# DARK MATTER MEETS THE SUSY FLAVOR PROBLEM

Work with

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# DARK MATTER

- Best evidence for new physics
  - Unambiguous
  - Intimately connected to central problems: electroweak symmetry breaking and structure formation
- Candidate masses and interactions span many orders of magnitude



## THE WIMP MIRACLE



- Assume a new (heavy) particle X is initially in thermal equilibrium
- Its relic density is

$$\Omega_X \propto \frac{1}{\langle \sigma v \rangle} \sim \frac{m_X^2}{g_X^4}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} m_X \sim m_{\text{weak}} \sim 100 \text{ GeV} \\ g_X \sim g_{\text{weak}} \sim 0.6 \end{array} \end{array} \right\} \Omega_X \sim 0.1$$

• Remarkable coincidence: particle physics independently predicts particles with the right density to be dark matter

## NEUTRALINO DARK MATTER

- Supersymmetry
  - Naturalness
  - force unification
  - radiative EWSB
- Neutralino naturally emerges as
  - Lightest (stable)
  - Weakly-interacting
  - ~100 GeV
  - Excellent DM candidate



### NEUTRALINO IMPLICATIONS

Neutralinos must interact with the SM efficiently



(Direct detection)

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### BACKGROUND CHECK: SKELETONS IN THE CLOSET

• Minor skeleton: thermal relic density



### MAJOR SKELETON: THE FLAVOR PROBLEM

- Neutralino DM  $\rightarrow m_{\tilde{G}} > m_{\chi}$
- m<sub>G</sub> characterizes the size of gravitational effects, which generically violate flavor symmetries
- Current bounds require  $m_{\tilde{G}} < 0.01 m_{\gamma}$
- There are ways to reconcile  $\chi$  DM with flavor constraints, but none is especially compelling

# FLAVOR-CONSERVING MODELS

• There are well-known SUSY models that naturally conserve flavor: gauge-mediated SUSY-breaking models

Dine, Nelson, Nir, Shirman (1995); Dimopoulos, Dine, Raby, Thomas (1996); ...

- Can we find DM candidates in these models?
- 3 key features

   m<sub>G̃</sub> << m<sub>χ</sub>
   Several sectors of particles
   Superpartner masses
   m ~ (gauge couplings)<sup>2</sup>



# **PREVIOUS SUGGESTIONS 1**

Thermal gravitinos: the original SUSY DM scenario

Pagels, Primack (1982)

- Universe cools from  $T \sim M_{\rm Pl}$ , gravitinos decouple while relativistic, expect  $n_{\tilde{G}} \sim n_{\rm eq}$  (cf. neutrinos)
- $\Omega_{\tilde{G}} h^2 \approx 0.1 \ (m_{\tilde{G}} / 80 \ eV)$
- Lyman- $\alpha$  constraints  $\rightarrow$  m<sub> $\tilde{G}$ </sub> > 2 keV

Viel et al. (2006); Seljak et al. (2006)

• Could be saved by late entropy production

Baltz, Murayama (2001)

• No use of WIMP miracle

## **PREVIOUS SUGGESTIONS 2**

Messenger sneutrino DM

Han, Hempfling (1997)

 Messenger sneutrino has right relic density for m ~ 1-3 TeV



No use of WIMP miracle

## **PREVIOUS SUGGESTIONS 3**

#### Goldilocks SUSY

Feng,, Smith, Takayama, (2007)

- Eliminate both skeletons simultaneously:  $\chi$  overproduced, decays to gravitino that is light enough to solve the flavor problem, but heavy enough to be all of DM
- $\Omega_{\chi} \sim m_{\chi}^2$ ,  $\Omega_{\tilde{G}} \sim m_{\chi} m_{\tilde{G}}$ ; flavor  $\rightarrow m_{\tilde{G}} / m_{\chi} < 0.01$
- Solution guaranteed for sufficiently large  $m_{\gamma}$ ,  $m_{\tilde{G}}$
- But is it natural? Consider mGMSB

# GOLDILOCKS SUSY



- $\Omega_{\chi} \sim 100, \, m_{\chi} \sim 1 \, {\rm TeV}, \, m_{\tilde{G}} \sim 1 \, {\rm GeV}$
- Uses the WIMP miracle
- Astrophysics constraints → CP solved, warm G DM

## A NEW APPROACH

Feng, Kumar (2008)

- Consider standard GMSB with one or more hidden sectors
- Each hidden sector has its own matter content, gauge groups, couplings



## THE WIMPLESS MIRACLE

Particle Physics



## Superpartner masses depend on gauge couplings

Cosmology

$$\frac{m_X}{g_X^2} \sim \frac{m}{g^2} \sim \frac{F}{16\pi^2 M}$$

$$\label{eq:Omega} \begin{split} \Omega \text{ depends only on the} \\ \text{SUSY Breaking sector:} \\ \Omega_{\text{X}} \thicksim \Omega_{\text{WIMP}} \thicksim \Omega_{\text{DM}} \end{split}$$

# Hidden sector generically has the right relic density

## THE WIMPLESS MIRACLE

• The thermal relic density constrains only one combination of  $g_X$  and  $m_X$ 

$$\Omega_X \propto \frac{1}{\langle \sigma v \rangle} \sim \frac{m_X^2}{g_X^4}$$

• These models map out the remaining degree of freedom



- This framework decouples the WIMP miracle from WIMPs, candidates have a range of masses/couplings, but always the right relic density
  - The flavor problem becomes a virtue
- Naturally accommodates multi-component DM, all with relevant  $\Omega$

### HOW LARGE CAN HIDDEN SECTORS BE?

Feng, Tu, Yu (2008)



$$g_*^h(T_{\text{BBN}}^h) \left(\frac{T_{\text{BBN}}^h}{T_{\text{BBN}}}\right)^4 = \frac{7}{8} \cdot 2 \cdot (N_{\text{eff}} - 3) \le 2.52 \ (95\% \text{ CL})$$

## WIMPLESS DETECTION

Feng, Kumar, Strigari (2008); Feng, Kumar, Learned, Strigari (2008)

- WIMPless DM has no SM gauge interactions, but may interact through Yukawa couplings
- For example, introduce connectors Y with both MSSM and hidden charge
- Y particles mediate both annihilation to and scattering with MSSM particles



### EXAMPLE

• Assume WIMPless DM X is a scalar, add fermion connectors Y, interacting through

$$\mathcal{L} = \lambda_f X \bar{Y}_L f_L + \lambda_f X \bar{Y}_R f_R$$

- XX  $\rightarrow$  ff preserves WIMPless miracle, as long as  $\lambda_f < 1$
- For f = b, Y's are "4th generation mirror quarks," constrained by collider direct searches, precision electroweak, Yukawa perturbativity:

 $250 \text{ GeV} < m_{Y} < 500 \text{ GeV}$ 

Kribs, Plehn, Spannowsky, Tait (2007); Fok, Kribs (2008)

# DIRECT DETECTION: DAMA

Collision rate should change as Earth's velocity adds constructively/ destructively with the Sun's.

Drukier, Freese, Spergel (1986)



#### DAMA: $8\sigma$ signal with T ~ 1 year, max ~ June 2





18 Mar 09

## CHANNELING

- DAMA's result is puzzling, in part because the favored region was considered excluded by others
- This may be ameliorated by astrophysics and channeling: in crystalline detectors, efficiency for nuclear recoil energy → photons depends on direction
- Channeling reduces threshold, shifts allowed region to lower masses. Consistency possible, but requires uncomfortably low WIMP masses (~ GeV)

Gondolo, Gelmini (2005) Drobyshevski (2007), DAMA (2007)



## DAMA AND WIMPLESS DM

• WIMPless DM naturally explains DAMA with  $\lambda_b \sim 0.3-1$ (cf. typical neutralino: m ~ 100 GeV,  $\sigma_{SI} \sim 10^{-8}$  pb)



# INDIRECT DETECTION

• Indirect searches also promising for low masses, even for smooth halos



# HIDDEN CHARGED DM

• This requires that an  $m_{\chi}$  particle be stable. Is this natural?



 If the hidden sector is a flavor-free MSSM, natural DM candidate is any hidden charged particle, stabilized by exact U(1)<sub>EM</sub> symmetry

## HIDDEN CHARGED DM

Feng, Kaplinghat, Tu, Yu (2009)



- Annihilates through weak (to neutrinos) and EM (to photons)
- $m_X \sim 10 \text{ GeV} (100 \text{ MeV})$  allowed for  $\tan \theta = 1 (10)$

See also Ackerman, Buckley, Carroll, Kamionkowski (2008)

## ANNIHILATION

 Annihilation is Sommerfeld enhanced by α/v

$$M_c \simeq 33 \, (T_{\rm kd}/10 \, {\rm MeV})^{-3} \, M_{\oplus}$$

$$(v/c) \sim 6.0 \times 10^{-9} \, (M_c/M_{\oplus})^{1/3} (z_c/200)^{1/2}$$

 Strong constraint from protohaloes, formed at z ~ 200 with low velocity dispersion

Kamionkowski, Profumo (2008

Can m<sub>γ</sub> = 0? Yes!

 T<sub>kd</sub> is lower than for WIMPs
 α ~ 10<sup>-6</sup> for m<sub>x</sub> ~ GeV



## CONCLUSIONS

- Neutralino DM has a flavor problem
- Reconciliation  $\rightarrow$  qualitatively new DM candidates
- WIMPless dark matter
  - No flavor problem (GMSB)
  - Preserves WIMP miracle
  - Large direct, indirect signals
  - Explains DAMA, with testable implications
  - Motivates hidden charged DM with exact hidden U(1)<sub>EM</sub>
  - Collisional, implications for structure formation