New Ideas for sub-GeV Dark Matter Direct Detection

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PLANCK 2018 -- Bonn

May 25, 2018





"WIMP"



"axions/ALPs"

"WIMP"

challenges for meV-GeV DM direct detection

fundamental challenge:

need enough **energy transfer** from DM-target interaction to create a detectable **signal**

> depends on process and detector setup

DM-nucleon elastic scattering







detecting sub-GeV DM in 2 easy steps

1. increase amount of detectable energy

2. decrease energy threshold or increase sensitivity

detecting sub-GeV DM in 2 easy steps

1. increase amount of detectable energy

consider different physical processes

2. decrease energy threshold or increase sensitivity

consider a variety of materials



Liquid Xenon



i.e. XENON10, XENON100, XENON1T, LUX, UA(1)'

> DM-electron scattering = S2 only signal

sensitive to ~10 eV energy depositions

measures PhotoElectrons

DM-electron scattering



Essig, Volansky, TTY [1703.00910]

semiconductor targets



detect the electron(s)

sensitive to ~eV energy depositions

> i.e. silicon, germanium









Sub-Electron-Noise Skipper CCD Experimental Instrument



- + Guillermo Fernandez Moroni
- + Michael Crisler
- + Alex Drlica-Wagner

first results!

~0.02 g-days of commissioning data from a surface run



SENSEI Collaboration [1804.00088]

first results!

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SENSEI Collaboration [1804.00088]

physics potential

electron scattering



Essig, Volansky, TTY [1703.00910], Essig, Fernandez-Serra, Mardon, Soto, Volansky, TTY [1509.01598]

scintillators



depositions

07.01009] i.e. GaAs, Nal, Csl

Derenzo, Essig, Massari, Soto, TTY [1607.01009]

graphene and carbon nanotubes





 $\Phi \simeq 4.3 \text{ eV}$

work function = minimum energy to eject an electron

has directional sensitivity!

Hochberg, Kahn, Lisanti, Tully, Zurek [1606.08849] Capparelli, Cavoto, Mazzilli, Polosa [1412.8213] Cavoto, Luchetta, Polosa [1706.02487]



MeV-GeV DM-e scattering



US Cosmic Visions: New Ideas in Dark Matter 2017: Community Report [1707.04591]

Sub-MeV DM scatteringDirac MetalsOptical Phonons,
superconductors



Hochberg, Kahn, Lisanti, Zurek, Grushin, Ilan, Griffin, Liu, Weber, Neaton [1708.08929] Knapen, Lin, Pyle, Zurek [1712.06598]

see Kathryn Zurek's talk

DM-nucleon scattering + photon



$$d\sigma = |V_{fi}|^2 \frac{\omega^2 d\omega d\Omega_K}{(2\pi)^3} \times d\sigma_{\rm el}$$

dipole transition element

Kouvaris, Pradler [1607.01789] McCabe [1702.04730] see also Josef Pradler's talk

DM-nucleon scattering + photon



Kouvaris, Pradler [1607.01789]

photon emission



SENSEI: A Novel Search for Light Dark Matter, to appear

DM interaction triggers a physical or chemical change in target material

color centers



DM interaction creates a long-lived defect in the crystal

sensitive to ~10 eV energy depositions

Budnik, Chesnovsky, Slone, Volansky [1705.03016]

magnetic bubbles



single molecule magnets (SMM) = molecular crystals with molecules that act like tiny, noninteracting magnets

relies on the coherence of interaction event to create a measurable signal

sensitive to 10⁻³ eV-10 eV energy depositions

Bunting, Gratta, Melia, Rajendran [1701.06566]

DM-nucleon interactions



US Cosmic Visions: New Ideas in Dark Matter 2017: Community Report [1707.04591]



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