

(Deep) Underground Laboratories: a brief review

DULIAbio 2024 York, UK 19-22 Aug 2024 Aldo Ianni, I.N.F.N. Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso

Why are we interested in DULs?

Reduction of muons from primary comic rays opens the possibility to search for **exceptionally rare events** such as low energy neutrino interactions, dark matter interactions, proton decay, double beta decay, ...

Muons reduction has a great impact on biology as well, this meeting topic.



The science in DULs

- The original and main research topics in DULs are proton decay and neutrino physics (atmospheric, solar neutrinos, and DBD). About 30 years ago direct detection of Dark Matter became another crucial topic.
 - ✓ 1965: Observation of upgoing muons from neutrino interactions at 3200m depth in South Africa
 - ✓ 1968: First detection of solar neutrinos
 - ✓ Early 1980s: Kamiokande, IMB, and NUSEX proton decay experiments proposed
 - ✓ 1987: Observation of neutrinos from a core collapse supernova
 - ✓ 1998: Discovery of neutrino oscillations in Super-Kamiokande
 - ✓ 2002 and 2015 Noble Price in Physics
- In the **last decade** DULs have expanded the research interest to neighboring sectors that can benefit of underground facilities and infrastructures
 - At SURF (South Dakota) an Institute for Underground Science is being established
- Multi-disciplinary is becoming a key feature for DULs
 - Precision measurement in high-energy particle physics
 - · Technology sharing for gravitational waves search
 - Technology to support quantum computing
 - Biology in extreme environments and low radiation biophysics (this meeting topic!)
 - Geophysics
 - Groundwater characterization
 - > Deployment of seismic arrays underground
 - Rotational seismology
 - ➤ Geo-neutrinos

Where are they?



Main features

How large are DULs?



Structure and access

Structure

Single-site (SNOLAB, LNGS, LSM, Yemilab, SUPL)

□ Multi-site (LSC, SURF, Boulby, Kamioka, CJPL, CLAB)

Access

- □ **Vertical** by means of a cage system (SNOLAB, Boulby, SURF)
 - + Need special manpower and maintenance
 - + Interaction with mining Company
 - + Limited loading volume for equipment to be taken underground
- □ Horizontal (Baksan, LNGS, CJPL, LSM, LSC)
 - + Easy access, not special maintenance
 - + Loading volumes only limited by tunnel cross-section
 - + Interaction protocol with Company keeping control of the road tunnel (LNGS, LSC, LSM)

8

- □ Helical drive access (SUPL, Yemilab, CLAB)
- Multiple (CLAB, Yemilab)
 - + Cage system and drive-in possibility

Radon, ventilation and environment



9

Muon flux vs rock overburden

10

The mountain profile affects the muon flux underground

The case of LSC



The case of LSM





Muon flux vs depth



Key technologies developed in DULs

DULs can develop new technology

Not an exhaustive list

- Innovative technology in radio-purity assay
- Innovative technology for Rn-free environments
- New advanced technologies for cryogenic infrastructures
- Additive manufacturing for rare events research
- SiPM based innovative photo-detectors
- Superconducting sensors in ultra-low background environments for quantum computing
- Muon tomography
- Safety and engineering in deep underground research infrastructures

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DULs worldwide collaboration

- EU DULs have a long history of collaboration that has intensified in recent years
- Global collaboration required for next-generation experiments
 - ✓ Working Group established during TAUP 2023
- Representatives
 - Boulby (UK): Sean Paling
 - CLAB (Finland): Julia Puputti 📈
 - CLPL (China): Qian Yue
 - LNGS (Italy): Aldo Ianni
 - LSBB (France): Gilles Micolau
 - LSC (Spain): Carlos Peña-Garay
 - LSM (France): Silvia Scorza
 - SNOLAB (Canada): Jeter Hall
 - SUPL (Australia): Kim Mintern-Lane
 - SURF (USA): Jaret Heise
 - Yemilab (South Korea): Kang-Soon Park
 - ANDES (Argentina): Xavier Bertou



DULs cooperation: main goals

Foster	Foster coordination and synergy between DULs					
Coordinate Coordinate global strategy for future investments						
Establish	Establish a transnational access (TA) policy					
Reinforce	Reinforce cooperation and coordination in key services to support next-generation experiments					
Connect	Connect existing facilities through a Virtual Coordination Office to support research and optimize synergy					



New infrastructure @ LNGS: NOA

- ISO6 400 m² CR built on surface to be operated in Rn-free mode (1000 m³/h)
- Outfitted with equipment for SiPM-based photodetectors packging
- In no radon-free operation mode: 7800 m³/h
- Standard (Rn) operation mode with all equipments: 400 kW (660 kW)
- Use:

NF

- ✓ Assembly of detector parts
- Development of SiPM-based photodetectors to be operated in LAr



DS-20k photo detection unit





LNGS user facility open to external proposals

Start of Scientific data taking: 19 June 2023

First Scientific results presented at at the International Symposium "Nuclei in the Cosmos XII" (17-22 September 2023)



Call for proposals of experiments

https://l.infn.it/Bellotti



Specifications of the 3.5 MV Accelerator

5	lon specie	Terminal Voltage					
		0.3 MV – 0.5 MV	0.5 MV - 3.5 MV				
	¹ H ⁺	500 µA	1000 µA				
	⁴ He ⁺	300 µA	500 µA				
	¹² C+	100 µA	150 µA				
	¹² C ⁺²	60 µA	100 µA				

Terminal Voltage Ripple (max):	± 0.01 %
Reproducibility of Terminal Voltage (max):	± 0.01 %
Variation of beam energy after 1h:	< 0.001 %
Variation of beam intensity after 1h:	10 %
Intervention free operation time	> 24 h
Interruption free operation	> 24 h
Service Interval	> 29 d
Beam time / year	> 308 d
Beamlines available for scientific users	2

New radiopurity assay facility @ LNGS: STELLA

Detector space shielded by PE, water, and 5 cm of steel 3-floor building New area for samples handling Status: outfitting completed, detectors being installted

PI: Matthias Laubenstein



CUTE at SNOLAB: a facility to support new developments

- + CUTE, the cryogenic underground test facility built to test components of dark matter experiments. It is well shielded from background radiation, can operate at very low temperatures, and is designed to prevent microvibrations that could interfere with testing.
- Lead, water and PE used as shielding at SNOLAB depth
- Carrying out tests for SuperCDMS



SNOLAB: a unique class 2000 clean laboratory deep underground

Sanford Underground Research Facility

urface Lab

n Reduction

cl Cleanrooms,

Nation's deepest underground lab, advancing multi-disciplinary research

Visitor Center

ROSS Complex

Cut

1 km² / 223 acres (surface) 31 km² / 7700 acres (UG) Rounds Operations Center incl Warehouse, Shop, Offices

Waste Water Treatment Plant

YATES Complex

Rock Conveyor Admin, E&O

Opened July 2007 as dedicated science laboratory (+ Ray Davis Nobel Prize legacy) 186 full-time + 15 part-time staff members Created by the State of South Dakota with donations from Barrick/Homestake (property) and T. Denny Sanford (\$70M)

 Continued strong support by the State of South Dakota (\$75M)

 Operations funded directly by the U.S. Department of Energy (\$35M/yr)

DUNE, long-baseline neutrino FD



4850L new expansion @ SURF



Conceptual layout for the new expansion (towards G3DM)



Modane UL (LSM)

A French National RI

Location (Modane):

- 130 km from Grenoble
- 200 km from Nicken 58 • 100 km from

Torino



Surface building



PARTAGe program

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LSM occupancy and Germaniums Room future plan (Transfer to PartaGe area underway) 13 m Tight occupation of the available 400m² MIMAC SHIN Ulli Design study to possibly install PartaGe (11111)**/** 180m² mezzanine level (over **SuperNEMO** DAMIC-M the crane access) above the Data taking experimental level 30 m BINGO experimental space 25 HPGe detectors 15 in **PartaGe** Upgraded to reduce the background level ~1000 samples/year Wide-range program

Experimental level

10 m

EDELWEISS/Cupid

BINGO/TESSERACT

for Astroparticles, Earth Sciences (sediment and ice core sample datation), environmental safety (CEA), biology, etc...

STFC Boulby Underground Science Facility

- Located in a polyhalite and rock-salt mine
- Deepest mine in Britain
- 1.1 km deep with low background surrounding rock-salt with 10⁶ reduction
- 4000 m³ class 10k and 1k clean laboraton (ISO 7 and 6)
- 3000 m³ outside underground area available ation
- Surface support building
- world's first 2-phase Xe detector
- **Medium-to long term**: build a major new DUL to host next-generation world-leading projects
 - ✓ Boulby development project
 - ✓ Expansion feasibility study completed in 2021
 - Phase 1 (2028) and 2 (>2030) with large cavity



Phase 1 (2018)

Phase 2 (2030









国家重大科技基础设施

极深地下极低辐射本底前沿物理实验设施

CJPL: China Jinping Laboratory

Outfitting of CJPL-II being completed



Canfranc Underground Lab

Located in Spanish-French Pyrenees border.

Two-way access tunnels: abandoned train tunnel and operative road tunnel.

First experiments (IGEX, ...) since 1986. Modern lab, 1600 m², operative since 2010. 260 scientists from 50 institutions. 800 meters (v) of rock - muon flux is 5x10⁻⁷ cm⁻²s⁻¹; neutron flux (E<10MeV) is 3.5x10⁻⁶ cm⁻²s⁻¹; gamma flux is 2 cm⁻²s⁻¹ Radon abatement system: 220 m³/h radon-reduced air at 1mBq/m³



LSC



		м	V		Counting rates in the full energy range [cts/d/kg] and for various peaks [cts/yr/kg]							
	Detector	[kg]	^v cham [L]	Lab	40 - 2700 keV	609 keV [²²⁶ Ra]	662 keV [¹³⁷ Cs]	583 keV [²²⁸ Th]	1332 keV [⁶⁰ C0]	1461 keV [⁴⁰ K]	2614 keV [²²⁸ Th]	
6	GeRysy	2.27	15	LSC	50 ± 1	Pteli	miña	r∛†1€s	sults	60 ± 16	25±9	
	GeMPI	2.21	15	LNGS	66 ± 1	< 30	57 ± 27	< 21	35±8	86 ± 12	18 ± 5	
	GATOR	2.20	15	LNGS	103 ± 1*	99 ± 33	50 ± 17		83 ± 17	83 ± 17	33 ± 16	
	GeOroel	2.31	40	LSC	142	190		182	91	66		

* (100 – 2700) keV



New lowest background HPGe for screening (collaboration UJ-LSC, led by G. Zuzel). Another two HPGe in preparation.

	²³⁸ U					²³² Th			
Modo	LOD, ppt	LOQ, ppt	BEC, ppt	Sensibilidad (cps/ppt U)	LOD, ppt	LOQ, ppt	BEC, ppt	Sensibilidad (cps/ppt Th)	
No gas	0.002	0.006	0.04	790	0.04	0.12	0.2	632	
Не	0.01	0.03	0.04	833	0.02	0.06	0.3	650	

New ICPMS-QQQ, chemistry and automatization -> ppq limit of detection.

NEXT-100 @ LSC



Flagship experiment at LSC:

NEXT-100 experiment -TPC with 100 kg of Xe-136 at high pressure - installed @LSC to search for neutrinoless double beta decay. In operation since October 2023.



NEXT-HD - TPC with 1 ton of Xe-136 at high pressure will start construction plans in 2025. Already working in various directions: reduce backgrounds, heat dissipation, extract light by



CALLIO LAB

Existing underground multidisciplinary research environments

- Physics: LAB 1, Main level
- Biology and food production: LAB 2, LAB 4
- Inderground information modelling, IAR 2

CALLIO LAB

Callio Lab is a unique underground research environment in Pyhäsalmi, Finland.

Flat overburden, vertical depth 1440 m (~4100 m.w.e)

35

Access via incline (30min), shaft (<3 min)

See Jari Joutsenvaara at this meeting





MINE

STAWELL Under deep (2900 myster equivale (Switpflat) over burde



WIPP

Gamma Dose Rates at WIPP.



Low Radiation Experimental Design.

14 kg of Pozzolana or KCl gives an underground "Add-back" Control Irradiator w/ ~ 140 nGy/hr



WIPP is 655 m deep, with 395 m salt over-burden

Expansion underway. Foreseen a 50-year operation plan. Current site can be operated till 2033. Only 44% so far excavated of allowed volume. **Rad Quality** We know organisms respond to different quantities of radiation. We now ask: Can organisms sense and respond to different <u>qualities</u> of radiation?



HPGe spectrum of Tufo+Pozollana, ~ 122 nGy/hr (Esposito et al.2021)



Thanks to Geoffrey Smith, NMSU

New DUL: PAUL South Africa

- Using an existing road tunnel (Huguenot tunnel close to Paarl town)
- 60 km from Cape Town
- Close to Stellenbosch University, University of Cape Town, University of the Western Cape
- Status: Conceptual Design Study ongoing
- Excavation expected in 2026



Conclusions

+ At present **12 DULs in operation**

- + Underground laboratories continue to expand:
 - Hyper-K and SURF ongoing; new proposal for Boulby and PAUL
- Science in Underground laboratories is pushing forward the limits of knowledge
- Several next-generation experiments under discussion for more sensitive results
- Order of 100 experiments running or under construction

+ Building the future:

- Enhance collaboration and coordinate strategy for future developments
- Reinforce Advance Training and Transnational Access
- Enlarge the science horizon. DULIAbio 2024 is an example

Thank you for your attention!

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Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso (LNGS)

- Shielded by 1400 m (3800 m.w.e.) of rock (Gran Sasso Mountains)
- Total Muon flux 3 10⁻⁸ cm⁻² s⁻¹ •
- Easy access directly from the A24 highway
- 3 main experimental halls 100 m long, 20 m width and 18 m hight
- Many small tunnels for lab facilities and small experiments
- There are **20 experiments in data** taking or under construction





Running Ο

- **Construction/Commissioning**
- **Decommissioning**





Infrastructure: Surface Spaces & Support

Offices, Clean Labs, Shipping/Receiving on Surface

- Dedicated office space for users.
- Clean room laboratories for surface work and final checks before shipping underground.
- Multiple meeting rooms (10-20 people) and auditorium seating 150.

Create Welcoming Environment - SNOLAB Summer of Science

SNOLAB will host a series of meetings and workshops in Summer 2024:

- Invited senior scientists in-residence will give/lead topical and relevant lectures and discussions in weeks between.
- Goal of increasing the interactions between scientific collaborations while accomplishing the experimental goals.





SNOLAB by Organization

- ~150 employees
- Dedicated to operating the laboratory space and experiments
- Scientists, Project Managers/Coordinators, Project Engineers, Design Engineers, Operators, Millwrights, Electricians, Instrumentation, Chemical Support
- Human resources, IT support, Environment Health and Safety, Communications, Finance



BINGO



R&D program for 0nDBD with ¹⁰⁰Mo

Reduction of surface and external radioa ctive background with:Compact assembly with fewer mater

- ials
- Rejection of events coincident with a veto in BGO or ZnWO₄
- Light detector with signal-to-noise a mplification using the Luke-Neganov technique
- New technologies will allow <10⁻⁵ ev ents/(keV kg year)

The technologies offered by BINGO a re likely candidates for the next gene ration of detectors



Space Medicine

Dealing with conditions in space



Leveraging space environment for

- research
- development
- manufacturing



Drop Tower



SLT drop tower makes use of mine shafts for vertical movement.





1.62m/sec²

3.71m/sec²

Drop tower is capable of not only generating microgravity but also lunar or Martian gravity.

Microgravity

Generation of microgravity



Testing on the ground level

Leveraging microgravity in space



Higher quality protein crystallization

LNGS science program

- Direct DM search with LXe with XENONnT (record in background level)
- Direct DM search with LAr with DarkSide-20k
- Direct DM search with CaWO₄ with CRESST (bolometer)
- Direct DM search with Nal with DAMA/LIBRA, COSINUS and SABRE
- $0\nu\text{DBD}$ with ^{76}Ge with LEGEND-200
- 0ν DBD with ¹³⁰Te with CUORE (ending 2025)
- Supernova neutrinos with LVD
- Nuclear Astrophysics with the Bellotti's facility
- Biology (see Patrizia Morciano, Anna Bianchi, Umberto Galderisi at this meeting)
- Geophysics
 - ✓ GINGER Gyroscopes IN GEneral Relativity, ring laser gyroscope (3.6m side) for Lens-Thirring effect (measurement of Earth's rotation rate at 1/10¹⁰)

LSM science program

- 0vDBD with ⁸²Se with SuperNEMO (data taking start in 2024)
- 0vDBD with ¹⁰⁰Mo with CUPID-Mo and BINGO (bolometer) ✓ ERC grant, commissioning 2024
- Direct DM search with Si-CCD with DAMIC-M ✓ Installation of kg stage in 2024
- Direct DM search with gas detector with SEDINE
- Direct DM search with Ge/Si cryogenic detector with TESSERACT
- Directional DM with MIMAC ✓ Commissioning 2025
- Environmental research
 - \checkmark Radioactivity in the atmosphere
 - Retro-observation (impact of human activity on environment)
 - ✓ Oceanography
 - ✓ Marine and continental geochemistry (dating of carots)
 - \checkmark Geographic food origin
- Biology (see Vincent Breton, Guillaume Warot at this meeting)

Sanford Underground Research Facility

Nation's deepest underground lab, advancing multi-disciplinary research



SURF science program

- Direct DM search with LXe with LZ
- Neutrino physics with LAr with DUNE (long-baseline neutrino program)
 - ✓ FD1,2 installation 2027-2028
 - ✓ FD3 installation 2031-2032
 - ✓ DUNE Phase 1 > 2031
- 0vDBD with ⁷⁶Ge with Majorana, convering into LEGEND
 - ✓ Cu e-forming facility for LEGEND-1000
- Nuclear Astrophysics with CASPAR
 Next phase starting in 2024
 - ✓ Lasting at least till 2027
- Biology (see Markus Horn at this meeting)
- Quantum computing
- Geology & engineering
 - ✓ Seismic monitoring using fibers
 - ✓ Geothermal
 - ✓ Seismic global monitoring
 - ✓ Mining technology

SNOLAB science program

- Direct DM search with LAr with DEAP-3600
- Direct DM search with Ge/Si with SuperCDMS (bolometer)
- Direct DM search with with C_3F_8 target PICO40 (bubble chamber)
- Direct DM search with CH₄, Ar+CH₄, Ne+CH₄ NEWS-G (spherical proportional counter)
- Direct DM search with Si-CCDs with DAMIC
- 0ν DBD with ¹³⁰Te with SNO+ (>2025)
- Solar/reactor/geo neutrinos with SNO+
- Supernova neutrinos with HALO and SNO+
- 0ν DBD with ⁷⁶Ge/¹³⁶Xe with LEGEND/nEXO
- **Biology** (see Shaun Hall, Chris Thome at this meeting)
- Nuclear monitoring and quantum computing

LSC science program

- 0ν DBD with ¹³⁶Xe with NEXT (high pressure gas TPC)
- 0ν DBD with ¹⁰⁰Mo with CROSS (bolometer)
- Direct DM search with Nal with ANAIS
- Neutrino physics with Hyper-Kamiokande
- Biology (see Carlos Peña-Garay at this meeting)

CJPL science program

- $\bullet\,0\nu\text{DBD}$ with ^{76}Ge with CDEX
- 0vDBD with ¹⁰⁰Mo with CUPID-CJPL (bolometer)
- 0vDBD with ⁸²Se with NvDEX (high pressure SeF₆ TPC)
- Direct DM search with LXe with PANDAX
- Nuclear Astrophysics with JUNA
- Neutrino physics with a kton scale detector

Yemilab science program

- 0vDBD with ¹⁰⁰Mo with AMoRE (bolometer)
- Direct DM search with NaI(TI) with COSINE-100U,200
- \bullet Neutrino physics (beyond the SM and sterile ν) with a kton scale detector
 - ✓ status: proposal under development
 - ✓ IsoDAR (Isotope Decay-at-Rest Experiment) electron antineutrino beam from 60 MeV protons
- space biology (by SpaceLintech co LTD)
- human life underground on the moon(by KIGAM, Korean In stitute for Geology and Mineral Resources)

Boulby science program

- Hosted direct DM search with NaIAD, DRIFT and ZEPELIN (world's first 2phase Xe detector)
- Direct DM search with gas detector with NEWS-G
- Direct DM search with LXe with LZ
- Directional DM with CYGNUS
- Material screening (x8 HPGe, XIA, ICP-MS, Rn emanation)
- Muon tomography for geological surveying
- Nuclear test monitoring (collaboration with CTBTO)
- Renewable energy storage in underground caverns with RESOURCE
- Astrobiology/Biology (see Jens Holtvoeth, Scott Perl, Jonathan Gutteridge at this meeting)



NOA packaging area



Courtesy: Lucia Consiglio

Advance machining

- Strong request for light, low radioactivity, and complex geometry detectors components
- At LNGS (3Dlab) and LSC an R&D in progress to develop high radio-purity copper components by e-forming production and 3D printing
 - + e-formed copper produced at LSC underground
 - + copper atomized and 3D printing at LNGS
 - + screening to assay radio-purity level both at LNGS and LSC

CDEX Collaboration



- Founded in 2009, 11 institutions, more than 100 people now
- Focused on Dark Matter detection and Ge-76 0vββ search using HPGe technology



PandaX



- Starting in 2009, consists of dozens of Universities and research Institutions
- Goals: Increase LXe detector mass for DM and neutrino studies



Laboratory structure at Baksan



Scientific program at Baksan: highlights

+ BUST (Baksan Underground Scintillation Telescope)

- study of cosmic rays with surface and underground detectors
- gravitational ollapse supernova rate < 0.07/year (90% CL)
- + GGNT (Gallium-Germanium Neutrino Telescope)
 - Solar neutrinos observatory
 - BEST (Baksan Experiment on Sterile Transitions) with ⁵¹Cr source (3.4 Mci) and 0.6-1m baseline
- + LBR (Low Background Researches)
 - Investigation of rare decay processes (DBD and DM)
- + LGG (Laboratory for Geophysics)
 - Geophysics and gravitational waves
- + New:
 - cryogenic laboratory for bolometers (Mo-based DBD)
 - long term: 5kt scale Borexino-like detector (prototype stage)

Kamioka: underground facilities



Environmental backgrounds

\checkmark ~ 2.7 - 2.9 g/cm³, <Z²/A> ~ 5.7-5.9, <Z> ~ 11

✓ gamma-rays from rocks: order of a few cm⁻² s⁻¹

• <u>Mitigation</u>: passive shielding (Pb, Cu, steel)

radiogenic neutrons: order of a few 10⁻⁶ cm⁻² s⁻¹

 <u>Mitigation</u>: passive shielding (polyethylene ...), active veto with water, Gd-loaded water, scintillators

✓ muon-induced neutrons: ~10⁻⁷ cm⁻² s⁻¹

<u>Mitigation</u>: large active and passive shielding with water, Gd-loaded water, scintillators

✓ Radon

 <u>Mitigation</u>: high ventilation, radon suppressed environment, leak tightness (see Ivan Stekl this meeting)

✓ Dust

<u>Mitigation</u>: cleanliness protocol