

## New sensitivity of LHC measurements to Composite Dark Matter

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#### Introduction



- What if **dark matter** is a **composite particle** arising from **non-Abelian dynamics**?
- Theory under consideration: SU(N<sub>D</sub>) [N<sub>D</sub> = 4, N<sub>f</sub> = 4] gauge theory confines at some scale  $\Lambda_{dark}$
- Low energy theory: bound states of mesons and baryons, masses computed by lattice calculations
  - Simplest case, dark pions  $\pi_D$  and dark rho  $\rho_D$ , in addition to dark baryons (DM candidates)—> Heavy Dark Mesons
- Dark fermions transform under electroweak part of the Standard Model
  - Allows communication with SM
- There are no direct searches for this model by ATLAS or CMS
  - We propose instead to constrain this model using the bank of existing LHC measurements using the CONTUR method
  - We can then link the constraints back to DM phenomenology using existing lattice calculations



## Heavy Dark Meson phenomenology at the LHC



#### Dark meson phenomenology at the LHC



•Distinguish two cases for Dark Sector:

- "Left-handed case": DS gauged under SM SU(2)<sub>L</sub>, mix with SM W/Z/ $\gamma$ . Gives Three  $\rho_D$  with charges 0, +1, -1
- "Right-handed case": SM U(1) ->  $\rho_D$  mixing only with SM  $\gamma$ , only have neutral  $\rho_D$ .
- -Phenomenology depends on  $\pi_{\!D}\!/\rho_D$  mass hierarchy
- If  $\rho_D$  cannot decay to  $\pi_D$ , it chiefly decays to leptons: Z' like resonance signature
- -If  $\rho_D$  can decay to  $\pi_D$ , it will almost always do so
- •Dark pion decays feature a variety of final states specially featuring third generation SM fermions



#### Dark meson phenomenology at the LHC



<sup>(</sup>e) s-channel  $pp \to \rho_D \to l^+l^-$  (SU(2)<sub>L</sub>) (f) s-channel  $pp \to \rho_D \to l^+l^-$  (SU(2)<sub>R</sub>)

- -Define  $\eta=m_{\pi_D}/m_{\rho_D}$
- •Above  $\eta > 0.5$ ,  $\rho_D$  can decay to diquark/dilepton pairs, expect this model to be picked up by High-mass Drell-Yan measurements (and the smeared particle-level HDMY search which is in CONTUR)
- •Below,  $\eta < 0.5$ ,  $\rho_D$  decays almost exclusively to  $\pi_D$ 
  - Chiefly decay to  $\mathbf{\tau} \mathbf{v}$  for  $\pi_D$  below 200 GeV, and *tb* above.
    - •Missing energy and multiple (b-)jets
    - •Or take advantage of single-pion production with a W or Z: Missing energy, jets, leptons



## The CONTUR method



## CONTUR 101



- The LHC programme often focuses on most spectacular signature of a new model...
- But many models might already be ruled out because they would cause visible distortions in spectra of 'standard" processes!
- Challenge is figuring out how a new model might impact hundreds of measured distributions...
- ...and understanding whether the model is consistent with the measured data within uncertainties
- We already have this technology: MC event generator comparison and tuning framework (Rivet + HEPData)... Hundreds of LHC measurements are available!



## **Overview of the CONTUR method**

- CONTUR uses bank of LHC results preserved in Rivet to rapidly check if new models already ruled out
- Input: Universal Feynrules Object (new physics Lagrangian coded up in python by theorists)
- MC Generation of events. By default, Herwig to inclusively generate events involving new particles
- Pass through ~150 Rivet routines from particle-level LHC results: quick since everything is at particlelevel! Routines categorised into 'pools' grouped by √s and final state to ensure orthogonality
- Compare size of deviation to reference data from HEPData (including correlations!) to check if signal would already have been seen or whether it is OK within errors -> CLs value

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## Do measurements really give comparable exclusions?

- For the same final state and luminosity, searches and measurements have roughly the same exclusion power.
- Not surprising:
  - Searches and measurements would both use similar calibrations, reco techniques, etc...
- A search might use machine-learning or other optimisation to eke out sensitivity to benchmark models (at the cost of model dependence)
  - Can be quite hard to recast search results in terms of other models or other parameter choices.
- A measurement would have the advantage of being performed in a BSM-agnostic way, but typically unfolded to particle-level and has analysis logic preserved. Potential hit in sensitivity, but easy to re-use!

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Dedicated search to probe some BSM models takes ~2 years...

... but running a CONTUR grid of 200 points with 30,000 events each takes <24h on standard batch farm, and yields comparable exclusions





## **CONTUR results for Heavy Dark Mesons**



#### **Methodology**

- Use Heavy Dark Meson <u>UFO files</u> : models for left- and right-handed scenarios
  - Define grid of 400 points in  $\eta$  vs  $m_{\pi_D}$
  - At each point, use Herwig7 to generate all  $2 \rightarrow 2$  processes involving a BSM particle in external leg or propagator, separately at 7, 8 and 13 TeV. 30,000 events / point (roughly equivalent 139/fb for typical cross-section)
  - Pipe output into Rivet, which filters events through the >150 LHC analyses preserved as runnable code snippets.
    - Automatically compare to analysis results from HEPData
  - Derive CLs exclusions at each point, and extract dominant analysis type



#### **CONTUR results**





#### **CONTUR results**





Search for high-mass dilepton resonances using 139/fb pp collision data collected at 13 TeV with the ATLAS detector https://arxiv.org/abs/1903.06248

One of a few detector-level analyses in Rivet thanks to dedicated smearing functions!



#### **CONTUR results**





Measurements of fiducial and differential cross-sections of tt production with additional heavy-flavour jets in proton-proton collisions at 13 TeV with the ATLAS detector (36/fb) https://arxiv.org/abs/1811.12113

ttbb final state (both dark pions decay to tb)



#### **CONTUR results: zoom on low-η region**



- •Excluding the most sensitive analysis
  - •DY resonant search: because signal would not cause a "bump" in this region
- CONTUR still excludes large areas of this region . What measurements contribute?
  - Higgs mass bin, contributions from γγ measurements, as π<sub>D</sub>->γγ becomes important even if decay mode is suppressed
  - Boosted hadronic tt measurements play a role around m(π<sub>D</sub>) 200 GeV: expected from dominant decay of pions to tb, and the fact they are boosted at that mass
  - Lots of sensitivity from tt-like measurements
  - •Further High-mass Drell-Yan measurements, in particular of  $\tau \tau$  + jets, could be helpful in future!



# Linking to Dark Matter phenomenology



#### **Translating results to limits of mDM**



• Follow similar strategy to Appelquist et al (arXiv:1503.04203) to connect collider limits to DM analysis: connect non-DM signatures ( $\pi_D$ ) to DM via fundamental SU(4) representation, which fixes mass scales, and lattice calculations

 $m_{
m DM}(\eta) = rac{amS0(\eta)}{amps(\eta)} imes m_{\pi_D}(\eta)$ 

Lattice dimensionless mass prediction for dark baryon

Lattice dimensionless mass prediction for pseudo-scalar Appelquist et al (arXiv:1503.04203)

$\eta$	amps	amv	amS0	$f_f^{DM}$
0.77	0.3477	0.4549	0.9828	0.153
0.70	0.2886	0.4170	0.8831	0.262
0.50	0.2066	0.3783	0.7687	0.338

Appelguist et al (arXiv:1503.04203)

• LHC exclusions together with the lattice results push the dark matter mass limits to multi-TeV mass range. Results interpolated between different η scenarios.



#### **Combining with Direct Detection results**



- Higgs-mediated DM production cross-section related to effective dark quark - Higgs coupling y<sub>eff</sub>
  - Using inputs from lattice,  $eg f_f^{DM}$
- LHC CONTUR limits, which are independent can be used to compare to Xenon1T constraints
  - Can then extract maximum allowed y<sub>eff</sub> for each DM mass hypothesis







#### **Bringing Direct Detection and LHC limits together**



Either require low values of Higgs - dark quark effective Yukawa coupling or require very heavy dark matter



#### Summary

- CONTUR method allows new-physics models to automatically be confronted with a large bank of LHC measurements. Code is <u>public</u> and manual (<u>https://arxiv.org/abs/2102.04377</u>) and tutorials available !
  - Only requirement: need a UFO file for the BSM model!
- New paper uses this method to study Heavy Dark Mesons in a Composite DM model (<u>https://arxiv.org/abs/2105.08494</u> —> Submitted to PRD)
  - LHC CONTUR limits translated to DM/Dark Baryon mass limits using existing lattice calculations
  - In combination with direct detection limits, provided an updated constraints on dark quark coupling to the Higgs and on the masses of DM bound state





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#### **Details of Heavy Dark Meson model**





## We have the technology

- We already have the infrastructure to make rapid particle-level Data/ MC comparisons.
- We use it all the time: it's called **Rivet** (Robust Independent Validation of Experiment and Theory)
  - Preserve fiducial selection logic in runnable code snippet, automatic comparison to experimental results stored on HEPData
  - Originally for MC Generator comparisons of SM predictions, and tuning
  - Trivial to switch out so we compare to a SM+BSM prediction!
- We have 100s of measurements preserved in this way in Rivet. Optimised for speed and efficiency: run all the Rivet routines for a given sqrt(S) at the same time.
- More Analyses being added all the time: having a Rivet routine is part of the ATLAS (and now CMS) approval procedure

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## **CONTUR Steering**

- CONTUR provides the book-keeping and steering machinery to repeat this process over a grid of parameter values
- Run grid for 7, 8, 13 TeV separately, then combine by taking most sensitive measurement from orthogonal analysis pools







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