



Contribution ID: 40

Type: **not specified**

Strong CMB bounds on ALPS form strings

Tuesday 15 April 2025 14:45 (15 minutes)

Axion-like particles (ALPS), radiated from a network of cosmic strings, may be a large part of Dark Matter (DM). In the era of precision cosmology, it is possible to characterize the effect of such particles - which almost scale invariant distribution function spans many orders of magnitudes in momentum - on the observables. In this work, we employ the CLASS code and Planck 2018 data to place bounds on the abundance and on other distinctive parameters of ALPS from strings. We focus on the mass range $10^{-20} - 10^{-15}$ eV, and we find the strongest constraint on the ALP decay constant f_a if the ALP mass is between $10^{-20} - 10^{-18}$ eV, where we are able to improve the overabundance of DM bound on f_a by more than a factor of 3. As a result, ALPS from strings cannot account for more than one-tenth of DM at three sigma if m_a is between $10^{-20} - 10^{-18}$ eV.

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