Searching for Sub-GeV dark matter using the Migdal effect

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There are evidence for dark matter in a wide range of distance scales









### WIMP searches in DD Experiments



APPEC: arXiv: 2104.07634



#### Motivation



How to explore Sub-GeV DM?

• Nuclear recoil Energy of Sub-GeV dark matter: below the experimental threshold. Most detectors are insufficient.

$$E_R \sim m_{\rm DM}^2 v_{\rm DM}^2 / m_T$$

## Challenges

 Nuclear recoil Energy of Sub-GeV dark matter: below the experimental threshold. Most detectors are insufficient.

$$E_R \sim m_{\rm DM}^2 v_{\rm DM}^2 / m_T$$

• Sub-GeV Dark Matter necessitates new detection methods: Electron recoils, phonons, or the Migdal Effect.



**Tongyan Lin** 

#### Detection via scattering off electron



#### Detection via scattering off electron





Migdal, J.Phys. USSR 4 (1941) 449

#### Detection via scattering off electron





Migdal, J.Phys. USSR 4 (1941) 449



Virtual state

Kouvaris and Pradler, arXiv:1607.01789



Virtual state

Kouvaris and Pradler, arXiv:1607.01789



In conventional analysis the *recoiled nucleus* is treated as a *recoiled neutral atom* 



Migdal, J.Phys. USSR 4 (1941) 449

# The electron catch up process to nucleus leads to ionisations







Electron wave function

The probability of the ionisation is given by

$$P = \left| \left\langle \Psi_F | \Psi_{\text{in}} \right\rangle \right|^2 = \left| \left\langle \Psi_F | e^{-im_e v \cdot \sum_i x_i} | \Psi_{\text{in}} \right\rangle \right|^2$$

collisions



#### Migdal effect in dark matter direct detection experiments

#### Masahiro Ibe,<sup>*a,b*</sup> Wakutaka Nakano,<sup>*a*</sup> Yutaro Shoji<sup>*a*</sup> and Kazumine Suzuki<sup>*a*</sup>

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#### The ionisation event rate in an experiment due to the Migdal effect

 $\frac{d^3 R}{dE_R dE_{det} dv_{\chi T}} = \frac{d^2 R_{\chi T}}{dE_R dv_{\chi T}}$ 

$$\times \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{n,l} \frac{d}{dE_e} p_{q_e}^c(nl \to (E_e))$$

differential rate

ionisation probability

#### Migdal effect in isolated atoms



# Migdal effect in semiconductors



Knapen, Kozaczuk, Lin PRL 127 (2021) 8, 081805



- \* Crystals share a complicated spectrum of excitations
- \* Boosting system in the rest frame of the nucleus does not work
- \* Impulse approximation is used to treat the excited state

# Migdal effect in semiconductors using phonon



Liang, Mo, Lin et.al. *Phys.Rev.D* 106 (2022) 4, 043004 \* Below  $m_{\chi} = 50$  MeV the effects of phonon becomes important

\* Isotropic material (Silicon, Germanium) is considered

# Molecular Migdal effect



Blanco et. Al. *Phys.Rev.D* 106 (2022) 11, 115015 \* Center of Mass Recoil (CMR) where molecule is considered as a rigid body

Non Adiabatic Coupling (NAC) non-uniform movement within the molecule. It takes into account rotational and vibrational transitions

Diatomic molecules are considered,  $N_2$  and CO

Modulation is possible due to structure asymmetry of molecule

# Migdal effect in SM

## MIGDAL Experiment



MIGDAL collab. *Astropart.Phys.* 151 (2023) 102853

#### 7.5 keV Migdal electron



5.0 keV Migdal electron

- \* 3D reconstruction of the characteristic event topology to check two tracks sharing a common vertex
- \* May 2023 started gathering data@Boulby Underground Laboratory

# Migdal effect in direct detection experiments



#### XENON1T, PRL 123 (2019) 241803



COSINE-100, PRD 105, 042006



#### DS50, PRL 130 (2023) 10, 10



SuperCDMS, PRD 107 (2023) 11, 2023

#### Migdal effect in models



#### Mediator mass $\gg$ exchange momentum



Four-particles contact operators

Hamiltonian density of DM-nucleon interaction

$$H = \sum_{j=1}^{15} (c_j^0 + c_j^1 \tau_3) \mathcal{O}_j \quad \text{with} \quad c_j^0 = c_j^p + c_j^n, \quad c_j^1 = c_j^p - c_j^n$$

For spin-1/2 DM

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathcal{O}_{1} = 1_{\chi} 1_{N} & \mathcal{O}_{9} = i \vec{S}_{\chi} \cdot (\vec{S}_{N} \times \frac{\vec{q}}{m_{N}}) \\ \mathcal{O}_{3} = i \vec{S}_{N} \cdot (\frac{\vec{q}}{m_{N}} \times \vec{v}^{\perp}) & \mathcal{O}_{10} = i \vec{S}_{N} \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_{N}} \\ \mathcal{O}_{4} = \vec{S}_{\chi} \cdot \vec{S}_{N} & \mathcal{O}_{11} = i \vec{S}_{\chi} \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_{N}} \\ \mathcal{O}_{5} = i \vec{S}_{\chi} \cdot (\frac{\vec{q}}{m_{N}} \times \vec{v}^{\perp}) & \mathcal{O}_{12} = \vec{S}_{\chi} \cdot (\vec{S}_{N} \times \vec{v}^{\perp}) \\ \mathcal{O}_{6} = (\vec{S}_{\chi} \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_{N}}) (\vec{S}_{N} \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_{N}}) & \mathcal{O}_{13} = i (\vec{S}_{\chi} \cdot \vec{v}^{\perp}) (\vec{S}_{N} \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_{N}}) \\ \mathcal{O}_{7} = \vec{S}_{N} \cdot \vec{v}^{\perp} & \mathcal{O}_{14} = i (\vec{S}_{\chi} \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_{N}}) (\vec{S}_{N} \cdot \vec{v}^{\perp}) \\ \mathcal{O}_{8} = \vec{S}_{\chi} \cdot \vec{v}^{\perp} & \mathcal{O}_{15} = -(\vec{S}_{\chi} \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_{N}}) ((\vec{S}_{N} \times \vec{v}^{\perp}) \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_{N}}) \end{array}$$

Haxton, Phys. Rev. C89, 065501 (2014), 1308.6288 Gondolo, Kang, Scopel, G.Tomar, Phys.Rev.D 104, 063017

#### Migdal effect in effective field theory



## Migdal effect vs bremsstrahlung



 $\begin{array}{lll} \mathcal{O}_{1} & \mathbb{1}_{\chi}\mathbb{1}_{N} \\ \mathcal{O}_{4} & \vec{S}_{\chi} \cdot \vec{S}_{N} \\ \mathcal{O}_{6} & \left(\frac{\vec{q}}{m_{N}} \cdot \vec{S}_{\chi}\right) \left(\frac{\vec{q}}{m_{N}} \cdot \vec{S}_{N}\right) \\ \mathcal{O}_{10} & \mathbb{1}_{\chi} \left(i\frac{\vec{q}}{m_{N}} \cdot \vec{S}_{N}\right) \end{array}$ 

Bell, Dent, Newstead, Sabharwal, Weiler PHYSICAL REVIEW D 101, 015012 (2020) Bremsstrahlung



 $\Delta E = E_{nl} + E_e$ 

• In model with comparable coupling to electrons and protons



Baxter, Kahn, Krnjaic, *arXiv*: 1908.00012

#### Dark photon model with equal couplings to electrons and protons (heavy mediators)



Baxter, Kahn, Krnjaic, *arXiv*: 1908.00012 Essig, Radler, Sholapurkar, Yu, *arXiv*: 1908.10881





• To handle Particle physics as well as Astrophysical uncertainties in DM direct detection

\* WimPyDD: object-oriented Python code

A. Uses most general non-relativistic Effective Field Theory

B. Valid for any velocity distribution

C. Includes DM of arbitrary spin

D. Handles inelastic scattering

Jeong, Kang, Scopel, G.Tomar, Computer Physics Communication, 2022

### Migdal effect in relativistic effective models





WimPyDD: an object–oriented Python code for the calculation of WIMP direct detection signals



Jeong, Kang, Scopel, G.Tomar, Computer Physics Communication Ibe, Nakano, Shoji, Suzuki JHEP 03 (2018) 194

#### Any High Energy Physics model can be studied



WimPyDD arXiv:2106.06207













A. Ibarra, M. Reichard, G.Tomar, arXiv: 2408.15760

- Increased Sensitivity: SuperCDMS and SENSEI will focus on lowering detection thresholds, aiming to detect dark matter masses as low as tens of MeV.
- Technological Advancements: Detector technologies like cryogenic detectors, low-noise amplifiers and noble gases are being optimized for better Migdal effect detection.
- Complementary Approaches: Combining DM-electron, DM-nucleus, and Migdal effect signals will improve constraints on sub-GeV DM.
- Use of multi-target materials across experiments (e.g., semiconductors, noble liquids) creates a more comprehensive exploration range.
- Theoretical Refinements: Improved theoretical calculations on Migdal effect crosssections and dark matter interaction rates can help guide future experiments and enhance their sensitivity

- Absence of DM signal in GeV-TeV range has prompt motivation for Sub-GeV DM
- The analysis of DM-nuclear elastic scattering is limited to DM mass of ~GeV mass range due to experimental threshold limitation
- Ionisation signal from DM-electron scattering (primary signal), and Migdal effect, photon bremsstrahlung (secondary signal) can lift this restriction
- We extended the Migdal analysis to the electromagnetic interactions
- The complementarity among DM-electron, DM-nucleus, and the Migdal effect is is observed
- The Migdal effect is an important tool to look for Sub-GeV dark matter

# Migdal Spectrum with EM interactions





A. Ibarra, M. Reichard, G.Tomar, arXiv: 2408.15760 \* Precise predictions for atomic ionisation form the Migdal effect

\* Dirac-Hartree-Fock method used to calculate the atomic wave function

$$P = \left| \left\langle \Psi_F | \Psi_{\text{in}} \right\rangle \right|^2 = \left| \left\langle \Psi_F | e^{-iq_e \cdot \sum_i x_i} | \Psi_{\text{in}} \right\rangle \right|^2$$



Cox, Dolan, McCabe, Quiney Phys. Rev. D 107, 035032 (2023)

#### Migdal effect vs electron scattering

Dark photon model with equal couplings to electrons and protons (heavy mediators)



Baxter, Kahn, Krnjaic, *arXiv*: 1908.00012 Essig, Radler, Sholapurkar, Yu, *arXiv*: 1908.10881

# Experimental thresholds

Experiment	Thresholds
XENON1T	0.186-3.8 keVee
DS50	0.083-0.106 keVee
SuperCDMS	0.07-2 keVee
COSINE-100	1-1.25 keVee

#### Reformulation of the Migdal Effect

Migdal's approach

Initial state of the DM scattering : (DM plane wave) x (Nucleus plane wave) Final state of the DM scattering : (DM plane wave) x (Nucleus plane wave) Migdal Effect = Final state effects

The Migdal Effect is treated separately from the nuclear scattering

New approach

Initial state of the DM scattering : (DM plane wave) x (Atomic plane wave)

Final state of the DM scattering : (DM plane wave) x (Atomic plane wave)

Image credit: Masahiro Ibe

• In the dark photon model with arbitrary mediator couplings,

$$\frac{dR_M/dq}{dR_e/dq} \gtrsim \left(\frac{Zc_p + (A - Z)c_n}{c_e}\right)^2 \left(\frac{m_e}{m_N}\right)^2 (qr_a)^2 (qr_a)^2 \int_{\substack{f \in I \\ radius}} \int_{\substack{Fifective atomic \\ radius}} \int_{\substack{Fifective ato$$

Baxter, Kahn, Krnjaic, *arXiv*: 1908.00012

# Migdal effect in relativistic effective models

#### Dimension-5



#### G.Tomar, Kang, Scopel, arXiv: 2210.00199



EFT validity scale  $\tilde{\Lambda} > \frac{\mu_{scale}}{(4\pi)^{1/(d-4)}}$  $\mu_{scale} = m_Z$ 

# Spin-1/2 WIMP response functions

$$\begin{split} R_{M}^{\tau\tau'}\left(\vec{v}_{T}^{\pm2}, \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}\right) &= c_{1}^{\tau}c_{1}^{\tau'} + \frac{j_{\chi}(j_{\chi}+1)}{3} \left[\frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}\vec{v}_{T}^{\pm}c_{5}^{\tau}c_{5}^{\tau'} + \vec{v}_{T}^{\pm2}c_{8}^{\tau}c_{8}^{\tau'} + \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}c_{1}^{\tau}c_{1}^{\tau'}\right], \\ R_{\Phi^{\nu}}^{\tau\tau'}\left(\vec{v}_{T}^{\pm2}, \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}\right) &= \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{4m_{N}^{2}}c_{5}^{\tau}c_{5}^{\tau'} + \frac{j_{\chi}(j_{\chi}+1)}{12}\left(c_{12}^{\tau} - \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}c_{15}^{\tau}\right)\left(c_{12}^{\tau} - \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}c_{15}^{\tau'}\right). \\ \text{Interference terms} \\ R_{\Phi^{\nu'}}^{\tau\tau'}\left(\vec{v}_{T}^{\pm2}, \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}\right) &= c_{3}^{\tau}c_{1}^{\tau} + \frac{j_{\chi}(j_{\chi}+1)}{3}\left(c_{12}^{\tau} - \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}c_{15}^{\tau}\right)c_{11}^{\tau'}, \\ R_{\Phi^{\nu'}}^{\tau\tau'}\left(\vec{v}_{T}^{\pm2}, \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}\right) &= \frac{j_{\chi}(j_{\chi}+1)}{12}\left[c_{12}^{\tau}c_{12}^{\tau'} + \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}c_{13}^{\tau}c_{13}^{\tau'}\right], \\ R_{\Sigma^{\nu'}}^{\tau\tau'}\left(\vec{v}_{T}^{\pm2}, \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}\right) &= \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{4m_{N}^{2}}c_{10}^{\tau}c_{10}^{\tau'} + \frac{j_{\chi}(j_{\chi}+1)}{12}\left[c_{4}^{\tau}c_{4}^{\tau'}\frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}(c_{4}^{\tau}c_{6}^{\tau'} + c_{6}^{\tau}c_{4}^{\tau'}) + \frac{\vec{q}^{4}}{m_{N}^{4}}c_{5}^{\tau}c_{6}^{\tau'} + \vec{v}_{T}^{\pm2}c_{12}^{\tau}c_{13}^{\tau}c_{13}^{\tau'}\right], \\ R_{\Sigma^{\nu'}}^{\tau\tau'}\left(\vec{v}_{T}^{\pm2}, \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}\right) &= \frac{\vec{q}}{4m_{N}^{2}}c_{10}^{\tau}c_{10}^{\tau'} + \frac{j_{\chi}(j_{\chi}+1)}{12}\left[c_{4}^{\tau}c_{4}^{\tau'}\frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}(c_{4}^{\tau}c_{6}^{\tau'} + c_{6}^{\tau}c_{4}^{\tau'}) + \frac{\vec{q}^{4}}{m_{N}^{4}}c_{5}^{\tau}c_{6}^{\tau'} + \vec{v}_{T}^{\pm2}c_{12}^{\tau}c_{12}^{\tau}c_{13}^{\tau'}c_{13}^{\tau'}\right], \quad (38) \\ R_{\Sigma^{\nu'}}^{\tau\tau'}\left(\vec{v}_{T}^{\pm2}, \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}\right) &= \frac{1}{8}\left[\frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}\vec{v}_{1}^{\pm}c_{5}^{\tau}c_{5}^{\tau'} + \vec{v}_{1}^{\pm2}c_{7}^{\tau}c_{7}^{\tau'}\right] + \frac{j_{\chi}(j_{\chi}+1)}{12}\left[c_{4}^{\tau}c_{4}^{\tau'} + \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}c_{5}^{\tau}c_{5}^{\tau} + \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}c_{15}^{\tau'}c_{5}^{\tau'}\right] + \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{2m_{N}^{2}}c_{5}^{\tau}c_{5}^{\tau'} + c_{12}^{\pi}c_{13}^{\tau'}c_{13}^{\tau'}\right], \\ \\ R_{\Sigma^{\nu'}}^{\tau\tau'}\left(\vec{v}_{T}^{\pm2}, \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}\right) &= \frac{1}{8}\left[\frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}\vec{v}_{5}^{\tau}c_{5}^{\tau'} + c_{8}^{\tau}c_{8}^{\tau'}\right], \\ \\ R_{\Delta^{\nu'}}^{\tau'}\left(\vec{v}_{T}^{\pm2}, \frac{\vec{q}^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}}\right) &= \frac$$

Anand, Fitzpatrick, Haxton, Phys. Rev. C89, 065501 (2014), 1308.6288

#### NREFT

• Free nucleon operators

$$\bar{\psi}_{f} \Gamma \psi_{i} \longrightarrow \chi_{f}^{\dagger} \mathcal{O}_{X} \tau_{N}^{t} \chi_{i}$$

$$\widehat{O}_M = 1, \quad \widehat{\vec{O}}_{\Sigma} = \vec{\sigma}_N, \quad \widehat{\vec{O}}_{\Delta} = \widehat{\vec{v}}_N^+, \quad \widehat{\vec{O}}_{\Phi} = \widehat{\vec{v}}_N^+ \times \vec{\sigma}_N, \quad \widehat{O}_{\Omega} = \widehat{\vec{v}}_N^+ \cdot \vec{\sigma}_N.$$

#### • WIMP-nucleon operators

$$\widehat{\mathcal{O}}_M = 1, \quad \widehat{\vec{\mathcal{O}}}_{\Sigma} = \vec{\sigma}_N, \quad \widehat{\vec{\mathcal{O}}}_{\Delta} = \vec{v}_{\chi N}^+, \quad \widehat{\vec{\mathcal{O}}}_{\Phi} = \vec{v}_{\chi N}^+ \times \vec{\sigma}_N, \quad \widehat{\mathcal{O}}_{\Omega} = \vec{v}_{\chi N}^+ \cdot \vec{\sigma}_N$$

$$\vec{v}_{\chi N}^{\,+}=\vec{v}_{\chi}^{\,+}-\vec{v}_{N}^{\,+}$$

$$ec{v}_{\chi}^{\,+} = ec{v}_{\chi} - rac{ec{q}}{2m_{\chi}}$$

#### NREFT

#### • Nuclear response

- *M* : vector-charge (**spin-independent part**, non-zero for all nuclei)
- $\bigcirc \Phi''$ : vector-longitudinal, related to spin-orbit coupling  $\sigma \cdot I$  (also spin-independent, non-zero for all nuclei)
- $\sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{j$
- $\bigcirc \Delta$ : associated to orbital angular momentum operator I, requires j > 0
- $\bigcirc \tilde{\Phi}'$ : related to the vector-longitudinal operator, transforms as a tensor under rotation, require j>1/2

 DM velocity is a linear combination of the substructures and halovelocities

$$f(v) = (1 - \eta_{sub})f_{halo}(v) + \eta_{sub}f_{sub}(v)$$

 $\eta_{sub}$  : DM fraction in the substructure

### Migdal effect in effective field theory

• Differential rate

$$\frac{dR_{\chi T}}{dE_R} = \sum_T N_T \frac{\rho_{\chi}}{m_{\chi}} \int_{v_{min}} d^3 v_{\chi T} f(v_{\chi T}) v_{\chi T} \frac{d\sigma_T}{dE_R}$$

Differential cross-section

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dE_R} = \frac{2m_T}{4\pi v_T^2} \left[ \frac{1}{2j_{\chi} + 1} \frac{1}{2j_T + 1} |\mathcal{M}_T|^2 \right]$$

Scattering amplitude  

$$\frac{1}{2j_{\chi}+1} \frac{1}{2j_{T}+1} |\mathcal{M}_{T}|^{2} = \frac{4\pi}{2j_{T}+1} \sum_{\tau,\tau'} \sum_{k} R_{k}^{\tau,\tau'} \left[ c_{j}^{\tau}, (v_{T}^{\perp})^{2}, \frac{q^{2}}{m_{N}^{2}} \right] W_{Tk}^{\tau\tau'}(y)$$
Here,  $k = M, \Phi'', \tilde{\Phi}', \Sigma', \Sigma'', \Delta, \Phi''M, \Delta\Sigma'$   
 $y = (qb/2)^{2}$  with nuclear size  $b$   
Anand, Fitzpatrick, Haxton, Phys. Rev. C89, 065501 (2014), 1308.6288

The ionisation event rate in an experiment due to the Migdal effect

$$\frac{dR}{dE_{det}} = \int_{0}^{\infty} dE_{R} \int_{v_{min}}^{\infty} dv_{\chi T} \frac{d^{3}R}{dE_{R}dE_{det}dv_{\chi T}}$$
Minimum DM speed to register the recoil
$$v_{min}(E_{R}) = \frac{m_{T}E_{R} + \mu_{\chi T}\Delta E}{\mu_{\chi T}\sqrt{2m_{T}E_{R}}}$$
Migdal ( $\Delta E = E_{e} + E_{nl}$ )
Bremsstrahlung ( $\Delta E = \omega$ )

Identical to inelastic DM with  $\delta \rightarrow \Delta E$ 

Smith and Weiner, *arXiv*: 0101138

#### **Direct Detection**



#### Direct Detection



#### Direct Detection (Elastic Scattering)



#### Direct Detection (Inelastic Scattering)



#### Direct Detection (Inelastic Scattering)



## Direct Detection (Inelastic Scattering)



Real state