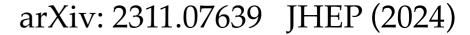
# Gauged Global Strings

Wei Xue

Axion 2024



with Xuce Niu and Fengwei Yang





#### Outline

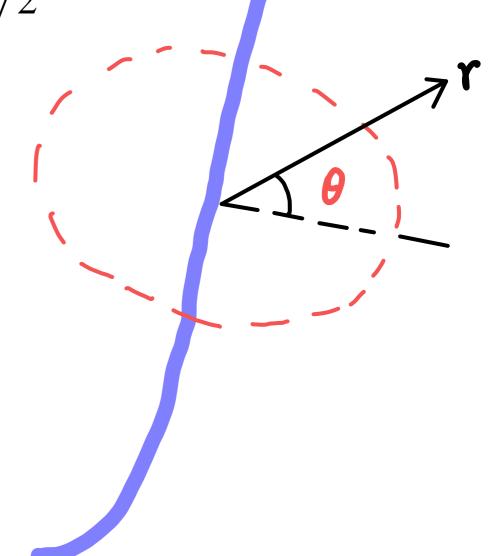
- Introduction global strings and gauge strings
- Gauge  $U(1)_Z \times \text{global } U(1)_{PQ}$ and string solutions
- Cosmological implication
  - 1) rich string structure/dynamics
  - 2) opening up QCD axion window
  - 3) gauge string radiating axions?
- Conclusion

• global U(1) symmetry breaking 
$$\langle \Phi \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} f_a$$

global U(1) symmetry breaking  $\langle \Phi \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} f_a$ 

global string solution

$$\Phi(r,\theta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} f_a e^{i\theta}, \quad r \to \infty$$



global U(1) symmetry breaking  $\langle \Phi \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} f_a$ 

global string solution

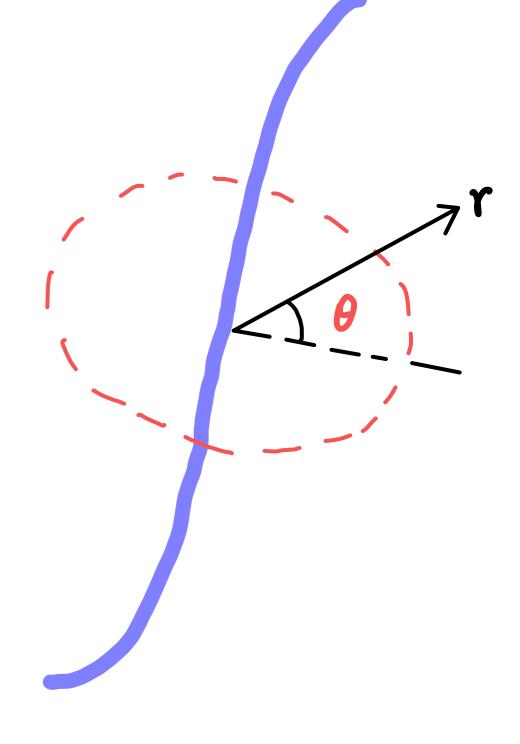
$$\Phi(r,\theta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} f_a e^{i\theta}, \quad r \to \infty$$

tension

gradient term 
$$\mu \simeq 2\pi \int_{m^{-1}}^{L} \mathrm{d}r \frac{1}{r} |\partial_{\theta} \Phi(r,\theta)|^2 = \pi f_a^2 \ln(mL)$$



## Gauge strings

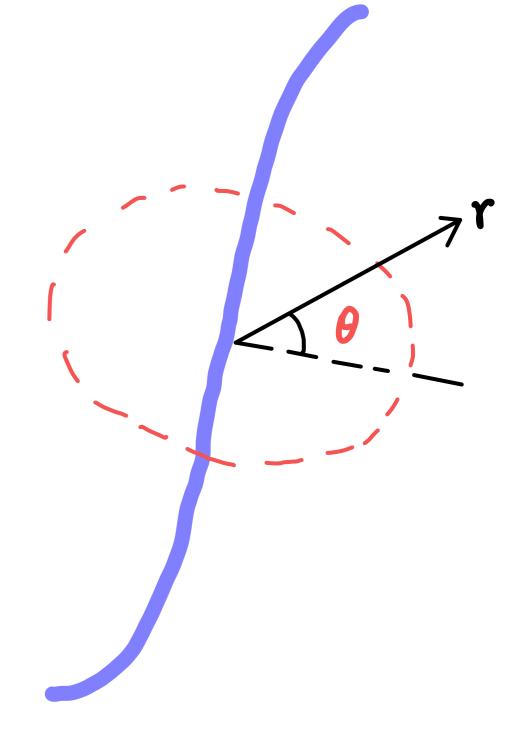


### Gauge strings

• gauge string solution

$$\Phi(r,\theta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} f_a e^{i\theta}$$

$$Z_{\mu} = \frac{1}{e} \partial_{\mu} \theta \qquad r \to \infty$$

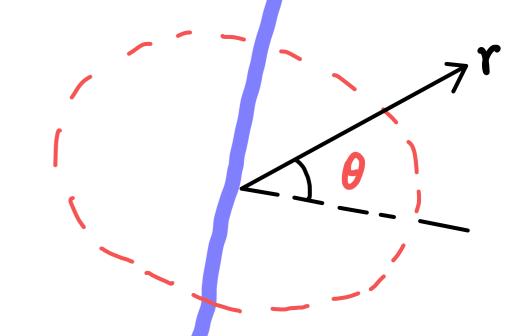


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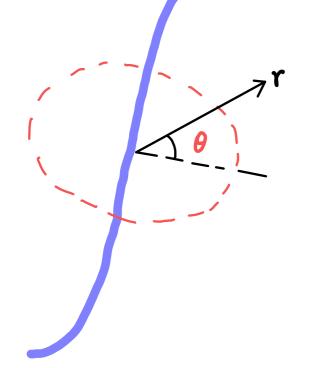


tension

gradient term 
$$\mu \simeq 2\pi \int_{m^{-1}}^{L} \mathrm{d}r \left| \left( \frac{1}{r} \partial_{\theta} - ieZ_{\mu} \right) \Phi(r, \theta) \right|^2 = 0$$
 core  $\mu \simeq \mathcal{O}(1)\pi f_a^2$ 

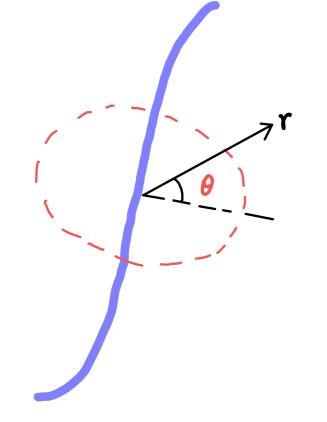
### Motivation of cosmic strings

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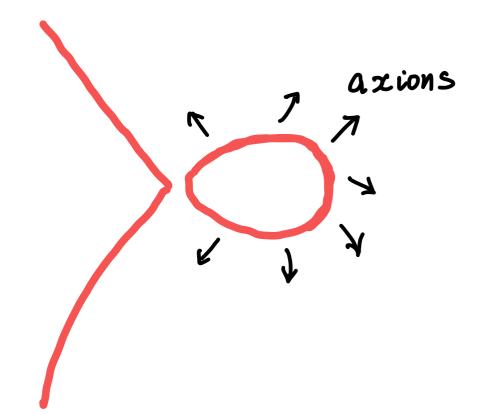


 theoretically interesting classical field solutions

### Motivation of cosmic strings



 theoretically interesting classical field solutions



 phenomenological rich cosmology (Kibble mechanism) axion dark matter abundance new observables (CMB, ...)

$$U(1)_Z \times U(1)_{PQ}$$

## $U(1)_Z \times U(1)_{PQ}$

• Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} Z_{\mu\nu} Z^{\mu\nu} + D_{\mu} \Phi_{1}^{\dagger} D^{\mu} \Phi_{1} - \frac{\lambda_{1}}{4} \left( |\Phi_{1}|^{2} - \frac{v_{1}^{2}}{2} \right)^{2} + D_{\mu} \Phi_{2}^{\dagger} D^{\mu} \Phi_{2} - \frac{\lambda_{2}}{4} \left( |\Phi_{2}|^{2} - \frac{v_{2}^{2}}{2} \right)^{2}$$

$$D_{\mu} = \partial_{\mu} - ieZ_{\mu}$$
assume that  $v_{1} > v_{2}$ 

## $U(1)_Z \times U(1)_{PQ}$

Lagrangian

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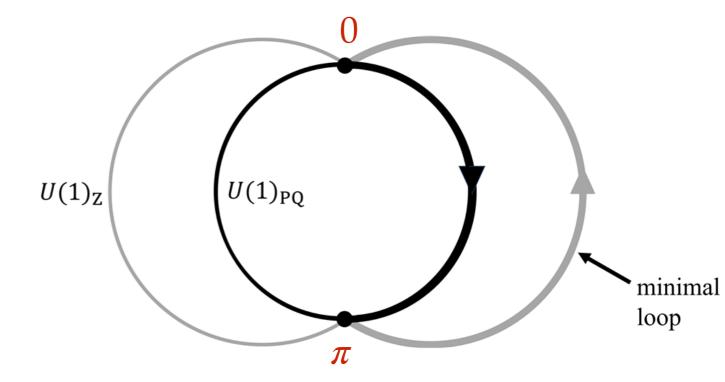
$$\Phi_1 \to \Phi_1 e^{i\alpha_z + i\alpha_{PQ}}$$

$$\Phi_2 \to \Phi_2 e^{i\alpha_z - i\alpha_{PQ}}$$

$$U(1)_Z \qquad 1 \qquad 1$$

$$U(1)_{PQ} \qquad 1 \qquad -1$$

• cross section of vacuum manifold



cross section of vacuum manifold

$$\alpha_{\rm z} = \pi$$

$$\Phi_1 \to \Phi_1 e^{i\pi}, \Phi_2 \to \Phi_2 e^{i\pi} = \Phi_2 e^{-i\pi}$$

$$U(1)_{\rm z}$$

$$U(1)_{\rm pq}$$

$$\min_{\rm loop}$$

cross section of vacuum manifold

$$\begin{array}{l} \alpha_{\rm z} = \pi \\ \Phi_1 \rightarrow \Phi_1 e^{i\pi}, \Phi_2 \rightarrow \Phi_2 e^{i\pi} = \Phi_2 e^{-i\pi} \\ \sim \alpha_{\rm PQ} = \pi \\ \Phi_1 \rightarrow \Phi_1 e^{i\pi}, \Phi_2 \rightarrow \Phi_2 e^{-i\pi} \end{array}$$

cross section of vacuum manifold

$$\begin{split} &\alpha_{\rm Z} = \pi \\ &\Phi_1 \to \Phi_1 e^{i\pi}, \Phi_2 \to \Phi_2 e^{i\pi} = \Phi_2 e^{-i\pi} \\ &\sim \alpha_{\rm PQ} = \pi \\ &\Phi_1 \to \Phi_1 e^{i\pi}, \Phi_2 \to \Phi_2 e^{-i\pi} \end{split}$$

• axion direction is orthogonal to the longitudinal mode of  $Z^{\mu}$ 

$$a(x) = v_a \alpha_{PQ}, \quad v_a = \frac{2v_1 v_2}{\sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2}} \sim 2v_2$$

• KSVZ-like model introduce  $Q_L$  and  $Q_R$  with color charge and  $\mathrm{U}(1)_{\mathrm{PQ}}$  charge

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{y}{\Lambda} \left( \Phi_1 \Phi_2^* \bar{Q}_L Q_R + h.c. \right)$$

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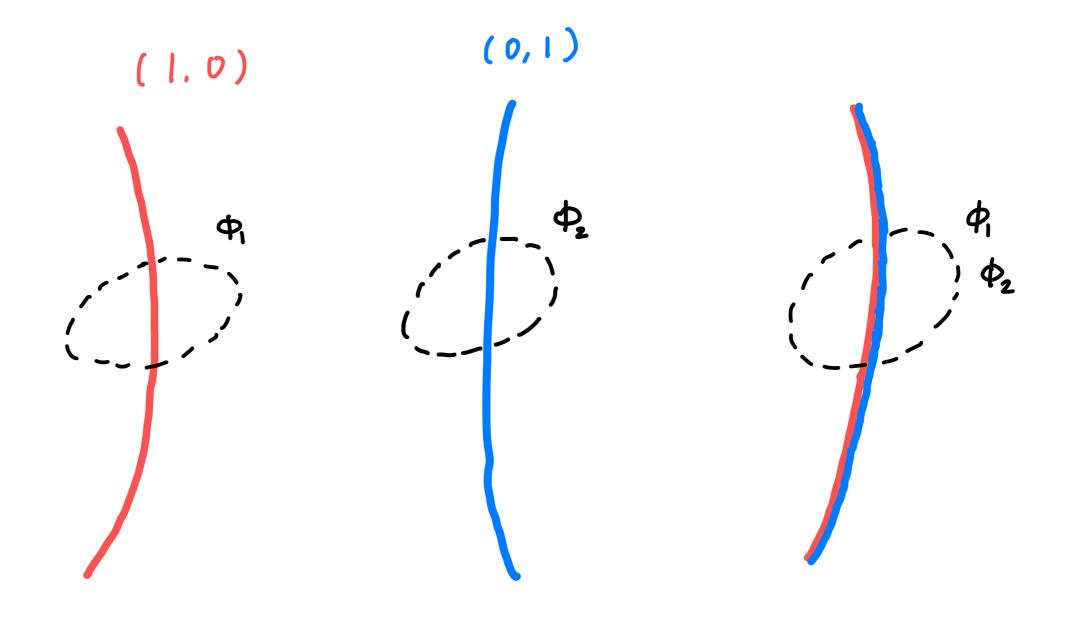
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Barr and Seckel's model

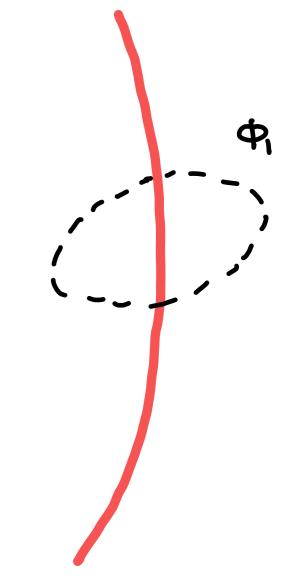
$$Q_{1L} Q_{1R} Q_{2L} Q_{2R}$$
 color,  $U(1)_Z$  and  $U(1)_{PQ}$  charges

$$\mathcal{L} = \Phi_1 \bar{Q}_{1L} Q_{1R} + \Phi_2 \bar{Q}_{2L} Q_{2R} + h \cdot c .$$

## String Solutions



• (1,0) string
$$\Phi_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} v_1 e^{i\theta}, \quad \Phi_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} v_2, \quad \mathbf{Z}_{\mu} = c \,\partial_{\mu} \theta, \quad r \to \infty$$



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gradient energy

$$\mu_{k,(1,0)} = \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta \int_{\delta}^L dr \, r \left( \left| \left( \frac{1}{r} \partial_{\theta} - ieZ_{\theta} \right) \Phi_1 \right|^2 + \left| \left( -ieZ_{\theta} \right) \Phi_2 \right|^2 \right)$$

$$= \pi \ln(\frac{L}{\delta}) \left[ v_1^2 (1 - ec)^2 + v_2^2 (ec)^2 \right]$$

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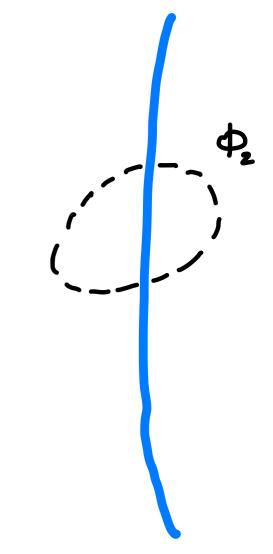
$$\mu_{k,(1,0)} = \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta \int_{\delta}^L dr \, r \left( \left| \left( \frac{1}{r} \partial_{\theta} - ieZ_{\theta} \right) \Phi_1 \right|^2 + \left| \left( -ieZ_{\theta} \right) \Phi_2 \right|^2 \right)$$

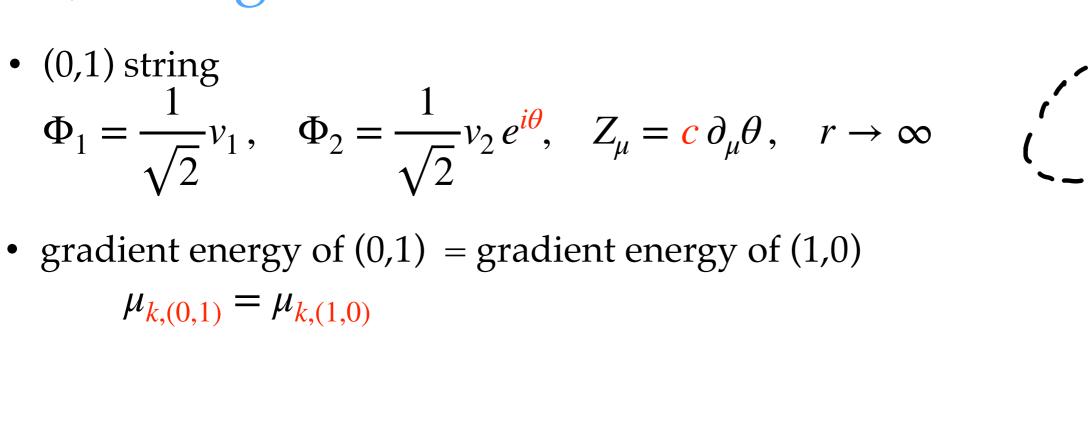
$$= \pi \ln(\frac{L}{\delta}) \left[ v_1^2 (1 - ec)^2 + v_2^2 (ec)^2 \right]$$

outside core (minimize it by varying c)

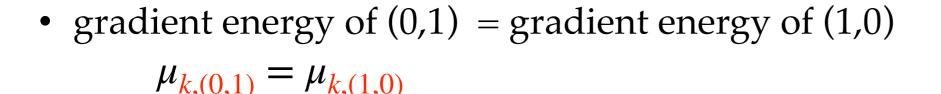
$$\mu_{k,(1,0)} = \pi \frac{v_1^2 v_2^2}{v_1^2 + v_2^2} \ln(\frac{L}{\delta}) = \pi f_a^2 \ln(\frac{L}{\delta})$$

• (0,1) string 
$$\Phi_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} v_1, \quad \Phi_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} v_2 e^{i\theta}, \quad Z_{\mu} = c \, \partial_{\mu} \theta, \quad r \to \infty$$





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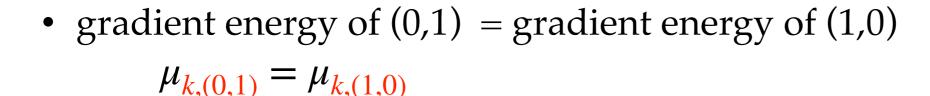


• outside core region

(1,0) string is equivalent to (0,-1) string through a gauge transformation

$$\left(\Phi_{1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}v_{1}e^{i\theta}, \Phi_{2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}v_{2}\right) \xrightarrow{\alpha_{Z} \to \alpha_{Z} - \theta} \left(\Phi_{1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}v_{1}, \Phi_{2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}v_{2}e^{-i\theta}\right)$$

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outside core region

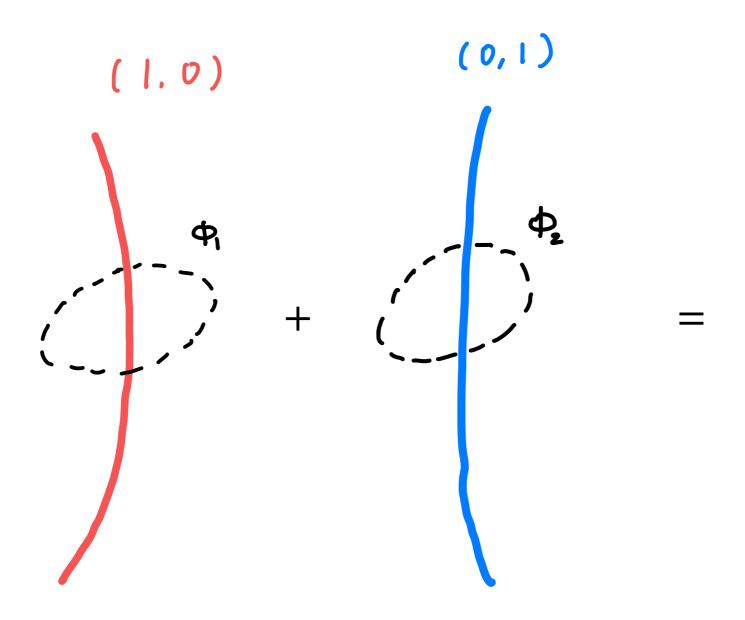
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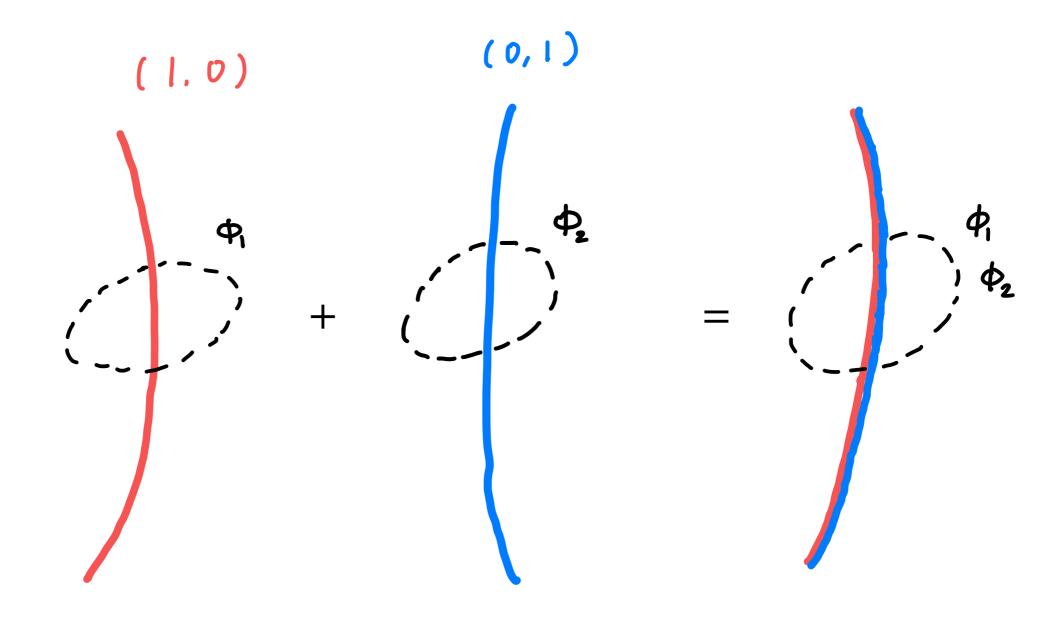
outside core region

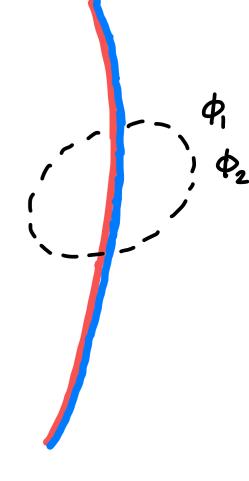
(1,0) can be viewed as an anti-string of (0,1)

$$(1,0) + (0,1) \rightarrow ?$$



$$(1,0) + (0,1) \rightarrow ?$$





### (1,1) strings

• gradient energy of (1,1) string

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• the profile of  $Z_{\theta}$  can simultaneously cancel the gradient energy of  $\Phi_1$  and  $\Phi_2$ 

$$\mu_{k,(1,1)} = 0$$

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• the profile of  $Z_{\theta}$  can simultaneously cancel the gradient energy of  $\Phi_1$  and  $\Phi_2$ 

$$\mu_{k,(1,1)} = 0$$

• (1,1) gauge string

(1,0) and (0,1) global strings

• magnetic self-energy, scalar potential energy, and gradient energy

- magnetic self-energy, scalar potential energy, and gradient energy
- (1,0) string  $\mu_{(1,0)} \simeq \pi v_1^2 + \pi v_1^2 \ln\left(\frac{m_1}{m_Z}\right) + \pi v_2^2 \ln\left(\frac{m_Z L}{2}\right)$ (0,1) string  $\mu_{(0,1)} \simeq \frac{\pi}{2} v_2^2 + \pi v_2^2 \ln\left(\frac{m_2}{m_Z}\right) + \pi v_2^2 \ln\left(\frac{m_Z L}{2}\right)$ (1,1) string  $\mu_{(1,1)} = \pi v_1^2 + \pi v_1^2 \ln\left(\frac{m_1}{m_Z}\right) + 0$

- magnetic self-energy, scalar potential energy, and gradient energy
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- magnetic self-energy, scalar potential energy, and gradient energy
- (1,0) string

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(0,1) string

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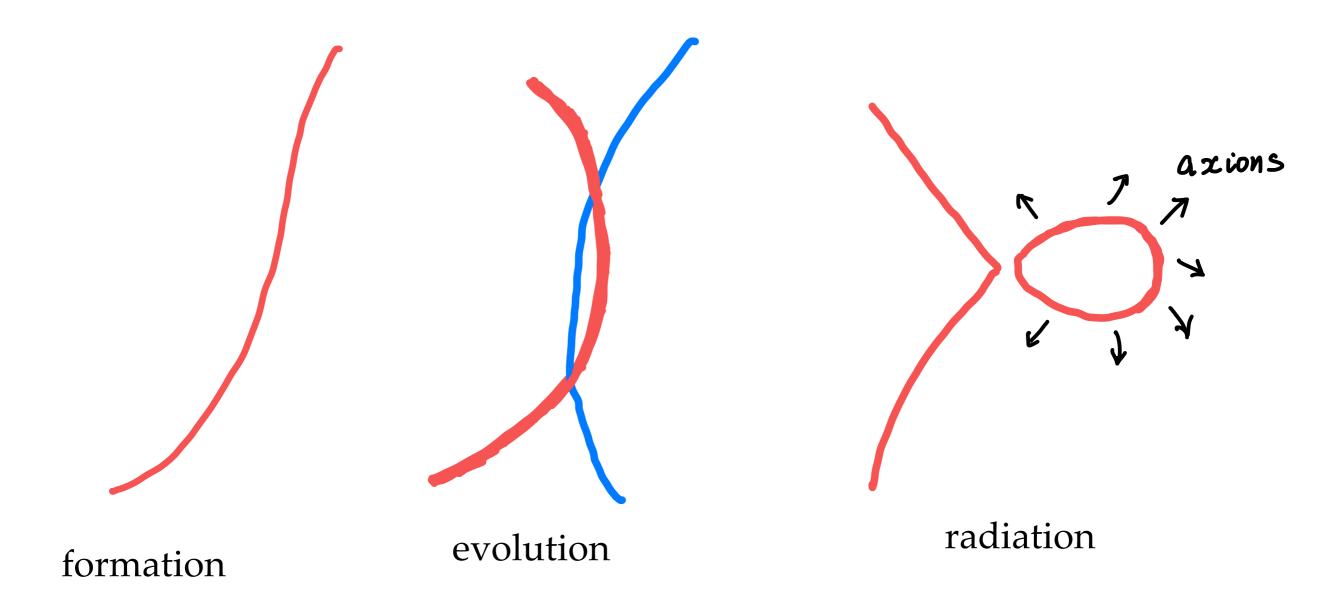
(1,1) string

$$\mu_{(1,1)} = \pi v_1^2 + \pi v_1^2 \ln\left(\frac{m_1}{m_Z}\right) + 0$$

- heavy core of (1,0) string  $\mu_{(1,0)} > \mu_{(0,1)}$
- binding energy of (1,1) string

$$\mu_{(1,0)} + \mu_{(0,1)} - \mu_{(1,1)} = \pi v_2^2 \left[ 2 \ln \left( \frac{m_Z L}{2} \right) - 1 \right]$$

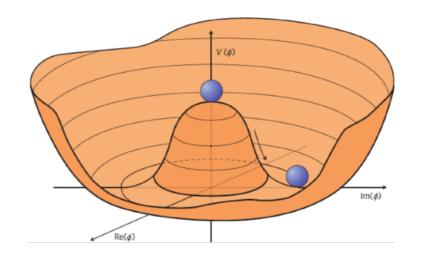
# Cosmological Implication



• consider  $v_1 \gg v_2$ 

first phase transition

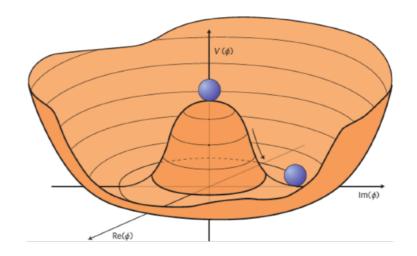
$$\langle \Phi_1(x) \rangle = \frac{v_1}{\sqrt{2}}$$
 and  $\langle \Phi_2(x) \rangle = 0$ 



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first phase transition

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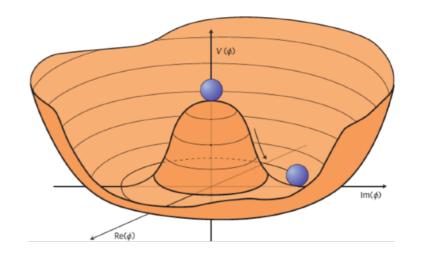


• string formation, the correlation length  $\sim 1/v_1$ 

• consider  $v_1 \gg v_2$ 

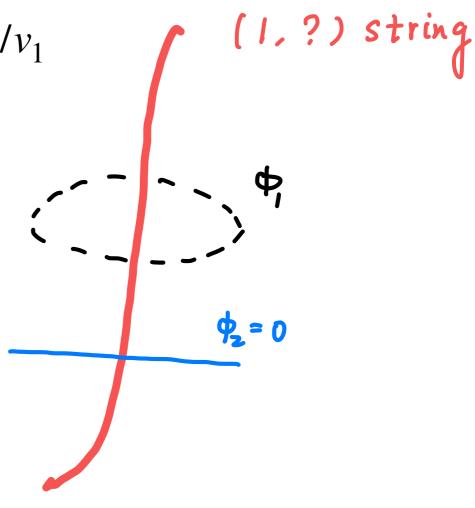
first phase transition

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 and  $\langle \Phi_2(x) \rangle = 0$ 



• string formation, the correlation length  $\sim 1/v_1$ 

U(1) gauge strings form
 (1, n) string



second phase transition

$$\langle \Phi_1(x) \rangle = \frac{v_1}{\sqrt{2}}$$
 and  $\langle \Phi_2(x) \rangle = \frac{v_2}{\sqrt{2}}$ 

second phase transition

$$\langle \Phi_1(x) \rangle = \frac{v_1}{\sqrt{2}} \text{ and } \langle \Phi_2(x) \rangle = \frac{v_2}{\sqrt{2}}$$

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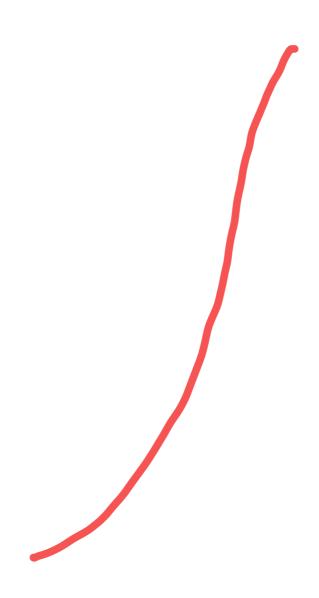
second phase transition

$$\langle \Phi_1(x) \rangle = \frac{v_1}{\sqrt{2}} \text{ and } \langle \Phi_2(x) \rangle = \frac{v_2}{\sqrt{2}}$$

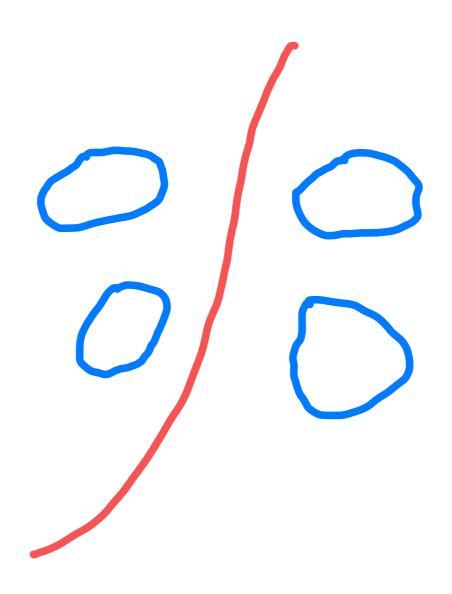
- string formation, the correlation length  $\sim 1/v_2$ 
  - (0,1) strings form via Kibble mechanism

•  $(1, \mathbf{n})$  string  $\rightarrow$ ?

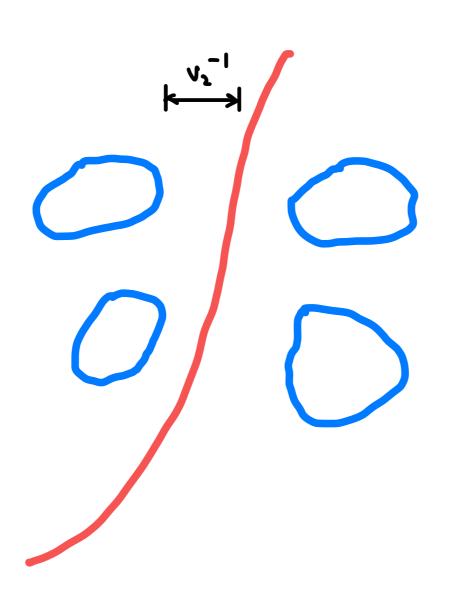
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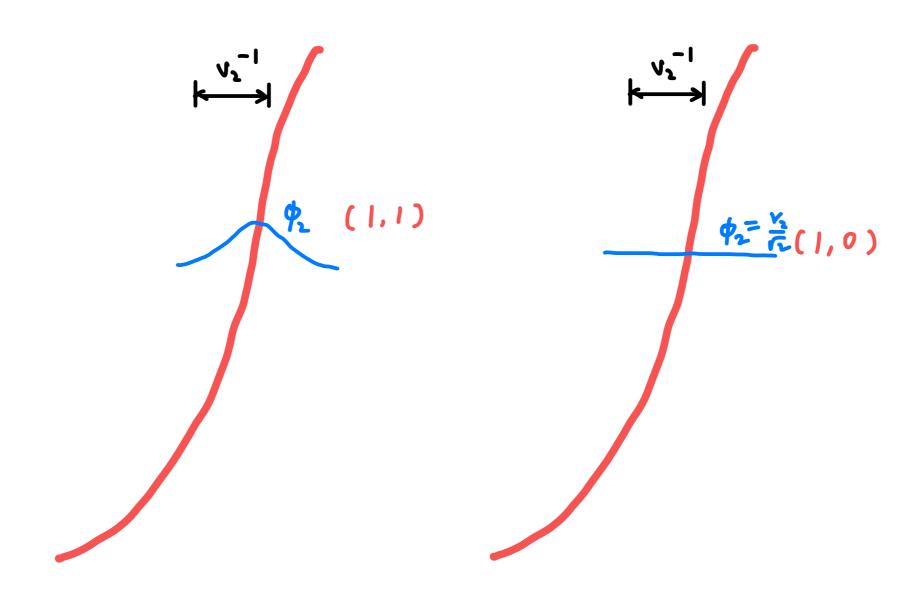
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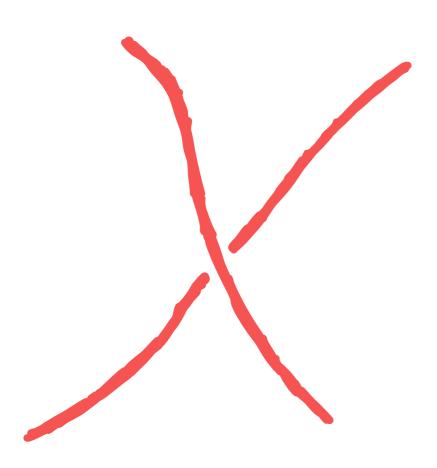
• (1, n) string  $\rightarrow$ ?



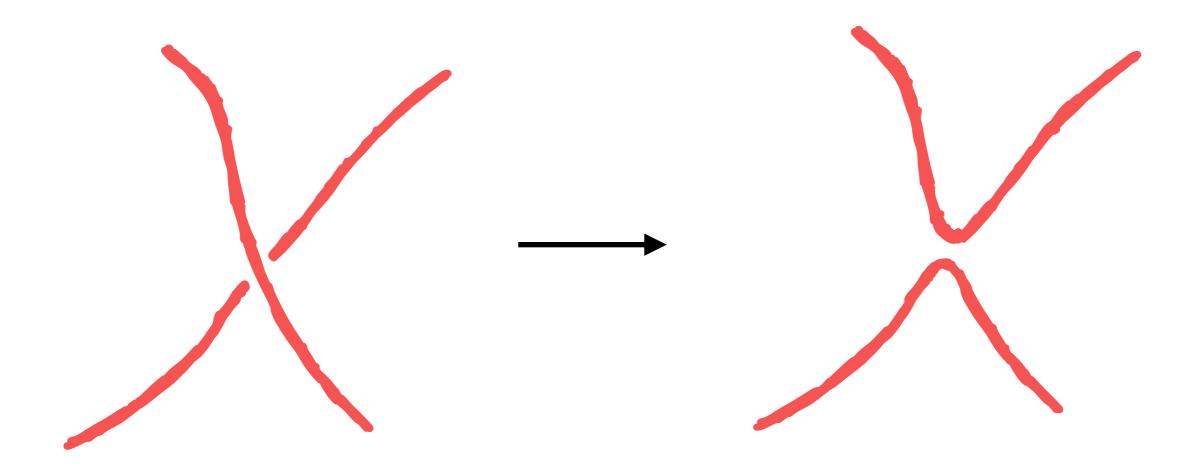
• (1, n) string  $\rightarrow (1,0)$  string to minimize the energy 九 (1,1) 中二元(1,0)

• (1,0) string encounters (1,0) string

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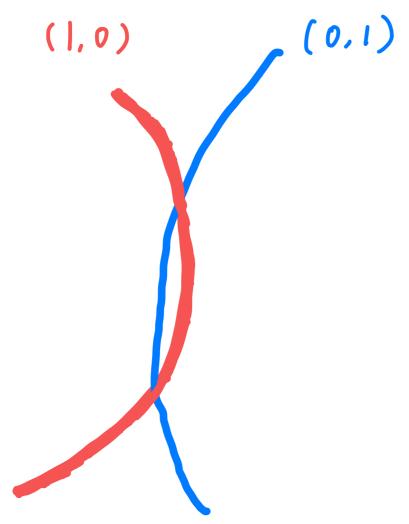


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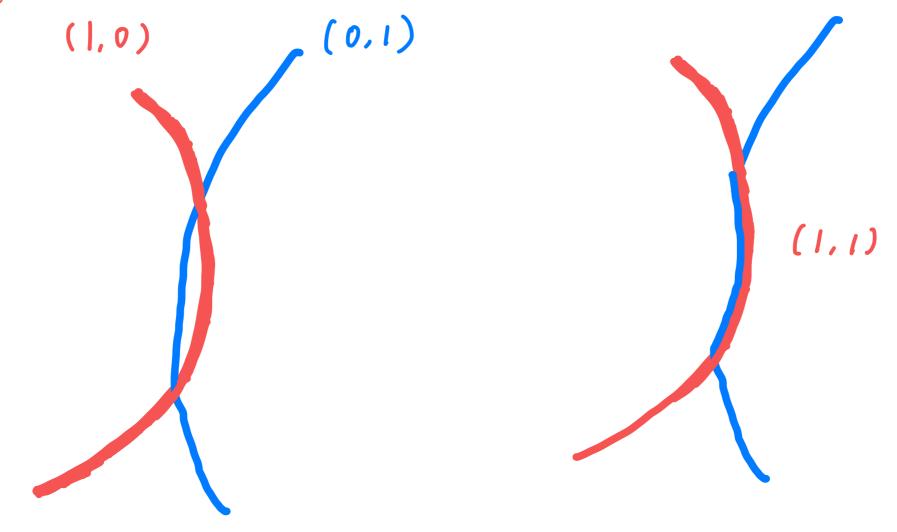


• (1,0) string encounters (0,1) string → (1,1) bound state Y-junctions

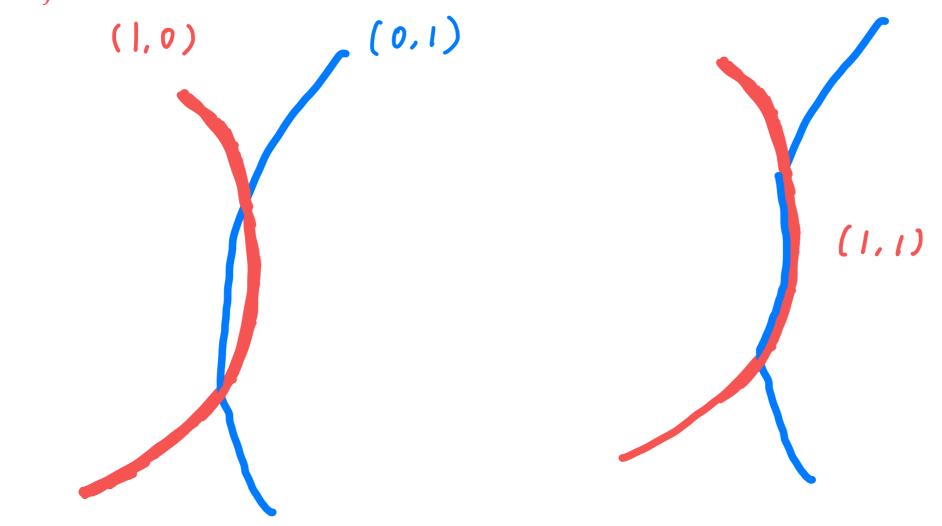
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• (1,0) string encounters (0,1) string → (1,1) bound state Y-junctions



- Other works on simulations of Y-junctions found 1) some fraction of Y-junctions remain
  - 2) scaling solution

Urrestilla, Vilenkin JHEP(2008) Rajentie, Skellariodou, Stoica, JCAP (2007) Copeland, Saffin JHEP (2005)

20

• dark matter abundance

misalignment + string radiation + domain wall collapse

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dark matter abundance

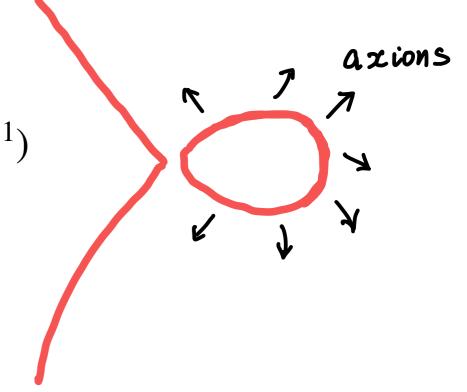
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• 
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azions

# Gauged global string

### Gauged global string

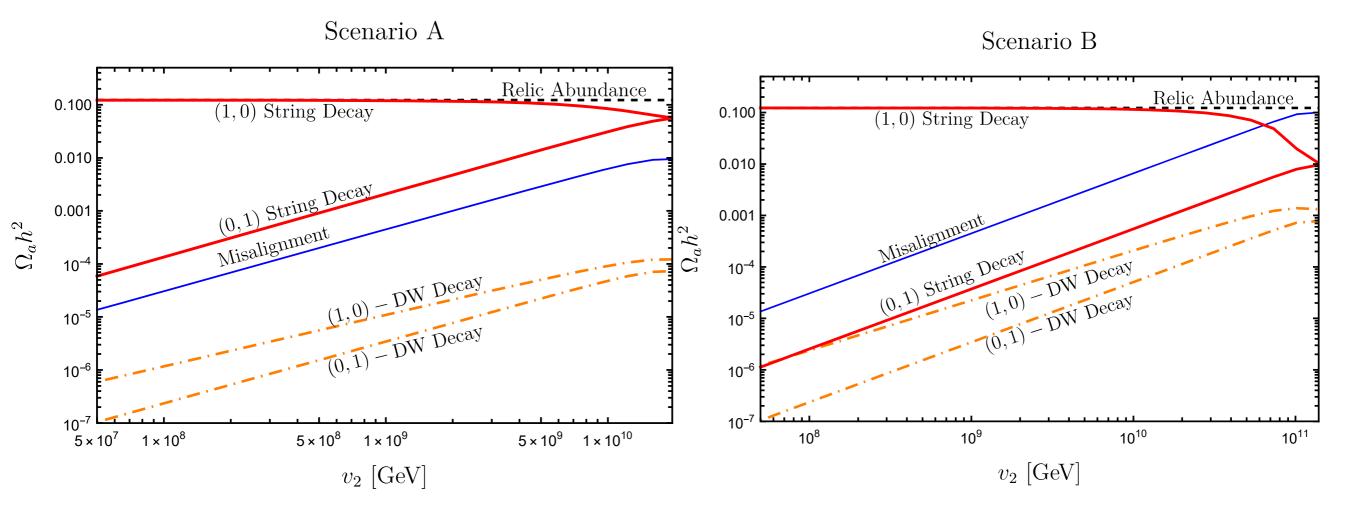
- (0,1) string tension is the same as a standard QCD axion string
- heavy core of (1,0) string

$$\mu_{(1,0)}(t) \simeq \pi v_1^2 \ln\left(\frac{m_1}{m_Z}\right) + \pi f_a^2 \ln\left(\frac{m_Z t}{2}\right)$$

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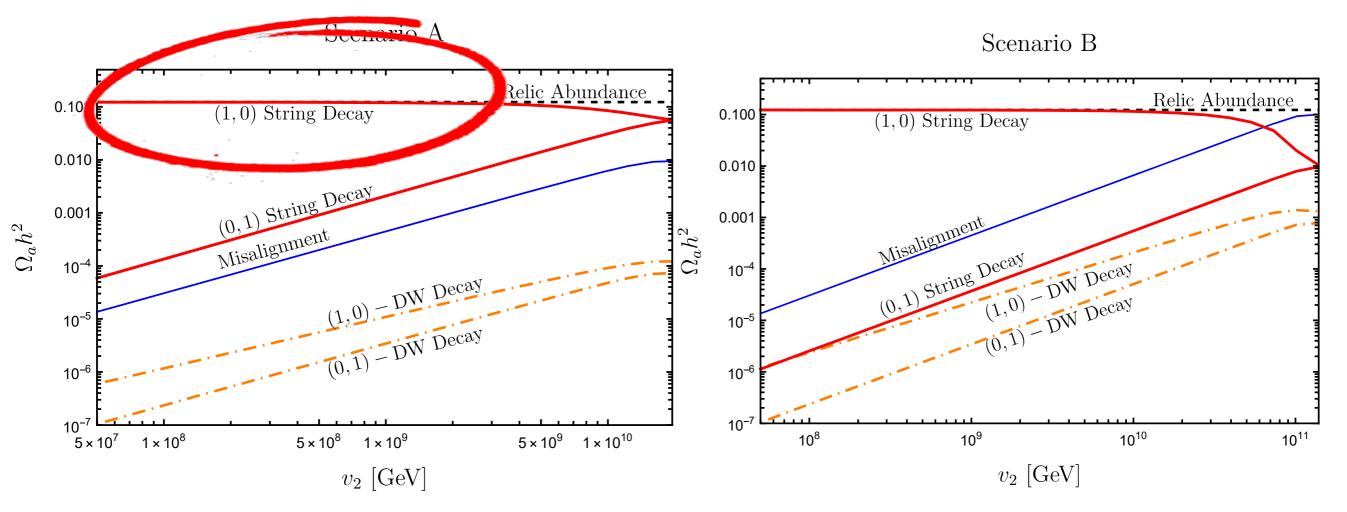
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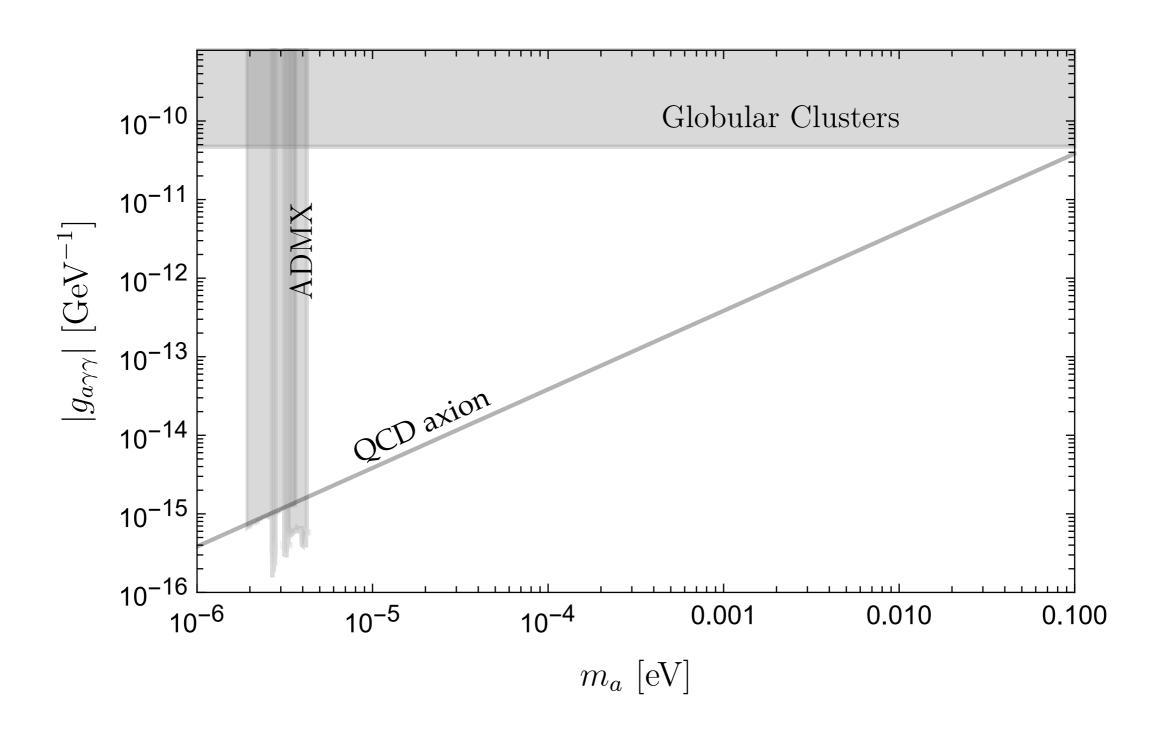
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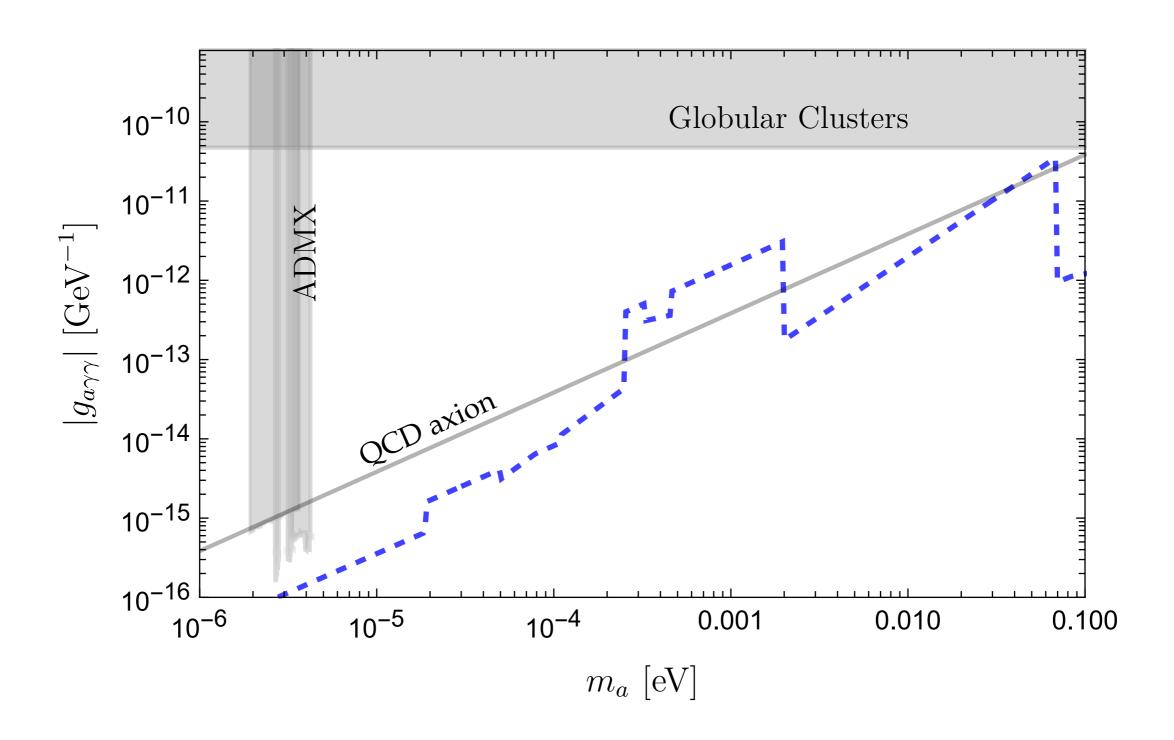
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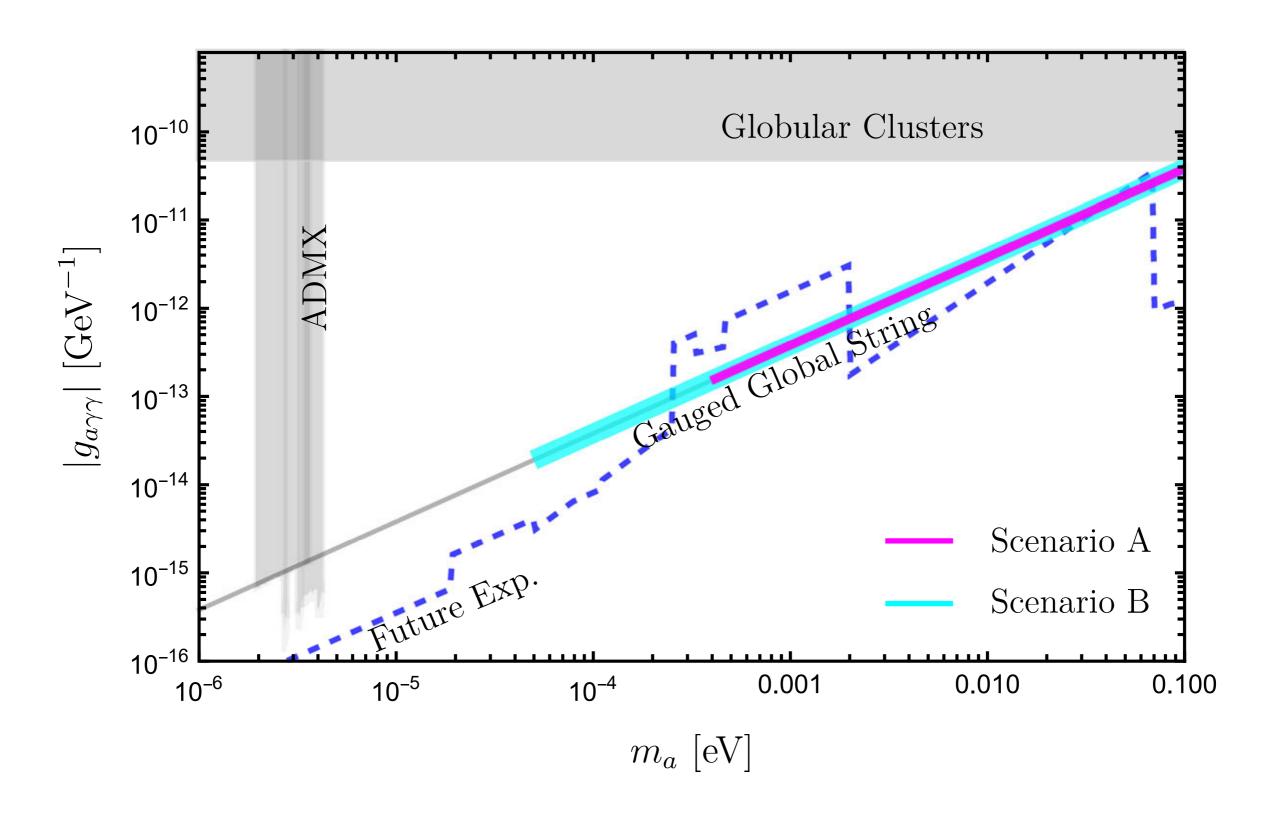
#### QCD axion window



# Future explorations

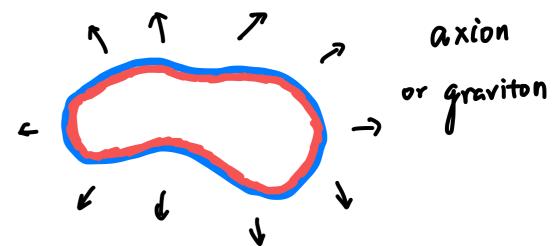


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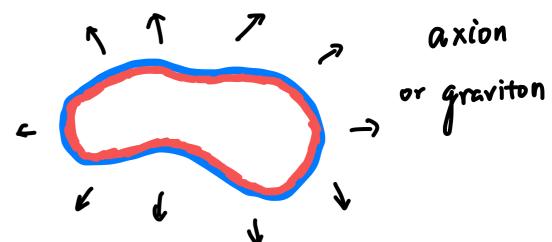


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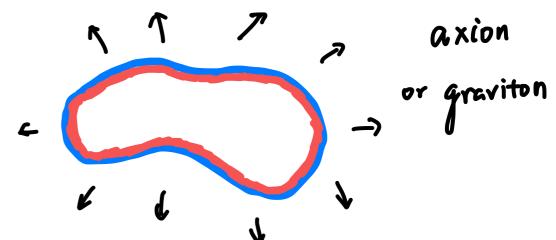


• (1,1) string is gauge string, but it also has axion as light d.o.f

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}Z_{\mu\nu}Z^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}e^2(\phi_1^2 + \phi_2^2)Z_{\mu}^2 - \frac{g(\phi_1, \phi_2)}{2}eZ^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}a + \frac{1}{2}f(\phi_1, \phi_2)(\partial_{\mu}a)^2$$

$$g(\phi_1, \phi_2) = f_a \frac{\phi_1^2}{v_1^2} - f_a \frac{\phi_2^2}{v_2^2}$$

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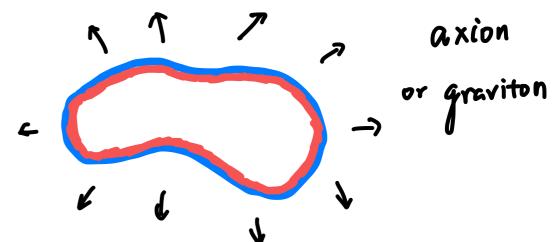
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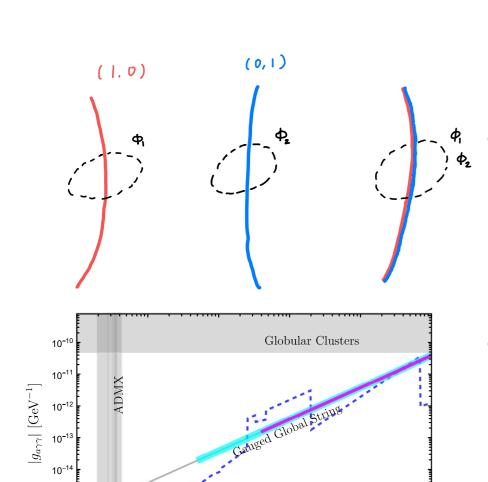
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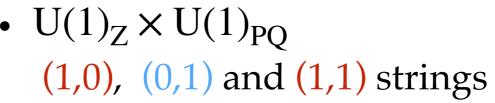
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radiation power

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}P_a}{\mathrm{d}\Omega} \sim e^2 f_a^2$$

#### Conclusion





Cosmology
 Y-Junctions
 opening QCD axion mass windows

axion
or graviton

 $m_a$  [eV]

0.001

Scenario A Scenario B

0.010

• (1,1) gauge string radiating axions and gravitons