



Progress Towards Sub-eV Thresholds with SuperCDMS Detectors

Noah Kurinsky

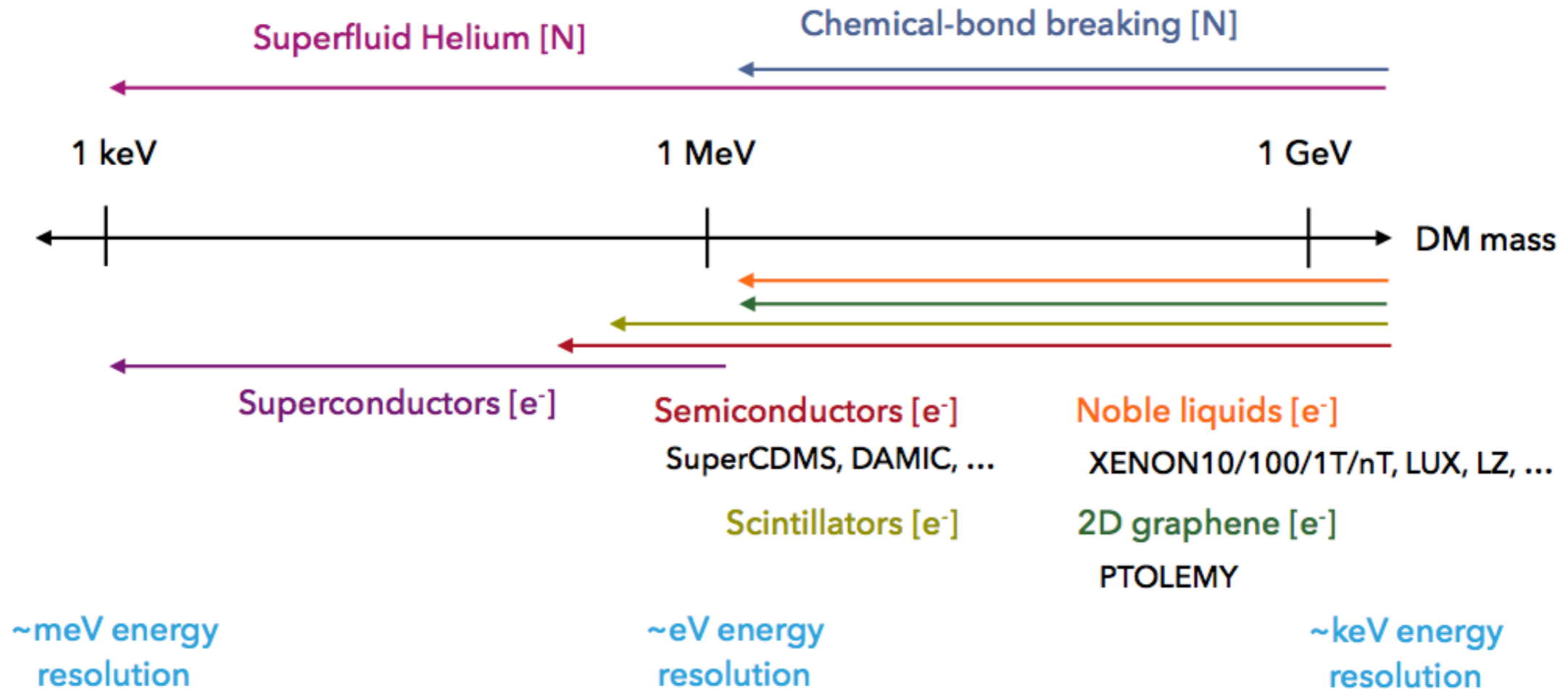
Lederman Fellow, Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory

CPAD, University of Wisconsin

December 10, 2019

Broad Picture: Detection Media for Lower Mass

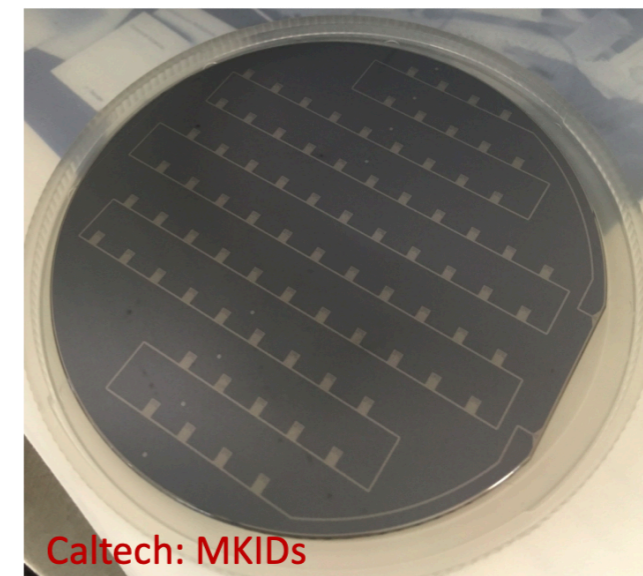
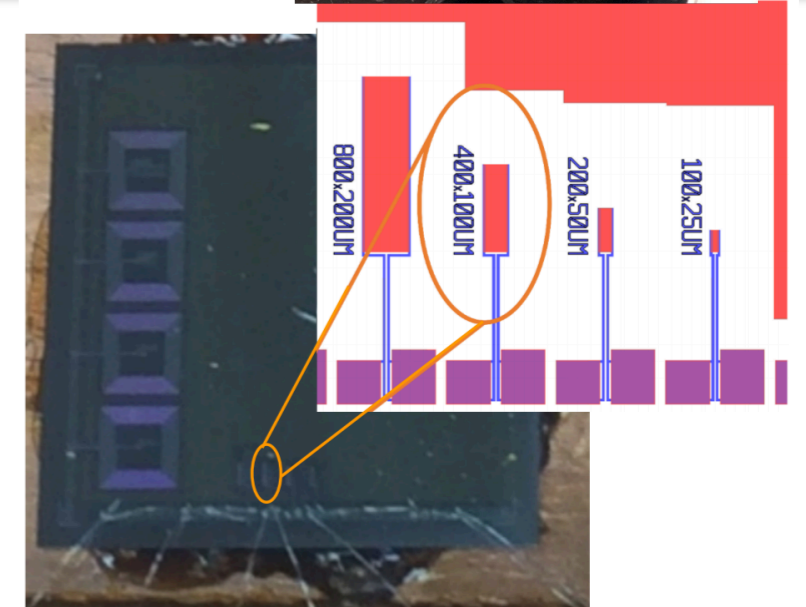
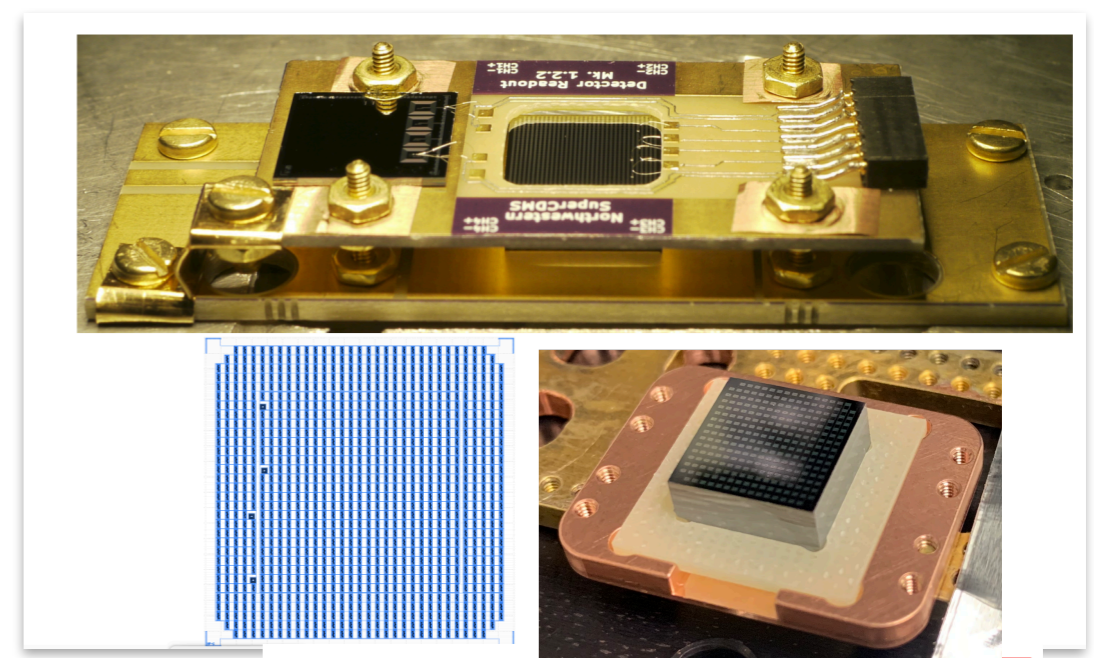
US Cosmic Visions, arXiv:1707.04591



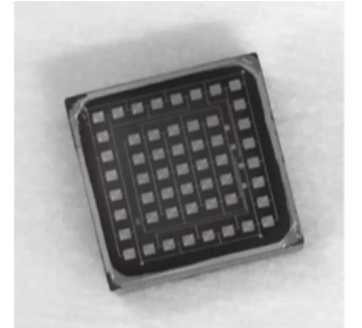
- Looking at current/future technologies, we have a mix of materials with small but non-zero bandgaps, to limit dark counts and maximize energy to carrier conversion
- Extent of these arrows driven by fundamental limitations from kinematics and material properties, and assumes large current hurdles can be overcome in energy and charge noise across all experiments
- Recent (June 2019) workshop exploring much more than cosmic visions: <https://astro.fnal.gov/ldm/>

Detector R&D Groups

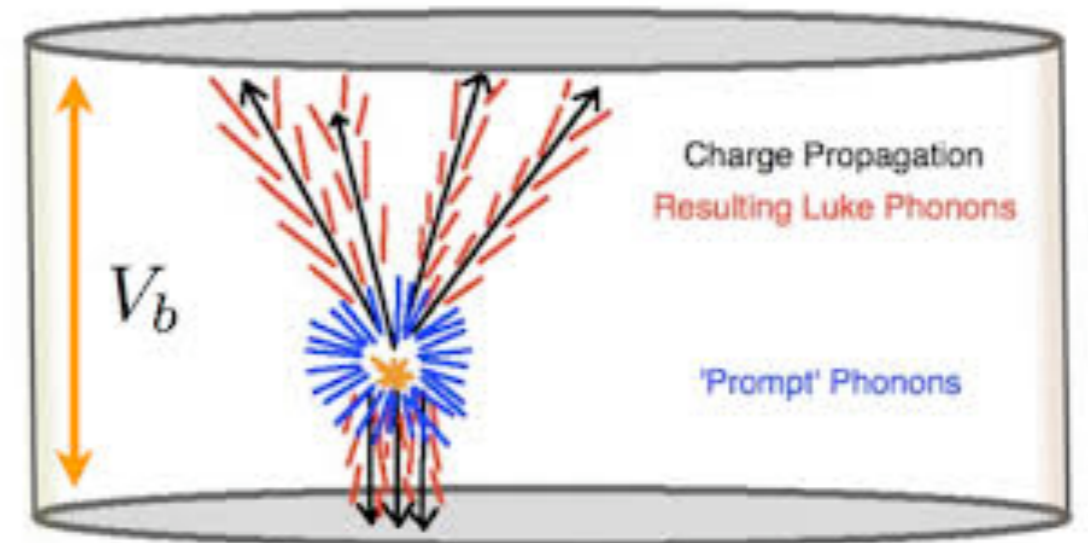
- HVeV (1g Detector Chips)
 - **Caltech**: Sunil Golwala, Yen-Yung Chang, Taylor Aralis, Osmond Wen
 - **Fermilab**: Noah Kurinsky, Dan Bauer
 - **Northwestern**: Enectali Figueroa-Feliciano, Ziqing Hong, Tom Ren, Ran Chen
 - **Stanford/SLAC**: Blas Cabrera, Betty Young, Francisco Ponce, Chris Stanford, To Chin Yu
 - **University of Minnesota**: Matt Fritts, Nick Mast
 - **University of Florida**: Tarek Saab, Corey Bathurst, Tyler Reynolds
- Large Area Photon Detectors
 - **UC Berkeley**: J. Camilleri, C. Fink, Y. Kolomensky, M. Pyle, B. Sadoulet, B. Serfass, S. Watkins
 - **Texas A&M**: Nader Mirabolfathi, Rupak Mahapatra, Fedja Kadribasic
- QET Fabrication R&D
 - Mark Platt (TAMU), Paul Brink (SLAC)



SuperCDMS Athermal Phonon Sensors



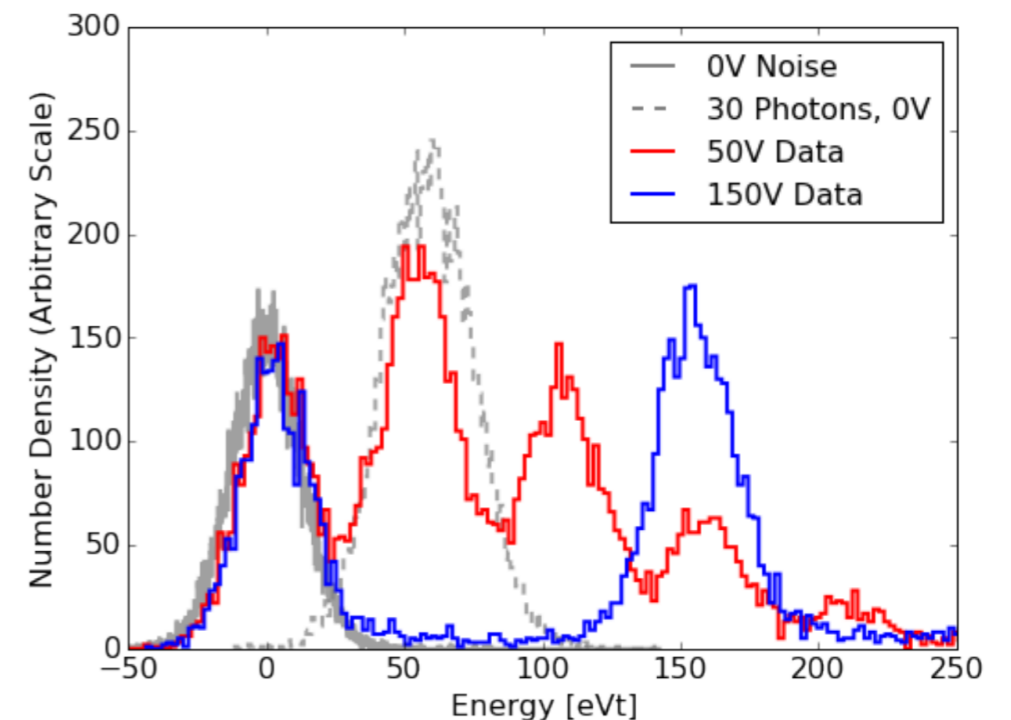
- In any recoil event, all energy eventually returns to the phonon system
 - Prompt phonons produced by interaction with nuclei
 - Indirect-gap phonons produced by charge carriers reaching band minima
 - Recombination phonons produced when charge carriers drop back below the band-gap
- Phonons are also produced when charges are drifted in an electric field; makes sense by energy conservation alone
- Total phonon energy is initial recoil energy plus Luke phonon energy, as shown at right



$$E_{phonon} = E_{recoil} + V * n_{eh}$$

$$= E_{recoil} \left[1 + V * \left(\frac{y(E_{recoil})}{\epsilon_{eh}} \right) \right]$$

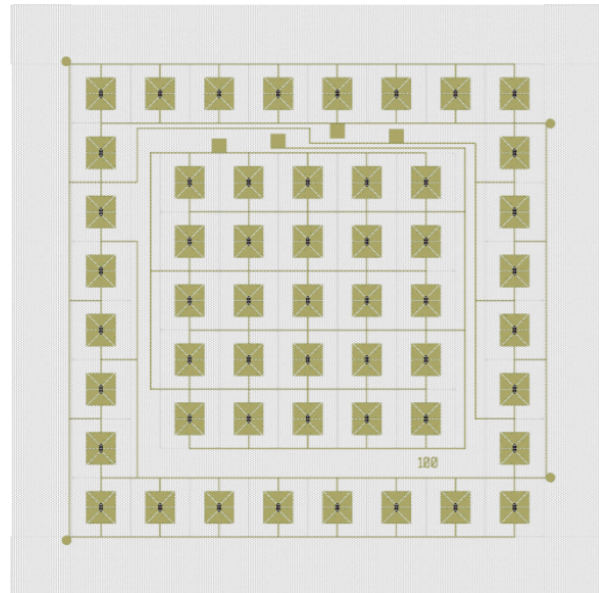
- Athermal phonons collected in superconducting aluminum fins and channeled into Tungsten TES, effectively decoupling crystal heat capacity from calorimeter (TES) heat capacity



Romani et. al. 2017 (<https://arxiv.org/abs/1710.09335>)

R&D 'HVeV' Prototype Progress

HVeV v1

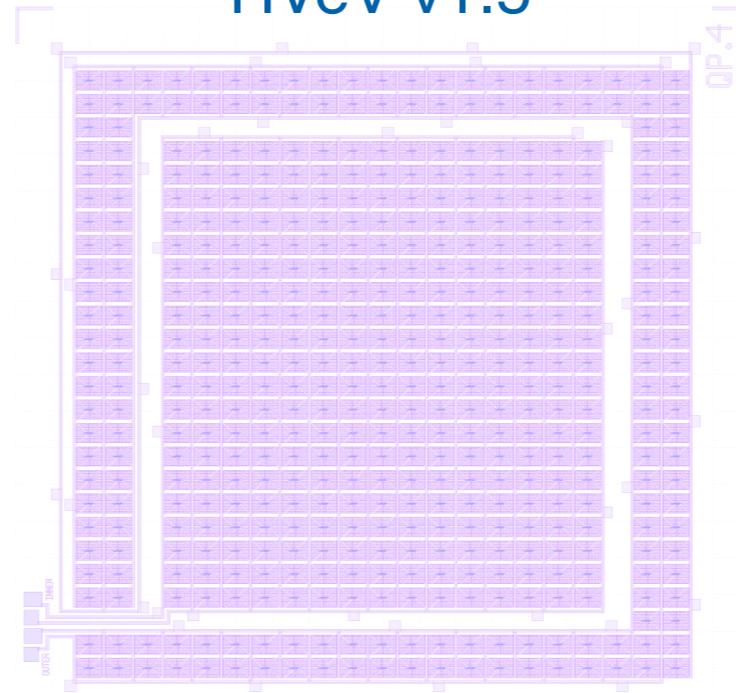


Device: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1710.09335>

DM: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1804.10697>

- 10 eV Resolution
 - 0.07 electron-hole pairs (140V)
- 3-5% energy efficiency
- 1 gram mass
- No position resolution
- ~1.2 Ohm Resistance
- ~55 mK Tc
- Amorphous Layer

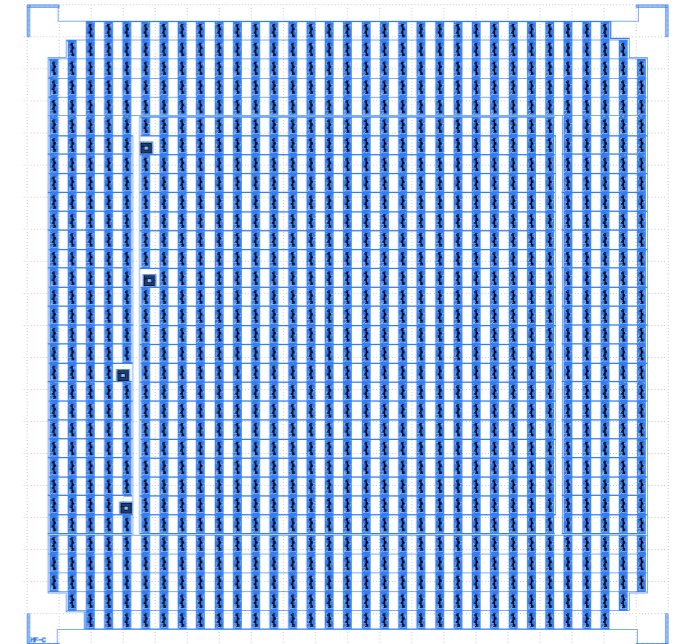
HVeV v1.5



Device: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1903.06517>

- 3 eV Resolution
 - 0.06 electron-hole pairs (50V)
- 25% energy efficiency
- 0.25 gram mass, contact-free design
- High position resolution
- ~400-900 mOhm Resistance
- 65 mK Tc
- No Amorphous Layer

HVeV v2 (NF-C)

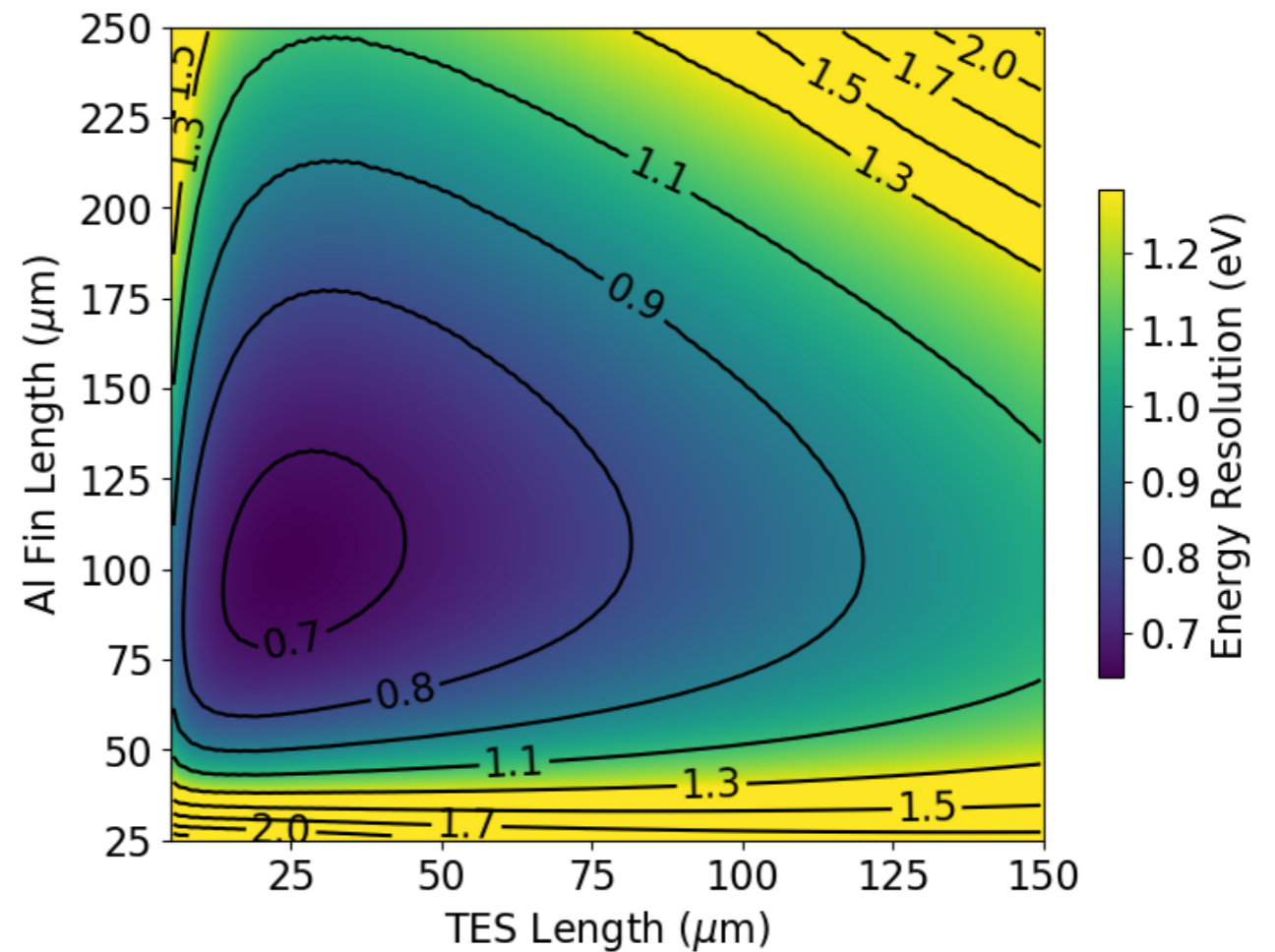
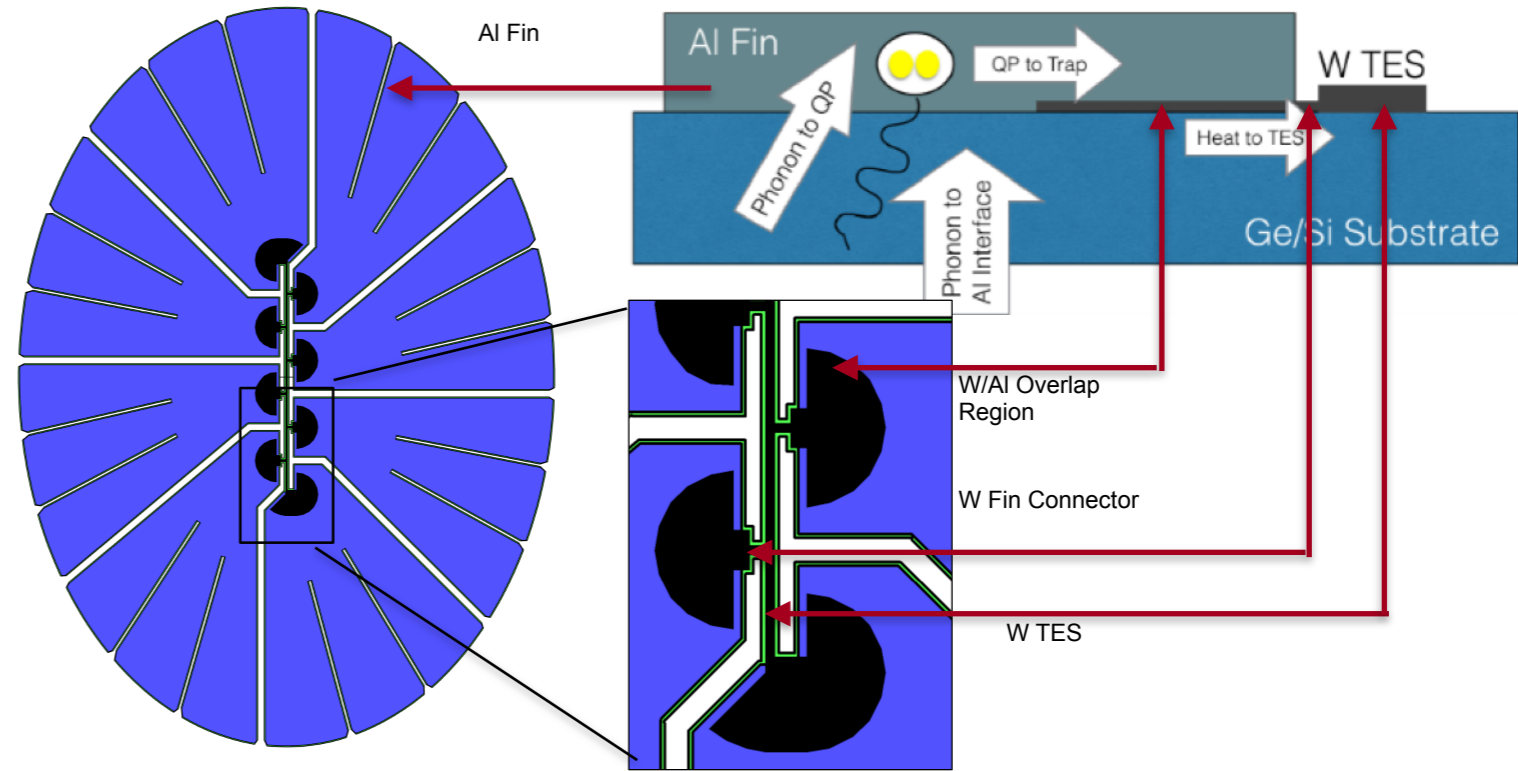


In Prep (TUNL, DM)

- 3 eV Resolution
 - <0.01 electron-hole pairs (100V)
- 25% energy efficiency
- 1 gram mass, backside contact
- High position resolution
- ~300 mOhm Resistance
- 65 mK Tc
- No Amorphous Layer

QET Optimization

- Longer, thicker Al films have longer QP diffusion lengths
 - Need to make slits or holes to prevent flux traps
- Larger TES overlaps have better energy efficiency
 - Contribute to TES noise budget!
- Shorter TES means lower TES volume, lower resolution
 - Long or low T_c TES at risk for phase separation
 - Bias rails dominate signal losses for very small TES volumes



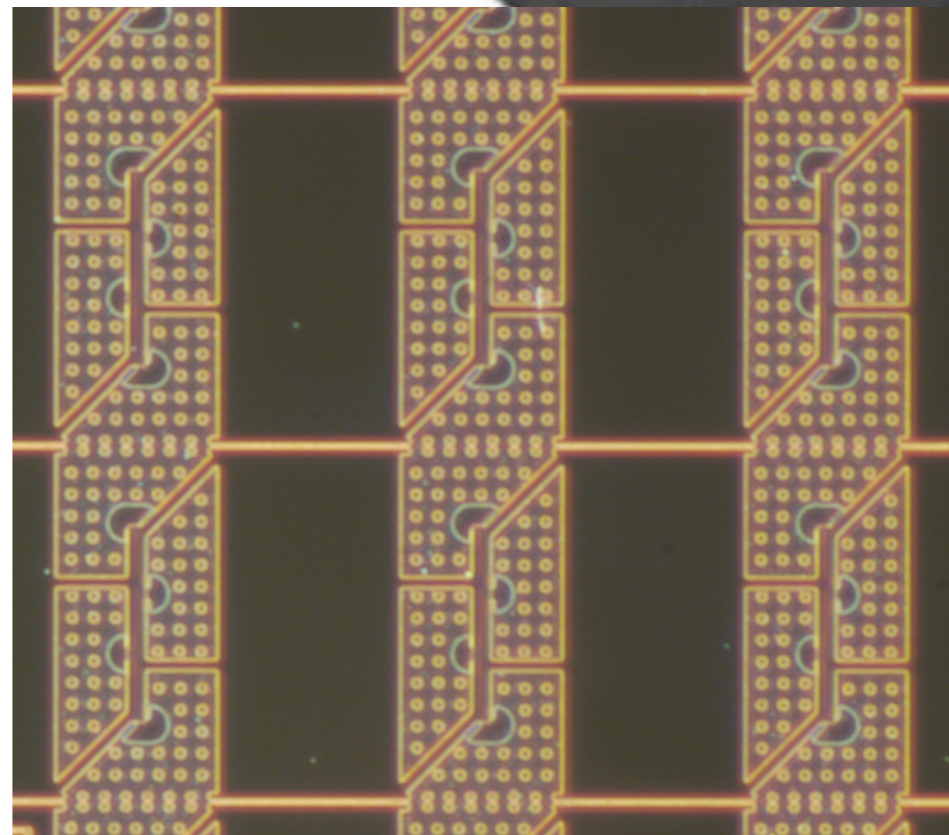
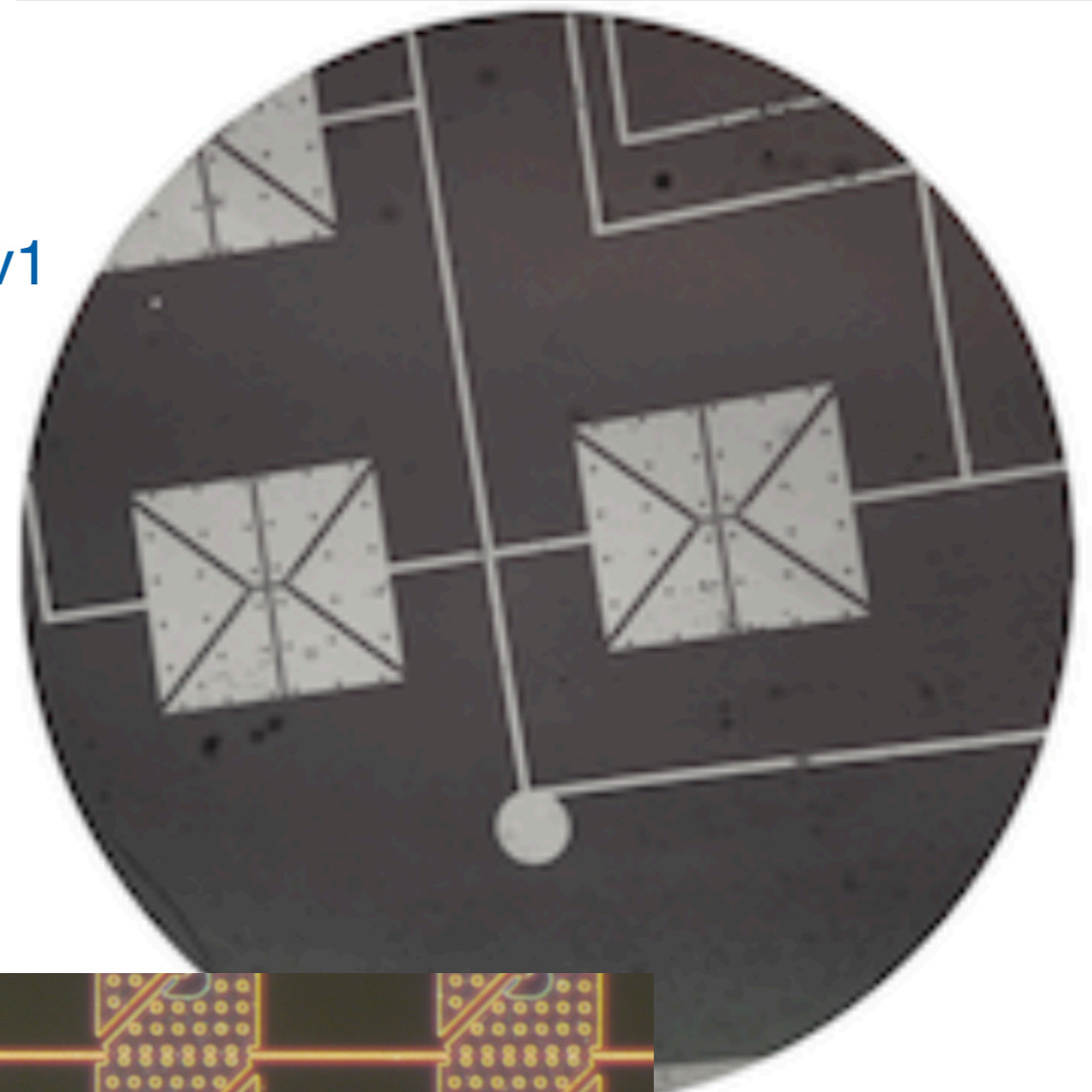
$$\sigma_e \geq \frac{\sqrt{4k_b T_c^2 C}}{\sqrt{5\epsilon}} \approx \frac{1}{\epsilon} \sqrt{\frac{2k_b \gamma T_c^3 V_{TES}}{(\mathcal{L} - 1)}}$$

QET Optimization

- Longer, thicker Al films have longer QP diffusion lengths
 - Need to make slits or holes to prevent flux traps
- Larger TES overlaps have better energy efficiency
 - Contribute to TES noise budget!
- Shorter TES means lower TES volume, lower resolution
 - Long or low T_c TES at risk for phase separation
 - Bias rails dominate signal losses for very small TES volumes

$$\sigma_e \geq \frac{\sqrt{4k_b T_c^2 C}}{\sqrt{5\epsilon}} \approx \frac{1}{\epsilon} \sqrt{\frac{2k_b \gamma T_c^3 V_{\text{TES}}}{(\mathcal{L} - 1)}}$$

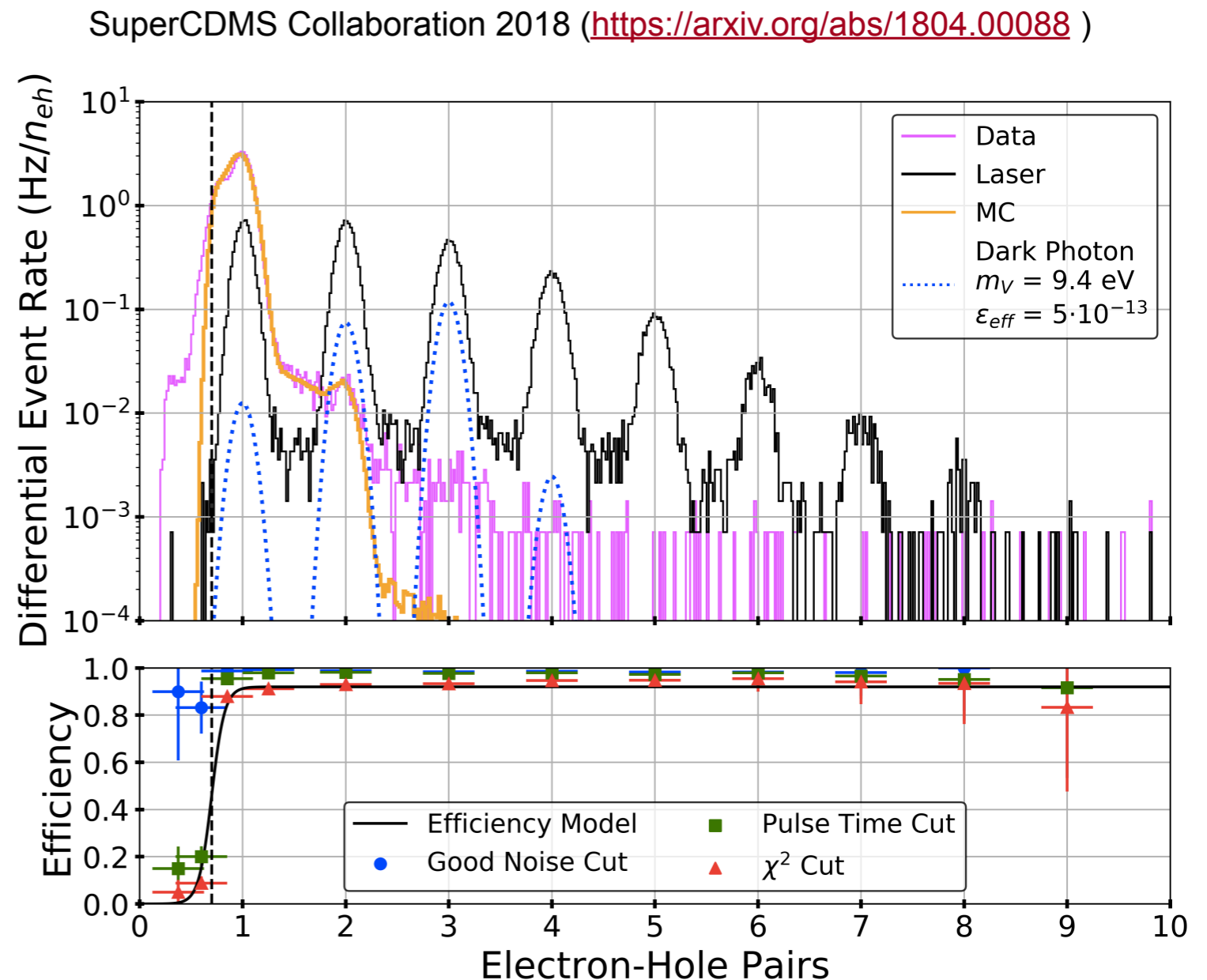
HVeV v1



HVeV v2

HVeV v1 0.5 Gram-Day Science Spectrum

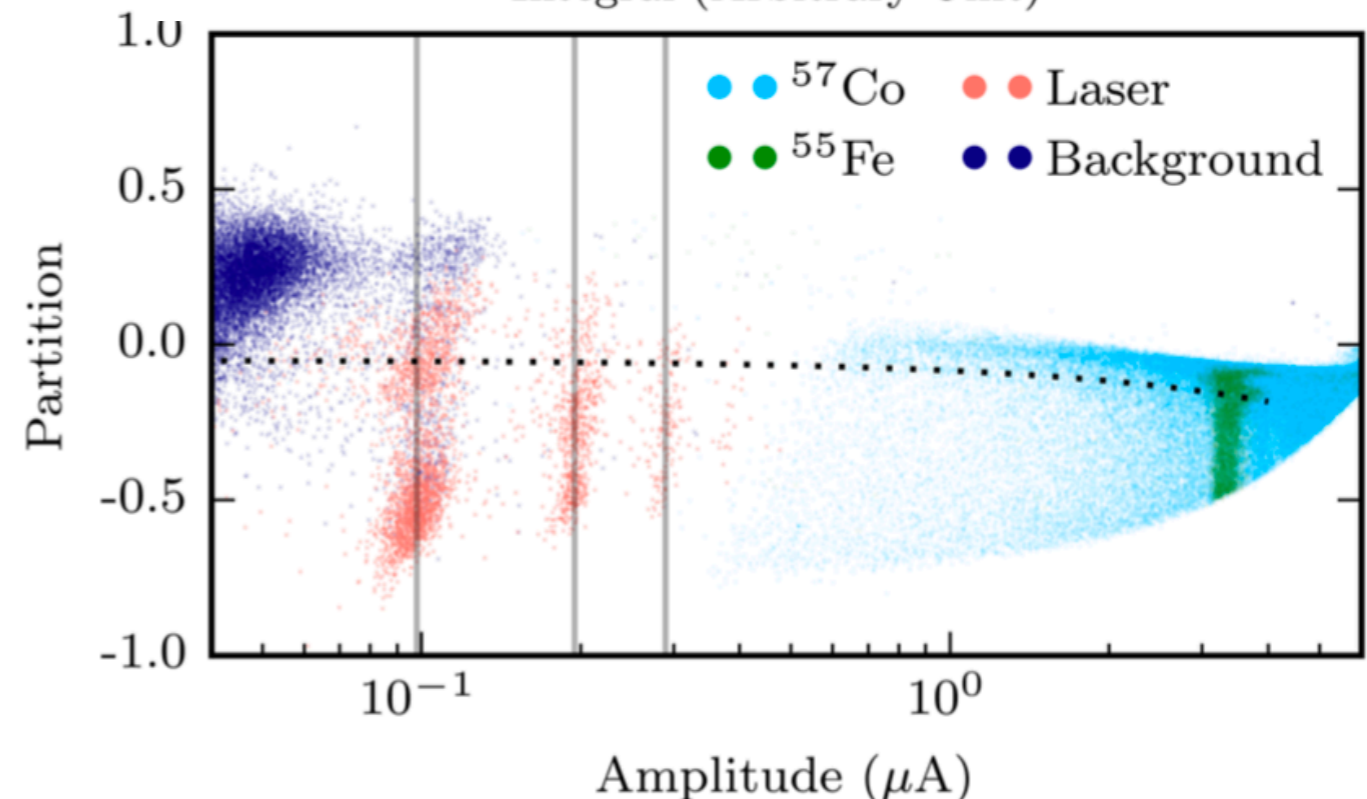
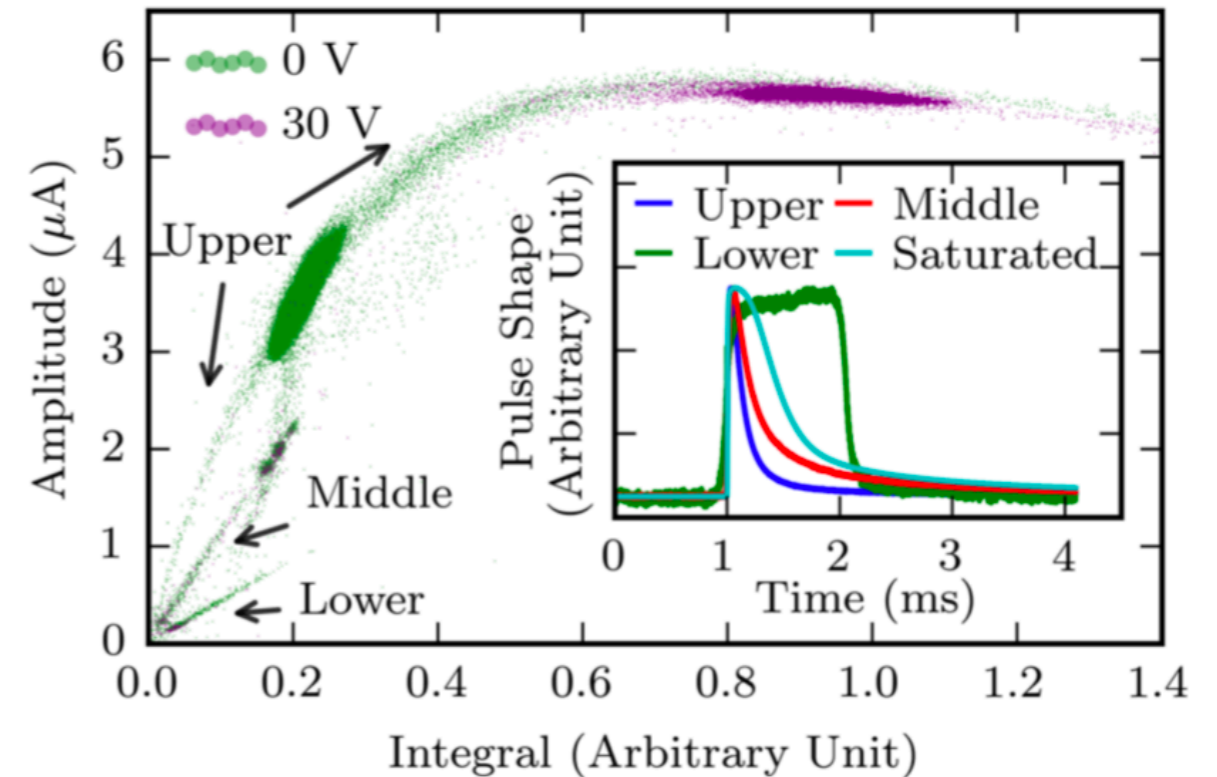
- Ran the detector for ~ 12 hours with a 1 Hz laser calibration (black line)
- Background consistent with IR at low energy, high-energy tail was not anticipated
 - Could be due to coherent scattering component or instrumental background
- Device shows high efficiency, excellent resolution, and the ability to distinguish between 'true' events and impurity-mediated events (unlike CCDs which only measure electrons or holes)
- Very simple analysis; it's easy to see how one rules out a quantized signal in light of this background



HVeV v1.5: Edge-Dominated Leakage

ArXiv:1903.06517

- Prototype demonstrated position dependence in the non-quantized data hinted at during HVeV Run 1
- Nearly contact-free biasing scheme isolates contact along the crystal edge, preventing charge tunneling through most of the high-voltage face
- Surface events have a distinct pulse shape and can be removed using a cut in the pulse-shape plane.
- Non-quantized leakage is dominant at high radius; 95% of non-quantized events removed by 50% radial cut efficiency. 80% of quantized events removed by the same cut



HVeV v1.5: Edge-Dominated Leakage

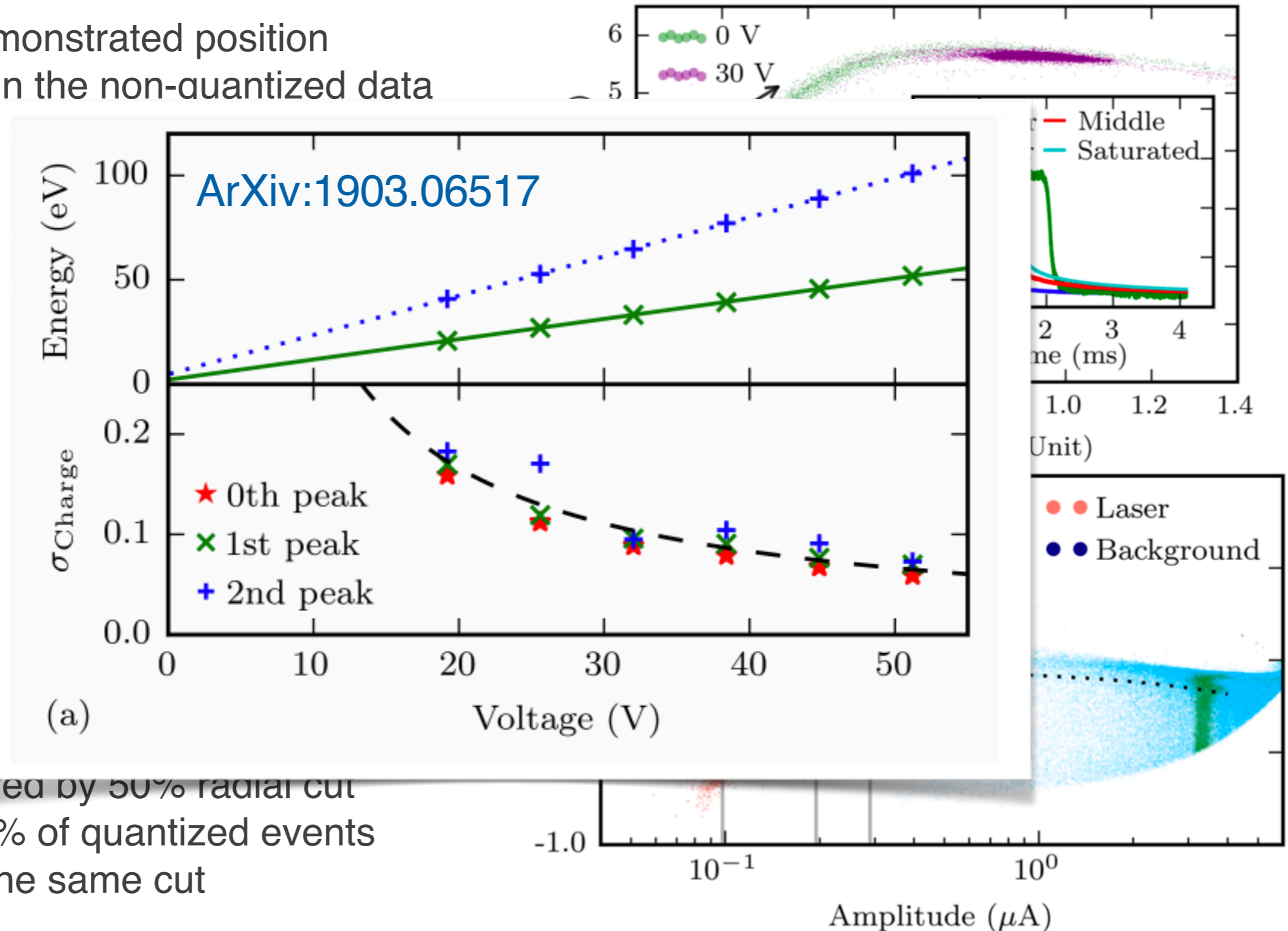
ArXiv:1903.06517

- Prototype demonstrated position dependence in the non-quantized data hinted at during

- Nearly contacted isolates contacted preventing charge most of the time

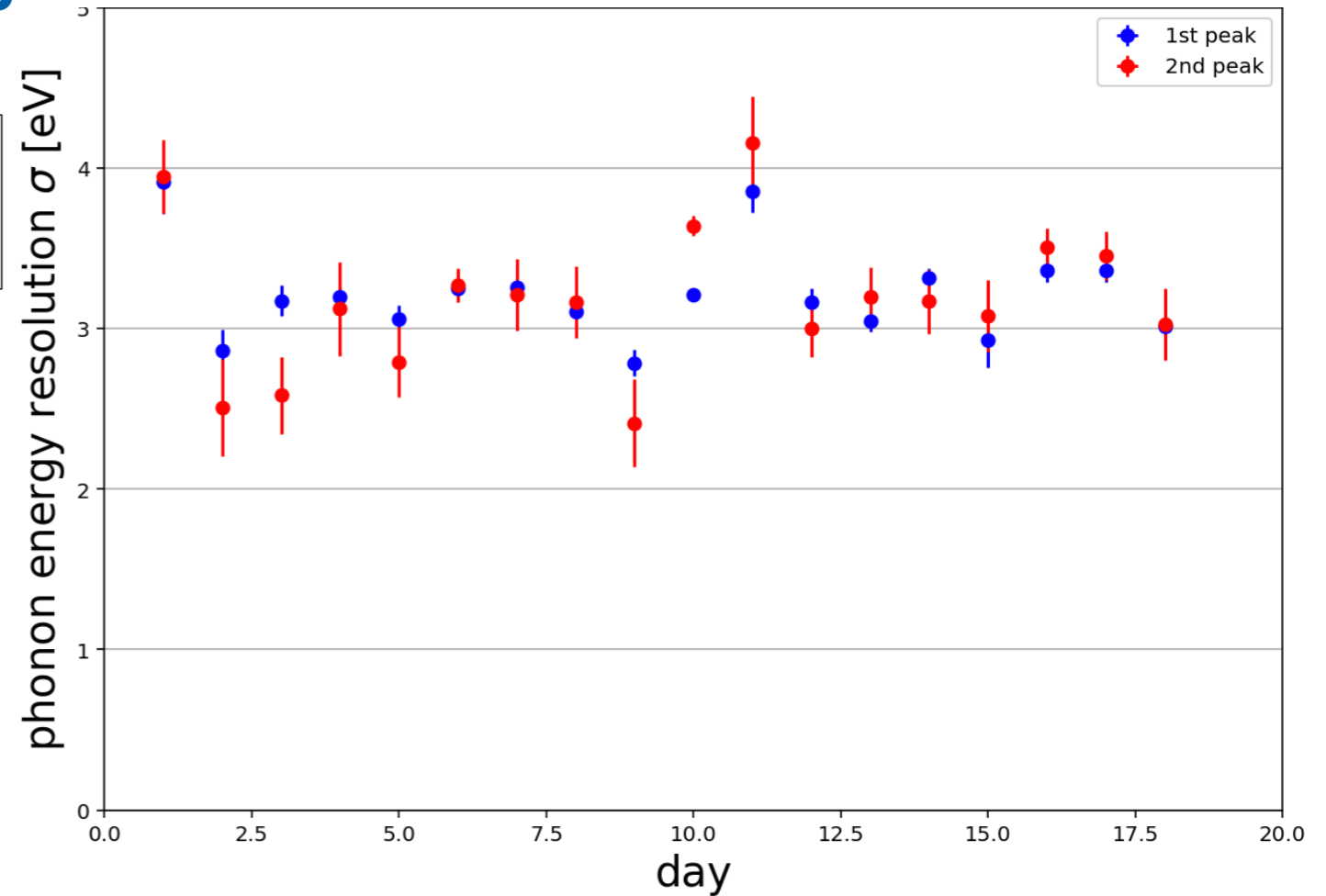
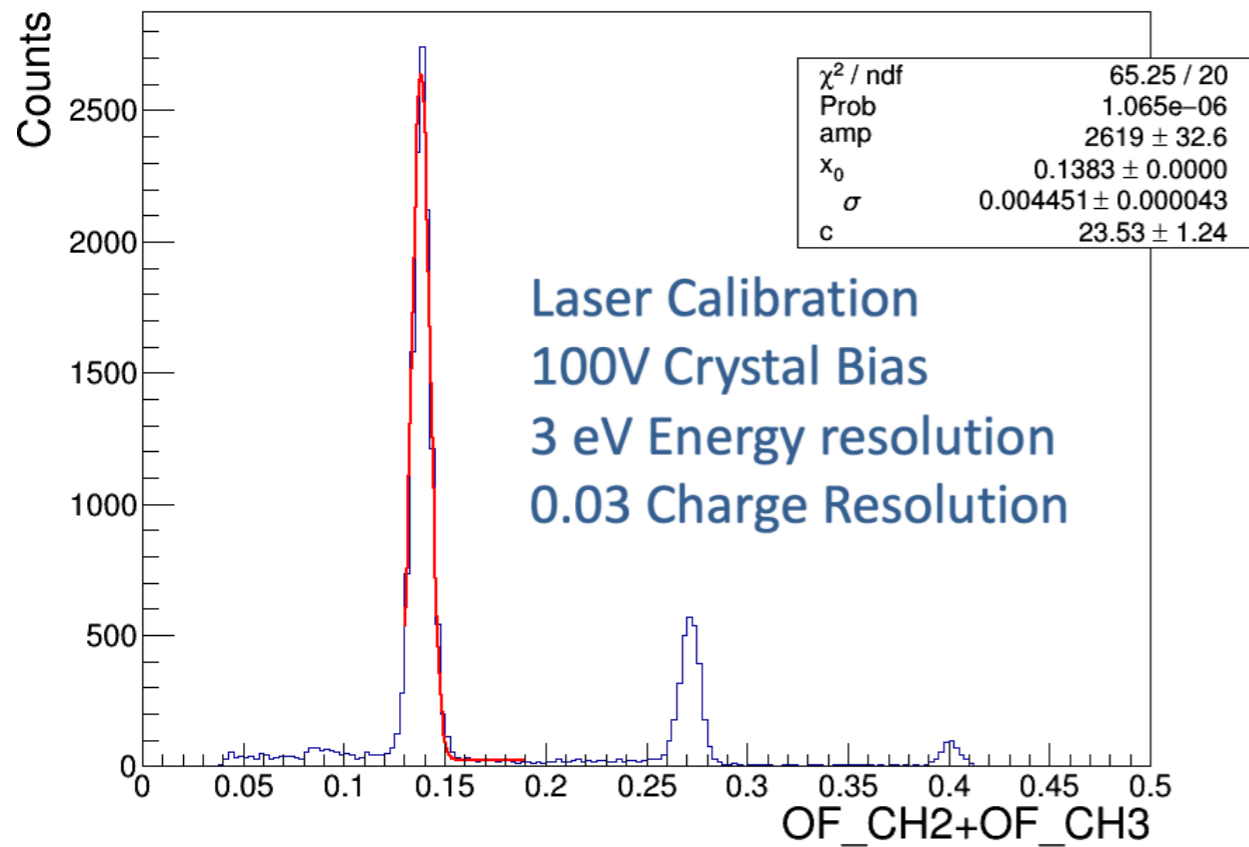
- Surface even shape and capacitance in the pulse-s

- Non-quantized high radius; 90% events removed by 50% radial cut efficiency. 80% of quantized events removed by the same cut



HVeV v2: Combining Lessons

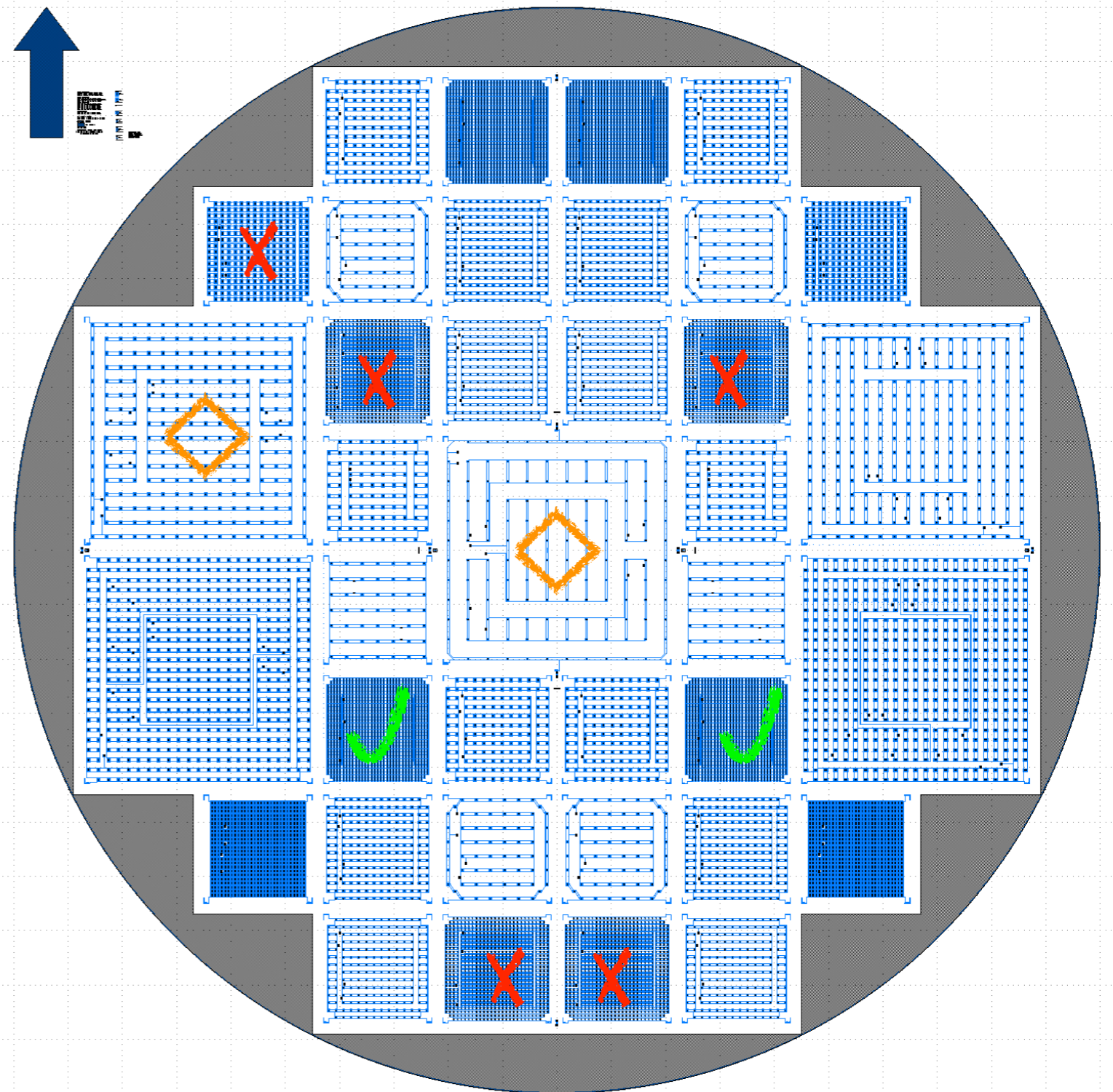
<https://agenda.infn.it/event/15448/contributions/95710/>



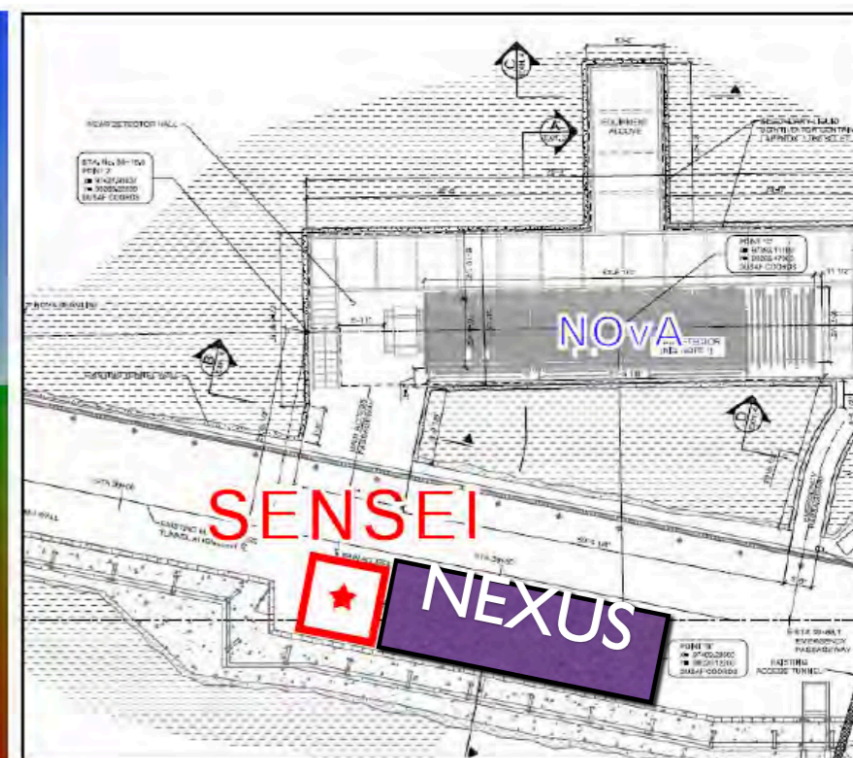
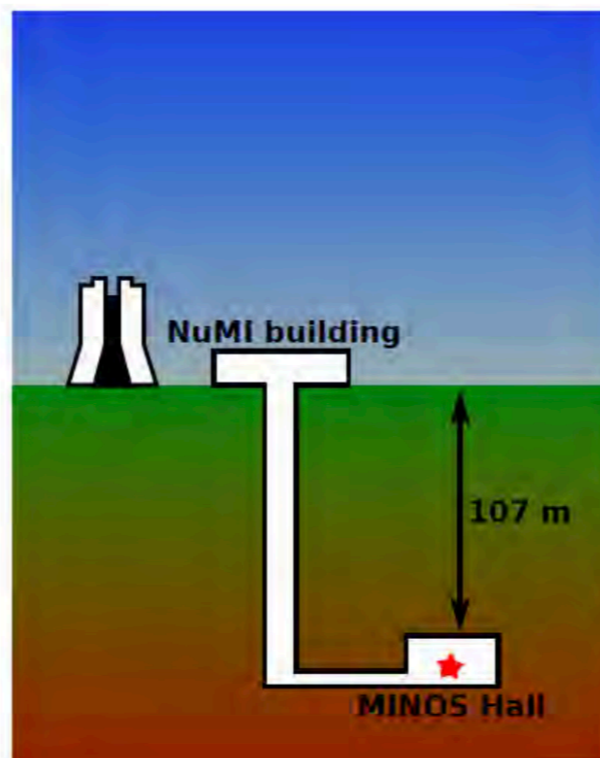
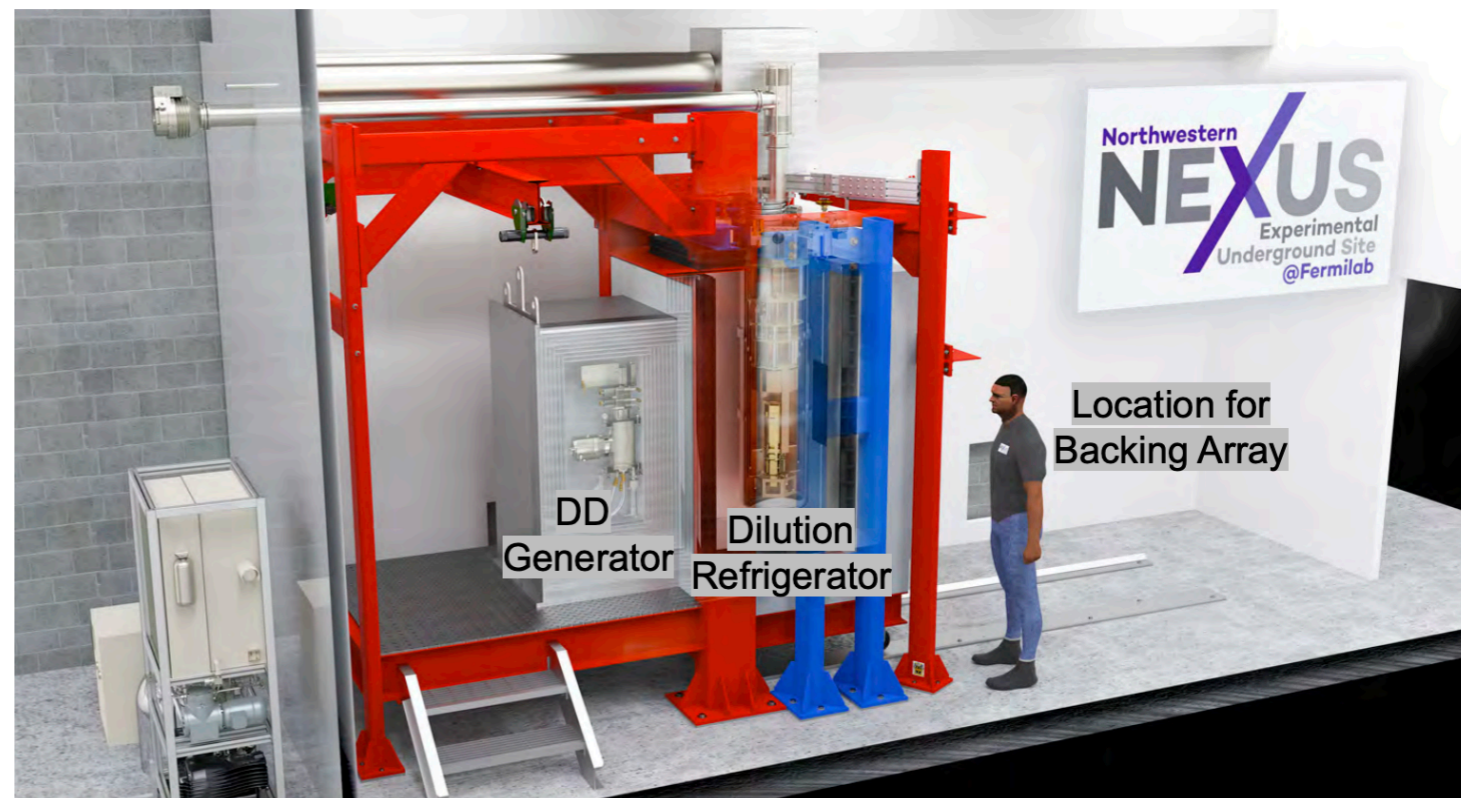
- Used very thin Al backside grid, HVeV 1.5 QET design, no amorphous layer
 - High efficiency, high electric fields; world record charge resolution (achieved 0.01 in short run)
- Still seeing some issues with sidewall trapping and incomplete neutralization
 - We observe $\sim 15\%$ trapping
- Physics results from Nuclear Recoil calibration at TUNL and DM search at Northwestern coming soon!

Future for HVeV Program

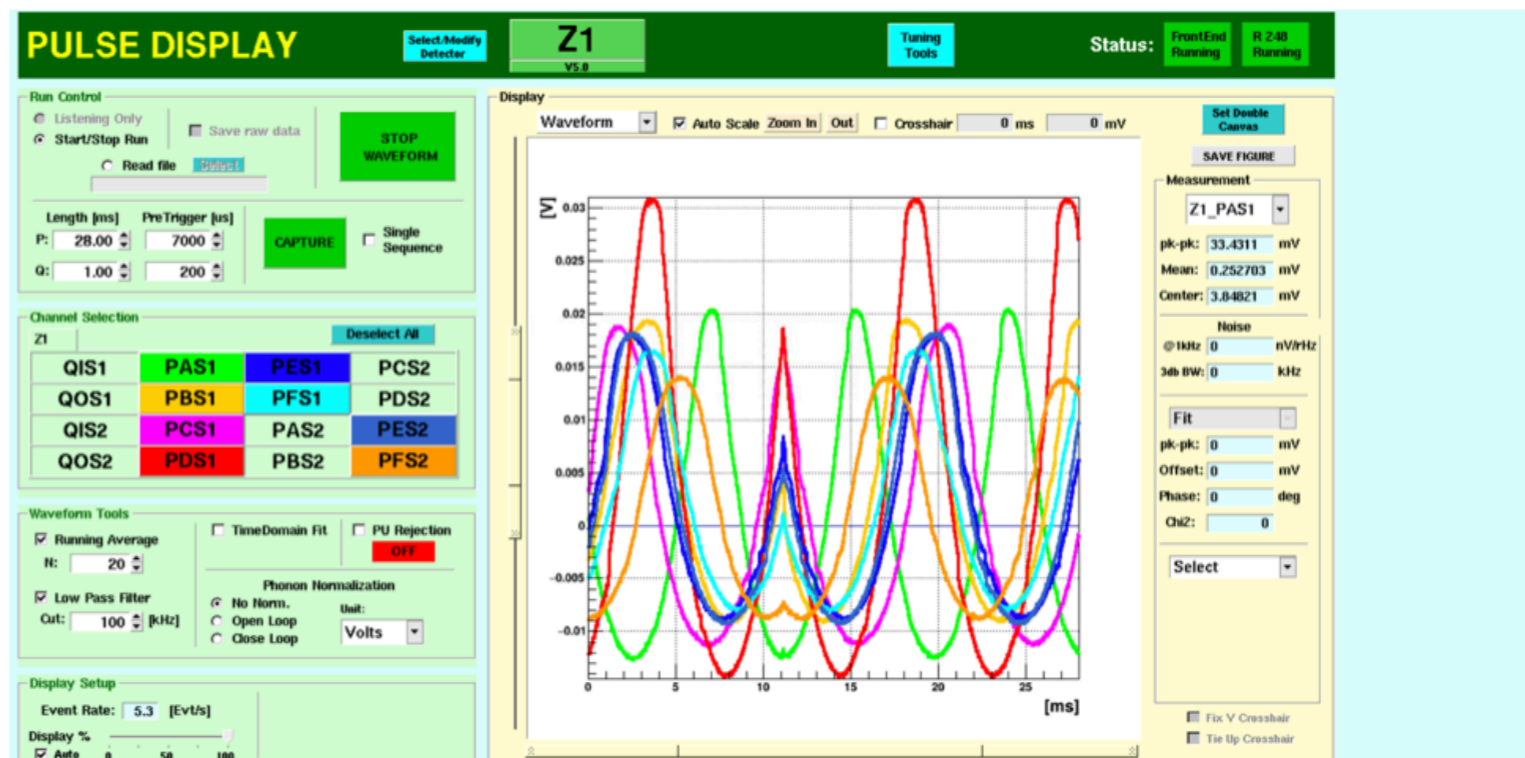
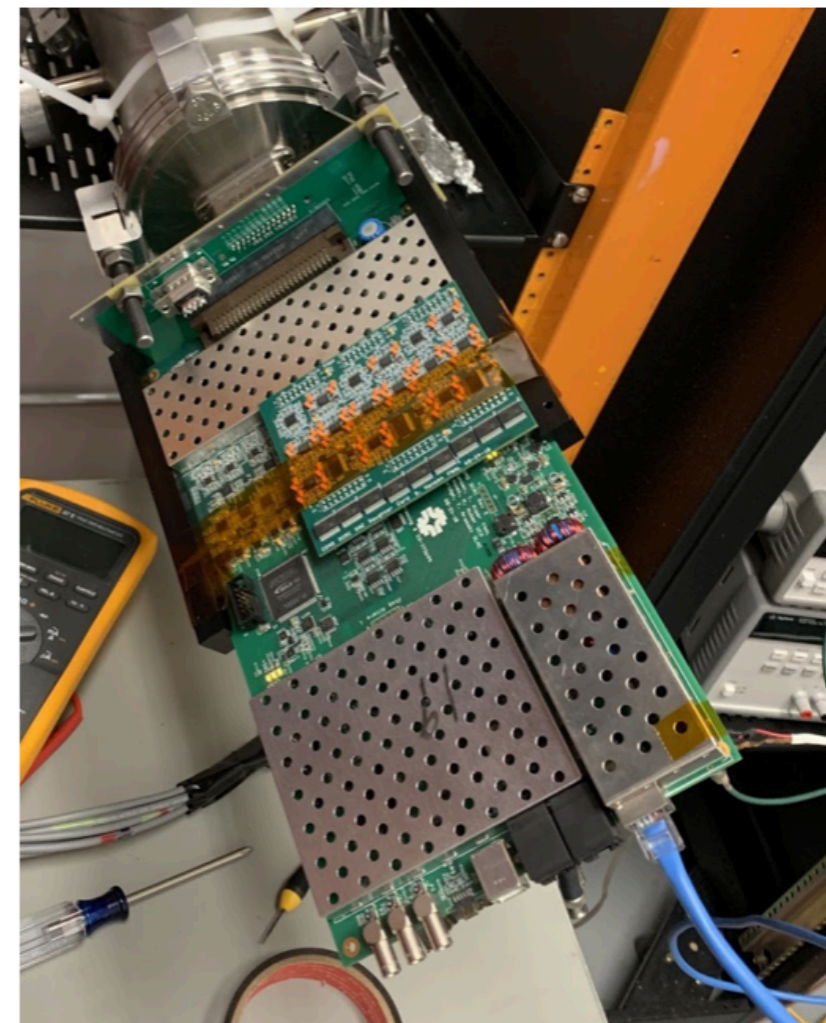
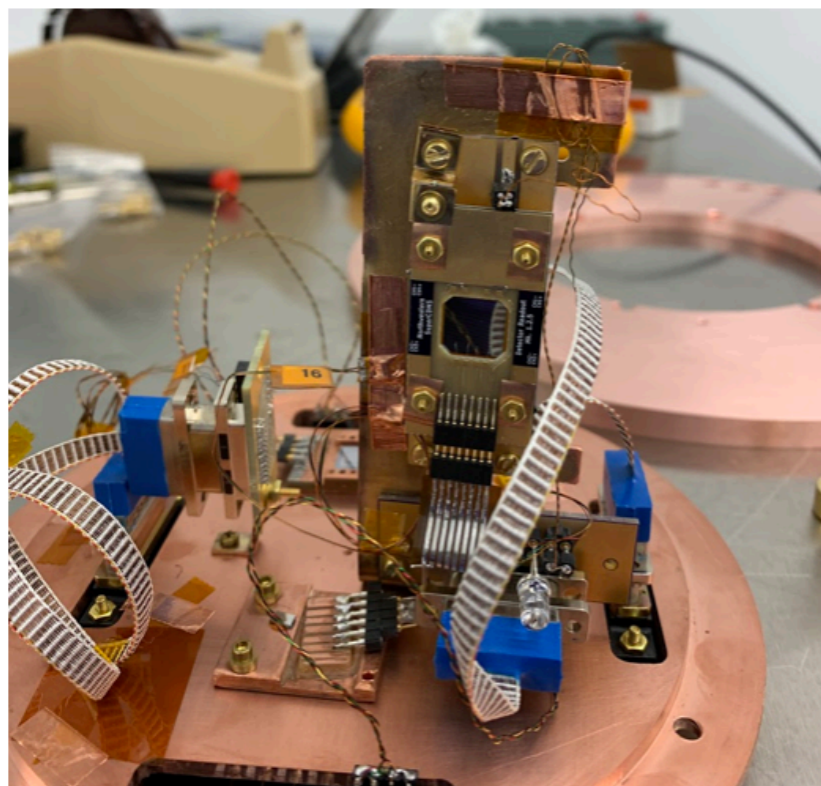
- Mounting issues damaged some prototypes (X's)
- 2 1g v2 detectors, optimized for dynamic range, now successfully operated
- 2 4g detectors currently being mounted (both optimized for low energy resolution)
- *Many more* prototypes to help test the resolution and efficiency models that go into this detector design
 - Multiple designs with sub-eV projected resolutions



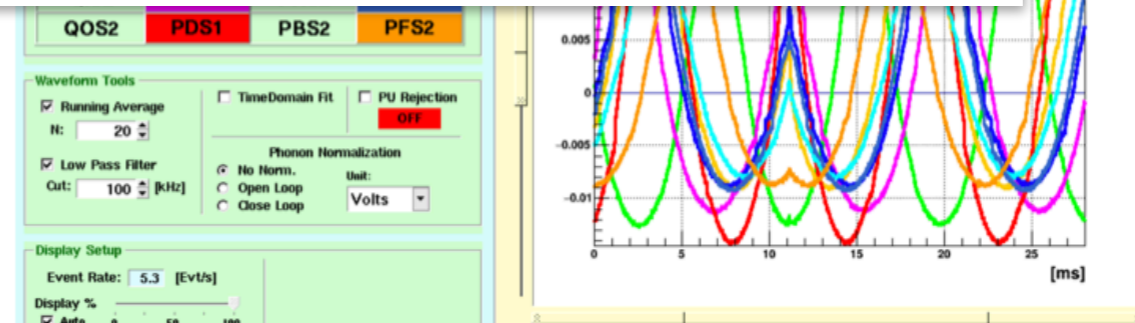
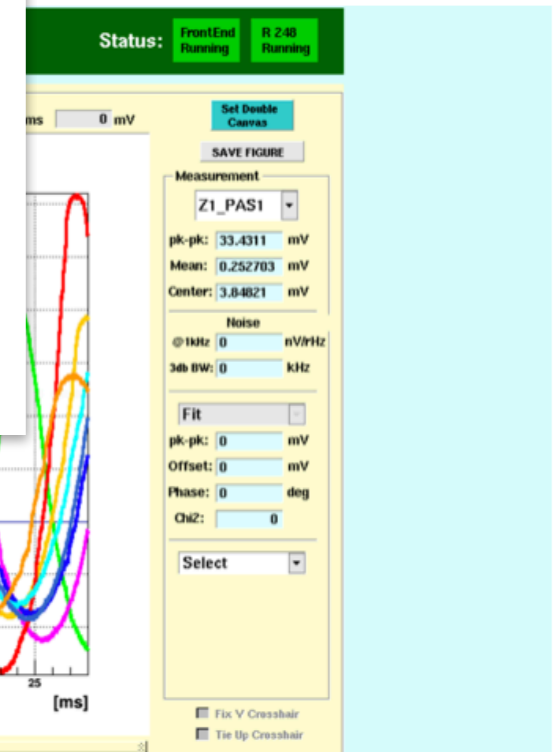
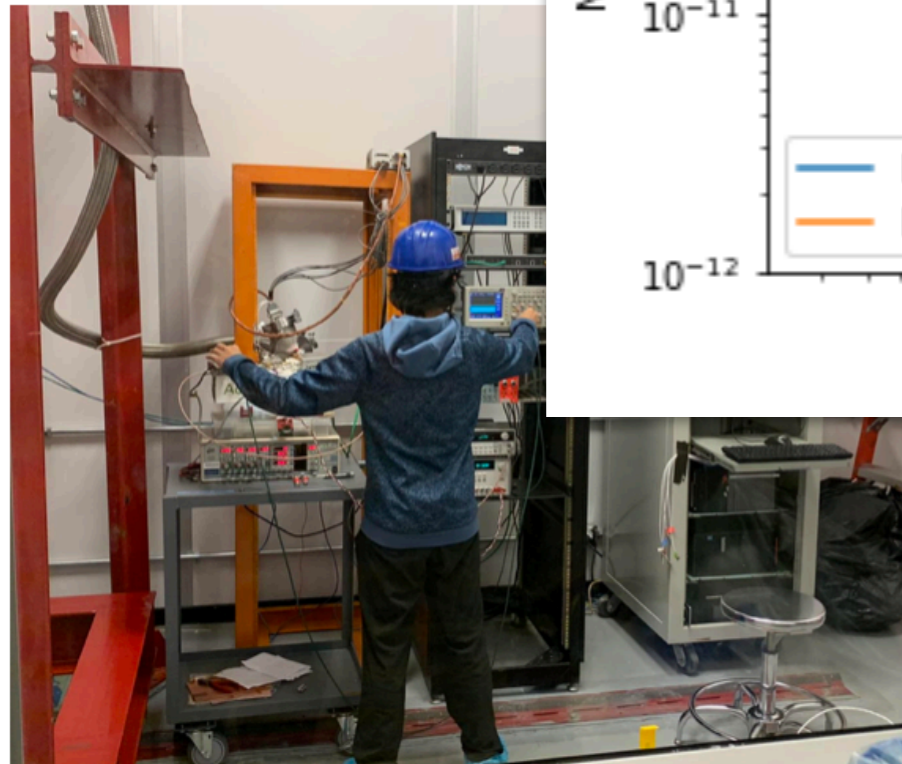
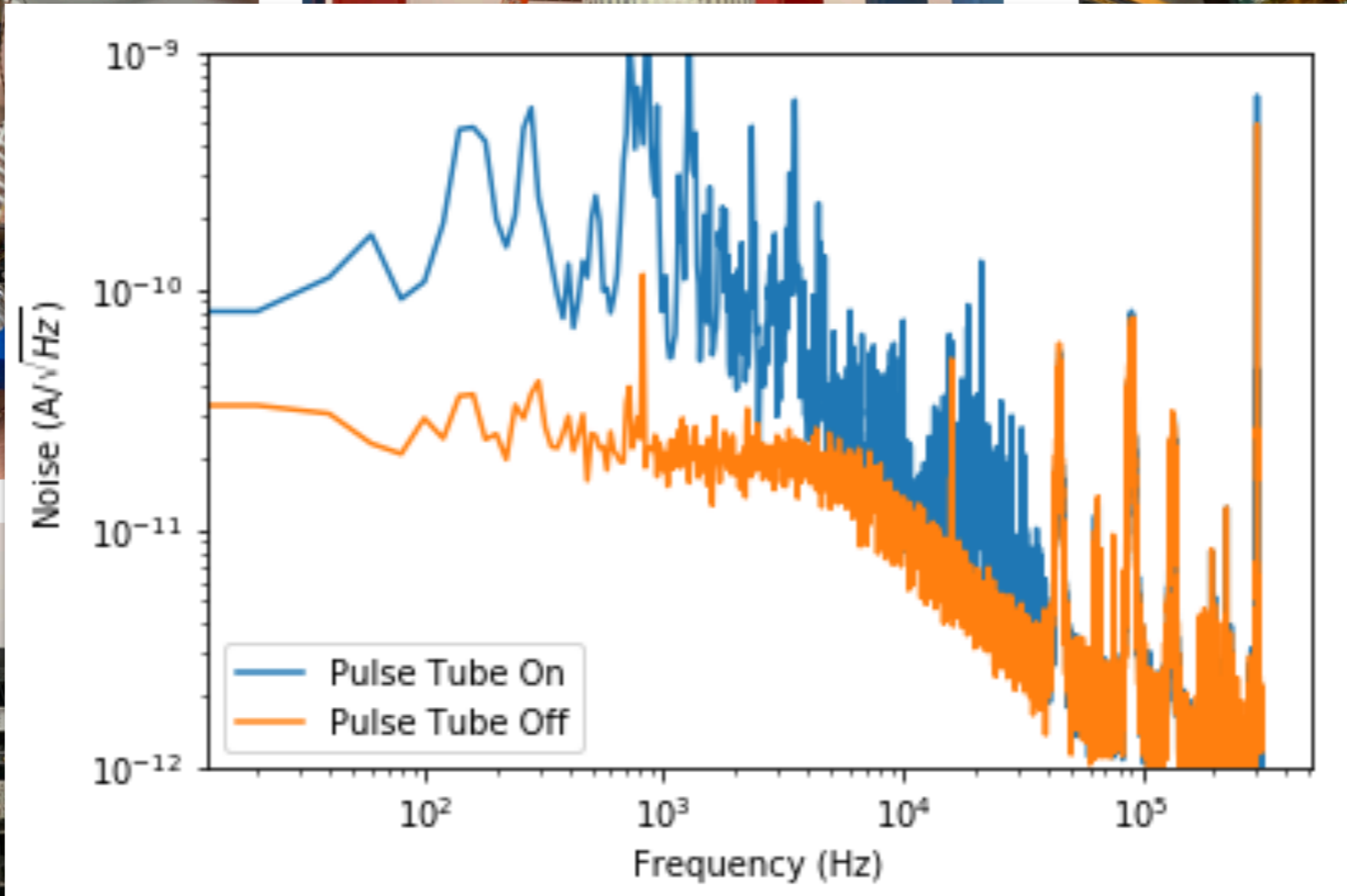
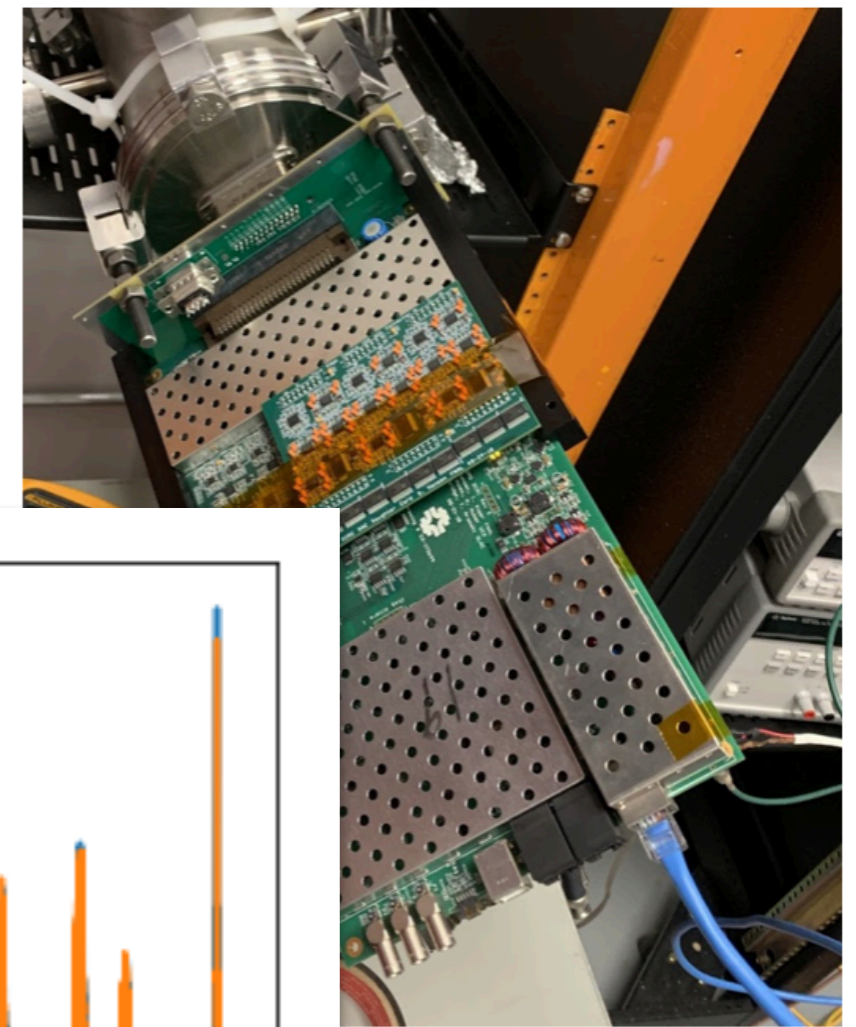
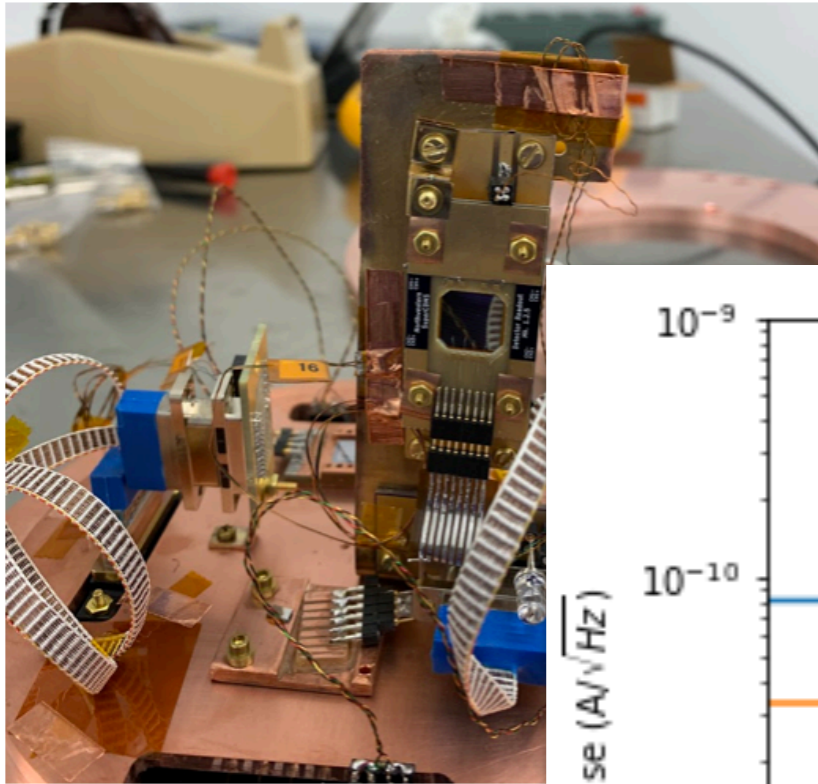
NEXUS: Underground Experimental Site for R&D



NEXUS Right Now



NEXUS Right Now

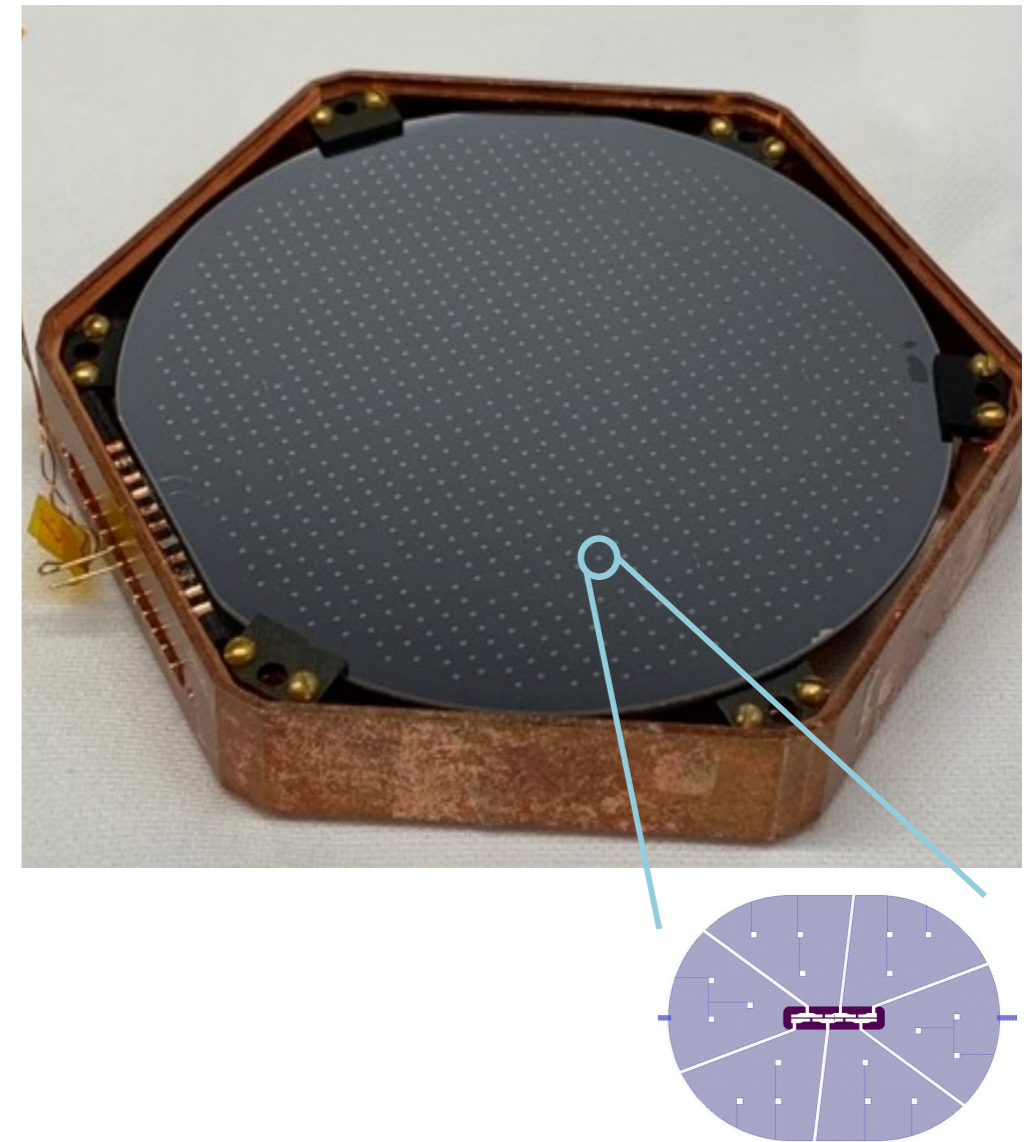


NEXUS Projects (Current and Proposed)

- HVeV Dark Matter Science (Ongoing)
 - Including HVeV/QET R&D outlined here
 - Installation of UV, Visible, and BB IR sources
- Nuclear Recoil Charge Yield in Si/Ge (In Prep w/ Enectali Figueroa-Feliciano at Northwestern)
 - Also exploring using DD generator for non-cryogenic detectors
- KIDs on Si (In Prep w/ Sunil Golwala at Caltech)
 - Installation of RF readout
- Testing Athermal Phonon Effects on QuBits (In Prep w/ D. Bowring at FNAL)
 - Uses KID RF readout with minor modifications
- meV-Gap Photodetectors as DM Detectors (Proposed w/ Y. Kahn at UIUC)
 - Possible multi-lab collaboration
- **Your proposal?**

Design of a Large Area Photon Detector

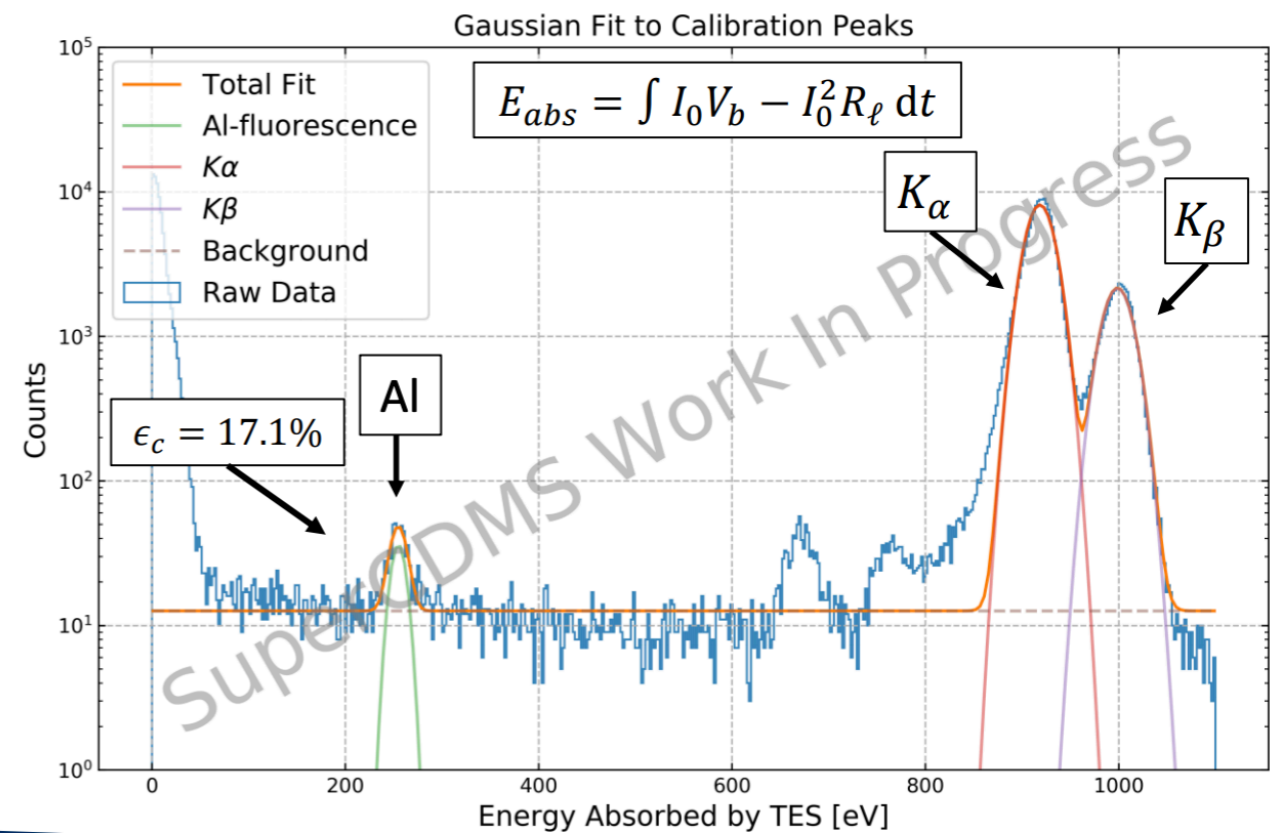
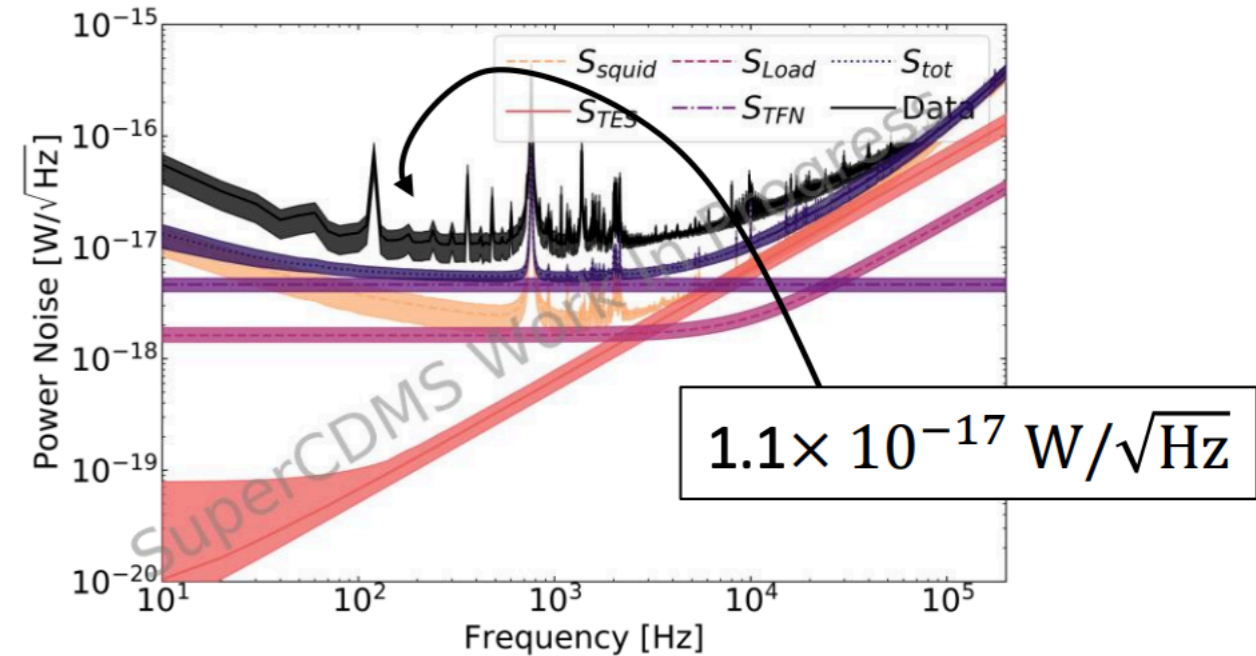
- The detector is a CDMS-style athermal phonon sensor
 - 1 mm thick silicon wafer, 45.6 cm² surface area
 - Mass of 10.6 grams
- The device has been optimized for photon detection
 - Distributed athermal sensor array read out by TESs
 - Single distributed channel gives a fast collection time of athermal phonons
 - This reduces efficiency penalties due to athermal phonon down conversion
 - $T_c=41.5$ mK, lowering the expected energy resolution
- Designed originally for degraded alpha rejection in neutrinoless double beta decay and for an active photon veto for dark matter experiments



<https://agenda.infn.it/event/15448/contributions/95785/>

Reducing Readout Noise

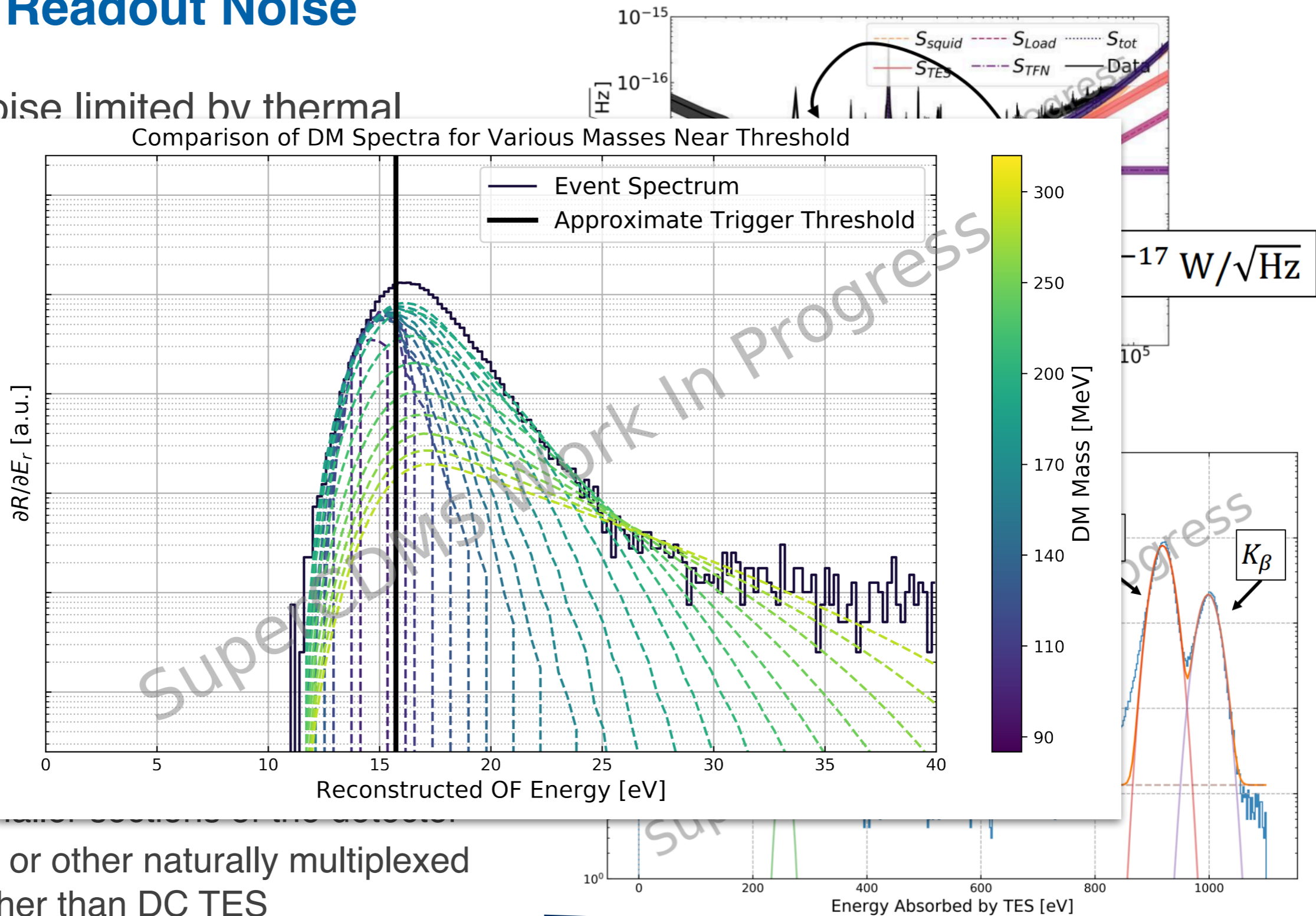
- Readout noise limited by thermal fluctuation shot noise between sensor and crystal
 - Can reduce this only by weakening the link between the sensor and absorber, or dropping the sensor temperature
 - Power noise at the level of $1e-18$ aW/sqrt(Hz)
 - Hitting readout limitations
- Power to current gain impacted by total heat capacity of the sensor
 - Make smaller sensors
- Massive on-sensor multiplexing
 - Readout smaller sections of the detector
 - Use MKIDs or other naturally multiplexed sensors rather than DC TES



<https://agenda.infn.it/event/15448/contributions/95785/>

Reducing Readout Noise

- Readout noise limited by thermal fluctuation and crystal
 - Can reduce between the dropping the
 - Power noise
 - Hitting react
- Power to c
heat capac
 - Make small
- Massive or
 - Readout sn
 - Use MKIDs or other naturally multiplexed sensors rather than DC TES



<https://agenda.infn.it/event/15448/contributions/95785/>

Detector Performance

- From the good randoms after cuts, the energy resolution is now directly calculable
- We find that this detector has an energy resolution of $\sigma_E = 3.9 \pm 0.1$ (stat.) ± 0.18 (sys.) eV
 - This detector is a world-leading device for detecting photons given its size!
- We have therefore demonstrated O(3) eV resolution across 2 orders of magnitude in mass!

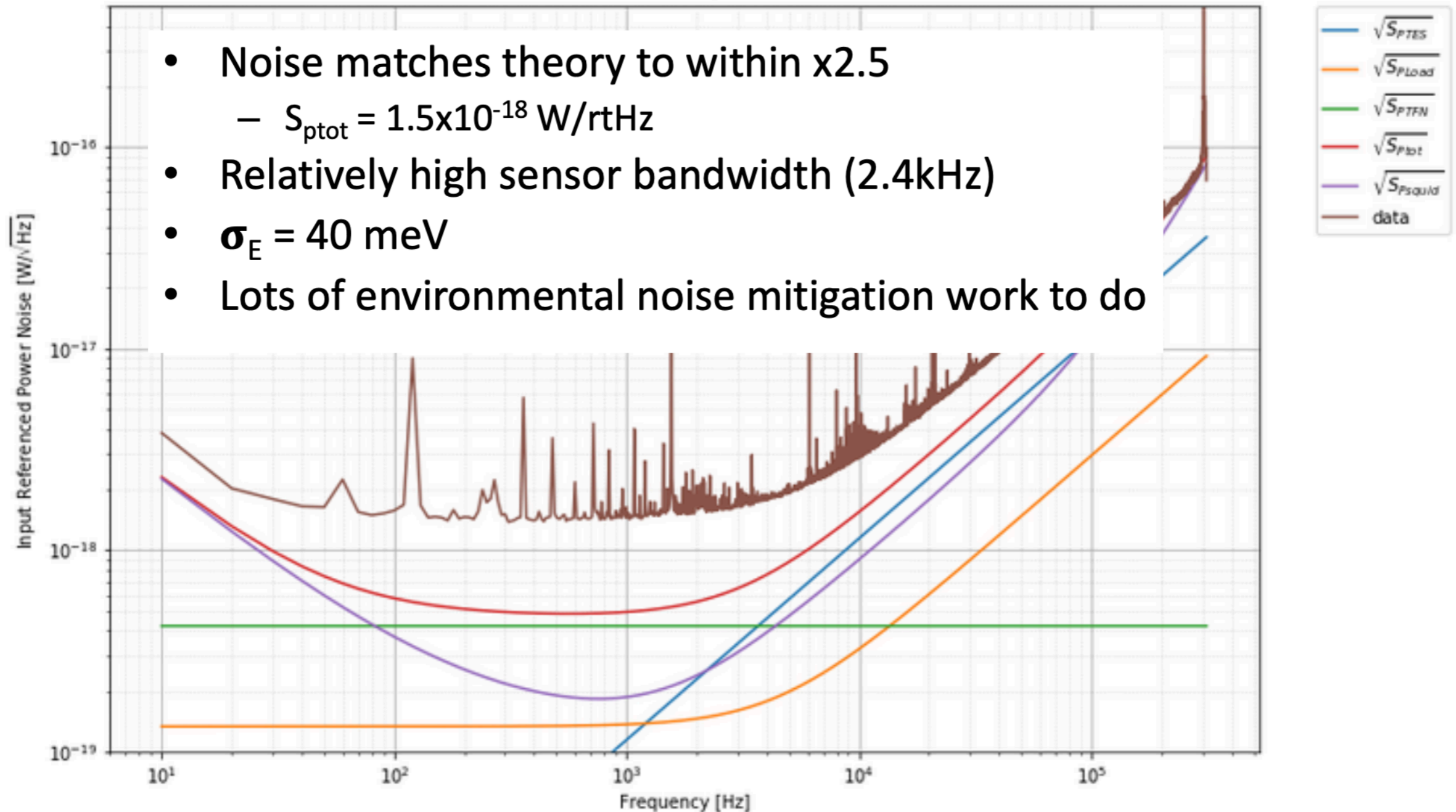
	Sensor	Area (cm ²)	σ_E [eV]	$\frac{\sigma_E}{\sqrt{\text{Area}}}$ [$\frac{\text{eV}}{\text{cm}}$]
CRESST 2 LD Rothe et al JLTP 193,1160 (2018)	W TES	12.5	4-7	1.1-2.0
LMO-3 LD E. Armengaud et al, Eur. Phys. J. C (2017) 77 :785	NTD	5	7.7	3.4
CALDER 1801.08403	Al/Ti/Al MKID	4	26	13
This Detector	W TES	45.6	3.9	0.58

TES Noise Power Developments

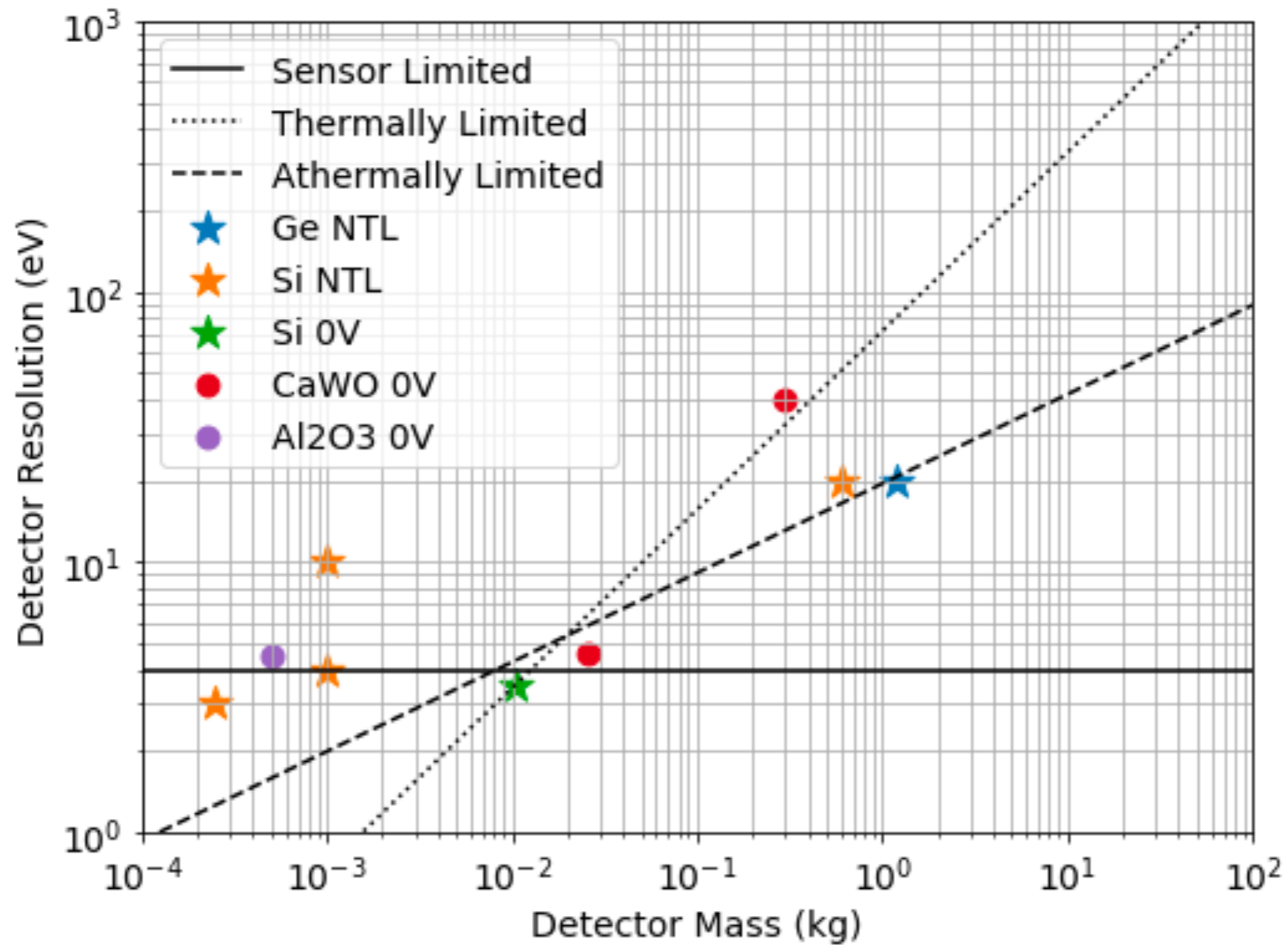
<https://indico.fnal.gov/event/20385/session/47/contribution/4/material/slides/0.pdf>

100um x400um TES Noise

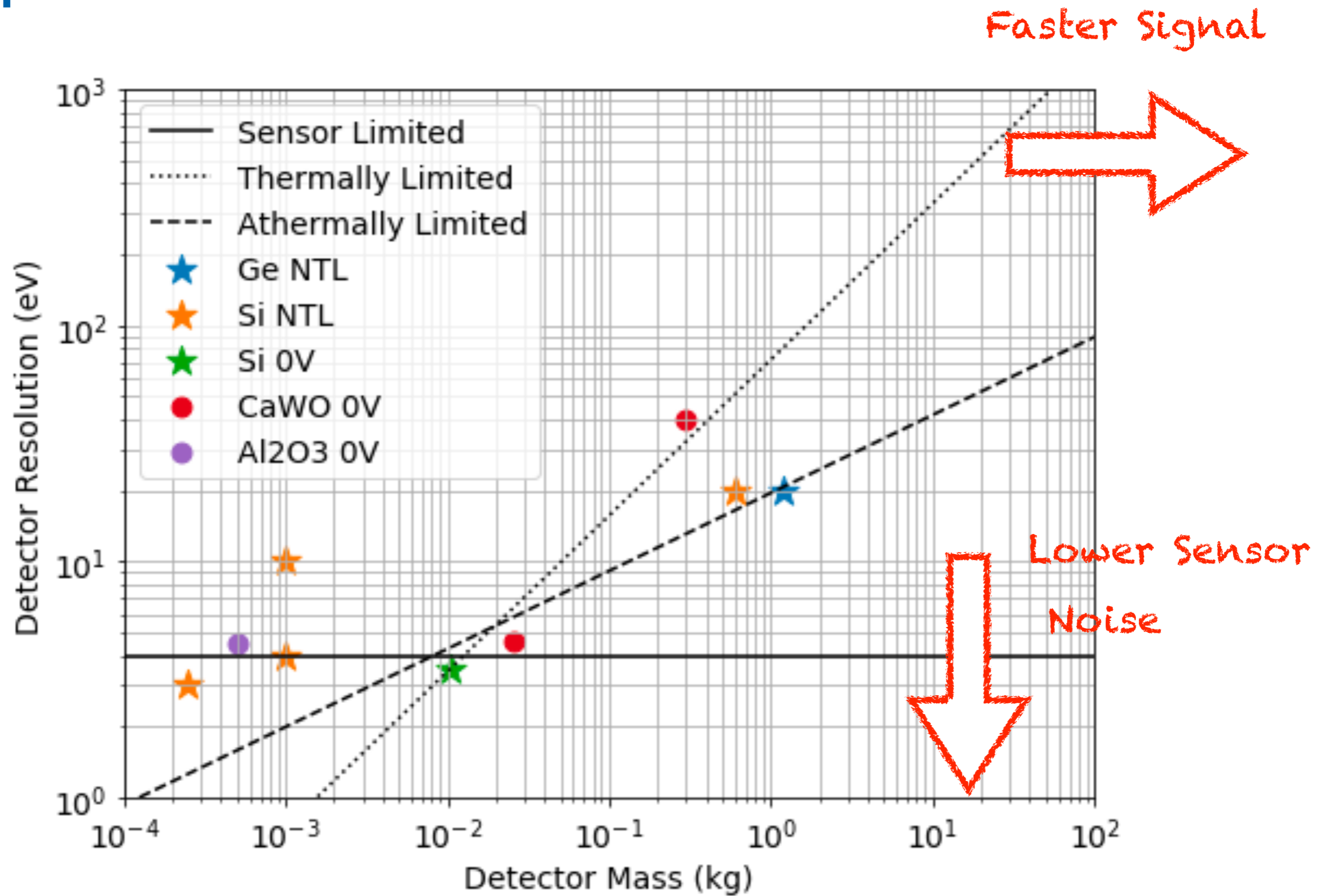
Power Noise For $R_0 : 47.85 \text{ m}\Omega$



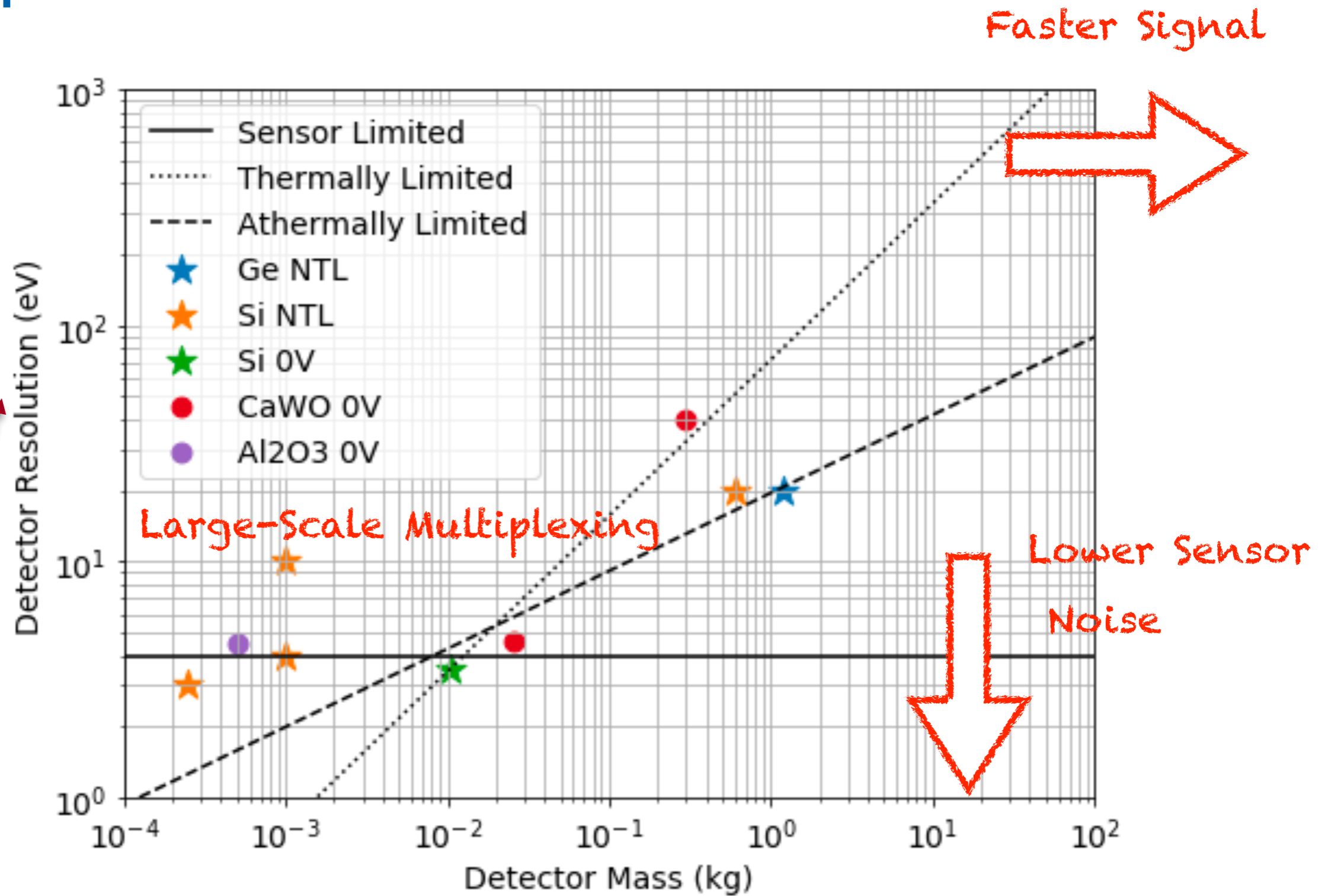
Scaling Up in Mass



Scaling Up in Mass



Scaling Up in Mass



Sets Operating Voltage for NTL Single-Charge Readout

Carbon-Based Detectors

- SiC/Diamond are semiconductors with long-lived charge excitations
- Carbon has a lighter nucleus than either Si or Ge, giving it a kinematic advantage for low-mass Nuclear recoils
- Can withstand $>10x$ larger electric fields than Si or Ge, and has many orders of magnitude lower leakage current even at room temperature
- Radiation hard; $\sim 10x$ larger displacement energies (studied by RD42)
- SiC has many of the same properties, *and* is strongly polar
 - In many ways intermediate between Si and diamond
- You get similar benefits from Sapphire (Al_2O_3) but with a more complex crystal structure

	Diamond (C)	Si	Ge
Z	6	14	32
a (Å)	3.567	5.431	5.658
N (cm^{-3})	1.76×10^{23}	5×10^{22}	4.42×10^{22}
E_{gap} (eV)	5.47	1.12	0.54
E_{eh} (eV)	~ 13 [19]	3.6-3.8 [19, 20]	3.0 [20]
ϵ_r	5.7	11.7	16.0
Θ_{Debye} (K)	2220	645	374
$\hbar\omega_{Debye}$ (meV)	190	56	32
c_s (m/s)	13360	5880	3550
v_d (m/s)			
E_{Bd} (MV/cm)	>20 [21]	0.3	0.1

TABLE I. Material properties of diamond, Si, and Ge (from Refs. [22–24] unless otherwise stated).

3C-SiC: cubic unit cell (Zincblende)

Energy gaps, $E_{g_{ind}}(\Gamma_{15v} - X_{1c})$	2.416(1) eV
Energy gaps, E_g	2.36 eV
Energy gaps, $E_{g_{dir}}(\Gamma_{15v} - X_{1c})$	6.0 eV
Excitonic Energy gaps, E_{g_x}	2.38807(3) eV

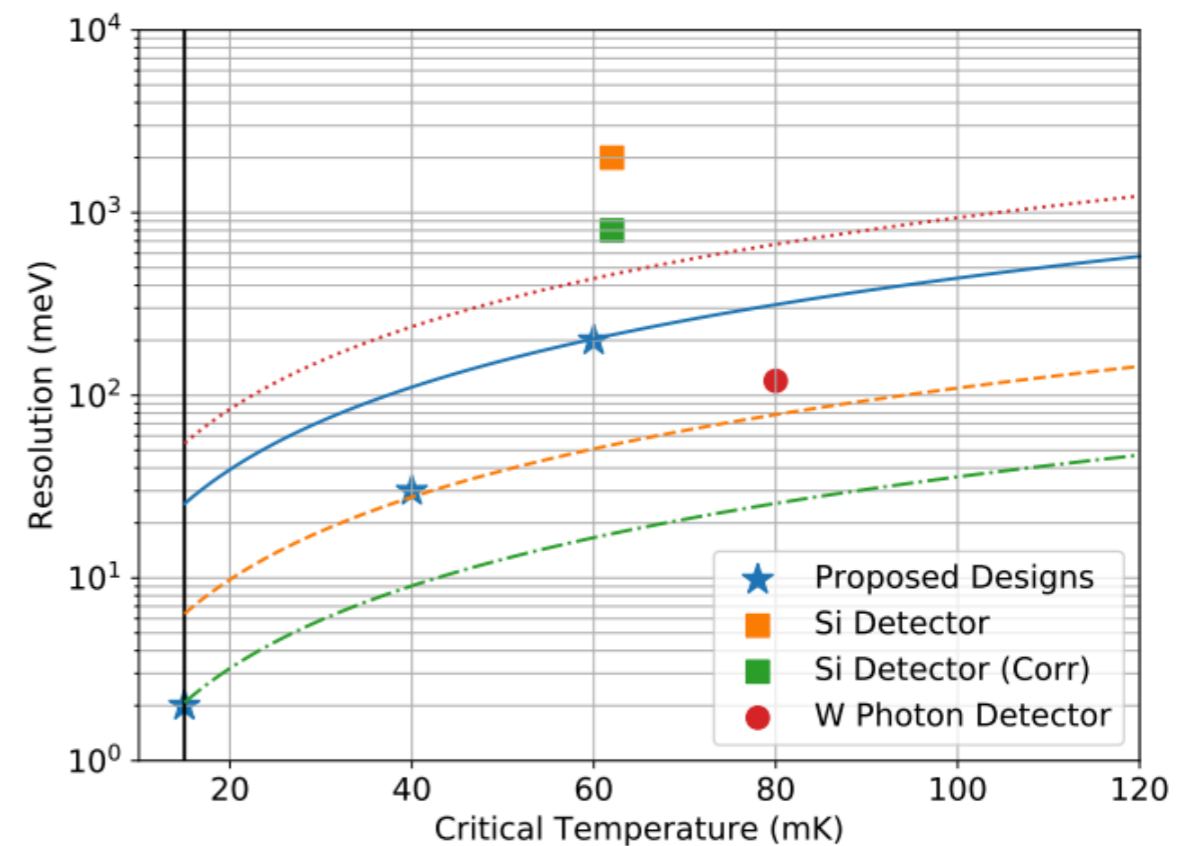
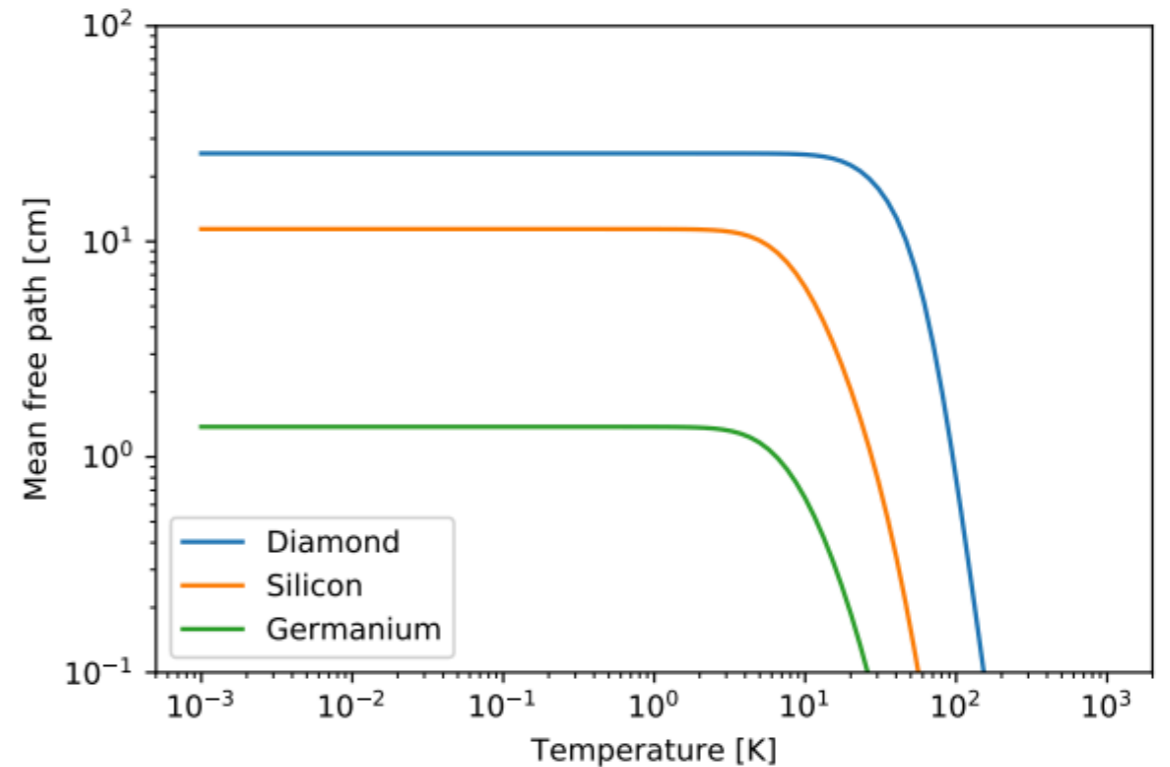
Optical photon energy	3C-SiC	102.8 meV
	4H-SiC	104.2 meV
	6H-SiC	104.2 meV

Example: Diamond Calorimeter

- Diamond, Ge, and Si have similar phonon characteristics, but diamond has higher energy, longer-lived phonon modes
- Phonons are 3x faster than in Si, 4x faster than in Ge
- Phonon lifetime is limited by crystal size to much higher temperatures - larger crystals have less phonon down-conversion
- It is easier to improve resolution by simply making the TES volume smaller, since the phonons can be allowed to bounce around the crystal more without down-conversion
- Here we consider ~30-300 mg crystals in order to minimize phonon collection time, such that the readout is TES dominated at all critical temperatures and phonon sensor geometries

$$\sigma_e \geq \frac{\sqrt{4k_b T_c^2 C}}{\sqrt{5\epsilon}} \approx \frac{1}{\epsilon} \sqrt{\frac{2k_b \gamma T_c^3 V_{\text{TES}}}{(\mathcal{L} - 1)}}$$

Kurinsky, Yu, Hochberg, Cabrera (1901.07569)



Best Materials (of Crystals)

Light dark photon mediator (Sec. III, Fig. 1)			
Detection channel	Quantity to maximize to reach ...		Best materials
	... lower m_χ	... lower $\bar{\sigma}_e$	
(Optical) phonons	ω_O^{-1} (Eq. (24))	quality factor Q defined in Eq. (27)	SiO ₂ , Al ₂ O ₃ , CaWO ₄
Electron transitions	E_g^{-1} (Eq. (28))	depends on details of electron wavefunctions	InSb, Si
Nuclear recoils	$(A\omega_{\min})^{-1}$ (Eq. (29))	$(Z/A)^2 \omega_{\min}^{-1}$ (Eq. (31))	diamond, LiF
Hadrophilic scalar mediator (Sec. IV, Figs. 2, 3)			
Detection channel	Quantity to maximize to reach ...		Best materials
	... lower m_χ	... lower $\bar{\sigma}_n$	
(Acoustic) phonons	c_s/ω_{\min} (Eq. (36))	Light mediator: ω_{\min}^{-1} (Eq. (35))	diamond, Al ₂ O ₃
		Heavy mediator: c_s^{-1} or ω_{ph}^{-1} or $A\omega_{\text{ph}}$ depending on m_χ (Eqs. (37), (38), (39))	all complementary
Nuclear recoils	$(A\omega_{\min})^{-1}$ (Eq. (29))	Light mediator: ω_{\min}^{-1} (Eq. (40))	diamond, LiF
		Heavy mediator: A (Eq. (43))	CsI, Pb compounds

SiC

- Easy to make a case for Diamond/SiC + Sapphire + low gap (InSb, etc) to carve out next round of low-mass (keV - GeV) dark matter parameter space (from <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1910.10716.pdf>, Griffin et. al. 2019)

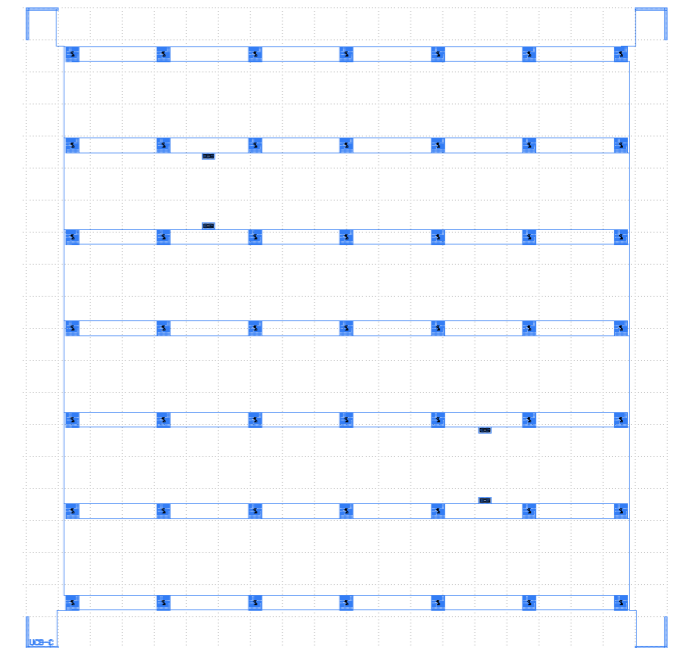
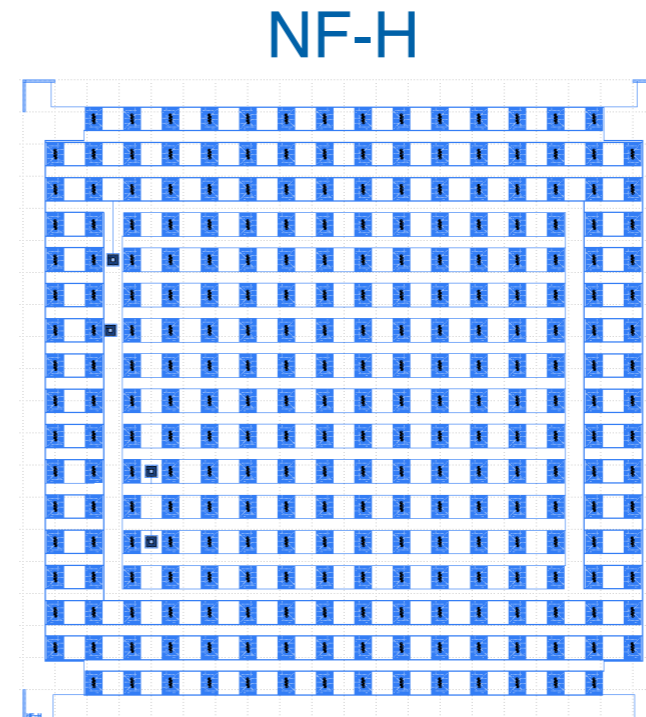
Summary of Future Work

- Continuing QET R&D
 - Still can improve efficiency by 2x
 - Find ways to move to small TES (photolithography, etc) at same T_c , reduce impact of wiring (e.g. Nb wires)
 - Push to lower T_c
 - Need to mitigate extant source of environmental noise, which is a large challenge with current electronics
 - Explore new TES films (IrPt, AlMn)
- Mitigate Leakage in HV devices
 - Blocking layers or new materials
 - Contact-free design being pioneered by Mirabolfathi group at TAMU
- Explore KID readout
 - Al and AlMn KIDs being studied by Caltech/FNAL
 - Implicit advantage for massive multiplexing
- Moving to new materials
 - Making devices from Sapphire, Diamond, SiC
 - Demonstrating HVeV performance on Ge
 - Use superior material properties to scale in mass and threshold over Si performance

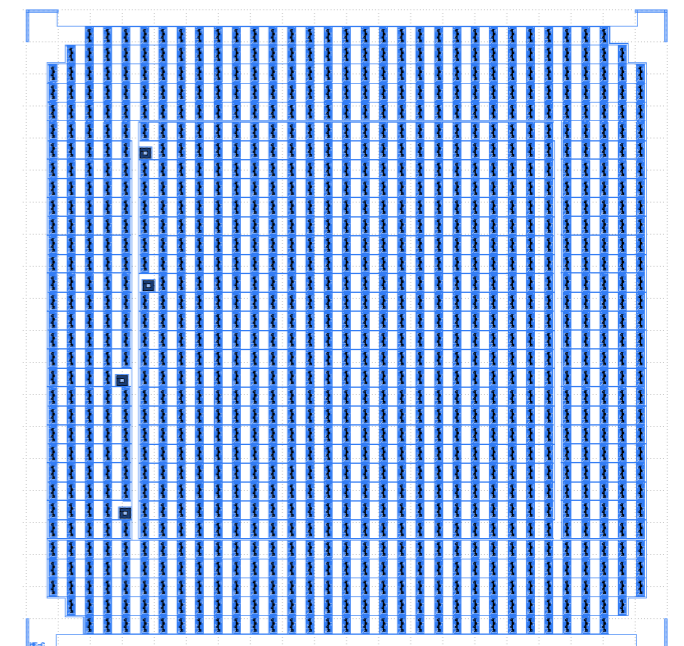
Backup

HVeV v2 1cm Designs

- Best for NR
 - UCB A/C - low coverage, single channel
 - 600 mOhm normal state resistance
- Best for ERDM
 - Optimized for baseline resolution with varying levels of AI coverage
 - 900 mOhm Rn - NF F, G, H
 - 300 mOhm Rn - NF A, D, E
 - NF-A is roughly the same as QP.4, i.e. AR64
- Best for Calibrations
 - Sacrifice baseline resolution for higher dynamic range
 - 300 mOhm normal state - NF-B/C



UCB-C

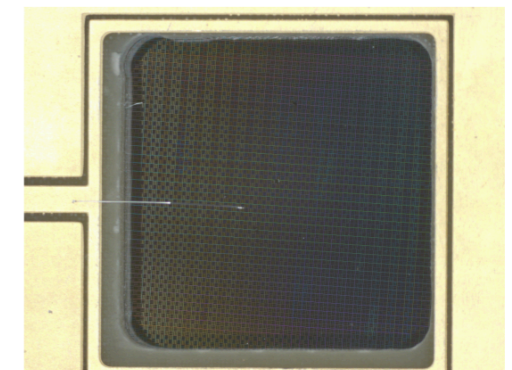
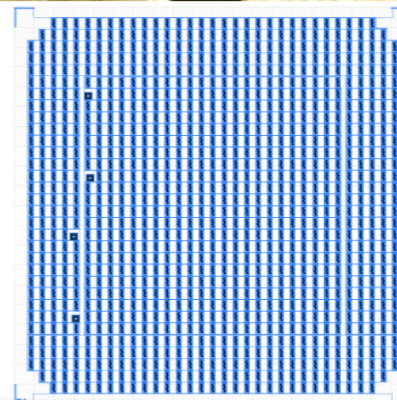
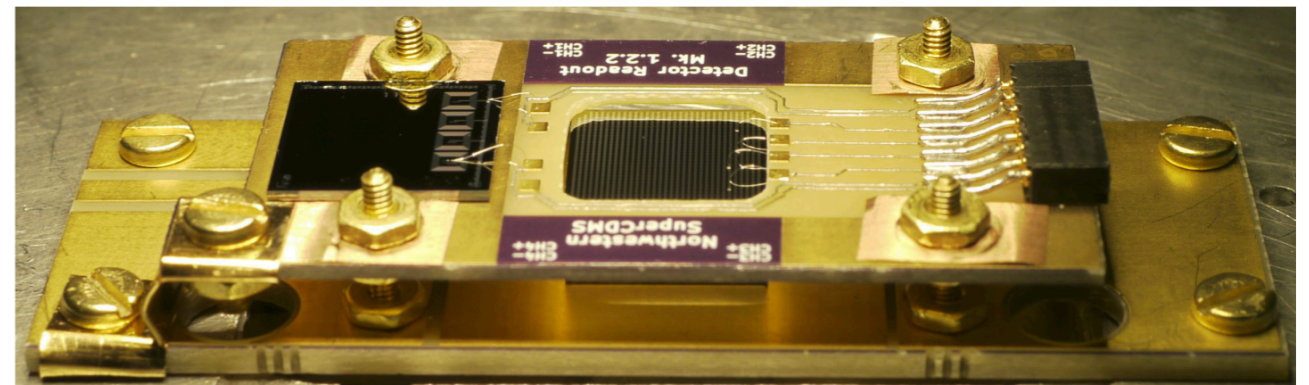
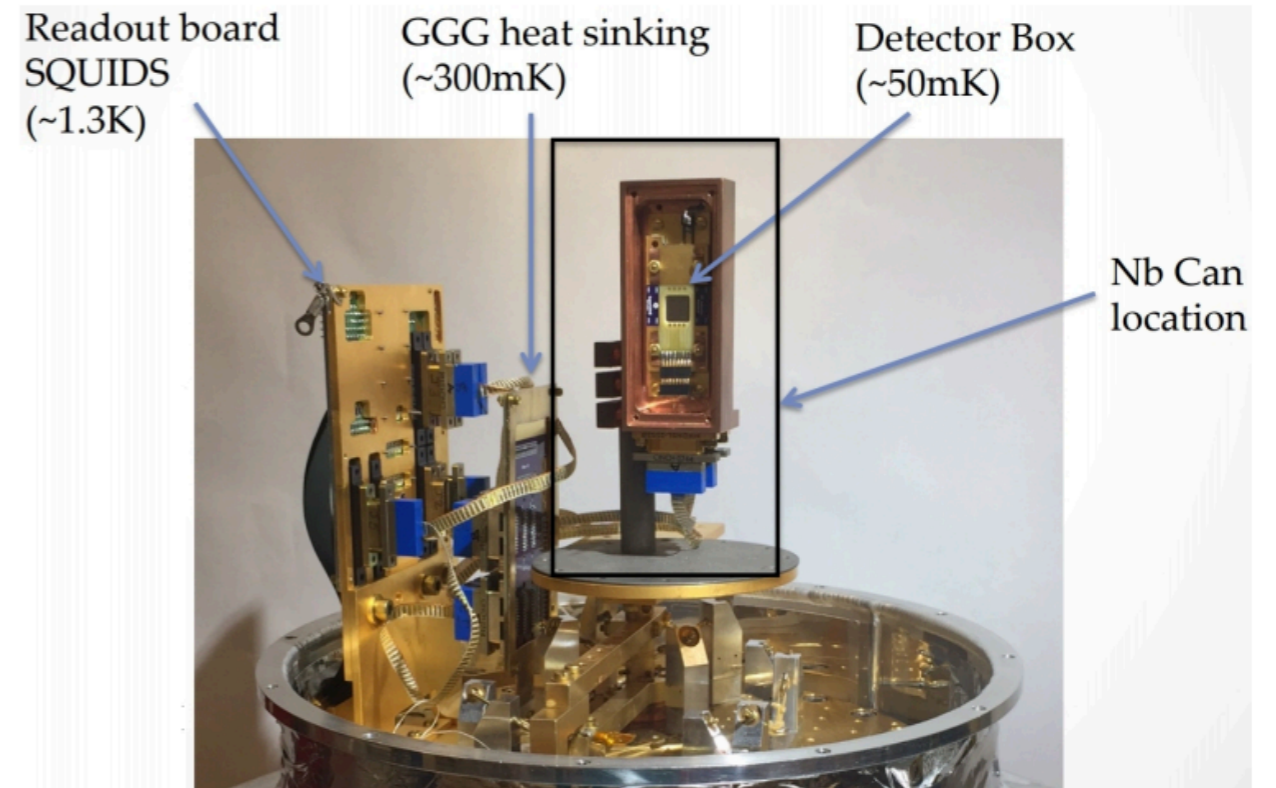


NF-C

<https://confluence.slac.stanford.edu/display/CDMS/HVeV+v2+Design>

NEXUS Si/Ge Dark Matter Search Timeline

- Spring-Fall 2019 (ADR Demonstrator): 1 gram
 - 1 gram, 4 eV resolution (20 eV threshold)
 - 0.01 electron-hole pair resolution (<1 e-h threshold)
 - 4 eV to 4 keV in energy
 - DM search with 1 gram-week
- Winter 2019 - Spring 2020: 10 grams,
 - 2-4 ~4g detectors
 - 4 eV resolution (20 eV threshold),
 - 0.01 electron-hole pair resolution (<1 e-h threshold)
 - 4 eV to 40 keV in energy
 - DM search with 1 gram-month
- Late 2020 - 2021: 30-100 grams,
 - 4 eV resolution (20 eV threshold)
 - 0.01 electron-hole pair resolution
 - 4 eV to 40 keV in energy
 - DM search with 1-10 gram-year (~kg day)
- 2021+: 10 kg payload
 - <20 eV threshold
 - Up to 60 keV in energy
 - 0.01 electron-hole pair resolution
 - DM search/*neutrino physics* with 1 kg-year of exposure



NEXUS Si/Ge Dark Matter Search Timeline

- Spring-Fall 2019 (ADR Demonstrator): 1 gram
 - 1 gram, 4 eV resolution (20 eV threshold)
 - 0.01 electron-hole pair resolution (<1 e-h threshold)
 - 4 eV to 4 keV in energy
 - DM search with 1 gram-week

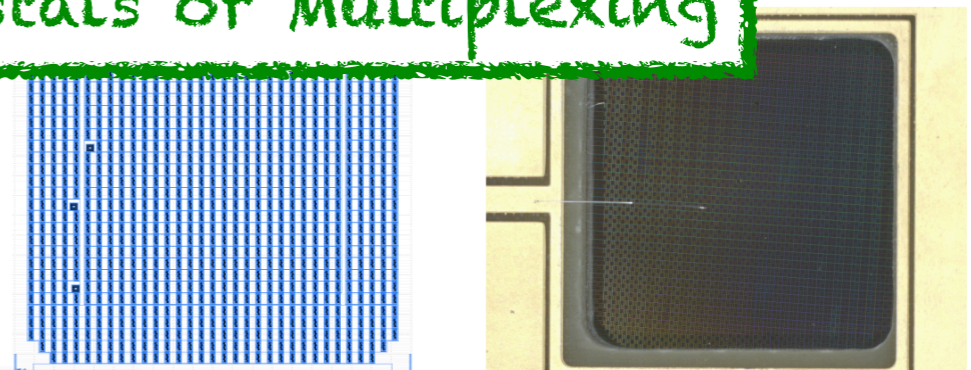
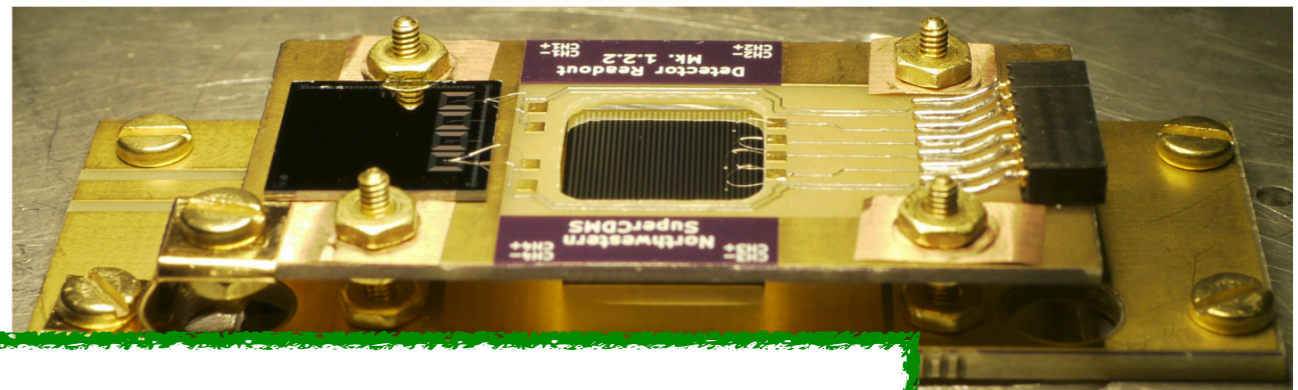
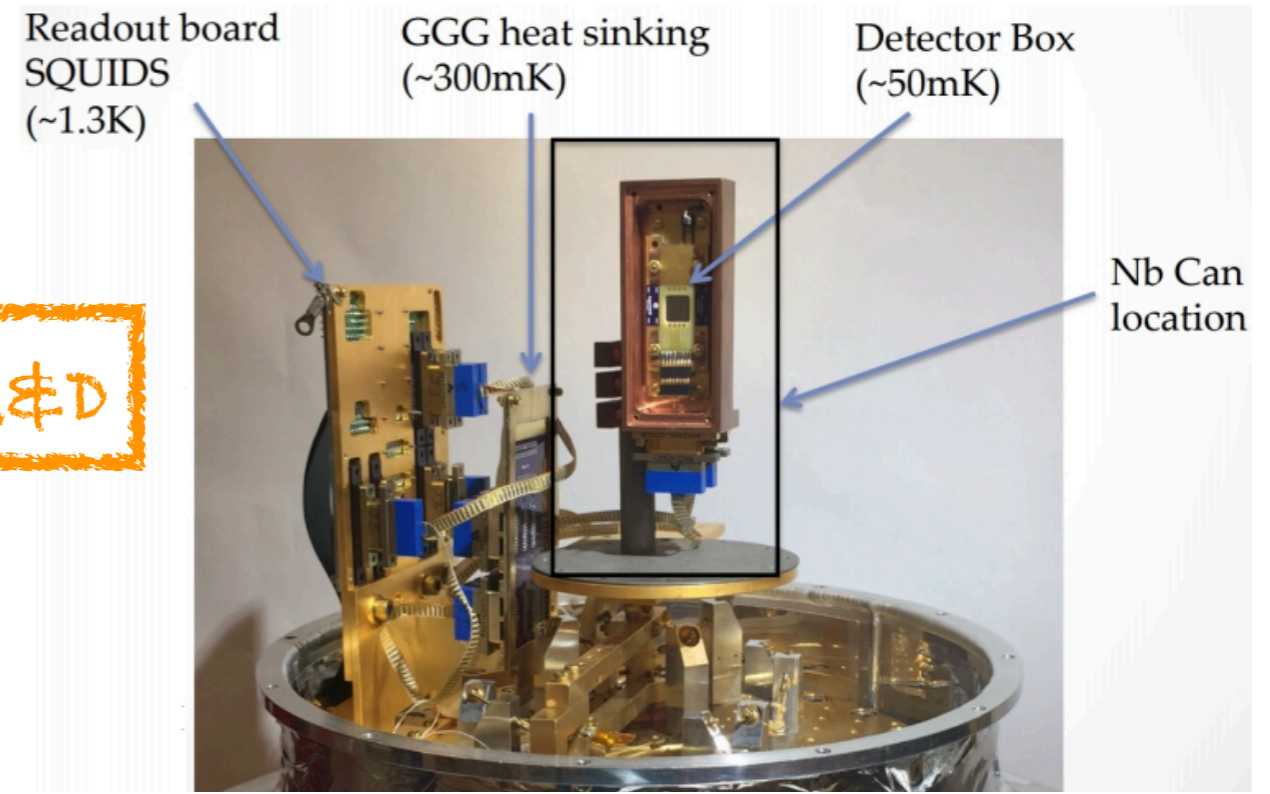
- Winter 2019 - Spring 2020: 10 grams,
 - 2-4 ~4g detectors
 - 4 eV resolution (20 eV threshold),
 - 0.01 electron-hole pair resolution (<1 e-h threshold)
 - 4 eV to 40 keV in energy
 - DM search with 1 gram-month

- Late 2020 - 2021: 30-100 grams,
 - 4 eV resolution (20 eV threshold)
 - 0.01 electron-hole pair resolution
 - 4 eV to 40 keV in energy
 - DM search with 1-10 gram-year (~kg day)

- 2021+: 10 kg payload
 - <20 eV threshold
 - Up to 60 keV in energy
 - 0.01 electron-hole pair resolution
 - DM search/*neutrino physics* with 1 kg-year of exposure

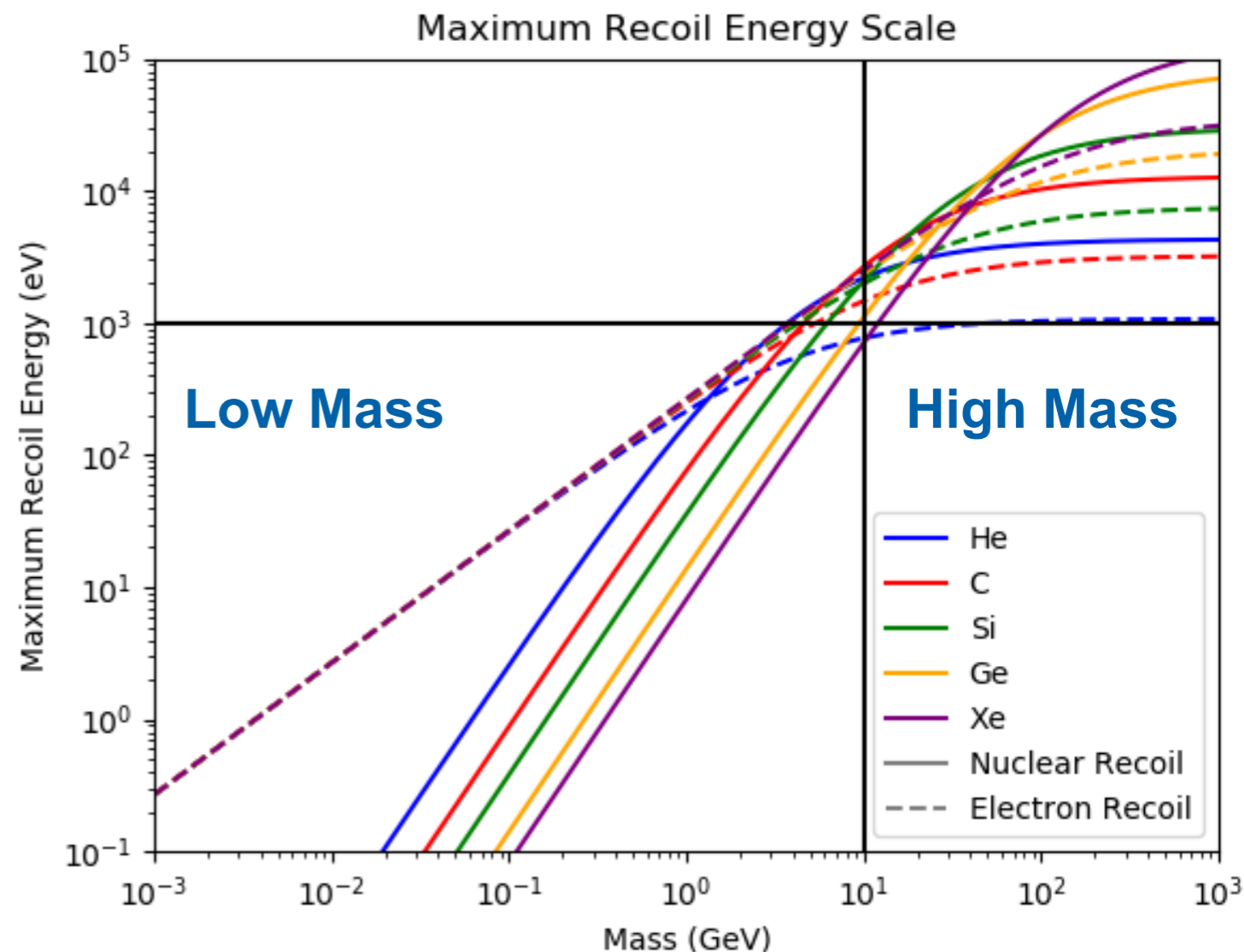
Leakage R&D

Larger Crystals or Multiplexing



Collision Kinematics

- Recoil energy for a typical WIMP velocity depends on target mass and recoil type
- Electron and nuclear recoils have different kinematics; nuclear recoils are simple elastic collisions, electron recoils are largely inelastic and depend on electron orbital and kinematics within the bound electron-atom system
- In addition to momentum transfer for a fixed velocity, using a velocity and angular distribution yields an expected energy spectrum



$$\Delta E_{NR} \leq \frac{1}{2m_N} q_{max}^2 = \frac{m_N v^2}{2} \left(\frac{2m_\chi}{m_\chi + m_N} \right)^2$$

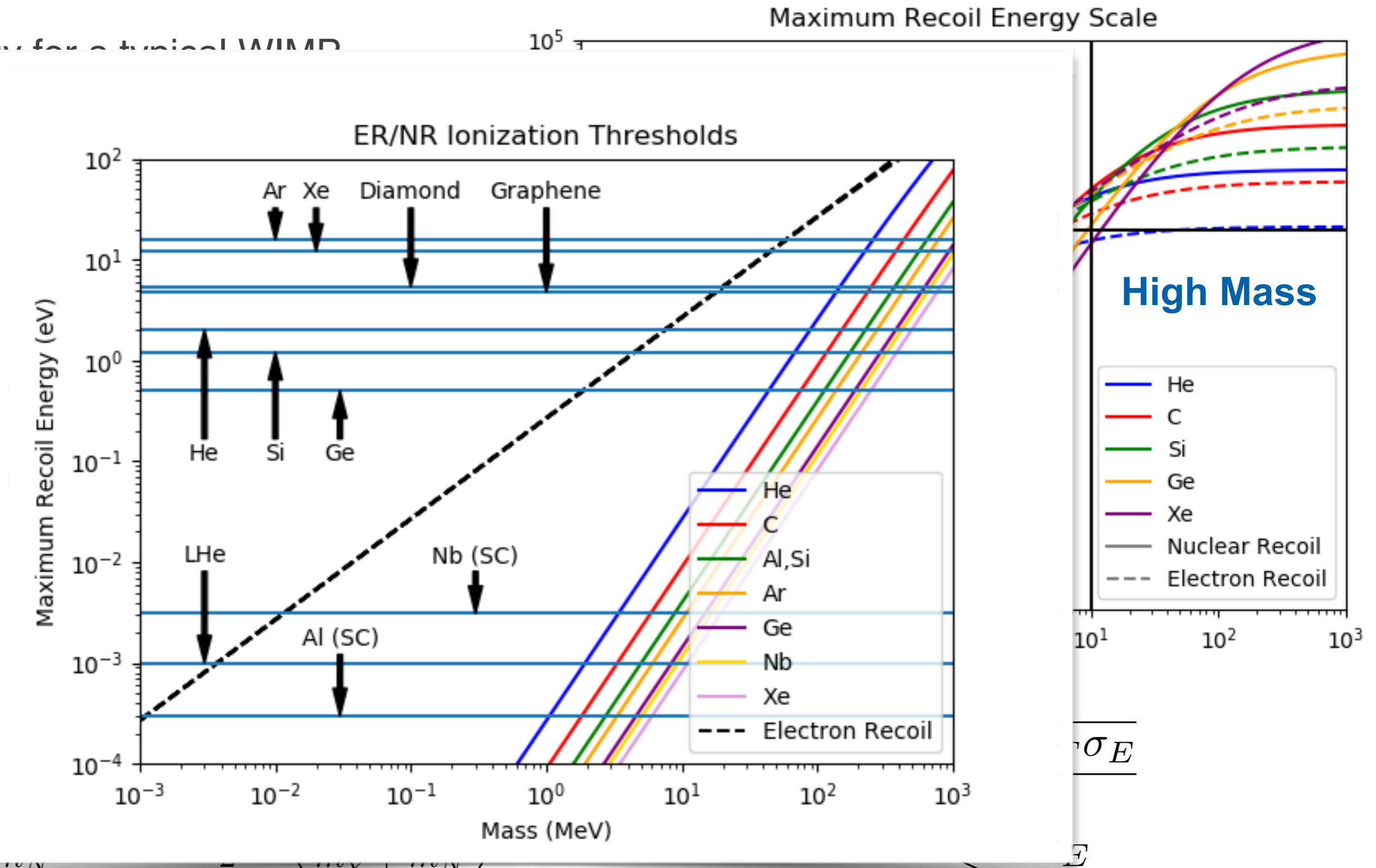
$$\Delta E_{ER} \leq \frac{1}{2} \mu_{N\chi} v^2 = \frac{m_N v^2}{2} \left(\frac{m_\chi}{m_\chi + m_N} \right)$$

$$m_{\chi, NR} \geq \frac{\sqrt{2m_T \sigma_E}}{v}$$

$$m_{\chi, ER} \geq \frac{2\sigma_E}{v^2}$$

Collision Kinematics

- Recoil energy for a typical WIMP velocity dependent on recoil type
- Electron and nuclear recoils are produced by different kinematics. Simple elastic recoils are large for heavy particles on electron recoils within the bound state.
- In addition to fixed velocity, angular distribution of energy spectra



$$\Delta E_{NR} \leq \frac{1}{2} \mu_{N\chi} v^2$$

$$\Delta E_{ER} \leq \frac{1}{2} \mu_{N\chi} v^2 = \frac{m_N v^2}{2} \left(\frac{m_\chi}{m_\chi + m_N} \right)$$

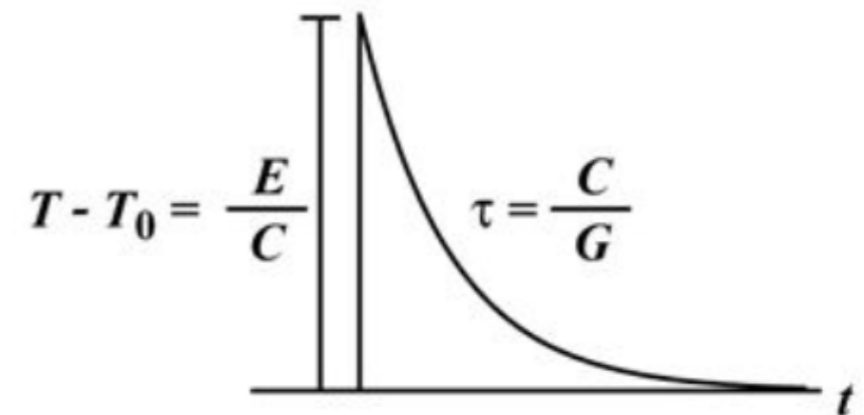
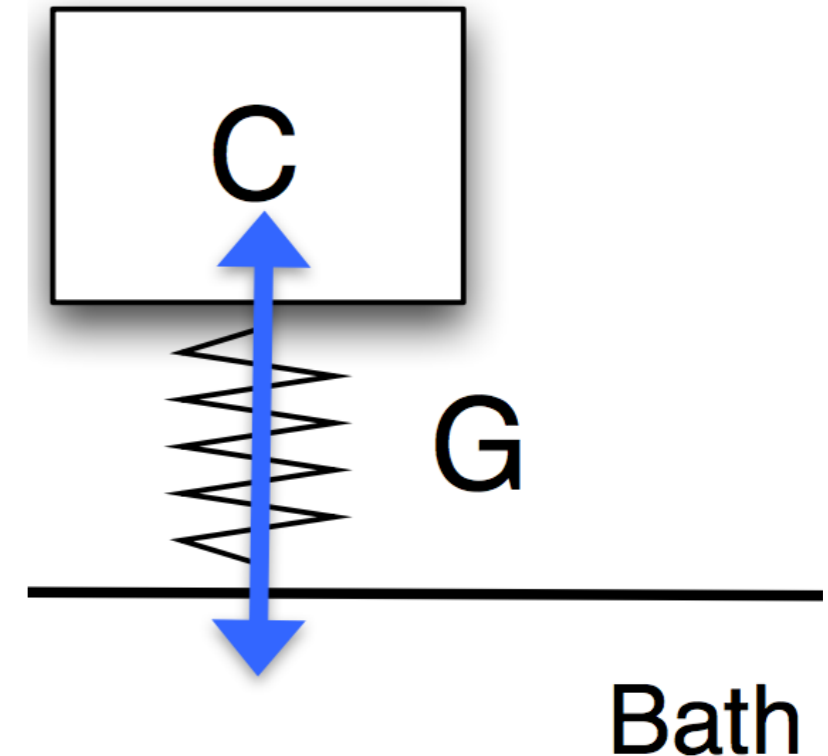
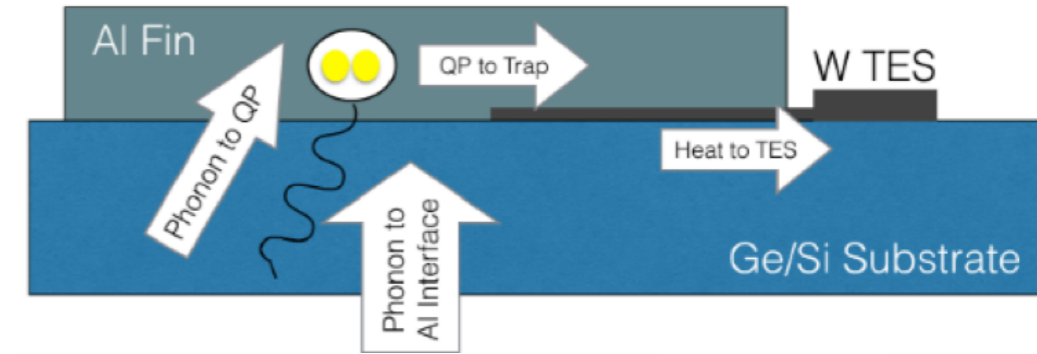
$$m_{\chi,ER} \geq \frac{E}{v^2}$$

Calorimeter Resolution

- Calorimeter energy resolution is fundamentally limited by thermal fluctuations between the sensing volume and the bath regardless of detector geometry; this minimum resolution follows

$$\sigma_E^2 = \frac{Gk_bT^2}{\epsilon^2} \tau = \frac{Ck_bT^2}{\epsilon^2} \approx cV \frac{k_bT^3}{\epsilon^2}$$

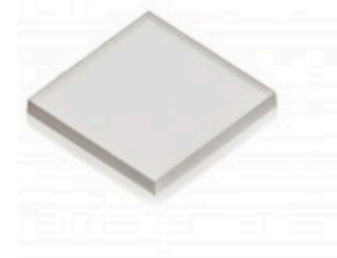
- One way around the volume limitation is by collecting the energy before thermalization; the volume is thus the sensor volume, not the target volume
- Even with target decoupling, the tradeoff between sensor volume and energy efficiency requires temperatures below ~ 50 mK for sub-GeV dark matter



Aside: History and Economics

- Diamond have been used as ionization-chamber style charge detectors since the 70's
- The main barrier historically was cost, purity, and form factor
 - The lack of man-made diamonds meant groups normally had to rely on a source with access to natural diamond, and select the few diamonds with the best performance
- In the last 5 years, the cost of high-quality lab-grown diamond has dropped from ~\$6000/carats to \$2000/carats, and recently gem-gem-quality diamonds could be purchased by consumers for \$800/carats
- This is driven by the electronics industry, which is aiming to use diamond both as a heat sink and as a semiconductor for high-high-power, high-temperature transistors
- Diamonds have also come into use as a potential storage medium for quantum computing

elementsix™
a De Beers Group Company



EL SC Plate 4.5x4.5mm, 0.50mm thick

Quantum / Radiation Detectors

Single Crystal

145-500-0390

30 mg

\$2,150.00

A Battle Over Diamonds: Made by Nature or in a Lab?

By **Paul Sullivan**

Feb. 9, 2018



The New York Times

LIGHTBOX
LABORATORY-GROWN DIAMONDS



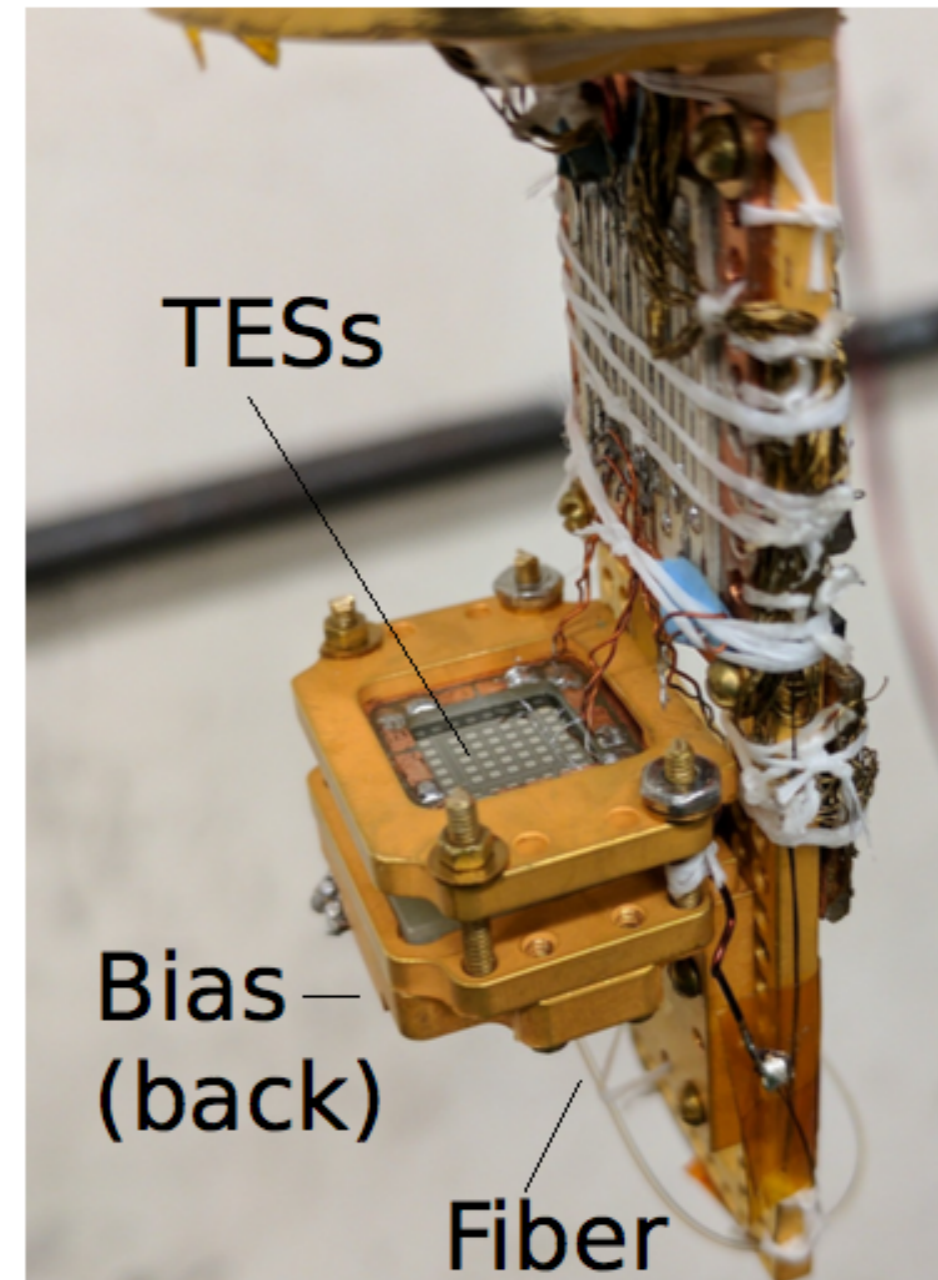
200 mg

1 CARAT
\$800

Experimental Setup

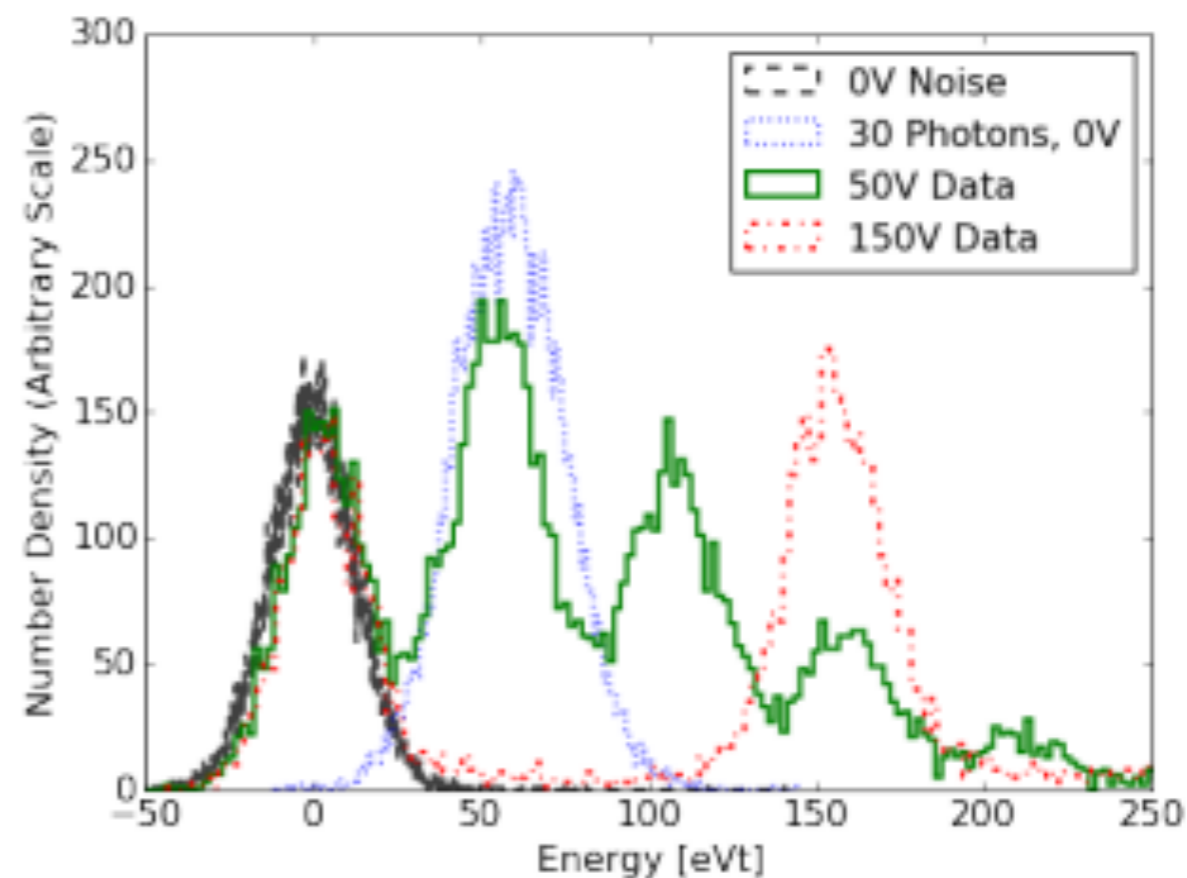
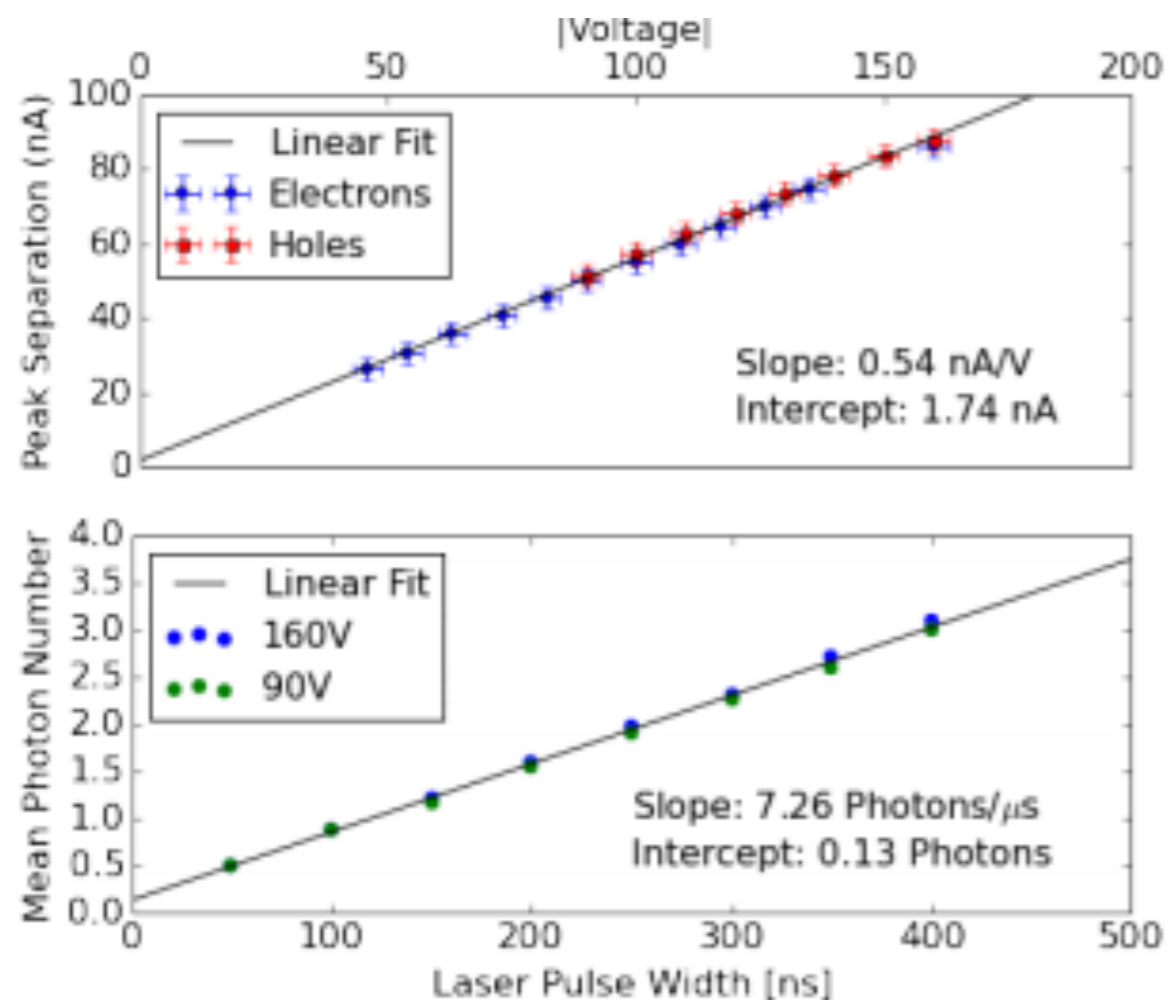
Laser Excitation System:

- Ran fiber from 300 K to sample stage, illuminates crystal backside
- Berkeley Nucleonics laser pulse system, 650 nm photons, pulse widths > 10 ns
- Trigger on the laser pulse
- Standard Si physics:
 - › 1.9 eV per photon
 - › 1.2 eV to e-h pair
 - › 0.7 eV prompt phonons
 - › Get full 1.9 eV of phonons back at sensor
- Studied Luke gain under a variety of bias conditions



Romani et. al. 2017 (<https://arxiv.org/abs/1710.09335>)

Results from Stanford Test Detector: Linearity



- Energy gain is linear in voltage up 160V - highest voltage testable within safety limits of our electronics
- Clear separation seen between 0 and 1 photon peaks!
- Noise does not increase with voltage; we achieve the best signal/noise scaling possible for this technique

Romani et. al. 2017 (<https://arxiv.org/abs/1710.09335>)

Non-Quantized Backgrounds

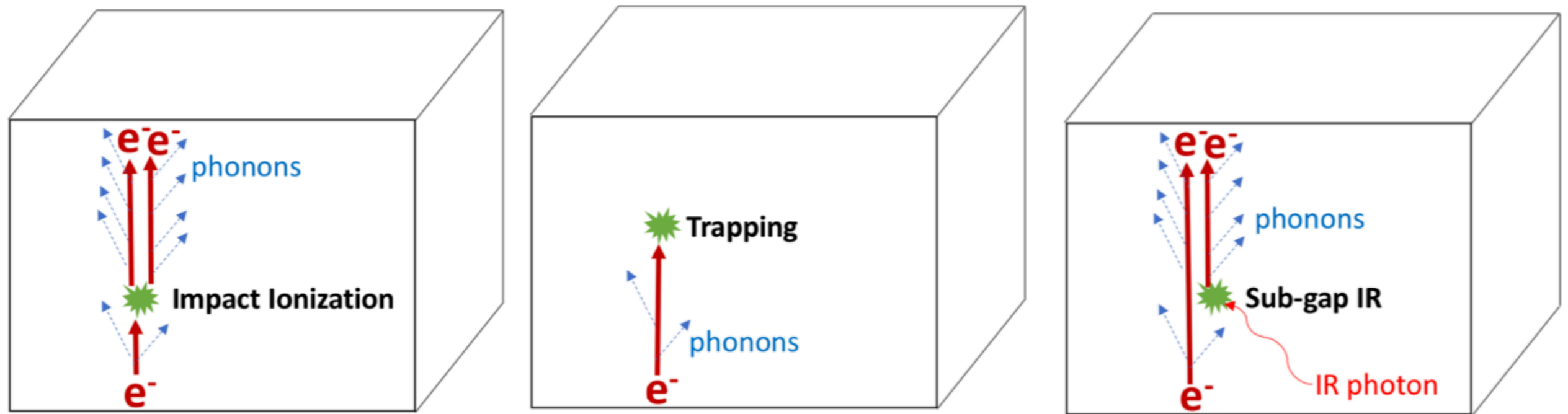


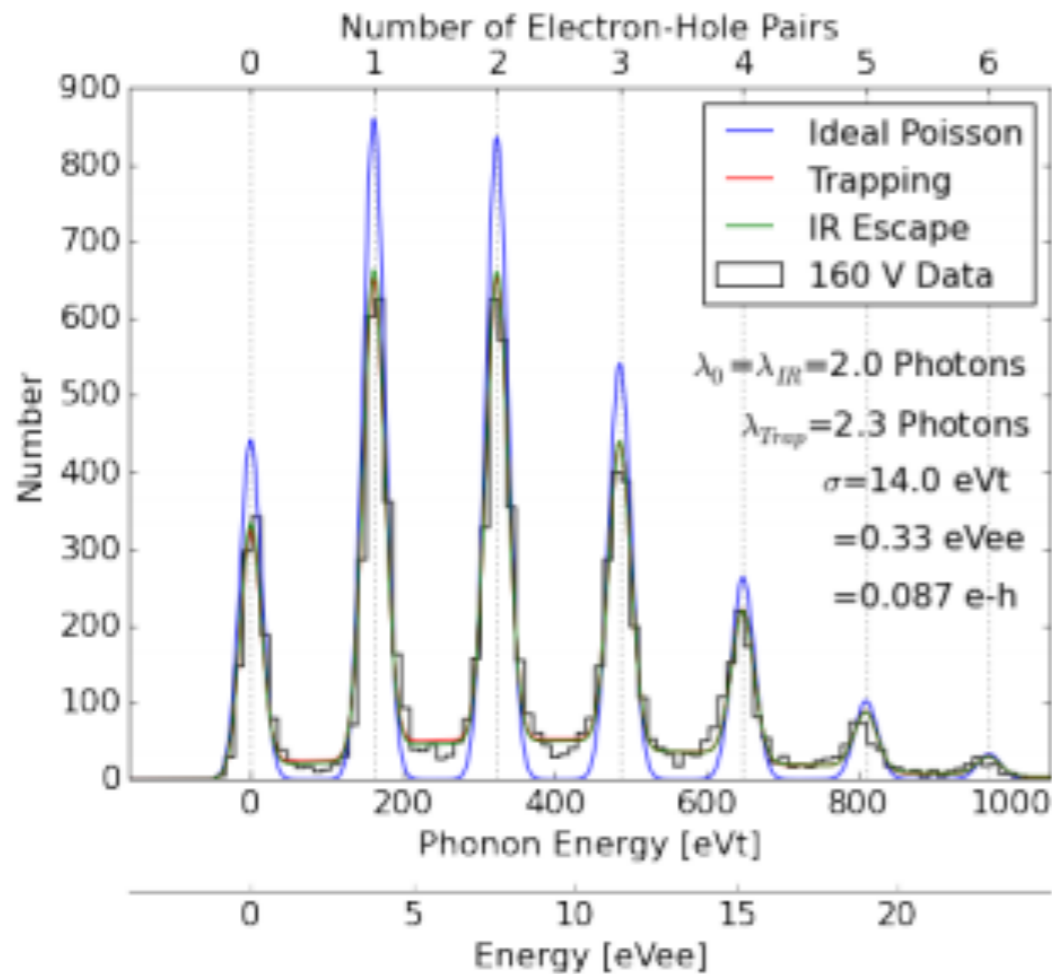
Figure Courtesy R.K. Romani

- During the initial experiment we saw that 15% of the events were non-quantized, which can be due to additional charge liberated from impurity states
 - Impact ionization: drifting charge ionizes an impurity
 - Trapping: drifting charge stopped by an impurity
 - IR: shallow impurity wells liberated by IR leaking in from warmer stages
- Hypothesis pointed to IR as the dominant cause due to high correlation with laser activity

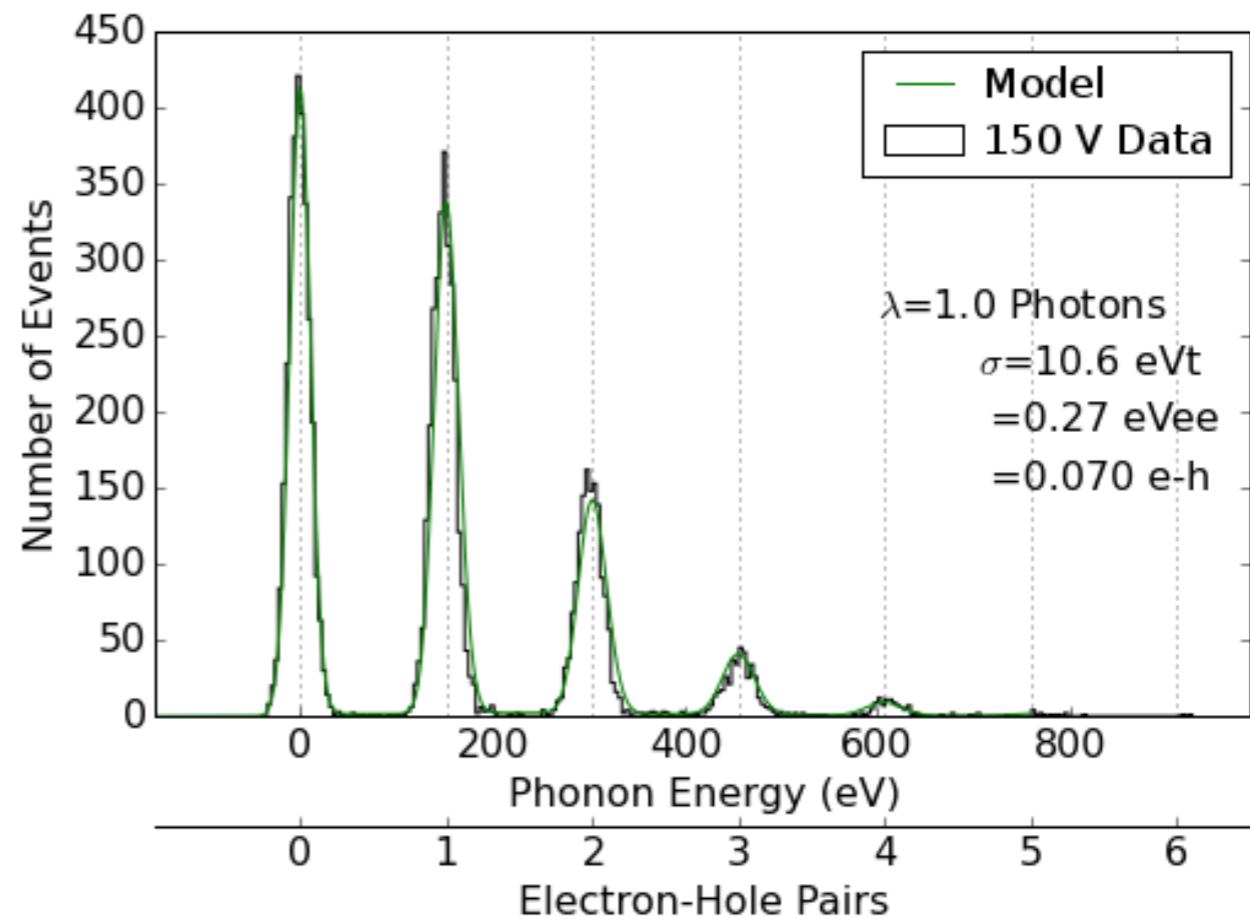
Romani et. al. 2017 (<https://arxiv.org/abs/1710.09335>)

Effect of IR Filtering

Romani et. al. 2018 (<https://arxiv.org/abs/1710.09335>)



SuperCDMS Collaboration 2018 (<https://arxiv.org/abs/1804.00088>)



- Adding additional IR filtering improved fill-in regions between laser calibration peaks, validating the idea that our laser and background data was IR limited
- The calibration data after IR filtering is consistent with impact ionization/trapping at the 2-3% level

Impurity Binding Energies

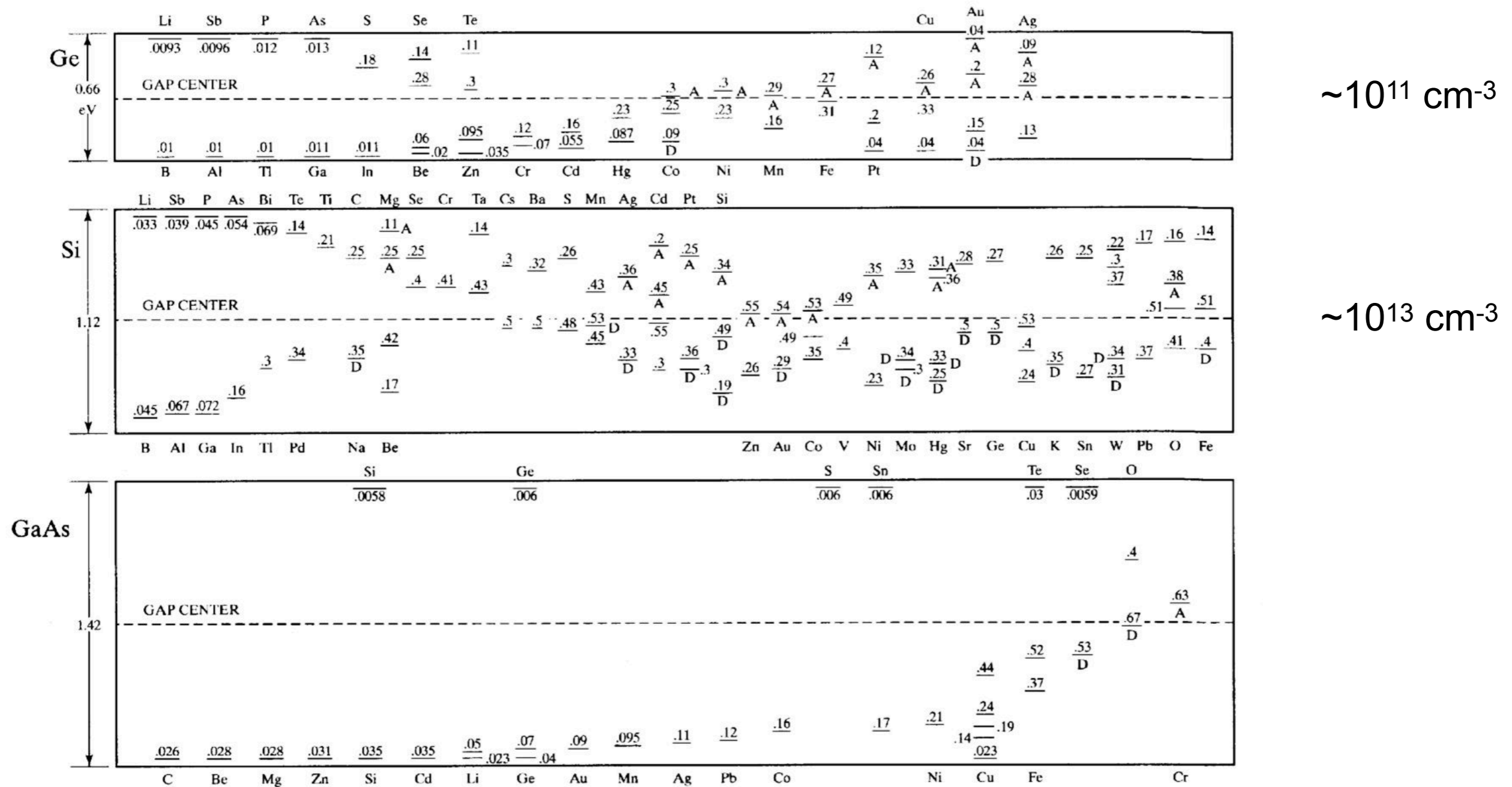


Figure 4.14 Measured ionization energies for the most commonly encountered impurities in Ge, Si, and GaAs. The levels above midgap are referenced to E_c and are donor-like or multiply charged donors, unless marked with an A which identifies an acceptor level. The levels below midgap are referenced to E_v and are acceptor-like or multiply charged acceptors, unless marked with a D for donor level. (From Sze.^[3] Reprinted with permission.)

Understanding Volume Leakage Backgrounds

- Some variation seen due to pre-bias
 - Need to increase pre-bias voltage range
 - Determine what voltage empties traps reliably
- Neutralization seems to have elevated bulk leakage by ~ 3 for a matter of days
- Voltage polarity flip doesn't change bulk leakage rate
- Neither change impacts leakage above 2.5 e-h pairs (to this level of statistics)

