Nal detector for rare event searches





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Nal crystal for particle detection

Pro

- High light output
 - 40,000 photons/MeV
 >60,000 photons/MeV?
- Easy to grow
 - Cheap
 - ✤ Large size
- The most widely used scintillator
- Mixture of low and high atomic numbers

Con

- Huge hygroscopic materials
- Contamination of natural Potassium

 ~ 3keV X-ray from ⁴⁰K
- No good identification of nuclear recoil





The first 32 inch diameter Nal(TI) crystal. Pictured from left to right are Dr. Swinehar Ed Jablon, Joe Knaus and Marko Sfilgoi.

Properties From Saint-Gobain				
Density [g/cm³]	3.67			
Melting point [K]	924			
Thermal expansion coefficient [C ⁻¹]	47.4 x 10 ⁻⁶			
Cleavage plane	<100>			
Hardness (Mho)	2			
Hygroscopic	yes			
Wavelength of emission max [nm]	415			
Refractive index @ emission max.	1.85			
Primary decay time [ns]	250			
Light yield [photons/keVγ]	38			
Temperature coefficient of light yield	d -0.3%C ⁻¹			

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Nal(TI) for rare event searches : Dark Matter



Nal(TI) for rare event searches : Dark Matter



Annual modulation signal from DAMA/LIBRA



Global Nal(TI) efforts



Why it is so hard to reproduce DAMA?



- No other experiments achieve the low-background rate of Nal(TI)
- Saint-Gobain lost the technique for low-background Nal(TI) crystals
 - Confidential contraction between DAMA and Saint-Gobain was finished already

Nal(TI) development with Alpha Spectra (AS)

 Joints R&D between three (ANAIS, DM-Ice, and KIMS) collaborations and Alpha Spectra company since 2013



Nal(TI) development with Alpha Spectra (AS)

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High light yield ~ 15 PE/keV ANAIS



2-4 times larger than DAMA

- Reduced ⁴⁰K but, still contribute significantly
- ²¹⁰Pb is the most significant contribution

KIMS-Nal

- Cosmogenic activation is unexpected problem from AS
- AS is located in Grand Junction, Colorado (~1,000 m altitude)

COSINE collaboration (Since 2015)



KIMS and DM-Ice joint effort to search for dark matter interactions in NaI(TI) scintillating crystals. (Goal to **test DAMA/LIBRA experiment**)









COSINE-100 detectors

Eur. Phys. J. C 78 (2018) 107 Eur. Phys. J. C 78 (2018) 490 JINST 13 (2018) P09006 JINST 13 (2018) T02007 JINST 13 (2018) T06005 Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 981 (2020) 164556 arXiv:2107.07655

Physics run since Sept/2016

COSINE-100 operation



- Total Exposure of COSINE-100 **SET 1 : 59.5 days SET 2 : 1.7 years** COSINE-100 Accumulated Data **SET 3 : 3.0 years** 1600 COSINE-100 Preliminary 1400 Total Livetime :1588.6 days (93.9 %) 7h:23m Livetime (day) 008 000 009 009 Good Data :1560.8 days (92.3.%). SET SET 2 600 Calibration Nov 21, 2019 400 July 18, 2018 200 **SE** 12/31, 11h 12/31, 17h 12/31, 23h 12/31,05h 2017 2018 2019 2020 Sep 30, 2016
- Stable operation from Sep. 2016 for about 4.5 years
 - ~94 % physics data
 - ~92 % good quality data

COSINE-100 Physics results (2 keV threshold)



Event selection



- Two-fold trigger can reach to 0.15 keV trigger threshold
- PMT-induced noise significantly contribute for <2 keV
- Multivariable machine learning technique applied to reduce analysis threshold to 1 keV



 Develop new likelihood parameter based on the pulse shape of the signals and the noises



COSINE-100 results with 1keV threshold





Other analyses





Annual modulation of muon rate

New isomers in ²²⁸Ac



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COSINE-200 crystal development



- Goal : Background less than DAMA/LIBRA (1 dru)
 - Needs a factor two or more improvement
 - Powder purification/crystal growing/detector assembly will be done at IBS, Korea Powder purification performance

K.A. Shin et al., J. Rad. Nucl. Chem. 317, 1329 (2018)



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K.A. Shin et al., JINST 15, C07031 (2020)

	K (ppb)	Pb (ppb)	U (ppb)	Th (ppb)
Initial Nal	248	19.0	<0.01	<0.01
Purified Nal	<16	0.4	<0.01	<0.01



Our grown crystals





	K (ppb)	²¹⁰ Pb (mBq/kg)	²³⁸ U (µBq/kg)	²³² Th(µBq/k
Powder	5	-	<20	<20
Aug/2018	684	3.8+/-0.3	26+/-7	<6
Sept/2019	8	0.01+/-0.02	11+/-4	7+/-2
DAMA	<20	0.01~0.03	8.7~124	2~31

Crystal machining



Detector assembly



Expected background



Full size grower





 Designed and built the full size grower based on small test grower (crystal growing & low-background)

First run





Third run

First test run

- Found some issues and improved the system
- Third run
 - Successful seeding and grow ~10cm ingot

~200 kg powder





~50 kg ingot



<Crystal dimension>

<Powder charging>

Novel technique of crystal encapsulation



- Direct attachment of NaI(TI) to PMTs
- ~50 % increased light yield was observed
- This technique can be applied for COSINE-200 detector assembly

Efforts for low-threshold NaI(TI) detectors



COSINE-200 sensitivity

- Assuming light yield ~ 22 NPE/keV (5NPE threshold)
- 10% increased quenching factor was assumed
 WIMP-nucleon spin-independent
 WIMP-proton spin-dependent



Possibility to detect CE ν NS in reactor



- Coherent Elastic v Nucleon Scattering (CEvNS)
 - Predicted at 1974
 - First observation at 2017 using spallation neutron source (~ 30 MeV neutrino)
 - However, $CE\nu NS$ with reactor neutrino (~3 MeV) is not

□A lot of scientific and technological application







World Scientific

e (IBS)

Science **357**, 1123 (2017)

NEON Collaboration



~ 15 people who are all active members of COSINE-100 and/or NEOS



Aim to observe CEvNS from reactor \bar{v}_e using NaI(TI) detector Can take an advantage of COSINE-100 and NEOS experiences

Hanbit nuclear power plant



Tendon Gallery of Hanbit Nuclear Power Plant (Yeonggwang)





- Good relation with company
 NEOS site unit 5 (Maintenance May~Oct 2020)
 NEON site unit 6 (Maintenance Jan~May 2021)
- 2.8 GW thermal power
- Tendon gallery is ~24 m far from reactor core
 - Environmental conditions were well known from NEOS experiment



Reactor

Construction of the NEON detector (Nov/2020)

Nov/12

Nov/13



Nov/19







Dec/7/2020

NEON status





Issues on low-energy nuclear recoil calibration

~18.2 NPE/keV

Scattering angle (deg)	Sim. Na recoil energy (keV _{nr})	Observed recoil energy (keV _{ee})	Quenching factor	
18.2	2.9 ± 0.7	< 0.65	< 0.22	
24.9	5.7 ± 0.7	0.76 ± 0.4	0.133 ± 0.018	
31.1	8.8 ± 1.2	1.13 ± 0.5	0.129 ± 0.014	
32.2	9.1 ± 1.2	1.46 ± 0.5	0.162 ± 0.012	
41.1	14.3 ± 2.4	2.21 ± 0.9	0.159 ± 0.019	
41.3	15.0 ± 1.4	2.36 ± 0.8	0.160 ± 0.010	
47.9	19.4 ± 1.6	3.21 ± 1.0	0.168 ± 0.009	
54.4	24.9 ± 2.4	4.10 ± 1.5	0.171 ± 0.010	
59.1	29.0 ± 1.9	5.36 ± 1.9	0.188 ± 0.008	
64.6	33.3 ± 2.8	6.19 ± 2.1	0.191 ± 0.011	
74.2	43.0 ± 2.2	8.53 ± 2.7	0.204 ± 0.008	
84.0	51.8 ± 2.6	10.59 ± 4.5	0.207 ± 0.010	

~14 NPE/keV

Nuclei	Scattering angle (degree)	E _{ee} (keV)	E _{nr} (keV)	Quenching factor (%)
Na	13.2	< 0.5	5.8 ± 1.0	
	16.4	0.83 ± 0.07	8.7 ± 1.3	9.6 ± 1.6
	21.3	1.68 ± 0.04	14.8 \pm 1.6	11.3 ± 1.2
	26.6	3.20 ± 0.05	22.7 ± 2.0	14.1 ± 1.3
	31.0	$5.17~\pm~0.07$	30.1 ± 2.2	17.2 ± 1.3
	38.2	7.97 ± 0.09	46.1 ± 2.8	17.3 ± 1.1
	45.0	11.4 ± 0.1	62.6 ± 3.2	18.1 ± 0.9
	51.3	16.8 ± 0.2	78.9 ± 3.6	21.3 ± 1.0
	59.0	22.7 ± 0.2	102.7 ± 4.1	22.1 ± 0.9
	74.7	$34.7~\pm~0.3$	151.6 ± 5.0	22.9 ± 0.8

Astropart. Phys. 108, 50 (2019)



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New setup for neutron calibration



2.45 MeV neutron from DD generator

Migdal effect for low energy nuclear recoil

 Nuclear recoil can induce orbital electron excitation called as Migdal effect with very low probability (10^{-3})



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Migdal is new era for low-mass dark matter



LUX (Xenon)

"Results of a Search for Sub-GeV Dark Matter Using 2013 LUX Data" https://arxiv.org/pdf/1811.11241.pdf PRL 122,131301 (2019)

XENON1T (Xenon)

"A Search for Light Dark Matter Interactions Enhanced by the Migdal effect or Bremsstrahlung in XENON1T"

https://arxiv.org/pdf/1907.12771.pdf PRL 123,241803 (2019)

EDELWEISS (Germanium)

"Searching for low-mass dark matter particles with a massive Ge bolometer operated above-ground" https://arxiv.org/abs/1901.03588 PRD 99, 082003 (2019)

CDEX-1B (Germanium)

"Constraints on Spin-Independent Nucleus Scattering with sub-GeV Weakly Interacting Massive Particle Dark Matter from the CDEX-1B Experiment at the China Jin-Ping Laboratory" PRL 123,161301 (2019)



MILLER Mason (Colding)







COSINE-100 limit with Migdal effect



Observation of Migdal effect?

MIGDAL Collaboration



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• Measure tracks of both nuclear and electron recoils





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Migdal effect in Nal using neutron generator?

1~2 keV nuclear recoil energies seems to be very good



Migdal effect in Nal using neutron generator?

25 NPE/keV light yield, Poisson statistics for resolution



To get 100 Migdal events, we need ~ 10⁶ nuclear recoils in 1-2 keV energy (5-8^o angles)

Migdal effect in Nal using neutron generator?

25 NPE/keV light yield, Poissonian statistics for resolution

To get 100 Migdal events, we need ~ 106 nuclear recoils in 1-2 keV energy (5-80 angles)

Other neutron sources?

This is pulsed beam (low background)

We asked to use this lowenergy neutron for quenching factor measurement Larger scattering angles (11-17° angles)

Other neutron sources?

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Summary & Conclusion

 Nal(TI) crystals have been developed for dark matter search experiments in Korea

More than 20 years questions from DAMA/LIBRA

- Korea (KIMS/COSINE) is the world-leading group in the NaI(TI) detector for rare event searches
- World-leading scientific applications are developed
 - Dark matter
 - CEvNS
 - Migdal effect?

Stay tuned for more exciting results to come from COSINE and NEON experiments!

Sensitivity

- Flat background ~5 dru
- Detector mass = 15 kg
- Reactor on data = 365 days
- Reactor off data = **100 days**
- Light yield = 22 NPE/keV
- Trigger and selection efficiency
- Threshold = 5 NPE

10,000 Pseudo experiments

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Strategy of NEON experiment

2019	2020	2021	2022	20	23	2024	2025
Detector development							
NEON-phase 1							
				NEON-phase 2			

- NEON-phase1 (~2023)
 - ~15 kg commercial crystals (< 10 dru background)</p>
 - Demonstration of detector performance and observe CE ν NS with > 3σ

• NEON-phase2 (~2025)

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- ~100 kg purified crystals (<1dru background)</p>
- Precision measurement and explore new physics interaction

EPJC 80 (2020) 814

Muon modulation (3 years data)

