Proposal to Jefferson Lab PAC44 July 25 2016

# BDX Dark Matter search in a Beam Dump eXperiment

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- ★ Physics motivations
- \* Proposed experimental setup
- \* Background and signal rates
- ★ Beam time request and expected reach



### **Hunting Dark Matter**



WIMPs paradigm is not the only theoretically well-motivated option Light DM: extending the search to unconventional (and unexplored!) territory

### Hunting dark matter: Light DM



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**BDX - Dark Matter search in a Beam Dump eXperiment** 

# Dark forces and dark matter

(Light DM - light mediators)



### Visible vs Invisible: complementarity



#### Exclusion limits are model dependent: if invisible decay is included limits do not hold!

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### **The BDX experiment**

Two step process I) An electron radiates an A' and the A' promptly decays to a  $\chi$  (DM) pair II) The  $\chi$  (in-)elastically scatters on a e<sup>-</sup>/nucleon in the detector producing a visible recoil (GeV)

#### PhysRevD.88.114015 E.Izaguirre, G.Krnjaic, P.Schuster, N.Toro

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### **The BDX experiment**

Two step process I) An electron radiates an A' and the A' promptly decays to a  $\chi$  (DM) pair II) The  $\chi$  (in-)elastically scatters on a e<sup>-</sup>/nucleon in the detector producing a visible recoil (GeV)



Experimental signature at JLab : X-electron/X-N inelastic  $\rightarrow$  em shower ~GeV energy

- The X-Nucleon elastic scattering transfers a limited energy (few MeV)
- It can be used to check systematics
- We are investigating other experimental techniques less affected by bg (BDX-DRIFT)

# **BDX behind the JLab Hall-A**

The highest available electron beam current: ~65 uA
 The highest integrated charge: 10<sup>22</sup> EOT (41 weeks)
 High energy beam available: 11 GeV

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- ★ BDX detector located downstream of Hall-A BD
- ★ New underground experimental hall
- ★ Realistic cost estimate: ~ \$1.5M



# **The BDX detector**

#### **Detector requirements**

• EM showers detection capability (~GeV)

• Compact foot-print

- Low DAQ threshold to include nucleon recoil detection (~MeV)
- Segmentation for topology id

### **BDX** technology

### E.M. calorimeter

A homogeneous crystal-based detector combines all necessary requirements

#### Active veto requirements

- High efficiency (>99%) to MIPs
- Fast (~ns) for time coincidence with the calorimeter
- Segmentation for bg rejection

#### Passive veto made by lead bricks

• Lead vault between active layers for low energy gamma

#### Active veto

#### Two layers: of **plastic scintillator** OV: light guide + PMT IV: WLS + SIPM

#### Rejecting the bg

Detecting

the X

- Beam-related
- Cosmic



# **The BDX detector**

- ★ Modular EM calorimeter: 8 modules 10x10 crystals each
- ★ 800 CsI(TI) crystals (former BaBar EMCal) + SiPM readout
- ★ Inner Veto: plastic scintillator + WLS + SiPM
- Outer Veto: plastic scintillator + PMTs
- ★ Passive shielding: lead vault









**BDX - Dark Matter search in a Beam Dump eXperiment** 

# X production in the BD





- MadGraph to describe the A' production and decay  $(A' \rightarrow \chi \overline{\chi})$
- Detailed description of Hall-A beam dump (aluminium and water)
- Sampling of em shower simulated with GEANT4

The em shower in the dump was neglected in previous works Significant effect on energy distribution

Significant effect on energy distribution and X production angle

#### JLab kinematics

- X beam softer (significant)
- X beam defocused (less important)
- X beam intensity almost untouched



# X detection in the BDX detector





BDX detector response to X-e<sup>-</sup> elastic and X-N inelastic scattering (em shower)

<b>Parameters:</b> m <sub>X</sub> = 30 MeV mA' = 90 MeV		
X-e scattering inside the fiducial volume $E_{e^{\text{-}}} \geq 300 \text{ MeV}$	100% ↓	
E <sub>Seed</sub> ≥ 300 MeV	61%	
Veto anticoincidence	↓ 13% (10% - 20%)	

- $E_{Seed}$  = max crystal energy in the em cluster
- Veto anti-coincidence to account for cosmic bg cut
- Consistent with prototype measurement
- Conservative (refined cuts on em shower will be possible)



- Other particles lose energy via multiple interaction in the absorber
- $\pi \rightarrow \mu \nu_{\mu}$  $\mu \rightarrow e \nu_{\mu} \nu_{e}$
- Mainly low energy (<60 MeV)
- energy neutrino interacting in the detector by CC:  $v + N \rightarrow v + e^{-}$

### Neutrino irreducible bg represents the ultimate limitation for BDX

# **Cosmic background**

- ★ Cosmic background measured with the BDX detector prototype with similar overburden
- ★ GEANT4 simulations reproduce muon rate w/wo overburden
- ★ The majority of cosmic muons detected and rejected by the combination of the two veto detectors
- $\star$  The most part of cosmic neutrons are shielded by the overburden
- ★ Low energy (<100 MeV) background due to neutrals
- ★ Measured Rate (E<sub>Thr</sub>~300MeV) < 2 counts</p>
  - Conservatively extrapolated from the (lower E) non-0 counts region
  - Measured rate scaled to the JLab set-up (x800 crystals)





LNS set-up of BDX prototype



C o s m i c background will be continuously and accurately measured during the experiment with **4x more** statistics

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**BDX - Dark Matter search in a Beam Dump eXperiment** 

# **Background(s)**

### I) Backgrounds associated to the beam (beam-related)

- detection thresholds define the bg level
- charged particle easy to shield, neutrals more difficult
- low energy particles produce signals below threshold

GEANT4 simulations Brute force + other methods to deal with high flux of (low energy) particles

### II) Cosmic background (beam-unrelated)

- measured (beam-off) and subtracted
- accelerator location usually prevents deep underground installation
- Few meters of overburden (dirt, concrete, heavy material)
- Time uncorrelated bg (CW beam prevents fast time coincidence)

Measurement with BDX prototype Similar experimental set-up (same overburden) + extrapolation to JLab location

Beam-related background	
Energy threshold	$N_{\nu}$ (285 days)
300 MeV	~10 counts

	Cosmic sensitivity	
	Energy threshold	$\sqrt{Bg}$ (285 days)
Station in the	300 MeV	<2 counts

### For an energy threshold high enough (>2-300 MeV) BDX hits the ultimate limit from v interactions



### Beam time request and expected reach

#### **Experimental set-up**

- CsI(TI) calorimeter (~800 crystal, 50x55x295 cm<sup>3</sup>)
- Plastic scintillator based Outer and Inner veto + Lead vault
- BDX detector placed in a new dedicated experimental hall downstream of Hall-A beam-dump

#### Beam time request

- 10<sup>22</sup> EOT (65 uA for 285 days)
- BDX can run parasitic: ally to any Hall-A Ebeam > 10 GeV experiments (e.g. Moeller)

#### **BDX** reach calculation

- Signal determined as events excess wrt know background (beam + cosmic)
- BDX reach depends on precision of background determination
  - Beam bg: estimates depends on v induced counts
  - Cosmic bg: measured during beam-off: 4x beam-on

#### $N_{Signal} > 2 \sigma_{bg} \sim 11 - 17 \text{ counts}$

#### BDX reach reported for (3) 10 and 20 excess events



**BDX - Dark Matter search in a Beam Dump eXperiment** 

# Conclusions

\*Existence of Dark Matter is a compelling reason to investigate new forces and matter over a broad range of mass

- \* Theoretically well-motivated Light Dark Matter scenario(s) can be explored with highintensity/high-energy JLab beam with unprecedented precision
- \* A dedicated Beam-Dump eXperiment (BDX) will naturally complement the extensive program already running at the major electron- and proton-beam facilities (JLab, LNF, Cornell, Mainz, SLAC, FNAL and CERN)
- \* A new experimental hall, downstream of Hall-A beam-dump, will host the BDX detector based on ~800 CsI(TI) crystals + InnerVeto + OuterVeto
- \* Full GEANT4 simulations have been run to optimize the experimental set-up and estimate beam-related background(s)
- \* A BDX detector prototype, currently taking cosmic data at LNS-Italy, is being used to test the proposed technology, validate MC simulations and measure cosmic background rates
- \* The BDX experiment, collecting 10<sup>22</sup> EOT in 285 days of parasitic running (~4y-calendar) would be 10-100 times more sensitive than previous experiments excluding a significant area of the the parameter space in case of null results

# **The BDX Collaboration**





- More than 100 researchers signed the BDX proposal
- Connection with groups involved in similar projects at SLAC, CERN, Mainz and LNF
- Core group working on different aspects: physics, detector, simulations
- Weekly meeting to check progresses and share information
- Wiki page to store documents and meetings minutes
- Organisation of dedicated workshops and satellite meetings at major venues
- R&D funds from INFN and grant requests submitted



# Back up slides

### Any guess about the DM mass and interaction?

\* (Obvious) first guess: DM interaction in the range of the at the weak force scale (WIMPS) with DM mass in the range of TeV

#### WIMPs paradigm is not the only option

**Light Dark Matter** 

Light Dark Matter (<TeV) naturally introduces light mediators

#### **New interaction**

#### DM as thermal relic from the hot early Universe $\star$



- DM annihilation in SM in the early Universe
  Minimal DM abundance is left over to the present day
- $\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim g^2_{\text{Dark}} g^2_{\text{SM}} M^2_{\text{DM}}/M^4_{\text{mediator}}$  $\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim 3 \times 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s} \sim 1/(20 \text{ TeV})^2$

Definition of [adimensional] variable  $y \sim g^2_{Dark} g^2_{SM} (M_{DM}/M_{mediator})^4 \sim \langle \sigma v \rangle M^2_{DM}$ 

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle \propto \epsilon^2 \alpha_D \frac{m_{\varphi}^2}{m_{A'}^4} = \epsilon^2 \alpha_D \frac{m_{\varphi}^4}{m_{A'}^4} \frac{1}{m_{\varphi}^2} = \frac{y}{m_{\varphi}^2}$$

Computed for  $m_{A'}/m_{\varphi/\chi} = 3$ 

But thermal target largely insensitive to this ratio

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### **LDM - Direct Detection limits**



PhysRevLett. 109.021301 R.Essig, A.Manalaysay, J.Mardon, P.Sorensen, T.Volansky,

- Fixed target electron beam experiments can be 10<sup>3</sup> - 10<sup>4</sup> more sensitive in the I MeV - I GeV mass range
- No experiments were designed to measure LDM (all limits come from reinterpretation of old experiments)

 Best limits on LDM interaction cross section obtained by direct DM detection (XENONI0 and LUX)

- X<sub>cosmic</sub>-e scattering
- I-electron ionization sensitivity
- No FF for the scattering





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# Hall A approved experiments



# The BDX crystals

#### **Requirements:**

- High density
- High light yield
- Cost-affordable for a  $\sim$  m<sup>3</sup> detector volume
- Good timing (desirable)

#### Possible options: BaF2 Csl BSO

#### A dedicated measurement campaign to characterise the crystal properties

- · Light yield (with SiPM readout!)
- Intrinsic decay time / time resolution

Parameter	Values
Radiation length	1.85 cm
Molière radius	3.8 cm
Density	$4.53 \text{ g/cm}^3$
Light yield	50,000 γ/MeV
Light yield temp. coeff.	0.28%/°C
Peak emission $\lambda_{max}$	565 nm
Refractive index $(\lambda_{max})$	1.80
Signal decay time	680 ns (64%)
	3.34 µs (36%)

CsI(TI) + SiPM readout

#### Crystals are available from BABAR em calorimeter

- Size: (5x5)cm<sup>2</sup> front face, (6x6)cm<sup>2</sup> back face, 30cm length
- 820 crystals available from end cap
- Decay time: fast 900ns, slow 4000ns
- LY= 50k γ/MeV

#### SiPM readout

- Size: (6x6) mm<sup>2</sup>, 25µm, 57.6k cells, trenched, pde=??
- SPE capability
- CsI(TI): 40 pe/MeV
- Time resolution: ~5ns (MIPs)

# Due to the large LY signals at ~MeV level are detectable Despite a long scintillation time a few ns time coincidence is possible





# **Detector layout**

Strongly forward peaked kinematics focused  $\chi$ -beam !





- ★ Each module is made by an array of 10×10 (front face ~50×55 cm2) crystals matrix
- \* Each crystal is read separately

- ★ ~800 BaBar EndCup crystals
- \* Simplified assembly mechanics
- $\star$  Modular detector
- ★ Final arrangement:
  - 10x10crystals (front face ~50x55 cm2)8 modules (active/total length: 260/295 cm)



# GEANT4 simulation of electron recoil bg (E>500MeV)

Low interacting particles produced with low rate in the BD that may reach the detector or produce secondaries close to the detector studied with dedicated simulations

#### Gamma and neutrons:

- energetic particles (~GeV) rapidly loose energy
- only low energy (<10 MeV) close to the detector

#### Muons:

- up to 10 GeV by asymmetric pair production
- range less than BDX absorber (concrete+iron) length
- secondaries die within the same range

#### 10 GeV muons generated in the dump



#### No muons or secondaries with $E \sim 100$ MeV or higher at the detector location

R.De Vita

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# GEANT4 & MCNP simulations of low energy bg (>10MeV)

- Low energy secondaries studied with GEANT4 and MCNP
- Simulation of full statistics (1022 EOT) not feasible because of computing resources limitation [GEANT4: Iy, 2000 cores→10<sup>11</sup>-10<sup>12</sup> EOT]
- Extrapolation needed

#### Neutron GEANT4 extrapolation

- Iterative approach
  - First iteration based on simulation of 10<sup>9</sup> EOT with no energy cut-offs
  - Estimate neutron counts at detector location by using neutron spectrum at deepest position with non-zero flux as input for next iteration
  - No significant neutron counts at the detector location



- Variation reduction technique
  - Input neutron spectrum from GEANT4 simulation of 10<sup>9</sup> EOT with no energy cut-offs
  - Progressively increasing neutron cell importance in BDX absorber to obtain non-zero statistics at detector location

No significant neutron counts at the detector location from both GEANT4 and MCNP simulations Similar results for photons





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# Signal vs cosmogenic background

• No time cuts applied (best timing with Csl ~ 10ns would require a dedicated matched beam structure)

We can do better!

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• No topology cuts applied



# **BDX** acceptance



X detection studies performed as a function of the em shower seed energy (crystal with the maximum energy deposited) to be consistent with the BDX prototype cosmogenic measurement

# **BDX Read-Out electronic scheme**

#### BDX DAQ will be based on fADCs

- CsI(TI) decay time & low thresholds are incompatible with "traditional" (TDC+QDC)-based DAQ
- Full waveform recording: reduce backgrounds and allow detailed off-line analysis

#### Different options under investigation:

#### I) Triggered - commercial

- trigger formed as OR of all crystals over thresholds (OVT)
- when trigger is released every channel with a signal in 10us window is recorded
- The simplest option (boards already available: e.g. CAEN V1725 or JLAB fa250) but expensive!

#### 2) Trigger-less - commercial

- trigger-less system, based on existing fADC + Trigger Boards (e.g. JLab fADCs and VT boards )
- Pipe-line data transferred to a central trigger CPU and then moved to
- Requires ad-hoc firmware and software development
- Not clear if cheaper than 1) but may be more matched on BDX requirements



#### 3) Trigger-less - custom

- trigger-less, based on a custom DAQ: single-channels digitizers, integrated in the front-end electronic
- Sophisticated solution matched to the experimental setup
- Requires ad-hoc hardware, firmware, and software development
- Similar approach used in other experiments (KM3, PANDA)
- May benefit of technology/solutions sharing with reduced costs

### **BDX** data analysis and computing resources

#### **Requirements for data analysis:**

- Modularity
- Support for multiple event sources: EVIO file / ET-ring
- State-of-the art computer-science tools: parallel computing, plugins support
- Easily interface with other common tools: ROOT, GEMC

#### **BDX** solution: the JANA framework

(D. Lawrence, https://www.jlab.org/JANA)



#### **BDX** event reconstruction:

- identify events with above-threshold energy deposition in the calorimeter, with no activity in the veto systems
- For these "signal-like" events need to perform an intense scrutiny, by possibly looking at the raw information (waveforms)
- Different signal topologies may require different selection strategies

#### Strategy:

Event reconstruction and analysis with different, interchangeable, plugins (i.e. pieces of codes that can be activated on-demand when reconstruction starts)

#### **Computing resources:**

- data rate: 5kHz (single crystal trigger with low thr)
- 600TB storage: 400TB for 20% raw data w/o filtering + 100TB for 80% raw data with filtering + 100 TB reconstructed data and MC
- 6M CPU's hours: 10<sup>11</sup> EOT simulated (10 sets of simulated data with different parameters) in next 5-7 years



# **BDX LOI: JLab PAC42 report**

Summary and Recommendation: BDX could become the definitive beam dump experiment at electron accelerators. Sited at Jefferson Lab, it would use the CEBAF high intensity beam and modern technologies for detector design, trigger, and data acquisition, to achieve the most stringent limits (or to make the first discovery) of a class of dark matter particles.

The collaboration is encouraged to proceed with a full proposal to the laboratory, but the PAC emphasizes that the collaboration needs to meet a high standard in order to be eventually approved. Experimentally, a fully fleshed-out detector design needs to be presented, including both simulations and measurements (with CORMORINO or otherwise) that demonstrate its sensitivity to both detection channels as well as its ability to reject cosmic ray backgrounds with whatever necessary overburden. Theoretically, it must be made clear what models and attendant assumptions motivate this particular measurement, as well as the extent to which these models are (or are not) addressed in other experiments at other laboratories. Finally, the PAC realizes that the infrastructure costs to build and instrument a pit that would house this experiment will be extensive, and recommends that the laboratory require an approved proposal before scheduling onsite tests with beam as part of the design process.

PAC42 recommendations	BDX Collaboration response
Full detector design	EMCal (800 CsI(TI) crystals) +IV + OV, SiPM photosensor, fADC daq
Full simulations	GEMC (GEANT4), MCNP for detector response and beam bg
Background measurement	BDX detector prototype tacking cosmic data with similar overburden
Infrastructure cost estimate	Detailed cost estimate for a new underground facility at JLab
Theory and competition	Detailed theory motivation and comparison with other experiments