Dark matter annual modulation results from 3 years exposure of the ANAIS-112 experiment

- Dark matter annual modulation and the DAMA/LIBRA result
- ANAIS experiment
  - Goals and history
  - Detector set-up
  - Performance and analysis
  - Background model
  - Annual modulation results and sensitivity

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Cosmology Seminars, Helsinki, 28th April 2021

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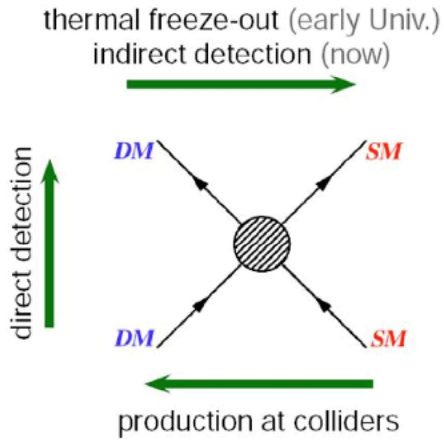
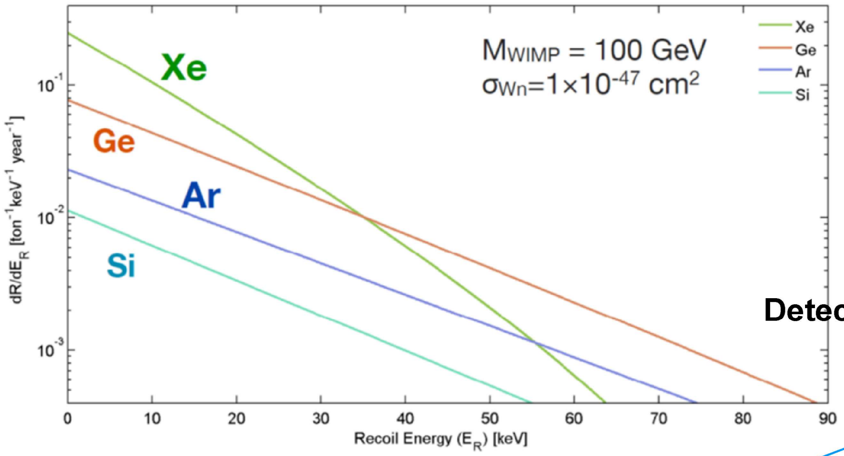
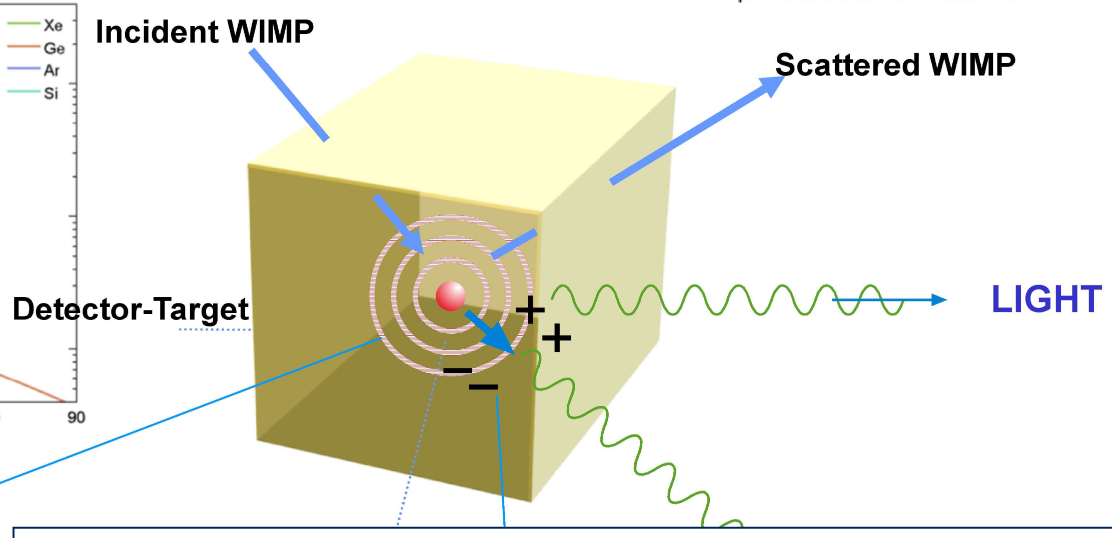
Annual modulation

- Overwhelming **evidence** of the existence of **dark matter** from observations, with a plethora of dark matter **candidates** including **WIMPs** (Weakly Interacting Massive Particles)
- Different complementary strategies for **detection**
- **Direct detection:** elastic scattering off target nuclei

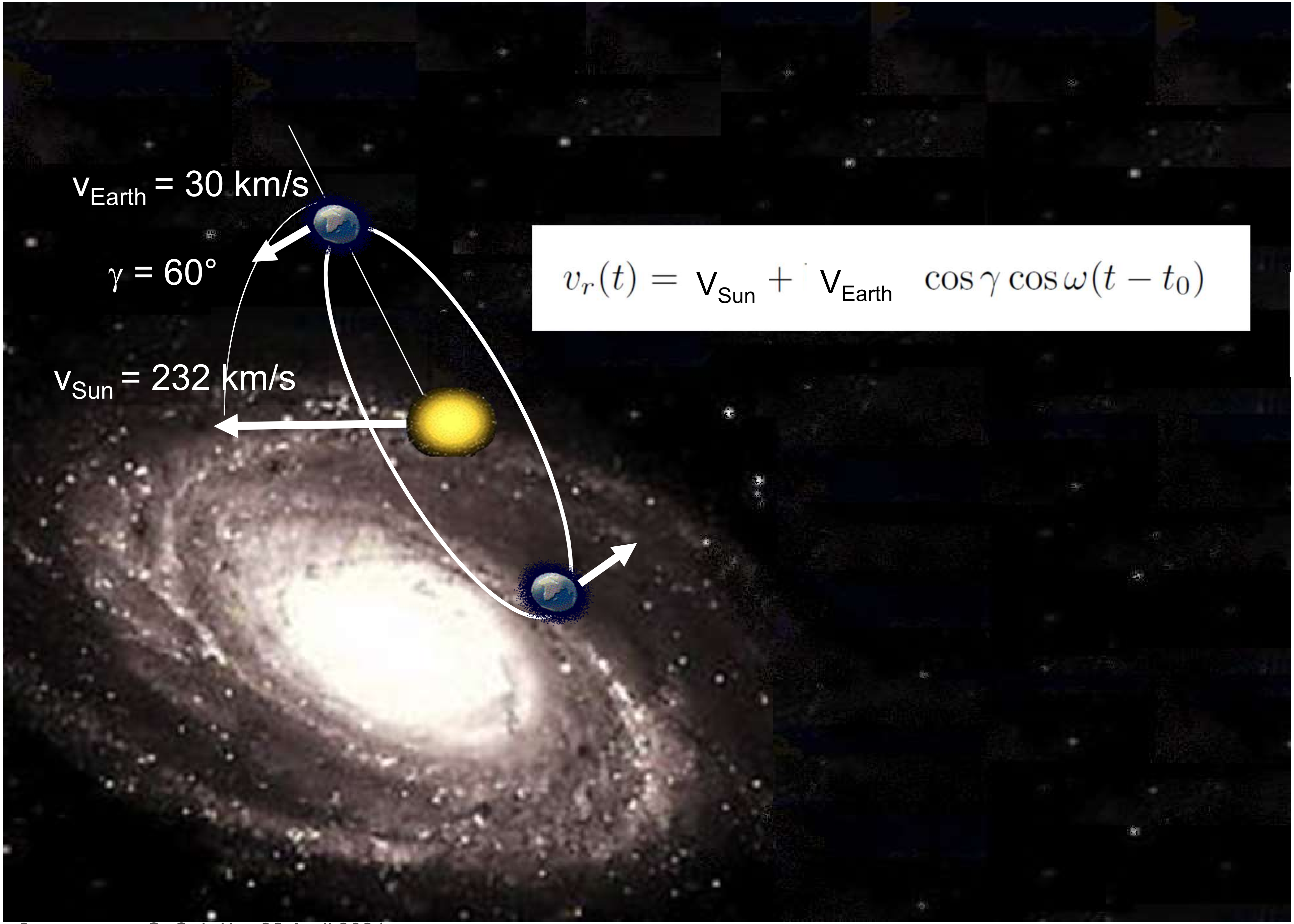






$$\frac{dR}{dE_{\mathrm{nr}}} = \frac{\rho_0 M}{m_N m_\chi} \int_{v_{\mathrm{min}}}^{\infty} v f(v) \frac{d\sigma}{dE_{\mathrm{nr}}}\, dv$$

Challenge:
- rare signal → ultra **low background** conditions
- concentrated at very low energies → **low energy threshold**
- with continuum energy spectrum entangled with background → **distinctive signatures**


v_{Earth} = 30 km/s
γ = 60°
v_{Sun} = 232 km/s
$v_r(t) = V_{Sun} + V_{Earth} \cos\gamma \cos\omega(t-t_0)$

Annual modulation

Distinctive signal in the interaction rate of WIMPs

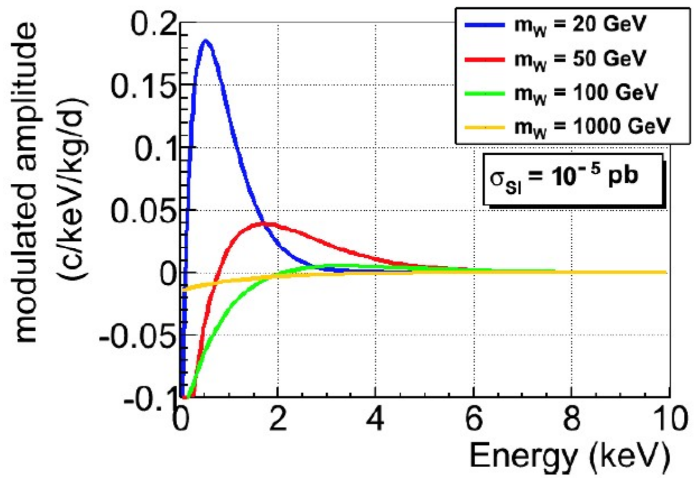
$$S_k(t) = S_{0,k} + S_{m,k} \cos\omega(t - t_0)$$

k: energy bin

A. K. Drukier et al, Phys. Rev. D 33 (1986) 3495
K. Freese et al, Phys. Rev. D 37 (1988) 3388
K. Freese et al, Rev. Mod. Phys. 85 (2013) 1561

- ✓ Cosine behaviour
- ✓ 1 year period
- ✓ Maximum around June 2nd
- ✓ Weak effect (1-10%)
- ✓ Only noticeable at low energy
- ✓ Should have a phase reversal at low energies

No background known to mimic the effect



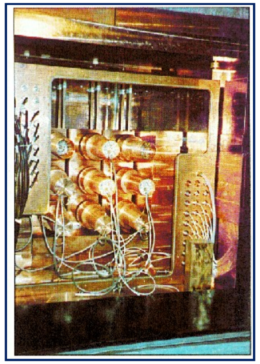
Challenge: several years of measurement in very stable conditions
NaI(Tl) scintillators: cheap and robust detectors; new developments to get ultra-low background and low energy threshold

Annual modulation: DAMA / LIBRA

At Gran Sasso Underground Laboratory (Italy)

DAMA/NaI & DAMA/LIBRA phase 1

DAMA/NaI (1995-2002)



- 9 × 9.7 kg NaI(Tl)
- Produced by St. Gobain
- 7 annual cycles

DAMA/LIBRA (2003-2010)

- 25 × 9.7 kg NaI(Tl)
- 7 annual cycles

R. Bernabei et al, Eur. Phys. J. C 73 (2013) 2648

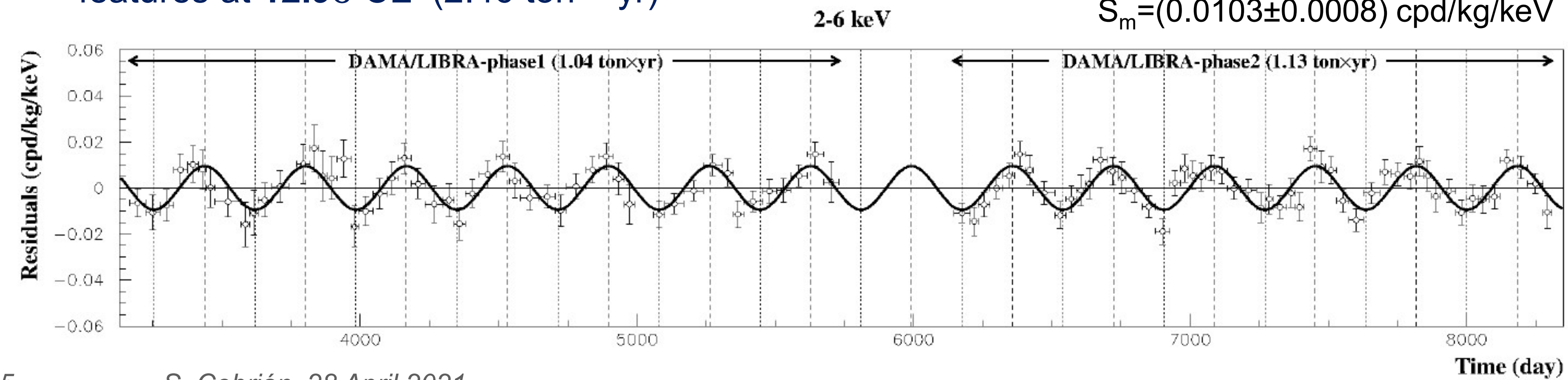
DAMA/LIBRA phase2 (2011-2018)

- PMTs replaced → software energy threshold at 1 keV_{ee}
- 6 annual cycles

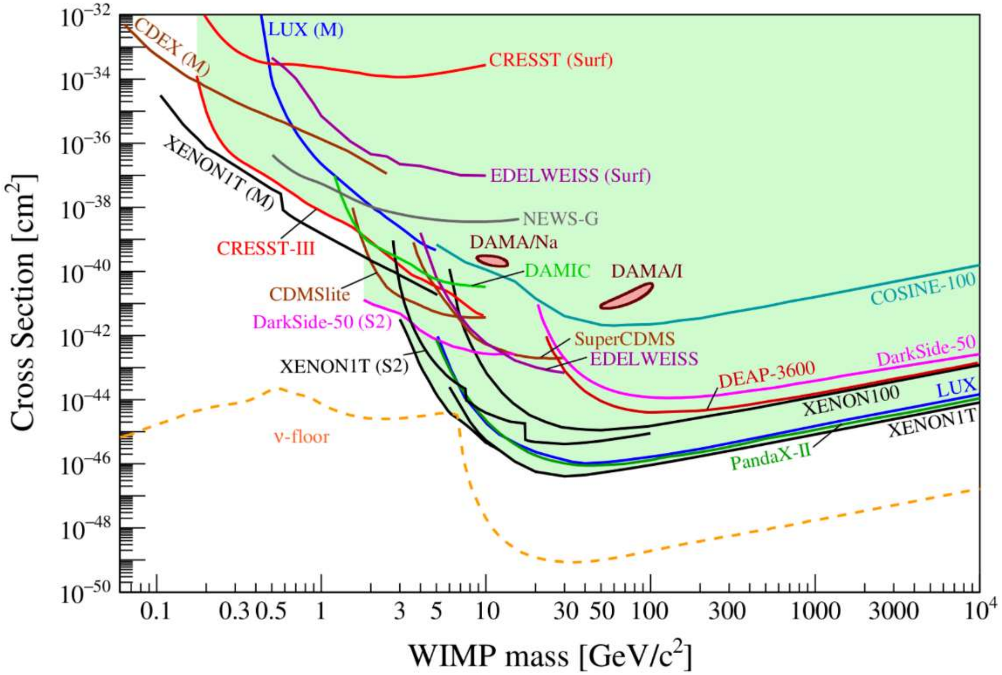
R. Bernabei et al,
Nucl. Phys. At. Energy 19, 307 (2018)
Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 114 (2020) 103810

The data of DAMA/LIBRA phase1+phase2 favor the presence of a modulation with proper features at **12.9σ CL** (2.46 ton × yr)

S_m=(0.0103±0.0008) cpd/kg/keV



Annual modulation: DAMA / LIBRA



Direct Detection of Dark Matter – APPEC Committee Report, arXiv:2104.07634 [hep-ex]

Strong **tension** when interpreting DAMA/LIBRA anual modulation signal as Dark Matter, even assuming more general halo/interaction models

A MODEL-INDEPENDENT PROOF/DISPROOF WITH THE SAME NaI TARGET IS MANDATORY

No annual modulation signal in other experiments

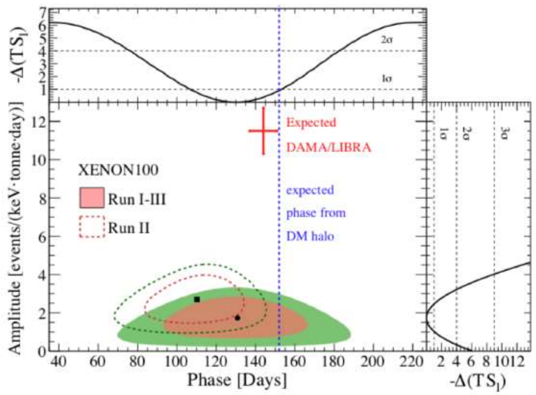
XENON100
E. Aprile et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 118, 101101 (2017)

XMASS
K. Abe et al, Phys. Rev. D 97, 102006 (2018)
M. Kobayashi et al, Phys. Lett. B 795 (2019) 308

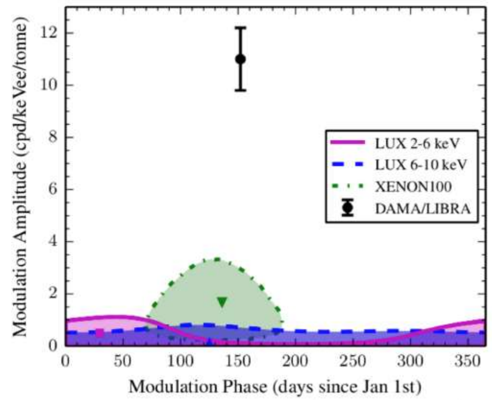
LUX
D.S. Akerib et al, Phys. Rev. D 98, 062005 (2018)

CDEX
L.T. Yang et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 123 (2019) 221301

XENON100

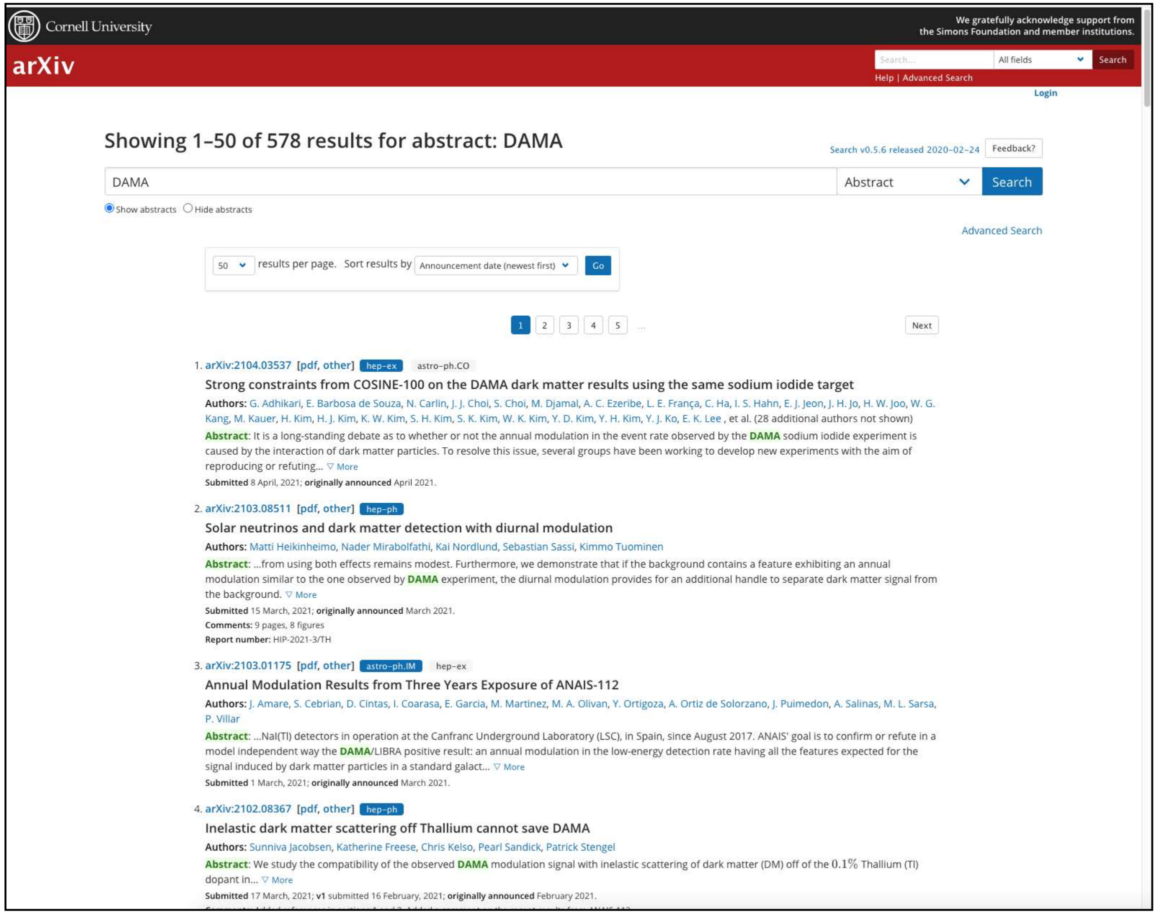


LUX



Annual modulation: DAMA / LIBRA

Hundreds of papers trying to understand the DAMA conundrum!



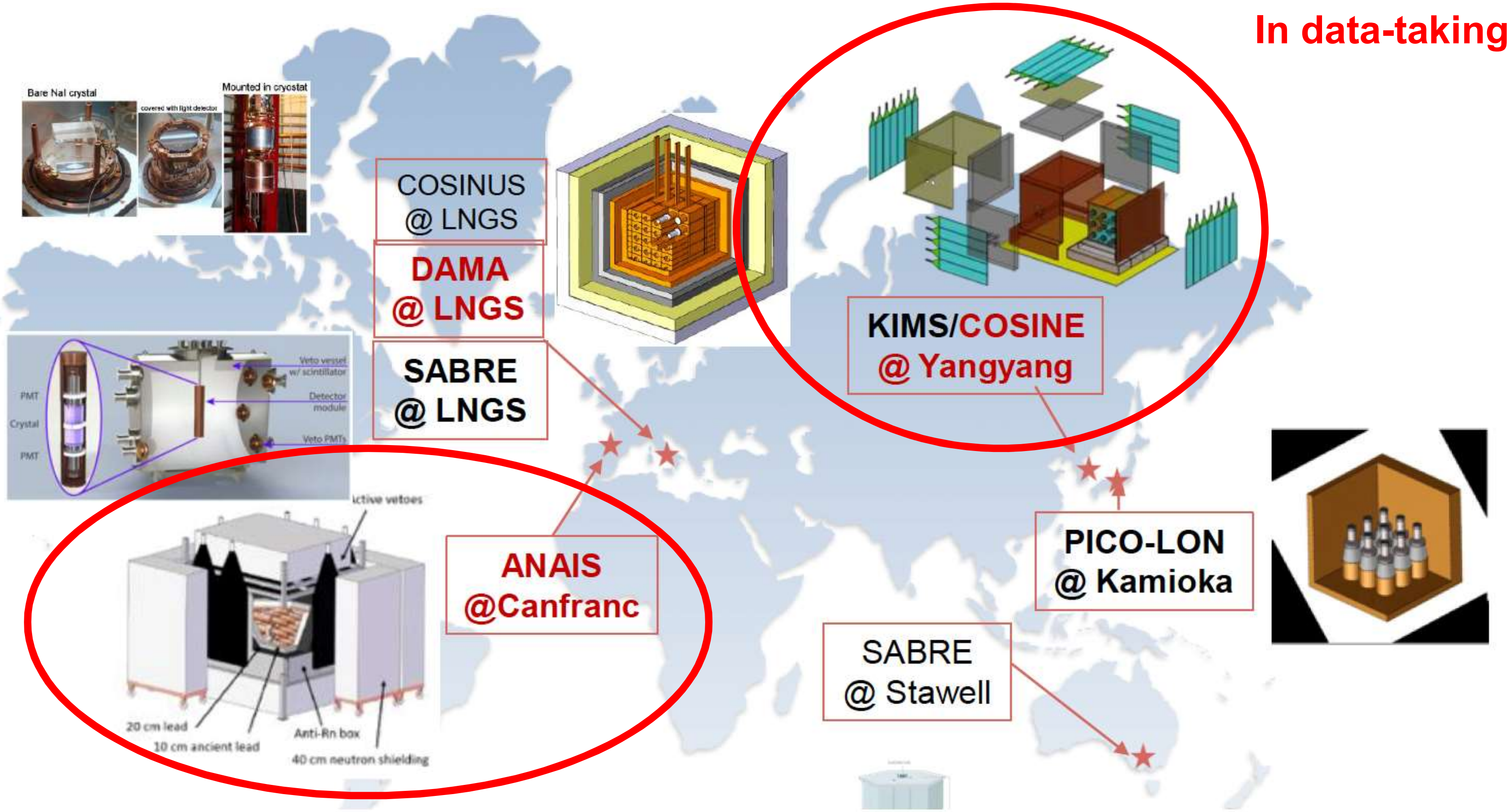
Particles and Interactions: mirror / scalar / pseudoscalar / inelastic / hidden sector / anapole / self-interacting / SIMP / leptophilic / xenonphobic / multi-component dark matter, …

Astrophysical uncertainties: halo, velocities (v_{esc}, v_{Sun}), dark matter density …

Backgrounds: muons, neutrons, solar neutrinos, He atoms …

Detector effects: quenching, channeling, …

Annual modulation: other NaI experiments

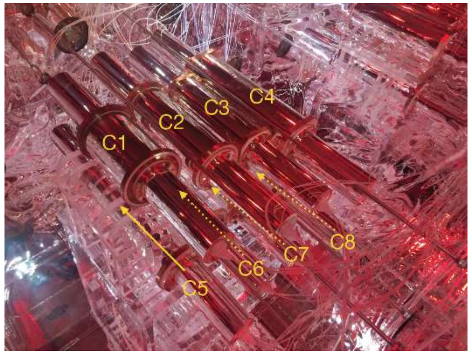


In data-taking

Experiment	Laboratory	Technology	Target	Size	Status
DAMA/LIBRA	LNGS	Scintillator	NaI(Tl)	~250 kg	Running
ANAIS-112	LSC	Scintillator	NaI(Tl)	112.5 kg	Running
COSINE-100	Yangyang	Scintillator	NaI(Tl)	106 kg	Running
SABRE	LNGS,Stawell	Scintillator	NaI(Tl)	~50 kg	In preparation
PICOLON	Kamioka	Scintillator	NaI(Tl)	23.4 kg	In preparation
COSINUS	LNGS	Bolometer	NaI, NaI(Tl)	~1 kg	In preparation

Annual modulation: COSINE-100

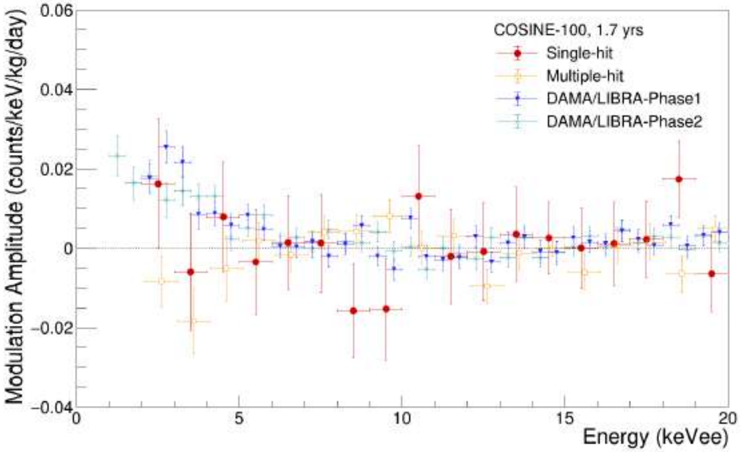
- At **Yangyang** underground Laboratory, South Korea
- 8 NaI(Tl) crystals from Alpha Spectra, **106 kg** in total, only **~60 kg** used for analysis
- Inmersed in liquid scintillator
- **Threshold at 2 keV$_{ee}$**
- Physics run started in Sep. 2016



G. Adhikari et al
Eur. Phys. J. C (2018) 78:107

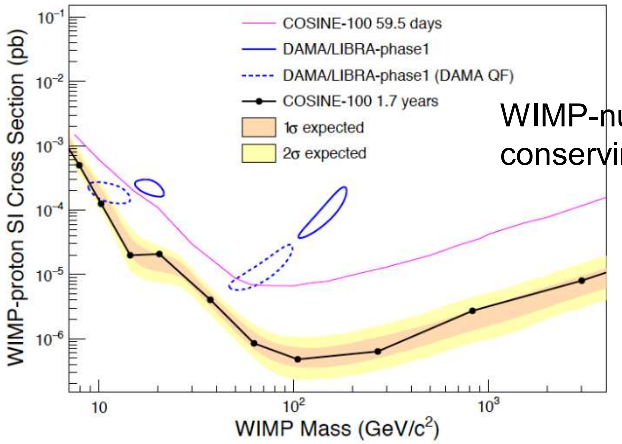
Annual modulation analysis for 1.7 y (97.79 kg y)

S_m=(0.0083±0.0068) cpd/kg/keV (2-6 keV)



G. Adhikari et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 123 (2019) 032302

Strong **constraints on dark matter interpretation** of DAMA/LIBRA signal (1.7 y, improved 1 keV$_{ee}$ threshold)



WIMP-nucleon SI isospin-conserving interaction

G. Adhikari et al, arXiv:2104.03537v1 [hep-ex]

Dark matter annual modulation results from 3 years exposure of the ANAIS-112 experiment

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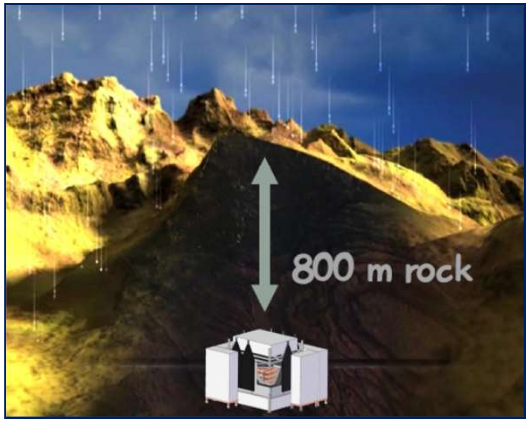
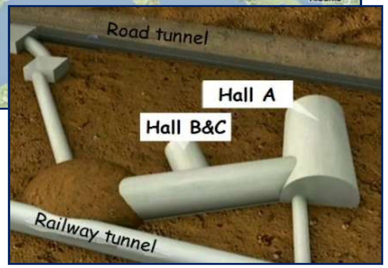
LSC Laboratorio Subterráneo de Canfranc

ANAIS: goals and history

ANAIS (*Annual modulation with NAI Scintillators*) intends
to confirm the **DAMA/LIBRA** modulation signal
using the **same target and technique** (3x3 detectors, 112.5 kg)
in a different environment at the **Canfranc Underground Laboratory** (Spain)





Experimental requirements:

- Energy **threshold** at or below 1-2 keV_{ee}
- **Background** as low as possible below 10 keV_{ee} (at or below a few cpd/keV/kg)
- Very stable operation conditions

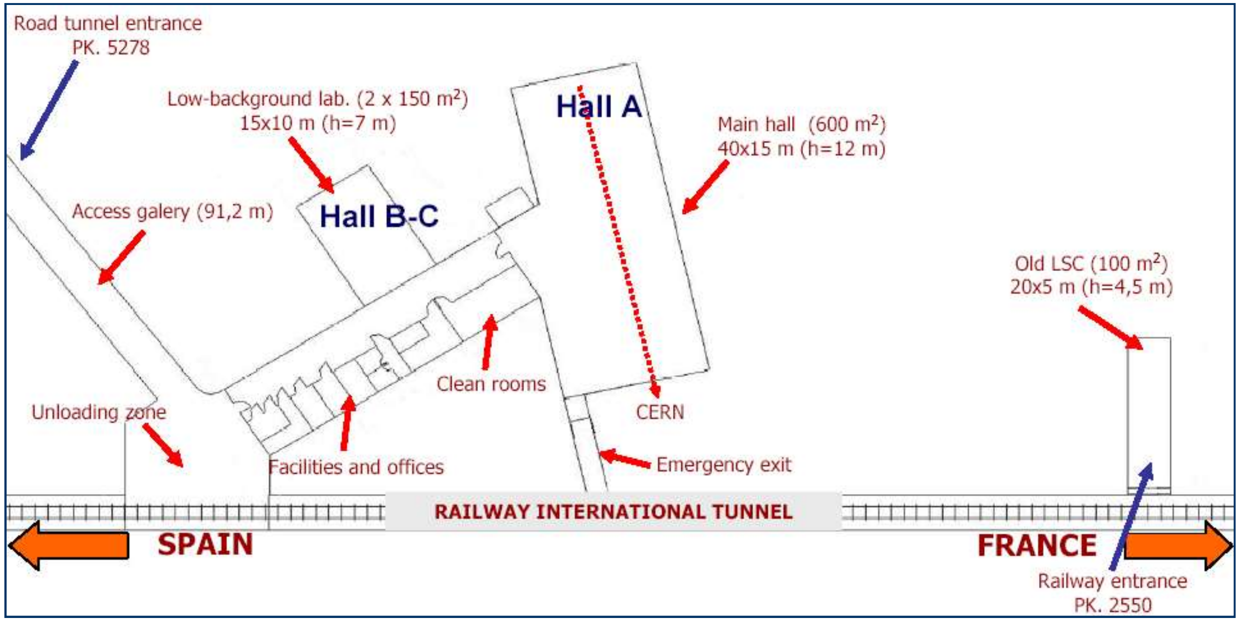
ANAIS: Canfranc Underground Laboratory

- Since 1985, unique facility in Spain, officially opened up in 2006
- Under the Spanish Pyrenees, at 2450 m.w.e.
- ~1500 m^2 of underground facilities open to the international community + two external buildings

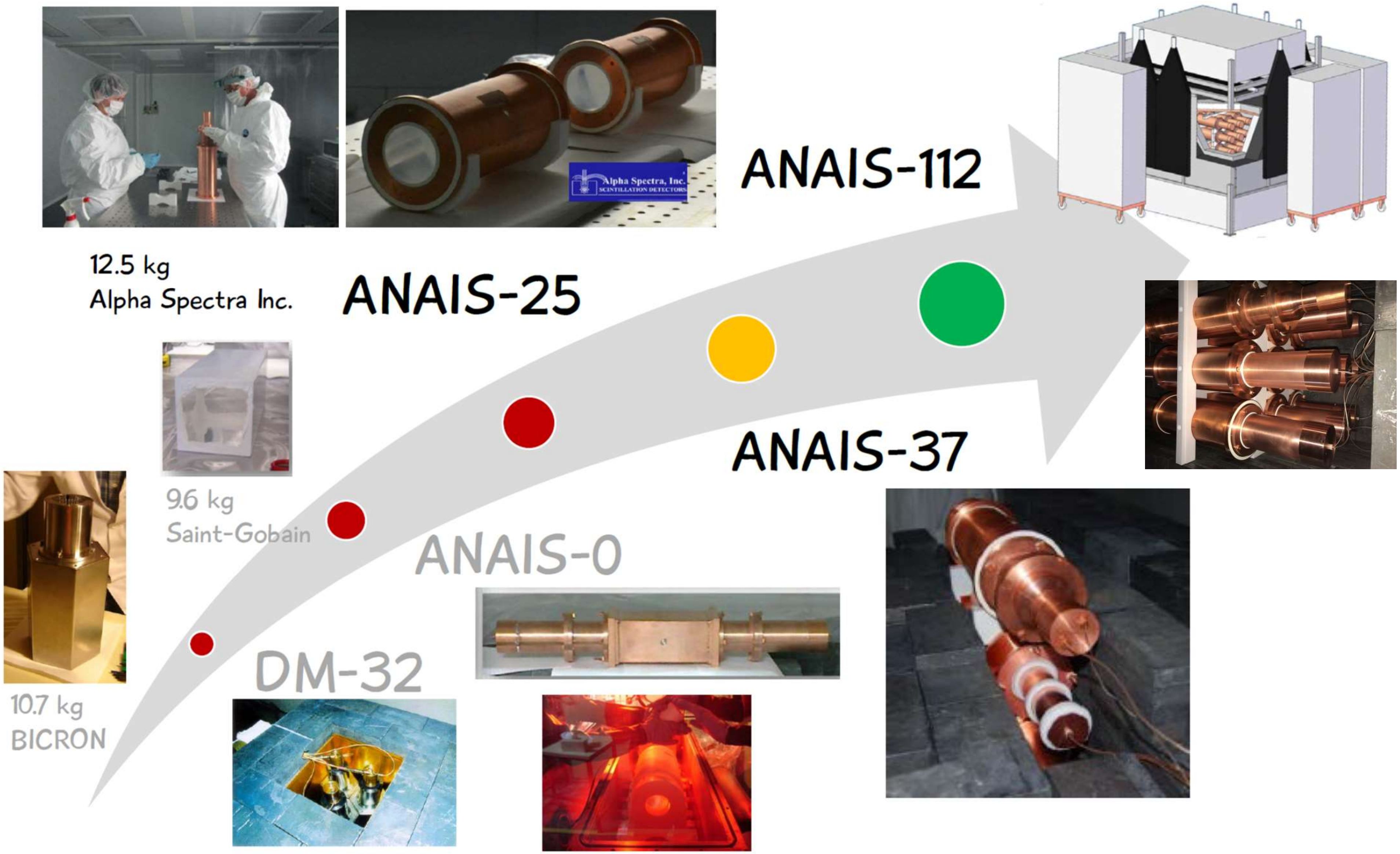
http://www.lsc-canfranc.es/

- Present experiments: **DArT, TREX-DM** (dark matter); **CROSS, NEXT, SuperK-Gd** (neutrino)

https://www.facebook.com/LaboratorioSubterraneoDeCanfranc/videos/1390780341019803/



ANAIS: goals and history



ANAIS: goals and history

ELSEVIER

3 October 1996

Physics Letters B 386 (1996) 458–462

PHYSICS LETTERS B

Searching for annual modulations of WIMPs with NaI scintillators

M.L. Sarsa, A. Morales, J. Morales, E. García, A. Ortiz de Solórzano, J. Puimedón, C. Sáenz, A. Salinas, J.A. Villar

Laboratory of Nuclear and High Energy Physics, University of Zaragoza, 50009 Zaragoza, Spain

Received 18 June 1996
Editor: K. Winter

Abstract

A search for cold dark matter has been carried out at the Canfranc Underg... sodium iodide scintillators during about two years of data taking. Boun... exposure of 4613.6 kg day are presented, both for spin-independe... predicted annual modulation of the signal has been also in... stronger than those derived from the conventional metho...

PACS: 95.35; 29.40.M; 14.60.S
Keywords: Scintillation counter; Dark matter; WIMPs; Underground...

PHYSICAL REVIEW D VOLUME 56, NUMBER 4 15 AUGUST 1997

Results of a search for annual modulation of WIMP signals

M. L. Sarsa, A. Morales, J. Morales, E. García, A. Ortiz de Solórzano, J. Puimedón, C. Sáenz, A. Salinas, and J. A. Villar

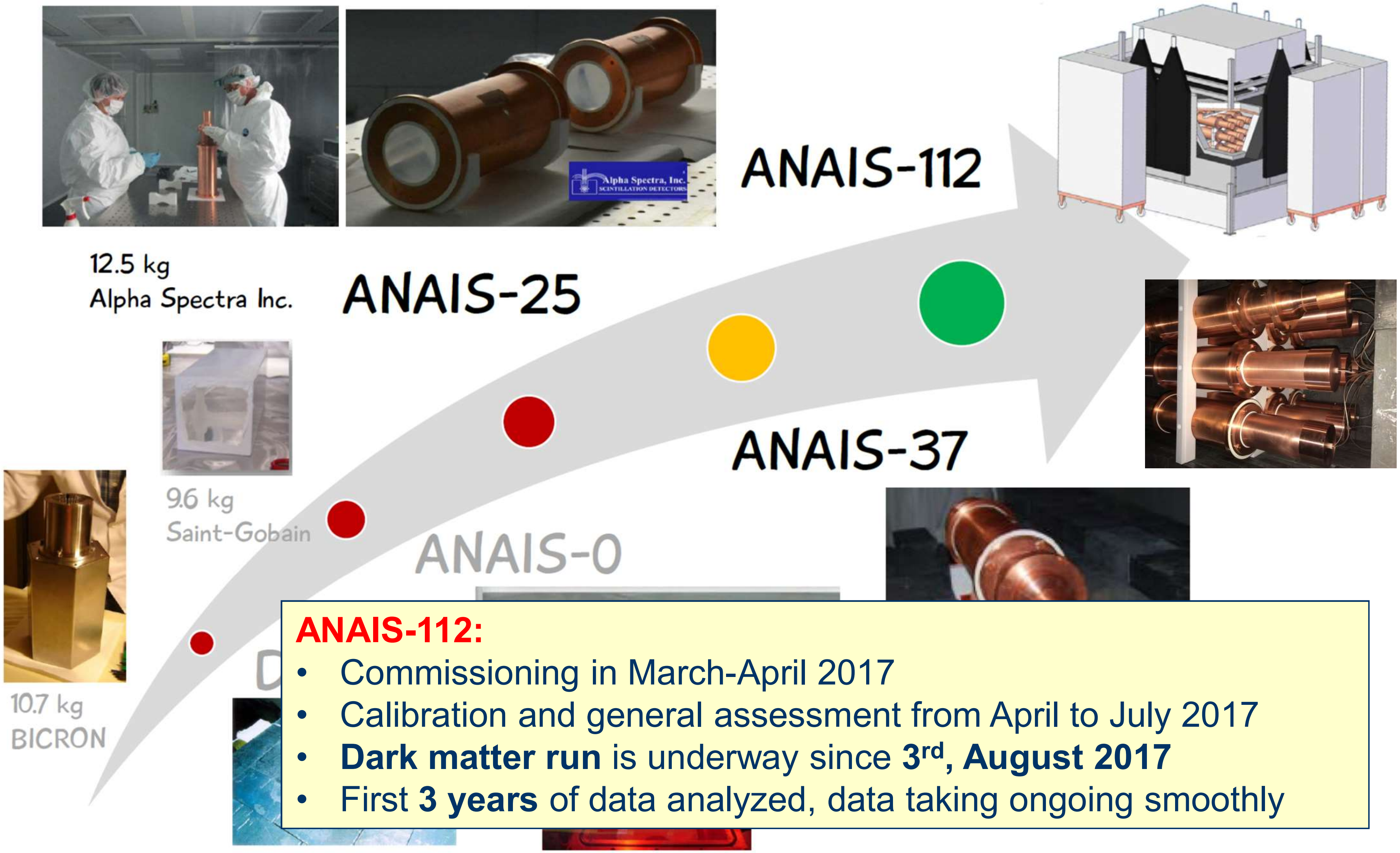
Laboratory of Nuclear and High Energy Physics, University of Zaragoza, 50009 Zaragoza, Spain

(Received 20 January 1997)

A search for particle cold dark matter (CDM) has been carried out at the Canfranc Underground Laboratory (Spain) with a set of three sodium iodide scintillators of 10.7 kg each, during about 2 yr of data taking. The results, corresponding to an exposure of 4613.6 kg day are presented in the form of exclusion plots of the WIMP-target nuclei cross section versus WIMP mass (both for spin-independent and spin-dependent WIMP-matter interactions), obtained with the standard method of comparing the observed rate with the expected signal. A distinctive feature of the CDM signal, like its expected annual modulation, has also been looked for in 1342.8 kg day of data. The nonobservance of such a modulation has been used to draw more stringent exclusion plots than those derived from the standard method. [S0556-2821(97)02316-3]

PACS number(s): 95.35.+d, 14.60.St, 29.40.Mc

ANAIS: goals and history



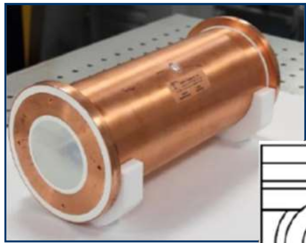
ANAIS-112:

- Commissioning in March-April 2017
- Calibration and general assessment from April to July 2017
- **Dark matter run** is underway since **3rd, August 2017**
- First **3 years** of data analyzed, data taking ongoing smoothly

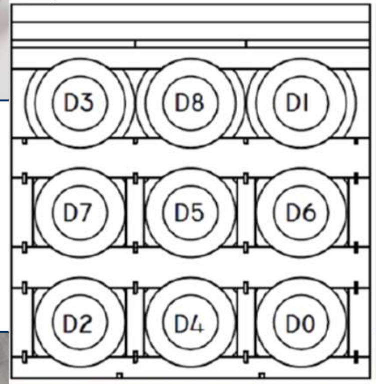
Detector set-up: detectors

Nine modules produced by Alpha Spectra Inc (US) following low radioactivity protocols

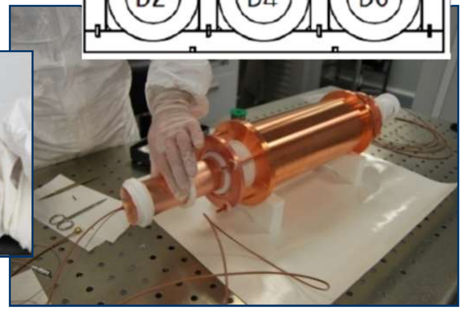
Detector	*Quality powder*	*Received at Canfranc in*
D0, D1	<90 ppb K	December 2012
D2	WIMPScint-II	March 2015
D3	WIMPScint-III	March 2016
D4, D5	WIMPScint-III	November 2016
D6, D7, D8	WIMPScint-III	March 2017



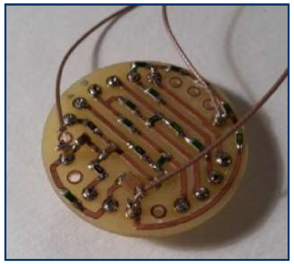
12.5 kg each
4.75'' diameter
11.75'' length



- **NaI(Tl) crystals** grown from selected ultrapure NaI powder and housed in OFE copper
- Mylar **window** allowing low energy calibration



- Two Hamamatsu R12669SEL2 **photomultipliers** coupled to each crystal at Canfranc clean room
  - Low background and high Quantum Efficiency
  - Radioactivity screening at Canfranc

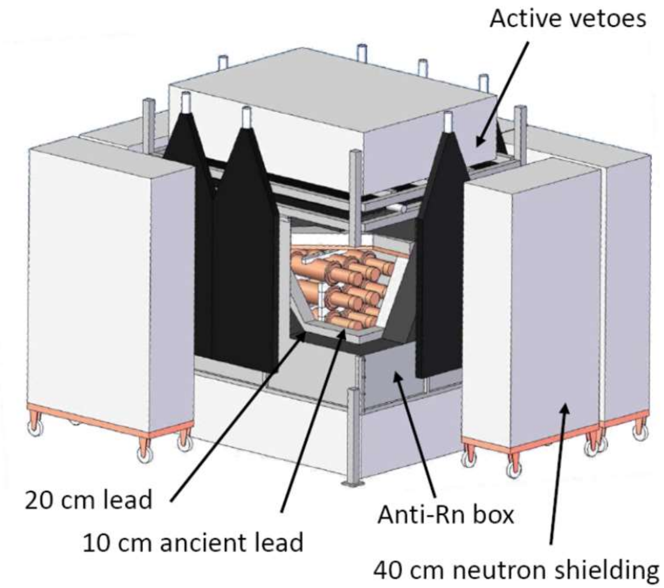


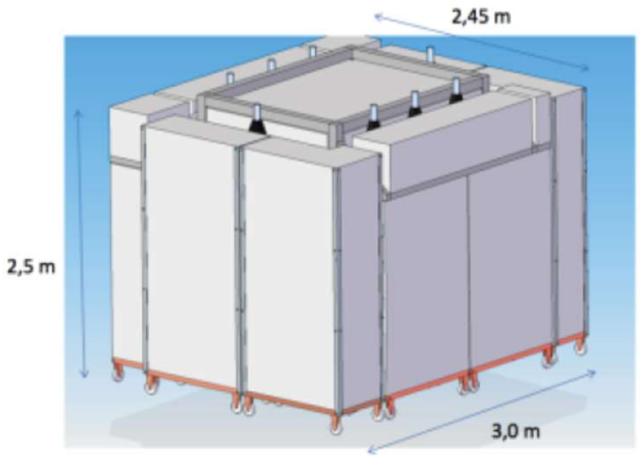
Voltage dividers in cuflon PCB

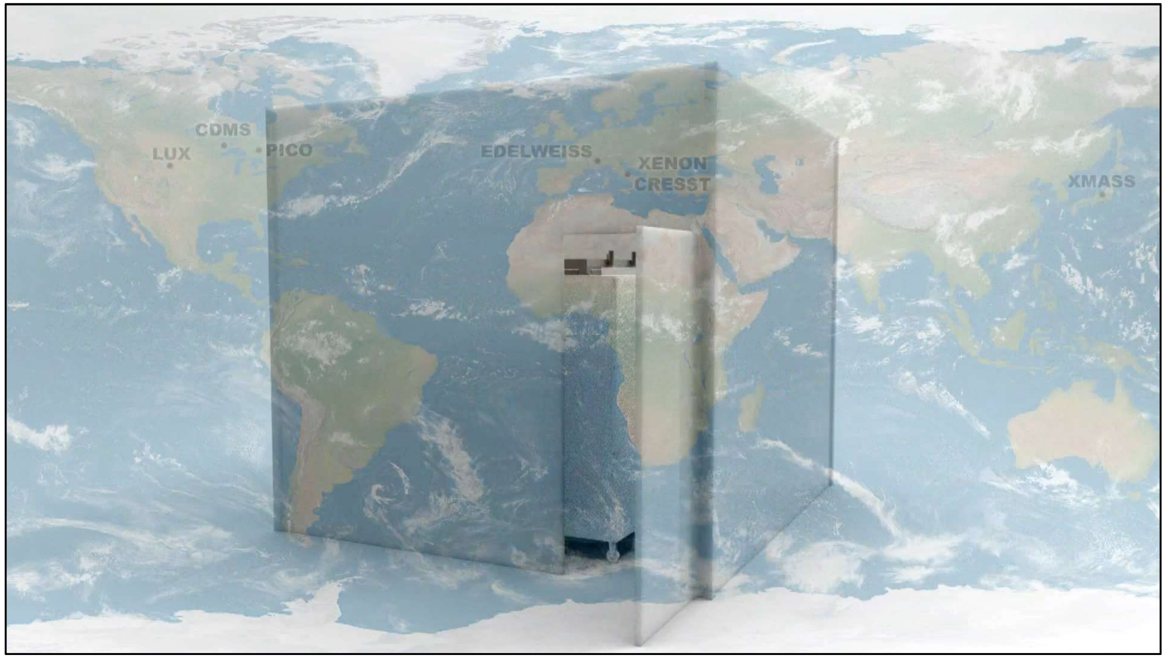
Housing made at LSC of electroformed copper

Detector set-up: shielding

ANAIS-112 is located inside a hut in hall B at Canfranc laboratory



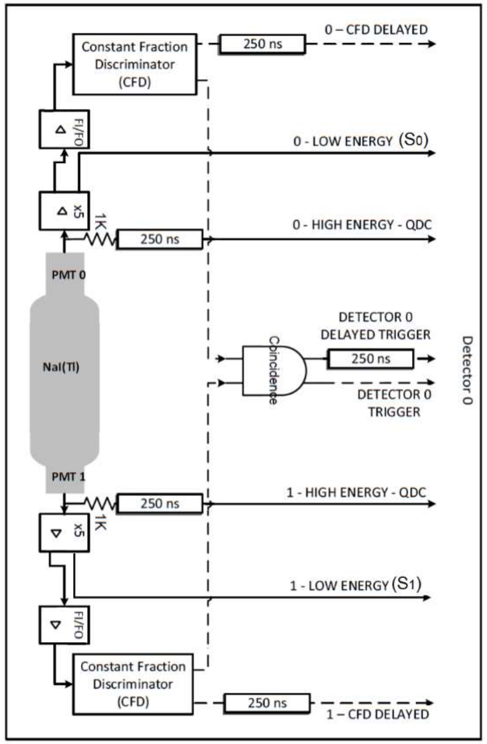


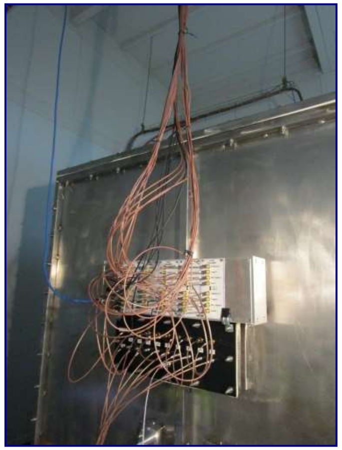


- Partial opening for periodic calibrations every two weeks
- Radon-free **system** to allow simultaneous calibration at low energy with **^{109}Cd sources** on flexible wires

Detector set-up: data acquisition

- **DAQ hardware and software** designed and tested in previous ANAIS set-ups
  - Individual PMT signals digitized and fully processed (2 Gs/s, 14 bits)
  - Trigger at phe level for each PMT signal
  - AND coincidence in 200 ns window
  - Redundant energy conversion by QDC
  - Trigger in OR mode among modules



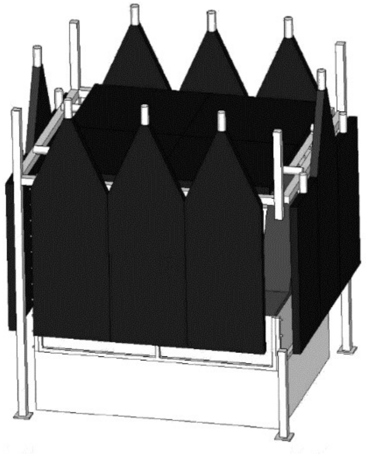


- **Muon detection system** implemented to:
  - tag muon related events
  - monitor onsite muon flux

- Monitoring of **environmental parameters** ongoing since the start of dark matter run:

  Rn content, humidity, pressure, different temperatures, N_2 flux, PMT HV, muon rate, …

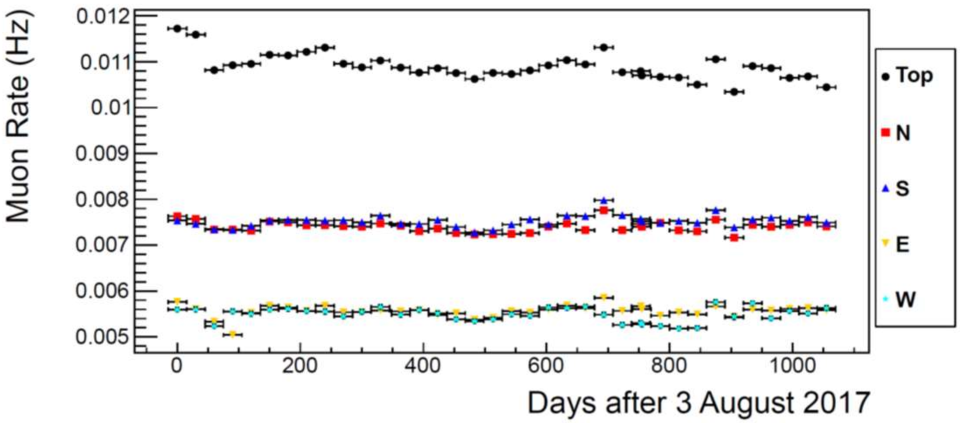
Data saved every few minutes and alarm messages implemented

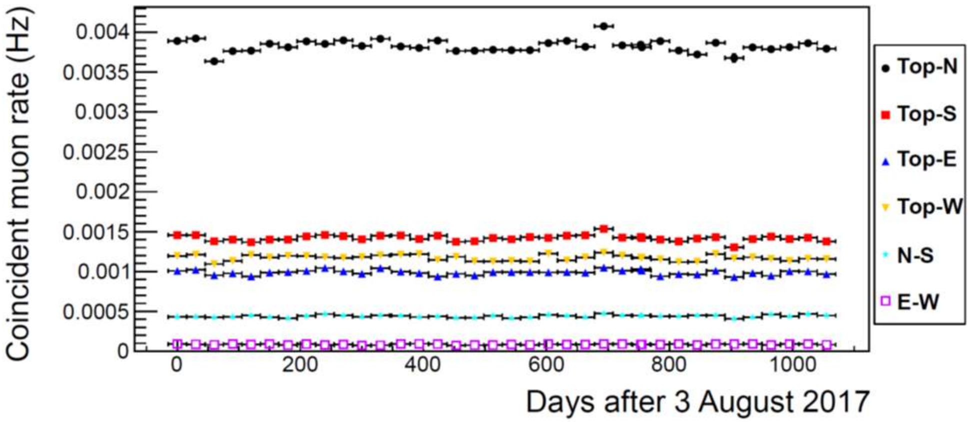


Detector performance

- **Time evolution** of relevant parameters

Muon-related events are triggering ANAIS DAQ



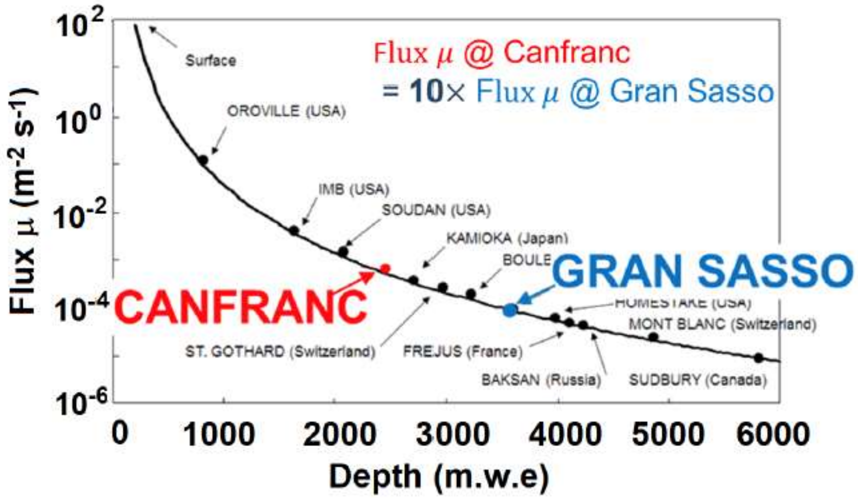


Underground muon flux is annually-modulated

- Delayed effect of muons in PMTs?
- Slow phosphorescence in NaI?

DAMA reply:

- Modulation phase inconsistency
- Muons interacting directly in the detectors do not fulfill the DM requisites
- Not enough muon-induced fast neutrons to account for the signal



ANAIS can test these hypotheses

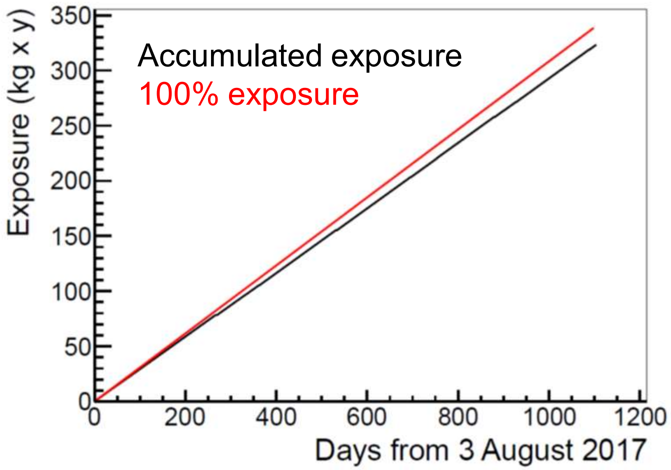
Detector performance

Performance of ANAIS-112 experiment after the first year of data taking 341.72 days, 105.32 kg y
J. Amaré et al, Eur. Phys. J. C (2019) 79:228

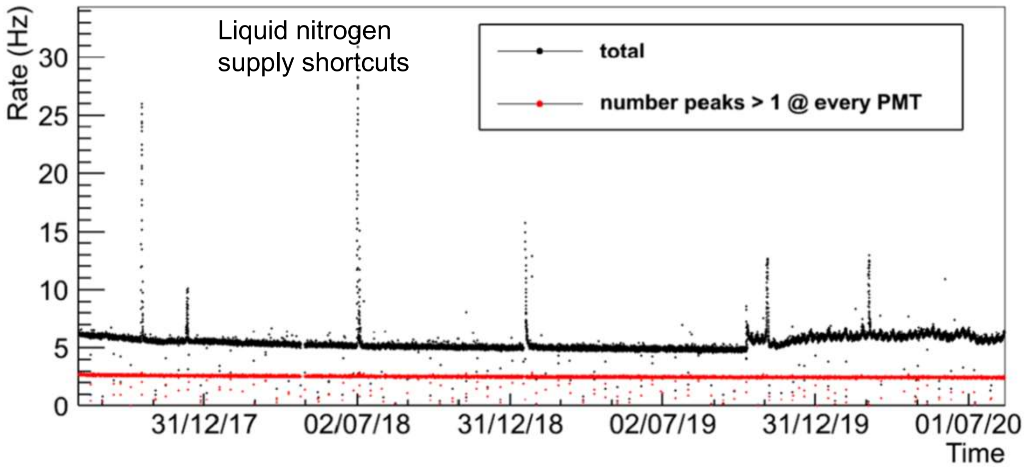
Now 3 years analyzed: 1018.6 days, 313.95 kg y

Time period	Live time (days)	Live time (%)	Down time (%)	Dead time (%)
08/03/2017 – 07/31/2018	341.722	94.40	2.84	2.76
08/01/2018 – 08/28/2019	374.302	95.48	2.44	2.07
08/29/2019 – 08/13/2020	333.791	95.10	2.62	2.28

- Excellent **duty cycle:** ~95% live time



- Good **stability** Total trigger rate

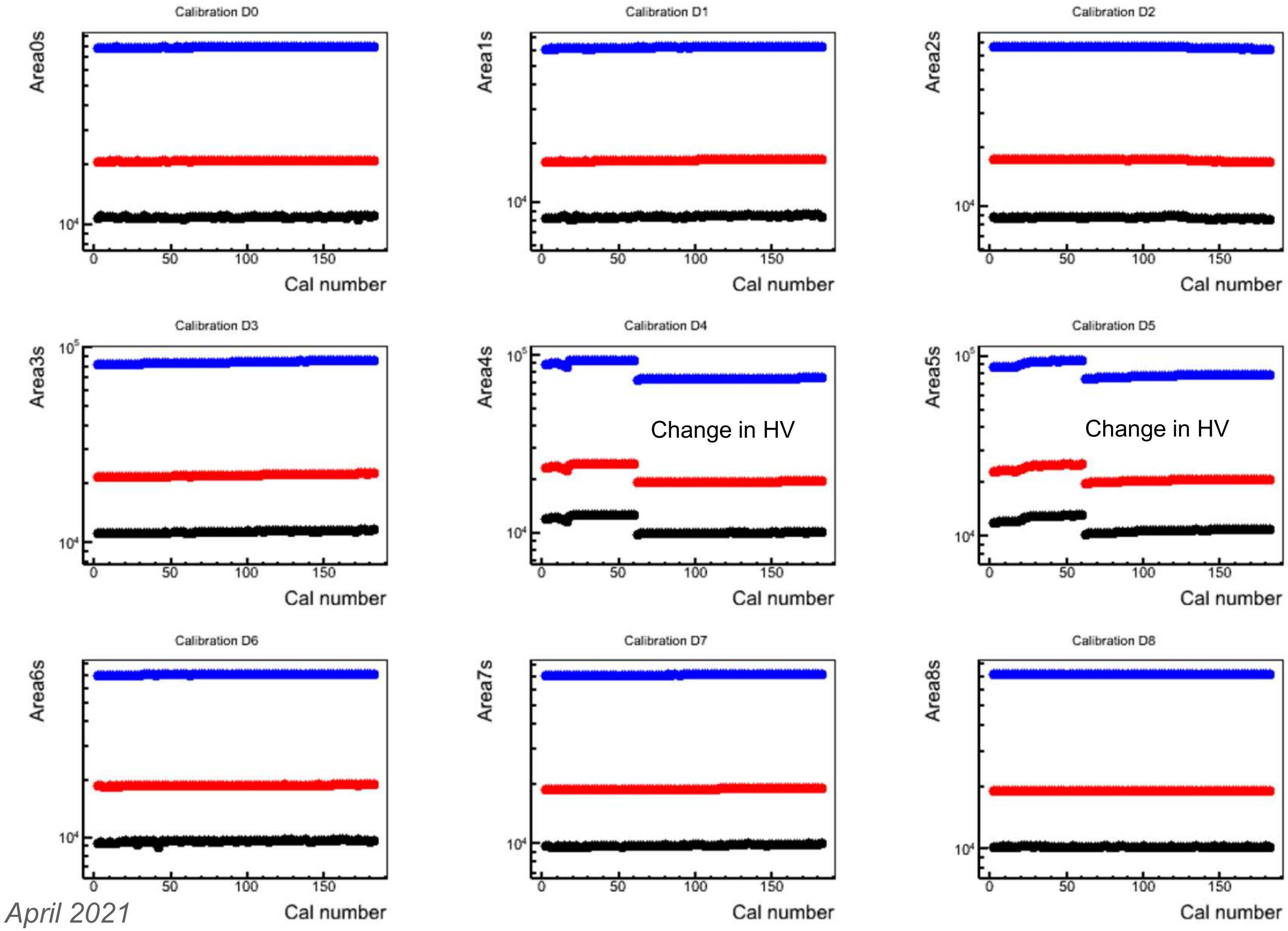


Detector performance

- Good **stability**

Evolution of positions of ^{109}Cd lines from calibrations

→ monitoring (and correction if necessary) of possible gain drifts



Detector performance

- Outstanding **light collection** of **~15 phe/keV** measured in:
  - all modules
  - at different set-ups
  - checked to be stable over time

M.A. Oliván et al, Astropart. Phys. 93 (2017) 86

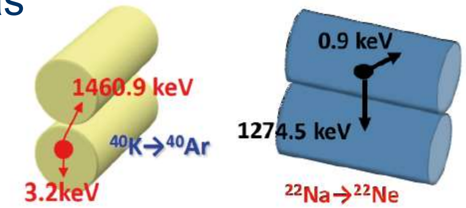
	phe/keV
D0	14.6 ± 0.1
D1	14.8 ± 0.1
D2	14.6 ± 0.1
D3	14.5 ± 0.1
D4	14.5 ± 0.1
D5	14.5 ± 0.1
D6	12.7 ± 0.1
D7	14.8 ± 0.1
D8	16.0 ± 0.1

Larger and more homogeneous than the reported light collection for DAMA/LIBRA detectors:
Phase 1: **5.5-7.5 phe/keV**
Phase 2: **6-10 phe/keV**

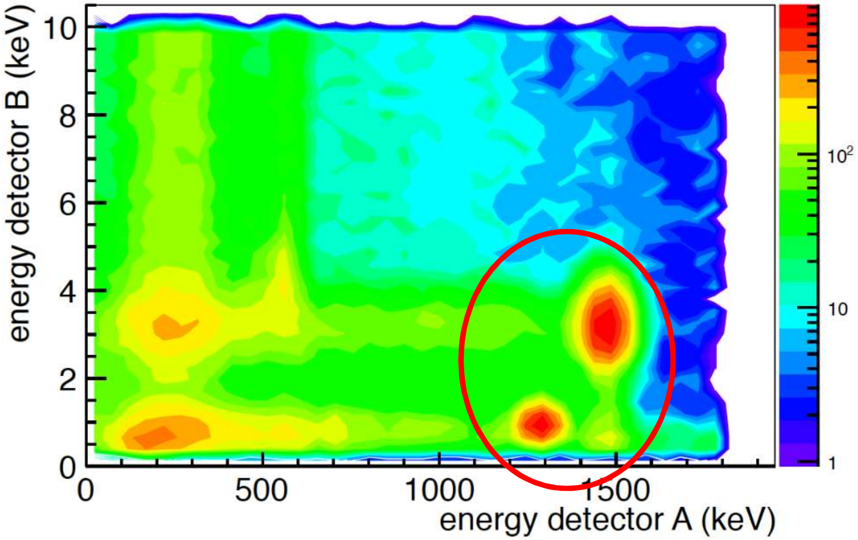
Detector performance

- Effective **filtering** protocols to reject PMT noise events, which limit energy threshold

- **Triggering** below 1 keV_{ee}: bulk ^{22}Na and ^{40}K events identified by coincidences with high energy gammas



- Based **on ^{109}Cd calibrations and data from ^{22}Na and ^{40}K** coincidence populations



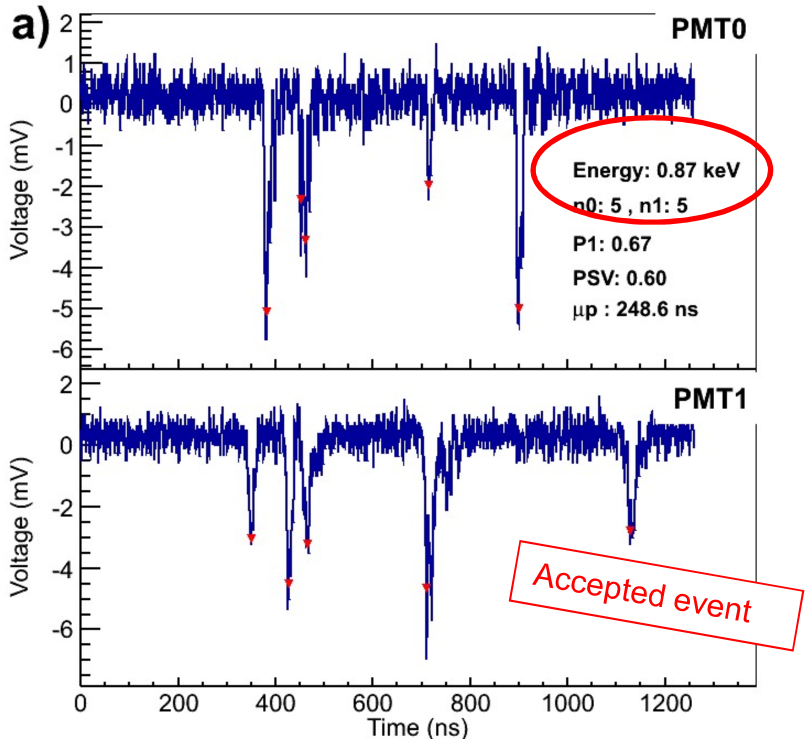
- **Multiparametric cuts** to select events

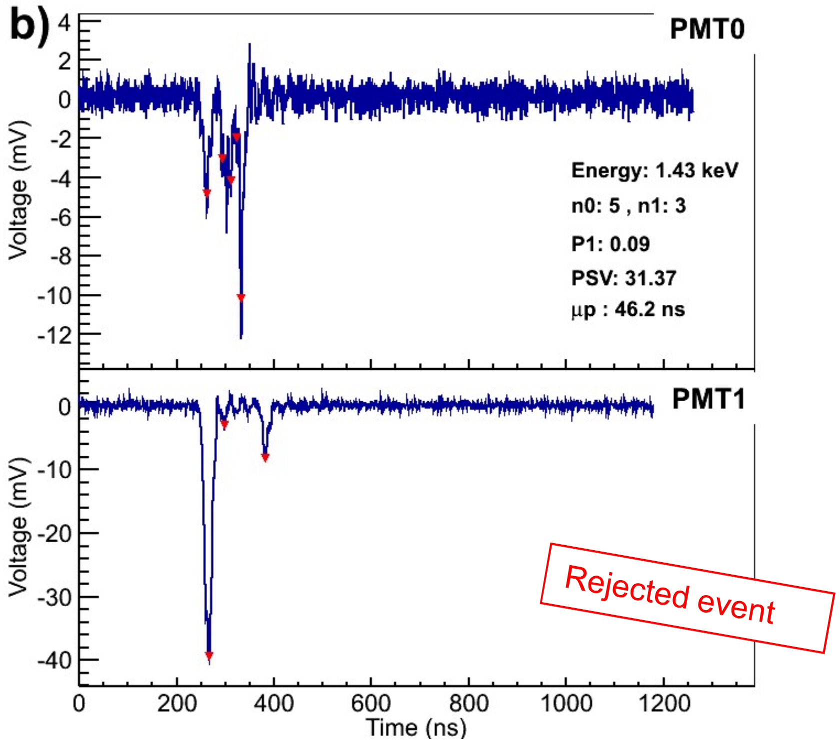
$$P_1 = \frac{\int_{100\,ns}^{600\,ns} A(t)dt}{\int_0^{600\,ns} A(t)dt} \qquad \mu_p = \frac{\sum A_p t_p}{\sum A_p}$$

1. Pulse shape cut to select pulses with NaI(Tl) scintillation constant
2. We remove asymmetric events (<2 keVee) with origin in the PMT
3. Remove 1 s after a muon passage
4. Multiplicity = 1 (Reject events that deposit energy simultaneously in more than one crystal)

Detector performance

- Effective **filtering** protocols to reject PMT noise events, which limit energy threshold





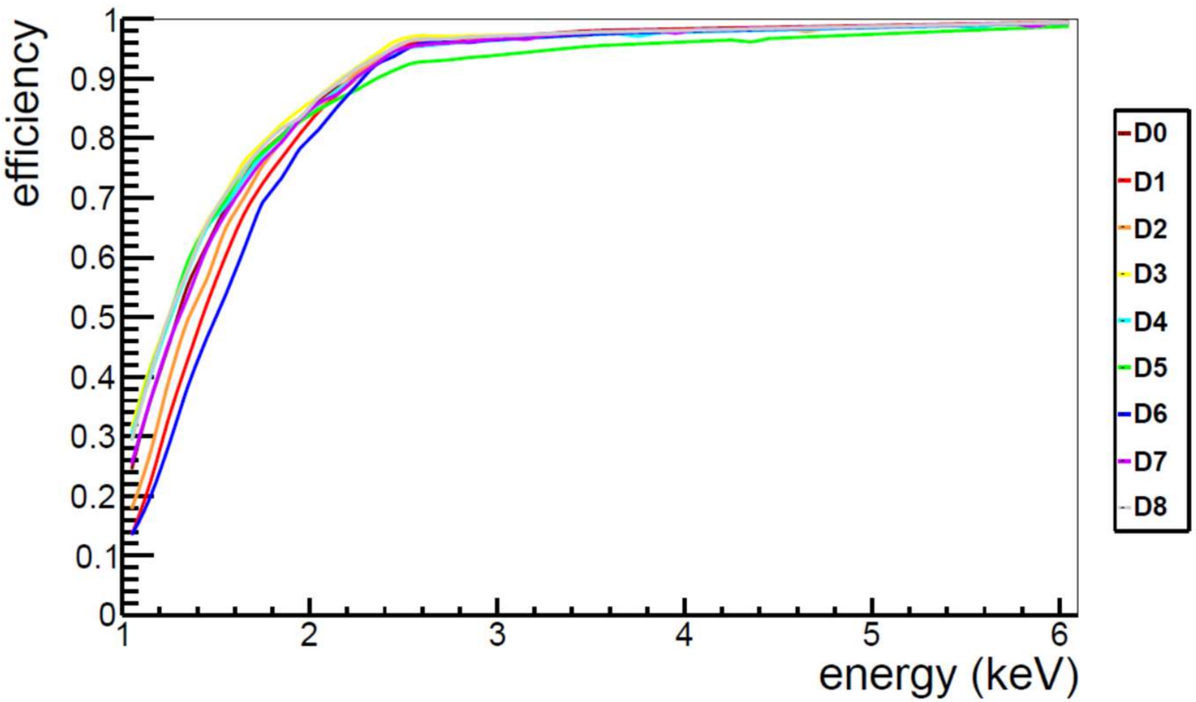
Fast event: Cherenkov light emission in one PMT, seen in the opposite PMT

A **blank module** set-up to monitor non NaI(Tl) scintillation events along the second year of operation

Detector performance

- Effective **filtering** protocols to reject PMT noise events, which limit energy threshold
  - **Acceptance efficiency curves** after all cuts for each detector
    - Trigger efficiency: from the measured light collected by a Monte Carlo technique
    - Pulse shape cut: from ^{22}Na and ^{40}K populations
    - Asymmetry cut: from calibration runs

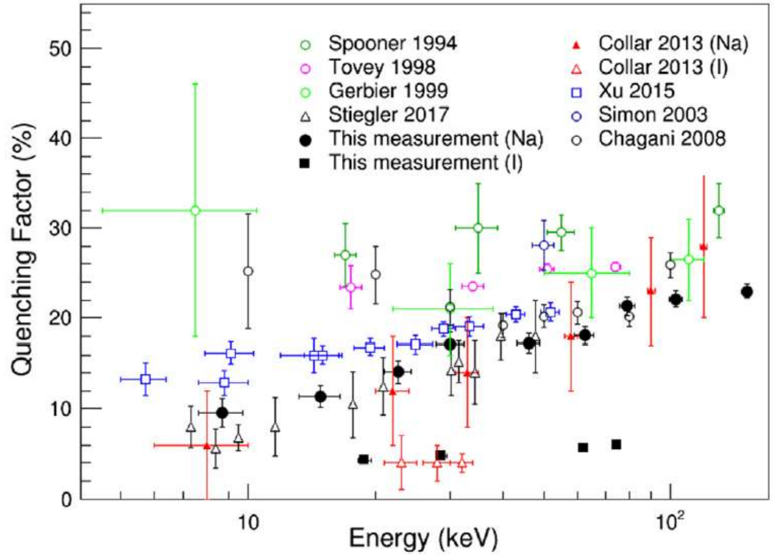
$$\varepsilon(E,d) = \varepsilon_{trg}(E,d) \times \varepsilon_{PSA}(E,d) \times \varepsilon_{asy}(E,d)$$



Detector performance

- **Quenching factor** determination $E_{ee} = QF\ E_{nr}$

  Relative efficiency factor for nuclear recoil scintillation



H.W. Joo, H.S. Park and J.H. Kim et al. / Astroparticle Physics 108 (2019) 50–56

- Measurements carried out in October 2018 in the Triangle Universities Nuclear Laboratory (Duke University, US) with a neutron beam, in coordination with Duke and Yale groups
- Two small crystals from Alpha Spectra company with different powder quality
- Analysis ongoing

Background model

Detailed **background models** for each detector, based on Geant4 Monte Carlo simulation and accurate quantification of **background sources**

Assessment of backgrounds of the ANAIS experiment for dark matter direct detection, J. Amaré et al, Eur. Phys. J. C 76 (2016) 429

Analysis of backgrounds for the ANAIS-112 dark matter experiment, Eur. Phys. J. C 79 (2019) 412

– **Activity from external components** measured with HPGe detectors at Canfranc

Component	Unit	^{40}K	^{232}Th	^{238}U	^{226}Ra	Others
PMTs (R12669SEL2)	mBq/PMT	97±19	20±2	128±38	84±3	
		133±13	20±2	150±34	88±3	
		108±29	21±3	161±58	79±56	
		95±24	22±2	145±29	88±4	
		136±26	18±2	187±58	59±3	
		155±36	20±3	144±33	89±5	
mean activity all units	mBq/PMT	111±5	20.7±0.5	157±8	82.5±0.8	
Copper encapsulation	mBq/kg	<4.9	<1.8	<62	<0.9	^{60}Co: <0.4
Quartz windows	mBq/kg	<12	<2.2	<100	<1.9	
Silicone pads	mBq/kg	<181	<34		51±7	
Archaelogical lead	mBq/kg		<0.3	<0.2		^{210}Pb: <20
Inner volume air	Bq/m³					^{222}Rn: 0.6

Upper limits at 95% C.L.

Background model

Detailed **background models** for each detector, based on Geant4 Monte Carlo simulation and accurate quantification of **background sources**

Assessment of backgrounds of the ANAIS experiment for dark matter direct detection, J. Amaré et al, Eur. Phys. J. C 76 (2016) 429

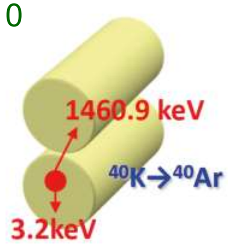
Analysis of backgrounds for the ANAIS-112 dark matter experiment, Eur. Phys. J. C 79 (2019) 412

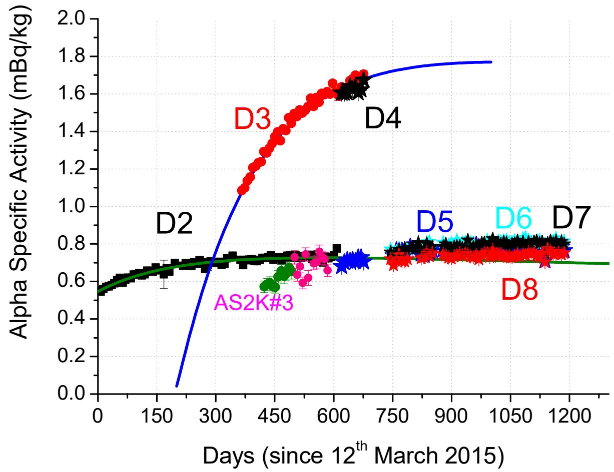
- **Activity from external components** measured with HPGe detectors at Canfranc
- **Internal activity** directly assessed: mainly ^{40}K, ^{210}Pb

Detector	^{40}K (mBq/kg)	^{232}Th (mBq/kg)	^{238}U (mBq/kg)	^{210}Pb (mBq/kg)
D0	1.33±0.04	(4±1) 10^{-3}	(10±2) 10^{-3}	3.15±0.10
D1	1.21±0.04			3.15±0.10
D2	1.07±0.03	(0.7±0.1) 10^{-3}	(2.7±0.2) 10^{-3}	0.7±0.1
D3	0.70±0.03			1.8±0.1
D4	0.54±0.04			1.8±0.1
D5	1.11±0.02			0.78±0.01
D6	0.95±0.03	(1.3±0.1) 10^{-3}		0.81±0.01
D7	0.96±0.03	(1.0±0.1) 10^{-3}		0.80±0.01
D8	0.76±0.02	(0.4±0.1) 10^{-3}		0.74±0.01

^{40}K: by identifying coincidences

C. Cuesta et al., Int. J. Mod. Phys. A. 29 (2014) 1443010





^{232}Th, ^{238}U: determined by alpha rate following PSA and analysis of BiPo sequences at a level of a few μBq/kg, but **^{210}Pb out of equilibrium**

Background model

Detailed **background models** for each detector, based on Geant4 Monte Carlo simulation and accurate quantification of **background sources**

– **Cosmogenic activity** in crystals: short-lived Te and I isotopes, ^{3}H, ^{22}Na, ^{109}Cd, ^{113}Sn

J. Amaré et al, JCAP 02 (2015) 046
J. Amare et al, Astropart. Phys.97 (2018) 96
P. Villar et al, Int. J. Mod. Phys. A 33 (2018) 1843006

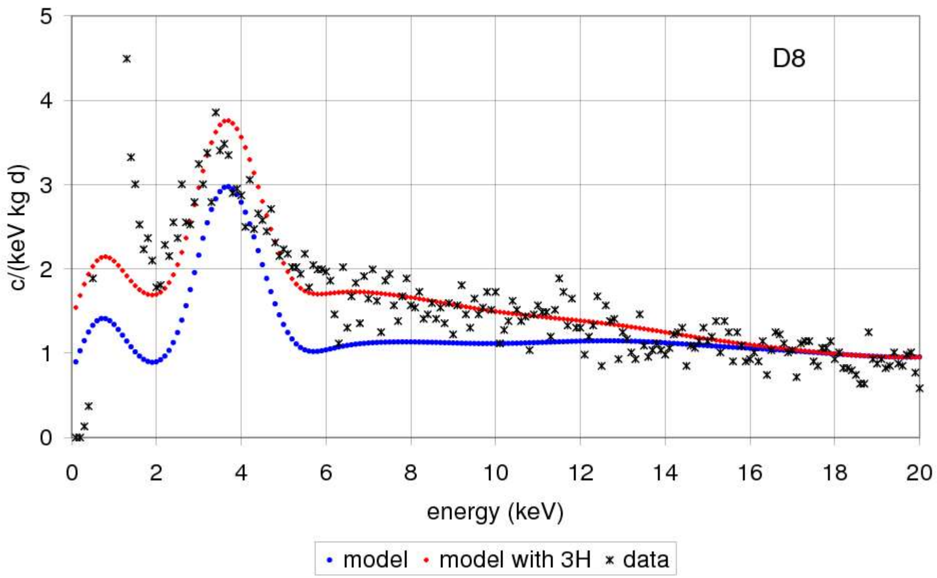
^{22}Na: from analysis of coincidences

^{109}Cd, ^{113}Sn: from peaks at binding energies of K-shell electrons (after EC)

^{3}H: additional background source contributing only in the very low energy region required, which could be tritium

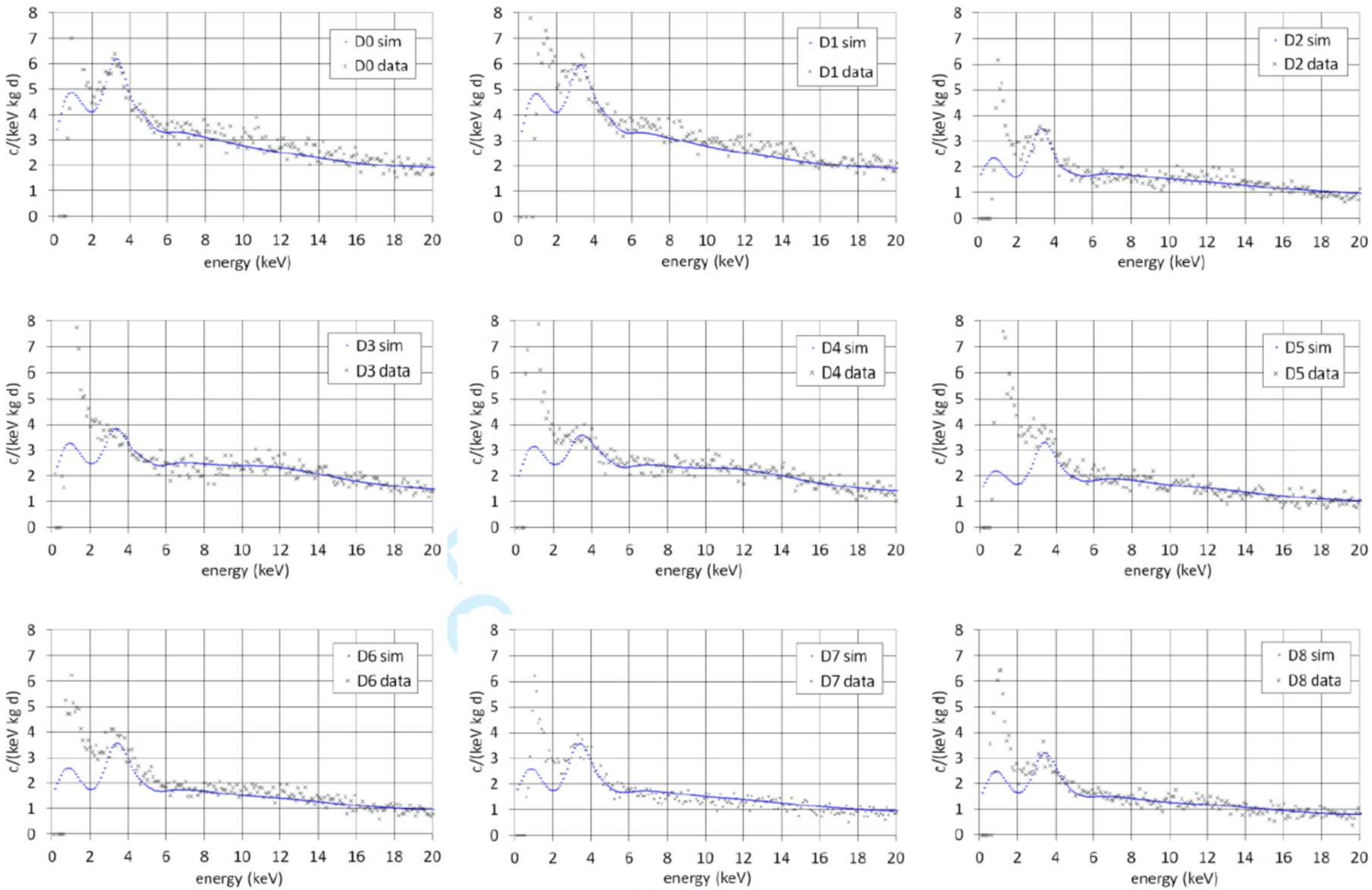
D0-D1: 0.20 mBq/kg

D2-D8: 0.09 mBq/kg (upper limit set by DAMA/LIBRA)



Background model

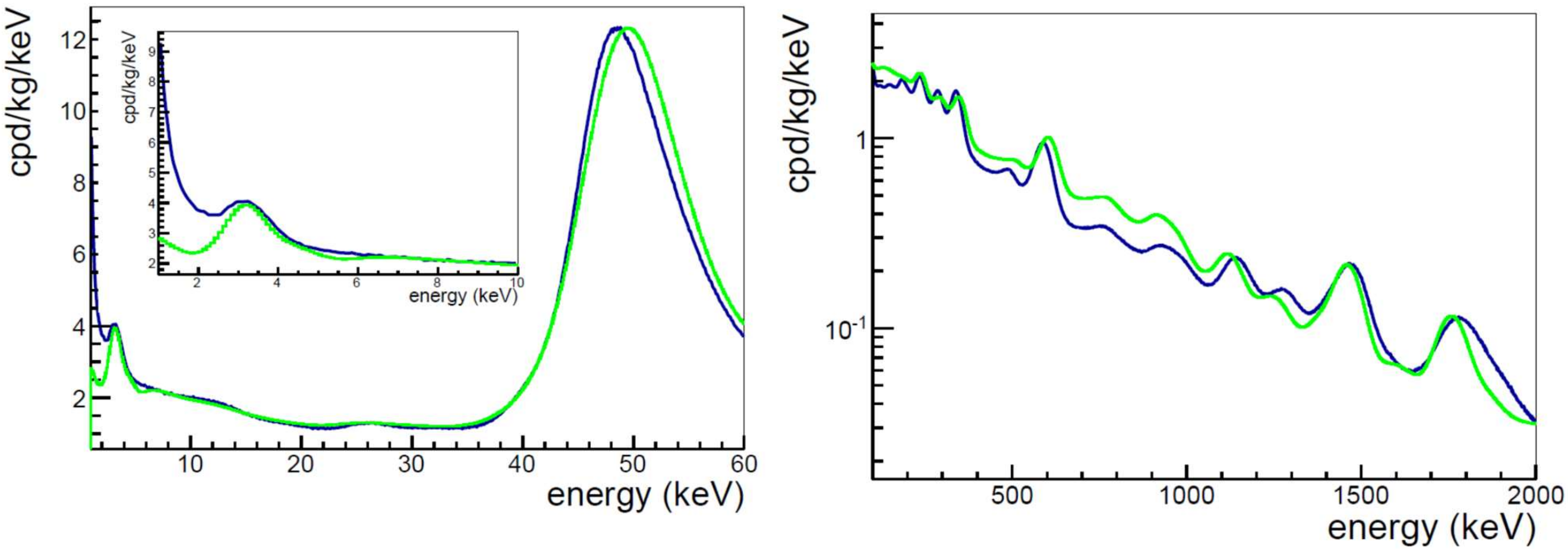
Comparison with first year of ANAIS-112 data at **very low energy**



Unexplained events <3 keV: non-bulk scintillation events leaking in the RoI or some unknown background source not considered in the model

Background model

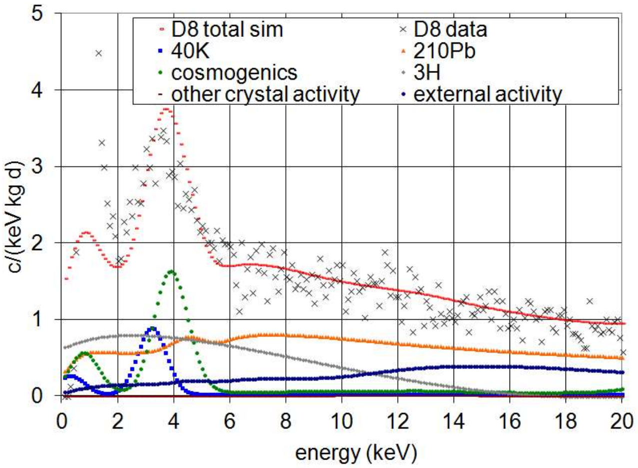
Comparison with ANAIS-112 full exposure background at **low and high energy**



M1 events (after filtering and efficiency correction)
model

Background model

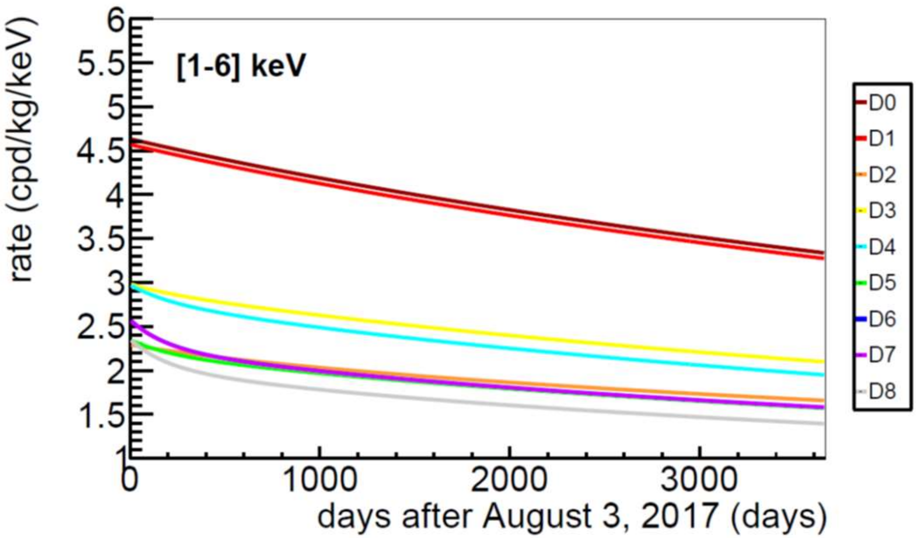
- **Individual contributions** in ANAIS-112 data



^{40}**K** and ^{22}**Na** peaks and ^{210}**Pb** (bulk+surface) and ^{3}**H** continua are the most significant contributions in the very low energy region

^{210}Pb:	32.5%
^{3}H:	26.5%
^{40}K:	12%
^{22}Na:	2.0%

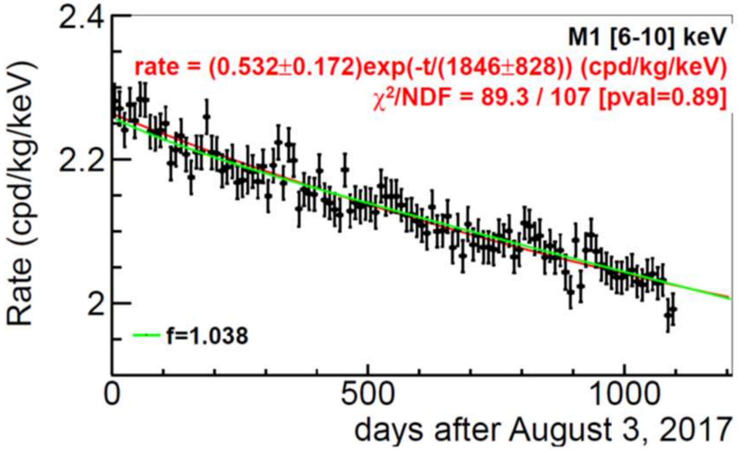
- **Time evolution:** predicted from decaying cosmogenics and ^{210}Pb

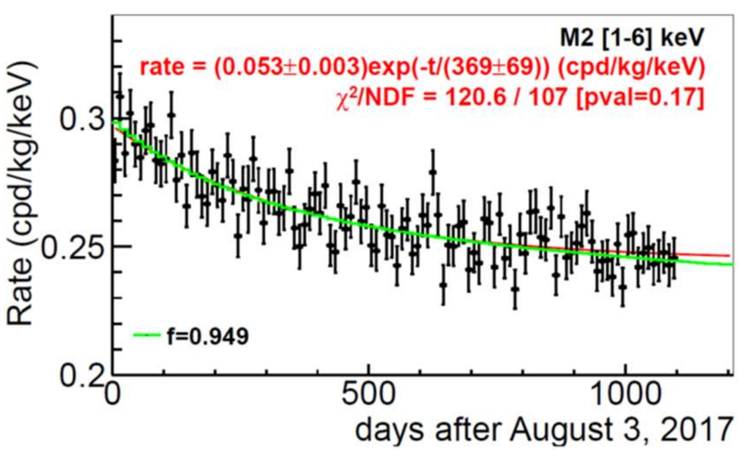


Background model

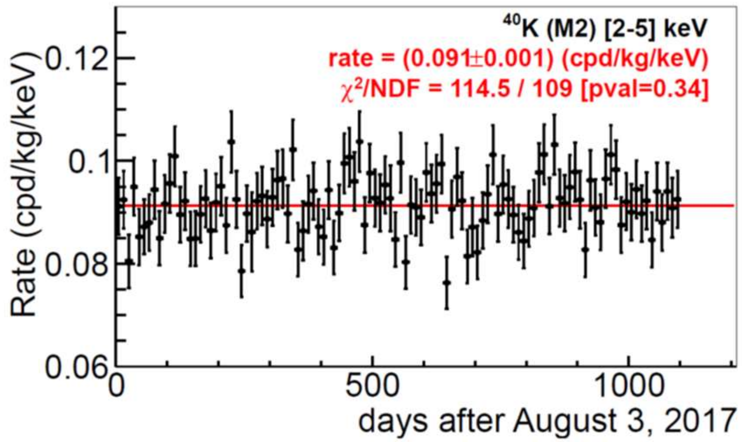
- **Time evolution:** measured and predicted rates of **M1** and **M2** events

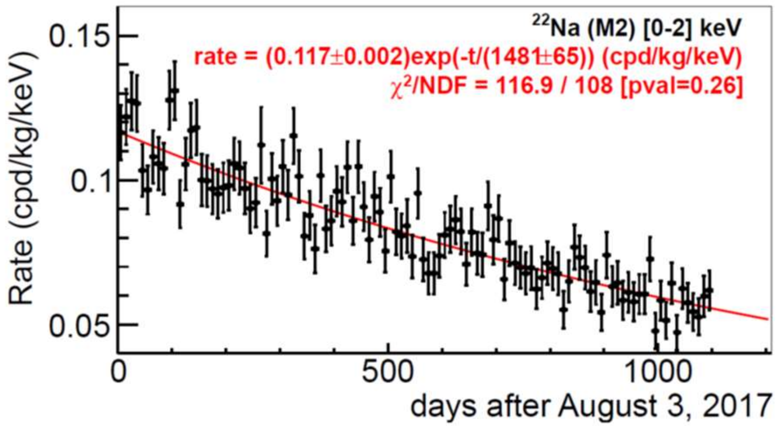
Exponential fit
Background estimated evolution





- **Time evolution:** measured rate of **^{40}K** and **^{22}Na** events has proper decay (identified by the coincidence with the corresponding gamma in other module)





Dark matter annual modulation results from 3 years exposure of the ANAIS-112 experiment

- Dark matter annual modulation and the DAMA/LIBRA result
- ANAIS experiment
  - Goals and history
  - Detector set-up
  - Performance and analysis
  - Background model
  - Annual modulation results and sensitivity

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http://gifna.unizar.es/anais/

Cosmology Seminars, Helsinki, 28th April 2021

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Laboratorio Subterráneo de Canfranc

Annual modulation results

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS **123**, 031301 (2019)

First Results on Dark Matter Annual Modulation from the ANAIS-112 Experiment

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(Received 12 March 2019; published 16 July 2019)

ANAIS is a direct detection dark matter experiment aiming at the testing of the DAMA/LIBRA annual modulation result, which, for about two decades, has neither been confirmed nor ruled out by any other experiment in a model independent way. ANAIS – 112, consisting of 112.5 kg of sodium iodide crystals, has been taking data at the Canfranc Underground Laboratory, Spain, since August 2017. This Letter presents the annual modulation analysis of 1.5 years of data, amounting to 157.55 kg yr. We focus on the model independent analysis searching for modulation and the validation of our sensitivity prospects. ANAIS – 112 data are consistent with the null hypothesis (p values of 0.67 and 0.18 for [2–6] and [1–6] keV energy regions, respectively). The best fits for the modulation hypothesis are consistent with the absence of modulation ($S_m = -0.0044 \pm 0.0058$ cpd/kg/keV and -0.0015 ± 0.0063 cpd/kg/keV, respectively). They are in agreement with our estimated sensitivity for the accumulated exposure, which supports our projected goal of reaching a 3σ sensitivity to the DAMA/LIBRA result in five years of data taking.

Data from 3rd August 2017 to 12th February 2019

1.5 y, 157.55 kg x y

J. Phys (Conference Series) 1468 (2020) 012014

ANAIS-112 status: two years results on annual modulation

J. Amaré[1,2], S. Cebrián[1,2], D. Cintas[1,2], I. Coarasa[1,2], E. García[1,2], M. Martínez[1,2,3], M.A. Oliván[1,2,4], Y. Ortigoza[1,2], A. Ortiz de Solórzano[1,2], J. Puimedón[1,2], A. Salinas[1,2], M.L. Sarsa[1,2] and P. Villar[1,2]

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Same analysis for **2 y**, 220.69 kg x y
Presented at TAUP2019 conference

[2-6] keV → $Sm = -0.0029 \pm 0.0050$ c/keV/kg/d

[1-6] keV → $Sm = -0.0036 \pm 0.0054$ c/keV/kg/d

Annual modulation results

Annual Modulation Results from Three Years Exposure of ANAIS-112

J. Amaré,[1,2] S. Cebrián,[1,2] D. Cintas,[1,2] I. Coarasa,[1,2] E. García,[1,2] M. Martínez,[1,2,3,*] M.A. Oliván,[1,2] Y. Ortigoza,[1,2] A. Ortiz de Solórzano,[1,2] J. Puimedón,[1,2] A. Salinas,[1,2] M.L. Sarsa,[1,2] and P. Villar[1]

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Data for **3 y**, 313.95 kg x y

ANAIS (Annual modulation with NaI Scintillators) is a dark matter direct detection experiment consisting of 112.5 kg of NaI(Tl) detectors in operation at the Canfranc Underground Laboratory (LSC), in Spain, since August 2017. ANAIS' goal is to confirm or refute in a model independent way the DAMA/LIBRA positive result: an annual modulation in the low-energy detection rate having all the features expected for the signal induced by dark matter particles in a standard galactic halo. This modulation, observed for about 20 years, is in strong tension with the negative results of other very sensitive experiments, but a model-independent comparison is still lacking. By using the same target material, NaI(Tl), such comparison is more direct and almost independent on dark matter particle and halo models. Here, we present the annual modulation analysis corresponding to three years of ANAIS data (for an effective exposure of 313.95 kg$\times$y), applying a blind procedure, which updates the one developed for the 1.5 years analysis, and later applied to 2 years. The analysis also improves the background modelling in the fitting of the ROI rates. We obtain for the best fit in the [1-6] keV ([2-6] keV) energy region a modulation amplitude of –0.0034±0.0042 cpd/kg/keV (0.0003±0.0037 cpd/kg/keV), supporting the absence of modulation in our data, and incompatible with DAMA/LIBRA result at 3.3 (2.6) σ, for a sensitivity of 2.5 (2.7) σ. Moreover, we include two complementary analyses: a phase-free annual modulation search and the exploration of the possible presence of a periodic signal at other frequencies. Finally, we carry out several consistency checks of our result, and we update the ANAIS-112 projected sensitivity for the scheduled 5 years of operation.

Accepted in Phys. Rev. D, arXiv:2103.01175v1 [astro-ph.IM]

Annual modulation results

Least-squares fits of ANAIS-112 10-day time-binned data in 1-6 / 2-6 keV

Minimizing $$\chi^2 = \sum_i \frac{(n_i - \mu_i)^2}{\sigma_i^2} \qquad \mu_i = [R_0 \phi_{bkg}(t_i) + S_m cos(\omega(t_i - t_0))] M \Delta E \Delta t$$

n_i, σ_i	number of events and Poisson uncertainty at time bin *i* (corrected by livetime and efficiency)
μ_i	expected number of events
R_0	free parameter for unmodulated rate
ϕ_{bkg}	probability distribution function (PDF) of any unmodulated component
ω	fixed corresponding to 1 year period
t_0	fixed to have the cosine maximum in June, 2nd
M	total detector mass
ΔE	energy interval width
Δt	time bin width (10 days)
S_m	fixed to 0 in the null hypothesis and left unconstrained for the modulation hypothesis

Annual modulation results

Least-squares fits of ANAIS-112 10-day time-binned data in 1-6 / 2-6 keV

Three independent **background modelling procedures**: constant term +

- Exponentially decaying background: $$\phi_{bkg}(t_i) = 1 + f e^{-t_i/\tau}$$

  R_0, τ, f free parameters

- Probability distribution function derived from background model: $$\phi_{bkg}(t_i) = 1 + f \phi_{bkg}^{MC}(t_i)$$

  R_0, f free parameters

- Probability distribution function for every detector individually:

$$\mu_{i,d} = [R_{0,d}(1 + f_d \phi_{bkg,d}^{MC}(t_i)) + S_m cos(\omega(t_i - t_0))] M_d \Delta E \Delta t$$

(to account for possible systematic effects related to different backgrounds and efficiencies in different modules)

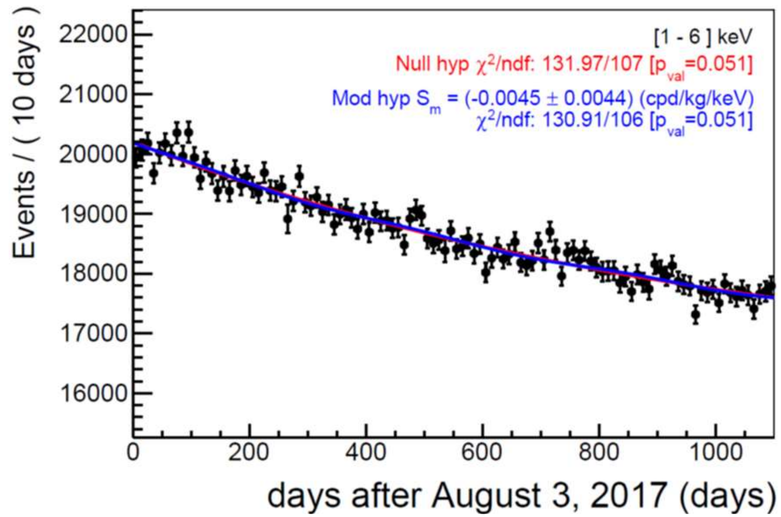
$R_{0,d}, f_d$ free parameters (18 nuisance parameters)

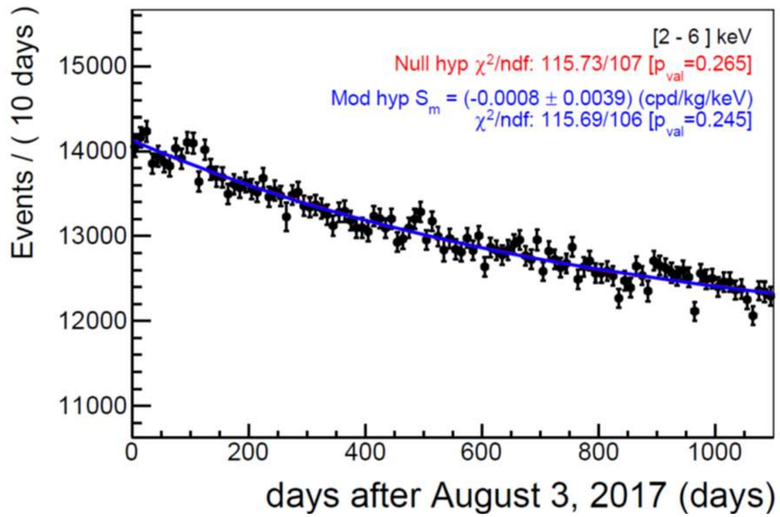
Annual modulation results

Least-squares fits of ANAIS-112 10-day time-binned data in 1-6 / 2-6 keV

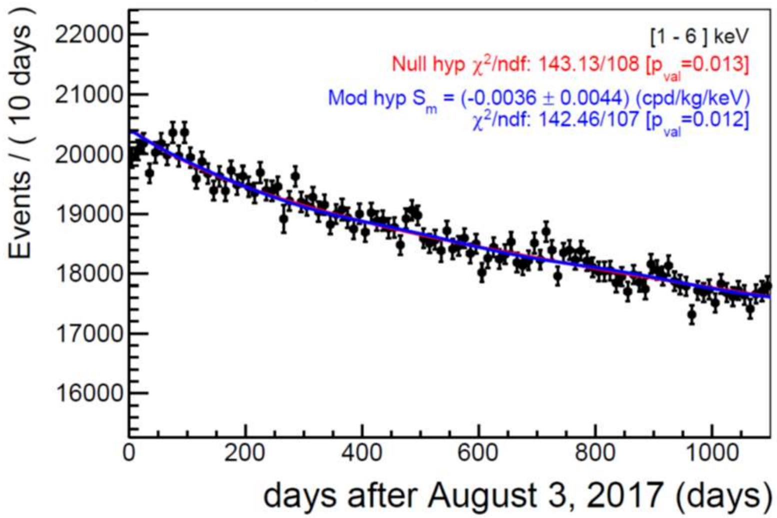
Null hypothesis well supported by the χ^2 test, Modulation hypothesis best fits

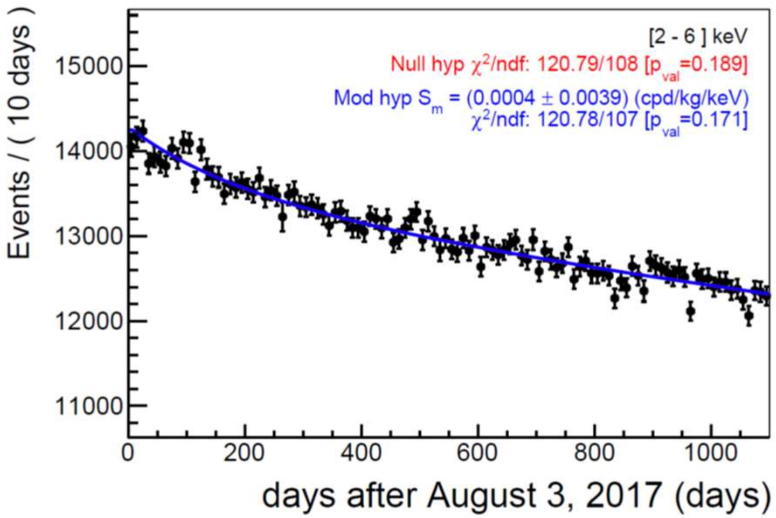
Decaying background





PDF from MC

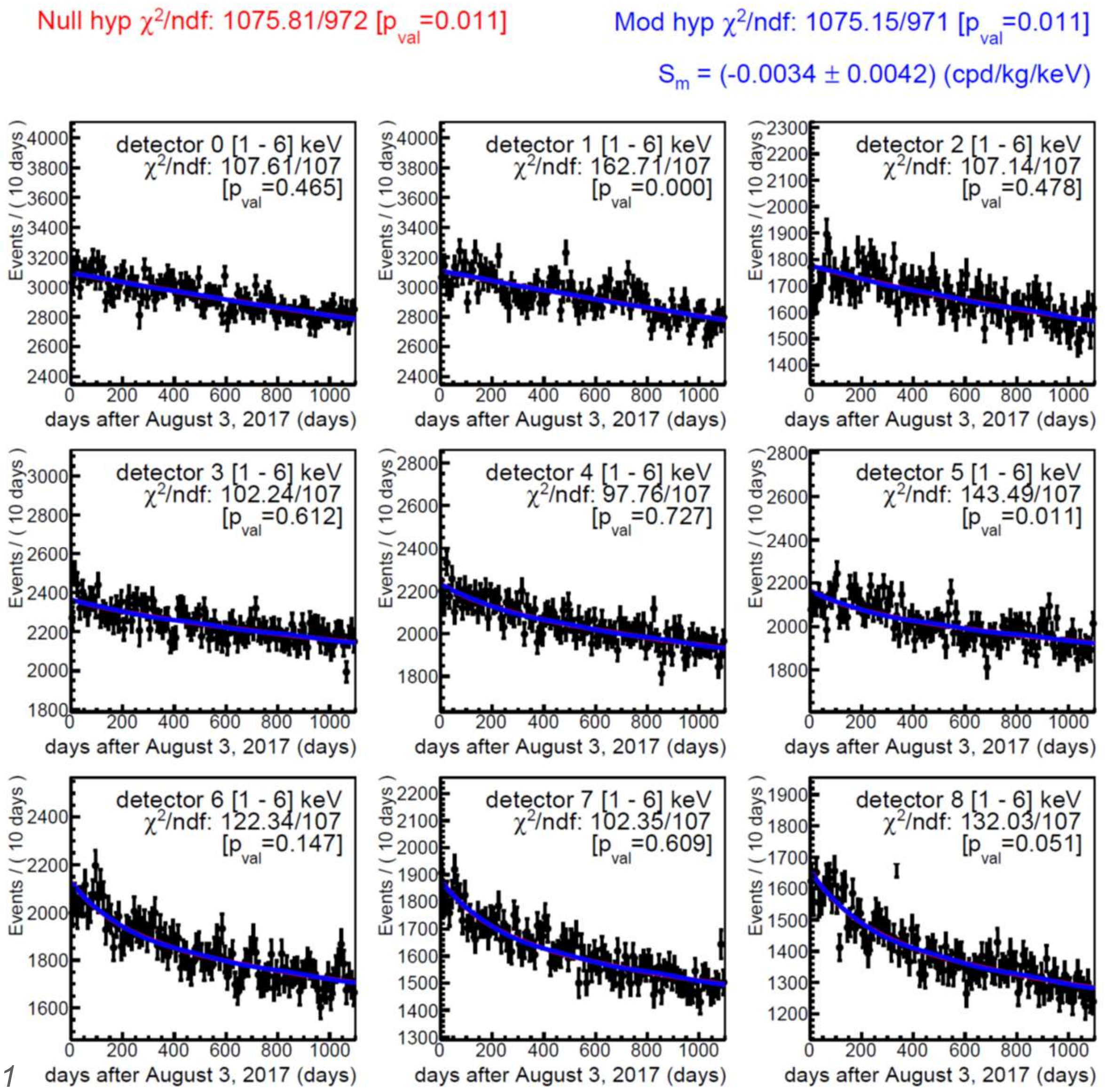




Annual modulation results

Least-squares fits of ANAIS-112 10-day time-binned data in 1-6 / 2-6 keV

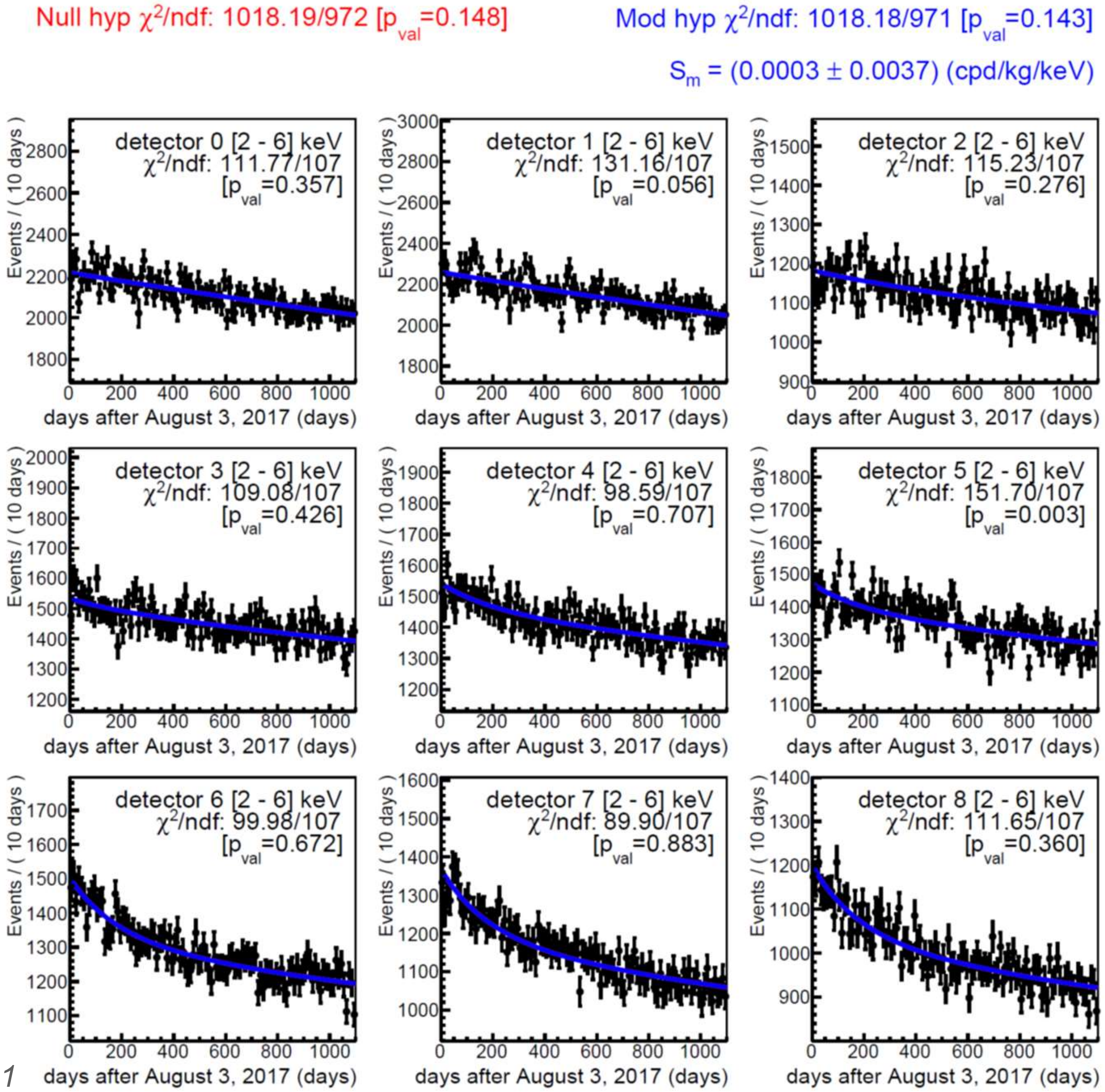
PDF from MC for every detector



Annual modulation results

Least-squares fits of ANAIS-112 10-day time-binned data in 1-6 / 2-6 keV

PDF from MC for every detector



Annual modulation results

Least-squares fits of ANAIS-112 10-day time-binned data in 1-6 / 2-6 keV

Energy region	χ^2/NDF null hyp	nuisance params	S_m cpd/kg/keV	p-value mod	p-value null
[1-6] keV	132 / 107	3	-0.0045±0.0044	0.051	0.051
	143.1 / 108	2	-0.0036±0.0044	0.012	0.013
	1076 / 972	18	-0.0034±0.0042	0.011	0.011
[2-6] keV	115.7 / 107	3	-0.0008±0.0039	0.25	0.27
	120.8 / 108	2	0.0004±0.0039	0.17	0.19
	1018 / 972	18	0.0003±0.0037	0.14	0.15

DAMA/LIBRA results:

[1-6] keV S_m^{DAMA} = 0.0105 cpd $\pm$ 0.0011/kg/keV

[2-6] KeV S_m^{DAMA} = 0.0102 $\pm$0.0008 cpd/kg/keV

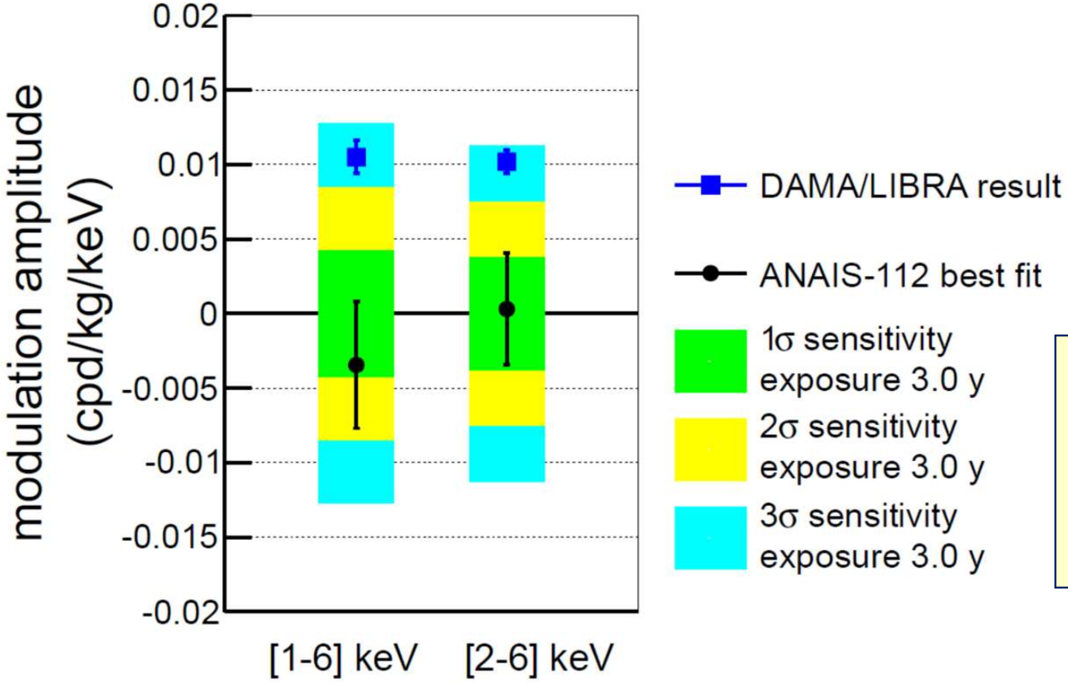
Period fixed @ 1 year, phase fixed @ 2nd June

Data support absence of modulation in both energy regions and three background models (all of them provide compatible results)

Results of the third approach, with lower $\sigma(S_m)$ as expected, taken for comparison with DAMA/LIBRA

Annual modulation results

Least-squares fits of ANAIS-112 10-day time-binned data in 1-6 / 2-6 keV



Best fits are incompatible with DAMA/LIBRA result at:

3.3σ in [1-6] keV

2.6σ in [2-6] keV

Sensitivity for 3 y is at 2.5 and 2.7σ in [1-6] and [2-6] keV energy regions

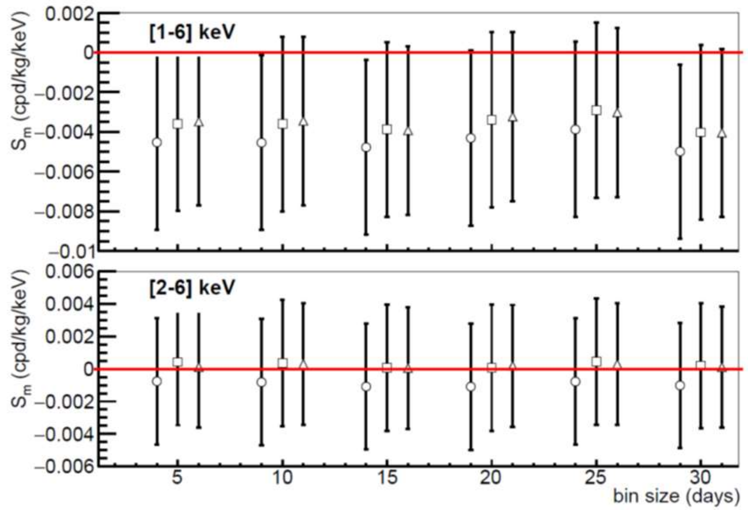
Annual modulation results

Consistency checks

- Fit results with fixed phase in the last 2 y for different background modelling

Energy region	χ^2/NDF null hyp	nuisance params	S_m cpd/kg/keV	p-value mod	p-value null
[1-6] keV	81.23 / 70	3	-0.0056±0.0055	0.17	0.17
	81.37 / 71	2	-0.0057±0.0055	0.19	0.19
	621.7 / 639	18	-0.0100±0.0051	0.71	0.68
[2-6] keV	81.65 / 70	3	0.0032±0.0049	0.15	0.16
	81.82 / 71	2	0.0034±0.0049	0.17	0.18
	604.1 / 639	18	0.0013±0.0046	0.83	0.84

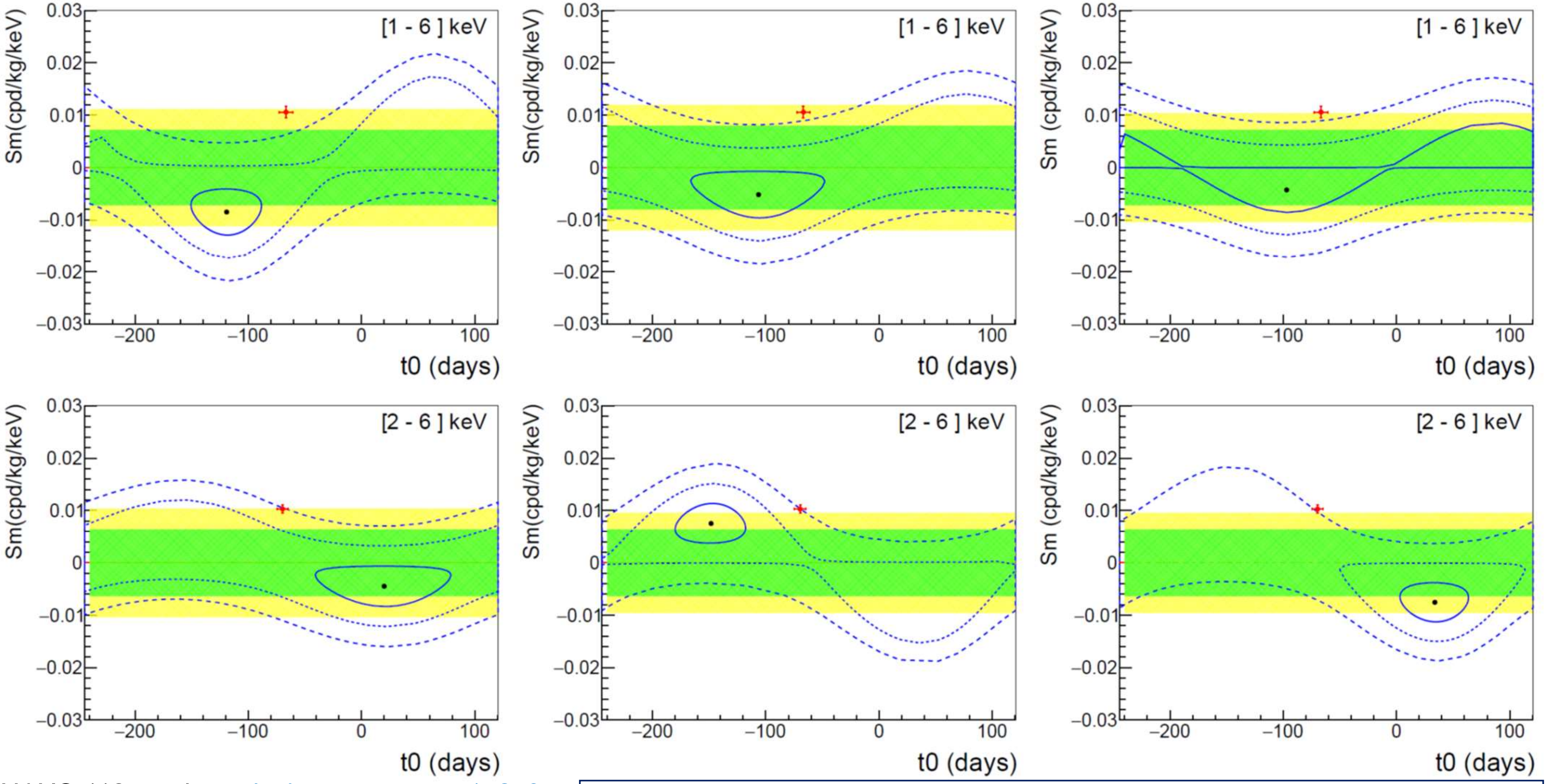
- Best fit values for different choices of the time binning (for different background modelling: circles, squares and triangles)



- Compatible results obtained in all checks
- Fits checked to be unbiased by MC simulation of pseudo-experiments with S_m=0 and S_m of DAMA/LIBRA

Annual modulation results

Phase-free modulation analysis t_0 as free parameter



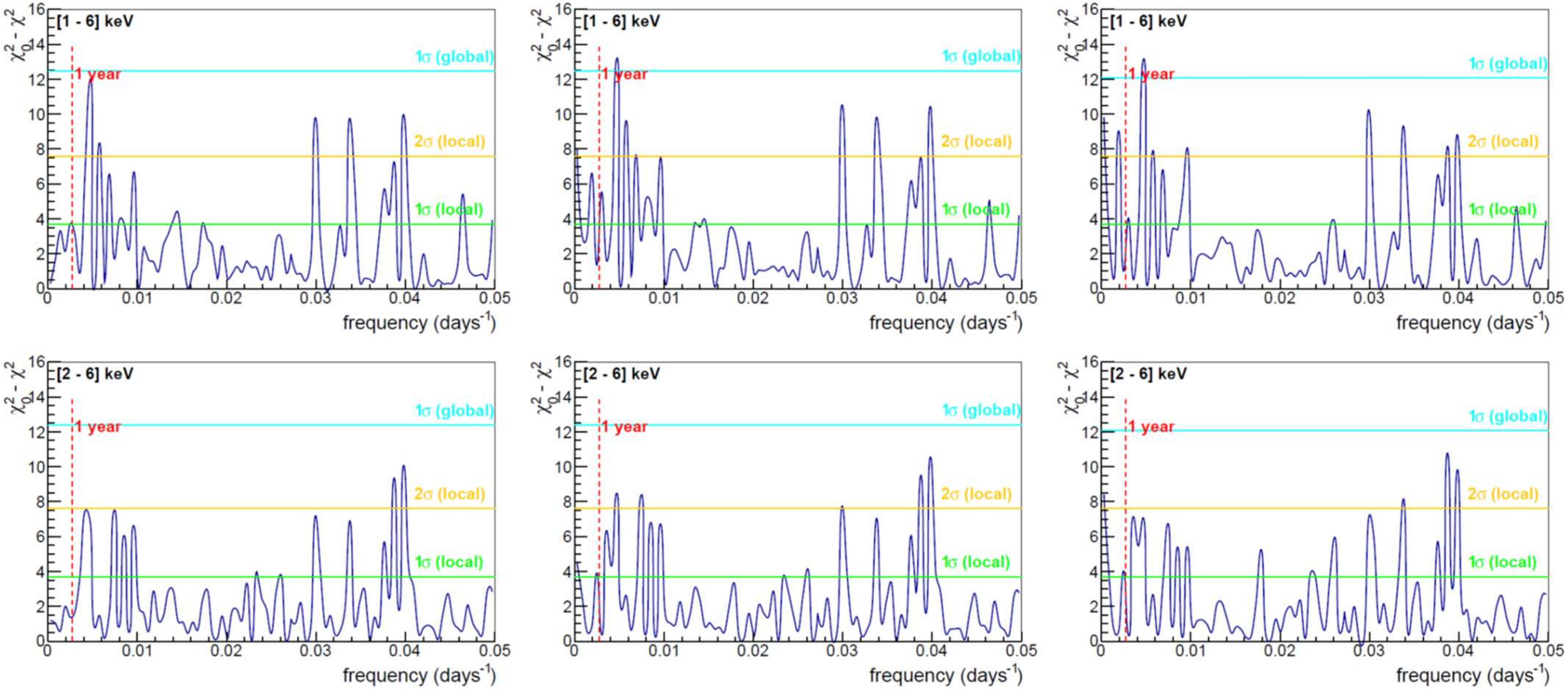
ANAIS-112 result, exclusion contours at 1, 2, 3σ
DAMA/LIBRA result
Green and yellow bands show 1, 2σ biased contours from MC simulation for each fit

- In all cases: best fits 3σ away from DAMA/LIBRA result
- Fit biased due to non-linearity in model. Best fits compatible with no modulation after correction with calculated bias

Annual modulation results

Frecuency analysis search for the presence of a periodic signal in the data

Periodograms using as test statistics the difference in χ^2 between the null and the modulation hypothesis when fitting data for each frecuency considered



No statistically significant modulation found in the frequency range analyzed in the ANAIS-112 data

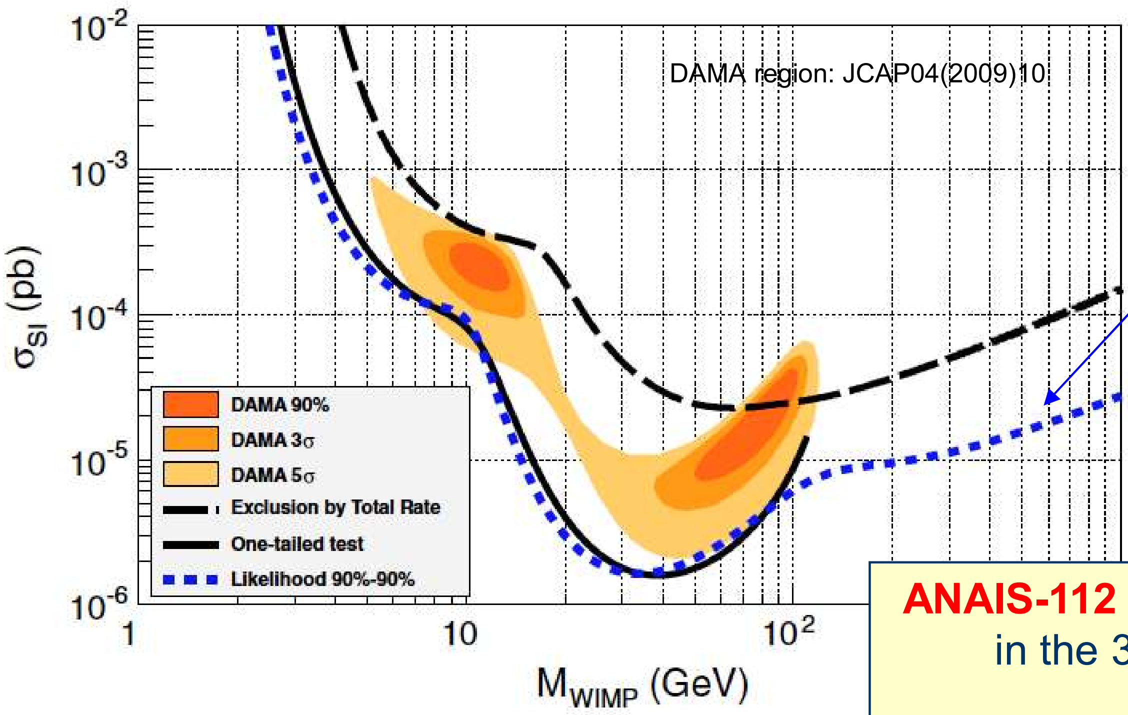
Annual modulation sensitivity

I.Coarasa et al, ANAIS-112 sensitivity in the search for dark matter annual modulation, Eur. Phys. J. C79 (2019) 233

Detection limit at 90% C.L. for a critical limit at 90% C.L. for ANAIS-112

- **Background** from measured, efficiency corrected levels (10% unblinded data)
- 1-6 keV_{ee} region
- 5 years

Model-dependent annual modulation: dark matter SI interaction

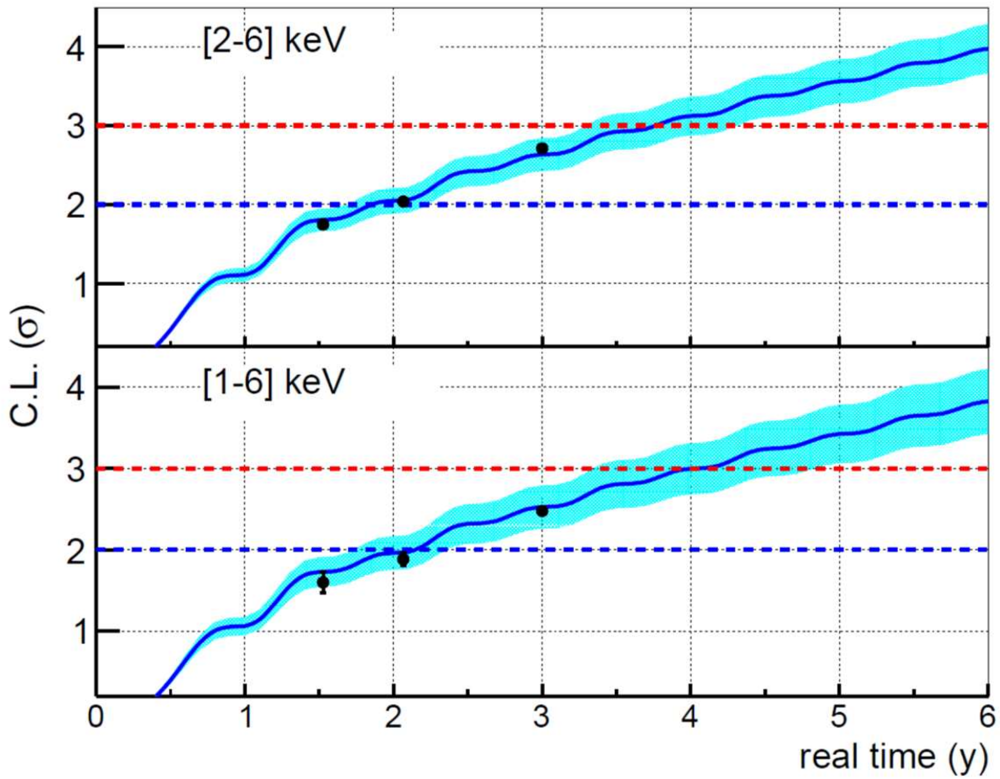


90% probability of detecting an annual modulation signal at 90% C.L.

ANAIS-112 can detect the annual modulation in the 3σ region compatible with the DAMA/LIBRA result

Annual modulation sensitivity

Sensitivity to DAMA/LIBRA result as $\mathbf{S_m^{DAMA} / \sigma(S_m)}$



Model-independent annual modulation

Standard deviation of the modulation amplitude analitically estimated from:

- updated background
- efficiency estimates
- live time distribution

predicted sensitivity
3σ sensitivity
measured sensitivity $\sigma(S_m)$
68% C.L. DAMA/LIBRA uncertainty

Sensitivity projection to DAMA/LIBRA result fully confirmed by data

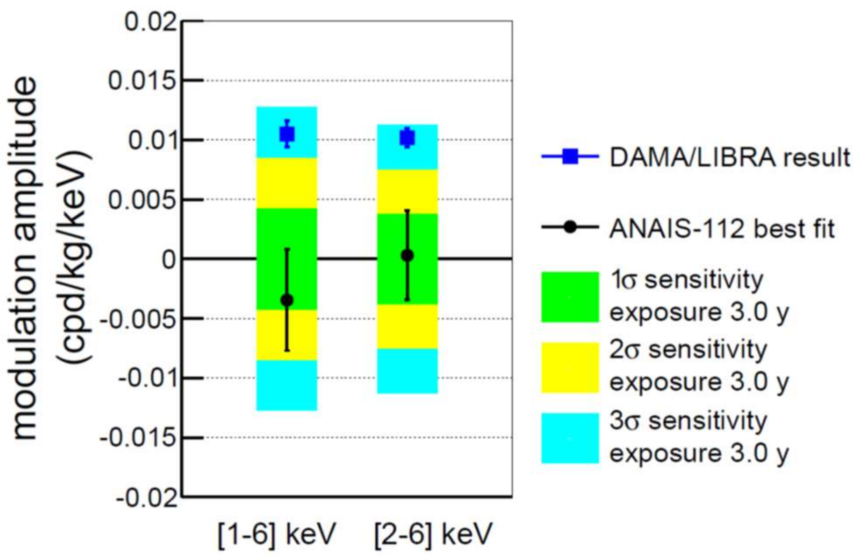
3σ sensitivity at reach in less than 1 y from now!

Summary and outlook

- ✓ **ANAIS-112:** data taking using **112.5 kg** of **NaI(Tl)** running smoothly for >3 y
  - Very high **duty cycle**
  - Careful **low energy calibration** (from external gamma sources and bulk emissions)
  - Excellent **light collection** of **~15 phe/keV** and **analysis threshold** at **1 keV$_{ee}$** in all modules
  - Robust **filtering** of PMT events
  - Good **background understanding**, dominated by crystal activity (^{210}Pb, ^{40}K, ^{22}Na, ^{3}H)

Analysis for model-independent **annual modulation** of **3 y** of data taking:

- Null hypothesis well supported
- Best fits for modulation amplitude are **incompatible with DAMA/LIBRA result at 3.3 (2.7)** σ for 1-6 (2-6) keV region
- Present sensitivity to DAMA/LIBRA of 2.5 (2.7) σ result at 1-6 (2-6) keV
- Confirmed sensitivity of 3σ for 5 y of data



Summary and outlook

https://cerncourier.com/a/anais-challenges-dama-dark-matter-claim/

https://www.sciencenews.org/article/dark-matter-mystery-deepens-demise-reported-detection


ScienceNews
INDEPENDENT JOURNALISM SINCE 1921

COLUMN COSMOLOGY

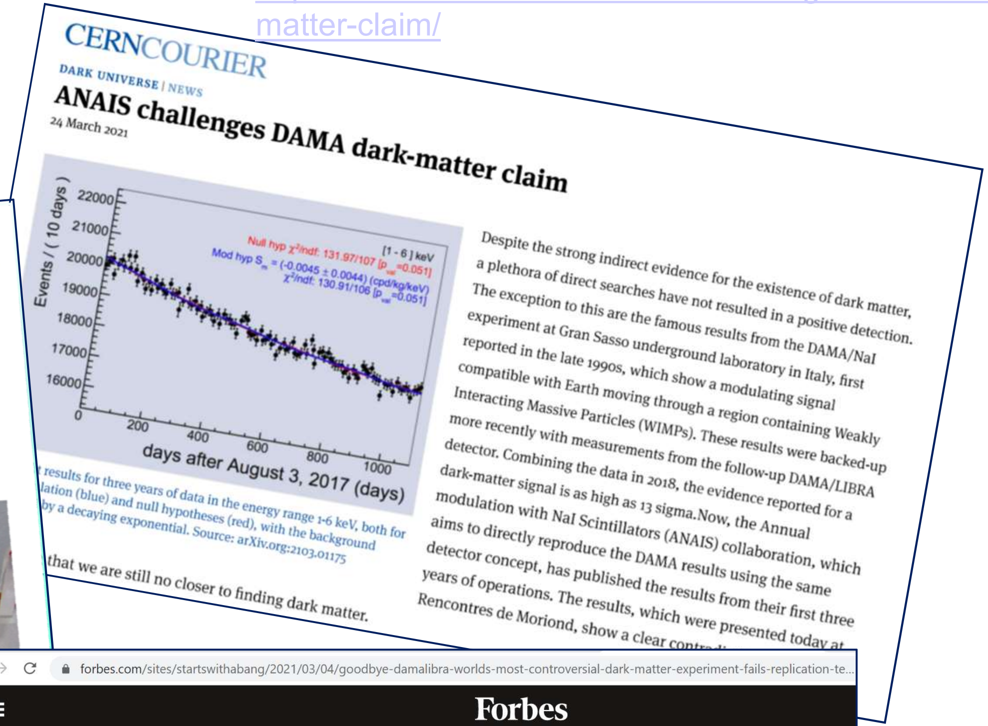
The dark matter mystery deepens with the demise of a reported detection

A new experiment fails to support previous report of WIMPs in space

By Tom Siegfried
Contributing Correspondent

MARCH 24, 2021 AT 6:00 AM

https://www.sciencenews.org/article/dark-matter-mystery-deepens-demise-reported-detection


CERNCOURIER
DARK UNIVERSE | NEWS

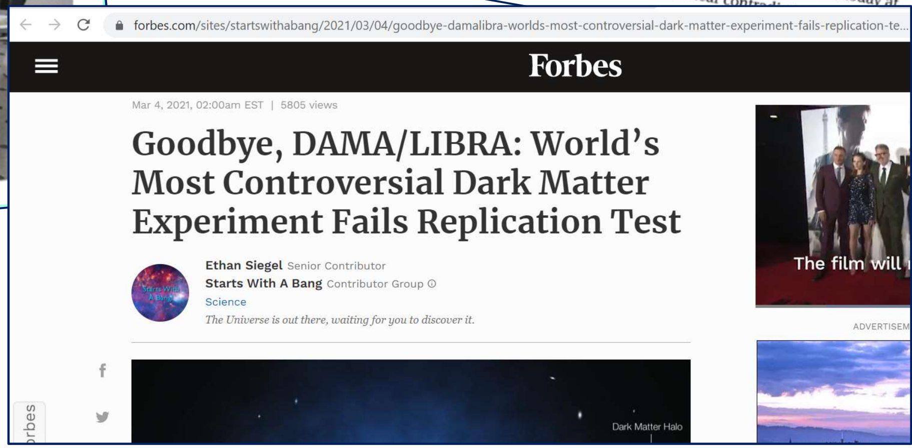
ANAIS challenges DAMA dark-matter claim

24 March 2021

...results for three years of data in the energy range 1–6 keV, both for ...lation (blue) and null hypotheses (red), with the background ...by a decaying exponential. Source: arXiv.org:2103.01175

Despite the strong indirect evidence for the existence of dark matter, a plethora of direct searches have not resulted in a positive detection. The exception to this are the famous results from the DAMA/NaI experiment at Gran Sasso underground laboratory in Italy, first reported in the late 1990s, which show a modulating signal compatible with Earth moving through a region containing Weakly Interacting Massive Particles (WIMPs). These results were backed-up more recently with measurements from the follow-up DAMA/LIBRA detector. Combining the data in 2018, the evidence reported for a dark-matter signal is as high as 13 sigma. Now, the Annual modulation with NaI Scintillators (ANAIS) collaboration, which aims to directly reproduce the DAMA results using the same detector concept, has published the results from their first three years of operations. The results, which were presented today at Rencontres de Moriond, show a clear contra...

...that we are still no closer to finding dark matter.


forbes.com/sites/startswithabang/2021/03/04/goodbye-damalibra-worlds-most-controversial-dark-matter-experiment-fails-replication-te...

Forbes

Mar 4, 2021, 02:00am EST | 5805 views

Goodbye, DAMA/LIBRA: World's Most Controversial Dark Matter Experiment Fails Replication Test

Ethan Siegel Senior Contributor
Starts With A Bang Contributor Group
Science
The Universe is out there, waiting for you to discover it.

https://www.forbes.com/sites/startswithabang/2021/03/04/goodbye-damalibra-worlds-most-controversial-dark-matter-experiment-fails-replication-test/?sh=31cf68ef3e5c

Summary and outlook

- ✓ **Next future:**
  - Data taking will continue in same conditions up to complete scheduled **5 y**
  - Excess of **events in 1-2 keV** to be understood
  - Determination of scintillation **Quenching Factor** for nuclear recoils underway, investigating possible dependence on crystal quality

  Plan to make ANAIS **data public** after use to allow independent analysis

- ✓ **Longer term:**
  - ANAIS-112 **extension** under consideration
    - Reduce threshold working with SiPM at low temperature
    - Reduce background by growing ultrapure crystals underground

- Performance of ANAIS-112 experiment after the first year of data taking, J. Amaré et al, Eur. Phys. J. C (2019) 79:228.
- Analysis of backgrounds for the ANAIS-112 dark matter experiment, J. Amaré et al, Eur. Phys. J. C (2019) 79:412.
- ANAIS-112 sensitivity in the search for dark matter annual modulation, I. Coarasa et al, Eur. Phys. J. C (2019) 79:223.

- First results on dark matter annual modulation from ANAIS-112 experiment, J. Amaré et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 123 (2019) 031301.
- ANAIS-112 status: two years results on annual modulation , J. Amaré et al, J.Phys. (Conf. Ser.) 1468 (2020) 012014.
- **Annual Modulation Results from Three Years Exposure of ANAIS-112, J. Amaré et al, accepted in Phys. Rev. D, arXiv:2103.01175v1 [astro-ph.IM]**

Dark matter annual modulation results from 3 years exposure of the ANAIS-112 experiment

Julio Amaré [1,2], Susana Cebrián [1,2,*], David Cintas [1,2], Iván Coarasa [1,2], Eduardo García [1,2], María Martínez [1,2,3], Miguel Ángel Oliván [1,2,4], Ysrael Ortigoza [1,2], Alfonso Ortiz de Solórzano [1,2], Jorge Puimedón [1,2], Ana Salinas [1,2], María Luisa Sarsa [1,2] and Patricia Villar [1,2]

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