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TESSERACT: dark matter detection with transition edge sensors and multiple targets

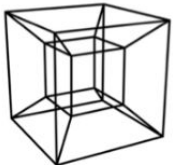
Xinran Li

Physics department, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

The TESSERACT collaboration

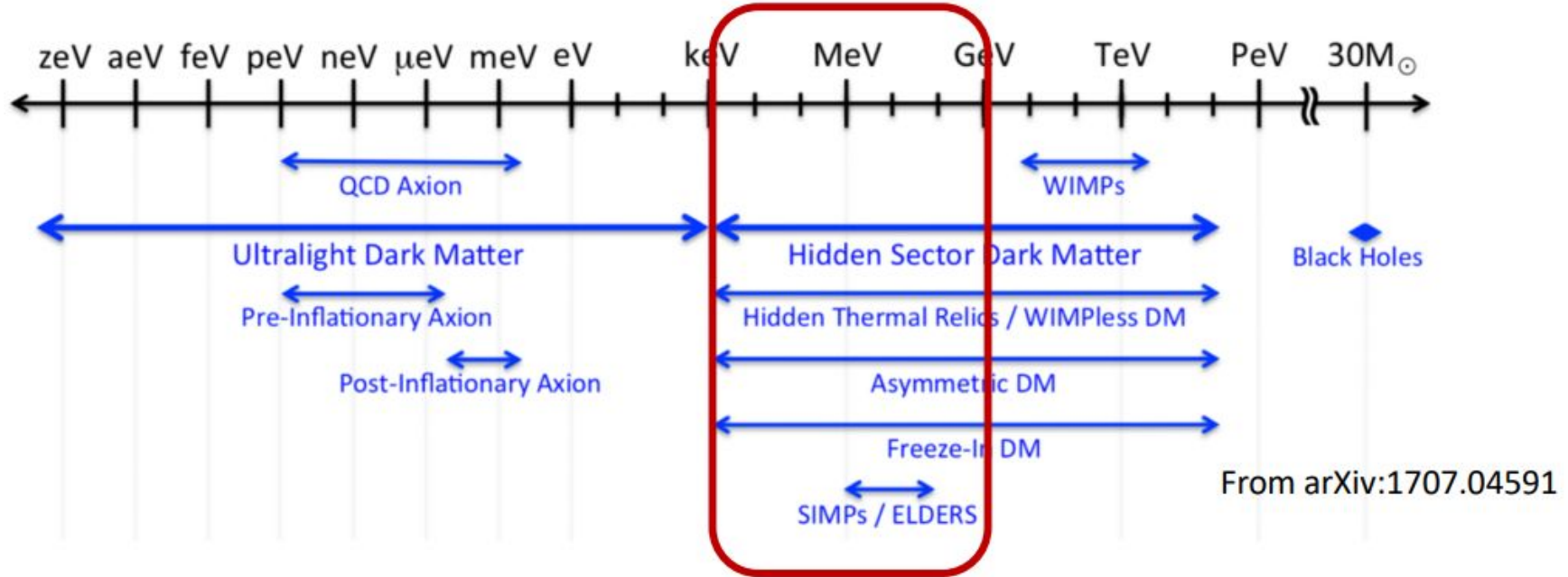
08/22/2024

GUINEAPIG 2024, Toronto, Canada



TESSERACT

Direct detection for low-mass dark matter



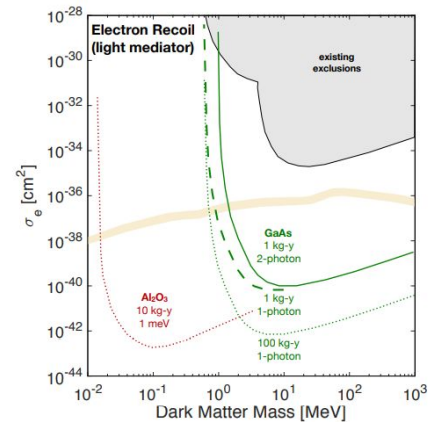
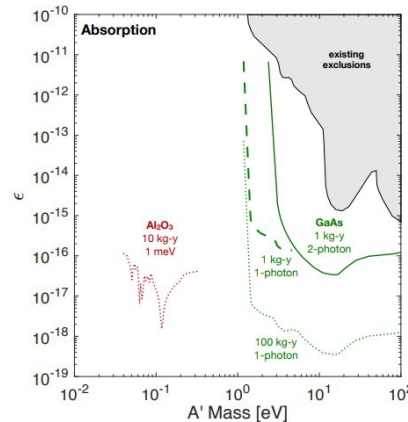
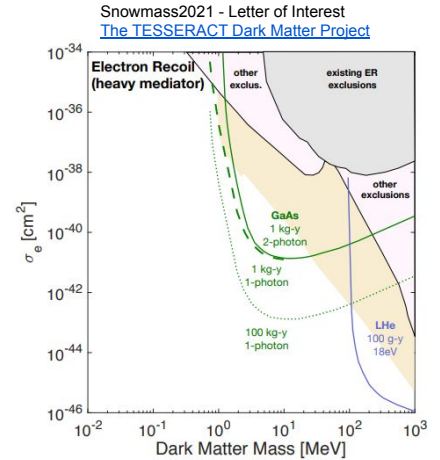
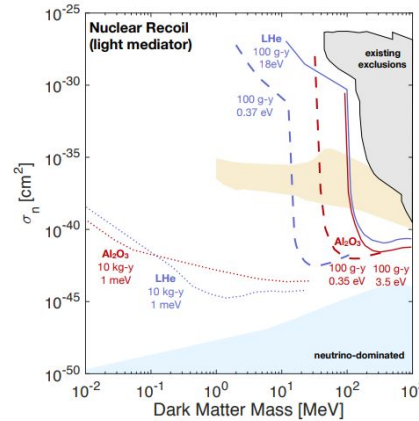
Direct detection for low-mass dark matter

Low threshold

Target with light element

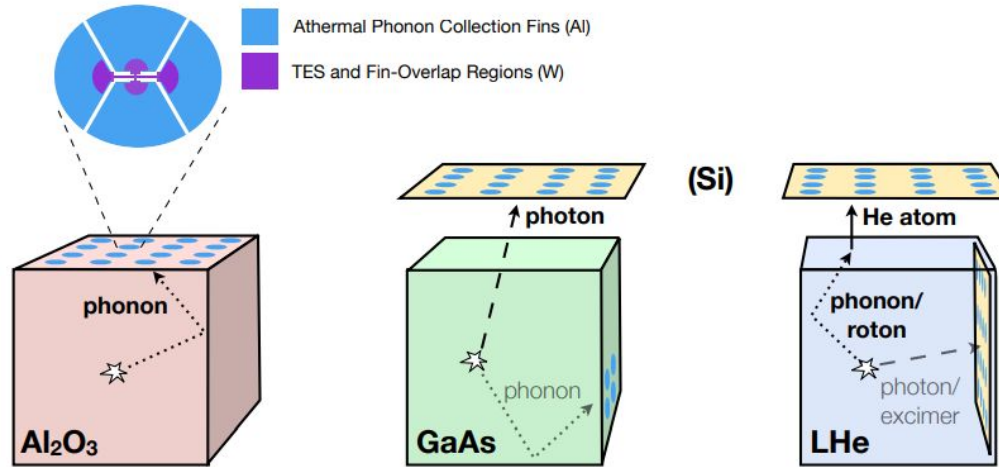
Polar crystal: optical phonons, dark photon coupling.

→ **Develop a low-threshold (sub-eV) sensor for multiple cryogenic targets: TES based athermal phonon sensors!**



Snowmass2021 - Letter of Interest
[The TESSERACT Dark Matter Project](#)

TESSERACT & Athermal phonon sensor



Polar crystals: **SPICE**

Superfluid helium: **HeRALD**

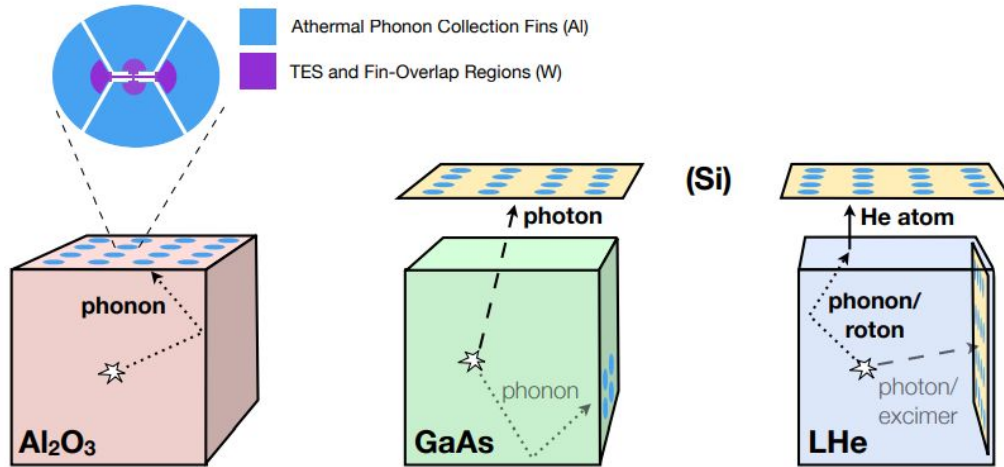


**3 new French institutes:
Lyon, Grenoble, Orsay**



**Project funding from DOE &
IN2P3**

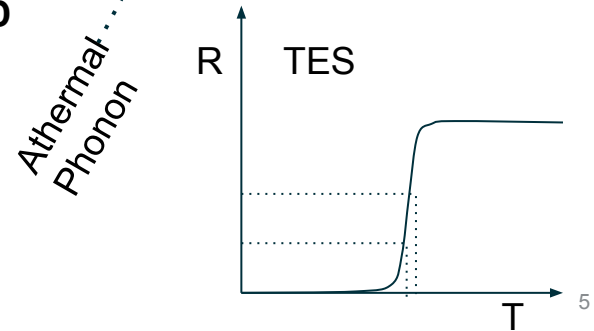
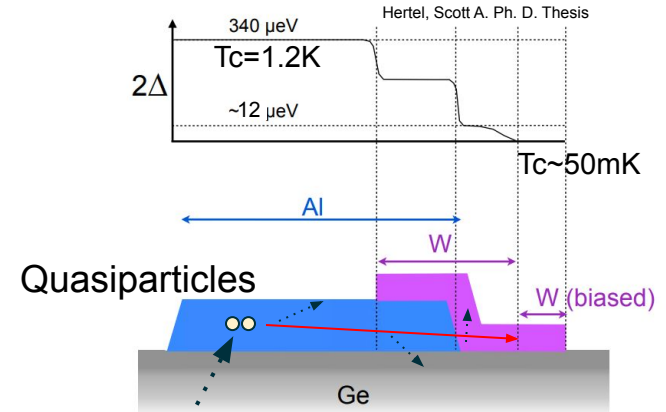
TESSERACT & Athermal phonon sensor



Polar crystals: **SPICE**

Superfluid helium: **HeRALD**

- Fast ($\sim 100\mu\text{s}$) **athermal** phonon signals.
- Quasiparticle trapping



TESSERACT: SPICE

Use polar crystals as targets.

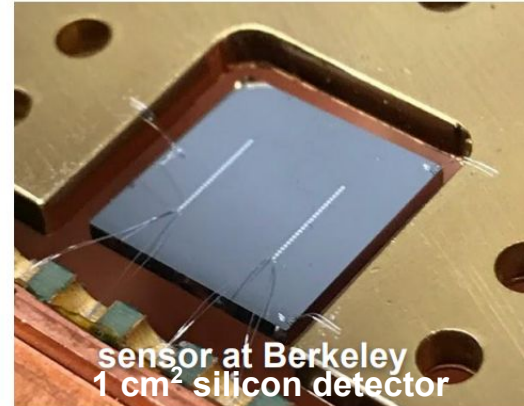
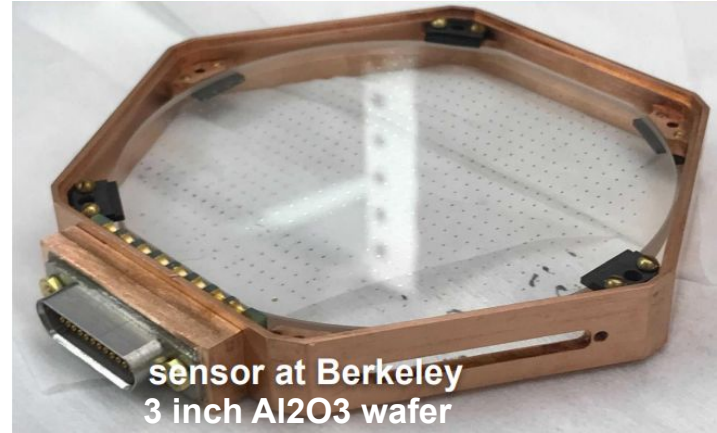
- Al_2O_3
- GaAs

GaAs is also a great cryogenic scintillator, can use photons to do background discrimination.

Currently use silicon substrate for fast R&D (SuperCDMS Cryogenic Photon Detector, CPD):

- Tune TES film T_c to achieve sub-eV energy threshold. 55mK T_c \rightarrow 20mK T_c
- Understand noise and background.

GaAs and Al_2O_3 R&D in parallel.



TESSERACT: HeRALD

Use superfluid helium as target.

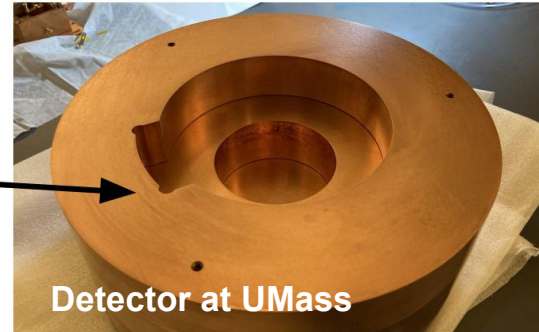
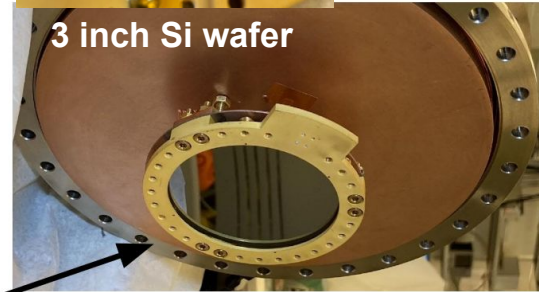
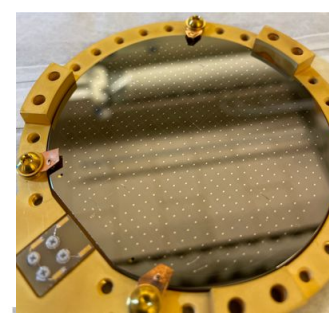
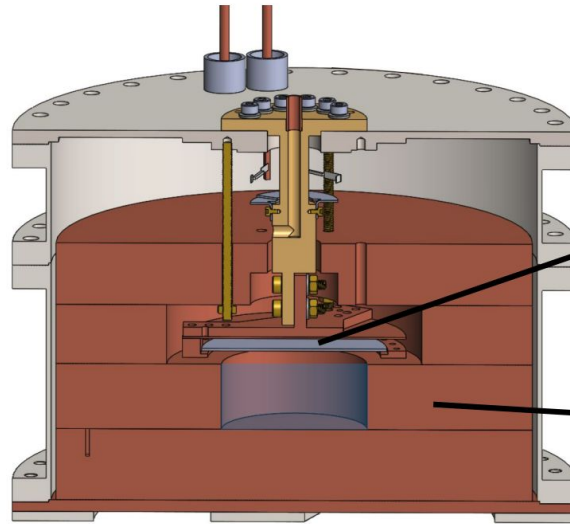
Use silicon CPD as sensor.

- 16eV scintillation photon
- Quantum evaporation from rotons and phonons

Currently focus on understanding the detector response

- Roton detection efficiency
- Quantum evaporation gain
- Superfluid helium response

[arXiv:2307.11877](https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.11877)





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Recent progress

SPICE



SPICE: $\sim 1\text{eV}$ threshold detector

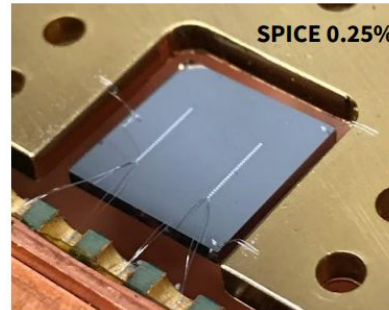
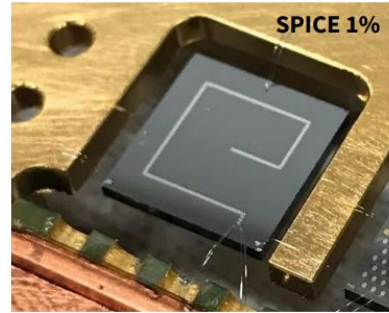
Reduce target mass. Optimize surface coverage.

1cm² 1mm thick silicon detectors.

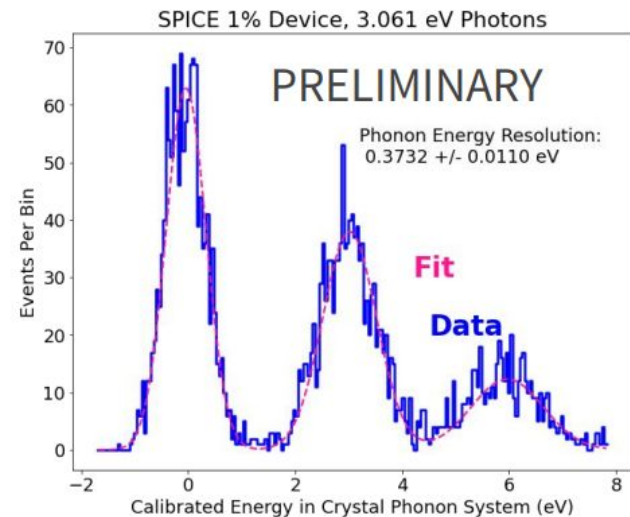
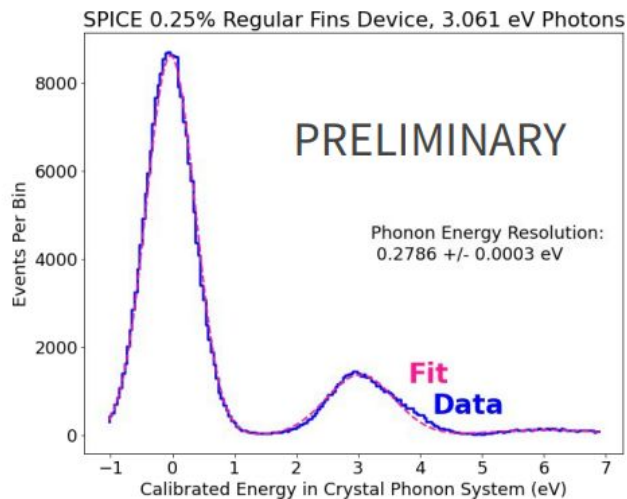
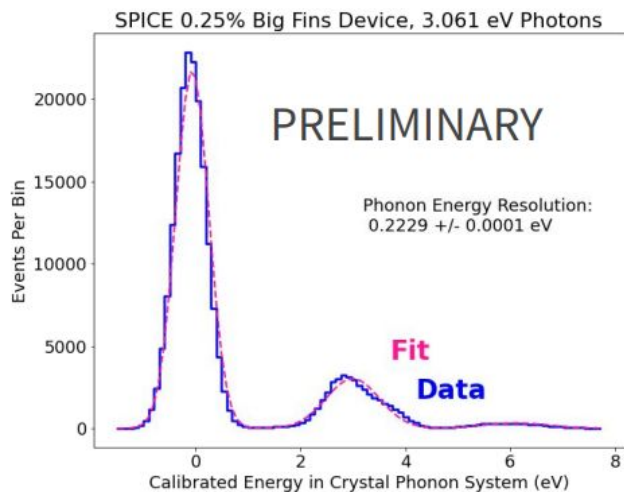
Free-hanging from wire bonds to reduce stress.

Energy calibrated with optical photons!

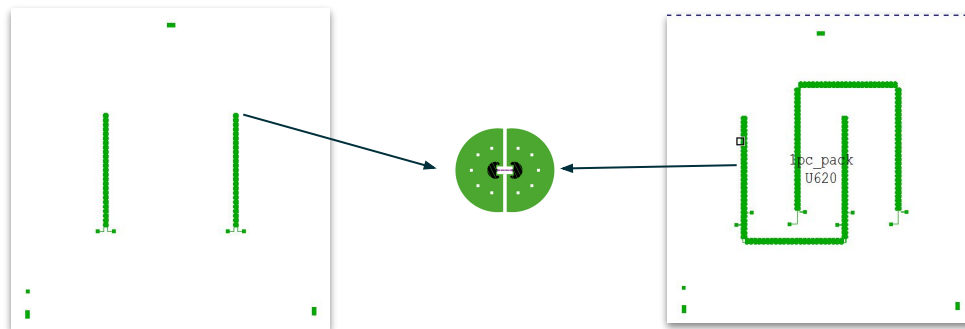
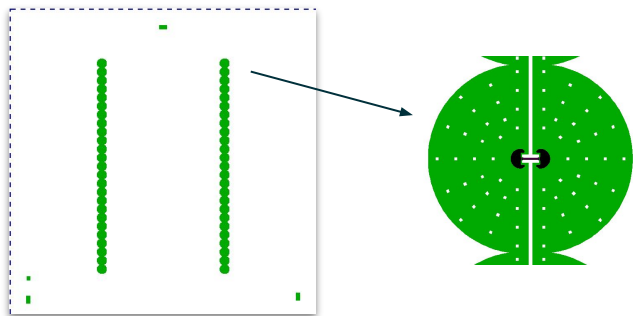
$\sim 300\text{meV}$ energy resolution achieved in multiple different designs.



Baseline (sigma) phonon energy resolutions: 300 meV scale



R. K. Romani [IDM Talk 2024 \(inf.n.it\)](https://indm.talk.berkeley.edu/2024/)

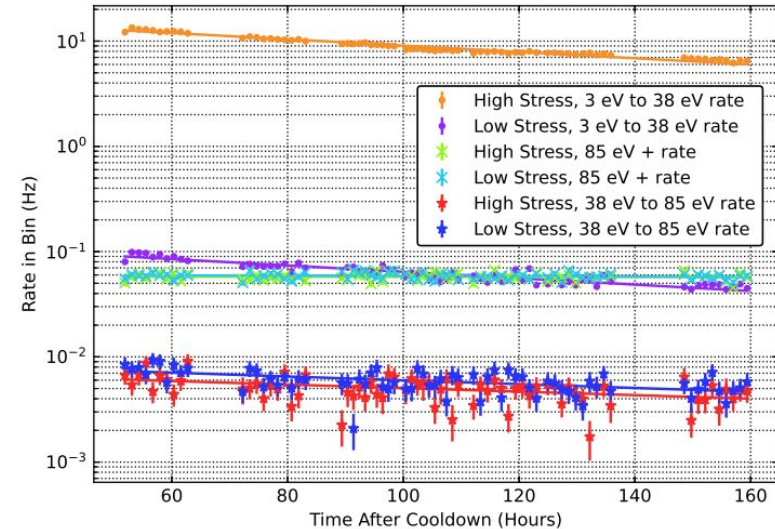
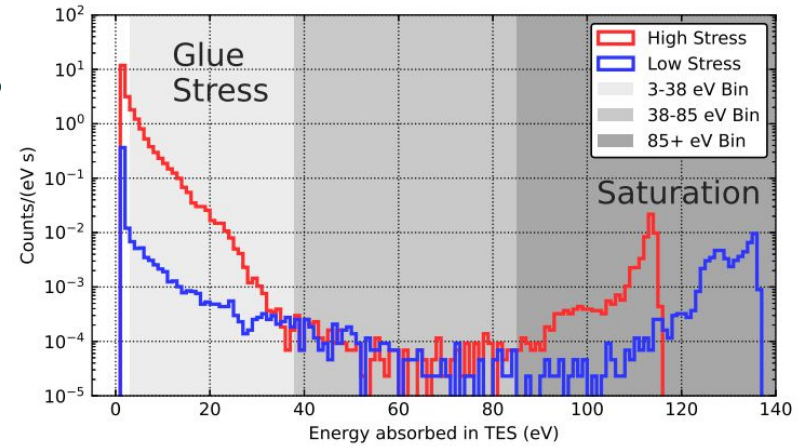
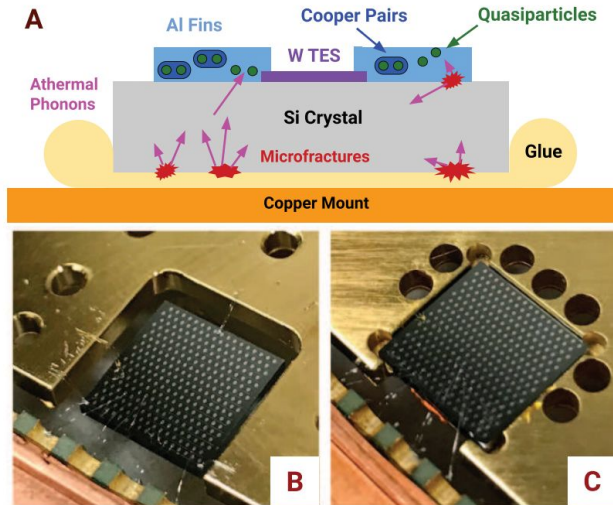


Low energy excess (LEE) events

Stress related low energy events.

High stress mounting introduce higher rate.
Rate decays exponentially with cold time.
Events of same spectrum and decay observed in many experiments. Non-ionizing.

→ Hanging device + low stress film.



Low energy excess (LEE) events

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High stress mounting introduce higher rate.

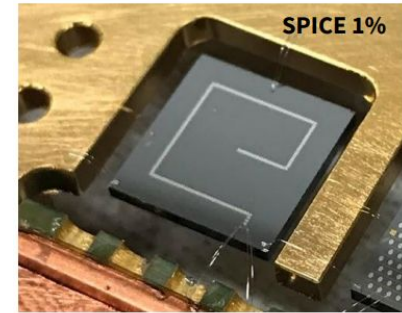
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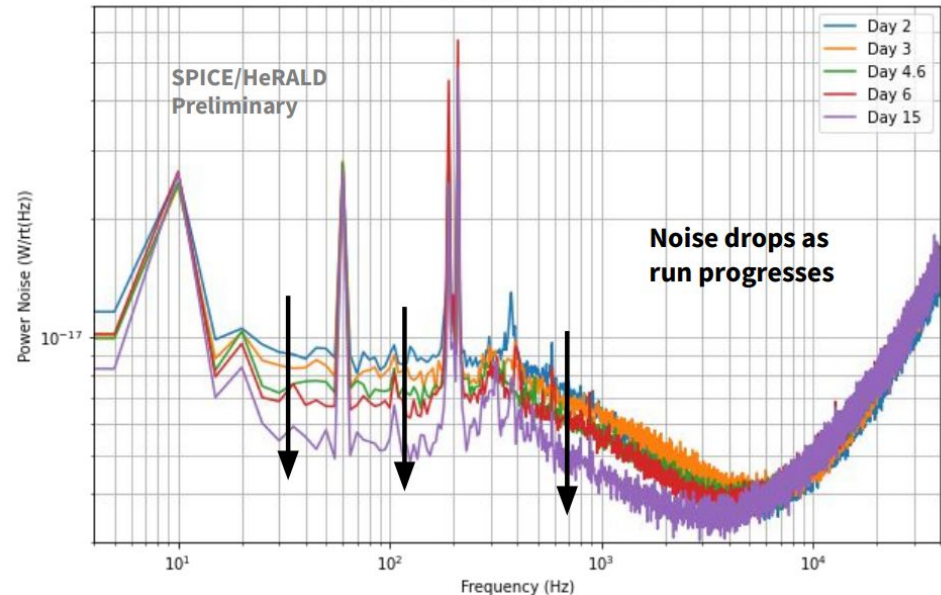
→ Hanging device + low stress film.

The low coverage device's energy resolution improves over time as the LEE rate decreases!

- The LEE spectrum extends to below threshold.
- The LEE also prevent us reaching the theoretical energy resolution.



SPICE 1% Power Noise over Time



[CPAD Talk 2023 \(stanford.edu\)](https://stanford.edu)

Low energy excess (LEE) events

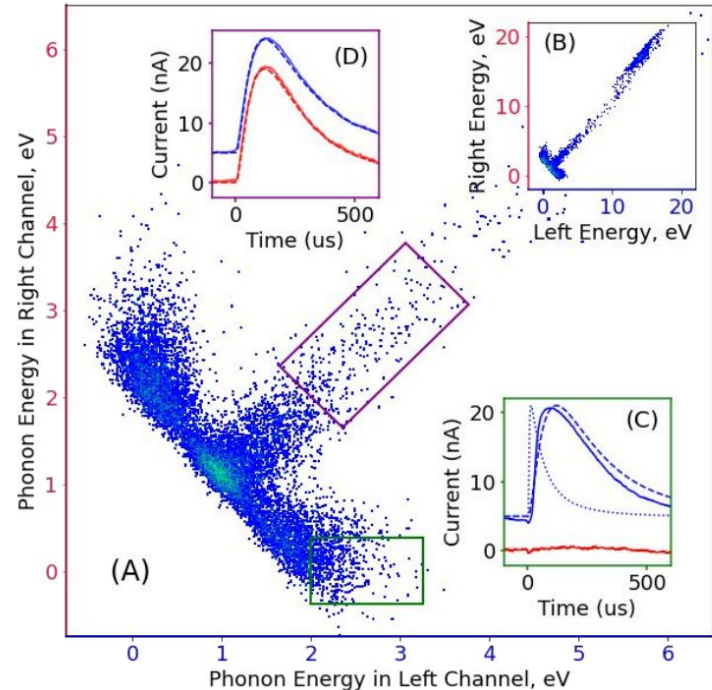
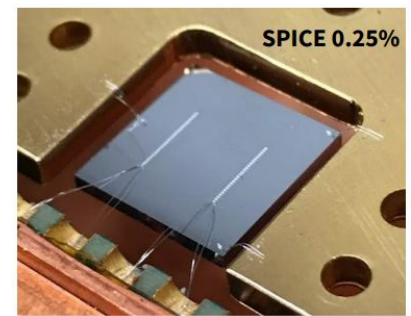
Signatures in correlated signals and noises from a two-channel device

Correlated events has uniformly shared energies.

→ Phonon events from bulk

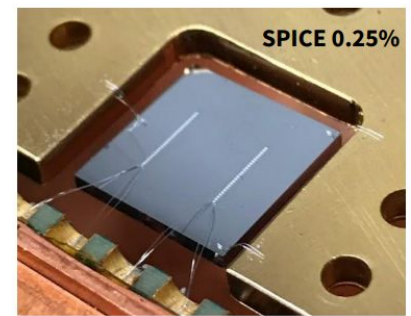
Uncorrelated events (singles) has larger prompt energy fraction.

→ Likely to be metal film stress release.



Low energy excess (LEE) events

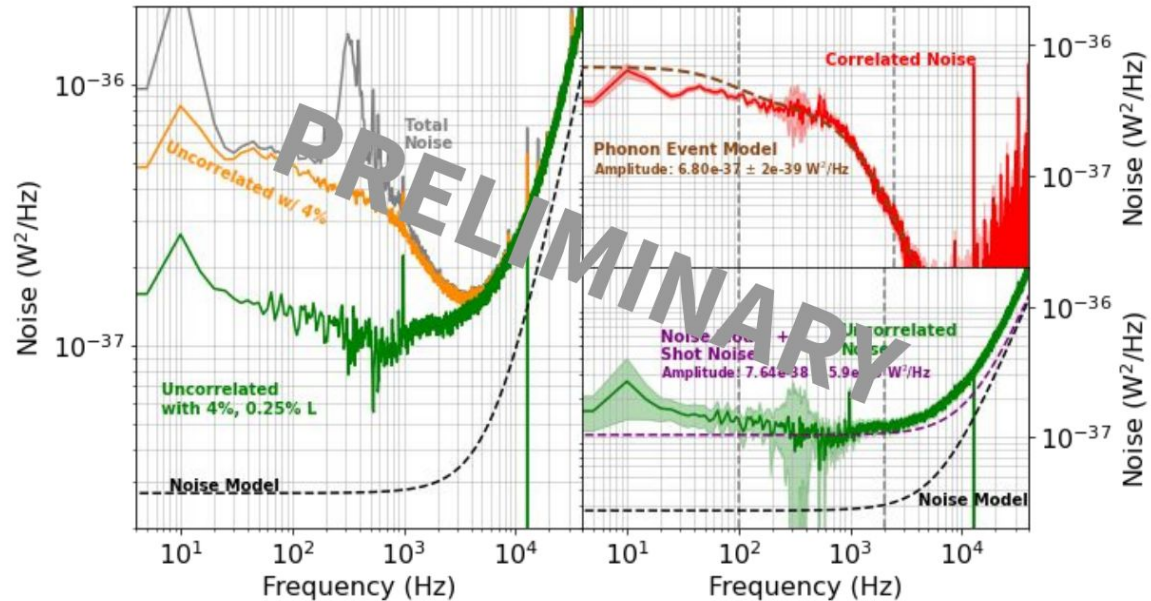
Signatures in correlated signals and noises from a two-channel device



Noise can be decomposed into correlated and uncorrelated components.

Correlated noise shows the phonon signal power spectrum
→ Phonon shot noise.

Uncorrelated noise has flat power spectrum
→ Excess thermal fluctuation noise from external noise power





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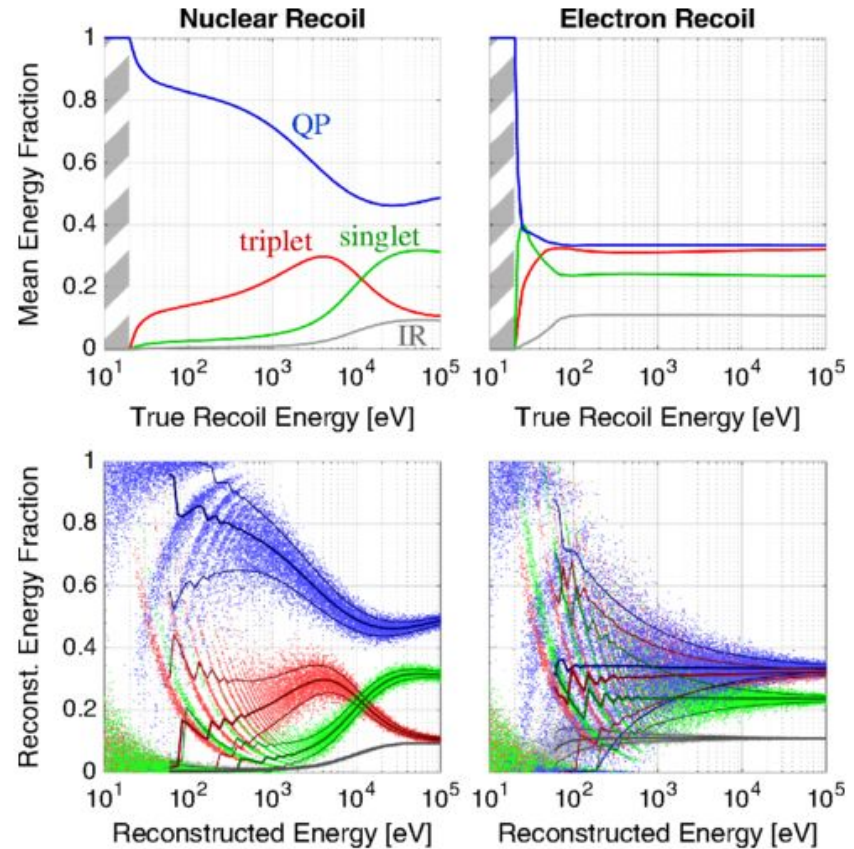
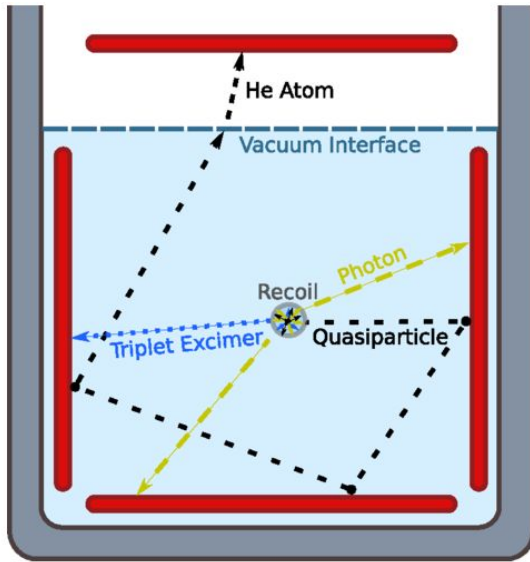
Recent progress

HeRALD



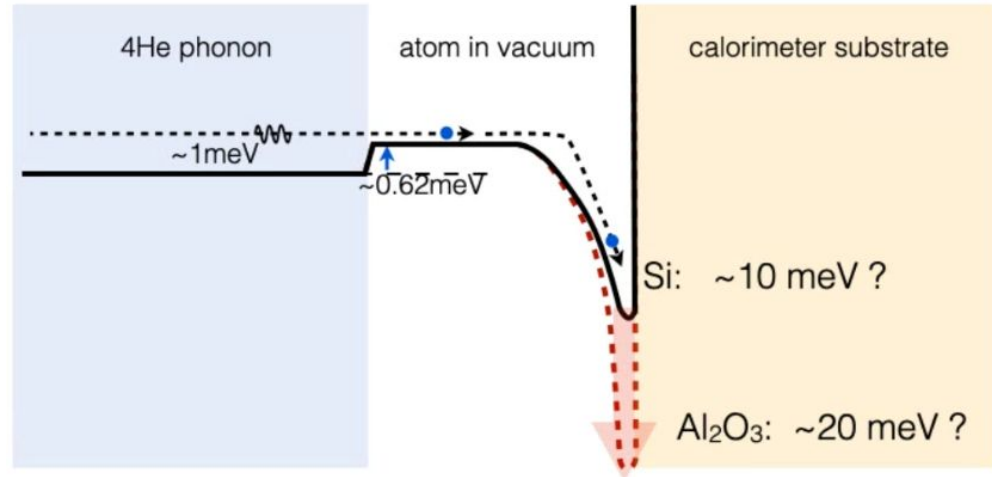
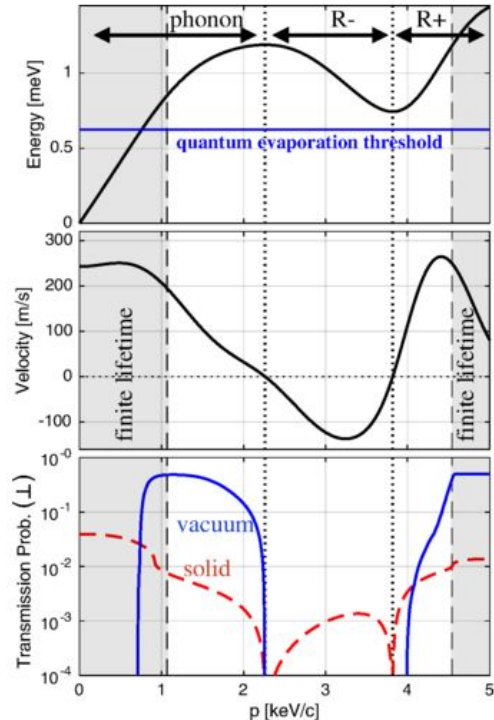
HeRALD detector concept and helium response

[Phys. Rev. D 100, 092007 \(2019\)](#)



HeRALD detector quantum evaporation

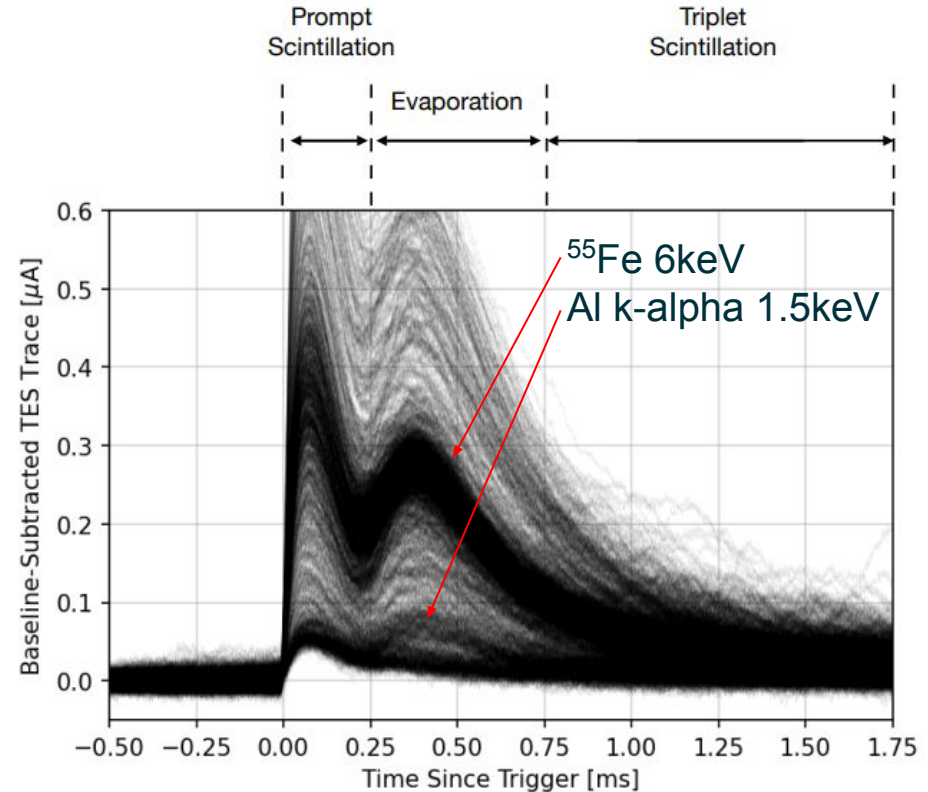
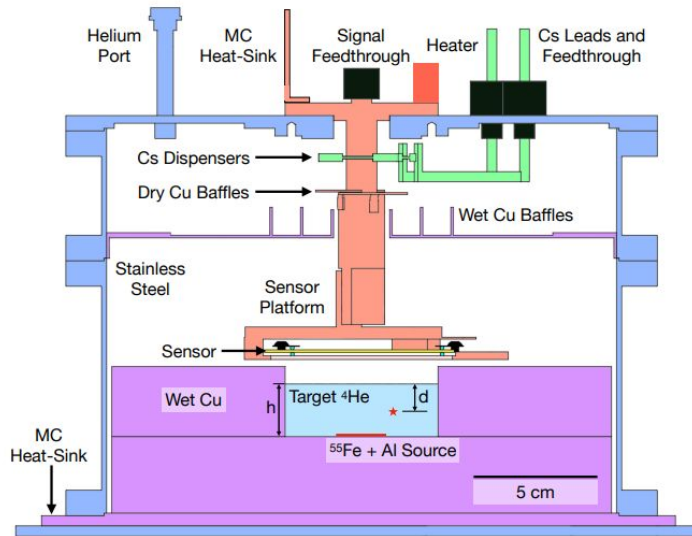
[Phys. Rev. D 100, 092007 \(2019\)](#)



Amplification by surface adsorption

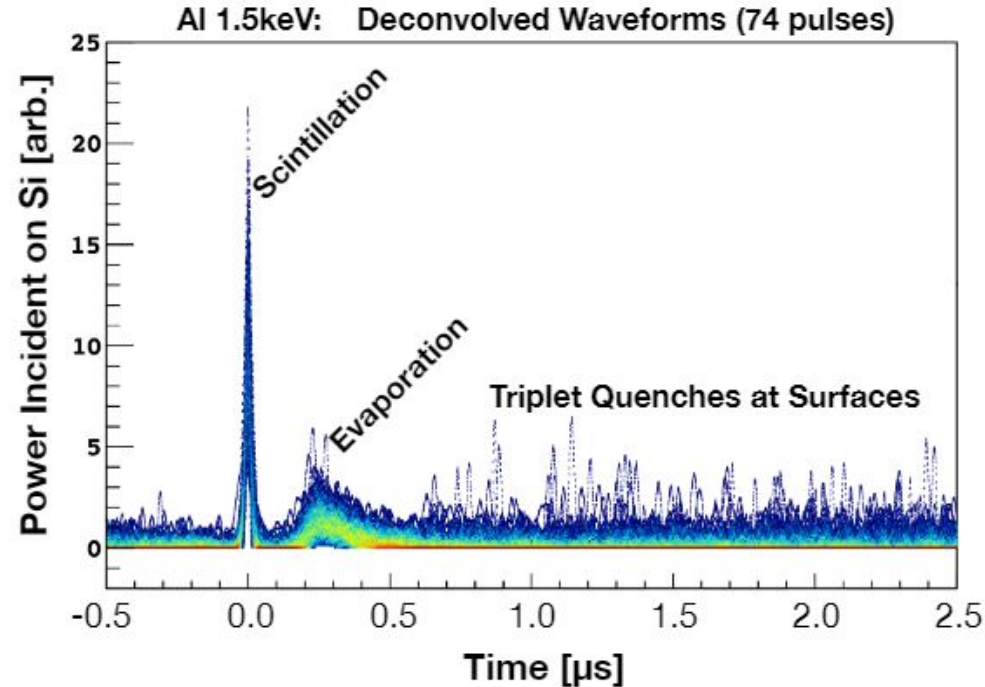
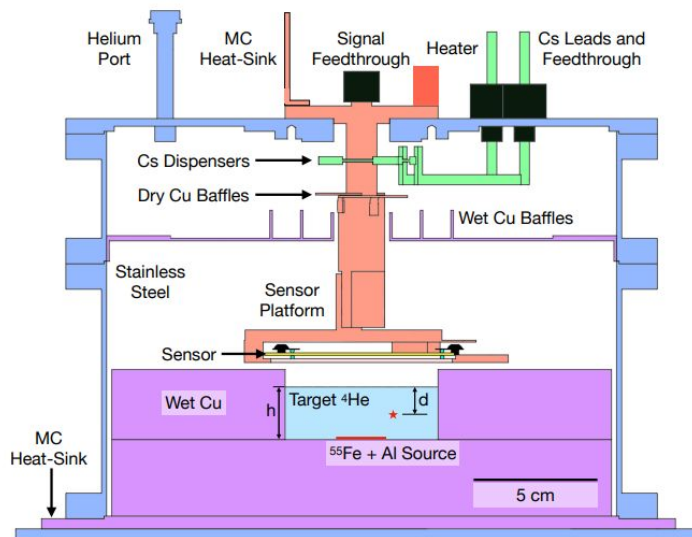
Proof-of-principle HeRALD detector operation

Cs superfluid helium stoper demonstrated.
Photon and quantum evaporation signals observed.
145eV energy threshold.
Ready to explore very interesting helium physics!
[arxiv: 2307.11877](https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.11877)



Proof-of-principle HeRALD detector operation

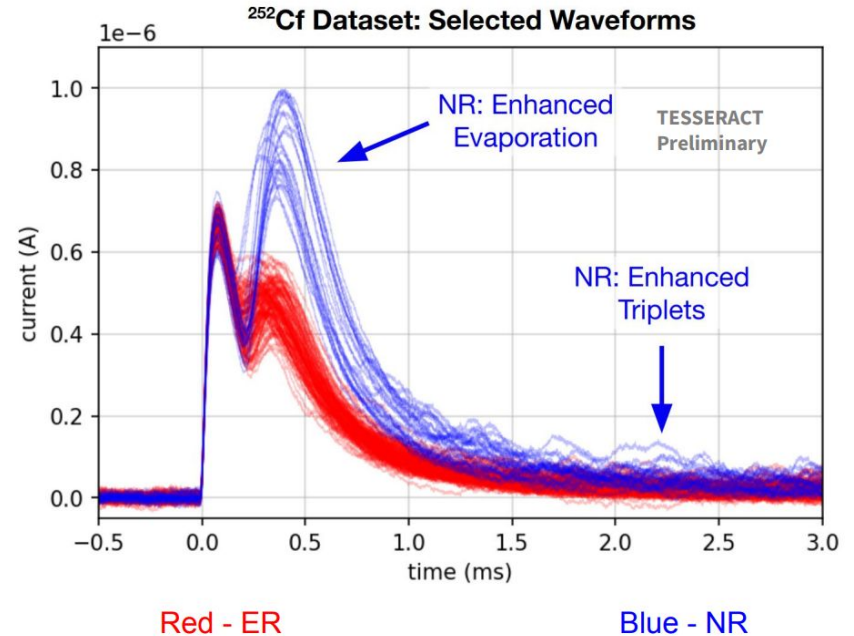
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Proof-of-principle HeRALD detector operation

Cs superfluid helium stoper demonstrated.
Photon and quantum evaporation signals observed.
145eV energy threshold.
Ready to explore very interesting helium physics!

Clear discrimination between electron recoil and nuclear recoil.



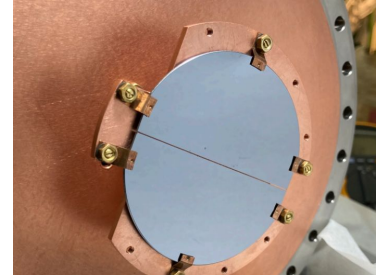
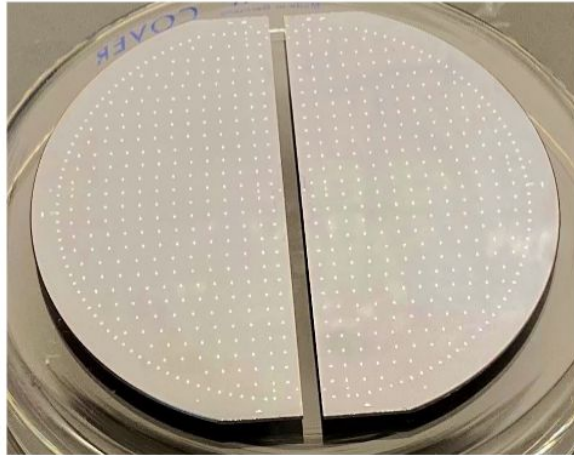
Two-channel HeRALD detector with split-CPD

LEE in crystals never creates correlation between the two channels.

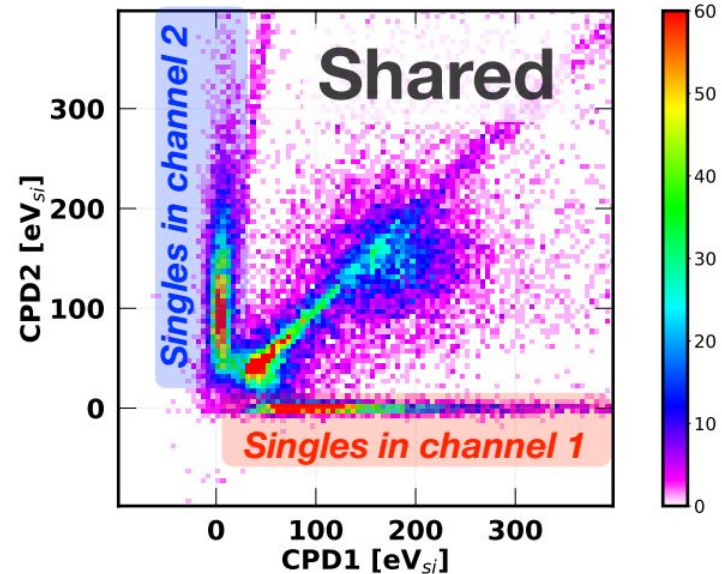
Quantum evaporation will create correlated events.

Efficiently remove LEE backgrounds!

2eV sigma energy resolution for a single channel.



Pratyush Patel,
UMass



Two-channel HeRALD detector with split-CPD

LEE in crystals never creates correlation between the two channels.

Quantum evaporation will create correlated events.

Efficiently remove LEE backgrounds!

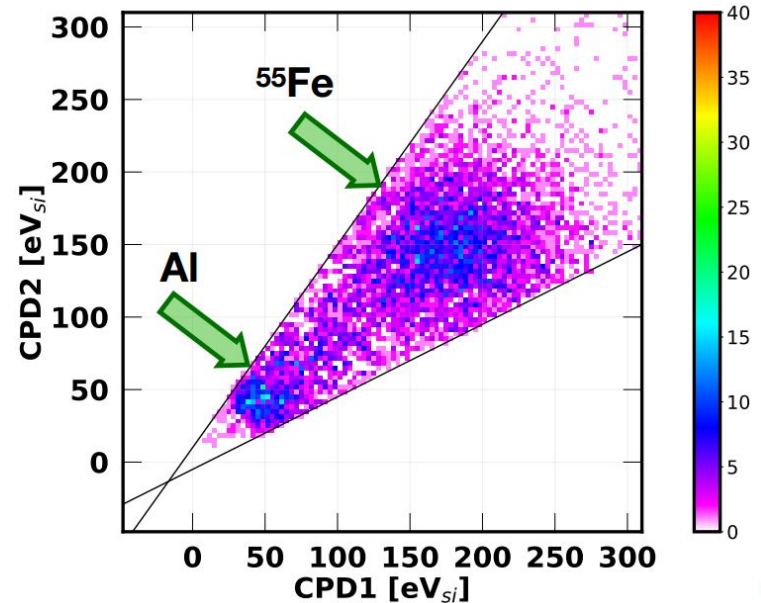
Right: Correlated helium events

The key question: Is there LEE in helium?

Next run will be a no-source run!

Pratyush Patel,
UMass

^{55}Fe and Al x-rays event in ^4He



Two-channel HeRALD detector with split-CPD

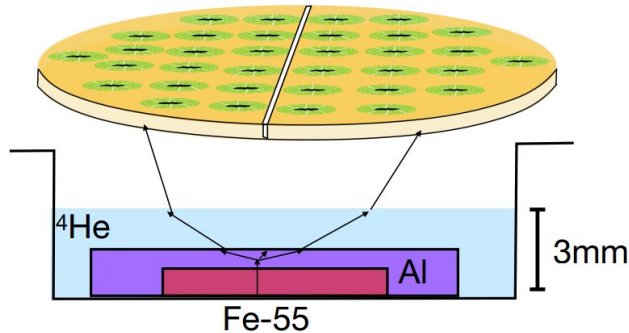
LEE in crystals never creates correlation between the two channels.

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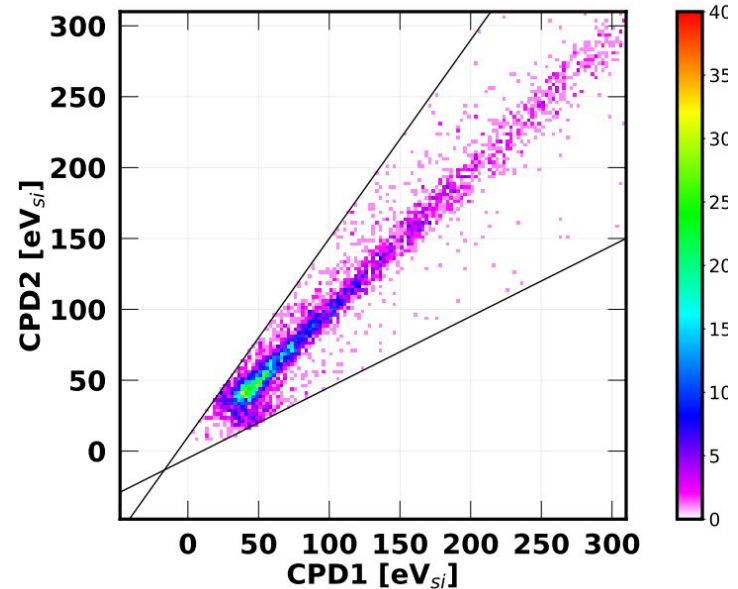
Right: Correlated events with slow rising evaporation signal. Energy deposition in Al!

X-ray absorbed in Al film can create phonon that leaks into ^4He



Pratyush Patel,
UMass

Slow rising; almost equally shared energy



Two-channel HeRALD detector with split-CPD

LEE in crystals never creates correlation between the two channels.

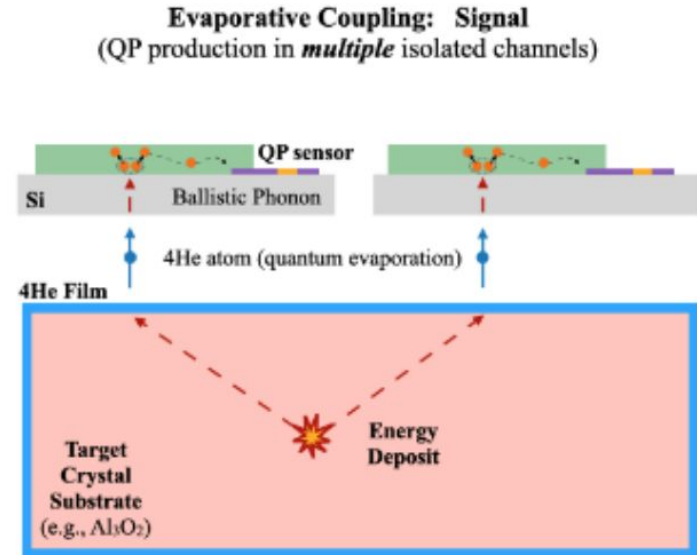
Quantum evaporation will create correlated events.

Efficiently remove LEE backgrounds!

Motivates detector with superfluid helium coated crystal targets!

Remove film-stress induced LEE in crystal targets.

Pratyush Patel,
UMass



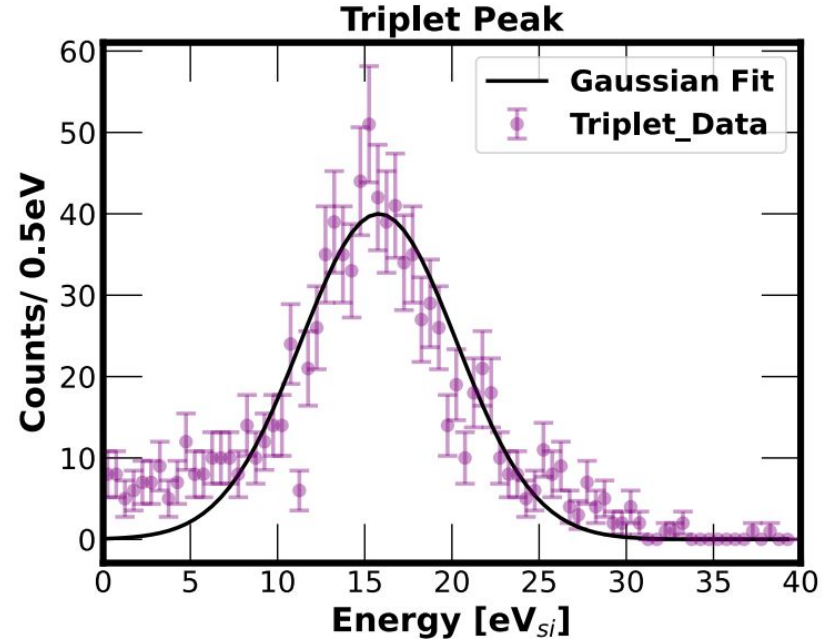
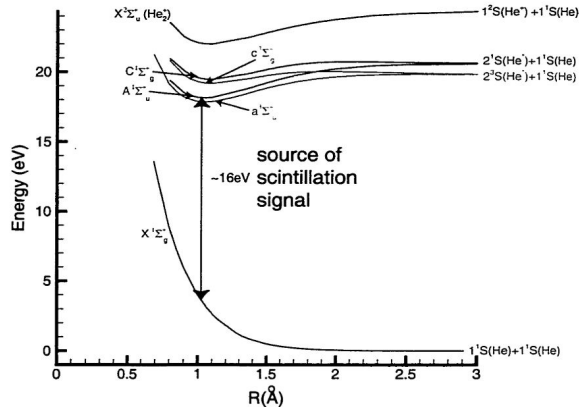
Two-channel HeRALD detector with split-CPD

Improved resolution compare to previous full-wafer CPD detector.

Pratyush Patel,
UMass

16eV peak from triplet events resolved.

Energy resolution and the triplet event line width is under investigation.



Xin

Figure 2.8: The interatomic/molecular potentials for He-He and He₂ dimers. Values are from Sunil et al. [1983], Chabalowski et al. [1989] and Ginter and Battino [1970]

Adams, J. S. Energy deposition by electrons in superfluid helium. (Brown University, 2001).

25

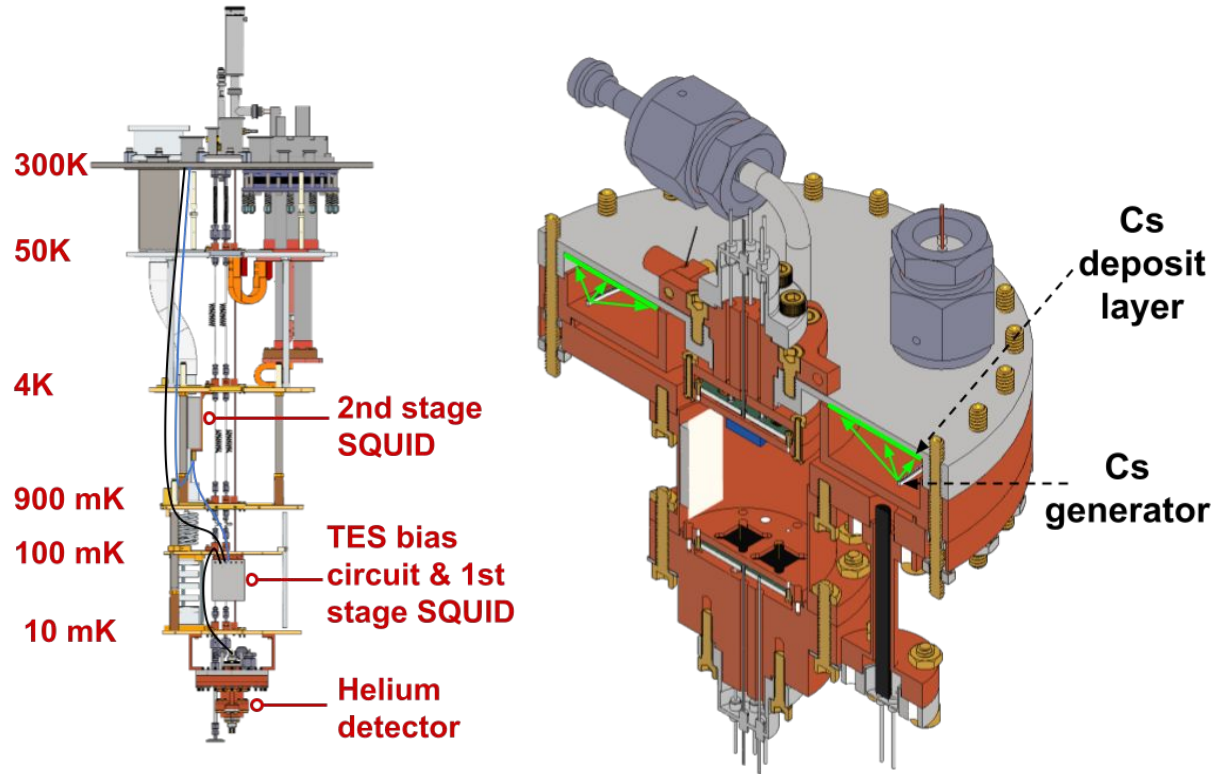
LBL HeRALD 2.0

Two-stage SQUIDs.

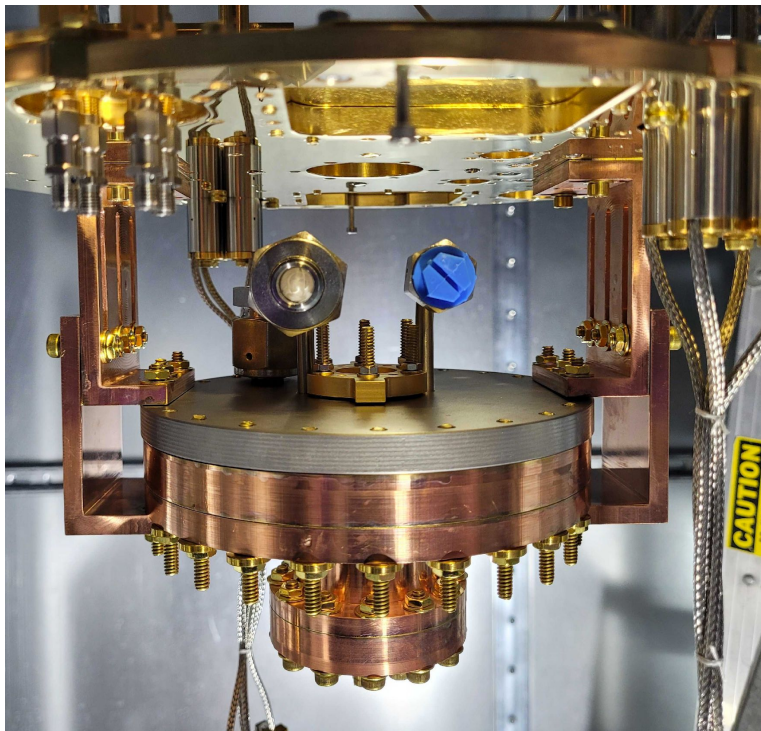
Helium cell with 4 dry channels and 4 submerged channels.

Thin wall for external gamma and neutron source calibration.

Improved Cs film stopper design.

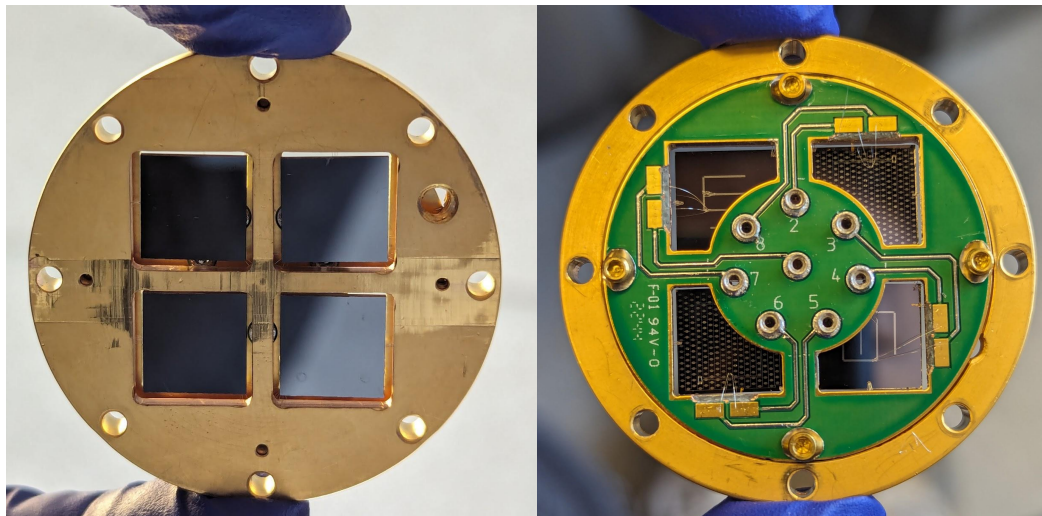


LBL HeRALD 2.0



Xinran Li, GUINEAPIG 2024, Toronto | BERKELEY LAB

4-channel hanging devices





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Recent progress

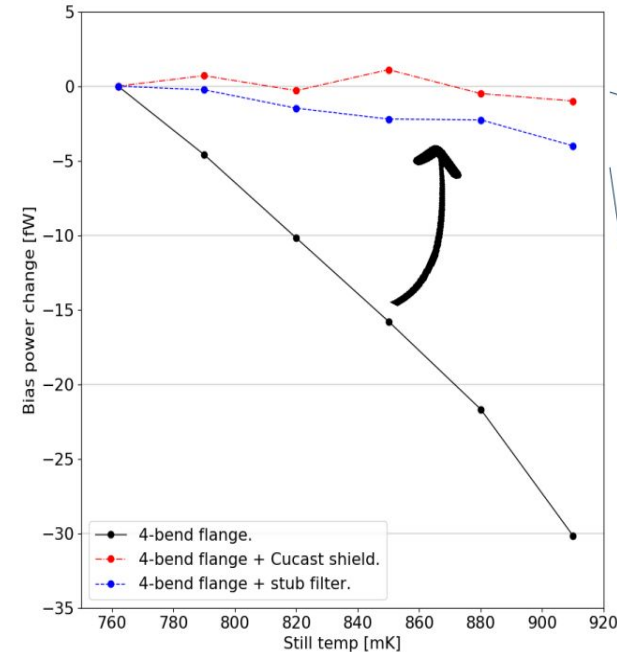
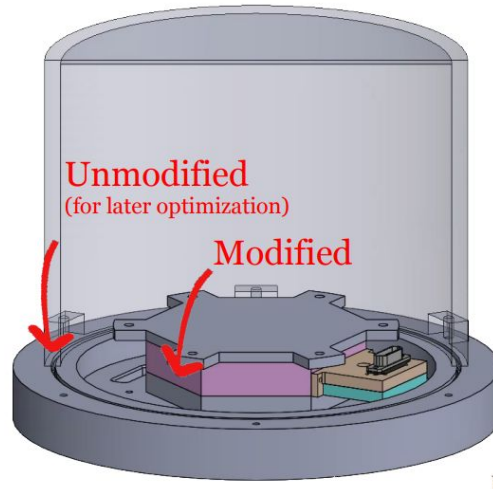
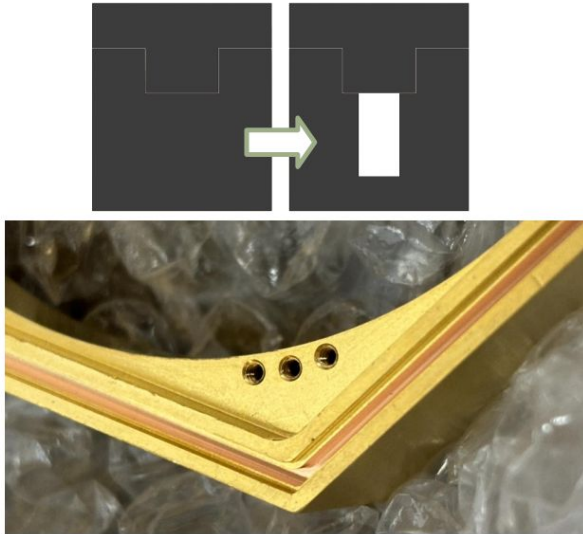
Reducing parasitic noise power



Path to even better sensitivities

Shielding black body radiation

- Retrofitted an 1×2 mm groove into detector housing's tight flange.



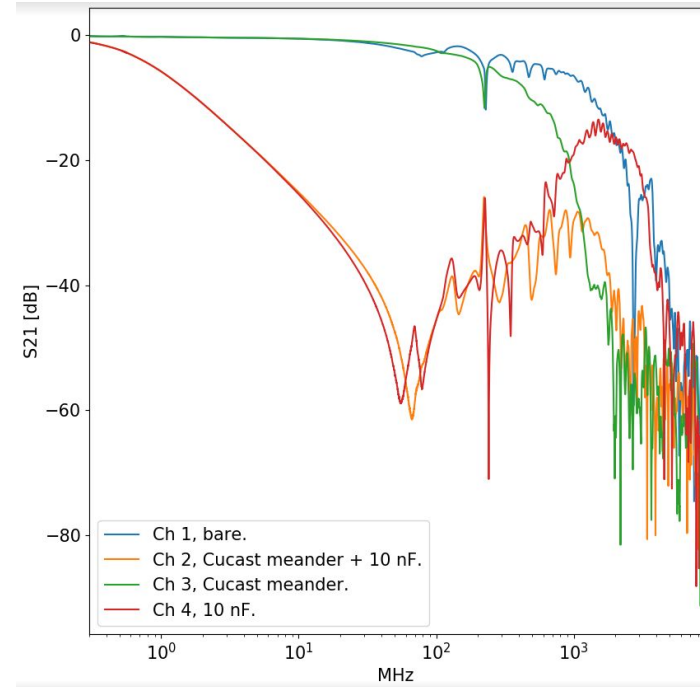
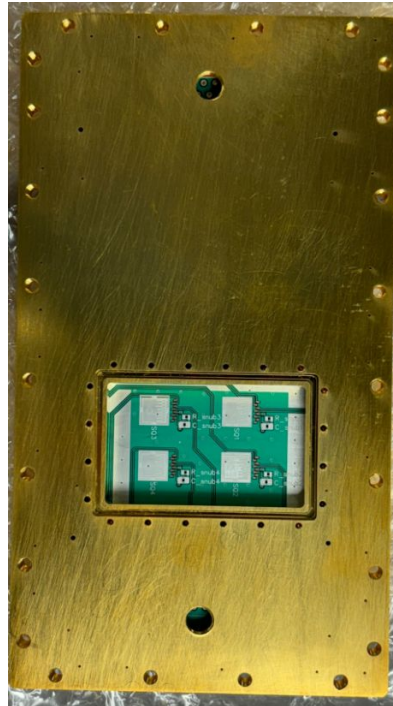
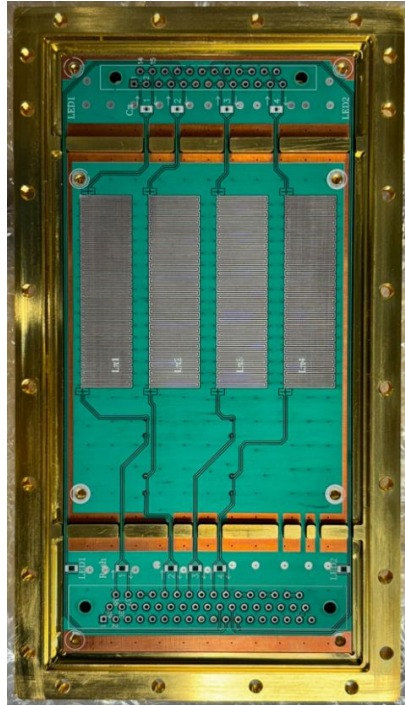
Path to even better sensitivities

Filtering TES bias power -- Remove MHz to GHz noise powers.

To TES

SQUID
Filtering
Chamber:
Copper dust +
Lumped RC

To warm
stages





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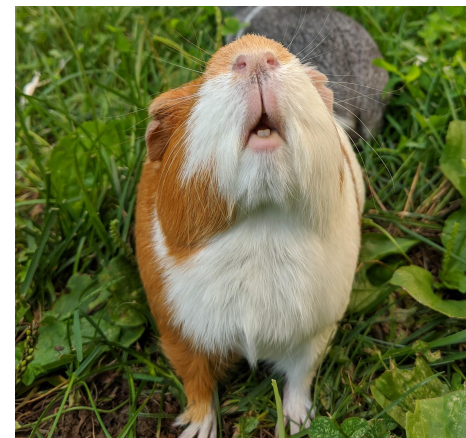
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Coming up next



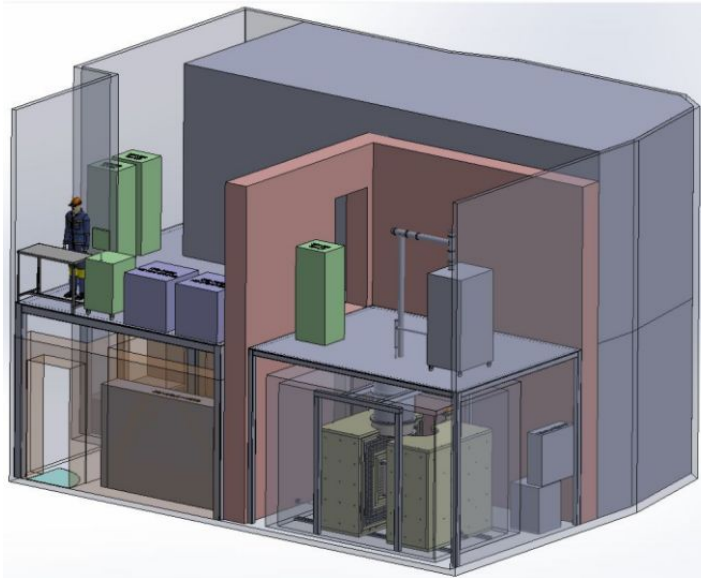
Underground experiment preparation

Underground labs

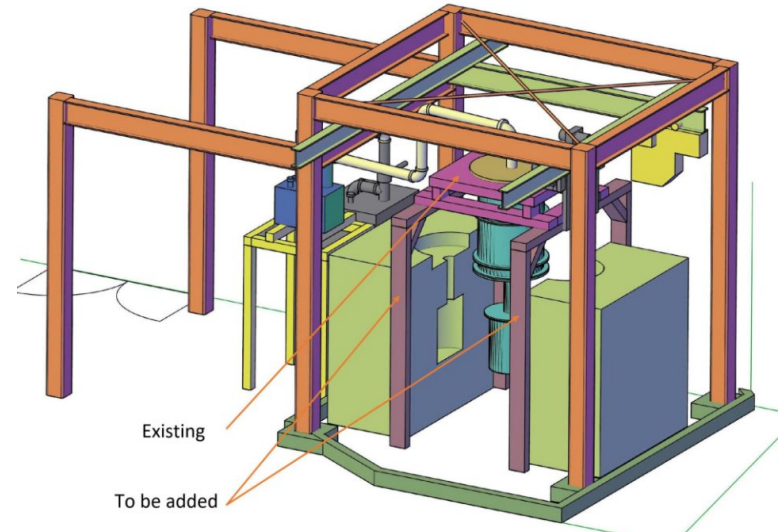
France - Modane - LSM

Planning for 1~2 payloads.

Simulation and engineering in progress.



Japan - Kamioka
Science payload:
~10g-yr exposure
~20eV threshold.



Photos for reference

From <https://www2.kek.jp/qup/en/member/>



BUI Tuan Khai
QUP Postdoctoral Fellow
e-mail: tkhai@ae-pos
more



Masaya Hasegawa
QUP Principal Investigator
Associate Professor
KICK, IPMS
e-mail: masaya.hasegawa@kek.in



Suerfu Burkhardt
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Assistant Professor
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Kaori Hattori
QUP Principal Investigator
Senior Researcher/Ass. Professor
AIST Research Institute
Physical Measurement



Volodymyr Takhistov
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Maurice Garcia-Sciveres
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Senior Scientist
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory



Koji Ishidoshiro
QUP Affiliate member
Associate Professor
Tohoku University
e-mail: koji-at-phys.tohoku.ac.jp



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Conclusion

- The goal is to explore the large parameter space from 1GeV to 1keV dark matter mass with various target materials.
- TESSERACT has been project funded by DOE and IN2F3
- We have successfully demonstrated $\sim 1\text{eV}$ threshold silicon devices.
- Successfully demonstrated superfluid helium detector with film stopper and quantum evaporation signals. Triplet signals resolved.
- Understanding the effect of low energy excess (LEE) events as backgrounds and noise power, both in crystal detectors and in helium detectors.
- Underground experiments is in preparation.

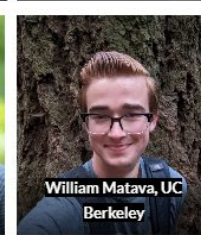
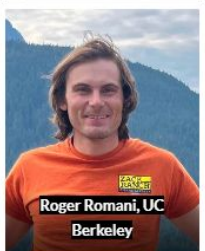
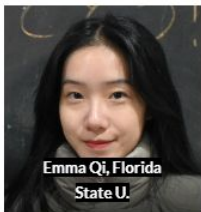
Thank you!

Questions?



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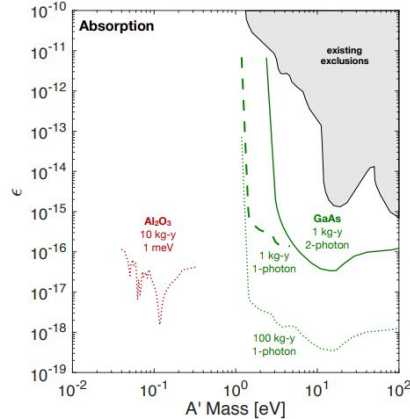
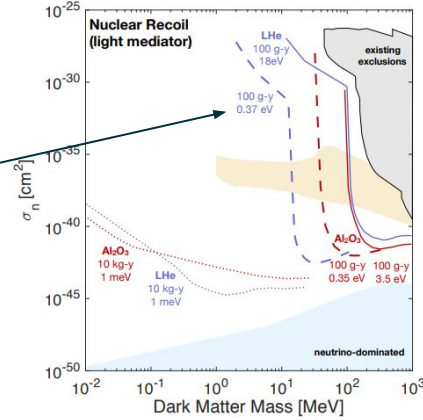
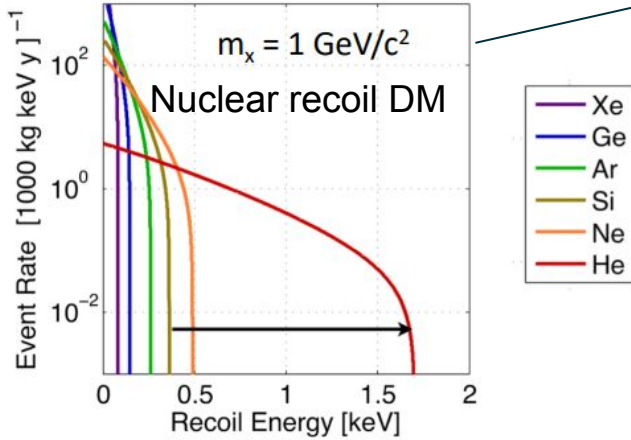
Office of Science

Back up

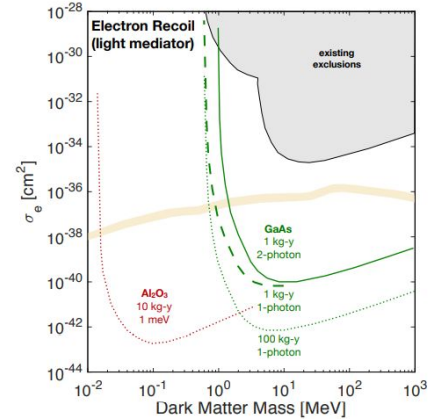
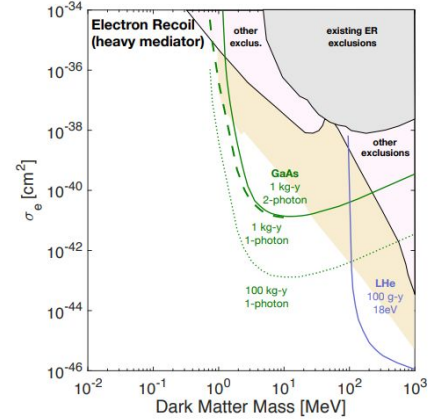
Direct detection for low-mass dark matter

Low threshold

Target with light element: He



Snowmass2021 - Letter of Interest
[The TESSERACT Dark Matter Project](#)

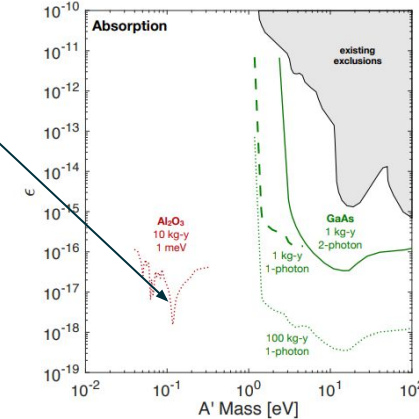
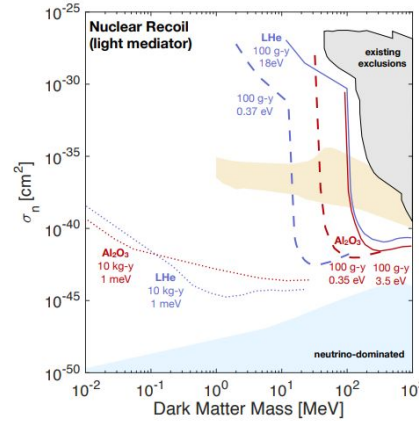
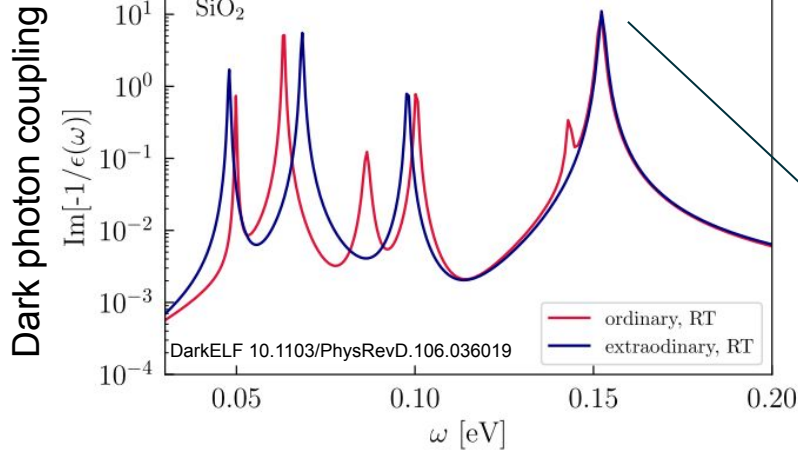


Direct detection for low-mass dark matter

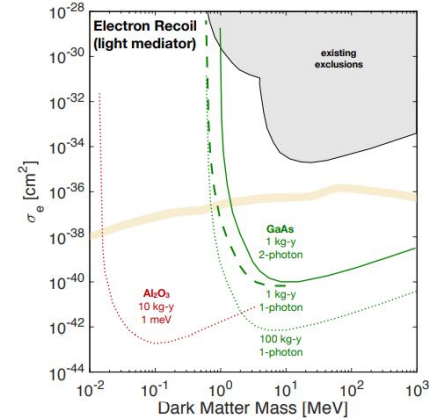
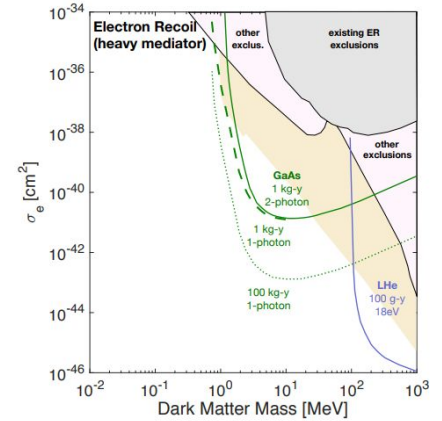
Low threshold

Target with light element: He

Polar crystal: optical phonons, dark photon coupling.



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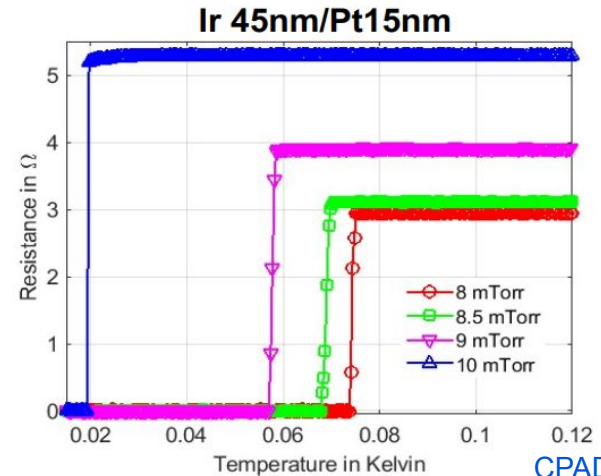
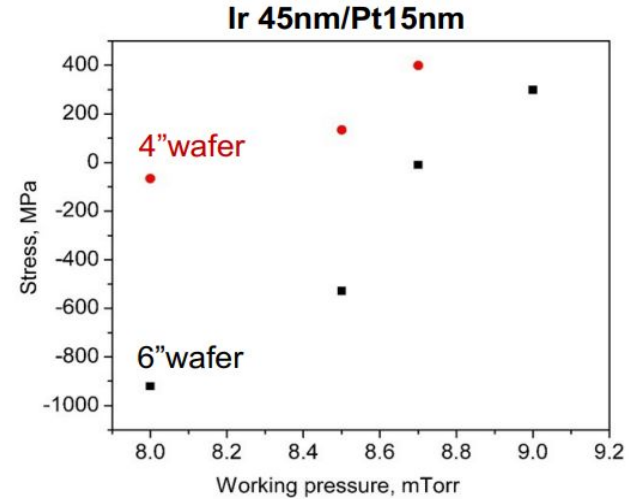
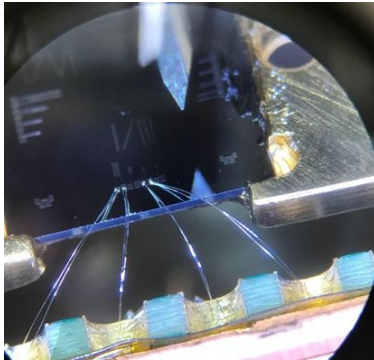
Low stress low Tc films

First attempt with tungsten film.

Low Tc achieved. Not low stress.

Good results from Ir/Pt bilayer samples from Argonne National Laboratory.

TES fabrication finished. Tests on going!



Athermal phonon sensor energy resolution

TES noise is limited by the thermal fluctuation noise of the thermal link G between the TES and the bath.

$$\sigma_E \sim \frac{\sqrt{4k_b T_c^2 G (\tau_{collect} + \tau_{sensor})}}{\epsilon_{collect} \epsilon_{sensor}}$$

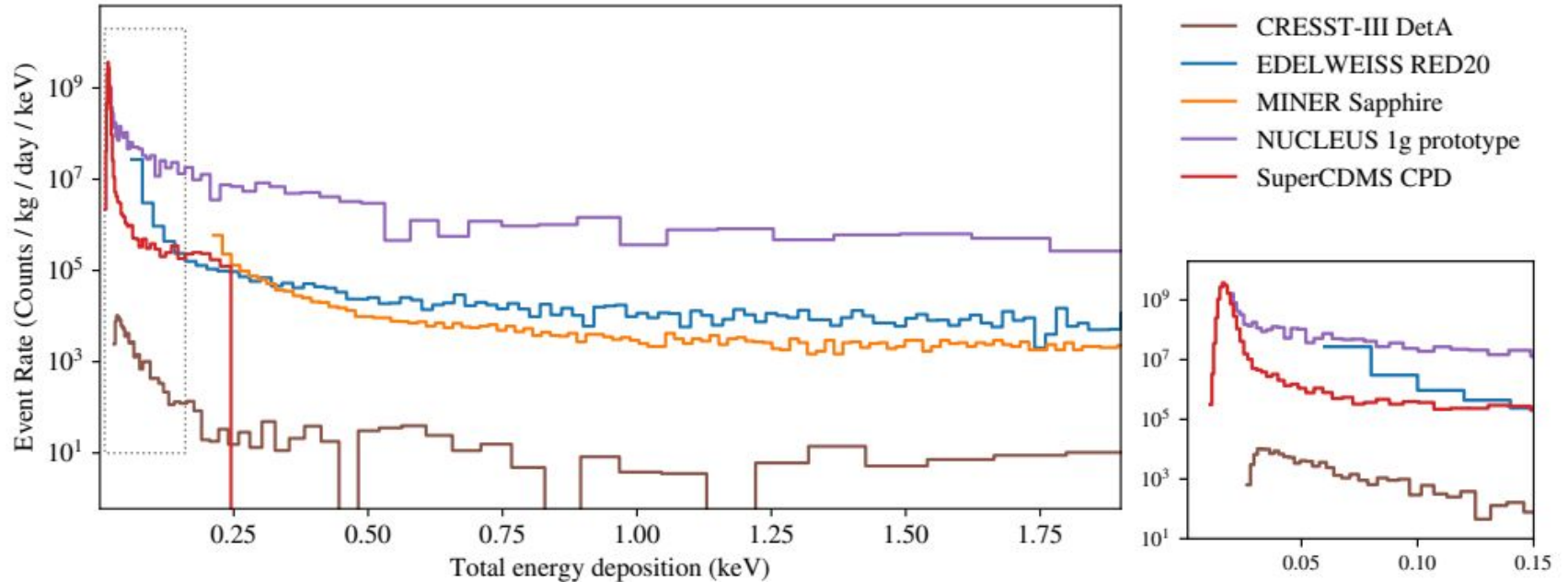
Thermal phonon TES sensor: $\tau \sim C_{detector}/G \rightarrow \sigma_E \sim T_c^{3/2}$

Athermal phonon sensor: Thanks to extra freedoms from the phonon collection fins, $\tau_{collect}$ can be engineered to match τ_{sensor} (the time scale of electrical-thermal feedback) $\rightarrow \sigma_E \sim T_c^3$

- **Lower T_c**
- **Optimization of phonon and quasiparticle collection efficiency.**

[Caleb Fink Thesis](#)

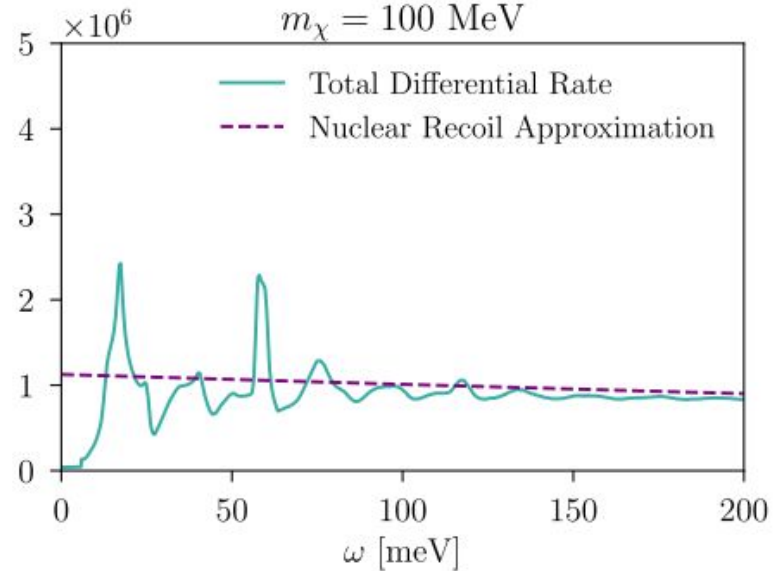
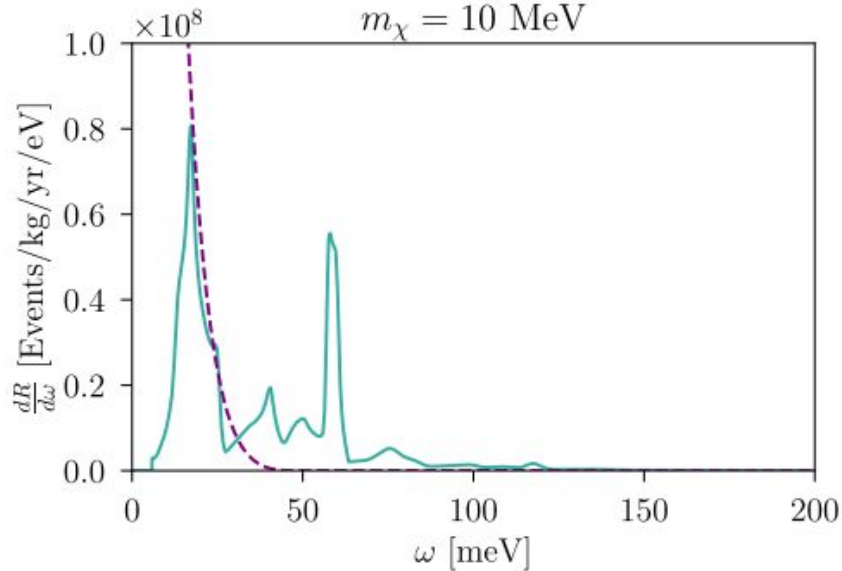
LEE event spectra from various experiments.



Multi-phonon creation in crystals

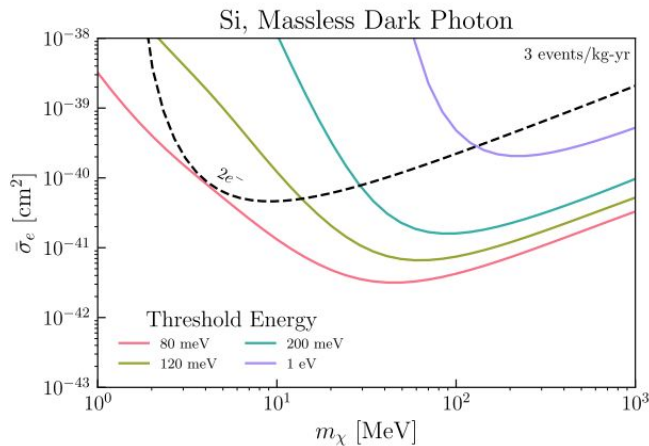
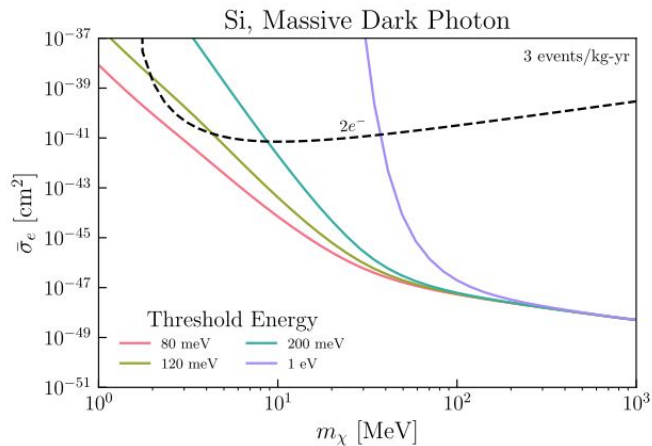
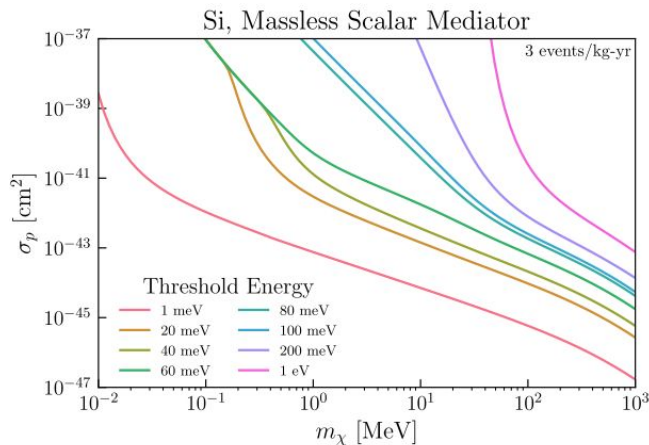
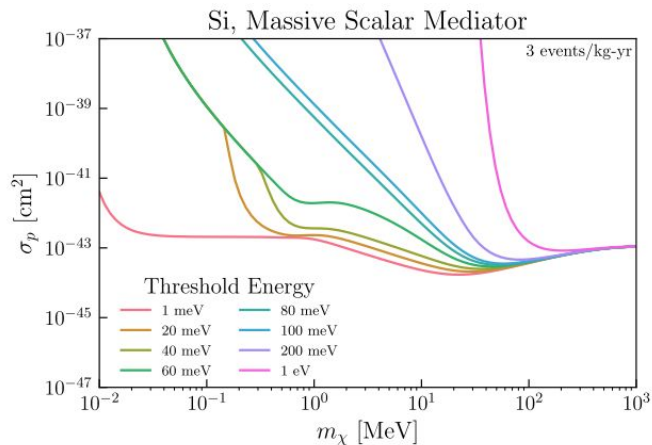
Gains additional sensitivity at sub-eV

Si, Massive Scalar Mediator, $\sigma_p = 10^{-38} \text{ cm}^2$

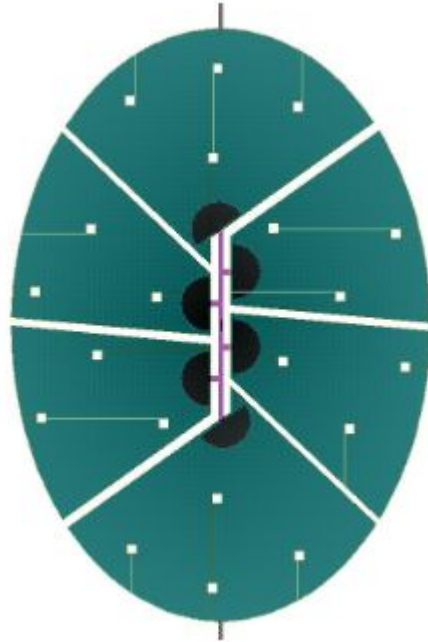


Multi-phonon creation in crystals

Gains add



CPDv2 design



TES length	140 μm
TES Thickness	40 nm
TES width	2.5 μm
n_{fin}	6
Fin Length	150 μm
Fin Thickness	600 nm
Al/W Overlap	20 μm
N_{qet}	673
Active Surface Area	0.68%
Passive Surface Area	0.18%
R_n	200 m Ω
QP Abs Efficiency	52%
Tot Efficiency	18% (Simulated)