

#### Détecter la matière noire sub-GeV

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J. Gascon, A. Letessier Selvon, D. Santos. Détecter la matière noire sub-GeV. Séminaire Thématique "Physique des neutrinos et matière noire", Oct 2019, TALENCE, France. in2p3-04926814

#### HAL Id: in2p3-04926814 https://in2p3.hal.science/in2p3-04926814v1

Submitted on 3 Feb 2025

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#### Détecter la matière noire sub-GeV

Gas Detectors for Direct and Directional Dark Matter Detection and Axion-Like Particle exploration

The direct search for Dark Matter in the keV/c² to GeV/c² range through its interaction with nucleons or electrons using solid-state cryogenic detectors

Direct detection of dark matter in the eV-to-GeV mass range

J. Gascon (IP2I),

pour A. Letessier-Selvon (LPNHE) et D. Santos (LPSC)

+ autres co-auteurs de ces trois contributions

#### Plan

#### Physics of direct DM searches in the eV-GeV range

- Physics arguments of the 3 contributions based on discussions already documented elsewhere
- Present summary largely based on: Dark Sectors 2016
   Workshop: Community Report (arXiv:1608.08632)

See also updates in « US Cosmic Visions: New Ideas in Dark Matter 2017: Community Report » arXiv:1707.04591

#### 3 contributions:

- Gas & directional detectors
- Skipper-CCD
- Cryogenic detectors

More details on detector technologies in GT08 contributions

### Physics motivation

Dark Sectors 2016 Workshop: Community Report (arXiv:1608.08632):

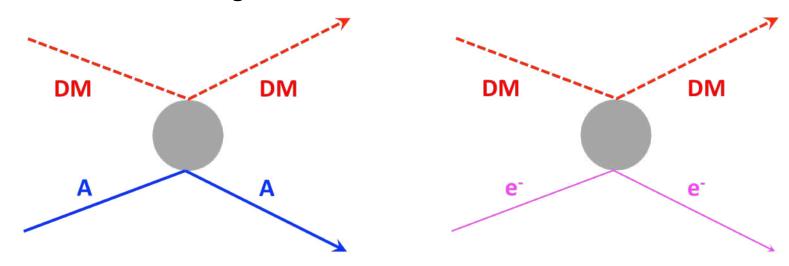
- "In recent years it has been shown that many production mechanisms that explain the observed DM relic abundance, point to light, sub-GeV DM, below the reach of standard direct detection techniques. It is thus crucial to develop direct-detection strategies for such low DM masses."
- $m_{\chi}$  > eV if fermion (Galactic DM halo = Fermi gas)
- $m_{\chi}$  > 3 keV if thermal equilibrium with SM particles (Ly- $\alpha$  forest)
- $E_{NR} \le 2(\mu_{\chi,N} v_{\chi})^2 / m_N$ , with  $v_{\chi} \sim 10^{-3}$  c
- For a Si nucleus and m  $_{\chi}$  ~100 MeV, E<sub>NR</sub> ~1 eV
- Scattering on electron favored as m<sub>χ</sub> approaches m<sub>e</sub>
- Complementarity with searches at beam dumps & colliders

### DM models in eV-GeV range

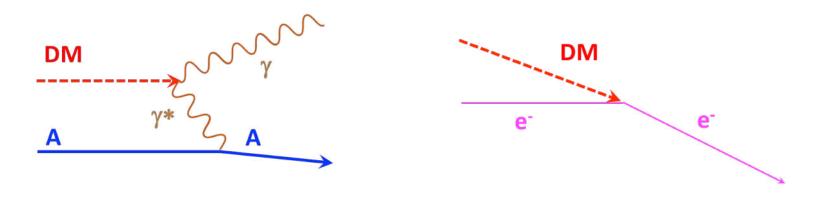
- Freeze-out DM: relic density obtained from thermal equilibrium of SM+SM->DM+DM, but via Dark Sector mediators instead of SM mediators. e.g. Dark Photon, with small couplings to standard γ
- **Asymmetric DM:** final relic abundance of DM from particle/antiparticle asymmetry in the DM sector. **Natural mass ~GeV**, but keV-GeV possible depending on DM sector
- Freeze-in DM: no thermal equilibrium of DM with SM: instead, SM particles slowly annihilate or decay into DM, via DS
- SIMPs (strongly interacting) thermally coupled to SM, relic abundance set by  $(3 \rightarrow 2 \text{ freeze-out})$ : natural sub-GeV mass + high DD rates
- **Elastically Decoupling Relic**: DM relic abundance determined by its inelastic scattering with SM: MeV to <GeV and DD signal possible
- Bosonic DM (can be <1 keV): QCD axion, axion-like particles, and the dark photon itself. DM entirely absorbed in detector in DD experiments. Axions produced in the sun can also be detected.</li>

#### **Detection signals**

Fermion: scattering off nuclei or electrons

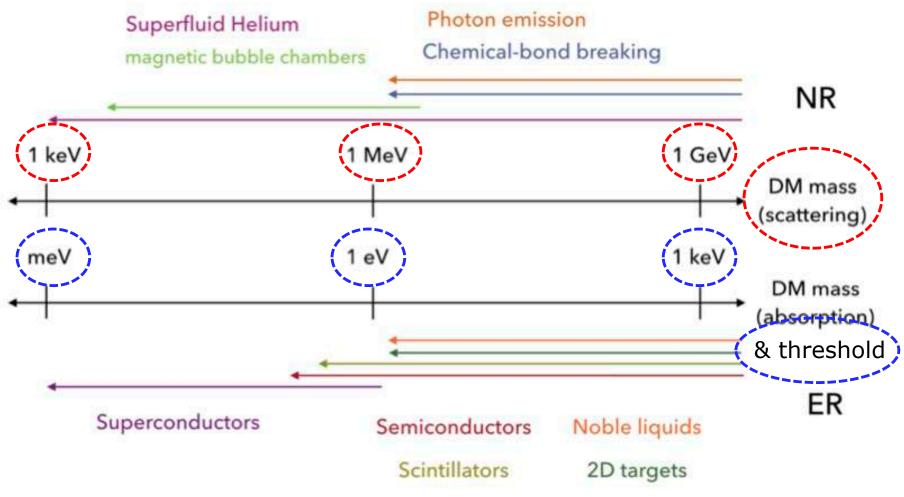


Bosons: Primakoff effect (ALPs), photoabsorption (dark photons)



## Scattering: materials vs mass & energy scale

US Cosmic Visions: New Ideas in Dark Matter 2017: Community Report [arXiv:1707.04591]

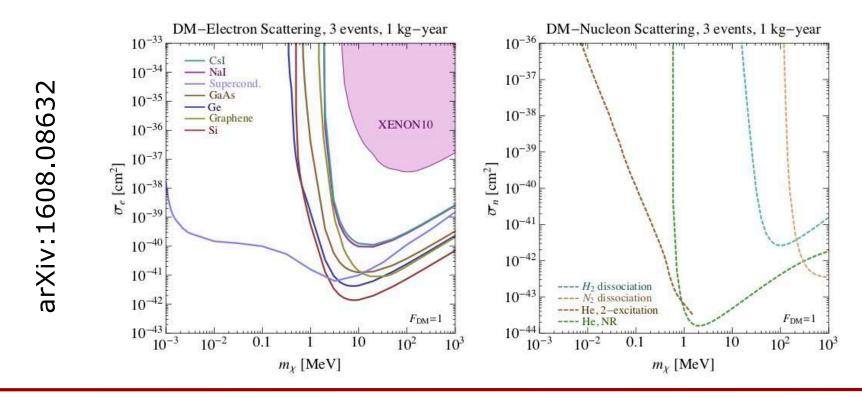


See also: K. Zurek, CERN-th colloquium 03.08.16

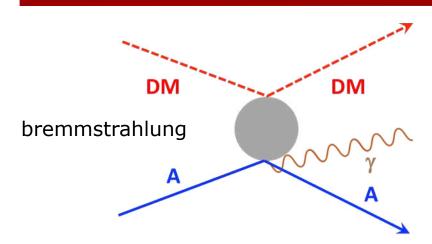
#### Electron vs nucleon scattering

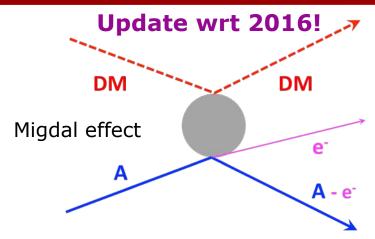
Dark Sectors 2016 Workshop: Community Report (arXiv:1608.08632):

- ~eV to few eV thresholds possible in semiconductor/scintillators: sensitivity to MeV DM via electron scattering
- meV thresholds in (future) superconducting detectors -> keV DM
- Nucleon scattering adversely affected by kinematics and by quenching

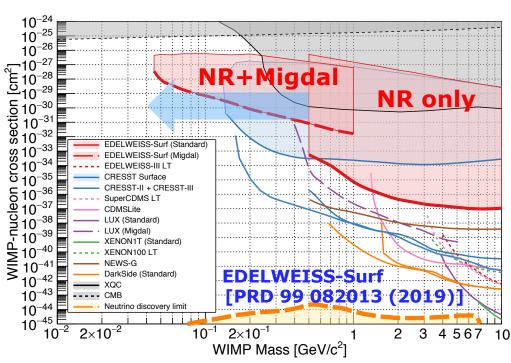


### Inelastic scattering on atoms: Migdal effect



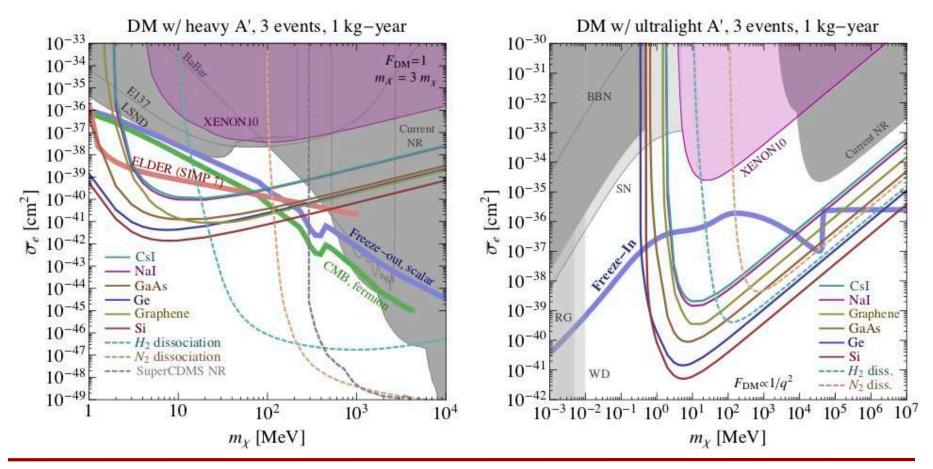


- Similar to bremmstrahlung effect
- Inelastic scattering on atom (nucleus+e-'s): transferred energy not limited by two-body kinematics
- Increases sensitivity to scattering of Nuclear Recoils (energy boost), but relatively rare process (<10<sup>-3</sup>)
- Electron signal (no quenching)
- Calculation only: an experimental confirmation would be welcomed



#### Electron searches

- Two cases: Dark Photon heavier (left) or lighter (right) than DM particle
- Most interesting models (on or above green/orange/blue lines) can be probed using
   a 1 kg-y exposure of a detector with zero background + single-electron sensitivity
- If dark sector DM subdominant: need larger bkg-free exposure



## Goals and Challenges

Dark Sectors 2016 Workshop: Community Report (arXiv:1608.08632):

- Low threshold
  - DM kinetic energy ~ ( 1 eV ) \*(M<sub>DM</sub>/1 MeV)
- Backgrounds
  - Bkg usually associated to >1 GeV searches (γ / neutrons from internal+external radioactivity, cosmic rays, activation) are less important than detector-specific bkg (e.g. dark current)
- Scaling up exposure
  - Low threshold usually associated with small detectors
  - Internal/external radioactivity becomes an issue again
- Signal discrimination and background model
- Material

Gas Detectors for Direct and Directional Dark Matter Detection and Axion-Like Particle exploration:

NEWS-G and gas TPC

# GAS DETECTORS

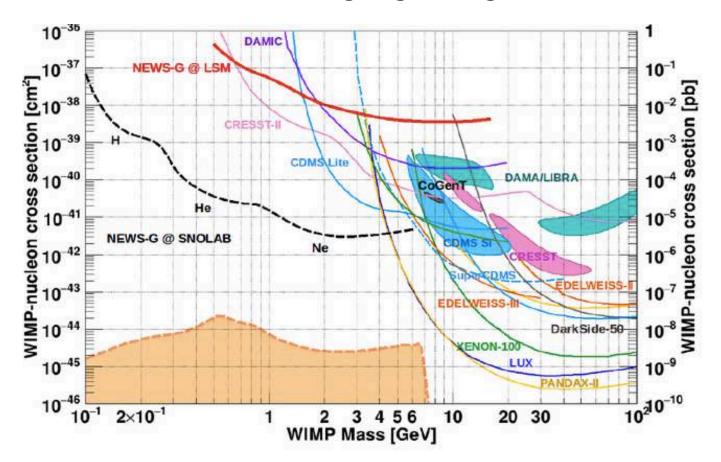
#### Gas detectors: NEWS-G

- NEWS-G (New Experiment for Wimps detection with a Sphere filled with Gas)
- Direct search for very-low mass WIMPs, from 0.1 to 10 GeV.
  - 1.4 diameter, single-channel readout
  - Sub-keV energy threshold
  - Fiducialisation via pulse shape
  - Background rejection
     by pulse shape analysis
  - Up to 10 bars: ten's of kg
     with various light gas targets:
     H, He, Ne.
- First tests at LSM: summer/autumn 2019.



## NEWS-G@LSM physics reach

- Installation of NEWS-G at SNOLAB is scheduled November 2019
- Physics reach: sub-GeV with light gas targets



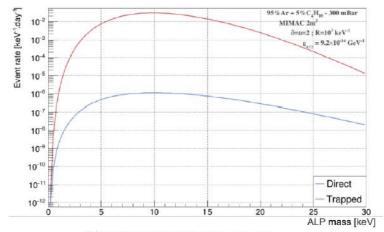
+ Quenching measurements @ LPSC

#### Gas detector: TPC for axion

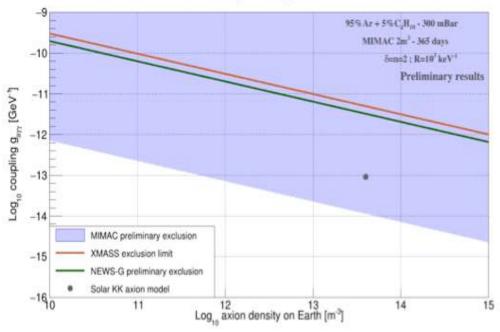
- MIMAC: gaseous micro-TPC with pixelized Micromega readout, designed to test the directionality of an eventual DM signal
- Proposal for an application for ALP DM in the mass window from 100 eV up to 20 keV
- Kaluza-Klein Axion-Like particles: long lifetimes, detection of its decays into two identical photons (no strong electric field needed).
- New generation of micro-TPCs with 100 eV energy threshold and a high spatial 3D resolution in a large active volume.
- Background reduced by the many discrimination observables offered by this technique.
- Matrix of many individual bi-chamber modules (with low individual background rates) for a total of 2 m<sup>3</sup>.

### Physics reach of gas TPC for axions

- Rate of KK-axion decays detected MIMAC active volume (300 mbar, <sup>40</sup>Ar + 5% C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>) as a function of ALP mass. Strongly increase when the flux from those trapped by the sun (red) is added to the direct flux from the Sun (blue).
- MIMAC 1-y exclusion region (blue) vs axion density on Earth compared with the XMASS exclusion (red) and NEWS-G exclusion (green). MIMAC should reach the Kaluza-Kleinaxion model (cf dot: not yet excluded).



Sensitivity to trapped axions

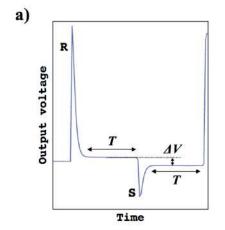


Direct detection of dark matter in the eV-to-GeV mass Range

# SKIPPER-CCDS

### Skipper CCDs

Improved
 signal/noise from
 repeated
 measurement of the
 charge (wrt pedestal)



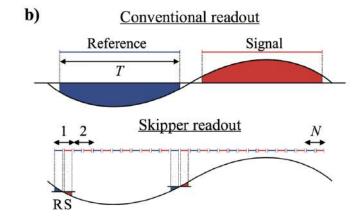


Figure 3: a) CCD output signal for one pixel illustrating the principle of CDS (R: reset, S: charge transfer). b) Skipper vs. conventional readout: during the same time of a conventional readout, the pixel charge is measured N times in skipper mode. The effect of a low-frequency noise waveform is much smaller in skipper mode because the waveform changes very little during the short CDS sequence.

 0.07 electron resolution already achieved

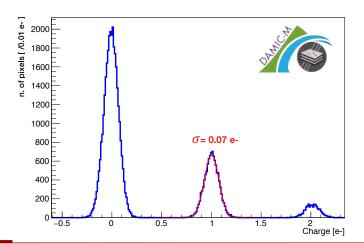
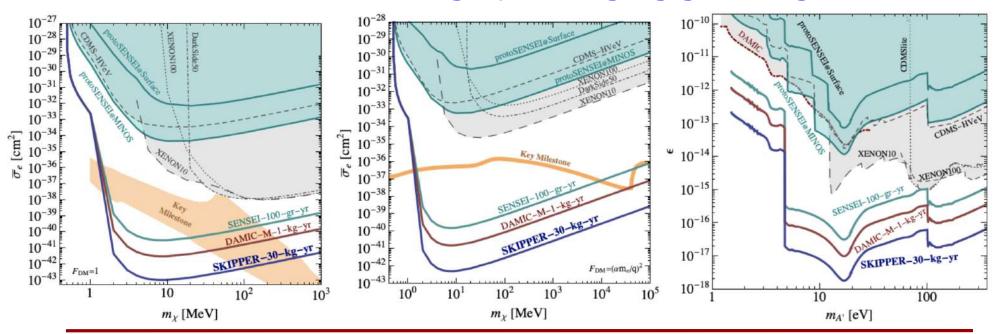


Figure 4: Pixel charge distribution of a DAMIC-M skipper CCD. Peaks corresponding to pixels with zero, one and two charges are clearly distinguished. A Gaussian fit to the charge distribution yields a resolution of 0.07 electrons [23].

## Skipper-CCD

- Skipper-CCD's already produced world leading limits for sub-GeV DM (SENSEI and DAMIC@SNOLAB)
- Arrays of 100 g (SENSEI) and 1 kg (DAMIC-M @LSM) under construction.
- Future project: 10 kg experiment to probe sub-GeV DM even if it makes only a small fraction of the halo density

# DM-electron limits (heavy/light Dark Mediator) + dark photon limits, based on 1 and 2 electron signal, assuming negligible background



#### Skipper-CCD

#### Advantages:

- Very low leakage current, < 10-21 A/cm<sup>2</sup> at 140 K
- Excellent spatial resolution
- Background identification and rejection, 3D reconstruction for surface events, follow up of radioactive decay chains using spatial correlation of events.

#### GT08: Toward a 10-kg skipper-CCD sensor

- Must develop new fabrication method for the large number of skipper-CCDs required by the 10 kg experiment. New foundry needed for future fabrication: opportunity to migrate into the more modern CMOS technology.
- Low noise readout for 10 kg system: several thousand channels, comparable in size with that of the largest CCD cameras ever built for astronomy, but with more stringent noise requirements.
- Needed background more than an order of magnitude lower than planned for SuperCDMS at SNOLAB (goal of zero ionization events in the 2-10 e- signal range)

## Skipper-CCD @ in2p3

- Involvement in DAMIC-M @LSM; low-radioactivity.
- LSST+DAMIC-M: expertise in read-out and CMOS technology that are required for development of future 10 kg array
- Simulation and data analysis
- Strong connexion with US partners (Fermilab, Chicago, Washington, PNNL): US project for 10 kg

The direct search for Dark Matter in the keV/c2 to GeV/c2 range through its interaction with nucleons or electrons using solid-state cryogenic detectors

# CRYOGENIC DETECTORS

## SubGeV program (2020-2025)

- 1 kg array of Ge heat-and-ionization detectors with
- Full event-by-event ER/NR discrimination above 50 eV when operated at low bias (<10 V) NR searches of 0.1-1 GeV DM
- Single-electron thresholds when operated at high bias (100 V and more) ER searches 0.5-10<sup>5</sup> MeV DM
- Statistical separation (and comprehensive study) of backgrounds from the comparison of the data recorded at HV/LV

#### 30 g Ge units with

- $\sigma$ =10 eV phonon resolution (18 eV already achieved)
- $\sigma$ =20 eV<sub>ee</sub> ionization resolution (via HEMT preamp)
- 100 V achieved on large 800 g Ge, 400V on 200g

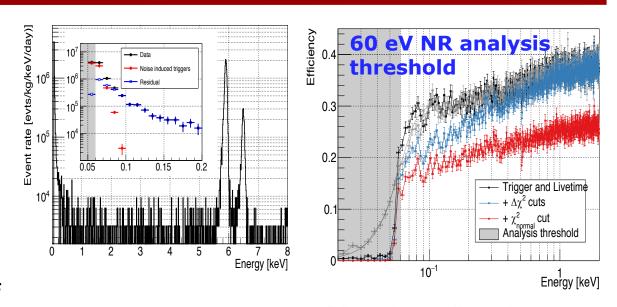
## SubGeV program (2020-2025)

30 g Ge units with

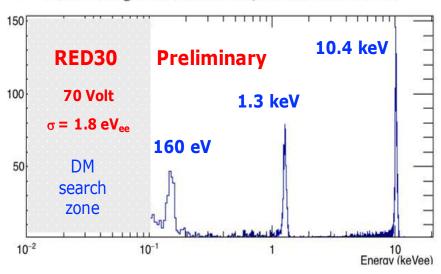
- σ = 10 eV phonon resolution (18 eV already achieved)
- $\sigma = 20 \text{ eV}_{ee} \text{ ion.}$ resolution (devel. of cold HEMT preamp )

100 V achieved on large 800 g Ge; 400V on 200g

 $\sigma$ = 0.6 electron already achieved on 30 g @ 70V



RED30: 33 g Ge Al electrodes, NTD thermal sensor



## Instrumentation challenges

#### Cf contributions to cryogenic detectors in GT08

- Dual (phonon+ionization) readout important for the study & control of instrumental backgrounds (heat-only, dark current due to trapping)
- R&D to combine high-resolution thermal readout with a tag on one charge (or more) using superconducting thin film sensors inspired by the Superconducting Single Photon Detectors (SSPD)
- Beyond 2025: extend cryogenic detector expertise to superconducting metal absorbers able to reach few meV energy thresholds and study their electromagnetic background suppression capabilities.

## Solid-state cryogenics detectors @ in2p3

- Expertise in design, production and operation of solid-state cryogenic detectors: phonon sensor developments, low-noise charge readout, control of leakage currents.
- Very strong synergy with two other major projects using solid-state cryogenic detectors: Ricochet-CENNS and CUPID-Mo/CROSS double beta decay experiments
- Close relationship with the French company CryoConcept best designer of ultra-low vibration dry dilution refrigerators
- Long standing experience and investment in a very-low background experiments at the LSM.
- Leadership position in EDELWEISS
- Collaboration with US and Canadian partners in SuperCDMS.

# **CONCLUSIONS**

#### **Conclusions**

- Strong physics motivation & technological opportunity to explore
   eV-GeV range of DM mass with direct detection experiments
- Rapid advances in development of new detectors dedicated to that range – Technological developments central issue
  - Detector backgrounds, scalability
  - Contributions to GT08
- In France:
  - Gas detectors: NEW—G @SNOLAB, Mimac/ALPS
  - Skipper-CCD detectors with DAMIC-M @ LSM (1 kg) and future 10 kg
  - Cryogenic detectors @ LSM (heat+LN boost, single-electron tag)
- Note: LSM used in all 3 projects
  - Deepest lab in Europe, easy access: excellent platform for these detector developments, and <100 kg experiments.</li>

# **BACKUPS**

## Scattering: materials vs mass & energy scale

Dark Sectors 2016 Workshop: Community Report (arXiv:1608.08632)

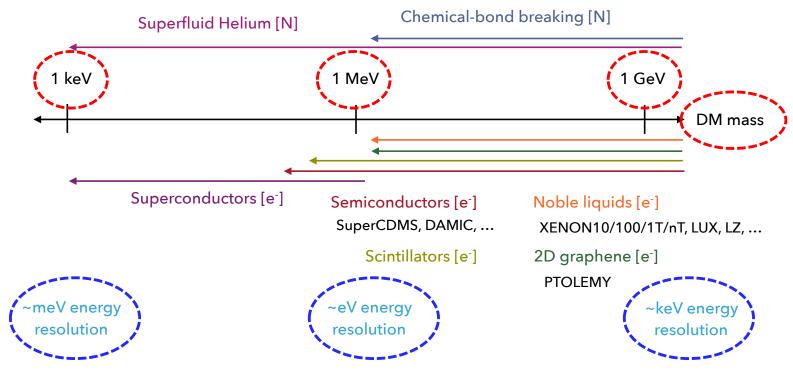


FIG. 11: Materials that could be used to probe sub-GeV DM, down to keV masses, by scattering off electrons  $[e^-]$  or nuclei [N]. Certain DM candidates, which can instead be absorbed by bound electrons in these materials, could be probed down to meV masses (not shown). Adapted from [173].

See also: K. Zurek, CERN-th colloquium 03.08.16

### **Technologies**

#### Dark Sectors 2016 Workshop: Community Report (arXiv:1608.08632):

Material	$m_{\rm DM,th}$ (theoretical)	Technology	Challenges	(Optimistic) Timescale
Noble liquids (Xe, Ar)	few MeV	two-phase TPC	dark counts	existing
Semiconductors (Si, Ge)	$\sim 0.1-1~{ m MeV}$	CCDs & Calorimeter	dark counts (?)	$\sim 1-2 \; { m years}$
Scintillators (GaAs, NaI, CsI)	$\sim 0.5-1~{ m MeV}$	Calorimeter: $\sigma_E \sim 0.2 \; \mathrm{eV}$	sensitivity & afterglow (?)	$\lesssim 5 \text{ years}$
Superconductors (Al)	$\sim 1~{\rm keV}$	Calorimeter: $\sigma_E \sim 1 \text{ meV}$	sensitivity & unknown backgrounds	$\sim 10-15 \text{ years}$
Superfluid He (NR)	$\sim 1~{ m MeV}$	Calorimeter: $\sigma_E \sim 1 \text{ eV}$	sensitivity & unknown backgrounds	$\lesssim 5 \text{ years}$
Bond Breaking	$\sim {\rm few~MeV}$	color centers	sensitivity & unknown backgrounds	$\lesssim 5 \text{ years}$
Superfluid He (2-excitation)	$\sim 1~{\rm keV}$	Calorimeter $\sigma_E \sim 10 \text{ meV}$	sensitivity & unknown backgrounds	$\sim 5-10 \text{ years}$
2D-targets (graphene)	few MeV	based on PTOLEMY	low exposure, unknown backgrounds	$\sim 5-10 \text{ years}$

TABLE III: Material, theoretical mass threshold, required technology to achieve lowest mass threshold, potential or known challenges, and optimistic timescales. All materials and techniques, besides two-phase TPCs in noble liquids, still need to be demonstrated to have sensitivity to sub-GeV DM. Most timescales are thus only illustrative of the time needed to study their feasibility. Materials/techniques sensitive to DM-electron (DM-nucleus) interactions are at the top (bottom) of the table.