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DANAE - a new experiment for direct dark matter detection with DEPFET silicon detectors

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The sub-GeV mass region of the dark matter is foreseeably to be explored intensively in the next generation of direct detection experiments. Essig and others [1] recently discussed the feasibility of detecting the dark-matter electron recoil using low-noise semiconductor detectors as the active target. With a readout noise level below one electron RMS, the sensitivity allows us to test several theoretical models that account for dark matters with sub-GeV mass.

One of the two silicon-based architectures that are capable of reaching such noise level is the DEPFET with Repetitive Non Destructive Readout (RNDR). The prototype of this detector has been developed by the Semi-conductor Laboratory of the Max Planck Society, and the readout of a single pixel has successfully reached the expected sub-electron noise level as reported in [2].

In this presentation, we will introduce the working concept of the DEPFET-RNDR. Then we will present the new project of DANAE under preparation that plans to apply this type of detector to the direct detection of dark-matter electron recoil.

[1] R. Essig, et al., J High Energ. Phys. 2016, 46(2016).

[2] A. Ba"hr, H. Kluck, J. Ninkovic, J. Schieck, and J. Treis, Eur. Phys. J. C 77, 905(2017).

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