## **Searching the Relaxion at Particle Accelerators**

#### Martin W. Winkler

Phys. Lett. B727 (2013), Rept. Prog. Phys. 79 (2016) & work in progress



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## Light Scalar Mixing with the Higgs

• simplest extension of SM: one singlet scalar

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + \frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2}\mathsf{m}^2\phi^2 + \mathsf{A}\phi\mathsf{h}^2 + \dots$$

mixing with the Higgs induces coupling to SM fields

$$\mathcal{L} \supset s_{\theta} y_{f} \overline{f}f$$
  
universal  
suppression

• considered mass range  $m_{\phi} = 0.1 - 10~{
m GeV}$ 

# **Motivation: Relaxion**



severe constraints on inflationary sector

$$\label{eq:H} H \lesssim m_h \qquad e-folds \gtrsim \frac{f^2\,H^2}{\Lambda^4} \frac{M^4}{m_h^4}$$

alleviated for  $\Lambda$ , f close to weak scale

 $\Rightarrow m_{\phi} \sim 0.1 - 10 \, {
m GeV}$ 

 light scalar also appears as mediator in dark matter models Kappl, Ratz, M.W. (2011)

#### inflation models with light inflaton

Bezrukov, Gorbunov, JHEP 1005 (2010)

### **Scalar Decay**

large theoretical uncertainties on scalar decay



Clarke, Foot, Volkas, JHEP 1402 (2014)

#### **Chiral Perturbation Theory**

• decay rate of 
$$\phi$$
  
 $\Gamma_{ff} \propto s_{\theta}^2 G_F m_{\phi} m_f^2$  (perturbative)  
 $\Gamma_{\pi\pi} \propto s_{\theta}^2 \frac{G_F}{m_{\phi}} \left| \left\langle \pi \pi \left| \frac{2}{7} \Theta_{\mu}^{\mu} + m_u \bar{u}u + m_d \bar{d}d + m_s \bar{s}s \right| 0 \right\rangle \right|^2$ 

Voloshin, Sov.J.Nucl.Phys. 44 (1986)



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## **Phase Shift Analysis**

extract form factors from ππ phase shift data
 Raby, West, Phys.Rev. D38 (1988), Truong, Willey Phys.Rev. D40 (1989), Donoghue, Gasser,

Leutwyler, Nucl.Phys. B343 (1990)



 generalized to two-channel analysis to include KK Muskhelishvili (1965)

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## **Phase Shift Analysis**

disagreement Trung, Willey vs. Donoghue et al.



## Phase Shift Analysis

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 we recalculated decay rates based on phase shift analysis by Hoferichter et al. JHEP 1206 (2012)

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## **Decay Pattern**



## **Rare Decays at LHCB**

rare meson decays provide very sensitive probe

> $B \rightarrow K + \mathbf{\Phi}$  $K \rightarrow \ \pi + \varphi$  $\Upsilon \rightarrow \ \gamma + \varphi$

• LHCB search for  $B \rightarrow K \mu \mu$ JHEP 1302 (2013)

not optimized for light scalar (vertex cuts)



• new searches for B decays to long-lived boson  $B \rightarrow K^{(*)}\mu\mu$  (LHCB)  $B \rightarrow X_s \pi\pi, KK$  (BaBar)

Phys.Rev.Lett. 115 (2015), Phys.Rev. D95 (2017)

Phys. Rev. Lett. 114 (2015)



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## Beam Dumps

0.12

0.10

0.08

0.06

0.04

0.02

0.00

0

 $dN_{\phi}/dp_{\parallel}$  [GeV<sup>-1</sup>]

- strongly displaced vertices testable at beam dumps
- example: CHARM Phys.Lett. 157B (1985)
- simulation with Pythia

20



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## CHARM vs. SHiP

	N <sub>POT</sub>	E <sub>P</sub>	Decay Region	Geom. Coverage
CHARM	2 x 10 <sup>18</sup>	400 GeV	480 - 515 m	~0.3 - 1 % (B) ~0.1 - 0.2 % (K)
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### **Incomplete List of further Constraints**





BABAR, Phys.Rev.Lett. 107 (2011)



# **Summary Plot**



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- light scalar (m\_{\varphi} = 0.1-10 GeV) constitutes simple, well-motivated and predictive extension of the standard model
- uncertainties in its decay reduced to O(1) through pion phase shift analysis
- rare meson decays (with displaced vertices) provide the most sensitive probe