## MAD MAX and the post-inflationary wasteland. Ringberg 2021

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### QCD Axion: Why do we care?

- Introduced to solve the CP problem of QCD
- Peccei, Quinn: global chiral  $U(1)_{PQ}$  symmetry
- complex scalar field w/ spont. sym. breaking potential
  → mexican hat
- Breaking before inflation ("pre-inflationary").  $\rightarrow$  only one  $\theta$
- Breaking after inflation ("post-inflationary")
   → multiple values for θ, structures which can
   decay





#### QCD Axion: Why do we care?

- Pretty pathetic CDM candidate so far:
  - No mass
  - No interactions
- Noether: symmetry = conserved current, charge
- QFT anomaly: current not entirely conserved  $\rightarrow$  mexican hat tilted  $\rightarrow m_a \sim 10^{-5}~{\rm eV}$ 
  - N QCD anomaly coefficient
  - *E* QED anomaly coefficient
- Which particles have PQ charges?
  - KSVZ: new heavy quarks
  - DFSZ: all SM quarks, second Higgs





 Observes local DM density on earth via axionphoton coupling scanning over photon-frequencies



#### Haloscope signal strength

$$\frac{dP}{d\omega} \propto \frac{\rho_a \ g_{a\gamma}^2(E/N)}{m_a^2} \cdot f(v_{DM})$$

- $m_a$  axion mass
- $\rho_a$  axion energy density
- $f(v_{DM})$  dark matter velocity distribution
- $g_{a\gamma}(E/N)$  axion-photon coupling (which depends on anomaly ratio E/N.

#### **Pre-inflationary Problems**





- $\rho_a \neq \rho_{DM}$  !
- Seems to be increasing

| DePanfilis+ 87 | h a search for galactic axions in the frequency range $1.09 < f_a$<br>h $\Gamma_a \le 200$ Hz we obtain the experimental limit $(g_{a\gamma\gamma}/m_a)^2 \rho_a$<br>ction is $(g_{a\gamma\gamma}/m_a)^2 \rho_a = 3.9 \times 10^{-44}$ with $\rho_a = 300$ MeV/cm <sup>3</sup> . We |
|----------------|---|
| ADMX 09        | FIG. 5: Axion-photon coupling excluded at the 90% confidence level assuming a local dark matter density of $0.45$ GeV/cm <sup>3</sup> for two dark matter distribution models. The  |
| ADMX 18, 21    | whereas the N-body filter used a local dark matter density of $0.63 \text{ GeV/cm}^3$ . Regions where there are gaps in the data are  |

• Assumption: homogeneous

 $f(v_{DM})$ 

Relatively accurate by now





Main Freedom: Which SM particles have what PQ charge?



Main Freedom: Properties of new quark?



#### **Post-inflationary Problems**

- Three components: diffuse, miniclusters, streams
- Encounter rate
  - minicluster ~  $10^{-4} 10^{-6}$  1/year
  - Stream  $\sim$  every few years
- Domain Walls produce too much DM (if  $N_{DW} > 1$ )  $\rightarrow$  phenomenologically challenging

# Post-inflationary Problems





- MADMAX @  $\sim 10^{-4} {\rm eV}$  : Axion production pre-inflation and post-inflation possible
- General problem: Prediction for  $g_{a\gamma}(E/N)$
- Post-inflation problems:
  - Domain walls produce too much DM
  - Clumpy DM consisting of homogeneous, minicluster and stream component → invisible to MADMAX
- Next year: How to get all this under control!



#### MADMAX plan to find the axion



Dielectric
 boundary in
 magnetic field
 Step in induced E
 field leads to
 photon emission
 Problem:
 Which frequency

(i.e. mass)?





#### Huge Power Boost $\boldsymbol{\beta}$

**Enormous signal** 





