

# FREEZE-IN OF COMPOSITE DM

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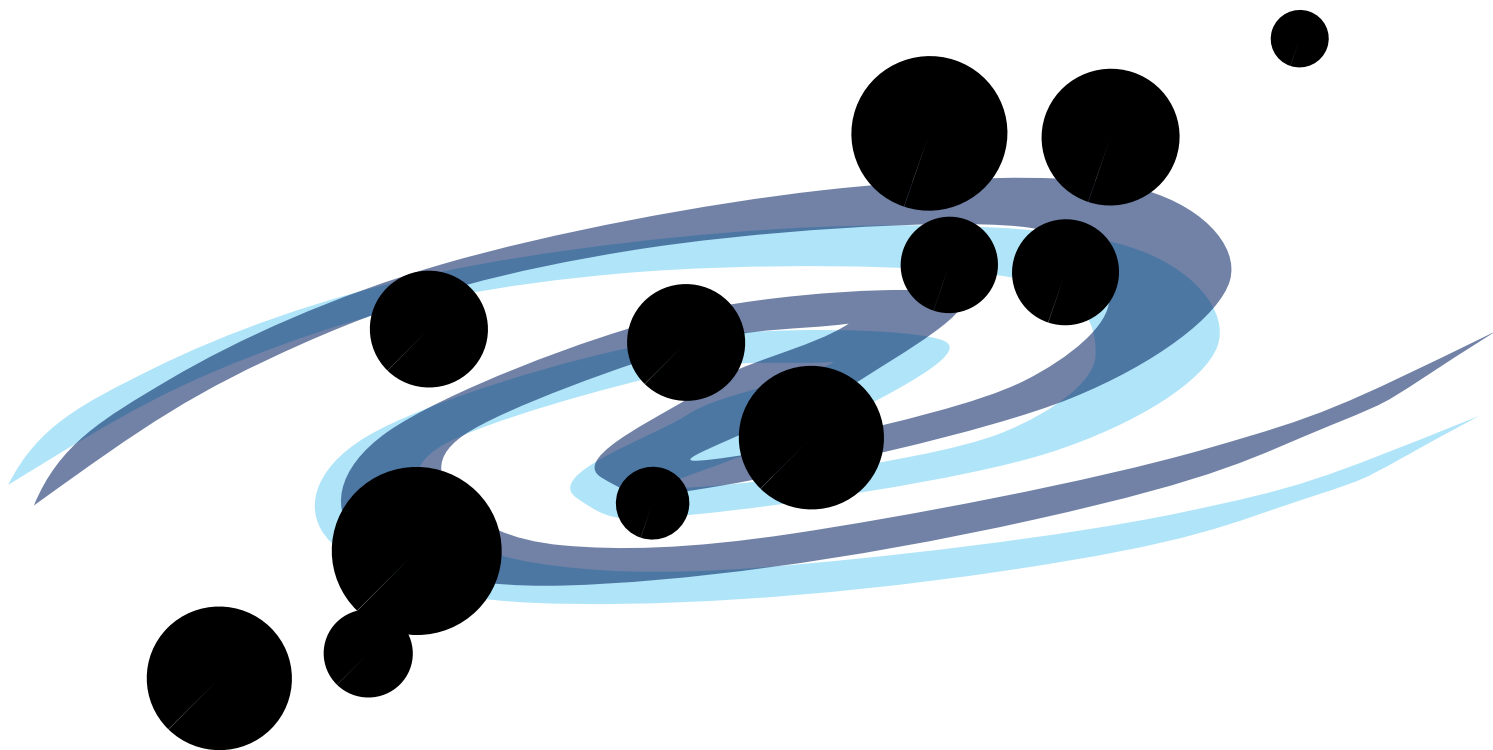
**李凌风**

ICTP-AP, UCAS

**Sep. 29**

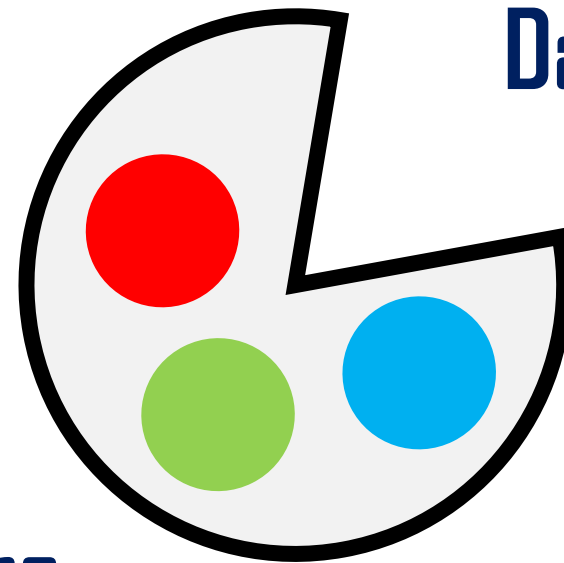
**BPCS 2025, Beijing**

**25xx.abcde w/ Sida Lu**





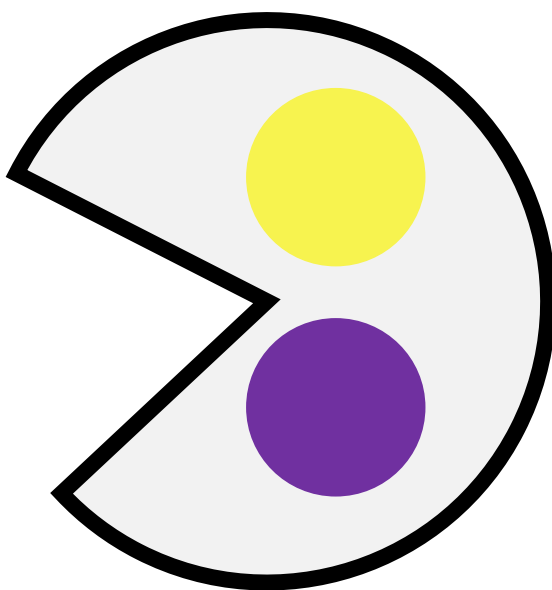
# Composite DM Candidates



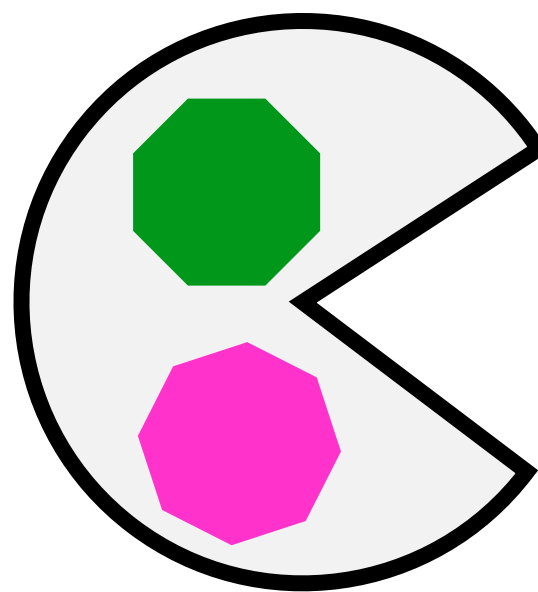
Dark Baryons



Dark R-hadrons



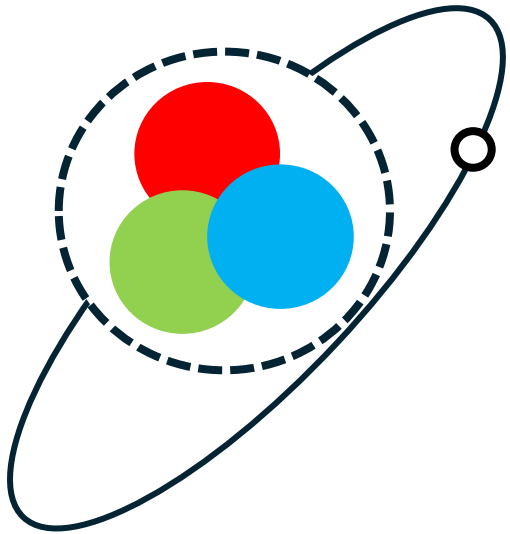
Dark Mesons



Dark Glueballs

# Motivation

**"Baryons" are Composite**



Hierarchy

GUT

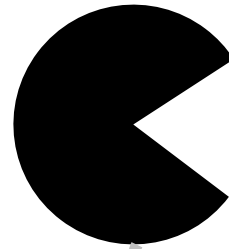
FOPT

CFT

**UV Model Building**



**"Minimal" Setup (?)**



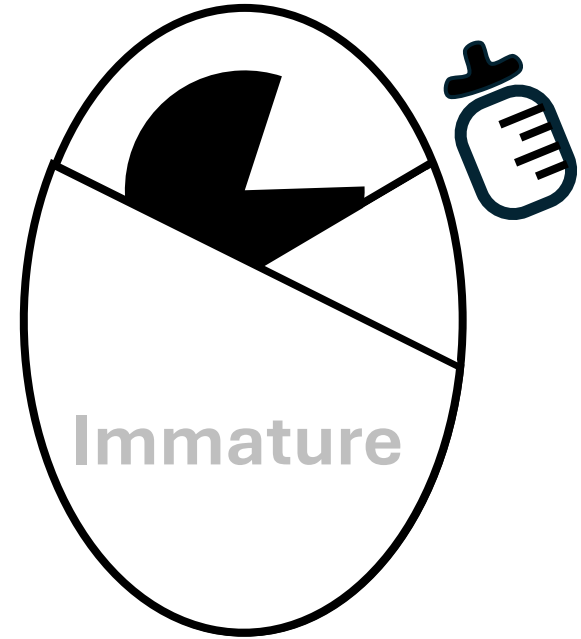
See more in  
Xiaoyong  
Chu's talk



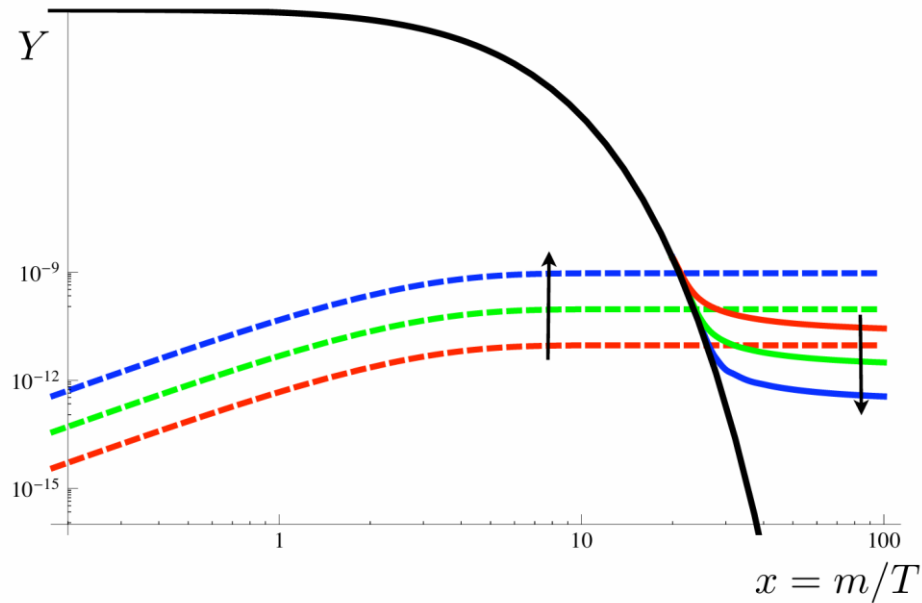
**Unique Dynamics & Phenomena**

# DISCLAIMER:

**ONGOING WORK WITH  
PRELIMINARY RESULTS  
DETAILS MAY CHANGE  
IN THE FUTURE**



# Freeze-in DM

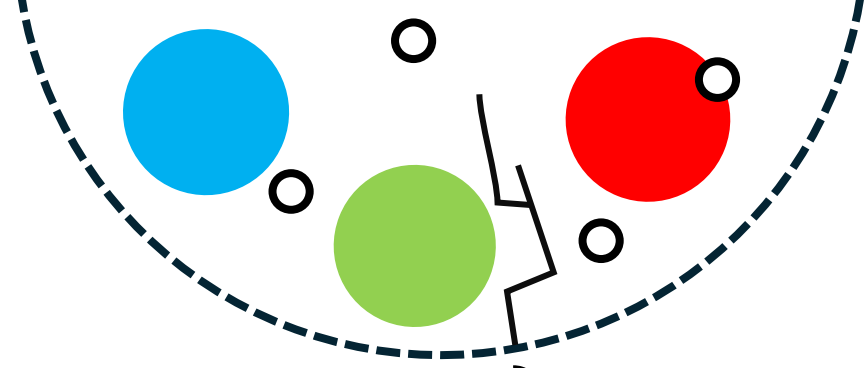


L. J. Hall, K. Jedamzik,  
J. March-Russell and S.  
M. West, 0911.1120

The portal interaction is highly suppressed, the dark sector never reaches equilibrium

□ DM relic abundance insensitive to DM mass

$$Y_{FI} \sim \lambda^2 \left( \frac{M_{Pl}}{m} \right)$$



**Dark Sector  
from the “Leaks”  
of Radiation**

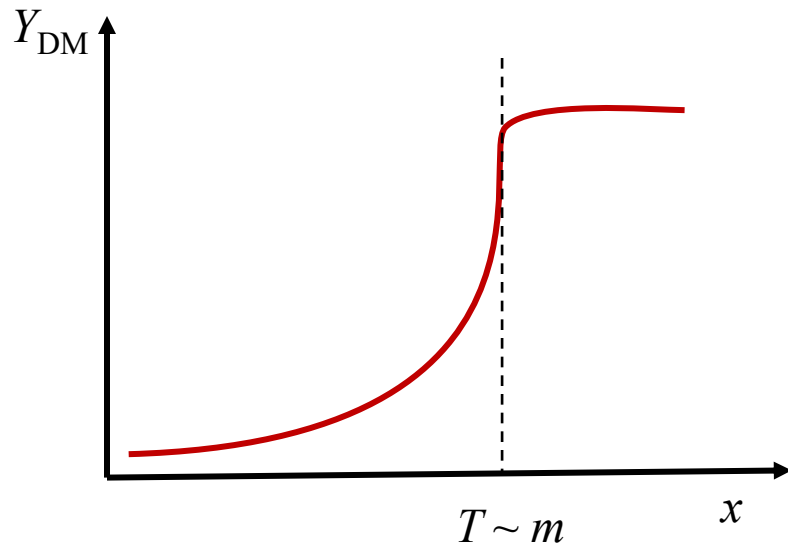
# Freeze-In of Composite DM

L. J. Hall, K. Jedamzik, J. March-Russell and S. M. West, 0911.1120

F. Elahi, C. Kolda and J. Unwin, 1410.6157

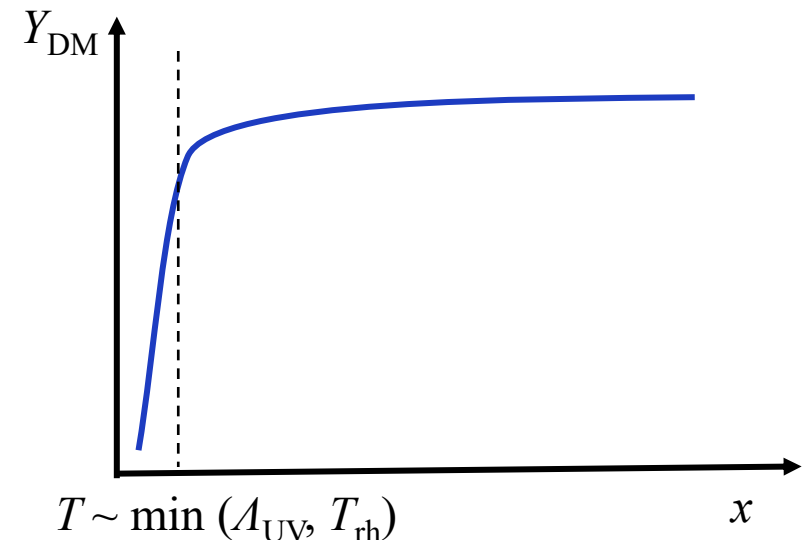
## (IR) Freeze-in

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim \Lambda_{\text{IR}}^n T^{-2-n}$$



## UV Freeze-in

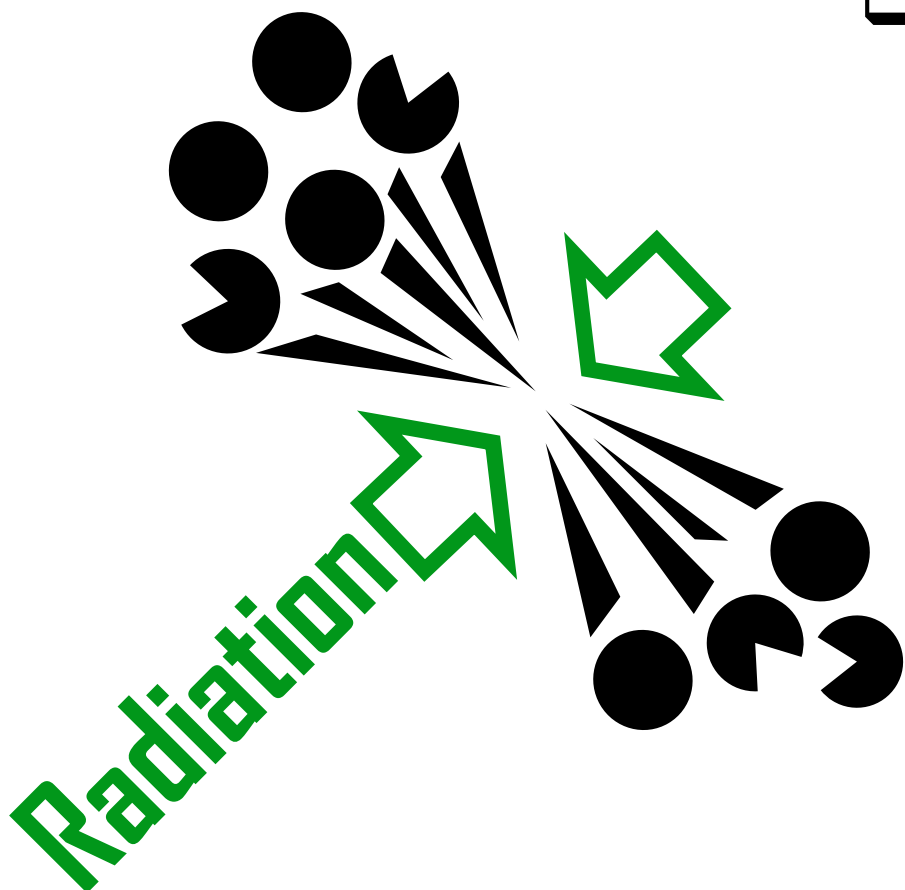
$$\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim T^{n+4} \Lambda_{\text{UV}}^{-n}$$



# Dark Hadron Production

Phenomenology: 25xx.abcd  
 H-C. Cheng, X. Jiang, LFL,  
 E. Salvioni 2408.13304;  
 H-C.Cheng, LFL, E.  
 Salvioni, 2110.10691 .....

- No longer pair produced but hadronize



$$\frac{N(\mu)}{N(\mu_0) \equiv N_0} = \exp \left[ \int_{\mu_0}^{\mu} \gamma(\mu) d \log \mu \right]$$

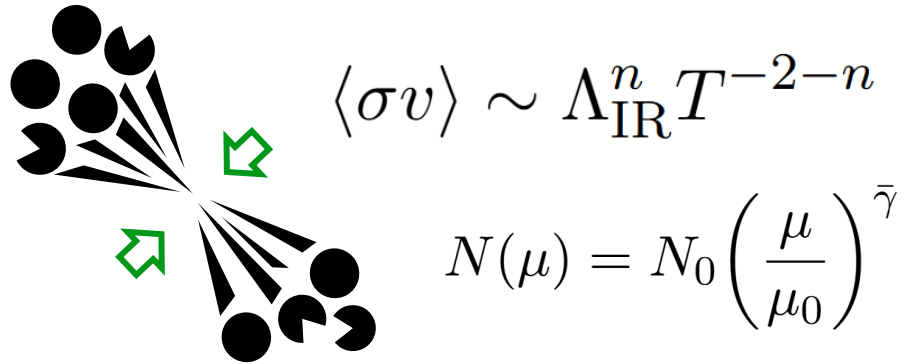
$$\gamma = \sqrt{2N_D \frac{\alpha_D}{\pi}} - \frac{\alpha_D}{2\pi} \left( \frac{\beta_0}{4} + \frac{10N_{f,D}}{3N_D^2} \right)$$

B.R. Webber, 1984

- With a limited range of energy/temperature, simplifies as:

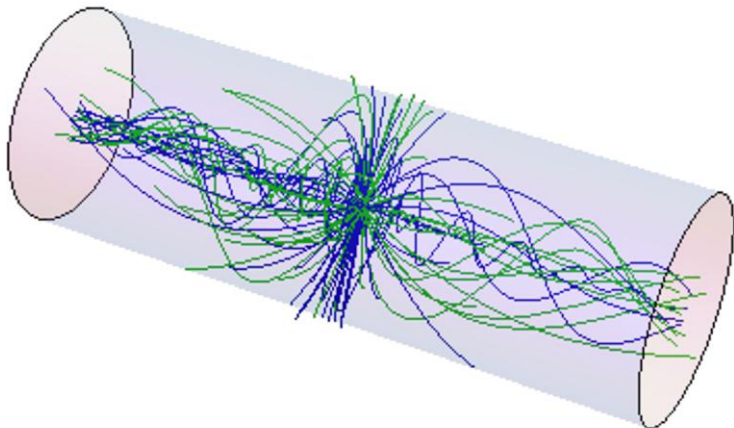
$$N(\mu) = N_0 \left( \frac{\mu}{\mu_0} \right)^{\bar{\gamma}}$$

# Dynamics of (IR) Freeze-in



Extremal anomalous dimension  $\gamma$   
 $\rightarrow \sim 1$  for the “soft bomb” case

S. Knapen, S. Pagan Griso, M. Papucci  
 and D. J. Robinson, 1612.00850



□ Becomes more UV than before

$$Y_D \sim 2\sqrt{\frac{2}{5}}g_D\sqrt{g_*}\frac{\lambda^2 M_{PL}\Lambda_{\text{IR}}^n N_0 \Lambda_D^{-n-1}}{3\pi(1+n-\bar{\gamma})}$$

□ Recover the result of weakly-interacting results when  $N_0 \sim 2$  and  $\gamma \sim 0$

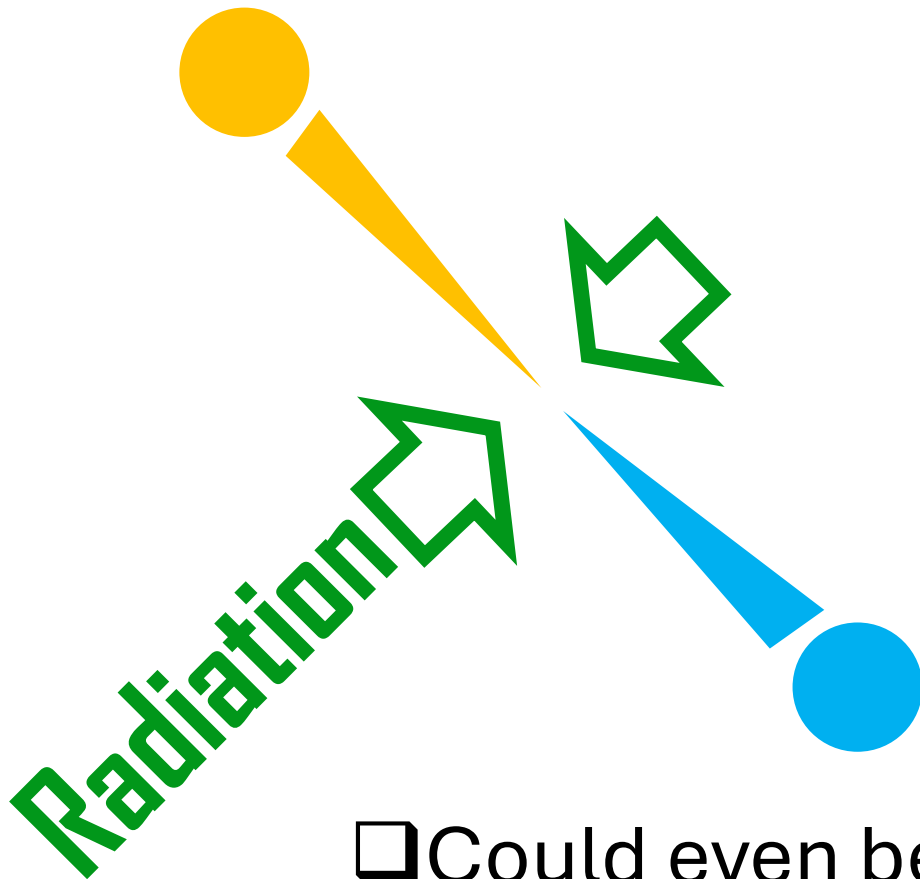
See also:

S. Hong, G. Kurup, and M. Perelstein, 1910.10160;  
 W. H. Chiu, S. Hong, and L.-T. Wang, 2209.10563



# UV Freeze-in

□ Assuming the UV d.o.f. are produced instead



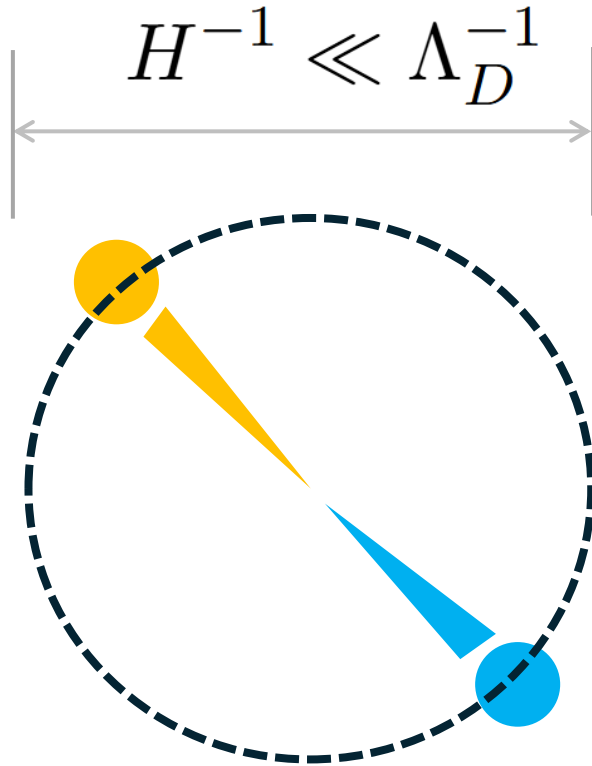
$$\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim c_n^2 \frac{T^{4+n}}{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}^n}$$

$$Y_{D,i} \approx \begin{cases} 7.6 \times 10^{-6} \frac{c_n^2 M_{\text{pl}} T_{\text{RH}}}{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}^2} \left( \frac{g_*}{106.5} \right)^{-3/2} & n = 2 \\ 6.1 \times 10^{-5} \frac{c_n^2 M_{\text{pl}} T_{\text{RH}}^3}{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}^4} \left( \frac{g_*}{106.5} \right)^{-3/2} & n = 4 \\ 1.7 \times 10^{-3} \frac{c_n^2 M_{\text{pl}} T_{\text{RH}}^5}{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}^6} \left( \frac{g_*}{106.5} \right)^{-3/2} & n = 6 \end{cases} .$$

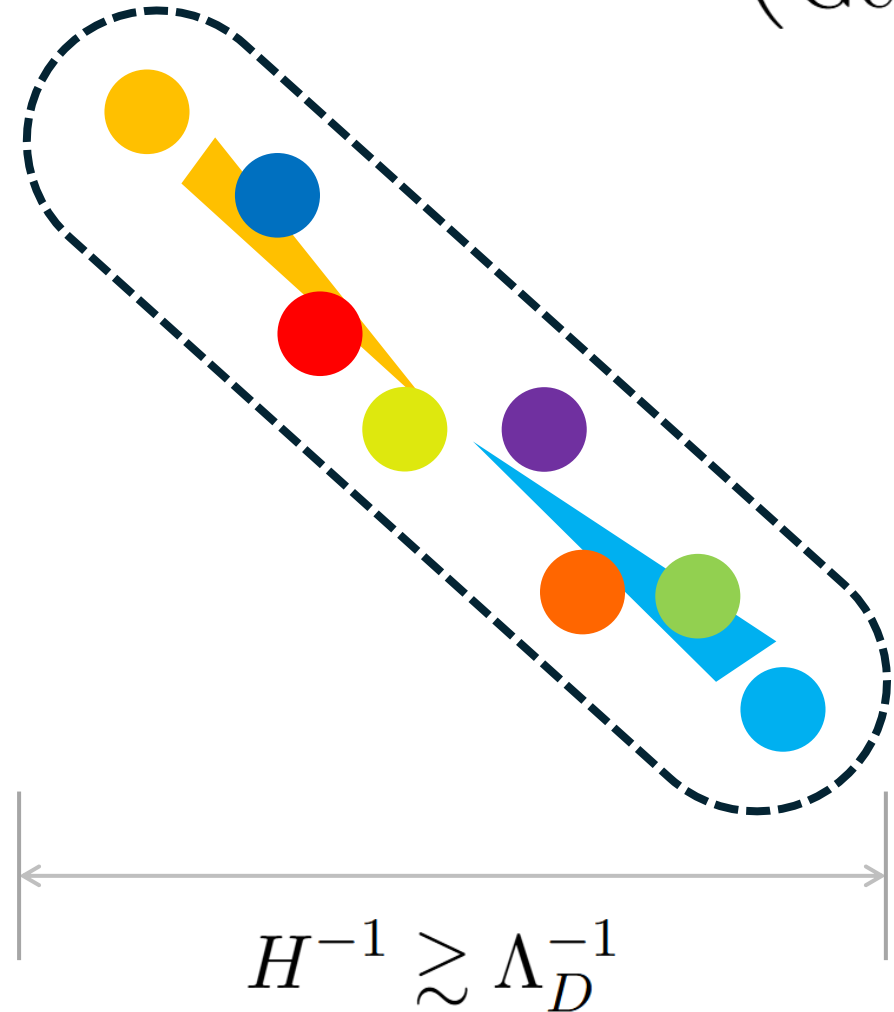
□ Could even be gravity-only when we assign  $\Lambda_{\text{UV}} \sim M_{\text{pl}}$

# The First Hadronization

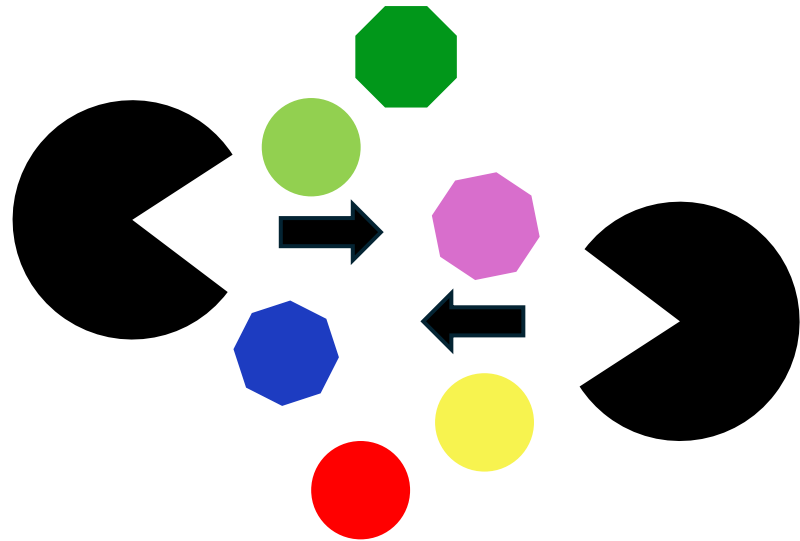
$$T_{\text{had}} \simeq 10^9 \left( \frac{\Lambda_D}{\text{GeV}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$



Only when the horizon size is large enough, the color string can form (and break)



# Necessary Condition of Quark-Gluon Plasma (non-) Formation



- Inelastic cross section reaches geometric ones

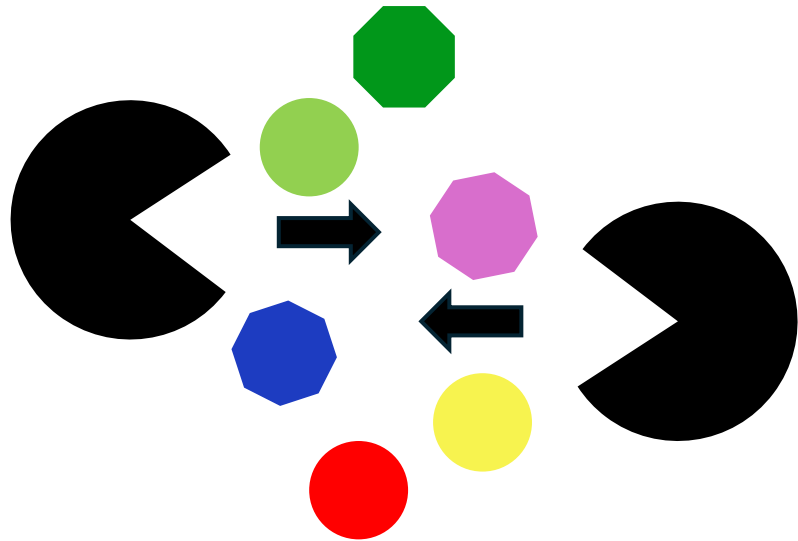
$$\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\Lambda_D^2}\right)$$

- Mean free path greater than the horizon size, otherwise thin+hot hadron gas instead of QGP

$$l \sim (\langle \sigma v \rangle n_D)^{-1} \ll H^{-1}$$

**Need to reach critical abundance to make it happen**

# Necessary Condition of Quark-Gluon Plasma (non-) Formation

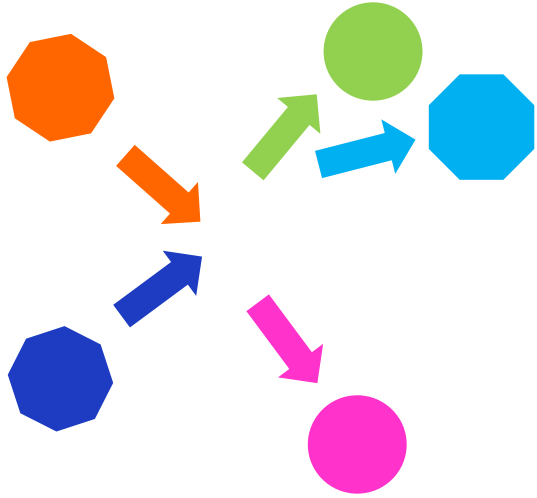


□ (Very) high energy confined d.o.f. instead of elementary ones during radiation dominance

$$Y \gtrsim \frac{g_D \Lambda_D^2}{g_* M_{\text{pl}} T}$$

Hot, thin hadron “gas” instead of quark gluon “plasma”

# Sufficient Condition of Quark-Gluon Plasma (non-) Formation



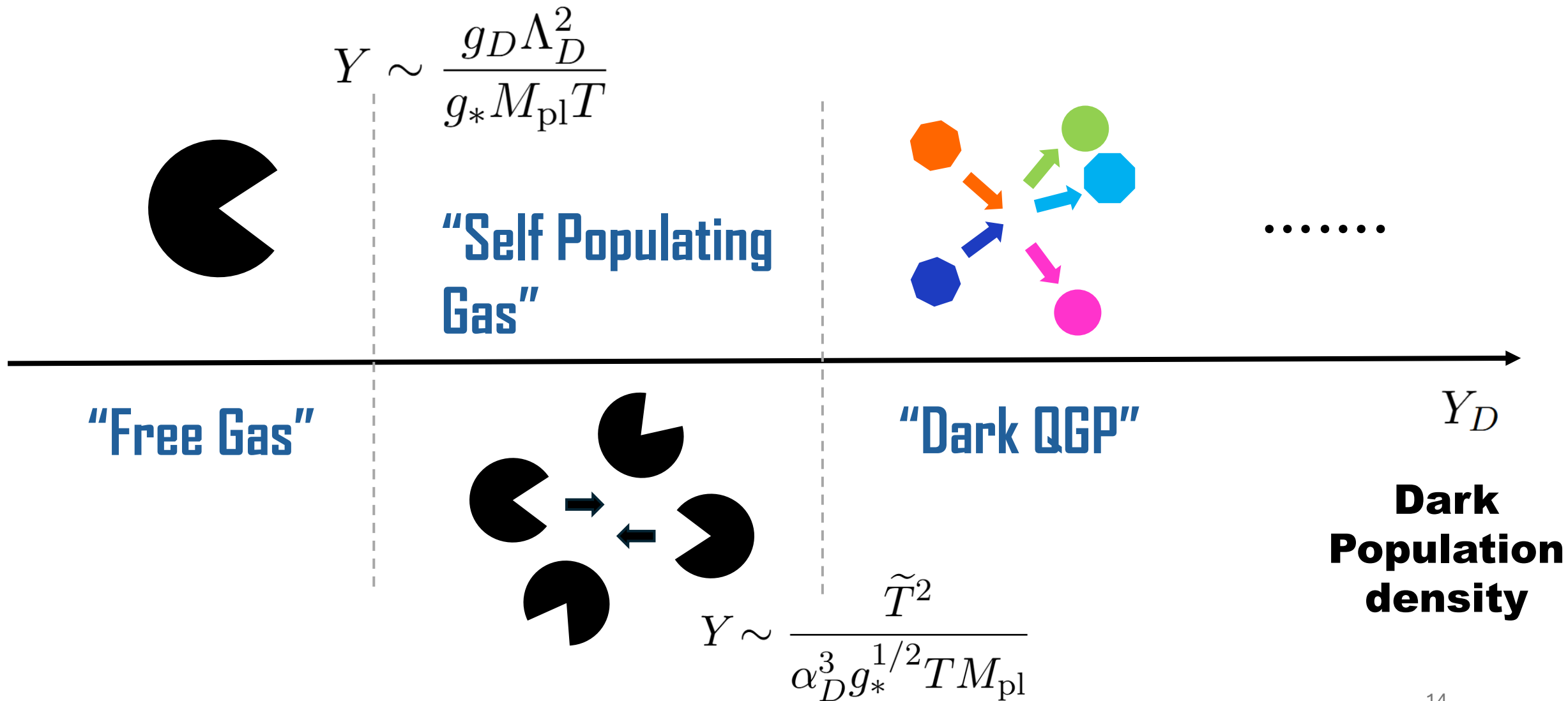
□ For QGP to be formed, the mean free path for UV d.o.f. scattering with radiation shall be less than the horizon size

$$n\langle\sigma v\rangle \gtrsim H \qquad \langle\sigma v\rangle \sim \alpha^3/\tilde{T}^2$$

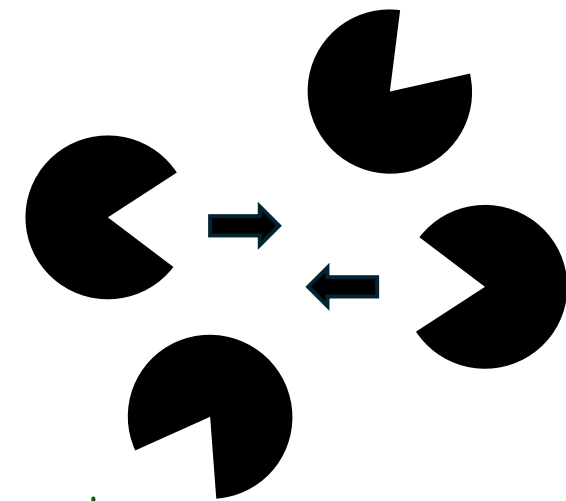
**The critical density**

$$Y_{\text{QGP}} \sim \frac{\tilde{T}^2}{\alpha_D^3 g_*^{1/2} T M_{\text{pl}}} \gg \frac{g_D \Lambda_D^2}{g_* M_{\text{pl}} T}$$

# Dark Sector Population



# Dark Sector Self-Population

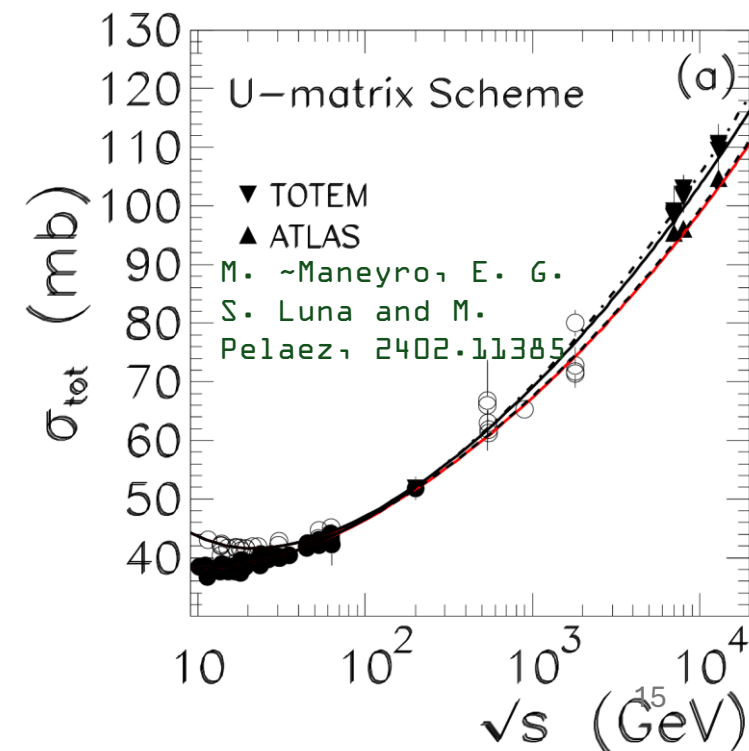
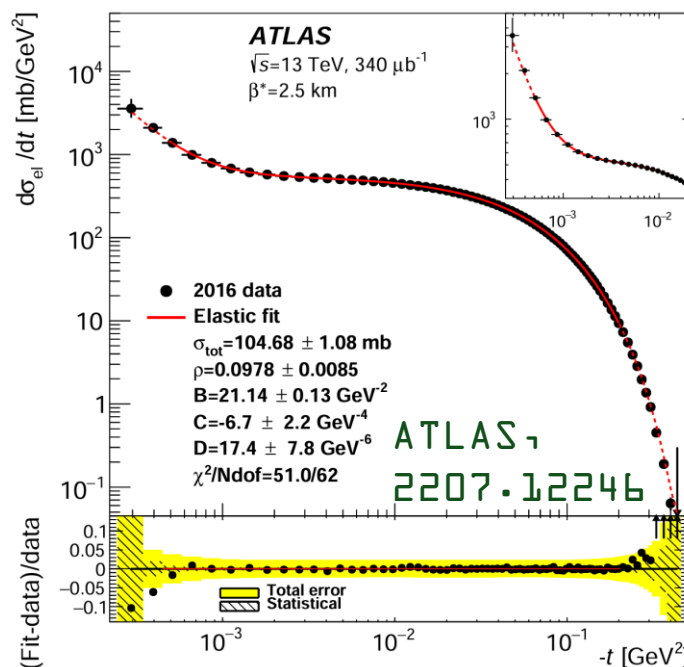


- At late times, sparse dark hadrons with high energy scatter with each other and reproduce

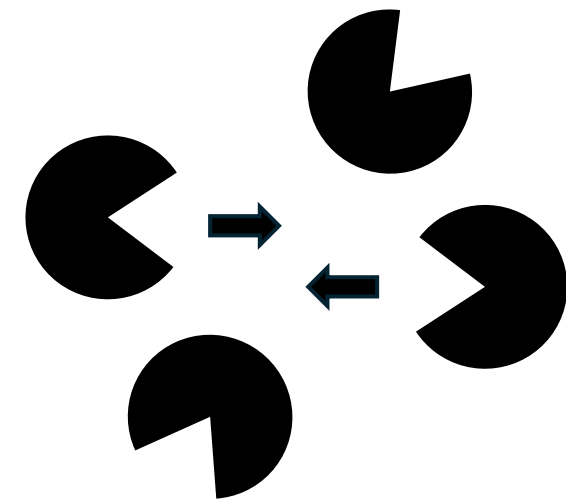
J. March-Russell, H. Tillim and S. M. West, 2007.14688

- Most interactions could be “ultra-peripheral” and “forward” (small  $q^2$ )

- Differential properties not completely known even for SM QCD



# Dark Sector Self-Population

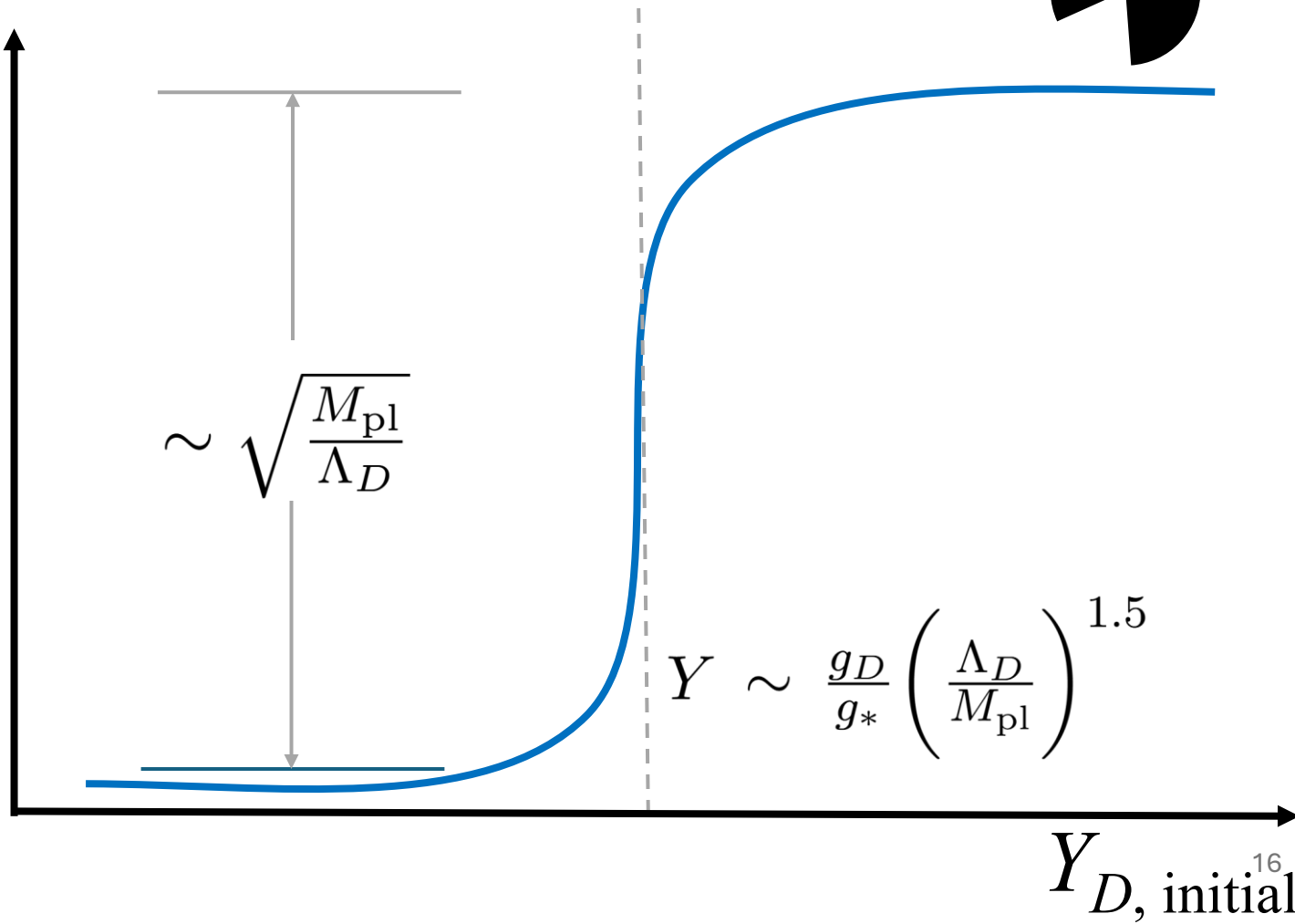


❑ Geometric inelastic cross section

❑ Moderate hadron yield

$$\frac{Y_{D, \text{final}}}{Y_{D, \text{initial}}}$$

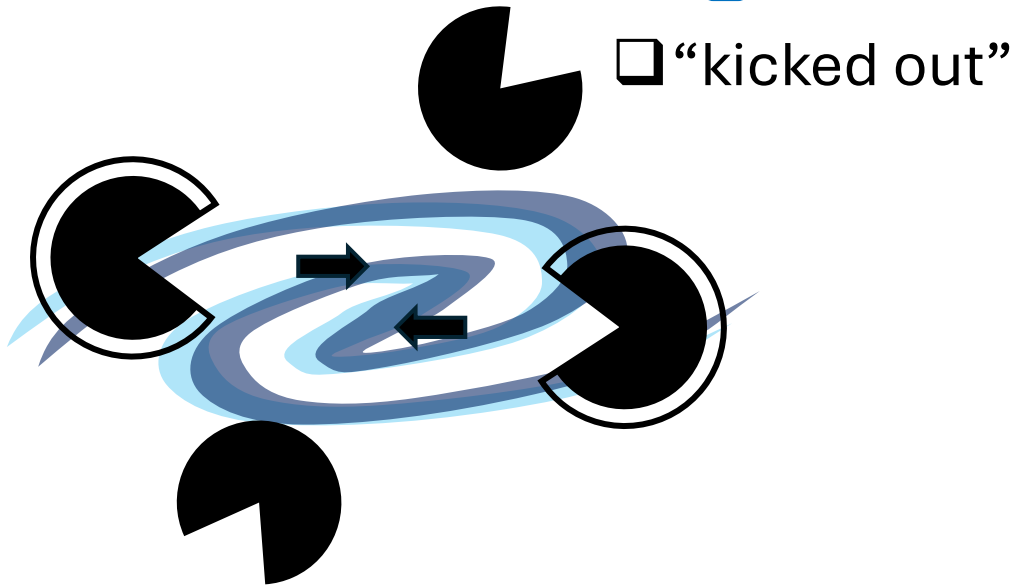
Large enhancement (or nothing) across the “critical point” of the initial population





# Potential Observable Effects

## DM self-heating



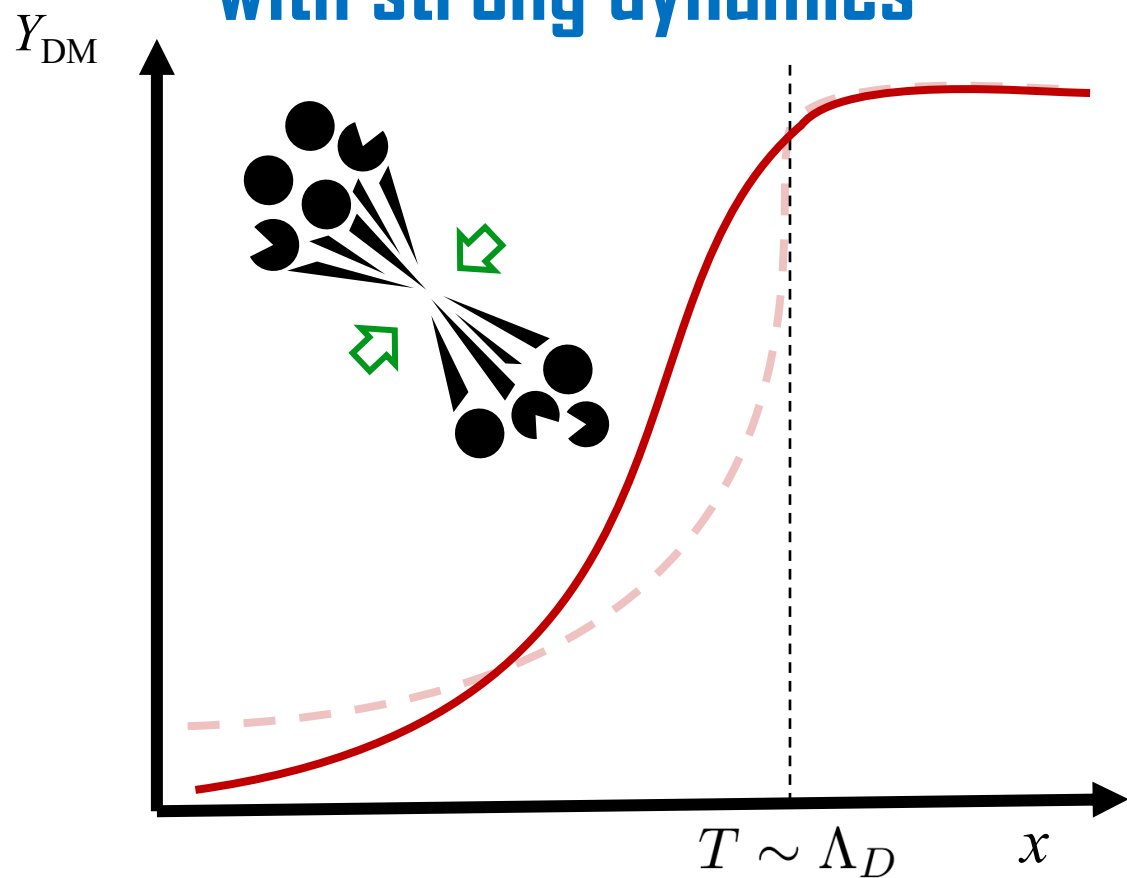
- Higher DM components (vector mesons, heavy flavor, excited glueballs...) annihilate and heats the DS

## Other Possibilities

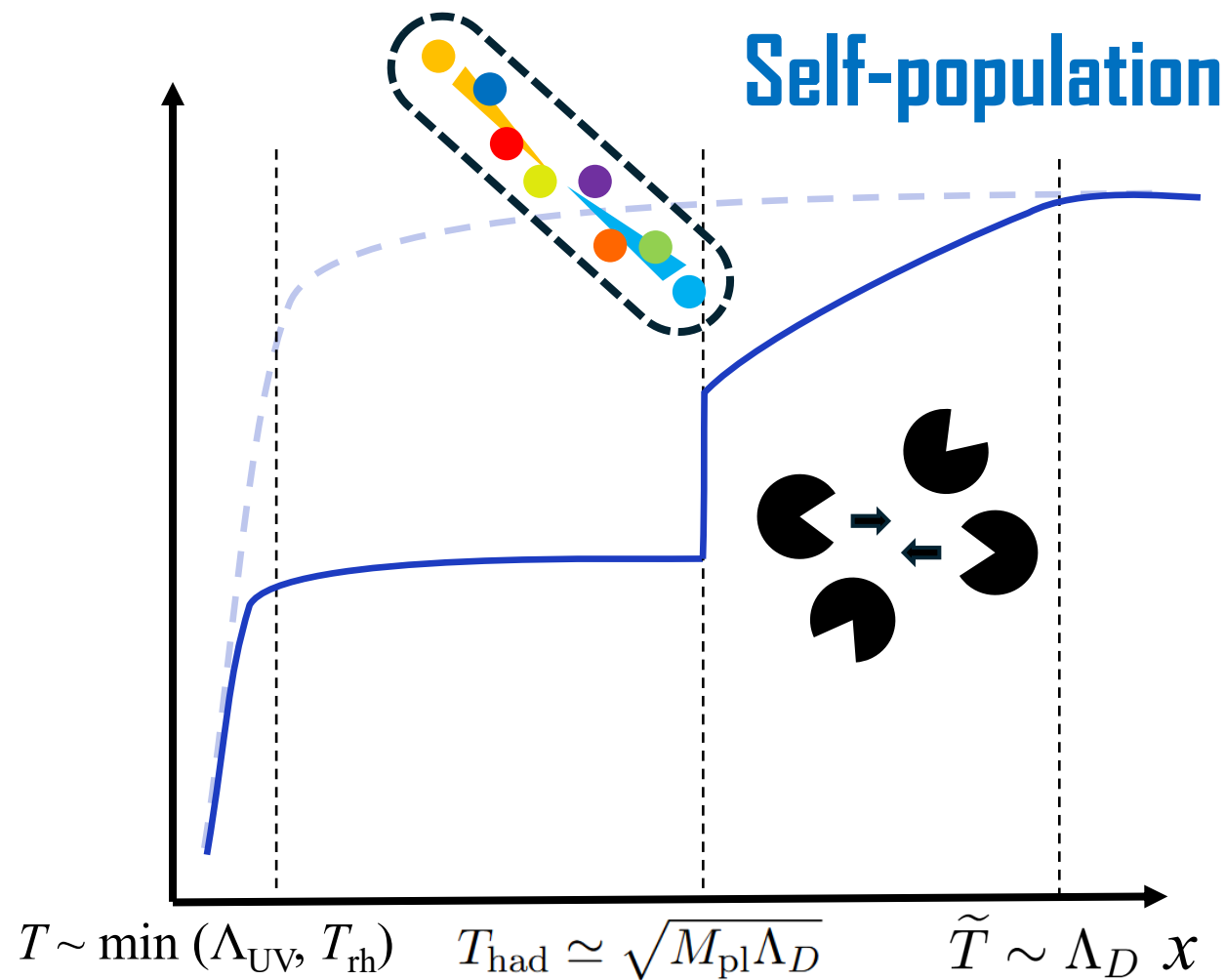
- Gravitational waves?
- Small-scale structure?  
See more in  
Xiaoyong  
Chu's talk
- Phenomenology?

# Summary (I)

Make freeze-in more UV  
with strong dynamics



First hadronization



# Summary (II)

- ❖ We study the case of generic dark sector with strong dynamics
- ❖ Both type of freeze-in scenario work as expected, but more feature granted by the DM self-interactions
- ❖ The IR case becomes more UV and produces more DM
- ❖ The UV case can be of gravitational interaction only (depending on the reheating temperature)
- ❖ Hadronization and self-population of DM possible