

# Direct dark matter search using liquid noble gases

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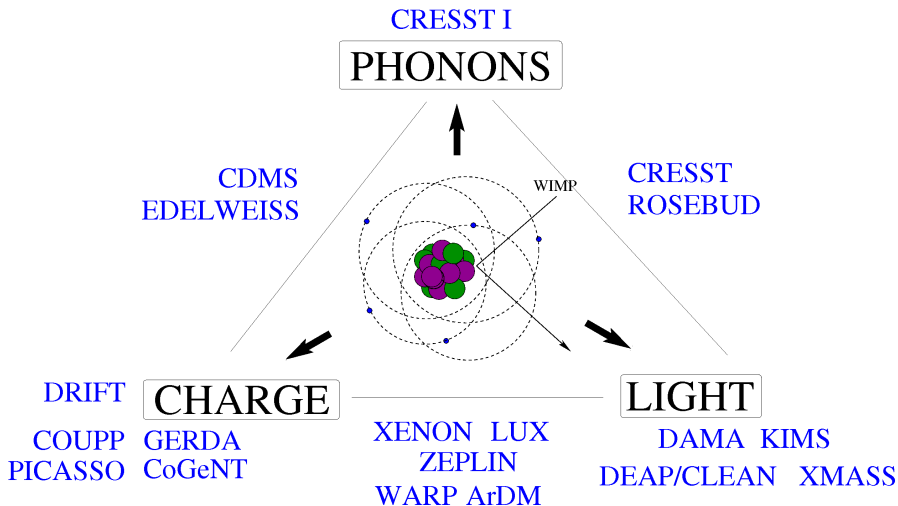
TeV Particle Astrophysics,  
Paris, 19.07.2010



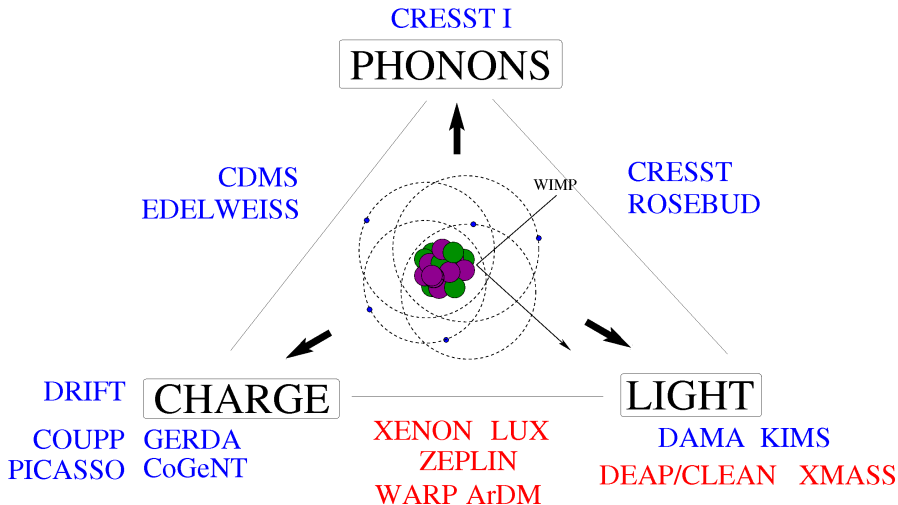
- 1 Introduction
- 2 Liquid argon experiments
- 3 Liquid xenon experiments
- 4 Summary

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# Direct detection experiments



# Direct detection experiments



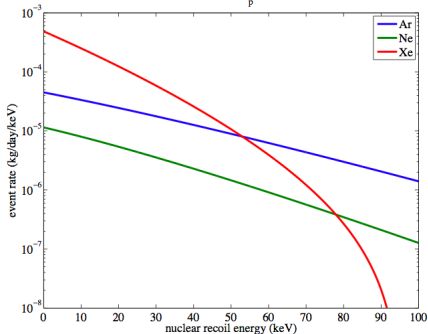
# Advantages of liquid noble gases for DM searches

- Large masses and homogeneous targets (LNe, LAr & LXe)
- Very high scintillation yield ( $\sim 40\,000$  photons/MeV)
- Transparent to their own scintillation light
- 3D position reconstruction
  - Light pattern in the PMTs for single phase (cms)
  - Few mms resolution in TPC mode
- High ionization yield ( $W_{LXe} = 15.6\text{ eV}$  and  $W_{LAr} = 23.6\text{ eV}$ )
- Particle discrimination
  - Pulse shape discrimination
  - Charge to light ratio

# Comparison between noble gases

	LNe	LAr	LXe
<b>Z (A)</b>	10 (20)	18 (40)	54 (131)
<b>Density [g/cm<sup>3</sup>]</b>	1.2	1.4	3.0
<b>Scintillation <math>\lambda</math></b>	78 nm	125 nm	178 nm
<b>BP [K] at 1 atm</b>	27	87	165
<b>Ionization [e<sup>-</sup>/keV]</b>	46	42	64
<b>Scintillation [<math>\gamma</math>/keV]</b>	7	40	46

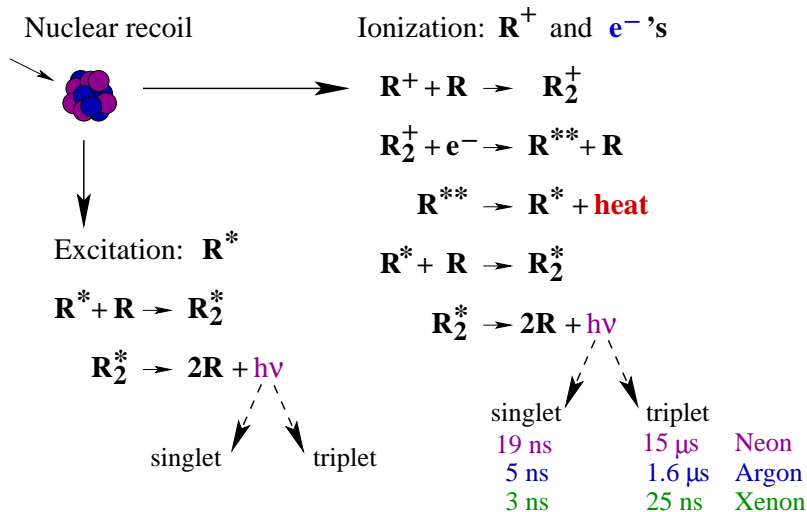
100 GeV WIMP  $\sigma_p = 10^{-44} \text{ cm}^2$



## Radioactive isotopes:

- **Argon:** <sup>39</sup>Ar (565 keV endpoint, 1 Bq/kg), <sup>42</sup>Ar
- **Xenon:** <sup>136</sup>Xe  $\beta\beta$  candidate *not yet measured!*
- <sup>85</sup>Kr in argon or xenon  
→ removal using distillation

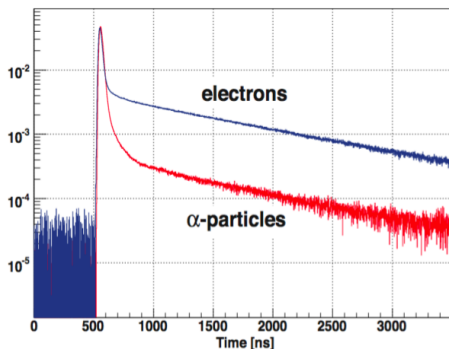
# Noble gas scintillation process





# Pulse shape from scintillation light

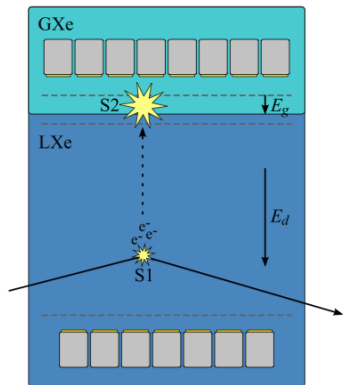
- Very different **singlet and triplet lifetimes** in argon & neon
- Relative amplitudes depend on **particle type** → **discrimination**  
WARP obtained  $3 \times 10^{-7}$  discrimination in Ar above 35 pe (70% acceptance)



Scintillation decay constants of Argon measured by ArDM

→ PSD does not work well in LXe (too similar decay constants)

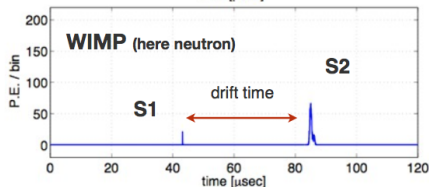
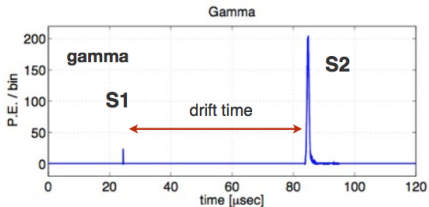
# Two phase noble gas TPC



Electron recombination is stronger for nuclear recoils

→ Electron- / nuclear recoil discrimination

- Scintillation signal (**S1**)
- Charges drift to the liquid-gas surface
- Proportional signal (**S2**)



## Electron recoil calibration

- Energy calibration and electron recoil band characterization
- Introducing sources inside
  - Easier in single phase detectors
  - Light blocking issue
- Calibration sources outside → self-shielding issue for low energies

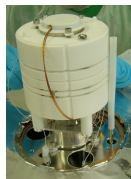
## Nuclear recoil calibration

- No monoenergetic neutron lines for calibration
- Dedicated neutron scattering experiments

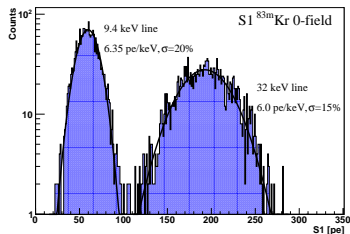
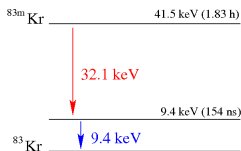
# Low energy calibration

## ● $^{83m}\text{Kr}$ calibration source:

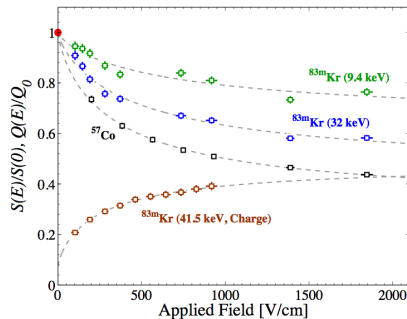
- EC decay-product of  $^{83}\text{Rb}$
- Lines at 9.4 and 32.1 keV
- Uniform distribution



- Target mass:  $\sim 0.1$  kg LXe
  - Volume: 3 cm drift length and 3.5 cm diameter
  - Two R9869 PMTs
  - **6 pe/keV** in double phase
- at University of Zürich



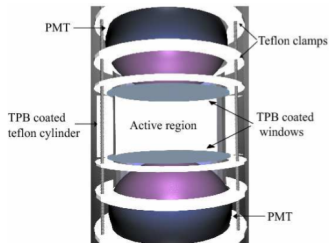
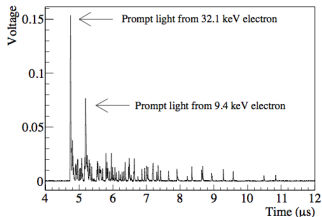
Liquid xenon



A. Manalayas *et al.*, Rev. Sci. Instr. **81**, 073303 (2010), 0908.0616

# $^{83}\text{Kr}$ source in argon and neon

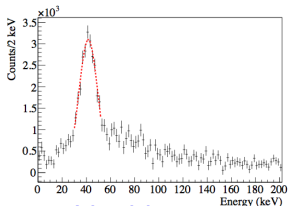
## Pulse in argon



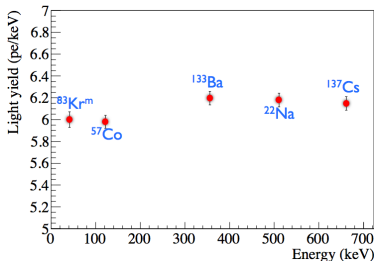
→ Scheme of the chamber at Yale

## ● Light yield:

- Argon: 6 pe/keV
- Neon: 3 pe/keV



## Liquid neon



W. H. Lippincott *et al.*, Phys. Rev. **C81**, 045803, (2010), 0911.5453

# Calibration of the nuclear recoil energy scale

- Nuclear recoil energy ( $E_{nr}$ ):

$$E_{nr} = \frac{S1}{L_y L_{eff}} \times \frac{S_e}{S_r}$$

$S1$ : measured signal in p.e.

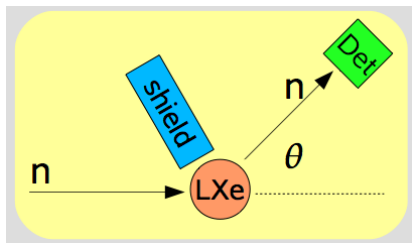
$L_y$ : LY for 122 keV  $\gamma$  in p.e./keV

$S_e/S_r$ : quenching for 122 keV  $\gamma$ /NR due to drift field

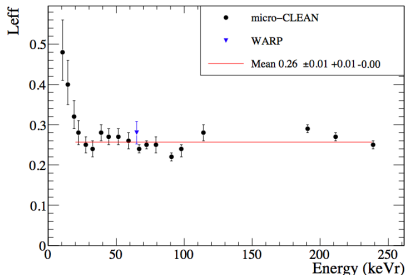
- Relative scintillation efficiency of NR to 122 keV  $\gamma$  at 0-field

$$L_{eff} = q_{nucl} \times q_{el} \times q_{esc}$$

- $q_{nucl}$ : Linhard quenching
- $q_{el}$ : Electronic quenching
- $q_{esc}$ : Escape  $e^-$ 's at 0-field



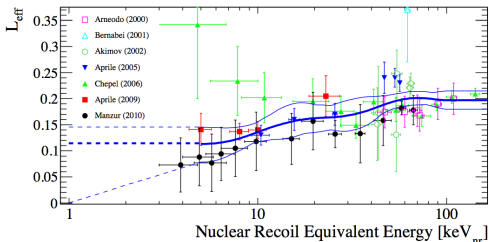
# Measuring the nuclear recoil scale



Liquid argon

Figure from D. Gastler *et al.*, arXiv:1004.0373

Two existing measurements



Liquid xenon

Discrepancies in the low energy  
for the xenon experiments

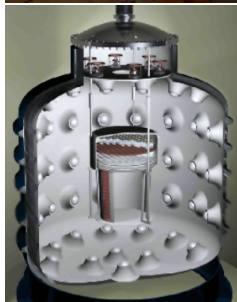
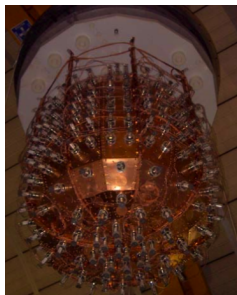
→ Currently: plans to do such  
measurements at lower recoil energies  
and understand the systematics

# Outline

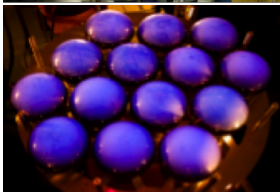
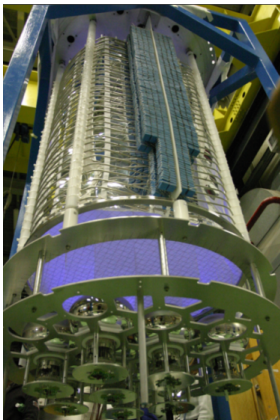
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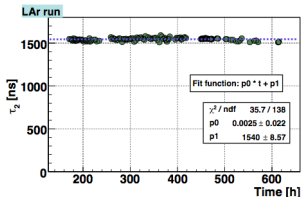




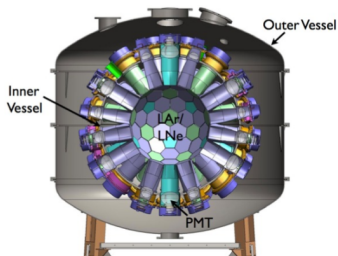
- Detector description:
  - 140 kg liquid argon
  - 60 cm drift length and 50 cm  $\varnothing$
  - 31 PMTs of 3" and 6 of 2" on top
  - Copper structure with TPB reflector
  - Charge read-out via secondary light
  
- Status:
  - **Commissioning** at Gran Sasso
  - First test run in summer 2009
  - Detector filled again in **March 2010**
  - PMT upgrade planned to lower the threshold



- Detector description:
  - Mass: 850 kg liquid argon
  - 120 cm drift length and 26 cm  $\varnothing$
  - 8" PMTs on bottom
  - Charge read-out on top: LEMs
  - HV: Aim to reach  $V_{tot} = 500$  kV,  $\sim 4$  kV/cm
- Status:
  - First cool down: completed and satisfactory



- Commissioning the prototype at CERN
  - Planned underground operation 2011
- Talk by Ursina Degunda

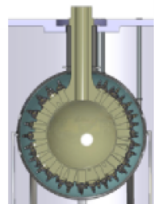


## CLEAN - Cryogenic Low Energy Astrophysics with Noble gases

- MiniCLEAN: 150 kg fv single phase detector with LAr/LNe
- PSD to reduce backgrounds
- In **commissioning** phase

## DEAP - Dark matter Experiment with Argon and Pulse shape discrimination

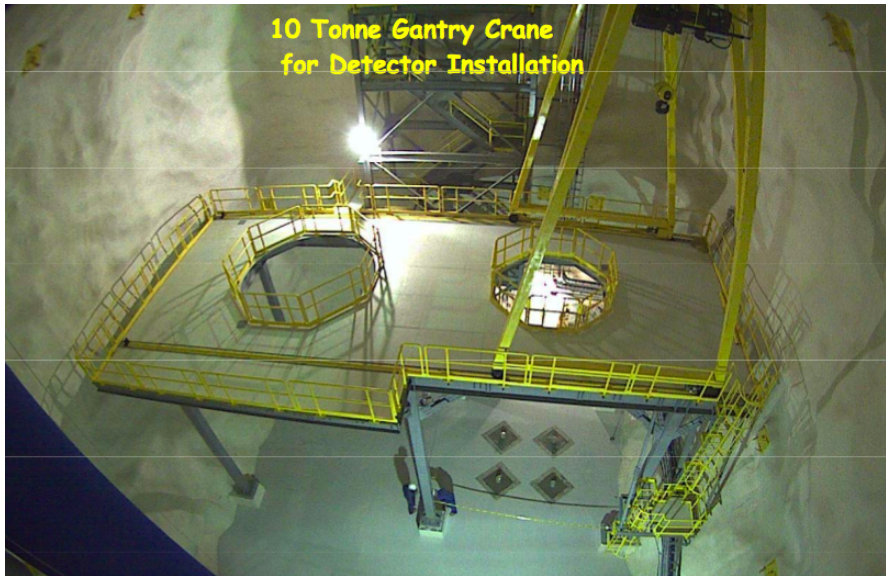
- 3 600 kg LAr in single phase
- Aim to use depleted argon to reduce  $^{39}\text{Ar}$
- Status: in **construction**
- Assembly planned for 2012



DEAP-3600

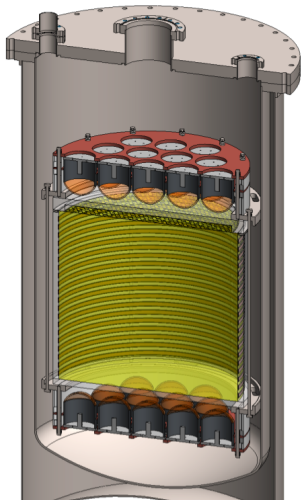
→ Talk by Keith Rielage

## 10 Tonne Gantry Crane for Detector Installation



- SNOLab: current installation of underground structure

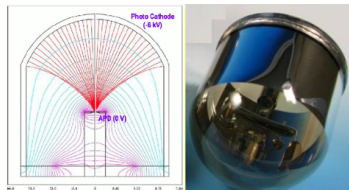
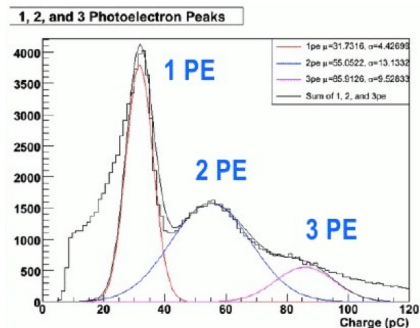
# Dark Side at Gran Sasso



- In **proposal** stage
- **50 kg depleted argon** from underground sources
  - Source found with factor 25 reduction in  $^{39}\text{Ar}$  level
  - Extraction plant at Princeton
- Detector location at **Borexino counting facility** (CTF)
- Borated liquid scintillator ( $^{10}\text{B}$ ) as neutron veto
- **QUPID** as photosensor

# QUPIDS for light readout

- **QU**artz **P**hoton **I**ntensifying **D**etector (hybrid detector)
- Development by UCLA & Hamamatsu for LXe and LAr detectors
- Ultra-low radioactivity ( $\sim 0.1$  mBq)
- High QE and high SPE resolution



- First test at UCLA
  - QUPID working in LXe!
- single electron response

K. Arisaka *et al.*, *Astroparticle Physics* **31** (2009) 63

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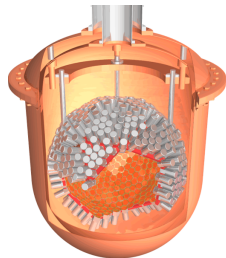
# XMASS experiment



- Search for dark matter
- Solar neutrinos
- Double beta decay of  $^{136}\text{Xe}$



- Picture from February 2010
  - 800 kg of LXe (single phase)
  - Self-shielding concept
  - Copper structure
  - ~ 800 ton water shield
  - Plans for DM run within 2010

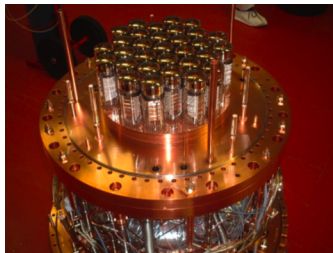


→ Talk by Kazuyoshi Kobayashi



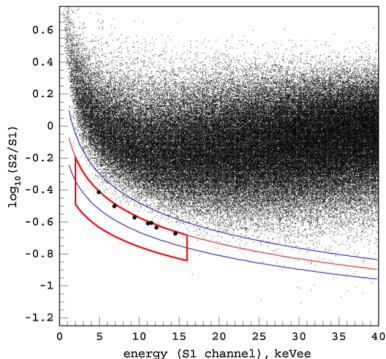
XMASS infrastructure in **construction** in the Kamioka mine

# Zeplin III



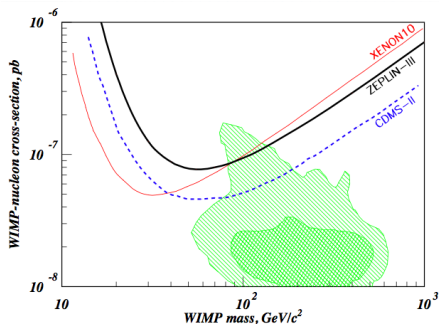
- 83 d operation with 84% livetime @ **Boulby**
- 267.9 kg d effective fiducial exposure
- 7 events in the box with  $11 \pm 3$  events expected bg

- $\sim 30$  cm  $\varnothing$  and 3.6 cm drift depth
- high E-field 3.9 kV per cm
- 0.5 cm electroluminescent gap
- $31 \times 2$  inch PMTs
- 12 kg active target mass



# Zeplin III

Zeplin III limit on the WIMP-nucleon spin-independent scattering cross-section:



V. N. Lebedenko *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 103: 151302 (2009), arXiv:0812.1150

- Also limits placed on spin-dependent interactions and on inelastic dark matter

→ Detector currently **running** and acquiring dark matter data

## UPGRADE:

- PMTs replaced by low radioactivity ones
- Screening of the materials used
- Simulations to predict background
- Plastic scintillator **active veto**
- ... and further system upgrades



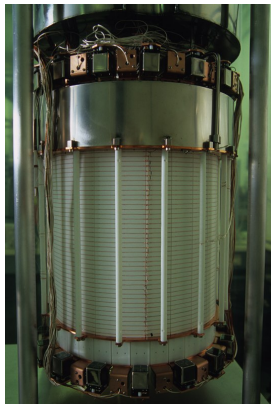
- Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso (Italy)
- $\sim 3500$  m.w.e. shielding

- **XENON10**: 15 kg active volume
  - Finished: No evidence for DM

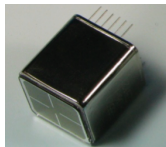
J. Angle *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 100, 021303 (2008)  
J. Angle *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 101, 091301 (2008)  
J. Angle *et al.*, Phys. Rev. D80, 115005 (2009)

- **XENON100**: 62 kg active volume
  - Currently **running**

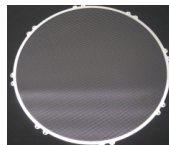




- 30 cm drift length and 30 cm  $\varnothing$
- 161 kg total (30-50 kg fiducial volume)
- $\sim 100\times$  lower background than XENON10 achieved
- Improved shielding
- Material screening and selection
- Active liquid xenon veto



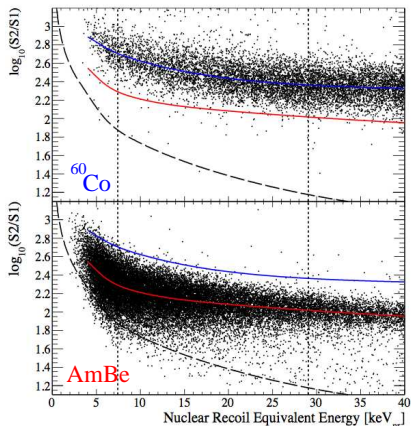
1 inch PMTs



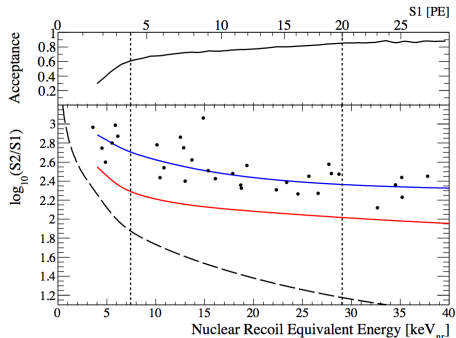
30 cm  $\varnothing$  meshes

→ Talk by Alfredo Ferella

# XENON100 results

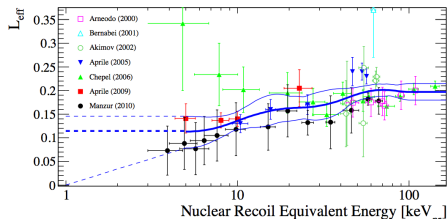


- Discrimination better than 99% @ about 50% NR acceptance



→ 'Background free': in the 11.17 days of data after discrimination

# Limit from non-blinded data analysis

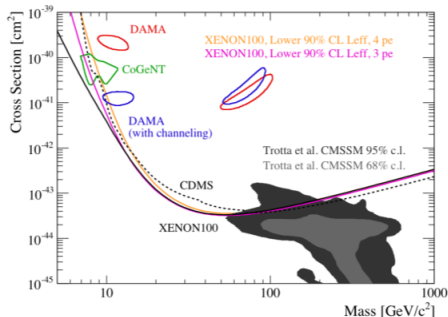


- **Excellent sensitivity:** even for few days of data

→ Sensitivity to low WIMP masses depends on  $L_{eff}$

- Much more data recorded in blind mode
- + analysis in the high nuclear-recoil energy region

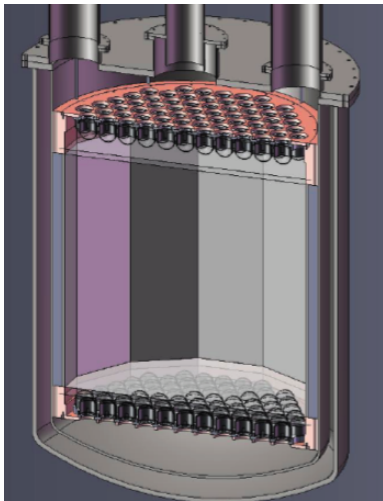
- **Spin independent limit:** for standard halo parameters



E. Aprile *et al.*, arXiv:1005.0380



# Future: XENON1t

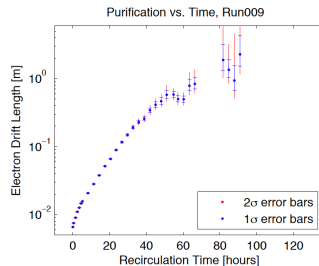


- 1.1 ton fiducial mass (total of 2.2 ton LXe)
  - Drift length:  $\sim 90$  cm
  - 100x background reduction
  - Muon veto
  - Copper/titanium cryostat
  - QUPIDs for photo-detection
- New collaborators
- Currently working on MC simulations and design + secure funding
- Location under discussion: Gran Sasso/Modane



## LUX - Large Underground Xenon detector

- $\sim 100$  kg fiducial mass (350 kg total)
- Two arrays of 61 PMTs
- Water tank as muon veto
- Excellent purification system:



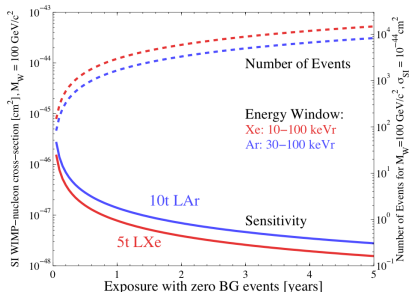
- Status: **commissioning**
  - Detector tested in 2009 (LUX 0.1)
  - Waiting for underground location: Davis Laboratory at the Homestake Mine (end 2010) → tests above ground

# DARWIN and MAX joint activities

dark matter wimp search in noble liquids

## DARWIN

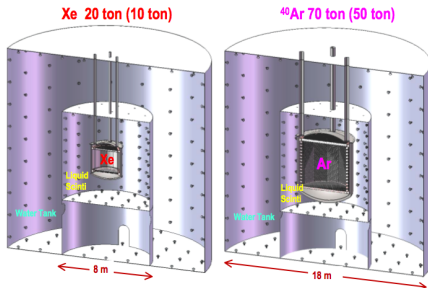
- R&D and DS for a noble liquid facility in Europe



## MAX Multi-ton Argon Xenon

@ DUSEL

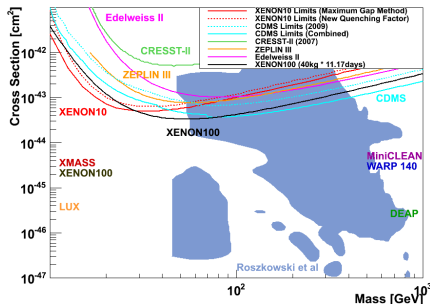
- US R&D activities for multi-ton argon and xenon detectors



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# Summary

- DM search with **noble liquids** has progressed rapidly in the last years → **No discovery so far!**
  - Best limit by XENON100 at  $3.4 \times 10^{-44}$  cm<sup>2</sup> (SI) for 55 GeV/c<sup>2</sup> WIMP mass
- Big effort to **increase the mass** and **reduce the backgrounds**
  - Material screening and selection
  - **Fiducialization**: Position reconstruction best in TPCs
- Current experiments in the order of 10 – 100 kg LAr/LXe
  - Plans for ton-scale experiments (some already under construction)



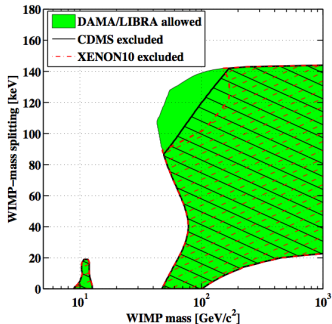
# Interpretation of DAMA signal as iDM

- Inelastic dark matter model (D. Tucker-Smith and N. Weiner)

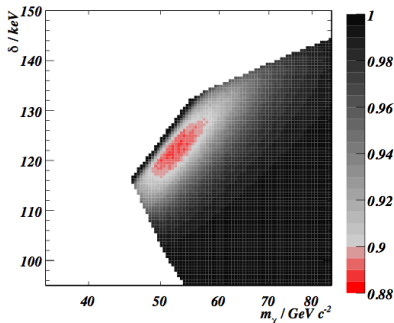
- WIMP scatter to an excited state

- Minimum relative speed:  $v_{min} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2m_N E_R}} \left( \frac{m_N E_R}{\mu_N} + \delta \right)$

→ Expected WIMP rates for Ge/Xe at higher nuclear recoil energies



CDMS detector: 4.4 kg of germanium  
arXiv: 0912.3592 [astro-ph]



Zeplin: 6.5 kg liquid xenon  
Latest result arXiv:1003.5626v2 [hep-ex]

- XENON100 results can check the remaining allowed region