Using CMB spectral distortions to distinguish between dark matter solutions to the small-scale crisis

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Based on work done in collaboration with Yvonne Wong



#### Goals

- To give an introduction to CMB Spectral Distortions
- To discuss 2 Dark Matter scenarios
- Late Kinetic Decoupling from photons  $(LKD\gamma)$  Late Kinetic Decoupling from neutrinos  $(LKD\nu)$
- To point out interesting physical effects occurring in these models
- To show that spectral distortions can be used to these models and distinguish them from other solutions to the small-scale structure problems.

# Motivation



# What is a Spectral Distortion?



J. Chluba, J. Hamann and S. Patil (2015).

### How do Spectral Distortions occur?



Distance

R. Khatri, R. Sunyaev and J. Chluba (2012) 1205.2871

## Detection of Spectral Distortions



**COBE/FIRAS Collaboration (1994) Astrophys. J.** 

# Heating Rate

• The heating rate of CMB photons due to dissipation of small-scale acoustic modes is:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\left(Q/\rho_{\gamma}\right)}{\mathrm{d}z} \approx \frac{64c^{2}}{15\mathcal{H}\dot{\kappa}} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}k}{2\pi^{2}} k^{4} P_{\mathcal{R}}(k) \left(\Theta_{1}^{2}+\ldots\right).$$
Heating Rate  $\approx \frac{\mathrm{Const}}{\mathrm{factors}} \int \frac{\mathrm{Primordial} \,\mathrm{Power}}{\mathrm{Spectrum}} \left(\frac{\mathrm{Photon} \,\mathrm{Temp}}{\mathrm{Transfer} \,\mathrm{Functions}}\right).$ 

• The photon temperature transfer function has the form:

$$\Theta_1 \approx A\left(\frac{c_s}{c}\right) \sin(kr_s) \exp\left(-\frac{k^2}{k_D^2}\right).$$

Photon Temp Transfer Function

Const factors Acoustic oscillations

Diffusion damping

#### Late Kinetic Decoupling from Neutrinos (LKD $\nu$ )

• Equations of motion for a coupled neutrino-DM fluid.



 Interaction rate for neutrino-DM scattering scattering

$$\dot{\mu} = a\sigma_{\rm DM-\nu}cn_{\rm DM}$$

 $\dot{\kappa}/\dot{\mu}$  is proportional to

$$u_{\nu} \equiv \frac{\sigma_{\rm DM-\nu}}{\sigma_{\rm Th}} \frac{100 {\rm GeV}}{m_{\rm DM}}$$

Interaction rate for photon-baryon scattering

$$\dot{\kappa} = a\sigma_{\rm Th}cn_e$$

R. Wilkinson, J. Lesgourgues and C. Boehm (2014) 1401.7597

#### Transfer Functions $(LKD\nu)$ $k = 100 Mpc^{-1}$



## How can we understand the physics?

• The photon temperature transfer function has the form:

$$\Theta_1 \approx A\left(\frac{c_s}{c}\right) \sin(kr_s) \exp\left(-\frac{k^2}{k_D^2}\right).$$
  
Where  $A = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{4}{15}f_{\nu}}$  and  $f_{\nu} = \frac{\rho_{\nu}}{\rho_{\gamma} + \rho_{\nu}} \simeq 0.41$ 

- Neutrinos normally don't participate in acoustic oscillations as they stream freely.
- When coupled to DM they 'cluster' more efficiently and participate in acoustic oscillations as photons.
- $\Rightarrow$  Overall increase in oscillation amplitude.

Heating Rate  $(LKD\nu)$ 

 $\mathcal{A}_i = 1$ 



#### Expected $\mu$ – distortion (LKD $\nu$ )



#### Late Kinetic Decoupling from Photons (LKD $\gamma$ )

• Equations of motion for a coupled photon-baryon and photon-DM fluid.

Velocity  
Divergence Gravitational Expansion Density  

$$\dot{\theta}_b = k^2 \psi - \mathcal{H} \theta_b + c_s^2 k^2 \delta_b - R^{-1} \dot{\kappa} (\theta_b - \theta_\gamma),$$
  
 $\dot{\theta}_{\gamma} = k^2 \psi + k^2 \left(\frac{1}{4}\delta_{\gamma} - \sigma_{\gamma}\right) - \dot{\kappa} (\theta_{\gamma} - \theta_b)$ 
  
 $- \dot{\mu} (\theta_{\gamma} - \theta_{\rm DM}),$ 
  
 $\dot{\theta}_{\rm DM} = k^2 \psi - \mathcal{H} \theta_{\rm DM} - S^{-1} \dot{\mu} (\theta_{\rm DM} - \theta_{\gamma}).$ 
  
Baryon-photon coupling
  
Baryon-photon coupling
  
Photon-DM
  
coupling

- Interaction rate for photon-DM scattering  $\dot{\mu} = a \sigma_{{
  m DM}-\gamma} c n_{{
  m DM}}$
- $\dot{\kappa}/\dot{\mu}$  is proportional to  $u_{\gamma} \equiv \frac{\sigma_{\rm DM-\gamma}}{\sigma_{\rm Th}} \frac{100 {\rm GeV}}{m_{\rm DM}}$

Interaction rate for photon-baryon scattering

$$\dot{\kappa} = a\sigma_{\mathrm{Th}}cn_{e}$$

R. Wilkinson, J. Lesgourgues and C. Boehm (2013) 1309.7588

### Heating Rate needs to be modified

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\mathrm{d}\left(Q/\rho_{\gamma}\right)}{\mathrm{d}z} &= \frac{4a\dot{\kappa}}{\mathcal{H}} \int \frac{k^{2}\mathrm{d}k}{2\pi^{2}} P_{\mathcal{R}}(k) \left[ \frac{\left(3\Theta_{1}-v_{b}\right)^{2}}{3} + \frac{9}{2}\Theta_{2}^{2} - \frac{1}{2}\Theta_{2}\left(\Theta_{0}^{\mathrm{P}}+\Theta_{2}^{\mathrm{P}}\right) + \sum_{\ell\geq3}(2\ell+1)\Theta_{\ell}^{2} \right] \\ &+ \frac{4a\dot{\mu}_{\gamma}}{\mathcal{H}} \int \frac{k^{2}\mathrm{d}k}{2\pi^{2}} P_{\mathcal{R}}(k) \left[ \frac{\left(3\Theta_{1}-v_{\mathrm{DM}}\right)^{2}}{3} + \frac{9}{2}\Theta_{2}^{2} - \frac{1}{2}\Theta_{2}\left(\Theta_{0}^{\mathrm{P}}+\Theta_{2}^{\mathrm{P}}\right) + \sum_{\ell\geq3}(2\ell+1)\Theta_{\ell}^{2} \right], \end{aligned}$$

- DM-photon scattering provides a new channel through which small-scale perturbations can be dissipated directly.
- Can be written explicitly in terms of the transfer functions as before

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\left(Q/\rho_{\gamma}\right)}{\mathrm{d}z} \simeq \frac{4a}{\mathcal{H}} \int \frac{k^2 \mathrm{d}k}{2\pi^2} P_{\mathcal{R}}(k) \, k^2 \, \Theta_1^2 \left[\frac{1}{\dot{\kappa} + \dot{\mu}_{\gamma}} \frac{16}{15} + \frac{3\dot{\mu}_{\gamma}}{k^2} \left(\frac{k^2}{k^2 + 3S_{\gamma}^{-2}\dot{\mu}_{\gamma}^2}\right)\right]$$

Transfer Functions  $(LKD\gamma)$   $k = 100 Mpc^{-1}$ 



Heating Rate 
$$(LKD\gamma)$$
  $A_i = 1$ 



## How can we understand the physics?

• The photon temperature transfer function has the form:

$$\begin{split} \Theta_1 &\approx A\left(\frac{c_s}{c}\right) \sin\left(kr_s\right) \exp\left(-\frac{k^2}{k_D^2}\right).\\ \text{Where}\\ \partial_z k_D^{-2} &\simeq -\frac{a}{6\mathcal{H}} \left(\frac{1}{\dot{\kappa} + \dot{\mu}} \frac{16}{15} + \frac{3\dot{\mu}}{k^2} \left(\frac{k^2}{k^2 + 3\left(S^{-1}\dot{\mu}\right)^2}\right)\right)\\ \text{Diffusion Damping} &\simeq \qquad \text{Viscosity} \qquad + \qquad \text{Heat Conduction} \end{split}$$

- The extra term due to heat conduction is also present for a photon-baryon fluid but suppressed during tight-coupling.
- Heating Rate is damped due to additional viscosity of the fluid and enhanced due to additional heat conduction.

 $\Rightarrow$ Competing effects dominate at different times

#### Projected Constraints (PRISM)



#### Projected Constraints (PRISM)



#### Conclusions

- Spectral Distortions offer a unique probe of physics on extremely small-length scales in the early universe.
- They can be used to probe models of late kinetic decoupling and distinguish them from other solutions to the small-scale structure problems.
- Future Experiments such as PRISM can set competitive bounds on the elastic scattering cross sections between DM and SM particles.
- New physics effects such as the change of the diffusion damping scale in the presence of a weakly coupled DM-photon system warrant further study.