

# Neutrino portal to FIMP dark matter with an early matter era

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Carleton University – Ottawa, Canada

TRIUMF Theory Workshop  
New Techniques for Dark Matter Discovery  
Vancouver, Canada – March 11-13, 2020

based on C. Cosme, M. Dutra, T. Ma, Y. Wu and L. Yang, 2020 [arXiv:2003.01723]



**Carleton**  
UNIVERSITY



Arthur B. McDonald  
Canadian Astroparticle Physics Research Institute

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# Introduction

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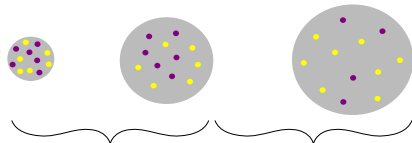
# The freeze-in production in the early universe

time ( $t$ ), scale factor ( $a$ )  $\rightarrow$

• visible particles (SM)

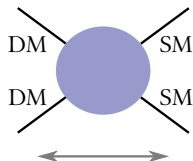
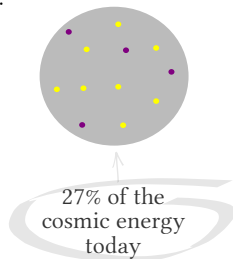
• dark matter particles (DM)

Weakly interacting massive particles (WIMPs):



thermal equilibrium

freeze-out



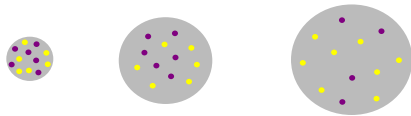
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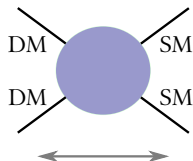
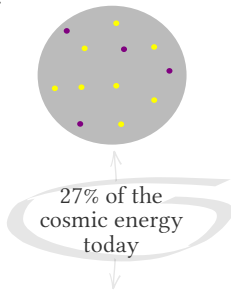
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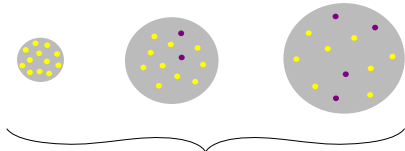


thermal equilibrium

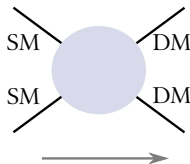
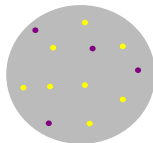
freeze-out



Feebly\* interacting massive particles (FIMPs):



(out-of-equilibrium) freeze-in



\* Weaker than "weak"!2

# Is the freeze-in scenario testable? Well... yes!

## Direct detection

T. Hambye, M.H.G. Tytgat,  
J. Vandecasteele, L. Vanderheyden  
arXiv: 1807.05022

US Cosmic Visions 2017  
arXiv: 1707.04591

## Self-interaction

N. Bernal, C. Cosme, T. Tenkanen  
arXiv: 1803.08064

## Colliders

G. Bélanger, N. Desai, A. Goudelis, J. Harz,  
A. Lessa, J.M. No, A. Pukhov, S. Sekmen,  
D. Sengupta, B. Zaldivar, J. Zurita  
arXiv: 1811.05478

R. T. Co, F. D'Eramo, L. J. Hall, D. Pappadopulo  
arXiv: 1506.07532

MATHUSLA theory white paper  
arXiv: 1806.07396

J. M. No, P. Tunney, B. Zaldivar  
arXiv: 1908.11387

## Indirect detection

V. Brdar, J. Kopp, J. Liu, X. Wang  
arXiv: 1710.02146

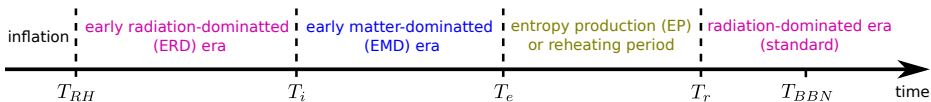
A. Biswas, S. Ganguly, S. Roy  
arXiv: 1907.07973

## Accelerators

S. Heeba, F. Kahlhoefer  
arXiv: 1908.09834

L. Calibbi, L. Lopez-Honorez, S. Lowette, A. Mariotti  
arXiv: 1805.04423

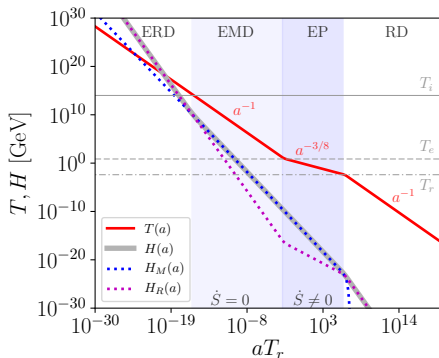
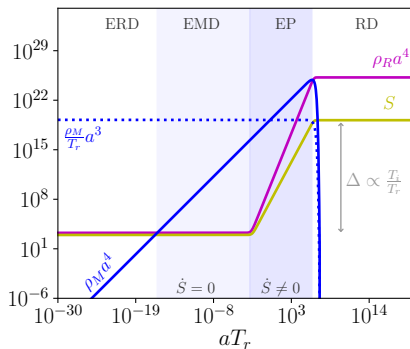
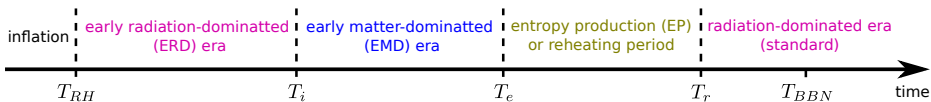
# Early matter-dominated era (EMDE)







# Early matter-dominated era (EMDE)



$$H_{\text{RD}} \propto T^2$$

$$H_{\text{EMDE}} \propto T^{3/2}$$

$$H_{\text{EP}} \propto T^4$$

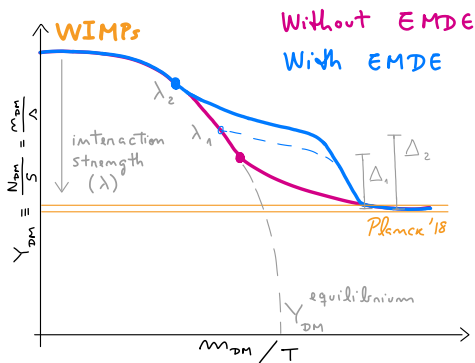
$$\Delta \sim \frac{3 T_i}{4 T_r} \sim \frac{3 T_e^5}{4 T_r^5}$$

# EMDE & cosmic relics

$$Y_{\text{DM}} \equiv \frac{N_{\text{DM}}}{S} = \frac{n_{\text{DM}}}{s} \Rightarrow Y_{\text{DM}}^{\text{after}} = \frac{N_{\text{DM}}}{S^{\text{after}}} = \frac{N_{\text{DM}}}{S^{\text{before}}} \frac{S^{\text{before}}}{S^{\text{after}}} = \frac{Y_{\text{DM}}^{\text{before}}}{\Delta}$$

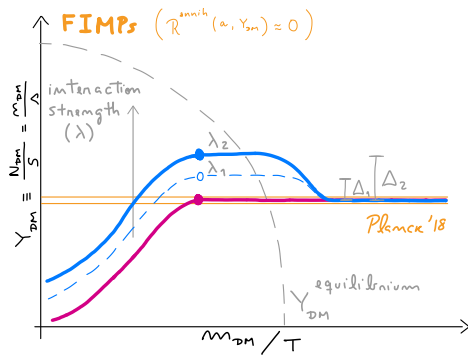
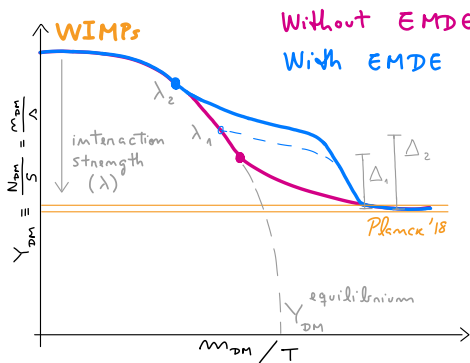
## EMDE &amp; cosmic relics

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# Neutrino portal to FIMPs

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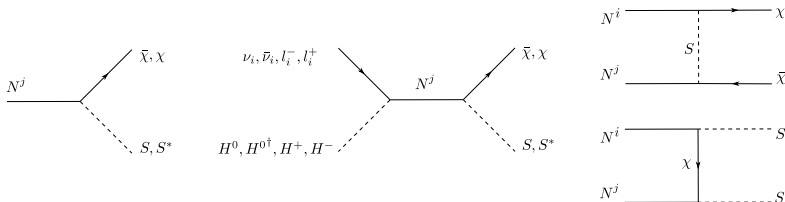
# The model

## Beyond the standard model sector [arXiv:2003.01723]

- **three heavy neutrinos** ( $N^j$ ) interacting with SM leptons and Higgs and generating neutrino masses via **seesaw Type-I**
- **dark fermion** ( $\chi$ ) and **dark scalar** ( $S$ ) as FIMP candidates, having Yukawa couplings to the heavy neutrinos

$$\mathcal{L} \supset - \left( \overline{L}_L^i Y_\nu^{ij} \tilde{H} (N_\ell^j)_R + h.c. \right) - \left( \lambda_\chi^i S \bar{\chi} (N_\ell^i)_R + h.c. \right)$$

Processes contributing to the **freeze-in production** of  $\chi$  and  $S$ :

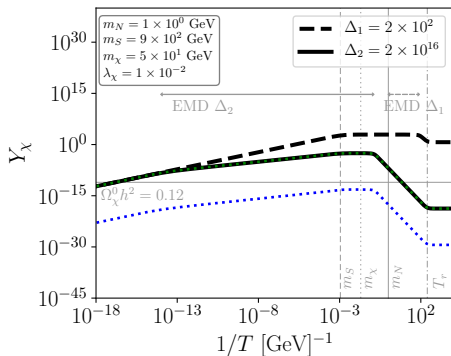
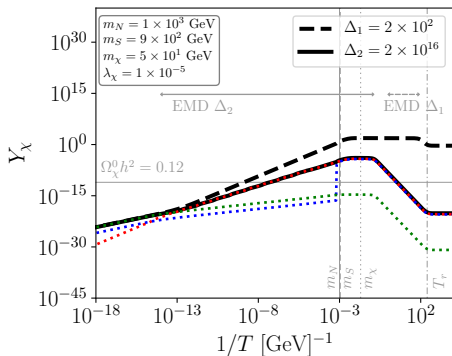


# Relic density evolution

--- EMDE from  $T_i = 1 \text{ GeV}$  to  $T_e = 12 \text{ MeV}$ , with  $T_r = 4 \text{ MeV}$

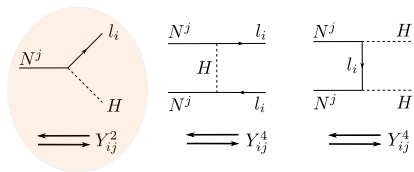
— EMDE from  $T_i = 10^{14} \text{ GeV}$  to  $T_e = 7.6 \text{ GeV}$ , with  $T_r = 4 \text{ MeV}$

..... decay contribution    ..... s-channel contribution    ..... t-channel contribution



$$\frac{dY_\chi}{da} = \frac{R^{\text{decays}}(a) + R^{\text{s-channels}}(a) + R^{\text{t-channels}}(a)}{as(a)H(a)} - \frac{Y_\chi}{S} \frac{dS}{da}$$

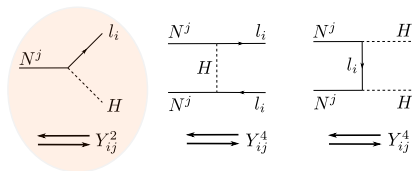
# Thermalization of $N$



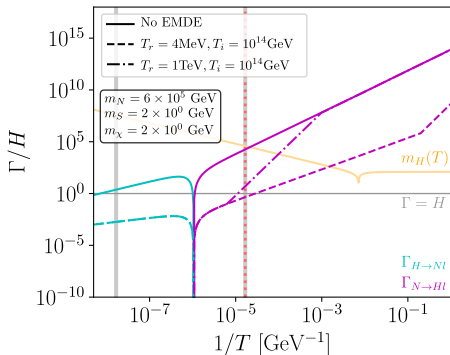
$$\Gamma_{int}(T) > H(T) \Rightarrow n_N \sim n_{\text{thermal bath}}$$



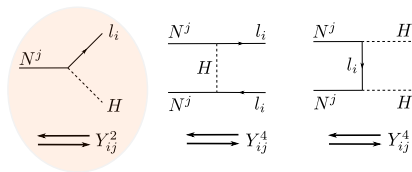
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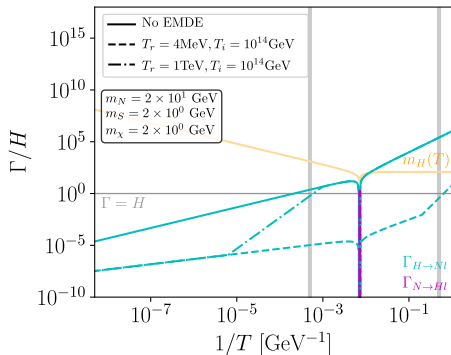
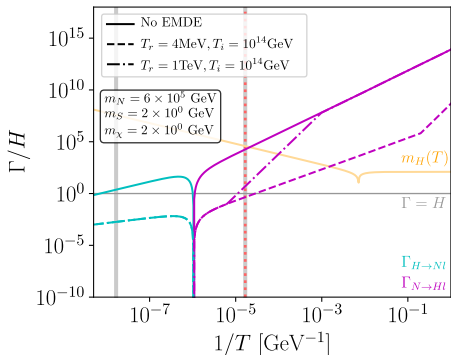
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# Thermalization of $N$

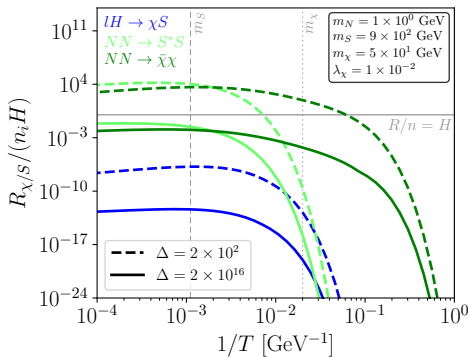
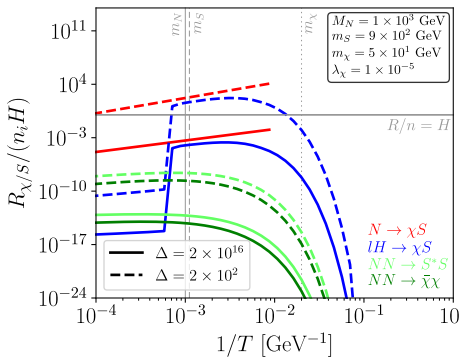


$$\Gamma_{int}(T) > H(T) \Rightarrow n_N \sim n_{\text{thermal bath}}$$



# Freeze-in conditions

$$\Gamma_{\text{decays}}, \Gamma_{s\text{-channels}}, \Gamma_{t\text{-channels}} < H(T) \Rightarrow n_{\text{DM}} \ll n_{\text{bath}}$$



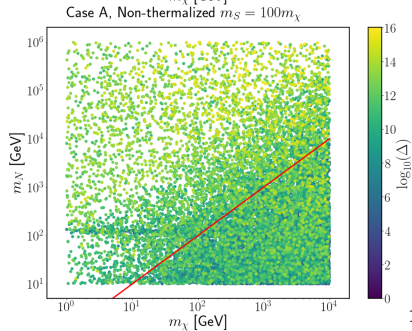
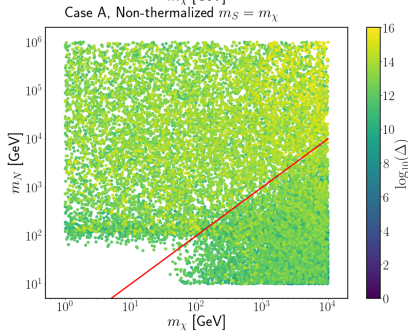
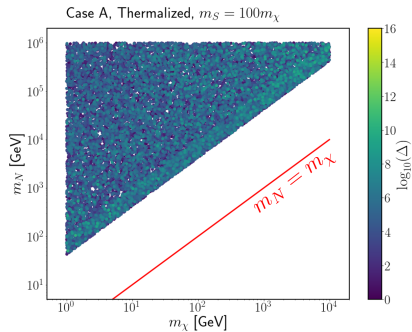
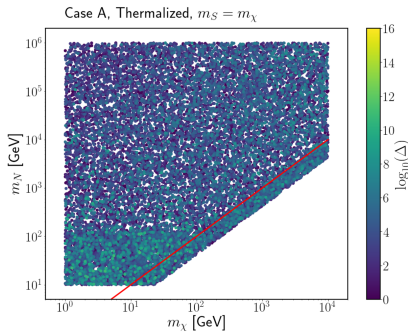
## Viable parameter space

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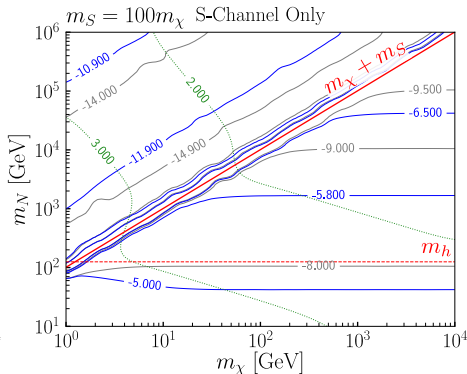
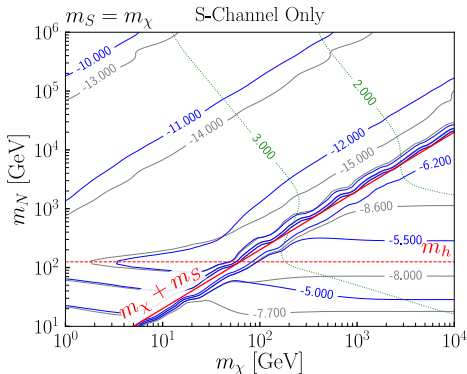
# Scan of parameter space

Parameters	Case A	Case B
$m_\chi$	[1 GeV, $10^4$ GeV]	$[m_S, 10^6$ GeV]
$m_S$	$[m_\chi, 10^6$ GeV]	[1 GeV, $10^4$ GeV]
$m_N$	[10 GeV, $10^6$ GeV]	
$T_i$	[ $10^2$ GeV, $5 \times 10^{14}$ GeV]	
$T_r$	[4 MeV, $T_i$ ]	

- $Y_{ij}$  determined from neutrino masses
- $\lambda_\chi$  determined from agreement with DM relic density
- all points in agreement with freeze-in conditions:  
 $\Gamma_{decay}, \Gamma_{s-channels}, \Gamma_{t-channels} < H(T)$
- if  $N$  is thermalized before freeze-in: all channels contribute to freeze-in
- if  $N$  is not thermalized before freeze-in: only s-channels contribute to freeze-in

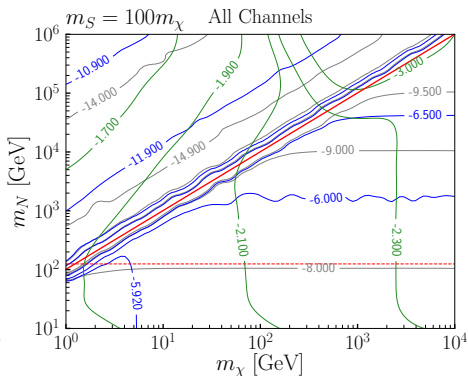
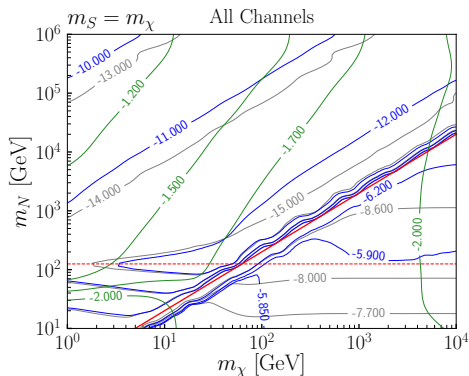


- without an early matter era
- early matter era with  $T_r = 10$  MeV and  $T_i = 10^3$  GeV
- early matter era with  $T_r = 10$  MeV and  $T_i = 10^{14}$  GeV



- smaller  $\lambda_\chi$  are needed to compensate the enhanced production of dark matter in the resonant region
- Increasing values of  $T_i$  (longer EMDE) brings the need for larger  $\lambda_\chi$  to compensate dilution

- without an early matter era
- early matter era with  $T_r = 10$  MeV and  $T_i = 10^3$  GeV
- early matter era with  $T_r = 10$  MeV and  $T_i = 10^{14}$  GeV



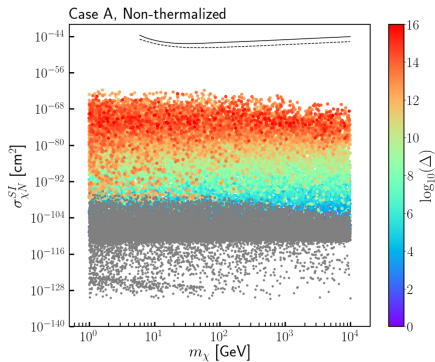
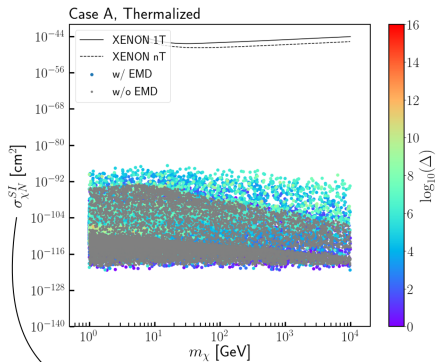
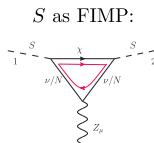
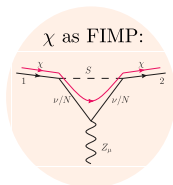
- s-channel dominance: always ( $Y_{ij} \gg \lambda_\chi$ ), in resonant region ( $Y_{ij} \gg \lambda_\chi$ ), never ( $\lambda_\chi \gg Y_{ij}$  for large  $T_i$ )
- t-channel dominance: never, in non-resonant region ( $Y_{ij} \sim \lambda_\chi$ ), always



# Phenomenology

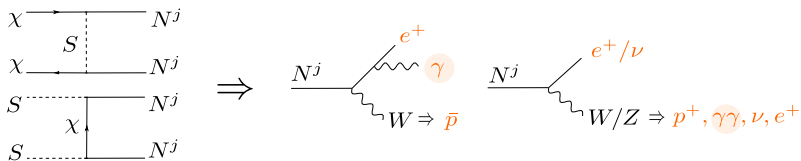
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# Direct detection



→ FIMP-nucleon scattering cross-section

# Indirect detection

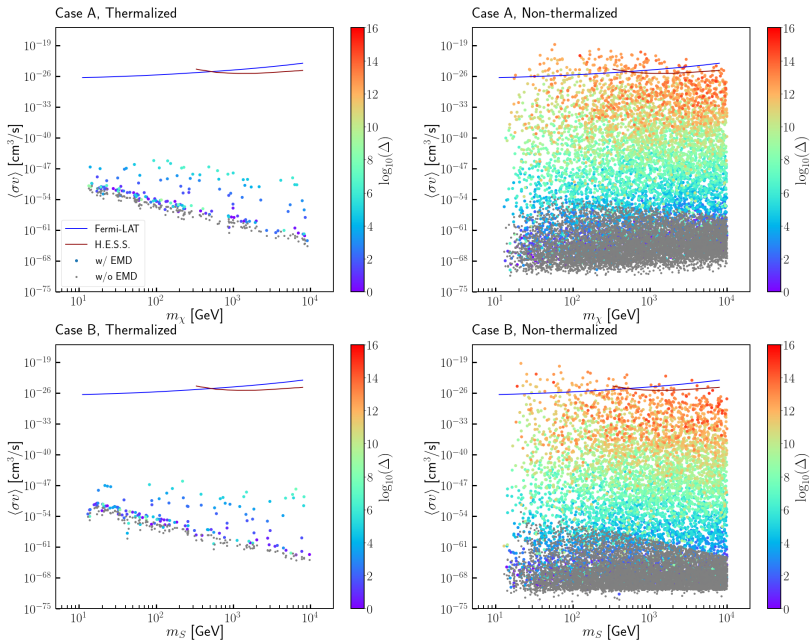


$$\sigma_{\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow NN\nu} \Big|_{v \approx 0} = \frac{|\lambda_\chi|^4}{16\pi} \sqrt{1 - \frac{m_N^2}{m_\chi^2}} \frac{2m_\chi^2 - m_N^2}{(m_\chi^2 + m_S^2 - m_N^2)^2}$$

$$\sigma_{S^*S \rightarrow NN\nu} \Big|_{v \approx 0} = \frac{|\lambda_\chi|^4}{8\pi} \left(1 - \frac{m_N^2}{m_S^2}\right)^{3/2} \frac{m_N^2}{(m_\chi^2 + m_S^2 - m_N^2)^2}$$

- continuum gamma-ray emission
- EMDE-induced microhalos of dark matter (see for instance [Yue Zhang 2015, arXiv:1502.06983](#)): upper bounds on DM annihilation as low as  $\langle\sigma v\rangle \sim 10^{-32} \text{cm}^3/\text{s}$  [[Delos, Linden, Erickcek 2019, arXiv:1910.08553](#)]

- bounds on  $\langle\sigma v\rangle_{\text{DMDM}\rightarrow NN}$  from Campos et al 2017 [arXiv:1702.06145](https://arxiv.org/abs/1702.06145)



# Conclusions

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# Conclusions

- We have explored a model in which **dark matter** is produced in the early universe via the **freeze-in** mechanism, through a neutrino portal model that also provides **neutrino masses**
- If the freeze-in happens during or before an **early matter-dominated era** (EMDE), predicted by many BSM scenarios, **larger SM-FIMP couplings** are needed from relic density constraints
- We have shown that an EMDE allows for enhanced cross-sections relevant for **indirect detection**, making the neutrino portal to FIMPs in the reach of current experiments

Backup slides

## EMDE & FIMP relic density

In the presence of an early matter-dominated era (EMDE), the yield of a FIMP dark matter today has the following contributions:

$$Y_{\text{DM}}^0 = y_{\text{RD}} + \frac{3}{4} \frac{g_e(T_r)}{g_s(T_r)} \left[ y_{\text{EP}} + \frac{1}{\Delta} (y_{\text{EMDE}} + y_{\text{ERD}}) \right],$$

with

$$y_{\text{RD}} \equiv \frac{135\sqrt{5}}{\pi^3\sqrt{2}} M_P \int_{T_0}^{T_r} dT \frac{g_s^*(T)}{g_s(T)\sqrt{g_e(T)}} \frac{R_{\text{DM}}^{\text{prod}}(T)}{T^6}$$

$$y_{\text{EP}} \equiv \frac{240\sqrt{10}}{\pi^3} g_e^{3/2}(T_r) M_P T_r^7 \int_{T_r}^{T_e} dT \frac{g_e^*(T)}{g_e^3(T)} \frac{R_{\text{DM}}^{\text{prod}}(T)}{T^{13}}$$

$$y_{\text{EMDE}} \equiv \frac{135\sqrt{15}}{2\pi^3\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\Delta T_r}} M_P \int_{T_e}^{T_i} dT \frac{g_s^*(T)}{g_s^{3/2}(T)} \frac{R_{\text{DM}}^{\text{prod}}(T)}{T^{11/2}}$$

$$y_{\text{ERD}} \equiv \frac{135\sqrt{5}}{\pi^3\sqrt{2}} M_P \int_{T_i}^{T_{\text{RH}}} dT \frac{g_s^*(T)}{g_s(T)\sqrt{g_e(T)}} \frac{R_{\text{DM}}^{\text{prod}}(T)}{T^6}.$$



## When do particles freeze-in?

The freeze-in can finish at the Boltzmann suppression of the heaviest of the particles involved ( $\{m_i\}$ ). Also, it can be determined from approximate expressions of the dominant production rate, either in a resonant regime (NWA) or by  $R_{\text{DM}} \propto T^n$ :

$$T_{FI} \Big|^{X \text{ on-shell}} \sim m_X$$

$$T_{FI} \Big|^{ERD/RD} \sim \begin{cases} \max(T_{i/0}, \{m_i\}), & n < 5 \\ \max(T_{\text{RH}/r}, \{m_i\}), & n > 5 \end{cases}$$

$$T_{FI} \Big|^{EMDE} \sim \begin{cases} \max(T_e, \{m_i\}), & n < 4.5 \\ \max(T_i, \{m_i\}), & n > 4.5 \end{cases}$$

$$T_{FI} \Big|^{EP} \sim \begin{cases} \max(T_r, \{m_i\}), & n < 12 \\ \max(T_e, \{m_i\}), & n > 12. \end{cases}$$