

# The CYGNO Experiment: A Directional Dark Matter Detector with Optical Readout

**INITIUM: Innovative Negative Ion TIme projection chamber for Underground dark Matter searches**

*A. Prajapati\* on behalf of CYGNO collaboration*

\*Gran Sasso Science Institute, L'Aquila, Italy / Ph.D. student / Email: [atul.prajapati@gssi.it](mailto:atul.prajapati@gssi.it)

F. Amaro, R. Antonietti, E. Baracchini, L. Benussi, D. S. Cardoso, C. M. B. Monteiro, S. Bianco, C. Capoccia, M. Caponero, G. Cavoto, R. J. C. Roque, I. A. Costa, E. Di Marco, G. D'Imperio, G. Dho, F. Di Giambattista, R. R. M. Gregorio, F. Iacoangeli, H. P. L. Júnior, G. S. P. Lopes, G. Maccarrone, R. D. P. Mano, D. J. G. Marques, G. Mazzitelli, A.G. McLean, A. Messina, R. A. Nobrega, I. Pains, E. Paoletti, L. Passamonti, S. Pelosi, F. Petrucci, S. Piacentini, D. Piccolo, D. Pierluigi, D. Pinci, F. Renga, **A. Prajapati\***, F. Rosatelli, A. Russo, G. Saviano, N. Spooner, R. Tesauro, S. Tomassini, S. Torelli, J. M. F. dos Santos



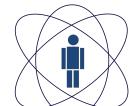
Part of this project has been funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the ERC Consolidator Grant Agreement No 818744



European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission



UNIVERSIDADE  
DE  
COIMBRA



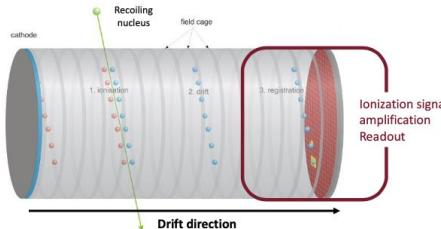
CBPF



UNIVERSIDADE  
FEDERAL DE JUIZ DE FORA



The University  
Of  
Sheffield.

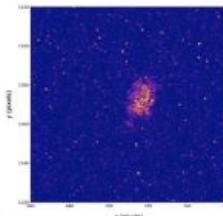
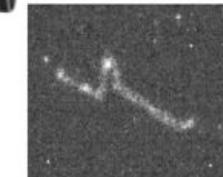


**Triple GEM**  
Charge  
amplification  
& light production

**Camera & PMT**  
Light produced by the de-excitation of the  
gas molecules during electron multiplication is  
optically read by sCMOS and PMT



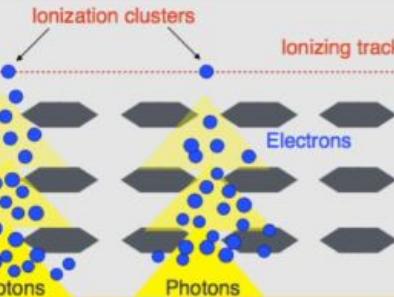
sCMOS cameras



We can measure  
**energy** and **X-Y**  
coordinate using  
sCMOS's high  
granularity and low  
readout noise.

X-Y + Energy

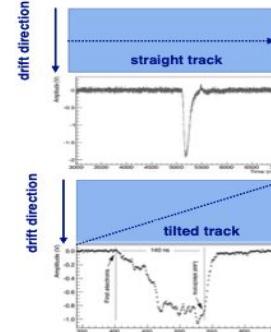
Gas Electron Multipliers



Triple gem structure

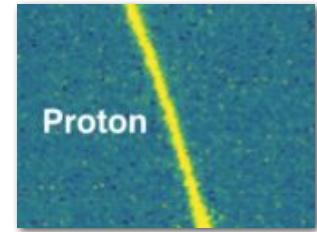
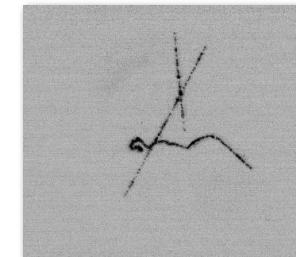
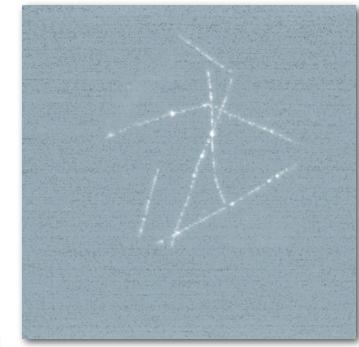
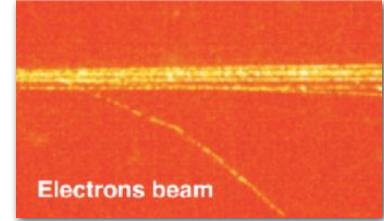
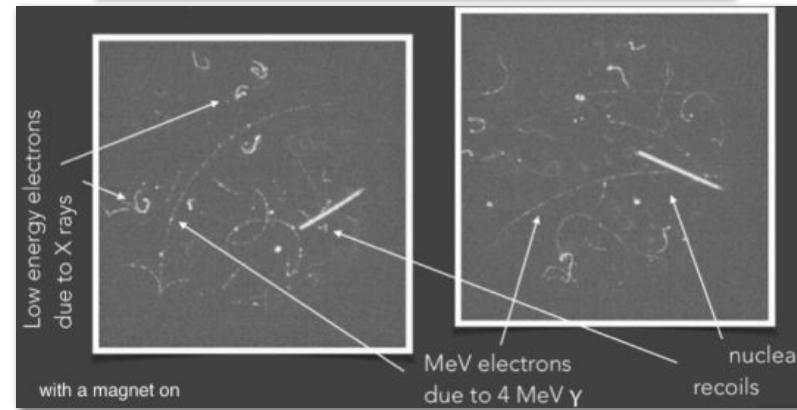
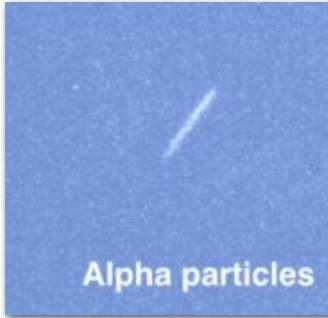
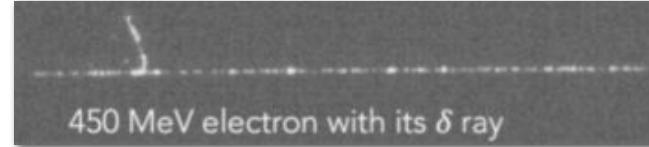
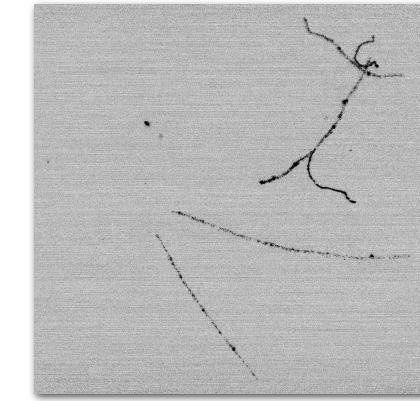
PMT

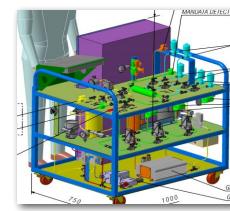
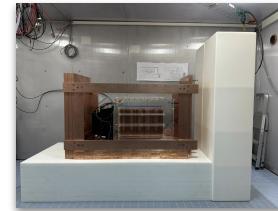
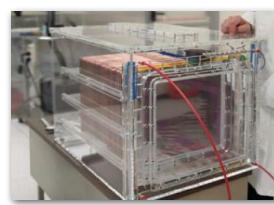
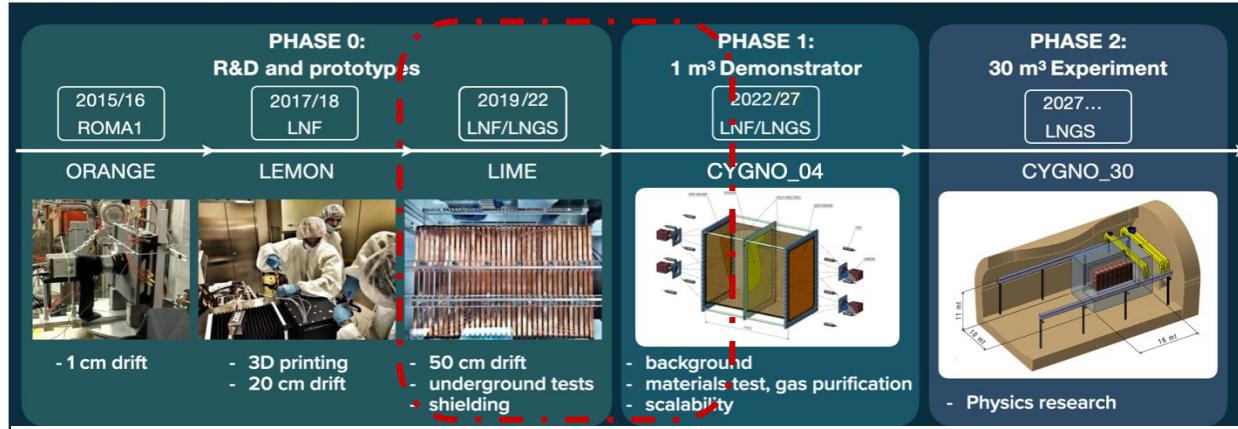
Detection of the  
time profile of  
charge arrival →  
3D reconstruction



PMT measures  
the integrated  
**energy** and **time of arrival (dZ)** of  
charge carriers with high  
sampling rates.

# Some tracks recorded with sCMOS





- ❖ Parallel research with MANGO detector for studying different GEM configuration, gas mixtures and Negative Ion Drift.

Ongoing studies:

- ❖ Performance and stability test
- ❖ 3D reconstruction
- ❖ Directionality
- ❖ ER vs. NR discrimination
- ❖ Shielding materials
- ❖ Data/MC comparison

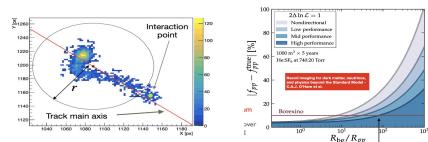
E. Baracchini et. al, JINST  
13(2018) no.04, P04022

# Current topics under study at GSSI



E. Baracchini

- Directionality
- Neutrino feasibility study

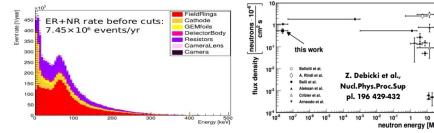


S.Torelli

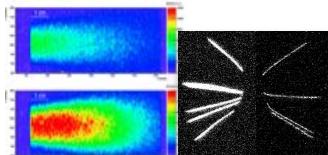
- Neutron Simulation
- Background Simulation and Shielding



F. Di Giambattista



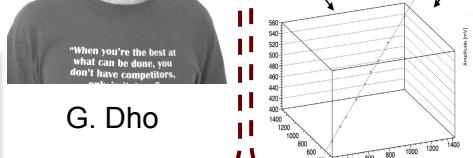
- CYGNO Sensitivity
- EL and NID studies with MANGO



G. Dho

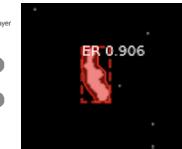
"When you're the best at what can be done, you don't have competitors."  
- Mark Twain

- PMT Signal
- 3D Reconstruction



D. Marques

- Track Reconstruction
- PID with ML



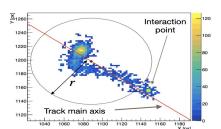
A. Prajapati

# Future development of current topics

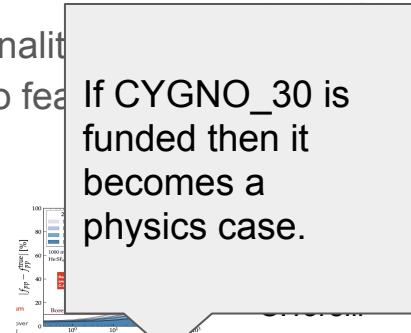


E. Baracchini

- Directionality
- Neutrino feature study

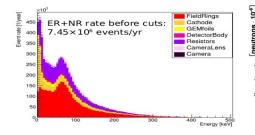


If CYGNO\_30 is funded then it becomes a physics case.



- Neutron Simulation
- Background Study and Shielding

Measurement of annual variation of neutron with CYGNO\_04.



- C
- E
- w

- 1) Use of NID to reduce diffusion
- 2) Study of EL and Gas mixture to amplify light output.



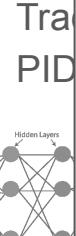
- PMT
- 3D

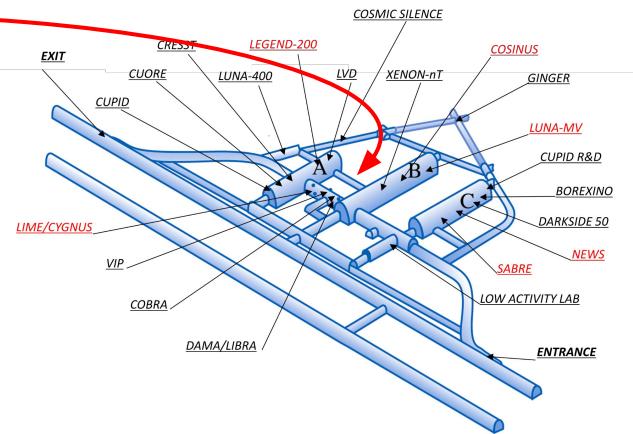
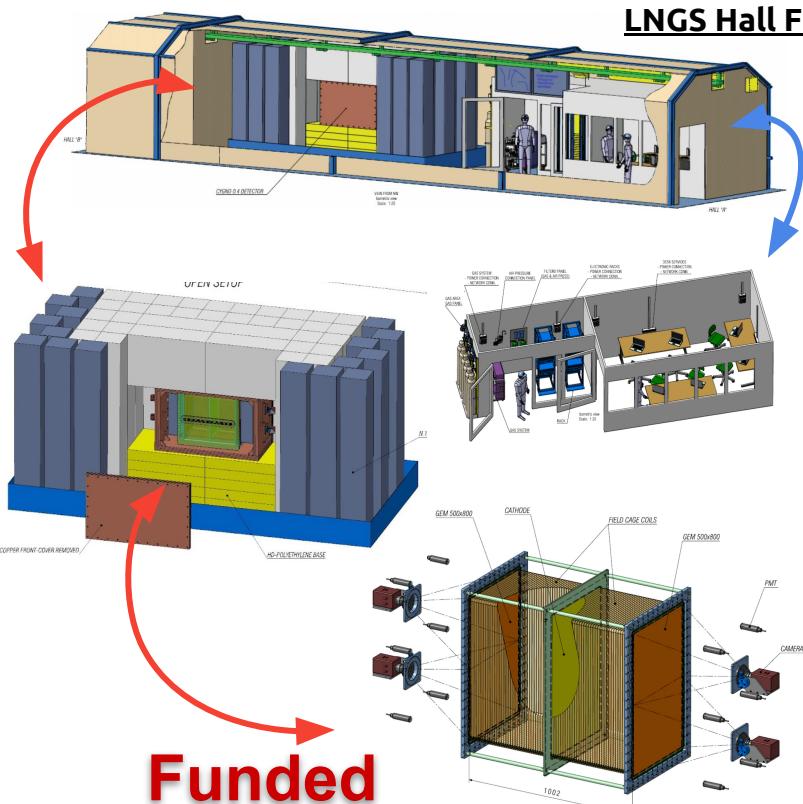
Study of NID with PMT, which is showing the signs of single ionization cluster (best way to do PID).



- Tra
- PID

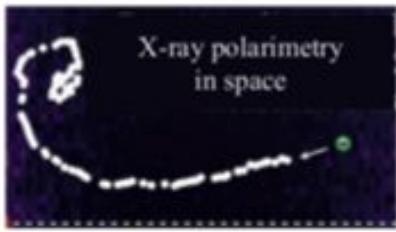
Improvement in simulation and use of different algorithm to improve Reconstruction and PID.





- Setting limits with **CYGNO\_04**
- **CYGNO\_04** data analysis
- Minimisation of radioactivity for **CYGNO\_04** and **CYGNO\_30**

# Beyond DM using CYGNO approach

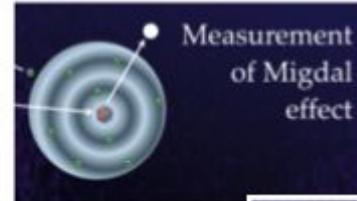


**Funded!**  
**"HypeX: High Yield Polarimetry Experiment in X-rays"**  
 (PRIN 2020 Prot. 2020MZ884C)

## HypeX (X-Ray Polarimetry) -> **Funded**

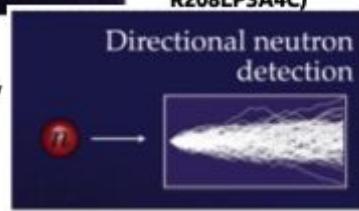
- Process of hiring a PostDoc  
 (There's a dedicated poster)

## FINEM (Migdal measurement) -> **Funded**

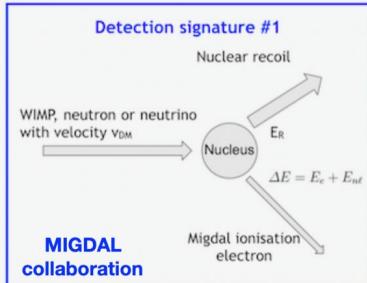


**Funded!**  
**"FINEM: Full Imaging of Nuclear recoils for Experimental Migdal measurement"**  
 (FARE 2020 Prot. R208LP3A4C)

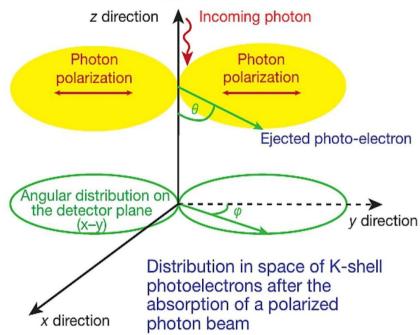
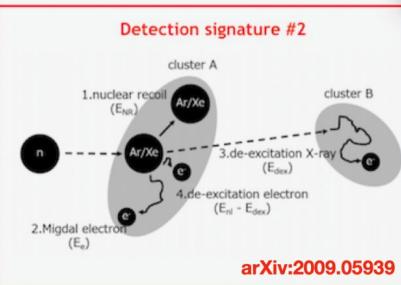
**Funded!**  
**"Zero Radioactivity for Future Experiments"**  
 (PRIN 2017 Prot. 2017T54J9J)



**PLEASE NOTE:** signature #1 is **ALWAYS** present (no X-ray needed) but might be difficult to distinguish ER + NR from same vertex



**PLEASE NOTE:** signature #2 is required for high density mixtures/low granularity readout  
 BUT need an atom that makes X-ray



$$\frac{d\sigma_{ph}}{d\Omega} = \frac{\sigma_{ph}^{\text{tot}}}{4\pi} \left[ 1 + \frac{b}{2} \left( \frac{3 \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \phi}{(1 + \beta \cos \theta)^4} - 1 \right) \right]$$

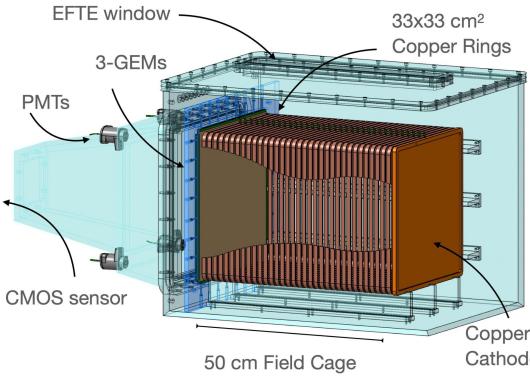


**...for more info:  
CYGNO – Directional  
Dark Matter Search**  
[https://www.facebook.com/  
cygnorexperiment](https://www.facebook.com/cygnorexperiment)

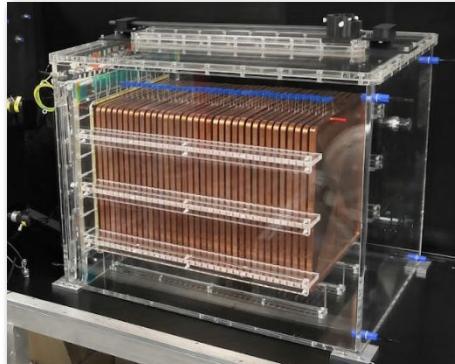
**THANKS!**

# Backup

# LIME: the Long Imaging ModulE



- ❖ **50 L gaseous TPC with 50 cm drift**
- ❖ **He:CF<sub>4</sub> (60:40) gas mixture at room temperature and atm pressure**
- ❖ **Triple 33x33 cm<sup>2</sup> GEM stack for amplification**
- ❖ **Optical readout**
  - 4 PMTs
  - 1 sCMOS camera (Orca Fusion)



## ORCA-Fusion CAMERA SPECS

LOW NOISE AND EXCEPTIONAL  
READOUT NOISE UNIFORMITY

**READOUT NOISE**  
0.7 electrons rms  
Ultra-quiet Scan

**PRNU**  
0.06 % rms  
At 7500 electrons

**PIXEL SIZE**  
6.5 μm × 6.5 μm

**DSNU**  
0.3 electrons rms

**HIGH SPEED**  
100 frames/s  
At 2304 × 2048 ROI

**DYNAMIC RANGE**  
21 400:1



**HIGH RESOLUTION**  
2304 × 2304  
5.3 Megapixels

**PEAK QE**  
80 %

## Carbon tetrafluoride (CF4)

- Significant light yield at the camera's QE peak

