



# Glue-ball Dark Matter

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25/04/2023

C. Gross, S. Karamitsos, GL, A. Strumia

arxiv [2012.12087]

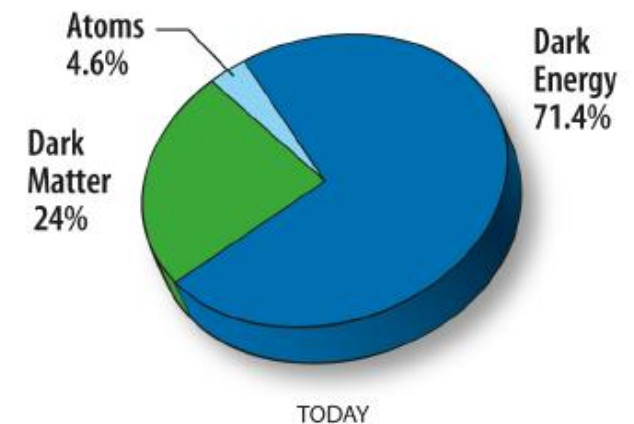
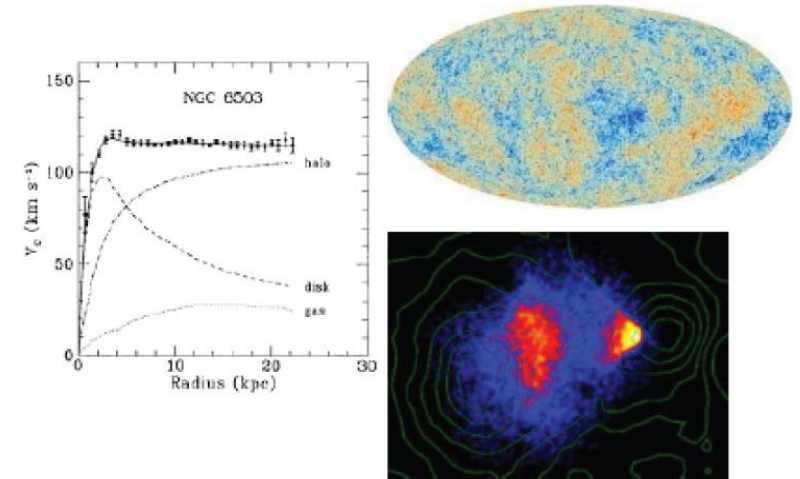


# Dark Matter summary

Dark Matter existence is supported by astrophysical and cosmological evidence

Today most of the Universe is dark

- Neutral and weakly interacting with SM
- **(Cosmologically) stable**
- Cold (non-relativistic at structure formation)



# Gravitational DM

All the evidence for DM comes from its gravitational interactions

No evidence of non-gravitational couplings to the SM sector until now!!

We assume that DM has only gravitational couplings to the SM sector

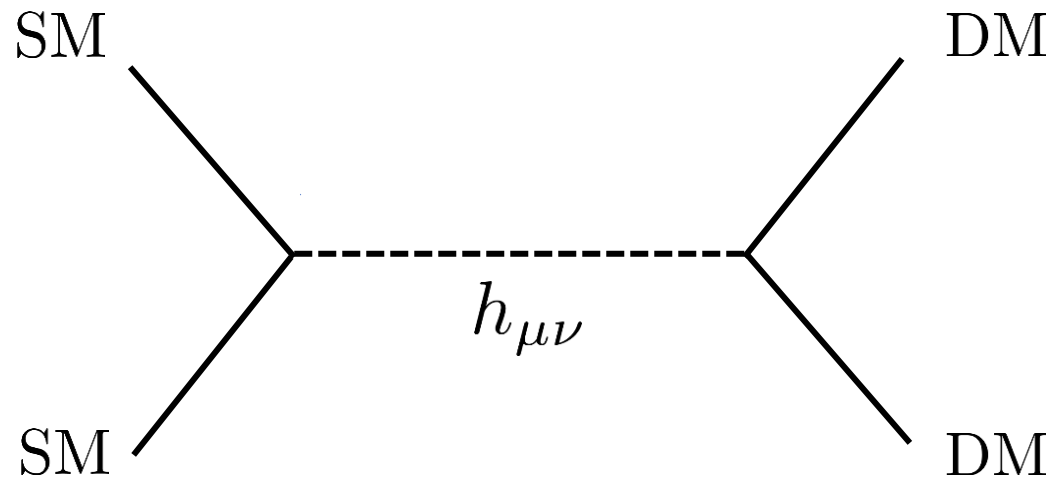
## **Gravitational Dark Matter**

In any case the gravitational production is always present:  
unavoidable background of DM population

# Gravitational freeze-in

We assume that DM has only gravitational couplings to the SM sector

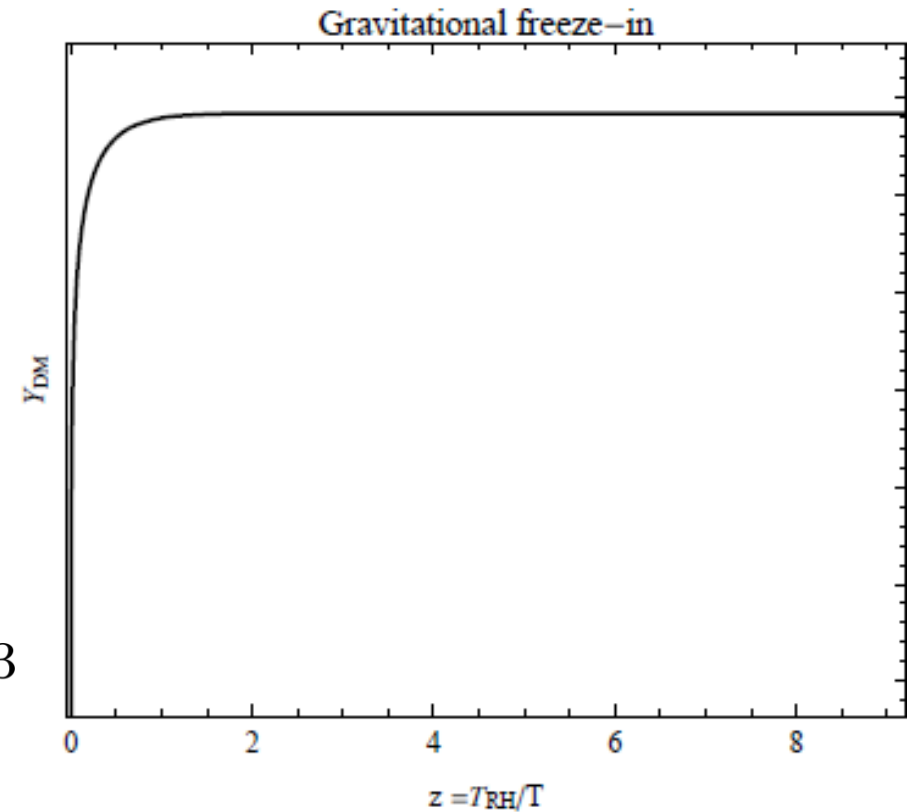
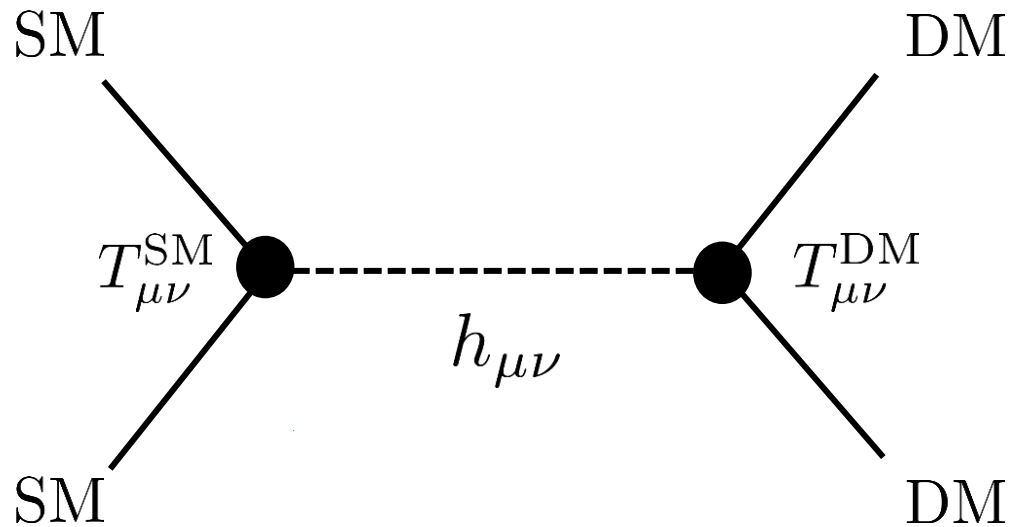
Gravity is weak: DM does not thermalize with the SM thermal bath



We assume a vanishing DM initial abundance

# Gravitational freeze-in

The production is peaked at the highest temperature  $T_{\text{RH}} \equiv \max_{\text{RD}}[T]$

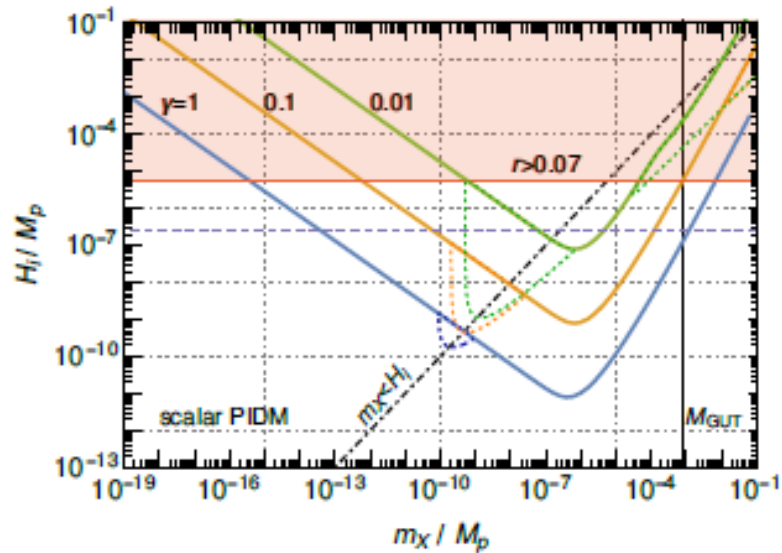


$$Y_{\text{DM}} = n_{\text{DM}}/s \sim (T/M_{\text{Pl}})^3 \sim (T_{\text{RH}}/M_{\text{Pl}})^3$$

$$\frac{\Omega_{\text{DM}} h^2}{0.12} = \frac{m_{\text{DM}} Y_{\text{DM}}}{T_{\text{eq}}} \longrightarrow m_{\text{DM}} \sim 10^8 \text{ GeV} \left( \frac{10^{13} \text{ GeV}}{T_{\text{RH}}} \right)^3$$

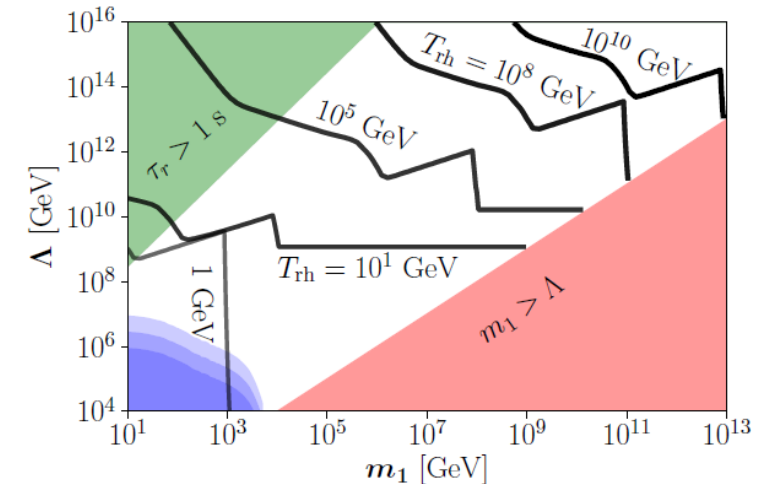
# Gravitational freeze-in: status

Gravitational freeze-in has been studied for scalar, fermion and massive vector DM



Garny, Palessandro, Sandora, Sloth, JCAP 02 [1709.09688]  
 Tang, Wu, Phys.Lett.B 774 [1708.05138]

Bernal, Donini, Folgado, Rius, JHEP 09 [2004.14403]



# Gravitational freeze-in: status

Gravitational freeze-in has been studied for scalar, fermion and massive vector DM

Scalar and fermion DM have renormalizable couplings

$$|S|^2|H|^2, S|H|^2 \qquad LHN$$



Larger contribution to DM production or fine-tuned couplings

A massive vector alone is not a complete theory (extra states and interactions, most likely stronger than gravity)

# Gravitational freeze-in: status

A pure gauge theory (= massless vector) does not suffer from these issues



# The model

- (i) a non-Abelian dark gauge group  $\mathbf{G}$  (SU(N), SO(N), Sp(N),...)
- (ii) gauge vectors (gluons)
- (iii) no additional matter content (no scalars, no fermions)

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{\mu\nu a} + \theta_{\text{DC}} \frac{g_{\text{DC}}^2}{32\pi^2} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu a}$$

UV-complete

Minimal

No renormalizable coupling  
with the Standard Model

No fine-tuning

# The model

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Simplest realization of Gravitational Dark Matter\*

\*also studied in Redi, Tesi, Tillim, JHEP 05 [2011.10565]

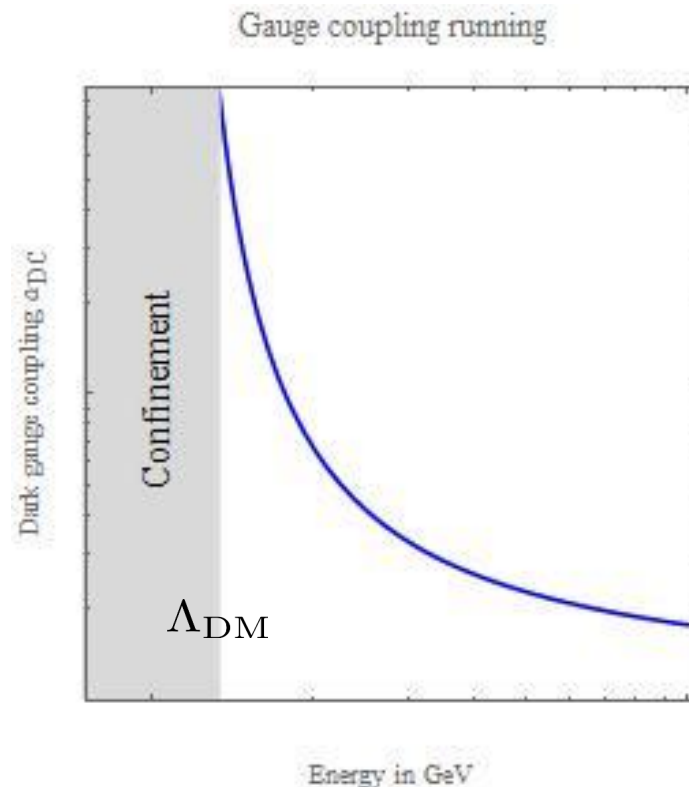
# Gauge confinement

The dark gauge coupling grows at low energy and the theory confines

$$\alpha_{\text{DC}}(\mu) \approx \frac{6\pi}{11C_G} \frac{1}{\ln \mu/\Lambda_{\text{DM}}}$$

$$C_G = N \quad SU(N)$$

$$C_G = 2(N - 2) \quad SO(N)$$

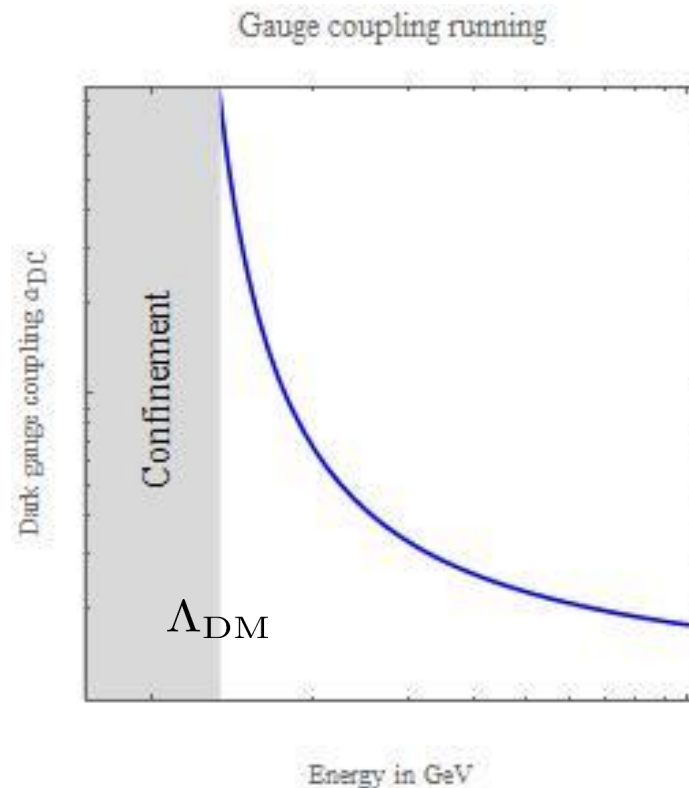


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**Fundamental energy scale of the theory**

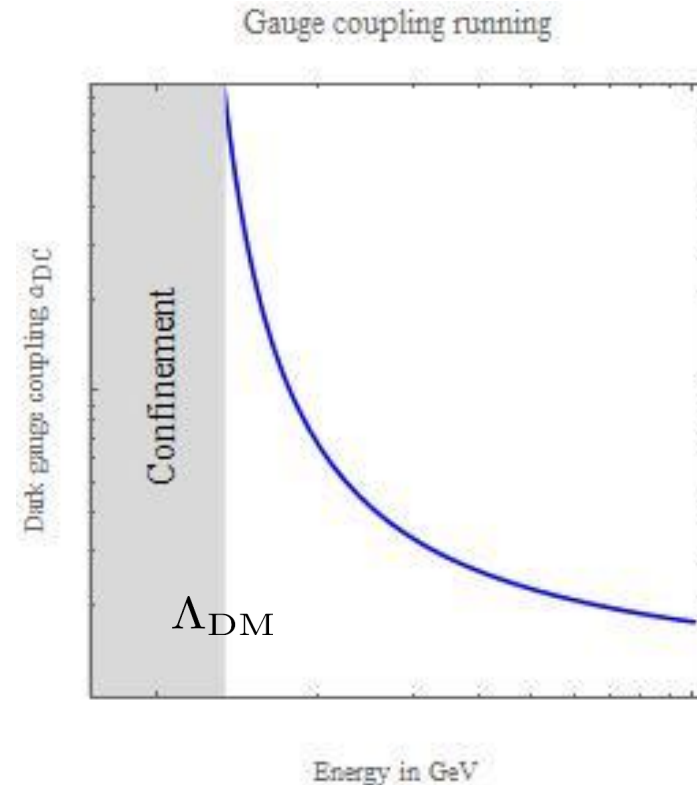


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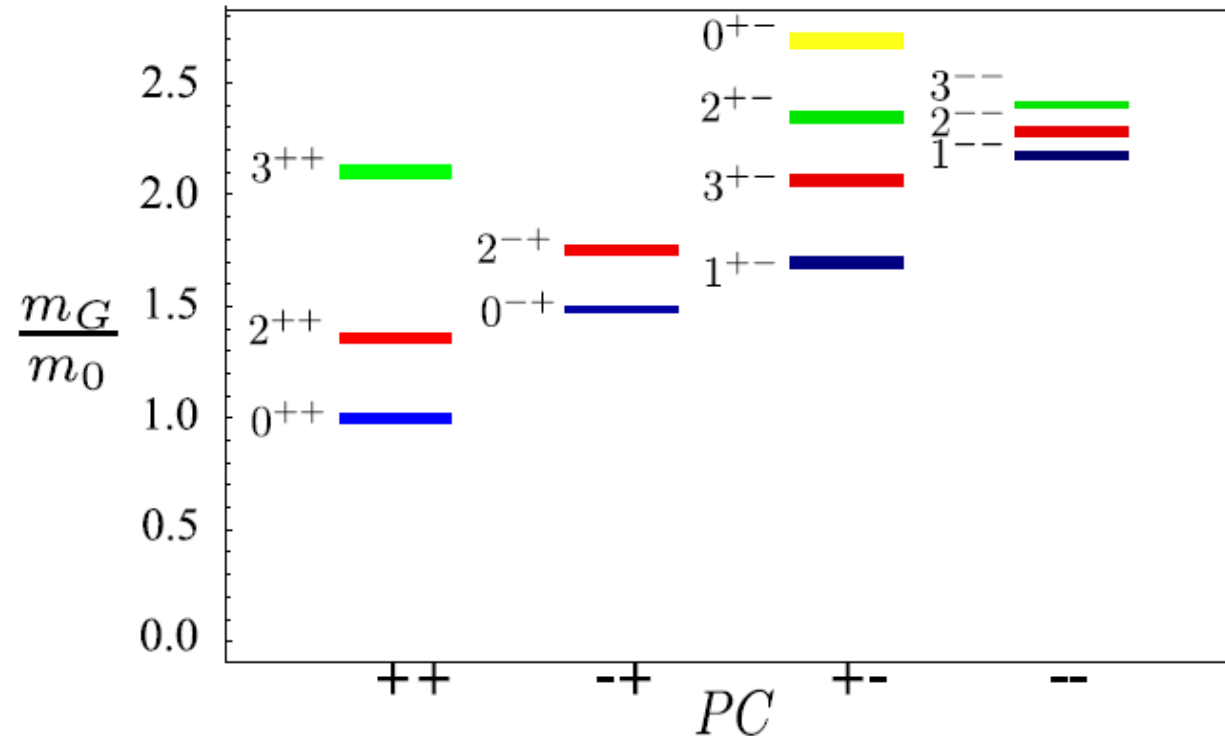
The dark vectors must combine into *gauge-invariant bound states*:  
***dark glue-balls!***

# Glue-ball bound states

Glue-ball spectrum can be computed on the lattice for simple groups

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Example:  
SU(3)

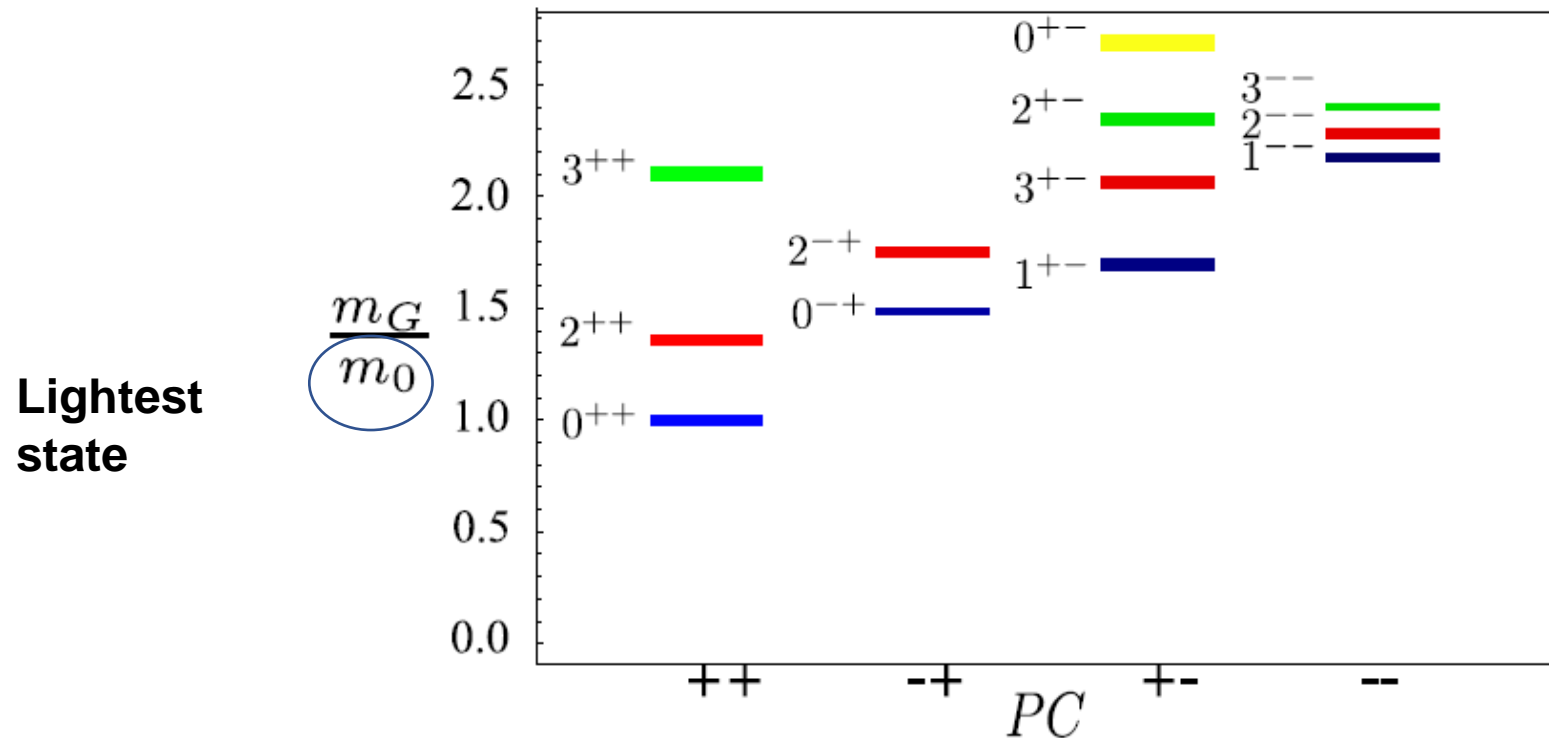
Juknevich, Melnikov, Strassler JHEP 07  
[0903.0883]

Juknevich JHEP 08 [0911.5616]

Morningstar, Peardon Phys.Rev.D60  
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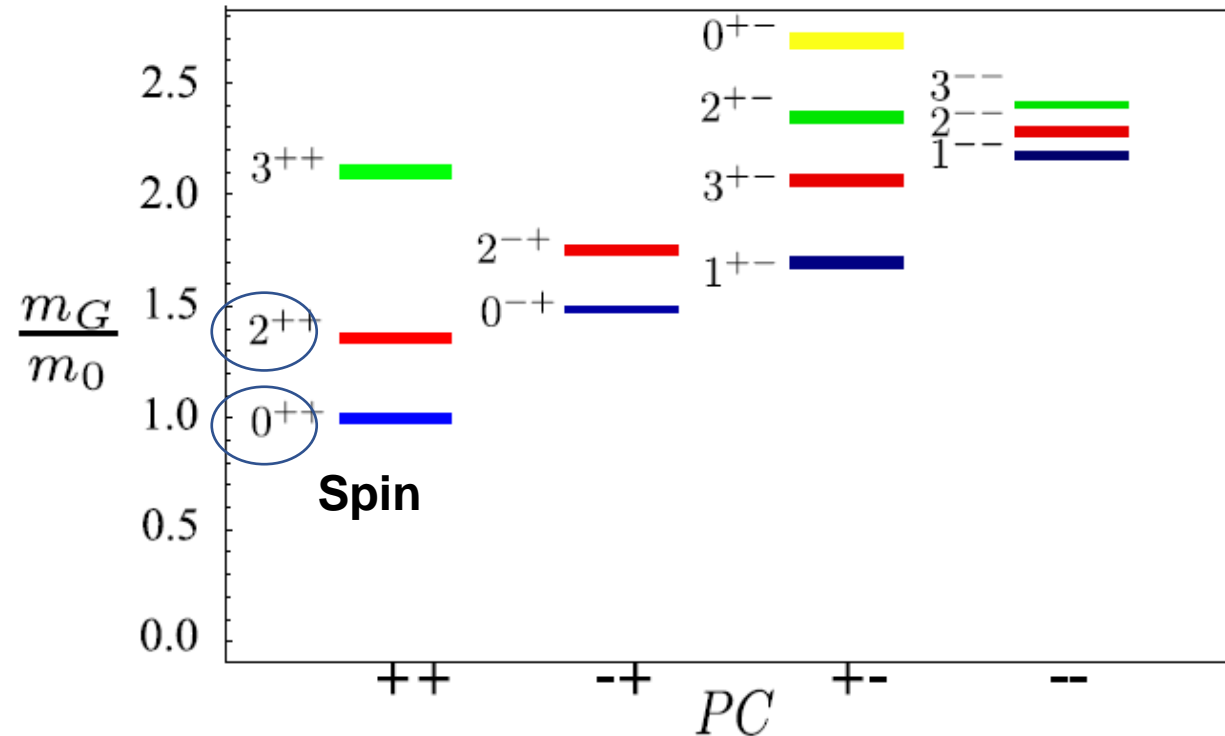
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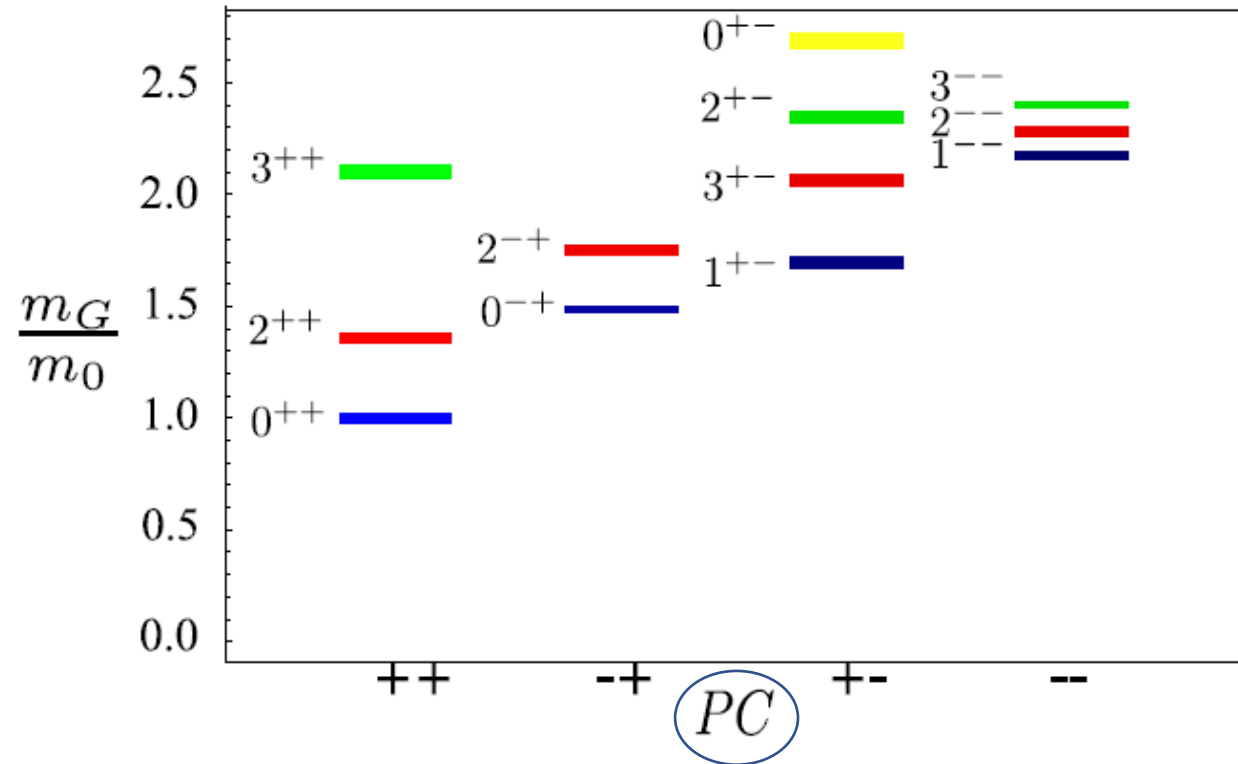
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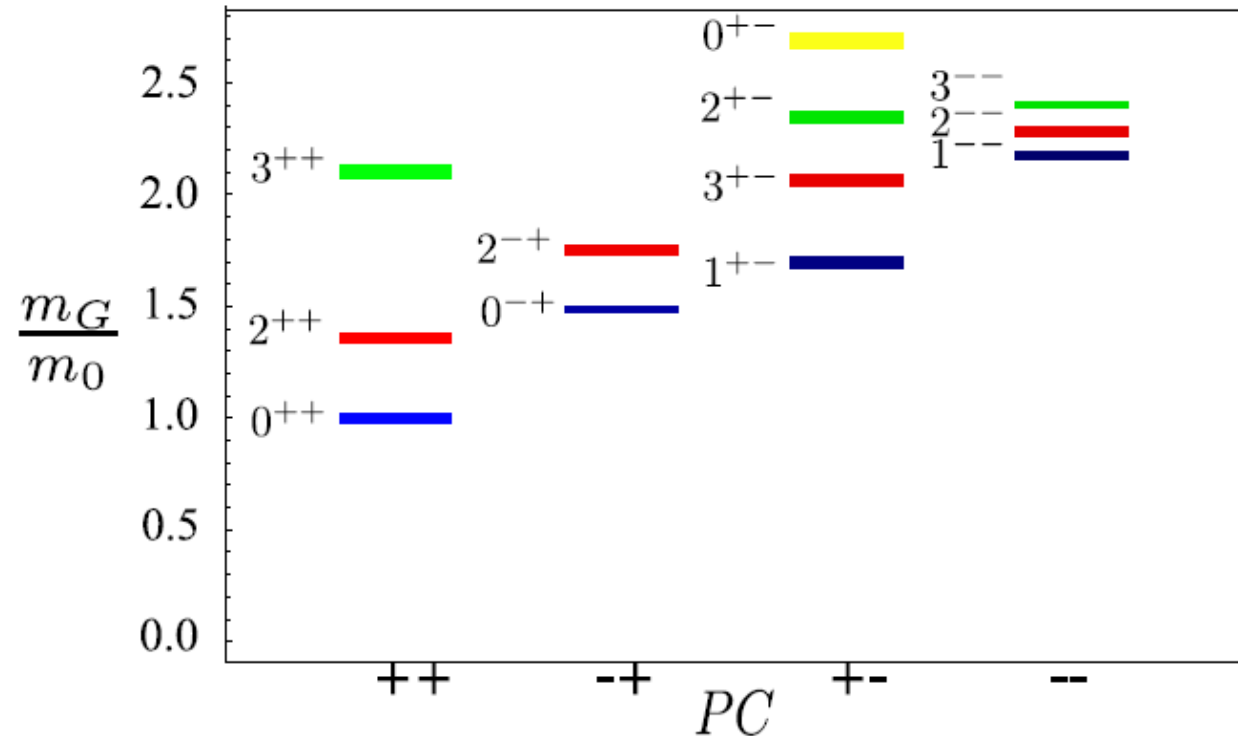
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Transformation properties under P  
and C

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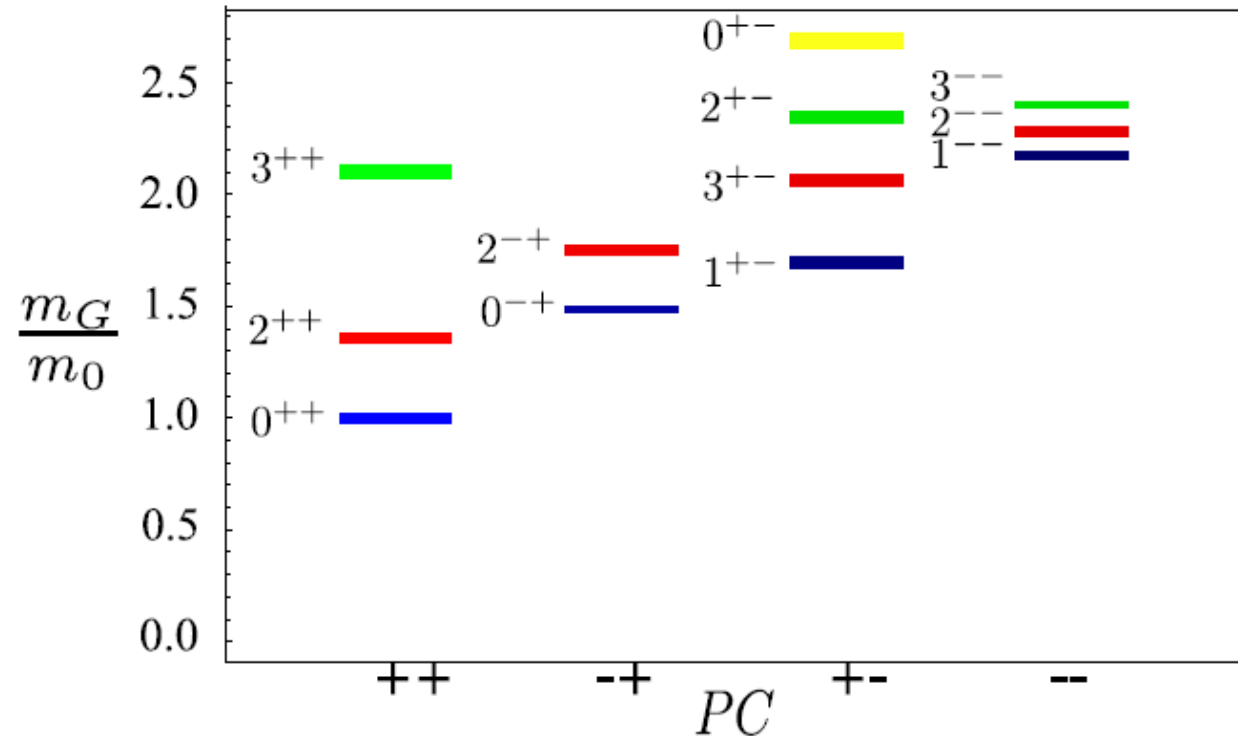
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How do we build glue-ball states?

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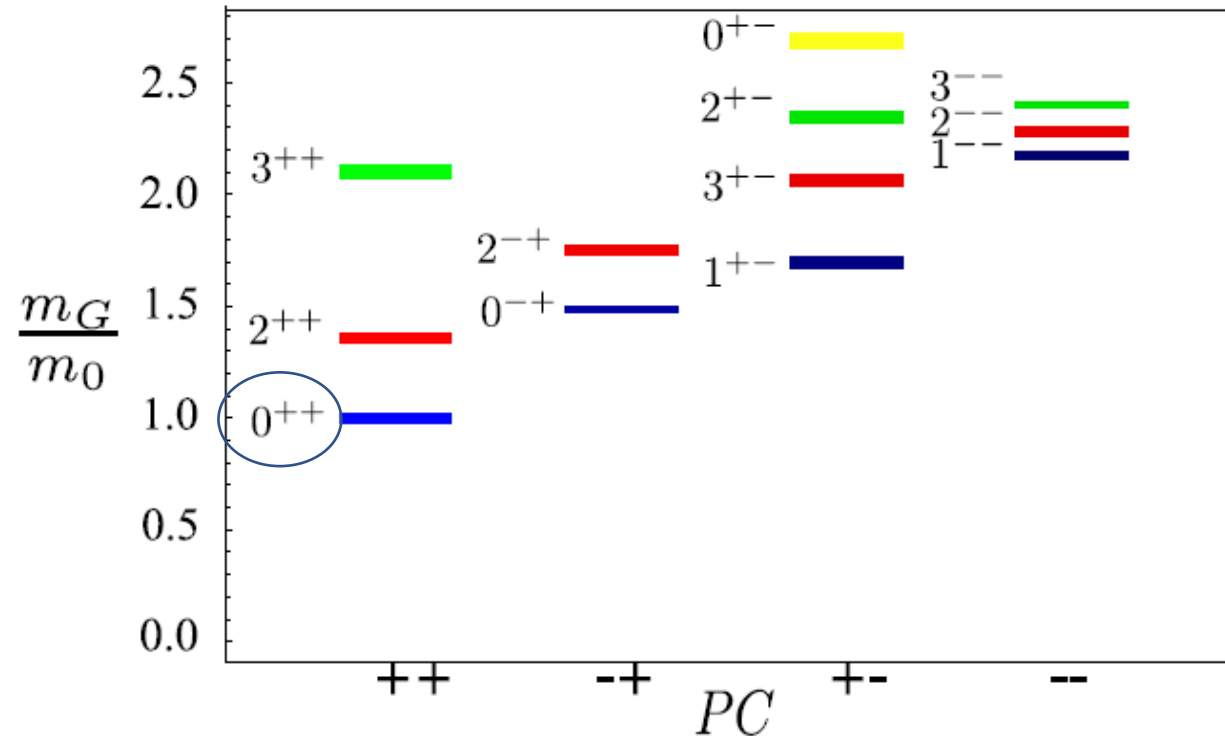
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How do we build glue-ball states?

We build them applying interpolating operators on the vacuum

# Glue-ball bound states

The lightest state  $0^{++}$



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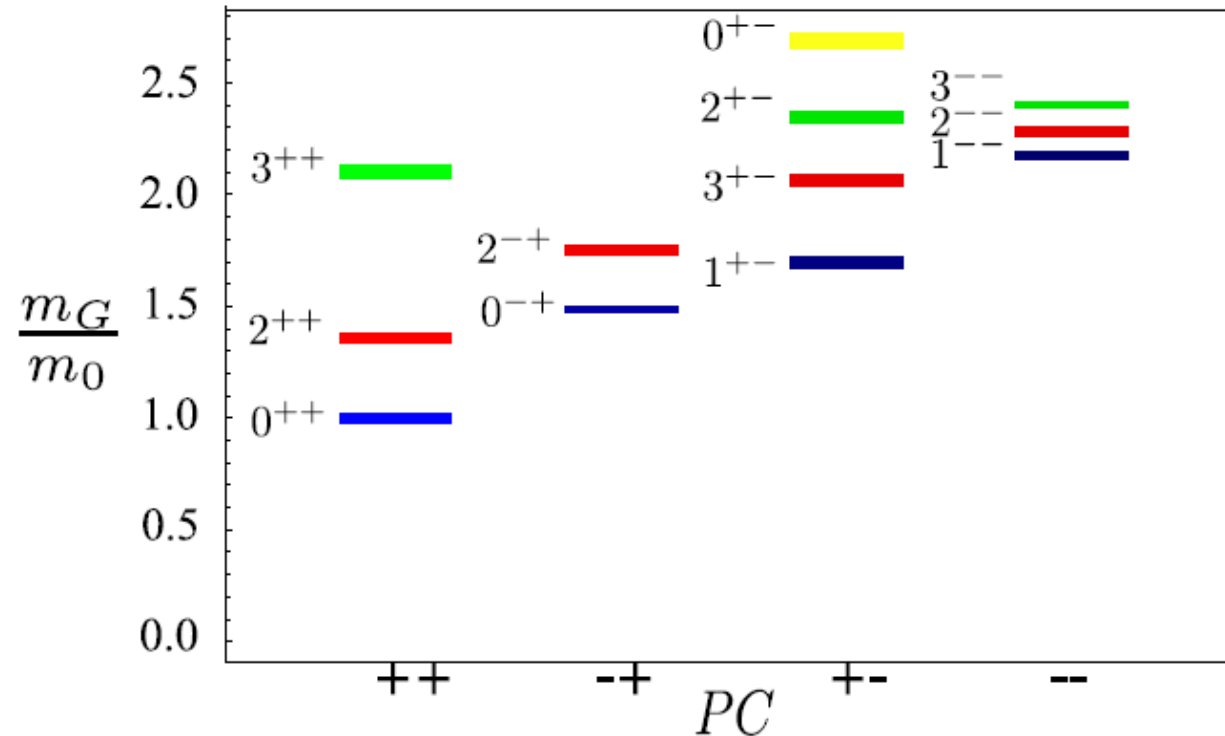
Gauge - invariant

Spin 0

CP even

# Glue-ball bound states

The lightest state  $0^{++}$



Example:  
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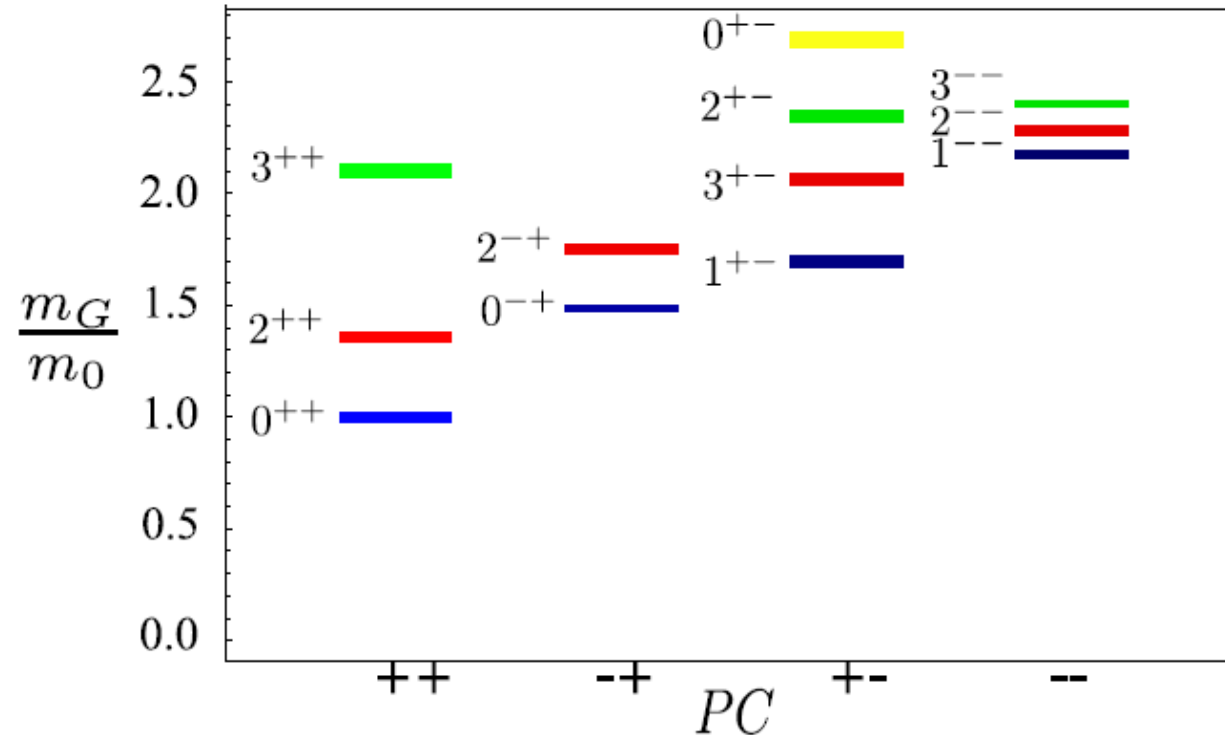
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$$\mathcal{S} = \text{Tr}[G_{\mu\nu}G^{\mu\nu}] \quad \langle 0^{++} | \mathcal{S} | \text{vac} \rangle = F_S$$

# Glue-ball bound states



Example:  
SU(3)

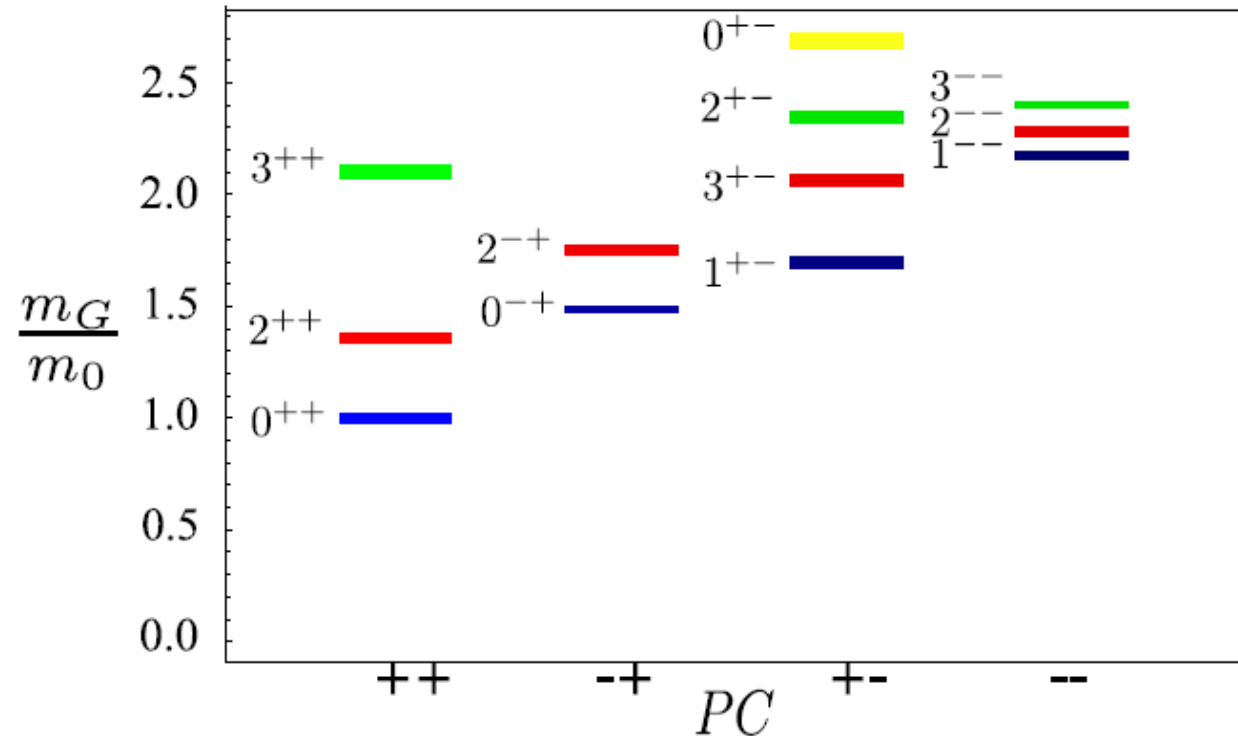
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How to extract the mass?

# Glue-ball bound states



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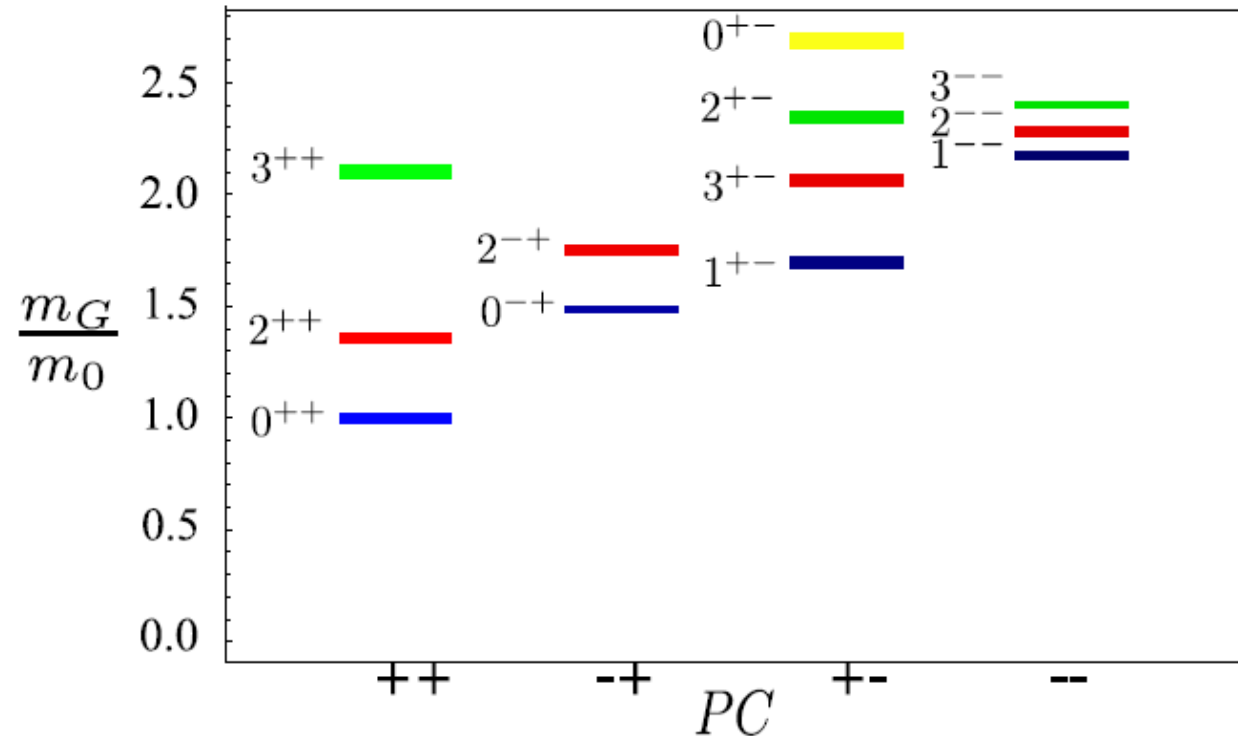
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[9901004]

$$C(t) = \langle 0 | \mathcal{S}(t) \mathcal{S}(0) | 0 \rangle$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} C(t) = Z e^{-m_{0^{++}} t}$$



# Glue-ball bound states



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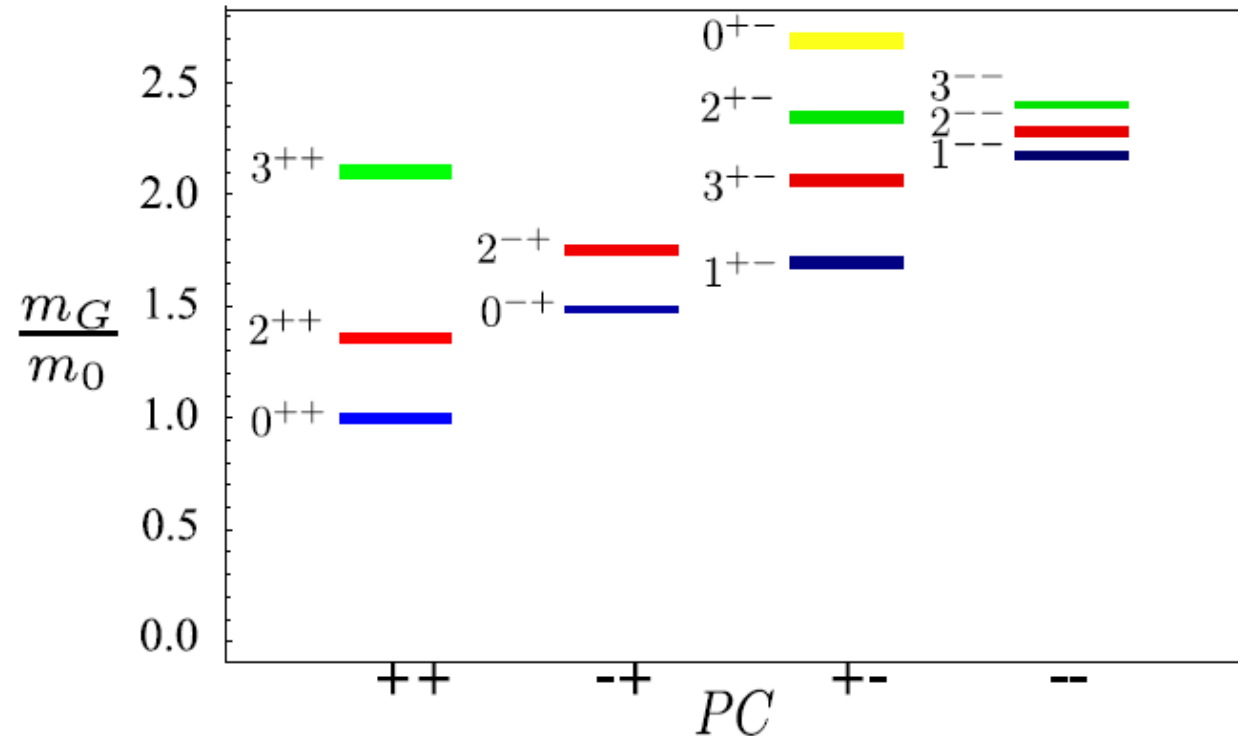
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Energy of the lightest state that can be created by  $\mathcal{S}$

# Glue-ball bound states



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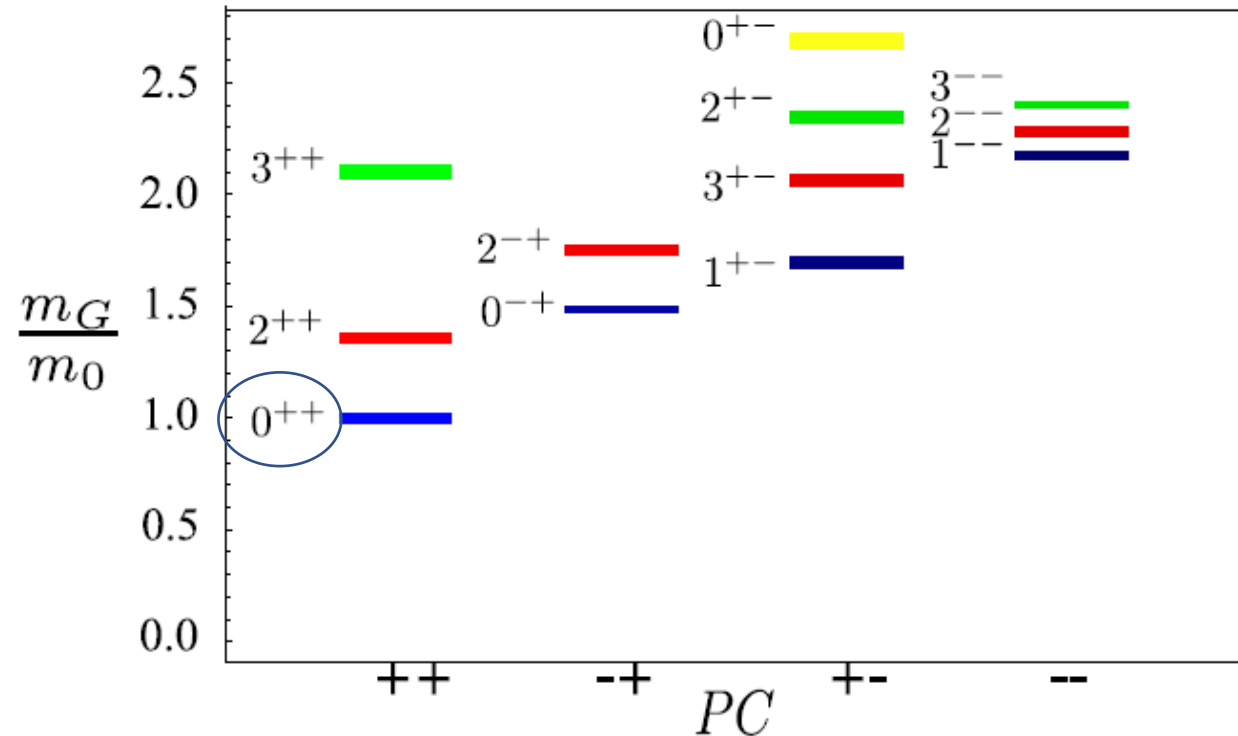
$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} C(t) = Z e^{-m_{0^{++}} t}$$

$$m_{0^{++}} = \mathcal{O}(1) \times \Lambda_{\text{DM}}$$

Operator $\mathcal{O}_v^\xi$	$J^{PC}$
$S = \text{tr } \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu} \mathcal{F}^{\mu\nu}$	$0^{++}$
$P = \text{tr } \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu} \tilde{\mathcal{F}}^{\mu\nu}$	$0^{-+}$
$T_{\alpha\beta} = \text{tr } \mathcal{F}_{\alpha\lambda} \mathcal{F}_\beta^\lambda - \frac{1}{4} g_{\alpha\beta} S$	$2^{++}, 1^{-+}, 0^{++}$
$L_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} = \text{tr } \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu} \mathcal{F}_{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{2} (g_{\mu\alpha} T_{\nu\beta} + g_{\nu\beta} T_{\mu\alpha} - g_{\mu\beta} T_{\nu\alpha} - g_{\nu\alpha} T_{\mu\beta})$ $- \frac{1}{12} (g_{\mu\alpha} g_{\nu\beta} - g_{\mu\beta} g_{\nu\alpha}) S + \frac{1}{12} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} P$	$2^{++}, 2^{-+}$

See Juknevich, Melnikov, Strassler JHEP 07 [0903.0883]

# Glue-ball bound states



Example:  
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Juknevich JHEP 08 [0911.5616]

Morningstar, Peardon Phys.Rev.D60 [9901004]

**The lightest glue-ball is stable**

Depending on mass and quantum numbers extra states could be stable

# Switching on gravity

We expand the metric around flat space-time

$$\int d^4x \sqrt{|\det g|} \mathcal{L}$$

$$g_{\mu\nu}(x) = \eta_{\mu\nu} + 2h_{\mu\nu}(x)/M_{\text{Pl}}$$

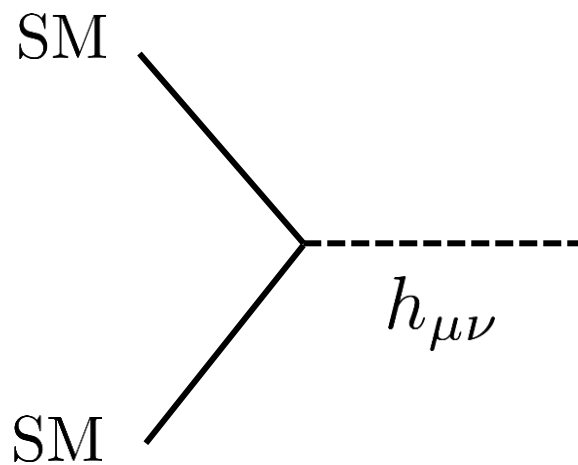
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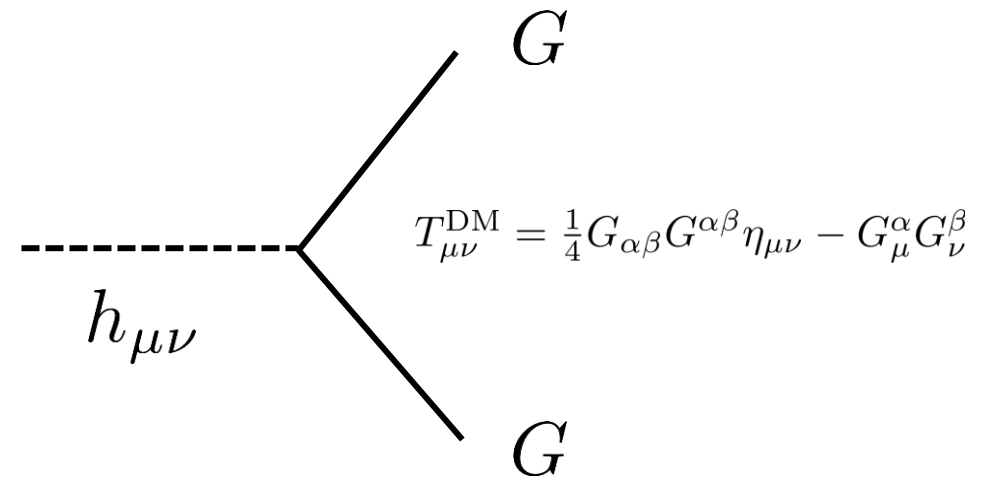
$$\int d^4x \sqrt{|\det g|} \mathcal{L}$$

$$g_{\mu\nu}(x) = \eta_{\mu\nu} + 2h_{\mu\nu}(x)/M_{\text{Pl}}$$

This induces gravitational interactions in the dark sector



$$\frac{h_{\mu\nu}}{M_{\text{Pl}}} (T_{\text{DM}}^{\mu\nu} + T_{\text{SM}}^{\mu\nu})$$



$$T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{DM}} = \frac{1}{4} G_{\alpha\beta} G^{\alpha\beta} \eta_{\mu\nu} - G_{\mu}^{\alpha} G_{\nu}^{\beta}$$

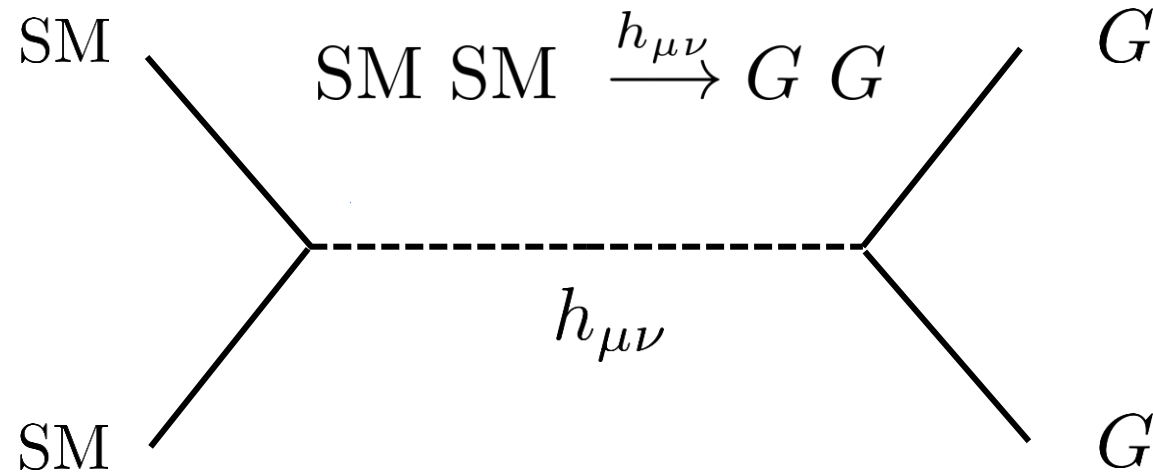
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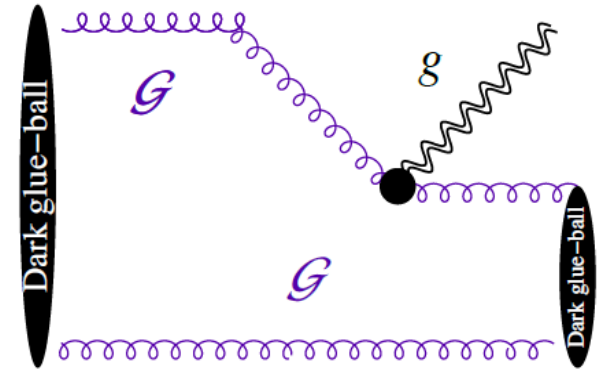
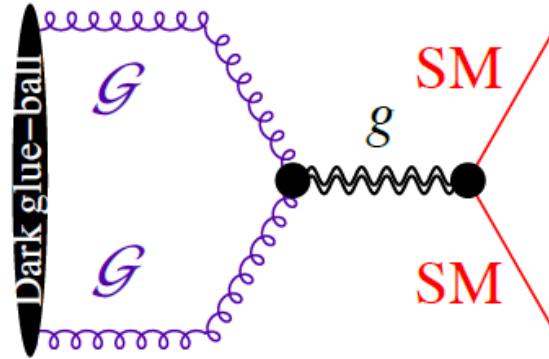
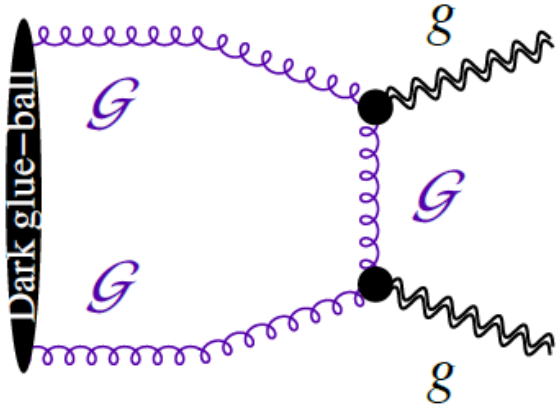
$$g_{\mu\nu}(x) = \eta_{\mu\nu} + 2h_{\mu\nu}(x)/M_{\text{Pl}}$$

Gravity is a portal between the dark sector and the SM!



# Gravitational decays of the Glue-balls

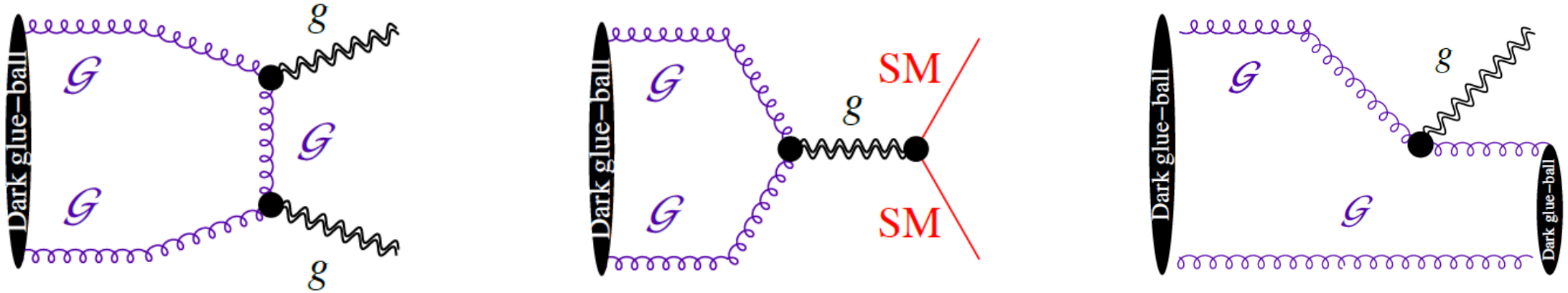
Glue-balls can decay gravitationally





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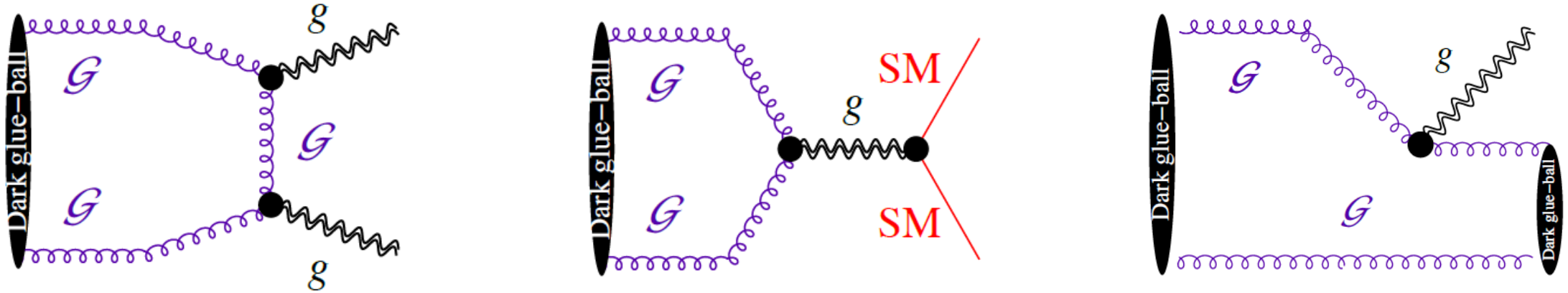
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$$\Gamma_{\text{DG}} \equiv \tau_{\text{DG}}^{-1} \sim M_{\text{DG}}^5 / M_{\text{Pl}}^4 \sim \Lambda_{\text{DM}}^5 / M_{\text{Pl}}^4$$

# Gravitational decays of the Glue-balls

Glue-balls can decay gravitationally



$$\Gamma_{\text{DG}} \equiv \tau_{\text{DG}}^{-1} \sim M_{\text{DG}}^5 / M_{\text{Pl}}^4 \sim \Lambda_{\text{DM}}^5 / M_{\text{Pl}}^4$$

The lightest(s) is (are) cosmologically stable if  $M_{\text{DG}} \leq 100 \text{ TeV}$

$$\rightarrow \tau \geq 10^{26} \text{ sec}$$

$\rightarrow$  Contribute to **Glue-ball DM** in that regime

# (Discrete) Accidental Symmetries

Gauge-invariance provides *accidental* global symmetries  
respected by gravitational interactions!

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$\mathbf{G} = \text{SU}(N)$   $\longrightarrow$  dark charge conjugation  $\mathbf{C}$

$$G = G^a T^a \rightarrow -G^*$$
$$T^a = \{T_I, T_R\}$$
$$\begin{cases} G_I \rightarrow G_I \\ G_R \rightarrow -G_R \end{cases}$$

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$$\text{Tr}(G\{G, G\}) \equiv \text{Tr}G_{\mu\mu'}\{G_{\nu\nu'}, G_{\rho\rho'}\} \propto d^{abc}G_{\mu\mu'}^a G_{\nu\nu'}^b G_{\rho\rho'}^c \quad \text{is C-odd}$$

$d^{RRR}, d^{RII} \neq 0$

The lightest C-odd state is gravitationally stable

# (Discrete) Accidental Symmetries

Gauge-invariance provides *accidental global symmetries respected by gravitational interactions!*

**G = SO(N)            group parity O**

$$G_{ij} = G^a T_{ij}^a \rightarrow (-1)^{\delta_{1i} + \delta_{1j}} G_{ij}$$

Adjoint = Antisymmetric

Reflection in group space along arbitrary direction

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Gauge-invariance provides *accidental global symmetries respected by gravitational interactions!*

$\mathbf{G} = \text{SO}(N)$   $\longrightarrow$  **group parity 0**

$$G_{ij} = G^a T_{ij}^a \rightarrow (-1)^{\delta_{1i} + \delta_{1j}} G_{ij}$$

Adjoint = Antisymmetric

Reflection in group space along arbitrary direction

$$\begin{cases} G_{11} \rightarrow G_{11} \\ G_{1j} \rightarrow -G_{1j} \\ G_{ij} \rightarrow G_{ij} \end{cases}$$

# (Discrete) Accidental Symmetries

Gauge-invariance provides *accidental global symmetries* respected by gravitational interactions!

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We can build glue-ball states odd under O-parity

$$\epsilon_N G^{N/2} = \epsilon_{i_1 \dots i_N} G_{i_1 i_2} \cdots G_{i_{N-1} i_N} \quad M_{\text{OB}} \underset{\text{guess}}{\sim} N \Lambda_{\text{DM}} / 2$$

The lightest O-odd state (*odd-ball*) is gravitationally stable



# (Discrete) Accidental Symmetries

So, given the theory

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{\mu\nu a} + \text{Gravity} + \text{SM}$$

The lightest(s) «*ordinary*» *even* glue-ball(s) is (are) cosmologically stable  
if  $M_{\text{DG}} \leq 100 \text{ TeV}$  is satisfied

The C-odd glue-ball(s) of SU(N) or the odd-balls of SO(N) are stable

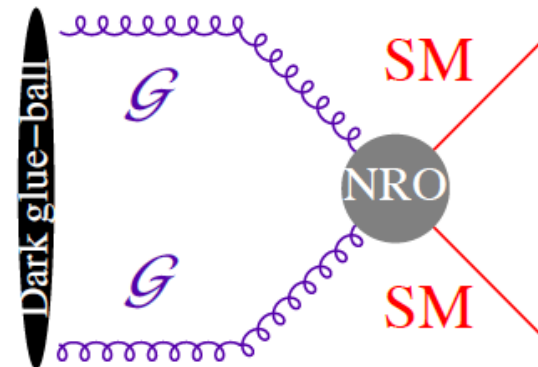
# Decays through NRO

Generic (gauge-invariant) Planck-suppressed Non-Renormalizable Operators might be present as a remnant of quantum gravity

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{\mu\nu a} + \text{Gravity} + \text{SM} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{NRO}}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NRO}} = \frac{\mathcal{O}^{4+n}}{M_{\text{Pl}}^n}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{decay}} = \mathcal{O}_{\text{SM}}\mathcal{O}_{\text{DM}}$$



# Decays through NRO

Generic (gauge-invariant) Planck-suppressed Non-Renormalizable Operators might be present as a remnant of quantum gravity

The C-odd states of SU(N) can decay to SM through dim-8 operators

$$Tr(G\{G, G\})|H|^2/M_{\text{Pl}}^4, Tr(G\{G, G\})_{\mu\nu}B^{\mu\nu}/M_{\text{Pl}}^4$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{C-odd}} \sim \Lambda_{\text{DM}}^9/M_{\text{Pl}}^8$$

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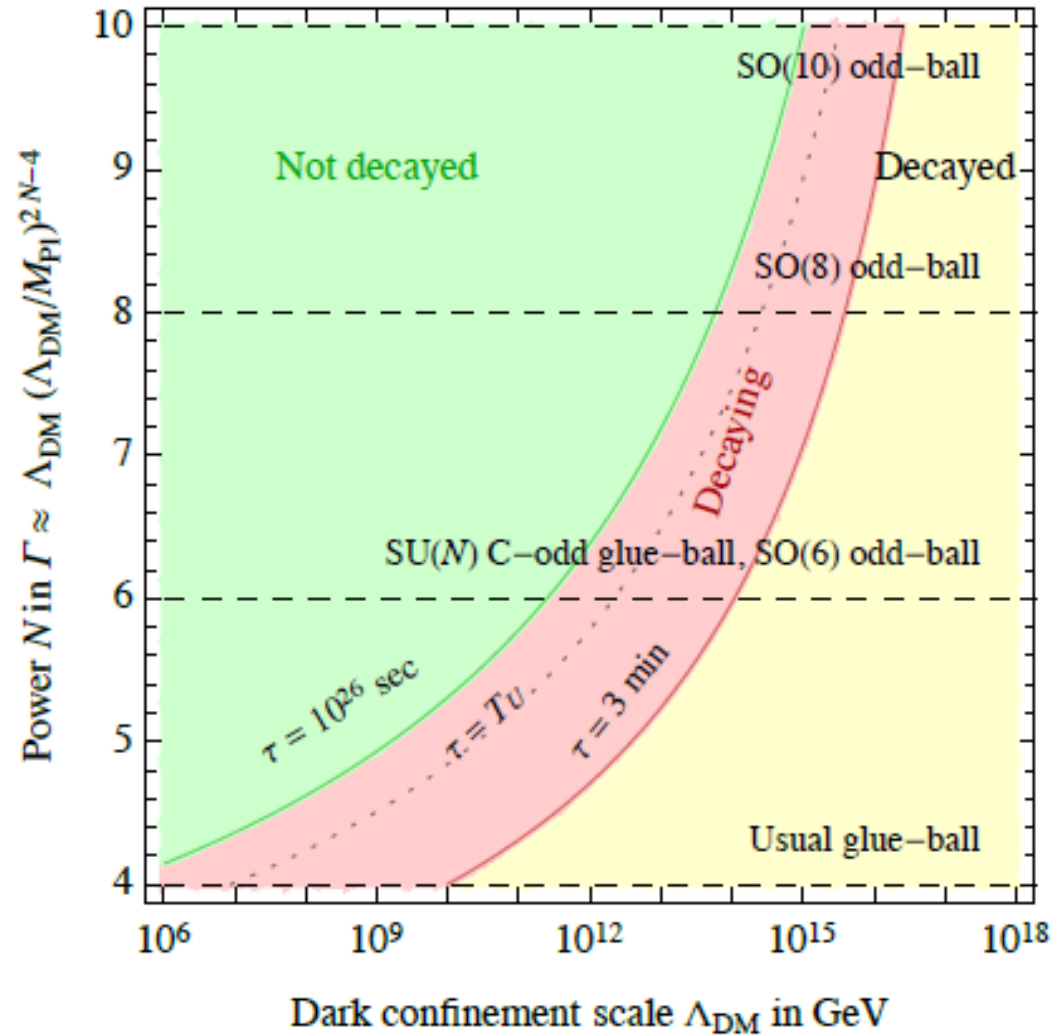
The odd-balls of SO(N) can decay through dim-(N+2) operator

$$\mathcal{O}_{N+2} \sim \epsilon_N G^{N/2} |H|^2 / M_{\text{Pl}}^{N-2}$$

$$\Gamma_{OB} \sim M_{OB} (M_{OB}/M_{\text{Pl}})^{2N-4}$$

$$M_{OB} \sim N \Lambda_{\text{DM}}/2$$

# Decays through NRO



# (Cosmologically) Stable Glue-balls

«**Ordinary**» even glueballs **decay gravitationally**

They are cosmologically stable if **mass < 100 TeV**

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*Ordinary* «even» glueballs decay gravitationally  
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SU(N) has **C- odd** glue-balls  
They are **gravitationally stable**  
They are cosmologically **stable up to  $10^{11}$  GeV** in presence of NRO

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They are cosmologically stable up to  $10^{11}$  GeV in presence of NRO

SO(N) has **odd-balls** (odd under O-parity)  
They are **gravitationally stable**  
They are cosmologically stable **up to very large masses** for large N



# Example: SO(10) gauge theory

Ordinary «even» glue-balls are cosmologically stable if

$$\tau_{\text{DG}} \sim \left( \frac{M_{\text{DG}}^5}{M_{\text{Pl}}^4} \right)^{-1} > 10^{26} \text{sec} \rightarrow M_{\text{DG}} \sim \underline{\Lambda_{\text{DM}} < 100 \text{ TeV}}$$

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Odd-balls are cosmologically stable (in presence of NRO) if

$$\tau_{\text{OB}} \sim \left( \frac{M_{\text{OB}}^{17}}{M_{\text{Pl}}^{16}} \right)^{-1} > 10^{26} \text{ sec} \rightarrow M_{\text{OB}} \sim \underline{5\Lambda_{\text{DM}}} < 10^{15} \text{ GeV}$$

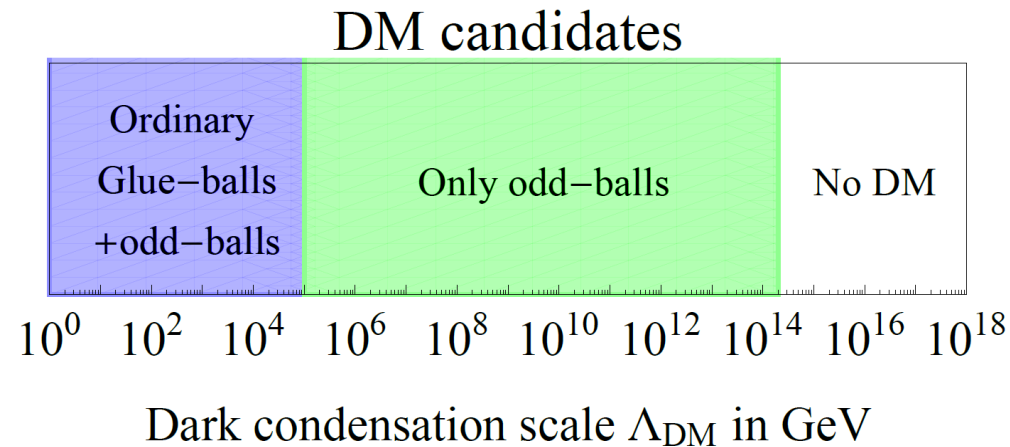
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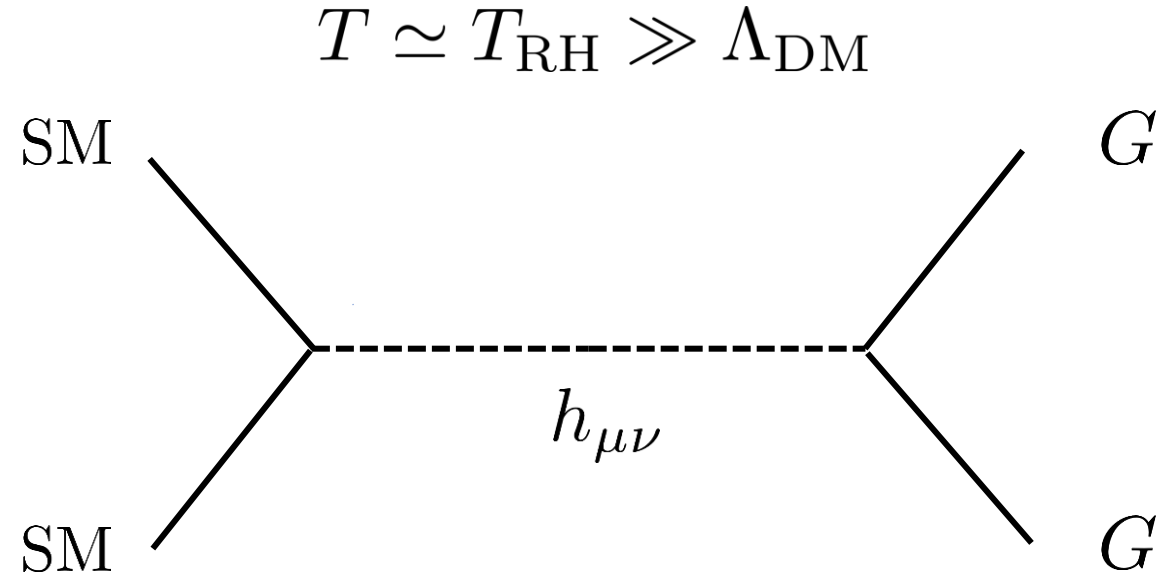
# Dark Matter production and evolution

We study gravitational freeze-in within our model

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{\mu\nu a} + \text{Gravity} + \text{SM} (+\mathcal{L}_{\text{NRO}})$$

# Dark Matter production

Gravitational freeze-in production of massless gauge vectors



$$Y_G = Y_{\text{FI}} \simeq 7.4 \times 10^{-5} d_G \left( \frac{T_{\text{RH}}}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^3$$

$$d_G = \begin{cases} N^2 - 1 & \text{if } G = SU(N) \\ N(N - 1)/2 & \text{if } G = SO(N) \end{cases}$$

# Dark Matter cosmological evolution

How do the gauge vectors evolve after production?

$$T < T_{\text{RH}}$$

Depending on  $\Lambda_{\text{DM}}$  they can self-thermalize ( $\rightarrow T_D$ )

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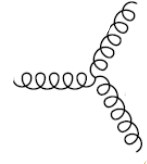
→ Massive Glue-balls →

**The (cosmologically) stable glue-balls contribute(s) to DM**

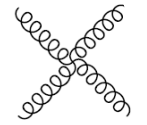
# Self-thermalization of vectors

Dark gauge vectors have self-interactions

$$(\partial G)GG$$



$$G^4$$



If self-interactions are fast enough gauge vectors self-thermalize

$$\Gamma_{\text{int}} = n_G \sigma_{\text{int}} > H \Big|_{T=T_{\text{therm}}}$$

Hubble expansion rate  $H \propto T^2/M_{\text{Pl}}$

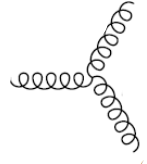
Number-changing processes

$$\sigma_{2 \rightarrow 3} \sim g_{\text{DC}}^6/T^2$$

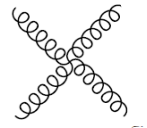
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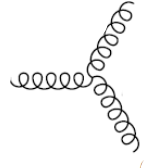
$$\Gamma_{\text{int}} = n_G \sigma_{\text{int}} > H|_{T=T_{\text{therm}}}$$

Determine this temperature

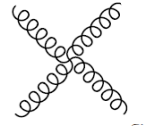
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Radiation scaling with the scale factor

$$\rho_D, \rho_{SM} \sim a^{-4}$$

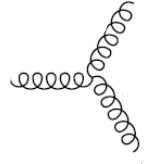
$$\left( \frac{\rho_D}{\rho_{SM}} \right) \Big|_{\text{prod}} = \frac{\rho_D}{\rho_{SM}} \Big|_{\text{therm}}$$

$$\frac{T_{RH}^4 Y_{FI}}{T_{RH}^4}$$

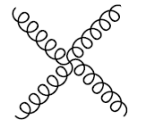
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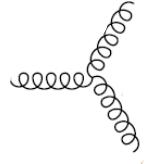
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$$\frac{\rho_D}{\rho_{SM}} \Big|_{\text{prod}} = \frac{\rho_D}{\rho_{SM}} \Big|_{\text{therm}} \left(\frac{T_D}{T}\right)^4$$

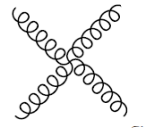
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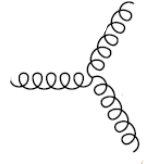
$$\frac{T_D}{T_{\text{SM}}} \sim \left( \frac{T_{\text{RH}}}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^{3/4} \ll 1$$

This is a viable mechanism to produce a (very) *cold dark sector!!*

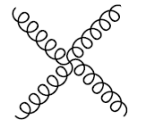
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Determine this temperature

$$T_D^{\text{therm}}$$

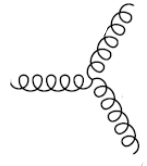
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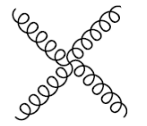
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Requiring  $T_D^{\text{therm}} > \Lambda_{\text{DM}} \longrightarrow \Lambda_{\text{DM}} < M_{\text{Pl}}(T_{\text{RH}}/M_{\text{Pl}})^{15/4}$



# Thermal Glue-ball DM

Dark vectors self-interactions lead to thermal abundance

$$n_{\text{therm}} \propto T_D^3 \quad \longrightarrow \quad Y_{\text{therm}} \sim \left( \frac{T_D}{T_{\text{SM}}} \right)^3 = \left( \frac{T_{\text{RH}}}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^{9/4}$$

Confinement  $T_D = \Lambda_{\text{DM}}$

Glue-balls form and preserves the thermal abundance\*

$$Y_{\text{DM}} \sim \kappa \left( \frac{T_{\text{RH}}}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^{9/4}$$

└ energy fraction of vectors which ends up in stable glue-balls

\*neglecting logarithmic corrections (cannibal 3to2 interactions)

# Self-thermalization of Glue-balls

If  $\Lambda_{\text{DC}} > M_{\text{Pl}}(T_{\text{RH}}/M_{\text{Pl}})^{15/4}$   $\longrightarrow$  confinement before vector thermalization

$\downarrow$

$$n_G = \Lambda_{\text{DM}}^3 \longrightarrow T_\Lambda = \Lambda_{\text{DM}}(M_{\text{Pl}}/T_{\text{RH}}) \gg \Lambda_{\text{DM}}$$

High-energy gluons hadronize and produce a shower of glue-ball jets

Each gluon produces  $N_{\text{DG}}$  glue-balls with energy which scales as  $E_{\text{DG}}(T) = T/N_{\text{DG}}$

$$N_{\text{DG}} \sim \exp\left[\sqrt{\log \frac{T_\Lambda}{\Lambda_{\text{DM}}}}\right]$$

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$$N_{\text{DG}} \sim \exp\left[\sqrt{\log \frac{T_\Lambda}{\Lambda_{\text{DM}}}}\right]$$

Glue-ball interactions  $\Gamma_{\text{int}} = \frac{n_{\text{DG}} \sigma_{\text{int}}}{n_{\text{DG}} = N_{\text{DG}} n_G} > H|_{T=T_{\text{th}}}$

Relativistic glue-balls:  $\sigma_{\text{int}} \sim N_{\text{DG}}^2/T^2 \longrightarrow T_{\text{th}} \longrightarrow$  consistent if  $E_{\text{DG}}(T_{\text{th}}) > \Lambda_{\text{DM}}$

$$\Lambda_{\text{DM}} < N_{\text{DG}}^2 \left( \frac{T_{\text{RH}}^3}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \right) \longrightarrow \text{Thermal Glue-balls}$$

# Non-thermal Glue-ball DM

For larger values  $\Lambda_{\text{DM}} > N_{\text{DG}}^2 \left( \frac{T_{\text{RH}}^3}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \right)$

Self-interactions are too weak and the dark vectors/glue-balls do not *self-thermalize*



The DM abundance is directly fixed by freeze-in

$$Y_{\text{DM}} \sim \kappa N_{\text{DG}} \left( \frac{T_{\text{RH}}}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^3$$

Annotations for the equation above:

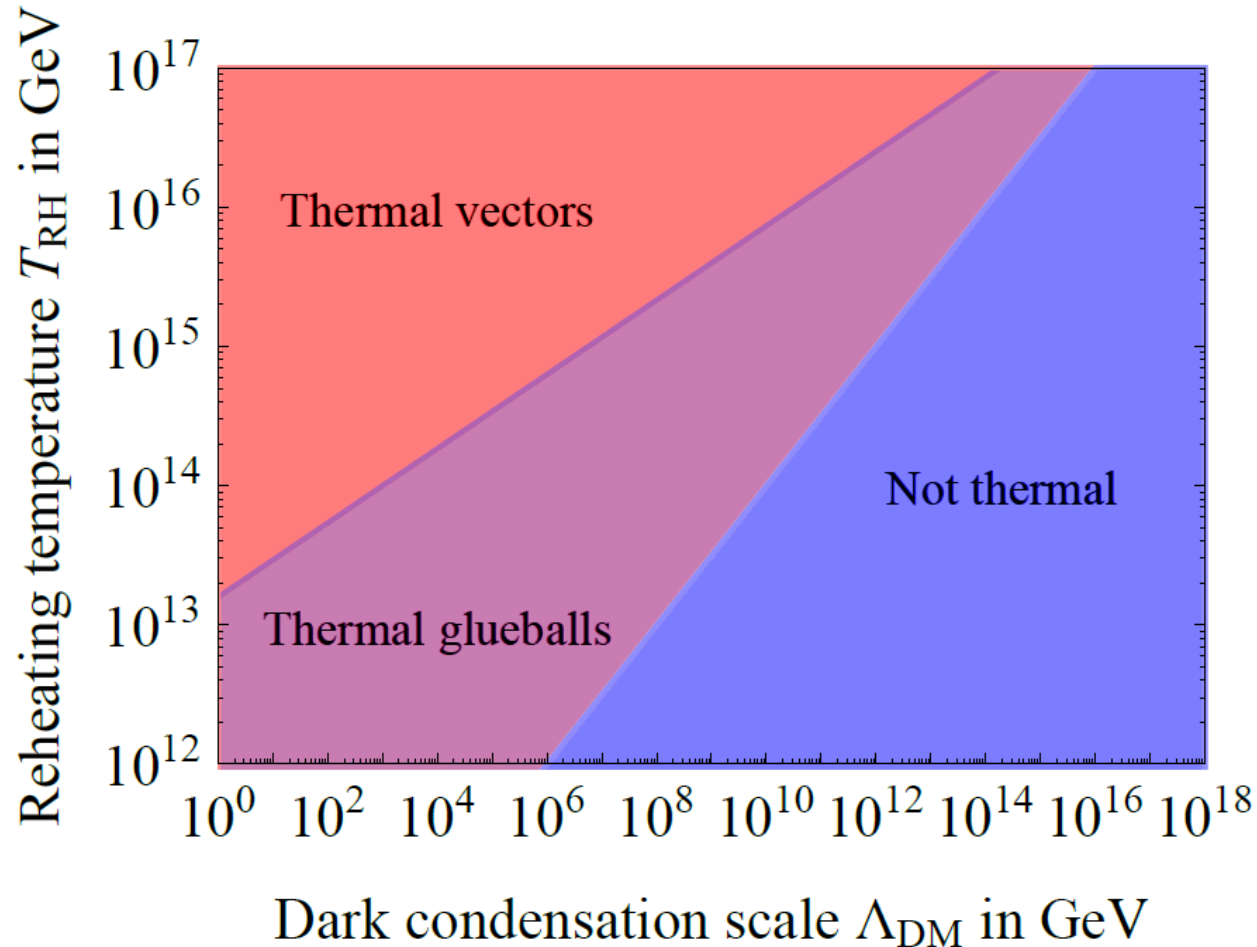
- An arrow points from  $N_{\text{DG}}$  to the text "glue-balls multiplicity".
- An arrow points from the entire right-hand side of the equation to the text "Freeze-in abundance".
- An arrow points from the denominator  $M_{\text{Pl}}$  to the text "energy fraction of vectors which ends up in stable glue-balls".

The parameter space is wide: DM can be super-heavy  $\sim 10^{15}$  GeV

# Example: SO(10) gauge theory

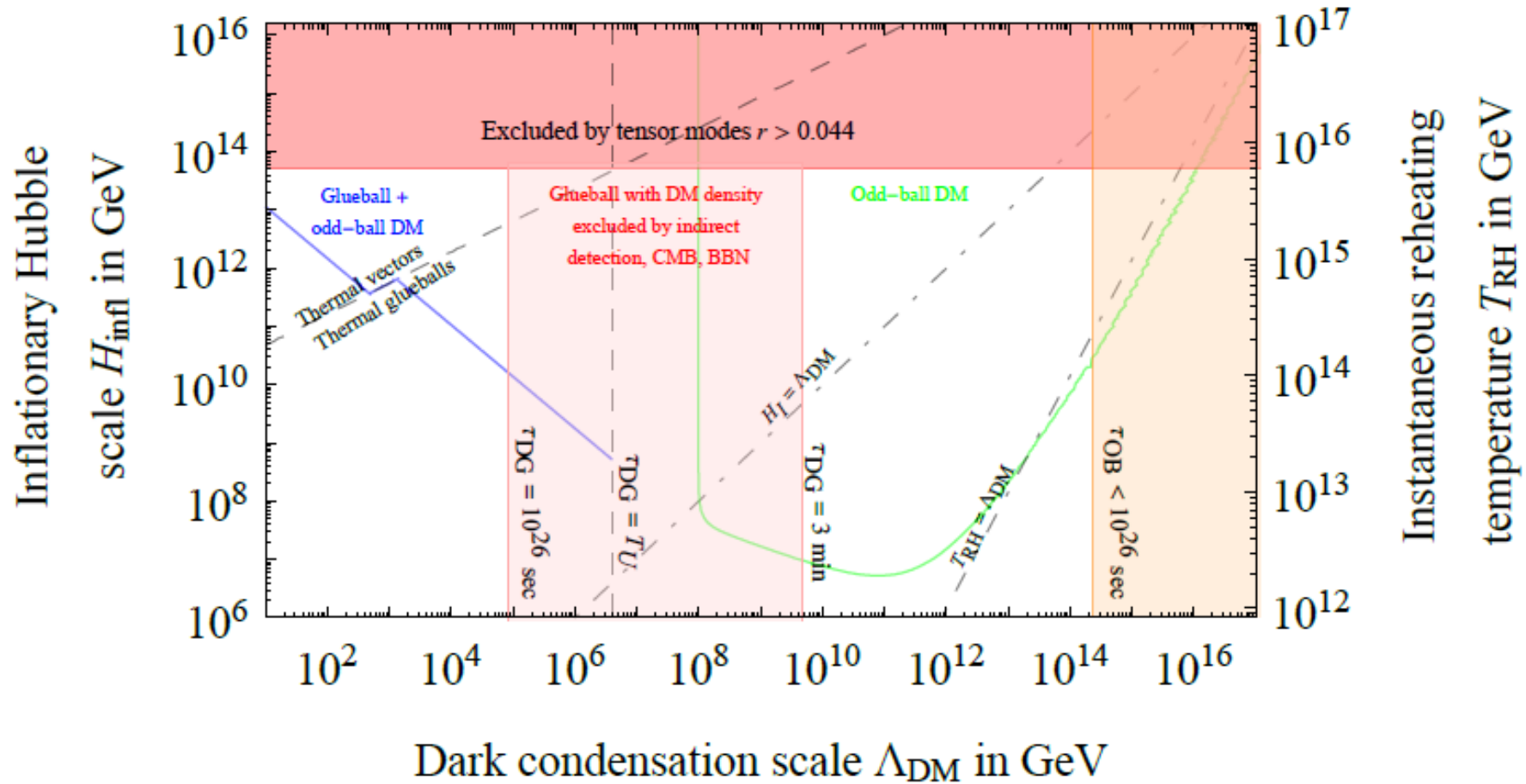
Self-thermalization of the dark sector

Thermalization



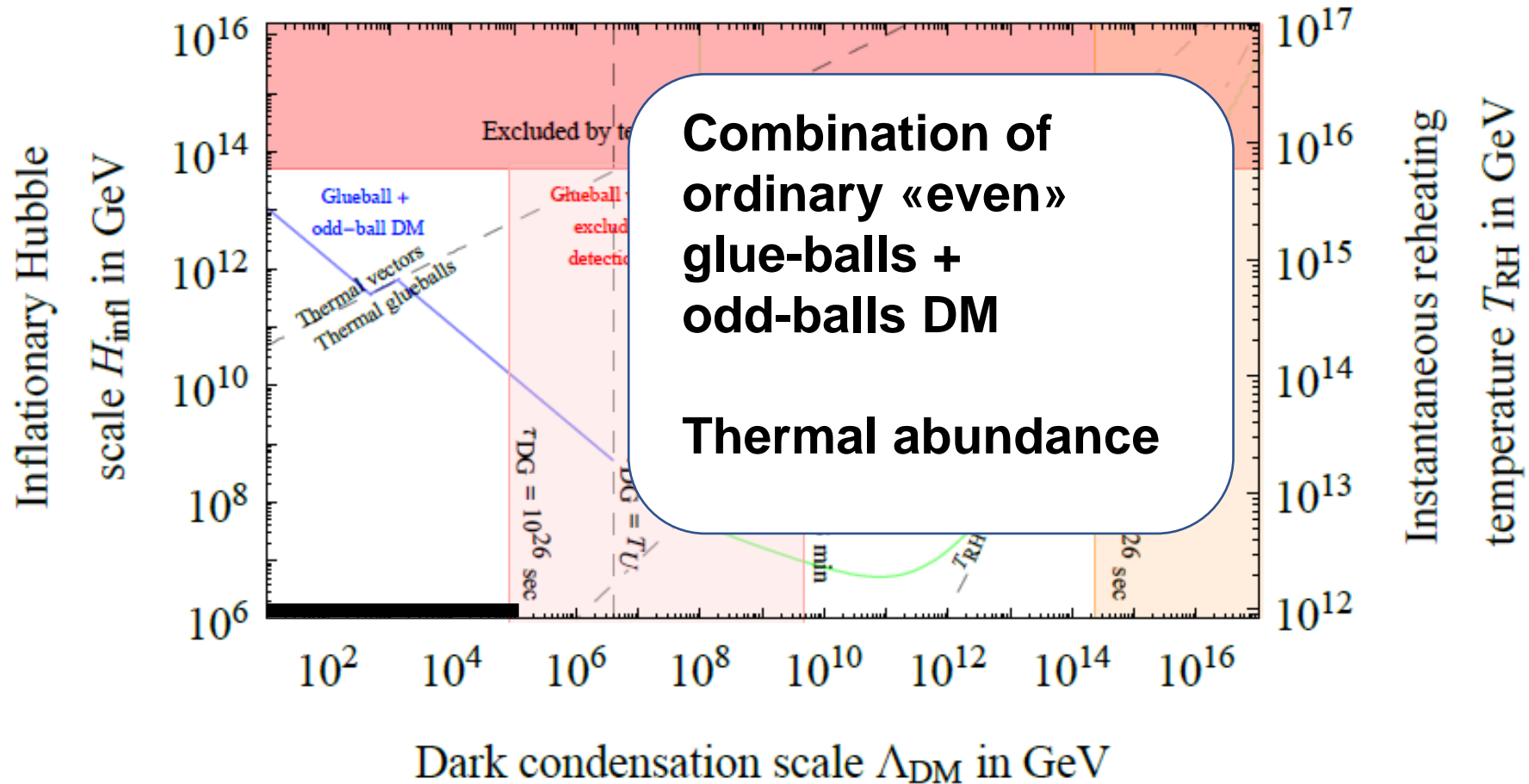
# Gravitational vector DM

## Gravitational vector DM SO(10)



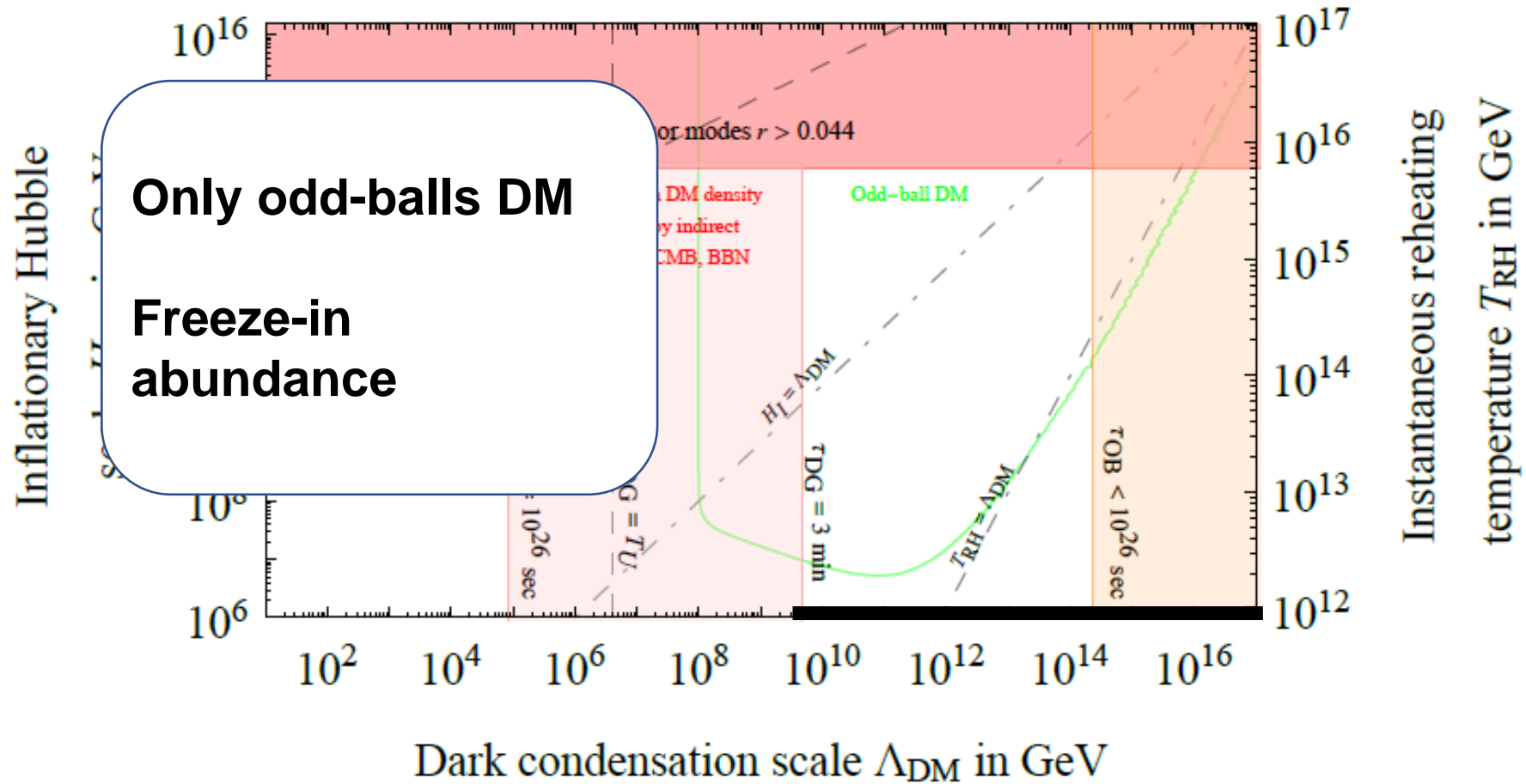
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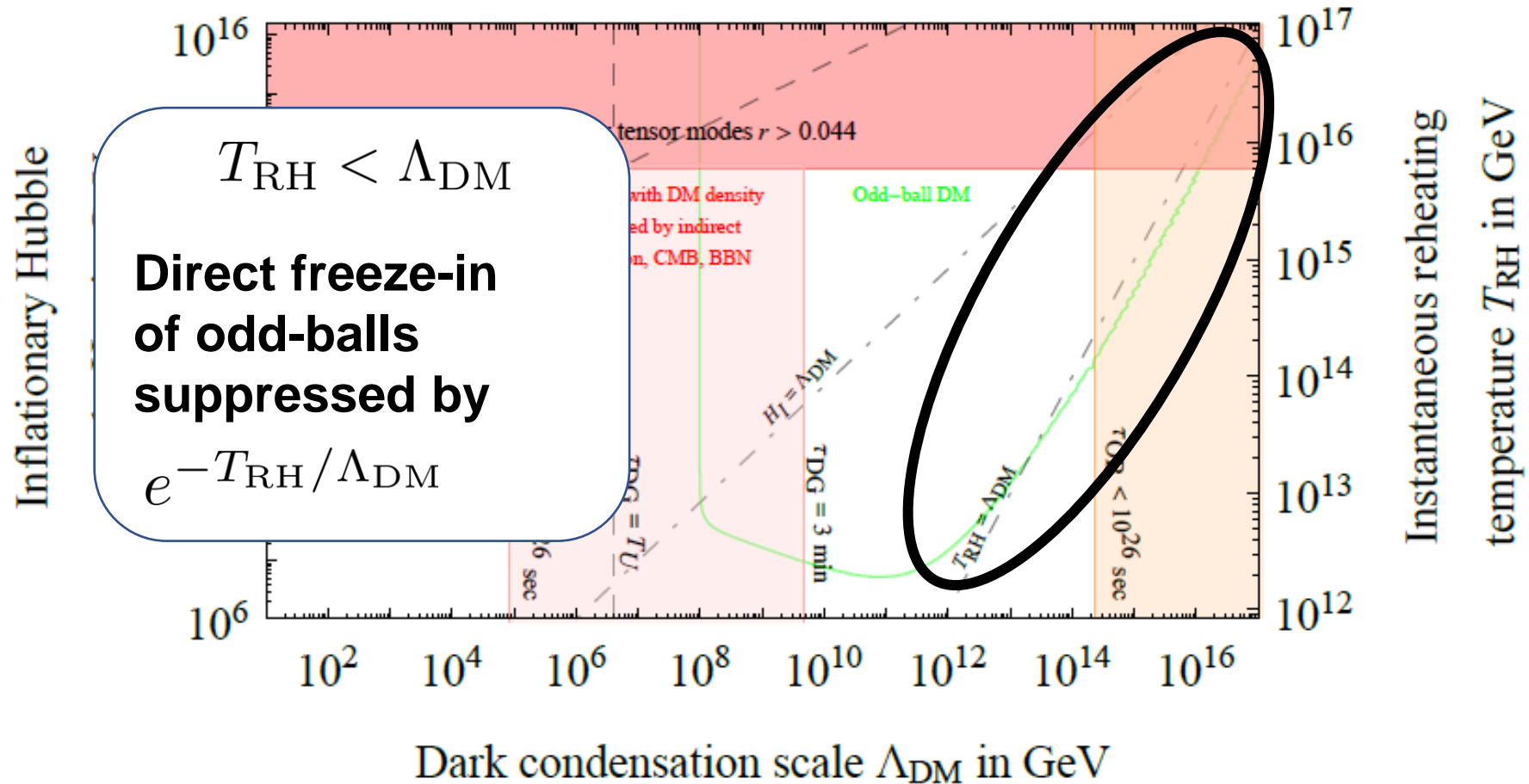
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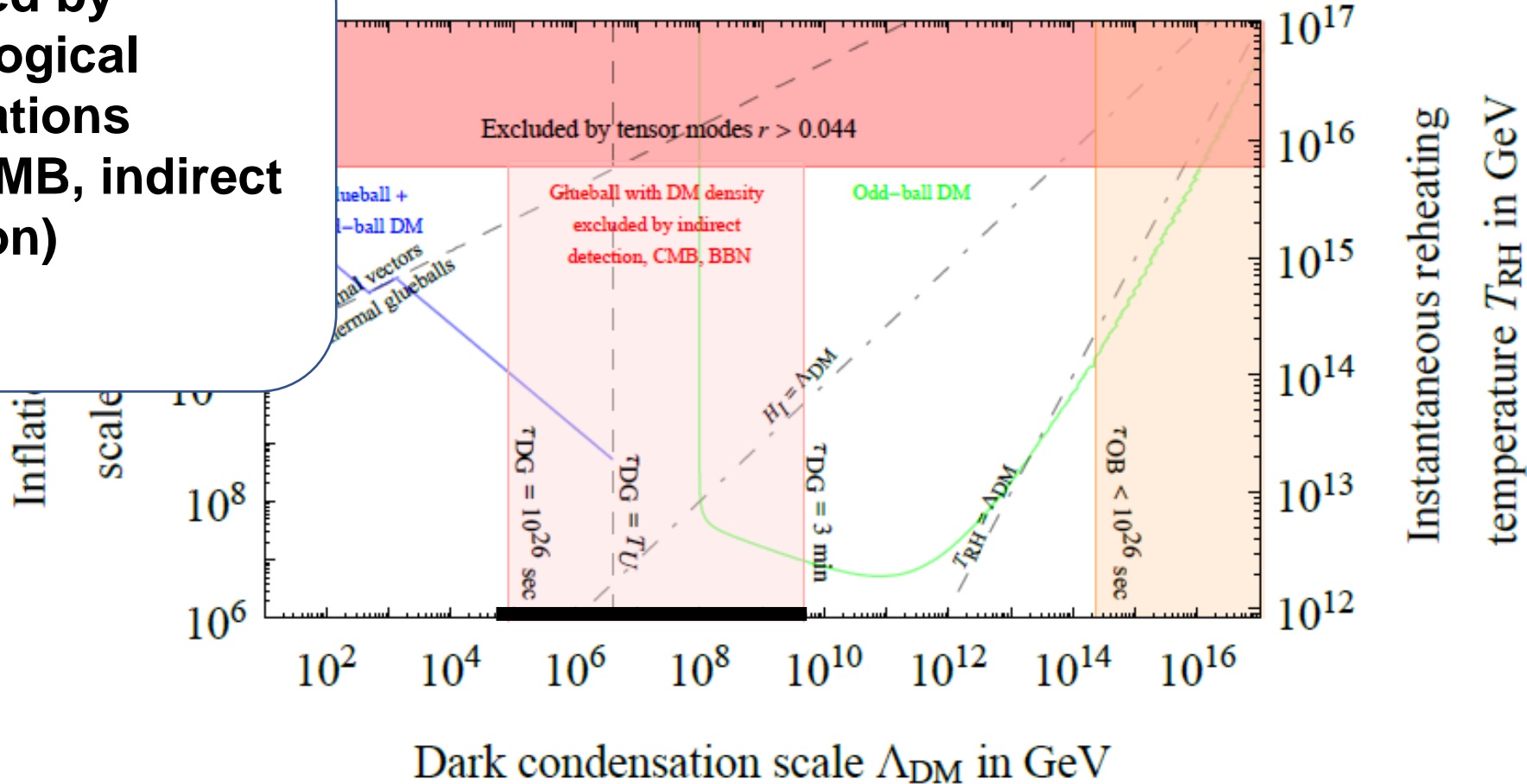
## Gravitational vector DM SO(10)



# Gravitational vector DM

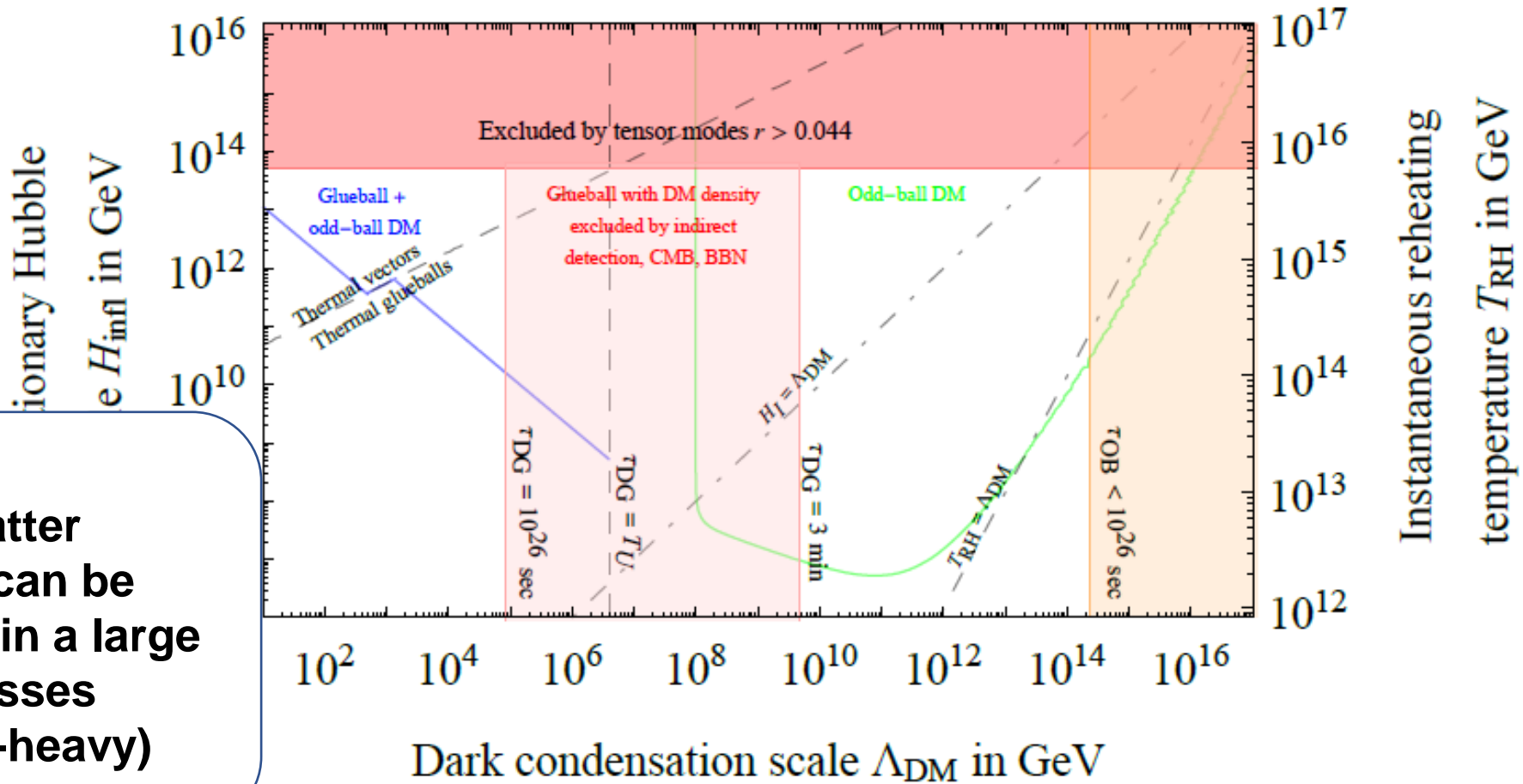
Gravitational vector DM SO(10)

Excluded by cosmological observations (BBN, CMB, indirect detection)



# Gravitational vector DM

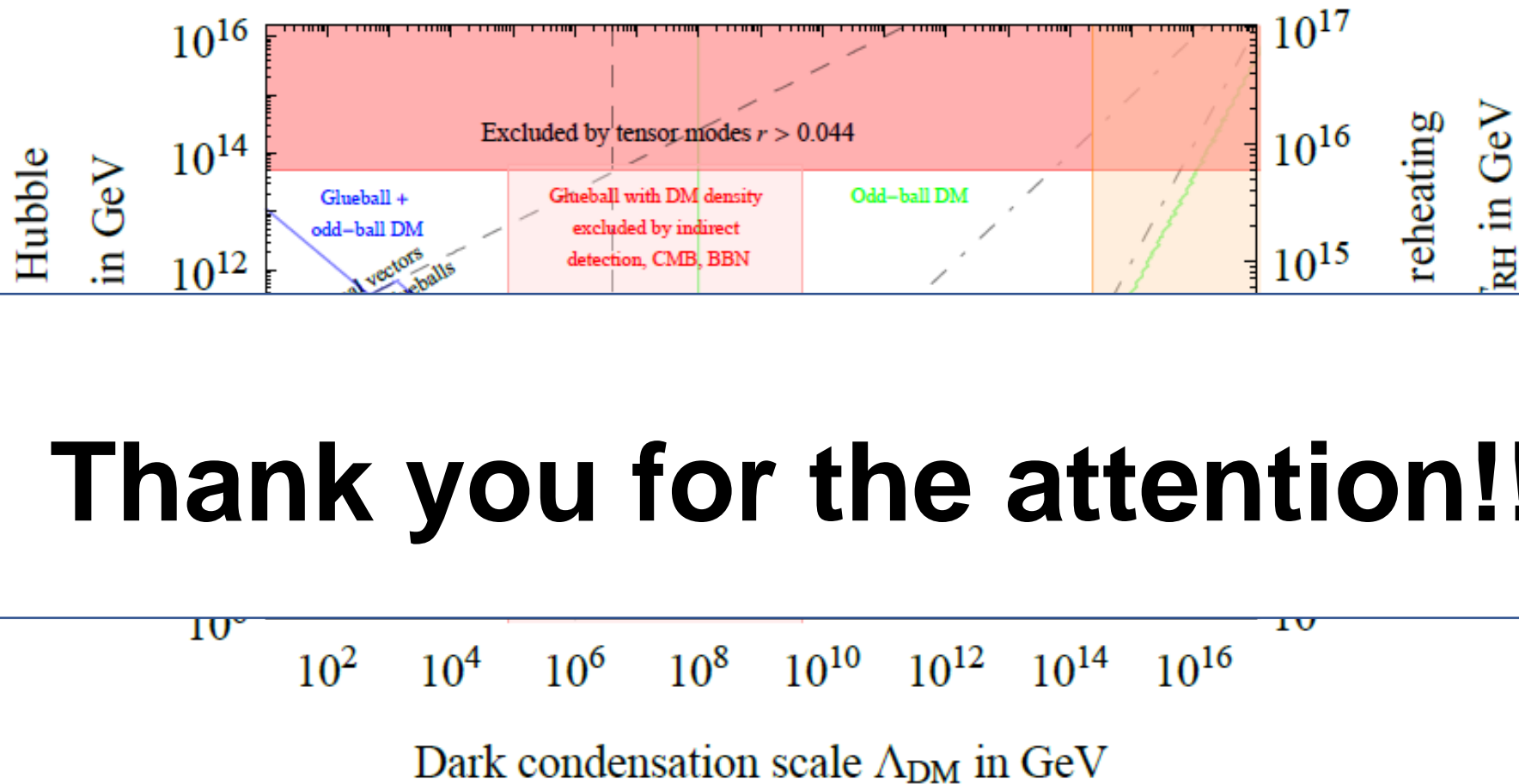
Gravitational vector DM SO(10)



The Dark Matter abundance can be reproduced in a large range of masses (even super-heavy)

# Gravitational vector DM

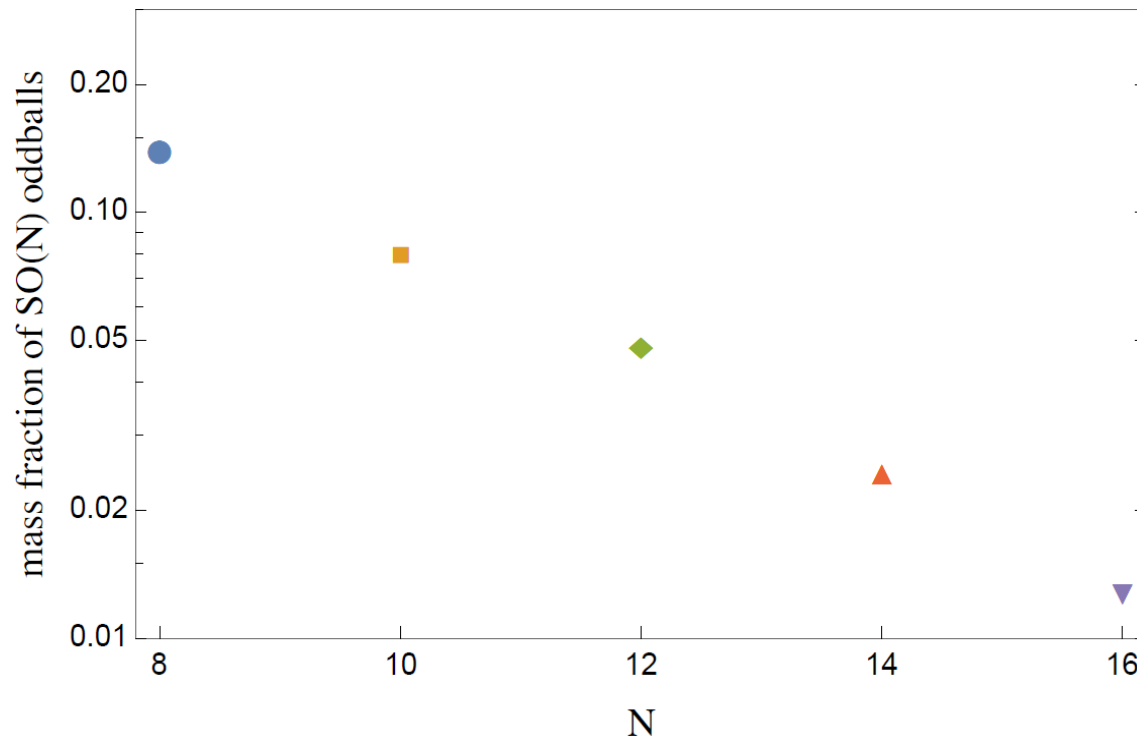
Gravitational vector DM SO(10)



**Thank you for the attention!!**

# Backup slides

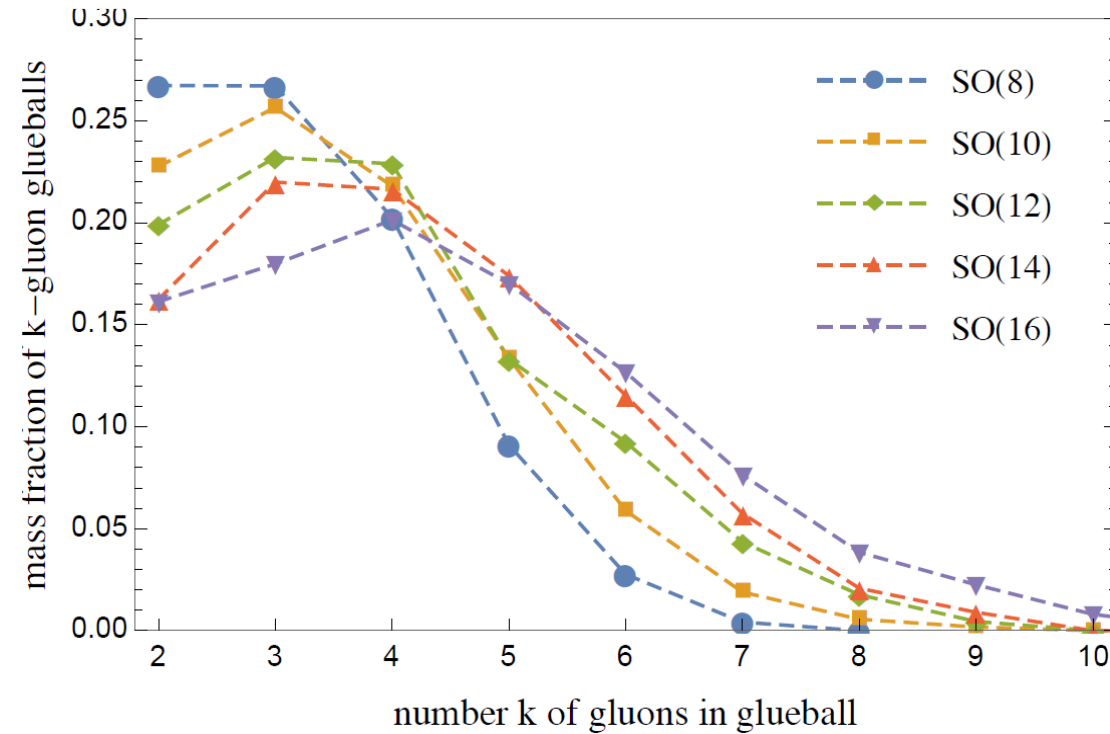
# SO(N) Glue-ball distribution: odd-balls



Fraction of vector energy that ends up in SO(N) odd-balls

$$\kappa(N) = 1.2 \times 0.76^N$$

# SO(N) Glue-ball distribution: ordinary



Fraction of vector energy that ends up in k-gluons glue-ball

$$\epsilon(k) \approx e^{-\mu} \mu^{k-1} / (k-1)! \quad \mu = (N+4)/6$$

# Cannibal Glue-balls

Non-relativistic Glue-balls undergo cannibalistic processes  $3 \rightarrow 2$

$$Y_{\text{DG}} = \frac{T_D^*}{M_{\text{DG}}} R \quad \rightarrow \quad R = \frac{s_D}{s} = \left(\frac{T_D}{T}\right)^3 \sim \left(\frac{T_{\text{RH}}}{M_{\text{Pl}}}\right)^{9/4}$$



$$n_{\text{DG}}^2(T_D)\sigma_{32}v^2 = H \quad \sigma_{32}v^2 \approx \alpha_{\text{DC}}^3/M_{\text{DG}}^5$$

$$\frac{T_D^*}{M_{\text{DG}}} \simeq \frac{1}{3 \log Q} \quad Q \approx 0.08(\alpha_{\text{DC}}/0.1)^{3/4}(M_{\text{Pl}}/M_{\text{DG}})^{1/4}(T_{\text{RH}}/M_{\text{Pl}})^{3/8}$$



$$Y_{\text{DG}} \sim \frac{1}{3 \log Q} \left(\frac{T_{\text{RH}}}{M_{\text{Pl}}}\right)^{9/4}$$

O(1-10) correction      DG thermal abundance



# Glue-balls in an extended model

If we enlarge the dark sector with extra states typically:

- 1) extra-interactions allow the dark sector to thermalize with the SM (Higgs portal, Yukawa,...)
- 2) the glue-balls can decay to the SM through some portal   $\tau_{\text{DG}} < 1 \text{ sec}$   
 glue-balls are not DM
- 3) some extra state (which interacts with the dark gauge vectors) is the Dark Matter candidate

However, glue-balls can play an important role in the evolution of Dark Matter!

# Glue-balls in an extended model

Typically the dynamics of the dark sector is the following:

- 1) the DM particle decouples from the thermal bath at  $M_{\text{DM}} > \Lambda_{\text{DC}}$
- 2) the theory confines and the glue-balls decouple keeping the (relativistic) vector abundance  $n_{\text{DG}} \propto T^3$

- 3) glue-balls dominate the energy density of the Universe before they decay  $\longrightarrow$  **Early matter domination era**

$$\rho_{\text{DG}} \sim \Lambda_{\text{DC}} T^3 > \rho_{\text{rad}} \sim T^4$$

$$H^2 = \frac{\rho_{\text{DG}}}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}$$

- 4) when glue-balls decay, they inject entropy in to the SM bath, heating it



Huge **Dilution** of the Dark Matter abundance

# Extended Dark Sector: an example

We enlarge the dark sector with a scalar singlet in the fundamental of SU(N)

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{\mu\nu a} + |D_\mu S|^2 - V(S)$$



$$V(S) \subset \lambda_{HS}|S|^2|H|^2$$

Portal to the SM



The dark sector is in equilibrium with the SM thermal bath (same T)

The dark vectors are now thermal (with temperature T)

# Glue-balls decay and DM dilution

Glue-balls decay to SM states (= radiation) and release entropy into the thermal bath

$$\Gamma_{\text{DG}}^2 = H_D^2 = \frac{\rho_{\text{DG}}(T_D)}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \simeq \frac{\Lambda_{\text{DC}} T_D^3}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}$$

The energy of the glue-balls is transferred to the radiation bath, which gets hotter

$$\rho_{\text{rad}} \sim T_{\text{RH}}^4 = \rho_{\text{DG}}(T_D)$$

The decays inject entropy into the thermal bath

$$D^{-1} = (T_{\text{RH}}/T_D)^3$$

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The energy of the glue-balls is transferred to the radiation bath, which gets hotter

$$\rho_{\text{rad}} \sim T_{\text{RH}}^4 = \rho_{\text{DG}}(T_D)$$

Dilution of the pre-existing Dark Matter relic abundance

$$Y_{\text{DM}}^{\text{after}} \equiv \frac{n_{\text{DM}}}{T_{\text{RH}}^3} = \frac{n_{\text{DM}}}{T_D^3} D \equiv Y_{\text{DM}}^{\text{before}} \times D$$

# Glue-balls decay and DM dilution

Dilution of the pre-existing Dark Matter relic abundance

$$Y_{\text{DM}}^{\text{after}} = Y_{\text{DM}}^{\text{before}} \times D \ll Y_{\text{DM}}^{\text{before}}$$

$$D^{-1} = \left[ 1 + \frac{g_{\text{DG}}}{g_{\text{SM}}^{2/3}} \left( \frac{\Lambda_{\text{DC}}^2}{\Gamma_{\text{DG}} M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^{2/3} \right]^{3/4} \sim \frac{\Lambda_{\text{DC}}}{\sqrt{\Gamma_{\text{DG}} M_{\text{Pl}}}}$$

$$\frac{\Omega_{\text{DM}}}{0.12} = \frac{m_{\text{DM}} Y_{\text{DM}}}{T_{\text{eq}}} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{The dilution opens the DM parameter space to larger DM masses!}$$

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Portal to the SM

The scalar singlet gets a vev  $w$  and breaks the gauge group  $SU(N) \longrightarrow SU(N-1)$



A **global** U(1) is preserved

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$$\{G_\mu, S\} = \{\mathcal{W}_\mu, \mathcal{Z}_\mu, \mathcal{A}_\mu, s\}$$



Fundamental of SU(N-1), massive, charged under U(1)



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SU(N-1) singlets, massive



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Adjoint of SU(N-1), massless



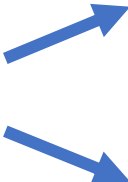
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# Extended Dark Sector: an example

The  $SU(N-1)$  gauge group confines when  $T < \Lambda_{\text{DC}} < w$

The degrees of freedom combine into gauge-invariant bound states

**Dark Matter**

$$\mathcal{B} \sim \epsilon_{N-1} W^{N-1}$$


Charged under  $U(1)$



Stable

The DM relic abundance is computed combining perturbative computations and non-perturbative estimates

# Extended Dark Sector: an example

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The degrees of freedom combine into gauge-invariant bound states

## Glue-balls

$\text{Tr}[\mathcal{A}_{\mu\nu}\mathcal{A}^{\mu\nu}] + \text{heavier states} \longrightarrow \text{Unstable}$



Decay to SM states through the Higgs portal

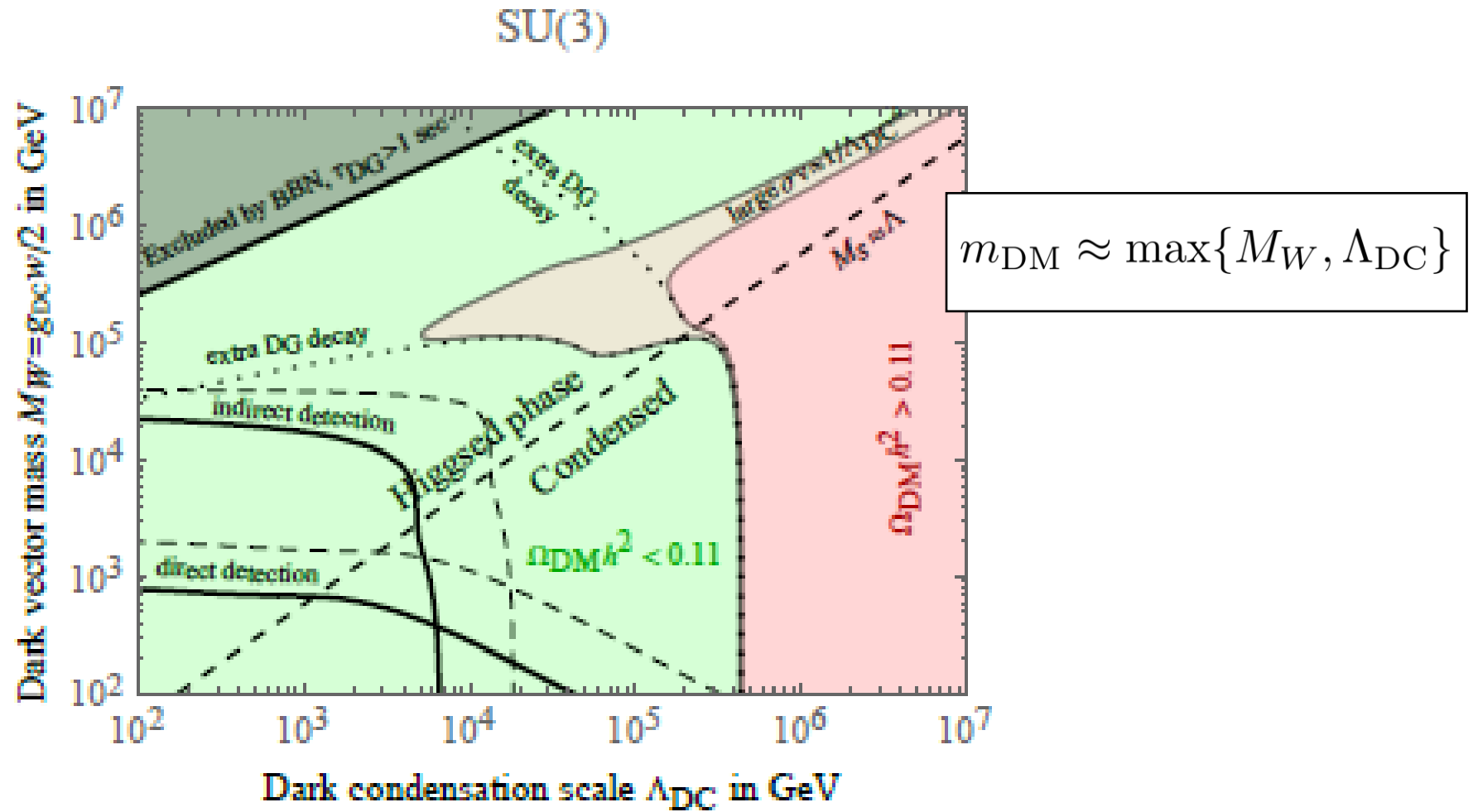
# Glue-balls decay

The SU(N-1) glue-balls decay through the Higgs portal

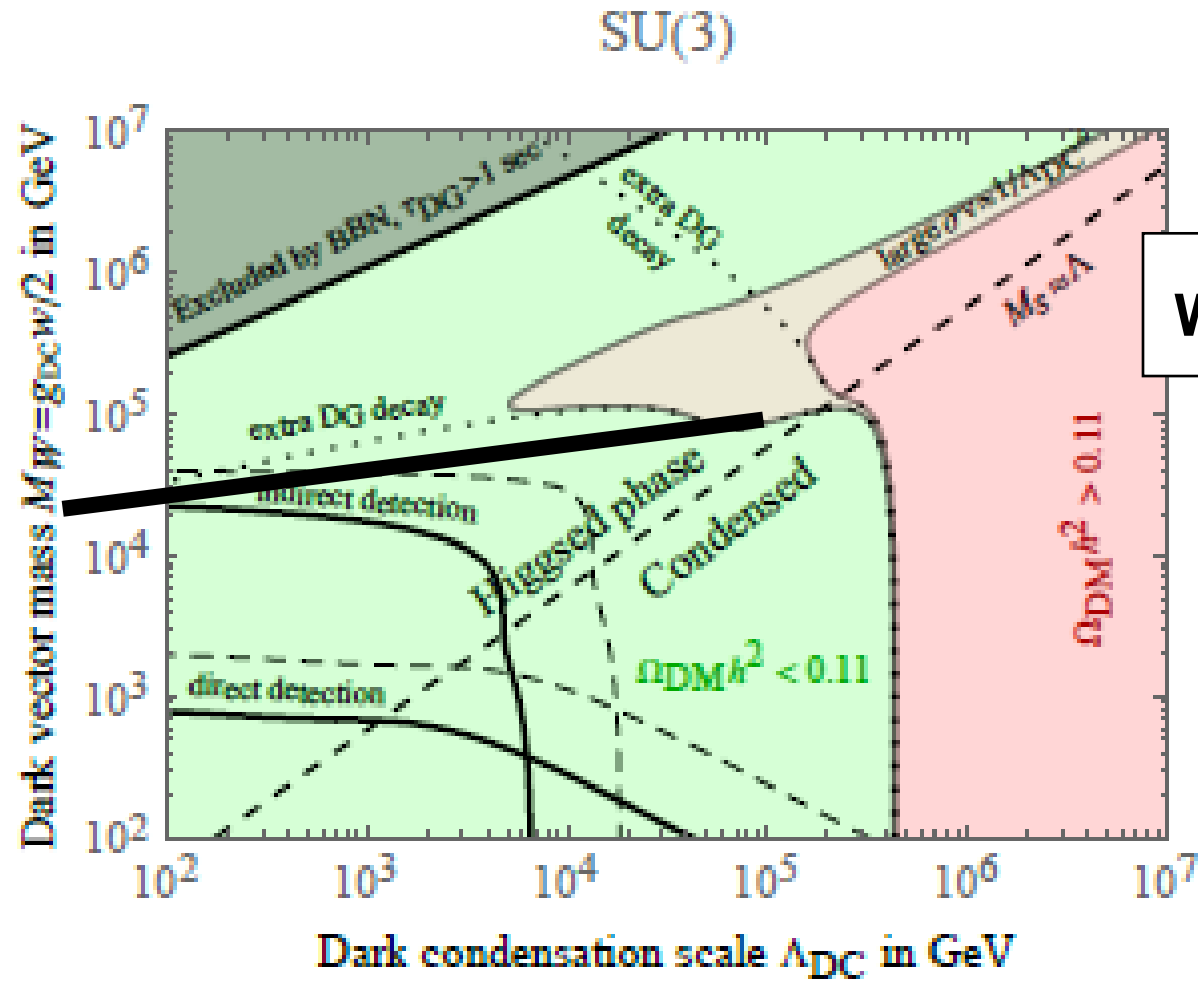
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}^{HAA} = -\frac{7\alpha_{\text{DC}}\lambda_{HS}}{16\pi M_s^2} (H^\dagger H) (\mathcal{A}_{\mu\nu}^a)^2$$

$$\Gamma(\text{DG} \rightarrow s \rightarrow H^\dagger H = hh + ZZ + WW) = \frac{49f_{\text{DG}}^2\alpha_{\text{DC}}^2\lambda_{HS}^2}{2048\pi^3 M_{\text{DG}} M_s^4} \sqrt{1 - \frac{4M_{h,W,Z}^2}{M_{\text{DG}}^2}}$$

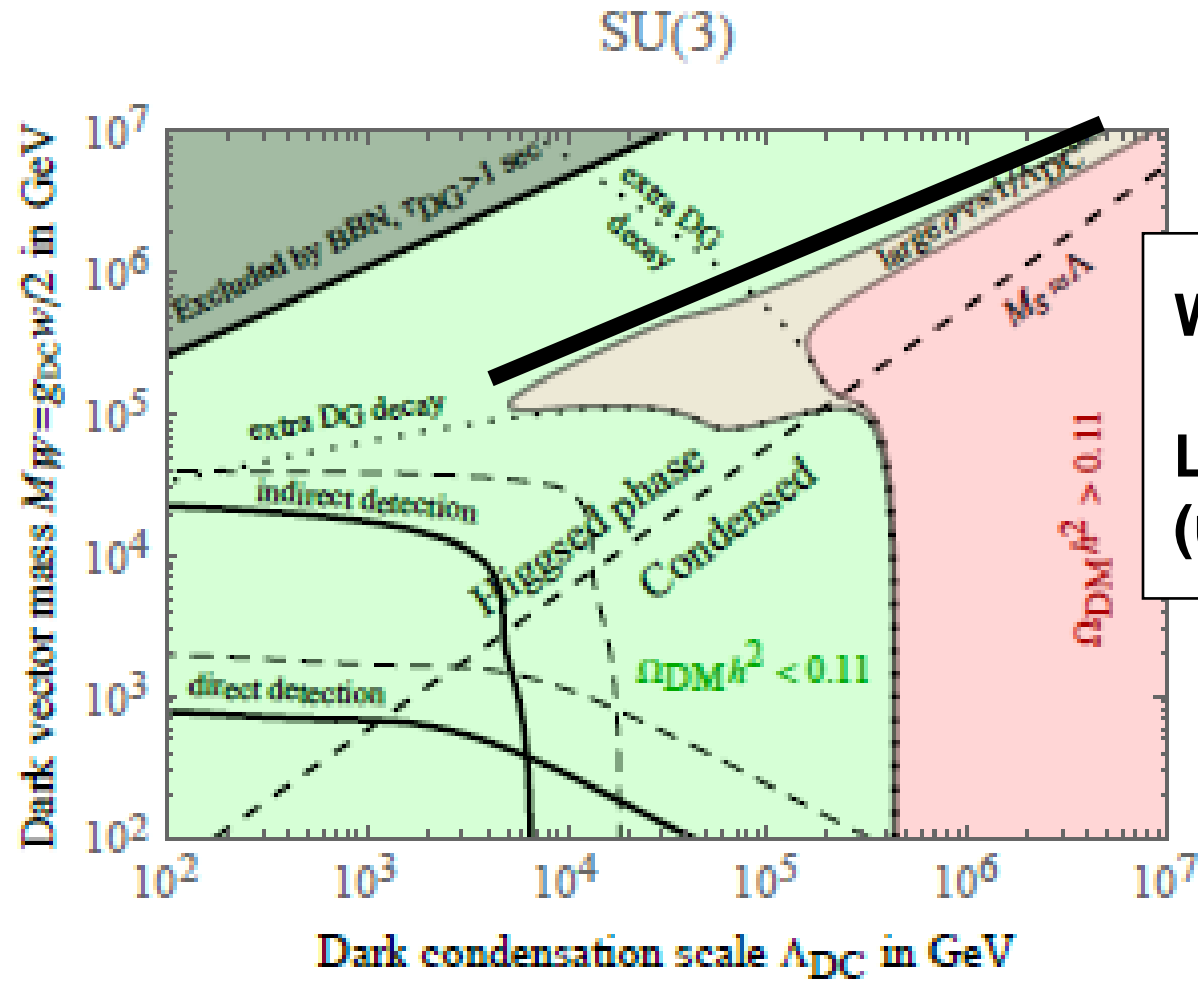
# Glue-balls decay and DM dilution



# Glue-balls decay and DM dilution



# Glue-balls decay and DM dilution



With the dilution

Larger DM masses  
(up to a factor  $10^3$ )



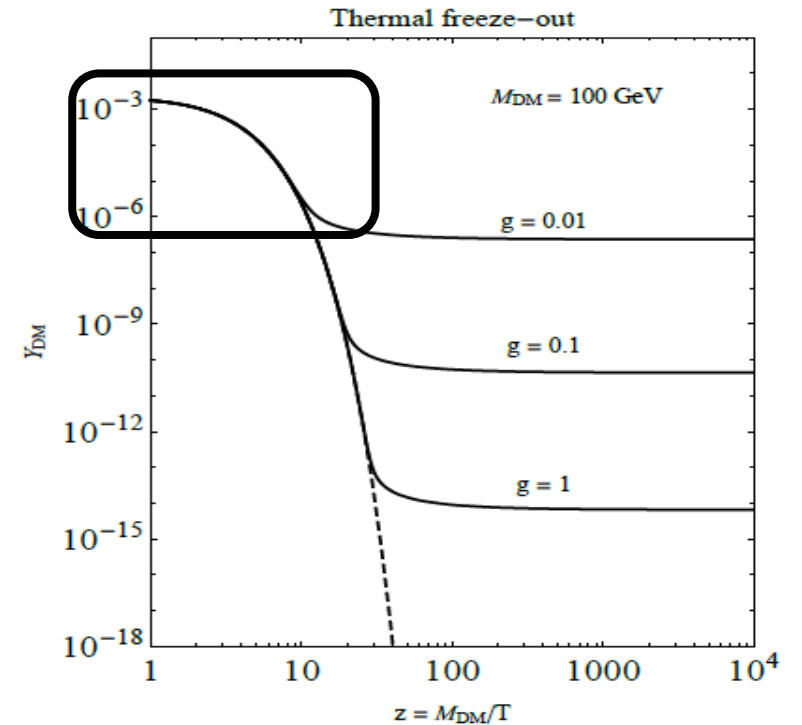
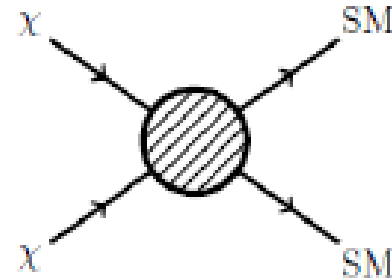
# Dark Matter production

## Freeze-out

DM is in thermal equilibrium with the SM bath

$$\Gamma_{\text{int}} = n_{\text{DM}} \sigma v_{\text{ann}} > H$$

$$H \propto T^2/M_{\text{Pl}}$$

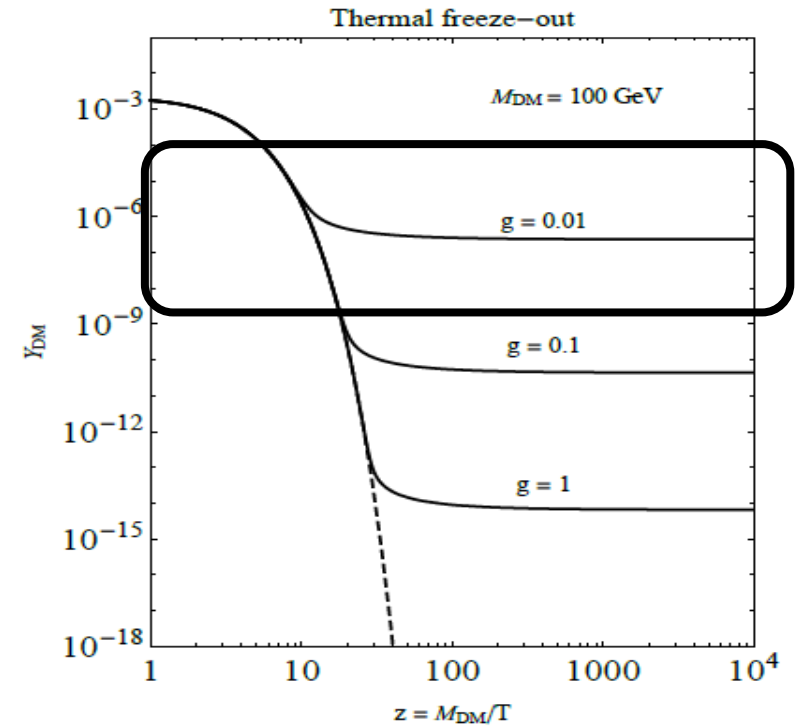


# Dark Matter production

## Freeze-out

DM decouples from the thermal bath

$$\Gamma_{\text{int}} < H$$



# Dark Matter production

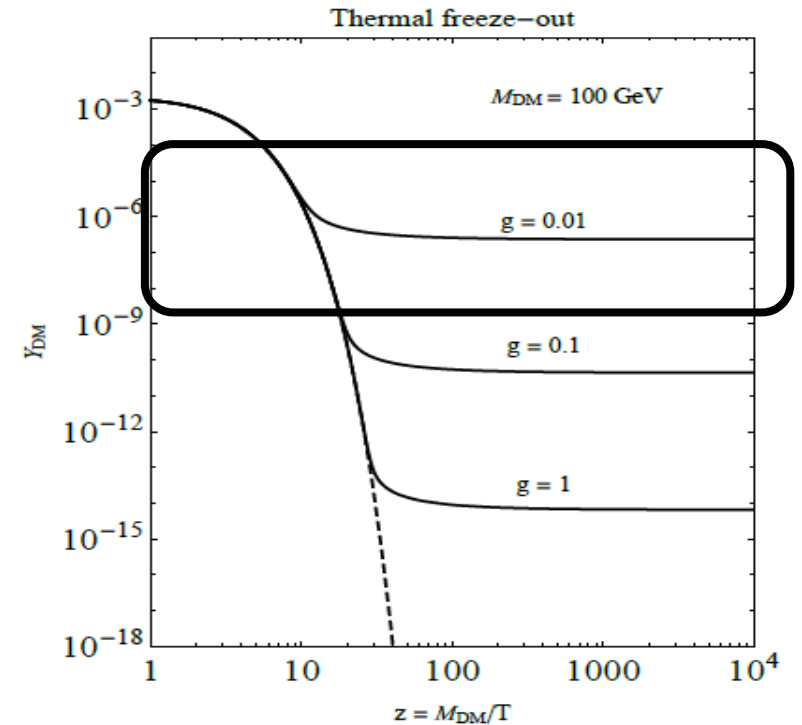
## Freeze-out

DM decouples from the thermal bath

$$\Gamma_{\text{int}} < H$$

The DM abundance is conserved

$$Y_{\text{DM}} \equiv \frac{n_{\text{DM}}}{s}$$



# Dark Matter production

## Freeze-out

DM decouples from the thermal bath

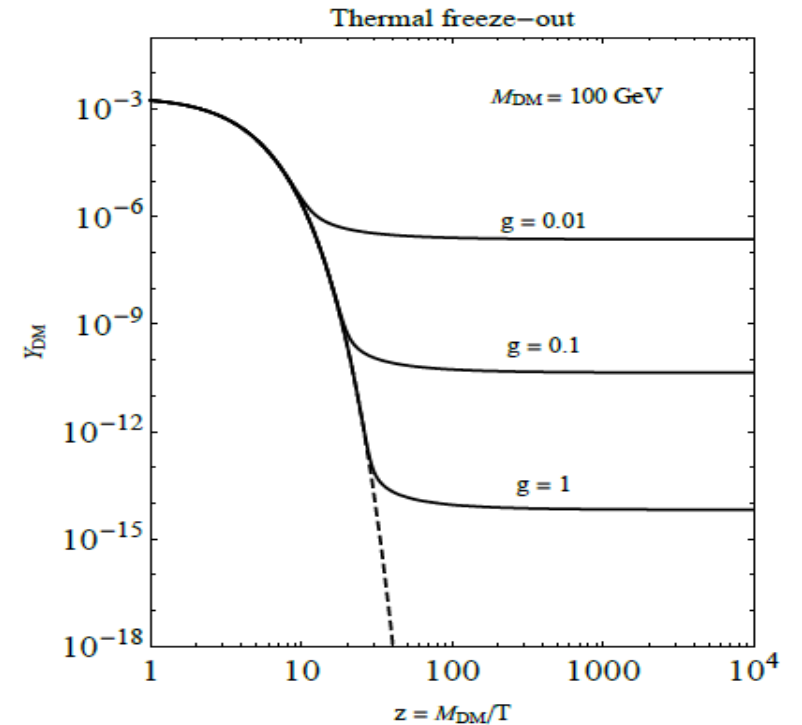
$$\Gamma_{\text{int}} < H$$

The DM abundance is conserved

$$Y_{\text{DM}} \equiv \frac{n_{\text{DM}}}{s}$$

DM relic abundance

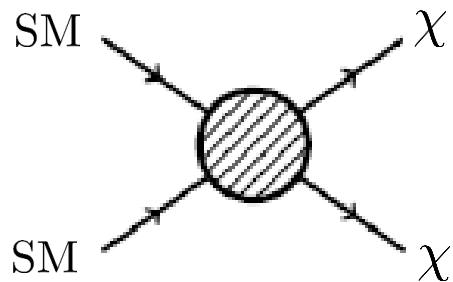
$$\frac{\Omega_{\text{DM}}}{0.12} = \frac{m_{\text{DM}} Y_{\text{DM}}}{T_{\text{eq}}}$$



# Freeze-in

DM is never in thermal equilibrium with the SM bath

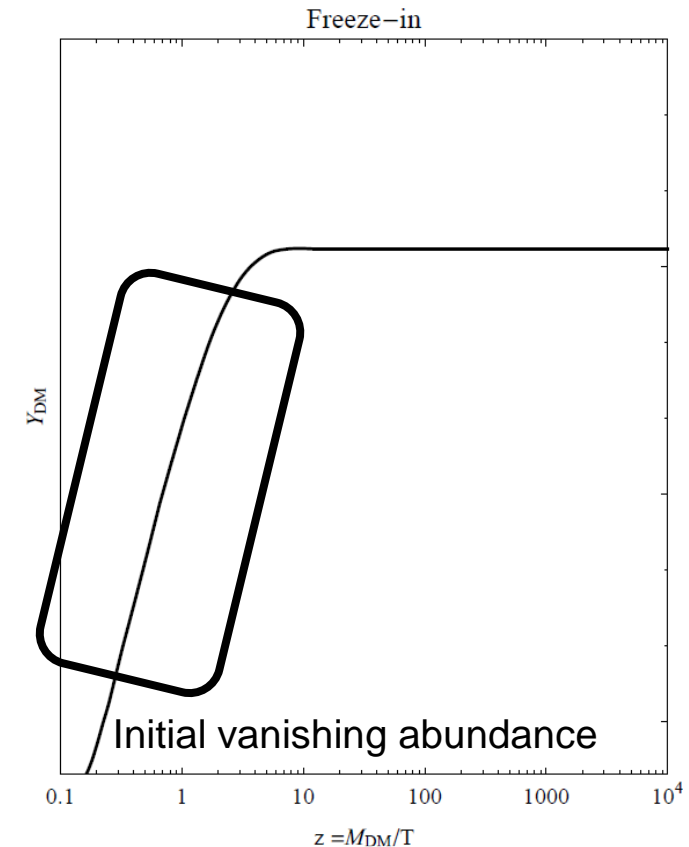
DM production from bath particles



$$\Gamma_{\text{int}} < H$$

$$H \propto T^2/M_{\text{Pl}}$$

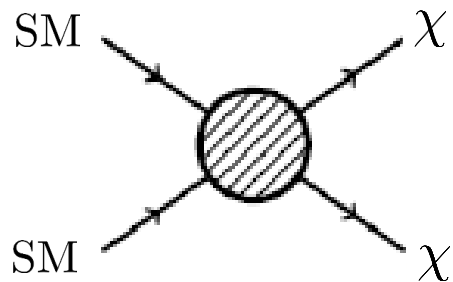
Small couplings needed



# Freeze-in

DM is never in thermal equilibrium with the SM bath

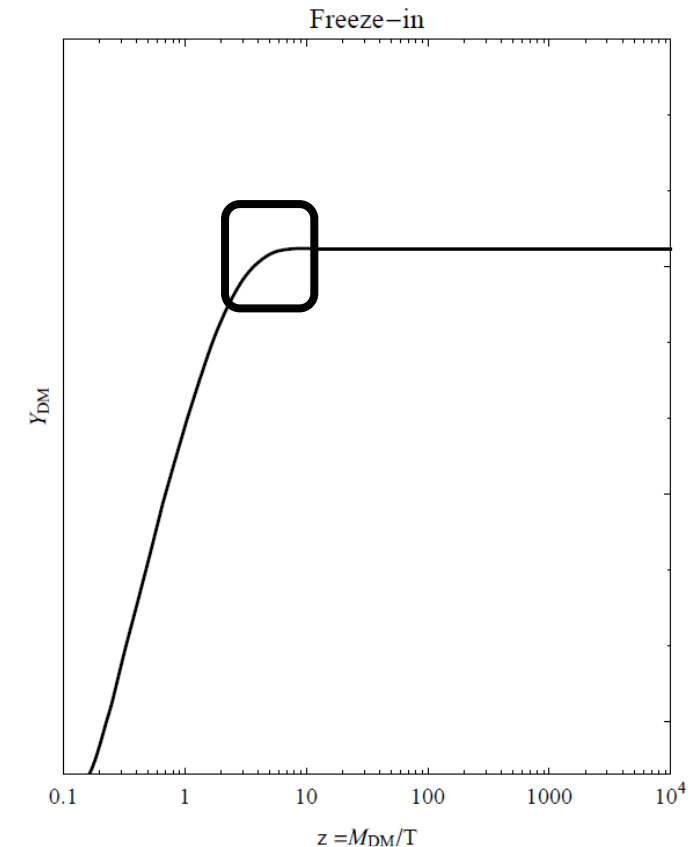
The production is peaked around some  $T$



$$\Gamma_{\text{int}} < H$$

$$H \propto T^2/M_{\text{Pl}}$$

Small couplings needed



# Freeze-in

DM is never in thermal equilibrium with the SM bath

The number of DM particles is conserved

$$Y_{\text{DM}} \equiv \frac{n_{\text{DM}}}{s}$$

DM relic abundance  $\frac{\Omega_{\text{DM}}}{0.12} = \frac{m_{\text{DM}} Y_{\text{DM}}}{T_{\text{eq}}}$

