



# Searching for DM with the SuperCDMS HVeV Detector

**Francisco Ponce**

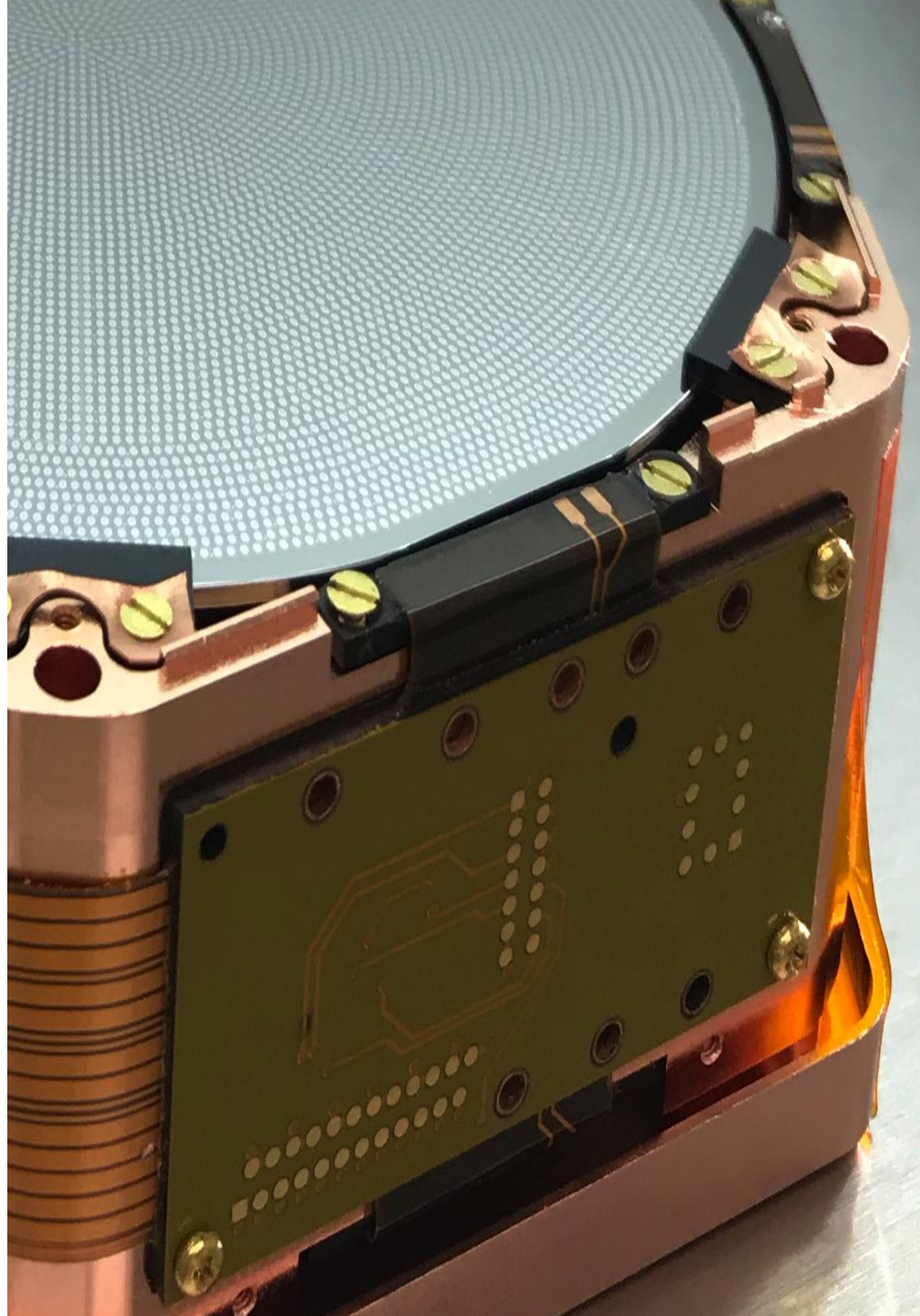
Post-Doc, Pacific Northwestern National Laboratory

IEEE OEB LMAG

2021-04-28



PNNL is operated by Battelle for the U.S. Department of Energy





California Inst. of Tech.



CNRS-LPN\*



Durham University



FNAL



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Queen's University



Santa Clara University

**SLAC**

SLAC



South Dakota SM&T



SMU



SNOLAB



Stanford University



Texas A&M University



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U. California, Berkeley



U. Colorado Denver



U. Evansville

**UF**

U. Florida



U. Montréal



U. Minnesota



U. South Dakota



U. Toronto

\* Associate members

# Outline

## ➤ Dark Matter

1. Astronomical Observation
2. WIMPs
3. SuperCDMS

Detector R&D Development

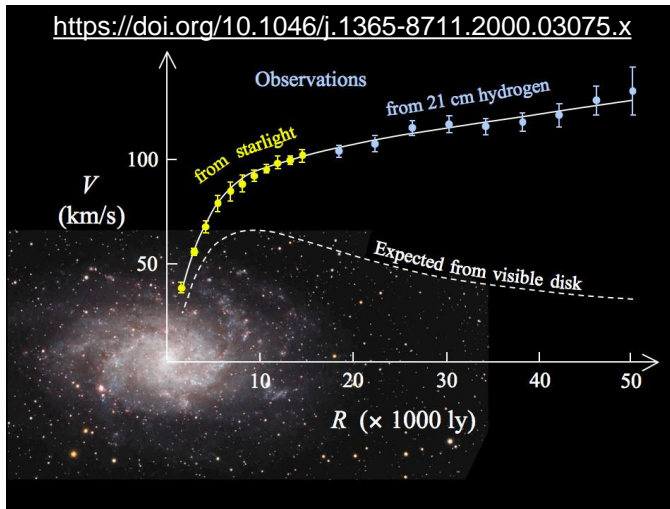
DM Search



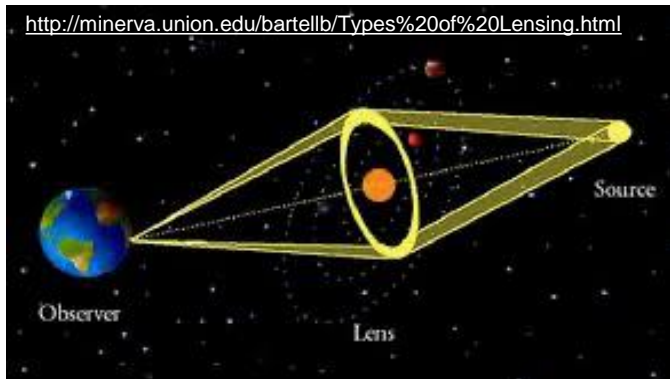
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# Beyond the Standard Model

## M33 Galactic Rotation Curve

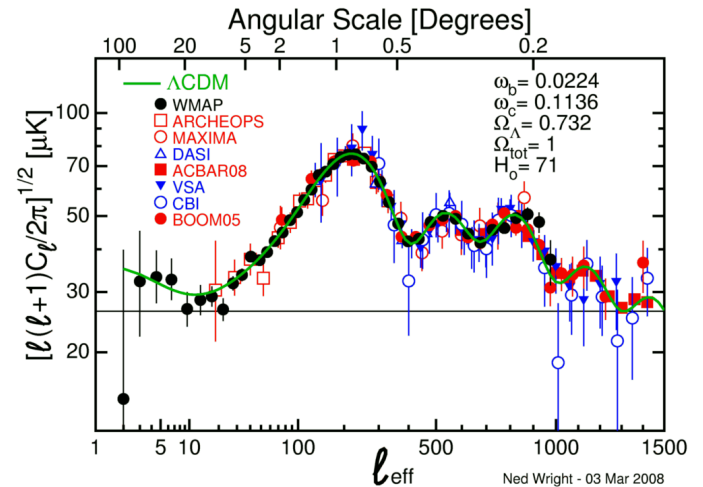
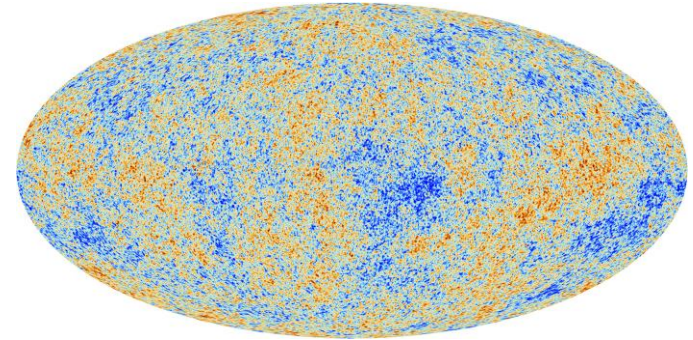


## Gravitational Lensing



## CMB Anisotropy

[http://www.esa.int/ESA\\_Multimedia/Images/2013/03/Planck\\_CMB](http://www.esa.int/ESA_Multimedia/Images/2013/03/Planck_CMB)



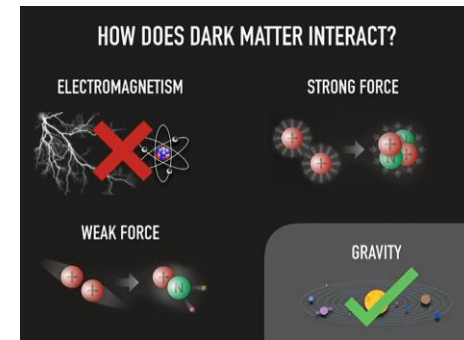
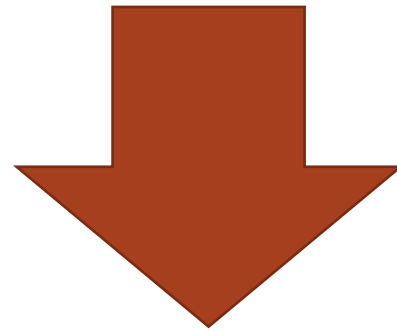
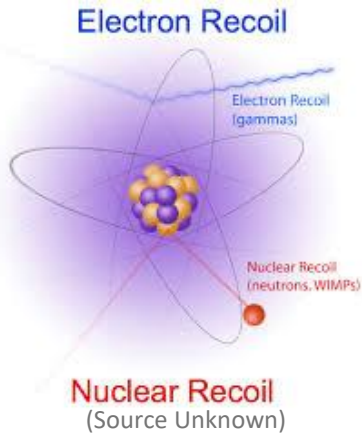
<http://www.astro.ucla.edu/~wright/CMB-DT.html>

Insufficient mass in the universe!

# Weakly Interacting Massive Particles

Four Forces:

**Electromagnetic**, Weak, Strong, **Gravity**



(PERIMETER INSTITUTE)  
<https://medium.com/starts-with-a-bang/the-wimp-miracle-hope-for-dark-matter-is-dead-9dc3f609dc0a>

Super-Symmetry Theories:  
Lightest supersymmetric particle (LSP)

Neutralino

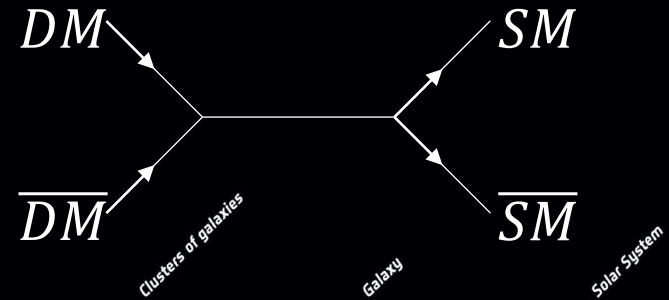
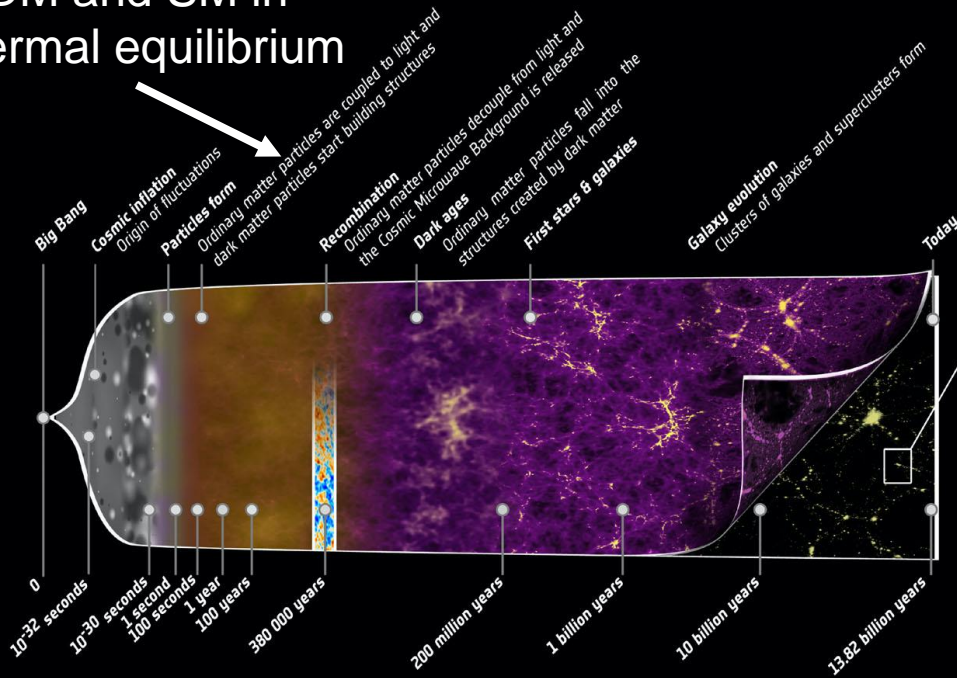
Photino

Higgsino

Create a theory  
Name your own DM particle

# SUSY Motivation

## DM and SM in thermal equilibrium



<https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/spaceimages/details.php?id=PIA16876>

$$n_X = \frac{g}{2\pi^3} \int f(\mathbf{p}, T) d^3\mathbf{p}$$

$$n_X \approx g \left( \frac{m_X T}{2\pi} \right)^{3/2} e^{-m_X/T}$$

for  $T \gg m_X$

for  $T \ll m_X$

# “WIMP Miracle”

Front. Phys. (2014), <https://doi.org/10.3389/fphy.2014.00026>

DM annihilation rate into SM

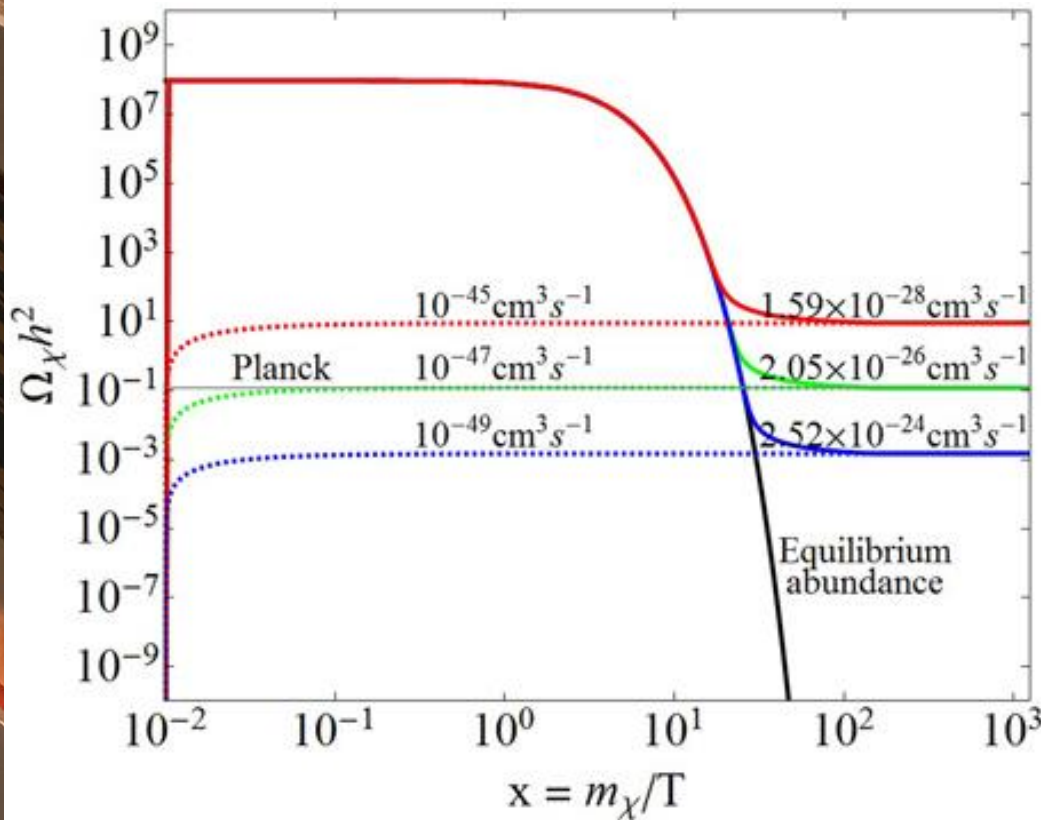
$$\Gamma(T) = n_X(T) \langle \sigma_A v \rangle$$

@ Freeze-out,  $T_f$

$$n_X(T_f) = \frac{1.66 g_*^{1/2} T_f^2}{m_{pl} \langle \sigma_A v \rangle}$$

$$\frac{n_X}{s}(T_f) = \frac{4.15}{g_*^{1/2} T_f m_{pl} \langle \sigma_A v \rangle}$$

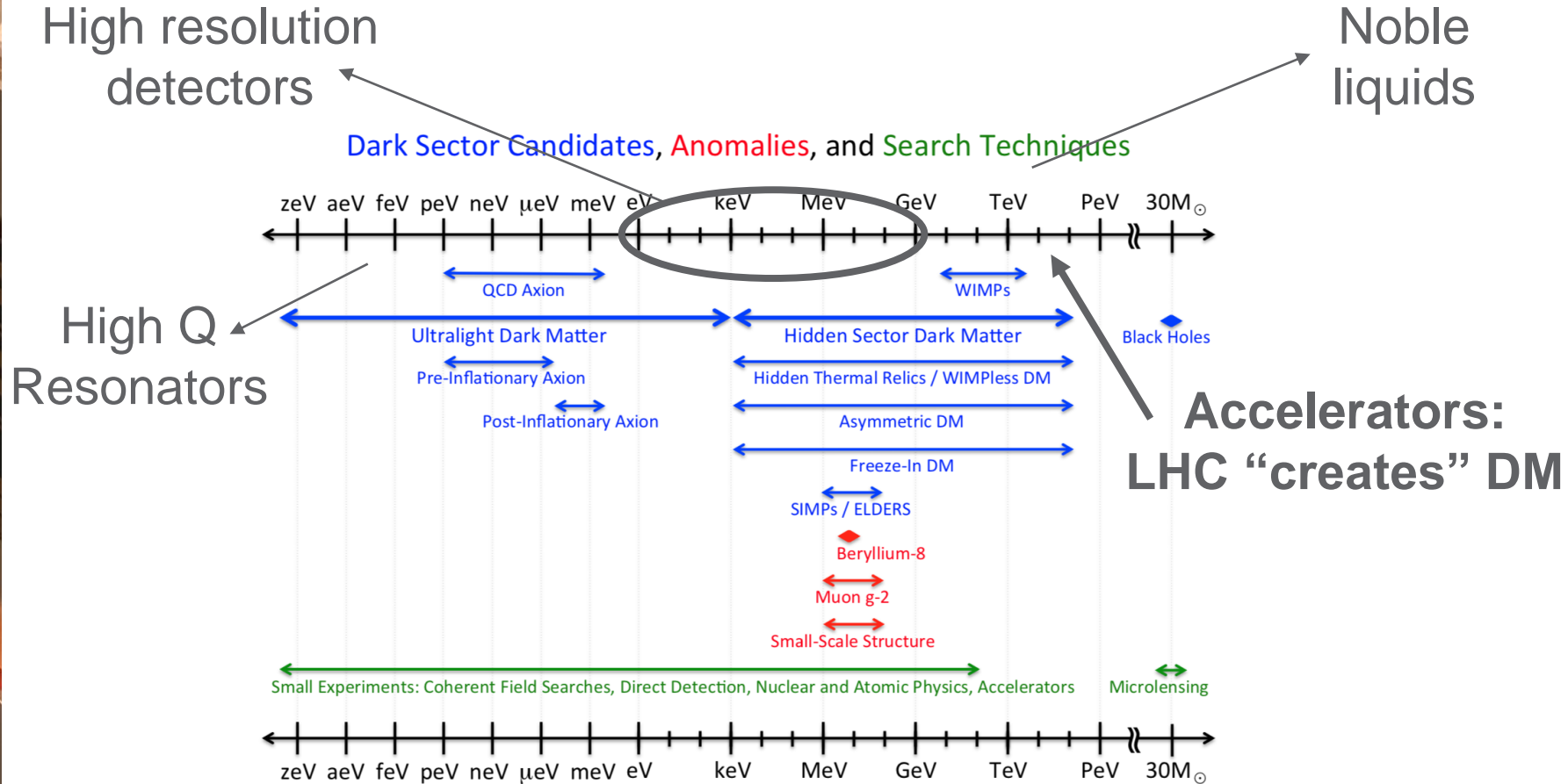
$$\langle \sigma_A v \rangle = \frac{100}{g_*^{1/2} m_{pl}} \frac{s_0}{\rho_c \Omega_X h^2}$$



$$\langle \sigma_A v \rangle = 2.8 \cdot 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1} \cdot \frac{0.11}{\Omega_X h^2}$$

# Dark Matter Candidates

US Cosmic Visions: New Ideas in Dark Matter, ArXiv: [1707.04591](https://arxiv.org/abs/1707.04591)



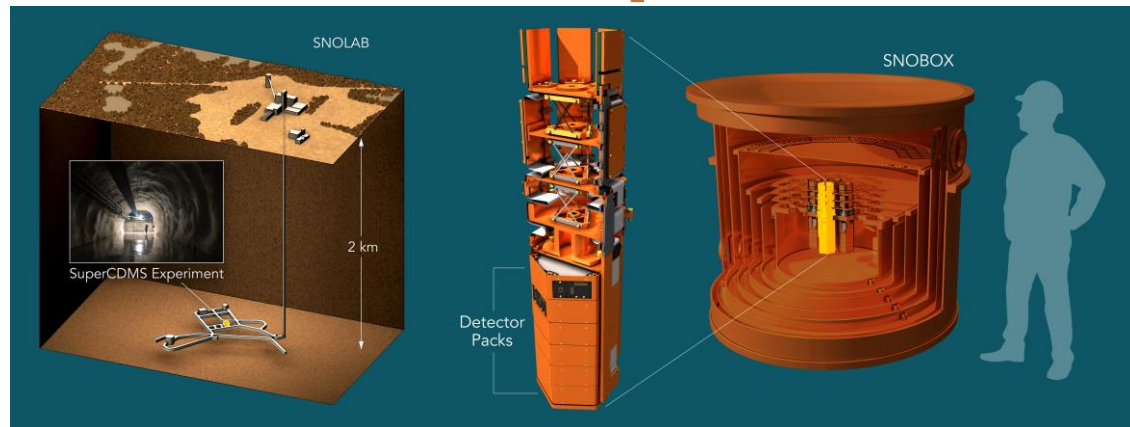
SuperCDMS primary goal is 300 MeV to 6 GeV mass range



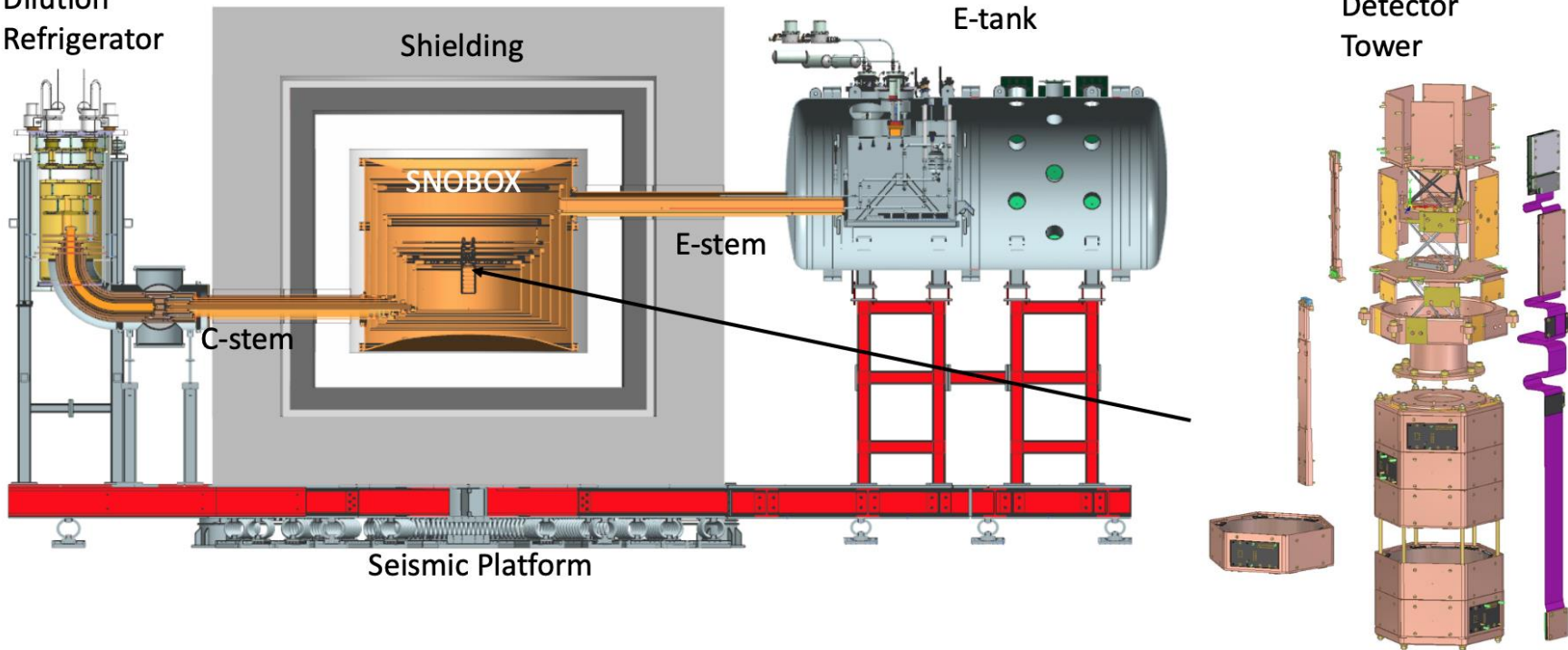


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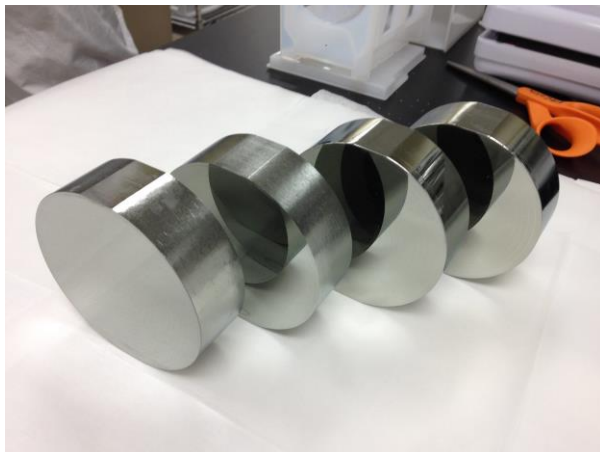
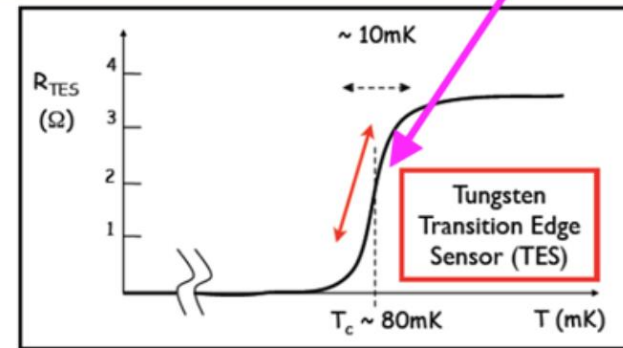
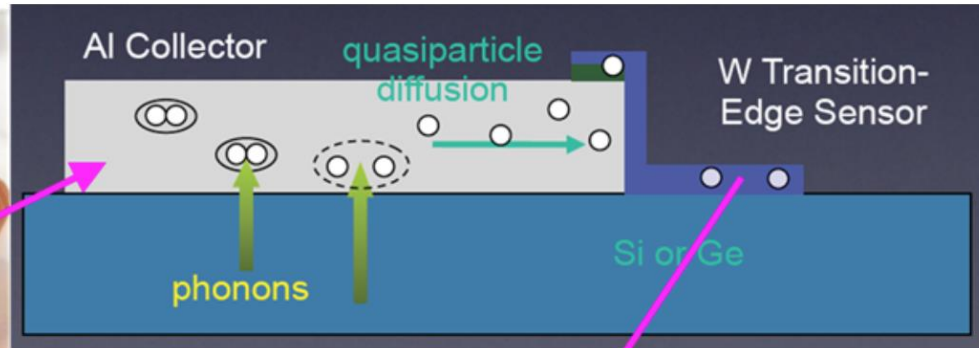
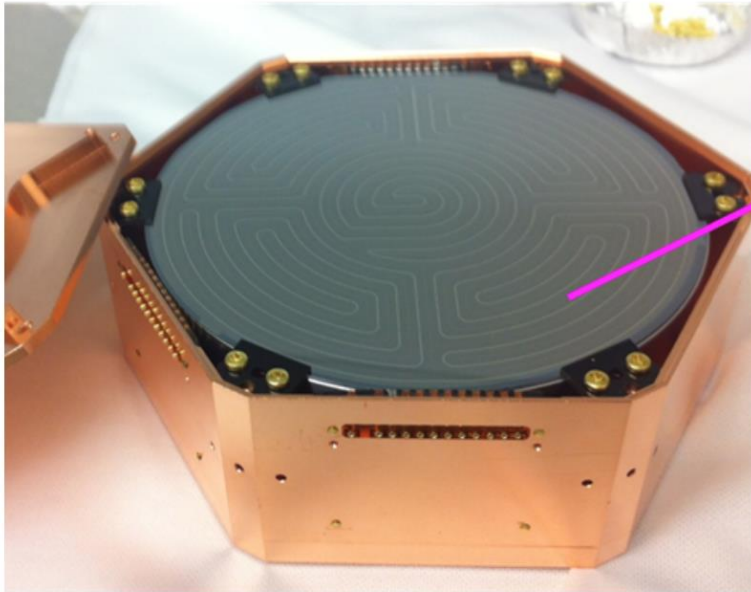
# SNOLAB SuperCDMS



Dilution Refrigerator



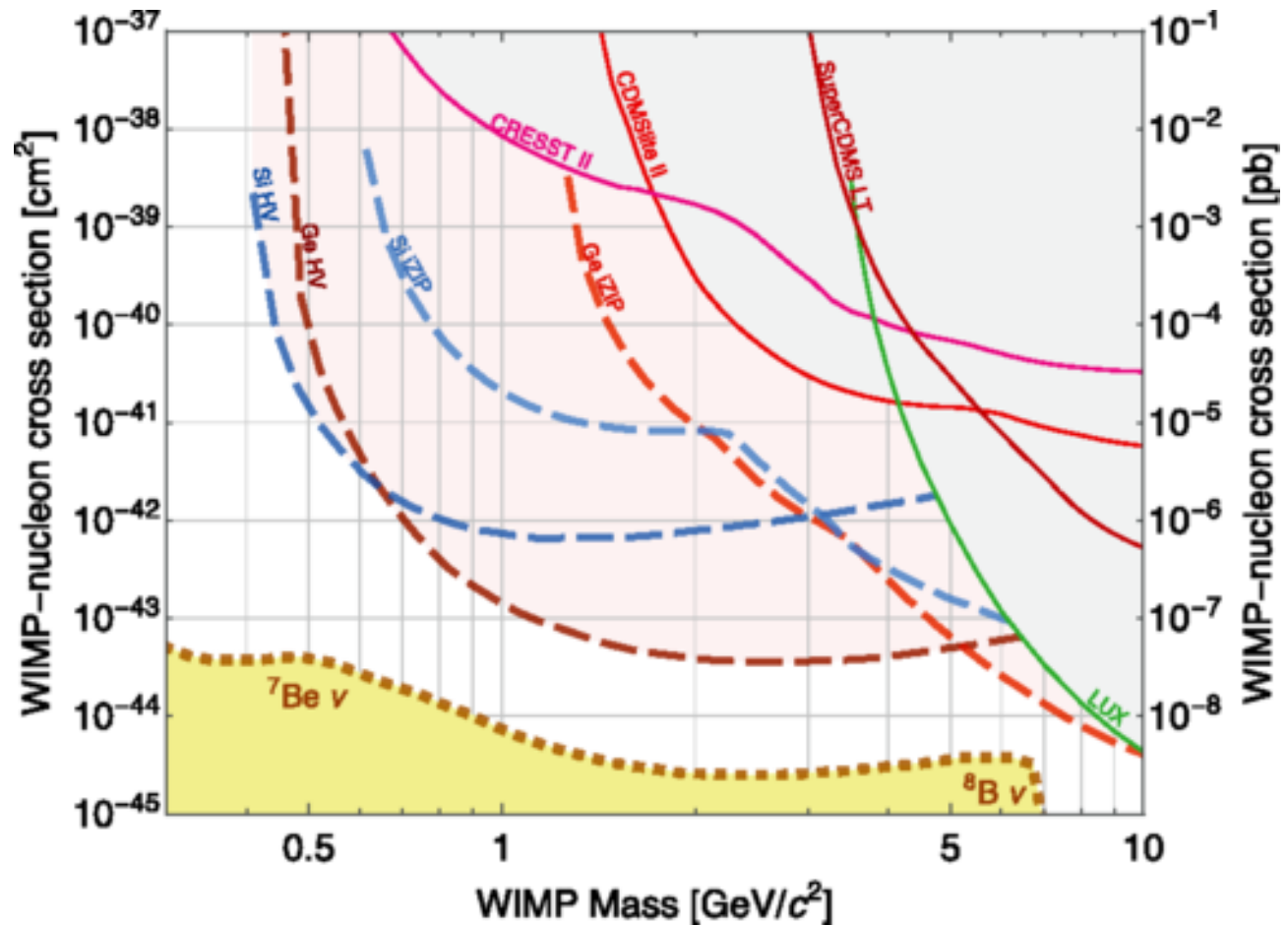
# Quasiparticle-assisted Electrothermal-feedback Transition Edge Sensors (QETs)



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>High Voltage (HV):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Phonon signal</li> <li>➤ Large Bias Voltage</li> <li>➤ Neganov-Trofimov-Luke Effect</li> </ul> | <p>interleaved Z-dependent Ionization and Phonon (iZIP):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Phonon signal</li> <li>➤ Charge signal</li> <li>➤ Small Bias Voltage</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

# Projected Sensitivity

Phys. Rev. D 95, 082002, <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.95.082002>



Improved sensitivity to lower masses and cross-sections

# Outline

✓ Dark Matter

➤ Detector R&D Developments

1. High resolution phonon detectors
2. Dilution refrigerator laser upgrade
3. SuperCDMS HVeV response
4. Detector Modeling

□ DM Search

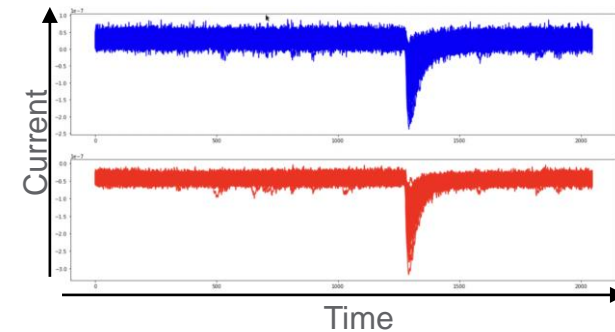
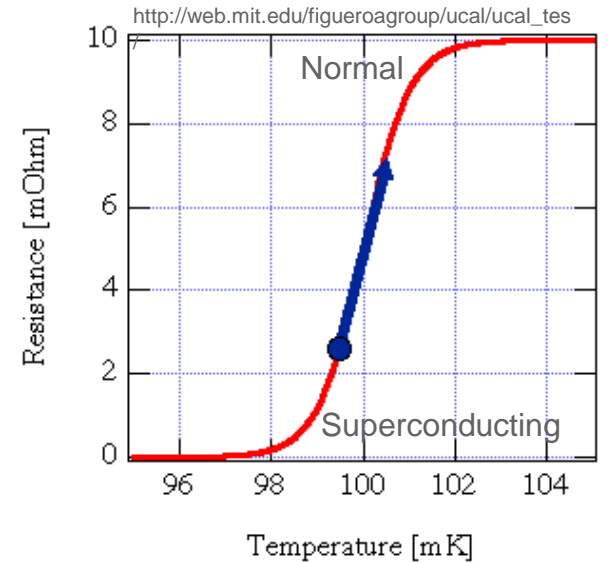
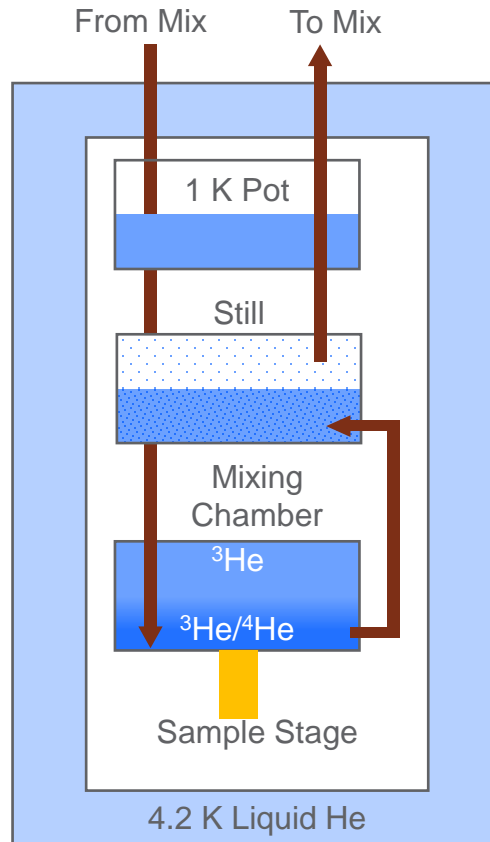
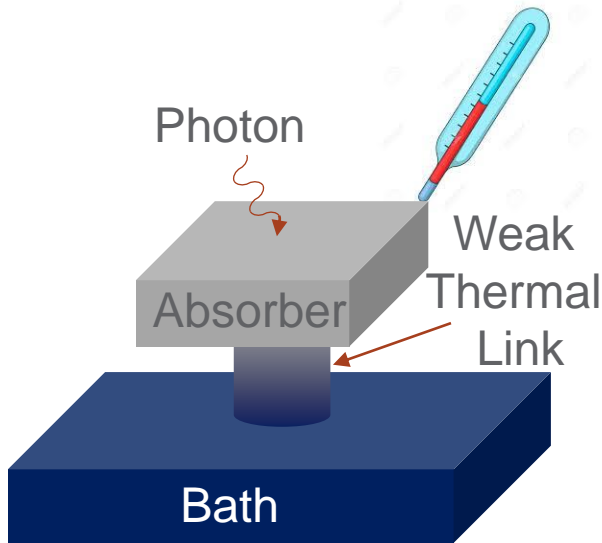


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# Transition Edge Sensor

Microcalorimeters Dilution Refrigerator

Response

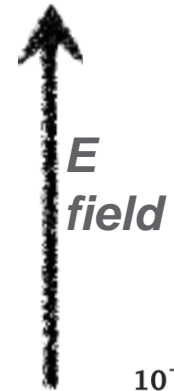
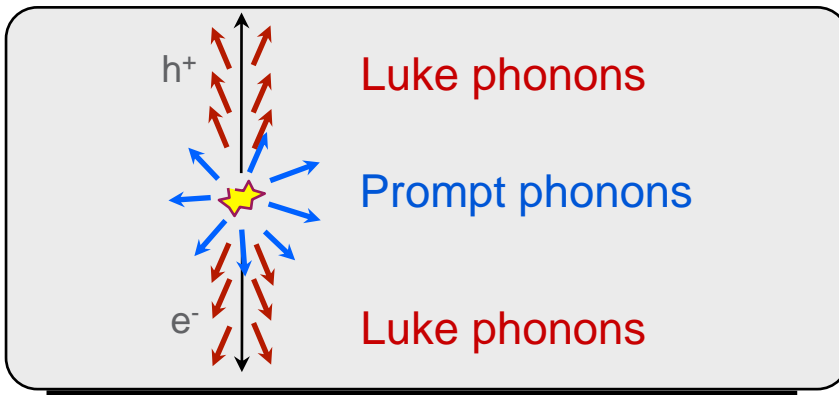


High resolution detectors with tunable bandwidth

# SuperCDMS HV Detectors

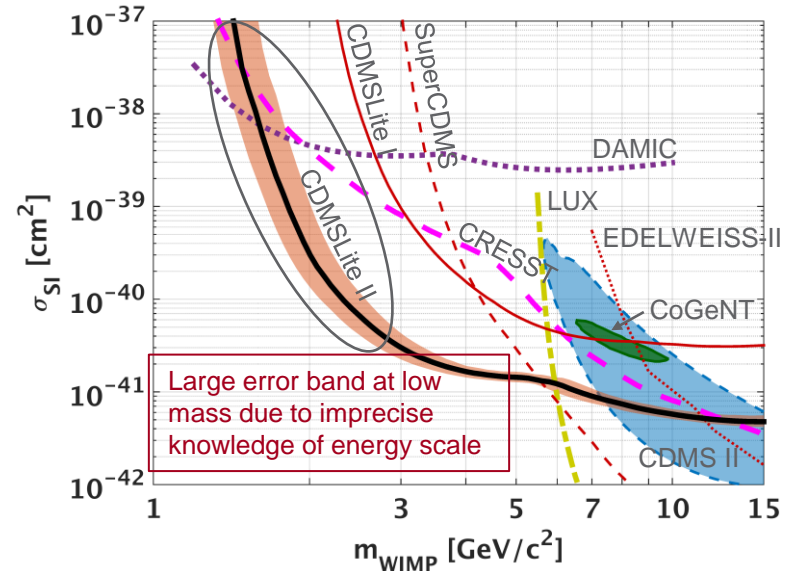
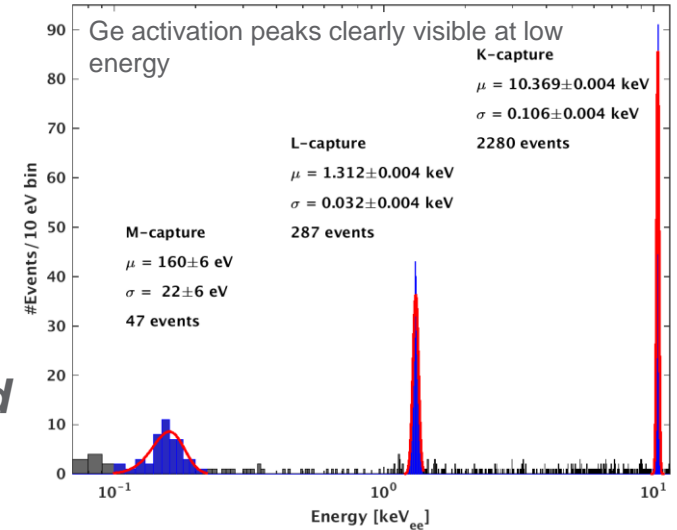
Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 071301, <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.116.071301>

## Neganov-Trofimov-Luke Effect

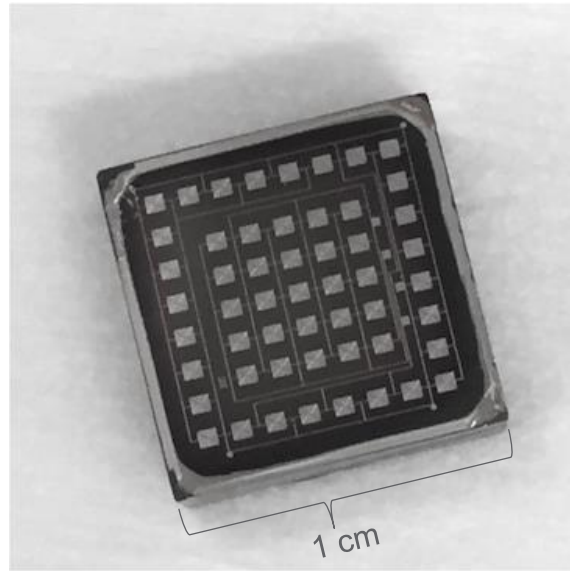


$$\text{Phonon energy} = E_{\text{recoil}} + E_{\text{Luke}}$$

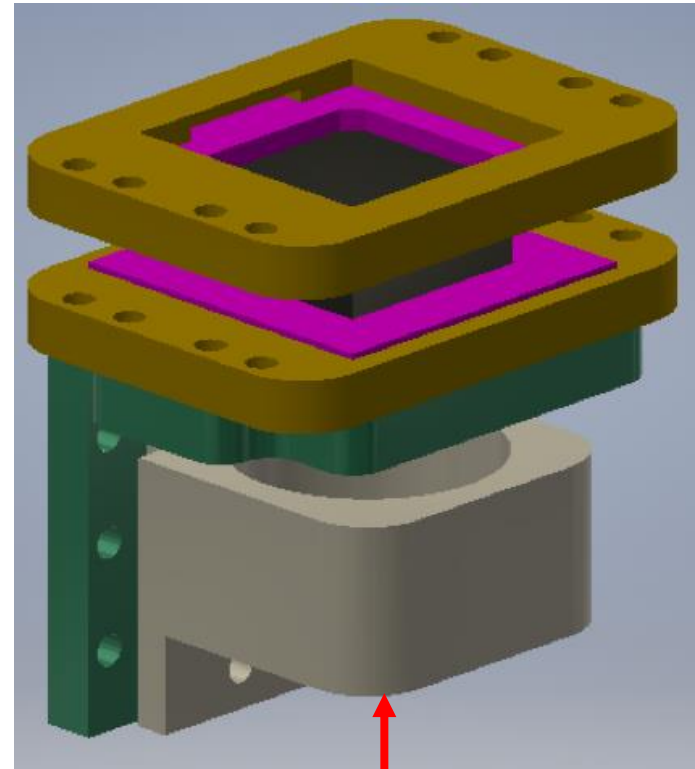
Need to improve  
detector resolution!



# SuperCDMS HVeV Detector R&D



Quasiparticle-trap-assisted  
Electro-thermal-feedback  
Transition-edge sensor  
(QET)



Pulsed monochromatic 650 nm (~1.9 eV) laser

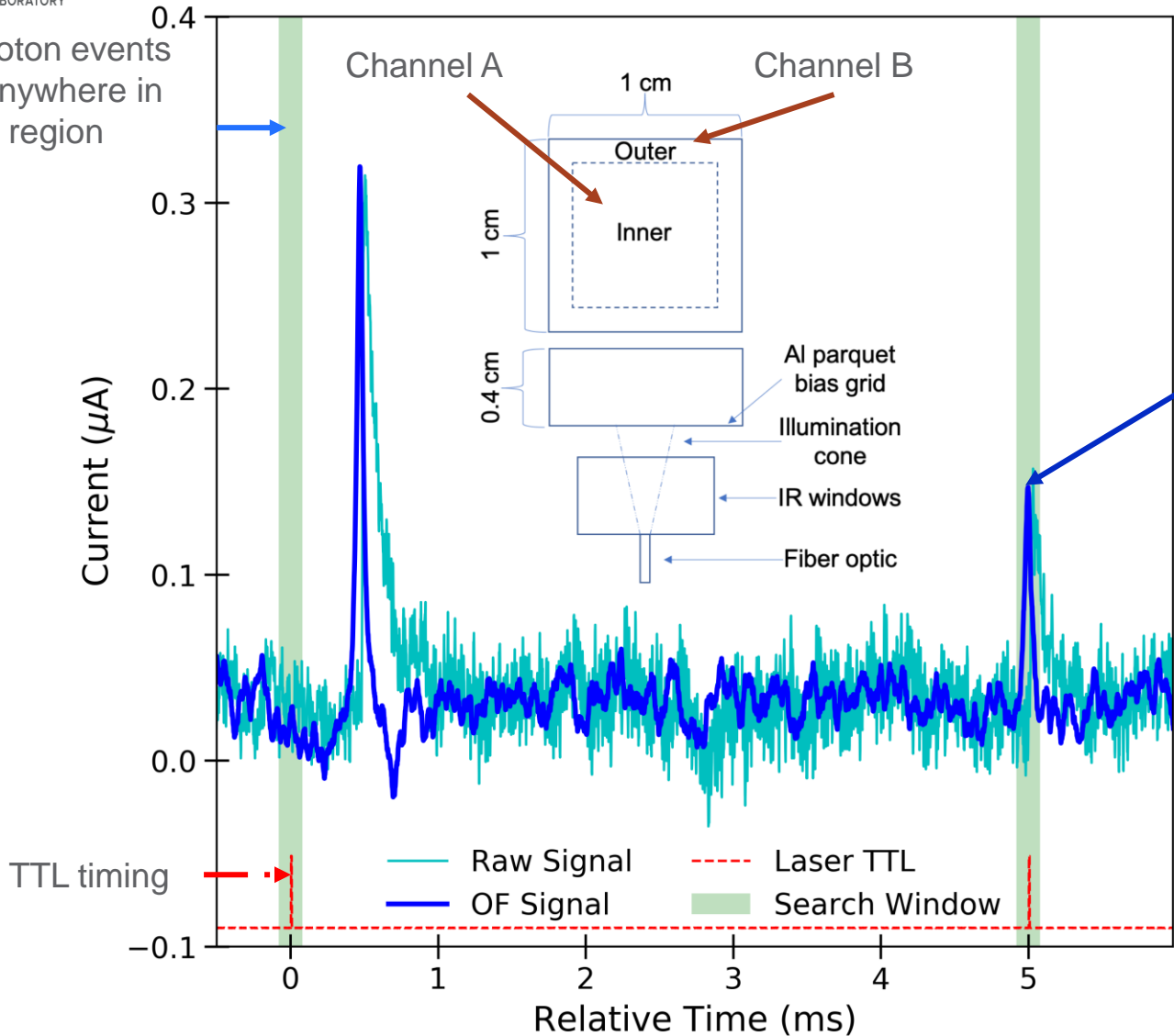
Two channel QET with NTL amplification capabilities



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# Optimal Filtering Processing Pulse Parameters

Zero photon events occur anywhere in this region



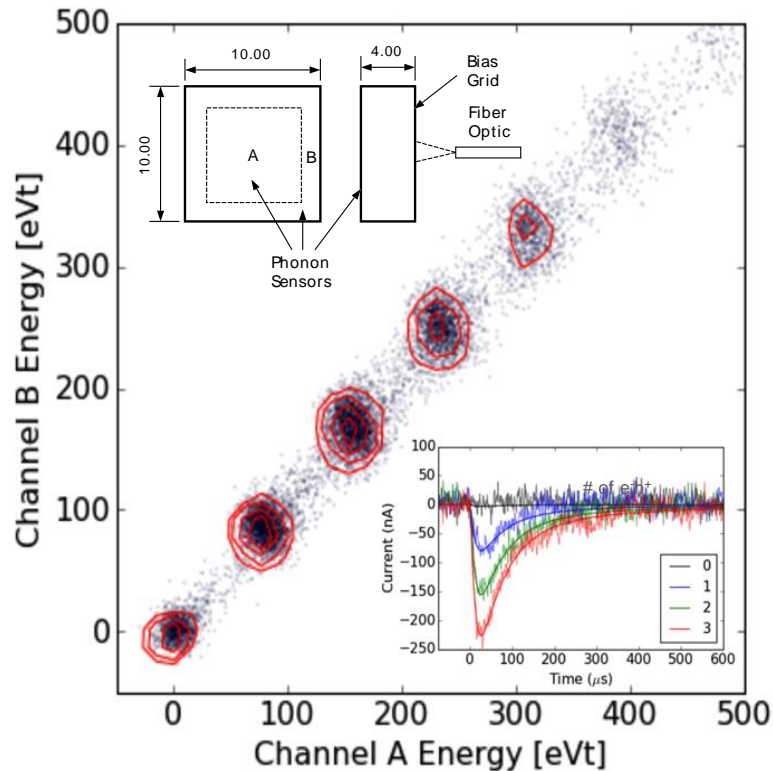
Max OF( $t_i$ ) = amp  
 $t_i$  = pulse timing



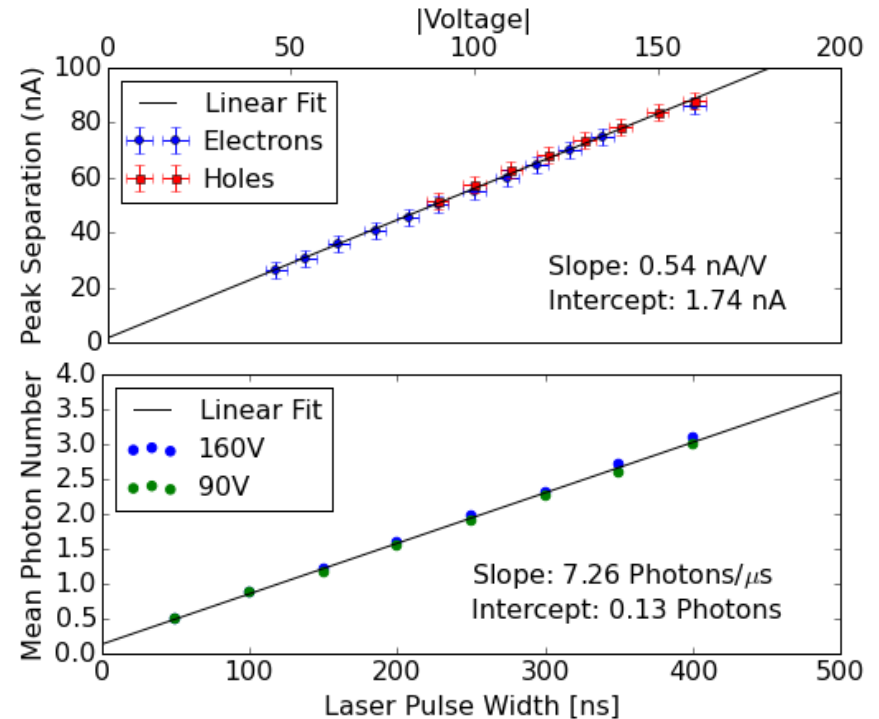
# HVeV Laser Response

Appl. Phys. Lett. 112, 043501 (2018); <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.5010699>

## Integer e<sup>-</sup>h<sup>+</sup> Pairs @ 160V Bias



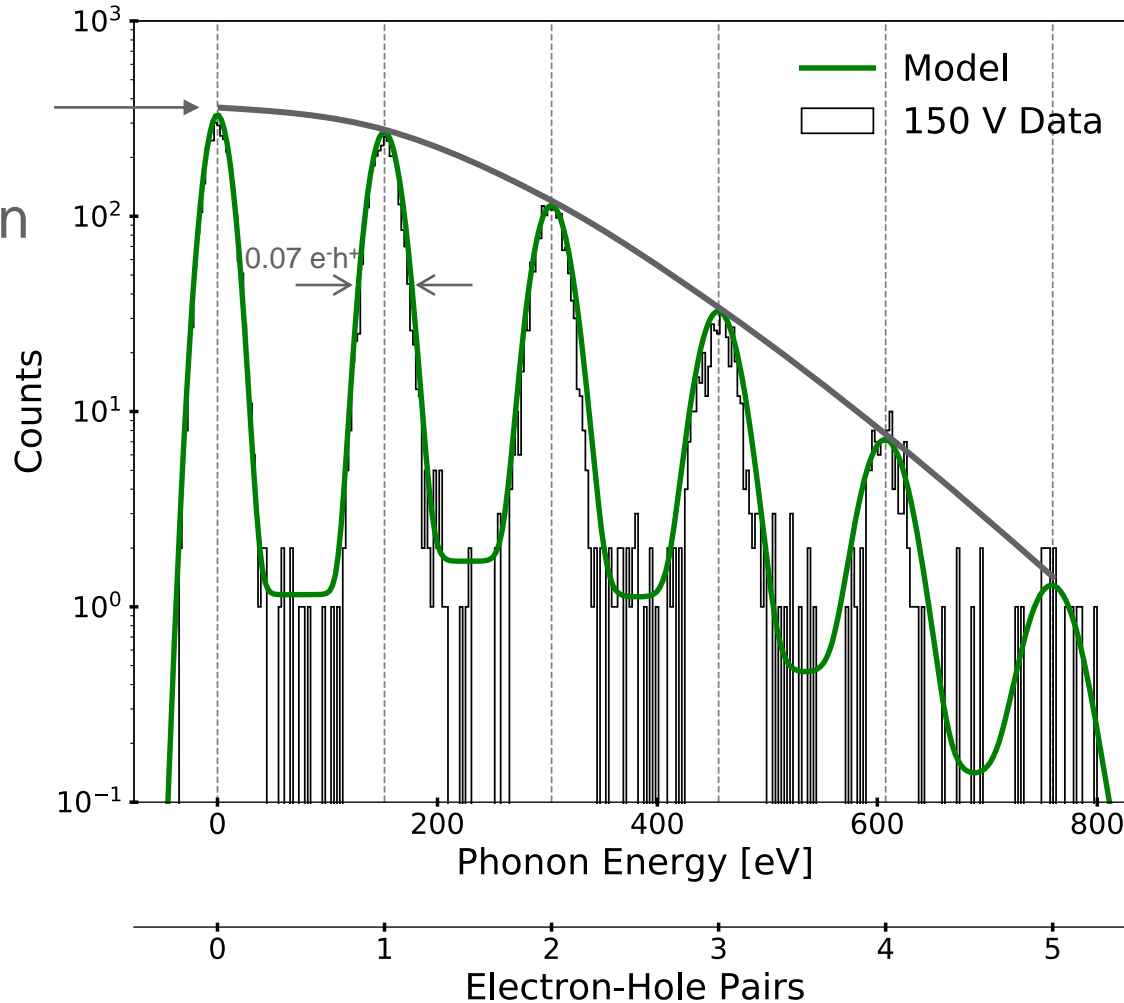
## Gain Linearity



First observation of e<sup>-</sup>h<sup>+</sup> pairs in Si crystal with a phonon sensor

# HVeV Detector Calibration

Poisson  
Envelope  
Distribution

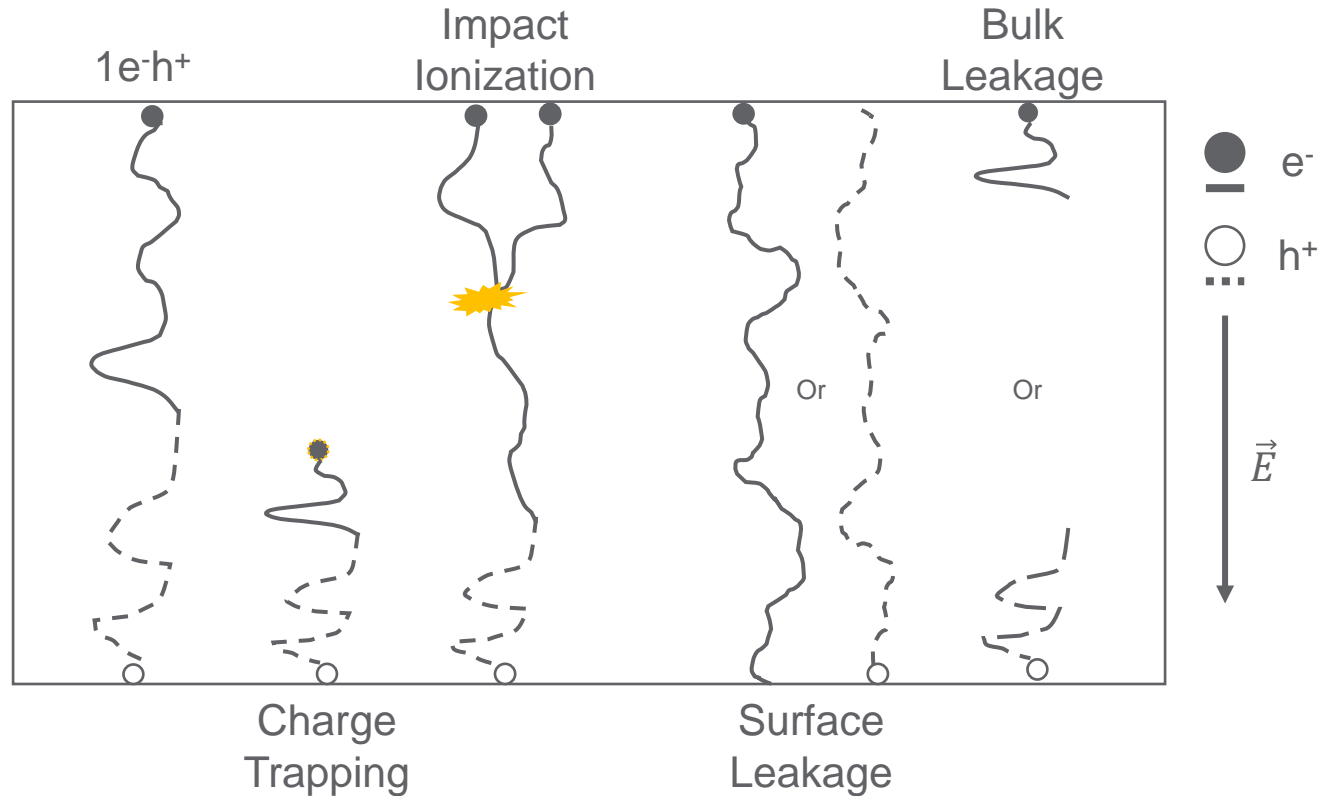


Calibration laser shows new features between peaks!

# Physical Model

## Impact Ionization and Charge Trapping

J. of Low Temp. **199**, 598–605(2020), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10909-020-02349-x>



Single e<sup>-</sup>h<sup>+</sup> pair PDF:

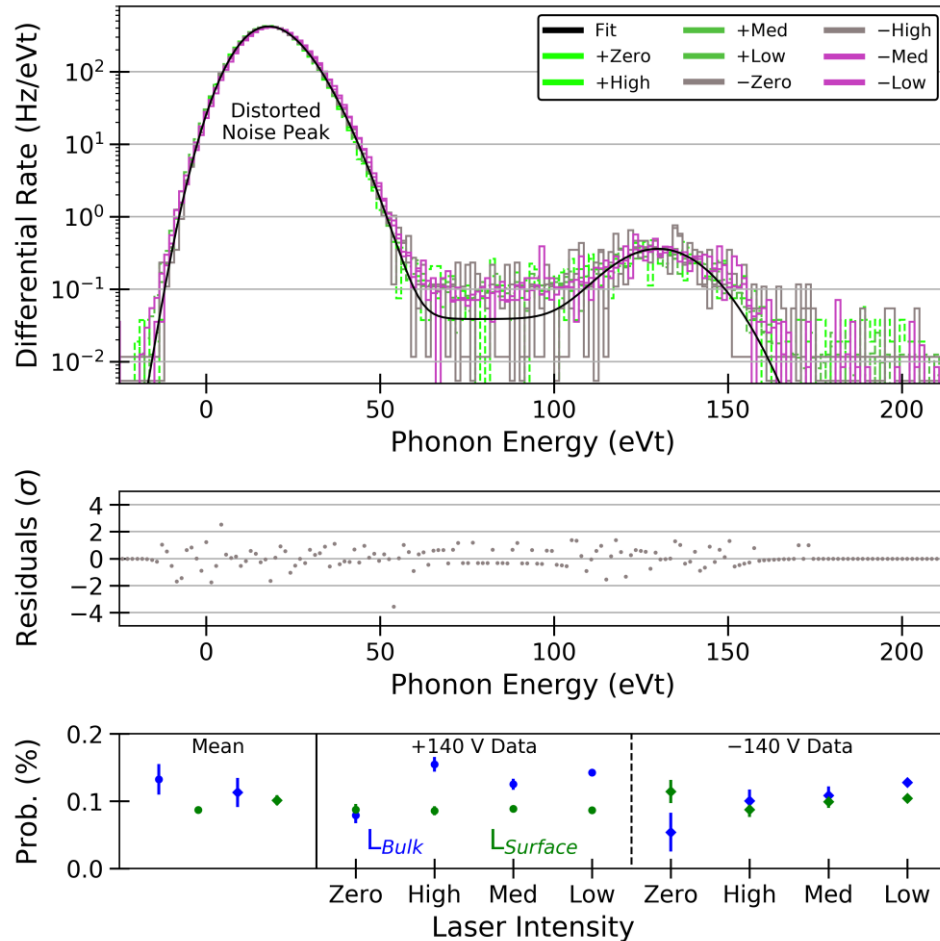
$$^{(1)}h(x) = A_1\delta(x - 1) + A_-\Theta(x - 0)\Theta(1 - x) + A_+\Theta(x - 1)\Theta(2 - x)$$

m<sup>th</sup> e<sup>-</sup>h<sup>+</sup> pair PDF:

$$^{(m)}h(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} ^{(1)}h(x') ^{(m-1)}h(x - x') dx'$$

Where  $A_-$  is the charge trapping probability,  $A_+$  is the impact ionization probability,  $A_1 = (1 - A_- - A_+)$ , and  $\Theta(x)$  is the Heaviside function.

# Detector Leakage Background



The normalized background spectra (top), one residual at -140 V high intensity (middle) and fitted bulk & surface leakage probabilities (bottom) for all 8 configurations.

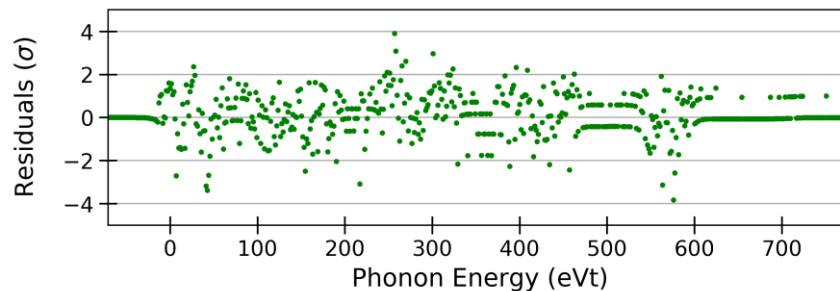
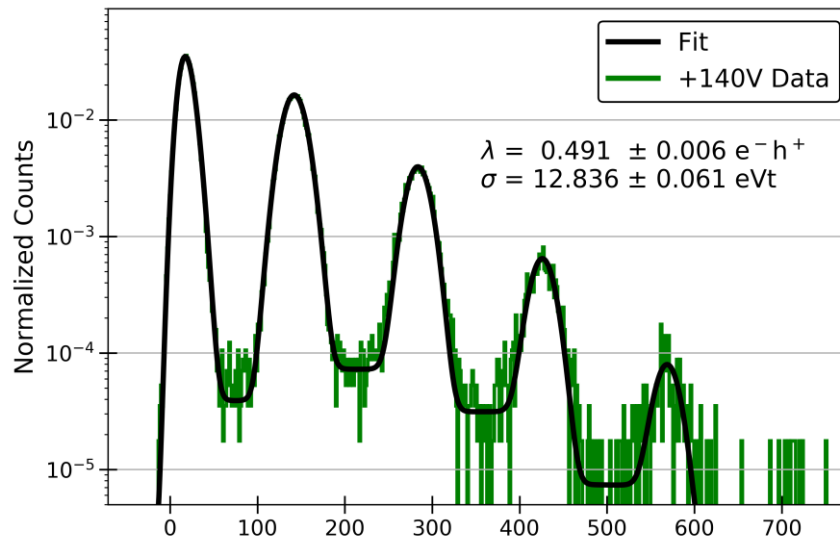
**Weighted Bulk Leakage:**  
 $0.132 \pm 0.023\%$  @ +140 V  
 $0.113 \pm 0.022\%$  @ -140 V

**Weighted Surface Leakage:**  
 $0.087 \pm 0.001\%$  @ +140 V  
 $0.101 \pm 0.007\%$  @ -140 V

# Impact Ionization and Charge Trapping

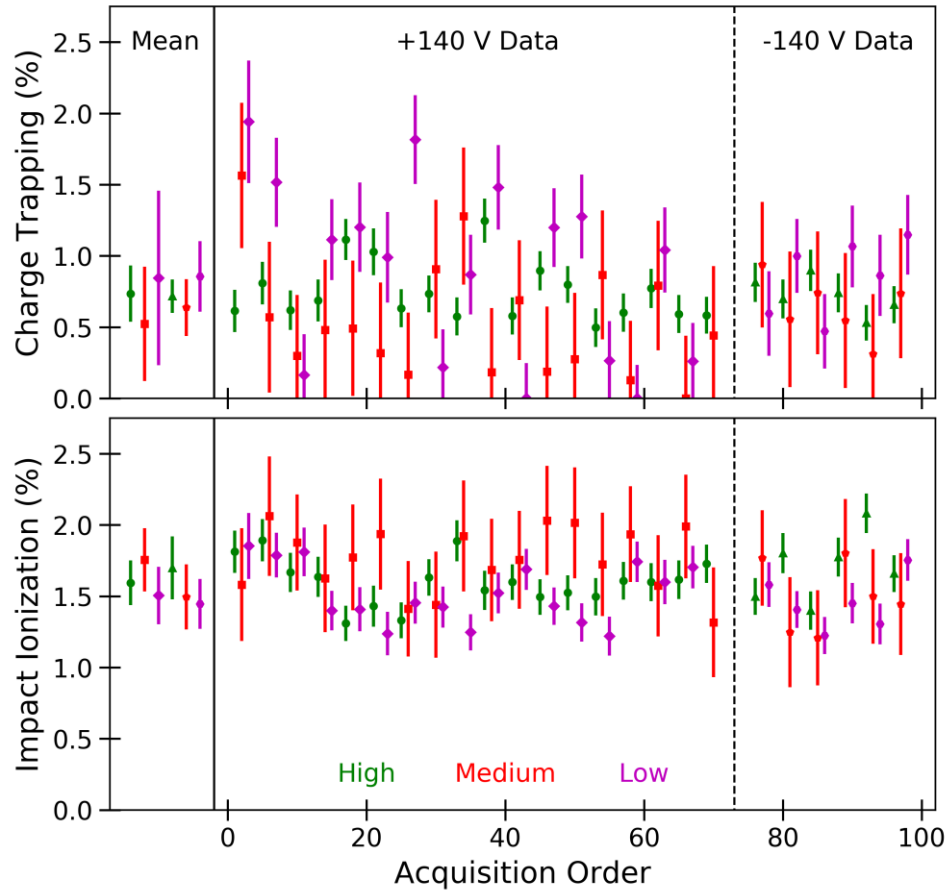
Phys. Rev. D **101**, 031101(R), <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.101.031101>

$$M(x) = \kappa P_0(\lambda) \cdot B(x) + \sum_{m=1}^{m_{max}} P_m(\lambda) \left( {}^{(m)}h \otimes G(\sigma) \right) (x)$$



(Top) Spectrum of laser-induced events (green) after cuts (~4 minutes), with analytical fit (black line) that includes charge leakage, impact ionization and charge trapping. (Bottom) Residuals normalized by the bin counting statistics. Bins with zero counts were artificially set to zero.

# Charge Trapping & Impact Ionization



**Weighted Charge Trapping Probability:**  
 $0.713 \pm 0.093\%$   
Mean free path: 56 cm

**Weighted Impact Ionization Probability:**  
 $1.576 \pm 0.110\%$   
Mean free path: 25 cm

# Outline

✓ Dark Matter

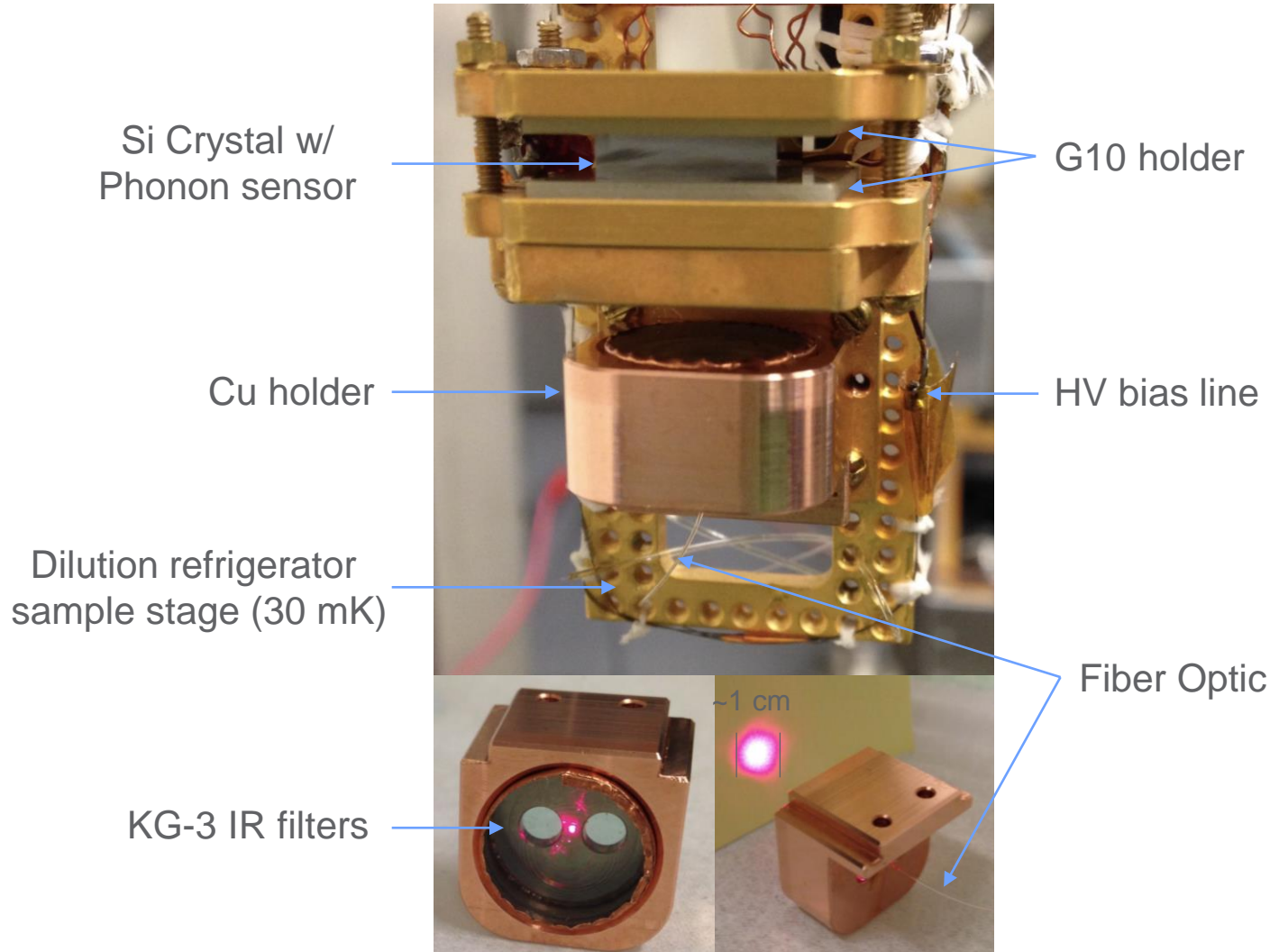
✓ Detector R&D Developments

➤ DM Search

1. Run 1: Stanford University
2. Run 2: Northwestern University
3. Analysis and DM Exclusion

# Stanford University Run 1

Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 051301, <https://doi.org/PhysRevLett.121.051301>

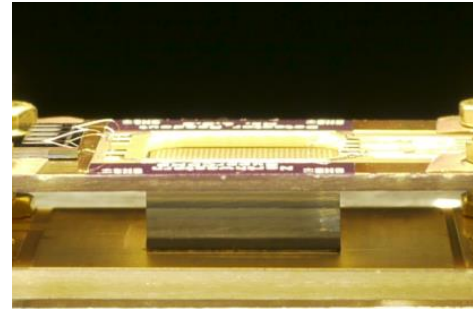
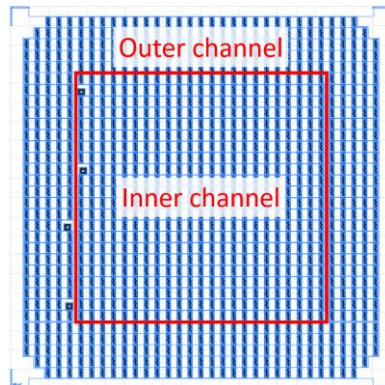


NTL Amplification and monochromatic source



# Northwestern University Run 2

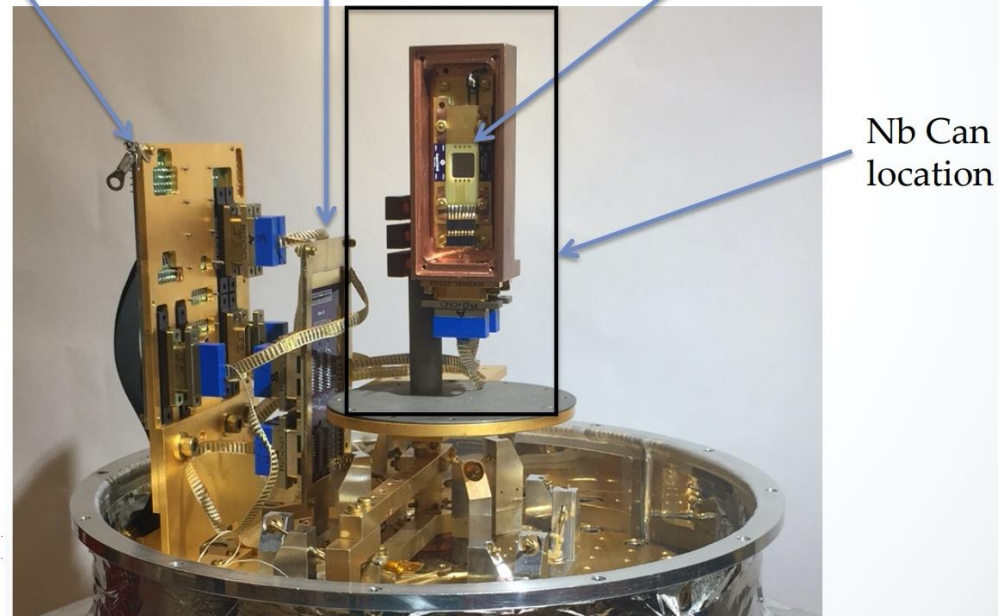
Phys. Rev. D **102**, 091101(R), <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.102.091101>



Readout board  
SQUIDS  
(~1.3K)

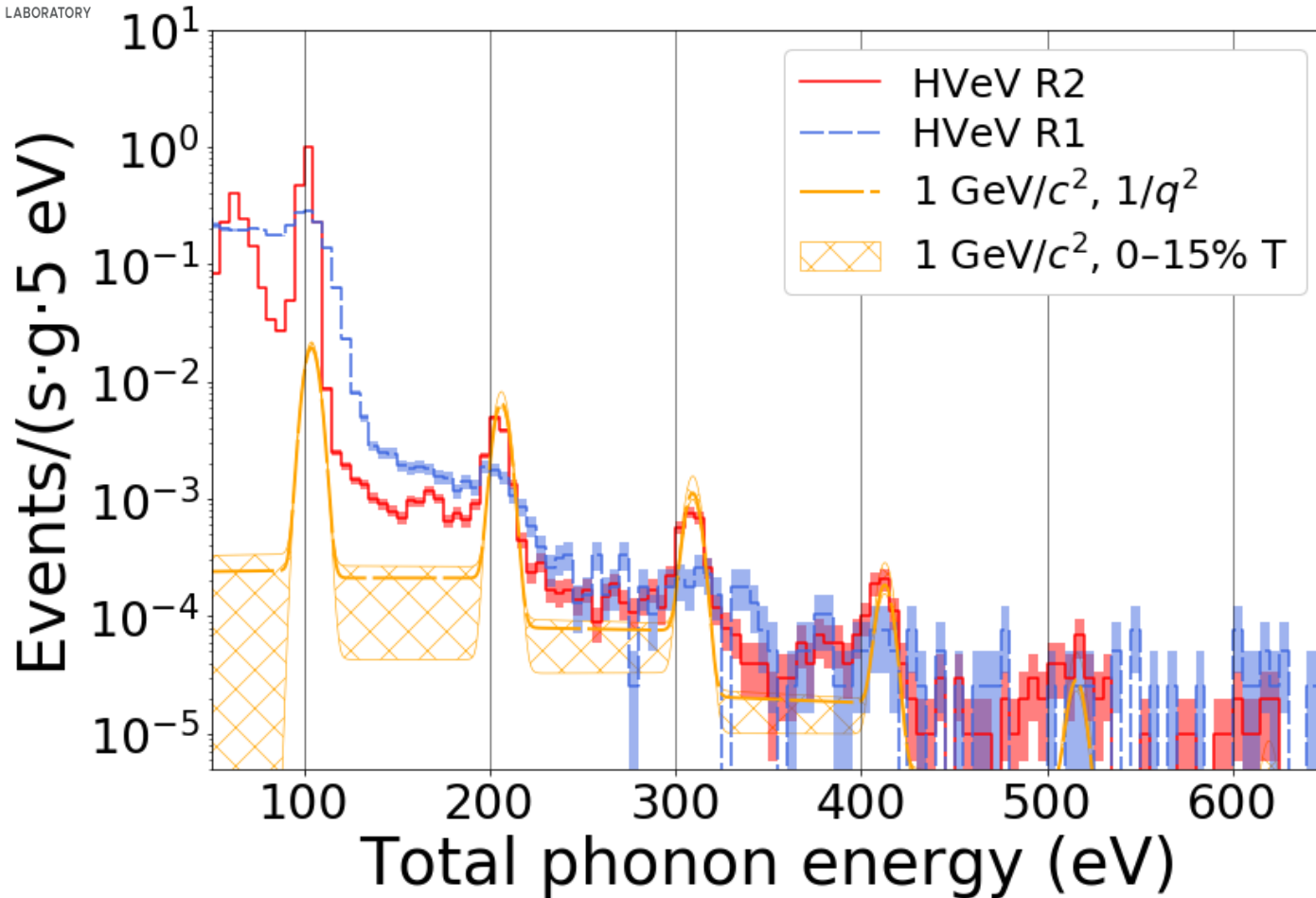
GGG heat sinking  
(~300mK)

Detector Box  
(~50mK)



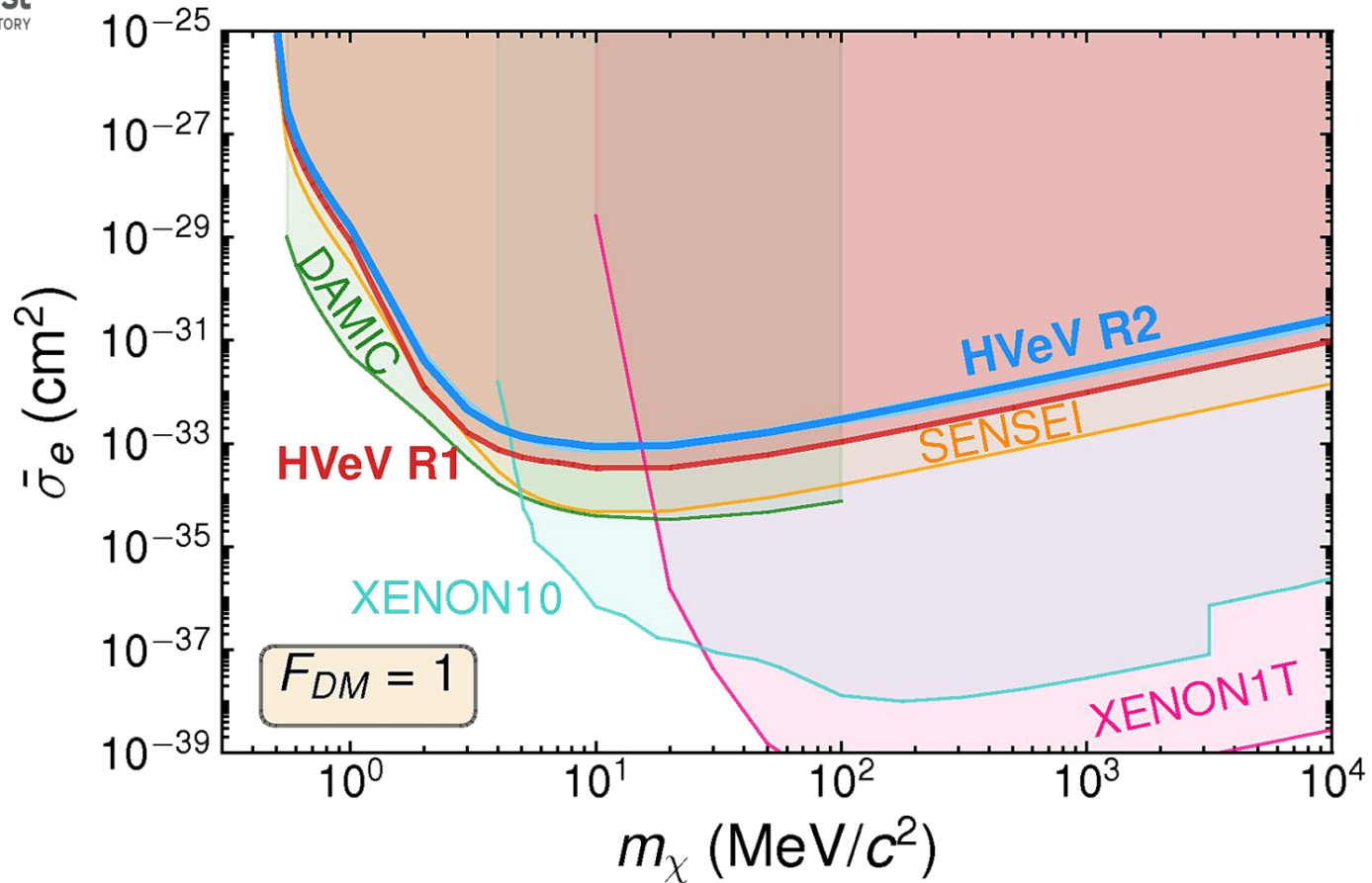
LED illumination from QET side

# DM Search Run 2



DM search spectrum are similar in the two runs.

# Electron Recoil DM Search

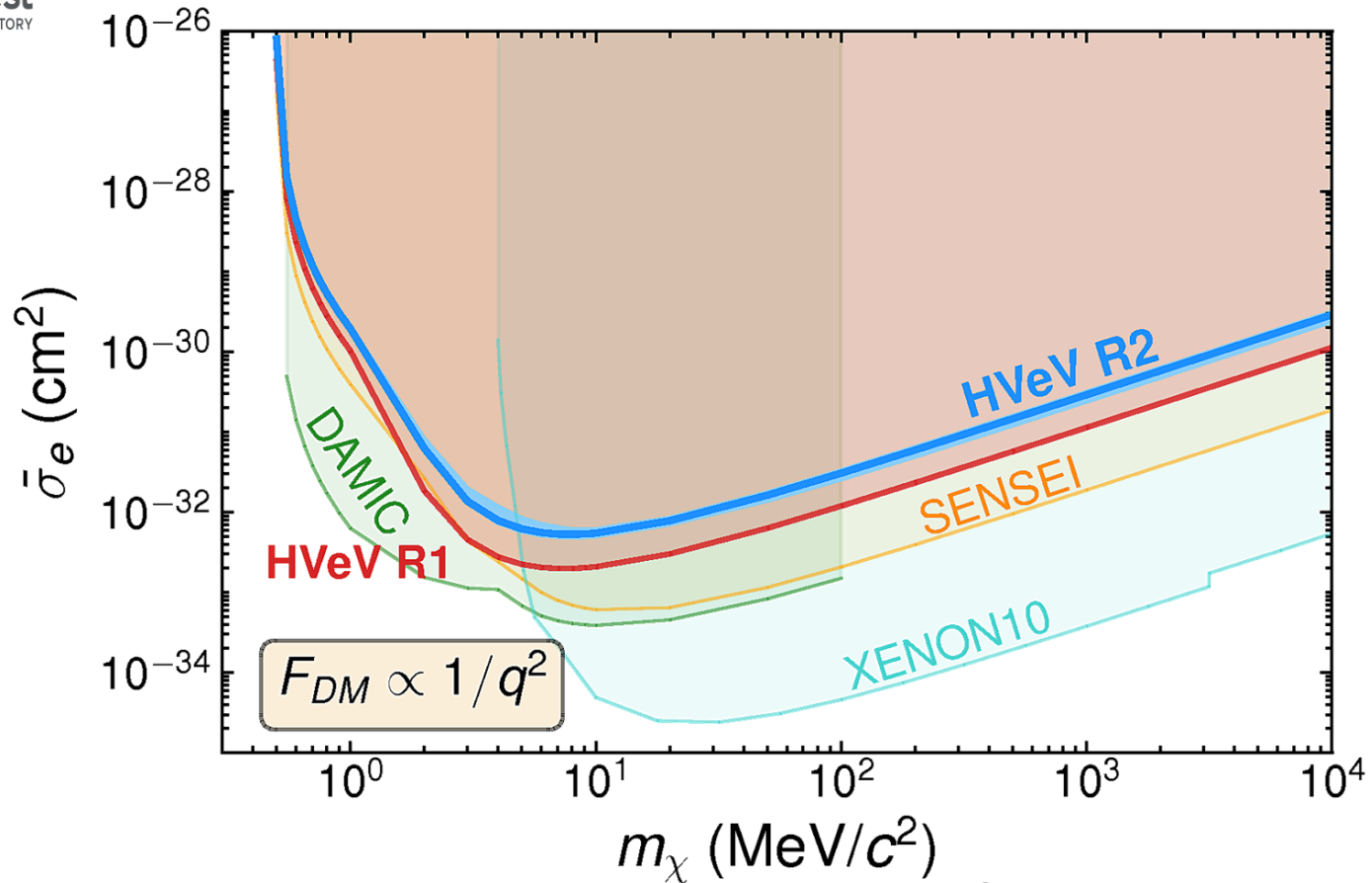


$$\frac{dR}{d(\ln(E_R))} = V_{Det} \frac{\rho_{DM}}{m_\chi} \frac{\rho_{Si}}{2m_{Si}} \bar{\sigma}_e \alpha \frac{m_e^2}{\mu_\chi^2} I_{Crystal}$$

Eqn. from [http://www.doi.org/10.1007/JHEP05\(2016\)046](http://www.doi.org/10.1007/JHEP05(2016)046)

Improved heavy mediator ERDM limits to 0.5 MeV

# Electron Recoil DM Search

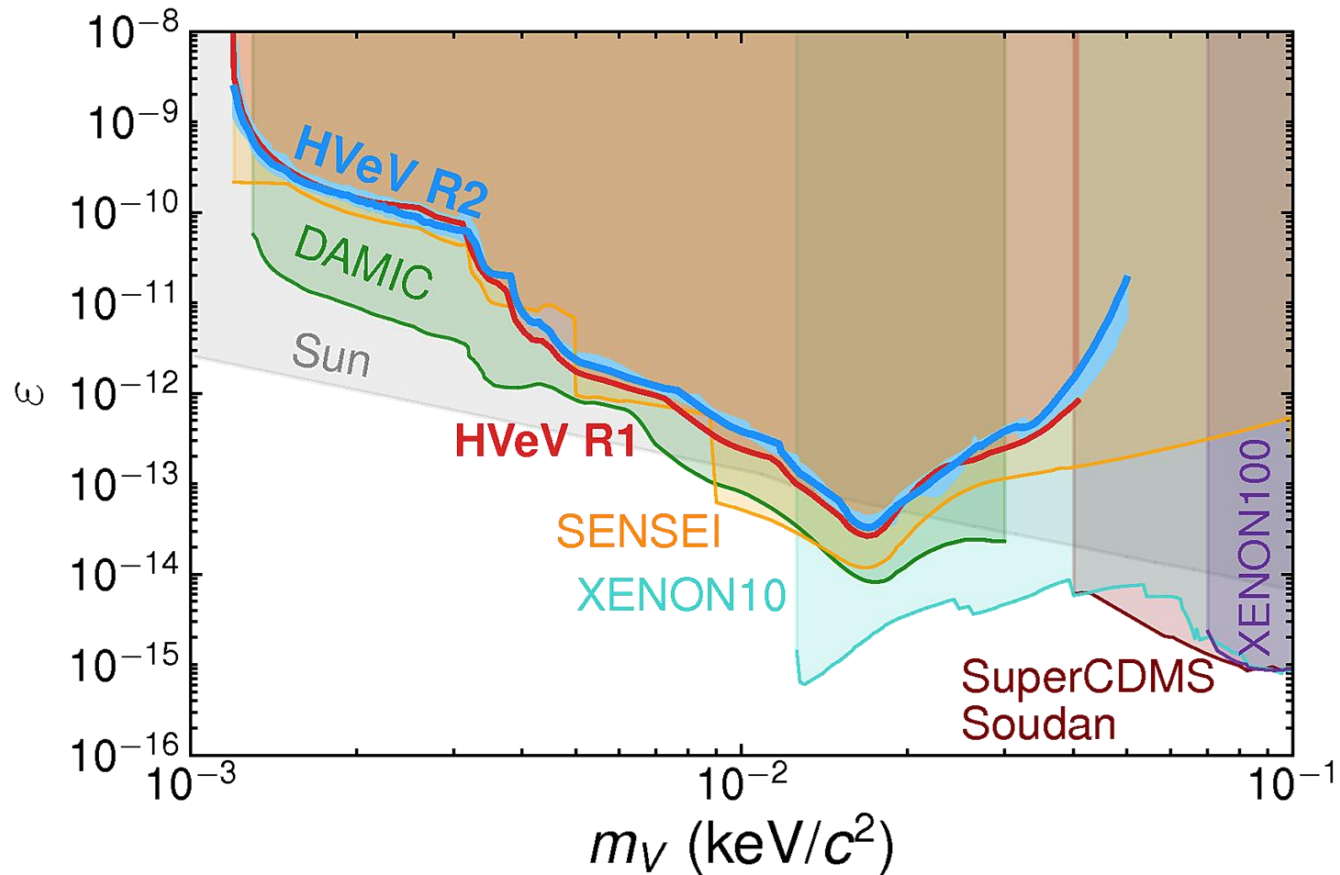


$$\frac{dR}{d(\ln(E_R))} = V_{Det} \frac{\rho_{DM}}{m_\chi} \frac{\rho_{Si}}{2m_{Si}} \bar{\sigma}_e \alpha \frac{m_e^2}{\mu_\chi^2} I_{Crystal}$$

Eqn. from [http://www.doi.org/10.1007/JHEP05\(2016\)046](http://www.doi.org/10.1007/JHEP05(2016)046)

Improved heavy mediator ERDM limits to 0.5 MeV

# Dark Photon DM Search



$$R = V_{Det} \frac{\rho_{DM}}{m_V} \varepsilon_{eff}^2(m_V, \sigma) \sigma_1(m_V)$$

Eqn. from <http://www.doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.95.023013>

Dark photon limit is consistent with other measurements

# Conclusion

- Single  $e^-h^+$  pair resolution with NTL gain
- Achieved comparable sensitivity to that reported by DAMIC for Dark Photons
- Improved constraints on inelastic ERDM for both heavy and light mediators down to 0.5 MeV
- Developed technique to measuring IICT
- Model is integrated into new DM search

# Questions...

<https://xkcd.com/2268/>

We believe this resolves  
all remaining questions  
on this topic. No further  
research is needed.

## References

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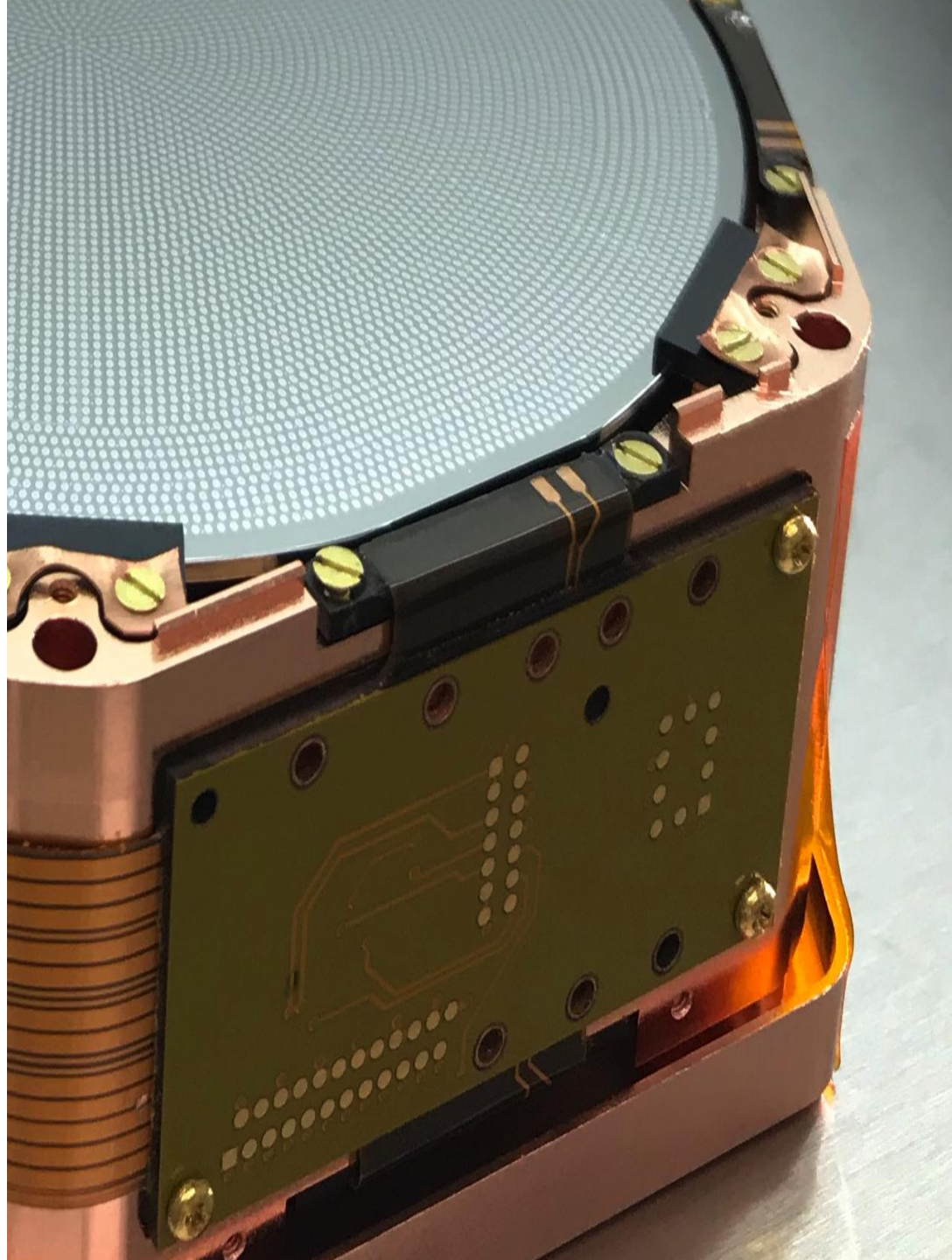
1. [Illegible]
2. [Illegible]
3. [Illegible]
4. [Illegible]

JUST ONCE, I WANT TO SEE A RESEARCH  
PAPER WITH THE GUTS TO END THIS WAY.



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## Backup Slides







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# Questions...

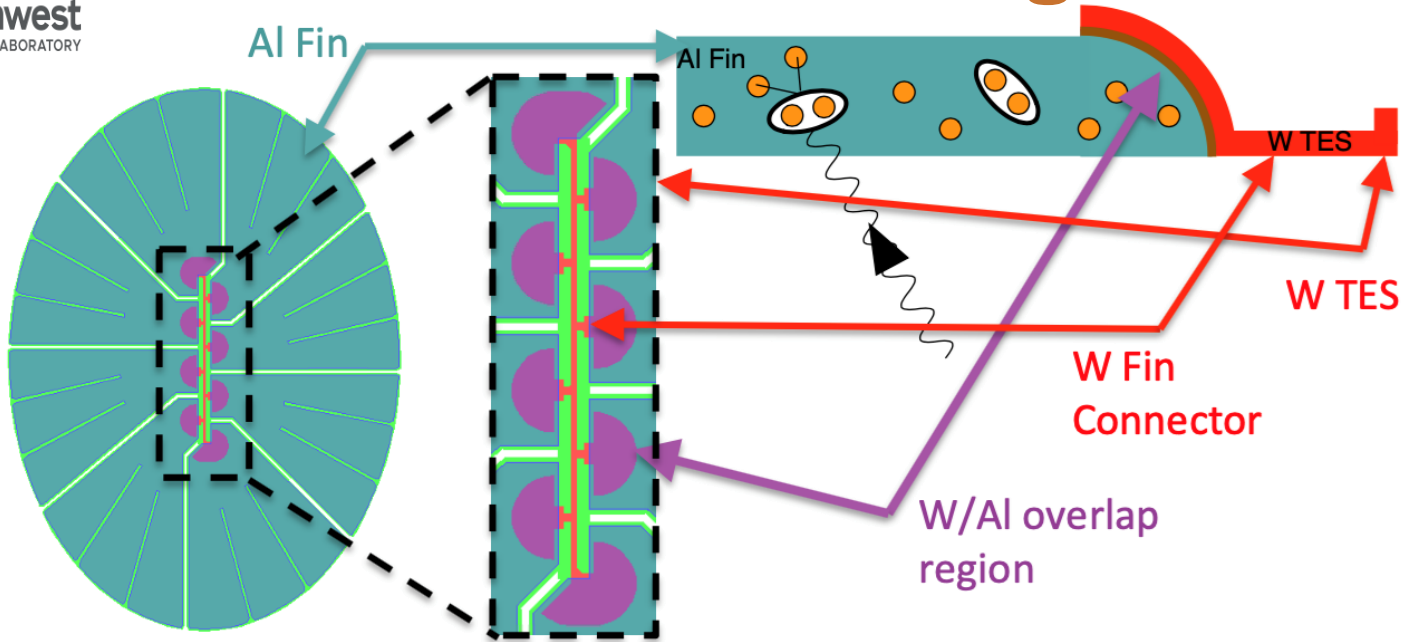
<https://loadingartist.com/comic/out-of-sight/>





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# QET Design

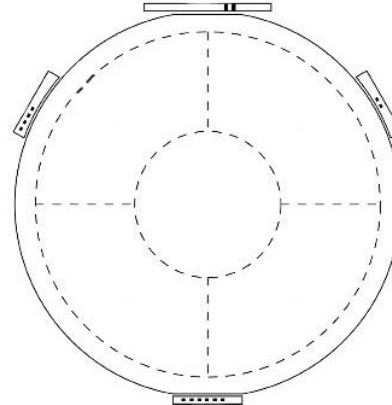
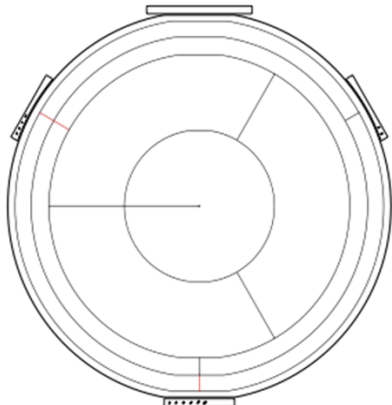


High Voltage (HV):

- Phonon signal
- Large Bias Voltage
- Neganov-Trofimov-Luke Effect

interleaved Z-dependent Ionization and Phonon (iZIP):

- Phonon signal
- Charge signal
- Small Bias Voltage



# Outline

✓ Dark Matter

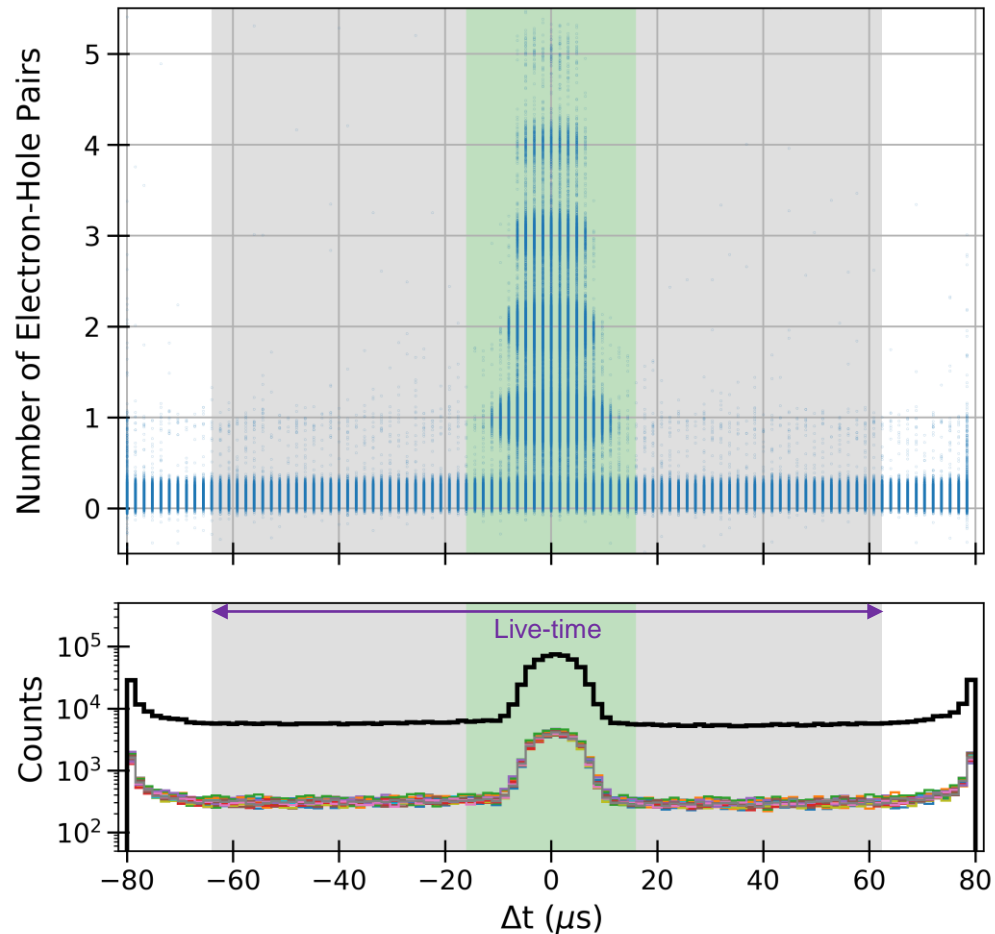
✓ Detector R&D Developments

✓ DM Search

## ➤ Improved Detector Modeling

1. Charge trapping and impact ionization model
2. Data Quality
3. Background analysis
4. Charge trapping and impact ionization analysis

# Background Selection

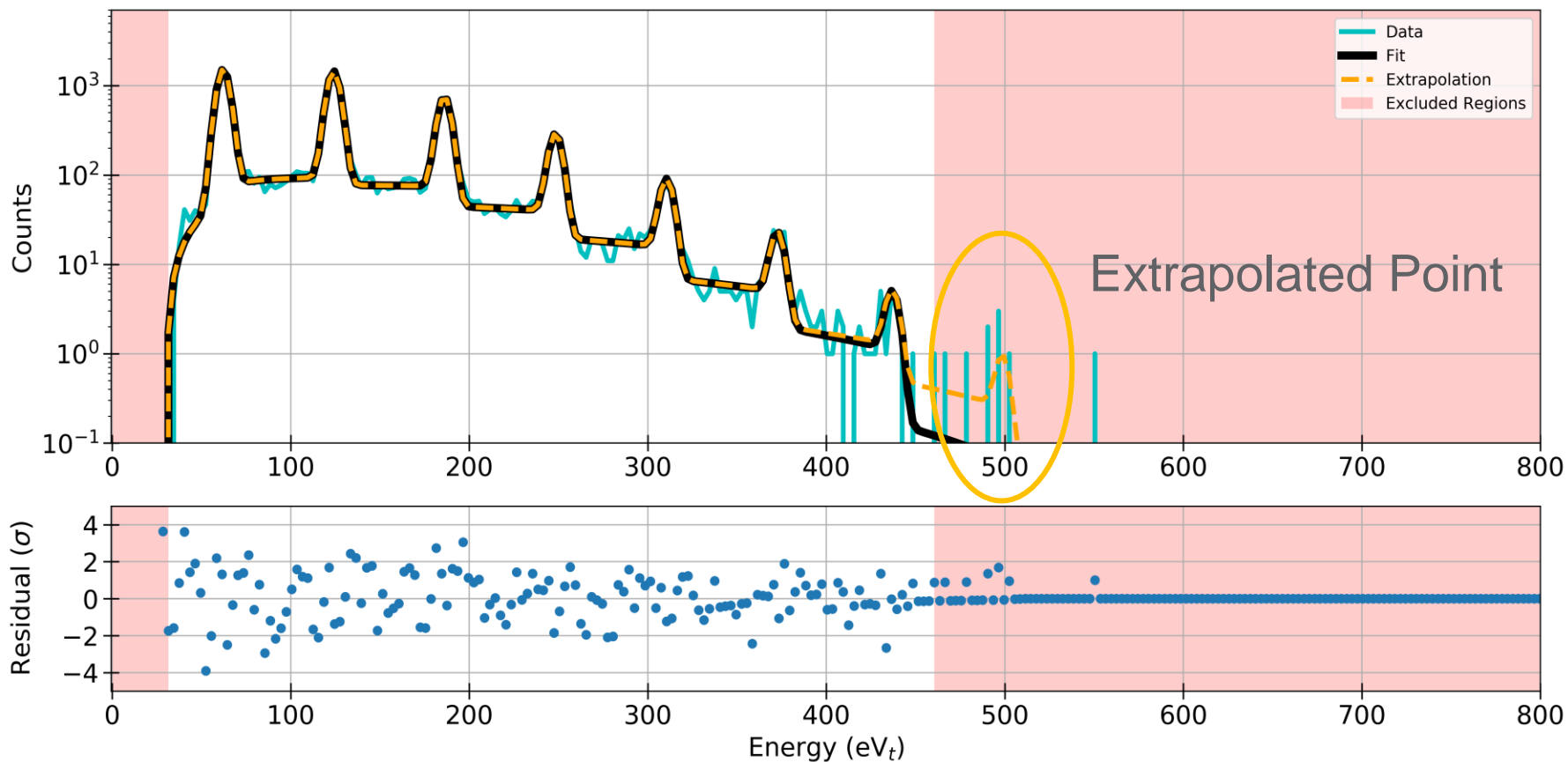


Energy (top) and counts (bottom) of events as a function of the pulse OF arrival time relative to laser TTL

Background can be selected based on timing

# Run 2 Analysis

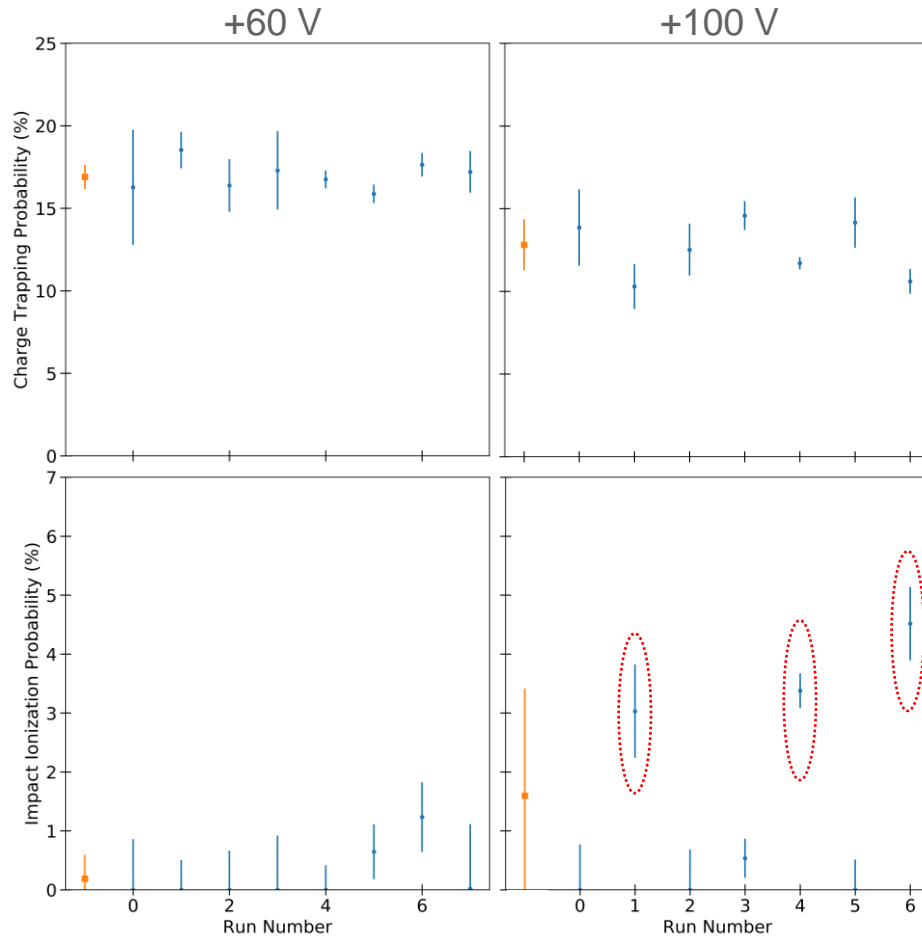
$$M_{eff}(x) = erf\left(\frac{x - x_{eff}}{\sqrt{2\sigma_{eff}^2}}\right) \sum_{m=1}^{m_{max}} P_m(\lambda) \left( {}^{(m)}h \odot G(\sigma) \right) (x)$$





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# Charge Trapping & Impact Ionization



**Weighted Charge Trapping Probability:**

$16.9 \pm 0.7\%$  @ 60 V

$13.7 \pm 0.7\%$  @ 100 V

Mean free path: 29 cm & 24 cm

**Weighted Impact Ionization Probability:**

$0.2 \pm 0.4\%$  @ 60 V

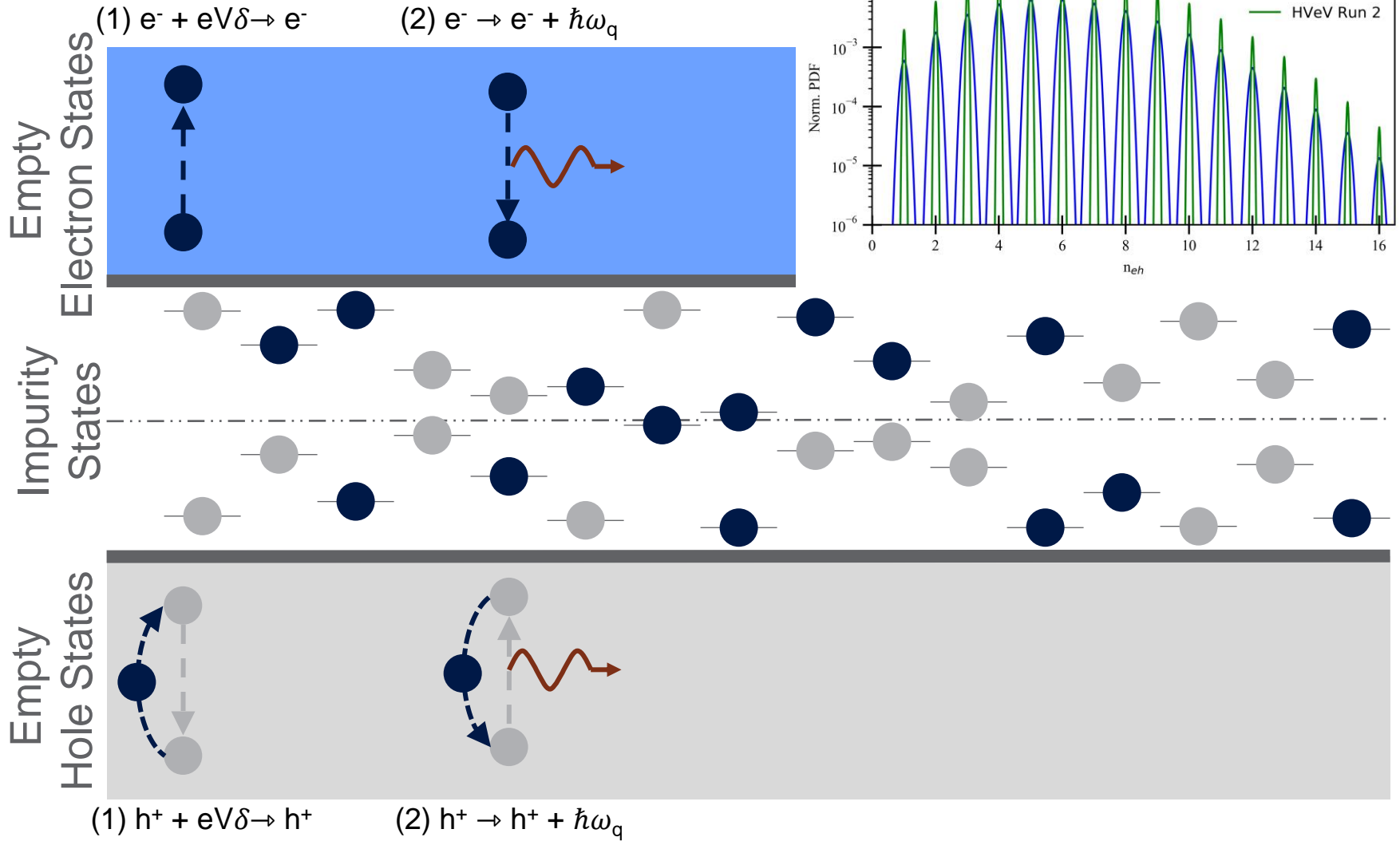
$0.1 \pm 0.2\%$  @ 100 V

Underfits in the 100 V spectra data are excluded from final weighted averages

# Conclusion

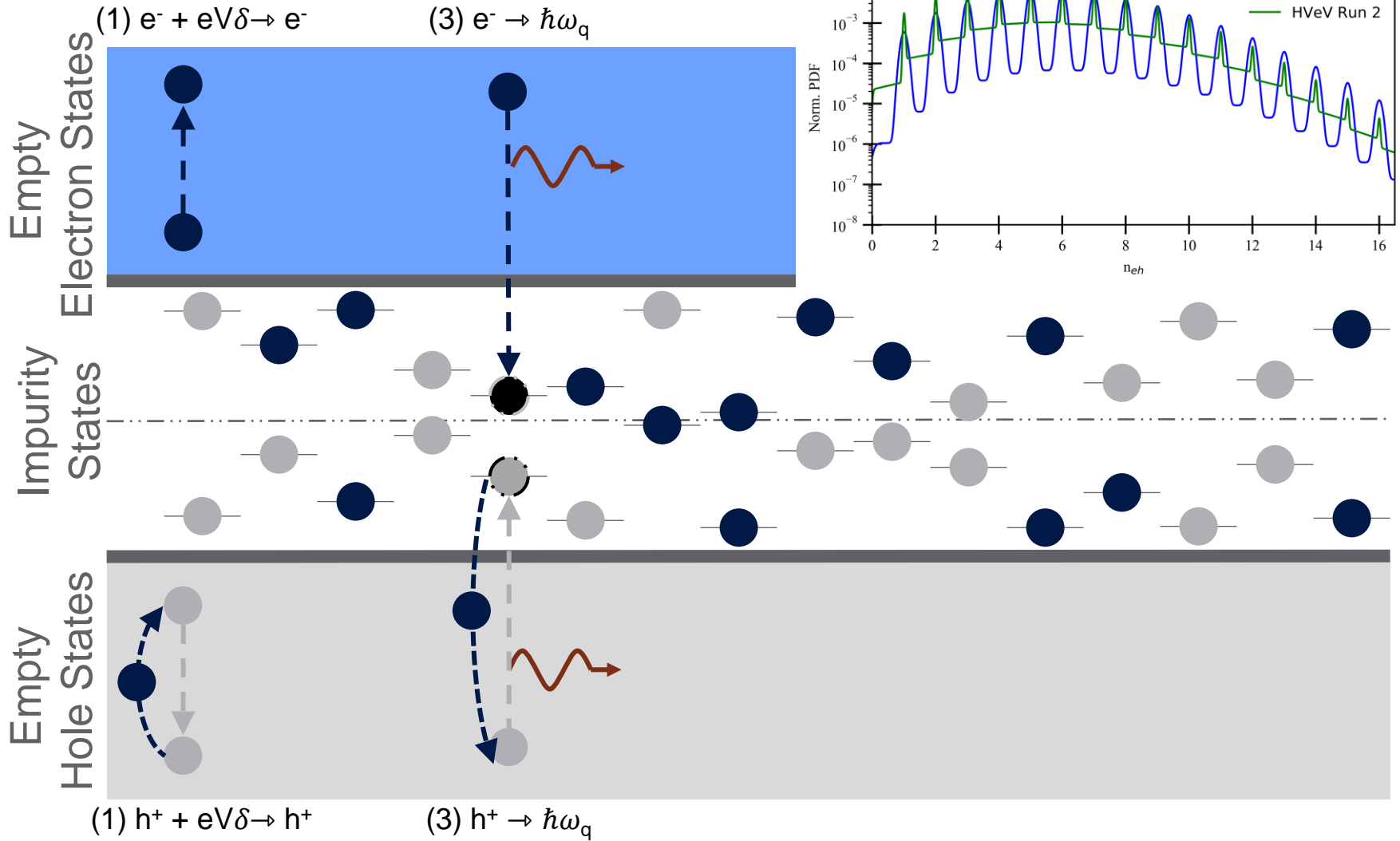
- Single  $e^-h^+$  pair resolution with NTL gain
- Achieved comparable sensitivity to that reported by DAMIC for Dark Photons
- Improved constraints on inelastic ERDM for both heavy and light mediators down to 0.5 MeV
- Demonstrate time domain OF for semi-continuous mode acquisitions
- Developed technique to measuring IICT
- Observed no dependence on crystal polarity
- Observed dependence on crystal bias voltage
- Model is integrated into new DM search

# NTL Amplification

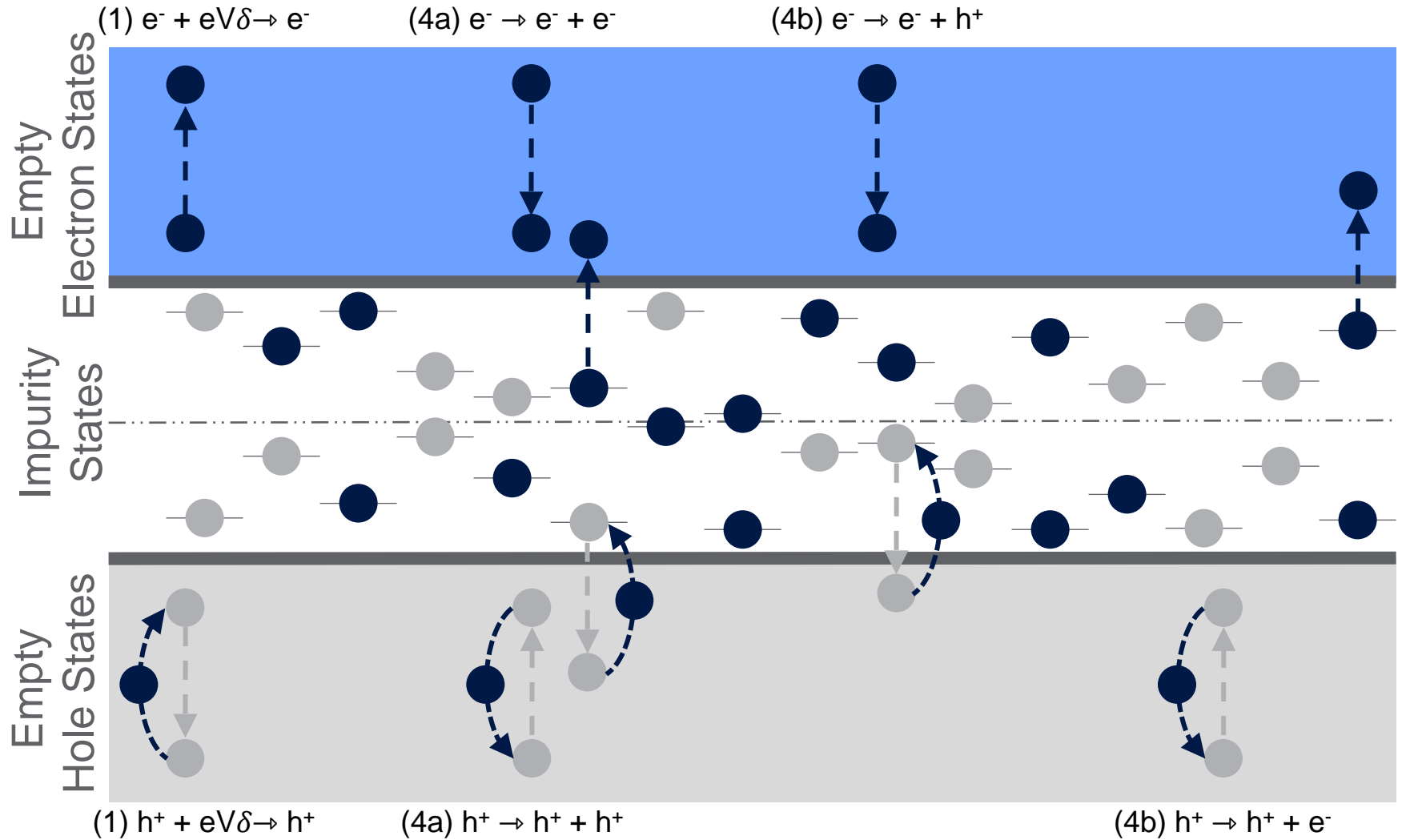




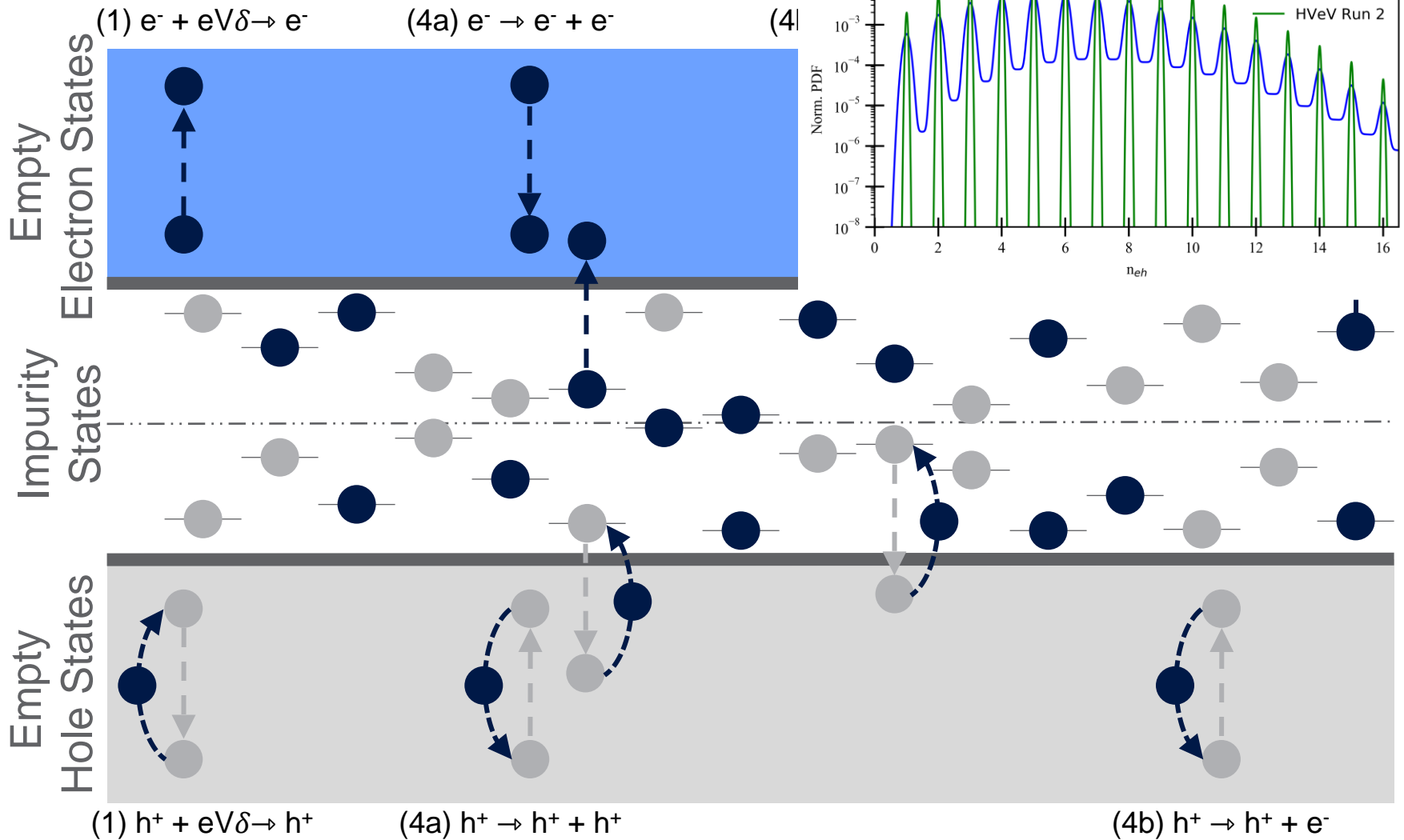
# Charge Trapping



# Impact Ionization

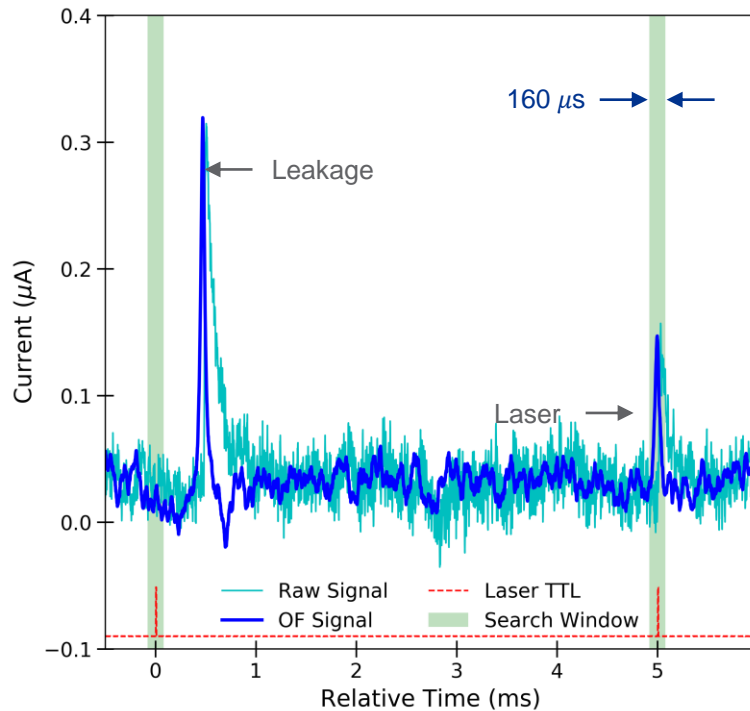


# Impact Ionization



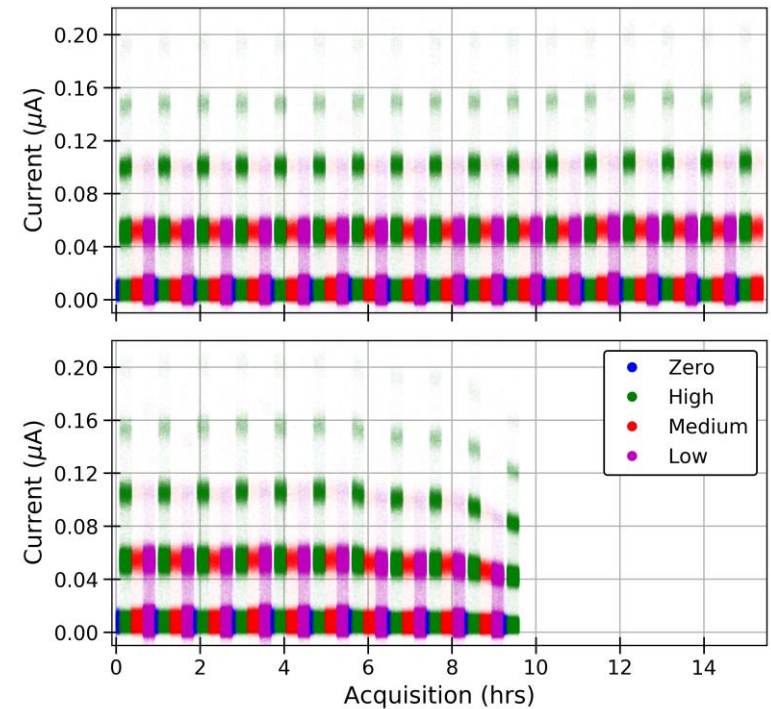
# Semi-Continuous Acquisition

## Tagged Laser Events



Time-shifting optimal filter (OF) amplitude as a function of time (blue curve).

## Detector Stability

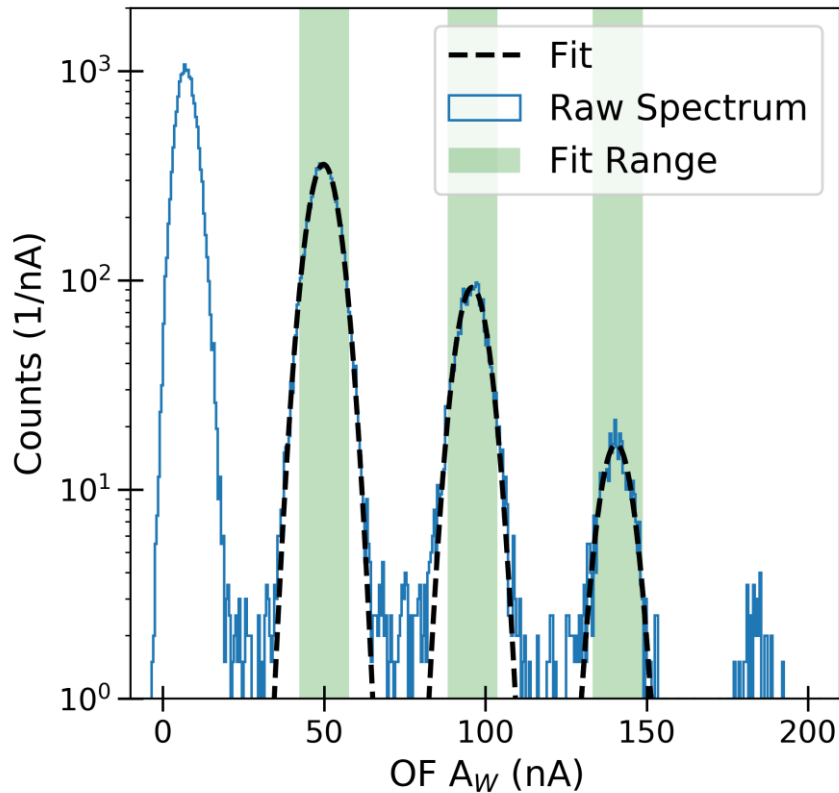


Detector responsivity over 27(18) hours of real-time acquisition with a  $\pm 140$  V bias and four intensities for 8 configurations.

Eight configurations used in study and DR was nominally stable throughout

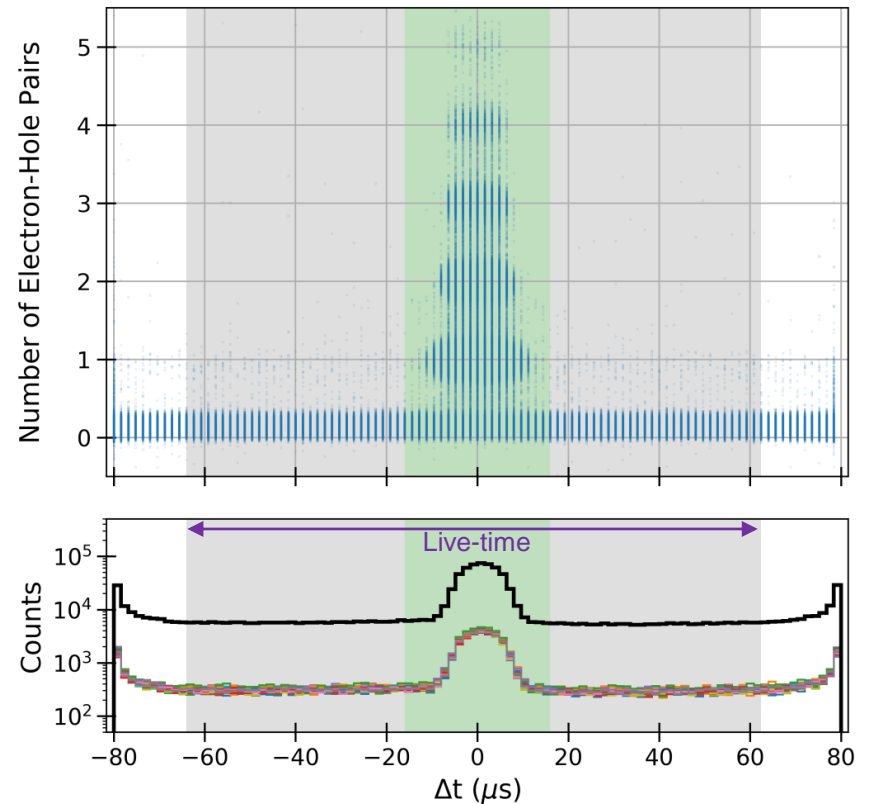
# Calibration & Background

## Peak Fitting



Calibration was performed using the centroids of a Gaussian fit to the 1, 2, & 3  $n_{eh}$  peaks.

## Relative Arrival Time



Energy (top) and counts (bottom) of events as a function of the OF estimated relative arrival time.

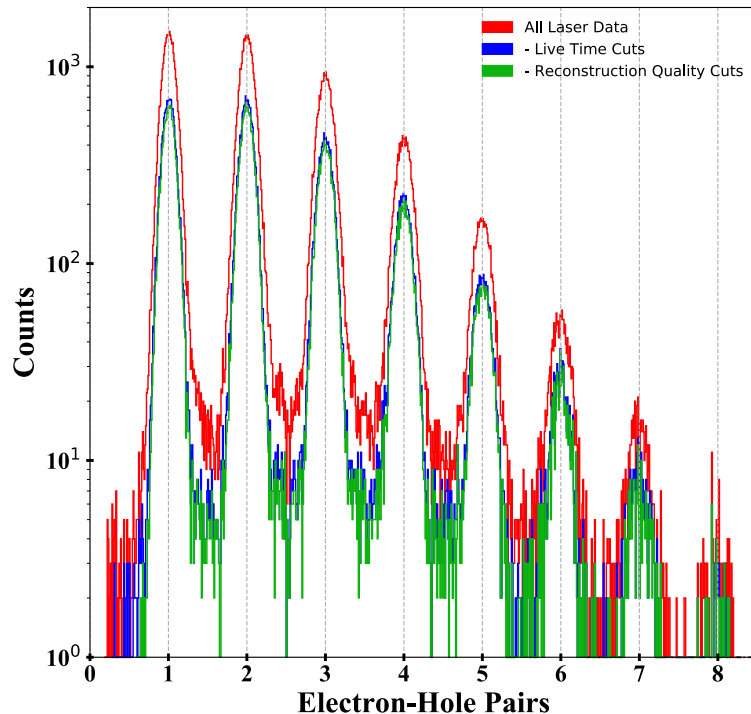
Background can be selected based on timing



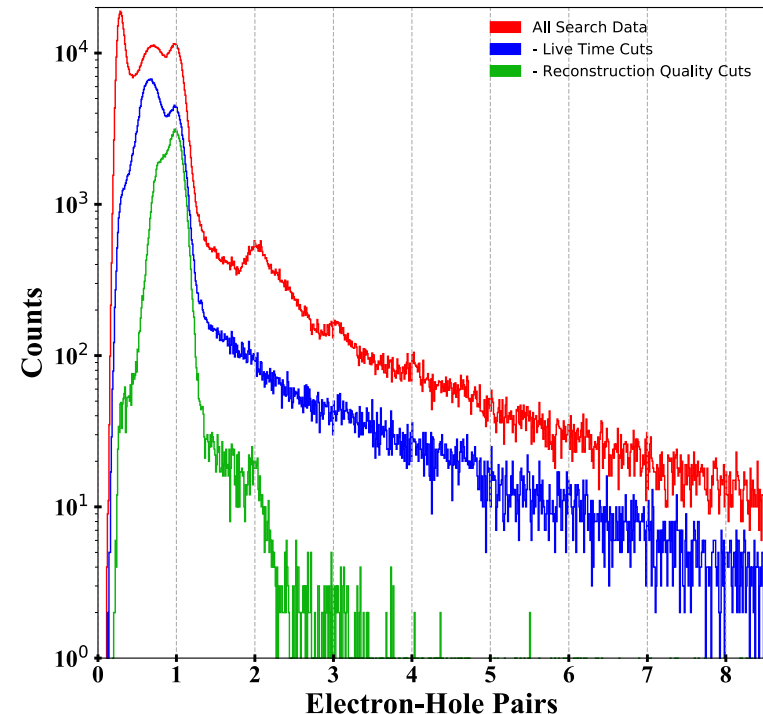
Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

# Data Selection Run 1

## Calibration Laser Data



## DM Search Data



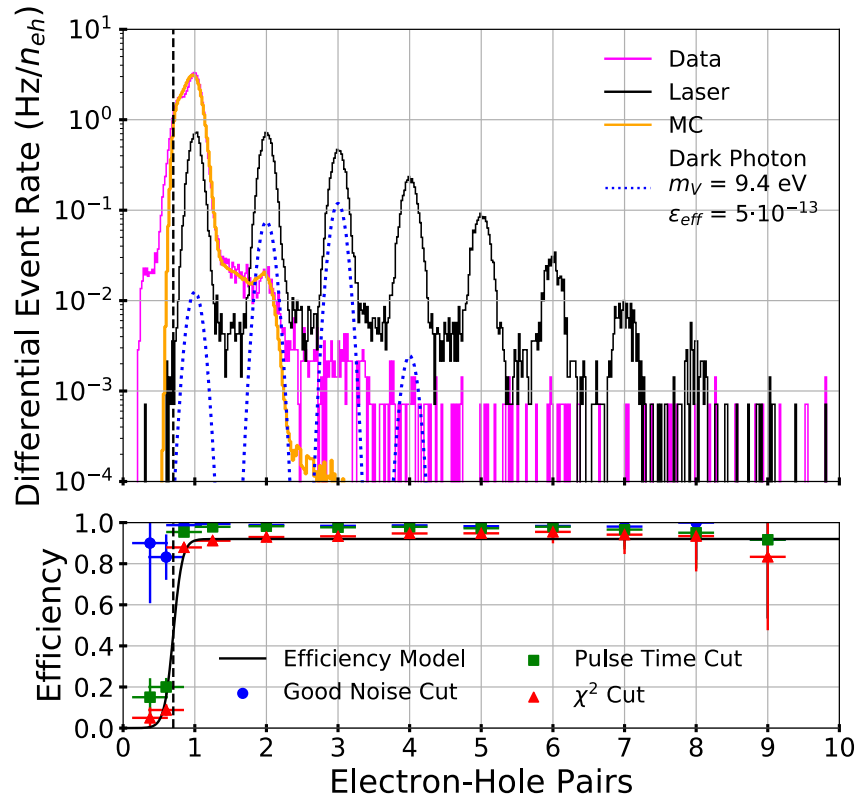
Periods of high low-frequency background, high surface leakage, and poor system stability were removed as part of the live time cuts. Events with excessive noise in the pre-trigger, start times far from the trigger window or bad time domain chi-square were rejected as part of the reconstruction quality cuts.

Science exposure of 0.49 gram-days

# DM Search Data Run 1

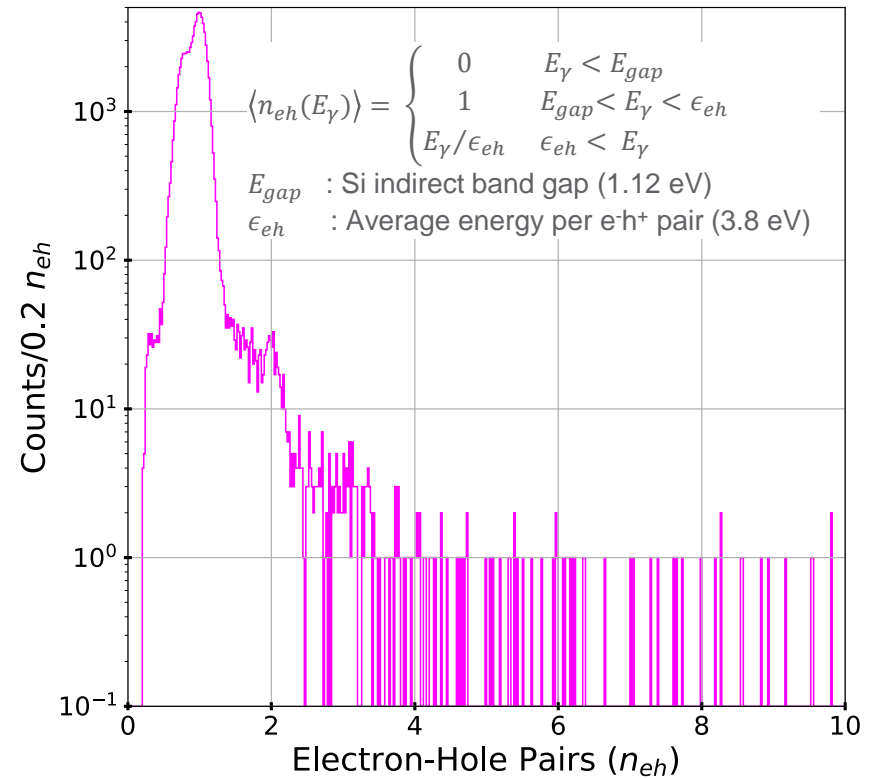
Phys. Rev. Lett. **121**, 051301 (2018); <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.121.051301>

## Models and Cut Efficiency



Laser spectrum is used to calculate the reconstruction quality cut efficiency

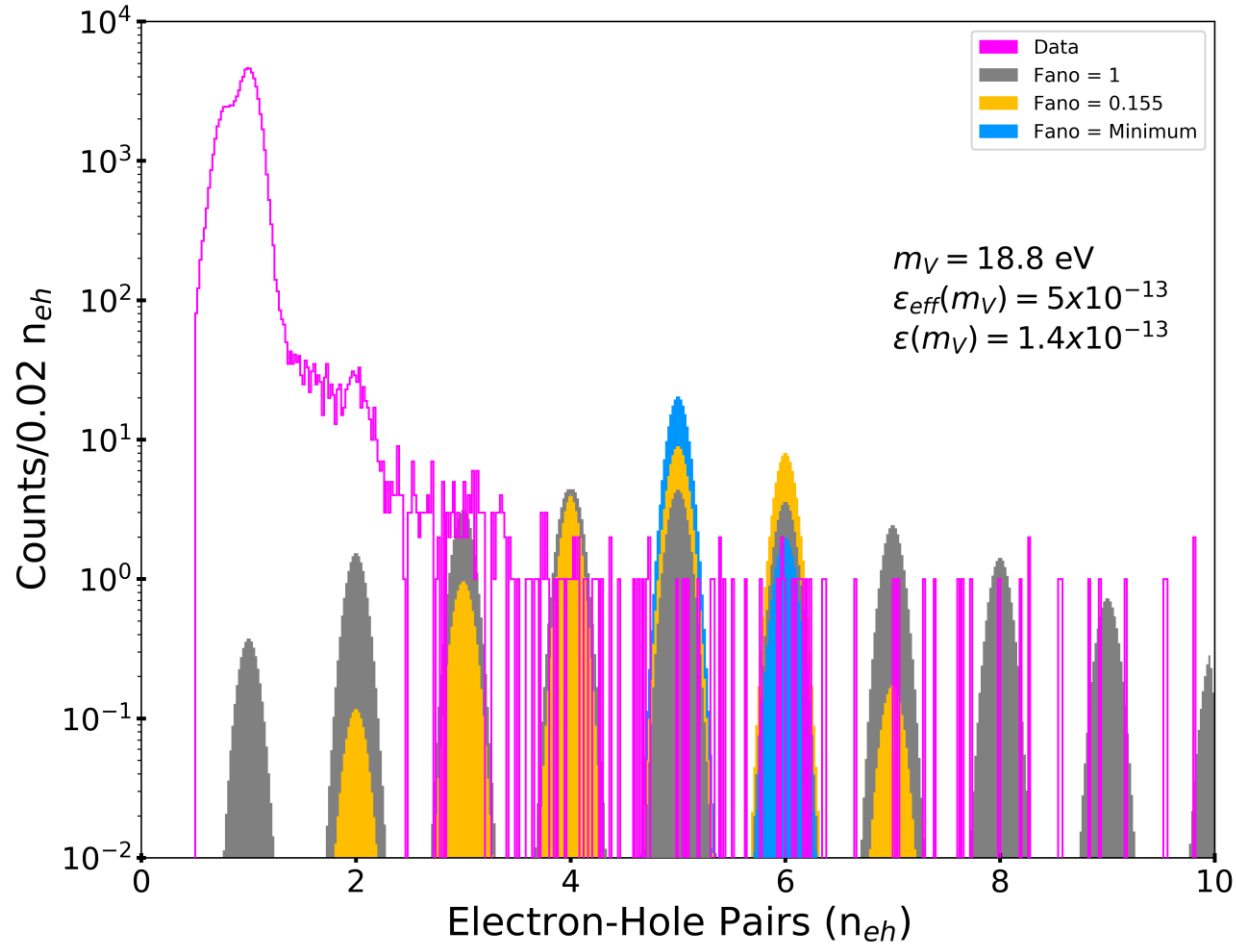
## Optimal Interval



Optimal interval method is applied to sections of data within  $2\sigma$  of quantized laser peaks.

Limit search region to expected DM signal regions

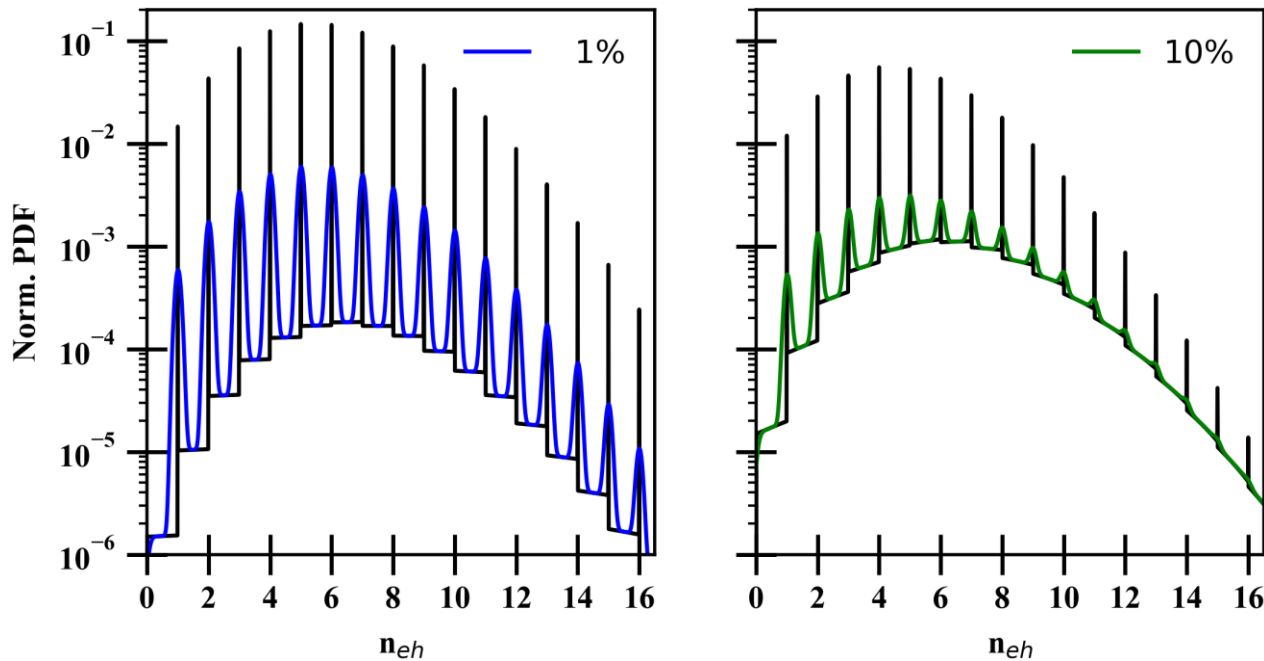
# DM Search Data Run 1



Example of modeling a Dark Photon no IICT is considered



# Detector Laser Response w/ Charge Trapping and Impact Ionization

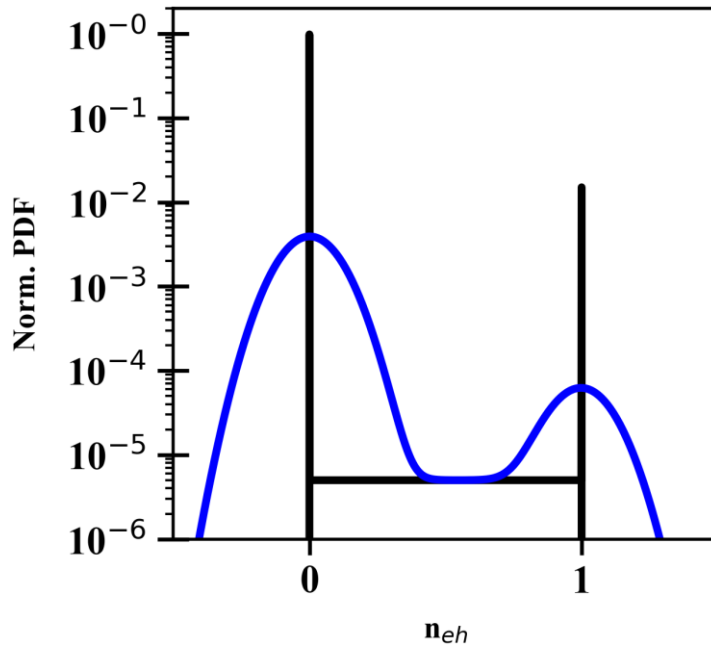


$$M'(x) = \sum_{m=1}^{m_{max}} P_m(\lambda) \left( {}^{(m)}h \otimes G(\sigma) \right) (x)$$

Where  $P_m(\lambda)$  is the Poisson distribution,  $\lambda = 6$  is the average number of photons per pulse,  $m$  is the number of photons,  $G(\sigma)$  is the Gaussian distribution, and  $\sigma = 0.1 e^-h^+$  is the detector resolution.

# Leakage Background

$$R(x) = R_{Surf} \delta(x - c_1) + \frac{R_{Bulk}}{(c_1 - c_0)} \Theta(x - c_0) \Theta(c_1 - x)$$

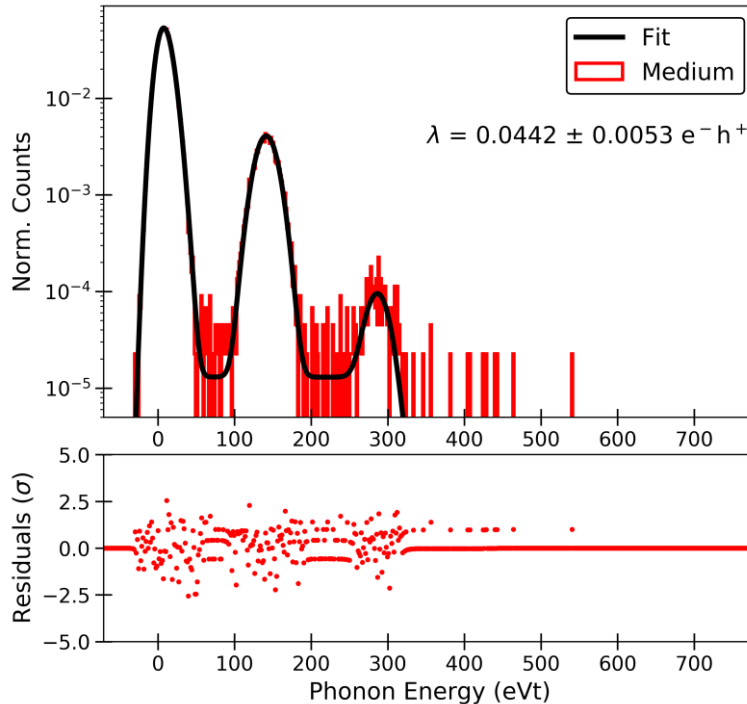


$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{NL_0}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(x-c_0)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \left( \frac{B(x)}{2} \left( 1 + \operatorname{erf} \left( \frac{x-c_0}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2}} \right) \right) \right)^{N-1} \\
 &+ \frac{L_{Surf}}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(x-c_1)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \\
 &+ \frac{L_{Bulk}}{(c_1 - c_0)} \left( \operatorname{erf} \left( \frac{x-c_0}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2}} \right) - \operatorname{erf} \left( \frac{x-c_1}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2}} \right) \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

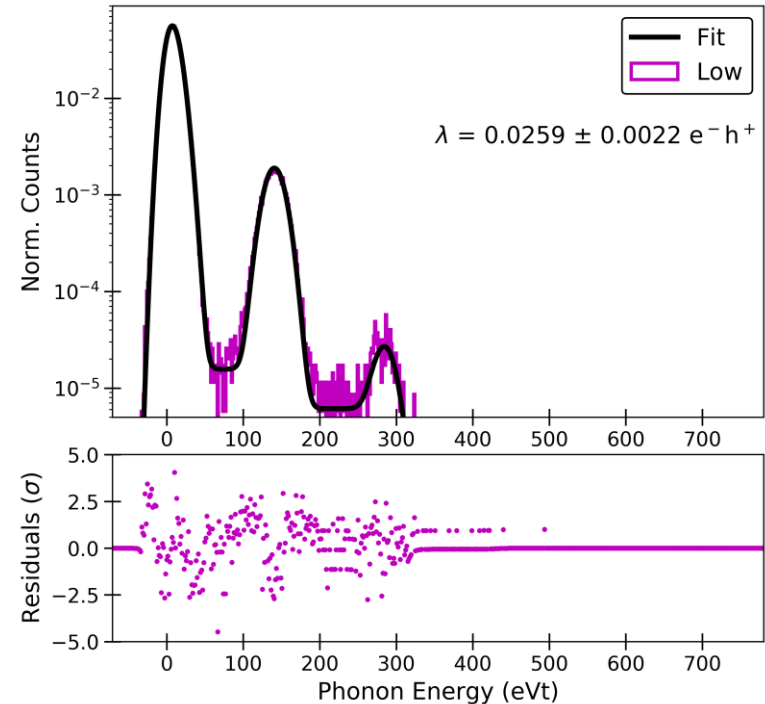
The acquisition is triggered on the laser TTL and analysis is carried out with a time-shifting OF

# Sample Fits

## Medium Laser



## Low Laser



Impact ionization and charge trapping fit (black curves) for a single acquisition cycle at +140 V crystal bias with medium (red), and low (purple) intensity laser. The curves have been normalized by dividing by the total counts in the spectrum. (Bottom row) Residual counts normalized by the individual bin standard deviations. Bins with zero counts were artificially set to zero.

# Multi-Photon Response

*Biometrika*, **19**, 225–239 & 240–244 (1927); <https://doi.org/10.1093/biomet/19.3-4.225>,  
& <https://doi.org/10.1093/biomet/19.3-4.240>

$m^{\text{th}}$  e-h<sup>+</sup> pair PDF with impact ionization and trapping :

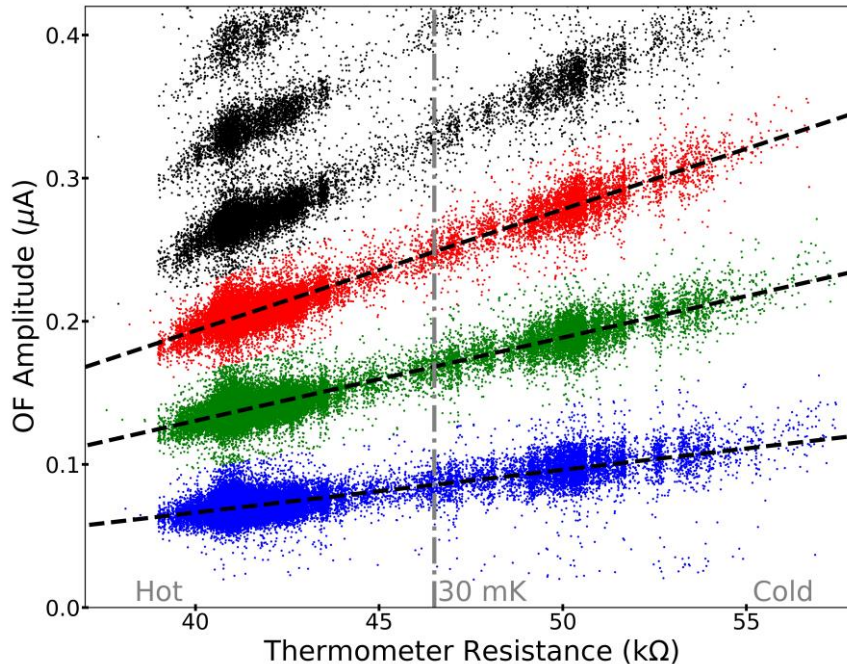
$$\begin{aligned}
 {}^m h(x) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} {}^1 h(x')^{m-1} h(x-x') dx' \\
 &= A_1^m \delta(x-m) + mA_1^{m-1} A_- \Theta(x-m+1) \Theta(m-x) + mA_1^{m-1} A_+ \Theta(x-m) \Theta(m+1-x) \\
 &+ \sum_{i=0}^{m-2} \sum_{j=0}^{m-i} \sum_{n=1}^{m-i-j} A_{mijn} (n+m-j-x)^{m-i-j} \Theta(n+m-j-x) \Theta(x-m+j)
 \end{aligned}$$

Where

$$A_{mijn} = \frac{A_1^i A_-^j A_+^{m-i-j} m!}{i! j! (m-i-j)!} \frac{(-1)^{m-i-n} (m-i)!}{n! (m-i-n)!} \frac{1}{(m-i-1)!}$$

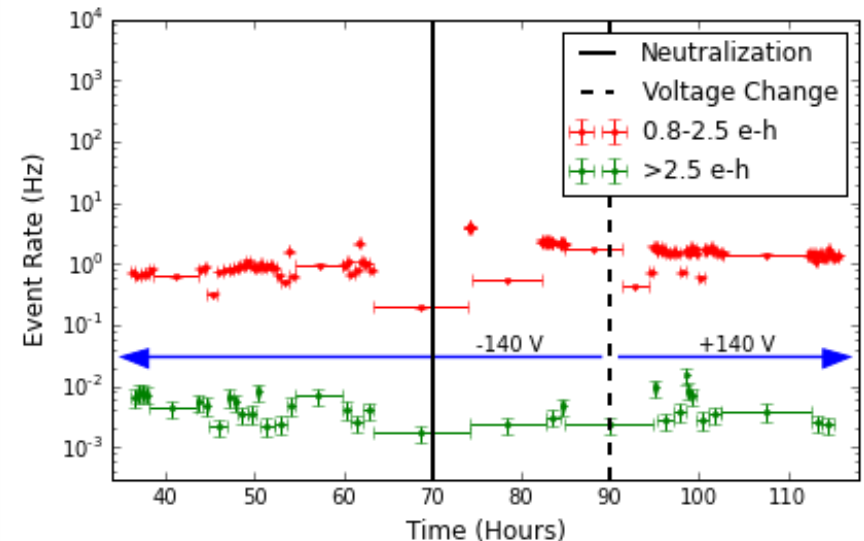
# System Stability

## Temperature Calibration



Reconstructed amplitude scales linearly with resistance from a RuOx thermometer used to measure the DR temperature.

## Leakage Rates for DM Search

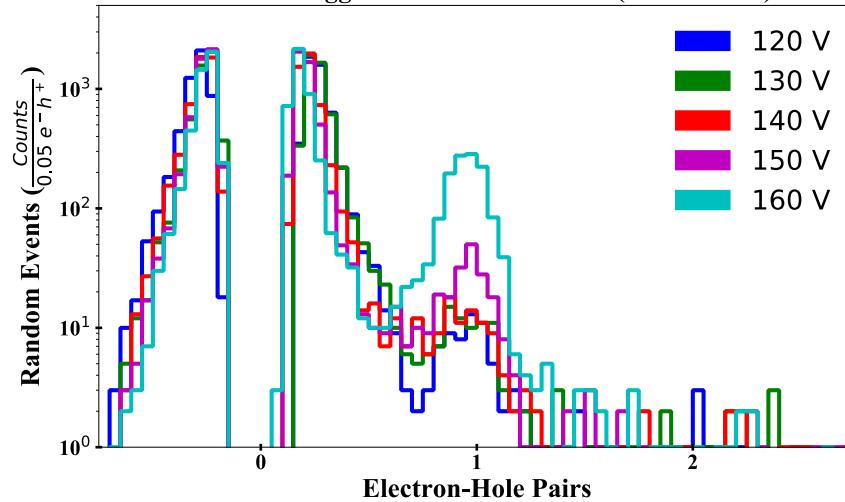


Detector neutralization performed at 70 hours due to increased levels of surface leakage. An increase in the bulk leakage rate was observed afterwards.

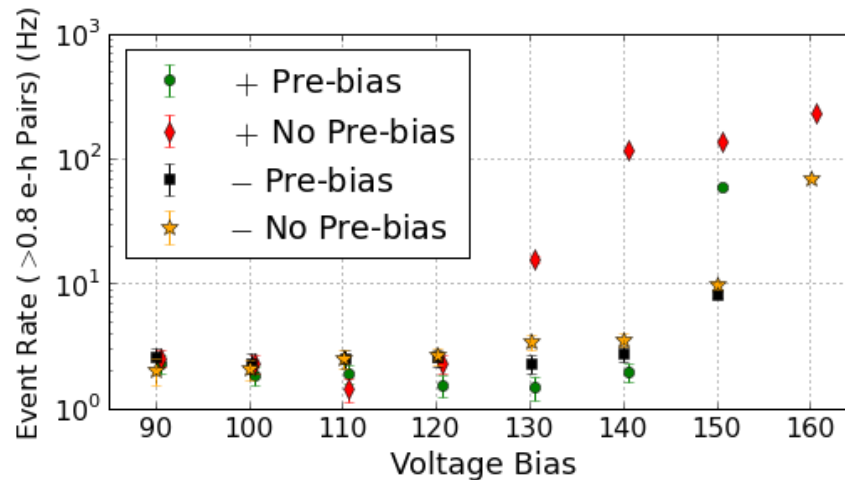
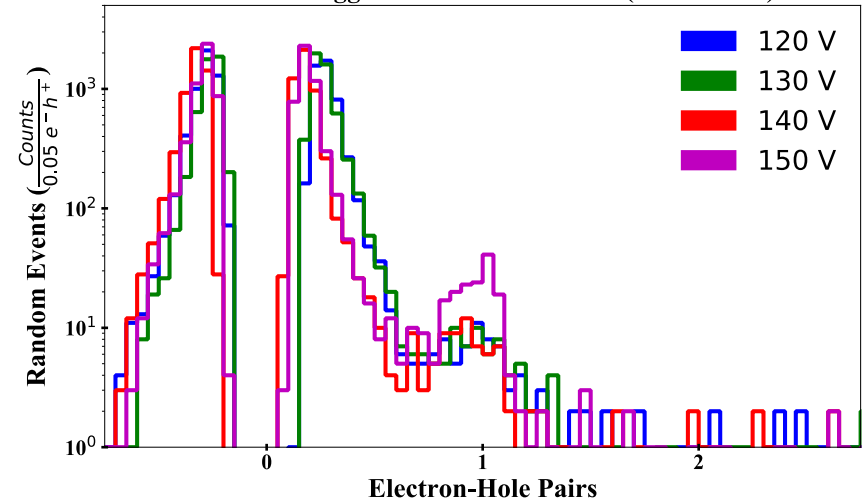
Temperature varied and bulk leakage rate was constant

# Limitations on NTL Gain

Random Trigger Event Distributions (No Pre-Bias)



Random Trigger Event Distributions (w/ Pre-Bias)



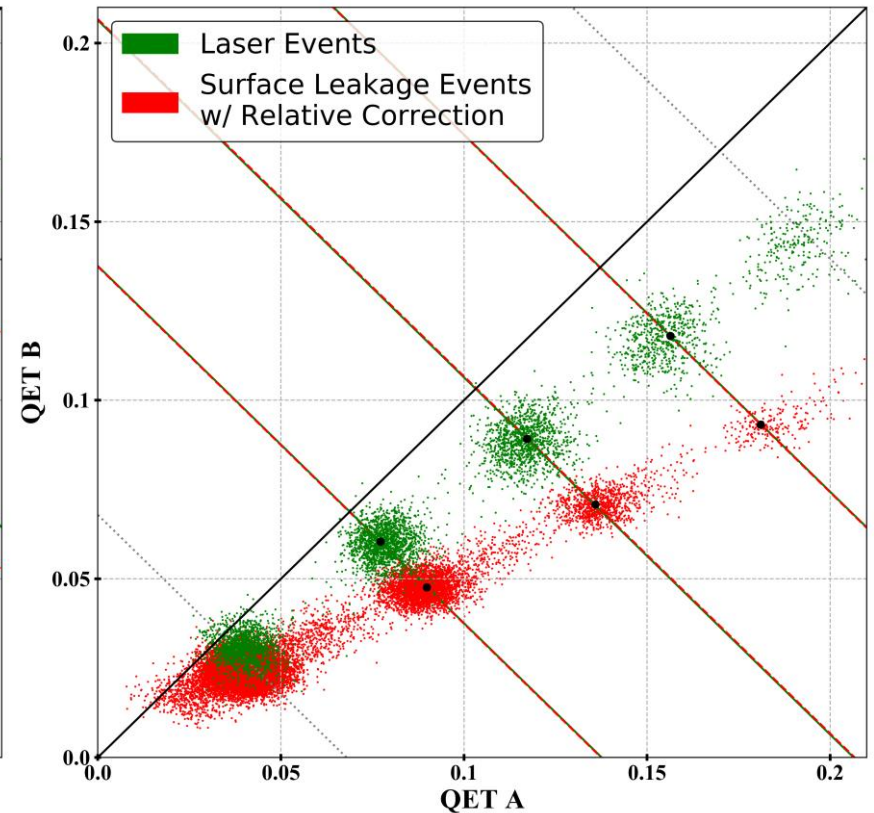
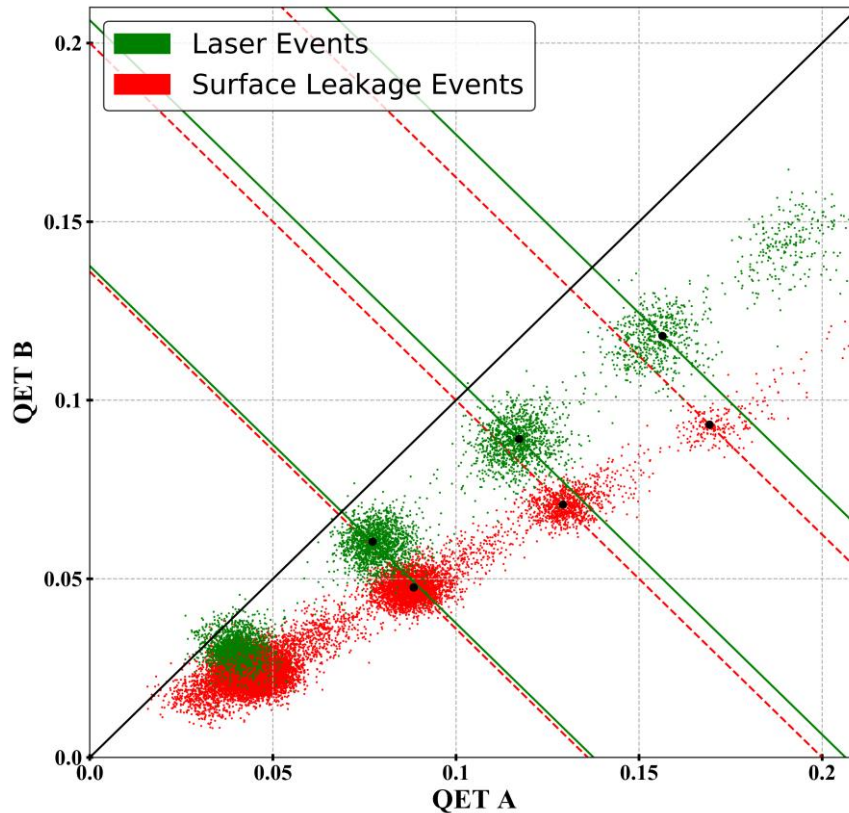
- Bi-modal distribution caused by time shifting optimal filter
- Bulk leakage events have a flat distribution between 0-1 e-h<sup>+</sup> pairs
- Surface leakage events have quantized energy
- Full break down at 180 V

Minimize surface leakage by using  $\pm 140$  V

# Relative Detector Calibration

## Unmatched

## Matched



QET A appears to have losses requiring a 13% correction to get surface events to land on lines of equal energy with the laser