Supersymmetric Hidden Sectors at a GeV

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(with D. Morrissey and K. Zurek)

David Poland

Harvard University

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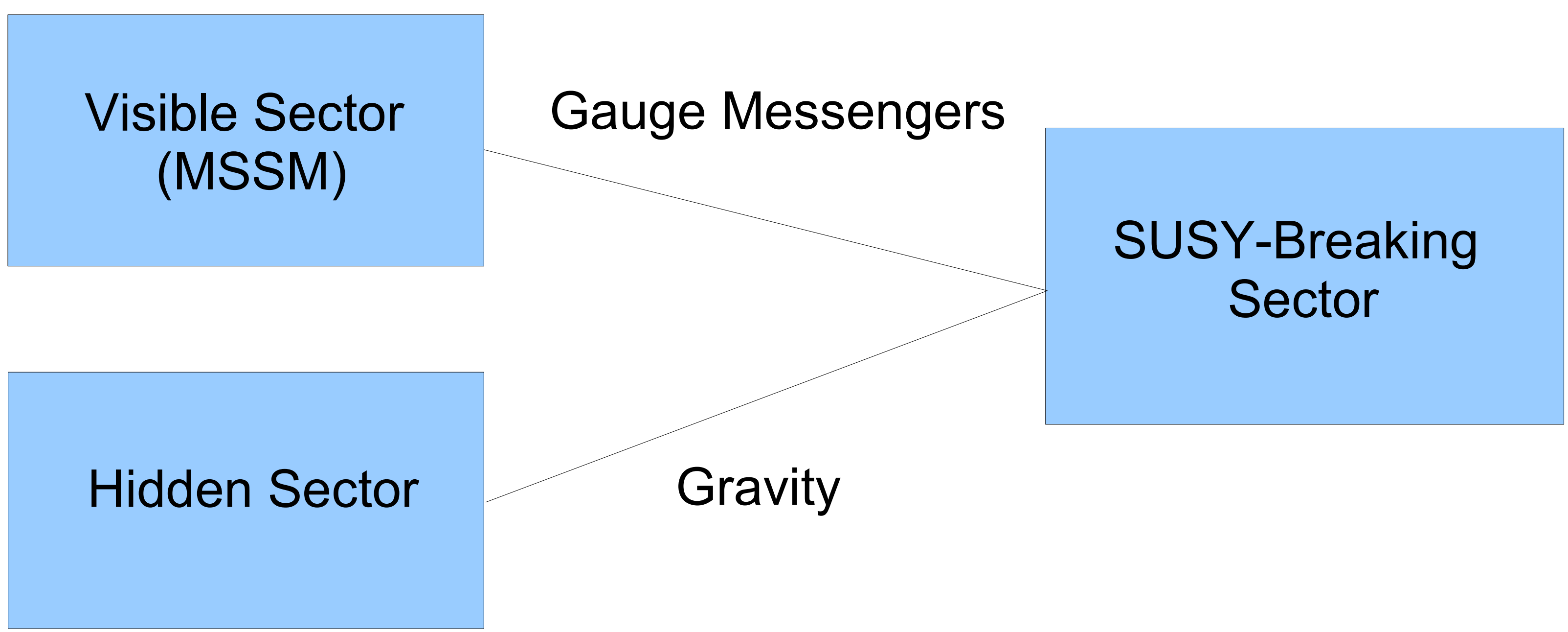
Supersymmetry and Gauge Mediation

- Weak-scale supersymmetry (with R-parity) is an elegant proposal for BSM physics
  - Stabilizes hierarchy problem
  - Gauge coupling unification
  - Possible dark matter candidates
  - Exciting LHC phenomenology
- However, it leads to a new puzzle:
  - Why are SUSY-breaking masses flavor blind?

This motivates mediating SUSY-breaking through gauge interactions, or *gauge/gaugino mediation*

Light Hidden Sectors

- States uncharged under the "messenger" gauge group are typically *lighter* than the visible sector (assuming they don't talk directly to SUSY breaking...)
- Without additional interactions, hidden-sector mass scales will be set by the gravitino mass $m_{3/2} \sim F/M_{pl}$



$U(1)_x$ Hidden Sectors at a GeV

[Baumgart, et al '09], [Cui, Morrissey, DP, Randall '09]

- Kinetic mixing with hypercharge:

$$\int d^2\theta \, \frac{\epsilon(\mu)}{2} B^\alpha X_\alpha$$

- Induced through RGE running from bi-fundamentals:

$$\Delta\epsilon(\mu) \simeq \frac{g_x(\mu)\, g_Y(\mu)}{16\pi^2} \sum_i x_i Y_i \ln\left(\frac{\Lambda^2}{\mu^2}\right) \sim \left(10^{-2} - 10^{-3}\right)$$

- This shifts the $U(1)_x$ D-term potential by $\xi_Y \equiv \langle D_Y \rangle$, inducing hidden-sector VEVs at the GeV scale:

$$V_x = \frac{g_x^2}{2}\left(\sum x_i |\phi_i|^2 - \frac{\epsilon}{g_x}\xi_Y\right)^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \langle \phi_i \rangle \simeq \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon\, \xi_Y}{x_i g_x}} \sim GeV$$

A Simple Question

What are the simplest *viable* Abelian hidden sectors in the context of gauge (and gaugino) mediation?

Little Gauge Mediation

- What happens to hidden-sector gaugino masses?
  - In holomorphic basis, running is one-loop exact:

$$\int d^2\theta \left[\frac{1}{4 g_Y^2(\mu, M)} B^\alpha B_\alpha + \frac{1}{4 g_x^2(\mu)} X^\alpha X_\alpha + \frac{\epsilon_h}{2} B^\alpha X_\alpha \right] + h.c.$$

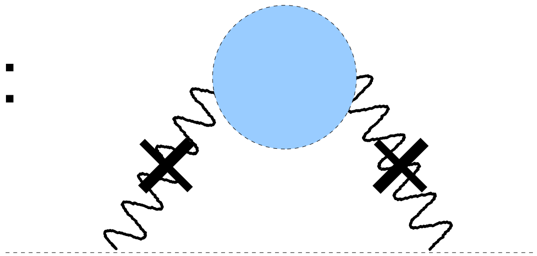
  - Only g_Y depends on messenger threshold M, which is promoted to a chiral superfield $X = M + \theta^2 F$

$$\Rightarrow \quad M_{gaugino} = \begin{pmatrix} M_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

(up to terms suppressed as ~ $\epsilon_h^2 / (16\pi)^3 F/M$)

Little Gauge Mediation

- Similarly, can evaluate scalar masses:



$$\Rightarrow \quad m_i^2(M) \simeq \epsilon_h^2 x_i^2 g_x^4(M) m_{E^c}^2(M)$$

- Scalar masses are suppressed by a factor of $\sqrt{\epsilon}$ relative to D-term contribution!

- RGE effects generate hidden-sector A and B terms at order $\epsilon^2 M_1$ (also O(1) corrections to scalar masses)
  - $U(1)_R$-breaking parameters suppressed by a factor of ϵ relative to scalar masses!

First Model Attempt...

- Vector-like pair of fields $\{H, H^c\}$ charged under $U(1)_x$

(To leading order in ϵ, we can ignore soft terms...)

$$W = \mu' H H^c$$

$$V = |\mu'|^2 \left(|H|^2 + |H^c|^2\right) + \frac{g_x^2}{2}\left(x_H |H|^2 - x_H |H^c|^2 - \xi\right)^2$$

$$\langle H \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{\xi}{x_H} - \frac{|\mu'|^2}{(x_H g_x)^2}}$$

$$\langle H^c \rangle = 0$$

$$\xi = -\frac{\epsilon}{2}\frac{g_Y}{g_x} c_{2\beta} v^2$$

First Model Attempt...

- The VEV breaks the gauge group and leads to the fermion masses:

$$M^f = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & m_{Z_x} \\ 0 & 0 & \mu' \\ m_{Z_x} & \mu' & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$M^f_{2,3} = \sqrt{m^2_{Z_x} + |\mu'|^2}$$

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- Neglecting subleading $U(1)_R$-breaking terms, there is a massless “Goldstino” state!
  - Mass gets lifted to: $M^f_1 \sim \frac{B\mu'}{\mu'} \sim \epsilon^2 g^2_x M_1$
  - This state is problematic...
    - No efficient annihilation channels
    - Stable ($< m_{3/2}$) or *very* long-lived ($> m_{3/2}$)
- A possible fix is to go to the (incalculable) regime $m_{3/2}$~GeV

Hidden NMSSM

See also:
[Cheung et al '09]
[Katz,Sundrum '09]

- Add a singlet S into the hidden sector

$$W = \lambda S H H^c$$

(To leading order in ϵ, we can ignore soft terms...)

$$V = |\lambda|^2 |H|^2 \left(|H^c|^2 + |S|^2 \right) + |\lambda|^2 |H^c|^2 |S|^2 + \frac{g_x^2}{2} \left(x_H |H|^2 - x_H |H^c|^2 - \xi \right)^2$$

$$\xi = -\frac{\epsilon}{2} \frac{g_Y}{g_x} c_{2\beta} v^2$$

$$\langle H \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{\xi}{x_H}}, \ \langle H^c \rangle = \langle S \rangle = 0$$

Hidden NMSSM

- Only H gets a VEV, leading to a vacuum that *preserves supersymmetry* at leading order
  - $W = \lambda \langle H \rangle S H^c$ gives a supersymmetric mass to {S,H^c}
  - V_x and H combine to form massive vector multiplet

    → No light states!
  - LHP is either S scalar ($m_S^2 < 0$) or gauge-sector fermion

- However, there are still some dangers!
  - LHP could decay to gravitino+photon after BBN
  - If (meta)stable, still need efficient annihilation channel
- We can organize according to $m_{3/2}$...

Hidden NMSSM with $m_{3/2} << m_{LHP}$

- If the (stable) S scalar is lightest
  - No efficient annihilation channels
  - Only viable if higher dim operators allow decays

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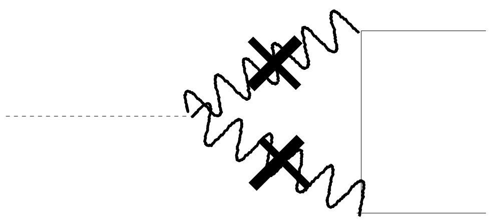
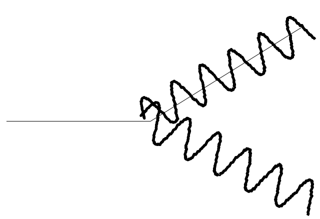
- If the gauge sector is lightest [Cheung,Ruderman,Wang,Yavin '09]
  - S scalar annihilates to H scalar, which decays as:



$$\tau_{h\to ee} \sim (1\times 10^{-4}\, s)\left(\frac{0.1}{g_x x_H}\right)^2 \left(\frac{GeV}{m_h}\right)\left(\frac{10^{-3}}{\epsilon}\right)^4$$

  - Fermion decays to gravitino+photon with lifetime:



$$\tau_{f\to\gamma\tilde{g}} \sim (3\times 10^{3}\, s)\left(\frac{\sqrt{\langle F\rangle}}{100\, TeV}\right)^4 \left(\frac{GeV}{m_x}\right)^5\left(\frac{10^{-3}}{\epsilon}\right)^2$$

Messes up BBN unless F is very low!

Hidden NMSSM with $m_{3/2} \sim m_{LHP}$

- We could attempt to avoid this problem by pushing the gravitino mass close to the fermion mass
- Generically, gravity effects make this incalculable
- Also, adding $U(1)_R$ breaking tends to push $M_f < M_{Zx}$, so it is easy to lose phase space for annihilation

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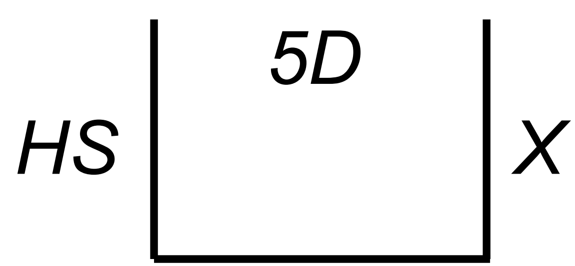
Both of these problems are absent if generic M_{pl}-suppressed operators are *sequestered*

[Randall, Sundrum '99]



Hidden NMSSM with *Sequestering*

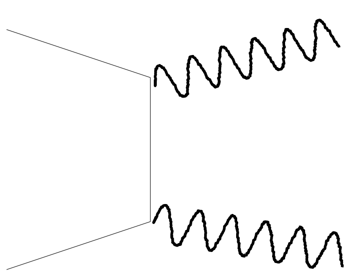
- In this case hidden-sector parameters receive contributions from anomaly mediation:

$$\Delta m_{hid} \sim M_x \sim \frac{g_x^2 m_{3/2}}{(4\pi)^2}$$

- With $m_{3/2} \sim m_{hid}$, the spectrum is only slightly perturbed
  - Still only H gets a VEV, gauge fermion mass becomes

$$M^f = \begin{pmatrix} M_x & m_{Z_x} \\ m_{Z_x} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow M_1^f \sim m_{Z_x} - \frac{1}{2} M_x$$

  - Mass splitting is smaller than temperature at thermal freeze-out, allowing annihilation to gauge bosons:



$$\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim \left(7 \times 10^{-24} cm^3/s\right) \left(\frac{g_x x_H}{0.1}\right)^4 \left(\frac{GeV}{m_{Z_x}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{v_{f.o.}}{0.3}\right)$$

Hidden NMSSM with *Sequestering*

- To summarize...
  - Before gravity effects, the LHP is either the gauge fermion or singlet scalar
  - If the singlet is lightest, it has no efficient annihilation channels and is not viable without higher dim ops
  - If the fermion is lightest, decays to gravitino+photon are problematic for BBN unless F is very low
  - Making $m_{3/2} \sim m_{hid}$ forbids this decay, and sequestering gravity effects allows the fermion to efficiently annihilate

- Note that if the scalar *can* decay through higher dim ops, one can also go to the regime $m_{3/2} \sim 100\, GeV$ [Katz, Sundrum '09]
  - Easy to add weak-scale DM to this scenario

Closing Thoughts

- Light hidden sectors are generic in gauge mediation
- Simple U(1) HS models often have problems with overabundance or BBN constraints
- These can be avoided either by:
  - Allowing for fast LHP decays (low F or higher dim ops)
  - Forbidding the LHP decay in a way that preserves an annihilation channel (larger $m_{3/2}$ + seq)
- These hidden sectors are perhaps the simplest examples of hidden valleys [Strassler]
  - Lots of fun collider phenomenology!
- DM applications interesting, but should also keep an open mind: BSM physics may not solve existing problems!