Constraining the primordial power spectrum using minihalos

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The primordial power spectrum



Ultracompact minihalos

- Large density contrasts ($\delta_{\rm hor} \gtrsim 10^{-3}$) form halos early
- Halo density ∝ background density at formation
- Nondetection \rightarrow constraints on primordial power
- $z \sim 1000$ formation \rightarrow small velocity dispersion

 \rightarrow radial infall

- $\rho(r) \propto r^{-9/4}$ from analytic theory*
- Steep, "ultracompact" profile enhances signals





The primordial power spectrum



Ultracompact minihalos



Simulating a natural formation scenario



- Study extreme halos ($\delta \simeq 7\sigma$) forming at $z \simeq 1000$ in spiked power spectrum
- Study similar halo in flat spectrum



Delos+ 2018

Density profile

- Spiked power spectrum \rightarrow Moore* profile ($\rho \propto r^{-3/2}$ for small r)
 - Density profile stable in time
 - Scaling relations:

 $\rho_s \simeq 30 \times \text{(cosmological density at formation)}$ $r_s \simeq 0.7 \times \text{(physical scale of spike at formation)}$ Use to calculate observational signature!

• Scale-invariant spectrum \rightarrow NFW profile ($\rho \propto r^{-1}$ for small r)



Consequences

- UCMHs have Moore or NFW profiles
 - Pure power law requires special initial conditions
- Weaker observational signals
- Many more halos



Constraining a δ -spike $\mathcal{P}(k) = \mathcal{A}_s k_s \delta(k - k_s)$

- Calculate UCMH gamma-ray signal from DM annihilation
 - Function of formation time and k_s
- Signal nondetection (Fermi) \rightarrow abundance constraint \rightarrow power spectrum constraint



Complications

- Spread in halo properties
 - Need more than formation time
- Halo mergers
 - Reduce halo count
 - Can boost central density*
 - Push toward NFW profiles* (~10× weaker signal)
 - Only matter for wider spike
- Halo survival
 - Disruption inside galactic halos



Summary

- UCMH density profiles are shallower than previously assumed $ho \propto r^{-3/2}$ or $ho \propto r^{-1}$ at small r
- New theory can account for all halos instead of just the rarest
- Crude calculations suggest corrected UCMHs may possess more constraining power
- Work is still needed to fully account for halo statistics and evolution

Further detail:

Phys. Rev. D 97, 041303(R) [arXiv:1712.05421] and forthcoming work



Supplemental

Flat power spectrum results



