High energy neutrinos from neutralino annihilations in the Sun

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Neutralino annihilations in the Sun to weak boson and top-quark pairs lead to high-energy neutrinos that can be detected by the IceCube and KM3 experiments in the search for neutralino dark matter. We calculate the neutrino signals from real and virtual WW, ZZ, Zh, and $t\bar{t}$ production and decays, accounting for the spin dependences of the matrix elements, which can have important influences on the neutrino energy spectra. We take into account neutrino propagation including neutrino oscillations, matter-resonance, absorption, and ν_{τ} regeneration effects in the Sun and evaluate the neutrino flux at the Earth. We concentrate on the compelling focus point (FP) region of the supergravity model that reproduces the observed dark matter relic density. For the FP region, the lightest neutralino has a large bino-Higgsino mixture that leads to a high neutrino flux and the spin-dependent neutralino capture rate in the Sun is enhanced by 10^3 over the spin-independent rate. For the standard estimate of neutralino captures, the muon signal rates in IceCube are identifiable over the atmospheric neutrino background for neutralino masses above M_Z up to 400 GeV.

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I. INTRODUCTION

A stable weakly interacting massive particle (WIMP) of mass of order 100 GeV that was produced in the early Universe, thermalized, and froze-out due to the Hubble expansion provides a natural explanation for observed density of dark matter today [1]. A well motivated dark matter (DM) candidate is the lightest stable particle (LSP) of supersymmetry (SUSY) with R-parity conservation [2-4]. The LSP is nominally the lightest neutralino (denoted by χ_1^0), a neutral spin-1/2 particle that is a linear combination of gauginos (spin-1/2 SUSY companions of the spin-1 standard model bino and wino) and Higgsinos (spin-1/2 companions of two spin-0 Higgs bosons) [5]. The minimal supergravity model (mSUGRA) has minimal SUSY particle content with the exact supersymmetry broken by gravity [6]. With gauge and Yukawa coupling at the grand unified scale (GUT) [7-9] the mSUGRA model predictions are given in terms of a small number of parameters [10,11]. The consequences of mSUGRA for neutralino dark matter detection have been the subject of numerous phenomenological studies that have considered the predictions for forthcoming experiments; some recent surveys are given in Refs. [12-19]. There are three complementary experimental approaches: direct detection via nuclear recoils from WIMP scattering, indirect detection via astrophysics experiments wherein WIMP annihilations give neutrino, gamma ray, positron, and antideuteron signals, and collider experiments where the supersymmetric particles undergo cascade decays to final states with two LSPs that give missing energy in the events.

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Our focus is on the signals in neutrino telescopes that should result from the annihilations of neutralinos that have been gravitationally captured by the Sun [20,21]. Neutrino telescopes are poised to search for the highenergy neutrinos of this origin [22]. The IceCube experiment at the South Pole is under way and expects to have about 50 000 events from atmospheric neutrinos in the near future [23,24]. The KM3 detector in the Mediterranean Sea is currently being built [25–31]. The IceCube detector has a neutrino energy threshold of about 50 GeV. These experiments are expected to have the capability to find or limit signals from neutralino DM annihilations in the Sun [21]. It is therefore of particular interest to refine the characteristic features imprinted on the neutrino energy spectra of this origin.

We make substantial improvements on previous theoretical studies [32] by including the full spin-dependence of the matrix elements from real and virtual WW, ZZ, Zh, and $t\bar{t}$ production and subsequent decays to neutrinos, by noting the importance of the spin-dependent capture rate in the Sun, and by concentrating on the region of mSUGRA parameter space known as the hyperbolic branch (HB) [33] or focus point (FP) [34] region, where the neutralino annihilations have the highest rates. (Hereafter we denote this region simply by FP). The above mentioned annihilation processes lead to the high-energy neutrinos of interest for neutrino telescopes. We propagate the neutrinos through the Sun, taking into account neutrino oscillations, matter resonance, absorption, and ν_{τ} regeneration effects, and give the resulting muon-neutrino energy spectra at Earth and the muon energy spectra in km² area detectors.

Neutralinos are gravitationally trapped and accumulate at the center of the Sun where capture and annihilation rates equilibrate over the lifetime of the Sun. The solar capture rate of neutralinos in the galactic halo is approxi-

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$$C_{\circ} = 3.4 \times 10^{20} \,\mathrm{s}^{-1} \frac{\rho_{\mathrm{local}}}{0.3 \,\mathrm{GeV/cm^3}} \left(\frac{270 \,\mathrm{km/s}}{\upsilon_{\mathrm{local}}}\right)^3 \\ \times \left(\frac{\sigma_{\mathrm{SD}}^{\mathrm{H}} + \sigma_{\mathrm{SI}}^{\mathrm{H}} + 0.07 \sigma_{\mathrm{SI}}^{\mathrm{He}}}{10^{-6} \,\mathrm{pb}}\right) \left(\frac{100 \,\mathrm{GeV}}{m_{\chi_1^0}}\right)^2, \qquad (1)$$

where ρ_{local} and v_{local} are the local density and velocity of relic dark matter, respectively. The average density is taken to be $\rho_{\text{local}} \approx 0.3 \text{ GeV/cm}^3$, but may be enhanced due to caustics in the galactic plane [36]. The capture rate is highly dependent on the strength of the neutralino interactions with matter [13,37]. The spin-independent (SI) and spin-dependent (SD) scattering rates determine how strongly the Sun slows and captures the neutralinos and are limited by present direct detection experiments. The factor of 0.07 before $\sigma_{\text{SI}}^{\text{He}}$ comes from the relative abundance of helium and hydrogen in the Sun, as well as other dynamical and form factor effects [22]. For a discussion of the present limits on the SI and SD cross sections from direct detection experiments see Ref. [12].

As neutralinos accumulate in the solar core, their annihilations deplete the population. The competition between neutralino capture and annihilation can be expressed through the annihilation rate, Γ , in the solar core by

$$\Gamma = \frac{1}{2} C_{\odot} \tanh^2(\sqrt{C_{\odot}A_{\odot}}t_{\rm Sun}), \qquad (2)$$

where $A_{\odot} = \frac{\langle \sigma v \rangle}{V}$ is the annihilation rate times relative velocity per unit volume and $t_{Sun} = 4.5$ Gy is the age of the Sun. When $\sqrt{C_{\odot}A_{\odot}}t_{Sun} \gg 1$, the capture and annihilation processes are in equilibrium, which is expected to be a good approximation for the Sun. Thus the annihilation rate is equivalent to half the solar capture rate today since two neutralinos create one annihilation event.

From the thermalization of the captured neutralinos, it has been estimated that the neutralinos are concentrated with a core region of very small radius, of order $0.01R_{Sun}$ [32], so we can approximate the source of the neutrinos from annihilations as arising from the center of the Sun. We propagate the neutrinos from the solar center to the surface, taking into account neutrino oscillations with Mikheyev-Smirnov-Wolfenstein (MSW) effects [38–40], as well as absorption and reinjection of neutrinos resulting from neutral current (NC) and charged current (CC) interactions. Since neutralino annihilation is flavor blind,¹ the relative populations of different neutrino species are the same at the center of the Sun. MSW effects that change the neutrino flavors as they propagate through the Sun are small in the present application because the injection spectra are uniformly populated among flavors (i.e. the commutator which describes the evolution of the neutrino states as they propagate through the Sun vanishes, yielding a steady state solution). In addition, MSW effects are smaller at energies above order 100 GeV that are of present interest.² In the results that we present here, we take $\theta_{13} =$ 0, but we do not anticipate substantial changes for nonzero θ_{13} over its experimentally allowed range.³ The analysis of Ref. [32] found that a value of $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.04$ gave little change in the overall neutrino spectra in the high-energy region.

Absorption and reinjection effects due to NC and CC interactions are important. The effects from NC interactions are neutrino flavor blind and tend to soften the initial spectra; when a neutrino of energy E_{ν} is absorbed, a neutrino of the same flavor but lower energy $E'_{\nu} < E_{\nu}$ is reinjected into the flux. The CC absorption is also flavor blind, but the resulting reinjected spectra are not, due to the regenerated $\bar{\nu}_e$ and $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ from the leptonic decays of $au^$ leptons. A τ^- decays promptly 100% to ν_{τ} and 18% to each of $\bar{\nu}_e$ and $\bar{\nu}_{\mu}$.⁴ Although the ν_{τ} number population remains the same, the ν_{τ} energy spectrum is softened by the interactions. Additionally, other neutrino flavors receive contributions from the ν_{τ} CC interaction. This asymmetry in the population of neutrino species introduces small, but nonetheless non-negligible vacuum oscillation and NC and CC effects. Once the neutrinos emerge from the Sun, they propagate as matter eigenstates to the Earth where they can be detected in neutrino telescopes by the high-energy muons and electrons produced by the CC interactions in the surrounding ice or water.

The above effects were included in a number of works [14,23,32]. In Ref. [32] the reconstruction of a general dark matter candidate was studied. However, since the spin of the DM particle was not specified, the spin dependence of the amplitudes could not be taken into account. The intent to treat the DM annihilations in a model independent way is laudable, but this approach can have serious shortcomings. For instance, DM annihilation in the static limit to the two body neutrino-antineutrino process is absent in SUSY models, due to helicity suppression. Additionally, processes such as annihilations to weak bosons exhibit a striking helicity dependence in the neutrino spectra from their decays. The spectra of neutrinos of energy O(100 GeV) can be substantially altered by the spin dependence of the matrix elements.

In Sec. II, we review the regions of mSUGRA parameter space that can account for the observed relic density of

¹Strictly speaking, secondary neutrinos from the τ -leptons and *b*-quarks from *W* and *Z* decays break this flavor democracy but these contributions result in softer neutrino energy spectra that are less likely to pass the experimental acceptance cuts.

²A concurrent study in Ref. [41] analytically considers the MSW effects of low-energy neutrinos from dark matter with mass up to 100 GeV.

³Its experimentally allowed range is $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} < 0.19$ [42].

⁴The μ^{\pm} leptons can also inject $\bar{\nu}_e$ and ν_e , but are stopped by ionizing radiation before they decay, resulting in very soft neutrinos [43].

neutralinos [44]. We concentrate on the FP region which solves a variety of problems with SUSY phenomenology [45-47]. In this region of parameter space, the lightest neutralino is a bino-Higgsino mixture and the neutralino annihilation rates are large. In Sec. III, we discuss the neutrino production modes that occur through neutralino annihilation in the present epoch. In Sec. IV, we calculate the neutrino energy spectra for each contributing process. We give analytic formulas for the neutrino spectra in the static limit where the intermediate state heavy particles are on-shell and show that they closely approximate the matrix elements obtained from SMADGRAPH [48-52]. Propagation of the high-energy neutrinos from the center of the Sun to the km² area detectors on Earth are discussed in Sec. V. The prospects of detecting neutrinos from neutralino annihilation are presented in Sec. VI. We provide our conclusions in Sec. VII.

II. SUSY PARAMETER SPACE

In our illustrations we implicitly assume the model of minimal supergravity (mSUGRA). In this model the scalar, gaugino and trilinear masses unify at the grand unification (GUT) scale. The predictions are determined by the five parameters [11]

$$m_0, m_{1/2}, A_0, \tan\beta, \operatorname{sign}(\mu).$$
 (3)

Here m_0 , $m_{1/2}$ and A_0 are the common scalar, gaugino and trilinear masses at the GUT scale. The parameter $\tan\beta$ is the ratio vacuum expectation values of the up-type and down-type neutral Higgs fields and μ is the supersymmetry conserving Higgsino mass parameter at the electroweak scale. The absence of a Higgs signal from LEP and the relic density determination from WMAP [44] limit the mSUGRA parameter space to four distinct regions:

(i) The focus point with large values of m_0 and relatively small values of μ can naturally yield the observed relic density [33,34,45–47,53,54]. This region provides a decoupling solution to the SUSY flavor and *CP* problems, suppress proton decay rates, and has low fine tuning. The FP has large sfermion masses and mixed Higgsino-bino dark matter and

can be suitable for sparticle mass measurements at the LHC [55]. The annihilation modes of the lightest neutralino are predominantly to weak bosons and top-quark pairs due to the large Higgsino-bino mixture of the lightest neutralino.

- (ii) The slepton coannihilation region has low m_0 and the lightest slepton (stau) mass is almost degenerate in mass with the lightest neutralino mass [56–59]. The resulting coannihilation can drop the neutralino relic density into the observed range.
- (iii) The bulk region is characterized by low m_0 and $m_{1/2}$ [60,61]. In this region, neutralino annihilation is dominated by the *t*-channel exchange of light scalar fermions. However, this region is now disfavored by the limits from LEP on the lightest chargino and sleptons [10,62].
- (iv) The Higgs funnel region is characterized by large values of $\tan\beta$ where the lightest neutralino annihilates via a light *h* or broad *A* resonance [60,63–69].

Throughout the remainder of this paper, we adopt the low-energy determination of the FP region given in Ref. [47], which is preferred for $b - \tau$ Yukawa unification [70,71]. This parametrization adopts $\tan\beta = 50$ and $m_t =$ 174.3 GeV. The central values of this narrow wedge are reproduced in Fig. 1 in the space of the parameters μ and M_1 at the electroweak scale, where M_1 is the U(1) gaugino mass parameter. The narrow allowed band lies just above the region where radiative electroweak symmetry breaking is not allowed. The sfermions and heavy Higgs bosons decouple, so μ and M_1 are the critical parameters for FP phenomenology of the light gauginos. The mass matrix of the neutralinos in the $(\tilde{B}^0, \tilde{W}^0, \tilde{H}^0_d, \tilde{H}^0_u)$ basis given in terms of these parameters is

$$\mathcal{M}_{\chi^{0}} = \begin{pmatrix} M_{1} & 0 & -g_{1}v_{d}/2 & g_{1}v_{u}/2 \\ 0 & M_{2} & g_{2}v_{d}/2 & -g_{2}v_{u}/2 \\ -g_{1}v_{d}/2 & g_{2}v_{d}/2 & 0 & -\mu \\ g_{1}v_{u}/2 & -g_{2}v_{u}/2 & -\mu & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$
(4)

where g_1 and g_2 are the U(1) and SU(2) gauge couplings, respectively. Gaugino mass unification restricts the SU(2)

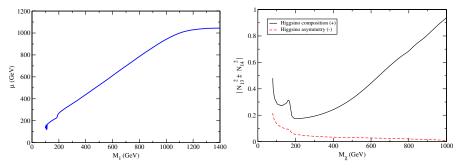


FIG. 1 (color online). The central FP region in μ and M_1 (left panel) with $m_t = 174.3$ GeV and $\tan\beta = 50$ as given in [47]. As the mass of the lightest neutralino increases, it becomes largely Higgsino shown by the solid, black curve (right panel). However, the Higgsino asymmetry, an important quantity for the $Z\chi_1^0\chi_1^0$ coupling, decreases as shown by the red, dashed curve.

TABLE I. Representative points in the FP region showing the composition of the lightest neutralino.

| $M_{\chi^0_1}$ | N ₁₁ | N ₁₂ | N ₁₃ | N_{14} |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| 90 GeV | 0.80 | -0.20 | 0.49 | -0.29 |
| 110 GeV | 0.83 | -0.17 | 0.45 | -0.28 |
| 200 GeV | 0.90 | -0.09 | 0.34 | -0.24 |
| 400 GeV | 0.87 | -0.06 | 0.37 | -0.32 |
| 700 GeV | 0.65 | -0.06 | 0.55 | -0.52 |
| 1000 GeV | 0.24 | -0.04 | 0.69 | -0.68 |

gaugino mass $M_2 = \frac{3g_2^2}{5g_1^2}M_1 \approx 2M_1$, and consequently the lightest neutralino has substantially more bino content than wino. The mass matrix is diagonalized by the rotation matrix N_{ij}

$$\mathcal{M}_{\chi^0}^D = N^* \mathcal{M}_{\chi^0} N^T.$$
 (5)

The lightest neutralino can then be expressed in the gaugino-Higgsino eigenbasis as

$$\chi_1^0 = N_{11}\tilde{B} + N_{12}\tilde{W} + N_{13}\tilde{H}_d + N_{14}\tilde{H}_u.$$
 (6)

Using these methods, we numerically diagonalize Eq. (4) and determine the mass and composition of the lightest neutralino. The composition of the lightest neutralino at some representative points in the FP region is given in Table I.

The mass matrix of the charginos in the $(\tilde{W}^{\pm}, \tilde{H}^{\pm})$ basis is

$$\mathcal{M}_{\chi^{\pm}} = \begin{pmatrix} M_2 & \sqrt{2}M_W \cos\beta \\ \sqrt{2}M_W \sin\beta & \mu \end{pmatrix}.$$
(7)

The chargino mass matrix is diagonalized by the rotation matrices U_{ij} and V_{ij}

$$\mathcal{M}^{D}_{\chi^{\pm}} = U^* \mathcal{M}_{\chi^{\pm}} V^T.$$
(8)

The relic density of the lightest neutralino is very sensitive to its gaugino-Higgsino content. To accommodate the

observed relic density, the lightest neutralino is required to have large bino and Higgsino components, leading to the relation $\mu \approx M_1$ for light neutralinos as shown in Fig. 1. As the lightest neutralino mass increases, so do the μ and M_1 values and the neutralino mass increasingly controls the annihilation rate until the χ_1^0 mass cannot increase further as the relic density would increase above the observed value. This behavior is seen by the plateau in Fig. 1 at high M_1 and $\mu \approx 1$ TeV. The heaviest that the χ_1^0 can be in the FP region (and still give the correct relic density) corresponds nearly pure Higgsino content (i.e. N_{13}^2 + $N_{14}^2 \sim 1$, where N_{13} and N_{14} are the Higgsino components of the lightest neutralino). However, since the value of μ is much larger than the off-block-diagonal elements that are $\mathcal{O}(M_W)$, the Higgsino asymmetry, $|N_{13}^2 - N_{14}^2|$, that determines the strength of the $Z\chi_1^0\chi_1^0$ coupling, is very small.

Since $\mu \approx M_1$ throughout most of the FP region, the lightest chargino is dominantly Higgsino and the heavier chargino state is dominantly Wino, with a mass that is approximately double that of the lightest chargino.

III. NEUTRINO SPECTRA

High-energy neutrinos ($E_{\nu} \gtrsim 50$ GeV) may be created via neutralino annihilation through a variety of channels. Since the FP region has a neutralino with large Higgsino and bino components, certain diagrams dominate, the most prominent of which are the following:

(i) Annihilation to weak boson pairs, *WW* or *ZZ*, where one or both weak bosons decay leptonically.

The annihilation rate to WW is dominated by the *t*-channel chargino exchange and *s*-channel Z and Higgs boson exchanges shown in the top panels of Fig. 2. The chargino diagram can be enhanced by either large Higgsino contents of the chargino and neutralino or by a large wino content in the chargino and bino content in the neutralino. The ZZ and WW diagrams involving $\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0 Z$ vertex are enhanced by the Higgsino asymmetry that can be large, as shown in Fig. 1. For large tan β , the Higgs boson mass is in

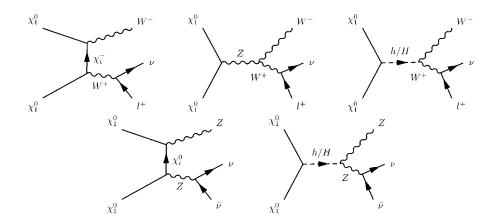


FIG. 2. Feynman diagrams for the annihilation of the lightest neutralino into WW, ZZ where the weak bosons decay into neutrinos.

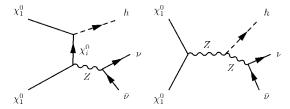


FIG. 3. Feynman diagrams for the annihilation of the lightest neutralino into Zh where the Z-boson and decays into neutrinos.

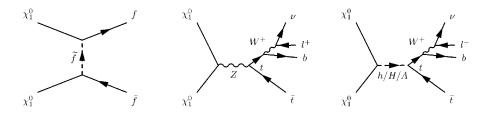


FIG. 4. Feynman diagrams for the annihilation of the lightest neutralino into $t\bar{t}$ and decays into neutrinos. If the scalar fermions decouple, the amplitude for the process in the left panel vanishes.

the decoupling limit where the light Higgs boson mimics the SM Higgs boson and the masses of the heavy Higgs states, H^0 , A^0 and H^{\pm} are nearly degenerate and large. Therefore, the light Higgs exchange processes require both the Higgsino and bino contents to be substantial in the neutralino exchange diagram. After including all contributing processes, it is found that a strong neutrino signal is expected through the WW and ZZ channels if $M_{\chi_1^0} \ge M_W, M_Z$ and $\mu \le M_1, M_2$.

- (ii) Annihilation to Zh, where the Z-boson decays to neutrinos, as shown in Fig. 3. This process is enhanced if the Higgsino asymmetry is large, due to the $\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0 Z$ coupling that occurs in both diagrams. However, a substantial *t*-channel neutralino exchange amplitude requires a large bino component of the lightest neutralino. This process is similar to the annihilation to weak bosons except that the emission of the Higgs boson changes the helicity structure of the amplitude which alters the shape of the neutrino energy spectra.
- (iii) Annihilation to top-quark pairs as shown in Fig. 4. Contributions from annihilations to top quarks,⁵ whose primary decay is $t \rightarrow \bar{b}W^+$, with subsequent $W^+ \rightarrow \ell^+ \nu$ decay, are dominant if kinematically accessible $(M_{\chi_1^0} > m_t)$. This process can result in a softer neutrino energy spectra compared to direct W^+W^- leptonic decays due to the smaller available phase space for the neutrinos. The scalar fermion exchange is suppressed due to the large m_0 values in the FP region while the Z and Higgs boson exchanges require Higgsino asymmetry and

Higgsino-bino dominance, respectively.

(iv) Neutralino annihilation to light quarks and leptons. Because of the Majorana nature of the neutralino, the annihilation amplitude to light fermions is suppressed by the fermion mass, and direct production of a neutrino-antineutrino pair is therefore negligible.⁶ If a γ or Z boson is emitted, the helicity suppression can be lifted. The leading contribution to $\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0 \rightarrow q \bar{q} Z$ via *t*-channel squark exchange is $\alpha^3 m_{\chi^0}^6/M_{\tilde{q}}^8$ for heavy squark masses [73]. In addition to squark exchange, s-channel Higgs and Z boson processes contribute when the lightest neutralino is dominantly Higgsino. We do not consider the smaller contributions from these processes. Moreover, since the neutralino is above the W mass throughout most of the parameter space in the FP region, these modes are negligible.⁷

Table II summarizes the dominant subprocess discussed above and gives the corresponding neutralino annihilation modes and the composition of the χ_1^0 that yields a large rate in each case.

The total annihilation cross section must remain relatively fixed in order to provide the observed relic density $\Omega_{\chi_1^0} h^2 \approx \frac{0.1 \text{pb}}{\langle \sigma v \rangle}$, where $\langle \sigma v \rangle$ is the thermally averaged cross section at freeze-out. The DM density is thus in-

⁵We neglect the QCD corrections [72] to the annihilation to top-quark pairs.

⁶Note in the analysis in Ref. [32] of the neutrino spectra from dark matter annihilation it was assumed that the dark matter particle was not Majorana, yielding very clean and distinct neutrino signals from the direct dark matter annihilation to neutrino pairs. This possibility is not allowed in SUSY models where the neutralino DM candidate is a Majorana particle.

⁷The neutralino lower mass bound is approximately 80 GeV due to the lower mass limit on the lightest chargino $(M_{\chi_1^{\pm}} > 104 \text{ GeV})$ and the gaugino mass unification assumption.

BARGER, KEUNG, SHAUGHNESSY, AND TREGRE

PHYSICAL REVIEW D 76, 095008 (2007)

TABLE II. Dominant subprocesses for neutrino annihilation to final states that decay to neutrinos. The χ_1^0 components are given that maximize the subprocess contributions. Note that since $M_1 \sim \mu$, the $\chi_{1,2,3}^0$ states have a large Higgsino and/or bino fraction and relatively similar masses. The light chargino is mainly Higgsino while the heavier chargino is mainly wino. The top-quark Yukawa coupling is denoted by Y_t . The Higgsino, bino, and wino contents are denoted by \tilde{H} , \tilde{B} , and \tilde{W} , respectively.

| $\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0 \to WW$ | Relevant χ_1^0 components | Comments |
|--|--|--|
| <i>t</i> -channel χ_1^{\pm} <i>t</i> -channel χ_2^{\pm} <i>s</i> -channel <i>Z</i> <i>s</i> -channel <i>h</i> | Ĥ Ŵ Ĥ Ĥ Ĥ Ĥ Ĥ \tilde{H} H Itality Itality H H </td <td>χ_1^{\pm} dominantly \tilde{H} χ_2^{\pm} dominantly \tilde{W} Suppressed by Higgsino asymmetry</td> | χ_1^{\pm} dominantly \tilde{H} χ_2^{\pm} dominantly \tilde{W} Suppressed by Higgsino asymmetry |
| $\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0 \rightarrow ZZ$ <i>t</i> -channel χ_i^0 <i>s</i> -channel <i>h</i> | Ĥ & Ĩ | χ_4^0 suppressed by small $	ilde{H}$ fraction |
| $\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0 \rightarrow Zh$ <i>t</i> -channel χ_i^0 <i>s</i> -channel Z | $	ilde{H}$ & $(ilde{B}$ or $	ilde{W})$ $	ilde{H}$ | χ_4^0 suppressed by small \tilde{H} fraction Suppressed by Higgsino asymmetry |
| $\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0 \to t\bar{t}$ <i>t</i> -channel \tilde{t} <i>s</i> -channel <i>Z</i> <i>s</i> -channel <i>h</i> | Ĥ Ĥ & Ĥ | Suppressed by $M_{\chi_1^0}^2/M_{\tilde{f}}^4$ Suppressed by Higgsino asymmetry Enhanced by large Y_t |

versely proportional to the total annihilation rate to neutrinos today.⁸

The annihilation cross section to the neutrinos (σ_{ν}) via the WW, ZZ, Zh and $t\bar{t}$ modes are shown in Fig. 5. Once the neutralino mass exceeds the top-quark mass, annihilation to top-quark pairs dominates, because the Higgs boson coupling to top quarks, Y_t , is large. However, since the χ_1^0 is then dominantly Higgsino with large mass, its coupling to the lightest Higgs boson decreases since some bino or wino content is necessary. Therefore, at TeV scale χ_1^0 mass, the annihilation to WW and ZZ dominates.

IV. CALCULATION OF NEUTRINO FLUX

The high-energy neutrino spectra in the FP region are mainly determined by the diagrams in Figs. 2–4. We provide analytic results for the neutrino spectra in the cases of on-shell WW, ZZ, Zh, and $t\bar{t}$ and show that these formulas reproduce a Monte Carlo (MC) integration of the exact matrix elements provided by SMADGRAPH [50], the supersymmetric version of MADGRAPH. In the analytic calculation the phase space integration is performed by simple partitioning [74] and is summarized in Appendix A. We calculate the spectra for the illustrative points in Table I.

A. Annihilation to weak bosons

We calculate the annihilation process $\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0 \to WW^* \to W\ell\nu$ including both on-shell and off-shell contributions. The annihilation process of $\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0 \to W^+ W^-$ is isotropic in the static limit when the W polarizations are not measured. The amplitude of the annihilation to on-shell WW is given by the χ_i^{\pm} exchange with vanishing contributions from the *s*-channel Z/H diagrams in the static limit,

$$\mathcal{M} \propto \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu}\epsilon^*(k_1)^{\alpha}\epsilon^*(k_2)^{\beta}k_1^{\mu}k_2^{\nu}.$$
 (9)

Because the amplitude involves the Levi-Civita antisymmetric tensor, only the two transversely polarized configurations (+ + and - -) of W^+W^- are allowed and the

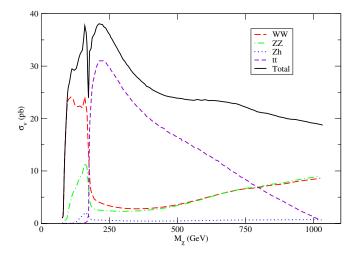


FIG. 5 (color online). The annihilation cross section of the lightest neutralino to neutrinos via the WW, ZZ, Zh and $t\bar{t}$ channels in the FP region with $\tan\beta = 50$. Note that when the top quark threshold is crossed, the cross section for $t\bar{t}$ production abruptly increases, and the cross sections of all other modes correspondingly decrease in order to give the same σ_{tot} , as is required to maintain the observed relic density.

 $^{^{8}}$ Up to factors that include the *p*-wave terms, which are suppressed in the present epoch.

longitudinal mode is absent. Conservation of *CP* at tree level implies the two polarization channels carry equal weight.

In the rest frame of W^+ , the neutrino ν from the decay process $W^+ \rightarrow \ell^+ \nu$ is described by the normalized angular distribution $dN/d\cos\theta = \frac{3}{8}(1 - h\cos\theta)^2$ with $h = \pm 1$ for the right (left) handed polarized W^+ with respect to the axis defined by the W^+ momentum in the $\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0$ CM frame. The antineutrino angular distributions can be obtained by a similar formula with $h \leftrightarrow -h$.

Including the contributions of both helicities of the W, we find the normalized neutrino event rate in the WW CM frame to be

$$\frac{1}{N}\frac{dN}{dE_{\nu}} = \frac{3}{8\Delta^3} [(E_{\nu} - E_c)^2 + \Delta^2], \quad (10)$$

where $\beta = (1 - 4M_W^2/s)^{1/2}$ is the velocity of the W gauge boson and $E_c = \sqrt{s}/4$ is the average energy. The energy interval $\Delta = E_c\beta$ is such that $E_c - \Delta < E_\nu < E_c + \Delta$. The center of mass energy of the process is given by $s \approx$ $4M_{\chi_1^0}^2$ in the static limit. The antineutrino from W^- has the same energy distribution. The result of Eq. (10) is in agreement with Ref. [75]. Note that the differential rates at the kinematic end points of the decay are twice that of energy $m_{\chi_1^0}/4$. In principle, the distribution in E_ν could be useful to roughly determine the lightest neutralino mass, provided there is little distortion through NC and CC effects and neutrino propagation. Ignoring the W helicity, the differential cross section is instead given by a flat E_ν spectrum, as is often applied incorrectly for neutralino DM.

In Fig. 6, we show the analytic and numerical evaluation of the neutrino energy spectra for $\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0 \rightarrow W \ell \nu$ in the FP for $m_{\chi_1^0} = 110$ and 200 GeV. The analytic result applies only above WW threshold. Of note is the clear dependence on the polarization and the slight tail on either side of the numerical result, from off-shell decays, in contrast with the sharp cutoff of the analytic result.

The analytic calculation for the neutrino spectra from $\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0 \rightarrow ZZ$ proceeds in a similar way, with Z and W

couplings and masses appropriately changed, since the neutrinos have definite helicity. As the neutralino mass increases, the spectra from WW and ZZ become similar since the W/Z mass difference is relatively small. Note that even when one gauge boson is off-shell, there is still a rather hard neutrino energy spectra with an appreciable rate. This is reminiscent of the significant branching fractions of Higgs boson to gauge boson pairs below threshold [76]. Indeed, the neutralino pair in the static limit acts as a pseudoscalar state when coupling to fermions [77].

B. Annihilation to Zh

Next we analytically calculate the neutrino energy distribution from the static neutralino annihilation, $\chi \chi \rightarrow Zh$, $Z \rightarrow \nu \bar{\nu}$. The primary process $\chi \chi \rightarrow Zh$ is isotropic in the static limit. Only the longitudinal mode of Z is produced in the $\chi \chi$ annihilation because of conservation of angular momentum.

In the rest frame of the longitudinal Z, the neutrino ν from the decay process $Z \rightarrow \nu \bar{\nu}$ is described by the normalized angular distribution with respect to the axis defined by the Z momentum in the $\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0$ CM frame, $dN/d\cos\theta = \frac{3}{4}(1 - \cos^2\theta)$. Then the decay of the Z boson to neutrinos $Z \rightarrow \nu \bar{\nu}$ gives the neutrino spectra

$$\frac{1}{N}\frac{dN}{dx} = \frac{3}{4\beta^3}(1+\beta-x)(x-1+\beta)$$
(11)

where $x = 8M_{\chi_{1}^{0}}E_{\nu}/(4M_{\chi_{1}^{0}}^{2} + M_{Z}^{2} - M_{h}^{2})$ obeys the kinematic range

$$|x-1| \le \beta. \tag{12}$$

We present these analytic results in Fig. 7, along with comparison with our numerical results from SMADGRAPH. Since the only longitudinal mode of the Z boson contributes, the distribution is very different than that given by the WW or ZZ distribution where only the transverse modes contribute.

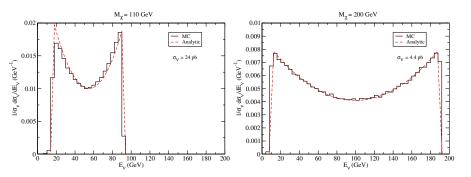


FIG. 6 (color online). Neutrino energy spectra for $\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0 \rightarrow WW^*$ and WW where at least one W decays leptonically for $m_{\chi_1^0} = 110$ and 200 GeV. Analytic results are given by the dashed curves.

BARGER, KEUNG, SHAUGHNESSY, AND TREGRE

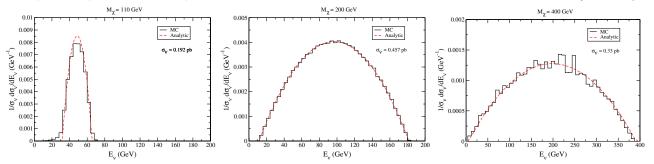


FIG. 7 (color online). Neutrino energy spectra for $\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0 \rightarrow Zh$ where the Z decays to neutrinos for $m_{\chi_1^0} = 110$, 200, and 400 GeV. Analytic results are given by the dashed curves.

C. Annihilation to heavy fermions

The hardest neutrino energies come from annihilation to top-quark pairs, when this channel is kinematically accessible. As the threshold for $t\bar{t}$ is crossed, the cross section to $\bar{t}b\ell^+\nu_\ell$ jumps dramatically and dominates the overall neutrino rate. The amplitude of the top-quark decay, $t \rightarrow$ $b\ell^+\nu$, has the known structure, $(t \cdot \ell^+)(b \cdot \nu)$, which leads to the neutrino energy spectra in the rest frame of the t. Boosting into the $t\bar{t}$ center of mass frame, we arrive at the neutrino energy spectra from annihilation to top quarks, assuming a narrow W-width, massless b-quarks and an average over the t-quark polarization

$$\frac{1}{N}\frac{dN}{dE_{\nu}} = \frac{E_{t}}{\beta D} \bigg[F\bigg(\min\bigg(\frac{E_{\nu}}{1-\beta}, \frac{E_{t}}{2}\bigg)\bigg) - F\bigg(\max\bigg(\frac{E_{\nu}}{1+\beta}, \omega\frac{E_{t}}{2}\bigg)\bigg)\bigg].$$
(13)

Here we have defined

$$F(y) = (1+2\omega)\frac{2y}{E_t} - \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{2y}{E_t}\right)^2 - \omega(1+\omega)\log\left[\frac{2y}{E_t}\right],$$
(14)

where β and $E_t = M_{\chi_1^0}$ are the *t* velocity and energy, respectively, $\omega = m_W^2/m_t^2$, $D = 1/6 - \omega^2/2 + \omega^3/3$, and the expression applies over the energy range $(1 - \beta)\omega\frac{E_t}{2} \le E_\nu \le (1 + \beta)\frac{E_t}{2}$. It is interesting to note that the analytic structure of this distribution has two qualitatively different neutrino energy distributions, depending on the neutralino mass. Specifically, the distribution is divided into three energy regions, the central of which, $|E_\nu - \frac{1}{4}E_t(1 + \omega + \beta - \beta\omega)| \le \frac{1}{4}E_t|1 - \omega - \beta - \beta\omega|$, may form a plateau

$$\frac{1}{N}\frac{dN}{dE_{\nu}} \propto \begin{cases} F\left(\frac{M_{\chi_{1}^{0}}}{2}\right) - F\left(\omega\frac{M_{\chi_{1}^{0}}}{2}\right), & \text{for } M_{\chi_{1}^{0}} > \frac{m_{t}^{2} + m_{W}^{2}}{2m_{W}} \approx 222 \text{ GeV}, \\ F\left(\frac{E_{\nu}}{1-\beta}\right) - F\left(\frac{E_{\nu}}{1+\beta}\right), & \text{for } M_{\chi_{1}^{0}} < 222 \text{ GeV}. \end{cases}$$
(15)

These features can clearly be seen in Fig. 8(a), which displays the results for the E_{ν} distributions at neutralino masses of 180, 222, and 400 GeV. The high-energy tail of the distribution is described by a simple function of the neutrino energy, namely

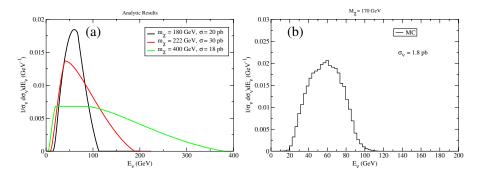


FIG. 8 (color online). (a) MC result for off-shell $t\bar{t}$ channel, where $M_{\chi_1^0} = 170$ GeV. (b) Neutrino energy distributions for various values of m_{χ} .

HIGH ENERGY NEUTRINOS FROM NEUTRALINO ...

$$\frac{dN}{dE_{\nu}} \propto \left(\frac{E_{\nu}}{E_{t}} - 1\right) \left(\frac{E_{\nu}}{E_{t}} - (1 + 4\omega)\right) + \omega(1 + \omega) \log \frac{E_{\nu}}{E_{t}}.$$
 (16)

We show MC results for the $t^*\bar{t} \rightarrow \bar{t}b\ell^+\nu_\ell$ channel in Fig. 8(b) for the FP with neutralino mass $m_{\chi_1^0} = 170$ GeV.

D. Total neutrino energy spectra

We combine the above MC results WW, ZZ, Zh, and $t\bar{t}$ channels to arrive at the neutrino energy spectra from neutralino annihilation, as shown in Fig. 9 for neutralino masses $m_{\chi_1^0} = 90, 110, 200, 400, 700$ GeV, and 1 TeV. The first two panels illustrate how the WW and ZZ spectra change with E_{ν} below the $t\bar{t}$ threshold. The on-shell ZZ mode turns on at $m_{\chi_1^0} = M_Z$. A characteristic double edge feature is apparent in the total spectra at the low and high neutrino energies edges. However, as the neutralino mass is increased, this double edge becomes less prominent. Further increasing the neutralino mass includes the dominant top spectra. In these cases, the upper edge of the

spectra in principle would allow a measurement of the lightest neutralino mass. However, as we will see later, propagation through the Sun can change the neutrino spectra significantly, especially for large neutrino energies, rendering such χ_1^0 mass measurements difficult. We verify that the *Zh* signal is naturally suppressed; it is considerably smaller than the *ZZ* and *WW* modes [37,78].

V. NEUTRINO PROPAGATION

The neutrino flux at Earth from annihilating neutralinos in the core of the Sun requires a full treatment of the propagation through solar matter and the vacuum between the Sun and Earth. To retain the information on coherency of the states, we utilize the quantum mechanical evolution equation

$$\frac{d\boldsymbol{\rho}}{dr} = -i[\boldsymbol{H}, \boldsymbol{\rho}] + \frac{d\boldsymbol{\rho}}{dr} \Big|_{NC} + \frac{d\boldsymbol{\rho}}{dr} \Big|_{CC} + \frac{d\boldsymbol{\rho}}{dr} \Big|_{IC} + \frac{d\boldsymbol{\rho}}{dr$$

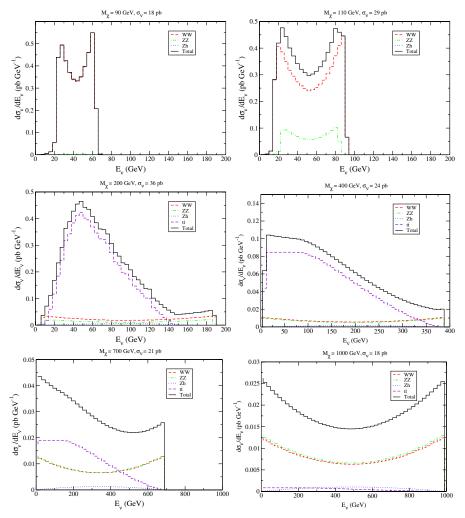


FIG. 9 (color online). Differential cross sections $d\sigma_{\nu}/dE_{\nu}$ at the solar center for representative neutralino masses ranging from 90 to 1000 GeV. Note that when the neutralino mass exceeds the top mass, the cross section of the $t\bar{t}$ channel abruptly increases dramatically, and the other cross sections abruptly decrease to maintain the same $\Omega_{\rm DM}$.

BARGER, KEUNG, SHAUGHNESSY, AND TREGRE

where ρ is the complex density matrix in the gauge eigenbasis describing the state of the neutrino as it propagates. Because of the fact that fast oscillations can only be observed as average values due to finite energy resolution, the epsilon term is included in Eq. (17) for convenience in making the energy average [14,79]. The choice of $\epsilon =$ 0.01r in this decoherence term damps all off-diagonal terms to zero [14]. The Hamiltonian, H, includes the vacuum oscillation effects from nonzero mass splitting and the MSW terms:

$$\boldsymbol{H} = \frac{\boldsymbol{m}^{\dagger}\boldsymbol{m}}{2E_{\nu}} + \sqrt{2}G_{F} \bigg[N_{e}(r)\delta_{i1}\delta_{j1} - \frac{N_{n}(r)}{2}\delta_{ij} \bigg].$$
(18)

Here *m* is the neutrino mass matrix in the gauge eigenstate basis, E_{ν} is the neutrino energy, $G_F = 1.66 \times 10^{-5} \text{ GeV}^{-2}$ is the Fermi constant and $N_e(r)$ and $N_n(r)$ are the electron and neutron densities in the Sun [80]. The source terms, $\frac{d\rho}{dr}|_{NC,CC}$ describe the absorption and reinjection of neutrinos caused by neutral current (NC) and charged current (CC) processes while the injection source term $\frac{d\rho}{dr}|_{\text{inj}}$ describes the initial spectra injected by neutralino annihilation in the core of the Sun.

A. Vacuum oscillations and MSW effects

The $m^{\dagger}m$ term in Eq. (18) drives pure vacuum oscillations. In our illustrations we adopt the vacuum masssquared difference values of $\Delta m_{23}^2 = 2.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$, $\Delta m_{12}^2 = 8.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$ and mixing angles $\theta_{12} = 35.3^{\circ}$, $\theta_{23} = 45^{\circ}$ and $\theta_{13} = 0$. The matter interactions with the varying solar density suppresses vacuum oscillations. However, since the injected spectra are uniformly populated among the neutrino species, vacuum oscillations and MSW effects do not change the relative populations, since $[H, \rho] = 0$, making the initial state $\rho \sim \mathbb{I}_{3\times 3}$ a steady state.

B. Source terms

The source terms in the propagation equation account for the absorption and reinjection of neutrinos as the neutrinos propagate through matter. The CC and NC interactions absorb higher energy neutrinos and reinject them with lower energy.

1. Injection spectra

The source term $\frac{d\rho}{dr}|_{inj}$ represents the injected initial neutrino spectra from neutralino annihilation and is given by $\frac{d\rho}{dr}|_{inj} = \delta(r)\delta_{ij}\frac{1}{N}\frac{dN}{dE_{\nu}}$. Here, we make the justified assumption that the neutrino flux is initially injected at the center of the Sun [32]. In the following, we illustrate the effect of each term in Eq. (17). Neutralino annihilation produces neutrinos and antineutrinos with each ν and $\bar{\nu}$ flavor having approximately equal probability.

2. Neutral current

As NC effects are flavor blind, all neutrino species have spectra that are skewed equally towards a lower energy. The source term is given by

$$\frac{d\boldsymbol{\rho}}{dr}\Big|_{\mathrm{NC}} = \int_{E_{\nu}}^{\infty} dE'_{\nu} \frac{d\Gamma_{\mathrm{NC}}(E'_{\nu}, E_{\nu})}{dE_{\nu}} \boldsymbol{\rho}(E'_{\nu}) - \boldsymbol{\rho}(E_{\nu})(N_{p}(r)\sigma(\nu_{l}p \to \nu'_{l}X) + N_{n}(r)\sigma(\nu_{l}n \to \nu'_{l}X)).$$
(19)

The first term represents the reinjection of lowered energy neutrinos with energy E_{ν} from an incoming neutrino of energy E'_{ν} . The negative term accounts for the absorption of neutrinos of energy E_{ν} .

In Fig. 10(a) we show the neutrino populations in propagation from the center of the Sun, where annihilation of a $M_{\chi_1^0} = 200$ GeV neutralino occurs, to the solar surface including only the NC effects for $E_{\nu} = 50$ GeV and $E_{\nu} = 100$ GeV. Because of the flavor diagonal NC interactions, the three neutrino flavors remain distinct as they propagate. The neutrino spectrum of each flavor is equivalent and given in Fig. 10(b).

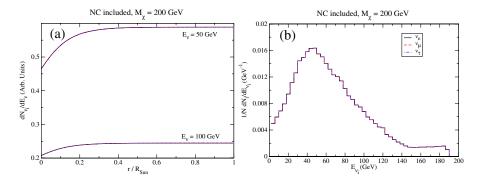


FIG. 10 (color online). (a) Neutrino spectra vs radius for $E_{\nu} = 50$ and 100 GeV including the NC source term. (b) Neutrino energy spectra at Earth. Because of the flavor blind NC interactions, the populations of the three neutrino flavors remain unchanged as they propagate.

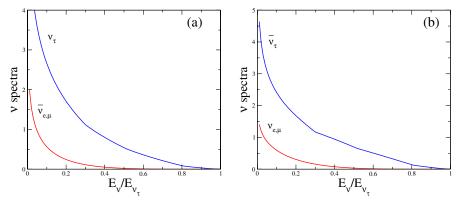


FIG. 11 (color online). Probability density functions, (a) $f_{\tau \to \tau}(u)$ and $f_{\tau \to \bar{\epsilon}, \bar{\mu}}(u)$ and (b) $f_{\bar{\tau} \to \bar{\tau}}(u)$ and $f_{\bar{\tau} \to e, \mu}(u)$, where $u = E_{\nu}/E_{\nu}^{in}$.

3. Charged current

The CC effects are also flavor blind to the extent that the τ mass is negligible compared to E_{ν} . However, the lepton produced in deep inelastic scattering can be stable (in the case of the electron), can stop before it decays (muon), or decay before radiation losses decrease its energy (tau). The tau lepton is the dominant source of reinjection of neutrinos. The channels are

$$\nu_{\tau}N \to \tau^{-}X \to \begin{cases} \nu_{\tau}X, \\ \nu_{\tau}\bar{\nu}_{e}e, \\ \nu_{\tau}\bar{\nu}_{\mu}\mu, \end{cases}$$
(20)

where *X* denotes hadronic decay products. The source term is

$$\frac{d\boldsymbol{\rho}}{dr}\Big|_{CC} = -\frac{\{\boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{CC}, \boldsymbol{\rho}\}}{2} + \int \frac{dE_{\nu}^{in}}{E_{\nu}^{in}} \times [\boldsymbol{\Pi}^{\tau} \boldsymbol{\rho}_{\tau\tau}(E_{\nu}^{in}) \boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{CC}^{\tau}(E_{\nu}^{in}) f_{\tau \to \tau}(E_{\nu}/E_{\nu}^{in}) + \boldsymbol{\Pi}^{e,\mu} \bar{\boldsymbol{\rho}}_{\tau\tau}(E_{\nu}^{in}) \bar{\boldsymbol{\Gamma}}_{CC}^{\tau}(E_{\nu}^{in}) f_{\bar{\tau} \to e,\mu}(E_{\nu}/E_{\nu}^{in})],$$
(21)

with a similar term for antineutrinos. The $\Pi_{nm}^{i} = \delta_{ni}\delta_{im}$ are flavor projection operators where i = 1, 2, 3 for the e, μ, τ leptons, respectively, and Γ is a 3 × 3 diagonal matrix which describes the CC interaction rate for a particular flavor,

$$\Gamma_{\ell\ell} = \Gamma_{\rm CC}^{\ell} = N_p(r)\sigma(\nu_\ell p \to \ell X) + N_n(r)\sigma(\nu_\ell n \to \ell X).$$
(22)

The functions f(u) in Eq. (21) are the energy distributions of an outgoing neutrino with energy E_{ν} , given an incoming neutrino with energy E_{ν}^{in} ; they are calculated in Appendix D and shown in Fig. 11. Including this τ regeneration effect, the total ν_{τ} population does not change, but the ν_{τ} energy distribution becomes skewed to lower energy. The populations $\bar{\nu}_{e,\mu}$ energy spectra are increased from the leptonic decays of the τ^- lepton, and likewise for the $\nu_{e,\mu}$ for the τ^+ lepton.

In Fig. 12 we show the populations of the neutrino similar to those of Fig. 10, but now including only CC interactions. In this case the τ decay reinjects τ neutrinos and occasionally $\bar{\nu}_{e,\mu}$ neutrinos, breaking the flavor symmetry. This is clearly seen in the left panel of Fig. 12(a) for the case of an $E_{\nu} = 50$ GeV neutrino.

C. Propagation through the Sun

We include all the above effects when propagating the neutrino states to the surface of the Sun. We illustrate

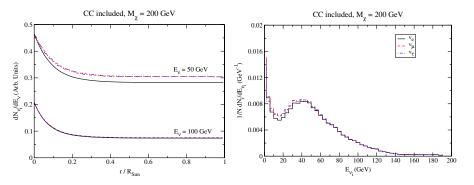


FIG. 12 (color online). Similar to Fig. 10 except that only CC interactions are included. The reinjection of $\nu_{e,\mu}$ from τ lepton decays breaks the flavor symmetry among the three neutrino states.

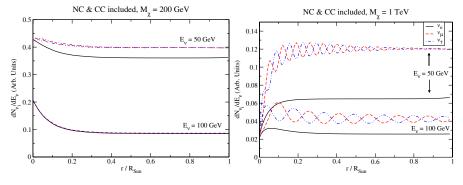


FIG. 13 (color online). Neutrino spectra after all propagation effects through the Sun are included. The averaging of oscillations at larger r/R_{\odot} is achieved by the decoherence term in Eq. (17).

results in Fig. 13 at neutrino energies of 50 and 100 GeV for neutralino masses with values 200 GeV and 1 TeV. Note that as the neutralino mass increases, the flavor asymmetry increases. This is due to the larger CC effects at higher energy.

D. Propagation to the Earth

Once propagated to the surface of the Sun, the neutrino states must be propagated in their mass eigenstates to the Earth, which is achieved by rotating the density matrix ρ with the unitary MNSP matrix, V, [81,82]

$$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\rho}}^{D} = V \boldsymbol{\rho}_{e,\mu,\tau} V^{\dagger}, \qquad (23)$$

which diagonalizes the neutrino mass-squared matrix,

$$M_{\nu}^{2} = V m^{\dagger} m V^{\dagger}, \qquad (24)$$

where M2 is the diagonal neutrino mass-squared matrix and m is the neutrino mass matrix in the flavor basis. We use the tri-bimaximal mixing matrix for the rotation [83]. The density matrix in the mass eigenbasis is denoted by $\tilde{\rho}$. Additionally, the neutrino oscillations are averaged by forcing the off-diagonal elements of $\tilde{\rho}$ to zero in the propagation to Earth. This averaging could equally well be achieved by including the decoherence term in the propagation equation in Eq. (17). The neutrino spectra at Earth are quite similar to those at the surface of the Sun, as shown in Fig. 14.

VI. NEUTRINO DETECTION

Once the neutrinos are propagated to Earth, we need to address their rate of detection in a km² area detector. The fractional rate of annihilation to neutrinos is given by $\frac{1}{\sigma_{tot}} \times \frac{d\sigma_{\nu}}{dE_{\nu}}$ where σ_{tot} includes all SM inclusive modes: WW, ZZ, ff, Zh, hh and $\sigma_{\nu} \equiv \sigma_{\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0 \to \nu X}$ includes all the modes discussed above in Sec. III. We calculate the total rates using Calchep and can be analytically found in Ref. [84].

A. Neutrino flux at Earth

We illustrate the detection rates using the simulation for IceCube outlined in Ref. [23]. The flux of neutrinos from neutralino annihilation at the Earth is given by

$$\frac{d\Phi_{\nu}}{dE_{\nu}} = \frac{1}{\sigma_{\text{tot}}} \frac{d\sigma_{\chi_1^0 \chi_1^0 \to \nu X}}{dE_{\nu}} \frac{1}{2} \frac{C_{\odot}}{4\pi R^2},$$
(25)

where the factor of $\frac{1}{2}$ is associated with the fact that two neutralinos produce one annihilation event; here $R = 1.49 \times 10^{11}$ m is the Earth-Sun distance. The parameter C_{\odot} is the neutralino solar capture rate of Eq. (1) and is dependent on the neutralino mass, velocity and local density in the galaxy.

B. FP capture rate predictions

The solar capture rate of neutralinos in the galactic halo is approximately given by Eq. (1) and depends on the spinindependent (SI) and spin-dependent (SD) scattering rates.⁹

To predict the neutrino flux at Earth, we calculate the spin-dependent cross section for the Z exchange¹⁰

⁹The present 90% C.L. on the SI cross section from the XENON10 experiment places an upper limit on the scattering rate of 8.8×10^{-8} pb for a WIMP of mass 100 GeV and 4.5×10^{-8} pb for a WIMP of mass 30 GeV [85]. These rates are still higher than the SI rate throughout the FP region, which should be probed in the future by CDMS 2007 with an expected reach of 1×10^{-8} pb [86]. The SD scattering rate off protons, however, is less constrained with a current upper limit of 7×10^{-2} pb from ZEPLIN-II for neutralino masses at 65 GeV [87]. Future detectors such as COUPP can greatly improve these limits down to 10^{-2} pb with a 2 kg chamber of superheated CF_3I [88]. However, the SD scattering limits would still be too weak to constrain the FP region.

¹⁰Note that the scalar quark exchange is also relevant for the SD scattering rate. However, since the squarks have large masses in the FP region, they decouple, and squark exchange contributions are not included in the calculation.

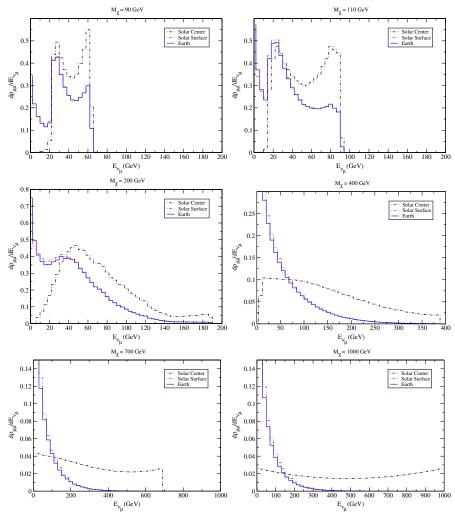


FIG. 14 (color online). The neutrino energy spectra at production in the Sun, after propagation to the Sun's surface, and at the Earth's surface.

$$\sigma_{\rm SD}^{\chi_1^0 - p} = \frac{32\mu_{\chi}^2 J(J+1)}{\pi} \bigg[\sum_{q=u,d,s} \frac{\delta_q T_3^q}{2\sqrt{2}} \frac{g^2}{4M_W^2} \times (N_{14}^2 - N_{13}^2) \bigg]^2, \tag{26}$$

where J = 1/2 is the spin of the proton, $\mu_{\chi} = \frac{M_{\chi_1^0 m_p}}{M_{\chi_1^0} + m_p}$ is the reduced mass of the neutralino proton system, T_3^q is the isospin of quark q and δ_q includes the parton distribution function and hadronic matrix element of the proton and are given by the values $\delta_u = 0.78$, $\delta_d = -0.48$ and $\delta_s =$ -0.15 [64,89]. The calculated SD and SI cross sections along the FP region are shown in Fig. 15. The SD cross section varies between $\mathcal{O}(10^{-3}) - \mathcal{O}(10^{-6})$ pb, while the SI cross section is below few $\times 10^{-8}$ pb and is consistent with the limit from XENON10 of 4.5×10^{-8} pb, making the predicted SD cross section dominate over the typical SI rate by a factor of 10^3 .

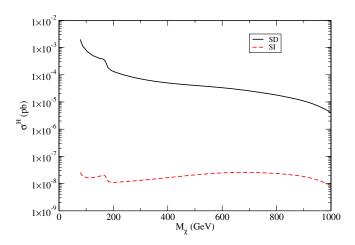


FIG. 15 (color online). The spin-dependent and spinindependent scattering cross section of the lightest neutralino with protons.

C. Muon rate at IceCube

Once the neutrino flux is known, the associated total muon rate through a time T in a km² area detector such as IceCube can be determined by folding the muon production cross section with the neutrino flux

$$\frac{dN_{\mu}}{dE_{\mu}} = \int_{E_{\mu}}^{\infty} \frac{d\Phi_{\nu}}{dE_{\nu_{\mu}}} \left[\frac{d\sigma_{\nu}^{p}(E_{\nu_{\mu}}, E_{\mu})}{dE_{\mu}} \rho_{p} + \frac{d\sigma_{\nu}^{n}(E_{\nu_{\mu}}, E_{\mu})}{dE_{\mu}} \rho_{n} \right] R_{\mu}(E_{\mu}) A_{\text{eff}}(E_{\mu}) dE_{\nu_{\mu}} + (\nu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}).$$
(27)

The densities of protons and neutrons near the detector are taken to be $\rho_p = \frac{5}{9}N_A$ cm⁻³ and $\rho_n = \frac{4}{9}N_A$ cm⁻³, respectively, where N_A is Avagadro's number.¹¹ Muons lose energy according to [90]

$$\frac{dE}{dx} = -\alpha - \beta E,$$
(28)

which can be used to determine the length of a muon track. The parameters $\alpha = 2.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ TeV cm}^2/\text{g}$ and $\beta = 4.2 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$ describe the loss rate [22,23,90,91]. The muon range,

$$R_{\mu}(E_{\mu}) = \frac{\rho}{\beta} \ln \left[\frac{\alpha + \beta E_{\mu}}{\alpha + \beta E_{\mu}^{\text{thr}}} \right], \tag{29}$$

is the distance a muon propagates through matter of density ρ before its energy drops below the threshold energy, E_{μ}^{thr} [91]. We take $E_{\mu}^{\text{thr}} = 50$ GeV, as expected for IceCube. Because of the long muon range, the fiducial volume of the detector can be factored into the range and the cross sectional area of the detector, called the effective area. The effective area of the detector, A_{eff} , is calculated for IceCube following Ref. [23], and is given in Fig. 16.

The super-Kamiokande experiment has placed a limit on the flux of muon induced by neutrinos from DM annihilations in the Sun of $\Phi_{\nu} \lesssim 5 \times 10^{-15} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ for a halfangle of 0° - 5° [92]. We calculate the induced muon flux according to

$$\frac{d\Phi_{\mu}}{dE_{\mu}} = \frac{1}{A_{\rm eff}(E_{\mu})} \frac{dN_{\mu}}{dE_{\mu}} \tag{30}$$

and find a total muon flux above the super-K bound for 90 and 110 GeV with 1.3×10^{-14} cm⁻² s⁻¹ and 7.9 × 10^{-15} cm⁻² s⁻¹, respectively. The other points we study are well below the present bound with 4.5×10^{-16} cm⁻² s⁻¹, 2.1×10^{-17} cm⁻² s⁻¹, 3.2×10^{-19} cm⁻² s⁻¹ and 4.4×10^{-18} cm⁻² s⁻¹, for 200, 400,

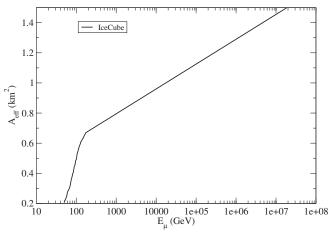


FIG. 16. IceCube effective area for given muon energy.

700 and 1000 GeV neutralino masses along the FP region, respectively.

We apply Eq. (27) to calculate neutrino signals in IceCube from neutralino annihilations as well as backgrounds from atmospheric neutrinos.¹² The differential flux of atmospheric ν_{μ} and $\nu_{\bar{\mu}}$ neutrinos, $d\Phi_{\nu}/dE_{\nu}d\cos\theta_z$, are taken from Ref. [94], where θ_z is the zenith angle.

To severely reduce the background from atmospheric neutrinos, we include only events within a narrow angular cone along the line of sight from the IceCube detector to the Sun. We parametrize the zenith angle of the Sun at the South Pole as

$$\cos\theta_z = \cos\left[\frac{\pi}{2} + \theta_{\rm dec}^{\rm max}\sin(2\pi\tau)\right],\tag{31}$$

where $\theta_{dec}^{max} = 23^{\circ}26'$ is the maximum declination of the Sun in the celestial sphere throughout the year. Here we have denoted the time of year by the dimensionless parameter τ which spans a full year with the values $0 < \tau \le 1$, where $\tau = 0, \frac{1}{2}$ correspond to the September and March equinoxes, respectively. The total muon rate along the line of sight to the Sun is given by

$$\frac{dN_{\mu}}{dE_{\mu}} = \int_{E_{\mu}}^{\infty} dE_{\nu_{\mu}} \int_{0}^{1/2} d\tau \left[\frac{d\sigma_{\nu}^{p}(E_{\nu_{\mu}}, E_{\mu})}{dE_{\mu}} \rho_{p} + \frac{d\sigma_{\nu}^{n}(E_{\nu_{\mu}}, E_{\mu})}{dE_{\mu}} \rho_{n} \right] \times R_{\mu}(E_{\mu}) A_{\text{eff}}(E_{\mu}) \\
\times \frac{d\Phi_{\nu}}{dE_{\nu_{\mu}}d\cos\theta_{z}} \frac{d\cos\theta_{z}}{d\tau} R(\cos\theta_{z}) + (\nu \to \bar{\nu}), \quad (32)$$

where $R(\cos\theta_z) = 0.70 - 0.48 \cos\theta_z$ is a detector effi-

¹¹Since the muon range is at most 1 km for a 1 TeV muon, the point of muon production can be assumed to be in ice, rather than the Earth's crust.

¹²Backgrounds from solar atmospheric neutrinos also exist, where cosmic rays produce neutrinos in the solar atmosphere [93]. These backgrounds are expected to be a few per year for a km² size detector triggering on upward going muons.

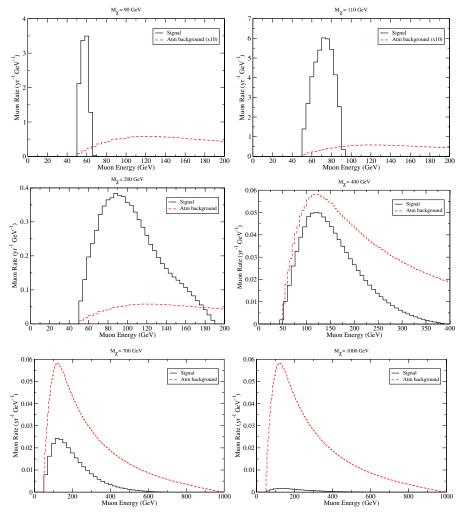


FIG. 17 (color online). Muon event rates and atmospheric backgrounds in IceCube.

ciency for up-going muons that takes into account the rock bed below the detector and other angular dependence factors in IceCube [23]. The factor of $\frac{1}{2}$ in the upper limit of the τ integration takes into account the time that the Sun is below the horizon. The 1σ resolution of IceCube is 1° [95]; we therefore include the flux observed along the line of sight to the Sun within a cone of angular diameter 3°. This dramatically reduces the background from atmospheric neutrinos to that shown in Fig. 17.

We show the signal muon event rate and atmospheric background [94] in IceCube for six parameter points in Fig. 17 and Table III. Defining the signal region of $E_{\mu}^{\text{thr}} < E_{\mu} < 300 \text{ GeV}$, we determine the statistical significance of the six illustrative points in Table III.¹³ This choice of the upper cut at 300 GeV is because of the large attenuation of high-energy neutrinos by the CC and NC interactions in the Sun makes the signal contribution at higher energies small. Here, we purposely chose the window to be inde-

pendent of the neutralino mass, but once a signal is seen the window can be narrowed to improve the signal to background ratio. In the above window with a few years of data, IceCube can make a $5\sigma \chi_1^0$ discovery from M_W up to 400 GeV. The case for $\mathcal{O}(M_Z)$ is even better, easily yielding a discovery signal in the first year of data.

TABLE III. Muon rates in 1 yr of IceCube data from neutralino annihilations and atmospheric neutrino backgrounds and the total statistical significance $\sigma_{\text{stat}} = S/\sqrt{B}$. The event rates include all events where $E_{\mu}^{\text{thr}} < E_{\mu} < 300 \text{ GeV}$, with $E_{\mu}^{\text{thr}} =$ 50 GeV.

| $M_{\chi_1^0}$ (GeV) | $N_{\mu}^{ m signal}$ | $N_{\mu}^{ m bkg}$ | $\sigma_{ m stat}$ |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 90 | 41 | 10.4 | 13 |
| 110 | 170 | 10.4 | 53 |
| 200 | 29 | 10.4 | 9.0 |
| 400 | 7.0 | 10.4 | 2.2 |
| 700 | 4.1 | 10.4 | 1.3 |
| 1000 | 0.29 | 10.4 | 0.09 |

¹³Note that smearing of the muon energy can yield a tail on the lower end of the spectrum.

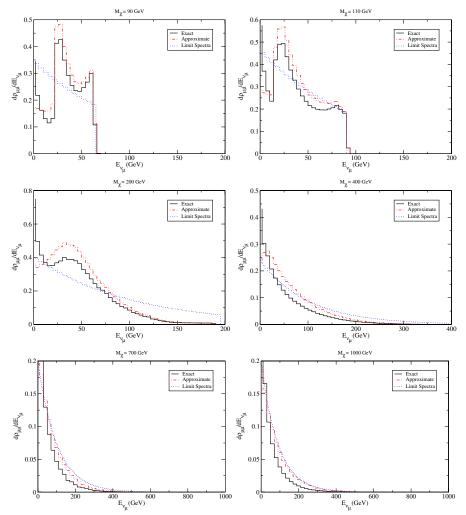


FIG. 18 (color online). Given are our exact calculation for neutrinos (solid black line), the approximate spectra as described in [32], and the limit spectra.

From the signal in Fig. 17, one can use the signal rate and the shape of the differential muon rate to extract further information on the nature of the neutralino. A determination of the neutralino mass can be made from the shape of the muon energy distribution and the capture rate of neutralinos in the Sun can be determined from the total signal rate. The capture rate in turn gives information on the local galactic DM density and its velocity [cf. Eq. (1)] that can complement inferences from direct detection experiments.

D. Limit spectra

When the DM particle is very massive and thus produces very energetic neutrinos, the features of the neutrino energy distribution tend to be washed out, due to the neutrinos interacting more with the solar matter. This gives rise to the so-called "limit spectra," which becomes a fair description for E_{ν} greater than 200 GeV or so [32]. The limit spectra assumes that (i) oscillations and interactions with matter populate the different neutrino flavors uniformly so that the density matrix can be reduced to a scalar, (ii) the reinjection spectra from scattering is flat in E'_{ν}/E_{ν} , and (iii) the cross section is proportional to the energy of the incoming neutrino. In our case, the first assumption is satisfied to zeroth order since the initial neutrino populations uniformly populate the three flavors. However, τ regeneration breaks this uniformity and makes the ν_{τ} population different than the ν_e population.¹⁴ The reinjection spectra are preferentially skewed toward lower energies as calculated in Appendix D and shown in Fig. 11 and are not well approximated by flat spectra. The third assumption is valid in the appropriate neutrino energy range of few GeV $\leq E_{\nu} \leq$ few TeV.

For all ν , the limit spectra can be determined analytically [32]

¹⁴Oscillations between the ν_{τ} and ν_{μ} neutrinos tend to keep these two flavors equally populated.

HIGH ENERGY NEUTRINOS FROM NEUTRALINO ...

$$\rho(r, E) = e^{-(E/\mathcal{E})(r/R_{\odot})} \left\{ \rho(r=0, E) + \frac{1}{\mathcal{E}} \int_{E}^{\infty} \rho(r=0, E') dE' \right\}$$
(33)

and approximated as a decaying exponential in the highenergy limit

$$\rho(r, E) \propto e^{-(E/\mathcal{E})(r/R_{\odot})}.$$
(34)

Here \mathcal{E} is ≈ 100 GeV for neutrinos and ≈ 140 GeV for antineutrinos [32]. For very high neutrino energies, the spectral distributions become less distinctive and bear little resemblance to the injected spectra. This effect unfortunately limits the ability to detect neutrinos of energies greater than ≈ 400 GeV or so, as can be seen in Fig. 18. Combined with the aforementioned low-energy cutoff from the effective area of the detector, we are confined to a "window" of possible muon detection energies from roughly 50 to 400 GeV for IceCube.

VII. CONCLUSIONS

We have made a comprehensive analysis of the prospects for observation in km² area detectors of high-energy neutrinos from the annihilations of neutralino dark matter in the Sun. The underlying assumptions of this study are the following:

- (i) The lightest stable neutralino of the mSUGRA model accounts for the dark matter density determined by the WMAP experiment
- (ii) The neutralinos are gravitationally captured by the Sun and settle to the core of the Sun where they annihilate with the annihilation and capture rates in equilibrium. We have assumed the standard estimate of the neutralino capture rate of Eq. (1) in estimating the signal.
- (iii) The focus point/hyperbolic branch is the relevant region of the parameter space of the mSUGRA model, since the high sfermion masses at the FP solves the SUSY flavor and *CP* problems and gives low fine tuning.
- (iv) The mass of the lightest neutralino has mass above that of the *W*-boson, so that *WW*, *ZZ*, and $t\bar{t}$ are the dominant annihilation channels, giving high-energy neutrinos from their decays.

The focus point region gives large fluxes of high-energy neutrinos for two reasons:

- (i) The spin-dependent cross section for neutralino capture in the Sun is enhanced by a factor of 10³ over the spin-independent cross section relevant to most current searches for direct detection of neutralinos through nuclear recoils.
- (ii) The lightest neutralino is a bino-Higgsino admixture which gives a large cross section for the WW and ZZ production processes.

(iii) The contributions to the neutrino flux are dominated by the top-quark contributions once the LSP mass exceeds the top-quark mass.

Our calculations included all the physically relevant processes in neutrino propagation through the Sun with the quantum mechanical density evolution Eq. (17), including:

- (i) Production at the center of the Sun with equal population of the three neutrino flavors.
- (ii) Oscillations of three neutrinos with vacuum oscillations due to the atmospheric and solar mass-squared differences in the tribimaximal approximation to the mixing matrix which has a zero θ_{13} mixing angle and with MSW effects for nonzero θ_{13} ; MSW effects are not expected to be significant for high neutrino energy threshold of IceCube.
- (iii) Source terms due to the absorption and reinjection of neutrinos propagating through matter, including both CC and NC interactions that reinject neutrinos with lower energy. In particular, we include all neutrino decay products from the production of tau-leptons with exact calculations of the tau decay distributions. We find that the tau-regeneration effects are not large, but that the absorption effects strongly diminish the event rates from neutralinos of mass above a few hundred GeV.

Our study made major improvements over previous analyses:

- (i) We take into account the full spin-dependence of the production and decay processes, which have important effects on the neutrino energy distributions.
- (ii) We make quantitative predictions for the absolute neutrino rates, since we specialize to the specific FP region.
- (iii) We include off-shell *W*, *Z*, and top decays in addition to on-shell.
- (iv) We provide analytic formulas for on-shell decays and show that the numerical calculations of exact matrix elements obtained with the SMADGRAPH program are in agreement.

We have compared our results with other analyses and approximations where possible:

- (i) We find that the approximation to the density evolution of Eq. (33) is reasonably good for neutralino masses of order 100 GeV, but shows substantial deviations from the exact results at higher neutralino masses: see Fig. 18.
- (ii) We find that the limit spectra from Cirelli *et al.* Eq. (33) is not so good in representing the exact results at any neutralino mass, even though it does qualitatively describe the falloff with neutrino energy due to absorption effects.
- (iii) The signal region is broadly defined in muon energy by the 50 GeV threshold cut and the rapid decrease at energies above 300 GeV from absorption effects.

In the detection of muon-neutrino signals from the annihilations, we calculate event rates for the IceCube experiment, taking into account

- (i) A muon energy threshold of 50 GeV.
- (ii) The dependence of the detector area on muon energy due to the range of the muons in ice.
- (iii) The backgrounds from atmospheric neutrinos as calculated from the flux in Ref. [94]; we include a 3° cone for the angular resolution along the line of sight from the Sun to the detector.

The major conclusions of our study are as follows:

- (i) The signals from the annihilations of neutralinos in the mass range of 90 to 400 GeV should be easily identifiable above the atmospheric neutrino backgrounds: see Table III. About 10 to 200 muons events are created from muon neutrinos by neutralino annihilations in the Sun on an atmospheric muon background of about 10 events (within a 3° angular cone the center of the Sun). The breadth of the signal is in muon energies a measure of the neutralino mass. The size of the signal is governed by the neutralino mass and its couplings to weak bosons and top-quark pairs as well as the capture rate of neutralinos in the Sun.
- (ii) The IceCube experiment is most sensitive to neutralinos of mass around 110 GeV, above the thresholds for WW and ZZ production by the neutralino annihilation process. However, the signals from neutralinos of mass $M_{\chi_1^0} > m_t$, where $t\bar{t}$ annihilation dominates can also be large for neutralinos of mass $M_{\chi_1^0}$ of order 200 GeV.
- (iii) The absorption effects in the Sun likely preclude the detection in IceCube of neutralino annihilations for neutralino masses above 400 GeV.
- (iv) The predicted large signals depend on several assumptions that could be overly optimistic: The focus point with large bino-Higgsino mixing is the relevant region of mSUGRA parameter space (this is subject to validation at the LHC); the spin-dependent capture cross section is much larger than the spinindependent capture cross section (this is subject to test in direct detection experiments of WIMP recoils); the estimated gravitational capture rate of neutralinos in the Sun is realistic (it could be enhanced by caustics or reduced if there is a dark matter density under-density in our galactic region).
- (v) The forthcoming data from IceCube and KM3 offer the prospect for discovery of neutralino DM if nature has cooperated.

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APPENDIX A: PHASE SPACE PARTITIONING

The calculations of the cross sections $\sigma(\chi\chi \rightarrow We\bar{\nu})$ and $\sigma(\chi\chi \rightarrow Z\nu\bar{\nu})$ are quite similar. Here, we compute the cross section for WW^* production, and then give the corresponding expressions for the ZZ^* process. The cross section $\sigma(\chi\chi \rightarrow We\bar{\nu})$ is given by

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{2\lambda^{1/2}(s, p_{\chi_1}^2, p_{\chi_2}^2)(2\pi)^5} \sum |\mathcal{M}^2| d_s(PS\chi\chi \to We\bar{\nu}),$$
(A1)

where λ is the triangular function

$$\lambda(a, b, c) \equiv a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - 2(ab + ac + bc).$$
 (A2)

The phase space is

$$d_{3}(PS\chi\chi \rightarrow We\bar{\nu}) = \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^{2} \left(\frac{d\Omega}{4\pi}\right)^{2} \lambda^{1/2} \left(1, \frac{m_{X}^{2}}{s}, \frac{m_{W}^{2}}{s}\right) \\ \times \lambda^{1/2} \left(1, \frac{m_{e}^{2}}{m_{X}^{2}}, \frac{m_{\nu}^{2}}{m_{X}^{2}}\right) dm_{X}^{2}, \tag{A3}$$

where we integrate over the range $m_e + m_\nu \le m_X \le \sqrt{s} - m_W$. The corresponding calculation for ZZ^* , with $m_\nu = 0$, yields

$$d_3(PS\chi\chi \to Z\nu\bar{\nu}) = \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^2 \left(\frac{d\Omega}{4\pi}\right)^2 \lambda^{1/2} \left(1, \frac{m_X^2}{s}, \frac{m_Z^2}{s}\right) dm_X^2,$$
(A4)

where $0 \le m_X \le \sqrt{s} - m_Z$.

APPENDIX B: NEUTRALINO NUMBER IN THE SOLAR CORE

It is interesting to estimate the number of the accumulated dark matter particles in the solar core. The content of the dark matter located at the core by the equilibrium condition can be modeled by [22]

$$N^2 = \frac{C_{\circ}}{A_{\circ}} = \frac{C^{\circ}V}{\langle \sigma v \rangle}.$$
 (B1)

The effective volume V of the DM core of the Sun is estimated to be [96,97]

$$V = 5.7 \times 10^{27} \text{ cm}^3 (100 \,\text{GeV}/M_{\chi_1^0})^{3/2}.$$
 (B2)

The annihilation cross section is dimensionally estimated as

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle \approx B \alpha^2 / M_{\chi_1^0}^2$$
 (B3)

with the coefficient *B* of order 1. For $M_{\chi_1^0} = 100$ GeV, We find $N \approx 10^{38}$ for the SD capture rate. This number is many orders of magnitude larger than the average number

 \bar{N} of dark matter particles enclosed by a volume in the space of the size of the Sun, $\bar{N} \approx 4 \times 10^{30}$.

APPENDIX C: NEUTRINO-NUCLEON SCATTERING

Neutrinos scatter off nucleons via the NC or CC interactions. The cross-section expressions are relatively simple for neutrinos in the energy range we consider $(\mathcal{O}(1 \text{ GeV}) \leq E_{\nu} \leq \mathcal{O}(1 \text{ TeV}))$ where the W and Z propagator effects can be neglected since $Q^2 \ll M_W^2$.

1. CC interaction

For CC scattering, the neutrino-quark cross sections are given by [74,98]

$$\frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\nu d \to \ell u) = \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\bar{\nu}\,\bar{d} \to \bar{\ell}\,\bar{u}) = \frac{G_F^2\hat{s}}{\pi},\qquad(C1)$$

$$\frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\nu\bar{d}\to\ell\bar{u}) = \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\bar{\nu}d\to\bar{\ell}u) = \frac{G_F^2\hat{s}}{\pi}(1-y)^2, \quad (C2)$$

where $y = 1 - E_{\ell}/E_{\nu}$, $\sqrt{s} = \sqrt{sx}$ is the CM energy of the subprocess and x is the fraction of nucleon momenta imparted on the quark. The resulting scattering off a proton is given by [14]

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dy}(\nu p \to \ell X) = \int_0^1 dx \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\nu \bar{u} \to \ell \bar{d}) f_{\bar{u}/p}(x) + \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\nu d \to \ell u) f_{d/p}(x) \simeq \frac{2m_p E_\nu G_F^2}{\pi} (0.15 + 0.04(1-y)^2), \quad (C3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\sigma}{dy}(\bar{\nu}p \to \bar{\ell}X) &= \int_0^1 dx \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\bar{\nu}\,\bar{d} \to \bar{\ell}\,\bar{u}) f_{\bar{d}/p}(x) \\ &+ \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\bar{\nu}u \to \bar{\ell}d) f_{u/p}(x) \\ &\simeq \frac{2m_p E_\nu G_F^2}{\pi} (0.06 + 0.25(1-y)^2), \quad (C4) \end{aligned}$$

where $f_{q/N}(x)$ is the parton density function for parton q in nucleon N. The corresponding neutron differential cross sections are [14]

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dy}(\nu n \to \ell X) = \int_0^1 dx \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\nu \bar{u} \to \ell \bar{d}) f_{\bar{u}/n}(x) + \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\nu d \to \ell u) f_{d/n}(x) \simeq \frac{2m_n E_{\nu} G_F^2}{\pi} (0.25 + 0.06(1 - y)^2), \quad (C5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\sigma}{dy}(\bar{\nu}n \to \bar{\ell}X) &= \int_0^1 dx \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\bar{\nu}\,\bar{d} \to \bar{\ell}\,\bar{u}) f_{\bar{d}/n}(x) \\ &+ \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\bar{\nu}u \to \bar{\ell}d) f_{u/n}(x) \\ &\simeq \frac{2m_n E_\nu G_F^2}{\pi} (0.04 + 0.15(1-y)^2). \end{aligned}$$
(C6)

2. NC interaction

The NC scattering is calculated in the same way. The subprocess are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\nu q \to \nu' q') &= \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\bar{\nu} \,\bar{q} \to \bar{\nu}' \bar{q}') \\ &= \frac{G_F^2 \hat{s}}{\pi} (g_{Lq}^2 + g_{Rq}^2 (1-y)^2), \end{aligned} \tag{C7}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\bar{\nu}q \to \bar{\nu}q') &= \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\nu\bar{q} \to \nu'\bar{q}') \\ &= \frac{G_F^2\hat{s}}{\pi}(g_{Rq}^2 + g_{Lq}^2(1-y)^2), \end{aligned}$$
(C8)

where $y = 1 - E_{\nu'}/E_{\nu}$ and the Z boson couplings are

$$g_{Lu} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{3} \sin^2 \theta_W, \qquad g_{Ru} = -\frac{2}{3} \sin^2 \theta_W, \qquad (C9)$$
$$g_{Ld} = -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \sin^2 \theta_W, \qquad g_{Rd} = \frac{1}{3} \sin^2 \theta_W.$$

The total differential cross sections for proton target are then given by [14]

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dy}(\nu p \to \nu' X) = \int_0^1 dx \sum_{q=u,d,\bar{u},\bar{d}} \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\nu q \to \nu' q') f_{q/p}(x)$$
$$\simeq \frac{2m_p E_\nu G_F^2}{\pi} [0.058 + 0.022(1-y)^2],$$
(C10)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\sigma}{dy}(\bar{\nu}p \to \bar{\nu}'X) &= \int_0^1 dx \sum_{q=u,d,\bar{u},\bar{d}} \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\bar{\nu}q \to \bar{\nu}'q') f_{q/p}(x) \\ &\simeq \frac{2m_p E_{\nu} G_F^2}{\pi} [0.022 + 0.058(1-y)^2], \end{aligned}$$
(C11)

and for a neutron target by

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dy}(\nu n \to \nu' X) = \int_0^1 dx \sum_{q=u,d,\bar{u},\bar{d}} \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\nu q \to \nu' q') f_{q/n}(x)$$

$$\approx \frac{2m_n E_{\nu} G_F^2}{\pi} [0.064 + 0.019(1-y)^2],$$
(C12)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dy}(\bar{\nu}n \to \bar{\nu}'X) = \int_0^1 dx \sum_{q=u,d,\bar{u},\bar{d}} \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dy}(\bar{\nu}q \to \bar{\nu}'q')f_{q/n}(x)$$
$$\simeq \frac{2m_n E_{\nu}G_F^2}{\pi} [0.019 + 0.064(1-y)^2].$$
(C13)

APPENDIX D: τ REGENERATION

To account for τ regeneration, we fold the CC production cross section of leptons with decay distribution of the τ

$$f_{\nu_{\tau} \to \nu_{\tau}}(u) = N \int_{u}^{1} \left(1 + \frac{z^{2}}{5}\right) \sum_{i} BF_{i}\left(g_{0i}\left(\frac{u}{z}\right) + Pg_{1i}\left(\frac{u}{z}\right)\right) \frac{1}{z} dz, \qquad (D1)$$

$$f_{\bar{\nu}_{\tau} \to \bar{\nu}_{\tau}}(u) = N \int_{u}^{1} \left(\frac{1}{5} + z^{2}\right) \sum_{i} BF_{i}\left(g_{0i}\left(\frac{u}{z}\right) + Pg_{1i}\left(\frac{u}{z}\right)\right) \frac{1}{z} dz, \qquad (D2)$$

with similar expressions for $f_{\bar{\nu}_{\tau} \to \nu_{e,\mu}}$ and $f_{\nu_{\tau} \to \bar{\nu}_{e,\mu}}$. Here, the factors of 1/5 [99] approximate the more precise values in Appendix C. In this parametrization, $u = E_{\nu}^{\text{out}}/E_{\nu}^{in}$ and $z = E_{\tau}/E_{\nu}^{in}$. The normalization factor N is chosen such that

$$N = \int_0^1 du f_{\nu \to \nu}(u) = \begin{cases} 1 & \nu_\tau \to \nu_\tau, \\ 0.18 & \nu_\tau \to \bar{\nu}_{e,\mu}. \end{cases}$$
(D3)

The first factor in each equation arises from the CC production cross section for τ^- and τ^+ , respectively. The sum is over each contributing mode (note that for modes with ν_e or ν_{μ} in the final state, there is only one term in the sum), and BF_i is the corresponding branching fraction. *P* is the polarization of the decaying τ , and is ± 1 for τ^{\mp} . g(y) is the energy spectra of the neutrinos from the decaying τ . We now calculate this spectra for the modes $\nu_{\tau} \ell \bar{\nu}_{\ell}, \nu_{\tau} e / \mu \bar{\nu}_{e/\mu}$ and $\nu_{\tau} \pi$, and give a table of all results.

To calculate the spectra, let $f_0(x)$ be the ν_{τ} distribution in the static frame of the parent τ [e.g. $f_0(x) = 2x^2(3-2x)$ for ν_{τ} from τ]. The distribution is transformed into g(y) in the fragmentation frame, with $y = (x/2)(1 + \beta \cos\theta)$, where β is the velocity and θ is the polar angle. Each *x* bin at x_0 or $\delta(x - x_0)$ contributes a flat *y* distribution $\theta(x_0 - y)/x_0$ in the limit $\beta \rightarrow 1$ for an unpolarized parent. Therefore,

$$g_0(y) = \int_0^1 dx f_0(x) \theta(x-y)/x = \int_y^1 dx f_0(x)/x.$$
 (D4)

For ν_{τ} from τ , we have

$$g_0(y) = \int_y^1 2x(3-2x)dx = \frac{5}{3} - 3y^2 + \frac{4}{3}y^3.$$
 (D5)

Another way to obtain the result is

$$g_0(y) = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{2} d\cos\phi \int_0^1 dx f_0(x) \delta\left(y - \frac{1}{2}x(1 + \cos\phi)\right).$$
(D6)

If the polarization effect in the rest frame is defined by

$$\frac{1}{N}\frac{dN}{dxd\cos\theta} = f_0(x) + f_1(x)\cos\theta \tag{D7}$$

which, in the laboratory frame, can be parametrized by [90,100]

$$\frac{1}{N}\frac{dN}{dy} = g_0(y) + Pg_1(y),$$
 (D8)

then

$$g_1(y) = + \int_y^1 dx (2y - x) f_1(x) / x^2.$$
 (D9)

For the ν_{τ} from $\tau \rightarrow \nu_{\tau} + \mu + \bar{\nu}_{\mu}$,

$$f_1(x) = -2x^2(2x - 1) \tag{D10}$$

and

$$g_1(y) = \int_y^1 2(1-2x)(2y-x)dx = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{8}{3}y^3 - 3y^2.$$
(D11)

We now move to the case of $\bar{\nu}_{\mu}$ in the τ decay. The transition probability is [101]

$$\sum |\mathcal{M}|^2 = 64G_F^2(\mu \cdot \nu_\tau)\bar{\nu}_\mu \cdot (\tau - m_\tau S_\tau)$$
$$= 16G_F^2 m_\tau^4 (1 - x)x(1 + \cos\theta) \qquad (D12)$$

$$f_0(x) = 12x^2(1-x),$$
 $f_1(x) = +12x^2(1-x).$ (D13)

Then

$$g_0(y) = \int_y^1 12(1-x)xdx = 2 - 6y^2 + 4y^3$$
 (D14)

$$g_1(y) = \int_y^1 dx 12(1-x)(2y-x)$$

= -2 + 12y - 18y² + 8y³ (D15)

in agreement with Eq. (96) in [102]. Note that the corresponding spectra for the τ^+ decay are obtained with the substitution $g_1^{\tau^+}(y) = -g_1^{\tau^-}(y)$.

PHYSICAL REVIEW D 76, 095008 (2007)

TABLE V. Fragmentation functions for various decay modes of the τ^- lepton, with $y = \frac{E_{\bar{r}_{e,\mu}}}{E_{\tau}}$ and $r_X = m_X^2/m_{\tau}^2$ [103].

| $	au^-$ decay mode | BF | $g_0(y)$ | $g_1(y)$ |
|-----------------------------|------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| $ u_{	au}\ellar{ u}_{\ell}$ | 0.18 | $2 - 6y^2 + 4y^3$ | $-2 + 12y - 18y^2 + 8y^3$ |

TABLE IV. Fragmentation functions for various decay modes of the τ^- lepton, with $y = \frac{E_{\nu_{\tau}}}{E_{\tau}}$ and $r_X = m_X^2/m_{\tau}^2$.

| $	au^-$ decay mode | BF | $g_0(y)$ | $g_1(y)$ |
|-----------------------------|------|--|--|
| $ u_{	au}\ellar{ u}_{\ell}$ | 0.18 | $\frac{5}{3} - 3y^2 + \frac{4}{3}y^3$ | $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{8}{3}y^3 - 3y^2$ |
| $ u_{	au}\pi$ | 0.12 | $\frac{1}{1-r_{\pi}}\theta(1-r_{\pi}-y)$ | $-\frac{2y-1+r_{\pi}}{(1-r_{\pi})^2}\theta(1-r_{\pi}-y)$ |
| $\nu_{\tau}a_1$ | 0.13 | $\frac{1}{1-r_{a_1}}\theta(1-r_{a_1}-y)$ | $-\frac{2y-1+r_{a_1}}{1-r_{a_1}}\frac{1-2r_{a_1}}{1+2r_{a_1}}\theta(1-r_{a_1}-y)$ |
| $ u_{	au} ho$ | 0.26 | $\frac{1}{1-r_{\rho}}\theta(1-r_{\rho}-y)$ | $-\frac{2y-1+r_{\rho}}{1-r_{\rho}}\frac{1-2r_{\rho}}{1+2r_{\rho}}\theta(1-r_{\rho}-y)$ |
| $\nu_{\tau}X$ | 0.13 | $\frac{1}{0.3}\theta(0.3-y)$ | 0 |

For the mode $\tau \rightarrow \pi^- \nu_{\tau}$, we define

$$E_{\nu_{\tau}} = \frac{m_{\tau}^2 - m_{\pi}^2}{2m_{\tau}}, \qquad x = \frac{2E_{\nu_{\tau}}}{m_{\tau}},$$
$$r_{\pi} = \frac{m_{\pi}^2}{m_{\tau}^2}, \qquad x = 1 - r_{\pi}.$$

The rest frame distribution is a delta function, $f_0(x) = \delta(x - (1 - r_{\pi}))$. We can follow what we did before to obtain the boost fragmentation function,

$$g_0(y) = \int_y^1 dx f_0(x) / x = \int_y^1 dx \delta(x - (1 - r_\pi)) / x$$

= $\theta (1 - r_\pi - y) / (1 - r_\pi).$ (D16)

This agrees with formulas by Ref. [103]. For the polarized distribution, the angular distribution in the parent rest frame is $\propto 1 - \cos\theta$, so,

$$g_1(y) = -\int_y^1 dx (2y - x) \delta(x - 1 + r_\pi) / x^2$$

= -(2y - 1 + r_\pi)\theta(1 - r_\pi - y) / (1 - r_\pi). (D17)

We summarize the τ^- decay modes and their respective fragmentation functions in Tables IV and V.

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