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# DARWIN : an astroparticle physics observatory @ KIT & Subatech

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### WIMP Detection landscape today

- The highest sensitivity above 2 GeV/c<sup>2</sup> comes from experiments using liquid noble gases as target (Xe, Ar). (heavy target and easy scalability)
- DARWIN, the ultimate LXe WIMP detector, with 50t of total mass, plans to increase 100-fold the current sensitivity.



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#### Phases of the XENON Program



#### XENON10 2005 - 200715 cm drift TPC Total: 25 kg Target: **14** kg Fiducial: 5.4 kg

Achieved (2007)  $\sigma_{\rm SI} = 8.8 \cdot 10^{-44}$ cm<sup>2</sup> @ 100 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>

#### **XENON100** 2008 - 201630 cm drift TPC Total: 161 kg Target: 62 kg Fiducial: 34/48 kg

Achieved (2016)  $\sigma_{\rm SI} = 1.1 \cdot 10^{-45} \, \rm cm^2$ @ 55 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>

**XENON1T** 2011 - 2018100 cm drift TPC Total: 3 200 kg Target: 2 000 kg Fiducial: 1 300 kg

Achieved (2018)  $\sigma_{\rm SI} = 4.1 \cdot 10^{-47} \, \rm cm^2$ @ 30 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>

2019 - 2025150 cm drift TPC Total: 8 400 kg Target: 5 900 kg Fiducial: ~ 4 000 kg

Projected  $\sigma_{SI} = 1.6 \text{ x } 10^{-48} \text{ cm}^2$ @ 50 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>

**XENONnT** 

## **Evolution of LXe TPC as WiMP detectors**



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## Dual phase TPC: principle

TPC = Time Projection Chamber



 $\rightarrow$  Photon ( $\lambda$  = 178 nm) from Scintillation process

 $\rightarrow$  Extraction in gaseous phase

 $\rightarrow$  Proportional scintillation light

Electronic

Recoil

#### <u>3D reconstruction :</u>

- $\rightarrow$  X,Y from top array
- $\rightarrow$  Z from Drift time

Julien Masbou, DMLab kickoff meetting, Hambourg – Online, 9th December 2021

## **DARWIN Baseline design**



baseline design with PMTs but several alternatives under consideration

- Dual-phase Time Projection Chamber (TPC).
- 50t total (40t active) of liquid xenon (LXe).
- Dimensions: 2.6 m diameter and 2.6 m height.
- Two arrays of photosensors (top and
- bottom). 1910 PMTs of 3" diameter.
- Low-background double-wall cryostat.
- PTFE reflector panels & copper shaping
- rings. Outer shield filled with water (12 m diameter).



Possible realization of DARWIN inside the water tank

#### WIMP Detection landscape today



DMLab Current Work



- design of the large-scale TPC including high-voltage electrode systems, the PTFE frame of the TPC body, and material characterisation (involved teams in the IRL: IJCLab and KIT);
- technology development for the high-performance cryogenics (storage & recovery) and purification systems of the 50-ton volume of liquid xenon (involved teams in the IRL: Subatech, LPNHE and KIT);
- sensitivity and analysis studies for DARWIN on dark matter and neutrino physics (involved teams in the IRL: IJCLab, KIT, LPNHE, and Subatech).

## **Development of large-scale electrodes: simulation and hardware**



Wire option: thermal stress test with long LN<sub>2</sub> bathtub

Mesh option: simulation







## **Optimisation of the TPC geometry (aspect ratio)**



#### Neutron capture : <sup>137</sup>Xe







Fig. 7: Predicted background spectrum around the  $0\nu\beta\beta$ -ROI for the 5t fiducial volume. A hypothetical signal of 0.5 counts per year corresponding to  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} \approx 2 \times 10^{27} \,\mathrm{yr}$  is shown for comparison. Bands indicate  $\pm 1 \,\sigma$  uncertainties.



#### Storage & recovery





ReStoX 2

#### Conceptual design to determine the solubility of tritiated molecules in liquid Xe



## Summary and outlook

- Xenon based Dual-Phase Time Projection Chamber has proven to be the **leading technology** in the field of direct Dark Matter searches.
- XENONnT **started its physics program**, and aims to improve the results of its predecessor and answer to the Low-ER excess question.

![](_page_16_Figure_3.jpeg)

- DARWIN will be much more than the ultimate LXe-based dark matter detector
  - → large detector with ultra-low backgrounds, very good energy resolution, low energy threshold
- There are a lot of connexions which we can exploit and we hope that **DARWIN can profit from DMLab**, and **DMLab can profit from DARWIN** and its connexions and the already existing work which we want to intensify