

Particle dark matter

(and how to produce it)

Torsten Brügmann
03/2023

In some sense, all we (really) know about DM:

$$\Omega_{\text{DM}} h^2 \approx 0.12$$

$\Rightarrow$ one "measured" Λ CDM parameter to fit many observations

- $\Omega_{\text{DM}} \neq 0$ @ many $\sigma \rightarrow$ no doubt about existence

- $\frac{\Delta \Omega_{\text{DM}}}{\Omega_{\text{DM}}} \lesssim 1\%$ $\rightarrow$ this is a precision "measurement"

$\sim 10\%$ for much more general case (Λ CDM), allowing DM to invisibly disappear to dark radiation [1803.03644]

+ many constraints on

- how cold DM must be
(structure formation, BBN)
- interactions with visible matter
(direct & indirect searches, early universe production)
- interactions with itself or other "dark sector" particles
(structure formation, production)

$\Rightarrow$ vanilla CDM / "dust" does a depressingly good job!

$\Rightarrow$ any theory of DM should at least allow to predict $\Omega_{\text{DM}} h^2$, ideally, with matching accuracy!

outline

I. Production from the thermal bath ≈ 3 lectures

I.1 : Freeze-out mechanism

("standard", [co-annihilation, adm?, dark sectors]
[impact of] kinetic decoupling)

I.2 : Freeze-in mechanism

(following an approach that stresses analogy w/ I.1)

I.3 : Alternatives

(SIMP, Pandemic, ...)

II. (Fully) non-thermal production ≈ 2 lectures

II.1 : Misalignment

(axions, dark photons)

II.2 : gravitational production

(Bogoliubov vs. decay !!)

III.3 : Primordial black holes

$\rightarrow$ quite a few other options [e.g. DM from decay];
personal selection, with focus on what is most commonly discussed
+ only sporadic bibliographic references
 $\rightarrow$ contact/ask me for more pointers to literature!

I.1 : Freeze-out mechanism

Boltzmann equation : $L[f_i] = C[f_i]$

~> formally describes evolution of $f_i(\vec{x}, \vec{p}, t)$
for any particle species i

Liouville operator : ~> evolution in absence of collisions (cf. Liouville's theorem in classical mechanics)

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \{f, H\} = \frac{df}{dt} = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

$$L[f] = \frac{df}{d\lambda} = \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial \lambda} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^\mu} + \frac{dp^i}{\partial \lambda} \frac{\partial f}{\partial p^i}$$

$\nwarrow p^0 = p^0(\tau)$

standard choice:

p^i = "physical momentum" = $m \frac{dx^i}{d\tau}$ free-fall coordinates

= measured by freely-falling observer

$\hookrightarrow \bar{p}^i \equiv m \frac{d\bar{x}^i}{d\tau} = \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial x^\nu} p^\nu$ = standard momentum in GR (= 4-vector)
~> geodesic eqn. in free fall

$$g^{\mu\nu} = \eta^{\sigma\sigma} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^\mu}{\partial x^\sigma} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^\nu}{\partial x^\sigma} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial \bar{x}^0}{\partial x^0} = 1, \quad \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial x^i} = a^{-1} \delta_j^i$$

FRW

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\bar{p}^i = a^{-1} p^i} \quad \text{NB : not comoving} = a p^i \quad \nabla$$

$(\bar{p}^0 = p^0)$

$$\Rightarrow L[f] = \underbrace{p^0}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \lambda = \tau \\ t = t(\tau, \vec{r}) \text{ for FRW}}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial p^i} \left\{ \underbrace{\frac{da}{d\tau} \bar{p}^i}_{= \dot{a} p^0 \bar{p}^i = H p^0 p^i} + a \underbrace{\frac{d\bar{p}^i}{d\tau}}_{\substack{= -\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^i \bar{p}^\mu \bar{p}^\nu \\ \Gamma_{0j}^i = \Gamma_{j0}^i = H \delta_j^i}} \right\}$$

$= -2H \bar{p}^i p^0$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{L = p^0 (\partial_t - H \vec{p} \cdot \nabla_p) \psi(t, \vec{p})}$$

physical momentum

$$\Gamma = p^0 \partial_t \psi(t, \vec{p} \cdot a)$$

comoving momentum

$\Rightarrow$ for number density $n(t)$:

$$C_n[t] \equiv g \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{C[t]}{E}$$

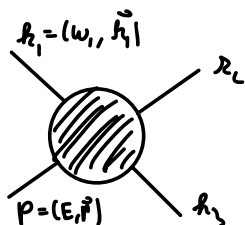
$$\dot{C}_n[t] = \partial_t \left[g \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \psi \right] - H g \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \underbrace{\vec{p} \cdot \nabla_p \psi}_{\rightarrow -\psi(\nabla_p \vec{p}) = -3}$$

$$= \dot{n} + 3Hn \quad | \quad H = \frac{\dot{a}}{a}$$

$$= a^{-3} \partial_t (a^3 n)$$

$\Rightarrow$ " C_n = change of comoving number density"

Collision operator for $2 \leftrightarrow 2$ processes:



$$C[t] = \frac{1}{2g} \int \prod_i \left(\frac{d^3 h_i}{(2\pi)^3 2\omega_i} \right) (2\pi)^4 \delta^{(4)}(p + h_1 - h_2 - h_3)$$

$$\times \left\{ |M|_{\leftarrow}^2 + t_2 t_3 (1 \mp t_1) (1 \mp t_1) \right\}$$

↑
summed over all d.o.f. g_i !

Fermi suppression/
Bose enhancement

$$- |M|_{\rightarrow}^2 + t_1 (1 \mp t_2) (1 \mp t_1) \}$$

most important (NB: $z_2 \Rightarrow$ DM is stable)

a) DM scattering ($3 = \text{DM}; 1, 2 = \text{SM / heat bath}$)

$\Rightarrow C_n[\dagger] = 0 \quad \leadsto \text{exercise!}$

b) DM pair annihilation/creation

$1 = \text{DM} ("x"); 2, 3 = \text{heat bath} ("y") \Rightarrow t_y = \frac{1}{e^{E/T} \pm 1} \quad (\mu \approx 0 \text{ in SM!})$

- $|M|_{\leftarrow}^2 = |M|_{\rightarrow}^2$ (CP invariance)
- detailed balance (" $\leftarrow = \rightarrow$ in EQ")
- $t_x \propto e^{-E/T}$ (NR DM in kinetic EQ)

$\leadsto \text{exercise!}$

$\dot{n} + 3Hn = -\langle \sigma v \rangle (n^2 - n_{\text{eq}}^2) = C_n[\dagger]$

$\uparrow$
"annihilation"
 $\uparrow$
"production"

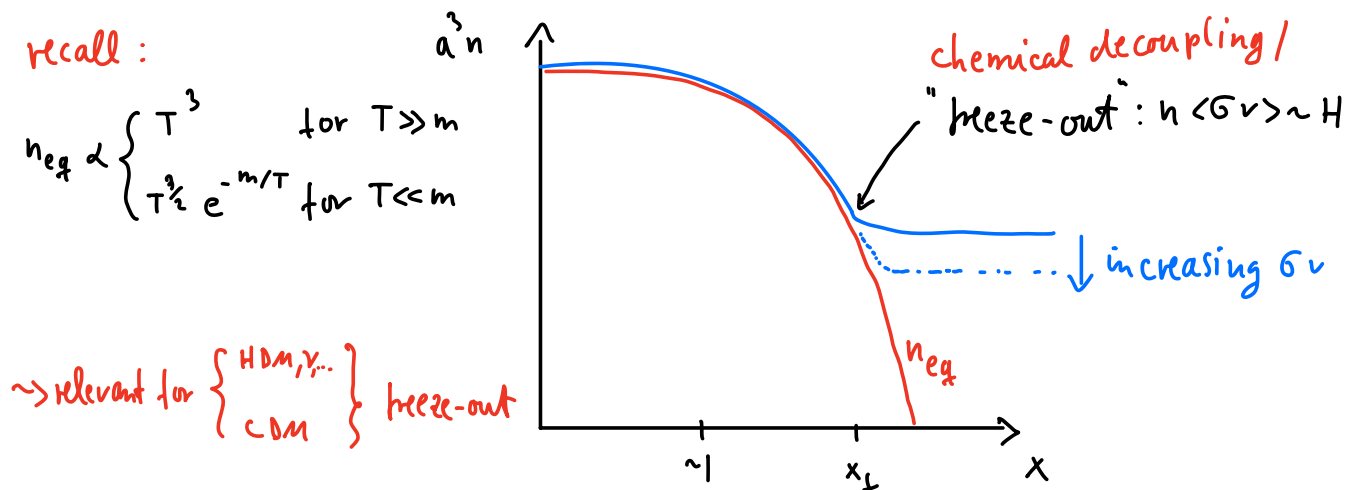
$$\langle \sigma v \rangle \equiv \frac{\int d^3p/d^3\tilde{p} t_x(E) t_x(\tilde{E}) \sigma_{\text{NMH}}}{\int d^3p/d^3\tilde{p} t_x(E) t_x(\tilde{E})} = \dots = \int_1^\infty d\tilde{s} \frac{4\pi\sqrt{s}(\tilde{s}-1) K_1(2\sqrt{s}x)}{k_2^2(x)} \sigma$$

Gondolo & Gelmini '91

$[x \equiv \frac{m}{T}; \tilde{s} \equiv \frac{s}{4m^2}]$

recall:

$$n_{\text{eq}} \propto \begin{cases} T^3 & \text{for } T \gg m \\ T^{3/2} e^{-m/T} & \text{for } T < m \end{cases}$$



rough estimate: $\bullet n_{\pm} \langle \sigma v \rangle \stackrel{!}{\sim} H_{\pm} \sim \frac{T_{\pm}^2}{m_{\text{pl}}}$

$$\bullet n_{\pm} \sim \frac{g_{\pm}^{\text{eq}}}{m_{\pm}} \frac{T_{\pm}^3}{T_{\text{eq}}^3} \stackrel{!}{\sim} T_{\text{eq}} T_{\pm}^2 \frac{T_{\pm}}{m_{\pm}} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{for correct relic density} \\ T_{\text{eq}} \sim 3 \text{ eV} \quad m_{\text{pl}} \sim 2 \cdot 10^{18} \text{ GeV} \end{array} \right.$$

$g_{\pm}^{\text{eq}} \sim T_{\pm}^{\text{eq}} \sim T_{\text{eq}}^4$ $\sim \mathcal{O}(1)$

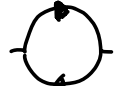
$$\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim \frac{1}{T_{\text{eq}} \cdot m_{\text{pl}}} \quad \left(\stackrel{!}{=} \frac{\lambda^2}{m_{\pm}^2} \right)$$

numerically: $\Omega_{\pm} h^2 \sim \frac{3 \cdot 10^{-27} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}}{\langle \sigma v \rangle} \sim \frac{3 \cdot 10^{-10} \text{ GeV}^{-2}}{\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim \lambda^2 m_{\pm}^{-2}}$

~ 0.1 e.g. for $\bullet m_{\pm} \sim \text{TeV}$
 $\bullet \lambda \sim 10^{-2}$

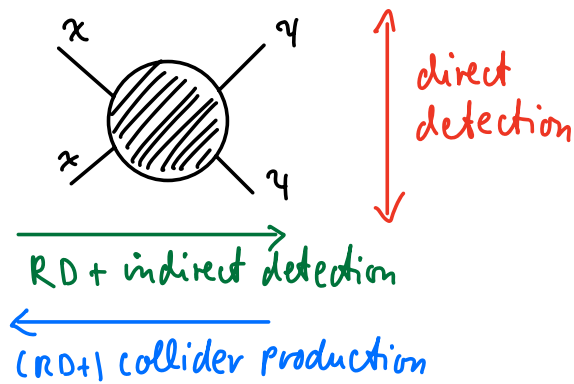
$\Rightarrow$ Weakly Interacting Massive Particles are generically produced with correct relic density!

$\leadsto$ a "miracle"? $\bullet$ c.f. SM hierarchy problem

--  -- $\Rightarrow \delta m_h^2 \propto \Lambda^2$

- many good candidate BSM theories, e.g. SUSY
 $\equiv$ independent motivation from particle physics (+ correct RD)

- WIMP DM is highly predictive :



$\Rightarrow$ vanilla WIMPs are ruled out
 ($\Rightarrow \otimes \sim 1$ number)

- "exceptions" (very common!)

A) $\chi_{RD} \neq \chi_{\text{detection}}$

B) $\langle \sigma v \rangle_{RD} \gg \langle \sigma v \rangle_0$

examples for B :

i) $\sigma v = a + b v_{rel}^2 + \dots$

$\Rightarrow \langle \sigma v \rangle \stackrel{v=v_{rel}}{=} a + 6b \bar{x}^1 + \dots$

NB: S-wave = $a + a_2 v^2 + \dots$

p-wave = $b_2 v^2 + b_4 v^4 + \dots$

today : $v \sim 10^{-3}$

freez-out : $T \sim \frac{1}{3} \frac{v^2}{m} \sim \frac{m}{x_f}$

$\Rightarrow v \sim \sqrt{\frac{3}{x_0}} \sim 0.4$

$\Rightarrow$ can be solved analytically :
 Kolb & Turner

$$\Omega h^2 \approx 8.77 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ GeV}^{-2} \frac{x_f}{g_{\text{eff}}^{1/2}} \times$$

$$x \left[a + 3b x_f^{-1} + \dots \right]^{-1}$$

ii) strong v -dependence (other than i)

- (kinematic) thresholds

$$\chi\chi \rightarrow \gamma\gamma; m_\chi \gtrsim m_\gamma$$

- (s-channel) resonances

$$\chi\chi \rightarrow \phi^* \rightarrow \gamma\gamma; m_\phi \sim 2m_\chi$$

- non-perturbative effects

"Sommerfeld enhancement",
bound states, ...

iii) co-annihilations

→ network of "dark" particles

w/ $m_{\chi_1} > \dots m_{\chi_n} \equiv m_\chi$, charged
under same $U(1)$ (e.g. R parity)

→ will eventually decay to χ

⇒ $n \equiv n_{\chi_1} + n_{\chi_2} + \dots + n_\chi$ satisfies
same Boltzmann eq., with

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle_{\text{eff.}} = \sum_{ij} c_{ij} \langle \sigma v \rangle_{ij}$$

[hep-ph/9704361]

iv) asymmetric DM: $n_\chi \neq n_{\bar{\chi}}$

→ cf. standard model...

$$\text{motivation: } \Omega_\chi h^2 \sim \Omega_b h^2$$

→ ~ no indirect detection

v) freeze-out in secluded

"dark" sector (= A & B)

⋮

numerical treatment
needed!

→ highly accurate
public tools:

DarkSUSY → exercises!

micrOMEGAS

madDM

⋮