

### Looking Under a Better Lamppost:

### **MeV Scale Dark Matter**

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AMEGO Splinter Session AAS 2020

Candidates





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Planck Collaboration, 2013; SubbaRao et al. (2008); J. Primack et al., 2011; NASA, APOD, 2006 August 24, J.A. Tyson et al., Astrophys. J.498: L107, 1998



### Modified Gravity?







Boran et al., PRD 97, 041501 (2018),

#### Gravitons and photons travel in space-time in the same way

\*SN1987a found the same thing for neutrinos and photons



### Dark Matter Candidates

#### Weakly Interacting Massive Particles (WIMPs)

Lower bounds:

~10 GeV if mediated by Weak force (Lee-Weinberg bound) ~few MeV limited # neutrinos - thermal relic (Ho & Scherrer)

Upper bounds:

~I20 TeV (Unitarity bound)

#### Weakly Interacting Sub-eV Particles (WISPs)

Axion-like particles (WISPs) - any U(1) symmetry breaking Bounds: 10<sup>-3</sup> neV to 10<sup>-3</sup> eV (Axions: 10<sup>-5</sup> to 10<sup>-3</sup> eV)



### What do you get from MeV WIMP annihilation?



## How do you observe WISPs in the MeV regime?





- Central radio galaxy of Perseus cluster
- Bright γ-ray emitter
- Central B field of cluster: 25 µG



Taylor et al. 2006



### **Observational Requirements**

Weakly Interacting Massive Particles (WIMPs)

- Wide Field-of-View and Exposure time similar to LAT
- High angular resolution (<3°) at I GeV at Galactic Center

Axion-like and Weakly Interacting Sub-eV Particles (WISPs)

- Energy resolution of <5% from 1-100 MeV
- Wide Field-of-View for transient searches



### **AMEGO** Performance





### WIMP Annihilation Sensitivity



# Axions Produced in Core-Collapse Supernovae

credit: iStock



Produced ~10s with neutrinos Peak ~60 MeV Flux ∝ g<sub>aγ</sub><sup>4</sup>

Playeer ettall, 200157



### But wait, there's more...

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### Probing the Galactic Center







## Probing the Galactic Center



[Lee et al. 2016]

[Fermi-LAT Collaboration 2017]

### **Excess**

Population of point sources: Millisecond pulsars



# Complementarity in the $\gamma$ -ray Sky





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Chou et al. arXiv: 1709.08562



## The Future is bright in the MeV band...



### Complementarity: Direct Detection



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### Complementarity: Fixed-Target





Izaguirre et al. 2015



## The Future is bright in the MeV band...

Well motivated discovery space in direct, collider and indirect dark matter searches for broad range of different dark matter candidates



### Backups

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### Dark Matter Annihilation

### How low (in mass) can you go?

 $\chi \chi \to \gamma \gamma$ : Accessible at all energies  $\chi \chi \to \gamma \pi^0$ : Accessible if  $\sqrt{\text{COM}}$  interaction >  $m_{\pi^0}$   $\chi \chi \to \pi^0 \pi^0$ : Accessible if  $\sqrt{\text{COM}}$  interaction >  $2m_{\pi^0}$   $\chi \chi \to \bar{\ell}\ell$ : Accessible if  $\sqrt{\text{COM}}$  interaction >  $m_\ell$   $\chi \chi \to \phi \phi$  and  $\phi \to e^+e^-$ : Additional mediators, cascade annihilation

### Axions and Axion-like Particles

Convert in Galactic magnetic field (Primakoff effect) Or decay



[Peccei & Quinn 77; Wilczek 78; Weinberg 78; Preskill et al. 83; Abbott & Sikivie 83; Witten 84; e.g. Arvanitaki et al. 09; Cicoli et al. 12; Arias et al. 2012; Raffelt & Stodolsky 1988]

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credit: iStock



### Dark Matter Annihilation Limits from CMB



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### Axion/ALP Dark Matter Sensitivities



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### Indirect Searches: γ-rays

#### **Observed = Particle Properties x** Astrophysics Properties





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### Dark Matter Annihilation Sensitivity





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P8R2\_SOURCE\_V6 acc. weighted PSF 68% containment



RC, et al., PoS (ICRC2017) 783