

# Superheavy Dark Matter from String Theory

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XIV International Workshop on Interconnections between  
Particle Physics and Cosmology (PPC 2021)

Oklahoma University

May 17-21, 2021

Based on:

R.A., Broeckel, Cicoli, Osinski [JHEP 1810, 02, 026 \(2021\)](#)

# Introduction:

The present universe according to observations:

BSM needed to explain 95% of the universe.

Important questions about DM:

What is the identity of DM?

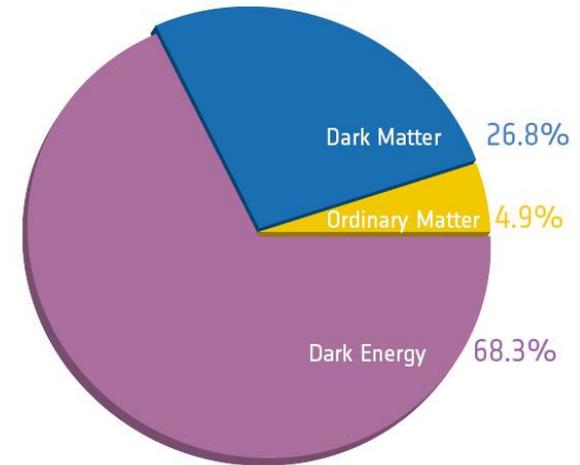
How did it acquire its relic abundance?

Profound consequences for:

Particle Physics (BSM)

Cosmology (thermal history)

String constructions provide a UV complete description of the early universe (inflation to BBN), as well as BSM.



Type IIB flux compactifications typically predict:

$$H_{inf} \lesssim m_{3/2}$$

Obtaining the correct amplitude for density perturbations results in:

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

How to reconcile this with low-energy SUSY  $m_{soft} \sim O(\text{TeV})$  ?

$$(1) H_{inf} \gg m_{3/2} \quad m_{soft} \sim O(\text{TeV})$$

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

Kalosh, Linde JHEP 12, 004 (2004)

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

Sequestered LVS  $\rightarrow$  very specific brane configurations and Kahler metric

Blumenhagen, Conlon, Krippendorff, Moster, Quevedo JHEP 09, 007 (2009)

Lets consider the more natural case:

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

This will result in thermal overproduction of DM.

Griest, Kamionkowski PRL 64, 615 (1990)

But, string constructions generically result in non-standard thermal histories that involve epoch(s) of EMD driven by string moduli.

Kane, Sinha, Watson IJMPD 24, 1530022 (2015)

The entire DM abundance can be directly produced from decay of a modulus  $\phi$  :

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

“Branching scenario”

Gelmini, Gondolo PRD 74, 023510 (2006)

R.A., B. Dutta, Sinha PRD 83, 083502 (2011)

This scenario can be implemented in sequestered LVS, volume modulus plays the role of  $\phi$ .

R.A., Cicoli, B. Dutta, Sinha PRD 88, 095015 (2013)

However, the simplest realization does not work for superheavy DM:

$$(1) Br_{\chi} \gtrsim O(10^{-3}) \Rightarrow \frac{n_{\chi}}{s} \gg \left(\frac{n_{\chi}}{s}\right)_{obs} \simeq 4.2 \times 10^{-10} \left(\frac{1 \text{ GeV}}{m_{\chi}}\right)$$

(2)  $\phi$  decay produces an excess of DR.

R.A., Cicoli, B. Dutta, Sinha JCAP 10, 004 (2014)

The “branching scenario” should be modified in this case so that it:

(1) Gives rise to a sufficiently small DM relic density.

(2) Does not produce an excessive amount of DR.

R.A., Broeckel, Cicoli, Osinski JHEP 02, 026 (2021)

# The Scenario:

$\sigma$ : inflaton                       $\phi$ : modulus

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

## Post-inflationary thermal history:

- (1)  $\Gamma_\sigma \lesssim H < H_{inf}$  : EMD from inflaton oscillations. Inflaton decay produces DR and a subdominant component of 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 generation at the end of this stage dilutes DR and DM from (1).
- (4)  $\Gamma_\phi \lesssim H < H_D$  : Modulus decay completes. Transition to RD prior to the onset of BBN. by modulus oscillations.

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

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

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

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

Note:

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

Expected: 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  $a = 2$  (also for 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.

## The Model:

Type IIB model with three Kahler moduli:

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

$$K = -2 \ln \left( \mathcal{V} + \frac{\xi}{2g_s^{3/2}} \right) \quad W = W_0 + A_{\text{vis}} e^{-a_{\text{vis}} T_{\text{vis}}} + A_{\text{inf}} e^{-a_{\text{inf}} T_{\text{inf}}}$$

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

Mass spectrum:

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

$$m_{a_{\text{DR}}}^2 \simeq \kappa e^{-2\mathcal{V}^{2/3}} M_{\text{P}}^2 \sim 0$$

$$m_{3/2} = \sqrt{\kappa} \epsilon M_{\text{P}} \quad m_0 \simeq M_{1/2} \simeq \frac{m_{3/2}}{|\ln \epsilon|} \quad m_\chi \simeq m_0 \simeq M_{1/2}$$

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

↑  
DM is the LSP

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).

Couplings:

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

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

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

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

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

Giudice-Masiero contribution:

$$\mathcal{L} \supset c \frac{m_{\phi}^2}{M_{\text{P}}} \phi [(h^0)^2 + (G^0)^2 + (\text{Re}G^+)^2 + (\text{Im}G^+)^2] \quad c = Z/(2\sqrt{6})$$

$$\Delta N_{\text{eff}} \simeq 3 \frac{\Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \text{DR}}}{\Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \text{vis}}} = \frac{3}{Z^2} \lesssim 0.75 \quad \text{for } Z \gtrsim 2$$

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

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

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

## Inflationary observables:

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

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

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

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

Obtaining the right density perturbations gives the following relation:

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

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

## Results:

We impose the requirement from density perturbations, and find the DM mass that corresponds to the observed abundance.

We perform this over the expected range of parameters (1444 points):

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

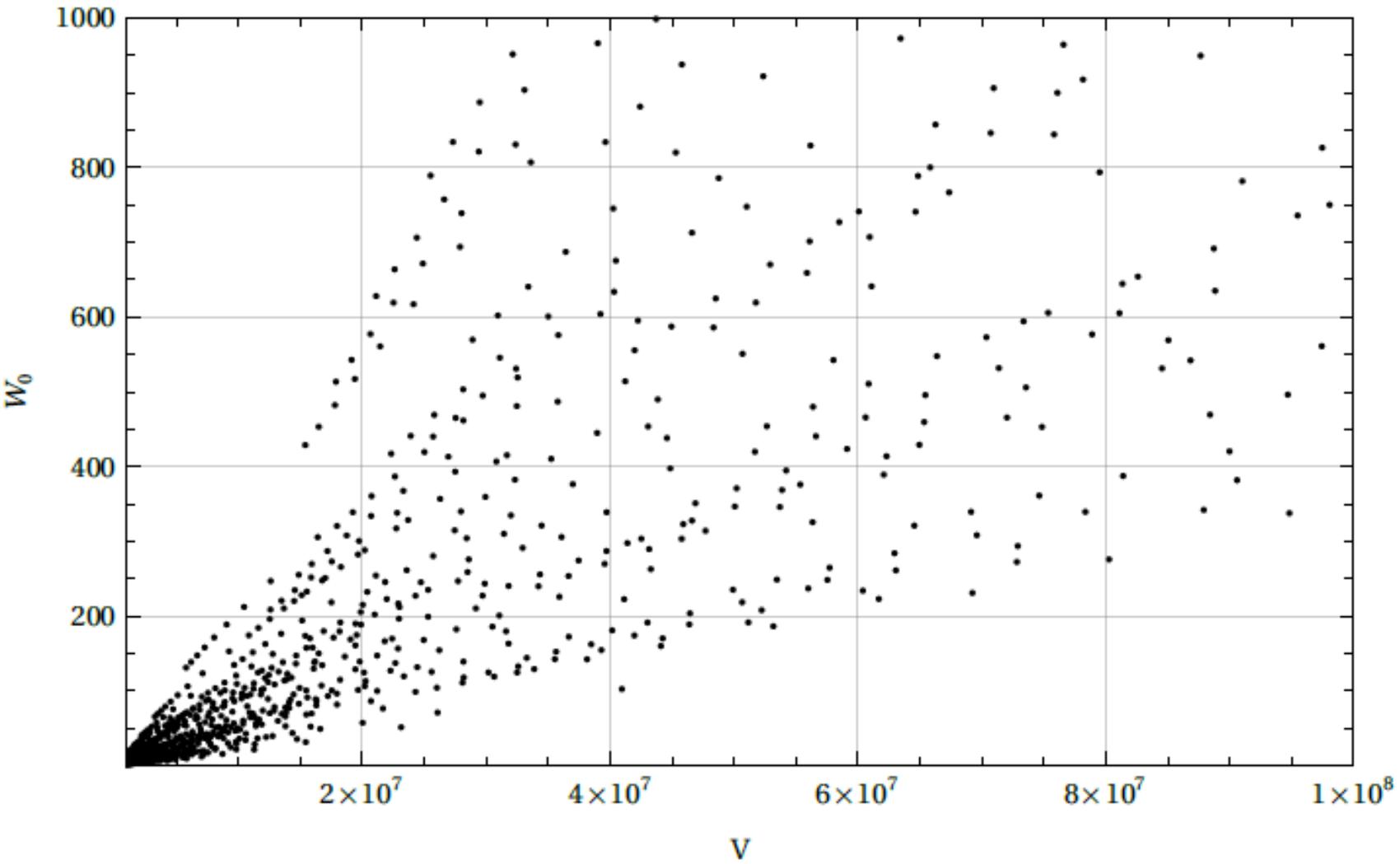
$$Y_\phi \in [0.01, 1] \quad \text{Cicoli, K. Dutta, Maharana, Quevedo JCAP 08, 006 (2016)}$$

72% of the parameter set gives rise to the correct DM abundance.

The resulting DM mass is always in the following range:

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

Points that yield the correct density perturbations and DM abundance:



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

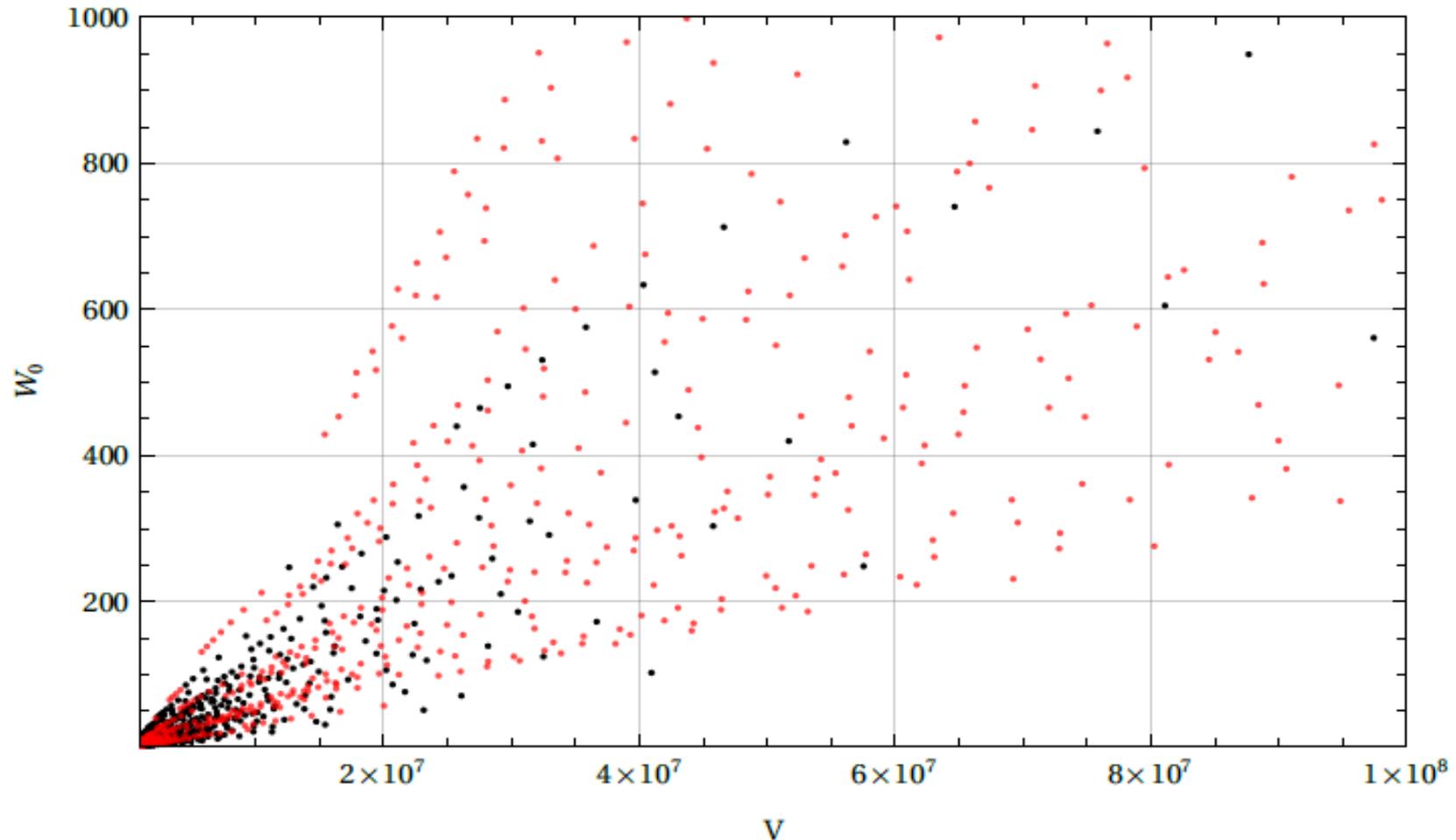
Black:  $n_s$  in the  $2\sigma$  range

$$0.9565 < n_s < 0.9733$$

Red:  $n_s$  in the  $3\sigma$  range  
(but outside  $2\sigma$ )

$$0.9523 < n_s < 0.9775$$

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

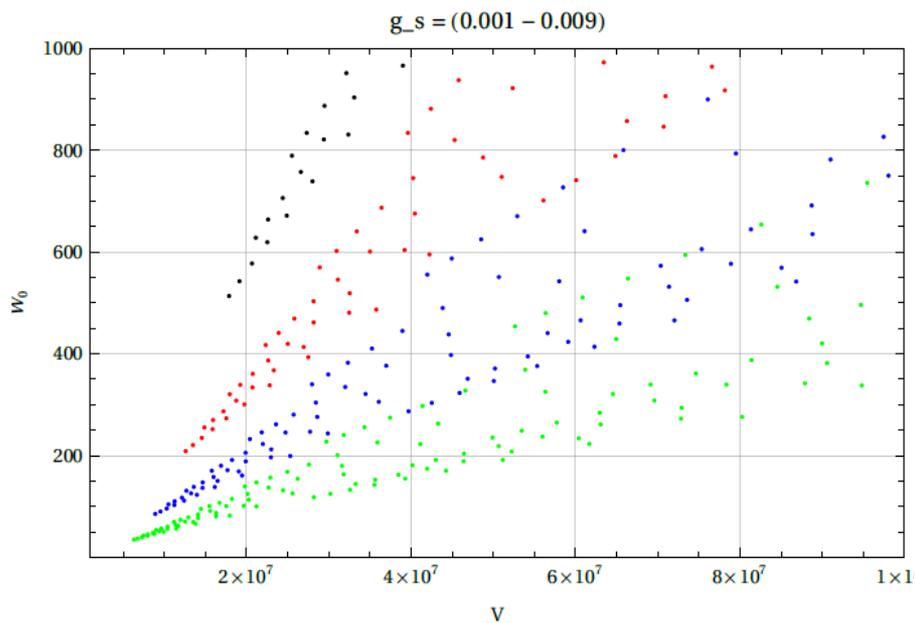


## Conclusions:

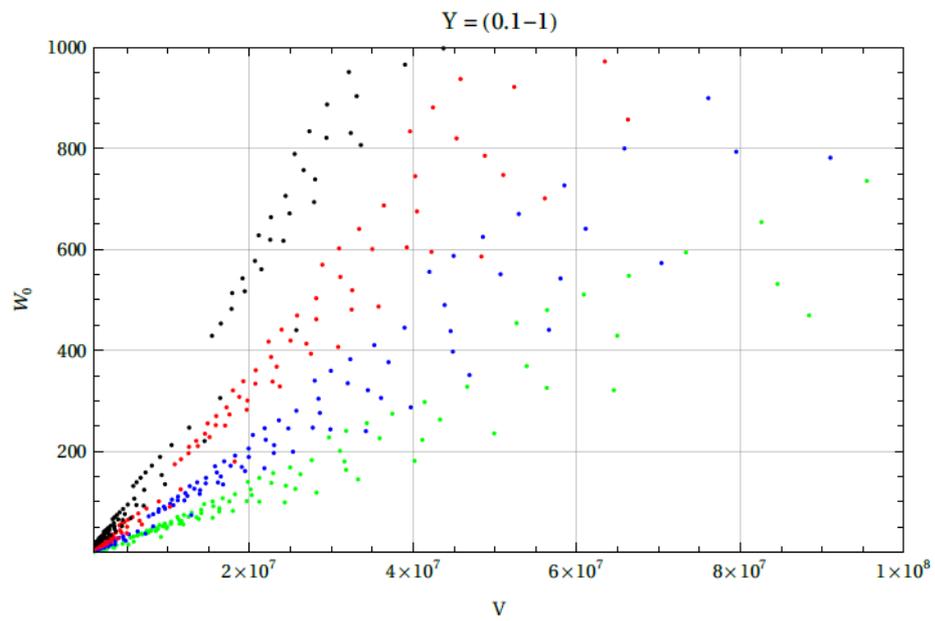
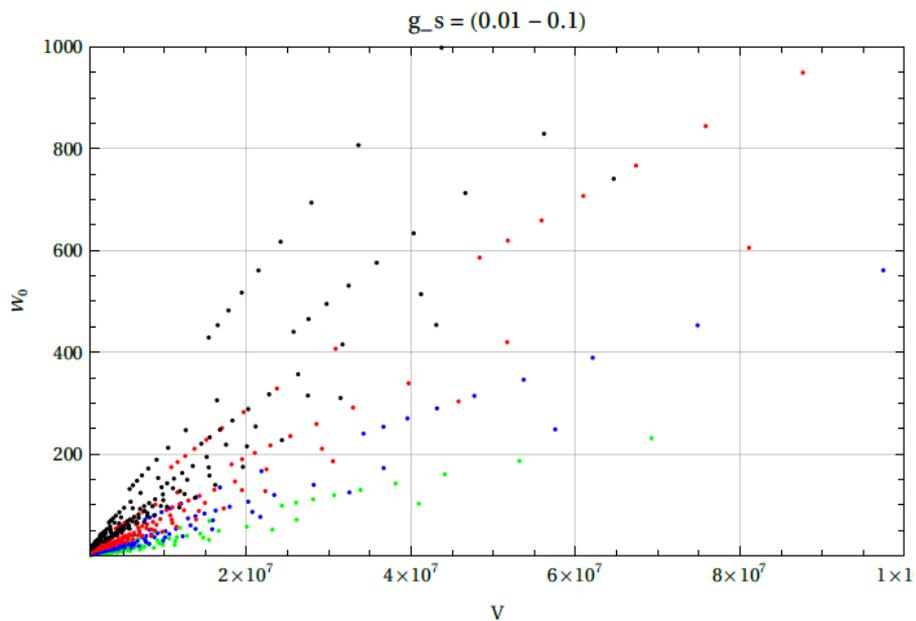
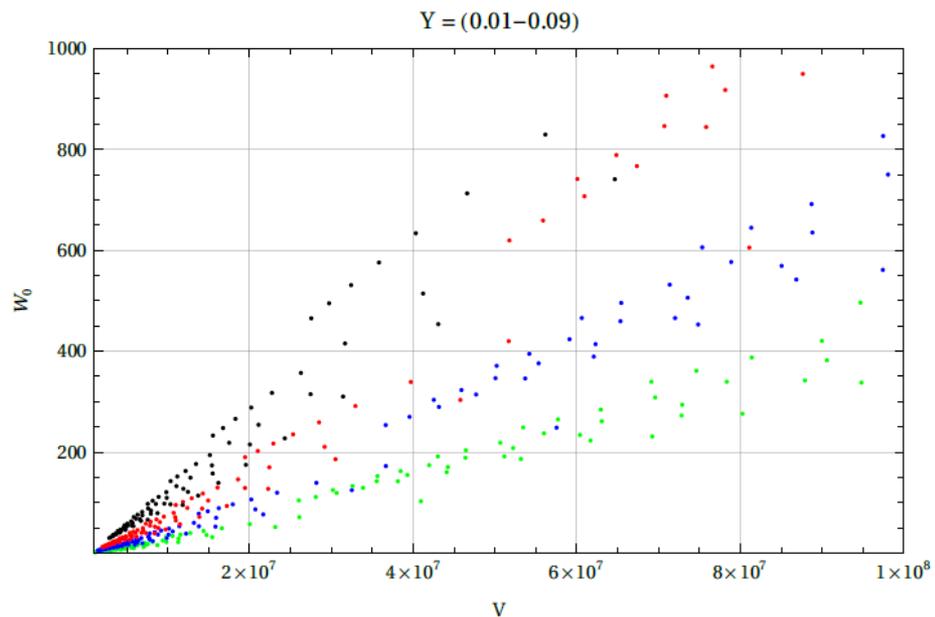
- Superheavy DM can arise typically within string theory
- Epoch(s) of EMD from moduli can yield the observed DM abundance
- Presented a type IIB LVS model with an epoch of modulus domination
- Successful inflation & right DM content for  $m_\chi \sim 10^{10} - 10^{11} \text{ GeV}$
- Multiple epochs of modulus domination possible, not advantageous
- Possible indirect detection signal from decaying superheavy DM

Work in progress

# Subsets according to $g_s$ :



# Subsets according to $Y_\phi$ :



# Numerical Analysis:

System of Boltzmann equations governing various species:

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

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

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

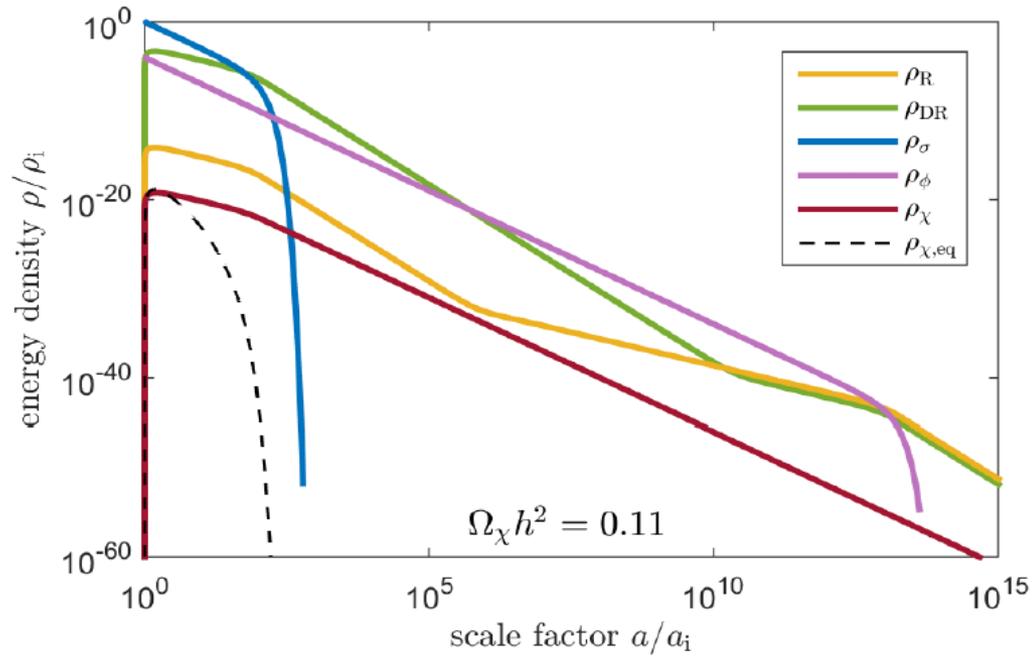
$$\frac{d\rho_{\text{R}}}{dt} + 4H\rho_{\text{R}} = \Gamma_{\sigma \rightarrow \text{vis}}\rho_\sigma + \Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \text{vis}}\rho_\phi,$$

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

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

Benchmark point to numerically solve this system:

Evolution of the various energy densities:



Evolution of the visible sector temperature:

