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## The Power of the Dark Sink

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We describe a simple dark sector structure which, if present, has implications for the direct detection of dark matter (DM): *the Dark Sink*. A Dark Sink transports energy density from the DM into light dark-sector states that do not appreciably contribute to the DM density. As an example, we consider a light, neutral fermion  $\psi$  which interacts solely with DM  $\chi$  via the exchange of a heavy scalar  $\Phi$ . We illustrate the impact of a Dark Sink by adding one to a DM freeze-in model in which  $\chi$  couples to a light dark photon  $\gamma'$  which kinetically mixes with the Standard Model (SM) photon. This freeze-in model (absent the sink) is itself a benchmark for ongoing experiments. In some cases, the literature for this benchmark has contained errors; we correct the predictions and provide them as a public code. We then analyze how the Dark Sink modifies this benchmark, solving coupled Boltzmann equations for the dark-sector energy density and DM yield. We check the contribution of the Dark Sink  $\psi$ 's to dark radiation; consistency with existing data limits the maximum attainable cross section. For DM with a mass between MeV – O(10 GeV), adding the Dark Sink can increase predictions for the direct detection cross section all the way up to the current limits.

## Mini Symposia (Invited Talks Only)

**Primary authors:** BHATTIPROLU, Prudhvi (University of Michigan); MCGEHEE, Robert (University of Minnesota); PIERCE, Aaron (University of Michigan)

**Presenter:** MCGEHEE, Robert (University of Minnesota)

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