Status of XENONnT and the final results of XMASS

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A V L I PMU INSTITUTE FOR THE PHYSICS AND MATHEMATICS OF THE UNIVERSE B01: Direct Search for Dark Matter with High-Sensitivity Large-Scale Detectors

The goals of this program, proposed five years ago:

- Demonstrate the experimental sensitivity of XENONnT to be 2x10⁻⁴⁸cm² with a 20 tyr exposure by introducing the SK-Gd technology.
- 2. Support physics analyses in the XMASS-I experiment.
- 3. Develop low-background photosensors, etc. for future DM exps.
 → talk by Yamashita-san.

XMASS: proposal in 2000

- XMASS was designed to observe low-energy solar vs, such as pp and ⁷Be vs, in 2000 to compensate for Super-K solar v physics.
- Constraints for dark matter were relatively weak at that time, and we aimed to detect dark matter first and observe pp-solar vs as the second step. $0\nu\beta\beta$, SI/SD by Isotope separation?

IV. ISOTOPE SEPARATION AND DETECTION OF SOLAR NEUTRINOS, Low Energy Solar Neutrino Detection by using Liquid Xenon DOUBLE BETA DECAY AND DARK MATTER. (September 26, 2021) Odd enriched Even enriched:containing ¹³⁶Xe Y.Suzuki (for the Xenon Collaboration [1]) Kamioka Observatory, Institute for Cosmic Ray Research, University of Tokyo, Higashi-Mozumi, $2\nu\beta\beta/0\nu\beta\beta$ Solar neutrino Kamioka, Gifu 506-1205, Japan Dark matter Dark matter 3 arXiv:hep-ph/0008296v1 29 Aug 2000 Spin dependent Spin independent





XMASS: technical breakthrough Liquid xenon was NOT so attractive in 2000 since it contains radioactive ⁸⁵Kr, which was released from reactor processes.

- ~1 Bq/kg \rightarrow XMASS established the reduction method in 2004, <10 μ Bq/kg

- Water Cherenkov muon veto
 - Based on Super-K experience, we graduated from a passive lead and copper shield and established the active water Cherenkov shield. Good for neutrons.
- Development of the world-best low-background PMTs

They opened up large-scale low-BG LXe detectors for rare event searches.



XMASS-I: working principle

Self shielding for γ injection (XMASS-I)



- BG reduction by fiducial volume cut
 - Very large photoelectron yield
 - ~ 14.7 p.e./keV ⇔ Super-K ~6 hits/MeV
 - Event reconstruction based on observed hit pattern ~ a few keV.
 - 832 kg in total, 97 kg in r < 20 cm FV.
 - Target of a WIMP search $\sim 2x10^{-45}$ cm².
 - Good to search for e/γ events as well.
 - e/ γ particle identification
- Larger det. has better performance.
 - T info useful (scintil. const. 30-40 ns)
 - Better self-shielding for $e/\gamma/n$
 - Attenuation >10 m for scintillation light



History of XMASS-I and physics achievements





Physics highlights of XMASS



Solar axions in 2013 Dou Bosonic super WIMPS in 2014/18

Double electron capture 2016/18

Millicharged v, $U_{B-L}(1)$ 2020

XMASS pioneered several physics targets using large-scale dark matter detectors!



The final results with XMASS-I full data set

- XMASS is a unique single-phase liquid xenon detector. It has a very long exposure of 1590.9 days.
- 1. Search for WIMP signal in 97 kg (fiducial).
- 2. Annual modulation in 832 kg (full vol.)

utilizing the Migdal & bremsstrahlung effects.



Direct dark matter searches with the full data set of XMASS-I

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Discussion in 2017

Activity towards a future direct DM search

- We planned to construct a larger detector, XMASS-1.5. However, we concluded that it was not competitive anymore.
 - The primary reason was that the background due to e scattering by low E solar v is difficult to distinguish from a WIMP signal.
 - Large dual phase detectors were already approved for construction.
- We aim for a future, more sensitive, third-generation detector (G3) and, in the meantime, to collaborate with a competitor building a multi-ton G2 detector.
- This plan was submitted to the future project committee in ICRR.
- The committee agreed that XMASS-1.5 was not competitive with other contemporary projects and accepted this change of our plan for the future. It also recognized participation in one of the G2 experiments, in particular the XENONnT experiment, as appropriate.
- Recommended to continue our efforts and realize a G3 experiment.



MA

2012-201 <4.1x10⁻⁴⁷c PRL 121, 111302 (2018)

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~1_4x10⁻⁴⁸cl

JCAP11(2020)03

XENONnT, toward discovery of WIMPs

~O(10) t of LXe target: 2nd generation of direct DM detection exp.



One order of magnitude higher sensitivity by reducing BG with a large exposure: 20 t year (~ 4 ton x 5 yrs) (x 20) BG in unit exposure (~1/20) ~1.4x10⁻⁴⁸cm² (~1/20) @ 50 GeV, 90% C.L.

Larger Exposure, lower BG, higher discovery potential!

Upgrade from XENON1T to XENONnT



https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2402.10446

- LXe time projection chamber (enlarged)
 5.9 t LXe active (3 x XENON1T)
- Liquid xenon purification (new)
 - Faster purification (>> XENON1T)
- Neutron veto (new)
 - Cherenkov neutron veto (68% eff. with pure water, 87% with planned Gd-loaded water)
- Radon distillation column (new)
 - Reducing Rn-originated BG (<1/10 x XENON1T)

First science run, SRO

- July 6 Nov 10, 2021
- 97.1 days livetime
- ER and NR search
 - blind analyses
- Fiducial volume
 - (4.37 \pm 0.14) ton for ER
 - (4.18 \pm 0.13) ton for NR
- Exposure after deadtime correction
 - 1.16 ton-years for ER
 - 1.1 ton-years for NR



ER and NR

- Electronic recoil (ER)
 - larger S2/S1
 - Electrons, gammas, axions, neutrinos
 - Calibration source
 - ²¹²Pb (²²⁰Rn)
 - flat beta spectrum
 - ³⁷Ar
 - -2.82 keV peak
 - for the region close to the threshold energy
- Nuclear recoil (NR)
 - smaller S2/S1
 - neutrons, neutrinos, WIMPs
 - calibration source
 - ²⁴¹Am/Be
 - -4.4 MeV gamma and neutron



SRO Low ER results

- Data agree with the BG-only model
- Dominated by beta decays from ²¹⁴Pb, a daughter of ²²²Rn
- No excess was found
 - Most likely, the explanation of XENON1T excess is a small tritium contamination.
- Factor x5 improved background compared to XENON1T

 Unprecedented low ER BG rate
 (15.8+/-1.3) events/(t·yr·keV)



Stringent new limits

- Solar axions
- Neutrino magnetic moment
- Axion-like particles
- Dark photons

SRO Low ER results

https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.129.161805



SR0 WI	MP r	esults
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	Nominal	Best Fit	
	ROI		Signal-like
ER	134	135^{+12}_{-11}	0.92 ± 0.08
Neutrons	$1.1^{+0.6}_{-0.5}$	1.1 ± 0.4	0.42 ± 0.16
CEvNS	0.23 ± 0.06	0.23 ± 0.06	0.022 ± 0.006
AC	4.3 ± 0.9	$4.4^{+0.9}_{-0.8}$	0.32 ± 0.06
Surface	14 <u>+</u> 3	12 ± 2	0.35 ± 0.07
Total	154	152 ± 12	$2.03_{-0.13}^{+0.17}$
WIMP	-	2.6	1.3
Observed:	-	152	3

- 152 events in ROI, 16 in blinded region
- Best fit indicates no significant excess
- n expectation is a factor 6 higher than prediction.



Component fraction of the best fit model including a 200 GeV/ c^2 WIMP evaluated at event position

SRO WIMP results

- Spin independent, 2.37x10⁻⁴⁷cm² @28GeV/c²
- Power constraint limit based on "rejection power".



median of sensitivity

https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.131.041003



Neutron veto

LXe detector

Covered by

- Contributes to maximize the discovery sensitivity igodol
 - Reduce neutron (n) background by Super-K Gd tech.
 - Dangerous since it mimics the WIMP signal.
 - SR0: pure water 2.2 MeV → Gd-loaded water total ~8 MeV
 - Low radioactive Gd salt, purification of Gd-loaded water.





Reflector sheets will contain the Cherenkov emission from the γ conversions. 120 PMTs will collect the light inside the reflector volume.



Neutron tagging efficiency

- Am/Be source: 4.4 MeV γ in ~50% of all emitted neutrons.
- 400 ns coincidence btw TPC and nveto.
- NR (single) scatter data is used.
- Neutron capture events in nveto
- Quality cuts remove wrongly reconstructed events.





Gd loading to the XENONnT water tank





- Loading 0.05% weight of Gd sulfate octahydrate to the 700 t water tank. (~0.02% Gd in the Super-K convention)
- Concentration increased as expected.

n tag. eff. @0.005% & 0.05% GdSO concentration





- Timing distributions, area distributions, and neutron tagging efficiencies for the data are under investigation.
- n tag. eff. @0.5% is expected to be achieved with full loading.

Summary

- XMASS established some technical bases of liquid xenon detectors for rare event searches and physics targets. The final WIMP results came with its full data set. < 1.4x10⁻⁴⁴cm²@60GeV/c²
- XENON is one of the forefront experiments exploring new physics for dark matter detection and other exotics.
 - The first result on the WIMP search: $< 2.37 \times 10^{-47} \text{cm}^2 \text{ @} 28 \text{GeV/c}^2$
 - More sensitive results will come from XENONnT with the technology developed for the neutrino physics experiment, SK-Gd.

