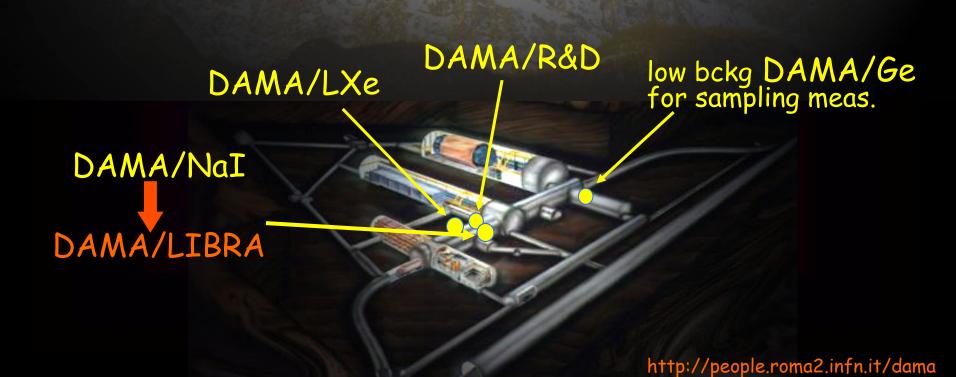


Roma2, Roma1, LNGS, IHEP/Beijing

- + by-products and small scale expts.: INR-Kiev
- + neutron meas.: ENEA-Frascati
- + in some studies on etaeta decays (DST-MAE project): IIT Kharagpur, India

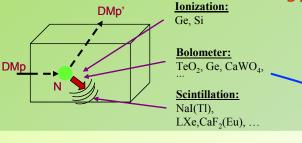


DAMA: an observatory for rare processes @LNGS



Some direct detection processes:

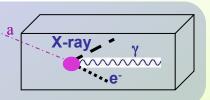
- Scatterings on nuclei
 - → detection of nuclear recoil energy



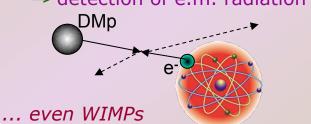
- Inelastic Dark Matter: W + N → W* + N
 - \rightarrow W has Two mass states χ + , χ with δ mass splitting
 - \rightarrow Kinematical constraint for the inelastic scattering of χ on a nucleus ___

$$\frac{1}{2}\mu v^2 \ge \delta \Leftrightarrow v \ge v_{thr} = \sqrt{\frac{2\delta}{\mu}}$$

- Excitation of bound electrons in scatterings on nuclei
 - → detection of recoil nuclei + e.m. radiation
 - Conversion of particle into e.m. radiation
 - \rightarrow detection of γ , X-rays, e

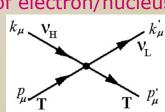


- Interaction only on atomic electrons
 - → detection of e.m. radiation



- Interaction of light DMp (LDM) on e⁻ or nucleus with production of a lighter particle
 - ightharpoonup detection of electron/nucleus recoil energy k_{μ} $\nu_{\rm H}$

e.g. sterile v



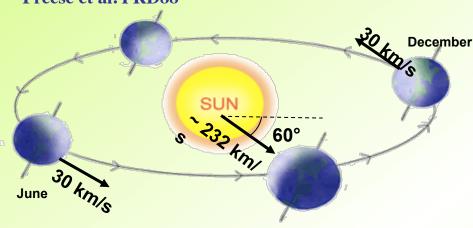
e.g. signals from these candidates are completely lost in experiments based on "rejection procedures" of the e.m. component of their rate

... also other ideas ...

The annual modulation: a model independent signature for the investigation of Dark Matter particles component in the galactic halo

With the present technology, the annual modulation is the main model independent signature for the DM signal. Although the modulation effect is expected to be relatively small a suitable large-mass, low-radioactive set-up with an efficient control of the running conditions would point out its presence.

Drukier, Freese, Spergel PRD86 Freese et al. PRD88



- · v_{sun} ~ 232 km/s (Sun velocity in the halo)
- · v_{orb} = 30 km/s (Earth velocity around the Sun)
- $\cdot \gamma = \pi/3$, $\omega = 2\pi/T$, T = 1 year
- $t_0 = 2^{nd}$ June (when v_{\oplus} is maximum)

$$\mathbf{v}_{\oplus}(\mathbf{t}) = \mathbf{v}_{\text{sun}} + \mathbf{v}_{\text{orb}} \cos\gamma\cos[\omega(\mathbf{t}-\mathbf{t}_0)]$$

$$S_k[\eta(t)] = \int_{\Delta E_k} \frac{dR}{dE_R} dE_R \cong S_{0,k} + S_{m,k} \cos[\omega(t - t_0)]$$

Expected rate in given energy bin changes because the annual motion of the Earth around the Sun moving in the Galaxy

Requirements of the annual modulation

- 1) Modulated rate according cosine
- 2) In a definite low energy range
- 3) With a proper period (1 year)
- 4) With proper phase (about 2 June)
- 5) Just for single hit events in a multi-detector set-up
- 6) With modulation amplitude in the region of maximal sensitivity must be <7% for usually adopted halo distributions, but it can be larger in case of some possible scenarios

To mimic this signature, spurious effects and side reactions must not only - obviously - be able to account for the whole observed modulation amplitude, but also to satisfy contemporaneously all the requirements

The DM annual modulation signature has a different origin and, thus, different peculiarities (e.g. the phase) with respect to those effects connected with the seasons instead

DAMA/NaI: ≈100 kg NaI(TI)

Performances: N.Cim.A112(1999)545-575, EPJC18(2000)283, Riv.N.Cim.26 n. 1(2003)1-73, IJMPD13(2004)2127

Results on rare processes:

Possible Pauli exclusion principle violation PLB408(1997)439

CNC processes

 Electron stability and non-paulian transitions in Iodine atoms (by L-shell)

Search for solar axions

Exotic Matter search

Search for superdense nuclear matter

Search for heavy clusters decays

PLB408(1997)439 PRC60(1999)065501

PLB460(1999)235 PLB515(2001)6 EPJdirect C14(2002)1 EPJA23(2005)7 EPJA24(2005)51

Results on DM particles:

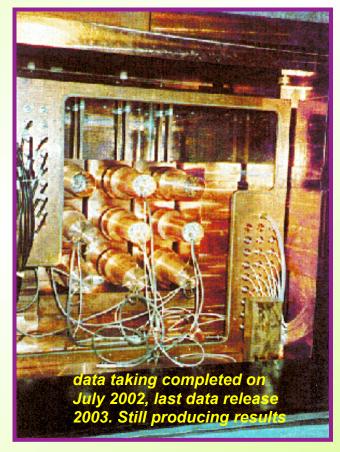
PSD

Investigation on diurnal effect

Exotic Dark Matter search

Annual Modulation Signature

PLB389(1996)757 N.Cim.A112(1999)1541 PRL83(1999)4918



PLB424(1998)195, PLB450(1999)448, PRD61(1999)023512, PLB480(2000)23, EPJC18(2000)283, PLB509(2001)197, EPJC23(2002)61, PRD66(2002)043503, Riv.N.Cim.26 n.1 (2003)1, IJMPD13(2004) 2127, IJMPA21(2006)1445, EPJC47(2006)263, IJMPA22(2007)3155, EPJC53(2008)205, PRD77(2008) 023506, MPLA23(2008)2125.

model independent evidence of a particle DM component in the galactic halo at 6.3σ C.L.

total exposure (7 annual cycles) 0.29 ton x yr





...calibration procedures

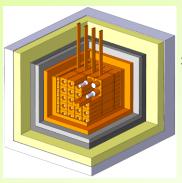




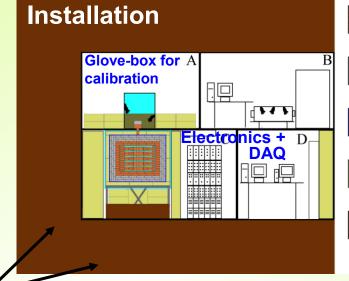
DAMA/LIBRA set-up

For details, radiopurity, performances, procedures, etc. NIMA592(2008)297

- 25 x 9.7 kg NaI(TI) in a 5x5 matrix
- two Suprasil-B light guides directly coupled to each bare crystal
- two PMTs working in coincidence at the single ph. el. threshold



5.5-7.5 phe/keV



OFHC low radioactive copper

Low radioactive lead

Cadmium

Polyethylene/ Paraffin

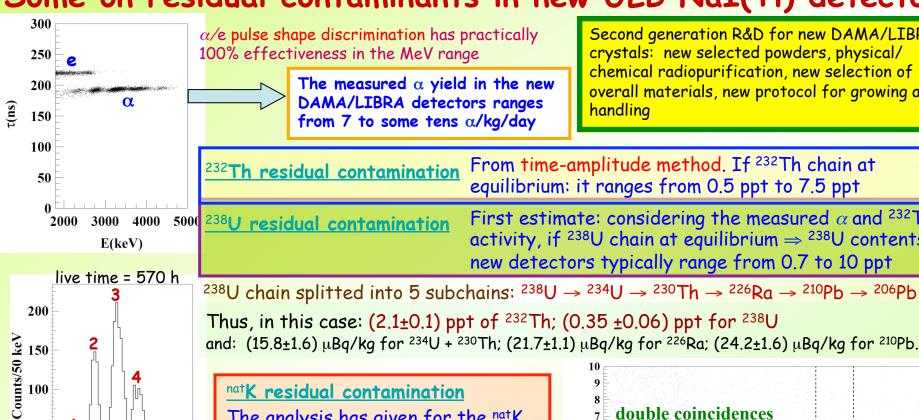
Concrete from GS rock



- ~ 1m concrete from GS rock
- Dismounting/Installing protocol (with "Scuba" system)
- All the materials selected for low radioactivity
- Multicomponent passive shield (>10 cm of Cu, 15 cm of Pb + Cd foils, 10/40 cm Polyethylene/paraffin, about 1 m concrete, mostly outside the installation)
- Three-level system to exclude Radon from the detectors
- Calibrations in the same running conditions as production runs
- Installation in air conditioning + huge heat capacity of shield
- Monitoring/alarm system; many parameters acquired with the production data
- Pulse shape recorded by Waweform Analyzer Acqiris DC270 (2chs per detector), 1Gsample/s, 8 bit, bandwidth 250 MHz
- Data collected from low energy up to MeV region, despite the hardware optimization was done for the low energy



Some on residual contaminants in new ULB NaI(TI) detectors



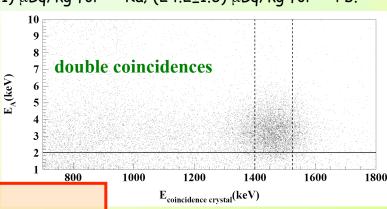
Second generation R&D for new DAMA/LIBRA crystals: new selected powders, physical/ chemical radiopurification, new selection of overall materials, new protocol for growing and

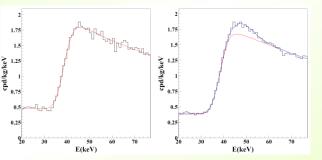
First estimate: considering the measured α and ²³²Th activity, if 238 U chain at equilibrium \Rightarrow 238 U contents in new detectors typically range from 0.7 to 10 ppt

Thus, in this case: (2.1 ± 0.1) ppt of 232 Th; (0.35 ± 0.06) ppt for 238 U and: $(15.8\pm1.6) \mu Bq/kg$ for $^{234}U + ^{230}Th$; $(21.7\pm1.1) \mu Bq/kg$ for ^{226}Ra ; $(24.2\pm1.6) \mu Bq/kg$ for ^{210}Pb .

natK residual contamination

The analysis has given for the nat K content in the crystals values not exceeding about 20 ppb





E(keV)

5000

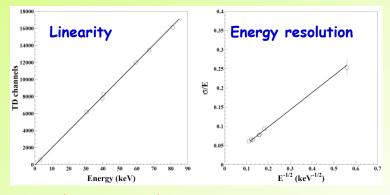
50

129I and 210Pb ¹²⁹I/^{nat}I ≈1.7×10⁻¹³ for all the new detectors ²¹⁰Pb in the new detectors: $(5-30) \mu Bq/kg$.

No sizable surface pollution by Radon daugthers, thanks to the new handling protocols ... more on NIMA592 (2008)297

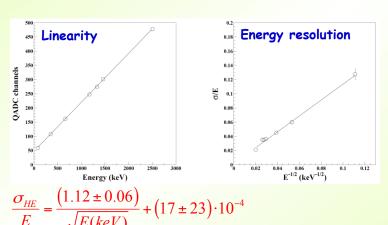
DAMA/LIBRA calibrations

<u>Low energy</u>: various external gamma sources (²⁴¹Am, ¹³³Ba) and internal X-rays or gamma's (⁴⁰K, ¹²⁵I, ¹²⁹I), routine calibrations with ²⁴¹Am

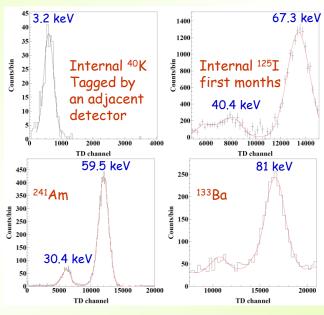


$$\frac{\sigma_{LE}}{E} = \frac{\left(0.448 \pm 0.035\right)}{\sqrt{E(keV)}} + \left(9.1 \pm 5.1\right) \cdot 10^{-3}$$

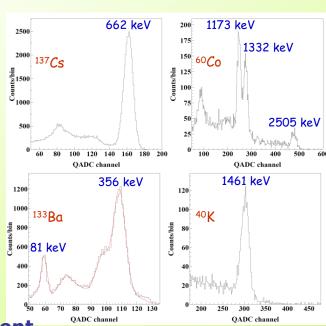
High energy: external sources of gamma rays (e.g. ¹³⁷Cs, ⁶⁰Co and ¹³³Ba) and gamma rays of 1461 keV due to ⁴⁰K decays in an adjacent detector, tagged by the 3.2 keV X-rays



The signals (unlike low energy events) for high energy events are taken only from one PMT

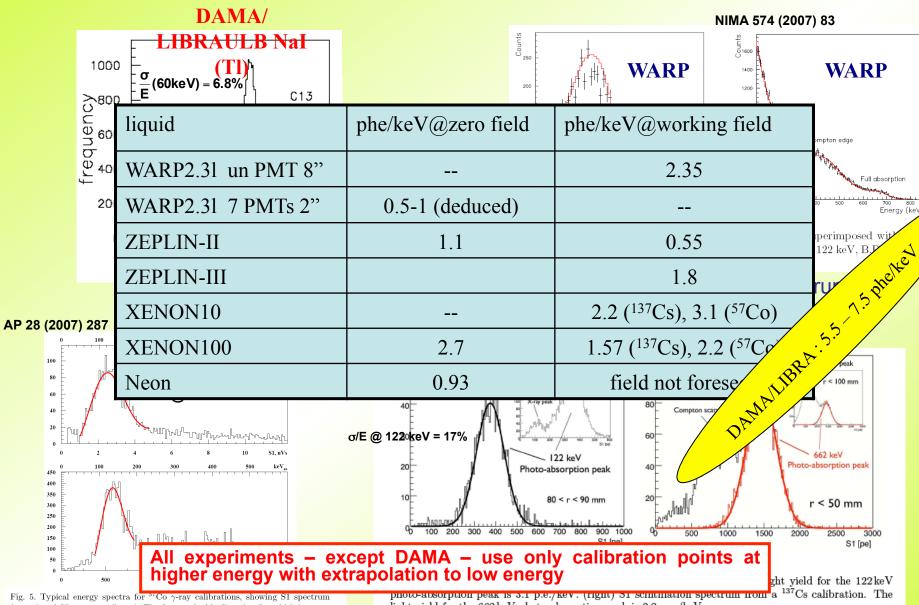


The curves superimposed to the experimental data have been obtained by simulations



Thus, here and hereafter keV means keV electron equivalent

Examples of energy resolutions



(upper) and S2 spectrum (lower). The fits are double Gaussian fits which incorporate both the 122 keV and 136 keV lines in the 57 Co γ -rav spectrum. The energy resolution of the detector is derived from the width of the S1 peak, coupled with calibration measurements at other line energies.

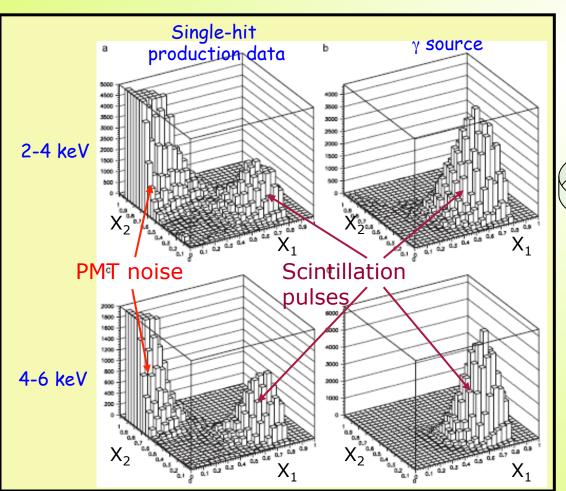
light yield for the 662 keV photo-absorption peak is 2.2 p.e./keV.

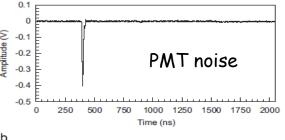
JoP: Conf. Ser. 65 (2007) 012015

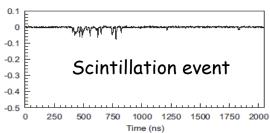
Noise rejection near the energy threshold

Typical pulse profiles of PMT noise and of scintillation event with the same area, just above the energy threshold of 2 keV

The different time characteristics of PMT noise (decay time of order of tens of ns) and of scintillation event (decay time about 240 ns) can be investigated building several variables







From the Waveform Analyser 2048 ns time window:

Area (from 100 ns to 600 ns)

Area (from 0 ns to 600 ns)

 $X_2 = \frac{\text{Area (from 0 ns to 50 ns)}}{\text{Area (from 0 ns to 600 ns)}}$

The separation between noise and scintillation pulses is very good.

- · Very clean samples of scintillation events selected by stringent acceptance windows.
- · The related efficiencies evaluated by calibrations with ²⁴¹Am sources of suitable activity in the same experimental conditions and energy range as the production data (efficiency measurements performed each ~10 days; typically 10⁴-10⁵ events per keV collected)

This is the only procedure applied to the analysed data

Infos about DAMA/LIBRA data taking

Period		Mass (kg)	Exposure (kg × day)	α-β²
DAMA/LIBRA-1	Sep. 9, 2003 – July 21, 2004	232.8	51405	0.562
DAMA/LIBRA-2	July 21, 2004 – Oct. 28, 2005	232.8	52597	0.467
DAMA/LIBRA-3	Oct. 28, 2005 – July 18, 2006	232.8	39445	0.591
DAMA/LIBRA-4	July 19, 2006 – July 17, 2007	232.8	49377	0.541
DAMA/LIBRA-5	July 17, 2007 – Aug. 29, 2008	232.8	66105	0.468
DAMA/LIBRA-6	Nov. 12, 2008 – Sep. 1, 2009	242.5	58768	0.519
DAMA/LIBRA-1 to -6	Sep. 9, 2003 – Sep. 1, 2009		317697	0.519
			= 0.87 ton×yr	

DAMA/Nal (7 years) + DAMA/LIBRA (6 years)

total exposure: 425428 kg×day = 1.17 ton×yr



- replacement of some PMTs in HP N₂ atmosphere
- restore 1 detector to operation
- new Digitizers installed (U1063A Acqiris 1GS/s 8-bit High-Speed cPCI)
- new DAQ system with optical read-out installed
- Second upgrade on Oct./Nov. 2010
 - Replacement of all the PMTs with higher Q.E. ones

- calibrations: ≈72 M events from sources
- acceptance window eff: 82 M events (≈3M events/keV)
- EPJC56(2008)333
- •EPJC67(2010)39

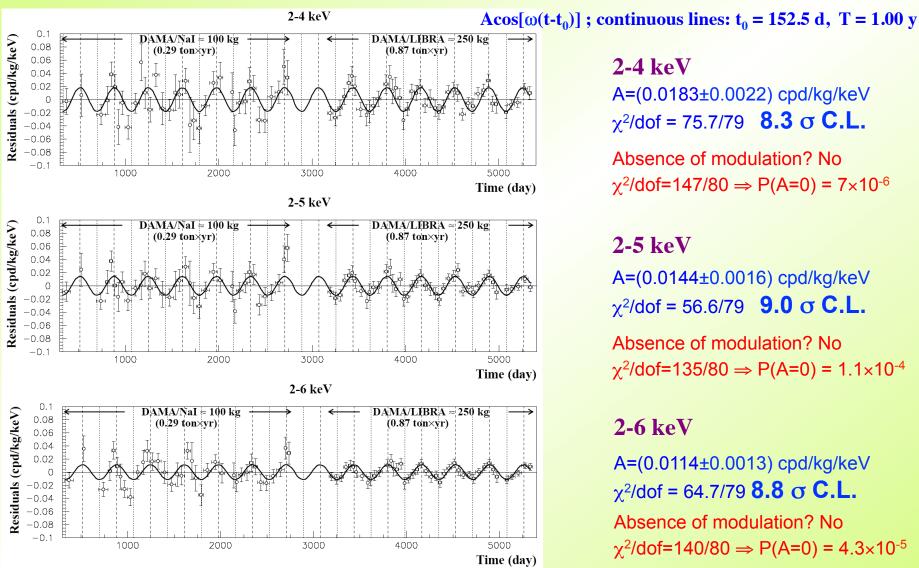


... continuously running

Model Independent Annual Modulation Result

DAMA/Nal (7 years) + DAMA/LIBRA (6 years) Total exposure: 425428 kg×day = 1.17 ton×yr

experimental single-hit residuals rate vs time and energy



2-4 keV

A=(0.0183±0.0022) cpd/kg/keV $\chi^2/dof = 75.7/79$ **8.3** σ **C.L.**

Absence of modulation? No $\chi^2/dof = 147/80 \Rightarrow P(A=0) = 7 \times 10^{-6}$

2-5 keV

A=(0.0144±0.0016) cpd/kg/keV $\chi^2/dof = 56.6/79$ **9.0** σ **C.L.**

Absence of modulation? No $\chi^2/dof=135/80 \Rightarrow P(A=0) = 1.1 \times 10^{-4}$

2-6 keV

A=(0.0114±0.0013) cpd/kg/keV $\chi^2/dof = 64.7/79 8.8 \sigma C.L.$ Absence of modulation? No $\chi^2/dof=140/80 \Rightarrow P(A=0) = 4.3 \times 10^{-5}$

The data favor the presence of a modulated behavior with proper features at 8.8 oc.L.

Modulation amplitudes in 13 one-year experiments (DAMA/NaI and DAMA/LIBRA)

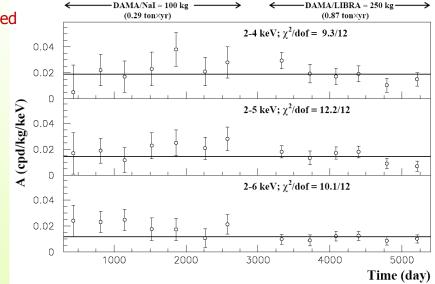
A (cpd/kg/keV)	T= 2π/ω (yr)	t ₀ (day)	C.L.
0.0252 ± 0.0050	1.01 ± 0.02	125 ± 30	5.0σ
0.0215 ± 0.0039	1.01 ± 0.02	140 ± 30	5.5σ
0.0200 ± 0.0032	1.00 ± 0.01	140 ± 22	6.3σ
0.0180 ± 0.0025	0.996 ± 0.002	135 ± 8	7.2σ
0.0134 ± 0.0018	0.997 ± 0.002	140 ± 8	7.4σ
0.0098 ± 0.0015	0.999 ± 0.002	146 ± 9	6.5σ
0.0194 ± 0.0022	0.996 ± 0.002	136 ± 7	8.8σ
0.0149 ± 0.0016	0.997 ± 0.002	142 ± 7	9.3σ
0.0116 ± 0.0013	0.999 ± 0.002	146 ± 7	8.9σ
	0.0252 ± 0.0050 0.0215 ± 0.0039 0.0200 ± 0.0032 0.0180 ± 0.0025 0.0134 ± 0.0018 0.0098 ± 0.0015 0.0194 ± 0.0022 0.0149 ± 0.0016	0.0252 ± 0.0050	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

DAMA/Nal (7 annual cycles: 0.29 ton x yr) + DAMA/LIBRA (6 annual cycles: 0.87 ton x yr) total exposure: 425428 kg×day = 1.17 ton×yr

A, T, t_0 obtained by fitting the single-hit data with $A\cos[\omega(t-t_0)]$

- The modulation amplitudes for the (2 6) keV energy interval, obtained when fixing the period at 1 yr and the phase at 152.5 days, are:
 (0.019±0.003) cpd/kg/keV for DAMA/NaI and (0.010±0.002) cpd/kg/keV for DAMA/LIBRA.
- Thus, their difference: (0.009±0.004) cpd/kg/keV is ≈2 σ which corresponds to a modest, but non negligible probability.

The χ^2 test (χ^2 = 9.3, 12.2 and 10.1 over 12 *d.o.f.* for the three energy intervals, respectively) and the *run test* (lower tail probabilities of 57%, 47% and 35% for the three energy intervals, respectively) accept at 90% C.L. the hypothesis that the modulation amplitudes are normally fluctuating around their best fit values.



compatibility among the annual cycles

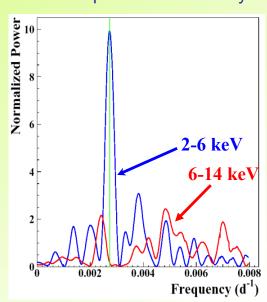
Power spectrum of single-hit residuals

(according to Ap.J.263(1982)835; Ap.J.338(1989)277)

Treatment of the experimental errors and time binning included here

DAMA/Nal (7 years)

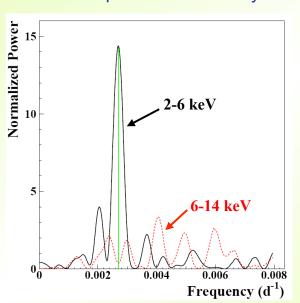
total exposure: 0.29 tonxyr



2-6 keV vs 6-14 keV

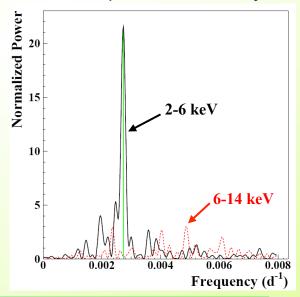
DAMA/LIBRA (6 years)

total exposure: 0.87 tonxyr



DAMA/Nal (7 years) + DAMA/LIBRA (6 years)

total exposure: 1.17 tonxyr



Principal mode in the 2-6 keV region:

DAMA/NaI

DAMA/LIBRA

 $2.737 \cdot 10^{-3} d^{-1} \approx 1 y^{-1}$ $2.697 \times 10^{-3} d^{-1} \approx 1 yr^{-1}$

DAMA/NaI+LIBRA $2.735 \times 10^{-3} d^{-1} \approx 1 yr^{-1}$

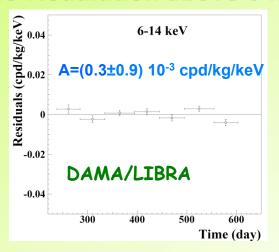


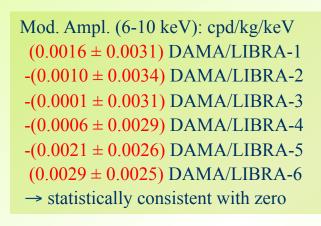
Not present in the 6-14 keV region (only aliasing peaks)

Clear annual modulation is evident in (2-6) keV while it is absent just above 6 keV

Rate behaviour above 6 keV

No Modulation above 6 keV





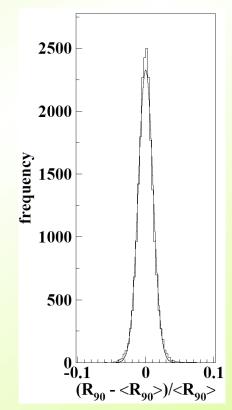
No modulation in the whole energy spectrum: studying integral rate at higher energy, R₉₀

- R₉₀ percentage variations with respect to their mean values for single crystal in the DAMA/LIBRA running periods
- Fitting the behaviour with time, adding a term modulated with period and phase as expected for DM particles:

consistent with zero

Mod. Ampl.
-(0.05±0.19) cpd/kg
-(0.12±0.19) cpd/kg
-(0.13±0.18) cpd/kg
(0.15 ± 0.17) cpd/kg
$(0.20\pm0.18) \text{ cpd/kg}$
-(0.20±0.16) cpd/kg

DAMALIBRA 1-6



σ ≈ 1%, fully accounted by statistical considerations

+ if a modulation present in the whole energy spectrum at the level found in the lowest energy region $\rightarrow R_{90} \sim \text{tens cpd/kg} \rightarrow \sim 100 \text{ } \sigma \text{ far away}$

No modulation above 6 keV
This accounts for all sources of bckg and is consistent with studies on the various components

Multiple-hits events in the region of the signal

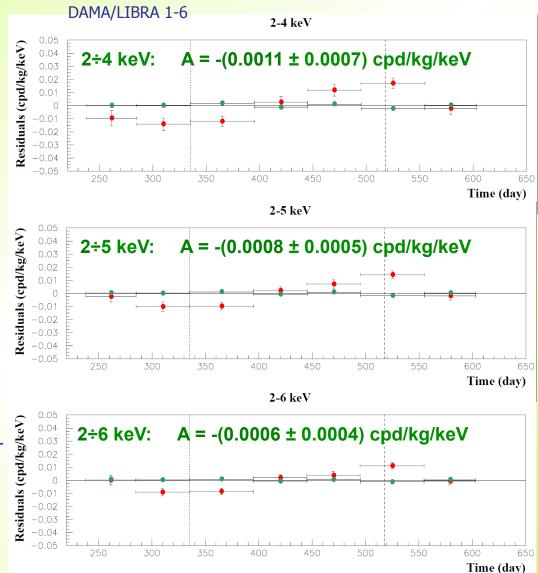
- Each detector has its own TDs read-out
 → pulse profiles of multiple-hits events
 (multiplicity > 1) acquired (exposure:
 0.87 ton×yr).
- The same hardware and software procedures as the ones followed for single-hit events

signals by Dark Matter particles do not belong to multiple-hits events, that is:

multiple-hits = Dark Matter particles events "switched off"

Evidence of annual modulation with proper features as required by the DM annual modulation signature

- present in the **single-hit** residuals
- absent in the *multiple-hits* residual



This result offers an additional strong support for the presence of Dark Matter particles in the galactic halo, further excluding any side effect either from hardware or from software procedures or from background

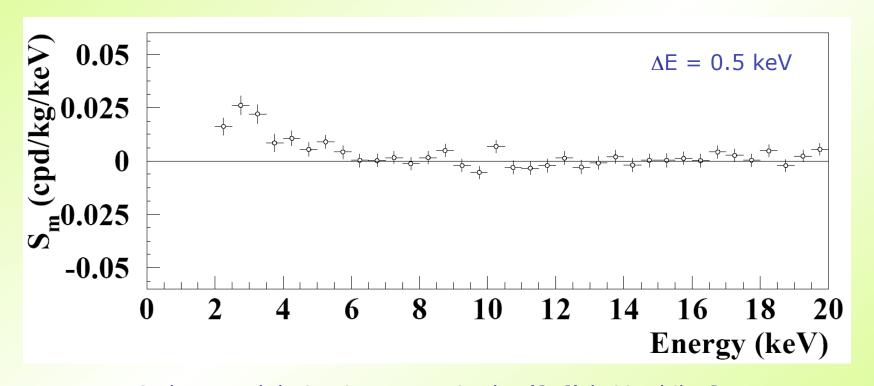
Energy distribution of the modulation amplitudes

$$R(t) = S_0 + S_m \cos[\omega(t - t_0)]$$

here $T=2\pi/\omega=1$ yr and $t_0=152.5$ day

DAMA/Nal (7 years) + DAMA/LIBRA (6 years)

total exposure: 425428 kg×day ≈1.17 ton×yr



A clear modulation is present in the (2-6) keV, while S_m values compatible with zero are present just above

The S_m values in the (6–20) keV have random fluctuations around zero with χ^2 equal to 27.5 for 28 *d.o.f.*

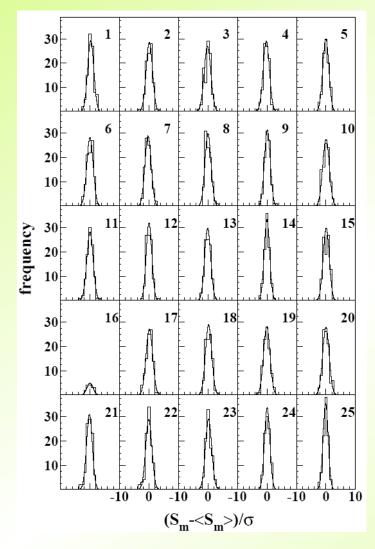
Statistical distributions of the modulation amplitudes (S_m)

- a) S_m for each detector, each annual cycle and each considered energy bin (here 0.25 keV)
- b) $\langle S_m \rangle$ = mean values over the detectors and the annual cycles for each energy bin; σ = error on S_m

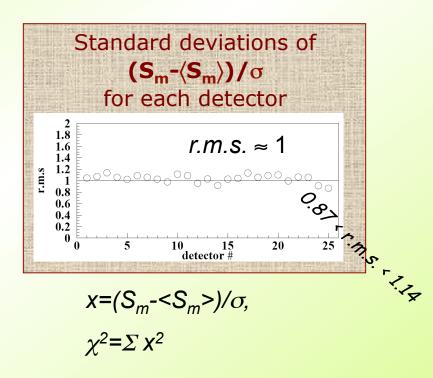
DAMA/LIBRA (6 years)

total exposure: 0.87 tonxyr

Each panel refers to each detector separately; 96 entries = 16 energy bins in 2-6 keV energy interval × 6 DAMA/LIBRA annual cycles (for crys 16, 1 annual cycle, 16 entries)



2-6 keV



Individual S_m values follow a normal distribution since $(S_m - \langle S_m \rangle)/\sigma$ is distributed as a Gaussian with a unitary standard deviation (r.m.s.)



 S_m statistically well distributed in all the detectors and annual cycles

The analysis at energies above 6 keV, the analysis of the multiple-hits events and the statistical considerations about S_m already exclude any sizable presence of systematical effects

Additional investigations on the stability parameters

Modulation amplitudes obtained by fitting the time behaviours of main running parameters, acquired with the production data, when including a DM-like modulation

Running conditions stable at a level better than 1% also in the two new running periods

	DAMA/LIBRA-1	DAMA/LIBRA-2	DAMA/LIBRA-3	DAMA/LIBRA-4	DAMA/LIBRA-5	DAMA/LIBRA-6
Temperature	-(0.0001 ± 0.0061) °C	(0.0026 ± 0.0086) °C	(0.001 ± 0.015) °C	(0.0004 ± 0.0047) °C	(0.0001 ± 0.0036) °C	(0.0007 ± 0.0059) °C
Flux N ₂	(0.13 ± 0.22) I/h	(0.10 ± 0.25) l/h	-(0.07 ± 0.18) l/h	-(0.05 ± 0.24) I/h	-(0.01 ± 0.21) l/h	-(0.01 ± 0.15) l/h
Pressure	(0.015 ± 0.030) mbar	-(0.013 ± 0.025) mbar	(0.022 ± 0.027) mbar	(0.0018 ± 0.0074) mbar	-(0.08 ± 0.12) ×10 ⁻² mbar	(0.07 ± 0.13) ×10 ⁻² mbar
Radon	-(0.029 ± 0.029) Bq/m ³	-(0.030 ± 0.027) Bq/m ³	(0.015 ± 0.029) Bq/m ³	-(0.052 ± 0.039) Bq/m ³	(0.021 ± 0.037) Bq/m ³	-(0.028 ± 0.036) Bq/m ³
Hardware rate above single photoelectron	-(0.20 ± 0.18) × 10 ⁻² Hz	(0.09 ± 0.17) × 10 ⁻² Hz	-(0.03 ± 0.20) × 10 ⁻² Hz	(0.15 ± 0.15) × 10 ⁻² Hz	(0.03 ± 0.14) × 10 ⁻² Hz	(0.08 ± 0.11) × 10 ⁻² Hz

All the measured amplitudes well compatible with zero
+ none can account for the observed effect
(to mimic such signature, spurious effects and side reactions must not only be able to account for the whole observed modulation amplitude, but also simultaneously satisfy all the 6 requirements)

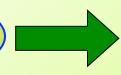
Summary of the results obtained in the additional investigations of possible systematics or side reactions:

(previous exposure and details see: NIMA592(2008)297, EPJC56(2008)333, J.Phys.Conf.Ser.203(2010)012040, arXiv:1007.0595, arXiv:0912.0660)

DAMA/LIBRA 1-6

		DAMA/ LIBRA 1-0
Source	Main comment	Cautious upper limit (90%C.L.)
RADON	Sealed Cu box in HP Nitrogen atmosphere, 3-level of sealing, etc.	<2.5×10 ⁻⁶ cpd/kg/keV
TEMPERATURE	3-level of sealing, etc. Installation is air conditioned+ detectors in Cu housings directly in contact with multi-ton shield→ huge heat capacity + T continuously recorded	<10 ⁻⁴ cpd/kg/keV
NOISE	Effective full noise rejection near threshold	<10 ⁻⁴ cpd/kg/keV
ENERGY SCALE	Routine + instrinsic calibrations	$<1-2\times10^{-4}$ cpd/kg/keV
EFFICIENCIES	Regularly measured by dedicated calibrations	<10 ⁻⁴ cpd/kg/keV
BACKGROUND	No modulation above 6 keV; no modulation in the (2-6) keV multiple-hits events; this limit includes all possible sources of background	<10 ⁻⁴ cpd/kg/keV
SIDE REACTIONS	Muon flux variation measured at LNGS	<3×10 ⁻⁵ cpd/kg/keV

+ they cannot satisfy all the requirements of annual modulation signature



Thus, they can not mimic the observed annual modulation effect

Can a possible thermal neutron modulation account for the observed effect?

Thermal neutrons flux measured at LNGS:

$$\Phi_{\rm n} = 1.08 \ 10^{-6} \ {\rm n \ cm^{-2} \ s^{-1}} \ ({\rm N.Cim.A101}(1989)959)$$

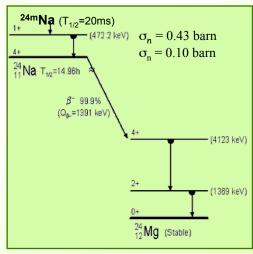
• Experimental upper limit on the thermal neutrons flux "surviving" the neutron shield in DAMA/LIBRA:

➤ studying triple coincidences able to give evidence for the possible presence of ²⁴Na from neutron activation:

$$\Phi_{\rm n}$$
 < 1.2 × 10⁻⁷ n cm⁻² s⁻¹ (90%C.L.)

• Two consistent upper limits on thermal neutron flux have been obtained with DAMA/NaI considering the same capture reactions and using different approaches.





Evaluation of the expected effect:

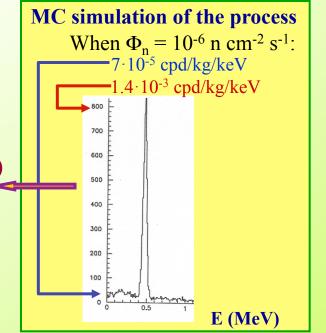
► Capture rate = $\Phi_n \sigma_n N_T < 0.022$ captures/day/kg

HYPOTHESIS: assuming very cautiously a 10% thermal neutron modulation:

 \sim $S_m^{\text{(thermal n)}} < 0.8 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cpd/kg/keV (< 0.01\% S}_m^{\text{observed}})$

In all the cases of neutron captures (24Na, 128I, ...) a possible thermal n modulation induces a variation in all the energy spectrum

Already excluded also by R₉₀ analysis



See also arXiv:1007.0595

The ¹²⁸I case

So

0.008

0.006

0.004

Environmental neutrons (mainly thermal and epithermal) can be captured by Iodine (arXiv:1006.5255); can the produced 128 I be responsible of the observed modulation? \rightarrow **The answer is no.**

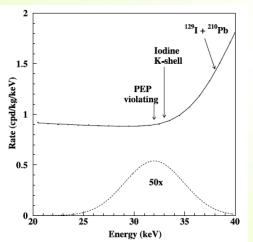
128I decay schemaMode
 β^- Branching r. (%)
93.1Q-value (keV)
2119EC+ β^+ 6.91252

X-rays and Auger electrons produced in EC can release all the energy in the detectors (single-hit), corresponding to the atomic binding energy either of the K-shell (32 keV) or

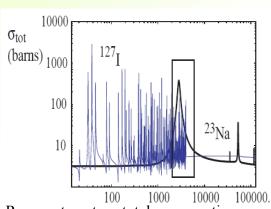
of the L-shells (4.3 to 5 keV) of the ¹²⁸Te

- 1) L-shells contribution ⇒ gaussian around 4.5 keV
- 2) Contribution (2-4) keV ≈ contribution (6-8) keV
- 3) K-shell contribution around 30 keV must be 8 times larger than that of L-shell
- 4) ¹²⁸I also decays by β^- with much larger branching ratio than EC and with β^- end-point energy at 2 MeV
- no modulation observed at high energy

From EPJC62(2009)327, 128 I activity <15 μ Bq/kg (90%CL).

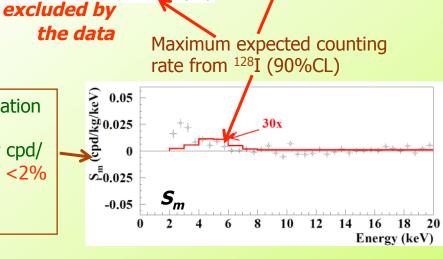


Even assuming a 10% modulation in the neutron flux (!?), the contribution to S_m is $<3\times10^{-4}$ cpd/kg/keV at low energy (that is <2% of the observed modulation amplitudes)



Resonant neutron total cross sections of neutrons on Sodium and Iodine $E_n(eV)$

Energy (keV)



E(keV)

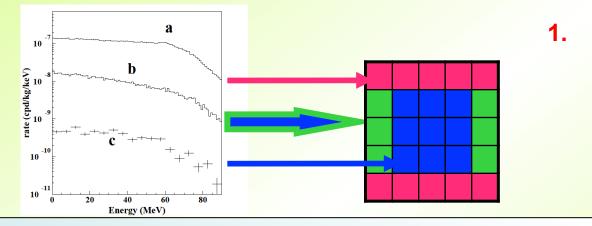
No role is played by 128I

The µ case

MonteCarlo simulation

- muon intensity distribution
- Gran Sasso rock overburden map

events where just one detector fires



Case of fast neutrons produced by μ

 Φ_{\parallel} @ LNGS \approx 20 μ m⁻²d⁻¹ (±2% modulated) Measured neutron Yield @ LNGS: $Y=1-7\ 10^{-4}\ n/\mu/(g/cm^2)$

 $R_n = (fast n by \mu)/(time unit) = \Phi_{\mu} Y M_{eff}$

 $M_{\rm eff} = 15 \text{ tons}; \ g \approx \varepsilon \approx f_{\rm AE} \approx f_{\rm single} \approx 0.5 \text{ (cautiously)}$

Knowing that: $M_{\text{setup}} \approx 250 \text{ kg}$ and $\Delta E=4\text{keV}$

Annual modulation amplitude at low energy due to u modulation:

$$S_{m}^{(\mu)} = R_{n} g \epsilon f_{\Delta E} f_{\text{single}} 2\% / (M_{\text{setup}} \Delta E)$$

 $g = \text{geometrical factor}; \quad \varepsilon = \text{detection effic. by elastic scattering}$ $f_{\Delta E}$ = energy window (E>2keV) effic.; f_{single} = single hit effic.



$$S_{\rm m}^{(\mu)} < (0.4 \div 3) \times 10^{-5} \, {\rm cpd/kg/keV}$$

Moreover, this modulation also induces a variation in other parts of the energy spectrum and in the *multi-hits* events It cannot mimic the signature: already excluded also by R_{00} , by multi-hits analysis + different phase, etc.

Can (whatever) hypothetical cosmogenic products be considered as side effects, assuming that they might produce:

- · only events at low energy,
 - · only single-hit events,
 - no sizable effect in the multiple-hit counting rate
 - pulses with time structure as scintillation light

But, its phase should be (much) larger than μ phase, t_{μ} :

• if $\tau << T/2\pi$:

• if $\tau >> T/2\pi$:

• if $\tau >> T/2\pi$:

• if $\tau >> T/2\pi$:

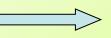
It cannot mimic the signature: different phase

The phase of the muon flux at LNGS is roughly around middle of July and largely variable from year to year. Last meas, by LVD and BOREXINO partially overlapped with DAMA/NaI and fully with DAMA/LIBRA: 1.5% modulation and phase $LVD = July 5^{th} \pm 15 d$, BOREXINO = $July 6^{th} \pm 6 d$

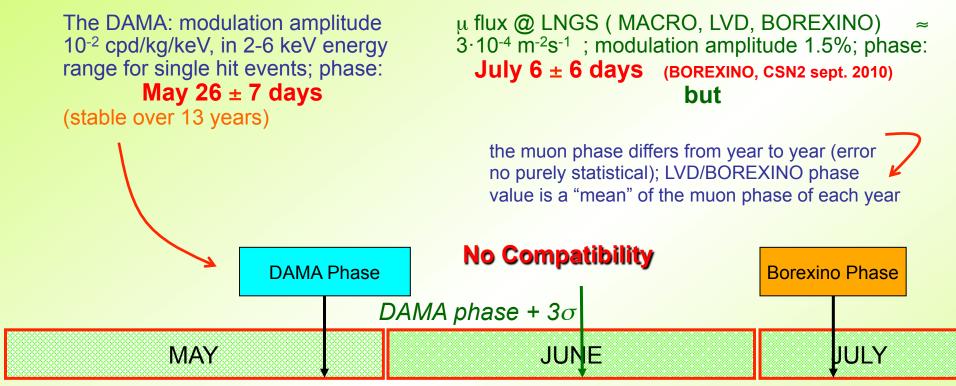
DAMA/NaI + DAMA/LIBRA measured a stable phase: May, 26th ± 7 days

This phase is 7.1σ far from July 15th and is 5.7σ far from July 6th

R₉₀, multi-hits, phase, and other analyses







The DAMA phase is 5.7σ far from the LVD/BOREXINO phases of muons (7.3 σ far from MACRO measured phase)

- if we assume for a while that the real value of the DAMA phase is June 16th (that is 3σ fluctuation from the measured value), it is well far from all the measured phases of muons by LVD, MACRO and BOREXINO, in all the years
- 2) Moreover, considering the seasonal weather condition in Gran Sasso, it is quite impossible that the maximum temperature of the outer atmosphere (on which μ flux modulation is dependent) is observed in the middle of June

Inconsistency of the phase between DAMA signal and μ modulation

Can muons crossing DAMA/LIBRA produce "something", 3. able to mimic the observed modulation?

For example, naive suggestions as e.g. delayed phosphorescent pulses induced by the muons interaction in the NaI(TI) crystals, producing events in the low energy region (see e.g. arXiv:1102.0815)

- Φ_{μ} @ LNGS \approx 20 μ m⁻²d⁻¹ (±1.5% modulated); DAMA/LIBRA surface \approx 0.15 m²;
- Φ_μ @ DAMA/LIBRA ≈ 2.5 μ/day; Muon modulation amplitude @ DAMA/LIBRA ≈ 0.04 μ/day;
- Single-hit modulation amplitude measured in DAMA/LIBRA: S_m(2-6 keV)·ΔE·M ≈ 10⁻² cpd/kg/keV × 4 keV × 250 kg ≈10 counts / day



The number of μ is too low to explain the DAMA observed modulation; in fact, each μ would have to produce about 270 (~10 counts/day / (0.04 μ /day)) single-hit correlated events in 2-6 keV energy range in a relatively short period (hours, days?), but

- By the way such hypothesis should have <u>dramatic</u> consequences for NaI(TI) at sea level, precluding its use in nuclear and particle physics.
- 2) Phosphorescence pulses (as afterglows) show themselves as single and spare photoelectrons. As known, the time structure of single p.e. (10 ns) are well different from scintillation pulses (250 ns). They are already identified and rejected in the data analysis (pulse profile recorded!!)
- 3) Because of the poissonian fluctuation on the number of μ, no statistically-significant effect can be produced by any correlated events. In such case the fluctuation of the expected modulation amplitude must be 15 times larger than the measured one
- 4) Inconsistency of the phase between DAMA signal and muon modulation: the DAMA phase is 5.7σ far from the LVD/BOREXINO phases of muons (see e.g. other slide)
- 5) etc.

Summarizing

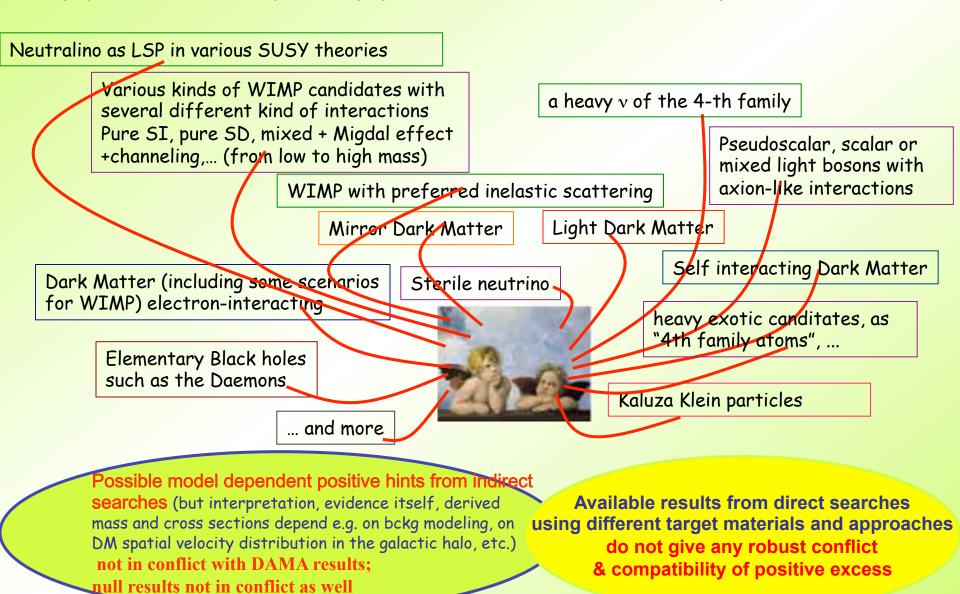
- Presence of modulation for 13 annual cycles at 8.9σ C.L. with the proper distinctive features of the DM signature; all the features satisfied by the data over 13 independent experiments of 1 year each one
- The total exposure by former DAMA/NaI and present DAMA/LIBRA is 1.17 ton x yr (13 annual cycles)
- In fact, as required by the DM annual modulation signature:
- 1. The single-hit events show a clear cosine-like modulation, as expected for the DM signal
- 2. Measured period is equal to (0.999±0.002) yr, well compatible with the 1 yr period, as expected for the DM signal
- 3. Measured phase (146±7) days is well compatible with 152.5 days as expected for the DM signal

- 4. The modulation is present only in the low energy (2-6) keV interval and not in other higher energy regions, consistently with expectation for the DM signal
- **5.** The modulation is present only in the single-hit events, while it is absent in the multiple-hits as expected for the DM signal
- 6. The measured modulation amplitude in NaI(TI) of the single-hit events in (2-6) keV is: (0.0116 ± 0.0013) cpd/kg/keV (8.9σ C.L.).

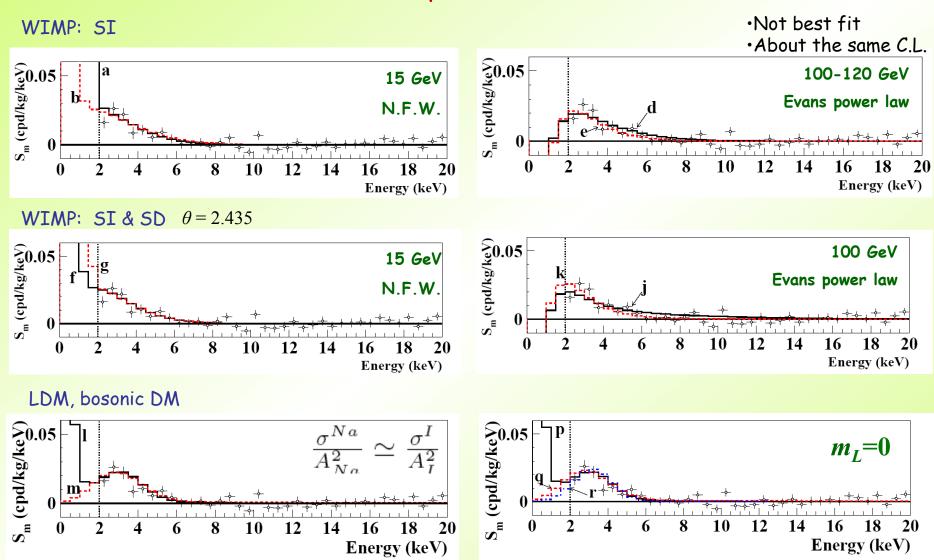
No systematic or side process able to simultaneously satisfy all the many peculiarities of the signature and to account for the whole measured modulation amplitude is available

Model-independent evidence by DAMA/NaI and DAMA/LIBRA

well compatible with several candidates (in several of the many possible astrophysical, nuclear and particle physics scenarios); other ones are open



Just few <u>examples</u> of interpretation of the annual modulation in terms of candidate particles in <u>some scenarios</u>



EPJC56(2008)333

Compatibility with several candidates; other ones are open

About model dependent exclusion plots

Selecting just one simplified model framework, making lots of assumptions, fixing large numbers of parameters ... but...

- which particle?
- which couplings? which model for the coupling?
- which form factors for each target material and related parameters?
- which nuclear model framework for each target material?
- Which spin factor for each case?
- which scaling laws?
- which halo profile?
- which halo parameters?
- which velocity distribution?
- which parameters for velocity distribution?
- which v_0 ?
- which v_{esc} ?
- ...etc. etc.



road sign or labyrinth?

and experimental aspects ...

- marginal and "selected" exposures
- •Threshold, energy scale and energy resolution when calibration in other energy region (& few phe/keV)?

 Stability? Too few calibration procedures and often not in the same running conditions
- ·Selections of detectors and of data
- handling of (many) "subtraction" procedures and stability in time of all the cuts windows and related quantities, etc.? Efficiencies?
- fiducial volume vs disuniformity of detector response in liquids?
- •Used values in the calculation (q.f., etc)
- •Used approximations etc., etc.? (see e.g. arXiv:1005.3723v1, 1005.0838v3,0806.0011v2, PLB637(2006)156



+ no uncertainties accounted for

no sensitivity to DM annual modulation signature

Different target materials

DAMA implications often presented in incorrect/ incomplete/non-updated way

Exclusion plots have no "universal validity" and cannot disproof a model independent result in any given general model framework (they depend not only on the general assumptions largely unknown at present stage of knowledge, but on the details of their cooking) + **generally overestimated** + methodological robustness (see R. Hudson, Found. Phys. 39 (2009) 174)

On the other hand, possible positive hints (above an estimated background) should be interpreted. Large space for compatibility.

DAMA/NaI & DAMA/LIBRA vs the recent results on 2010 (positive recoil-like excesses)

- Cogent: low-energy rise in the spectrum
 (irriducible by the applied background reduction procedures) + annual modulation
- after data selection and cuts, 2 Ge candidate recoils survive in an exposure of 194.1 kg x day (0.8 estimated as expected from residual background)
- CRESST: after data selection and cuts, 32 O candidate recoils survive in an exposure of ≈ 400 kg x day (8.7±1.2 estimated as expected from residual background)

All these recoil-like excesses, if interpreted in WIMP scenarios, are also compatible with the DAMA annual modulation result

146 kg-day TIZI days since Dec 3 2009 10/27/07 08/05/07 Ch5/6 Light Yield 100 Energy [keV]

Some recent literature discussing compatibility in various frameworks e.g.:

- Low mass neutralino (PRD81(2010)107302, PRD83(2011) 015001, arXiv:1003.0014,arXiv:1007.1005v2, arXiv: 1009.0549, arXiv:1003.0682)
- Inelastic DM (PRD79(2009)043513, arXiv:1007.2688)
- Mirror DM in various scenarios (arXiv:1001.0096, Berezhiani et al.)
- Resonant DM (arXiv:0909.2900)
- DM from exotic 4th generation quarks (arXiv:1002.3366)

- Composite DM (arXiv:1003.1144)
- Light scalar WIMP through Higgs portal (arXiv:1003.2595)
- SD Inelastic DM (arXiv:0912.4264)
- Complex Scalar Dark Matter (arXiv:1005.3328)
- Isospin-Violating Dark Matter (arXiv:1102.4331)
- ... and more considering the uncertainties

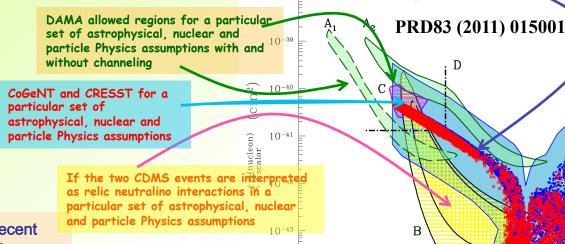
... some examples appeared in literature...

Supersymmetric expectations in MSSM

- Assuming for the neutralino a dominant purely SI coupling
- when releasing the gaugino mass unification at GUT scale: M₁/ M₂≠0.5 (<);

(where M_1 and M_2 U(1) and SU(2) gaugino masses)

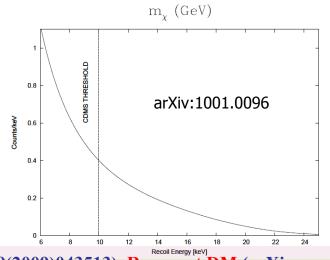
... windows for compatibility also in some recent model dependent results for COGENT (arxiv.org: 1003.0014)



Mirror Dark Matter

- DAMA compatible with O' interactions
- Recoil energy spectrum predicted for the CDMS II
- > The two CDMS events are compatible with Fe' interactions

DAMA/Libra which probe the lighter O' component. Note that our estimate of $\epsilon \sqrt{\xi_{Fe'}}$ from the CDMSII events can be combined with the $\epsilon \sqrt{\xi_{O'}}$ value inferred from the DAMA/Libra experiment to yield $\xi_{Fe'}/\xi_{O'} \approx 10^{-2}$. It is interesting that this is the same order of magnitude as the corresponding quantity for ordinary matter in our galaxy and demonstrates that our combined interpretation of the DAMA/Libra experiment and the two CDMSII events is plausible.



10

100

Relic neutralino in effMSSM

Some other papers on compatibility among results: Inelastic DM (PRD79(2009)043513), Resonant DM (arXiv: 0909.2900), Cogent results (arXiv:1002.4703), DM from exotic 4th generation quarks (arXiv:1002.3366), Light WIMP DM (arXiv:1003.0014,1007.1005), Composite DM (arXiv:1003.1144), Light scalar WIMP through Higgs portal (arXiv:1003.2595), exothermic DM (arXiv:1004.0937), iDM on Tl (arXiv:1007.2688), ...



what next

Continuously running



 Replacement of all the PMTs with higher Q.E. ones concluded



New PMTs with higher Q.E.:

- Continuing data taking in the new configuration also below the present 2 keV software energy threshold
- Reaching even higher C.L. for the model independent result and highly precisely all the modulation parameters to further investigate among the many possible scenarios for DM candidates, interactions, halo models, nuclear/atomic properties, etc..
- Investigation on dark matter peculiarities and second order effect
- Special data taking for other rare processes.



Conclusions

- Positive evidence for the presence of DM particles in the galactic halo now supported at 8.9 σ C.L. (cumulative exposure 1.17 ton \times yr 13 annual cycles DAMA/NaI and DAMA/LIBRA)
- The modulation parameters determined with better precision
- Full sensitivity to many kinds of DM candidates and interactions both inducing recoils and/or
 e.m. radiation. That is not restricted to DM candidate inducing only nuclear recoils
- No experiment exists whose result can be directly compared in a model independent way with those by DAMA/NaI & DAMA/LIBRA
- Recent excesses in direct searches above an evaluated background are when interpreted as induced by some DM candidates compatible with DAMA in many scenarios; null searches not in robust conflict. Consider also the experimental and theoretical uncertainties.
- Indirect model dependent searches not in conflict.
- Investigations other than DM





- Upgrade in fall 2010 concluded: replacement of all PMTs with new ones having higher Q.E. to lower the software energy threshold and improve general features.
- Collect a suitable exposure in the new running conditions to improve the knowledge about the nature of the particles and on features of related astrophysical, nuclear and particle physics aspects.
- Investigate second order effects
- R&D towards a possible 1 ton ULB NaI(Tl) set-up experiment DAMA proposed in 1996

DAMA/LIBRA still the highest radiopure set-up in the field with the largest sensitive mass, full control of running conditions, the largest duty-cycle, exposure orders of magnitude larger than any other activity in the field, etc., and the only one which effectively exploits a model independent DM signature

