### DEAP-3600 Dark Matter Search at SNOLAB



Mark Boulay Carleton University

for the DEAP Collaboration

DBD 18 Waikoloa

# Liquid noble gas detectors



#### Why noble elements?

- (At least) two available detection channels: scintillation and ionization
  - Avenue to reject electron recoil backgrounds (from  $\gamma$  /  $\beta$  activity)
- High light yield, transparent to their own scintillation
- Easy to purify and scalable to very high masses

#### Ar and Xe are used for WIMP detection



Detect primary scintillation light (**S1**) from the original event.

Ionization charge then drifted to high field region and converted to secondary scintillation (**S2**) in gas phase

Time difference S2-S1 and top PMTs used to localize event (Time Projection Chamber)

- Electronic recoil discrimination:
  - S2/S1 in Xe
  - PSD with S1 (scintillation only) in Ar; S2 signal used for position reconstruction
- A single phase detector of several hundred tonnes could be realized
  - PSD with currently-demonstrated low-radioactivity underground Ar mitigates electron recoil backgrounds;
  - position reconstruction mitigates external-source events

### DEAP-3600 @ SNOLAB



# **DEAP-3600** Collaboration



# 75 researchers in Canada, UK, Mexico and Germany



+ new DarkSide groups from Italy, US and Spain



- Single phase liquid argon approach: simple, scalable, inexpensive
- 3.3 tonne target (1000 kg fiducial) in sealed ultraclean Acrylic Vessel
- Vessel is "resurfaced" in-situ to remove deposited Rn daughters after construction

# **DEAP-3600 Dark Matter Search** 0 Acrylic flow guides 48 Muon veto PMTs 255 PMTs & light guide Acrylic vessel 3322 kg LAr Steel shell 3600 kg liquid argon Filler blocks

- Single phase liquid argon approach: simple, scalable, inexpensive
- 3.3 tonne target (1000 kg fiducial) in sealed ultraclean Acrylic Vessel
- Vessel is "resurfaced" in-situ to remove deposited Rn daughters after construction
- In-situ vacuum evaporated TPB wavelength shifter ( $\sim 10 \text{ m}^2 \text{ surface}$ )
- Bonded 50 cm long light guides + polyethylene shielding against neutrons
- 255 Hamamatsu R5912 HQE PMTs 8inch (32% QE, 75% coverage)

### DEAP-3600 Dark Matter Search • Single phase liquid argon approach: simple, scalable, inexpensive

- 3.3 tonne target (1000 kg fiducial) in sealed ultraclean Acrylic Vessel
- Vessel is "resurfaced" in-situ to remove deposited Rn daughters after construction
- In-situ vacuum evaporated TPB wavelength shifter (~10 m<sup>2</sup> surface)
- Bonded 50 cm long light guides + polyethylene shielding against neutrons
- 255 Hamamatsu R5912 HQE PMTs 8inch (32% QE, 75% coverage)
- Detector immersed in 8 m water shield, instrumented with PMTs to veto muons
- Located 2 km underground at SNOLAB



# **Background mitigation strategy**

- $\circ$   $\beta/\gamma$  events: dominated by <sup>39</sup>Ar beta decay rate, 1 Bq/kg
  - pulse shape discrimination is very powerful in liquid argon ~10<sup>-10</sup>
- surface events: Rn daughters and other surface contamination
  - procured ultrapure materials (screening, quality assurance, co-operation
  - surfaces sanded in-situ
  - limited exposure to radon
  - position reconstruction
     & fiducialization
  - other analysis techniques



- neutron recoils: ( $\alpha$ ,n)+fission, cosmogenic  $\mu$ -induced
  - SNOLAB depth + water Cerenkov muon veto
  - clean detector materials (material assay, quality assurance)
  - shielding

# Fabrication and Assay of DEAP Acrylic

- Fabrication from pure MMA monomer at RPTAsia (Thailand), strict control of radon exposure for all steps, to < 10<sup>-20</sup> g/g <sup>210</sup>Pb (RPT was fabricator of the SNO Acrylic Vessel)
- Assay of production acrylic < 2.2x10<sup>-19</sup> g/g <sup>210</sup>Pb (Corina Nantais M.Sc. Thesis 2014, <0.2 bkg events/3 years)</li>





#### Thermoformed Panel at RPT Colorado

Monomer cast at RPT Asia, 2010 Mark Boulay

#### **DEAP Acrylic Vessel Fabrication**



#### Reynolds Polymer (Colorado)



University of Alberta



#### Underground at SNOLAB

Panels thermoformed and bonded into sphere At RPT Colorado (2011)

Machined at U of A (2011, 2012)

Shipped to SNOLAB, neck and light guides bonded (2012-2014)

#### Bonding light guides to the DEAP AV, underground at SNOLAB



Light guides bonded then annealed in radon-reduced air oven

>5 meter attenuation length in light guide acrylic!

### DEAP AV in "The Rotator" at SNOLAB



#### Light guides on AV

#### Reflectors on light guides



PMT and inner detector installation Oct 2014





### Dark Matter in Hollywood

WIMP detector in "Scorpion TV series on CBS"

2018

# An 18 foot tall sanding robot was deployed in the AV to remove inner surface layer of acrylic "The Resurfacer"



2016 J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. 718 042025

### DEAP-3600 wavelength shifter (TPB) evaporation system

Evaporator source installation in a Rn-free atmosphere, through a glovebox.



Evaporation source and deployment system









UV illuminated coating on a small test acrylic vessel (20" diameter).

B. Broerman, M. Kuzniak et al., *Application of the TPB Wavelength Shifter to the DEAP-3600 Spherical Acrylic Vessel Inner Surface*, JINST 12 P04017 (2017)

### Construction of DEAP-3600 was completed in early 2016



Detector paper: 1712.01982, accepted Astroparticle Physics J.

#### First Results from the DEAP-3600 Dark Matter Search with Argon at SNOLAB

P.-A. Amaudruz,<sup>1</sup> M. Baldwin,<sup>2</sup> M. Batygov,<sup>3</sup> B. Beltran,<sup>4</sup> C. E. Bina,<sup>4</sup> D. Bishop,<sup>1</sup> J. Bonatt,<sup>5</sup> G. Boorman,<sup>6</sup>
M. G. Boulay,<sup>7,5</sup> B. Broerman,<sup>5</sup> T. Bromwich,<sup>8</sup> J. F. Bueno,<sup>4</sup> P. M. Burghardt,<sup>9</sup> A. Butcher,<sup>6</sup> B. Cai,<sup>5</sup> S. Chan,<sup>1</sup> M. Chen,<sup>5</sup> R. Chouinard,<sup>4</sup> B. T. Cleveland,<sup>10,3</sup> D. Cranshaw,<sup>5</sup> K. Dering,<sup>5</sup> J. DiGioseffo,<sup>5</sup> S. Dittmeier,<sup>1</sup> F. A. Duncan,<sup>10,3,†</sup>
M. Dunford,<sup>7</sup> A. Erlandson,<sup>7,11</sup> N. Fatemighomi,<sup>6</sup> S. Florian,<sup>5</sup> A. Flower,<sup>7,5</sup> R. J. Ford,<sup>10,3</sup> R. Gagnon,<sup>5</sup> P. Giampa,<sup>5</sup>
V. V. Golovko,<sup>11,5</sup> P. Gorel,<sup>4,10,3</sup> R. Gornea,<sup>7</sup> E. Grace,<sup>6</sup> K. Graham,<sup>7</sup> E. Gulyev,<sup>1</sup> R. Hakobyan,<sup>4</sup> A. Hall,<sup>6</sup> A. L. Hallin,<sup>4</sup>
M. Hamstra,<sup>7,5</sup> P. J. Harvey,<sup>5</sup> C. Hearns,<sup>5</sup> C. J. Jillings,<sup>10,3</sup> O. Kamaev,<sup>11</sup> A. Kemp,<sup>6</sup> M. Kuźniak,<sup>7,5,\*</sup> S. Langrock,<sup>3</sup>
F. La Zia,<sup>6</sup> B. Lehnert,<sup>7</sup> J. J. Lidgard,<sup>5</sup> C. Lim,<sup>1</sup> T. Lindner,<sup>1</sup> Y. Linn,<sup>1</sup> S. Liu,<sup>4</sup> P. Majewski,<sup>2</sup> R. Mathew,<sup>5</sup> A. B. McDonald,<sup>5</sup>
T. McElroy,<sup>4</sup> T. McGinn,<sup>7,5,†</sup> J. B. McLaughlin,<sup>5</sup> S. Mead,<sup>1</sup> R. Mehdiyev,<sup>7</sup> C. Mielnichuk,<sup>4</sup> J. Monroe,<sup>6</sup> A. Muir,<sup>1</sup>
P. Nadeau,<sup>10,5</sup> C. Nantais,<sup>5</sup> C. Ng,<sup>4</sup> A. J. Noble,<sup>5</sup> E. O'Dwyer,<sup>5</sup> C. Ohlmann,<sup>1</sup> K. Olchanski,<sup>1</sup> K. S. Olsen,<sup>4</sup> C. Ouellet,<sup>7</sup>
P. Pasuthip,<sup>5</sup> S. J. M. Peeters,<sup>8</sup> T. R. Pollmann,<sup>9,3,5</sup> E. T. Rand,<sup>11</sup> W. Rau,<sup>5</sup> C. Rethmeier,<sup>7</sup> F. Retière,<sup>1</sup> N. Seeburn,<sup>6</sup> B. Shaw,<sup>1</sup> K. Singhrao,<sup>1,4</sup> P. Skensved,<sup>5</sup> B. Smith,<sup>1</sup> N. J. T. Smith,<sup>10,3</sup> T. Sonley,<sup>10,5</sup> J. Soukup,<sup>4</sup> R. Stainforth,<sup>7</sup> C. Stone,<sup>5</sup> V. Strickland,<sup>1,7</sup> B. Sur,<sup>11</sup> J. Tang,<sup>4</sup> J. Taylor,<sup>6</sup> L. Veloce,<sup>5</sup> E. Vázquez-Jáuregui,<sup>12,10,3</sup> J. Walding,<sup>6</sup> M. Ward,<sup>5</sup> S. Westerdale,<sup>7</sup> E. Woolsey,<sup>4</sup> and J. Zielinski<sup>1</sup>



#### First Dark Matter Search with DEAP-3600 – July 2017



4.4 live days

Selected ROI for < 0.2 leakage from  $\beta$ 's

Cuts for instrumental and external events

2223 kg fiducial mass

9,870 kg-day exposure

No events observed in ROI

Light yield consistent with expectation LY = 7.80 ± 0.21 (fit syst.) ± 0.22 (SPE syst.) PE/keVee Mark Boulay

## **DEAP-3600** Timeline and Datasets



#### 1<sup>st</sup> LAr fill: Jun - Aug 2016

- 10 day stable period selected as dataset
- 3322 kg of LAr in detector
- 4.4 live day dataset (9.9 tonne-days fiducial exposure)
- Leak in neck region on August 17, 2016:
  - Contamination of LAr with ≈100 ppb N<sub>2</sub>
  - Drain and re-fill LAr to slightly lower liquid level

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> LAr fill: Sep - Oct 2016

- 1 yr dataset recorded (Nov 2016 Nov 2017)
  - 3256 kg of LAr in detector
  - 247 live day dataset (not blind)
  - Stable detector without LAr circulation
- Blinding scheme since Jan 2018 (20% of data visible)
- Plan to run until 2020

# **Detector stability**



# Pulse shape discrimination (PSD)

Ar singlet and triplet excited states have well separated lifetimes (6ns vs. ~1.5us)

#### Single phase LAr:

0.05

-0.05

-0.1

-0.15

-0.2

0.05

-0.05

-0.1

-0.15

-0.2

-0.25

0

0

PMT Voltage [V]

PMT Voltage [V]

0

scintillation channel is sufficient for  $\beta/\gamma$  rejection no need for the ionization channel

PMT signal:

 $\gamma(^{22}Na)$ 

2000

Time [ns]

3000

1000



Number of photoelectrons

# PSD in DEAP-3600



- Good PSD of  $\beta$  events down to 11 keVee!
- Best ever demonstrated at low energy, expect to meet design goal for the full sensitivity run
- Combined with low-radioactivity argon (depleted in <sup>39</sup>Ar by a factor of >1500): Can use PSD for WIMP search with several hundred tonnes of argon

# **Experimental Signatures**



DEAP 3600 commissioning data

 $\gamma$  Backgrounds (see Bjoern's Lehnert's poster for this and other results)



Dominant internal background above <sup>39</sup>Ar is <sup>42</sup>Ar, which is produced through:

<sup>40</sup>Ar(α,2p)<sup>42</sup>Ar in upper atmosphere, maybe successive n captures on argon, so may be lower in underground argon

# <sup>42</sup>Ar / <sup>42</sup>K Specific Activity

- <sup>42</sup>Ar is mainly produced via (α,n) reactions on <sup>40</sup>Ar in the outer atmosphere.
- The decay chain with <sup>42</sup>Ar <sup>42</sup>K is the dominant background in GERDA and LEGEND 0vββ experiments. The specific activity is debated in the literature (table below)

(below): other measurements

32.9 y 42Ar β-	<u>2-</u> 12.360 h 42 K 19 β- 81.9% ► gs 17.6% ► 1525
Q <sub>β-</sub> 600	Q <sub>β</sub> _3525.4 <u>2+ 1525</u>
nts	0+ Y 42Ca

Experiment	Technique	Activity [µBq/kg]	Reference
DBA	LAr ion. det.	< 61.4 (90% CL)	Ashitkov et al. 1998
DBA	LAr ion. det.	< 44.0 (90% CL)	Ashitkov et al. 2003
GERDA Phase I	HPGe γ-spec.	$= 91^{+8}_{-20} - 168^{+22}_{-18}$	GERDA 2016
DBA	LAr ion. det.	= 92+22-46	Barabash et al. 2016
DEAP-3600	Scintillation	$= 39.6 \pm 5.8$	unpublished preliminary

<sup>42</sup>K has a prominent <sup>2004</sup> signature in DEAP-3600 above 2.6 MeV (*BG model left*). Different systematics apply compared to GERDA and DBA. A significantly lower specific activity is measured

### **Neutron Backgrounds**

- Neutrons recoil <sup>40</sup>Ar similar to WIMPs
- Neutrons produced by  $(\alpha, n)$  reactions, fission or muons
- Extensive neutron MC campaign using radio-purity assays and ( $\alpha$ ,n) yields from SOURCES-4C
  - Dominant source is ( $\alpha$ ,n) in PMT glass ( $\approx$ 70%)
  - Well constrained from  $\boldsymbol{\gamma}\mbox{-} background$  and consistent with target values





#### Data driven limit on neutron interactions:

#### - Tag with capture gammas:

- 2.2 MeV  $\gamma$  form <sup>1</sup>H in acrylic
- 6.1 MeV  $\gamma$ -cascade from <sup>40</sup>Ar in LAr
- Search for n  $\gamma$  coincidences
- Preliminary result:
  - No coincidence found above expected random background In 4.4 day dataset (consistent with target value)

- Measurement in 1-year dataset in upcoming publication (2018)

# Alpha backgrounds

counts per bin





#### 30 – 300 times lower Rn levels than in Xenonbased experiments (LUX, XENON, PandaX)!

Experiment	Activity/Rate	Target	Reference
DEAP-3600	0.2 µBq/kg	LAr	
DarkSide-50	1.74 µBq/kg	LAr	C. J. Stanford, Ph.D. thesis, Princeton University (2017)
PandaX-II	6.6 µBq/kg	LXe	Phys. Rev. D 93, 122009 (2016)
LUX	66 µHz/kg	LXe	Physics Procedia 61 (2015) 658 – 665
XENON-1T	10 µBq/kg	LXe	XeSat2017 talk [link]

# "Geometric" backgrounds



Degraded light collection from high energy events shifts them to lower energies, where we look for WIMPs.

Additional cuts and position reconstruction to mitigate this background (details in upcoming paper)

### **Position Reconstruction**

Position reconstruction using spatial information (only) mitigates surface events

(design was for 10<sup>-3</sup> leakage into fiducial volume, details in upcoming paper)

Also developed time-of-flight fitter, further reduces mis-reconstruction. Note that UV light speed is 11 cm/ns in LAr!



![](_page_30_Figure_5.jpeg)

### **DEAP-3600 Current Status and Highlights**

First results published (4.4) days data, low radon and neutron backgrounds. PRL 121 171801 (2018)

Excellent pulse-shape discrimination of  $\beta/\gamma$ 's from nuclear recoils, works as expected up to the scale of DEAP-3600 but require lower <sup>39</sup>Ar for larger detector. With underground argon (x1400 reduction), PSD is sufficient for ktonne-year exposure (ie to the neutrino floor with a 300-tonne detector).

#### Aside:

DEAP= "Dark matter Experiment using Argon Pulse-shape discrimination"

Currently completing analysis of one-year dataset, plan to submit by end of 2018. Improved optical calibration, position reconstruction, backgrounds model.

Blind running started Jan 1, 2018. Will collect data DM search data at least to 2020.

![](_page_32_Figure_0.jpeg)

# Global Argon Dark Matter Collaboration (Sep 2017)

Over 350 researchers from

![](_page_33_Figure_2.jpeg)

collaborating on future program:

- Completion of current science and R&D programs by each collaboration
- Joint collaboration on DS-20k at LNGS
   (DEAP groups formally joined around September 2017)
- Extraction of 50 tonnes of low <sup>39</sup>Ar underground argon for DS-20k, then ~400 tonnes for future detector (~5 years extraction)
- Joint collaboration on future multi-hundred-tonne LAr detector, site and detector technology TBD (mid-2020's)

### Dark Matter Sensitivity

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

 $\beta/\gamma$  discrimination: solar pp neutrino ES and other ER backgrounds not a concern in argon due to PSD, ~100 events per tonne-year in xenon requires improved ER vs NR discrimination to reach "neutrino floor"

### END

![](_page_36_Figure_0.jpeg)

Expect limit of 41 µBq/kg in atmospheric argon (Inst. Exp. Tech. vol 46 issue 2, pp 153-160 March 2003), perhaps reduced in underground argon

Require O(10 pBq/kg) for 10% background to solar neutrino measurement; can we assay to that level?

# **DEAP-3600** Timeline

2006-2012 Design and component fabrication

- 2012-2015 Construction and assembly at SNOLAB
- 2015-2016 Commissioning and Cooldown
- 2016 Nov 1 Start of production data taking
- First result released PRL 121 071801 (2018)
- 2018 Jan 1 Start of blinded running
- 2018 Fall 2<sup>nd</sup> result to be released (first year open dataset)
- 2020 March Nominal 3 tonne-year dataset collected