Halo-Independent Analysis of Direct Dark Matter Experiments

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The principle of direct detection

Dark matter particles that arrive on Earth scatter off nuclei in a detector

Goodman, Witten 1985





Low-background underground detector

Direct WIMP searches





Billard et al 2013, Snowmass 2013, LUX 2013, CDMSlite 2015

Direct WIMP searches (2015)



Direct WIMP searches (2015)



Aprile et al (XENON100) 2015

Direct WIMP searches (near future)



Summary by Elena Aprile 2015

Annual modulation in direct detection

• The revolution of the Earth around the Sun modulates the WIMP event rate

Drukier, Freese, Spergel 1986



• DAMA observes such kind of modulation



Direct evidence for dark matter particles?

The DAMA signal seems incompatible with other experiments

XENON100 finds an annual modulation in single- and multipleelectron scattering events

NOT due to dark matter NOT compatible with DAMA's



DAMA modulation

Model Independent Annual Modulation Result

DAMA/Nal + DAMA/LIBRA-phase1 Total exposure: 487526 kg×day = 1.33 ton×yr





No systematics or side reaction able to account for the measured modulation amplitude and to satisfy all the peculiarities of the signature

Comparison between **single hit residual rate (red points)** and **multiple hit residual rate (green points)**; Clear modulation in the single hit events; No modulation in the residual rate of the multiple hit events **A=-(0.0005±0.0004) cpd/kg/keV**



The data favor the presence of a modulated behaviour with all the proper features for DM particles in the galactic halo at about 9.2σ C.L.

DAMA modulation

Model Independent Annual Modulation Result

DAMA/Nal + DAMA/LIBRA-phase1 Total exposure: 487526 kg×day = 1.33 ton×yr



No systematics or side processes able to quantitatively account for the measured modulation amplitude and to simultaneously satisfy the many peculiarities of the signature are available.

Direct evidence for dark matter particles?

The DAMA signal seems incompatible with other experiments



DM-nucleus elastic scattering



Nuclear recoil

Detector response

$$\begin{pmatrix} event \\ rate \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} detector \\ response \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} particle \\ physics \end{pmatrix} \times (astrophysics)$$

Is a nuclear recoil detectable?

Counting efficiency, energy resolution, scintillation response, etc.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{detector} \\ \text{response} \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{G}(E, E_R)$$

Probability of detecting an event with energy (or number of photoelectrons) E, given an event occurred with recoil energy E_R .

Detector response



Compilation of measurements of the light efficiency factor L_{eff} in liquid xenon



Aprile et al (XENON100), 1104.2549

Detector response

The scattering rate per unit target mass (recoil spectrum)

$$\frac{dR}{dE_R} = \frac{1}{m_T} \frac{\rho_{\chi}}{m_{\chi}} \int_{v > v_{\min}} v^2 \frac{d\sigma}{dE_R} \frac{f(\mathbf{v})}{v} d^3 \mathbf{v}$$

The event rate per unit target mass (actually measured)





What force couples dark matter to nuclei?

Coupling to nucleon number density, nucleon spin density, ...



$$\begin{pmatrix} event \\ rate \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} detector \\ response \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} particle \\ physics \end{pmatrix} \times (astrophysics)$$

Spin-independent



Isoscalar $f_p = f_n$

- inspired by neutralino
- used in most exclusion plots

Non-isoscalar $f_p \neq f_n$

- destructive interference in $Z f_p + N f_n$ - f_n/f_p =-0.7 suppresses coupling to Xe

$$\begin{pmatrix} event \\ rate \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} detector \\ response \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} particle \\ physics \end{pmatrix} \times (astrophysics)$$

Spin-dependent



Velocity and/or transfer energy dependence in scattering cross sections

nucleus	DM	$v^2 d\sigma/dE_R$	
		light mediator	heavy mediator
"charge"	"charge"	$1/E_{R}^{2}$	1/ <i>M</i> ⁴
"charge"	dipole	$1/E_R$	E_R/M^4
dipole	dipole	$const + E_R/v^2$	E_{R}^{2}/M^{4}

All terms may be multiplied by nuclear or DM form factors $F(E_R)$

See e.g. Barger, Keung, Marfatia 2010; Fornengo, Panci, Regis 2011; An et al 2011

Four-particle effective operators



All non-relativistic short-distance operators to second order in v, q

Fitzpatrick et al 2012

Long-distance interactions are not included.

Interference is important although often, but not always, neglected.

Combined analysis of short-distance operators

Catena, Gondolo 2014



Experimental limits on single operators...

Schneck et al (SuperCDMS) 2015



Astrophysics model

$$\begin{pmatrix} event \\ rate \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} detector \\ response \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} particle \\ physics \end{pmatrix} \times (astrophysics)$$

How much dark matter comes to Earth?

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Local halo density}\\ (\text{astrophysics}) = \eta(v_{\min}, t) \equiv \rho_{\chi} \int_{v > v_{\min}} \frac{f(\mathbf{v}, t)}{v} \, \mathrm{d}^{3}v\\ \hline\\ \text{Minimum WIMP speed to impart recoil energy } E_{R}\\ v_{\min} = (ME_{R}/\mu + \delta)/\sqrt{2ME_{R}} \end{array}$$

Astrophysics model: annual modulation



$$\eta(v_{\min}, t) = \eta_0(v_{\min}) + \eta_1(v_{\min}) \cos(\omega t + \varphi)$$



Astrophysics model: local density

The dark matter density near the Solar System is known reasonably well



Read at IDM 2014

Astrophysics model: velocity distribution

We know very little about the dark matter velocity distribution near the Sun





Odenkirchen et al 2002 (SDSS) Streams of stars have been observed in the galactic halo SDSS, 2MASS, SEGUE,.....

Cosmological N-Body simulations including baryons are challenging but underway

Astrophysics model: velocity distribution





Standard Halo Model

truncated Maxwellian

$$f(\vec{v}) = C e^{-|\vec{v} + \vec{v}_{\rm obs}|/\bar{v}_0^2} \Theta(v - v_{\rm esc})$$

The spherical cow of direct WIMP searches Gelmini

Agnese et al (SuperCDMS) 2014



Fox, Liu, Wiener 2011; Gondolo, Gelmini 2012; Del Nobile, Gelmini, Gondolo, Huh 2013-14



Fox, Liu, Wiener 2011; Gondolo, Gelmini 2012; Del Nobile, Gelmini, Gondolo, Huh 2013-14

Isoscalar spin-independent case same coupling to protons and neutrons

Fox, Liu, Weiner 2011

$$\frac{dR}{dE_R} = \frac{A^2 F^2(E_R)}{2\mu_{\chi p}^2} \,\tilde{\eta}(v_{\min}) \qquad \Longrightarrow \quad \tilde{\eta}(v_{\min}) = \frac{2\mu_{\chi p}^2}{A^2 F^2(E_R)} \,\frac{dR}{dE_R}$$



The original idea applies to specific interactions only, and refers to the recoil spectrum dR/dE_R , which is not accessible to experiments because of energy-dependent efficiencies and energy resolution, and the fact that often only part of the recoil energy is actually measured.



Generalize to all interactions and use quantities accessible to experiments, i.e., include effective energy response function.

Gondolo Gelmini 1202.6359; Del Nobile, Gelmini, Gondolo, Huh 1304.6183, 1306.5273

Gondolo Gelmini 1202.6359; Del Nobile, Gelmini, Gondolo, Huh 1304.6183, 1306.5273



 $\widetilde{\eta}(v_{\min}) = \sigma_{\mathrm{ref}} \frac{\rho_{\chi}}{m_{\chi}} \int_{v_{\min}}^{\infty} \frac{f(\mathbf{v})}{v} d^{3}v$ Astrophysics factor, same for all direct detection experiments

Gondolo Gelmini 1202.6359; Del Nobile, Gelmini, Gondolo, Huh 1304.6183, 1306.5273

• The measured rate is a "weighted average" of the astrophysical factor.



 Every experiment is sensitive to a "window in velocity space" given by the response function.

$$\mathcal{R}_{[E_1,E_2]}(v) = \int_{E_1}^{E_2} dE \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \int_0^{2\mu_T^2 v^2/m_T} dE_R \mathcal{G}(E,E_R) \frac{v^2}{\sigma_{\mathrm{ref}} m_T} \frac{d\sigma}{dE_R}$$

Gondolo Gelmini 1202.6359; Del Nobile, Gelmini, Gondolo, Huh 1304.6183, 1306.5273

Examples of response functions ("windows in velocity space")



Gondolo Gelmini 1202.6359; Del Nobile, Gelmini, Gondolo, Huh 1304.6183, 1306.5273

Measure or constrain astrophysics factor in velocity interval $[v_1, v_2]$

$$\overline{\tilde{\eta}}_{[v_1,v_2]} = \frac{R_{[E_1,E_2]}^{\text{measured}}}{\int_0^\infty \mathcal{R}_{[E_1,E_2]}(v_{\min}) \, dv_{\min}}$$
$$\widetilde{\eta}(v) < \frac{R_{[E_1,E_2]}^{\text{upper limit}}}{\int_0^v \mathcal{R}_{[E_1,E_2]}(v_{\min}) \, dv_{\min}}$$

Binned or unbinned

$$R_{[E_1, E_2]} = \int_{E_1}^{E_2} dE \, \frac{dR}{dE}$$

Spin-independent isoscalar interactions

 $\frac{d\sigma}{dE_R} = \frac{2m}{\pi v^2} A^2 f_p^2 F^2(E_R)$



Halo modifications alone cannot save the SI signal regions from the Xe and Ge bounds

CDMS-Si event rate is similar to yearly modulated rates

Still depends on particle model

Del Nobile, Gelmini, Gondolo, Huh 2014

Spin-independent nonisoscalar interactions

$$\frac{d\sigma_{\chi A}}{dE_R} = \frac{2m}{\pi v^2} \left[Zf_p + (A - Z)f_n \right]^2 F^2(E_R)$$



Dark matter coupled differently to protons and neutrons may have a slim chance

The CDMS-Si events lie "below" the CoGeNT/DAMA modulation amplitudes

> Still depends on particle model

Del Nobile, Gelmini, Gondolo, Huh 2014

Anapole dark matter

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dE_R} = \frac{2m}{\pi v^2} \frac{e^2 g^2}{\Lambda^2} \left[\left(v^2 - v_{\min}^2 \right) F_L^2(E_R) + F_T^2(E_R) \right]$$



For anapole dark matter, the lowest DAMA bins may be compatible with null searches

The modulation amplitude would need to be large

Still depends on particle model

Del Nobile, Gelmini, Gondolo, Huh 2014

Exothermic nonisoscalar scattering

$$\frac{d\sigma_{\chi A}}{dE_R} = \frac{2m}{\pi v^2} \left[Zf_p + (A - Z)f_n \right]^2 F^2(E_R)$$



For light exothermic nonisoscalar scattering, the DAMA modulation can be compatible with other experiments

 $m = 3 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ $\delta = -70 \text{ keV}$ $f_n/f_p = -0.79$

Still depends on particle model

Scopel, Yoon 2014

Unbinned likelihood analysis

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{e^{-\int_{E_{\min}}^{E_{\max}} \frac{dR}{dE} dE}}{N!} \prod_{i=1}^{N} \frac{dR}{dE} \Big|_{E=E_i}$$

Fox, Kahn, McCullough (2015) show that for reasonable energy response functions $G(E,E_R)$, the likelihood is maximized when the astrophysics factor $\eta(v)$ is a sequence of $\leq N$ downward steps.

Fox, Kahn, McCullough 2015



Conclusions

- Halo-independent methods for direct WIMP searches are a powerful way to compare claimed signals with null searches.
- The results depend on the particle model: mass and type of interaction.
- There is tension between upper limits and claimed signals.
- The statistical interpretation of halo-independent methods is getting understood.