SEARCHING FOR NEW FORCES AND LIGHT DARK MATTER WITH ELECTRON BEAMS

NATALIA TORO SLAC NATIONAL LABORATORY & PERIMETER INSTITUTE

> KLOE-II WORKSHOP OCTOBER 26, 2016

WHAT IS A DARK SECTOR?

Most of our microscopic understanding of Nature has been learned through three basic forces:



It would be easy to miss a **Dark Sector** – constituents of Nature that are neutral under these known forces.

HAVE WE ALREADY FOUND A DARK SECTOR?



So far, dark matter has only been observed via gravity

- Its Standard Model interactions are tightly constrained
- Yet there is reason to think it interacts with us...

THERMAL DARK MATTER FROM A NEW SECTOR

- Thermal freeze-out is compelling motivation for non-gravitational interactions
- If DM is light, it **must** be SM-neutral and for thermal models, new force is required to mediate annihilation



- W/Z/h-mediated annihilation over-produces DM (Lee-Weinberg)
- Even with small couplings, scattering, annihilation
 & low-energy production xsec >> weak interactions
- Sharp prediction of thermal DM annihilation rate gives important target for new force search

DM puzzle motivates comprehensive searches for Light DM + Light Mediators

THERMAL DARK MATTER FROM A NEW SECTOR

• Thermal freeze-out is compelling motivation for non-gravitational The big bang interactions **SuperCDMS Direct detection** ????? LZ, Xenon1T, ... Colliders Belle 2 LHC GeV MeV TeV How do we explore the MeV-GeV range?

EXPLORING THE DARK SECTOR

- Organizing the search for dark sectors
- Searching for new force-carriers decaying visibly
- Light dark matter parameter space and searches

HOW TO LOOK FOR DARK SECTORS?

Even at low masses, dark sectors are easy to miss!

Most physics of the dark sector is insulated from SM by symmetries – leading interactions are suppressed by high mass scale

 $(\bar{\psi}_e\psi_e)_{SM}(\bar{\chi}\chi)_{new}/\Lambda^2$

[analogous to approximate stability of proton in SM] Even if χ is light, large $\Lambda \Rightarrow$ unobservable effect.

The first place to look for dark sector is by looking for particles that can interact without Λ -suppression.

THREE "PORTALS" TO DARK SECTORS

Only three sizeable interactions allowed by Standard Model symmetries:

Vector Portal $\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_Y F_{\mu\nu}^Y F'^{\mu\nu}$ Most visibleHiggs Portal $\epsilon_h |h|^2 |\phi|^2$ exotic rare Higgs decays
rare meson decaysNeutrino Portal $\epsilon_{\nu} (hL)\psi$ not-so-sterile neutrinos

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not-so-sterile neutrinos

Sources and Sizes of Kinetic Mixing $\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_Y F_{\mu\nu}^Y F'^{\mu\nu}$

- If absent from fundamental theory, can still be generated by **perturbative** (or non-perturbative) quantum effects
 - Simplest case: one heavy particle ψ with both EM charge & dark charge



generates $\epsilon \sim \frac{e g_D}{16\pi^2} \log \frac{m_{\psi}}{M_*} \sim 10^{-2} - 10^{-4}$

Sources and Sizes of Kinetic Mixing $\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_Y F_{\mu\nu}^Y F'^{\mu\nu}$

- If absent from fundamental theory, can still be generated by **perturbative** (or non-perturbative) quantum effects
 - In Grand Unified Theory, symmetry forbids treelevel & 1-loop mechanisms. GUT-breaking enters at 2 loops



generating $\epsilon \sim 10^{-3} - 10^{-5}$ ($\rightarrow 10^{-7}$ if both U(1)'s are in unified groups)

DARK PHOTON PRODUCTION

Kinetic mixing effectively gives matter of electric charge *qe* an A' coupling $\propto q\epsilon e$

⇒ Wherever there are photons (and sufficient phase space), there are dark photons Annihilation: Radiation: Decay: mA

DARK PHOTON DECAYS TWO SIMPLE CASES



"Generic" Decay:

 χ (not ε -supressed!) If any dark-sector matter χ has $\bar{\chi} \qquad m_{\chi} < 2m_{A'}$, this decay dominates

Two cases: $-\chi$ stable & invisible

- χ decays into SM particles, A' \rightarrow >2 charged particles searches at BaBar and KLOE

To test "dark sector" idea & maximize light thermal DM sensitivity, we need to search for both!

DARK PHOTON DECAYS TWO SIMPLE CASES



To test "dark sector" idea & maximize light thermal DM sensitivity, we need to search for both!

NEW FORCE PARAMETER SPACE MeV – GeV mass



NEW FORCE PARAMETER SPACE MeV – GeV mass



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NEW FORCE PARAMETER SPACE MeV – GeV mass



AN EXPERIMENTAL RENAISSANCE



A FORWARD-LOOKING SUMMARY

Dark Sectors 2016 Workshop: Community Report

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Identified three key priorities:

- Extend searches for visibly decaying force carriers
- Search for light dark matter production to thermal relic target
- Low-mass direct detection
 Summarizes ongoing
 experiments and proposals

arXiV:1608.08632

VISIBLE DARK PHOTONS: CURRENT CONSTRAINTS



Red/green: e,µ anomalous dipole moments

All other colors: Pair resonance searches

Gray: Beam Dump

VISIBLE DARK PHOTONS: CURRENT CONSTRAINTS



TURNING WEAKNESS INTO STRENGTH



PROJECTIONS FOR 2016-20



Upcoming experiments will make first forays into GUTcompatible region, from both above and below

mixing in Grand Unified Theories

PROJECTIONS FOR 2020'S

New opportunities from LHCb upgrades, Belle-II, SHiP



VISIBLE DARK PHOTON SEARCHES

- In last 7 years, searches have
 - Explored most of the territory for 1-loop mixing below a GeV
 - Pioneered new vertexing technique & extended bump hunt sensitivity dramatically
 - Tested visible A' interpretation of muon g-2 anomaly
- Planned experiments over next 5–10 years will almost fully explore two-loop (GUT) kinetic mixing below a GeV

THERMAL DARK MATTER FROM A NEW SECTOR

• Beyond theoretical appeal, a new sector (or at least new force carrier) is **necessary** for consistent models of thermally produced dark matter below a few GeV.



- The same physics that gives dark photon mass <u>typically</u> induce mass splitting of DM states
 - Leading interaction is inelastic
 - Important consequences for all approaches to DM detection

To test light thermal DM:

Search for Light DM + Light Mediator

robust to inelastic splitting

EXPERIMENTAL STATUS

Direct detection:

- Below experiments' energy thresholds
- Inelastic splitting shuts off tree-level scattering

DM production:

- Low rate & buried in bkg @ LHC and even BaBar
- Unique opportunity for fixed-target searches

Annihilation:

 CMB energy injection excludes some models of light thermal DM (those with σ_{CMB}≈σ_{freeze-out}), sharpening target for other searches







Motivate **minimum** coupling of new gauge boson to Standard Model

A SHARP TARGET

Interactions between dark and familiar matter maintain thermal equilibrium as Universe cools, until critical density below which dark matter annihilation "freezes out"

Observed DM density fixes particle annihilation cross-section – this tells us a lot about its interactions!



- 1. DM lighter than a few GeV would annihilate too little through W/Z/h interactions
 - → light force carrier
 - → DM production at accelerators through new force



- 2. Also implies minimum coupling for new force
 - → minimum lab production cross-section for given DM mass (thermal relic target)

Reaching this target sensitivity = decisively testing a broad class of low-mass thermal dark matter models.

A SHARP TARGET

Best-motivated models of light thermal DM are beyond reach of Direct Detection and Colliders, but motivate a sharp & testable target for fixedtarget DM production experiments



MISSING MASS – COLLIDER

BaBar provided best present LDM sensitivity from colliders

A' $\rightarrow \chi \chi$ decay constrained by BaBar search



LIGHT DARK MATTER SEARCHES AT BEAM DUMPS

Dark Matter interacts weakly

⇒ passes through anything!



BEAM DUMP OPPORTUNITIES

MiniBoone run in dump mode (enhance $\pi^0 \rightarrow A'\gamma$ relative to $\pi^{\pm} \rightarrow \nu \mu$) JLab Hall A dump) to PAC44 completed 2015; analysis ongoing



BDX proposal (parasitic behind



"MISSING" SEARCHES AT FIXED-TARGET





Missing mass [DarkLight*, MMAPS*, VEPP-3*] reconstructs all visible final-state particles in e[±] scatter off e⁻/p – limited reach in coupling and mass

Can achieve much higher rate by focusing on recoil e⁻ reconstruction & veto on other final-state particles carrying away energy – Missing energy/momentum [NA64, LDMX*]

FIXED-TARGET MISSING ENERGY

NA64 @ CERN: search for e⁻ energy loss by running tagged electrons directly into ECAL (+muon&HCAL for veto)

Test run with 3 10⁹ e⁻ on target – arXiv:1610.02988

Approved by CERN RB after 2015 test run

- Neutrino+y bkg at 10⁻¹⁴ level
- Only one variable to reject brem can't discriminate e⁻ from y or measure recoil p_T



FIXED-TARGET MISSING ENERGY-MOMENTUM

- Reaching thermal relic sensitivity requires
 - Higher-intensity e⁻ beam: low-current CW with O(1) e⁻ / ns
 - qualitatively new detector design w/ target & tracker upstream of ECAL to
 - discrimnate e/y (veto neutrino and trident-like bkg)



- photon/hadron veto & e⁻ p_T give 2 handles to reject this background

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LIGHT DARK MATTER EXPERIMENT (LDMX)

- Evolving design and growing collaboration –
 SLAC, UCSB, Minnesota, FNAL, UCSC, Caltech
- Current concept
 - Tracker design based on HPS forward tracking (SLAC, UCSC)
 - Si calorimeter based on prototype for CMS HL-LHC forward calorimeter (UCSB & U. Minnesota)
 - HCAL design being developed by FNAL collaborators



- Detection & analysis challenge: high veto efficiency for photonuclear reactions in tracker or in ECAL, and for wide-angle scattering in target
- Accelerator challenge: where to get ultra-low-current, multi-GeV CW e⁻ beam?

CW ELECTRONS, PARASITICALLY DARK SECTOR EXPERIMENTS AT LCLS-II (DASEL)

- Linac delivers 4 GeV electrons (62 μ A) for LCLS-II spaced every 1.1 μ s
- Gun laser, RF gun, and linac all operate at higher frequencies (multiples of 46.5 MHz)





 Idea: use the higher-frequency bunches to power a low-current CW beam to End Station A

CW ELECTRONS, PARASITICALLY DARK SECTOR EXPERIMENTS AT LCLS-II (DASEL)

- First phase: 4 GeV, 46 MHz, ~25 nA in accelerator → spoiled sub-nA beam with 10 cm² spot for LDMX
- Possible upgrades: increase rep rate to 186 MHz, 8 GeV beam, current up to $\sim 1 \,\mu$ A



LIGHT DARK MATTER SEARCHES

- Active and diverse program of accelerator experiments searching for light DM
- LDMX can fully explore the window for light DM annihilating through vector portal
- These experiments will also more fully close muon g-2 window (allowing for arbitrary mix of invisible & SM decays)



THE FUTURE AHEAD





- Rich experimental opportunities to learn what dark matter is, how it works, and how the physics we know fits into that larger picture
 - Experiments in next few years with dramatic new sensitivity to new forces
 - Opportunity to decisively probe one of the few ways that dark matter can interact with the Standard Model



