The DarkSide-Proto detector

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Future detectors in the DarkSide program





DarkSide-Prototype

1 tonne 1 m² of SiPM coverage (2018 -) DarkSide-20k

50 tonne 20 m² of SiPM coverage (2022 -)

SiPM to enhance LAr technology: 24 cm² single-channel detector

- Advantages w/r to cryogenic PMTs
 - Very compact, much lower radioactivity
 - Light yield increase by 50%
 - Greater stability
 - Ten-fold reduction of costs per unit area
 - SiPMs love to run at LAr temperature!
- A full chain (development-production-packaging-testing) strategy largely funded by Regione Abruzzo
 - Custom SiPM development for cryogenic temperature (FBK)
 - Industrial cooperation for large-scale production (LFoundry)
 - Radiopure packaging of the tiles and of the cryogenic FE readout board (Nuova Officina Assergi - NOA)
 - Massive test and selection of detector modules before installation in DS-20k (INFN-Naples)





Recoil directionality in Liquid Argon

ReD Experiment @ LNS



- Irradiate a small LAr TPC with neutrons and produce recoils parallel or orthogonal wrt the E field to test Columnar Recombination models
- Measure scintillation & ionization at variable recoil energy and E field
- Bonus: measure light and charge yield for low energy nuclear recoils
- A significant reduction in Qy uncertainty and "some" indication of the underlying distribution of the number of ionization electrons at very low recoil would allow significant improvement in the sensitivity at lower masses (1-2 GeV/c²)

ReD TPC

- Designed and built at UCLA
- Optimized for neutron beam tests
- Assembled at Naples CRYOLAB
- In its dedicated LAr cryosystem



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Photoelectronics

- RED TPC with SiPM based optical readout
- Higher PDE compared to PMTs
- Individual readout of top SiPMs provides sub cm spatial resolution of the X-Y position of the S2 signal, improving recoil measurement
- Low noise at cryogenic temperatures



24ch FEB from INFN-NA

Two 5×5 cm² tiles 24 NUV-HD-LF rectangular SiPM, 25 µm cell, 10 MOhm quenching resistor, Arlon substrate



2 tiles with new SiPMs from PU



ReD @ NAPLES





ReD @LNS









1-ton prototype





A scalable design: Motherboards





mock-up from INFN-BO/INFN-PI



×25

Motherboard is the basic modular unit: Single MB TPC June design (so-called Proto-Proto)



- A TPC to test the basic modular unit
 - 25 top + 25 bottom r/o channels
 - reduced drift length to avoid pile-up



- GOALS:
 - electroluminescence field uniformity
 - gas pocket thickness uniformity
 - S2 signal resolution
 - xy position reconstruction





370 PDM (19 MB) 1ton prototype TPC

DarkSide-Proto @CERN

1-ton TPC prototype of DS-20k detector will allow:

- validation of the design of mechanics and cryogenics of the TPC
- integration tests of the custom SiPM-Photosensors and of the full read-out electronics and data acquisition chain



Phases of the Proto Project

Proto 0:

 Standalone test of cryogenic system concept; identification and preparation of full readout and DAQ of 50 pre-production PDMs

Proto I: "Proto-Proto"

- Design, construction and operation at CERN of R&D TPC equipped with 50 preproduction PDMs (2 Motherboards);
- assembly, commissioning, and operation of full read-out and DAQ for 50 PDMs;

Proto II:

- Assembly and commissioning of full system, including 400 first production PDMs;
- full electronics chain and DAQ final components.

Radiopure Proto to be deployed at LNGS to develop Low Mass DM searches

Future Darkside Low-Mass Searches



1 year data taking with DS-Proto

DarkSide future program



DarkSide-20k a 20-tonnes fiducial argon detector 100 tonne×year background-free search for dark matter

GADMC detector

a 300-tonnes depleted argon detector 1,000 tonne×year background-free search for dark matter