Sixteenth Marcel Grossmann Meeting



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Testing dark matter interactions with CMB spectral distortions

Thursday, 8 July 2021 18:30 (18 minutes)

Possible interactions of dark matter (DM) with Standard Model (SM) particles can be tested with spectral distortions of the cosmic microwave background (CMB). In particular, a non-relativistic DM particle that scatters elastically with photons, electrons or nuclei imprints a negative chemical potential μ to the CMB spectrum, as I will explain in this talk. I will show how this effect can be used to derive upper bounds to the DM-SM elastic-scattering cross section for DM masses m χ ²⁰⁰.1 MeV, from the non-detection of μ -distortions by FIRAS, and forecast the sensitivity of future spectral distortion measurements. As a specific example, I will discuss the sensitivity of spectral distortions to the electric and magnetic dipole moments of DM.

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Session Classification: New Horizons in Cosmology with CMB Spectral Distortions

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