+1-857-999-1964 hongwan@bu.edu http://hongwanliu.github.io

Hongwan Liu

Employment	Assistant Professor of Physics, Boston University	2024 -
	Fellow, Kavli Institute of Cosmological Physics, University of Chicago	2023 - 2024
	Schramm Fellow in Theoretical Astrophysics, Fermilab	2023 - 2024
	Postdoctoral Associate, New York University	2019 - 2023
	Postdoctoral Associate, Princeton University	2019 - 2023
Education	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	2014 - 2019
	Doctor of Philosophy in Physics	
	Thesis: Dark Matter Energy Deposition and Production from the Table-Top to the Cosmos Advisor: Tracy R. Slatyer Committee: Tracy R. Slatyer, Jesse Thaler, Kerstin Perez	
	Cornell University	2007 - 2011
	Bachelor of Arts in Physics (summa cum laude) & Mathematics (cum laude)	
Awards and	Schramm Fellowship in Theoretical Astrophysics, Fermilab	2023
Honors	Andrew M. Lockett III Memorial Fund Award, MIT Physics Department	2019
	Henry Kendall Teaching Award, MIT Physics Department	2016
	Yennie Prize, Cornell Physics Department	2011

PUBLICATIONS

All authors listed alphabetically following the high-energy physics convention, except †.

- 31! Andrea Trost, James S. Bolton, Andrea Caputo, **Hongwan Liu**, Stefano Cristiani and Matteo Viel, "Constraints on Dark Photon Dark Matter from Lyman- α Forest Simulations on an Ultra-High Signal-to-Noise Quasar Spectrum", submitted to *Nature Communications*, arXiv:2410.02858
- 30. Giorgi Arsenadze, Andrea Caputo, Xucheng Gan, **Hongwan Liu** and Joshua T. Ruderman, "Shaping Dark Photon Spectral Distortions", to be submitted to *Physical Review* D, arXiv:2409.12940
- 29. Cara Giovanetti, Mariangela Lisanti, **Hongwan Liu**, Siddharth Mishra-Sharma and Joshua T. Ruderman, "LINX: A Fast, Differentiable and Extensible Big Bang Nucleosynthesis Package", submitted to *Physical Review* D, arXiv:2408.14538
- 28. Cara Giovanetti, Mariangela Lisanti, **Hongwan Liu**, Siddharth Mishra-Sharma and Joshua T. Ruderman, "Cosmological Parameter Estimation with a Joint-Likelihood Analysis of the Cosmic Microwave Background and Big Bang Nucleosynthesis", submitted to *Physical Review Letters*, arXiv:2408.14531
- 27! Yitian Sun, Joshua W. Foster, **Hongwan Liu**, Julian B. Muñoz and Tracy R. Slatyer, "Inhomogeneous Energy Injection in the 21-cm Power Spectrum: Sensitivity to Dark Matter Decay", submitted to *Physical Review* D, arXiv:2312.11608
- 26! Wenzer Qin, Julian B. Muñoz, Hongwan Liu and Tracy R. Slatyer, "Birth of the First

- Stars Amidst Decaying and Annihilating Dark Matter", *Physical Review* D 109, 103026 (2024), arXiv:2308.12992
- 25. Hongwan Liu, Wenzer Qin, Gregory W. Ridgway and Tracy R. Slatyer, "Exotic Energy Injection in the Early Universe II: CMB Spectral Distortions and Constraints on Light Dark Matter", *Physical ReviewD* 108, 043531 (2023), arXiv:2303.07370
- 24. Hongwan Liu, Wenzer Qin, Gregory W. Ridgway and Tracy R. Slatyer, "Exotic Energy Injection in the Early Universe I: A Novel Treatment for Low-Energy Electrons and Photons", *Physical Review* D 108, 043530 (2023), arXiv:2303.07366
- 23. Asher Berlin, **Hongwan Liu**, Maxim Pospelov and Harikrishnan Ramani, "The Terrestrial Density of Strongly-Coupled Relics", *Physical Review* D 109, 075027 (2024), arXiv:2302.06619
- 22. Rennan Barkana, Anastasia Fialkov, **Hongwan Liu** and Nadav Joseph Outmezguine, "Anticipating a New-Physics Signal in Upcoming 21-cm Power Spectrum Observations", *Physical Review* D 108, 063503 (2023), arXiv:2212.08082
- 21. James S. Bolton, Andrea Caputo, **Hongwan Liu** and Matteo Viel, "Comparison of Low-Redshift Lyman-α Forest Observations to Hydrodynamical Simulations with Dark Photon Dark Matter", *Physical Review Letters* 129, 211102 (2022), arXiv:2206.13520
- 20. Andrea Caputo, Hongwan Liu, Siddharth Mishra-Sharma, Maxim Pospelov and Joshua T. Ruderman, "Radio Excess from Stimulated Dark Matter Decay", *Physical Review* D 107, 123033 (2023), arXiv:2206.07713
- 19.† Adriana Dropulic, Hongwan Liu, Bryan Ostdiek and Mariangela Lisanti, "Revealing the Milky Way's Most Recent Major Merger with a Gaia EDR3 Catalog of Machine-Learned Line-of-Sight Velocities", Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society 521, 1633-1645 (2023), arXiv:2205.12278
- 18. Asher Berlin, **Hongwan Liu**, Maxim Pospelov and Harikrishnan Ramani, "Low-Energy Signals from the Formation of Dark Matter-Nuclear Bound States", *Physical Review D* 105, 095028 (2022), arXiv:2110.06217
- 17. Cara Giovanetti, Mariangela Lisanti, Hongwan Liu and Joshua T. Ruderman, "Joint Cosmic Microwave Background and Big Bang Nucleosynthesis Constraints on Light Dark Sectors with Dark Radiation", *Physical Review Letters* 129, 021302 (2022), arXiv:2109.03246
- Patrick J. Fitzpatrick, Hongwan Liu, Tracy R. Slatyer and Yu-Dai Tsai, "New Thermal Relic Targets for Inelastic Vector-Portal Dark Matter", *Physical Review D* 106, 083507 (2022), arXiv:2105.05255
- 15. Adriana Dropulic, Bryan Ostdiek, Laura J. Chang, Hongwan Liu, Timothy Cohen and Mariangela Lisanti, "Machine Learning the 6th Dimension: Stellar Radial Velocities from 5D Phase-Space Correlations", *The Astrophysical Journal Letters* 915, L14 (2021), arXiv:2103.14039
- Patrick J. Fitzpatrick, Hongwan Liu, Tracy R. Slatyer and Yu-Dai Tsai, "New Pathways to the Relic Abundance of Vector-Portal Dark Matter", *Physical Review D* 106, 083517 (2022), arXiv:2011.01240
- 13. Andrea Caputo, Hongwan Liu, Siddharth Mishra-Sharma, Maxim Pospelov, Joshua T. Ruderman and Alfredo Urbano, "Edges and Endpoints in 21-cm Observations from Resonant Photon Production", *Physical Review Letters* 127, 011102 (2021), arXiv:2009.03899

- 12. Hongwan Liu, Wenzer Qin, Gregory W. Ridgway and Tracy R. Slatyer, Lyman-α "Constraints on Cosmic Heating from Dark Matter Annihilation and Decay", *Physical Review* D 104, 043514 (2021), arXiv:2008.01084
- 11. Masha Baryakhtar, Asher Berlin, **Hongwan Liu** and Neal Weiner, "Electromagnetic Signals of Inelastic Dark Matter Scattering", *Journal of High Energy Physics* 06, 047 (2022), arXiv:2006.13918
- Andrea Caputo, Hongwan Liu, Siddharth Mishra-Sharma and Joshua T. Ruderman, "Modeling Dark Photon Oscillations in Our Inhomogeneous Universe", *Physical Review* D 102, 103533 (2020), arXiv:2004.06733
- 9. Andrea Caputo, Hongwan Liu, Siddharth Mishra-Sharma and Joshua T. Ruderman, "Dark Photon Oscillations in Our Inhomogeneous Universe", *Physical Review Letters* 125, 221303 (2020), arXiv:2002.05165
- 8. Hongwan Liu, Nadav J. Outmezguine, Diego Redigolo and Tomer Volansky, "Reviving Millicharged Dark Matter for 21-cm Cosmology", *Physical Review* D 100, 123011 (2019), arXiv:1908.06986
- 7. **Hongwan Liu**, "Dark Matter Energy Deposition and Production from the Table-Top to the Cosmos", arXiv:1907.04324 (*PhD Thesis*)
- Hongwan Liu, Gregory W. Ridgway and Tracy R. Slatyer, "DarkHistory: A Code Package for Calculating Modified Cosmic Ionization and Thermal Histories with Dark Matter and other Exotic Energy Injections", *Physical Review D* 101, 023530 (2020), arXiv:1904.09296
- 5.† Hongwan Liu, Brodi D. Elwood, Matthew Evans and Jesse Thaler, "Searching for Axion Dark Matter with Birefringent Cavities", *Physical Review* D 100, 023548 (2019), arXiv:1809.01656
- 4. Hongwan Liu and Tracy R. Slatyer, "Implications of a 21-cm Signal for Dark Matter Annihilation and Decay", *Physical Review* D 98, 023501 (2018), arXiv:1803.09739
- 3. Gilly Elor, Hongwan Liu, Tracy R. Slatyer and Yotam Soreq, "Complementarity for Dark Sector Bound States", *Physical Review* D 98, 036015 (2018), arXiv:1801.07723
- 2. James M. Cline, **Hongwan Liu**, Tracy R. Slatyer and Wei Xue, "Enabling Forbidden Dark Matter", *Physical Review* D 96, 083521 (2017), arXiv:1702.07716
- 1. Hongwan Liu, Tracy R. Slatyer and Jesús Zavala, "Contributions to Cosmic Reionization from Dark Matter Annihilation and Decay", *Physical Review* D 94, 063507 (2016), arXiv:1604.02457

Colloquia

2! University of Wisconsin-Madison, to be decided

Feb 2025

† Upcoming.

- 1. **University of Delaware**, "Discovering the Particle Physics of Dark Mar 2023 Matter with Cosmology"
- 50! University of Florida, High Energy Physics Seminar, to be decided

Dec 2024

Invited	49! Brown University, IDEA Seminar, to be decided	Dec 2024
Seminars	48! Carleton University, Particle Physics Seminar, to be decided	Nov 2024
† Upcoming.	47. Stony Brook University , YITP Seminar, "Fast and Differentiable Big-Bang Nucleosynthesis"	Oct 2024
	46. Stanford University , SITP Seminar, "Fast and Differentiable Big-Bang Nucleosynthesis"	May 2024
	45. National University of Singapore, "Discovering Dark Matter with Cosmology"	Apr 2024
	44. University of Oklahoma, High-Energy Physics Seminar, "Fast and Differentiable Big-Bang Nucleosynthesis"	Mar 2024
	43. University of Oregon, Institute of Fundamental Sciences Seminar, "Fast and Differentiable Big-Bang Nucleosynthesis"	Mar 2024
	42. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, High-Energy Physics Seminar, "Fast and Differentiable Big-Bang Nucleosynthesis"	Feb 2024
	41. Fermilab , Theory Seminar, "Exotic Energy Injection in the Early Universe"	Feb 2024
	40. University of Michigan , Brown Bag Seminar, "Exotic Energy Injection in the Early Universe"	Nov 2023
	39. City University of Hong Kong, Research Seminar, "Exotic Energy Injection in the Early Universe"	Oct 2023
	38. Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, IAS Program on Particle Theory, "Exotic Energy Injection in the Early Universe"	Oct 2023
	37. University of California, Davis, QMAP Particles/Cosmology Seminar, "Cosmological Signatures of Dark Photons"	May 2023
	36. Nanjing Normal University, Particle Physics Online Seminar Series, "Cosmological Signatures of Dark Photons"	May 2023
	35. Boston University , High-Energy Theory Seminar, "Discovering the Particle Physics of Dark Matter with Cosmology"	Mar 2023
	34. University of Delaware, Particle Theory Research Talk, "New Signatures of Dark Matter Energy Deposition"	Mar 2023
	33. Fermilab , Cosmic Physics Center Seminar, "A Large New Physics Signal in the 21-cm Power Spectrum"	Dec 2022
	32. Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Particle Theory Seminar, "A Stimulating Explanation of the Extragalactic Radio Excess"	Sep 2022
	31. Boston University , High-Energy Theory Seminar, "A Stimulating Explanation of the Extragalactic Radio Excess"	May 2022
	30. Johns Hopkins University , Theoretical Particle Physics Seminar, "A Stimulating Explanation of the Extragalactic Radio Excess"	Apr 2022
	29. University of Southern California , Cosmology Seminar, "A Stimulating Explanation of the Extragalactic Radio Excess"	Apr 2022

28.	McGill Space Institute , Astronomy Seminar, "A Stimulating Explanation of the Extragalactic Radio Excess"	Mar 2022
27.	University of Maryland, Elementary Particles Seminar, "Dark Photons and the Cosmic Radiation Background"	Dec 2021
26.	Tsung-Dao Lee Institute/Shanghai Jiao Tong University, ${\rm DM}+\nu$ Forum, "Low-Energy Signals from the Formation of Dark Matter-Nuclear Bound States"	Nov 2021
25.	BSM Pandemic, Virtual Seminar, "Low-Energy Signals from the Formation of Dark Matter-Nuclear Bound States"	Nov 2021
24.	Cornell University , Particle Theory Seminar, "Lyman-Alpha Constraints on Cosmic Heating from Dark Matter Annihilation and Decay"	Nov 2021
23.	University of California, Berkeley, 4D Seminar, "New Aspects of Vector-Portal Dark Matter"	May 2021
22.	Caltech , High-Energy Physics Seminar, "Dark Photons and the Cosmic Radiation Background"	Apr 2021
21.	University of Michigan, Brown Bag Seminar, "Dark Photons and the Cosmic Radiation Background"	Apr 2021
20.	Perimeter Institute , Particle Physics Seminar, "Dark Photons and the Cosmic Radiation Background"	Apr 2021
19.	Stanford University , SITP Seminar, "Dark Photons and the Cosmic Radiation Background"	Feb 2021
18.	DESY , Theory Seminar, "New Pathways to the Relic Abundance of Vector-Portal Dark Matter"	Feb 2021
17.	McDonald Institute, McDonald Institute Seminar Series, "Lyman-Alpha Constraints on Cosmic Heating from Dark Matter Annihilation and Decay"	Jan 2021
16.	Massachusetts Institute of Technology, CTP LHC/DM/BSM/QCD Meeting, "Dark Photon Oscillations in Our Inhomogeneous Universe"	Nov 2020
15.	Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics, The University of Chicago, KICP Seminar, "Dark Photon Oscillations in Our Inhomogeneous Universe"	Jun 2020
14.	Nanyang Technological University, Physics and Applied Physics Seminar, "Axions, Dark Matter and Light Polarization"	Dec 2019
13.	Israeli Joint Particle Physics Meeting, "Changing the History of the Universe During the Dark Ages"	Nov 2019
12.	Fermilab, Cosmic Physics Center Seminar, "From the Table-Top to the Cosmos: Searching High and Low for Dark Matter"	Dec 2018
11.	Perimeter Institute, Particle Physics Seminar, "Searching for Axion Dark Matter with Birefringent Cavities"	Dec 2018
10.	Princeton University , Pheno & Vino, "From the Table-Top to the Cosmos: Searching High and Low for Dark Matter"	Dec 2018

	9. New York University , "From the Table-Top to the Cosmos: Searching High and Low for Dark Matter"	Nov 2018
	8. The Ohio State University, CCAPP Seminar, "DarkHistory: A Code for Computing Ionization and Thermal Histories with Dark Matter Energy Injection"	Nov 2018
	7. Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, LBNL Theory Seminar, "From the Table-Top to the Cosmos: Searching High and Low for Dark Matter"	Oct 2018
	6. SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory , Elementary Particle Physics Theory Seminar, "From the Table-Top to the Cosmos: Searching High and Low for Dark Matter"	Oct 2018
	5. University of California, San Diego , Particle Physics Seminar, "From the Table-Top to the Cosmos: Searching High and Low for Dark Matter"	Oct 2018
	4. Brown University , Astrophysics Seminar, "DarkHistory: A Code for Computing Ionization and Thermal Histories with Dark Matter Energy Injection"	Oct 2018
	3. University of California, Irvine , Joint Particle Seminar, "From the Table-Top to the Cosmos: Searching High and Low for Dark Matter"	Sep 2018
	2. Harvard University, Particle Physics In-House Luncheon, "Searching for Axion Dark Matter with Birefringent Cavities"	Sep 2018
	1. Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Journal Club Seminar, "21-cm Implications for Dark Matter Annihilation and Decay"	May 2018
Conferences and Workshops	22.* Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics Workshop: Cosmic Signals of Dark Matter Physics, "Fast and Differentiable Big-Bang Nucleosynthesis", Santa Barbara, California, USA	Jun 2024
† Upcoming.	21.* ALPS 2024, "Fast and Differentiable Big-Bang Nucleosynthesis", Obergurgl, Austria	Apr 2024
* Invited talk.	20.* 2023 National Center for Theoretical Sciences Annual Theory Meeting, "Cosmological Probes of Dark Photons", Taipei, Taiwan	Dec 2023
	19.* New Physics from Galaxy Clustering, "Cosmological Signatures of Dark Photons", CERN, Meyrin, Switzerland	Nov 2022
	18.* Physics of This Universe, "A Stimulating Explanation of the Extragalactic Radio Excess", Baltimore, Maryland, USA	May 2022
	17.* Aspen Winter Conference: New Methods and Ideas at the Frontiers of Particle Physics, "Dark Photons and the Cosmic Radiation Background", Aspen, Colorado, USA	Mar 2022
	16.* AstroDark 2021, "DarkHistory: A Code for Computing Ionization and Thermal Histories with Dark Matter Energy Injection", Virtual	Nov 2021

	15* Computational Tools for High Energy Physics and Cosmology, "DarkHistory: A Code for Computing Ionization and Thermal Histories with Dark Matter Energy Injection", Virtual	Nov 2021
	14. Aspen Summer: Dark Matter from the Laboratory to the Cosmos, "Aspen Center for Physics", Aspen, Colorado, USA	Aug 2021
	13.* Aspen Winter Conference: A Rainbow of Dark Sectors 2021, "Cosmological Probes of Dark Matter Energy Deposition", Virtual	Mar 2021
	12.* 16th Rencontres du Vietnam: TMEX 2020, "Axions and the Polarization of Light", Quy Nhon, Vietnam	Jan 2020
	11. TeVPA 2019, "Reviving Millicharged Dark Matter for 21-cm Cosmology", Sydney, Australia	Dec 2019
	10. APS DPF Meeting 2019, "New Aspects of Millicharged Dark Matter at 21-cm", Boston, Massachusetts, USA	Jul 2019
	9. PASCOS 2019, "New Aspects of Millicharged Dark Matter at 21-cm", Manchester, United Kingdom	Jul 2019
	8* Beyond Standard Model: Where Do We Go from Here?, "Axion Detection with Interferometry", Galileo Galilei Institute, Florence, Italy	Oct 2018
	7. TeVPA 2018, "DarkHistory: A Code for Computing Ionization and Thermal Histories with Dark Matter Energy Injection", Berlin, Germany	Aug 2018
	 IDM 2018, "21-cm Implications for Dark Matter", Providence, Rhode Island, USA 	Jul 2018
	5.* PASCOS 2018, "21-cm Implications for Dark Matter Annihilation and Decay", Cleveland, Ohio, USA	Jun 2018
	4. Pheno 2018, "Complementarity in Dark Sector Bound States", Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA	May 2018
	3. TeVPA 2017, "Enabling Forbidden Dark Matter", Columbus, Ohio, USA	Aug 2017
	 Pheno 2017, "Enabling Forbidden Dark Matter", Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA 	May 2017
	 Cosmo 2016, "The Darkest Hour Before Dawn: Contributions to Cosmic Reionization from Dark Matter Annihilation and Decay", Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA 	Aug 2016
Teaching	Boston University Faculty Instructor	
Overall student	PY501 Mathematical Physics	Fall 2024
evaluation ratings shown in parentheses	Massachusetts Institute of Technology Graduate Teaching Assistant	
where available.	8.323 Relativistic Quantum Field Theory I (6.4/7.0)	Spring 2017
	8.033 Relativity (6.4/7.0)	Fall 2016

	8.323 Relativity (6.9/7.0)	Fall 2015
Mentoring	Postdoctoral Researchers	
	Nicholas dePorzio, Boston University	2024 -
	Xucheng Gan, DESY	2024 -
	Graduate Students	
	Ethan Baker, Boston University, anticipated Ph.D. 2029	2024 -
	Insung Hwang, Boston University, anticipated Ph.D. 2029	2024 -
	Michelle Kwok, Boston University, anticipated Ph.D. 2029	2024 -
	Timothy Launders, Boston University, anticipated Ph.D. 2029	2024 -
	Tony Zilu Zhou, New York University, Advisor: Neal Weiner	2023 -
	Xucheng Gan, New York University, Advisor: Joshua T. Ruderman	2023 - 2024
	Zachary Gelles, Princeton University, Advisor: Mariangela Lisanti	2022 - 2023
	Yitian Sun, MIT, Advisor: Tracy R. Slatyer	2022 - 2024
	Shira Jackson, New York University, Advisor: Neal Weiner	2021 - 2023
	Giorgi Arsenadze, New York University, Advisor: Joshua T. Ruderman	2021 -
	Wenzer Qin, MIT, Advisor: Tracy R. Slatyer	2020 - 2023
	Cara Giovanetti, Princeton University, Advisor: Ken van Tilburg	2020 -
	Patrick Fitzpatrick, MIT, Advisor: Tracy R. Slatyer	2019 - 2022
	Gregory W. Ridgway, MIT, Advisor: Tracy R. Slatyer	2018 - 2022
	Undergraduate Students	
	Mehmet Akharman, Boston University, anticipated B.A. 2026	2024 -
	Andreas Tsantilas, New York University, Advisor: Neal Weiner	2022 - 2023
	Noah Luch, Princeton University, Advisor: Mariangela Lisanti	2022 - 2023
	Cara Giovanetti, Princeton University, Advisor: Mariangela Lisanti	2019 - 2020
	Brodi D. Elwood, MIT, Advisor: Matthew Evans	2018
	Cannon M. Vogel, MIT, Advisor: Tracy R. Slatyer	2017 - 2019
	Shi-Fan Stephen Chen, MIT, Advisor: Tracy R. Slatyer	2016 - 2017
	High School Students	
	Gabriel Mintzer, Research Science Institute, MIT, Advisor: Tracy R. Slatyer	2016

Professional Peer Review since 2019 Physical Review Letters, Journal of High Energy Physics, Physical Review D, Physics Letters B, **ACTIVITIES** Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics & The European Physical Journal C. AND SERVICES **Boston University Physics Department** Member, Colloquium Committee 2024 -Member, Graduate Programs Committee 2024 -Member, New Initiatives and Searches Committee 2024 -Member, Website, Social Media and Marketing Committee 2024 -Conferences Cosmological and Astrophysical Probes of New Physics, PCTS, Princeton 2022 **Seminars** Funch, KICP 2023 - 2024 High-Energy Theory Seminar, NYU 2021 - 2022 BSM PANDEMIC Delta Series, Virtual 2021 Pheno & Vino Off-Shell, Princeton, Virtual 2020 - 2021 BSM PANDEMIC Double Feature, Virtual 2020 Pheno & Vino, Princeton 2019 - 2020 Beyond the Standard Model Seminar, MIT 2017 - 2018

OUTREACH Presentation to Scuola Superiore Students, Boston University, Boston, MA, USA
Presentation to Leonia High School, Leonia, NJ, USA, Online
Presentation to The Bement School, Deerfield, MA, USA, Online
Presentation to Milton Hershey School, Hershey, PA, USA, Online
2020