Self-Interacting Asymmetric Dark Matter Coupled to a Light Massive Dark Photon

Lauren Pearce

University of Minnesota

September 17th, 2014

Collaborators: Kalliopi Petraki and Alex Kusenko JCAP **1407**, 039 (2014)

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Self-Interacting Asymmetric DM

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• Interactions are mediated by spin-1 gauge bosons.

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What would a "similar" dark matter model look like?

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Self-Interacting Dark Matter Model

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- Assume dark matter is also spin-1/2 fermions.
- $\bullet\,$ Has a self-interaction which is described by a ${\rm U}_{\rm D}(1)$ gauge group.
- Carries a global quantum number: dark baryon number.

Further Motivations: Asymmetric Dark Matter

Asymmetric DM

• Matter in the universe today carries a net baryon number.

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- We further assume that DM today has a nonzero dark baryon number.
- The production of these asymmetries may be related. (Review: Petraki & Volkas, 2013)

Further Motivations: Self-Interaction

U(1) Gauge Self-Interaction

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- One way to resolve "Too-big-to-fail problem" (Boylan-Kolchin, Bullock, & M. Kaplinghat, 2011 & 2012)
 - Others: baryon effects, warm dark matter...

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Dark Baryon Number

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- $\bullet\,$ This asymmetry must be produced via ${\rm U}_{\rm D}(1)$ gauge-invariant operators...
- Hence an equal asymmetry is produced in some negatively-charged particle!
- This negatively charged particle can't be the antiparicle; otherwise there's no net asymmetry in dark baryon number.

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Like the Standard Model:

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- Since electromagnetism is a good symmetry, this same process also made an equal number of negatively charged electrons.

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Motiation to Break $U_D(1)$ Symmetry

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- Dark interactions cannot be infinitely long-ranged (e.g., would affect clustering at large scales).
- One way to screen the interactions by giving the dark gauge mediator a nonzero mass through a dark Higgs mechanism.
- This means that there is a phase transition above which the $U_D(1)$ symmetry is restored, and below which it is broken.

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Multiple Species

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- As long as the asymmetry is generated before the dark phase transition in which the above argument still holds.
- DM is multi-component in much of parameter space.



 $\alpha_{D,\min}$: minimum for sufficient annihilation of the thermal dark protons in the early universe.

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Dark Atoms

$p_D + e_D \rightarrow H_D$

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- Halo shapes?

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Sample Sequence of Events

More involved cosmology due to multi-component nature:

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Event	Temperature Scale
Dark asymmetry generation	$T_{\rm asy}$

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These events change number of d.o.f. in dark sector. Ratio of dark to SM d.o.f. ξ is time-dependent and may be > 1 or < 1.

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The ${\rm U}_{\rm D}(1)$ -breaking phase transition can occur before dark recombination or freeze-out of dark proton and/or dark electron annihilations

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Cosmological Constraints

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Red: relic abundance of the dark photons may alter the time of matter-radiation equality or dominate the DM density

Blue: Too much radiation at BBN

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- One motivation for introducing dark matter self-interaction is:
 - Interactions can modify the shape of small dark matter halos, potentially alleviating the disagreement between dark matter simulations and observations.
- However, if self-interactions are too large, than large halos may not be elliptical.
- Both of these questions must be revisited if dark matter is multi-component, with different intra- and inter-species interactions.

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Momentum-Transfer Rate

• Define effective momentum transfer rate:

$$\Gamma_{\rm eff} = h_p \Gamma_p + h_e \Gamma_e + h_H \Gamma_H$$

 h_i : mass fraction of species i

 Γ_i : momentum scattering rate of species *i*

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Atom-atom interaction: Cline, Liu, Moore, & Xue (2014), Cyr-Racine & Sigurdson (2013)
 Atom-ion interactions: Cyr-Racine & Sigurdson (2013)

Ion-ion interactions: Khrapak, Ivlev & Morfill (2004)

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- To preserve ellipticity of large halos:
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Sample Plots

 $\Delta = 500 \text{ keV}, M_D = 1 \text{ eV}, \xi_{DR} = 0.5$



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Sample Plots



 $\Delta = 500 \text{ keV}, M_D = 1 \text{ eV}, \xi_{DR} = 0.5$

 $m_{\rm H} = 250 \,{\rm GeV}, \alpha_{\rm D} = 0.05, \xi_{\rm DR} = 0.3$



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 Regions where self-interaction can modify small halos without destroying the ellipticity of large halos: due to velocity-dependence of cross sections.

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- Regions where self-interaction can modify small halos without destroying the ellipticity of large halos: due to velocity-dependence of cross sections.
- $\bullet\,$ Can take mass of dark photon \to 0; screening provided by bound state formation.

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Effect of Dark Atom Formation

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 - Smaller α_D: DM mostly ions, but more scattering. May affect small halos and eventually affect Milky-Way sized halos.

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- Increasing α_D : Dark recombination becomes more efficient; dark atoms form and scattering rate decreases.

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- Increasing α_D : Dark recombination becomes more efficient; dark atoms form and scattering rate decreases.
- Large α_D: atom-atom scattering cross section increases, may affect small halos and eventually larger halos.

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- This is the reason for the "wedge" shape.

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- This remains true for a light but not necessarily massless mediator gauge boson.
- Cosmological constraints may take very different forms depending on the sequence of cosmological events.
- There exist regions of parameter space in which DM self-scattering can affect clustering in small halos without endangering the ellipticity of larger halos.