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# 1 Dark Matter Annihilation to Neutrinos

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43 We review the annihilation of dark matter into neutrinos over a range of dark matter  
44 masses from  $\text{MeV}/c^2$  to  $\text{ZeV}/c^2$ . Thermally-produced models of dark matter are ex-  
45 pected to self-annihilate to standard model products. As no such signal has yet been  
46 detected, we turn to neutrino detectors to constrain the “most invisible channel.” We  
47 review the experimental techniques that are used to detect neutrinos, and revisit the  
48 expected contributions to the neutrino flux at current and upcoming neutrino experi-  
49 ments. We place updated constraints on the dark matter self-annihilation cross section  
50 to neutrinos ( $\langle\sigma v\rangle$ ) using the most recently available data, and forecast the sensitivity of  
51 upcoming experiments such as Hyper-Kamiokande, DUNE, and IceCube Gen-2. Where  
52 possible, limits and projections are scaled to a single set of dark matter halo param-  
53 eters for consistent comparison. We consider Galactic and extragalactic signals of  $s$ ,  $p$ ,  
54 and  $d$ -wave annihilation processes directly into neutrino pairs, yielding constraints that  
55 range from  $\langle\sigma v\rangle \sim 2.5 \times 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}$  at  $30 \text{ MeV}/c^2$  to  $10^{-17} \text{ cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}$  at  $10^{11} \text{ GeV}/c^2$ .

56 Experiments that report directional and energy information of their events provide much  
57 stronger constraints, outlining the importance of making such data public.

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## 79 I. INTRODUCTION

80 The Standard Model (SM) of particle physics is the  
81 framework that describes matter and its interactions at  
82 the most fundamental level. Despite overwhelming suc-  
83 cess as a predictive theory, observations indicate that  
84 the SM is incomplete. Neutrinos have nonzero masses,  
85 yet the Higgs mechanism that provides masses for the  
86 other SM fermions cannot account for the chiral nature of  
87 neutrinos and their interactions unless additional particle  
88 content is added to the model. Additionally, overwhelm-  
89 ing astrophysical and cosmological evidence points to the  
90 existence of a new species of weakly-interacting parti-  
91 cles – dark matter (DM) – which accounts for  $\sim 85\%$  of  
92 the mass budget of the Universe. Local stellar dynam-  
93 ics, galactic rotation curves (Persic *et al.*, 1996; Rubin  
94 and Ford, 1970), cluster dynamics (Smith, 1936; Zwicky,  
95 1937), and gravitational lensing (*e.g.* Jee and Tyson,  
96 2009; Jee *et al.*, 2007) all point to mass-to-light ratios  
97 in astrophysical objects that are much higher than could

98 be accounted for by stellar objects and gas (for a histor-  
99 ical overview see Bertone and Hooper, 2018). Measured  
2 100 primordial abundances of light elements tell us that Big  
3 101 Bang Nucleosynthesis requires a total baryon density<sup>1</sup> of  
4 102 only  $\Omega_b \sim 0.05$ , while the Cosmic Microwave Background  
5 103 (CMB) and other probes of large scale structure require  
6 104 the *total* density of nonrelativistic matter to be  $\Omega_m \sim 0.3$ .  
8 105

8 106 A leading hypothesis for the nature of this new non-  
8 107 baryonic component is the Weakly Interacting Massive  
9 108 Particle (WIMP). The relic abundance of WIMPs to-  
10 109 day was set as they fell out of equilibrium with the  
10 110 high-temperature plasma of the early Universe. When  
11 111 the temperature,  $T$ , fell below the DM mass,  $m_\chi$ <sup>3</sup>, the  
12 112 equilibrium distribution became Boltzmann-suppressed,  
13 113 namely  $\sim \exp(-m_\chi/T)$ . At some point, the expansion  
21 114 rate  $H(t)$ , became larger than the thermally-averaged  
21 115 self-annihilation rate, preventing further annihilation  
22 116 into SM particles, *freezing-out* the relative density of DM  
117 particles. The WIMP scenario predicts the observed relic  
25 118 abundance of DM for values of the thermally-averaged  
119 self-annihilation rate  $\langle\sigma v\rangle \simeq 3 \times 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}$  regardless  
26 120 of the final annihilation channel.

121 Thermal production of weakly-interacting DM in the  
122 Early Universe implies possible ongoing self-annihilation  
123 to SM particles wherever DM exists today. Significant ef-  
124 fort has gone into searches for indirect signatures of DM  
125 annihilation. Annihilation to most SM states yields an  
126 abundance of photons with energies on the order of 10%  
127 of the DM mass, such that some of the strongest con-  
128 straints on particle DM models are from the (non) ob-  
129 servation of X- and gamma-ray signals from the Milky  
130 Way and its satellite galaxies; see *e.g.* (Albert *et al.*,  
131 2017b; Hoof *et al.*, 2018). Cosmic-ray signatures pro-  
132 vide similarly constraining limits, reports of excesses  
133 notwithstanding; see (Boudaud *et al.*, 2020) and refer-  
134 ences therein.

135 As X- and gamma-ray experiments rely, by design,  
136 on electromagnetic signals, they are optimal for prob-  
137 ing links between the dark sector and quarks or charged  
138 leptons, although neutrino detectors can still play a role  
139 in these searches (Cappiello and Beacom, 2019). There is  
140 a distinct possibility, however, that the principal portal

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<sup>1</sup> By *baryonic* we refer here to stable nonrelativistic matter made of SM particles including neutrons, protons and electrons.

<sup>2</sup> More precisely, the baryon density is inferred to be  $\Omega_b h^2 = 0.0224 \pm 0.0001$  and the (cold) DM density is  $\Omega_c h^2 = 0.120 \pm 0.001$  (Aghanim *et al.*, 2018), where  $\Omega_i$  is the ratio of the density of component  $i$  to the critical density, and the Hubble constant is  $H_0 \equiv h100 \text{ km s}^{-1}\text{Mpc}^{-1}$ .

<sup>3</sup> We work in natural units where  $c = \hbar = k_B = 1$ .

through which the DM interacts with the SM is via the neutrino sector (Blennow *et al.*, 2019). This naturally arises in “scotogenic” models, in which neutrino mass generation occurs through interactions with the dark sector (Alvey and Fairbairn, 2019; Baumholzer *et al.*, 2019; Boehm *et al.*, 2008; Escudero *et al.*, 2017a,b; Farzan and Ma, 2012; Hagedorn *et al.*, 2018; Patel *et al.*, 2019). These models introduce heavy neutrino states, sometimes called dark neutrinos, which could also provide a possible explanation of the MiniBooNE anomaly (Ballett *et al.*, 2019a,b,c; Bertuzzo *et al.*, 2018). “Secret” neutrino interactions with dark matter have recently become a very active field of investigation, where constraints have been obtained using high-energy astrophysical neutrinos (Argüelles *et al.*, 2017; Capozzi *et al.*, 2018; Cherry *et al.*, 2016; Choi *et al.*, 2019; Davis and Silk, 2015; Farzan and Palomares-Ruiz, 2014, 2019; Kelly and Machado, 2018; Murase and Shoemaker, 2019; Pandey *et al.*, 2019), solar neutrinos (Capozzi *et al.*, 2017), cosmology (Barenboim *et al.*, 2019; Olivares-Del Campo *et al.*, 2018a), accelerator neutrino experiments (Aguilar-Arevalo *et al.*, 2017; Argüelles *et al.*, 2018; Hostert, 2019) and colliders (Primulando and Uttayarat, 2018).

Neutrinos are light, neutral, and notoriously difficult to detect. If DM annihilates to heavy states such as muons, quarks, or weak bosons, a neutrino signal will be produced. Unless annihilation occurs in an optically thick environment, the associated photon signal will always be easier to detect. We thus choose to focus on the most invisible channel: direct annihilation of DM into neutrino-antineutrino pairs, whose energy will be equal to the DM rest mass, *i.e.*  $E_\nu = m_\chi$ .

The past two decades have seen extraordinary progress in the field of neutrino physics. Observations span a wide energy range, from the MeV  $pp$  solar neutrino flux (Agostini *et al.*, 2018) to the PeV ( $10^6$  GeV) high-energy astrophysical neutrinos (Aartsen *et al.*, 2013, 2014c; Schneider, 2019). Furthermore, limits exist all the way up to  $\sim$  ZeV ( $10^{12}$  GeV) (Aab *et al.*, 2015a; Aartsen *et al.*, 2018). With these observations, a multitude of experimental constraints have been derived on the DM annihilation cross section to neutrino pairs, either by experimental collaborations themselves or by independent authors recasting results of previous searches. The goal of this work is to collect, when available, existing constraints on the  $\chi\chi \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}$  annihilation channel, and otherwise to compute such limits from available data. We focus on the two most promising sources of DM annihilation signal: 1) the dark matter halo of the Milky Way, in which we are deeply embedded, and 2) the full cosmic flux from the sum of all DM halos within our cosmological horizon.

Our main results are a set of constraints on a constant ( $s$ -wave) thermally averaged annihilation cross section  $\langle\sigma v\rangle$ . Where possible, we also compute constraints on  $p$ -wave ( $\langle\sigma v\rangle \propto (v/c)^2$ ) and  $d$ -wave ( $\langle\sigma v\rangle \propto (v/c)^4$ ) suppressed annihilations. These results are provided in

Figures 2–6. We cover a mass range from 1 MeV to  $10^{15}$  MeV. While the upper limit is a function of experimental reach, neutrino-coupled dark matter is severely constrained below  $\sim 10$  MeV based on its modification of  $N_{eff}$ , the energy density in relativistic particles during nucleosynthesis (Boehm *et al.*, 2012, 2013; Escudero, 2019; Ho and Scherrer, 2013; Kolb *et al.*, 1986; Nollett and Steigman, 2014, 2015; Sabti *et al.*, 2020; Serpico and Raffelt, 2004; Steigman, 2013; Steigman and Nollett, 2014; Wilkinson *et al.*, 2016).

The neutrino flux from DM annihilation depends sensitively on the DM halo shape, and many different assumptions have been employed, some in contradiction with kinematic observations (Benito *et al.*, 2019). We thus embark on the endeavour to rescale or recompute all constraints using a single set of DM halo parameters. Depending on the nature of the study and the available data, this is not always possible; when this is the case we explicitly mention it. We provide, in the final section, estimates on the uncertainties associated with the choice of DM halo parameters.

This work contains the most up-to-date constraints. While a few experiments come close in certain narrow mass ranges, it remains clear that current observations are not yet able to probe annihilation cross sections that explain the observed relic abundance of DM through thermal freeze-out. This leaves plenty of room open for future searches, which is why we also present a forecast of possible limits from upcoming neutrino experiments (Argüelles *et al.*, 2019b).

The structure of this review is as follows: we begin in Sec. II with a review of the annihilation signal we are constraining, from the Milky Way halo in Sec. II.A and from the isotropic background of extragalactic halos in Sec. II.B. In Sec. II.C, we detail the calculations needed to extend our analysis to velocity-dependent annihilations, namely  $p$ -wave and  $d$ -wave processes. Sec. III briefly summarizes the experimental techniques used for neutrino detection in a wide energy range, and describes the statistical methods employed in this work to constrain the neutrino flux from dark matter annihilation. Our results are presented in Sec. IV, including results from previous analyses that we recast to be consistent with our halo assumptions, wherever possible. Sec. IV.B shows the results of varying these assumptions in the range allowed by stellar dynamic observations for the Galactic component and simulation results for the extragalactic one. Finally, we conclude in Sec. V.

## II. DARK MATTER ANNIHILATION

Neutrinos are the most weakly interacting stable particles in the SM and, consequently, the hardest to detect. In the context of indirect detection, this implies that models where DM annihilates predominantly to neutrinos

are difficult to rule out. This makes the study of neutrinos as a final state particle particularly interesting as, so far, all direct and indirect searches for the footprints of DM–SM interactions have come up empty (Arcadi *et al.*, 2018; Tanabashi *et al.*, 2018). The limits derived on the DM annihilation to neutrinos can be interpreted as an upper bound on the total DM annihilation cross section to SM particles (Beacom *et al.*, 2007; Yüksel *et al.*, 2007), since the latter is larger by definition.

From a particle physics point of view, the direct annihilation of DM to neutrinos at tree level requires the addition of a neutrino-DM term to the SM Lagrangian that couples them. Since neutrinos belong to an  $SU(2)$  doublet, naïve SM gauge invariance implies that coupling neutrinos with DM would also induce an interaction between the DM and the charged leptons, mediated, *e.g.*, by a new  $Z$ -like particle. Such interactions are highly constrained, as they lead to production of dijet or dilepton signatures observable at colliders (see *e.g.* (Carena *et al.*, 2004; Lees *et al.*, 2014)), fixed target experiments (Abrahamyan *et al.*, 2011), and direct detection experiments (see *e.g.* (Blanco *et al.*, 2019) and references therein).

Nevertheless, there exist viable models in which the DM phenomenology is dominated by its interactions with neutrinos (Blennow *et al.*, 2019). Coupling only to the heavier lepton generations can strongly mitigate bounds from electron interactions, *e.g.* by introducing a  $U(1)_{L_\mu-L_\tau}$  symmetry (He *et al.*, 1991a,b). A more elegant option allows the DM to interact with a sterile neutrino that then mixes with the active neutrinos, leading to direct annihilations of DM to neutrinos if the mass of the sterile neutrino is larger than the DM mass (Ballett *et al.*, 2019a; Profumo *et al.*, 2018). If the sterile-light mixing is sizable, DM–neutrino interactions will provide the best window to understand such DM models. A comprehensive review of these scenarios can be found in (Blennow *et al.*, 2019).

Finally, we are considering direct annihilation to neutrinos without including electroweak (EW) corrections, which severely complicate the spectral shape computations. These are important at energies above the electroweak scale, and will have two main consequences: 1) the peak of the spectrum will be slightly broadened, and 2) A lower-energy continuum will be produced. Given the typical energy resolution  $\gtrsim 10\%$  (Aartsen *et al.*, 2014a) for high-energy neutrino detectors, the former effect is not likely to be important. The second effect could potentially lead to stronger bounds from the additional flux at lower energies. A detailed computation of this effect up to ultra-high-energies has only recently been performed (Bauer *et al.*, 2020); as these were not available at the time of this analysis we do not include these here. At sub-TeV energies, these corrections are accurately implemented in numerical codes such as PYTHIA (Sjöstrand, 2020; Sjöstrand *et al.*, 2015); a comparison between our

limits and ones derived using these additional corrections show very little difference (see *e.g.* Liu *et al.*, 2020).

A more important consequence is the presence of gamma radiation from the decay of EW products, which can potentially provide complementary constraints to dedicated neutrino-line searches (Murase and Beacom, 2012). Using these secondary products, current constraints on the thermally averaged annihilation cross section to neutrinos from Fermi-LAT and HESS hover around  $10^{-23} \text{ cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}$  in the 300 GeV to 3 TeV mass range (Queiroz *et al.*, 2016). These gamma-ray based constraints are at the same level as current bounds from ANTARES (Adrian-Martinez *et al.*, 2015), but are expected to be improved by the next generation gamma-ray experiments such as the Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA) (Queiroz *et al.*, 2016). We will provide an example using these projections for CTA in Sec. IV, noting that this only includes prompt gamma rays. Inverse-Compton scattering of primary electrons and positrons with interstellar photons will strengthen the sensitivity of gamma-ray searches. This effect has been studied for DM decay searches, but not for annihilation  $\chi\chi \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}$  (Chianese *et al.*, 2019; Cohen *et al.*, 2017; Murase *et al.*, 2015).

## A. Galactic contribution

We begin by setting limits on DM annihilation to neutrino pairs in the Milky Way (MW) dark matter halo. The expected flux per flavor of neutrinos plus antineutrinos at Earth, assuming equal flavor composition<sup>4</sup>, is given by

$$\frac{d\Phi_{\nu+\bar{\nu}}}{dE_\nu} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\langle\sigma v\rangle}{\kappa m_\chi^2} \frac{1}{3} \frac{dN_\nu}{dE_\nu} J(\Omega), \quad (1)$$

where  $\kappa$  is 2 for Majorana DM and 4 for Dirac DM,  $m_\chi$  is the DM mass, and  $\langle\sigma v\rangle$  is the thermally averaged self-annihilation cross section into all neutrino flavors. Going forward we set  $\kappa = 2$  (Majorana DM). The spectrum in the case of annihilation to two neutrinos is simply  $dN_\nu/dE_\nu = 2\delta(1 - E/m_\chi)m_\chi/E^2$ .  $J(\Omega)$  is a three-dimensional integral over the target solid angle in the sky,  $d\Omega$ , and the distance  $dx$  along the line of sight (l.o.s.) of the DM density  $\rho_\chi$ , namely

$$J \equiv \int d\Omega \int_{\text{l.o.s.}} \rho_\chi^2(x) dx. \quad (2)$$

It is referred to as the  $J$ -factor and has units of  $\text{GeV}^2 \text{ cm}^{-5} \text{ sr}$ .<sup>5</sup>

<sup>4</sup> If the flavor composition at the source is not democratic, neutrino oscillation will yield a flavor composition at Earth that is close, but not equal to  $(\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau) = (1 : 1 : 1)$ . Annihilation to  $\nu_e$  only will give  $\sim (0.55 : 0.25 : 0.2)$ ; to  $\nu_\mu$ :  $\sim (0.25 : 0.36 : 0.38)$  and  $\nu_\tau$  yields  $\sim (0.19 : 0.38 : 0.43)$ .

<sup>5</sup> Another equivalent convention used in the literature is to report the dimensionless quantity  $\mathcal{J} = J/\Delta\Omega R_0\rho_0^2$  (Yüksel *et al.*, 2007).



345 The galactocentric distance is

$$r = \sqrt{R_0^2 - 2xR_0 \cos \psi + x^2}, \quad (3)$$

346 where  $\psi$  is the angle between the Galactic center (GC)  
347 and the line of sight, and  $R_0$  is the distance from the Sun  
348 to the GC. In practice, the upper limit of integration can  
349 be set at

$$x_{\max} = \sqrt{R_{\text{halo}}^2 - \sin^2 \psi R_0^2} + R_0 \cos \psi, \quad (4)$$

350 for some maximum halo radius  $R_{\text{halo}}$ . The  $J$ -factor re-  
351 mains approximately unchanged for  $R_{\text{halo}} \gtrsim 30$  kpc.

352 To parametrize the DM halo, we use a generalized  
353 Navarro-Frenk-White (NFW) profile, which is given by

$$\rho_\chi(r) = \rho_s \frac{2^{3-\gamma}}{\left(\frac{r}{r_s}\right)^\gamma \left(1 + \frac{r}{r_s}\right)^{3-\gamma}}. \quad (5)$$

354 We take the Sun to be located  $R_0 = 8.127$  kpc from  
355 the GC, as determined by recent measurements of the  
356 four-telescope interferometric beam-combiner instru-  
357 ment GRAVITY (Abuter *et al.*, 2018). We use DM halo  
358 parameters compatible with the best-fit values of (Benito  
359 *et al.*, 2019), *i.e.*: a local density<sup>6</sup> of  $\rho_0 = 0.4 \text{ GeV cm}^{-3}$ ,  
360 a slope parameter  $\gamma = 1.2$ , and a density  $\rho_s$  at scale  
361 radius  $r_s = 20$  kpc. The resulting  $J$ -factors for  $s$ ,  $p$ , and  
362  $d$ -wave annihilation are shown in Tbl. I; the latter cases  
363 will be discussed in Sec. II.C. Some experiments, such as  
364 ANITA, AUGER, and GRAND, are only sensitive to a  
365 certain region of the sky. In these cases, the correspond-  
366 ing  $J$ -factors must be recomputed by converting their  
367 respective sensitivity from elevation/azimuth to galactic  
368 coordinates, and integrating over the resulting region. A  
369 value of the  $J$ -factor is not given for some experiments,  
370 where the flux cannot be factored out as in Eq. (1). This  
371 could be due *e.g.* to an energy-dependent acceptance.  
372 These are also shown in Tbl. I. When the exposure is not  
373 a simple declination window, we provide the reference  
374 to where it can be obtained. Recent works (Benito  
375 *et al.*, 2017, 2019; Karukes *et al.*, 2019; Pato *et al.*,  
376 2015) have constrained the halo shape and density  
377 parameters, using observations of stellar dynamics in the  
378 MW. In Sec. IV.B, we illustrate the effect on the dark  
379 matter limits obtained in this work when varying these  
380 parameters within those constraints.

381

## 389 B. Extragalactic contribution

390 In addition to DM annihilation in the MW, annihila-  
391 tion of extragalactic dark matter integrated over all

<sup>6</sup> It is customary to specify  $\rho_0 \equiv \rho_\chi(R_0)$  rather than  $\rho_s$ , as the former can be more directly measured. The two are related by inverting Eq. (5).

392 redshifts should provide a diffuse isotropic neutrino sig-  
393 nal (Beacom *et al.*, 2007). As in the search for extra-  
394 galactic background light, there are two contributions  
395 to this isotropic flux: 1) a “background” flux from the  
396 diffuse (non-collapsed) distribution of DM, whose rate  
397 grows with redshift as  $\Omega_{DM}^2 \sim (1+z)^6$ , and 2) a late-  
398 time contribution from the large overdensities in galactic  
399 halos.

400 In this case, the expected flux of neutrinos plus an-  
401 tineutrinos per flavor at Earth from DM annihilation is  
402 given by

$$\frac{d\Phi_{\nu+\bar{\nu}}}{dE_\nu} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\Omega_{DM}^2 \rho_c^2 \langle \sigma v \rangle}{\kappa m_\chi^2} \frac{1}{3} \int_0^{z_{up}} dz \frac{(1+G(z))(1+z)^3}{H(z)} \frac{dN_{\nu+\bar{\nu}}(E')}{dE'}, \quad (6)$$

403 where  $H(z) = H_0 [(1+z)^3 \Omega_m + (1+z)^4 \Omega_r + \Omega_\Lambda]^{1/2}$  is  
404 the time-dependent Hubble parameter,  $\rho_c$  is the critical  
405 density of the Universe,  $\Omega_m$ ,  $\Omega_r$ , and  $\Omega_\Lambda$  are respectively  
406 the fraction of  $\rho_c$  made up of matter, radiation and dark  
407 energy. While the upper limit on redshift,  $z_{up}$ , can in  
408 principle be as high as the neutrino decoupling time at  
409  $T \sim \text{MeV}$ , neutrinos produced at that epoch are red-  
410 shifted to the point of being invisible to existing detec-  
411 tors.  $dN_\nu(E')/dE$  is the neutrino spectrum at the detec-  
412 tor, where  $E'$  ( $E$ ) is the energy at the source (detector).  
413 The spectrum is related to the source production spec-  
414 trum via a Jacobian transformation to take cosmological  
415 redshift into account, namely

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dN_{\nu+\bar{\nu}}(E')}{dE'} &= 2 \frac{m_\chi}{E'^2} \delta\left(\frac{m_\chi}{E'} - 1\right) \\ &= \frac{2}{E} \delta\left[z - \left(\frac{m_\chi}{E} - 1\right)\right]. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

416 In Eq. (6),  $\langle \sigma v \rangle$  is the thermally averaged cross section.  
417 The first part of the factor  $1 + G(z)$  in the integrand of  
418 Eq. (6) represents the isotropic background DM contri-  
419 bution, while  $G(z)$  is the halo boost factor at redshift  $z$ .  
420 It accounts for the enhancement to the annihilation rate  
421 in DM clusters and their evolution with redshift; and is  
422 given by

$$G(z) = \frac{1}{\Omega_{DM,0}^2 \rho_c^2} \frac{1}{(1+z)^6} \int dM \frac{dn(M, z)}{dM} \int dr 4\pi r^2 \rho_\chi^2(r). \quad (8)$$

423 The first integral is over halo masses  $M$  whose distri-  
424 bution is specified by the halo mass function (HMF),  
425  $dn/dM$ , while the second integral is over the halo over-  
426 densities themselves. We model the latter as self-similar  
427 NFW profiles whose densities and radii are specified by  
428 a concentration parameter uniquely determined by their  
429 mass and redshift. The parametrization that we employ  
430 is based on fits to the MultiDark/BigBolshoi (Prada

Experiment	Exposure	$J_s/10^{23}$	$J_p/10^{17}$	$J_d/10^{11}$
♡ All-sky	All-sky	2.3	2.2	3.6
♡ GRAND	Fig. 24 of (Alvarez-Muniz <i>et al.</i> , 2018) dec = $[1.5^\circ, 4^\circ]$	0.28	0.28	0.46
♡ ANITA		0.018	0.018	0.028
CTA (Queiroz <i>et al.</i> , 2016)	Galactic Center (Queiroz <i>et al.</i> , 2016)	0.074	0.12	0.16
♡ TAMBO	Fig. 3 & 4 of (Romero-Wolf <i>et al.</i> , 2020)	0.0009	–	–
♡ Auger	zenith = $[90^\circ, 95^\circ]$	0.10	–	–
	zenith = $[75^\circ, 90^\circ]$	0.28	–	–
	zenith = $[60^\circ, 75^\circ]$	0.27	–	–
♡ P-ONE	cos(zenith) = $[-1, -0.5]$	0.87	0.85	1.4
	cos(zenith) = $[-0.5, 0.5]$	1.2	1.2	2.0
	cos(zenith) = $[0.5, 1]$	0.13	0.12	0.18

382 **TABLE I:  $J$ -factors for different experiments discussed in this work and their associated halo**  
383 **parameters.**  $J$ -factors, given in units of  $\text{GeV}^2 \text{cm}^{-5} \text{sr}$ , are computed according to Eq. (2). We use these to find  
384 the expected neutrino flux as described in Eq. (1). Each row corresponds to a different experimental setup given its  
385 angular exposure. The first column names the experiment; the second column summarizes their angular acceptance;  
386 and the last three columns give the  $s$ -wave,  $p$ -wave, and  $d$ -wave  $J$ -factors, respectively. The hearts, ♡, indicate new  
387 results given in this work.

431 *et al.*, 2012) simulations and can be found in Appendix  
432 B of Lopez-Honorez *et al.* (2013).

433 Two uncertainties arise from the integral over  $M$ . First  
434 is the choice of integration limits, specifically the lower  
435 limit,  $M_{min}$ . This is because smaller halos are more con-  
436 centrated, thus contributing more to the injected neu-  
437 trino energy. This means that choosing arbitrarily low-  
438 minimum halo masses results in unrealistic limits. It is  
439 common in the literature to use  $M_{min} = 10^{-6}M_\odot$  as  
440 a benchmark, although there is no data-driven motiva-  
441 tion for this choice.  $M_{min}$  is not well-constrained, and  
442 will ultimately depend on model details (Cornell *et al.*,  
443 2013; Shoemaker, 2013). Therefore, in this work we pick  
444  $M_{min} = 10^{-3}M_\odot$  as a conservative limit choice. In sec-  
445 tion IV.B, we show the effect of varying  $M_{min}$  down to  
446  $10^{-9}M_\odot$ . The other uncertainty arises from the choice  
447 of HMF,  $dn/dM$ , parametrization. We use the results  
448 of the N-body simulation by (Watson *et al.*, 2013), as  
449 parametrized in (Diamanti *et al.*, 2014; Lopez-Honorez  
450 *et al.*, 2013). Several other HMF parametrizations are  
451 tested, and the uncertainties due to choice of HMF are  
452 quantified in Sec. IV.B.

453 The expected spectrum of DM annihilation to two  
454 neutrinos from cosmological sources is shown in Fig. 1,  
455 for different DM masses. These are overlaid on the  
456 Super-Kamiokande (SK) (Richard *et al.*, 2016) and Ice-  
457 Cube (Aartsen *et al.*, 2015b, 2016b) unfolded atmo-  
458 spheric  $\nu_e$  and  $\nu_\mu$  fluxes as well as the isotropic astro-  
459 physical flux (Abbasi *et al.*, 2020).

### 468 C. Velocity-dependent annihilation

469 Certain matrix element vertex structures lead to a  
470 suppression of the constant ( $s$ -wave) part of the self-

471 annihilation cross section. Expanding in powers of  $v/c$ ,  
472 the dominant term may be  $p$ -wave ( $\propto v^2$ ) or  $d$ -wave  
473 ( $\propto v^4$ ) in the nonrelativistic limit. The DM velocity dis-  
474 tribution depends on the kinematic details of the struc-  
475 ture in which it is bound, as well as its distance from  
476 the center of that distribution. Assuming a normalized  
477 Maxwellian distribution,  $f(v, r)$ , with dispersion  $v_0(r)$ ,  
478 the annihilation rate will be proportional to

$$\langle v^n \rangle = \int d^3v f(v, r) v^n. \quad (9)$$

479 For  $p$ - and  $d$ -wave, this respectively yields

$$\langle v^2 \rangle = 3v_0^2(r), \quad (10)$$

$$\langle v^4 \rangle = 15v_0^4(r). \quad (11)$$

480 We obtain the dispersion velocity,  $v_0$ , by solving the  
481 spherical Jeans equation, assuming isotropy. This is  
482 given by

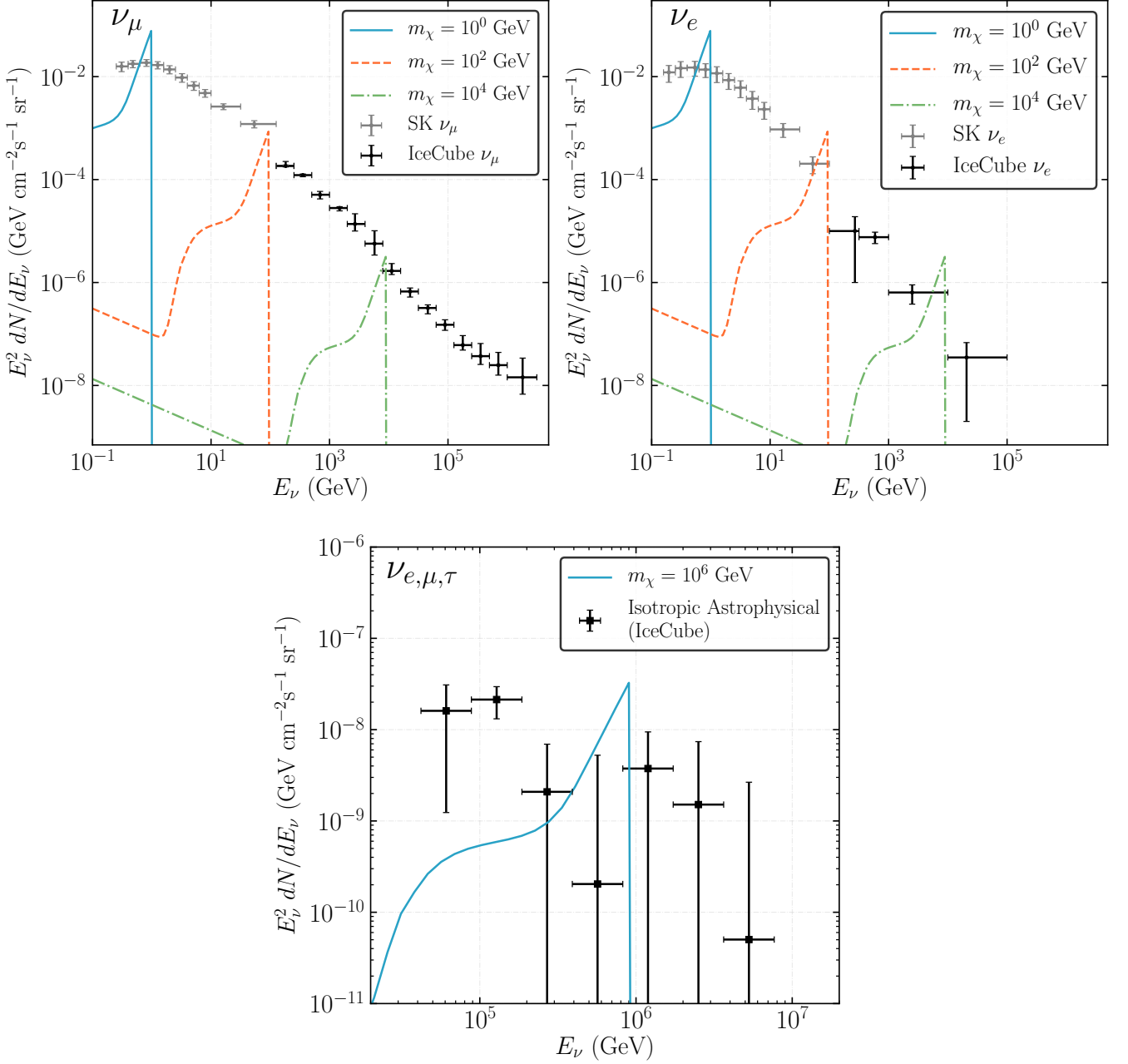
$$\frac{d(\rho(r)v_0^2(r))}{dr} = -\rho(r)\frac{d\phi(r)}{dr}, \quad (12)$$

483 where  $\phi(r)$  is the total gravitational potential at radius  
484  $r$ . For Galactic constraints, we include not only the con-  
485 tribution of the DM halo to  $\phi(r)$ , but also follow (Boddy  
486 *et al.*, 2018) and include a parametrization of the MW  
487 bulge and disk potentials to account for their masses.  
488 These are given by

$$\phi(r)_{\text{bulge}} = -\frac{G_N M_b}{r + c_b}, \quad (13)$$

$$\phi(r)_{\text{disk}} = -\frac{G_N M_d}{r} \left(1 - e^{-r/c_d}\right), \quad (14)$$

489 where  $G_N$  is Newton's gravitational constant,  $M_b = 1.5 \times$   
490  $10^{10}M_\odot$ , and  $c_b = 0.6$  kpc are the bulge mass and scale



460 **FIG. 1: Examples of neutrino fluxes produced by dark matter annihilation overlaid on the observed**  
 461 **neutrino distributions.** Expected flux of neutrinos from extragalactic dark matter annihilation as a function of  
 462 energy, shown for several dark matter masses. Fluxes are computed using the value of the cross section corresponding  
 463 to the 90% C.L. limit derived in this work. Here, the extragalactic dark matter annihilation fluxes are compared to  
 464 the unfolded atmospheric fluxes from both Super-Kamiokande (Richard *et al.*, 2016) and IceCube (Aartsen *et al.*,  
 465 2015b, 2016b). Top left is the  $\nu_\mu$  channel; top right is the  $\nu_e$  channel; the bottom shows a comparison to IceCube's  
 466 measured per-flavor isotropic Astrophysical flux using 7.5 years of Starting Events (Abbasi *et al.*, 2020).

491 radius, while  $M_d = 7 \times 10^{10} M_\odot$  and  $c_d = 4$  kpc are the  
 492 disk mass and scale radius (Boddy *et al.*, 2018). Galactic  
 493  $J$ -factors can then be reevaluated via

$$J_{\nu^n} = \int d\Omega \int_{1.o.s.} \frac{\langle v^n(r) \rangle}{c^n} \rho_\chi^2(r) dx. \quad (15)$$

494 In the case of our extragalactic analysis, we only include  
 495 the potential from the DM halos themselves. This  
 496 is conservative, in that the addition of the uncertain baryonic  
 497 contributions would only strengthen our constraints.  
 498 In a similar manner to the Galactic case, Eqs. (6) and (9)



499 must be modified to include the dependence on  $\langle v^n \rangle(r)$ .  
 500 As long as the annihilation remains a two-to-two pro-  
 501 cess (unlike scenarios in e.g. Bell *et al.*, 2017), Eq. (6)  
 502 becomes:

$$\frac{d\Phi_\nu}{dE_\nu} = \frac{c}{4\pi} \frac{\Omega_{DM}^2 \rho_c^2 \langle \sigma v \rangle}{2m_x^2} \quad (16)$$

$$\int_0^{z_{up}} dz \frac{\left( \left[ \frac{1+z}{1+z_{KD}} \right]^n + G_n(z) \right) (1+z)^3}{H(z)} \frac{dN_\nu(E')}{dE},$$

503 where the redshift  $z_{KD}$  is related to the temperature  
 504 at kinetic decoupling  $T_{KD}$  and the temperature of the  
 505 CMB today  $T_{CMB,0}$  via  $1+z_{KD} = T_{KD}/T_{CMB,0} \simeq$   
 506  $4.2 \times 10^9 (T_{KD}/\text{MeV})$  (Diamanti *et al.*, 2014). Shoemaker  
 507 (2013) obtained a temperature of kinetic decoupling:

$$T_{KD} \simeq 2.02 \text{ MeV} \left( \frac{m_\chi}{\text{GeV}} \right)^{3/4}. \quad (17)$$

508 In general, kinetic decoupling occurs later than chemi-  
 509 cal freeze-out and depends on the number of relativistic  
 510 degrees of freedom  $g_*(T_{KD})$ . At redshifts where the an-  
 511 nihilation products are still measurable by earth-based  
 512 detectors, the factor of  $((1+z)/(1+z_{KD}))^n$  still leads to  
 513 a strong enough suppression that it will always be sub-  
 514 dominant to the halo contribution proportional to  $G_n(z)$ .  
 515 The exact value of  $T_{KD}$  in Eq. (17) is thus inconsequen-  
 516 tial. Eq. (9) including velocity dependence is rewritten  
 517 as follows:

$$G_n(z) = \frac{1}{\Omega_{DM,0}^2 \rho_c^2} \frac{1}{(1+z)^6} \quad (18)$$

$$\int dM \frac{dn(M, z)}{dM} \int dr 4\pi r^2 \frac{\langle v^n(r) \rangle}{c^n} \rho_\chi^2(r),$$

518 where we have used the same HMF as in the velocity-  
 519 independent case, with the addition of the velocity dis-  
 520 persion,  $\langle v^n(r) \rangle$ , in the rightmost integral. (Diamanti  
 521 *et al.*, 2014) provides the detailed method of solving the  
 522 Jeans equation to compute  $\langle v^n(r) \rangle$  as a function of the  
 523 DM halo concentration. For convenience, we provide the  
 524 following function for the  $p$ - and  $d$ -wave cases:

$$\ln(G_n) \simeq \sum_i c_i \alpha^i, \quad (19)$$

525 where  $c_i$  are the coefficients provided in Tbl. II, and  $\alpha \equiv$   
 526  $\ln(z)$ . This parametrization is valid down to redshifts  
 527  $\gtrsim 10^{-3}$ .

### 544 III. EXPERIMENTAL METHODS

545 In this section we will briefly review the different  
 546 methodologies and technologies used for neutrino detec-  
 547 tion relevant for the discussion of the experimental results  
 548 discussed in this review. The results presented in Sec. IV  
 549 rely on our understanding of the backgrounds in the re-  
 550 gion of interest. Depending on whether the background

551 flux is known, upper limits can be either background-  
 552 agnostic or background informed. Moreover, the upper  
 553 limits highly depend on the systematics that govern neu-  
 554 trino detection, for instance the energy resolution and fla-  
 555 vor identification capability. Below, we first outline the  
 556 statistical framework for limit-setting, before describing  
 557 detector physics used over energy ranges considered here,  
 558 from a few MeV up to  $10^{12}$  GeV and beyond.

## 559 A. Statistical Methods

560 To contextualize the variety of experimental capabil-  
 561 ities, we will first outline the principal statistical treat-  
 562 ments used to infer the properties of the flux of neutrinos  
 563 from dark matter annihilation. We will explain them in  
 564 increasing order of complexity and strength.

### 565 1. Background-agnostic methods

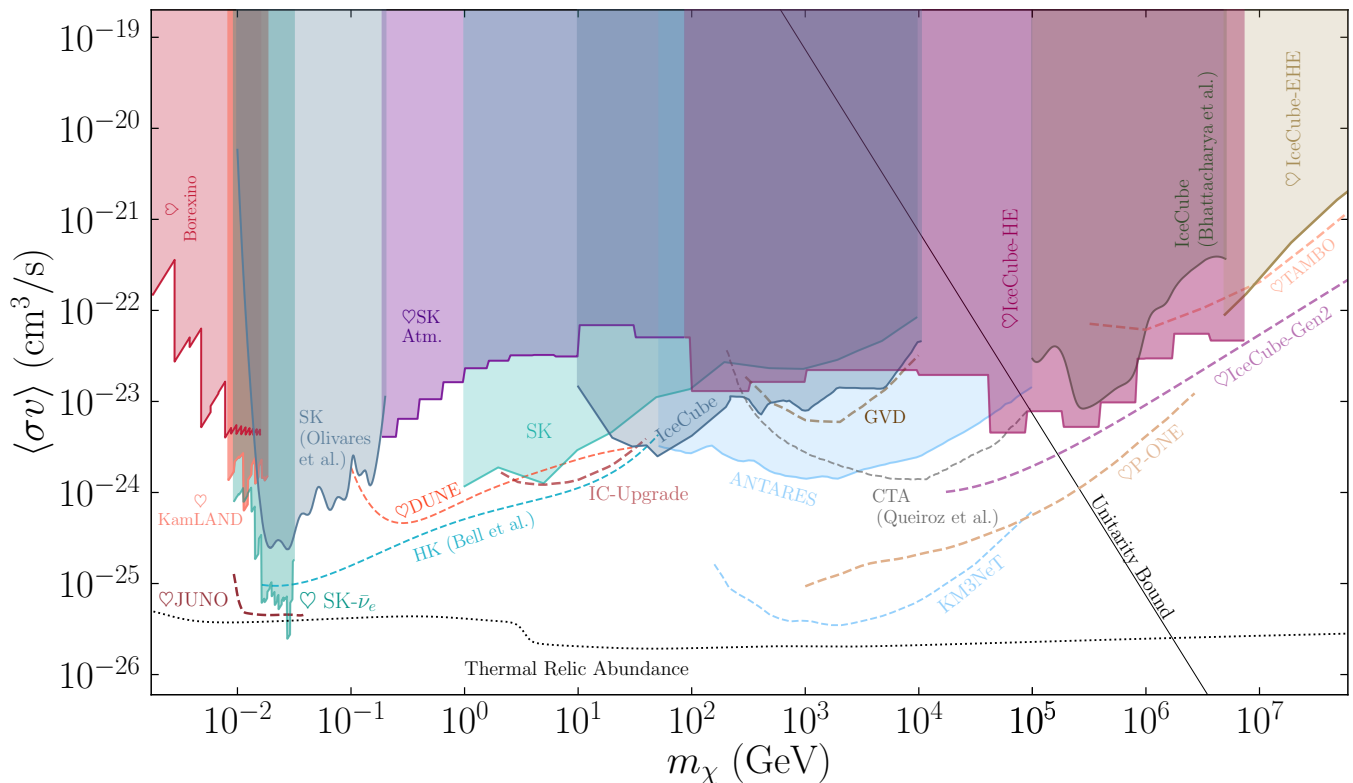
566 In this method we use the observed data and the de-  
 567 tector signal efficiency to constrain the flux of neutrinos  
 568 from DM. This method can inform us of the maximum  
 569 allowed flux, but, by construction, it cannot be used to  
 570 claim the observation of dark matter. This technique is  
 571 predicated on comparing the observed and expected num-  
 572 ber of events in a given bin, by means of the following  
 573 likelihood function:

$$\mathcal{L}(\mu) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{P}(d|\mu) & (d < \mu), \\ 1 & (d \geq \mu), \end{cases} \quad (20)$$

574 for which the likelihood is less than one only if the pre-  
 575 dicted number of events  $\mu$  is larger than the recorded  
 576 data,  $d$ . The probability distribution  $\mathcal{P}$  could be a Pois-  
 577 son or Gaussian distribution depending on the sample  
 578 size. Using this likelihood one can construct one-sided  
 579 confidence upper limits on  $\mu$  and, in turn, on the dark  
 580 matter cross section given the  $J$ -factor and detector ac-  
 581 ceptance. The strength of this method is determined by  
 582 experiment exposure, signal efficiency, and the amplitude  
 583 of unmodeled backgrounds; these determine the statisti-  
 584 cal uncertainty and the phase-space over which the bins

	$p$ -wave	$d$ -wave
$c_0$	-7.004	-19.88
$c_1$	-1.821	-2.493
$c_2$	-0.5793	-0.804
$c_3$	-0.09559	-0.1636
$c_4$	-0.006148	-0.02101
$c_5$	0	-0.001181

529 TABLE II: *Coefficients of the polynomial fit to*  
 530 *velocity dependent halo boost factors.* The  
 531 coefficients corresponding to Eq. (19), which is a  
 532 parametrization to the numerical solution of Eq. (19).



534 FIG. 2: *The landscape of dark matter annihilation into neutrinos up to  $10^8$  GeV.* We show results from  
 535 this work, as well as previously published limits. Data and corresponding references are detailed in Sec. IV. Solid  
 536 and dashed lines represent 90% C.L. limits and sensitivities, respectively. Projected sensitivities assume five years of  
 537 data taking for neutrino experiments and 100 hours of observation for CTA. The dotted line corresponds to the value  
 538 required to explain the observed abundance via thermal freeze-out. The straight diagonal line, labeled as “Unitarity  
 539 Bound,” gives the maximum allowed cross section for a non-composite DM particle. These results assume 100% of  
 540 the dark matter is composed of a given Majorana particle. If instead only a fraction,  $f$ , is considered these results  
 541 should be multiplied by  $1/f^2$ . In the case of Dirac DM, limits would be scaled up by a factor of two. The heart  
 542 symbols (♡) indicate new results obtained in this work. See Fig. 4 for constraints and projections up to  $10^{11}$  GeV.

585 are defined. In the case of dark matter, one would ideally  
 586 bin the events in: energy, direction, and morphology; but  
 587 often this is either not done due to decreasing statistical  
 588 power, insufficient Monte Carlo certainty, or increasing  
 589 difficulty in modeling the systematic uncertainties.

590 In this review, we take advantage of this approach in  
 591 a number of experimental settings. As examples, we  
 592 compare the Super-Kamiokande unfolded neutrino en-  
 593 ergy distribution (Richard *et al.*, 2016) to the dark matter  
 594 expectation using this technique and perform a similar  
 595 comparison to the IceCube PeV astrophysical neutrino  
 596 segmented fit. We also use this technique when experi-  
 597 ments have not seen neutrino events and upper limits are  
 598 reported, such as the Pierre Auger Observatory’s limit on  
 599 neutrino flux at very high energies.

## 600 2. Background-informed methods

601 A higher statistical power can be achieved by simulta-  
 602 neously modeling the signal – the event rate due to dark  
 603 matter – and background – any other contribution to  
 604 the observed rate. This requires signal and background  
 605 efficiencies, as well as a model for the background dis-  
 606 tribution over each observable. A prototypical likelihood  
 607 function is:

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta, \eta) = \mathcal{P}(d | \mu_s(\theta, \eta) + \mu_b(\eta)) \Pi(\eta), \quad (21)$$

608 where  $\mu_s(\theta, \eta)$  and  $\mu_b(\eta)$  are the expected signal and  
 609 background counts respectively,  $d$  represents the observed  
 610 counts, and  $\theta$  and  $\eta$  are the dark matter parameters and  
 611 nuisance parameters, respectively. The latter param-  
 612 eters incorporate the effect of the systematic uncertainties  
 613 in the signal and background distributions and are often  
 614 constrained by previous knowledge or *in situ* measure-  
 615 ments represented in the function  $\Pi(\eta)$ . When the signal

616 and background predictions are well defined, the proba-  
617 bility function,  $\mathcal{P}$ , is taken to be a Poisson function in the  
618 small-count regime or a Gaussian function in the large-  
619 count regime.

620 If the signal or background predictions carry large un-  
621 certainties, which is often the case for rare backgrounds  
622 or signals that cover very specific parts of phase space  
623 such as dark matter lines (Gainer *et al.*, 2014), stochas-  
624 tic likelihood models can be used (Argüelles *et al.*, 2019a;  
625 Glüsenkamp, 2018, 2020). For other treatments pro-  
626 posed to tackle this problem see also Barlow and Beeston  
627 (1993); Bohm and Zech (2014); Chirkin (2013).

628 In either case, the treatment of systematic uncer-  
629 tainties is often done by using the profile likelihood  
630 method, in which the likelihood function is maximized  
631 over the nuisance parameter at each physics parame-  
632 ter point (Heinrich and Lyons, 2007). Alternatively, in  
633 Bayesian treatments (see *e.g.* Trotta (2017)) or hybrid  
634 frequentist-Bayesian treatments (Cousins and Highland,  
635 1992) the nuisance parameters are marginalized over by  
636 integrating the likelihood function. In the case that the  
637 bin content is large, such that a Gaussian likelihood func-  
638 tion is a good approximation, the expectations can be  
639 computed accurately. Often, a multidimensional Gaus-  
640 sian is used where the covariance between bins incorpo-  
641 rates both the systematic and statistical uncertainties.  
642 The latter approach does not require additional parame-  
643 ters to incorporate systematic uncertainties into the like-  
644 lihood, making it computationally advantageous.

645 With this formalism, background-informed analyses  
646 have additional power compared to the background ag-  
647 nostic scenario, provided that experiments are capable of  
648 constraining the background size, and separating it from  
649 signal. The ability to constrain background is encapsu-  
650 lated in systematic uncertainties, whereas the separa-  
651 tion of background from signal depends on the features  
652 of both. The features in the case of neutrinos from dark  
653 matter are a democratic flavor composition, spatial clus-  
654 tering predominantly around the Galactic center, and an  
655 energy distribution which is maximal close to the dark  
656 matter mass. Separating dark matter from background  
657 using these three features then depends on the experi-  
658 mental direction and energy resolutions, as well as its fla-  
659 vor identification capabilities dictated by the event mor-  
660 phological classification. The latter is important since  
661 natural and anthropogenic sources often have a non-  
662 democratic flavor composition. This is a characteristic  
663 of the stronger constraints. For example, we use the fact  
664 that for MeV dark matter one of the main backgrounds  
665 are solar neutrinos, which can be efficiently removed by  
666 selecting only for antineutrinos in Super-Kamiokande or  
667 JUNO; we also rely on this in our predictions of the  
668 sensitivities for DUNE and Hyper-Kamiokande in the  
669 100 MeV to 30 GeV energy range, where we use the fact  
670 that one can do morphological event analysis to remove

671 muon neutrinos which are the dominant component of  
672 the atmospheric flux.

## 673 B. Neutrino Detection Methods

674 Because neutrinos only interact via the weak nuclear  
675 force, neutrino detection must proceed in at least two  
676 steps: first, interaction between a neutrino and a detec-  
677 tor electron or nucleus, and second, the detection of the  
678 resulting electromagnetic signal. Typically, energy from  
679 a gamma-ray or electron cascades down via scintillation,  
680 additional ionization or Cherenkov radiation and is sub-  
681 sequently measured by optical sensors or charge readout.

682 The small neutrino detection cross section poses a great  
683 challenge in the search for the expected fluxes from dark  
684 matter annihilation to neutrinos. As the dark matter  
685 mass increases, larger detectors are necessary to com-  
686 pensate for the smaller flux, which scales as  $m_\chi^{-2}$ . Such  
687 a scaling can come at the cost of energy and angular res-  
688 olution, as well as flavor identification, all of which allow  
689 differentiation between the dark matter induced neutri-  
690 nos from other natural or anthropogenic neutrino sources  
691 as discussed in the previous section. In this section, we  
692 review the techniques used to detect neutrinos in differ-  
693 ent energy ranges; see also (Diaz *et al.*, 2019; Katori and  
694 Martini, 2018) for a discussion in the context of neutrino  
695 oscillation experiments. Note that the energy ranges de-  
696 tailed here are approximate, and there is naturally some  
697 overlap between techniques and physics discussed in each  
698 respective subsection.

### 699 1. Neutrino energies below 10 MeV

700 Coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering, namely  
701  $\nu A_N^Z \rightarrow \nu A_N^{*Z}$ , dominates the cross section at the low-  
702 est energies (Freedman, 1974). This process, sometimes  
703 abbreviated as CE $\nu$ NS, has no kinematic threshold and  
704 scales quadratically with the atomic number. However,  
705 the maximum recoil energies are very small making its de-  
706 tection difficult; in fact it has only recently been observed  
707 using anthropogenic neutrinos in detectors of  $\mathcal{O}(10)$  kg of  
708 mass (Akimov *et al.*, 2017). Future ton-scale dark matter  
709 direct detection experiments such as DARWIN (Aalbers  
710 *et al.*, 2016) expect to see solar and atmospheric neutri-  
711 nos via CE $\nu$ NS. Because of the trade-off between detec-  
712 tor size and nuclear recoil threshold, they would only be  
713 sensitive to DM above  $m_\chi \sim 10$  MeV, and provide only  
714 marginal improvement over existing dedicated neutrino  
715 experiments that use different detection channels.

716 Neutrino-electron scattering also has no kinematic  
717 threshold at detectable energies, and the cross section is  
718 predicted without ambiguities that arise from form fac-  
719 tors in hadron-neutrino interactions. This interaction's  
720 well-understood kinematics, together with the fact that

721 a single outgoing charged particle is produced, makes  
 722 it a good channel to use for DM annihilation searches.  
 723 This is because precise energy and directional informa-  
 724 tion can be inferred. The angle between the neutrino  
 725 and the electron is tightly constrained by the kinematics,  
 726  $E_e \theta_e < 2m_e$ , allowing for an accurate reconstruction of  
 727 the neutrino direction (it was through this process that  
 728 in 1998 the Super-Kamiokande experiment made the first  
 729 image of the Sun in neutrinos (Fukuda *et al.*, 1998); see  
 730 also Ahmad *et al.* (2001); Alimonti *et al.* (2002); Arpe-  
 731 sella *et al.* (2008) for subsequent measurements by SNO  
 732 and Borexino). Angular information is used to mitigate  
 733 the  $\sim 1$ -10 MeV solar neutrino backgrounds and to search  
 734 for correlations with the expected angular distribution of  
 735 DM via  $J(\Omega)$ . Unfortunately, the neutrino-electron cross  
 736 section is approximately  $10^{-43}$  cm<sup>2</sup> at 5 MeV, which is  
 737 about a factor of 10 smaller than the dominant neutrino-  
 738 nucleon process.

739 The other commonly-used technique to detect sub-  
 740 10 MeV neutrinos is inverse beta decay (IBD),  $\bar{\nu}_e p \rightarrow$   
 741  $ne^+$ . This is due to three reasons: first, the large  
 742 and well-measured IBD cross section, approximately  
 743  $10^{-42}$  cm<sup>2</sup> at 5 MeV (Ankowski, 2016; Vogel and Bea-  
 744 com, 1999), with an uncertainty of  $\sim 0.2\%$  (Kurylov  
 745 *et al.*, 2003; Vogel and Beacom, 1999); second, the low-  
 746 threshold:  $E_\nu > 1.806$  MeV; and finally, the ability to  
 747 reduce background by searching for the prompt positron  
 748 signature followed by the neutron capture. This detection  
 749 method is often used with hydrocarbon-based scintillator  
 750 since it contains a large number of free protons and emits  
 751 large number of photons, typically  $10^4$  per MeV of de-  
 752 posited energy (Leo, 1994). The energy deposited by the  
 753 prompt signal is the kinetic energy of the positron plus  
 754 two 511 keV gamma-rays from electron-positron annihila-  
 755 tion, and a 2.2 MeV gamma ray from the delayed cap-  
 756 ture of the neutron on free protons. In hydrogen-based  
 757 detectors the neutron capture time is typically 300  $\mu$ s.  
 758 If the detector is doped with 1% Gadolinium, this time  
 759 is reduced to about 20  $\mu$ s and the prompt gamma-ray  
 760 energy is 8 MeV allowing for an improved background  
 761 suppression (Beacom and Vagins, 2004); *e.g.* in the case  
 762 of Super-Kamiokande a hundredfold background suppres-  
 763 sion efficiency can be achieved (Watanabe *et al.*, 2009).  
 764 In the search for dark matter this process has the ad-  
 765 vantage that it is only triggered by  $\bar{\nu}_e$  allowing for very  
 766 efficient suppression of the solar neutrino flux that domi-  
 767 nates the natural backgrounds at sub-10 MeV energies.  
 768 In fact, our strongest limit across all dark matter masses  
 769 comes from an IBD search by Super-Kamiokande; see  
 770 Fig. 2.

## 771 2. Neutrino energies between 10 MeV and 1 GeV

772 Between  $\sim 10$  MeV and  $\sim 1$  GeV, in Cherenkov detec-  
 773 tors the proton is invisible since it is Cherenkov thresh-

774 old – approximately 1.3 GeV in mineral oil, 1.4 GeV in  
 775 water, and can be as low as 1.2 GeV in the Antarc-  
 776 tic ice (Besson *et al.*, 2012). This has advantages and  
 777 disadvantages compared to scintillator detectors, on the  
 778 one hand it simplifies identification and classification of  
 779 events since the observed Cherenkov light must be asso-  
 780 ciated with the outgoing charged lepton. On the other  
 781 hand, the lack of proton kinematics means that the en-  
 782 ergy and angular resolution can be greatly degraded. The  
 783 dominant neutrino-nucleon process in this energy range  
 784 is that of charged-current quasi-elastic (CCQE) scatter-  
 785 ing, namely  $\nu_\alpha N \rightarrow \alpha \tilde{N}$  where  $\alpha$  is a charged lepton and  
 786  $N$  ( $\tilde{N}$ ) is a proton or neutron. At high enough energies,  
 787 muon neutrinos can have CCQE interactions, producing  
 788 muons which can be identified by the morphology of the  
 789 Cherenkov ring. Due to the larger mass, muons tend to  
 790 preserve their direction as they travel through the detec-  
 791 tor producing sharper rings than electrons. Cherenkov  
 792 detectors can be constructed out of mineral oil, wa-  
 793 ter, or ice. Although oil-based detectors boast a larger  
 794 Cherenkov angle and the ability to run without a pu-  
 795 rification system, they are only utilized in smaller detec-  
 796 tors (Diaz *et al.*, 2019) due to the higher filling cost. For  
 797 this reason, multi-kiloton detectors available as of 2020  
 798 are all water or ice based. As early as 2022, JUNO will  
 799 become the first multi-kiloton liquid scintillator detec-  
 800 tor. Since the DM-induced flux is expected to be very  
 801 small, the larger water or ice Cherenkov detectors cur-  
 802 rently dominate the constraints over oil-Cherenkov de-  
 803 tectors and we will not discuss them further.

## 804 3. Neutrino energies from 1 GeV to $10^7$ GeV

805 Resonant light-meson production is important between  
 806 approximately 1 and 10 GeV. Due to the difficulty in  
 807 cross section modeling, neutrino detection in this range  
 808 is subject to large uncertainties. Above 10 GeV the con-  
 809 tribution of deep inelastic scattering (DIS), where the  
 810 neutrino exchanges a  $W$  or  $Z$  boson with one of the  
 811 partons inside the nucleon becomes the dominant pro-  
 812 cess. The production of taus in tau-neutrino charged-  
 813 current interactions becomes possible above the thresh-  
 814 old  $m_\tau = 1.777$  GeV, though the cross section is only  
 815 around 15% of the charged-current muon-neutrino cross  
 816 section at 10 GeV, rising to 75 % at 100 GeV (Conrad  
 817 *et al.*, 2010).

818 Though unsegmented Cherenkov detectors are still  
 819 used in this energy range, the use of tracking calorime-  
 820 ters, often constructed as segmented scintillators, are  
 821 popular as they allow for improved reconstruction of  
 822 outgoing muon tracks, as well as electromagnetic and  
 823 hadronic showers produced in the interaction vertex. No-  
 824 table examples of these types of detectors in contempo-  
 825 rary neutrino physics are the NO $\nu$ A experiment and the  
 826 T2K near-detector. Sampling calorimeters have also been



used to increase the target density, though this comes at the expense of a degraded energy resolution. In this case a dense material like iron is interleaved with scintillator panels. This design was used by the MINER $\nu$ A experiment (Aliaga *et al.*, 2014) to perform precision measurements of the neutrino cross section and has been used in the past to measure neutrino oscillations by MINOS (Sousa, 2015). In these detectors the morphological features observed in the trackers have been used to identify the different neutrino interaction processes by comparing them to generated event libraries (Backhouse and Patterson, 2015; Sousa and U., 2007) or convolutional neural networks (Aurisano *et al.*, 2016; Psihas *et al.*, 2019). Given the size of these detectors they are not expected to play a role in the detection of dark matter and are not included in this work.

The newest neutrino detectors in this energy range are the so-called liquid argon time projection chambers (LArTPC) (Cavanna *et al.*, 2018). These detectors consist of an electric field cage filled with liquid argon. When a charged particle is produced in the argon, it travels through the medium and ionizes the argon atoms, liberating electrons. An electric field then drifts the electrons to wire planes on one side of the detector, recording a projected footprint of the interaction. Three dimensional reconstruction is also possible by using the timing of the charge deposition on the wires. To localize the event in the third dimension, the drift time of electrons in argon and the initial interaction time need to be known. The initial interaction time can be known in the case of generic neutrino interactions via the scintillation light produced by the charged particles in argon or, in the case of neutrinos produced in bunches in a beam, by the beam timing. In the case of dark matter searches, relevant for this work, only the former technique is relevant. Even though the neutrino-argon cross section is currently poorly understood compared to other materials conventionally used in neutrino physics, these detectors have the potential for unprecedented particle identification: see *e.g.* Acciarri *et al.* (2018); Adams *et al.* (2019); MicroBooNE (2018). Examples of currently operating LArTPC neutrino detectors are MicroBooNE (Acciarri *et al.*, 2017) and ICARUS (Ali-Mohammadzadeh *et al.*, 2020) at Fermilab. The next generation experiment in this category is DUNE (Abi *et al.*, 2020b).

At the higher end of this energy range, neutrino telescopes such as ANTARES and IceCube have the largest neutrino collection volumes. These detectors operate at energies above 10 GeV where DIS is the dominant cross section process (Gandhi *et al.*, 1996). These detectors use natural media, such as the Mediterranean water or the Antarctic ice, as targets for the neutrino interaction. Cherenkov light produced by charged particles by products of these interactions are then observed by photomultiplier tubes (PMTs) arranged on sparse arrays. In these detectors the different neutrino interactions map onto

different morphologies of the time and spatial distribution of charge in the array. Neutral-current interactions, charged-current electron-neutrino interactions, and most of the charged-current tau-neutrino interactions produce a morphology known as a cascade. Because cascades can be contained in the detector, this morphology has the best energy resolution. Charged-current muon neutrino interactions produce a morphology known as tracks, due to the long travel-time of the muon. This morphology provides the best directional information. In water, photons tend to scatter less than in ice, providing more direct light. This means that the muon angular resolution in water-based detectors is better than those in ice. On the other hand, given the longer absorption length of photons in ice compared to water, the effective detector volume is larger for detectors deployed deep in the ice. Finally, charged-current tau neutrino interactions can produce a variety of morphologies depending on the boost factor of the tau and its decay channel. For example, around 1 PeV, a tau can travel on average 50 m before decaying producing separated energy depositions known as *double bangs* (Cowen, 2007; Learned and Pakvasa, 1995); in 2018 IceCube announced the first candidate astrophysical tau events (Stachurska, 2018, 2020). Finally, in these detectors one can also observe the electron-neutrino scattering, since at approximately 6.3 PeV an electron antineutrino can resonantly scatter with an atomic electron producing a *W* on shell (Glashow, 1960; Loewy *et al.*, 2014); *W*-production of coherent photon scattering can also be important at these energies see (Alikhanov, 2016; Garcia *et al.*, 2020; Seckel, 1998; Zhou and Beacom, 2020a,b). The observation of this process provides a unique handle on the ratio of neutrinos to antineutrinos, as well as providing exquisite energy resolution; and in fact, a candidate event has recently been detected (Lu, 2019).

#### 4. Neutrino energies above $10^7$ GeV

At extremely-high energies, the neutrino flux expected from dark matter and other astrophysical sources such as cosmogenic neutrinos is very small, necessitating the construction of detectors with effective volumes much larger than a cubic kilometer. Neutrino interactions in this energy range occur overwhelmingly via deep inelastic scattering (Gandhi *et al.*, 1996). Two main techniques are used to search for neutrinos in this energy range, both of which rely on identifying horizontal or upgoing particles to mitigate the larger cosmic-ray backgrounds. The first method involves looking for air showers induced by neutrino-nucleus interactions in the atmosphere or just below the surface of the Earth, while the second uses the radio signature produced in very-high-energy neutrino interaction (Gusev and Zheleznykh, 1984; Markov and Zheleznykh, 1986), known as Askaryan radiation (Askar'yan, 1962; Zas *et al.*, 1992).



This former technique can be detected in a number of ways: sparse surface arrays of water Cherenkov tanks are used to identify charged particles from showers as they develop over an area that may span many square-km. Air fluorescence telescopes and optical air Cherenkov telescopes can also be used alone or in combination with water tanks (as is the case for Auger, [Aab et al., 2015b](#)). The timing, morphology, and amount of light deposition is used to infer the energy of the incoming particle, its direction, and its nature. In particular, a neutrino will typically travel much deeper into the atmosphere than a cosmic ray or gamma ray before interacting. Tau neutrinos are particularly promising, as  $\tau$  leptons can be produced in a nearby mountain or below the horizon ([Jeong et al., 2017](#)). If the tau survives the journey out of the mountain, its decay yields an upgoing air shower ([Reno et al., 2019, 2020](#)); an EeV  $\tau$  typical interaction length is a few kilometers in rock and is shorter than its decay length. The expected event rate for such processes at cosmic ray observatories like Auger turns out to be higher than from neutrino-induced atmospheric showers, thanks to the high density of rock. Radio arrays such as GRAND ([Alvarez-Muniz et al., 2018](#)) have been proposed to cover as large an effective area as possible (up to two-hundred thousand square-km) to search for such a signal.

The second method, Askaryan radiation detection, aims to observe neutrinos via the radio emission generated by charge displacement caused by the developing electromagnetic or hadronic shower after DIS scattering. This emission is distinct from down-going cosmic-ray showers in that the polarization of the radio signal is expected to be different. This technique has been implemented by using radio antennae either suspended from balloons ([Gorham et al., 2010](#)) or buried in the ice ([Allison et al., 2019; Anker et al., 2020](#)) in the Antarctic continent. The ability to cover a large area with a single antenna cluster makes this a very scalable and relatively low-cost technique.

## IV. RESULTS

Our main results are shown in Figs. 2-6. Fig. 2 shows the results derived according to the procedures described in Secs. II.A and II.B, in addition to previous results available in the literature. Fig. 3 shows a more detailed view of the low-mass (sub-GeV) range; Fig. 4 shows results for the high-mass ( $10^3$ - $10^{11}$  GeV) region. Finally, Figs. 5-6 provide the constraints and projections in the case of velocity-dependent p-wave and d-wave annihilation, respectively. We label the results derived specifically for this work with a heart ( $\heartsuit$ ).

In the rest of this section, we describe the data that we used to produce or recast limits on DM annihilation into neutrinos according to the procedures outlined in

Sec. II. We split the data into three lists: 1) data used to construct constraints in Fig. 2; 2) previous limits that we have recast; and 3) data used to place limits in the high mass ( $m_\chi > 10^3$  GeV) region.

When reporting literature results, where possible, we have rescaled them to use the same halo parameters, *i.e.* consistent  $J$ -factors, as computed in Sec. II.A. In this way, we ensure that the constraints we present can be properly compared one with another. The rescaling could not be done in the case of ANTARES ([Adrian-Martinez et al., 2015](#)), SK ([Frankiewicz, 2017](#)), and IceCube ([Aartsen et al., 2016a](#)), since these were event-by-event analyses for which data is not publicly available. This is unfortunate since the halo parameters used in these studies are no longer preferred (see discussion in Sec. IV.B). Shaded regions correspond to experimental limits, whereas dashed lines are projections based on future experimental sensitivity. Finally, we include two lines for reference. First, the dotted black line corresponds to the cross section required to produce the observed relic abundance from thermal freeze-out computed as in [Steigman et al. \(2012\)](#), and second, the solid black line labeled “unitarity bound” corresponds to the perturbative unitarity limit on non-composite WIMP dark matter ([Griest and Kamionkowski, 1990](#)); see ([Smirnov and Beacom, 2019](#)) for a recent discussion.

The limits shown in Fig. 2, employing the approach of Secs. II.A and II.B, use the following data, which we also summarize in Tbl. III.

1. **Borexino:** Borexino is a large-volume unsegmented liquid scintillator detector located underground at the *Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso* in Italy ([Alimonti et al., 2009](#)). The collaboration has released two event selections: one which has a livetime of 736 days selecting electron-antineutrino candidate events over the entire fiducial volume and another one with 482 days of livetime designed to search for geo-neutrinos ([Bellini et al., 2010](#)). These event selections are combined into a single set designed to obtain a pure sample of electron-antineutrinos by means of searching for signatures of inverse beta decay. Using this selection, they derive upper limits on the all-sky monochromatic electron-antineutrino flux ranging from  $\sim 10^5$  to  $\sim 10^2 \bar{\nu}_e \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ , for energies ranging from  $\sim 2$  to 17 MeV, respectively. We use the flux upper limits produced by [Bellini et al. \(2011\)](#) and recently updated by [Agostini et al. \(2019\)](#) and compare it with one-sixth of the all-flavor expected flux from dark matter to set our constraints.
2. **SNO+ (not shown):** SNO+, located at the SNOLAB underground facility in Sudbury, Canada, consists of a 12m diameter acrylic vessel that will ultimately be filled with 780 tonnes of liquid scintillator and 800 kg of  $^{130}\text{Te}$ , with the

goal of searching for neutrinoless double-beta decay (Andringa *et al.*, 2016). Recent measurements in the water phase of SNO+ searching for invisible proton decay channels have been performed (Anderson *et al.*, 2019). The event selection of this analysis looks for an atomic de-excitation into two gammas prompted by proton decay for a period of 114.7 days. For energies below  $\sim 6$  MeV the observed rate is well described by internal backgrounds produced by  $^{214}\text{Bi}$  and  $^{208}\text{Ti}$  decay chains; at higher energies they are dominated by electron-antineutrinos from nearby nuclear reactors interacting with atomic electrons. Neutrinos produced by dark matter can induce a similar signal when they have neutral current interactions with the medium. We computed the distribution of electron recoils in neutrino-electron charged-current interactions (Formaggio and Zeller, 2012; V. B. Berestetskii, 1974) and compared the expected rate to the observed sample rate given in (Anderson *et al.*, 2019). The resulting limits from 5 to 30 MeV, assuming 100% electron detection efficiency, lie above  $\langle\sigma v\rangle \gtrsim 10^{-20} \text{ cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}$ . We do not include this line in our figures as inclusion of realistic efficiencies, which are not publicly available, will push these limits up. Depending on the tellurium-loading schedule, an extended scintillator-only run could substantially improve these limits.

3. **KamLAND:** KamLAND is an unsegmented liquid scintillator detector located in the Kamioka observatory near Toyama, Japan. The approximately one kiloton of mineral oil fiducial volume is contained in a 13 meter balloon. Beyond its well-known work on reactor neutrinos, KamLAND has measured the  $^8\text{B}$  solar spectrum (Abe *et al.*, 2011b), searched for geoneutrinos (Gando *et al.*, 2013), and placed limits on the flux of extraterrestrial neutrinos above  $\sim 8.3$  MeV (Gando *et al.*, 2012) which constrains the supernovae relic neutrino flux. In the latter work, an upper limit on the extraterrestrial flux of  $\bar{\nu}_e$  is derived, which is at the  $\mathcal{O}(10) \bar{\nu}_e \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}\text{MeV}^{-1}$  level and is given from 8.3 MeV to 18.3 MeV. Using this result, we derive a constraint on the dark matter annihilation into neutrinos, shown in salmon in Fig. 2. Note that in (Gando *et al.*, 2012), the KamLAND collaboration also derives a similar constraint, but with outdated  $J$ -factors; their result and ours are comparable. These are the leading constraints in the  $\sim 10$  MeV mass range, but we expect that they will be improved by the next-generation liquid scintillator detector in China, JUNO (An *et al.*, 2016).
4. **SK:** Super-Kamiokande (SK) is a 50kt ultrapure water Cherenkov detector located in Kamioka, Japan (Fukuda *et al.*, 2003). SK can use the mor-

phology of the Cherenkov ring produced by charged particles to perform particle identification, energy measurement, and obtain directional information of the events. The unfolded electron- and muon-neutrino fluxes in the sub-GeV to several TeV energy range has been published by SK (Richard *et al.*, 2016). This unfolding uses data from the four stages, SK-I, SK-II, SK-III, and SK-IV, resulting in a total livetime of 4799 days for the fully contained and partially contained event selection and 5103 for the upward-going muon sample. The unfolded fluxes are expected to be dominated by the atmospheric neutrino flux; in fact they are in agreement with model predictions, *e.g.* the HKKM model (Honda *et al.*, 2007), within systematic uncertainties. The dominant source of uncertainties on the unfolded fluxes is the neutrino interaction cross section, which introduces an uncertainty of approximately 20% in the unfolded flux. In the case of electron-neutrinos, the second largest uncertainty is due to the small statistics at high energies; which can be up to 10% in the highest energy bins. For all flavors, all other sources of uncertainty are less than 5% across all energy bins. We compare the unfolded flux with the expected flux from dark matter to produce limits on Galactic and extragalactic dark matter annihilation. These results are shown in purple in Figs. 2, 5, and 8, and labeled as  $\heartsuit\text{SK-Atm}$ . In order to obtain these limits we used a background-agnostic approach as described in Sec. III.A, and a binned truncated Gaussian likelihood in energy with two degrees of freedom. This result is complementary with SK Galactic dark matter annihilation analysis (Abe *et al.*, 2020; Frankiewicz, 2017, 2018), shown in teal in Fig. 2 and simply labeled **SK**. As expected, our limits using the background agnostic method are weaker than ones produced by the collaboration, but our analysis extends to lower energy and covers the energy range from 0.1 to 100 GeV in dark matter mass. Additionally, we perform an analysis using 2853 days of low energy data from SK I/II/III, as well as 2778 days of data from SK phase IV, which led to an upper limit on the relic supernova electron antineutrino ( $\bar{\nu}_e$ ) flux (Linyan, 2018); labeled  $\heartsuit\text{SK-}\bar{\nu}_e$ . The resulting limits on  $\langle\sigma v\rangle$  turn out to be the strongest over the entire mass range that we consider, flirting with the relic abundance line for masses between 27 and 30 MeV.

5. **IceCube:** The IceCube Neutrino Observatory is a gigaton ice Cherenkov neutrino detector located at the geographic South Pole (Aartsen *et al.*, 2017c). IceCube has measured the atmospheric neutrino spectrum in the 100 GeV to 100 TeV energy range. By separating the events into their observed mor-

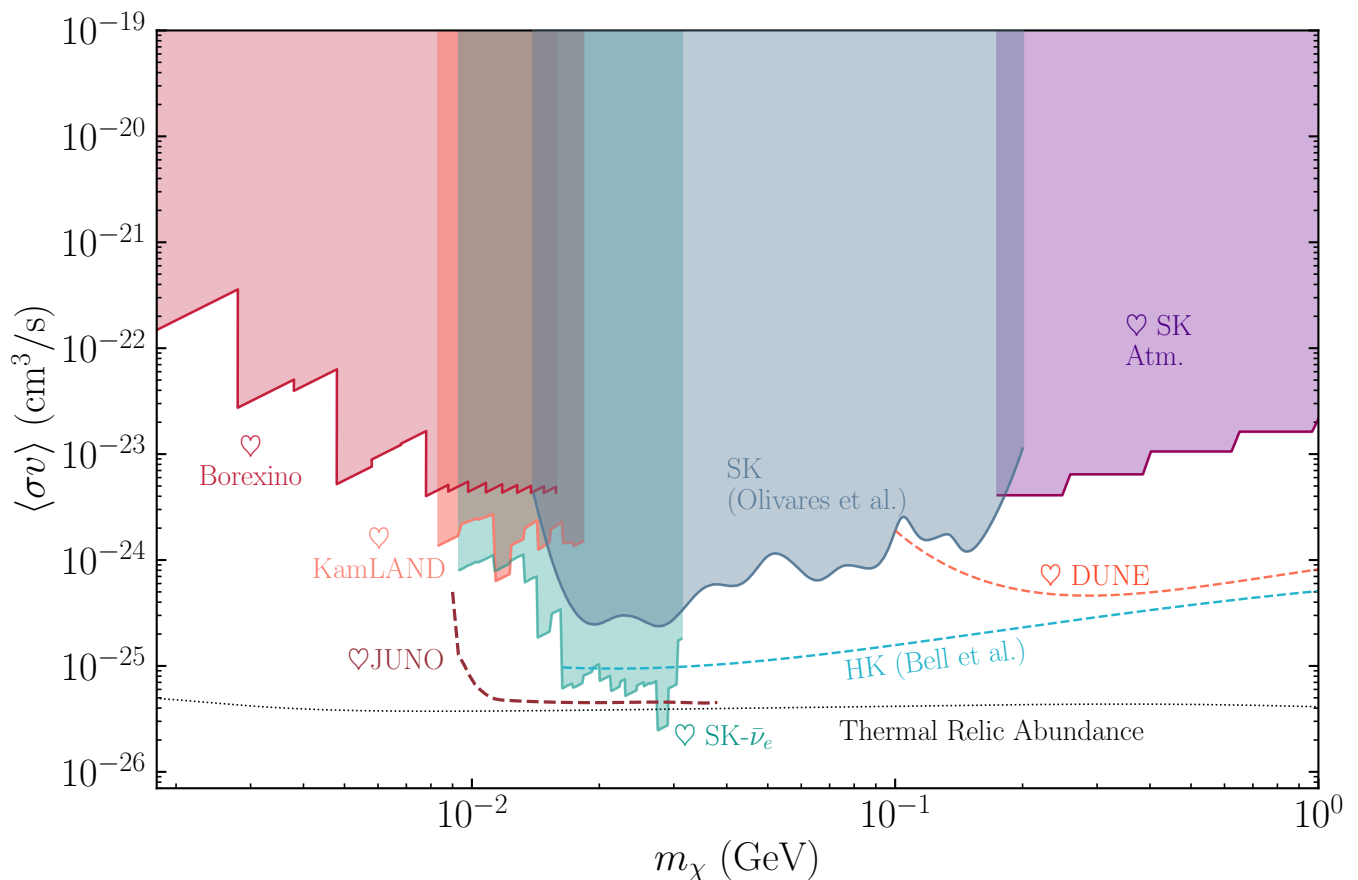
phologies (“cascades” and “tracks”), the collaboration recently published the unfolded electron- and muon-neutrino flux in this energy range (Aartsen *et al.*, 2015b, 2016b). At energies greater than 60 TeV, using events whose interaction vertex starts in the inner part of the detector (Aartsen *et al.*, 2013; Schneider, 2019), they have also reported the result of a piece-wise power-law fit to the astrophysical neutrino component using more than six years of data (Aartsen *et al.*, 2017a). We use these to produce background-agnostic limits on the velocity averaged dark matter annihilation cross section by comparing the produced neutrino flux with the reported unfolding or spectral fits. The obtained limits are shown for dark matter masses from 200 GeV to 10 PeV, labeled  $\heartsuit$ *IceCube-HE* and colored in dark magenta. Limits use the same likelihood construction as in the case of the SK limits described above. Note that the muon neutrino atmospheric unfolding reported by IceCube uses northern tracks, which are unfortunately in the wrong hemisphere for the Galactic center. Therefore, for that sample, we only constrain extragalactic emission. Dedicated neutrino line searches have not been yet performed by the IceCube collaboration, although sensitivities have been estimated in (El Aisati, 18; El Aisati *et al.*, 2017) to be stronger than current IceCube constraints in that region. We describe the region labeled *IceCube-EHE* below, in the description of the high-mass region.

Additionally, we use the following previously-published limits on dark matter annihilation obtained by constraining the Galactic flux, rescaled to account for the galactic halo parameters used here unless indicated otherwise:

1. *Super-Kamiokande diffuse supernovae flux search*: The gray region labeled *SK Olivares et al.* is an independent analysis of SK all-sky low-energy data which uses SK phases I through III to derive an upper bound on the supernova relic neutrinos (Abe *et al.*, 2011a; Cravens *et al.*, 2008; Hosaka *et al.*, 2006). This analysis covers neutrino energies from 10 MeV to 200 MeV; see (Li and Beacom, 2014) for a recent discussion of backgrounds in the low-energy range. The upper limit on supernova relic neutrinos was then converted into dark matter annihilation constraints, and was originally presented in (Olivares-Del-Campo, 2019; Olivares-Del Campo *et al.*, 2018a,b). Recently, SK phase-IV data has placed new constraints on the  $\bar{\nu}_e$  flux in the 10 to 30 MeV energy range (Linyan, 2018). These observations improve over KamLAND constraints (Gando *et al.*, 2012) by a factor between 3 and 10 in their overlapping energy range. Thus these observations dominate the constraints for

dark matter masses below  $\sim 20$  MeV. Where they overlap, the *Olivares et al.* limits are not quite as strong as the *SK- $\bar{\nu}_e$*  limits that we have presented, because their background modelling could not use angular information which is not publicly available.

2. *Super-Kamiokande Galactic dark matter search*: The teal region, labeled *SK*, is from (Frankiewicz, 2015). This analysis uses muon-neutrino data in the energy range between 1 GeV and 10 TeV collected by SK over 5325.8 days. Since this analysis relies on angular information that is not public, it has not been rescaled to account for our choice of galactic halo parameters.
3. *IceCube/DeepCore Galactic dark matter search*: The IceCube limits are from (Aartsen *et al.*, 2016a) and use 329 days of IceCube data. These place constraints for masses in between 25 GeV and 10 TeV. At the lowest masses, these limits include data from DeepCore, an array of more closely spaced inner strings in IceCube. In addition, we include a limit derived from 3 years of data using primarily tracks to constrain Galactic center emission (Aartsen *et al.*, 2017b). For display purposes, we join these two lines, choosing the best limit at each point, and show it in navy blue, simply labeled as *IceCube*.
4. *IceCube-Bhattacharya et al.* is taken from (Bhattacharya *et al.*, 2019)’s channel-by-channel unbinned likelihood analysis of the High-Energy Starting Event (HESE) data, including energy, angular, and topology information. They include both Galactic and extragalactic constraints. Constraints that we derive (IceCube-HE) using only spectral information follow these limits quite closely at higher energies since the small sample size prevent angular information from contributing significantly.
5. *ANTARES dedicated Galactic dark matter search*: The light blue region, labeled ANTARES, is from a Galactic center analysis of nine years of ANTARES muon neutrino and antineutrino data (Adrian-Martinez *et al.*, 2015; Albert *et al.*, 2017a). This covers the dark matter mass range from 53 GeV to 100 TeV.
6. *Baikal dedicated Galactic dark matter search (not shown)*: The Baikal underwater neutrino telescope (Aynutdinov *et al.*, 2006; Belolaptikov *et al.*, 1997), NT-200, is a water Cherenkov detector deployed in Lake Baikal, Russia. It has an instrumented volume of approximately 100 kt and is comprised of 192 optical modules arranged on eight strings, with a typical distance between strings of 21 m. The collaboration performed an analysis



1185 FIG. 3: *The landscape of sub-GeV dark matter annihilation into neutrinos.* Same as Fig. 2, but restricted  
 1186 to dark matter masses below one GeV.

1269 looking for dark matter annihilation in the Galactic  
 1270 center into neutrinos using data recorded be-  
 1271 tween April of 1998 to February of 2003 (Avrorin  
 1272 *et al.*, 2016). This analysis claimed to place limits  
 1273 on the cross section at the  $10^{-22} \text{ cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}$  level for  
 1274 a 1 TeV dark matter mass. We do not add this  
 1275 result to our constraint summary because there are  
 1276 stronger results in this mass range, but we do show  
 1277 the projections of the next generation detector at  
 1278 Lake Baikal, GVD.

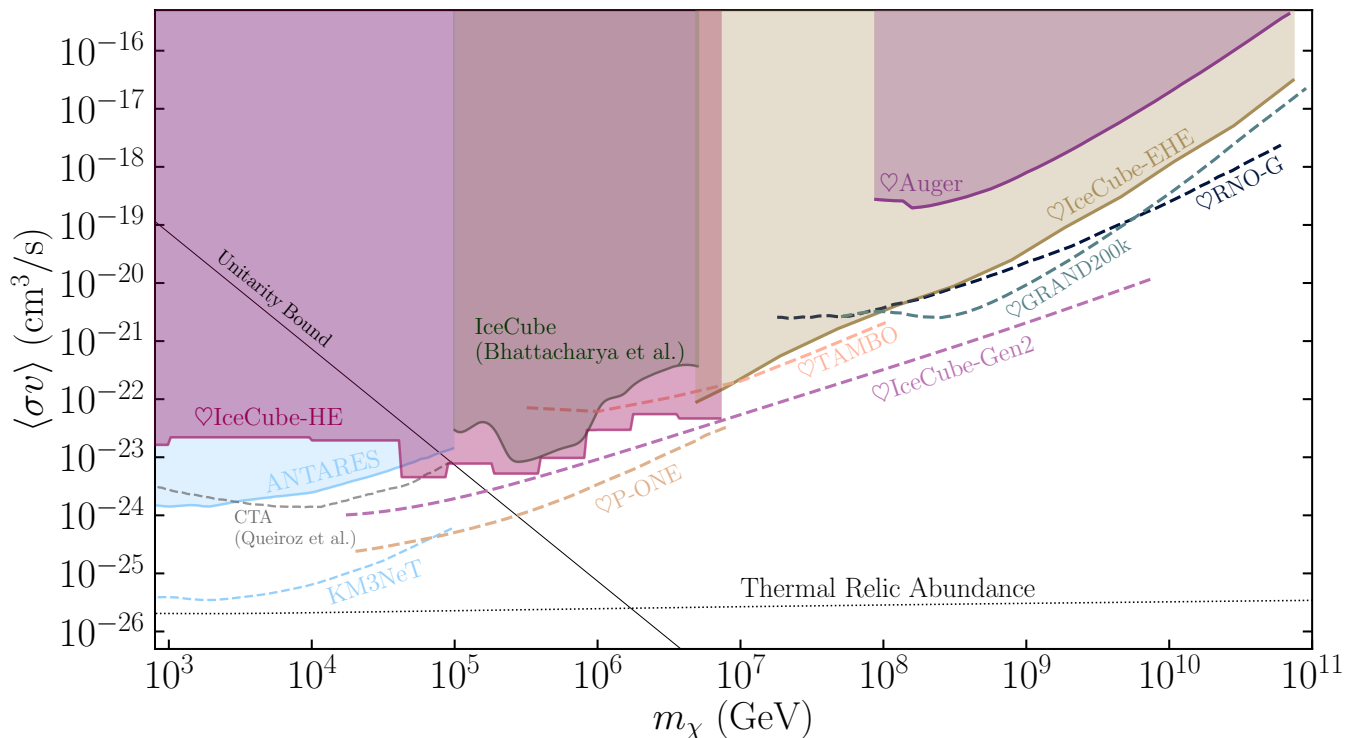
1279 **7. Combined IceCube and ANTARES dedicated**  
 1280 **Galactic dark matter search (not shown):** Re-  
 1281 cently Albert *et al.* (2020) have performed a com-  
 1282 bined analysis of the IceCube and ANTARES data  
 1283 sets which corresponds to approximately 1000 days  
 1284 of the former and 2000 of the latter. The combined  
 1285 result only marginally improves the previously pub-  
 1286 lished results, which we include in this review. The  
 1287 most notable point of this work is the considera-  
 1288 tion of underfluctuations when placing constraints  
 1289 on the data. In previous work by ANTARES, when  
 1290 the obtained data limit exceeds the mean sensitiv-  
 1291 ity the reported result was the sensitivity of the

1292 analysis, while in the previous IceCube work under-  
 1293 fluctuations are taken into account in the statisti-  
 1294 cal limit and reported. Given an underfluctuation  
 1295 of data observed in the ANTARES data set, the  
 1296 combined result is approximately a factor of two  
 1297 stronger in the ANTARES dominated region. We  
 1298 do not show the results of this analysis in our plot  
 1299 summary for two reasons: the analysis only reports  
 1300 the experiment-overlapping dark matter parameter  
 1301 range from 50 GeV to 1 TeV and does not report  
 1302 the  $\nu\bar{\nu}$  channel that we study in this work.

1303 Finally, Fig. 2, includes next-generation sensitivities that  
 1304 can be reached by future experiments. These are shown  
 1305 as dashed lines:

1. **DUNE:** The Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment (DUNE) far detector will be a 46.4 kiloton liquid argon Time Projection Chamber (TPC) (Abi *et al.*, 2020a; Acciarri *et al.*, 2015) constructed at the Sanford Underground Research Facility (SURF) in South Dakota, USA. Its main advantage in detecting neutrinos from DM annihilation is its improved particle identification, using morpho-





1188 FIG. 4: *The landscape of supra-TeV dark matter annihilation into neutrinos.* Same as Fig. 2, but for the  
 1189 high-mass region. All the experimental constraints in this plot are calculated by converting either the detected flux  
 1190 or the reported upper limit into a conservative upper bound on the DM annihilation cross section.

1314 logical reconstruction, with respect to Cherenkov 1340  
 1315 detectors like Super-Kamiokande, ANTARES, or 1341  
 1316 IceCube, which *e.g.* can be exploited to make im- 1342  
 1317 proved measurements of solar neutrinos (Capozzi 1343  
 1318 *et al.*, 2019). Thus, a dedicated DUNE analysis 1344  
 1319 utilizing the expected improved directional capa- 1345  
 1320 bility can prove effective in a search for Galac- 1346  
 1321 tic dark matter annihilation to neutrinos. We de- 1347  
 1322 rive projected sensitivities for dark matter masses 1348  
 1323 in the range from 100 MeV to 30 GeV and show 1349  
 1324 them in Fig. 2 as dashed orange lines. The domi- 1350  
 1325 nant background in this energy range is from atmo- 1351  
 1326 spheric neutrinos. We use the predictions provided 1352  
 1327 by Honda *et al.* (2015) at the Homestake gold mine 1353  
 1328 at SURF, taking into account oscillations through 1354  
 1329 the Earth using the nuSQuIDS package (Argüelles 1355  
 1330 *et al.*, 2014; Argüelles *et al.*, 2015, 2020). In our  
 1331 analysis, we consider  $e^-$  and  $\tau$ -flavored charged- 1356  
 1332 current interactions and compare the expected en- 1357  
 1333 ergy distribution; *i.e.* we do not take into ac- 1358  
 1334 count event-by-event directional information. We 1359  
 1335 use a fractional charged lepton energy resolution of 1360  
 1336  $2\% + 15\%/\sqrt{E/\text{GeV}}$  (Acciarri *et al.*, 2015) and as- 1361  
 1337 sume the idealized condition of 100% efficiency. In 1362  
 1338 our analysis, charged-current electron-neutrino in- 1363  
 1339 teractions are assumed to deposit all their energy 1364  
 1365

in the detector, while tau-neutrino charged-current 920  
 interactions will deposit less visible energy due to 921  
 the invisible neutrinos produced in the prompt  $\tau$  922  
 decay. Since we expect that DUNE morphologi- 923  
 cal identification will be able to single out muon- 924  
 neutrino charged-current processes, we choose to 925  
 remove them from the analysis as they are the pri- 926  
 mary contributor to the atmospheric neutrino back- 927  
 ground. Limits are derived using a binned Poisson 928  
 likelihood and a background-informed method as 929  
 described in Sec. III.A. We note that, due to liq- 930  
 uid argon TPC’s morphological reconstruction ca- 931  
 pabilities, a proper Galactic center analysis includ- 932  
 ing directionality would benefit from the inclusion 933  
 of muon-neutrino charged-current interactions, and 934  
 thus our projections are conservative. 935

2. **Hyper-Kamiokande:** Building on SK’s technol- 936  
 ogy, a new water Cherenkov detector with a fidu- 937  
 cial mass of 187 kton called Hyper-Kamiokande 938  
 (HK) will be built in Kamioka, Japan (Abe *et al.*, 939  
 2018). Due to its larger size, this detector will 940  
 be able to place stronger limits on the DM an- 941  
 nihilation cross section to neutrinos than its pre- 942  
 decessor (Oliveras-Del Campo *et al.*, 2018b). In 943  
 fact, Hyper-Kamiokande is estimated to reach  $\sim$  944  
 $10^{-25} \text{ cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}$  for 1 GeV dark matter and  $\sim$  945



10<sup>-22</sup> cm<sup>3</sup>s<sup>-1</sup> at 10<sup>4</sup> GeV with ten years of data taking (Migenda, 2017). Furthermore, the possibility of doping both the SK and the HK detectors with gadolinium (Gd) will reduce the dominant background for low-energy analyses by a factor of five and, consequently, improve the constraints on DM annihilation (Bell *et al.*, 2020; Horiuchi *et al.*, 2009; Laha and Beacom, 2014). Bell *et al.* (2020) performed a detailed directional analysis of DM annihilation in the MW, including Monte Carlo simulation of the atmospheric and diffuse supernova neutrino background as well as the detector geometry. Figure 2 shows their equivalent results for five years of run time, which range from  $\langle\sigma v\rangle \lesssim 10^{-25}$  cm<sup>2</sup> at  $m_\chi = 16$  MeV, to  $\langle\sigma v\rangle \lesssim 4.3 \times 10^{-24}$  cm<sup>2</sup> at 50 GeV. For the  $p$ - and  $d$ -wave constraints in Sec. II.C we derive our own projected sensitivities for five years of data taking for DM masses in the 100 MeV to 30 GeV range, as the directional dependence does not allow the Bell *et al.* curve to be rescaled.

Similar to our DUNE analysis, we assume that the dominant background in this energy range is due to atmospheric neutrinos, where we use the predictions provided by Honda *et al.* (2015) at the Kamioka mines, and allow these neutrinos to oscillate through the Earth using the nuSQuIDS package (Argüelles *et al.*, 2014; Argüelles *et al.*, 2015). We only consider  $e$ - and  $\tau$ -flavored charged-current interactions, without taking into account directionality. We make the same assumptions as our DUNE analysis regarding energy deposition, while using an energy resolution of  $1.5\% + 2\%/\sqrt{E/\text{GeV}}$  (Jiang *et al.*, 2019). We use total energy rather than lepton (visible) energy, which leads to a sensitivity overestimate of  $\sim 40\%$  but simplifies the analysis. In principle, it is possible to record lepton and proton energy above the proton Cherenkov threshold, (see e.g. Fechner *et al.*, 2009). We follow the same statistical procedure as in DUNE and, like DUNE, the sensitivity strength derives primarily from the expected electron- and tau-neutrinos signal. Taking advantage of this channel explains why our estimates are better than ones presented by Migenda (2017); see Beacom and Candia (2004) for a discussion on “shower power.” We have checked that the corresponding  $s$ -wave results agree well with Bell *et al.* below  $\sim 1$  GeV within their quoted uncertainties. However, due to the incorporation of angular observables, enabled by their dedicated simulation, their limits are better by a factor of  $\sim 2$  above  $\sim 1$  GeV. These projected sensitivities, especially at low energies, are subject to a  $\sim 30\%$  uncertainty due to a combination of atmospheric

background uncertainties and neutrino cross sections.

3. **JUNO**: The Jiangmen Underground Neutrino Observatory (An *et al.*, 2016) is a 20 kt unsegmented liquid scintillator detector under deployment in the Guangdong province of China. The detector has a muon tracker on top of it and is also surrounded by water. Both of these systems can be used to veto cosmic-ray muons by either tagging them in the muon tracker or by detecting their Cherenkov light in water. Due to its large volume and good energy resolution (estimated to be  $3\%/\sqrt{E/\text{MeV}}$ ) we expect that this experiment will have good sensitivity for neutrino line searches. We estimate the sensitivity of JUNO to dark matter annihilation to neutrinos in the electron antineutrino channel following the proposal given in Palomares-Ruiz and Pascoli (2008). We use background estimates derived for diffuse supernova background searches, as presented in An *et al.* (2016). Below 11 MeV, reactor antineutrinos dominate the background. Between 11 and 40 MeV, the backgrounds are primarily neutral current interactions from atmospheric neutrinos, with sub-dominant charge current contributions. According to our projection, JUNO is expected to constrain the velocity-averaged annihilation cross section better than  $10^{-25}$  cm<sup>3</sup>s<sup>-1</sup> in the 10 to 40 MeV mass range. The estimate is shown in dark red in Fig. 2.
4. **INO (not shown)**: The 50 kt magnetized Iron Calorimeter (ICAL) (Ahmed *et al.*, 2017; Indumathi, 2019) at the India-based Neutrino Observatory is a planned segmented mille-feuille of iron plates interleaved with resistive plate chambers (RPCs). The three modules will contain 151 iron leaves each, and a total of over 30,000 RPC units. A 1.5 T magnetic field will allow discrimination between muon neutrinos and antineutrinos. Following the successful completion of the mini-ICAL prototype, the INO underground laboratory and ICAL experiment are scheduled for construction at *Pottipuram*, in the Bodi West hills of Theni District of Tamil Nadu, India. Khatun *et al.* (2017) performed a forecast of the ICAL sensitivity to DM annihilation to neutrinos. The ability to discriminate  $\nu$  from  $\bar{\nu}$  events provide a factor of 2-3 boost in sensitivity, which, when rescaled to 5 years, ranges from  $\langle\sigma v\rangle \gtrsim 2 \times 10^{-24}$  cm<sup>3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> at  $m_\chi = 2$  GeV, to  $10^{-23}$  cm<sup>3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> at 90 GeV.
5. **IceCube Upgrade**: The IceCube Upgrade is an extension of the current IceCube/DeepCore array with seven closely-packed strings. These new strings will be separated by approximately 20 meters and each contain 100 photomultiplier tubes

- spaced vertically by 3 meters (Ishihara, 2019). Additionally, a number of calibration devices and sensors will be deployed to improve the modelling of the ice (Ishihara and Kiriki, 2019; Nagai and Ishihara, 2019). In (Baur, 2019) a preliminary estimation of the IceCube Upgrade sensitivity was performed. It is expected to be better than  $10^{-24} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  for a 10 GeV dark matter mass.
6. ***IceCube Gen-2***: The next-generation ice Cherenkov neutrino observatory in Antarctica is a substantial expansion to the current IceCube observatory, aiming at enhancing the detector volume by a factor of ten (Aartsen *et al.*, 2014b). This increased effective area is expected to provide a better sensitivity to resolve sources of high-energy cosmic neutrinos and identify components of cosmic neutrino flux. Dark matter annihilation limits from IceCube presented here should therefore scale by at least the increased sample size due to the larger effective area. We have recast the estimates of diffuse flux sensitivity given in (Aartsen *et al.*, 2019) to estimate the sensitivity to dark matter annihilation.
7. ***Baikal-GVD***: The Baikal Gigaton Volume Detector (GVD) is a planned expansion to the existing NT-200 detector, and is currently being deployed in Lake Baikal, Russia. The detector has recently reached an effective volume of  $\sim 0.35 \text{ km}^3$  and has already seen first  $\nu$ -light (Avrorin *et al.*, 2019). The full array will contain 10,386 optical modules divided among 27 clusters of strings, and is expected to have a final instrumented volume of around  $1.5 \text{ km}^3$ . The sensitivity of GVD to Galactic dark matter annihilation has been estimated in (Avrorin *et al.*, 2015) and is shown as a dashed brown line labeled **GVD**.
8. ***KM3Net***: The  $\text{km}^3$ -scale water Cherenkov detector currently under construction in the Mediterranean sea is designed to provide high-purity increased effective areas in the Southern Hemisphere. The larger effective area and improved angular resolution, compared to ANTARES, are expected to provide better constraints on Galactic dark matter. Two separate sites are under construction for low- and high-energy regimes (Adrian-Martinez *et al.*, 2016). The high-energy site, called KM3NeT/ARCA, will consist of two detector array blocks located approximately 100 km offshore from *Porto Palo di Capo Passero*, Sicily, Italy (Aiello *et al.*, 2019). Each block is expected to have 115 strings with an average spacing of 90 m. The low-energy site, called KM3NeT/ORCA, consists of one array block and is under deployment approximately 40 km south of Toulon, France; close to the ANTARES site. The array is made out of 115 strings with an average horizontal spacing of 20 m. Each string contains 18 optical modules; in KM3NeT/ARCA they are spaced vertically by 36 m, while in KM3NeT/ORCA they are spaced 9 m. The horizontal spacing and number of strings are proportional to the effective volume of the experiment, while the vertical spacing is related to the energy threshold (Halzen, 2005). KM3NeT/ARCA's science program is mainly oriented towards higher-energy (astrophysical) neutrino searches, while KM3NeT/ORCA will measure neutrino oscillations using atmospheric neutrinos. Assuming an  $E^{-2}$  democratic-flavor astrophysical neutrino flux with a normalization of  $\sim 1.8 \times 10^{-8} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$  and an exponential cut-off at 3 PeV they expect to see 11  $\nu_\mu$ 's, 41  $\nu_e$ 's, and 26  $\nu_\tau$ 's in five years of KM3NeT/ARCA operation (Adrian-Martinez *et al.*, 2016). In Fig. 2 we show the KM3NeT/ARCA expected sensitivity to dark matter annihilation to neutrinos in five years of data taking (Gozzini, 2019). Their sensitivity is within a factor of a few from the expected relic abundance cross section for dark matter masses around a TeV.
9. ***P-ONE***: The Pacific-Ocean Neutrino Experiment (P-ONE) is a newly proposed multi-cubic kilometer neutrino detector utilizing sea water as Cherenkov medium (Agostini *et al.*, 2020). P-ONE would be deployed in the Cascadia Basin, off the coast of Vancouver island in the Pacific Ocean, taking full advantage of the Ocean Network Canada infrastructure and expertise already in place. The main goal of the experiment is to explore the origin of the extraterrestrial neutrino flux. A pair of test strings, named STRAW (Bedard *et al.*, 2019), has already been successfully deployed and has collected water absorption data. The first phase of the detector, known as the Pacific Ocean Neutrino *Explorer*, involving ten strings is planned to be deployed in 2023. Each string is planned to be equipped with twenty photomultiplier tubes. The full detector is expected to be complete by 2030 with 70 strings. Projected limits include backgrounds from atmospheric and diffuse astrophysical neutrinos, and use the exposures shown in Agostini *et al.* (2020).
10. ***TAMBO***: The Tau Air-Shower Mountain-Based Observatory is a proposed array of small water-Cherenkov tanks to be deployed on either the Colca Valley or Cotahuasi Canyon in Peru (Romero-Wolf *et al.*, 2020; Wissel *et al.*, 2019). These are two of the world's four deepest valleys and their unique geometry allows for efficient detection of Earth-skimming PeV  $\nu_\tau$ . Most of the Colca Valley runs along a North-South corridor, though a smaller sec-

tion of it has an East-West corridor. If deployed in the East-West corridor of the Colca valley, the declination band covered is  $-15.5 \pm 10$  degrees, while in the North-South corridor it would be  $-15.5 \pm 50$  degrees. These two provide two extreme configurations in terms of its GC exposure, while a deployment in the Cotahuasi canyon, which has an approximately diagonal corridor, would provide an intermediate exposure. TAMBO’s effective area is expected to be 10 times larger than IceCube  $\nu_\tau$  (Aartsen *et al.*, 2013) at a PeV and 30 times larger at 10 PeV. The use of the Earth-skimming technique is complementary to very-high-energy Earth-traversing neutrino searches (Safa *et al.*, 2019) and the fact that it relies on the Cherenkov effect, rather than the higher energy threshold Askaryan effect, gives it unique potential to constrain dark matter in the tens of PeV mass range. Depending on the final geometry of TAMBO its sensitivity to dark matter ranges from  $10^{-22} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  to  $4 \times 10^{-21} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  for a 1 PeV dark matter mass. Sensitivities shown here are recast from the diffuse flux sensitivity presented by (Wissel *et al.*, 2019). A similar detector has been proposed to be deployed in Hawaii (Hou, 2014; Sasaki, 2018; Sasaki, 2019).

11. **CTA**: The Cherenkov Telescope Array is a planned network of 99 air Cherenkov telescopes in the southern hemisphere and 19 in the northern hemisphere that will collectively provide full-sky coverage of the gamma ray sky over an energy range from 20 GeV to 300 TeV (Acharya *et al.*, 2018). Several CTA prototypes have been built and some have already seen first light. The telescopes are projected to have an angular resolution down to 0.1 degrees and a duty cycle of  $\sim 15\%$ . For high-mass dark matter annihilation into neutrinos, electroweak final-state radiation can also lead to the production of gamma rays, despite a completely “invisible”  $\nu\bar{\nu}$  final state, and can thus be constrained by gamma ray observations of the Galactic center with CTA; see Sec. II for more details. The expected limits from CTA were computed in (Queiroz *et al.*, 2016), and shown as a dashed silver line assuming 100 hours of observation.

We note that the 10 MeV – 1 GeV range can in principle be covered by future tonne-scale dark matter direct detection experiments such as DARWIN and ARGO (McKeen and Raj, 2018). However, these are still in their planning phases, meaning that construction is still decades away, and very long ( $\gtrsim 10$  years) exposure times are required to be competitive with HyperK. For this reason we do not show them here.

Fig. 4 shows the extension of available constraints to larger masses, above the “unitarity bound,” accessible *e.g.* for composite DM models (Frigerio *et al.*, 2012). These

bounds are calculated by converting either the detected flux or reported upper limits, from observatories sensitive to these mass range, into a conservative upper bound on the DM annihilation to neutrinos. The following experiments are sensitive to this regime:

1. **Auger**: The Pierre Auger Observatory is a hybrid detector consisting of both an array of water Cherenkov surface detectors and atmospheric fluorescence detectors. Located in Malargüe, Argentina (Aab *et al.*, 2015b) and operational since 2004, the collaboration has made a multitude of measurements of the highest energy cosmic rays. This includes measurements of the spectral distribution of cosmic rays beyond the GZK limit, anisotropy searches, as well as fits to their mass composition. Beyond the extensive cosmic ray program, Auger is able to probe extremely-high-energy neutrinos by searching for showers developing deep in the atmosphere, since showers induced by cosmic rays are likely to develop much earlier. Another possible detection channel is upgoing tau lepton showers, which are induced by Earth-skimming tau neutrino interactions near Earth’s surface. In 2017, the collaboration reported a limit on the diffuse flux of high energy neutrinos between  $10^8 - 10^{11}$  GeV (Zas, 2018) which we use to set a background-agnostic bound on  $\langle\sigma\nu\rangle$  for such energies (purple line in Fig. 4).
2. **IceCube-EHE**: Beyond the astrophysical neutrino flux, IceCube performs searches for GZK neutrinos using a dedicated sample of events that deposit extremely high energies (EHE) in the detector. The most recent search used nine years of data and set limits on the GZK flux. We use these limits (Aartsen *et al.*, 2018) to derive an upper bound on the DM annihilation cross section to neutrinos between  $10^7 - 10^{11}$  GeV, represented by a light brown line in Fig. 4.
3. **ANITA (not shown)**: The ANtarctic Impulsive Transient Antenna is an array of radio antennas attached to a helium balloon that flies for  $\sim 30$  days at a time above Antarctica. The goal of this experiment is to measure the GZK (cosmogenic) neutrino flux by detecting radio showers emitted by extremely-high-energy neutrinos after interacting in the Antarctic ice (Gorham *et al.*, 2009). The collaboration has successfully completed four such flights, setting the strongest limits on astrophysical neutrino fluxes above  $10^{11}$  GeV; anomalies notwithstanding. We derive limits on dark matter annihilation to neutrinos by rescaling the reported upper limits from the fourth flight of ANITA (Gorham *et al.*, 2019). They extend up to  $m_\chi = 10^{12}$  GeV, but do not constrain  $\langle\sigma\nu\rangle$  to be any smaller than

$10^{-14} \text{ cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}$ , putting them outside of the range of Fig. 4.

4. **GRAND**: The Giant Radio Array for Neutrino Detection is a proposed large-scale observatory consisting of 200,000 radio antennas covering 200,000  $\text{km}^2$  near a mountain range in China. This experiment plans to use the surrounding mountains as a target for Earth-skimming tau neutrinos. After the neutrinos interact in the mountain, a tau lepton should be observed exiting the mountain and subsequently decaying in the atmosphere. The immense coverage will allow GRAND to probe GZK neutrino fluxes that are at least an order of magnitude below current limits (Alvarez-Muniz *et al.*, 2018). We convert their 3-year sensitivity to the GZK neutrino flux between  $10^8 - 10^{11}$  GeV into sensitivities on  $\langle\sigma v\rangle$  shown as a dashed navy blue line in Fig. 4.

5. **RNO-G**: The Radio Neutrino Observatory in Greenland aims to measure the neutrino flux above  $10^{16}$  eV (Aguilar *et al.*, 2019). The array of antennas to be deployed in the ice are designed to detect the Askaryan radio emission from extremely high-energy neutrinos traversing the Earth and atmosphere. The design and deployment of RNO relies upon the experience and expertise obtained in successful deployment and operation of ARA and AR-IANNA (Allison *et al.*, 2012; Barwick *et al.*, 2015). The plan is to deploy 35 stations such that each station will consist of a surface array and a deep array. The surface array is going to be used for cosmic-ray detection while the deep array, benefiting from a large effective volume, will detect neutrinos.

6. **BEACON (not shown)**: Beamforming Elevated Array for Cosmic Neutrinos is another experiment proposed to search for the flux of very high energy neutrinos beyond 100 PeV. An array of antennas installed at high elevations and presumes the use of a beamformer radio array. The project is currently in prototype stage, being tested at the White Mountain Research Station in California (Wissel *et al.*, 2020). The Cotahuasi Canyon, where TAMBO is deployed, has been considered as a potential site for BEACON. Given that the site of BEACON is yet to be confirmed, we have not projected the sensitivity for it in this review.

7. **POEMMA (not shown)**: The Probe Of Extreme Multi-Messenger Astrophysics is a proposed probe-class space mission to observe ultra-high-energy cosmic rays and neutrinos above 20 PeV. Two satellites on near-equatorial orbits will observe fluorescence caused by showers in the Earth's at-

mosphere. When in stereo observation mode, POEMMA will effectively monitor  $10^{13}$  metric tons of atmosphere (Anchordoqui *et al.*, 2020b; Olinto *et al.*, 2020). Preliminary diffuse neutrino flux sensitivity studies have projected as much as an order of magnitude improvement over existing limits at energies greater than  $10^{10}$  GeV. We do not include POEMMA here, as neutrino sky coverage maps were not available at the time of this analysis.

## A. Velocity-dependent annihilation

Fig. 5 shows the corresponding limits for  $p$ -wave annihilation, and Fig. 6 provides limits on  $d$ -wave annihilation. In these cases, we follow the procedures outlined in Sec. II.C, to reweight the astrophysical portion of the flux prediction (Eqs. (1) and (9)) to account for the dark matter velocity dispersion. We do this for all-sky searches since analyses where the angular distribution of the neutrinos has been taken into account are not easily re-scaled when considering the velocity distribution of DM particles within the halo. Similarly, all the constraints taken from the literature are re-scaled using our choice of halo parameters (see Tbl. I for halo parameters and  $J$ -factor for the different analyses in the literature). Unsurprisingly, the limits on  $\langle\sigma v\rangle$  are much weaker for  $p$ - and  $d$ -wave processes due to the strong velocity suppression. In contrast to the  $s$ -wave case, where the smallest halos tend to dominate the expected signal, velocity-suppressed annihilation is strongest in the largest DM halos where dispersion velocities are higher. These limits are thus insensitive to the value of the minimum halo mass  $M_{min}$ . However, the constraints from annihilation in the Milky Way halo remain dominant over the extragalactic contribution.

## B. Dark matter halo uncertainties

As previously mentioned, a major source of uncertainty comes from the spatial dark matter distribution, because of the  $n_\chi^2$  dependence in the annihilation signal. For Galactic constraints, this is mainly reflected by uncertainties in the Milky Way dark matter distribution. For extragalactic constraints, we focus on the shape of the halo mass function and the minimum dark matter mass, which determines how far down extrapolations of the HMF must go to account for the total DM contribution.

**Milky Way halo shape parameters:** To quantify the effect of the uncertainty on the MW halo shape parameters, we use the code provided by the authors of (Benito *et al.*, 2019), which computes the log-likelihood as a function of halo shape parameters  $\{\rho_0, r_s, R_0, \gamma\}$ , given observed stellar kinematics data. We profile over



Energy Range	Experimental Analysis	Directionality	Detected Flavor
2.5 – 15 MeV	Borexino (Bellini <i>et al.</i> , 2011)	×	$\bar{\nu}_e$ (IBD)
8.3 – 18.3 MeV	KamLAND (Gando <i>et al.</i> , 2012)	✓	$\bar{\nu}_e$ (IBD)
10 – 40 MeV	JUNO (An <i>et al.</i> , 2016)	✓	$\bar{\nu}_e$ (IBD)
15 – $10^3$ MeV	SK (Olivares-Del Campo <i>et al.</i> , 2018a)	×	$\bar{\nu}_e$ (IBD)
	DARWIN (McKeen and Raj, 2018)	×	All Flavors (Coherent)
0.1 – 30 GeV	DUNE (Abi <i>et al.</i> , 2020b)	×	$\nu_e, \bar{\nu}_e, \nu_\tau, \bar{\nu}_\tau$ (CC)
	HK (Olivares-Del Campo <i>et al.</i> , 2018b)		
1 – $10^4$ GeV	SK (Abe <i>et al.</i> , 2020; Frankiewicz, 2015)	✓	All Flavors
20 – $10^4$ GeV	IceCube (Aartsen <i>et al.</i> , 2016a)	✓	All Flavors
50 – $10^5$ GeV	ANTARES (Adrian-Martinez <i>et al.</i> , 2015)	✓	$\nu_\mu, \bar{\nu}_\mu$ (CC)
0.2 – 100 TeV	CTA (Queiroz <i>et al.</i> , 2016)	✓	All Flavors (Bremsstrahlung)
10 – $10^4$ GeV	IC-Upgrade (Baur, 2019)	✓	All Flavors
> 10 PeV	IC Gen-2 (Aartsen <i>et al.</i> , 2014b)	✓	All Flavors
10 – $10^4$ TeV	KM3Net (Adrian-Martinez <i>et al.</i> , 2016)	✓	All Flavors
1 – 100 PeV	TAMBO (Wissel <i>et al.</i> , 2019)	✓	$\nu_\tau, \bar{\nu}_\tau$ (CC)
> 100 PeV	GRAND (Alvarez-Muniz <i>et al.</i> , 2018)	✓	$\nu_\tau, \bar{\nu}_\tau$ (CC)

1755 TABLE III: *Summary of current and future experiments discussed in this work for different energy*  
1756 *ranges*. The table also indicates whether the experimental analysis used directional information and which neutrino  
1758 flavors it relied on.

1805 the 4 degrees of freedom, modifying the code to account  
1806 for GRAVITY measurements of  $R_0$ , and obtain 68% and  
1807 95% C.L. ranges on the  $J$ -factors which we propagate  
1808 to a range on  $\langle\sigma v\rangle$  for the Borexino, SK, and IceCube  
1809 analyses. These are shown as dark and light bands, re-  
1810 spectively, in Fig. 7.

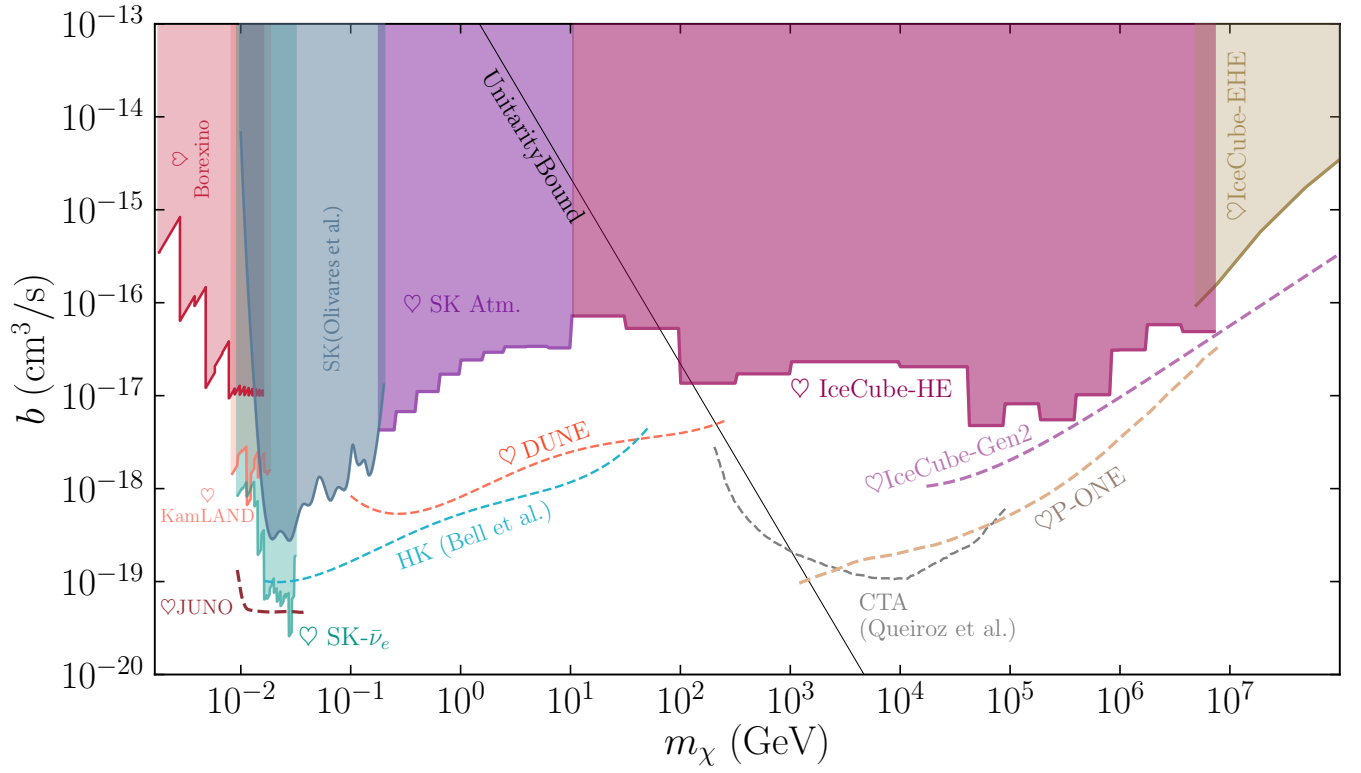
1822 **Halo Mass Function uncertainties:** The largest  
1823 contributions to uncertainties in the cosmological limits  
1824 come from 1) the choice of HMF parametrization, and 2)  
1825 the choice of minimum halo mass,  $M_{min}$ . In our anal-  
1826 yses we have employed the simulation-driven HMF fit  
1827 by Watson *et al.* (Watson *et al.*, 2013). Fig. 8 shows  
1828 the boost factor  $G(z)$  defined in Eq. (9), for four dif-  
1829 ferent parametrizations from the literature: the analytic  
1830 Press & Schechter formalism (Bond *et al.*, 1991; Press and  
1831 Schechter, 1974), Sheth & Tormen (Sheth *et al.*, 2001;  
1832 Sheth and Tormen, 1999), and Tinker (Tinker *et al.*,  
1833 2008). The width of the bands comes from varying the  
1834 minimum halo mass from  $10^{-3}$  to  $10^{-9} M_\odot$ . The band la-  
1835 beled “Extragalactic” in Fig. 7 shows how this range prop-  
1836 agates through to the cross section constraints. Since  
1837 there is no way of statistically quantifying the error on  
1838 the HMF and minimum halo mass, we choose the most  
1839 conservative scenario  $M_{min} = 10^{-3} M_\odot$  for our choice of  
1840 HMF, corresponding to the solid magenta line in Fig. 7.

## 1851 V. DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

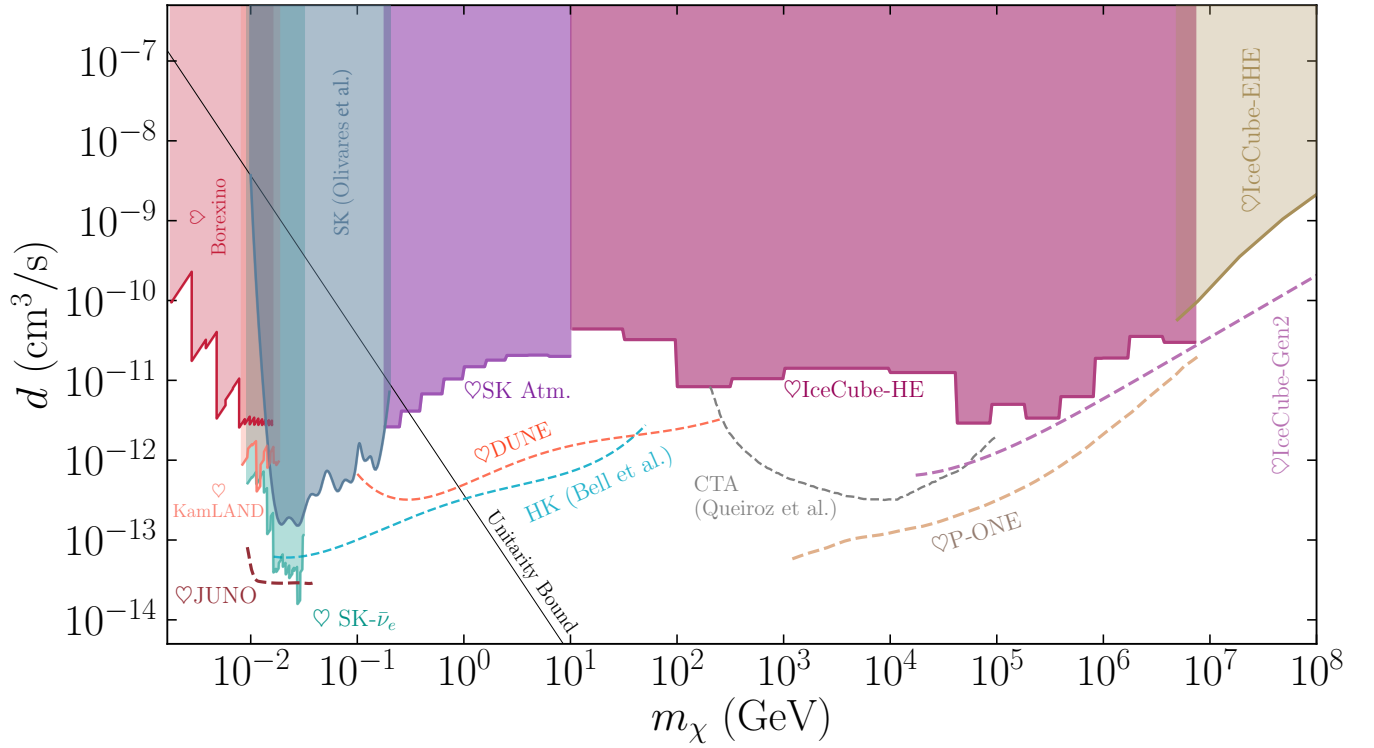
1852 We have presented a comprehensive set of lim-  
1853 its on dark matter annihilation directly to neutrino-  
1854 antineutrino pairs, for a DM mass range from  $10^{-3}$  GeV  
1855 to  $10^{12}$  GeV. Remarkably, there exists uninterrupted  
1856 coverage of this entire range by the multitude of neu-  
1857 trino detectors that have been in operation over the  
1858 past decade. The strongest limits unsurprisingly come  
1859 from dedicated analyses that include direction and en-  
1860 ergy information, such as those performed by Super-  
1861 Kamiokande (Frankiewicz, 2015, 2018), IceCube (Aart-  
1862 sen *et al.*, 2016a), and ANTARES (Adrian-Martinez  
1863 *et al.*, 2016). Unfortunately, such analyses become diffi-  
1864 cult to accurately recast, as the event information and de-  
1865 tector effective area and response are not typically made  
1866 publicly available.

1867 Because the DM density is a fixed constraint, the an-  
1868 nihilation rate to neutrinos scales as  $m_\chi^{-2}$ . A surprising  
1869 feature of the constraints we have presented here is that  
1870 they remain approximately flat, rising only two orders of  
1871 magnitude from  $\langle\sigma v\rangle \lesssim 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  to  $10^{-22} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$   
1872 across 9 decades in energy. Above this range, sensitiv-  
1873 ity drops off with  $\sim m_\chi^2$  since the neutrino cross section  
1874 only grows logarithmically in this regime. We attribute  
1875 the flattening to two main features, which highlight the  
1876 unique promise of neutrino astronomy: 1) the neutrino-



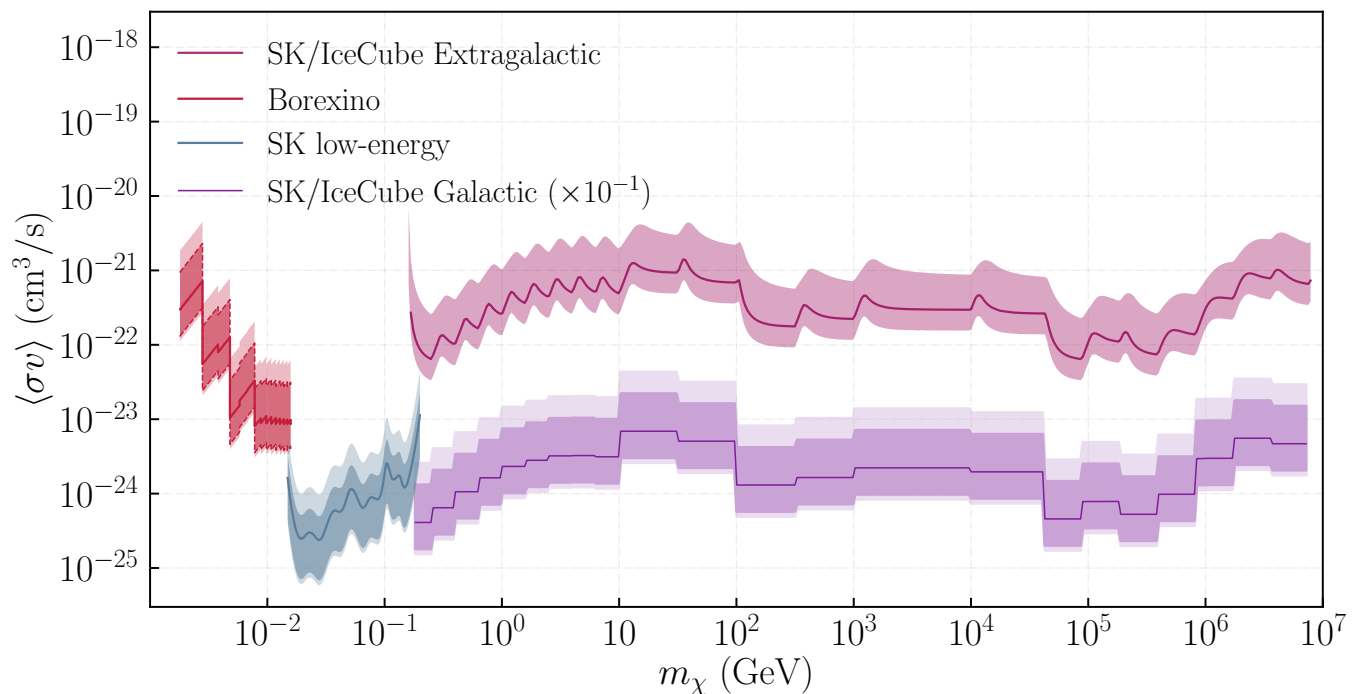


1760 FIG. 5: Limits on  $p$ -wave,  $\langle\sigma v\rangle = b(v/c)^2$ , velocity-dependent annihilation cross-section of dark matter to two  
 1762 neutrinos. The cross section needed to explain the observed abundance for thermal DM is  $\langle\sigma v_r\rangle = 6 \times 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$ .



1763 FIG. 6: Limits on the annihilation of neutrinos to dark matter through a  $d$ -wave process  $\langle\sigma v\rangle = d(v/c)^4$ .

1877 nucleus cross section, which determines the detection ef- 1878 ficiency, grows strongly with center-of-mass energy till



1811

1812 FIG. 7: *Uncertainties on the s-wave annihilation cross section for a subset of our results.* Solid lines  
 1813 correspond to the limits discussed in Sec. IV. For all Galactic limits, namely Borexino (red, leftmost),  
 1814 Super-Kamiokande low-energy (grey, second region from left), Super-Kamiokande and IceCube (lower, rightmost),  
 1815 the 68% (dark bands) and 95% (light bands) uncertainties arise from the allowed variation on the dark matter  
 1816 distribution in the Milky Way, assuming a generalized NFW profile. The width of the uncertainty band for the  
 1817 extragalactic limits (upper, rightmost), obtained by comparing to the unfolded neutrino flux from IceCube and  
 1818 Super-Kamiokande, is dominated by the choice of the minimum halo mass,  $M_{min}$ , although it includes the  
 1819 uncertainty in the choice of HMF  $dn/dM$ , see Fig. 8. For our nominal choice of HMF, we choose the value of  $M_{min}$   
 1820 that yields the weakest constraint.

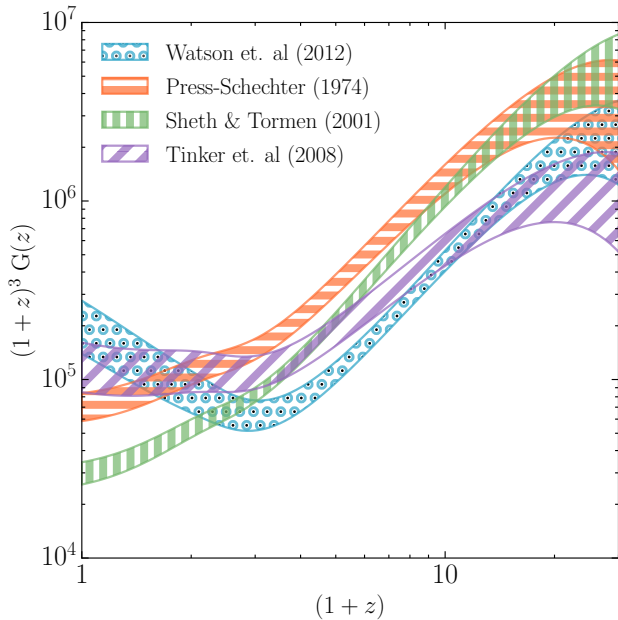
1879 approximately  $E_\nu = 10^6$  GeV; and 2) neutrino detec-  
 1880 tors built for high-energy observations must necessarily  
 1881 be larger, to compensate for the lower expected flux from  
 1882 extragalactic sources, and the larger size of the detectable  
 1883 Cherenkov cascades caused by neutrino interactions. At  
 1884 energies above  $\sim 10^{10}$  GeV, neutrinos become the only  
 1885 probe of high-energy extragalactic processes.

1886 For  $s$ -channel annihilation, next-generation experi-  
 1887 ments will finally venture below the expected thermal  
 1888 relic abundance for 10 MeV masses. In fact, our analysis  
 1889 of the recent SK phase-IV data (Linyan, 2018) is within a  
 1890 factor of a few from the relic abundance expected value.  
 1891 Similarly, with the realization of a cubic kilometer de-  
 1892 tector in the Northern Hemisphere, the sensitivity in the  
 1893 TeV energy range gets close to the thermal relic expec-  
 1894 tations. Beyond the expected thermal relic cross section  
 1895 there are some intriguing hints for dark matter that could  
 1896 be tested with neutrinos, here we mention a few.

1897 The EDGES collaboration recently reported an abnor-  
 1898 mally low-temperature absorption feature in the 21 cm  
 1899 global spectrum at a redshift of  $z \sim 17$  (Bowman et al.,  
 1900 2018) though the interpretation of this result has been

1901 questioned by a number of studies (e.g. Bradley et al.,  
 1902 2019). If the observation does hold up to scrutiny and  
 1903 replication, it would be an indication of physics beyond  
 1904 the standard cosmological model. A suggested expla-  
 1905 nation is excess gas cooling by millicharged dark mat-  
 1906 ter (Barkana, 2018; Klop and Ando, 2018; Muñoz and  
 1907 Loeb, 2018), see also (Berlin et al., 2018). In such scenar-  
 1908 ios, a neutrino line is expected in the 10 MeV range (Klop  
 1909 and Ando, 2018). This model requires 2% of the DM to  
 1910 annihilate to muon and tau neutrinos, with a cross sec-  
 1911 tion around  $10^{-25} \text{ cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}$ . As indicated in Fig. 2, this  
 1912 parameter space is rapidly closing.

1913 Goodenough and Hooper (2009) noted an excess of  
 1914 gamma-rays seen by the space-borne Fermi-LAT instru-  
 1915 ment in the direction of the Galactic center in an energy  
 1916 range from 3-10 GeV. Despite considerable debate, this  
 1917 signal remains consistent with what is expected from DM  
 1918 annihilation (Leane and Slatyer, 2019), e.g. it can be  
 1919 well explained by dark matter annihilation into  $b\bar{b}$  with a  
 1920 mass of  $\sim 30$  GeV and an annihilation cross section of the  
 1921 order  $10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}$  (Calore et al., 2015; Daylan et al.,  
 1922 2016; Hooper and Goodenough, 2011). Recent analyses



1842

1843 FIG. 8: *The halo boost factor  $G(z)$  as a function*  
 1844 *of redshift for several parametrizations of the*  
 1845 *HMF  $dn/dM$ .* Our extragalactic constraints use  
 1846 Watson *et. al* (Watson *et al.*, 2013). The bands  
 1847 represent varying choices of minimum halo mass, from  
 1848  $10^{-3}$  to  $10^{-9}$  solar masses. Fig. 7 shows the effect of  
 1849 choosing a different parametrization on the limits.

1923 of the AMS-02 cosmic-ray data (Aguilar *et al.*, 2016) have  
 1924 found hints of an excess in cosmic ray antiprotons, that  
 1925 can also be explained by  $\sim 30$  GeV WIMPs annihilating  
 1926 to  $W^+W^-$  or  $b$  quark pairs with a very similar cross  
 1927 section (Cuoco *et al.*, 2017). The detection of a comple-  
 1928 mentary neutrino signal to what is seen in the GC  
 1929 would be a powerful indication of new physics processes  
 1930 at work. Caution is warranted, as the antiproton excess  
 1931 could well be attributed to systematic uncertainties in  
 1932 cosmic ray propagation (Boudaud *et al.*, 2020) or a com-  
 1933 bination of propagation uncertainties, nuclear cross sec-  
 1934 tion uncertainties, and correlations in instrumental sys-  
 1935 tematics (Heisig *et al.*, 2020).

1936 Additionally, growing statistics for different chan-  
 1937 nels for observation of high-energy neutrinos in Ice-  
 1938 Cube (Aartsen *et al.*, 2016b; Schneider, 2019) hints to-  
 1939 wards a more complex spectral scenario and possible fea-  
 1940 tures in the flux of cosmic neutrinos. Analysis of the  
 1941 contained neutrino events at lower energies ( $\sim 10$  TeV)  
 1942 has revealed a flux that is an order of magnitude higher  
 1943 than the flux at PeV energies (Aartsen *et al.*, 2015a).  
 1944 This is usually referred to as the “low-energy excess” in  
 1945 IceCube data. The origin of these neutrinos are thought  
 1946 to be different from the bulk of neutrino emission at PeV  
 1947 energies, see (Murase *et al.*, 2016) for more discussion.  
 1948 Interestingly, models assuming DM annihilation (or de-

1949 cay) into high-energy neutrinos have been proposed to de-  
 1950 scribe the low-energy excess (Bhattacharya *et al.*, 2019;  
 1951 Chianese *et al.*, 2017), see also (Sui and Bhupal Dev,  
 1952 2018), and they show a slight preference for a potential  
 1953 component from TeV dark matter. However, such inter-  
 1954 pretation could be in tension with gamma-ray observa-  
 1955 tions (Chianese *et al.*, 2018). At the moment, it is clear  
 1956 that elucidating the origin of the high-energy neutrino  
 1957 excess will require correlated observations with gamma-  
 1958 rays and novel analysis techniques, see *e.g.* (Dekker *et al.*,  
 1959 2019).

1960 The ANITA balloon-borne experiment has recently re-  
 1961 ported on two events originating from  $30^\circ$  or more be-  
 1962 low the horizon (Gorham *et al.*, 2016, 2018), with en-  
 1963 ergies in excess of 500 PeV. This is unexpected, as the  
 1964 Earth should be opaque to neutrinos at these energies.  
 1965 These are not consistent with either a diffuse primary  
 1966 neutrino flux, or a point source hypothesis, as the sec-  
 1967 ondary interaction products would have been observed  
 1968 at IceCube (Aartsen *et al.*, 2020; Romero-Wolf *et al.*,  
 1969 2019; Safa *et al.*, 2019). Systematic effects regarding ir-  
 1970 regularities in the Antarctic surface ice have been pro-  
 1971 posed (Shoemaker *et al.*, 2019). However, dark matter  
 1972 which decays (Cline *et al.*, 2019; Hooper *et al.*, 2019)  
 1973 or annihilates (Esmaili and Farzan, 2019) to neutrinos  
 1974 or boosted DM could also explain such a signal, though  
 1975 more data are still required to test such hypotheses (An-  
 1976 chordoqui *et al.*, 2020a; Dudas *et al.*, 2020).

1977 We hope for further surprises and point out the great  
 1978 room for improvement with dedicated analyses; *e.g.* our  
 1979 DUNE and HK estimations do not yet use directional in-  
 1980 formation. Likewise, high-energy neutrino observatories  
 1981 are expected to improve their angular and energy resolu-  
 1982 tions in the next generation and a combination of their  
 1983 data sets would improve over our projected sensitivities.  
 1984 The annihilation of dark matter to neutrino pairs is  
 1985 the most invisible channel: the constraints that we have  
 1986 provided here are thus closing the window on dark matter  
 1987 annihilation into standard model products, and are thus  
 1988 rapidly narrowing down the available parameter space  
 1989 where WIMP-like dark matter may still be hiding.

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