



A two Higgs doublet model for dark matter and neutrino masses

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ABSTRACT

Motivated by the interesting features of Two Higgs Doublet Models (2HDM) we present a 2HDM extension where the stability of dark matter, neutrino masses and the absence of flavor changing interactions are explained by promoting baryon and lepton number to gauge symmetries. Neutrino masses are addressed within the usual type I seesaw mechanism. A vector-like fermion acts as dark matter and it interacts with Standard Model particles via the kinetic and mass mixings between the neutral gauge bosons. We compute the relevant observables such as the dark matter relic density and spin-independent scattering cross section to outline the region of parameter space that obeys current and projected limits from collider and direct detection experiments via thermal and non-thermal dark matter production.

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1. Introduction

The Standard Model (SM) constitutes the most accurate description of the electroweak and strong interactions in nature [1–3]. Its success is remarkable and has endured a wealth of experimental scrutiny over the past decades. The observation of the so called Higgs boson [4,5] with interactions that resemble those predicted by the SM further supports its consistency. We have observed no robust signs of physics beyond the SM at the LHC thus far. Moreover, the ρ parameter, $\rho = m_W/(m_Z \cos \theta_W)$, which is equal to one in the SM [3], has been precisely measured to be indeed close to unit. These facts have constrained several extended scalar sectors. That being said, it is natural to conceive the existence of additional scalars since scalar doublets with weak hypercharge equal to ± 1 and neutral scalar singlets do not perturb the ρ parameter and scalar masses above 500 GeV are just now starting to be probed at the LHC.

Moreover, we have more fundamental reasons to foresee physics beyond the SM. The SM does not explain neutrino masses and the presence of dark matter in our universe [6]. Non-zero neutrino masses have been conclusively established via the observation of neutrino oscillations [7,8] and the presence of a

non-baryonic dark matter component in our universe has been confirmed through a variety of cosmological observations [6].

Initially 2HDM surfaced because they naturally keep the ρ parameter unaltered [9], resemble the scalar sector of the Supersymmetric Standard Model [10], and give rise to interesting collider [11–13] and astrophysical studies [14–16]. These models simply add to the SM spectrum an extra scalar doublet that may contribute to the fermion masses. The possible forms of generating fermion masses give rise to different classes of 2HDM. Despite these nice features, 2HDM do not address the two aforementioned phenomena and are plagued with flavor changing interactions. Thus, if they are meant to represent a road towards beyond the SM, they should somehow accommodate neutrino masses and dark matter. Several extensions of the 2HDM have been proposed trying to accommodate neutrino masses [17–22], dark matter [23–33], and the absence of flavor changing interactions [34–37]. It would be interesting if these issues were to be addressed via gauge principles in this context, motivating further models [38–42]. In particular, some could simultaneously explain the absence of flavor changing interactions and neutrino masses [43–47].

In this work, we give a step further and discuss an extension of the 2HDM where neutrino masses, the absence of flavor changing interactions and dark matter are simultaneously addressed by promoting the baryon and lepton number to gauge symmetries and adding a vector-like fermion as dark matter. The two scalar doublets have different charges under the $U(1)_{B-L}$ and for this reason

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only one will be able to generate the SM fermion masses, which will automatically avoid flavor changing interactions. Furthermore, the presence of this new abelian gauge symmetry requires the addition of three right-handed neutrinos to cancel the gauge anomalies, and they will mix with the active neutrinos to generate the active neutrino masses via the type I seesaw mechanism [48–50]. In this way, one gauge symmetry is responsible for stabilizing the dark matter particle, prohibiting flavor changing interactions, and explaining neutrino masses via the seesaw mechanism.

In order to assess whether our assumptions generate a viable model we compute the dark matter relic density within the usual thermal freeze-out and the dark matter-nucleon scattering cross section, to later face them against the existing and projected limits from direct detection experiments. For completeness we also include the subdominant bounds stemming from LHC searches. We also pursue the scenario of late entropy injection as a mechanism to ameliorate the direct detection bounds.

Our work is structured as follows: In Section 2 we review the 2HDM- $U(1)_{B-L}$ model; in Section 4 we discuss the dark matter observables and collider limits. In Section 5 we draw our conclusions.

2. The model

Motivated by the lack of neutrino masses and dark matter in the usual 2HDM and the interesting phenomenological consequences of gauging lepton and baryon numbers, we present a 2HDM- $U(1)_{B-L}$ model, where neutrino masses, dark matter, and the absence of flavor changing interactions are simultaneously addressed. The full model content is summarized in Table 1. Setting neutrino masses aside, our model is a type I 2HDM, where only one scalar doublet contributes to SM fermion masses via the Yukawa lagrangian below,

$$\mathcal{L}_{Y\text{2HDM}} = y_2^d \bar{Q}_L \Phi_2 d_R + y_2^u \bar{Q}_L \tilde{\Phi}_2 u_R + y_2^e \bar{L}_L \Phi_2 e_R + y^D \bar{L}_L \tilde{\Phi}_2 N_R + Y^M \overline{(N_R)^c} \Phi_s N_R + \text{h.c.} \quad (1)$$

where the scalar doublets are written as,

$$\Phi_i = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_i^+ \\ (v_i + \rho_i + i\eta_i)/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2)$$

and the singlet scalar as $\Phi_s = (v_s + \rho_s + i\eta_s)/\sqrt{2}$.

Through Eq. (1) we can generate masses to all fermions after the spontaneous symmetry breaking mechanism takes place. The last term in Eq. (1) is a new addition to the usual type I 2HDM, which arises due to the presence of right-handed neutrinos as required by the $U(1)_{B-L}$ gauge symmetry.¹ With these right-handed neutrinos the type I seesaw mechanism is realized, yielding active and right-handed neutrino masses given respectively by $m_\nu = -m_D^T M_R^{-1} M_D$ and $m_N = M_R$, where $m_D = y^D v_2 / 2\sqrt{2}$ and $M_R = y^M v_s / 2\sqrt{2}$, with $M_R \gg m_D$. The scalar singlet Φ_s is responsible for breaking $B - L$ at sufficiently high scales. The charges of the fields under $U(1)_{B-L}$ are shown in Table 1. The fact that Φ_1 and Φ_2 transform differently under $B - L$ prohibits one of them from generating fermion masses, consequently avoiding flavor changing neutral interactions.

The scalars that generate fermion masses give rise to the following scalar potential,

$$\begin{aligned} V = & m_{11}^2 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1 + m_{22}^2 \Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2 + \frac{\lambda_1}{2} (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1)^2 + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2)^2 \\ & + \lambda_3 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1)(\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2) + \lambda_4 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2)(\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1) \\ & + m_s^2 \Phi_s^\dagger \Phi_s + \frac{\lambda_s}{2} (\Phi_s^\dagger \Phi_s)^2 + \lambda_{s1} \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1 \Phi_s^\dagger \Phi_s \\ & + \lambda_{s2} \Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2 \Phi_s^\dagger \Phi_s - (\mu \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 \Phi_s + \text{h.c.}). \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Similarly to fermions, after spontaneous symmetry breaking, gauge bosons masses are also generated. The gauge symmetries are spontaneously broken after Φ_1 , Φ_2 and Φ_s acquire vacuum expectations values v_1 , v_2 and v_s respectively. These scalar multiplets yield five physical scalar fields: 3 CP-even, H , H_s and h . The latter being the Higgs with $m_h = 125$ GeV. A CP-odd scalar A and charged scalar H^+ are also present in the spectrum similarly to the usual 2HDM.

The fully analytic expressions for the scalar masses are lengthy and have been derived in [47]. As for the masses of A and H^+ scalar they read,

$$m_A^2 = \frac{\mu(v_1^2 v_2^2 + v^2 v_s^2)}{\sqrt{2} v_1 v_2 v_s}, \quad (4)$$

$$m_{H^+}^2 = \frac{(\sqrt{2}\mu v_s - \lambda_4 v_1 v_2)v^2}{2v_1 v_2}, \quad (5)$$

with $v^2 = v_1^2 + v_2^2 = 246^2 \text{GeV}^2$. The positiveness of m_A^2 restricts μ and v_s to have the same sign, which we choose to be positive. Similarly, from $m_{H^+}^2$ we see that the parameter μ is bounded from below,

$$\mu > \mu_{\min} = \frac{\lambda_4 v_1 v_2}{\sqrt{2} v_s}. \quad (6)$$

We assume here that $v_s \gg v$, which requires small μ values. For instance, taking $\lambda_4 = 0.1$, $v_1 = v_2 = 174$ GeV, and $v_s = 10$ TeV, we obtain $\mu_{\min} = 215$ MeV. We highlight that these choices for the couplings are fully consistent with the stability of the scalar potential [53,54].

The model consists of a $B - L$ gauge extension containing two $SU(2)$ -scalar doublets and a singlet. In addition, a vector-like fermion plays the role of dark matter. The dark matter phenomenology is governed by the Z' boson that stems from the $U(1)_{B-L}$ symmetry. To avoid new anomalies, the dark matter candidate cannot be chiral under $B - L$ and its charges are such that $Y_{\chi_L} = Y_{\chi_R}$. This defines a dark fermion Lagrangian with a bare-mass term $m_\chi \bar{\chi} \chi$ leading to,

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{DM}} = i \bar{\chi} \not{D} \chi - m_\chi \bar{\chi} \chi, \quad (7)$$

with the covariant derivative of the SM-singlet fermion $D_\mu = \partial_\mu - ig_\chi \hat{Z}'_\mu$. We will set $g_\chi = g_{BL} Y_\chi$ throughout this analysis, and use g_χ as a free parameter. Here \hat{Z}' is in the non-physical basis. In our model, the \hat{Z} and \hat{Z}' gauge bosons will mix with one another. After the diagonalization procedure, we will find the SM Z and a massive Z' boson as mass eigenstates. As a result of this mixing, the dark matter fermion will interact with the Z boson, and consequently to all SM fermions. In summary, the dark matter fermion will interact with all fermions charged under $B - L$ via the Z' boson, and to all SM fermions via a Z exchange. Moreover, the scalar doublets are charged under $B - L$, so they will introduce additional interactions involving the Z' boson. For these reasons our results can differ from those obtained in studies involving simplified models [55–59].

Our study is based on gauge invariance and for this reason we have also included a kinetic mixing term, ϵ , between the field strength tensors of $U(1)_{B-L}$ and $U(1)_Y$,

¹ Obviously there are ways to cancel the gauge anomalies without three right-handed neutrinos as explored in [51,52].

Table 1

$U(1)_{B-L}$ -charges for all the fermions and scalars of the model. In particular, this assignment of charges is able to explain neutrino masses and the absence of flavor changing interactions in the type I 2HDM.

Fields	u_R	d_R	Q_L	L_L	e_R	N_R	Φ_2	Φ_1	Φ_S	$\chi_{L,R}$
Charges	u	d	$\frac{(u+d)}{2}$	$\frac{-3(u+d)}{2}$	$-(2u+d)$	$-(u+2d)$	$\frac{(u-d)}{2}$	$\frac{5u}{2} + \frac{7d}{2}$	$2u + 4d$	Q_χ
$U(1)_{B-L}$	1/3	1/3	1/3	-1	-1	-1	0	2	2	Q_χ

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge}} = -\frac{1}{4} B_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu} + \frac{\epsilon}{2 \cos \theta_W} X_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4} X_{\mu\nu} X^{\mu\nu}, \quad (8)$$

where $X_{\mu\nu}$ is the field strength tensor of the new symmetry. This extra kinetic term will generate a mixing between the neutral gauge bosons. We highlight that the neutral gauge bosons will mix due to the kinetic and the mass mixing terms. The latter arises via the scalar doublet Φ_1 , which is charged under $B - L$, and contributes to the Z' mass (See Appendix for an explicit proof).

In order to bring the kinetic Lagrangian (8) to the canonical form a $GL(2, R)$ -rotation is required, which is followed by the electroweak rotation, making the photon A_μ decouple from the massive gauge bosons Z_μ^0 and X_μ , which are still mixed. We can then obtain the physical eigenstates as a linear combination of these gauge eigenstates further rotating them by an angle ξ as follows

$$\begin{pmatrix} Z_\mu \\ Z'_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \xi & -\sin \xi \\ \sin \xi & \cos \xi \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Z_\mu^0 \\ X_\mu \end{pmatrix} \quad (9)$$

where the dependence of the mixing angle with the parameters of the model is given in the Appendix (see Eq. (22)). After having described the model and the particle spectrum we will discuss the dark matter and collider observables.

3. Collider bounds

The most relevant collider bounds applicable to our model stem from LHC searches for new heavy resonances. These searches rely on the narrow width approximation. It has been shown elsewhere that for $g_{BL} > 0.4$ the narrow width approximation is violated [13]. Therefore to be conservative we adopted $g_{BL} = 0.1$ throughout our study. These searches look for excess events in the dilepton channel ($ee, \mu\mu$) that could be produced via the resonant production of a Z' gauge boson such as ours. Without dark matter, these limits constrain at the end of the day the g_{BL} coupling and the Z' mass which controls the Z' production cross section at the LHC and its branching ratio into dileptons. With the presence of dark matter the lower mass limit can be weakened if the decay into invisible (dark matter) is open. That happens when $m_{Z'} > 2m_\chi$. The larger g_χ the larger the branching ratio into dark matter. In other words, as we increase g_χ the LHC limit on the Z' mass weakens. However, the impact of the dark channel on the bounds depends at the end on how much the dilepton branching ratio changes when the dark channel is opened. In Fig. 1 we show how the branching ratio in the dilepton channel changes as the dark charge Y_χ increases, assuming a benchmark point with $m_\chi = 1$ TeV and the scalar masses in the TeV scale as is shown in Table 2. In this case, there is a slight change and the LHC bounds do not suffer considerable changes as is clearly noticed in Fig. 3. Therefore the LHC bounds are subdominant in our model, but important because offer an orthogonal cross check to it. We will now discuss the dark matter observables.

4. Thermal production and non-thermal production

The nature of dark matter is one of the greatest mysteries in science today [60–62]. We know that dark matter accounts for 27% of the energy budget of our universe. That translates into

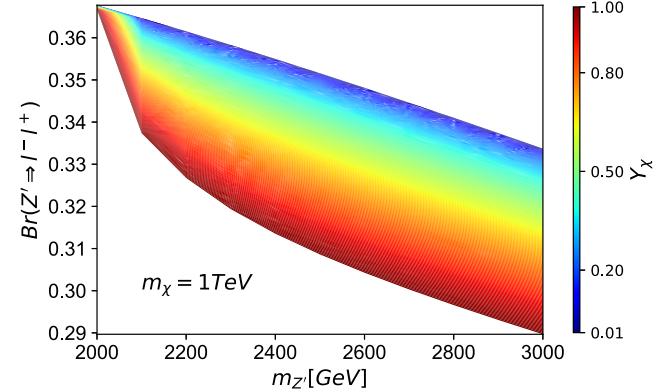


Fig. 1. Dilepton branching ratio ($l = e, \mu$) as function of $m_{Z'}$ and Y_χ for $m_\chi = 1$ TeV.

$\Omega h^2 = 0.11$, where h is the error encoded in the Hubble rate measurement. It is desirable that any UV complete model that attempts to replace the SM should at least explain neutrino masses and dark matter. We already discussed how neutrino masses are accommodated in our model, and now we will address the presence of dark matter in our universe through a dark fermion. In this work, we will conceive two different dark matter production mechanism: (i) thermal production via freeze-out; (ii) non-thermal production via late-time entropy injection.

In the standard freeze-out the dark matter abundance is found by solving the Boltzmann equation with the help of the *Micromegas* package [63,64], after implementing the model in FeynRules [65]. The dark matter abundance is set by the dark matter annihilation cross section at freeze-out. In our model, the dominant cross section is s-wave, therefore the annihilation cross section at freeze-out is equal to the annihilation cross section today. This is important, because in this case indirect detection searches constitute powerful probes [66]. In light of the stringent bounds on light dark matter [67,68], we will focus on dark matter masses at the TeV scale.

In our model, several processes contribute to the overall abundance of dark matter, such as the dark matter annihilation into SM fermions via Z' and Z s-channel exchange, the annihilation into $Z/Z', W'$ pairs, and the one involving a Z/Z' in one leg and a scalar field in the other. These diagrams are displayed in Fig. 2. There are further channels involving the heavy higgs (H) and the pseudoscalar (A) not shown in Fig. 2 but were included in our numerical study to precisely compute the dark matter relic density.

We emphasize that we will consider a vector-like fermion χ as a cold dark matter candidate whose production either simply follows a standard cosmological history or is assisted by a late-time entropy injection. In the former case, the dark matter abundance is dictated by the dark matter annihilation cross section which depends on several parameters such as g_χ , g_{BL} , ϵ , m_χ and $m_{Z'}$. To reduce our free parameters, we fixed $\epsilon = 10^{-3}$ in agreement with existing data [13], and set $g_{BL} = 0.1$. In this way, our entire phenomenology is governed by three parameters only, g_χ , m_χ and $m_{Z'}$.

In the latter case, the dark matter at freeze-out is also set by the annihilation cross section as explained above, but its fi-

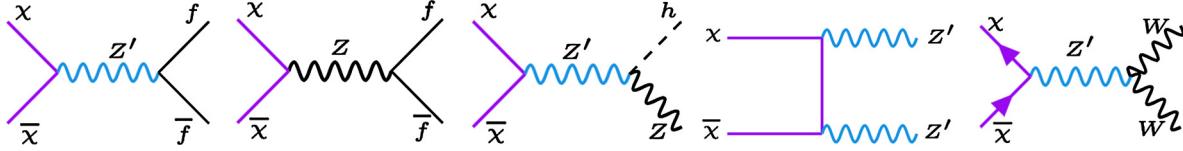


Fig. 2. Dark matter annihilation processes that contribute to the overall abundance. The dark matter-nucleon scattering is dictated by the t-channel version of the first diagram. There are additional channels involving the heavy higgs (H) and the pseudo-scalar (A) not shown here, but included in our numerical analysis.

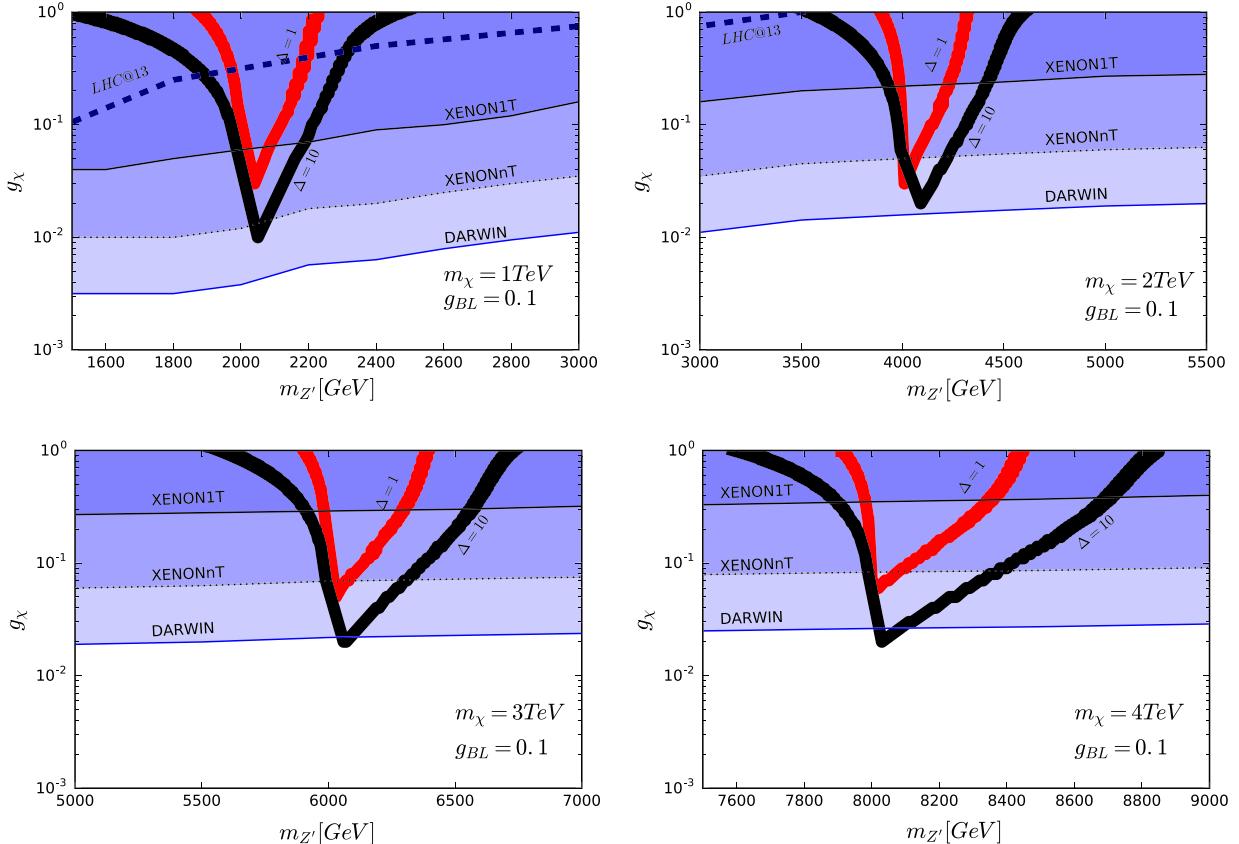


Fig. 3. Parameter space of the model in agreement with the measured relic abundance of the Universe for a scenario following a standard cosmology evolution $\Delta = 1$ (red) and late-time inflation period with $\Delta = 10$ (black). The shadow regions represents the sensitivity of the current and future experiments to the model.

nal abundance is modified due to an entropy injection episode. We will remain agnostic about the origin of this entropy injection, which can have several sources, such as late-time inflation, decays of long lived particles, and even a modified expansion rate [69–73]. This late-time entropy injection will be parametrized by Δ , a dilution factor. In other words, $\Omega_{DM} = \Omega_{\text{freeze-out}}/\Delta$. Such episode can significantly decrease the dark matter abundance and bring an overabundant dark matter scenario back to the correct relic density. In particular, we will adopt two dilution factors, $\Delta = 1, 10$. Larger dilution factors are also conceivable [74].

That said, we computed the dark matter annihilation cross section, dark matter-nucleon spin-independent scattering cross section over a wide range of the three free parameters in our model namely, g_χ , m_χ , and $m_{Z'}$. We emphasize that we fixed $g_{BL} = 0.1$ throughout this study.

It is important to remember that we are dealing with a UV complete model, thus varying the Z' mass, also means varying the masses of the scalar particles. They are all related to v_s which is the scale at which the $B - L$ symmetry is spontaneously broken. In order to have a better control over the scan and grasp the physics going on in our calculations we fixed the parameter of the scalar potential, λ_i . The Table 2 shows typical values of the scalar masses.

Table 2

Physical scalar masses for Z' mass values correspondent to the resonances in Fig. 3. All masses in TeV. The parameter values used were $\lambda_1 = 0.1$, $\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 0.2$, $\lambda_4 = 0.38$, $\lambda_s = \lambda_{s1} = \lambda_{s2} = 0.1$, $\mu = 35$ GeV, $v_2 = 200$ GeV and $v_1 = \sqrt{v^2 - v_2^2}$ with $v = 246$ GeV.

$m_{Z'}$	v_s	m_H	m_{Hs}	m_A	m_{A+}
2	20	1.01	6.32	1.02	1.01
4	40	1.44	12.65	1.45	1.44
6	60	1.78	18.97	1.77	1.77
8	80	2.04	25.29	2.04	2.04

Concerning the relic density curves in Fig. 3 we show in red the parameter space that yields the correct relic density, $\Omega_\chi h^2 = 0.11$, with $\Delta = 1$, i.e. in the standard cosmology case. Notice that all panels are in the g_χ versus $m_{Z'}$ plane. Similarly, the black line delimits the region of parameter space that reproduces the correct dark matter abundance for $\Delta = 10$. As already mentioned, scenarios with larger values for Δ are conceivable, but we concentrated on these two values because they suffice for our purposes.

The shaded regions represent the current and projected sensitivity of selected direct detection experiments. Looking at the plots one can easily conclude that even evoking non-thermal dark

matter production DARWIN will thoroughly rule out dark matter masses below 1 TeV in our model, highlighting its importance. Only if we go beyond 2 TeV dark matter masses, a small region of parameter space will potentially survive the projected sensitivity of DARWIN. Going for masses much above few TeV will not ameliorate the situation because the relic density curve will simply shift toward high Z' masses.

Therefore, we can conclude that future direct detection experiments will entirely probe thermal TeV scale dark matter in our model, and even scenarios that evoke for non-thermal production with an entropy injection of a factor of 10.

5. Conclusion

We have discussed the phenomenology of a dark version of the canonical 2HDM. The model consists of promoting the baryon and lepton number to gauge symmetries. This symmetry is responsible for stabilizing the dark matter candidate, generating a successful seesaw mechanism and preventing flavor changing neutral interactions in our model. The anomaly cancellation requirements demand the addition of three right-handed neutrinos which are key for generating neutrino masses via a type I seesaw mechanism. A dark fermion behaves as dark matter with its phenomenology governed by few free parameters. We concluded after considering two possible dark matter production mechanisms (thermal and non-thermal) that future direct detection experiments will basically entirely probe our model. Hence, a $B - L$ extension of the canonical 2HDM stands as a viable and interesting avenue beyond the SM since it can simultaneously address dark matter, neutrino masses and the absence of flavor changing interactions.

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Appendix A

We summarize here some information aiding the understanding of the main part of the paper, by dividing it into sections relating to key computational aspects. The treatment in this appendix is valid for a general $U(1)_X$ symmetry setup, and can be specified to the $U(1)_{B-L}$ case by substituting the appropriate Q_X charges as well as the gauge coupling g_X by g_{BL} .

A.1. Gauge Boson mass terms

After rotating to a basis in which the gauge bosons have canonical kinetic terms, the covariant derivative in terms of small ϵ reads

$$D_\mu = \partial_\mu + igT^a W_\mu^a + ig' \frac{Q_Y}{2} B_\mu + \frac{i}{2} \left(g' \frac{\epsilon Q_Y}{\cos \theta_W} + g_X Q_X \right) X_\mu, \quad (10)$$

or, explicitly,

$$D_\mu = \partial_\mu + \frac{i}{2} \begin{pmatrix} gW_\mu^3 + g'Q_Y B_\mu + g_X X_\mu & g\sqrt{2}W_\mu^+ \\ g\sqrt{2}W_\mu^- & -gW_\mu^3 + g'Q_Y B_\mu + g_X X_\mu \end{pmatrix}, \quad (11)$$

where we defined for simplicity

$$G_{X_i} = \frac{g'\epsilon Q_{Y_i}}{\cos \theta_W} + g_X Q_{X_i}, \quad (12)$$

with Q_{Y_i} being the hypercharge of the scalar doublet, which in the 2HDM is taken equal to $+1$ for both scalar doublets, and Q_{X_i} is the charge of the scalar doublet i under $U(1)_X$.

Then the part of the Lagrangian responsible for the gauge boson masses becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = & (D_\mu \Phi_1)^\dagger (D^\mu \Phi_1) + (D_\mu \Phi_2)^\dagger (D^\mu \Phi_2) \\ & + (D_\mu \Phi_S)^\dagger (D^\mu \Phi_S) \\ = & \frac{1}{4} g^2 v^2 W_\mu^- W^{+\mu} + \frac{1}{8} g_Z^2 v^2 Z_\mu^0 Z^{0\mu} \\ & - \frac{1}{4} g_Z (G_{X1} v_1^2 + G_{X2} v_2^2) Z_\mu^0 X^\mu \\ & + \frac{1}{8} (v_1^2 G_{X1}^2 + v_2^2 G_{X2}^2 + v_S^2 g_X^2 q_X^2) X_\mu X^\mu, \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

where $v^2 = v_1^2 + v_2^2$. Eq. (13) can then be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = & m_W^2 W_\mu^- W^{+\mu} + \frac{1}{2} m_{Z^0}^2 Z_\mu^0 Z^{0\mu} - \Delta^2 Z_\mu^0 X^\mu \\ & + \frac{1}{2} m_X^2 X_\mu X^\mu, \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

with

$$m_W^2 = \frac{1}{4} g^2 v^2, \quad m_Z^2 = \frac{1}{4} g_Z^2 v^2, \quad (15)$$

$$\Delta^2 = \frac{1}{4} g_Z (G_{X1} v_1^2 + G_{X2} v_2^2), \quad (16)$$

and

$$m_X^2 = \frac{1}{4} (v_1^2 G_{X1}^2 + v_2^2 G_{X2}^2 + v_S^2 g_X^2 q_X^2). \quad (17)$$

Summarizing, after the symmetry breaking, one can realize that there is a remaining mixing between Z_μ^0 and X_μ that can be expressed through the symmetric matrix

$$m_{Z^0 X}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} m_{Z^0}^2 & -\Delta^2 \\ -\Delta^2 & m_X^2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (18)$$

or, explicitly,

$$m_{Z^0 X}^2 = \frac{1}{8} \begin{pmatrix} g_Z^2 v^2 & -g_Z (G_{X1} v_1^2 + G_{X2} v_2^2) \\ -g_Z (G_{X1} v_1^2 + G_{X2} v_2^2) & v_1^2 G_{X1}^2 + v_2^2 G_{X2}^2 + v_S^2 g_X^2 q_X^2 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (19)$$

The above expression, Eq. (19), representing the mixing between the Z_μ^0 and X_μ bosons, is given as function of arbitrary $U(1)_X$ charges of doublet (or singlet) scalars. It is important to notice that, when $Q_{X1} = Q_{X2}$ and there is no singlet contribution, the determinant of the matrix Eq. (19) is zero.

The matrix in Eq. (19) is diagonalized through a rotation $O(\xi)$

$$\begin{pmatrix} Z_\mu \\ Z'_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \xi & -\sin \xi \\ \sin \xi & \cos \xi \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Z_\mu^0 \\ X_\mu \end{pmatrix} \quad (20)$$

and its eigenvalues are

$$\begin{aligned} m_Z^2 &= \frac{1}{2} [m_{Z^0}^2 + m_X^2 - \sqrt{(m_{Z^0}^2 - m_X^2)^2 + 4(\Delta^2)^2}], \\ m_{Z'}^2 &= \frac{1}{2} [m_{Z^0}^2 + m_X^2 + \sqrt{(m_{Z^0}^2 - m_X^2)^2 + 4(\Delta^2)^2}]. \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

The ξ angle is given by

$$\tan \xi = \frac{\Delta^2}{m_{Z'}^2 - m_X^2}. \quad (22)$$

Since this mixing angle is supposed to be small, as $m_{Z'}^2 \gg m_Z^2$, we can use $\tan \xi \sim \sin \xi$ with

$$\sin \xi \simeq \frac{G_{X1} v_1^2 + G_{X2} v_2^2}{m_{Z'}^2}. \quad (23)$$

We can expand this equation further to find a more useful expression. Substituting the expressions for G_{Xi} and factoring out the m_Z mass, we finally get

$$\sin \xi \simeq \frac{m_Z^2}{m_{Z'}^2} \left(\frac{g_X}{g_Z} (Q_{X1} \cos^2 \beta + Q_{X2} \sin^2 \beta) + \epsilon \tan \theta_W \right). \quad (24)$$

A.2. Physical scalars

In this section we present the physical scalar eigenstates in terms of the interaction eigenstates. It serves also to clarify the meaning of the angles α and β which appear in the formulae in the next section. For the neutral scalars,

$$\begin{pmatrix} h \\ H \\ H_s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_{\alpha_2} & 0 & -s_{\alpha_2} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ s_{\alpha_2} & 0 & c_{\alpha_2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{\alpha_1} & -s_{\alpha_1} \\ 0 & s_{\alpha_1} & c_{\alpha_1} \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} c_\alpha & s_\alpha & 0 \\ -s_\alpha & c_\alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \rho_1 \\ \rho_2 \\ \rho_s \end{pmatrix}. \quad (25)$$

This equation defines the mixing angles α , α_1 and α_2 , which depend on the parameters of the scalar potential and on the VEVs of the scalars. Note that in the limit $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \rightarrow 0$, the angle α coincides with the mixing angle of the usual 2HDM.

As for the charged scalars we have,

$$\begin{pmatrix} G^+ \\ H^+ \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_\beta & s_\beta \\ -s_\beta & c_\beta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1^+ \\ \phi_2^+ \end{pmatrix} \quad (26)$$

where $\tan \beta = \frac{v_2}{v_1}$ and G^+ denotes the Goldstone boson absorbed by the SM W^+ boson.

For the pseudoscalars,

$$\begin{pmatrix} G_1 \\ G_2 \\ A \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{vc_\beta}{\sqrt{v_s^2+v^2c_\beta^2}} & \frac{vc_\beta}{\sqrt{v_s^2+v^2c_\beta^2}} & \frac{v_s}{\sqrt{v_s^2+v^2c_\beta^2}} \\ \frac{c_\beta}{\sqrt{v_s^2+v^2s_\beta^2c_\beta^2}} & \frac{s_\beta}{\sqrt{v_s^2+v^2s_\beta^2c_\beta^2}} & 0 \\ \frac{v_ss_\beta}{\sqrt{v_s^2+v^2s_\beta^2c_\beta^2}} & \frac{v_sc_\beta}{\sqrt{v_s^2+v^2s_\beta^2c_\beta^2}} & \frac{v_ss_\beta c_\beta}{\sqrt{v_s^2+v^2s_\beta^2c_\beta^2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \eta_1 \\ \eta_2 \\ \eta_s \end{pmatrix}. \quad (27)$$

Here, G_1 and G_2 are the Goldstone bosons related to Z and Z' gauge bosons.

A.3. Gauge Bosons – scalar couplings

In this appendix we show the relevant Z' couplings to the scalars and gauge bosons, for general scalar charges. The particular $U(1)_{B-L}$ case is obtained by making $Q_{X1} = q_X = 2$, $Q_{X2} = 0$.

Trilinear Z' -gauge boson couplings:

$Z' W^+ \partial_\mu W^-$:

$$ig \cos \theta_W \sin \xi [(\partial^\mu W^{-\nu} - \partial^\nu W^{-\mu}) W_\nu^+ - (\partial^\mu W^{+\nu} - \partial^\nu W^{+\mu}) W_\nu^-] Z'_\mu,$$

$W^+ W^- \partial_\mu Z'$:

$$ig \cos \theta_W \sin \xi (W_\mu^+ W_\nu^- - W_\nu^+ W_\mu^-) \partial^\mu Z^\nu.$$

Trilinear Z' -scalars couplings:

$H Z' Z'$:

$$-\frac{1}{4} g_X^2 q_X^2 v_s \cos \alpha_1 \sin \alpha_2 \cos^2 \xi + \frac{v}{4 \cos^2 \theta_W} [\Gamma_1^2 (\sin \alpha \sin \alpha_1 \sin \alpha_2 + \cos \alpha \cos \alpha_2) \cos \beta + \Gamma_2^2 (\sin \alpha \cos \alpha_2 - \cos \alpha \sin \alpha_1 \sin \alpha_2) \sin \beta],$$

$h Z' Z'$:

$$-\frac{1}{4} g_X^2 q_X^2 v_s \sin \alpha_1 \cos^2 \xi - \frac{v}{4 \cos^2 \theta_W} \cos \alpha_1 (\Gamma_1^2 \sin \alpha \cos \beta - \Gamma_2^2 \cos \alpha \sin \beta),$$

$h_s Z' Z'$:

$$\frac{1}{4} \left\{ g_X^2 q_X^2 v_s \cos \alpha_1 \cos \alpha_2 \cos^2 \xi + \frac{v}{\cos^2 \theta_W} [\Gamma_1^2 (\cos \alpha \sin \alpha_2 - \sin \alpha \sin \alpha_1 \cos \alpha_2) \cos \beta + \Gamma_2^2 (\cos \alpha \sin \alpha_1 \cos \alpha_2 + \sin \alpha \sin \alpha_2) \sin \beta] \right\},$$

$H Z Z'$:

$$\frac{1}{4} g_X^2 q_X^2 v_s \cos \alpha_1 \sin \alpha_2 \sin(2\xi) - \frac{1}{4} \frac{v}{\cos^2 \theta_W} [\Omega_1 (\cos \alpha \cos \alpha_2 + \sin \alpha \sin \alpha_1 \sin \alpha_2) \cos \beta + \Omega_2 (\sin \alpha \cos \alpha_2 - \cos \alpha \sin \alpha_1 \sin \alpha_2) \sin \beta],$$

$H Z' \partial_\mu A$:

$$-\frac{1}{2\sqrt{v^2 \sin^2 \beta \cos^2 \beta + v_s^2}} \{ g_X q_X v \cos \alpha_1 \sin \alpha_2 \sin \beta \cos \beta \cos \xi + v_s \sec \theta_W [\Gamma_1 (\cos \alpha \cos \alpha_2 + \sin \alpha \sin \alpha_1 \sin \alpha_2) \sin \beta + \Gamma_2 (\cos \alpha \sin \alpha_1 \sin \alpha_2 - \sin \alpha \cos \alpha_2) \cos \beta] \},$$

$H Z Z'$:

$$\frac{1}{4} \left[g_X^2 q_X^2 v_s \sin \alpha_1 \sin(2\xi) + \frac{v}{\cos^2 \theta_W} \cos \alpha_1 (\Omega_1 \sin \alpha \cos \beta - \Omega_2 \cos \alpha \sin \beta) \right],$$

$h Z' \partial_\mu A$:

$$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{v^2 \sin^2 \beta \cos^2 \beta + v_s^2}} \left[-g_X q_X v \sin \alpha_1 \sin \beta \cos \beta \cos \xi + \frac{v_s}{\cos \theta_W} (\Gamma_1 \sin \alpha \cos \alpha_1 \sin \beta + \Gamma_2 \cos \alpha \cos \alpha_1 \cos \beta) \right],$$

$h_s Z Z'$:

$$-\frac{1}{4} g_X^2 q_X^2 v_s \cos \alpha_1 \cos \alpha_2 \sin(2\xi) - \frac{1}{4} \frac{v}{\cos^2 \theta_W} [\Omega_1 (\cos \alpha \sin \alpha_2 - \sin \alpha \sin \alpha_1 \cos \alpha_2) \cos \beta + \Omega_2 (\cos \alpha \sin \alpha_1 \cos \alpha_2 + \sin \alpha \sin \alpha_2) \sin \beta],$$

$h_s Z' \partial_\mu A$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2\sqrt{v^2 \sin^2 \beta \cos^2 \beta + v_s^2}} \left\{ g_X q_X v \cos \alpha_1 \cos \alpha_2 \sin \beta \cos \beta \cos \xi \right. \\ & + \frac{v_s}{\cos \theta_W} [\Gamma_1 (\sin \alpha \sin \alpha_1 \cos \alpha_2 - \cos \alpha \sin \alpha_2) \sin \beta \\ & \left. + \Gamma_2 (\cos \alpha \sin \alpha_1 \cos \alpha_2 + \sin \alpha \sin \alpha_2) \cos \beta] \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

$Z' A \partial_\mu H$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2\sqrt{v^2 \sin^2 \beta \cos^2 \beta + v_s^2}} \{ g_X q_X v \cos \alpha_1 \sin \alpha_2 \sin \beta \cos \beta \cos \xi \\ & + v_s \sec \theta_W [\Gamma_1 (\sin \alpha \sin \alpha_1 \sin \alpha_2 + \cos \alpha \cos \alpha_2) \sin \beta \\ & + \Gamma_2 (\cos \alpha \sin \alpha_1 \sin \alpha_2 - \sin \alpha \cos \alpha_2) \cos \beta] \}, \end{aligned}$$

$Z' A \partial_\mu h$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2\sqrt{v^2 \sin^2 \beta \cos^2 \beta + v_s^2}} \left[g_X q_X v \sin \alpha_1 \sin \beta \cos \beta \cos \xi \right. \\ & - \frac{v_s}{\cos \theta_W} (\Gamma_1 \sin \alpha \cos \alpha_1 \sin \beta + \Gamma_2 \cos \alpha \cos \alpha_1 \cos \beta) \left. \right], \end{aligned}$$

$Z' A \partial_\mu h_s$:

$$\begin{aligned} & - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{v^2 \sin^2 \beta \cos^2 \beta + v_s^2}} \left\{ g_X q_X v \cos \alpha_1 \cos \alpha_2 \sin \beta \cos \beta \cos \xi \right. \\ & + \frac{v_s}{\cos \theta_W} [\Gamma_1 (\sin \alpha \sin \alpha_1 \cos \alpha_2 - \cos \alpha \sin \alpha_2) \sin \beta \\ & \left. + \Gamma_2 (\sin \alpha \sin \alpha_2 + \cos \alpha \sin \alpha_1 \cos \alpha_2) \cos \beta] \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

$Z' H^+ W^-$:

$$\frac{1}{4} g g_X v (Q_{X2} - Q_{X1}) \sin(2\beta) \cos \xi,$$

$Z' H^+ \partial_\mu H^-$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{i}{2 \cos \theta_W} \{ g \cos(2\theta_W) \sin \xi \\ & + [g_X \cos \theta_W (Q_{X1} \sin^2 \beta + Q_{X2} \cos^2 \beta) \\ & + g \epsilon \tan \theta_W] \cos \xi \}, \end{aligned}$$

$Z' H^- W^+$:

$$\frac{1}{4} g g_X v (Q_{X2} - Q_{X1}) \sin(2\beta) \cos \xi,$$

$Z' H^- \partial_\mu H^+$:

$$\begin{aligned} & - \frac{i}{2 \cos \theta_W} \{ g \cos(2\theta_W) \sin \xi \\ & + [g_X \cos \theta_W (Q_{X1} \sin^2 \beta + Q_{X2} \cos^2 \beta) \\ & + g \epsilon \tan \theta_W] \cos \xi \}, \end{aligned}$$

where,

$$\Gamma_i = \cos \xi (g_X Q_{Xi} \cos \theta_W + g \epsilon \tan \theta_W) - g \sin \xi,$$

and,

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_i = & (2g^2 \epsilon \tan \theta_W + 2gg_X Q_{Xi} \cos \theta_W) \cos(2\xi) \\ & + (2gg_X Q_{Xi} \epsilon \sin \theta_W - g^2 + g_X^2 Q_{Xi}^2 \cos^2 \theta_W \\ & + g^2 \epsilon^2 \tan^2 \theta_W) \sin(2\xi). \end{aligned}$$

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