Estimation of ³²Si and ³²P background rate in CDMS II experiment

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XXV DAE-BRNS High Energy Physics Symposium, IISER Mohali, India

December 12 – 16, 2022







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Evidences for Dark matter



Cryogenic Dark Matter Search II

- Cryogenic Dark Matter Search (CDMS) is a direct dark matter search experiment located in Soudan, MN, USA (2003 - 09).
- Types of interactions:
 - Nuclear recoil (NR) :
 - dark matter, neutrinos interacts with the nucleus.
 - Electron recoil (ER) :
 - β , γ interacts with the atomic electrons.
- A voltage bias across the detector makes the e⁻ and h⁺ to drift towards their respective electrodes
- Ability to discriminate between NRs and ERs aids in background rejection
- At high voltages (HV) detector loses the ability to discriminate between ER and NR.





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Backgrounds in underground labs

• All direct DM experiments are rare event searches. Hence, a thorough understanding of the backgrounds in data is necessary.

Background	Туре	Source	Mitigation
Neutrinos, cosmic rays	Cosmogenic	Solar and atmospheric neutrinos for CEvNS, Muons and neutrons from cosmic rays	None for neutrinos but annual modulation signals vary for DM and neutrinos, underground depth for cosmic rays
Detector-internal contamination(β- decays)	Cosmogenic	³ H, ³² Si	None – Measure and model the background
Material activation and contamination(α , β and γ decays)	Radiogenic	⁴⁰ K, ⁶⁰ Co, ²³⁸ U, ²³² Th, Cu, ²²² Rn	Detector shielding, and model background

- Si HV detectors are essential for probing sub GeV dark matter as CDMS takes its next run at SNOLAB called SuperCDMS SNOLAB.
- Understanding the ³²Si background is very crucial for a significant improvement in SuperCDMS sensitivity.

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Motivation for ³²Si background study



• Nominal value (green dashed line) is the DAMIC measurement of 80^{+110}_{-65} counts kg⁻¹ d⁻¹ (JINST 10 (2015) P08014)

• ³²Si isotope is an inherent impurity in Si detectors. It emits beta particles which creates ER backgrounds.

 $β^{-}$ decay of ³²Si : ³²Si β^{-} ³²P β^{-} ³²S (Stable) Endpoint energy Half life (keV) ³²Si 227 153 years

³²P 1710 14 days

CDMS-II Tower Design



ZIP detector schematic



Tower with 6 ZIP detectors

- Each detector has
 - Four phonon channels A, B, C and D.
 - Two charge channels, outer and inner.
- Dimension:
 - 76 mm in diameter
 - 10 mm in thickness

Tower configuration



- CDMS II used total 30 ZIP detectors in a 5 tower configuration.
- 19 Ge detectors and 11 Si detectors.

	Ge	Si
Mass	~ 250	~ 100 g
	g	
Bias voltage	3 V	4 V

 Observable for the analysis: Total charge energy (qsum)

³²Si analysis flowchart



Signal modeling: ³²Si and ³²P decay spectrum





→ Fermi theory of beta decay:

$$N(T_{e}) = C \sqrt{T_{e}^{2} + 2T_{e}m_{e}} (Q - T_{e})^{2} (T_{e} + m_{e}) F(Z, T_{e})$$

→ Relatavistic Fermi function (Bethe-Bacher): $F_R(Z,T_e) = F_{NR}(Z,T_e) [T_e^2(1+4\gamma^2)-1]^s$ We use the beta-decay spectrum obtained from
BetaShape as a ³²Si and
³²P signal model in this analysis

J. Phys. G: Nucl. Phys. 11 (1985) 359-364.

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Charge energy spectrum for CDMS II Si detector



- Charge energy spectrum of single ERs in Si detector is obtained after applying event selection cuts:
 - Basic cuts (removes bad events originating from hardware/DAQ related issue)
 - Quality cuts (optimize data quality through additional analysis)

Linearity check of charge energy scale



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Charge energy resolution



- We look for 356 keV events in the nearest neighboring Ge detectors to check the resolution of the Si detectors at high energies (\sim 3000 keV).
- The above model is used to fit the combined resolution of Ge and Si.

Simulation to modeling other backgrounds

 Other backgrounds need to be simulated using CDMS II geometry.

	Backgrounds
Cosmogenic	⁷ Be, ¹⁴ C, ²² Na
Radiogenic	⁶⁰ Co, ⁴⁰ K, ²³⁸ U, ²³² Th, ²²² Rn

- → We will be using GEANT4 simulation to model our backgrounds.
- → We will use likelihood analysis to estimate ³²Si and ³²P background rate.



Geometry used in Global Gamma Monte Carlo

Summary and future work

• Summary:

- We have shown total charge energy spectrum from all the Si detector after optimizing all the cuts.
- Linearity check of the charge energy scale has been done.
- To model the other backgrounds detector resolution has been estimated.
- We have investigated and compiled a list of all possible backgrounds for our analysis.

• Future work:

- GEANT4 based simulation is ongoing to model other backgrounds for this analysis and to calculte cut efficiency.
- Understand and implement likelihood analysis to estimate ³²Si decay rate.



The SuperCDMS Collaboration





Back up

Source of ³²Si



Transportation of cosmogenically produced ³²Si : (A) stream and pond, (B) surface sands, (C) ocean and lakes.

Ref : Astroparticle Physics 99 (2018) 9-20. arXiv:1708.00110

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List of cuts for this analysis

Basic cuts

- Remove events during data taking with hardware/DAQ related issues.
- 1. Not random
- 2. Voltage bias
- 3. Bias flashtime
- 4. Analysis threshold
- 5. Bad detector
- 6. Charge pre-pulse standard deviation
- 7. Saturated charge pulse

Data quality cuts

- Applied in addition to the basic cuts.
 - **1. Glitch cut:** removes electronic glitches.
 - 2. Charge x² cut: pulse shape cut applied on charge signal.
 - **3. Fiducial volume cut:** selects bulk events.
 - **4. Alpha cut:** removes alpha events.
 - **5. ER band cut:** selects electron recoil events.

Detection principle



- → The detectors are operated at cryogenic temperature (~ 50 mK).
- A particle interacting with the detector creates phonons and electron-hole pairs.
- Superconducting tungsten Transition Edge Sensors (TES)



 \rightarrow Superconducting layer on the surface operating near T_c



 Read out of phonon energy as an electronic signal due to change in TES resistance