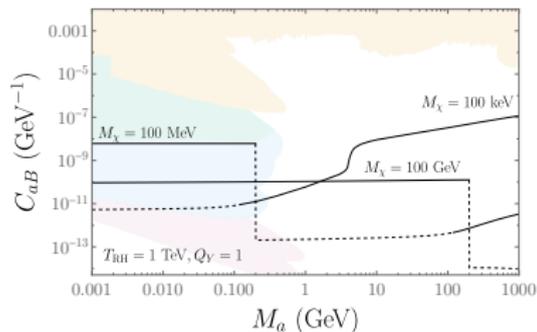
# Results: Accelerator and collider searches for ALPs



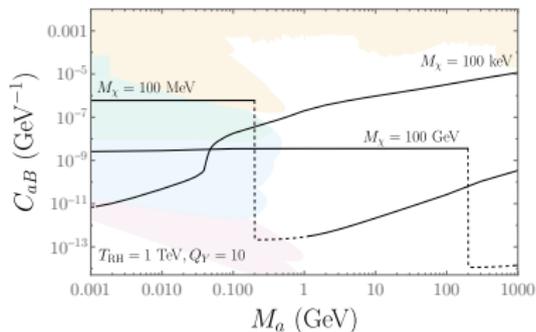
# Freeze-in

- Instantaneous reheating;  $M_a, M_\chi \leq T_{\text{RH}}$
- DM production:  $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\chi$ ,  $a \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\chi$ , and  $aa \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\chi$
- ALPs production:  $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow a$ ,  $\bar{f}f \rightarrow \gamma a$ ,  $f\gamma \rightarrow fa$ , and  $\bar{f}\gamma \rightarrow \bar{f}a$

Small coupling



Large coupling



# Conclusion

- We have systematically studied the cosmology and phenomenology of electroweak ALP portal DM
  - Substantial thermal parameter space was constrained and the remain will also be probed by future experiments
  - Meaningful constraint for freeze-in scenario for ALP below 100 MeV
- Future study beyond EFT model can extend the parameter space and search for new phenomena

Thank you

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge-ALP}} = -\frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}}{4} a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} - \frac{g_{aZZ}}{4} a Z_{\mu\nu} \tilde{Z}^{\mu\nu} \\ - \frac{g_{a\gamma Z}}{2} a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{Z}^{\mu\nu} - \frac{g_{aWW}}{2} a W_{\mu\nu}^+ \tilde{W}^{-\mu\nu}$$

$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} = C_{aB} \cos^2 \theta_W + C_{aW} \sin^2 \theta_W,$$

$$g_{aZZ} = C_{aB} \sin^2 \theta_W + C_{aW} \cos^2 \theta_W,$$

$$g_{a\gamma Z} = (C_{aW} - C_{aB}) \sin \theta_W \cos \theta_W,$$

$$g_{aWW} = C_{aW}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{dY_\chi}{dx} = & - \frac{s \langle \sigma_{\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow \gamma\gamma} v \rangle^{\text{sub}} (Y_\chi^{\text{eq}})^2}{xH(x)} \left[ \frac{Y_\chi^2}{(Y_\chi^{\text{eq}})^2} - 1 \right] \\
 & - \frac{s \langle \sigma_{\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow aa} v \rangle (Y_\chi^{\text{eq}})^2}{xH(x)} \left[ \frac{Y_\chi^2}{(Y_\chi^{\text{eq}})^2} - 1 \right] \\
 & - \frac{\langle \Gamma_a \rangle Y_a^{\text{eq}}}{xH(x)} \text{BF}(a \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\chi) \left[ \frac{Y_\chi^2}{(Y_\chi^{\text{eq}})^2} - 1 \right]. \tag{5}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\langle \sigma_{\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow \gamma\gamma} v \rangle^{\text{sub}} = \langle \sigma_{\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow \gamma\gamma} v \rangle - \frac{Y_a^{\text{eq}}}{s(Y_\chi^{\text{eq}})^2} \langle \Gamma_a \rangle \text{BF}(a \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\chi) \text{BF}(a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) \tag{6}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{dY_a}{dx} = & - \frac{\langle \Gamma_a \rangle Y_a^{\text{eq}}}{xH(x)} \text{BF}(a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) \left( \frac{Y_a}{Y_a^{\text{eq}}} - 1 \right) \\
 & - \frac{\langle \Gamma_a \rangle Y_a^{\text{eq}}}{xH(x)} \text{BF}(a \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\chi) \left[ \frac{Y_a}{Y_a^{\text{eq}}} - \frac{Y_\chi^2}{(Y_\chi^{\text{eq}})^2} \right] \\
 & + \frac{2s \langle \sigma_{\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow aa} v \rangle (Y_\chi^{\text{eq}})^2}{xH(x)} \left[ \frac{Y_\chi^2}{(Y_\chi^{\text{eq}})^2} - \frac{Y_a^2}{(Y_a^{\text{eq}})^2} \right] \\
 & - \frac{s \langle \sigma_{\text{SM } a \rightarrow \text{SM SM}} v \rangle Y_{\text{SM}}^{\text{eq}} Y_a^{\text{eq}}}{xH(x)} \left( \frac{Y_a}{Y_a^{\text{eq}}} - 1 \right), \tag{7}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{dY_\chi}{dx} = & - \frac{s \langle \sigma_{\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\nu} \rangle (Y_\chi^{\text{eq}})^2}{xH(x)} \left[ \frac{Y_\chi^2}{(Y_\chi^{\text{eq}})^2} - 1 \right] \\
 & - \frac{s \langle \sigma_{\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow aa\nu} \rangle (Y_\chi^{\text{eq}})^2}{xH(x)} \left[ \frac{Y_\chi^2}{(Y_\chi^{\text{eq}})^2} - \frac{Y_a^2}{(Y_a^{\text{eq}})^2} \right] \\
 & - \frac{\langle \Gamma_a \rangle Y_a^{\text{eq}}}{xH(x)} \text{BF}(a \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\chi) \left[ \frac{Y_\chi^2}{(Y_\chi^{\text{eq}})^2} - \frac{Y_a}{Y_a^{\text{eq}}} \right]
 \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$