



The DARWIN observatory: the ultimate detector for direct dark matter search



Light collection in DARWIN

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NYUAD and WIS Collaboration - December 22, 2020

Much more than a DM detector



Major challenges:

- Build and Operate the largest LXe target ever
- Unprecedented level of cleanliness
- Highest light collection efficiency
- The largest storing capability of xenon on Earth
- Xenon procurement (~ yearly worldwide production)

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DM direct detection: exploiting the effects



(dual-phase liquid noble gas detectors + TPCs)

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(A possible) Detection strategy





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The detection strategy: ER vs NR



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The detection strategy: ER vs NR



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The benchmark: the XENON legacy at LNGS



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The DARWIN observatory



- · Dual-phase Time Projection Chamber (TPC), 2.6 m diameter, 2.6 m height
- Two photo/charge sensor arrays (top and bottom)
- · Low-background double-wall cryostat
- Outer shield filled with water (12 m diameter)
- Neutron/Muon Veto



Sensitivity to Spin Independent models



99.98% ER rejection (30% NR acceptance) Combined (S1+S2) energy scale

Energy window 5-35 keVNR

Light yield 8 p.e. / keV

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Light and charge sensors & readout

Extensive SiPM/MPPC characterization in dedicated LXe test facilities



- Small-scale R&D TPC
- Top array with 4×4 S13371 VUV-4 Hamamatsu

Eur. Phys. J C 80 (2020) 477 JINST 13 (2018) P10022







- SiPMs for position reconstruction
- Field dependence of electronic recoils
- Pulse shape discrimination





10¹





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Light and charge sensors & readout

140000 120000

100000

80000 60000

40000

20000

15

[Hz]





107

105

Cryogenic Preamplifiers for VUV4 MPPC







Multiple MPPCs operated as single channel



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NIM A (2018) Vol. 893, 117-123

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106

Countrate [Hz/mm²]

(Preliminary)

105



Light and charge sensors & readout





- HiRes Single Photon Detection Capability

- Very long term stability

- HiRes Position reconstruction

- DCR typical of SiPM

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.astropartphys.2015.01.003

Liquid Hole Multipliers in LXe



https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-0221/13/12/P12008

- Patent Numbers: U.S. 9,064,678, US-2017-0123084 Abalone
 - Huge area coverage
 - Low DCR (similar/better than PMT)
 - MidRes Single Photon Detection Capability

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2018.10.176



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Light collection in DARWIN @ NYUAD

- VUV4 MPPC: Vacuum Ultraviolet sensitive Multi-Pixel Photon Counters 4th Generation
- Cryogenic Readout for a VUV4 detector array based on commercial operational amplifier (AD8011)
- Array of "many" MPPCs readout as a single channel
- Single photon detection capability



PROS:

- Sensitive to LXe-LAr scintillation light
- P.D.E. (@ 178 nm) ~ 24%
- Intrinsic Single Photon Detection capability
 "Cold proof"
- Low Voltage operation (~56 V @ 298 K)
- Gain ~ standard PMT

CONS:

- Dark Counting Rate, Cross Talk, Afterpulses
- Characteristics = f(Temperature)
- Size (usually < cm²)
- "Large" Pixel Capacitance: fraction of pF
- ~ Naked: handle with care
- Grouping of many MPPCs is challenging

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MPPC working principle



- APD "ingredients": junction resistance (Rj), junction capacitance (Cj), voltage source (Vbd), light switch (S)
- MPPC cell "ingredients": APD + quenching resistor (Rq)
- Current limiting resistor (Ra), Bypass capacitor (Cb) and decoupling resistor (Rs) are all external components
- A MPPC is usually made of thousands of cells connected in parallel

Schematics of 16-channels-electronics: a possible approach



- This technique is effective if **Dark Counting Rate (DCR), Cross Talk (CT) and Afterpulse (AP)** contributions are "small enough" (see slide "VUV3 vs VUV4")
- Noise contribution must be evaluated
- A similar "Standard" circuit was proposed by DarkSide collaboration: JINST 10 (2015) P08013



VUV3 vs VUV4: in the manufacturer hands



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Single photon counting capability (@ 3 V of over voltage, 175 K)



- The DAC control for the biasing fine tuning unactivated here.
- NO Hardware FILTER (hardware). NO offline FILTER (Optimum, Matched, ...).
- No Y-axis increased resolution.



Single photon counting capability (@ 3 V of over voltage, 175 K)



- 8 gaussian functions used to fit the charge distribution
- The gain of the array operating @ 3 V of over voltage, 175 K is \sim 2 x 10⁷
- The charge of the 1 p.e. is (3.21 ± 0.26) pC
- The overall charge noise (pedestal) is (1.47 ± 0.16) pC

$$\sigma_{p.e.}^{2} = \sigma_{ELE}^{2} + \sigma_{DC}^{2} + \sigma_{AP}^{2} + \sigma_{CT}^{2} + \sigma_{GF}^{2}$$

*= discrete contribution, but still a game changer



Light collection in DARWIN @ NYUAD

- We developed a cryogenic electronics based on the commercial current feedback operational amplifier AD8011 to operate a "large" number of MPPCs as single detector (1.44 cm²).

- We will test the device in Liquid Xenon at NYUAD cryogenic facility CRISTALX (see GM talk).

- We will increase the sensitive surface (2X to 4X).

- Signal to noise ratio assessment and its optimization by exploiting Optimum/ matched filters (software anytime, hardware to be implemented).

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Light collection in DARWIN @ NYUAD

BACKUP

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An amplifier for VUV Hamamatsu R11410 PMT operating in cryogenic environment



- ~ 80 MHz Bandwidth (Rise time: Input signal <4 ns, Output signal ~12 ns)
- IN/OUT impedance 50 Ohm
- 2X AD8011 operational amplifiers (± 5V, can be "unbalanced" to match the dynamics)
- Low Noise (< 200 μV RMS @ 5X amplification)
- Designed for 0.5 X & (5 X to 15 X) dedicated outputs
- Power consumption: Min 6 mW, Max 20 mW (amplification unaffected, only dynamic range)



Radioactivity screening of AD8011

Radio Nuclide	Activity [mBq/kg]	Concentration [10 ⁻⁹ g/g]	Activity [µBq/pc]	Activity SMD* [mBq/kg]
Ra-228	<39	<9.6	< 2.9	280 ± 40
Th-228	(60 ± 20)	(15 ± 4)	(5 ± 1)	290 ± 30
Ra-226	(50 ± 20)	(4 ± 2)	(4 ± 1)	810 ± 40
Th-234	$(1.0 \pm 0.5)X10^3$	(80 ± 40)	(70 ± 40)	$(4.9 \pm 0.7) X10^3$
Pa-234m	<1,400	<110	< 100	(4.1 ±1.1)X104
U-235	<50	<88	< 3.7	240 ± 80
K-40	<700	<2.3 X 104	< 51	$(1.2 \pm 0.2)X10^3$
Cs-137	<3.3		< 0.24	<7.4
Co-60	<3.4		< 2.5	<5.8

*SMD RESISTOR RMCF0805JT15M0



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