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Reaching Beyond the Standard Scenarios: From Strongly Coupled Dark Sectors and Thermal Freezeout to Cosmological Phase Transitions and the Lifetime Frontier

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In this talk, I survey new non-traditional approaches to a number of topics in dark-matter physics. These include strongly coupled dark sectors, new thermal freezeout phenomenologies, new dark-matter effects emerging from cosmological phase transitions, and a new approach towards probing the dark sector with detectors that are designed to explore the so-called “lifetime frontier”. As we shall see, all of these topics are connected through Dynamical Dark Matter (DDM), an alternative approach to dark-matter physics. In this talk, I provide an overview of the DDM framework and then discuss how it provides a new way of addressing a number of long-standing issues in dark-matter phenomenology.

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