

# **Challenges for an axion explanation of the muon $g - 2$ measurement**

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# New Physics solutions — general requirements

$$\Delta a_\mu = a_\mu^{\text{EXP}} - a_\mu^{\text{SM}} = (25.1 \pm 5.9) \times 10^{-10}$$

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Let us sketch the type of BSM that could explain  $(g - 2)_\mu$ :

- **Absence of  $(g - 2)_e$** ,  $a_e^{\text{EXP}} - a_e^{\text{SM}} = (4.8 \pm 3.0) \times 10^{-13}$

$$\Delta a_e \sim \left( \frac{m_e}{m_\mu} \right)^2 \Delta a_\mu \approx 5.9 \times 10^{-14}$$

- **Constraints from EDM**,  $|d_e| < 1.1 \times 10^{-29} e \text{ cm}$  and  $|d_\mu| < 1.9 \times 10^{-19} e \text{ cm}$

$$|d_e| \sim \frac{e}{2m_\mu} \Delta a_\mu \approx 2.3 \times 10^{-22} e \text{ cm},$$

$$|d_\mu| \sim \frac{m_e}{m_\mu} d_\mu \approx 1.1 \times 10^{-24} e \text{ cm}.$$

- **Constraints from flavor violating processes**  $\text{Br}(\mu \rightarrow e\gamma) < 4.2 \times 10^{-13}$

$$\text{Br}(\mu \rightarrow e\gamma) \sim \frac{6\pi^2 e^2}{G_F^2 m_\mu^4} (\Delta a_\mu)^2 \approx 2.0 \times 10^{-3}.$$

# New Physics solutions — a crude classification

In terms of the new ingredient:

- New scalars
- New vectors
- New fermions
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makes the naturalness problem worse, unless embedded in a bigger theory  
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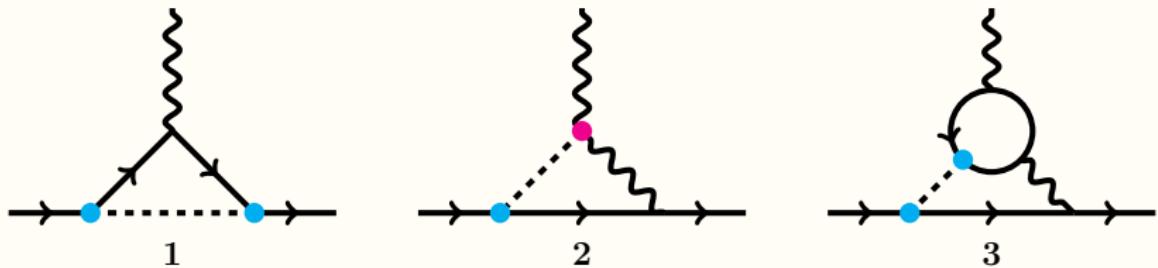
benign to the naturalness problem by themselves

# Axion EFT

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# Axion EFT – Cont'd

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} \supset \frac{c_{ii}}{2} \frac{\partial_\mu a}{f_a} (\bar{\ell}_i \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \ell_i) - V(a) + c_{\gamma\gamma} \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} \frac{a}{f_a} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} + c_{\gamma\gamma;2} \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} \frac{\partial^2 a}{f_a^3} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

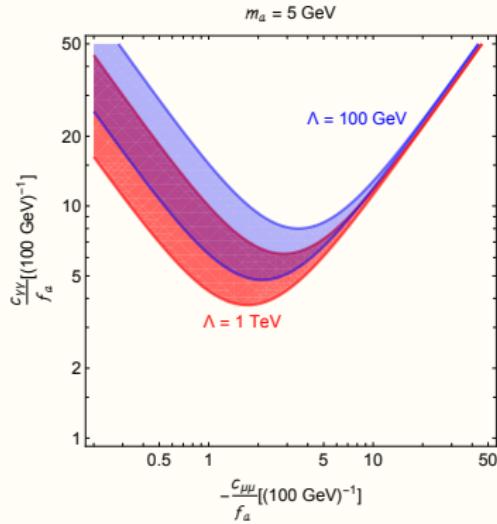
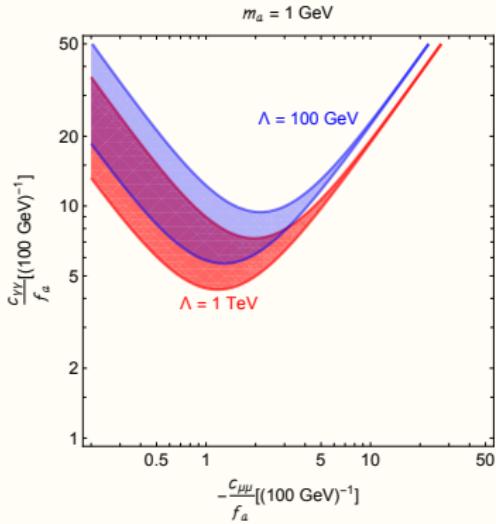


$$\Delta a_\mu^{(1)} \propto -\frac{c_{\mu\mu}^2}{16\pi^2}, \quad \Delta a_\mu^{(2)} \propto -\frac{c_{\mu\mu} c_{\gamma\gamma} \alpha}{16\pi^3}, \quad \Delta a_\mu^{(3)} \propto -\frac{c_{\mu\mu} c_{ii} \alpha}{16\pi^3},$$

We consider two scenarios

- $c_{\mu\mu} \neq 0, c_{\gamma\gamma} \neq 0$
- $c_{\mu\mu} \neq 0, c_{ee} \neq 0$

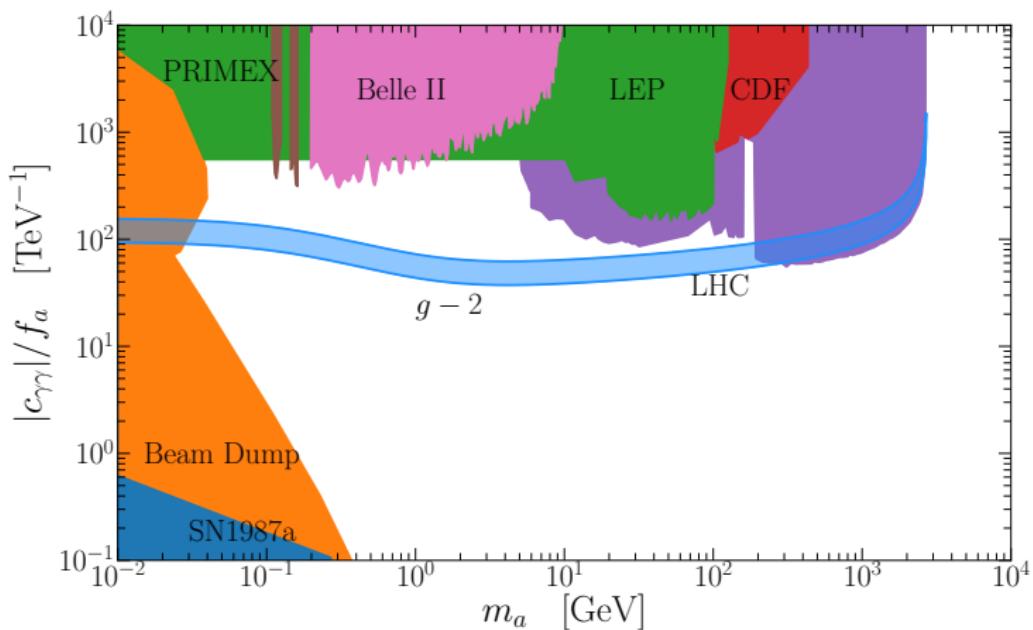
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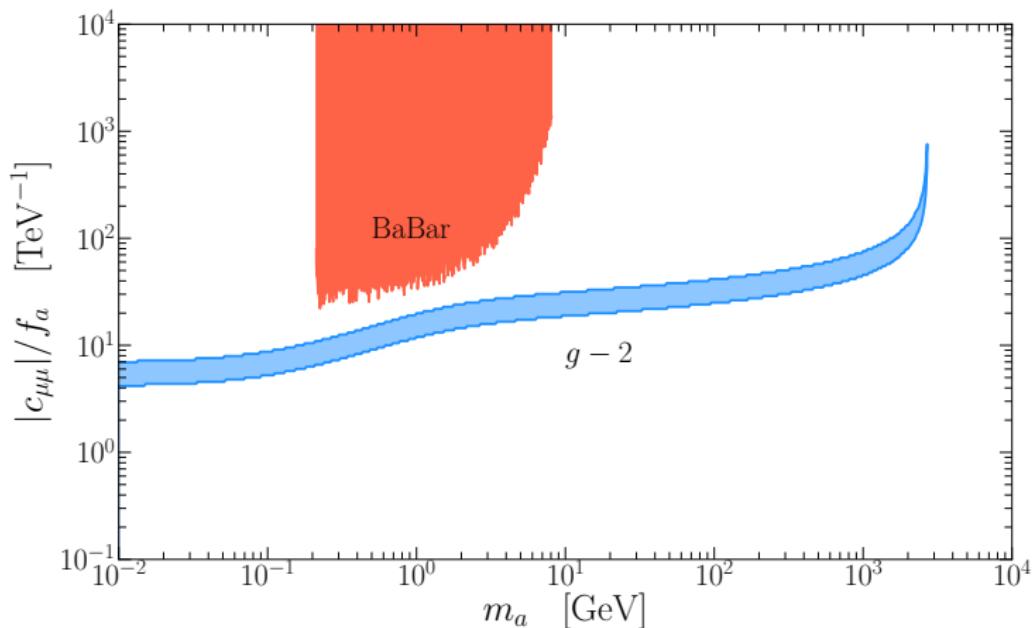
$$c_{\gamma\gamma}/c_{\mu\mu} < 0, \quad m_a \in (40 \text{ MeV} - 200 \text{ GeV})$$

$$\left| \frac{f_a}{c_{\gamma\gamma}} \right| \lesssim (10 - 25) \text{ GeV}, \quad \left| \frac{f_a}{c_{\mu\mu}} \right| \lesssim 100 \text{ GeV} .$$

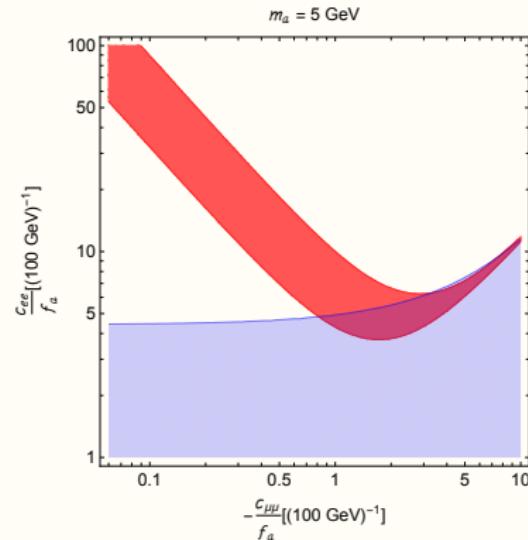
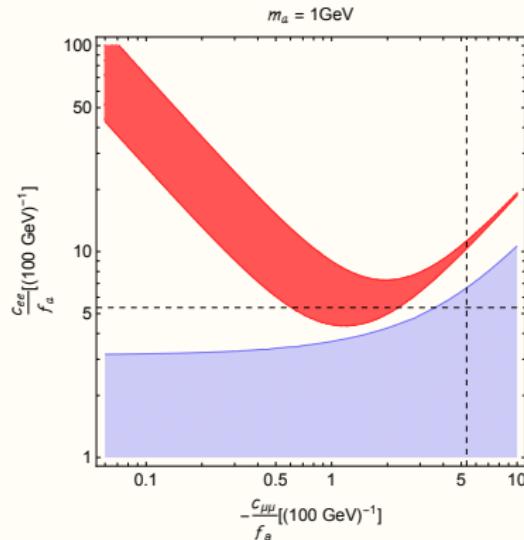
# Collider Bounds of Axion EFT



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- $c_{\mu\mu} \neq 0, \quad c_{ee} \neq 0$



$$m_a \gtrsim 2 \text{ GeV}, \quad c_{ee}/c_{\mu\mu} < 0,$$

$$\left| \frac{f_a}{c_{\mu\mu}} \right| \lesssim 100 \text{ GeV}, \quad \left| \frac{f_a}{c_{ee}} \right| \lesssim 25 \text{ GeV} \quad \text{for } m_a = 5 \text{ GeV} .$$

## **Model completion and challenges**

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- $\mu$  is directly charged under  $PQ$
- $\mu$  is neutral under  $PQ$ , but coupled to other fields charged under  $U(1)_{PQ}$ .

# $\ell$ is PQ charged – sketch

Outline of the ingredients:

- Scalars content:  $H_1, H_2, \dots; \Phi$
- All break PQ
- $H_1, H_2, \dots$  break EW
- $\Phi$  is SM singlet

$\Rightarrow$  For  $v_1 \sim v_2 \sim \dots \sim v_\Phi$ ,  $v_{EW}^2 = v_1^2 + v_2^2 + \dots$ ,  $f_a \sim v_{EW}^2 + v_\Phi^2$ . In case of invisible axion, one only needs to make  $v_\Phi \gg v_{EW}$ .

$\Rightarrow$  For our purpose,  $f_a \sim |c_{\gamma\gamma,ee}| 25 \text{ GeV}$ , we need  $f_a \ll v_{EW}$ !

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$\Rightarrow$  One solution is to have  $v_1 \gg v_2, v_\Phi$ , so the component eaten by  $Z$  is (mostly)  $H_1$ , and the axion is (mostly) a linear combination of  $H_2$  and  $\Phi$ . This gives  $v_{EW} \sim v_1, f_a \sim v_2, v_\Phi$ .

## $\ell$ is PQ charged – details

Field	$SU(2)_L$	$U(1)_Y$	$U(1)_{PQ}$
$H_l$	<b>2</b>	$-\frac{1}{2}$	+1
$H_q$	<b>2</b>	$+\frac{1}{2}$	+1
$\Phi$	<b>1</b>	0	+1
$U^c$	<b>1</b>	$-\frac{2}{3}$	-1
$D^c$	<b>1</b>	$+\frac{1}{3}$	+1
$E^c$	<b>1</b>	+1	-1

$$V_{scalar} = V_0(|H_l|, |H_q|, |\Phi|, |H_l H_q|) + \lambda_{ql\Phi} H_l H_q \Phi^{\dagger 2}$$

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$H_q$  couples to quarks       $H_l$  couples to leptons

## $\ell$ is PQ charged – NGB

Identify the pNGB's

- $(v_q^2 \theta_q - v_l^2 \theta_l)$  is eaten by  $Z$
- $(\theta_l + \theta_q - 2\theta_\Phi)$  gets massive due to  $\lambda_{ql\Phi} H_l H_q \Phi^{\dagger 2}$
- light axion mode  $a$

$$\begin{aligned} a &= \frac{1}{f_a} \left( v_\Phi^2 \theta_\Phi + 2 \frac{v_q^2 v_l^2}{v_{EW}^2} (\theta_l + \theta_q) \right) \\ &\approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{v_\Phi^2 + 4v_l^2}} (v_\Phi^2 \theta_\Phi + 2v_l^2 \theta_l) + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{v_{l,\Phi}}{v_{EW}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

## $\ell$ is PQ charged – axion couplings

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{af} &\supset (\partial_\mu \theta_l) E^{c\dagger} \bar{\sigma}^\mu E^c + (\partial_\mu \theta_q) U^{c\dagger} \bar{\sigma}^\mu U^c - (\partial_\mu \theta_q) D^{c\dagger} \bar{\sigma}^\mu D^c \\ &\mapsto \underbrace{\frac{2}{f_a} \frac{v_q^2}{v_{\text{EW}}^2}}_{-c_{\mu\mu}} (\partial_\mu a) E^{c\dagger} \bar{\sigma}^\mu E^c + \frac{2}{f_a} \frac{v_l^2}{v_{\text{EW}}^2} (\partial_\mu a) (U^{c\dagger} \bar{\sigma}^\mu U^c - D^{c\dagger} \bar{\sigma}^\mu D^c),\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{a\gamma} &\supset 3(\theta_l + \theta_q) \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \\ &\mapsto \underbrace{\frac{6}{f_a} \frac{v_q^2 + v_l^2}{v_{\text{EW}}^2}}_{c_{\gamma\gamma}} \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} = \frac{6}{f_a} \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}.\end{aligned}$$

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$$\mapsto \underbrace{\frac{2}{f_a} \frac{v_q^2}{v_{\text{EW}}^2}}_{-c_{\mu\mu}} (\partial_\mu a) E^{c\dagger} \bar{\sigma}^\mu E^c + \frac{2}{f_a} \frac{v_l^2}{v_{\text{EW}}^2} (\partial_\mu a) (U^{c\dagger} \bar{\sigma}^\mu U^c - D^{c\dagger} \bar{\sigma}^\mu D^c),$$

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Observations:

- $v_q \sim v_{\text{EW}} > v_l \sim v_\Phi$ , axions dominantly couples to  $\ell$  and  $\gamma$
- no  $a - g$  coupling b/c  $U^c$  and  $D^c$  have opposite PQ
- $c_{\mu\mu}$  has the opposite sign as  $c_{\gamma\gamma}$

## $\ell$ is PQ charged – challenges

2HDM + radial mode of  $\Phi$ :

- $v_l, v_\Phi \ll v_{EW}$
- Close to alignment limit, s.t. couplings are SM-like
- Radial mode of  $\Phi$  could mix with SM higgs,  $h \rightarrow aa$
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Lepton-specific 2HDM: [1106.0034](#), [PRD41 3421](#), [1207.4835](#), [1305.2424](#),

Global EW fit on 2HDM: [1803.01853](#)

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Recipe:

- $\ell$  doesn't couple to axion directly
- new vector-fermion,  $\chi$ , is PQ-charged
- $\ell$  mass-mixes with  $\chi$
- mass-mixing  $\ll \chi$  mass
- $\ell$  inherits “fractional” PQ charge

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$$\Phi_s : (\mathbf{1}, \ 0, +1)$$

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$$\chi_i \approx -\frac{y_{Ei}\Phi_s E_i^c}{M_i}$$

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$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} \supset -\frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_a} \left( \left| \frac{y_{Ei}f_a}{M_i} \right|^2 E_i^{c\dagger} \bar{\sigma}^\mu E_i^c \right)$$

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e.g. vec-fermion  $\rightarrow$  full lepton f.s.  $M > 400 \text{ GeV}$  (LHC 8TeV)

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e.g. vec-fermion  $\rightarrow$  full lepton f.s.  $M > 400 \text{ GeV}$  (LHC 8TeV)
- $\chi$  directly contributes to  $g - 2$

$$\Delta a_\mu^{\tilde{\chi}} \approx 11 \times 10^{-10} y_{E2}^2 \left( \frac{100 \text{ GeV}}{M_2} \right)^2$$

## $\ell$ is PQ neutral

- $c_{\gamma\gamma}$  is not generated ( $\chi, \tilde{\chi}$  PQ vector)
- $c_{ee} \cdot c_{\mu\mu} > 0$  (extra vector-fermions that are not PQ-vector)
- light charged fermions

$$M \lesssim 500 \text{ GeV} \left( \frac{y}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \right) \left( \frac{1/(100 \text{ GeV})}{c_{\mu\mu}/f_a} \right)$$

- $\chi \rightarrow a + E^c, \chi \rightarrow W/Z + E^c,$
- $a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma, e^+e^-, \mu^+\mu^-$   
e.g. vec-fermion  $\rightarrow$  full lepton f.s.  $M > 400 \text{ GeV}$  (LHC 8TeV)
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# Conclusions

- Axions are benign candidates for light modes
- From EFT point of view, axion could address  $(g - 2)_\mu$
- Yet, completing the model leads to serious challenges:
  - it requires large axion coupling,  $f/c_{ae}, f/c_{a\mu}, f/c_{a\gamma} \gtrsim (100 \text{ GeV})^{-1}$
  - light charged modes  $\sim \mathcal{O}(10) - \mathcal{O}(100) \text{ GeV}$
  - light neutral modes that mixes with Higgs
  - direct contribute to  $(g - 2)_\mu$  from extra ingredient