

# Status and results of the COSINUS project

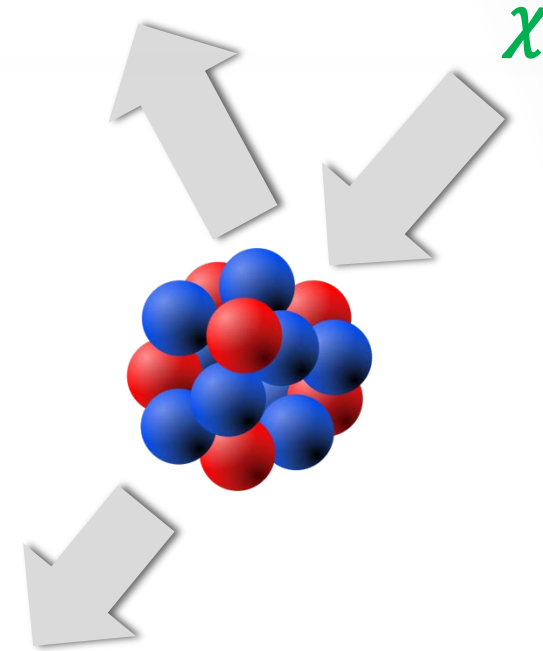
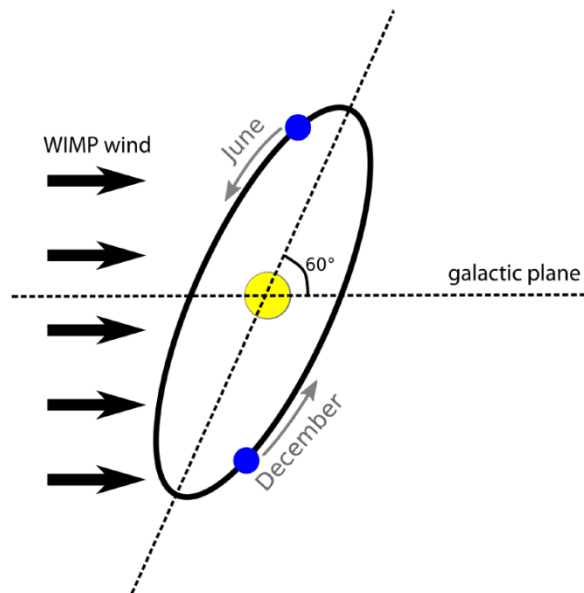
Natalia Di Marco for the COSINUS Collaboration  
LNGS - INFN



# Dark Matter: direct search

## Assumption

Dark matter particles (WIMPs) scatter off the nucleus and induce nuclear recoils

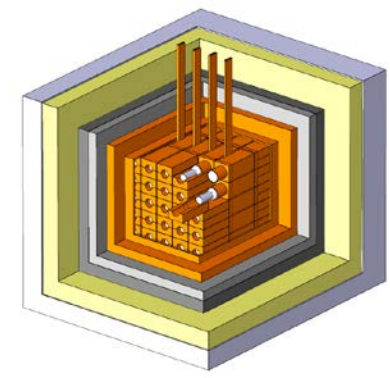


## Signature

- Earth revolution gives **seasonal modulation** with a period of 1 year and a phase peaking at June the 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Due to the solar system movement in the galaxy, the **DM flux** is expected to be **anisotropic @earth** (**directionality**)

*D. N. Spergel, Phys. Rev. D37 (1988)*

# The DAMA/LIBRA results



- 250 Kg NaI(Tl)
- Threshold 1 KeVee
- Running since 1996

**Total exposure:** 2.17 tonne years (phase 1 + 2)

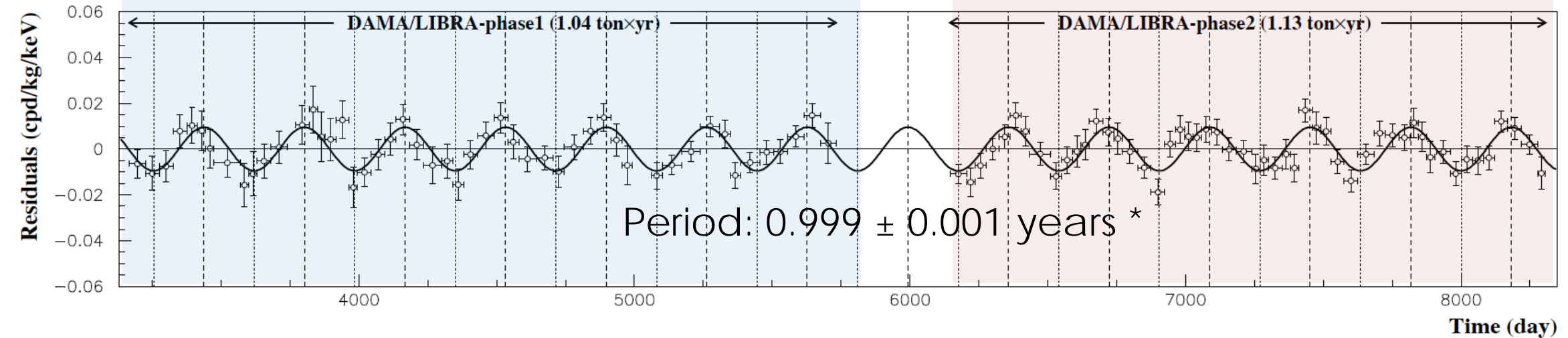
**Statistical significance:**  $>11.9 \sigma$

(combined with DAMA/NaI: 2.46 tonne years and  $12.9\sigma$  !!!!)

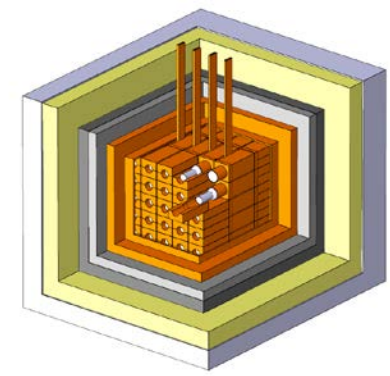
**Phase:** 25<sup>th</sup> May +/- 5 days (cosine peaking June 2<sup>nd</sup>)

arXiv:1805.10486v1 [hep-ex] 26 May 2018

2-6 keV



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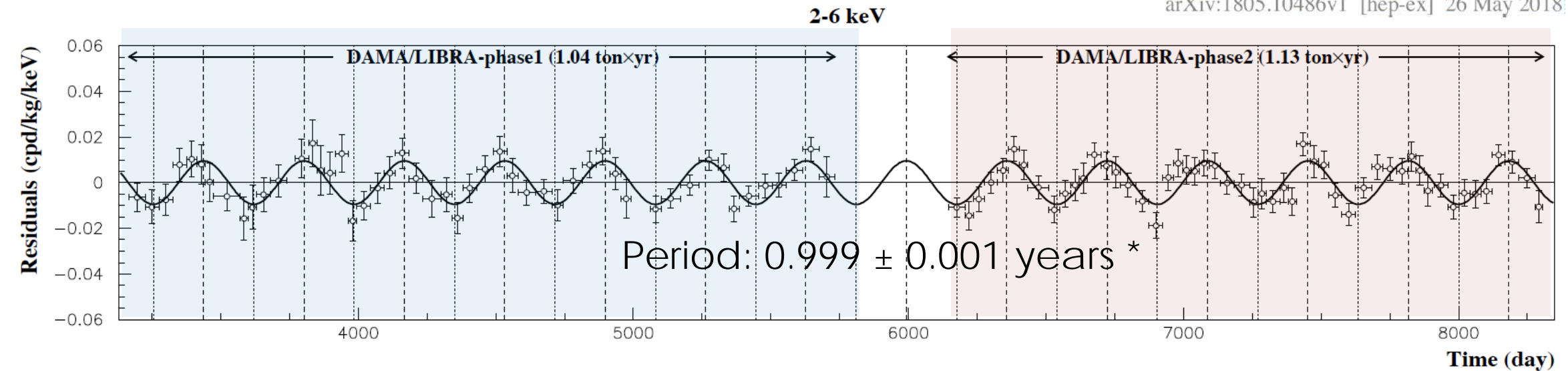
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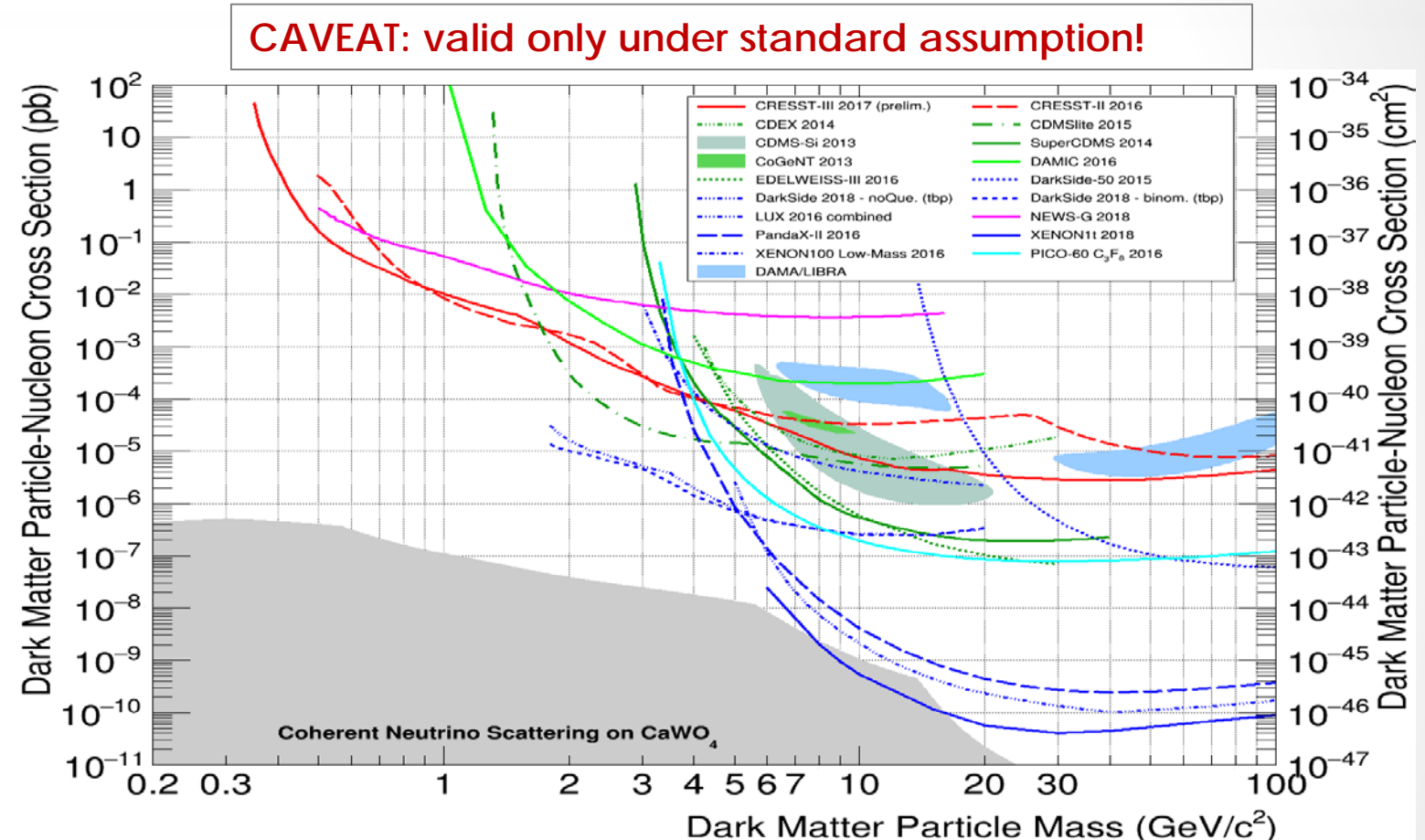


**Positive evidence** for the presence of DM particles in the galactic halo

# GLOBAL LANDSCAPE OF DM Direct Search

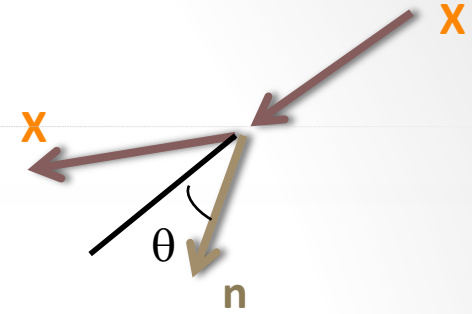
Null results shown as 90% C.L. upper limits on the spin-independent DM particle-nucleon cross section

DAMA/LIBRA:  
3 $\sigma$  allowed parameter space



**Long-reigning contradicting situation in the dark matter sector:** the positive evidence for the detection of a dark matter modulation signal claimed by the DAMA/LIBRA collaboration is (under standard assumptions) **inconsistent with the null-results** reported by most of the other direct dark matter experiments (using different targets Xe, Ge, CaWO<sub>4</sub>).

# WHAT ARE THE UNKNOWNNS?



$$\frac{dR}{dE_r} = N_N \frac{\rho_0}{m_\chi} \int_{v_{min}}^{v_{max}} d\vec{v} f(\vec{v}) v \frac{d\sigma}{dE_r}$$

$N_N$  → number of target nuclei

$\rho_0$  → local WIMP density

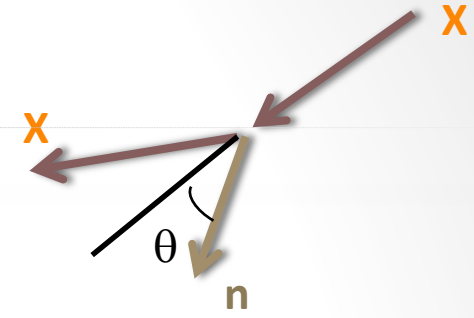
$f(\vec{v})$  → WIMP velocity distribution

$$v_{min} = \sqrt{\frac{m_N E_{th}}{2m_r^2}}$$

$v_{max}$  → escape velocity

$\frac{d\sigma}{dE_r}$  → WIMP-nucleus differential cross section

# WHAT ARE THE UNKNOWNNS?



Astrophysics

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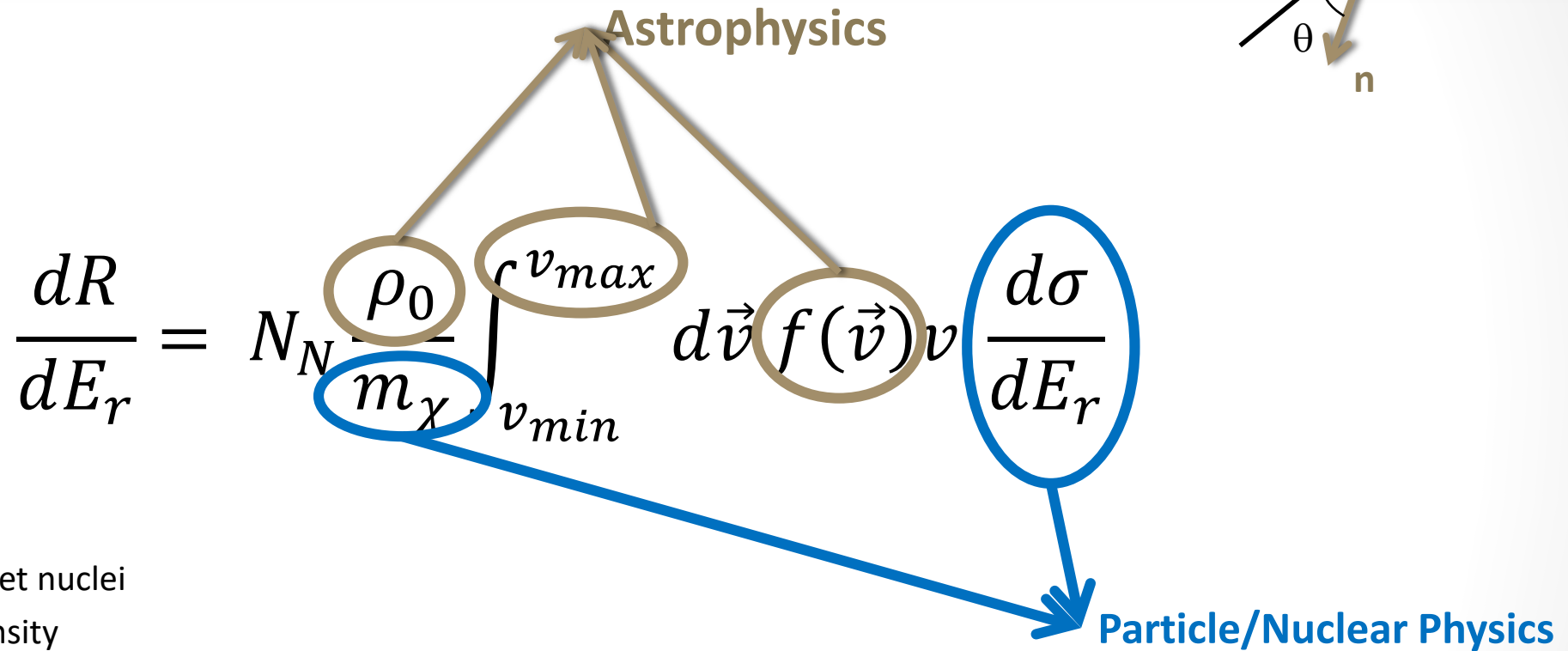
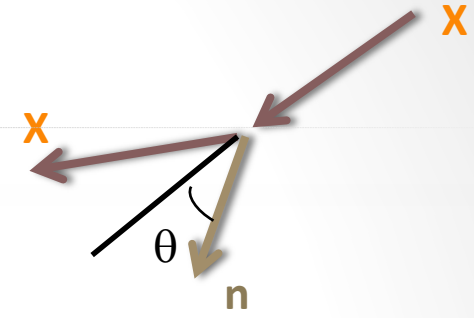
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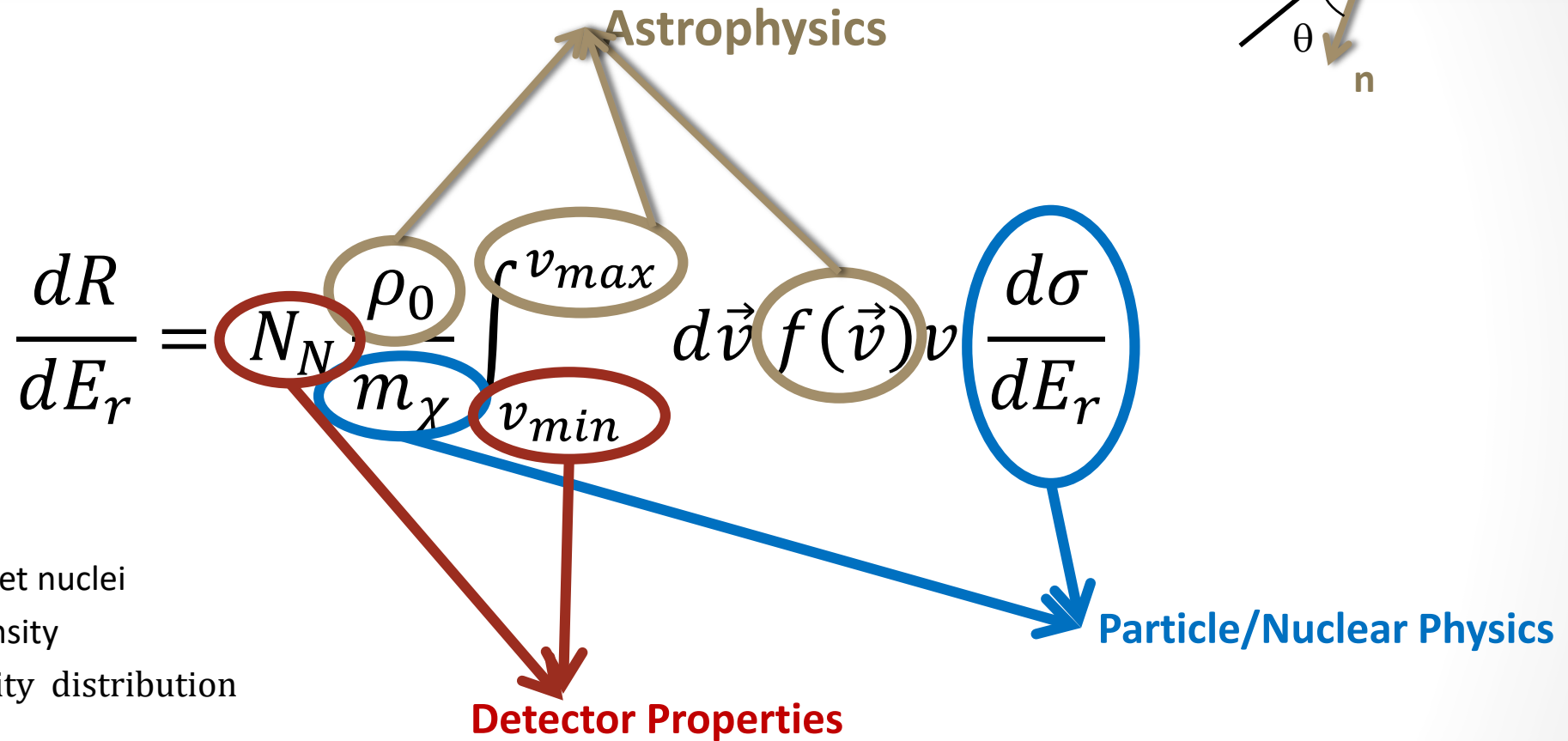
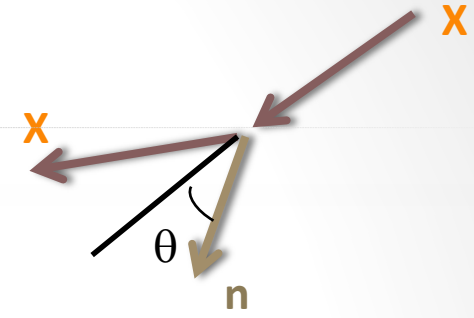
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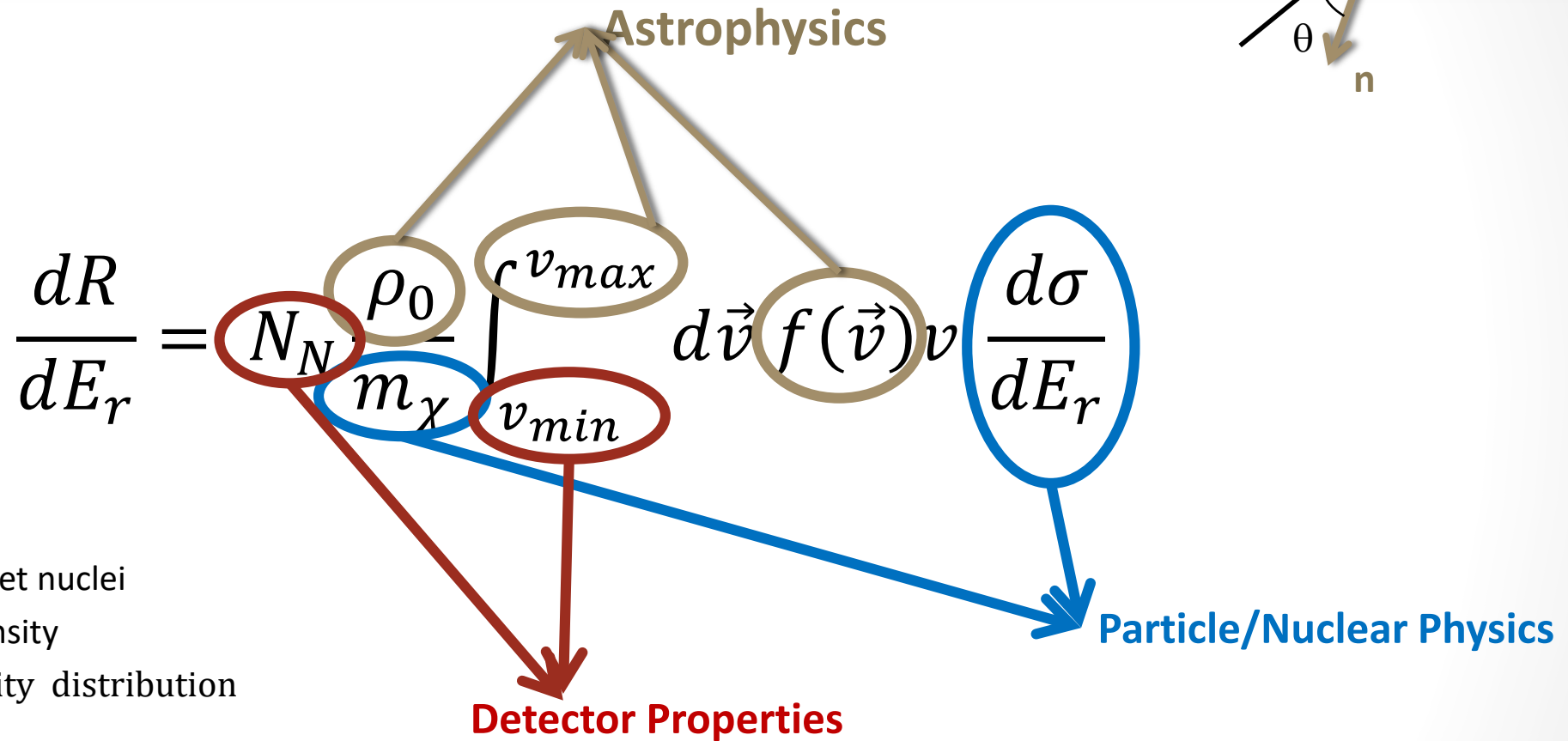
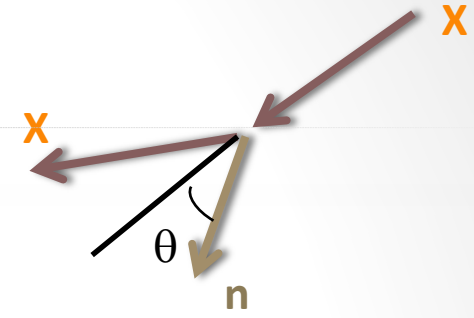
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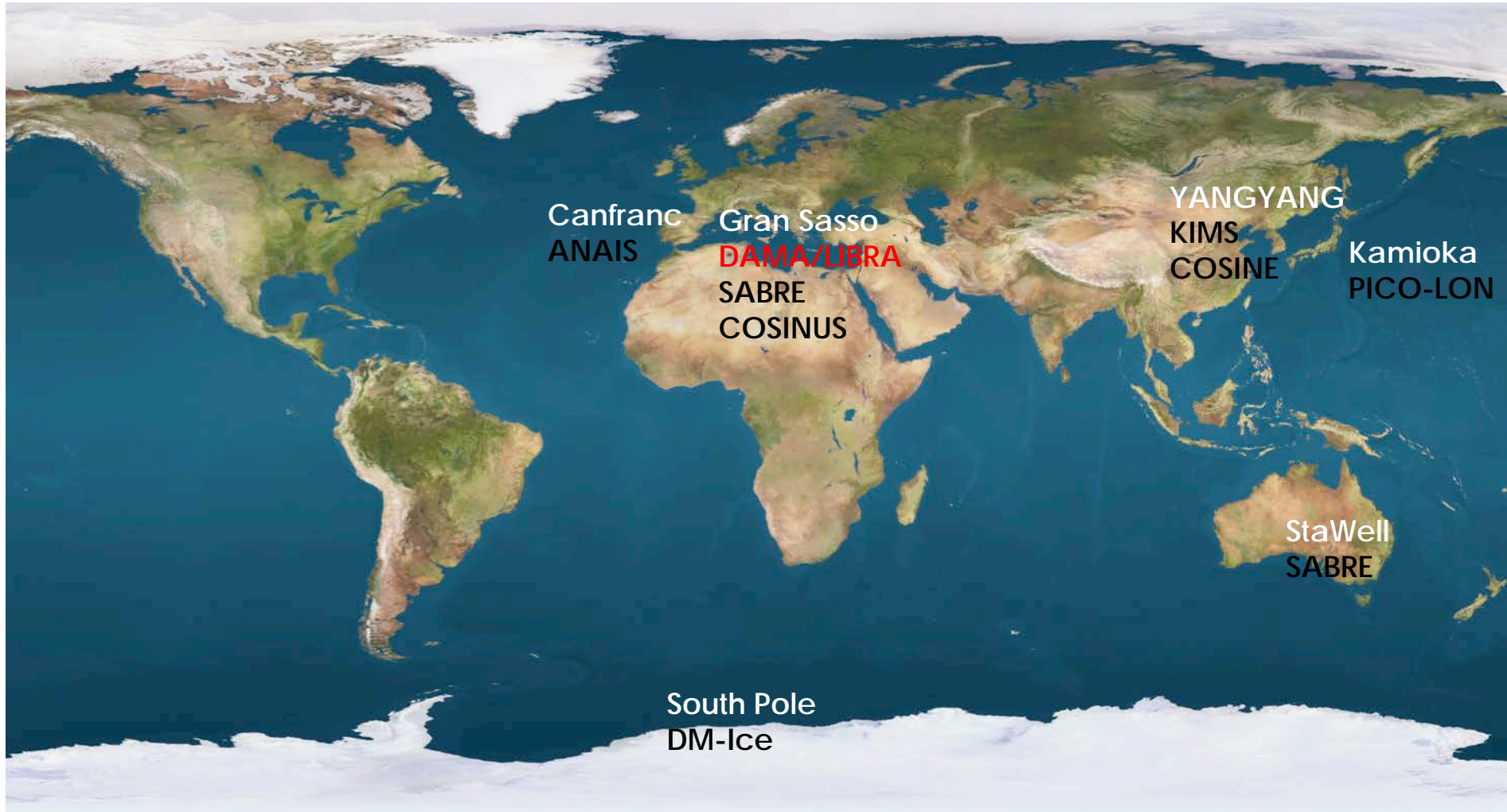
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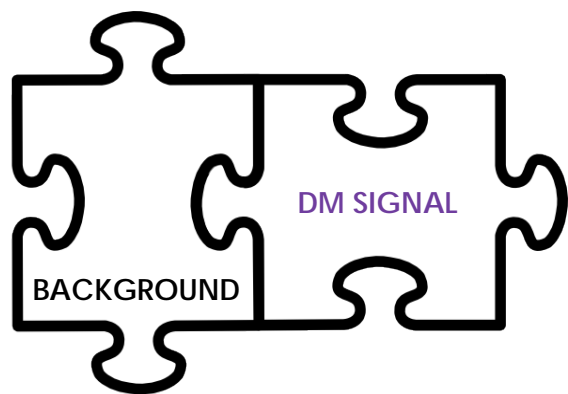
**Target material dependence:  
test DAMA with NaI experiment(s)**

# GLOBAL NaI EFFORTS

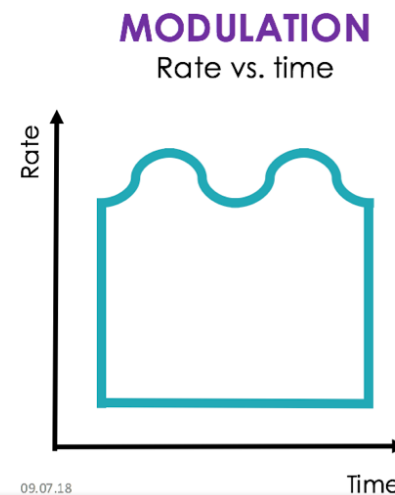


# GLOBAL NaI SEARCHES

SINGLE CHANNEL

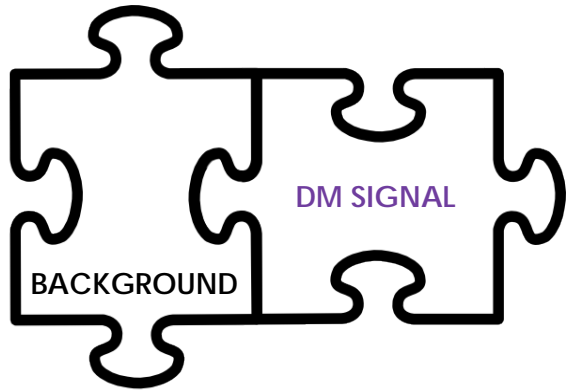


- DAMA/LIBRA
- COSINE-100
- ANAIS-112
- SABRE
- PICO-Ion

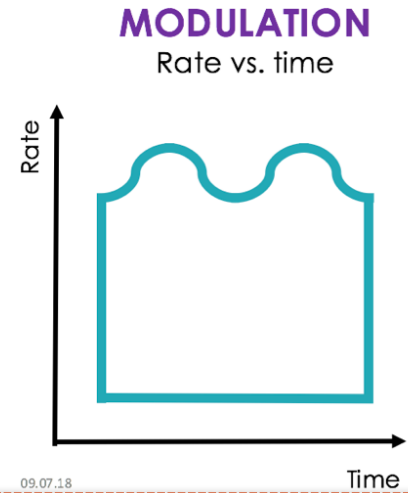


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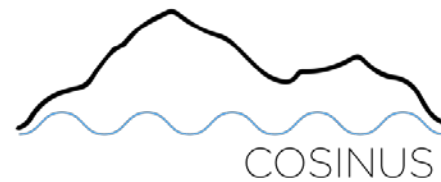
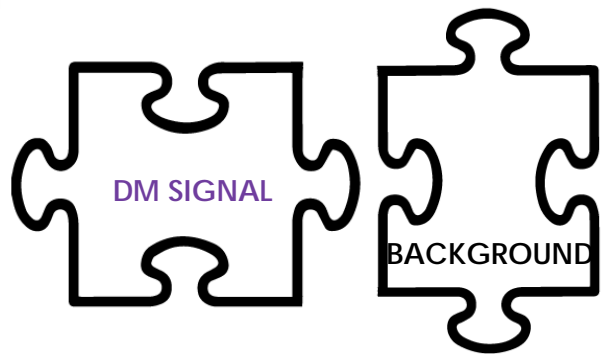
SINGLE CHANNEL



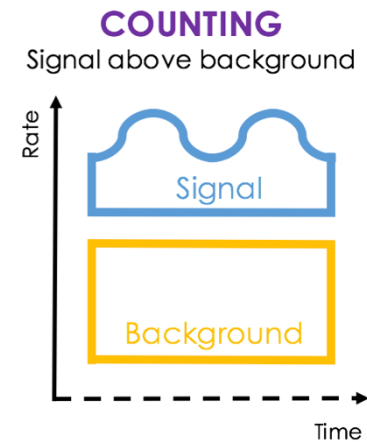
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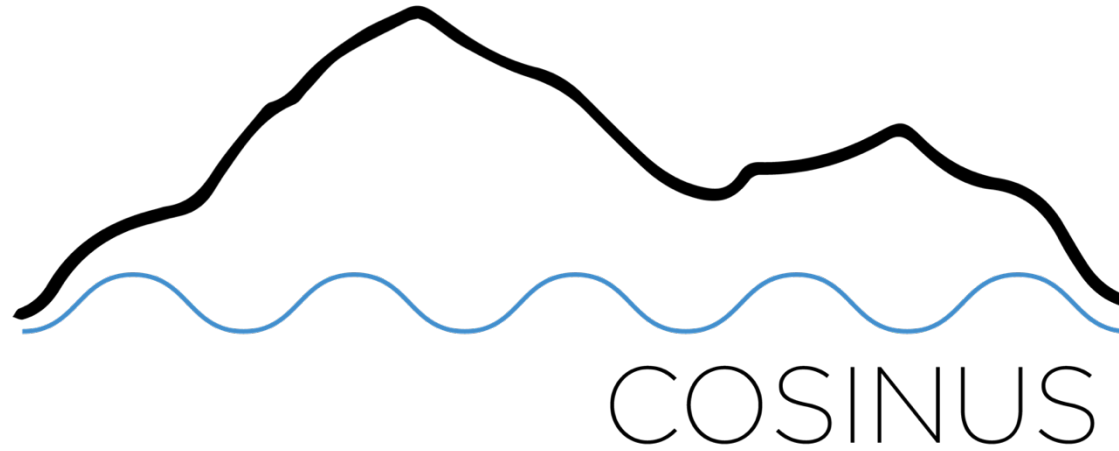


DUAL CHANNEL



**DISCRIMINATION**  
nuclear recoil events  
to  $\beta/\gamma$ -events

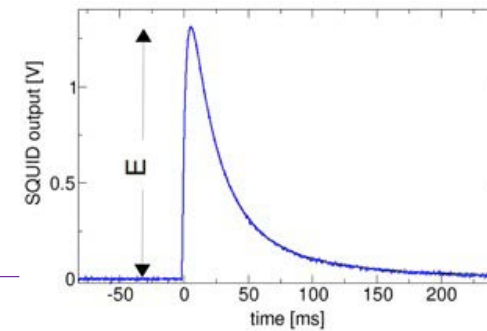
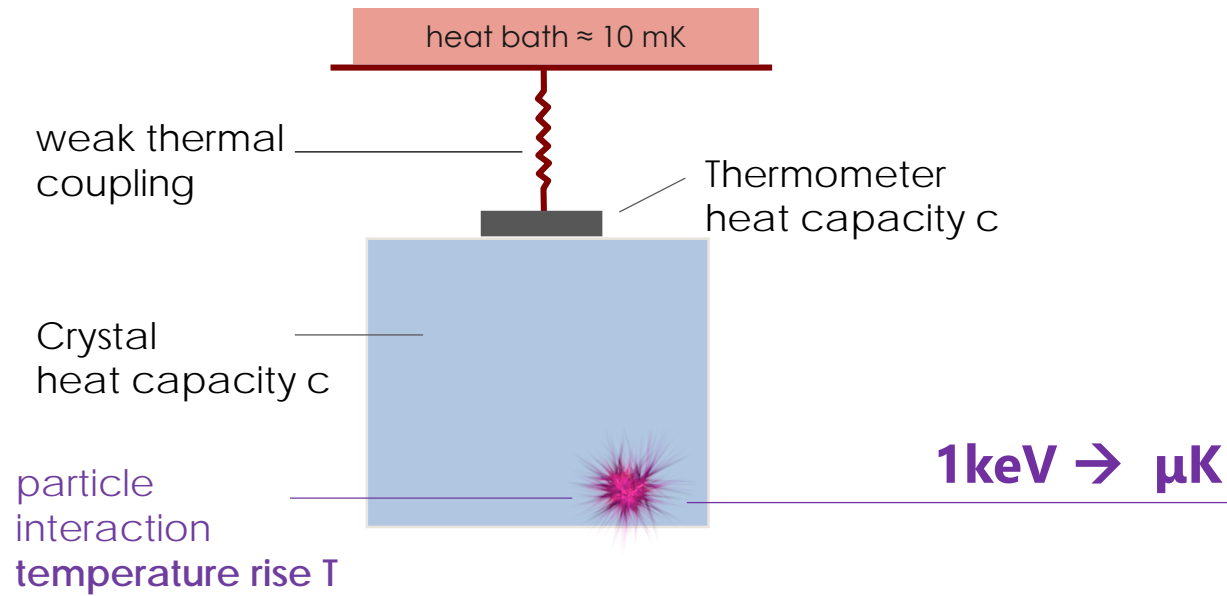




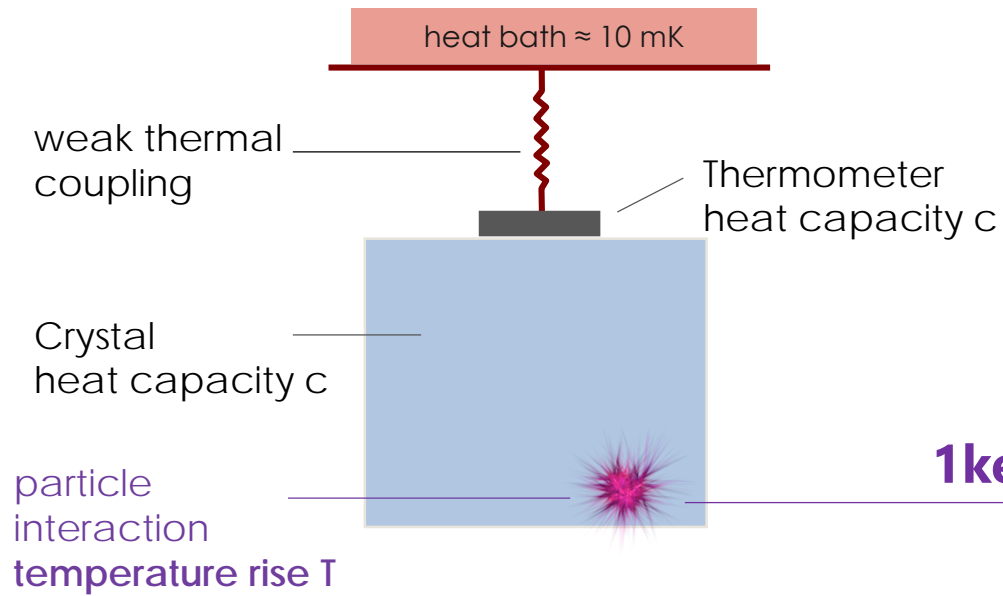
- R&D project
- funded by the "CSN 5" of Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare (INFN, Italy)
- 3 years for prototype development [2016 - 2018]
- **Max-Planck Research Group (MPRG) grant: duration 5 years, starting 2019**
- **prolongation for one year (2019) in CSN 5 requested**
- [Eur. Phys. J. C \(2016\) 76:441](#)



# LOW-TEMPERATURE CALORIMETER



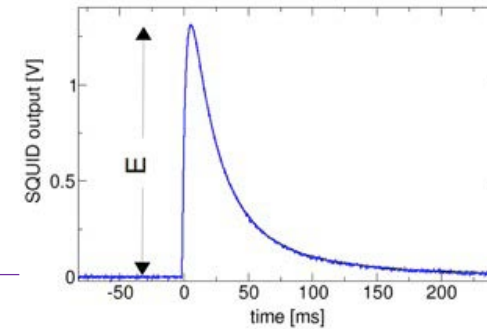
# NaI-based SCINTILLATING CALORIMETER



$1\text{keV} \rightarrow \mu\text{K}$

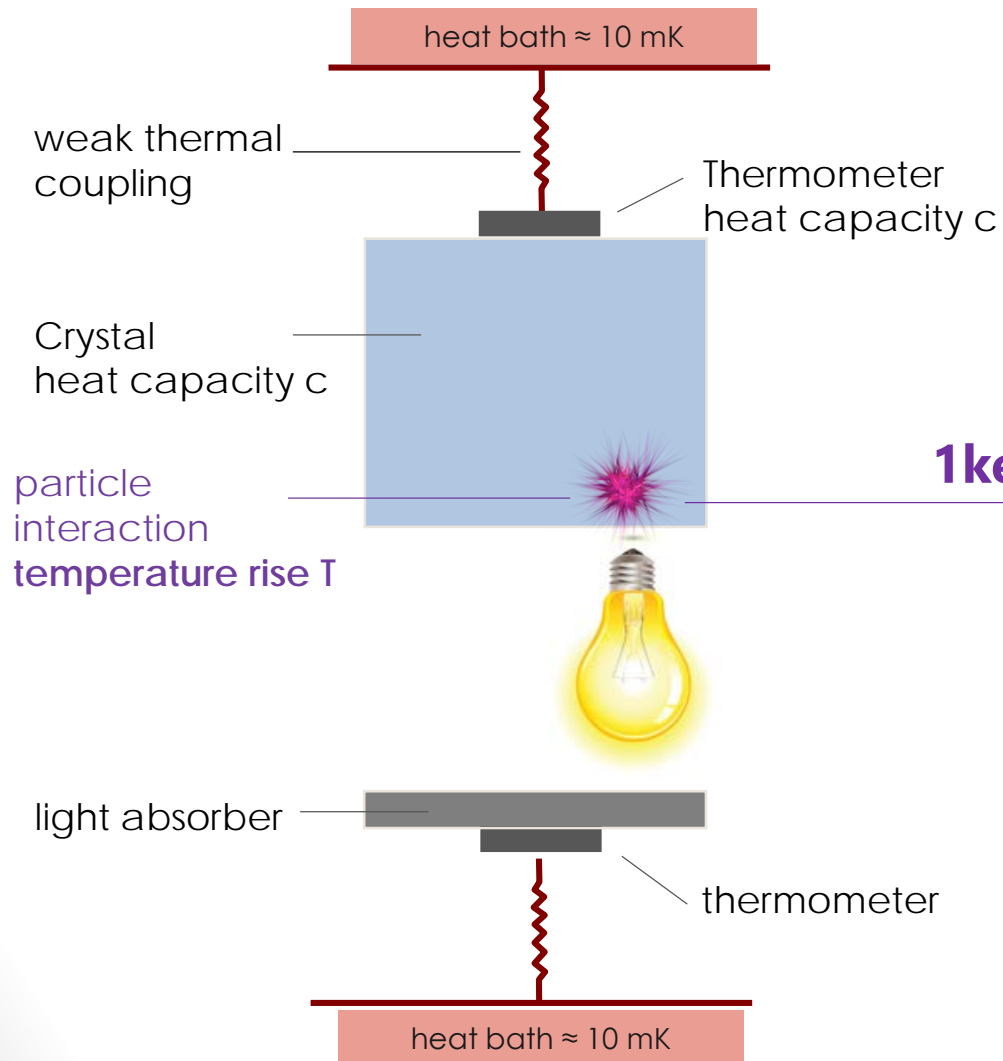
## Phonon signal ( $\sim 90\%$ )

- (almost) independent of particle type
- precise measurement of the deposited energy





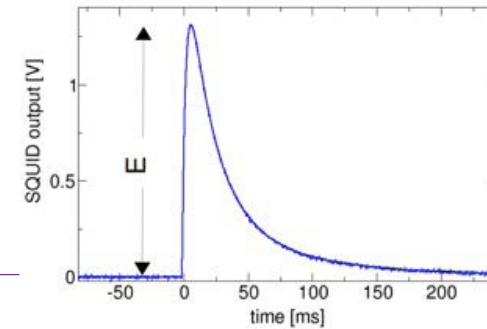
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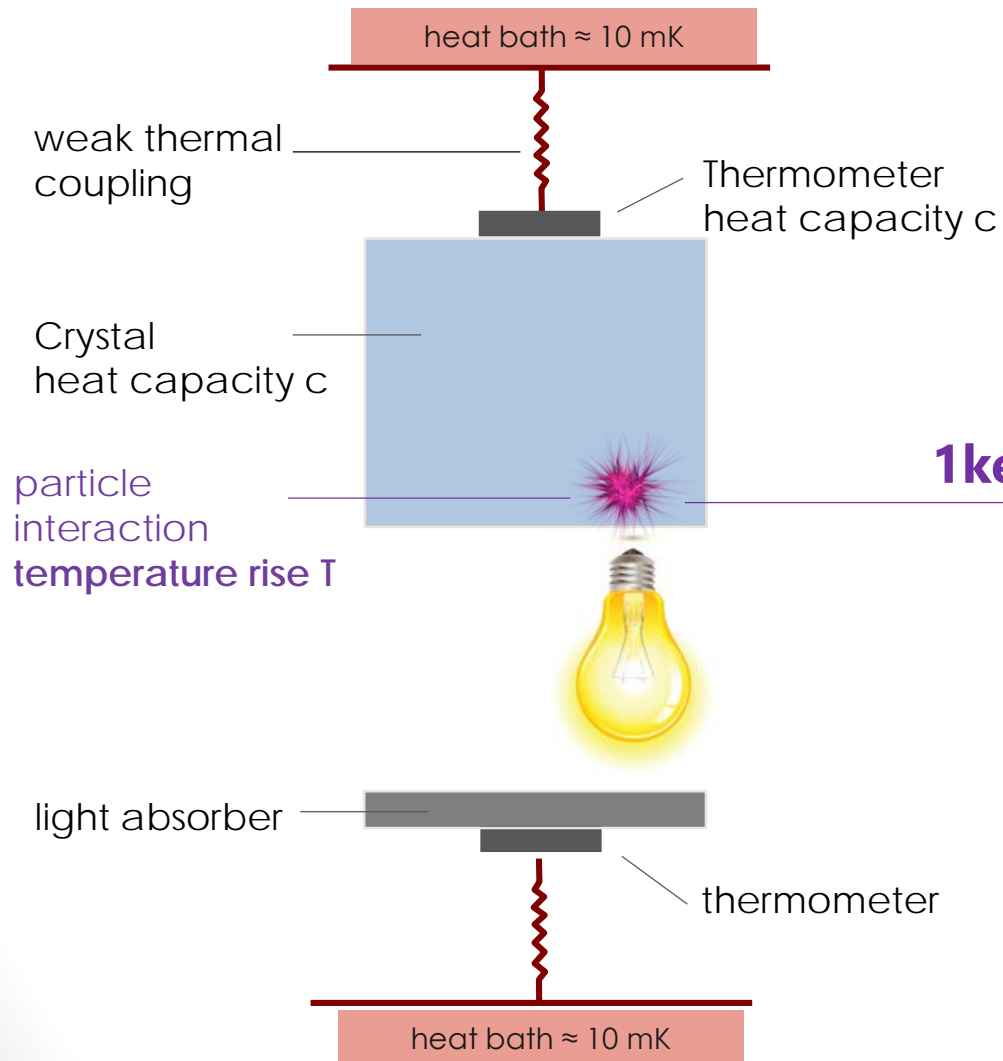
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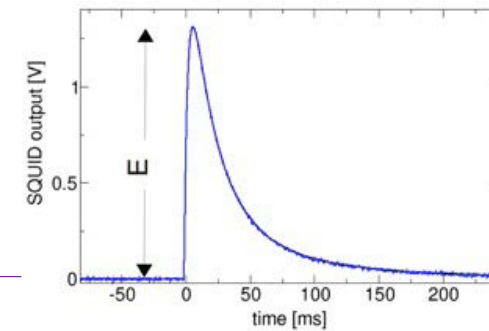
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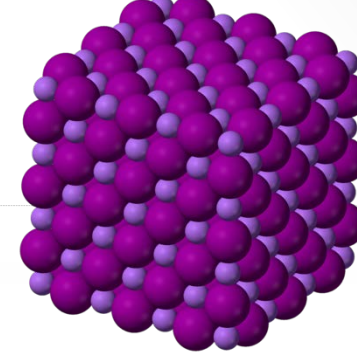
- (almost) independent of particle type
- precise measurement of the deposited energy



## Scintillation light (few %)

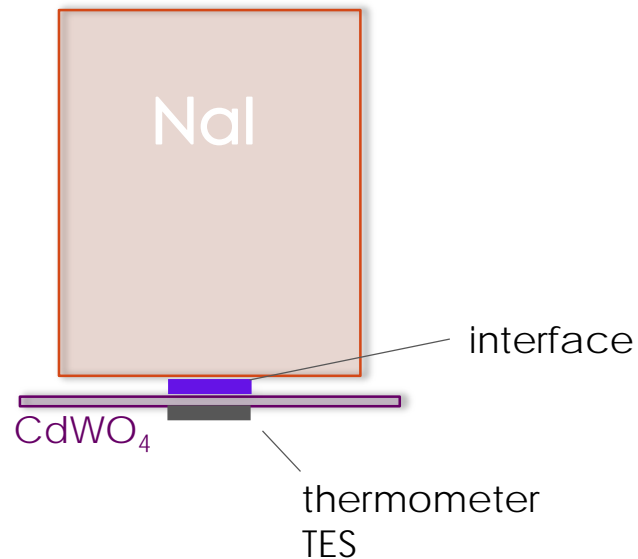
$\rightarrow$  **add cryogenic light detector** for scintillation light detection

- amount of emitted light depends on particle type  $\rightarrow$  LIGHT QUENCHING
- discrimination of interacting particle via the **ratio light to phonon signal**  $\rightarrow$  **LIGHT YIELD**



$^{11}\text{Na}$

53



## NaI Target Crystal

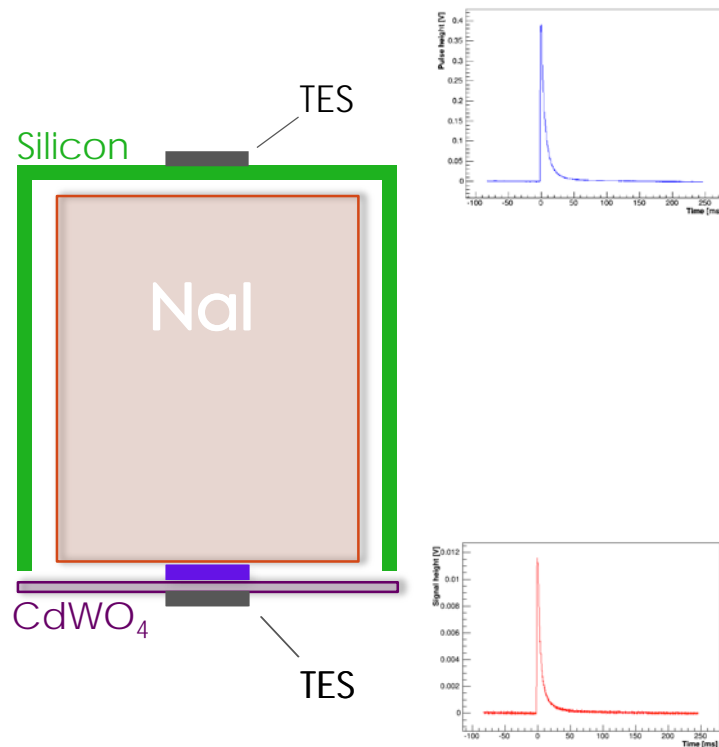
- scintillator
- multi-element target
- mass: ~ 30 – 200 g
- **hygroscopic**



## Carrier Crystal

- carries the thermometer (TES)
- glue/oil as interface and link for phonons

# COSINUS DETECTOR DESIGN



## Light absorber

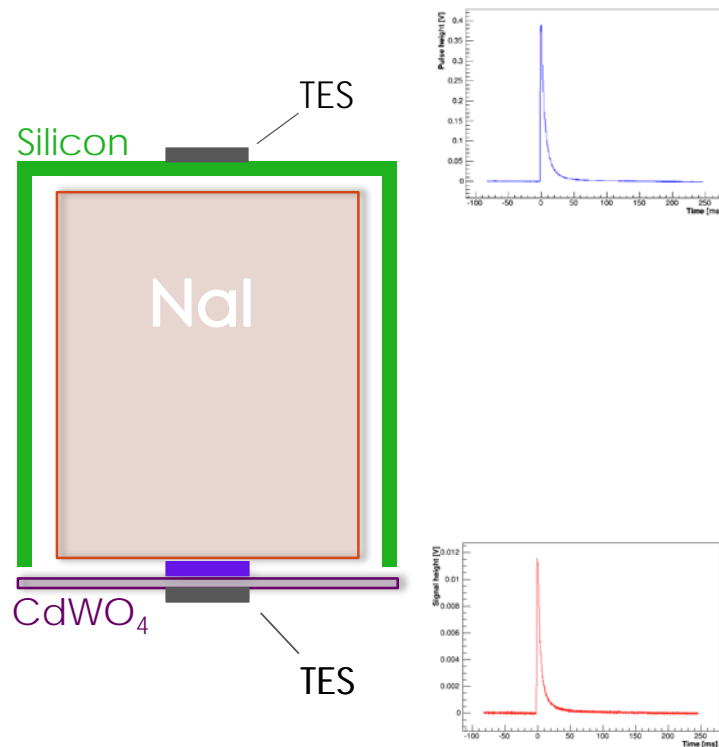
- beaker-shaped HP silicon
- 40 mm diameter & height
- equipped with TES optimized for light detection

→ high light collection efficiency

→ fully active veto to reject surface backgrounds

(e.g. alpha-induced nuclear recoils)

# PERFORMANCE GOALS



*Eur. Phys. J. C (2016) 76:441*

**NaI nuclear recoil energy threshold of 1 keV**

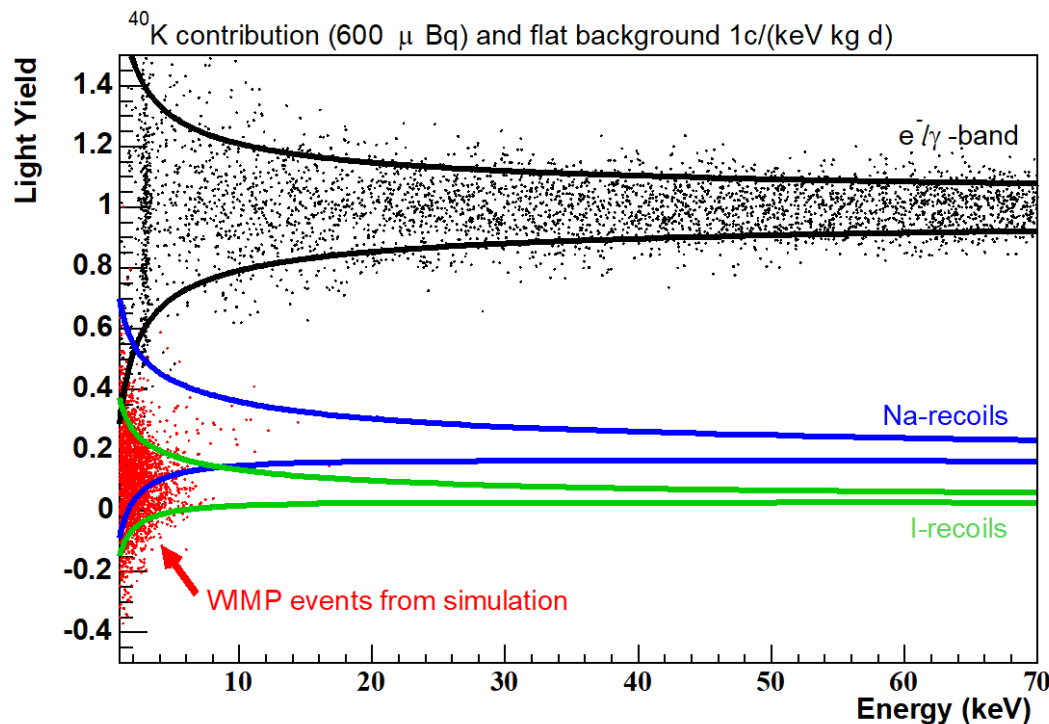
~ 4% of deposited energy detected in form of light

light detector baseline noise  $\sigma = 10$  eV

**Bring NaI-based cryogenic detectors to level of existing ones ( e.g. dark matter search CRESST-II )**

# SIMULATED DATA

$$\text{LIGHT YIELD} = \frac{\text{LIGHT SIGNAL}}{\text{HEAT SIGNAL}}$$



Eur. Phys. J. C (2016) 76:441  
DOI 10.1140/epjc/s10052-016-4278-3

Exposure before cuts: 100 kg-days

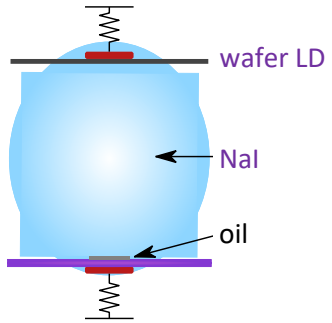
- **black** events:  
flat background: 1 / (keV kg d)  
+  $^{40}\text{K}$  background: 600  $\mu\text{Bq}/\text{kg}$
- recoils off Na  
→ light quenching factor  $\sim 0.3$
- recoils off I  
→ light quenching factor  $\sim 0.1$

(values for quenching factors from:  
Tretyak, Astropart. Phys. 33, 40 (2010))

- **Red:** 10  $\text{GeV}/c^2$  WIMP with  $2\text{E}-04$  pb  
as from Savage et al.

# COSINUS R&D

1<sup>st</sup> PROTOTYPE (2016)



1<sup>st</sup> measurement of a NaI as cryogenic calorimeter

linear relation between light output and deposited energy

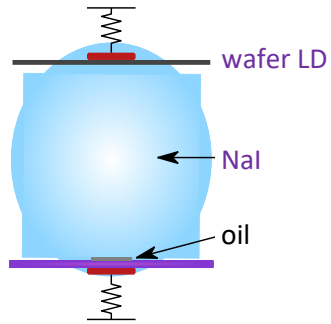
NaI threshold: 10 keV

3.7% detected in light

*G. Angloher et al. JINST 12 P11007 (2017)*

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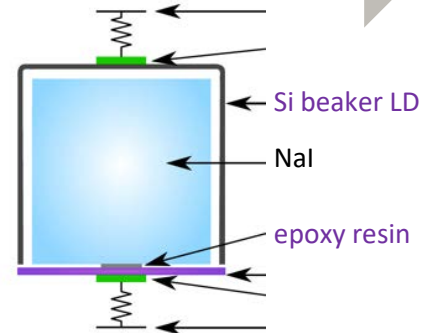
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2<sup>nd</sup> PROTOTYPE (2016/17)



successful test of complete COSINUS detector design

energy resolution at zero energy : 15 eV

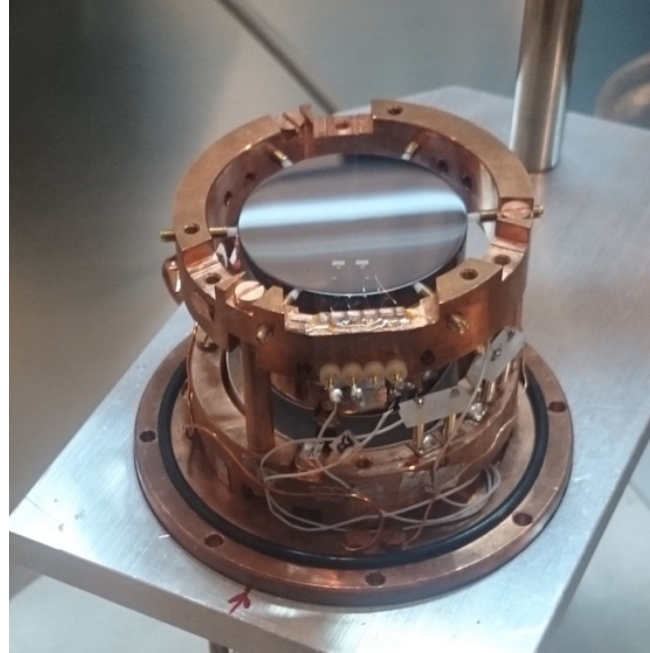
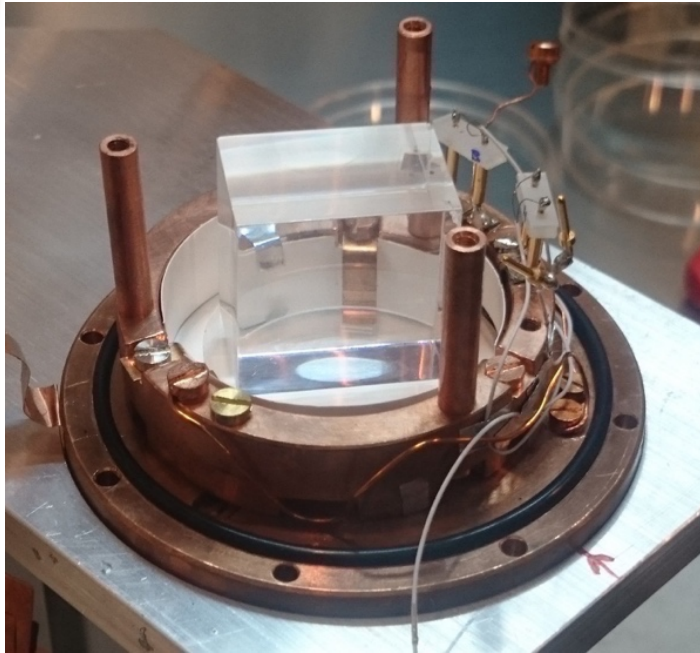
NaI threshold: 8.3 keV

13 % detected in light

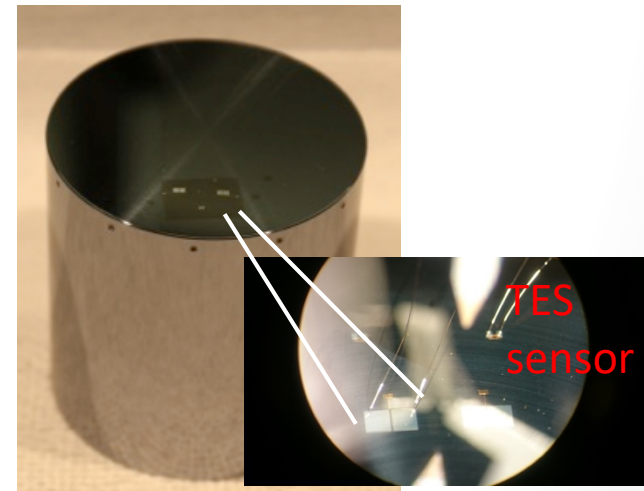
Schäffner, K. et al. J Low Temp Phys (2018). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10909-018-1967-3>



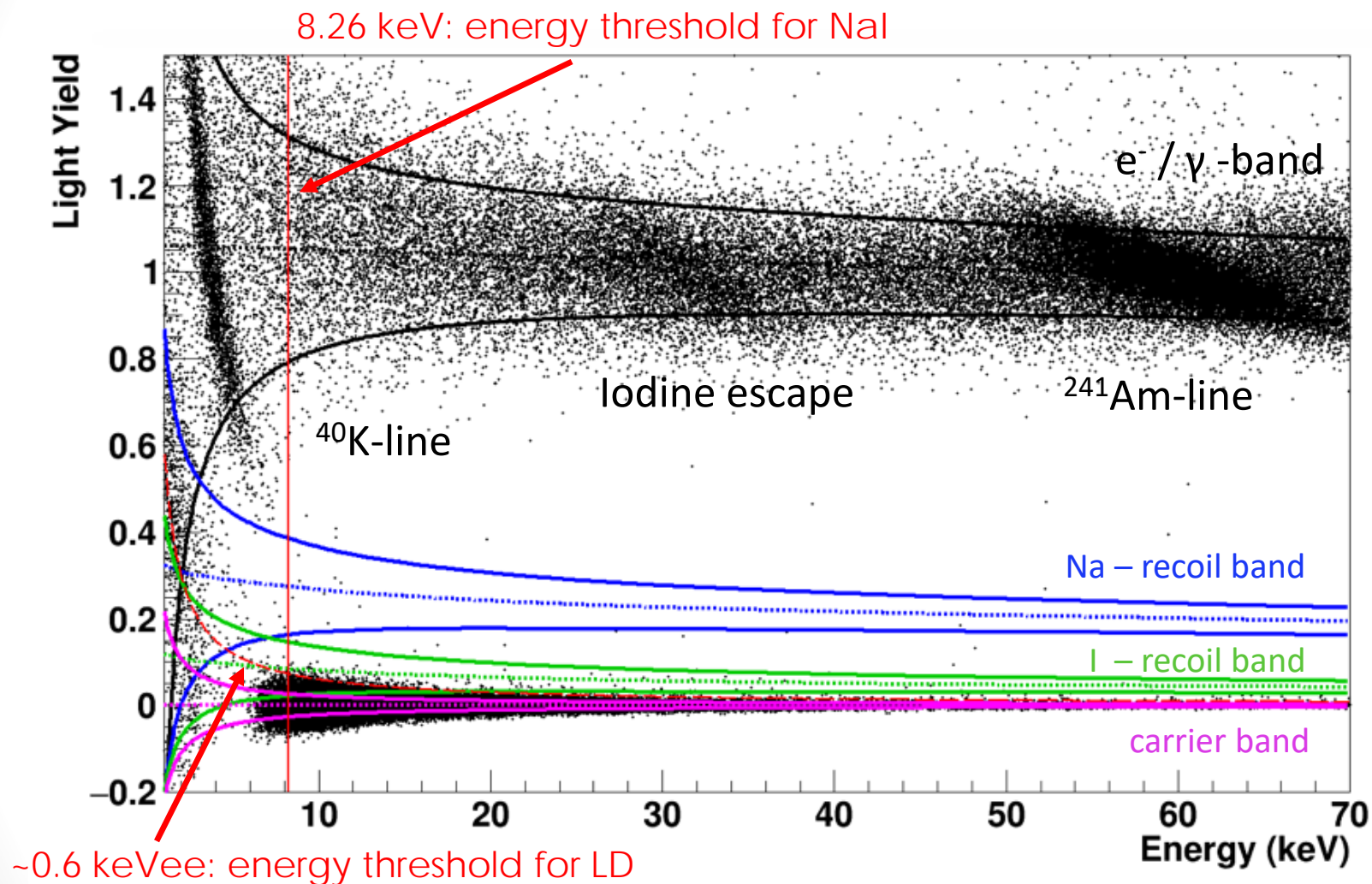
# 2<sup>nd</sup> PROTOTYPE DETECTOR



- interface: epoxy resin
- beaker-shaped Si light absorber
- NaI crystal: 66 g



# 2<sup>nd</sup> PROTOTYPE DETECTOR



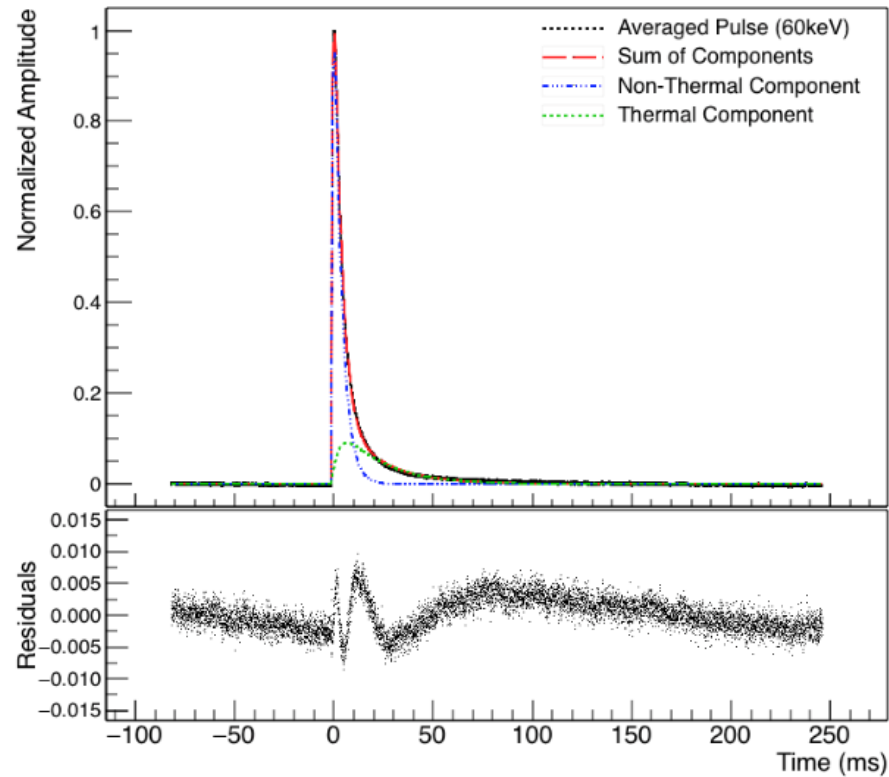
- NaI energy threshold is  $(8.26 \pm 0.02 \text{ (stat.)})\text{keV}$
- width of the  $^{241}\text{Am}$  peak is  $(4.508 \pm 0.064 \text{ (stat.)})\text{keV}$
- carrier events identified by pulse shape

# LONG DECAY TIMES – PULSE MODEL

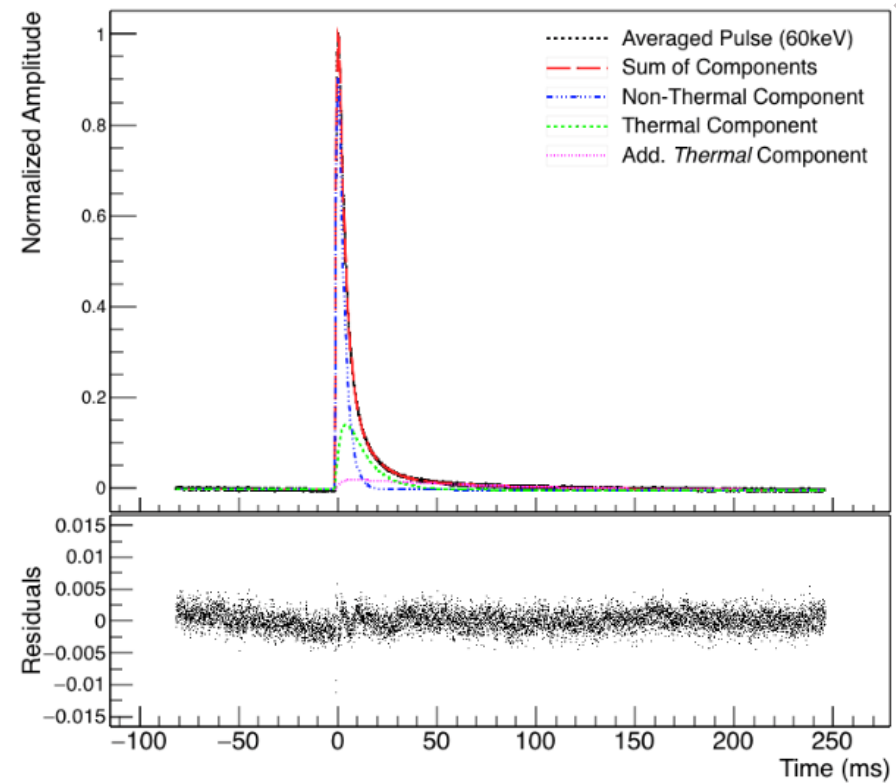
F. Pröbst et al., J. Low Temp. Phys. 100, 69 (1995):

$$\Delta T_e(t) = \Theta(t)[A_n(e^{-t/\tau_n} - e^{-t/\tau_{in}}) + A_t(e^{-t/\tau_t} - e^{-t/\tau_n})]$$

Observed in  
all measurements



(a) Two-component pulse model

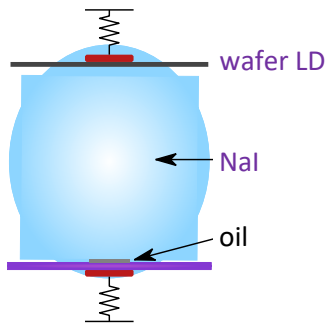


(b) Three-component pulse model

This example: 1<sup>st</sup> prototype: G. Angloher et al. JINST 12 P11007 (2017)  
Same result: 2<sup>nd</sup> prototype: F. Reindl et al., arXiv 1711.01482

# COSINUS R&D

1<sup>st</sup> PROTOTYPE (2016)



1<sup>st</sup> measurement of a NaI as cryogenic calorimeter

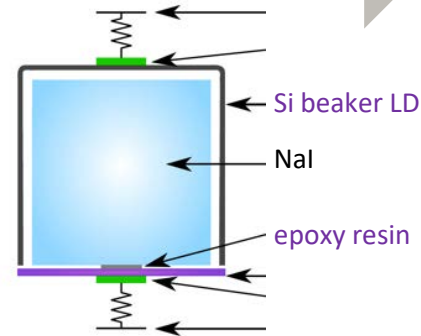
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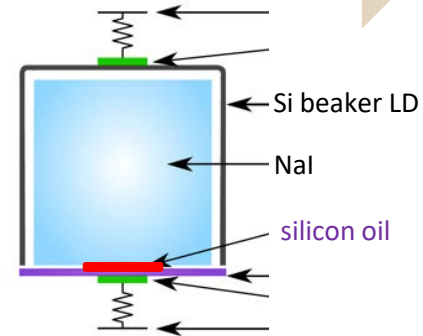
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NaI threshold: 8.3 keV

13 % detected in light

Schäffner, K. et al. J Low Temp Phys (2018). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10909-018-1967-3>

3<sup>rd</sup> PROTOTYPE (2017)



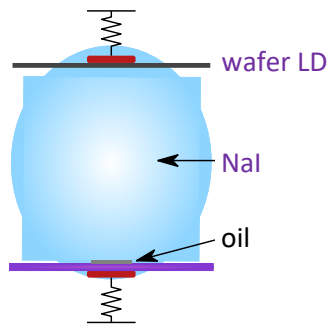
changed interface to thin layer of silicon oil

commissioning of: in-house electronics and DAQ from MIB

NaI threshold: 6.5 keV

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1<sup>st</sup> PROTOTYPE (2016)



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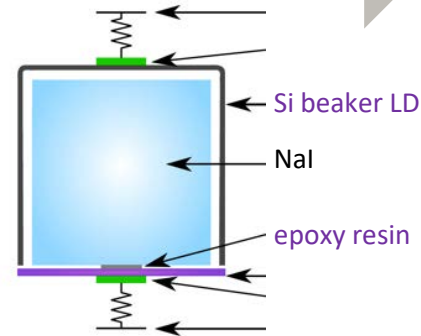
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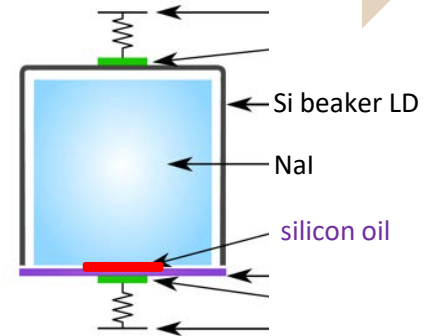
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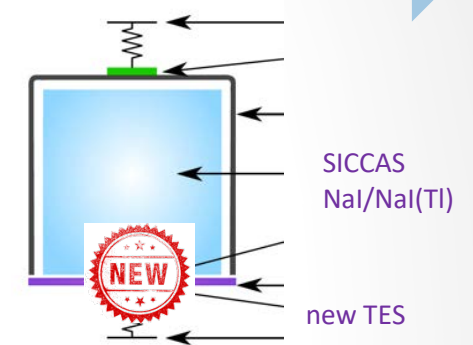


changed interface to thin layer of silicon oil

commissioning of: in-house electronics and DAQ from MIB

NaI threshold: 6.5 keV

4<sup>th</sup> → 7<sup>th</sup> PROTOTYPE (2017/18)



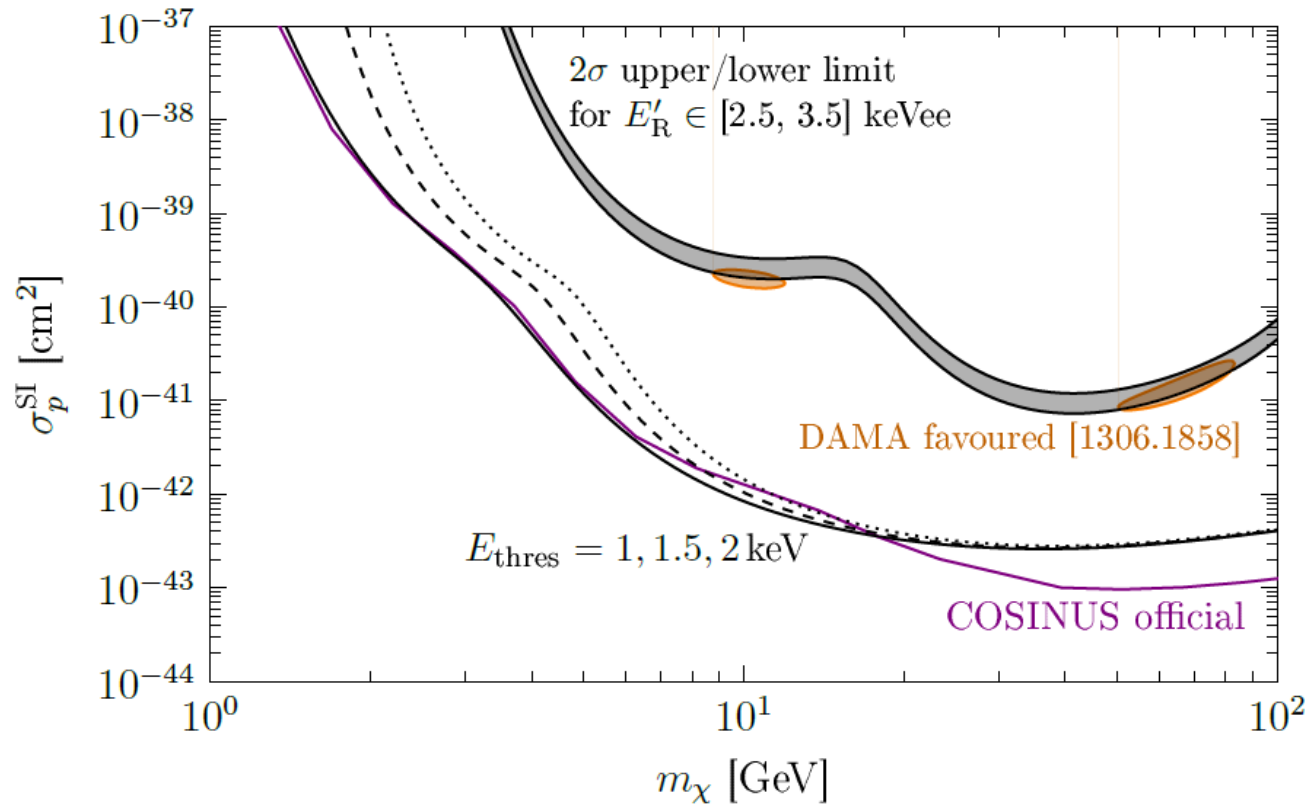
test of new batch of NaI/**NaI(Tl)** crystals from SICCAS

test of new TES-concept for the NaI crystal

**Work ongoing!**

# COSINUS PHYSICS REACH

JCAP 1805 (2018) no.05, 074

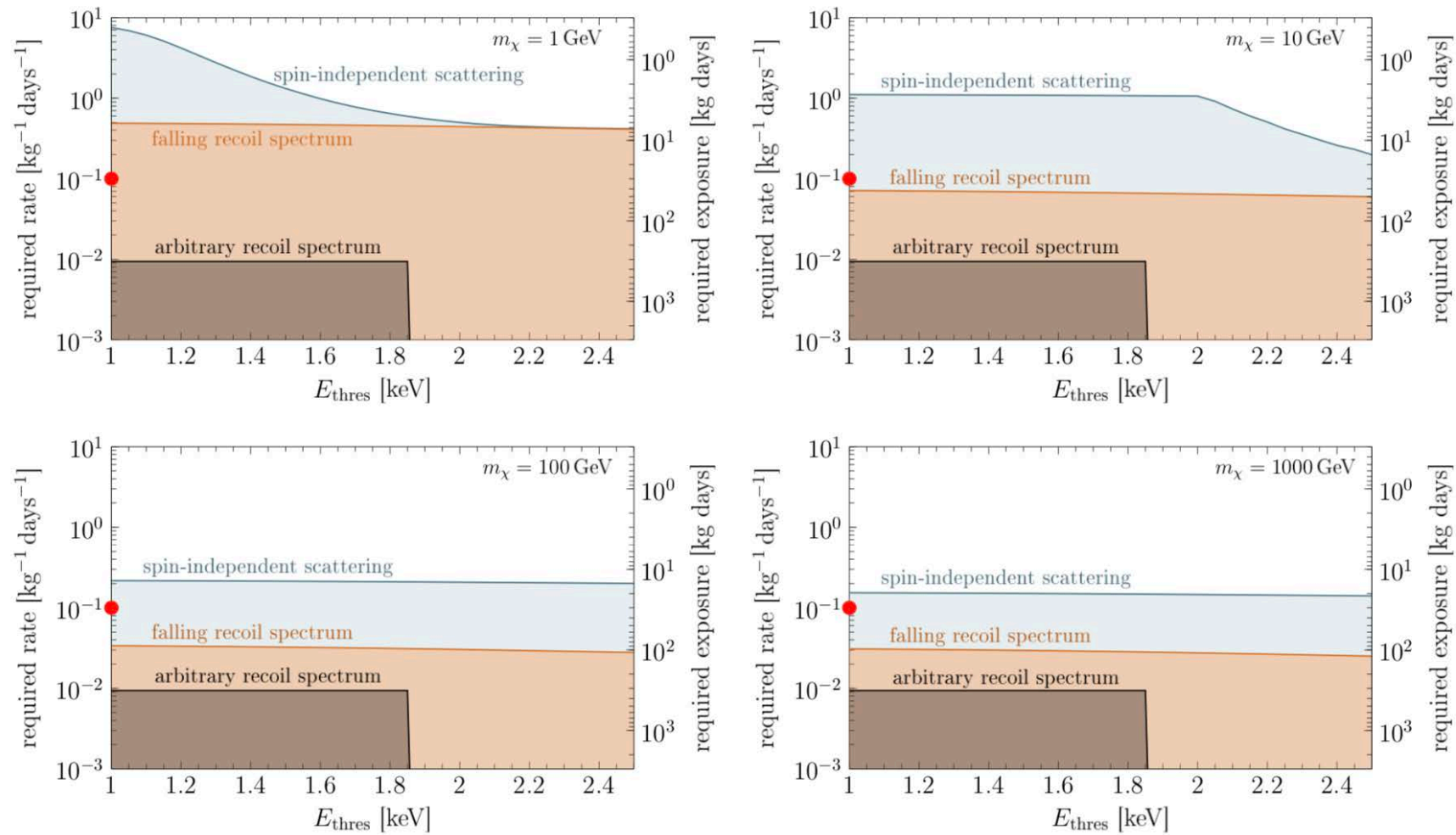


Assuming spin-independent interaction and a Maxwell-Boltzmann velocity distribution, COSINUS should be able to exclude the DAMA region by about two orders of magnitude in cross section with an exposure of 100 kg days

What about sensitivity in case of less restrictive assumptions?

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COSINUS exclusion power, defined as the bound on the total rate (or equivalently the total exposure with zero observed events) that COSINUS must achieve for excluding DAMA in a halo-independent way, as a function of the assumed threshold in COSINUS for different DM masses.

# COSINUS PHYSICS REACH

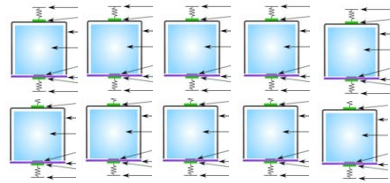
COSINUS has the unique potential to clarify a nuclear recoil origin of the DAMA/LIBRA signal

## CONFIRM

+ not **too exotic** dark matter

Good chance for exposure of  $\emptyset$  (100 kg days)

10 detector modules  
about 50 g each



1 year of data taking

50% overall efficiency (cryostat refills, calibration, cuts, ...)



Low-background cryogenic facility

underground lab, passive shields, dilution refrigerator

## RULE-OUT

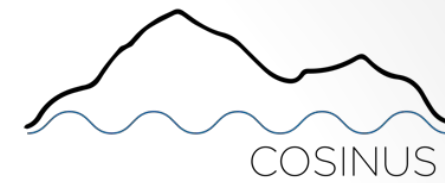
$\emptyset$  (100 kg days): strong statement

$\emptyset$  (1000 kg days): fully model-independent

**Model-independent comparison of annual modulation and total rate with direct detection experiments**

F. Kahlhoefer et al. **JCAP 1805 (2018) no.05, 074**

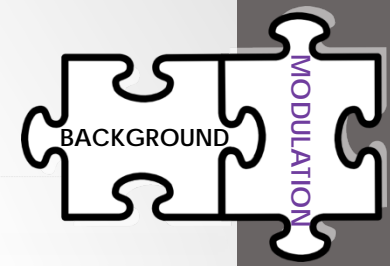




- 1997: DAMA presents at TAUP first evidence for the modulation  
→ after more than 20 years the DAMA/LIBRA observation is **still not cross-checked** by a same-target experiment
- numerous NaI-based experiments *à la DAMA* in data taking or being set up  
→ **radiopure NaI crystals is still the key-issue for all DAMA-like experiments**
- COSINUS develops the first NaI dark matter detector with **particle discrimination**
- COSINUS is on a good way to achieve the performance goals. If we succeed:
  - COSINUS-1 $\pi$** : comparatively little exposure ( $\mathcal{O}(100\text{kg days})$ ) is needed to give insight whether **DAMA sees a nuclear recoil signal**, or not
  - COSINUS-2 $\pi$** : with a significantly increased target mass the COSINUS technique is also able to include the possibility for modulation detection

BACKUP

# NaI EXPERIMENTS

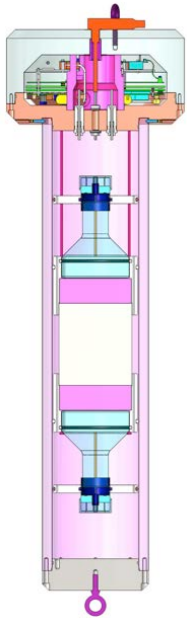


## DM-Ice17

South pole  
17 kg NaI

energy:  $4 \text{ keV}_{ee}$

3.5 y physics run  
no hint

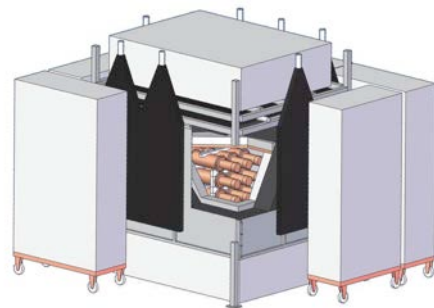


## ANAIS-112

LSC - Spain  
112.5 kg NaI

energy:  $< 1 \text{ keV}_{ee}$

spring 2017



## COSINE-100

Y2L Korea  
KIMS NaI + DM-Ice  
106 kg

energy:  $\sim 2 \text{ keV}_{ee}$

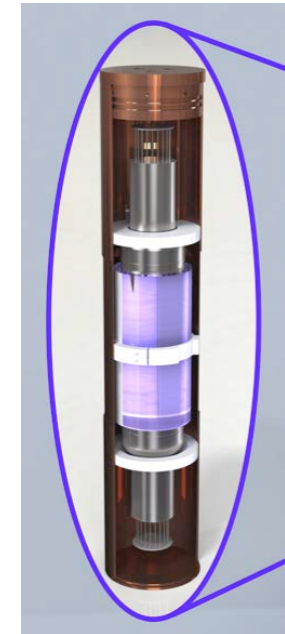
since Sept. 2016



## SABRE

Gran Sasso/Australia  
40-50 kg NaI

construction phase  
Proof of Principle in 2018



*not complete list!*

# MUST HAVE TO PROOF DAMA/LIBRA

- energy threshold of  $< 2$  keVee
- radiopure crystal:  $\sim 1$  count / (keV kg day)  
→ in particular very low  $^{40}\text{K}$  content
- large detector mass  $\theta$  (10 kg)



## DAMA/LIBRA BACKGROUND

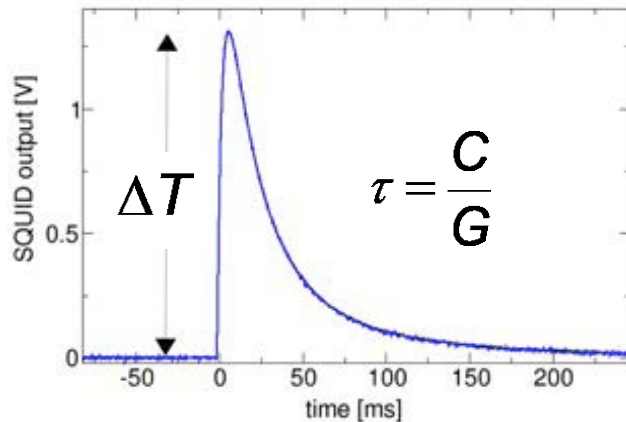
K	$< 20$ ppb
$^{238}\text{U}$	$< 0.7-10$ ppt
$^{232}\text{Th}$	$< 0.5-7.5$ ppt
$^{210}\text{Po}$	$< 0.5$ mBq/kg



- liquid scintillator veto to suppress  $^{40}\text{K}$  background
- muon veto to reject muon-induced background
- particle discrimination  
(nuclear recoils – electron/gammas)

# LIMITATIONS: thermodynamic fluctuations

## Temperature pulse



$N$  is the total excitations which have a mean energy  $k_B T$

$$N \propto CT / k_B T \quad \text{and} \quad \delta N = \sqrt{N}$$

$$\delta E = \delta N k_B T = \sqrt{k_B T^2 C}$$

noise comes from **irreducible random thermodynamic fluctuations** in energy due to transport across the thermal link

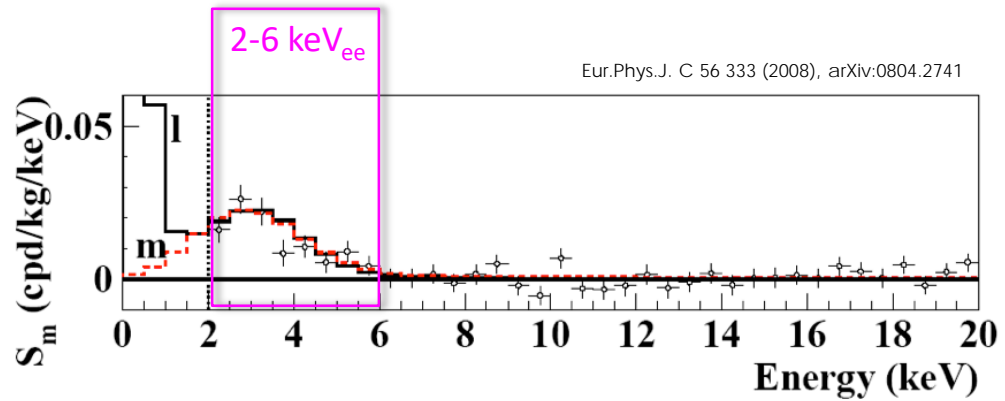
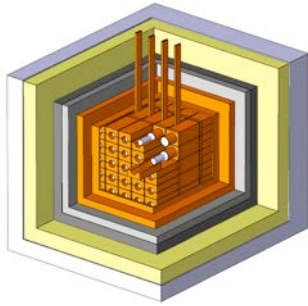
Ultimate energy resolution is determined by how well you can measure  $T$  against thermodynamic fluctuations:

low temperatures  $\rightarrow$  better energy sensitivity

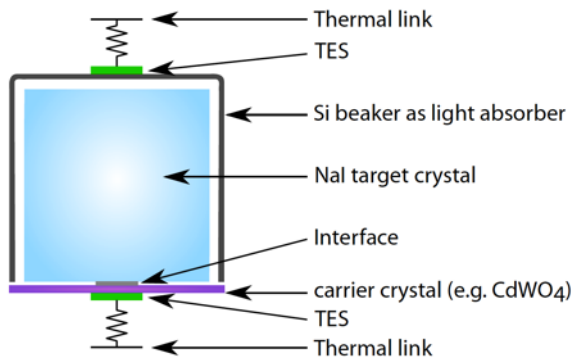
low heat capacity  $\rightarrow$  careful selection of materials with low  $C$

# COMPARE DAMA TO COSINUS

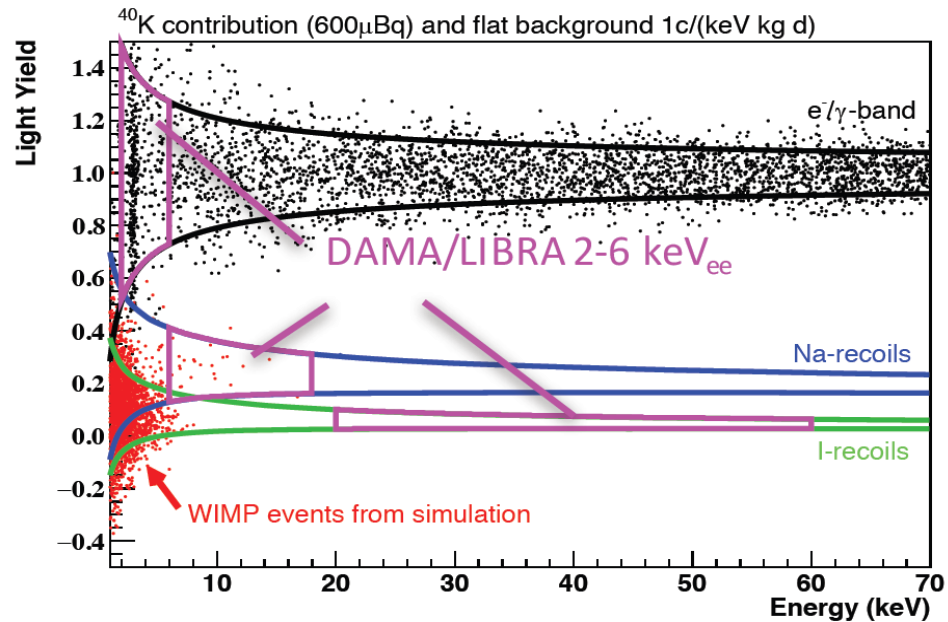
## DAMA/LIBRA



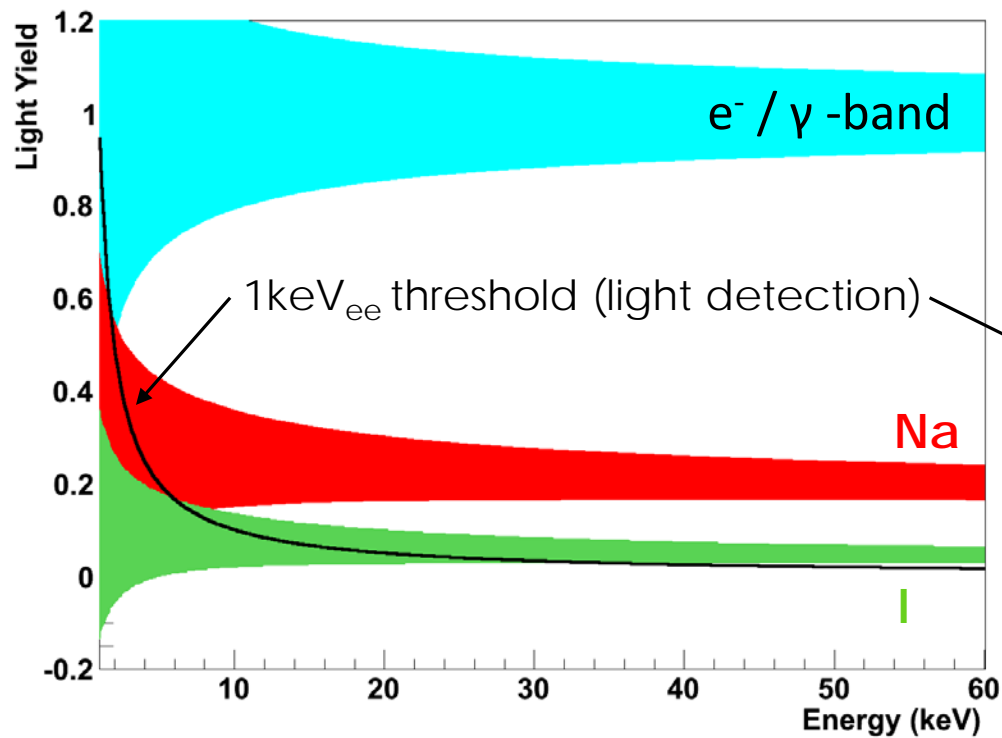
## COSINUS



Eur. Phys. J. C (2016) 76:441  
DOI 10.1140/epjc/s10052-016-4278-3

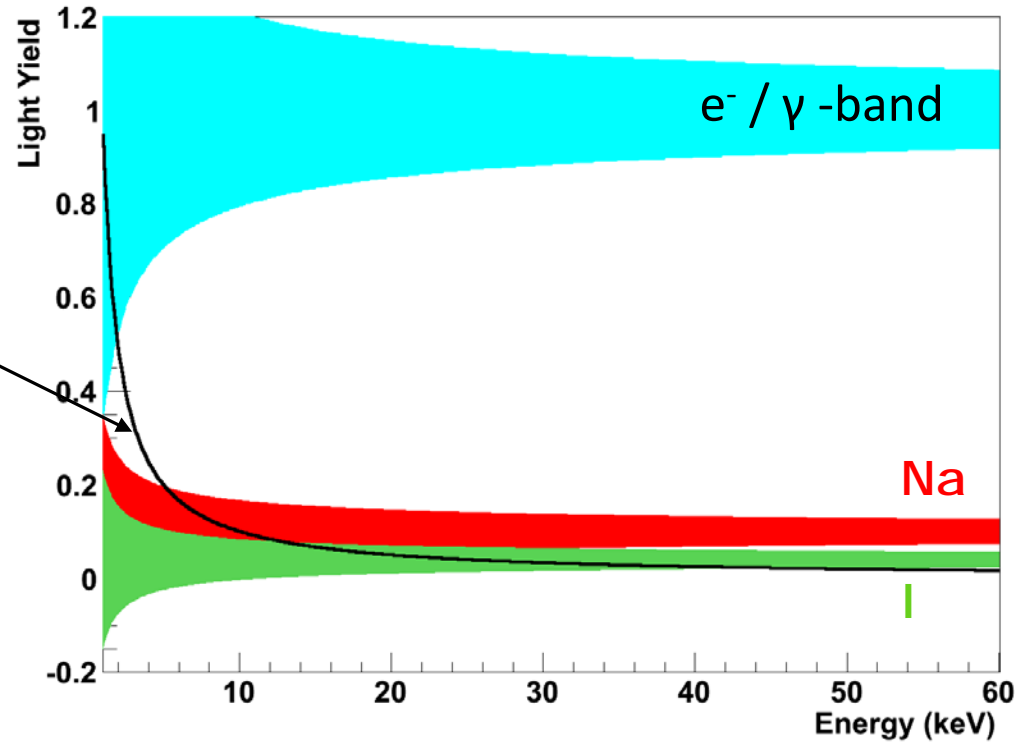


# REMARK: QUENCHING FACTORS



recoils off Na  $\rightarrow$  factor  $\sim 0.3$

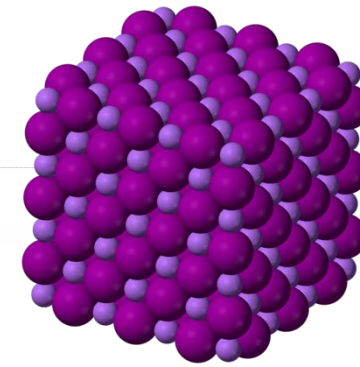
recoils off I  $\rightarrow$  factor  $\sim 0.1$



recoils off Na  $\rightarrow$  factor  $\sim 0.1$

recoils off I  $\rightarrow$  factor  $\sim 0.04$

# NaI as TARGET MATERIAL



53

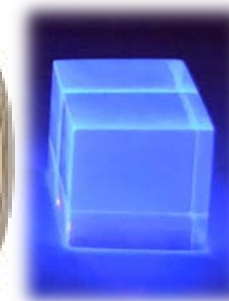
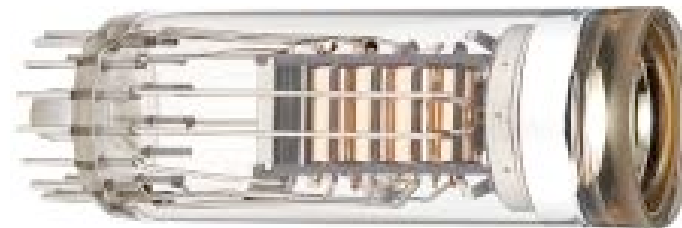
<sup>11</sup>Na

Sodium Iodide

- multi-target compound: **light Na** and **heavy I**
- very good scintillator at room temperature ( > 15 p.e. / keV)
- NaI doped with thallium has suitable wavelength for Photomultipliers (PMTs)
- crystal is "easy" to grow and available as >10 kg blocks



PMT



NaI



# ... but NaI is not that NaI!

- **hygroscopic nature** handle in controlled atmosphere:
  - glove box
  - special container for cooldown in dilution refrigerator



- **low Debye temperature**

Properties	NaI(pure)	CsI(pure)	CdWO <sub>4</sub>	CaWO <sub>4</sub>
Density [g/cm <sup>3</sup> ]	3.67	4.51	7.9	6.12
Melting point [°C]	661	894	1598	1650
Structure	CsCl	CsCl	Wolframite	Scheelite
$\lambda_{max}$ at 300 K [nm]	~300	~315	~475	420-425
Hygroscopic	yes	slightly	no	no
$\Theta_D$ [K]	169	125	-	335
Photons per keV at 3.4 K	19.5 ± 1.0	58.9 ± 5.6	-	-
Mean energy of emitted photon [eV]	3.3	3.9	-	3.14

PREPARE FOR:

small signal amplitudes

- develop highly sensitive W-TES
- surface of NaI optically polished



- typically high contamination with <sup>40</sup>K

dangerous background is the 3 keV Auger electrons emitted together with the 1.46 MeV gamma quantum

Contamination	DAMA/LIBRA crystal [ppb]
K	~ 13
Rb	< 0.35
U	0.5 – 7.5 x 10 <sup>-3</sup>
Th	0.7 – 10 x 10 <sup>-3</sup>



# CYRSTAL PROGRAM

- collaboration with **I. Dafinei** from INFN, Roma 1 in Italy
- **Yong Zhu** from SICCCAS joined the COSINUS collaboration
- NaI / NaI(Tl) grown from **Astrograde-powder** at SICCCAS:



→ very promising radiopurity:

5-9 ppb of K at crystals' nose and 22-35 ppb at crystals' tail  
(3-inch crystal @ SICCCAS)



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## IN THE QUEUE:

- NaI(Tl) grown with internal samarium "contamination" to study alpha quenching factor
- NaI(Tl) with different amount of thallium dopant to study nuclear quenching factors

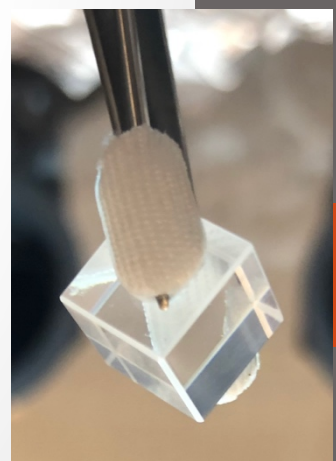
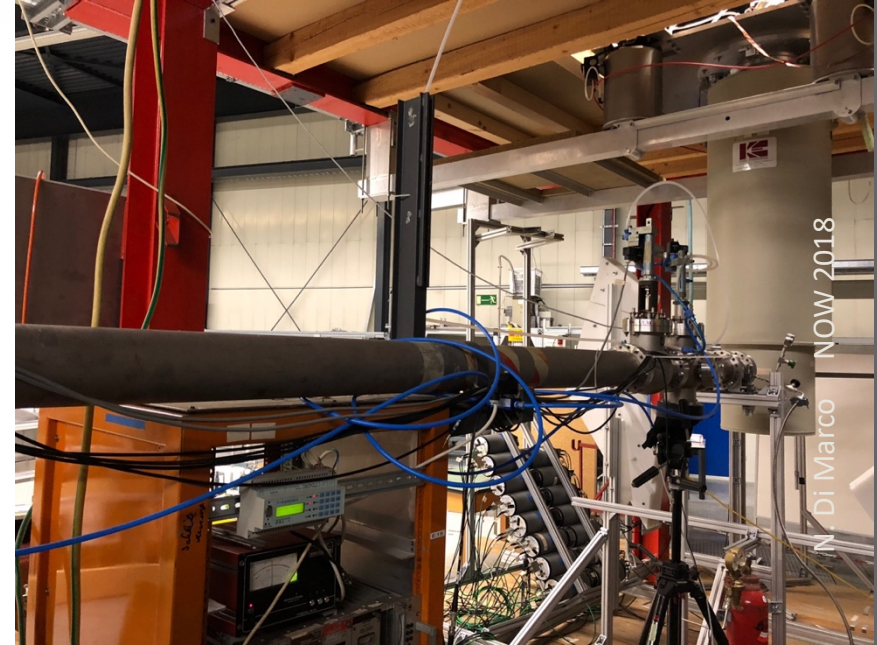


# QUENCHING FACTOR MEASUREMENT

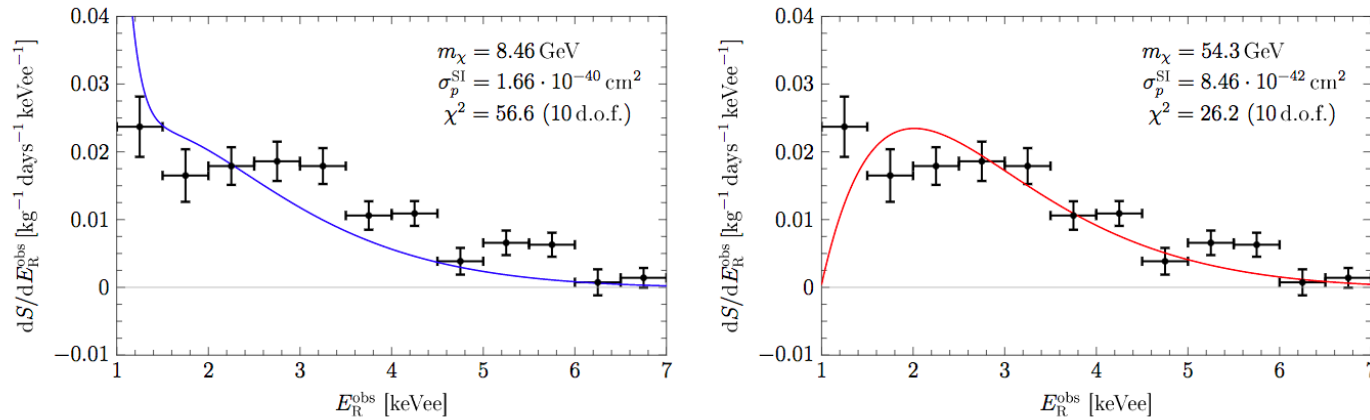
- Meier-Leibnitz Laboratorium - Tandem accelerator at Technical University in Munich
- 11 MeV mono-energetic neutrons
- dilution cryostat available
- small NaI scintillating cryogenic calorimeter

## STATUS:

- successfully measured an undoped NaI crystal in April 2018
  - measurement of a Tl-doped NaI scheduled for Nov. 2018
- beam time already assigned!



# DAMA/LIBRA PhaseII



arXiv:1802.10175v4

**Figure 9.** Best-fit recoil spectra in DAMA for low-mass DM (left), corresponding to scattering dominantly on sodium, and high-mass DM (right), corresponding to scattering dominantly on iodine. In both cases we have included the first twelve bins from the combined data sets of DAMA/NaI, DAMA/LIBRA-phase1 and DAMA/LIBRA-phase2.

Any interpretation of the DAMA signal in terms of DM requires **non-standard interactions** or **non-standard astrophysical distributions** (or both), independently of (but already implied by) the exclusion bounds from other experiment

# RATE vs. MODULATION AMPLITUDE in NaI searches

**Central idea: The modulation amplitude  
(in a given experiment) cannot exceed the mean rate:**

$$\bar{R} \geq S$$

COSINUS

Mean rate

$$\bar{R} = \frac{1}{2} [R(t = \text{June } 1^{\text{st}}) + R(t = \text{Dec. } 1^{\text{st}})]$$

DAMA

Modulation Amplitude

$$S = \frac{1}{2} [R(t = \text{June } 1^{\text{st}}) - R(t = \text{Dec. } 1^{\text{st}})]$$

# RATE vs. MODULATION AMPLITUDE

Central idea: The modulation amplitude  
(in a given experiment) cannot exceed the mean rate:

$$\bar{R} \geq S$$

## DAMA phase 1:

Best fit  $S = (2.34 \pm 0.28) \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ days}^{-1}$  (in [2.5keVee,3.5keVee])

Minimal Mod. Ampl. (95% C.L.)  $S = 1.78 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ days}^{-1}$

# RATE vs. MODULATION AMPLITUDE

Central idea: The modulation amplitude  
(in a given experiment) cannot exceed the mean rate:

$$\bar{R} \geq S$$

$$\frac{\epsilon_{\text{COSINUS}}^{\text{T}}(E_{\text{R}})}{R_{\text{COSINUS}}^{\text{bound}}} > \frac{\epsilon_{\text{DAMA}}^{\text{T}}(E_{\text{R}})}{S_{\text{DAMA}}^{\text{bound}}}$$

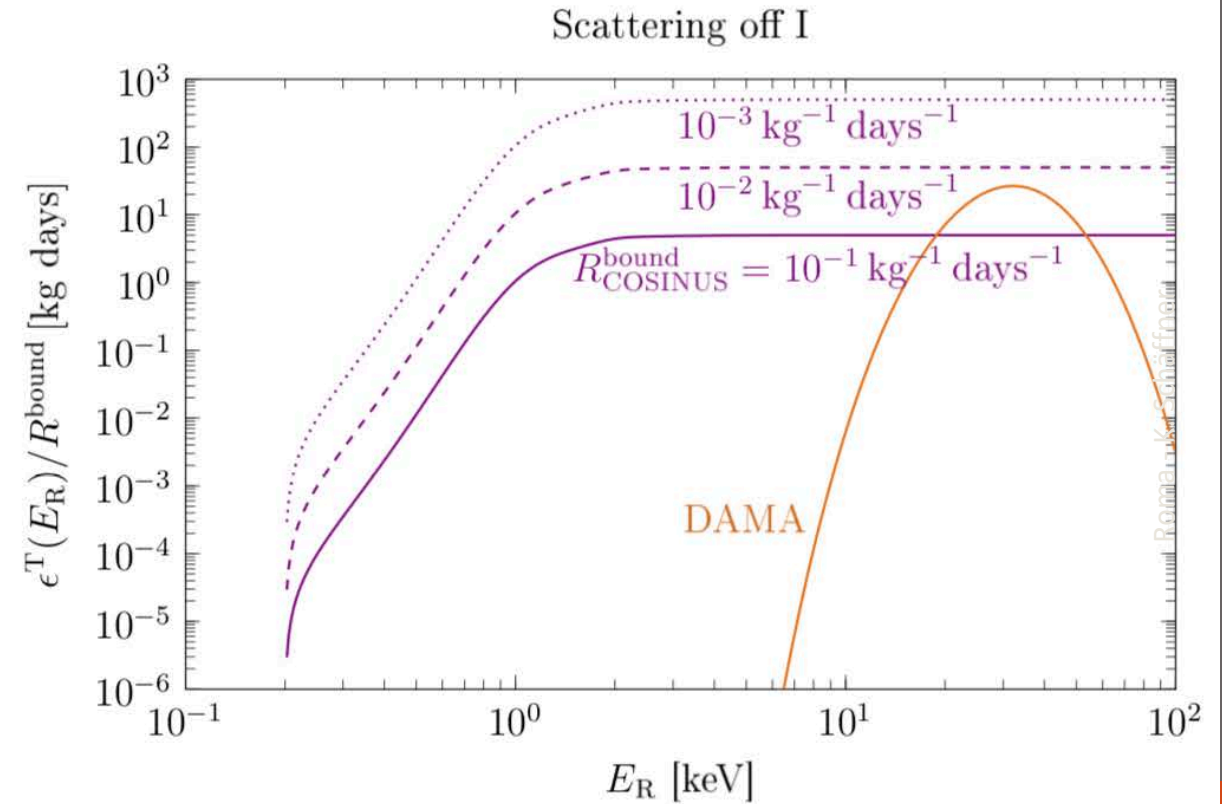
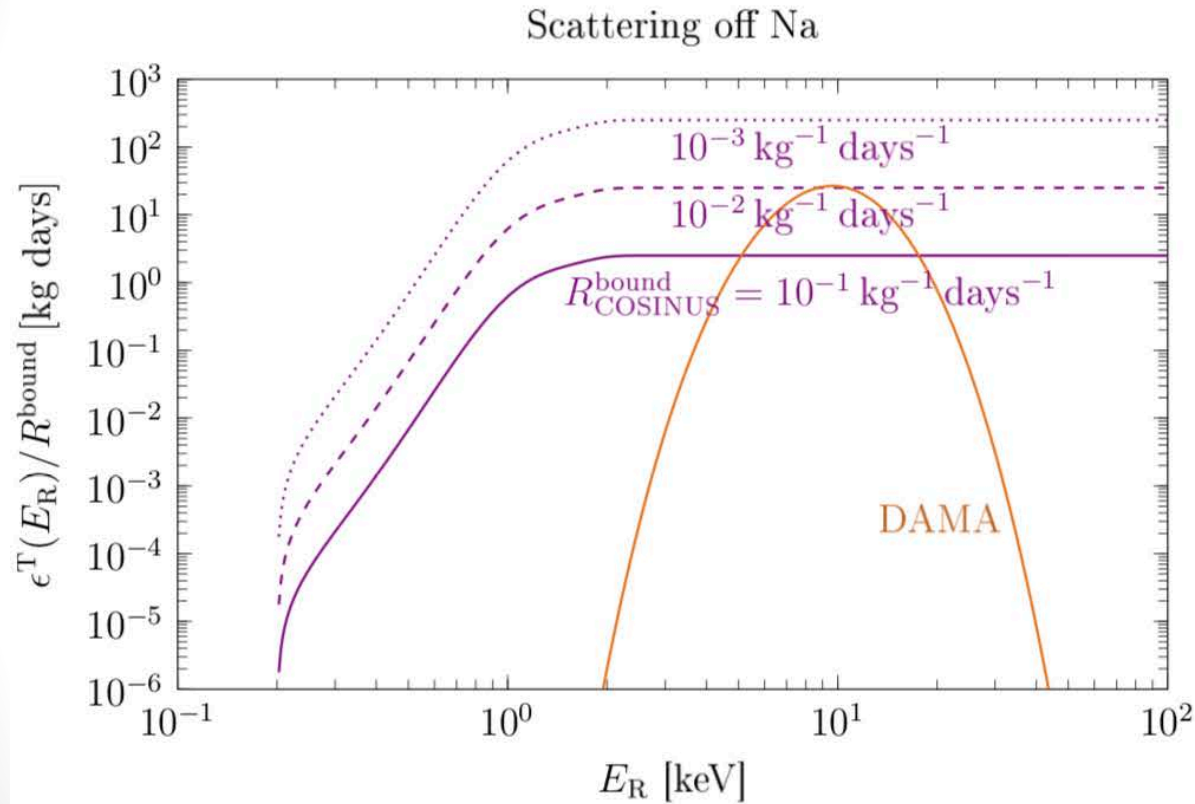
T: target nucleus

$\epsilon$ : efficiency to see nuclear recoils of energy  $E_{\text{R}}$

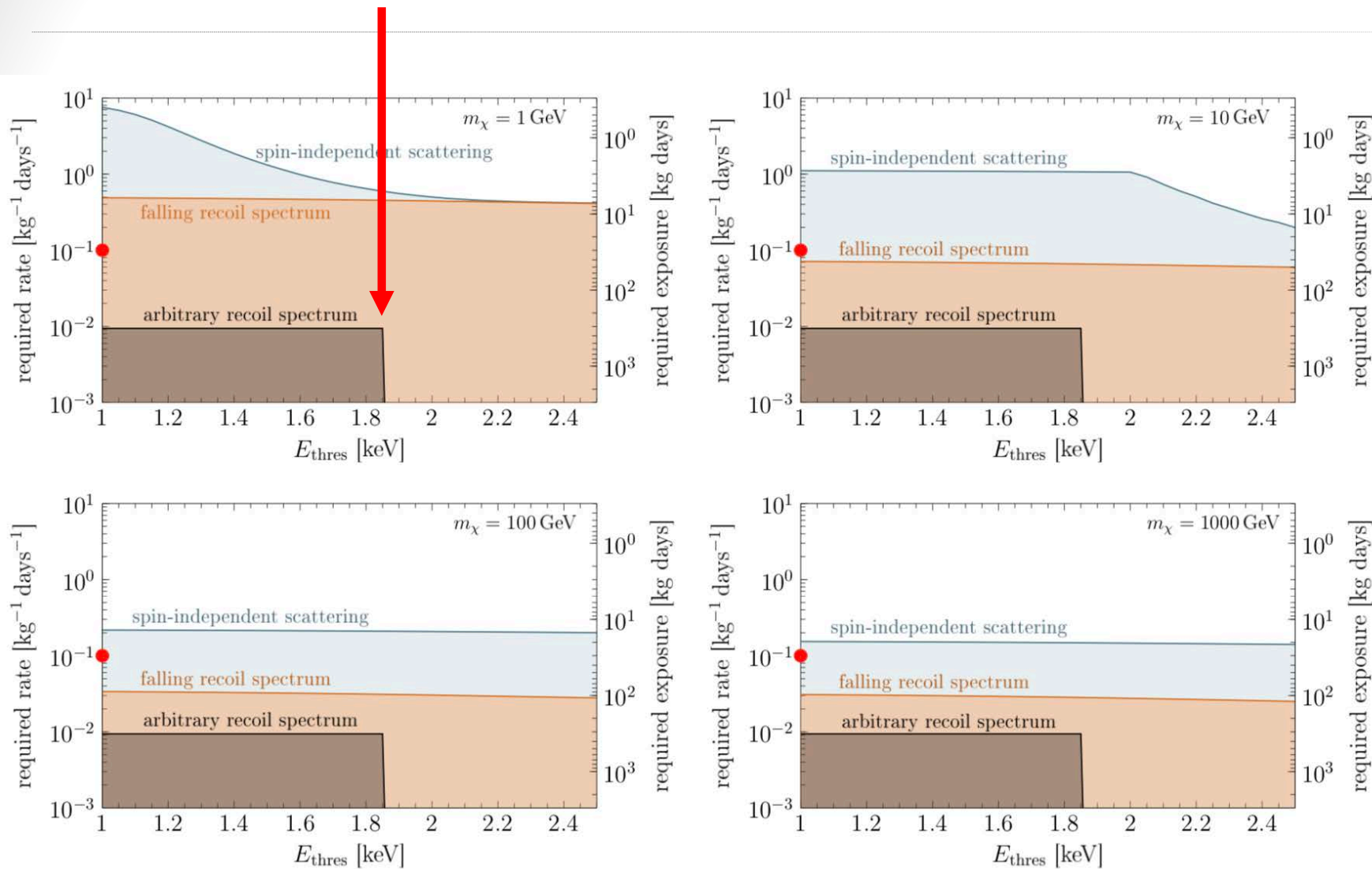


# MOST GENERAL CASE

$$\frac{\epsilon_{\text{COSINUS}}^{\text{T}}(E_{\text{R}})}{R_{\text{COSINUS}}^{\text{bound}}} > \frac{\epsilon_{\text{DAMA}}^{\text{T}}(E_{\text{R}})}{S_{\text{DAMA}}^{\text{bound}}}$$

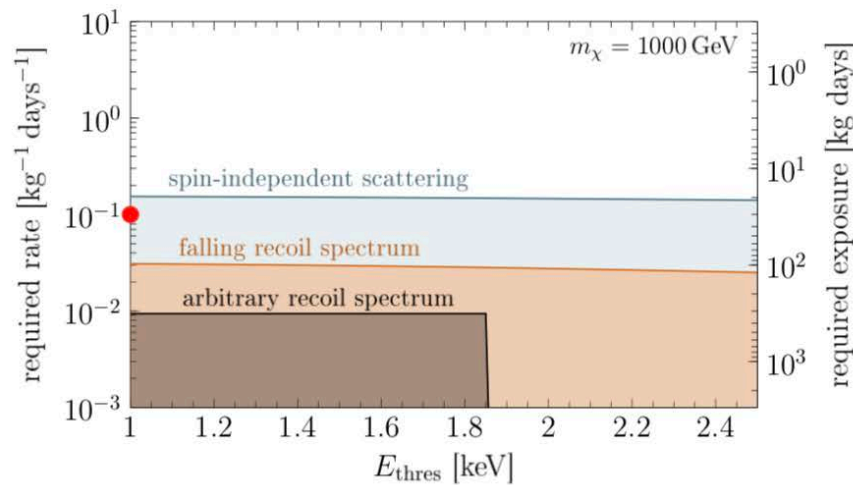
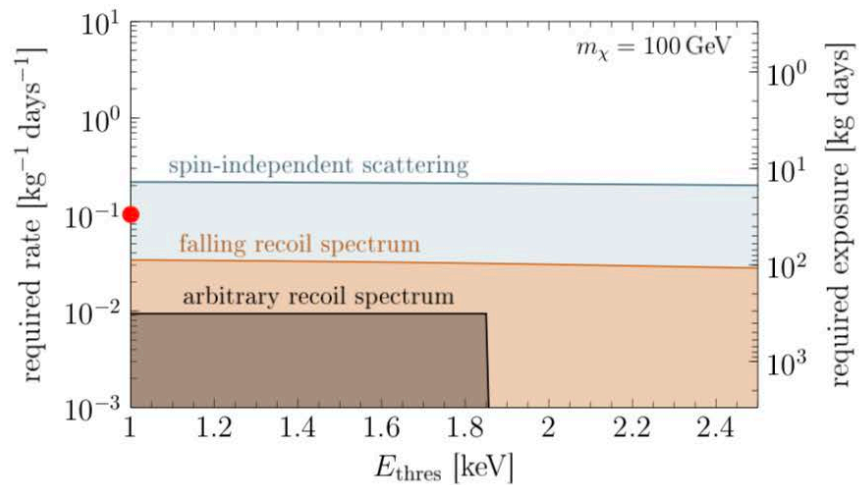
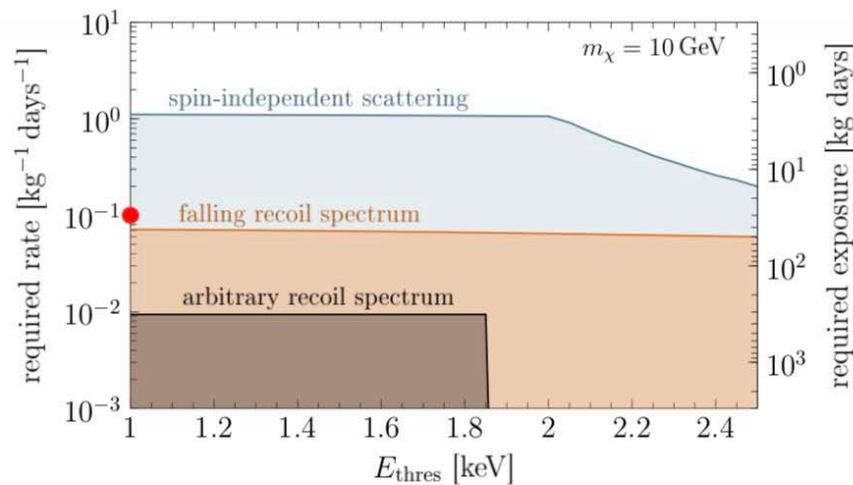
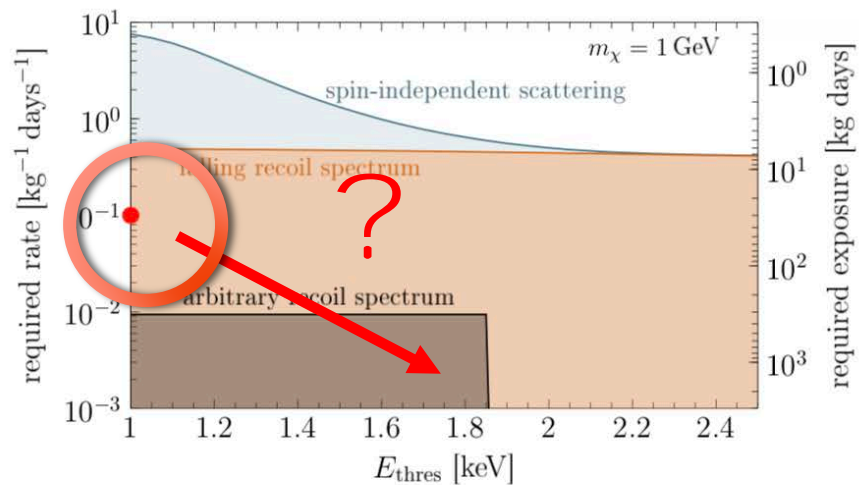


# RESULT



Threshold:  
1.8 keV sufficient

# RESULT



Threshold:  
1.8 keV sufficient

optimize rather  
exposure (mass)  
than threshold?

# COSINUS PHYSICS REACH

**Model-independent comparison of annual modulation and total rate with direct detection experiments**

F. Kahlhoefer et al. **JCAP 1805 (2018) no.05, 074**

COSINUS has the unique potential to clarify a nuclear recoil origin of the DAMA/LIBRA signal

Assuming:

- a threshold of  $\sim 1.8\text{keV}$  with a resolution of  $0.2\text{keV}$
- a bound on the rate of  $0.01\text{ kg}^{-1}\text{ days}^{-1}$
- Exclude DAMA/LIBRA signal in a model-independent way:
  - Halo-independent
  - For arbitrary nuclear recoil interactions

**Outlook:** Cut and count only → Make use of spectral information for potentially stronger bounds