

Superheavy Decaying Dark Matter

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Outline:

- Introduction
- A setup
- An explicit model (high-scale SUSY with RPV):
 - DM relic density
 - Indirect detection signals
- Conclusion & Outlook

Based on recent work:

RA, Arina, Chianese, Cicoli, Massaro, Maltoni, Osinski [JHEP 02, 192 \(2024\)](#)

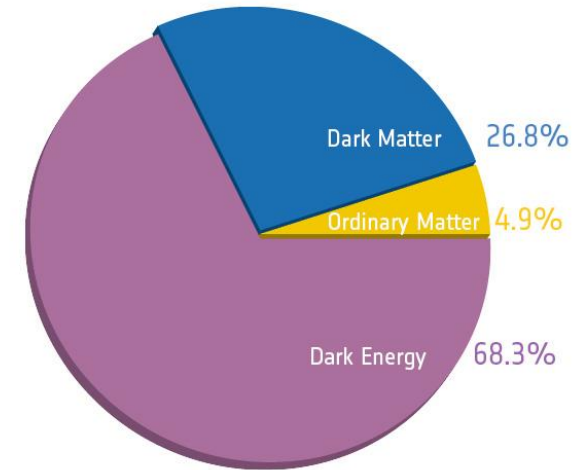
RA, Broeckel, Cicoli, Osinski [JHEP 02, 026 \(2021\)](#)

Introduction:

The present universe according to observations:

Important question about DM:

- (1) Its identity (particle physics).
- (2) Its relic abundance (particle physics + thermal

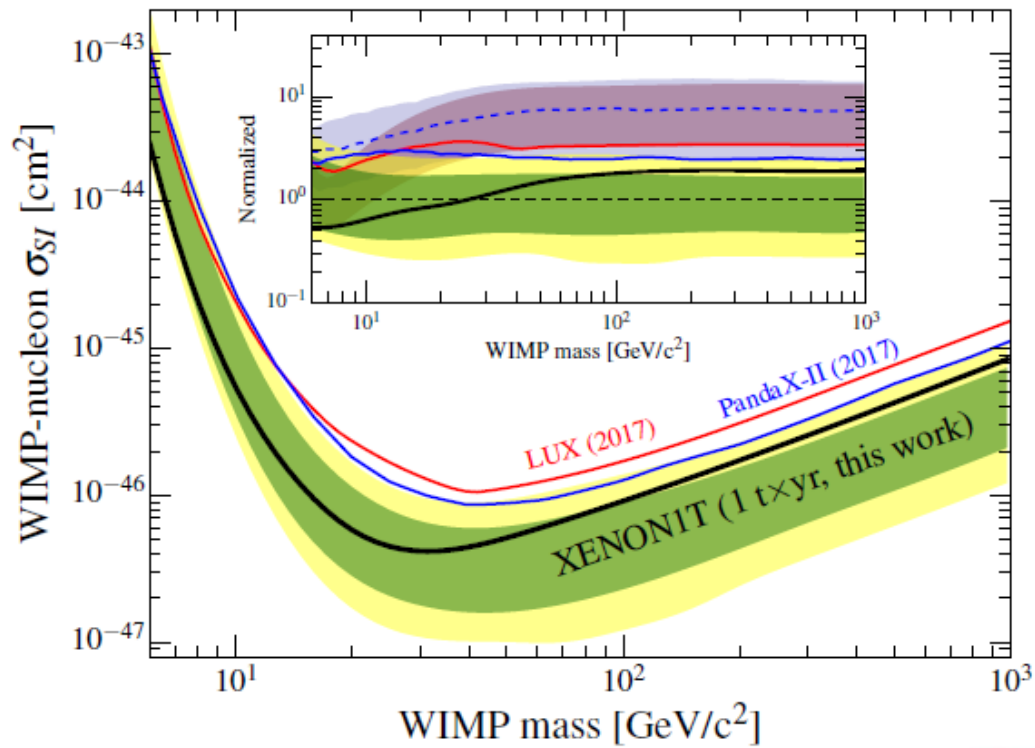


WIMPs have been the frontrunners until recently:

Well-motivated in BSM + WIMP miracle

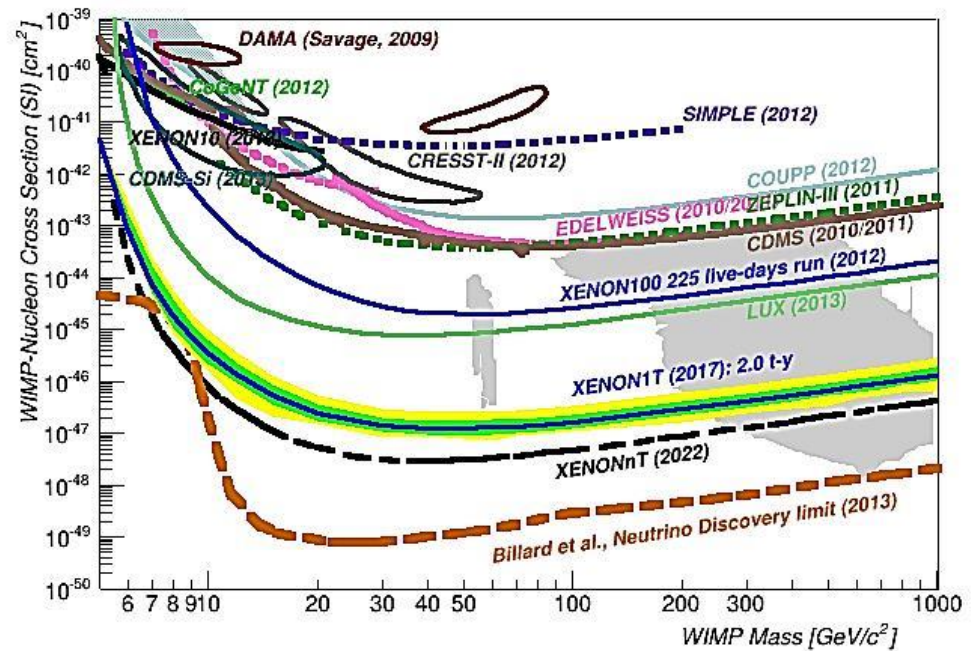
Searches within the canonical WIMP mass range (few-1000 GeV) have only resulted in limits.

Outside the box: light (sub-GeV) DM, **superheavy DM**.



PRL 121, 111302 (2018)

XENON Collaboration



Superheavy DM is motivated (for example, high-scale SUSY).

Issues:

(1) Thermal overproduction.

Griest, Kamionkowski PRL 64, 615 (1990)

(2) Highly suppressed signals.

- Collider (energy).
- Direct ($\propto n$).
- Indirect (annihilation signal $\propto n^2$).

Prospects for indirect detection improve for decaying DM ($\propto n$).

Current limits require lifetimes well above the age of the universe

→ Superheavy and extremely long lifetimes?

A Setup:

Type IIB flux compactifications.

Typical prediction: $H_{inf} \lesssim m_{3/2}$

Obtaining the correct amplitude for density perturbations:

$$H_{inf} \sim 10^{10} - 10^{11} \text{ GeV}$$

How to get low-scale SUSY in this context?

$$H_{inf} \gg m_{3/2} \quad m_{soft} \sim O(\text{TeV})$$

KKLT with two exponents (as in the racetrack model) \rightarrow tuned situation

Kalosh, Linde [JHEP 12, 004 \(2004\)](#)

$$H_{inf} \lesssim m_{3/2} \gg m_{soft} \sim O(\text{TeV})$$

Sequestered LVS \rightarrow very specific brane configurations and Kahler metric

Blumenhagen, Conlon, Krippendorff, Moster, Quevedo [JHEP 09, 007 \(2009\)](#)

High-scale SUSY is the more natural case:

$$H_{inf} \lesssim m_{3/2} \quad m_{soft} \gg O(TeV)$$

DM is the lightest neutralino (a superheavy WIMP).

How to solve thermal overproduction?

To exploit early matter domination (EMD) driven by string moduli.

The entire DM abundance produced from decay of a modulus ϕ :

$$\frac{n_\chi}{s} = \frac{3T_R}{4m_\phi} \text{Br}_\chi \quad T_R \sim \left(\frac{m_\phi^3}{M_P} \right)^{1/2}$$

How to get very long lifetimes?

Tiny RPV couplings from stringy instantons:

$$\lambda \sim e^{-S_{inst}} \quad S_{inst} \sim 2\pi g_s^{-1}$$

Task: Realization within explicit models.

An Explicit Model:

Type IIB model with three Kahler moduli:

$$\mathcal{V} = \tau_{\text{big}}^{3/2} - \tau_{\text{vis}}^{3/2} - \tau_{\text{inf}}^{3/2}$$

RA, Broeckel, Cicoli, Osinski JHEP 02, 026 (2021)

$$K = -2 \ln \left(\mathcal{V} + \frac{\xi}{2g_s^{3/2}} \right)$$

$$W = W_0 + A_{\text{vis}} e^{-a_{\text{vis}} T_{\text{vis}}} + A_{\text{inf}} e^{-a_{\text{inf}} T_{\text{inf}}}$$

$$\epsilon \equiv \frac{W_0}{\mathcal{V}} \ll 1 \qquad \kappa \equiv \frac{g_s}{8\pi} \ll 1$$

σ : inflaton

ϕ : modulus

$$m_\sigma^2 \simeq \kappa \epsilon^2 (\ln \epsilon)^2 M_{\text{P}}^2$$

$$m_\phi^2 \simeq \frac{\epsilon m_\sigma^2}{g_s^{3/2} W_0 |(\ln \epsilon)^3|} \ll m_\sigma^2$$

$$m_{3/2} = \sqrt{\kappa} \epsilon M_{\text{P}}$$

$$m_0 \simeq M_{1/2} \simeq \frac{m_{3/2}}{|\ln \epsilon|}$$

$$m_\chi \simeq m_0 \simeq M_{1/2}$$

↑

DM is the LSP

$$m_\phi^2 \simeq \frac{\epsilon |\ln \epsilon|}{g_s^{3/2} W_0} m_\chi^2 \ll m_\chi^2 \quad \text{for } \epsilon \ll 1$$

$$m_\sigma > m_\chi > m_\phi$$

MSSM-like hidden sector:

(1) $\Lambda_{QCD}^{hid} \gg \Lambda_{QCD}$.

(2) R-parity violation.

(3) Very light hidden electrons (similar to visible sector neutrinos \rightarrow DR).

Post-inflationary thermal history:

(1) $\Gamma_\sigma \lesssim H < H_{inf}$

EMD from inflaton oscillations.

Inflaton mainly decays to the hidden sector (DR) + DM.

(2) $H_D \lesssim H < \Gamma_\sigma$

Inflationary reheating completes, transition to RD.

(3) $\Gamma_\phi \lesssim H < H_D$

EMD driven by modulus oscillations.

Entropy released in the visible sector, dilutes DR & DM abundance.

(4) $\Gamma_\phi \lesssim H < H_D$

Modulus decay completes. Transition to RD prior to BBN.

Couplings:

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4} \frac{c_{\text{hid}}}{M_{\text{P}}} \sigma F_{\mu\nu}^{\text{hid}} F_{\text{hid}}^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{c_{\text{vis}}}{M_{\text{P}}} \sigma F_{\mu\nu}^{\text{vis}} F_{\text{vis}}^{\mu\nu}$$

$$c_{\text{hid}} \simeq g_s^{3/4} \sqrt{\mathcal{V}} \gg 1 \quad \text{and} \quad c_{\text{vis}} \simeq c_{\text{hid}}^{-1}$$

$$\Gamma_{\sigma} = N_g^{\text{hid}} \frac{c_{\text{hid}}^2}{64\pi} \left(1 + \frac{N_g}{N_g^{\text{hid}}} \frac{1}{c_{\text{hid}}^4} \right) \frac{m_{\sigma}^3}{M_{\text{P}}^2} \simeq N_g^{\text{hid}} \frac{c_{\text{hid}}^2}{64\pi} \frac{m_{\sigma}^3}{M_{\text{P}}^2}$$

$$N_g^{\text{hid}} = 12$$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4} \frac{\lambda_{\text{hid}}}{M_{\text{P}}} \phi F_{\mu\nu}^{\text{hid}} F_{\text{hid}}^{\mu\nu}, \quad \lambda_{\text{hid}} \simeq \frac{1}{|\ln \epsilon|}$$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4} \frac{\lambda_{\text{vis}}}{M_{\text{P}}} \phi F_{\mu\nu}^{\text{vis}} F_{\text{vis}}^{\mu\nu}, \quad \lambda_{\text{vis}} \simeq \frac{1}{|\ln \epsilon|}$$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \lambda_{\text{DR}} \frac{m_{\phi}^2}{M_{\text{P}}} \phi a_{\text{DR}} a_{\text{DR}}, \quad \lambda_{\text{DR}} \simeq \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}$$

Plus the Giudice-Masiero term (decay to the Higgs).

$$\Gamma_{\phi} = \frac{1 + Z^2}{48\pi} \frac{m_{\phi}^3}{M_{\text{P}}^2}$$

System of Boltzmann equations governing various species:

$$\frac{d\rho_\sigma}{dt} + 3H\rho_\sigma = -\Gamma_\sigma \rho_\sigma,$$

$$\frac{d\rho_\phi}{dt} + 3H\rho_\phi = -\Gamma_\phi \rho_\phi,$$

$$\frac{d\rho_{\text{DR}}}{dt} + 4H\rho_{\text{DR}} = \Gamma_{\sigma \rightarrow \text{DR}}\rho_\sigma + \Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \text{DR}}\rho_\phi,$$

$$\frac{d\rho_{\text{R}}}{dt} + 4H\rho_{\text{R}} = \Gamma_{\sigma \rightarrow \text{vis}}\rho_\sigma + \Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \text{vis}}\rho_\phi,$$

$$\frac{dn_\chi}{dt} + 3Hn_\chi = \text{Br}_\chi \Gamma_\sigma \left(\frac{\rho_\sigma}{m_\sigma} \right) + \langle \sigma_{\text{ann}} v \rangle (n_{\chi,\text{eq}}^2 - n_\chi^2),$$

The expected range of parameters:

$$W_0 \in [1, 10^3] \quad g_s \in [10^{-3}, 0.1] \quad \lambda \in [10, 10^4] \quad Y_\phi \in [0.01, 1]$$

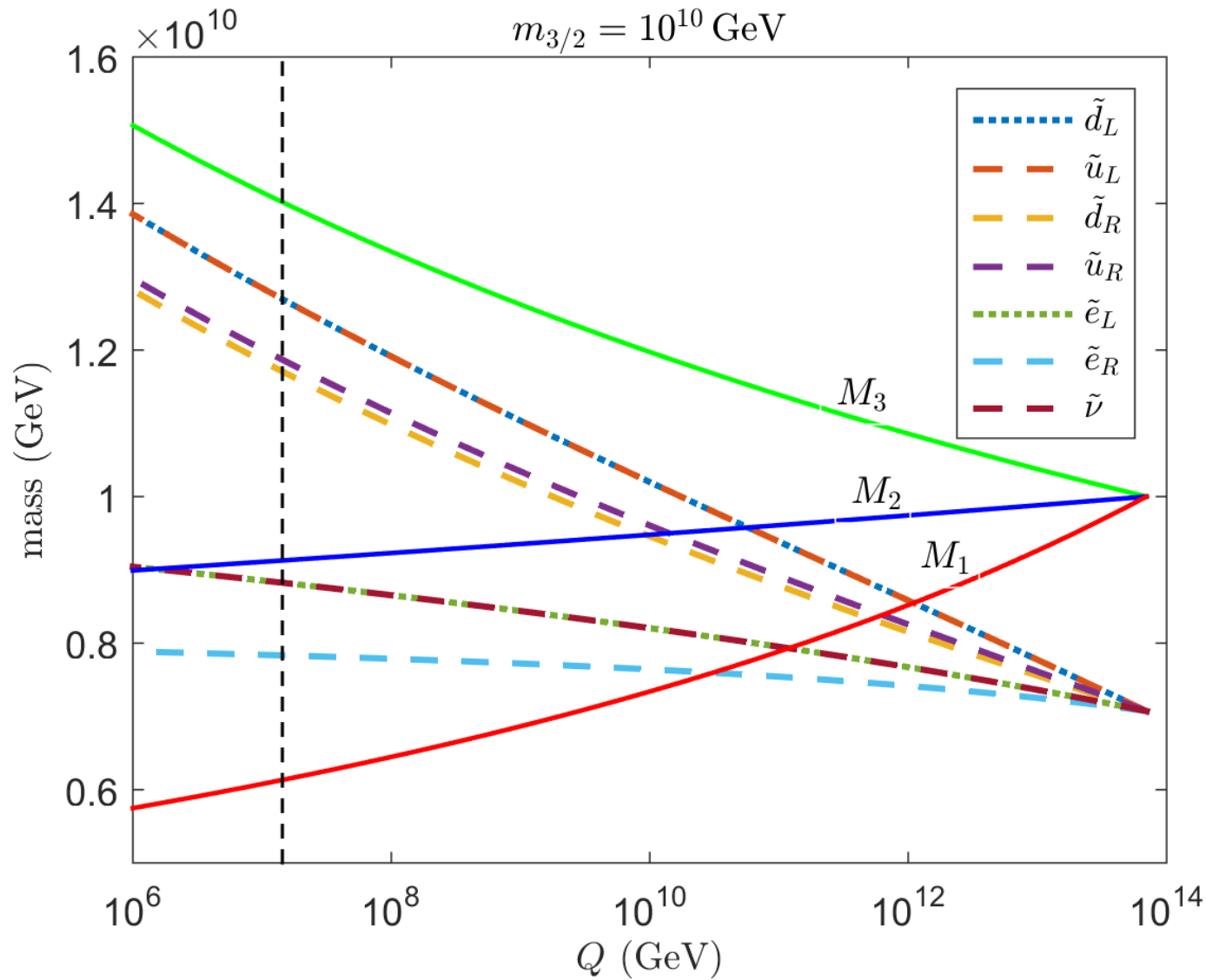
EMD also affects inflationary observables.

A consistent picture with the correct relic density is found for:

$$m_\chi \sim 10^{10} - 10^{11} \text{ GeV}$$

RA, Broeckel, Cicoli, Osinski JHEP 02, 026 (2021)

The visible sector mass spectrum:



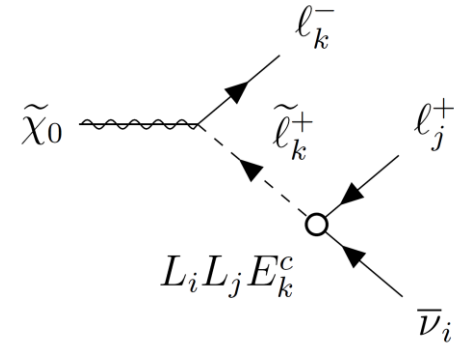
RA, Arina, Chianese, Cicoli, Massaro, Maltoni, Osinski [JHEP 02, 192 \(2024\)](#)

The LSP is Bino-like.

RPV couplings:

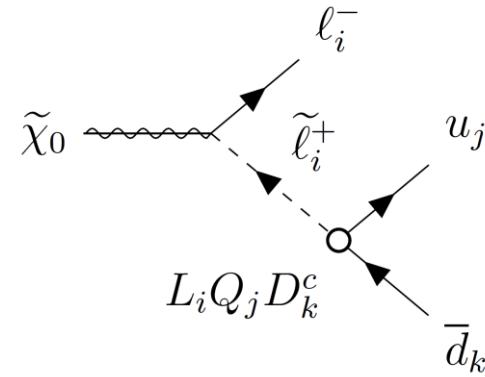
$$W_{\text{LLE}} = \epsilon^{\sigma\rho} (\lambda_{ijk} L_{i\sigma} L_{j\rho} E_k^c)$$

$$\Gamma_{\tilde{\chi}_0}^{\text{LLE}} = \lambda_{ijk}^2 \frac{\alpha(m_{\tilde{\chi}_0}^2)}{128\pi^2} \frac{m_{\tilde{\chi}_0}^5}{m_f^4}$$



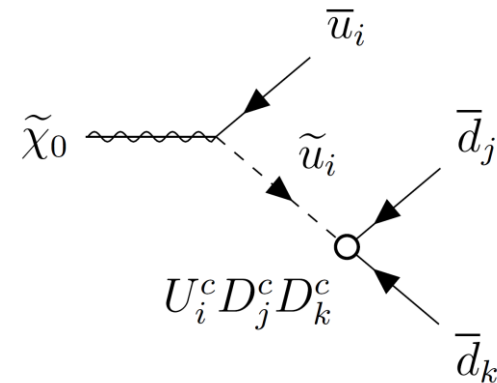
$$W_{\text{LQD}} = \epsilon^{\sigma\rho} (\lambda'_{ijk} L_{i\sigma} Q_{j\rho\alpha} D_{k\alpha}^c)$$

$$\Gamma_{\tilde{\chi}_0}^{\text{LQD}} = \lambda'_{ijk}{}^2 \frac{3\alpha(m_{\tilde{\chi}_0}^2)}{128\pi^2} \frac{m_{\tilde{\chi}_0}^5}{m_f^4}$$



$$W_{\text{UDD}} = 2\epsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma} \lambda''_{ijk} U_{i\alpha}^c D_{j\beta}^c D_{k\gamma}^c$$

$$\Gamma_{\tilde{\chi}_0}^{\text{UDD}} = \lambda''_{ijk}{}^2 \frac{3\alpha(m_{\tilde{\chi}_0}^2)}{64\pi^2} \frac{m_{\tilde{\chi}_0}^5}{m_f^4}$$



Photon flux from DM decay:

$$\frac{d\Phi_\gamma}{dE_\gamma d\Omega} = \frac{1}{4\pi m_\chi \tau_\chi} \frac{dN_\gamma}{dE_\gamma} \int_0^{+\infty} ds \rho_\chi[r(s, \ell, b)] \exp[-\tau_{\gamma\gamma}(E_\gamma, s, b, \ell)],$$

$$\Phi_\gamma^\chi(E_\gamma) = \frac{1}{\Omega_{\text{exp}}} \int_{E_\gamma}^{\infty} dE'_\gamma \int_{\Omega_{\text{exp}}} d\Omega \frac{d\Phi_\gamma}{dE'_\gamma d\Omega}$$

Neutrino flux from DM decay:

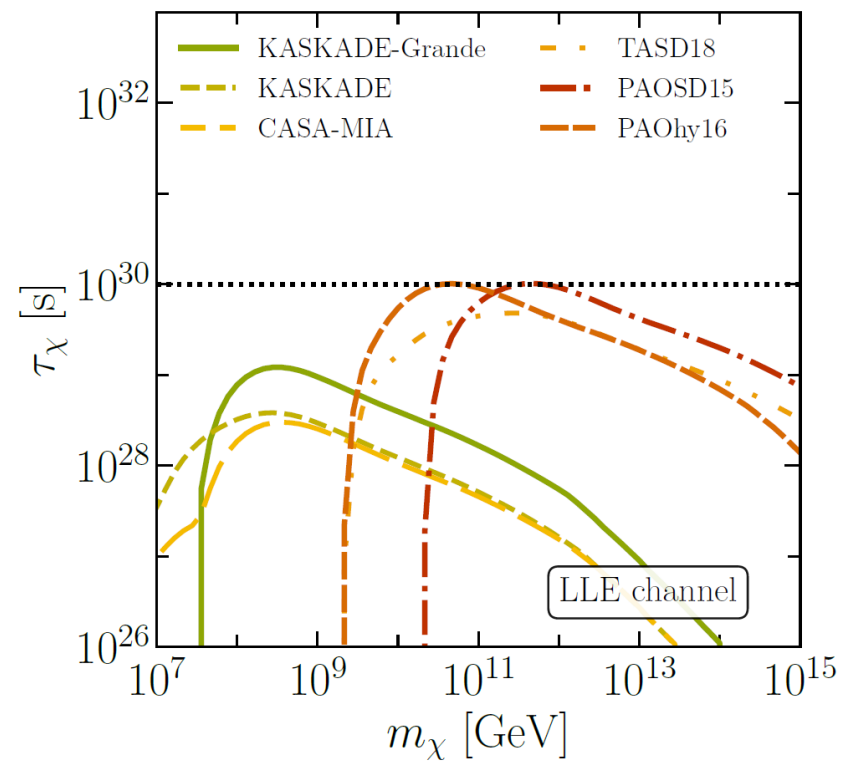
$$\frac{d\Phi_{\nu_\alpha + \bar{\nu}_\alpha}^{\text{gal}}}{dE_\nu d\Omega} = \frac{1}{4\pi m_\chi \tau_\chi} \frac{dN_\alpha}{dE_\nu} \int_0^{+\infty} ds \rho_\chi[r(s, \ell, b)].$$

$$\frac{d\Phi_{\nu_\alpha + \bar{\nu}_\alpha}^{\text{ex-gal}}}{dE_\nu d\Omega} = \frac{\Omega_\chi \rho_c}{4\pi m_\chi \tau_\chi} \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{dz}{H(z)} \frac{dN_\alpha}{dE'_\nu} \Big|_{E'_\nu = E_\nu(1+z)}$$

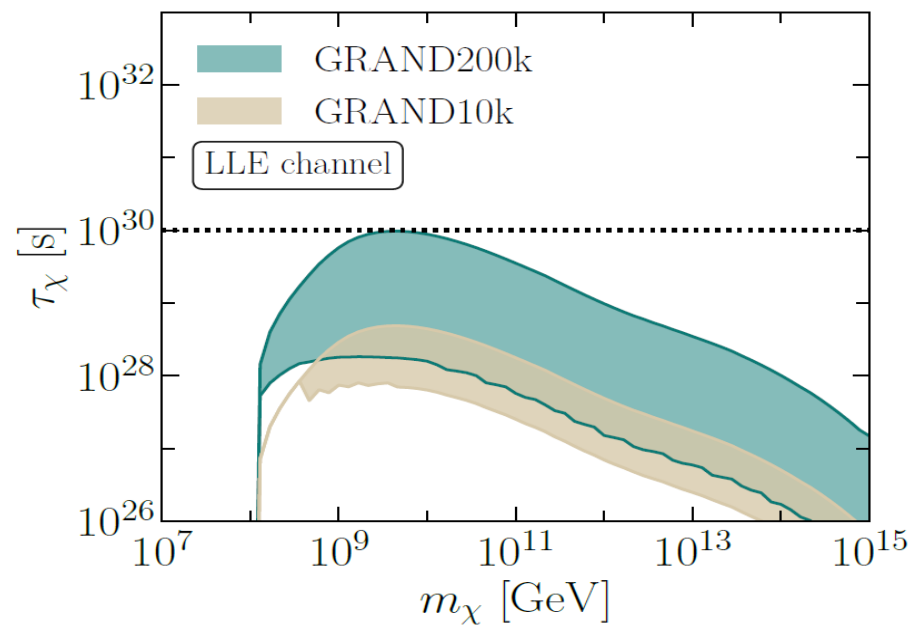
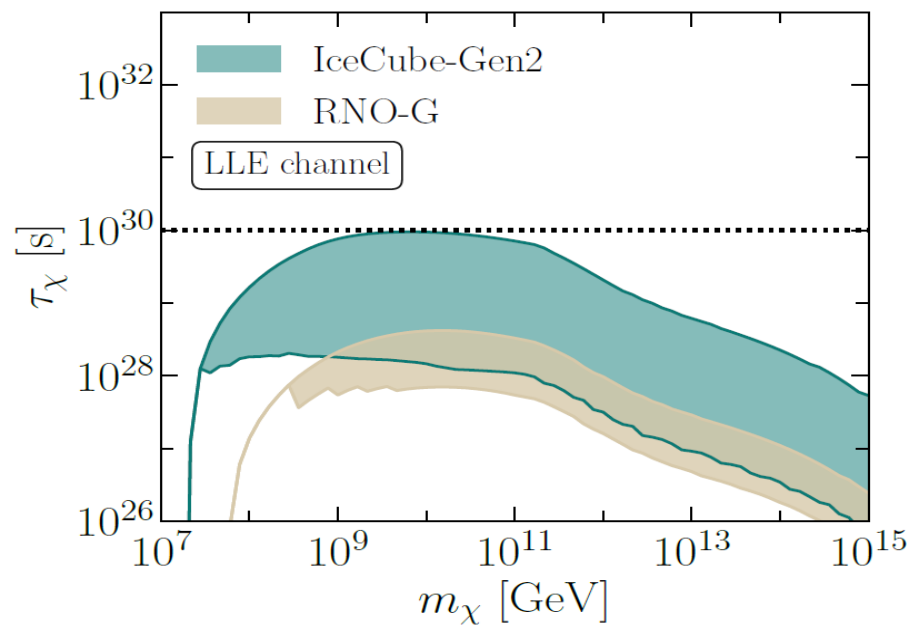
$$\frac{d\Phi_{3\nu}^\chi}{dE_\nu} = \sum_\alpha \int_{4\pi} d\Omega \left[\frac{d\Phi_{\nu_\alpha + \bar{\nu}_\alpha}^{\text{gal}}}{dE_\nu d\Omega} + \frac{d\Phi_{\nu_\alpha + \bar{\nu}_\alpha}^{\text{ex-gal}}}{dE_\nu d\Omega} \right]$$

LLE:

Limits from current gamma-ray data:

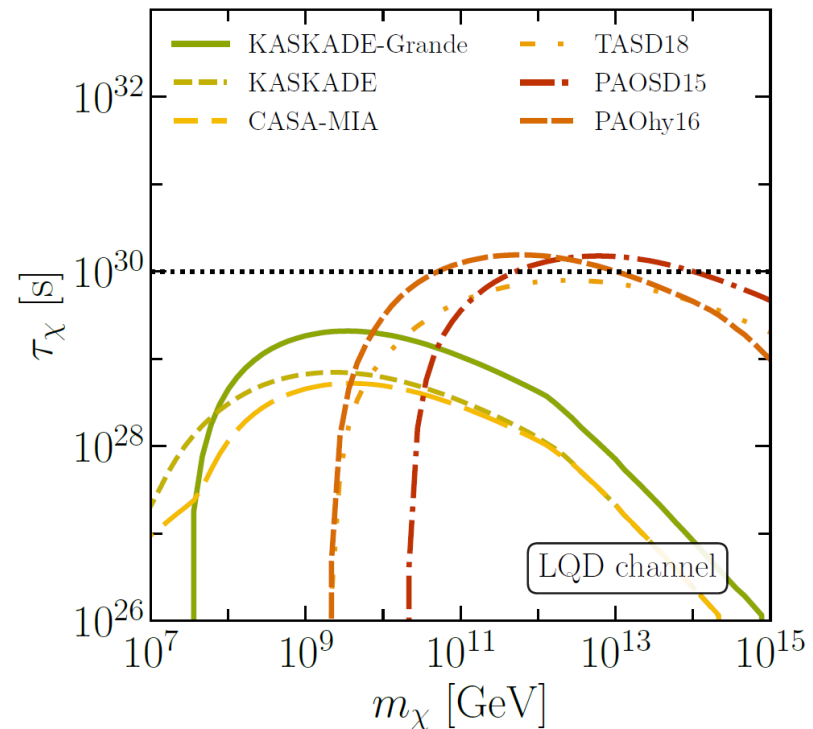


Forecast from future neutrino data:

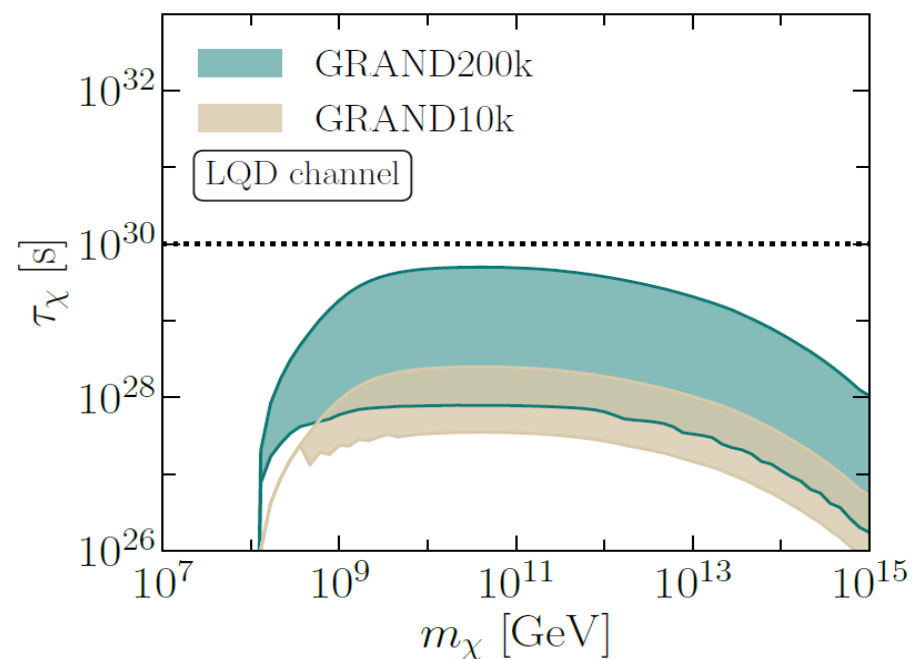
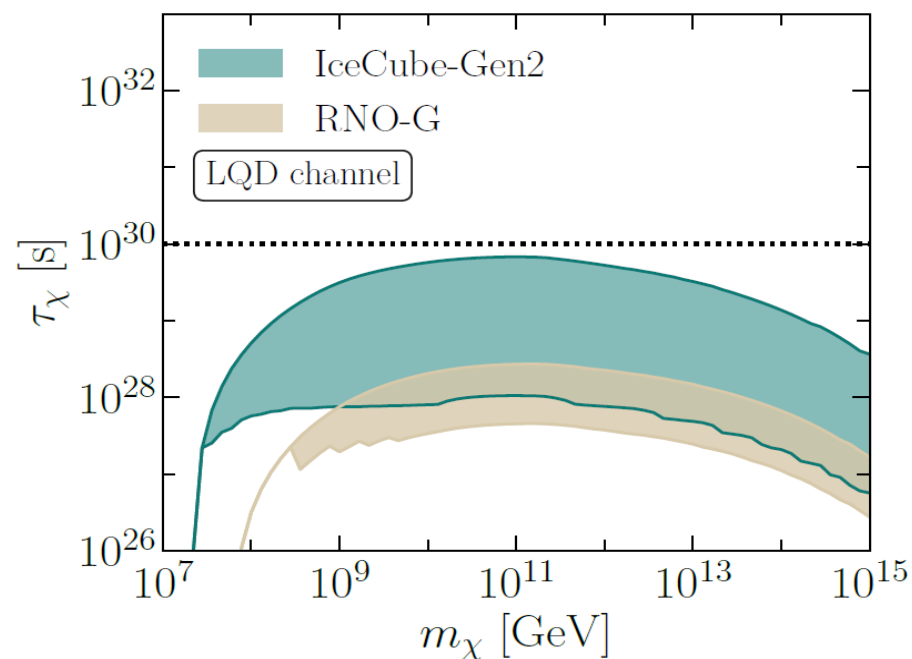


LQD:

Limits from current gamma-ray data:

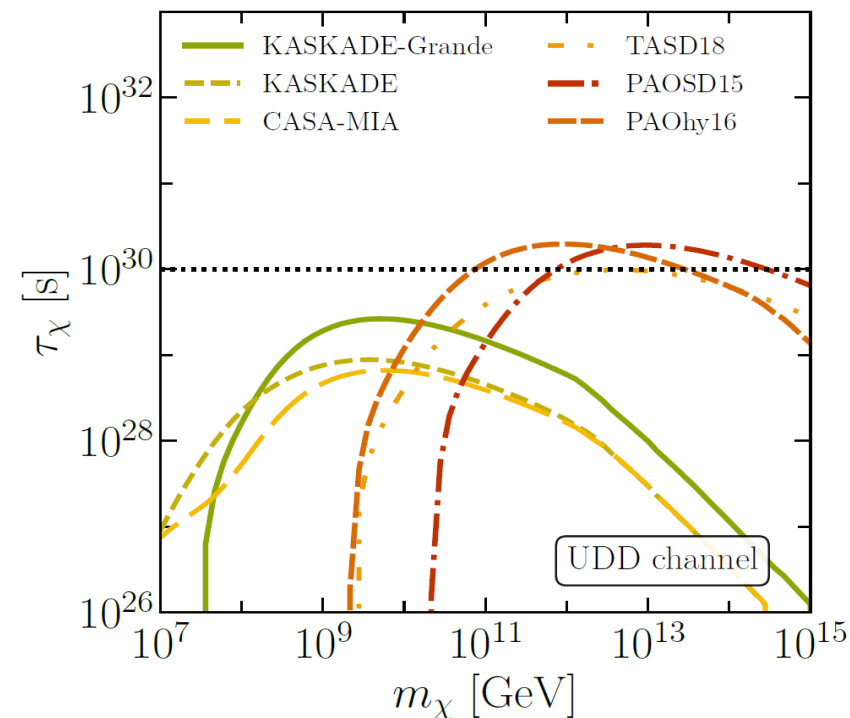


Forecast from future neutrino data:

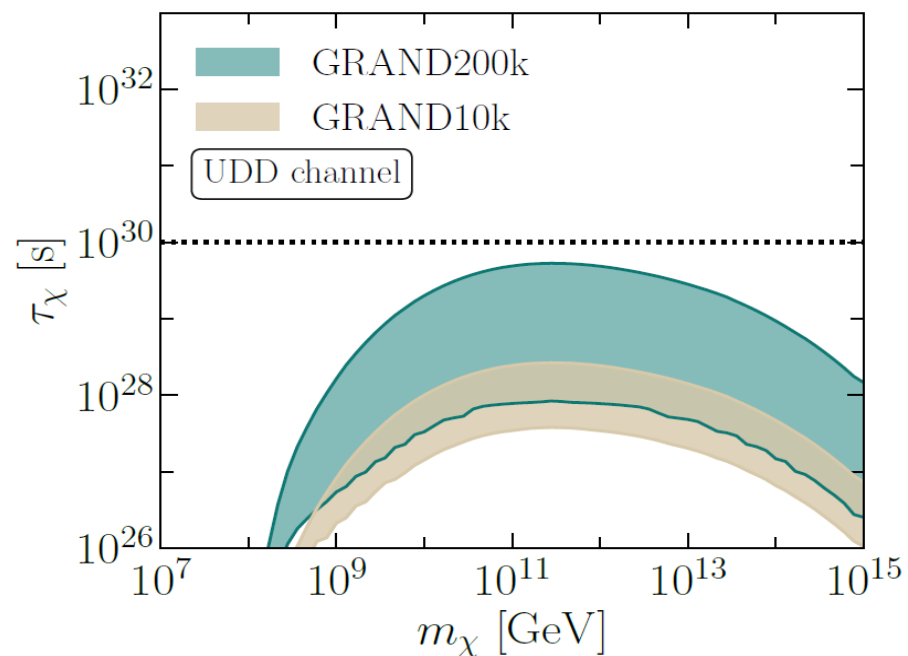
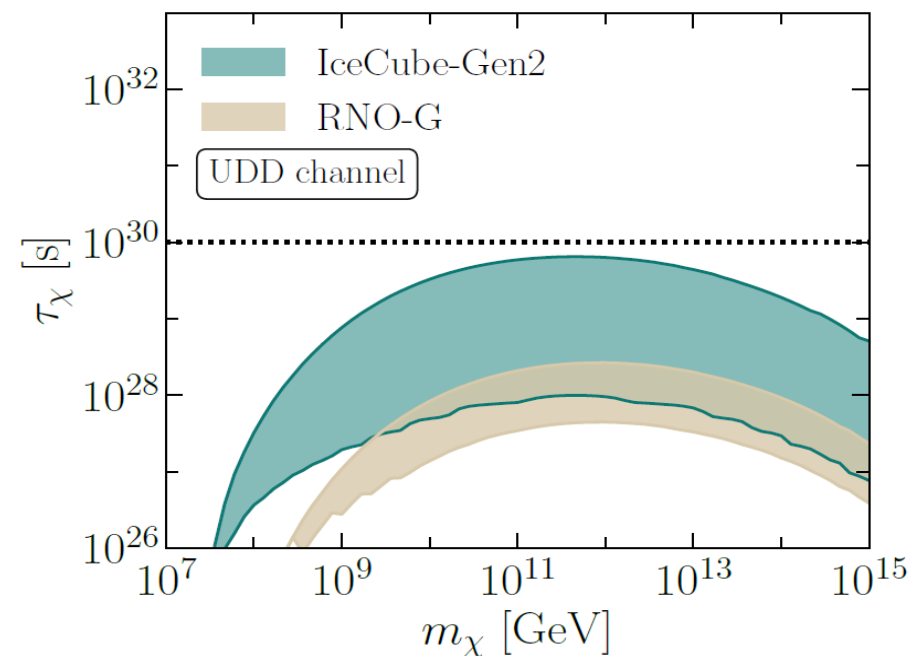


UDD:

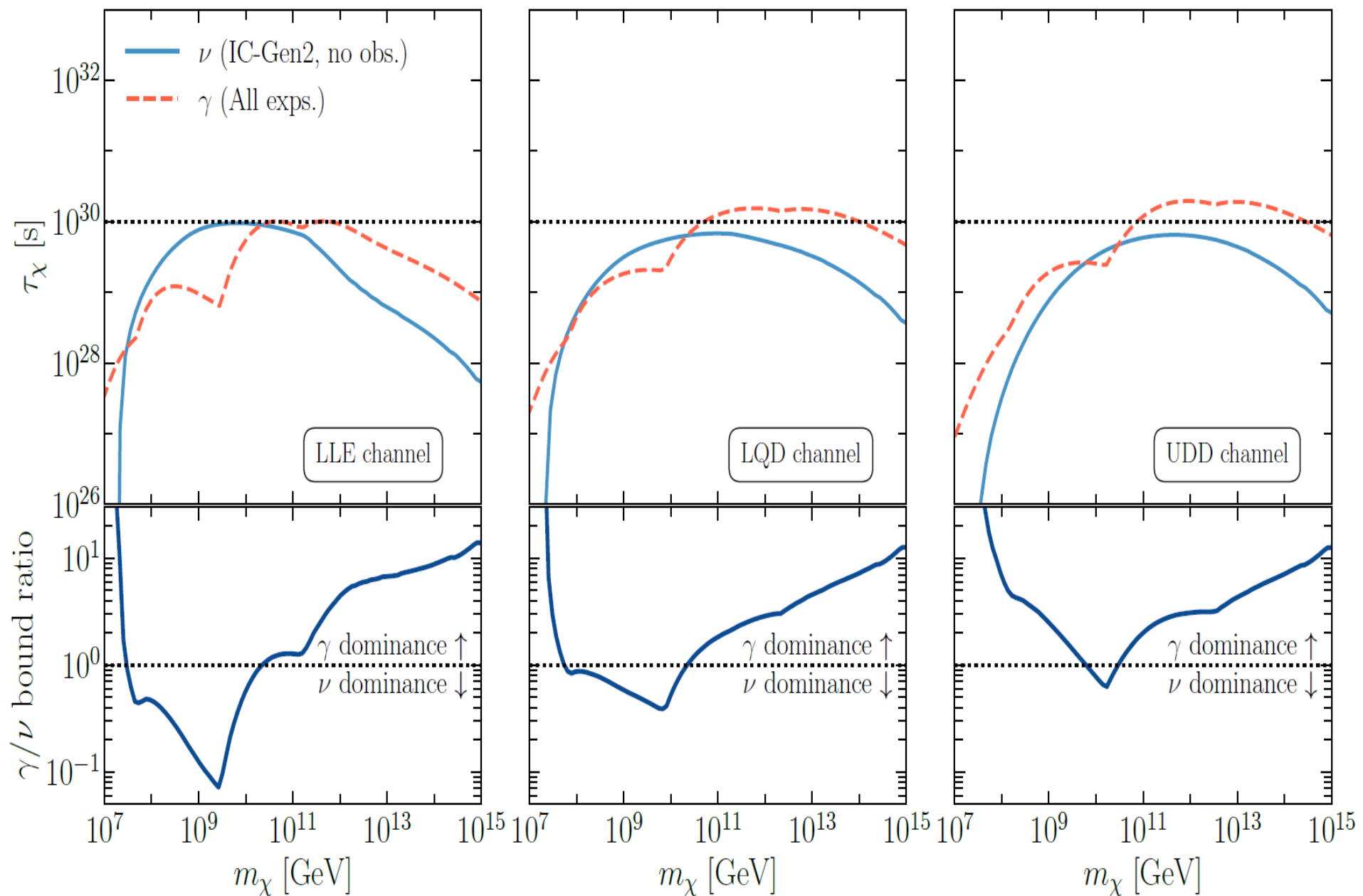
Limits from current gamma-ray data:



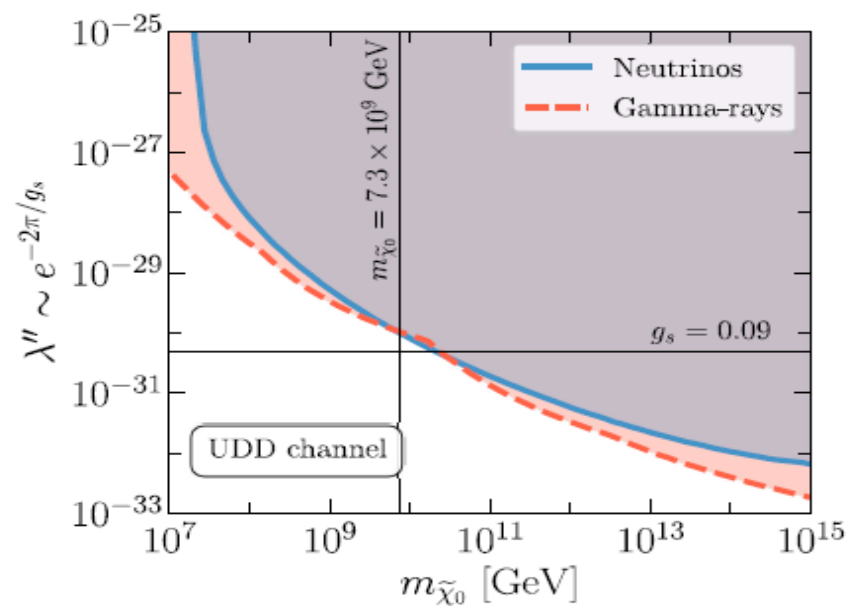
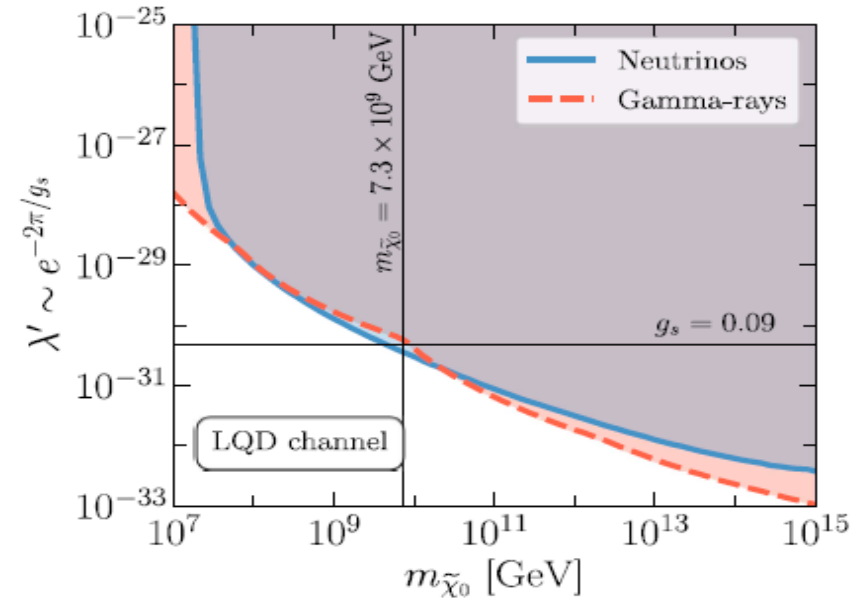
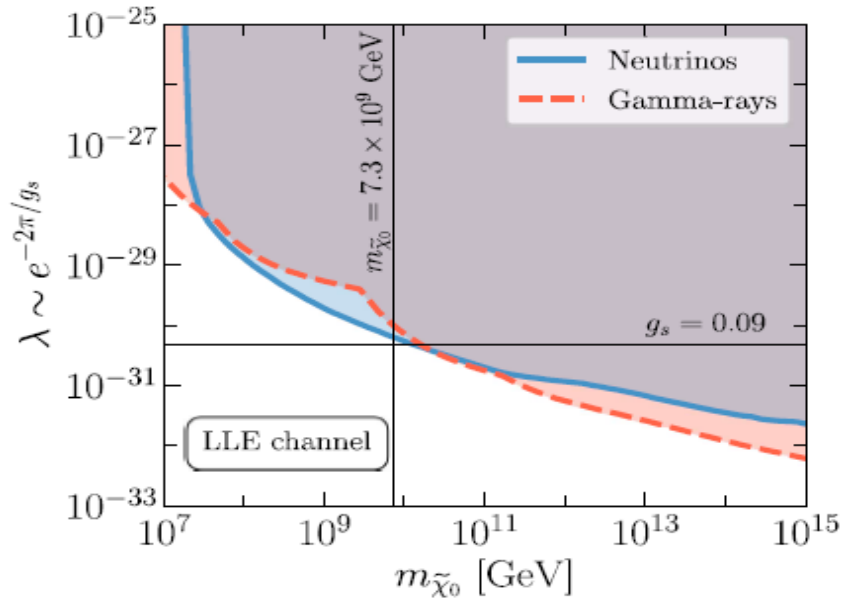
Forecast from future neutrino data:



Complementarity between gamma-ray and neutrino bounds:



Resulting bounds on the string coupling constant:



Conclusion & Outlook:

- Superheavy DM can naturally arise within string constructions.
- An explicit LVS model with Bino-like DM presented.
- Epoch(s) of EMD from moduli can solve the overabundance problem.
- Successful cosmology obtained for DM mass $\sim 10^{10} - 10^{11} \text{ GeV}$.
- Tiny RPV couplings from stringy instantons give rise to decaying DM.
- 3-body DM decays produce very high energy photons & neutrinos.
- Very tight limits on DM lifetime for DM mass above $\sim 10^9 \text{ GeV}$.
- Interesting to consider 2-body decays of LH/RH sneutrino DM

Backup Slides

Final DM abundance:

$$\frac{n_\chi}{s} \simeq \frac{3}{4} \times 10^{-3} \frac{1}{Y_\phi^2} \frac{\Gamma_{\sigma \rightarrow \text{vis}}}{\Gamma_\sigma} \frac{\Gamma_\phi}{\Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \text{vis}}} \frac{T_R}{m_\sigma}$$

$$T_R = \left(\frac{90}{\pi^2 g_{*,R}} \frac{\Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \text{vis}}}{\Gamma_\phi} \right)^{1/4} \sqrt{\Gamma_\phi M_P} \quad : \text{ final reheating temperature}$$

$$Y_\phi \equiv \phi_0 / M_P$$

$$\frac{\rho_{\text{DR}}}{\rho_R} \simeq \frac{1}{Y_\phi^{8/3}} \left(\frac{\Gamma_\phi}{\Gamma_\sigma} \right)^{2/3} \frac{\Gamma_{\sigma \rightarrow \text{DR}}}{\Gamma_\sigma} \frac{\Gamma_\phi}{\Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \text{vis}}} + \frac{\Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \text{DR}}}{\Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \text{vis}}}$$

Note that:

$$Y_\phi \uparrow \Rightarrow \frac{n_\chi}{s} \downarrow, \frac{\rho_{\text{DR}}}{\rho_R} \downarrow$$

Expected \rightarrow a longer EMD epoch results in a larger dilution factor.

EMD also affects inflationary observables:

$$N_e \simeq 57 + \frac{1}{4} \ln r - \frac{1}{4} N_{\text{reh}} - \frac{1}{4} N_\phi \quad r: \text{ tensor-to-scalar ratio}$$

$$N_{\text{reh}} \simeq \frac{2}{3} \ln \left(\frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{\Gamma_\sigma} \right) \quad N_\phi \simeq \frac{2}{3} \ln \left(\frac{H_D}{\Gamma_\phi} \right) \simeq \frac{2}{3} \ln \left(Y_\phi^4 \frac{\Gamma_\sigma}{\Gamma_\phi} \right)$$

$$N_e \simeq 57 + \frac{1}{4} \ln r - \frac{1}{6} \ln \left(Y_\phi^4 \frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{\Gamma_\phi} \right)$$

The scalar spectral index follows:

$$n_s = 1 - \frac{a}{N_e}$$

In our model $a = 2$ (similar to Starobinsky model & Higgs inflation):

$$N_e \gtrsim \frac{2}{1 - n_{s,\text{min}}} \quad Y_\phi \uparrow \Rightarrow N_e \downarrow, n_{s,\text{min}} \downarrow$$

Opposite constraints from $\frac{n_\chi}{s}$ and n_s on the duration of EMD.

Inflationary observables:

$$N_{\text{reh}} \simeq \frac{2}{3} \ln \left(\sqrt{\frac{3 \cdot 512^2 \pi^4}{2 (2\pi)^{3/2}}} \frac{\mathcal{V}^{1/2}}{N_g^{\text{hid}} W_0^2 g_s^{5/2} |\ln \epsilon|^{9/4}} \right)$$

$$N_\phi \simeq \frac{2}{3} \ln \left(Y_\phi^4 \frac{\Gamma_\sigma}{\Gamma_\phi} \right) \simeq \frac{2}{3} \ln \left(\frac{3}{4} \frac{N_g^{\text{hid}}}{1 + Z^2} Y_\phi^4 g_s^{15/4} \mathcal{V}^{5/2} |\ln \epsilon|^{9/2} \right)$$

$$r \simeq 16 \times 3.7 \times 10^6 \left(\frac{3 |\ln \epsilon|^{3/2}}{2 (2\pi)^{3/2}} \right) \frac{g_s}{16\pi} \frac{W_0^2}{\mathcal{V}^3}$$

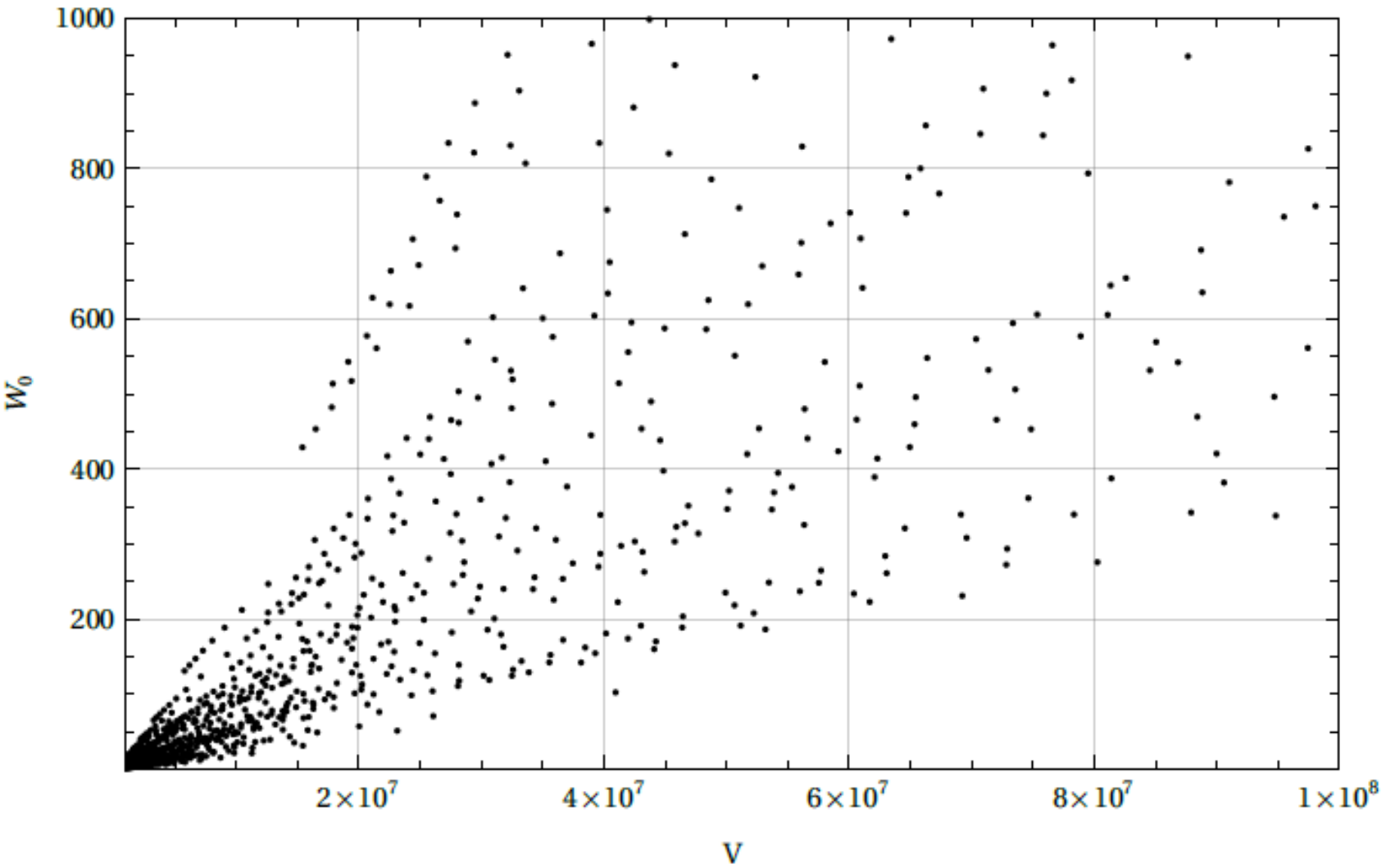
$$N_e \simeq 60.1 - \frac{1}{6} \ln \left(\frac{Y_\phi^4 \mathcal{V}^{15/2}}{5 g_s^{1/4} W_0^5 |\ln \epsilon|^{9/4}} \right)$$

Obtaining the right density perturbations gives the following relation:

$$\mathcal{V}^{2/3} \simeq \lambda \left(\frac{\alpha^{1/4} \mathcal{V}}{g_s^{1/2} W_0 |\ln \epsilon|^{3/4} N_e} \right)^4$$

$$\mathcal{V}^{2/3} \simeq \lambda \tau_{\text{inf}}, \quad \lambda \gg 1$$

Points that yield the correct density perturbations and DM abundance:



$$\frac{n_\chi}{s} \propto Y_\phi^{-2} V^{-13/4}$$

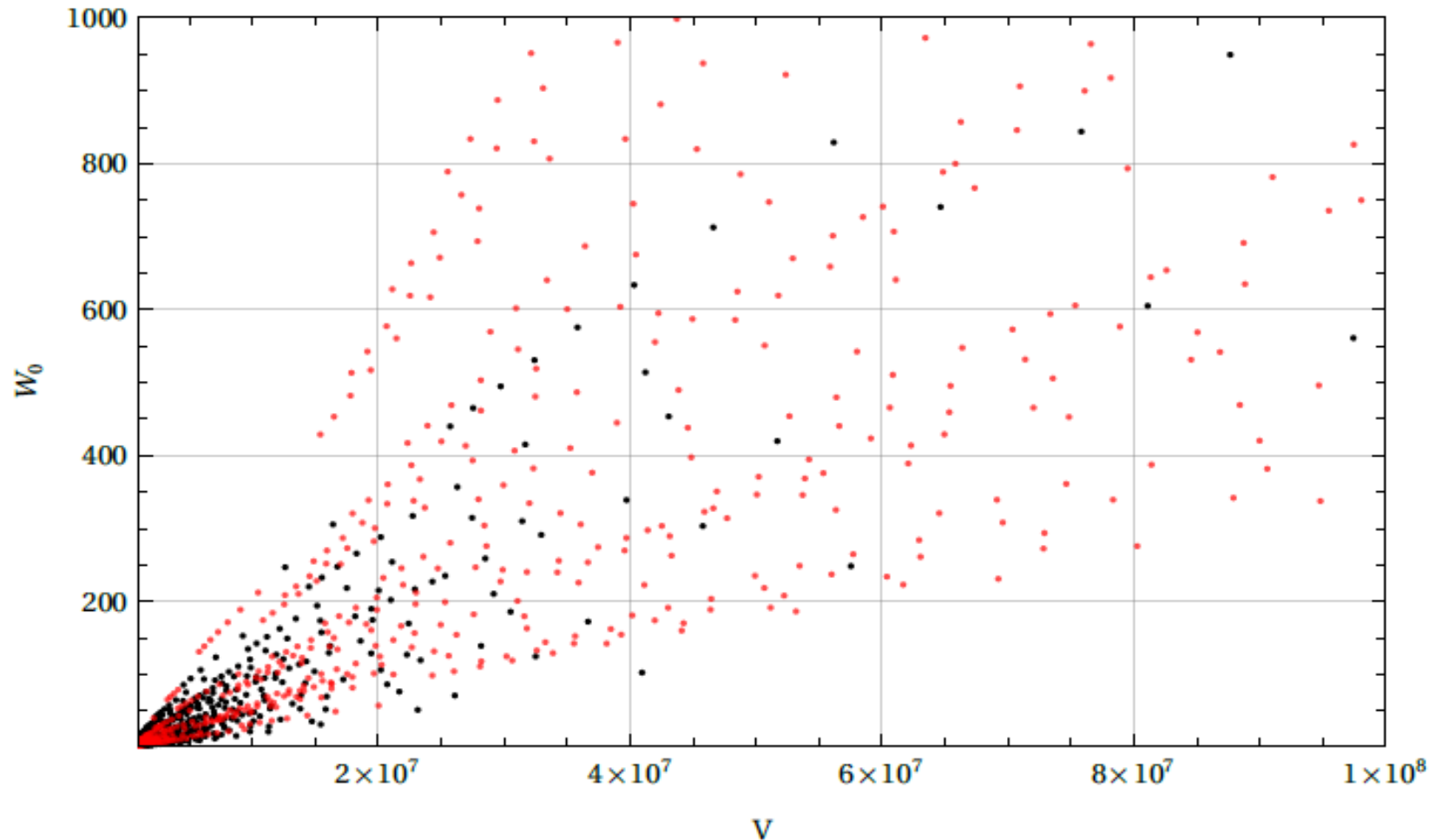
Black: n_s in the 2σ range

$$0.9565 < n_s < 0.9733$$

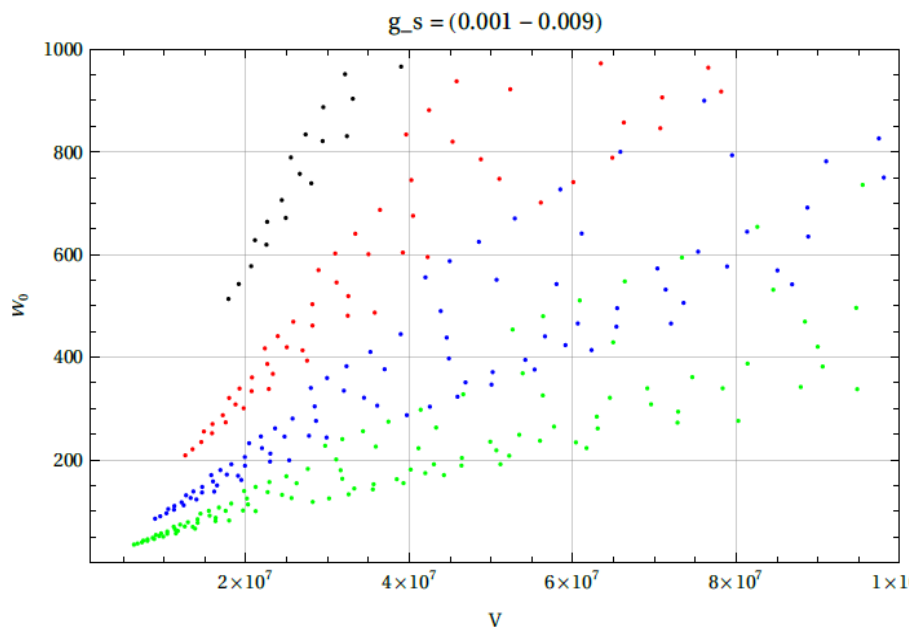
Red: n_s in the 3σ range
(but outside 2σ)

$$0.9523 < n_s < 0.9775$$

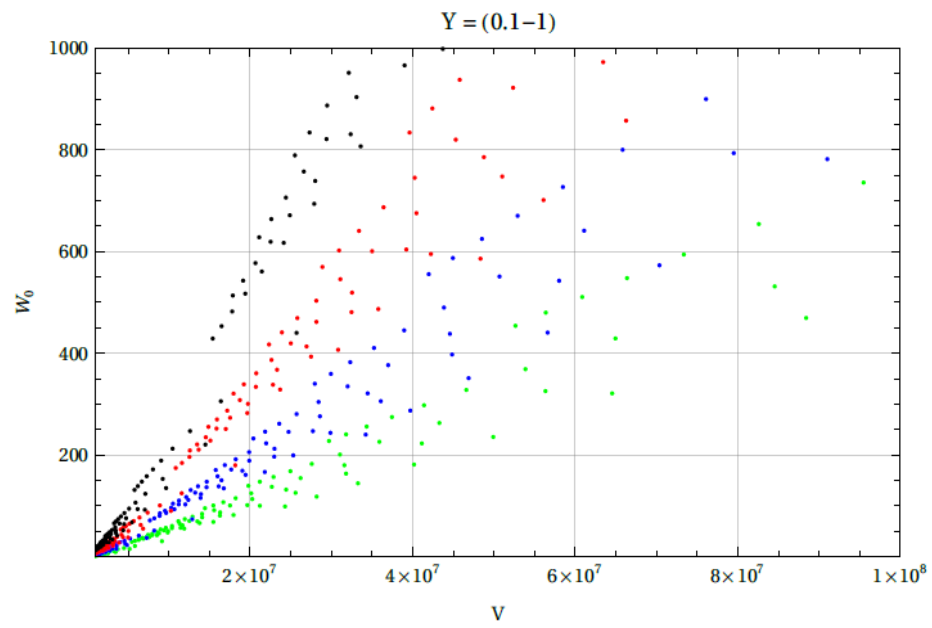
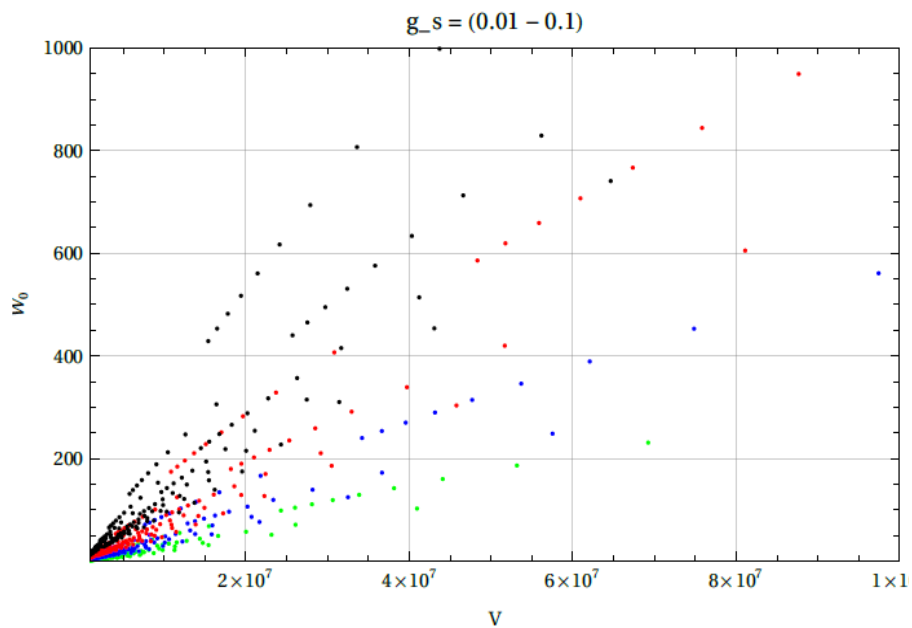
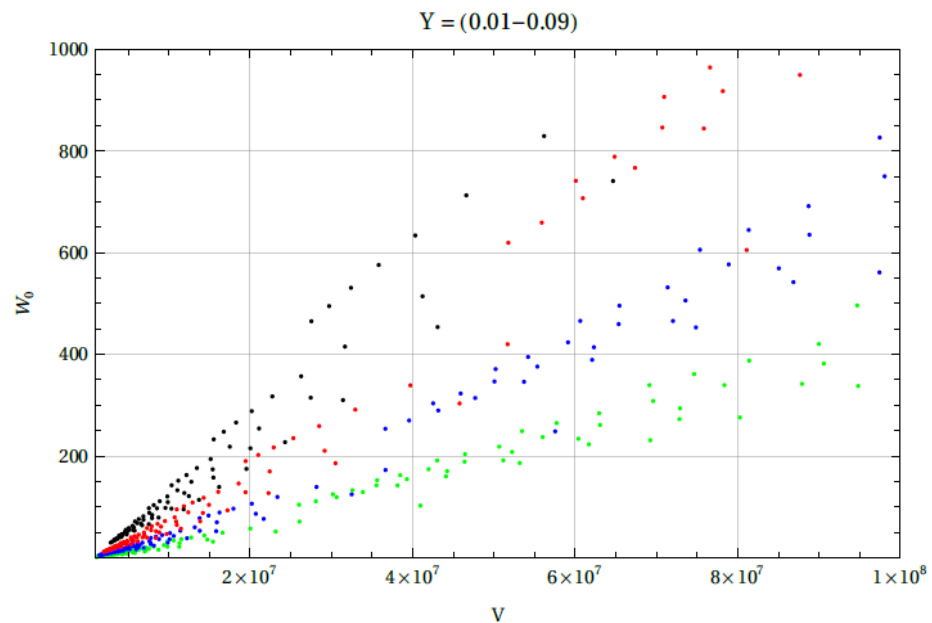
Planck 2018 [Astron. Astrophys. 641, A10 \(2020\)](#)



Subsets varying g_s :



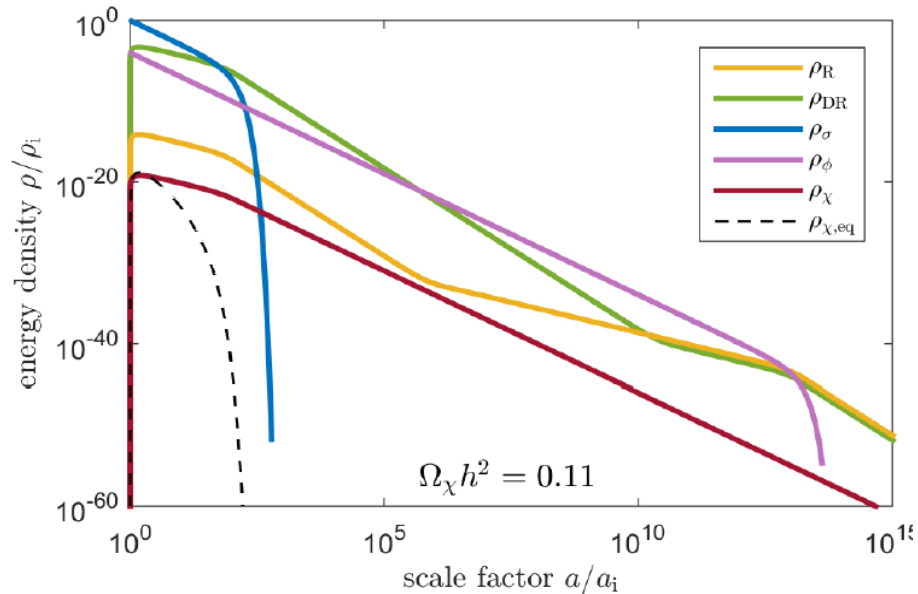
Subsets varying Y_ϕ :



A chosen benchmark point:

W_0	39.1
\mathcal{V}	8.4×10^6
N_e	47.4
N_{reh}	3.7
N_ϕ	16.4
n_s	0.9578
m_σ	$8.7 \times 10^{12} \text{ GeV}$
m_ϕ	$3.9 \times 10^8 \text{ GeV}$
$m_{3/2}$	$7.1 \times 10^{11} \text{ GeV}$
m_χ	$5.8 \times 10^{10} \text{ GeV}$
c_{hid}	514.7

Various energy densities:



Visible sector temperature:

