

Axion hot dark matter bound, reliably

ESRs Webinar - 11/01/2021

Gioacchino Piazza

IJCLab, Pôle Théorie, CNRS node



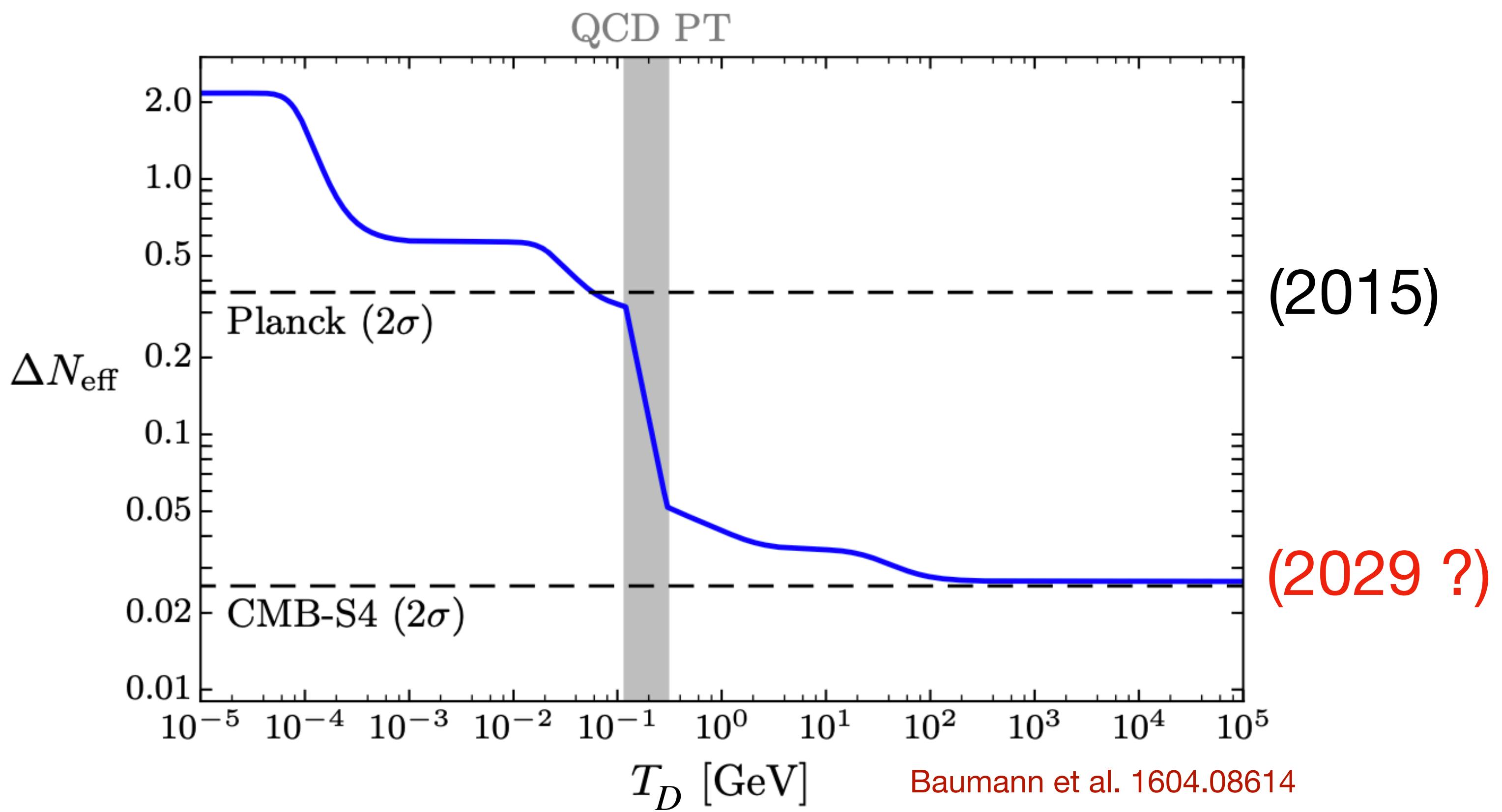
This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 860881-HIDDeN

A possible discovery channel for the axion!

Axion contributes to the **Number of extra relativistic species**

- Axions once in equilibrium with SM bath contribute to the **radiation density** of the Universe

- T_D depends on the strength of the axion interactions set by f_a
- Full range of allowed ΔN_{eff} will be covered by CMB-S4



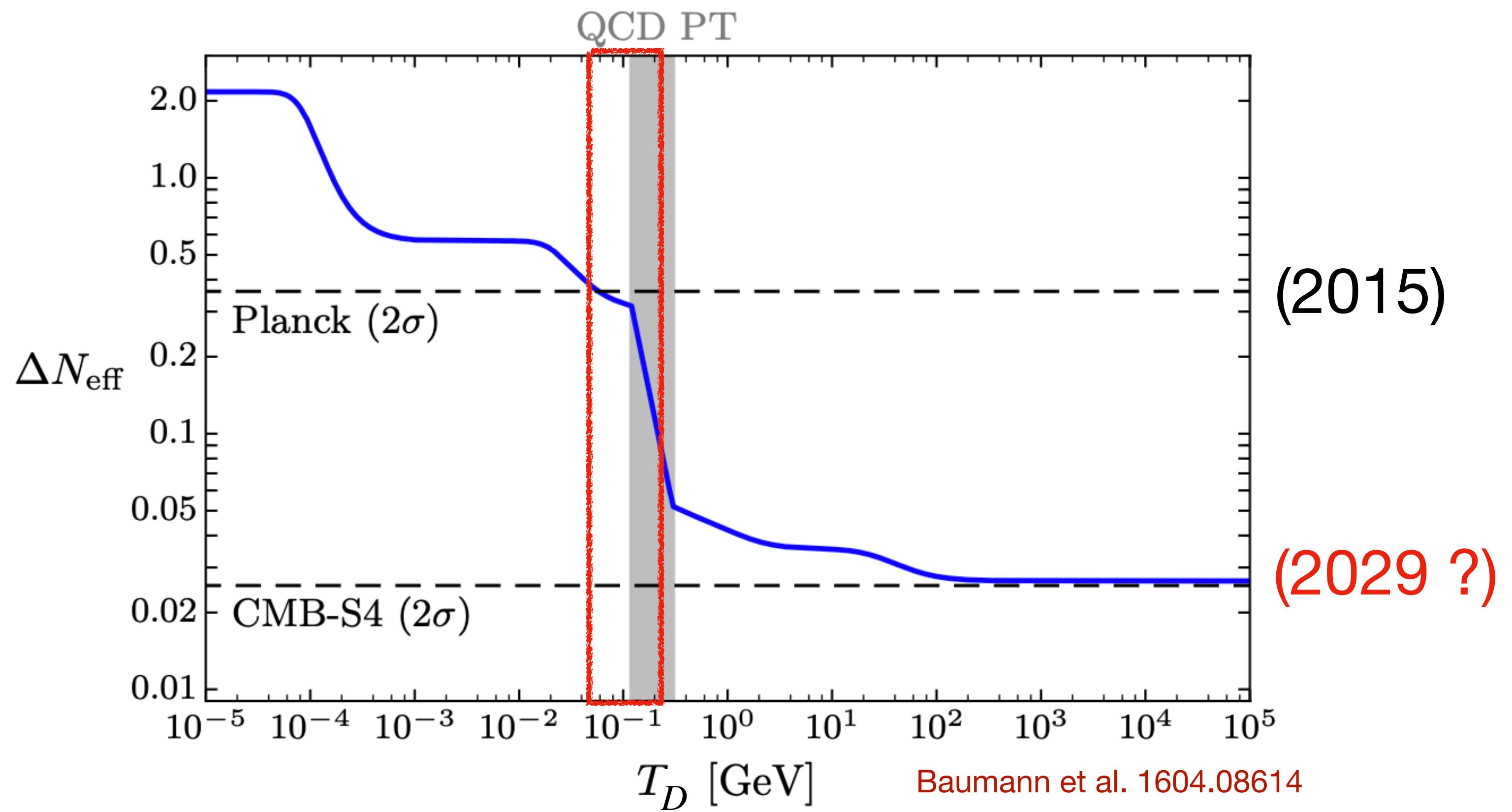
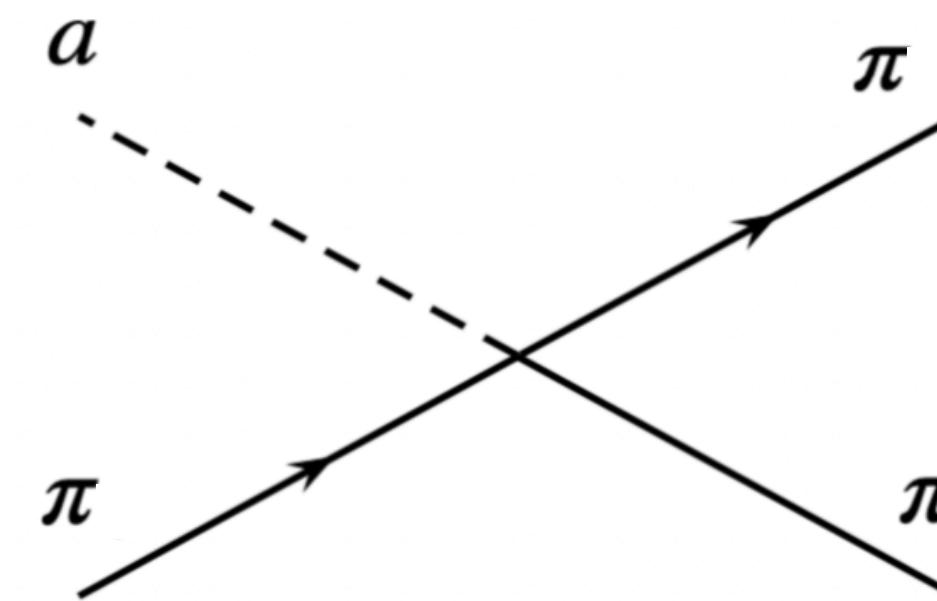
A possible discovery channel for the axion!

Axion contributes to the **Number of extra relativistic species**

- Axions once in equilibrium with SM bath contribute to the **radiation density** of the Universe

$$T_D \sim [50 \text{ MeV}, 200 \text{ MeV}]$$

- Below 200 MeV the main thermalization channel is



Axion hot dark matter bound, reliably

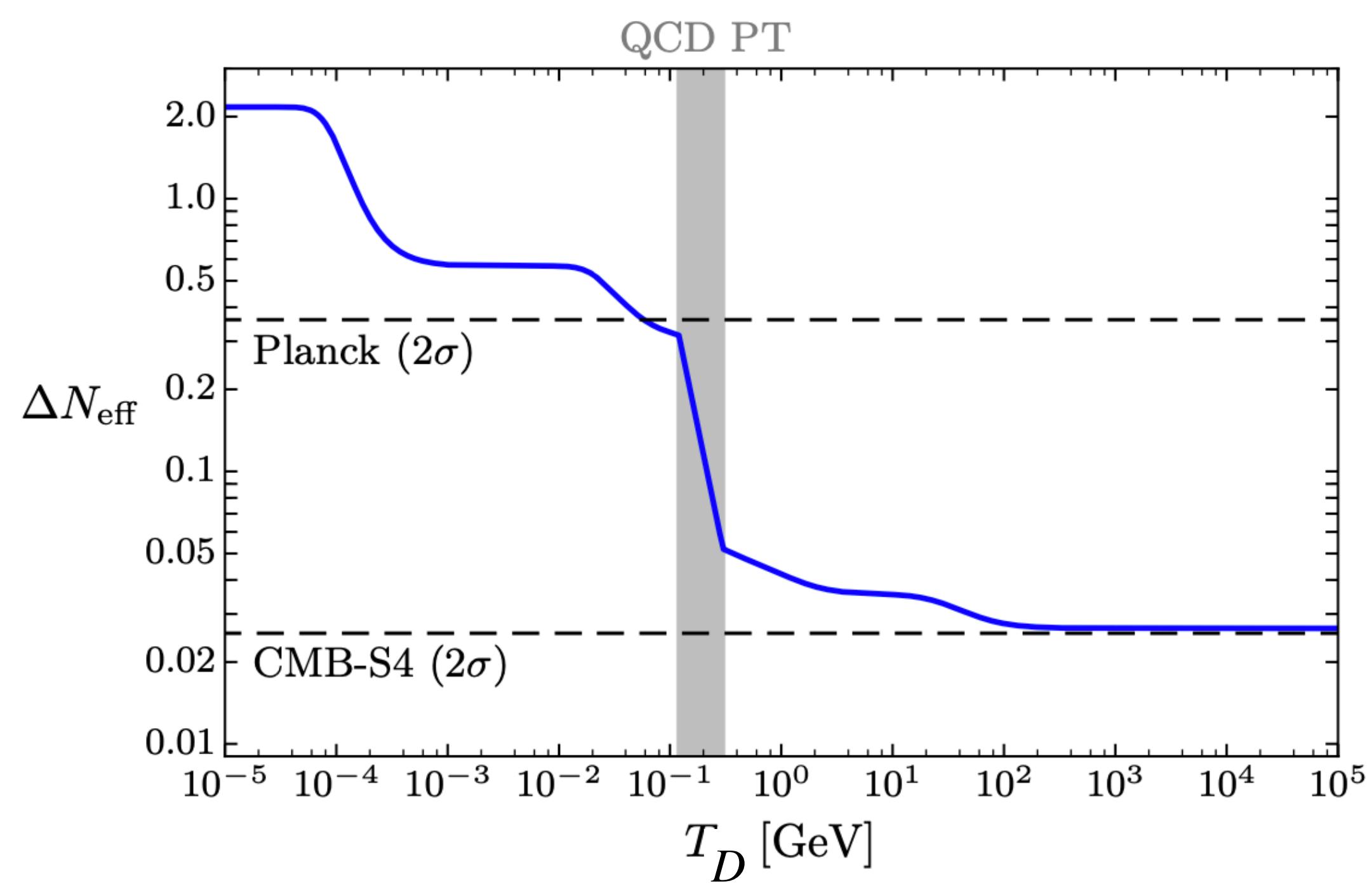
Luca Di Luzio,^{1,*} Guido Martinelli,^{2,†} and Gioacchino Piazza^{3,‡}

¹*DESY, Notkestraße 85, D-22607 Hamburg, Germany*

²*Physics Department and INFN Sezione di Roma La Sapienza,
Piazzale Aldo Moro 5, 00185 Roma, Italy*

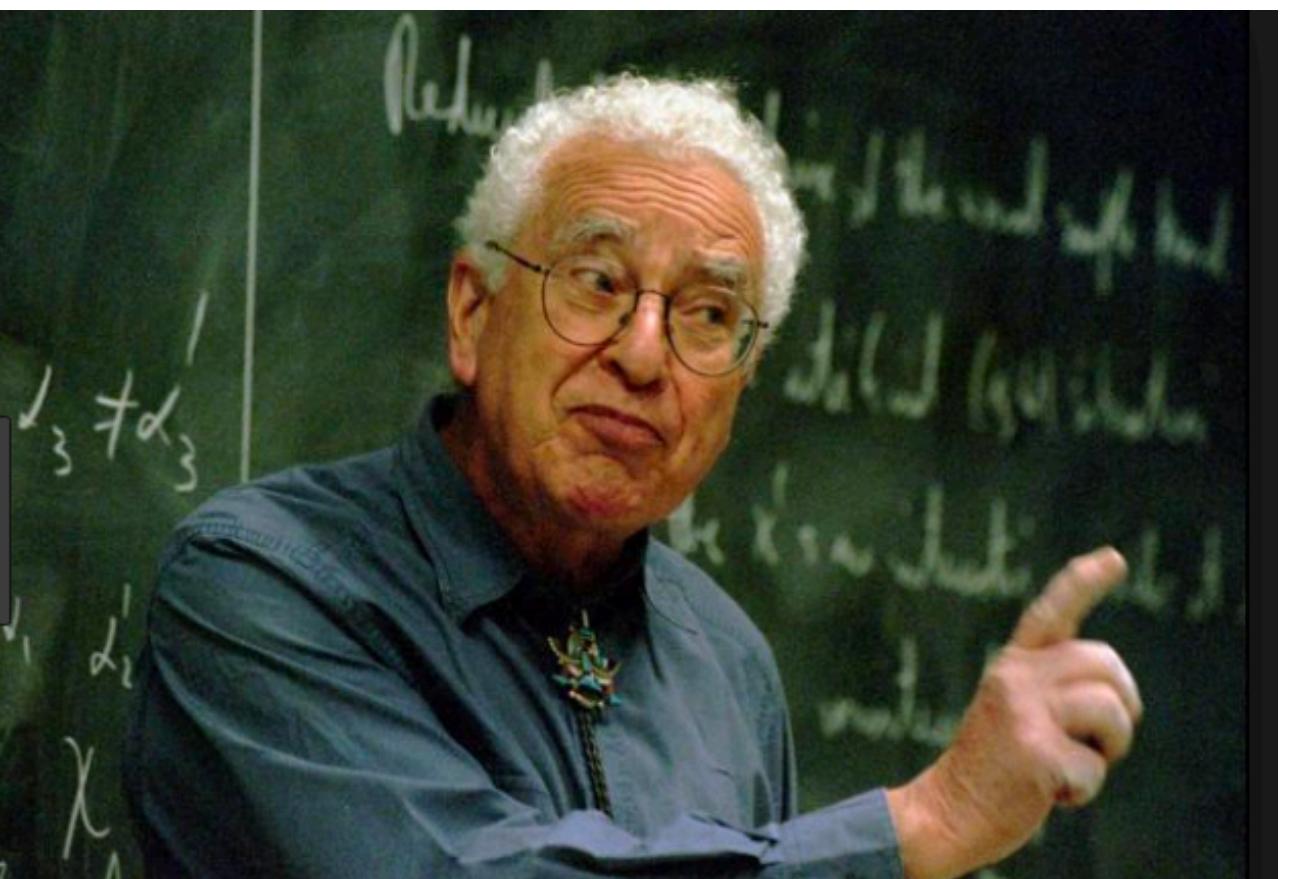
³*IJCLab, Pôle Théorie (Bât. 210), CNRS/IN2P3 et Université Paris-Saclay, 91405 Orsay, France*

Outline



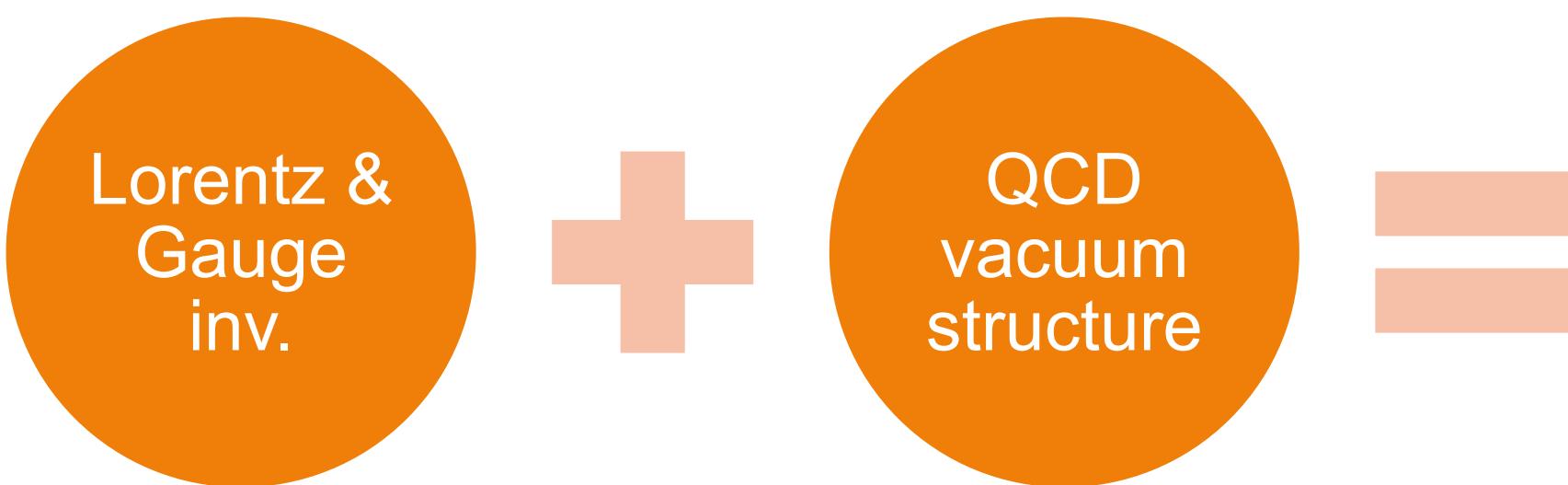
- 1. Strong CP problem & The Axion**
- 2. Axion-Pion Effective Lagrangian: Leading Order**
- 3. Axion Hot Dark Matter bound, LO**
- 4. Why HDM bound is not reliable:**
 - 1. Full axion-pion Lagrangian at NLO**
 - 2. $a\pi \leftrightarrow \pi\pi$ thermalization rate at NLO**
- 5. The need for a reliable bound**

Strong CP problem



“Any process which is not forbidden by a conservation law actually does take place with appreciable probability”

[M. Gell-Mann, 1956]



CP-V: Expectation $\bar{\theta} \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$, but $|\bar{\theta}| \lesssim 10^{-10}$ from **nEDM**

[C. Abel et al. 2001.11966]

WHY?

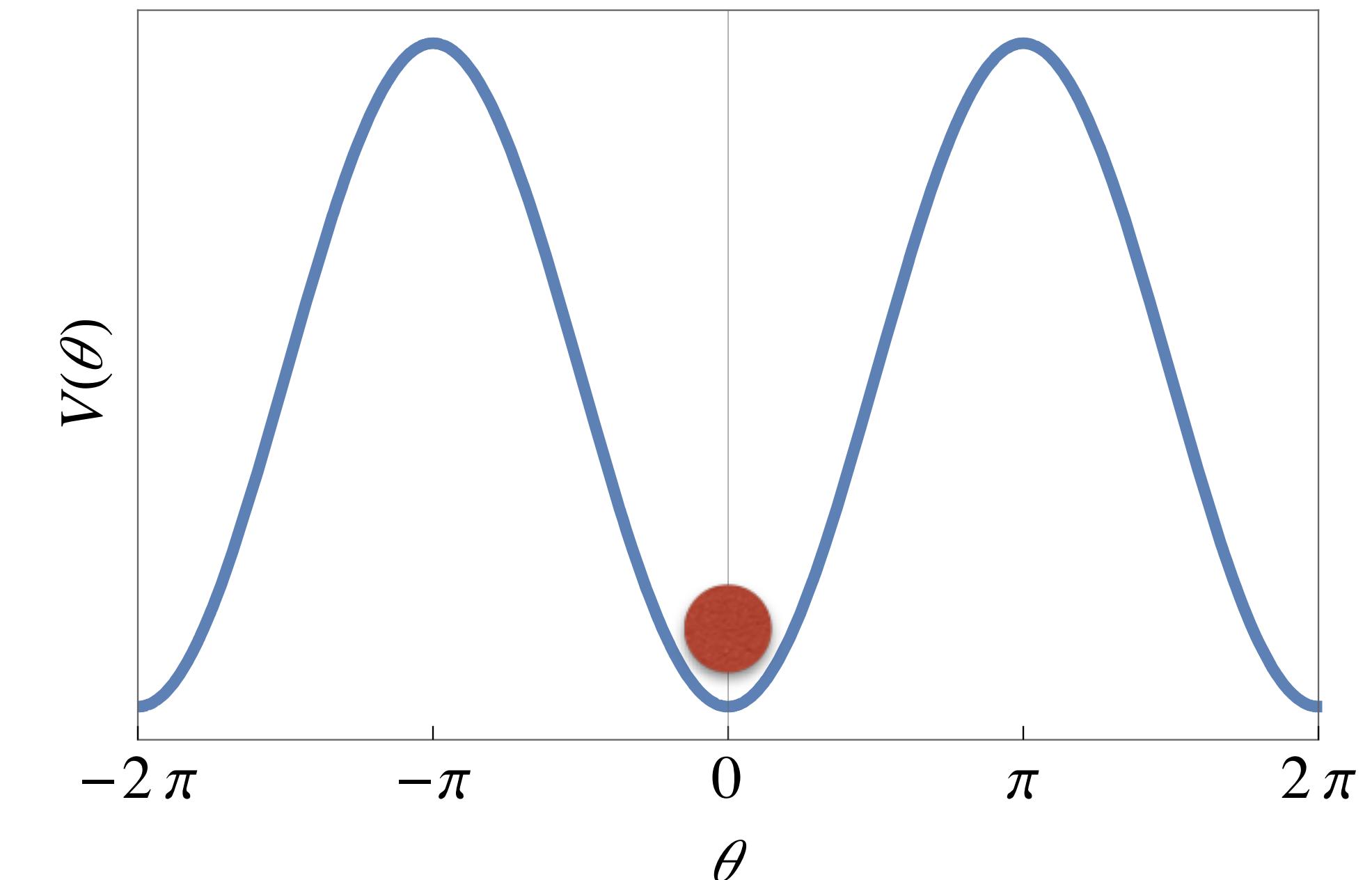
The Axion

- Pseudo-Goldstone Boson of a spontaneously broken global symmetry, with QCD anomaly.
- Solves the Strong CP problem: θ -term dynamically set to zero

$$\delta\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = \theta \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G\tilde{G}, \quad |\theta| \lesssim 10^{-10}$$

$$\theta \rightarrow \frac{a}{f_a} \quad \text{with} \quad \langle a \rangle = 0$$

$$m_a^2 = \frac{m_u m_d}{(m_u + m_d)^2} \frac{m_\pi^2 f_\pi^2}{f_a^2}$$



- Rich phenomenology (Dark Matter, Astrophysics, Cosmology)

Axion-Pion Effective Lagrangian: Leading Order

$$E < \Lambda_{QCD}$$

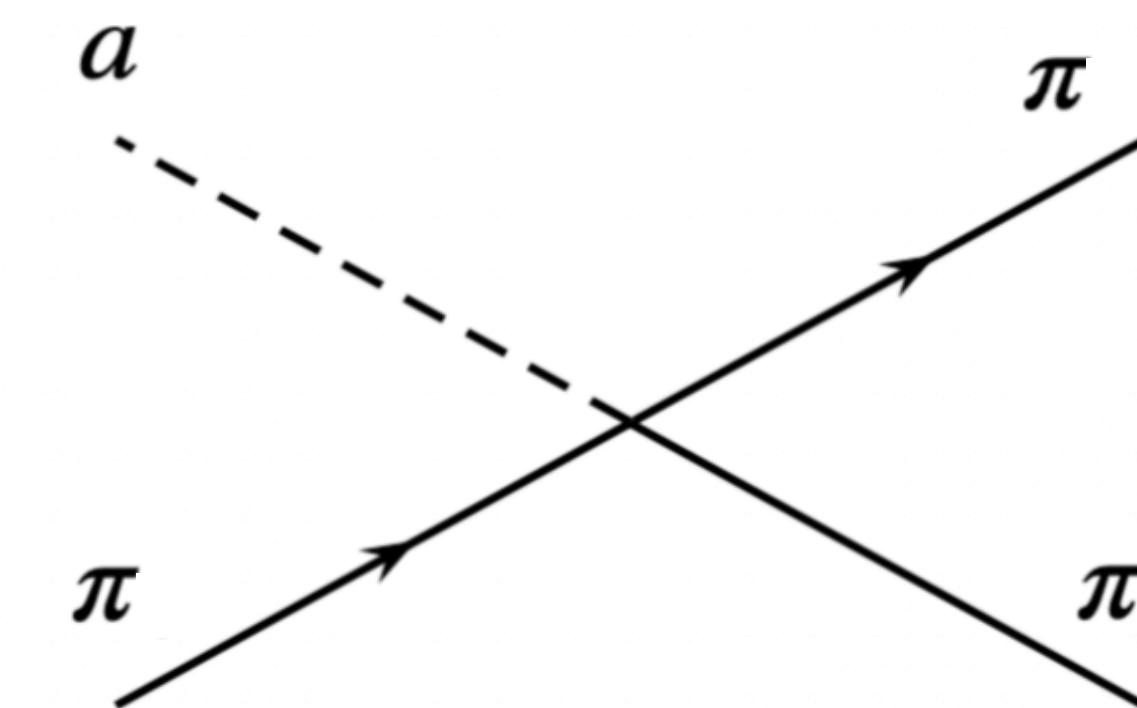
$$\mathcal{L}_a^\chi = \frac{f_\pi^2}{4} Tr \left[(D^\mu U)^\dagger D_\mu U + U \chi^\dagger + \chi U^\dagger \right] + \frac{\partial^\mu a}{f_a} \frac{1}{2} Tr [c_q \sigma^a] J_\mu^a$$

[H. Georgi, D. B. Kaplan, L. Randall, Phys. Lett. B 169 (1986)]

$$\begin{cases} U = e^{i\pi^a \sigma^a / f_\pi} \\ \chi = 2B_0 e^{i\frac{a}{2f_a} Q_a} M_q e^{i\frac{a}{2f_a} Q_a} \end{cases} \quad J_\mu^a = \frac{i}{4} f_\pi^2 Tr \left[\sigma^a \{U, (D^\mu U)^\dagger\} \right]$$

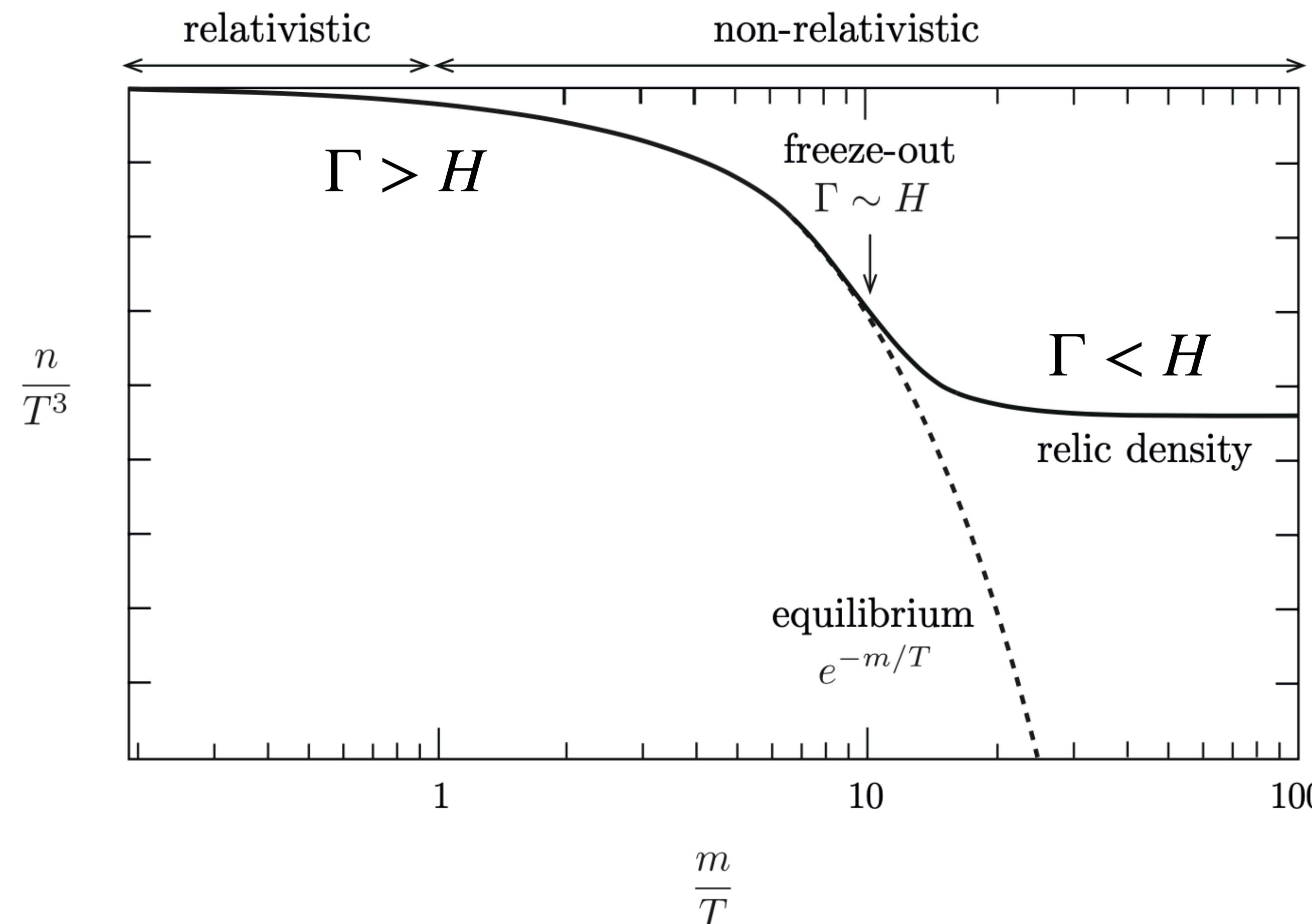
$$\mathcal{L}_{a\pi}^{(LO)} = \boxed{\frac{C_{a\pi}}{f_a f_\pi}} \partial_\mu a \left(2\partial_\mu \pi_0 \pi_+ \pi_- - \pi_0 \partial_\mu \pi_+ \pi_- - \pi_0 \pi_+ \partial_\mu \pi_- \right)$$

$$C_{a\pi} = \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{m_d - m_u}{m_u + m_d} + c_d^0 - c_u^0 \right)$$



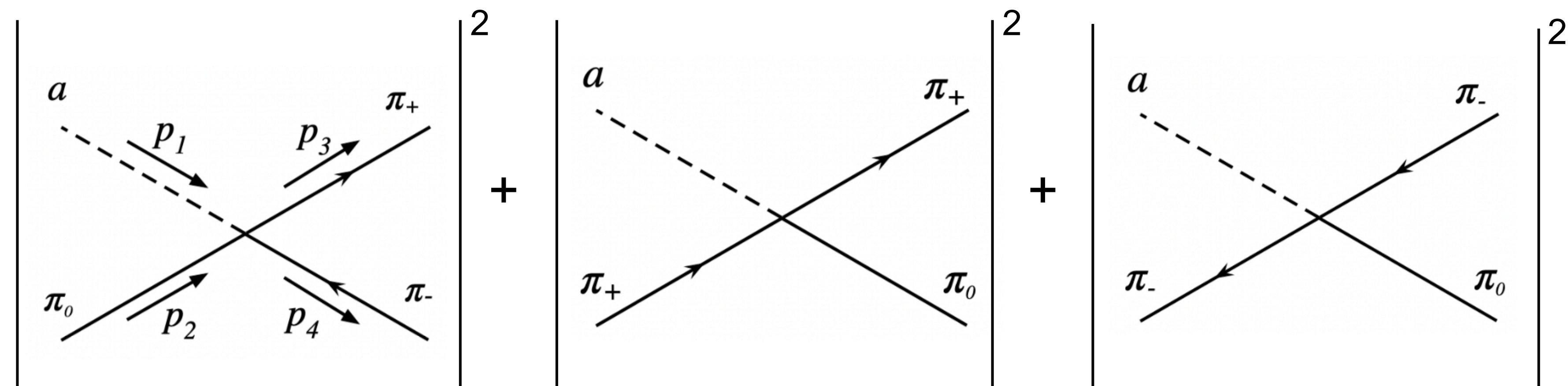
Axion thermal production in the Early Universe

- The evolution of the axions number density is controlled by the ratio Γ/H



Leading order scattering amplitude

$$\mathcal{L}_{a\pi}^{(\text{LO})} = \frac{C_{a\pi}}{f_a f_\pi} \partial_\mu a \left(2\partial_\mu \pi_0 \pi_+ \pi_- - \pi_0 \partial_\mu \pi_+ \pi_- - \pi_0 \pi_+ \partial_\mu \pi_- \right)$$



$$\sum |\mathcal{M}|_{\text{LO}}^2 = \left(\frac{C_{a\pi}}{f_a f_\pi} \right)^2 \frac{9}{4} [s^2 + t^2 + u^2 - 3m_\pi^4]$$

Thermal scattering rate

$$\Gamma = \frac{1}{n_a^{\text{eq}}} \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{p}_1}{(2\pi)^3 2E_1} \frac{d^3\mathbf{p}_2}{(2\pi)^3 2E_2} \frac{d^3\mathbf{p}_3}{(2\pi)^3 2E_3} \frac{d^3\mathbf{p}_4}{(2\pi)^3 2E_4} \boxed{\sum |\mathcal{M}|^2} \\ (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_1 + p_2 - p_3 - p_4) f_1 f_2 (1 \pm f_3) (1 \pm f_4)$$

$$\sum |\mathcal{M}|_{\text{LO}}^2 = \left(\frac{C_{a\pi}}{f_a f_\pi} \right)^2 \frac{9}{4} [s^2 + t^2 + u^2 - 3m_\pi^4]$$

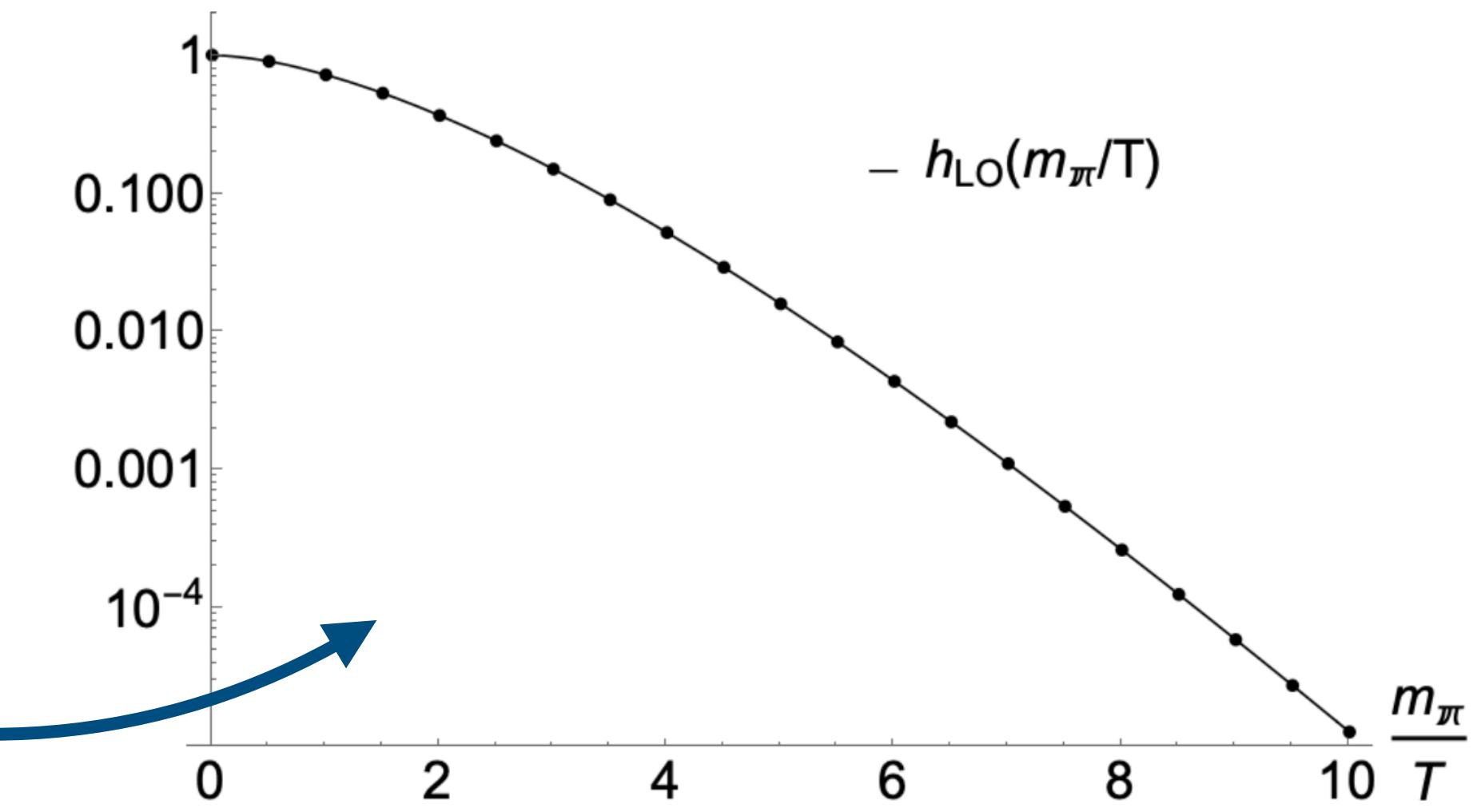
Numerically integrating:

$$\boxed{\Gamma(T) = 0.212 \left(\frac{C_{a\pi}}{f_a f_\pi} \right)^2 T^5 h_{\text{LO}}(m_\pi/T)}$$

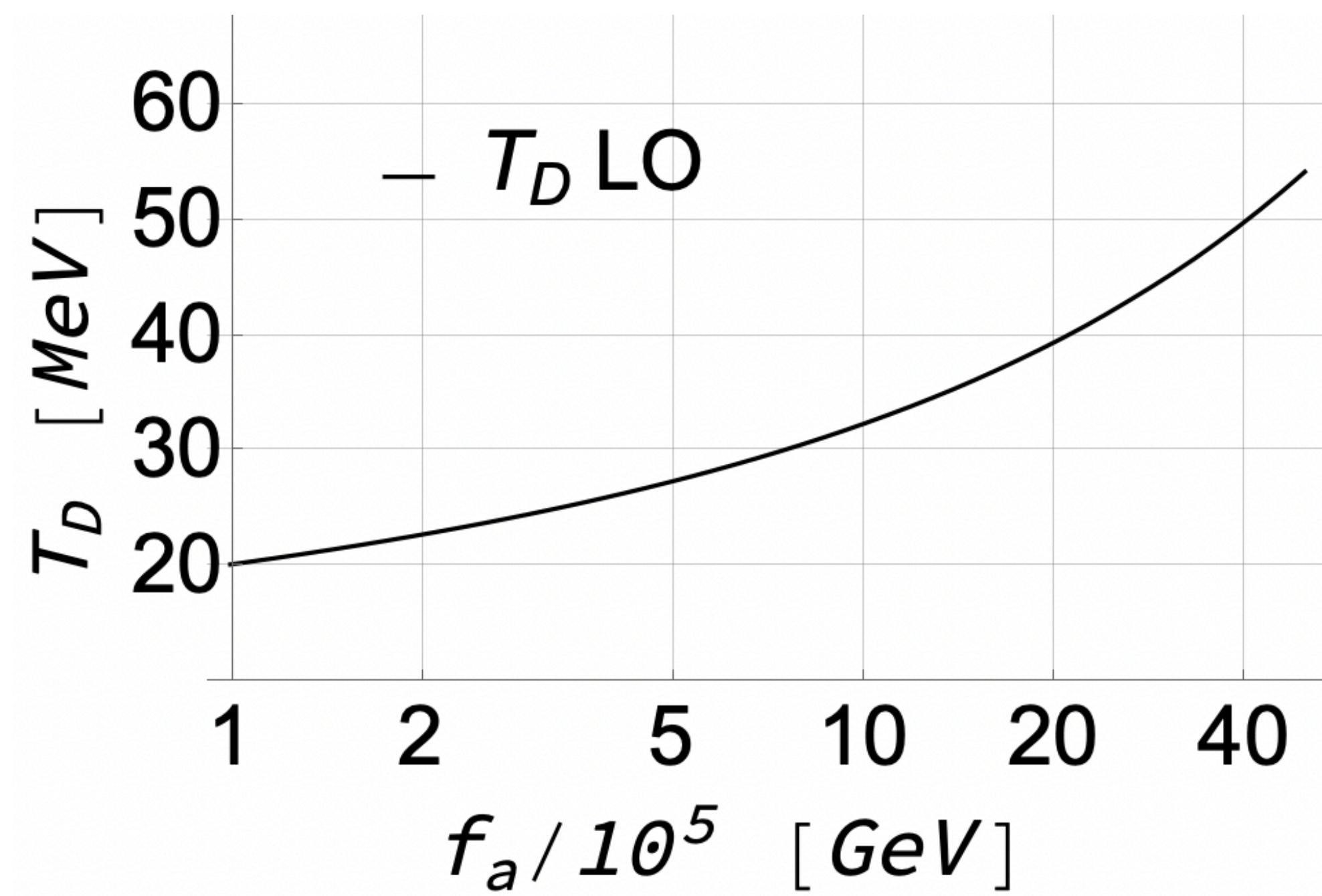
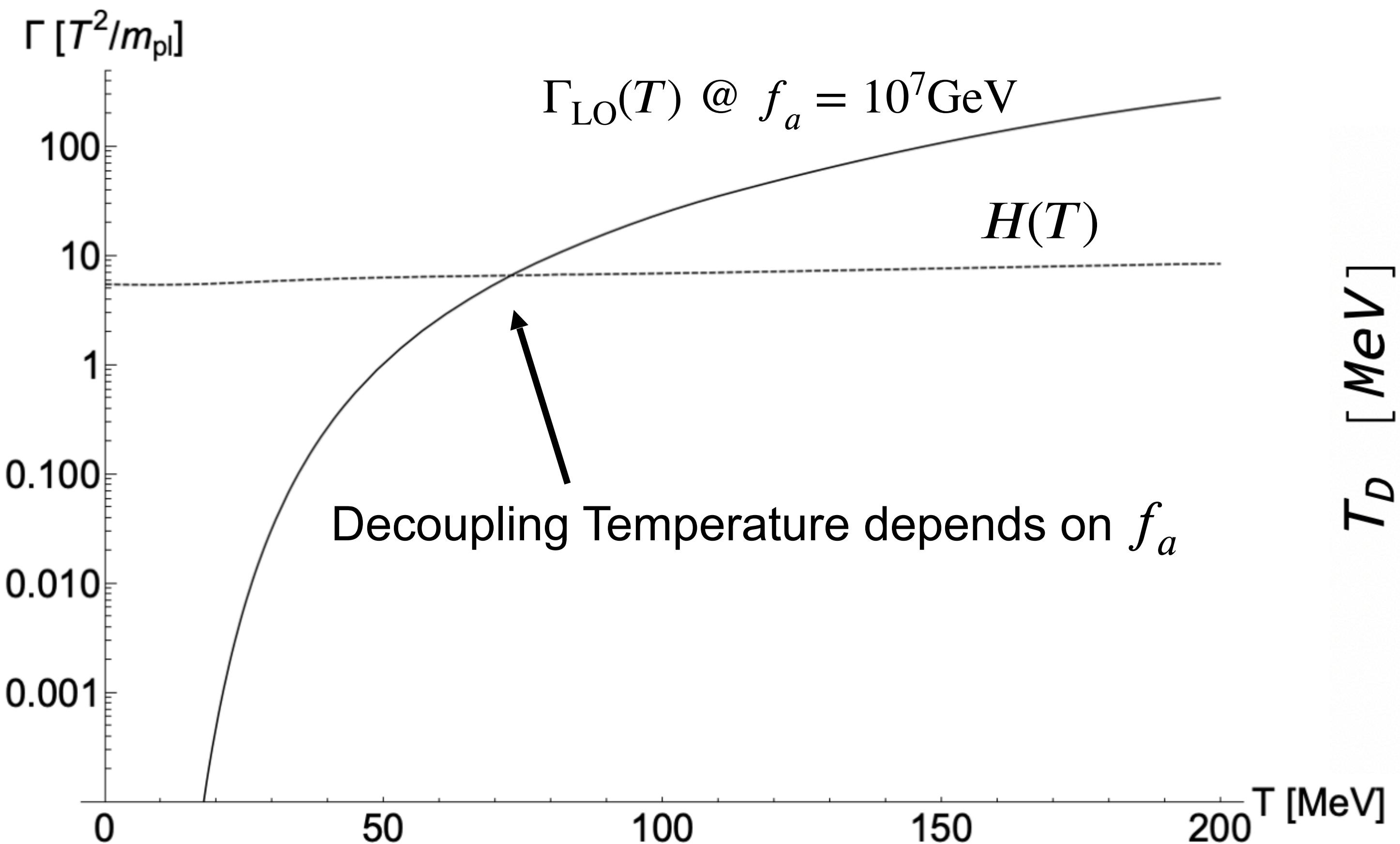
see also:

[Chang, Choi, hep-ph/9306216]

[Hannestad, Mirizzi, Raffelt, hep-ph/0504059]

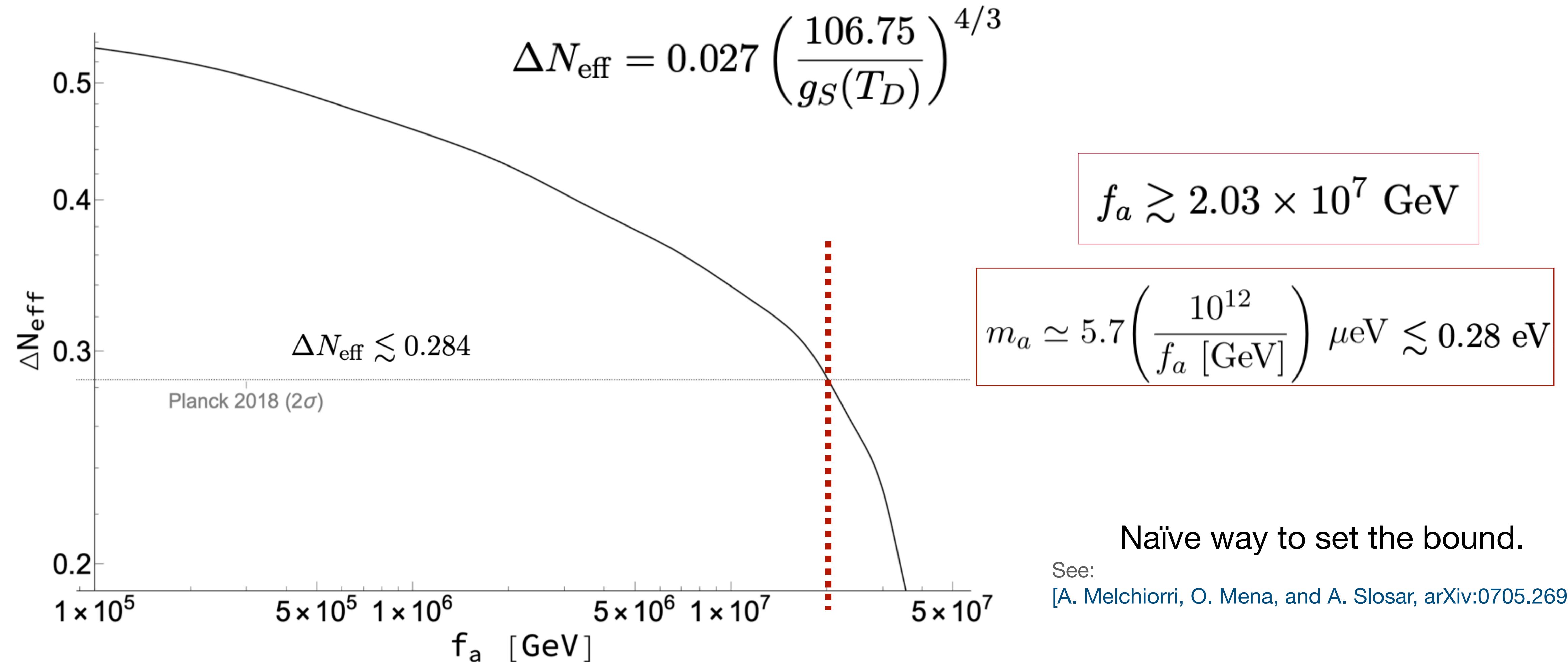


Γ vs H



Hot Dark Matter bound on Axion mass, LO

Axion contribution to the Number of relativistic species



But... is ChPT valid?

The mean energy of π, a at

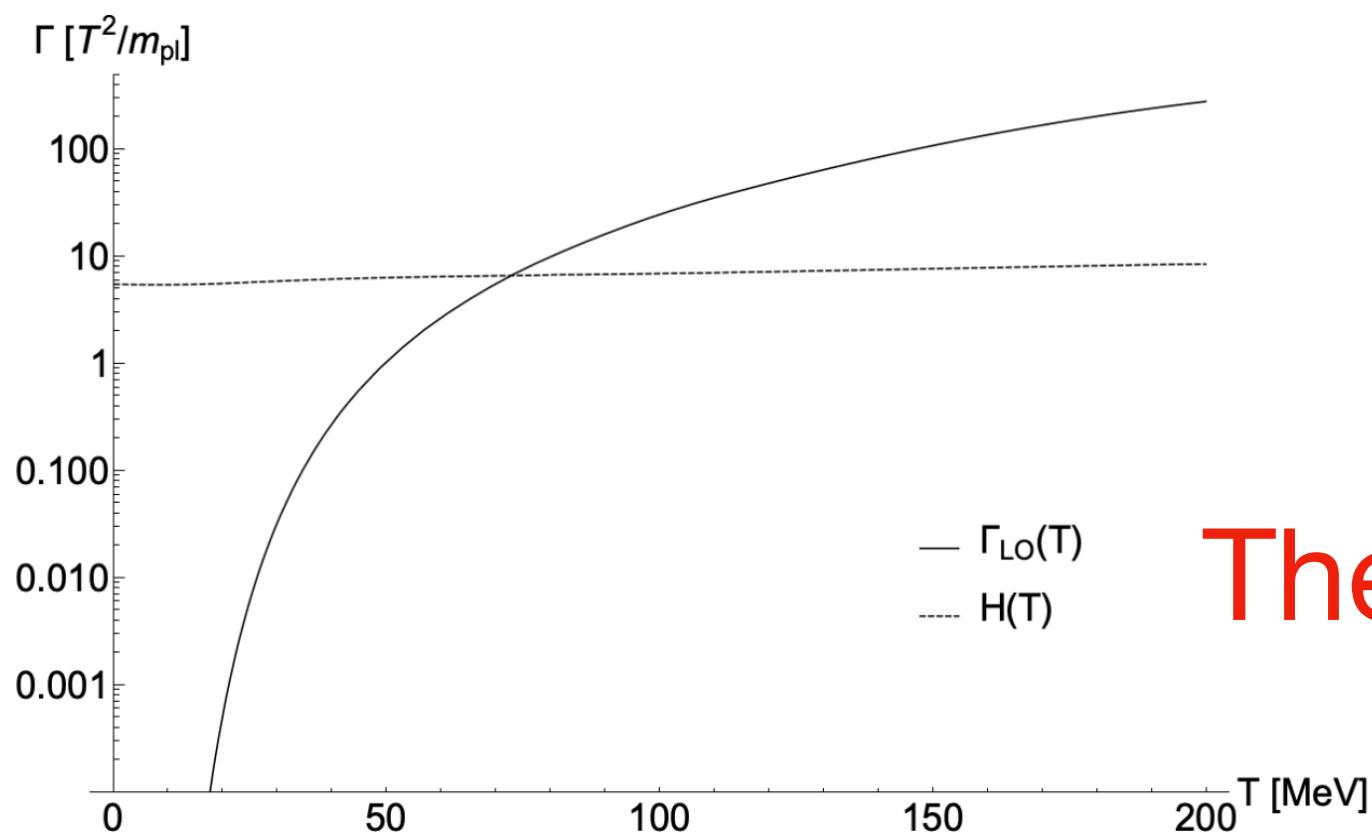
$T \simeq 100$ MeV is

$$\langle E \rangle \equiv \rho/n \simeq 350 \text{ MeV}, 270 \text{ MeV}$$

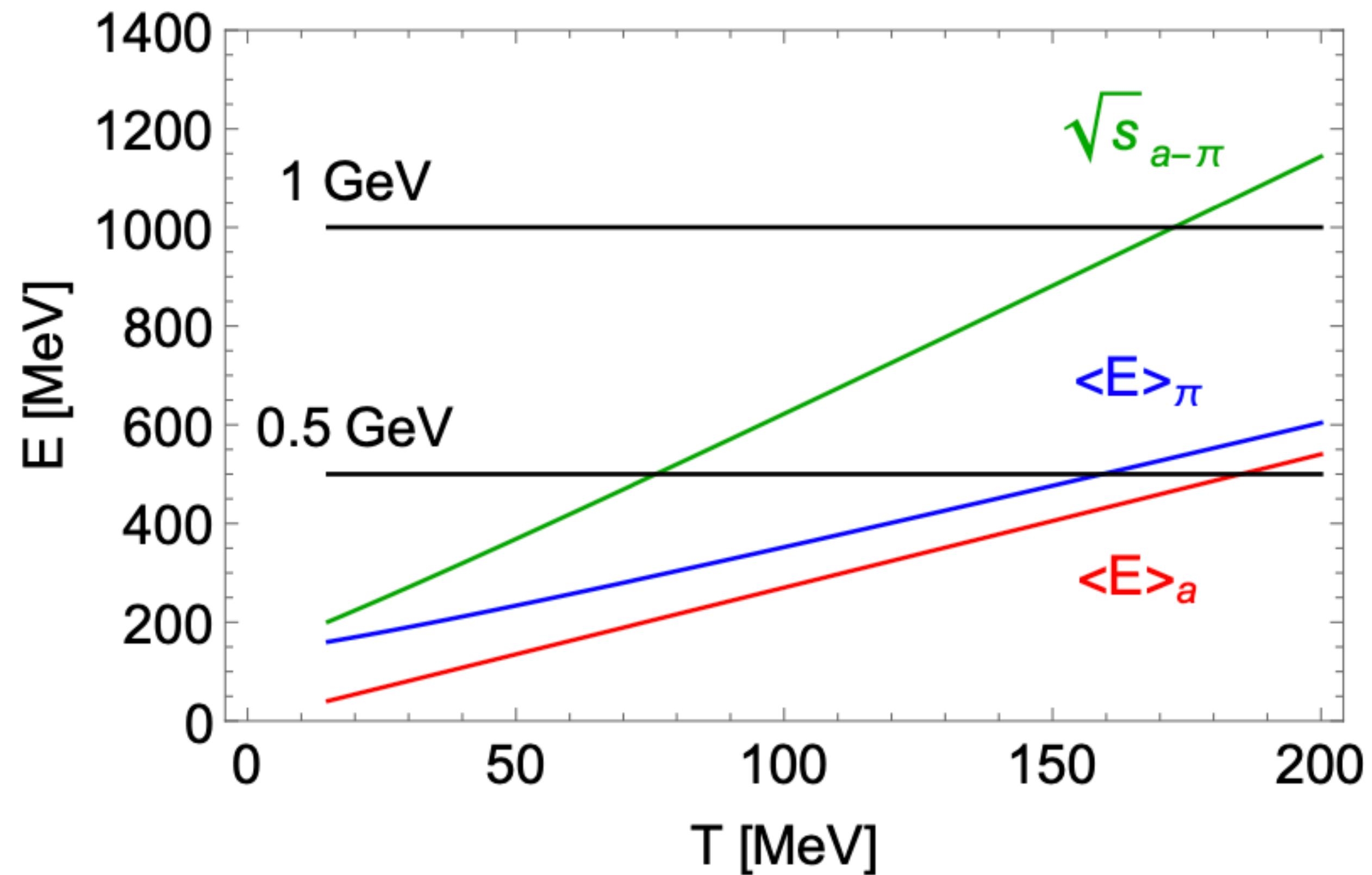
BUT

2-flavour EFT is valid for
 $E \lesssim 460$ MeV

[Donoghue et al., PhysRevD.86.014025]



$$\langle E \rangle(T) \sim \frac{\rho(T)}{n(T)}$$



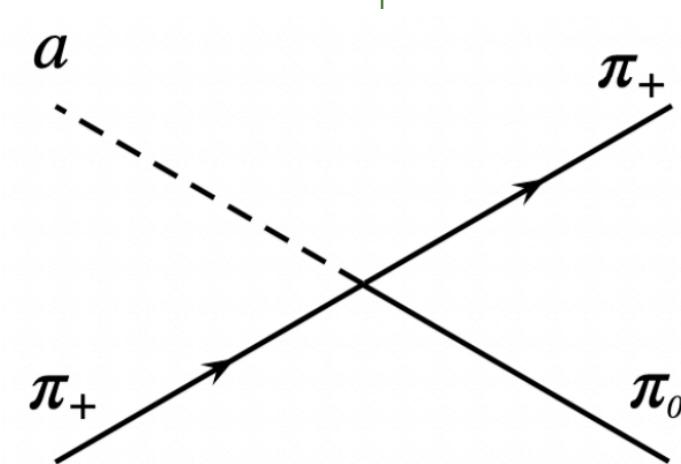
The bound extracted from ChPT is not reliable

Computation of the NLO rate

Axion-Pion scattering: Next-to-Leading Order

Ingredients

LO scattering amplitude



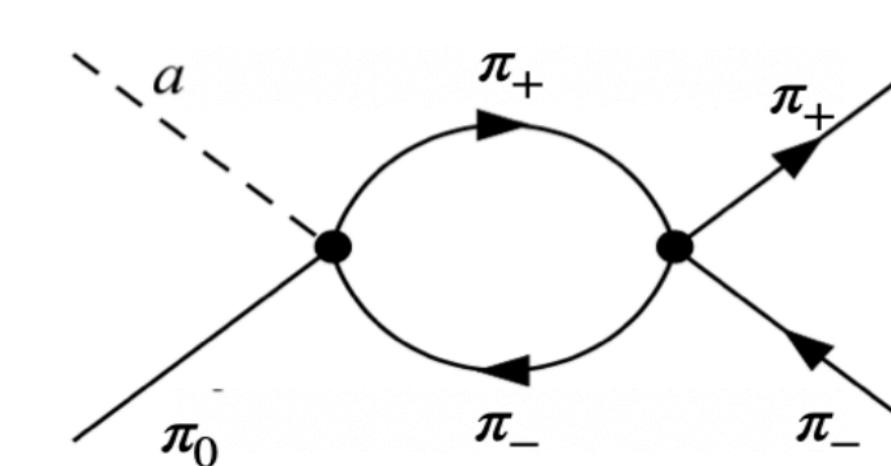
$O(p^4)$ Operators

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{NLO}} = & \frac{l_1}{4} \left\{ \text{Tr} [D_\mu U (D^\mu U)^\dagger] \right\}^2 + \frac{l_2}{4} \text{Tr} [D_\mu U (D_\nu U)^\dagger] \text{Tr} [D^\mu U (D^\nu U)^\dagger] \\ & + \frac{l_3}{16} [\text{Tr} (\chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger)]^2 + \frac{l_4}{4} \text{Tr} [D_\mu U (D^\mu \chi)^\dagger + D_\mu \chi (D^\mu U)^\dagger] \\ & + l_5 [\text{Tr} (f_{\mu\nu}^R U f_L^{\mu\nu} U^\dagger) - \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} (f_{\mu\nu}^L f_L^{\mu\nu} + f_{\mu\nu}^R f_R^{\mu\nu})] \\ & + i \frac{l_6}{2} \text{Tr} [f_{\mu\nu}^R D^\mu U (D^\nu U)^\dagger + f_{\mu\nu}^L (D^\mu U)^\dagger D^\nu U] \\ & - \frac{l_7}{16} [\text{Tr} (\chi U^\dagger - U \chi^\dagger)]^2 + \frac{h_1 + h_3}{4} \text{Tr} (\chi \chi^\dagger) + \frac{h_1 - h_3}{16} \left\{ [\text{Tr} (\chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger)]^2 \right. \\ & \left. + [\text{Tr} (\chi U^\dagger - U \chi^\dagger)]^2 - 2 \text{Tr} (\chi U^\dagger \chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger U \chi^\dagger) \right\} - 2h_2 \text{Tr} (f_{\mu\nu}^L f_L^{\mu\nu} + f_{\mu\nu}^R f_R^{\mu\nu}) \end{aligned}$$

Tree-level amplitudes from NLO \mathcal{L}_{NLO}

$a\pi \rightarrow \pi\pi$ Axion-pion scattering at NLO

Tree-level graph from NLO Lagrangian and loop amplitudes from LO Lagrangian



1-loop amplitudes from LO

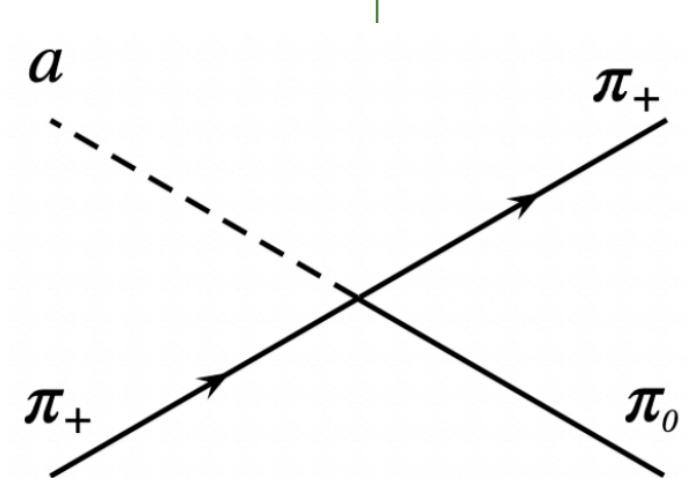
$$\mathcal{L}_a^\chi \supset \frac{\partial^\mu a}{f_a} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{2} [c_q \sigma^a] J_\mu^a$$

NLO chiral axial current J_μ^a

Axion-Pion scattering: Next-to-Leading Order

Ingredients

LO scattering amplitude



$O(p^4)$ Operators

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{NLO}} = & \frac{l_1}{4} \left\{ \text{Tr} [D_\mu U (D^\mu U)^\dagger] \right\}^2 + \frac{l_2}{4} \text{Tr} [D_\mu U (D_\nu U)^\dagger] \text{Tr} [D^\mu U (D^\nu U)^\dagger] \\ & + \frac{l_3}{16} [\text{Tr} (\chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger)]^2 + \frac{l_4}{4} \text{Tr} [D_\mu U (D^\mu \chi)^\dagger + D_\mu \chi (D^\mu U)^\dagger] \\ & + l_5 \left[\text{Tr} (f_{\mu\nu}^R U f_L^{\mu\nu} U^\dagger) - \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} (f_{\mu\nu}^L f_L^{\mu\nu} + f_{\mu\nu}^R f_R^{\mu\nu}) \right] \\ & + i \frac{l_6}{2} \text{Tr} [f_{\mu\nu}^R D^\mu U (D^\nu U)^\dagger + f_{\mu\nu}^L (D^\mu U)^\dagger D^\nu U] \\ & - \frac{l_7}{16} [\text{Tr} (\chi U^\dagger - U \chi^\dagger)]^2 + \frac{h_1 + h_3}{4} \text{Tr} (\chi \chi^\dagger) + \frac{h_1 - h_3}{16} \left\{ [\text{Tr} (\chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger)]^2 \right. \\ & \left. + [\text{Tr} (\chi U^\dagger - U \chi^\dagger)]^2 - 2 \text{Tr} (\chi U^\dagger \chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger U \chi^\dagger) \right\} - 2h_2 \text{Tr} (f_{\mu\nu}^L f_L^{\mu\nu} + f_{\mu\nu}^R f_R^{\mu\nu}) \end{aligned}$$

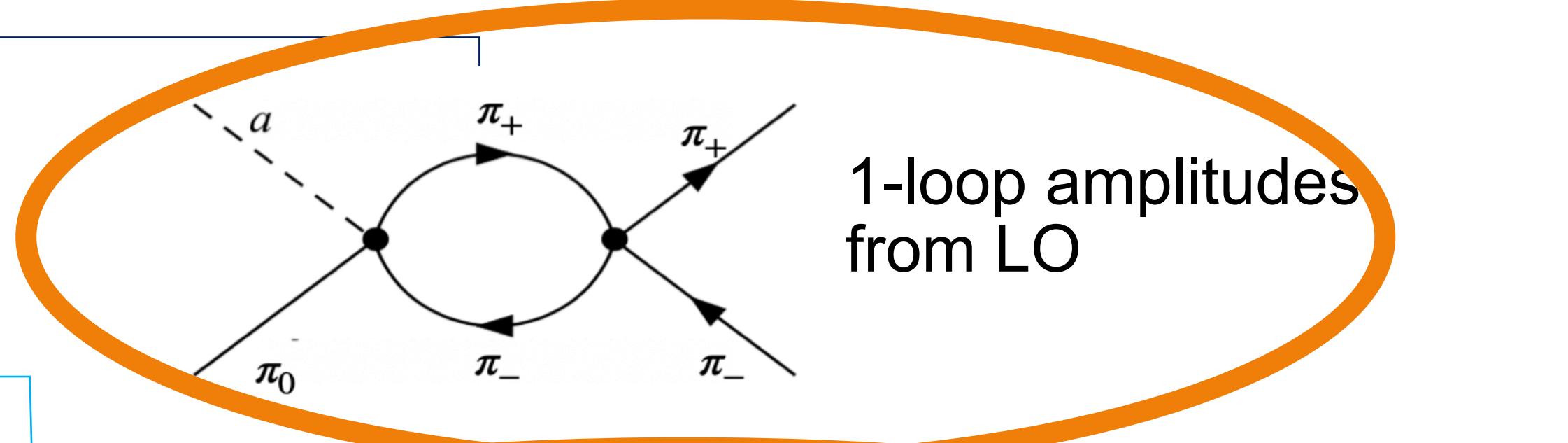
Tree-level amplitudes from NLO

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NLO}}$$

$a\pi \rightarrow \pi\pi$ Axion-pion scattering at NLO

Tree-level graph from NLO Lagrangian and loop

NEW!



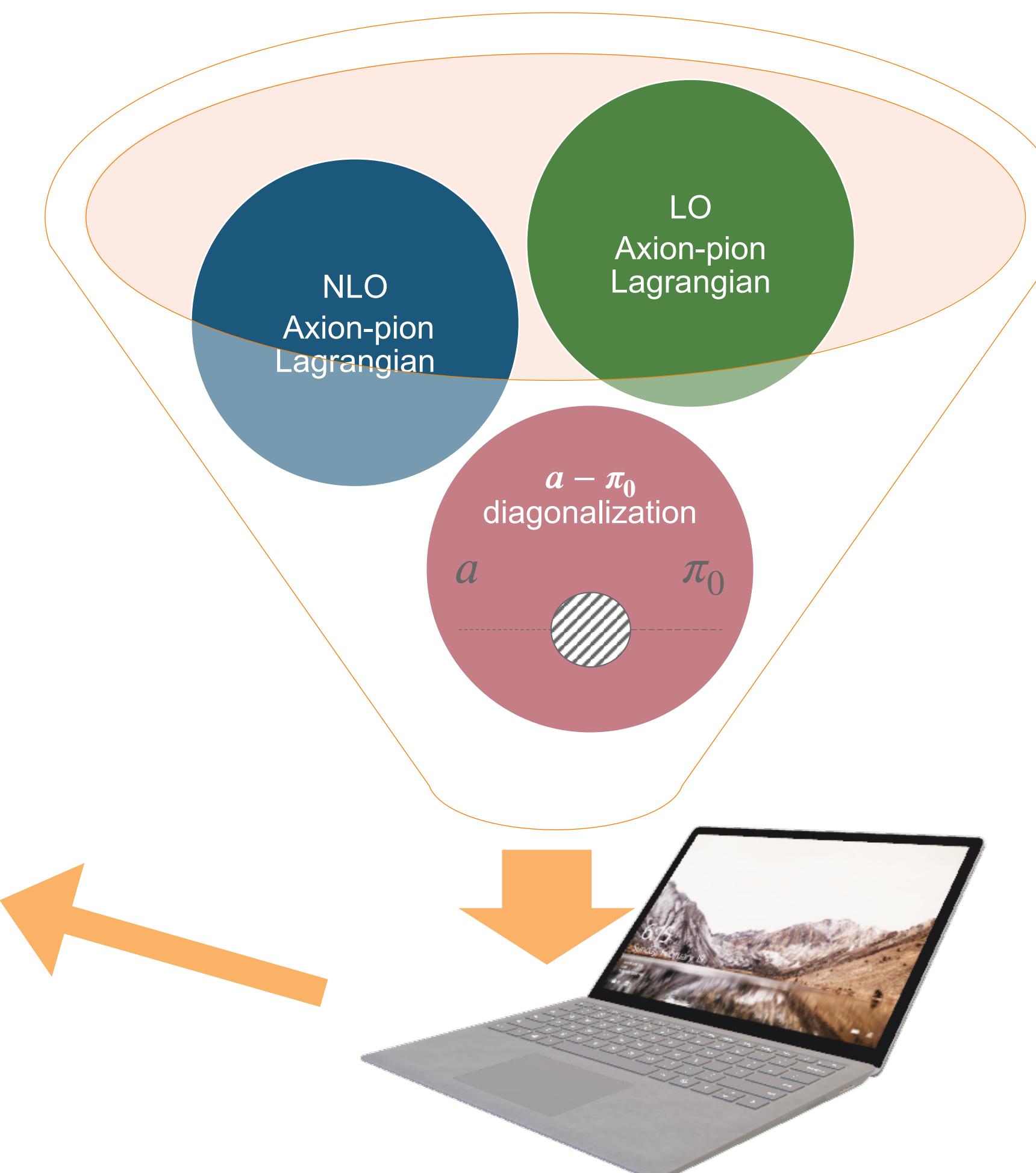
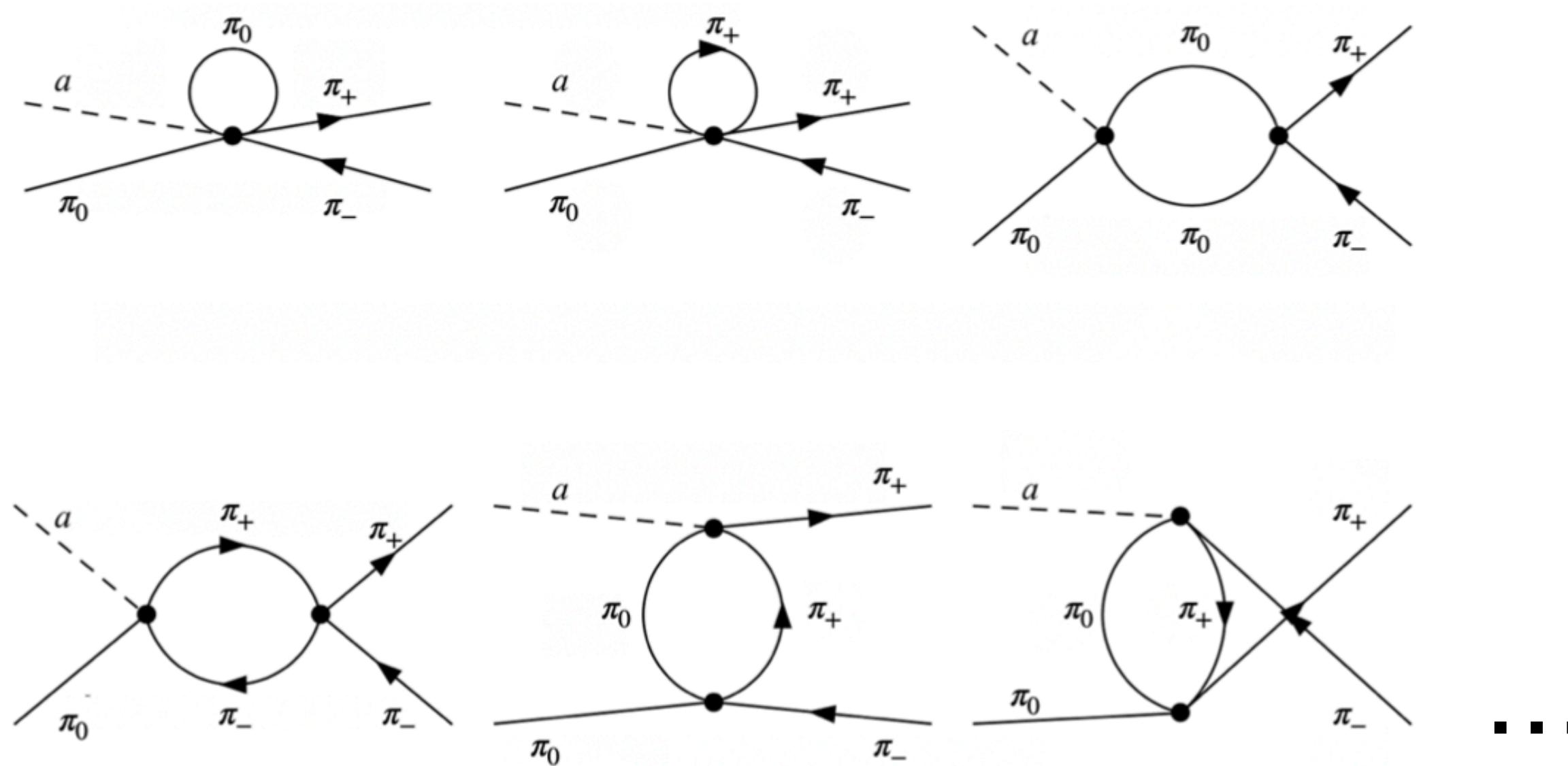
$$\mathcal{L}_a^\chi \supset \frac{\partial^\mu a}{f_a} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{2} [c_q \sigma^a] J_\mu^a$$

NLO chiral axial current J_μ^a

Computing axion-pion scattering at NLO

Computation of the full $a\pi \rightarrow \pi\pi$ amplitude (FeynRules, FeynArts, FeynCalc)

- 18 loop diagrams for the 3 channels



Amplitudes

- After renormalization & including NLO corrections to m_π, f_π

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{a\pi_0 \rightarrow \pi_+ \pi_-}^{\text{NLO}} = & \frac{C_{a\pi}}{192\pi^2 f_\pi^3 f_a} \left\{ 15m_\pi^2(u+t) - 11u^2 - 8ut - 11t^2 - 6\bar{\ell}_1(m_\pi^2 - s)(2m_\pi^2 - s) \right. \\ & - 6\bar{\ell}_2(-3m_\pi^2(u+t) + 4m_\pi^4 + u^2 + t^2) + 9m_\pi^4\bar{\ell}_3 + 18\bar{\ell}_4 m_\pi^2(m_\pi^2 - s) + 576\pi^2\ell_7 m_\pi^4 \left(\frac{m_d - m_u}{m_d + m_u} \right)^2 \\ & + 3 \left[3\sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_\pi^2}{s}}s(m_\pi^2 - s) \ln \left(\frac{\sqrt{s(s - 4m_\pi^2)} + 2m_\pi^2 - s}{2m_\pi^2} \right) \right. \\ & + \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_\pi^2}{t}}(m_\pi^2(t - 4u) + 3m_\pi^4 + t(u - t)) \ln \left(\frac{\sqrt{t(t - 4m_\pi^2)} + 2m_\pi^2 - t}{2m_\pi^2} \right) \\ & \left. \left. + \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_\pi^2}{u}}(m_\pi^2(u - 4t) + 3m_\pi^4 + u(t - u)) \ln \left(\frac{\sqrt{u(u - 4m_\pi^2)} + 2m_\pi^2 - u}{2m_\pi^2} \right) \right] \right\} \\ & + \frac{4\ell_7 m_\pi^2 m_d (s - 2m_\pi^2) m_u (m_d - m_u)}{f_\pi^3 f_a (m_d + m_u)^3}, \end{aligned}$$

- Other pionic channels obtained via $s \rightarrow t, u$

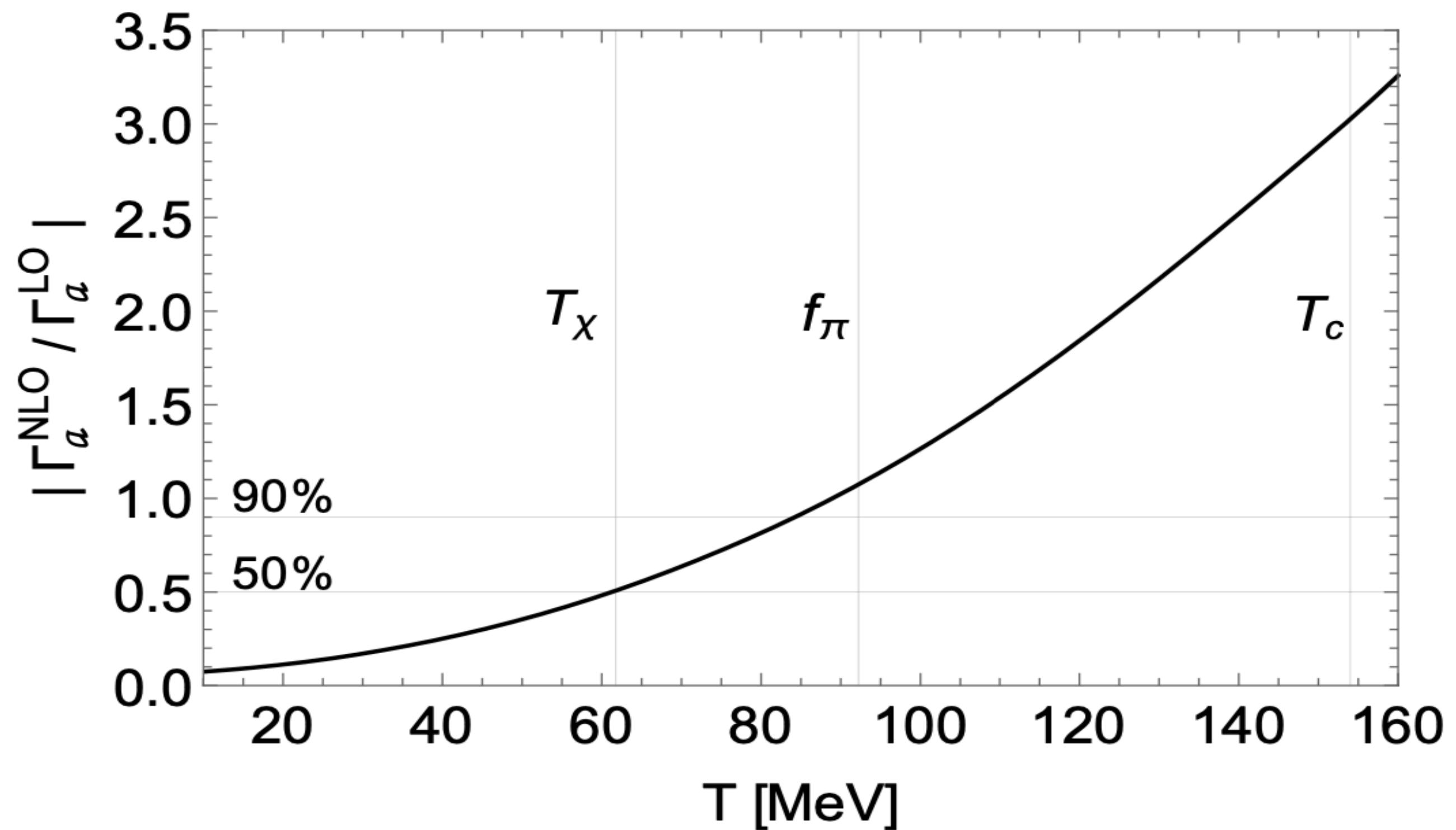
NLO Thermalization rate

$$\sum |\mathcal{M}|^2 = |\mathcal{M}_{\text{LO}}|^2 + 2\text{Re}[\mathcal{M}_{\text{LO}} \mathcal{M}_{\text{NLO}}^*]$$

$$\Gamma_a(T) = \left(\frac{C_{a\pi}}{f_a f_\pi} \right)^2 0.212 T^5 \left[h_{\text{LO}}(m_\pi/T) - 2.80 \frac{T^2}{f_\pi^2} h_{\text{NLO}}(m_\pi/T) \right]$$

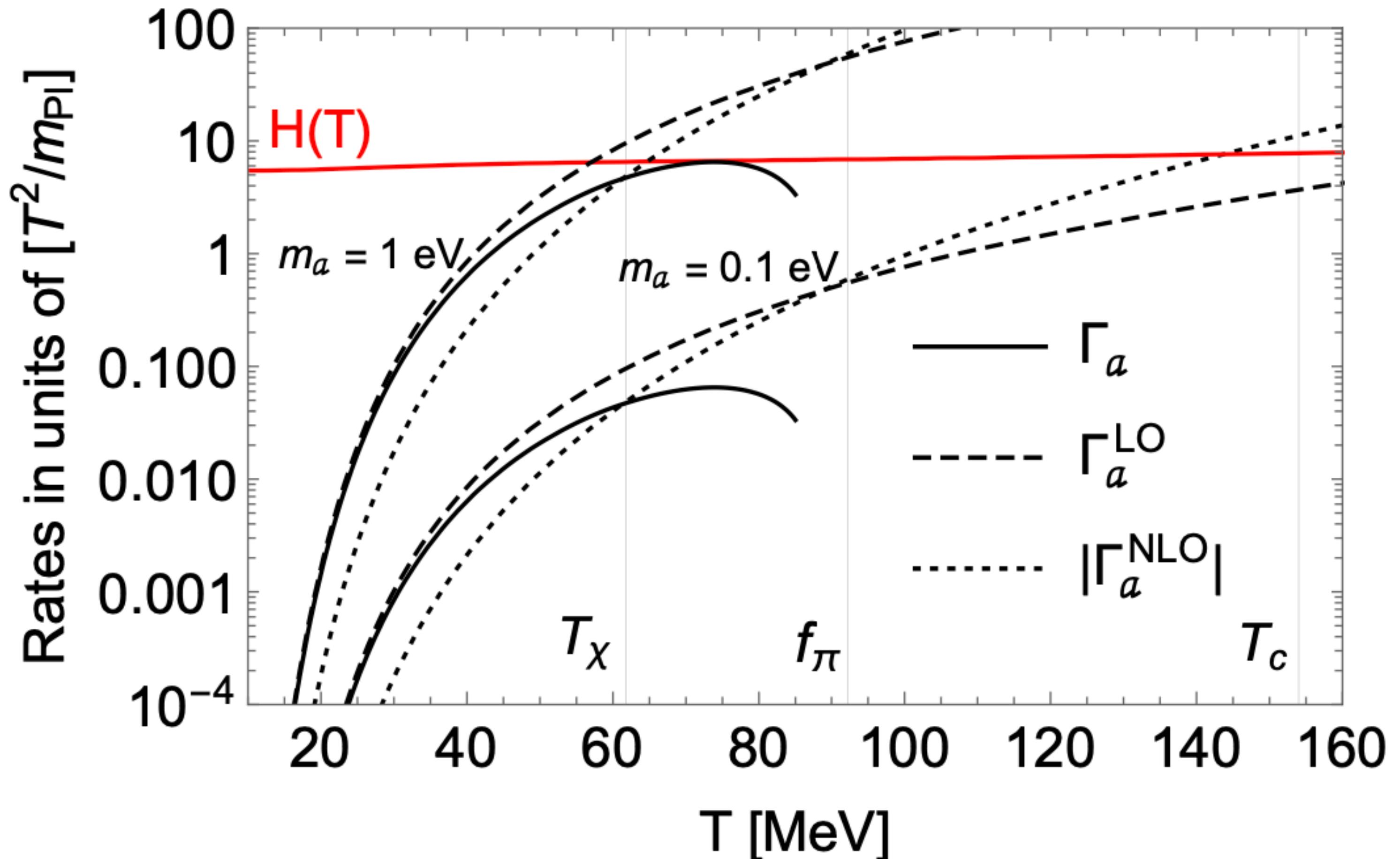
Different T-behavior between LO and NLO contributions

Correction of $\sim 50\%$ already at $T \simeq 60$ MeV
Convergence problem!



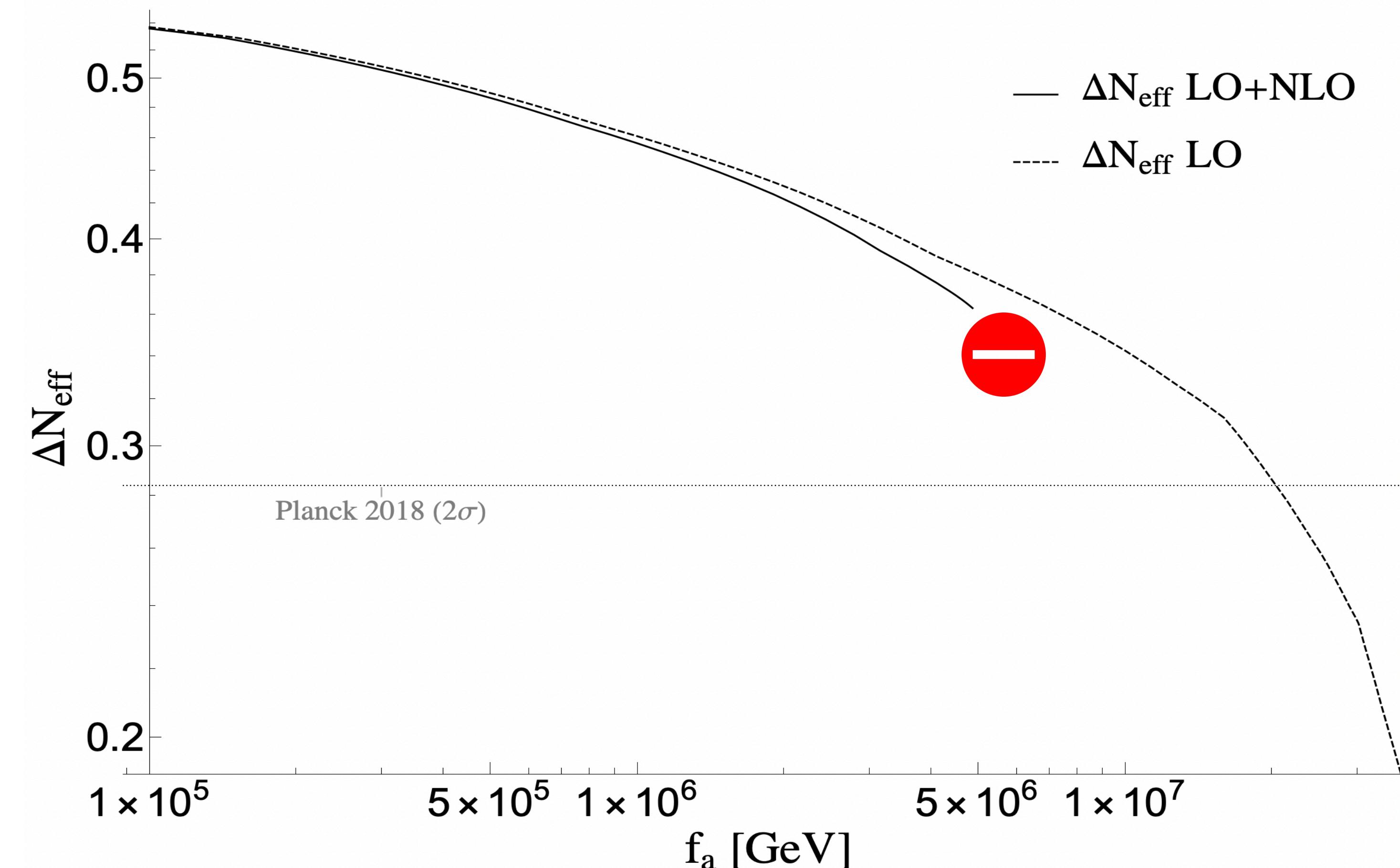
Γ vs H , NLO

- $m_a = 1$ eV: the most conservative HDM bound
- $m_a = 0.1$ eV: typical reach of future CMB-S4 experiments
- $T_\chi \sim 62$ MeV: boundary of validity of the chiral expansion



ΔN_{eff} including NLO correction

For $f_a \gtrsim 4.9 \times 10^6$ GeV the decoupling temperature cannot be extracted in χ PT. The chiral expansion of the *axion-pion theory does not converge* in the region of temperatures considered.



Conclusions

- The present HDM bound $m_a \lesssim 0.2$ eV is not reliable;
- In the mass range of interest, $m_a \in [0.1, 1]$ eV, the decoupling temperature and consequently the axion HDM bound cannot be extracted within the chiral Lagrangian, since thermal effects push energies above EFT scale ;
- A reliable computation is needed to set targets for future CMB surveys (inclusion of ρ meson, lattice QCD, ...)



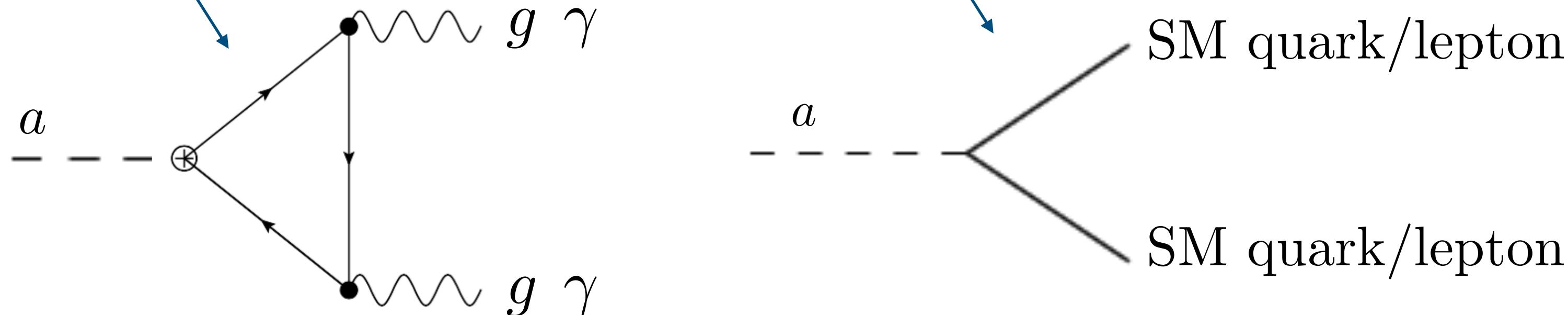
Thanks for the attention!

Backup

Axion EFT

$$E > \Lambda_{QCD}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu a)^2 + \boxed{\frac{g_s^2}{32\pi^2} \frac{a}{f_a} G\tilde{G} + \frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma}^0 a F\tilde{F}} + \boxed{\frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_a} \bar{q} c_q^0 \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 q} - \bar{q}_L M_q q_R + h.c.$$



Axion Chiral Lagrangian, LO

$E > \Lambda_{QCD}$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu a) + \frac{g_s^2}{32\pi^2} \frac{a}{f_a} G\tilde{G} + \frac{1}{4}g_{a\gamma}^0 a F\tilde{F} + \frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_a} \bar{q} c_q^0 \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 q - \bar{q}_L M_q q_R + h.c.$$

1. Rotate away $aG\tilde{G}$ through $q \rightarrow e^{i\gamma_5 \frac{a}{2f_a} Q_a} q$,
2. Write an EFT with Pions and Axions as GB

$E < \Lambda_{QCD}$

$$\mathcal{L}_a^\chi = \frac{f_\pi^2}{4} Tr \left[(D^\mu U)^\dagger D_\mu U + U \chi^\dagger + \chi U^\dagger \right] + \frac{\partial^\mu a}{f_a} \frac{1}{2} Tr [c_q \sigma^a] J_\mu^a$$

With $U = e^{i\pi^a \sigma^a / f_\pi}$ and

$$\chi = 2B_0 e^{i\frac{a}{2f_a} Q_a} M_q e^{i\frac{a}{2f_a} Q_a}$$

Axion Chiral Lagrangian, NLO

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{\text{NLO}} = & \frac{l_1}{4} \left\{ \text{Tr} \left[D_\mu U (D^\mu U)^\dagger \right] \right\}^2 + \frac{l_2}{4} \text{Tr} \left[D_\mu U (D_\nu U)^\dagger \right] \text{Tr} \left[D^\mu U (D^\nu U)^\dagger \right] \\ & + \frac{l_3}{16} \left[\text{Tr} \left(\chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger \right) \right]^2 + \frac{l_4}{4} \text{Tr} \left[D_\mu U (D^\mu \chi)^\dagger + D_\mu \chi (D^\mu U)^\dagger \right] \\ & + l_5 \left[\text{Tr} \left(f_{\mu\nu}^R U f_L^{\mu\nu} U^\dagger \right) - \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left(f_{\mu\nu}^L f_L^{\mu\nu} + f_{\mu\nu}^R f_R^{\mu\nu} \right) \right] \\ & + i \frac{l_6}{2} \text{Tr} \left[f_{\mu\nu}^R D^\mu U (D^\nu U)^\dagger + f_{\mu\nu}^L (D^\mu U)^\dagger D^\nu U \right] \\ & - \frac{l_7}{16} \left[\text{Tr} \left(\chi U^\dagger - U \chi^\dagger \right) \right]^2 + \frac{h_1 + h_3}{4} \text{Tr} \left(\chi \chi^\dagger \right) + \frac{h_1 - h_3}{16} \left\{ \left[\text{Tr} \left(\chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger \right) \right]^2 \right. \\ & \left. + \left[\text{Tr} \left(\chi U^\dagger - U \chi^\dagger \right) \right]^2 - 2 \text{Tr} \left(\chi U^\dagger \chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger U \chi^\dagger \right) \right\} - 2h_2 \text{Tr} \left(f_{\mu\nu}^L f_L^{\mu\nu} + f_{\mu\nu}^R f_R^{\mu\nu} \right)\end{aligned}$$

[J. Gasser and H. Leutwyler, Annals Phys. **158** (1984)]
[S. Scherer, arXiv:hep-ph/0210398]

And, differentiating the Lagrangian with respect to the external fields...

Axial current to NLO

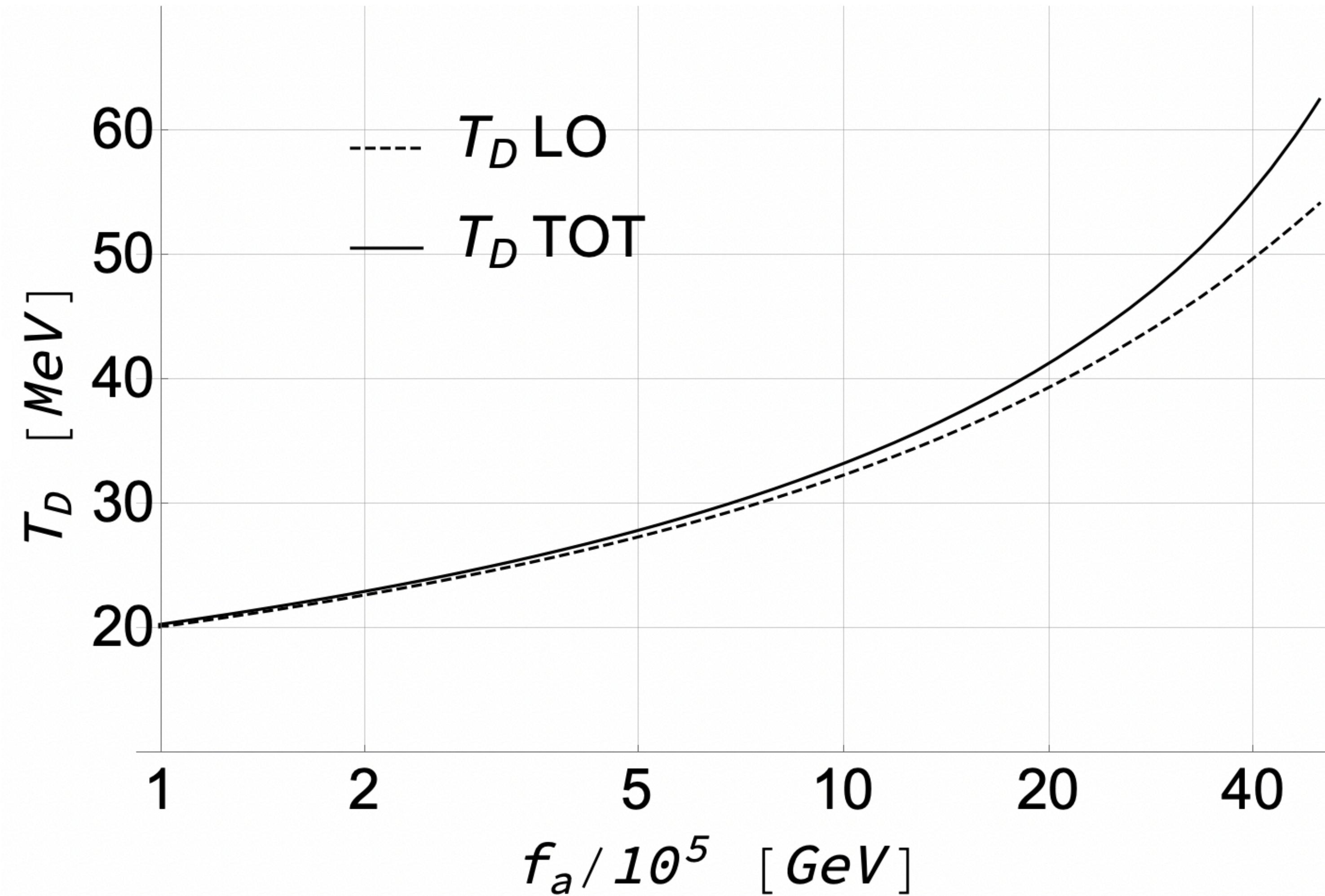
$$\frac{\partial^\mu a}{4f_a} \text{Tr} [c_q \sigma^a] \left(J_\mu^a \text{ (LO)} + J_\mu^a \text{ (NLO)} \right)$$



$$\begin{aligned} J_A^{\mu,a} \text{ (NLO)} = & +i \frac{l_1}{2} \left\langle \sigma^a \left\{ D^\mu U^\dagger, U \right\} \right\rangle \left\langle D_\nu U D^\nu U^\dagger \right\rangle \\ & + i \frac{l_2}{4} \left\langle \sigma^a \left\{ D^\nu U^\dagger, U \right\} \right\rangle \left\langle D^\mu U D_\nu U^\dagger + D_\nu U D^\mu U^\dagger \right\rangle \\ & - i \frac{l_4}{8} \left\langle \sigma^a \left\{ D^\mu U, \chi^\dagger \right\} - \sigma^a \left\{ U, D^\mu \chi^\dagger \right\} + \sigma^a \left\{ D^\mu \chi, U^\dagger \right\} - \sigma^a \left\{ \chi, D^\mu U^\dagger \right\} \right\rangle \\ & + \frac{l_6}{4} \left\langle f_{\mu\nu}^R [\sigma^a, D^\nu U] U^\dagger + f_{\mu\nu}^R U [D^\nu U^\dagger, \sigma^a] + f_{\mu\nu}^L U^\dagger [\sigma^a, D^\nu U] + f_{\mu\nu}^L [D^\nu U^\dagger, \sigma^a] U \right\rangle \end{aligned}$$

T_d vs f_a

Decoupling temperature for the LO and LO+NLO case, as a function of f_a

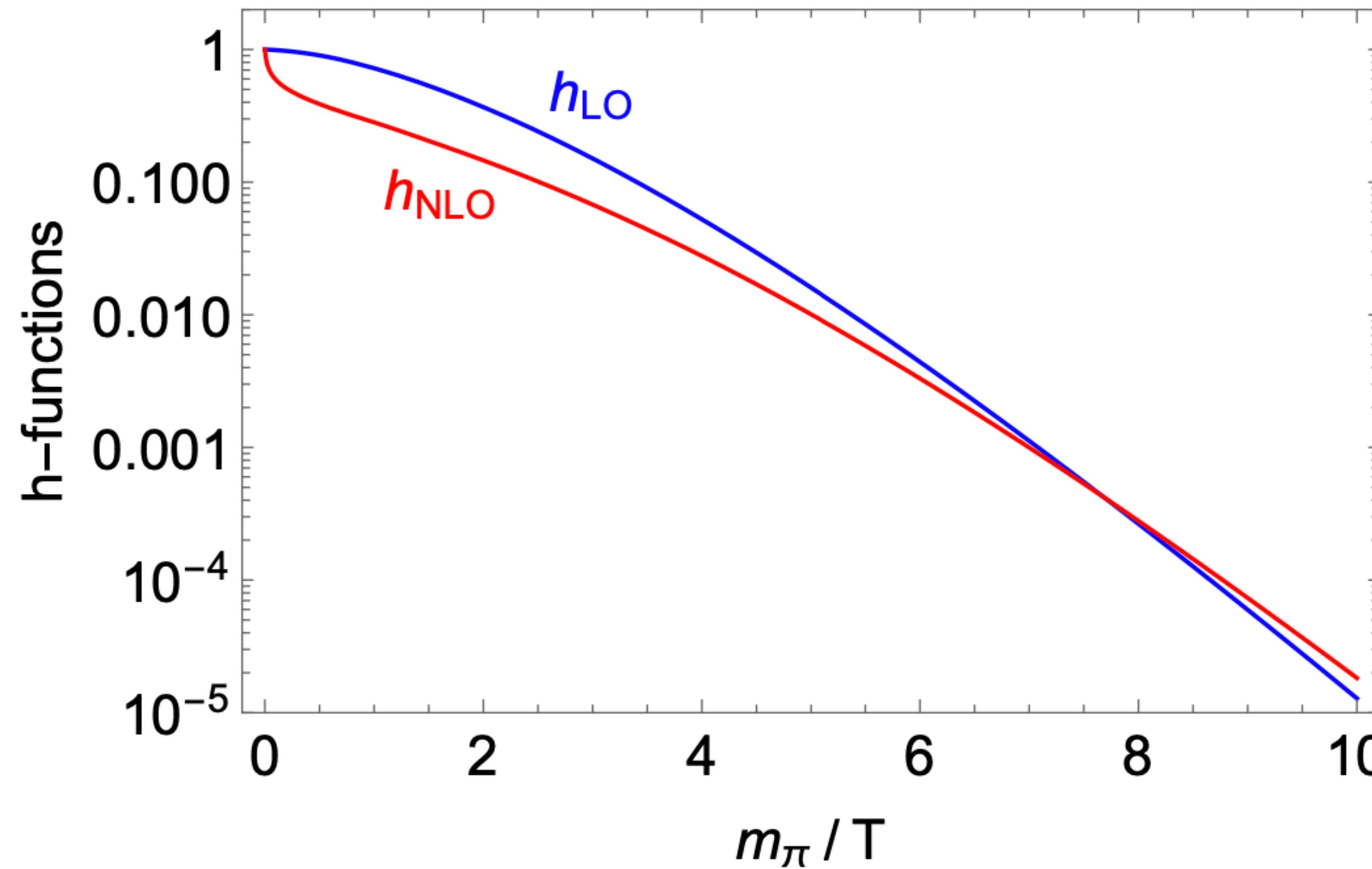


$$T_D < T_\chi$$

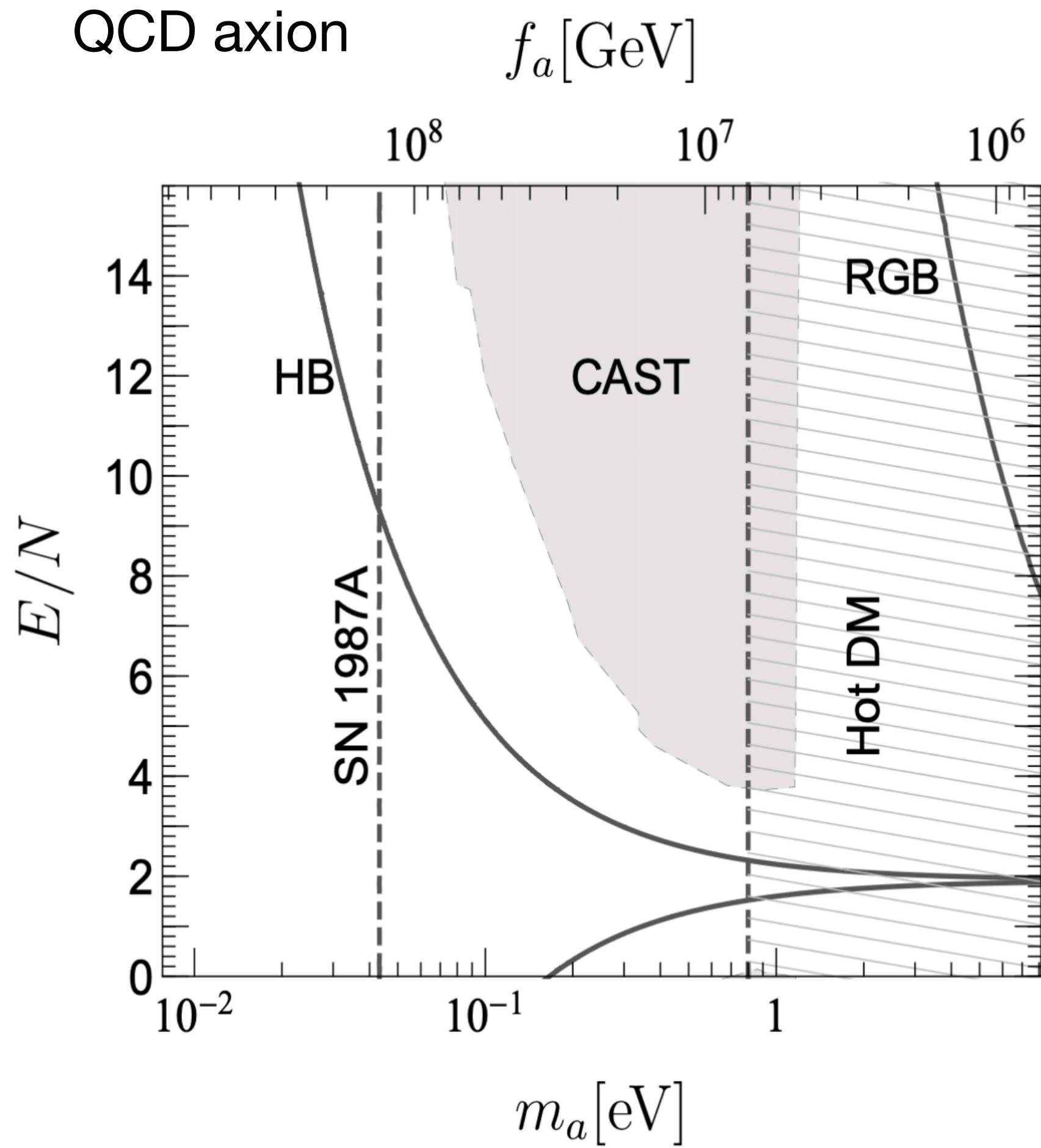
if

$$f_a \lesssim 4.9 \times 10^6 \text{ GeV}$$
$$m_a \gtrsim 1.16 \text{ eV}$$

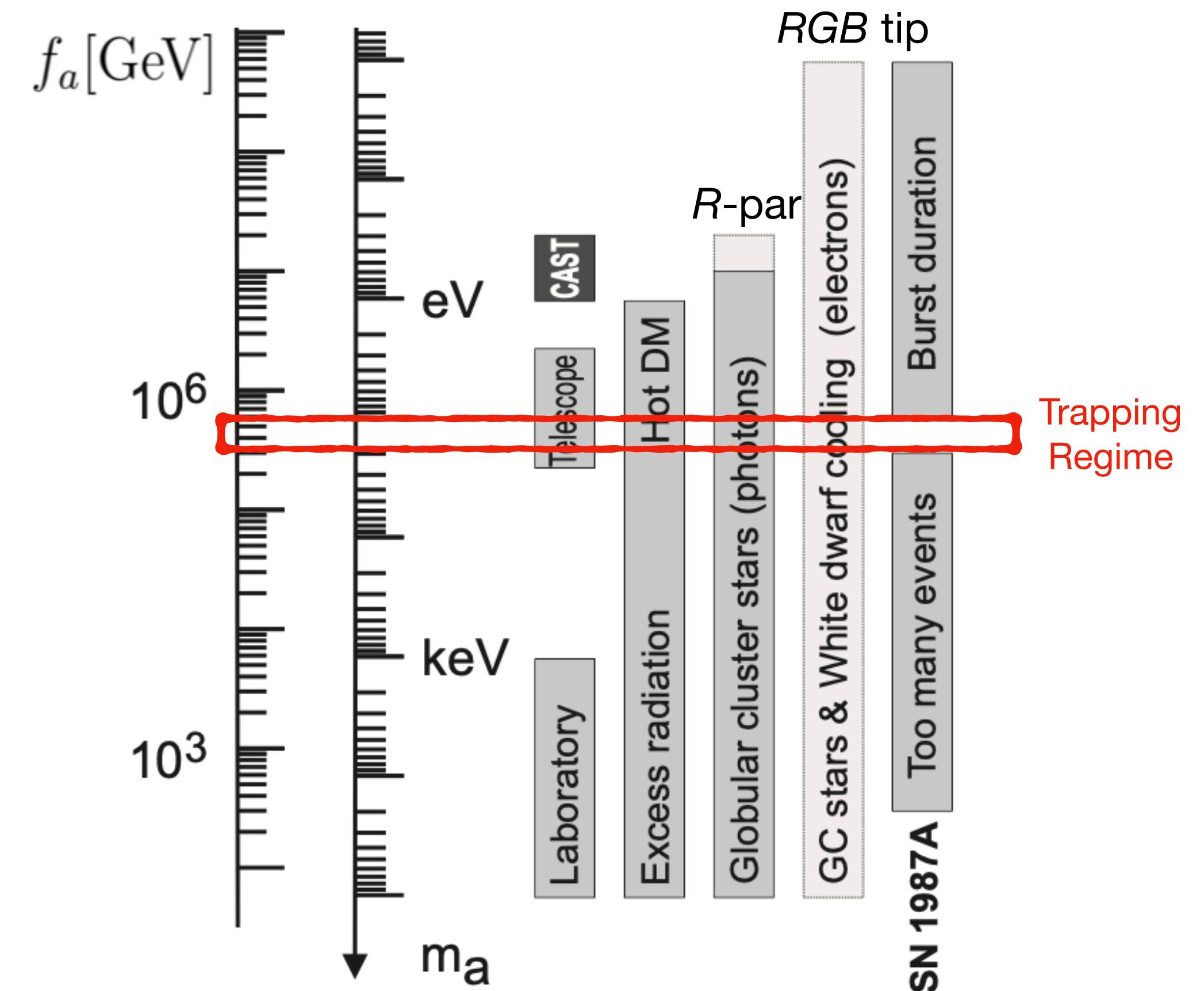
h functions



ASTRO Bounds



[Di Luzio et al., Phys. Rept. **870** (2020)]



- $g_{ae}^0 = 0$ in KSVZ models
- SN bound not solid from astrophysics [1907.05020]
- $g_{a\gamma}$ can be accidentally suppressed [1610.07593]