Meson Decays in Invisibles ALPs

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Contents

Why Axion Like Particles (ALPs)?

ALPs as (p)NGBs of a U(1) global symmetry breaking;

* The ALP-Fermion Effective Lagrangian:

Basis of independent DIM 5 operators;

* Meson Decays into Invisible ALPs:

- Hadronic Decays: $M \to M' a$ (i.e. $K \to \pi a$);
- Leptonic Decays: $M \to \ell \nu_{\ell} a$ (i.e. $K, B \to \mu \nu_{\mu} a$);
- Radiative Decays: $M \to \gamma a$ (i.e. $\Upsilon(ns) \to \gamma a$);

🕆 Summary & Outlook

Why Axion Like Particles ?

Axion SOLUTION to the strong CP—problem:

- * Extend the SM with (at least) an extra scalar field endowed with a $U(1)_{PQ}$ global symmetry;
- ★ Spontaneous symmetry breaking (non linearly realised) at a scale $f_a \gg v_{EW}$ (invisible axions KSVZ, DFSZ). The only physical d.o.f. at low energy is the (p)NGB;
- * Through the axial anomaly an effective coupling with (at least) gluons are generated: $(a/f_a) Tr[G^{\mu\nu}\tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}]$
- ☆ QCD non perturbative effects force the p(NGB) to take a vev (solution of strong CP problem) and a mass:

$$\overline{\theta} = \theta + \frac{\langle a \rangle}{f_a} = 0$$

$$m_a f_a \approx m_\pi f_\pi$$

Why Axion Like Particles ?

- Spontaneously broken global U(1) symmetries are a common feature of many BSM frameworks;
- Many different HIERARCHY problems may be solved introducing an "AXION-LIKE PARTICLE":
 - ☆ Cosmology and Axion Inflation, Relaxion and EW Hierarchy, Flaxion and Flavour Symmetry;
- AXION vs ALPs: relation between m_a and f_a a;

 \Rightarrow AXION = fixed by QCD relations:

($10^{-7} \leq m_a \leq 1$) eV and ($10^7 \leq f_a \leq 10^{12}$) TeV;

ALPs = free relation

 $m_a \sim \text{GeV}$ and $f_a \sim \text{TeV}$ can be considered;

The Dimension 5 Effective Lagrangian describing the interaction between ALP and SM particles (EW scale):

$$\delta \mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = -\frac{c_G}{4} \frac{a}{f_a} G_a^{\mu\nu} \widetilde{G}_{\mu\nu}^a - \frac{c_B}{4} \frac{a}{f_a} B^{\mu\nu} \widetilde{B}_{\mu\nu} - \frac{c_W}{4} \frac{a}{f_a} W^{\mu\nu} \widetilde{W}_{\mu\nu}$$
$$(-\frac{\partial_{\mu}a}{2f_a} \left(\overline{Q}_L X_L \gamma^{\mu} Q_L + \overline{u}_R X_R^u \gamma^{\mu} u_R + \overline{d}_R X_R^d \gamma^{\mu} d_R \right) + c_a \Phi \frac{\partial_{\mu}a}{2f_a} \Phi^{\dagger} \widetilde{D}_{\mu} \Phi$$

• Field dependent redefinition (y_i = hypercharge) induces shifts on DIM 5 operators (from kinetic terms):

$$\begin{cases} \Phi'(x) = e^{-i y_{\Phi} \alpha \frac{a(x)}{f_a}} \Phi(x) \\ \psi'_f(x) = e^{-i y_f \alpha \frac{a(x)}{f_a}} \psi_f(x) \end{cases} \begin{cases} \tilde{c}_{a\Phi} = c_{a\Phi} - 2 y_{\phi} \alpha = 0 \\ \tilde{X}_{L,R} = X_{L,R} + 2 y_{L,R}^f c_{a\Phi} \mathbb{I} \end{cases}$$

 $c_{a\Phi}$ = universal ALP-fermion coupling

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$$\left(-\frac{\partial_{\mu}a}{2f_a} \left(\overline{Q}_L X_L \gamma^{\mu} Q_L + \overline{u}_R X^u_R \gamma^{\mu} u_R + \overline{d}_R X^d_R \gamma^{\mu} d_R\right) + c_a \Phi \frac{\partial_{\mu}a}{2f_a} \Phi^{\dagger} \widetilde{D}_{\mu} \Phi\right)$$

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 $c_{a\Phi}$ = universal ALP-fermion coupling

In general, after EWSB, the effective ALP-fermions (quarks) couplings read: SMEFT-ALP running see Neubert talk

$$-\frac{\partial_{\mu}a}{2f_a} \Big\{ \overline{U}(C_V^u + C_A^u \gamma_5) \gamma^{\mu}U + \overline{D}(C_V^d + C_A^u \gamma_5) \gamma^{\mu}D \Big\} \Big\}$$

It is customary to use the SM-fermion equations of motions and write the couplings in the "Yukawa basis":

$$i\frac{a}{2f_a} \Big\{ \overline{u}_i \big[(m_i - m_j) (C_V^u)_{ij} + (m_i + m_j) (C_A^u)_{ij} \gamma_5 \big] \gamma^\mu u_j + \\ + \overline{d}_i \big[(m_i - m_j) (C_V^d)_{ij} + (m_i + m_j) (C_A^d)_{ij} \gamma_5 \big] \gamma^\mu d_j \Big\}$$

leaving a total of $2 \times (6_V + 9_A) = 30$ independent couplings in the quark sector (+ 15 for charged leptons).

In the spirit of MFV one can simplify the effective ALPfermion Lagrangian to 6 (+3) independent couplings c_i :

$$i \frac{a}{f_a} c_i m_i \overline{\psi}_i \gamma_5 \gamma^\mu \psi_i$$

- All Flavour Violating couplings will be loop-generated and controlled by CKM parameters;
- To obtain limits on flavour-violating tree-level couplings one can always rescale the results (loop + CKM factor);
- * Flavour Factories are the main playground for studying ALP-fermions couplings for m_a in the KeV-GeV range;

Meson Decays into invisible ALP

- Mesonic decays into an invisible ALP are very clean channels for constraining ALP-fermion couplings:
 - ★ Invisible ALP = long living ALP ($\tau_a \gtrsim 100$ ps) or decaying in an invisible sector (DM portal);
 - Very simple signature: missing energy/momentum;
- Three promising channels:
 - i) Hadronic Decays: $M \to M'a$ (i.e. $K \to \pi a, B \to Ka$);
 - ii) Leptonic Decays: $M \to \ell \nu_{\ell} a$ (i.e. $K, B \to \mu \nu_{\mu} a$);
 - iii) Radiative Decays: $M \rightarrow \gamma a$ (i.e. $\Upsilon(ns) \rightarrow \gamma a, B \rightarrow \gamma a$);
- Visible ALP decays can be studied in a similar way (but in general suffer from a larger $1/f_a^2$ suppression);

Penguins dominate the decay amplitude due to the top mass enhancement [Izaguirre et al 2017, Gavela et al. 2019]



• Hadronization for penguin diagrams: LQCD [Carrasco et al 2016]

$$\langle \pi(p_{\pi})|\bar{s}\gamma^{\mu}u|K(p_{K})\rangle \equiv f_{+}(q^{2})(p_{K}+p_{\pi})^{\mu} + f_{-}(q^{2})(p_{K}-p_{\pi})^{\mu}$$

with $f_{+}(0) = f_{0}(0) = 0.9709 (46)$ and a mild q^{2} dependence

Penguins dominate the decay amplitude due to the top mass enhancement [Izaguirre et al 2017, Gavela et al. 2019]



$$\mathcal{M}_{K^{+}}^{L} = \frac{G_{F} m_{t}^{2}}{4\sqrt{2}\pi^{2}} (V_{ts}V_{td}^{*}) \frac{M_{K^{+}}^{2}}{f_{a}} \left(1 - \frac{M_{\pi^{+}}^{2}}{M_{K^{+}}^{2}}\right) \left[f_{+}(m_{a}^{2}) + \frac{m_{a}^{2}}{M_{K^{+}}^{2} - M_{\pi^{+}}^{2}} f_{-}(m_{a}^{2})\right] \sum_{q=u,c,t} c_{sd}^{(q)}$$
with $c_{sd}^{(q)} = \frac{V_{qi}V_{qj}^{*}}{V_{ts}V_{td}^{*}} \left[3 c_{W} \frac{g(x_{q})}{x_{t}} + \frac{c_{q} x_{q}}{4 x_{t}} \ln\left(\frac{f_{a}^{2}}{m_{q}^{2}}\right)\right] \left(x_{q} \equiv \frac{m_{q}^{2}}{M_{W}^{2}}\right)$



Tree—level diagrams can contribute to the decay. Are we sure they are (always) negligible?



- Similar diagrams with the ALP emitted from the π ;
- The diagram with the ALP-W emission automatically vanishes due to the fully antisymmetric ALP-W vertex;
- One can estimate the hadronization form factors for tree-level diagrams applying the Brodsky-Lepage method;

 The hadronic part of the process (ALP emitted form the K meson) can be factorized as following:

 $\langle \pi | (\bar{u} \gamma^{\mu} P_L d) | 0 \rangle \langle 0 | (\bar{s} \Gamma_{\mu} u) | K \rangle$

with the hard ALP-quark "hard" amplitude Γ_{μ} given by

$$\Gamma_{\mu} = \frac{4G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{us}^* V_{ud} \left(\frac{c_s m_s}{f_a} \gamma_5 \frac{\not\!\!\!\! k_a - \not\!\!\!\! p_{\bar{s}} + m_s}{m_a^2 - 2k_a \cdot p_{\bar{s}}} \gamma_{\mu} P_L - \frac{c_u m_u}{f_a} \gamma_{\mu} P_L \frac{\not\!\!\! k_a - \not\!\!\!\! p_u - m_u}{m_a^2 - 2k_a \cdot p_u} \gamma_5 \right)$$

The hadronic matrix elements for π and K [Brodsky, Lepage 1980, Lepage, Brodsky 1981] $\langle 0 | (\bar{d} \gamma^{\mu} \gamma_5 u | \pi) \rangle = i f_{\pi} p_{\pi}^{\mu}, \quad \langle 0 | (\bar{d} \gamma^{\mu} u) | \pi \rangle = 0$ $\langle 0 | (\bar{s} \Gamma^{\mu} u) | K \rangle = i f_K \int_0^1 dx \operatorname{Tr} [\Gamma^{\mu} \Psi_K(x)] \qquad \left(\begin{array}{c} p_{\overline{s}} = x \, p_K \\ p_u = (1-x) \, p_K \end{array} \right)$

with x the fraction of momentum taken by the parton (s);

• The (pseudo-scalar) wave-function is defined in terms of two (phenomenological) functions $\phi_M(x)$, $g_M(x)$ [Brodsky, Lepage 1980, Lepage, Brodsky 1981]

$$\Psi_M(x) = \frac{1}{4}\phi_M(x)\gamma^5(p_M + g_M(x)M_M)$$

 $\star \phi_{M}(x)$ describes the quark momentum distribution inside the meson;

 $\Rightarrow g_M(x)$ parameterizes the "bare" meson mass;

$$\left| \begin{array}{c} \phi_L(x) \propto x(1-x) \\ g_L(x) \approx 0 \end{array} \right|$$

Light Meson ($m_u \sim m_d \approx 0$) Symmetric Distribution

$$\phi_H(x) \propto \left[\frac{\xi^2}{1-x} + \frac{1}{x} - 1\right]^{-2}$$
$$g_H(x) \approx 1$$

Heavy Meson ($m_Q \gg m_q$) Picked Distribution $\xi \approx m_q/m_Q$

• Following the BL approach one can estimate the tree-level contribution to the hadronic meson decay for an ALP emitted inside the K and π :

$$\mathcal{M}_{K^{+}} = \frac{G_{F}}{\sqrt{2}} (V_{us}^{*} V_{ud}) f_{K} f_{\pi} (k_{a} \cdot P_{\pi}) \frac{M_{K}}{f_{a}} \times \int_{0}^{1} \left\{ \frac{c_{s} m_{s} \theta(x - \delta_{a}^{K})}{m_{a}^{2} - 2 x k_{a} \cdot P_{K}} - \frac{c_{u} m_{u} \theta(1 - x - \delta_{a}^{K})}{m_{a}^{2} - 2 (1 - x) k_{a} \cdot P_{K}} \right\} \phi_{K}(x) g_{K}(x) dx$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\pi^{+}} = \frac{G_{F}}{\sqrt{2}} (V_{us}^{*} V_{ud}) f_{K} f_{\pi} (k_{a} \cdot P_{K}) \frac{M_{\pi}}{f_{a}} \times \int_{0}^{1} \left\{ \frac{c_{d} m_{d} \theta(x - \delta_{a}^{\pi})}{m_{a}^{2} - 2 x k_{a} \cdot P_{\pi}} - \frac{c_{u} m_{u} \theta(1 - x - \delta_{a}^{\pi})}{m_{a}^{2} - 2 (1 - x) k_{a} \cdot P_{\pi}} \right\} \phi_{\pi}(x) g_{\pi}(x) dx$$

• Unphysical poles kinematically removed ($\delta_K = m_a/(2M_K)$)

• In the $m_a = 0$ limit, formulas looks quite simple.

 $\approx K/\pi$ ratio: ALP mainly emitted from Kaon (after all ALPs couples through masses)

$$R_{\pi/K} = \left|\frac{\mathcal{M}_{\pi^+}}{\mathcal{M}_{K^+}}\right| \approx \left(\frac{g_{\pi}}{g_K}\right) \left(\frac{M_{\pi}}{M_K}\right)^2 \lesssim \left(\frac{M_{\pi}}{M_K}\right)^3 \simeq 0.01$$

* Momentum distribution inside Kaon: Light or Heavy?

$$R_{L/H}^{K} = \left| \frac{\mathcal{M}_{L}^{K}}{\mathcal{M}_{H}^{K}} \right| \approx \frac{3}{2}$$

Most probably something in the middle:

$$\widehat{m}_u = m_u + \Lambda_K = \frac{M_K + m_u - m_s}{2} \implies \qquad \xi = \frac{\widehat{m}_u}{\widehat{m}_s} \approx \frac{M_K - m_s}{M_K + m_s}$$

• Tree-level diagrams provides sensitivity on ALP-light quark couplings: limits on c_s choosing $c_{u,d} = \pm c_s$ (with all the other ALP couplings set to 0)



Tree-level vs one-loop comparison:

Tree-level vs penguin-loop ratio is small but yet not negligible:

$$R_{T/L}^{K} = \left| \frac{\mathcal{M}_{K^+}^T}{\mathcal{M}_{K^+}^L} \right| \approx 2 \pi^2 \frac{f_K f_\pi}{m_t^2} \left| \frac{V_{us}^* V_{ud}}{V_{ts}^* V_{td}} \right| \simeq 0.01$$

* For the $K \rightarrow \pi a$ decay and in general for all downtype mesons the tree-level contribution is suppressed and can be neglected (in universal scenarios);

☆ For up-type mesons one should care, for example:

$$R_{T/L}(B \to K a) \simeq R_{T/L}(B \to \pi a) \approx 10^{-6}$$
$$R_{T/L}(D \to K a) \simeq R_{T/L}(D \to \pi a) \approx 10$$

 In the non-universal scenario tree-level contributions can have a significant impact.



 In the non-universal scenario tree-level contributions can have a significant impact. A simple non-universal case:



• Summary of two parameter $(c_{\uparrow}, c_{\downarrow})$ fit for $m_a = 0.2$ GeV and $f_a = 1$ TeV. Bounds from $K_L^0 \to \pi^0 a$ (universal coupling) and $\Upsilon(ns) \to \gamma a$ decays are also shown.



ii) Leptonic Meson Decays in ALPs

 The analysis of leptonic meson decay in ALPs is very similar to the (tree-level) hadronic decays: [Aditya et al 2012 Guerrera et al 2021]



• The amplitude for a meson-emitted ALP reads:

$$\mathcal{M}_{h} = \frac{4 \, i \, G_{F} \, V_{qQ}}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{f_{M}}{f_{a}} \frac{M_{M}^{2}}{2 \, p_{a} \cdot P_{M}} \left[c_{Q} \frac{m_{Q}}{M_{M}} \Phi_{M}^{(Q)}(m_{a}^{2}) - c_{q} \frac{m_{q}}{M_{M}} \Phi_{M}^{(q)}(m_{a}^{2}) \right] \left(\bar{\ell} \not p_{a} \, P_{L} \, \nu_{\ell} \right)$$

• The amplitude for a lepton-emitted ALP reads:

ii) Leptonic Meson Decays in ALPs

- Lower sensitivity on ALP-quark couplings (vs. hadronic);
- Strongest available bounds on ALP-charged leptons couplings (for KeV $\leq m_a \leq$ few GeV);



Meson radiative decays are also very clean signatures.

- Flavour Changing processes: $B^0 \rightarrow \gamma a$
 - ☆ The hadronization procedure is very similar to the one previously discussed for leptonic processes;

* Preliminary results (shown in the summary table)

- Flavour Conserving processes: $\Upsilon(ns) \rightarrow \gamma a$ [Wilczek 1977]
 - ☆ Simplest case of BL procedure: the momentum distribution of a $b \overline{b}$ pair = 1/2;
 - Very interesting analysis (both theoretical and experimental implications);



- Resonant contributions provide a clear and direct access to ALP-quark couplings c_q ;
- Underlying assumption: negligible ALP-photon coupling c_{γ} (i.e. loop suppressed). Fine for independent limits on c_q .

 At e⁺e⁻ machines (BABAR and BELLE) both non-resonant and resonant contributions to ALP production can be in general present:

☆ Several TH and EXP "interpretation" issues;

• Non-Resonant contribution to ALP production at e^+e^- collider is trivial and depend ONLY on c_{γ} :



$$\sigma_{\rm NR}(s) = \frac{\alpha_{\rm em}}{24} \frac{c_{a\gamma\gamma}^2}{f_a^2} \left(1 - \frac{m_a^2}{s}\right)^3$$

One may (naively) assume it's negligible w.r.t. resonant ones, if experiments are running at some $q\bar{q}$ resonance;

ributions to ALP production depend simulations on c_{γ} and c_{q}



 e^{-}

 $\bullet e^+$

$$\sigma(s)_{\text{res.}} = \sigma_{\text{peak}} \frac{m_{\Upsilon}^2 \Gamma_{\Upsilon}^2}{(s - m_{\Upsilon})^2 + m_{\Upsilon}^2 \Gamma_{\Upsilon}^2} \mathcal{B}(\Upsilon \to \gamma a)$$
$$\mathcal{B}(\Upsilon \to \gamma a) = \frac{\alpha_{\text{em}}}{216 \Gamma_{\Upsilon}} m_{\Upsilon} f_{\Upsilon}^2 \left(1 - \frac{m_a^2}{m_{\Upsilon}^2}\right) \left[\frac{c_{a\gamma\gamma}}{f_a} \left(1 - \frac{m_a^2}{m_{\Upsilon}^2}\right) - 2\frac{c_{abb}}{f_a}\right]^2$$

with the matrix element $\langle 0 | \overline{b} \gamma^{\mu} b | \Upsilon(p) \rangle = m_{\Upsilon} f_{\Upsilon} \varepsilon^{\mu}(p)$;

Phenomenological analysis of $\Upsilon(ns) \rightarrow \gamma a$ is quite puzzling:

- $\Upsilon(1s, 2s, 3s)$ resonances are very narrow compared to BABAR/BELLE beam energy uncertainty ($\sigma_W \approx 5$ MeV);
- Υ(4s) very spread resonance (essentially no resonance).
 Analysis foreseen for BelleII;

$\Upsilon(nS)$	$\Gamma_{\Upsilon} \; [\text{keV}]$	$\sigma_{ m peak}$ [nb]	ρ	$\langle \sigma_{\rm res} \rangle_{ m vis} / \sigma_{ m non \ res.}$
$\Upsilon(1S)$	54.02			
$\Upsilon(2S)$	31.98			
$\Upsilon(3S)$	20.32			
$\Upsilon(4S)$	20.5×10^3			

 $(c_b = 0)$

• The "visible" resonance contribution obtained by smearing and get reduced by a factor $\rho \approx 10^{-3} \rightarrow$ subdominant;

$$\begin{split} \langle \sigma_{\rm res} \rangle_{\rm vis} &= \int \frac{\sigma_{\rm res}(s)}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_W} \exp\left[-\frac{(\sqrt{s}-m_\Upsilon)^2}{2\sigma_W^2}\right] \mathrm{d}\sqrt{s} \,, \qquad \text{[Eidelman et al. 1601.07987]} \\ \Gamma_\Upsilon &\leq \sigma_W \ \rho \, \sigma_{\rm peak} \, \mathcal{B}(\Upsilon(nS) \to \gamma a) \,, \qquad \left(\rho = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{8}} \frac{\Gamma_\Upsilon}{\sigma_W} \sim 10^{-2} \div 10^{-3}\right) \end{split}$$

$\Upsilon(nS)$	$\Gamma_{\Upsilon} \; [\text{keV}]$	$\sigma_{ m peak}$ [nb]	ρ	$\langle \sigma_{ m res} angle_{ m vis} / \sigma_{ m non \ res.}$
$\Upsilon(1S)$	54.02	$(3.9(18) \times 10^3)$	6.1×10^{-3}	0.53(5)
$\Upsilon(2S)$	31.98	$2.8(2) \times 10^3$	3.7×10^{-3}	0.21 (3)
$\Upsilon(3S)$	20.32	$3.0(3) \times 10^3$	2.3×10^{-3}	0.16(3)
$\Upsilon(4S)$	20.5×10^3	2.10(10)	0.83	$3.0(3) \times 10^{-5}$

Which is cross-section to use? Resonant vs Non-Resonant?

- Experimental collaborations provide reconstructed vs non reconstructed (more often) $\Upsilon(ns)$ decays;
 - \Rightarrow Reconstructed $\Upsilon(ns)$ decay: [Babar 1007.4646]

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Upsilon(2s) \to \Upsilon(1s) \, \pi^+ \, \pi^- \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & &$$

Reconstructed = Resonant ONLY decay;

- ☆ Non-Reconstructed Y(ns) decays = Resonant + Non Resonant diagrams as one is integrating in the whole
 5 MeV beam (not only in the 20-50 keV resonance);
- Some of the experimental provided $\mathscr{B}(\Upsilon \to \gamma a)$ need to be recasted as obtained by without the non-resonant term;

• Be careful in extracting (theoretical) information from $\Upsilon(ns)$. One cannot simply "average" different exp. data;

But there is a even more subtle (experimental) problem

- Background: off-resonance data are subtracted from on-resonance one.
 - ☆ Assume implicitly that signal is ONLY resonant. But "Wilzcek-like" models are exceptions in Axion or ALPs frameworks;
 - ☆ As non-resonant contribution is typically larger than resonant one, this would cancel all the signal;
 - ☆ Alternative way to estimate background ?



Summary

- ALPs represent a wide class of models with common features (NP as new light degree of freedom);
- Flavour Factories optimal place for studying new light d.o.f in the (KeV-GeV) range;
- Three different type of Meson decays in INVISIBLE ALP:
 - ☆ Hadronic, Leptonic and Radiative Meson decays in Invisible ALPs;
- Bounds on ALP-fermion (FC) couplings;

Summary on ALP-fermion couplings

