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Direct detection of Dark Matter Particles

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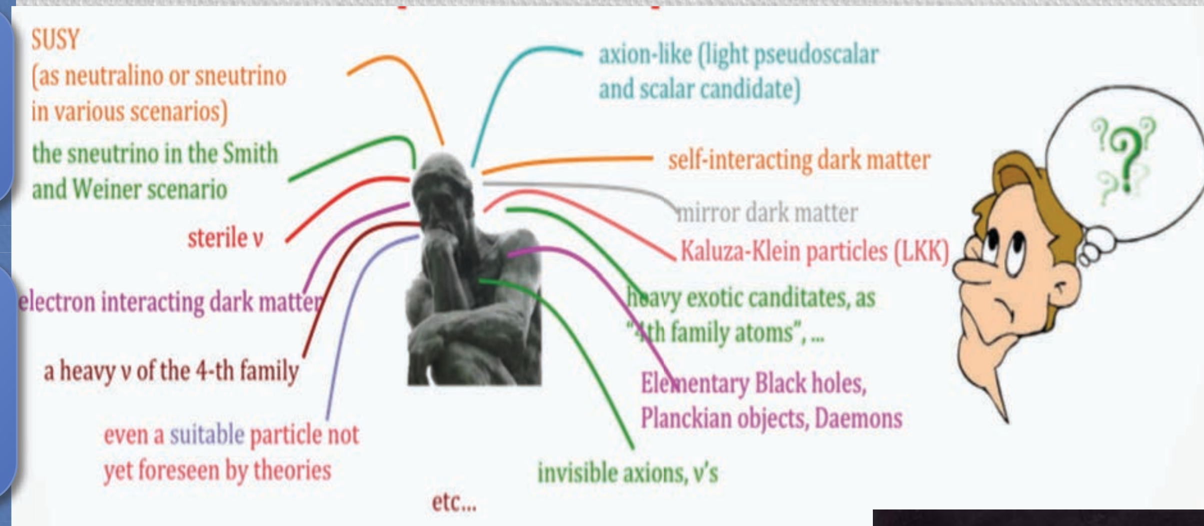
Relic DM particles from primordial Universe

What accelerators can do:
to demostrate the existence of some of the DM candidates

What accelerators cannot do:
to credit that a certain particle is a DM solution or the “only” DM particle solution…

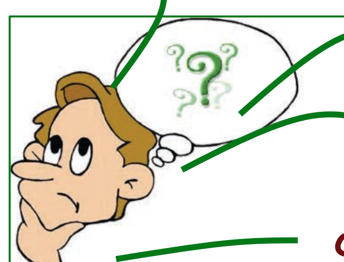


+ DM candidates and scenarios exist (even for neutralino candidate) on which accelerators cannot give any information

DM direct detection using a model independent approach and a very low-background widely-sensitive target material

Right halo model and parameters?

- DM multicomponent also in the particle part?
- Right related nuclear and particle physics?



Non thermalized components?

Caustics?

clumpiness?

etc

2 different questions:

- ✓ Are there Dark Matter particles in the galactic halo?

  e.g.: The exploitation of the DM annual modulation signature with highly radiopure NaI(Tl) as target material can permit to answer to this question by direct detection and in a way largely independent on the nature of the candidate and on the astrophysical, nuclear and particle Physics assumptions → DAMA/NaI and DAMA/LIBRA

- ✓ Which is exactly the nature of the DM particle(s) and the related astrophysical, nuclear and particle Physics scenarios?

  Always model-dependent corollary analyses required

REMARK: It does not exist any approach to investigate the nature of the candidate in the direct and indirect DM searches, which can offer this latter information independently on assumed astrophysical, nuclear and particle Physics scenarios…

Some direct detection processes:

- Inelastic Dark Matter: W + N → W* + N

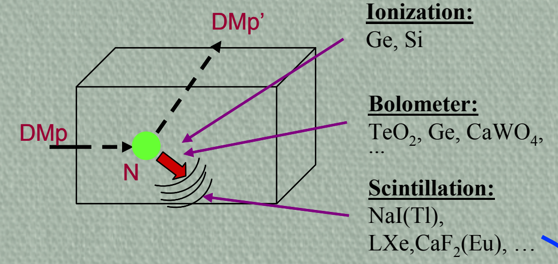
→ W has 2 mass states $\chi+$, $\chi-$ with δ mass splitting

→ Kinematic constraint for the inelastic scattering of $\chi-$ on a nucleus

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

- Elastic scatterings on nuclei

→ detection of nuclear recoil energy

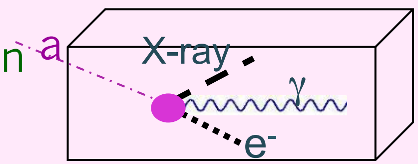


- Excitation of bound electrons in scatterings on nuclei

→ detection of recoil nuclei + e.m. radiation

- Conversion of particle into e.m. radiation

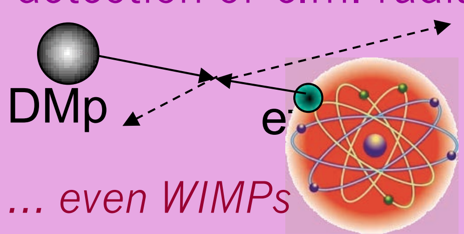
→ detection of γ, X-rays, e^-



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

- Interaction only on atomic electrons

→ detection of e.m. radiation

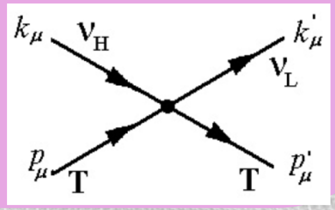


... even WIMPs

- Interaction of light DMp (LDM) on e^- or nucleus with production of a lighter particle

→ detection of electron/nucleus recoil energy

e.g. sterile ν



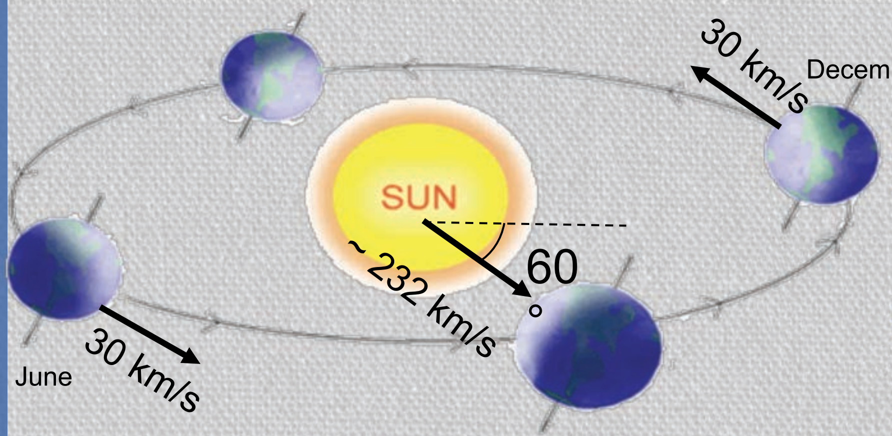
... also other ideas ...

- ... and more

The DM annual modulation: a model independent signature to investigate the DM 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 can point out its presence.

Drukier, Freese, Spergel PRD86; Freese et al. PRD88



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

$$v_\oplus(t) = v_{sun} + v_{orb}\cos\gamma\cos[\omega(t-t_0)]$$

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

Requirements of the DM 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

the DM annual modulation signature has a different origin and peculiarities (e.g. the phase) than those effects correlated with the seasons

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 relevance of ULB NaI(Tl) as target-material

- Well known technology
- High duty cycle
- Large mass possible
- "Ecological clean" set-up; no safety problems
- Cheaper than every other considered technique
- Small underground space needed
- High radiopurity by selections, chem./phys. purifications, protocols reachable
- Well controlled operational condition feasible
- Neither re-purification procedures nor cooling down/warming up (reproducibility, stability, ...)
- λ of the NaI(Tl) scintillation light well directly match PMTs sensitivity
- Uniform response in the realized detectors
- High light response (5.5 - 7.5 ph.e./keV in DAMA/LIBRA-phase1)
- Effective routine calibrations feasible down to keV in the same conditions as production runs
- Absence of microphonic noise + noise rejection at threshold (τ of NaI(Tl) pulses hundreds ns, while τ of noise pulses tens ns)
- Sensitive to many candidates, interaction types and astrophysical, nuclear and particle physics scenarios on the contrary of other proposed target-materials (and approaches)
- Sensitive to both high (mainly by Iodine target) and low mass (mainly by Na target) candidates
- Effective investigation of the annual modulation signature feasible in all the needed aspects
- Fragmented set-up
- etc.

ULB NaI(Tl) also allows the study of several rare processes

High benefits/cost

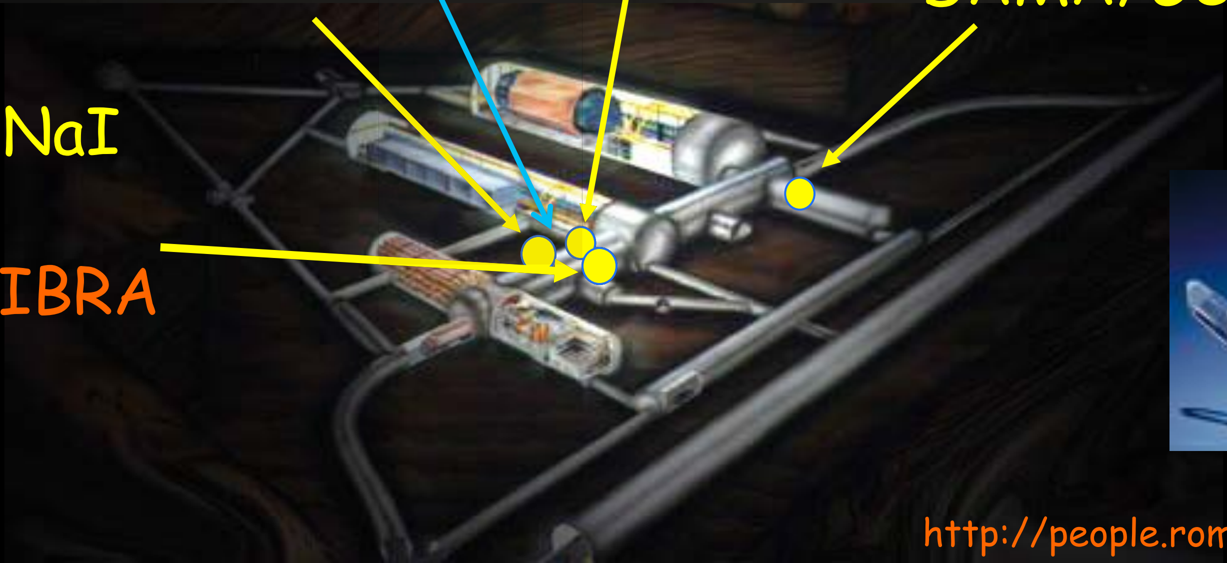
To develop ULB NaI(Tl): many years of work, specific experience in the specific detector, suitable raw materials availability/selections, developments of purification strategies, additives, growing/handling protocols, selective cuts, abrasives, etc. etc. → long dedicated time and efforts.

The developments themselves are difficult and uncertain experiments.

ULB NaI(Tl) – as whatever ULB detector - cannot be simply bought or made by another researcher for you …

Roma2,Roma1,LNGS,IHEP/Beijing

+ by-products and small scale expts.: INR-Kiev and others
(as NIIC+ITEP-Moscow+ JSC NeoChem)
+ some studies on ββ decays (DST-MAE, inter-univ. agreem.): IIT Kharagpur/Ropar, India



http://people.roma2.infn.it/dama

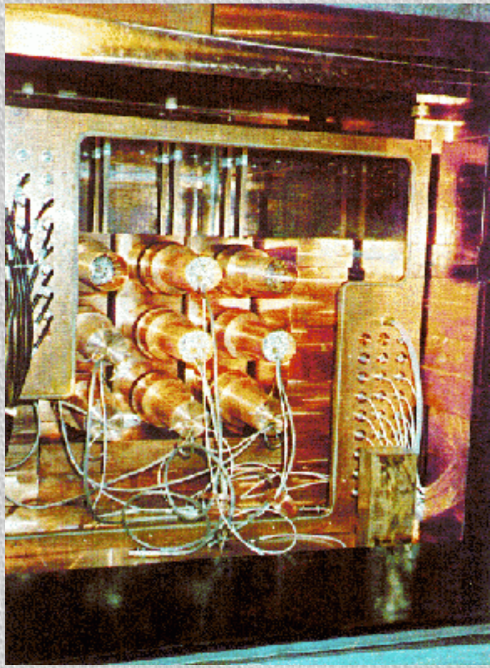
The pioneer DAMA/NaI: ≈100 kg highly radiopure NaI(Tl)

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 — PRC60(1999)065501
- Electron stability and non-paulian transitions in Iodine atoms (by L-shell) — PLB460(1999)235
- Search for solar axions — PLB515(2001)6
- Exotic Matter search — EPJdirect C14(2002)1
- Search for superdense nuclear matter — EPJA23(2005)7
- Search for heavy clusters decays — EPJA24(2005)51



data taking completed on July 2002, last data release 2003. Still producing results

Results on DM particles:

- PSD — PLB389(1996)757
- Investigation on diurnal effect — N.Cim.A112(1999)1541
- Exotic Dark Matter search — PRL83(1999)4918
- Annual Modulation Signature

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 6.3 σ C.L.

total exposure (7 annual cycles) 0.29 ton × yr

The DAMA/LIBRA set-up ~250 kg NaI(Tl)
(Large sodium Iodide Bulk for RAre processes)

As a result of a second generation R&D for more radiopure NaI(Tl)
by exploiting new chemical/physical radiopurification techniques
(all operations involving crystals and PMTs - including photos - in HP Nitrogen atmosphere)

Residual contaminations in the new DAMA/LIBRA NaI(Tl) detectors: ^{232}Th, ^{238}U and ^{40}K at level of 10^{-12} g/g

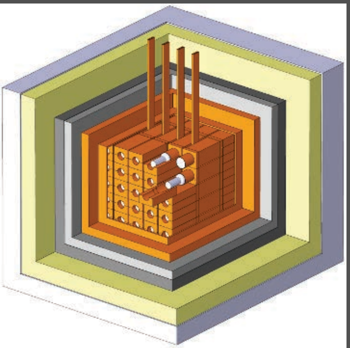
- *Radiopurity,performances, procedures, etc.:* NIMA592(2008)297, JINST 7 (2012) 03009
- *Results on DM particles: Ann. Mod. Signature:* EPJC56(2008)333, EPJC67(2010)39, EPJC73(2013)2648
- *related results:* PRD84(2011)055014, EPJC72(2012)2064, IJMPA28(2013)1330022, EPJC74(2014)2827, EPJC75 (2015) 239, EPJC75 (2015) 400
- *Results on rare processes: PEP violation in Na, I:* EPJC62(2009)327, *CNC in I:* EPJC72(2012)1920
  IPP in ^{241}Am: EPJA49(2013)64

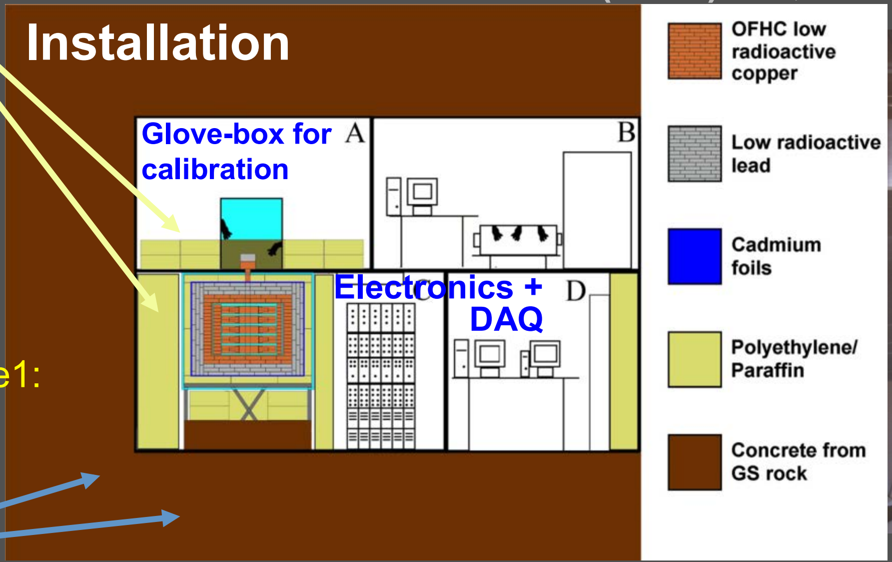
The DAMA/LIBRA set-up

For details, radiopurity, performances, procedures, etc.
NIMA592(2008)297, JINST 7(2012)03009

Polyethylene/paraffin

- 25 x 9.7 kg NaI(Tl) 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





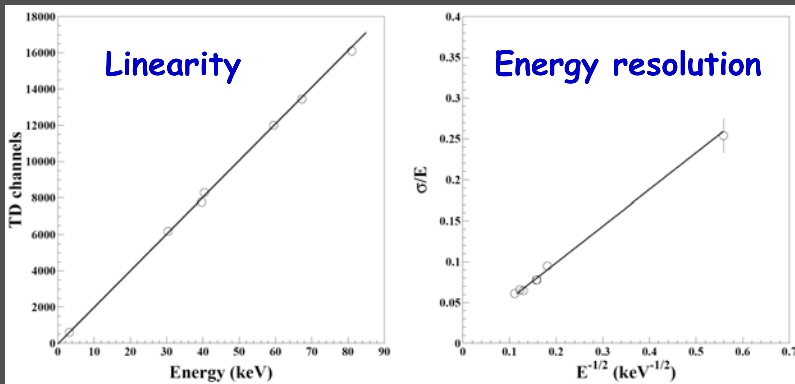
DAMA/LIBRA-phase1:
5.5-7.5 phe/keV

~ 1m concrete from GS rock

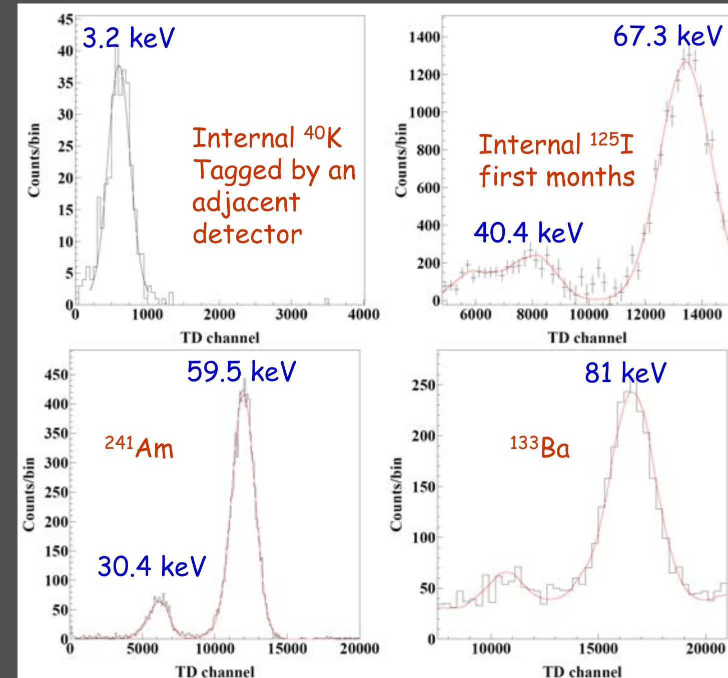
- Dismounting/Installing protocol in HPN_2
- All the materials selected for low radioactivity
- Multicomponent passive shield (>10 cm of OFHC Cu, 15 cm of boliden Pb + Cd foils, 10/40 cm Polyethylene/paraffin, about 1 m concrete, mostly outside the installation)
- Three-level system to exclude Radon 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), 1 *Gsample/s*, 8 bit, bandwidth 250 Mhz both for single-hit and multiple-hit events
- Data collected from low energy up to MeV region, despite the hardware optimization was done for the low energy

DAMA/LIBRA calibrations

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

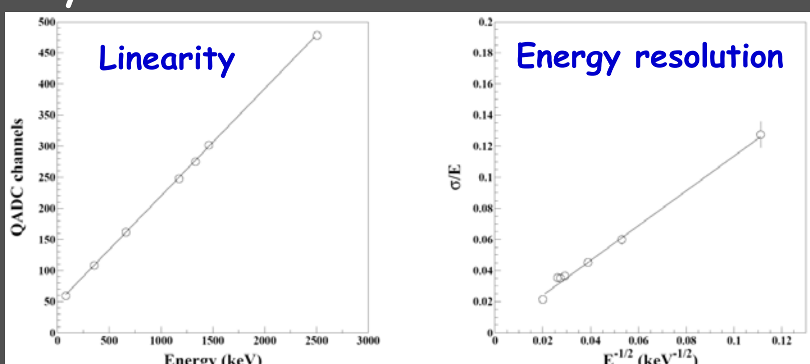


$$\frac{\sigma_{LE}}{E} = \frac{(0.448 \pm 0.035)}{\sqrt{E(keV)}} + (9.1 \pm 5.1) \cdot 10^{-3}$$



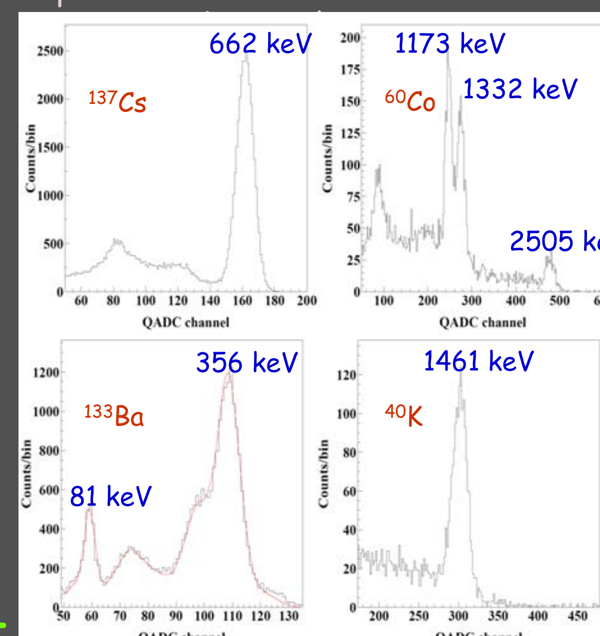
The curves superimposed to the experimental data have been obtained

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



$$\frac{\sigma_{HE}}{E} = \frac{(1.12 \pm 0.06)}{\sqrt{E(keV)}} + (17 \pm 23) \cdot 10^{-4}$$

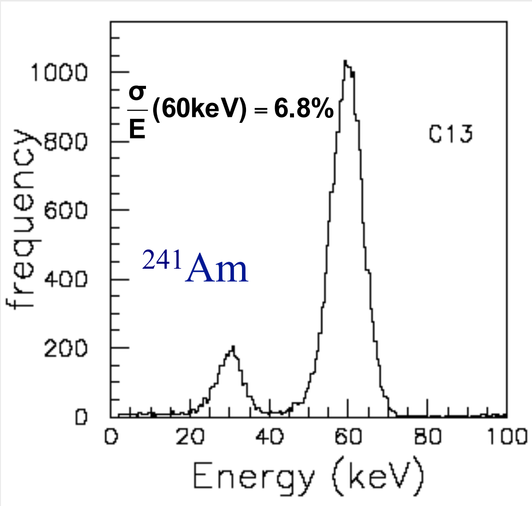
The signals (unlike low energy events) for high energy events are taken only from one PMT



Thus, here and hereafter keV means keV electron equivalent

Examples of energy resolutions

DAMA/LIBRA ULB NaI(Tl)



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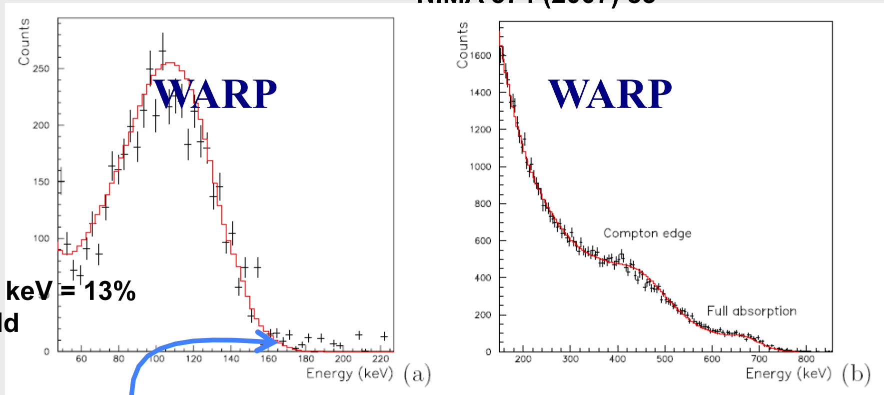

σ/E @ 122 keV = 13%
at zero field

Fig. 2. Energy spectra taken with external γ-ray sources, superimposed with the corresponding Monte Carlo simulations. (a) ^{57}Co source ($E = 122$ keV, B.R. 85.6%, and 136 keV, B.R. 10.7%), (b) ^{137}Cs source ($E = 662$ keV).

subtraction of the spectrum ?

ZEPLIN-II

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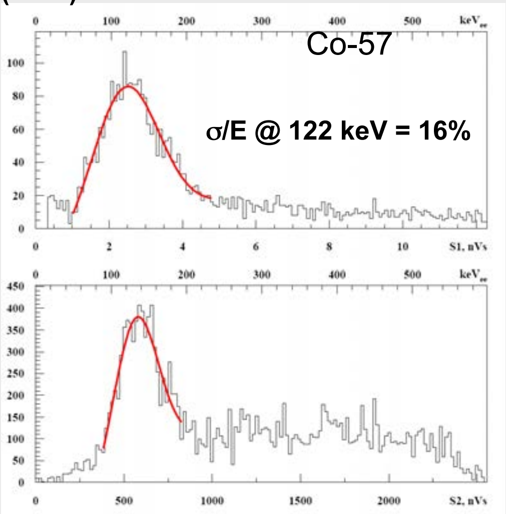


Fig. 5. Typical energy spectra for ^{57}Co γ-ray calibrations, showing S1 spectrum (upper) and S2 spectrum (lower). The fits are double Gaussian fits which incorporate both the 122 keV and 136 keV lines in the ^{57}Co γ-ray spectrum. The energy resolution of the detector is derived from the width of the S1 peak, coupled with calibration measurements at other line energies.

XENON10 XENON10

σ/E @ 122 keV = 17%

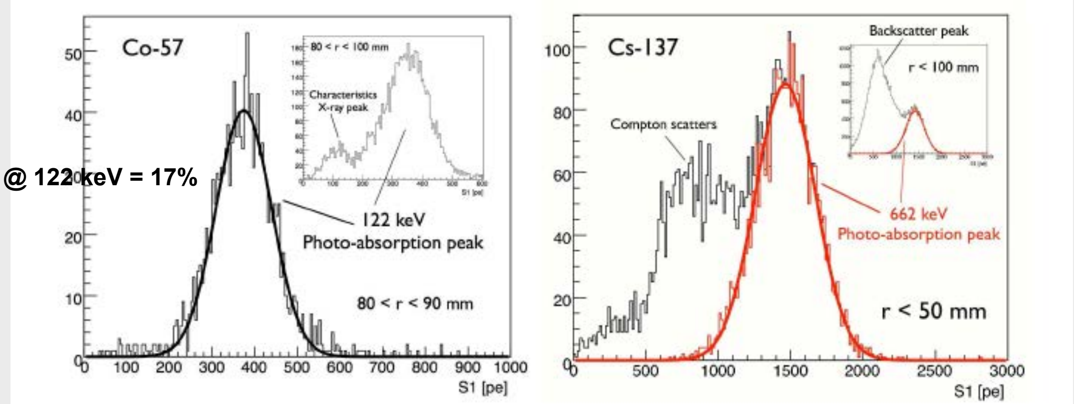
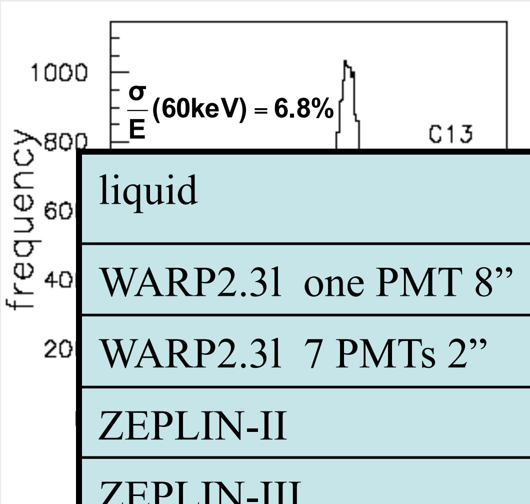


Figure 3. (left) S1 scintillation spectrum from a ^{57}Co calibration. The light yield for the 122 keV photo-absorption peak is 3.1 p.e./keV. (right) S1 scintillation spectrum from a ^{137}Cs calibration. The light yield for the 662 keV photo-absorption peak is 2.2 p.e./keV.

JoP: Conf. Ser. 65 (2007) 012015

Examples of energy resolutions

DAMA/LIBRA ULB NaI(Tl)



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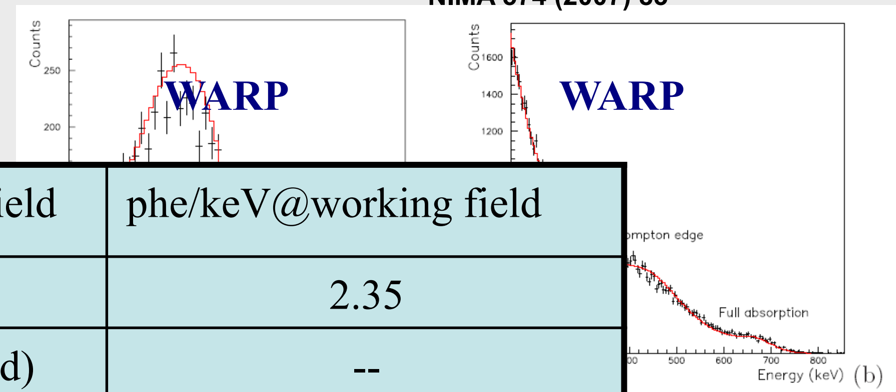

...perimposed with the
...122 keV, B.R. 85.6%,

liquid	phe/keV@zero field	phe/keV@working field
WARP2.31 one PMT 8”	--	2.35
WARP2.31 7 PMTs 2”	0.5-1 (deduced)	--
ZEPLIN-II	1.1	0.55
ZEPLIN-III		1.8
XENON10	--	2.2 (^{137}Cs), 3.1 (^{57}Co)
XENON100	2.7	1.57 (^{137}Cs), 2.2 (^{57}Co)
Neon	0.93	field not foreseen

...rum ?

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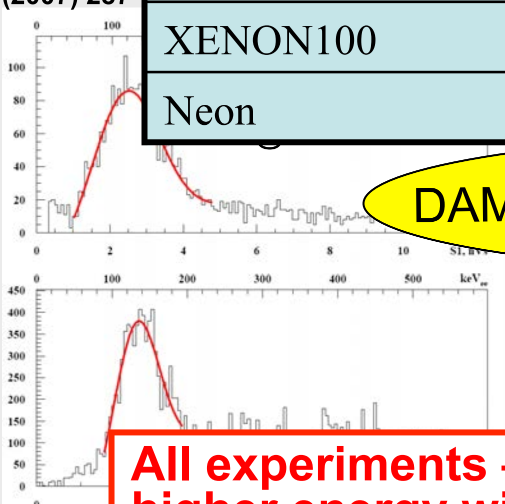
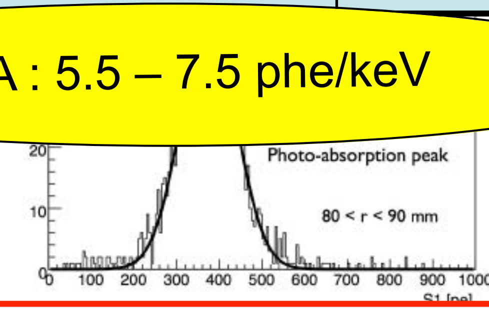
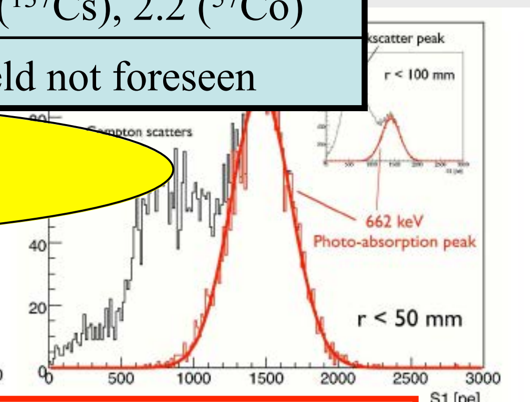


DAMA/LIBRA : 5.5 – 7.5 phe/keV





All experiments – except DAMA – use only calibration points at higher energy with extrapolation to low energy

Fig. 5. Typical energy ... (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-ray spectrum. The energy resolution of the detector is derived from the width of the S1 peak, coupled with calibration measurements at other line energies.

...he 122 keV ...ation. The light yield for the 662 keV photo-absorption peak is 2.2 p.e./keV.

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Complete DAMA/LIBRA-phase1: a ton x yr experiment? done

EPJC56(2008)333, EPJC67(2010)39, EPJC73(2013)2648

	Period	Mass (kg)	Exposure (kg×day)	$(\alpha - \beta^2)$
DAMA/LIBRA-1	Sept. 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 - Sept. 1, 2009	242.5	58768	0.519
DAMA/LIBRA-7	Sep. 1, 2009 - Sept. 8, 2010	242.5	62098	0.515
DAMA/LIBRA–phase1	Sept. 9, 2003 - Sept. 8, 2010		379795 $\simeq$ 1.04 ton×yr	0.518
DAMA/NaI + DAMA/LIBRA–phase1:			1.33 ton×yr	

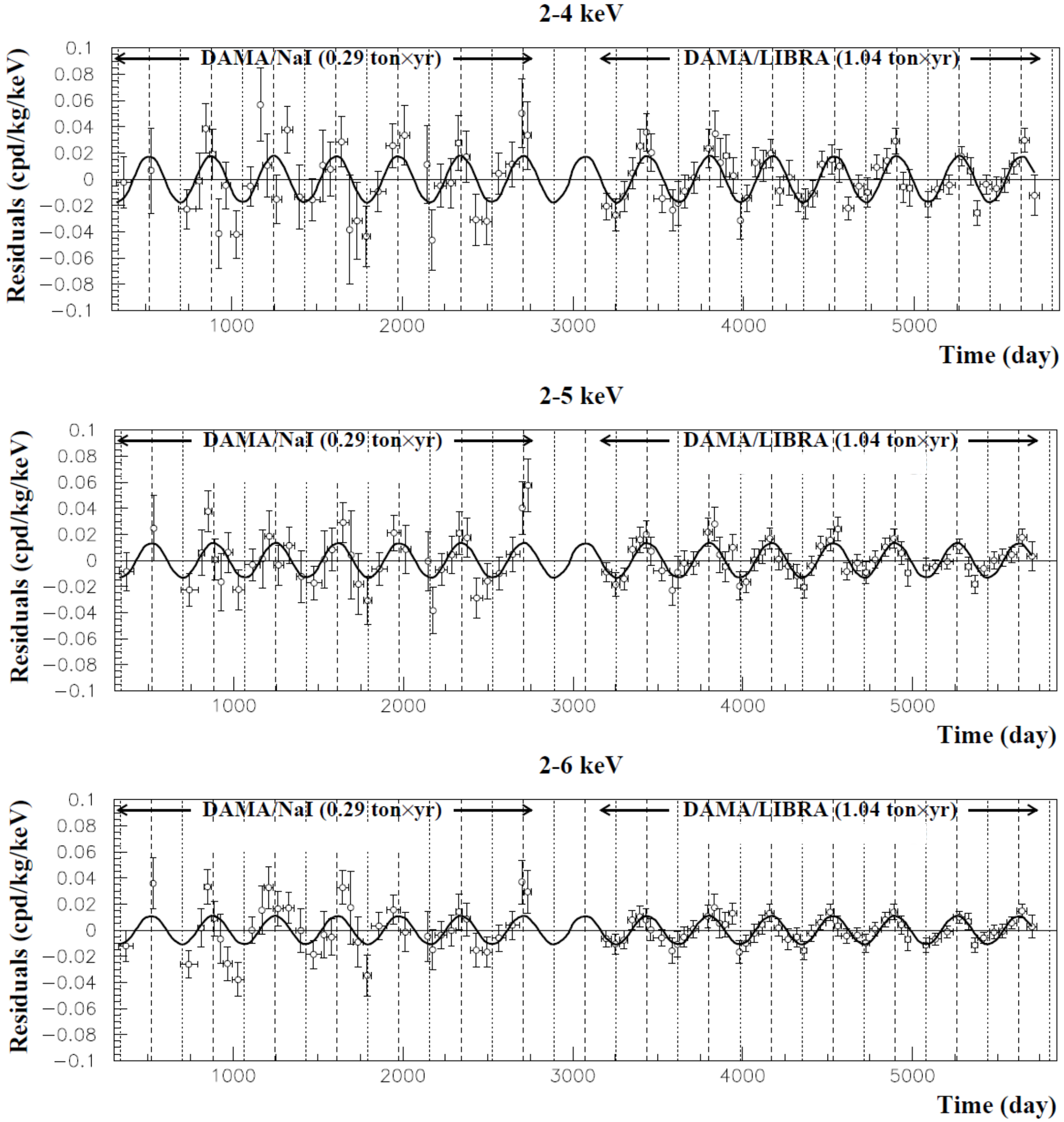
- **calibrations: $\approx$ 9.6 x 10^7 events from sources**
- **acceptance window eff**:

  95 M events ($\approx$3.5M events/keV)

Model Independent DM Annual Modulation Result

DAMA/NaI + DAMA/LIBRA-phase1 — Total exposure: 487526 kg×day = 1.33 ton×yr

experimental residuals of the single-hit scintillation events rate vs time and energy



$A\cos[\omega(t-t_0)]$;
continuous lines: t_0 = 152.5 d, T = 1.00 y

2-4 keV

A=(0.0179±0.0020) cpd/kg/keV

χ^2/dof = 87.1/86 **9.0 σ C.L.**

Absence of modulation? No

χ^2/dof=169/87 ⇒ P(A=0) = 3.7×10^{-7}

2-5 keV

A=(0.0135±0.0015) cpd/kg/keV

χ^2/dof = 68.2/86 **9.0 σ C.L.**

Absence of modulation? No

χ^2/dof=152/87 ⇒ P(A=0) = 2.2×10^{-5}

2-6 keV

A=(0.0110±0.0012) cpd/kg/keV

χ^2/dof = 70.4/86 **9.2 σ C.L.**

Absence of modulation? No

χ^2/dof=154/87 ⇒ P(A=0) = 1.3×10^{-5}

The data favor the presence of a modulated behavior with proper features at 9.2σ C.L.

Model Independent Annual Modulation Result

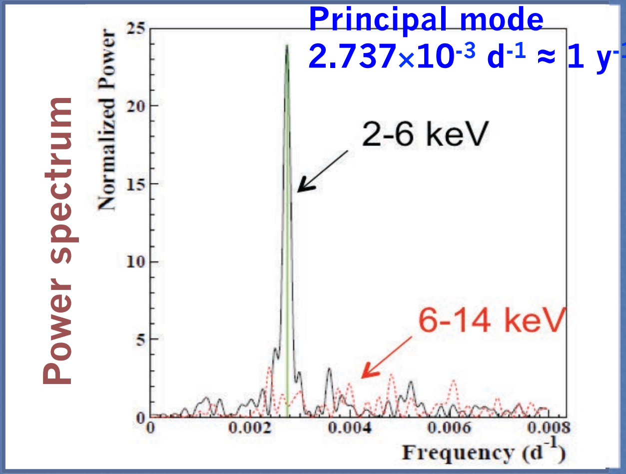
DAMA/NaI + DAMA/LIBRA-phase1 Total exposure: 487526 kg×day = 1.33 ton×yr

EPJC 56(2008)333, EPJC 67(2010)39, EPJC 73(2013)2648

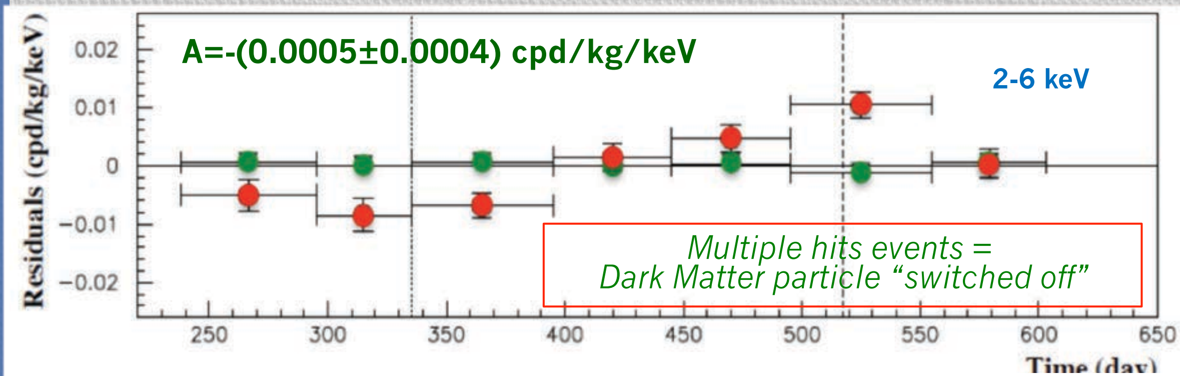
Measured modulation amplitudes (A), period (T) and phase (t_0) from single-hit residual rate vs time

	A(cpd/kg/keV)	$T=2\pi/\omega$ (yr)	t_0 (day)	C.L.
DAMA/NaI+DAMA/LIBRA-phase1				
(2-4) keV	0.0190 ±0.0020	0.996 ±0.0002	134 ± 6	9.5σ
(2-5) keV	0.0140 ±0.0015	0.996 ±0.0002	140 ± 6	9.3σ
(2-6) keV	0.0112 ±0.0012	0.998 ±0.0002	144 ± 7	9.3σ

$A\cos[\omega(t-t_0)]$



Comparison between **single hit residual rate (red points)** and **multiple hit residual rate (green points)**; Clear modulation in the single hit events; No modulation in the residual rate of the multiple hit events



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

The data favor the presence of a modulated behaviour with all the proper features for DM particles in the galactic halo at more than 9 σ C.L.

Model Independent Annual Modulation Result

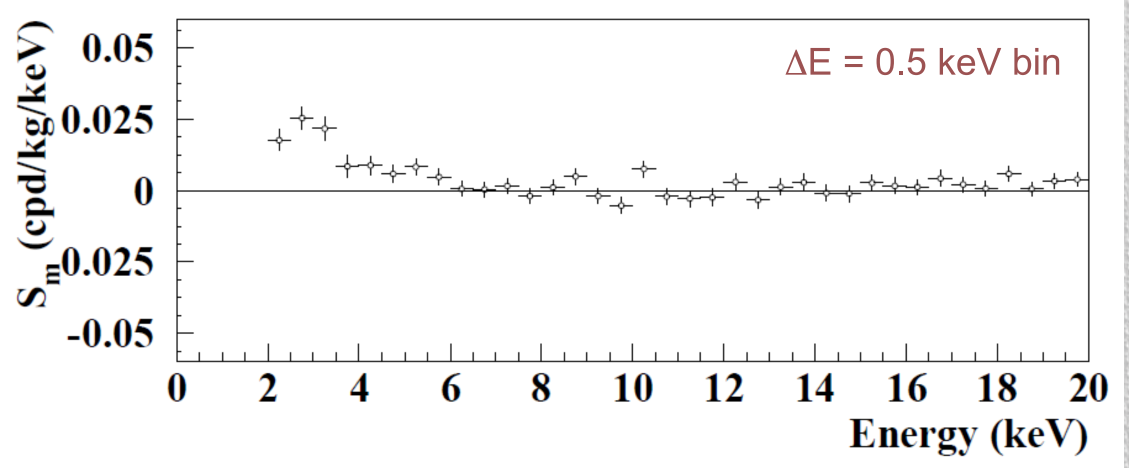
DAMA/NaI + DAMA/LIBRA-phase1

Total exposure: 487526 kg×day = **1.33 ton×yr**

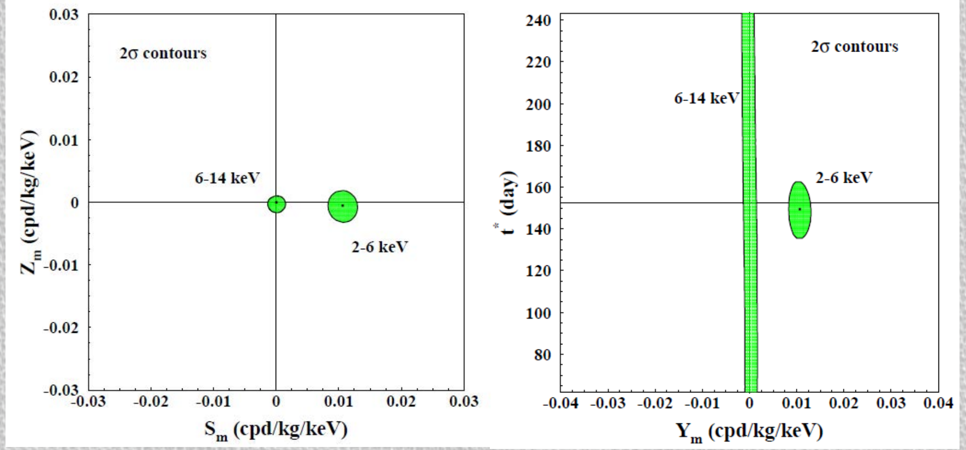
EPJC 56(2008)333, EPJC 67(2010)39, EPJC 73(2013)2648

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

T=2π/ω=1 yr and *t_0= 152.5* day



$$R(t) = S_0 + S_m \cos\left[\omega\left(t - t_0\right)\right] + Z_m \sin\left[\omega\left(t - t_0\right)\right] = S_0 + Y_m \cos\left[\omega\left(t - t^*\right)\right]$$

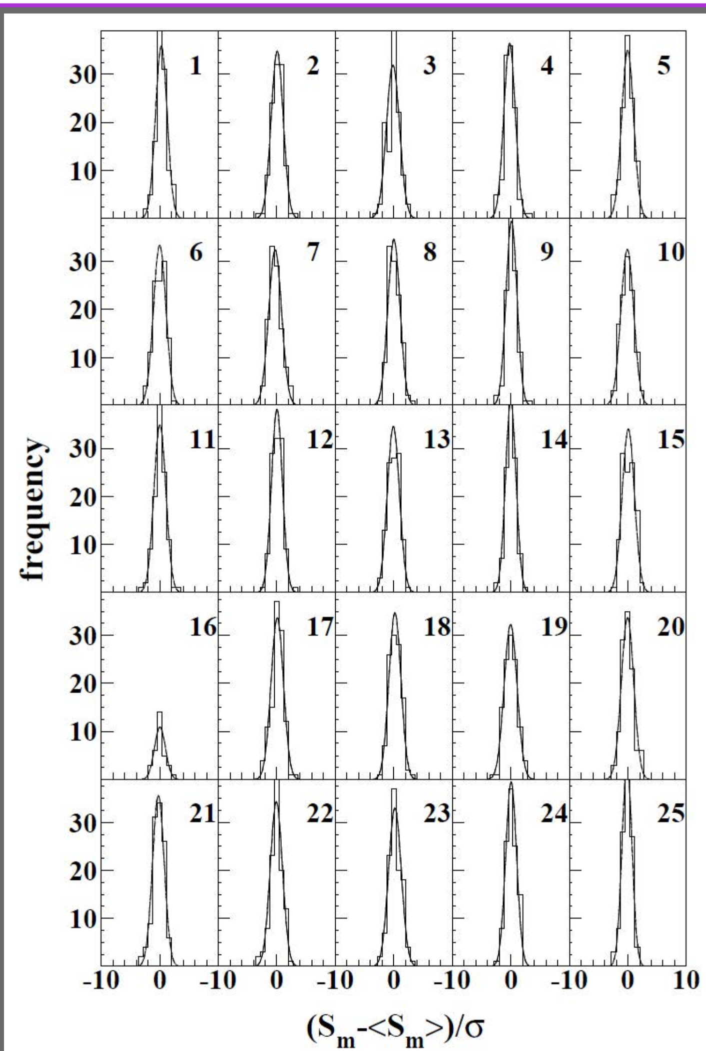


Statistical distributions of the modulation amplitudes (S_m)

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

DAMA/LIBRA-phase1 (7 years)

total exposure: 1.04 ton×yr

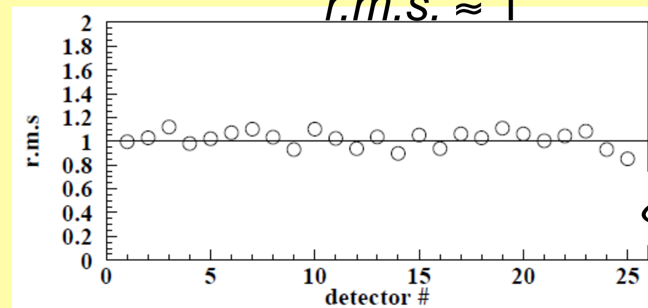


2-6 keV

Each panel refers to each detector separately; 112 entries = 16 energy bins in 2-6 keV energy interval × 7 DAMA/LIBRA-phase1 annual cycles (for crys 16, 2 annual cycle, 32 entries)

Standard deviations of
$(S_m-\langle S_m\rangle)/\sigma$
for each detectors

r.m.s. ≈ 1



0.85 < r.m.s. < 1.12

$x=(S_m-<S_m>)/\sigma,$

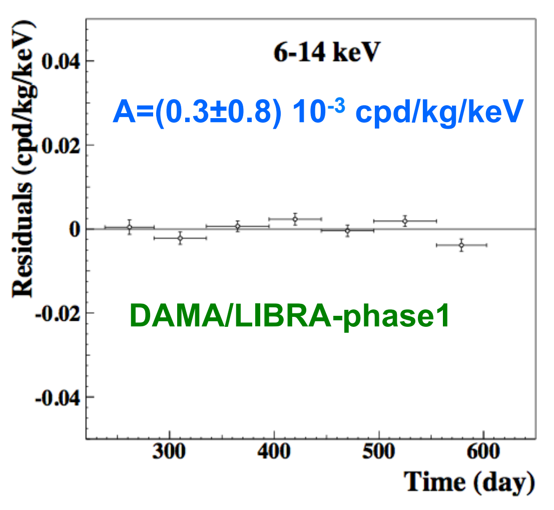
$\chi^2=\Sigma\, x^2$

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

S_m statistically well distributed in all the detectors, energy bin and annual cycles

Rate behaviour above 6 keV

• No Modulation above 6 keV

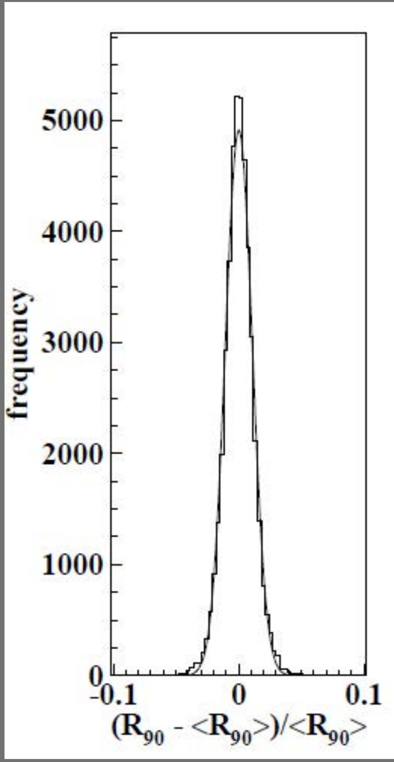


Mod. Ampl. (6-10 keV): cpd/kg/keV

(0.0016 ± 0.0031) DAMA/LIBRA-1
-(0.0010 ± 0.0034) DAMA/LIBRA-2
-(0.0001 ± 0.0031) DAMA/LIBRA-3
-(0.0006 ± 0.0029) DAMA/LIBRA-4
-(0.0021 ± 0.0026) DAMA/LIBRA-5
(0.0029 ± 0.0025) DAMA/LIBRA-6
-(0.0023 ± 0.0024) DAMA/LIBRA-7

→ statistically consistent with zero

DAMA/LIBRA-phase1



$\sigma \approx$ 1%, fully accounted by statistical considerations

• No modulation in the whole energy spectrum:

studying integral rate at higher energy, R_{90}

- R_{90} 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:

Period	Mod. Ampl.
DAMA/LIBRA-1	-(0.05±0.19) cpd/kg
DAMA/LIBRA-2	-(0.12±0.19) cpd/kg
DAMA/LIBRA-3	-(0.13±0.18) cpd/kg
DAMA/LIBRA-4	(0.15±0.17) cpd/kg
DAMA/LIBRA-5	(0.20±0.18) cpd/kg
DAMA/LIBRA-6	-(0.20±0.16) cpd/kg
DAMA/LIBRA-7	-(0.28±0.18) cpd/kg

consistent with zero

+ if a modulation present in the whole energy spectrum at the level found in the lowest energy region → R_{90} ~ tens cpd/kg → ~ 100 σ far away

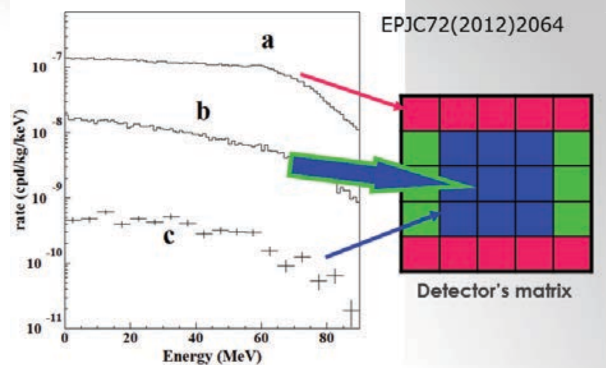
No modulation above 6 keV
This accounts for all sources of bckg and is consistent with the studies on the various components

No role for μ in DAMA annual modulation result

✓ **Direct μ interaction in DAMA/LIBRA set-up:**

DAMA/LIBRA surface ≈0.13 m^2
μ flux @ DAMA/LIBRA ≈2.5 μ/day

It cannot mimic the signature: already excluded by R_{90}, by *multi-hits* analysis + different phase, etc.



MonteCarlo simulation

✓ **Rate, R_n, of fast neutrons produced by μ:**

- Φ_μ @ LNGS ≈ 20 μ $m^{-2}d^{-1}$ (±1.5% modulated)
- Annual modulation amplitude at low energy due to μ **modulation**:

$$S_m^{(\mu)} = R_n\, g\, \varepsilon\, f_{\Delta E}\, f_{single}\, 2\% / (M_{setup}\, \Delta E)$$

$S_m^{(\mu)} < (0.3\text{-}2.4) \times 10^{-5}$ 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 by R_{90}, by *multi-hits* analysis + different phase, etc.

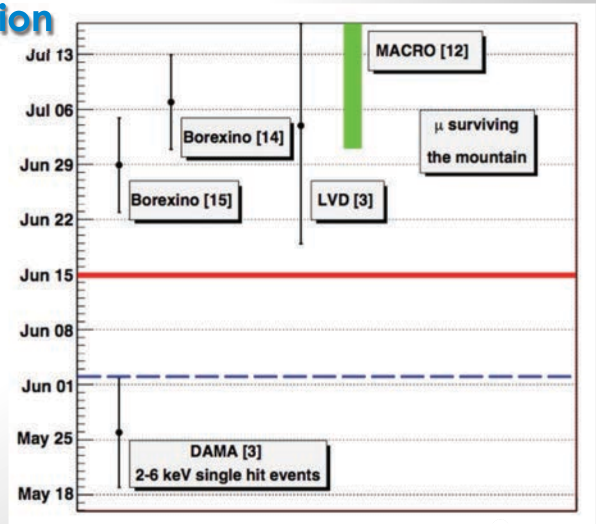
✓ **Inconsistency of the phase between DAMA signal and μ modulation**

μ flux @ LNGS (MACRO, LVD, BOREXINO) ≈3·10^{-4} $m^{-2}s^{-1}$; modulation amplitude 1.5%; **phase**: July 7 ± 6 d, June 29 ± 6 d (Borexino)

The DAMA phase: May 26 ± 7 days (stable over 13 years)

The DAMA phase is 5.7σ far from the LVD/BOREXINO phases of muons (7.1 σ far from MACRO measured phase)

Considering the seasonal weather al LNGS, quite impossible that the max. temperature of the outer atmosphere (on which μ flux variation is dependent) is observed e.g. in June 15 which is 3 σ from DAMA



… many others arguments EPJC72(2012)2064, EPJC74(2014)3196

•Contributions to the total neutron flux at LNGS;
•Counting rate in DAMA/LIBRA for *single-hit* events, in the (2 – 6) keV energy region induced by:

$$\Phi_k = \Phi_{0,k}\left(1 + \eta_k cos\omega\left(t - t_k\right)\right)$$
$$R_k = R_{0,k}\left(1 + \eta_k cos\omega\left(t - t_k\right)\right)$$

- neutrons,
- muons,
- solar neutrinos.

(See e.g. also EPJC 56 (2008) 333, EPJC 72(2012) 2064, IJMPA 28 (2013) 1330022)

EPJC74(2014)3196

Modulation amplitudes

	Source	$\Phi_{0,k}^{(n)}$ (neutrons cm^{-2} s^{-1})	η_k	t_k	$R_{0,k}$ (cpd/kg/keV)		$A_k = R_{0,k}\eta_k$ (cpd/kg/keV)	A_k/S_m^{exp}
SLOW neutrons	thermal n ($10^{-2} - 10^{-1}$ eV)	1.08×10^{-6} [15]	$\simeq 0$ however $\ll 0.1$ [2, 7, 8]	–	$< 8 \times 10^{-6}$	[2, 7, 8]	$\ll 8 \times 10^{-7}$	$\ll 7 \times 10^{-5}$
	epithermal n (eV-keV)	2×10^{-6} [15]	$\simeq 0$ however $\ll 0.1$ [2, 7, 8]	–	$< 3 \times 10^{-3}$	[2, 7, 8]	$\ll 3 \times 10^{-4}$	$\ll 0.03$
FAST neutrons	fission, $(\alpha, n) \to$ n (1-10 MeV)	$\simeq 0.9 \times 10^{-7}$ [17]	$\simeq 0$ however $\ll 0.1$ [2, 7, 8]	–	$< 6 \times 10^{-4}$	[2, 7, 8]	$\ll 6 \times 10^{-5}$	$\ll 5 \times 10^{-3}$
	$\mu \to$ n from rock (> 10 MeV)	$\simeq 3 \times 10^{-9}$ (see text and ref. [12])	0.0129 [23]	end of June [23, 7, 8]	$\ll 7 \times 10^{-4}$	(see text and [2, 7, 8])	$\ll 9 \times 10^{-6}$	$\ll 8 \times 10^{-4}$
	$\mu \to$ n from Pb shield (> 10 MeV)	$\simeq 6 \times 10^{-9}$ (see footnote 3)	0.0129 [23]	end of June [23, 7, 8]	$\ll 1.4 \times 10^{-3}$	(see text and footnote 3)	$\ll 2 \times 10^{-5}$	$\ll 1.6 \times 10^{-3}$
	$\nu \to$ n (few MeV)	$\simeq 3 \times 10^{-10}$ (see text)	0.03342 *	Jan. 4th *	$\ll 7 \times 10^{-5}$	(see text)	$\ll 2 \times 10^{-6}$	$\ll 2 \times 10^{-4}$
	direct μ	$\Phi_0^{(\mu)} \simeq 20$ μ m^{-2}d^{-1} [20]	0.0129 [23]	end of June [23, 7, 8]	$\simeq 10^{-7}$	[2, 7, 8]	$\simeq 10^{-9}$	$\simeq 10^{-7}$
	direct ν	$\Phi_0^{(\nu)} \simeq 6 \times 10^{10}$ ν cm^{-2}s^{-1} [26]	0.03342 *	Jan. 4th *	$\simeq 10^{-5}$	[31]	3×10^{-7}	3×10^{-5}

* The annual modulation of solar neutrino is due to the different Sun-Earth distance along the year; so the relative modulation amplitude is twice the eccentricity of the Earth orbit and the phase is given by the perihelion.

All are negligible with respect to the annual modulation amplitude observed by DAMA/LIBRA and they cannot contribute to the observed modulation amplitude.

+ In no case neutrons (of whatever origin), muon or muon induced events, solar ν can mimic the DM annual modulation signature since some of the **peculiar requirements of the signature** would fail (and – in addition - quantitatively negligible amplitude with respect to the measured effect).

Summary of the results obtained in the additional investigations of possible systematics or side reactions – DAMA/LIBRA-phase1

(NIMA592(2008)297, EPJC56(2008)333, J. Phys. Conf. ser. 203(2010)012040, arXiv:0912.0660, S.I.F.Atti Conf. 103(211), Can. J. Phys. 89 (2011) 11, Phys.Proc.37(2012)1095, EPJC72(2012)2064, arxiv:1210.6199 & 1211.6346, IJMPA28(2013)1330022, EPJC74(2014)3196)

Source	Main comment	Cautious upper limit (90%C.L.)
RADON	Sealed Cu box in HP Nitrogen atmosphere, 3-level of sealing, etc.	**$<2.5\times10^{-6}$ cpd/kg/keV**
TEMPERATURE	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 + intrinsic calibrations	**$<1\text{-}2\times10^{-4}$ 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	**$<3\times10^{-5}$ cpd/kg/keV**

+ they cannot satisfy all the requirements of annual modulation signature

→

Thus, they cannot mimic the observed annual modulation effect

Final model independent result
DAMA/NaI+DAMA/LIBRA-phase1

Presence of modulation over 14 annual cycles at 9.3σ C.L. with the proper distinctive features of the DM signature; all the features satisfied by the data over 14 independent experiments of 1 year each one

The total exposure by former DAMA/NaI and present DAMA/LIBRA is 1.33 ton × yr (14 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 (0.998±0.002) yr, well compatible with the 1 yr period, as expected for the DM signal

3)
Measured phase (144±7) days is well compatible with the roughly about 152.5 days as expected for the DM signal

4)
The modulation is present only in the low energy (2—6) keV energy 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-hit* ones as expected for the DM signal

6)
The measured modulation amplitude in NaI(Tl) of the *single-hit* events in the (2-6) keV energy interval is: (0.0112 ± 0.0012) cpd/kg/keV (9.3σ 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 many possible astrophysical, nuclear and particle physics scenarios)

Neutralino as LSP in various SUSY theories

Various kinds of WIMP candidates with several different kind of interactions Pure SI, pure SD, mixed + Migdal effect +channeling,… (from low to high mass)

a heavy ν of the 4-th family

Pseudoscalar, scalar or mixed light bosons with axion-like interactions

WIMP with preferred inelastic scattering

Mirror Dark Matter

Light Dark Matter

Self interacting Dark Matter

Dark Matter (including some scenarios for WIMP) electron-interacting

Sterile neutrino

heavy exotic canditates, as "4th family atoms", ...

Elementary Black holes such as the Daemons

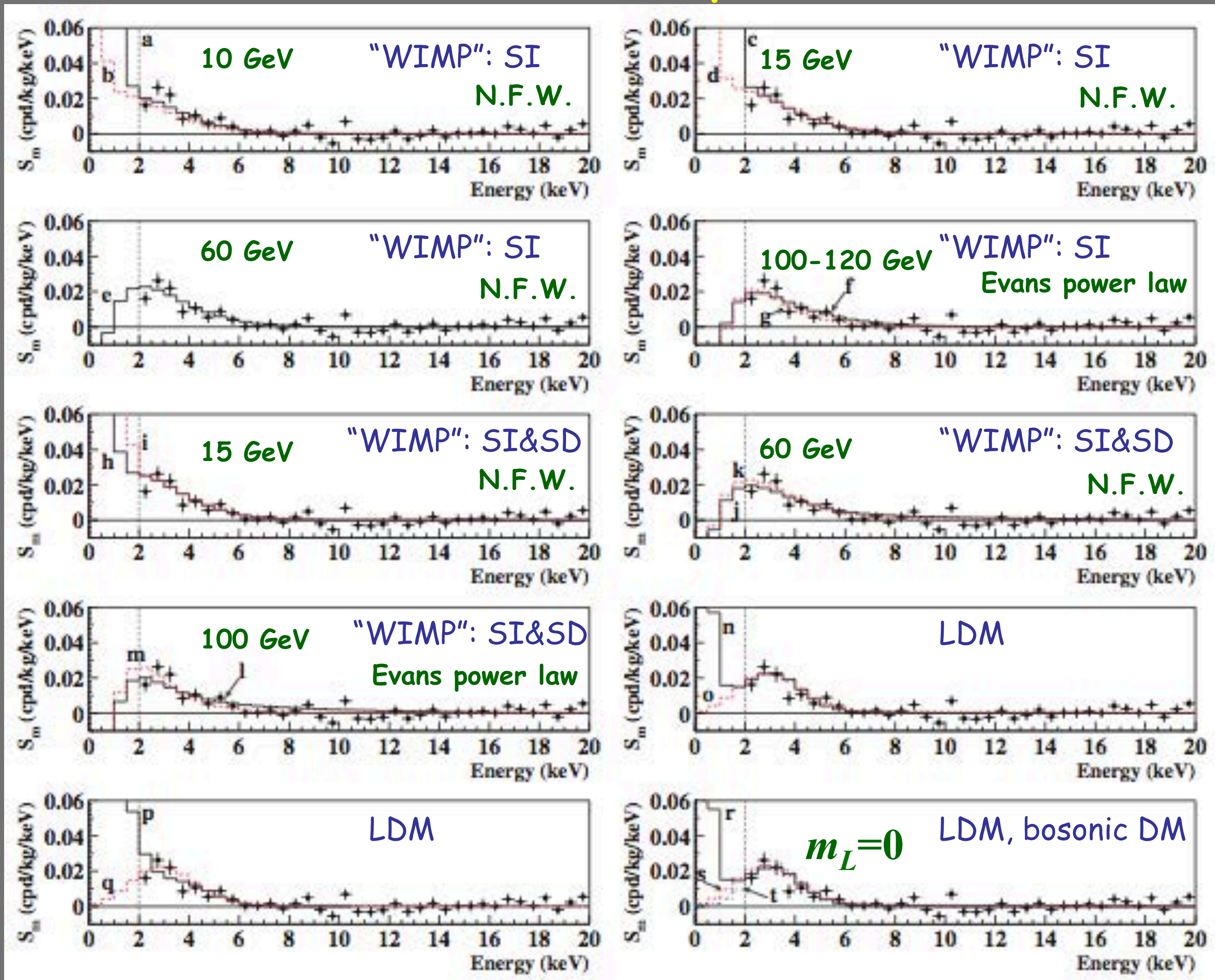
Kaluza Klein particles

… and more

Possible model dependent positive hints from indirect searches (but interpretation, evidence itself, derived mass and cross sections depend e.g. on bckg modeling, on DM spatial velocity distribution in the galactic halo, etc.) **as well null results not in conflict with DAMA results;**

Available results from direct searches using different target materials and approaches do not give any robust conflict & compatibility with possible positive hints In various scenarios

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



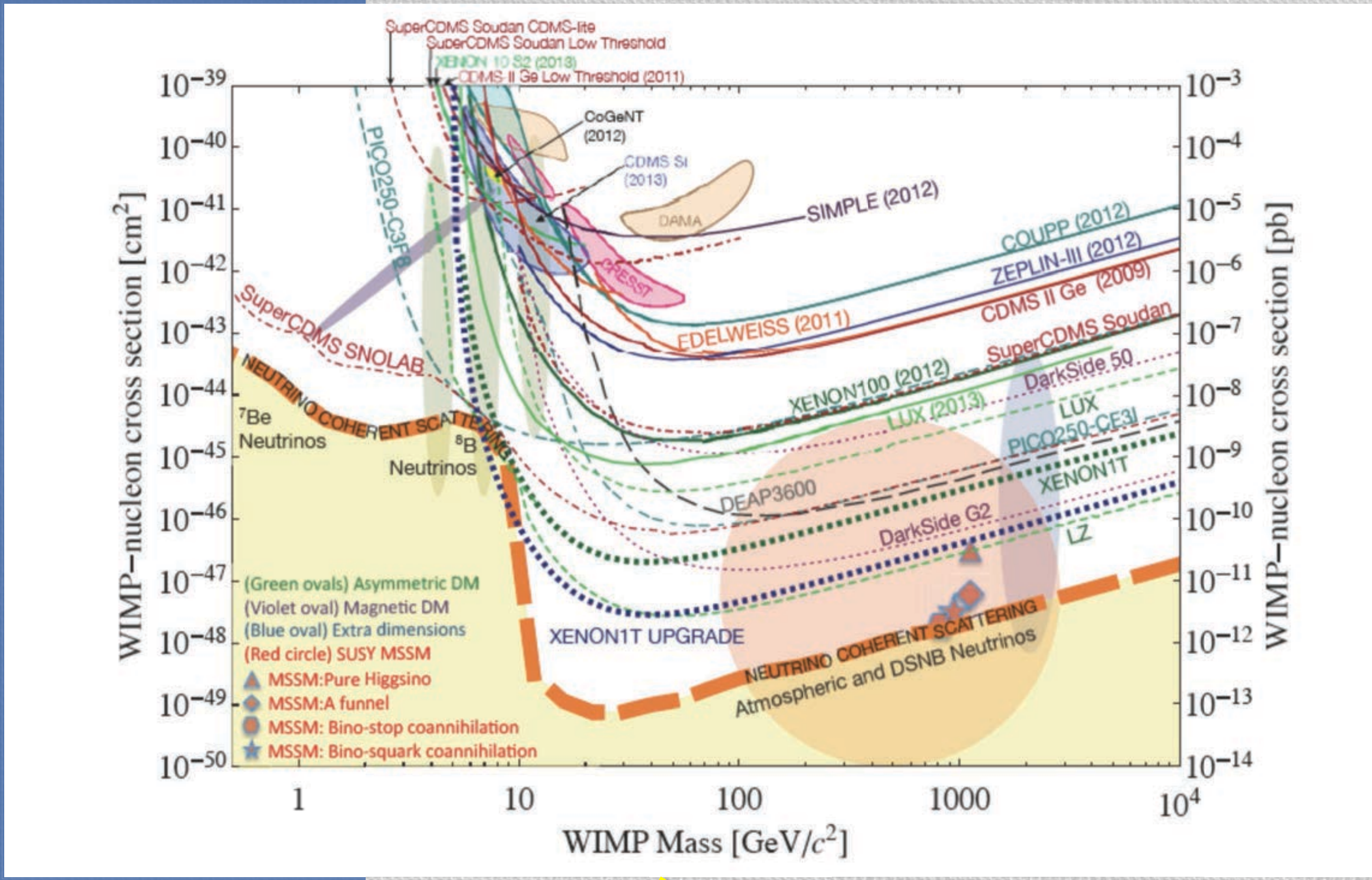
Not best fit
About the same C.L.

$\theta = 2.435$

EPJC56(2008)333,
IJMPA28(2013)1330022

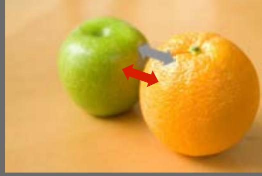
Compatibility with several candidates; other ones are open

Is this an "universal" and "correct" way to approach the problem of DM and the comparisons?



NO, this is just a largely arbitrary/partial/incorrect exercise

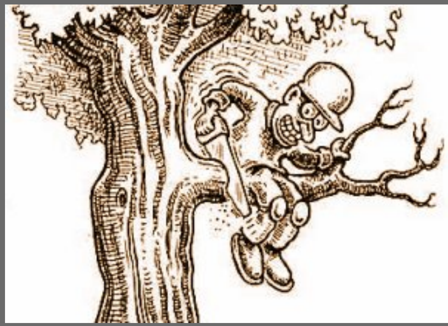
About model dependent comparisons



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.*

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*
- *Used approximations*

etc., etc.

+ no uncertainties accounted for

Different target materials

Etc.

+ generally implications of DAMA model-independent results presented in incorrect/incomplete/non-updated way

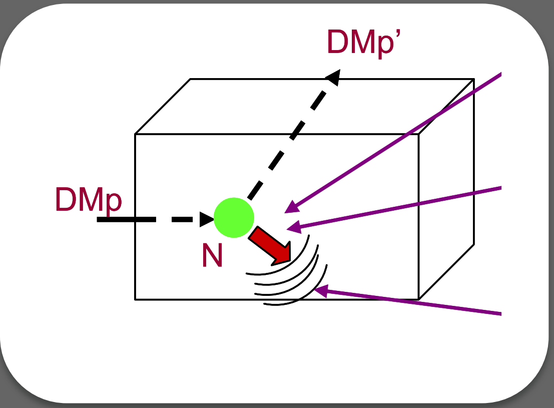
road sign or labyrinth?

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) + etc.

On the other hand, possible positive hints should be interpreted. Large space for compatibility.

... an example ...

DM particles inducing elastic scatterings on target-nuclei, SI case



Regions in the nucleon cross section vs DM particle mass plane

- Some velocity distributions and uncertainties considered.
- The DAMA regions represent the domain where the likelihood-function values differ more than 7.5σ from the null hypothesis (absence of modulation).
- For CoGeNT a fixed value for the Ge quenching factor and a Helm form factor with fixed parameters are assumed.
- The CoGeNT region includes configurations whose likelihood-function values differ more than 1.64σ from the null hypothesis (absence of modulation). This corresponds roughly to 90% C.L. far from zero signal.

Including the Migdal effect
→Towards lower mass/higher σ

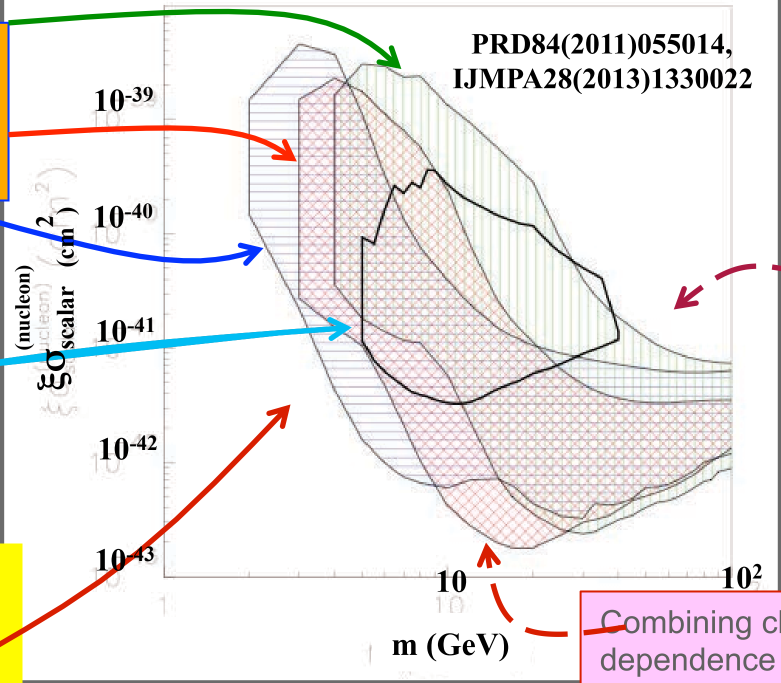
DAMA allowed regions for the considered scenario without (green), with (blue) channeling, with energy-dependent Quenching Factors (red);

7.5 σ C.L.

CoGeNT

1.64σ C.L.

q.f. at a fixed assumed value



Co-rotating halo,
Non thermalized component
→ Enlarge allowed region towards larger mass

Compatibility also with CRESST and CDMS, if the two CDMS-Ge recoil-like events, the three CDMS-Si and the CRESST ones surviving the many applied cuts in marginal exposures are assumed as nuclear recoils induced by DM interactions

Combining channeling and energy dependence of q.f. (AstrPhys33 (2010) 40)
→Towards lower σ

Other examples

Scratching Below the Surface of the Most General Parameter Space

(S. Scopel talk in DM2 session at MG14)

Most general approach: consider ALL possible NR couplings, including those depending on velocity and momentum

- A much wider parameter space opens up
- First explorations show that indeed large rooms for compatibility can be achieved

$$\mathcal{O}_1 = 1_\chi 1_N,$$
$$\mathcal{O}_2 = (v^\perp)^2,$$
$$\mathcal{O}_3 = i\vec{S}_N \cdot \left(\frac{\vec{q}}{m_N} \times \vec{v}^\perp\right),$$
$$\mathcal{O}_4 = \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \vec{S}_N,$$
$$\mathcal{O}_5 = i\vec{S}_\chi \cdot \left(\frac{\vec{q}}{m_N} \times \vec{v}^\perp\right),$$
$$\mathcal{O}_6 = \left(\vec{S}_\chi \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N}\right)\left(\vec{S}_N \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N}\right)$$
$$\mathcal{O}_7 = \vec{S}_N \cdot \vec{v}^\perp,$$
$$\mathcal{O}_8 = \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \vec{v}^\perp,$$
$$\mathcal{O}_9 = i\vec{S}_\chi \cdot \left(\vec{S}_N \times \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N}\right),$$
$$\mathcal{O}_{10} = i\vec{S}_N \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N},$$
$$\mathcal{O}_{11} = i\vec{S}_\chi \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N}.$$

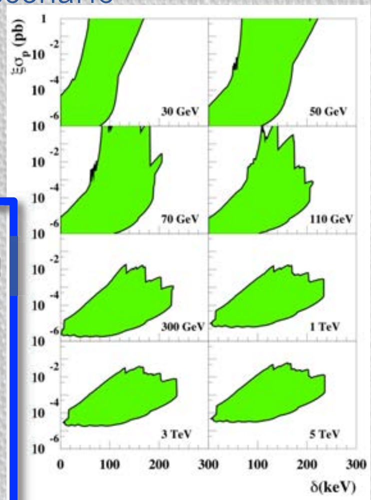
… and much more considering experimental and theoretical uncertainties

DMp with preferred inelastic interaction: $\chi^- + N \rightarrow \chi^+ + N$

- iDM mass states χ^+, χ^- with δ mass splitting
- Kinematic constraint for iDM:

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

DAMA slices from the 3D allowed volume in given scenario



Fund. Phys. 40(2010)900

iDM interaction on Tl nuclei of the NaI(Tl) dopant?

PRL106(2011)011301

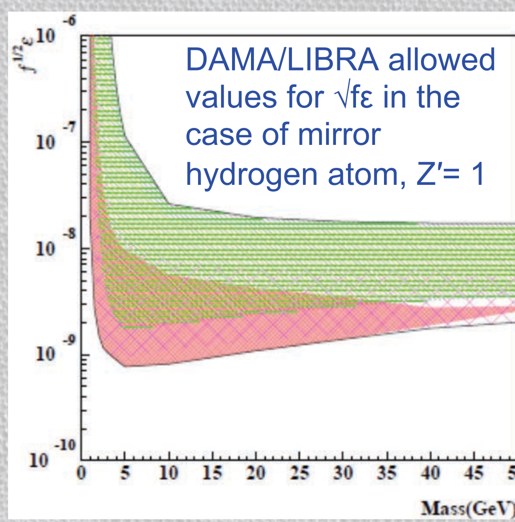
- For large splittings, the dominant scattering in NaI(Tl) can occur off of Thallium nuclei, with A~205, which are present as a dopant at the 10^{-3} level in NaI(Tl) crystals.
- large splittings do not give rise to sizeable contribution on Na, I, Ge, Xe, Ca, O, … nuclei.

Mirror Dark Matter

Asymmetric mirror matter: mirror parity spontaneously broken ⇒ mirror sector becomes a heavier and deformed copy of ordinary sector (**EPJC 75 (2015) 400**)

- Interaction portal: photon - mirror photon kinetic mixing $\frac{\epsilon}{2}F^{\mu\nu}F'_{\mu\nu}$
- mirror atom scattering of the ordinary target nuclei in the NaI(Tl) detectors of DAMA/LIBRA set-up with the Rutherford-like cross sections.

$\sqrt{f} \cdot \epsilon$ coupling const. and fraction of mirror atom



Other signatures?

- *Second order effects*
- *Diurnal effects*
- *Shadow effects*
- *Directionality*
- *…*

Diurnal effects

EPJC 74 (2014) 2827

A diurnal effect with the sidereal time is expected for DM because of Earth rotation

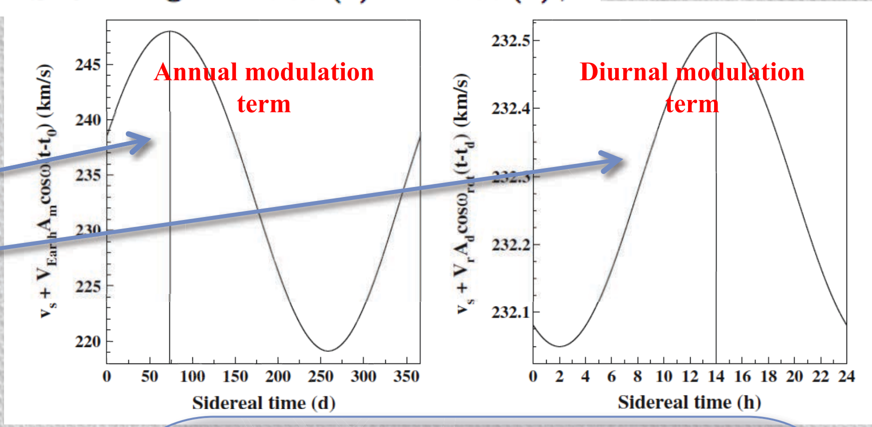
Velocity of the detector in the terrestrial laboratory:

$$\vec{v}_{lab}(t) = \vec{v}_{LSR} + \vec{v}_{\odot} + \vec{v}_{rev}(t) + \vec{v}_{rot}(t),$$

Since:

- $|\vec{v}_s| = |\vec{v}_{LSR} + \vec{v}_{\odot}| \approx 232 \pm 50$ km/s,
- $|\vec{v}_{rev}(t)| \approx 30$ km/s
- $|\vec{v}_{rot}(t)| \approx 0.34$ km/s **at LNGS**

$$v_{lab}(t) \simeq v_s + \hat{v}_s \cdot \vec{v}_{rev}(t) + \hat{v}_s \cdot \vec{v}_{rot}(t).$$



Expected signal counting rate in a given k−th energy bin:

$$S_k\left[v_{lab}(t)\right] \simeq S_k\left[v_s\right] + \left[\frac{\partial S_k}{\partial v_{lab}}\right]_{v_s} \left[V_{Earth} B_m \cos\omega(t-t_0) + V_r B_d \cos\omega_{rot}(t-t_d)\right]$$

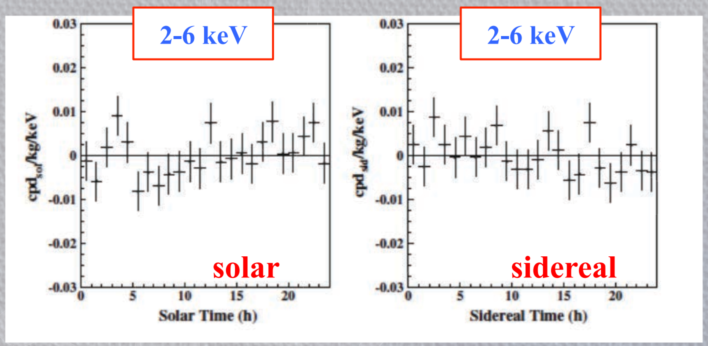
The ratio R_{dy} is a model independent constant:

$$R_{dy} = \frac{S_d}{S_m} = \frac{V_r B_d}{V_{Earth} B_m} \simeq 0.016$$ **at LNGS latitude**

- **Observed annual modulation amplitude in DAMA/LIBRA–phase1 in the (2–6) keV energy interval: (0.0097 ± 0.0013) cpd/kg/keV**
- **Thus, the expected value of the diurnal modulation amplitude is ≃1.5 × 10^{-4} cpd/kg/keV.**
- **When fitting the *single-hit* residuals with a cosine function with period fixed at 24 h and phase at 14 h: all the diurnal modulation amplitudes A_d are compatible with zero within the present sensitivity.**

A_d (2-6 keV) < 1.2 × 10^{-3} cpd/kg/keV (90%CL)

Model-independent result on possible diurnal effect in DAMA/LIBRA–phase1

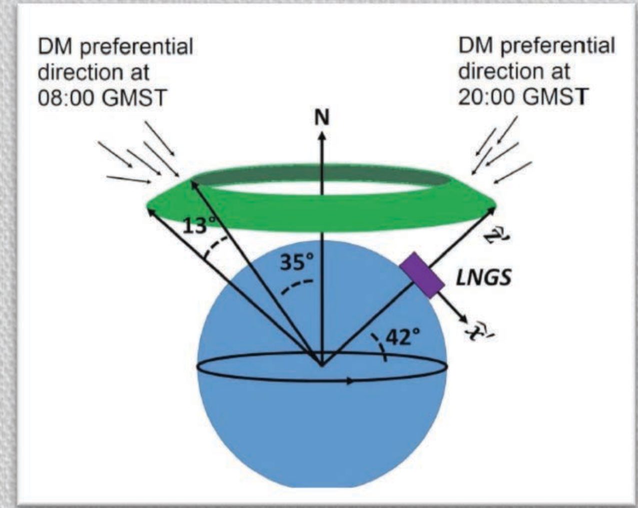


Present experimental sensitivity is not yet enough for the expected diurnal modulation amplitude derived from the DAMA/LIBRA–phase1 observed effect.

larger exposure DAMA/LIBRA–phase2 (+lower energy threshold) offers increased sensitivity to such an effect

Investigation of *Earth Shadow Effect* with DAMA/LIBRA-phase1

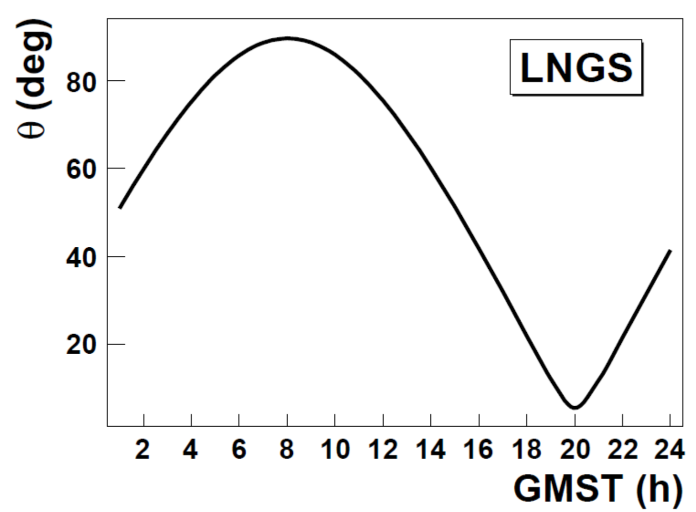
- Earth Shadow Effect could be expected for DM candidate particles inducing nuclear recoils
- Can be pointed out only for candidates with high cross-section with ordinary matter (low DM local density)
- Would be induced by the variation during the day of the Earth thickness crossed by the DM particle in order to reach the experimental set-up

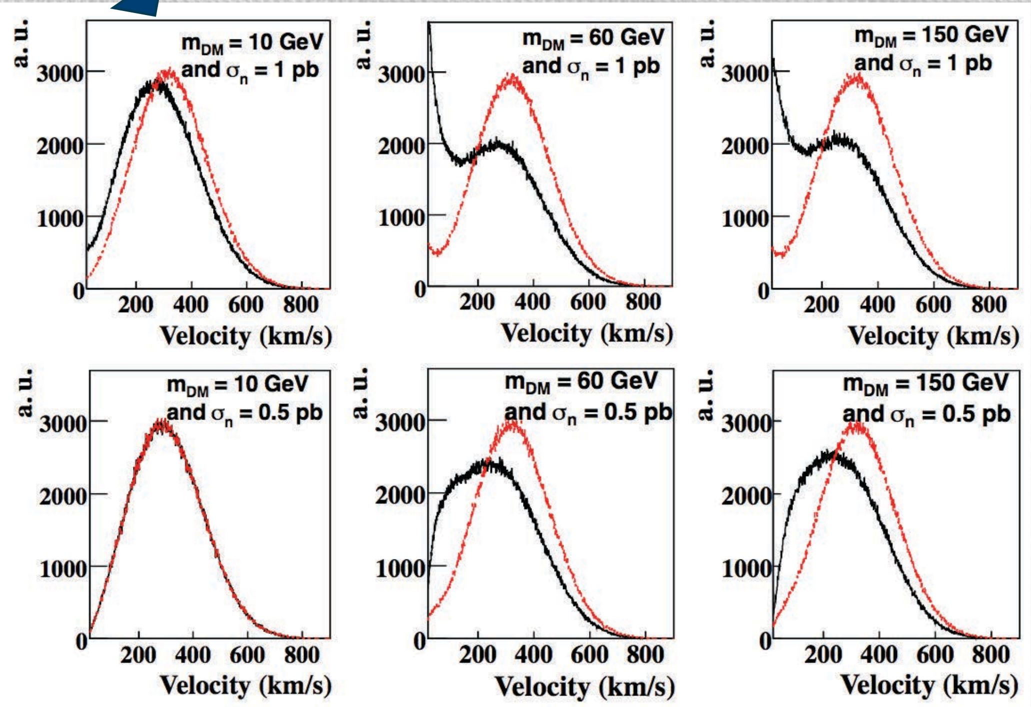


EPJC75 (2015) 239

DM particles crossing Earth lose their energy → **DM velocity distribution observed in the laboratory frame is modified as function of time**

$\theta(t)$ is the angle between $\mathbf{v}_{lab}$ and the zenith; determined by astrophysical considerations





At LNGS:
20:00 GMST minimum thickness crossed-> Maximum counting rate
08:00 GMST maximum thickness crossed -> Minimum counting rate

Study of the *Earth Shadow Effect* in DAMA/LIBRA-phase1

By MC code, the expected counting rate for a given mass, cross section and scenario has been estimated:

$$S_{d,sh}(t) = \xi\sigma_n S'_{d,sh}(t)$$

Expectations are compared with the experimental diurnal residual rate of the *single-hit* scintillation events measured by DAMA/LIBRA-phase1 in the (2-4) keV energy interval

Minimizing χ^2, upper limits on ξ can be evaluated

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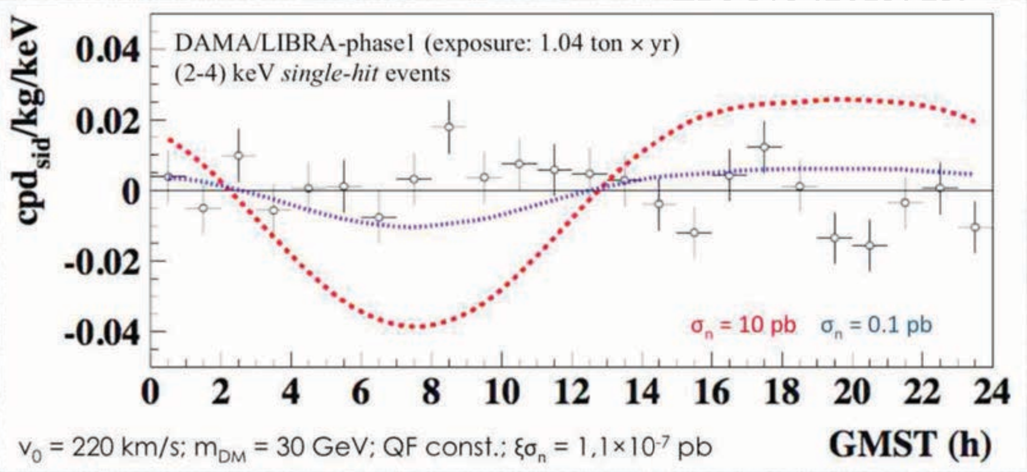
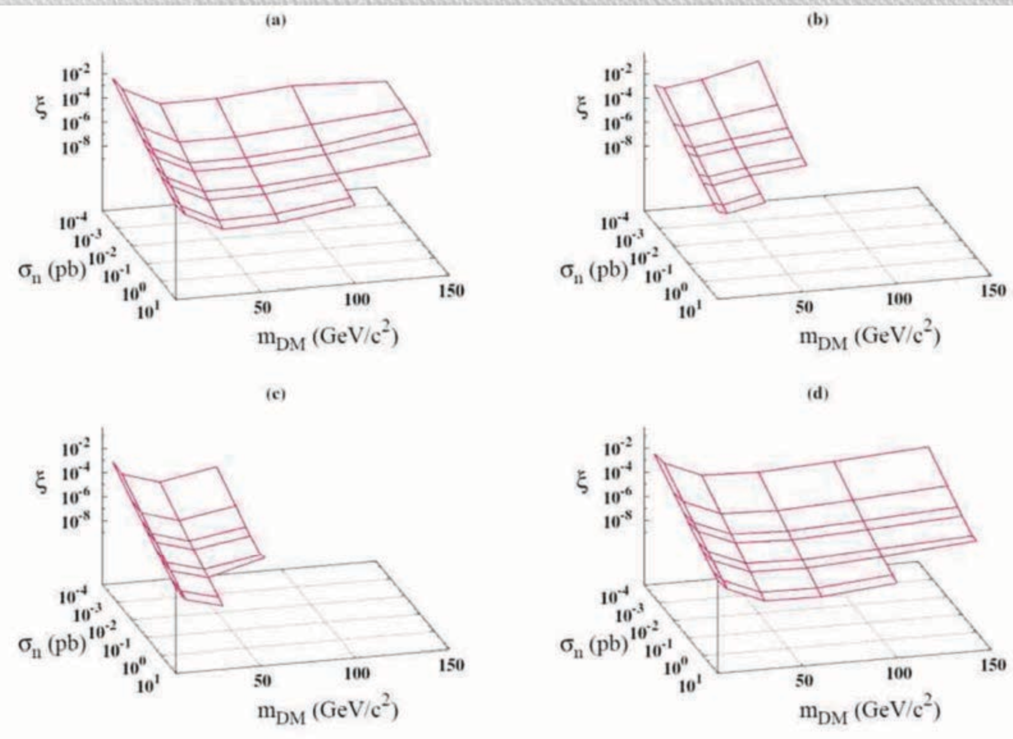




Taking into account the DAMA/LIBRA DM annual modulation result, allowed regions in the ξ vs σ_n plane for each m_{DM}.

In these examples:
Isothermal halo model with v_0 = 220 km/s and v_{esc} = 650 km/s

a) QF const. without channeling
b) QF const. including channeling
c) QF depending on energy
d) QF depending on energy renormalized to DAMA/LIBRA values

Red surface: 95% C.L. allowed mean value (uncertanties ± 30%)

The importance of studying second order effects and the annual modulation phase

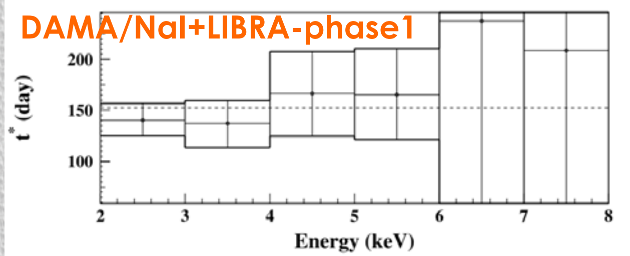
Higher exposure and lower threshold can allow further investigation on:

- the nature of the DMp
  - ✓ to disentangle among the different astrophysical, nuclear and particle physics models (nature of the candidate, couplings, form factors, spin-factors …)
  - ✓ scaling laws and cross sections
  - ✓ multi-component DMp halo?

possible diurnal effects in sidereal time

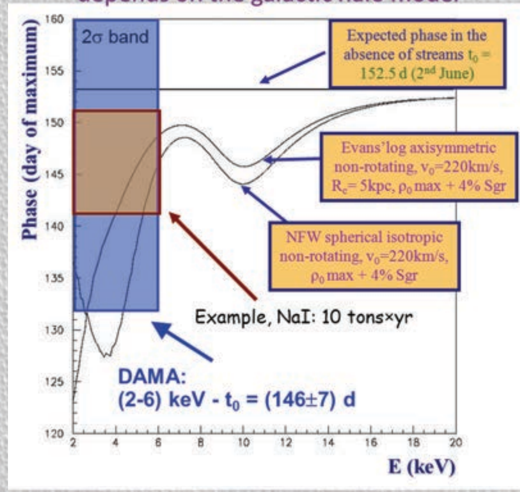
- ✓ expected in case of high cross section DM candidates (shadow of the Earth)
- ✓ due to the Earth rotation velocity contribution (it holds for a wide range of DM candidates)
- ✓ due to the channeling in case of DM candidates inducing nuclear recoils.

- astrophysical models
  - ✓ velocity and position distribution of DMp in the galactic halo, possibly due to:
    - satellite galaxies (as Sagittarius and Canis Major Dwarves) tidal "streams";
    - caustics in the halo;
    - gravitational focusing effect of the Sun enhancing the DM flow ("spike" and "skirt");
    - possible structures as clumpiness with small scale size
    - Effects of gravitational focusing of the Sun



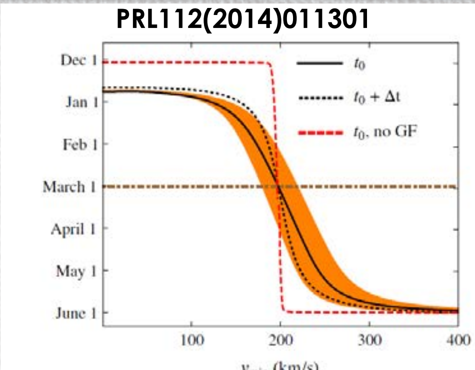
A step towards such investigations:
➔DAMA/LIBRA-phase2 running with lower energy threshold

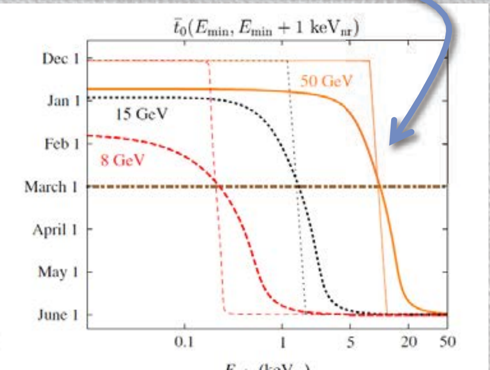
The effect of the streams on the phase depends on the galactic halo model



The annual modulation phase depends on :
- Presence of streams (as SagDEG and Canis Major) in the Galaxy
- Presence of caustics
- Effects of gravitational focusing of the Sun

PRL112(2014)011301





DAMA/LIBRA – phase2

JINST 7(2012)03009

more IJMPA28(2013)1330022

Second upgrade on Nov/Dec 2010: all PMTs replaced with new ones of higher Q.E.

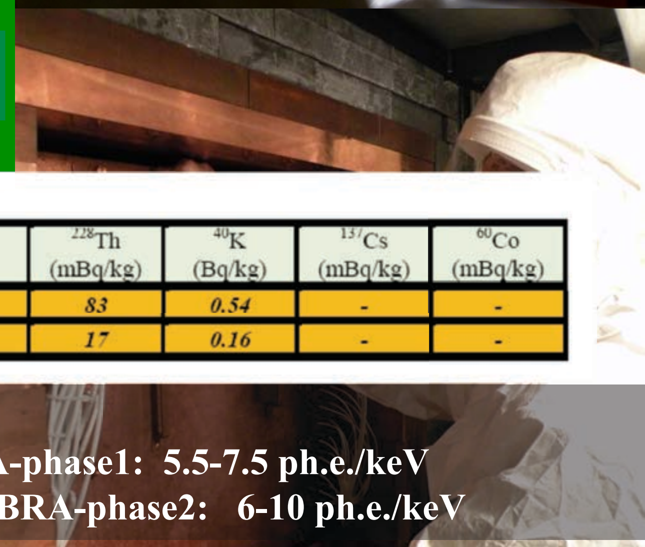
typically
DAMA/LIBRA-phase1: 5.5-7.5 ph.e./keV
→ DAMA/LIBRA-phase2: 6-10 ph.e./keV

Since Dec 2010 optimizations and then data taking in this new configuration started

DAMA/LIBRA – phase2

JINST 7(2012)03009

Second upgrade on Nov/Dec 2010: all PMTs replaced with new ones of higher Q.E.



The limits are at 90% C.L.

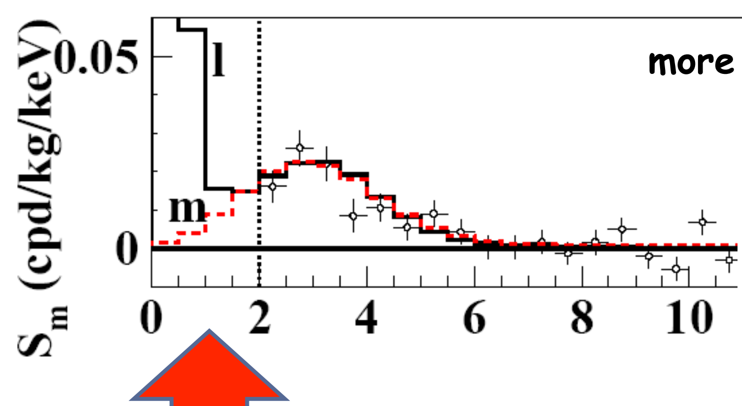
PMT	Time (s)	Mass (kg)	^{226}Ra (Bq/kg)	^{234m}Pa (Bq/kg)	^{235}U (mBq/kg)	^{228}Ra (Bq/kg)	^{228}Th (mBq/kg)	^{40}K (Bq/kg)	^{137}Cs (mBq/kg)	^{60}Co (mBq/kg)
Average			*0.43*	-	*47*	*0.12*	*83*	*0.54*	-	-
Standard deviation			*0.06*	-	*10*	*0,02*	*17*	*0.16*	-	-

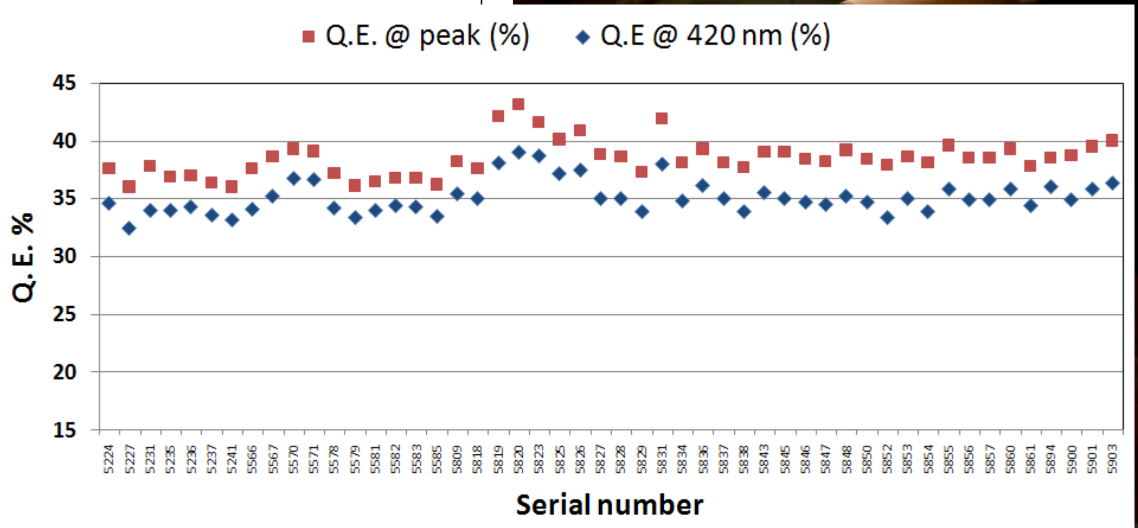
typically
DAMA/LIBRA-phase1: 5.5-7.5 ph.e./keV
→ DAMA/LIBRA-phase2: 6-10 ph.e./keV

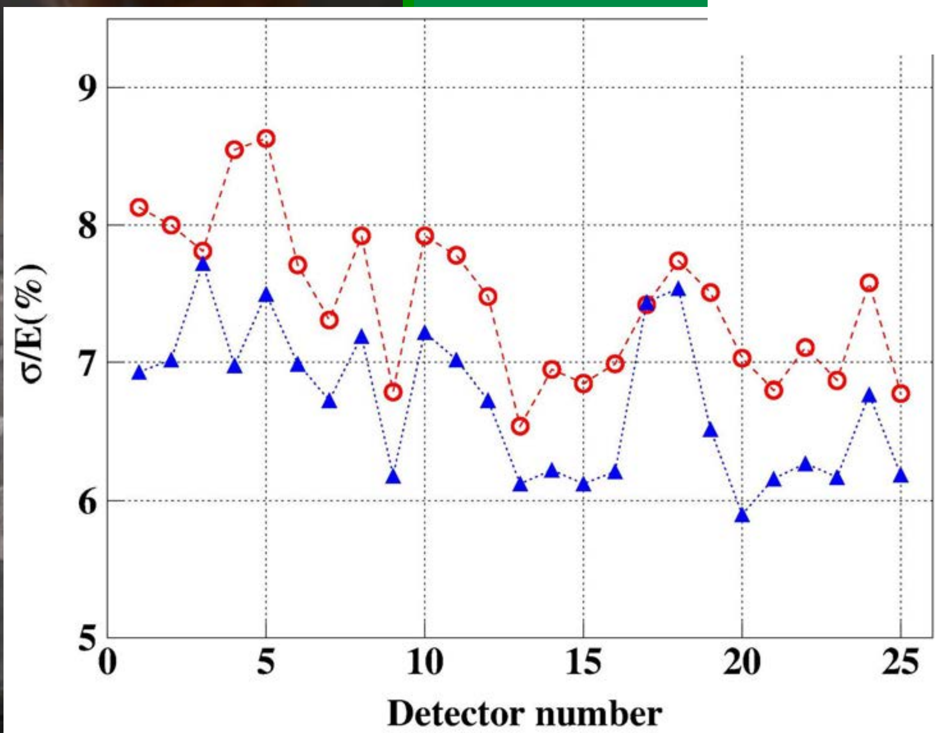
Since Dec 2010 optimizations and then data taking in this new configuration started

DAMA/LIBRA – phase2

JINST 7(2012)03009







...ed with new

...)	^{235}U (mBq/kg)	^{228}Ra (Bq/kg)	^{228}Th (mBq/kg)	^{40}K (Bq/kg)	^{137}Cs (mBq/kg)	^{60}Co (mBq/kg)
	47	0.12	83	0.54	-	-
	10	0,02	17	0.16	-	-

typically
DAMA/LIBRA-phase1: 5.5-7.5 ph.e./keV
→ DAMA/LIBRA-phase2: 6-10 ph.e./keV

Since Dec 2010 optimizations and then data taking in this new configuration started

DM annual modulation signature

The sensitivity of the DM annual modulation signature depends – apart from the counting rate – on the product:

$$\varepsilon \times \Delta E \times M \times T \times (\alpha\text{-}\beta^2)$$

increased in DAMA/LIBRA-phase2

increased in DAMA/LIBRA-phase2

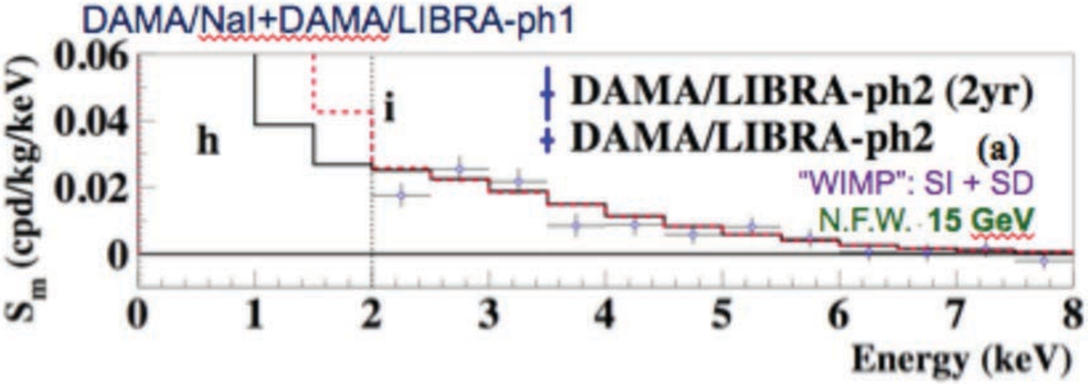
increased with DAMA/LIBRA-phase2

→ DAMA/LIBRA-phase2
also equivalent to have enlarged the exposed mass

&: DM annual modulation signature acts itself as a strong bckg reduction strategy as already pointed out in the original paper by Freese et al.

&: 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

Just few examples about the discrimination power of DAMA/LIBRA-phase2_2-annual cycles under some given set of astrophysical, nuclear and particle physics assumptions



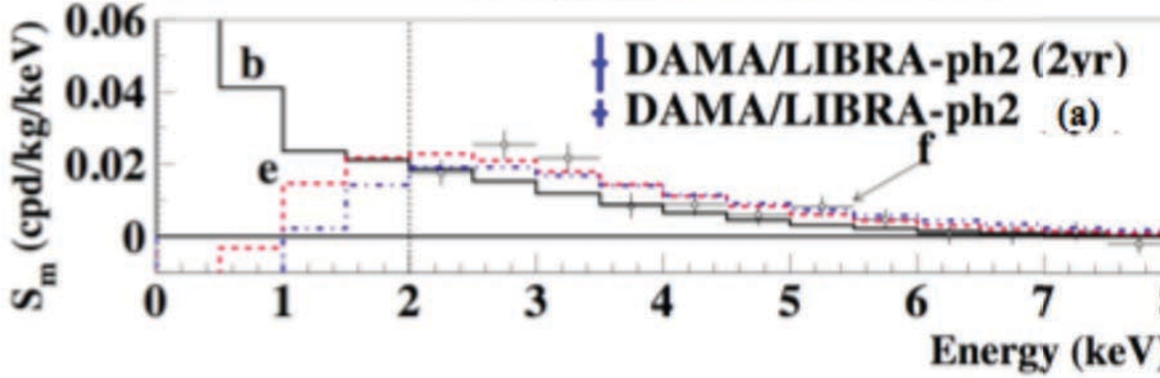
Not best fit cases, same C.L., see table above for cross sections and other assumptions in theor. expectations (i.e. labels).

- discrimination among w/wo channeling
- discrimination among WIMP's masses
- discrimination among DM models

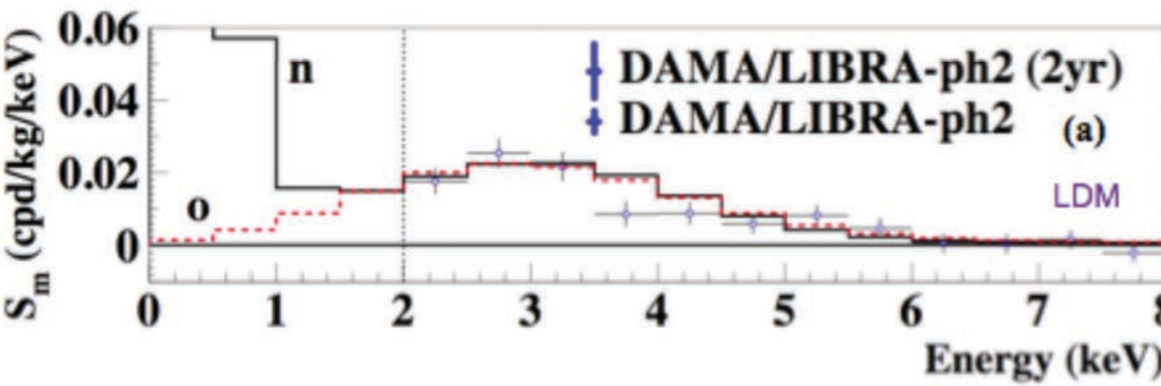
here q.f. vs E assumed constant

(a) Assuming MT= 464000 kg day

$$\sigma(S_m) = \sqrt{\frac{\langle R \rangle}{M \cdot T \cdot \Delta E \cdot \varepsilon \cdot (\alpha - \beta^2)}}$$



"WIMP": SI
b) 10 GeV-ch
e) 60 GeV
f) 100 GeV



Possible DAMA/LIBRA-phase3

- The light collection of the detectors can further be improved
- Light yields and the energy thresholds will improve accordingly

The strong interest in the low energy range suggests the possibility of a new development of **high Q.E. PMTs** with **increased radiopurity** to directly couple them to the DAMA/LIBRA crystals, **removing** the special radio-pure quartz (Suprasil B) light guides (10 cm long), which act also as optical window.

The presently-reached PMTs features, but not for the same PMT mod.:

- Q.E. around 35-40% @ 420 nm (NaI(Tl) light)
- radiopurity at level of 5 mBq/PMT (^{40}K), 3-4 mBq/PMT (^{232}Th), 3-4 mBq/PMT (^{238}U), 1 mBq/PMT (^{226}Ra), 2 mBq/PMT (^{60}Co).

R&D efforts to obtain PMTs matching the best performances… feasible

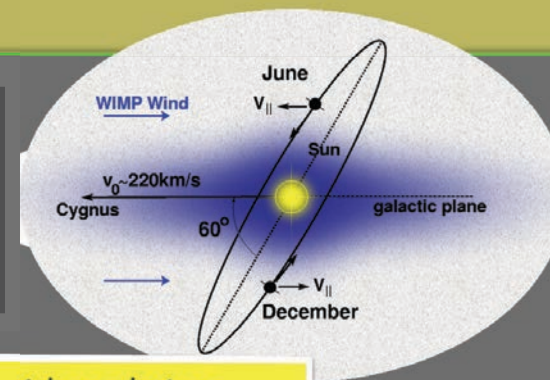
No longer need for light guides (a 30-40% improvement in the light collection is expected)

Development of detectors with anisotropic response (ADAMO project)

Eur. Phys. J. C 73 (2013) 2276

Anisotropic detectors are of great interest for many applicative fields, e.g.:
⇒ they can offer a way to study directionality for Dark Matter candidates that induce just nuclear recoils

Taking into account:
- the correlation between the direction of the nuclear recoils and the Earth motion in the galactic rest frame;
- the peculiar features of anisotropic detectors;



The detector response is expected to vary as a function of the sidereal time

Two strategies

Development of $ZnWO_4$ scintillators

✓ Both light output and pulse shape have anisotropic behavior and can provide two independent ways to study directionality

✓ Very high reachable radio-purity;

✓ Threshold at keV feasible;

Development of Carbon Nano Tubes (CNT) detectors

The detection principle is based on variation of the transport properties due to the particle irradiation

The intrinsic 1-D nature of CNTs makes them very promising for the study of directionality

- Spin-off and patents
- 3D detectors multi-wire chamber-like with nanotechnology
- Possible other applications:
  - Particle Physics;
  - Health Physics;
  - etc..

Conclusion

- Positive evidence for the presence of DM particles in the galactic halo now supported at 9.3σ C.L. (cumulative exposure 1.33 ton $\times$ yr – 14 annual cycles DAMA/NaI and DAMA/LIBRA-phase1)
- The modulation parameters determined with increased precision
- Full sensitivity to many kinds of DM candidates and interactions types (both inducing recoils and/or e.m. radiation), full sensitivity to low and high mass candidates.
- No experiment exists whose result can be – at least in principle - directly compared in a model independent way with those by DAMA/NaI and DAMA/LIBRA (in general: no direct model independent comparison is possible in the field among activities using e.g. different target-materials and/or approaches)

DAMA/LIBRA-phase 2

✓ *In data taking* in the new configuration with lower software energy threshold

… towards possible DAMA/LIBRA-phase3 and DAMA/1ton