

Recent study and results for ionization efficiency theory in pure materials

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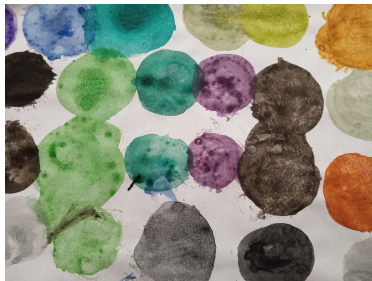


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Contents

- 1 Introduction
 - Ionization Efficiency
 - Motivation
- 2 Basic Integral Equation
 - Basic integral equation and approximations
- 3 Improvements of the Model
- 4 Results
- 5 Conclusion and future work

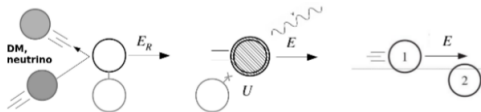


Ionization Efficiency (Quenching Factor)

When a particle, (e.g. DM) interact with a nuclei the energy splits in

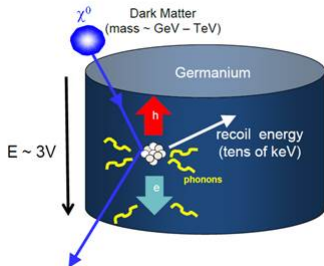
E_n : Nuclear collisions. ($\bar{\nu} = C_0 E_n^1$)

E_I : Ionization (visible) energy [keV_{ee}] ($\bar{\eta}$).



$$\bullet \text{ Quenching} = \frac{\text{ionization energy}}{\text{deposited energy}} = f_n = \frac{\bar{\eta}}{\varepsilon_R}.$$

- $\varepsilon_R = \varepsilon + u = \bar{\eta} + \bar{\nu}$, where ε_R is the recoil energy and
- u is the energy to disrupt the atomic bonding.
- This sets a cascade of slowing-down processes.
- DM or CEvNS searches are affected by quenching.



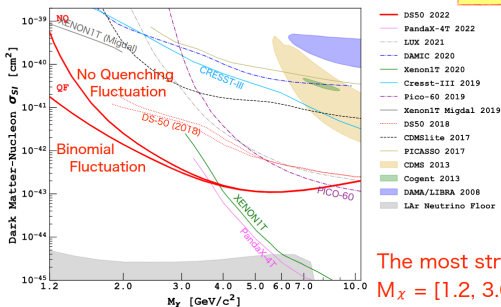
¹Using dimensionless units ($C_0 = 16.26(1/\text{keV})/Z_1 Z_2 (Z_1^{0.23} + Z_2^{0.23})$)

Motivation and Outlook

- Many Dark Matter and CE ν NS experiments use pure solid state ionization detectors, e.g., CONNIE, DAMIC, CDMS, etc.
- Reconstruction energy depends on *Quenching Factor*, specially at energies below 1 keV.

WIMP Exclusion Result

arXiv:2207.11966



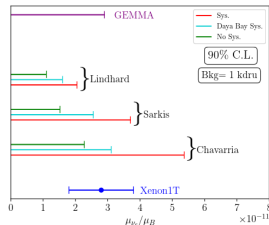
The most stringent limit at
 $M_\chi = [1.2, 3.6] \text{ GeV}/c^2$

Physics Scope for CE ν NS Experiments

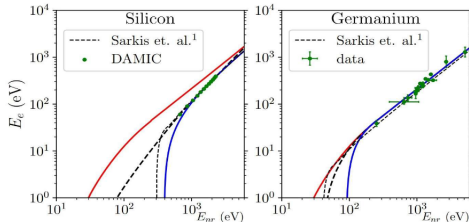
- 1 CE ν NS detection has motivated theoretical work.
- 2 Inspiring new constraints beyond the Standard Model.

- Standard Model weak mixing angle.
- Non Standard Interactions (NSI) of neutrinos.
 - Dark Photons.
 - Anomalous magnetic moment.
 - neutrino anapole moment.
- Sterile oscillations.
- Neutron form factor.

JHEP127 (2022)



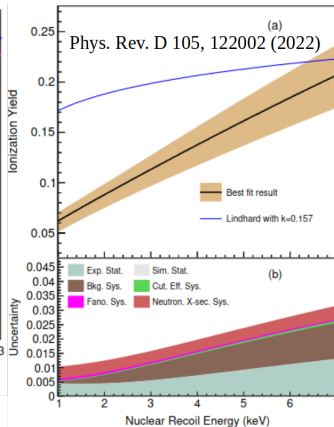
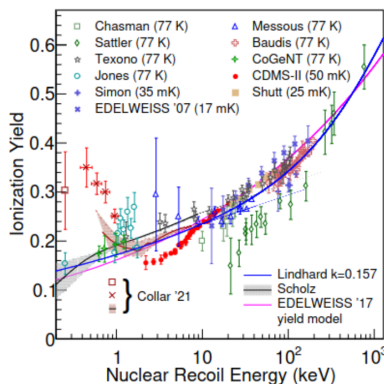
μ_B constraints & yields for solar ν studies



PRD106,015002 (2022)

Motivation

- There is tension among QF measurements, e.g. Ge, Si, Xe, ...
- Extrapolation at energies below 1 keV is not straightforward.



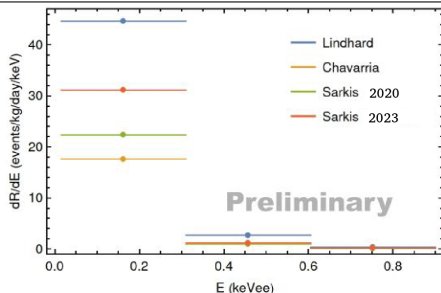
Signals affected by quenching

- Quenching change significantly the rate of a signal, e.g. CEvNs.
- Energy spectrum is shifted to lower energies.

$$\frac{dR}{dE_I} = \frac{dR}{dE_R} \underbrace{\frac{1}{f_n} \left(1 - \frac{E_I}{f_n} \frac{df_n}{dE_I} \right)}_{\frac{dE_R}{dE_I}}$$

$$f_n = \frac{E_I}{E_R},$$

For more, see CONNIE yesterday talk by Alexis



CONNIE CEvNs limits for different quenching
PRELIMINARY

- **Quenching depends on:**
- Electronic Stopping S_e .
- Nuclear Stopping S_n .
- Atomic number Z .
- Electronic Straggling W_e .

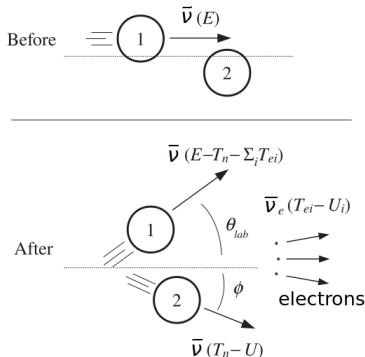
Basic integral equation and approximations

Energy conservation for atomic motion \bar{v} in all successive collisions²,

$$\underbrace{\int d\sigma_{n,e}}_{\text{total cross section}} \left[\underbrace{\bar{v} \left(E - T_n - \sum_i T_{ei} \right)}_{\text{All scatter-ions ions}} + \underbrace{\bar{v} (T_n - U)}_{\text{All Target ions}} - \underbrace{\bar{v}(E)}_{\text{Total initial energy}} + \underbrace{\sum_i \bar{v}_e (T_{ei} - U_{ei})}_{\text{Electrons contribution}} \right] = 0 \quad (1)$$

Lindhard's approximations

- I Neglect contribution to atomic motion coming from electrons.
- II **Neglect the binding energy, $U = 0$.**
- III Energy transferred to electrons is small compared to that transferred to recoil ions.
- IV Effects of electronic and atomic collisions can be treated separately.
- V T_n is small compared to the energy E .



² T_n : Nuclear kinetic energy and T_{ei} electron kinetic energy.

Lindhard simplified equation

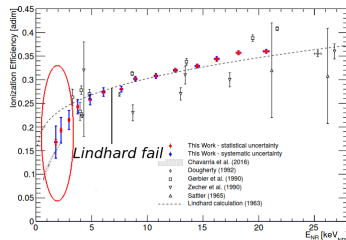
Using this approach, Lindhard deduced a simpler equation,

$$\underbrace{(k\varepsilon^{1/2})}_{S_e} \bar{v}_L'(\varepsilon) = \int_0^{\varepsilon^2} \underbrace{dt \frac{f(t^{1/2})}{2t^{3/2}}}_{d\sigma_n} [\bar{v}_L(\varepsilon - t/\varepsilon) + \bar{v}_L(t/\varepsilon) - \bar{v}_L(\varepsilon)], \quad (2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{v}_L(\varepsilon) \approx \frac{\varepsilon}{1 + kg(\varepsilon)}, \quad g(\varepsilon) = 3\varepsilon^{0.15} + 0.7\varepsilon^{0.6} + \varepsilon.$$

Limitations:

- Based on high energy (> 10 keV) electronic stopping $S_e = k\varepsilon^{1/2}$, $k = 0.133Z^{2/3}/A^{1/2}$
- Formula (2) **derived for** $\varepsilon > 1$
- Still it is reasonable to extent the validity to $\varepsilon > 0.1$
- This recoil energy limit correspond to **4 keV** for Si, **28 keV** for Ge and **96 keV** for Xe

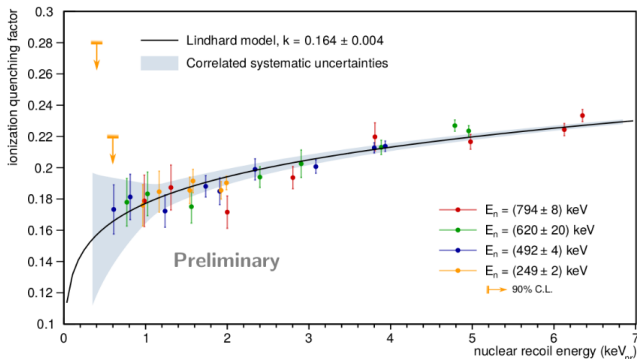


PRD Chavarria et al,94,082007 (2016)

Open question?

**For Ge, formula in Eq. (2) is only valid up to ≈ 28 keV.
Why low energy measurements follow this trend?**

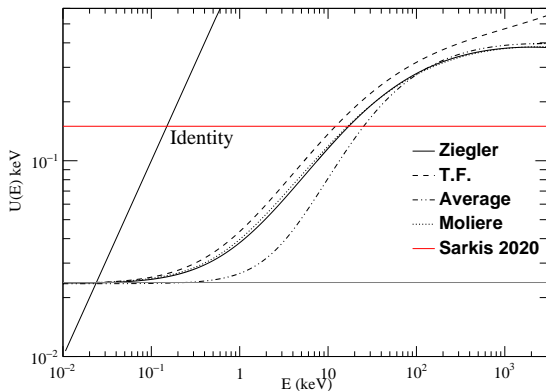
CONUS quenching factor measurement:



Eur.Phys.J.C (2022) 82,815

Binding energy Model

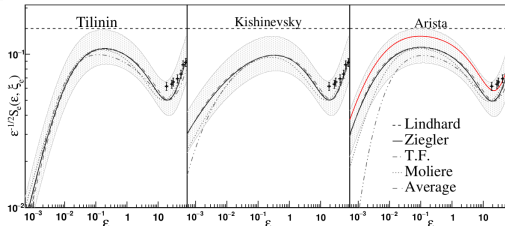
- We add the effect of the binding energy U and predict a cut at $2U$.
- The model for U is energy dependent,
 - Low energies considered the Frenkel energy (≈ 30 eV) and
 - High energies electron inner excitations (using T.F theory).



Electronic Stopping Considerations for low energies

- We consider Coulomb repulsion effects, high energy electron stripping, and Z oscillations.
- We include electronic straggling $\Omega^2 = \langle \delta E - \langle \delta E \rangle \rangle^2 \left(\frac{d\Omega^2}{d\rho} \equiv W \right)$ effects

$$-\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon S_e(\varepsilon) \left(1 + \frac{W(\varepsilon)}{S_e(\varepsilon)\varepsilon} \right) \bar{v}''(\varepsilon) + S_e(\varepsilon)\bar{v}'(\varepsilon) = \int_{\varepsilon U}^{\varepsilon^2} dt \frac{f(t^{1/2})}{2t^{3/2}} [\bar{v}(\varepsilon - t/\varepsilon) + \bar{v}(t/\varepsilon - U) - \bar{v}(\varepsilon)]. \quad (3)$$



Results for Si

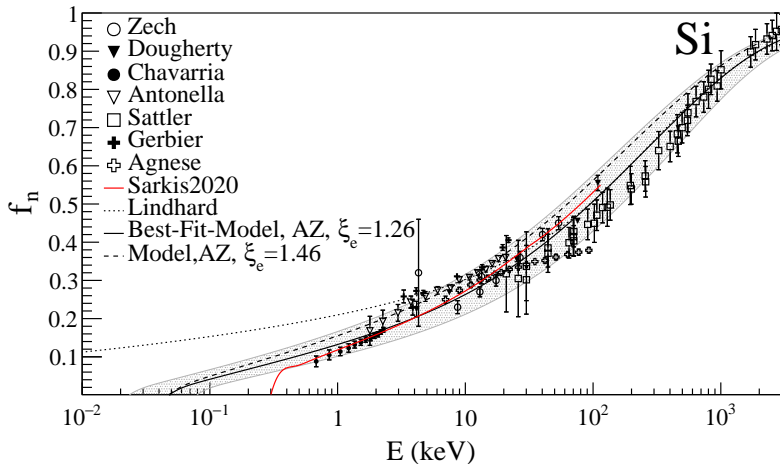


Figure 1: For details see [Phys. Rev. A 107, 062811 \(2023\)](#)

The Model can also be apply to Dual TPC's

Dual Phase TPC's

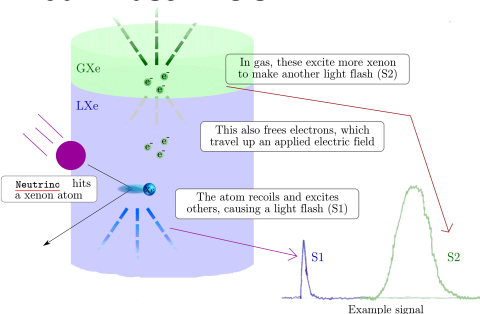
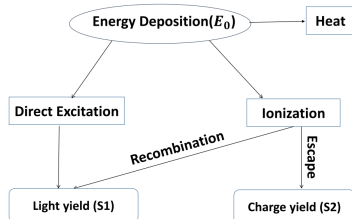


Image from: <https://science.purdue.edu/xenon1t>

- TPC's can detect ionization (N_i) and excitation (N_{ex}) signals.
- Recombination model depends on **ionization efficiency** f_n .

$$E_R = W_{sc} \left(\frac{S_2}{g_2} + \frac{S_1}{g_1} \right) / f_n, \quad N_i = \frac{E_R f_n}{W_{sc}(1+\beta)}$$

- Total energy deposited in the detector is divided into:
 - 1 Direct Excitation.
 - 2 Ionization.
 - 3 Atomic movement.
- Ionization \rightarrow light due to recombination.



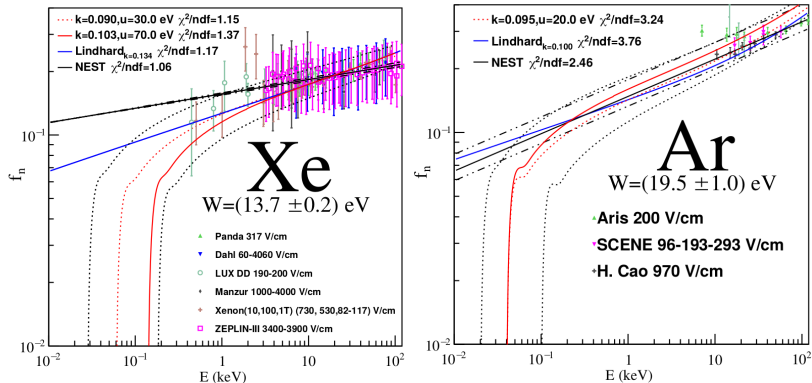
J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 44 (2017) 055001

Calibration constants:
 $g_1 \approx 0.12$, $g_2 \approx 12.10$

$(N_R)_s$ ionization efficiency for LAr and LXe

Ionization Yield with Constant Binding energy

► For details see [Y. Sarkis et al 2023 JINST 18 C03006](#)



Best fit to available data by using $S_e = k\varepsilon^{1/2}$, with $0.1 < k < 0.2$ and $u = \text{cte}$.

Work in Progress: Further studies of Coulomb repulsion effects and electron straggling at low energies.

Conclusions and future work

- ❶ *We present a general model based on an integral equation for ionization in pure materials.*
- ❷ *We incorporate corrections due to electronic straggling and binding energy.*
- ❸ *For Si, Coulomb effects allow us to fit the data up to 3 MeV, having a threshold near Frenkel-pair creation energy.*
- ❹ *For LXe and LAr, our model has the potential to explain recent measurements.*
- ❺ *Much work to be done: Ge quenching factor, nuclear Fano factor, etc.*
- ❻ *More information: ➤ [Y. Sarkis, et al works](#)*

Thank You!

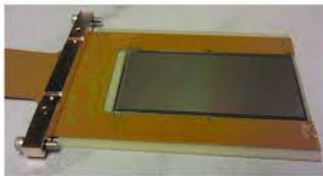
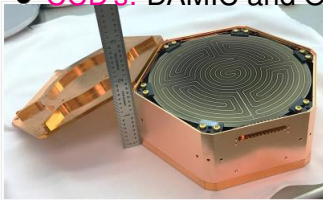
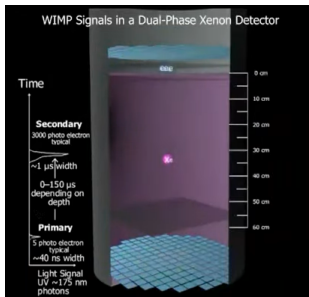
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Backup

Relevant DM Experiments

- **TPC's detectors:** LUX, XeNT, ZEPLIN, etc.
- **Bolometers:** Super CDMS, EDELWEISS, etc.
- **CCD's:** DAMIC and OSCURA.

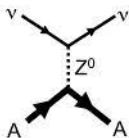
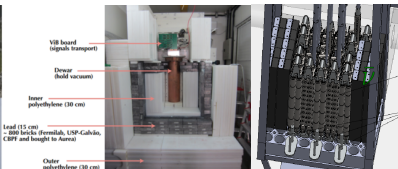


These detectors detect signals by ionization due to WIMP's that produce NR's in the material.

Figure 2: Credit images: M. Szydagis 2021 SCU AAP Conference <https://damicm.cnrs.fr/en/detector/>, <https://supercdms.slac.stanford.edu/overview>

Relevant Experiments

- **CCD's:** CONNIE.
- **Ge detectors:** CoGeNT, TEXONO, ν GeN , CONUS.
- **Low-temp. bolometers:** RICOCHET, MINER, ν -cleus.
- **Noble liquid detectors:** LAr Livermore, LXe, ITEP& INR, LXe ZEPLIN-III.
- **Neutron Spallation:** COHERENT.



+



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CAPTAIN = "Cryogenic Apparatus for Precision Tests of Argon Interactions with Neutrinos"



<https://coherent.ornl.gov/>, Coherent Captain Mills: The Search for Sterile Neutrinos Ashley Elliott et al,

[https://indico.cern.ch/event/MINER MI workshop.pdf](https://indico.cern.ch/event/MINER_MI_workshop.pdf), <http://icra.cbpf.br/twiki/bin/login/CONNIE>

NSI; Vector and Axial-vector Interactions

- Higher-dimensional Lagrangian effective operators.

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NSI}} \supset -2\sqrt{2}G_F \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \sum_{P,q} \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{q,P} (\bar{\nu}_\alpha \gamma^\mu P_L \nu_\beta) (\bar{q} \gamma_\mu P q) \quad (4)$$

- CE ν NS experiments are primarily sensitive to light vector and scalar mediator models.

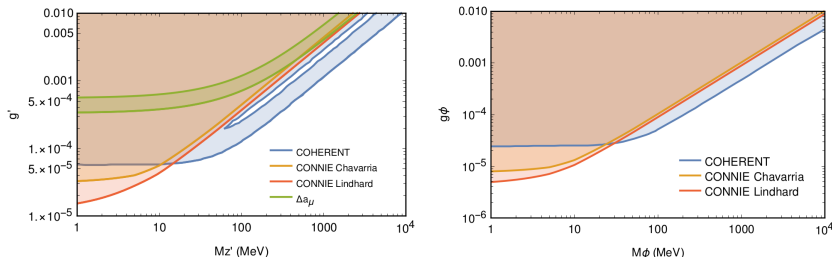
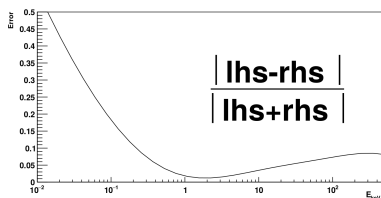


Figure 3: JHEP04(2020)054

Lindhard QF and Other Works

- Lindhard used a primitive computer(DASK).
- His formula just solved approximately Eq. (3).



- Using Lindhard formula \Rightarrow Systematic error, large at lower energies.
- Other authors ³, try to include binding energy.
- But fail to realize in changing the integration limit, reporting nonphysical results.
- One of the achievements of this work is to include in a consistent mathematical and physical way the binding energy.

³PHYSICAL REVIEW D 91, 083509 (2015)

First results for Si

✱ The high energy cutoff is due to the limitations of the constant binding energy model.

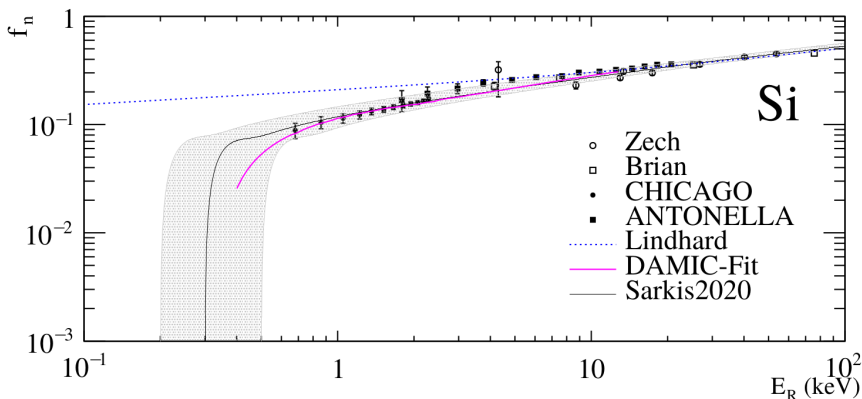


Figure 4: QF measurements for Si, compared with Lindhard model, the ansatz, and the numerical solution; $U = 0.15$ keV y $k = 0.161$.

Ge with recent data.

Results (Band is build to cover data)

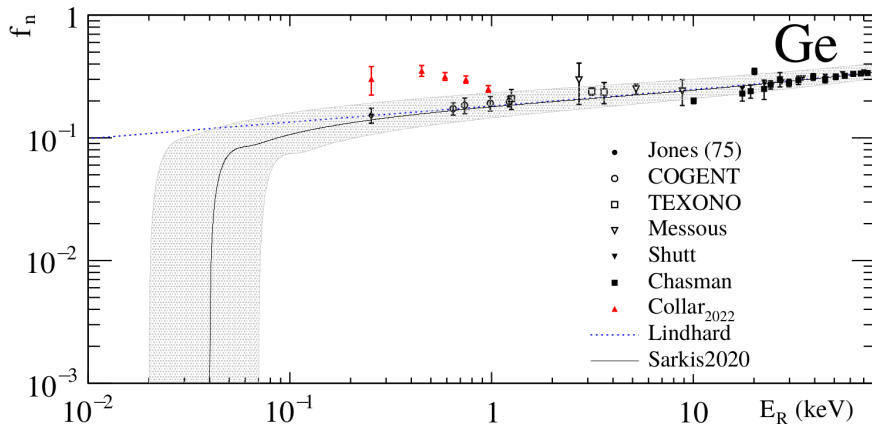


Figure 5: QF measurements for Ge, compared with Lindhard model, the ansatz, and the numerical solution; $U = 0.02$ keV y $k = 0.162$.

Low Energy Effects for S_e

§ Coulomb repulsion effects

- At low energies S_e departs from velocity proportionality.
- Colliding nuclei will partially penetrate the electron clouds.

$$S_e = (\Xi) N m v \int_0^\infty v_F \sigma_{tr}(v_F) N_e dV \rightarrow (\Xi) N m v \int_R^\infty v_F \sigma_{tr}(v_F) N_e dV$$

R distance closest approach and Ξ is a geometrical factor⁴, negligible for $Z < 20$.

- Three models will be considered; **Tilinin**⁴, **Kishinevsky**⁵ and **Arista**⁶
- Models change details of the inter-atomic potential.
- Hence affect $f(t^{1/2})$ and S_e at low energies.

⁴I.S.Tilinin Phys. Rev. A 51, 3058 (1995)

⁵Kishinevsky, L.M., 1962, Izv. Akad. Nauk SSSR, Ser. Fiz. 26, 1410.

⁶J.M. Fernández-Varea, N.R. Arista, Rad. Phys. and C., V 96, 88-91, (2014),

Exciton-Ion Behavior

- Exciton to ion fraction $\beta = \frac{N_{ex}}{N_i}$ usually is modeled by a constant.
 - With our formalism, we can built an Int.Diff. equation taking in to account the excitation and ionization cross sections (work in progress).
 - A preliminary study justify that $\frac{N_{ex}}{N_i}$ changes slowly for energies > 1 keV.
 - So if the total quanta $N_i + N_{ex} = N$ with $N = E_{er}/W$, hence $E_{er} = WN_i(1 + \beta)$.
 - If $N_{er} = f_n E_R$ then, $N_i = f_n(\frac{E_R}{W(1+\alpha)})$, where f_n can be computed with our model. spatially small tracks.
-
- In the following we show the Charge and Light Yields for Ar and Xe, using the constant binding energy model and $S_e = k\varepsilon^{1/2}$.
 - Where also we are taking β and $\frac{\alpha}{4a^2v} \equiv \gamma$ as constants.