### Astrophysical probes of dark matter: Challenge and solutions

Academia Sinica, Taipei February 9, 2018

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### Dark Matter

- Dark matter forms 85% of the matter content of the Universe.
- For a significant part of the cosmological evolution, it is the most important constituent of our Universe.



### Dark matter shapes the evolution of our Universe



# Dark matter betrays its existence via its gravitational pull



Motion of galaxies in clusters and gravitational lensing

Galaxy rotation curves



### Cosmic Microwave Background

### Strongest evidence for dark matter: CMB

CMB temperature fluctuation map as seen by the Planck satellite "Picture" of the Universe when it is ~380,000 years old.



# Dark matter provides gravitational potential wells for baryons to fall into



### The CMB not only tells us about the existence of dark matter, it tells us some of its properties

- The Cold Dark Matter (CDM) paradigm:
  - 1. Cold: A massive, non-relativistic particle.



(So that DM can form bound structure!)

- 2. Dark: Dark matter does not strongly interact with Standard Model particles, if at all.
- 3. Collisionless: Dark matter particles do not interact with one another.

## On large scales, the cold dark matter picture is remarkably consistent



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## This is great, but so many particle candidate can fit the CMB data...which one is right??



# Probing small mass/length scales is key to determine the particle properties of DM



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### Example: Distinguishing cold DM from a 2 keV warm DM

#### Cold DM density field



Warm DM density field



2000 Mpc

# A quantitative comparison between dark matter models

• The matter power spectrum tells us the typical amplitude of matter fluctuations at different scales.



### Introduction: Executive summary

- The CMB provides extremely compelling evidence for the existence of dark matter, based on simple and well-understood physics.
- The cold dark matter paradigm is remarkably consistent with observations of the CMB and large-scale structure.
- The particle nature of dark matter only becomes apparent on small sub-galactic scales.





### Probing small-scale structure: Outline

- 1) Part I: Understanding how the different possible dark matter physics affect structure formation on sub-galactic scales.
  - The ETHOS collaboration: bringing together simulators, theorists, astronomers, and cosmologists to explore uncharted territory in dark matter science.
- 2) Part II: Using observations of small-scale structure to constrain dark matter physics.
  - Probing substructure through galaxy-scale strong gravitational lensing.

# Part I: From dark matter physics to observable predictions

• We need to understand how dark matter microphysics affects small-scale structure.



Vogelsberger, Zavala, Cyr-Racine +, arXiv:1512.05349

### The ETHOS collaboration

• The ETHOS collaboration brings together simulators, theorists, astronomers, and cosmologists to understand the impact of dark matter microphysics on a broad range of astronomical observations.



### The ETHOS research program



# Exploring the impact of new interactions in the dark sector



## The effect of new dark matter-dark radiation (DR) interactions



Cyr-Racine et al. (2016) Cyr-Racine et al. (2014) Cyr-Racine & Sigurdson (2013) In the early Universe...



Adapted from W. Hu

### Dark acoustic oscillation (DAO)

## The effect of new dark matter-dark radiation (DR) interactions



### ETHOS: Understanding the Milky Way



Vogelsberger, Zavala, Cyr-Racine +, arXiv:1512.05349

### ETHOS: Understanding the Milky Way

Vogelsberger, Zavala, Cyr-Racine +, arXiv:1512.05349

### ETHOS: Impact on satellite galaxies

• To be successful, a dark matter model must reproduce the rotation profile of Milky Way satellites





Vogelsberger, Zavala, Cyr-Racine +, arXiv:1512.05349

### ETHOS: Impact on satellite galaxies

• Self-interaction between dark matter particles are selfconsistently taken into account in our simulations



### ETHOS: Impact on satellite galaxies

• Dark matter self-interaction can also have important consequences on small-scale structure.





Vogelsberger, Zavala, Cyr-Racine +, arXiv:1512.05349

### ETHOS: Impact on UV luminosity function

• Dark matter physics also affects the first galaxies form.



Lovell, Zavala, Vogelsberger Shen, Cyr-Racine +, arXiv:1711.10497

### ETHOS: Impact on CMB optical depth

• Dark matter physics also affects the optical depth.





Lovell, Zavala, Vogelsberger Shen, Cyr-Racine +, arXiv:1711.10497

### **Executive summary: ETHOS**

- The ETHOS collaboration aims at revolutionizing our understanding of how dark matter microphysics shapes the Universe on sub-galactic scales.
- We have performed the first fully self-consistent analysis of the impact of new dark matter interactions on the Milky Way galaxy and its satellites => A few surprises!
- In our latest work, we are charting new territory in terms of understanding how the first stars and galaxies form in the presence of new dark matter interactions.
- Many exciting directions remain to be explored, including several theory-focused projects.

# Part II: From observations to dark matter physics

• What are the most promising observations that can tell us about dark matter physics?



### Many possible ways to probe smallscale structure



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### Mapping the Milky Way satellites

• We are approaching the limit of visible small-scale structure!



### Solution: Strong Gravitational Lensing



#### Credits: Leonidas Moustakas

## Solution: Probing substructure through gravitational lensing

• Use universality of gravity to probe smallest dark matter structures.



### Substructure lensing analogy: Looking through a textured window

- The textured window introduces perturbation on a given scale.
  - 1) Unperturbed image



2) Image seen through textured glass

## How do we characterize the collective effect of the small-scale structure?

• By their power spectrum of course!



### Substructure power spectrum



• The power spectrum has three main features:



Díaz Rivero, Cyr-Racine, & Dvorkin, arXiv:1707.04590

### Where is the largest sensitivity?

• Coincidentally, substructures have the largest effects on scales probed by galaxy-scale gravitational lenses.



### Galaxy-scale Gravitational Lenses



#### Credits: Leonidas Moustakas

### Effect of substructures on lensed images

• The substructure deflection field, leads to subtle surface brightness variations along the Einstein ring



Cyr-Racine, Keeton & Moustakas, in prep.

Francis-Yan Cyr-Racine, Harvard

### Effect of substructures on lensed images

• The substructure deflection field, leads to subtle surface brightness variations along the Einstein ring



Cyr-Racine, Keeton & Moustakas, in prep.

## From image residuals to substructure power spectrum

• We can decompose the image residuals in a Fourier-like basis to determine which modes are present in the data.



Cyr-Racine, Keeton & Moustakas, in prep.

Use *Hubble Space Telescope* mock images to assess sensitivity

• We show a significant detection of the power spectrum:



Cyr-Racine, Keeton & Moustakas, in prep.

Francis-Yan Cyr-Racine, Harvard

### Executive summary: Substructure lensing

- Strong gravitational lensing allows us to probe dark matter structure that are impossible to detect via other techniques.
- Given the possible large number of small-scale structures in a typical lens galaxy, a statistical approach that can detect the collective effect of substructure is warranted.
- For realistic mock data, we show very significant detections of the substructure power spectrum. Application to real data is pending.





### The next decade of dark matter science

• Developing a comprehensive strategy for dark matter science



2/13/18

### The next decade of dark matter science: LSST

• The Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST) will produce an enormous amount of data relevant to dark matter science, including finding new Milky Way satellites and new gravitational lenses.



• 8.4m telescope with very large field of view: can image the entire sky every 3 nights!

• Survey begins in 2022.

Probing the Nature of Dark Matter with LSST March 5-7, University of Pittsburgh

A three-day workshop to make real steps towards assembling an LSST Dark Matter white paper.

As of January 16, 2018

### The next decade of dark matter science: Gravitational lensing

- With LSST and WFIRST, the number of known galaxy-scale gravitational lenses will grow dramatically (from ~100 to ~10000).
- This will open the "statistical era" of strong lensing.
- Several exciting challenges to tackle, including how to jointly analyze a large number of lenses.

Lots of opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to be at the forefront of research

### The next decade of dark matter science

• The astrophysical program is highly complementary to laboratory-based experiments

Experiment	Machine	Type	$E_{beam} (GeV)$	Detection	Mass range (GeV)	Sensitivity	First beam
Future US initiatives							
BDX	CEBAF @ JLab	electron BD	2.1-11	DM scatter	$0.001 < m_{\gamma} < 0.1$	$y \ge 10^{-13}$	2019+
COHERENT	SNS @ ORNL	proton BD	1	DM scatter	$m_{\chi} < 0.06$	$y \gtrsim 10^{-13}$	started
DarkLight	LERF @ JLab	electron FT	0.17	MMass (& vis.)	$0.01 < m_{A'} < 0.08$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-6}$	started
LDMX	DASEL @ SLAC	electron FT	$4 (8)^*$	MMomentum	$m_{\chi} < 0.4$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-14}$	2020+
MMAPS	Synchr @ Cornell	positron FT	6	MMass	$0.02 < m_{A'} < 0.075$	$\epsilon^2\gtrsim 10^{-8}$	2020+
$\operatorname{SBN}$	BNB @ FNAL	proton BD	8	DM scatter	$m_{\chi} < 0.4$	$y \sim 10^{-12}$	2018 +
SeaQuest	MI @ FNAL	proton FT	120	vis. prompt	$0.22 < m_{A'} < 9$	$\epsilon^2\gtrsim 10^{-8}$	2017
				vis. disp.	$m_{A'} < 2$	$\epsilon^2 \sim 10^{-14} - 10^{-14}$	
Future international initiatives							
Belle II	SuperKEKB @ KEK	$e^+e^-$ collider	$\sim 5.3$	MMass (& vis.)	$0 < m_{\gamma} < 10$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-9}$	2018
MAGIX	MESA @ Mami	electron FT	0.105	vis.	$0.01 < m_{A'}^{2} < 0.060$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-9}$	2021-2022
PADME	$DA\Phi NE$ @ Frascati	positron FT	0.550	MMass	$m_{A'} < 0.024$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-7}$	2018
SHIP	SPS @ CERN	proton BD	400	DM scatter	$m_{\chi} < 0.4$	$y \gtrsim 10^{-12}$	2026 +
VEPP3	VEPP3 @ BINP	positron FT	0.500	MMass	$0.005 < m_{A'} < 0.022$	$\epsilon^2\gtrsim 10^{-8}$	2019-2020

#### Battaglierri et al., arXiv:1707.04591

### The next decade of dark matter science

#### • Lots of remaining ground for discovery!



#### SuperCDMS





#### ABRACADABRA



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Dark Matter Project

...and many more!



### Conclusions

- There is overwhelming evidence for the existence of dark matter in our Universe, and clues about its particle nature are most apparent on sub-galactic scales.
- Understanding structure formation on these small scales is challenging, but our research group is leading the way into this largely uncharted territory.
- The observational prospects of small-scale structure are excellent in the next decade. Together with lab-based experiments, it is likely that our state of knowledge will dramatically improve by the late 2020s.

### The next decade of dark matter science

• Unlocking the mystery of dark matter is a truly multidisciplinary endeavor.



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