

# COSINUS

Progressing towards shedding light on the  
DAMA/LIBRA claim



**UCLA**

**Dark Matter 2023**  
March, 29 – April, 1  
Los Angeles, USA

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**MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUT**  
FÜR PHYSIK

# COSINUS: future cryogenic NaI DM search



~30 scientists, engineers, and technicians are building a **low-background cryogenic dark matter observatory** based on a **sodium iodide (NaI)** target

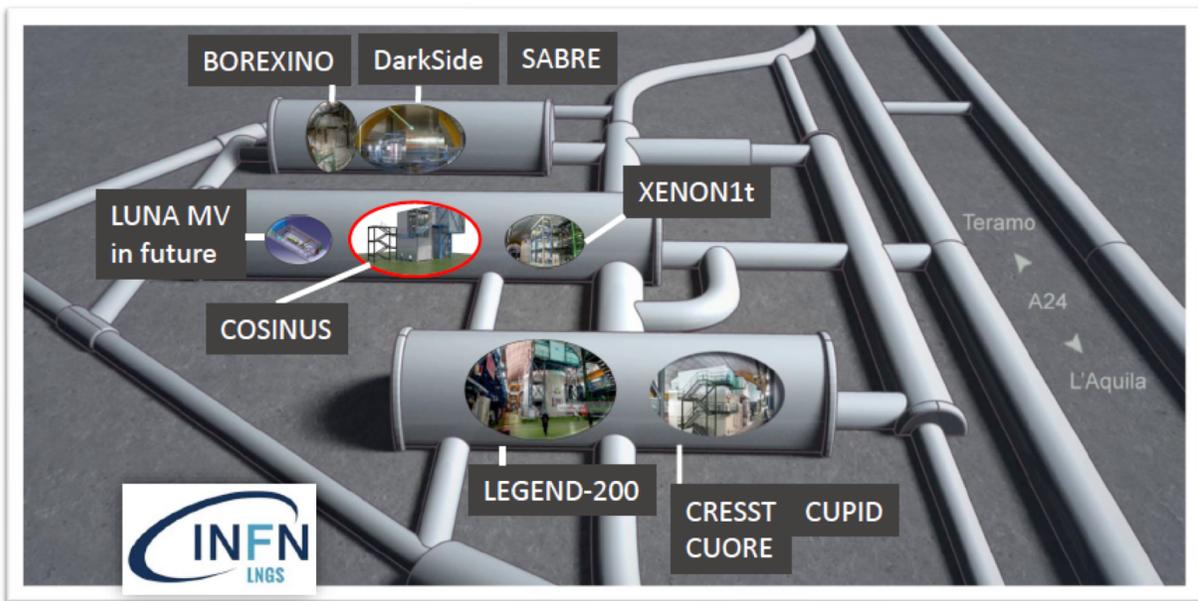
[www.cosinus.it](http://www.cosinus.it)



MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR PHYSICS | K. SCHAEFFNER



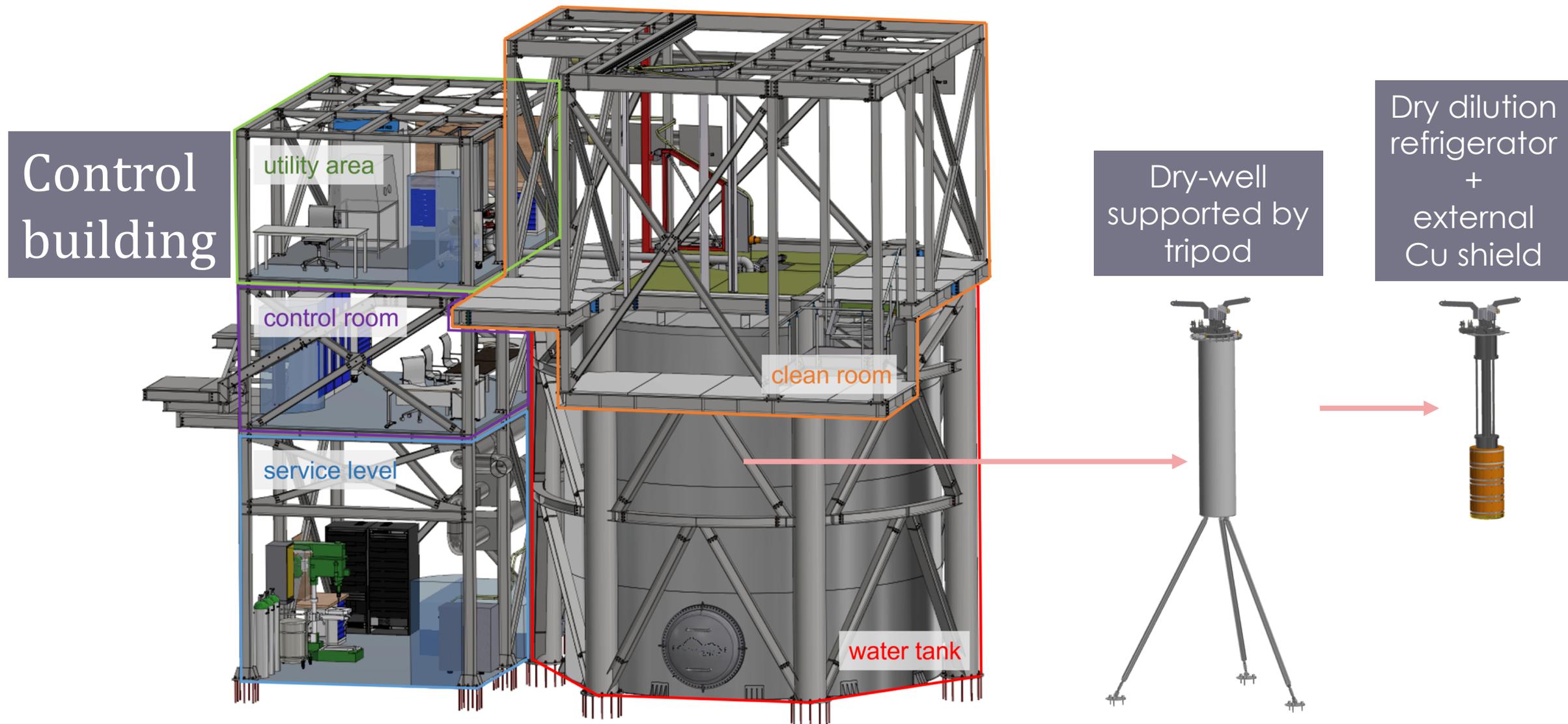
# COSINUS experimental site



- Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso (LNGS), Italy
- COSINUS is located in hall B
- full approval in 2021

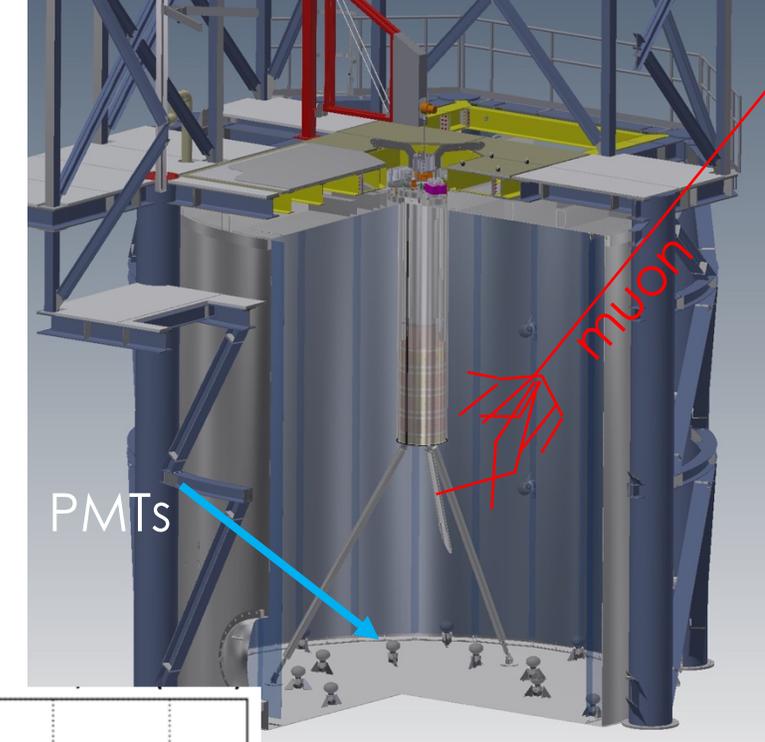
# COSINUS experimental facility

Shielding design based on MC simulations: EPJ C 82, 2022



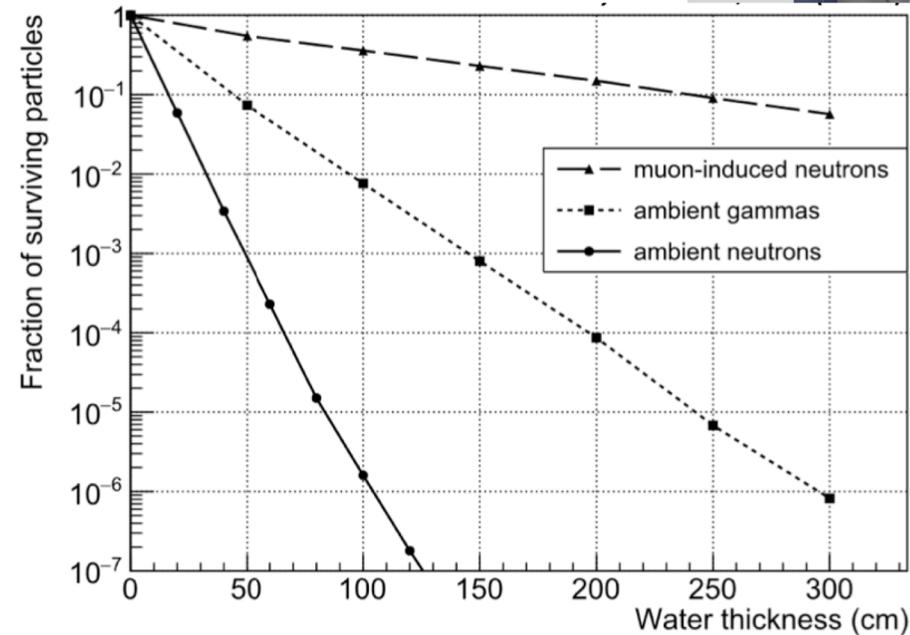
# WHY WE NEED A WATER TANK?

- good moderator for neutrons
- veto of (cosmogenic) muons via Cherenkov light emitted in water → instrumentation of water tank with 28 PMTs



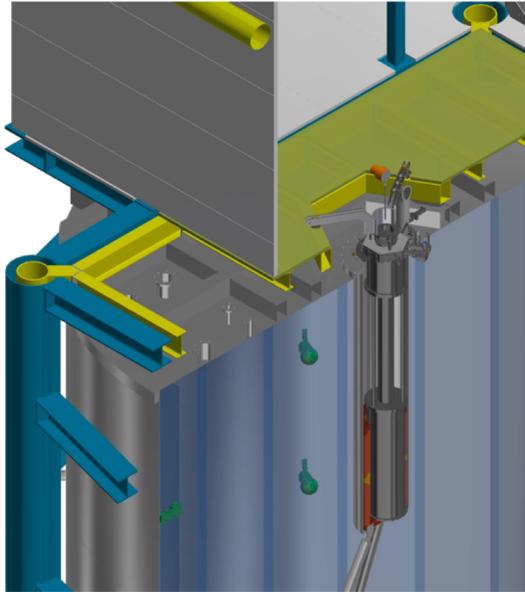
EPJ C 82, 2022

**Rate of cosmogenic neutrons:**  
no veto:  
(3.5 ± 0.7) counts kg<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>  
with veto:  
< 0.05 counts kg<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>



# VIBRATION MITIGATION: 3 LEVELS

## GLOBAL STAGE

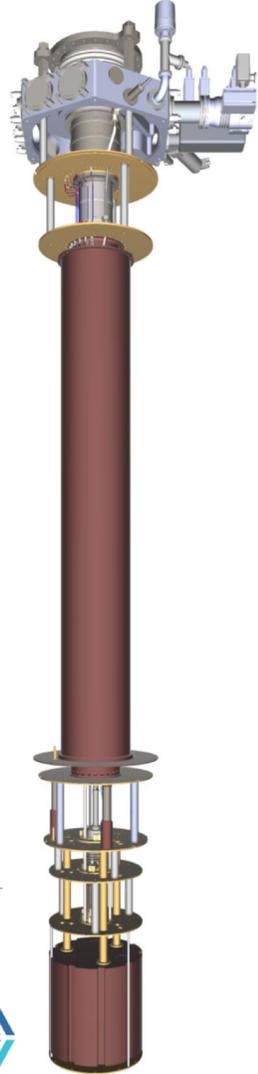


infrastructure on blue frame  
→ most “noisy”

pulse tube unit on yellow frame  
→ medium

cryostat “rests” in drywell  
→ most quiet

## CYROSTAT STAGE



UltraQuiet  
Technology

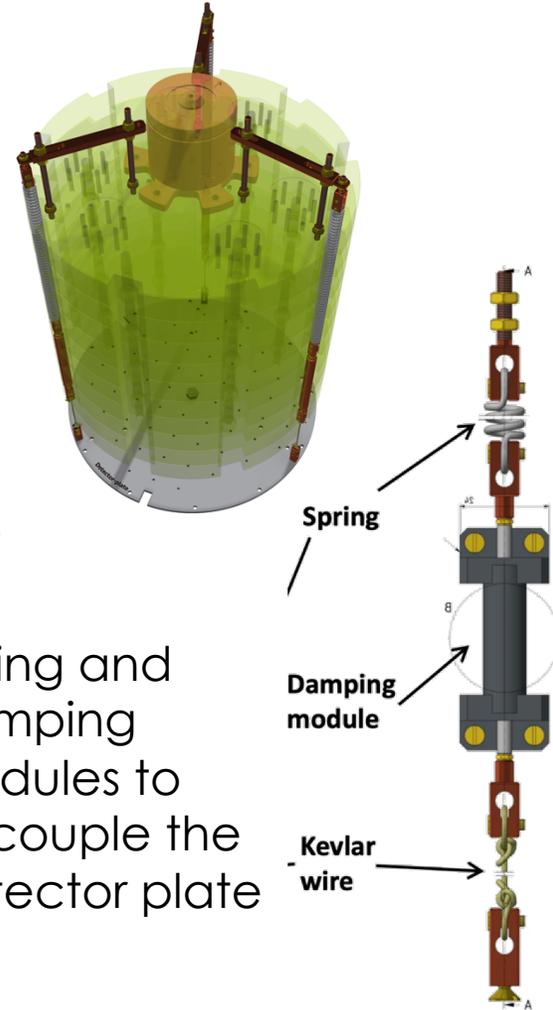
all parts of  
cryostat are  
centered

190 kg copper  
shield below  
the mixing  
chamber

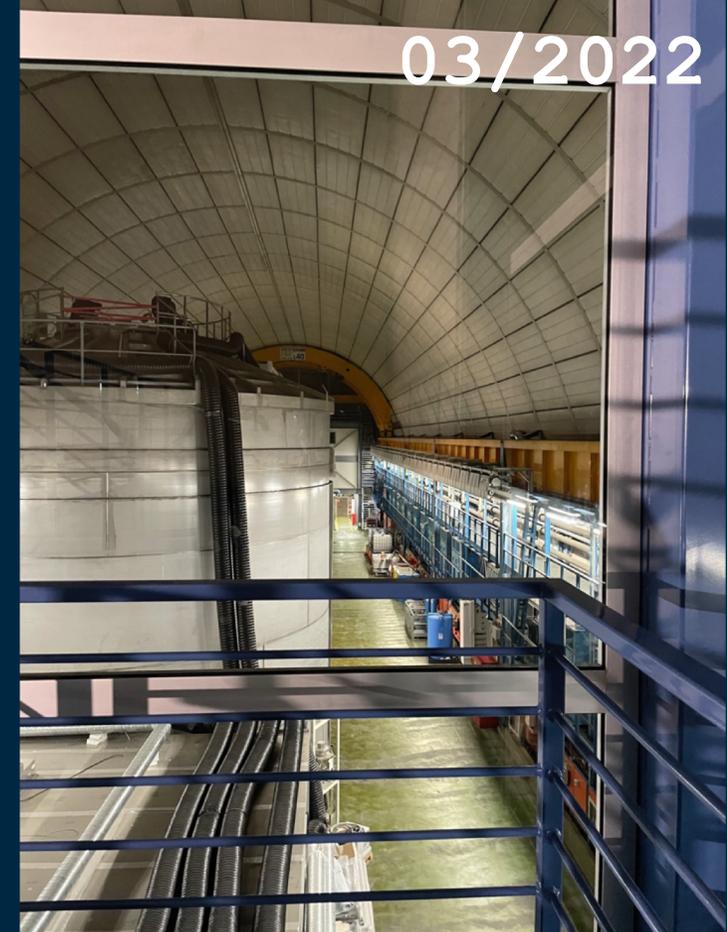
rotary valve of  
the pulse tube  
cooler on  
separate frame

sandbox

## DETECTOR STAGE



Spring and  
damping  
modules to  
decouple the  
detector plate

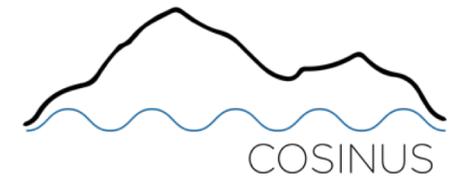


installation @ LNGS: 11/2021 – ongoing

Water tank, platform equipped with clean room and control building finished !

→ this week: installation start of electrical infrastructure

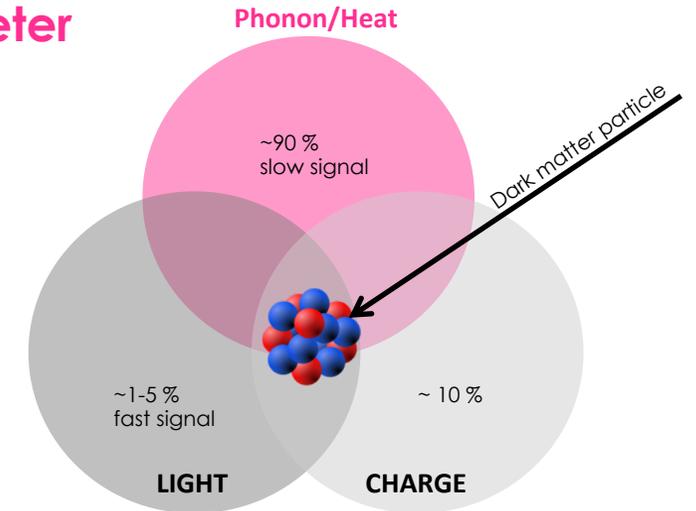
# COSINUS SEARCH STRATEGY



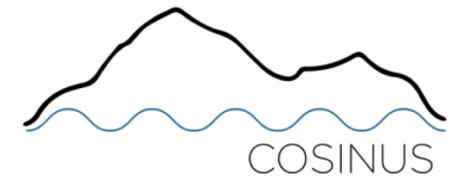
## Model- and target independent test of DAMA

→ *novel and unique*: **sodium iodide target as low-temperature calorimeter**

- HEAT CHANNEL: precise energy information  
+ low threshold for nuclear recoils



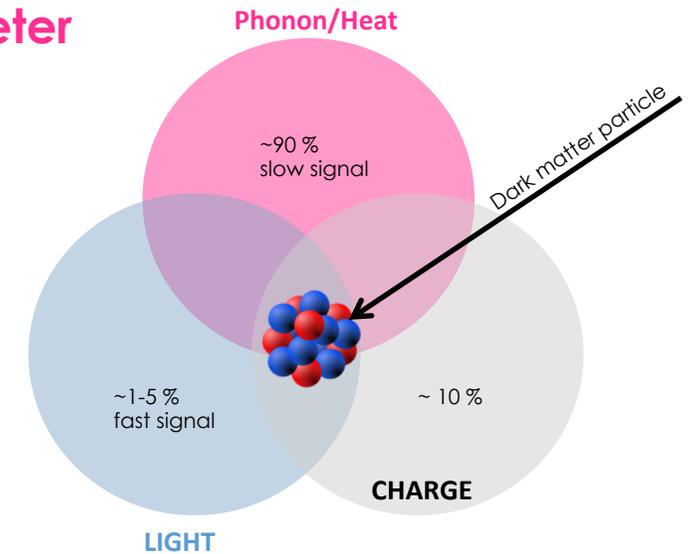
# COSINUS SEARCH STRATEGY



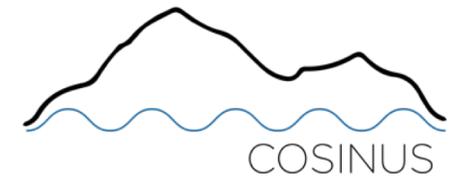
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- LIGHT CHANNEL: particle identification on event-by-event basis



# COSINUS SEARCH STRATEGY

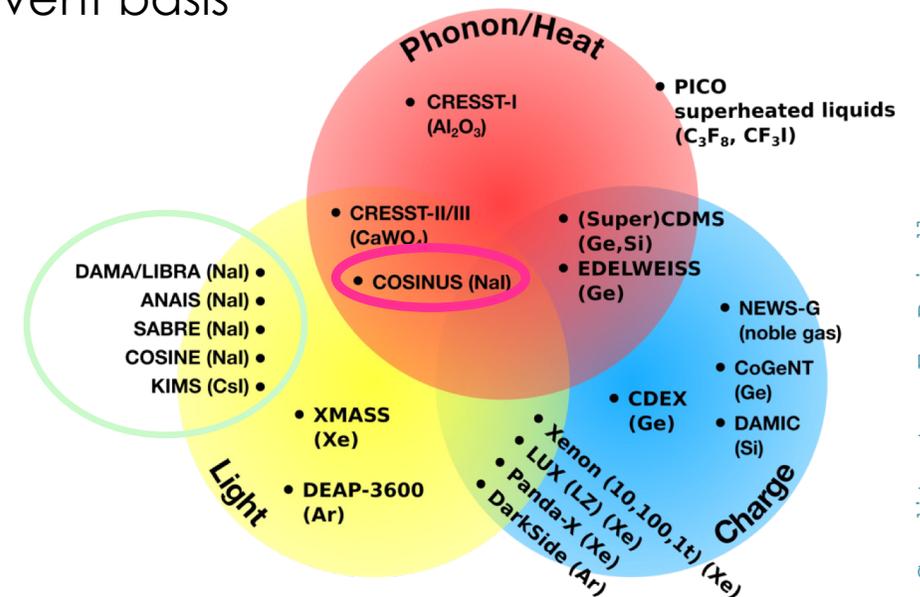


## Model- and target independent test of DAMA

→ *novel and unique*: sodium iodide target as low-temperature calorimeter

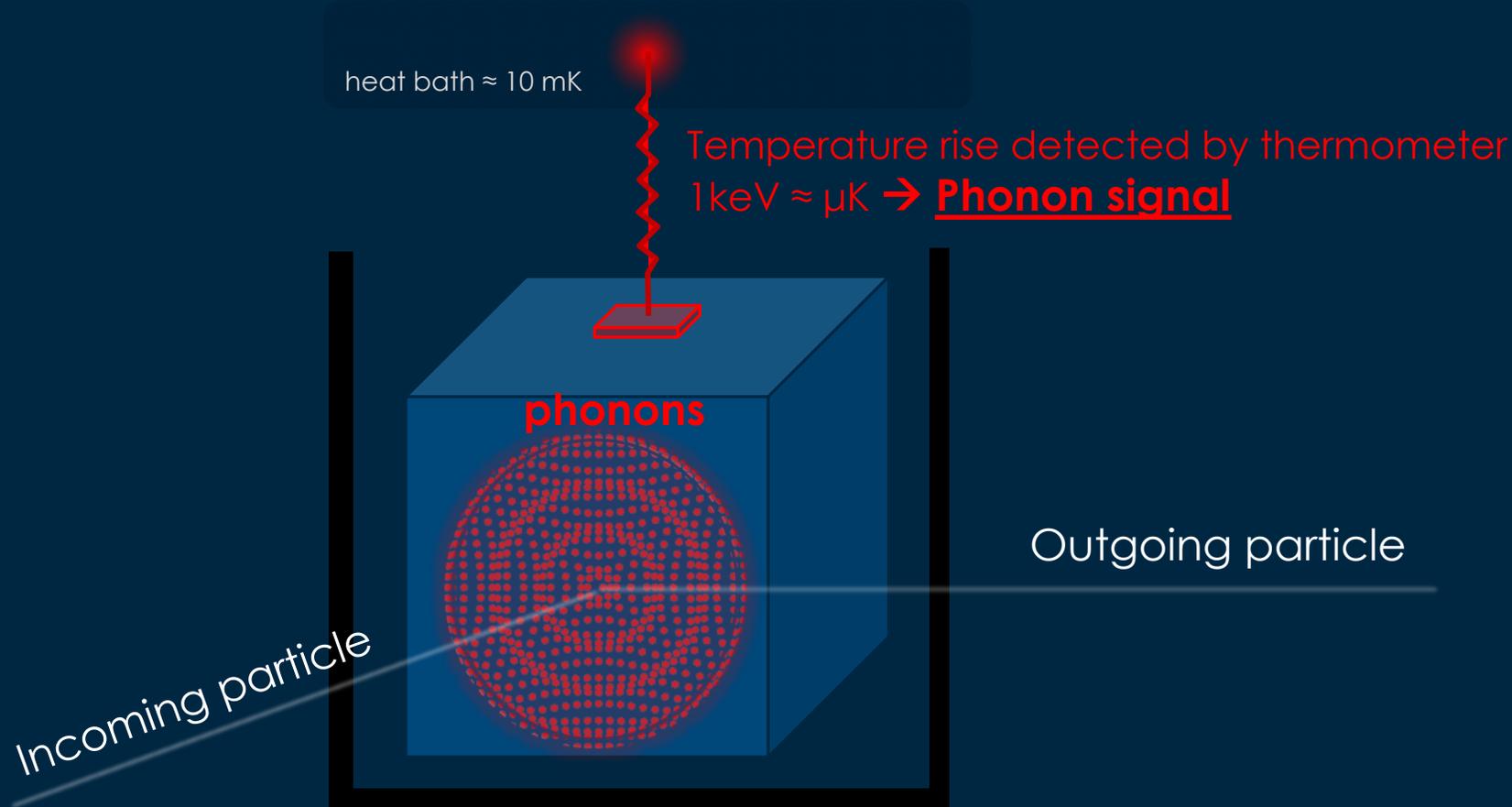
- HEAT CHANNEL: precise energy information  
+ low threshold for nuclear recoils
- LIGHT CHANNEL: particle identification on event-by-event basis

→ Signal-only measurement of potential DM signal

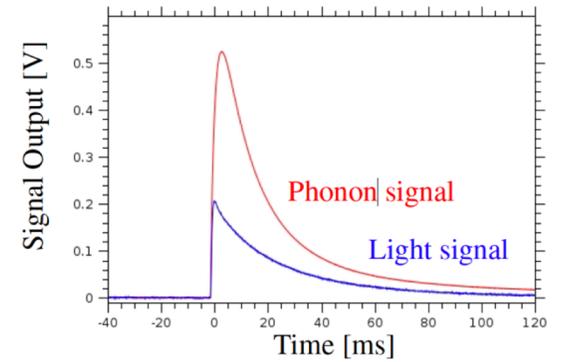
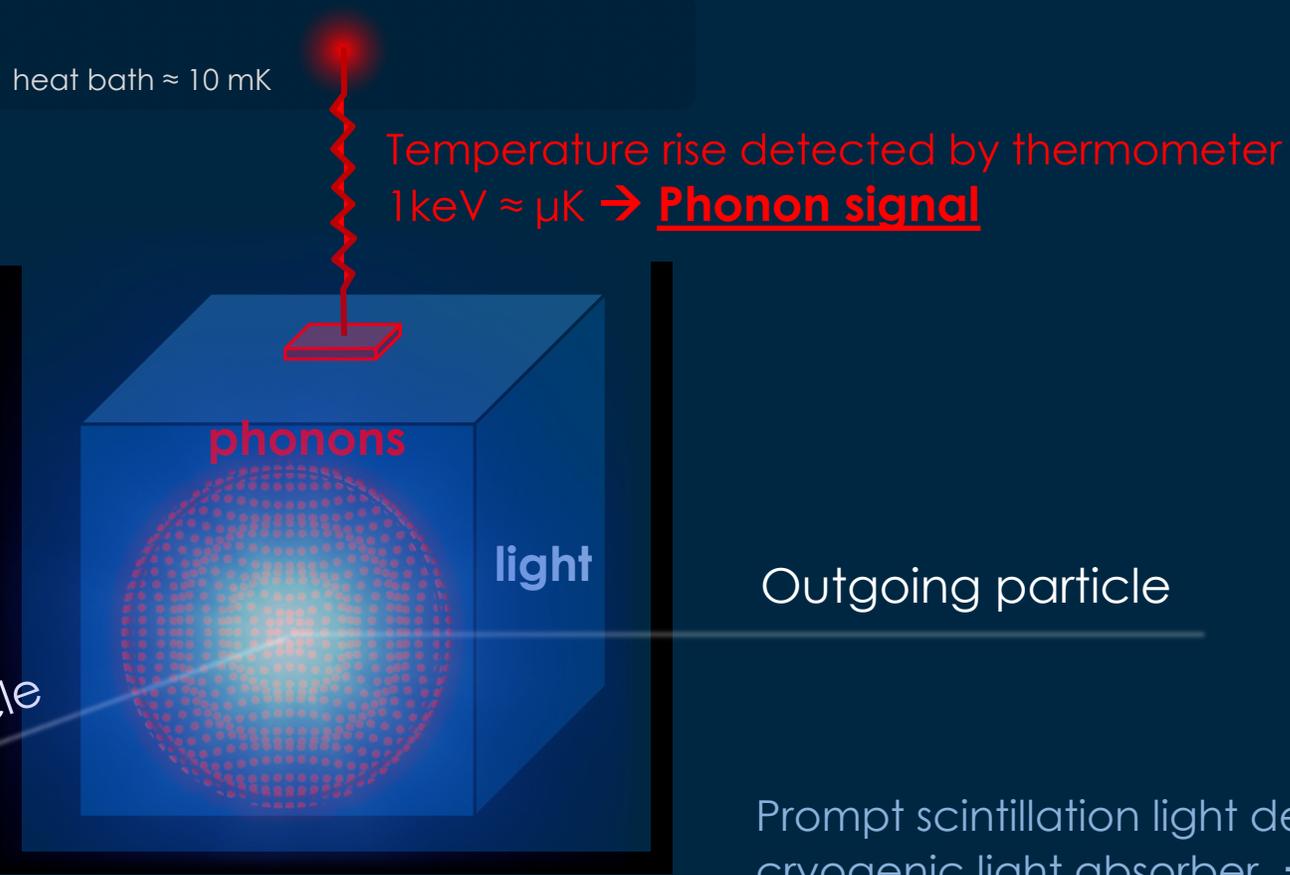


Credits to: F. Reindl

# LOW-TEMPERATURE CALORIMETER



# LOW-TEMPERATURE CALORIMETER

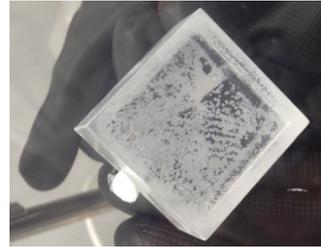


Particle discrimination  
via the **ratio of light to  
phonon signal**

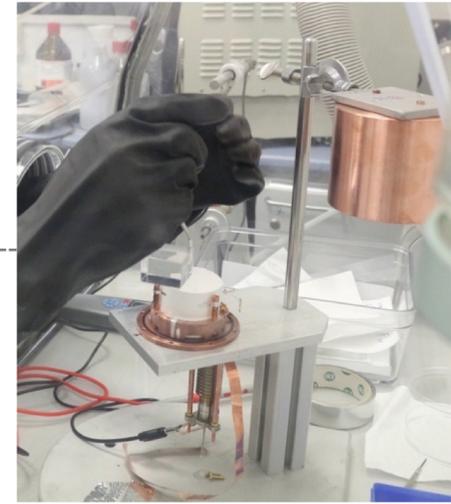
Prompt scintillation light detected by separate,  
cryogenic light absorber  $\rightarrow$  Light signal

# ... NaI is not that NaI !

hygroscopic nature



handle only in controlled atmosphere



$^{40}\text{K}$  in the NaI crystal



NaI grown in collaboration with



5-9 ppb of K at crystals' nose and 22-35 ppb at crystals' tail

(3-inch crystal, Astrograde powder from Merck)

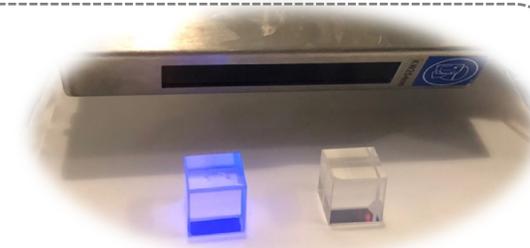
Zhu, Y. et al, IEEE, 2018

low Debye temperature

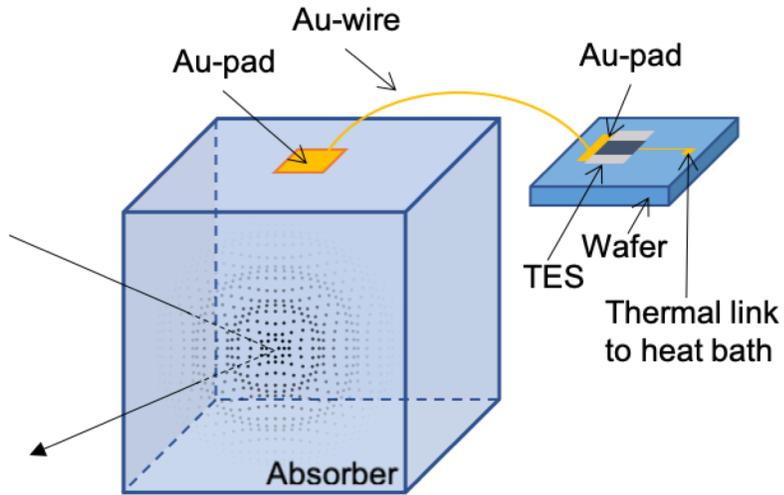


NIM A 1045, 167532

adapted thermometer → [remoTES](#)  
+ avoid other phonon-loss channels



# remoTES DESIGN



NIM A 1045 2023 167532

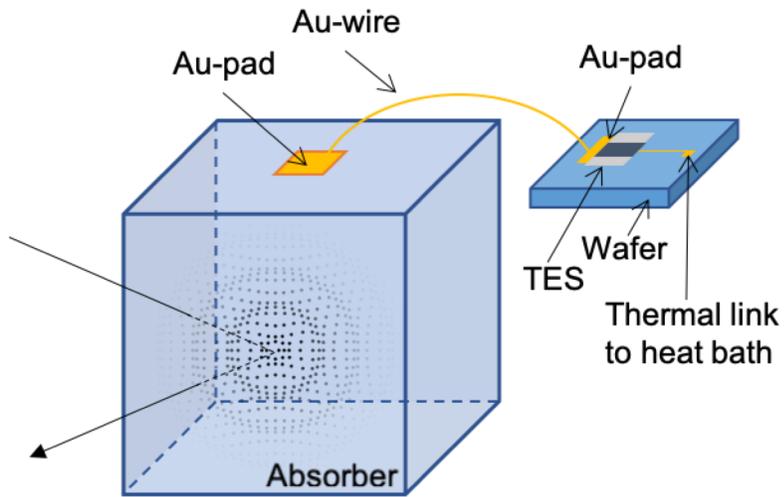
- separate wafer hosts the thermometer (TES = transition edge sensor)



- gold pad glued / evaporated onto NaI crystal phonons propagate in NaI and couple to the electron system of the Au pad
- gold bond wire connection to the temperature sensor

→ → absorber excluded from fabrication process

# remoTES DESIGN



NIM A 1045 2023 167532

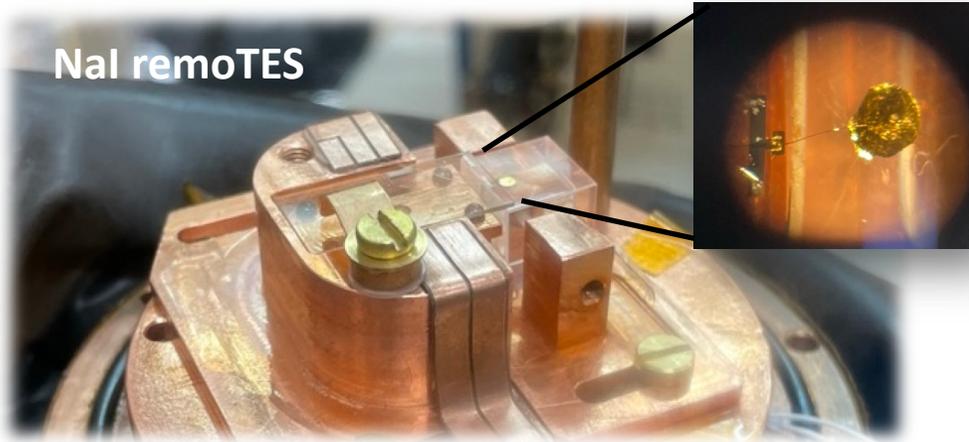
→ proof of principle: Si and TeO<sub>2</sub> as targets

Matt Pyle et. al, 2015  
arXiv:1503.01200



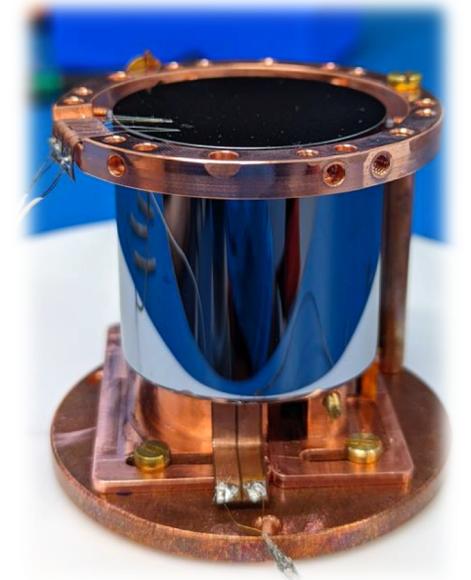
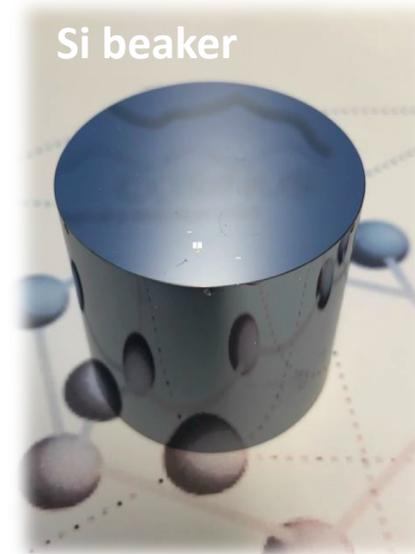
remoTES readout opens field of cryogenic detectors for delicate, non-standard target materials for **dark matter** and **neutrino physics**

# RESULTS FROM NaI-remoTES – June 2022



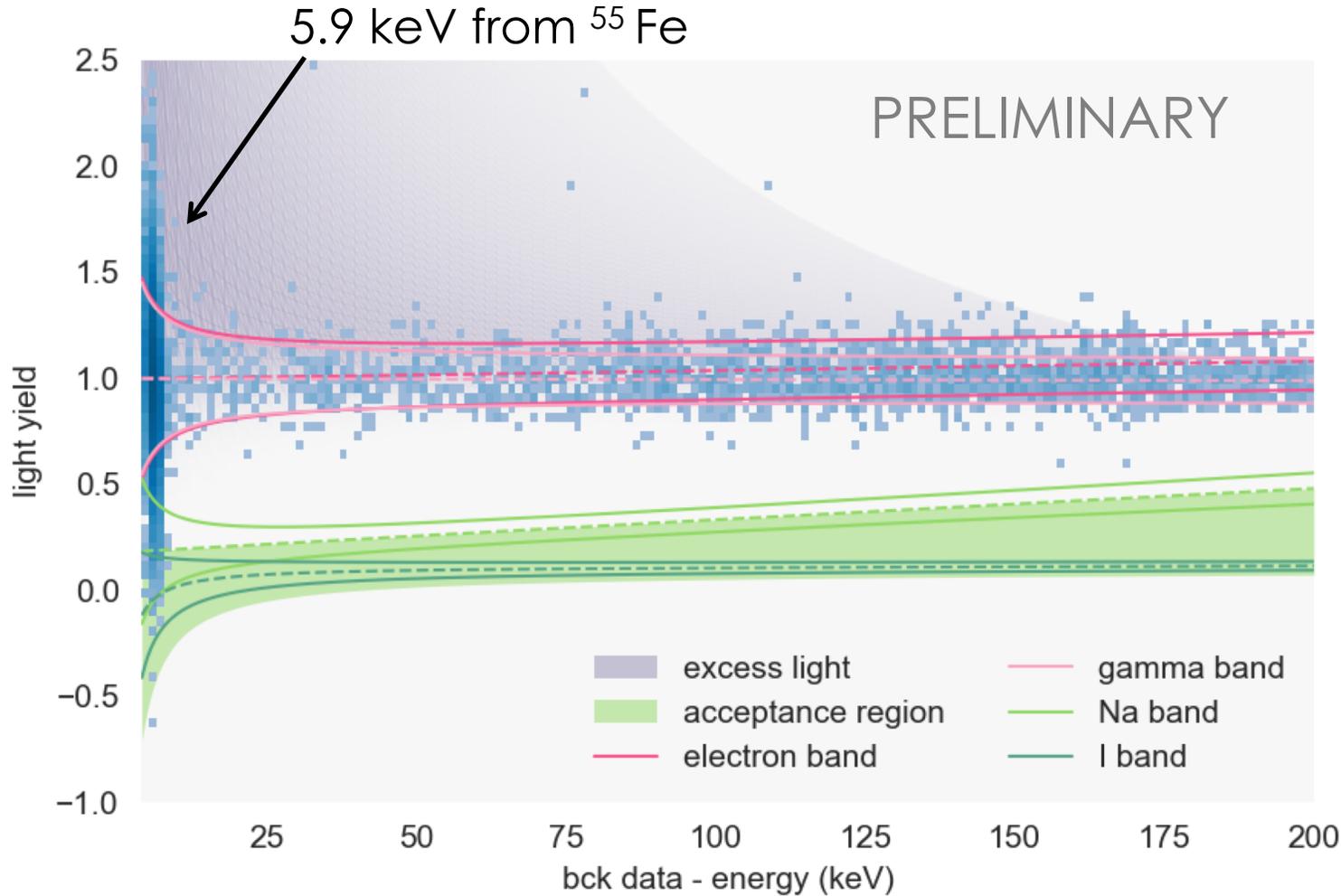
- NaI (undoped) grown by SICCAS
- dimensions:  $10 \times 10 \times 10 \text{ mm}^3$ ; about 4 g
- Au-foil glued with epoxy
- Au-pad size:  $4 \text{ mm}^2$
- TES wafer ( $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ) with W-TES

- silicon light absorber of beaker-shape
- dimensions: 40 mm diameter and height, 1 mm thick
- mass: 15.1 g
- W-TES directly evaporated onto the Si beaker
- TES optimized for light detection

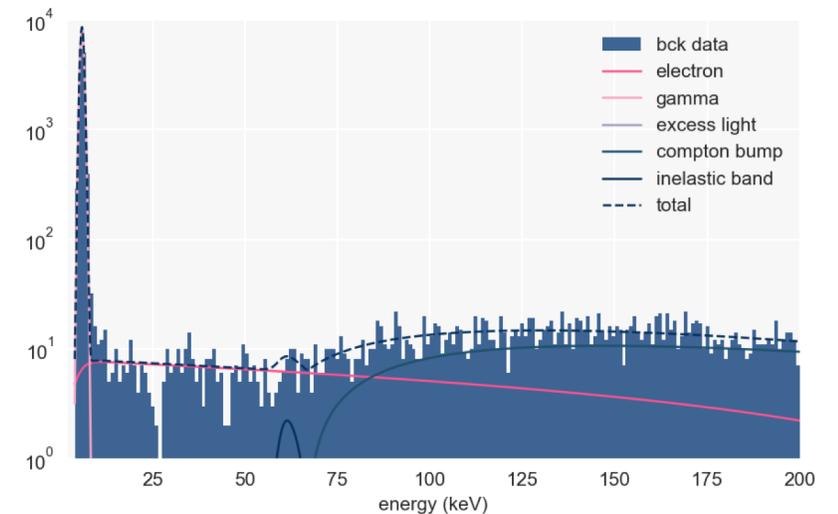


# BACKGROUND DATA

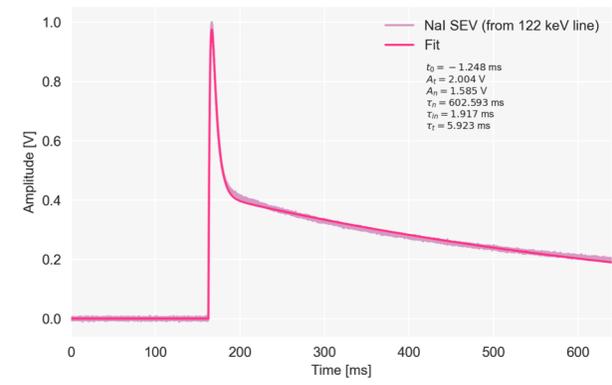
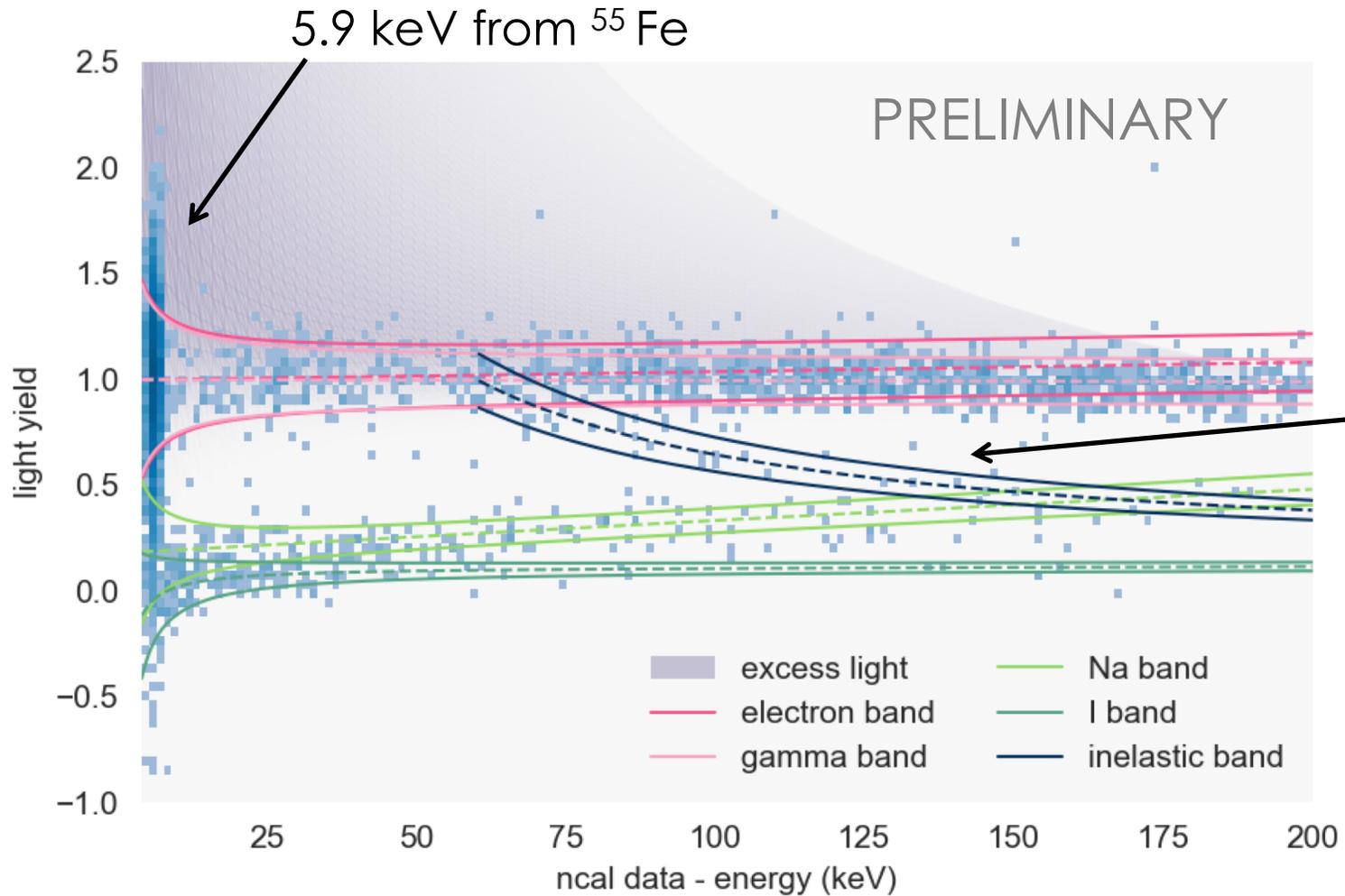
Measurement carried out at the test facility of CRESST @ LNGS



- 58.07 hours of data
- $\sigma_{\text{NaI}} = 0.441 \pm 0.11 \text{ keV} \rightarrow E_{\text{thr}} < 2 \text{ keV}$
- $\sigma_{\text{LD}} = 0.988 \pm 0.052 \text{ eV}_{ee}$
- $\sigma_{\text{LD-direct}} = 23.87 \pm 0.55 \text{ eV}$
- light output NaI:  $\sim 2.5\%$
- energy calibration with  $^{55}\text{Fe}$  &  $^{57}\text{Co}$



# NEUTRON DATA



- AmBe neutron source
- 26.0 hours of data

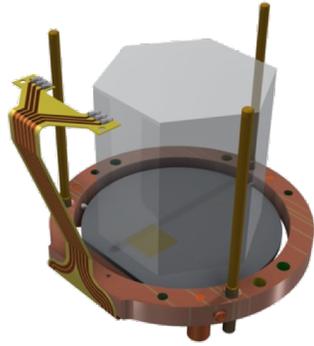
events due to inelastic scattering

### Quenching factors

10 keV: Na = 0.2    QF I = 0.03  
 50 keV: Na = 0.25    QF I = 0.09

proof of particle identification  
 in a NaI-based detector

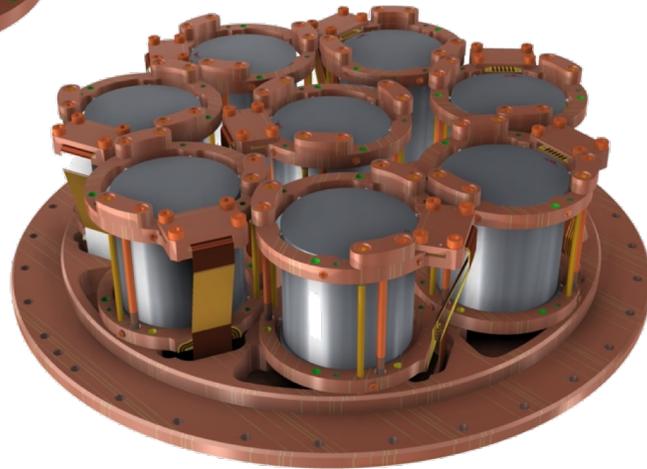
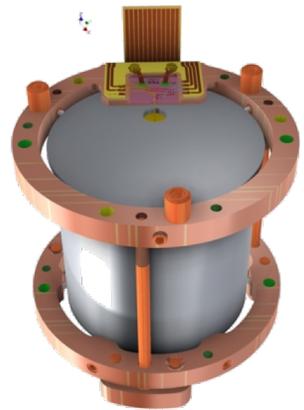
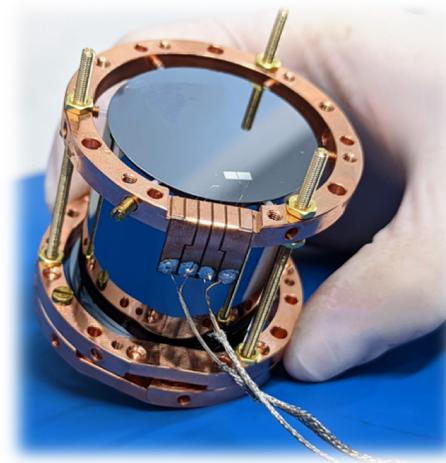
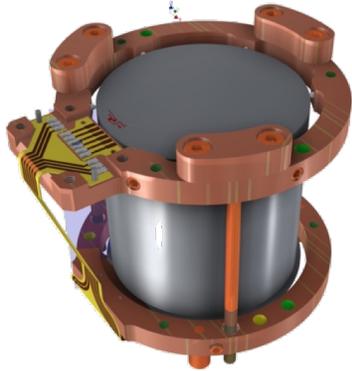
# OUTLOOK



- hexagonal crystal (65 g / 110 g)
- lid to host crystal



- Si-beaker for  $4\pi$  active surrounding of the crystal

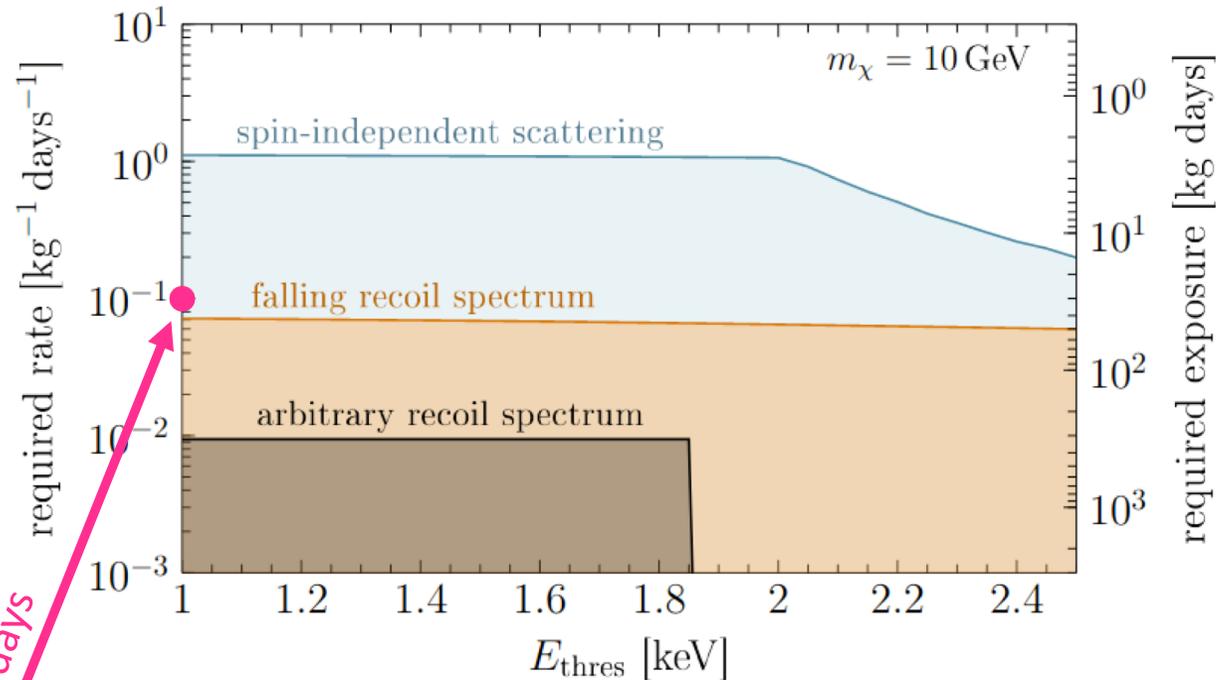


- 8 detector modules per level
- 3 levels in final stage



# PHYSICS REACH

F. Kahlhöfer, KS et al., JCAP 1805 (2018) no.05, 074



## COSINUS – 1 $\pi$ (2023-2026)

exclude or confirm **nuclear recoil**

**origin** of DAMA:

- independent of DM halo
- for any interaction of DM with nuclei

## COSINUS – 2 $\pi$ ( $\geq 2026$ )

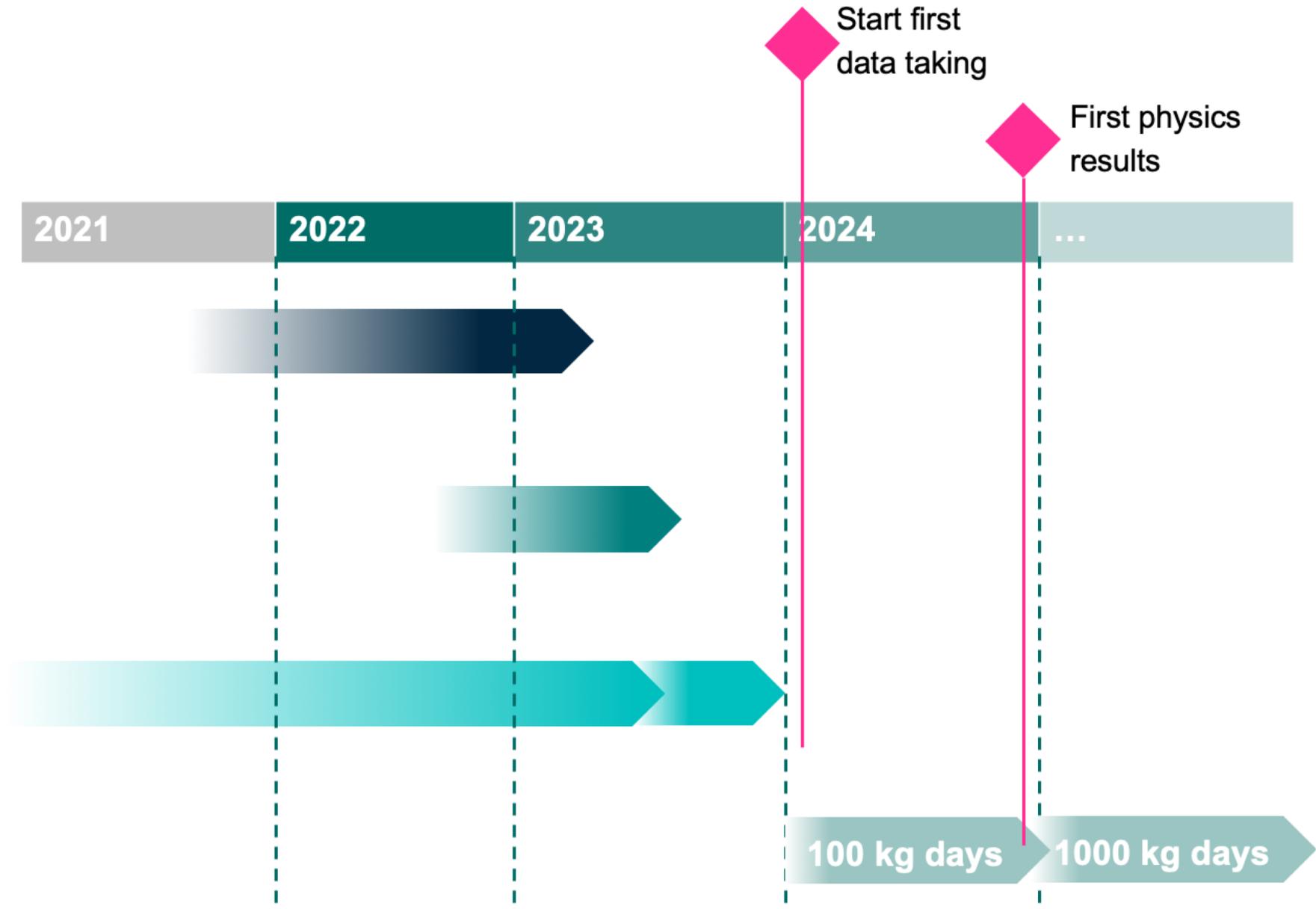
Investigate annual modulation signature with COSINUS

Warning:

Not updated for DAMA result with 1keVee !!

# TIME LINE

- COSINUS facility construction**
- COSINUS commissioning phase + cryogenic facility**
- Final detector design + production**
- Data taking of COSINUS 1pi**



# CONCLUSION

Dark matter is a fundamental question of present-day physics and COSINUS can confirm or reject the DAMA/LIBRA claim

COSINUS developed the first NaI dark matter detector with particle discrimination and offers better sensitivity at smaller target mass (~1kg for COSINUS vs. 250 kg for DAMA)

The *remoTES* readout design allowed to produce first NaI calorimeter that achieved the performance goal ( $E_{\text{thr}} < 2\text{keV}$ );

*remoTES* also of interest for other delicate targets and applications

COSINUS is constructing full steam a unique and modern low-background cryogenic facility at the Gran Sasso underground lab; first data taking is scheduled to start early 2024 !

Stay tuned, promising potential for new discoveries in the coming years !



Thank you for your attention

# EXTRA MATERIAL

# RATE vs. MODULATION AMPLITUDE

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

Central idea: modulation amplitude  
cannot be larger than (average) absolute rate:

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

## COSINUS

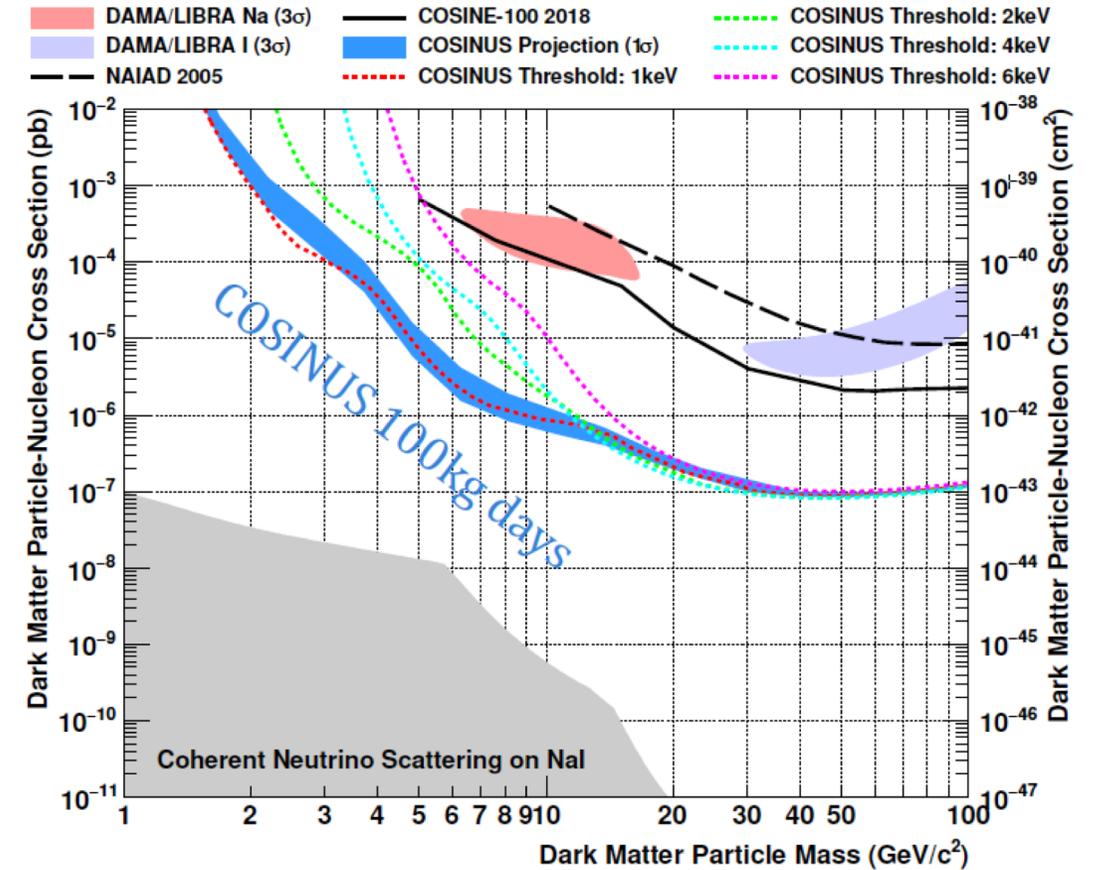
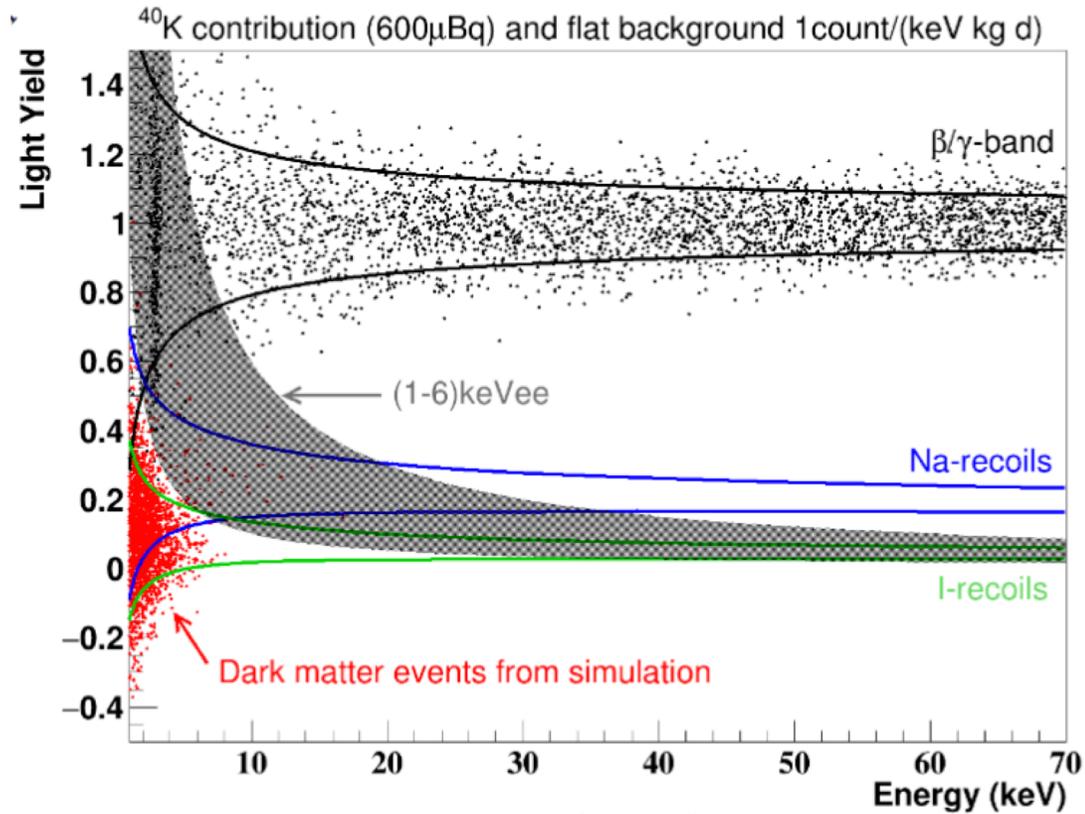
Mean rate  $\bar{R} = \frac{1}{2} [R(t = \text{June } 1^{\text{st}}) + R(t = \text{Dec. } 1^{\text{st}})]$

## DAMA

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

→ low background condition makes it possible to test DAMA  
in a single annual cycle

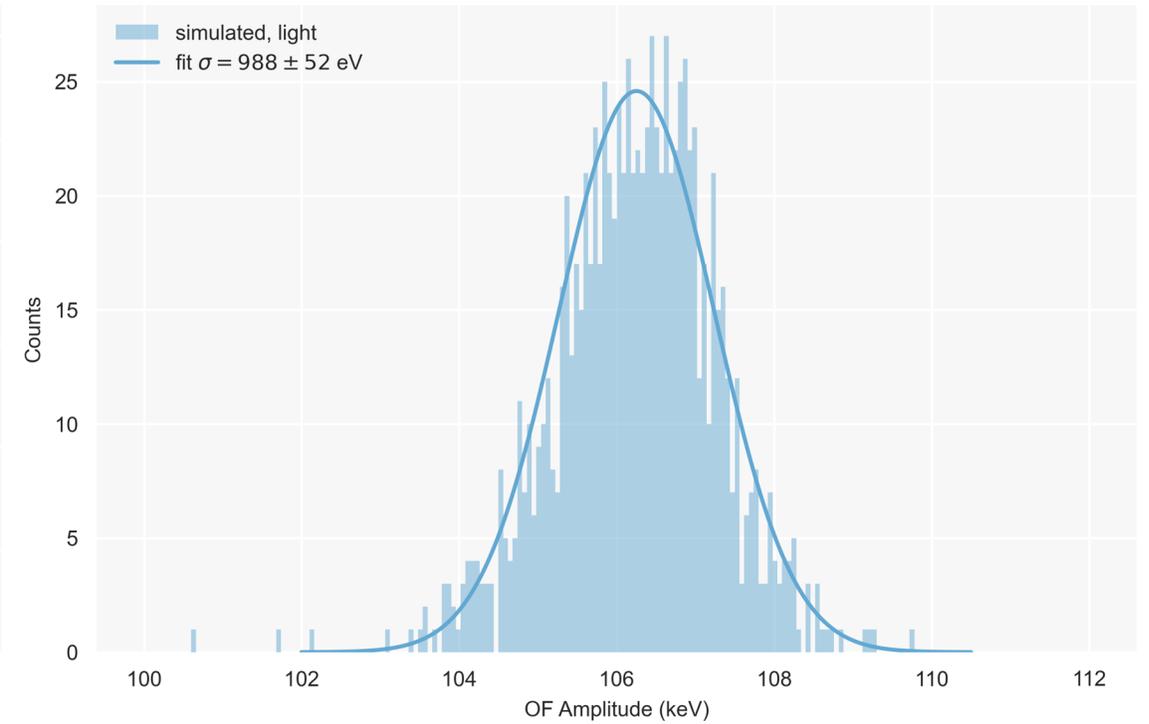
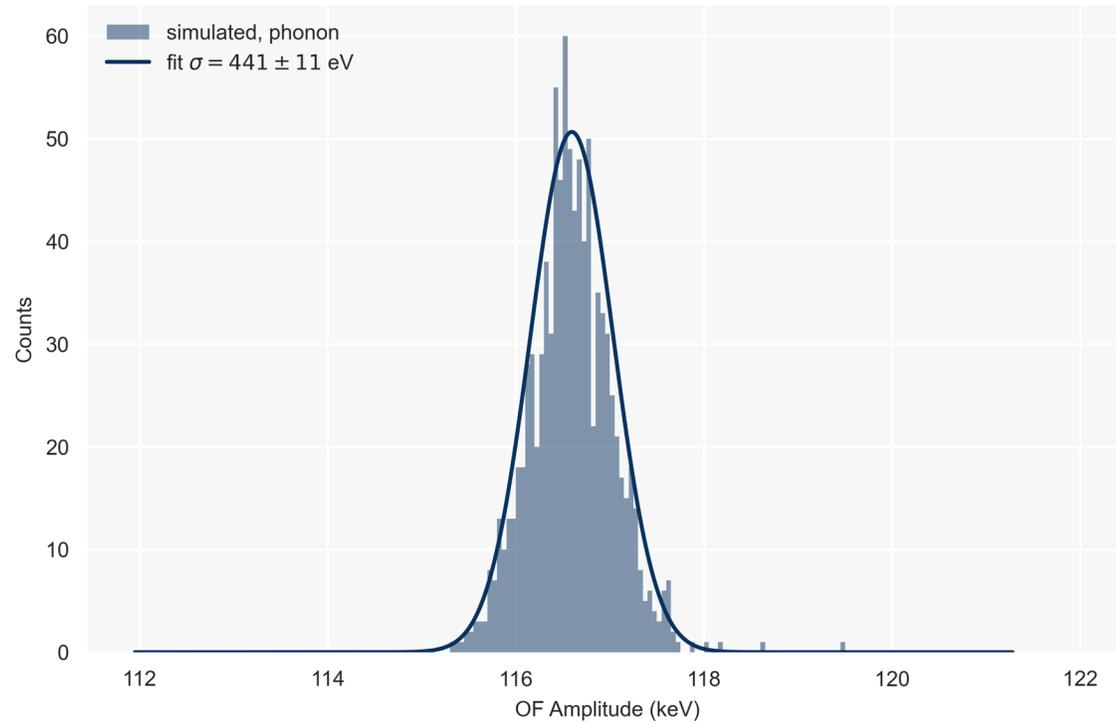
# SIMULATED DATA FOR 100 kg days (gross-exposure)



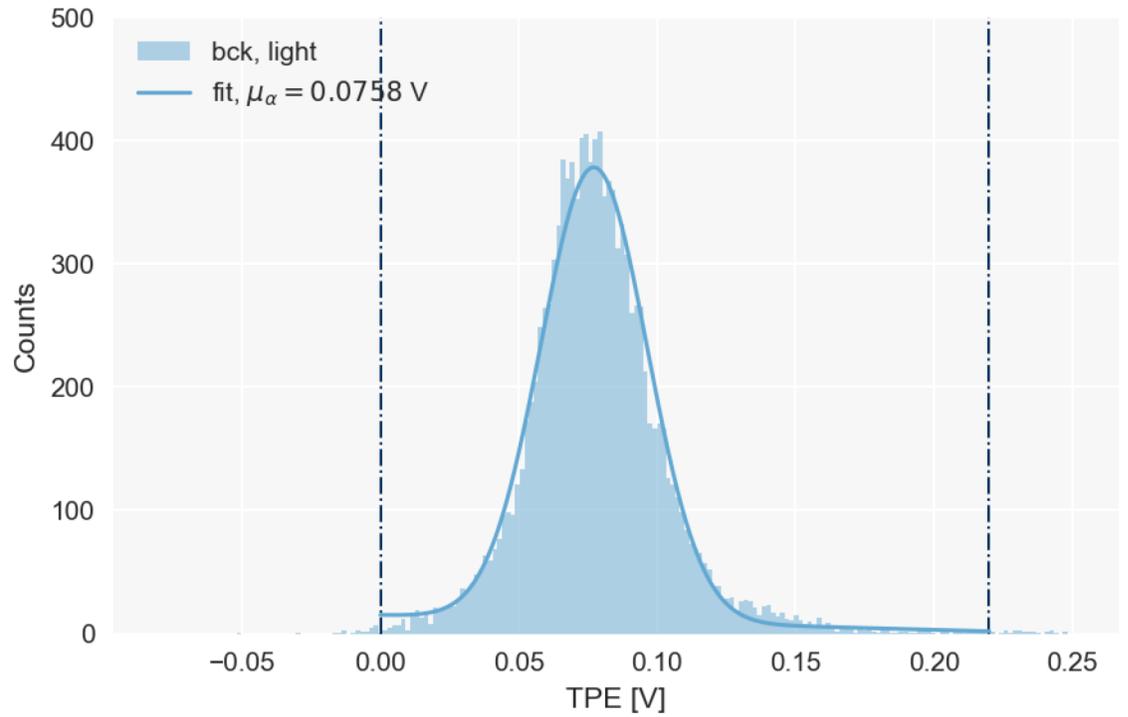
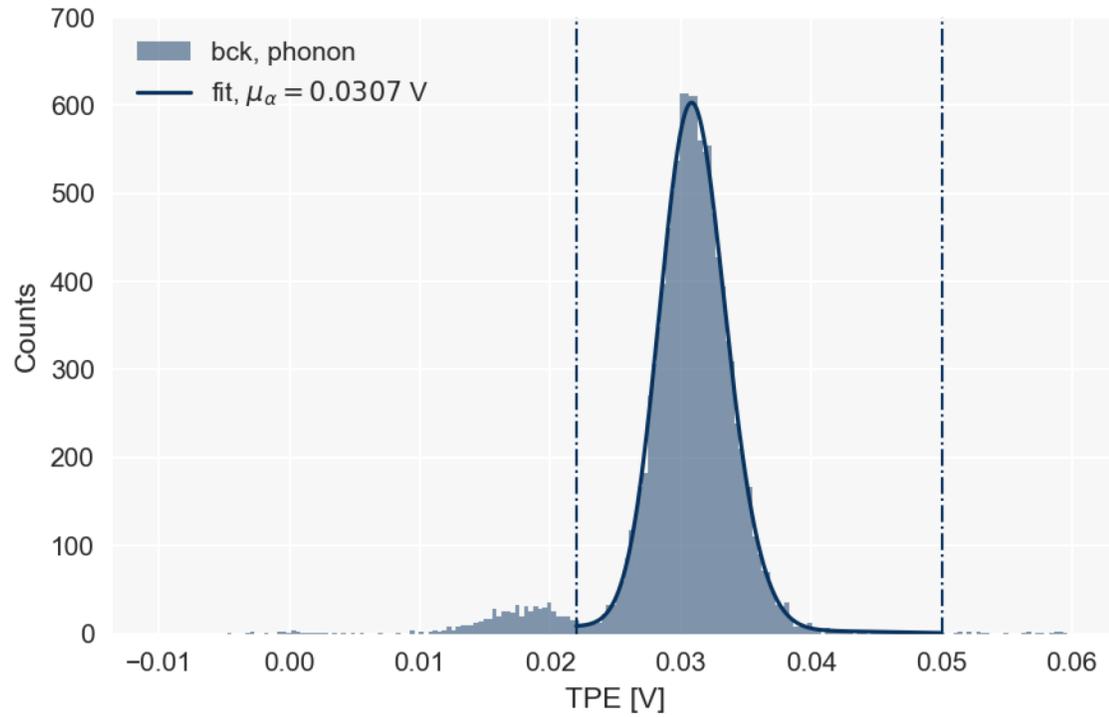
$$\text{LIGHT YIELD} = \frac{\text{LIGHT SIGNAL}}{\text{HEAT SIGNAL}}$$

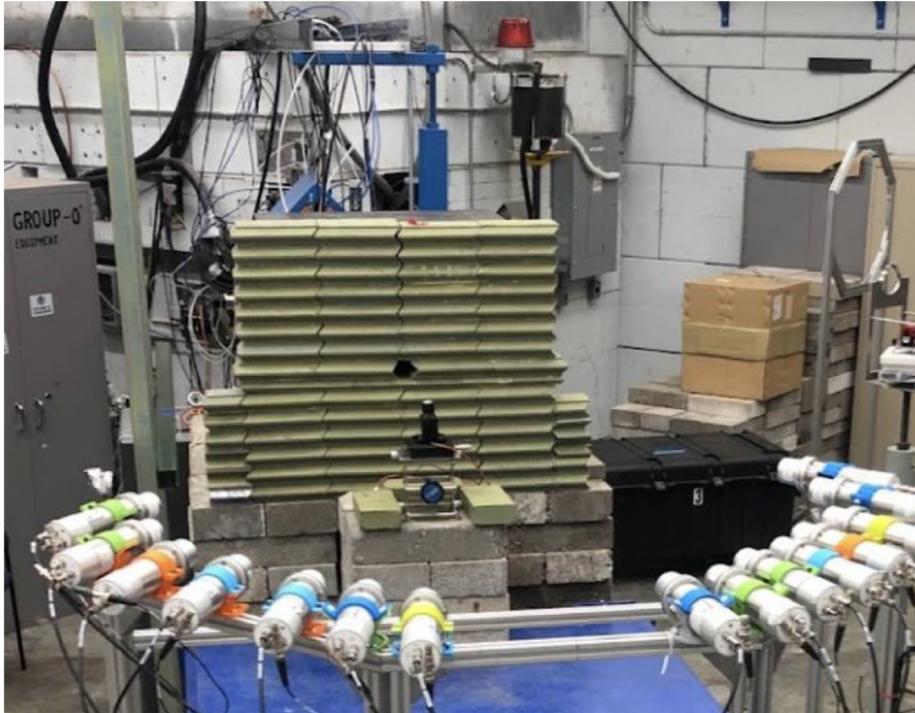
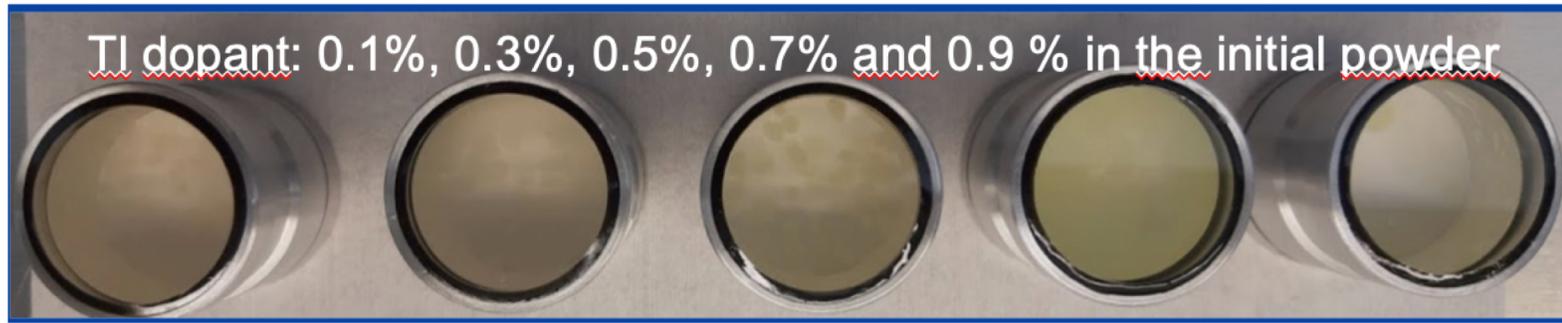
Eur. Phys. J. C (2016) 76:441  
 DOI 10.1140/epjc/s10052-016-4278-3

# RESOLUTIONS



# ENERGY CALIBRATION





QF for Na recoils across crystals

