

Abetone 2024

Stochastic DM production

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with Michele & Raghuvier

How dark can be the dark matter? \*



I will assume only gravitational coupling

\* recurrent question in conversations with Michele



Real challenge: jump start the empty dark sector

two possibilities (so far....)

\* Gravitational Freeze-in [GFI]

$$\rho_{SM} \sim T_R^4$$

\* Gravitational Particle Production [GPP]

$a(t)$  time dependence of background

# Prototype of dark-dark-matter

$$\mathcal{L} = i \bar{\Psi} \gamma^\mu D_\mu \Psi + \frac{M}{2} (\Psi \Psi + \bar{\Psi} \bar{\Psi})$$

\*  $M$ , mass

\* Free theory coupled to gravity

\* Shares feature of Weyl/conformal sectors

↳ obstruction to GPP [nightmare]



# Outline

→ Compute  $M \frac{n}{s} \Big|_{\text{today}} = 0.4 \text{ eV}$

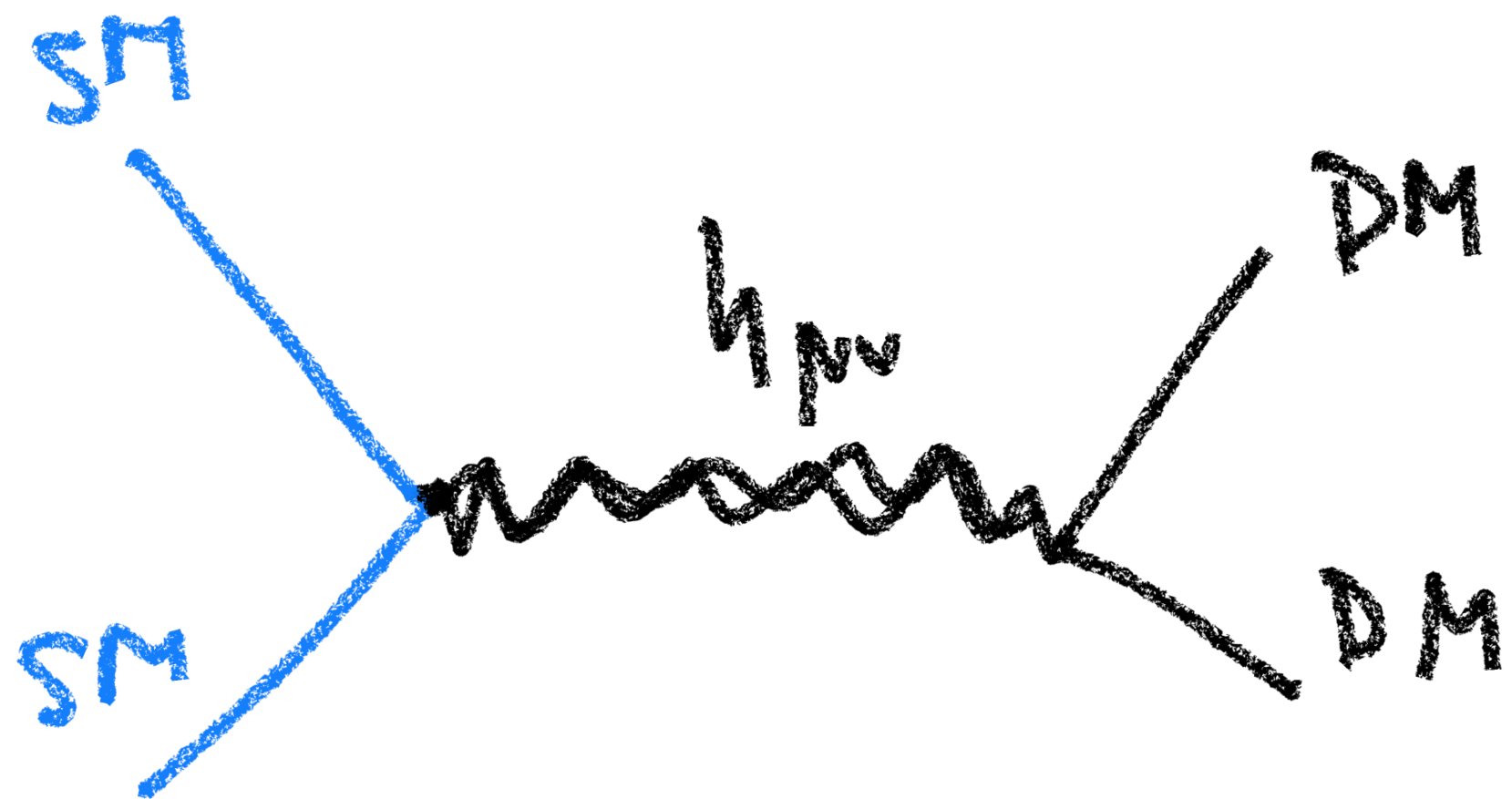
1) Gravitational Freeze-In

2) Gravitational Particle Production

and

3) Stochastic Gravitational Particle Production

# Gravitational Freeze-In



SM thermal states annihilate into DM via graviton-exchange

$$\frac{1}{M_{Pl}} h_{\mu\nu} T^{\mu\nu}$$

\* From direct computation:

$$\Omega_{DM} \Big|_{GFI} \sim 10^{-5} \frac{M K_R^3}{3H_0^2 M_{Pl}^2}$$

- $K_R \sim T_R T_0 / M_{Pl}$

- $T_R > M$

- CFT computation

[c - charge dependence]



# Gravitational Particle Production

QM Hamiltonian with time dependence  $\rightarrow$  initial vacuum not final vacuum

In QFT time dependence of background is not enough:

\* effect proportional to  $M \cdot a(t)$

\* physical effect modulo Weyl rescaling

$$i \bar{\sigma}^\mu \partial_\mu \psi = M a(t) \bar{\psi}$$



# Bogoliubov transformations: free fermion

At early times, Bunch-Davies vacuum,  $a(t) \rightarrow 0$

\* when mass is negligible  $k > aH > eM$

$\rightarrow$  only positive frequency solutions [as in flat space]

$$\psi = \sum_{\vec{k}} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \left[ v_{\vec{k},h}(\tau) \right]_{\vec{k},h} e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}} a_{\vec{k},h} + \dots$$

$$v_{\vec{k},h}(-\infty) = e^{-ik\tau} \delta_{h,-} ; \quad v_{\vec{k},h}(+\infty) \sim \alpha_k e^{-i\int M a dt} + h \beta_k e^{+i\int M a dt}$$

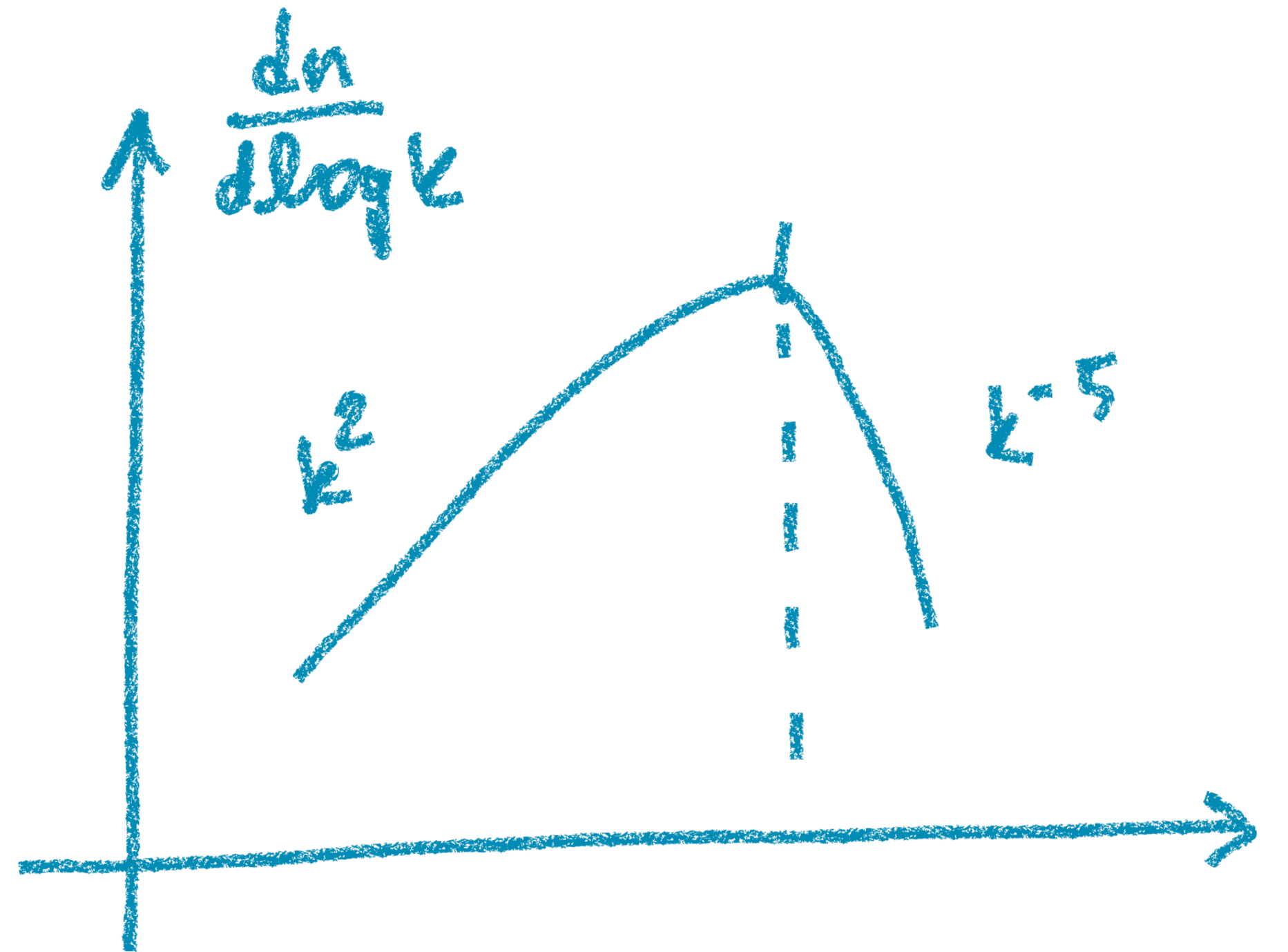


# Number density from Bogoliubov coefficients

$$n = \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} |\beta_k|^2$$

$$\Omega_{DM} / \Omega_{GPP} \sim 10^{-2} \frac{M k_M^3}{3 H_0^2 M_{Pl}^2}$$

- $k_M \sim a_M M$ ;  $a_M = a(H \sim M)$
- strong suppression with  $M$
- $M \sim 2.6 \times 10^8 \text{ GeV}$



w/ Michele & Raghveer  
2408 + in progress

# Stochastic Gravitational Particle Production

$M a(t)$   $\longleftrightarrow$   $\Phi(t, \vec{x})$

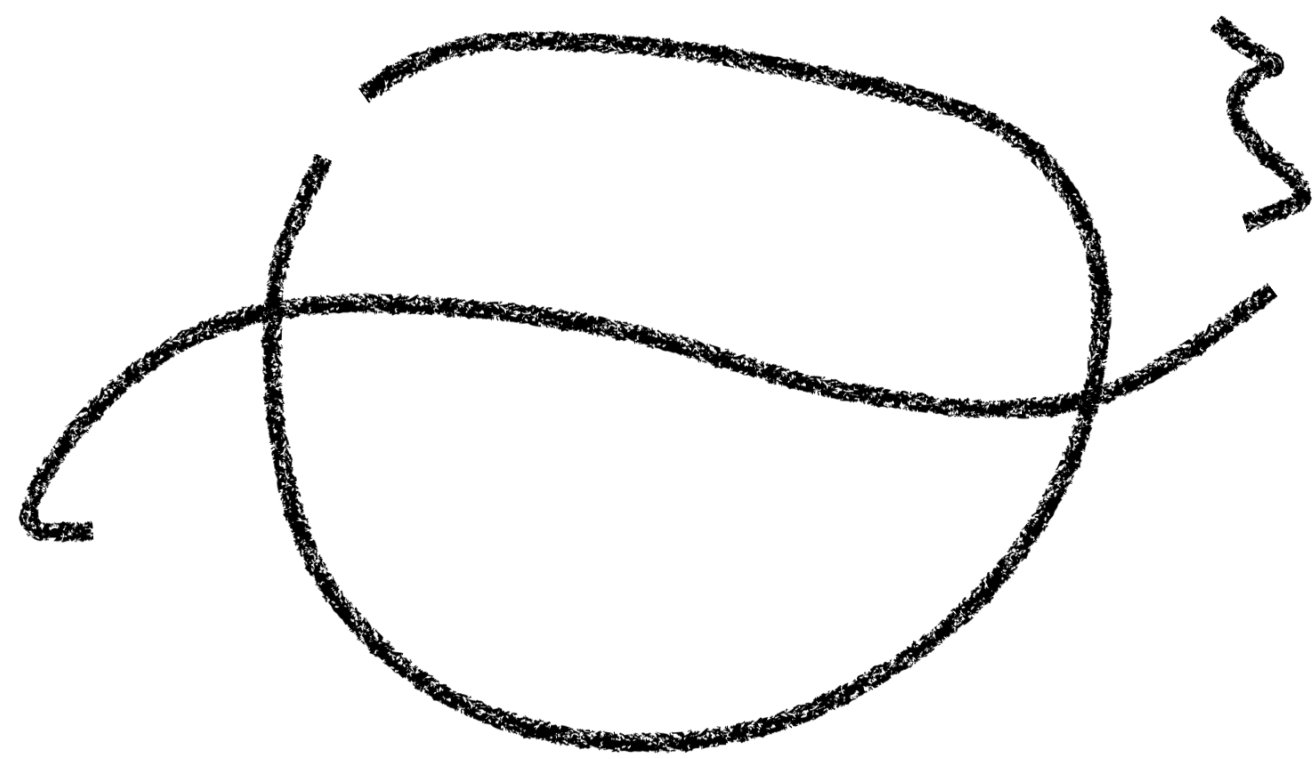
cosmological perturbations



# Curvature perturbations as source of DM

\* they exist (are time dependent)

\* in conformal gauge:  $ds^2 = a^2 d\tau^2 [1 + 2\Phi] - a^2 dx^2 [1 - 2\Psi]$



$$\langle \zeta_q \zeta_{q'}^* \rangle \sim \delta^3(q - q') \Delta_\zeta(q)$$

$$\Delta_\zeta \sim 10^{-9} \text{ @ CMB}$$

$\Phi, \Psi$  matched to super-horizon value of  $\zeta$

→  $\Phi, \Psi$  "active" in radiation domination



# Strong analogy with Bogoliubov

$$i\bar{\sigma}^\mu \partial_\mu \psi = i \left( 2\bar{\Phi} \dot{\psi} - \frac{1}{2} \nabla \bar{\Phi} \cdot \vec{\sigma} \psi + \frac{3}{2} \dot{\bar{\Phi}} \psi \right)$$

- \* Linear in fermion field
- \* time dependent source
- \* interactions with fluctuations  $\rightarrow$  negative frequency  $\beta_k$

$\rightarrow$  find solution perturbatively with  $G^{\text{ret}}$ .  
starting from Bunch-Davies ...  $n \sim |\beta|^2$



After some manipulations [stochastic  $\xi$ ]

$$\frac{dn}{d \log k} = \frac{k^3}{4\pi^2} \int \frac{d \cos \theta}{q} dq \Delta_{\xi}(q) |\mathcal{L}(q, k+w)|^2 \mathcal{K}[k, q, \cos \theta]$$

\*  $\mathcal{K}$ , spin-dependent kernel

\*  $\mathcal{L}$ , transfer function of gravitational potential

\*  $\Delta_{\xi}(q)$ , primordial power spectrum of  $\xi$   
→ assume peak @  $q_*$  for  $\Delta_{\xi}(q)$  ...

formula appears complicated: universal properties



# Stochastic Dark Matter

$$n = 0.015 \int \frac{dq}{q} q^3 \Delta_{\zeta}(q)$$

Free Fermion

$$q_* \sim 10^{-7} \text{ eV} \left( \frac{10^6 \text{ GeV}}{M} \right)^{1/3} \left( \frac{0.001}{\Delta(q_*)} \right)^{1/3}$$

\* related to last e-folds of inflation

\* valid:  $k \sim q_* \gg aM$

$\Phi$ , evolves after  $T_R$  (not diluted!)



# New contribution to DM abundance

	GFI	GPP	Stochastic
$\Omega_{DM} \propto$	$10^{-5} M k_R^3$	$10^{-2} M k_H^3$	$10^{-4} M q_*^3 \Delta_\xi(q_*)$

dominance of stochastic for  $q_* \gtrsim k_R$  [reheating]

→ Computations simplified & Scope broadened  
exploiting "CFT-ideology"

see Michele's talk!





ENJOY  
THE  
SLOPES!



\* if you want to join  
a newbie...