

Title: A Model-Independent Approach to WIMP Dark Matter

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Abstract: I discuss how the results of dark matter experiments can be used to draw conclusions about the nature of WIMP dark matter that are to a large extent model-independent. Specifically, I show that combining the results of direct detection experiments with data from neutrino telescopes can help establish whether the dark matter particle is its own anti-particle. I go on to discuss how limits on the diffuse and line spectra obtained from gamma ray telescopes can be used to constrain the annihilation modes of dark matter.

No Signal
VGA-1

No Signal
VGA-1

No Signal

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No Signal
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A model-independent approach to WIMP dark matter

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Page 6/87

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It is now well established from astrophysical and cosmological observations that about 80% of the matter in the universe is made up of non-luminous, non-baryonic dark matter.



However, the nature of the particles of which dark matter is composed remains a mystery.

Stable particles with masses of order the weak scale that have weak scale cross sections with visible matter naturally have the right relic abundance to explain observations - 'the WIMP miracle'.

Since the WIMP dark matter framework is so robust, it naturally arises or can be accommodated in many different scenarios.

Is a model-independent approach feasible?

To what extent is it possible to extract from experiment information about nature of WIMP dark matter independent of specific models?

Clearly, detailed predictions will not be possible.

Nevertheless, it may be possible to answer several of the most important questions about the dark matter particle.

- What is the mass of the dark matter particle?
- What is its spin?
- Is the dark matter particle its own anti-particle? ←

Are there robust features common to large classes of models that could aid in the discovery of dark matter?

- Spectrum of photons from dark matter annihilation. ←

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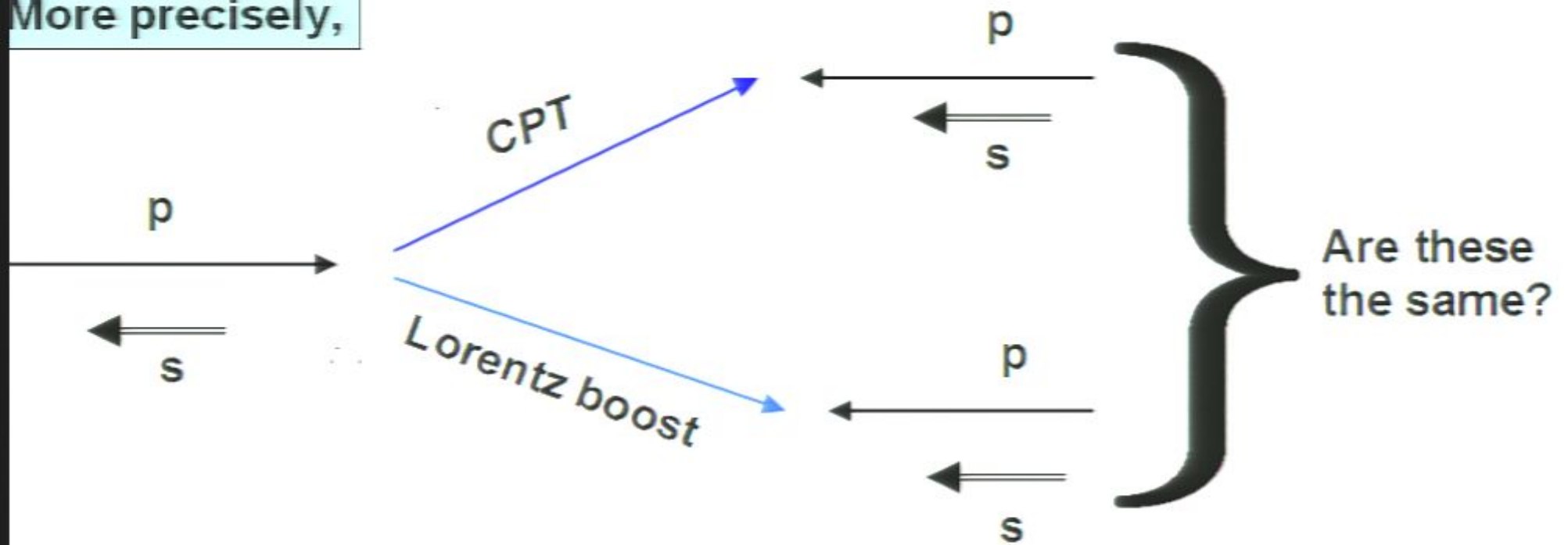
- Spectrum of photons from dark matter annihilation. ←

Let us formulate the problem.

According to the *CPT* theorem, for every particle there is an anti-particle with the same mass and spin, but opposite charge(s).

Since dark matter is electrically neutral, it is possible that the dark matter particle is its own anti-particle.

More precisely,



To what extent can dark matter experiments address this question?

The logic is as follows.

will establish a very close association between theories where the WIMP-nucleon cross section is dominated by spin-dependent interactions, and theories where the dark matter particle is its own anti-particle.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \sigma_{SD} \gg \sigma_{SI} & \longrightarrow & \chi = \chi^c \\ \chi = \chi^c & \xrightarrow{\text{red X}} & \sigma_{SD} \gg \sigma_{SI} \end{array}$$

However

The experiment that is most sensitive to spin-dependent dark matter is the IceCube neutrino telescope located at the South Pole. A signal could help establish the dark matter particle is its own anti-particle!

The problem is that IceCube is also sensitive to spin-independent interactions. Not possible to distinguish the origin of the signal.

However, I will then show that limits from direct detection expts. can be used to place a model-independent upper bound on the event rate from spin-independent interactions, closing the loophole.

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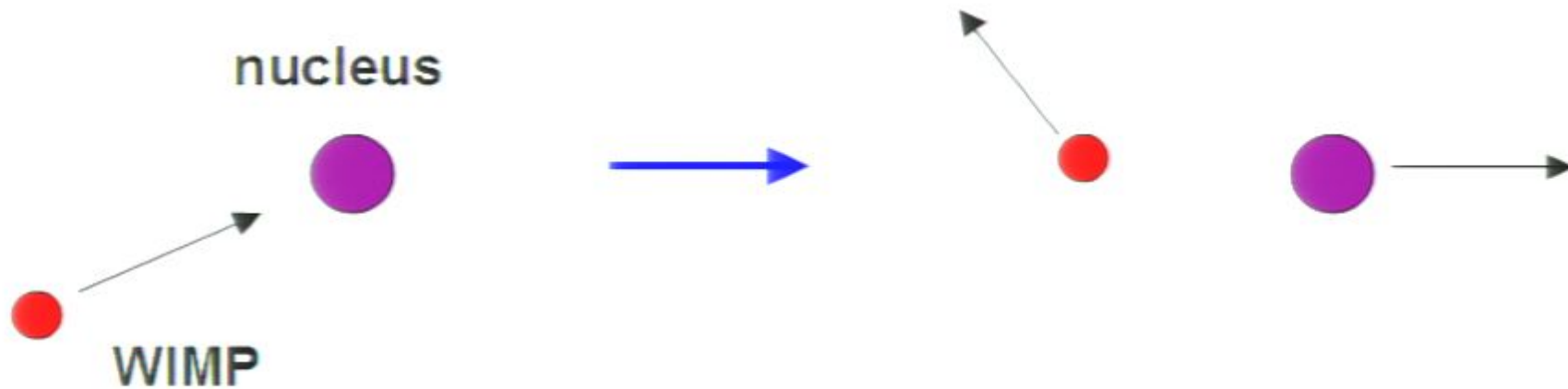
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Spin-dependent dark matter candidates

Direct detection experiments search for the recoil of a nucleus after the impact of a dark matter particle.



At present, they are able to place limits on the WIMP-nucleon cross section as a function of the dark matter mass.

Since the de Broglie wavelength of the incident WIMP is larger than the typical nuclear scales, the WIMP sees nucleus as a single unit, with a net charge, mass and spin.



In the non-relativistic limit, WIMP-nucleon interactions fall into two distinct categories.

If the WIMP interactions are sensitive to the spin of the nucleus, the corresponding cross section is 'spin-dependent'. If not, the cross section is 'spin-independent'.

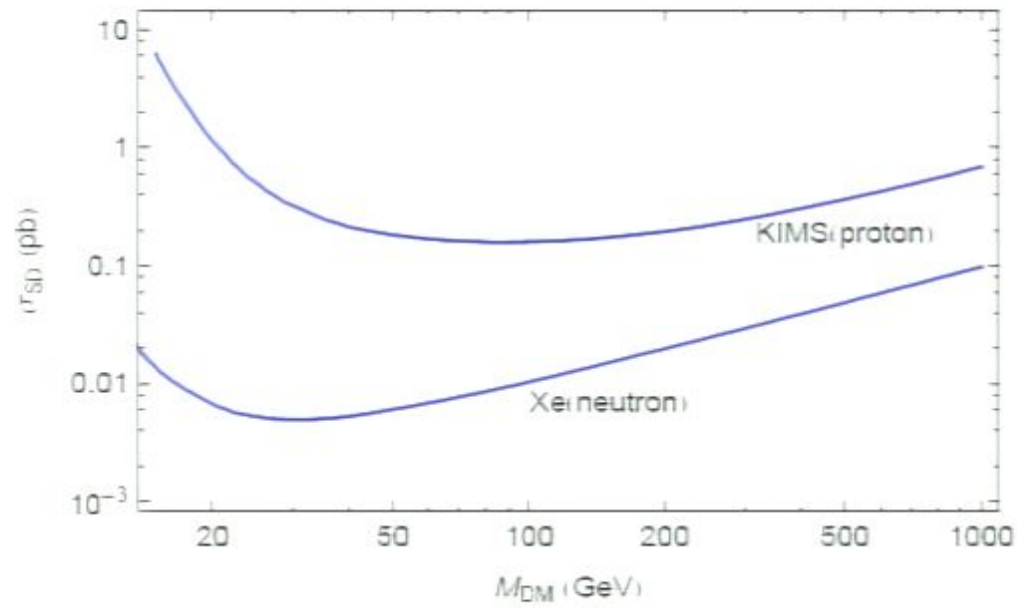
The direct detection bounds on spin-independent interactions are much tighter than the bounds on spin-dependent interactions. Why?

In the spin-independent case contributions from individual nucleons in the nucleus add coherently, leading to a large cross section.

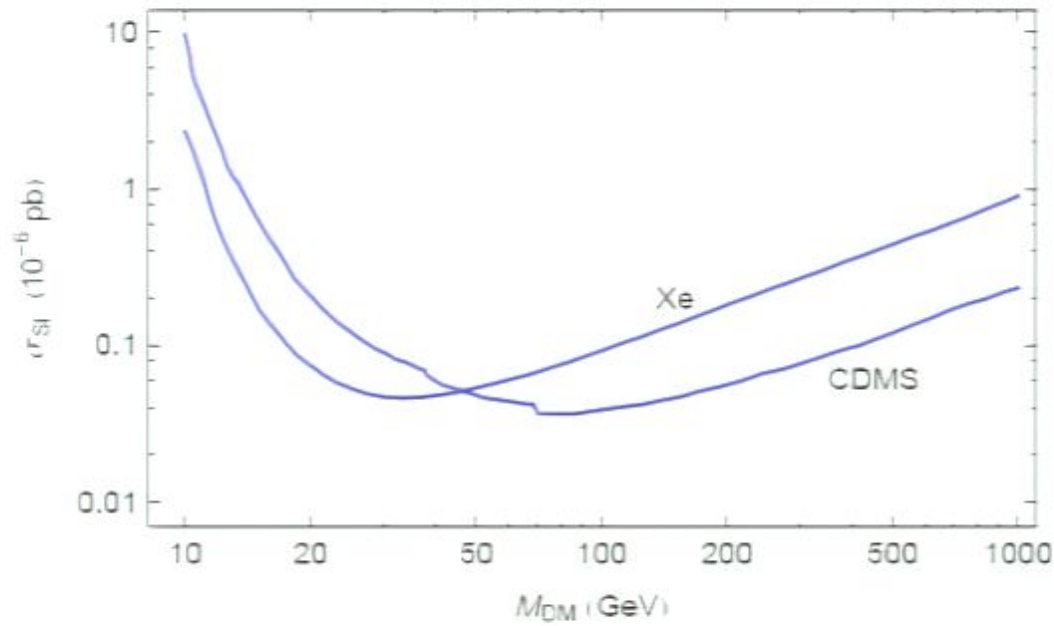
$$\sigma_{SI} \sim A^2$$

Spins of nucleons tend to cancel in pairs → no such enhancement in spin-dependent case.

SD



SI



We wish to classify theories which can naturally lead to primarily spin-dependent interactions with matter.

Cosmological limits constrain WIMP dark matter to be neutral under color and electromagnetism.

Limit to renormalizable theories where WIMP-nucleon scattering is elastic and arises from an effective operator generated by a tree diagram at parton level \rightarrow only WIMP-quark operators are relevant.

In this class of theories WIMP-nucleon scattering is generated by operators of the general form

$$\frac{[\text{dark matter bilinear}] [\text{quark bilinear}]}{M^n}$$

Here M is the mass of the particle mediating the interaction, and n is mass than or equal to 2. In general the bilinears include derivatives

The cross section depends on the matrix element of the quark bilinear between nuclear states. Parity symmetry allows us to distinguish spin-dependent terms.

\vec{s} represent the spin of the nucleus and \vec{v} the relative velocity of the WIMP-nucleus system. While \vec{s} is a pseudo-vector, \vec{v} is a vector. Other parameters, such as reduced mass and charge(s) are scalars.

scalar

$$\bar{q} q$$

pseudo-scalar

$$\bar{q} \gamma^5 q \sim \vec{s} \cdot \vec{v}$$

vector

$$\bar{q} \gamma^\mu q \begin{cases} \rightarrow \bar{q} \gamma^0 q \\ \rightarrow \bar{q} \gamma^i q \sim v^i \end{cases}$$

pseudo-vector

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tensor

$$\bar{q} \sigma^{\mu\nu} q \begin{cases} \rightarrow \bar{q} \sigma^{0i} q \sim v^i \\ \rightarrow \bar{q} \sigma^{ij} q \sim \epsilon^{ijk} s^k \end{cases}$$

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The velocity dependent terms can be neglected, since $v \sim 10^{-3}$

Of the remaining terms, $\bar{q}q$ and $\bar{q}\sigma^{\mu\nu}q$

are only generated by effects that break chiral symmetry, and can naturally be small. Assume this, and check for consistency later.

Then, for spin-dependent interactions to dominate terms involving

$\bar{q}\gamma^\mu\gamma^5q$ must be present in the theory, while terms involving the

operator $\bar{q}\gamma^\mu q$ must be absent.

What are the theories where this can happen naturally?

The theories where spin-dependent interactions dominate are closely associated with either Majorana fermion or real vector boson dark matter. \rightarrow The dark matter has spin and is its own anti-particle.

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Scalar WIMPs

Scalars always lead to spin-independent interactions.

Fermionic WIMPs

There are two operators that can lead to scattering.

$$\bar{\chi} \gamma_\mu \gamma^5 \chi \bar{q} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 q \longrightarrow \text{SD}$$

$$\bar{\chi} \gamma_\mu \chi \bar{q} \gamma^\mu q \longrightarrow \text{SI}$$

For a Majorana fermion the second operator vanishes \rightarrow scattering is spin-dependent. For Dirac case (in general) both operators contribute.

Vector boson WIMPs

For real vector bosons only one operator contributes in chiral limit.

$$\epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \partial^\mu B^\nu B^\lambda \bar{q} \gamma^\sigma \gamma^5 q \longrightarrow \text{SD}$$

For complex vector bosons an additional operator contributes.

$$\partial_\mu B^* \cdot B^\nu \bar{q} \gamma^\mu q \longrightarrow \text{SI}$$

Dark Matter	Mediator	Process	Scattering
Scalar	Z, Z'		SI
	h		SI
	Q		SI
Dirac Fermion	Z, Z'		SI, SD†
	h		SI
	X		SI, SD
	Φ		SI, SD
Majorana Fermion	Z, Z'		SD
	h		SI
	X		SD in chiral limit
	Φ		SD in chiral limit
Real Vector	h		SI
	Q		SD in chiral limit
Complex Vector	Z, Z'		SI
	h		SI
	Q		SI, SD

Table 1: A summary of results for WIMP-nucleon scattering, for each dark matter candidate and mediator [36]. In the Feynman diagrams, scalars are represented by dashed lines, fermions by solid lines and vector bosons by wavy lines. Of the mediators, h , Z' and the SM Z are neutral under both electromagnetism and color, while X , Φ and Q transform as triplets under color and carry electric charge.

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In the case of Dirac fermion dark matter, with scattering mediated by channel vector exchange (Z' exchange), there is one specific choice of Z' charges which leads to purely spin-dependent scattering.

Z, Z'



SI, SD^\dagger

Can be primarily SD for specific choices of Z' charges

Is there a symmetry understanding of this?

If the Dirac fermion dark matter theory possesses a

$$\chi \leftrightarrow \chi^c$$

symmetry under which all the SM fields are invariant, the operator

$\bar{q} \gamma_\mu \chi \bar{q} \gamma^\mu q$ vanishes.

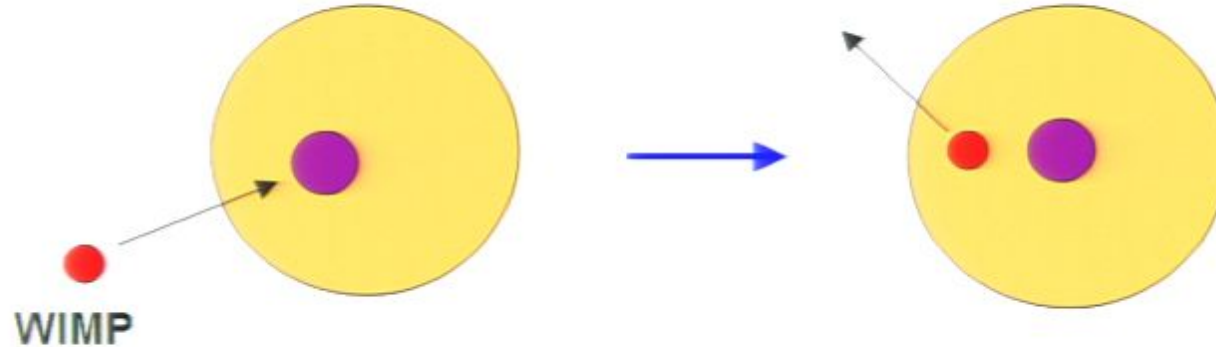
There exists a set of Z' charges for which this symmetry is realized. However, a Z' in the relevant mass range is disfavored.

For the other mediators, no simple realization of this symmetry exists.

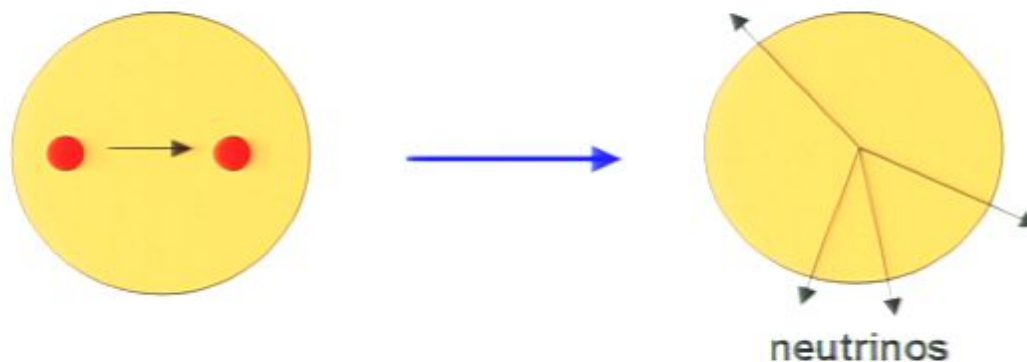
Limits on dark matter event rates in IceCube

Neutrino telescopes are searching for neutrinos arising from dark matter annihilation in the sun (and earth).

Dark matter particles collide with nuclei in the sun, thereby losing energy. As a consequence they become gravitationally bound.

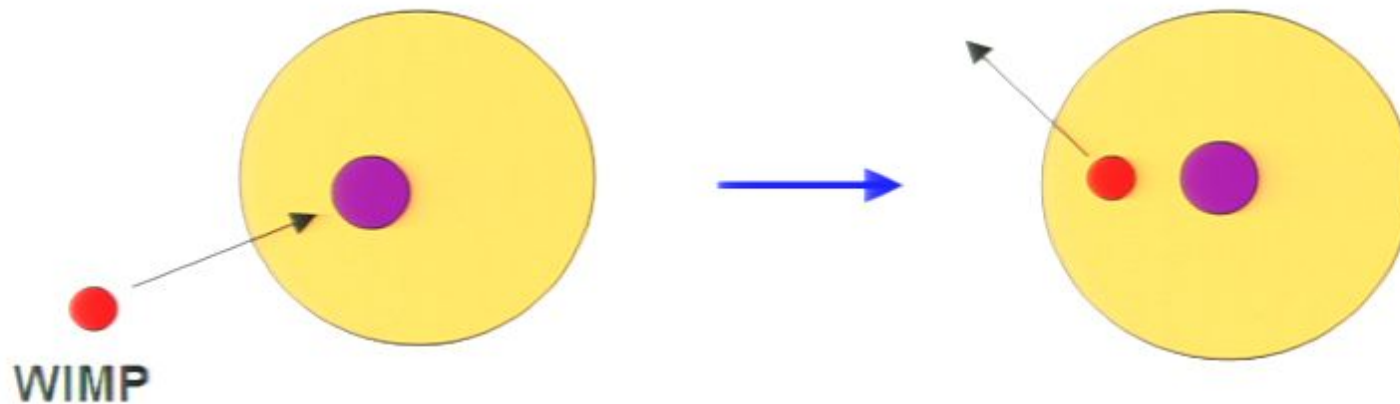


After subsequent scatterings, accumulate in the core of the sun. Can then pair annihilate, giving rise to neutrinos.



The limits from direct detection experiments can be used to place a model-independent bound on the dark matter event rate in IceCube.

How? Capture in the sun occurs through WIMP-nucleon scattering, which is bounded by direct detection experiments. The direct detection limit translates into a bound on the WIMP capture rate.



The annihilation rate can at most be equal to half the capture rate. The limit on the capture rate is then also a limit on the annihilation rate.

For a fixed dark matter mass and annihilation into the most neutrino rich final state, leads to an upper limit on the total neutrino event rate.

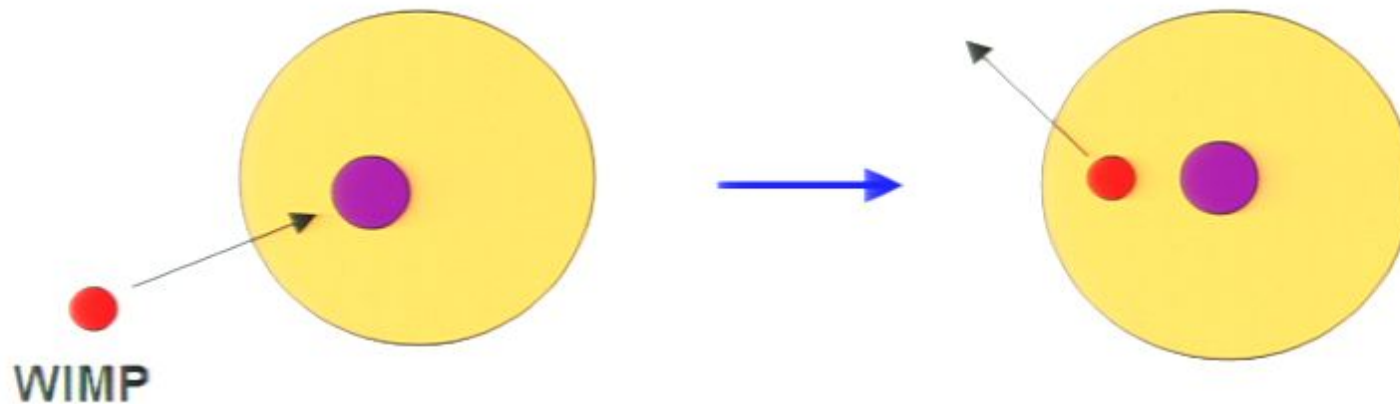
For spin-independent interactions, this limit is comparable to current IceCube bound

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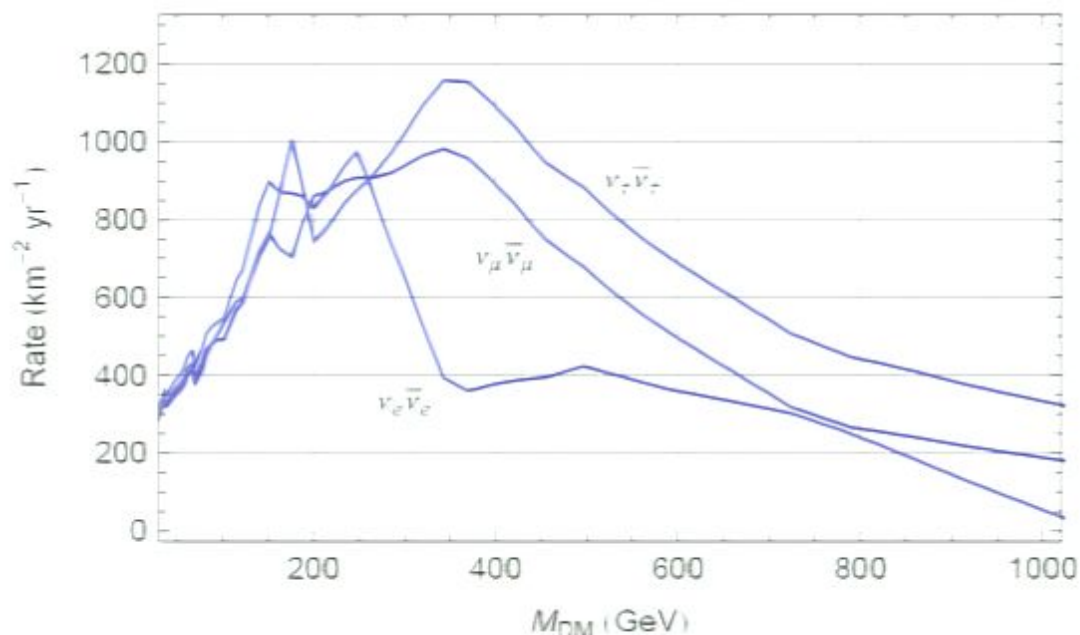
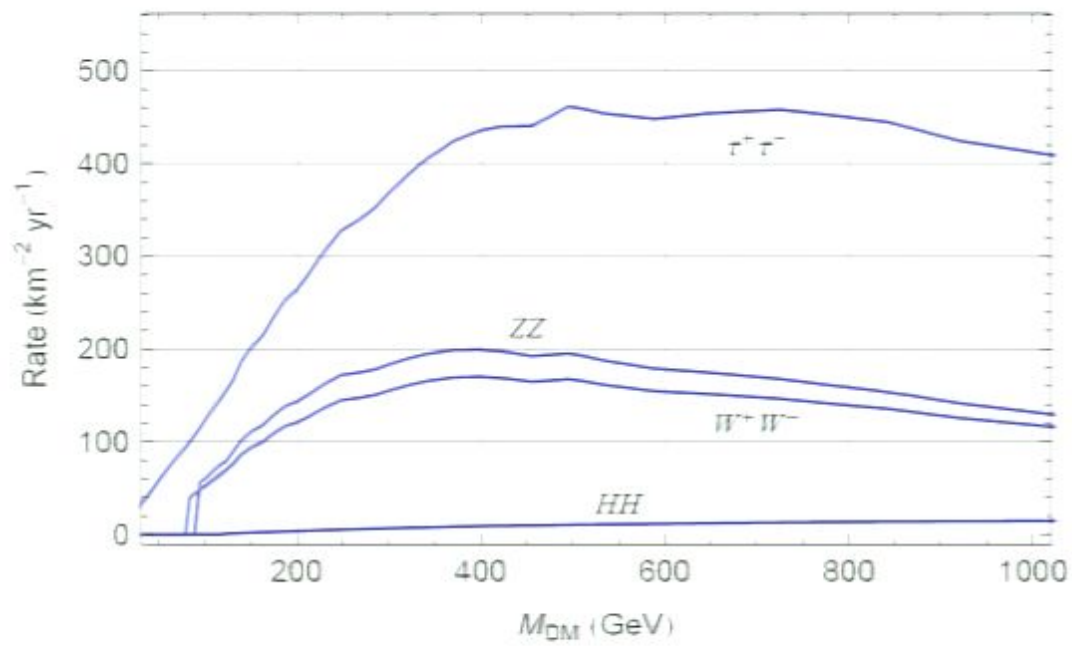
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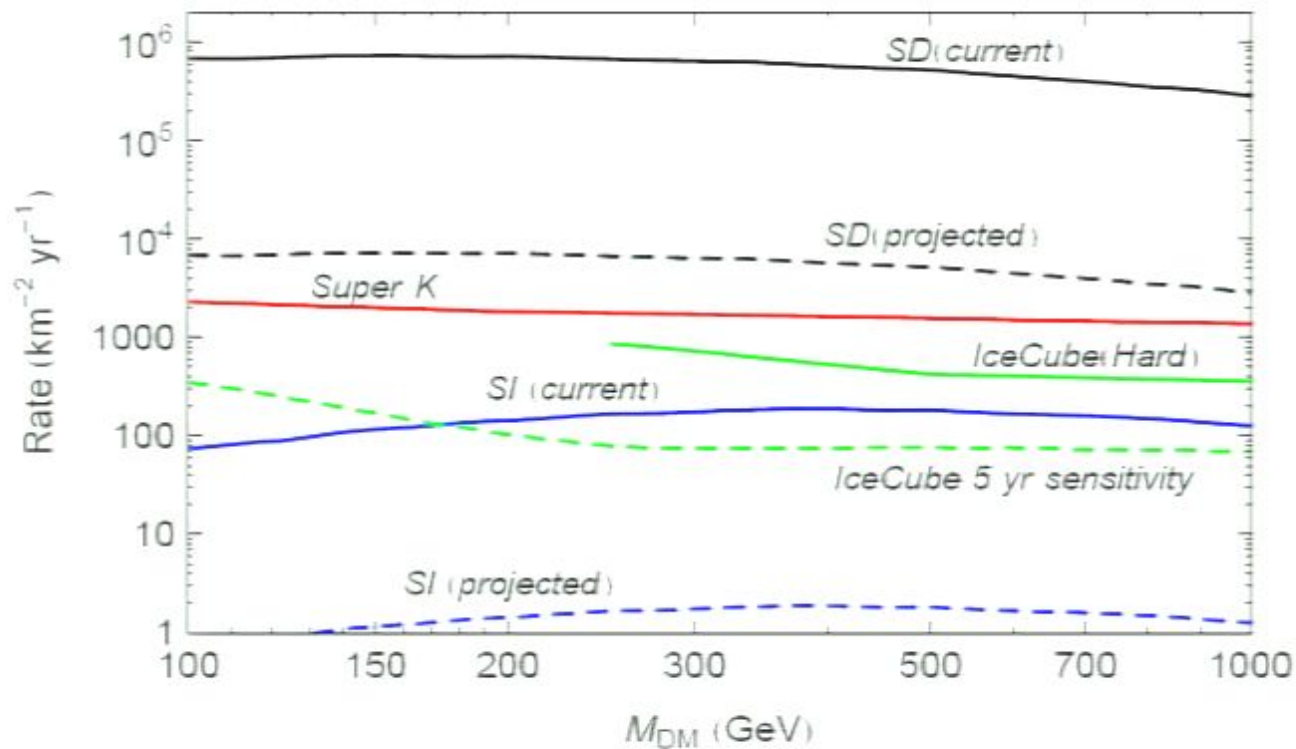


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Spin-independent interactions could still be responsible for generating signal at IceCube close to the current experimental bound, if annihilation is directly to neutrino rich final states. But . . .

The limits from direct detection on spin-independent interactions are expected to improve by two orders of magnitude in the near future.

At that point, any observed signal at IceCube must be arising from spin-dependent interactions → a strong hint that the dark matter particle is its own anti-particle

Assumptions that do not affect the result:

Only studied 2-body final states. Multi-body final states lead to even smaller signal \rightarrow for fixed dark matter mass neutrino energy is less.

Ignored possible annihilation to new non-SM final states. Event rate is less than for annihilation directly to neutrinos.

Ignored possible Sommerfeld enhancement of the annihilation rate, since bound depends only on the capture rate.

Assumed specific value for halo density. Affects direct detection and capture rate in the same way \rightarrow factors out.

Assumptions that could affect the result:

Assumed dark matter is elastic.

Assumed a specific distribution of dark matter velocities.

Did NOT assume the WIMP was a thermal relic.

Conclusions (1)

The dark matter candidates that can naturally lead to primarily spin-independent interactions with matter are Majorana fermions and real vector bosons, so that the dark matter particle is its own anti-particle.



IceCube is currently sensitive to both spin-independent as well as spin-dependent dark matter candidates.

If the direct detection bounds continue to improve, the case of spin-independent dark matter will soon go out of reach of IceCube.

In such a scenario, a signal at IceCube would constitute a strong hint that the dark matter particle has spin, and is its own anti-particle.

The region of parameter space where IceCube can expect a signal from spin-dependent dark matter is kinematically accessible to LHC

The photon spectrum from dark matter annihilation

The dark matter annihilation products will in general include photons. The photon spectrum typically includes both a diffuse and a monochromatic (line) component.

In renormalizable theories dark matter cannot annihilate directly into photons at tree level.

The diffuse spectrum arises in two ways.

- Decays of the primary annihilation products.
- Final state radiation off the primary annihilation products.

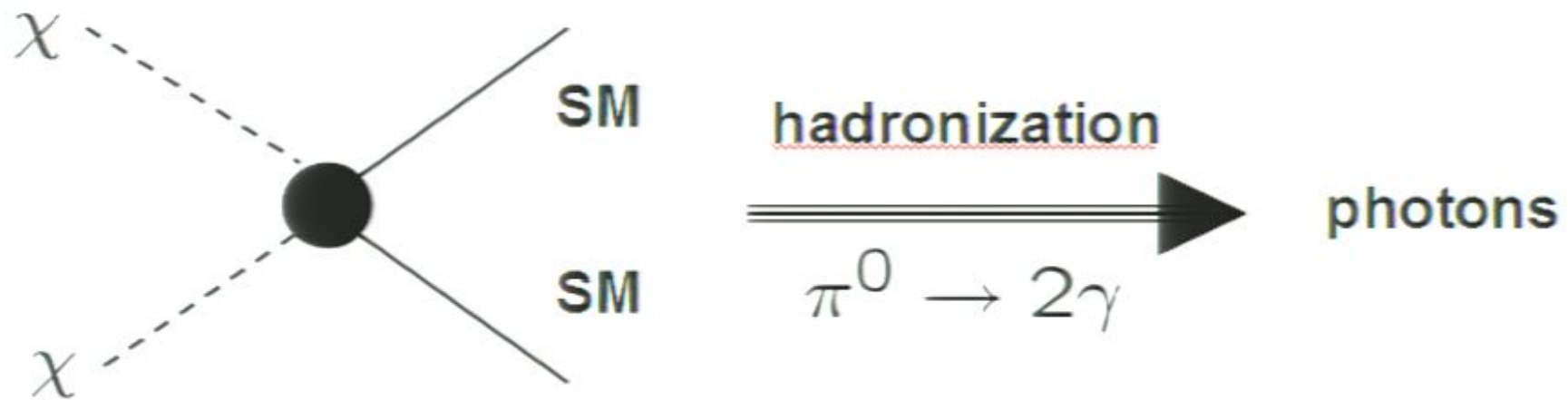
The diffuse spectrum has many model independent features which make it useful for constraining dark matter.

The line spectrum arises from annihilation of dark matter into the two photon, photon + Z and photon + Higgs final states at loop level.

In general the line spectrum is much more model dependent.

Diffuse Photon Spectrum

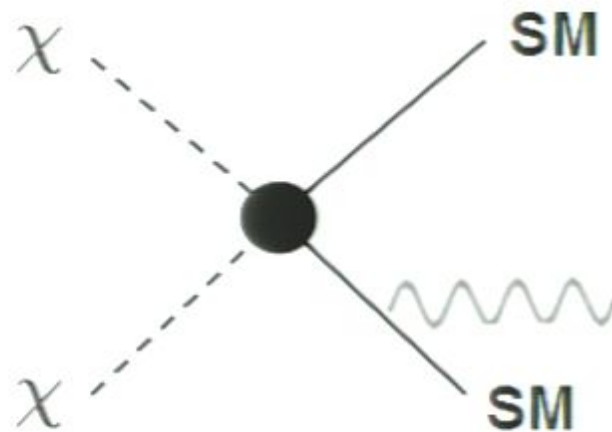
For all 2 body SM final states except electrons and muons, spectrum of diffuse photons is dominated by gamma rays arising from decays of primary (or secondary) annihilation products after hadronization.



The resulting photon spectrum is independent of the dark matter spin or form of couplings. Depends only on dark matter mass, and (to a more limited extent) on the SM final states.

Therefore this can be used to place a robust bound on annihilation into various 2 body SM final states.

For dark matter annihilation to electrons and muons, the resulting photon spectrum is generally dominated by final state radiation.

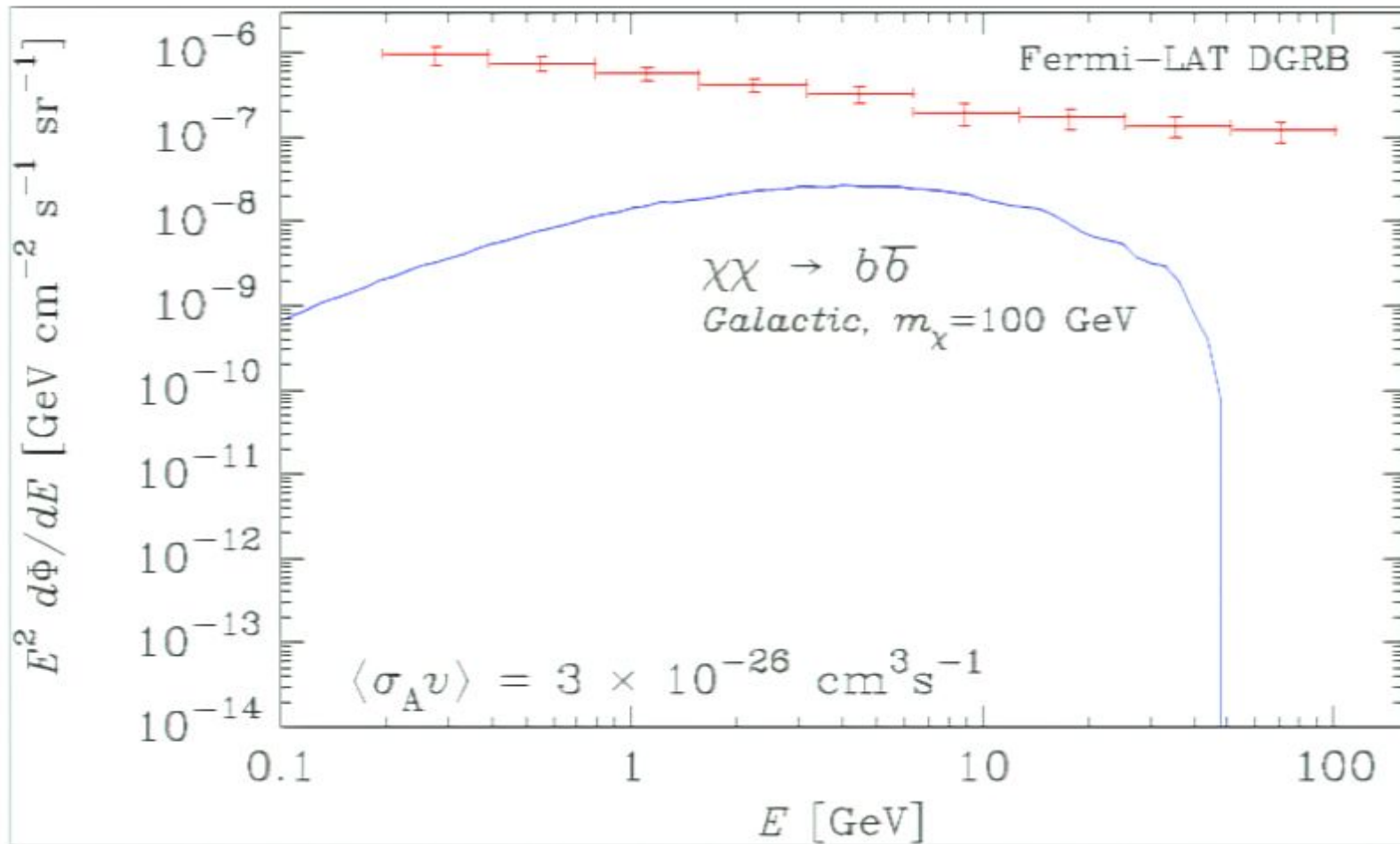


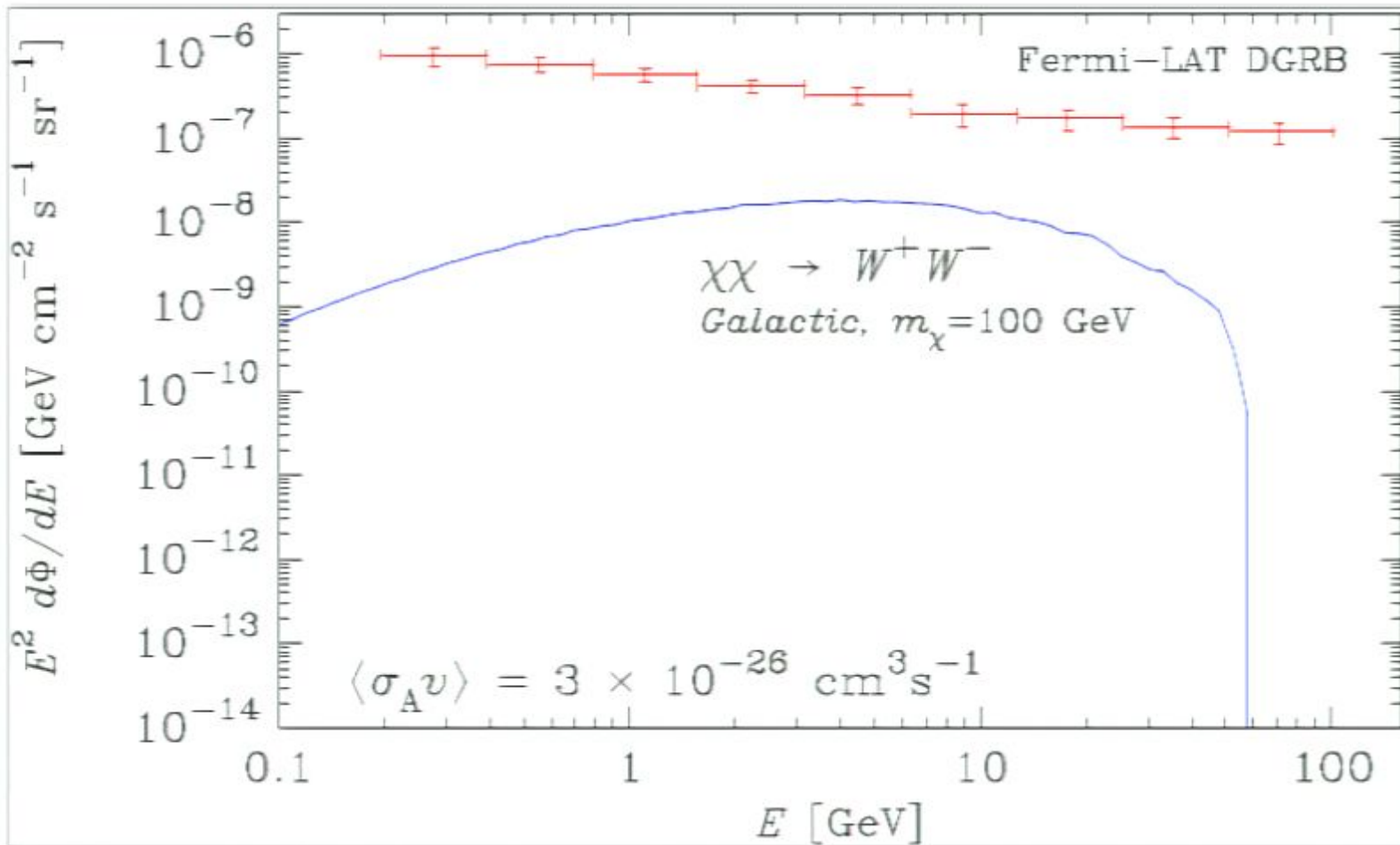
Final state radiation is generally dominated by collinear emission!

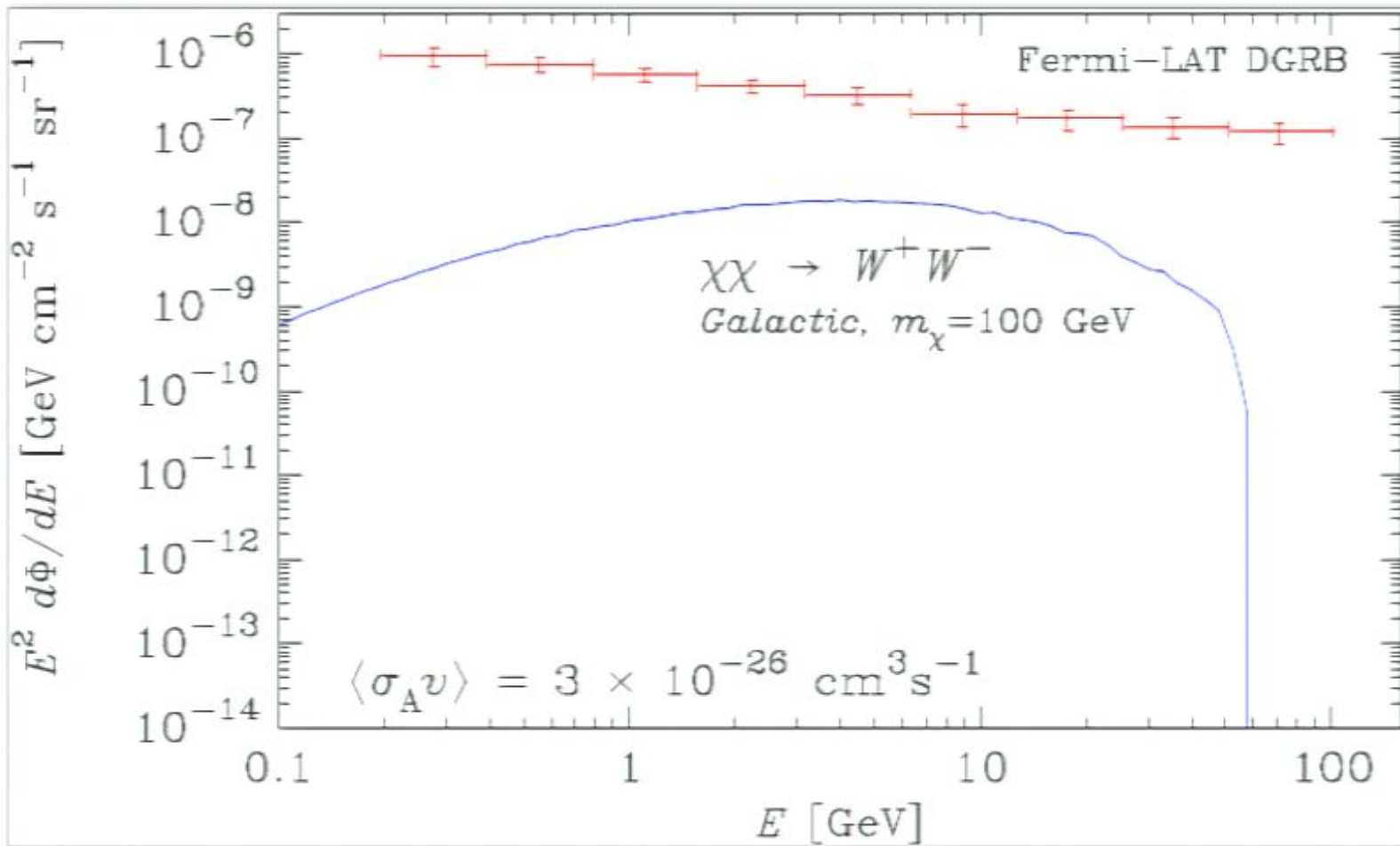
Spectrum arising from final state radiation is then independent of dark matter spin and couplings. Depends only on dark matter mass, and spin and mass of final state.

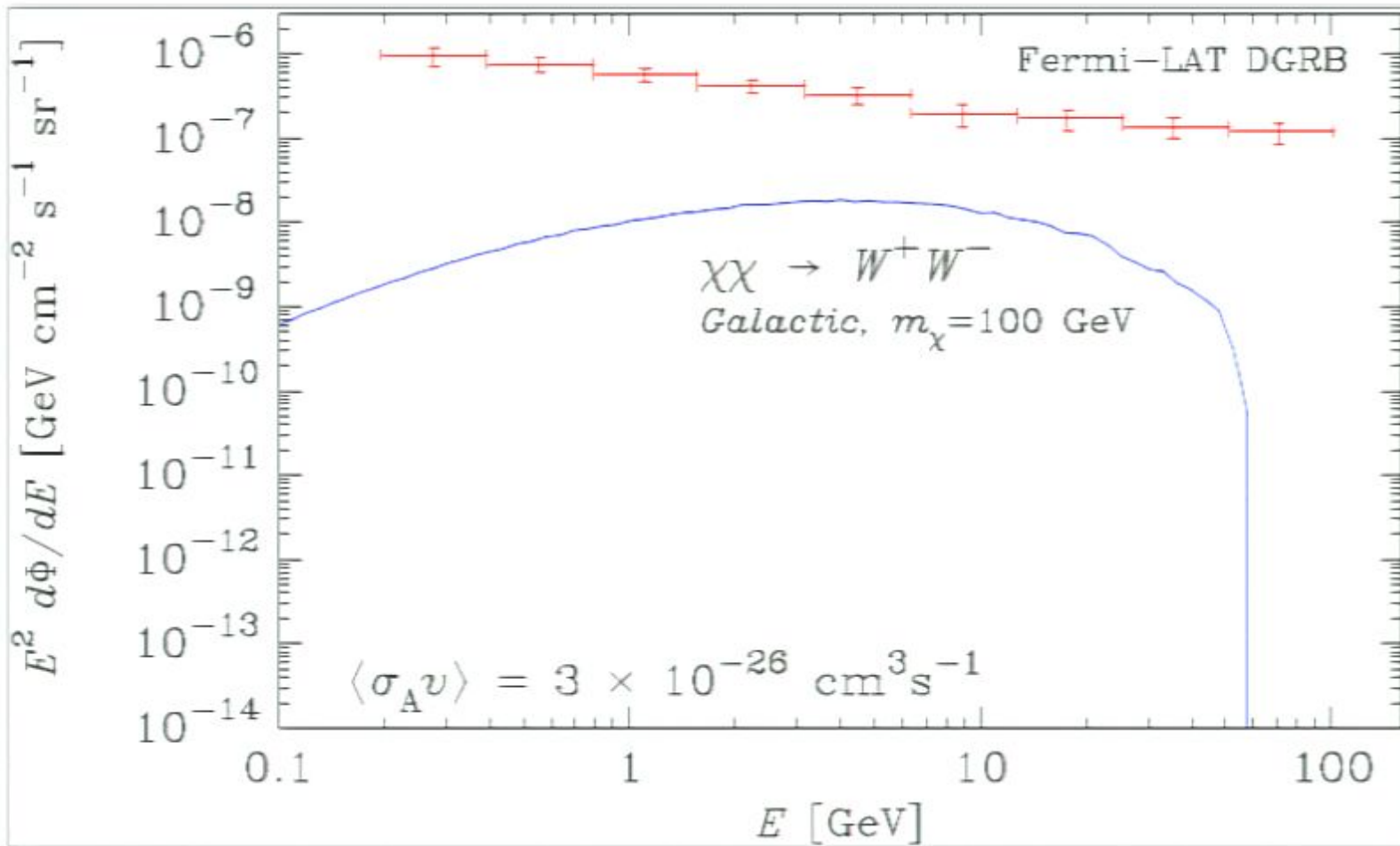
→ Leads to a robust bound on annihilation into leptonic final states.

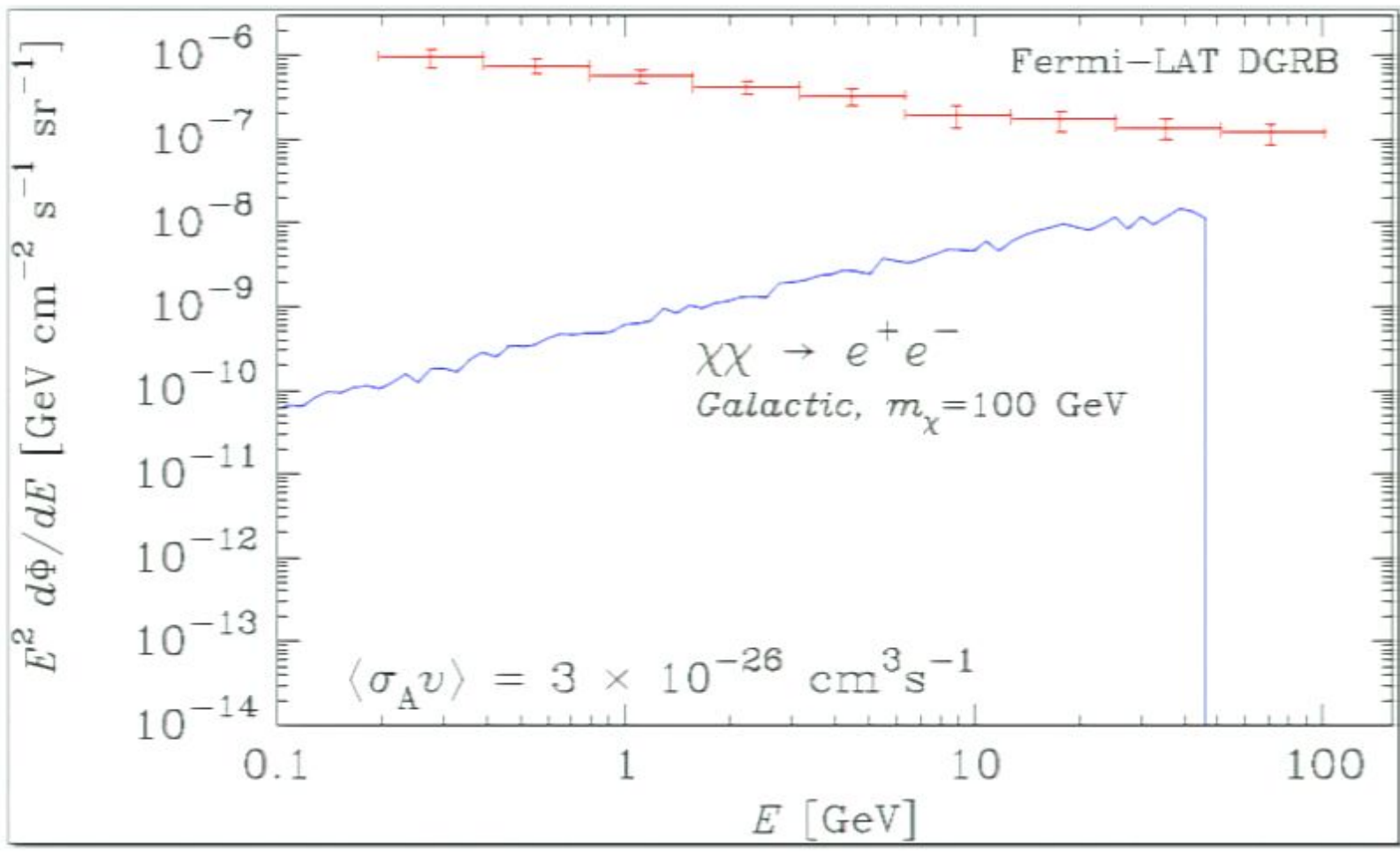
For dark matter masses above 100 GeV, photons arising from inverse Compton scattering of the final state electrons and muons from the CMB and starlight are also important

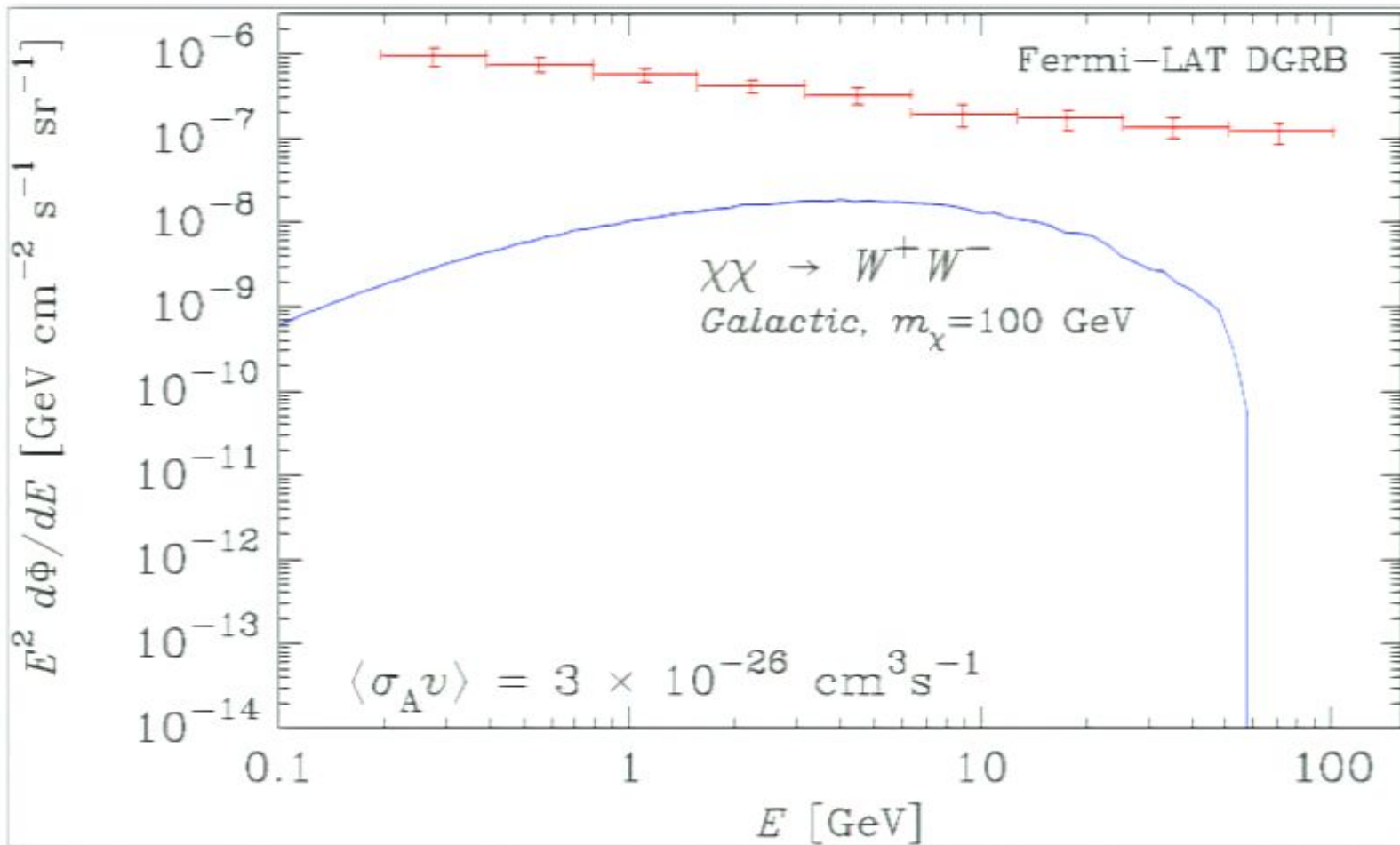


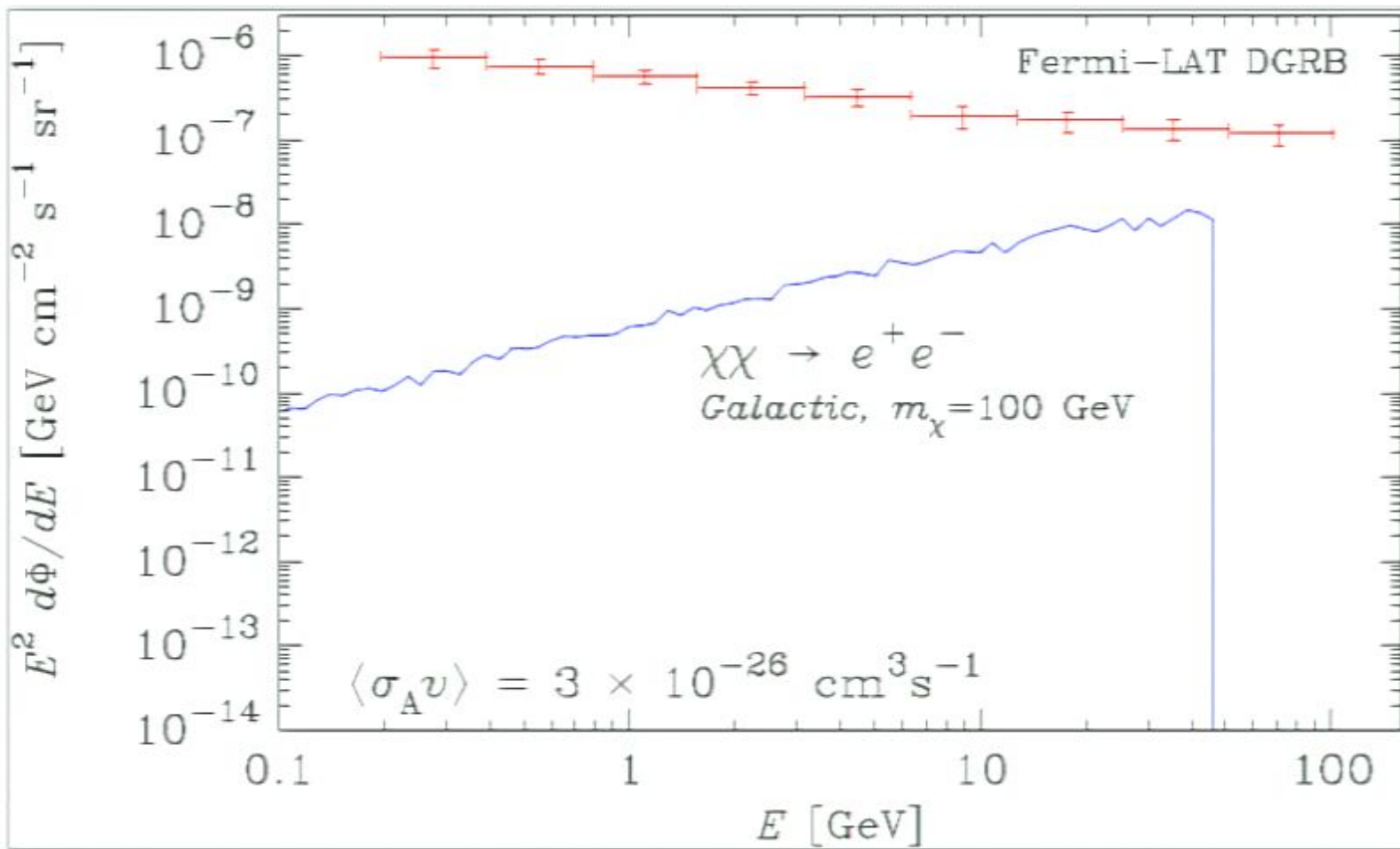












Currently, the most sensitive gamma ray telescopes are Fermi (at energies up to few hundred GeV) and Hess (at even higher energies).

Fermi is a satellite experiment. Fermi's greatest sensitivity to dark matter is from measurements of the diffuse isotropic gamma ray flux.

Hess is ground based, and measures the flux from close to galactic center.

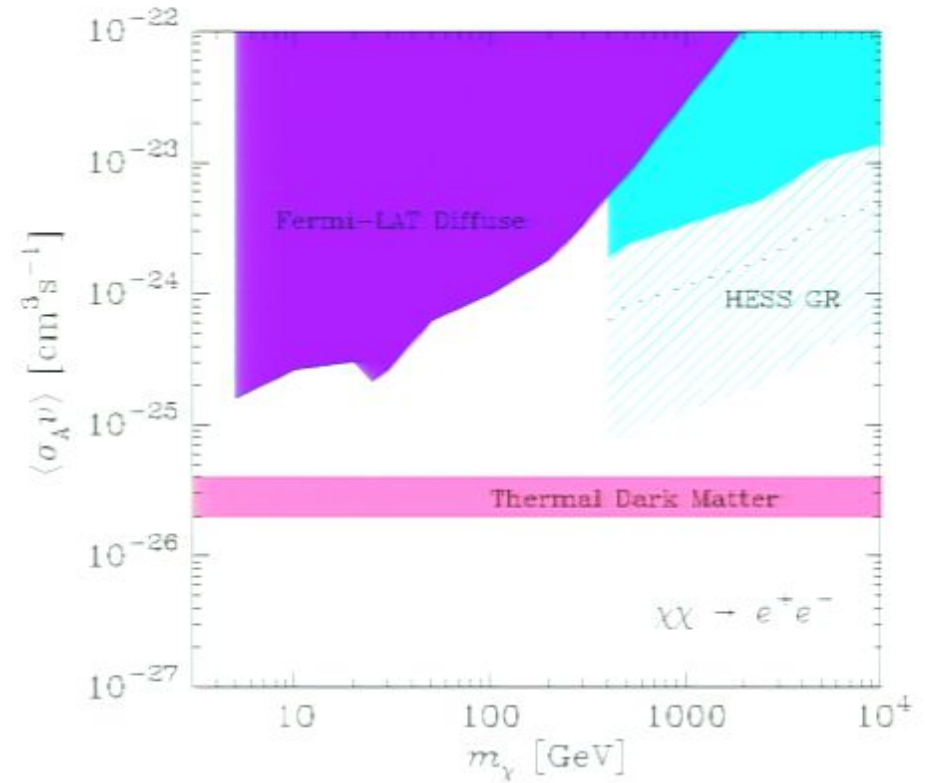
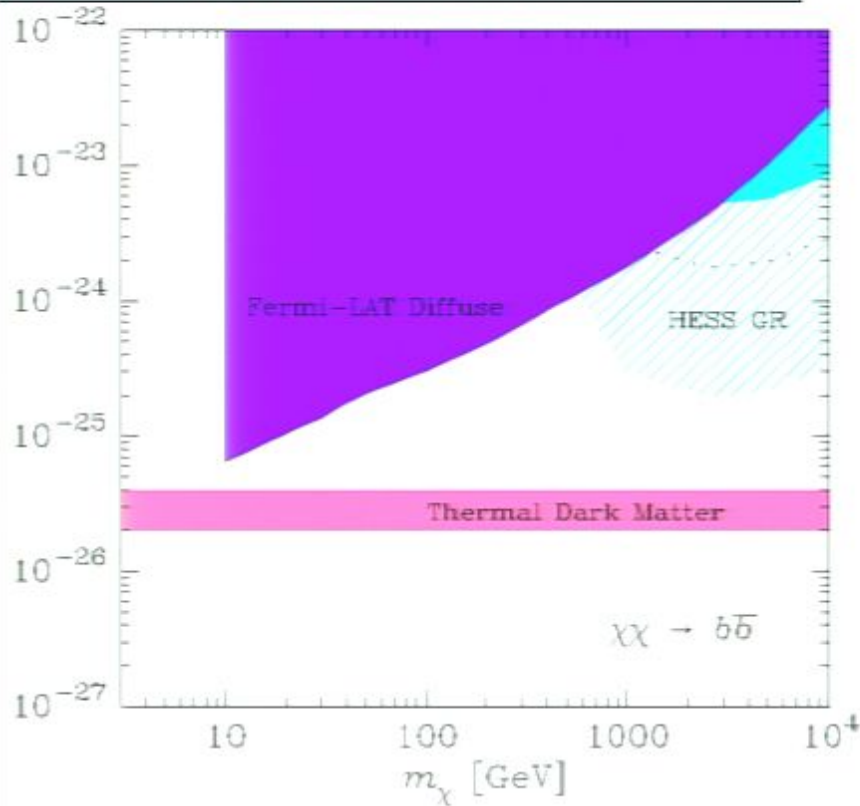
Currently no excess is seen, and so only limits can be placed.

The strength of the limit depends on the dark matter density profiles close to the centers of galaxies.

For conservative assumptions about dark matter halos, the dark matter contribution to the isotropic gamma ray flux is dominated by our own galaxy (not by the extra-galactic contribution)!

This allows conservative limits to be placed that are insensitive to the exact form of dark matter profile close to the galactic center.

What do the limits look like?



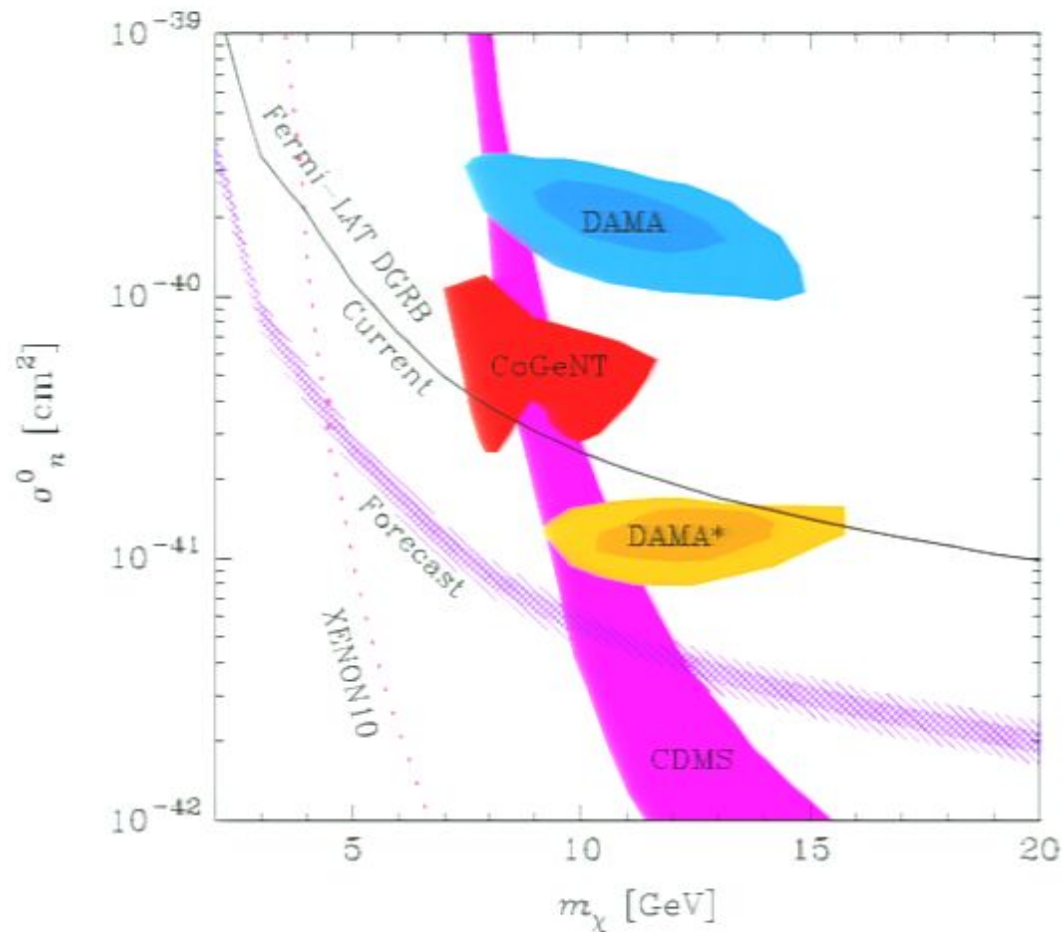
In obtaining the HESS limit a conservative Einasto profile was used.

In obtaining the FERMI limit a boost factor of 7 was assumed, to incorporate clumping. (Expected to be 20→1000).

The current limits are not quite sensitive to thermal dark matter except in the light mass range ~ few GeV. Improving these bounds will require a better understanding of the background (this paper)

However, gamma rays can already constrain certain models.

The model with a light scalar singlet has been invoked to explain DAMA/CoGeNT/CDMS.



Constrained by gamma ray data. Can potentially be excluded.

Line Spectrum

Strengths of gamma ray lines tend to be highly model-dependent.

- Depend on the detailed form of the matrix element.
- Are sensitive to new physics running in the loop, not just the annihilation products. New physics often dominates.

For a given dark matter mass and spin, it is possible to use unitarity relations to place robust lower bounds on the strengths of gamma ray lines relative to diffuse photon spectrum if annihilation is primarily to a single SM final state.

If annihilation is to multiple SM final states, limits are approximate.

Will focus on theories where diffuse gamma rays are produced at tree level from annihilation into SM states, and monochromatic gamma rays arise at one loop. Both SM and new physics may run in the loop.

From unitarity,

$$S^\dagger S = 1$$

$$-i(T - T^\dagger) = T^\dagger T$$

We work in the angular momentum basis in the center of mass frame. Then any two body state is specified by the total energy, angular momentum quantum numbers J , M , L and S , and internal quantum numbers of the two particles.

Take matrix element between two photon final state $|f\rangle$ and initial state $|i\rangle$ consisting of two dark matter particles.

$$-i\langle f|(T - T^\dagger)|i\rangle = \sum_X \langle f|T^\dagger|X\rangle \langle X|T|i\rangle$$

The sum is over all final states that the two dark matter particles can annihilate into. Since J and M and total energy are conserved, the sum is over L , S , and internal quantum numbers.

If the process respects time reversal invariance (CP), then

$$-2i\text{Im}\langle f|T|i\rangle = \sum_X \langle f|T^\dagger|X\rangle \langle X|T|i\rangle$$

Now, if annihilation is primarily to a single SM final state, and furthermore this state is characterized by fixed L and S, then

$$4|\text{Im}\langle f|T|i\rangle|^2 = |\langle f|T^\dagger|X\rangle|^2 |\langle X|T|i\rangle|^2$$

This leads to a lower bound on the cross section to two photons.

$$\sigma(\chi\chi \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) \geq \rho \sigma(\chi\chi \rightarrow X\bar{X}) \sigma(X\bar{X} \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$$



SM cross section
to two photons



phase space
factor



DM cross section
to SM



SM cross
section

The dark matter cross section to SM is correlated with the diffuse spectrum \Rightarrow a lower bound on line strength relative to continuum

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How realistic is assumption that only one value of L and S contribute?

This depends on dark matter spin and annihilation mode. Whether dark matter is its own anti-particle also matters.

EXAMPLE: Majorana fermion dark matter

Since dark matter is non-relativistic, initial $L = 0$, so $J = \text{initial } S$.

If dark matter is Majorana fermion, then initial state has $S = J = 0$.

Consider annihilation to two photons through top and anti-top. The intermediate state can have either $L = S = 1$ or $L = S = 0$. However CP conservation forbids $L = S = 1 \rightarrow$ intermediate state is unique.

Consider annihilation to two photons through $W^+ W^-$. Three possible intermediate states $L = S = 2$, $L = S = 1$ and $L = S = 0$. Only $L = S = 1$ is allowed by CP \rightarrow intermediate state is unique.

However, in some cases multiple values of L and S are allowed, so a bound can only be obtained in specific kinematic regions

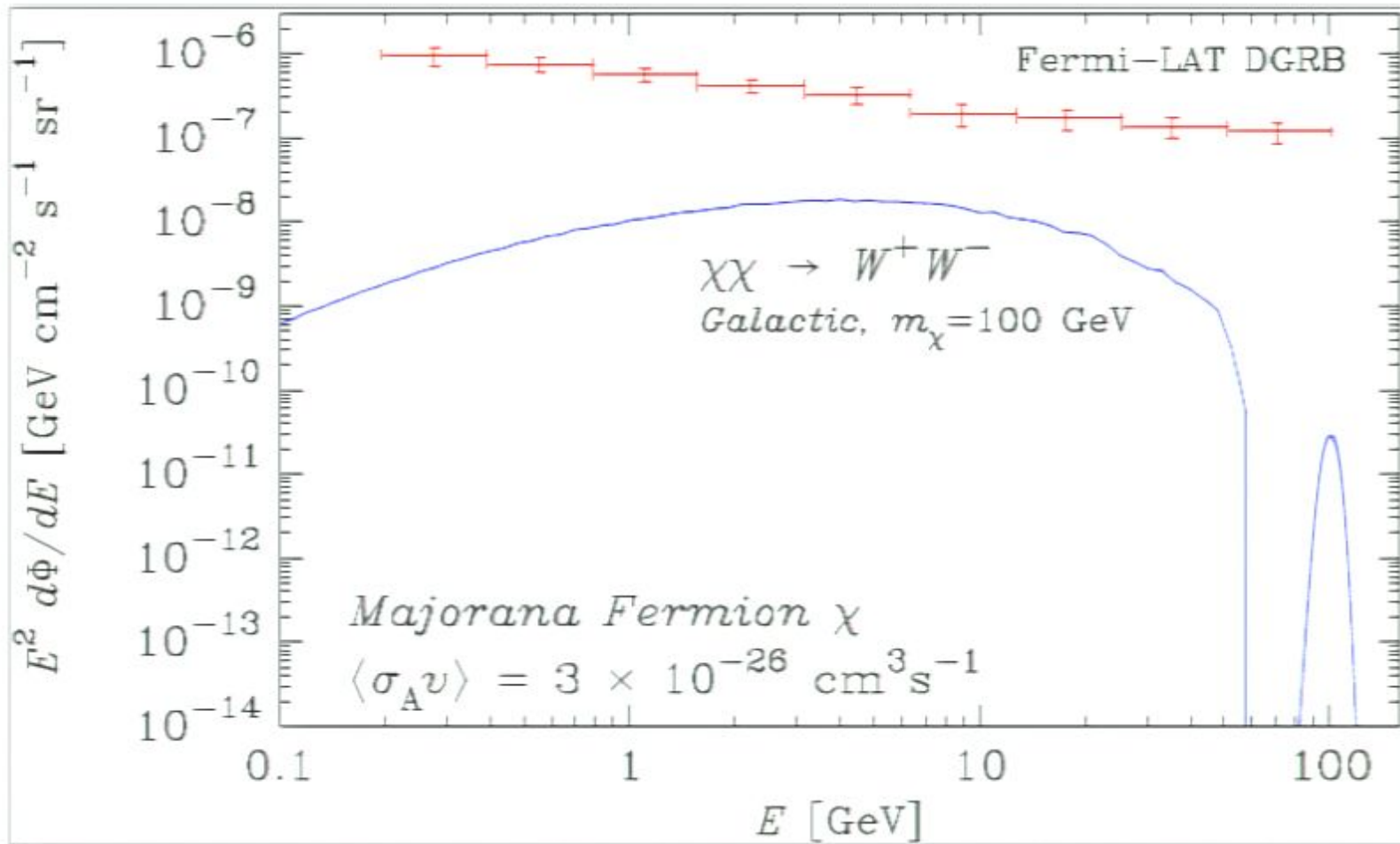
Dark matter annihilation can be mapped into the decay of a boson Φ with spin J and the appropriate CP properties. If the intermediate state is unique the mapping is exact.

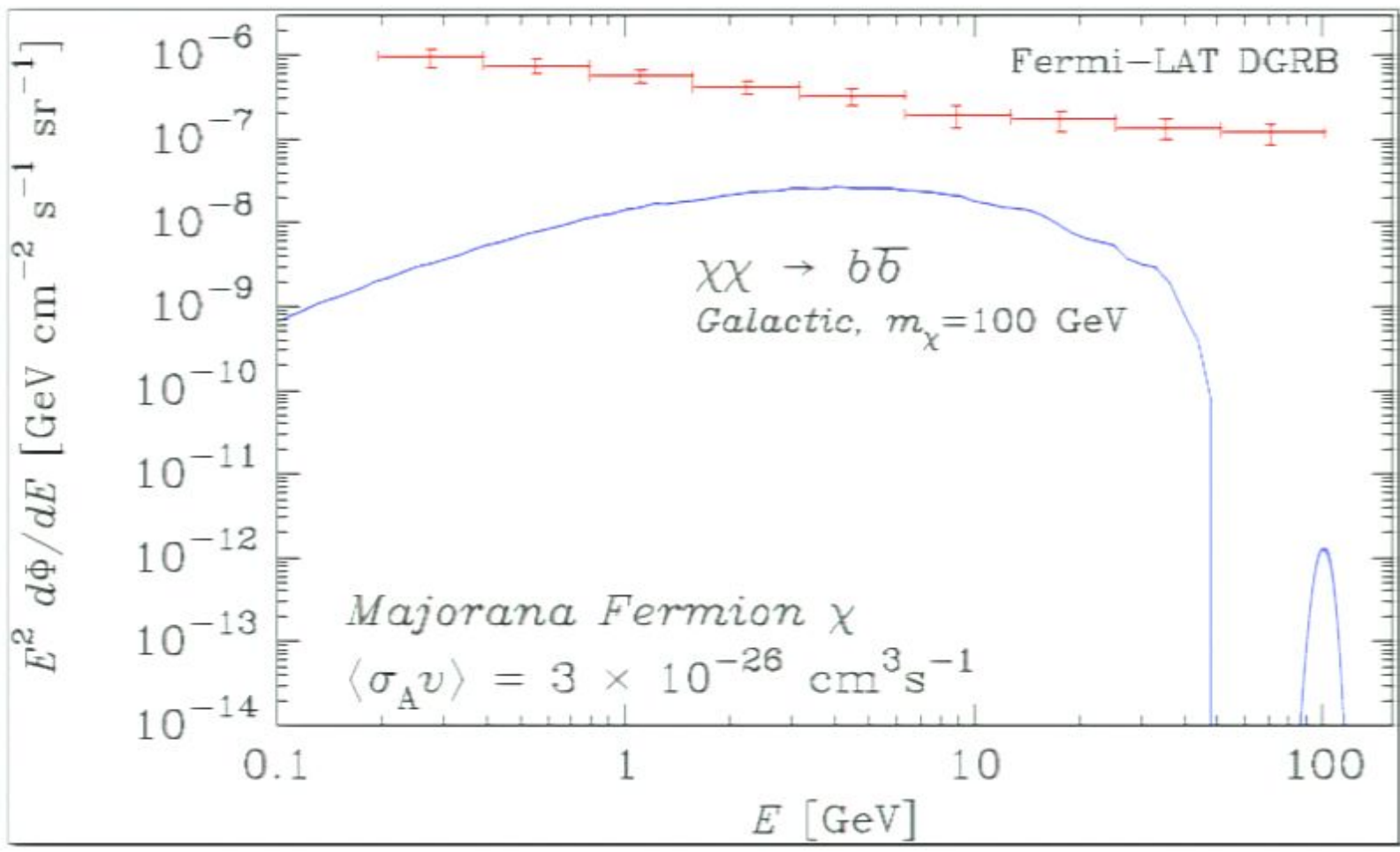
$$\frac{\sigma_{IM} \left(\begin{array}{c} \chi \\ \chi \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \bar{X} \\ X \end{array} \gamma \right)}{\sigma \left(\begin{array}{c} \chi \\ \chi \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \bar{X} \\ X \end{array} \right)} = \frac{\Gamma_{Im} \left(\Phi \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \bar{X} \\ X \end{array} \gamma \right)}{\Gamma \left(\Phi \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \bar{X} \\ X \end{array} \right)}$$

For Majorana fermion annihilation to W^+ and W^- ,

$$\frac{\Gamma_{Im}(\varphi \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)}{\Gamma(\varphi \rightarrow WW)} = \frac{e^4}{32\pi^2} \eta^{3/2} [\tanh^{-1} \eta]^2$$

where η is the velocity of the W boson in the intermediate state





The Fermi limits on dark matter annihilation from lines are generally weaker than the corresponding diffuse limits by factors ranging from a few to an order of magnitude or more.

However, for real vector boson dark matter annihilating to electrons or muons, lines may give the stronger bound.

Since backgrounds from lines are smaller, the strongest limits are obtained from regions close to the galactic center → complementary to the diffuse limits.

Since the limits are obtained using conservative assumptions about the dark matter profile, the line strength could be many orders of magnitude stronger. Our results show that the discovery potential is significant.

The bounds are largely statistics limited, and will improve over time.

Dark Matter	Initial spin	Annihilation		Bound
		channel	mode	
Scalar	$J = 0$	WW	$L = 0, S = 0$ $L = 2, S = 2$	In non-relativistic limit.
		$t\bar{t}, b\bar{b}$	$L = 1, S = 1$	✓
Majorana Fermion	$J = 0$	WW	$L = 1, S = 1$	✓
		$t\bar{t}, b\bar{b}$	$L = 0, S = 0$	✓
Dirac Fermion	$J = 0$	WW	$L = 1, S = 1$	✓
		$t\bar{t}, b\bar{b}$	$L = 0, S = 0$	✓
	$J = 1$	Forbidden		
Real Vector Boson	$J = 0$	WW	$L = 0, S = 0$ $L = 2, S = 2$	In non-relativistic limit.
		$t\bar{t}, b\bar{b}$	$L = 0, S = 0$	✓
	$J = 2$	WW	$L = 2, S = 0$ $L = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}, S = 2$	In non-relativistic limit.
		$t\bar{t}, b\bar{b}$	$L = \{1, 2, 3\}, S = 1$	In non-relativistic, ultra-relativistic limits.
		$f\bar{f}$	$L = \{1, 2, 3\}, S = 1$	✓

The diffuse photon spectrum from dark matter annihilation is not sensitive to the dark matter spin, or to the form of its couplings. It only depends on the dark matter mass, and on the annihilation products.

With conservative assumptions about dark matter halos, the isotropic diffuse gamma ray flux is most sensitive to dark matter in our own galaxy.

This allows robust model-independent constraints to be placed on the rate of annihilation into any SM final state.

The current limits are not quite sensitive to thermal dark matter except in the very light mass range (\sim few GeV).

Nevertheless, already able to constrain certain new physics scenarios.

Monochromaticity can be used to place model-independent lower bounds on the strengths of gamma ray lines from dark matter annihilation. Limits depend on the dark matter spin and charge conjugation properties and also on the primary annihilation mode

IceCube and the LHC

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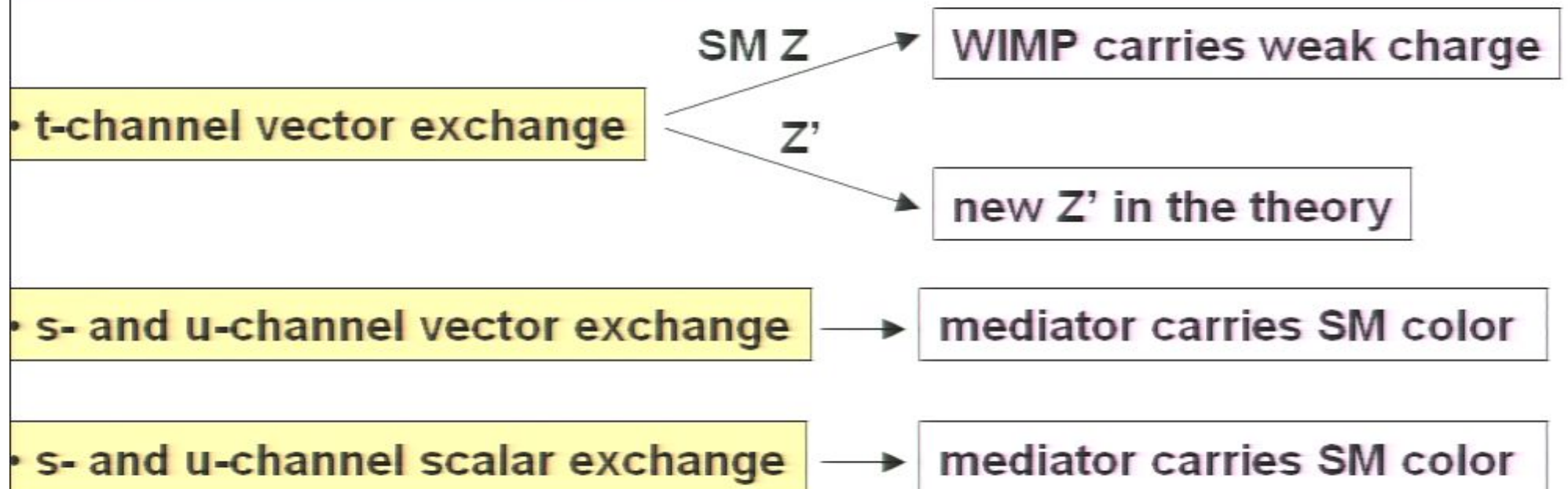
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Conclusions (2)

IceCube and the LHC

If the interactions of dark matter with nuclei are spin-dependent, the natural candidates are Majorana fermions and real vector bosons.

If the dark matter candidate is a Majorana fermion, spin-dependent WIMP-nucleon scattering can arise through any of:



If the dark matter candidate is a real vector, only one possibility:

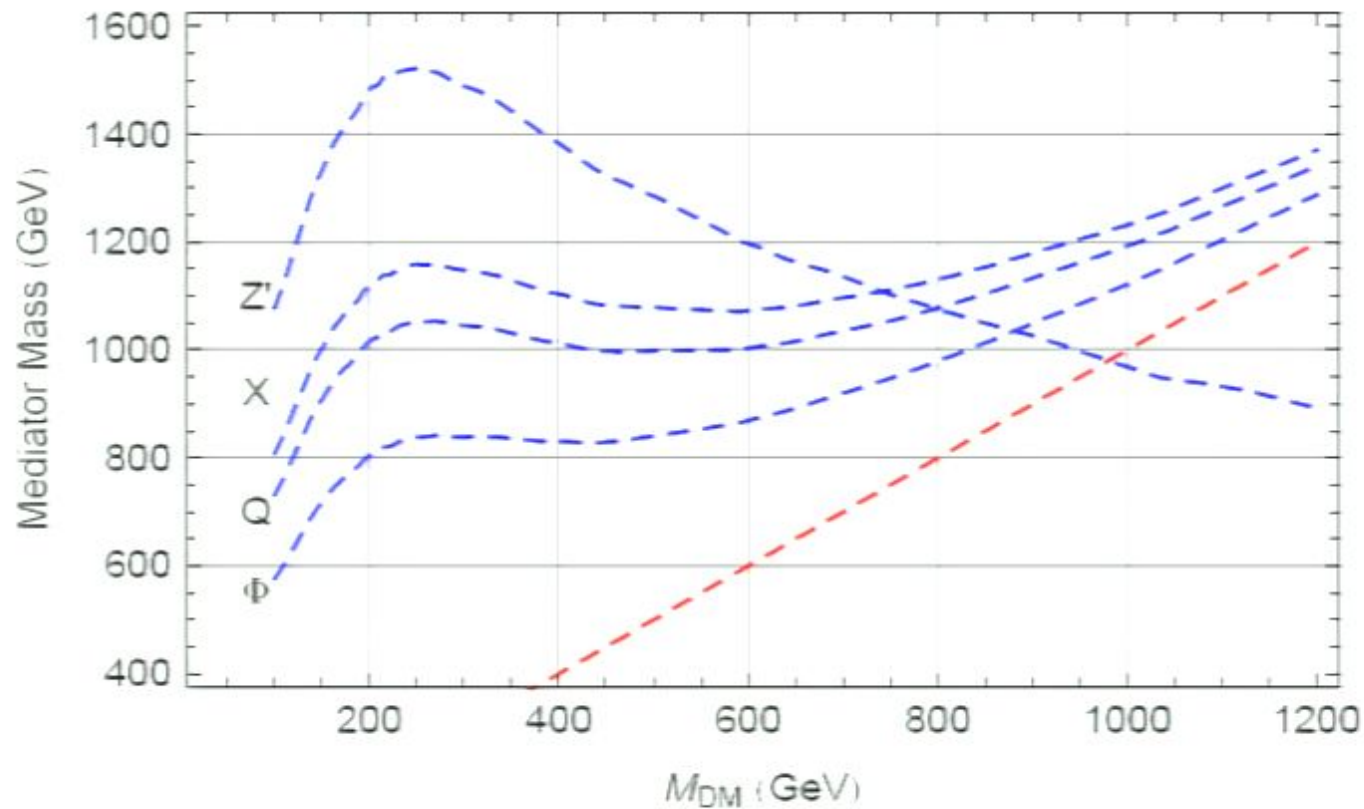
s- and u-channel fermion exchange → mediator carries SM color

Either new Z' or new states with SM charges → promising for LHC!

Dark Matter	Mediator	Process	Scattering
Scalar	Z, Z'		SI
	h		SI
	Q		SI
Dirac Fermion	Z, Z'		SI, SD†
	h		SI
	X		SI, SD
	Φ		SI, SD
Majorana Fermion	Z, Z'		SD
	h		SI
	X		SD in chiral limit
	Φ		SD in chiral limit
Real Vector	h		SI
	Q		SD in chiral limit
Complex Vector	Z, Z'		SI
	h		SI
	Q		SI, SD

Table 1: A summary of results for WIMP-nucleon scattering, for each dark matter candidate and mediator [36]. In the Feynman diagrams, scalars are represented by dashed lines, fermions by solid lines and vector bosons by wavy lines. Of the mediators, h , Z' and the SM Z are neutral under both electromagnetism and color, while X , Φ and Q transform as triplets under color and carry electric charge.

The figure shows the range of mediator masses that leads to a signal at IceCube with 5 years of data (assuming order one couplings).



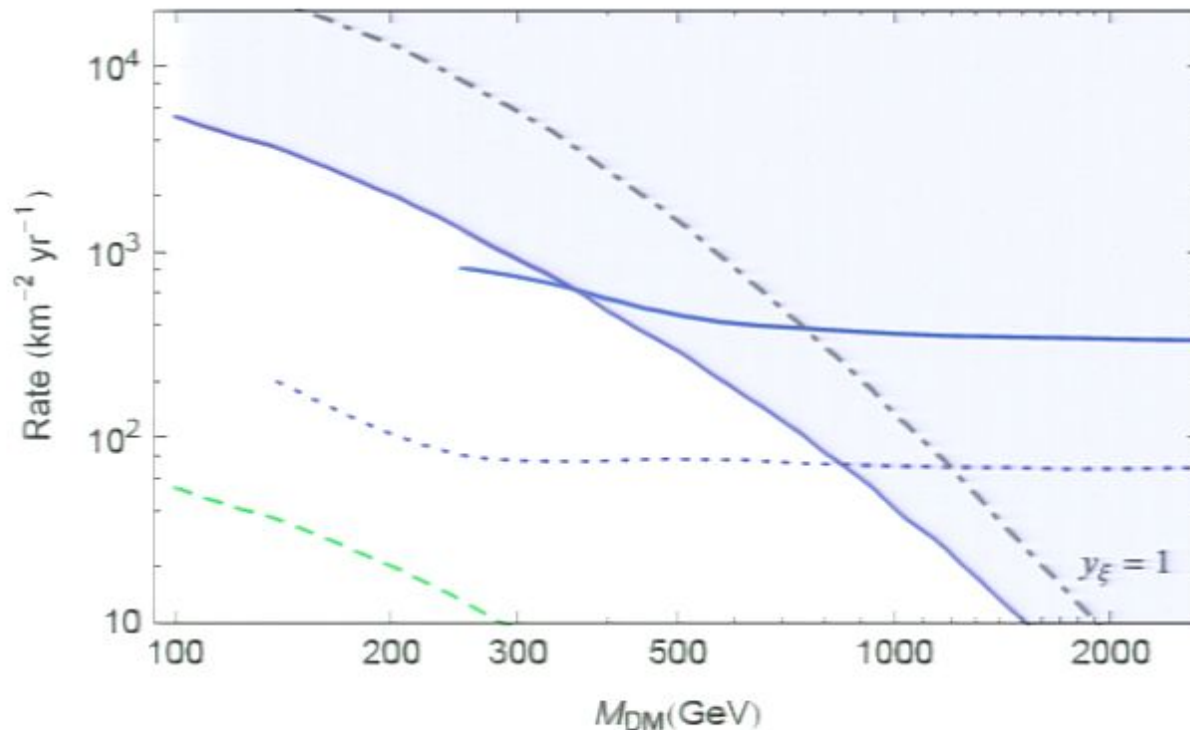
The case with a new Z' is disfavored by precision electroweak limits.

The new colored particles are kinematically accessible to the LHC.

For Majorana fermion dark matter charged under the SM Z, there is always a small but non-negligible spin-independent contribution from SM Higgs exchange.

Cohen, Phalen & Pierce

Direct detection experiments can expect to see a small but definite spin-independent signal, if IceCube sees a signal.



A part of the parameter space is kinematically accessible to the LHC.

Dark matter annihilation can be mapped into the decay of a boson Φ with spin J and the appropriate CP properties. If the intermediate state is unique the mapping is exact.

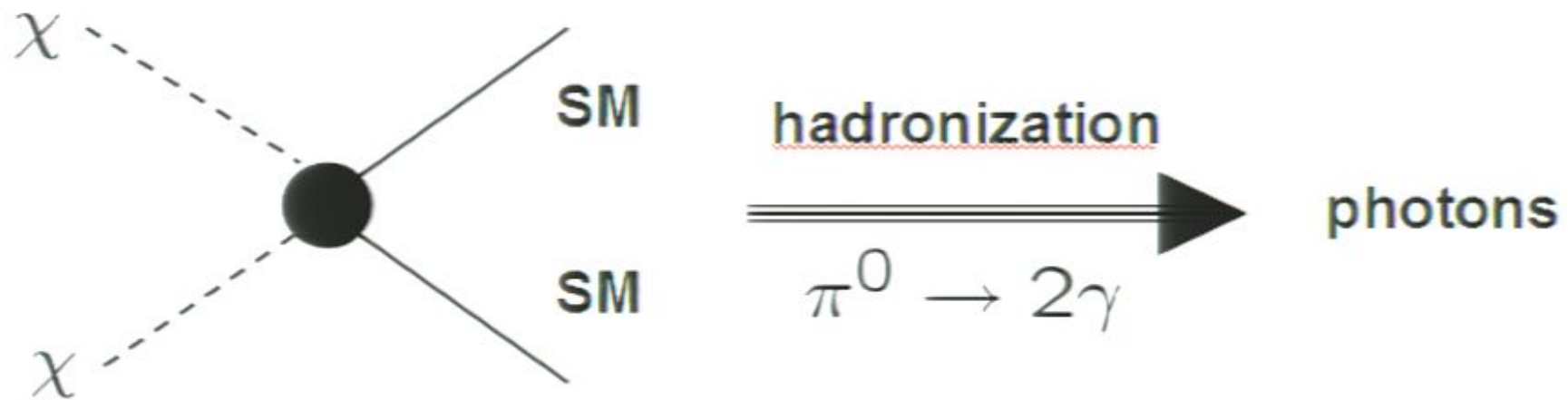
$$\frac{\sigma_{IM} \left(\begin{array}{c} \chi \\ \chi \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \bar{X} \\ X \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \gamma \\ \gamma \end{array} \right)}{\sigma \left(\begin{array}{c} \chi \\ \chi \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \bar{X} \\ X \end{array} \right)} = \frac{\Gamma_{Im} \left(\begin{array}{c} \Phi \\ \Phi \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \bar{X} \\ X \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \gamma \\ \gamma \end{array} \right)}{\Gamma \left(\begin{array}{c} \Phi \\ \Phi \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \bar{X} \\ X \end{array} \right)}$$

For Majorana fermion annihilation to W^+ and W^- ,

$$\frac{\Gamma_{Im}(\varphi \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)}{\Gamma(\varphi \rightarrow WW)} = \frac{e^4}{32\pi^2} \eta^{3/2} [\tanh^{-1} \eta]^2$$

where η is the velocity of the W boson in the intermediate state

For all 2 body SM final states except electrons and muons, spectrum of diffuse photons is dominated by gamma rays arising from decays of primary (or secondary) annihilation products after hadronization.



The resulting photon spectrum is independent of the dark matter spin or form of couplings. Depends only on dark matter mass, and (to a more limited extent) on the SM final states.

Therefore this can be used to place a robust bound on annihilation into various 2 body SM final states.

Limits on dark matter event rates in IceCube

In the non-relativistic limit, WIMP-nucleon interactions fall into two distinct categories.

If the WIMP interactions are sensitive to the spin of the nucleus, the corresponding cross section is 'spin-dependent'. If not, the cross section is 'spin-independent'.

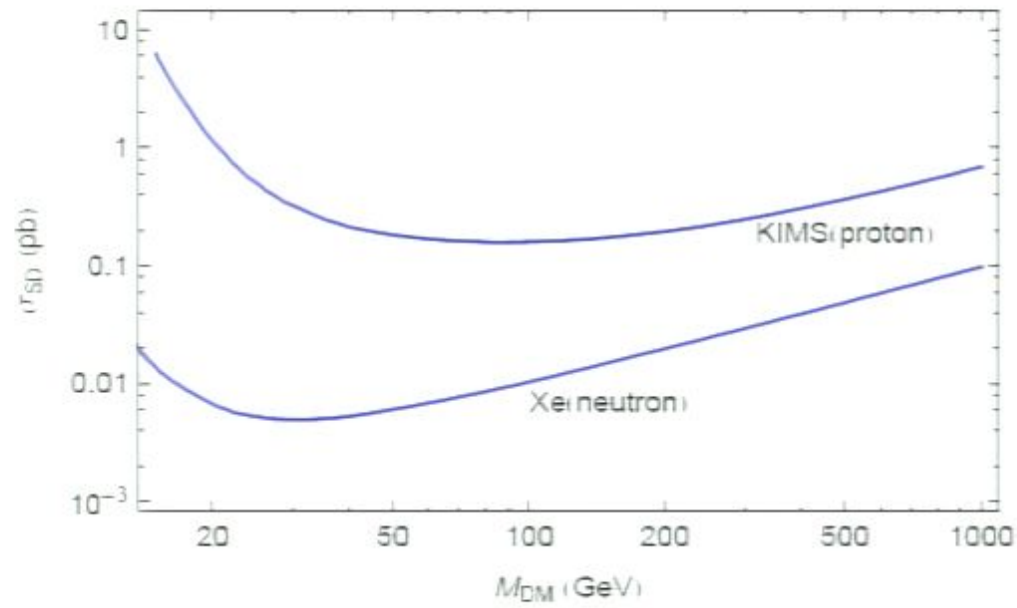
The direct detection bounds on spin-independent interactions are much tighter than the bounds on spin-dependent interactions. Why?

In the spin-independent case contributions from individual nucleons in the nucleus add coherently, leading to a large cross section.

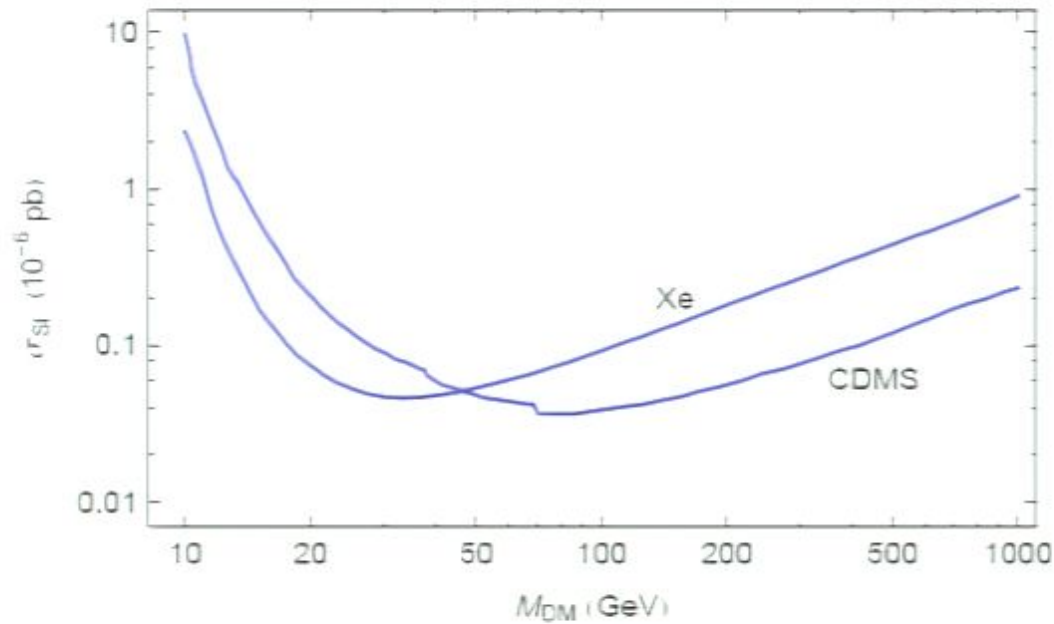
$$\sigma_{SI} \sim A^2$$

Spins of nucleons tend to cancel in pairs → no such enhancement in spin-dependent case.

SD



SI



Spin-dependent dark matter candidates

The logic is as follows.

will establish a very close association between theories where the WIMP-nucleon cross section is dominated by spin-dependent interactions, and theories where the dark matter particle is its own anti-particle.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \sigma_{SD} \gg \sigma_{SI} & \longrightarrow & \chi = \chi^c \\ \chi = \chi^c & \xrightarrow{\text{X}} & \sigma_{SD} \gg \sigma_{SI} \end{array}$$

However

The experiment that is most sensitive to spin-dependent dark matter is the IceCube neutrino telescope located at the South Pole. A signal could help establish the dark matter particle is its own anti-particle!

The problem is that IceCube is also sensitive to spin-independent interactions. Not possible to distinguish the origin of the signal.

However, I will then show that limits from direct detection expts. can be used to place a model-independent upper bound on the event rate from spin-independent interactions, closing the loophole

Dark Matter	Mediator	Process	Scattering
Scalar	Z, Z'		SI
	h		SI
	Q		SI
Dirac Fermion	Z, Z'		SI, SD†
	h		SI
	X		SI, SD
	Φ		SI, SD
Majorana Fermion	Z, Z'		SD
	h		SI
	X		SD in chiral limit
	Φ		SD in chiral limit
Real Vector	h		SI
	Q		SD in chiral limit
Complex Vector	Z, Z'		SI
	h		SI
	Q		SI, SD

Table 1: A summary of results for WIMP-nucleon scattering, for each dark matter candidate and mediator [36]. In the Feynman diagrams, scalars are represented by dashed lines, fermions by solid lines and vector bosons by wavy lines. Of the mediators, h , Z' and the SM Z are neutral under both electromagnetism and color, while X , Φ and Q transform as triplets under color and carry electric charge.

Scalar WIMPs

Scalars always lead to spin-independent interactions.

Fermionic WIMPs

There are two operators that can lead to scattering.

$$\bar{\chi} \gamma_\mu \gamma^5 \chi \bar{q} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 q \longrightarrow \text{SD}$$

$$\bar{\chi} \gamma_\mu \chi \bar{q} \gamma^\mu q \longrightarrow \text{SI}$$

For a Majorana fermion the second operator vanishes \rightarrow scattering is spin-dependent. For Dirac case (in general) both operators contribute.

Vector boson WIMPs

For real vector bosons only one operator contributes in chiral limit.

$$\epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \partial^\mu B^\nu B^\lambda \bar{q} \gamma^\sigma \gamma^5 q \longrightarrow \text{SD}$$

For complex vector bosons an additional operator contributes.

$$\partial_\mu B^* \cdot B^\nu \bar{q} \gamma^\mu q$$

The velocity dependent terms can be neglected, since $v \sim 10^{-3}$

Of the remaining terms, $\bar{q}q$ and $\bar{q}\sigma^{\mu\nu}q$

are only generated by effects that break chiral symmetry, and can naturally be small. Assume this, and check for consistency later.

Then, for spin-dependent interactions to dominate terms involving

$\bar{q}\gamma^\mu\gamma^5q$ must be present in the theory, while terms involving the

operator $\bar{q}\gamma^\mu q$ must be absent.

What are the theories where this can happen naturally?

The theories where spin-dependent interactions dominate are closely associated with either Majorana fermion or real vector boson dark matter. \rightarrow The dark matter has spin and is its own anti-particle.