

# Interpreting Indirect Signatures of Dark Matter





Based on arXiv:1002.4588, 1007.0018, 1012.3772 with Maxim Perelstein

### **Detecting Dark Matter**



### **Detecting Dark Matter**





2008-09: data showed an excess of positrons at ~1-100GeV, inconsistent with conventional astrophysics

#### Indirect Evidence of Dark Matter?



flux, no excess in antiprotons

Fit well to leptophilic dark matter annihilation with boosted cross sections in the galaxy



### Connecting Theory to Observation



### Connecting Theory to Observation



### Three ideas

- 1. If the positron excess is from dark matter, contribution from all dark matter sources in the galaxy must be properly included in the fits
- 2. The lack of excess in antiprotons can be used to place constraints on dark matter parameters, but similar contributions need to be likewise included
- 3. If the excess is from dark matter, accompanying signals are expected in the form of energetic gamma rays



#### (Nontrivial) Cosmic ray propagation in the galaxy

A mess! Electrons, positrons from dark matter annihilation interact with the galactic interstellar medium, losing energy and directional information.



From Jan Conrad's 08/07/09 talk at the SLAC Summer Institute

#### Galactic propagation significantly alters the spectrum

# Solving for Positron Spectrum : the Conventional Formalism

• Analytically, by solving the steady-state diffusion equation:

Positron density per unit  
volume per unit energy  
volume per unit energy  
Source term  
Source term  
$$K(E) = K_0 \epsilon^{\delta}$$
  
 $\epsilon = E/E_0, E_0 = 1 \text{ GeV}$   
Parameters defining a propagation model:  
K,  $\delta$ , L (size of region in which transport  
equation solved)

• Numerically, eg. with GALPROP

Conventional approach: solve transport equation in a thin cylindrical disk (half-thickness L, radius R = 20kpc), the *diffusion zone,* where galactic magnetic fields confine positrons. Outside this region, positrons are assumed to propagate freely and escape.



Obtained from fits to cosmic ray isotope ratios

Problem: the dark matter halo extends significantly beyond this disk. eg. for L=1 kpc and dark matter with an isothermal profile, the diffusion zone contains only  $\sim 10\%$  of the dark matter mass



Positrons produced in the extended halo can enter the diffusion zone and contribute to the positron density there !

### The (wrong) way to fix it:

Switch to a propagation model with larger half-thickness L

Problems with this:

- 1. Need to rescale diffusion coefficient K with L to remain consistent with cosmic ray data.
- 2. Positrons coming in from far away lose most of their energy on the way; not the behavior we want in the free propagation zone outside the diffusion zone.

Fix: solve transport equation in this extended *free propagation zone* while maintaining the distinction between diffusion and free propagation zones.



### **Conventional Formalism**

[T. Delahaye, R. Lineros, F. Donato, N. Fornengo and P. Salati, Phys. Rev. D 77, 063527 (2008)]

1. Write positron density as a Bessel-Fourier series

$$\psi(z,r,\epsilon) = \sum_{i} \sum_{n} P_{i,n}(\epsilon) J_0\left(\frac{\alpha_i r}{R}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi(z+L)}{2L}\right)$$

2. Change variables as  $t = \frac{\tau_E \epsilon^{\delta-1}}{1-\delta}, \quad \tilde{P}_{i,n} = \epsilon^2 P_{i,n}$ 

and take Bessel and Fourier transforms of the transport equation:

 $\frac{d\tilde{P}_{i,n}}{dt} + K_0 \left( \left(\frac{\alpha_i}{R}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n\pi}{2L}\right)^2 \right) \tilde{P}_{i,n} = \epsilon^{2-\delta} Q_{i,n} \qquad \begin{array}{l} (Q_{i,n}: \text{Bessel-Fourier} \\ \text{transform of source term q}) \end{array}$ 

3. Solve to get: 
$$\tilde{P}_{i,n}(t) = \int_0^t \tilde{Q}_{i,n}(t_S) \exp\left[-\omega_{i,n}(t-t_S)\right] dt_S$$
  
where  $\tilde{Q}_{i,n} = \epsilon^{2-\delta} Q_{i,n}$  and  $\omega_{i,n} = K_0 \left[\left(\frac{\alpha_i}{R}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n\pi}{2L}\right)^2\right]$ 

**Extended Formalism: Modifications** 

1. Set boundary condition at |z|=D, not |z|=L.

2. Make diffusion coefficient position dependent to incorporate different behavior in diffusion and free propagation zones

$$K(z,\epsilon) = \left(K_0 + \tilde{K}(z)\right)\epsilon^{\delta}$$

The transport equation now has an extra term

$$-\nabla K \cdot \nabla \psi - K \Delta \psi - \frac{\partial}{\partial E} [b(\mathbf{x}, E)\psi] = q(\mathbf{x}, E)$$

Taking the Bessel and Fourier transforms gives...





### **Extended Formalism**

- $\sum_{n} \tilde{P}_{i,n} \left(\frac{n\pi}{2D^2}\right) \int_{-D}^{D} \frac{d\tilde{K}}{dz} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi(z+D)}{2D}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi(z+D)}{2D}\right) dz$  $+ \frac{1}{D} \sum_{n} \tilde{P}_{i,n} \left(\left(\frac{\alpha_i}{R}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n\pi}{2D}\right)^2\right) \int_{-D}^{D} \tilde{K}(z) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi(z+D)}{2D}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi(z+D)}{2D}\right) dz$
- +  $K_0\left(\left(\frac{\alpha_i}{R}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{m\pi}{2D}\right)^2\right)\tilde{P}_{i,m} + \frac{d}{dt}\tilde{P}_{i,m} = \tilde{Q}_{i,m}$  same as from conventional formalism

Different modes mix, equations no longer decoupled.

This is in the form  $\frac{d\mathbf{P}_i}{dt} + \mathbf{A}_i \cdot \mathbf{P}_i = \mathbf{Q}_i$ The solution is  $\mathbf{P}_i(t) = \int_0^t dt_S \exp\left[-(t - t_s)\mathbf{A}_i\right] \mathbf{Q}_i$ 

The P<sub>i</sub>'s can be worked out by numerically diagonalizing the A matrix.

can compute positron flux, which can be compared to the solution from the conventional formalism.

### Dark Matter and Galactic Propagation Models

| Dark matter halo profile  |          |         |          |                     |  |  |  |
|---|----------|---------|----------|---------------------|--|--|--|
| $\rho(r) = \rho_{\odot} \left(\frac{r_{\odot}}{r}\right)^{\gamma} \left(\frac{1 + (r_{\odot}/r_s)^{\alpha}}{1 + (r/r_s)^{\alpha}}\right)^{(\beta - \gamma)/\alpha}$ |          |         |          |                     |  |  |  |
| Model   | $\alpha$ | $\beta$ | $\gamma$ | $r_s(\mathrm{kpc})$ |  |  |  |
| Cored isothermal  | 2        | 2       | 0        | 5                   |  |  |  |
| NFW   | 1        | 3       | 1        | 20                  |  |  |  |
| Moore   | 1.5      | 3       | 1.3      | 30                  |  |  |  |

1. 
$$\chi\chi \to e^+e^-$$
.

- 2.  $\chi \chi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ 3.  $\chi \chi \rightarrow \phi \phi \rightarrow 4e$ 4.  $\chi \chi \rightarrow \phi \phi \rightarrow 4\mu$ Favored by PAMELA / Fermi data

| Propagation parameters |      |  |                     |  |  |  |
|------------------------|------|--|---------------------|--|--|--|
| Model                  | δ    | $K_0 \; [\mathrm{kpc}^2/\mathrm{Myr}]$ | $L  [\mathrm{kpc}]$ |  |  |  |
| MED                    | 0.70 | 0.0112                                 | 4                   |  |  |  |
| M1                     | 0.46 | 0.0765                                 | 15                  |  |  |  |
| M2                     | 0.55 | 0.00595                                | 1                   |  |  |  |

- Annihilating vs decaying dark matter
- Consider dark matter mass of 3 TeV (6 TeV for decaying dark matter)

#### Results: Positron Flux at Earth



#### Results: Positron Flux at Earth



#### Results: Positron Flux at Earth (decaying dark matter)

Source term  $\propto \rho_{DM} (\propto \rho_{DM}^2)$  for decaying (annihilating) dark matter, so the enhancement is expected to be greater for decaying DM since the diffusion zone contains a smaller fraction of the source.



Larger corrections elsewhere...



#### Corrections along this line of sight



dotted: conventional; solid: extended formalism

Larger corrections elsewhere...



Larger corrections elsewhere...



### Gamma Rays from ICS





The three 'bumps' in the figures correspond to three different components of galactic light that can scatter off positrons: CMB, starlight, and starlight rescattered by dust.

### Summary of results

- Up to 10-15% enhancement in positron flux and up to 20-25% enhancement in ICS gamma ray flux expected from contributions from the dark matter halo beyond the diffusion zone.
- Enhancement in positron flux decreases with energy (not necessarily true for ICS gamma ray flux).
- Enhancements significant for M2 propagation model (L=1kpc), negligible for MED propagation.
- Smaller than other astrophysical, experimental uncertainties at present, should be considered when accuracy to better than ~20% is needed.



### Solving for antiproton flux

Diffusion equation for antiprotons:

Omitted: energy loss term (negligible for the more massive antiprotons)

Convective wind term

$$-\nabla \left[K(\mathbf{x}, E) \nabla n_{\bar{p}}\right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (V_C(z) n_{\bar{p}}(E, \mathbf{x})) + 2h\delta(z)\Gamma_{ann} n_{\bar{p}}(E, \mathbf{x}) = q_{\bar{p}}(\mathbf{x}, E)$$
  
Antiproton interaction with interstellar medium, confined to galactic plane

### **Conventional Solution**

Expand antiproton density as a Bessel series

$$n_{\bar{p}}(\rho, z, E) = \sum_{i} N_i(z, E) J_0\left(\frac{\zeta_i \rho}{R}\right)$$

Assuming position independent K and V and solving the diffusion equation in the cylindrical disk, the solution is

$$N_i(z) = e^{a(|z|-L)} \frac{y_i(L)}{B_i \sinh(S_i L/2)} \left[ \cosh(S_i z/2) + A_i \sinh(S_i z/2) \right] - \frac{y_i(z)}{KS_i}$$

where

$$S_{i} = 2\left(a^{2} + \frac{\zeta_{i}^{2}}{R^{2}}\right)^{1/2}, \quad A_{i} = \frac{V_{C} + 2h\Gamma_{ann}}{KS_{i}}; \quad B_{i} = KS_{i}\left[A_{i} + \coth(S_{i}L/2)\right]$$
$$y_{i}(z) = 2\int_{0}^{z} e^{a(z-z')} \sinh\left[S_{i}(z-z')/2\right] q_{i}(z')dz'. \quad \mathbf{a} = V_{C}/(2\mathsf{K})$$

suffers from the same problem as the positron density : sharp boundary cutoff at |z|=L, ignores sources outside

### Can do better: A more realistic setup

position independent diffusion coefficient with a sharp cutoff at L : a very crude approximation

Diffusion: charged particles getting confined by galactic magnetic fields → diffusion coefficient should follow spatial variations of the galactic magnetic field strength

$$B(\rho, z) \approx (11\mu \text{G}) \times \exp\left(-\frac{\rho}{10 \text{ kpc}} - \frac{|z|}{2 \text{ kpc}}\right) \implies K(E, z) = K_e(E) \exp(|z|/z_t)$$

Has been studied numerically, have best fit parameters

If the convective wind term has a similar exponential profile (or can be neglected), CAN solve the diffusion equation analytically!

## **New Solution**

$$N_i(z) = e^{a(|z|-L)} \frac{y_i(L)}{B_i \sinh(S_i L/2)} \left[ \cosh(S_i z/2) + A_i \sinh(S_i z/2) \right] - \frac{y_i(z)}{K_e S_i}$$

same form as the conventional solution, with slightly different definitions

$$a = \frac{V_e}{2K_e} - \frac{1}{2z_t}, \quad S_i = 2\left(a^2 + \frac{\zeta_i^2}{R^2} + \frac{V_e}{z_t K_e}\right)^{1/2},$$
  

$$A_i = \frac{V_e + 2h\Gamma_{ann}}{K_e S_i} + \frac{1}{z_t S_i}; \quad B_i = K_e S_i \left[A_i + \coth(S_i L/2)\right]$$
  

$$y_i(z) = 2\int_0^z e^{a(z-z')} \sinh\left[S_i(z-z')/2\right] q_i(z') e^{-z'/z_t} dz'.$$
  

$$V_C(z) = V_e \exp(|z|/z_t)$$

As simple to evaluate as the conventional solution!

### Comparison with conventional solution



### Antiproton bounds for WIMP dark matter



Assume stable dark matter pair annihilating into W<sup>+</sup>W<sup>-</sup> Bounds from conventional and new solutions agree to within ~20%

### Summary

• New, analytic, easy-to-use solution to antiproton flux from dark matter (valid at energies higher than several hundred GeV) in a more realistic propagation model, includes contributions from the full dark matter halo

deviates from conventional solution by ~25% for realistic parameters



#### Gamma ray signals from dark matter

What kind of gamma rays?
 Inverse Compton scattering, final state radiation

• Look at:

#### Galactic center

(region of greatest dark matter density, expect the strongest gamma ray signals)

• Use:

#### Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope

(free of atmospheric background, excellent energy and angular resolution and range, can cover the whole sky continuously)

### Gamma Rays from Final State Radiation (FSR)



- guaranteed in leptophilic (or any charged) annihilation channels
- dominant close to dark matter mass, has a sharp "edge" feature at this cutoff for 2-body final states
- spectrum independent of astrophysical uncertainties
- independent of details of the particle physics model; modelindependent predictions can be made

### **Dwarf Galaxies**

- dark matter dominated
- low background: no detected gas, minimal dust, no magnetic fields, little or no recent star formation activity
- lie away from galactic center
- velocity distribution lower than in Milky Way

halo: possible Sommerfeld enhancement increase by an order of magnitude !



### **Dwarf Galaxies: Promising Candidates**



many new dwarfs expected to be discovered in the future.

### FSR flux

$$\frac{d\Phi_{FSR}}{dx} = \Phi_0 \left(\frac{\langle \sigma v \rangle}{1pb}\right) \left(\frac{100 \text{ GeV}}{m_{\chi}}\right)^3 F(x) \log\left(\frac{4m_{\chi}^2(1-x)}{m_l^2}\right) J_{\chi}$$

Separates into particle physics factor x astrophysical factor.

F(x): splitting function
$$F(x) = \frac{1 + (1 - x)^2}{x}$$
 $2\frac{2 - x + 2x \log x - x^2}{x}$ 2-body annihilation2-body annihilation

J: astrophysical factor. For annihilating dark matter,

$$J = \frac{1}{8.5 \text{ kpc}} \left( \frac{1}{0.3 \text{ GeV/cm}^3} \right)^2 L, \quad L = \int d\Omega \int_{l.o.s.} \rho^2 dl$$

| Dwarf       | $\log_{10}(L \times \text{GeV}^{-2} \text{cm}^5)$ |  |
|-------------|---|--|
| Sagittarius | $19.35 \pm 1.66$                                  |  |
| Draco       | $18.63\pm0.60$                                    |  |
| Ursa Minor  | $18.79 \pm 1.26$                                  |  |
| Willman 1   | $19.55\pm0.98$                                    |  |
| Segue 1     | $20.17 \pm 1.44$ —                                |  |

R. Essig, N. Sehgal and L. E. Strigari Phys. Rev. D 80, 023506 (2009) For comparison, for the Galactic center with an Einasto profile, the corresponding number is  $\sim 21 \pm 3$ .

Updated value:  $19.0 \pm 0.6$ 

### Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes (ACTs)

• Signals from dwarf galaxies expected to be too weak for Fermi LAT to detect: need larger collection areas

 $\Rightarrow$  ACTs! (typical effective areas ~10^4 times larger than Fermi)

- typical energy threshold: 200 GeV
- energy resolution: 10-30%
- major disadvantage: large atmospheric (cosmic ray) backgrounds (hadronic and leptonic)

• several ACTs currently operational: MAGIC, HESS, VERITAS, CANGAROO

• future telescopes being planned: CTA (Cherenkov Telescope Array). Will provide an order of magnitude improvement over current instruments.

#### Gamma ray signals from dark matter : An alternative

What kind of gamma rays?
 Final State Radiation
 (dominates at high energies, model-ind)

(dominates at high energies, model-independent and independent of astrophysical uncertainties)

• Look at:

Dwarf galaxies

(negligible background, clear direction)

• Use:

Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes

(large effective areas of observation)

Leptophilic dark matter "models", favored by current PAMELA, Fermi data.

![](_page_44_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Backgrounds

![](_page_45_Figure_1.jpeg)

• Cosmic ray background: misidentifying hadronic and leptonic events in the atmosphere as gamma ray signals

• Can "subtract" this background away up to statistical fluctuations (ON region - OFF region)

DM backgrounds from inside the galaxy (FSR and invserse Compton scattering) are negligible because of a narrow region of focus and the direction of dwarfs (away from galactic center).

### **Previous Observations and Upper Bounds**

- No significant signals observed
- Large uncertainty in dark matter distribution in all dwarfs, predictions consistent with experimental bounds up to these uncertainties

![](_page_46_Figure_3.jpeg)

(Left to right: 2mu, 4e, 4mu predictions for each dwarf )

### Previous Observations and Upper Bounds: Updated

- No significant signals observed
- Large uncertainty in dark matter distribution in all dwarfs, predictions consistent with experimental bounds up to these uncertainties

![](_page_47_Figure_3.jpeg)

(Left to right: 2mu, 4e, 4mu predictions for each dwarf )

### **Detection Prospects**

![](_page_48_Figure_1.jpeg)

Integrated flux above 200 GeV. Dot-dashed, solid, and dashed lines:  $3\sigma$  sensitivities of VERITAS, MAGIC, and CTA in 50 hours.

### **Detection Prospects : Updated**

![](_page_49_Figure_1.jpeg)

Integrated flux above 200 GeV. Dot-dashed, solid, and dashed lines:  $3\sigma$  sensitivities of VERITAS, MAGIC, and CTA in 50 hours.

### What can we learn from a signal?

- Once a positive signal is detected, what information can be extracted from it? Can the underlying model and parameters be identified?
- Simulate observation (including background subtraction) and fits to theory for different scenarios:

![](_page_50_Figure_3.jpeg)

### Model Identification Benchmark case: Observation of Segue 1

![](_page_51_Figure_1.jpeg)

Threshold energy: 500 GeV

Top plot: Frequency with which model used to generate data (xaxis) was best fit to the three channels (color coded).

Results for current instrument parameters on left, future parameters on right.

Bottom: best fit masses, in GeV

Overall success rate: 75% for current telescope parameters, 86% for future ones

### Case 2: $3\sigma$ or $5\sigma$ detection

![](_page_52_Figure_1.jpeg)

**⊇2**mu **⊒**4e **⊒**4mu

Left:  $3\sigma$  detection Right:  $5\sigma$  detection

Success rates now lower: 46% for  $3\sigma$ , 53% for  $5\sigma$ 

Success rate for discriminating between 2 and 4 body channels: 63% and 75% respectively.

### Robustness

Can look at variations in:

- Dark matter mass
- Energy binning
- Energy threshold
- Hadron rejection capability

No significant change in model identification success rate or best fit dark matter mass

### Summary

• Prospects of indirect detection of dark matter via FSR from dwarf galaxies using current and near-future ACTs are excellent.

• Large uncertainty in distribution of dark matter in dwarf galaxies.

Fits to observed signals can identify the dark matter mass to ~10-20% accuracy, and correctly identify the annihilation channel with ~60-80% probability.

• Success rate for mass and annihilation channel identification is robust with respect to changes in energy threshold, WIMP mass, energy resolution, and hadron rejection capabilities.

### Indirect Detection : the future

# PAMELA, Fermi, ACTs still operational, actively looking for dark matter signals

![](_page_55_Picture_2.jpeg)

### Indirect Detection : the future

Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA) Expected to be operational by 2015 Order of magnitude improvement over current instruments

### Indirect Detection : the future

AMS-02 : set for launch in April 2011 sensitive up to 400GeV

![](_page_58_Picture_0.jpeg)

### **Convergence of Solutions**

![](_page_59_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Case 3: A Lower Threshold

![](_page_60_Figure_1.jpeg)

Threshold 200 GeV instead of 500 GeV.

More statistics, but background also rises faster than signal at lower energies.

Success rates: 79% (current) 86% (future)

No significant improvement.

### **Case 4: Improved Hadron Rejection**

![](_page_61_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Figure_2.jpeg)

Have been using  $\varepsilon_{had}$ =1. Try  $\varepsilon_{had}$ =0.01. Fit quality significantly better, slight improvement in model identification.

### Case 5: Lighter dark matter

![](_page_62_Figure_1.jpeg)

Use  $m_{\chi}$ = 1 TeV instead of  $m_{\chi}$ = 3 TeV.

Signal has  $m_{\chi}^{-3}$  dependence, but will have fewer energy bins.

Fits favor 4mu channel when annihilation is into 4 leptons.