

ISAPP School 21

DARK MATTER FROM STANDARD MODEL AND
BEYOND, A SELECTION OF PRODUCTION MECHANISMS.

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PART I

1.

Most of the talks introducing a dark matter (DM) particle will begin with a list of expected properties:

1/ DM is a beyond the Standard Model (BSM) particle

↳ let us check first the candidates for DM in the Standard Model (SM)

2/ DM is essentially neutral ($Q=0$)

Carefull, neutral under $U(1)_Q$ for $Q = \text{electromagnetic charge}$. DM with non zero $SU(2)_L$ or $U(1)_Y$ is possible!
(minimal DM, Inert doublet, etc)
Now some contribution of millicharged DM could be allowed.

$\uparrow 10^{18} \text{ S}$

3/ DM is massive and stable ($z_{\text{DM}} > z_{\text{universe}}$)

↳ Massive to allow for bottom up structure formation and stable to account for Ω_{DM} measurements. Now there is still some room for a (fraction of) decaying DM, see e.g. 1610.1051, 2012.05276

I. The Standard Model of particle physics.

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About charges and symmetries, the SM
gauge group is:

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Strong} \\ \text{Interactions} \end{array} \quad \leftarrow \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{WEAK and electro magnetism} \\ (\text{EM}) \end{array} \\ \text{SU(3)}_c \times \text{SU(2)}_L \times \text{U(1)}_Y = \text{Glashow-Weinberg-Salam Model} \\ \longrightarrow \text{SU(3)}_c \times \text{U(1)}_Q \\ \hookrightarrow \text{spontaneous symmetry breaking.} \end{array}$$

Let me emphasize again that DM is expected
to be essentially neutral under U(1)_Q but
could very well have e.g. a non zero SU(2)_L
charge, see e.g. "Minimal DM": 0903.3381.

In the table on the next page, I summarize
the charges of all SM particles. It is
very clear that among all $Q=0$
charged particles, the neutrino is our best
candidate for DM as it interacts the most
weakly with all other SM particles.

3.

Charges of the SM particles:

	$SU(3)_C$	$SU(2)_L$	$U(1)_Y$	$U(1)_Q$
$L_L = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_L \\ e_L \end{pmatrix}$	1	2	-1	{ 0 -1 }
ℓ_R	1	1	-2	-1
$Q_L = \begin{pmatrix} u_L \\ d_L \end{pmatrix}$	3	2	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\begin{cases} \frac{2}{3} \\ -\frac{1}{3} \end{cases}$
u_R	3	1	$\frac{4}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$
d_R	3	1	$-\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$
$H = \begin{pmatrix} H^+ \\ H^0 \end{pmatrix}$	1	2	1	{ 1 0 }
B_μ	1	1	0	To Be
$W_\mu^{1,2,3}$	1	3	0	redefined as A_μ, Z_μ, W_μ^\pm
gluons	8	1	0	0.

Convention : $Q = T_3 + Y_{1/2}$

\hookrightarrow isospin.

4.

At the very least, the ν_L interacts with the SM through gauge interactions:

$$\mathcal{L}_{SM} \supset \sum_i L_{Li} i \not{D} L_{Li} \quad \text{④} \quad i = \text{flavour index}$$

lepton doublet.

doubtless index.

where $\not{D} = D_\mu \gamma^\mu$.

- γ^μ satisfy the Clifford Algebra

$$\{\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu\} = 2 \eta^{\mu\nu} \mathbb{1}$$

We have L_L charged under $SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y$:

$$D_\mu L_L = \left(\partial_\mu - ig W_\mu^\alpha \frac{\sigma^\alpha}{2} - ig' B_\mu \frac{Y}{2} \right) L_L$$

$\alpha = 1 \dots 3 \rightarrow$ Pauli matrix
 $\uparrow SU(2)$ gauge coupl $\uparrow U(1)_Y$ gauge coupling.

Using

$$W_\mu^\pm = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (W_\mu^1 \mp i W_\mu^2)$$

and

$$\begin{pmatrix} W_\mu^3 \\ B_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_W & s_W \\ -s_W & c_W \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Z_\mu \\ A_\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

with $c_W = \cos \theta_W$ and $s_W = \sin \theta_W$

5.

You can rewrite the $SU(2)_L \times U(1)$ part of the covariant derivative as:

$$\boxed{-ig w_N^a \gamma_{1/2}^a - ig' B_N Y_2} \\ = -ig (w_N^+ T^+ + w_N^- T^-) - \frac{ig}{c_W} Z_N (T^3 - s_W^2 Q) - ie A_N Q$$

with $T^\pm = \frac{1}{2} (s^1 \pm i s^2)$

$$\begin{cases} T^+ = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ T^- = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{cases}$$

and $Q = T^3 + Y_{1/2}$ with $T^3 = g_{1/2}^3$ weak isospin

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} e = g s_W \text{ and } g'/g = \tan \theta_W \end{array} \right\}$$

6.

Some more details on spinors:

- * One usefull representation of γ^N matrices for high energy description is the WEYL (= chiral) representation

$$\gamma^N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sigma^N \\ \bar{\sigma}^N & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{with } \overset{(-)}{\sigma^N} = (\mathbb{1}, (-)\sigma^i)$$

$$\gamma^5 = i\gamma^0\gamma^1\gamma^2\gamma^3 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1} & \mathbb{1} \\ -\mathbb{1} & \mathbb{1} \end{pmatrix}$$

and the Pauli matrices are given by:

$$\sigma^1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}; \quad \sigma^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}; \quad \sigma^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- * $S^W = \frac{i}{4} [\gamma^N, \gamma^V]$ provide a 4×4 representation of the Lorentz group

with the Dirac spinor transforming

as : $\Psi \rightarrow \exp(-i W_{NV} S^{NV}) \Psi$

You can check (exercises) that

$$\boxed{\begin{cases} \Psi_L = L \Psi = \frac{1-\gamma^5}{2} \Psi \\ \Psi_R = R \Psi = \frac{1+\gamma^5}{2} \Psi \end{cases}} \quad \text{transform}$$

differently under the Lorentz transform.

They correspond to 2 different irreducible representations of the Lorentz group.

II. Candidates for DM in SM and Beyond.

DM from the SM?

As said above, within the SM, we have a potential candidate for DM, the SM neutrino ν_L with isospin.

$$Q_{\nu_L} = 0 ; \quad Y_{\nu_L} = -\frac{1}{2} ; \quad T_3 \nu_L = \frac{1}{2}$$

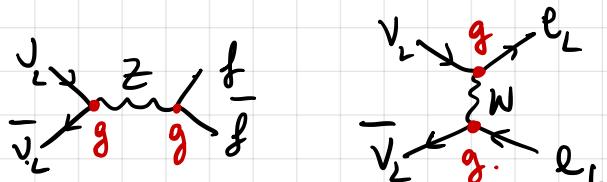
$$T_3 L_L = \frac{\sigma_3}{2} L_L = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_L \\ e_L \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \nu_L \\ -\frac{1}{2} e_L \end{pmatrix}$$

→ the ν_L couples to Z and W bosons

We have thus:

$$\mathcal{L}_{SM} \supset \bar{L}_L (i \not{g}) L_L + \frac{q}{\sqrt{2}} \left((\bar{e}_L \gamma^\mu \nu_L) W_N^- + h.c. \right) + \frac{q}{2c_W} \bar{\nu}_L \gamma^\mu \nu_L Z_N$$

→ Possible annihilation channels for ν_L



For the purpose of these lectures, let us take ν_L abundance being negligible on m_ν (obviously, we have strong laboratory and cosmological constraints!)

As very rough estimates, when :

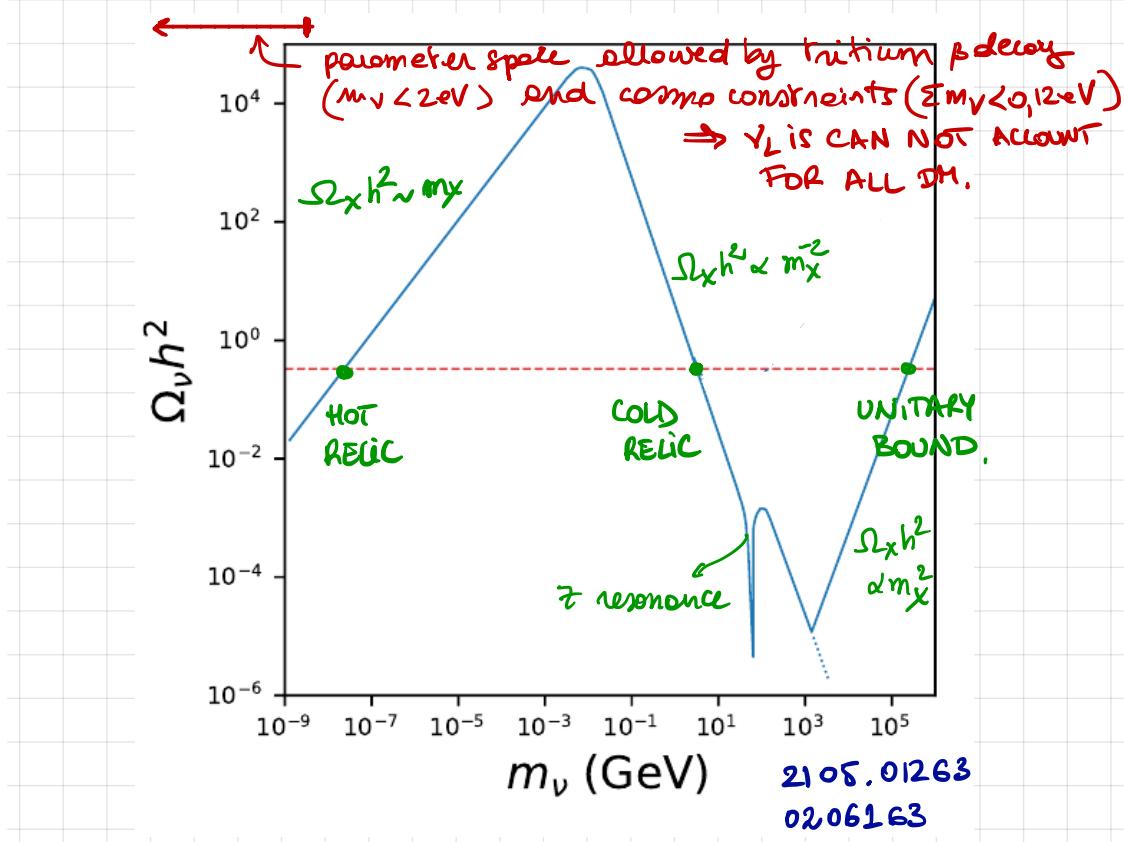
$$\underline{T > m_\nu} : \sigma J_{\nu\nu \rightarrow ff} \sim G_F^2 T^5$$

$$\text{Fermi Constant: } G_F = \frac{e^2 g^2}{8 M_W^2}$$

$$\underline{m_\nu > T, m_W} : \sigma J_{\nu\nu \rightarrow ff} \sim \frac{\alpha_W}{m_\nu^2}$$

$$\alpha_W = \frac{g^2}{4\pi} = \frac{1}{S_W^2} \frac{e^2}{4\pi} = \frac{\alpha_{EM}}{4\pi S_W^2}$$

In the next section, we will see that $\Omega_\nu h^2 (m_\nu)$ takes the following form:



9.

DM candidate BSM

As we will see, the χ_L can't account for all the DM of the universe.

As a result, we will have to go BSM.
You might be aware that we have many possible candidates for DM.

As my purpose is both to introduce you to BSM DM and its mechanisms of production, I will consider a minimal extension of the SM that could give rise to DM candidates and allow me to explore a large range of DM couplings to the SM.

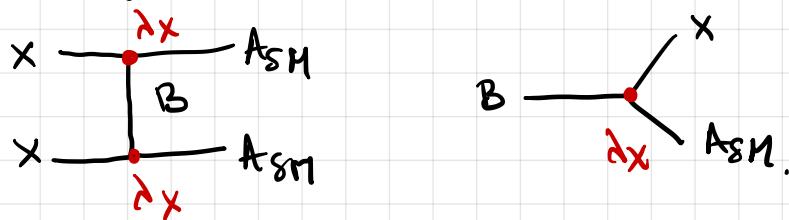
The discussion presented in these notes may be directly translated to any model where:

- DM is a singlet under the SM gauge group, say X
- Some symmetry prevents the DM to decay to SM - Here we assume a \mathbb{Z}_2 Symmetry under which $DM \equiv \mathbb{Z}_2$ odd, $SM \equiv \mathbb{Z}_2$ even -
- I will assume that DM is not the only new particle BSM. There will be

a "partner", odd under the \mathbb{Z}_2 symmetry¹⁰
 that will help to mediate
 DM - SM interactions. let me
 refer to this "mediator", as B
 and assume that B is charged under
 the SM gauge group ($B \equiv$ baryon particle)

NB: more minimal extensions of the SM,
 yet very rich, could be
 the scalar singlet interacting
 through H - portal with SM
 or e.g. "minimal DM", which is a
 $Q=0$ of a BSM $SU(2)_L$ multiplet

With the above considerations, assuming
 a cubic interaction: $\mathcal{L} \supset \lambda_X B \times A_{SM}$
 where $A_{SM} =$ SM particle and λ_X is some
 coupling I can have the following annih.
 decay channels:



there are multiple possibilities for such models (sometimes referred to as "t-channel" models for WIMP).

For definitiveness, here I will focus on fermionic Majorana DM.

Considering B as a fermion or a scalar, the "minimal" cubic interactions I can write are:

A_{SM}	Spin DM	Spin B	Interaction	Label
ψ_{SM}	0	1/2	$\bar{\psi}_{\text{SM}} \Psi_B \phi$	$\mathcal{F}_{\psi_{\text{SM}} \phi}$
	1/2	0	$\bar{\psi}_{\text{SM}} \chi \Phi_B$	$\mathcal{S}_{\psi_{\text{SM}} \chi}$
$F^{\mu\nu}$	1/2	1/2	$\bar{\Psi}_B \sigma_{\mu\nu} \chi F^{\mu\nu}$	$\mathcal{F}_{F \chi}$
H	0	0	$H^\dagger \Phi_B \phi$	$\mathcal{S}_{H \phi}$
	1/2	1/2	$\bar{\Psi}_B \chi H$	$\mathcal{F}_{H \chi}$

For more details see 2102.06221.

Here, for definitiveness, I will take the case of fermionic DM Majorana fermion χ , coupling through "Yukawa"-like interactions to a charged scalar ϕ and a right handed lepton

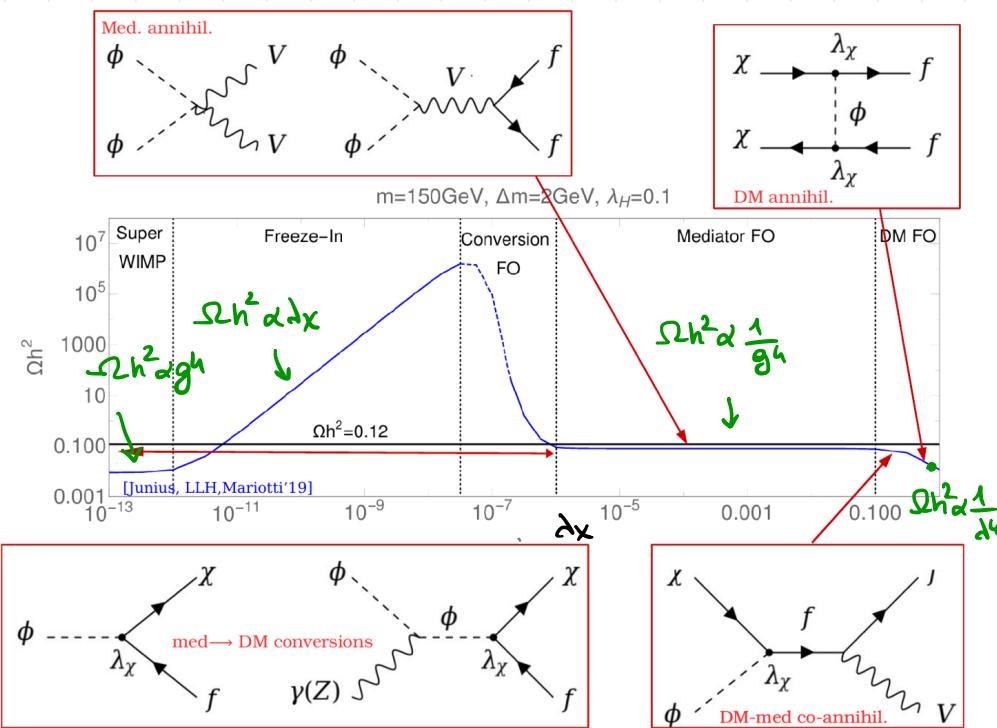
$$\mathcal{L} \supset \lambda_x \bar{l}_R x \phi$$

For "WIMP" behavior see e.g. 1307.6480
For "FiIMP" see e.g. 2102.06221, 1904.07513

1503.01500

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At the end of the day, our (enthusiastic) goal is to go through all the DM production mechanisms represented in the Rig below



see 1904.07513 for details.

III. Boltzmann equations.

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The question that arises now is what would be the neutrino mass that would give rise to all the dark matter.

In order to answer this question, we first have to introduce Boltzmann equations describing the evolution of the DM phase space distribution function $f(p^\mu, x^\mu)$ that counts the number of particles δ_x in the phase space element $d^3x d^3p$ where x and p refer to position and momentum. There in particular we follow the convention:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} n_x = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} f_x \\ f_x = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} E(p) \delta_x \end{array} \right.$$

where x refers to DM (scalar, fermion, ...). Carefull, here we absorb the x number of dof into f_x .

The Boltzmann equation can be written as:

$$L[f] = C[f]$$

influenced
by cosmology

↳ influenced by
particle phys.

III.1. The d'Alambert operator

$$L[f] = p^\alpha \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^\alpha} - \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha p^\beta p^\gamma \frac{\partial f}{\partial p^\alpha}$$

connection;
 Christoffel
 symbols
 $\sim \frac{\partial g_{\mu\nu}}{\partial x^\nu}$

This part of the Boltzmann equation is essentially influenced by the cosmology through $\Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha$.

Considering a Friedmann-Robertson-Walker space time ($ds^2 = dt^2 - a^2(t) dx^2$) the homogeneity and isotropy implies at zeroth order in perturbations that*:

$$f(p^\mu, x^\mu) = f(|\vec{p}|, t) \stackrel{\text{from now on}}{=} f(p, t)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} L[f] &= E \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial E} \frac{dE}{dt} \right) \\ &= E \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} - H \frac{p^2}{E} \frac{\partial f}{\partial E} \right) \\ \Rightarrow L[f] &\equiv E \frac{df}{dt}. \end{aligned}$$

influence of
 the history
 of the Universe
 $H = \frac{da}{dt} \frac{1}{a}$

* we leave the study of cosmological perturbations to the lectures of cosmology.
 See also e.g. Dodelson, "Modern Cosmology".

- Notice that for most of the cases we are interested in the DM production will happen in a radiation dominated (RD) era:

$$H = \frac{T^2}{M_0(T)} \quad \text{where} \quad M_0(T) = M_p \sqrt{\frac{45}{4\pi^3 g_*(T)}}$$

$$\approx 1.66 \frac{T^2}{g_*(T) M_p} \quad [\text{radiation dominate (RD) era}]^*$$

where $g_*(T)$ denotes the number of relativistic dof contributing to radiation density at temperature T : $g_R = \frac{\pi^2}{30} g_* T^4$

- In addition the entropy density can be defined as:

$$s = \frac{2\pi^2}{45} h_{eff} T^3$$

On general grounds g_R and h_{eff} differ when γ decouple from the heat bath so that $T_V(T) < T$

$$\begin{cases} g_*(T) = \sum_i g_i^e \left(\frac{T_i}{T}\right)^4 \\ h_{eff}(T) = \sum_i g_i^f \left(\frac{T_i}{T}\right)^3 ; \quad g_i^e = g_i \times \begin{array}{l} 1 \text{ bosons} \\ 2/3 \text{ fermions} \end{array} \end{cases}$$

* see e.g. 2102.06221 for e.g. FI in a matter dominated (ρ, p) era.

$$g_*(T) = h_{\text{eff}}(T) \text{ at high } T$$

$$\text{for SM only } \left. \begin{array}{l} g_*(T) \approx 100 \text{ for } T > T_{\text{EW}} \\ h_{\text{eff}}(T) \end{array} \right\}$$

while today:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} g_*(T_0) = g_8^8 + g_V^8 \times 3 \left(\frac{T_V}{T_0} \right)^4 = 3.36, \\ h_{\text{eff}}(T_0) = g_8^9 + g_V^9 \times 3 \left(\frac{T_V}{T_0} \right)^3 = 3.91 \\ \left. \frac{T_V}{T} \right|_{T > T_{\text{CD}}^V \sim \text{MeV}} = \left(\frac{h_{\text{eff}}(T_{\text{CD}})}{h_{\text{eff}}(T_0)} \right)^{1/3} = \left(\frac{y_{11}}{y_{11}^0} \right)^{1/3} \text{ by entropy conscr.} \end{array} \right.$$

- Notice that the abundance of a given species is usually expressed relatively to the critical density:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Omega_c = \Omega(T) \left(\frac{8\pi}{3M_p^2} \right)^{-1} \xrightarrow{\text{NOT especially RD!}} \\ \Omega_i(T) = \frac{\rho_i(T)}{\rho_c(T)} \end{array} \right.$$

Today $H_0 = 100 h \text{ km/s/Mpc}$.

$h \approx 0.7$ (Planck)

$$\rho_c^0 \approx 10^{-5} h^2 \text{ GeV/cm}^3$$

III2. $C[f]$ the collision term

$C[f]$ is the collision term that captures the particle physics interactions of your species X .

On very general grounds, one should consider both elastic and inelastic processes:

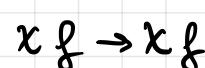
$$C[f] = C_{\text{el}}[f] + C_{\text{inel}}[f]$$

Below, we provide order of magnitude estimates for a WIMP toy model with X coupling to weak gauge bosons.

$\hookrightarrow C_{\text{el}}[f]$

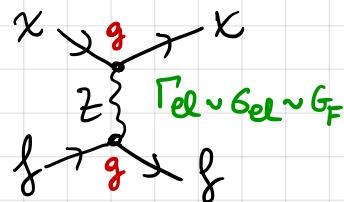
III2.1. Elastic scatterings and Thermal equilibrium

- for our "toy model":



elastic processes

\hookleftarrow shares momentum exchanges.



The X particle is kept in LOCAL THERMAL EQUILIBRIUM (LTE) while the rate of elastic scatterings Γ_{el} gives rise to a relaxation time, τ_{LTE} , sufficiently small compared to the Hubble time, i.e.

$$\text{for } \tau_{\text{LTE}} \propto \frac{1}{\Gamma_{\text{el}}} \ll H(T)^{-1}$$

KINETIC DECOUPLING (KD) happens at a temperature T_{KD} at which:

$$\tau_{LTE} = t_1(T_{KD})^{-1}$$

e.g. $T_{KD} \sim \left(\frac{M_X}{M_p}\right)^{1/4} M_Z^{-1} g^{-1} \sim$ few MeV for ~ 100 GeV DM

for the toy model under consideration.
with non-relativistic DM (see also 0612238)

For weakly interacting particles (neutrinos, electrons, "vanilla WIMP", ...) KD usually happens well after chemical decoupling (see below) so that one usually directly make use of Fermi-Dirac, Bose-Einstein or Boltzmann (non-relativistic) momentum dependent distribution functions.

- when particles are in thermal equilibrium it is enough to follow the first momentum of the distribution function

$$n(t) = \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} f(p, t)$$

or equivalently the yield

$$Y = \frac{n(t)}{s(t)} \quad \text{where} \quad s(t) = \frac{2\pi^2}{45} h_{eff} T^3$$

with Y dimensionless, s is the entropy density and h_{eff} is the number of relativistic dof contributing to the entropy.

- When particles are suspected to have a departure from thermal equilibrium with the heat bath, one should follow the "unintegrated" Boltzmann equations $\frac{df(p,t)}{dt}$ which can be computationally expensive and tricky.
(integro partial differential equation, see e.g. 1706.07433)

DS!

- It has been shown though that when chemical and kinetic decoupling are interwinned it might be enough to follow the first and second momenta only of distribution function introducing the dimensionless variable:

$$y_x = \frac{m_x}{3 s^{2/3}} \left\langle \frac{\bar{p}^2}{E} \right\rangle = \frac{m_x}{3 s^{2/3}} \frac{1}{m_x} \int_{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\bar{p}^2}{E} f(\bar{p}, t) d\bar{x}$$

Keeping in mind that for e.g. a non relativistic x particle: $y_x = \frac{m_x}{s^{2/3}} \underbrace{\frac{2}{3} \left\langle \frac{\bar{p}^2}{2 m_x} \right\rangle}_{= T_x \text{ for } x \text{ N.R.}}$

With T_x equals the heat bath temperature T when $T > T_{KD}$. For more details, see e.g. 0612238, 1706.07433, 2103.01944.

NB As a side note notice that particles free-stream (FS) from the moment they are kinetically decoupled leaving an exponential cut in the power spectrum due to collision-less damping (Free streaming)

→ this assumes χ with $SU(2)_c$ interactions, non relativistic at the time of η_0 . $n_{FS} = \frac{4\pi}{3} \Delta_{FS}^3 g_\chi$

- For the DM toy model considered you get *

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} M_{FS} = 10^8 M_\odot \text{ for } 100 \text{ GeV DM} \\ T_{KD} \sim 30 \text{ MeV.} \end{array} \right\}$$

- electrons get chemical decoupling from photons around $z \sim 10^3$ (last scattering surface) but get kinetically decoupled at $z \sim 10^7$ only (from which $T_{gas} \propto 1/a^2$ instead of $T \propto 1/a$)

let us emphasize that free-streaming is one possible source of damping. Another one is collisional damping (Sick Damping) due to e.g. interactions of massive species with lighter ones, as is the case of baryons or DM scattering with neutrinos or (dark) photons

see also eg : 0012504, 0410591, 0903.0189
1205.5809, 1603.04884

- * a small galaxy of $\sim 100 \text{ kpc}$ size $\leftrightarrow M \sim 10^9 M_\odot$ which roughly corresponds to the smallest scales tested by Ly- α forest data.

III.2.2 Description of particles in thermal equilibrium with a heat bath.

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When following a thermal equilibrium evolution early on, one has.

$$f_x(p, t) = \frac{g_x}{\exp(\frac{E - \mu}{T} \pm 1)}$$

where \pm stand for $\begin{cases} BE \\ FD \end{cases}$ species.

and μ is the chemical potential and g_x count the number of internal degrees of freedom of X .

number density.

Remember $\int n_x = \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} f_x(p, t)$

$$f_x = \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} E f_x(p, t)$$

↑ energy density

- In the relativistic limit ($T \gg m_x, \mu$)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} n_x = g_x^n \xrightarrow{\text{Raman function}} \frac{\zeta(3)}{\pi^2} T^3 \\ g_x = g_x^F \xrightarrow{\frac{\pi^2}{20}} T^4 \end{array} \right.$$

where $g_x^n = \begin{cases} 1 & g_x \\ \frac{3}{4} & \end{cases}$ and $g_x^F = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} & g_x \text{ for bosons} \\ \frac{1}{3} & g_x \text{ for fermions} \end{cases}$

- In the non-relativistic limit ($m_x \gg T$)

$$g_x \simeq \exp\left(\frac{E - \mu}{T}\right) \quad \text{= Boltzmann distribution}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} n_x = g_x \left(\frac{m_x T}{2\pi} \right)^{3/2} \exp(-\mu/m_x T) \\ g_x = m_x n_x \end{array} \right.$$

It is convenient to introduce a dimensionless time variable $\chi \sim m_{\text{ref}}/t$ where m_{ref} is some reference mass. Within the freeze-out, it is convenient to take $m_{\text{ref}} = m_x$ and we define

$$\chi = \frac{m_x}{T}$$

In the follow up, we refer to a equilibrium density n, n^{eq} the equ density with $\mu = 0$:

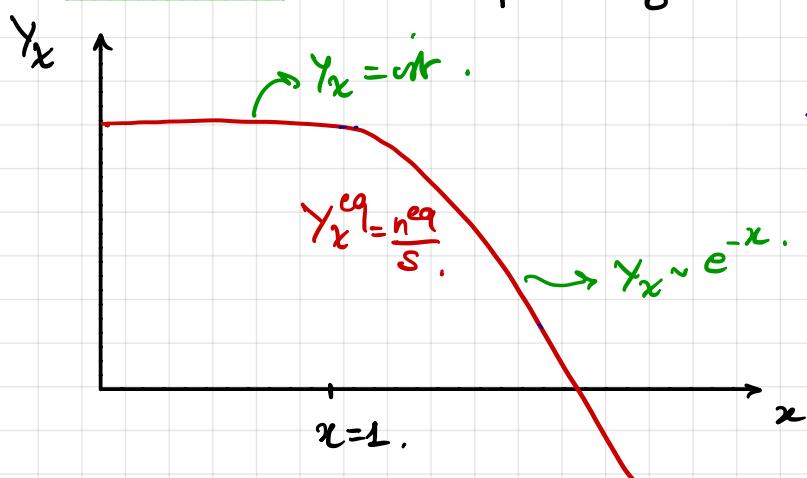
$$n_x^{\text{eq}}(\chi) = \frac{g_x}{2\pi^2} \frac{m_x^3}{\chi} K_2[\chi] = \begin{cases} g_x \frac{n}{2} \frac{\zeta(3)}{\pi^2} \frac{m_x^3}{\chi^3} & \text{for } \chi \ll 1 \\ g_x \frac{m_x^3}{(2\pi\chi)^{3/2}} e^{-\chi} & \text{for } \chi \gg 1. \end{cases}$$

Modified Bessel func of the 2d kind.

Let us now describe briefly the number density evolution in terms of the yield.

$$Y_x = \frac{n_x}{s}$$

which is again a dimensionless quantity.



Also, in the next section, we will want to account for $\Omega_x^0 h^2 \approx 0,12$ (Planck)

with

$$\Omega_x^0 h^2 = \frac{Y_x^0}{s_0} \times s_0 \times m_x$$

with

$$s_0 = 0,74 \text{ heff } 10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

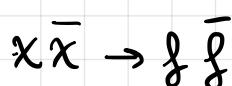
and we have assumed DM N.R. today because of large scale structures observations

$\rightarrow \text{inelastic } [f]$

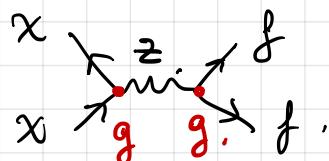
III.2.3. Inelastic scatterings and chemical decoupling

In addition to potentially fast momentum exchanges with the heat bath through elastic scatterings (see previous section), the DM might have inelastic interactions with particles of the heat bath such as, e.g. annihilations.

For our "toy" model, we would have e.g.:



inelastic processes.



$$\Gamma_{\text{ann}} \propto \sigma_{\text{ann}} \propto G_F$$

Chemical decoupling (CD) happens when these inelastic processes, or particle number density changing processes, become slower than the expansion rate of the universe: i.e.

$$\Gamma_{\text{inel}} \sim H(T_{\text{CD}})$$

Notice that for CD of N.R. DM of our toy model, you expect:

$$T_{\text{CD}} \sim \frac{m_X}{2S} > T_{\text{KD}} \sim \text{few MeV for 100 GeV particle.}$$

Let us refer to $\text{in} \leftrightarrow \text{fin} + x$ as all the possible processes giving rise to a variation of your dark matter number density:

$$\frac{1}{E_x} C_{\text{inel}}[f] = \frac{1}{2E_x} \int \prod_{\alpha} \left(\frac{d^3 p_{\alpha}}{(2\pi)^3 2E_{\alpha}} \right) (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(P_{\text{fin}} + p_x - P_{\text{in}}) \\ \times \left[|M|^2_{\text{in} \rightarrow \text{fin}+x} f_{\text{in}} (1 \pm f_x) (1 \pm f_{\text{fin}}) \right. \\ \left. - |M|^2_{\text{fin}+x \rightarrow \text{in}} f_{\text{fin}} f_x (1 \pm f_{\text{in}}) \right]$$

where the above notations correspond to:

- the α index is not a Lorentz index here but runs over all species in the in and fin state
- $P_{\text{fin}} = \sum_{\alpha \in \text{fin}} p_{\alpha}$; $P_{\text{in}} = \sum_{\alpha \in \text{in}} p_{\alpha}$.
ie P_{fin} is the sum of the 4-momenta of particles in the final state.
- $(1 \pm f_x)$ is a $\begin{cases} \text{Pauli-Blocking (PB, -)} \\ \text{Bose-Einstein enhancement (BE, +)} \end{cases}$ factors for $\begin{cases} \text{fermionic DM} \\ \text{bosonic} \end{cases}$

while $(1 \pm f_{\text{in}}), (1 \pm f_{\text{out}})$ correspond to a product of PB, BE factors for particles in the in or fin states.

- f_{in}, f_{fin} are the product of phase space distributions for particles in the $|in$ state.
- $|M|^2$ are the transition matrix element squared summed over in f_{in} states (no averaging)

Assuming 1) CP invariance so that

$$|M|^2 = |M|^2_{in \rightarrow out+x} = |M|^2_{out+x \rightarrow in}$$

and that 2) we consider cases without Bose condensation or Fermi degeneracy, i.e.

$$(1 \pm f_{in}) \approx 1.$$

The collision term, which we will refer to as $C[f]$ from now on, reduces to a simpler:

$$\frac{1}{E_x} C[f_x] = \frac{1}{2E_x} \int \pi d\left(\frac{d^3 p_x}{(2\pi)^3 2E_x}\right) (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_{fin} + p_x - p_{in}) \\ \times |M|^2 [f_{in} - f_{fin} f_x]$$

For the rest of the lecture, I will assume that 1) and 2) hold and I will use the above version of the Boltzmann eqn.