THE FUTURE OF DARK MATTER AND DARK FORCES

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A HAPPY OCCASION











DARK MATTER

 "The Future of Physics and Astronomy": Identifying dark matter is a central problem in both fields, and appreciation of its importance has grown rapidly in recent years



CLASSIC CANDIDATES

- Three excellent candidates: sterile neutrinos, axions, WIMPs
- Axions are highly motivated by the strong CP problem

Peccei, Quinn (1977); Wilczek (1978); Weinberg (1978)

$$m_a \approx 6 \ \mu \text{eV}\left(\frac{10^{12} \text{ GeV}}{f_a}\right)$$
$$\Omega_a \simeq 0.4 \ \theta_i^2 \left(\frac{f_a}{10^{12} \text{ GeV}}\right)^{1.18}$$

 For axion DM, if θ_i ~1, then

> f_a ~ 10¹² GeV m_a ~ 1-100 μeV



LATEST RESULTS: ADMX G2

ADMX Gen.2 preliminary result – DFSZ reached!



WIMPs



 The WIMP miracle motivates diverse experiments that are (unfortunately) bigger, longer, and more expensive

DIRECT DETECTION EXPERIMENTS (2013)



LATEST RESULTS: PandaX-II



RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

 In the last few years, these classic candidates have been generalized to broad classes of dark matter

Axions \rightarrow Axion-like Particles (ALPs) \rightarrow Ultralight DM

WIMPs \rightarrow WIMPless DM \rightarrow Hidden Sector DM

 New motivations, new anomalies, and new experimental search techniques have been identified, leading to a flurry of activity

DM CANDIDATES, ANOMALIES, SEARCH TECHNIQUES



DARK SECTORS

 All evidence for dark matter is gravitational. Perhaps it's in a hidden sector, composed of particles with no SM gauge interactions (electromagnetic, weak, strong)

> Lee, Yang (1956); Kobsarev, Okun, Pomeranchuk (1966); Blinnikov, Khlopov (1982); Foot, Lew, Volkas (1991); Hodges (1993); Berezhiani, Dolgov, Mohapatra (1995); ...



• This hidden sector may have a rich structure with matter and forces of its own

WIMPLESS DARK MATTER



 WIMPless Miracle → light, extremely weakly-coupled particles; new connections to other fields; smaller, faster, cheaper expts

AN EXAMPLE: NUCLEAR PHYSICS

 One can look for < 20 MeV new particles in decays of excited nuclei

Treiman, Wilczek (1978); Donnelly, Freedman, Lytel, Peccei, Schwartz (1978)

 In particular, in rare internal pair creation events, can look for ⁸Be* → ⁸Be X → ⁸Be e⁺ e⁻ signal [⁸Be* → ⁸Be γ → ⁸Be e⁺ e⁻ background]



THE BERYLLIUM ANOMALY AND DARK FORCES

- ATOMKI group has seen a 6.8σ excess at e⁺e⁻ opening angles of 135 deg
- This can be consistently explained by a new 17 MeV boson, 5th force



 There is now preliminary supporting evidence from the ATOMKI group, proposed followups (~\$750K, 1 year)

CONCLUSIONS

- Dark matter is one of the great scientific puzzles of our time and is leading evidence for new particles and forces
- Classic candidates remain attractive...
 - Dark matter: sterile neutrinos, axions, WIMPs
 - WIMP miracle: heavy and weakly coupled
 - Experiments: bigger, longer, more expensive
- ...but a new paradigm is also emerging
 - Dark sector: dark Higgs, dark fermions, dark gauge bosons
 - WIMPless miracle: light and extremely weakly coupled
 - Experiments: smaller, faster, cheaper