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Ultra-high-energy neutrinos to look for super-heavy dark matter inside Earth

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As the Earth travels across the Milky Way, it passes through the galactic halo of dark matter particles. Occasionally a dark matter particle could interact with the contents of the earth, scattering it to a lower energy, which can lead to it becoming gravitationally trapped inside the Earth. If these dark matter particles are self-annihilating, or decay, one possible final state product will be neutrinos, which would lead to a flux of neutrinos at the surface of the earth, coming from dark matter, thus enabling indirect dark matter detection. The work focuses on the specific case of super-heavy dark matter in the mass range $1e7$ GeV to $1e11$ GeV, and explores the possibility of detecting ultra-high-energy neutrinos in the planned IceCube-Gen2 detector, in the hopes that data in the next 10–15 years can either discover or set new limits on dark matter.

Field of study

Astrophysics

Supervisor

Mauricio Bustamante

Primary author: VOSS JACOBSEN, Johannes

Session Classification: Poster session: Enjoy the posters!