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Dark Matter Searches with a Mono-Z' Jet

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We study collider signatures of a class of dark matter models with a GeV-scale dark Z' . At hadron colliders, the production of dark matter particles naturally leads to associated production of the Z' , which can appear as a narrow jet after it decays hadronically. Contrary to the usual mono-jet signal from initial state radiation, the final state radiation of dark matter can generate the signature of a mono- Z' jet plus missing transverse energy. Performing a jet-substructure analysis to tag the Z' jet, we show that these Z' jets can be distinguished from QCD jets at high significance. Compared to mono-jets, a dedicated search for mono- Z' jet events can lead to over an order of magnitude stronger bounds on the interpreted dark matter-nucleon scattering cross sections.

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