Evading Dark Matter Bounds through NLSP-Assisted Freeze-Out with Long-Lived Signatures

Sarif Khan
Chung-Ang University, Seoul

Based On: 2506.10618

29th International Summer Institute on Phenomenology of Elementary Particle Physics and Cosmology (SI 2025)

Aug 17 - 22, 2025, Yeosu, Korea

https://indico.ibs.re.kr/event/si2025



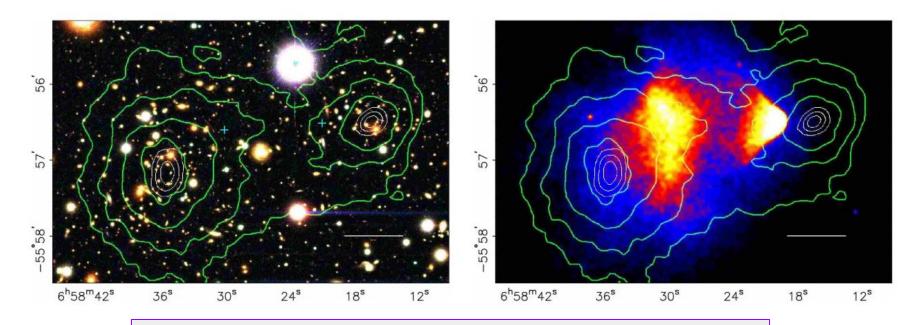




Tentative Plan

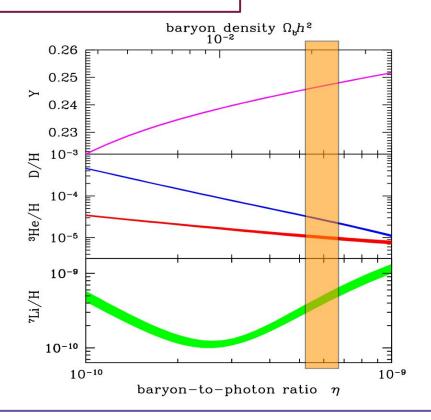
- Motivation for Dark Matter Study
- Dark matter status in direct detection
- Model Description
- Constraints
- Results
- Conclusion

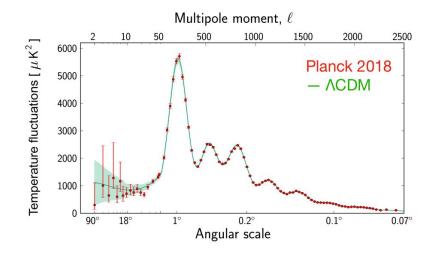
Bullet cluster 1E0657-558



- Bullet cluster is a recent merging of galaxy clusters.
- ➤ The gravitational potential is not produced by baryons, but by DM.
- ➤ Hot gas is collisional and loses energy, so lags behind DM.
- DM clusters are collisionless and passed through each other

BBN and **CMB**

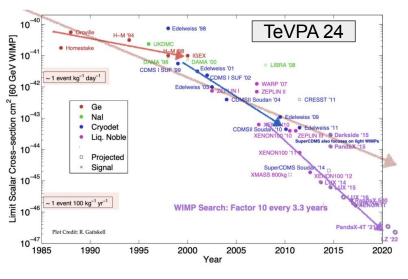


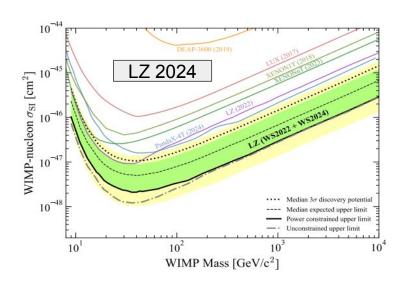


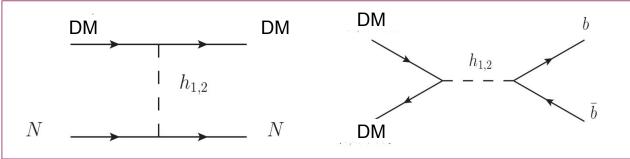
Parameter	Plik best fit	Plik[1]	CamSpec [2]	$([2] - [1])/\sigma_1$	Combined	
$\Omega_b h^2 \dots$	0.022383	0.02237 ± 0.00015	0.02229 ± 0.00015	-0.5	0.02233 ± 0.00015	
$\Omega_{\rm c}h^2$	0.12011	0.1200 ± 0.0012	0.1197 ± 0.0012	-0.3	0.1198 ± 0.0012	
$100\theta_{MC}$	1.040909	1.04092 ± 0.00031	1.04087 ± 0.00031	-0.2	1.04089 ± 0.00031	
τ	0.0543	0.0544 ± 0.0073	$0.0536^{+0.0069}_{-0.0077}$	-0.1	0.0540 ± 0.0074	
$ln(10^{10}A_s)$	3.0448	3.044 ± 0.014	3.041 ± 0.015	-0.3	3.043 ± 0.014	
$n_{\rm s}$	0.96605	0.9649 ± 0.0042	0.9656 ± 0.0042	+0.2	0.9652 ± 0.0042	
$\Omega_{\rm m}h^2$	0.14314	0.1430 ± 0.0011	0.1426 ± 0.0011	-0.3	0.1428 ± 0.0011	
H_0 [km s ⁻¹ Mpc ⁻¹]	67.32	67.36 ± 0.54	67.39 ± 0.54	+0.1	67.37 ± 0.54	
$\Omega_{\rm m}$	0.3158	0.3153 ± 0.0073	0.3142 ± 0.0074	-0.2	0.3147 ± 0.0074	
Age [Gyr]	13.7971	13.797 ± 0.023	13.805 ± 0.023	+0.4	13.801 ± 0.024	
$\sigma_8 \dots \dots$	0.8120	0.8111 ± 0.0060	0.8091 ± 0.0060	-0.3	0.8101 ± 0.0061	
$S_8 \equiv \sigma_8 (\Omega_{\rm m}/0.3)^{0.5}$	0.8331	0.832 ± 0.013	0.828 ± 0.013	-0.3	0.830 ± 0.013	
Z _{re}	7.68	7.67 ± 0.73	7.61 ± 0.75	-0.1	7.64 ± 0.74	
$100\theta_*$	1.041085	1.04110 ± 0.00031	1.04106 ± 0.00031	-0.1	1.04108 ± 0.00031	
$r_{\rm drag}$ [Mpc]	147.049	147.09 ± 0.26	147.26 ± 0.28	+0.6	147.18 ± 0.29	

LSS suggests without DM, density perturbations would start to grow only after recombination, so today there would not be structures.

Direct Detection in Present time







Standard Scenario is Tightly Constrained

Alternative Mechanisms ???

Particle Content in U1_B-L

Gauge	Ex	tra f	ermi	Extra scalars		
Group	ξ_{1L}	ξ_{2L}	χ_{1L}	χ_{2L}	ϕ_1	ϕ_2
$\mathrm{SU(2)_L}$	1	1	1	1	1	1
$\overline{\mathrm{U}(1)_{\mathrm{Y}}}$	0	0	0	0	0	0
$U(1)_{B-L}$	a	b	c	c	n	2n



Gauge Anomaly Conditions

$$[U(1)_{B-L}]^3 \rightarrow a^3 + b^3 - 2c^3 = 3,$$

$$[Gravity]^2 \times U(1)_{B-L} \rightarrow a + b - 2c = 3,$$

$$Yukawa terms \rightarrow a - c = 2n \text{ and } b - c = n.$$

Usual Type-I

$$(a, b, c, n) = (1, 0, -1, 1)$$
 and $\left(\frac{4}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, -\frac{2}{3}, 1\right)$.

$$\mathcal{V}(\phi_h, \phi_1, \phi_2) = -\mu_h^2 \left(\phi_h^{\dagger} \phi_h\right) + \lambda_h \left(\phi_h^{\dagger} \phi_h\right)^2 - \mu_1^2 \left(\phi_1^{\dagger} \phi_1\right) + \lambda_1 \left(\phi_1^{\dagger} \phi_1\right)^2 - \mu_2^2 \left(\phi_2^{\dagger} \phi_2\right)$$

$$+ \lambda_2 \left(\phi_2^{\dagger} \phi_2\right)^2 + \lambda_{h1} \left(\phi_h^{\dagger} \phi_h\right) \left(\phi_1^{\dagger} \phi_1\right) + \lambda_{h2} \left(\phi_h^{\dagger} \phi_h\right) \left(\phi_2^{\dagger} \phi_2\right)$$

$$+ \lambda_{12} \left(\phi_1^{\dagger} \phi_1\right) \left(\phi_2^{\dagger} \phi_2\right) + \mu \left(\phi_2 \phi_1^{\dagger 2} + \phi_2^{\dagger} \phi_1^2\right)$$

$$M_{scalar}^{2} = \begin{pmatrix} 2\lambda_{h}v_{h}^{2} & \lambda_{h1}v_{h}v_{1} & \lambda_{h2}v_{h}v_{2} \\ \lambda_{h1}v_{h}v_{1} & 2\lambda_{1}v_{1}^{2} & v_{1}\left(\sqrt{2}\mu + \lambda_{12}v_{2}\right) \\ \lambda_{h2}v_{h}v_{2} & v_{1}\left(\sqrt{2}\mu + \lambda_{12}v_{2}\right) & \left(-\frac{\mu v_{1}^{2}}{\sqrt{2}v_{2}} + 2\lambda_{2}v_{2}^{2}\right) \end{pmatrix}.$$

During SSB

$$\phi_h = \begin{pmatrix} G^+ \\ \frac{v+h+iG^0}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \phi_1 = \frac{v_1 + H_1 + iA_1}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad \phi_2 = \frac{v_2 + H_2 + iA_2}{\sqrt{2}}.$$

$$M_{CP-odd}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} -2\sqrt{2}\mu v_2 & \sqrt{2}\mu v_1 \\ \sqrt{2}\mu v_1 & -\frac{\mu v_1}{\sqrt{2}v_2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Fermionic Dark Matter

$$\mathcal{L}_{BL}^{Kin} = \sum_{\substack{X = \xi_{1L}, \xi_{2L}, \xi_{1R}, \chi_{2R} \\ +\beta_2 \bar{\xi}_{1L} \chi_{2R} \phi_2 + h.c.}} \bar{X} i \not D X + \alpha_1 \bar{\xi}_{1L} \chi_{1R} \phi_2 + \alpha_2 \bar{\xi}_{2L} \chi_{2R} \phi_1 + \beta_1 \bar{\xi}_{2L} \chi_{1R} \phi_1$$

$$\tan \theta_R = \frac{M_1 v_2 \beta_2 + M_2 v_1 \beta_1}{M_2 v_1 \alpha_2 - M_1 v_2 \alpha_1},$$

$$\tan \theta_L = \frac{M_1}{M_2} \frac{\alpha_1 \tan \theta_R + \beta_1}{\alpha_1 - \beta_2 \tan \theta_R}.$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\xi\chi} = \left(\bar{\xi}_{1L} \ \bar{\xi}_{2L}\right) \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\alpha_1 v_2}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{\beta_2 v_2}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{\beta_1 v_1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{\alpha_2 v_1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \chi_{1R} \\ \chi_{2R} \end{pmatrix} + h.c.$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\psi}^{Yuk} = \sum_{i=1,2,3} \alpha_{11i} \bar{\psi}_{1L} \psi_{1R} h_i + \sum_{i=1,2,3} \alpha_{12i} \bar{\psi}_{1L} \psi_{2R} h_i + \sum_{i=1,2,3} \alpha_{21i} \bar{\psi}_{2L} \psi_{1R} h_i$$

$$+ \sum_{i=1,2,3} \alpha_{22i} \bar{\psi}_{2L} \psi_{2R} h_i + i \alpha_{11A} \bar{\psi}_{1L} \psi_{1R} A + i \alpha_{12A} \bar{\psi}_{1L} \psi_{2R} A + i \alpha_{21A} \bar{\psi}_{2L} \psi_{1R} A$$

$$+ i \alpha_{22A} \bar{\psi}_{2L} \psi_{2R} A + h.c. .$$

$$\alpha_{11i} = \frac{M_1}{\sqrt{2}v_1v_2} [U_{3i}v_1 + U_{2i}v_2 + (U_{3i}v_1 - U_{2i}v_2)\cos 2\theta_L] ,$$

$$\alpha_{12i} = \frac{\sqrt{2}M_2}{v_1v_2} [(U_{3i}v_1 - U_{2i}v_2)\cos \theta_L \sin \theta_L] ,$$

$$\alpha_{21i} = \frac{\sqrt{2}M_1}{v_1v_2} [(U_{3i}v_1 - U_{2i}v_2)\cos \theta_L \sin \theta_L] ,$$

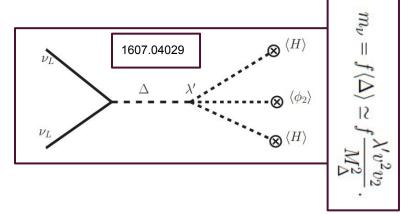
$$\alpha_{22i} = \frac{M_2}{\sqrt{2}v_1v_2} [U_{3i}v_1 + U_{2i}v_2 + (-U_{3i}v_1 + U_{2i}v_2)\cos 2\theta_L] .$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\psi Z_{BL}} = -\frac{g_{BL}}{3} \left[\bar{\psi}_1 \gamma^{\mu} \left((3\cos^2 \theta_L + 1) P_L - 2P_R \right) \psi_1 + \bar{\psi}_2 \gamma^{\mu} \left((3\sin^2 \theta_L + 1) P_L - 2P_R \right) \psi_2 \right.$$

$$\left. + \left. \bar{\psi}_1 \gamma^{\mu} (2\sin^2 \theta_L) P_L \psi_2 + \bar{\psi}_2 \gamma^{\mu} (2\sin^2 \theta_L) P_L \psi_1 \right] Z_{BL\mu} \,. \tag{1}$$

Neutrino Mass

$$\mathcal{L}_{Neutrino} = \kappa_{ij} \frac{(L_i \phi_h) (L_j \phi_h)}{\Lambda} \frac{\phi_1^2}{\Lambda^2} + \kappa'_{ij} \frac{(L_i \phi_h) (L_j \phi_h)}{\Lambda} \frac{\phi_2}{\Lambda} + h.c..$$



With additional gauge symmetry and scalar

1805.00568

$$L_{ISS} = \sum_{\alpha,\beta=\alpha,\nu,\tau} m_D^{\alpha\beta} \overline{\nu}_{\alpha} N_{\beta} + \overline{N_{\alpha}^c} M_N^{\alpha\beta} N_{\beta}' + \overline{N_{\alpha}'^c} \mu^{\alpha\beta} N_{\beta}' + h.c.$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{N} = y_{e1}\bar{L}_{e}\tilde{\phi}_{h}N_{1}\frac{\phi_{2}}{\Lambda} + y_{e2}\bar{L}_{e}\tilde{\phi}_{h}N_{2} + y_{e3}\bar{L}_{e}\tilde{\phi}_{h}N_{3}\frac{\phi_{1}}{\Lambda} + y_{\mu1}\bar{L}_{\mu}\tilde{\phi}_{h}N_{1}\frac{\phi_{2}}{\Lambda} + y_{\mu2}\bar{L}_{\mu}\tilde{\phi}_{h}N_{2}$$

$$+ y_{\mu3}\bar{L}_{\mu}\tilde{\phi}_{h}N_{3}\frac{\phi_{1}}{\Lambda} + y_{\tau1}\bar{L}_{\tau}\tilde{\phi}_{h}N_{1}\frac{\phi_{2}}{\Lambda} + y_{\tau2}\bar{L}_{\tau}\tilde{\phi}_{h}N_{2} + y_{\tau3}\bar{L}_{\tau}\tilde{\phi}_{h}N_{3}\frac{\phi_{1}}{\Lambda} + Y_{11}N_{1}N_{1}\phi_{2}$$

$$+ Y_{12}N_{1}N_{2}\phi_{2} + Y_{13}N_{1}N_{3}\phi_{2} + Y_{22}N_{2}N_{2}\phi_{2} + Y_{23}N_{2}N_{3}\phi_{1} + M_{33}N_{3}N_{3} + h.c..$$

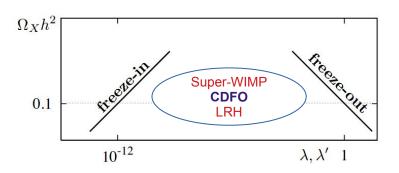
$$\mathcal{L}_{N-mass} = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\nu}_{L\,i}^c & \bar{N}_i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D \\ m_D^T & M_R \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{L\,i} \\ N_i^c \end{pmatrix} + h.c.$$

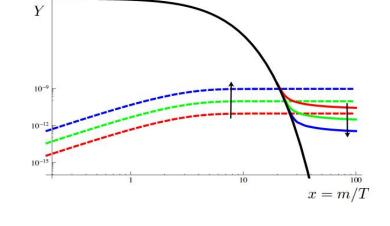
 $m_{\nu} \simeq -m_D^T M_R^{-1} m_D \,, \quad M_N \simeq M_R$

Constraints

- → Checked gauge anomaly condition -> To keep the symmetry
- → Perturbativity Bound -> We can ignore higher order terms
- → Potential Bound from Below -> To make potential bounded for high field value
- → Direct Detection Bound -> Severe bound from LUX-ZEPLIN
- → Indirect Detection Bound -> Naturally small in present work
- → Collider Bound mainly SM Higgs -> Higgs signal strength and Invisible decay
- → BBN bound -> Decay before BBN time
- → Oblique parameters -> safe for the allowed mixing angle after Higgs data

DM Production Mechanisms

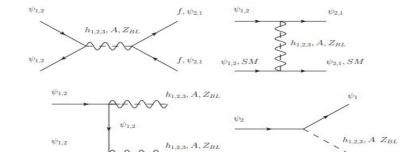




- WIMP DM is easy to detect but no signal puts bound on its parameter space.
- FIMP DM is difficult to probe in different experiments due to its feeble interaction.
- In this work, we focus on production via conversion NLSP <-> DM.

- In the present work we have CDFO.
- The relic density can be fixed at any order of the DM direct coupling.
- DM is safe from all existing bounds naturally.

Contributing Diagrams and BE



$$Y_{\psi_1}^{eq} = \frac{45z^2}{2\pi^2 g_s(M_{\psi_1}/z)} K_2(z), \quad Y_{\psi_2}^{eq} = \frac{45z^2}{2\pi^2 g_s(M_{\psi_1}/z)} K_2\left(\frac{M_{\psi_2}}{M_{\psi_1}}z\right)$$

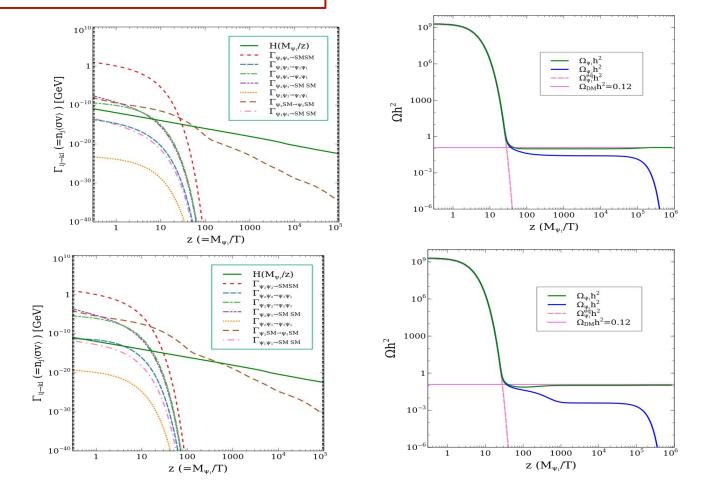
Figure 3: Diagrams relevant in setting the DM and NLSP abundances.

$$\frac{dY_{\psi_{1}}}{dz} = -\frac{s}{Hz} \left[\langle \sigma v \rangle_{\psi_{1}\psi_{1} \to f\bar{f}} \left(Y_{\psi_{1}}^{2} - (Y_{\psi_{1}}^{eq})^{2} \right) + \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\psi_{1}\psi_{2} \to f\bar{f}} \left(Y_{\psi_{1}} Y_{\psi_{2}} - Y_{\psi_{1}}^{eq} Y_{\psi_{2}}^{eq} \right) \right]
- \frac{\Gamma_{\psi_{2} \to \psi_{1}}}{s(T)} \left(Y_{\psi_{2}} - Y_{\psi_{1}} \frac{Y_{\psi_{2}}^{eq}}{Y_{\psi_{1}}^{eq}} \right) - \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\psi_{2}\psi_{2} \to \psi_{1}\psi_{1}} \left(Y_{\psi_{2}}^{2} - \frac{(Y_{\psi_{2}}^{eq})^{2}}{(Y_{\psi_{1}}^{eq})^{2}} Y_{\psi_{1}}^{2} \right) - \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\psi_{1}\psi_{2} \to \psi_{1}\psi_{1}} \left(Y_{\psi_{1}} Y_{\psi_{2}} - \frac{Y_{\psi_{2}}^{eq}}{Y_{\psi_{1}}^{eq}} Y_{\psi_{1}} \right) \right] ,$$

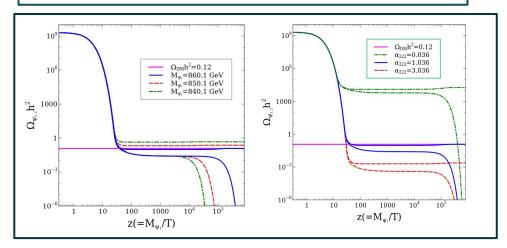
$$- \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\psi_{2}\psi_{2} \to \psi_{1}\psi_{2}} \left(Y_{\psi_{2}}^{2} - \frac{Y_{\psi_{2}}^{eq}}{Y_{\psi_{1}}} Y_{\psi_{1}} Y_{\psi_{2}} \right) - \frac{\widetilde{\Gamma}_{\psi_{2} \to \psi_{1}X}}{s(T)} \left(Y_{\psi_{2}} - \frac{Y_{\psi_{2}}^{eq}}{Y_{\psi_{1}}} Y_{\psi_{1}} \right) \right] ,$$

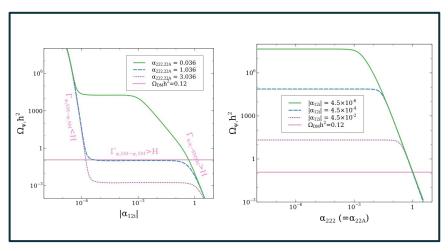
$$\frac{dY_{\psi_{2}}}{dz} = -\frac{s}{Hz} \left[\langle \sigma v \rangle_{\psi_{2}\psi_{2} \to f\bar{f}} \left(Y_{\psi_{2}}^{2} - (Y_{\psi_{2}}^{eq})^{2} \right) + \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\psi_{1}\psi_{2} \to f\bar{f}} \left(Y_{\psi_{1}} Y_{\psi_{2}} - Y_{\psi_{1}}^{eq} Y_{\psi_{2}} \right) \right] \\
+ \frac{\Gamma_{\psi_{2} \to \psi_{1}}}{s(T)} \left(Y_{\psi_{2}} - Y_{\psi_{1}} \frac{Y_{\psi_{2}}^{eq}}{Y_{\psi_{1}}} \right) + \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\psi_{2}\psi_{2} \to \psi_{1}\psi_{1}} \left(Y_{\psi_{2}}^{2} - \frac{(Y_{\psi_{2}}^{eq})^{2}}{(Y_{\psi_{1}}^{eq})^{2}} Y_{\psi_{1}}^{2} \right) + \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\psi_{1}\psi_{2} \to \psi_{1}\psi_{1}} \left(Y_{\psi_{1}} Y_{\psi_{2}} - \frac{Y_{\psi_{2}}^{eq}}{Y_{\psi_{1}}^{eq}} Y_{\psi_{1}} \right) \\
+ \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\psi_{2}\psi_{2} \to \psi_{1}\psi_{2}} \left(Y_{\psi_{2}}^{2} - \frac{Y_{\psi_{2}}^{eq}}{Y_{\psi_{1}}^{eq}} Y_{\psi_{1}} Y_{\psi_{2}} \right) + \frac{\widetilde{\Gamma}_{\psi_{2} \to \psi_{1}X}}{s(T)} \left(Y_{\psi_{2}} - \frac{Y_{\psi_{2}}^{eq}}{Y_{\psi_{1}}^{eq}} Y_{\psi_{1}} \right) \right].$$
(20)

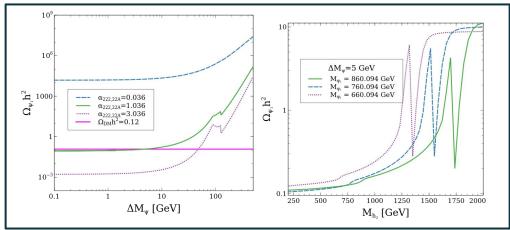
Contribution of different Channels

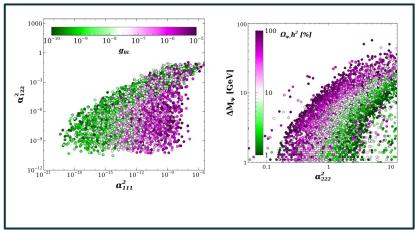


DM relic density response with model parameters

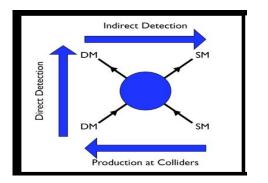


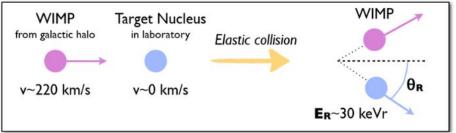




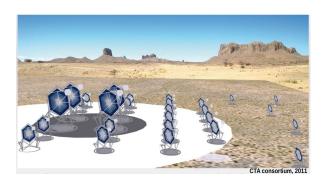


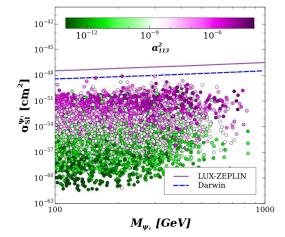
Direct and Indirect Detections

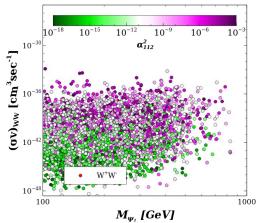




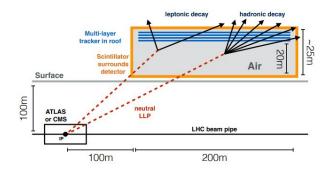


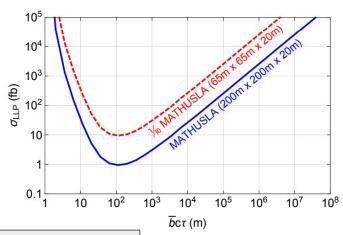


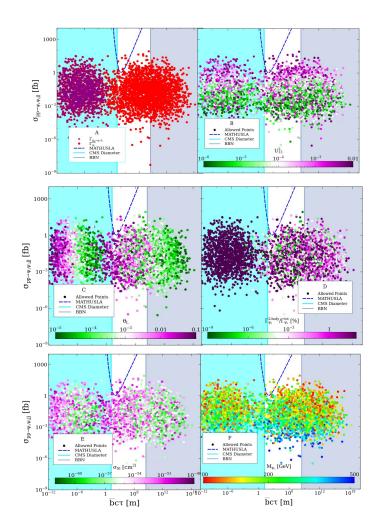




Detection at MATHUSLA

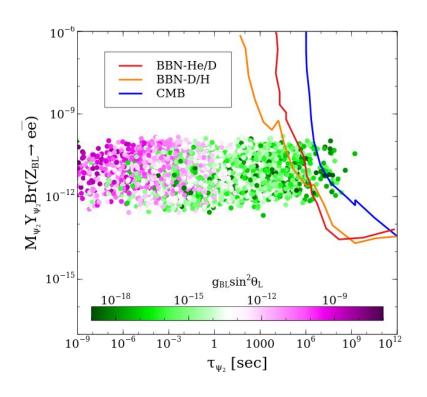


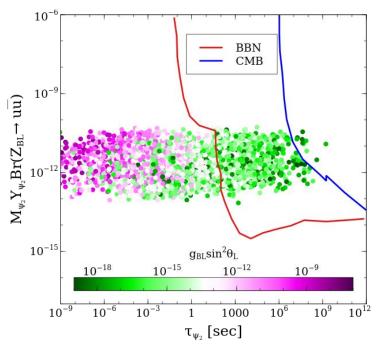




MATHUSLA: 1806.07396

BBN Bound





Conclusion

- ★ Studied fermionic dark matter produced from NLSP assisted freeze-out and super WIMP.
- ★ DM remains in thermal equilibrium for longer due to NLSP SM <-> DM SM interaction.
- ★ Direct detection is naturally suppressed.
- ★ Indirect detection is suppressed by velocity square due to fermionic DM.
- ★ We have studied possible detection prospects of DM at MATHUSLA.
- ★ Potential effect on the successful BBN predictions.

Thank you for listening

