

Cosmological Relaxion Windows and Observational constraints

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Outline

- Relaxion mechanism
 - : Transmutation of the weak scale hierarchy
 - i) Large separation of axion scales
 - ii) Large number of e-folding
- Cosmological Relaxion Windows
- Observational constraints
- Conclusions

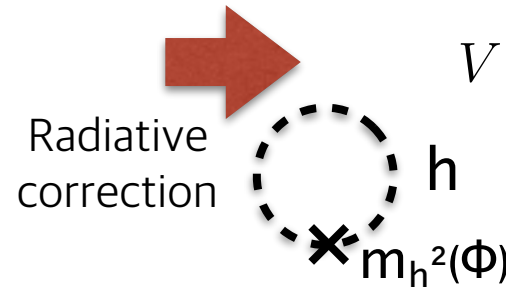
Relaxion mechanism

Graham, Kaplan, Rajendran, '15

M : Natural Higgs mass scale

$$m_h^2(\phi) = M^2 \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{f_L}\right) + M_0^2$$

$$V(\phi, h) = m_h^2(\phi)|h|^2 + \dots$$



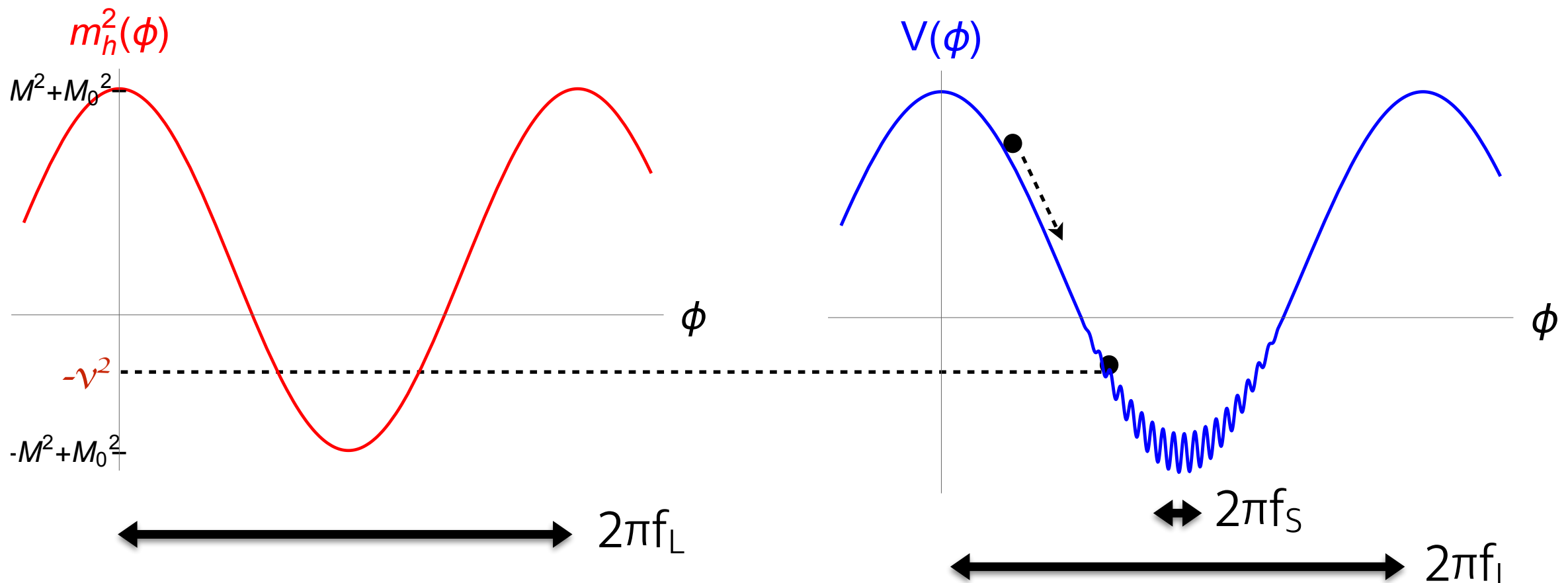
$$V(\phi) = \frac{c_0}{16\pi^2} M^2 m_h^2(\phi) + \Lambda_b^4(h) \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{f_S} + \delta_b\right) + V_0$$

Higgs dependent barrier

$$\Lambda_b^4(h) \sim h^n \neq 0 \text{ when } m_h^2(\phi) < 0$$



$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} = 0 \rightarrow \frac{f_L}{f_S} \sim \frac{c_0}{16\pi^2} \left(\frac{M}{\Lambda_b(h=v)} \right)^4 \frac{1}{\sin(\phi/f_S + \delta_b)}$$



Large separation of axion scales

$$\frac{f_L}{f_S} \sim \frac{c_0}{16\pi^2} \left(\frac{M}{\Lambda_b(h=v)} \right)^4 \frac{1}{\sin(\phi/f_S + \delta_b)} \gtrsim \boxed{\frac{c_0}{(4\pi)^3} \frac{M^4}{v^4}}$$

e.g. $f_L > 10^3 f_S$ for $M > 10 \text{ TeV}$

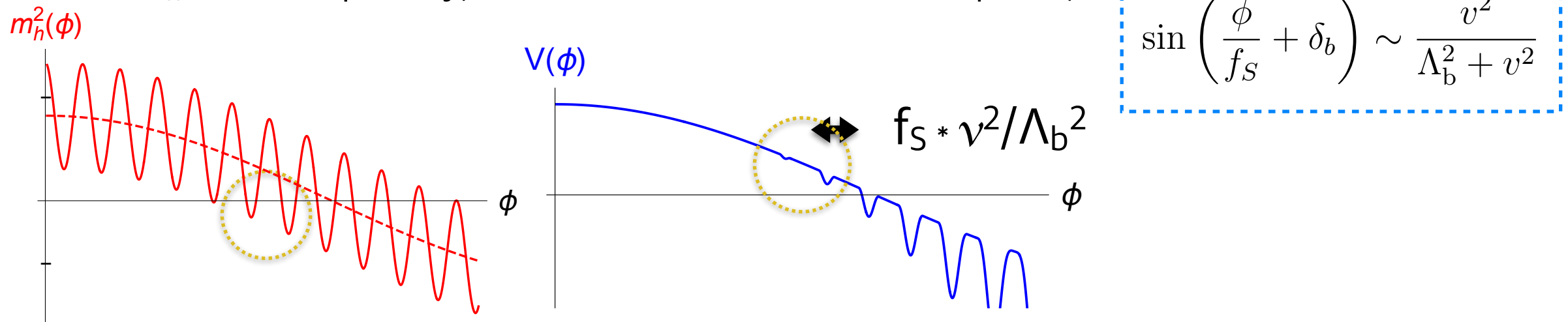
- Naturalness limit on the barrier height

$$V_b(\phi, h) = \Lambda_b^4(h) \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{f_S} + \delta_b\right) = (\mu_b^2 |h|^2 + \mu_0^4) \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{f_S} + \delta_b\right)$$

For the barrier to depend
on the Higgs VEV,

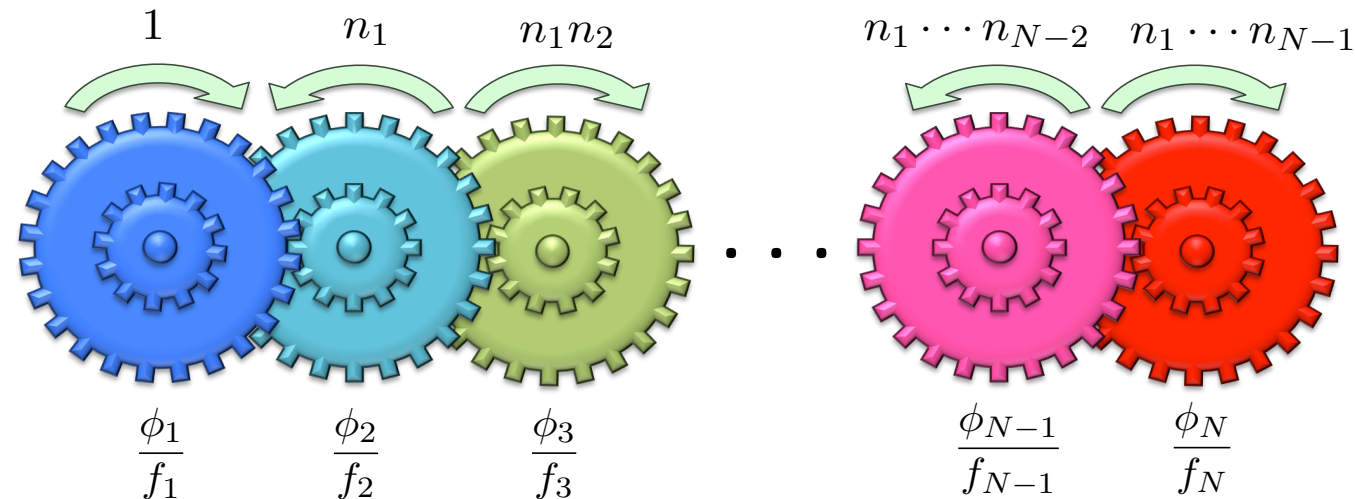
$$\mu_b^2 v^2 > \mu_0^4 \gtrsim \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \mu_b^4 \rightarrow \boxed{\Lambda_b^4(h=v) < \mathcal{O}(16\pi^2 v^4)}$$

- Barrier shrinking effect when $\Lambda_b > v$: the barrier potential takes part in scanning the Higgs mass m_h^2 . Consequently, at the relaxion stabilisation point,



Clockwork for the axion scale hierarchy

K. Choi, H.J. Kim, S.H. Yun '14; K. Choi, SHI '15; Kaplan, Rattazzi '15



$$f_1 \sim f_2 \sim \dots \sim f_N \sim f$$

$$V_{\text{clock}} = \Lambda_1^4 \cos \left(n_1 \frac{\phi_1}{f_1} + \frac{\phi_2}{f_2} \right) + \Lambda_2^4 \cos \left(n_2 \frac{\phi_2}{f_2} + \frac{\phi_3}{f_3} \right) + \dots + \Lambda_{N-1}^4 \cos \left(n_{N-1} \frac{\phi_{N-1}}{f_{N-1}} + \frac{\phi_N}{f_N} \right)$$

N axions with N-1 potentials
: 1 flat direction



Along the flat direction

$$\left(\frac{\Delta \phi_1}{f_1}, \frac{\Delta \phi_2}{f_2}, \frac{\Delta \phi_3}{f_3}, \dots, \frac{\Delta \phi_N}{f_N} \right) = (1, -n_1, n_1 n_2, \dots, (-1)^{N-1} n_1 \dots n_{N-1})$$

$$\phi_{\text{flat}} \sim \frac{1}{n_1 \dots n_{N-1}} \phi_1 - \frac{1}{n_2 \dots n_{N-1}} \phi_2 + \dots + (-1)^{N-2} \frac{1}{n_{N-1}} \phi_{N-1} + (-1)^{N-1} \phi_N$$



Imposing small perturbing potentials

$$V_{\text{flat}} = \epsilon_1 \Lambda_1^4 \cos \left(\frac{\phi_1}{f_1} \right) + \epsilon_N \Lambda_N^4 \cos \left(\frac{\phi_N}{f_N} \right)$$

$$= \epsilon_1 \Lambda_1^4 \cos \left(\frac{\phi_{\text{flat}}}{f_L} \right) + \epsilon_N \Lambda_N^4 \cos \left(\frac{\phi_{\text{flat}}}{f_S} \right) + \text{heavy modes}$$

$$f_L \sim n_1 \dots n_{N-1} f \sim e^{N \log n} f$$

$$f_S \sim f$$

Large number of e-folding

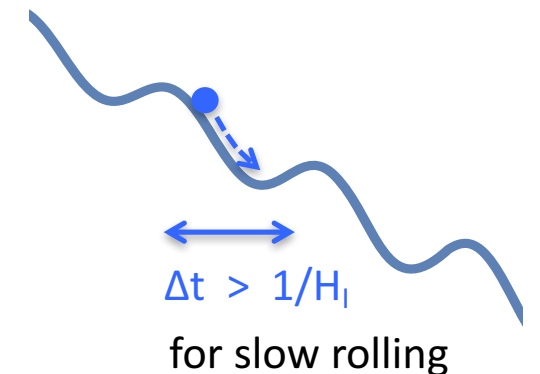
$$\mathcal{N} \sim \frac{f_L}{\dot{\phi}/H_I} \sim \left(\frac{c_0}{16\pi^2}\right)^{-1} \frac{f_L^2 H_I^2}{M^4} \sim \frac{c_0}{16\pi^2} \frac{f^2 M^4}{\Lambda_b^8 \sin^2(\phi_0/f)} H_I^2$$

* Lower bound on H_I

i) slow roll

barrier shrinking for $\Lambda_b > v$

$$\Delta t \sim \frac{\text{barrier width}}{\dot{\phi}} \sim \frac{f \times v^2/(\Lambda_b^2 + v^2)}{\Lambda_b^2 \times v^2/(\Lambda_b^2 + v^2)} > \frac{1}{H_I} \rightarrow H_I > \frac{\Lambda_b^2}{f} \sim m_\phi$$



ii) $\rho_{\text{inflaton}} > \rho_\phi$

$$H_I^2 > \frac{\rho_\phi}{3M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \sim \frac{c_0}{16\pi^2} \frac{M^4}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}$$



$$\mathcal{N} \gtrsim \max \left[\frac{1}{16\pi^2} \frac{M^4}{\Lambda_b^4}, \frac{1}{(16\pi^2)^2} \frac{f^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \frac{M^8}{\Lambda_b^8} \right] \left(1 + \frac{\Lambda_b^2}{v^2} \right)^2 > \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \frac{M^4}{v^4} \sim \left(\frac{M}{\text{TeV}} \right)^4$$

Cosmological requirements

- **Upper bound on H_I** : classical rolling > de Sitter quantum fluctuation

$$(\Delta\phi)_{\Delta\mathcal{N}=1} \simeq \frac{\dot{\phi}}{H_I} \sim \frac{V'(\phi)}{H_I^2} > H_I$$

$$\Lambda_b(h=v) < \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{4\pi}v)$$

$$H_I < (V'(\phi))^{1/3} \sim \left(\frac{c_0}{16\pi^2} \frac{M^4}{f_L} \right)^{1/3} \sim \left(\frac{\Lambda_b}{f} \frac{v^2}{\Lambda_b^2 + v^2} \right)^{1/3} \Lambda_b$$



$$H_I \lesssim \mathcal{O}(v)$$

: Low scale inflation

- Density perturbation

$$H_* < \mathcal{O}(v)$$

$$\frac{H_*^2}{8\pi^2 M_{\text{pl}}^2 \epsilon_*} \simeq 2.2 \times 10^{-9}$$



$$\epsilon \leq \epsilon_* \lesssim 10^{-26}$$

: Small Field Inflation (SFI)

* evaluated at the time of horizon exit
of the CMB scale $k = 2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$

- Number of e-folding

$$\mathcal{N} \gtrsim \max \left[\frac{1}{16\pi^2} \frac{M^4}{\Lambda_b^4}, \frac{1}{(16\pi^2)^2} \frac{f^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \frac{M^8}{\Lambda_b^8} \right] \left(1 + \frac{\Lambda_b^2}{v^2} \right)^2$$

Barrier from QCD



$$\Lambda_b^4 \simeq f_\pi^2 m_\pi^2 \sim (0.1 \text{ GeV})^4, \quad f \gtrsim 4 \times 10^8 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{N}_{\text{QCD}} &\sim \frac{1}{\theta_{\text{QCD}}} \frac{c_0}{16\pi^2} \frac{f^2 M^4 H_I^2}{\Lambda_b^8} \gtrsim \frac{1}{\theta_{\text{QCD}}} \times \max \left[\frac{1}{16\pi^2} \frac{M^4}{f_\pi^2 m_\pi^2}, \frac{1}{(16\pi^2)^2} \frac{f^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \frac{M^8}{f_\pi^4 m_\pi^4} \right] \\ &\gtrsim \max \left[10^{24} \left(\frac{M}{\text{TeV}} \right)^4, 10^{19} \left(\frac{f}{10^9 \text{ GeV}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{M}{\text{TeV}} \right)^8 \right] \quad |\theta_{\text{QCD}}| \lesssim 10^{-10} \end{aligned}$$

SFI with such a large e-folding would imply a fine-tuning on the inflation sector.

👤 For a natural scenario, we need a new physics for the relaxion barrier.

👤 A plausible parameter space in terms of \mathcal{N} can be examined.

Cosmological relaxion windows

$$\mathcal{N}_{\text{NP}} \sim \frac{c_0}{16\pi^2} \frac{f^2 M^4}{\Lambda_b^8 \sin^2(\phi_0/f)} H_I^2 \gtrsim \max \left[\frac{1}{16\pi^2} \frac{M^4}{\Lambda_b^4}, \frac{1}{(16\pi^2)^2} \frac{f^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \frac{M^8}{\Lambda_b^8} \right] \left(1 + \frac{\Lambda_b^2}{v^2} \right)^2$$

$$\text{where } \Lambda_b < \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{4\pi}v), \quad f > M$$

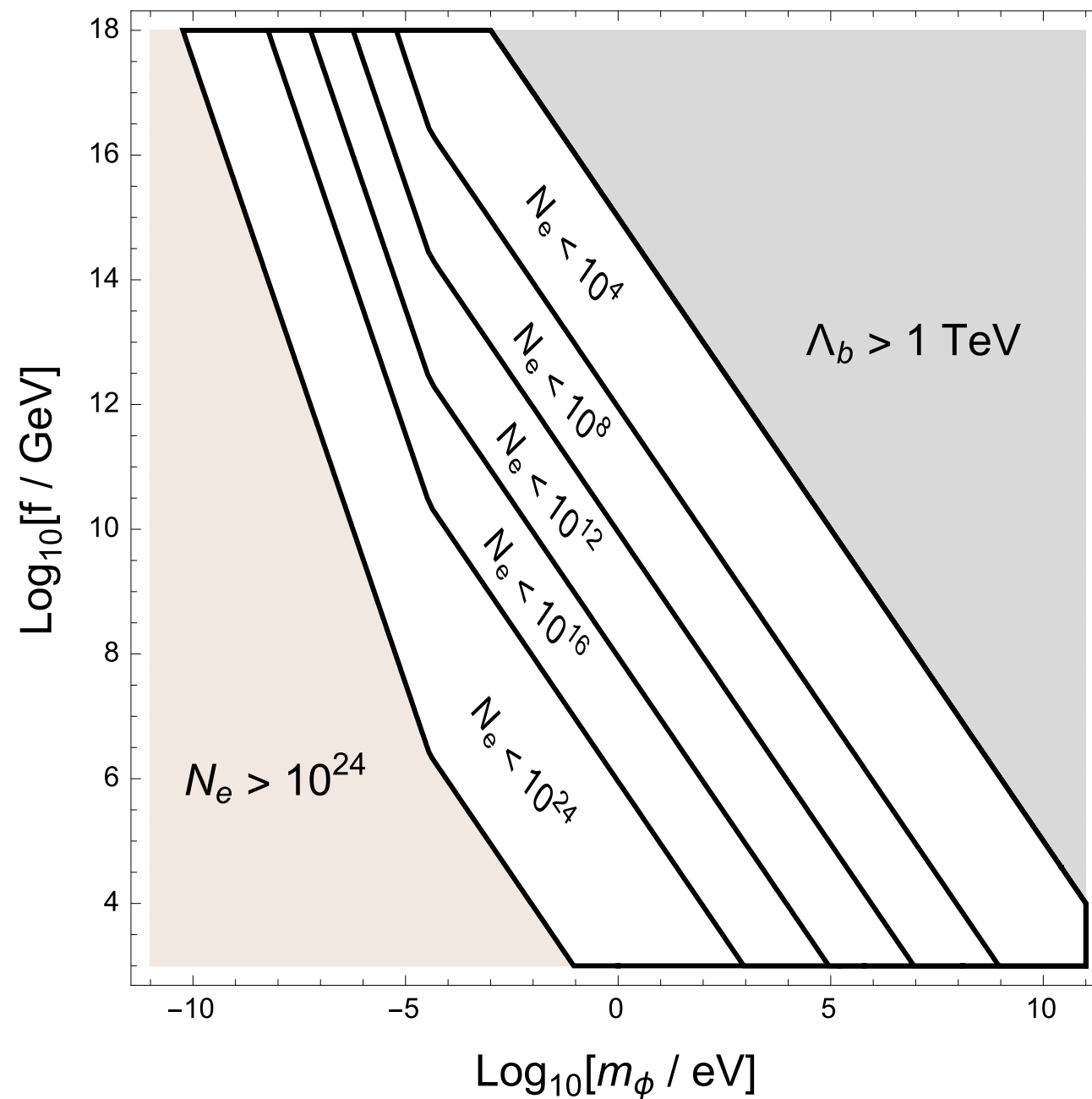
Requiring $\mathcal{N}_{\text{NP}} < \mathcal{N}_e$ (a certain acceptable number of e-folding) & from the upper bound on $H_I < \mathcal{O}(v)$,

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} M < \min \left[9 \text{ TeV} \left(\frac{\mathcal{N}_e}{10^4} \right)^{1/4}, 10^{11} \text{ GeV} \left(\frac{\text{TeV}}{f} \right)^{1/6} \right] \\ 30 \text{ GeV} \left(\frac{M}{1 \text{ TeV}} \right) \left(\frac{10^4}{\mathcal{N}_e} \right)^{1/4} < \Lambda_b \lesssim \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{4\pi}v) \\ M < f < 3 \times 10^{22} \text{ GeV} \left(\frac{1 \text{ TeV}}{M} \right)^4 \left(\frac{\Lambda_b}{1 \text{ TeV}} \right)^4 \left(\frac{\mathcal{N}_e}{10^4} \right)^{1/2} \left(1 + \frac{\Lambda_b^2}{v^2} \right)^{-1} \end{array} \right.$$

$$m_\phi \sim \Lambda_b^2/f$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 \times 10^{-8} \text{ eV} \left(\frac{M}{\text{TeV}} \right)^4 \left(\frac{1 \text{ TeV}}{\Lambda_b} \right)^2 \left(\frac{10^4}{\mathcal{N}_e} \right)^{1/2} \left(1 + \frac{\Lambda_b^2}{v^2} \right) < m_\phi < \min \left[v, 1 \text{ TeV} \left(\frac{1 \text{ TeV}}{M} \right) \left(\frac{\Lambda_b}{1 \text{ TeV}} \right)^2 \right]$$

Cosmological relaxion windows




$$1 \text{ TeV} < f < M_{\text{Pl}}$$
$$10^{-10} \text{ eV} < m_\phi < v_{\text{EW}}$$

For a given m_ϕ , the required N_e is smaller as f is larger (due to a higher barrier).

Relaxion effective couplings to SM

i) $V_b(\phi, h) = (\mu_0^4 + \mu_b^2 |h|^2) \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{f}\right)$ where $\mu_0^4 < \mu_b^2 v^2$ and $\mu_b \lesssim \mathcal{O}(4\pi v)$

ii) $c_{\phi\gamma} \frac{\alpha}{4\pi f} \phi F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$ with $c_{\phi\gamma} = \mathcal{O}(1)$ CP violation : EDM

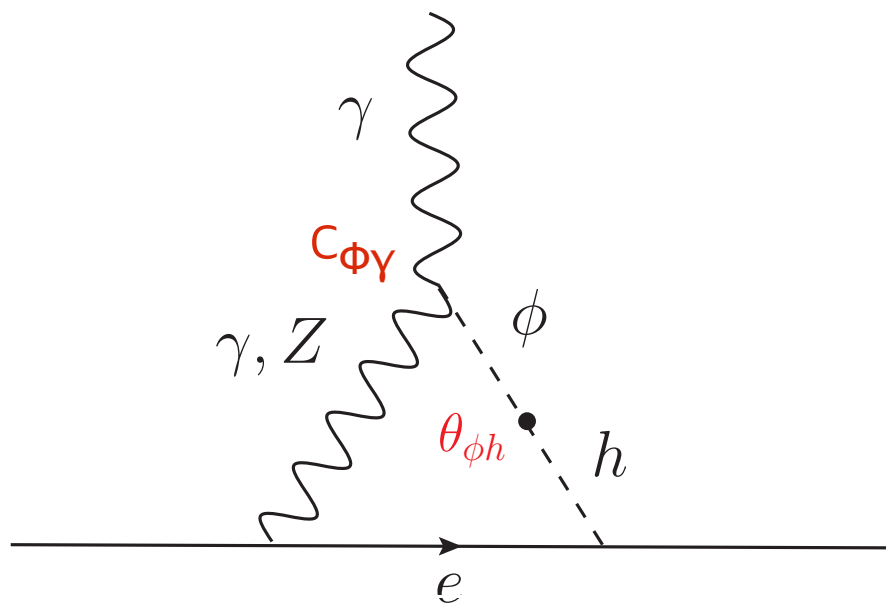
 $m_\phi \sim \frac{\mu_b v}{f}, \quad \theta_{\phi h} \sim \frac{\mu_b^2 v}{f(m_h^2 - m_\phi^2)} \sin\left(\frac{\phi_0}{f}\right) \sim \frac{m_\phi^2}{m_h^2 - m_\phi^2} \frac{f}{v} \left(1 + \frac{f m_\phi}{v^2}\right)^{-1}$

Relaxion-Higgs mixing

Flacke, Frugiuele, Fuchs, Gupta, Perez '16

- For a given m_ϕ , the mixing angle is sizeable if f is large : large f region will be constrained by the Higgs mixing.
- The relaxion-photon-photon coupling $c_{\phi\gamma}$ constrains a small f region.

EDM and sub-GeV relaxion couplings



$$d_f \simeq 4 \frac{e^3}{(4\pi)^4} \frac{m_f}{v} \frac{c_{\phi\gamma}}{f} \sin \theta_{\phi h} \cos \theta_{\phi h} \ln \left(\frac{m_h^2}{m_\phi^2} \right)$$



$$d_e \sim 7 \times 10^{-29} c_{\phi\gamma} \left(\frac{m_\phi}{10 \text{ GeV}} \right)^2 \ln \left(\frac{10 \text{ GeV}}{m_\phi} \right) \left(1 + \frac{f m_\phi}{v^2} \right)^{-1} e \cdot \text{cm}$$

$$d_e < 8.7 \times 10^{-29} e \cdot \text{cm} \quad : m_\phi > 10/\sqrt{c_{\phi\gamma}} \text{ GeV is excluded.}$$

ACME '13

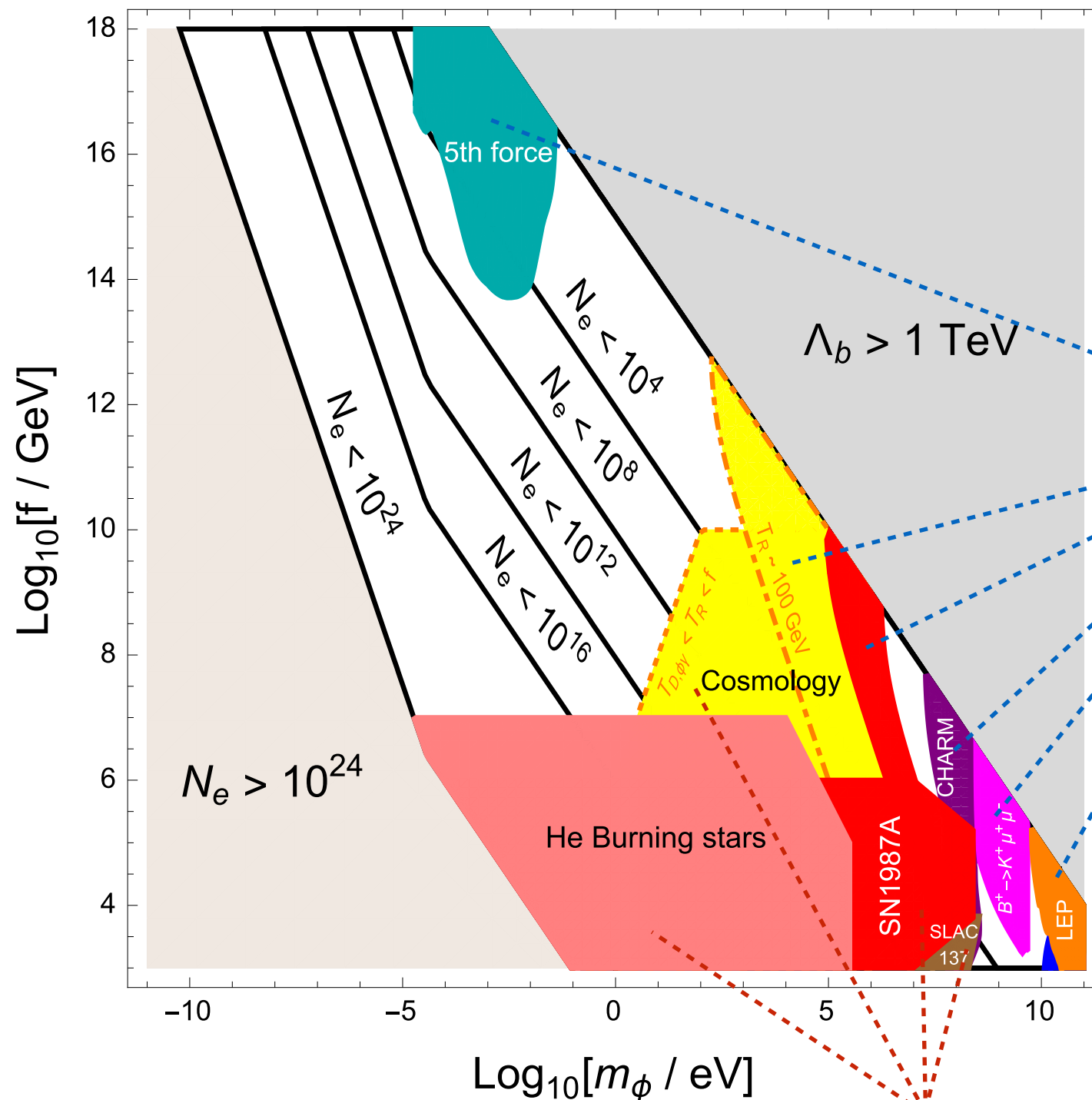
- The future EDM experiment like the proton storage ring experiment can probe the relaxion mass region below about 10 GeV.
- For $m_\phi < 1 \text{ GeV}$, the relaxion couplings to pions and nucleons through the relaxion-Higgs mixing should be taken into account.



$m_\phi < 1 \text{ GeV}$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = & 2s_\theta \kappa \frac{\phi}{v} \left(\frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \pi^0 \partial^\mu \pi^0 + \partial_\mu \pi^+ \partial^\mu \pi^- \right) - \frac{5s_\theta}{3} \frac{\phi}{v} m_\pi^2 \left(\frac{1}{2} \pi^0 \pi^0 + \pi^+ \pi^+ \right) \\ & - \frac{s_\theta}{6} \frac{g_2 m_N}{m_W} \phi \bar{N} N + s_\theta \frac{c_{h\gamma} \alpha}{4\pi v} \phi F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} + \frac{c_{\phi\gamma} \alpha}{4\pi f} \phi F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} + s_\theta \sum_{l=e,\mu} \frac{m_l}{v} \phi \bar{\psi}_l \psi_l \end{aligned}$$

Observational constraints on the relaxion windows



Cosmology bounds from BBN, CMB, EBL, DM, etc :
Depends on reheating temperature T_R
(Figure : $T_R \sim f$, 100 GeV)

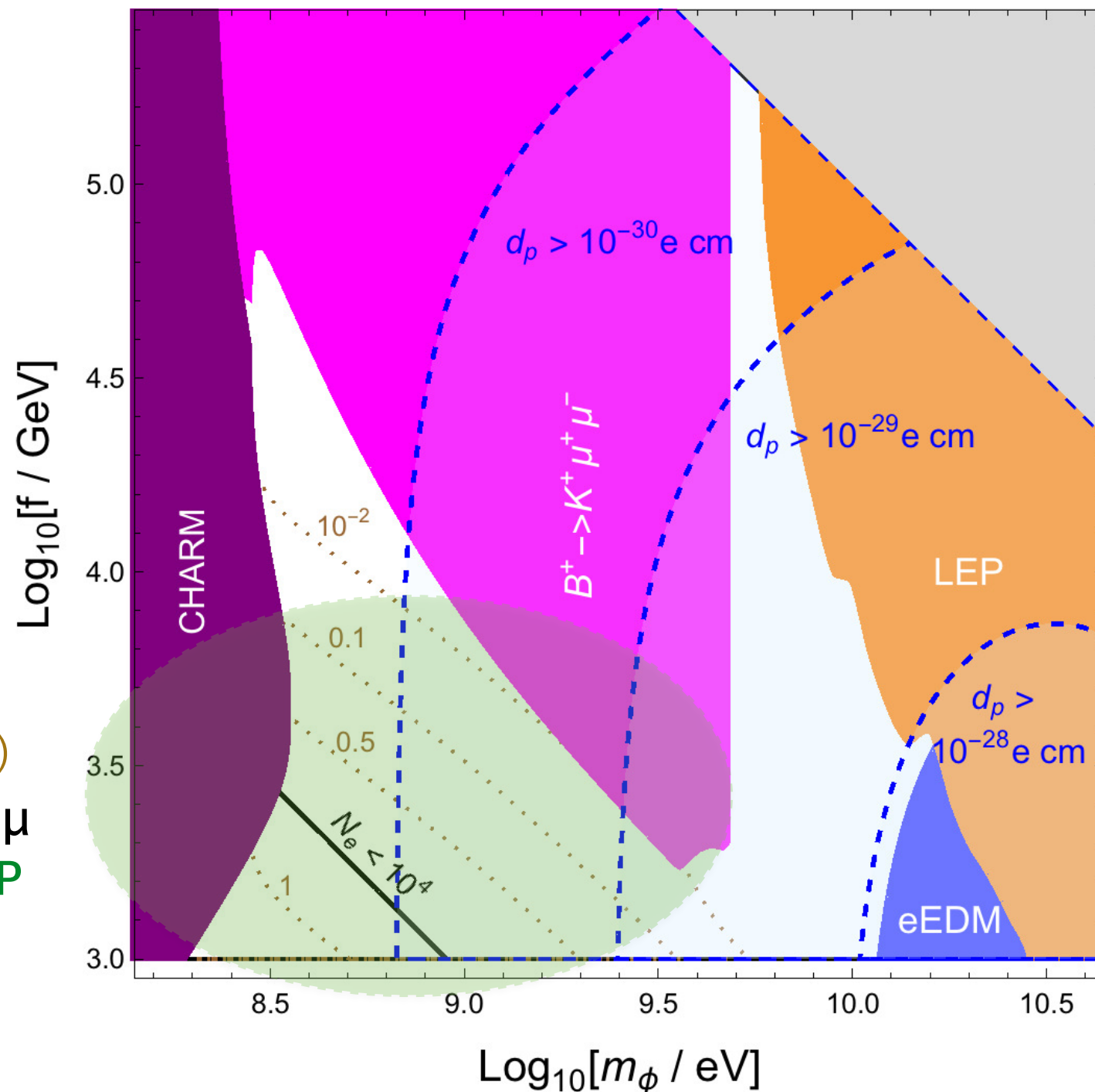
excluded by $\theta_{\phi h}$

Three distinctive windows

- i) $m_\phi \sim 0.2 - 10 \text{ GeV}$, $f \sim \text{few} - 200 \text{ TeV}$
- ii) $m_\phi \sim \text{few} - 50 \text{ MeV}$, $f \sim 10^6 - 10^9 \text{ GeV}$
- iii) $m_\phi < 100 \text{ eV}$, $f > 10^7 \text{ GeV}$

excluded by $c_{\phi\gamma} (=1)$

Enlarged picture for the first window



- BR($\Phi \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$)
- $\Phi \rightarrow \pi\pi, \mu\mu$
- CERN SHiP

- EDM with $\mathbf{C_{\Phi\gamma} = 1}$
- Proton EDM estimated by the QCD sum rule

$$d_p = 0.78 d_u(\mu_*) - 0.20 d_d(\mu_*)$$

where $\mu_* = 1 \text{ GeV}$
- NDA with s quark : an order of magnitude larger
- Storage ring experiment for proton EDM

Conclusions

- The relaxion mechanism can explain the weak scale in a technically natural way by transmuting the hierarchy to [a large separation between two axion scales](#).
- The separation between two axion scales can be addressed by [the clockwork mechanism](#) with multiple axions.
- The large separation also leads to the requirement of [a large number of e-folding](#) for the relaxion dynamics, assuming the Hubble friction is the main source of dissipation of relaxion kinetic energy.
- The [cosmological relaxion window](#) identifies the favored relaxion parameter space in terms of the required number of e-folding.
- After imposing various observational constraints, [three distinctive windows](#) remain viable, all of which include the [relatively small number of e-folding region below \$10^4\$](#) .
- The first window ($m_\phi \sim 0.2 - 10$ GeV, $f \sim \text{few} - 200$ TeV) can be probed by future [EDM](#) experiments and [CERN SHiP](#).