New signals and old backgrounds in dark matter direct detection

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with Spencer Chang and Itay Yavin, Phys.Rev.D 85 063505 (2012)

with Maxim Pospelov, arXiv:1203.0545

CERN, March 16, 2012

Part I

- signal modulation in dark matter direct detection experiments
- DAMA & CoGeNT and the "muon-hypothesis"
- new signatures from dark matter modulation

Part II

- dark matter vs. neutrinos from the sun
- "baryonic" neutrinos ν_b
- direct detection experiments as ν_b observatories?

one species three signals?



- **DAMA**: 250 kg of scintillating Nal crystals, running since 1995, exposure in excess of 1 ton x year, no discrimination
- **CoGeNT**: 440 g Ge crystal, 442 live days; ionization only, no discrimination
- **CRESST**: scintillation and phonons; 730 kg days, multi-target



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"take away message"

- cosmic muons as origin for DAMA modulation strongly disfavoured
 - different in phase
 - different in correlation
 - possibly different in power
 - possibly different in amplitude
- similar conclusions hold for CoGeNT modulation
- there is more than "one modulation"

signal modulation in direct detection



[cpd/kg/keV]

see e.g. [Druiker et al, 1986; Freese et al, 1988; Savage et al, 2009]

Friday, 16 March, 12

signal modulation in direct detection

$$\frac{dR}{dE_R} = N_T n_{\rm DM} \int_{v \ge v_{min}} d^3 \mathbf{v} \, v f_{\rm LAB}(\mathbf{v}) \frac{d\sigma}{dE_R}$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$f_{\rm GAL}(\mathbf{v}_{\rm obs} + \mathbf{v})$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{\rm obs} = \mathbf{v}_{\odot} + V_{\oplus} \left[\varepsilon_1 \cos \omega \left(t - t_1 \right) + \varepsilon_2 \sin \omega \left(t - t_1 \right) \right]$$

$$|\mathbf{v}_{\rm obs}| = |\mathbf{v}_{\odot}| + \frac{1}{2} V_{\oplus} \cos \omega (t - t_0)$$

 $t_0 \simeq 152 \,\mathrm{days} \quad (\mathrm{June} \, 2\mathrm{nd})$

see e.g. [Druiker et al, 1986; Freese et al, 1988; Savage et al, 2009]



signal modulation in direct detection

$$\frac{dR(t)}{dE_R} \propto \int_{v_{min}}^{\infty} \frac{f(v)}{v} dv \simeq c_0(v_{min}) + c_1(v_{min}) \cos\left[\omega(t-t_0)\right]$$



~ 3% TOAMA/LIBRA



- scintillation from Nal-crystals
- 8σ+ modulation
- phase consistent as expected from WIMPs

$$t_0 \simeq 2$$
 June

 $= 152.5 \,\mathrm{days}$

[Bernabei et al. 2010]



- underground flux sourced mainly by primary meson decays (pions, kaons,...) => muons need to be TeV-like to reach underground
- competition between secondary meson interactions vs. decay depends on air-density
 - => muon flux correlated with temperature

$$\frac{\Delta I_{\mu}}{I_{\mu}^{0}} = \alpha_{T} \frac{\Delta T_{\text{eff}}}{T_{\text{eff}}} \qquad \qquad T_{\text{eff}} = \int_{0}^{\infty} dX \, T(X) W(X)$$

• flux peaks in Summer (on northern hemisphere)



Muon Flux underground

- many measurements available, correlation with $T_{\rm eff}$ firmly established
 - LNGS: Macro, LVD, Borexino (DAMA location)
 - Soudan Mine: MINOS (CoGeNT location)
 - South Pole: Amanda, Icecube



[Borexino 2011]

 Large Volume liquid scintillator Detector (LVD) reports underground muon-flux at LNGS => temporal overlap with DAMA data





renewed interest in muons as DAMA background, see e.g.
 [Ralston, 2010], [Nygren, 2011], [Blum, 2011]

• very recent response by DAMA [Bernabei, 2012]



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 muons can either directly hit the detector or indirectly, by spallation of nuclei which leads to neutron flux

=> guaranteed source of background (especially if un-vetoed)

 in this talk we will base our analysis exclusively on the time-series of events in both data sets

=> we are ignorant to how the signal formation process concretely happens

=> but if we can make firm statements already it means that this approach is very model-independent and thus conservative

• evenly spaced data $d_i = d(t_i)$ discrete FT

$$P(\omega) \propto \left| \sum_{i} d_{i} \exp(-i\omega t_{i}) \right|^{2} = \left[\left(\sum_{i} d_{i} \cos(\omega t_{i}) \right)^{2} + \left(\sum_{i} d_{i} \sin(\omega t_{i}) \right)^{2} \right]$$

unevenly spaced data: Lomb-Scargle Periodogram

$$LS(\omega) = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sum_{i} \cos^{2} (\omega \tilde{t}_{i})} \left[\sum_{i} d_{i} \cos (\omega \tilde{t}_{i}) \right]^{2} + \frac{1}{\sum_{i} \sin^{2} (\omega \tilde{t}_{i})} \left[\sum_{i} d_{i} \sin (\omega \tilde{t}_{i}) \right]^{2} \right\}$$
$$\tilde{t}_{i} \equiv t_{i} - \tau$$

- invariant to shifts in time origin
- if d_i is pure noise (with unit variance)

$$\Pr(P > p) = e^{-p}$$

DAMA/LIBRA

LVD muons



no power on timescales > lyr

DAMA/LIBRA

LVD muons



adopting DAMA's procedure of subtracting baseline on each cycle suppresses power on timescales longer than I yr (see also Blum, 2011)

BUT

DAMA/LIBRA, 2012



LS of baselines O(10) data points, no significant power!

DAMA/LIBRA, 2012

LVD muons





LS of baselines O(10) data points, no significant power! LS of muon baselines O(10) data points no significant power neither!

DAMA/LIBRA, 2012



- with a small dataset it is hard to achieve statistical significance
 - => normalized power

$$P(\omega) = LS(\omega)/\sigma^2$$

 power spectrum of baselines alone does NOT convincingly show that there is indeed no long term modulation in DAMA

=> DAMA should provide baseline rates



- interpret data as sinusoidal variations
- phase of DAMA/LIBRA incompatible with muons

$$0 \quad \omega = 2\pi/1 \mathrm{yr}:$$

 $t_0(\text{DAMA}) = (131 \pm 13) \text{ days}$ $t_0(\text{LVD}) = (187 \pm 2) \text{ days}$



two studies suggest that phase can potentially in agreement

Selvi for LVD collaboration finds $t_0({\rm LVD})_{\rm LVD-collab} = (185\pm15)\,{\rm days}$ $\chi^2/dof = 577/362$

adopting this procedure we find

 $t_0(\text{LVD}) = (186 \pm 2) \text{ days !}$



[Selvi for LVD, 2009]



- two studies suggest that phase can potentially in agreement
 - I. Selvi for LVD collaboration finds $t_0(\text{LVD})_{\text{LVD-collab}} = (185 \pm 15) \text{ days}$ $\chi^2/dof = 577/362$

adopting this procedure we find

 $t_0(\text{LVD}) = (186 \pm 2) \text{ days !}$

[Selvi for LVD, 2009]

suspecting that Selvi used reduced χ^2 for construction of confidence region => confidence interval overestimated



• two studies suggest that phase can potentially in agreement

2. Blum, 2011: nice observation that *direct* hits by muons induce produce too large spread in signal, BUT

$$s_i = rac{y N_{\mu,i}}{M \Delta E \epsilon_i t_i}$$
 \leftarrow count rate in DAMA bin i $y = \text{signal counts / muon}$

 $\langle N_{\mu,i} \rangle = A_{\text{eff}} I_{\mu,i} \epsilon_i t_i \quad \longleftarrow \text{ mean of Poisson distributed } N_{\mu,i}$

=> used to generate DAMA mock data

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=> used to generate DAMA mock data

=> redo Blum's analysis:









since period floats in fit => t_0 looses its absolute meaning!

lessons learned

I. distribution in t_0 depends on time origin

=> frequentist fits to mock-data do not define a good test statistic

- 2. we need better ways to quantify agreement/disagreement of DAMA with the Muon hypothesis
 - => preferentially without reliance on sinusoidal function
 - => look at the correlation coefficient $r \in [-1, 1]$

$$r_{XY} = \frac{\sum_{i} (X_i - \bar{X})(Y_i - \bar{Y})}{\sqrt{\sum_{i} (X_i - \bar{X})^2} \sqrt{\sum_{i} (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2}}$$

correlation study

correlation r(muon,mock=DAMA)



Q: how significant is the difference between these two?

correlation study

correlation r(muon,mock=DAMA)



CSGeNT

- 442 kg live-days
- Ge-target, ionization
- potential exponential rise toward low energies
- cosmogenic peaks
- modulation too





[Aalseth et al, 2011]



 muon measurements at CoGeNT site (Soudan Mine, MN) from MINOS experiment exist



phase analysis for CoGeNT




 muon measurements at CoGeNT site (Soudan Mine, MN) from MINOS experiment exist - but no temporal overlap





 muon measurements at CoGeNT site (Soudan Mine, MN) from MINOS experiment exist - but no temporal overlap

=> use available climate data to predict muon flux!







correlation study



no correlation with high significance!

=> CoGeNT's modulation not muon-induced

$$\frac{dR(t)}{dE_R} \propto \int_{v_{min}}^{\infty} \frac{f(v)}{v} dv \simeq c_0(v_{min}) + c_1(v_{min}) \cos\left[\omega(t-t_0)\right]$$



$$\frac{dR(t)}{dE_R} \propto \int_{v_{min}}^{\infty} \frac{f(v)}{v} dv = \sum_{n=0,1,\dots} c_n(v_{min}) \cos\left[n\omega(t-t_n)\right]$$

$$v_{min} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2m_N E_R}} \left(\frac{m_N E_R}{\mu_{N\chi}} + \delta \right)$$

- biannual mode
- triannual mode



[using f(v) from Lisanti et al, 2010]

- can be thought of as an expansion in V_\oplus/v_\odot
- once ellipticity of earth's orbit is included
 - => phase shifts between different harmonics
 - => new signature
- detection is likely to require large exposure



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"moral"

 there can be alternatives to the "light WIMP paradigm" in explaining direct detection anomalies/signals

=> diversifying physics output of direct detection experiments [see e.g. also Harnik, Kopp, Machado 2012]

Part II

"moral"

 there can be alternatives to the "light WIMP paradigm" in explaining direct detection anomalies/signals



=> diversifying physics output of direct detection experiments [see e.g. also Harnik, Kopp, Machado 2012]

Leo Stodolsky's vision of a true neutrino observatory

PHYSICAL REVIEW D

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 11

1 DECEMBER 1984

Principles and applications of a neutral-current detector for neutrino physics and astronomy

A. Drukier and L. Stodolsky Max-Planck-Institut für Physik und Astrophysik, Werner-Heisenberg-Institut für Physik, Munich, Federal Republic of Germany (Received 21 November 1983)

- superconducting grains in filler material in magnetic field
- at low temperatures specific heat ~ T^3

=> single scatter of neutrino can make grain conducting

=> magnetic field collapses, induces electric signal in detector

coherent neutrinonucleus scattering

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\cos\theta} = \frac{1}{8\pi} G_F^2 E_\nu^2 \left[Z(4\sin^2\theta_W - 1) + N \right]^2 \left(1 + \cos\theta \right)$$

• coherent enhancement N^2 for MeV-scale neutrinos from

=> spallation sources, supernovae, reactors, sun, earth

- cross section grows quadratically with neutrino energy
- helicity conservation forbids back-scattering

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(this process has not yet been observed)

=> direct DM detection

PHYSICAL REVIEW D

VOLUME 31, NUMBER 12

15 JUNE 1985

Detectability of certain dark-matter candidates

Mark W. Goodman and Edward Witten Joseph Henry Laboratories, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey 08544 (Received 7 January 1985)

We consider the possibility that the neutral-current neutrino detector recently proposed by **Drukier and Stodolsky** could be used to detect some possible candidates for the dark matter in galactic halos. This may be feasible if the galactic halos are made of particles with coherent weak interactions and masses $1-10^6$ GeV; particles with spin-dependent interactions of typical weak strength and masses $1-10^2$ GeV; or strongly interacting particles of masses $1-10^{13}$ GeV.





Witten 1985

=> direct DM detection

• nuclear recoil can be picked up in various channels:





scintillation



ionization

WIMPs vs. solar neutrinos



solar ν as a future background

I ton x year

Target	$T{>}0~{\rm keV}$	T>2 keV	T>5 keV	T>10 $\rm keV$
^{12}C	235.7	191.8	104.1	36.0
^{19}F	378.0	204.4	88.8	13.3
^{40}Ar	804.8	231.4	21.0	<1.0
76 Ge	1495.0	111.5	< 1.0	<1.0
132 Xe	2616.9	14.7	<1.0	<1.0

[Monroe 2007]

we are not too far away from this

"baryonic" neutrinos $_{\nu_b}$

M. Pospelov arXiv: 1103.3261

- introduce new left-handed neutrino species ν_b together with gauged $U(1)_b$
- ν_b couples to quarks, but not to leptons
- breaking of $U(1)_b$ gives new gauge field V_μ mass

$$\mathcal{L}_{B} = \overline{\nu}_{b} \gamma^{\mu} (i\partial_{\mu} - g_{l}q_{b}V_{\mu})\nu_{b} - \frac{1}{3}g_{b} \sum_{q} \bar{q}\gamma^{\mu}qV_{\mu} - \frac{1}{4}V_{\mu\nu}V^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}m_{V}^{2}V_{\mu}V^{\mu} + \mathcal{L}_{m}.$$

$$\nu_b$$
 sterile under SM-gauge group active under $U(1)_b$

"baryonic" neutrinos $_{\nu_b}$

M. Pospelov arXiv: 1103.3261

• for $Q^2 \ll m_V^2$ effective Lagrangian reads

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = -G_B j_{NCB}^{\mu} \sum_{N=n,p} \overline{N} \gamma_{\mu} N, \qquad G_B = q_b \frac{g_b g_l}{m_V^2}$$
$$j_{NCB}^{\mu} = \overline{\nu}_b \gamma^{\mu} \nu_b$$

• measure interaction strength in units of G_F :

$$\mathcal{N} = \frac{|G_B|}{G_F} \simeq 100 \times \left(\frac{3\,\mathrm{GeV}}{m_V}\right)^2 \left(\frac{g_l g_b}{10^{-2}}\right)$$

"baryonic" neutrinos_{vb}

M. Pospelov arXiv: 1103.3261

• baryonic neutrino can get mass from ν_R

$$\mathcal{L}_{m} = \frac{1}{2} N_{L}^{T} C^{\dagger} M N_{L} + \text{h.c.}, \quad N_{L} = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{b}' \\ \nu_{L}' \\ \nu_{R}'' \end{pmatrix}, \quad M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0^{T} & v_{b} b^{T} \\ 0 & 0 & m_{D}^{T} \\ v_{b} b & m_{D} & m_{R} \end{pmatrix}$$

• neutrinos talk via mass mixing => "sterile-active" oscillations $1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4$

$$n_{kL} = \sum_{\alpha} U_{k\alpha}^* \nu_{\alpha L}, \quad U = \begin{array}{c} e \\ \mu \\ \tau \\ b \end{array} \begin{pmatrix} U_{\text{PMNS}} \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{pmatrix}$$

"baryonic" neutrinos $_{\nu_b}$

M. Pospelov arXiv: 1103.3261

• crucial insight:

$$\frac{\sigma_{\nu_b N}(\text{elastic})}{\sigma_{\nu_b N}(\text{inelastic})} \sim \frac{A^2}{E_{\nu}^4 R_N^4} \sim \mathcal{O}(10^8)$$

this ratio makes direct detection experiments competitive with large scale neutrino experiments

deuteron breakup in SNO does not constrain scenario

matter effects

forward scattering induces matter potential

$$V_{NCB} = \pm q_b \mathcal{N} G_F n_B \left(Y_N + 2Y_{\nu_b} \right), \qquad Y_f = \frac{n_f - n_{\overline{f}}}{n_B},$$

$$V_{NCB}: V_{CC}: V_{NC} = q_b \mathcal{N}: \sqrt{2}X_p: -\sqrt{2}(1-X_p)/2,$$

 $X_p = mass fraction of protons$

=> ν_b experience largest effect in normal matter for $\mathcal{N} \gg 1$

matter effects

flavor transition amplitudes from Schrödinger eq.

$$i\frac{d}{dx}\begin{pmatrix}\psi_{\alpha\alpha}\\\psi_{\alphab}\end{pmatrix}\simeq\frac{1}{4E}\begin{pmatrix}-\Delta m_b^2\cos 2\theta_b - 2EV_{NCB}\\\Delta m_b^2\sin 2\theta_b\end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Delta m_b^2 \sin 2\theta_b \\ \Delta m_b^2 \cos 2\theta_b + 2EV_{NCB} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_{\alpha\alpha} \\ \psi_{\alpha b} \end{pmatrix}$$

 $\tan 2\theta_M = \frac{\tan 2\theta_b}{1 + 2EV_{NCB}/(\Delta m_b^2 \cos 2\theta_b)} \qquad \text{matter mixing angle}$

For
$$\Delta m_b^2 \cos 2\theta_b \ll 10^{-4} \,\mathrm{eV}^2 \times \left(\frac{E}{10 \,\mathrm{MeV}}\right) \left(\frac{\mathcal{N}}{100}\right) \left(\frac{\rho}{\mathrm{g/cm}^3}\right)$$

=> mixing angle in matter suppressed

matter effects

• considering such small values in Δm_b^2 standard solar story unfolds

$$P_b(\text{earth}) \simeq \sin^2(2\theta_b) \sin^2\left[\frac{\Delta m_b^2 L(t)}{4E}\right]$$
$$\downarrow$$
$$\mathcal{N}_{\text{eff}}^2 \equiv \frac{\mathcal{N}^2}{2} \times \sin^2 2\theta_b$$

(from a tribimaximal ansatz assuming mixing to ν_2) [see arXiv:1103.3261]

=> for fast oscillations $P_b G_B^2 \to \mathcal{N}_{eff}^2 G_F^2$

like SM-neutrinos with
$$G_F^2(N/2)^2 \rightarrow G_B^2 A^2$$

$$\frac{dR(t)}{dE_R} = N_T \left[\frac{L_0}{L(t)} \right]^2 \sum_i \Phi_i \int_{E_\nu^{\min}} dE_\nu \frac{df_i}{dE_\nu} \frac{d\sigma}{dE_R} P_b(t, E_\nu)$$

$$\uparrow \qquad \uparrow$$
overall flux average over neutrino spectrum i
$$L(t) = L_0 \left\{ 1 - \epsilon \cos \left[\frac{2\pi(t - t_0)}{1 \text{ yr}} \right] \right\} \qquad L_0 = 1 \text{ AU}$$

$$t_0 \simeq 3 \text{ Jan (perihelion)}$$

$$\epsilon = 0.0167 \text{ (eccentricity)}$$



 $N_{\rm eff} = 100$

(perfect detector)

Friday, 16 March, 12



Friday, 16 March, 12

$$\frac{dR(t)}{dE_R} = N_T \left[\frac{L_0}{L(t)} \right]^2 \sum_i \Phi_i \int_{E_{\nu}^{\min}} dE_{\nu} \frac{df_i}{dE_{\nu}} \frac{d\sigma}{dE_R} P_b(t, E_{\nu})$$

$$\uparrow$$
more modulation here

$$\frac{L_{\rm osc}}{L_0} \simeq 0.5 \times \left(\frac{10^{-10} \,\text{eV}}{\Delta m^2}\right) \begin{pmatrix} E_{\nu} \\ \overline{10 \,\text{MeV}} \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{oscillation-length on the} \\ \text{order sun-earth distance} \end{array}$$

=> flip phase for high energy part of the neutrino spectrum? explain DAMA?



• DAMA signal conveniently expressed in terms modulation amplitude S_m

$$S = S_0 + S_m \cos\left[\omega(t - t_0)\right]$$

$$S_m = \frac{1}{2} \left(\left. \frac{dR}{dE_v} \right|_{\max} - \left. \frac{dR}{dE_v} \right|_{\min} \right)$$

 $S_0 \sim 1 \, {\rm cpd/kg/keV}$ (baseline)

 $S_m / S_0 \sim 3\%$







~ 3% T DAMA/LIBRA

• Q = quenching factor

 $\frac{dL}{dx} = \frac{AdE/dx}{1 + k_B dE/dx}$

(Birk's formula)

scintillation light (L) output depends on the stopping power of the scattered nucleus

$$L \sim \frac{A}{1 + k_B \langle dE/dx \rangle} \int_0^{E_R} dE$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$E_v(\text{keVee}) = Q \times E_R(\text{keV})$$

(Q can be energy dependent)

~ 3% TOAMA/LIBRA

 new quenching factor measurements indicate smaller values

=> higher nuclear recoil energy necessary to produce same observed signal in scintillation

(for DM this means larger WIMP masses; moves light-DM DAMA region deeper into "forbidden" zone)

PRELIMINARY DATA



~ 3% TOAMA/LIBRA

 new quenching factor measurements indicate smaller values

=> higher nuclear recoil energy necessary to produce same observed signal in scintillation

(for DM this means larger WIMP masses; moves light-DM DAMA region deeper into "forbidden" zone)






phase off by ~month!



- 442 kg live-days
- Ge-target, ionization
- exponential rise toward low energies!
- cosmogenic peaks
- indication of modulation





[Aalseth et al, 2011]



- 442 kg live-days
- Ge-target, ionization
- exponential rise toward low energies
- cosmogenic peaks subtracted
- will not address modulation here!









- additional surface background
- rise at lowest
 recoil energies
 near threshold
 will be revised
- for DM this means smaller cross sections





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constraints: XENON100

- 100.9 live-days x 48 kg fiducial;
- 3 events in acceptance region; use "maximum gap" method to set limit
- require SI \geq 4PE's (scintillation); account for quality and ER rejection cuts; smear with Poissonian resolution
- use $\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{eff}}$ extrapolated to 0 at 2keV

$$S1(E_R) = 3.6 \,\mathrm{PE} \times E_R \times \mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{eff}}$$



$\underbrace{\text{CONSTANT A Strain Strain$

- $\begin{bmatrix} 31 \\ E_d \end{bmatrix}$, $E_d = 2.00 \text{ kV/cm}$ of scard scintillation vignal => buys e-background, wins lower threshold
 - ionization only (S2)

 $[32], E_d = 0.73 \text{ kV/cm}$

[18], $E_d = 1.00 \text{ kV/cm}$

- use $E_{\min} = 1.4 \text{ keV}$
- include Poisson

 $S_{2} = Q_{y} E_{R_{0}}$ nuclear recoil energy E_{nc} [keV]

 n_e (large uncertainty in number of ionized electrons [Collar, 2011])

=> resulting bounds uncertain





constraints: CDMS-II low thresh.

- use data from Ge-detectors (same target as CoGeNT)
- "binned Poisson" sensitivity to ν_b technique 0.25 $1 - \alpha = (1 - \alpha_{\rm bin})^{N_{\rm bin}}$ 104 6 Recoil energy (keV Event rate (probability to see as 10° few events as observed 10 15 5 20 in one bin Recoil energy (keV)

[Z.Ahmed et al, 2010]

(more sophisticated ways to treat detectors may lead to stronger limits)

constraints: SIMPLE



- superheated droplets from $C_2 Cl F_5$ (total active mass ~0.2kg)
- light target! use exposure 14.8 kg days (Stage I of Phase II)
- threshold ~ 8 keV
- observed: 9 events; expected (neutron) background ~12
- include heat transfer and bubble nucleation efficiency
- we use simple Poisson on Stage I including bkg.

constraints from 'null' searches



Results from 730 kg days of the CRESST-II Dark Matter Search

G. Angloher¹, M. Bauer², I. Bavykina¹, A. Bento^{1,5}, C. Bucci³, C. Ciemniak⁴, G. Deuter², F. von Feilitzsch⁴, D. Hauff¹, P. Huff¹, C. Isaila⁴, J. Jochum², M. Kiefer¹, M. Kimmerle², J.-C. Lanfranchi⁴, F. Petricca¹, S. Pfister⁴, W. Potzel⁴, F. Pröbst^{1a}, F. Reindl¹, S. Roth⁴, K. Rottler², C. Sailer², K. Schäffner¹, J. Schmaler^{1b}, S. Scholl², W. Seidel¹, M. v. Sivers⁴, L. Stodolsky¹, C. Strandhagen², R. Strauß⁴, A. Tanzke¹, I. Usherov², S. Wawoczny⁴, M. Willers⁴, and A. Zöller⁴

arXiv:1109.0702

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CRESST-II, a neutrinob observatory?



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arXiv:1109.0702

CRESST-II, a neutrinob observatory?

- 8 CaWO₄ crystals, total of 730 kg days effective exposure
- measure scintillation light and phonons from nuclear recoil
- in a nutshell: 67 events in acceptance region; only half of which can (currently) be attributed to backgrounds.

=> assess the viability of a signal we have to deal with the backgrounds (at least in some minimal way)



CRESST

fits

 we follow CRESST in their modelling of backgrounds
 => e/gamma events known
 => others essentially flat distributed



CRESST

fits

- we follow CRESST in their modelling of backgrounds
 => e/gamma events known
 => others essentially flat distributed
- use Poisson log-Likelihood to fit ν_b

$$\chi_P^2 = 2\sum_i \left[y_i - n_i + n_i \ln\left(\frac{n_i}{y_i}\right) \right]$$

• best fit yields

 $\chi_P^2/d.o.f. = 27.8/28$ (recoil spectrum only)



putting it all together



- CRESST-II
- CoGeNT
 - DAMA
 - CoGeNT hull
 - CRESST-II excl.
- --- CDMS-II low th.
- - Xenon100
- Xenon10 low th.

outlook

--this model is (very) testable--



outlook II

neutrino searches?

 elastic scattering off scintillating mineral oil [Borexino is the best candidate experiment]



outlook III

- inelastic processes ?
 - => ¹²C excitation in neutrino searches (4.4 MeV gamma)
 - => more generally, look for nuclear excitations

e.g. "Kamland-Zen bump"



- astrophysical consequences
 - => stellar cooling constraints
 - => CMB Neff = 4 ?

=> SN: nearby / dynamics of explosions / sensitivity to tiny mass splittings

conclusions

• "Old Backgrounds"

=> cosmic ray muon flux unlikely source for the modulation signals in DAMA and CoGeNT

=> DAMA can do better in convincing us that the above is true

"New Signals"

=> periodic signals contain higher harmonics which may provide further discriminating power in telling background from signal

=> entertained a model of neutrinos which can give similar "DM-like" signals in DM direct detection experiments