Maximally self-interacting dark matter: models and predictions

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ABSTRACT: We study self-interacting dark matter (SIDM) scenarios, where the s -wave self-scattering cross section almost saturates the Unitarity bound. Such self-scattering cross sections are singly parameterized by the dark matter mass, and are featured by strong velocity dependence in a wide range of velocities. They may be indicated by observations of dark matter halos in a wide range of masses, from Milky Way's dwarf spheroidal galaxies to galaxy clusters. We pin down the model parameters that saturates the Unitarity bound in well-motivated SIDM models: the gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ model and composite asymmetric dark matter model. We discuss implications and predictions of such model parameters for cosmology like the H_0 tension and dark-matter direct-detection experiments, and particle phenomenology like the beam-dump experiments.

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Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Effective-range theory	3
3	Dark matter with a light mediator: gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ model	9
4	Composite dark matter: asymmetric dark matter	13
5	Conclusion	20
A	MW's dwarf spheroidal galaxies vs. field dwarf galaxies	21
B	Velocity averaging	23
C	Higher resonances	26
D	Neutrino masses in the gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ model	28
E	Supersymmetric realization of composite ADM	30
F	Direct detection through the magnetic moment of the dark neutron	33

1 Introduction

Collisionless cold dark matter (CDM) is a minimal hypothesis for missing mass of the Universe. The CDM hypothesis works well in explaining the large-scale structure of the Universe from cosmic microwave background (CMB) anisotropies to galaxy clusterings. On the other hand, there have been tensions between naïve CDM predictions and the observed small-scale structure of the Universe. Such tensions are collectively dubbed as the small-scale issues, and challenge our understanding of how Milky Way (MW)-size and dwarf galaxies form (see ref. [1] for a review).

The small-scale issues may indicate the nature of DM, e.g., self-interacting dark matter (SIDM) [2] (see ref. [3] for a review). It is intriguing that we can probe self-interaction of DM, which is not accessible in terrestrial experiments, in cosmological observations. Such gravitational probes of DM have been attracting growing interests [4], in light of null detection of DM interactions with standard-model (SM) particles in collider searches and DM direct-detection and indirect-detection experiments [5, 6]. Since traditional weakly interacting massive particle (WIMP) DM behaves as CDM on galactic scales, the small-scale issues may call for a new paradigm, i.e., beyond-WIMP DM.

DM self-interaction is not necessarily constant in collision energy. Ref. [7] illustrates how we can probe velocity dependence of the self-scattering cross section by combining

observations of DM halos in a wide range of masses. The velocity dependence may be already indicated. To form cores of galaxy clusters [8] and evade constraints from bullet clusters [9] and merging clusters [10], where the collision velocity is $v \sim 1000$ km/s, the self-scattering cross section per mass is preferred to be $\sigma/m \sim 0.1$ cm²/g (see also ref. [11] for a recent reanalysis of galaxy clusters and a new constraint from galaxy groups [12]). On the other hand, to explain the diversity of galactic rotation curves [13], where $v \sim 100$ km/s, it is preferred to be $\sigma/m \sim 1$ cm²/g [14, 15]. This velocity dependence call for particle-physics model buildings: DM with a light mediator [16–24], DM with a resonant mediator [25, 26], and composite DM [27–34]. Hereafter, we focus on an elastic scattering, while an inelastic scattering may also introduce the scale-dependence of core formation [35–39].

MW’s dwarf spheroidal satellite galaxies, where $v \sim 30$ km/s, are the subject of active debate. They show a large diversity in the central density profiles [40]. The preferred self-scattering cross section also vary as $\sigma/m \sim 0.1$ -40 cm²/g [41]. The high central density of Draco actually provides a tight constraint of $\sigma/m < 0.57$ cm²/g [42] (see also the recent analysis of ultra-faint dwarf galaxies [43]). However, it was recently pointed out that while the above discussions focus on the so-called core expansion (formation) phase, the situation changes in the core contraction phase (but long before the core collapse time). There, SIDM halo may experience a gravothermal core collapse [44], leading to a cuspy profile. The gravothermal core collapse may be further accelerated by the tidal stripping [45]. In addition, the core collapse may explain the anti-correlation between the central DM densities and their orbital pericenter distances [46].

If the MW’s dwarf spheroidal satellite galaxies are in the core contraction phase, the self-scattering cross section may need to be as large as $\sigma/m \sim 30$ -200 cm²/g to have a sufficient core collapse [47]. This implies a strong velocity dependence of σ/m . Meanwhile, such large σ/m seem not compatible with the inferred values of σ/m from dwarf galaxies in the field [3], $\sigma/m \sim 0.1$ -10 cm²/g, though they have similar collision velocities, $v \sim 20$ -60 km/s. It might be because ref. [3] assumes the halos to be in the core expansion phase. If we repeated their analyses in the core contraction phase, we might find a larger value of σ/m for the field dwarf galaxies as well. On the other hand, the inferred σ/m from the MW’s satellites changes with different initial conditions of halos and modeling of tidal stripping. With higher initial concentrations of halos, the inferred cross sections may be appreciably lower than in ref. [47], $\sigma/m \sim 3$ cm²/g [48], mitigating the tension between the MW’s dwarf spheroidal satellite galaxies and the field dwarf galaxies. In this paper, we take the inferred values from ref. [47] at face values and study the implications of the strong velocity dependence of σ/m (see section A for the changes in conclusions if the inferred σ/m in the MW’s satellites was lowered).

Furthermore, the above values of σ/m are inferred under the assumption of a constant cross section. If we reanalyze the astronomical data by taking velocity-dependent cross sections, the tension between the MW’s satellites and the field dwarf galaxies could be mitigated. For velocity-dependent cross sections, we also have to take an average over local velocity distribution (see section B for more discussion). In this paper, we compare the velocity-dependent cross section without the distribution averaging with the inferred values of σ/m mentioned above. The velocity-dependent cross section considered in this paper may give a benchmark with which the astronomical data will be reanalyzed.

As seen in the next section, this strong velocity dependence is realized when the self-scattering cross section almost saturates the s -wave Unitarity bound, i.e., on the quantum (zero-energy) resonance [16, 17]. On the quantum resonanace, the self-scattering cross section is singly parameterized by the DM mass. We take a closer look at the quantum resonance by using the effective-range theory. The quantum resonance allows us to pin down the model parameters as well as the DM mass. In section 3, we consider DM with a light mediator based on the gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ model. We identify the mediator and DM masses that explain the strong velocity dependence of DM self-interaction. Interestingly, we find that the discrepancy in muon anomalous magnetic moment $g - 2$ and tension in H_0 are mitigated in the very parameter points. The light $L_\mu - L_\tau$ gauge boson are also subject to various experimental searches such as non-standard interactions of neutrinos and missing-energy events in colliders. In section 4, we consider composite asymmetric dark matter (ADM) based on the dark quantum chromodynamics (QCD) and electrodynamics (QED). The dark QCD scale and dark pion masses are constrained so that dark nucleon DM can have the indicated velocity-dependent cross section. The binding energies of two nucleons and vector resonances are also predicted, which have important implications for the dark nucleosynthesis in the early Universe and dark spectroscopy measurements in lepton colliders, respectively. The dark photon, which is required to make cosmology viable, is subject to intensive experimental efforts such as beam-dump experiments. The dark proton may be found in DM direct-detection experiments. We give concluding remarks in section 5.

2 Effective-range theory

The effective-range theory is first developed in the attempt to understand low-energy scatterings of nucleons [49, 50]. See ref. [51] for a review of the effective-range theory in the context of effective-field theory. Here we refer to ref. [52] that revisits the effective-range theory in the context of SIDM. The 2-body scattering cross section can be decomposed into the partial-wave (multipole ℓ) contributions:

$$\sigma = \sum_{\ell} \sigma_{\ell} = \sum_{\ell} \frac{4\pi}{k^2} (2\ell + 1) \sin^2 \delta_{\ell}. \quad (2.1)$$

Here we ignore a possible quantum interference for the identical particles.¹ The momentum $k = \mu v_{\text{rel}}$ is given by the reduced mass μ ($\mu = m/2$ for the identical particles with the mass of m) and relative velocity v_{rel} . The analytic properties of the wave function determine the

¹One may also choose to use the transfer cross section σ_T , which may be a more suitable quantity to parameterize the momentum-transfer effect among DM particles through elastic scattering. For the scattering of identical particles, σ_T is written as [53]

$$\sigma_T = \int d\Omega (1 - |\cos \theta|) \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega},$$

where σ is the standard cross section, $\sigma = \int d\Omega (d\sigma/d\Omega)$. Since we focus on the s -wave scattering, this amounts to an additional factor of $1/2$, $\sigma_T = \sigma/2$.

low-energy behavior of δ_ℓ as

$$k^{2\ell+1} \cot \delta_\ell \rightarrow -\frac{1}{a_\ell^{2\ell+1}} + \frac{1}{2r_{e\ell}^{2\ell-1}} k^2 \quad (k \rightarrow 0). \quad (2.2)$$

Here a_ℓ and $r_{e\ell}$ are called the scattering length and effective range, respectively.

In the following, we focus on the s -wave ($\ell = 0$), which is expected to be dominant at the low energy.² Then, the low-energy cross section is given by

$$\sigma = \frac{4\pi a^2}{1 + k^2(a^2 - ar_e) + a^2 r_e^2 k^4/4}. \quad (2.3)$$

When $|a| \gg |r_e|$, in the range of $1/|r_e| > k > 1/|a|$, the cross section saturates the Unitarity bound,

$$\sigma_{\max} = \frac{4\pi}{k^2}, \quad (2.4)$$

which is singly parameterized by the DM mass, and thus gives a good benchmark for studying halos in velocity-dependent SIDM. For the DM mass of $m \sim 10$ GeV, $\sigma_{\max}/m$ simultaneously explains the inferred σ/m 's from MW's dwarf spheroidal satellite galaxies and galaxy clusters, as we will see shortly. A large $|a|$ indicates the existence of the shallow bound state ($a > 0$) or virtual state ($a < 0$; bound state with a non-normalizable wave function), depending on its sign. The bound (virtual) state energy is given by the positive (negative) imaginary pole k_{pole} :

$$E_b = -\frac{k_{\text{pole}}^2}{2\mu}, \quad k_{\text{pole}} = \frac{i}{r_e} \left(1 - \sqrt{1 - 2r_e/a}\right). \quad (2.5)$$

In the left panel of figure 1(a), we show the velocity dependence of σ/m (black) in the effective-range theory. The data points show the preferred values of σ/m as a function of the relative velocity; they are inferred from the observations on central DM densities of MW's dwarf spheroidal satellite galaxies (cyan), field dwarf spheroidal galaxies (red)/low surface brightness spiral galaxies (blue), and galaxy clusters (green). There can be seen that the cyan data points disagree with the red data points at $v \sim 30$ km/s, as discussed in the previous section. Hereafter we take the former seriously, while being ignorant to the latter; we give further discussion focusing on the red data points in section A. We take the DM mass $m = 20$ GeV so that the s -wave Unitarity bound $\sigma_{\max}/m$ (dot-dashed) crosses the inferred σ/m 's from the MW's satellites (cyan) and the galaxy clusters (green). The effective-range theory parameter sets took are $(a, a/r_e) = (-292 \text{ fm}, -152)$ (solid) and $(a, a/r_e) = (-292 \text{ fm}, -22.5)$ (dashed). Both data sets exhibit $|a/r_e| \gg 1$. This indicates that they are on the quantum (zero-energy) resonance. The Unitarity bound is saturated from $k \gtrsim 1/|a|$ (unfilled circle) to $k \lesssim 1/|r_e|$ (filled circle); in this regime, the cross section is singly determined by the DM mass. While the both data sets have the same a , the former data set has smaller $|r_e|$ and hence it saturates the Unitarity bound

²One prominent counterexample is the Rutherford scattering via the exchange of an (almost) massless mediator. Hereafter we omit the subscript of $\ell = 0$ for notational simplicity.

Figure 1. (a) (*Left*): velocity dependence of σ/m (in black) in the effective-range theory for given DM mass and the effective-range theory parameters (a, r_e) . The dot-dashed curve is the Unitarity bound for the DM self-scattering cross section, σ_{max}/m . σ/m saturates the Unitarity bound from $k \gtrsim 1/|a|$ (unfilled circle) to $k \lesssim 1/|r_e|$ (filled circle), where the cross section is singly parametrized by the DM mass. The data points are the inferred values of σ/m from the observations on the field dwarf (red)/LSB (blue) galaxies, and galaxy clusters (green) [7]. The data points in cyan are the values that may explain the anti-correlation between the central DM densities and their orbital pericenter distances [47]. The effective-range theory deviates from the Hulthén potential (see the right panel) results for $k \gtrsim 1/|r_e|$ (in brown) as the effective-range expansion fails. (*Right*): same as the left panel but for the s -wave contribution of σ/m in the Hulthén potential. The Hulthén-potential parameter sets took are in one-to-one correspondence with the effective-range theory parameter sets in the left panel. The displayed velocity dependence of σ/m is not reliable in the classical regime (in gray), i.e., $k \gtrsim m_\phi$, as the higher partial-wave contributions become important; the filled circle denotes the point $k = m_\phi$. (b) s -wave scattering length (left) and effective range (right) in units of m_ϕ^{-1} as a function of ϵ_ϕ for the Hulthén potential. The stars indicate the benchmark parameters took in figure 1(a), which are near the first quantum resonance, $\epsilon_\phi = 1$.

in a wider range of k . Indeed, the solid curve saturates the Unitarity bound all the way up to $v_{\text{rel}} \sim 3000 \text{ km/s}$, while the dashed curve desaturates for $v_{\text{rel}} \gtrsim 400 \text{ km/s}$. The solid curve exhibits $\sigma/m \propto 1/v_{\text{rel}}^2$ at the presented velocity range. Such strong velocity dependence simultaneously explains the preferred $\sigma/m \sim 0.1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$ at $v_{\text{rel}} \sim 1000 \text{ km/s}$

and $\sigma/m \sim 100 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$ at $v_{\text{rel}} \sim 30 \text{ km/s}$. Interestingly, such velocity dependence provides a good fit to the inferred σ/m 's from the MW's satellites (cyan) at low-velocities. As we take smaller $|a/r_e|$, σ/m desaturate like the dashed curve, but may still explain the cyan data points. Meanwhile, taking a larger $|a|$ than the data sets would extend the range of k where the Unitarity bound is saturated; it would retreat the unfilled circles to smaller velocities. We remark that while an arbitrarily larger $|a|$ would still provide a good fit to the cyan data points, it is not clear how such velocity dependence of σ/m affects the structure of DM halos as small as (or smaller than) the MW's satellites. This is because the SIDM evolution of such small halos may transit into the short mean free path regime [44, 54] due to the enhanced σ/m at low velocities.

It is illustrating to consider the scattering under the Hulthén potential:

$$V(r) = -\frac{\alpha\delta e^{-\delta r}}{1 - e^{-\delta r}}. \quad (2.6)$$

The Hulthén potential approximates the Yukawa potential,

$$V(r) = -\frac{\alpha e^{-m_\phi r}}{r}, \quad (2.7)$$

with a proper choice of δ . Here m_ϕ is the mass of a mediator and we take $\delta = \sqrt{2\zeta(3)}m_\phi$ with the $\zeta(z)$ being the Riemann zeta function.³ The Hulthén potential enjoys an analytic expression of the phase shift:

$$\delta_0 = \arg\left(\frac{i\Gamma(\lambda_+ + \lambda_- - 2)}{\Gamma(\lambda_+)\Gamma(\lambda_-)}\right). \quad (2.8)$$

Here $\Gamma(z)$ is the gamma function and

$$\lambda_\pm = 1 + i\epsilon_v\epsilon_\phi \pm \sqrt{\epsilon_\phi - \epsilon_v^2\epsilon_\phi^2}, \quad \epsilon_v = \frac{v_{\text{rel}}}{2\alpha}, \quad \epsilon_\phi = \frac{2\alpha\mu}{\delta}. \quad (2.9)$$

This phase shift results in the scattering length and effective range of

$$\begin{aligned} a &= \frac{\psi^{(0)}(1 + \sqrt{\epsilon_\phi}) + \psi^{(0)}(1 - \sqrt{\epsilon_\phi}) + 2\gamma_E}{\delta}, \\ r_e &= \frac{2a}{3} - \frac{1}{3\delta^3\sqrt{\epsilon_\phi}a^2} \left\{ 3 \left[\psi^{(1)}(1 + \sqrt{\epsilon_\phi}) - \psi^{(1)}(1 - \sqrt{\epsilon_\phi}) \right] \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sqrt{\epsilon_\phi} \left[\psi^{(2)}(1 + \sqrt{\epsilon_\phi}) + \psi^{(2)}(1 - \sqrt{\epsilon_\phi}) + 16\zeta(3) \right] \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.10)$$

respectively. Here $\psi^{(n)}(z)$ is the polygamma function of order n and $\gamma_E = 0.577\dots$ is the Euler–Mascheroni constant. Above we consider an attractive potential, by taking positive α . One can use the same expressions with an analytic continuation to negative α : $\lambda_\pm = 1 + i\epsilon_v\epsilon_\phi \pm i\sqrt{\epsilon_\phi + \epsilon_v^2\epsilon_\phi^2}$, with $\epsilon_v = \frac{v_{\text{rel}}}{2|\alpha|}$ and $\epsilon_\phi = \frac{2|\alpha|\mu}{\delta}$. Note that for a given DM mass

³The coefficient of $\sqrt{2\zeta(3)} = 1.55\dots$ is obtained by equating the Born cross sections with the Hulthén and Yukawa potentials [17]. The relation of $\delta = 2\zeta(3)m_\phi$ in ref. [52] would be a typo. A similar prescription for the Sommerfeld-enhancement factor leads to the coefficient of $\zeta(2) = \pi^2/6 = 1.64\dots$ [55].

m , the effective-range theory parameter set (a, r_e) and the Hulthén-potential parameter set (α, m_ϕ) has a one-to-one correspondence.

While effective-range theory reproduces well the analytic results of the Hulthén potential in the $k \rightarrow 0$ limit, it starts to deviate for $k^{-1} \lesssim r_e$; in other words, when the de Broglie wavelength of the incoming particles is shorter than the effective range. Such regime is depicted in brown in the left panel of figure 1(a). This is expected since the low-momentum effective-range expansion fails at high k . This feature can be seen by comparing the left and the right panel of figure 1(a); the right panel is the analytic result of the Hulthén potential with the parameter sets that give the same effective-range theory parameter sets as in the left panel.

Meanwhile, the velocity dependence of σ/m in the Hulthén potential is not reliable in the classical regime, $k^{-1} \lesssim m_\phi^{-1}$, i.e., where the de Broglie wavelength of the incoming particles is shorter than the range of the Hulthén potential. This is because the higher partial-wave contributions become important in the classical regime. In the right panel of figure 1(a), the classical regime is depicted in gray. Note that the classical regime in the Hulthén potential roughly coincides with the regime of $k^{-1} \lesssim r_e$ in the effective-range theory.

Figure 1(b) shows a (left) and r_e (right) as a function of ϵ_ϕ in the units of m_ϕ^{-1} . The resonances appear at $\epsilon_\phi = n^2$ ($n = 1, 2, \dots$), where $|a| \rightarrow \infty$ for finite r_e . In the following, we focus on the first resonance, $n = 1$, while discussing higher resonances in section C. The points depicted by stars corresponds to the parameters took in figure 1(a); they are both near the first resonance, nearly saturating the Unitarity bound.

Above we consider the elastic scattering and see that we need a light mediator and induced relatively long-range force to reproduce the strong velocity dependence. The Sommerfeld enhancement for DM annihilation [55–63] is controlled by the same potential. If the Sommerfeld enhancement is also almost on the quantum resonance, this would have multiple implications for the cosmology: strong constraints from the indirect-detection experiments if DM annihilation ends up with the electromagnetic energy injection [64]; and the second stage of the DM freeze-out (i.e., re-annihilation) [63, 65–68]. The enhancement factor in the Hulthén potential is given by [21]⁴

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{s\text{-wave}} &= \frac{\pi}{\epsilon_v} \frac{\sinh(2\pi\epsilon_v\epsilon_\phi)}{\cosh(2\pi\epsilon_v\epsilon_\phi) - \cos\left(2\pi\sqrt{\epsilon_\phi - \epsilon_v^2\epsilon_\phi^2}\right)}, \\
 S_{p\text{-wave}} &= S_{s\text{-wave}} \frac{(\epsilon_\phi - 1)^2 + 4\epsilon_v^2\epsilon_\phi^2}{1 + 4\epsilon_v^2\epsilon_\phi^2},
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.11}$$

for s -wave and p -wave annihilation, respectively. For annihilation, we take $\delta = \zeta(2)m_\phi$.

The left panels of figure 2 shows the Sommerfeld-enhancement factor as a function of the relative velocity for s -wave (top) and p -wave (bottom). The Hulthén-potential

⁴Note that our ϵ_ϕ is different from ref. [63]. This expression coincides with ref. [55]

$$S_\ell = \left| \frac{\Gamma(\lambda_{+\ell})\Gamma(\lambda_{-\ell})}{\Gamma(\lambda_{+\ell} + \lambda_{-\ell} - 1 + \ell)\Gamma(1 + \ell)} \right|^2, \quad \lambda_{\pm\ell} = \ell + \lambda_{\pm}.$$

Figure 2. (a) (*Left*): velocity dependence of the s -wave Sommerfeld-enhancement factor. The Hulthén-potential parameters took corresponds to the benchmark parameters in figure 1(a). The s -wave annihilation is near the quantum resonance for the benchmark parameters, as shown in the right panel. The Sommerfeld-enhancement factor grows as $\propto 1/v_{\text{rel}}^2$ (brown) towards low velocity and saturates. (*Right*): ϵ_ϕ -dependence of the s -wave Sommerfeld-enhancement factor. We take $\epsilon_v = 1, \dots, 10^{-3}$ from bottom to top. The dashed lines show the Sommerfeld-enhancement factors in the Coulomb potential that correspond to $\epsilon_\phi \rightarrow \infty$. The points depicted by stars correspond to the benchmark parameters took in figure 1(a) for fixed $\epsilon_v = 10^{-3}$. (b) Same as figure 2(a), but for the p -wave Sommerfeld-enhancement factor.

parameters took corresponds to the parameters depicted as stars in figure 1(b), which are close to the quantum resonance for elastic scattering. For these parameters, the s -wave Sommerfeld-enhancement factor is also resonantly enhanced towards low-velocity as $\propto 1/v_{\text{rel}}^2$ and saturates; as shown in the left panel of figure 2(a), the parameters are close to the s -wave quantum resonance for annihilation. This may be dangerous in terms of the constraints from observations on the CMB and indirect-detection experiments. The constraints may be evaded if we consider neutrinos as the final DM annihilation product or consider the p -wave annihilation [22, 64]. Indeed, the p -wave Sommerfeld-enhancement factors for the parameters are not huge, since they are sufficiently far from the p -wave quantum resonance for DM annihilation (see the right panel of figure 2(b)).

In section 3, we consider a model with a light mediator based on the gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ model, where DM annihilation is p -wave and ends up with neutrinos. ADM is another good

candidate, since it involves a light mediator to deplete the thermal relic abundance of the symmetric component. ADM may also be expected to be safe from the indirect-detection bounds at the first sight. In section 4, nevertheless, we see that even a (inevitable induced) tiny DM-anti DM oscillation leads to a significant annihilation in the late Universe.

3 Dark matter with a light mediator: gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ model

In this section, we consider DM with a light mediator based on the gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ model [22]. In this model, a new gauge boson Z' couples to the muon and tau lepton (and their neutrinos) [69, 70]. Interestingly, this new force contributes to the muon $(g-2)_\mu$, alleviating a possible tension between the SM prediction and measurement [71–73] (see also ref. [74] for the latest review on $(g-2)_\mu$ in the SM).⁵ After other constraints are taken into account, the $(g-2)_\mu$ discrepancy is ameliorated for the gauge coupling of $g' \simeq 4 \times 10^{-4}$ – 10^{-3} and the mass of the new gauge boson of $m_{Z'} \simeq 8$ – 200 MeV.

Ref. [22] extends this model with the a vector-like pair of fermions, N and $\bar{N}$. We assume that the $L_\mu - L_\tau$ breaking Higgs Φ carries a unit charge and N ($\bar{N}$) carries a (minus) half charge in units of the muon and tau-lepton charges.⁶ The resultant $\mathbb{Z}_2$ symmetry, which is unbroken by the Higgs vacuum expectation value (VEV), guarantees the stability of the lightest mass eigenstate N_1 among N and $\bar{N}$, namely, N_1 being DM. We consider the pseudo-Dirac dark matter, whose Dirac mass m_N is larger than the Majorana mass induced by the VEV of Φ . The masses are given by the Yukawa coupling $y > 0$:

$$m_{N_{1(2)}} = m_N \pm \frac{\Delta m}{2}, \quad \Delta m = \frac{\sqrt{2}y}{g'} m_{Z'} \ll m_N. \quad (3.1)$$

Hereafter we assume the CP symmetry to restrict the Yukawa coupling. For more general discussion, please see ref. [22]. The relevant interactions are

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} \supset -\frac{y}{2\sqrt{2}}\varphi(-\bar{N}_1 N_1 + \bar{N}_2 N_2) + i\frac{g'}{2}Z'_\mu \bar{N}_2 \gamma^\mu N_1. \quad (3.2)$$

Here N_1 and N_2 denote Majorana fermions and φ is a real scalar resulting from Φ .

The thermal relic abundance of N_1 is predominantly determined by co-annihilation of $N_1 N_1, N_2 N_2 \rightarrow Z' Z', \varphi \varphi$ and $N_1 N_2 \rightarrow Z' \varphi$. The thermally averaged annihilation cross sections are given by the dimensionless temperature $x = m_N/T$:

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle_{11} = \langle \sigma v \rangle_{22} = \frac{9y^4}{64\pi m_N^2} \frac{1}{x}, \quad \langle \sigma v \rangle_{12} = \frac{y^4}{64\pi m_N^2}. \quad (3.3)$$

⁵Two new experiments would shed light on the longstanding tension in $(g-2)_\mu$ in the near future: E989 experiment at Fermilab [75] and the E34 experiment at J-PARC [76]. The lattice studies of hadronic contributions to $(g-2)_\mu$ may also resolve the tension in the future. The latest study on the hadronic vacuum polarization contribution [77] claims that the discrepancy between the SM prediction and the experimental result disappears. Their result is also in tension with the other result (such as the R-ratio determination), and thus it is expected to scrutinize their result in detail by the other lattice groups.

⁶The charge of Φ determines the neutrino mass matrix by the see-saw mechanism [78–81]. Our choice is a minimal viable one [82] (see also section D) and may explain the baryon asymmetry of the Universe [83] through the leptogenesis [84–87].

Here we drop terms proportional to the gauge coupling g' , because it is subdominant compared to those with Yukawa coupling y . Note that self-annihilation channels are p -wave, while the co-annihilation channel is s -wave. The effective annihilation cross section is given by the relative yield r [88]:⁷

$$\langle\sigma v\rangle_{\text{eff}} = (1-r)^2\langle\sigma v\rangle_{11} + r^2\langle\sigma v\rangle_{22} + 2r(1-r)\langle\sigma v\rangle_{12}, \quad r = \frac{e^{-\Delta m/T}}{1 + e^{-\Delta m/T}}. \quad (3.4)$$

We compare the effective cross section at $x = 20$ with the canonical cross section, $(\sigma v)_{\text{can}} = 3 \times 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$. We fix the Yukawa coupling in this way. The above expression of the effective cross section is derived under the assumption that N_1 and N_2 are in chemical equilibrium. We check that in parameters of interest, the chemical equilibrium is achieved by $N_2 \leftrightarrow N_1 + Z'$.

Again since the gauge coupling g' is tiny, the 2-body potential of DM is also dominated by the Yukawa coupling:

$$V = -\frac{\alpha e^{-m_\varphi r}}{r}, \quad (3.5)$$

where $\alpha = y^2/(8\pi)$.⁸ We approximate the Yukawa potential by the Hulthén potential. We assume the Higgs mass m_φ to be larger than the gauge boson mass $m_{Z'}$, namely, $m_\varphi > m_{Z'}$; otherwise the Higgs lifetime exceeds 1 s and cause cosmological problems. The left panels of figure 3 shows the parameter regions for $\sigma/m = 100\text{--}200 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$ in MW's dwarf spheroidal satellite galaxies (cyan), $0.1\text{--}1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$ (light blue) and $1\text{--}10 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$ (blue) in field dwarf galaxies, $0.1\text{--}1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$ in MW-size galaxies (red), and $> 0.1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$ (green) in galaxy clusters, where we take $v_{\text{rel}} = 20, 30, 200$, and 1000 km/s , respectively. There, we focus on g' and $m_{Z'}$ that ameliorates the $(g-2)_\mu$ discrepancy. We use the analytic results of the Hulthén potential [16], eq. (2.8), to calculate the elastic scattering cross section of N_1 ; we multiply additional $1/2$ factor to eq. (2.1) since we consider the elastic scattering among identical N_1 particles. It should be noted that the analytic results of the Hulthén potential is valid only in the resonant regime, i.e., $\alpha m_{N_1}/m_\varphi \gtrsim 1$ and $m_{N_1} v_{\text{rel}}/m_\varphi \lesssim 1$; the analytic formula for the cross section in the classical regime, i.e., $\alpha m_{N_1}/m_\varphi \gtrsim 1$ and $m_{N_1} v_{\text{rel}}/m_\varphi \gg 1$, is given in ref. [63], and the Born approximation can be used in the Born regime, i.e., $\alpha m_{N_1}/m_\varphi \ll 1$. However, we remark that using the corresponding formulas in each regimes do not change our conclusion. We indicate the classical and Born regimes (brown) in the left panels of figure 3; for the classical regime, we require the condition for the velocity range that covers the MW's satellites, $v_{\text{rel}} \lesssim 100 \text{ km/s}$.

From figure 3(a) and figure 3(b), we see that with a light mediator, i.e., $m_\varphi \lesssim 20 \text{ MeV}$, σ/m can be as large as $\sim 100 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$ in the MW's satellites, while diminishing towards the galaxy clusters. As an example, in the right panels of figure 3, we show the velocity dependence of σ/m (black) for the depicted benchmark parameters (as a star or a diamond)

⁷As we see below, we consider an $\mathcal{O}(10)$ MeV φ , by taking a $\mathcal{O}(10^{-6})$ quartic coupling. This may delay the phase transition of the $L_\mu - L_\tau$ breaking, possibly inducing a small thermal inflation. Please see ref. [23] for a further discussion.

⁸ $\alpha = y^2/(4\pi)$ in ref. [22] is an error, though it does not change the results much.

Figure 3. (Left): parameter regions for σ/m at the velocity scales of MW’s dwarf spheroidal satellite galaxies (cyan), field dwarf galaxies (blue), MW-size galaxies (red), and galaxy clusters (green) for given $(m_{Z'}, g')$. The region where $m_\varphi < m_{Z'}$ (gray) may be disfavored by the BBN observations [22]; lifetime of φ is longer than 1 s. The yellow region depicts the parameters close to the first quantum resonance for elastic scattering, i.e., $0.85 < \epsilon_\phi < 1.15$ where $\epsilon_\phi = \alpha m_{N_1}/(\sqrt{2\zeta(3)}m_\varphi)$; this range includes the benchmark parameters shown as stars in figure 1(b). (Right): the velocity dependence of σ/m (black) for the benchmark parameter points near the quantum resonance (depicted in the left panel). The classical regime, i.e., $m_{N_1} v_{\text{rel}}/m_\varphi \gtrsim 1$, is depicted in gray, where the higher partial-wave contributions become important. The dot-dashed curves are the Unitarity bound, σ_{max}/m . The data points are the same as in figure 1(a).

in the left panels. In order to exhibit such large cross section at low-velocities, the parameters should lie very close to the quantum resonance (yellow region in the left panels). The velocity dependence near the quantum resonance, $\sigma/m \propto 1/v_{\text{rel}}^2$, fits well the cyan data points. The presented velocity dependence of σ/m 's saturates the Unitarity bound (dot-dashed) at low velocities, $v_{\text{rel}} = 20\text{-}200\text{ km/s}$, where σ/m is singly parameterized by the DM mass. The σ/m 's desaturate from the Unitarity bound from the onset of the classical regime (filled circle) where the higher partial-wave contributions become significant. Parametrically, we may extend the maximally self-interacting regime by taking a larger m_φ (but with a smaller α), so that $\sigma/m \propto 1/v_{\text{rel}}^2$ all the way up to the velocity scales of the galaxy clusters as in figure 1(a). However, this is not possible since the Yukawa coupling is fixed by requiring a correct DM relic abundance; therefore, we have no freedom to vary m_φ for a given ϵ_ϕ .

With Z' heavier than $m_{Z'} \gtrsim 20\text{ MeV}$, it is impossible to achieve such large cross sections ($\sigma/m \sim 100\text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$) at the MW's satellites even at the quantum resonance (if we took the error bars at face values). This is demonstrated in figure 3(c). There, we take $m_{Z'} = 50\text{ MeV}$ as an example. The cosmological constraints restricts $m_\varphi \gtrsim m_{Z'}$. Thus, with heavier Z' , the constraint also restricts N_1 to be heavier near the quantum resonance (yellow). Eventually, it becomes impossible to achieve $\sim 100\text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$ in the MW's satellites even if σ/m saturates the Unitarity bound; see the right panel of figure 3(c).

DM annihilates into Z' and φ predominantly in the p -wave, which subsequently decay predominantly into neutrinos. It seems to follow that this DM is safe from stringent constraints from indirect-detection experiments. On the other hand, considering the large Sommerfeld-enhancement factor for the s -wave, we need to be careful about the subdominant-modes of annihilation. A leading s -wave annihilation channel is $N_1 N_1 \rightarrow Z' Z'$:

$$(\sigma v)_{s\text{-wave}} = \frac{g'^4}{128\pi m_N^2} \simeq 4.6 \times 10^{-36} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s} \left(\frac{g'}{5 \times 10^{-4}} \right)^4 \left(\frac{20 \text{ GeV}}{m_N} \right)^2. \quad (3.6)$$

Considering the current (future) bound of DM annihilation into neutrinos mainly from Super-Kamiokande (Hyper-Kamiokande) [89], $(\sigma v) \lesssim 10^{-24} (10^{-25}) \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$ for 20 GeV DM, the Sommerfeld-enhancement factor of $S \gtrsim 10^{11}$ needs attention. The electromagnetic decay of $Z' \rightarrow e^+ e^-$ via the kinetic mixing between Z' and the SM hypercharge gauge boson needs another attention. Its natural value is $\epsilon = g'/70$ from the muon-tau lepton loop. The electromagnetic branching ratio is $\text{Br} \sim (\epsilon e/g')^2 \simeq 2 \times 10^{-5}$. We may compare $(\sigma v)\text{Br}$ with the constraints on DM electromagnetic annihilation, e.g., from the CMB measurements [90], $(\sigma v) \lesssim 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$ for 20 GeV DM.

Before concluding this section, we describe the implications and prospects of our results. We again assume the natural value of $\epsilon = g'/70$ for the kinetic mixing, unless otherwise noted. Since the light $L_\mu - L_\tau$ gauge boson predominantly decays into neutrinos, it heats only neutrinos after the neutrino decoupling, increasing the effective number of neutrino degrees of freedom N_{eff} [22, 91]. Interestingly, its slight deviation from the SM value, $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} \simeq 0.2\text{-}0.5$ mitigates the tension in the Hubble expansion rate H_0 between the local measurements (i.e., local ladder) [92–94] and CMB-based measurements (i.e., inverse

ladder) [90, 95].⁹ The corresponding Z' mass is $m_{Z'} = 10\text{--}20\text{ MeV}$ [98], which coincides with our “prediction” surprisingly. Such a sizable ΔN_{eff} can be examined by CMB-S4 experiments [99, 100]. The non-standard interactions of solar neutrinos with electrons and nuclei, in neutrino experiments (e.g., COHERENT) and DM experiments (e.g., LZ and Darwin), examine this light Z' region [101, 102]. The Z' -resonant non-standard interactions of high-energy neutrinos with cosmic neutrino background lead to a “dip” in the high-energy neutrino spectrum [91, 103, 104], which may explain (though not statistically significant) the null detection of astrophysical neutrinos with 200–400 TeV in IceCube [105–107]. The light Z' can be probed as missing-energy events in colliders [108, 109].

4 Composite dark matter: asymmetric dark matter

In this section, we consider composite ADM based on the dark QCD $\times$ QED dynamics with light dark quarks, up $U'(+2/3, +1/3)$ and down $D'(-1/3, +1/3)$ (dark QED charge, $B-L$ charge) [33]. DM consists of dark nucleons, whose asymmetry has the same origin as the SM baryon asymmetry (i.e., co-genesis). As a consequence, the mass of the dark nucleons is similar to but slightly heavier than that of SM nucleons as indicated from the coincidence of the mass densities $\Omega_{\text{dm}} \sim 5\Omega_b$. In other words, the dynamical scales of dark QCD and SM QCD are similar to each other: $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}'} \sim (10/N_g')\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$, where N_g' is the number of the generations of U' and D' .

The simple model of ref. [33] is featured by the (intermediate-scale) neutrino portal and (low-scale) dark photon portal. Non-equilibrium decay of the right-handed neutrinos with the masses of $M_R > 10^9\text{ GeV}$ generates the whole baryon asymmetry (i.e., thermal leptogenesis [84–87]). The asymmetry is shared among the dark and SM sectors via the higher-dimensional portal operator. The portal operator originates from the right-handed neutrinos and dark colored Higgs, H'_C , with the mass of M_C . The dark photon is assumed to be the lightest particle in the dark sector. It carries all the dark sector entropy in the late Universe, and transfers it through decay into SM particles via a kinetic mixing with the SM photon. To this end, the dark photon mass is to be $m_{A'} \gtrsim 10\text{ MeV}$ and the kinetic mixing parameter to be $\epsilon \gtrsim 10^{-10}$ [33, 110]. This phenomenological model enjoys compelling ultraviolet physics such as $\text{SU}(5)_{\text{SM}} \times \text{SU}(4)_{\text{dark}}$ [111] and mirror $\text{SU}(5)_{\text{SM}} \times \text{SU}(5)_{\text{dark}}$ [112]. They involve an intermediate-scale supersymmetry and are discussed in section E.

To discuss the phenomenology, we follow the simplified version of the model given by ref. [113]. The intermediate-scale portal operators are

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{M_*^3}(\bar{U}'\bar{D}'\bar{D}')(LH) + \frac{1}{M_*^3}(U'^\dagger D'^\dagger \bar{D}')(LH) + \text{h.c.}, \quad \frac{1}{M_*^3} = \frac{y_N Y_N Y_C}{2M_C^2 M_R}. \quad (4.1)$$

Hereafter we assume the CP symmetry to restrict the Yukawa coupling. Y_C is the Yukawa coupling of the dark colored Higgs to dark $U'D'$ and $\bar{U}'\bar{D}'$. y_N and Y_N are the Yukawa couplings of the dark quarks to the dark photon and the dark Higgs, respectively.

⁹Here we take $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} = 0.2\text{--}0.5$ by naïvely following [90], though it is not a perfect solution to the H_0 tension [96, 97]. $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} > 0$ leads to a smaller size of the sound horizon at the time of the decoupling (approximate to the last scattering), preferring a larger H_0 to keep the angular scale fixed. It cannot reproduce the “redshift dependence” of the inferred H_0 in the time-delay of the strongly lensed systems [94] (though not statistically significant). $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} > 0$ may also be not preferred in light of the weak Silk damping measured in ref. [95].

plings of the right-handed neutrinos to SM LH and dark $H'_C \bar{D}'$, respectively. The former is related with the observed tiny neutrino masses m_ν through the see-saw mechanism [78–81]:

$$y_N^2 \sim 10^{-5} \left(\frac{m_\nu}{0.1 \text{ eV}} \right)^{1/4} \left(\frac{M_R}{10^9 \text{ GeV}} \right). \quad (4.2)$$

The generated asymmetry is washed out when the other operators that carry different $B - L$ charges are also relevant after the asymmetry is generated. Such harmful operators are not generated in ultraviolet physics based on a unification model discussed in refs. [111, 112]. These portal operators are to be relevant at least around the time of the thermal leptogenesis: $x_{B-L} = M_R/T_{B-L} \simeq 5-10$ [84–87]:

$$M_R < M_C \lesssim \frac{10}{x_{B-L}^{5/4}} \left(\frac{m_\nu}{0.1 \text{ eV}} \right)^{1/4} \sqrt{Y_N Y_C} M_R. \quad (4.3)$$

The first inequality is to prohibit direct decay of the right-handed neutrinos into the dark colored Higgs, which may affect the thermal leptogenesis [114].

As shown in refs. [33, 115, 116], if the asymmetry is fully shared among the dark and SM sectors, i.e., if the portal interactions are relevant in the course of the thermal leptogenesis, the DM mass is to be $m_{N'} \simeq 8.5/N'_g \text{ GeV}$. This is because the $B - L$ asymmetries of the SM and dark sectors follow

$$A_{\text{DM}} = \frac{N'_g(20N_g + 6m)}{3N_g(22N_g + 13m)} A_{\text{SM}}, \quad (4.4)$$

where N_g is the generation of SM fermions and m is the number of light Higgs doublets. The relation between the present B and $B - L$ asymmetries within the SM sector depends on the nature of the electroweak symmetry breaking (EWSB) [117, 118]:

$$\begin{aligned} A_B &= \frac{4(2N_g + m)}{22N_g + 13m} A_{\text{SM}}, \\ &\quad \text{sphaleron decoupling after the EWSB,} \\ A_B &= \frac{8N_g + 4(m + 2)}{24N_g + 13(m + 2)} A_{\text{SM}}, \\ &\quad \text{rapid sphaleron after the EWSB,} \\ A_B &= \frac{2(2N_g - 1)(2N_g + (m + 2))}{24N_g^2 + 14N_g - 4 + m(13N_g - 2)} A_{\text{SM}}, \\ &\quad \text{rapid sphaleron + top decoupling after the EWSB.} \end{aligned} \quad (4.5)$$

In the first relation, we assume that the $B - L$ number and hypercharge are conserved, while in the second and third, we assume that the $B - L$ number and electromagnetic charge are conserved. Hereafter, we use the third relation with $N_g = 3$, $m = 1$, and $N'_g = 1$, namely, $A_{\text{DM}} = \frac{44}{237} \frac{97}{30} A_B$.

Since we consider the QCD-like dark sector, we may employ the QCD-calculation results in the DM phenomenology. The 2-body dark nucleon scattering is described by the

effective-range theory as $\sigma = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{4}\sigma_s + \frac{3}{4}\sigma_t \right)$ with

$$\begin{aligned} a_s &= \frac{0.58/\Lambda}{m_\pi/\Lambda - 0.57}, & r_{es} &= \frac{0.63/\Lambda}{m_\pi/\Lambda} + 2.5/\Lambda, \\ a_t &= \frac{0.39/\Lambda}{m_\pi/\Lambda - 0.49}, & r_{et} &= \frac{0.0015/\Lambda}{(m_\pi/\Lambda)^3} + 2.2/\Lambda, \end{aligned} \quad (4.6)$$

for the spin singlet and triplet (deuteron) channels, respectively (in SM QCD).¹⁰ We only consider the dark neutron-dark proton (n' - p') scattering even though we also have the other scattering processes: n' - n' and p' - p' scattering.¹¹ We assume that the half of the total DM consists of dark protons. The DM can interact with both of dark proton and dark neutron, and thus we divide each scattering cross sections by two. Here we follow ref. [29] and fit the QCD-calculation results given in ref. [119] with $\Lambda = 250$ MeV. This is valid for $m_\pi/\Lambda \simeq 0$ -1.4. We approximate the nucleon mass as $m_{N'} \simeq 1.25N_c\Lambda$, where the color number is $N_c = 3$ in the present model [125]. We show the velocity dependence of dark nucleon self-scattering cross section in figure 4 for fixed $m_{N'}$ near the quantum resonance.

As seen in figure 4, $m_{N'} \simeq 8.5$ GeV has a constant cross section below $v_{\text{rel}} \lesssim 100$ km/s, barely reproducing the velocity dependence of σ/m inferred by the MW's dwarf spheroidal satellite galaxies. The binding energies are

$$\begin{aligned} E_{bs} &\simeq 0, & E_{bt} &\simeq 60 \text{ MeV} && \text{for resonant singlet scattering,} \\ E_{bt} &\simeq 0 &&&& \text{for resonant triplet scattering,} \end{aligned} \quad (4.7)$$

where $E_b \simeq 0$ means a shallow bound/virtual state. Meanwhile, $m_{N'} \simeq 16$ GeV has a $\sigma/m \propto 1/v_{\text{rel}}^2$ in the low-velocity region, providing a better fit. The binding energies are

$$\begin{aligned} E_{bs} &\simeq 0, & E_{bt} &\simeq 110 \text{ MeV} && \text{for resonant singlet scattering,} \\ E_{bt} &\simeq 0 &&&& \text{for resonant triplet scattering.} \end{aligned} \quad (4.8)$$

These 2-body binding energies are important inputs for the bound-state formation in the Universe (i.e., the dark nucleosynthesis) [126–133]. In the present model, the dark photon is typically heavier than the binding energy, and thus the 2-body bound-state formation proceeds only through the electron/positron emission and is suppressed by the kinetic mixing parameter. Though it is beyond the scope of this paper, we may also be able to predict the strength of the dark QCD phase transition. If it is the strong first order, we have

¹⁰The binding energy increases with a larger pion mass [119, 120]. Depending on the assumptions, one also finds the opposite [121–123]. These results are very delicate in light of the perturbative calculations of the effective field theory [124].

¹¹The quantum resonance of these scattering processes may require a different dark pion mass from that for n' - p' scattering since the dark isospin symmetry, among n' and p' , is broken by $U(1)_{\text{dark}}$ and the current dark quark masses. Therefore, we expect that we can ignore the other dark nucleon scattering on the quantum resonance of n' - p' scattering. When the quantum resonance of p' - p' and n' - n' scattering coincides with that of n' - p' , we have to take into account each scattering cross section, $\frac{1}{2}\frac{2}{4}\sigma_s^{p'p'}$ and $\frac{1}{2}\frac{2}{4}\sigma_s^{n'n'}$. Here the additional factor of 2 originates from the difference in the decomposition of the scattering amplitude into the isospin irreducible representations and from the symmetric factor of the final states. It is beyond the scope of this paper to make a further study of the dark nucleon scattering in detail.

Figure 4. Velocity dependence of the 2-body dark nucleon scattering for given dark nucleon mass $m_{N'}$ and dark pion mass $m_{\pi'}$. The solid (dashed) curves represent the resonant singlet (triplet) scattering case. The dot-dashed curves are the Unitarity bounds for the nucleon-nucleon scattering cross section. The “naive” Unitarity bound $\sigma_{\max}/m$ would be fully saturated only if both singlet and triplet scatterings were simultaneously on resonance for a given parameter set ($m_{N'}$ and $m_{\pi'}$). For the presented σ/m ’s, only one of the channels, i.e., singlet or triplet scattering, is on resonance and saturates its own Unitarity bound, $\sigma_{s,\max}/m = 1/(2 \cdot 4) \times \sigma_{\max}/m$ or $\sigma_{t,\max}/m = 3/(2 \cdot 4) \times \sigma_{\max}/m$; the unfilled circles depict the point $k = 1/|a|$ and σ/m saturates the Unitarity bound for higher scattering velocities. The effective-range expansion is expected to be a good approximation, i.e., $k < 1/|r_e|$ in the presented velocity range. The data points are the same as in figure 1(a).

a chance to examine this model in near-future gravitational-wave detectors [134] and DM may consist of dark-quark nuggets [135], changing the search strategy (e.g., direct/indirect-detection signals) in the late Universe.

To make $m_{N'} \simeq 16$ GeV consistent with $\Omega_{\text{dm}} \sim 5\Omega_b$, we need to make portal operators partially irrelevant. We leave more general analysis, including the direct decay of right-handed neutrinos into the dark colored Higgs, for a future work (see ref. [114] for a similar analysis). Hereafter, instead, we assume that the both cases ($m_{N'} \simeq 8.5$ GeV, 16 GeV) are realized with $M_C \simeq (10/x_{B-L}^{5/4}) (m_\nu/0.1 \text{ eV})^{1/4} \sqrt{Y_N Y_C} M_R$.

In the present model, the dark photon plays a key role in releasing the dark sector entropy to the visible sector via the kinetic mixing ϵ with the SM photon. Figure 5 summarizes the current constraints on the dark-photon parameters ($m_{A'}, \epsilon$) and the future prospects in beam-dump and collider experiments. In collider experiments, dark photons can be produced through the kinetic mixing and subsequently decay into SM particles. For $m_{A'} < 5$ GeV, BaBar [140, 141], LHCb [142], and KLOE [143–146] place the upper limit on ϵ . Belle-II [147, 148] will place the upper limit on ϵ mainly for $m_{A'} = 10\text{--}5000$ MeV. The displaced vertex searches at the LHCb experiment will also explore the region between the collider and beam-dump experiments [149, 150]. The beam-dump experiments exclude a broad parameter space for $m_{A'} < 1$ GeV: current constraints are mainly from CHARM [151, 152], LSND [153, 154], and U70/ ν Cal [155, 156]. The dark-photon parameters in this region will be further explored by projected facilities like SHiP [157, 158], FASER [159], and SeaQuest [160, 161].

Figure 5. Constraints on the dark-photon parameters: dark photon mass $m_{A'}$ and kinetic mixing ϵ . The gray meshed region is the current bounds from supernova 1987A constraints (refs. [136, 137]), beam-dump experiments, and collider experiments (taken from ref. [138]). The green dot-dashed line shows the future prospects for beam-dump and collider experiments. The diagonal blue (red) lines show the upper limits on ϵ from the PandaX-II experiment [139] for $m_{N'} = 16$ GeV ($m_{N'} = 8.5$ GeV) and fixed $U(1)_{\text{dark}}$ coupling, $\alpha_D = g_D^2/(4\pi)$. The right side of vertical solid lines indicate the region where the dark photon is heavier than the dark pion for $m_{N'} = 16$ GeV (blue) and $m_{N'} = 8.5$ GeV (red); the constraints on the dark photon decay would change in the indicated regions. The left side of vertical dashed lines indicate the region where dark photon mass is less than the binding energy E_{bt} for $m_{N'} = 16$ GeV (blue) and $m_{N'} = 8.5$ GeV (red); the dark nucleosynthesis would proceed by emitting the dark photon, and the DM would consist of the dark nuclei.

The dark photon decay rate is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma(A' \rightarrow e^+e^-) &= \frac{1}{3}\alpha\epsilon^2 m_{A'} \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_e^2}{m_{A'}^2}} \left(1 + \frac{2m_e^2}{m_{A'}^2}\right), \\ \Gamma(A' \rightarrow \text{hadrons}) &= \frac{1}{3}\alpha\epsilon^2 m_{A'} \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_\mu^2}{m_{A'}^2}} \left(1 + \frac{2m_\mu^2}{m_{A'}^2}\right) R(\sqrt{s} = m_{A'}),\end{aligned}\tag{4.9}$$

where $R(\sqrt{s}) = \frac{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons})}{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)}$ takes into account the hadronic resonances (i.e., vector meson dominance). In the following, we consider the latter for $m_{A'} > 100$ MeV taken from ref. [162]. Since the late-time decay of the dark photon heats only the electron-photon plasma after the neutrino decoupling, N_{eff} is lowered and the upper bound is put on the dark photon lifetime. The dark photon lifetime $\tau_{A'} = 1/\Gamma_{A'}$ exceeds 1 s in the gray crosshatched region of figure 5.

In the right side of vertical solid lines of figure 5, the dark photon is no longer the lightest particle in the dark sector (the blue-solid vertical line for $m_{N'} = 16$ GeV, while the red-solid vertical line for $m_{N'} = 8.5$ GeV). In particular, the dark photon is heavier than the dark pion, whose mass is indicated by the strong velocity dependence of the 2-body dark nucleon scattering. The constraints on the dark photon decay would change in this region. In the left side of vertical dashed lines, the dark photon mass is less than the binding energy E_{bt} when the resonant singlet scattering is realized (we use the same color scheme for the vertical lines as that in the right region). In this region, the dark nucleosynthesis would proceed by emitting the dark photon, and then the DM would consist of the dark nuclei.

When the DM consists of the dark proton charged under $U(1)_{\text{dark}}$, DM interacts with SM nuclei through the kinetic mixing between the SM photon and dark photon. The differential cross section between the dark proton and target nucleus is

$$\frac{d\sigma_{p'}}{dq^2} = \frac{4\pi\alpha\alpha_D\epsilon^2 Z^2}{(q^2 + m_{A'}^2)^2} \frac{1}{v^2} F_T^2(q^2). \quad (4.10)$$

Here the momentum transfer is $q^2 = 2\mu_T^2 v_{\text{rel}}^2 (1 - \cos\theta_{\text{cm}})$, where μ_T is the reduced mass of DM and the target nucleus and θ_{cm} is the center-of-mass scattering angle. Following ref. [163], we set $q^2 = 2\mu_T^2 v_{\odot}^2$, where $v_{\odot} = 232$ km/s is the typical DM speed at the rest frame of the Earth [164]. F_T is the nuclear form factor. We discuss the dark neutron-target nucleus scattering through the magnetic moment in section F, which is negligible. We place the upper limit on the kinetic mixing parameter ϵ from the direct-detection constraints by the 54 ton-day exposure of the PandaX-II experiment [139] (diagonal red and blue lines in figure 5). We assume that the half of the total DM consists of dark protons. The DM mass is set to be 16 GeV (blue lines) and 8.5 GeV (red lines), and we take $U(1)_{\text{dark}}$ coupling to be $\alpha_D = \alpha_{\text{EM}} = 1/137$ (solid lines) and $\alpha_D = \alpha_{\text{EM}}/100$ (dashed lines).

The intermediate-scale portal operators eq. (4.1) lead to the DM decay into the dark meson and anti-neutrino [116]. Such decaying DM can be explored in indirect ways: one is a neutrino signal from the DM decay at the Super-Kamiokande, the others are constraints on a flux from eventual decay of the decay product to the SM particles. No excess of a neutrino signal has been found at the Super-Kamiokande experiment [165], and this sets the lower limit on the DM lifetime [166]. The decay rate is given by

$$\Gamma_{\text{DM}} \simeq \frac{1}{64\pi} \frac{v_H^2 m_{N'}}{M_*^6} |W|^2. \quad (4.11)$$

Here, v_H is a VEV of the SM Higgs and W is a matrix element for DM to a dark meson. We assume the matrix element to be $W \simeq 0.1 \text{ GeV}^2 (m_{N'}/m_n)^2$, to which a lattice calculation result [167] is naively scaled. For the decaying DM with a mass of 16 GeV, the lower limit is roughly $\tau_{\text{DM}} = 1/\Gamma_{\text{DM}} \gtrsim 10^{23}$ s. We naively extrapolate the results of ref. [166] below the DM mass of 10 GeV. The black-shaded region in figure 6 is excluded by no excess of a neutrino signal in the Super-Kamiokande experiment. The decay product, neutral dark mesons, eventually decays into e^+e^- through kinetic mixing. We naively utilize a constraint from the e^+e^- flux observations (Voyager-1 [168] and AMS-02 [169]) on the DM lifetime

Figure 6. Indirect-detection constraints on $(m_{N'}, M_R)$ plane. The black-shaded region is excluded by no excess of a neutrino signal at the Super-Kamiokande experiment. The gray-shaded region is constrained by e^+e^- flux from eventual decay of the dark meson from DM decay (constraints by the AMS-02 for $m_{N'} \gtrsim 3$ GeV and the Voyager-1 for $m_{N'} \lesssim 3$ GeV). The green-hatched region is excluded by γ -ray constraints by the Fermi-LAT, and the blue-hatched region is excluded by e^+e^- flux constraints (by the AMS-02 for $m_{N'} \gtrsim 1.5$ GeV and the Voyager-1 for $m_{N'} \lesssim 1.5$ GeV). The blue dashed lines show the e^+e^- flux constraints with taking a Sommerfeld-enhancement factor of the annihilation cross section to be $S_{\text{eff}} = 10^3$ and 10^5 .

given in ref. [170]. The e^+e^- flux from the DM decay constrains the DM lifetime to be larger than $\tau_{\text{DM}} = 1/\Gamma_{\text{DM}} \gtrsim 10^{27}$ s for $m_{N'} \gtrsim 3$ GeV. The gray-shaded region in figure 6 shows the constraint from the e^+e^- flux from the DM decay. The AMS-02 observation gives a dominant constraint for $m_{N'} \gtrsim 3$ GeV, while the e^+e^- flux constraints comes from the Voyager-1 observation for $m_{N'} \lesssim 3$ GeV.

The same ultraviolet origin of the operator in eq. (4.1) induces the Majorana mass term for the dark neutrons [113]:

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2} m_M \bar{n}' n' + \text{h.c.}, \quad m_M \simeq \frac{Y_N^2 Y_C^2 \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^6}{4 M_R M_C^4}. \quad (4.12)$$

Some portion of the dark neutron DM is converted into its anti-particle at the late time t through the dark neutron-anti neutron oscillation: $P_{\bar{n}} \sim (m_M t)^2$. Then dark nucleons n' and p' annihilate with $\bar{n}'$ into dark pions with the effective cross section,

$$(\sigma v)_{\text{eff}} = \frac{4\pi}{m_{N'}^2} S_{\text{eff}} P_{\bar{n}}. \quad (4.13)$$

Here S_{eff} is the Sommerfeld-enhancement factor $S_{s\text{-wave}}$ times a fudge factor. When the dark photon is the lightest particle in the dark sector, dark pions decay into dark photons, and

then dark photons eventually decay into e^+e^- pair. The final state radiation of this process can emit visible photons. The late-time annihilation is constrained by the observations of the γ -ray from the dwarf spheroidal galaxies by the Fermi-LAT [171] and from the interstellar e^+e^- flux by the Voyager-1 [168] and the AMS-02 [169]. We use the γ -ray limits on the oscillation time scale given by ref. [113] with $S_{\text{eff}} = 1$. Even though the Fermi-LAT observation constrains the effective annihilation cross section only for $m_{N'} \gtrsim 3$ GeV, we use a naïve extrapolation of the constraint below 3 GeV. The green-hatched region in figure 6 shows the constraints from the observations of the γ -ray flux. We utilize the e^+e^- flux constraint on the dark matter annihilation cross section in ref. [170] as a constraint on $(\sigma v)_{\text{eff}}$.

The constraints from the e^+e^- flux and γ -ray flux observations depend on the annihilation cross section of dark nucleons. The strong velocity dependence of the self-scattering cross section implies a sizable Sommerfeld-enhancement factor as seen in figure 2(a), and thus we also show the lower limit on M_R from the e^+e^- flux when we take the factor to be $S_{s\text{-wave}} = 10^3$ (long-dashed line) and $S_{s\text{-wave}} = 10^5$ (short-dashed line). Though the constraints from γ -ray flux change when we take the enhancement factor, we do not depict them in figure 2(a).

The lightest dark ρ meson mass is $m_{\rho'} \simeq 7$ GeV (13.1 GeV) for $m_{N'} = 8.5$ GeV ($m_{N'} = 16$ GeV) from a naïve scaling of our ρ meson. From a naïve scaling of our ρ meson's mass spectrum, we also expect that higher vector resonances appear as $m_{\rho_n}^2 \sim 76n$ GeV² ($270n$ GeV²) ($n = 1, 2, \dots$) for $m_{N'} = 8.5$ GeV ($m_{N'} = 16$ GeV). With a sizable kinetic mixing parameter $\epsilon \gtrsim 10^{-3}$, we have a chance of spectroscopic measurements of such resonances in lepton colliders (e.g., Belle II and BES-III) [172, 173].

5 Conclusion

We have studied the possibility that self-interacting dark matter has a maximal self-scattering cross section from the Unitarity point of view. When the self-scattering cross section nearly saturates the Unitarity bound, the cross section is singly parameterized by the DM mass. Interestingly, for the DM mass of $m \sim 10$ GeV, maximally self-interacting dark matter can explain the observed structure of the Universe ranging from $\sigma/m \sim 0.1$ cm²/g at galaxy clusters to ~ 100 cm²/g at the MW's dwarf spheroidal satellite galaxies. We have demonstrated that a general requirement of the quantum (zero-energy) resonant scattering, by employing the effective-range theory and analytic results with the Hulthén potential. It requires a light force mediator and model parameters to be the special (fine-tuned) values. We have also demonstrated that DM annihilation tends to be largely boosted by the Sommerfeld enhancement with the same parameters.

It requires DM annihilation to end up with neutrinos or to be the p -wave. As such a model, we have considered the gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ model extended with Dirac DM. The Dirac DM is slightly split into two Majorana DM by the VEV of the gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ Higgs. We have taken the Higgs mode to be light so that it mediates the (relatively) long-range force between DM particles. We have pinned down the parameter points that lead to the DM self-scattering saturating the Unitarity bound. With them, we can explain the discrepancy

in the muon $g - 2$, predict the sizable ΔN_{eff} mitigating the tension in H_0 , and have rich implications for non-standard neutrino interactions and collider searches.

ADM is another option to evade the indirect-detection bounds from the boosted DM annihilation (at the first sight). Since ADM requires a lighter state to deplete its symmetric components through efficient annihilation, such a light state is a natural candidate for a force mediator. We have considered dark nucleon ADM with dark pions being the force mediator, based on the dark QCD $\times$ QED dynamics. The dark pion mass is very predictive to explain the quantum-resonant self-scattering between dark nucleon DM. For viable cosmology, we have assumed that dark photon is the lightest state in the dark sector, which provide various ways to probe the dark sector: collider and beam-dump experiments and DM direct-detection experiments. Furthermore, the binding energies of two nucleon states are also predicted, which are important for the dark nucleosynthesis that proceeds with a light dark photon. The predicted dark vector resonances can be measured by lepton colliders.

It is worthwhile to note that we have compared the velocity-dependent cross sections without the local velocity distribution averaging with the inferred values of σ/m from astronomical observations. This is partially because the inferred values of σ/m were interpreted by assuming a constant cross section inside halos of interest. It would be encouraging to reanalyze the astronomical data with a proper distribution averaging. The velocity-dependent cross section of maximally self-interacting dark matter may give a benchmark for the reanalyses.

We have shown that the recent astronomical data for structure formation of the Universe are already interesting and have rich implications for DM physics. Though it is to be clarified which data are robust or suffer from astrophysical uncertainties such as supernova feedback, we are optimistic that the situation will get quickly improved with the fast development of hydrodynamic simulations and more precise observations. Gravitational probes of DM and related beyond-WIMP DM scenarios enjoy an exciting era.

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A MW's dwarf spheroidal galaxies vs. field dwarf galaxies

As seen in figure 1(a), the inferred values of σ/m , in the MW's dwarf spheroidal satellite galaxies (cyan) [47] and the field dwarf galaxies (red) [3], seem not compatible with each other, though they have similar collision velocities, $v_{\text{rel}} \sim 20\text{--}60$ km/s. In the main text, we discuss implications for DM phenomenology, taking the former seriously. In this section, instead, we discuss how our conclusions changed, if the inferred values of σ/m from the MW's satellites were lowered.

In the left panel of figure 7(a), we take the effective-range theory parameters so that σ/m crosses the inferred values from the field dwarf galaxies (red), rather than the ones from MW's dwarf spheroidal satellite galaxies (cyan) as in figure 1(a). In this case, we do

not need a strong velocity dependence of σ/m as in figure 1(a). Notice that the $|a/r_e|$'s took are relatively smaller than the ones in figure 1(a); this indicates that the parameters are relatively away from the quantum resonance. This is explicitly shown in figure 7(b), where the points depicted by stars represent the Hulthén-potential parameters that correspond to the effective-range theory parameters in left panel of figure 7(a). Notice that the ϵ_ϕ 's do not need to be so close to the first quantum resonance, i.e., $\epsilon_\phi \simeq 1$, to cross the red data points in figure 7(a). This is in contrast to the parameters took in figure 1(a), where the effective-range theory parameters need to be fine-tuned to be near the quantum resonance to cross the cyan data points, as shown in figure 1(b).

At the same time, the parameters of figure 7(a) are also relatively away from the quantum resonance for annihilation; compare the points depicted by stars in figure 8 with the ones in figure 2. Consequently, they exhibit relatively smaller Sommerfeld-enhancement factors than the ones of figure 1(a), making them less constrained from the indirect-detection experiments.

The lack of need for the strong velocity dependence amounts to relaxation of the “prediction” of the narrow model parameter regions of the gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ model in the main text. In the left panels of figure 9, we depict the example parameters of the model that explains the inferred values of σ/m from the field dwarf galaxies, i.e., $\sigma/m \sim 1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$ at $v_{\text{rel}} \sim 20 \text{ km/s}$. We show the corresponding velocity dependence of σ/m in the right panels. In figure 9(a), we present the case of $m_{Z'} = 10 \text{ MeV}$, which lies in the Z' mass range preferred to explain the inferred σ/m from the MW's satellites, $m_{Z'} \lesssim 20 \text{ MeV}$, as discussed in the main text. Contrary to the parameter points depicted in figure 3(a), we see that the parameters here do not need to be so fine-tuned to be close to the quantum resonance (yellow) to explain the red data points. Furthermore, the viable Z' mass range extends towards larger values, compared to the case discussed in the main text. For heavier Z' , e.g., $m_{Z'} = 50 \text{ MeV}$, it is possible to find parameters to explain the inferred σ/m from the field dwarf galaxies, while they need to lie near the quantum resonance.

For the ADM based on the dark QCD $\times$ QED dynamics, the notable change would be that the dark nucleon mass of $m_{N'} \simeq 8.5 \text{ GeV}$ also becomes preferable. In figure 4, we showed that $m_{N'} \simeq 8.5 \text{ GeV}$ poorly fits the inferred velocity dependence of σ/m inferred by the MW's dwarf spheroidal satellite galaxies. But if we focus on σ/m inferred by the field dwarf galaxies, $m_{N'} \simeq 8.5 \text{ GeV}$ also provides a good fit to the inferred velocity dependence (see figure 10), where we do not need to consider additional entropy production to dilute the DM abundance or consider asymmetric generation of $B - L$ number. Meanwhile, the preferred dark pion masses in both figure 4 and figure 10 do not differ much, i.e., the pion mass (or $m_{\pi'}/\Lambda$) still has to be reasonably tuned near the quantum resonance for elastic scattering. Similarly, the binding energy of nucleons, E_{bt} , decrease by a factor of ~ 0.9 as we take pion mass slightly away from the quantum resonance to explain the velocity dependence of σ/m inferred by the field dwarf galaxies. This would slightly retreat the left region in figure 5 to the further left, in which the dark nucleosynthesis may occur by emitting dark photons.

Figure 7. (a) Same as figure 1(a), but for the effective-range theory parameters, (a, r_e) , that explains the inferred values of σ/m from the observations on the field dwarf galaxies (red). The Hulthén-potential parameter sets took in the right panel exhibits the same effective-range theory parameter sets as the left panel. (b) Same as figure 1(b), but the stars indicate the benchmark parameters took in figure 7(a). Compared to the parameters took in figure 1(a), the parameters here are relatively away from the quantum resonance at $\epsilon_\phi = 1$.

B Velocity averaging

In this section, we comment on the velocity averaging of the self-scattering cross section σ/m .

The horizontal axis of figure 1(a), $\langle v_{\text{rel}} \rangle$, is the average relative velocity between two DM particles. Consider the collision between particle 1 and 2. Assuming the Maxwellian velocity distribution for both particles, but with different 1d velocity dispersion: σ_1^2 and σ_2^2 , respectively. After integrating out the center-of-mass velocity, whose 1d velocity dispersion is $\sigma_{\text{cm}}^2 = \frac{\sigma_1^2 \sigma_2^2}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}$, we obtain the distribution function for the relative velocity:

$$d^3 v_{\text{rel}} \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma_{\text{rel}}^2)^{3/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{v_{\text{rel}}^2}{2\sigma_{\text{rel}}^2}\right), \quad (\text{B.1})$$

Figure 8. Same as figure 2, but with the Hulthén-potential parameters took in figure 7(a). The s -wave annihilation is relatively away from the quantum resonance compared the ones in 1(a); the enhancement factors are smaller, and the s -wave enhancement factors grow towards low velocity slower than the resonant behavior, i.e., $\propto 1/v_{\text{rel}}^2$ (brown).

where the 1d velocity dispersion is related with the average relative velocity as

$$\sigma_{\text{rel}}^2 = \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 = \frac{\pi}{8} \langle v_{\text{rel}} \rangle^2. \quad (\text{B.2})$$

In the gravitationally interacting system, we expect $\sigma_1 = \sigma_2 = \sigma$ and thus $\langle v_{\text{rel}} \rangle = 4\sigma/\sqrt{\pi}$ as found in the literature [3]. Note that this differs from the kinetically equilibrium system, where $m_1\sigma_1^2 = m_2\sigma_2^2$.

Meanwhile, the inferred values of σ/m at given $\langle v_{\text{rel}} \rangle$ in figure 1(a) are achieved by assuming a constant self-scattering cross section inside a halo of interest. In the case of velocity-dependent σ/m , a fairer comparison may be done by taking local distribution average for the cross section. In the main text, we do not take the distribution average for the cross section. This is partially just for the simplicity. Another reason is that when astronomical data are interpreted by SIDM, a self-scattering cross section is assumed to be constant. Thus, to be consistent, we need to reanalyze the data by taking into account the velocity (dispersion) dependence of the (distribution averaged) cross section.

Figure 9. Same as the left panel of figure 3, but the with different benchmark parameter points; here, the depicted points (as a star and a diamond) explain the red data points, rather than the cyan ones as in figure 3.

Figure 10. Same as the figure 4, but for the dark pion masses that explain the inferred values of σ/m from the field dwarf galaxies.

Figure 11. Same as figure 1(a), but comparing the parameter points close to the first (cyan star) and the second (blue star) quantum resonance for elastic scattering, i.e., $n = 1$ and $n = 2$ for $\epsilon_\phi = n^2$, respectively. In the right panel of figure 11(a), for the parameter point near the second resonance (dashed), the analytic results for the Hulthén potential exhibits diminishing σ/m at $v_{\text{rel}} \sim 2000$ km/s.

C Higher resonances

As seen in figure 1(b), the quantum resonances for elastic scattering appear at $\epsilon_\phi = n^2$ ($n = 1, 2, \dots$). In the main text, we focused on the parameters near the first one, $n = 1$. While it is certainly encouraging to discuss the higher resonances as well, there are a couple of reasons we try not to. In this section, we discuss these reasons and remark on the possible differences and difficulties in investigating higher resonances.

The first aspect is that at higher resonances for elastic scattering, σ/m could exhibit diminishing values at specific momentum. This is demonstrated in the right panel of figure 11(a), where we show a velocity dependence of σ/m in the Hulthén potential. There, we see that for the Hulthén-potential parameter set near the second resonance, i.e., the blue star of figure 11(b), σ/m is diminishing around $v_{\text{rel}} \sim 2000$ km/s. This is related to the behavior of the phase shift δ_0 at the second resonance. At the vicinity of the second resonance, δ_0 starts out from 0 at high- k limit and approaches $\simeq 3\pi/2$ in the $k \rightarrow 0$ limit; between the two limits, $\delta_0 = \pi$ for some specific value of k and σ/m diminishes at such k .

Figure 12. Same as figure 2, but for the parameter points depicted in figure 11(b), which are close to the first (cyan star) and the second quantum resonance (blue star) for elastic scattering. In the left panels, the brown curve corresponds to $\propto 1/v_{\text{rel}}^2$. Contrary to the cyan-star parameter set, which was discussed in figure 2, the blue-star parameter set is close to both s -wave and p -wave resonances for annihilation.

One may expect that the existence of this “dip” generally makes the parameters hard to be compatible with the data points in figure 11(a). However, the “dip” appears in the classical regime (depicted in gray), i.e., $k \gtrsim m_\phi$, where the higher partial-wave contributions are significant. After taking into account the higher partial-wave contributions, the “dip” may become relaxed. We could also consider a larger m_ϕ (but with the same ϵ_ϕ) to push the onset of the classical regime (filled gray circle) to higher velocities, so that the “dip” does not overlap with the velocity scales of the astronomical data.

The second aspect is related to the Sommerfeld enhancement of DM annihilation. As we consider the resonances beyond the first one for elastic scattering, higher partial wave resonances for annihilation may become important. As an example, in figure 12, we show the velocity dependence of the Sommerfeld-enhancement factors for the parameter point near the second resonance (blue star), which corresponds to the parameter took in the right panel of figure 11(a). Coincidentally, the parameter lies near the s -wave and p -wave resonance for annihilation. For this parameter point, taking p -wave annihilating DM to

evade the constraints from indirect-detection experiments (as for the cyan parameter point) may not help much. Likewise, the implications on the constraints may highly depend on the value of the took ϵ_ϕ for higher resonances of elastic scattering. A dedicated investigation on this aspect for higher resonances may be done elsewhere, while we try to focus on the simplest case in this work.

D Neutrino masses in the gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ model

The renormalizable Lagrangian density can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{L} = & \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + g' Z'_\mu \left(L_2^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\mu L_2 - L_3^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\mu L_3 - \bar{\mu}^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\mu \bar{\mu} + \bar{\tau}^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\mu \bar{\tau} \right) - \frac{1}{4} Z'_{\mu\nu} Z'^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} \epsilon Z'_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu} \\
 & + (D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D^\mu \Phi - V(\Phi, H) + i \bar{N}_i^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\mu D_\mu \bar{N}_i \\
 & - \lambda_e L_1 H \bar{N}_e - \lambda_\mu L_2 H \bar{N}_\mu - \lambda_\tau L_3 H \bar{N}_\tau - \frac{1}{2} M_{ee} \bar{N}_e \bar{N}_e - M_{\mu\tau} \bar{N}_\mu \bar{N}_\tau \\
 & - y_{e\mu} \Phi^* \bar{N}_e \bar{N}_\mu - y_{e\tau} \Phi \bar{N}_e \bar{N}_\tau + \text{h.c.}
 \end{aligned} \tag{D.1}$$

Here, L_i ($i = 2, 3$) denotes the left-handed leptons in the flavor basis, while $\bar{\mu}$ and $\bar{\tau}$ denote the right-handed charged leptons. The discussion below is applicable to any Z' mass, though we focus on $m_{Z'} \sim 10 \text{ MeV}$ in the main text. With a different Z' mass, phenomenology in colliders and cosmology also changes (e.g., see ref. [174] for very light Z').

After the SM Higgs H and $L_\mu - L_\tau$ breaking Higgs Φ develop the VEVs, $v_H/\sqrt{2}$ and $v_\Phi/\sqrt{2}$, the resultant neutrino mass sector takes a form of

$$\begin{aligned}
 -\mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = & \begin{pmatrix} \nu_e & \nu_\mu & \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} \mathcal{M}_D \begin{pmatrix} \bar{N}_e \\ \bar{N}_\mu \\ \bar{N}_\tau \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \bar{N}_e & \bar{N}_\mu & \bar{N}_\tau \end{pmatrix} \mathcal{M}_N \begin{pmatrix} \bar{N}_e \\ \bar{N}_\mu \\ \bar{N}_\tau \end{pmatrix} + \text{h.c.}, \\
 \mathcal{M}_D = & \begin{pmatrix} Y_e & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & Y_\mu & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & Y_\tau \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{M}_N = \begin{pmatrix} M_{ee} & M_{e\mu} & M_{e\tau} \\ M_{e\mu} & 0 & M_{\mu\tau} \\ M_{e\tau} & M_{\mu\tau} & 0 \end{pmatrix}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{D.2}$$

Here $(Y_e, Y_\mu, Y_\tau) = \frac{v_H}{\sqrt{2}} (\lambda_e, \lambda_\mu, \lambda_\tau)$ and $(M_{e\mu}, M_{e\tau}) = \frac{v_\Phi}{\sqrt{2}} (y_{e\mu}, y_{e\tau})$. We fix the phases of $\bar{N}_l$ so that $M_{e\mu}, M_{e\tau}, M_{\mu\tau} > 0$, while leaving the phases of ν_l for the PMNS parametrization [175, 176]. The see-saw mechanism [78–81] provides the neutrino mass term at low energy as

$$\begin{aligned}
 -\mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} \simeq & \begin{pmatrix} \nu_e & \nu_\mu & \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} \mathcal{M}_\nu \begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 & \nu_2 & \nu_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} m_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}, \\
 \mathcal{M}_\nu = & -\mathcal{M}_D \mathcal{M}_N^{-1} \mathcal{M}_D^T, \quad \begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} = U_\nu \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix},
 \end{aligned} \tag{D.3}$$

Parameter	best fit	1 σ range	2 σ range
$\delta m^2/(10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2)$	7.37	7.21–7.54	7.07–7.73
$\Delta m^2/(10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2)$	2.525	2.495–2.567	2.454–2.606
$\sin^2 \theta_{12}/10^{-1}$	2.97	2.81–3.14	2.65–3.34
$\sin^2 \theta_{23}/10^{-1}$	4.25	4.10–4.46	3.95–4.70
$\sin^2 \theta_{13}/10^{-2}$	2.15	2.08–2.22	1.99–2.31
δ/π	1.38	1.18–1.61	1.00–1.90

Table 1. Neutrino oscillation parameters from refs. [82, 177].

where the PMNS matrix is parametrized by

$$\begin{aligned}
 U_\nu = & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta_{23} & \sin \theta_{23} \\ 0 & -\sin \theta_{23} & \cos \theta_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_{13} & 0 & \sin \theta_{13} e^{-i\delta} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta_{13} e^{i\delta} & 0 & \cos \theta_{13} \end{pmatrix} \\
 & \times \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_{12} & \sin \theta_{12} & 0 \\ -\sin \theta_{12} & \cos \theta_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\alpha_2/2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{i\alpha_3/2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (\text{D.4})
 \end{aligned}$$

with $\theta_{ij} \in [0, \pi/2]$ and $\delta, \alpha_i \in [0, 2\pi)$. and the mass eigenvalues are written as

$$m_2^2 = m_1^2 + \delta m^2, \quad m_3^2 = m_1^2 + \Delta m^2 + \delta m^2/2, \quad (\text{D.5})$$

for the normal ordering, while $m_3 < m_1 < m_2$ for the inverted ordering. The neutrino oscillation parameters are summarized in table 1.

It is remarkable that the $U(1)_{L_\mu - L_\tau}$ symmetry restricts $\mathcal{M}_D$ to be a diagonal matrix. Thus if $\mathcal{M}_D$ has a inverse matrix, the following relation holds:

$$\mathcal{M}_\nu^{-1} = -\mathcal{M}_D^{-1} \mathcal{M}_N (\mathcal{M}_D^{-1})^T. \quad (\text{D.6})$$

Since $\mathcal{M}_D^{-1}$ is also diagonal, the flavor structure of $\mathcal{M}_\nu^{-1}$ should follow the structure of $\mathcal{M}_N$. Two zero entries of $\mathcal{M}_N$ (see eq. (D.2)) provides four constraints for the PMNS parameters [82]: $\delta \simeq \pi/2$ or $3\pi/2$, $m \simeq 0.05\text{--}0.1 \text{ eV}$, $\alpha_2/\pi \simeq 0.6$, and $\alpha_3/\pi \simeq 1.4$ from δm^2 , Δm^2 , and θ_{ij} given in table 1. The other entries provide 8 constraints, while there are 11 model parameters (6 from Y_l and 5 from $M_{ll'}$). This is because eq. (D.6) is invariant under the following transformation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 Y_e &\rightarrow \frac{ab}{c} Y_e, & Y_\mu &\rightarrow \frac{ac}{b} Y_\mu, & Y_\tau &\rightarrow \frac{bc}{a} Y_\tau, \\
 M_{ee} &\rightarrow \frac{a^2 b^2}{c^2} M_{ee}, & M_{e\mu} &\rightarrow a^2 M_{e\mu}, & M_{e\tau} &\rightarrow b^2 M_{e\tau}, & M_{\mu\tau} &\rightarrow c^2 M_{\mu\tau}, \quad (\text{D.7})
 \end{aligned}$$

with a, b, c being real. We obtain table 2 by fitting the other eight model parameters in eq. (D.6). The mass matrices are rewritten as

$$\mathcal{M}_D = \begin{pmatrix} Y'_e \frac{ab}{c} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & Y'_\mu \frac{ac}{b} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & Y'_\tau \frac{bc}{a} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{M}_N = \begin{pmatrix} M'_{ee} \frac{a^2 b^2}{c^2} & M'_{e\mu} a^2 & M'_{e\tau} b^2 \\ M'_{e\mu} a^2 & 0 & M'_{\mu\tau} c^2 \\ M'_{e\tau} b^2 & M'_{\mu\tau} c^2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (\text{D.8})$$

Parameter	best fit in table 1
$Y'_e/(1 \text{ eV})$	$0.360 - 0.0819 i$
$Y'_\mu/(1 \text{ eV})$	$0.153 + 0.189 i$
$Y'_\tau/(1 \text{ eV})$	$-0.180 - 0.219 i$
$M'_{ee}/(1 \text{ eV})$	$-1.98 + 0.0522 i$
$M'_{e\mu}/(1 \text{ eV})$	1
$M'_{e\tau}/(1 \text{ eV})$	1
$M'_{\mu\tau}/(1 \text{ eV})$	1

Table 2. Model parameters from eq. (D.6). We fix $M'_{e\mu} = M'_{e\tau} = M'_{\mu\tau} = 1 \text{ eV}$ (prime denotes this fixing) by using eq. (D.7).

E Supersymmetric realization of composite ADM

A supersymmetric realization of composite ADM scenario [111, 112] may cause the fast DM decay as in nucleon decay in supersymmetric grand unified theories [178, 179]. Heavy particles in ultraviolet physics induce the intermediate-scale portal operators with the mass dimension-six rather than the mass dimension-seven,

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \int d^2\theta \frac{y_N Y_N Y_{\bar{C}}}{M_C M_R} (\bar{U}' \bar{D}' \bar{D}') (LH) + \text{h.c.} \quad (\text{E.1})$$

The equilibrium condition now reads

$$M_R < M_C \lesssim \frac{100}{x_{B-L}^{3/2}} \left(\frac{m_\nu}{0.1 \text{ eV}} \right)^{1/2} Y_N Y_C M_R. \quad (\text{E.2})$$

The decay rate is given by

$$\Gamma_{\text{DM}} \simeq \frac{L^2}{32\pi} \frac{m_{N'}}{M_*^4} \frac{v_H^2 M_{1/2}^2}{M_S^4} |W|^2, \quad \frac{1}{M_*^2} = \frac{y_N Y_N Y_C}{M_C M_R}. \quad (\text{E.3})$$

M_S and $M_{1/2}$ denote typical mass scales of supersymmetric scalar particles and supersymmetric fermionic particles, respectively. L denotes a typical one-loop factor. The intermediate-scale portal operator eq. (E.1) vanishes when the generation $N'_g = 1$ due to anti-symmetrization over color indices. Hereafter, we assume $N'_g = 2$.

The supersymmetric particles change the relation between the $B - L$ asymmetries in the SM and dark sectors:

$$A_{\text{DM}} = \frac{2N'_g(20N_g + 3m)}{3N_g(13m + 44N_g)} A_{\text{SM}}, \quad (\text{E.4})$$

with the full supersymmetric particles are available. On the other hand, they do not change the relation between the present relation between the B and $B - L$ asymmetries in the SM sector, $A_B = \frac{30}{97} A_{\text{SM}}$, with the decoupling limit of supersymmetric particles and heavy Higgses. As a result, $m_{N'} = 4.3 \text{ GeV}$ for $m = 2$ (MSSM), $N_g = 3$, and $N'_g = 2$.

Figure 13. Constraints on M_R - M_S plane in a supersymmetric realization of composite ADM. The blue-hatched region and the blue-dashed lines are the same as in figure 6. The LSP abundance from the gravitino decay exceeds the observed DM abundance in the meshed-purple region in thermal leptogenesis scenario.

As with non-supersymmetric realization, we also have the Majorana mass term for the dark neutrons in the supersymmetric realization. The corresponding superpotential has the mass dimension seven, and is given by

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{Y_N^2 Y_C^2}{2M_R M_C^2} \int d^2\theta (\bar{U}' \bar{D}' \bar{D}')^2 + \text{h.c.} \quad (\text{E.5})$$

This operator induces the dimension nine operator at the mass scale of supersymmetric particles with two-loop diagrams [180], and gives the Majorana mass term for the dark neutrons. A typical size of the Majorana mass is

$$m_N \simeq \frac{Y_N^2 Y_C^2}{2M_R M_C^2} \frac{L^2 M_{1/2}^2}{M_S^4} \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^6. \quad (\text{E.6})$$

Figure 13 shows the indirect-detection constraints on the M_R - M_S plane from cosmic ray observations. In this figure, we assume that the loop factor is $L = 0.01$, and $M_{1/2} = 10^{-4} M_S$ that is a spectrum motivated by split supersymmetry scenario [181–183]. We show only the constraint from the e^+e^- flux observations in this figure (the blue-hatched region), and we ignore the other bounds from the neutrino signal from the DM decay, the e^+e^- flux from the DM decay, and the γ -ray flux from the ADM annihilation. As we see in figure 6, the γ -ray constraint on the annihilation cross section is comparable with the e^+e^- flux constraint.

In supersymmetric realization, the lightest supersymmetric particle (LSP) can also be stable due to the R -parity. We have the LSPs in each of visible and dark sectors, and then

the heavier state can decay into the lighter one through portal interactions at the late time. The supersymmetric counterpart of the kinetic mixing between the dark photon and SM hypercharge gauge boson leads the prompt decay of the heavier state to the lighter one when the higgsinos are the lightest particles in each of sectors [111]. Here, the higgsino in the visible sector, called visible higgsino, is the supersymmetric partner of the SM Higgs, while the one in the dark sector, called dark higgsino, is that of the $U(1)_{\text{dark}}$ breaking Higgs. Even though the dark higgsino is less constrained than the visible higgsino, the LSP abundance from the gravitino decay would cause the overclosure of the Universe [184, 185]. The purple-meshed region in figure 13 shows the LSP abundance exceeds the observed DM abundance when $T_R \simeq M_R$ and the LSP with a mass of $M_{1/2}$.

The constraints from the LSP abundance may be naturally relaxed in the models with an intermediate-scale dark grand unification: $SU(5)_{\text{SM}} \times SU(4)_{\text{dark}}$ [111] and mirror $SU(5)_{\text{SM}} \times SU(5)_{\text{dark}}$ [112]. They associate an intermediate-scale dark monopole in the $SU(4)_{\text{dark}} \rightarrow SU(3)_{\text{dark}} \times U(1)_{\text{dark}}$ phase transition. Their abundance is determined by the pair-annihilation as [186, 187]¹²

$$\frac{n_m}{s} \sim \frac{1}{B} \frac{2g_D^4}{\pi} \sqrt{\frac{45}{4\pi^3 g_*}} \frac{M_m}{M_{\text{Pl}}} = 6.9 \times 10^{-14} \left(\frac{\alpha_D}{\alpha_{\text{EM}}} \right)^3 \left(\frac{M_m}{10^{10} \text{ GeV}} \right). \quad (\text{E.7})$$

Here we use $g_* = g_{\text{MSSM}} + g_{\text{dark}} + g_{*N}$ and $g_{\text{MSSM}} = 228.75$ (full MSSM multiplets), $g_{\text{dark}} = 131.25$ (2 generations of $U'/\bar{U}'$ and $D'/\bar{D}'$, g' , A' , and $\phi_D/\bar{\phi}_D$ multiplets), and $g_{*N} = 11.25$ (3 generations of N multiplets). M_m denotes the mass of the dark monopole, and M_{Pl} the reduced Planck mass. B is a dimensionless quantity defined by $B = q_*^2 \frac{\zeta(3)}{4\pi^2 g_D^2}$, where $q_*^2 = \frac{91}{3}$ is the summation of the dark charges squared with a weight of 1 (3/4) for bosons (fermions).

The entropy production factor is

$$\frac{S_{\text{after}}}{S_{\text{before}}} = \frac{T_{\text{eq}}}{T_{\text{ann}}} = \left(\frac{g_*(T_{\text{ann}})T_{\text{eq}}^3}{g_*(T_c)T_c^3} \right)^{1/4} \simeq 0.002 \left(\frac{\alpha_D}{\alpha_{\text{EM}}} \right)^{21/8} \left(\frac{1 \text{ GeV}}{m_{A'}} \right)^{3/4} \left(\frac{M_m}{10^{10} \text{ GeV}} \right)^{3/2}. \quad (\text{E.8})$$

Note that this expression is valid only for $S_{\text{after}}/S_{\text{before}} > 1$; otherwise, $S_{\text{after}}/S_{\text{before}} = 1$ (i.e., no entropy production). Here $T_c \sim m_{A'}/g_D$ is the critical temperature of the $U(1)_{\text{dark}}$ phase transition. T_{ann} is the temperature at which monopole annihilates. In the second equality, we take $g_*(T_c) = g_*(T_{\text{ann}})$. T_{eq} is the temperature at which monopole domination begins:

$$T_{\text{eq}} = \frac{4}{3} M_m \frac{n_m}{s}. \quad (\text{E.9})$$

In the above discussion, we assume that the SM and dark sectors are in equilibrium in the course of the monopole domination, while it may not be valid for a tiny kinetic mixing. Monopole annihilation may also produce the LSP [188], while we leave further analysis for a future work.

¹²Note that ref. [187] considers $SO(3) \rightarrow U(1)$ and thus, the monopole charge is $4\pi/g_D$, while in the present case, it is $2\pi/g_D$.

F Direct detection through the magnetic moment of the dark neutron

Similarly to the dark proton scattering with SM nuclei, the dark neutron carries the magnetic moment under $U(1)_{\text{dark}}$:

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{\mu_{n'}}{2} \bar{n}' \sigma^{\mu\nu} n' F_{\mu\nu}^{A'}. \quad (\text{F.1})$$

Here we take the magnetic moment to be $\mu_{n'} = (g_{n'}/2)(e_D/2m_{N'})$ with the g -factors being $g_{n'} = -3.83$ ($g_{p'} = 5.59$ for the dark proton) in analogy to the SM nucleons. The matrix element for the dark neutron-SM proton scattering is

$$\mathcal{M}_{n'} = \frac{\mu_{n'}/e_D}{2m_{N'}} \left[q^2 + 4m_{N'} \mathcal{O}_5^{\text{NR}} + 2g_p \frac{m_{N'}}{m_N} \left(\mathcal{O}_4^{\text{NR}} q^2 - \mathcal{O}_6^{\text{NR}} \right) \right] \mathcal{M}_{p'}, \quad (\text{F.2})$$

where $\mathcal{M}_{p'}$ is the matrix element for the dark proton-SM proton scattering, and

$$\mathcal{O}_4^{\text{NR}} = \vec{s}_{n'} \cdot \vec{s}_p, \quad \mathcal{O}_5^{\text{NR}} = i\vec{s}_{n'} \cdot (\vec{q} \times \vec{v}^\perp), \quad \mathcal{O}_6^{\text{NR}} = (\vec{s}_{n'} \cdot \vec{q})(\vec{s}_p \cdot \vec{q}). \quad (\text{F.3})$$

We refer readers to ref. [189] for exchange of SM massless photon, rather than massive dark photon. $\vec{s}_{p(n')}$ is the spin vector of the SM proton (dark neutron, i.e., DM) and $\vec{v}^\perp = \vec{v} - \vec{q}/(2\mu_N)$. We can further evaluate the matrix element for the dark neutron-target nucleus scattering with the form factors of $F_{i,j}^{N_1 N_2}$ [189, 190], while we leave it for a future work. In orders of magnitude, the direct-detection bounds on ϵ from dark-neutron scattering is weakened by a factor of $1/v^2 \sim 10^6$ compared to the dark proton-target nuclei scattering.

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