

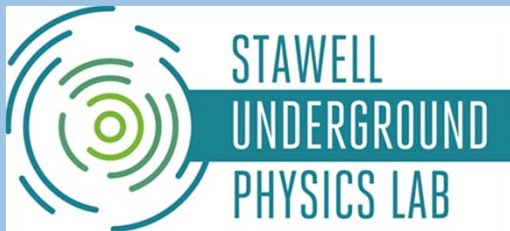


Update on the SABRE South Experiment

Gary C. Hill

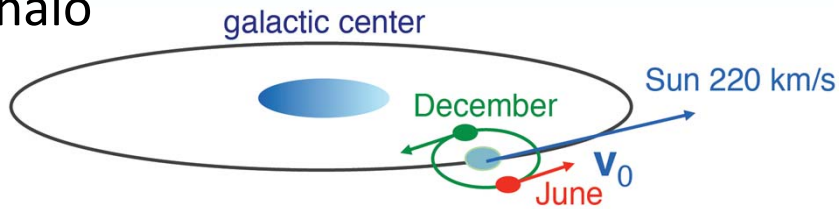
University of Adelaide

for the SABRE South Collaboration



Motivation: Annual Modulation & DAMA/LIBRA

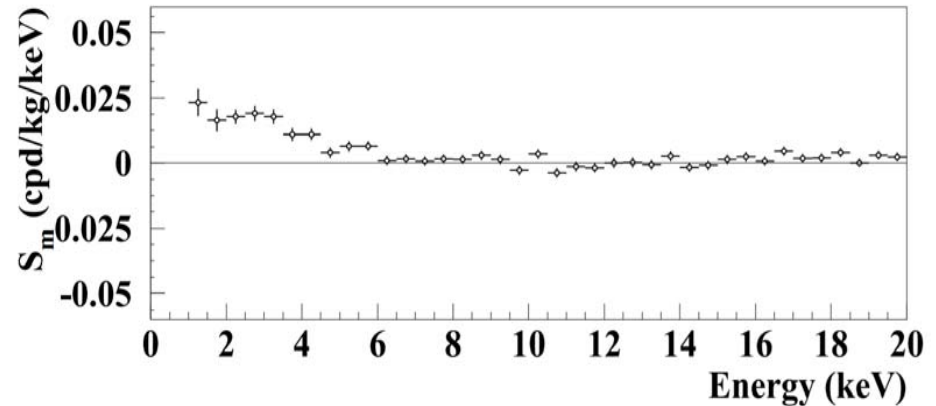
Unique model independent signal for dark matter caused by relative motion of the earth through galactic halo



$$R = R_0 + S_m \cdot \cos\left(\frac{2\pi(t - t_p)}{1 \text{ yr}}\right)$$

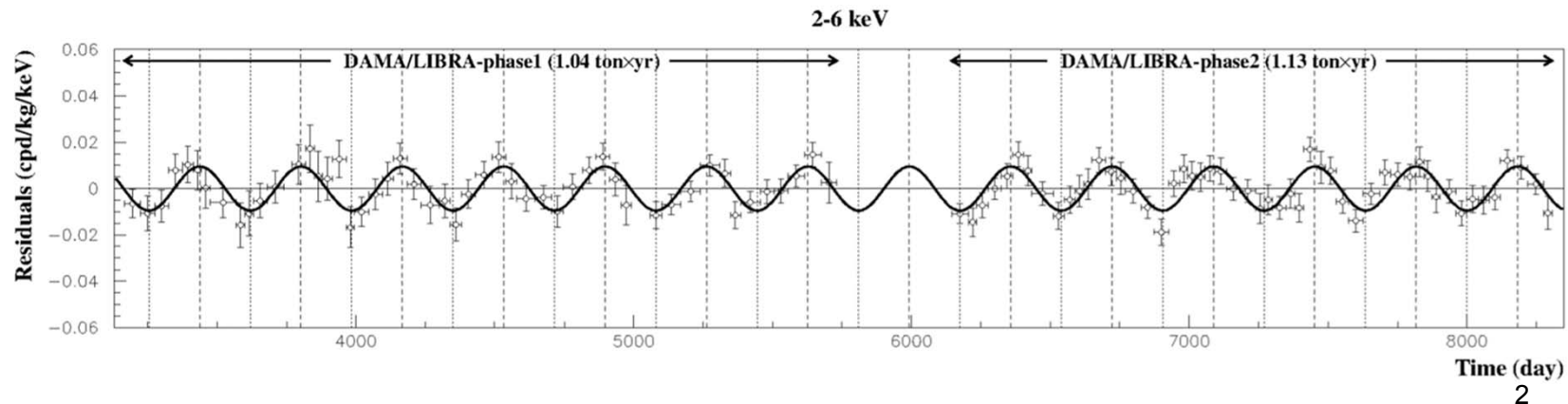
Modulating Signal signatures:

- Period of one year
- Peaks on June 2nd
 $t_p = 152.5 \text{ days}$
- $S_m/R_0 \approx 0.01 - 0.03$



DAMA has a 20-year record of the modulation in the 2-6 keV energy range with combined significance of 12.9 σ

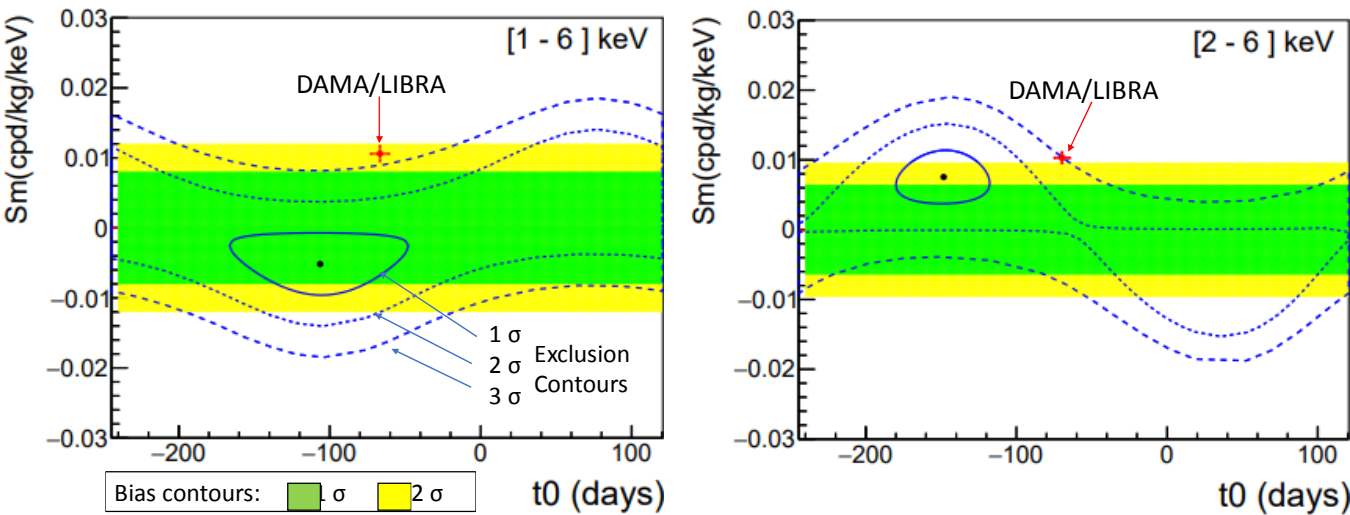
R. Bernabei, et al. "First model independent results from DAMA/LIBRA-phase2." *Universe* 4.11 (2018): 116.



Recent modulation results

ANAIS

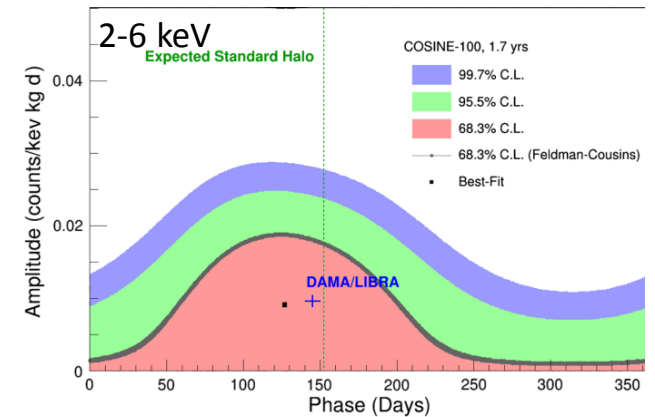
314 kg x yr exposure with no evidence of DAMA/LIBRA modulation at $\approx 3\sigma$ significance



J. Amaré, et al. "Annual modulation results from three-year exposure of ANAIS-112." *Physical Review D* 103.10 (2021): 102005.

COSINE-100

97.7 kg x yr exposure compatible with the DAMA/LIBRA result



G. Adhikari, et al. "Search for a dark matter-induced annual modulation signal in NaI (TI) with the COSINE-100 experiment." *Physical review letters* 123.3 (2019): 031302.

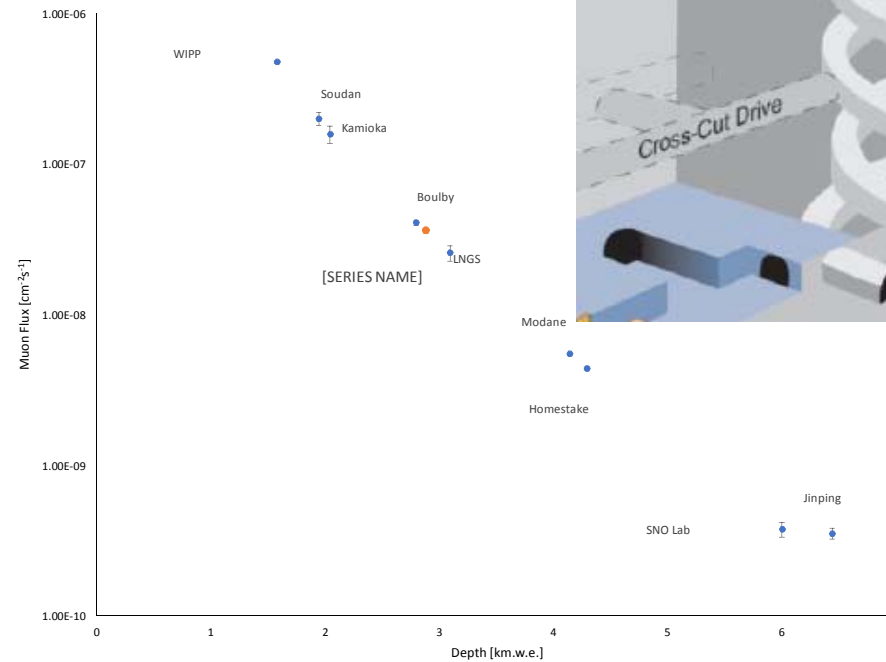
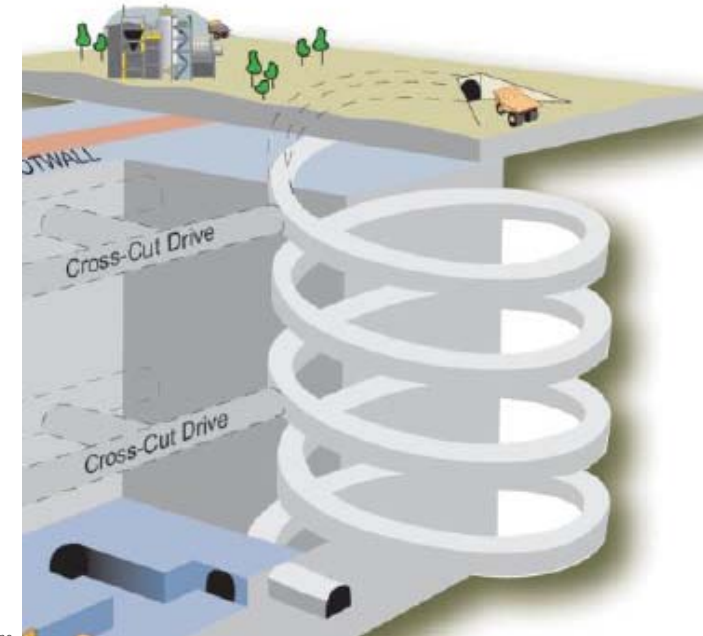
Current results inconclusive. Southern Hemisphere detector with similar sensitivity to DAMA important for replication effort

Stawell Underground Physics Laboratory

Located in active gold mine – Stawell Gold Mine in Victoria,
240 km North West of Melbourne.

Lab is 1024 m below ground with flat over burden.
Access via Helical shaft from surface.

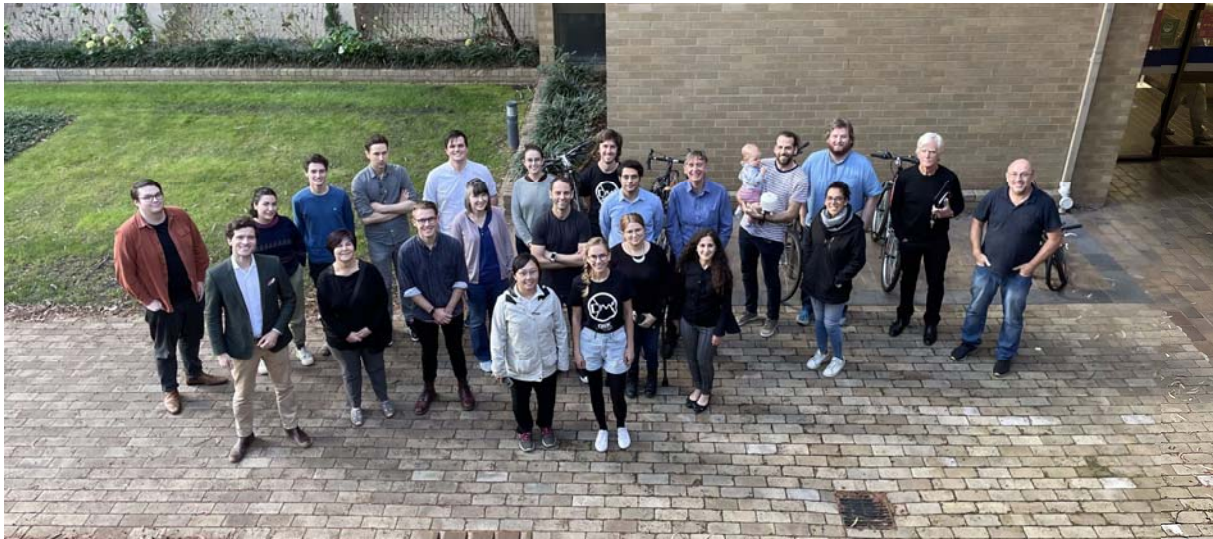
Main cavern operated as radon suppressed clean room.



SABRE South Collaboration



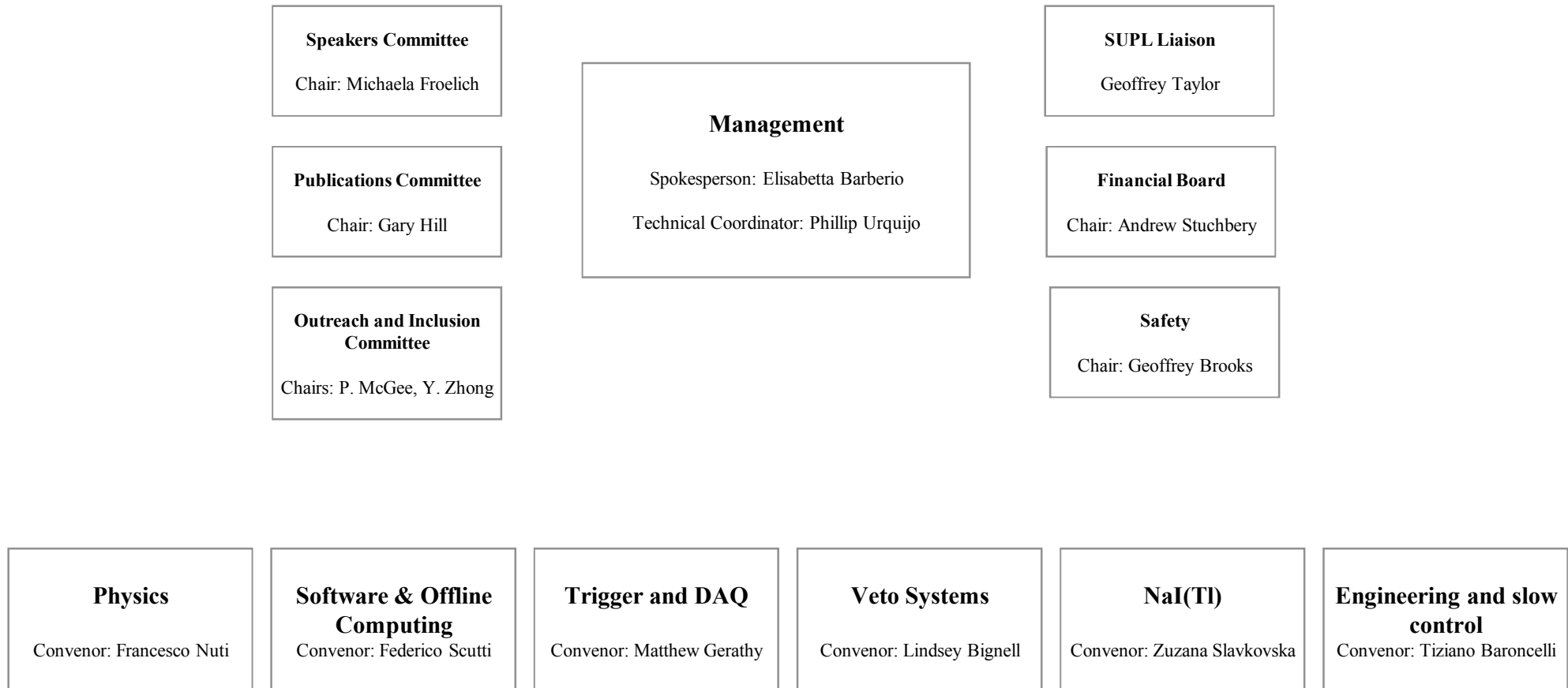
46 Members across 5 institutions



- Australian National University
- Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation
- Swinburne University of Technology
- The University of Adelaide
- The University of Melbourne

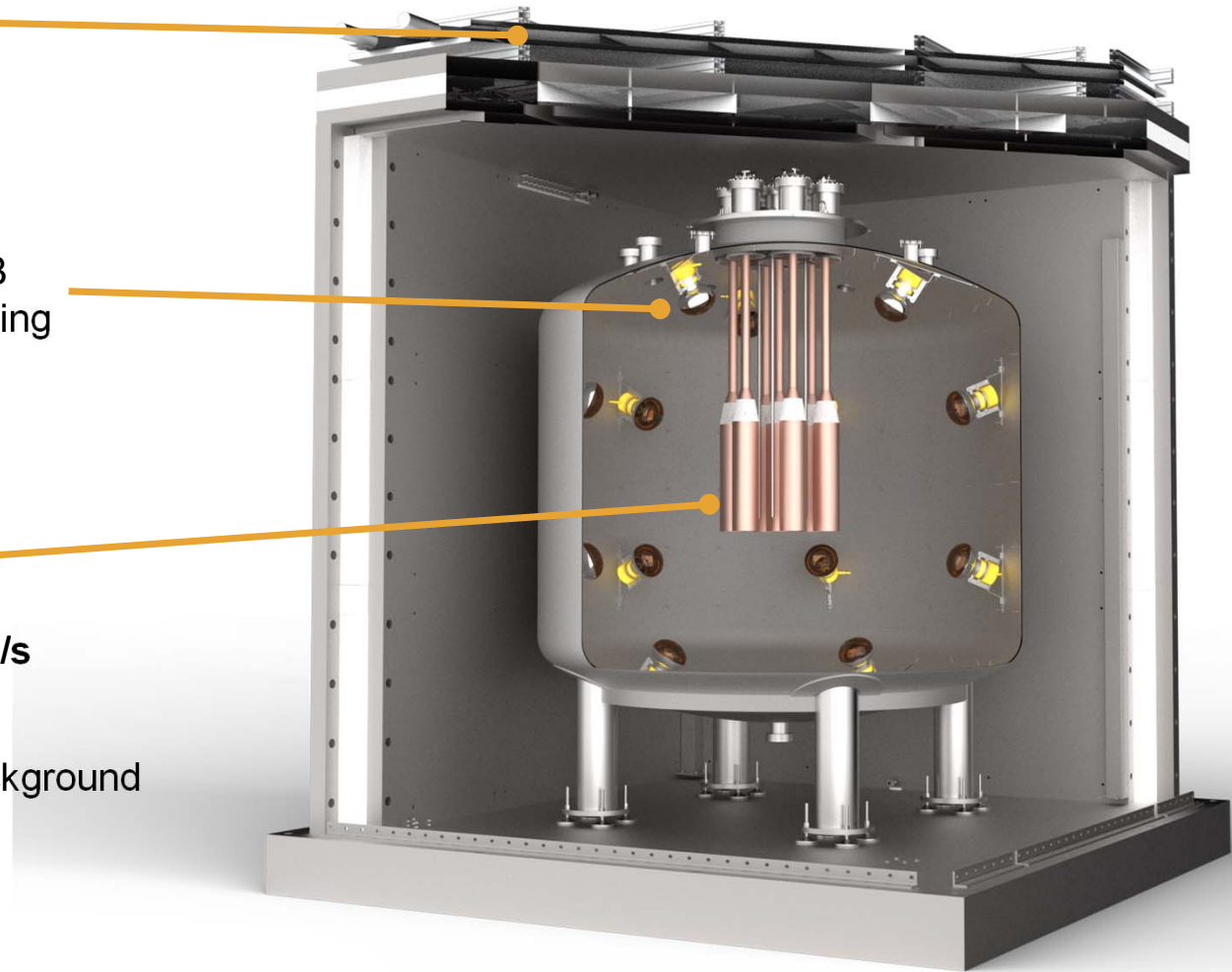


SABRE Organisation

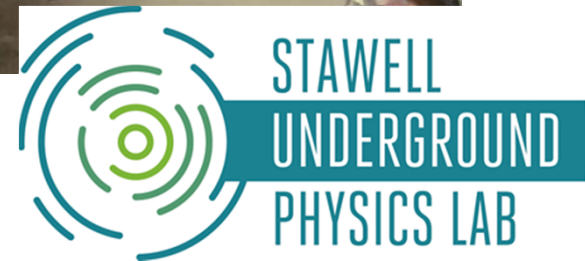
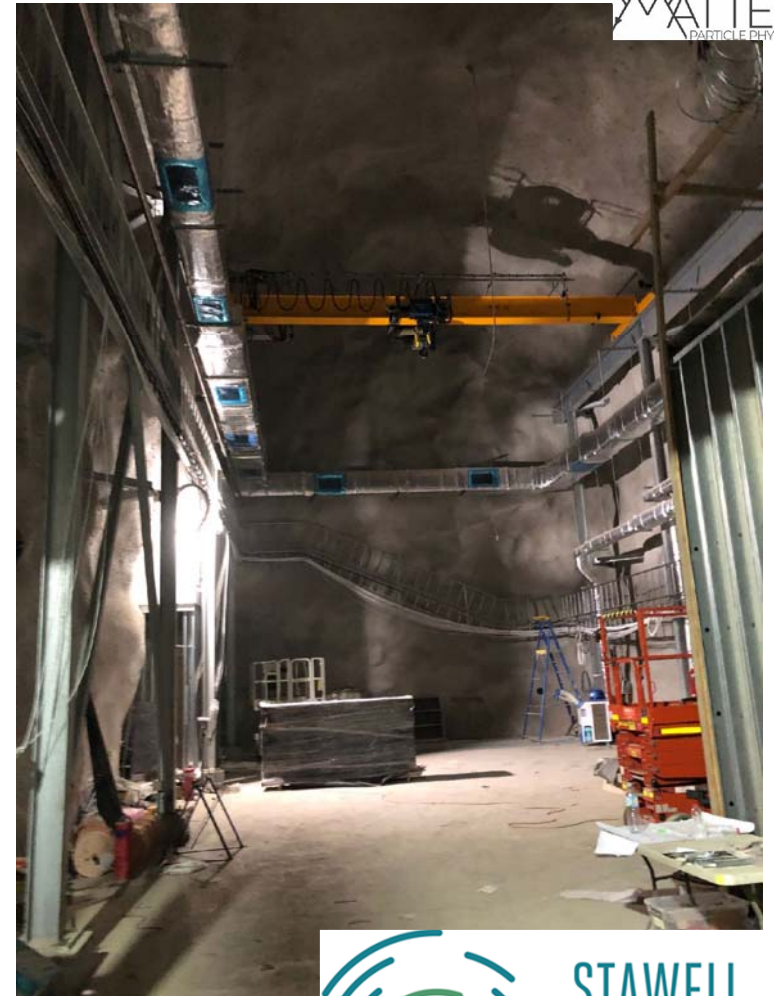
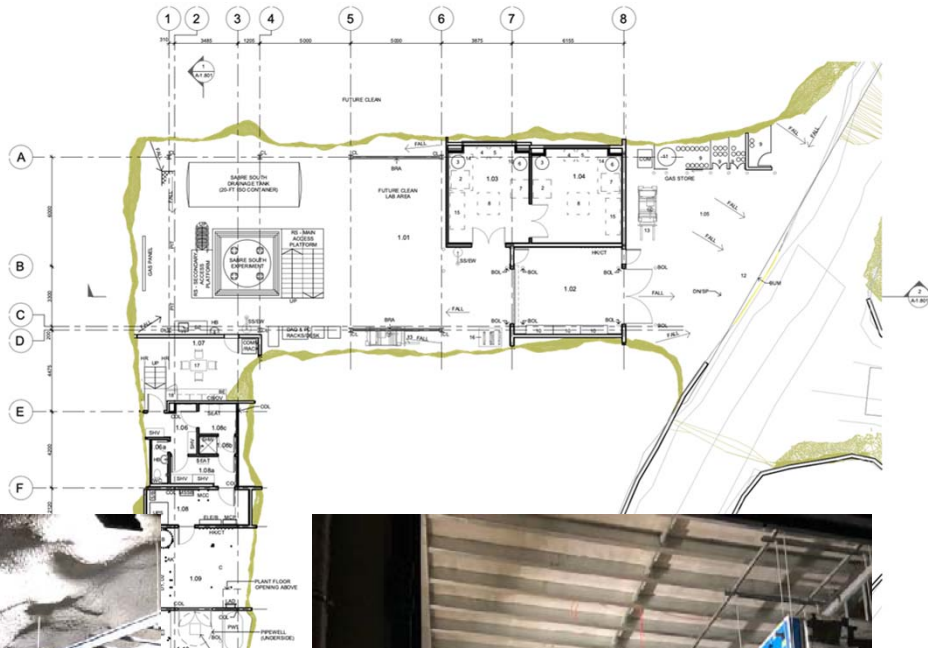


SABRE South in SUPL

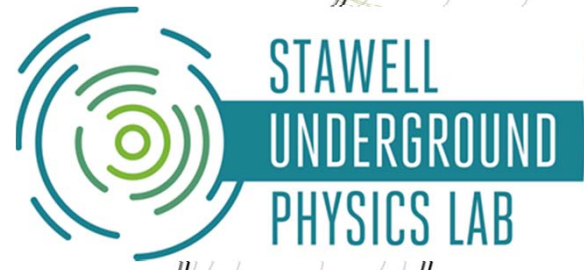
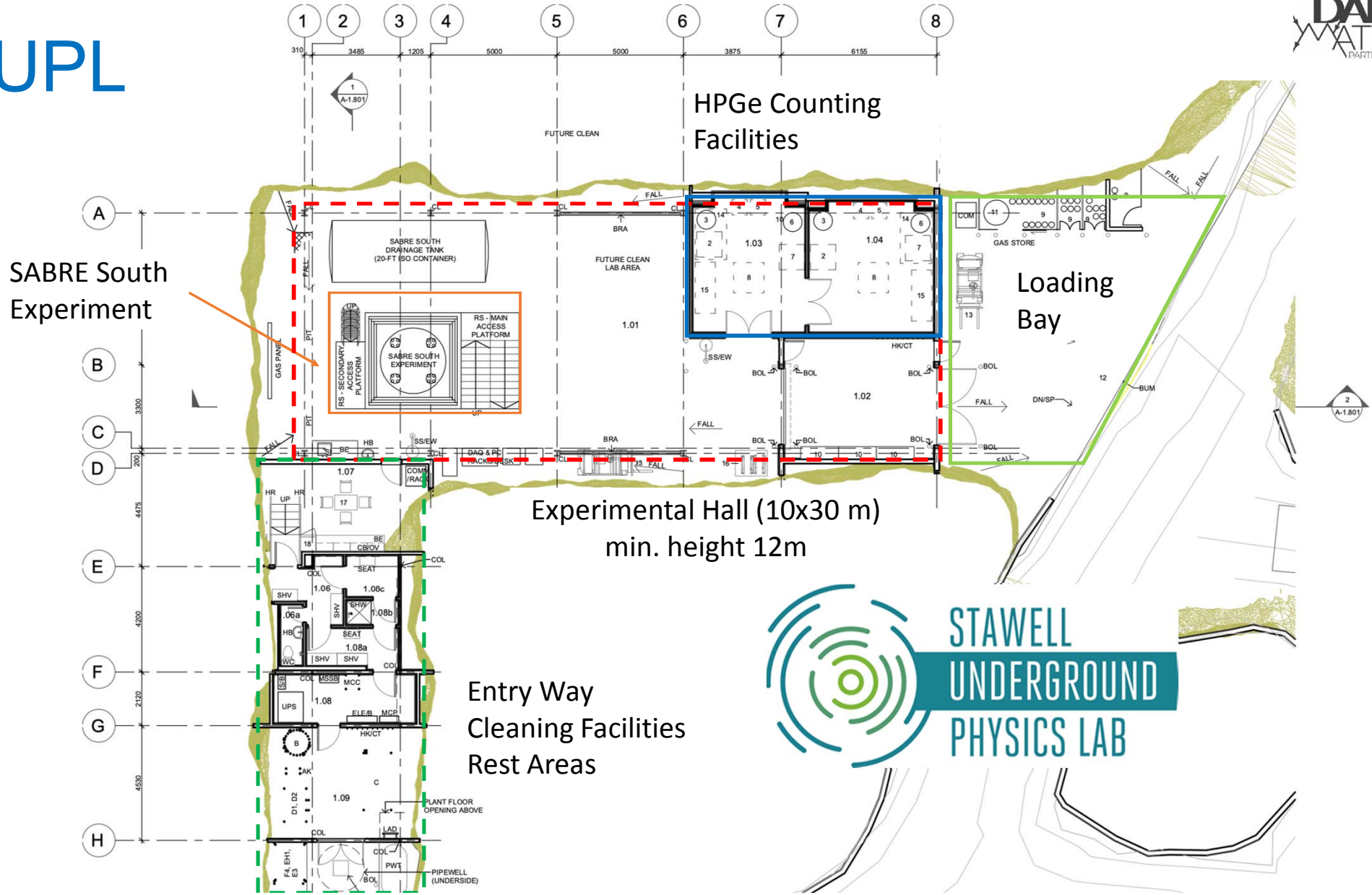
- **ToF Muon System**
9.6 m² x 5 cm EJ200
R13089 PMT x 16 @ 3.2 GS/s
- **Veto System**
12k litres Linear Alkyl Benzene + PPO & Bis-MSB
Stainless steel, non-thoriated welds, lumirror coating
Oil-proof base R5912 PMT x 18 @ 500 MS/s
- **DM Target Detector**
NaI(Tl) Crystals
R11065 low radioactivity PMT x ~14 @ 500 MS/s
- Key requirement to understand modulation in background contributions - requires particle ID. e.g. $\mu/\gamma/n$.



SUPL



SUPL



Status of SUPL

Cavern walls:

- Pinned with steel
- Sprayed w. low radioactivity “shotcrete”
- Coated with Tekflex

Cavern excavated in June.

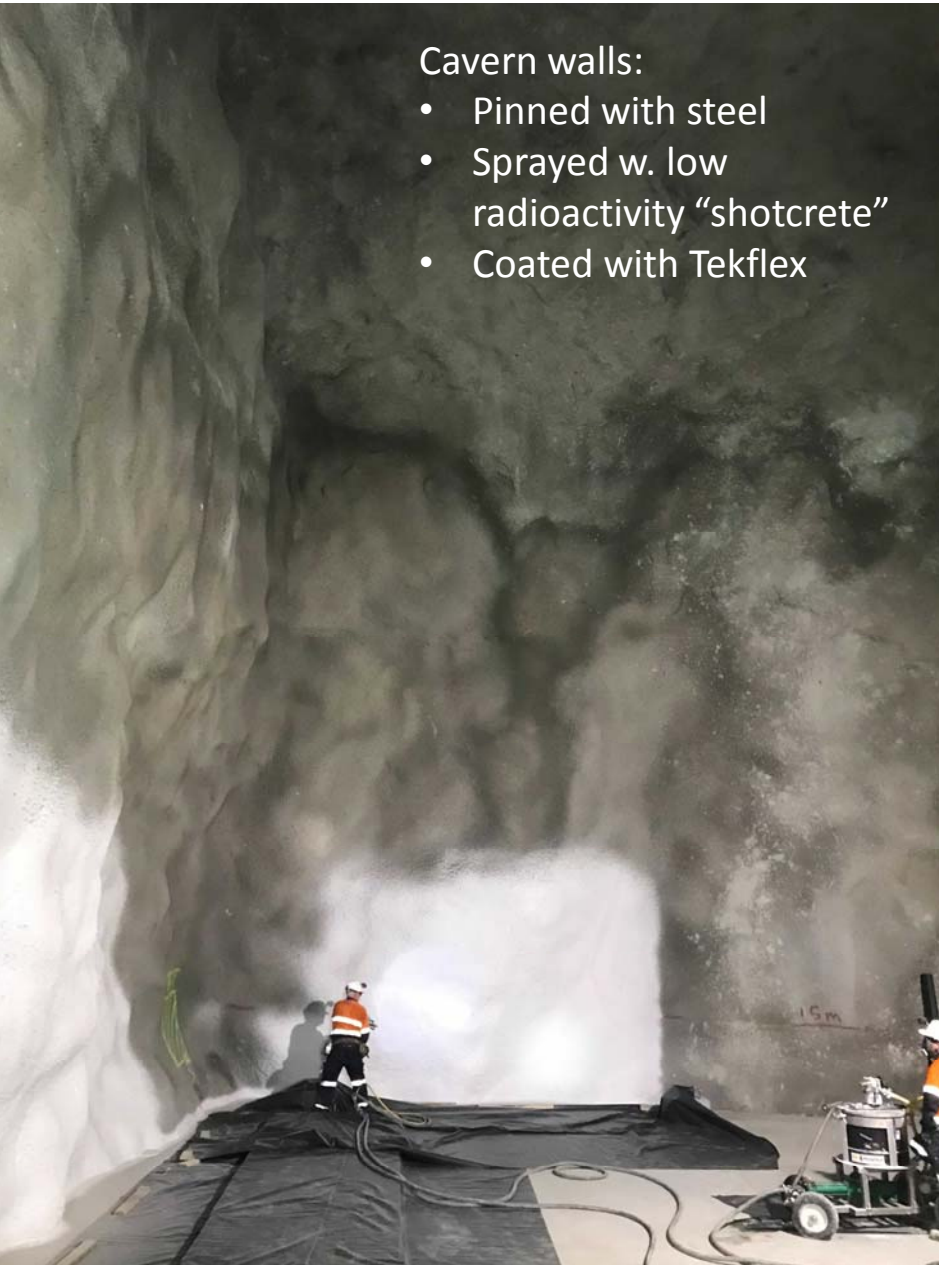
All construction materials are being screened for radioactivity with NaI(Tl) counting.

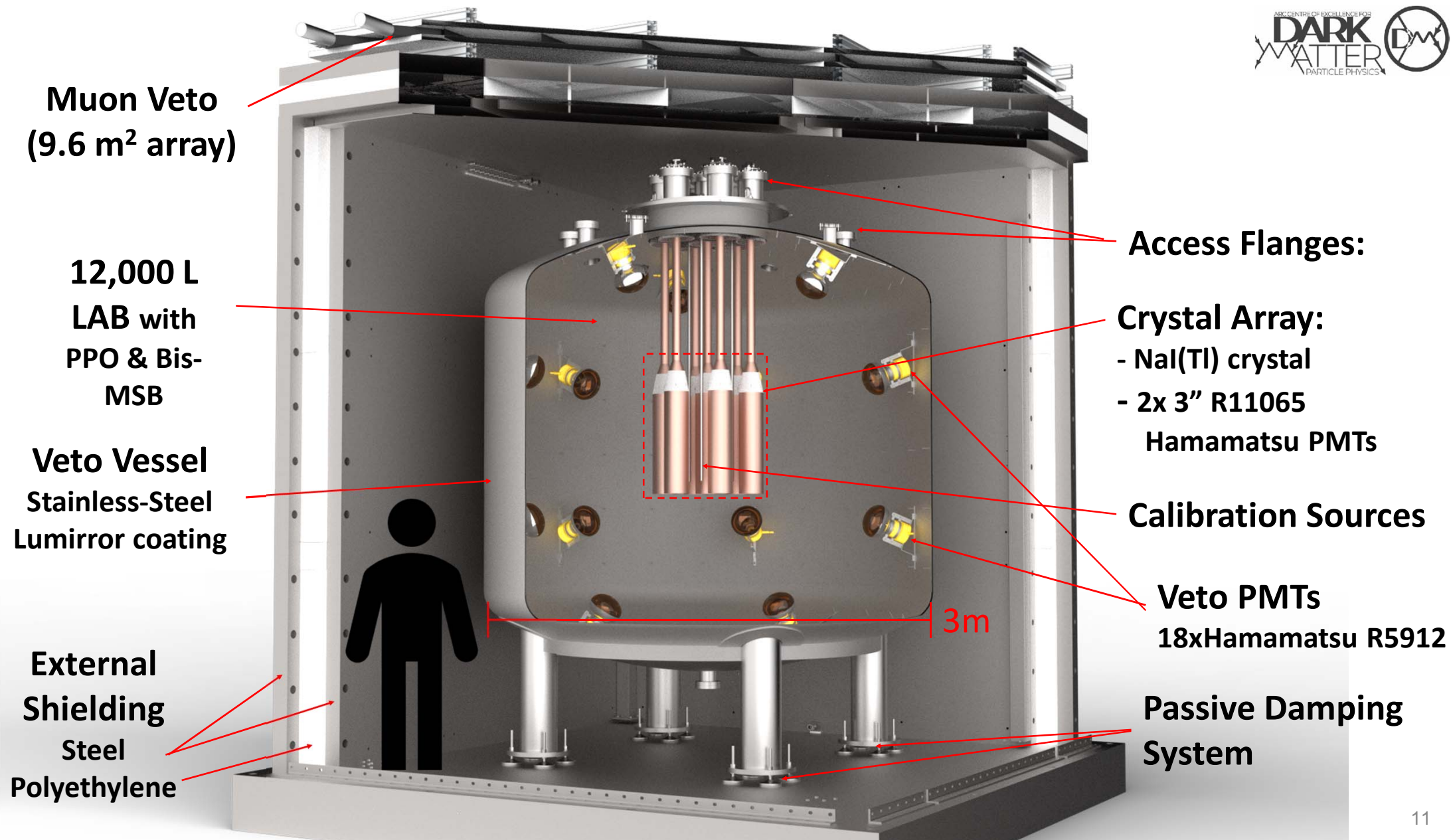
Ontrack for construction completion December 2021.

SABRE South construction and commissioning in early 2022.

Post construction background measurements:

- Muons – muon veto panels in telescope orientation
- Gamma spectrometer
- Neutrons – series of Bonner spheres & ^3He detector





Muon Veto
 (9.6 m² array)

12,000 L
LAB with
PPO & Bis-
MSB

Veto Vessel
Stainless-Steel
Lumirror coating

External
Shielding
Steel
Polyethylene

Access Flanges:

Crystal Array:

- NaI(Tl) crystal
- 2x 3" R11065 Hamamatsu PMTs

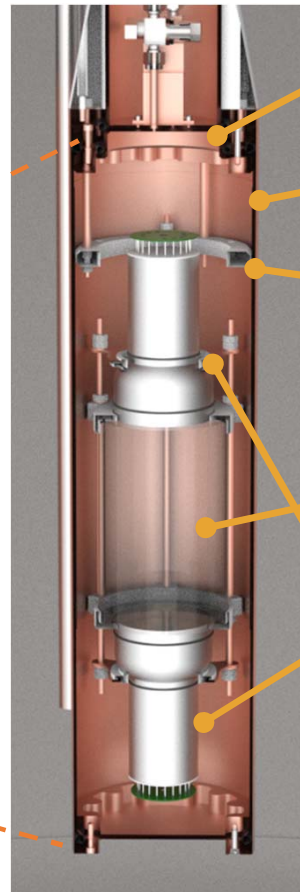
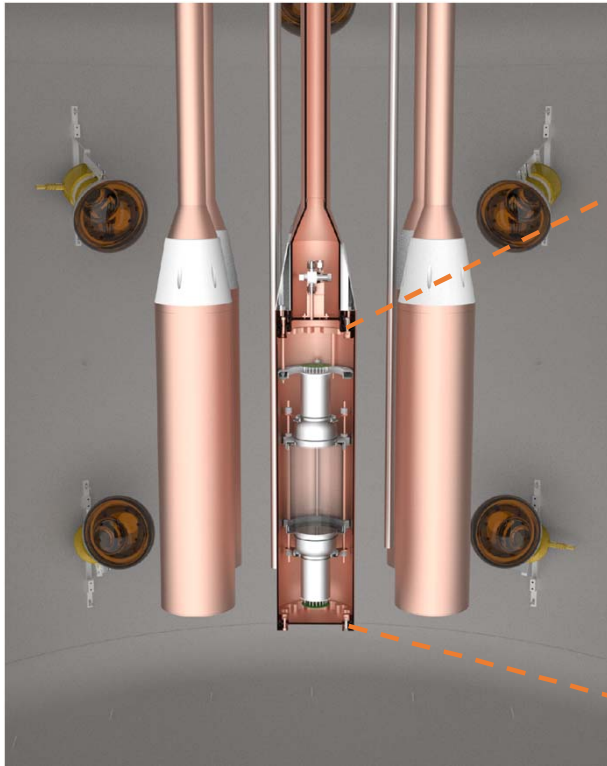
Calibration Sources

Veto PMTs
 18x Hamamatsu R5912

Passive Damping System

Nal(Tl) Detectors

Array of 7 Nal(Tl) detectors immersed in the liquid veto.
Minimal material between crystal and liquid scintillator.
Purged with high purity dry N₂.



Feedthrough Plate (gas & electrical)

OFHC Copper Enclosure
3 mm wall thickness
Internal Teflon structure

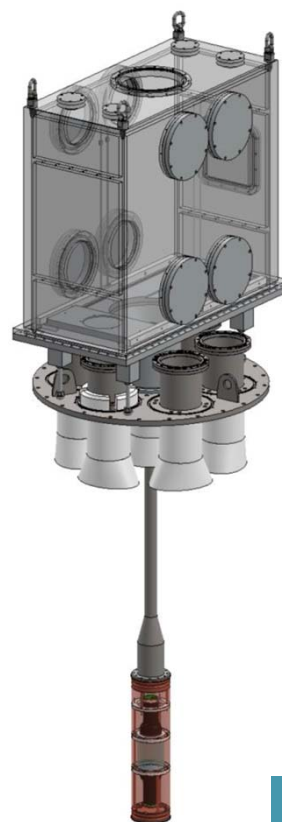
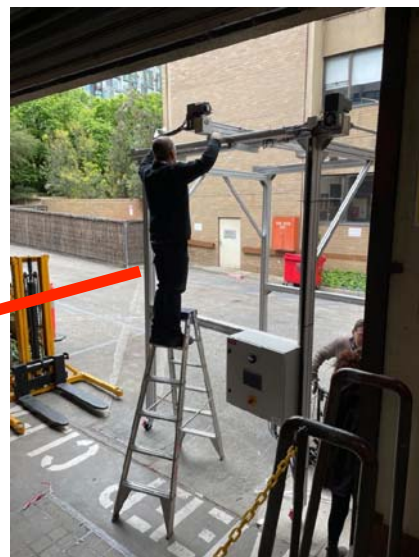
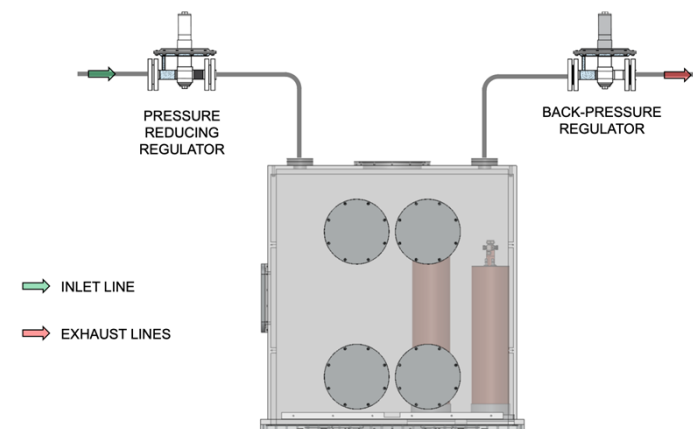
~7 kg NaI(Tl) Crystal
L.Y. ~ 10 PE/keV

3" Hamamatsu R11065 PMT:
Low background metal body
QE >30% at 420 nm
Readout at 500 MS/s with CAEN V1730.
Threshold ~0.3 SPE peak

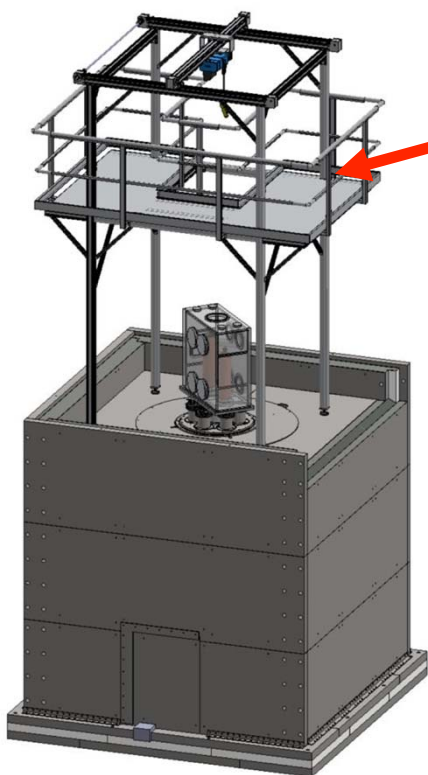
Crystal Insertion System

- Three procedures for CIS: insertion, extraction, substitution of crystals.

• Basic GB fluid handling design:



GB built by Palazzi SRL (Italy). CIS Crain at UniMelb.



SABRE

Low Background NaI(Tl)

1. The SABRE Collaboration has successfully grown very low background NaI(Tl) crystals [1].

For more details see A. Mariani "Characterisation of an ultra-high purity NaI(Tl) crystal scintillator with the SABRE Proof-of-Principle detector"

2. SABRE South test crystal (new) – 5 kg grown by RMD using Bridgman-Stockbarger process developed with SABRE. ICPMS measured K: tip 5 ppb, bulk <10 ppb. Currently being prepared for counting at LNGS.

	K [ppb]	²³⁸ U [ppt]	²³² Th [ppt]
SABRE ^[1] NaI-33	4.7±1.4	<1	<1
DAMA ^[2]	13	<10	<10
COSINE-100 ^[3]	17.8	<20	0.6

Ongoing: AMS measurements of ²¹⁰Pb content in Astro-Grade NaI powder at ANU



[1] – M. Antonello, et al., "Characterization of SABRE crystal NaI-33 with direct underground counting." *Eur. Phys. J. C* 81, 299 (2021)

[2] – R. Bernabei, et al. "The DAMA/LIBRA apparatus." *Nucl. Instrum. Methods Phys. Res. A*: 592.3 (2008): 297-315.

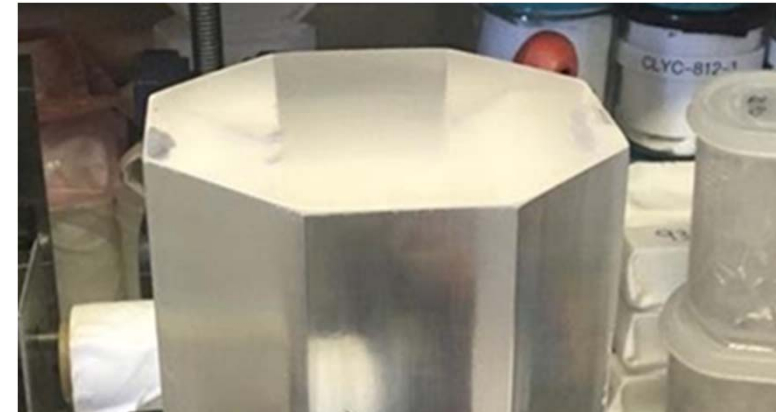
[3] – G. Adhikari, et al. "Initial performance of the COSINE-100 experiment." *The European Physical Journal C* 78.2 (2018): 1-19.

Low Background NaI(Tl)

1. The SABRE Collaboration has successfully grown very low background NaI(Tl) crystals [1].

For more details see A. Mariani "Characterisation of an ultra-high purity NaI(Tl) crystal scintillator with the SABRE Proof-of-Principle detector"

2. **SABRE South test crystal (new) – 5 kg** grown by RMD using Bridgman-Stockbarger process developed with SABRE. ICPMS measured K: tip 5 ppb, bulk <10 ppb. Currently being prepared for counting at LNGS.



	K [ppb]	²³⁸ U
SABRE ^[1] NaI-33	4.7±1.4	<1
DAMA ^[2]	13	<10
COSINE-100 ^[3]	17.8	<20

- In discussion with SICCAS on their capabilities:
 - they are preparing to grow the largest NaI crystal they can
 - they have ability to grow all crystals simultaneously
 - We aim to measure the background and light yield of a SICCAS crystal at SUPL in the new year

Ongoing: AMS measurements of ²¹⁰Pb content in Astro-Grade NaI powder at ANU

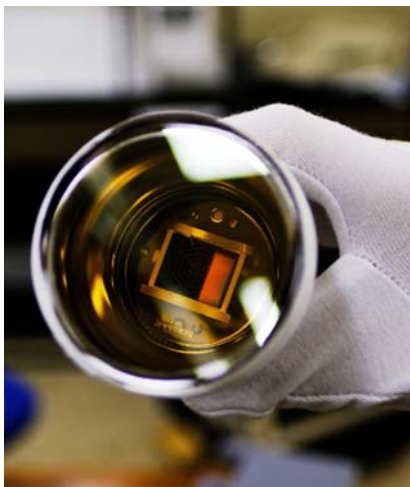


[1] – M. Antonello, et al., "Characterization of SABRE crystal NaI-33 with direct underground counting." *Eur. Phys. J. C* 81, 299 (2021)

[2] – R. Bernabei, et al. "The DAMA/LIBRA apparatus." *Nucl. Instrum. Methods Phys. Res. A*: 592.3 (2008): 297-315.

[3] – G. Adhikari, et al. "Initial performance of the COSINE-100 experiment." *The European Physical Journal C* 78.2 (2018): 1-19.

PMTs



R11065 Crystal PMTs
 3" head-on
 Metal body
 Low radioactivity
 High quantum efficiency
 (QE>30% requirement)



R5912 Veto PMTs
 8" hand blown glass body
 Large acceptance
 Oil-proof base (Resin filled
 Acrylic)

+ μ System PMTs

R11065 delivered to UniMelb. R5912 in production. μ System PMTs installed.

For 1keV threshold in NaI(Tl) detectors require

	QE	Gain	Dark Rate @ 0.3*Single-photo-electron Peak
R11065 – crystal	> 30%	10^7	<1000 Hz
R5912 – veto	~ 25%	10^7	<2000 Hz

- Measurement of all PMTs:
 - Quantum Efficiencies, photocathode surface scans, Dark current and dark rate (ML suppression algorithm training), Gain, Temperature dependence, spontaneous light emission in bases, after-pulses, transit time spread.
- Testing facility at UniMelb.
 - Picosecond pulsed light source, W-Halogen lamps + grating, reference PD, thermal chamber, trigger PMTs, CAEN readout.
- Parallel studies
 - HV Polarity and pre-amplification and early dynode readout for dynamic range, location of splitters, cable noise studies.
 - Noise rejection tools & ER/NR classifiers.

Active Veto System

Veto system provides 4π coverage

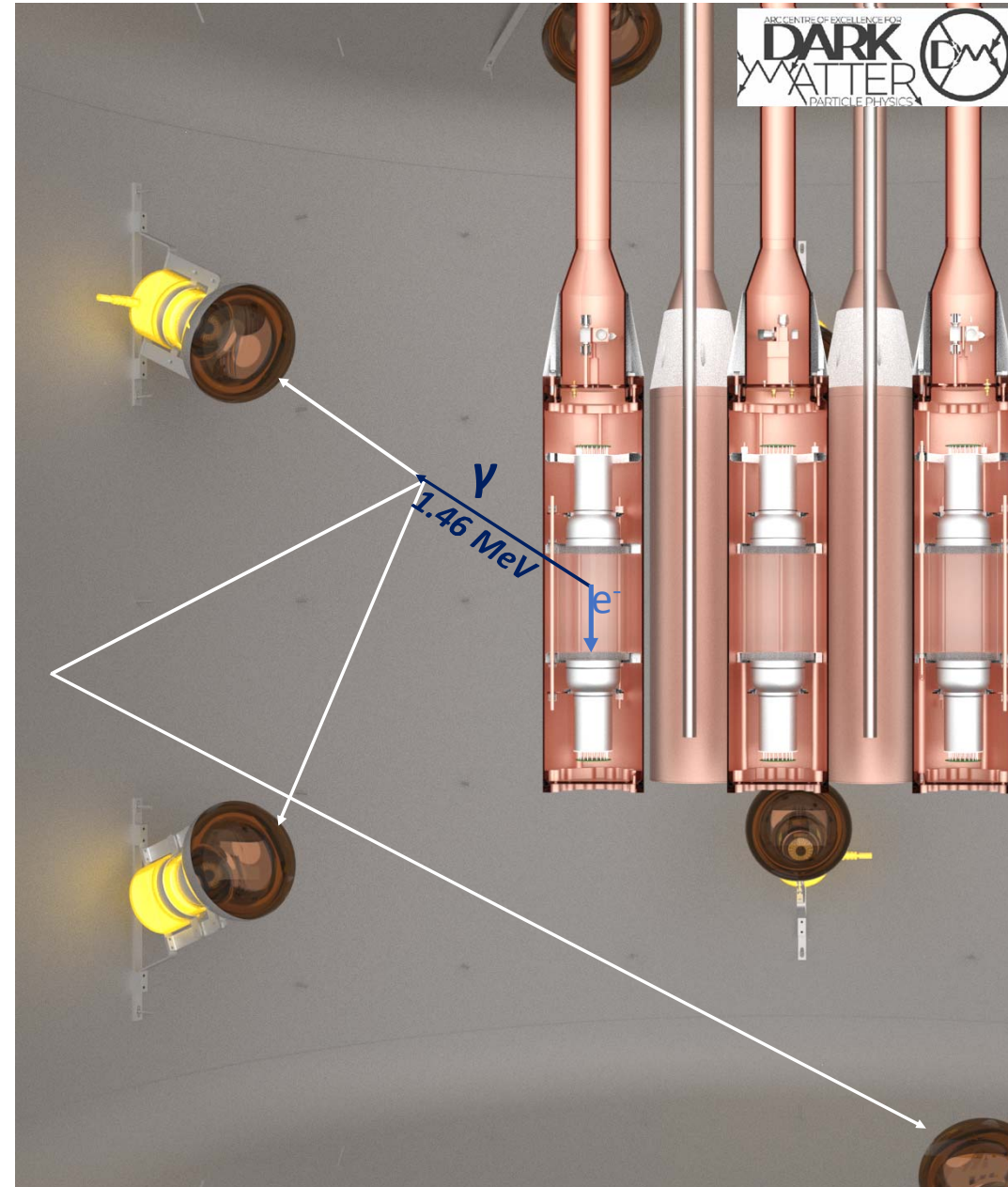
Liquid veto:

- 12,000 L of Linear Alkyl-Benzene (LAB) doped with PPO and Bis-MSB
- 18 Hamamatsu R5912 PMTs with oil-proof base. Readout at 500 MS/s (CAEN V1730)

The active veto is designed to:

- Veto potassium-40 decays in NaI(Tl) with 85% efficiency.
- Be sensitive to >100 keV energy deposition

This reduces the background by a factor of 10.



Liquid Scintillator

17,000 litres LAB scintillator base
from Nanjing via JUNO/IHEP.

JUNO LS properties [6]

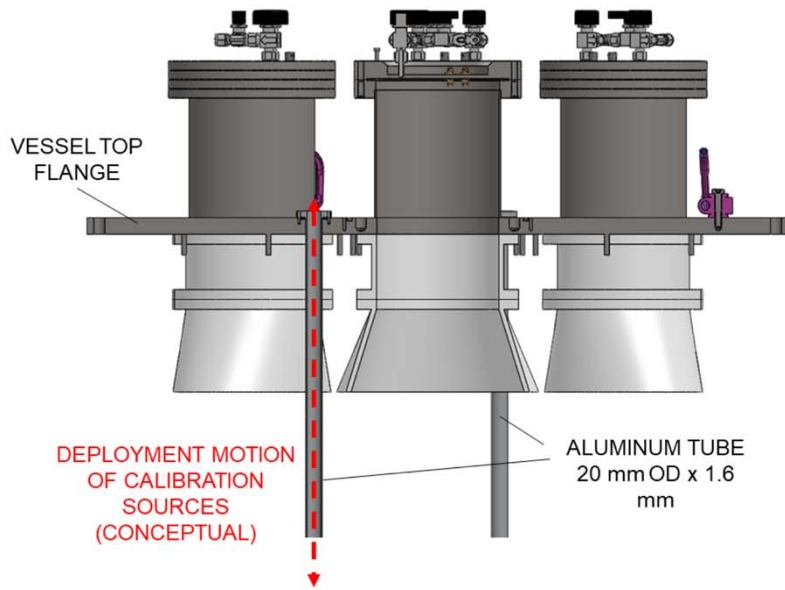
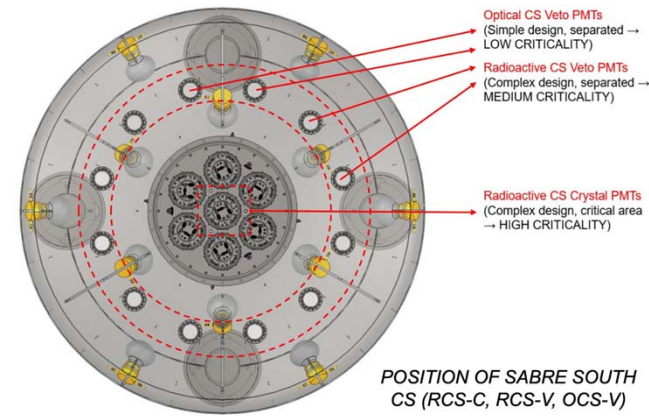
- Photon attenuation > 20 m
- $^{238}\text{U}/^{232}\text{Th}/^{40}\text{K} < 10^{-17}$ g/g



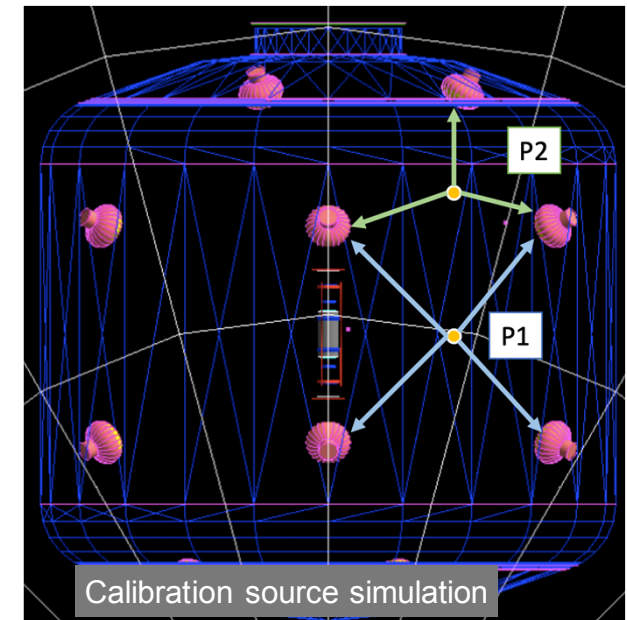
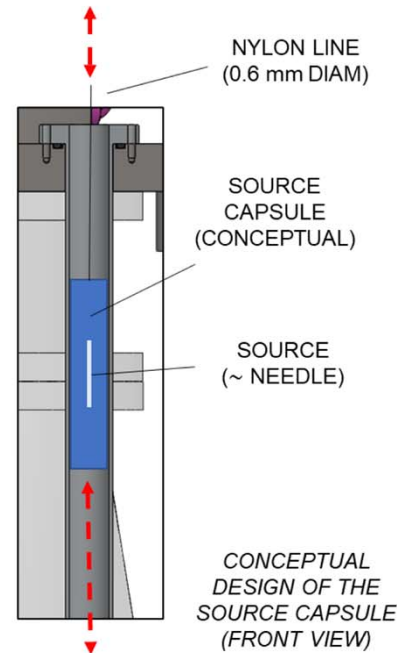
[6] – A. Abusleme, et al. "JUNO Physics and Detector." *arXiv:2104.02565* (2021).

Calibration systems

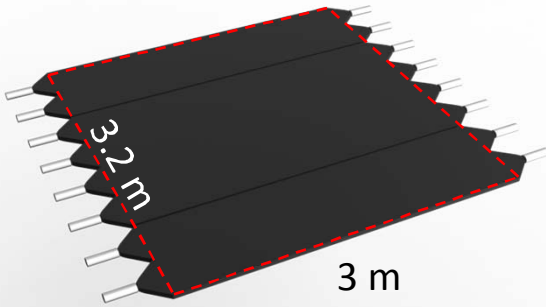
- Source based system designed for NaI(Tl) and LAB detectors.
- Calibration method has been simulated.
- Optical system under design.
- Based on picosecond laser, optical fibre, diffuser. Similar to that used in UniMelb test-bench.



SABRE



Muon Veto System

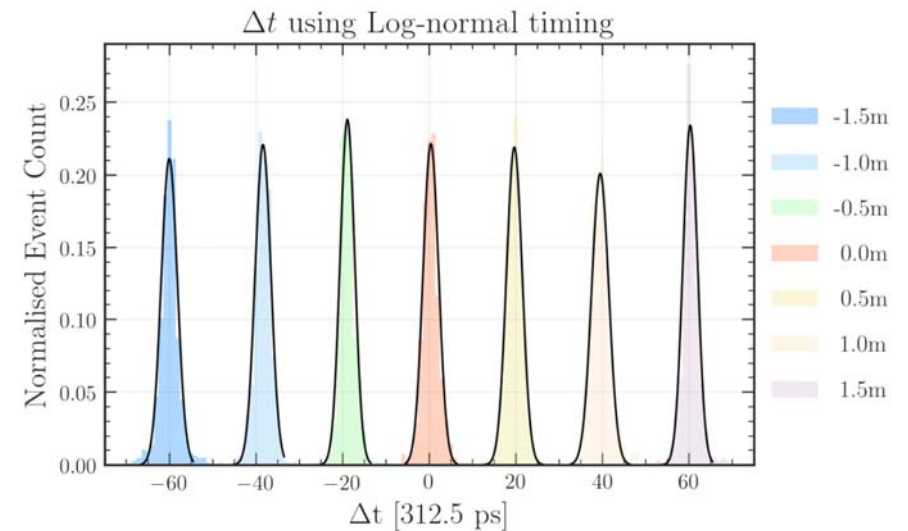
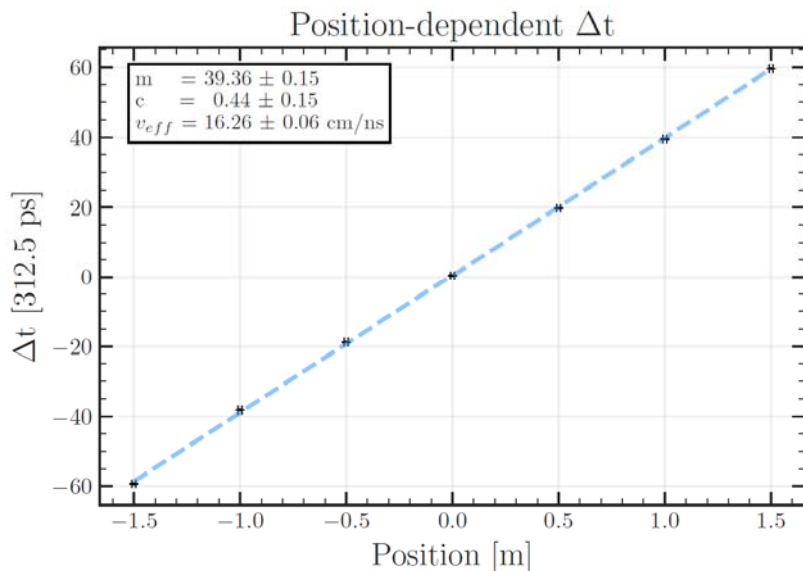


Provides additional tagging of cosmic muons.

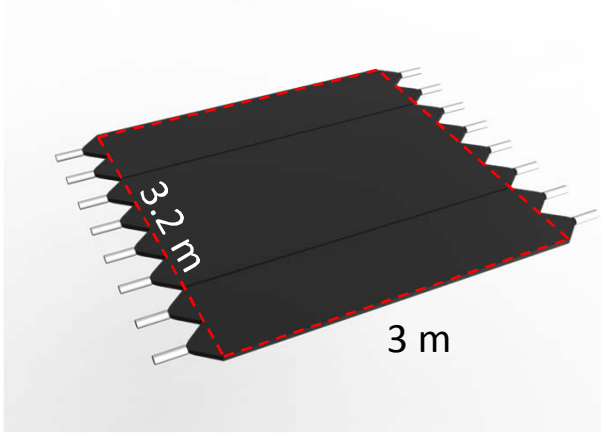
Required for measurements of muon modulation at SUPL (in combination with the veto vessel)

8 x EJ200 organic scintillator panels (3x0.4x0.05 m) with PMTs at opposite ends.

Readout at 3.2 GS/s which gives longitudinal position resolution of 5 cm.



Muon Veto System

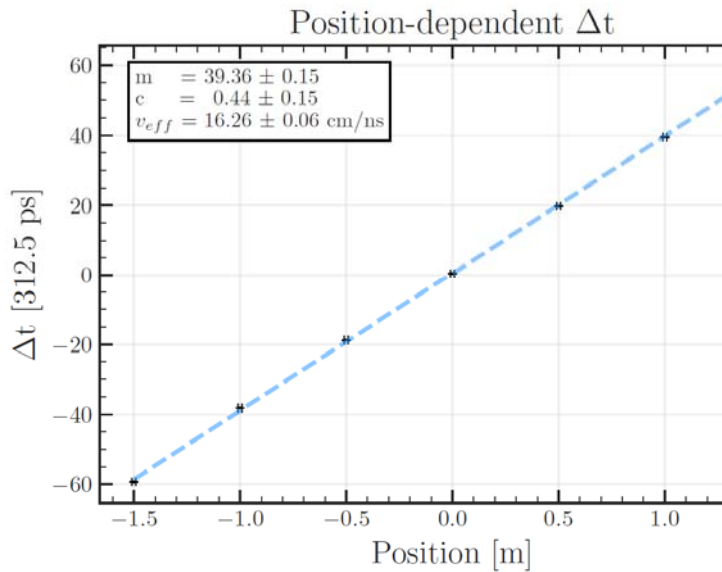


Provided
 Required
 components
 8 x 8
 with

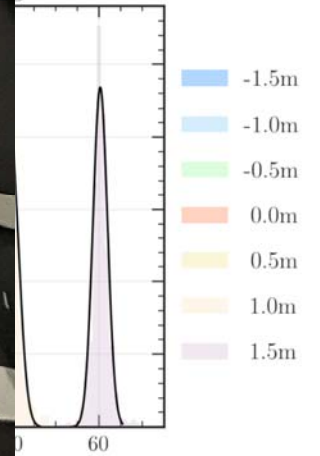


at SUPL (in

Readout at 3.2 GS/s wh



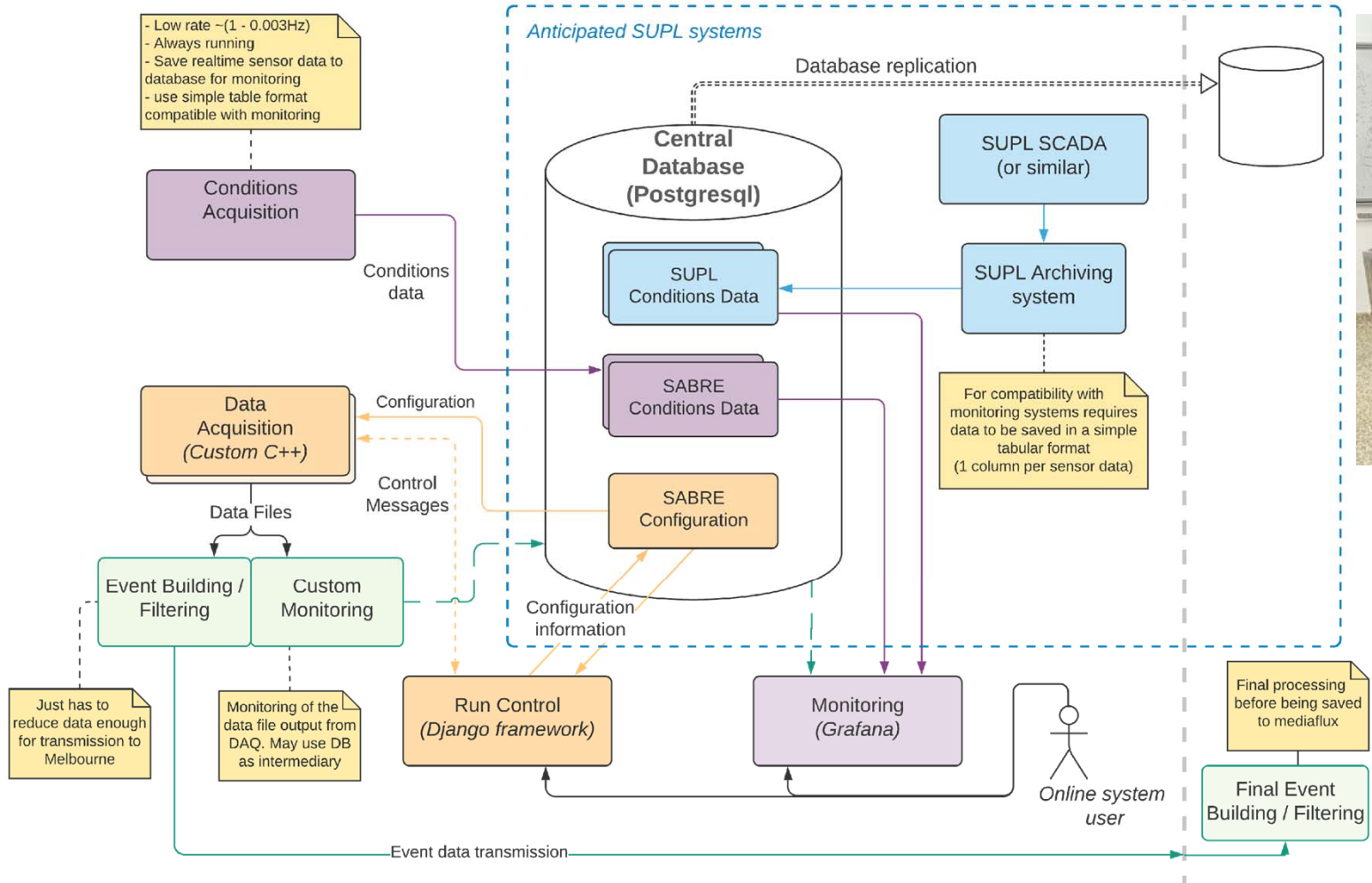
m.



Data acquisition & Online Computing

SUPL

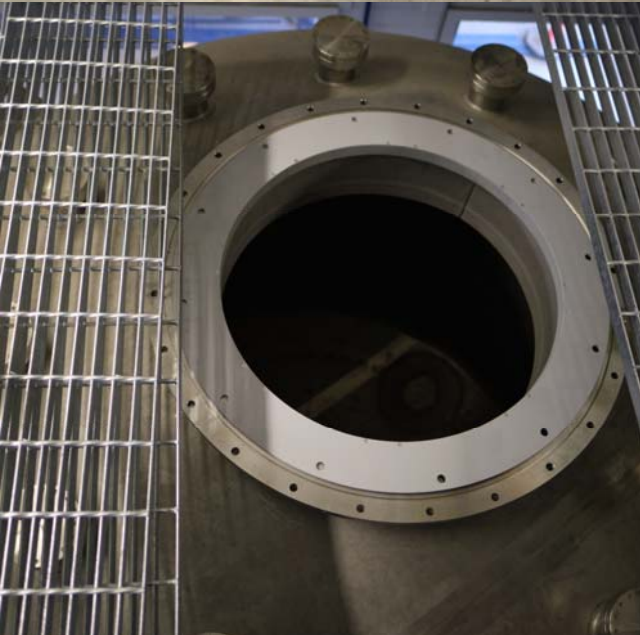
Melbourne



Prototype system tested in UniMelb laboratory with large muon detectors.

SABRE

Vessel safety training

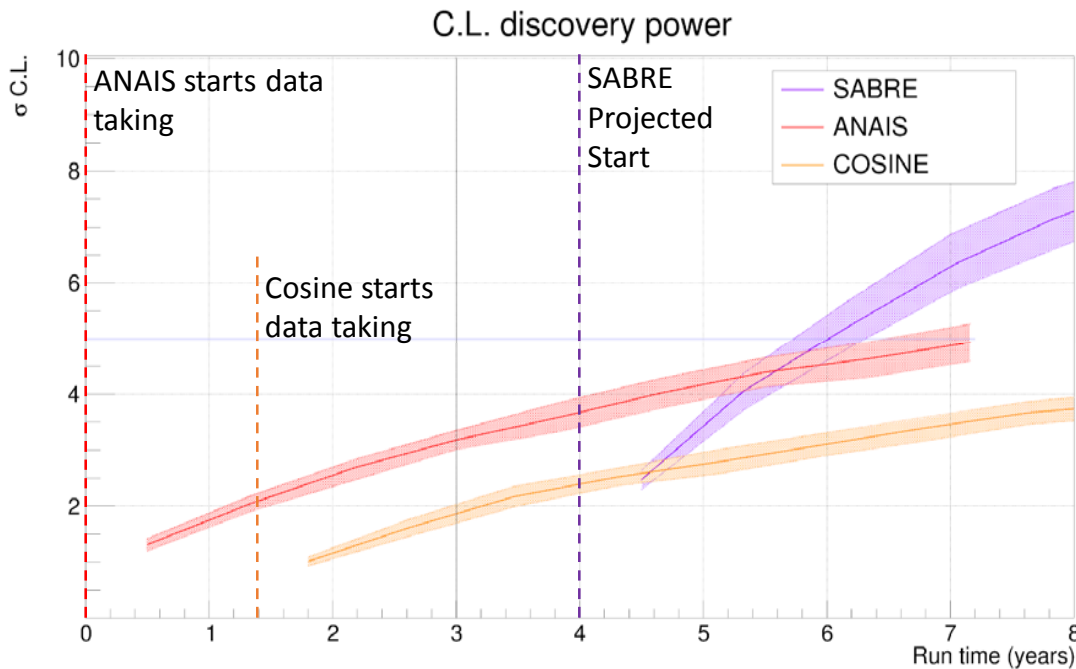


Projected sensitivity

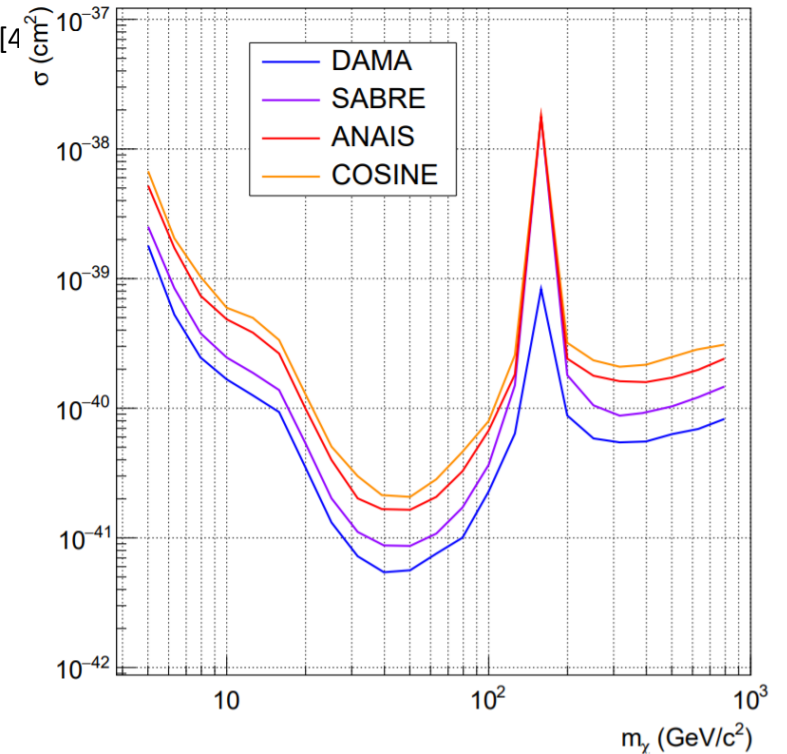
SABRE South sensitivity has been estimated by Zurowski & Barberio [4] With 50 kg NaI(Tl) & projected background rate ~ 0.36 cpd/kg/keV [5]

For DAMA like signal:

- 5σ Discovery power in 2 years
- 5σ Exclusion within 5 years



SI - 90% C.L. Modulation Sensitivity 3 Yr exposure



[4] – M. J. Zurowski, and E. Barberio. "Influence of NaI background and mass on testing the DAMA modulation." arXiv:2107.07674

[5] - M. Antonello, et al. "Monte Carlo simulation of the SABRE PoP background." *Astroparticle Physics* 106 (2019): 1-9.

Conclusion

SABRE South will be commissioned in 2022 in SUPL.

Expected to reach a 5σ discovery sensitivity to a DAMA-like signal within 2 years

Upcoming Publications:

- Monte Carlo simulation of the SABRE South background
- Photomultiplier characterisation methods and initial results
- Technical design report

The Stawell Underground Physics Laboratory was funded by the State Government of Victoria and the Australian Government.