The Maximum Patch Method for Directional Dark Matter Detection

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in your signal region, you measured













S. Yellin, Phys. Rev. D66, 032005 (2002)

directional detectors have a prediction too!

$$\frac{d^2 R(v_E, \infty)}{dE_R d(\cos \psi)} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{R_0}{E_0 r} e^{-(v_E \cos \psi - v_{min})^2 / v_0^2}$$
D. N. Spergel, Phys. Rev. D37 (1988) 1353



can we make a 2D analogue to the maximum gap?



why is this worth thinking about? two cases:



Z. Ahmed et al., PRL 102, 011301 (2009)

observes zero events exposure=121 kg*days







10 events and similar exposures!? why are they competitive?







max gap sets a much tighter limit than poisson because it knows what signal looks like

we have a strong angular anisotropy to exploit





so what's the recipe?

D. M. Mei and A. Hime, Phys. Rev. D73, 053004 (2006)

1) take some data (hard part):



2) pick a model for the 2D WIMP detection rate



3a) you see zero events – set a poisson limit 3b) you see events – calculate the maximum patch of your data



4) use our calculated maximum patch CDFs to get probability of that patch



0.28

 ≥ 0.30

0.995

0.996 0.996 0.997 0.997 0.998 0.999

1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000

0.999 0.999 0.999 0.999

1.000

S. Henderson et al., Phys. Rev. D78, 015020 (2008)

5) set an upper limit!



CONCLUSIONS

- 1) god forbid, but if you see backgrounds, we've developed a 2D version of the maximum gap method
- 2) doesn't require a background model or subtraction
- 3) not just for dark matter! works for any limit setting in 2D^{*}
- 4) we plan to deploy this method on DMTPC data from our upcoming WIPP run