Dark matter at LHC and beyond

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WIMPs at colliders

Assumption 1:

Dark matter particles are stable on cosmological timescales.

Assumption 2:

Dark matter particles interact in pairs with the Standard Model particles.

Assumption 3:

The WIMP interaction strength is *large enough* to keep the DM particles in thermal equilibrium with the SM plasma at very high temperatures

Assumption 4:

The WIMP interaction strength is *small enough* to allow DM particles to chemically decouple from the SM plasma sufficiently early.

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$$\langle \sigma v \rangle \simeq 3 \times 10^{-26} \,\mathrm{cm}^3 \,\mathrm{s}^{-1} = 1 \,\mathrm{pb} \cdot c$$

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baryon-to-photon ratio η

0.5

Very attractive framework:

1) Relatively few speculations from particle physics and from cosmology. Thermal freeze-out lies at the core of other (tested) phenomena in the early Universe $\sqrt{\frac{2^{Wavelength} [mm]}{2^{Wavelength} [mm]}}$

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1) Relatively few speculations from particle physics and from cosmology. Thermal freeze-out lies at the core of other (tested) phenomena in the early Universe

2) Potentially testable

 $\sigma \sim 1~\text{pb},$ for coupling $\sim 0.01-0.1$ and mass $\sim 1~\text{GeV}-1~\text{TeV}$

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Searching for WIMP dark matter at the LHC

Differential cross-section for the final state of interest Y

 $d\sigma(p(P_1) + p(P_2) \to Y + X) = \int_0^1 dx_1 \int_0^1 dx_2 \sum_{i_1, i_2} f_{i_1}(x_1) f_{i_2}(x_2) d\sigma(i_1(x_1P_1) + i_2(x_2P_2) \to Y))$

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Fraction of the momenta of the proton carried by the parton i

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Parton distribution functions

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Cross-section for the partonic process

Name	Initial state	Type	Operator
C1	qq	scalar	$rac{m_q}{M_\star^2}\chi^\dagger\chiar q q$
C5	gg	scalar	$\frac{1}{4M_\star^2}\chi^\dagger\chi\alpha_{\rm s}(G^a_{\mu\nu})^2$
D1	qq	scalar	$\frac{m_q}{M_\star^3} \bar{\chi} \chi \bar{q} q$
D5	qq	vector	$\frac{1}{M_\star^2} \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi \bar{q} \gamma_\mu q$
D8	qq	axial-vector	$\frac{1}{M_\star^2} \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \chi \bar{q} \gamma_\mu \gamma^5 q$
D9	qq	tensor	$\frac{1}{M_{\star}^2} \bar{\chi} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \chi \bar{q} \sigma_{\mu\nu} q$
D11	gg	scalar	$\frac{1}{4M_\star^3}\bar{\chi}\chi\alpha_{\rm s}(G^a_{\mu\nu})^2$

<u>Searching for WIMP dark matter at the LHC</u>

Monojet + missing E_T

Searching for WIMP dark matter at the LHC

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<u>Comparison to direct detection experiments</u>

• The energy and luminosity of a collider is known (information from colliders very robust)

• Dark matter direct search experiments, on the other hand, suffer from astrophysical uncertainties

Differential rate of DM-induced scatterings

$$\frac{dR}{dE_R} = \frac{\rho_{\text{loc}}}{m_A m_{\text{DM}}} \int_{v \ge v_{\min}(E_R)} \mathrm{d}^3 v \, v f(\vec{v} + \vec{v}_{\text{obs}}(t)) \, \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}E_R}$$

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- Local dark matter density?
- "local measurements": From vertical kinematics of stars near (~1 kpc) the Sun
- "global measurements":

From extrapolations of $\rho(r)$ determined from rotation curves at large *r*, to the position of the Solar System.



• Local dark matter velocity distribution?

Completely unknown. Rely on theoretical considerations

• If the density distribution follows a singular isothermal sphere profile, the velocity distribution has a Maxwell-Boltzmann form.

$$\rho(r) \sim \frac{1}{r^2} \longrightarrow f(v) \sim \exp(-v^2/v_0^2)$$

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- Hydrodynamical simulations (DM+baryons). Inconclusive at the moment.



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1- The particle produced is invisible, but not necessarily dark matter.(Not cosmologically long-lived? Only a subdominant DM component? But anyway new physics, not discoverable at direct detection experiment.)

Consider an invisible particle decaying into visible particles

- If short lifetime, the visible particles can be observed at the detector
- If very long lifetime, the invisible particle leaves the detector, but the decay products may leave an imprint in BBN, CMB or cosmic rays.
- A "blind spot" for intermediate lifetimes.

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$$\Omega_{\chi}h^2 \simeq \frac{0.12}{N_c} \left(\frac{1.85}{y}\right)^4 \left(\frac{m_{\eta}}{500 \,\text{GeV}}\right)^4 \left(\frac{m_{\chi}}{100 \,\text{GeV}}\right)^{-2}$$

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The phenomenology is completely modified when the mediator is light

If the mediator and the dark matter have comparable masses, the mediator is present in the thermal plasma during the epoch of freeze-out.

New channels deplete the number of dark matter particles, via "coannihilations", and lower the dark matter relic abundance. Griest, Seckel '91



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DM coupling to quarks



DM coupling to leptons



Collider signals

Three different regimes

• $m_{\eta} \gg m_{\chi}$. The scalar mediator cannot be produced at the colliders; only the DM.



The signal consists on a monojet/monophoton/mono-W/Z boson plus missing transverse momentum.

• $m_{\eta} = O(m_{\chi})$. The scalar mediator might be produced at the colliders and then decays into the DM plus a quark/lepton.



The signal consists of missing transverse momentum plus two jets/two leptons.

• $m_{\eta} \simeq m_{\chi}$. The scalar mediator might be produced at the colliders and then decays into the DM plus a quark/lepton. However, the jets and leptons are too soft to be detected.



The signal consists on a monojet/monophoton/mono-W/Z boson plus missing transverse momentum.













Limits from colliders



 $m_{\chi} = 300 \text{ GeV}$



DM coupling to u-quark

Garny et al'14


Various diagrams contribute to the scattering of a dark matter particle with a nucleon:



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DM coupling to light quarks: spin independent interaction



Dim. 8 operator. Singular when $m_{\eta} \rightarrow m_{\chi} + m_{q}$

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Dim. 8 operator. Singular when $m_{\eta} \rightarrow m_{\chi} + m_{q}$



Dim. 7 operator (but loop suppressed). Regular when $m_{\eta} \rightarrow m_{\chi} + m_{q}$

DM coupling to quarks: spin independent interaction



DM coupling to u-quark (spin independent)

DM coupling to quarks: spin dependent interaction



Dim. 6 operator. Singular when $m_{\eta} \rightarrow m_{\chi} + m_{q}$





Impact for dark matter produced via thermal freeze-out

DM coupling to u-quark



Impact for dark matter produced via thermal freeze-out

DM coupling to u-quark (prospects)













"A first science run could start by 2023" "DARWIN: towards the ultimate dark matter detector", arXiv:1606.07001

• Very fast progress in direct detection experiments. Not so fast in collider searches...



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- 2) The energy and luminosity of the collider are known (no astrophysical uncertainties)
- 3) May provide information about the dark sector (mediators, couplings...). The DM abundance could (in principle) be reconstructed, providing a test of WIMP production.
- 4) In some scenarios, collider searches probe regions of the parameter space difficult to probe with direct detection (or indirect detection) experiments. Also, they can test possible signals in other experiments.



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- 6) ... and in some scenarios, even better sensitivity than the "ultimate" dark matter detectors.
- 7) ... even reaching beyond the "neutrino floor"



arXiv:1606.07001

FIMPs at colliders

The freeze-in mechanism

Feebly interacting massive particles have very weak couplings to the Standard Model particles and were always out of thermal equilibrium.

Yet, they are produced via scatterings/decays in the primeval plasma. (e.g. $h \rightarrow \chi \chi$, or $\eta^+ \rightarrow l^+ \chi$). Very slow processes due to the small coupling.



Searching for FIMP dark matter at the LHC

Consider a FIMP that is produced via decays of a charged scalar particle.

$$c\tau \sim 8.3 \,\mathrm{m} \left(\frac{m_{\chi}}{10 \,\mathrm{keV}}\right) \left(\frac{100 \,\mathrm{GeV}}{m_{\eta}^+}\right)$$

 \rightarrow Long-lived charged particle.



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A fraction of the charged scalars gets trapped in the detector, and decays at late times.

<u>Conclusions</u>

- Dark matter in the form of Weakly Interacting Massive Particles is among the best motivated scenarios for Physics beyond the Standard Model. Bonus: it is testable, now, in various ways.
- The LHC is complementary in many ways to direct and indirect WIMP searches. It's free of astrophysics uncertainties and may provide deeper insights on the dark sector.
- Moreover, in some scenarios the LHC constitutes the best probe to WIMP dark matter (e.g. light WIMPs). High discovery potential. The role of colliders will increase if direct detection experiments reach the neutrino floor without observing signals.
- The LHC can also probe non-WIMP dark matter scenarios, e.g. FIMPs.