

Revisiting the minimal fermionic dark matter UV, IR, and inflaton driven freeze-in

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(Work in progress with F. D'Eramo and M. Becker.)

* No AI/ML/LLM tools were used to produce this presentation.
Everything shown here is the result of human effort; any mistakes are its natural by-products.

Summary

1 Summary

2 Dark matter

- What do we know?
- Candidates
- Propaganda
- The role of reheating

3 Production

- Channels
- The phase-space distribution: dim-5
- The phase-space distribution: $\Phi \rightarrow \chi\chi$

4 Results

- Populations: dim-5
- Momentum dispersion: dim-5
- Parameter space: dim-5
- Parameter space: dim-5 + $\Phi \rightarrow \chi\chi$

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Minimal fermionic DM

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = -\frac{1}{2\Lambda} H^\dagger H \left(\chi\chi + \chi^\dagger\chi^\dagger \right).$$

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- Simple.
- General.
- Generic low energy limit.
- Explore DM landscape.

N. Arkani-Hamed, A. Delgado and G. F. Giudice, Nucl. Phys. B **741** (2006), 108-130 [arXiv:hep-ph/0601041 [hep-ph]].

T. Cohen, J. Kearney, A. Pierce and D. Tucker-Smith, Phys. Rev. D **85** (2012), 075003 [arXiv:1109.2604 [hep-ph]].

A. Dedes, [DK](#), and A. Pilaftsis, Phys. Rev. D **95** (2017) no.11, 115037 [arXiv:1704.01497 [hep-ph]].

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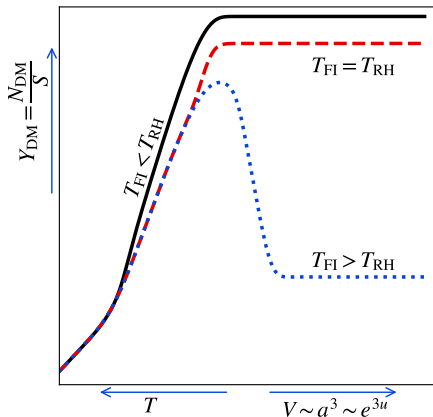
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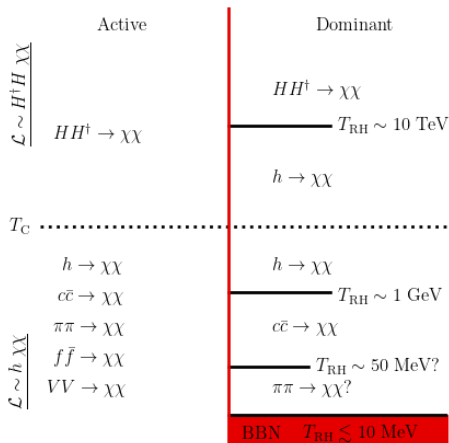
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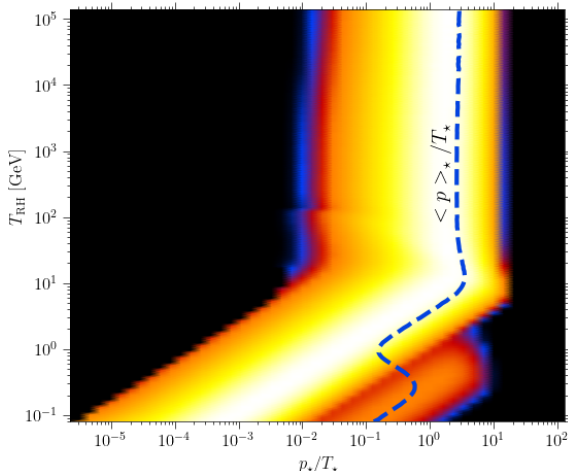
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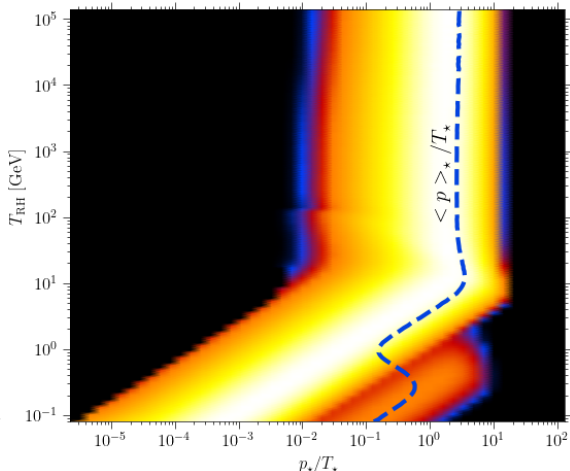
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- Focus on low m_χ .*

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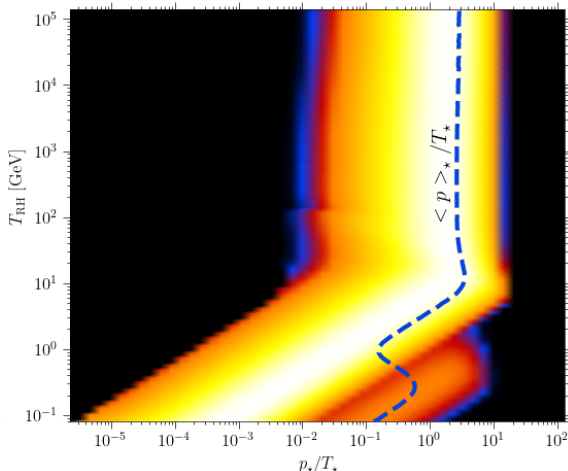
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- All processes. *(Work in progress)*
- Phase-space distribution (PSD).
- Focus on low m_χ .*
- Code for reproducibility.
(Work in progress)

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Dark matter – What do we know?

One thing I know: I know nothing
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Dark matter is likely:

- Mostly electrically neutral.
- Stable or very slow decay rate.
- Non-Baryonic.
- Cold/Warm.
- Gravitationally interacting.

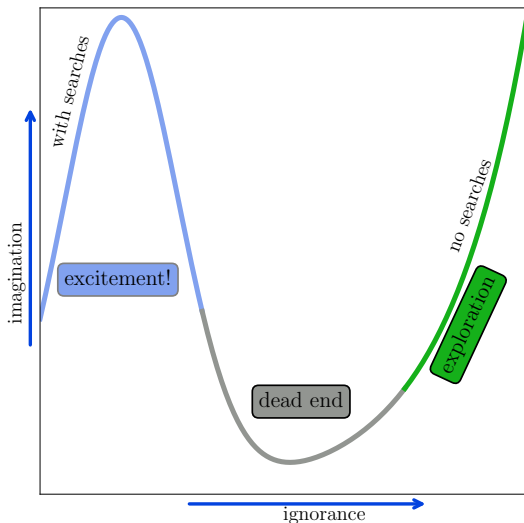
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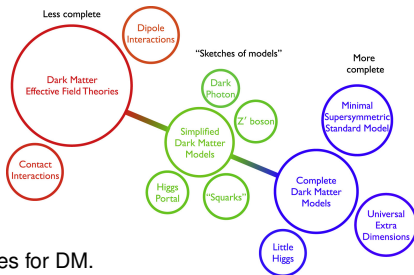
There are many hypotheses for DM.

Dark matter – Candidates

Based on M. Cirelli, et al. arXiv:2406.01705

Candidate	When	Who
Primordial BH	1966, 1971	Zeldovich & Novikov, Hawking
MACHOs	1981, 1986	Petrou; Paczynski
WIMPs	1977, 1985	Lee & Weinberg; Steigman & Turner
Gravitinos	1981, 1982	Fayet; Witten; Pagel & Primack
Axions	1983	Preskill, Wise & Wilczek
Neutrinos	1984	Ellis et al.
Strangelets	1984	Witten; Fahri & Jaffe
Q -balls	1984	Witten
Extra-dimensional DM	1984	Kolb & Slansky; Servant & Tait
Sterile neutrinos	1993	Dodelson & Widrow
Fuzzy DM	2000	Hu, Barkana & Gruzinov
FIMPs	2001, 2009	J. McDonald; Hall et al.
Sub-GeV DM	2003	Boehm, Fayet et al.

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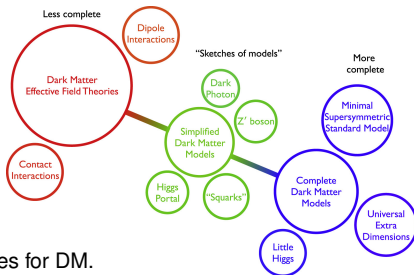
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We could consider a more detailed view of simple cases.

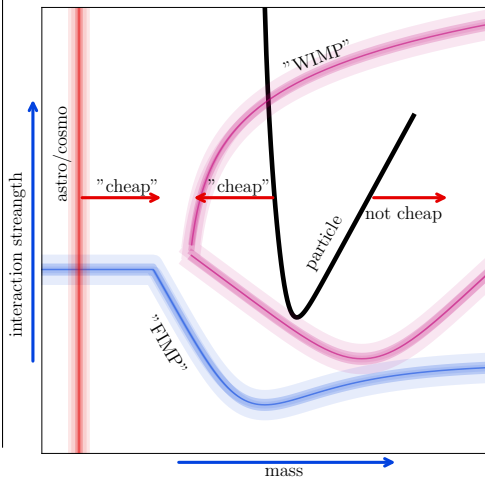
Generalization of the basics:

Freeze-in
+ Reheating
+ PSD-level

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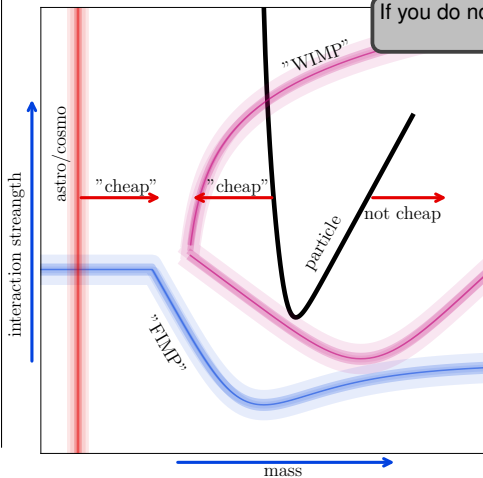
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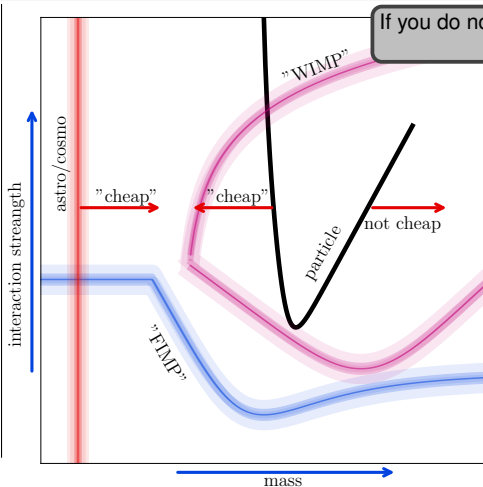
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– Light DM

- Relatively unexplored.
- Accessibility.
- Experimental complementarity.

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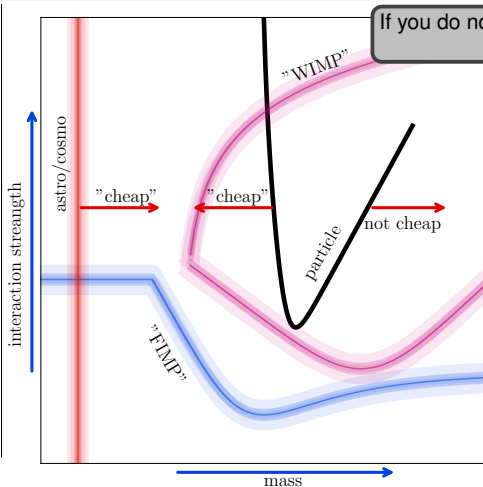
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 - Non-thermal effects.¹

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- Phase-space distribution
 - Quantizaion of distortions.^{1,*}
 - Accurate bounds.^{1,*}
 - PSD reconstruction? ²

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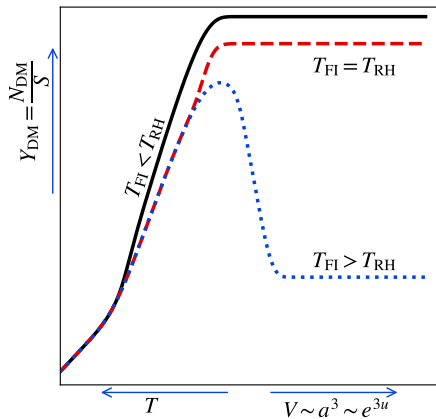
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* Also see talks from Stefan Lederer and Nicola Barbieri.

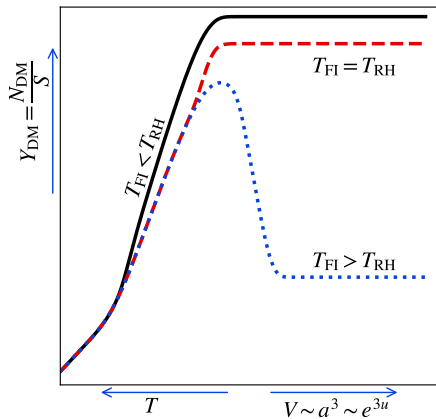
Dark matter – The role of reheating



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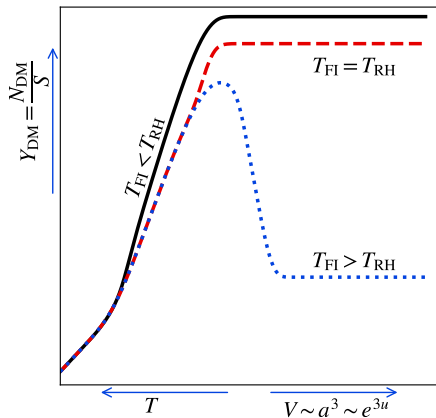
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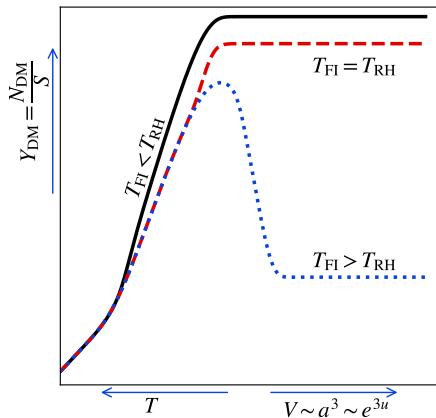
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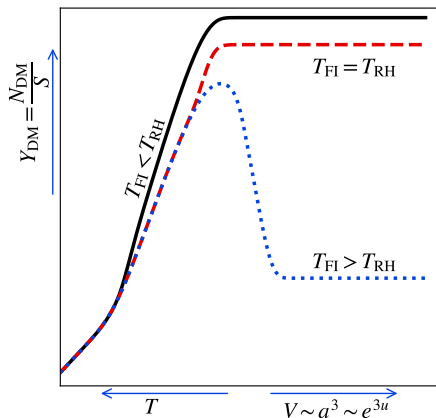
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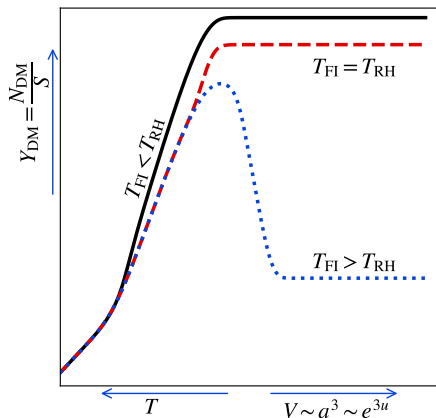
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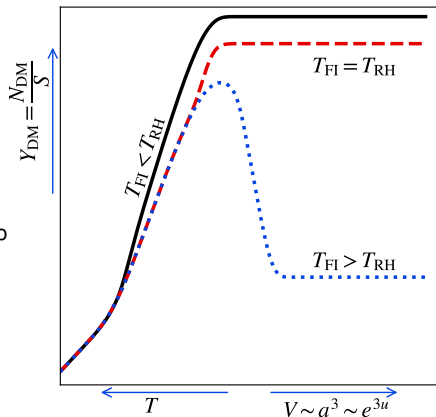
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Freeze-in with reheating:

- Temperature evolution changes.
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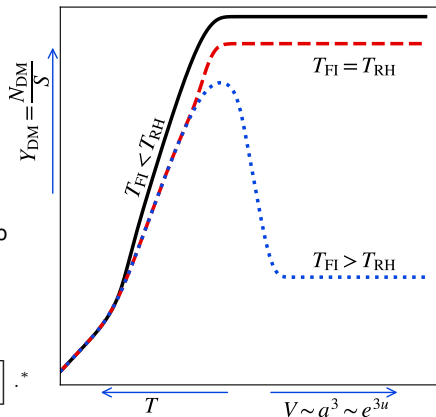
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- Temperature evolution changes.
- Production becomes typically slower—compared to the expansion of the Universe.
- Reheating after freeze-in causes dilution.



$$\frac{d \log Y_{\text{DM}}}{du} = \frac{d \log N_{\text{DM}}}{du} \left[1 - \frac{d \log S}{du} \left(\frac{d \log N_{\text{DM}}}{du} \right)^{-1} \right].^*$$

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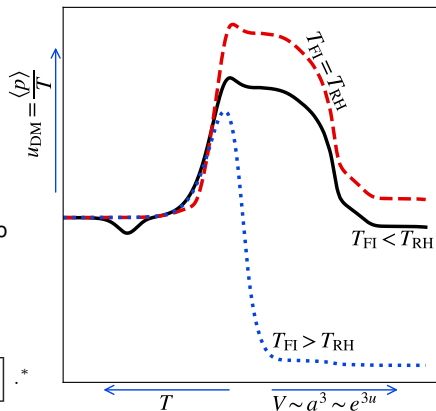
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$$\frac{d \log u_{\text{DM}}}{du} = \left[1 - \left(1 - \frac{\Gamma_{\Phi} \rho_{\Phi}}{H \rho_R} \right)^{-1} \right] + \left(\frac{1}{2u_{\text{DM}}} \frac{\langle E_h \rangle}{T} - 1 \right) \frac{d \log N_{\text{DM}}}{du}.^*$$

* Details in:

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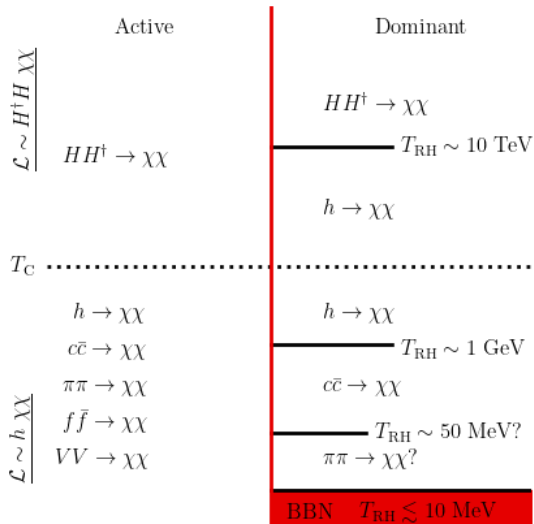
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$$\frac{d\rho_\Phi}{du} + 3\rho_\Phi = -(1 + \text{BR}_\chi) \frac{\Gamma_\Phi}{H} \rho_\Phi$$

$$\frac{d\rho_R}{du} + 3(\rho_R + P_R) = \frac{\Gamma_\Phi}{H} \rho_\Phi$$

$$\frac{df_{\tilde{p}}(u)}{du} = \sum_P \frac{\{P \rightarrow \chi\chi\}(u; \tilde{p})}{H} +$$

$$+ 16\pi^2 \text{BR}_\chi \frac{\Gamma_\Phi}{H} \frac{\rho_\Phi}{m_\Phi^4} \delta\left(u - \log \frac{2\tilde{p}}{m_\Phi}\right)$$

$$\mathcal{L} \sim \frac{H^\dagger H \chi\chi}{\Lambda^2}$$

$$HH^\dagger \rightarrow \chi\chi$$

$$T_C$$

$$h \rightarrow \chi\chi$$

$$c\bar{c} \rightarrow \chi\chi$$

$$\pi\pi \rightarrow \chi\chi$$

$$f\bar{f} \rightarrow \chi\chi$$

$$VV \rightarrow \chi\chi$$

$$\mathcal{L} \sim \frac{h \chi\chi}{\Lambda}$$

Active

Dominant

$$HH^\dagger \rightarrow \chi\chi$$

$$T_{\text{RH}} \sim 10 \text{ TeV}$$

$$h \rightarrow \chi\chi$$

$$h \rightarrow \chi\chi$$

$$T_{\text{RH}} \sim 1 \text{ GeV}$$

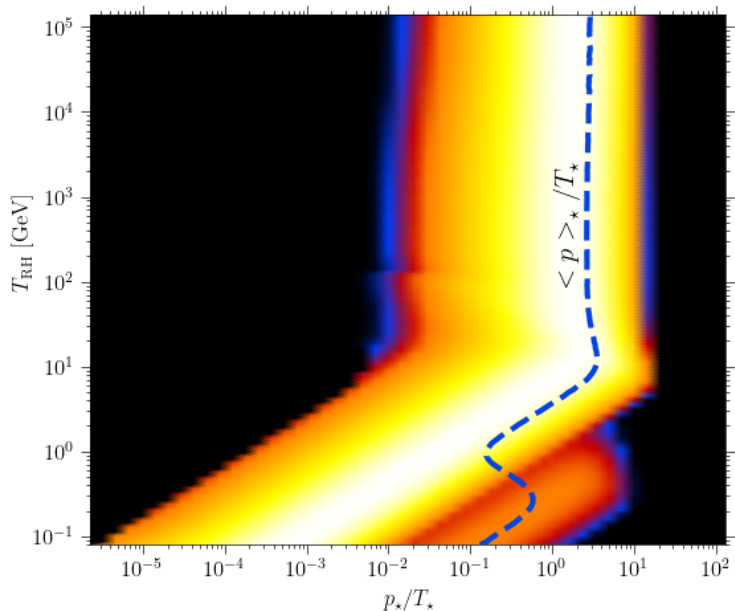
$$c\bar{c} \rightarrow \chi\chi$$

$$T_{\text{RH}} \sim 50 \text{ MeV?}$$

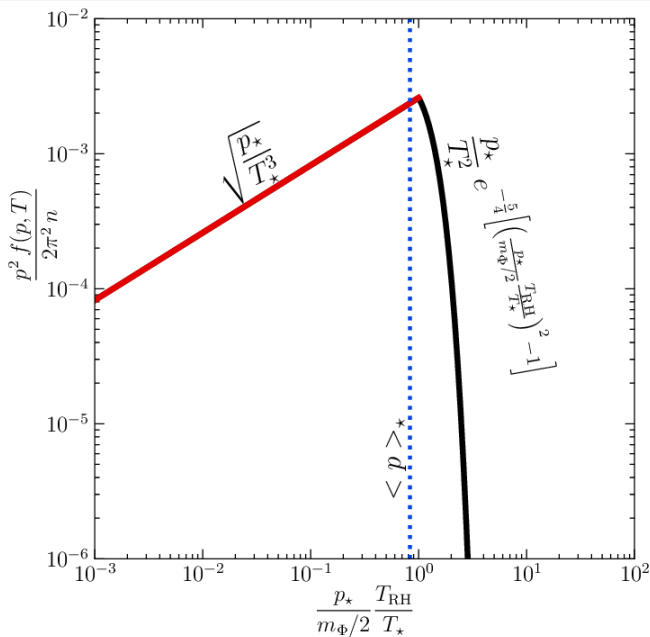
$$\pi\pi \rightarrow \chi\chi?$$

$$\text{BBN} \quad T_{\text{RH}} \lesssim 10 \text{ MeV}$$

Production – The phase-space distribution: dim-5



Production – The phase-space distribution: $\Phi \rightarrow \chi\chi$



Results

1 Summary

2 Dark matter

- What do we know?
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- Propaganda
- The role of reheating

3 Production

- Channels
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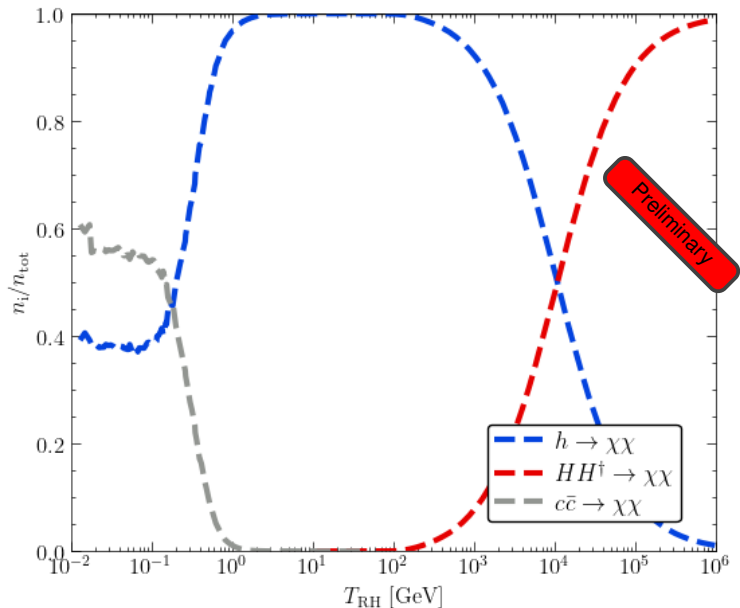
4 Results

- Populations: dim-5
- Momentum dispersion: dim-5
- Parameter space: dim-5
- Parameter space: dim-5 + $\Phi \rightarrow \chi\chi$

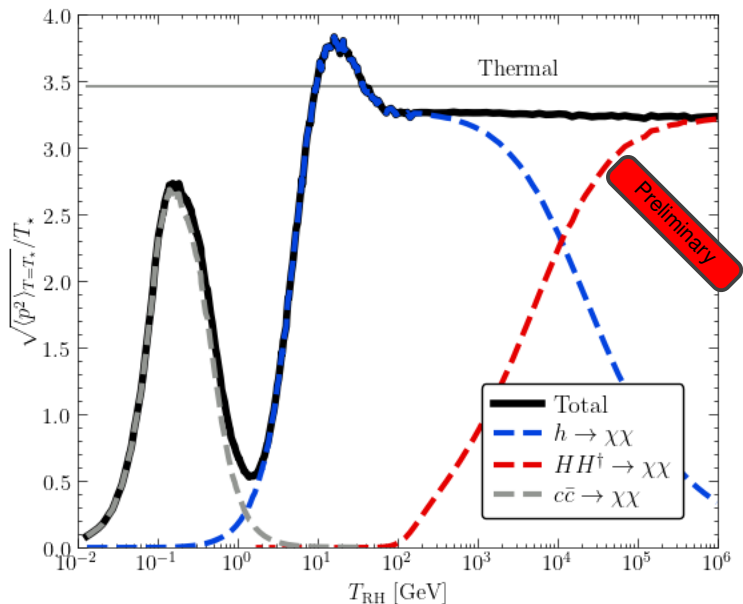
5 Summary

6 What now?

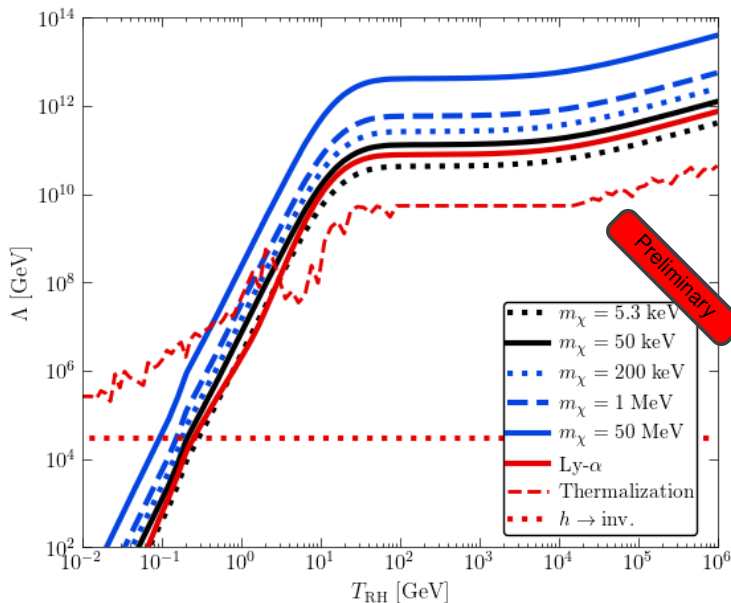
Results – Populations: dim-5



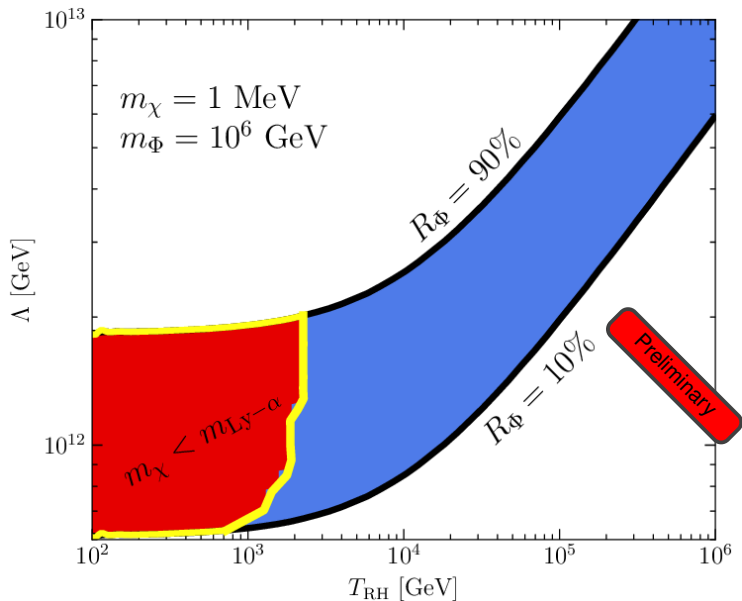
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Results – Parameter space: $\text{dim-5} + \Phi \rightarrow \chi\chi$



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We show the minimal fermionic DM.

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It remains an interesting possibility.

- It has a rich production history.
- It is a window to many other models (*e.g.* singlet-doublet DM, 2HDM + sub-GeV DM, and many more).
- The PSD shows the potential impact of reheating on multiple production channels.

What now?

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- Thermalization at the PSD-level.
- “Gray” area between freeze-in/out.
- UV complete “simple DM” models at the PSD-level.

Thank you!