Dark Matter Experiments with Noble Gases

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Dark Matter Goals

- Detect galactic WIMPs by their elastic collision with Ne, Ar, Xe nuclei:
 - Achieve low (~10 keVr in LXe) recoil energy thresholds
 - Achieve WIMP-nucleon σ sensitivity of ~ 1×10⁻⁹ pb in 2008-2009



Why Noble Liquids?

Good Nuclear versus Electron Recoil discrimination

- pulse shape of scintillation signal
- ratio of ionization to scintillation signals

• High Scintillation Light Yields; transparent to their own light

- low energy thresholds can be achieved
- Large Detector Masses are feasible
 - self-shielding => low-activity of inner fiducial volumes
 - good position-resolution in TPC operation mode (use ionization signal)
- Ionization Drift >> 1 m achieved
 - corresponding to << ppm electronegative impurities
- Competitive Costs and Practicality of large instruments

Noble Liquids as Detector Media

	Z (A)	BP (Tb) at I atm [K]	liquid density at Tb [g/cc]	ionization [e-/keV]	scintillation [photon/keV]
He	2 (4)	4.2	0.13	39	15
Ne	10 (20)	27.1 1.21		46	7
Ar	18 (40)	87.3	I.40	42	40
Kr	36 (84)	119.8	2.41	49	25
Xe	54 (131)	165.0	3.06	64	46

• Liquid noble gases yield both charge and light

• Scintillation is decreased (~ factor 2) when drift field to extract charge is applied

Noble Liquids as Dark Matter Detectors



Charge and Light in Noble Liquids



time constants depend on gas (few ns/15.4µs Ne, 10ns/1.5µs Ar, 3/27 ns Xe)

and (most of the) background (gammas=>ER)!

Noble Liquid Detectors: Existing Experiments and Proposed Projects

	Single Phase (liquid only) PSD	Double Phase (liquid and gas) PSD and Charge/Light	
Neon (A=20)	miniCLEAN (100 kg) CLEAN (10-100 t)		
Argon (A=40)	DEAP-I (7 kg) miniCLEAN (100 kg) CLEAN (10-100 t)	ArDM (1 ton) WARP (3.2 kg) WARP (140 kg)	
Xenon (A=131)	ZEPLIN I XMASS (100 kg) XMASS (800 kg) XMASS (23 t)	ZEPLIN II + III (31 kg, 8 kg) XENON10, XENON100 LUX (300 kg), ELIXIR (1t)	

- Single phase: e⁻-ion recombination occurs; singlet/triplet ratio is 10/1 for NR/ER
- **Double phase:** ionization and scintillation; electrons are drifted in ~ 1kV/cm E-field

Scintillation in LNe from Electronic and Nuclear Recoils





Pico-CLEAN (200g LNe) **D. McKinsey et al, Yale**

Scintillation in LAr from Electronic and Nuclear Recoils



Mini-CLEAN/CLEAN: Proposed Projects

- Mini-CLEAN (2007): 100 kg of LNe or LAr, WIMP goal: 5×10⁻⁹ pb, 10 events/year
- Backgrounds: gammas from PMTs (require > 10⁻⁸ rejection of ER at 50keVr; currently demonstrated rejection of 10⁻⁵ limited by n-BG in lab), neutrons from PMTs (not expected to be a problem in large target), position reconstruction
- CLEAN (2011): 10-100 tons of LNe (maybe LAr), pp-neutrinos, WIMPs







- 100 kg (3 kg fiducial mass) prototype operated (52 2" Hamamatsu R8778 PMTs)
 - the PMT coverage was limited, thus also the position reconstruction of edge events
- next step: 800 kg with 812 PMTs (67% photo coverage)
 - basic performance confirmed with prototype
 - vertex reconstruction, self-shielding, BG level studied with MCs
- detector is being designed, excavations will start soon



100 kg (3 kg fiducial)



800 kg (100 kg fiducial)

S. Moriyama, KEKPH07, March 07



23 t (10 t fiducial)

Two-Phase (Liquid/Gas) Detection Principle

- Prompt (S1) light signal after interaction in active volume; charge is drifted, extracted into the gas phase and detected directly, or as proportional light (S2)
 Challenge ultra pure liquid to bigh drift fields efficient extraction to detection of active properties.
- Challenge: ultra-pure liquid + high drift field; efficient extraction + detection of e⁻



Two-Phase Ar: WARP

- 3.2 kg detector is running at LNGS (first installation in 2004)
- WARP discrimination: PSD and S2/S1



WARP Recent Results

- WARP reported results from ~ 3 months of WIMP search data at LNGS
- Analysis based on zero events > 55 keV
- The reported limit is ~ 5 times above CDMS result
- New data (50 kg days) in hand, improved electronics
 - Results soon; 140 kg detector in preparation
- WARP energy calibration: n-calibration





Two-Phase Ar: ArDM

- 1 ton prototype under construction at CERN
- Direct charge readout with 2 stage, thick LEM (macroscopic GEM, gain up to 10⁴)







 Photon readout: 85 tetra-phenyl-butadiene coated PMTs: shift λ 128 nm -> 430 nm (20%QE)



- Field: Greinacher Chain + field shapers
- Goal: test at CERN (2007), then move to Canfranc (07-08)



M. Laffranchi et al., astro-ph/0702080

Two-Phase Xenon: ZEPLIN-II

- 5 months continuous operation at the Boulby Lab
- 1.0 t *day raw Wimp Search data







31 kg LXe (7.2 kg fiducial)
7 x 13 cm ø ETL-PMTs
1 cm spatial resolution
0.55 pe/keVee (⁵⁷Co, w. field)

ZEPLIN-II Discrimination

- Calibration data is used to define NR acceptance window (50% NR acceptance shown)
- Lower S2/S1 = 40 bound is fixed
- Red box defined 5-20 keVee
- Uniform population across plots: high rate calibrations, coincidences between events and 'dead-region' events
- 98.5 γ discrimination at 50% NR acceptance

⁶⁰Co γ-calibration **AmBe n-calibration** 500 500 **S2/S** S2/S1 400 400 300 300 200 200 100 90 80 70 100 90 80 70 60 60 50 50 40 40 30 30 20 20 **Energy** [keV_{ee}] **Energy** [keV_{ee}] G.J. Alner et al., astro-ph/0701858

ZEPLIN-II Wimp Search Data and Results

- 31 live days running, 225 kg d exposure
 - ➡Red box: 5-20 keVee, 50% NR acceptance

based on neutron calibration

- ⇒29 candidate events seen
- ➡50% from ER leakage from upper band
- ➡50% from lower band (Rn daughter recoils on PTFE side walls)



- Both populations have been modeled and background subtraction performed
- With 29 events observed, and 28.6±4.3 predicted, the final results is < 10.4 events (90% CL) => translates to a min. upper limit ~ 6.6 x 10⁻⁷ pb at 65 GeV WIMP mass
- New run with low Rn-levels (high T getter) in preparation; **ZEPLIN-III** (kg fiducial mass, 31 low-background PMTs in liquid, 3.5 cm drift) being deployed at Boulby

Two-Phase Xenon: XENON10



Liquid Xenon for Dark Matter Searches

• light and charge yield measured at low nuclear recoil energies for the first time



Data down to 10 keVr; yield: 13% - 20% from 10 keVr to 60 keVr. Good agreement with prediction by Hitachi (Astrop. Phys. 24, 2005) at low recoil energies

Weak dependence on electric field Yield increases at low recoil energies

The XENON10 Detector

- 22 kg of liquid xenon
 - ➡ 15 kg active volume
 - ⇒20 cm diameter, 15 cm drift
- Hamamatsu R8520 1"×3.5 cm PMTs bialkali-photocathode Rb-Cs-Sb,
 Quartz window; ok at -100°C and 5 bar
 Quantum efficiency > 20% @ 178 nm
- 48 PMTs top, 41 PMTs bottom array
 - ⇒x-y position from PMT hit pattern; $\sigma_{x-y} \approx 1 \text{ mm}$
 - = z-position from Δt_{drift} (v_{d,e-} \approx 2mm/µs), $\sigma_z \approx$ 0.3 mm
- Cooling: Pulse Tube Refrigerator (PTR), 90W, coupled via cold finger (LN₂ for emergency)



XENON10 at the Gran Sasso Laboratory

- March 06: detector first installed/tested outside the shield
- July 06: inserted into shield (20 cm Pb, 20 cm PE, Rn purge)
- August 24, 06: start WIMP search run







Columbia University Elena Aprile, Karl-Ludwig Giboni, Sharmila Kamat, Maria Elena Monzani, Guillaume Plante, Roberto Santorelli and Masaki Yamashita

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Coimbra University Jose Matias Lopes, Luis Coelho, Luis Fernandes and Joaquin Santos



XENON10 Live Time at Gran Sasso



• Discuss data from: Gamma, Neutron Calibration + Not Blind WS data (~ 20 live days)

• WIMP Search Results (~ 80 live days): to be announced Mid April 07 (APS meeting)

XENON10 Performance at LNGS

- Stable pressure, temperature, PMT gain, liquid level, cryostat vacuum, HV...
 - over many months (continuously monitored with 'slow control system')



Typical XENON10 Low-Energy Event

• 4 keVee event; **S1: 8 p.e => 2 p.e./keV**



S2

Hit pattern of top PMTs

event_id: 26 total_pe: 1654

XENON10 Gamma Calibrations

Gamma Sources: ⁵⁷Co, ¹³⁷Cs; determine energy scale and resolution; position reconstruction; uniformity of detector response, position of gamma band, electron lifetime: (1.8±0.4) ms => << 1ppb (O₂ equiv.) purity



reconstructed source position (¹³⁷Cs)

light yield from 137Cs: 2.25 p.e./keV

XENON10 Neutron Calibration

- Neutron source: AmBe (E_{max} \approx 10 MeV)
- In situ calibration: December 1, 06 => determination of the nuclear recoil band



Data and Monte Carlo agree well: ⇒ NR response at low energies well understood

XENON10 Discrimination



• Rejection is > 99% for 50% Nuclear Recoil acceptance

→Cuts: fiducial volume (remove events at teflon edge where poor charge collection)

Multiple scatters (more than one S2 pulse)

XENON10 Backgrounds

- Red crosses: data; Black curve: sum of background contributions from MC
 - < 1event/(kg d keV) (< 1 dru) (for r < 8 cm fiducial volume cut)</p>



XENON10 Preliminary WIMP Search Data

- WIMP search run started Aug. 24. 2006: ~ 80 (blind) live days
- 2 independent analysis groups (root and matlab based)
- Example: preliminary data from ~ 17 live days



• Full analysis in progress: understand source of leakage events; set cuts and calculate efficiencies based on γ- and n-calibration data, ...

XENON10 Calibration with Activated Xenon

- Neutron activated Xenon => 2 meta-stable states, 131m Xe (164 keV gamma, T_{1/2}=11.8 d), 129m Xe (236 keV gamma, T_{1/2} = 8.9 d)
- Uniform position and energy calibration of detector



Anti-correlation of charge/light signals

Combined energy spectrum

XENON10 WIMP Search Goals

• Test the elastic, SI WIMP-nucleon σ down to \approx 2 \times 10⁻⁴⁴ cm² in 2007 (red curve)





Dual-Phase Xenon: Future Projects (Proposals/ Design Studies)

- **XENON100:** US/EU Collaboration to build 100 kg (fiducial) LXe detector in (conventional: Pb, PE) XENON10 shield at LNGS (NSF/DoE/SNF/FCT proposal)
- LUX (Large Underground LXe detector): US Collaboration to build a 300 kg (100 kg fiducial mass) LXe detector at DUSEL in large (6 m ø water shield) (NSF/DoE proposal)
- **ELIXIR** (European Liquid Xenon Identifier of Recoils): Large European design study for ton-scale LXe detector; Construction after completion of ZEPLIN-III, XENON100 (FP7 Proposal)





LUX experiment

Summary

- WIMPs: still excellent candidates for Cold Dark Matter
- Liquid Noble Elements: very promising WIMP detectors
 - Iarge, homogeneous detectors; self-shielding; position resolution; NR/ER discrimination (light/charge and/or pulse timing); affordable costs
- first results: from LAr (WARP) and LXe (ZEPLIN-II) (at the 6.7 10 x 10⁻⁷pb level)
- XENON10: results from 80 live days public in mid April (~ 2 x 10⁻⁷pb level)
- Many near-term projects, proposals and design studies:
 - ➡ZEPLIN-III, XENON100, MiniCLEAN, DEAP-1, ArDM, XMASS800, WARP140, LUX, ELIXIR...
 - Test the WIMP-nucleon cross section parameter space down to $\approx 10^{-7}$ pb -10⁻⁹ pb.
- Optimistic scenario: discovery of new particle, in conjunction with signals from indirect search experiments and new physics at colliders
- But: we are open for surprises!

Noble Liquids: Solving the Dark Matter Puzzle?



Direct Detection of WIMPs

- In the extreme NR limit (v_{WIMP}~\approx 10^{-3} c)
 - \Rightarrow axial-vector interaction (coupling to the nuclear spin)

 \Rightarrow scalar interaction (coupling to the nuclear mass)

• Event rate:

$$\frac{dR}{dQ} = \frac{\sigma_0 \rho_0}{\sqrt{\pi} v_0 m_{\chi} \mu^2} \exp\left(-\frac{Qm_N}{2\mu^2 v_0^2}\right) F^2(Q)$$

• Recoil energy

$$Q = \frac{|\vec{q}|^2}{2m_N} = \frac{\mu^2 v^2}{m_N} (1 - \cos\theta) < 100 \, keV$$



Experiments and SUSY Predictions



Ionization Yield and Discrimination in Liquid Xenon



5 keVee energy threshold = 10 keVr good discrimination (>99%) between NR und ER

Aprile et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 97 (2006)

XENON10 Gamma Calibrations



XENON10 Backgrounds: Material Screening

• we have screened the XENON10 detector+shield components with 2 HPGe detectors at SOLO/Soudan and a HPGe detector at LNGS (M. Laubenstein)

Sample	R8520 PMTs [mBq/PMT]	Kyocera FTs [Bq/kg]	Ceramaseal FTs [Bq/kg]	SS inner vessel [mBq/kg]	Teflon [mBq/kg]	PMT bases [mBq/base]	PE shield [mBq/kg]
Activity	15.6/<6.4/110/0.08 (4PMTs)	937/58/3	4.8/0.5/2.1	<21/<61/12/101	<4.8/<7.9/61	1.2/<2.9/6.7/0.09	26.7/2.9/49
	0.17/0.2/10/0.56 (14 PMTs)	0.5/0.2/0.1					

- → results => Monte Carlo background model
- → XENON10 upgrade: replace known 'hot' components

 → increase Gator's sensitivity by building new shield at LNGS with 5 cm inner OFHC Cu lining and low activity
 Pb (3 Bq/kg ²¹⁰Pb) shield



XENON10 Backgrounds: Data and MC Simulations

- Gamma BG: dominated by steel (inner vessel and cryostat) and ceramic FTs
- Neutron BG: subdominant for XENON10 sensitivity goal (MC: < 1 event/year from (α,n) in materials and < 5 events/year from μ-induced n's)



XENON10 Near Future Plans

- Finish current WIMP search run (WS04)
- Calibrate detector with n-activated Xenon: ^{131m}Xe (T_{1/2}=11.8 d), ^{129m}Xe (T_{1/2}=8.9 d), E_{Y} =164 keV, 236 keV => uniform position and energy calibration across the LXe vol.
- Upgrade in February 2007:
 - ➡ replace hot components (FTs), select low- radioactivity PMTs
 - ⇒BG goal: 140 mdru
 - to better understand leakage events:
 optically shield the regions outside the active volume
 - possibly enlarge drift length to increase mass and reduce Compton BG



