

Inflationary and Post-Inflationary Scalar Dark Matter Production

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+ Mathias Pierre (DESY) and Sarunas Verner (Florida)

2206.08940, 2303.07359, 2305.14446



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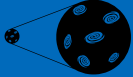


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1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



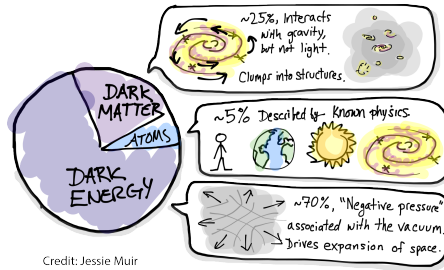
4. Limits



5. Prospects

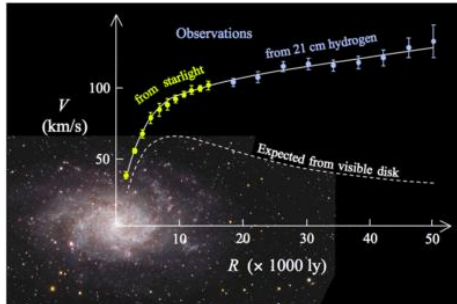


Dark Matter

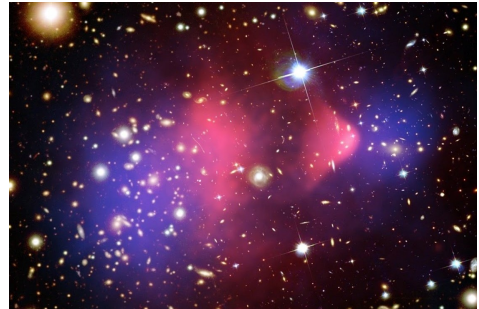


Credit: Jessie Muir

galaxy rotation



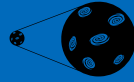
collisions of clusters



1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



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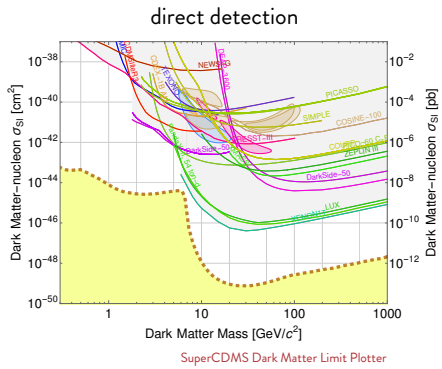
4. Limits



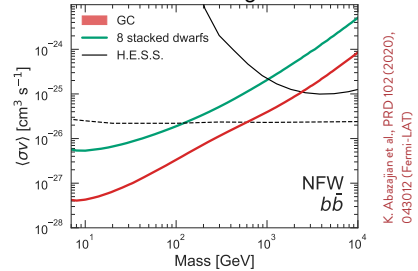
5. Prospects



Non-gravitational detection

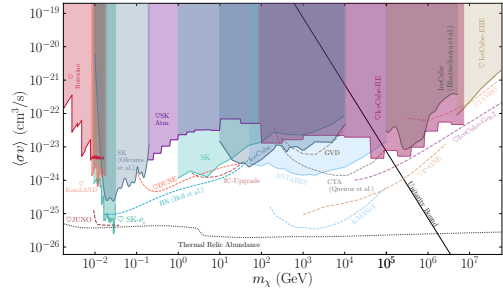


annihilations in the galactic core



K. Abazajian et al., PRD 102 (2020), 043012 (Fermi-LAT)

annihilations to neutrinos

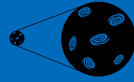


C. Argüelles et al., arXiv:1912.09486 [hep-ph]

1. Dark Matter



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3. Production



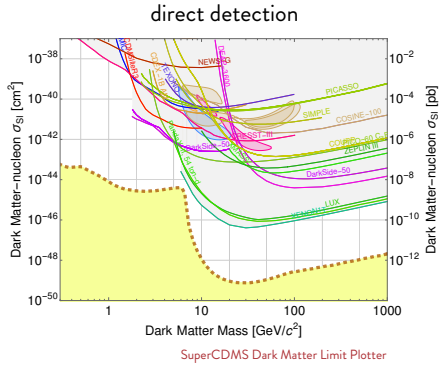
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5. Prospects



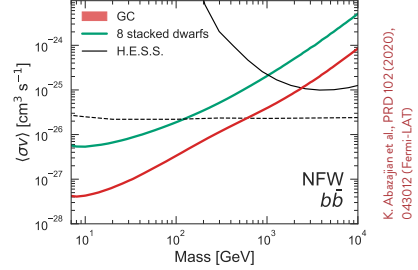
Non-gravitational detection



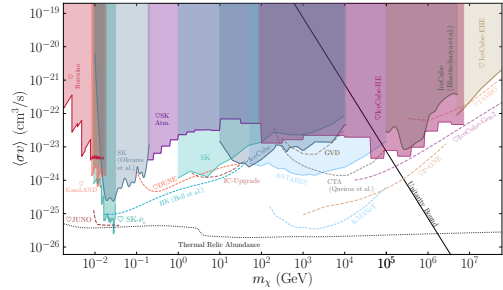
DARK MATTER

- ☒ GRAVITY
- ☒ ELECTROMAGNETISM
- ☒ WEAK FORCE
- ☒ STRONG FORCE

annihilations in the galactic core



annihilations to neutrinos



1. Dark Matter



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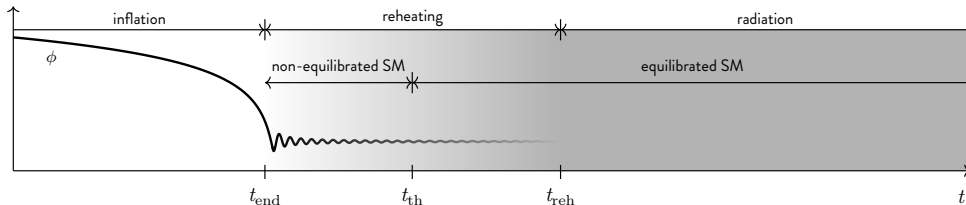
4. Limits



5. Prospects



Inflation and reheating



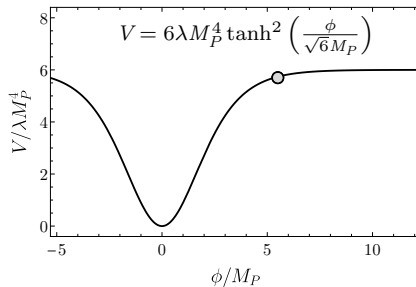
Inflation: a slowly rolling scalar field in FRW, $ds^2 = dt^2 - a(t)^2 d\mathbf{x}^2$

$$\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} + V'(\phi) = 0$$

$$H \equiv \frac{\dot{a}}{a} = \left(\frac{\rho_{\phi}}{3M_P^2} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\frac{1}{2}\dot{\phi}^2 + V(\phi) = \rho_{\phi}$$

$$\frac{1}{2}\dot{\phi}^2 - V(\phi) = p_{\phi}$$



R. Kallosh and A. Linde,
JCAP 10 (2013), 033

1. Dark Matter



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3. Production



4. Limits

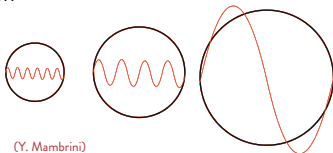


5. Prospects

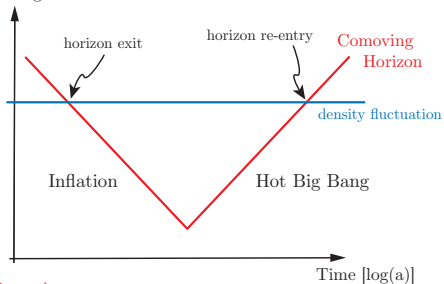


Primordial fluctuations

Quantum fluctuations in ϕ , g are stretched by the expansion

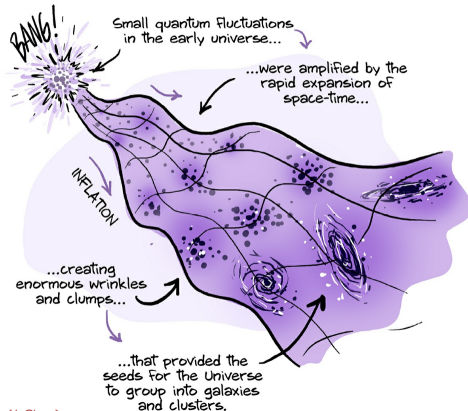


Comoving Scales



(D. Baumann)

HOW QUANTUM FLUCTUATIONS GAVE THE UNIVERSE STRUCTURE:



(J. Cham)

1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



4. Limits

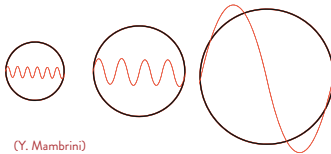


5. Prospects



Primordial fluctuations

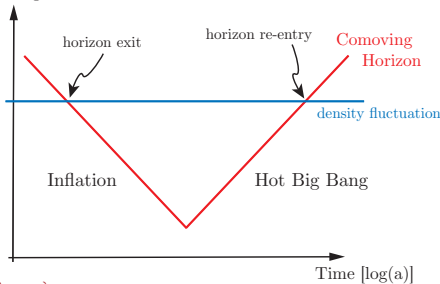
Quantum fluctuations in ϕ , g are stretched by the expansion



$$\text{Curvature: } \mathcal{R} = \frac{1}{2}\delta g^{00} + \frac{H}{\dot{\phi}}\delta\phi$$

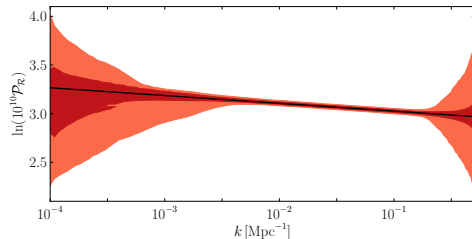
$$\langle \mathcal{R}(k)\mathcal{R}^*(k') \rangle = \frac{2\pi^2}{k^3} \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{R}} \delta(k - k')$$

Comoving Scales



(D. Baumann)

Planck TT, TE, EE + lowE + lensing + BK15 (■ 1σ, ■ 2σ)



Y. Akrami et al. [Planck], Astron. Astrophys. 641 (2020) A10

1. Dark Matter



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4. Limits

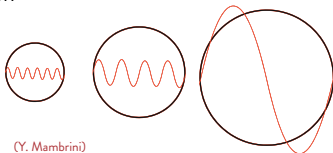


5. Prospects

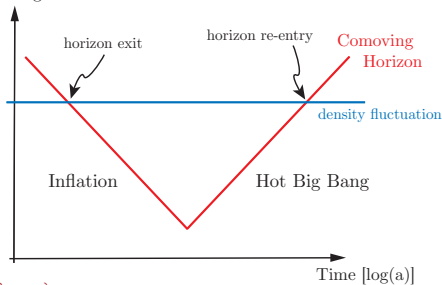


Primordial fluctuations

Quantum fluctuations in ϕ , g are stretched by the expansion



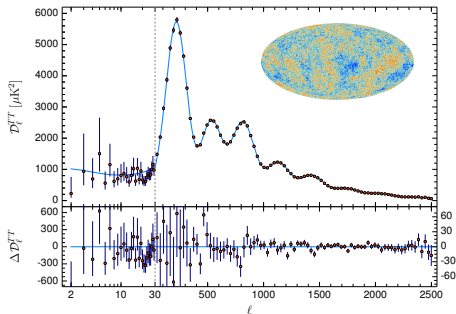
Comoving Scales



(D. Baumann)

$$\text{Curvature: } \mathcal{R} = \frac{1}{2}\delta g^{00} + \frac{H}{\dot{\phi}}\delta\phi$$

T -fluctuations in the CMB

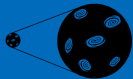


$$\mathcal{D}_\ell^{TT} = \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{\pi^2} \int_0^\infty dk k^2 \mathcal{P}_\mathcal{R}(k) |\tilde{T}_\ell(k)|^2$$

1. Dark Matter



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Curvature and inflaton couplings

General relativity can be obtained from a stationary-action principle

$$\mathcal{S} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[-\frac{1}{2} M_P^2 R + \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} \right] \xrightarrow{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}^{(\text{SM})}$$

A simple DM model: **scalar (spin 0) and only interacts with gravity and/or the inflaton**

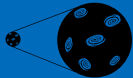
$$\mathcal{S} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[\underbrace{-\frac{1}{2} M_P^2 R}_{\text{Einstein-Hilbert term}} + \underbrace{-\frac{1}{2} \xi \chi^2 R}_{\text{non-minimal coupling}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \chi)^2}_{\text{kinetic term}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} m_\chi^2 \chi^2}_{\text{mass term}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \sigma \phi^2 \chi^2}_{\phi\text{-coupling}} + \dots \right]$$

Non-minimal couplings are generated by quantum corrections even if they are not present in the classical action

1. Dark Matter



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5. Prospects



QFT in the early universe

Introducing *conformal time*, $dt = a d\tau$, and the re-scaled field $X = a\chi$,

$$\left(\partial_\tau^2 - \nabla^2 + a^2 m_{\text{eff}}^2 \right) X = 0, \quad m_{\text{eff}}^2 = m_\chi^2 + \sigma \phi^2 + \frac{1}{6}(1 - 6\xi)R$$

Quantize as a superposition of oscillators

$$\hat{X}(\tau, \mathbf{x}) = \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}} \left[X_k(\tau) \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}} + X_k^*(\tau) \hat{a}_{-\mathbf{k}}^\dagger \right], \quad [\hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}}, \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}'}^\dagger] = \delta(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}'), \quad \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}}|0\rangle = 0$$

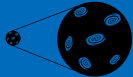
obtaining

$$X_k'' + \omega_k^2 X_k = 0, \quad \text{with} \quad \omega_k^2 = k^2 + a^2 m_{\text{eff}}^2$$

1. Dark Matter



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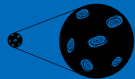
For a mode **inside** the horizon,

$$\omega_k^2 = \underbrace{k^2}_{\text{free particle}} + \mathcal{O}\left(\underbrace{\frac{a^2 H^2}{k^2}}_{\text{interactions}}\right) > 0$$

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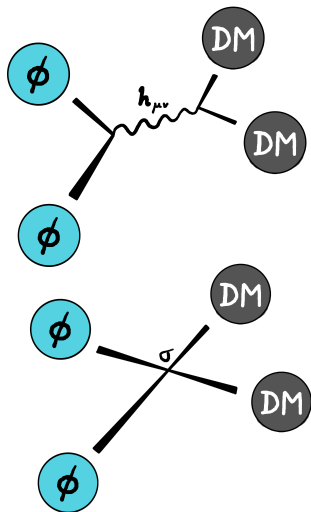


5. Prospects



Perturbative DM production

The perturbative picture: inflaton, gravity and dark matter as (quasi)particles



1. Build the free particle and condensate states

$$|\text{DM}; \mathbf{P}\rangle, \quad |\phi\rangle$$

2. Linearize the interactions

$$\mathcal{L}_I = -\frac{1}{M_P} h_{\mu\nu} \left(T_{\phi}^{\mu\nu} + T_{\chi}^{\mu\nu} \right) - \frac{\sigma}{2} \phi^2 \chi^2$$

3. Compute the annihilation amplitude

$$|\langle \text{DM}; \mathbf{P}, \mathbf{P}' | \exp \left(i \int d^4 x \mathcal{L}_I \right) | \phi \rangle|^2 \propto |\mathcal{M}|^2$$

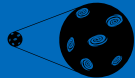
4. Solve the Boltzmann equation

$$\frac{\partial f_{\chi}}{\partial t} - H|\mathbf{P}| \frac{\partial f_{\chi}}{\partial |\mathbf{P}|} = \frac{\pi |\mathcal{M}|^2}{2m_{\phi}^2} \delta(|\mathbf{P}| - m_{\phi})$$

1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



4. Limits

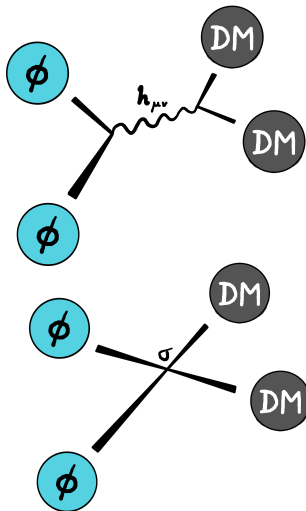


5. Prospects



Perturbative DM production

The perturbative picture: inflaton, gravity and dark matter as (quasi)particles



The amplitude is

$$|\mathcal{M}|^2 = \frac{1}{8} \frac{\rho_\phi^2}{m_\phi^4} \hat{\sigma}^2$$

where

$$\hat{\sigma} \equiv \sigma - \lambda(1 - 6\xi)$$

The Phase Space Distribution is

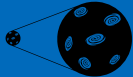
$$f_\chi(q, t) = \frac{\sqrt{3}\pi\hat{\sigma}^2\rho_{\text{end}}^{3/2}M_P}{16m_\phi^7} \left(\frac{H_{\text{end}}}{m_\phi} q\right)^{-9/2} \theta(q-1) \\ \times \theta\left(\frac{a(t)}{a_{\text{end}}} - \frac{H_{\text{end}}}{m_\phi} q\right)$$

$$\text{with } q \equiv \frac{|\mathbf{P}|}{T_\star} \left(\frac{a}{a_{\text{end}}}\right), \quad T_\star \equiv H_{\text{end}}$$

1. Dark Matter



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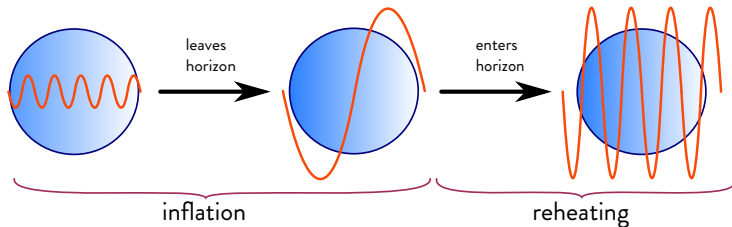
Gravitational particle production during inflation

Light scalar fields are unstable during inflation

$$X_k'' + \omega_k^2 X_k = 0, \quad \text{with} \quad \omega_k^2 = k^2 + 2(aH)^2 \left[\frac{m_\chi^2}{2H^2} + \frac{\sigma\phi^2}{2H^2} - 1 + 6\xi \right]$$

For a mode that is **outside** the horizon ($k/aH \ll 1$),

$$\omega_k^2 < 0 \quad \text{if} \quad m_\chi^2 < 2H^2, \quad \sigma/\lambda \ll 1, \quad \text{and} \quad \xi < 1/6 \quad (\text{tachyonic instability})$$

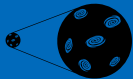


No free particle state during inflation $\Rightarrow$ no perturbative picture

1. Dark Matter



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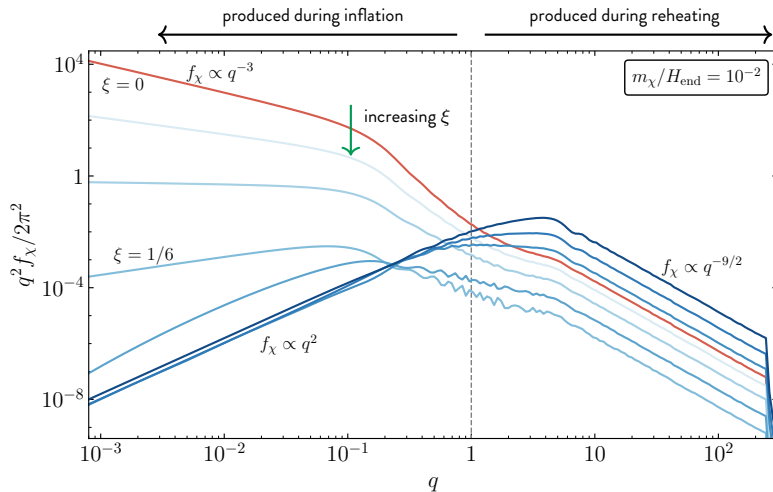
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Gravitational production

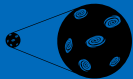


$$f_\chi \propto q^{-2\nu}, \quad \nu = \sqrt{9/4 - 12\xi - m_\chi^2/H^2}$$

1. Dark Matter



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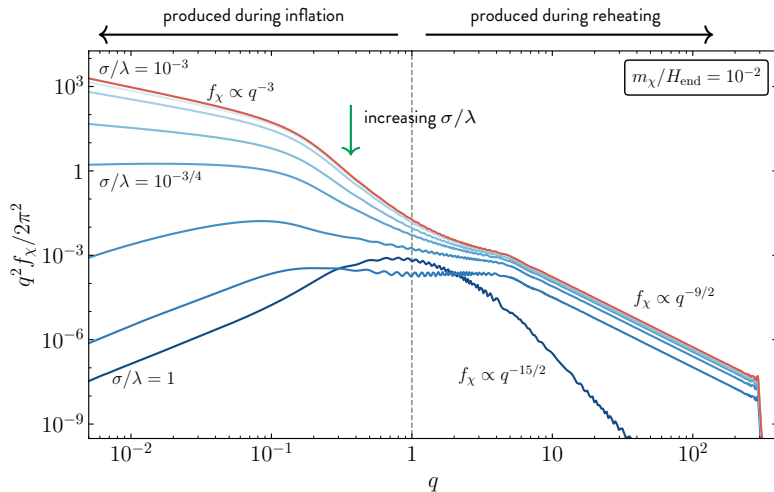
4. Limits



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Weak inflaton coupling

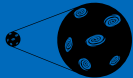


Inexact interference for $\sigma/\lambda = 1$

1. Dark Matter



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4. Limits



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Strong inflaton coupling

Linear regime: The inflaton remains a condensate $\Rightarrow$ Hartree approximation

$$\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} + V_{\phi} + \sigma\langle\chi^2\rangle\phi = 0$$

$$\langle\chi^2\rangle = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3 a^2} \int d^3\mathbf{p} \left(|X_p|^2 - \frac{1}{2\omega_p} \right)$$

L. Kofman, A. Linde, A. Starobinsky, PRD 56 (1997) 3258

MG, K. Kaneta, Y. Mambrini, K. Olive, S. Verner, JCAP 03 (2022) 016

Non-linear regime: The inflaton is fragmented $\Rightarrow$ (Cosmo)Lattice

$$\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} - \frac{\nabla^2\phi}{a^2} + V_{,\phi} = 0$$

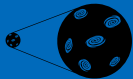
$$\ddot{\chi} + 3H\dot{\chi} - \frac{\nabla^2\chi}{a^2} + V_{,\chi} = 0$$

D. Figueroa, et al., Comput. Phys. Commun. 283, 108586 (2023)

1. Dark Matter



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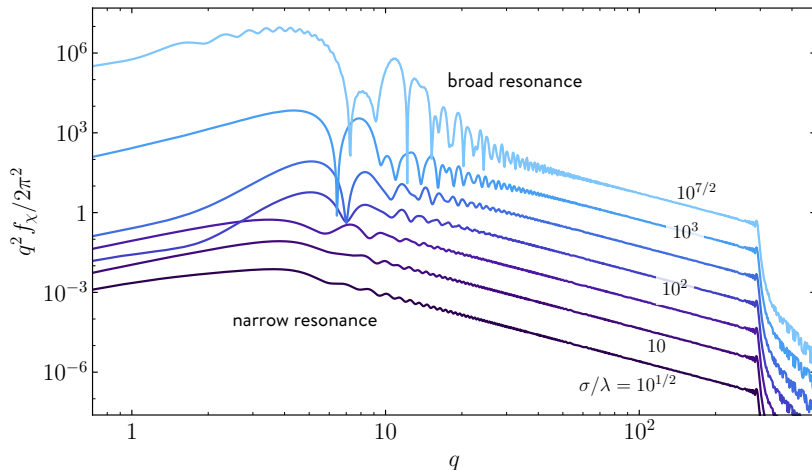


5. Prospects



Linear regime

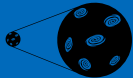
Appearance of parametric resonance, $f_\chi(p) \sim e^{2\mu_p m_\phi t}$



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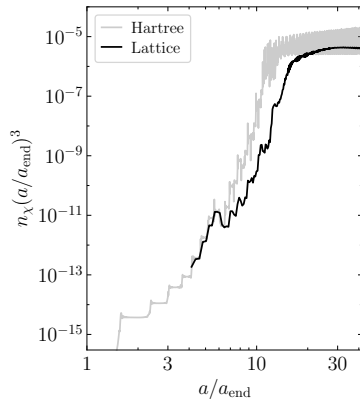
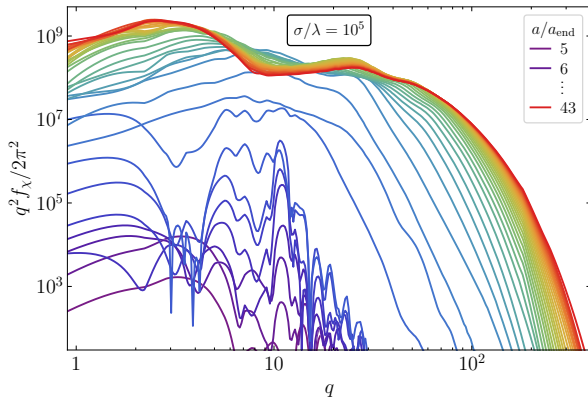
5. Prospects



Non-linear regime

Re-scattering leads to a broader distribution with pseudo-thermal tail for ϕ and χ

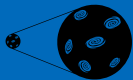
$$f_{\chi} \sim e^{-\alpha(\sigma/\lambda;t)q} \quad \text{in the UV}$$



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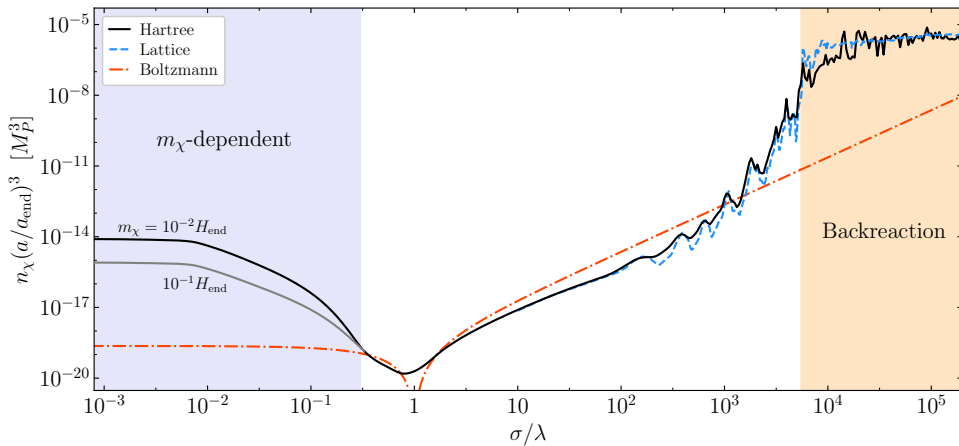


5. Prospects



Number densities

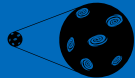
The Boltzmann approximation has a *very limited* range of validity



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5. Prospects



Relic abundance, gravitational production

If $m_\chi \ll H_{\text{end}}$ and $\xi \ll 1$,

$$\Omega_{\text{DM}} \simeq \frac{\rho_\chi}{\rho_c}$$

$$\propto \frac{m_\chi T_{\text{reh}}}{M_P^2} \underbrace{\int dq q^2 f_\chi(q)}_{\propto m_\chi^{-1}}$$

20 GeV

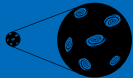


$m_\chi :$

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Relic abundance, gravitational production

If $m_\chi \ll H_{\text{end}}$ and $\xi \gtrsim 1/6$,

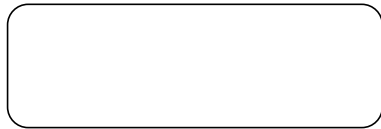
$$\Omega_{\text{DM}} \simeq \frac{\rho_\chi}{\rho_c}$$

$$\propto \frac{m_\chi T_{\text{reh}}}{M_P^2} \underbrace{\int dq q^2 f_\chi(q)}_{F(\xi)}$$

increasing m_χ

A blue arrow pointing downwards, indicating that as m_χ increases, the relic abundance decreases.

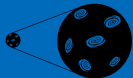
$m_\chi :$



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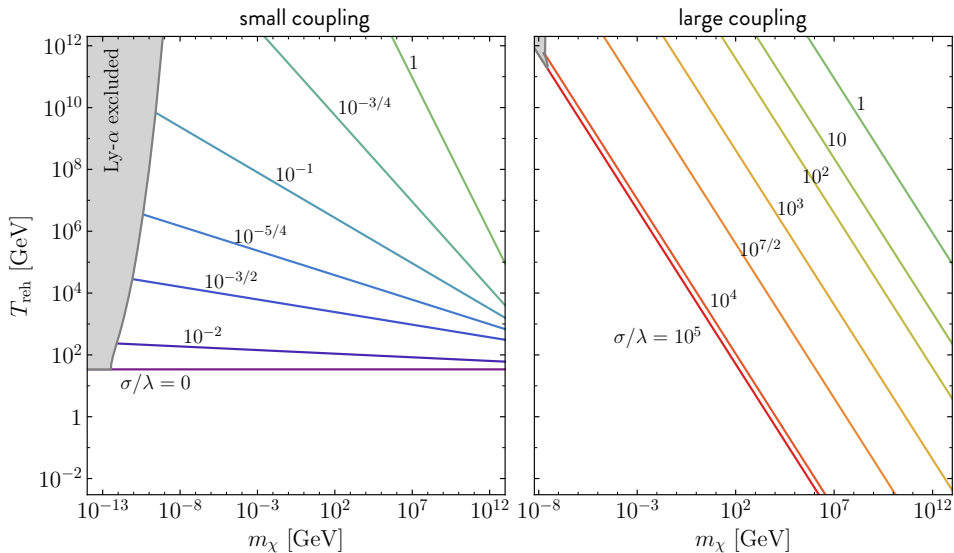
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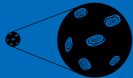
Relic abundance, inflaton decay



1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



4. Limits



5. Prospects



Isocurvature

Adiabatic perturbations: a single dynamical variable fixes the inhomogeneities

$$\delta\phi(\mathbf{x}, t) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{R}} \delta\rho_\gamma(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

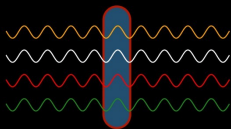
$$\delta\phi(\mathbf{x}, t) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{R}} \delta\rho_{\text{DM}}(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

The relative entropy is

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{DM},\gamma} = -3H \left(\frac{\delta\rho_\gamma}{\dot{\rho}_\gamma} - \frac{\delta\rho_{\text{DM}}}{\dot{\rho}_{\text{DM}}} \right) = 0$$

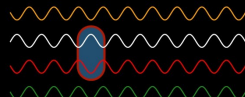
Original image by Dan Grin

Adiabatic

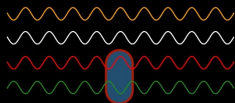


Neutrinos
CDM
Photons
Baryons

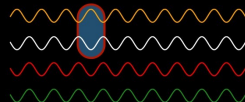
Dark matter
isocurvature



Baryon
isocurvature



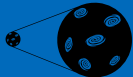
Neutrino
isocurvature



1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



4. Limits



5. Prospects



Isocurvature

Isocurvature perturbations: several dynamical variables fix the inhomogeneities

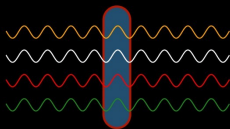
$$\delta\phi(\mathbf{x}, t) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{R}} \delta\rho_\gamma(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

$$\delta\chi(\mathbf{x}, t) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{S}} \delta\rho_{\text{DM}}(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

The relative entropy is

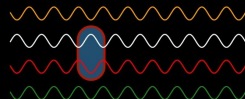
$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{DM},\gamma} = -3H \left(\frac{\delta\rho_\gamma}{\dot{\rho}_\gamma} - \frac{\delta\rho_{\text{DM}}}{\dot{\rho}_{\text{DM}}} \right) \neq 0$$

Adiabatic

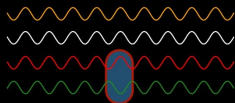


Neutrinos
CDM
Photons
Baryons

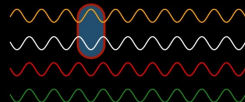
Dark matter
isocurvature



Baryon
isocurvature



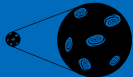
Neutrino
isocurvature



1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



4. Limits



5. Prospects



Isocurvature in the CMB

Isocurvatures would leave an imprint in the CMB

CDI: cold dark matter density isocurvature

NDI: neutrino density isocurvature

NVI: neutrino velocity isocurvature

However, they have not been detected,

$$\beta_{\text{iso}} = \frac{\mathcal{P}_S}{\mathcal{P}_R + \mathcal{P}_S} < \begin{cases} 2.5\% \text{ (CDI)} \\ 7.4\% \text{ (NDI)} \\ 6.8\% \text{ (NVI)} \end{cases}$$

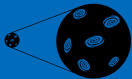
This constraint applies only at
large scales ($k_* = 0.002 \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$)

At smaller scales, $\beta_{\text{iso}} \rightarrow 0$

1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



4. Limits

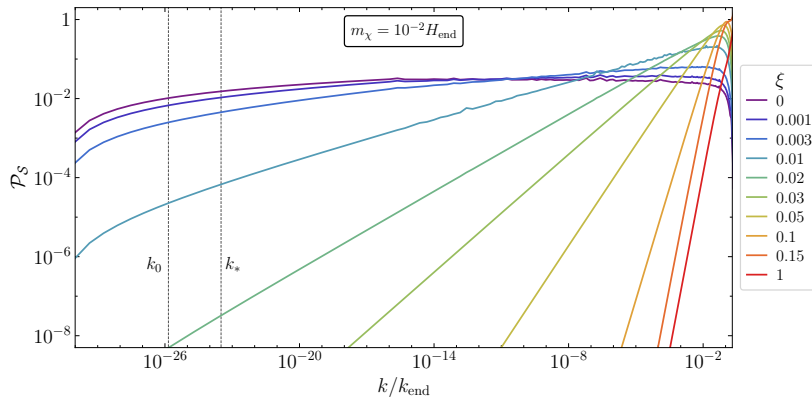


5. Prospects



Isocurvature in gravitational production

The growth of χ fluctuations during inflation sources isocurvature

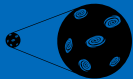


$$\mathcal{P}_S(k) = \frac{k^3}{2\pi^2 \rho_\chi^2} \int d^3 \mathbf{x} \langle \delta \rho_\chi(\mathbf{x}) \delta \chi(0) \rangle e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} m_\chi &\gtrsim 0.54 H_{\text{inf}} \\ \xi &\gtrsim 0.03 \end{aligned}$$

1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



4. Limits

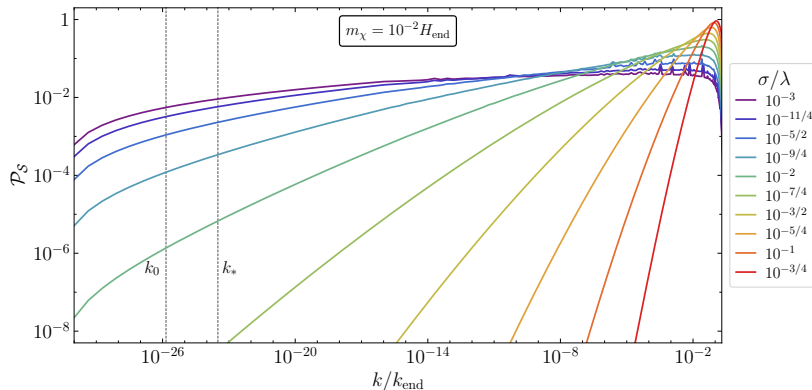


5. Prospects



Isocurvature in production from inflaton decay

The growth of χ fluctuations during inflation sources isocurvature

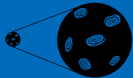


$$\mathcal{P}_S(k) = \frac{k^3}{2\pi^2 \rho_\chi^2} \int d^3 \mathbf{x} \langle \delta \rho_\chi(\mathbf{x}) \delta \chi(0) \rangle e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} m_\chi &\gtrsim 0.54 H_{\text{inf}} \\ \sigma/\lambda &\gtrsim 0.02 \end{aligned}$$

1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



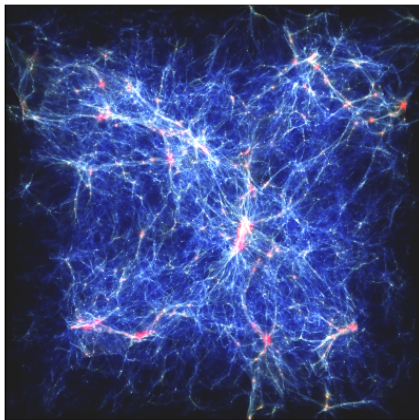
4. Limits



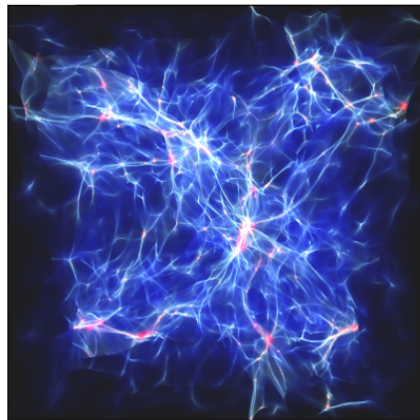
5. Prospects



Non-Cold Dark Matter and structure formation



CDM

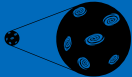


WDM (0.5 keV)

1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



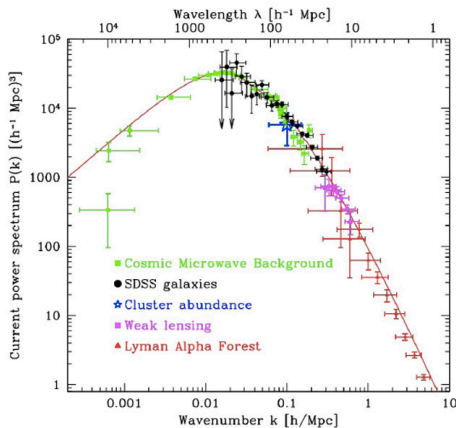
4. Limits



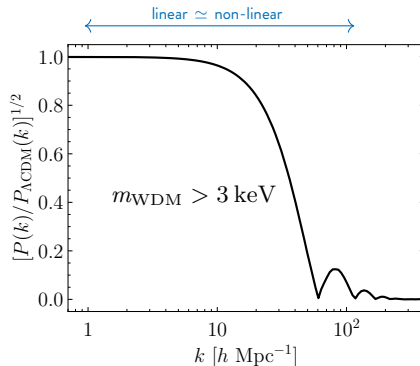
5. Prospects



How warm are non-thermal relics?



R. Murgia, V. Iršič and M. Viel, PRD 98 (2018), 083540

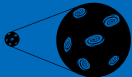


G. Ballesteros, MG and M. Pierre, JCAP 03 (2021), 101

1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



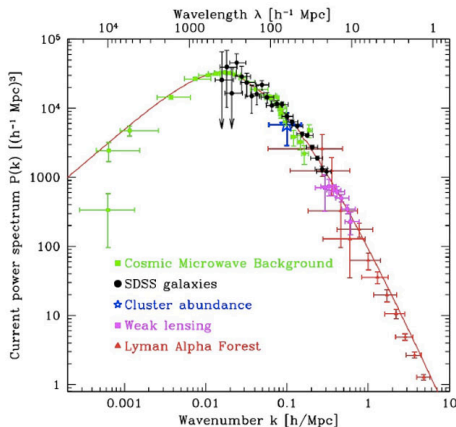
4. Limits



5. Prospects

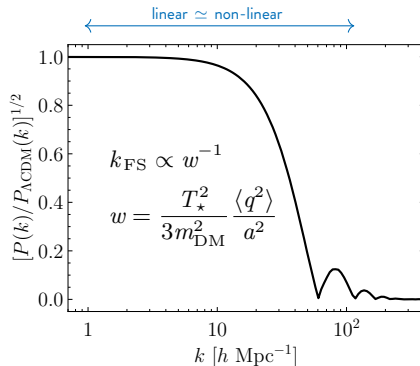


How warm are non-thermal relics?



$$w(m_{\text{DM}}) = w_{\text{WDM}}(m_{\text{WDM}}) \longrightarrow$$

R. Murgia, V. Iršič and M. Viel, PRD 98 (2018), 083540



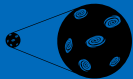
G. Ballesteros, MG and M. Pierre, JCAP 03 (2021), 101

$$m_{\text{DM}} = m_{\text{WDM}} \left(\frac{T_{\star}}{T_{\text{WDM}}} \right) \sqrt{\frac{\langle q^2 \rangle}{\langle q^2 \rangle_{\text{WDM}}}}$$

1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



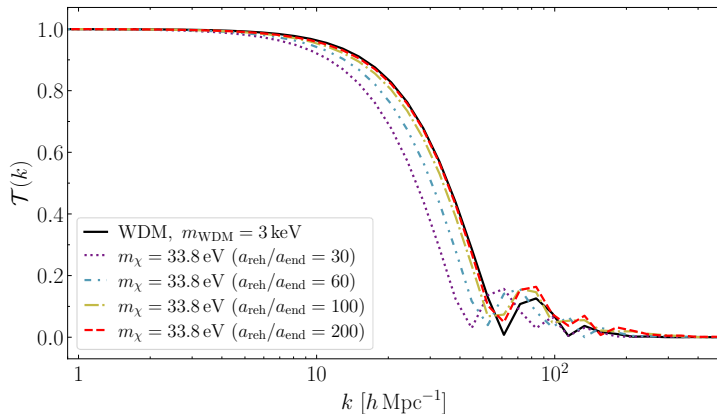
4. Limits



5. Prospects



Light, but cold enough, dark matter

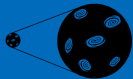


$$\langle q^2 \rangle \propto \begin{cases} (a_{\text{reh}}/a_{\text{end}})^{1/2}, & \xi \gtrsim 1/4 \\ m_{\chi}^{\alpha}, & \xi \lesssim 1/4 \end{cases} \Rightarrow m_{\chi} \gtrsim \begin{cases} 33 \text{ eV}, & \xi \gtrsim 1/4 \\ 0.2 \text{ meV}, & \xi \lesssim 1/4 \end{cases}$$

1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



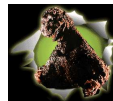
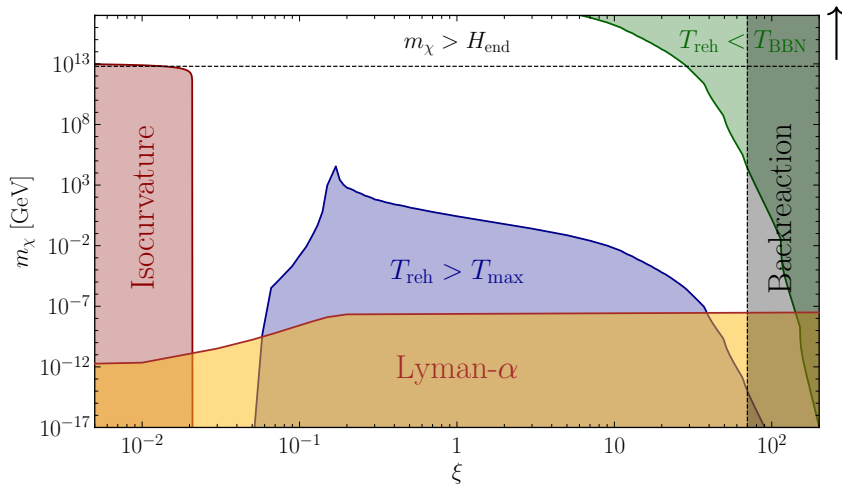
4. Limits



5. Prospects



Parameter space for gravitational production

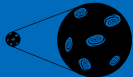


WIMPZILLAS

1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



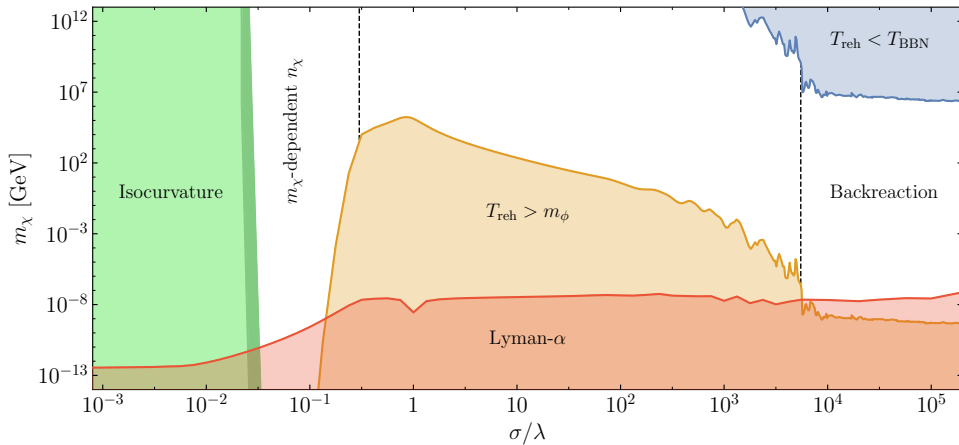
4. Limits



5. Prospects



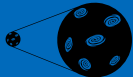
Parameter space for production from inflaton decay



1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



4. Limits



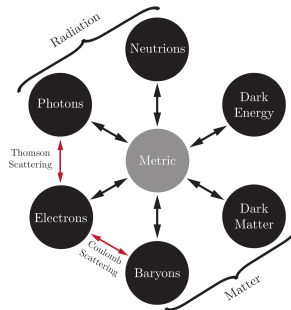
5. Prospects



Additional constraints?

Distortions of the CMB frequency spectrum

$$f(E) = \frac{1}{e^{(E-\mu)/T} - 1}$$



Energy injected into the CMB at different times results in a spectrum that mixes regions at different temperatures

$$\text{FIRAS: } |\mu| < 9 \times 10^{-5}$$

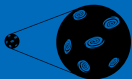
$$\text{PIXIE: } |\mu| < 10^{-9}$$

D. Fixsen et al., *Astrophys. J.* 473 (1996), 576

1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



4. Limits



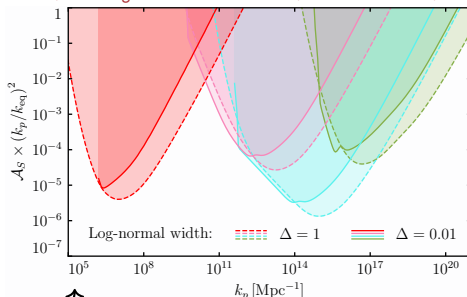
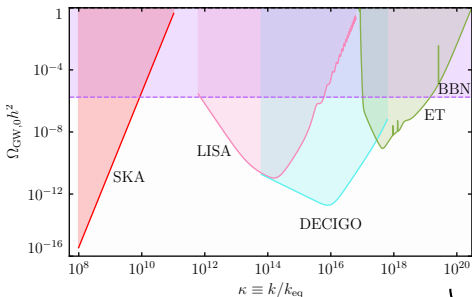
5. Prospects



Additional constraints?

Isocurvature-induced gravitational waves

G. Domènech, S. Passaglia and S. Renaux-Petel, JCAP 03 (2022), 023



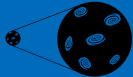
$$h''_{ij} + 2\mathcal{H}h'_{ij} + \nabla^2 h_{ij} = \frac{2}{M_P^2} [\partial_i \phi \partial_j \phi]^\Pi$$

$$\Omega_{\text{GW},c}(k) = \frac{2}{3} \int_0^\infty dv \int_{|1-v|}^{1+v} du \left(\frac{4v^2 - (1-u^2+v^2)^2}{4uv} \right)^2 \overline{I^2(x_c, k, u, v)} \mathcal{P}_S(ku) \mathcal{P}_S(kv)$$

1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



4. Limits

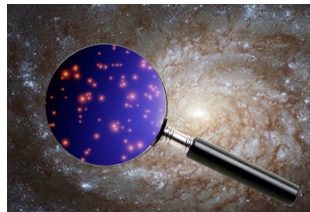


5. Prospects



Additional constraints?

Blue tilted isocurvature: Ultra Compact Mini Halos

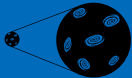


M. Ricotti and A. Gould, *Astrophys. J.* 707 (2009), 979; T. Bringmann et al., *PRD* 85 (2012), 125027

1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



4. Limits

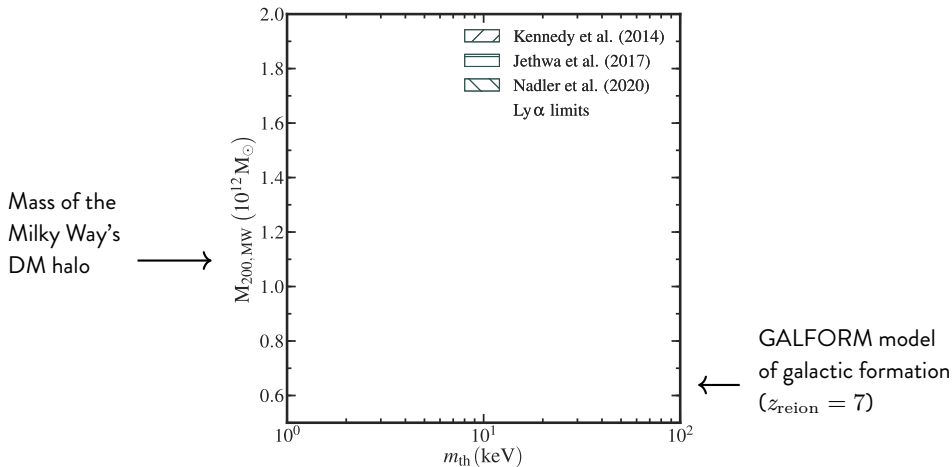


5. Prospects



Structure formation

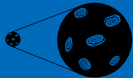
Limits in the “warmness” of dark matter using the satellite galaxies of the Milky Way



1. Dark Matter



2. Inflation



3. Production



4. Limits



5. Prospects



Thank you

