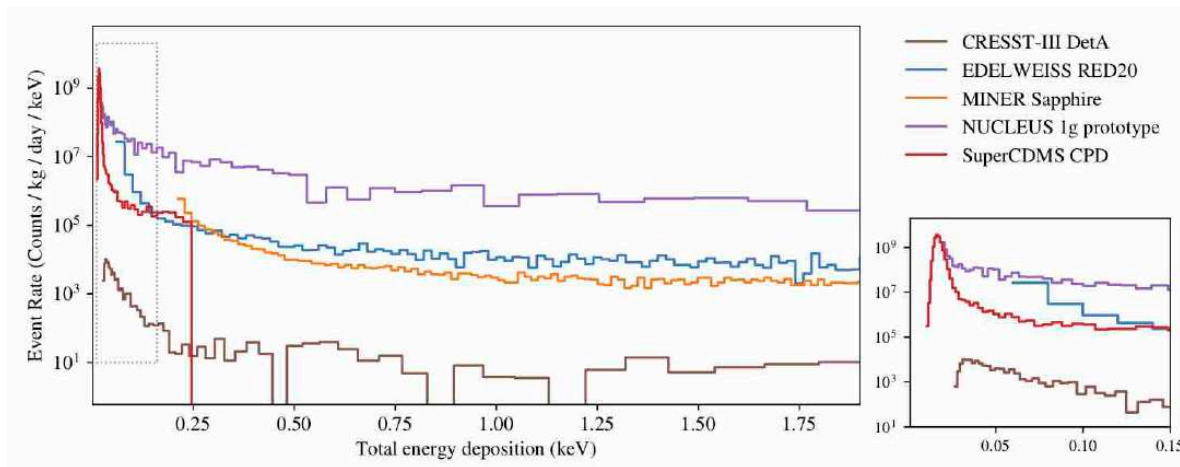


# *Low-energy EXCESS signals at low energy in cryogenic detectors*

- *Sensor & Detectors*
  - *Measurements*
  - *Explanations?*
- *MMC results*

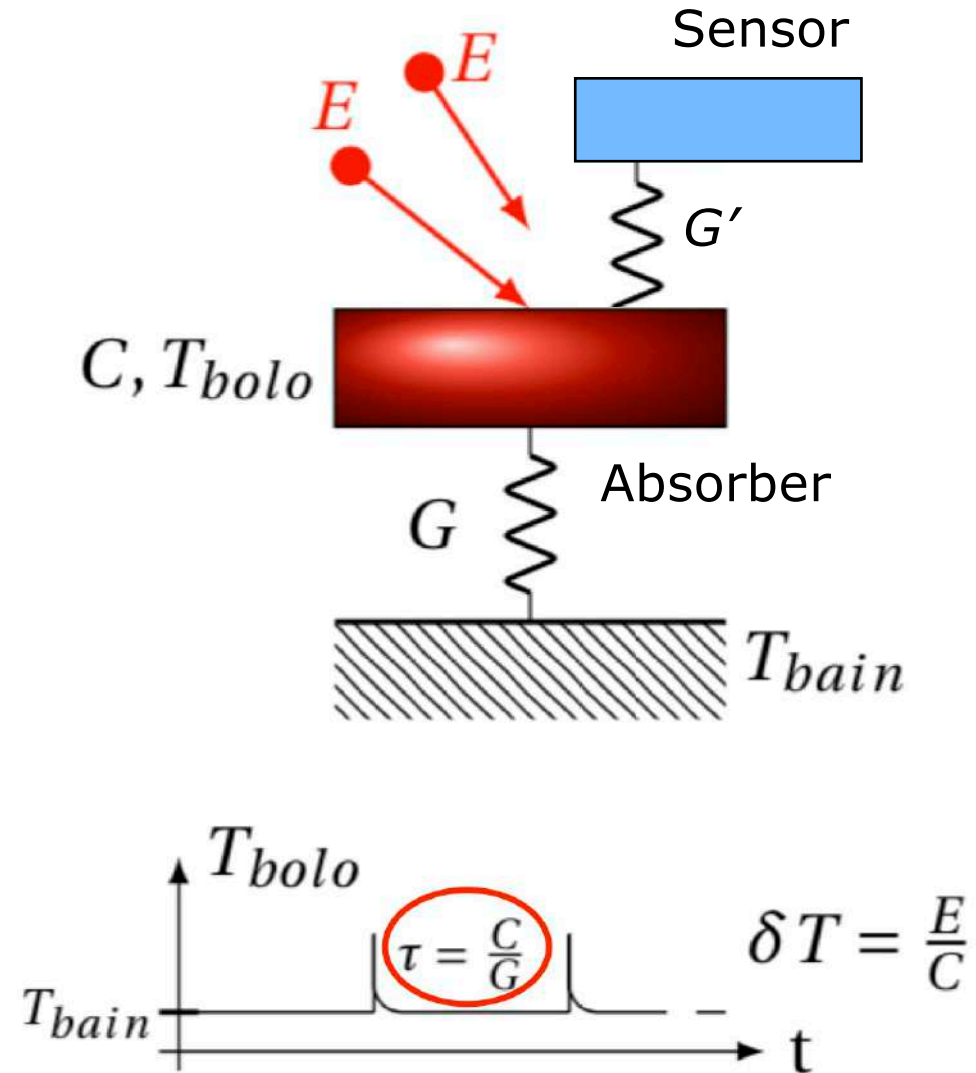


J. Gascon  
Lyon 1, CNRS/IN2P3/IP2I

# Cryogenic detector principle

Simple picture: sensor + absorber + cold bath

- Signal amplitude = Energy / heat capacity
- Decay time => thermal coupling between absorber and cold bath:  $C/G$
- Rise time => thermal coupling between absorber and thermometer:  $C/G'$
- **Overly simple: energy transfer in sensor via athermal phonons**

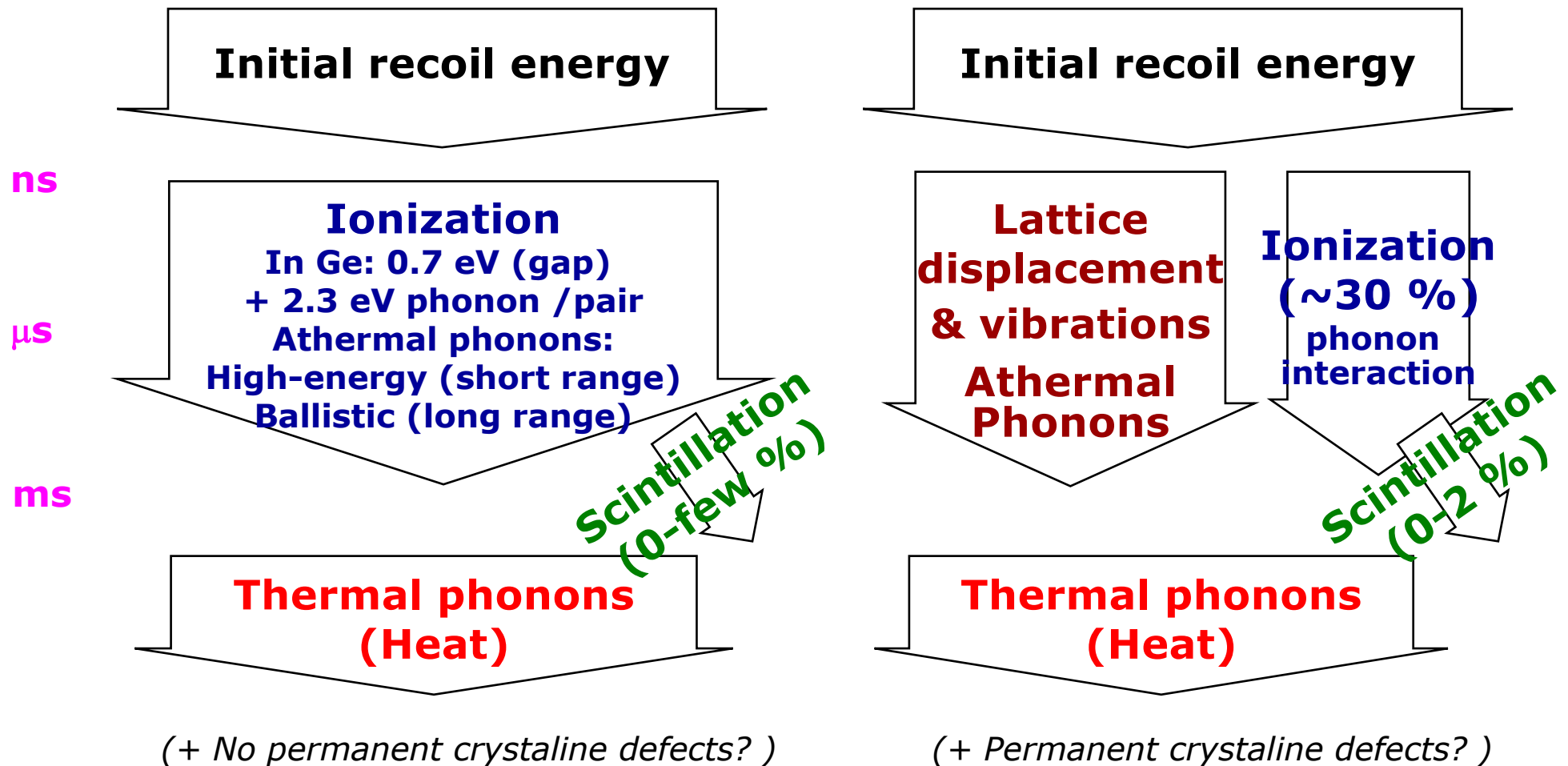


# Cryogenic detectors: Phonon/ionization/scintillation

Electron recoil

vs

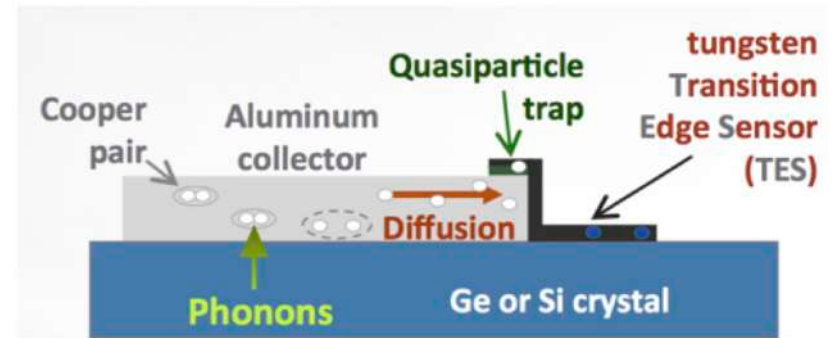
Nuclear recoil



# Phonon sensors

## ■ Transition Edge sensors

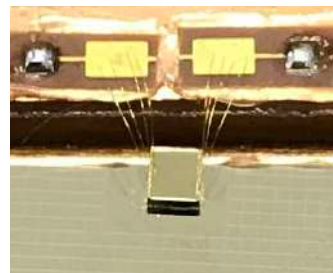
- Fast ( $\ll$ ms risetime) response to athermal phonons
- Sensitivity to ballistic phonons:
  - Lifetime in absorber / surface
  - Surface of sensor wrt total surface
- CRESST: single W-TES
- SuperCDMS: array of W-TES with Al phonon collectors



46 cm<sup>2</sup>

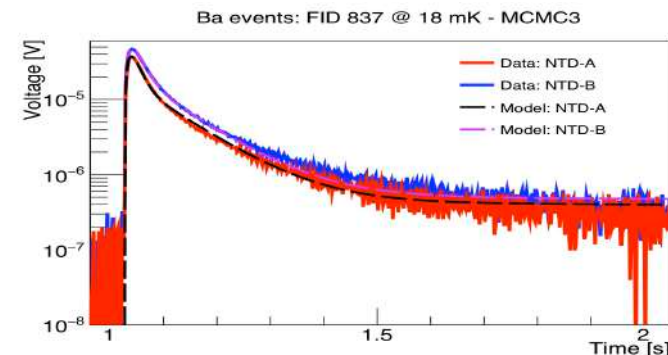


4 mm<sup>2</sup>



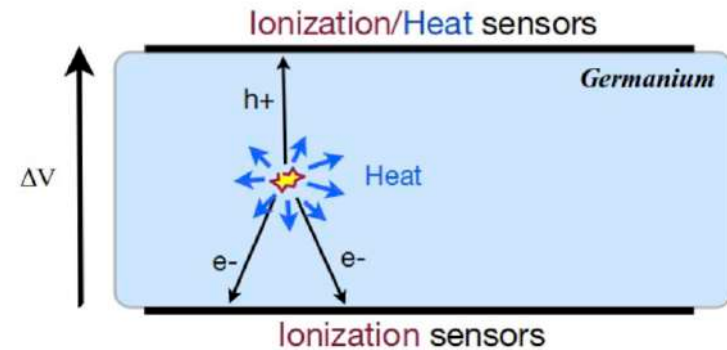
## ■ Ge-NTD

- Thermistance (few mm<sup>2</sup>)
- Glued on Ge or electrode
- Slow (1-10 ms risetime) response of thermistance to thermal phonons
- However, study of pulse shape shows some ballistic phonons inject energy directly in NTD, bypassing thermalization inside the absorber



# Neganov-Luke-Trofimov amplification

- Ionization channel: electrode **keV<sub>ee</sub>**
  - **Electron Recoils:**  $N_{\text{pairs}} = E_{\text{recoil}} / \varepsilon_{\gamma}$
  - Ge:  $\varepsilon_{\gamma} = 3.0 \text{ eV}$ , Si:  $\varepsilon_{\gamma} = 3.8 \text{ eV}$
  - **Independent of bias V**
  - $E(\text{keV}_{\text{ee}})$  defined as  $\varepsilon_{\gamma} N_{\text{pairs}}$ : given directly by gamma-ray calibration
  - Dispersion of  $\varepsilon_{\gamma}$ : Fano factor



*Neganov-Trofimov-Luke (NTL) heating*  
*[equivalent to Joule effect]*

$$E_{\text{phonon}} = E_{\text{recoil}} + N_{\text{pairs}} V$$

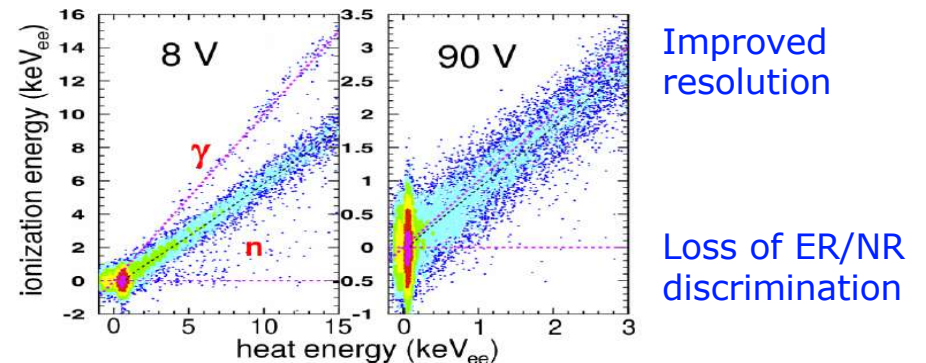
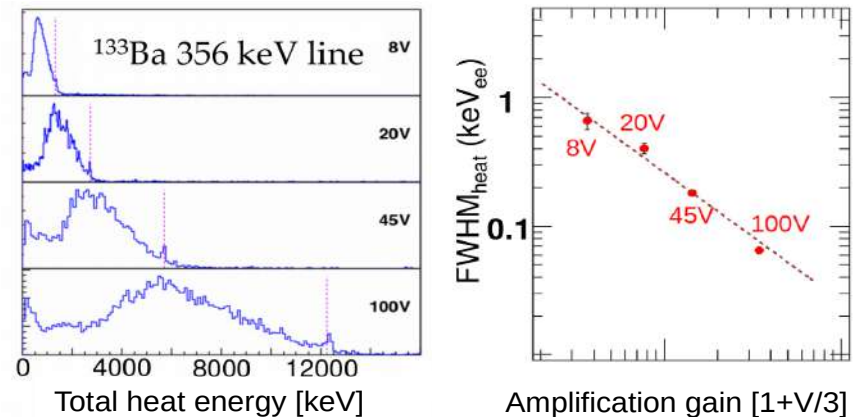
- Reduced ionis. yield for.  
**Nuclear Recoils** or **Heat-Only events**

$$N_{\text{pairs}} = Q * E_{\text{recoil}} / \varepsilon_{\gamma} \text{ eV}$$

with  $Q \sim 0.2$  for 5 keV NR

$$E_{\text{phonon}} = E_{\text{recoil}} ( 1 + Q V / \varepsilon_{\gamma} )$$

*Works with athermal phonon too!*



Improved resolution

Loss of ER/NR discrimination

**Quenching :**  
**see Mobarak talk**

# Cryogenic detectors (*EXCESS 2021*)

Detector	Absorber	Sensor	Depth (mwe)	NTL amplification
CRESST	24g CaWO <sub>4</sub>	W TES	3600	-
NUCLEUS	0.5 Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	W TES	~10	-
SuperCDMS CPD	11g Si	QE-TES	~10	yes
SuperCMDS HVeV	0.9g Si	QE-TES	~10	yes
MINER	100g Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	QE-TES	~10	-
EDELWEISS RED20	34g Ge	Ge-NTD	~10	No
EDELWEISS RED30	34g Ge	Ge-NTD	4800	yes

since then:

+ EDELWEISS 200g with NbSi TES (arxiv:2203.03993)

+ SuperCDMS-HVeV comparison of backgrounds at 0-60-100V (arxiv:2204:08038)

+ SuperCDMS-CPD runs @ SNOLAB (Underwood thesis, 02/22: M. Pyle@EXCESS2022)



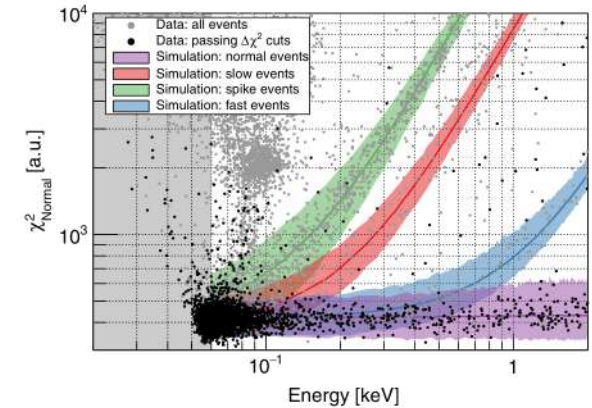
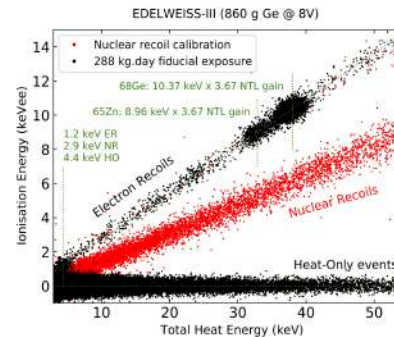
# Background in cryogenic detectors

## Same risetime / decay time as ER event

- Faster/slower pulse: indications of nature/location of event

## Non-ionizing

- No signal on electrode (high E)
- No NTL amplification (low E)



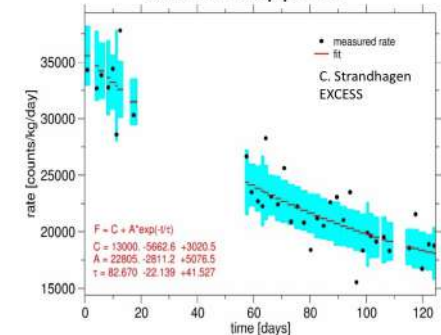
## Timing

- No coincidence with external events
- Correlation between successive events indication of "stress" release

## Slow variation of rate with time since cool-down

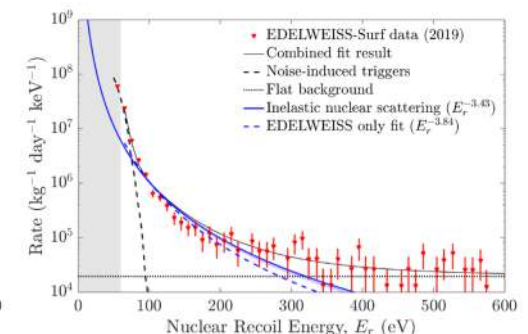
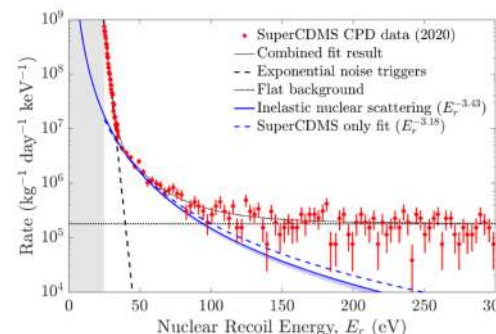
- Inconsistent with known radioactive backgrounds
- Suggest also accumulated stress as potential source

CRESST Sapphire



## Energy range

- Steep rise at low energy
- May depend on source / sensor



Abbamonte et al [arxiv:2202.03436]: power-law comparisons between SuperCDMS-CPD and EDELWEISS-surf (+talk at EXCESS2022 in Feb.)

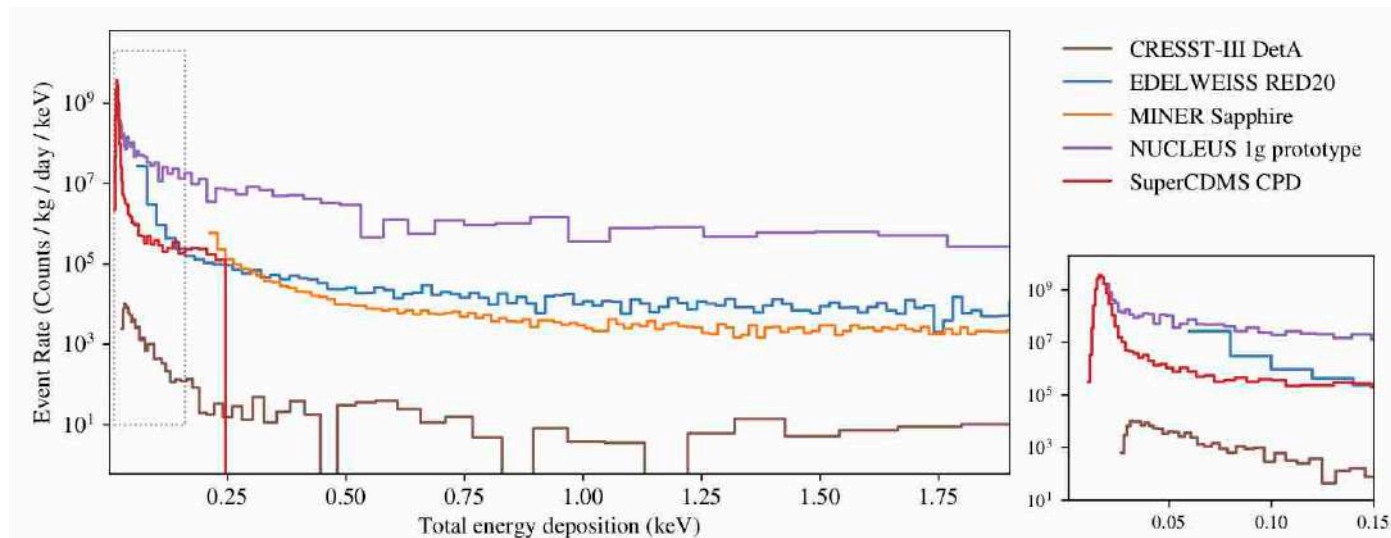
# EXCESS 2021 spectra [arxiv:2202.05097]

EXCESS2021:

- Low energy rise observed in all cryogenic detectors – but not at same rates (CRESST underground unequalled so far!)

Since then:

- Abbamonte et al [arxiv:2202.03436], power-law comparisons between SuperCDMS-CPD and EDELWEISS-surf (+talk at EXCESS2022 in Feb.)
- Albakry et al [arxiv:2204.08038] SuperCDMS-HVeV bkg comparison at 0/60/100V
- Background measurement in EDELWEISS 200g with NbSi TES [arxiv:2203.03993]
- + contributions in this workshop



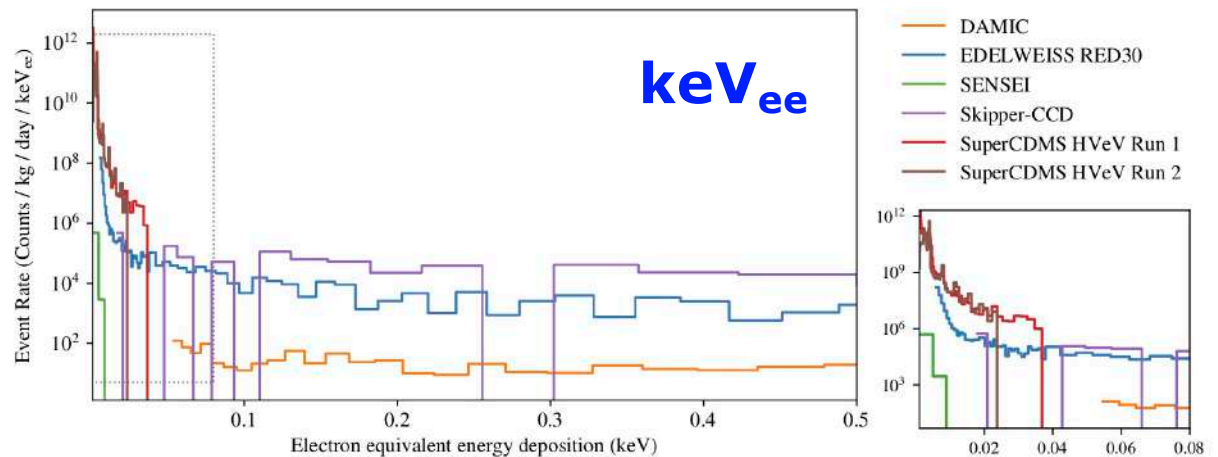
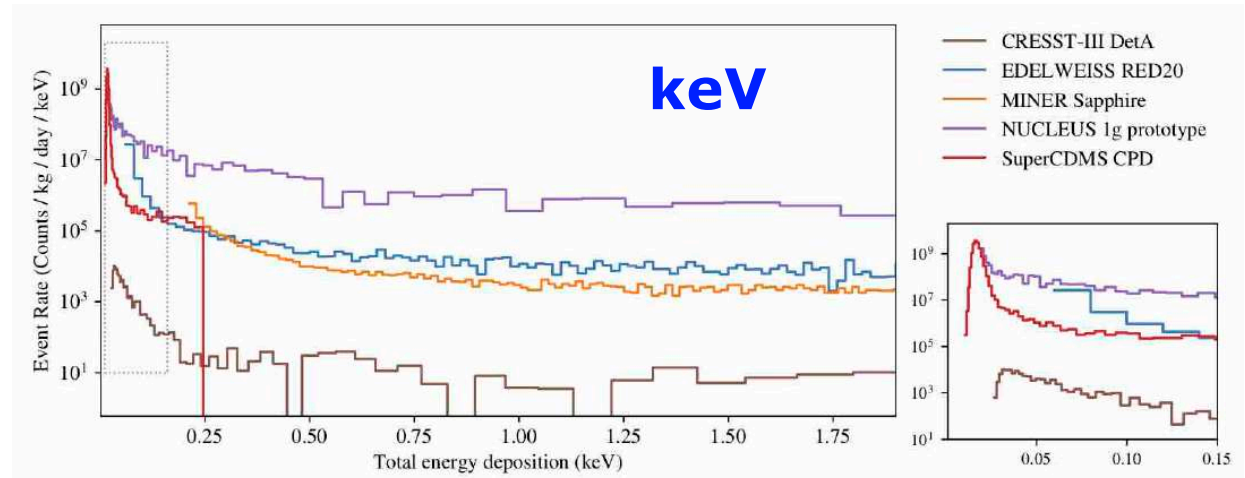


# ***Ionizing vs Cryogenic background***

Identification of electron in CCD helps reduce the background at very low energy

Identification of the low-energy rise in cryogenic detectors essential to fully exploit their potential, especially if the searches need to be extended for signal below  $\sim 3$  eV

CRESST-III still best background above 100 eV



# Measurement status

- Cf M. Pyle summary at EXCESS in Feb. 2022

## Low Energy Excess Fact Summary:

	CPD / CDMS	EDELWEISS	CRESST
1) Same above and below ground	mostly	mostly	
2) Broad Energy Scale	Yes	Yes	
3) Rate varies significantly between detectors	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>4) Time variation with time since cooldown</b>	Yes (since run 11?)	Yes	Yes (partial)
5) Low Energy Excess is Non-Ionizing	Probably?	Yes	?

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- Abbamonte et al [arxiv:2202.03436], power-law comparisons between SuperCDMS-CPD and EDELWEISS-surf (+talk at EXCESS2022 in Feb.)
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- **Albakry et al [arxiv:2204.08038] SuperCDMS-HVeV bkg comparison at 0/60/100V**
- Background measurement in EDELWEISS 200g with NbSi TES [arxiv:2203.03993]

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see  
Lattaud  
talk on  
NbSi TES  
results

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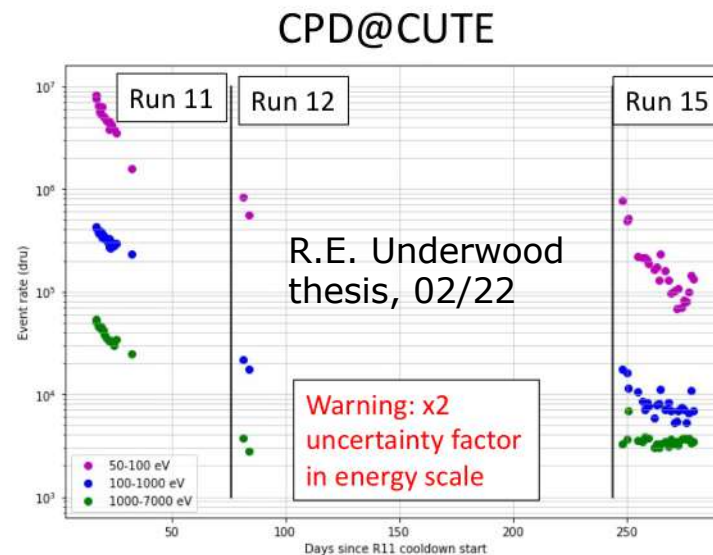
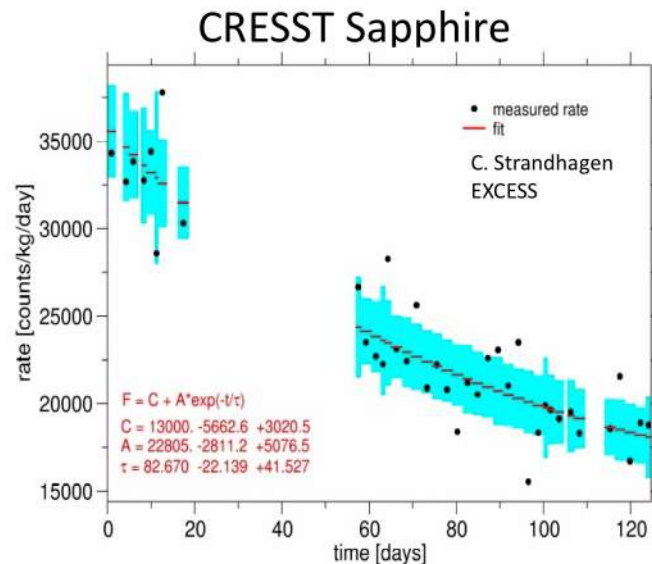
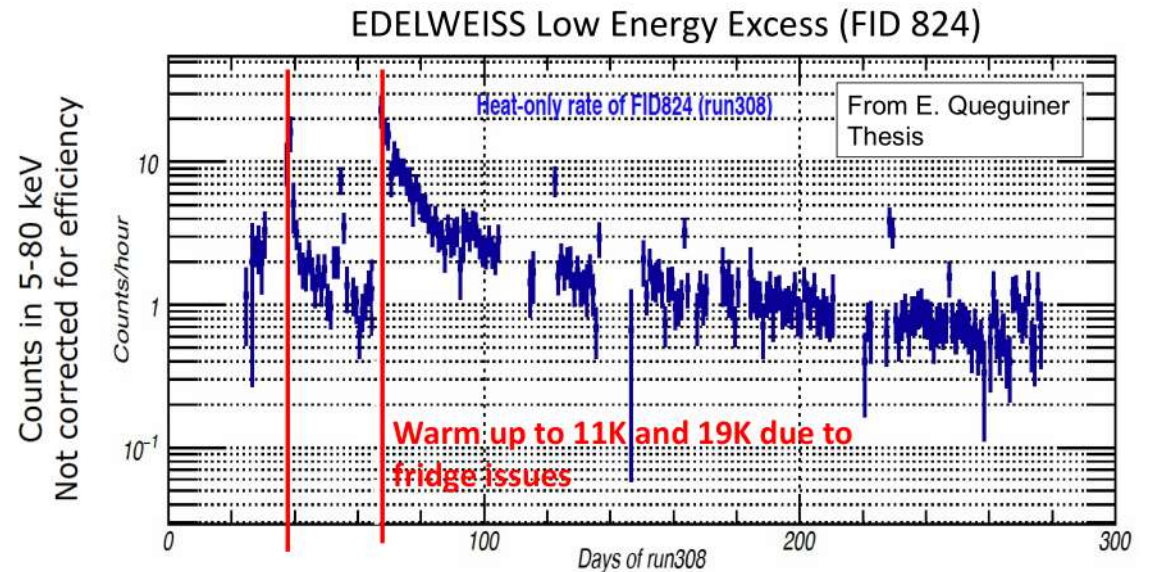
	CPD / CDMS	EDELWEISS	CRESST
1) Same above and below ground	mostly	mostly	
2) Broad Energy Scale	Yes	Yes	
3) Rate varies significantly between detectors	Yes	Yes	Yes <b>New data: see Fuchs talk on CRESST</b>
<b>4) Time variation with time since cooldown</b>	Yes (since run 11?)	Yes	Yes (partial)
5) Low Energy Excess is Non-Ionizing	Probably?	Yes	?

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- Background measurement in EDELWEISS 200g with NbSi TES [arxiv:2203.03993]



# Time dependence

- Investigation in EDELWEISS, CRESST & SuperCDMS
- *Different energy ranges*
- Dependence on thermal cycling suggest gradual release of energy in crystal.
- Source of this energy?
- More than one source?



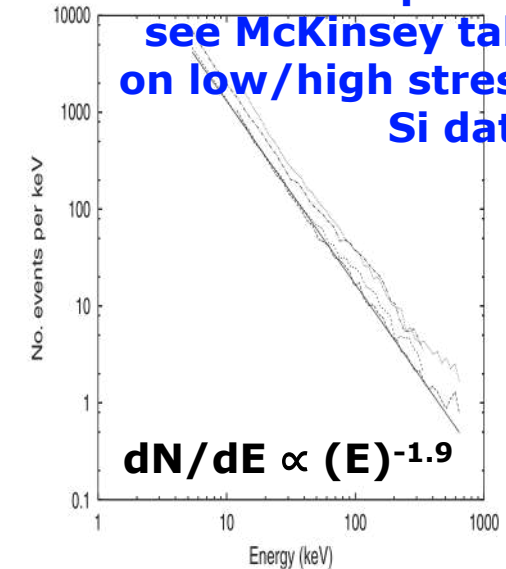
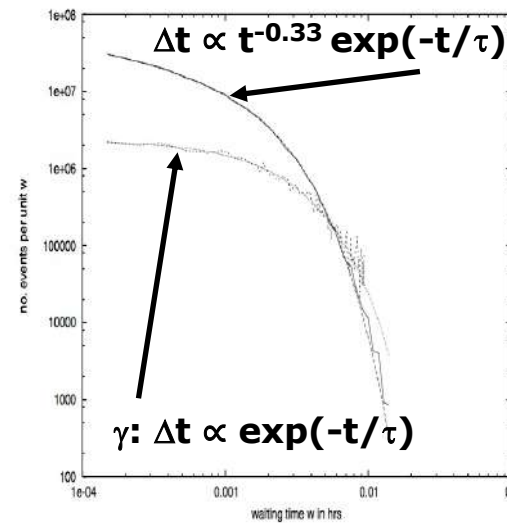
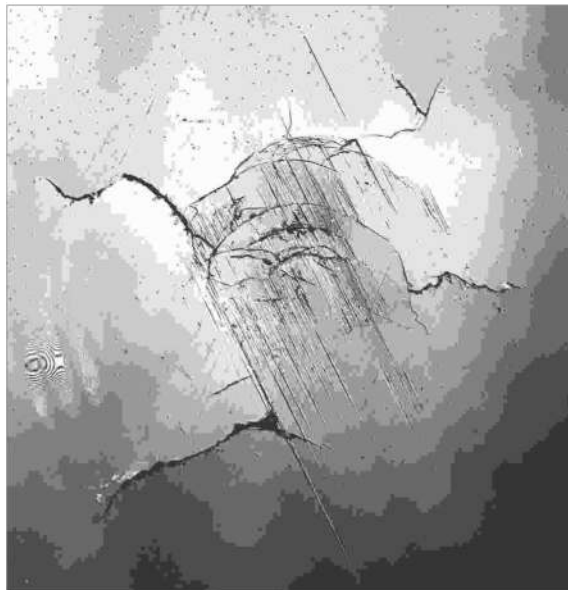
# Stress-induced energy

Seminal work: *Fracture processes studied in CRESST* [NIMA 559 (2006) 754]

- 262 Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> crystal, TES readout
- 5 to 500 keV energy scale !
- Energy release (<μs),  
as fast as ER or NR

Similarity with earthquakes!

- Time correlation between events
- Power law spectrum



**Update:**  
see McKinsey talk  
on low/high stress  
Si data

Confocal microscopy confirms ~2mm wide region affected by pressure applied by supporting sapphire balls

Problem solved by loosening clamp pressure (also: equipping support pieces with TES in some detectors)

Visible defects -> >> keV events.

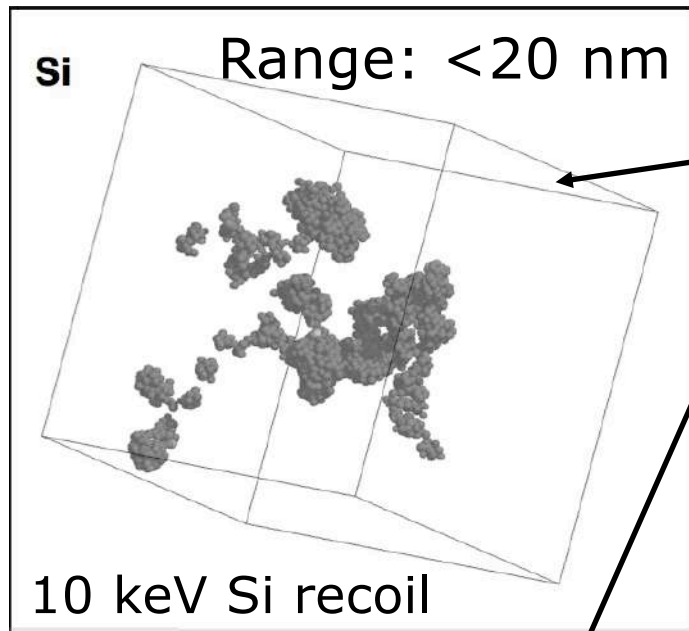
What about eV energy range? (single site "defect" ~ few eV)

Other sources of stress: gluing, thermal stress at interface

**Relaxation in glass: see Pereverzev talk**

# MD simulations of nuclear recoils

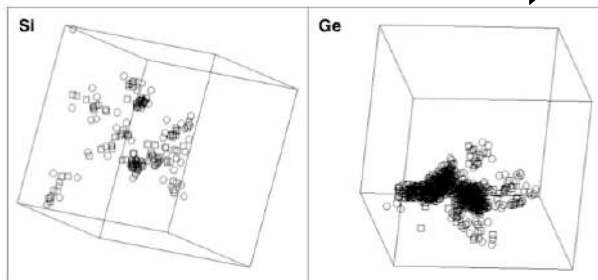
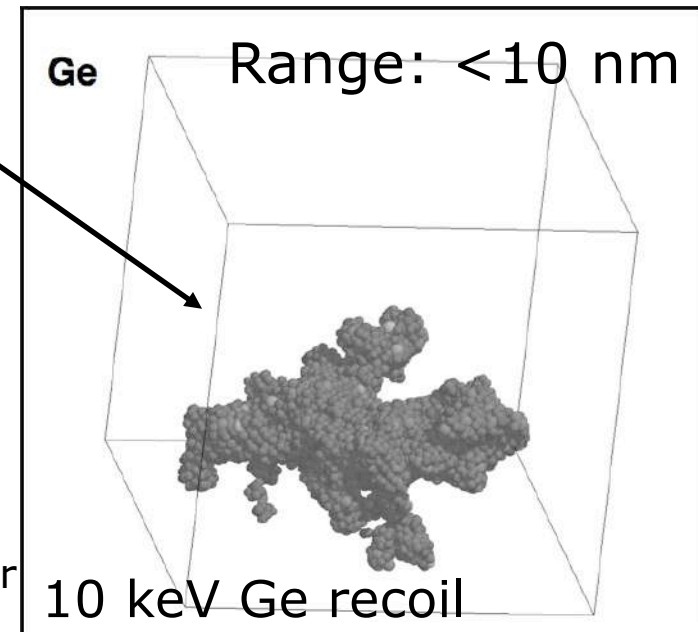
- Displaced atoms following nuclear recoil stopping in solid
- Molecular Dynamic Simulations of « hot » atoms (Nordlund, 1998) : amount of long-term stored damage depends on crystal temperature



Displaced atoms (before self-annealing)

Long-term damage

Can this energy be released over time?



Permanent damages due to this « femtoGray » dose (...depends on T) (negligible in metals, but could be few % of initial energy in Si or Ge)

**New 40 mK calculations: see Heikinheimo talk**

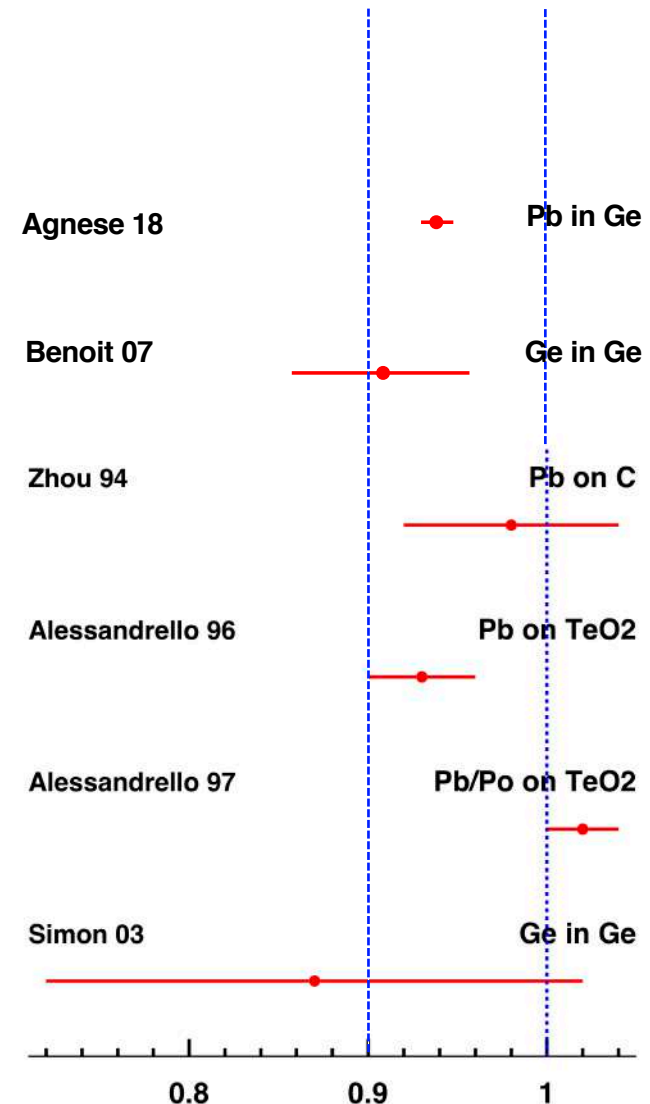
# Measurement of stored energy in defects

- Measurements of “quenching” of phonon signal

Most recent measurements:

- Pb recoils at Ge surface: Agnese et al, Appl. Phys. Lett. 113, 092101 (2018)
- Ge recoils in Ge: Benoit, A 577 (2007) 558
- Mostly consistent with  $\sim 6\%$  loss in permanent, i.e. close to SRIM estimate

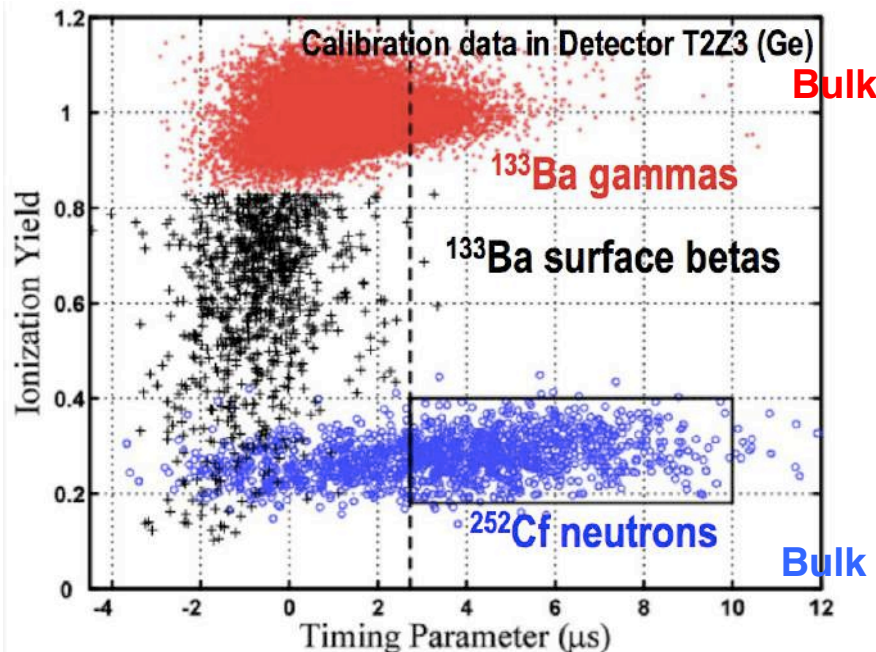
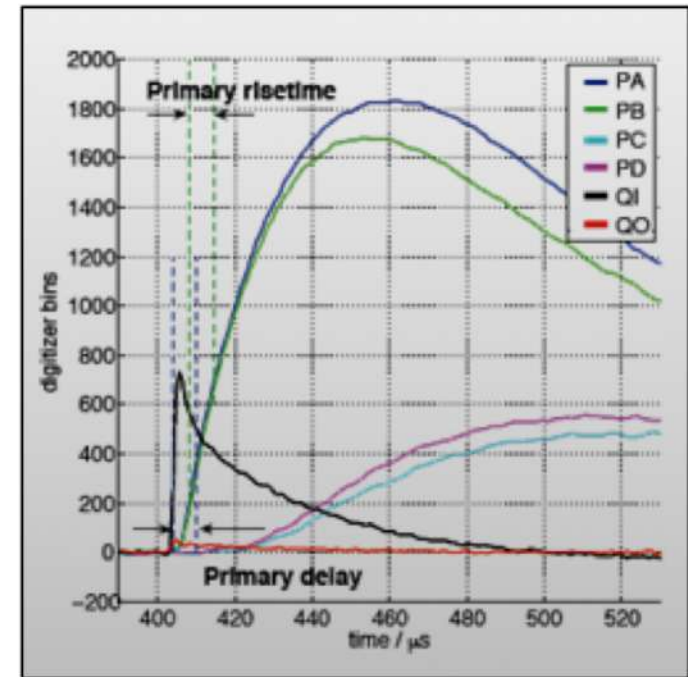
**New developments on losses in crystals: see Heikinheimo & Lasserre talks**





# Phonon time discrim. in SuperCDMS iZIP detectors

- Risetimes: Phonon  $< 50 \mu\text{s}$ , Ion  $< 1 \mu\text{s}$
- « Timing parameter » combines *rise time* and *phonon-ionization delay*
- Difference in pulse shape in different sectors used for event localization
- Nuclear/electronic recoil discrimination!



- Sensivity to « z »? (no, works even if sensors on only one side)
- Due instead to a difference between the phonons produced in the primary interaction and in the Luke-Neganov process.
- **Can "promptness" of NTL phonon be used to reject non-ionizing events?**



# Conclusions

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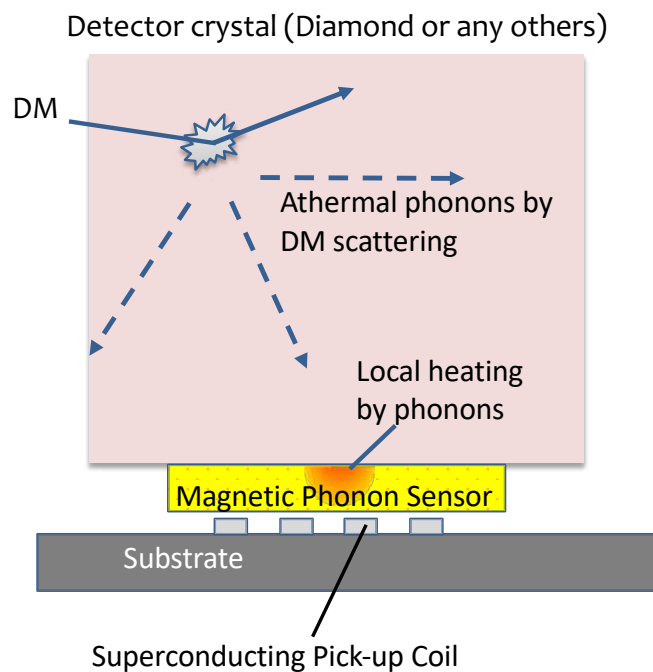
- Hunt for origin of low-energy excess in cryogenics continues
  - Non-ionizing nature confirmed in many cases
  - Try to get discrimination back at low energy?
  
- Microfractures due to stress release: main suspect for (most of?) the previously-reported excesses in the 100 eV – 10 keV range
  - Dependence on time-since-cooldown
  - Rate not related to radioactive levels
  - Energy too large for single
  - Work going on to determine the origin(s) of that stress
  
- **More recent news in the coming talks today!**

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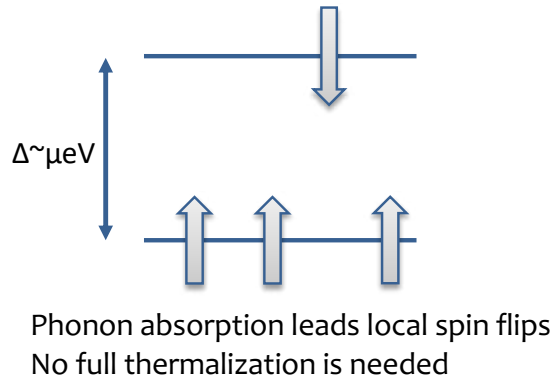
Geonbo Kim's contribution (more on INDICO)

***PULSE SHAPES IN EXCESS  
EVENTS WITH MMC SENSORS***

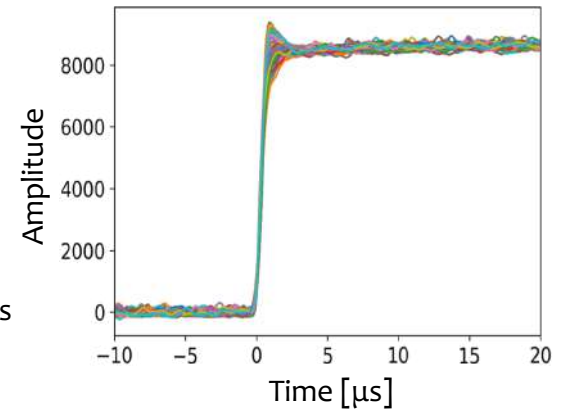
# MAGNETO- $\chi$ : Fast Phonon Sensing for Sub-GeV DM Detection



Magnetic Phonon Sensor (Au:Er)



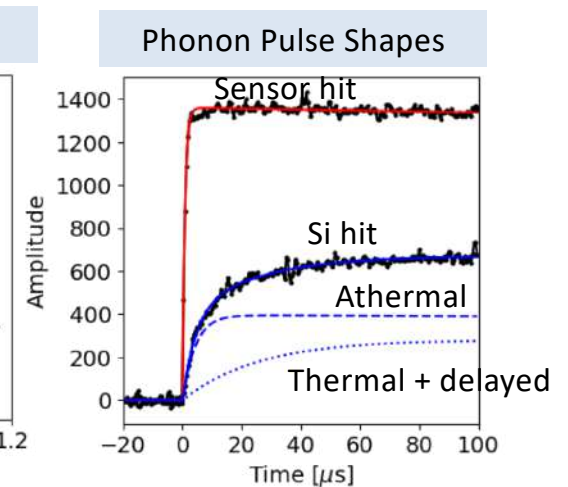
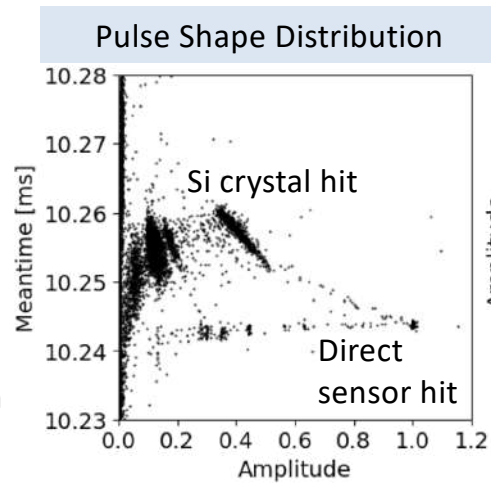
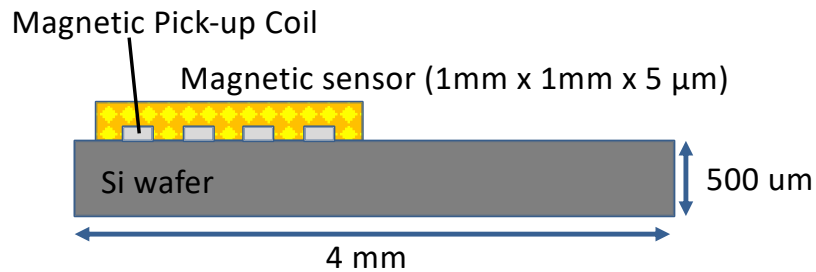
Measured sensor response  
O(100 ns) risetime



- **DM-Nucleon scattering detection**
- **Flexible choice of detector material**
- **Fast sensor response of O(100ns)**
- **Phonon PSD for sub-keV background reduction**

# MAGNETO R&D: Sensor Response and Phonon Transport

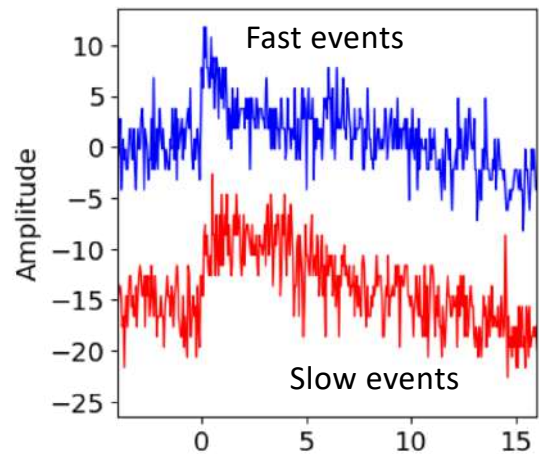
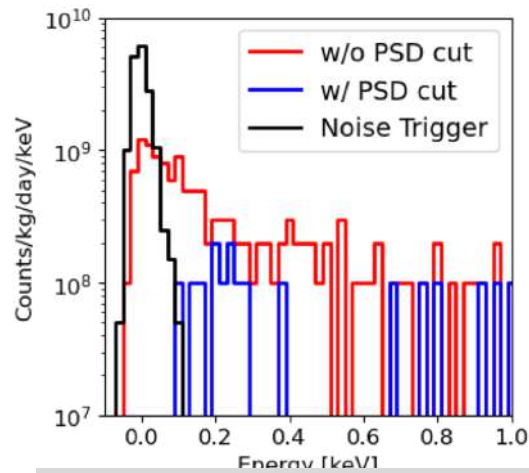
- To study phonon collection efficiency and timing info
- With an Am-241 source



- Sensor response: 0.8  $\mu\text{s}$     Athermal collection time: 4.2  $\mu\text{s}$
- Athermal collection efficiency: 28.8%
- Thermal phonon contribution: 16.2%    Energy loss to substrate: 45.1%

# Low E Excess in MAGNETO R&D Data

- Test data for 2 days, background (2.3 MeV  $\alpha$  calibration)
- Trapezoid shaping was used, despite loss of resolution, because optimal filter estimates incorrect amplitudes for different pulse shapes



PSD cut: Ratio of slow/fast shaping amplitudes

- Gradual rate increase in slow events (~100 us), but not in fast events.
- Need further investigation with lower threshold.
- More R&D Data will be discussed in the EXCESS workshop.

Contact: Geon-Bo Kim  
kim90@llnl.gov



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***BACKUP***

# Phonons (3 different kind)

---

## ■ Initial high-energy phonons

- Keep memory of momentum of initial particle
- High-energy phonon with very short pathlength
- Rapidly degrade down to lower energy phonons

**Position  
dependence  
(if sensor very  
close by)**

## ■ Ballistic phonons

- Lower energy = longer lifetime (some  $\mu\text{s}$ )
- Path  $\gg$  detector size: multiple scattering on surfaces, random position and direction
- Degrade down through scattering on impurities and defects in crystals (mostly at surface: traps, amorphous layer, electrodes)

**Fast response ( $\ll \text{ms}$ )  
Detection  $\propto$  surface  
sensor/absorber**

## ■ Thermal phonon

- Lifetime =  $C/G$  (tuned  $\gg$  ms by adjusting the thermal link)
- Insensitive to position of interaction
- Sensor can be very small

**Slow (ms to  $>100\text{ms}$ )  
Most reliable energy  
measurement**