Dark matter @ LHC

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How to see invisible?



How to see invisible?



"Bump hunting" for Higgs



Di-photon decay of Higgs leads to a nice bump in invariant mass distribution

"Bump hunting" for Higgs

To see bump for Higgs decaying to two Z bosons, one does not even have to zoom in



"Tail surgery" for dark matter



"Tail surgery" for dark matter



Presence of dark matter (DM) manifests itself in a small enhancement in tail of missing energy (E_{T,miss}) distribution

A big challenge indeed

How well can I measure few events sitting in tail? How well can I calculate these small numbers?

Experimentalist

Theorist

Precision mono-jet predictions



Precision mono-jet predictions



[NLO in MCFM, Fox & Williams, 1211.6390]

Precision mono-jet predictions



[NLOPS in POWHEG BOX, UH, Kahlhoefer & Re, 1310.4491]

NLO effects in spin-l case



Inclusion of NLO effects leads only to slight enhancement of mono-jet cross section, but uncertainties reduced by about 2

Why are NLO effects small?

- LHC searches require large E_{T,miss} & one hard jet with e.g. p_{T,j1} > 110 GeV. Events with a 2nd jet of p_{T,j2} > 30 GeV are also included, but a 3rd jet is vetoed
- In pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV, fraction of 2j + E_{T,miss} events is large. This reduces impact of NLO corrections





Spin-0 interactions

- For spin-1 DM-standard model (SM) interactions loop corrections do not play important role. Is this a generic feature?
- In spin-0 case with Higgs-like couplings, tree-level cross section is small since heavy-quark luminosities are tiny & light quarks suffer Yukawa suppression



Spin-0 interactions

- For spin-1 DM-standard model (SM) interactions loop corrections do not play important role. Is this a generic feature?
- At I-loop level heavy-quark loops start to contribute to mono-jet cross section & expected to lift Yukawa suppression



How big is this effect?

[UH, Kahlhoefer & Unwin, 1208.4605]



Inclusion of top-quark loops increases mono-jet cross section (bound on M_*) by a factor of around 500 (3)

LHC & direct detection bounds

[UH, Kahlhoefer & Unwin, 1208.4605]



Parameter regions favoured by DAMA & CoGeNT (hinting to DM of order 10 GeV) clearly excluded by loop-level bound

Heavy-quark pairs & ET, miss



[Lin et al., 1303.6638; Artoni et al. 1307.7834; CMS PAS B2G-13-004; CMS-B2G-13-004; ATLAS, 1410.4031; Buckley et al., 1410.6497; UH & Re, 1503.00691; also Deborah in YSF2]

j + E_{T,miss} vs. tt + E_{T,miss}

[UH & Re, 1503.00691]



Depending on specific simplified model realisation either search can provide strongest constraints. Strategies are thus complementary

[see also Buckley et al., 1410.6497; Harris et al., 1411.0535]

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LHC search strategies for spin-0 interactions considered so far allow to probe only mediators with couplings larger 1 & weak scale masses

[see also Buckley et al., 1410.6497; Harris et al., 1411.0535]

Properties beyond mass scale?



 $E_{T,miss}$ & $p_{T,j1}$ spectra for vector & axial operators identical. Mono-jet searches not sensitive to chirality of interactions

DM-pair production & 2 jets

[UH, Hibbs & Re, 1311.7131]



Azimuthal angle difference $\Delta \phi_{j1j2}$ in 2j + E_{T,miss} events goldplated observable to probe structure of DM-SM interactions

[cf. Cotta et al., 1210.0525 for related ideas]

How general is method?

"Darkness" of DM could be a natural consequence of DM having only irrelevant interactions with "light". In Majorana case, dimension-5 dipole interactions vanish, so that leading effects arise at dimension 7



[see e.g. Weiner & Yavin 1206.2910, 1209.1093; Liu et al. 1303.4404]

LHC 14 TeV prospects

Imposed VBF cuts:

 $\Delta \eta_{j_1 j_2} > 2$ $m_{j_1 j_2} > 1100 \,\text{GeV}$

 $\sigma_{\rm fid} (pp \to \overline{E_{T,\rm miss}} + 2j) = 1.0 \,\text{fb}$ $\sigma_{\rm fid} (pp \to Z (\to \overline{\nu}\nu) + 2j) = 0.35 \,\text{fb}$ $S/\sqrt{B} = 8.4 \,(25 \,\text{fb}^{-1})$

 $S/\sqrt{B} = 29 \; (300 \, {\rm fb}^{-1})$



[Crivellin, UH & Hibbs, 1501.00907]

LHC 14 TeV prospects

Angular decomposition:

$$\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{d\Delta\phi_{j_1j_2}} = \sum_{n=0}^2 a_n \cos(n\Delta\phi_{j_1j_2})$$
$$\vec{\downarrow} \quad 300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$$
$$(a_2/a_0)_{W+\text{SM}} = 0.15 \pm 0.10$$
$$(a_2/a_0)_{\tilde{W}+\text{SM}} = -0.45 \pm 0.14$$
$$(a_2/a_0)_{\text{SM}} = -0.12 \pm 0.22$$

significance: 2.7, 2.4, 5.1



[Crivellin, UH & Hibbs, 1501.00907]

Conclusions

- With start of LHC run-2, collider searches for E_{T,miss} signatures are soon to explore new territory & large statistics expected at phase-I & -2 upgrades at I4 TeV have potential to revolutionise our understanding of DM
- New theoretical developments that allow for a better description of signals both in context of DM effective field theory & simplified models will help to exploit full physics potential of LHC
- Studies of 2-particle correlations in 2j + E_{T,miss}, tt̄ + E_{T,miss}, etc. can provide information on structure of DM-SM couplings. Important to harness these ideas at LHC run-2

Evidence for dark matter



Evidence for dark matter

Bullet cluster



Gravitational lensing

Evidence for dark matter

Time = 0.05 Gyr



Structure formation

Content of Universe

But what is dark matter?

- As a particle physicist I want to know how dark matter (DM) fits into a particle description
- What do we know about it?
 - Dark (neutral)
 - Massive
 - Still around today (stable or with a lifetime exceeding the age of the Universe)
- Nothing in the Standard Model of particle physics fits the profile

Standard Model (SM)

DM questionnaire

Mass:	
Spin:	
Lifetime:	
Couplings:	
🗹 Gravity	
Weak interaction?	
Higgs?	
Quarks/gluons?	
Leptons?	
Thermal relic?	
Yes	

Particle probes of DM

Fermi telescope

• The common theme of searches for DM is that all methods are determined by how the DM particles interact with the SM

Particle probes of DM

LUX detector

 The common theme of searches for DM is that all methods are determined by how the DM particles interact with the SM

Particle probes of DM

LHC at CERN

• The common theme of searches for DM is that all methods are determined by how the DM particles interact with the SM

• Claims for DM discovery have been made based on the results of indirect and direct detection experiments. Since the backgrounds in both cases are large and uncertain (and given that we have no control over the signal), claims remain unsubstantiated

DM production at the LHC

- If DM particles are sufficiently light and couple to quarks or gluons, we should be able to produce them at the LHC
- By studying DM production in proton-proton collisions, we are testing the inverse of the process that kept DM in thermal equilibrium in the early Universe
- LHC may allow us to produce other states of "dark sector", which are no longer present in the Universe today

ATLAS detector

46 m × 25 m, 7000 t, 3000 km of cables, ...

How to see the invisible?

- The DM particles interact so weakly that they are expected to pass out of the detector components without any significant interaction, making them effectively invisible (much like neutrinos)
- One way to "see" DM particles nonetheless, works by looking for "missing momentum" and additional SM radiation

How to see the invisible?

 Second way to try to detect SM, based on production of "partner" particles that decay to DM and SM particles

But we also need a DM theory

- The three main search strategies perform quite different measurements.
 Without a theoretical model of DM, we cannot compare the results
- If evidence for DM is found in one type of search, we can predict in a given model the signals that should be seen in other searches

No lack of theoretical models

No lack of theoretical models

Spectrum of DM theory space

Complete DM theories

Complete = complicated

- All complete DM models add more particles to the SM, most of which are not viable DM candidates
- The classical example is the MSSM, in which each SM particle gets its own "superpartner"
- In the case of the MSSM there are 20 additional parameters that can be relevant for DM physics

Minimal supersymmetric SM (MSSM)

One way to produce DM in MSSM

DM effective field theories

Effective = easy

- At the other end of complexity are models in which the DM particles are the only new states that can be produced at the LHC
- In such cases, effective field theory allows us to describe the DM-SM interactions mediated by all heavy particles in a simple and universal way

 $\begin{array}{ll} X &=& \displaystyle \frac{g^2}{p^2 - M_{Z_1}^2} (\bar{q} \Gamma q) (\bar{X} \Gamma X) \end{array} \\ \end{array}$

 $p = p_{\bar{q}} + p_q = p_{\bar{X}} + p_X$

 $\frac{Z_1}{\bar{X}} = \frac{g^2}{p^2 - M_{Z_1}^2} (\bar{q} \Gamma q) (\bar{X} \Gamma X)$

 $p = p_{\bar{q}} + p_q = p_{\bar{X}} + p_X$

 $-\frac{g^2}{M_{Z_1}^2}(\bar{q}\Gamma q)(\bar{X}\Gamma X)$

Information on heavy states encoded in a single coupling

Independent of heavy physics

LHC limits on suppression scale

Comparison with direct detection

The LHC constraints are strongest at low DM mass, where direct detection is challenging due to the small nuclear recoil

Comparison with direct detection

The LHC is superior to any spin-dependent search for all DM masses, since DM-nucleon scattering is incoherent in this case

Simplified DM models

Simplified = in-between

- Another interesting option is to consider models that contain DM and the most important state mediating its interactions with the SM
- Unlike the effective field theories, these simplified models can describe the full kinematics of DM production at the LHC
- Simplified DM models have typically a few parameters

