

Roma2, Roma1, LNGS, IHEP/Beijing

+ by-products and small scale expts.: INR-Kiev

+ neutron meas.: ENEA-Frascati

+ in some studies on ββ decays (DST-MAE project): IIT Kharagpur, India



DAMA: an observatory for rare processes @LNGS

DAMA/CRYS

DAMA/LXe

DAMA/R&D

DAMA/Ge

DAMA/NaI

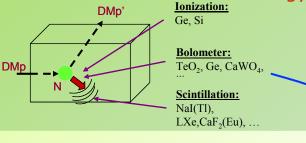
DAMA/LIBRA



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

Some direct detection processes:

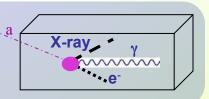
- Scatterings on nuclei
 - → detection of nuclear recoil energy



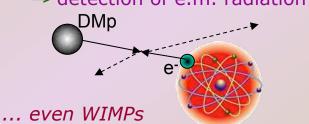
- Inelastic Dark Matter: W + N → W* + N
 - \rightarrow W has Two mass states χ + , χ with δ mass splitting
 - \rightarrow Kinematical constraint for the inelastic scattering of χ on a nucleus ___

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

- Excitation of bound electrons in scatterings on nuclei
 - → detection of recoil nuclei + e.m. radiation
 - Conversion of particle into e.m. radiation
 - \rightarrow detection of γ , X-rays, e

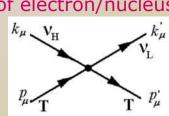


- Interaction only on atomic electrons
 - → detection of e.m. radiation



- Interaction of light DMp (LDM) on e⁻ or nucleus with production of a lighter particle
 - ightharpoonup detection of electron/nucleus recoil energy k_{μ} $\nu_{\rm H}$

e.g. sterile v



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

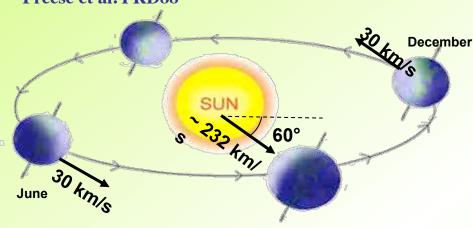
... also other ideas ...

... and more

The annual modulation: a model independent signature for the investigation of Dark Matter 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 velocity in the halo)
- · v_{orb} = 30 km/s (Earth velocity around the Sun)
- $\cdot \gamma = \pi/3$, $\omega = 2\pi/T$, T = 1 year
- $t_0 = 2^{nd}$ June (when v_{\oplus} is maximum)

$$\mathbf{v}_{\oplus}(\mathbf{t}) = \mathbf{v}_{\text{sun}} + \mathbf{v}_{\text{orb}} \cos\gamma\cos[\omega(\mathbf{t}-\mathbf{t}_0)]$$

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

Expected rate in given energy bin changes because the revolution motion of the Earth around the Sun, which is moving in the Galaxy

Requirements of the 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

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

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

 Electron stability and non-paulian transitions in Iodine atoms (by L-shell)

Search for solar axions

Exotic Matter search

Search for superdense nuclear matter

Search for heavy clusters decays

PRC60(1999)065501

PLB460(1999)235

PLB515(2001)6

EPJdirect C14(2002)1

EPJA23(2005)7

EPJA24(2005)51

Results on DM particles:

PSD PLB389(1996)757

 Investigation on diurnal effect N.Cim.A112(1999)1541

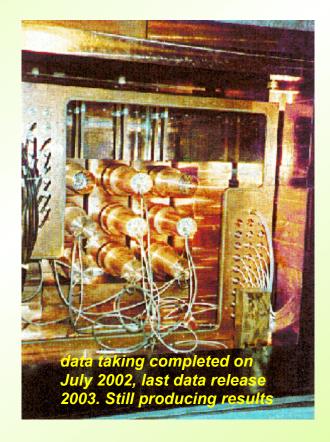
 Exotic Dark Matter search PRL83(1999)4918

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 6.3σ C.L.

total exposure (7 annual cycles) 0.29 ton×yr

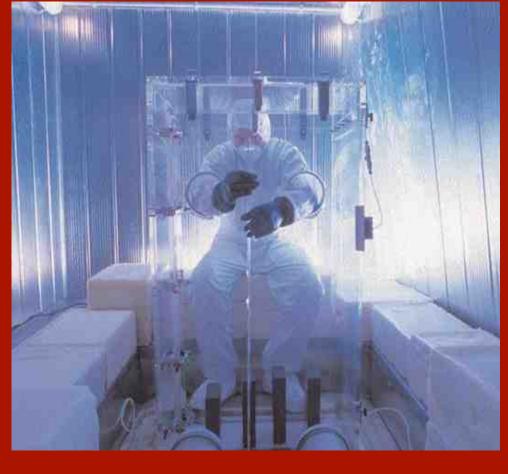




- Results on DM particles: Annual Modulation Signature: EPJC56(2008)333, EPJC67(2010)39
- · Results on rare processes: PEP violation in Na, I: EPJC62(2009)327, CNC in I: EPJC72(2012)1920



...calibration procedures





The DAMA/LIBRA set-up

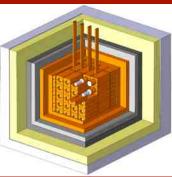
For details, radiopurity, performances, procedures, etc. NIMA592(2008)297, JINST 7(2012)03009

Polyethylene/paraffin

•25 x 9.7 kg NaI(Tl) in a 5x5 matrix

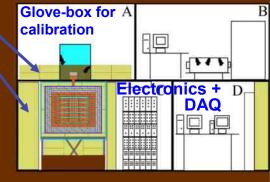
 two Suprasil-B light guides directly coupled to each bare crystal

 two PMTs working in coincidence at the single ph. el. threshold

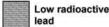


5.5-7.5 phe/keV



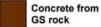










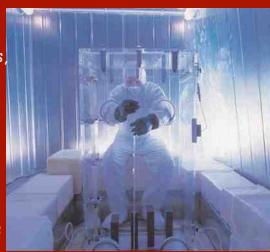




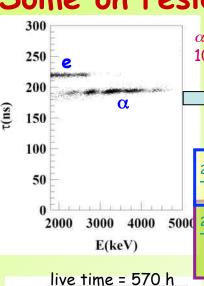


- Dismounting/Installing protocol (with "Scuba" system)
- · All the materials selected for low radioactivity
 - Multicomponent passive shield (>10 cm of Cu, 15 cm of Pb + Cd foils, 10/40 cm Polyethylene/paraffin, about 1 m concrete, mostly outside the installation)
- Three-level system to exclude Radon 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
- Data collected from low energy up to MeV region, despite the hardware optimization was done for the low energy





Some on residual contaminants in new ULB NaI(TI) detectors



200

Counts/50 keV 001 001

50

lpha/e pulse shape discrimination has practically 100% effectiveness in the MeV range

The measured α yield in the new DAMA/LIBRA detectors ranges from 7 to some tens α /kg/day

Second generation R&D for new DAMA/LIBRA crystals: new selected powders, physical/chemical radiopurification, new selection of overall materials, new protocol for growing and handling

From time-amplitude method. If ²³²Th chain at equilibrium: it ranges from 0.5 ppt to 7.5 ppt

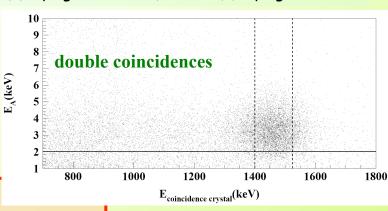
3000 4000 5000 238U residual contamination

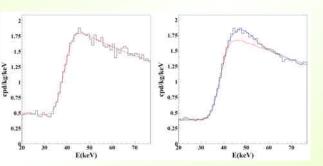
First estimate: considering the measured α and ²³²Th activity, if ²³⁸U chain at equilibrium \Rightarrow ²³⁸U contents in new detectors typically range from 0.7 to 10 ppt

²³⁸U chain splitted into 5 subchains: $^{238}U \rightarrow ^{234}U \rightarrow ^{230}Th \rightarrow ^{226}Ra \rightarrow ^{210}Pb \rightarrow ^{206}Pb$ Thus, in this case: (2.1±0.1) ppt of ^{232}Th ; (0.35 ±0.06) ppt for ^{238}U and: (15.8±1.6) μ Bq/kg for $^{234}U + ^{230}Th$; (21.7±1.1) μ Bq/kg for ^{226}Ra ; (24.2±1.6) μ Bq/kg for ^{210}Pb .

natk residual contamination

The analysis has given for the nat K content in the crystals values not exceeding about 20 ppb





E(keV)

5000

 $\frac{129\text{T}}{\text{and}} \frac{210\text{Pb}}{129\text{T}/\text{nat}}$ ≈1.7×10-13 for all the new detectors

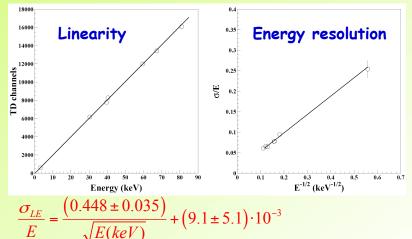
²¹⁰Pb in the new detectors: (5 - 30) μ Bq/kg.

No sizable surface pollution by Radon daugthers, thanks to the new handling protocols

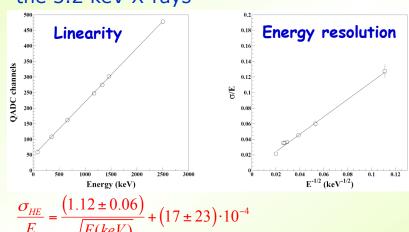
... more on NIMA592 (2008)297

DAMA/LIBRA calibrations

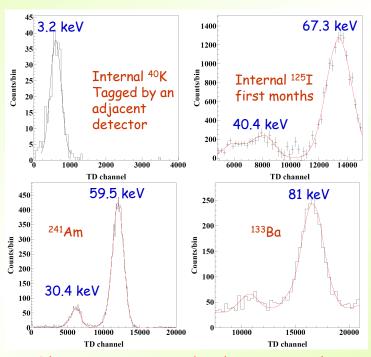
Low energy: various external gamma sources (241Am, 133Ba) and internal X-rays or gamma's (40K, 125I, 129I), routine calibrations with 241Am



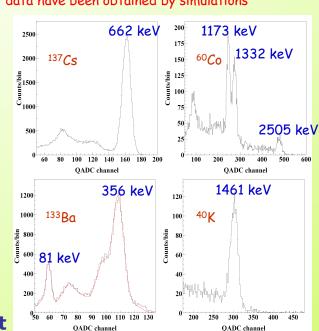
High energy: external sources of gamma rays (e.g. ¹³⁷Cs, ⁶⁰Co and ¹³³Ba) and gamma rays of 1461 keV due to ⁴⁰K decays in an adjacent detector, tagged by the 3.2 keV X-rays



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



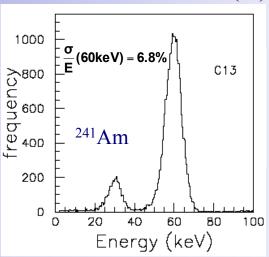
The curves superimposed to the experimental data have been obtained by simulations



Thus, here and hereafter keV means keV electron equivalent

Examples of energy resolutions

DAMA/LIBRA ULB NaI(TI)



ZEPLIN-II

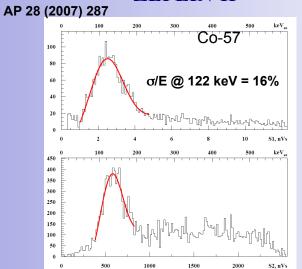


Fig. 5. Typical energy spectra for 57 Co γ -ray calibrations, showing S1 spectrum (upper) and S2 spectrum (lower). The fits are double Gaussian fits which incorporate both the 122 keV and 136 keV lines in the 57 Co γ -ray spectrum. The energy resolution of the detector is derived from the width of the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

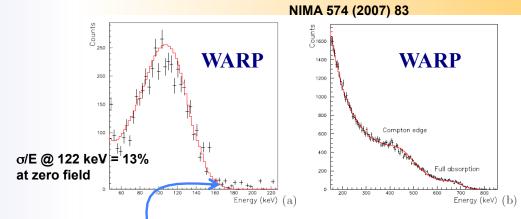


Fig. 2. Energy spectra taken with external γ -ray sources, superimposed with the corresponding Monte Carlo simulations. (a) 57 Co source (E=122 keV, B.R. 85.6%, and 136 keV, B.R. 10.7%), (b) 137 Cs source (E=662 keV).

subtraction of the spectrum?

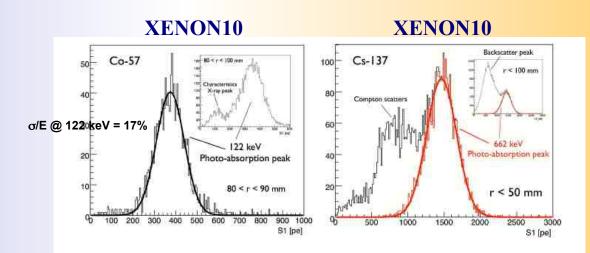
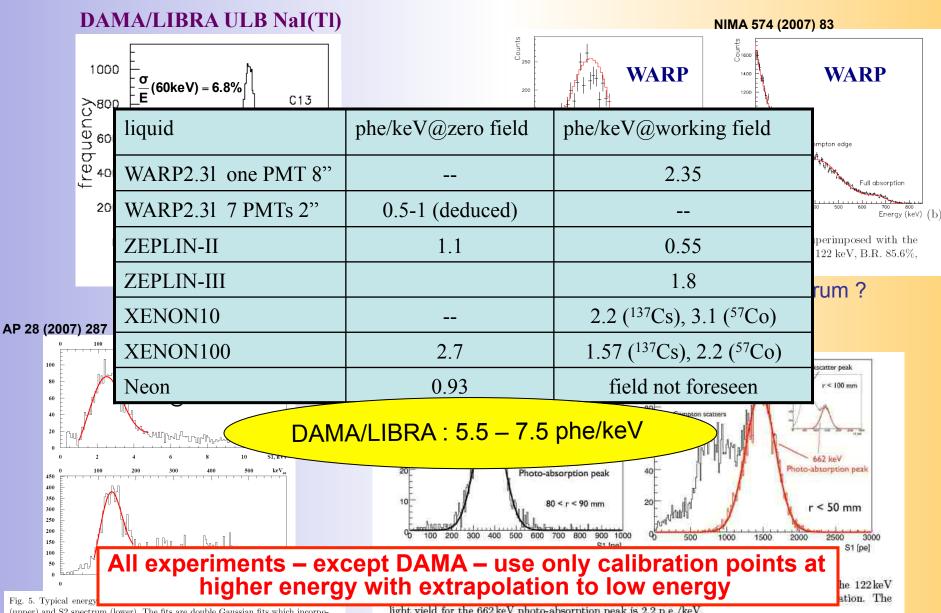


Figure 3. (left) S1 scintillation spectrum from a 57 Co calibration. The light yield for the 122 keV photo-absorption peak is 3.1 p.e./keV. (right) S1 scintillation spectrum from a 137 Cs calibration. The light yield for the 662 keV photo-absorption peak is 2.2 p.e./keV.

JoP: Conf. Ser. 65 (2007) 012015

Examples of energy resolutions



(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.

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

JoP: Conf. Ser. 65 (2007) 012015

Infos about DAMA/LIBRA data taking

Period		Mass (kg)	Exposure (kg × day)	α-β²
DAMA/LIBRA-1	Sep. 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 – Sep. 1, 2009	242.5	58768	0.519
DAMA/LIBRA-1 to -6	Sep. 9, 2003 – Sep. 1, 2009		317697 = 0.87 ton×yr	0.519

DAMA/Nal (7 years) + DAMA/LIBRA (6 years)

total exposure: 425428 kg×day = 1.17 ton×yr



- replacement of some PMTs in HP N₂ atmosphere
- restore 1 detector to operation
- new Digitizers installed (U1063A Acqiris 1GS/s 8-bit High-Speed cPCI)
- new DAQ system with optical read-out installed

Second upgrade on Oct./Nov. 2010

- replacement of all the PMTs with higher Q.E. ones

... continuously running

- calibrations: ≈72 M events from sources
- acceptance window eff: 82 M events (≈3M events/keV)
- EPJC56(2008)333
- •EPJC67(2010)39



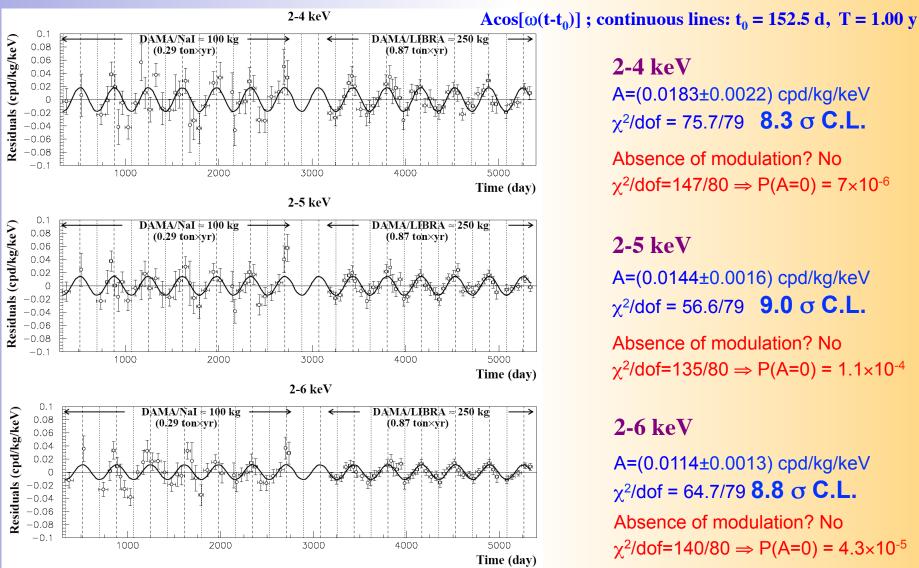




Model Independent Annual Modulation Result

DAMA/Nal (7 years) + DAMA/LIBRA (6 years) Total exposure: 425428 kg×day = 1.17 ton×yr

experimental single-hit residuals rate vs time and energy



2-4 keV

A=(0.0183±0.0022) cpd/kg/keV $\chi^2/dof = 75.7/79$ **8.3** σ **C.L.**

Absence of modulation? No $\chi^2/dof = 147/80 \Rightarrow P(A=0) = 7 \times 10^{-6}$

2-5 keV

A=(0.0144±0.0016) cpd/kg/keV $\chi^2/dof = 56.6/79$ **9.0** σ **C.L.**

Absence of modulation? No $\chi^2/dof=135/80 \Rightarrow P(A=0) = 1.1 \times 10^{-4}$

2-6 keV

A=(0.0114±0.0013) cpd/kg/keV $\chi^2/dof = 64.7/79 8.8 \sigma C.L.$ Absence of modulation? No $\chi^2/dof=140/80 \Rightarrow P(A=0) = 4.3 \times 10^{-5}$

The data favor the presence of a modulated behavior with proper features at 8.80 C.L.

Modulation amplitudes (A), period (T) and phase (t₀) measured in DAMA/NaI and DAMA/LIBRA

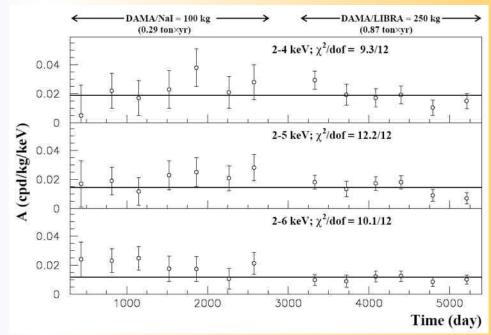
DAMA/Nal (7 annual cycles: 0.29 ton x yr) + DAMA/LIBRA (6 annual

cycles: 0.87 ton x yr) total exposure: 425428 kg×day = 1.17 ton×yr

A, T, t_0 obtained by fitting the single-hit data with $A\cos[\omega(t-t_0)]$

	A (cpd/kg/keV)	T= 2π/ω (yr)	t ₀ (day)	C.L.
DAMA/Nai + DAMA/LIBRA				
(2÷4) keV	0.0194 ± 0.0022	0.996 ± 0.002	136 ± 7	8.8σ
(2÷5) keV	0.0149 ± 0.0016	0.997 ± 0.002	142 ± 7	9.3σ
(2÷6) keV	0.0116 ± 0.0013	0.999 ± 0.002	146 ± 7	8.9σ

The χ^2 test (χ^2 = 9.3, 12.2 and 10.1 over 12 *d.o.f.* for the three energy intervals, respectively) and the *run test* (lower tail probabilities of 57%, 47% and 35% for the three energy intervals, respectively) accept at 90% C.L. the hypothesis that the modulation amplitudes are normally fluctuating around their best fit values.



Compatibility among the annual cycles

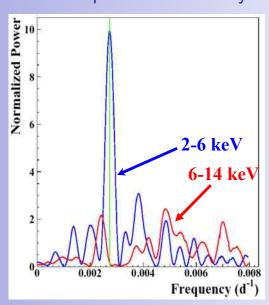
Power spectrum of single-hit residuals

(according to Ap.J.263(1982)835; Ap.J.338(1989)277)

Treatment of the experimental errors and time binning included here

DAMA/Nal (7 years)

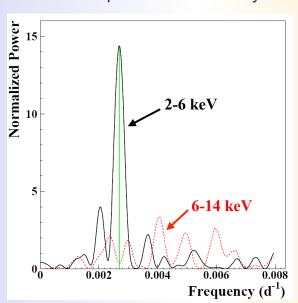
total exposure: 0.29 tonxyr



2-6 keV vs 6-14 keV

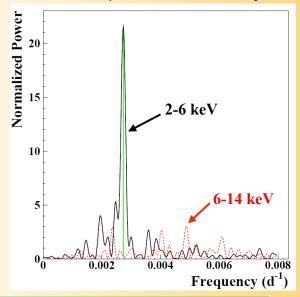
DAMA/LIBRA (6 years)

total exposure: 0.87 tonxyr



DAMA/Nal (7 years) + DAMA/LIBRA (6 years)

total exposure: 1.17 tonxyr



Principal mode in the 2-6 keV region:

DAMA/NaI

DAMA/LIBRA

 $2.737 \times 10^{-3} d^{-1} \approx 1 y^{-1}$ $2.697 \times 10^{-3} d^{-1} \approx 1 yr^{-1}$

DAMA/NaI+LIBRA $2.735 \times 10^{-3} d^{-1} \approx 1 yr^{-1}$

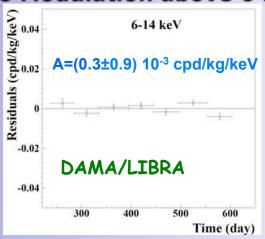


Not present in the 6-14 keV region (only aliasing peaks)

Clear annual modulation is evident in (2-6) keV while it is absent just above 6 keV

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 → statistically consistent with zero

No modulation in the whole energy spectrum: studying integral rate at higher energy, R₉₀

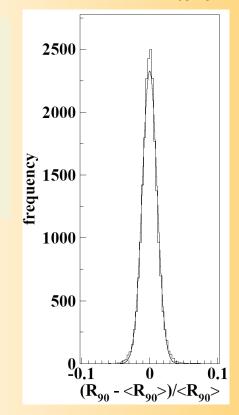
• R₉₀ percentage variations with respect to their mean values for single crystal in the DAMA/LIBRA running periods

• Fitting the behaviour with time, adding a term modulated with period and phase as expected for DM particles:

consistent with zero

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	
DAMA/LIBRA-6	-(0.20±0.16) cpd/kg

DAMALIBRA-1 to -6



σ ≈ 1%, fully accounted by statistical considerations

+ if a modulation present in the whole energy spectrum at the level found in the lowest energy region $\rightarrow R_{90} \sim \text{tens cpd/kg} \rightarrow \sim 100 \text{ } \sigma \text{ far away}$

No modulation above 6 keV

This accounts for all sources of bckg and is consistent with studies on the various components

Multiple-hits events in the region of the signal

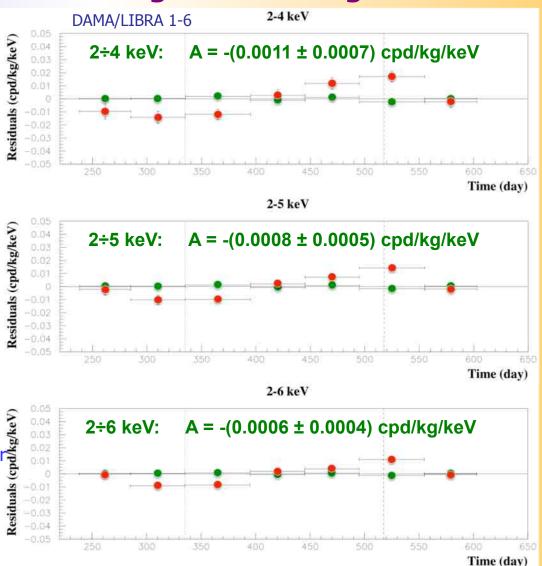
- Each detector has its own TDs read-out
 → pulse profiles of multiple-hits events
 (multiplicity > 1) acquired (exposure:
 0.87 ton×yr).
- The same hardware and software procedures as those followed for singlehit events

signals by Dark Matter particles do not belong to *multiple-hits* events, that is:

multiple-hits events = Dark Matter particles events "switched off"

Evidence of annual modulation with proper features as required by the DM annual modulation signature:

- present in the **single-hit** residuals
- absent in the *multiple-hits* residual



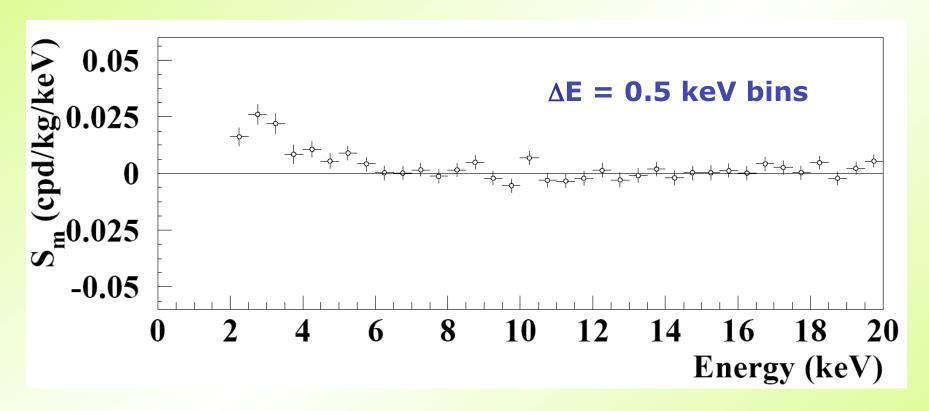
This result offers an additional strong support for the presence of Dark Matter particles in the galactic halo, further excluding any side effect either from hardware or from software procedures or from background

Energy distribution of the modulation amplitudes

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

here $T=2\pi/\omega=1$ yr and $t_0=152.5$ day

DAMA/NaI (7 years) + DAMA/LIBRA (6 years) total exposure: 425428 kg×day ≈1.17 ton×yr



A clear modulation is present in the (2-6) keV energy interval, while S_m values compatible with zero are present just above

The S_m values in the (6–20) keV energy interval have random fluctuations around zero with χ^2 equal to 27.5 for 28 degrees of freedom

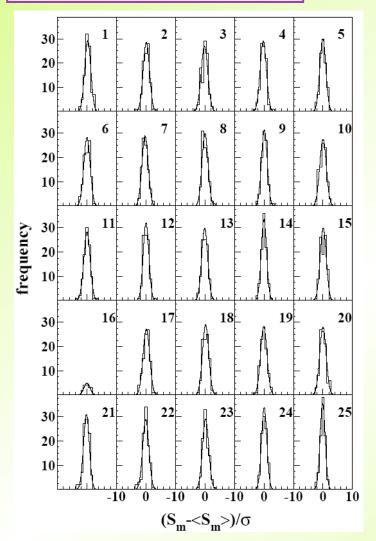
Statistical distributions of the modulation amplitudes (S_m)

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

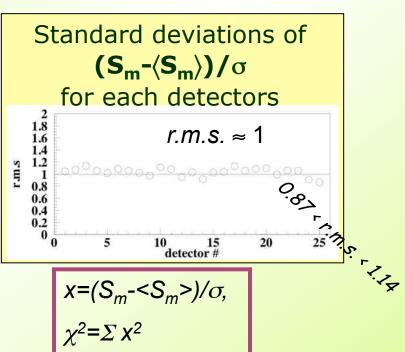
DAMA/LIBRA (6 years)

total exposure: 0.87 tonxyr

Each panel refers to each detector separately; 96 entries = 16 energy bins in 2-6 keV energy interval × 6 DAMA/LIBRA annual cycles (for crys 16, 1 annual cycle, 16 entries)



2-6 keV



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



S_m statistically well distributed in all the detectors and annual cycles

Is there a sinusoidal contribution in the signal? Phase ≠ 152.5 day?

DAMA/Nal (7 years) + DAMA/LIBRA (6 years)

total exposure: 425428 kg×day = 1.17 ton×yr

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

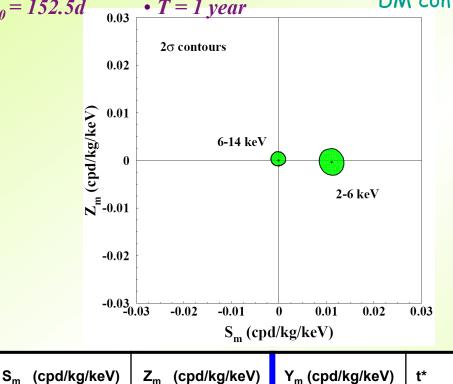
For Dark Matter signals:

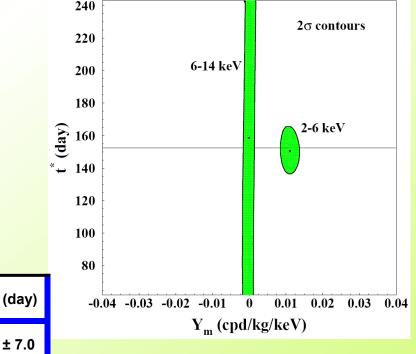
• $\omega = 2\pi/T$ • $|Z_m| \ll |S_m| \approx |Y_m|$

• $t^* \approx t_0 = 152.5d$

 $\bullet T = 1 year$

Slight differences from 2nd June are expected in case of contributions from non thermalized DM components (as e.g. the SagDEG stream)





(keV)

0.0111 ± 0.0013 -0.0004 ± 0.0014

0.0111 ± 0.0013

150.5 ± 7.0

-0.0001 ± 0.0008

2-6 6-14

-0.0001 ± 0.0008 0.0002 ± 0.0005

The analysis at energies above 6 keV, the analysis of the multiple-hits events and the statistical considerations about S_m already exclude any sizable presence of systematical effects

Additional investigations on the stability parameters

Modulation amplitudes obtained by fitting the time behaviours of main running parameters, acquired with the production data, when including a DM-like modulation

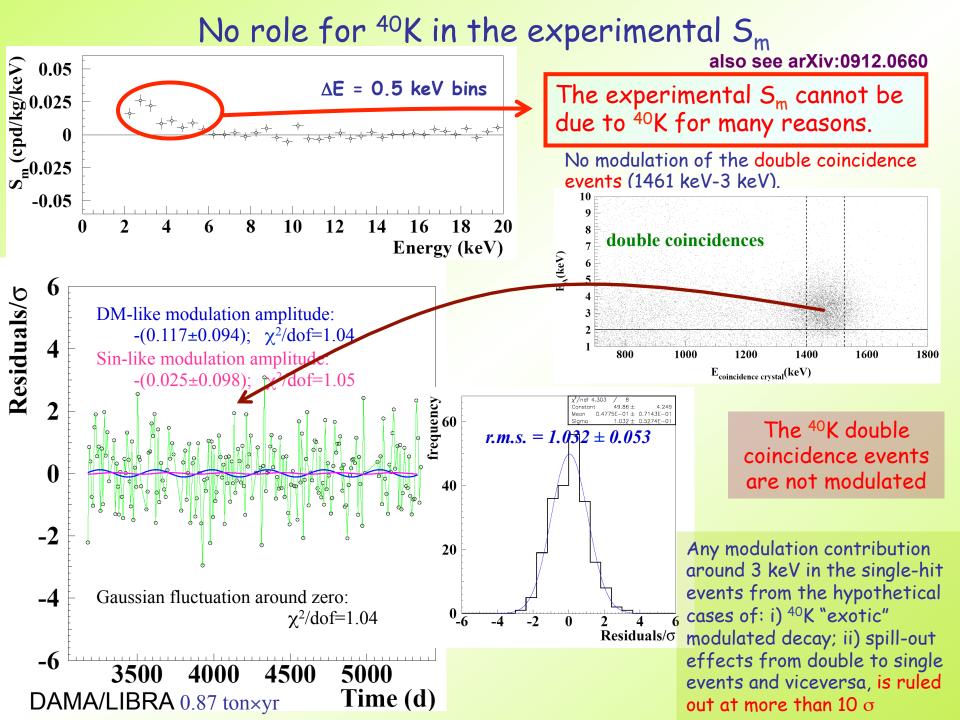
Running conditions stable at a level better than 1% also in the two new running periods

	DAMA/LIBRA-1	DAMA/LIBRA-2	DAMA/LIBRA-3	DAMA/LIBRA-4	DAMA/LIBRA-5	DAMA/LIBRA-6
Temperature	-(0.0001 ± 0.0061) °C	(0.0026 ± 0.0086) °C	(0.001 ± 0.015) °C	(0.0004 ± 0.0047) °C	(0.0001 ± 0.0036) °C	(0.0007 ± 0.0059) °C
Flux N ₂	(0.13 ± 0.22) I/h	(0.10 ± 0.25) l/h	-(0.07 ± 0.18) l/h	-(0.05 ± 0.24) I/h	-(0.01 ± 0.21) l/h	-(0.01 ± 0.15) l/h
Pressure	(0.015 ± 0.030) mbar	-(0.013 ± 0.025) mbar	(0.022 ± 0.027) mbar	(0.0018 ± 0.0074) mbar	-(0.08 ± 0.12) ×10 ⁻² mbar	(0.07 ± 0.13) ×10 ⁻² mbar
Radon	-(0.029 ± 0.029) Bq/m ³	-(0.030 ± 0.027) Bq/m ³	(0.015 ± 0.029) Bq/m ³	-(0.052 ± 0.039) Bq/m ³	(0.021 ± 0.037) Bq/m ³	-(0.028 ± 0.036) Bq/m ³
Hardware rate above single photoelectron	-(0.20 ± 0.18) × 10 ⁻² Hz	(0.09 ± 0.17) × 10 ⁻² Hz	-(0.03 ± 0.20) × 10 ⁻² Hz	$(0.15 \pm 0.15) \times 10^{-2} \mathrm{Hz}$	(0.03 ± 0.14) × 10 ⁻² Hz	(0.08 ± 0.11) × 10 ⁻² Hz

All the measured amplitudes well compatible with zero

+ none can account for the observed effect

(to mimic such signature, spurious effects and side reactions must not only be able to account for the whole observed modulation amplitude, but also simultaneously satisfy all the 6 requirements)



Can a possible thermal neutron modulation account for the observed effect?

Thermal neutrons flux measured at LNGS:

$$\Phi_{\rm n} = 1.08 \ 10^{-6} \ {\rm n \ cm^{-2} \ s^{-1}} \ ({\rm N.Cim.A101}(1989)959)$$

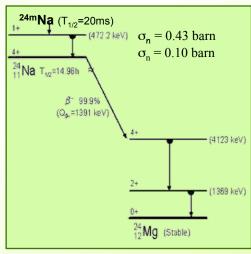
• Experimental upper limit on the thermal neutrons flux "surviving" the neutron shield in DAMA/LIBRA:

>studying triple coincidences able to give evidence for the possible presence of ²⁴Na from neutron activation:

$$\Phi_{\rm n}$$
 < 1.2 × 10⁻⁷ n cm⁻² s⁻¹ (90%C.L.)

• Two consistent upper limits on thermal neutron flux have been obtained with DAMA/NaI considering the same capture reactions and using different approaches.





Evaluation of the expected effect:

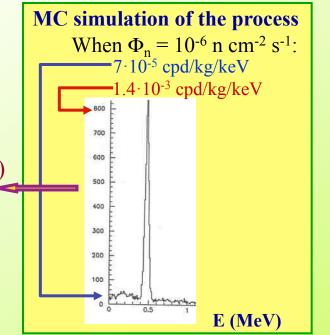
► Capture rate = $\Phi_n \sigma_n N_T < 0.022$ captures/day/kg

HYPOTHESIS: assuming very cautiously a 10% thermal neutron modulation:

 \sim $S_m^{\text{(thermal n)}} < 0.8 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cpd/kg/keV (< 0.01\% S}_m^{\text{observed}})$

In all the cases of neutron captures (24Na, 128I, ...) a possible thermal n modulation induces a variation in all the energy spectrum

Already excluded also by R₉₀ analysis



Can a possible fast neutron modulation account for the observed effect?





In the estimate of the possible effect of the neutron background cautiously not included the 1m concrete moderator, which almost completely surrounds (mostly outside the barrack) the passive shield

Measured fast neutron flux @ LNGS: $\Phi_n = 0.9 \ 10^{-7} \ n \ cm^{-2} \ s^{-1} \ (Astropart.Phys.4 \ (1995)23)$

By MC: differential counting rate above $2 \text{ keV} \approx 10^{-3} \text{ cpd/kg/keV}$

HYPOTHESIS: assuming - very cautiously - a 10% neutron modulation:



Experimental upper limit on the fast neutrons flux "surviving" the neutron shield in DAMA/LIBRA:

> through the study of the inelastic reaction ²³Na(n,n')²³Na*(2076 keV) which produces two γ's in coincidence (1636 keV and 440 keV):

$$\Phi_{\rm n}$$
 < 2.2 × 10⁻⁷ n cm⁻² s⁻¹ (90%C.L.)

> well compatible with the measured values at LNGS. This further excludes any presence of a fast neutron flux in DAMA/LIBRA significantly larger than the measured ones.

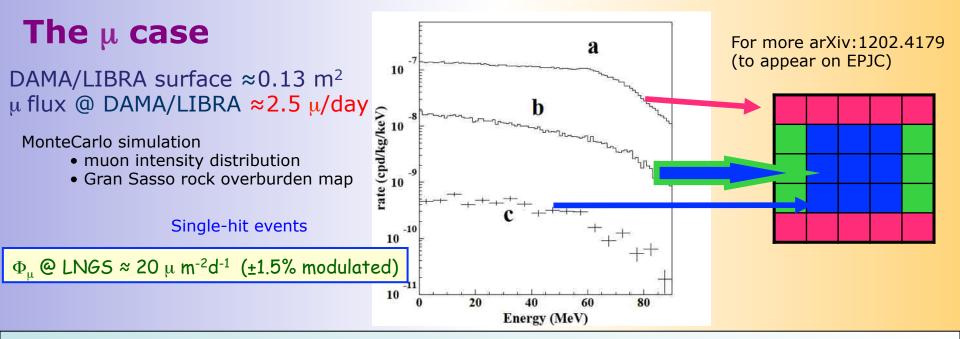
Moreover, a possible fast n modulation would induce:

▶ a variation in all the energy spectrum (steady environmental fast neutrons always accompained by thermalized component)

already excluded also by Rgo

a modulation amplitude for multiple-hit events different from zero already excluded by the multiple-hit events

Thus, a possible 5% neutron modulation (ICARUS TM03-01) cannot quantitatively contribute to the DAMA/NaI observed signal, even if the neutron flux would be assumed 100 times larger than measured by various authors over more than 15 years @ LNGS



Case of fast neutrons produced by μ

Measured neutron Yield @ LNGS:

$$Y=1\div7 \ 10^{-4} \ n/\mu/(g/cm^2)$$

$$R_n$$
 = (fast n by μ)/(time unit) = Φ_{μ} Y M_{eff}

Annual modulation amplitude at low energy due to u modulation:

$$S_{\rm m}^{(\mu)} = R_{\rm n} g \epsilon f_{\Delta E} f_{\rm single} 2\% / (M_{\rm setup} \Delta E)$$

 $g = \text{geometrical factor}; \quad \varepsilon = \text{detection effic. by elastic scattering} \\ f_{\Delta E} = \text{energy window (E>2keV) effic.}; \quad f_{\text{single}} = \text{single hit effic.}$

Hyp.: $M_{eff} = 15 \text{ tons}; g \approx \varepsilon \approx f_{AE} \approx f_{single} \approx 0.5 \text{ (cautiously)}$

Knowing that: $M_{setup} \approx 250 \text{ kg}$ and $\Delta E=4\text{keV}$

$$S_{\rm m}^{(\mu)} < (0.3-2.4) \times 10^{-5} \text{ cpd/kg/keV}$$

Moreover, this modulation also induces a variation in other parts of the energy spectrum and in the multi-hits events

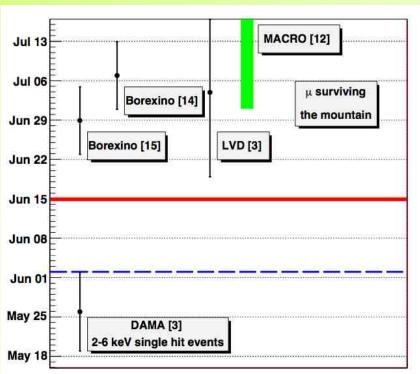
It cannot mimic the signature: already excluded by R_{90} , by multi-hits analysis + different phase, etc.

R₉₀, multi-hits, phase, and other analyses





about the phase of muons For more arXiv:1202.4179 (to appear on EPJC)



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)

but

the muon phase differs from year to year (error no purely statistical); LVD/BOREXINO phase value is a "mean" of the muon phase of each year

The DAMA: modulation amplitude 10⁻² cpd/kg/keV, in 2-6 keV energy range for single hit events; phase: May 26 ± 7 days

(stable over 13 years)

The DAMA phase is 5.7σ far from the LVD/BOREXINO phases of muons $(7.1 \sigma \text{ far from MACRO measured phase})$

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

Can (whatever) hypothetical cosmogenic products be considered as side effects, assuming that they might produce:

- · only events at low energy,
- · only single-hit events,
- · no sizable effect in the multiple-hit counting rate
- pulses with time structure as scintillation light

But, its phase should be

• if $\tau \ll T/2\pi$: $t_{side} = t_u + \tau$ (much) larger than μ phase, t_{μ} : • if $\tau \gg T/2\pi$: $t_{side} = t_{\mu} + T/\Delta$

It cannot mimic the signature: different phase

Inconsistency of the phase between DAMA signal and μ modulation

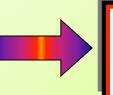
Summary of the results obtained in the additional investigations of possible systematics or side reactions

(e.g. NIMA592(2008)297, EPJC56(2008)333, arXiv:0912.0660, Can. J. Phys. 89 (2011) 11, S.I.F.Atti Conf.103(2011) (arXiv:1007.0595), arXiv:1202.4179)

DAMA/LIBRA 1-6

Source	Main comment	Cautious upper limit (90%C.L.)		
RADON	Sealed Cu box in HP Nitrogen atmosphere, 3-level of sealing, etc.	<2.5×10 ⁻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 + instrinsic calibrations	<1-2 ×10 ⁻⁴ cpd/kg/keV		
EFFICIENCIES	Regularly measured by dedicated calibration	ns <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	<3×10 ⁻⁵ cpd/kg/keV		

+ they cannot satisfy all the requirements of annual modulation signature



Thus, they cannot mimic the observed annual modulation effect

Summarizing

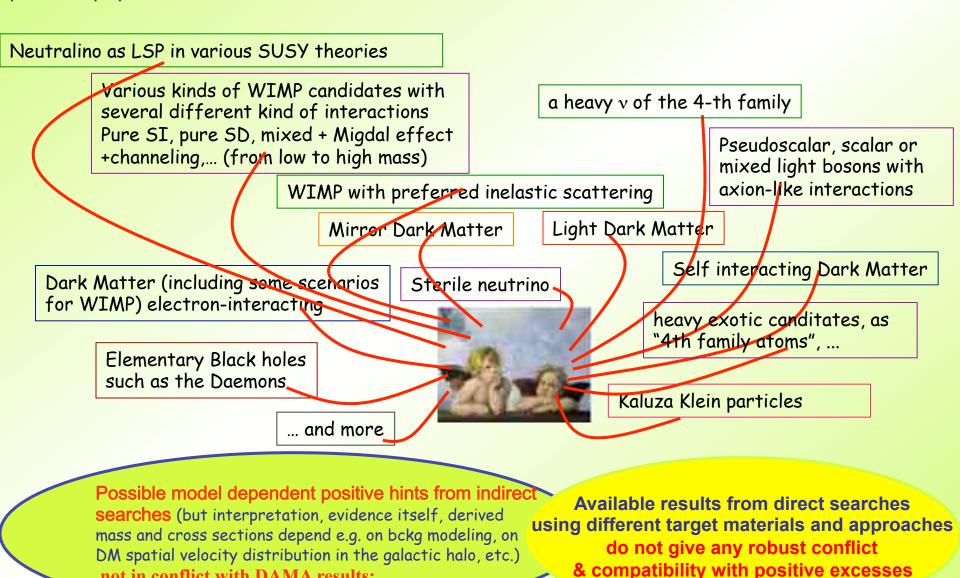
- Presence of modulation for 13 annual cycles at 8.9σ C.L. with the proper distinctive features of the DM signature; all the features satisfied by the data over 13 independent experiments of 1 year each one
- The total exposure by former DAMA/NaI and present DAMA/LIBRA is 1.17 ton x yr (13 annual cycles)
- 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 (0.999±0.002) yr, well compatible with the 1 yr period, as expected for the DM signal
- **3.** Measured phase (146±7) days is well compatible with 152.5 days, as expected for the DM signal

- 4. The modulation is present only in the low energy (2-6) keV 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-hits, as expected for the DM signal
- 6. The measured modulation amplitude in NaI(Tl) of the single-hit events in (2-6) keV is: (0.0116 ± 0.0013) cpd/kg/keV (8.9σ 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

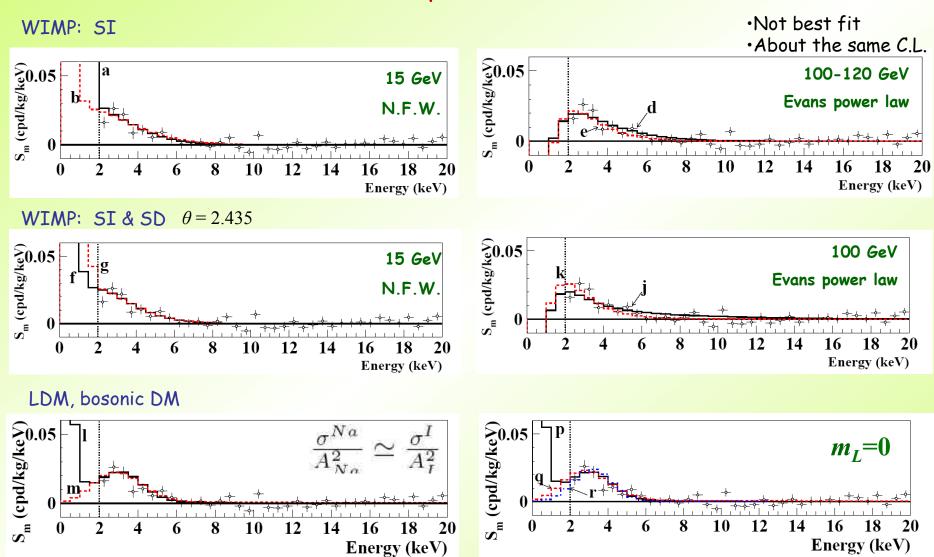
Model-independent evidence by DAMA/NaI and DAMA/LIBRA

well compatible with several candidates (in many possible astrophysical, nuclear and particle physics scenarios)



not in conflict with DAMA results;

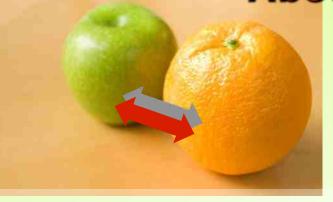
Just few <u>examples</u> of interpretation of the annual modulation in terms of candidate particles in <u>some scenarios</u>



EPJC56(2008)333

Compatibility with several candidates; other ones are open

About interpretation



...models...

- Which particle?
- Which interaction coupling?
- Which Form Factors for each targetmaterial?
- Which Spin Factor?
- Which nuclear model framework?
- Which scaling law?
- Which halo model, profile and related parameters?
- •Streams?

• ...

...and experimental aspects...

See e.g.: Riv.N.Cim.26 n.1(2003)1, IJMPD13(2004)2127, EPJC47(2006)263, IJMPA21(2006)1445, EPJC56(2008)333,

PRD84(2011)055014

- Exposures
- Energy threshold
- Detector response (phe/keV)
- Energy scale and energy resolution
- Calibrations
- •Stability of all the operating conditions.
- Selections of detectors and of data.
- •Subtraction/rejection procedures and stability in time of all the selected windows and related quantities
- Efficiencies
- Definition of fiducial volume and non-uniformity
- Quenching factors, channeling

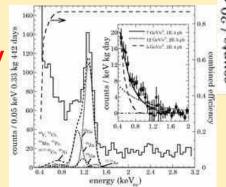
•...

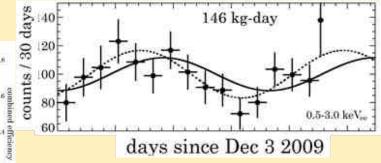
Uncertainty in experimental parameters, as well as necessary assumptions on various related astrophysical, nuclear and particle-physics aspects, affect all the results at various extent, both in terms of exclusion plots and in terms of allowed regions/volumes. Thus comparisons with a fixed set of assumptions and parameters' values are intrinsically strongly uncertain.

No experiment can be directly compared in model independent way with DAMA

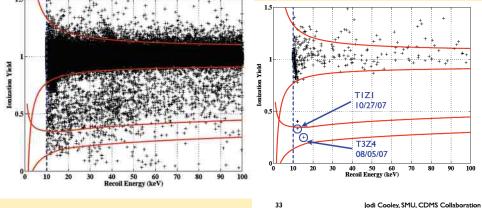
DAMA/NaI & DAMA/LIBRA vs recent possible positive hints 2010/2011

CoGeNT: low-energy rise in the spectrum (irreducible by the applied background reduction procedures)
 + annual modulation



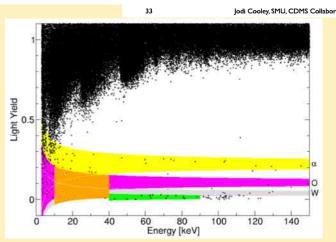


cuts, 2 Ge candidate recoils survive in an exposure of 194.1 kg x day (0.8 estimated as expected from residual background)



CRESST: after many data selections and cuts, 67 candidate recoils in the O/Ca bands survive in an exposure of 730 kg x day (expected residual background: 40-45 events, depending on minimization)

All those excesses are compatible with the DAMA 8.9 σ C.L. annual modulation result in various scenarios



... an example in literature... Relic neutralino in effMSSM Bottime (2010) Supersymmetric expectations in MSSM 10-38 DAMA allowed regions for a particular · assuming for the neutralino a PRD83 (2011) 015001 set of astrophysical, nuclear and particle dominant purely SI coupling Physics assumptions with and without channeling · when releasing the gaugino \overline{c} mass unification at GUT scale: CoGeNT and CRESST $M_1/M_2 \neq 0.5$ (<); nucleon) 10^{-41} (where M_1 and M_2 U(1) and SU If the two CDMS events are interpreted (2) gaugino masses) as relic neutralino interactions 10-43 **Heavier Higgs** boson in MSSM 10^{-38} 10-44 10 $M_{\rm H} \approx 126 \; {\rm GeV}$ $m_{_{Y}}$ (GeV) 10-39 PRD84(2011)055014 DAMA allowed regions for a particular set of astrophysical, nuclear and 10-40 particle Physics assumptions without ξσ(nucleon) (cm²) (green), with (blue) channeling, with en.dep. Q.F.(red) 10-41 10-42 CoGeNT 10-43 PRD85(2012)095013 CRESST 40 $m_{\nu}(GeV)$

... examples in some given frameworks

DM particle with preferred inelastic interaction

50 GeV

110 GeV

1 TeV

δ(keV)

•In the Inelastic DM (iDM) scenario, WIMPs scatter into an excited state, split from the ground state by an energy comparable to the available kinetic energy of a Galactic WIMP.

$$\chi^- + N \rightarrow \chi^+ + N$$

DAMA/NaI+DAMA/LIBRA

Slices from the 3-dimensional allowed volume

30 GeV

70 GeV

300 GeV

200

300

100

ξα (pb)

10

10

10

10

10

10

10

10

10

10

- \rightarrow W has two mass states χ^+ , χ^- with δ mass splitting
- → Kinematical constraint for iDM

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

Fund. Phys. 40(2010)900

iDM interaction on Iodine nuclei

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

- 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.

 arXiv:1007.2688
- Inelastic scattering WIMPs with **large splittings** do not give rise to sizeable contribution on Na, I, Ge, Xe, Ca, O, ... nuclei.

... and more considering experimental and theoretical uncertainties

Model-independent evidence by DAMA/NaI and DAMA/LIBRA

well compatible with several candidates

(in many possible astrophysical, nuclear and particle physics scenarios)

- Low mass neutralino (PRD81(2010)107302, PRD83(2011)015001, arXiv:1003.0014,arXiv:1007.1005, arXiv: 1009.0549, PRD84(2011)055014, arXiv:1112.5666, PRD85(2012)095013)
- Next-to-minimal models (JCAP0908(2009)032, PRD79(2009)023510, JCAP0706(2007)008, arXiv: 1009.2555,1009.0549)
- Mirror DM in various scenarios (arXiv:1001.0096, 1106.2668, PRD82(2010)095001, JCAP1107(2011)009, JCAP1009(2010)022, arXiv:1203.2387)
- Light scalar WIMP through Higgs portal (PRD82(2010)043522, JCAP0810(2010)034)
- Isospin-Violating Dark Matter (JCAP1008(2010)018, arXiv:11024331,1105.3734)
- Sneutrino DM (JHEP0711(2007)029, arXiv: 1105.4878)
- Inelastic DM (PRD79(2009)043513, arXiv: 1007.2688)
- Resonant DM (arXiv:0909.2900)
- DM from exotic 4th generation quarks (arXiv: 1002.3366)
- Cogent results (arXiv:1002.4703, 1106.0650)
- DM from exotic 4th generation quarks (arXiv: 1002.3366)
- Composite DM (IJMPD19(2010)1385)
- iDM on Tl (arXiv:1007:2688)

- Specific two higgs doublet models (arXiv:1106.3368)
- exothermic DM (arXiv:1004.0937)
- Secluded WIMPs (PRD79(2009)115019)
- Asymmetric DM (arXiv:1105.5431)
- Leptophobic Z0 models (arXiv:1106.0885)
- SD Inelastic DM (arXiv:0912.4264)
- Complex Scalar Dark Matter (arXiv:1005.3328)
- Singlet DM (JHEP0905(2009)036, arXiv:1011.6377)
- Specific GU (arXiv:1106.3583)
- Long range forces (arXiv:1108.4661)

... and more (JCAP1008(2010)018, arXiv:1105.5121,1011.1499, arXiv:1108.1391, arXiv:1109.2722, arXiv: 1110.5338, arXiv:1112.5457, ...)









what next

Continuously running

 Replacement of all the PMTs with higher Q.E. ones done



·New PMTs with higher Q.E.:

- Continuing data taking in the new configuration with lower software energy threshold (below 2 keV).
- New preamplifiers and trigger modules realized to further implement low energy studies.
- Suitable exposure planned in the new configuration to deeper study the nature of the particles and features of related astrophysical, nuclear and particle physics aspects.
- Investigation on dark matter peculiarities and second order effect
- Special data taking for other rare processes.



Conclusions

- Positive evidence for the presence of DM particles in the galactic halo now supported at 8.9 σ C.L. (cumulative exposure 1.17 ton \times yr 13 annual cycles DAMA/NaI and DAMA/LIBRA)
- The modulation parameters determined with better precision
- Full sensitivity to many kinds of DM candidates and interactions both inducing recoils and/or e.m. radiation. That is not restricted to DM candidate inducing only nuclear recoils
- No experiment exists whose result can be directly compared in a model independent way with those by DAMA/NaI & DAMA/LIBRA





- Possible positive hints in direct searches due to excesses above an evaluated background – are compatible with DAMA in many scenarios; null searches not in robust conflict. Consider also the experimental and theoretical uncertainties.
- Indirect model dependent searches not in conflict.
- Investigations other than DM

DAMA/LIBRA still the highest radio-pure set-up in the field with the largest sensitive mass, full control of running conditions, the largest duty-cycle, exposure orders of magnitude larger than any other activity in the field, etc., and the only one which effectively exploits a model independent DM signature