

Miami Physics Conference 2024

Date: Dec 12-19, 2024

Location: Lago Mar Resort

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Abstract

Title: The Fluctuating Spacetime of Dark Matter

Abstract: What if dark matter only interacts with the visible sector through gravity? Long considered a grim scenario where its properties (e.g., spin and mass) might remain elusive, it has recently been recognized that bosonic dark matter exhibits oscillating components in its stress-energy tensor. Remarkably, these can induce sizable, time-dependent perturbations to the spacetime metric, reminiscent of gravitational waves, offering promising avenues for direct detection. This talk will focus on a new method to gravitationally detect dark matter using astrometry — the precise measurement of positions of distant astrophysical sources.

Title: Sub-Nanohertz Gravitational Wave Detection

Abstract: Gravitational waves with frequencies below 1 nHz are notoriously challenging to detect. With periods exceeding current experimental lifetimes, they induce slow drifts in observables rather than periodic correlations. In this talk, I will demonstrate that pulsar timing parameters can discover such "ultralow" frequency gravitational waves. I will present two complementary observables for which the systematic shift induced by gravitational waves can be extracted. Using existing data for these parameters, I will present the results of searches for ultralow frequency continuous—wave and stochastic gravitational wave signals, finding sensitivities near the expected prediction from supermassive black hole mergers.