Peter Sorensen LLNL

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When I heard the learn'd astronomer, When the proofs, the figures, were ranged in columns before me, When I was shown the charts and diagrams, to add, divide, and measure them, When I sitting heard the astronomer where he lectured with much applause in the lecture-room, How soon unaccountable I became tired, and sick, Till rising and gliding out I wander'd off by myself, In the mystical moist night-air, and from time to time, Look'd up in perfect silence at the stars.



Walt Whitman, 1865



Poets say science takes away from the beauty of the stars - mere globs of gas atoms. I too can see the stars on a desert night, and feel them. But do I see less or more? ... It does not do harm to the mystery to know a little about it.

Richard Feynman, circa 1960

Most of the mass in the universe is dark



NASA/JPL-Caltech/GSFC/SDSS



from velocity dispersion measurements of the Coma Cluster, c. 1933, F. Zwicky concluded that stars account for <1% of the mass..!

he suggested we should "throw some light on the problem of the density of internebular matter in clusters."



he suggested using gravitational lensing.

Radioastronomy weighed in first, on a galactic scale: rotation curves

from classical dynamics, one expects: $v_{rot}(r) = \sqrt{\frac{GM(r)}{r}}$

it seems $M(r) \sim r$ implying $\rho(r) \sim 1/r^2$



arrows indicate a span of ~20 kpc





This outcome is expected for ~collisionless stars, and especially for *collisionless* dark matter weak-lensing mass reconstruction of a filament stretching between two clusters, separated by ~15 Mpc/h

Abell 223 filament Abell 222

Dietrich et al, Nature 487 202 (2012)

large-scale DM structure filaments in the Bolshoi simulation



Very brief history of the universe





The "WIMP miracle" explanation





$$\frac{dR}{dE_R} = \frac{R_0}{E_0 r} e^{-E_R/E_0 r}$$

(spin-dependent coupling also generally expected, but less sensitive than SI)



rare event search!

Back in the day...

LIMITS ON COLD DARK MATTER CANDIDATES FROM AN ULTRALOW BACKGROUND GERMANIUM SPECTROMETER

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Quoting from page 3:

eters. The detector is located in the Homestake mine at a depth equivalent to 4000 m of water to eliminate the cosmic ray induced background. The detector cryostat is constructed from high-purity copper and is surrounded by 11 tons of lead, sheet cadmium and neutron moderator, to eliminate the radioactive background and neutrons from the rock. The inner shield was made from high purity copper, when the 14 d of data used in this work were taken. These data were selected because they correspond to a period of decreased level of mining operations in the vicinity of the detector. This resulted in fewer microphonic



the decay products of radioactivity in the exposed solder.

Peter Sorensen



...if mildy esoteric arxiv:1112.1376 Radio-assay of Titanium samples for the LUX Experiment arxiv:1205.2272 An Ultra-Low Background PMT for Liquid Xenon Detectors

bottom line:

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all internal materials sub-dominant to long-lived isotopes in PMTs 10 mBq U / 2 mBq Th / 65 mBq K per PMT
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! reference: a banana, ~x4 in mass, has ~15 Bq ⁴⁰K (x60 activity)



LUX during construction

Bernabei et al, Nucl. Instr. Meth. A 592 297 (2008)



xenon is radiopure, but other noble gases are not: ⁸⁵Kr ($\tau_{1/2} \sim 11.7$ y), present at ~10⁻¹² in ^{nat}Kr. ^{nat}Kr present at ~ O(10) ppb + in commerical Xe => dedicated chromatographic separation system reduces this to ~5 ppt

! reference: XENON100 results from 2011 (700 ppt) and 2012 (20 ppt)

 222 Rn ($\tau_{1/2}$ ~ 3.8 d): quickly decays to 210 Pb ($\tau_{1/2}$ ~ 22.3 y). scary enough to have DAMA working in N_2 atmosphere



Available signal, and example experiments



minor prerequisite: direct detection of dark matter



annual modulation

http://www.hep.shef.ac.uk/research/dm/intro.php









(actually, this would be the view from -4850') Thermosyphon **Titanium Vessels PMT Holder Copper Plates** Dodecagonal field cage + PTFE reflector panels

- 370 kg (300 kg active) LXe
- 122 PMTs (2" round)
- Low-background Ti cryostat
- PTFE reflector cage
- Thermosyphon used for cooling (>1 kW)

2" Hamamatsu R8778

what: a monolithic, "wall-less," radiopure, ~350 kg xenon target viewed by 122 Photomultiplier Tubes

- 3D vertex reconstruction => no edge effects!
- target is self-shielding



how: detect scintillation photons and ionized electrons

 $\bullet\,n_{\gamma}\,and\,n_{e}$ are the fundamental measured quantities you want to know

- $\bullet\,\alpha_1\sim$ O(0.10) and $\alpha_2\sim$ O(10) are the probabilities for detection of each quanta
- α_1 is often quoted as "photoelectrons per keV," which can be confusing (even to "experts").
- examples:
 - •LUX **α**₁ ~ 0.15
 - XENON100 $\alpha_1 \sim 0.06$



 \sim UV scintillation photons (~175 nm)

Simulation of 5-25 keV depositions due to gamma activity from the PMTs background neutrons also range out or multiply scatter (easy to tag)



this is before the factor ~x200 discrimination from S2/S1 ~ $n_{\rm e}/n_{\gamma}$

2010-2011: we built LUX in the surface lab at SURF, SD ...







• in the liquid noble gas detector business, we obsess over purity:

- electronegative impurities capture electrons
- manifests itself as a free electron lifetime

• XENON10, $\tau = 2000 \ \mu s$, max $t_{drift} = 80 \ \mu s$ (up to 4% e- loss) • XENON100, $\tau = 514 \ \mu s$, max $t_{drift} = 160 \ \mu s$ (up to 26% e- loss)



200 µs lifetime achieved in 2012 during surface operation, despite broken plumbing connection perspective: Ray Davis swimming in his water shield, 1971





Assembling all the ancillary support systems





Unfortunately, swimming in a "confined space" is strictly forbidden



LUX is nearly ready for dark matter search

!!



NB: apparent difference in band width is a binning artifact -- the lower dashed line is -3σ in both plots



- •LUX is bigger, self-shielding benefit increases exponentially with linear dimension
 - lower background rate => increased discovery potential
- •LUX will have a factor ~x2.5 lower photon detection threshold, period.
 - n_{γ} does not depend on energy calibration (L_{eff} , Q_{γ})
 - probably leads to 1-2 keV in energy



Why you care



what is the mechanism behind the XENON100 background events?

XENON100: its "gamma X"





gamma X (red triangles) should preferentially populate higher-energy region

in principle, random coincidence rate can be calculated, based on measured S1-only rate

(minimizing that rate would mitigate the background for light dark matter search..)

bottom line: need a comprehensive understanding of background pathologies



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Scientific progress looks like what?





(it looks mostly like pusuit of WIMPs)











• what you really want to know is how many electrons and photons result from a nuclear recoil • DM experiments have sensitivity below the lowest energy calibration data points

• dedicated (neutron scattering) calibration data shows systematic disagreement

• model (solid and dashed curves) predicts general trend but not absolute value

problem

problem

step in

• sub-GeV DM-nucleus scattering generally does not result in measurable signal (simple kinematics)

• so, look for DM-electron scattering!



obtained 15 kg day sensitivity (bkg not optional)

Essig, Manalaysay, Mardon, PS, and Volansky, Phys Rev Lett 109 021301 (2012)



in 2013, LUX will (probably) first and foremost address garden variety WIMPs



LUX is about to generate an awesome, unprecedented, low-background data set exciting to think about new possible DM signals/searches

2014+: construction of LZ



- LZ: 7000 kg liquid xenon target
- 350 kg LUX shown inset for comparison
- •LZ expected sensitivity: $\sigma \sim 10^{-48} \text{ cm}^2$
- The "ultimate" xenon detector, limited by neutrino backgrounds

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LUX Collaboration

Brown

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Attila Dobi	Graduate Student
Richard Knoche	Graduate Student



Collaboration Meeting, UCSB March 2012

University of Rochester

PI, Professor

Senior Scientist

Graduate Student

Frank Wolfs Wojtek Skutski Eryk Druszkiewicz Mongkol Moongweluwan Graduate Student

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Daniel McKinsey	PI, Professor
Peter Parker	Professor
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Ethan Bernard	Postdoc
Markus Horn	Postdoc
Blair Edwards	Postdoc
Scott Hertel	Postdoc
Kevin O'Sullivan	Postdoc
Nicole Larsen	Graduate Student
Evan Pease	Graduate Student
Brian Tennyson	Graduate Student
Ethan Bernard Markus Horn Blair Edwards Scott Hertel Kevin O'Sullivan Nicole Larsen Evan Pease Brian Tennyson	Postdoc Postdoc Postdoc Postdoc Postdoc Graduate Student Graduate Student Graduate Student

Collaboration was formed in 2007 and fully funded by DOE and NSF in 2008.

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• (above) calculated event rate for axio-electric conversion in xenon

• (top right) first sub-keV energy calibration of liquid argon detector.. we plan to apply this technique to liquid xenon detectors

• (right) predicted sensitivity (LUX roughly represented by G1.5 curve)

• other DM models could give electromagnetic line signal, e.g. Luminous DM Phys Rev D 82 075019 (2010)





- e.g. "freeze-in"
- •Another possibility: relic density determined by baryon asymmetry ("asymmetric dark matter")
- •A completely different possibility: relic density of pseudo-Nambu-Goldstone bosons, e.g. the axion

Electromagnetic interactions

$$E_{\rm er} = \epsilon (n_{\gamma} + n_e)$$

Neutral particle interactions

$$E_{\rm nr} = \epsilon (n_{\gamma} + n_e)/f_n$$

 $\epsilon = 13.8$ eV, the average energy to create a single quanta (e or γ) $f_n =$ energy dependent Lindhard prediction for signal quenching



well-known that combined energy gives the best resolution



this has caused a lot of confusion concerning measured versus expected liquid xenon scintillation response (L_{eff}, the "effective" Lindhard factor)



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CoGeNT repartee







SN1987a antineutrinos detected by Kamiokande (11), IMB (8) and Baksan (5)



• sitting around waiting for SN sounds silly; but,

• next generation DM experiments will have large target masses and long exposure times, and

- coherent interaction is flavor blind (x6), and
- signal is a burst, easily identifiable, and
- we have lots to learn about both SN and neutrinos

MOND, TeVeS, f(R) models basic premise of MOND: postulate that for very small accelerations,

 $a_N \to a_N \mu(a/a_0)$, where the function $\mu \sim 1$ for $a \gg a_0$, and $\mu \sim a/a_0$ for $a \ll a_0$



MOND explains rotation curves, and to a degree, merging clusters. But it still requires dark matter

TeVeS appears to be largely ruled out by weak lensing + galaxy velocity observations Reyes et al Nature **464** 256 (2010)