Self-interacting dark matter as a solution to the problems in small-scale structures

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In collaboration with Xiaoyong Chu and Thomas Hambye. Based on JHEP 1611 (2016) 048.

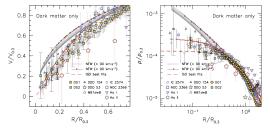
Challenges to the ACDM model at small scales

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Core vs. cusp problem

dwarf galaxies exhibit a core while N-body simulations predict a cusp at their center

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Oh et al.(2010)

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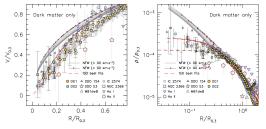
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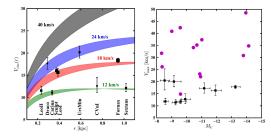
Too big to fail problem

simulations of the Milky Way predict subhalos too massive and too dense to host the brightest observed satellites

> Boylan-Kolchin et al.(2011) Ferrero et al. (2014)



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Astrophysical possible solutions:

- Including baryons on the simulations
- Supernova feedback
- Tidal effects
- Low star-formation rates

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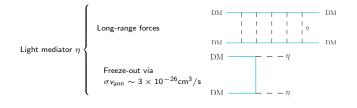
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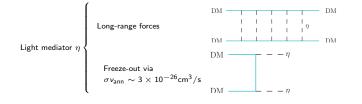
Simulations show that this is indeed a solution

Wandelt, et.al (2000), Vogelsberger et.al (2012) Peter et.al (2012), Rocha et.al (2013), Zavala et.al (2012) Elbert et.al (2014), Kaplinghat (2015), Vogelsberger et.al (2015) Francis-Yan Cvr-Racine (2015)

How can we obtain this cross section?



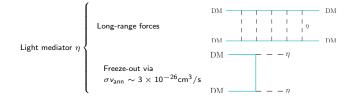
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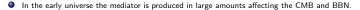


- In the early universe the mediator is produced in large amounts affecting the CMB and BBN.
- Large direct detection rates. Kaplinghat, Sean Tulin, Yu (2013)
- Large annihilation signals due to the Sommerfeld effect. Brignmann, Kahlhoefer, Schmidt-Hoberg, Walia (2016) Cirelli. Panci. Petraki. Sala. Taoso (2016)

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Can we still consider the standard freeze-out?

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Chu, CGC, Hambye (2016)

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DM annihilations (freeze-out)

DM self-interactions (small structures)



Interactions within the dark sector Contact interaction

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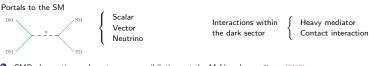
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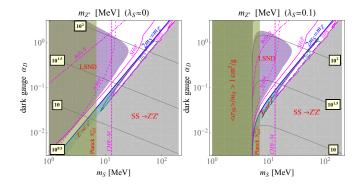
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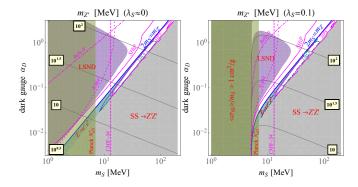
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Freeze-out: Scalar DM coupled to a heavier Z'



- Five parameters: λ_S, the kinetic mixing ε, M_{Z'}, M_S and α_D. The freeze-out via SS → Z' → f_{SM} f_{SM} and the self-interaction hypothesis constrain two of them.
- Annihilations into fermions are p-wave suppressed. No annihilation into photons.
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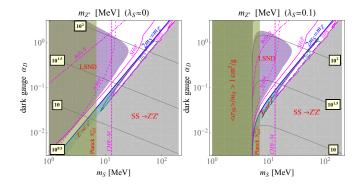


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Highly testable via dark photon searches and CMB observations.

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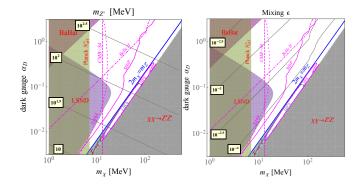
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- DM Scattering off electrons in semiconductors might exclude it completely.

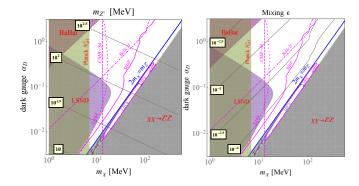
Essig, Fernandez-Serra, Soto, Volansky, T.-T. Yu (2016)

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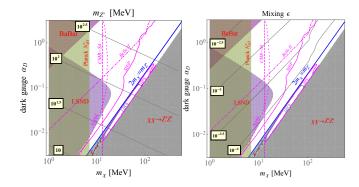


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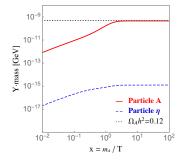


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- Model building is required because there must be a dark scalar close in mass to the Z'.

Freeze-in



Bernal, Chu, CGC, Hambye, Zaldivar (2015)

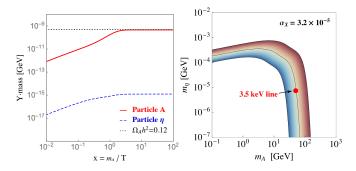
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Thanks for your attention!