

# DM Direct Detection with SuperCDMS



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Dark Matter & Neutrinos (PPD) Symposium

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<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1316311/contributions/5880039/>



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Physics

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

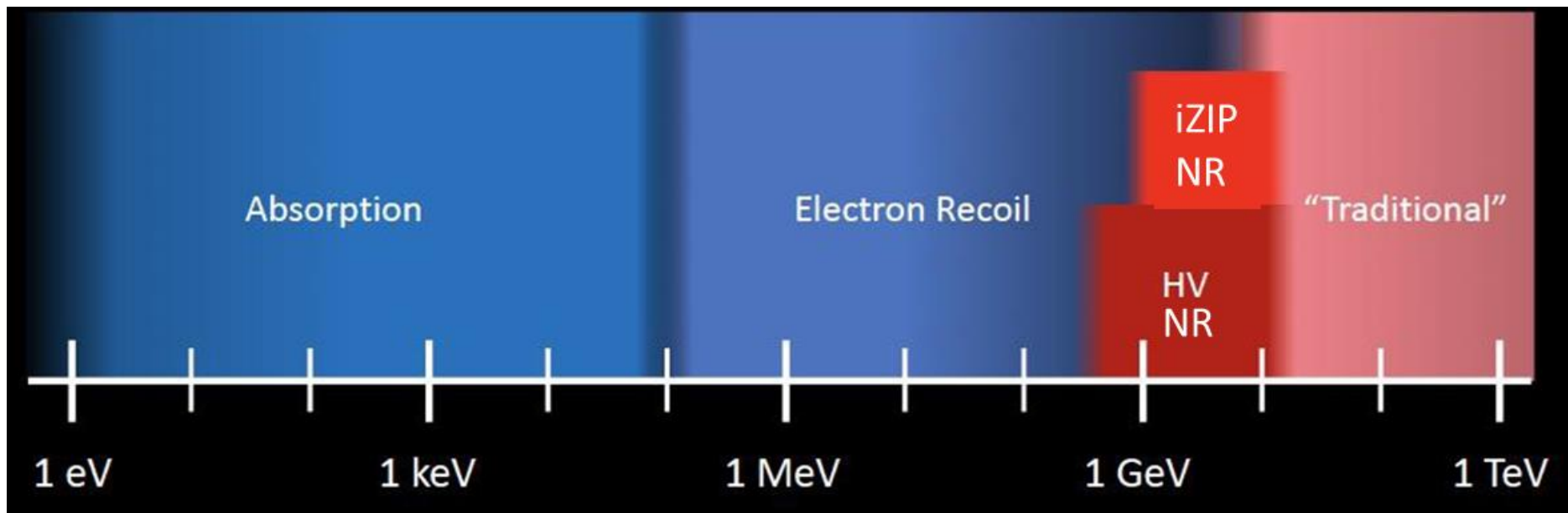


David A. Dunlap Department of Astronomy & Astrophysics

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

# SuperCDMS@SNOLAB at a Glance

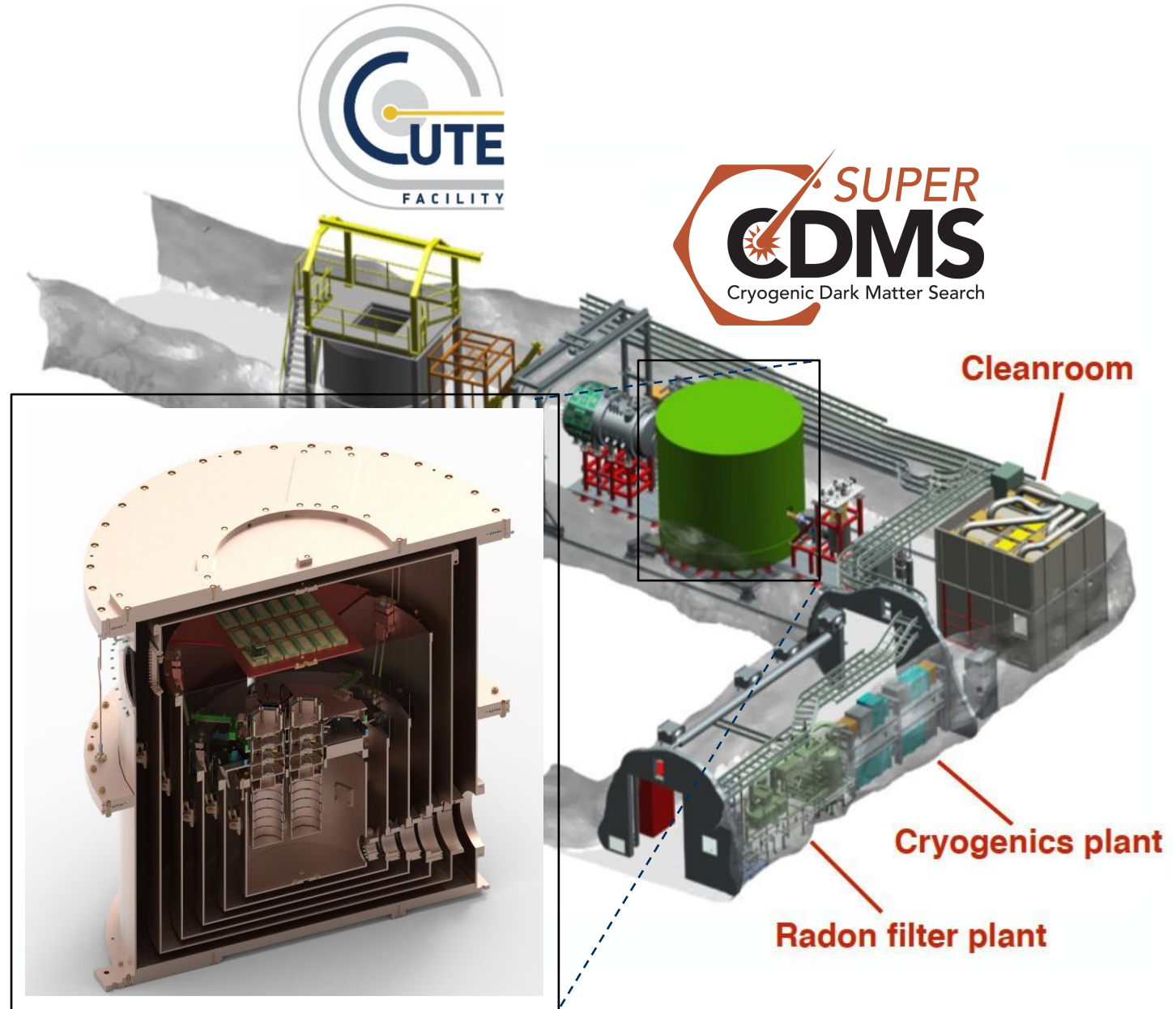
- **Primary science goal: world-leading sensitivity to low-mass WIMPs**
- **Secondary science goals: electron recoil & dark absorption searches for dark photons, axions, lightly-ionizing particles, etc.**
- **Cryogenic semiconductor crystals with quantum sensors**
- **Two detection schemes:**
  - **Ionization + phonon ('iZIP' detectors) for nuclear vs electron recoil discrimination**
  - **(Amplified) phonon only ('HV' detectors) for low thresholds**



# SuperCDMS@SNOLAB at a Glance

- Class-2000 cleanroom lab, 2 km rock overburden
- Dilution refrigerator with closed-loop cryogenics system
- Initial payload: 24 semiconductor crystal detectors
  - ▶ 'iZIP' towers: 10 Ge + 2 Si crystals
  - ▶ 'HV' towers: 8 Ge + 4 Si crystals
- Collaboration with CUTE (Cryogenic Underground TEst) facility for tower testing

SuperCDMS infrastructure currently under construction!



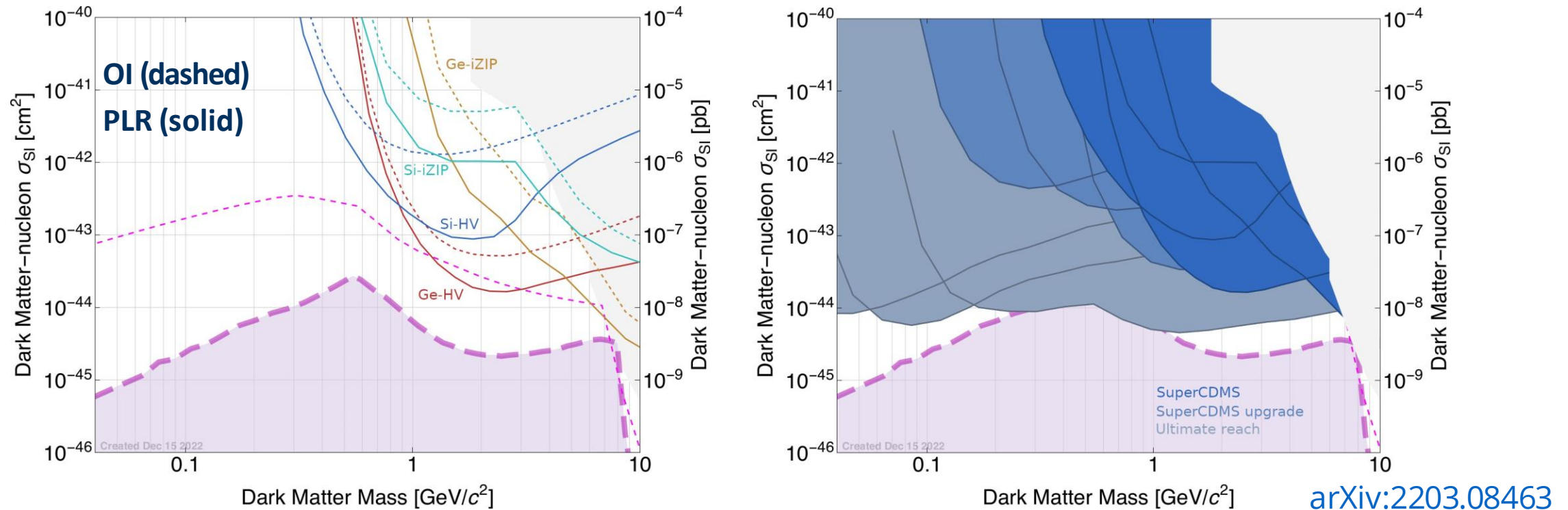
Slide credit: Stefan Zatschler

# Topics

- Science reach
- Detector principles
- Highlights of “HVeV” prototype program
  - Nuclear recoil ionization yield measurements
  - Electron recoil DM & dark absorption limits
- Detector response modelling
- Backgrounds
- SuperCDMS@SNOLAB installation status
  - Detector testing in CUTE facility: see Yan Liu's talk  
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1316311/contributions/5861281>

# SuperCDMS Science Reach

## NRDM SuperCDMS SNOLAB

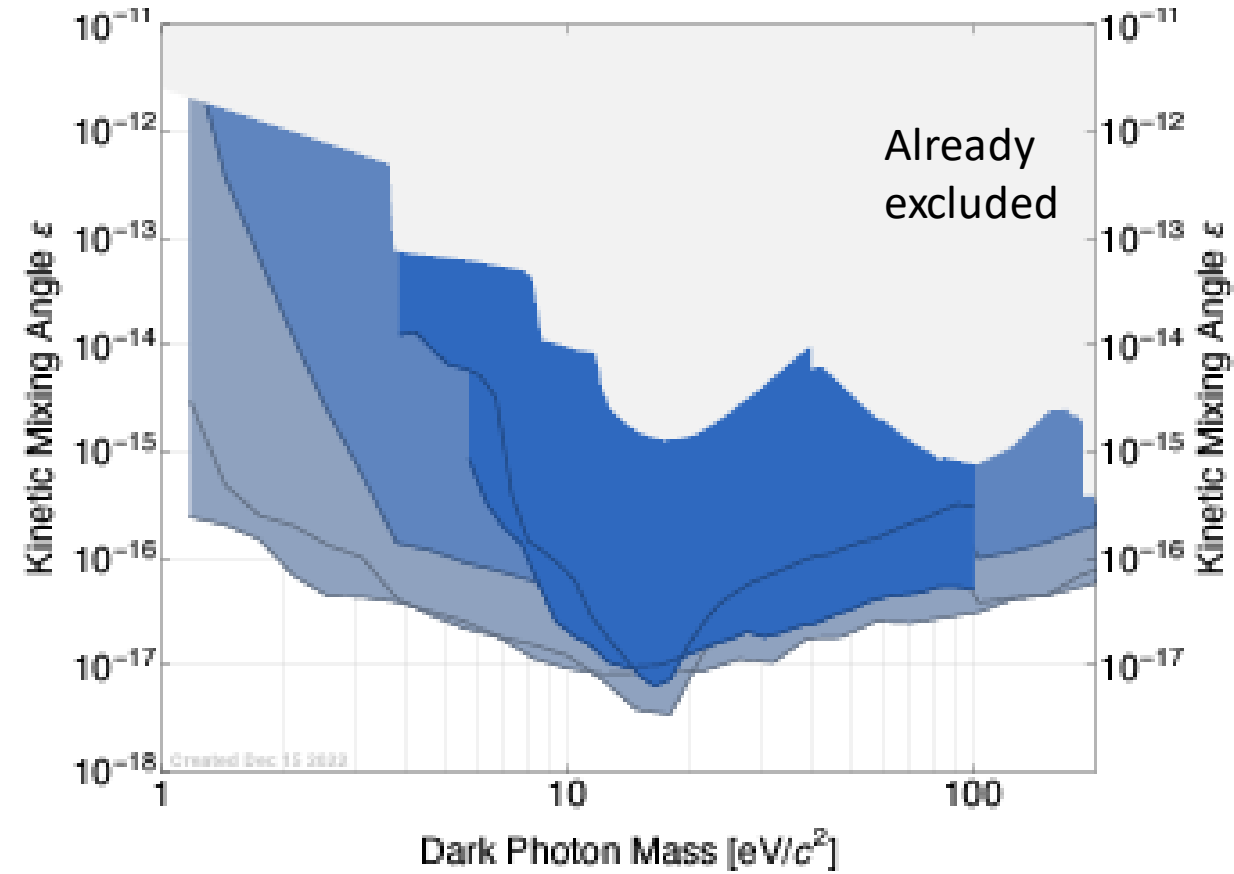


[arXiv:2203.08463](https://arxiv.org/abs/2203.08463)

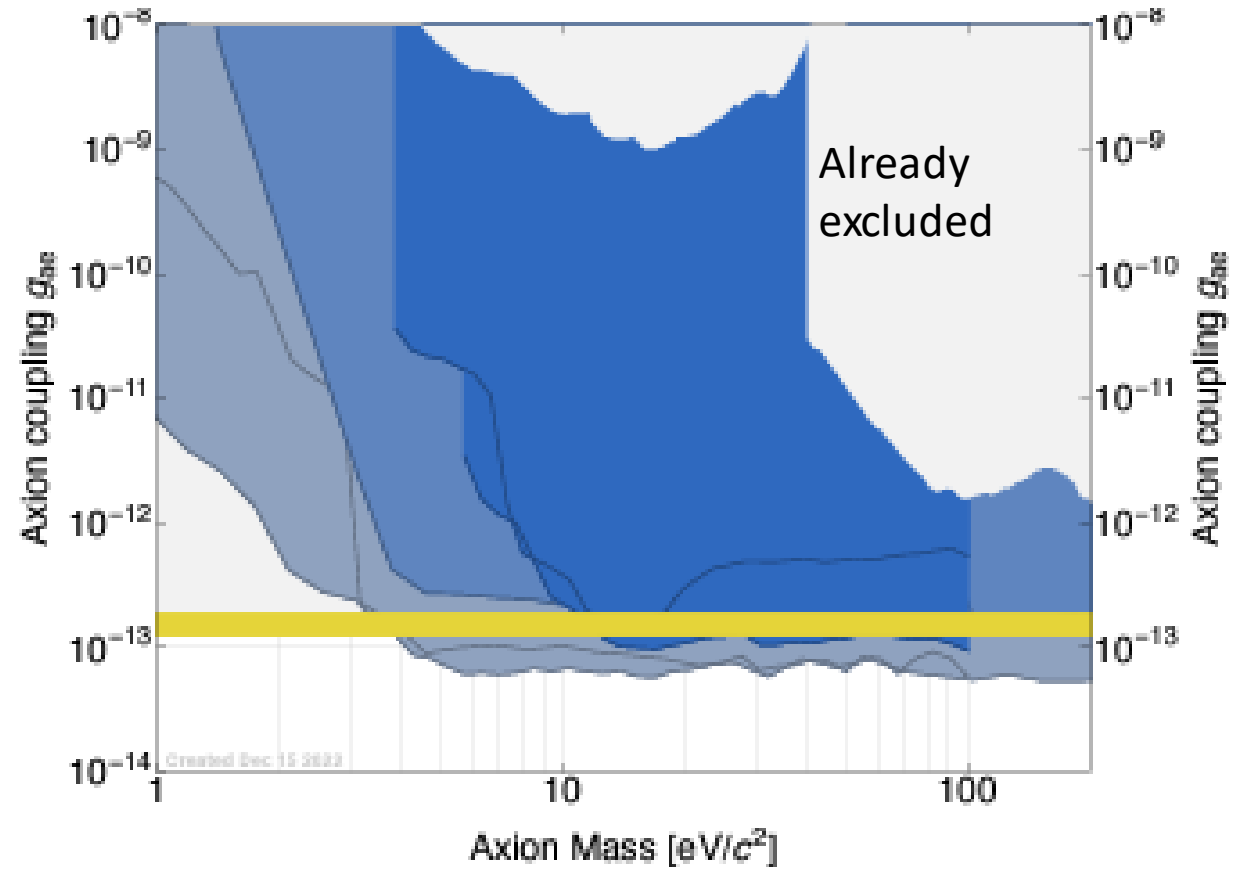
- Understanding detector response down to the semiconductor bandgap energy crucial for maximizing sensitivity to sub-GeV DM masses
- Recent SNOWMASS projections, for different statistical methods and DM models
  - ▶ Optimum Interval (OI): signal-only assumption
  - ▶ Profile-likelihood ratio (PLR): signal + background

# SuperCDMS Science Reach

## Dark Photon



## Axion-Like Particle DM

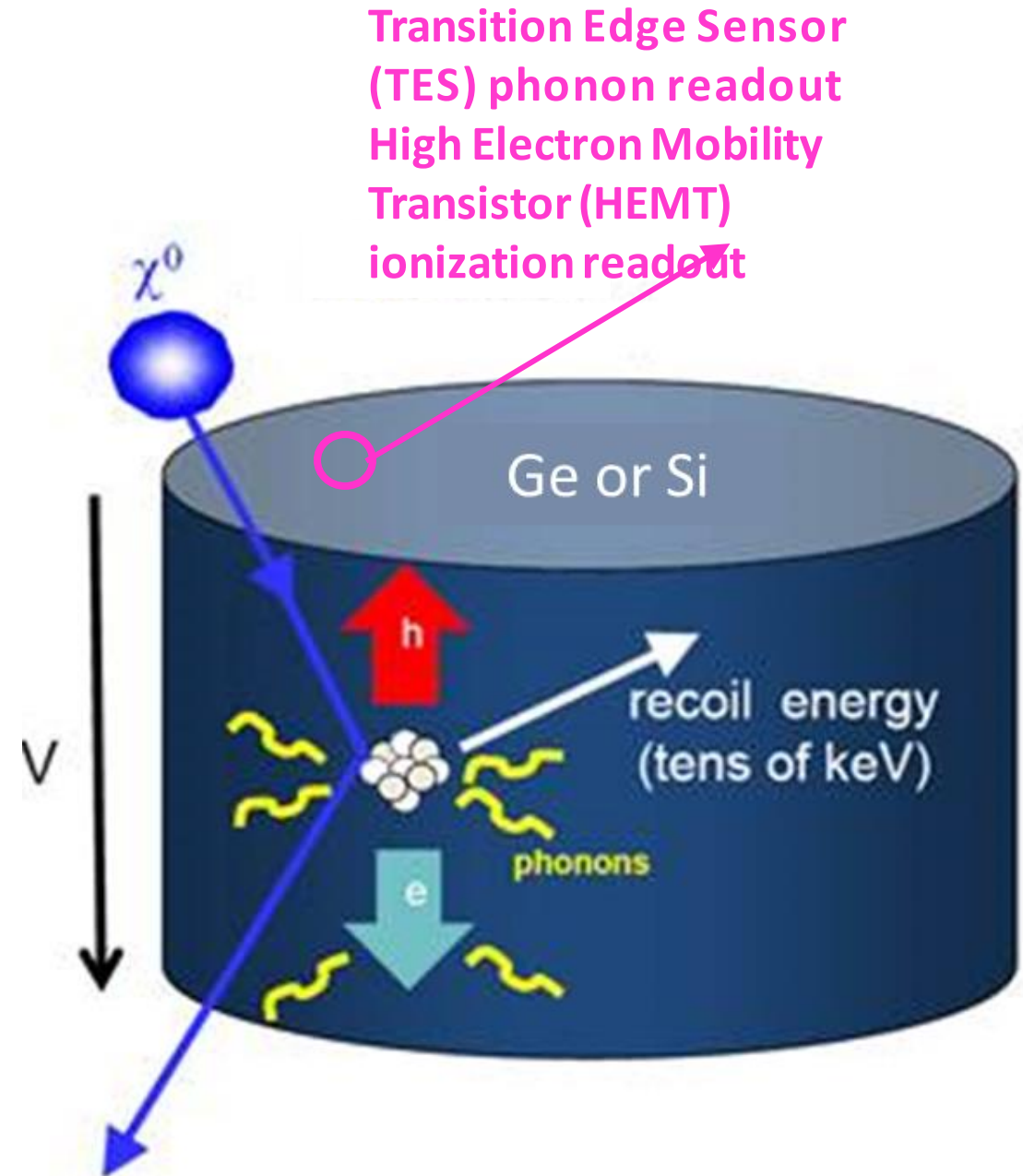


# SuperCDMS Detector Principles

- Cryogenic calorimeters at  $\sim 10 - 15$  mK
- Energy deposit creates  $e^-/h^+$  pairs and prompt phonons in crystal
- Charges drift in external electric field
- Drifting charges emit Luke phonons: signal amplification

## Driving questions:

- Condensed matter physics (phonons, charge transport, etc) in detectors
- Detector response modeling
- Nuclear ionization yield
- Dominating backgrounds
- Low-energy calibration



# SuperCDMS Detector Principles

## HV detectors - low threshold

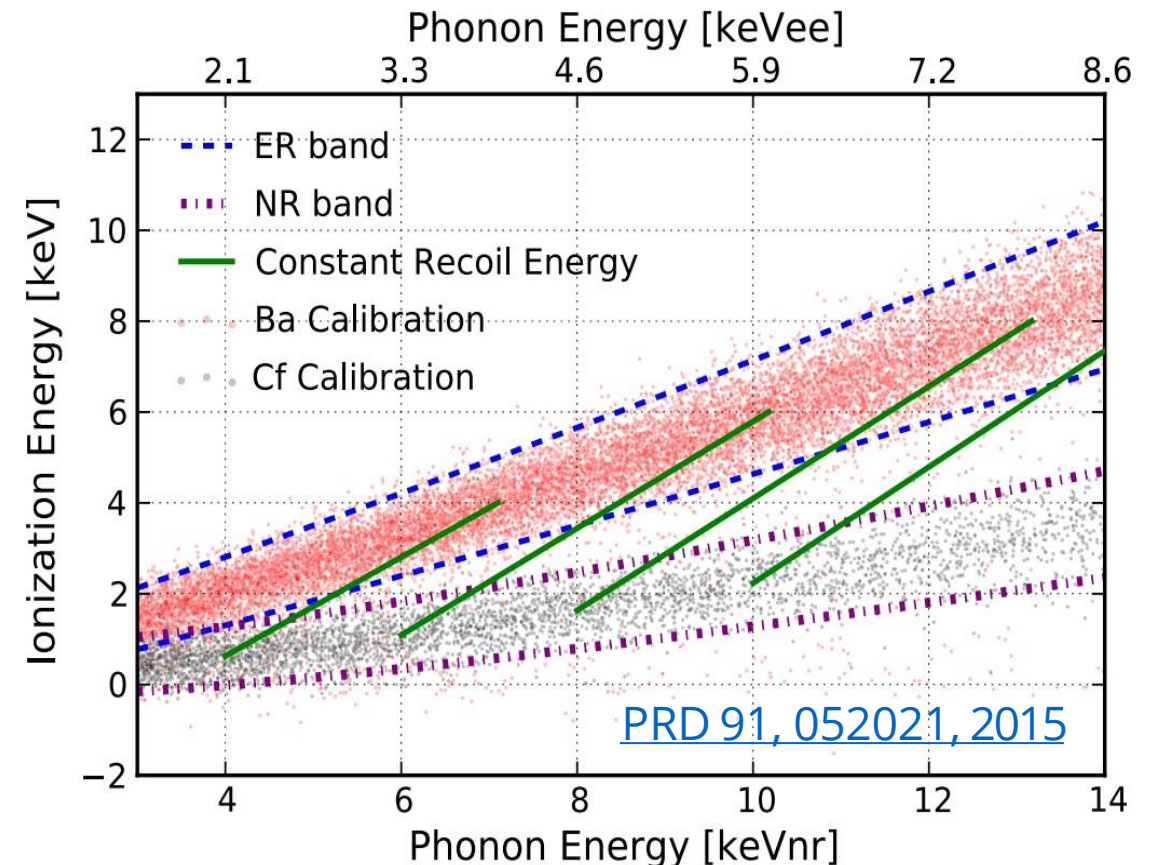
- High resolution total phonon measurement
- No yield discrimination, limited fiducialization
- Typical thresholds below 0.1 keV ( $4 eV_{ee}$ )!

## HVeV detectors - low threshold gram-scale prototypes

- Single electron-hole pair sensitivity
- Runs at test facilities provide insight into backgrounds and calibrations for HV
- Already set some world-leading low-mass DM constraints

## iZIP detectors - low background

- High resolution phonon and charge readout
- Discrimination of surface and ER backgrounds from NR signal region





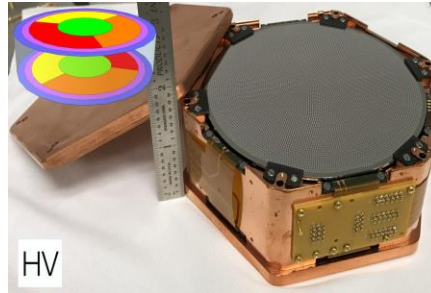
# SuperCDMS detector principles

## HV detector → **low threshold**

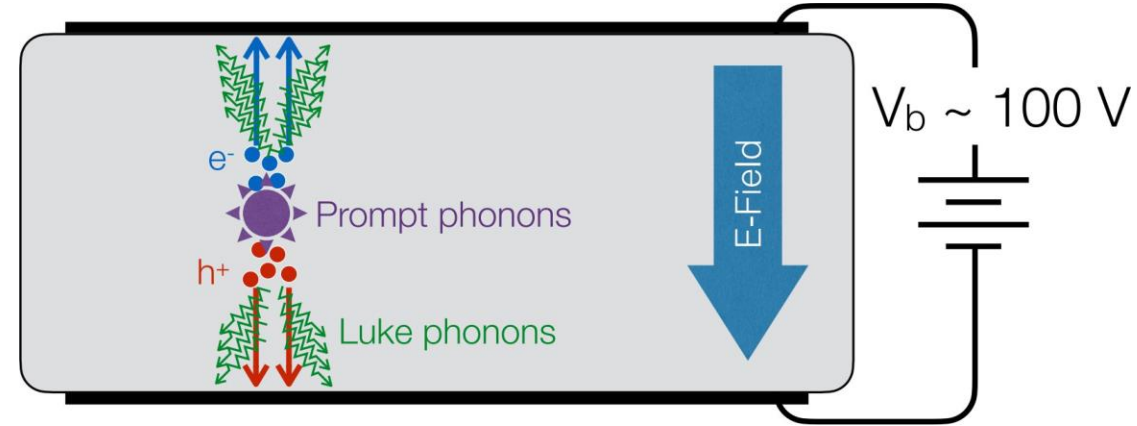
- Drifting charge carriers ( $e^-/h^+$ ) across a potential ( $V_b$ ) generates a large number of Luke phonons (NTL effect)

$$E_t = E_r + (N_{eh} \cdot e \cdot V_b)$$

total phonon energy      primary recoil energy      Luke phonon energy

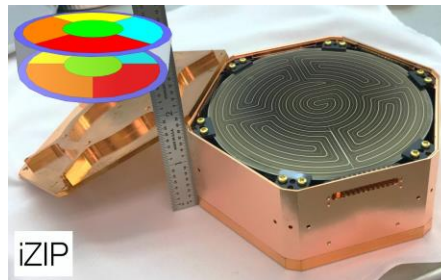


## Sensors measure $E_t$

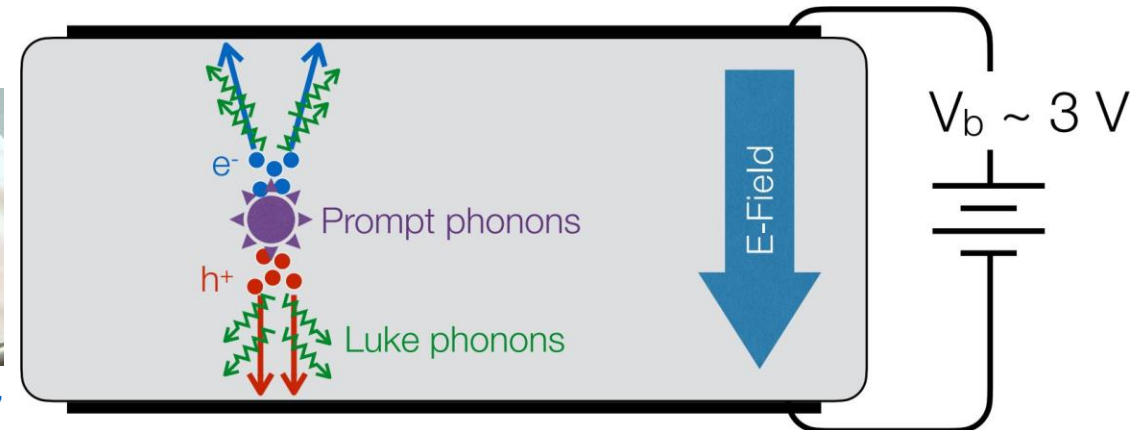


## iZIP detector → **low background**

- Interleaved **Z**-sensitive Ionization and **P**honon detector

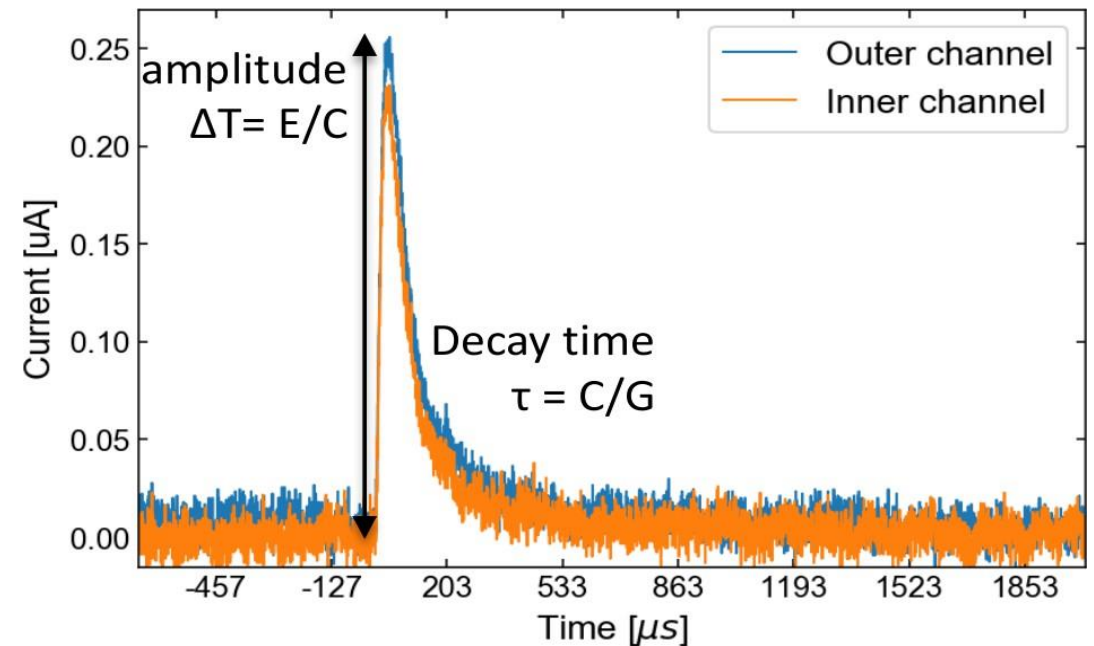
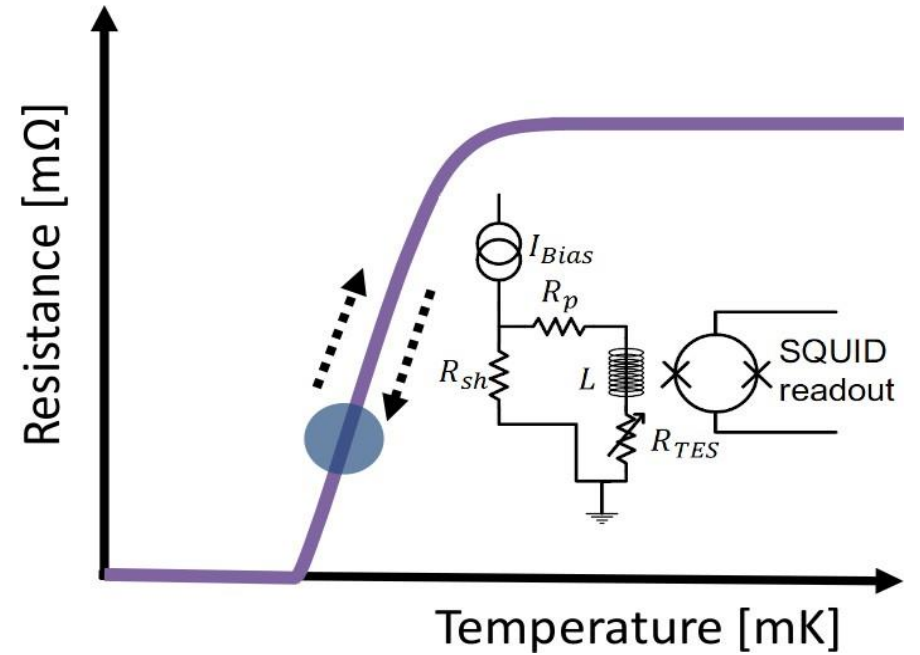
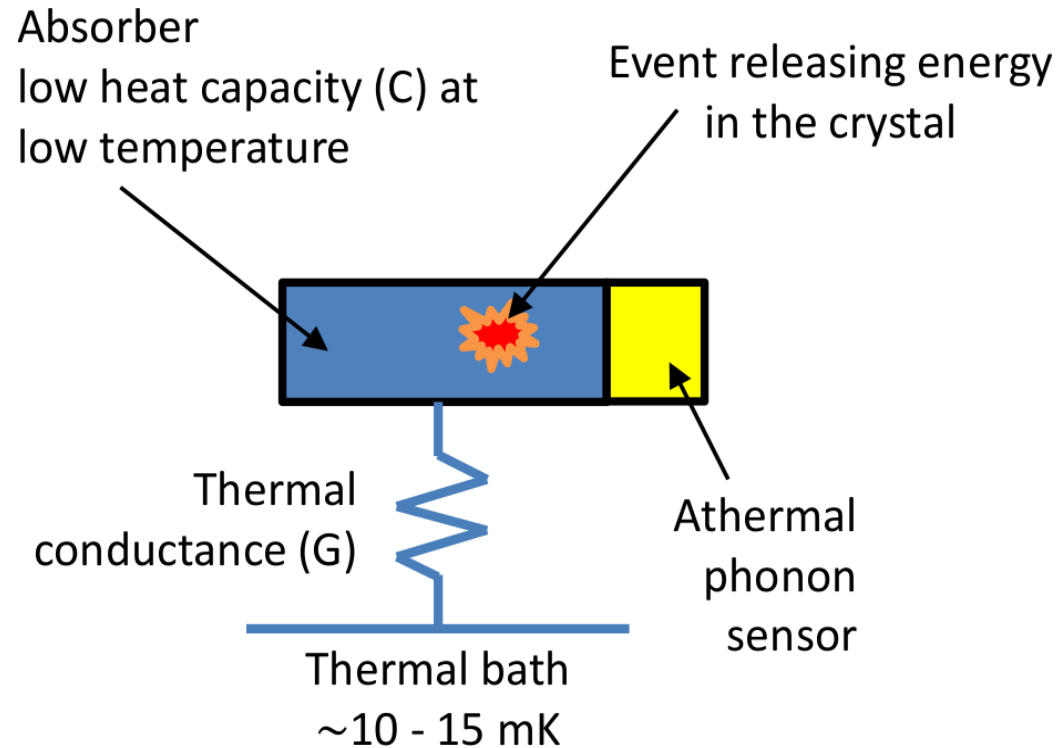


## Sensors measure $E_t$ and $N_{eh}$



# SuperCDMS detector principles

- **Athermal phonon collection with QETs (Quasiparticle trap-assisted Electrothermal feedback TESs)**
- **Pulse reconstruction**
- **Measure of energy deposit**



# iZIPs

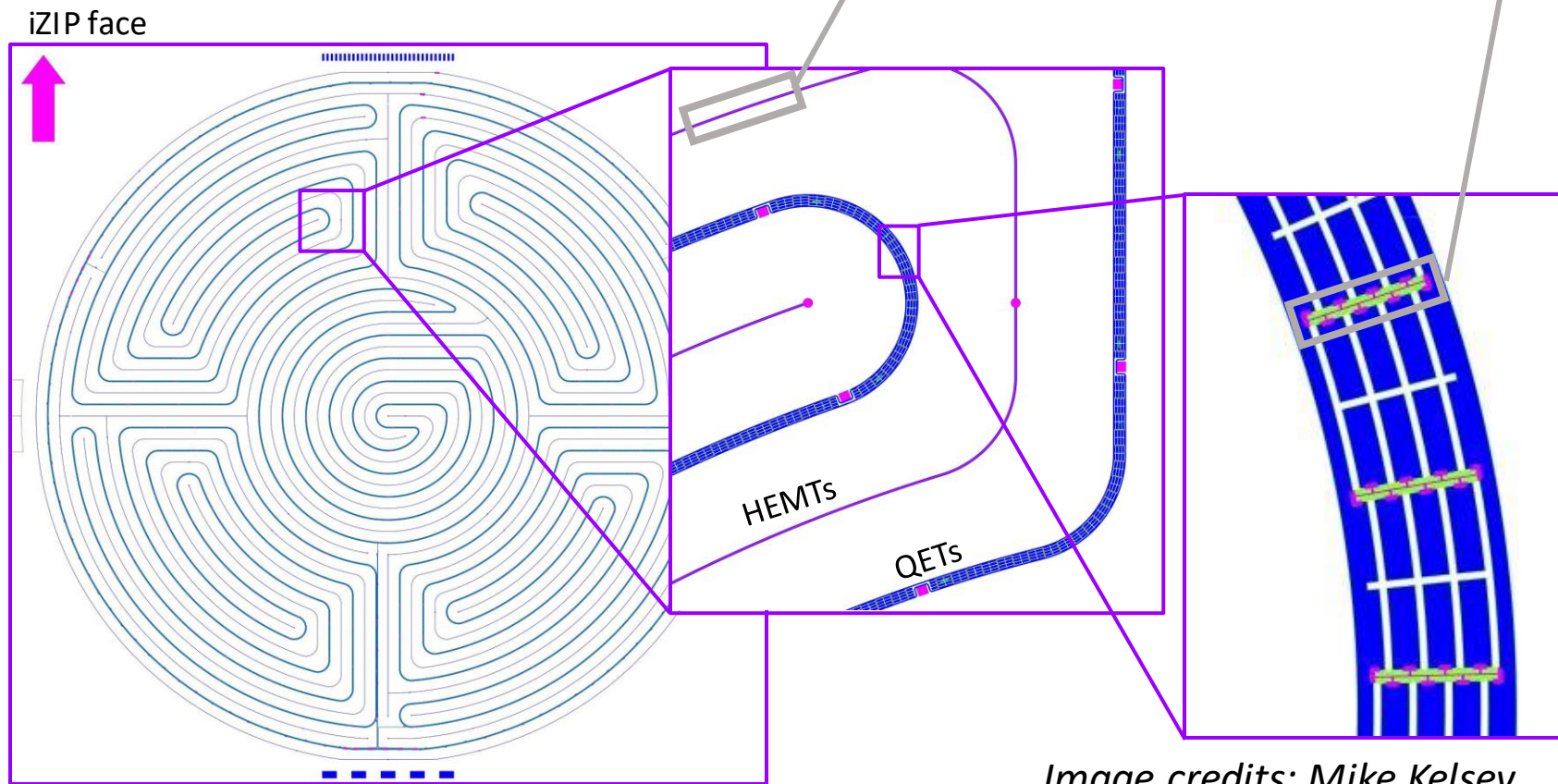
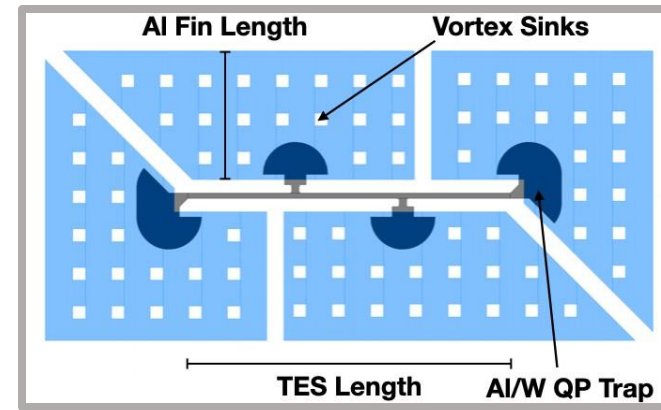
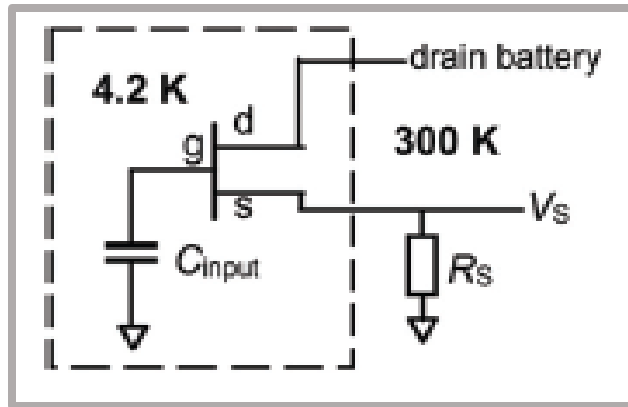
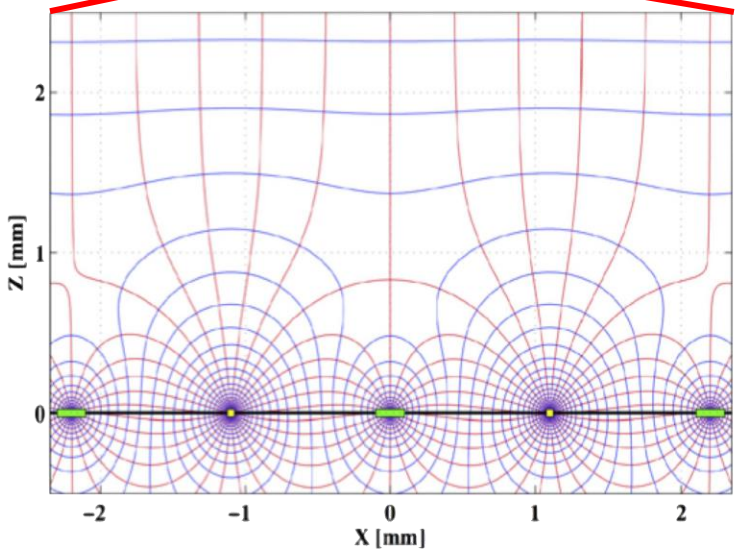
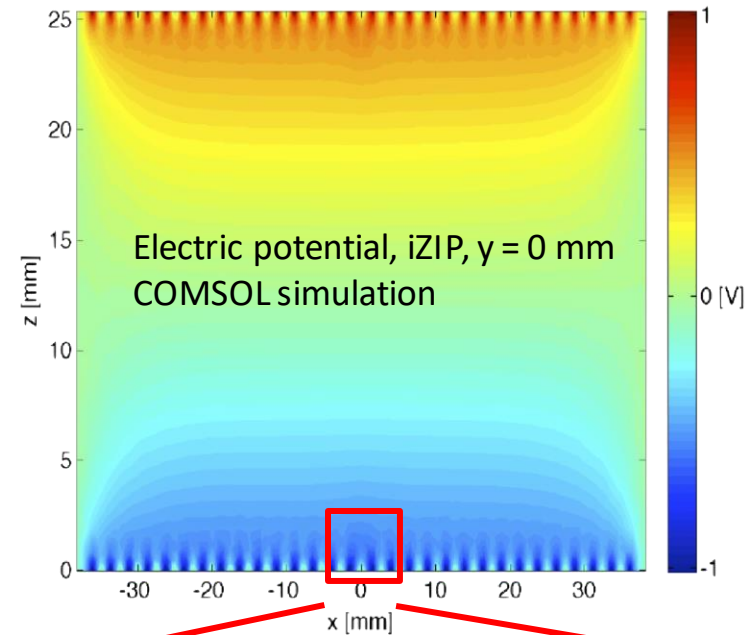
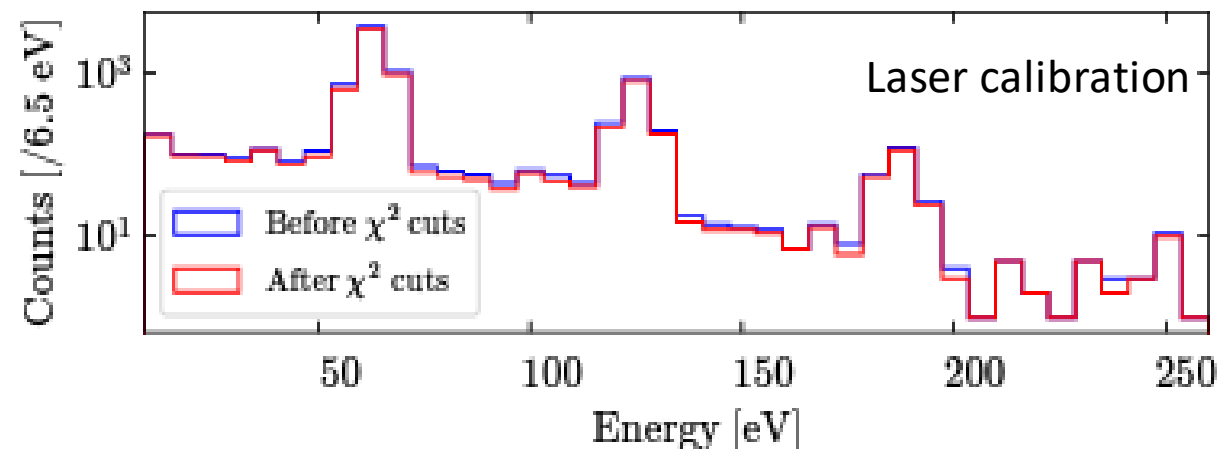
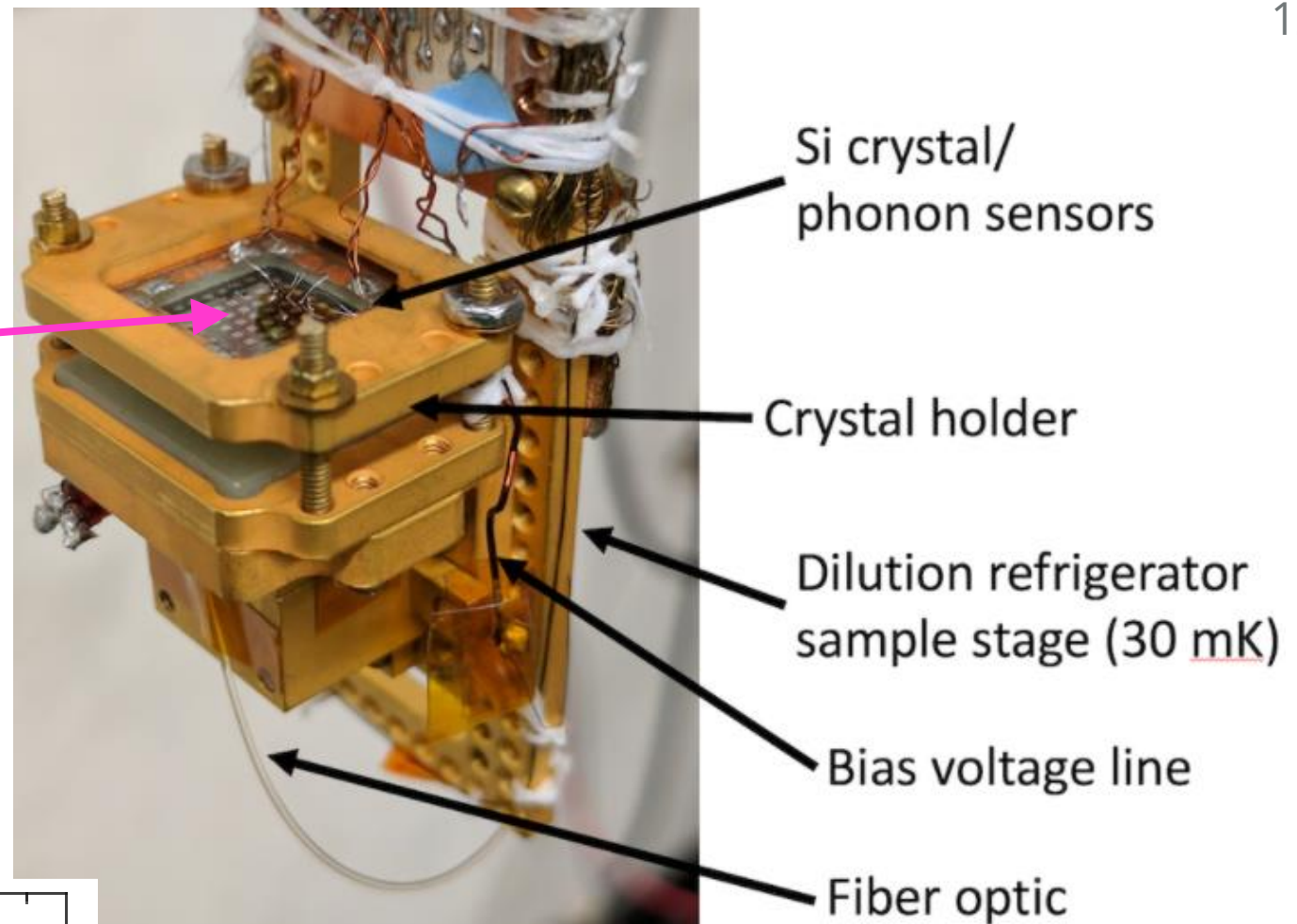
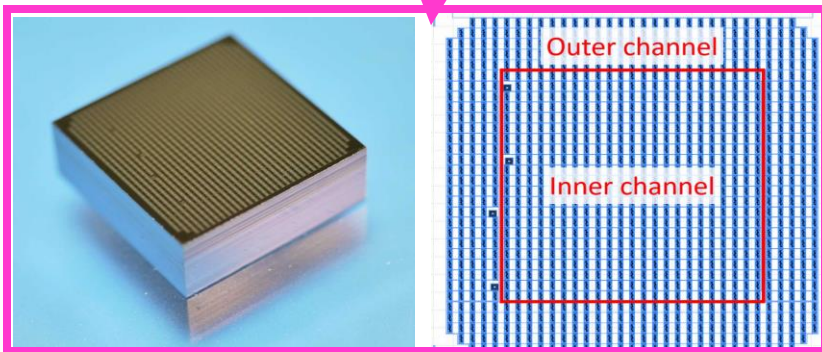
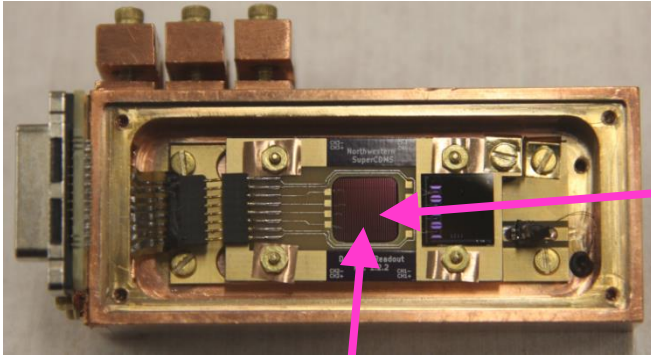


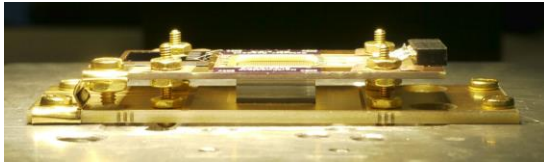
Image credits: Mike Kelsey

# HVeVs



**Few eV phonon resolution, can see single e-h pairs!**

# Highlights of HVeV Detector Program



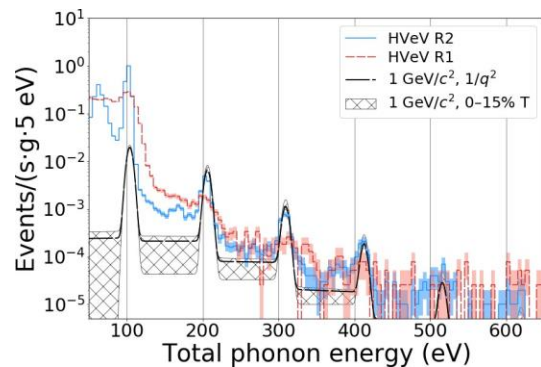
[PRD 102, 091101\(R\), 2020](#)



**Stay  
tuned!**

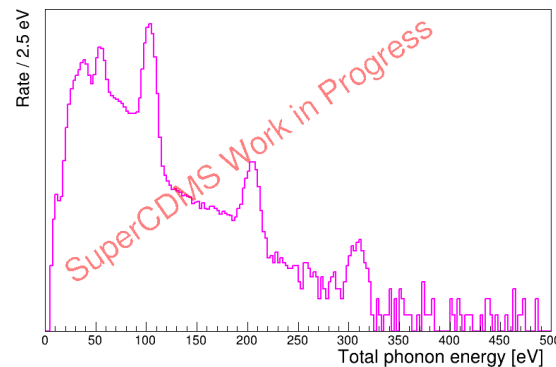
## HVeV Run 2

- Detection and study of  $1 e^-/h^+$  "burst events"
- Hypothesized source: PCB holder



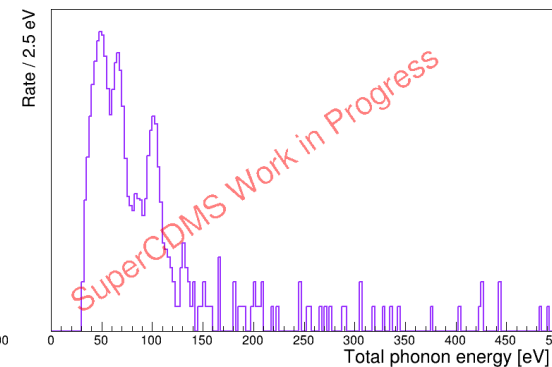
## HVeV Run 3

- Coincidence measurement
- Confirmed external origin of burst events



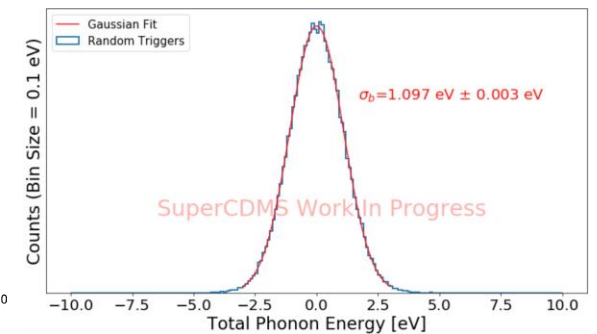
## HVeV Run 4

- Coincidence measurement, with no PCB
- Elimination of multi  $e^-/h^+$  peaks



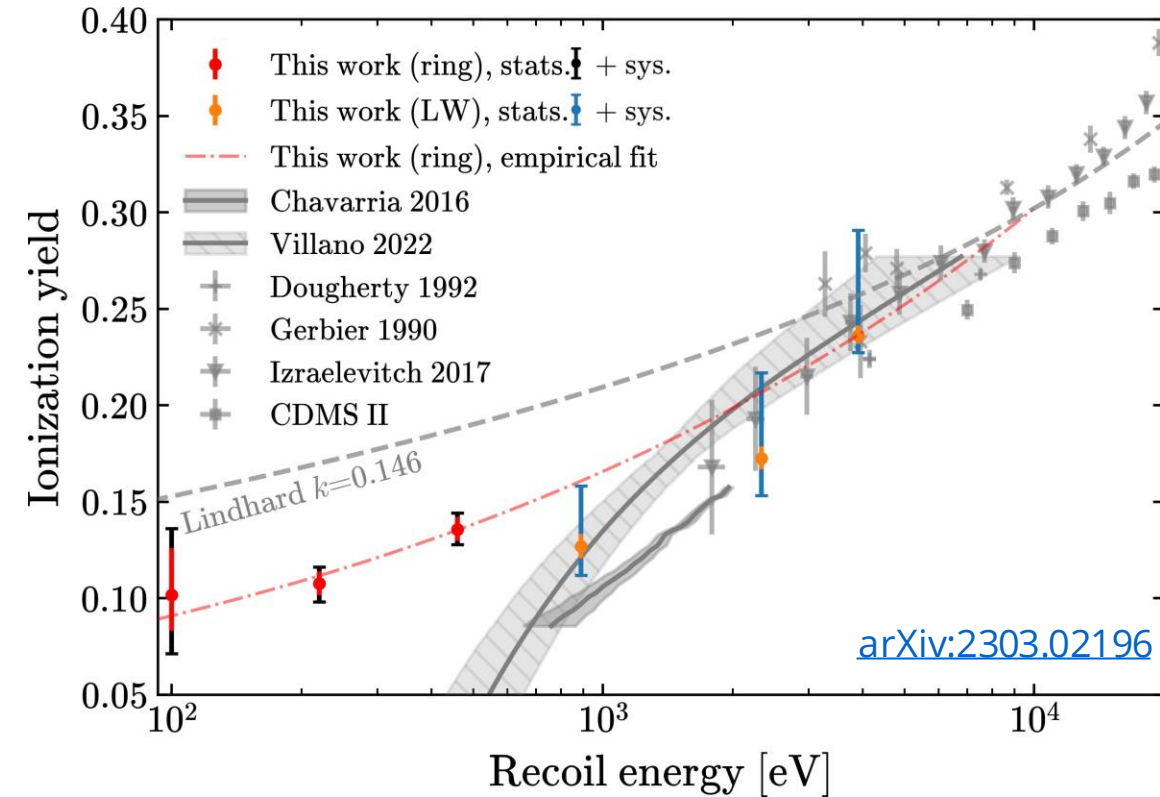
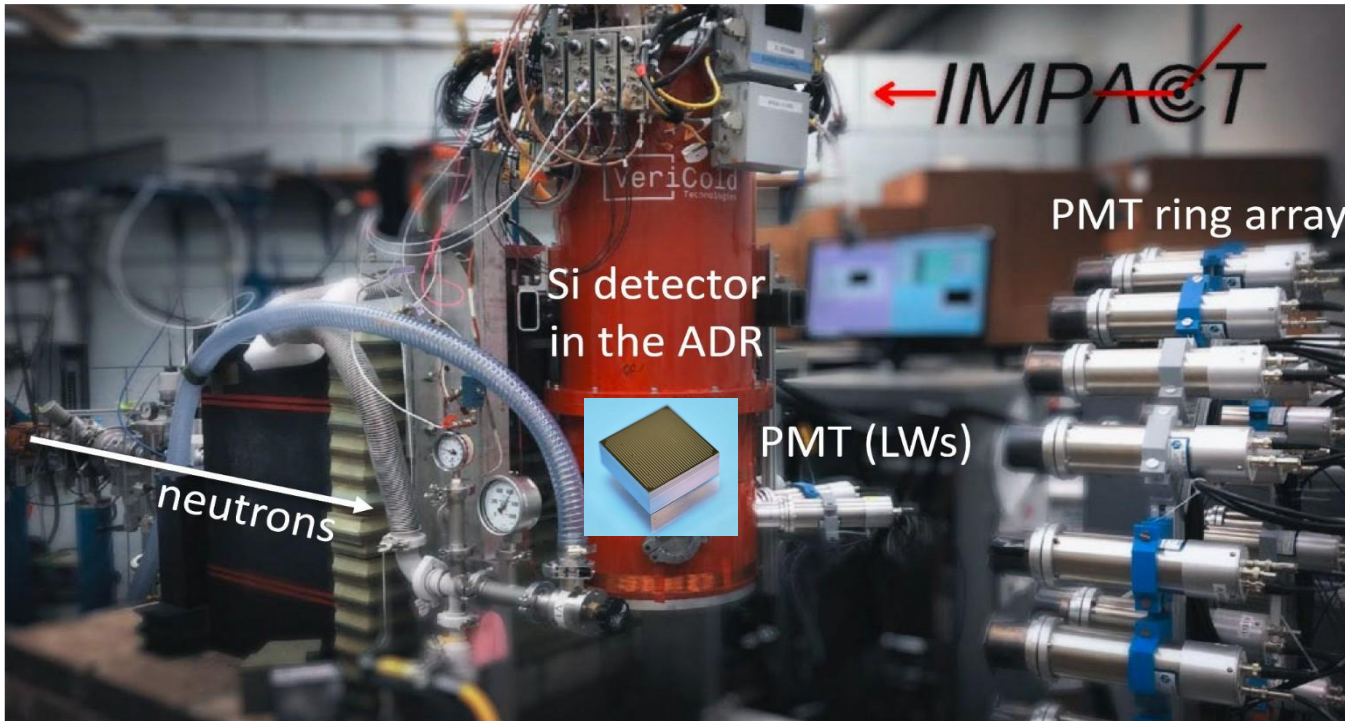
## Latest performance

- V3 of HVeV
- Greatly improved baseline resolution ( $\sigma_b = 1.097 \pm 0.003$  eV)



Slide credit: Stefan Zatschler

# HVeVs for Measuring Nuclear Recoil Ionization Yield

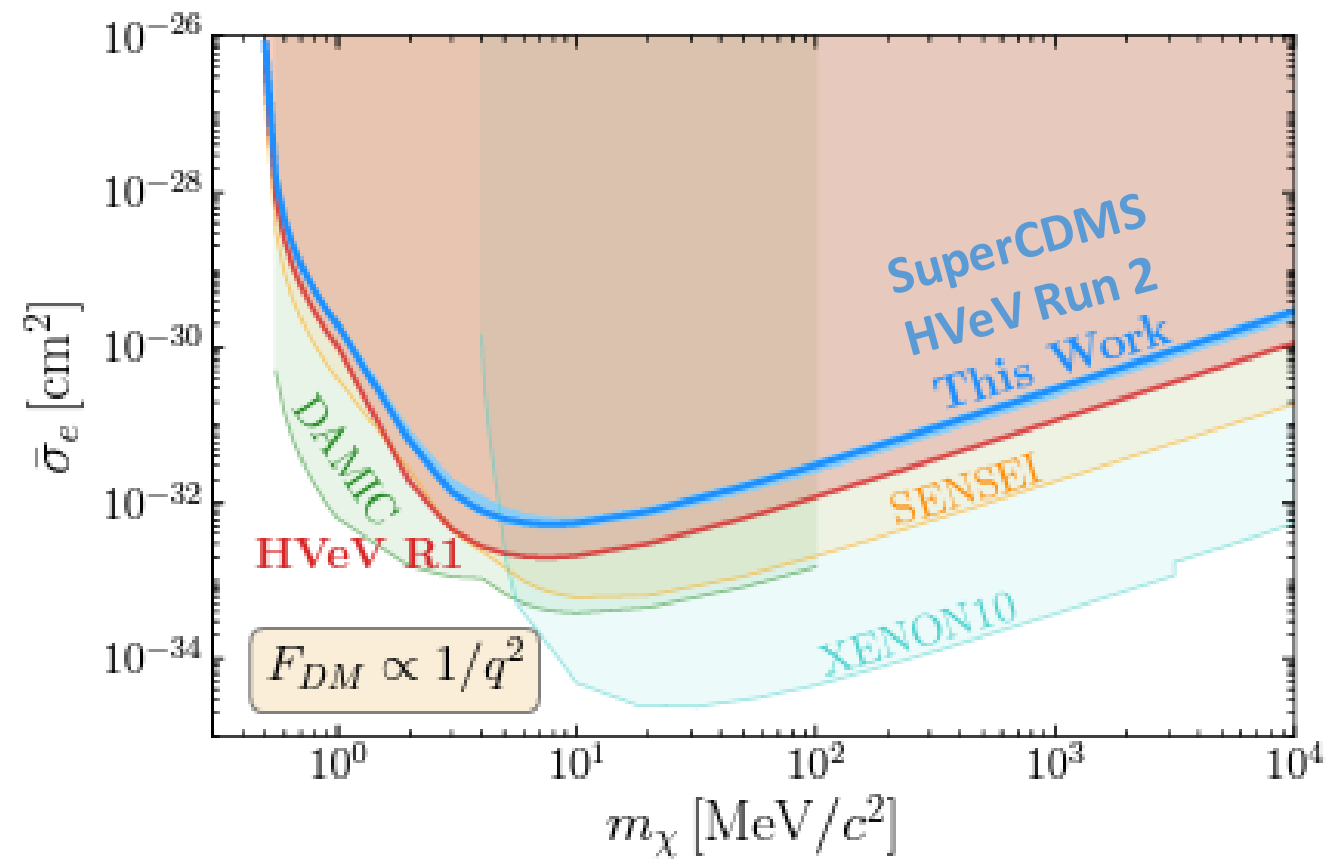
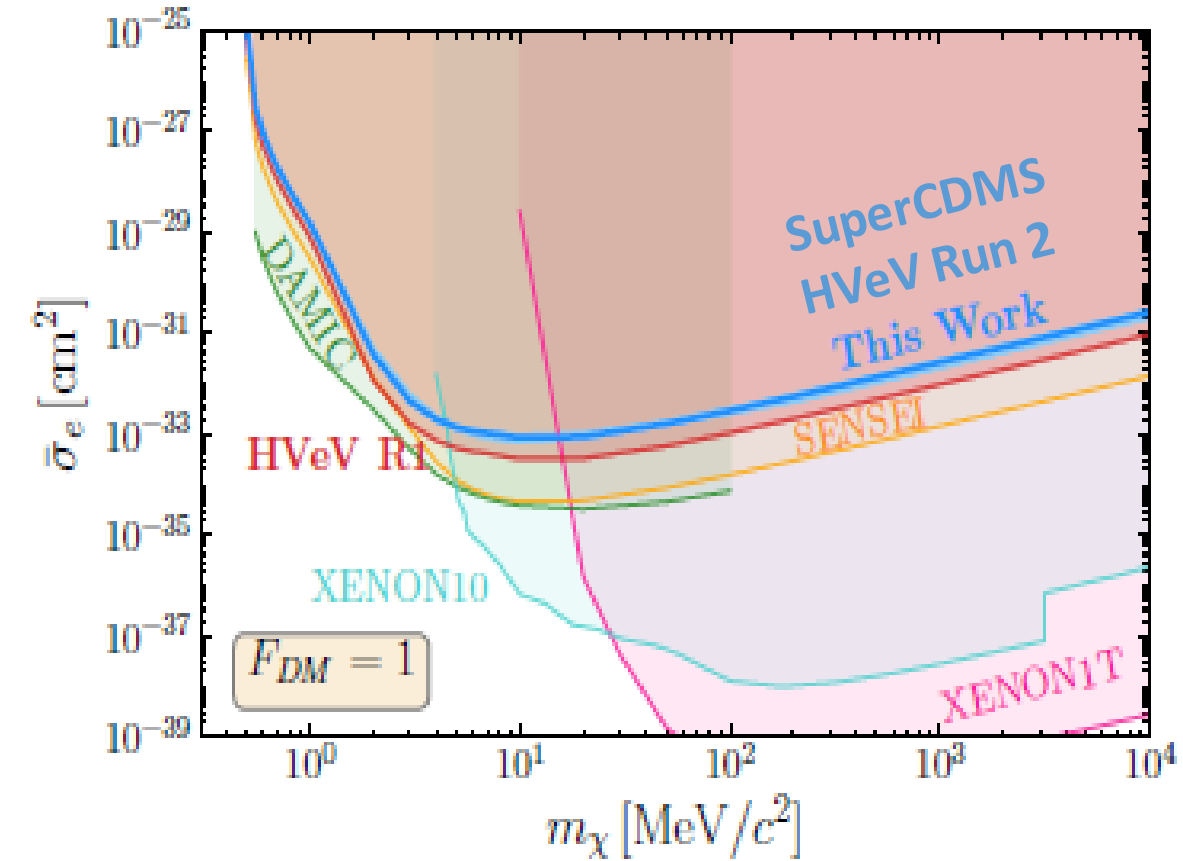


- Ionization yield ( $Y$ ) measurement down to 100 eV with Si HVeV in a neutron beam
  - ▶ Significant deviations from “Lindhard model”
  - ▶ No indication for ionization threshold in Si
- Ge yield measurement in preparation

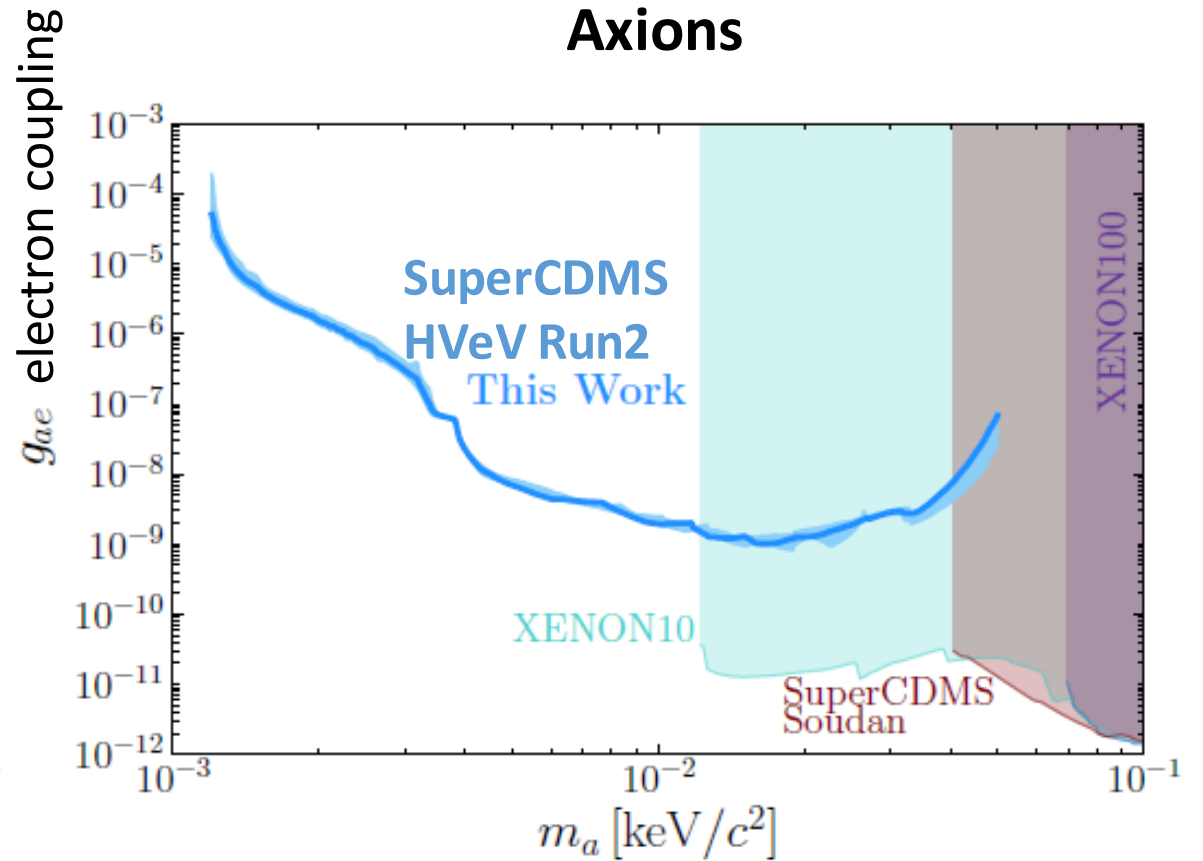
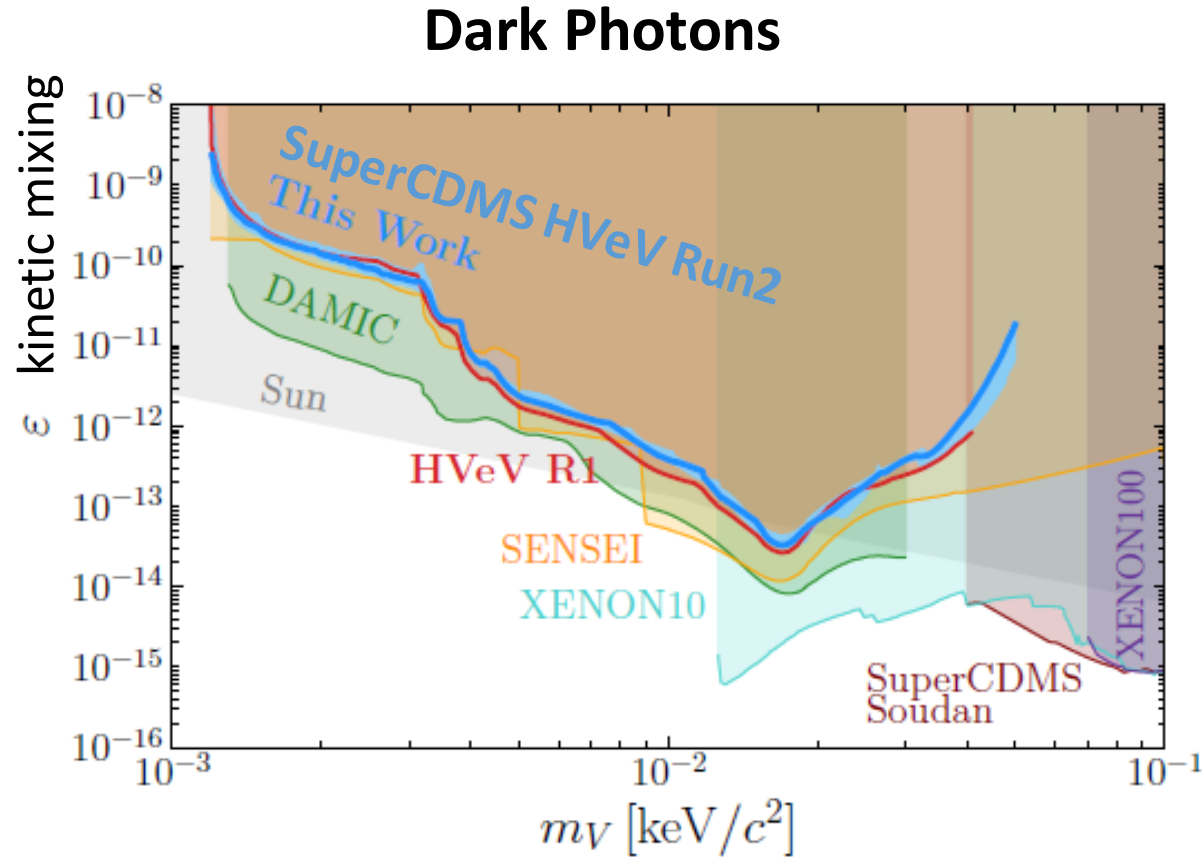
## Total phonon energy and yield

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_t &= E_r + (N_{eh} \cdot e \cdot V_b) \\
 &= E_r \cdot (1 + e \cdot V_b / \varepsilon_{\text{pair}} \cdot Y(E_r))
 \end{aligned}$$

# HVeV Electron Recoil DM Limits

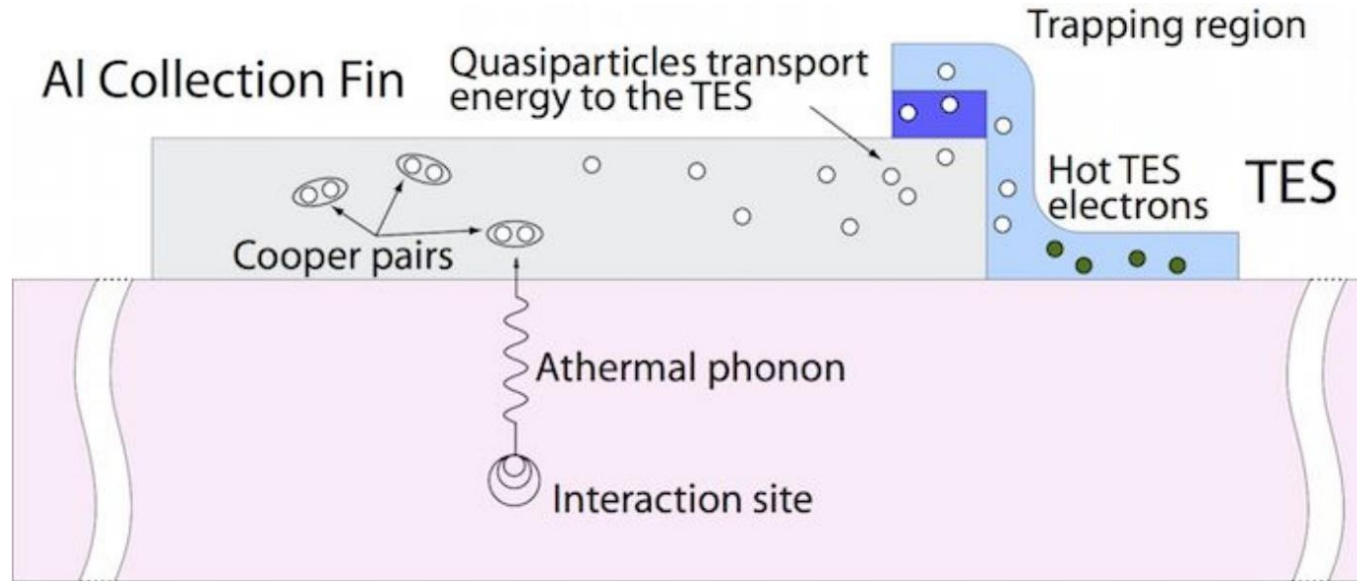


# HVeV Dark Photon & Axion Limits

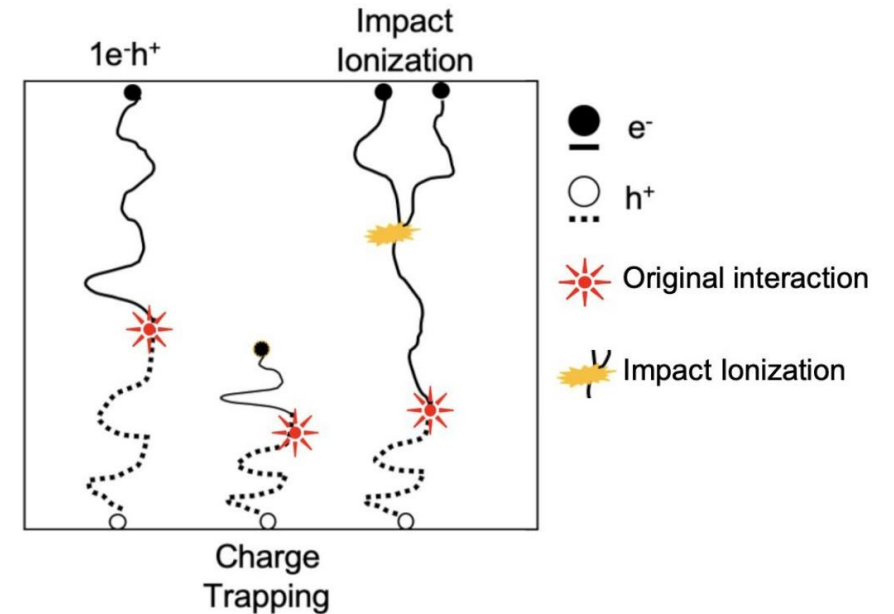




# Detector Response Modeling

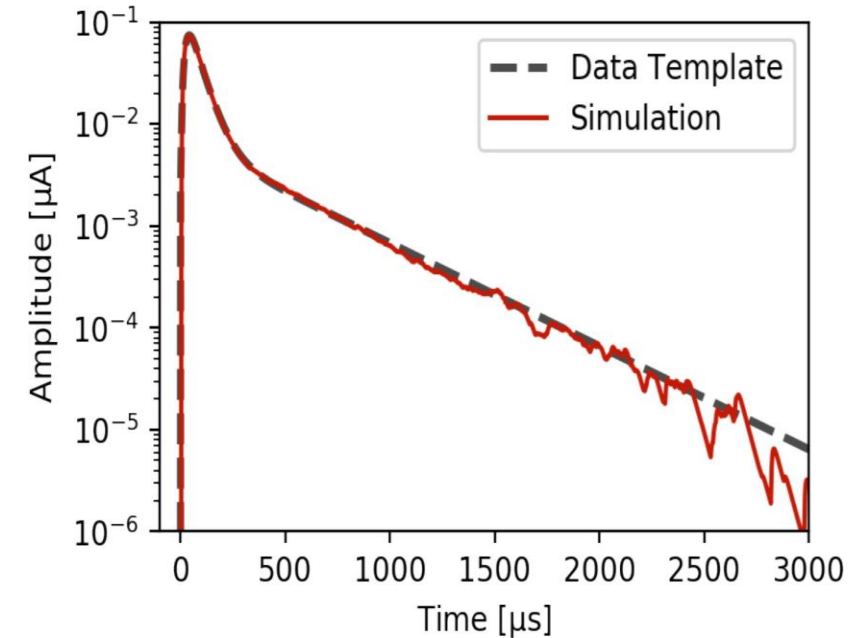
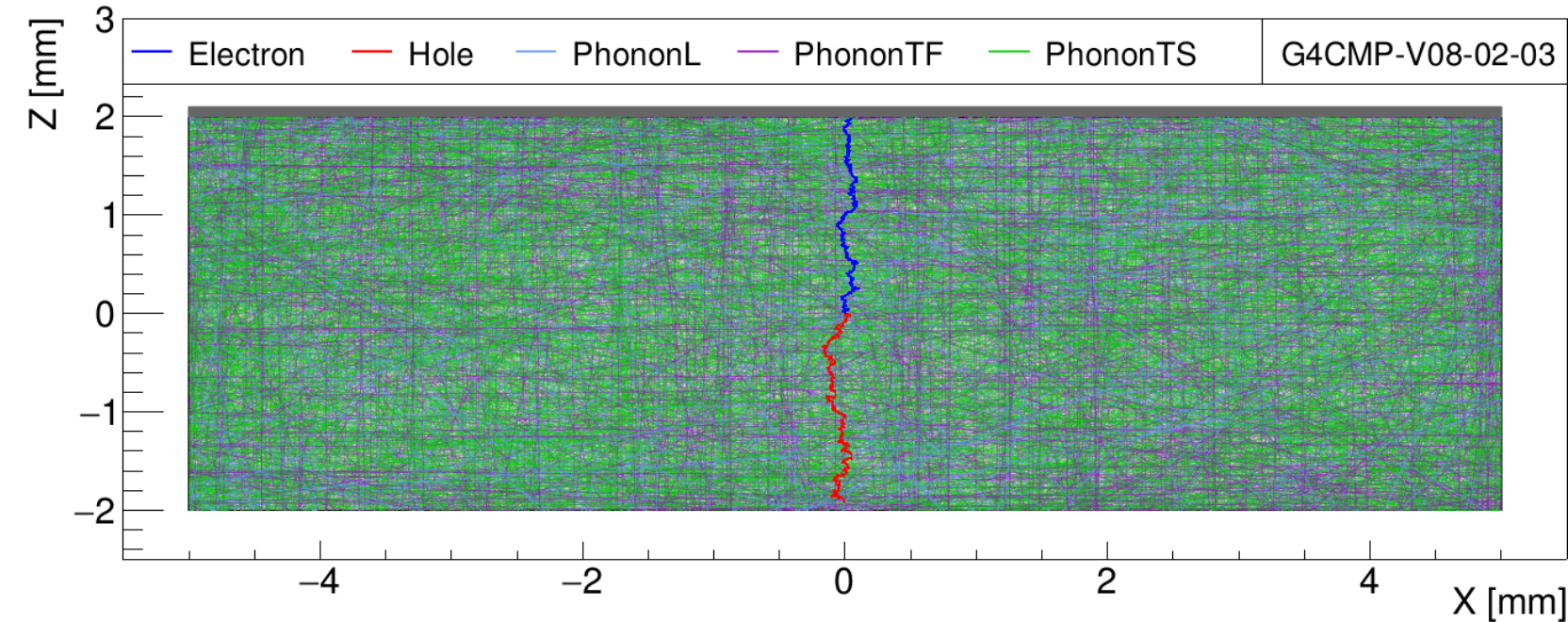


<https://figueroa.physics.northwestern.edu>



- **Sophisticated GEANT4-based framework, “G4DMC”, models crystal and sensor response with help of G4CMP (GEANT4 Condensed Matter Physics) package**
  - ▶ **Crystal dynamics: lattice definition, charge transport, phonon scattering, etc.**
  - ▶ **Impurity effects: Charge Trapping, Impact Ionization**
  - ▶ **TES configuration: physical layout, circuitry, electro-thermodynamics**

# Detector Response Modeling



[NIM A 1055, 168473, 2023](#) (code: [github.com/kelseymh/G4CMP](https://github.com/kelseymh/G4CMP))

[PRD 104, 032010 \(2021\)](#)

**Example: simulation of single  $e^-/h^+$  pair in Si HVeV ( $10 \times 10 \times 4$  mm<sup>3</sup>)**

**Goal: Same reconstruction path for real and simulated raw data!**

- **Would be suitable for testing advanced reconstruction algorithms, Machine Learning techniques, etc.**

*Slide credit: Stefan Zatschler*

# Backgrounds

Bury our detectors in dark secret (shielded) underground (clean-room) lairs

... Why?...

***Backgrounds, backgrounds, backgrounds!***

## **Cosmogenic**

- Cosmic ray muons
- Spallation neutrons
- Activated materials

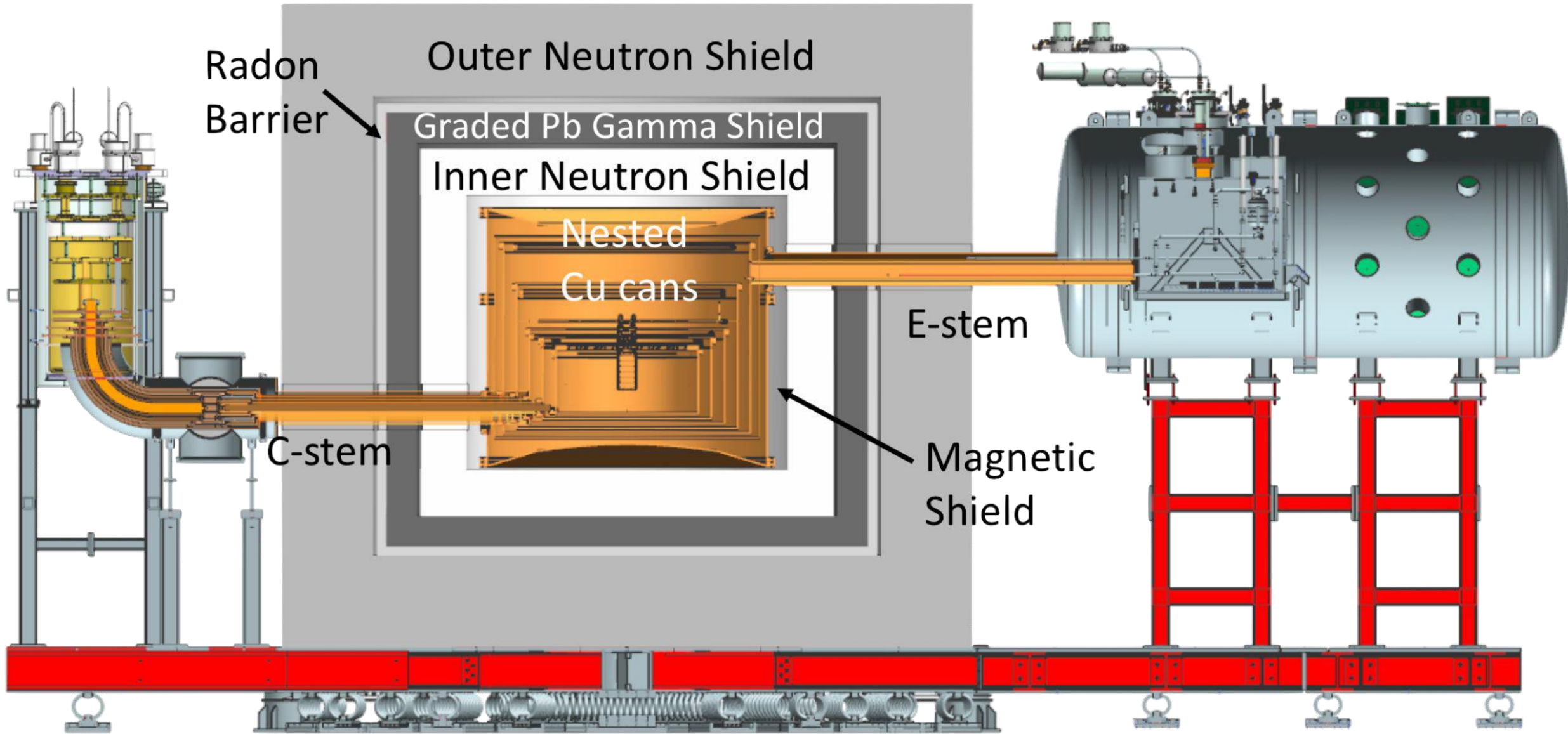
## **Environmental**

- Airborne radon & daughters
- Radio-impurities in materials

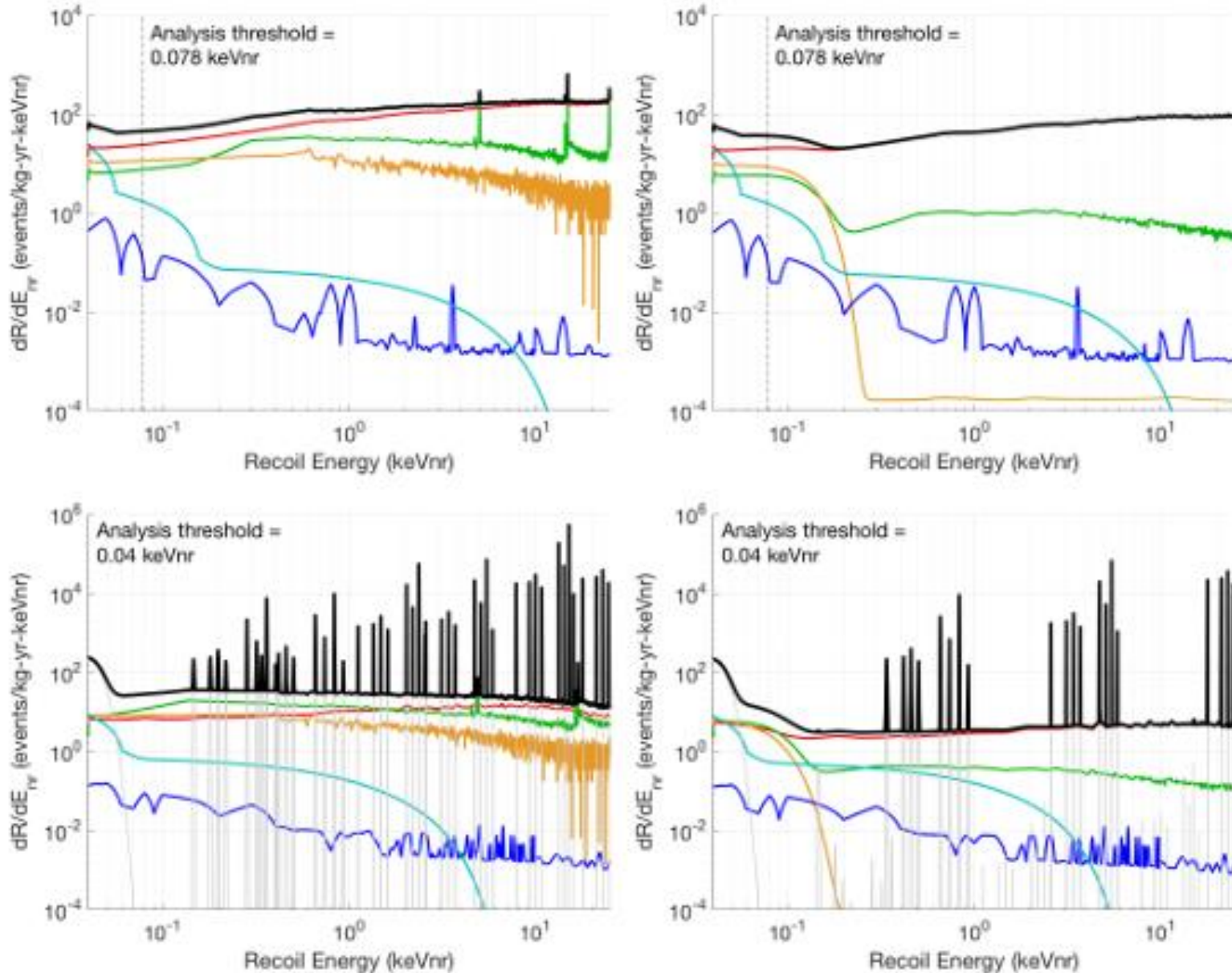


# Backgrounds

Multiple shielding layers to reduce backgrounds



# Backgrounds



SuperCDMS@SNOLAB HVs background spectra projections, before (left) and after (right) analysis cuts, in Si (top) and Ge (bottom)

**Black:** total bg

**Red:** ERs from Compton  $\gamma$ 's, H, Si

**Grey:** Ge activation lines, convolved with 10 eV r.m.s. resolution

**Green:** surface  $\beta$ 's

**Orange:** surface Pb recoils

**Blue:** neutrons

**Cyan:** CEvNS

# SuperCDMS@SNOLAB Installation Status



✓ Fridge  
Commissioning  
2023



✓ Detector tower testing  
@CUTE 2023-2024

.....



✓ DAQ installation  
2021



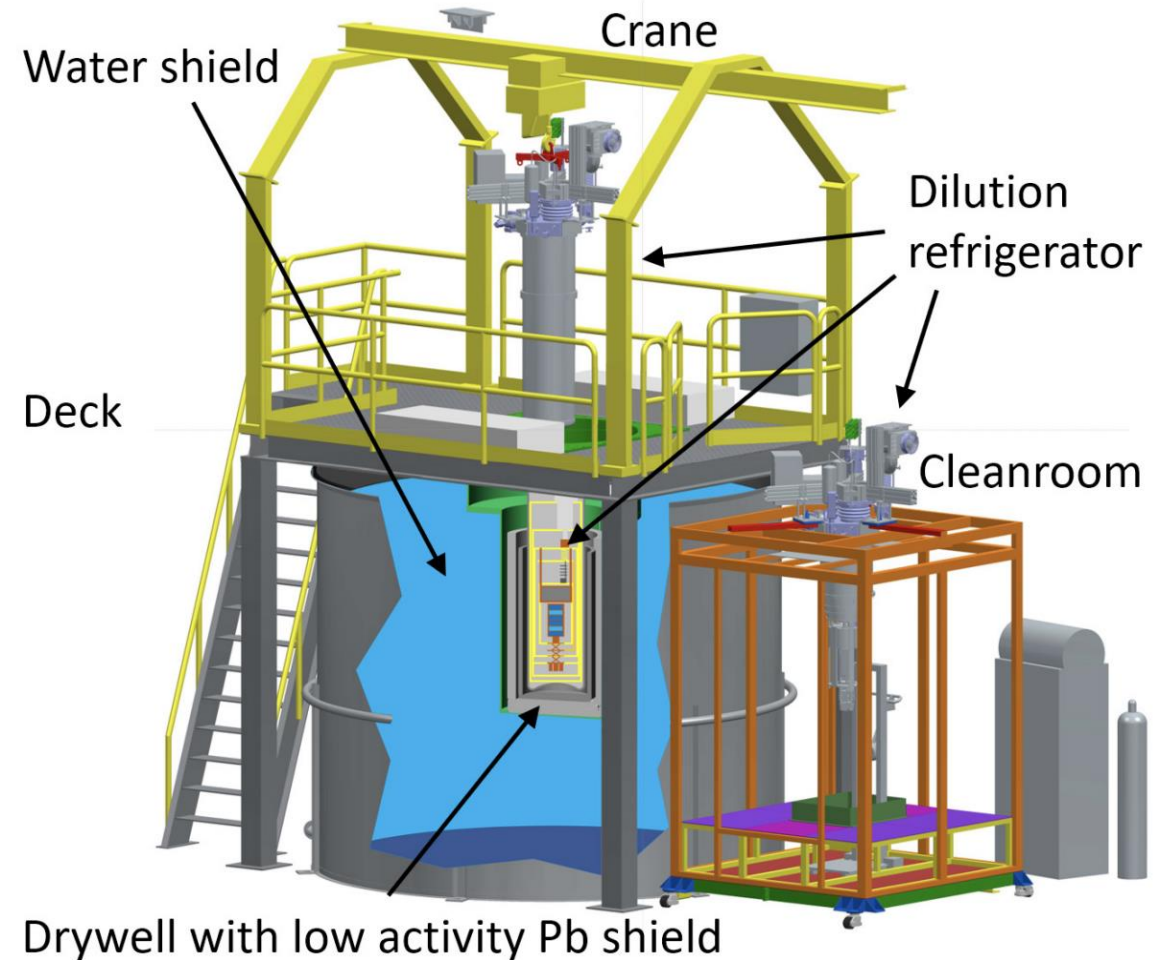
✓ Shield base  
installation 2023



SNOBOX & eTank testing  
in progress

# Cryogenic Underground Test (CUTE) Facility

- Operates down to  $T = 12 \text{ mK}$
- Low radioactive backgrounds
- Low EM interference
- Minimal mechanical vibrations thanks to cryostat suspension system
- Calibration sources ( $\gamma$ , neutron)
- Class 300, low Rn ( $< 15 \text{ mBq/m}^3$ ) cleanroom for payload changes



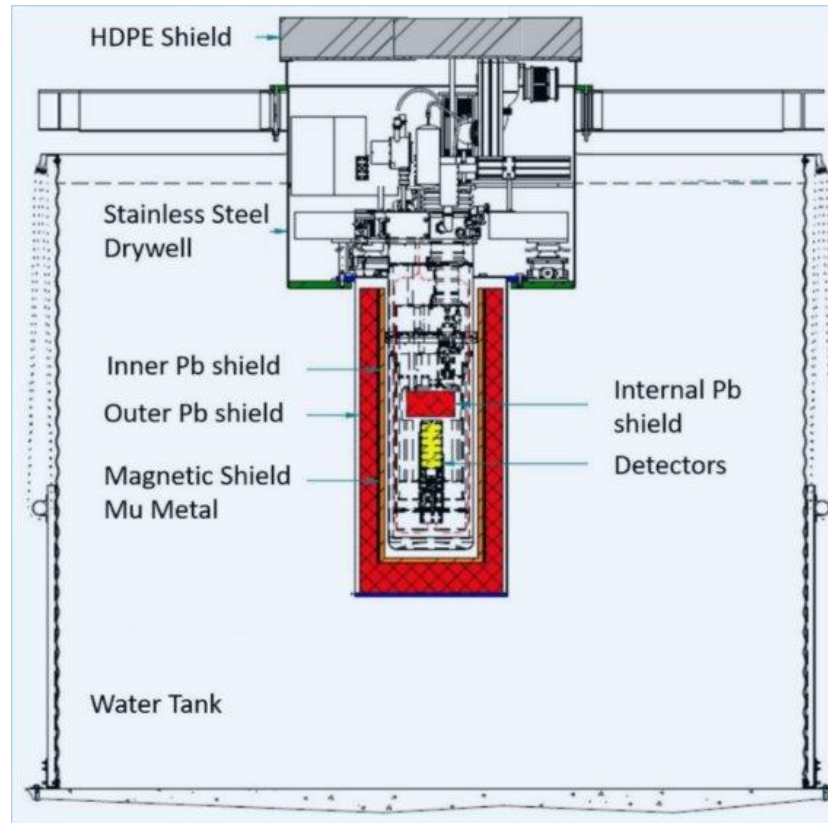
(Quark & Qubit  
the CUTE  
Guinea Piggies)

See Matthew Stukel's talk

<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1316311/contributions/5868952>

# Tower Testing at CUTE

- **1 HV tower payload: 4 Ge, 2 Si detectors**
- **5-month international effort**
- **First tests in very low-bg environment**



Analyses underway:

- ✓ **Detector calibration**
- ✓ **Noise modelling**
- ✓ **Background rates**
- ✓ **Phonon signal amplification with NTL effect**
- ✓ **Sensitivity estimation**
- ✓ **Potential DM search**

See Yan Liu's talk

<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1316311/contributions/5861281>



# Summary

- **SuperCDMS SNOLAB is a world-leading DM direct detection experiment currently under construction**
- **Targeting sub-GeV DM masses**
- **Rapidly ramping up to commissioning phase**
- **Detector tower testing recently completed at CUTE facility, several analyses in-progress to better understand our detectors**
- **Expecting early science results by next year!**



