

# Flavour symmetry as the origin of the axion

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The Quest for New Physics  
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Based on:

*U(1) flavour symmetries as Peccei-Quinn symmetries*

FB, L Di Luzio, F Mescia, E Nardi,

[1811.09637 [hep-ph]]

Q: What, if anything, does flavour have to do with a solution to the strong CP problem?

Recent developments:

[Celis, Fuentes-Martin, Serôdio '14] [Ahn '14 & '18]

[Ema, Hamaguchi, Moroi, Nakayama '16] [Calibbi, Goertz, Redigolo, Ziegler, Zupan '16]

[FB, Chun, King '17 & '18] [Linster, Ziegler '18]

[Reig, Valle, Wilczek '18] [Alanne, Blasi, Goertz '18]

Assume

- 2HDM with  $Y(H_{1,2}) = -1/2$
- Global  $U(1)$  symmetry acting on quarks and Higgs
- Quark  $U(1)$  charges can be generation-dependent

Define  $U(1)$  charges  $\mathcal{X}$

- $\mathcal{X}(H_{1,2}) = \mathcal{X}_{1,2}$
- $\mathcal{X}(Q) = \{-x, -y, 0\}$
- $\mathcal{X}(u) = \{a, b, c\}$
- $\mathcal{X}(d) = \{m, n, p\}$

We may write combined charges of quark bilinears as matrices:

$$\mathcal{X}_{\bar{Q}u} = \begin{pmatrix} a+x & b+x & c+x \\ a+y & b+y & c+y \\ a & b & c \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{X}_{\bar{Q}d} = \begin{pmatrix} m+x & n+x & p+x \\ m+y & n+y & p+y \\ m & n & p \end{pmatrix}$$

If

$$(\mathcal{X}_{\bar{Q}u})_{ij} + \mathcal{X}_{1 \text{ or } 2} = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad (\mathcal{X}_{\bar{Q}d})_{ij} - \mathcal{X}_{1 \text{ or } 2} = 0$$

the corresponding Yukawa coupling

$$\mathcal{L} \supset H_{1 \text{ or } 2} \bar{Q}_i u_j \quad \text{or} \quad \tilde{H}_{1 \text{ or } 2} \bar{Q}_i d_j$$

is allowed. Conversely, if  $\dots \neq 0$ , Yukawa matrix has texture zero.

What is the minimal set of non-zero Yukawa operators compatible with this  $U(1)$  symmetry?

Conditions for a physically viable Yukawa sector

1.  $U(1)$  charge consistency
2. Non-zero quark masses

$$\det M_u \neq 0, \quad \det M_d \neq 0$$

3. Non-vanishing Jarlskog invariant (i.e. a “full” CKM matrix)

$$J \propto \mathcal{D} \equiv \det[M_d M_d^\dagger, M_u M_u^\dagger] \neq 0$$

NB: with 9 quark fields, we can perform 8 relative phase redefinitions to remove phases in  $M_u, M_d$ . We must have  $8 + 1 = 9$  non-zero terms across  $M_u \oplus M_d$  to have CP violation.

We need 9 non-zero Yukawa couplings:  $M_n \oplus M_{9-n}$

Ex 1:  $M_1 \oplus M_8$

$$M_u = M_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \times \end{pmatrix}, \quad M_d = M_8 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \end{pmatrix}$$

$\Rightarrow \det M_u = 0!$

Ex 2:  $M_4 \oplus M_5$

$$M_u = M_4 = \begin{pmatrix} \times & \times & 0 \\ 0 & \times & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \times \end{pmatrix}, \quad M_d = M_5 = \begin{pmatrix} \times & \times & 0 \\ \times & \times & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \times \end{pmatrix}$$

$\Rightarrow J \propto \sin \theta_{13} = \sin \theta_{23} = 0!$

>> proof.get()

There are only 2 viable structures, both like  $M_4 \oplus M_5$

$$\mathcal{T}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \times & \times & 0 \\ 0 & \times & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \times \end{pmatrix} \oplus \begin{pmatrix} \times & \times & 0 \\ 0 & \times & \times \\ 0 & 0 & \times \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{T}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \times \\ 0 & \times & 0 \\ \times & \times & 0 \end{pmatrix} \oplus \begin{pmatrix} \times & \times & 0 \\ 0 & \times & \times \\ 0 & 0 & \times \end{pmatrix}$$

- Equivalent SM physics for any column or (simultaneous) row permutations, i.e. by redefinitions of quark fields
- One quark has no mixing: it is “sequestered”
- New Physics depends on sequestered quark  $\Rightarrow 2 \times 6$  physically distinct textures

- It is possible to completely reconstruct the Yukawa matrices in terms of measured observables:
  - 9 (real) + 1 (phase) Yukawa parameters
  - 6 quark masses + 3 CKM mixing angles + 1 CP phase
  - At high scales ( $\mu \sim 10^{12}$  GeV):

Observable	Value	Observable	Value
$m_u$ / MeV	$0.61^{+0.19}_{-0.18}$	$\theta_{12}$	$0.22735 \pm 0.00072$
$m_c$ / GeV	$0.281^{+0.02}_{-0.04}$	$\theta_{13}$	$0.00364 \pm 0.00013$
$m_t$ / GeV	$82.6 \pm 1.4$	$\theta_{23}$	$0.04208 \pm 0.00064$
$m_d$ / MeV	$1.27 \pm 0.22$	$\delta$	$1.208 \pm 0.054$
$m_s$ / MeV	$26^{+8}_{-5}$		
$m_b$ / GeV	$1.16^{+0.07}_{-0.02}$		

[Xing et al '11, Antusch, Maurer '13]

- Exact analytical expressions are possible, but ugly
- Solutions are stable under perturbations



The  $U(1)$  flavour symmetries are Peccei-Quinn symmetries!

- Anomaly

$$N = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i [\mathcal{X}(u) + \mathcal{X}(d) - 2\mathcal{X}(Q)]_i$$

- With normalization  $\mathcal{X}_2 - \mathcal{X}_1 = 1$ , we obtain

$$N(\mathcal{T}_1) = 1, \quad N(\mathcal{T}_2) = 1/2$$

- The Goldstone of the broken flavour  $U(1)$  is an axion
- To be compatible with low-energy pheno, we make it *invisible*
  - $U(1)$  broken at high scale by new scalar  $\phi$
- Couplings are generation-dependent  $\Rightarrow$  the axion is *flavoured*

Flavoured axions couple to fermions like

$$\mathcal{L}_{af} = -\frac{\partial_\mu a}{v_{PQ}} \sum_{f=u,d,e} \bar{f}_i \gamma^\mu (V_{ij}^f - A_{ij}^f \gamma_5) f_j,$$

where  $v_{PQ} = f_a N_{DW}$  and

$$V^f = \frac{1}{2} \left( U_{Lf}^\dagger x_{f_L} U_{Lf} + U_{Rf}^\dagger x_{f_R} U_{Rf} \right)$$

$$A^f = \frac{1}{2} \left( U_{Lf}^\dagger x_{f_L} U_{Lf} - U_{Rf}^\dagger x_{f_R} U_{Rf} \right)$$

- $x_{f_L} = \text{diag}(x_{f_{L1}}, x_{f_{L2}}, x_{f_{L3}})$ ,  $x_{f_R} = \text{diag}(x_{f_{R1}}, x_{f_{R2}}, x_{f_{R3}})$
- $V_{CKM} = U_{Lu}^\dagger U_{Ld}$
- The [sequestered](#) quark has no FV axion couplings

Decay:  $P \rightarrow P' a$ , where  $P = (\bar{q}_P q')$ ,  $P' = (\bar{q}_{P'} q')$ .

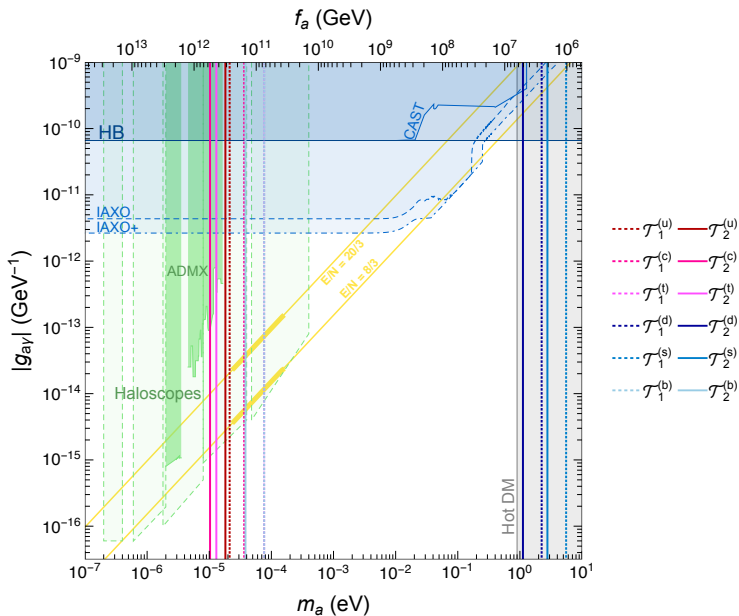
Branching ratio

$$\text{Br}(P \rightarrow P' a) = \frac{1}{16\pi\Gamma(P)} \frac{|V_{q_P q_{P'}}^f|^2}{V_{PQ}^2} m_P^3 \left(1 - \frac{m_{P'}^2}{m_P^2}\right)^3 |f_+(0)|^2,$$

- $f_+(0)$  is a hadronic form factor
- Only unknown quantity is the ratio  $|V^f|/V_{PQ}$
- Example:  $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ a$  decay proceeds by  $\bar{s} \rightarrow \bar{d} a$  with coupling strength  $V_{sd}^d \equiv V_{21}^d$

Decay	$f_+(0)$
$K \rightarrow \pi$	1
$D \rightarrow \pi$	0.74(6)(4)
$D \rightarrow K$	0.78(5)(4)
$D_s \rightarrow K$	0.68(4)(3)
$B \rightarrow \pi$	0.27(7)(5)
$B \rightarrow K$	0.32(6)(6)
$B_s \rightarrow K$	0.23(5)(4)

Decay	Branching ratio	Experiment	$\tilde{c}_{P \rightarrow P'}$	$v_{PQ}/\text{GeV}$
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ a$	$< 0.73 \times 10^{-10}$	E949 + E787	$3.51 \times 10^{-11}$	$> 6.9 \times 10^{11}  V_{21}^d $
	$< 0.01 \times 10^{-10}*$	NA62 (future)		$> 5.9 \times 10^{12}  V_{21}^d $
	$< 1.2 \times 10^{-10}$	E949 + E787		
	$< 0.59 \times 10^{-10}$	E787		
$K_L^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 a$	$< 5 \times 10^{-8}$	KOTO	$3.67 \times 10^{-11}$	$> 2.7 \times 10^{10}  V_{21}^d $
$(K_L^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu})$	$(< 2.6 \times 10^{-8})$	E391a		
$B^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm a$	$< 4.9 \times 10^{-5}$	CLEO	$5.30 \times 10^{-13}$	$> 1.0 \times 10^8  V_{31}^d $
$(B^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \nu \bar{\nu})$	$(< 1.0 \times 10^{-4})$	BaBar		
	$(< 1.4 \times 10^{-4})$	Belle		
$B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm a$	$< 4.9 \times 10^{-5}$	CLEO	$7.26 \times 10^{-13}$	$> 1.2 \times 10^8  V_{32}^d $
$(B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm \nu \bar{\nu})$	$(< 1.3 \times 10^{-5})$	BaBar		
	$(< 1.9 \times 10^{-5})$	Belle		
	$(< 1.5 \times 10^{-6})*$	Belle-II (future)		
$B^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 a$			$4.92 \times 10^{-13}$	
$(B^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu})$	$(< 0.9 \times 10^{-5})$	Belle		$\gtrsim 2.3 \times 10^8  V_{31}^d $
$B^0 \rightarrow K_{(S)}^0 a$	$< 5.3 \times 10^{-5}$	CLEO	$6.74 \times 10^{-13}$	$> 1.1 \times 10^8  V_{32}^d $
$(B^0 \rightarrow K^0 \nu \bar{\nu})$	$(< 1.3 \times 10^{-5})$	Belle		
$D^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm a$	$< 1$		$1.11 \times 10^{-13}$	$> 3.3 \times 10^5  V_{21}^u $
$D^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 a$	$< 1$		$4.33 \times 10^{-14}$	$> 2.1 \times 10^5  V_{21}^u $
$D_s^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm a$	$< 1$		$4.38 \times 10^{-14}$	$> 2.1 \times 10^5  V_{21}^u $
$B_s^0 \rightarrow \bar{K}^0 a$	$< 1$		$3.64 \times 10^{-13}$	$> 6.0 \times 10^5  V_{31}^d $



It is possible in this framework to suppress the couplings to protons and neutrons: *nucleophobia*

$$0 \approx C_p + C_n = 0.50(5) (C_u + C_d - 1) - 2\delta_s; \quad |\delta_s| \lesssim 0.04$$

$$0 \approx C_p - C_n = 1.273(2) \left( C_u - C_d - \frac{1}{3} \right)$$

- $C_{u,d}$  are axion couplings to up, down quarks  
generically depend on Higgs vevs via  $\tan\beta \equiv v_2/v_1$   
connect to earlier notation:  $C_q = A_{11}^q/N$
- $C_u + C_d$  depends only on
  - 1) charge assignments
  - 2) quark mixing
- $C_u - C_d$  depends also on  $\tan\beta$

Example model:  $\mathcal{T}_2$  texture, with  $u$  or  $d$  quark sequestered

$$\mathcal{T}_2^{(u,d)} : \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \times \\ 0 & \times & 0 \\ \times & \times & 0 \end{pmatrix} \oplus \begin{pmatrix} \times & \times & 0 \\ 0 & \times & \times \\ 0 & 0 & \times \end{pmatrix}$$

- Without mixing,  $C_u + C_d = 1$  (exactly)
- With mixing,  $C_u + C_d \approx 1.1$
- To get  $C_u - C_d \approx 1/3$ , require  $\tan\beta \approx 2^{\pm 1/2}$

Consequence: upper bound on  $m_a$  from supernovae can be relaxed.

## Summary

- We have explored a  $U(1)$  quark flavour symmetry, yielding maximal reduction in free Yukawa parameters.
- Our minimal approach is a compelling way to parametrize quark flavour.
- Only two basic structures are allowed in the minimal setup, both corresponding to PQ symmetries.
- The axion is necessarily flavoured, with testable predictions.

## Future

- Leptons
- Electrophobia  $\rightarrow$  astrophobia



Thank You!