

DARWIN – a next-generation observatory for dark matter and neutrino physics

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on behalf of the DARWIN collaboration

ICRC2021 (online), 12 – 23 July 2021













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DARWIN Collaboration



- Over 160 scientists
- 33 institutions
- 13 countries \bullet
- Large overlap with XENON

Collaboration





Evolution from XENON10 to DARWIN





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- Hunt for WIMPs from ~GeV to ~TeV led by liquid noble gas experiments
- DARWIN aims to push near-future sensitivities by an order of magnitude down to the irreducible CEvNS background







Dual-Phase Xenon Time Projection Chamber



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JCAP11 (2016) 017

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Baseline Design



- 2.6 m x 2.6 m dual phase TPC in a double-walled cryostat
- 50 t (40 t active) liquid xenon (LXe) target
- Top and bottom array of 3-inch PMTs
- Surrounded by highly reflective PTFE walls
- Drift field *O*(0.1) kV/cm
- Inner neutron veto
- Min.12 m \times 12 m water Cherenkov shield and \bullet muon veto







Expected Events in DARWIN

low-energy

solar v

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...background to one, signal for another channel...

> irreducible CEvNS from ⁸B solar and atmospheric v

n from (α, n) -reactions and spontaneous fission

– Overburden

µ-induced n

- 2 Water Cherenkov shield and muon veto
- **3** Neutron veto
- **4** Fiducialisation, LXe self-shielding, depletion?
- 5 Cryogenic distillation and delayed re-feed

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 \Box









WIMP Dark Matter

- 30 t fiducial volume and 200 t x y exposure
- 99.98% ER rejection -> achieved by ZEPLIN-III ✓ at 30 % NR acceptance
- 0.1 ppt ^{nat}Kr -> XENON achieved 0.03 ppt in distillation test \checkmark
- 0.1 μ Bq/kg ²²²Rn -> push by another order of magnitude
- 8 PE/keV light yield







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A Multipurpose Observatory

The large mass, low energy threshold and ultra-low background makes a variety of other channels accessible...





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Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay

- Natural abundance of 136 Xe is 8.9% -> ~3.5 t active mass without enrichment
- Q-value is 2458 keV -> well above WIMP region lacksquare
- Background from materials, ¹³⁷Xe, ²²²Rn, solar ⁸B v, $2\nu\beta\beta$ of ¹³⁶Xe



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- Optimised 5 t fiducial mass
- Sensitivity of baseline scenario after 10 y: $T_{1/2} = 2.4 \text{ x}$ 10^{27} y (90 % CL) -> 3σ discovery potential: 1.1 x 10^{27} y
- Will cover inverted hierarchy Majorana mass region
- Competitive to future dedicated experiments









Low-Energy Solar Neutrinos

- pp and ⁷Be neutrinos account for > 98% of solar neutrino flux (SSM)
- Detection via elastic electron scattering
- Background from $2\nu\beta\beta$ of ¹³⁶Xe, materials, ²²²Rn, ⁸⁵Kr, DEC of ¹²⁴Xe
- 30 t fiducial volume
- High-precision pp (7Be) flux measurement -> 0.15 % (1%) after 300 t x y
- Measurement of v_e survival probability (4.0 % precision) and neutrino mixing angle (5.1 % precision) below 200 keV
- ¹³N, ¹⁵O within reach, but pep and v-capture on ¹³¹Xe requires depletion



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- Working towards CDR and TDR
- DARWIN is in the APPEC roadmap
- Letter of Intent submitted to LNGS in 2019 with positive feedback
- Supported by two ERC grants for R&D (Xenoscope @ Zurich CH, ULTIMATE @ Freiburg GER)



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- Future merger of DARWIN and LUX-ZEPLIN Collaborations -> new, stronger international collaboration
- Comes after XENONnT and LZ are done
- First joint and successful DARWIN LZ Meeting (26–27 April): https://indico.cern.ch/event/1028794/
- Memorandum of Understanding in progress

DARWIN





DARWIN-LZ Collaboration













Ongoing R&D: Full-scale Demonstrators

Full-Height





Universität Zürich^{uz}^H

- Demonstrate 2.6 m electron drift and study purity requirements
- Test optical properties of xenon
- R&D on HV feedthrough

2.6 m

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Test instrumentation and detector technology at DARWIN scale

2.6 m

Full-Diameter



- Mechanical and electrical test of electrodes
- Test detector materials under cryogenic conditions
- Address sagging, shrinkage, uniform S2-amplification







Ongoing R&D (Selection)

Photosensors

- Alternative to 3-inch PMT 11410 from Hamamatsu
- Goal: Reduce background contribution, maximise light collection and position resolution, good SPE resolution
- Address dark count rate, readout, number of channels
- SiPM [1-4], Digital SiPM, ABALONE [5], VSiPMT [6], Liquid Hole Multipliers [7], 2-inch square PMTs, ...

Material, Radon Background Mitigation and Screening

- Material coating to reduce radon emanation \bullet
- Low-background screening facilities [8–9] and radon emanation chamber





Detector Design

- Optimise established TPC design and consider alternatives
- Hermetic TPC for radon lock-out [10]
- Single Phase LXe TPC with S2-production on thin wires

[1–4] JINST 13 (2018) P10022, Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 893 (2018) 117, Eur. Phys. J. C 80 (2020) 477, JINST 16 (2021) P03014 [5] arXiv:1703.04546 [6] Astropart. Phys. 67 (2015) 18 [7] JINST 15 (2020) C04002 [8-9] JINST 6 (2011) P08010, JINST 11 (2016) P12017 [10] PTEP 2020 (2020) 11, 113H02









DARWIN Observatory – Summary

- **DARWIN** will be the **ultimate dark matter detector**, probing a wide mass range and WIMP-nucleon cross sections down to the irreducible background of coherent neutrino-nucleus interactions
- **Dual-phase TPC** with **50 t xenon** (40 t active) deep underground with neutron veto, water Cherenkov muon veto and shield
- The large mass, low-energy threshold and ultra-low background will open a large variety of accessible physics channels: WIMPs, $0\nu\beta\beta$, low-energy solar neutrinos, galactic supernova neutrinos, CEvNS, solar axions and galactic ALPs
- Competitive $0v\beta\beta$ half life sensitivity and high-precision measurements of the low-energy solar neutrino fluxes
- DARWIN is growing, currently 33 institutions from 13 countries
- Future merger with **LUX-ZEPLIN collaboration**
- R&D: 2 full-scale demonstrators, photosensors, detector design, background mitigation -> supported by two **ERC Grants**: <u>Xenoscope</u> (Zurich CH), <u>ULTIMATE</u> (Freiburg GER)

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Thank you for watching!



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