

DESIGNING AND ASSESSING MODEL INDEPENDENT TESTS OF DAMA'S MODULATION SIGNAL

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MOTIVATION

Lots of past + ongoing work to understand what DAMA have observed.

On the surface, this is "disproved as dark matter" by "model independent" results.



To conclusively say if DAMA is "dead" need to understand how stringent these results are, and necessary steps to design a model independent test.

OUTLINE

- Brief background on dark matter and the DAMA observation
- Assessing performance: explanation of interaction rates and sensitivity formalism
 - Introduction + use of versatile fitting/sensitivity tool
- Model independent tests of DAMA
- Event rate detector dependence
- Discussion of the SABRE detector
 - Background reduction techniques
 - Event reconstruction
 - Digitisation process
 - Future projections

DM EVIDENCE



MODULATING SIGNAL

Astrophysical predictions of DM distribution imply a modulating signal due to Earth's rotation around the Sun.

$$R(E) = R_0(E) + R_m \cos(\omega(t - t_0))$$

- Period should be I year
- Phase should produce a peak in June
- Signal should appear in low energy range
- Events should be single hit





DAMA RESULTS

250 kg NaI(TI) detector based in LNGS consistently observed modulation rate compatible with DM expectations for ~20 years w/ ~I 3σ CL

- R_m: 0.01058±0.00090 cpd/kg/keV
- Phase: 144.5±5.1 days
- Period: 0.999±0.001 yr
- Modulation present in 1-6 keV

No direct fitting to constant rate, but upper limit given of ~0.8 cpd/kg/keV



25 Nal crystals

in Cu enclosure

Cu. Pb.

EXPERIMENTAL TENSION

Interpretation as DM is strongly constrained by null results from different targets

Target	Experiment/s
0	CRESST
F	PICO, PICASSO
Ne	NEWS-G
Na	DAMA
Si	DAMIC
Ar	DEAP, DarkSide
Ca	CRESST
Ge	CDMS, EDELWEISS
I	DAMA
Xe	XENON, LUX, PandaX
W	CRESST



EVENT RATES

Limits are typically set by assessing how well the signal can be distinguished from detector backgrounds.

Two components to interaction rates with DM used for limit setting:

- Rate of DM interaction with SM Dictated by target, model choice, velocity distribution
- Rate of observation of events Dictated by observation process and detector setup

Can have significantly different energy scales, depending on type of detector.



INTERACTION RATE

Number of nuclear recoils as a function of nuclear recoil energy E_R



- Target mass
- DM density
- DM mass
- DM cross section

- Coupling constants
- **DM** Form factors
- Nuclear response functions

OBSERVATION RATE

Number of events observed as a function of observation energy E_{ee} (electron equivalent keV for scintillator detectors)



*we'll come back to the accuracy of this later

DAMA searches explicitly for modulating signal (not constant excess) over a ~constant background* Need to understand how well statistical fluctuations in a background model mimic modulation. Simulate this by randomly sampling from Poissonian over detector live time, and fitting to $R_c + R_f \cos(\omega t)$.



Poisson simulations are based on expected number of observed interactions:

- Background only: $N_b = M_E \times \Delta T \times \Delta E \times R_b$
- Signal + background: $N_{sb} = M_E \times \Delta T \times \Delta E \times (R_b + R_0 + R_m \cos(\omega t))$

Where

- M_E = exposure mass
- ΔT = data taking time bins
- ΔE = energy bin widths
- R_b = background rate in energy/time bin
- R_0 = constant signal rate in energy/time bin
- R_m = modulating signal rate in energy/time bin

This can be used to compute limits in both a model dependent and independent way: <u>Model dependent</u> - R_0 and R_m computed by assuming model, mass and cross section <u>Model independent</u> - R_0 and R_m taken from measurement by a detector (e.g., DAMA)

MJZ, Barberio, Busoni JCAP12 (2020) 014
 MJZ, Barberio arxiv:2107.07674, EPJC
 Barberio, Duffy, Lawrence, MJZ (in prep.)

Desirable to have flexible calculation for various models, targets, and velocity distributions ^[1,2,3] Set up so each step/calculation is agnostic of others, allows for testing of various model dependencies



[2] MJZ, Barberio, Busoni JCAP12 (2020) 014
 [3] MJZ, Barberio arxiv:2107.07674, EPJC
 [1] Kang, Scopel, Tomar, PRD 99, 103019 (2019)
 [4] Barberio, Duffy, Lawrence, MJZ (in prep.)

Allows for tests of influence of different pSIDM models and velocity distributions on fits to DAMA and SABRE sensitivity [2,4]



Allows for tests of influence of background models on excluding DAMA [3]



MODEL DEPENDENCE

Proton-philic inelastic spin dependent WIMP [1]



VELOCITY DISTRIBUTIONS

Velocity distribution gives the expected modulation fraction. Strongly dependent on DM and target masses through v_{min}



VELOCITY DISTRIBUTIONS

Realistic galaxy simulations suggest the presence of substructure that influences the expected modulation



VELOCITY DISTRIBUTIONS

For different DM masses, the consideration of more realistic velocity distributions change the modulation energy spectrum, and can maximise the modulation for Na and I compared to other targets.



REQUIREMENTS FOR MODEL INDEPENDENCE

Such a large collection of model possibilities, need to assess using the same target and as similar a set up as possible

$$\frac{dR}{dE'} = \epsilon(E') \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{1/2}} \int_0^\infty \frac{dR}{dE_R} \frac{dE_R}{dE_{ee}} \frac{1}{\Delta E_{ee}} \exp\left[\frac{-(E'-E_{ee})^2}{2(\Delta E_{ee})^2}\right] dE_{ee}$$

Interaction rate the same for all Nal detectors. No need to choose a model, just perform Boolean check.

Test for a modulation that has the same ratio of R_m/R_0 as DAMA (exact value may change based on set up) <u>Cannot construct a true model independent test from constant constraints alone</u> Need to assume a model to map DAMA modulation onto constrained parameter space



RECENT RESULTS

Most "damning" Nal constraints to date are based on lack of constant excess \Rightarrow model dependent test But! This region already strongly constrained by DAMA from its first data taking.



RECENT RESULTS

Bernabei et al. PPNP114 103810 (2020)
 Adhikari et al. arxiv:2111.08863
 Amare et al. PRD 103, 102005 (2021)

For modulation searches, both COSINE and ANAIS are beginning to reach strong sensitivity, but at present both still compatible with DAMA and null hypothesis within 3σ due to high backgrounds



DETECTOR DEPENDENCIES

Difficulty with model independent tests is then slight differences between detector setups. Need to understand if these can introduce 'hidden' model dependence – i.e., will these changes appear more extreme for different models/masses of DM?

Potential differences of interest:

- Na quenching factor
- Radioactive backgrounds
- Electronic backgrounds
- Background modelling
- Location specifics
- Energy thresholds

Background modelling and mitigation

QUENCHING FACTOR

Purpose is to converts nuclear recoil energy (signal) into electron equivalent energy (used to calibrate detector).





Possible that this effect depends strongly on optical properties of crystal so different growth methods can impact results. Interesting to think about as:

- Differences observed in QF measurements by different groups
- Would change both amplitude and position of signal
- Depends on the nucleus DM interacts with so impacts different masses in different ways

QUENCHING FACTOR MEASUREMENTS

^[1]L.J. Bignell et al 2021 <u>JINST 16 P07034</u>
 ^[2]T. Stiegler et al. 2017 <u>arxiv:1706.07494</u>
 ^[3]J. Xu et al. 2015 <u>10.1103/physrevc.92.015807</u>
 ^[4]H. Joo et al. 2019 <u>10.1016/j.astropartphys.2019.01.001</u>

Why are the DAMA quenching factors different to those measured since? Possible solutions:

- Possible solutions:
- I. DAMA are using an inaccurate QF
- 2. QF is something that changes crystal to crystal

Particular solution will influence how data should be interpreted and compared.

Also possibility that (1) and (2) are both true - still inconsistencies at low energy



[1] Adhikari et al. JCAP 11 (2019)

Can use results presented by COSINE [1] to understand how different QF combinations impact exclusion of DAMA



Change of QF has a strong influence on observable rate.

Changing relationship between NR and observed energy means the I-6 keV_{ee} observable region of interest is "accessing" different parts of the recoil energy spectrum.

This will affect all DM interaction models, where the degree of extremity is dictated by the shape of the recoil spectrum



Stiegler et al. 2017 <u>arxiv:1706.07494</u>
 Adhikari et al. Astropart Phys 2021 102581
 Bernabei et al. JINST 2012

Detector differences can still change the observed modulation even if interaction rate is the same e.g., for low mass spin independent DM, m_{χ} = 10 GeV/c², σ_{χ} =1.15x10⁻³⁹ cm², change to QF drastically changes the observable signal, both in value and shape in region of interest.

 \Rightarrow Even for a same target test, no guarantee the modulation will look the same



 [1] Bernabei et al. PPNP114 103810 (2020)
 [4] Xu et al. 2015 PRC <u>92.015807</u>

 [2] Adhikari et al. arxiv:2111.08863
 [5] Stiegler et al. 2017 <u>arxiv:1706.07494</u>

 [3] Amare et al. PRD 103, 102005 (2021)
 [6] Bignell et al 2021 <u>JINST 16 P07034</u>

This toy model w/ different QFs can produce modulation amplitudes more consistent with other observations Effect is strongly dependent on DM model and mass \Rightarrow model independent test is impossible



BACKGROUND MODELS

[1] Adhikari et al. arxiv:2111.08863 [2] Buttazzo et al JHEP04(2020)137

COSINE and Buttazzo et al. demonstrated influence of improperly modelled backgrounds: I. Introduction of bias from simplistic time dependence [1]



2. Introduction of modulation from assumption of constant and subtracting averaged rate [2]



BACKGROUND MODELS

Clear that background modelling is difficult especially in the low energy region due to PMT noise etc.



 \Rightarrow need a low background, well modelled experiment to understand if modulation is real or an artifact of analysis

BACKGROUND MODELS

[1] Borexino collab. JCAP02(2019)046 [2] DAMA collab. Nucl. Phys. At. Energy 19 (2018)

Muons a particular issue for DM modulation searches as they have a similar phase due to seasonal dependence. Need to be carefully measured to understand their impact on the data.



DETECTOR DEPENDENCIES

Large uncertainties/inconclusive results:



Potential detector difference:

- Na quenching factor
- Radioactive backgrounds
- Electronic backgrounds
- Background modelling
- Location specifics
- Energy thresholds

We need another model independent, well characterised setup to properly understand this landscape.

SABRE

Four key improvements on other Nal(TI) detectors:

- I. Ultra-high purity crystals
- 2. Active background rejection
- 3. Low energy threshold
- 4. Dual hemisphere data

Will provide unprecedented background and sensitivity



SABRE





BACKGROUND REDUCTION

Significant R&D undertaken with Princeton collaborators (Calaprice group) has produced lowest background NaI(TI) ever [1,2].

Contaminant	Issue	Half life	Introduction	Current reduction method
Hydroxide (NaOH)	Causes sticking/cracking of crystal during growth	N/A	Reaction of Nal with water	SiCl ₄ treatment
Potassium 40	Beta decay - 3 keV Auger electron	10 ⁹ years	Similar properties to Na	Veto
Lead 210	Beta decay – 15 keV electron	22.3 years	Rn in water/atmosphere	None
Tritium (³ H)	Beta decay – 5 keV electron	12 years	Cosmogenic	Travel restrictions

NaOH (MSc), 40K, and 210Pb removal has all been addressed over my research (slight interruptions in latter two from COVID)

40K REDUCTION

Fractional crystallization utilises difference in solubility of materials

- I. Mix solution to saturation at high temp
- 2. Cool and stir
- 3. Less soluble material forms a precipitate
- 4. Separation occurs via filtration

 Na_2CO_3 and K_2CO_3 are ideal for this process (less hygroscopic than Nal)



40K REDUCTION

Total yield of Na_2CO_3 was approx 30% - expected from solubility.

Levels of key contaminants are shown below for control solution (A0), then I and 2 crystallization cycles

Contaminant	minant A0 (ppm)		A2 (ppm)	
K39	0.260	0.625	0.318	
Pb208	0.030	0.054	0.076	
Rb85	0.040	0.008	< 0.003	
Th232	< 0.003	< 0.002	< 0.003	
U238	< 0.003	< 0.002	<0.003	



210PB REDUCTION

He bubbling suggested used to remove ²⁰⁸Pb due to its lower melting temp, 330°C. Pb contamination will melt first then stripped away by gas

Resulting crystal demonstrated poor optical qualities but lead reduced, though potassium suffered a slight increase

Contaminant	Powder (ppm)	Crystal section (ppm)			
		1	2	3	
K39	0.0075	0.0086	0.012	0.012	
Pb208	0.0010	0.00035	0.00033	0.00024	
Rb85	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	
Th232	< 0.0008	< 0.0008	< 0.0008	< 0.0008	
U238	< 0.0001	< 0.0001	< 0.0001	< 0.0001	



BACKGROUND LEVELS

Crystal	^{nat} K (ppb)	²³⁸ U (ppt)	²²⁶ Ra (µBq/kg)	²¹⁰ Pb (µBq/kg)	²³² Th (#Bq/kg)	R♭ in 2-6 keV (cpd/kg/keV)	Active mass (kg)
DAMA [1]	13	0.7-10	8.7-124	5-30	2-31	<0.8	250
ANAIS [2]	31	<0.81	-	1530	0.4-4	3.2	112
COSINE [3]	<42	<0.12	8-60	10-420	7-35	2.7	~60
SABRE [4]	4.3±0.2	0.4	5.9±0.6	410±20	1.6±0.3	< 1 (goal)	~50 (goal)
PICOLON [5]	<20	-	13±4	<5.7	1.2±1.4	< 1 (goal)	~20 (goal)

[1] R. Bernabei et al., <u>NIMA 592(3) (2008)</u>

[2] J. Amare et al., <u>EPIC 79 412(2019)</u>

[3] P. Adhikari et al., <u>EPIC 78 490 (2018)</u>

[4] B. Suerfu et al., Phys. Rev. Research 2, 013223 (2020)

[5] K. Fushimi et al., <u>PTEP 4 043F01 (2021)</u>

ACTIVE VETO

SABRE also utilizes an external tagging system that identifies and reduces background during operation.

System has 4π coverage made up of:

- 12 kL linear alkyl benzene doped with PPO and Bis-MSB
- 18 Hamamatsu R5912 PMTs

Any radioactive decay with gamma >100 keV can be vetoed.

cpd/kg/keV per mBq/kg	238U	232Th	210Pb	85Kr	87Rb	40K
I-6 keV no veto	0.963	0.250	0.681	0.191	0.695	0.650
I-6 keV with veto	0.921	0.216	0.681	0.191	0.695	0.095
Veto effectiveness	4.3%	13.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	85.4%





Component	Rate (cpd/kg/keV)	Veto efficiency (%)
Crystal intrinsic	<5.2 x 10 ⁻¹	13
Crystal cosmogenic	1.6 × 10 ⁻¹	45
Crystal PMTs	3.8 × 10 ⁻²	57
Crystal wrap	4.5 x 10 ⁻³	П
Enclosures	3.2 × 10 ⁻³	85
Conduits	1.9 × 10 ⁻⁵	96
Steel vessel	1.4 x 10 ⁻⁵	>99
Veto PMTs	1.9 × 10 ⁻⁵	>99
Shielding	3.9 x 10 ⁻⁶	>99
Liquid scintillator	4.9 × 10 ⁻⁸	>99
External	5.0 × 10 ⁻⁴	>93
Total	0.72	27

[1] SABRE South Collab. arxiv:2205.13849

ACTIVE VETO

Background simulations assume deposition in scintillator \Rightarrow detection of optical photon. Not the case!

Successful detection is dependent on

- I. Number of photons generated by deposition of energy E
 - Light yield of LAB Poiss(n; LY x E)
- 2. Probability of photon generated at (x, y, z) reaching PMT_i.
 - Given by P_{Di}(x, y, z) based on simulation
- 3. Probability of PMT_i detecting photon
 - QE_i

True detection probability is:

 $Poiss(n; LY \times E) * Bi(n, QE_i \times P_{Di}(x, y, z))$



Probability of optical photon hitting PMT as a function of creation position

ACTIVE VETO

Strong position dependence, but likely we can cut on a lower energy threshold than assumed for simulations (100 keV)

- Average $P_{Di}(x, y, z) \sim 0.04$
- Average QE ~ 0.3
- Light yield ~ 12 PE/keV
- \Rightarrow average number of detections is 0.144 PE/keV.

Likely PMT threshold is 6-8 PE, meaning veto threshold can be reduced to 50 keV, leading to:

- Reduced overall background
- Possible sensitivity to new physics using LS as detector



Fraction of 100 keV events undetected by PMTs

EVENT RECONSTRUCTION

Detection probability maps can also be used to inform position reconstruction and particle ID in veto detector (tells us which PMTs will see which events)

1500

Basic reconstruction: weighting (x, y, z) coordinate of PMT with number of detected photons

$$X = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{17} X_PMT_i \times (Q_PMT_i^{3})}{\sum_{i=0}^{17} (Q_PMT_i^{3})}$$

Cube power is included to remove biasing.

For I MeV events, $X_{rec} - X_{true} = 5.75 \text{ mm}$ $\Delta(X_{rec} - X_{true}) = 176.11 \text{ mm}$

Less than ideal, but a good start!



Charge reconstruction

EVENT RECONSTRUCTION

Another option is to invert existing probability maps – plot the number of generated photons required at each position to produce one hit in PMTs. This method is beneficial as gives both position and energy in one step

- I. Construct this 3D map for each PMT
- 2. For an event, scale each of these with the number of observed photons at PMT
- 3. Find the position that has the ~ same number of photons generated in each plot



EVENT RECONSTRUCTION

Barberio, Nuti, MJZ (in prep.)



Energy deposition required to have the observed number of hits in both PMT0 and PMT4 (given by red dots). The true event position is shown in pink, and the reconstructed in orange.

This requires a fully 'digitized' signal

EVENT RECONSTRUCTION

Can also use timing information to reconstruct position. Based on the requirement that hit time is \sim time of direct flight

XT

 X_R

 X_{PMT}

1. Take charge reconstruction as initial guess position, R_0

2. Compute the time of flight from this position to PMT_i, tof_i

R_T

Vessel origin ′ R₀

- 3. Compare this to hit time for PMT_i , t_i
- 4. Construct the correction factor dr
- 5. Repeat steps 2-4 using R_0 +dr as the new guess





PMT

Melbourne, Spinks, MJZ (in prep.)

Digitisation of optical simulations takes the list of photon arrival times output by Geant4 and simulates the physical process that produces a signal that can be analysed in the same way as actual data.

- I. Apply quantum efficiency and transit time
 - Applies a probability cut to mimic QE
 - Adds cable length and PMT TT
- 2. Convolution
 - Determine each photoelectron (PE) charge
 - Convolve with SPE to get semicontinuous waveform
- 3. Digitise
 - Account for sample rate and resolution of DAQ
- 4. Noise effects
 - Add baseline fluctuations, shot noise, dark rate

Finalising development for use in analysis framework



Melbourne, Spinks, MJZ (in prep.)



FUTURE PROJECTIONS

Based on these studies, SABRE South is expected to have a total mass of 50 kg, and background <0.7 cpd/kg/keV.

In the event of null results, we should reach 3σ exclusion in ~2yr of data taking, and 5σ approx 3 yrs after that.

In the event of a positive DAMA-like signal, SABRE will have a discovery power of 5σ within ~2yrs.



FUTURE PROJECTIONS

Additionally, can compare the ability to constrain generic new physics: minimum excess each setup could observe with 3σ as a function of live time.

Again, SABRE performs very well, very quickly. This is due to its ultra low background compared to the other two experiments.

Further studies are in progress to examine how different, more intricate background models will influence experimental sensitivity, and what kind of new physics could be probed with such a set up.



SUMMARY

PhD work has fallen into a few different categories:

- Understanding the need and performance of model independent tests of DAMA
 - Impact of different models and velocity distributions on observations
 - Requirements for a model independent test
 - Detector dependence on observation rate
- SABRE background model
 - Crystal purification techniques
 - MC modelling of contaminations
 - Crystal requirements
- Event reconstruction
 - Optical simulations
 - Position reconstruction
 - Waveform simulation
- Experimental projections
 - Ability of SABRE to constrain DAMA
 - Tests of new physics with SABRE

Key outputs/future work

- MJZ, Barberio, Busoni, JCAP12 (2020) 014
- MJZ, Barberio, arxiv:2107.07674 (presented at TAUP21)
- Barberio, Duffy, Lawerence, MJZ, (impact of vel. dist. in prep.)
- MJZ in SABRE South Collab. arxiv:2205.13849 (corresponding author)
- SABRE Technical Design Report (in prep, chapter editor)
- MJZ, Barberio (impact of QF in prep, presented at IDM22)
- Ongoing project with M. Mews
- Melbourne, Spinks, MJZ (waveform simulation, in prep)
- SABRE White Paper (in prep, chapter coordinator)

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SABRE North



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UNIVERSITÀ **DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO**



BACK UP SLIDES



PSIDM MODELS

[1] Kang, Scopel, Tomar, PRD 99, 103019 (2019)



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PSIDM MODELS

Can take these models and find better fits (rather than the lowest tension)

Also examine influence of velocity distribution – inclusion of high velocity stream substructure increases mass and decreases cross section and mass splitting

Velocity distribution	Model	$m_\chi~({ m GeV})$	$\sigma_0~({ m cm}^2)$	$\delta~({\rm keV})$	$\chi^2/{ m dof}$
	1	13.87	7.53×10^{-29}	20.17	7.02/12
SHM	2	13.47	2.09×10^{-29}	20.82	6.71/12
	3	13.17	2.45×10^{-33}	20.42	6.92/12
SHM+Stream	1	14.72	4.89×10^{-29}	19.81	7.31/12
	2	14.29	1.36×10^{-29}	20.67	6.89/12
	3	13.96	1.26×10^{-33}	19.70	7.18/12

NAOH REDUCTION



NAOH REDUCTION

Hydroxides 'wet' sides of growth container causing sticking, then cracking reducing optical qualities



Can be reduced via introduction of Silicon tetrahalides SiX_4 where X is I or CI

 $SiCl_4 + 2NaOH \rightarrow 2NaCl + 2HCl + SiO_2$

NAOH REDUCTION

Test of this method with non-optical crystals (no thallium doping) indicated success in reducing sticking

Further tests are required to understand any negative effects on optical qualities



40K REDUCTION



Method:

- I. Pump 5 L DI water into tank via filter
- 2. Heat to 56°C and stir in 1 kg Na_2CO_3
- 3. Cool to -5°C for 24 hrs untouched
- 4. Kickstart crystallization by stirring
- 5. Leave for 18 hrs, then mix and drain to filter module

210PB REDUCTION

Ι.

2.

3.

4.



- 5. Leave molten powder with He bubbling for 2.5 hrs
- 6. Turn of He, cool Nal to 20°C at rate of 5°C/min

Veto system not only reduces background but also allows for in situ measurements and particle ID.





[1] SABRE South Collab. arxiv:2205.13849



PROBABILITY RECONSTRUCTION







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