

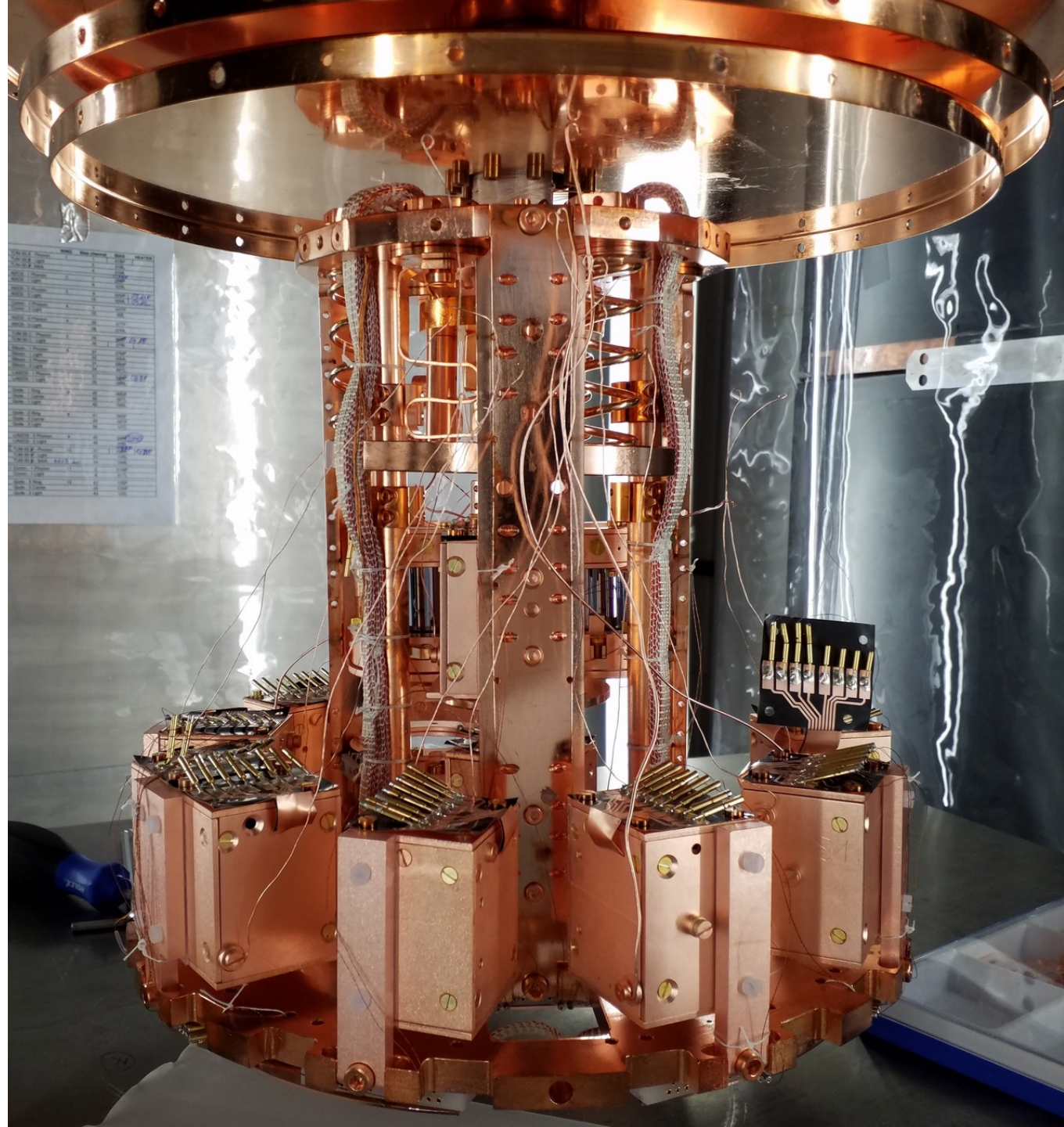
CRESST

Cryogenic Rare Event Search
with Superconducting Thermometers

The CRESST-III Dark Matter Search: Status and Outlook

Angelina Kinast
on behalf of the CRESST collaboration

angelina.kinast@tum.de



The CRESST collaboration

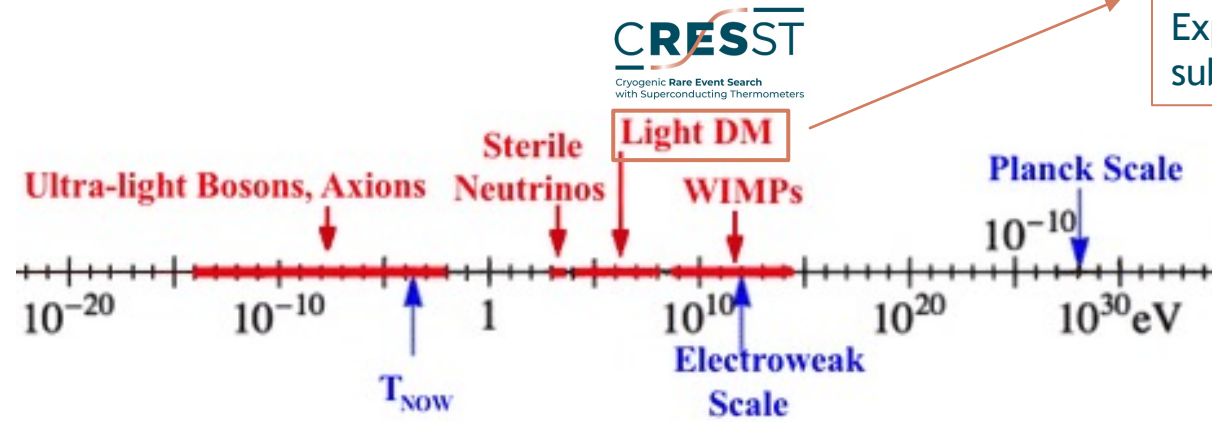


Cryogenic Rare Event Search
with Superconducting Thermometers



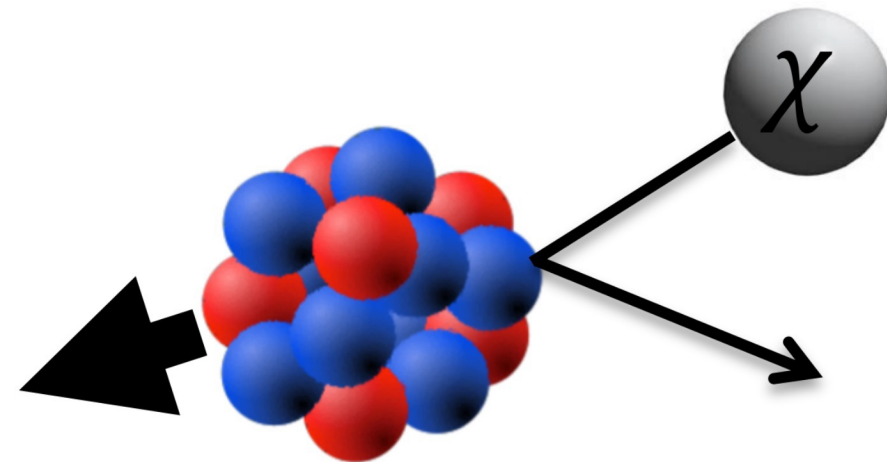
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Dark Matter (DM) particle candidates

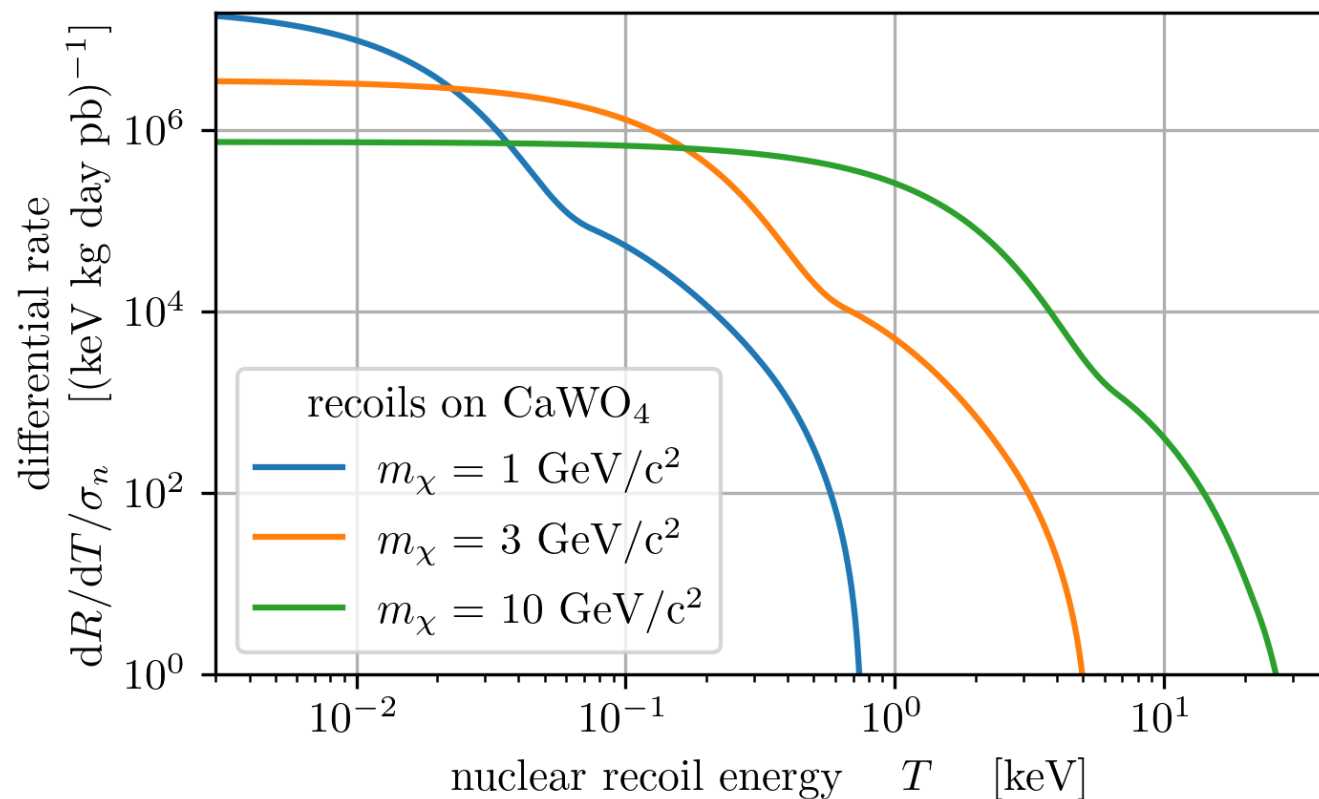


Tuesday session:
Francisco Vazquez de Sola
Experimental Searches for
sub-GeV Dark Matter

CRESST is looking for elastic recoil of light DM (sub-GeV) particles



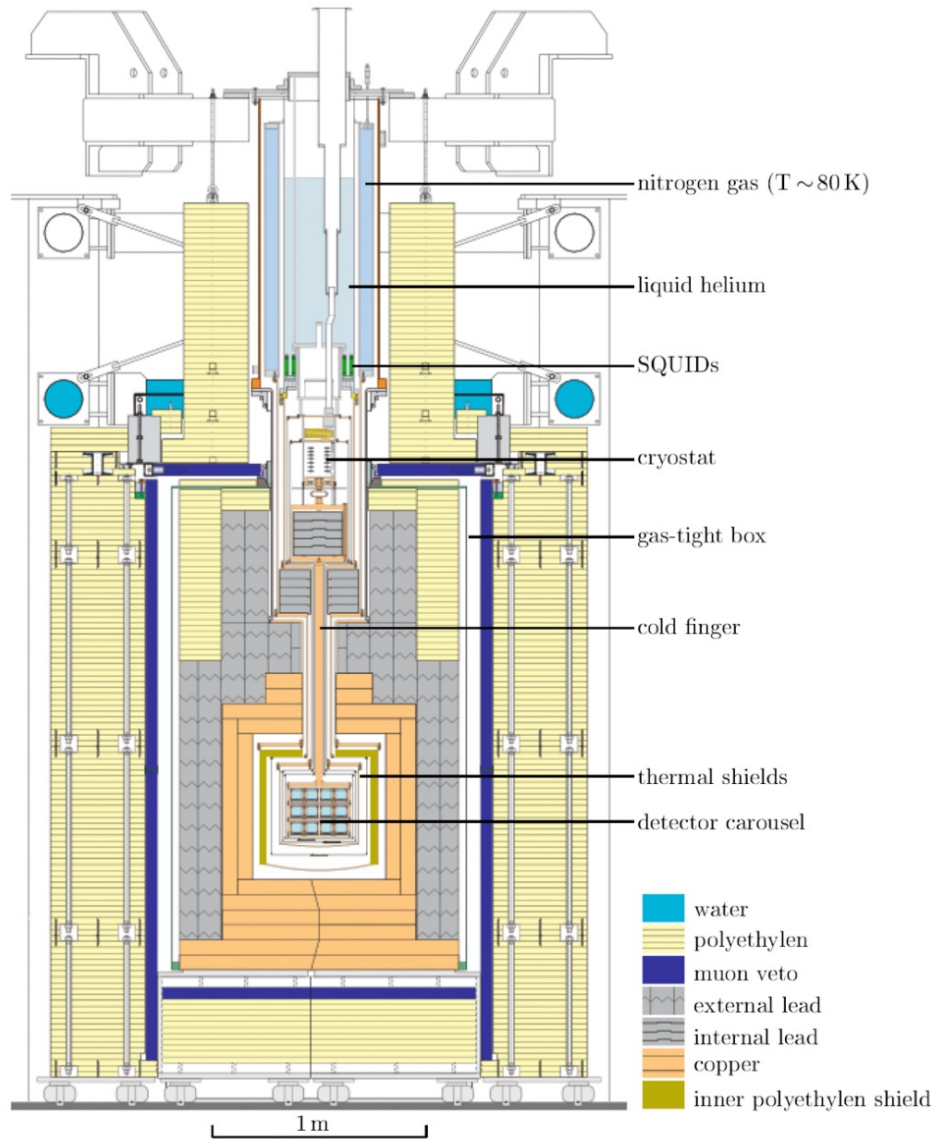
Recoil-spectra of CaWO₄ for different DM masses



- Small recoil energies \rightarrow thresholds $O(100\text{eV})$
- Low expected rate \rightarrow low background

J. Rothe (2020), *Low-Threshold Cryogenic Detectors for Low-Mass Dark Matter Search and Coherent Neutrino Scattering*,
<http://mediatum.ub.tum.de/?id=1576351>

Background reduction



Shielding:

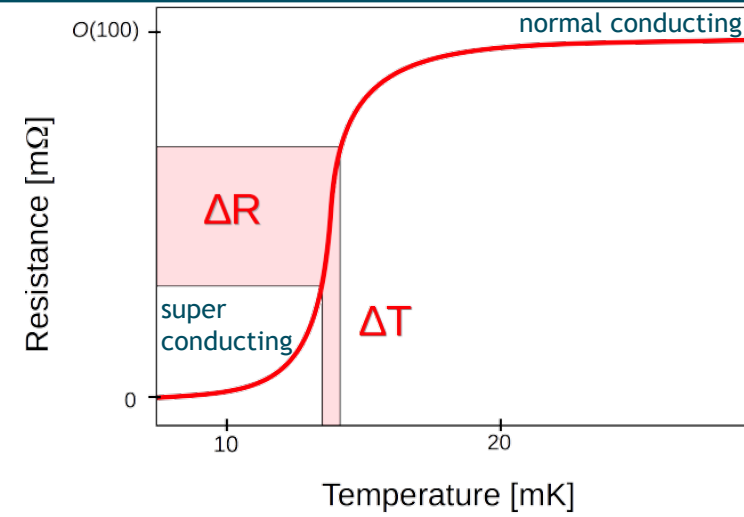
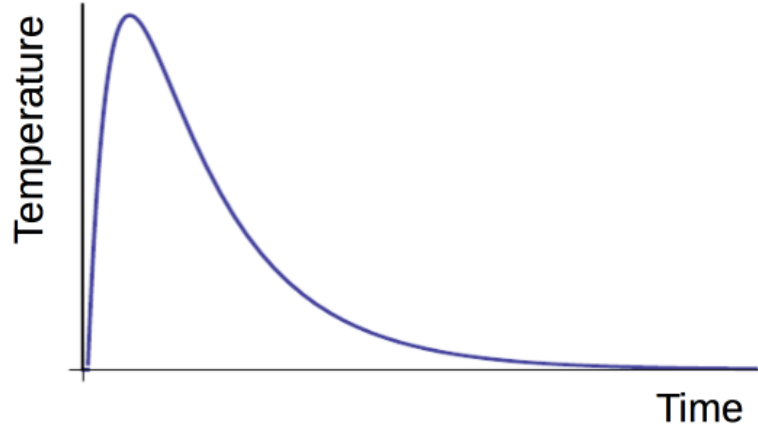
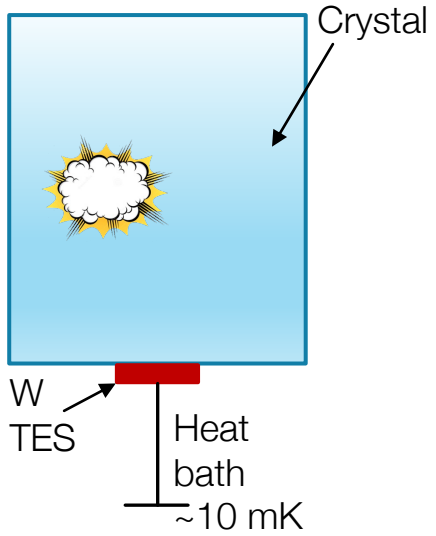
- 3600 m. w. e. of rock
- polyethylene / lead / copper

Specially selected target materials (High-purity CaWO_4 crystals grown in-house at TUM)

Background-rate in detectors:
 ~ 4 counts/keV/kg/day

Strauss, R., et al. "Beta/gamma and alpha backgrounds in CRESST-II Phase 2." *Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics* 2015.06 (2015): 030.

CRESST detector principle



Energy deposition
 $\Delta E \text{ O}(100 \text{ eV})$

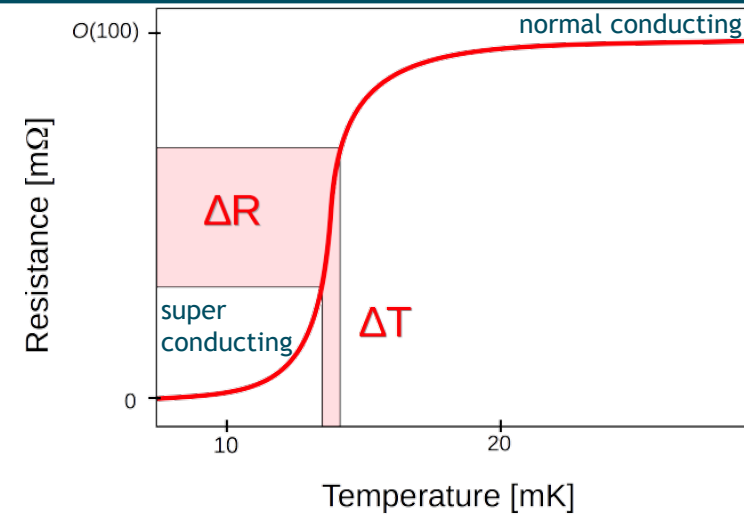
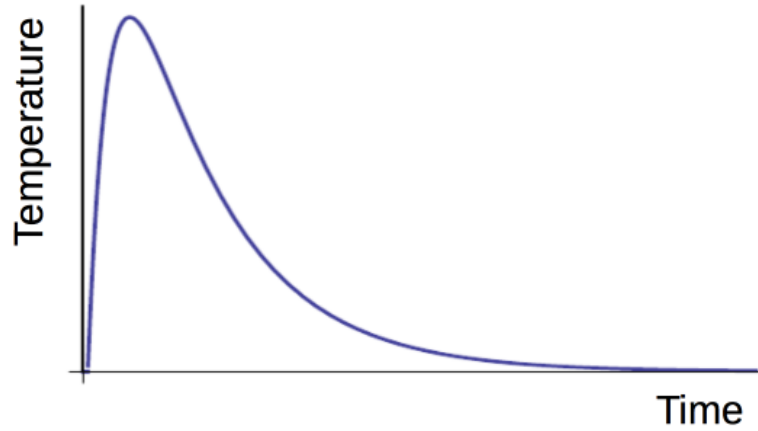
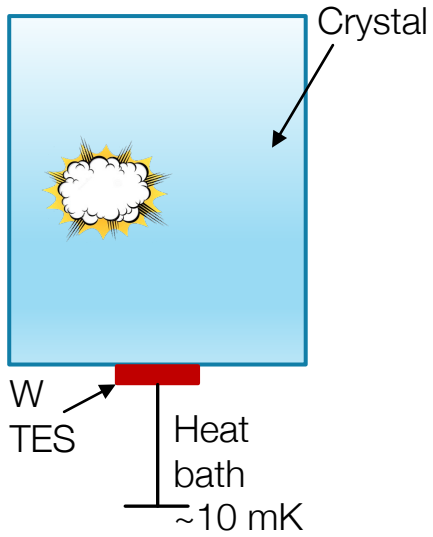


Temperature rise $\Delta T \text{ O}(\mu\text{K})$



Resistance change $\text{O}(\text{m}\Omega)$

CRESST detector principle



Energy deposition
 ΔE O(100 eV)



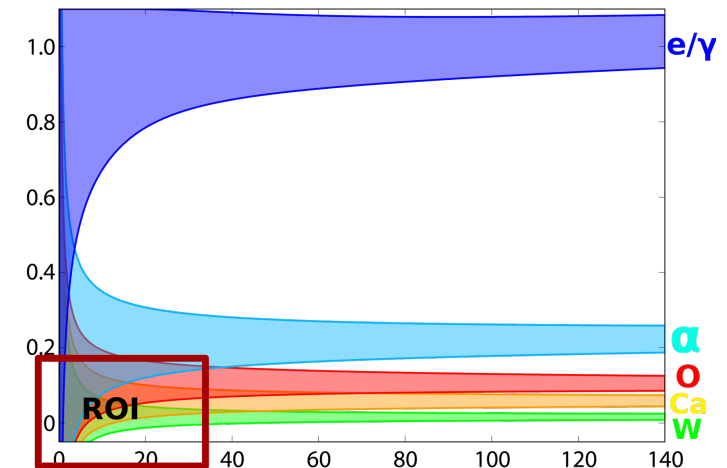
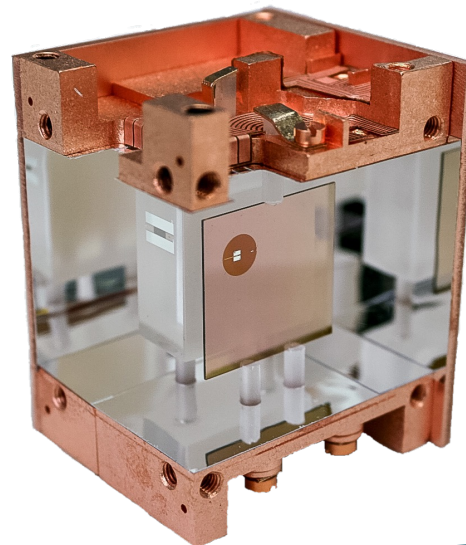
Temperature rise ΔT O(μ K)



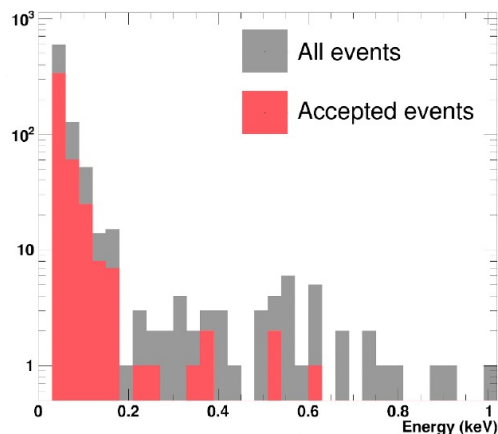
Resistance change O(m Ω)

Achievable thresholds: O(10 eV)

2 channel readout of scintillating crystals:
particle discrimination event-by-event



Leading limit for sub-GeV DM with nuclear recoil threshold of 30.1 eV



Excess of events below 200 eV measured

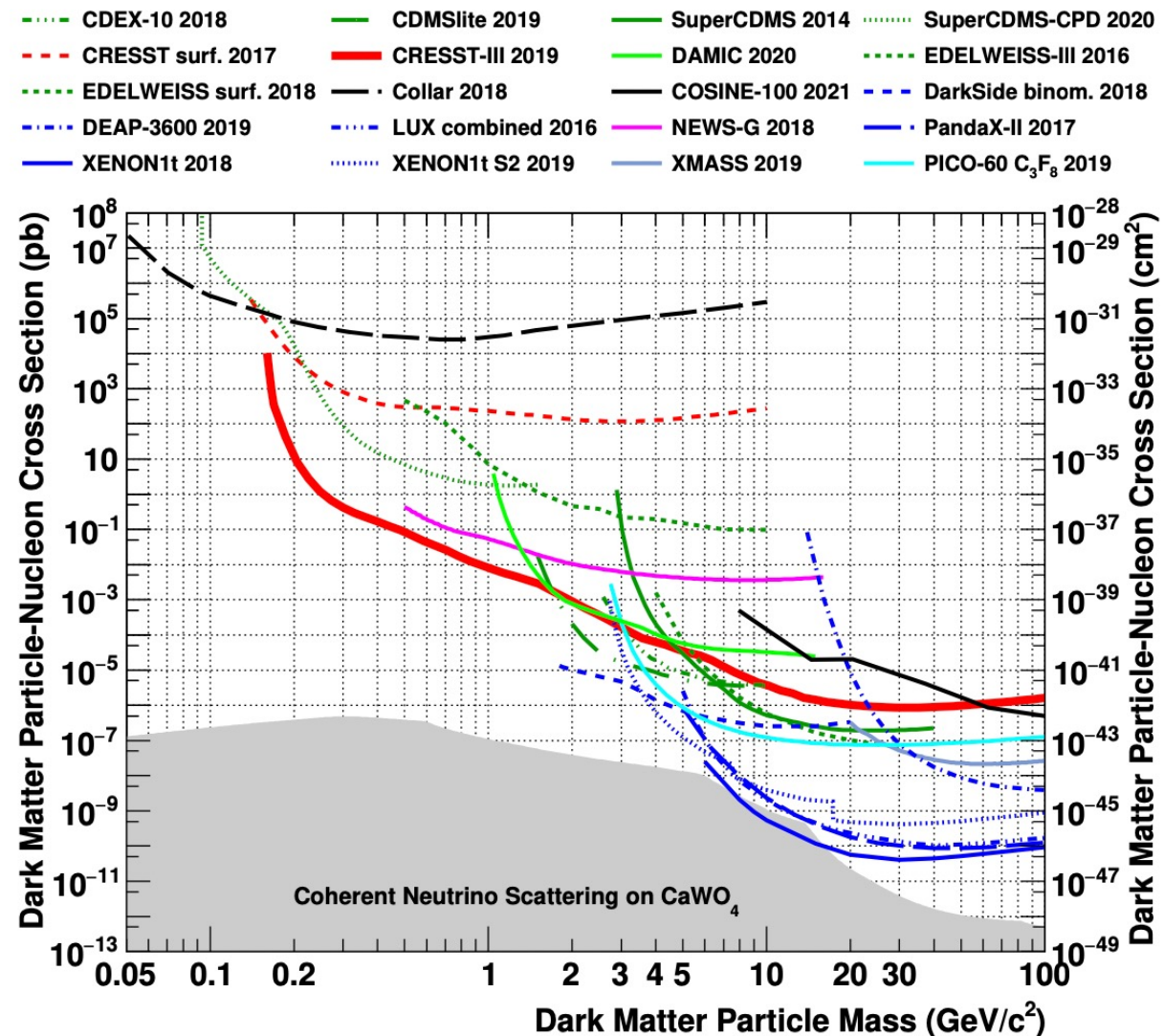
- Signal-like event shape (no noise events)
- Observed in all detectors with different rate

→ Main limiting factor for CRESST DM search

→ Also limiting for other low-threshold DM experiments → Joint workshop

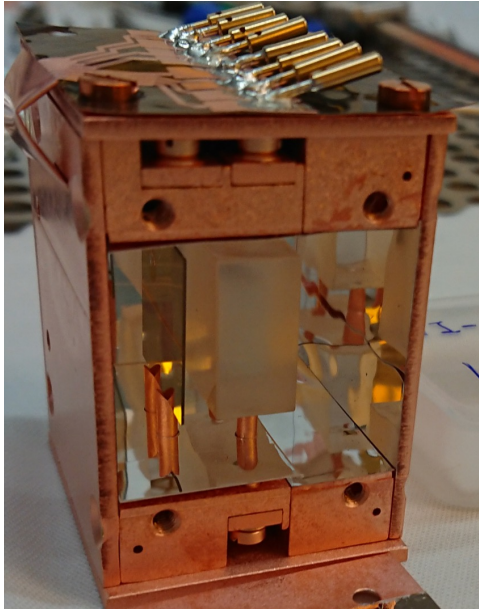
SciPost Phys. Proc. 9, 001 (2022) / arXiv:2202.05097v2

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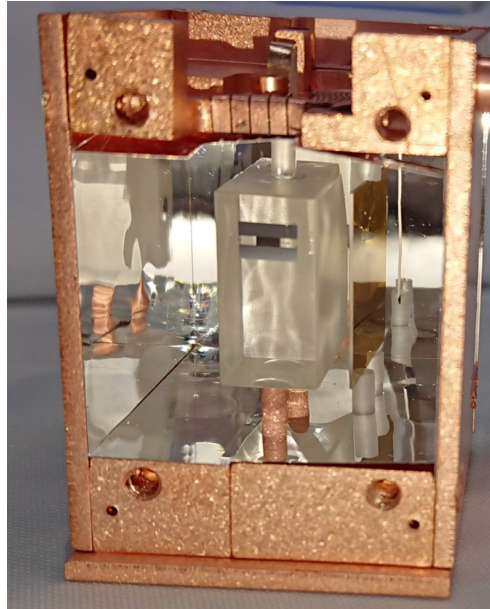


A. Abdelhameed et al., "First results from the CRESST-III low-mass dark matter program"

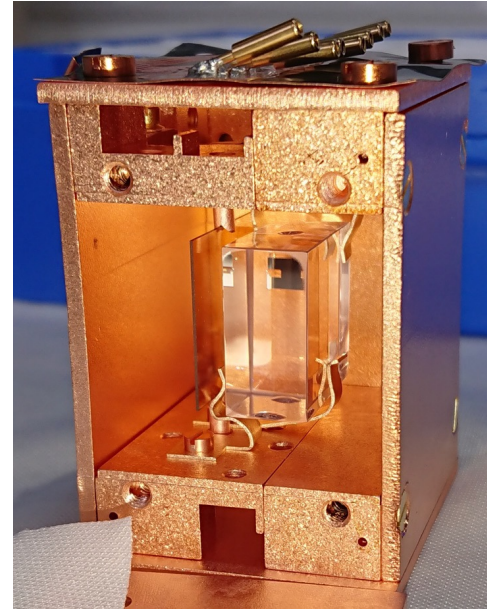
Modification of detector modules



LiAlO₂



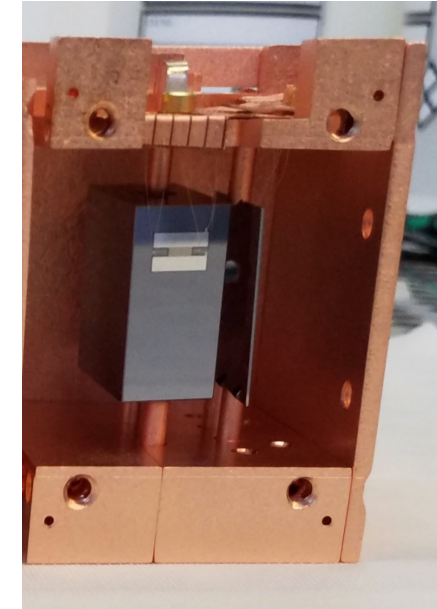
TUM - CaWO₄



Commercial - CaWO₄



Al₂O₃



Si

- Various target materials
- Detector holding
- Scintillating parts
- ⁵⁵Fe source for accurate energy calibration

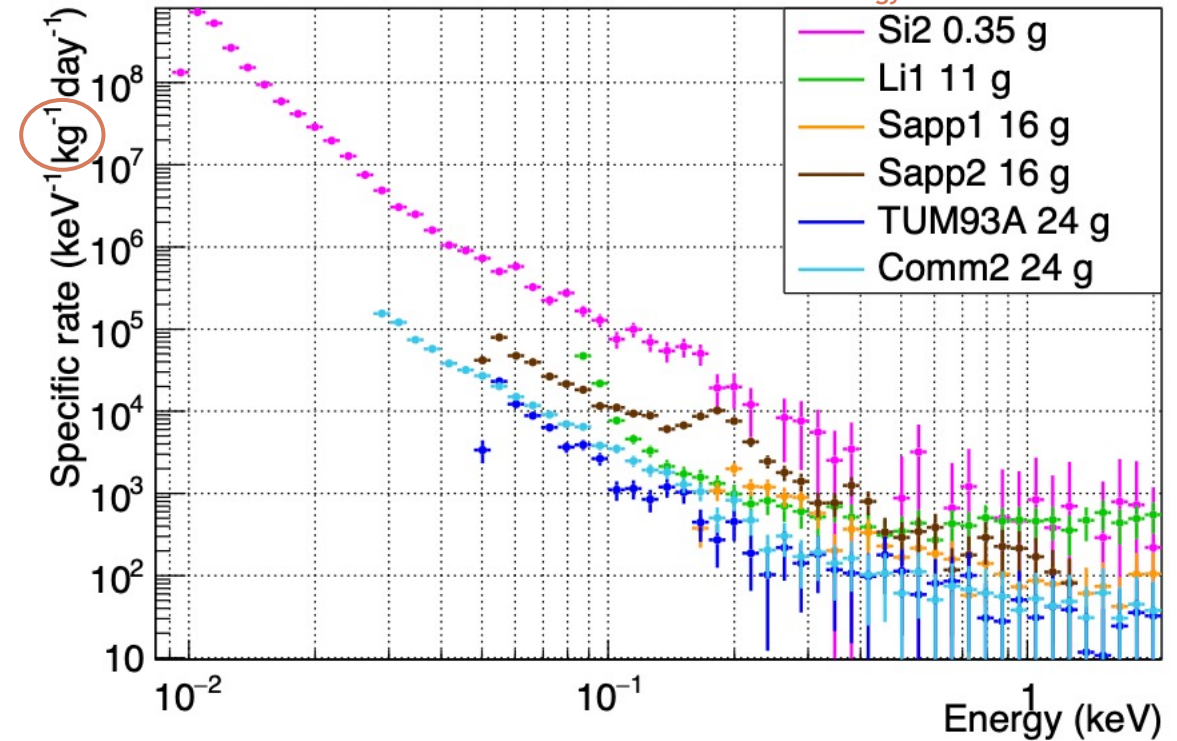
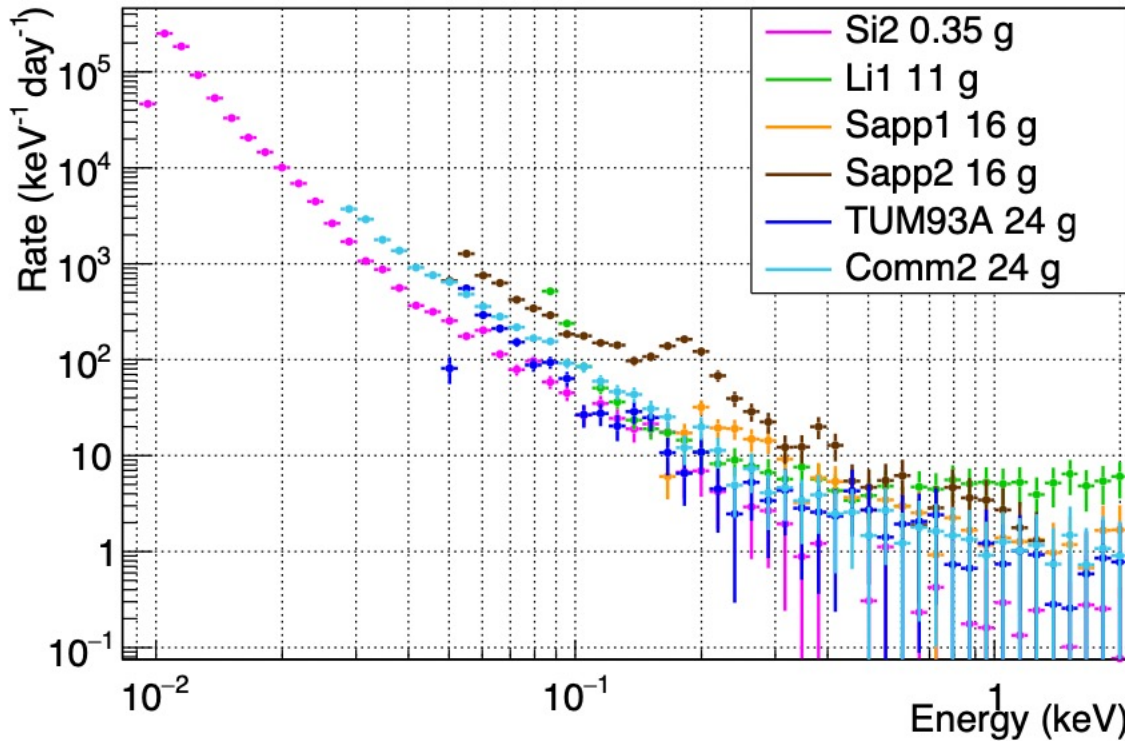
Data-taking ongoing since November 2020

Low-energy spectra

New Results!

[arXiv:2207.09375](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.09375)

Latest observations on the low energy excess in CRESST-III



- Excess observed in all detectors, same shape, different thresholds
- Rate of Excess does not scale by mass and is observed in all materials with varying rate

→ Excludes external origins like DM or external radioactivity

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Time Dependence

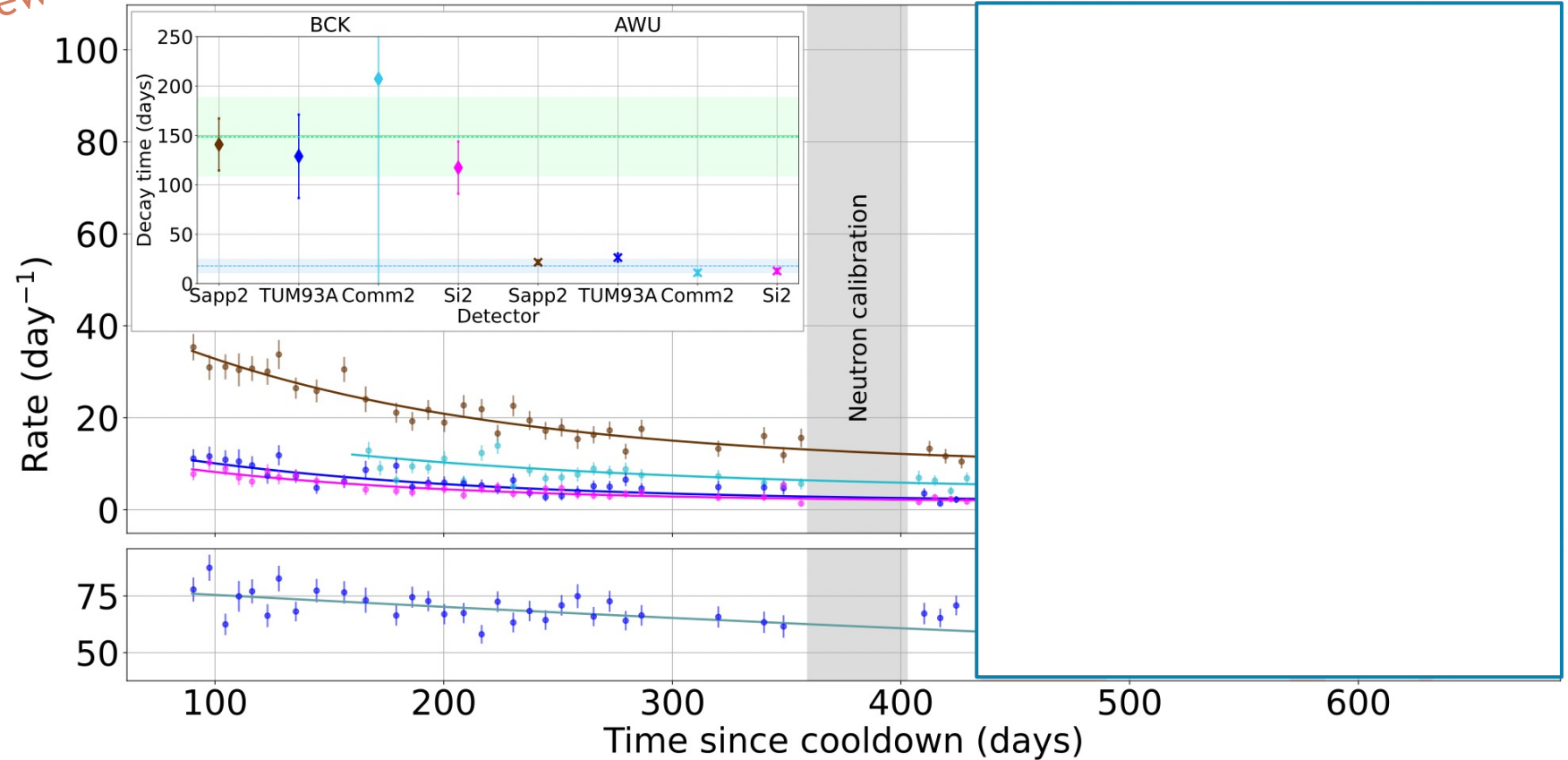
Observations:

Rate decays with similar decay time for all detectors

- Decay time ~150 days
- No influence of neutron calibration

New Results!

[arXiv:2207.09375](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.09375) Cryogenic Rare Event Search
With Superconducting Thermometers
Latest observations on the low energy excess in CRESST-III



Temperature dependence

Observations:

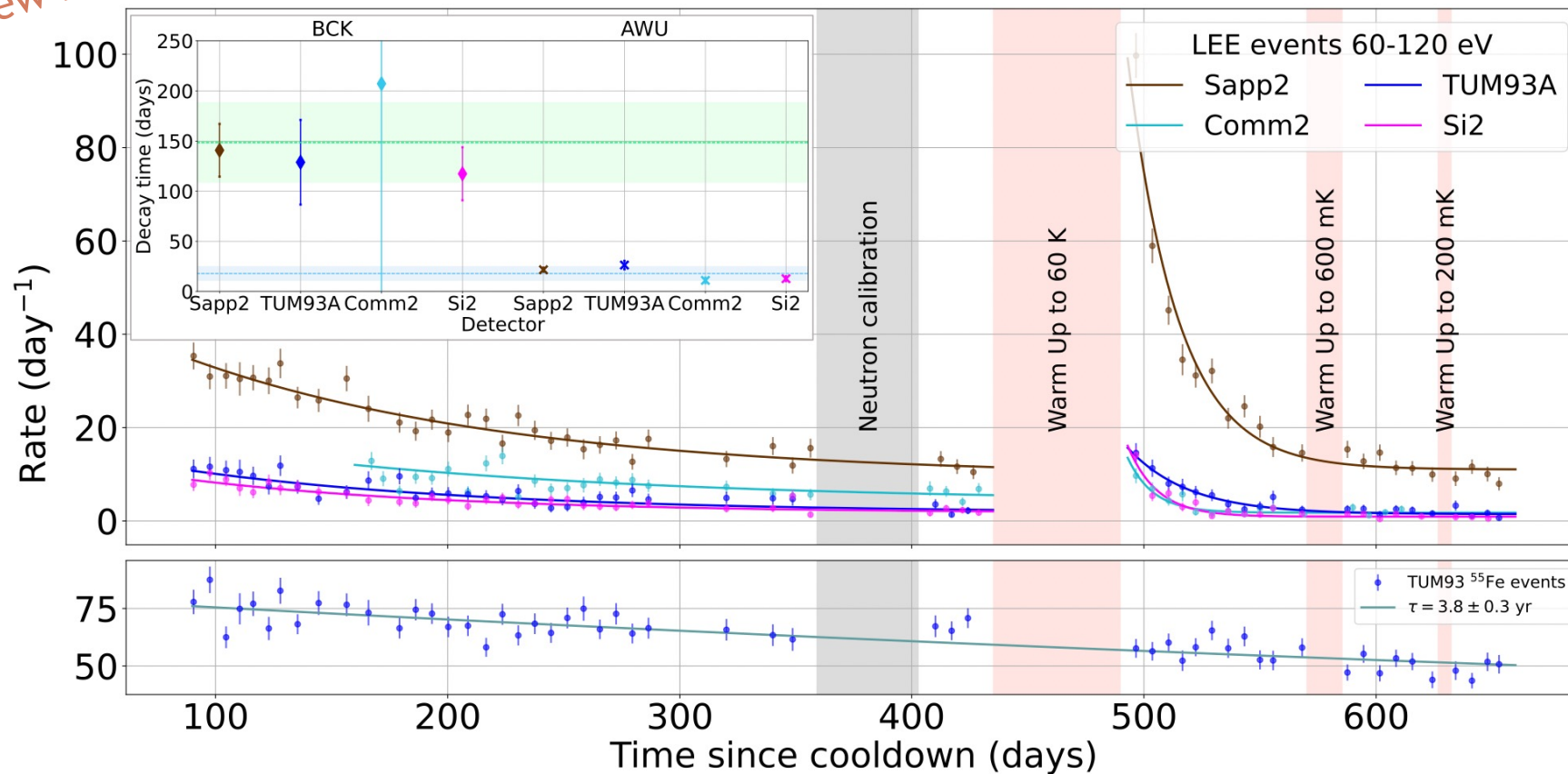
Rate decays with similar decay time for all detectors

- Decay time ~150 days
- No influence of neutron calibration
- Rate resets after warm-up to 60 K (no effect at 200 mK and 600 mK)
- Decay time after warm-up ~20 days

Excludes external and intrinsic radioactivity and DM as origin!
Hints towards **solid-state effect**

New Results!

arXiv:2207.09375
Latest observations on the low energy excess in CRESST-III



Further options under study:

- Sensor related effects
- Holding induced stress

R&D ongoing!

Spin-independent DM results

Si-Wafer detector with threshold of 10 eV

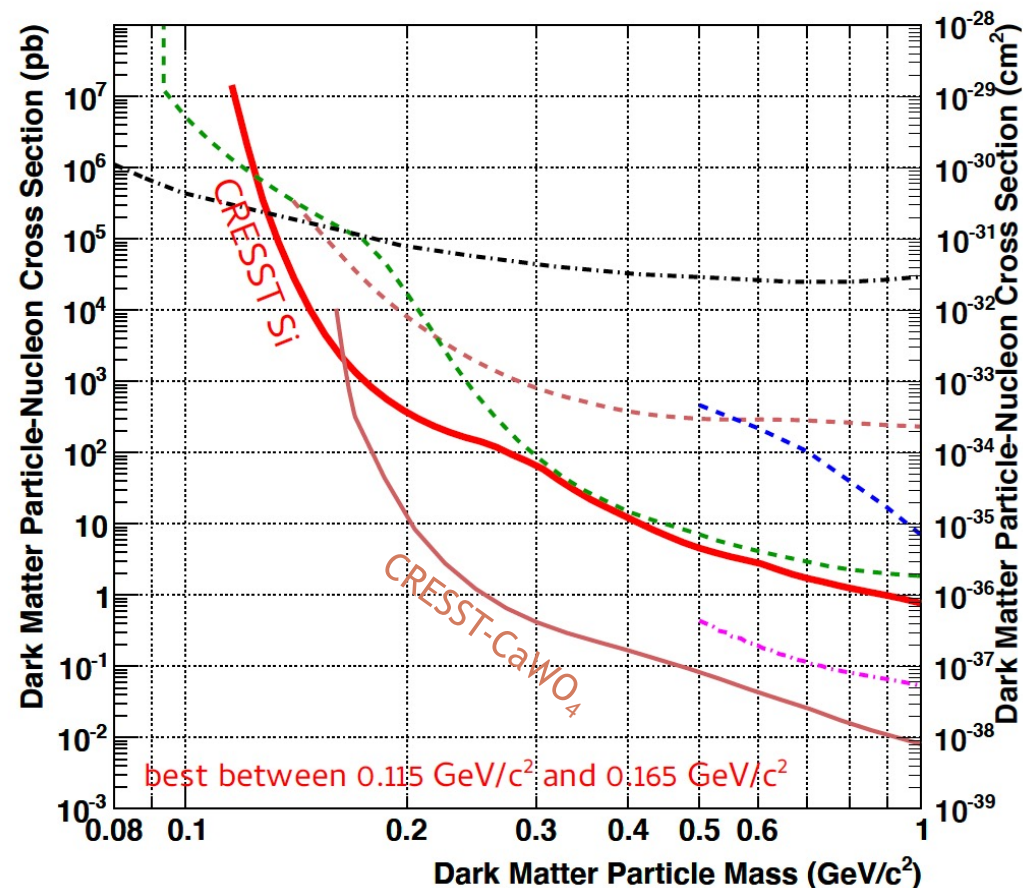
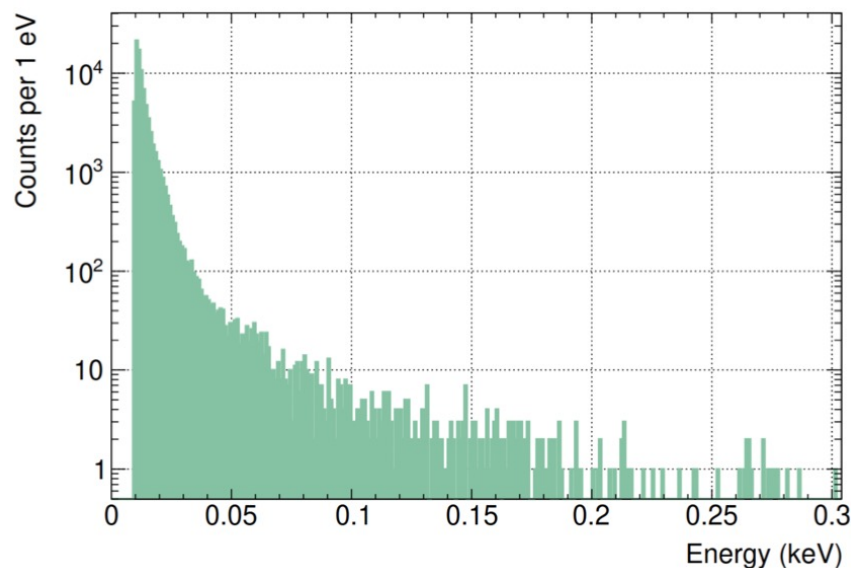
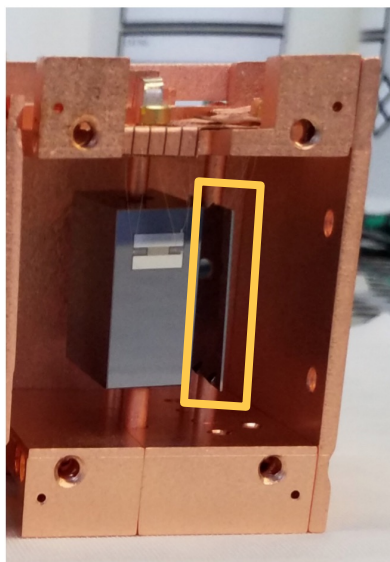
Energy Resolution: 1.36 eV

Data taking: Nov 2020 - Aug 2021

Exposure: 55.06 g d

Best DM exclusion limit between 115 and 165 MeV/c²

New Results!



Spin-dependent DM results

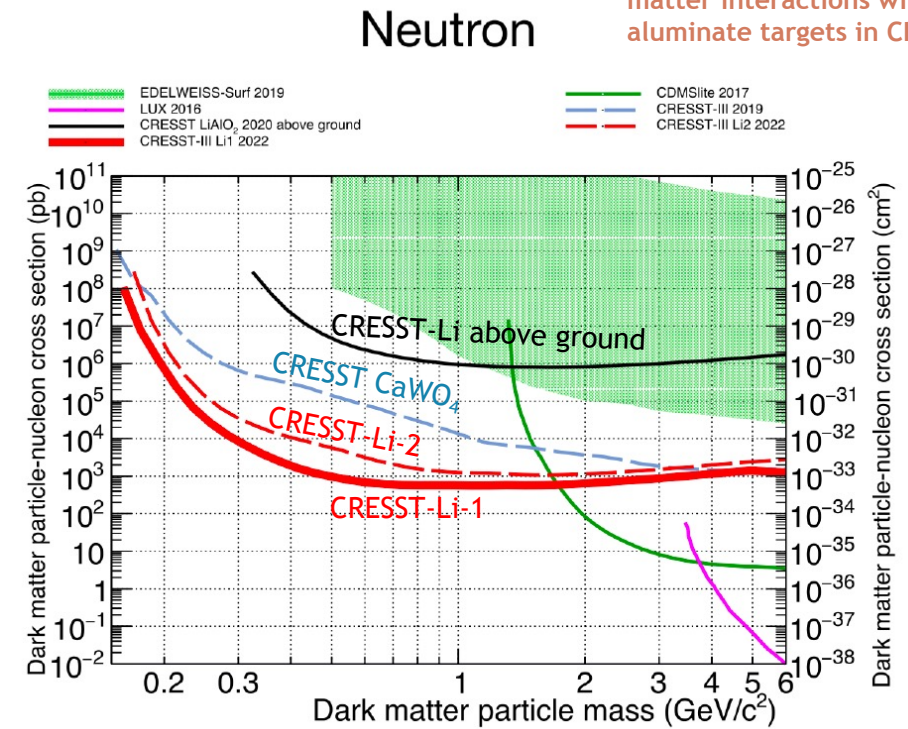
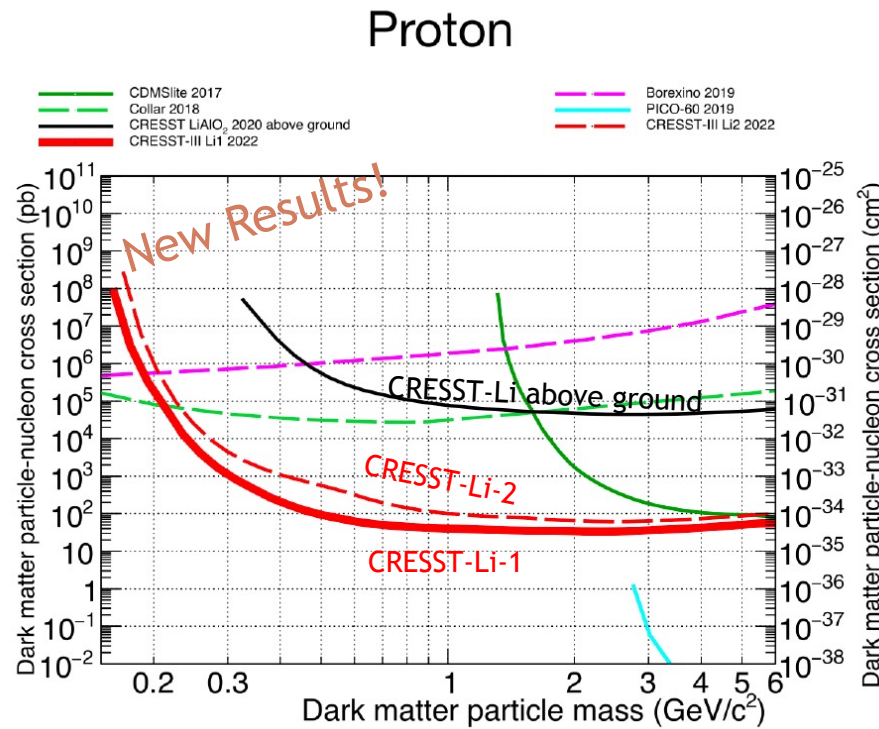
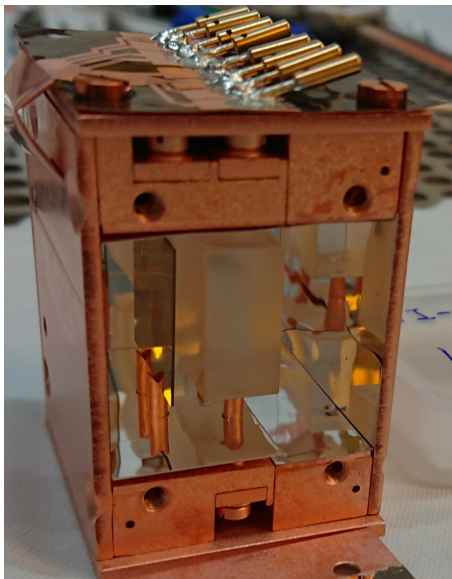
LiAlO₂ detector threshold **83.6 eV**

Data taking: Nov 2020 - Aug 2021

Exposure: 1.161 kg d

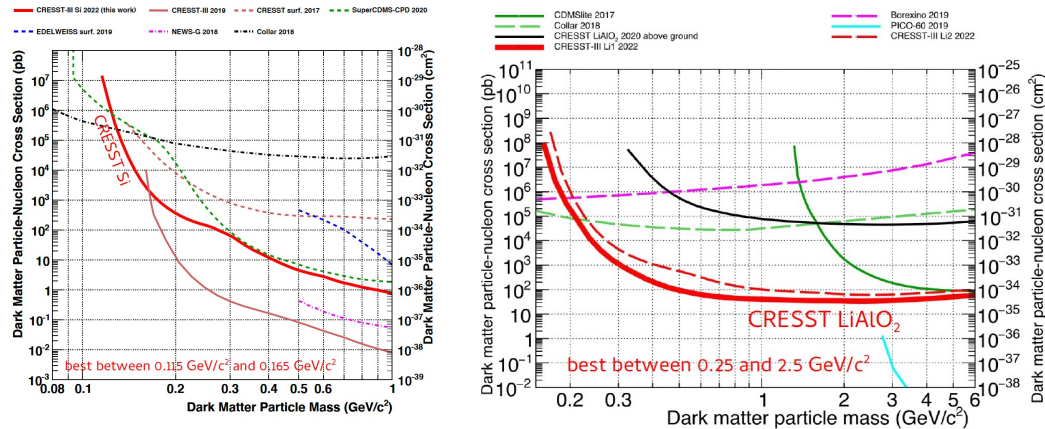
- Leading proton limits between 0.25 and 2.5 GeV/c²
- Leading neutron limits between 0.16 and 1.5 GeV/c²

[arXiv:2207.07640](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.07640)
Testing spin-dependent dark matter interactions with lithium aluminate targets in CRESST-III



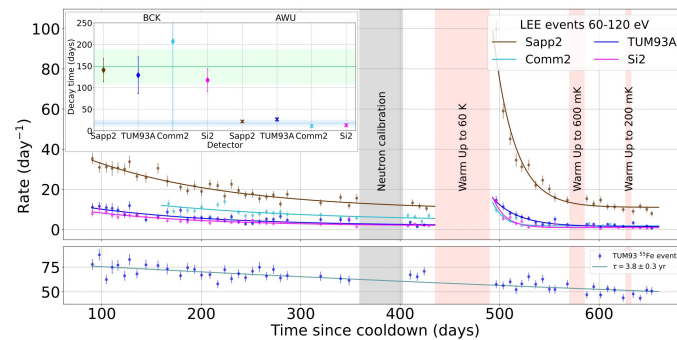
Summary:

New leading exclusion limits for both spin-dependent and spin-independent DM search



Dedicated study of the excess ongoing

- First results **exclude** a particle-like origin and **DM**
- Hint towards solid-state process i.e. **stress related effects**



Outlook:

Excess studies ongoing, other temperature cycles are planned

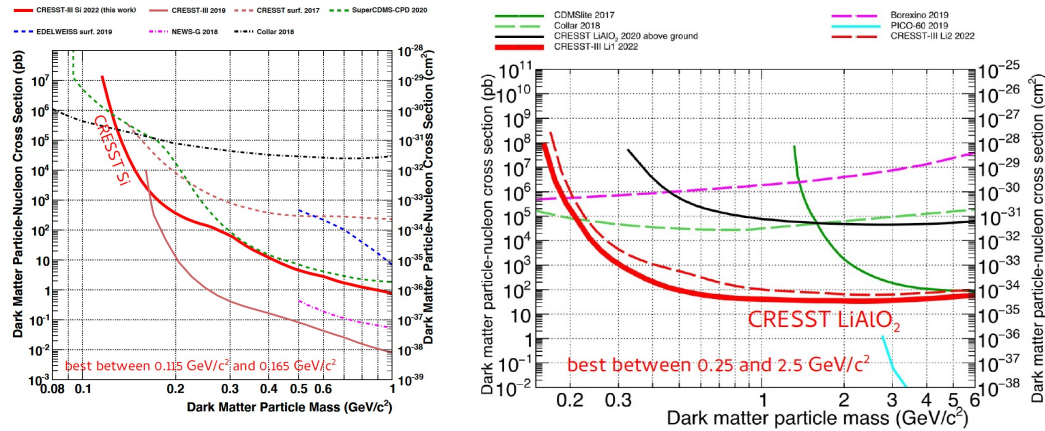
Detector R&D

- Study stress as a source of the excess
- Lower thresholds of detectors

Upgrade of the CRESST setup planned afterwards to increase number of available channels to 288

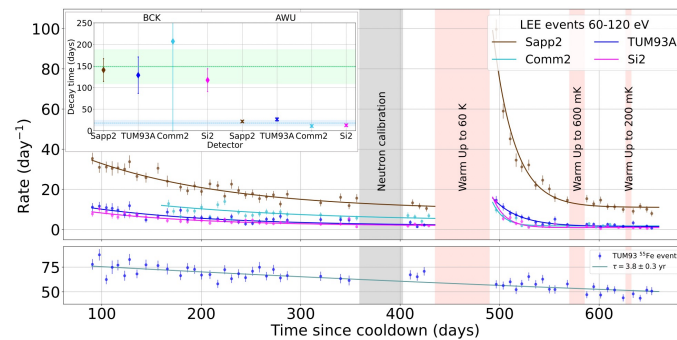
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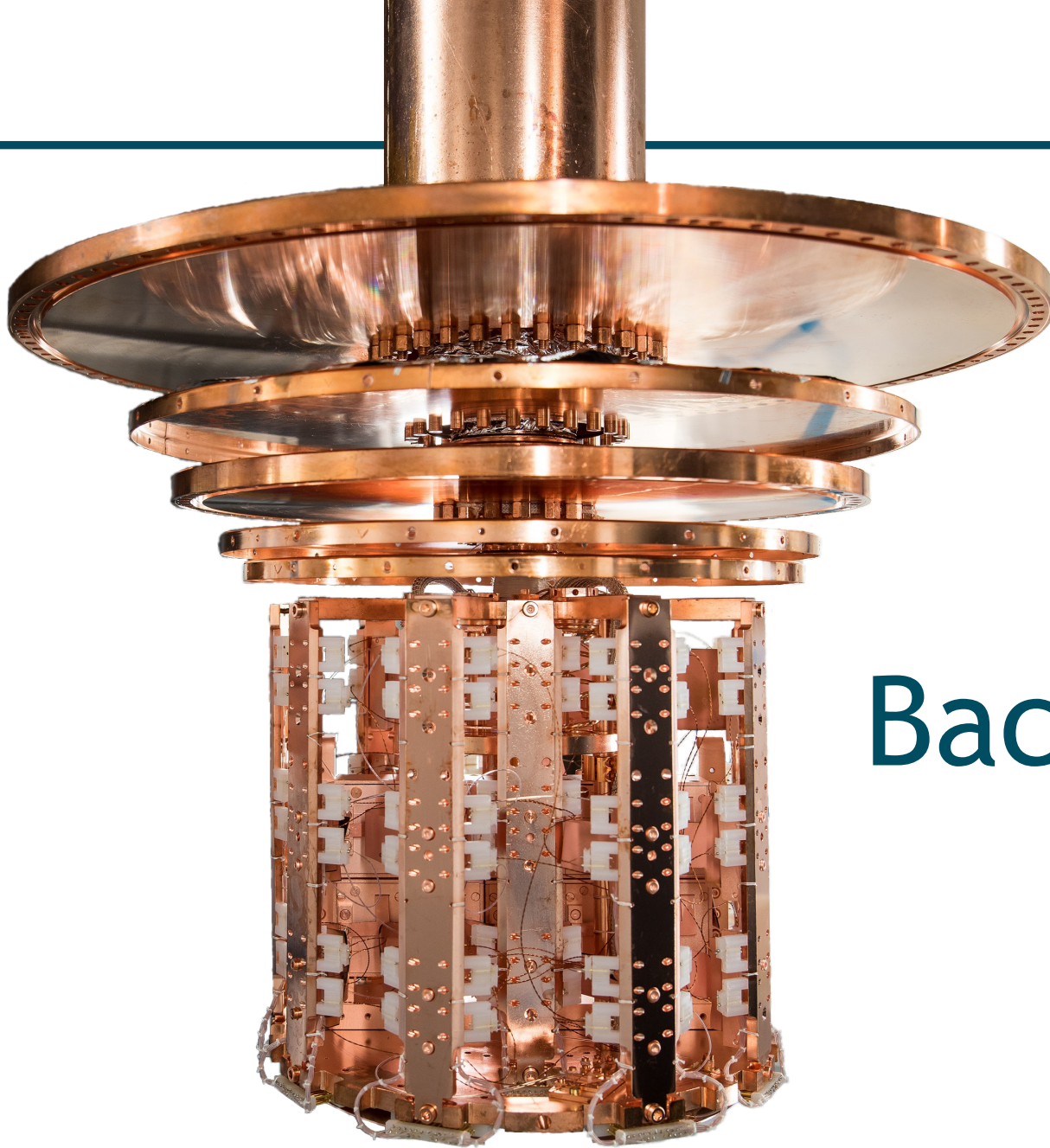
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Detector R&D

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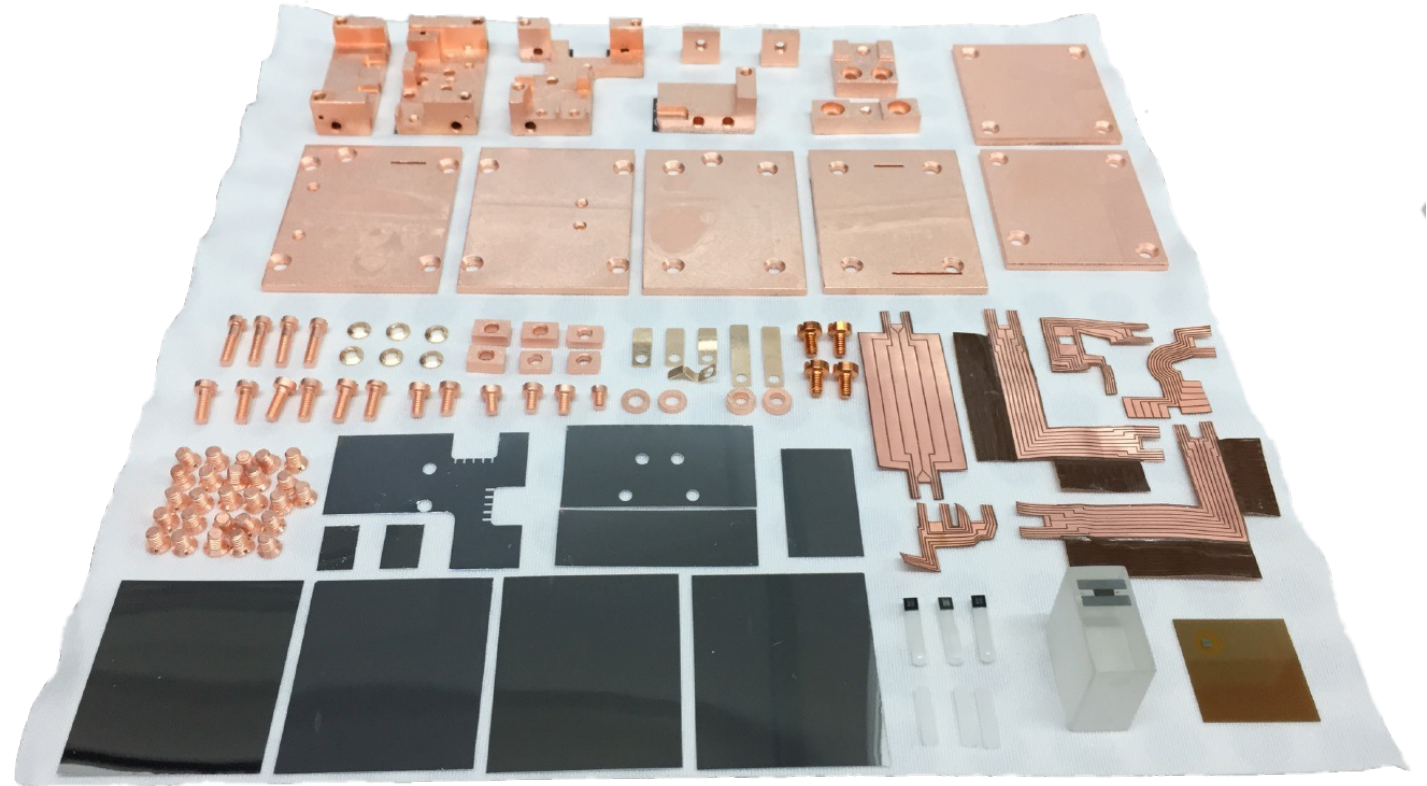
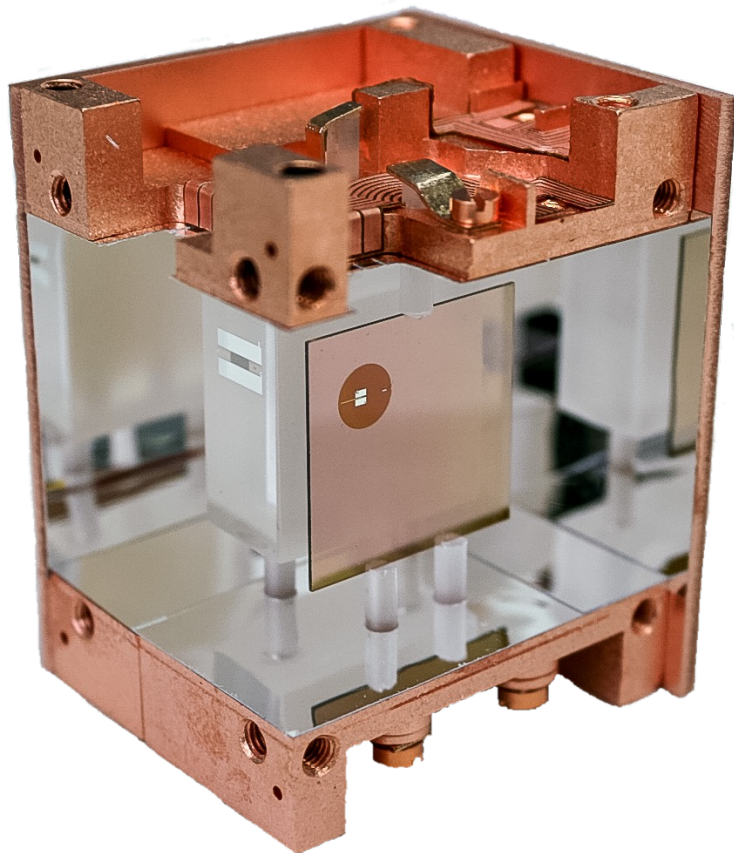
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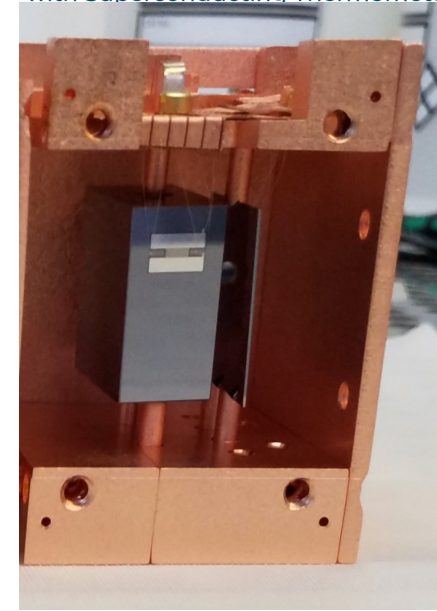
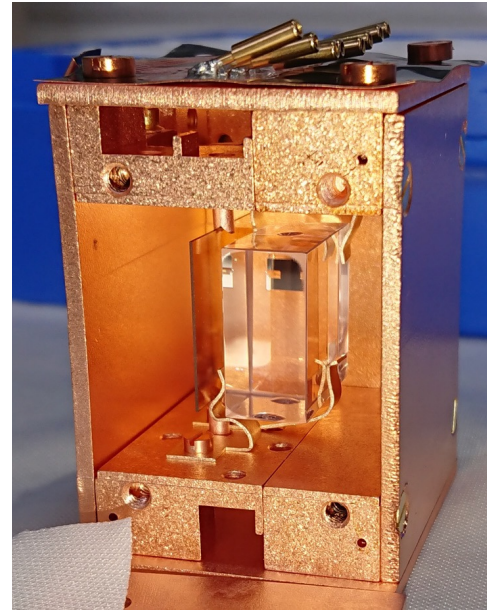
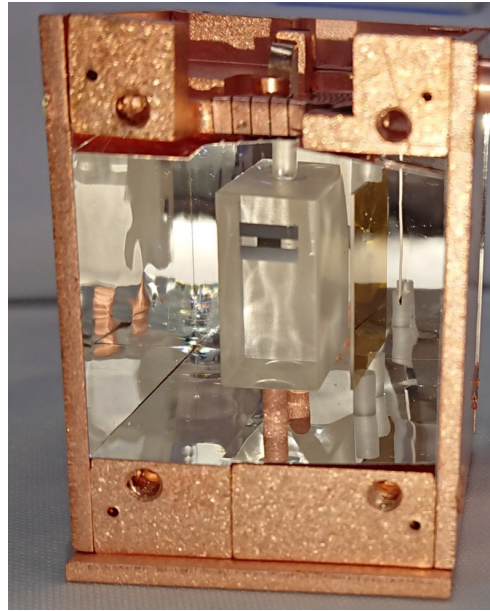
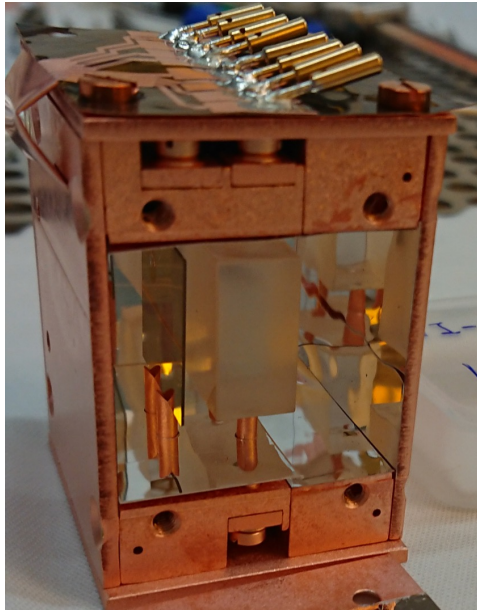




Backup

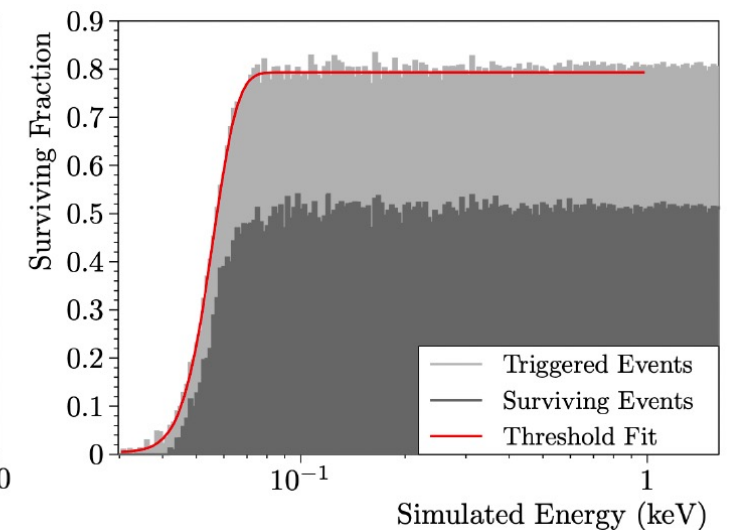
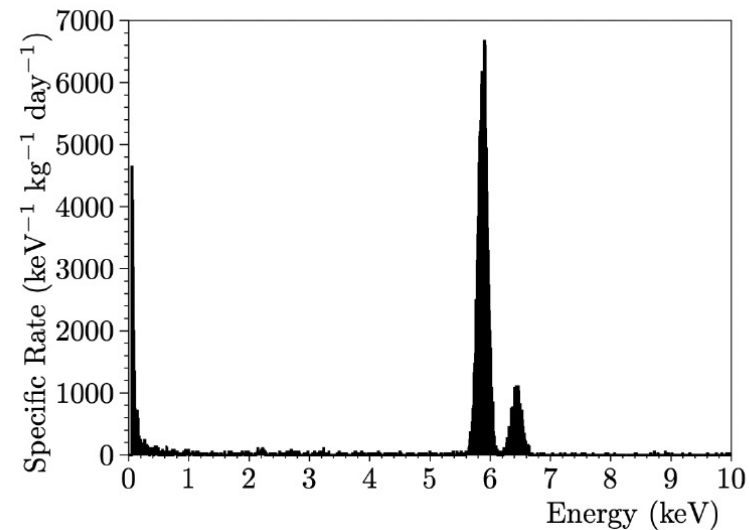
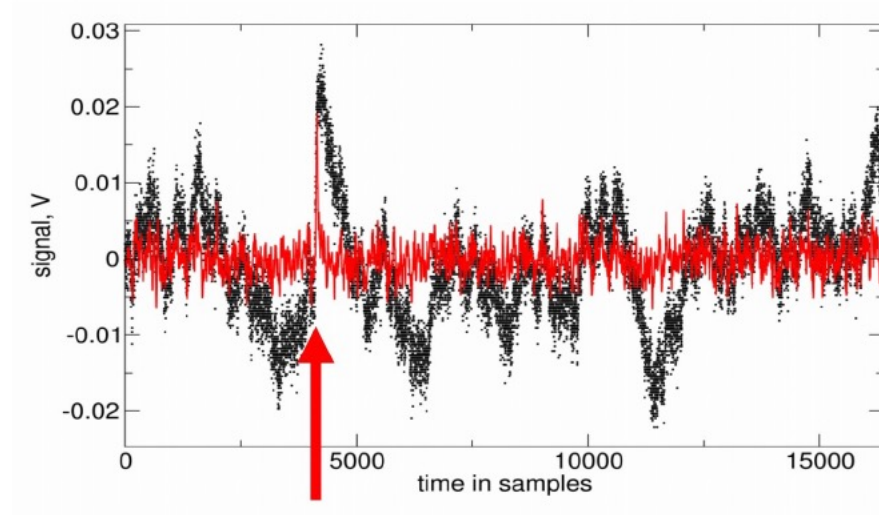
- ▶ 20x20x10 mm phonon detector
- ▶ 20x20x0.5 mm light detector

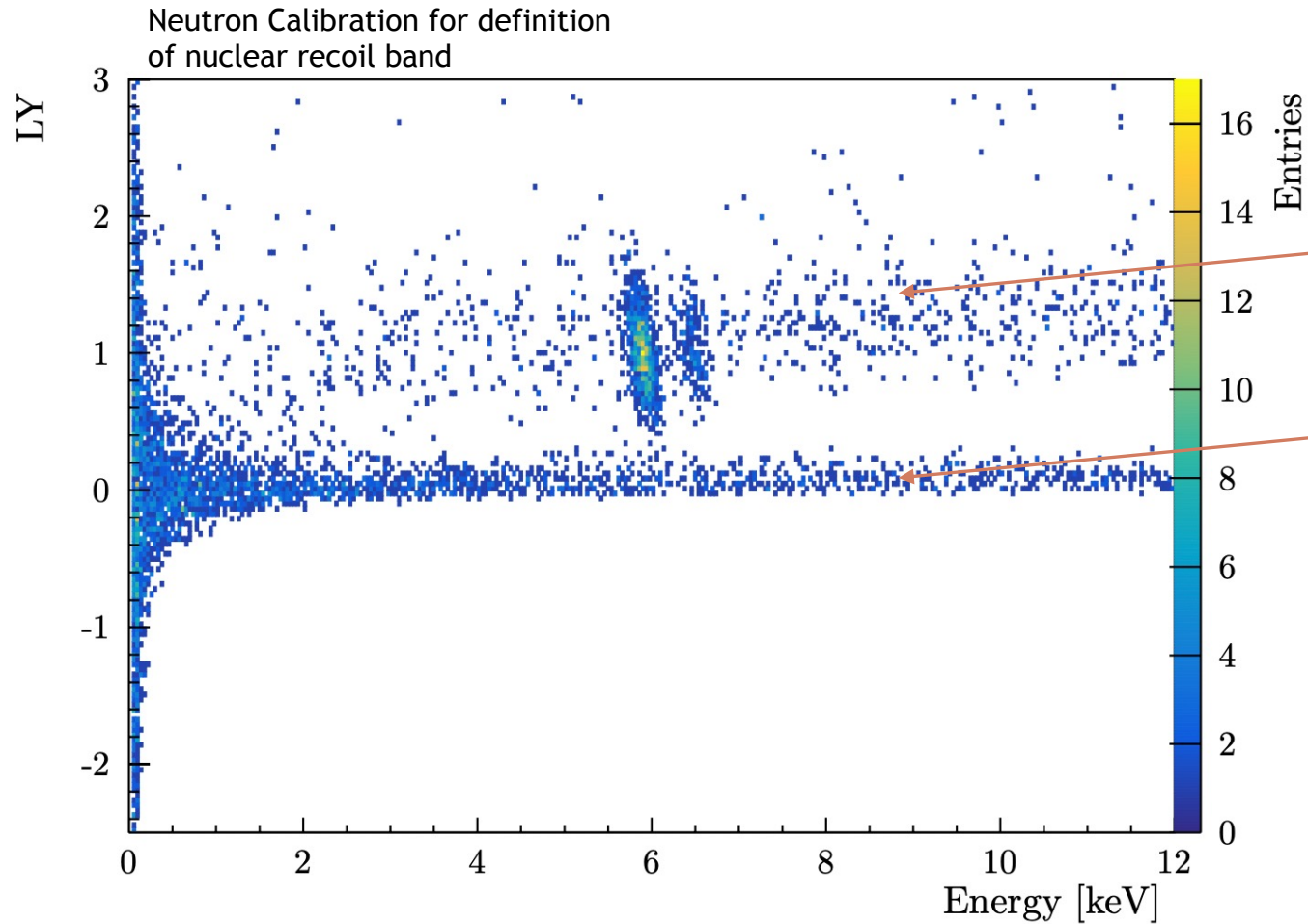




Name	Material	Holding	Foil	Mass	Threshold
Comm2	CaWO ₄	bronze clamps	no	24.5 g	29 eV
TUM93A	CaWO ₄	2 Cu + 1 CaWO ₄	yes	24.5 g	54 eV
Sapp1	Al ₂ O ₃	Cu sticks	no	15.9 g	157 eV
Sapp2	Al ₂ O ₃	Cu sticks	yes	15.9 g	52 eV
Li1	LiAlO ₂	Cu sticks	yes	11.2 g	84 eV
Si2	Si	Cu sticks	no	0.35 g	10 eV

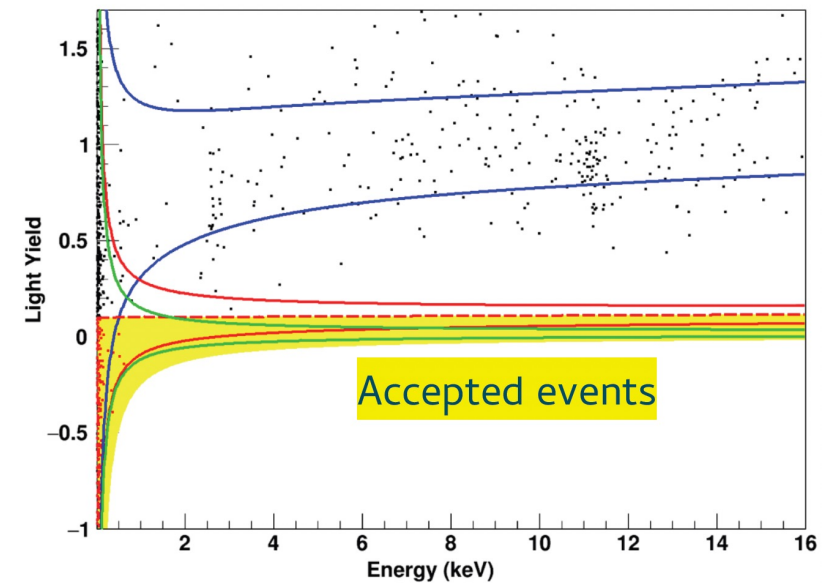
- ▶ Continuous DAQ
- ▶ Energy calibration via ^{55}Fe source





e/gamma
recoils

nuclear
recoils



DetA 2019

Nuclear Recoil Calibration at 100eV scale

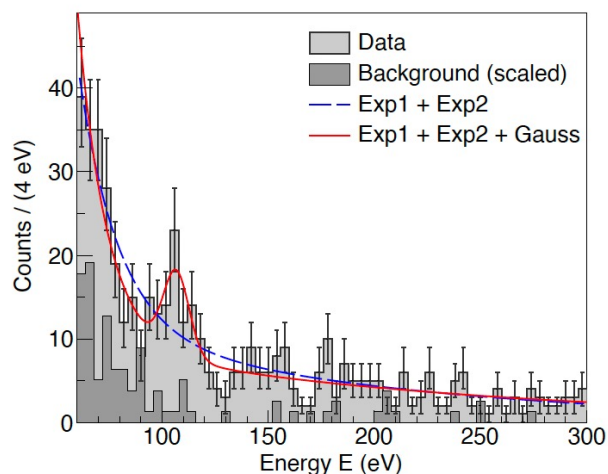
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.03631>

Observation of a nuclear recoil peak at the 100 eV scale induced by neutron capture

H. Abele,¹ G. Angloher,² A. Bento,^{2,3} L. Canonica,² F. Cappella,⁴ L. Cardani,⁴ N. Casali,⁴ R. Cerulli,^{5,6}
A. Chalil,⁷ A. Chebboubi,⁸ I. Colantoni,^{4,9} J.-P. Crocombette,¹⁰ A. Cruciani,⁴ G. Del Castello,^{4,11}
M. del Gallo Roccagiovine,^{4,11} D. Desforge,⁷ A. Doblhammer,¹ E. Dumonteil,⁷ S. Dorer,¹ A. Erhart,¹² A. Fuss,^{1,13}
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M. Tamisari,^{15,17} L. Thulliez,⁷ C. Tomei,⁴ M. Vignati,^{4,11} M. Vivier,⁷ V. Wagner,¹² and A. Wex¹²

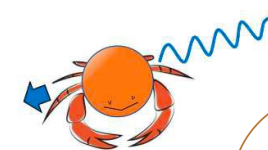
(CRAB Collaboration)*

(NUCLEUS Collaboration)†



*neutron-capture-induced
nuclear recoil peak*

New!!
Published Nov. 8
on arXiv



CRESST publication to the same topic
in internal review, on arXiv soon!