



# **Direct Detection of Dark Matter and Exclusion Limits**

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CONICET







The question for most particle physicists is not whether dark matter exists but rather what type of particle- or particles-make up dark matter

#### **Is Dark Matter part of a Dark Sector?**



#### spans 90 order of magnitude in mass





220 km/second

$$
\lambda_{\text{dB}} \sim \frac{h}{p} \sim \frac{h}{m_{\text{DM}} v_{\text{DM},0}} \sim 34 \ \mu \text{m} \ \left(\frac{50 \text{ eV}}{m_{\text{DM}}}\right)
$$

The New Dark Matter Landscape, Budnik & Essig (2023)



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- ➢ **Ultralight DM** must be a boson, since fermion would not be able to form observed dwarf galaxies due to Pauli exclusion principle.
- $\geq$  The 10<sup>-22</sup> eV limits corresponds to the de Broglie wavelength comparable to the size of observed dwarf galaxies.
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#### **Terrestrial Probes**

#### **Production of DM**

Accelerators could be able to produce DM in collisions of SM particles, and then look for missing energy.

#### **Precision measurements**

Reducing the uncertainty in SM cross section determination helps to constraint DM cross section interaction.

#### **Direct detection**

Search for the small signals created when a DM particle in our halo scatters off a target material.







#### **Ultralight Dark Matter searching**



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Axion Dark Matter eXperiment (ADMX) uses strong magnetic field in a cavity to convert DM axions to microwave photons.

- $\triangleright$  ADMX-HF
- $>$  NASDUCK
- $\triangleright$  HAYSTAC
- $\triangleright$  CASPFr
- $\triangleright$  ABRACADABRA
- ➢ DM-Radio

#### **Accelerator-based probes of Light Dark Matter**

Particle-like dark matter with masses below proton have historically been scarcely explored

- $\triangleright$  **FASER**, in the far-forward region of the LHC to catch elusive dark-sector particles.
- ➢ **MiniBooNE**, a neutrino experiment able to search for DM produced in a proton beam dump.
- **LDMX**, electron beam incident on a fixed target and search for missing momentum of the electron after it passes through the target, which could be caused by the radiation of dark matter particles.



MiniBoone Cherenkov Detectors

#### **Terrestrial Probes: Direct Detection of Dark Matter**



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#### **Direct Detection of Particle-like Dark Matter**



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 $\triangleright$  Elastic interaction of DM with a nucleus

**Light DM**

- $\triangleright$  Inelastic interaction:
	- DM-electron scattering
	- Migdal effect
	- DM scattering off collective excitations

$$
E_{\rm kin}~\sim 100~{\rm eV}~\left(\frac{m_{\rm DM}}{100~{\rm MeV}}\right)
$$



### **Direct Detection of Particle-like Dark Matter**

 $\triangleright$  Flastic interaction of DM with a nucleus

CEvNS produced an irreducible background

$$
E_{\text{NR}} \; \sim 1 \, \text{eV} \left(\frac{m_{\text{DM}}}{100 \, \text{MeV}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{28 \, \text{GeV}}{m_{\text{N}}}\right)
$$

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#### Quenching factor

#### **Direct Detection of WIMPs**



The XENONnT being installed in the LNGS laboratory in Italy

- ➢ **WIMPs**, with a mass 1 to 10 000 GeV, would be produced in the early Universe shortly after the Big Bang with a calculable abundance that roughly matches the one observed.
- Experiments: Multi-ton scale detectors with noble-liquid targets (xenon and argon) led by:
	- XENONnT
	- $\circ$  IZ
	- PandaX-4T
	- DarkSide-20k.

100 events per tonne per year 100 events per people per second on Earth's surface.

#### **Direct Detection of WIMPs**

#### Neutrino floor (fog?)



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#### **Direct Detection of Light Dark Matter**



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# **Charge Coupled Device**



Selfie by Boyle and Smith in 1969

Nobel Prize in 2009

Skipper-CCD

Used by SENSEI to look for Dark Matter

































#### **SENSEI @ MINOS**







<u>ensei</u>







<u>ensei</u>

Mariano Cababie





Hot pixels and hot columns





Hot pixels and hot columns

Bleeding





Hot pixels and hot columns

Bleeding

High energy halo





Hot pixels and hot columns

Bleeding

High energy halo

**All criteria applied**

#### **Results**

**1312 events of 1e in 1.38 g-day 5 events of 2e in 2.09 g-day 0 events of 3e in 9.03 g-day 0 events of 4e in 9.10 g-day**

Physical Review Letters 125, 171802 (2020)

#### **Dark Matter exclusion limits**





Journal of High Energy Physics 2016, 46 (2016). Journal of High Energy Physical Review Letters 125, 171802 (2020).

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 $\frac{dR_{\rm crystal}}{d\ln E_e} = \frac{\rho_{\chi}}{m_{\chi}}\;N_{\rm cell}\;\overline{\sigma}_e\;\alpha$  $\left.\times\,\frac{m_e^2}{\mu_{\rm v}^2}\int\!d\ln q\left(\frac{E_e}{q}\eta\big(v_{\rm min}(q,E_e)\big)\right)\!F_{\rm DM}(q)^2\big|f_{\rm crystal}(q,E_e)\big|^2$  $0.1$ Normalized rate Normalized rate $0.01$  $10^{-3}$  $\triangleright$  For a given DM mass, we make the conservative  $10^{-4}$ assumption that all of the events observed are signal.  $10^{-5}$  $\triangleright$  Then, we calculate the cross-section,  $\sigma_{e}$  such that  $10^{-6}$  $N_{\text{obs,90\%CL}} = N_{\text{signal}}$ .  $10^{-7}$  $9^{\degree}10$ 3 6 8  $\triangleright$  We repeat the procedure for each DM mass. number of electron ionized

Journal of High Energy Physics 2016, 46 (2016).

#### **Dark Matter Exclusion limits**

<u>ensei</u>



Physical Review Letters 125, 171802 (2020)

#### **SENSEI @ SNOLAB**



#### **SENSEI @ SNOLAB**



SENSEI already has 65 gr (26 detectors) 2000 mts underground

#### **Oscura: 10 kg Skipper-CCD experiment**





Oscura review paper: [arXiv:2202.10518](https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.10518)

#### **Laboratorio Argentino de Mediciones de Bajo umbral de Detección y sus Aplicaciones**

#### LAMBDA (A)

Detectores de Bajo Umbral y sus Aplicaciones

Low Threshold Detectors and their Applications

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#### **Oscura: Early Science: milliCharged particles search**



arXiv:2304.08625

#### **BSM physics at a nuclear reactor in Argentina with Skipper-CCD**



*Journal of High Energy Physics.* 2022, 127 (2022).

#### **Single photon infrared images taken @ LAMBDA, UBA**



Phys. Rev. Applied **19**, 064044 – Published 14 June 2023

We've already got the third little star ...



#### Now, we go for the Dark Matter …

