

Constraints on CP-Violating Higgs Portal Majorana Dark Matter

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Background and Motivation

The challenge for thermal WIMP dark matter is to generate a **large annihilation signal** but a **small direct detection cross section**.

An **annihilation cross section** $\mathcal{O}(1-10 \text{ pb})$ is required to:

- generate the correct thermal relic abundance.
- explain the galactic center excess (GCE; a statistically significant excess of gamma rays in the Galactic Center), if it is caused by dark matter [Goodenough & Hooper '09, others] instead of millisecond pulsars [Abazajian et. al '14, others]. The GCE is well fit by a $\sim 3 \text{ pb}$ cross section where dark matter annihilates through the higgs to $b\bar{b}$.

A **direct detection cross section of $\mathcal{O}(10^{-10})$ or less** is required to avoid increasingly stringent bounds on spin-independent scattering with nucleons.

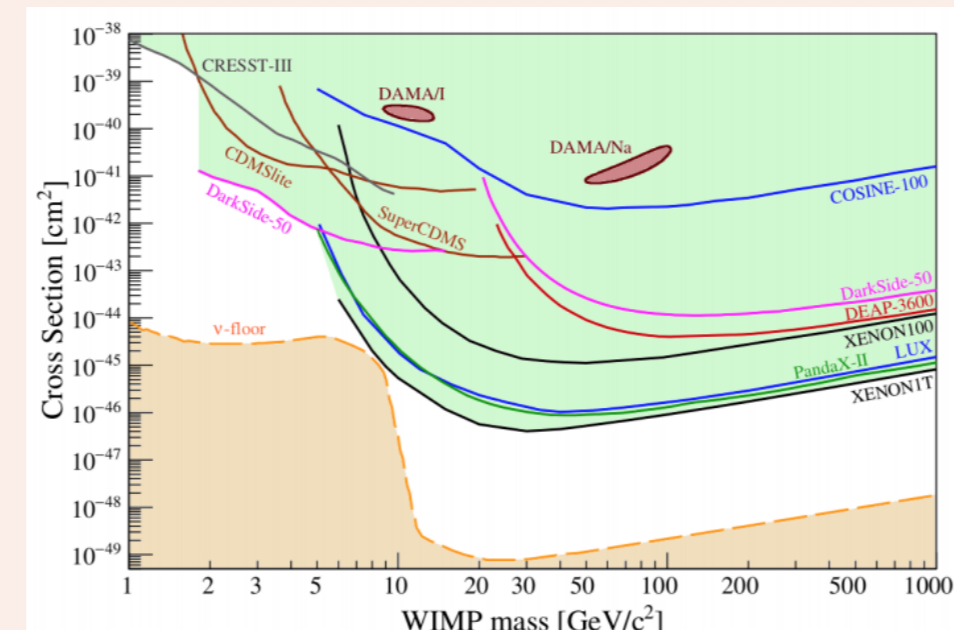


Figure 1: Limits from spin-independent direct detection [Schumann: 1903.03026]

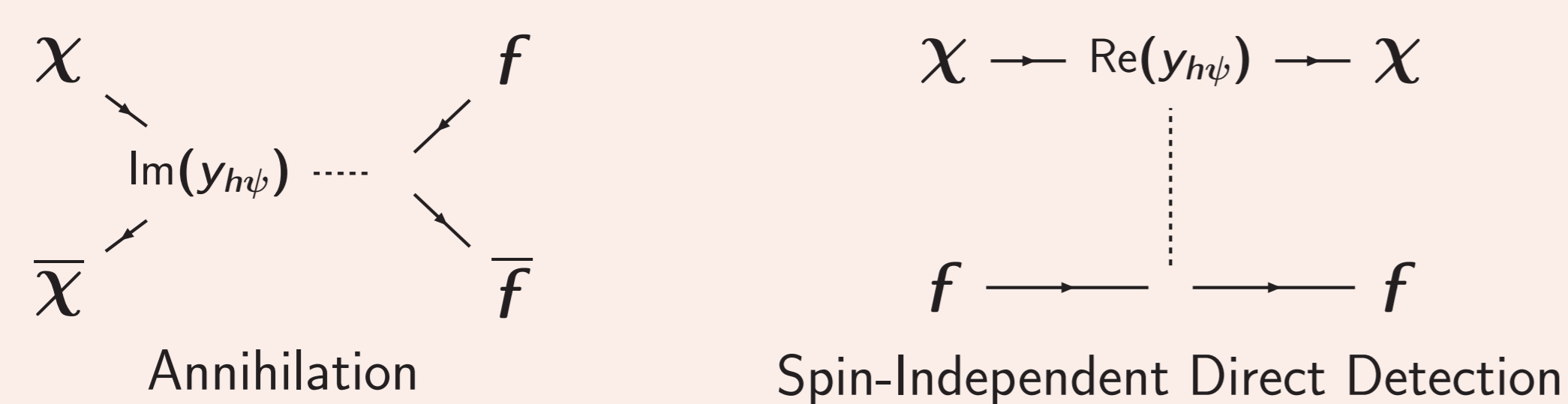
Why CP Violation?

The typical solution to generate a hierarchy between annihilation and direct detection is an **s-channel resonance** ($m_{DM} = m_h/2$). [Huang et al '14, others]

- Doesn't work for Majorana fermions with real couplings since annihilation is still p-wave suppressed, because two Majorana fermions form a CP odd state, but the Higgs is CP even.
- Finite higgs width limits the size of enhancement

An alternative is **CP violation in the higgs coupling**. Then direct detection and annihilation are controlled by different degrees of freedom:

- Leading annihilation term $\propto \text{Im}[y]$ since it is not velocity suppressed.
- Direct detection $\propto \text{Re}[y]$ since initial and final states have the same CP.



This has previously been discussed in the context of a specific SUSY model [Carena et al '19: 1905.03768]. Our paper studies this mechanism more generally, arguing that **CP violating higgs portal Majorana thermal relic dark matter is still allowed by current constraints**.

The Dark Matter EFT

In the EFT, dark matter is a Majorana fermion χ that couples to the Higgs and the Z:

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{|y_{h\chi}| e^{i\phi_{h\chi}}}{2\sqrt{2}} h \bar{\chi} P_L \chi + \frac{|y_{h\chi}| e^{-i\phi_{h\chi}}}{2\sqrt{2}} h \bar{\chi} P_R \chi + \frac{g_{Z\chi}}{2} Z_\mu \bar{\chi} \gamma^5 \chi$$

Two separate variables

control the relative size of spin-independent direct detection and annihilation:

- the **dark matter mass** m_χ
- the **higgs coupling phase** $\phi_{h\chi}$

Which one we need to tune depends on the size of $|y_{h\chi}|$.

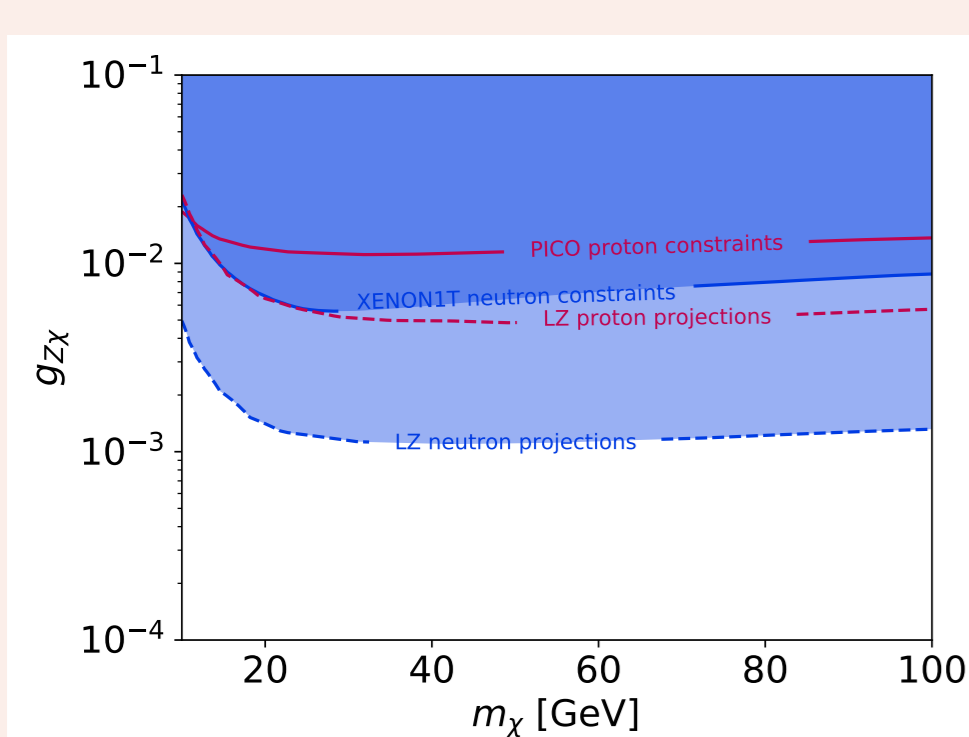


Figure 2: Spin-dependent direct detection constraints

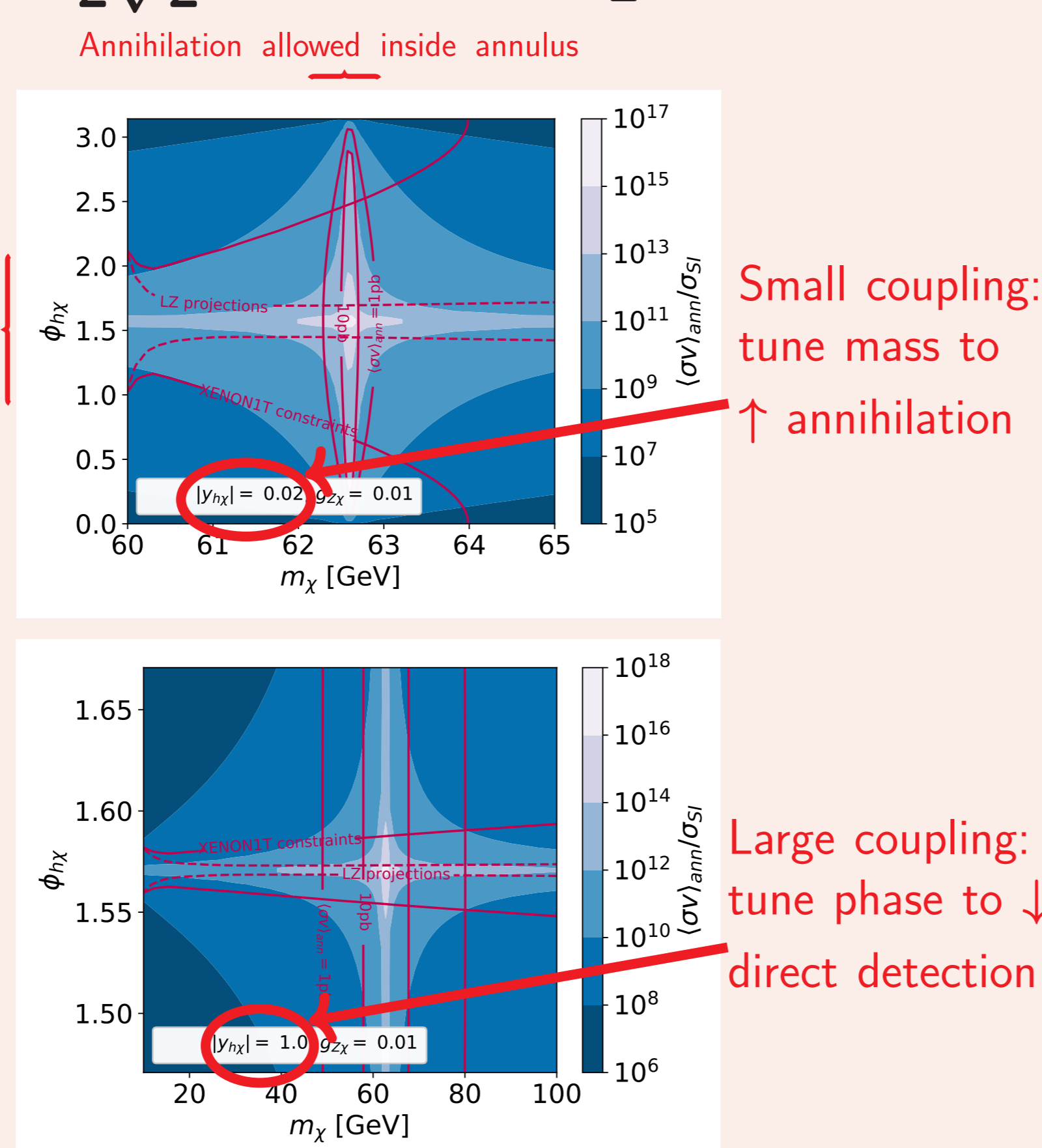


Figure 3: Annihilation and spin-independent direct detection constraints

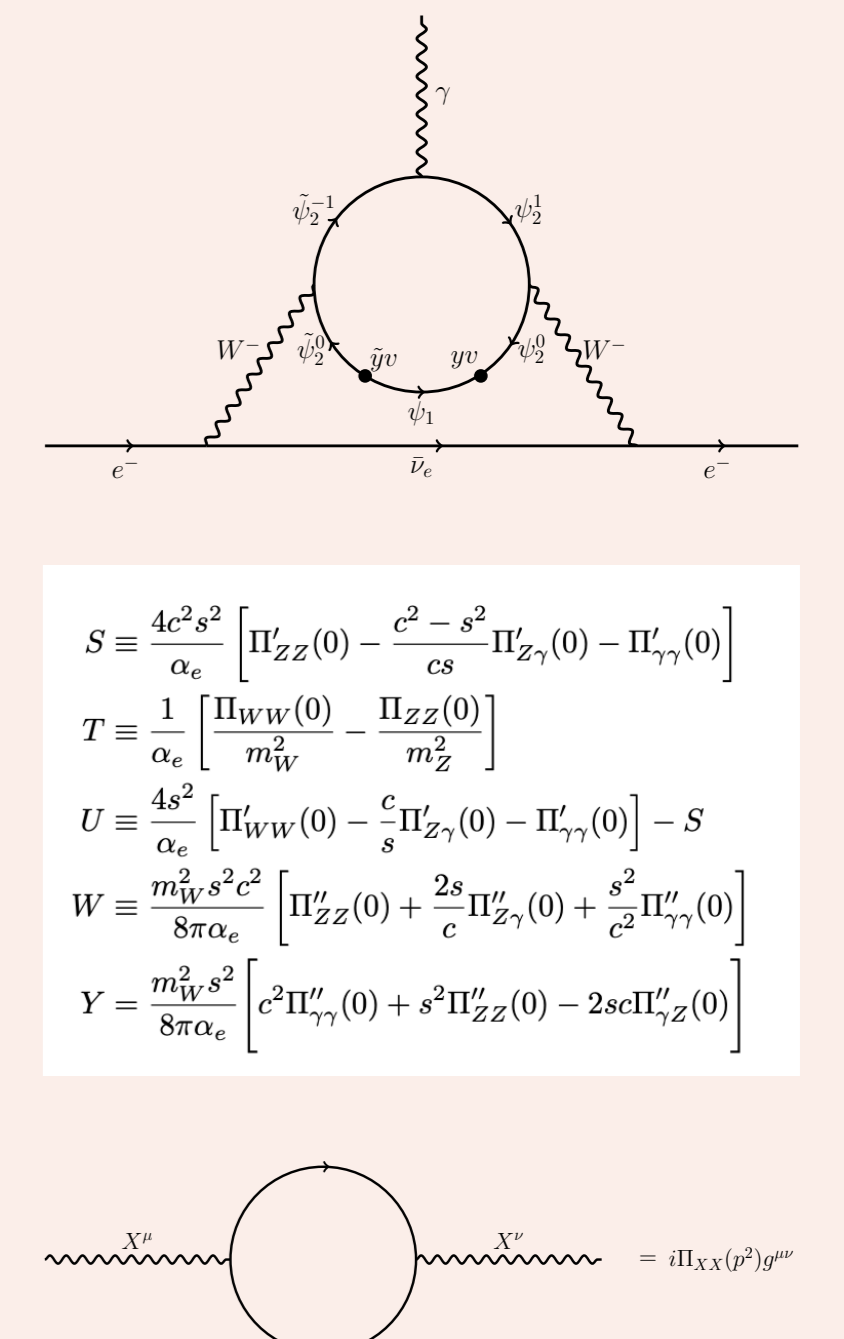
Spin dependent constraints easily avoided with **small Z coupling**.

Other Constraints

Additional constraints apply, including:

1. **electron EDM constraints**, since we have added CP violation. In minimal models, often comes from Barr-Zee diagrams.
2. **Electroweak precision constraints**, since we have added a doublet.
3. **Collider constraints**, including searches from SModelS and invisible higgs decay.

All of these constraints are sensitive to the heavy particle content of our theory in addition to the dark matter. Therefore, we **need to analyze them in the context of a UV completion**.



Singlet Doublet Model

The singlet-doublet model [Mahbubani & Senatore '06, others] is a minimal UV completion.

$$\mathcal{L} \supset - \underbrace{m_2 \psi_2 \cdot \tilde{\psi}_2}_{\text{Dirac Mass}} - \underbrace{\frac{m_1}{2} \psi_1 \psi_1}_{\text{Majorana Mass}} + \underbrace{Y \psi_1 H^\dagger \psi_2 - \tilde{Y} \psi_1 H \cdot \tilde{\psi}_2}_{\text{Yukawa Couplings}} + \text{h.c.}$$

It contains:

- A Dirac doublet $(\psi_2, \tilde{\psi}_2)$ with hypercharge 1/2
- A Majorana singlet ψ_1
- One physical phase, which we choose to put in the Yukawa couplings $Y = y e^{i\delta_{CP}/2}$, $\tilde{Y} = \tilde{y} e^{i\delta_{CP}/2}$

The **dark matter is a mix of mostly doublet and the singlet**. The neutral Dirac fermion splits into two Majorana fermions, which mix with the singlet after SSB. The dark matter χ is the lowest mass eigenstate.

We Find Viable Parameter Space!

Small coupling \rightarrow mass tuned near resonance

Large coupling \rightarrow more flexible mass, phase also tuned

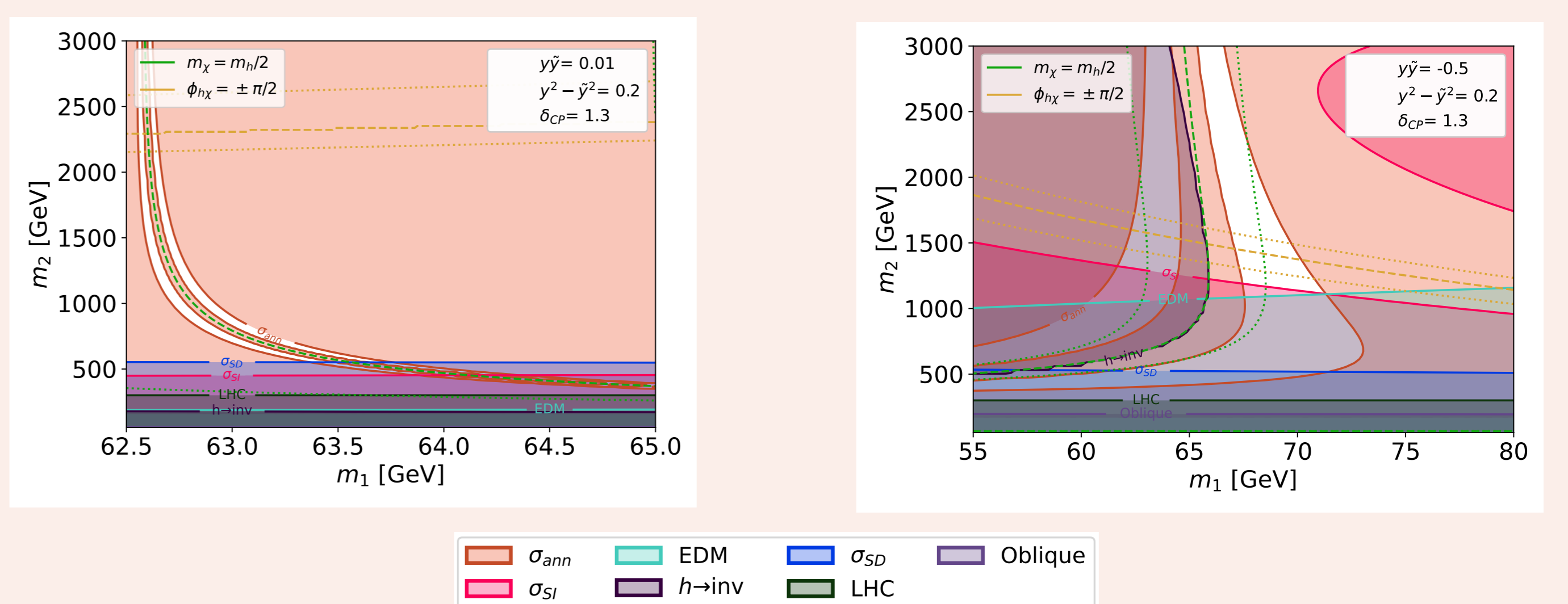


Figure 4: Full Constraints on the Singlet-Doublet model

Note that the DM mass and EFT Yukawa coupling are **no longer controlled by independent parameters**, which means we cannot easily increase $\text{Re}[y_{h\chi}]$ while fixing $\text{Im}[y_{h\chi}]$. **Tuning the phase also affects mass**, so we need to change our parameters in a coordinated way

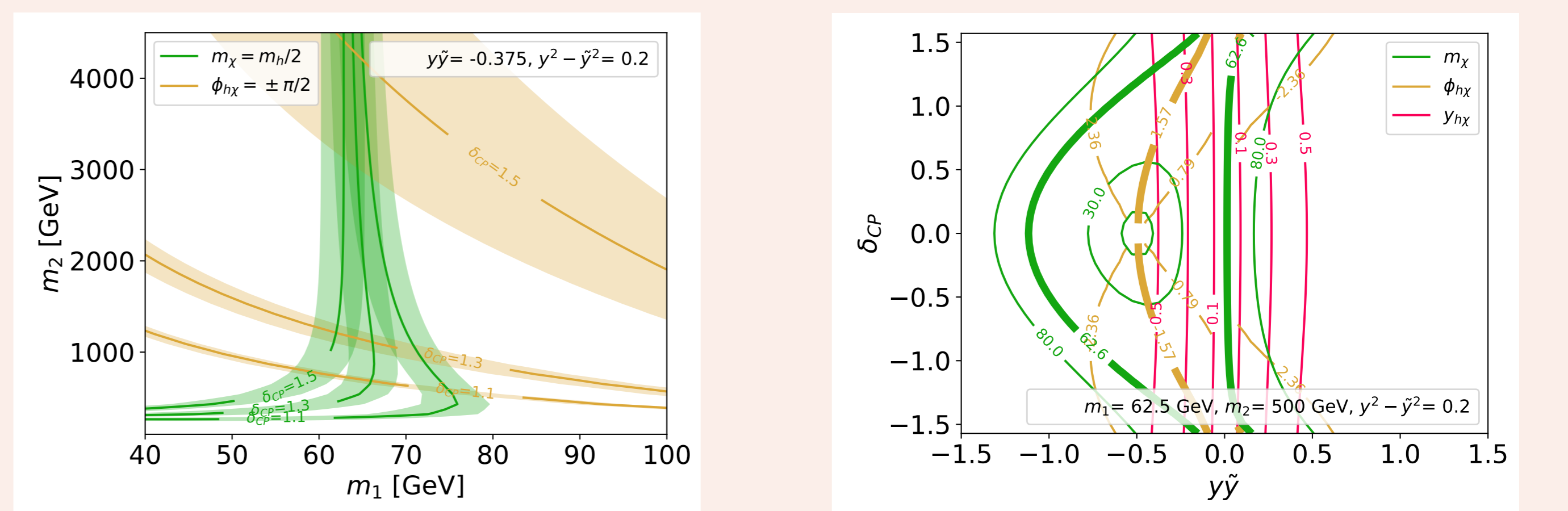


Figure 5: EFT parameters as a function of UV parameters. Right: Regions where $m_\chi \sim m_h/2$ and $\phi_{h\chi} \sim \pi/2$. Right: Contours for $m_\chi, |y_{h\chi}|, \phi_{h\chi}$.

Summary

For Higgs portal DM, **CP Violation is a viable alternative to mass resonance**. Specifically, there is still parameter space in the minimal singlet-doublet UV completion, where

$$m_2 \gtrsim 1000 \text{ GeV}, m_1 \sim 65 - 75 \text{ GeV}, \delta_{CP} \sim \pi/2$$

Open parameter space can be probed by upcoming EDM and direct detection experiments.