Collisions of Jets of Particles from Active Galactic Nuclei with Neutralino Dark Matter

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Abstract

We examine the possibility that energetic Standard Model particles contained in the jets produced by active galactic nuclei (AGN) may scatter off of the dark matter halo which is expected to surround the AGN. In particular, if there are nearby states in the dark sector which can appear resonantly in the scattering, the cross section can be enhanced and a distinctive edge feature in the energy spectrum may appear. We examine bounds on supersymmetric models which may be obtained from the Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope observation of the nearby AGN Centaurus A.
I. INTRODUCTION

Active galactic nuclei (AGN) are among the most powerful natural accelerators in the Universe, producing jets of charged particles which travel macroscopic distances and can even be imaged from the Earth through the subsequent production of high energy photons. While the nature of the jet constituents (proton or electron) remains a subject of some controversy, there is no doubt that they are among the highest energy and most interesting objects in the cosmos, with energies reaching into tens of GeV and with huge luminosities.

The supermassive black holes which power these jets are typically hosted in very large galaxies, where one would expect the largest concentrations of dark matter (DM) also occur. Taken together, the combination of dense dark matter with high energy particles represent a unique opportunity to study the interactions of dark matter and Standard Model (SM) particles at high energies. Indeed, while particle accelerators on the Earth reach higher energies and with (much) better understood beams, the huge density of dark matter expected close to an AGN nevertheless renders it a unique opportunity to learn about dark matter interactions with high energy SM particles.

If there is some other particle in the “dark sector” which can be produced as a resonance in the scattering of dark matter with a jet particle, the rate for scattering in the high energy tail of the jet may be enhanced. Beam particles with energies $E$ greater than,

$$E \geq \frac{1}{2} \frac{m_{\tilde{e}}^2 - m_{\tilde{\chi}}^2}{m_{\tilde{\chi}}}$$

(where $m_{\tilde{\chi}}$ is the mass of the dark matter and $m_{\tilde{e}}$ the mass of the resonance) have sufficient energy to produce the resonance on-shell, leading to an enhancement of the cross section. Since the beam particles are presumably charged (so that they can be efficiently accelerated by the AGN), the resonant state should also be charged. As a result, its decays can produce gamma rays which can stick out from the background produced by the AGN and jet themselves. Such a situation is common in the most popular theories of dark matter, such as in supersymmetric theories in which a neutralino plays the role of dark matter \[1\], and which can be up-scattered by an energetic beam electron into a selectron\[2\]. Such a degeneracy may even be central to realizing a neutralino WIMP as dark matter, to allow for efficient enough coannihilation to produce the observed density from thermal freeze-out. In fact, a very degenerate selectron is challenging to detect at the LHC, because its visible decay products have energies controlled by $m_{\tilde{e}} - m_{\tilde{\chi}}$, and are typically very very

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1 Similarly, in theories with Universal Extra Dimensions \[3\], the dark matter particle may be a Kaluza-Klein excitation of the hypercharge vector boson \[4\ \[5\], which may up-scatter into a Kaluza-Klein mode of the electron \[6\].
soft. Thus, the signal from AGNs is enhanced precisely where the LHC has difficulty, and can help study motivated but otherwise experimentally difficult regions of parameter space.

Since the resonant state must be charged, its subsequent de-excitation includes higher order processes in which a photon is produced in addition to the primary SM and dark matter decay products. While suppressed by $\alpha$, such processes may be enhanced by collinear logarithms that rise when the photon is emitted along the same direction as the final state charged SM particle. Unlike charged particles, these radiated photons have very long mean free paths, and could be detected by detectors on the Earth as an indicator that the jet-DM scatterings are taking place. For dark matter masses on the order of a few hundred GeV, these photons fall precisely in the range for which the Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope is sensitive, and thus it is precisely the right time to explore such signals. In fact, as pointed out in Ref. [6], the rise in cross section as beam particles cross the $\bar{e}$ threshold leads to a very interesting feature in the spectrum of gamma rays, a rise in the number of high energy photons followed by a sharp edge. This feature provides an interesting discriminant from the background of gamma rays emitted from the jet itself, one which conventional astrophysical sources are expected to have difficulty faking.

This article is organized as follows. In Section II we discuss the astrophysical inputs to our estimates. These boil down into the properties of particles inside the AGN jet, and the density profile of dark matter around the AGN and the intensity and energy spectrum of the beam particles. In Section III we revisit the computation of the cross sections for scattering in supersymmetric theories. In Section IV we examine the bounds one can place for different astrophysical assumptions. We conclude in Section V.

II. ASTROPHYSICAL INPUTS

In this section, we discuss the astrophysical inputs to our estimates. These boil down into the properties of particles inside the AGN jet, and the density of dark matter surrounding it. In both cases, we follow closely the discussion of Ref. [6], which contains a more detailed discussion, and study of the impact varying these parameters has on the signal. We restrict ourselves to looking at Centaurus A, which offers a good balance of being relatively close by ($D \sim 3.7$ Mpc) as well as a massive object surrounded by a dense halo of dark matter.
A. Dark Matter Distribution

The impact of the dark matter distribution is through its integral along the “line of sight” of the jet particles,

$$\delta_{DM} \equiv \int_{r_{\text{min}}}^{r_{\text{max}}} dr \rho(r)$$

(2)

where $\rho(r)$ is the density of dark matter at a radial distance $r$ from the center of the AGN, $r_{\text{min}}$ characterizes the minimum distance of interest (the base of the jet), and $r_{\text{max}}$ the distance at which the jet loses cohesion and becomes irrelevant. In practice, results depend sensitively on $r_{\text{min}}$ and are rather insensitive to $r_{\text{max}}$ [6].

The dark matter density distribution surrounding a compact object was modeled in the collisionless limit and under the assumption that the central black hole grew adiabatically by accretion in Ref. [8]. The resulting steady-state distribution is characterized by a central spike of dark matter, which gets depleted in the core by pair annihilation. The resulting distribution is thus sensitive to the underlying particle physics model of dark matter, with the central density enhanced for WIMPs with very low (or in the case of a purely asymmetric dark matter halo, zero) annihilation cross sections. Ref [8] begins with a cusped density profile $\rho_i(r) = \rho_0 (r/r_0)^{-\gamma}$, and determines a final profile (close to the center) of the form,

$$\rho(r) = \frac{\rho'(r) \rho_{\text{core}}}{\rho'(r) + \rho_{\text{core}}} ,$$

(3)

where the core density is given in terms of the velocity-averaged annihilation rate $\langle \sigma v \rangle$ and the age of the black hole $t_{\text{BH}}$ as,

$$\rho_{\text{core}} \simeq \frac{m_\chi \langle \sigma v \rangle}{t_{\text{BH}}} .$$

(4)

The dependence on $r$ is contained in the function,

$$\rho'(r) = \rho_0 \left( \frac{R_{\text{sp}}}{r_0} \right)^{-\gamma} \left( 1 - 4 \frac{R_S}{r} \right)^3 \left( \frac{R_{\text{sp}}}{r} \right)^{\gamma_{sp}} ,$$

(5)

where $\gamma_{sp}$ is slope of the density profile in the dark matter spike, $R_{\text{sp}}$ its radius, and $R_S$ is the Schwarzschild radius. Below $4R_S$, the dark matter is accreted into the black hole, and has $\rho = 0$. The spike radius and power are given by,

$$R_{\text{sp}} = \alpha_{\gamma} r_0 \left( \frac{M_{\text{BH}}}{\rho_0 r_0^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{3-\gamma}} \text{ and } \gamma_{sp} = \frac{9 - 2\gamma}{4 - \gamma} ,$$

(6)

where $\alpha_{\gamma} \sim 0.293 \gamma^{4/9}$ for $\gamma \ll 1$ [8]. This analysis neglects the influence of stellar populations close to the the supermassive black hole, which can gravitationally scatter dark matter out of the spike, resulting in a somewhat shallower profile [9].
Following Ref. [6], we normalize the distribution such that it falls within the uncertainty on the measured mass of the black hole itself. The mass of the black hole is determined by measurements of stellar kinematics to be [10],

\[ M_{\text{BH}} = (5.5 \pm 3.0) \times 10^7 M_\odot \]  

(7)

which corresponds to \( R_S \approx 5 \times 10^{-6} \) pc. Given a choice of \( \gamma \), we determine \( \rho_0 \) by requiring,

\[ 3 \times 10^7 M_\odot \geq \int_{4R_S}^{10^5 R_S} 4\pi r^2 \rho(r) \, dr \]  

(8)

where \( 10^5 R_S \) characterizes the distances at which the stellar populations are measured.

Ultimately, the factor \( \delta_{\text{DM}} \) is very sensitive to the product \( \langle \sigma v \rangle \times t_{\text{BH}} \), which determines the density within the spike. For black hole ages between \( 10^8 \) to \( 10^{10} \) years and cross sections ranging from \( 10^{-26} \) cm\(^3\) s\(^{-1}\) (appropriate for a thermal relic) to \( 10^{-30} \) cm\(^3\) s\(^{-1}\) (typical for the “coannihilation” region of the MSSM, in which the superpartners of the charged leptons play an active role in freeze-out), one finds \( \delta_{\text{DM}} \) ranging from,

\[ \delta_{\text{DM}} \sim 10^8 \text{ to } 10^{11} \frac{M_\odot}{\text{pc}^3} \]  

(9)

with rather mild dependence on the choices of \( \gamma \), \( r_{\text{min}} \), and \( r_0 \sim r_{\text{max}} \sim 15 \) kpc [6].

B. AGN Jet Particles

For our purposes, the details of the AGN jet geometry are not very important, while modeling the energy distribution of particles in the jet is crucial. We assume most of the particles in the Centaurus A jet are electrons. Based on observation of emitted gamma rays by the Fermi LAT experiment [11], we assume the distribution in the electron boost is a broken power law,

\[ \frac{d\Phi_e^{(\text{AGN})}}{d\gamma'}(\gamma') = \frac{1}{2} k_e \gamma'^{-s_1} \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{\gamma'}{\gamma'_{br}} \right)^{(s_2-s_1)} \right]^{-1} \quad (\gamma'_{\text{min}} < \gamma' < \gamma'_{\text{max}}) \]  

(10)

Here the primed variables refer to the “blob frame”, in which the electrons move isotropically. The parameters \( s_1, s_2, \gamma'_{br}, \gamma'_{\text{min}} \) and \( \gamma'_{\text{max}} \) are fixed to [11]

\[ s_1 = 1.8, \quad s_2 = 3.5, \quad \gamma'_{br} = 4 \times 10^5, \quad \gamma'_{\text{min}} = 8 \times 10^2, \quad \gamma'_{\text{max}} = 10^8. \]  

(11)

The normalization \( k_e \) can be determined from the jet power in electrons, which is defined in the black hole frame as,

\[ L_e = \int_{-1}^{1} \frac{d\mu}{\Gamma_B(1 - \beta_B \mu)} \int_{\gamma'_{\text{min}}}^{\gamma'_{\text{max}}} d\gamma (m_e \gamma) \frac{d\Phi_e^{\text{AGN}}}{d\gamma'} \left( \gamma (\Gamma_B(1 - \beta_B \mu)) \right) \]  

(12)

(13)
where \( \mu = \cos \theta \) (\( \theta \) is the polar angle with respect to the jet axis) and \( \gamma = \epsilon / m_e \) where \( \epsilon \) is the energy of the electron. Similarly, the primed variables in the blob frame are \( \mu' = \cos \theta' \) and \( \gamma' = \epsilon' / m_e \).

The quantities in the two frames are related by the blob velocity \( \beta_B \) and boost \( \Gamma_B = 1 / \sqrt{1 - \beta_B^2} \) (\( \sim 3 \) for Centaurus A) as,

\[
\mu' = \frac{\mu - \beta_B}{1 - \beta_B \mu}, \quad \gamma' = \gamma \Gamma_B \left(1 - \beta_B \mu\right),
\]

or equivalently,

\[
\mu = \frac{\mu' + \beta_B}{1 + \beta_B \mu'}, \quad \gamma = \frac{\gamma'}{\Gamma_B \left(1 - \beta_B \mu\right)}.
\]

The limits on the \( \gamma \) integral are given by,

\[
\gamma_{\text{min}} = \frac{\gamma_{\text{min}}'}{\Gamma_B \left(1 - \beta_B \mu\right)}, \quad \gamma_{\text{max}} = \frac{\gamma_{\text{max}}'}{\Gamma_B \left(1 - \beta_B \mu\right)},
\]

whereas the limits on \( \mu \) in the black hole frame correspond to 0.9 – 1, leading to a highly collimated jet of electrons.

The function \( d\Phi_e^{(\text{AGN})} / d\gamma \) can be written explicitly as,

\[
\frac{d\Phi_e^{(\text{AGN})}}{d\gamma} \left(\gamma(\Gamma_B(1 - \beta_B \mu))\right) = \frac{1}{2} k_e \left[\gamma \Gamma_B(1 - \beta_B \mu)\right]^{-s_1} \left[1 + \left(\gamma(\Gamma_B(1 - \beta_B \mu))/\gamma'_{br}\right)^{s_2 - s_1}\right]^{-1}.
\]

Saturating the upper limit of \( L_e \leq 10^{46} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \) [6], we arrive at

\[
\frac{1}{2} k_e = 4.2088 \times 10^{49} \text{ s}^{-1}.
\]

### III. CROSS SECTIONS

The total cross section for the process \( e \bar{\chi} \rightarrow e \bar{\chi} \gamma \) may be written,

\[
d\sigma = (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_1 + p_2 - p_1' - p_2') \frac{d^3 p_1'}{4m_{\bar{\chi}} E_2 (2\pi)^3 2E_1' (2\pi)^3 2E_2'} \frac{d^3 p_2'}{4m_{\bar{\chi}} E_\gamma (2\pi)^3 2E_\gamma} \sum |\mathcal{M}|^2,
\]

where the \( \sum |\mathcal{M}|^2 \) is the sum of all matrix element squared, including both \( s \)- and \( u \)-channel exchange of \( \bar{\epsilon} \), shown in the Fig. [1] We ignore \( t \)-channel contributions mediated by the SM Z boson as it is non-resonant, and thus negligible. The amplitudes corresponding to these diagrams are labelled \( M_1 - M_6 \).

The experimental observable is the distribution of photon energies, \( \nu S_\nu \equiv E_\gamma \frac{d\Phi_\gamma}{dE_\gamma} \) at a fixed angle relative to the jet axis (\( \sim 68^\circ \) for the Centaurus A). For fixed incoming electron energy, we integrate over the phase space of the final state neutralino and electron, resulting in \( d^2 \sigma / dE_\gamma d\Omega_\gamma \).

We work in the rest frame of the initial neutralino dark matter particle, which is expected to be
moving non-relativistically (\(\sim 300 \text{ km/s} \ [12]\)) in the rest frame of the Earth. \(d^2\sigma/dE\gamma d\Omega\gamma\) can be expressed,

\[
\frac{d^2\sigma}{dE\gamma d\Omega\gamma} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{1}{4m_\tilde{\chi} E_2} \frac{1}{8E_1} \int d\Omega_{p_2'} \left( E_2 E_\gamma \frac{1}{1 + J} \sum |M|^2 \right),
\]

where \(J\) is a Jacobian factor from the integration of the function \(\delta^4(p_1 + p_2 - p_1' - p_2' - r)\) over \(dE_2'\) and can be explicitly written as

\[
J = \frac{E_2'}{E_1} - \frac{(\bar{p}_1 + \bar{p}_2 - \bar{r}) \cdot \bar{p}_2'}{E_1 E_2'}
\]

\[
= \frac{E_2'}{E_1} - \frac{(p_{2x} - r_x)p_{2x}' + (p_{2y} - r_y)p_{2y}' + (p_{2z} - r_z)p_{2z}'}{E_1 E_2'}.
\]

The full expression for the amplitude squared may be found in Appendix A. The cross section is enhanced in three kinematic configurations:

- \(M_{1-3}\) are resonantly enhanced when the incoming electron energy is such that the intermediate selectron is approximately on-shell [2].

- \(M_2\) and \(M_5\) have a collinear enhancement when the emitted photon lines up with the final state electron [6].

- \(M_2\) and \(M_5\) have a soft enhancement for low energy photon emission.
Note that because the jet axis makes a fixed angle with respect to the line of sight from the Earth, there is no possibility of a collinear enhancement from the initial electron in $M_1$ and $M_4$. In practice, the soft enhancement (the infinity of which is formally matched by the one-loop QED correction to $e^−\tilde{\chi} → e^−\tilde{\chi}$ scattering) is not observationally interesting. The dominant contribution comes from the on-shell selectron, collinear photon region of $M_2$:

$$|M_2|^2 = \frac{\alpha_{\text{eff}} (p_1' \cdot r)(p_1 \cdot p_2)}{|\Sigma_s|^2 \left( (p_2' \cdot r) - \frac{m_\tilde{e}^2}{2} \right)},$$

(23)

where $\alpha_{\text{eff}} = 4\pi\alpha_{\text{EM}}(a^4_{L} + a^4_{R})$ is the effective neutralino-selectron-electron coupling. We assume the left- and right-handed selectrons are degenerate in mass, and a mostly bino neutralino, for which,

$$a^2_R = 2g^2_w \tan \theta^2_w,$$

(24)

$$a^2_L = a^2_R/4.$$

(25)

The factor $1/|\Sigma_s|^2$ is the selectron propagator, which has been modified to maintain gauge invariance using the prescription of Ref. [14]. To avoid the divergence from soft radiation, $(p_2' \cdot r)$ in the propagator has been shifted by $m_\tilde{e}^2/2$.

The differential cross sections $d^2\sigma/dE_\gamma d\Omega_\gamma$ are shown as a function of the incoming electron energy in Fig. 2 for fixed photon energies of 10 GeV, 30 GeV and 50 GeV. As a benchmark point, we have chosen the mass of the neutralino to be $m_{\tilde{\chi}} = 60$ GeV and the mass of the selectron to be $m_\tilde{e} = 100$ GeV. Notice that for a photon energy of 10 GeV or 30 GeV, there are two peaks which arise from the (shifted) resonant behavior of $M_2$ and $M_1$ separately. However, as the photon energy increases, the incoming electron energy must be large enough to produce such a hard photon in the scattering process, closing off the possibility for scattering (for fixed $E_\gamma$) below a certain threshold. Once the threshold rises above $\sim M_\tilde{e}/2$, it becomes impossible to produce a final state photon from an on-shell $\tilde{e}$ decay, and the $M_2$ resonance effectively disappears.

IV. BOUNDS ON SUPERSYMMETRIC PARAMETER SPACE

Putting the astrophysical inputs together with the cross section, we have:

$$\frac{d\Phi_\gamma}{dE_\gamma} = \left( \delta_{\text{DM}} \right) \times \int dE_e \left( \frac{1}{D^2} \frac{d\Phi_e^{\text{AGN}}}{dE_e} \right) \times \left( \frac{1}{m_{\tilde{\chi}}} \frac{d^2\sigma}{dE_\gamma d\Omega_\gamma} \right).$$

(26)

where the three factors $\delta_{\text{DM}}, d\Phi_e^{\text{AGN}}/dE_e$ and $d^2\sigma/dE_\gamma d\Omega_\gamma$ have been discussed in Sections II A, II B and [III] respectively. We adopt two choices of $\delta_{\text{DM}} = 10^{10}$ $M_\odot$ pc$^{-2}$ and $\delta_{\text{DM}} = 10^{11}$ $M_\odot$ pc$^{-2}$ and

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2 Proof of gauge invariance can be found in Appendix [E]
to begin with, the benchmark point with a bino neutralino of mass $m_\tilde{\chi} = 60$ GeV and degenerate left- and right-handed sleptons of masses $m_{\tilde{\ell}} = 100$ GeV. In Figure 3 we plot the distribution of photon energies for the benchmark point, for both values of $\delta_{\text{DM}}$ discussed above. We note the

FIG. 2: Differential cross sections, $d^2\sigma/dE_\gamma d\Omega_\gamma$ for the process $e^-\tilde{\chi} \rightarrow e^-\tilde{\chi}\gamma$, for a neutralino mass of 60 GeV and selectron mass of 100 GeV, and fixed photon energies (top to bottom) of 10 GeV, 30 GeV, and 50 GeV.
FIG. 3: The photon energy distributions for $\delta_{\text{DM}} = 10^{10} \, M_\odot \, \text{GeV pc}^{-2}$ (lower curve) and $\delta_{\text{DM}} = 10^{11} \, M_\odot \, \text{GeV pc}^{-2}$ (upper curve) exhibiting a drop-off around $E_\gamma \sim 35$ GeV.

drop at energies around $E_\gamma \sim 35$ GeV, where, as discussed above, the required photon energy is so large that it is no longer produced efficiently from on-shell intermediate selectrons.

Using the existing energy spectrum data from Fermi LAT observations of Centaurus A, we can put bounds on the coannihilation region of SUSY parameter space. Ideally, one could do a shape-based analysis, as advocated in Ref. [6], looking for a significant drop in the energy spectrum, which occurs as one demands the photon energy be high enough that kinematics forbid it from arising from an on-shell selectron decay. However, with the limited statistics of the current data, it is more feasible to consider a counting experiment analysis in each energy bin. We place 95% confidence limits on regions of MSSM parameter space where a contribution larger than the expected 95% fluctuations (based on the error bars) in the spectrum is predicted. We use the quoted uncertainties on the Fermi measurement points,

$$\sqrt{B} \sim 2.5 \times 10^{-12} \, \text{erg s}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-2},$$

(27)

roughly independent of energy [11]. These bounds are subject to our assumptions concerning $\delta_{\text{DM}}$ and the beam composition and energy spectrum.
FIG. 4: Contours of 95% CL constraint on the $m_{\tilde{\chi}} - \Delta m$ plane based on one year of observation of Centaurus A by the Fermi LAT. The colored regions indicate constraints from each energy bin reported by Fermi, and the black dashed line indicates $m_{\tilde{\chi}} = 100$ GeV. The two panels assume different $\delta_{DM}$, as indicated.

In Figure 4 we plot the 95% CL bounds in the plane of $m_{\tilde{\chi}}$ and $\Delta m$, where

$$\Delta m \equiv m_{\tilde{\chi}} - m_{\tilde{\epsilon}}$$

is the mass splitting between the neutralino and selectron. The upper panel corresponds to $\delta_{DM} = 10^{10} M_\odot$ pc$^{-2}$, and the lower to $\delta_{DM} = 10^{11} M_\odot$ pc$^{-2}$. These values correspond to a neutralino annihilation cross section of $\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim 10^{-30}$ cm$^3$ s$^{-1}$ (appropriate for a coannihilation scenario) and a black hole lifetime of $t_{BH} \sim 10^8$ or $10^{10}$ years, respectively. We continue to assume a bino neutralino and selectrons which are degenerate in mass. Since the optimal energy bin for the search varies with $m_{\tilde{\chi}}$ and $m_{\tilde{\epsilon}}$, we derive the constrained region from each energy bin independently, as indicated on the figure. We find that the largest resolving power comes from the highest energy bins, but
nevertheless the lower energy bins provide interesting constraints, and a combined shape analysis would probably do a little better than treating each bin independently. The black dashed line on each panel indicates the line of $m_{\tilde{e}} \geq 100$ GeV, roughly the bound from LEP-II null searches [15].

V. CONCLUSIONS AND OUTLOOK

Active galactic nuclei are among the most energetic natural accelerators in the Universe. They are also located in regions rich with dark matter, and provide a unique opportunity to study the high energy interactions of WIMPs with SM particles. In this paper, we have estimated the regions of MSSM parameter space which can be probed from Fermi observations. We find that there is greatest sensitivity for models with low annihilation cross sections and nearly degenerate sleptons – as occurs in coannihilation regions of the MSSM, where sleptons are active during freeze-out. Indeed, sleptons are very challenging to discover at the LHC under ideal circumstances, and almost impossible when nearly degenerate with the lightest supersymmetry particle. Observations of the gamma rays from AGNs can help cover an interesting and important gap in LHC coverage of MSSM parameter space.

Ultimately, the limiting factors in utilizing these naturally occurring accelerators as probes of the property of dark matter are the uncertainties in the properties of the AGNs themselves and the dark matter environment around them. These uncertainties can be mitigated by further observations, to help pin down the underlying properties of the jet, and observation of the dynamics of the surrounding stars and gas to better constrain the gravitational dynamics. The MSSM signal considered here also leads to a distinctive feature in the gamma ray spectrum, which could be exploited with more statistics to minimize the dependence on the unknown background emission. Ultimately, if the particle properties of dark matter can be pinned down more precisely using data from the LHC or direct or indirect dark matter detection experiments, one could even turn the process around and use collisions between jets and the WIMPs to learn about the astrophysics of these fascinating systems.

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Appendix A: Matrix Elements for $e^{-\tilde{\chi}} \rightarrow e^{-\tilde{\chi}\gamma}$

In this appendix, we summarize the full expression for the amplitude squared for the process $e^{-\tilde{\chi}} \rightarrow e^{-\tilde{\chi}\gamma}$. We begin with some notations,

$$\alpha_{\text{eff}} = 4\pi\alpha_{\text{EM}}(a_4^L + a_4^R) ;$$

$$s = (p_1 + p_2)^2 ;$$

$$s' = (p'_1 + p'_2)^2 ;$$

$$u = (p_1 - p_2')^2 ;$$

$$u' = (p_2 - p'_1)^2 ;$$

$$E_{1s} = (s + m^2_{\tilde{\chi}} - m^2_e)/(2\sqrt{s}) ;$$

$$E_{2s} = \sqrt{s} - E_{1s} ;$$

$$E_{1s'} = (s' + m^2_{\tilde{\chi}} - m^2_e)/(2\sqrt{s'}) ;$$

$$E_{2s'} = \sqrt{s'} - E_{1s'} ;$$

$$r_s = \sqrt{(s - (m_e + m_{\tilde{\chi}})^2)(s - (m_{\tilde{\chi}} - m_e)^2)/(2\sqrt{s})} ;$$

$$r_{s'} = \sqrt{(s' - (m_e + m_{\tilde{\chi}})^2)(s' - (m_{\tilde{\chi}} - m_e)^2)/(2\sqrt{s'})} ;$$

$$\Gamma_1 = ((a_4^L + a_4^R)(E_{1s}E_{2s} + r_s^2)r_s)/(4\pi m_{\tilde{e}}\sqrt{s}) ;$$

$$\Gamma_2 = ((a_4^L + a_4^R)(E_{1s'}E_{2s'} + r_{s'}^2)r_{s'})/(4\pi m_{\tilde{e}}\sqrt{s'}) ;$$

$$\Sigma_s = s - m^2_{\tilde{e}} - im_{\tilde{e}}\Gamma_1 ;$$

$$\Sigma_{s'} = s' - m^2_{\tilde{e}} - im_{\tilde{e}}\Gamma_2 ;$$

$$\Sigma_u = u - m^2_{\tilde{e}} ;$$

$$\Sigma_{u'} = u' - m^2_{\tilde{e}} ;$$

$$f_3 = 1 + i(m_{\tilde{e}}(\Gamma_1 - \Gamma_2))/(2((p_1 + p_2) \cdot r)) ;$$

$$|\Sigma_s|^2 = (s - m^2_{\tilde{e}})^2 + (m_{\tilde{e}} \Gamma_1)^2 ;$$

$$|\Sigma_{s'}|^2 = (s' - m^2_{\tilde{e}})^2 + (m_{\tilde{e}} \Gamma_2)^2 . \quad (A1)$$

Here $p_1, p'_1, p_2, p'_2, r$ are the four-vectors for the momenta of the incoming and outgoing dark matter particles (neutralino), incoming and outgoing electrons and photon. $E_{1s}, E_{2s}, E_{1s'},$ and $E_{2s'}$ are the energies of the initial and final neutralino and electron in the lab frame where the initial neutralino is at rest. The $s$ and $s'$ subscripts correspond to the $s$ and $s'$ diagrams, respectively. $\Gamma_i$
are the momentum dependent decay widths and \( \Sigma_s, \Sigma_{s'} \) and \( \Sigma_u, \Sigma_{u'} \) are the propagators in the \( s \)-
and \( u \)-channels. \( f_3 \) is the modified vertex factor in amplitude \( M_3 \) which insures gauge invariance, see appendix B. The squared amplitudes, including the interference terms, are:

\[
|M_1|^2 = \frac{\alpha_{\text{eff}}(p_1 \cdot r)(p'_1 \cdot p_2')}{|\Sigma_{s'}|^2(p_2 \cdot r)} ; \\
|M_2|^2 = \frac{\alpha_{\text{eff}}(p'_1 \cdot r)(p_1 \cdot p_2)}{|\Sigma_s|^2((p'_2 \cdot r) - \frac{m^2_e}{2})} ; \\
|M_3|^2 = \frac{-4\alpha_{\text{eff}}(p_1 \cdot p_2)(p'_1 \cdot p'_2)(2(p_1 \cdot p_2) - (p_1 \cdot r) - (p_2 \cdot r) + m^2_\chi)|f_3|^2}{|\Sigma_s|^2|\Sigma_{s'}|^2} ; \\
2\text{Re}(M_1 M_2^\dagger) = \text{Re} \left[ \frac{2\alpha_{\text{eff}} f_3}{\Sigma_s |\Sigma_{s'}|} \left( 2(p_1 \cdot r)^2(p_2 \cdot p_1) + 3(p_1 \cdot r)(p_2 \cdot r)(p_1 \cdot p_2) \\
- (p_1 \cdot r)(p_2 \cdot r)m^2_\chi - 4(p_1 \cdot r)(p_2 \cdot p_1)^2 + (p_2 \cdot r)^2(p_1 \cdot p_2) \\
- (p_2 \cdot r)^2m^2_\chi - 3(p_2 \cdot r)(p_2 \cdot p_1)^2 + (p_2 \cdot r)(p_1 \cdot p_2)m^2_\chi + 2(p_2 \cdot p_1)^3 \right) \right] ; \\
2\text{Re}(M_1 M_3^\dagger) = \text{Re} \left[ \frac{2\alpha_{\text{eff}} f_3}{\Sigma_s |\Sigma_{s'}|} \left( p_1 \cdot p_2)(p_1 \cdot r)(p_1 \cdot p_2) + (p_1 \cdot p'_2)(p_2 \cdot r)(p_1 \cdot p_2) \\
- (p_1 \cdot p'_2)(p_2 \cdot p_1)^2 - (p_1 \cdot p'_2)(p_1 \cdot p_2)m^2_\chi + (p_2 \cdot p'_2)(p_1 \cdot r)(p_1 \cdot p_2) \\
+ (p_2 \cdot p'_2)(p_2 \cdot r)(p_1 \cdot p_2) - (p_2 \cdot p'_2)(p_1 \cdot p_2)^2 - (p_2 \cdot p'_2)(p_2 \cdot p_1)m^2_\chi \\
+ (p_1 \cdot r)^2(p_1 \cdot p_2) + 2(p_1 \cdot r)(p_2 \cdot r)(p_1 \cdot p_2) - 4(p_1 \cdot r)(p_1 \cdot p_2)^2 \\
- (p_1 \cdot r)(p_1 \cdot p_2)m^2_\chi + (p_2 \cdot r)^2(p_1 \cdot p_2) - 4(p_2 \cdot r)(p_1 \cdot p_2)^2 \\
- (p_2 \cdot r)(p_1 \cdot p_2)m^2_\chi + 3(p_1 \cdot p_2)^3 + (p_1 \cdot p_2)^2m^2_\chi \right) ; \\
\text{(A2)}
\]
\[ |M_4|^2 = \frac{\alpha_{\text{eff}}(p'_1 \cdot r)(p_1 \cdot p'_2)}{\Sigma_{u'}^2(p_2 \cdot r)}; \]

\[ |M_5|^2 = \frac{\alpha_{\text{eff}}(p_1 \cdot r)(p'_1 \cdot p_2)}{\Sigma_{u'}^2(p'_2 \cdot r - m^2_r/2)}; \]

\[ |M_6|^2 = \frac{4\alpha_{\text{eff}}(p_1 \cdot p'_2)(p_2 \cdot p'_1)((p_2 \cdot p'_1) + (p_1 \cdot p'_2) - m^2_R)/[\Sigma_{u'}^2\Sigma_{u''}^2]}; \]

\[ 2\text{Re}(M_4 M_5^\dagger) = \text{Re}\left[ \frac{\alpha_{\text{eff}}}{\Sigma_{u'}^2(p_2 \cdot r)} \left( \frac{2(p_1 \cdot p'_2)^2(p_2 \cdot p'_1) + (p_1 \cdot p'_2)^2(p_2 \cdot r)}{\Sigma_{u'}^2(p_1 \cdot r)(p_2 \cdot p'_1) - (p_1 \cdot r)(p_2 \cdot p'_2) - (p_1 \cdot r)(p_2 \cdot p'_2)^2} \right) \right]; \]

\[ 2\text{Re}(M_4 M_6^\dagger) = \text{Re}\left[ \frac{\alpha_{\text{eff}}}{\Sigma_{u'}^2(p_2 \cdot r)} \left( \frac{2(p_1 \cdot p'_2)^2(p_2 \cdot p'_1) + (p_1 \cdot p'_2)^2(p_2 \cdot r)}{\Sigma_{u'}^2(p_1 \cdot r)(p_2 \cdot p'_1) - (p_1 \cdot r)(p_2 \cdot p'_2) - (p_1 \cdot r)(p_2 \cdot p'_2)^2} \right) \right]; \]

\[ 2\text{Re}(M_5 M_6^\dagger) = \text{Re}\left[ \frac{\alpha_{\text{eff}}}{\Sigma_{u'}^2(p_2 \cdot r)} \left( \frac{2(p_1 \cdot p'_2)^2(p_2 \cdot p'_1) + (p_1 \cdot p'_2)^2(p_2 \cdot r)}{\Sigma_{u'}^2(p_1 \cdot r)(p_2 \cdot p'_1) - (p_1 \cdot r)(p_2 \cdot p'_2) - (p_1 \cdot r)(p_2 \cdot p'_2)^2} \right) \right]; \]
\[2\text{Re}(M_4 M_4^\dagger) = \text{Re} \left[ \frac{\alpha_{\text{eff}} m_\gamma^2}{\Sigma_{\gamma} \Sigma_{\mu} (p_2 \cdot r)} \left( (p_1 \cdot p_2^\prime) + (p_2 \cdot p_2^\prime) + (p_1 \cdot r) + (p_2 \cdot r) - (p_1 \cdot p_2^\prime) \right) \right];\]
\[2\text{Re}(M_5 M_5^\dagger) = \text{Re} \left[ \frac{-\alpha_{\text{eff}} m_\gamma^2}{\Sigma_{\gamma} \Sigma_{\mu} (p_2 \cdot r)} \left( (p_1 \cdot p_2^\prime) + (p_2 \cdot p_2^\prime) - (p_1 \cdot r) - (p_2 \cdot r) - (p_1 \cdot p_2^\prime) \right) \right];\]
\[2\text{Re}(M_6 M_6^\dagger) = \text{Re} \left[ \frac{-\alpha_{\text{eff}} m_\gamma^2}{\Sigma_{\gamma} \Sigma_{\mu} (p_2 \cdot r)} \left( (p_1 \cdot p_2^\prime) + (p_2 \cdot p_2^\prime) - (p_1 \cdot r) - (p_2 \cdot r) - (p_1 \cdot p_2^\prime) \right) \right];\]
\[2\text{Re}(M_8 M_8^\dagger) = \text{Re} \left[ \frac{-\alpha_{\text{eff}} m_\gamma^2}{\Sigma_{\gamma} \Sigma_{\mu} (p_2 \cdot r)} \left( (p_1 \cdot p_2^\prime) + (p_2 \cdot p_2^\prime) - (p_1 \cdot r) - (p_2 \cdot r) - (p_1 \cdot p_2^\prime) \right) \right];\]
\[2\text{Re}(M_9 M_9^\dagger) = \text{Re} \left[ \frac{2\alpha_{\text{eff}} m_\gamma^2}{\Sigma_{\gamma} \Sigma_{\mu} (p_2 \cdot r)} \left( (p_1 \cdot p_2^\prime) + (p_2 \cdot p_2^\prime) - (p_1 \cdot r) - (p_2 \cdot r) - (p_1 \cdot p_2^\prime) \right) \right].\]

(App4)

Appendix B: Proof of Gauge Invariance

In this appendix, we verify the invariance of the amplitude under $U(1)_{\text{EM}}$ gauge transformations. We begin with the set of $u$-channel Feynman graphs. The amplitudes of $M_4$, $M_5$ and $M_6$ can be written as,

\[M_4 = \left[ \bar{\chi}(p_1^\prime) (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) \frac{i}{\gamma \cdot (p_2 - r) - m_e} (-ie^\mu) e(p_2) \right];\]
\[M_5 = \left[ \bar{\chi}(p_1^\prime) (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) e(p_2) \right];\]
\[M_6 = \left[ \bar{\chi}(p_1^\prime) (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) \frac{i}{(p_2 - p_1^\prime - r)^2 - m_e^2} \right].\]
Writting the sum of diagrams with all numbers of bubble insertions as, useful later. The key is the imaginary part of the loop which produces the width of the selectron. Process with no final state photon, but a sum of bubble diagrams as shown in Fig. 5, which will be and they sum to zero as expected.

Applying the Ward identity to $M_4$-$M_6$ individually gives rise to

$$M_4 = e \left[ \overline{\chi}(p'_1) (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) e(p_2) \right] \left[ \overline{\epsilon}(p'_2) (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) \chi(p_1) \right] \frac{i}{(p_2 - p'_1 - r)^2 - m^2_e},$$

$$M_5 = -e \left[ \overline{\chi}(p'_1) (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) e(p_2) \right] \left[ \overline{\epsilon}(p'_2) (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) \chi(p_1) \right] \frac{i}{(p_2 - p'_1 - r)^2 - m^2_e},$$

$$M_6 = e \left[ \overline{\chi}(p'_1) (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) e(p_2) \right] \left[ \overline{\epsilon}(p'_2) (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) \chi(p_1) \right] \frac{i}{(p_2 - p'_1 - r)^2 - m^2_e},$$

and they sum to zero as expected.

The set of $s$-channel diagrams is somewhat more complicated. To begin with, we consider the process with no final state photon, but a sum of bubble diagrams as shown in Fig. 5 which will be useful later. The key is the imaginary part of the loop which produces the width of the selectron. Writting the sum of diagrams with all numbers of bubble insertions as,

$$\frac{i}{p^2 - m^2_e} + \frac{i}{p^2 - m^2_e} (-i \Sigma(p)) \frac{i}{p^2 - m^2_e} + ... = \frac{i}{p^2 - m^2_e - \Sigma(p)}$$

we have

$$-i \Sigma(p) = - \int \frac{d^4 q}{(2\pi)^4} \text{Tr} \left[ \frac{i}{\gamma \cdot q - m_e} (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) \frac{i}{\gamma \cdot (q - p) - m_{\chi}} (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) \right],$$

where the width is determined by $m\Gamma = \text{Im}(\Sigma(p))$ at $p^2 = m^2_e$. The diagram with no photon radiation is further simplified to

$$\left[ \overline{\chi}(p_1) (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) e(p_2) \right] \left[ \frac{i}{p^2 - m^2_e - i m_e \Gamma} \right] \left[ \overline{\epsilon}(p'_2) (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) \chi(p'_1) \right]$$

FIG. 5: A general “bubble” diagram containing no photon radiation.
with \( p = p_1 + p_2 \).

When the photon line is added, we get new diagrams by attaching the photon in all possible ways. The first possibility is

\[
\begin{align*}
\tilde{\chi}(p_1) & \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad 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\[ M_{3,1} = \left[ \bar{\chi}(p_1)(a_L P_L + a_R P_R)e(p_2) \right] \left[ \bar{e}(p'_2)(a_L P_L + a_R P_R)\bar{\chi}(p'_1) \right] \left[ (-ie)(2p_2 + 2p_1 - r)\mu \right] \]

\[ \frac{i}{(p_1 + p_2)^2 - m_e^2 - ime\Gamma(p_1 + p_2)} \left( p_2 + p_2 - r \right)^2 - m_e^2 - ime\Gamma(p_1 + p_2 - r) \]  

(B8)

and the other one has the photon attached to an internal loop,

\[ M_{3,2} = \left[ \bar{\chi}(p_2)(a_L P_L + a_R P_R)e(p_1) \right] \left[ \bar{e}(p'_1)(a_L P_L + a_R P_R)\bar{\chi}(p'_2) \right] \left[ -i\Sigma^\mu(p_1 + p_2, -r) \right] \]

\[ \frac{i}{(p_1 + p_2)^2 - m_e^2 - ime\Gamma(p_1 + p_2)} \left( p_1 + p_2 - r \right)^2 - m_e^2 - ime\Gamma(p_1 + p_2 - r) \].  

(B9)

Now we need to extract the imaginary part of \(-i\Sigma^\mu(p, -r)\) in this vertex,

\[ -i\Sigma^\mu(p, -r) = \int \frac{d^4q}{(2\pi)^4} Tr \left[ \frac{i}{\gamma.(q - r) - m_e} (-ie)\gamma^\mu \frac{i}{\gamma.q - m_e} \right] \]

\[ (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) \frac{i}{\gamma.(q - p) - m_\chi} (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) \]

\[ = -\int \frac{d^4q}{(2\pi)^4} Tr \left[ \frac{i}{\gamma.(q - r) - m_e} (-ie)\gamma.(r) \frac{i}{\gamma.q - m_e} \right] \]

\[ (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) \frac{i}{\gamma.(q - p) - m_\chi} (a_L P_L + a_R P_R) \]

\[ = (-e)(-i\Sigma(p - r) + i\Sigma(p)) . \]  

(B10)

We can write generally, \(-i\Sigma^\mu(p, -r) = A (p + p')^\mu + B r^\mu\). The equation above tells us that

\[ A(p + p').(r) = (-e)(-i\Sigma(p - r) + i\Sigma(p))A = \frac{(-e)(-i\Sigma(p - r) + i\Sigma(p))}{-2p \cdot r} . \]  

(B11)

The coefficient \(B\) is irrelevant since \(r \cdot \epsilon = 0\), and the vertex is effectively \(-i\Sigma^\mu(p, -r) = (-ie)(p + p')^\mu \frac{(-\Gamma(p - r) + \Gamma(p))}{-2p \cdot r}\) which can be thought of as a correction to the tree level vertex. Since we are only interested in the imaginary piece of the correction,

\[ (-ie)(p + p')^\mu \frac{(-\Gamma(p - r) + \Gamma(p))}{-2p \cdot r}, \]  

(B12)
we can combine the last two diagrams, arriving at the expression,

\[
M_3 = \left[ \bar{\chi}(p_1)(a_L p_L + a_R p_R)\bar{e}(p_2) \right] \left[ \bar{e}(p'_2)(a_L p_L + a_R p_R)\bar{\chi}(p'_1) \right] \left[ \frac{1 + i m_e \Gamma(p_1 + p_2 - p_1 - p_2 - r)}{2(p_1 + p_2) \cdot (-r)} \right]
\]

\[
\frac{i}{(p_1 + p_2)^2 - m_e^2 - i m_e \Gamma(p_1 + p_2)} (-ie)(p_1 - p_2 - r)^\mu \frac{(p_1 + p_2 - r)^2 - m_e^2 - i m_e \Gamma(p_1 + p_2 - r)}{2(p_1 + p_2) \cdot (-r)} \]

\[
\frac{1}{(p_1 + p_2)^2 - m_e^2 - i m_e \Gamma(p_1 + p_2)} - \frac{1}{(p_1 + p_2 - r)^2 - m_e^2 - i m_e \Gamma(p_1 + p_2 - r)} \right].
\]

Therefore, \( M_1 + M_2 + M_3 = 0 \), as expected, and we complete the proof of the independent gauge invariance for both the \( s \)- and the \( u \)-channel sets of Feynman graphs.

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