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Portal Dark Matter

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Galactic Center gamma ray excess from two Higgs doublet portal dark matter

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We consider a simple extension of the type-II two-Higgs-doublet model by introducing a real scalar as a candidate for dark matter in the present Universe. The main annihilation mode of the dark matter particle with a mass of around 31–40 GeV is into a $b\bar{b}$ pair, and this annihilation mode suitably explains the observed excess of the gamma-ray flux from the Galactic Center. We identify the parameter region of the model that can fit the gamma-ray excess and satisfy phenomenological constraints, such as the observed dark matter relic density and the null results of direct dark matter search experiments. Most of the parameter region is found to be within the search reach of future direct dark matter detection experiments.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The weakly interacting massive particle (WIMP) is a primary candidate for dark matter (DM) in the present Universe, and one of the major topics in particle physics and cosmology is to reveal the nature of WIMP dark matter. There are many current experiments aimed at the direct or indirect detection of DM.

Over the past several years, many analyses have shown an excess of gamma rays from the Galactic Center, and interpretations involving the annihilation of DM particles [1–5] have been considered to explain this excess. Similarly, an excess of gamma-rays from the so-called Fermi bubble region [6] found in the Fermi-LAT data has been interpreted as a result of indirect dark matter particle detection [7,8].

Previous studies of this gamma-ray excess have shown that the excess can be fit by a DM particle with a mass of around 10 GeV annihilating into a pair of tau leptons, or by a dark matter particle with a mass of 30–60 GeV annihilating into a $b\bar{b}$ pair [2,4,5,7,8]. In addition, gamma-ray data from subhalos also show a similar spectrum shape, indicating that these observations may originate from such dark matter particles as well [9]. Interestingly, the DM annihilation cross section that fits the data is found to be of the same order as a typical thermal annihilation cross section, $\sigma v \simeq 3 \times 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$, for WIMP dark matter. Particle physics models have been proposed that could naturally realize such DM particles; see, for example, Refs. [10–14] for light DM models in which a pair of DM particles annihilates into tau leptons.

However, a more recent analysis [15] has claimed that a dark matter particle with a mass of 31–40 GeV provides an excellent fit for the gamma-ray excess, where the main annihilation mode is into $b\bar{b}$ and the cross section is $\sigma v = (1.4\text{--}2.0) \times 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$. Fits using the annihilation mode into tau lepton pairs are no longer favored [15], and the cross section of the tau lepton annihilation mode is severely constrained by cosmic-ray positron data [16] (see, however, Ref. [17]). Although a certain astrophysical source might be able to explain the excess [18,19], the interpretation involving annihilating DM particles is a very interesting possibility and various particle models employing this mechanism have been recently proposed. In the context of supersymmetric models, neutralino DM in the next-to-minimal supersymmetric Standard Model (NMSSM) [20–22], the sneutrino [23] in the seesaw-extended NMSSM [24], and the sneutrino in the supersymmetric inverse seesaw model [25] all play the role of DM. For nonsupersymmetric DM models, see, for example, Refs. [26–37].

In this paper, we propose a model in the class of so-called Higgs-portal DM models to explain the gamma-ray excess, where a real scalar singlet ϕ under the SM gauge groups is introduced as a dark matter candidate, along with a Z_2 parity that ensures the stability of the scalar. In the simplest model, the real scalar is a unique field that is added to the SM particle content (for an incomplete list, see, e.g., Refs. [38–42]). However, this minimal model is not suitable for explaining the gamma-ray excess, as the desired DM mass range of 31–40 GeV is excluded by the null results of direct DM search experiments (see, for example, Refs. [42,43]). Thus, we extend the Higgs sector to the two-Higgs-doublet model [44–47]. In fact, in our previous work [12] we considered a Higgs-portal DM in the

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context of the type-X two-Higgs-doublet model, where a pair of DM particles mainly annihilates into tau leptons.¹ Motivated by the recent analysis in Ref. [15], in this paper we propose a Higgs-portal DM with a mass of 31–40 GeV in the context of the type-II two-Higgs-doublet model. In this case, a pair of scalar DM particles mainly annihilates to a $b\bar{b}$ pair through the s -channel exchange of Higgs bosons with type-II Yukawa couplings. We will identify a model parameter region that not only explains the gamma-ray excess, but that is also consistent with phenomenological constraints, such as the observed DM relic abundance and the null results of the current direct DM search experiments. In addition, we will see that most of the identified parameter region can be covered by the search reach of future direct DM detection experiments.

II. TWO-HIGGS-DOUBLET-PORTAL SCALAR DARK MATTER

We introduce a real SM gauge singlet scalar ϕ as the dark matter candidate, along with the Z_2 parity by which the stability of the DM particle is guaranteed. The Higgs sector is extended to the so-called type-II two-Higgs-doublet model, where one Higgs doublet generates the mass of the SM up-type fermions while the other generates the mass of the SM down-type fermions, just as in the MSSM. In the type-II model, the Yukawa interaction is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_Y = -y_{\ell_i} \bar{L}^i \Phi_1 \ell_R^i - y_{u_i} \bar{Q}^i \tilde{\Phi}_2 u_R^i - y_{d_i} \bar{Q}^i \Phi_1 d_R^i + \text{H.c.}, \quad (1)$$

where Q^i (L^i) is the ordinary left-handed SU(2) doublet quark (lepton) of the i th generation, and u_R^i , d_R^i , and e_R^i are the right-handed SU(2) singlet up- and down-type quarks and charged leptons, respectively. Here, we have neglected the flavor mixing for simplicity.

The scalar potential for the two Higgs doublets (Φ_1 and Φ_2) and the scalar DM is given by

$$\begin{aligned} V = & -\mu_1^2 |\Phi_1|^2 - \mu_2^2 |\Phi_2|^2 - (\mu_{12}^2 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 + \text{H.c.}) \\ & + \lambda_1 |\Phi_1|^4 + \lambda_2 |\Phi_2|^4 + \lambda_3 |\Phi_1|^2 |\Phi_2|^2 + \lambda_4 |\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2|^2 \\ & + \left\{ \frac{\lambda_5}{2} (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2)^2 + \text{H.c.} \right\} + \frac{1}{2} \mu_\phi^2 \phi^2 + \lambda_\eta \phi^4 \\ & + (\sigma_1 |\Phi_1|^2 + \sigma_2 |\Phi_2|^2) \frac{\phi^2}{2}. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

The electrically neutral components of the two-Higgs doublets develop vacuum expectation values, which we parametrize as

$$\Phi_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{v_1 + h_1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Phi_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{v_2 + h_2}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (3)$$

¹This part of the Higgs sector is motivated by a radiative generation of neutrino masses [48].

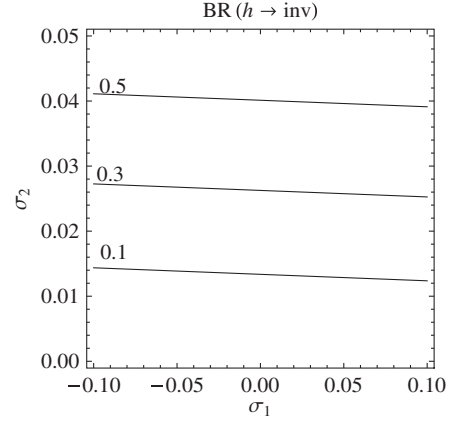


FIG. 1. Contours of the invisible decay branching ratio of the SM-like Higgs boson, $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow \phi\phi) = 0.1, 0.3, \text{ and } 0.5$. We have taken the DM mass $m_\phi = 40$ GeV and $\tan \beta = 10$.

where the vacuum expectation values are given by $v_1 = v \cos \beta$ and $v_2 = v \sin \beta$, with $v = 246$ GeV. The physical states h_1 and h_2 are diagonalized to the mass eigenstates (h and H) as

$$\begin{pmatrix} h_1 \\ h_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \alpha & -\sin \alpha \\ \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} H \\ h \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4)$$

In this paper, we consider the case that the mixing angle α satisfies the condition $\sin(\beta - \alpha) = 1$, which is the so-called SM limit, so that the mass eigenstate h is the SM-like Higgs boson.²

In terms of the mass eigenstates, the (three-point) interactions of the scalar dark matter ϕ with the Higgs bosons (h or H) are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_\sigma \supset & -\frac{\sigma_1 \cos \alpha \cos \beta + \sigma_2 \sin \alpha \sin \beta}{2} v H \phi^2 \\ & -\frac{-\sigma_1 \sin \alpha \cos \beta + \sigma_2 \cos \alpha \sin \beta}{2} v h \phi^2. \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

The Yukawa interactions with quarks and leptons in Eq. (1) can then be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_Y^{\text{Quarks}} \supset & \frac{m_{u^i} \sin \alpha}{v \sin \beta} H \bar{u}^i u^i + \frac{m_{u^i} \cos \alpha}{v \sin \beta} h \bar{u}^i u^i \\ & + \frac{m_{d^i} \cos \alpha}{v \cos \beta} H \bar{d}^i d^i - \frac{m_{d^i} \sin \alpha}{v \cos \beta} h \bar{d}^i d^i, \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_Y^{\text{Leptons}} \supset \frac{m_{\ell^i} \cos \alpha}{v \cos \beta} H \bar{\ell}^i \ell^i - \frac{m_{\ell^i} \sin \alpha}{v \cos \beta} h \bar{\ell}^i \ell^i. \quad (7)$$

²In the following, we consider the extra Higgs boson mass to be 60–80 GeV. The result of the Higgs boson search at LEP [49] has severely constrained the coupling of such a light extra Higgs boson to the Z boson, which leads to $\cos^2(\beta - \alpha) \lesssim 0.01$. Thus, we take the SM limit for simplicity.

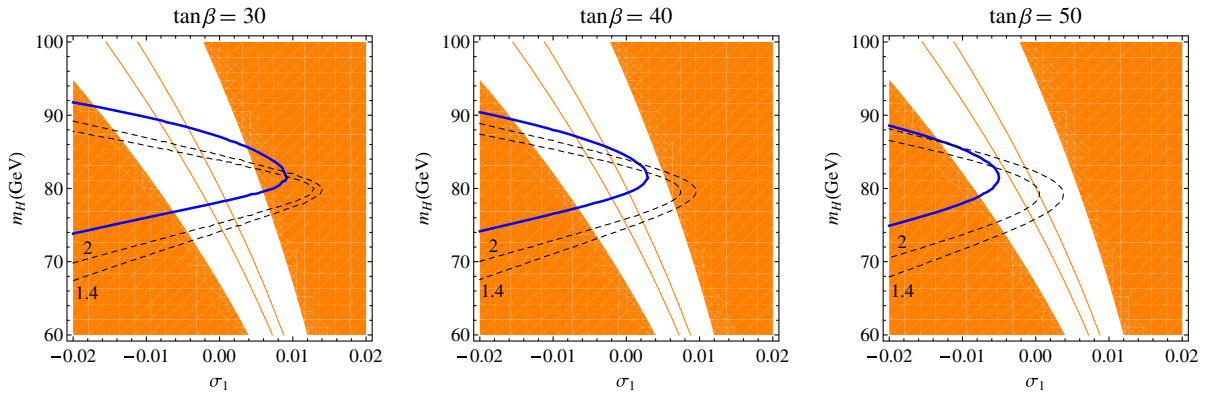


FIG. 2 (color online). Contours of $\Omega h^2 = 0.1$ (thick blue line) and $(\sigma v)_0$ in units of $10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$ (dashed lines) for $m_{\text{DM}} = 40 \text{ GeV}$ and $\sigma_2 = 0.02$. $\tan \beta$ is taken to be 30, 40, and 50 from left to right. The shaded regions are excluded by the LUX (2014) experiment [54], and the expected future sensitivity ($3 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$) of the XENON1T experiment [55] is depicted by the thin lines.

Since we have set $\sin(\beta - \alpha) = 1$, the coupling between the non-SM-like Higgs (H) and down-type quarks (charged leptons) are enhanced for $\tan \beta > 1$, and those between H and up-type quarks are suppressed by $1/\tan \beta$,³ while the Yukawa couplings between the SM-like Higgs boson h and the SM fermions remain the same as those in the SM. For simplicity, we fix the other model parameters so as to make the charged and CP -odd Higgs bosons heavy enough to be consistent with their current experimental mass bound and to decouple them from our analysis of the dark matter physics.

We first calculate the invisible decay width of the SM-like Higgs boson into a pair of scalar DM particles through the interactions in Eq. (5).⁴ Figure 1 shows the branching ratio of this invisible decay $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow \phi\phi)$ for the DM mass $m_\phi = 30 \text{ GeV}$ and $\tan \beta = 10$. We have found that the upper bound from the LHC data, $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow \phi\phi) \lesssim 0.35$ [50], is satisfied for $\sigma_2 \lesssim 0.03$, almost independently of σ_1 .

Next, we estimate the thermal relic abundance of the real scalar DM by solving the Boltzmann equation,

$$\frac{dn}{dt} + 3Hn = -\langle \sigma v \rangle (n^2 - n_{\text{EQ}}^2), \quad (8)$$

where H and n_{EQ} are the Hubble parameter and the DM number density at thermal equilibrium, respectively [51]. The resultant thermal relic abundance is approximated as

$$\Omega_{\text{DM}} h^2 = \frac{1.1 \times 10^9 (m_\phi/T_d) \text{ GeV}^{-1}}{\sqrt{g_*} M_P \langle \sigma v \rangle}, \quad (9)$$

where $M_P = 1.22 \times 10^{19} \text{ GeV}$ is the Planck mass, $\langle \sigma v \rangle$ is the thermal averaged product of the annihilation cross

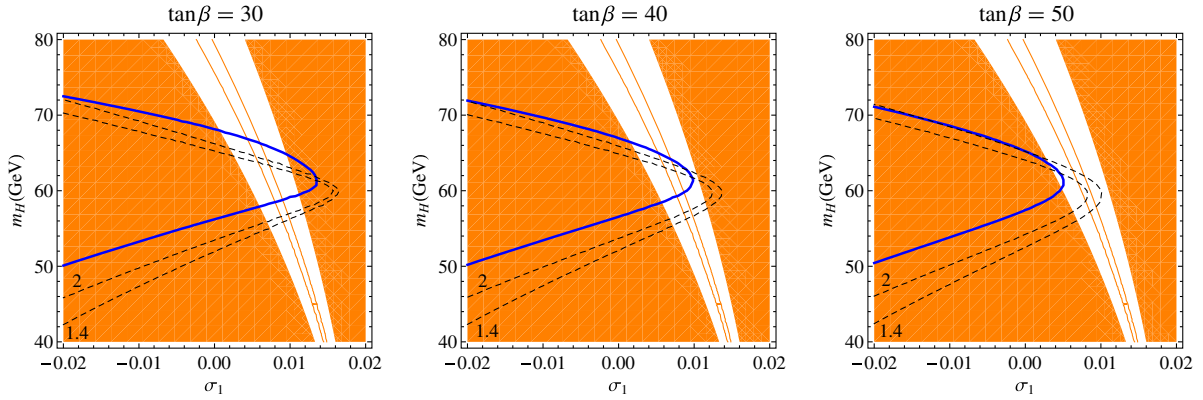
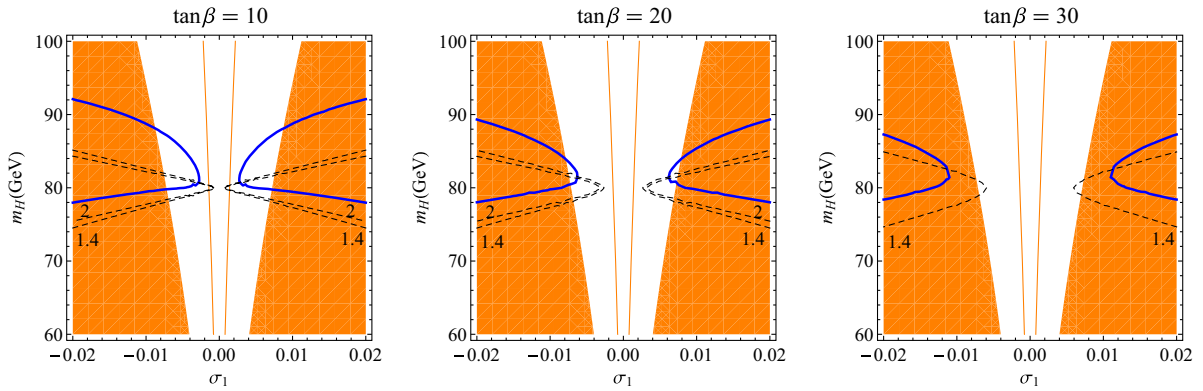
³This leads to a suppression of the non-SM-like Higgs boson production through gluon fusion at the LHC. Even if non-SM-like Higgs bosons are produced, each H mainly decays to a $b\bar{b}$ pair, and this decay mode is difficult to observe at the LHC.

⁴As we will see in the following, the non-SM-like Higgs boson H is light, and the SM-like Higgs boson can decay to a pair of H bosons. To simplify our analysis, we fix the free parameters in the scalar potential to suppress this decay rate.

section and the relative velocity, g_* is the total number of relativistic degrees of freedom in the thermal bath, and T_d is the decoupling temperature.

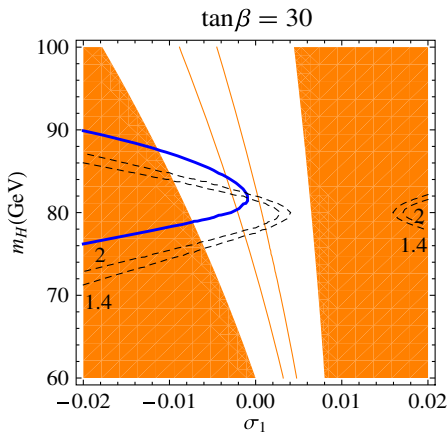
The present annihilation cross section $(\sigma v)_0$ of the DM particle—which is relevant for the indirect detection of dark matter—is given by its s -wave component of the annihilation cross section, e.g., by the limit of $v \rightarrow 0$. Note that in general the thermal averaged cross section $\langle \sigma v \rangle$ determined by the condition of $\Omega h^2 \simeq 0.1$ [52,53] is not the same as the present annihilation cross section $(\sigma v)_0$. This difference becomes significant for two cases: one is when the DM annihilation cross section has a sizable p -wave contribution, and the other is when the dark matter mass is close to a resonance pole of the mediators in the annihilation process. In fact, the latter is the case considered here.

A pair of scalar dark matter particles with mass $m_\phi = 31\text{--}40 \text{ GeV}$ dominantly annihilates into $b\bar{b}$ through the s -channel exchange of the Higgs bosons (h and H). The cross section is enhanced by H -boson exchange when $m_H \sim 2m_\phi$. We evaluate the cross section as a function of the coupling σ_1 and the non-SM-like Higgs boson mass m_H with fixed values for σ_2 . Figures 2 and 3 show the results for $m_\phi = 40$ and 30 GeV for $\tan \beta = 50, 40,$ and 30 with $\sigma_2 = 0.02$, which corresponds to a relatively large invisible decay rate of h , $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow \phi\phi) \sim 0.2$. Along the thick blue line, the observed DM relic density $\Omega h^2 = 0.1$ is reproduced, while the two dashed lines correspond to the parameters that yield the present DM annihilation cross sections, $(\sigma v)_0 = 1.4$ and 2.0 , respectively, in units of $10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$. The parameters in the overlapping region of the thick solid line and the region between the two dashed lines will both fit the gamma-ray excess and reproduce the observed relic abundance. We also calculate the cross section of DM elastic scattering off nuclei, which is constrained by the null results of the current direct DM detection experiments. The shaded regions are excluded by the LUX (2014) experiment [54], and the expected sensitivity in future direct DM search experiments (such as the

FIG. 3 (color online). Same as Fig. 2 but for $m_{\text{DM}} = 30$ GeV.FIG. 4 (color online). Same as Fig. 2 but for $\sigma_2 = 0$. $\tan \beta$ is taken to be 10, 20, and 30 from left to right.

XENON1T experiment [55]) is depicted by two thin lines. We find that there is no solution for $\tan \beta \lesssim 30$.

Figure 4 shows the results for $\sigma_2 = 0$, which corresponds to a negligible invisible decay rate of h . We see that the results for a large $\tan \beta \gtrsim 30$ is already excluded by the LUX experiment. The currently allowed parameter region will be covered by future direct DM detection experiments.

FIG. 5 (color online). Same as Fig. 2 but for $\tan \beta = 30$ and $\sigma_2 = 0.01$.

From the above results, we find a correlation between σ_2 (in other words, the invisible decay rate of the SM-like Higgs boson h) and $\tan \beta$ in order to find viable parameter regions; namely, a larger value of σ_2 requires a larger $\tan \beta$ value. In fact, with $\sigma_2 = 0.02$, the large present DM annihilation cross section is obtained for $40 \lesssim \tan \beta \lesssim 50$, as seen in Figs. 2 and 3. On the other hand, for $\sigma_2 = 0.00$, a smaller $\tan \beta \lesssim 20$ is needed to avoid the direct DM search bound, as shown in Fig. 4. We see in Fig. 5 that the $\tan \beta = 30$ case becomes available for a middle size of σ_2 , say, $\sigma \sim 0.01$.

III. SUMMARY

Motivated by the gamma-ray excess from the Galactic Center and its interpretation as annihilating dark matter particles, we proposed a Higgs-portal DM scenario in the context of the type-II two-Higgs-doublet model. This model can account for the gamma-ray excess through its main annihilation mode into a pair of $b\bar{b}$ quarks via the s -channel exchange of the non-SM-like Higgs boson with a type-II Yukawa coupling. We have identified the model parameter region that can explain the gamma-ray excess and satisfies the phenomenological constraints on the relic dark matter abundance and elastic scattering cross section of the DM

particle off nuclei, as well as the invisible decay rate of the SM-like Higgs boson into a pair of DM particles. Most of the identified parameter region can be tested by future direct dark matter detection experiments. In addition, the search for the invisible decay process of the SM-like Higgs boson and the non-SM-like Higgs boson at future collider experiments is complementary to direct DM searches.

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