# DARK MATTER

ASTR 333/433

TODAY

WIMPS WIMP DETECTION

ASTR 433 Projects 4/17: distribute abstracts 4/19: 20 minute talks

4/24: Homework 4 due 4/26: Exam



### **STANDARD MODEL OF ELEMENTARY PARTICLES**



Supersymmetry: a hypothetical new symmetry of nature



Every Standard Model particle has a superpartner. The lightest stable massive superparticle is the most favored WIMP candidate. Usually the neutralino (theory dependent).

# THE WIMP MIRACLE

 Fermi's constant G<sub>F</sub> introduced in 1930s to describe beta decay

 $n \rightarrow p e^- \overline{v}$ 

G<sub>F</sub> ≈ 1.1 10<sup>5</sup> GeV<sup>-2</sup> → a new mass scale in nature

m<sub>weak</sub> ~ 100 GeV

 We still don't understand the origin of this mass scale, but every attempt so far introduces new particles at the weak scale



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# THE WIMP MIRACLE

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7lbX7VxlrJQ



- Assume a new (heavy) particle X is initially in thermal equilibrium
- Its relic density is



 $m_{\chi} \sim 100 \text{ GeV}, g_{\chi} \sim 0.6 \rightarrow \Omega_{\chi} \sim 0.1$ 

 Remarkable coincidence: particle physics independently predicts particles with the right density to be dark matter

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# WIMP DETECTION

Correct relic density → Lower bound on DM-SM interaction



laboratory experiments

Experimental results to date (early 2018): nada

#### **Particle production**

the LHC has discovered the Higgs

- a necessary ingredient for SUSY
- too "normal" for MSSM (minimal SUSY)
- the LHC has NOT observed excess Bs meson decay
  - the Golden Test for SUSY
  - looking grim for MSSM, SUSY in general

WIMPs created in the LHC would escape like a neutrino; would be noticed by nonconservation of mass-energy



Experimental results to date (early 2018): nada Indirect detection predicted gamma ray sky





Experimental results to date (early 2018): nada gamma ray flux from WIMP self-annihilation scales as the square of the dark matter density.

#### Galactic Center

sub-halos

simulated gamma ray sky

#### Working out the expected gamma ray flux

Strigari (2018) Reviews of Modern Physics, 81, e6901

averaged annihilation cross-section

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle = \int d^3 v P(v) \sigma(v)$$

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 $\sigma$  here is the interaction cross-section (not velocity dispersion)  $\sigma$  often assumed to be velocity independent, but doesn't have to be. Probability of a dark matter particle having velocity v

distribution function

$$P(v) = \frac{f_{DM}(x, v)}{\rho_{DM}(x)}$$

dark matter density



"J factor" 
$$J = \int d\Omega \int d\ell [\rho_{DM}(r(\ell, \Omega))]^2$$

If the interaction cross-section is not velocity-dependent, then the flux depends only on the DM density profile.

### INDIRECT DETECTION

#### cosmic rays as DM decay products



Solid lines are the predicted spectra from GALPROP (Moskalenko, Strong)

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One must exclude astrophysical sources before claiming a detection of dark matter.

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## ARE THESE DARK MATTER?

Pulsars can explain PAMELA

Zhang, Cheng (2001); Hooper, Blasi, Serpico (2008) Yuksel, Kistler, Stanev (2008) Profumo (2008); Fermi (2009)



 For dark matter, there is both good and bad news

Good: the WIMP miracle motivates excesses at ~100 GeV – TeV

Bad: the WIMP miracle also tells us that the annihilation cross section should be a factor of 100-1000 too small to explain these excesses. Need enhancement from

- astrophysics (very unlikely)
- particle physics

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# Experimental results to date (early 2016): nada **Direct detection**

Many, *many* experiments CDMS, LUX, XENON, DAMA, PandaX, etc.

Basic idea: WIMP passing through detector interacts via weak force; scatters off nucleus. Detect deposited energy of recoil. (analogous to neutrino detection).





#### Experimental results to date (early 2018): nada

Direct detection:

Must protect experiments from cosmic rays, natural radioactivity, selfradioactivity, etc., etc.

Bury them deep in mines.



UV scintillation photons (~175 nm)

#### WIMPs are hiding



WIMP detection experiments



Experimental results to date (early 2018): nada

LHC: the LHC sees no indication of dark matter or even supersymmetry

Direct Detection: Nothing so far well, DAMA

Indirect Detection: Various claims gamma ray excess near Galactic Center cosmic ray excess unidentified X-ray lines

As yet: nothing credible.

