

# Constraints on Relaxion Window

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Kiwoon Choi, SHI : 1610.00680 [JHEP 1612:093 (2016)]



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Theoretical Physics

# Outline

- Relaxation of the Electroweak scale  
: Axion scale hierarchy problem
- Large number of e-folding  
: Cosmological Relaxion Window
- Low energy phenomenology with minimal couplings  
: Constraints on Relaxion Window
- Conclusions

# Relaxation of the Electroweak scale

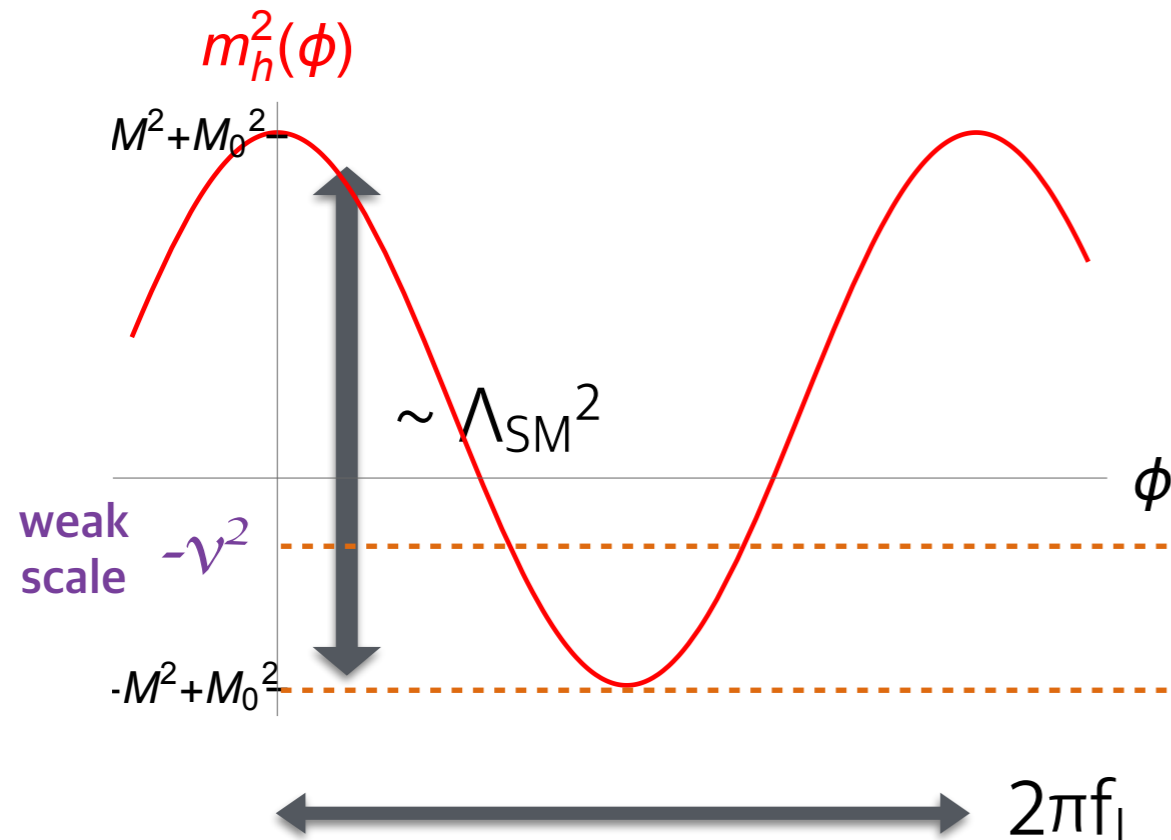
Graham, Kaplan, Rajendran, '15

Higgs mass as a dynamical field  
: Relaxion

$$\mathcal{L} = -m_H^2(\phi)|H|^2 - \frac{1}{4}\lambda_H|H|^4 + \dots$$

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

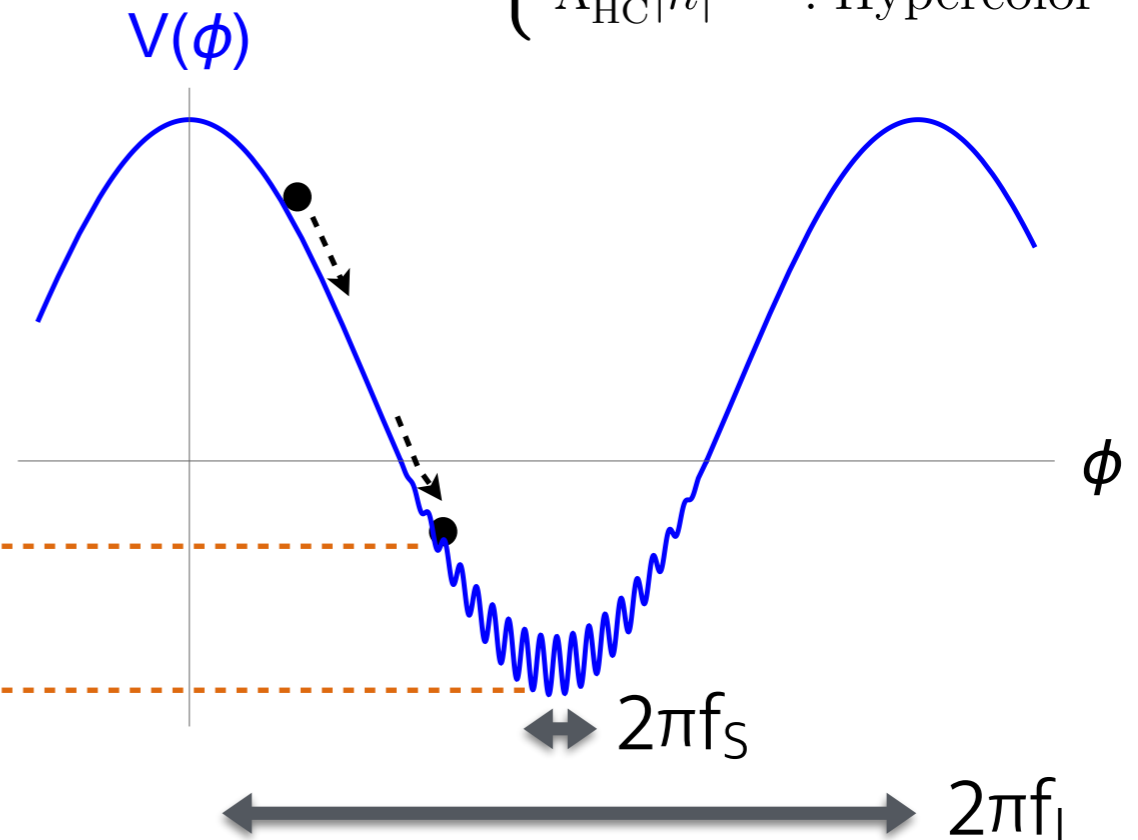
where  $M \sim M_0 \sim \Lambda_{SM}$



Relaxion potential  
: Radiative correction + Higgs dependent modulation  
(barrier)

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

$$\Lambda_b^4(h) \begin{cases} y_u \Lambda_{QCD}^3 h & : \text{QCD} \\ \Lambda_{HC}^2 |h|^2 & : \text{Hypercolor} \end{cases}$$



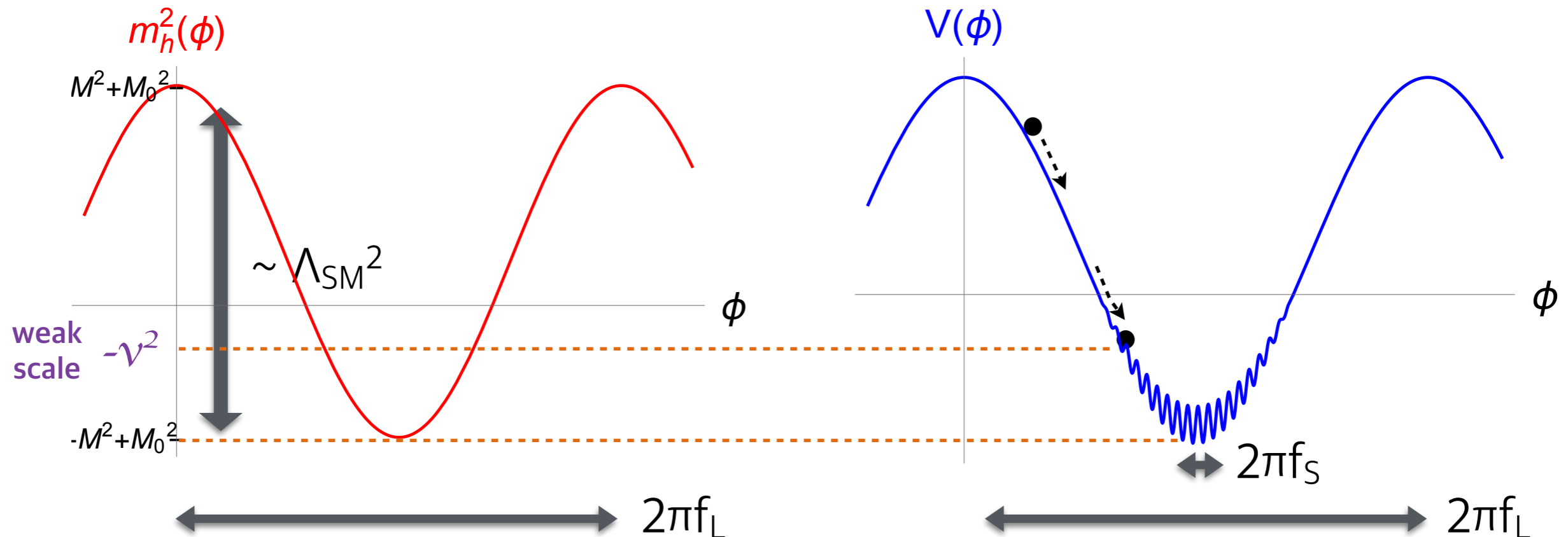
$$V(\phi) = V_0(\phi) + V_b(\phi) = \frac{c_0}{16\pi^2} \Lambda_{\text{SM}}^4 \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{f_L}\right) + \Lambda_b^4(h) \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{f_S} + \delta_b\right)$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{\frac{f_L}{f_S}} \sim \frac{c_0}{16\pi^2} \frac{\Lambda_{\text{SM}}^4}{\Lambda_b^4(h=v)} \frac{1}{\sin(\phi/f_S + \delta_b)} \gtrsim \frac{1}{(4\pi)^3} \frac{\Lambda_{\text{SM}}^4}{v^4} \sim \boxed{10^3 \left(\frac{\Lambda_{\text{SM}}}{10 \text{ TeV}}\right)^4}$$

In order to stabilise the relaxion at the point  $\langle h \rangle = v = 246 \text{ GeV}$ , the ratio between the two periodicities  $f_L$  and  $f_S$  must be larger than the above ratio.

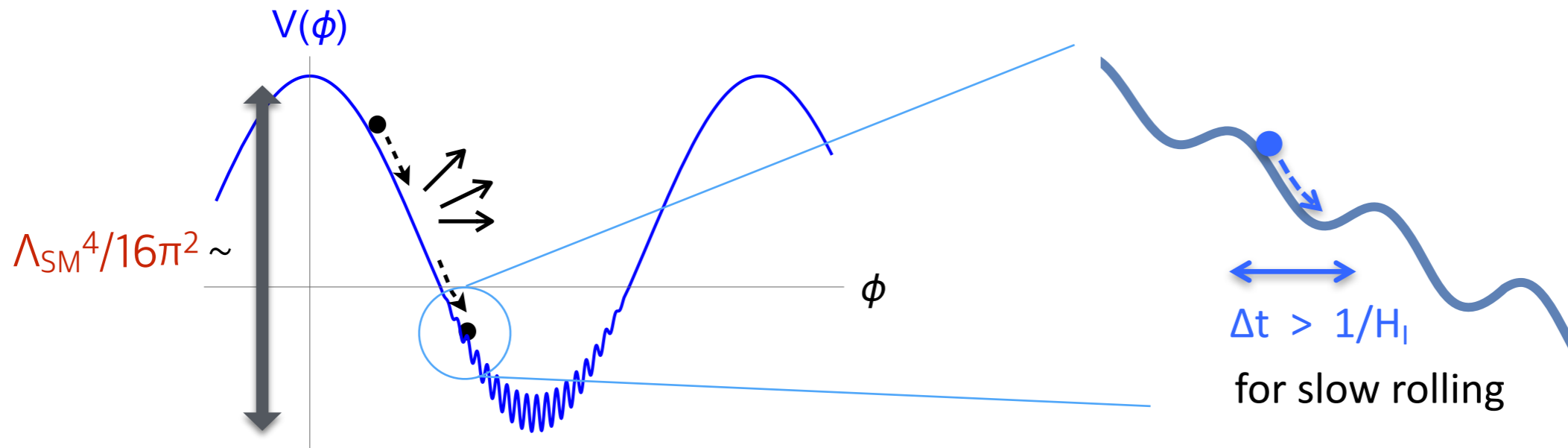
➔ **Axion scale hierarchy problem : clockwork**

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



# Cosmological relaxion evolution : Long e-folding

The relaxion kinetic energy should be efficiently dissipated away to stop the relaxion before going into the global minimum.



If the relaxion dynamics occurs during inflation, **the Hubble friction** can be responsible for the dissipation.

- Slow roll :  $H_I > \frac{\Lambda_b^2}{f_S} \sim m_\phi$
- Inflaton energy density > Relaxion energy density :  $H_I^2 M_{\text{Pl}}^2 > \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \Lambda_{\text{SM}}^4$

$$\mathcal{N} \sim \frac{f_L}{\dot{\phi}} H_I \sim 16\pi^2 \frac{f_L^2 H_I^2}{\Lambda_{\text{SM}}^4} \gtrsim \max \left[ \frac{f_L}{f_S} \left( 1 + \frac{\Lambda_b^2}{v^2} \right), \frac{f_L^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \right] > \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \frac{\Lambda_{\text{SM}}^4}{v^4} \sim \left( \frac{\Lambda_{\text{SM}}}{1 \text{ TeV}} \right)^4$$

Necessary number of e-folding

- Necessary e-folding for the QCD barrier

$$\frac{f_L}{f_S} \sim \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \frac{\Lambda_{\text{SM}}^4}{\Lambda_b^4} \left(1 + \frac{\Lambda_b^2}{v^2}\right) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathcal{N} \gtrsim \max \left[ \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \frac{\Lambda_{\text{SM}}^4}{\Lambda_b^4}, \frac{1}{(16\pi^2)^2} \frac{f_S^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \frac{\Lambda_{\text{SM}}^8}{\Lambda_b^8} \right] \left(1 + \frac{\Lambda_b^2}{v^2}\right)^2$$

Barrier from QCD



$$\Lambda_b^4 \simeq f_\pi^2 m_\pi^2 \sim (0.1 \text{ GeV})^4$$

$$\mathcal{N}_{\text{QCD}} \gtrsim \max \left[ 10^{24} \left(\frac{\Lambda_{\text{SM}}}{1 \text{ TeV}}\right)^4, 10^{19} \left(\frac{f_S}{10^9 \text{ GeV}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\Lambda_{\text{SM}}}{1 \text{ TeV}}\right)^8 \right] \left(\frac{10^{-10}}{\theta_{\text{QCD}}}\right)$$

- de Sitter Quantum fluctuation < Classical rolling

$$H_I < V'(\phi)^{1/3} < \left(\frac{\Lambda_b}{f_S}\right)^{1/3} \quad \Lambda_b < \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{4\pi}v) \quad \text{Low scale inflation}$$

Such a long e-folding in a low scale inflation would imply a fine-tuning on the inflaton sector.

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

# Cosmological relaxion windows

Requiring  $\mathcal{N} < \mathcal{N}_e$  (a certain acceptable number of e-folding),

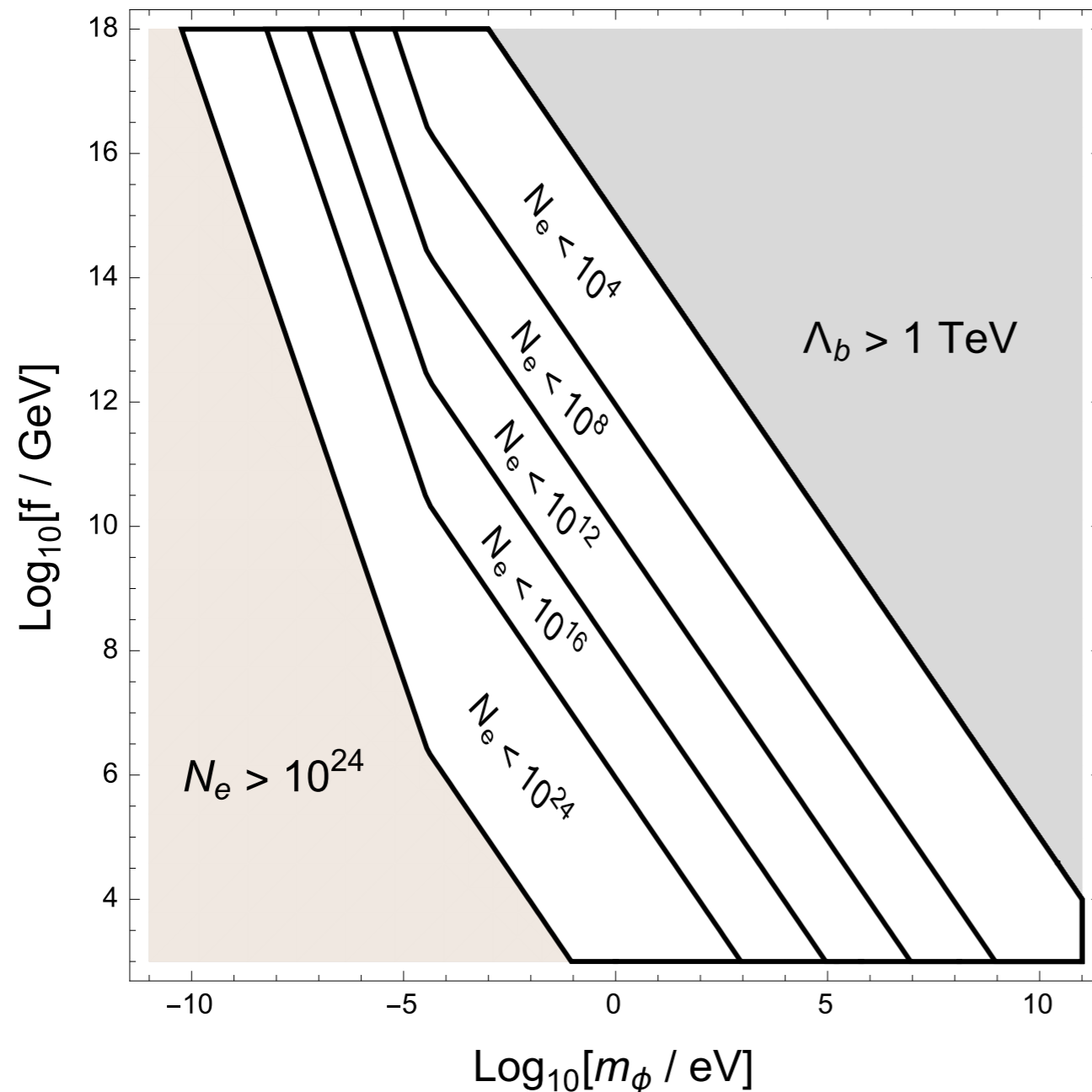
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Lambda_{\text{SM}} < \min \left[ 9 \text{ TeV} \left( \frac{\mathcal{N}_e}{10^4} \right)^{1/4}, 10^{11} \text{ GeV} \left( \frac{\text{TeV}}{f} \right)^{1/6} \right] \\ 30 \text{ GeV} \left( \frac{\Lambda_{\text{SM}}}{1 \text{ TeV}} \right) \left( \frac{10^4}{\mathcal{N}_e}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

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

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

$$H_i < \mathcal{O}(v)$$

# Cosmological relaxion windows



- $\Lambda_b > 1 \text{ TeV}$  : theoretically disfavored (naturalness bound on the barrier height)
- $N_e$  : required number of e-folding for the relaxion dynamics with the Hubble friction
- $N_e \sim 10^{24}$  : lowest e-folding for the QCD barrier

$$1 \text{ TeV} < f < M_{\text{Pl}}$$

$$10^{-10} \text{ eV} < m_\phi < v_{\text{EW}}$$

The smaller e-folding corresponds to the higher barrier.  $\Lambda_b > 30 \text{ GeV} \left( \frac{\Lambda_{\text{SM}}}{1 \text{ TeV}} \right) \left( \frac{10^4}{\mathcal{N}_e} \right)^{1/4}$



# Phenomenology of the Relaxion : Minimal couplings

- Relaxion-Higgs coupling Flacke, Frugiuele, Fuchs, Gupta, Perez '16

$$\Lambda_b^4(h) \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{f} + \delta_b\right) \quad \longrightarrow \quad m_\phi \sim \frac{\Lambda_b^2}{f} \quad \Lambda_b \equiv \Lambda_b(h=v)$$

$$\theta_{\phi h} \sim \frac{\Lambda_b^4}{vf} \sin\left(\frac{\langle\phi\rangle}{f} + \delta_b\right) \times \frac{1}{m_h^2 - m_\phi^2} \sim \boxed{\frac{m_\phi^2}{m_h^2 - m_\phi^2} \frac{f}{v} \left(1 + \frac{fm_\phi}{v^2}\right)^{-1}}$$

The relaxion-Higgs mixing  $\theta_{\phi h}$  is determined in terms of  $m_\phi$  and  $f$ .

- Relaxion-Photon coupling

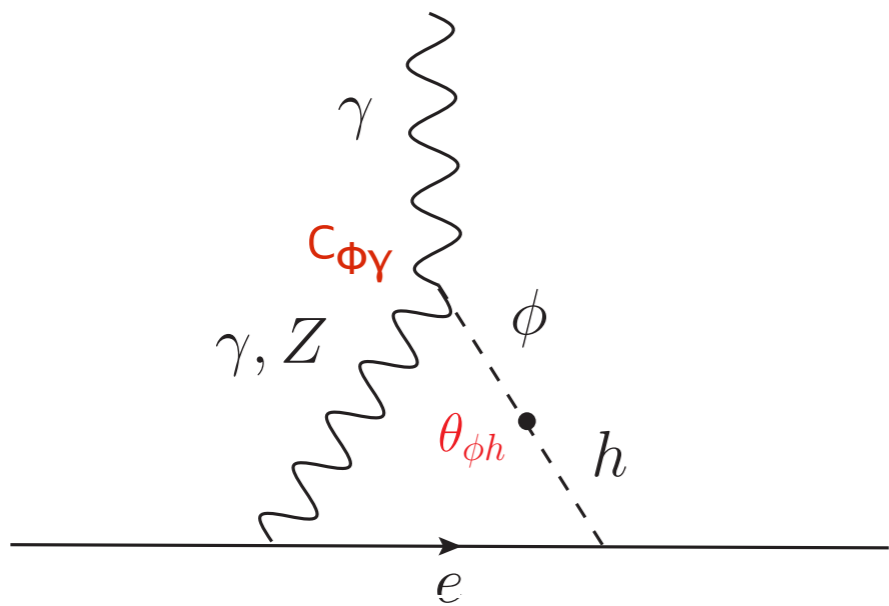
The Higgs dependent barrier sector generally includes the electroweak charged fermions.

→ relaxion-photon coupling through the anomaly

$$c_{\phi\gamma} \frac{\alpha}{4\pi f} \phi F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \quad \text{with} \quad c_{\phi\gamma} = \mathcal{O}(1)$$

The simultaneous presence of those two couplings means that **CP is spontaneously broken** by the relaxion VEV.

# 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

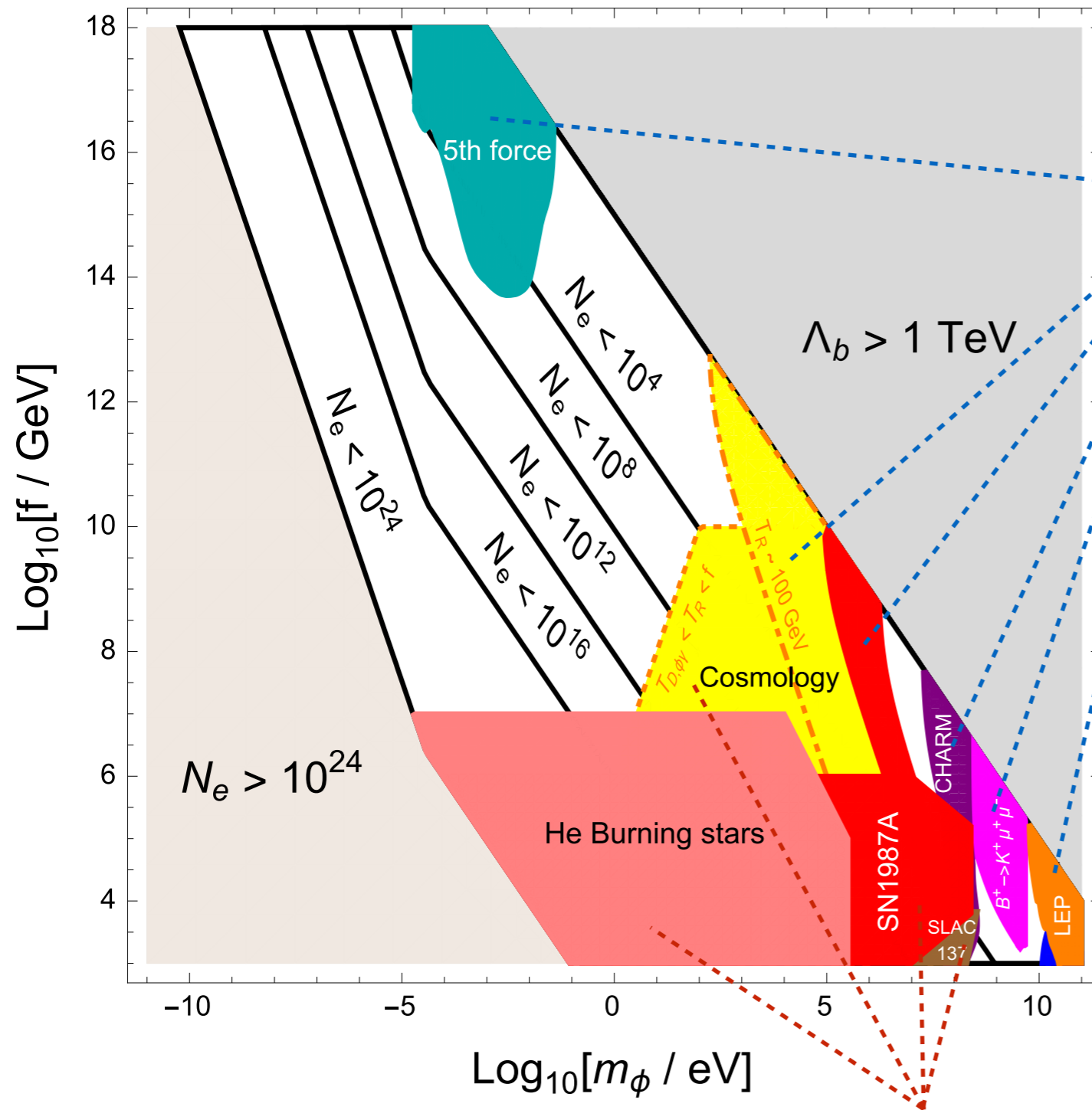
- The future EDM experiment like the proton storage ring experiment can probe the relaxion mass region below about 10 GeV.
- For  $m_\phi < 1 \text{ GeV}$ , the **relaxion couples to pions and nucleons** through the relaxion-Higgs mixing.



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

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

# Phenomenological constraints on the relaxion windows



Excluded by  $\theta_{\phi h}$

$$\sim \frac{m_\phi^2}{m_h^2 - m_\phi^2} \frac{f}{v} \left( 1 + \frac{f m_\phi}{v^2} \right)^{-1}$$

(large  $f$  region for a given  $m_\phi$ )

## Three distinctive viable windows

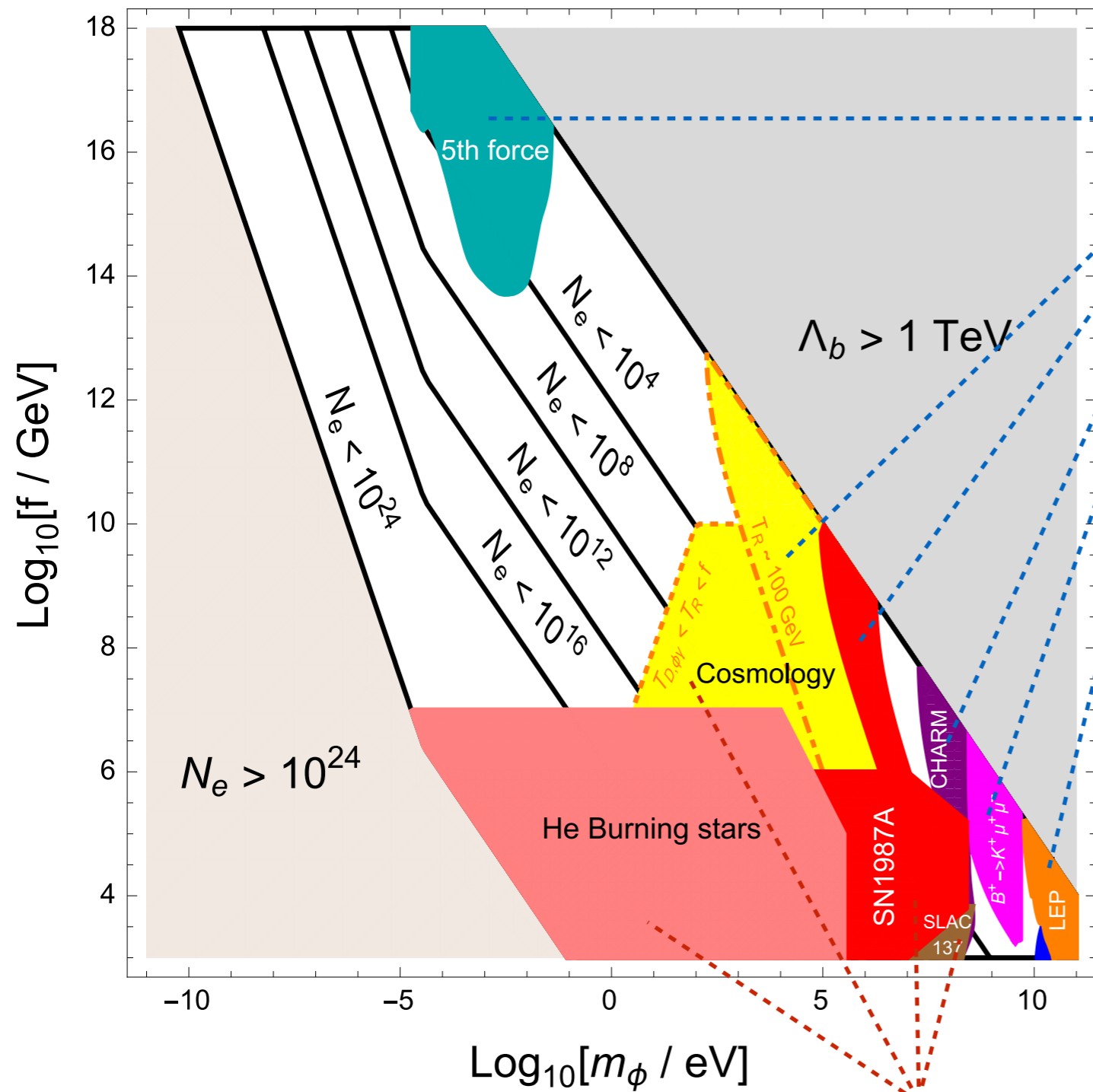
- i)  $m_\phi \sim 0.2 - 10$  GeV,  $f \sim \text{few} - 200$  TeV
- ii)  $m_\phi \sim \text{few} - 50$  MeV,  $f \sim 10^6 - 10^9$  GeV
- iii)  $m_\phi < 100$  eV,  $f > 10^7$  GeV

All of them include the small e-folding region below  $10^4$ .

Excluded by  $c_{\phi\gamma} (=1)$   
(small  $f$  region for a given  $m_\phi$ )

$$c_{\phi\gamma} \frac{\alpha}{4\pi f} \phi F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

# Phenomenological constraints on the relaxion windows



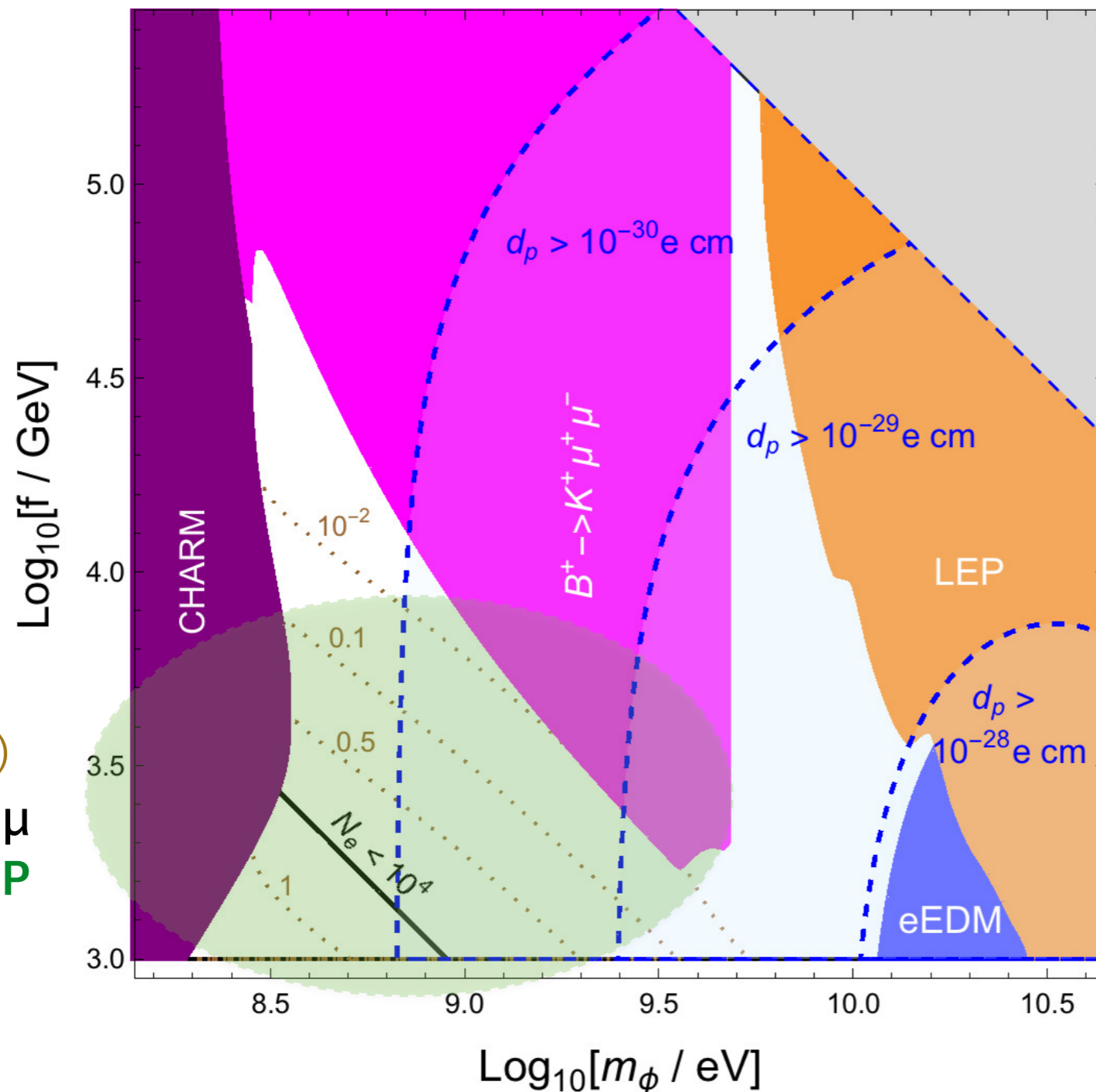
Excluded by  $c_{\phi\gamma} (=1)$

## Excluded by $\theta_{\phi h}$

- LEP :  $e^+e^- \rightarrow Z \rightarrow Z\Phi$
- Rare meson decay :  $B^+ \rightarrow K^+\Phi$  ( $\Phi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ ) [ $m_\phi < 5$  GeV]
- CHARM Beam dump :  $K \rightarrow \pi \Phi$  ( $\Phi \rightarrow \text{SM}$ )
- SN1987A : Nucleon bremsstrahlung from  $\Phi NN$
- Cosmology (BBN, CMB, DR, DM, etc) : relaxion production from thermal equilibrium through the Higgs mixing ; depends on  $T_R$
- 5th force : inverse square law

- SLAC 137 Beam dump
- SN1987A : Primakoff process
- He Burning stars : Primakoff process
- Cosmology (BBN, CMB, DR, DM, etc) : relaxion production from the photon coupling ; depends on  $T_R$

# Enlarged picture for the first window



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

- EDM with  $C_{\Phi\gamma} = 1$
- 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 converting the weak scale hierarchy to the [axion scale hierarchy](#), which can be addressed by the [clockwork](#) mechanism.
- The hierarchy is also responsible for [a large number of e-folding](#) for the relaxion dynamics with the Hubble friction.
- The [cosmological relaxion window](#) identifies the favored relaxion parameter space in terms of the necessary number of e-folding.
- The model-independent low energy relaxion phenomenology can be studied by the relaxion-Higgs mixing and relaxion-photon coupling.
- After imposing various phenomenological constraints, [three distinctive windows](#) remain viable, all of which can accommodate [a relatively small number of e-folding 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](#).