
Dark Side and its perspectives



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The Collaboration



Augustana College, SD
Black Hills State University, SD
Drexel University, PA
Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, IL
Princeton University, NJ
Temple University, PA
University of Arkansas, AR
University of California, Los Angeles CA
University of Houston, TX
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
Virginia Tech, VA



Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna
Skobeltsyn Institute for Nuclear Physics, Moscow
National Research Centre Kurchatov Institute, Moscow
St. Petersburg Nuclear Physics Institute, Gatchina



Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso, Assergi
Universita' degli Studi and INFN, Genova
Universita' degli Studi and INFN, Milano
Universita' degli Studi and INFN, Perugia
Universita' degli Studi and INFN, Napoli



Smoluchowski Institute of Physics, Krakow



Institute of High Energy Physics, Beijing



Institute of Nuclear Research, Kiev



University College London, London

Guidelines

Double phase **Argon** time projection chamber

- Liquid argon is a great dark matter target
- Good scintillation (~40,000 photons/MeV)
- Transparent to its own scintillation light
- Easy to purify

Background **identification**

- Argon pulse shape discrimination
- S1/S2 discrimination
- Neutron with borate scintillator

Active shields

- Water Cherenkov against muons
- Borate scintillator against mu and n
- Multiple scattering with the TPC

Three stage approach program

- DS-10 kg: full prototype
- DS-50 kg: physics goal 10^{-45} cm²
- DS-G2: physics goal 10^{-47} cm²

Ultra-low background materials

- Depleted liquid argon
- Low background photo-detectors
- (...)

The ^{39}Ar Problem

Depleted in ^{39}Ar

Depletion factor: $< 0.65\%$ (90%CL)

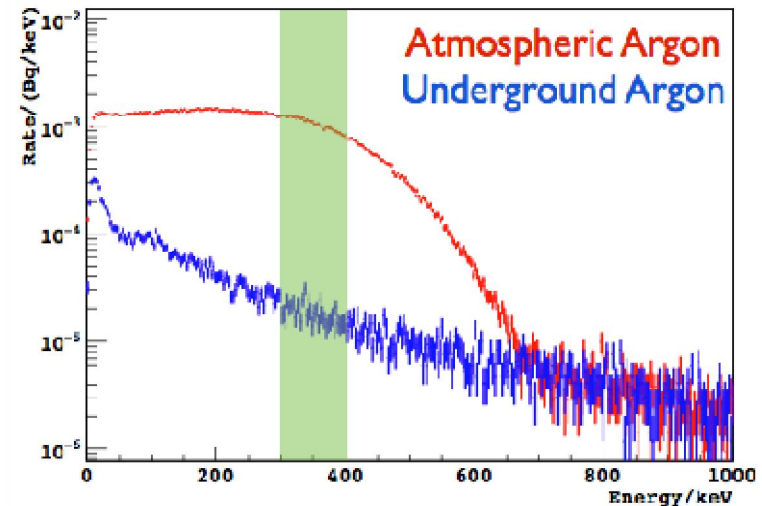


Cryogenic Distillation
0.9 kg/day production
70 - 81% efficiency
~ 19 kg produced so far
arXiv:1204.6061



VPSA system (Cortez)
0.5 kg/day production - 125 kg
produced so far (150 kg needed)
arXiv:1204.6024

Relatively inexpensive
technology, could be
scaled to multi-ton
detectors



DarkSide and DEAP will
collaborate to expand the argon
extraction facility in Cortez

- ✓ 5000 kg for DarkSide
- ✓ 4000 kg for DEAP
- ✓ Aim for **50 kg/day** argon
collection rate

Upgrade begin in 2013

The Detector

Dark Side 50

External water tank

5.5 m radius – 10 m high
80 PMTs 8-inches

Neutron veto

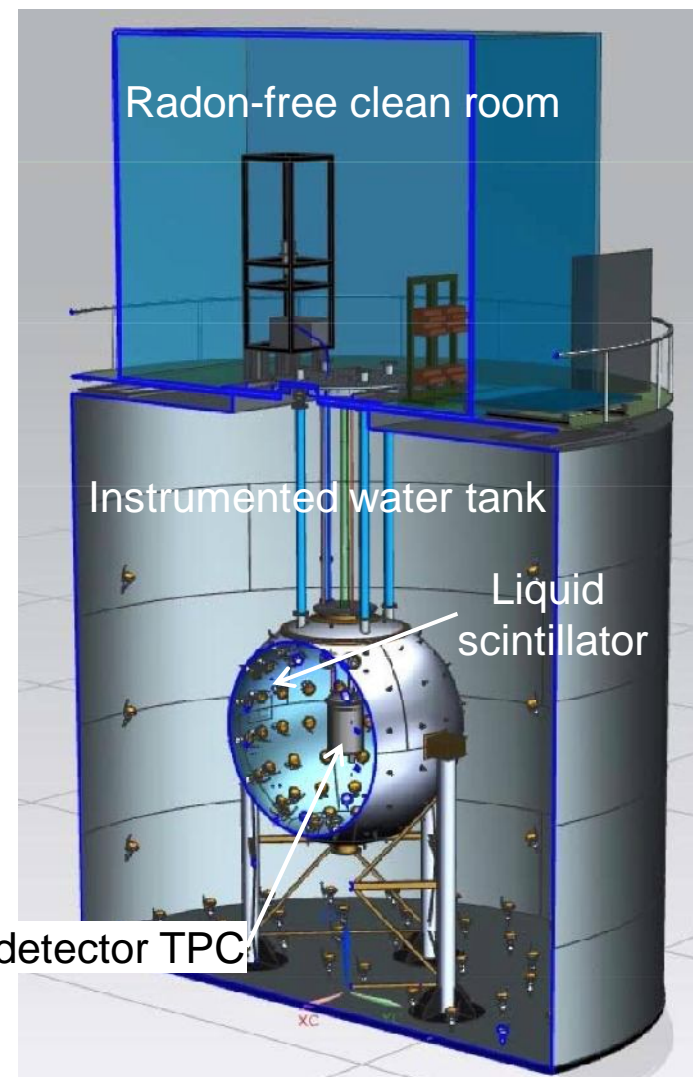
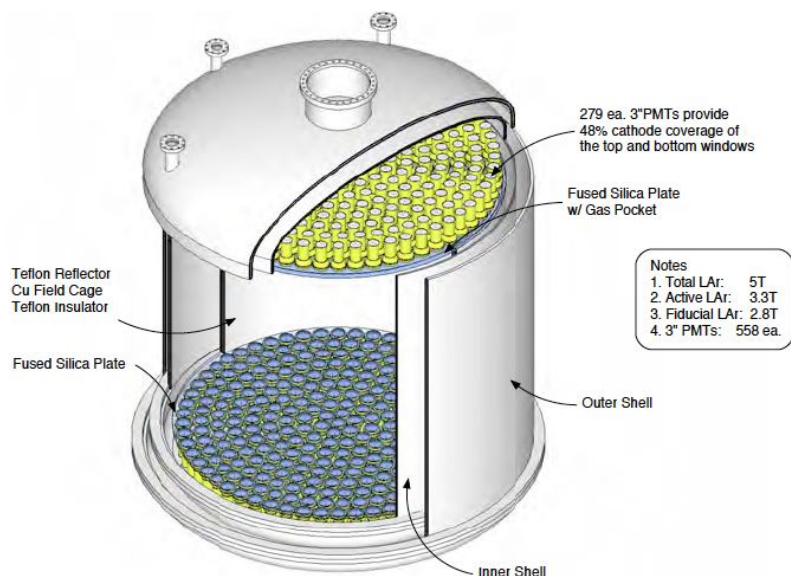
2 m radius
110 PMTs 8-inches
Borate scintillator (PC+TMB)

TPC-50kg

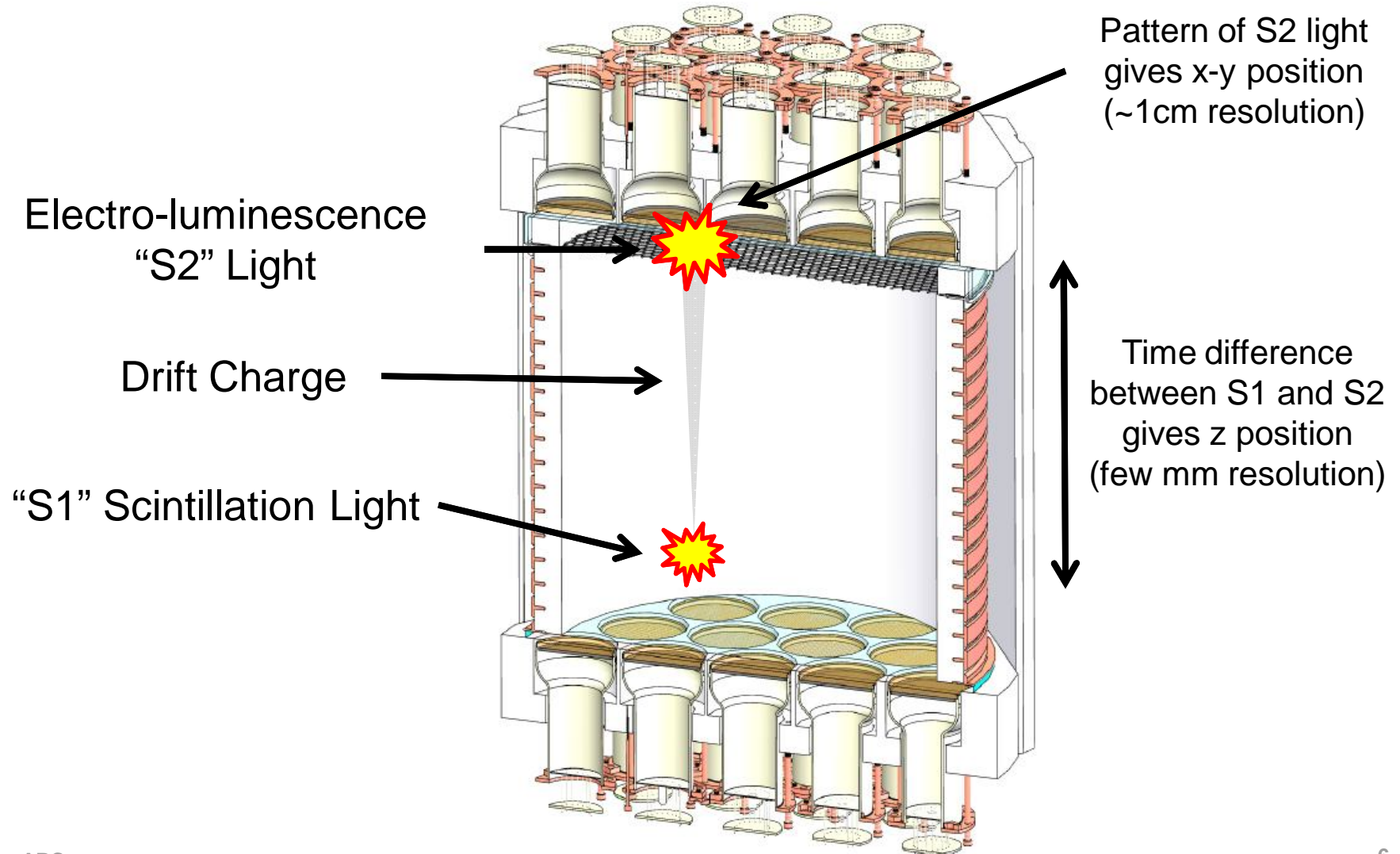
38x3 inches PMTs
Wavelength shifter
Extraction field: ~3 kV/cm
Drift field: ~1 kV/cm

TPC-3 tons

~ 550 3" PMTs
Design under investigation



Two Phase Argon TPC



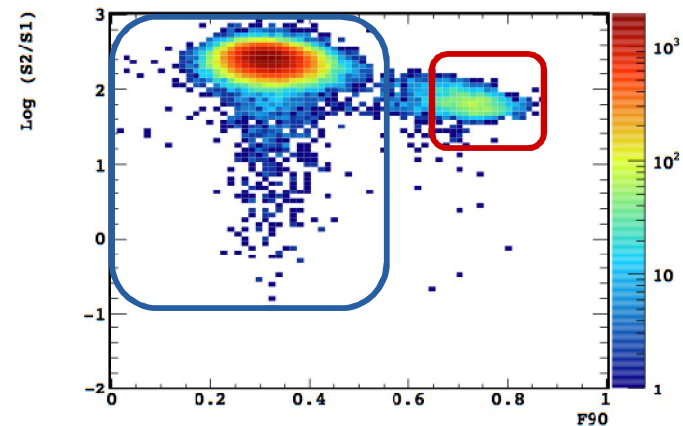
Discrimination Power

Very powerful **rejection capability** for electron recoil background

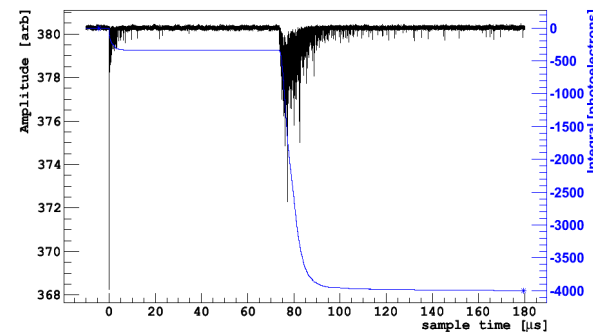
The recombination probability (and hence the ratio of **S2/S1** light) also depends on ionization density **10^2 - 10^3** additional discrimination

The ratio of light from singlet (~7 ns decay time) and triplet (1.6 μ s decay time) depends on ionization density **$>10^8$** discrimination factor
Xenon singlet and triplet decay times are comparable

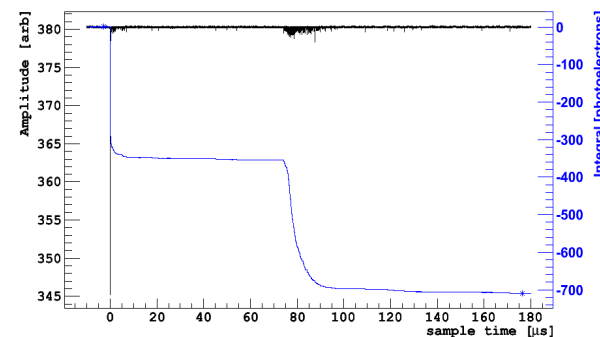
$>10^{10}$ total electron recoil rejection



**AmBe
neutron
calibration**



**Electro
magnetic
events**



**Nuclear
recoils**

The Vetos

Neutrons from natural radioactivity

Radiogenic neutrons

- from (α,n) and spontaneous fission (e.g. U and Th)
- energy \sim a few MeV (<10 MeV)

Source in DarkSide:

- PMTs (low background PMTs \sim few n/year/PMT)
- Steel in cryostat and support structures

Cosmogenic neutrons

Flux at LNGS: $2.4 \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$

- Expected rate $\sim 3 \times 10^{-33}$ /s/atom
- WIMPS rate $\sim 10^{-34}$ /s/atom (@ 50 GeV $s \sim 10^{-45}$)

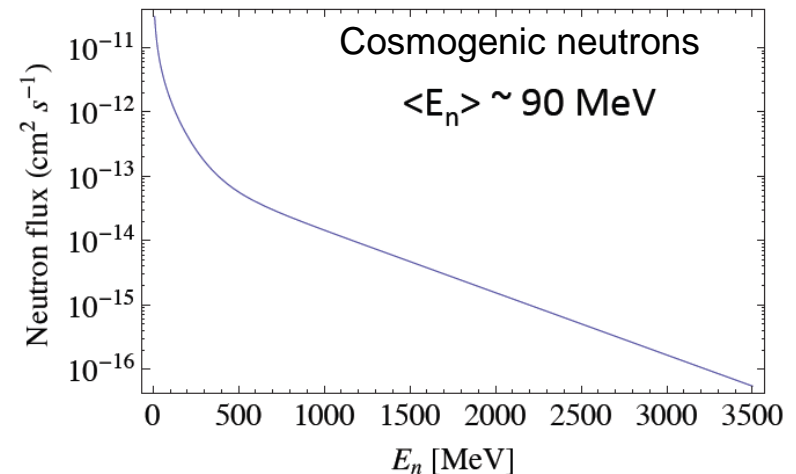
Passive shielding

neutrons from surrounding rocks

- 3 m of water rej. factor $\sim 10^3$
- 1.5 m of liquid scintillator: rej. factor ~ 20

Boron-loaded radio-pure liquid scintillator

- $^{10}\text{B}+n \rightarrow ^7\text{Li}+\alpha(1.474\text{MeV})+\gamma(0.478\text{MeV})$ (93.7%)
- $\sigma=3837\text{b}$ and capture time $\sim 3\mu\text{s}$
- 1m thick veto: **rejection factor $\sim 10^3$** against external neutrons



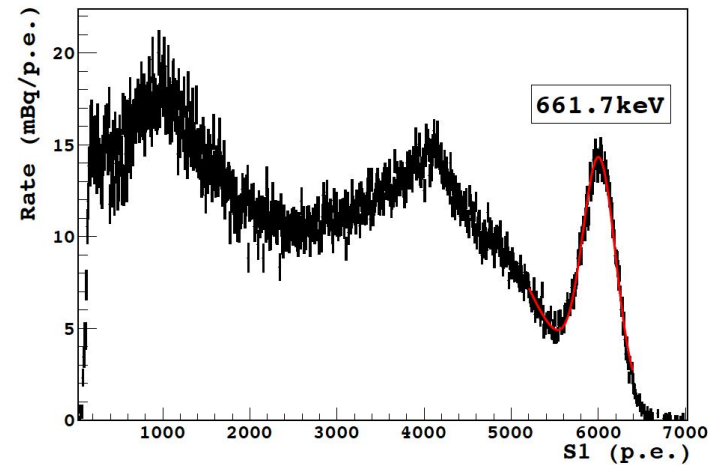
Water Tank muon veto + neutron veto reduces total cosmogenic background by **$\gg 10^3$**

Neutrons are identified in the borate scintillator: **measurement of the residual rate**

The Stages

Dark Side 10 kg

installed in Hall C of LNGS
10 kg active mass of atmospheric argon
Operating at LNGS since summer 2011
Measured light yield **9 p.e./keV**.
Proved **discrimination** power and **HHV feedthrough stability** demonstrated
over 8 months of data taking at full value of the fields



Dark Side 50 kg

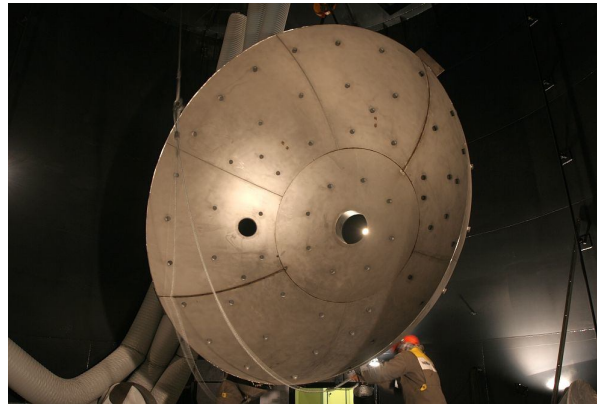
funded by INFN DOE NSF
in phase of installation (Hall C)
Ready in spring 2013
Test active veto performance and low background procedure
Sensitivity 10^{-45} cm² at 100 GeV

Dark Side G2 (3 tons)

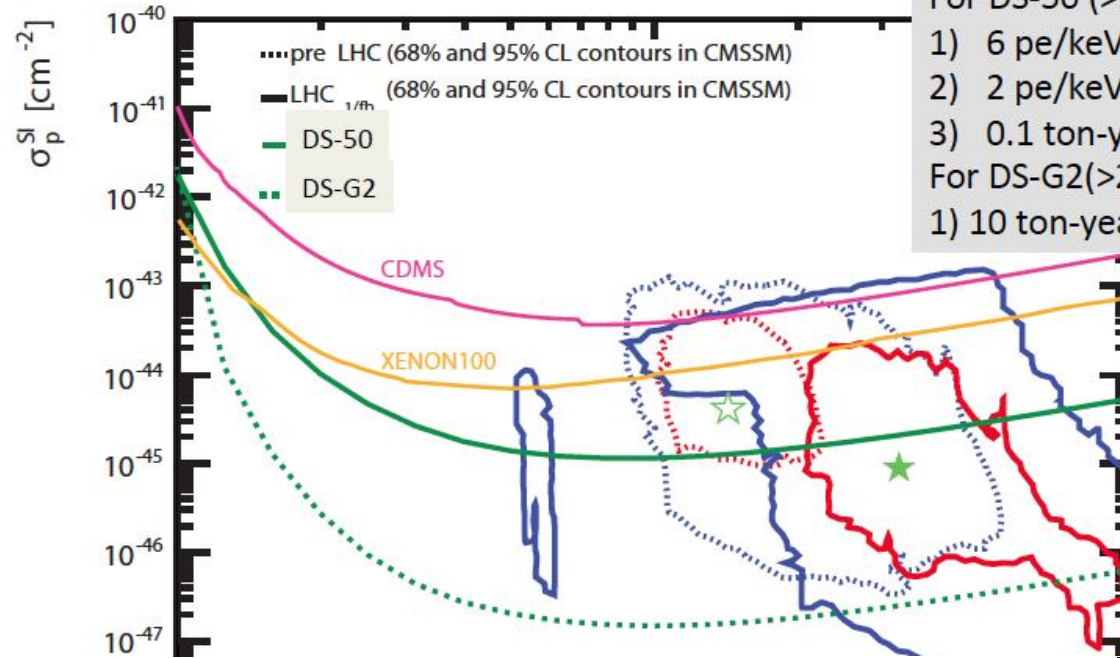
R&D funded NSF
Sensitivity 10^{-47} cm² at 100 GeV
2015 construction
2016 data taking

The Status

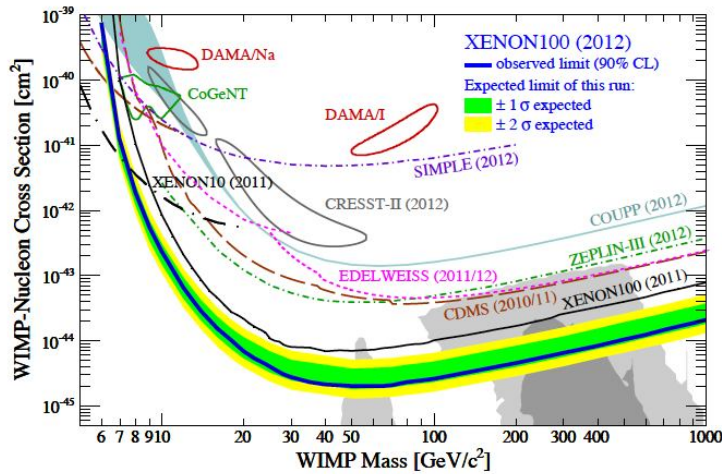
- CTF tank: emptied and adapted
- Liquid scintillator sphere: installed and cleaned (class 50)
- Rn-suppressed clean rooms (~ 10 mBq/m³): top in phase of installation, bottom installed (Rn-scrubbed supply demonstrated < 1 mBq/m³)



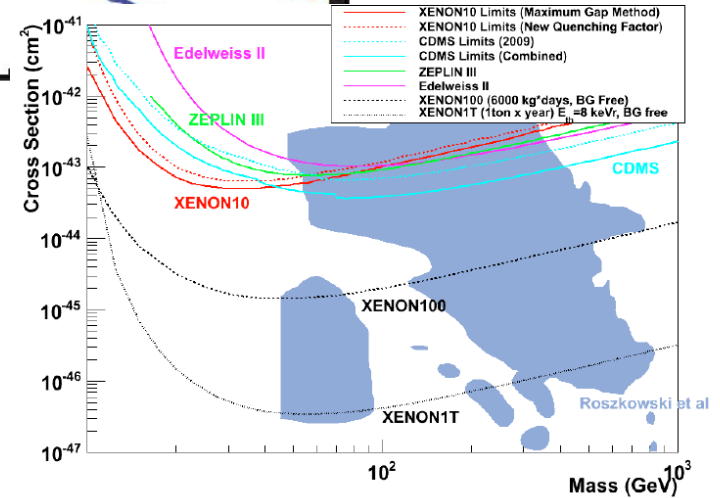
The Sensitivity



For DS-50 (>20keVnr):
 1) 6 pe/keVee
 2) 2 pe/keVnr
 3) 0.1 ton-year
 For DS-G2(>25keVnr):
 1) 10 ton-year



10²



Why Dark Side

Xenon100 (and Xenon 1ton in the near future) is unambiguously the present leading experiment in direct dark matter search

Bolometers (and hence Edelweiss) are a wonderful technology, but difficult to scale to the ton mass

What are our reasons for Dark Side?

- (1) Cross check with different nuclear targets – **complementary** to Xenon
- (2) **Competitive** sensitivity
- (3) **Scalable** (and relatively less expensive) technology to the ton mass
- (4) **Discrimination** (stronger than in Xenon)
- (5) Particle **identification** (TPC and borate scintillator)
- (6) Efficient double **shielding**
- (7) Very robust **expertise's** on liquid scintillator (Borexino community) and liquid Argon (WARP community + GERDA engineers)
- (8) Large interest in the community on liquid Argon **technology**

APC and IPHC expressed interest for Dark Side

Moreover: LAr Technology

General interest to **acquire expertise** in LAr technology for future activities in Neutrino Physics and Direct Dark Matter Search

Fitting time schedule:

R&D → Dark Side → LAGUNA-LBNO

Synergies with the LAGUNA-LBNO framework at APC and with R&D at IPNL

Good opportunity to strength the LAr community in **France**

Photodetection In Dark Side

Dark Side G2 investigated options

Low background PMTs

- + known technology
- - cost

QUPIDS

- + low background – QE ~ 30%
- - not on the market
- - problem with HV

Our Dark Side G2 option: **SiPMs**

Advantages

Available on the market

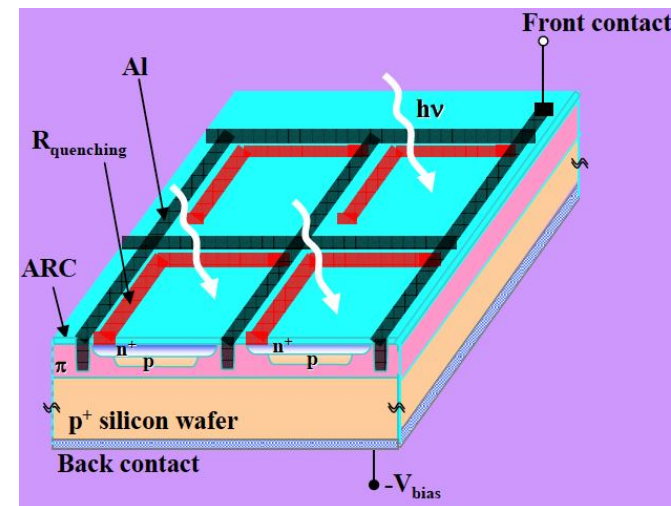
Highest possible QE

Large size matrix

Low voltage

Low background

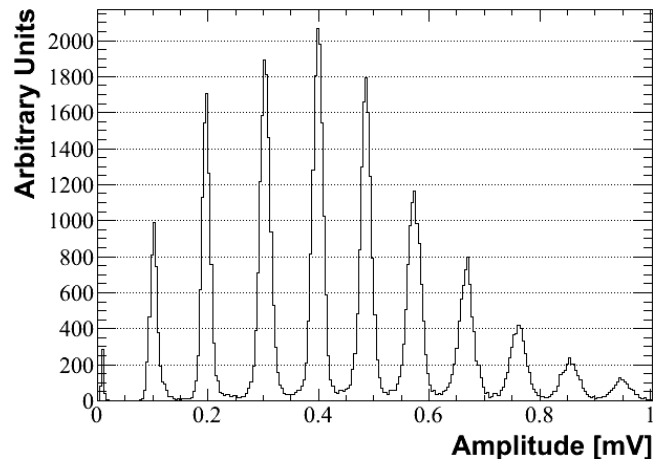
High gain



Silicon Photomultiplier

Geiger Mode Avalanche Photo-diode

- ✓ solid state technology: robust, compact
- ✓ high detection efficiency: $e = QE \times e_{\text{geo}} \times e_{\text{avalanche}}$
- ✓ high internal gain of $10^5 \div 10^6$
- ✓ high sensitivity for single photons
- ✓ excellent timing even for single photo electrons
- ✓ good temperature stability
- ✓ devices operate in general $< 100V$



Hamamatsu

Questions

Mass production?

Larger pixel size or higher density?

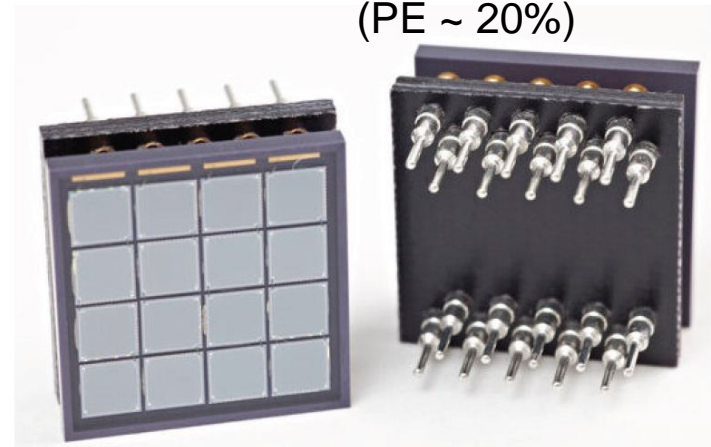
Multi channel readout?

Working in cryogenic?

Radiopurity tested?

Reduced gain summing channels?

SENSLArray – 5x5 cm²
(PE ~ 20%)

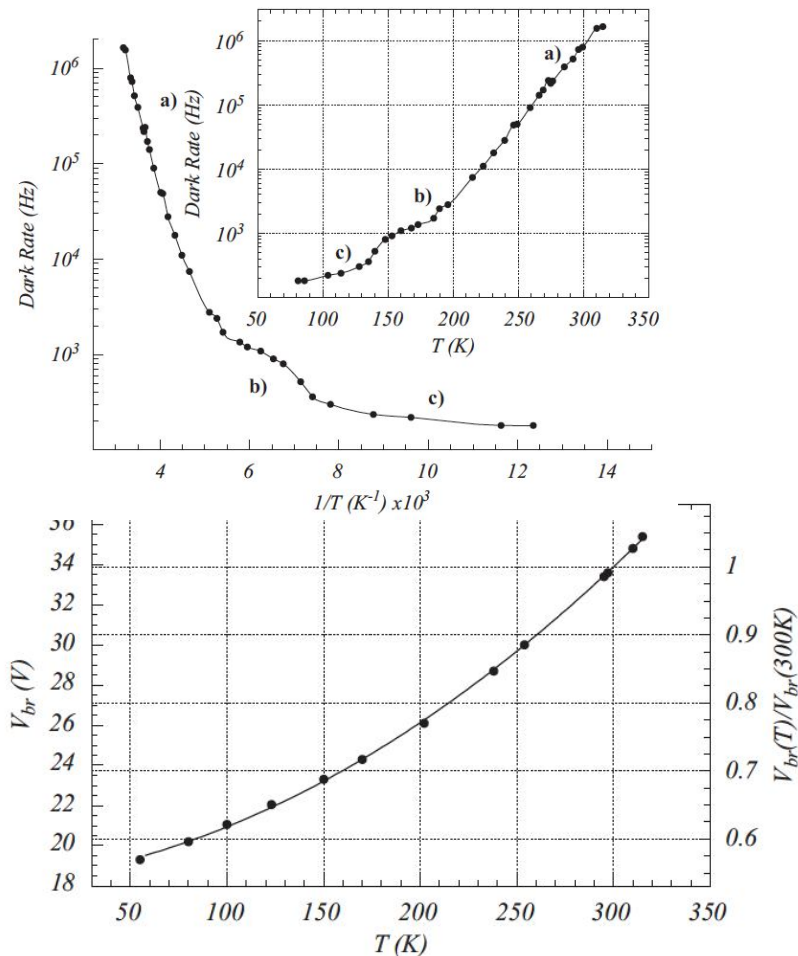


SiPM Dark Rate At Low Temperature

FBK-IRST T6-V1-PD

625 square cells (40x40mm²), fillfactor of 20%
Breakdown voltage 33V (T_{room})

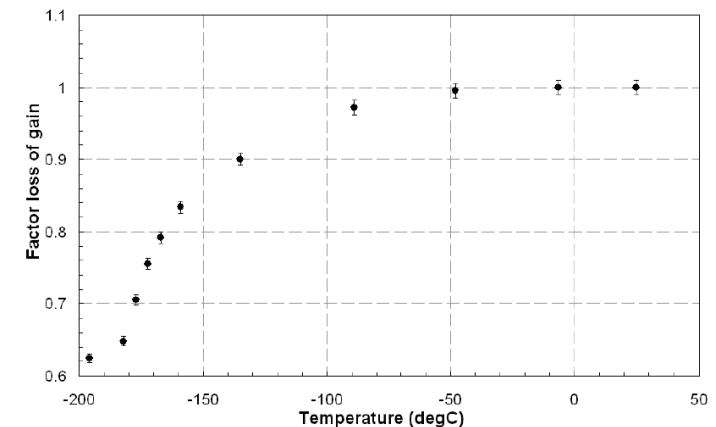
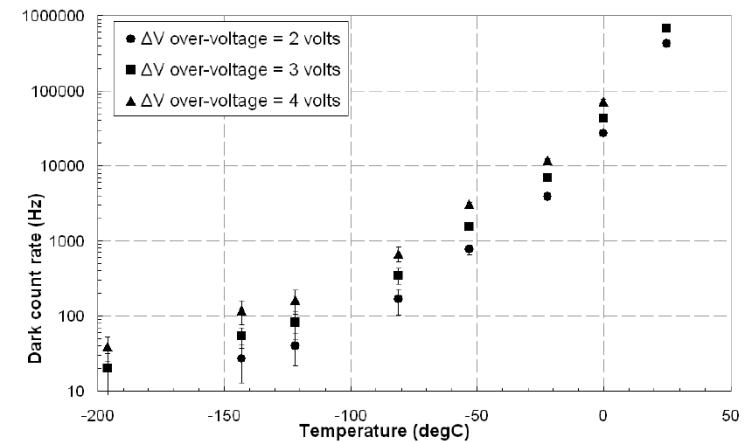
NIM A 628 (2011) 289



SensL1 Series 1000

848 cell array (20x20mm²), fillfactor 43%
Breakdown voltage 28.2V (T_{room})

JINST 3 (2008) P10001



LAr and SiPM in France

APC Neutrino + **IPHC Neutrino** groups interested in Dark Side and LAGUNA-LBNO

APC Cosmology group interested in Dark Side

IPNL Neutrino group (LabEx in LAr) interested in the SiPM R&D

ToDoList

- (1) Read out electronics
- (2) Increased PD efficiency
- (3) Radiopurity
- (4) Characterization in cryogenics
- (5) Wavelength shifter

Presently at APC

- (1) Characterization at room temperatures (SENSL and Hamamatsu)
- (2) Contacts with FBK: defining the collaboration and the R&D
- (3) Installing setup for characterization in cryogenics

**Promising technologies + several research interests:
joining the efforts?**

The financial prospect of DS

R&D already funded by **NSF** and answer by **DOE** is coming soon (end of October)
INFN R&D within the DS50 program

Item	Dark Side G2	Capital Cost	Capital Cost+ +Contingency	Dominant component
Photosensors		\$4,900,000	\$6,370,000	
Electronics, Feedthroughs, and Cables		\$1,820,000	\$2,366,000	
TPC		\$400,000	\$600,000	
Cryostat, Cryogenics, and Argon Recovery System		\$1,000,000	\$1,430,000	
UAr Extraction and Purification		\$1,325,000	\$1,722,500	
Possible neutron veto upgrade		-	\$500,000	
Computing		\$300,000	\$390,000	
Total		\$9,745,000	\$13,378,500	
DOE	Preliminary split of funding among agencies		\$1,990,000	
INFN			\$2,756,000	
NSF			\$8,632,500	

N.B.: shieldings are not included because already installed for DS50

A possible French budget profile

Identified Tasks
photodetection + Monte Carlo (long term experience in APC and IPHC)
Ideal France participation in Dark Side

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total
Equipment		300 kE	300 kE			600 kE
CDD		100 kE	100 kE	100 kE	50 kE	350 kE
Mission	5 kE	30 kE	30 kE	30 kE	20 kE	115 kE
Total	5 kE	430 kE	430 kE	130 kE	70 kE	1065 kE

Preparing the future
let's go to
a common R&D on LAr and SiPM

In Conclusion

Dark Side:

Competitive in sensitivity
Complementary to Xenon
Powerful in discriminating particles
Double shielded
Depleted Argon
Experienced collaboration



Strong interest at APC and IPHC

LAr technology:

Promising for future experiments



We need experience: Dark Side is on the way to LAGUNA-LBNO

SiPM:

High QE
Low voltage
Working in cryogenics



Attractive for noble liquid based experiments
(Dark Side, Xenon, LAGUNA-LBNO, ...)