

# Multiphonon Processes in Spin-Dependent Dark-Matter Scattering

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IN COLLABORATION WITH P. MUNBODH, S. KNAPEN, S. GORI, & T. LIN

# Outline

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1

Why phonons + DM

2

Derivation of Multiphonon scattering

3

Results!

# Outline

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1

Why phonons + DM

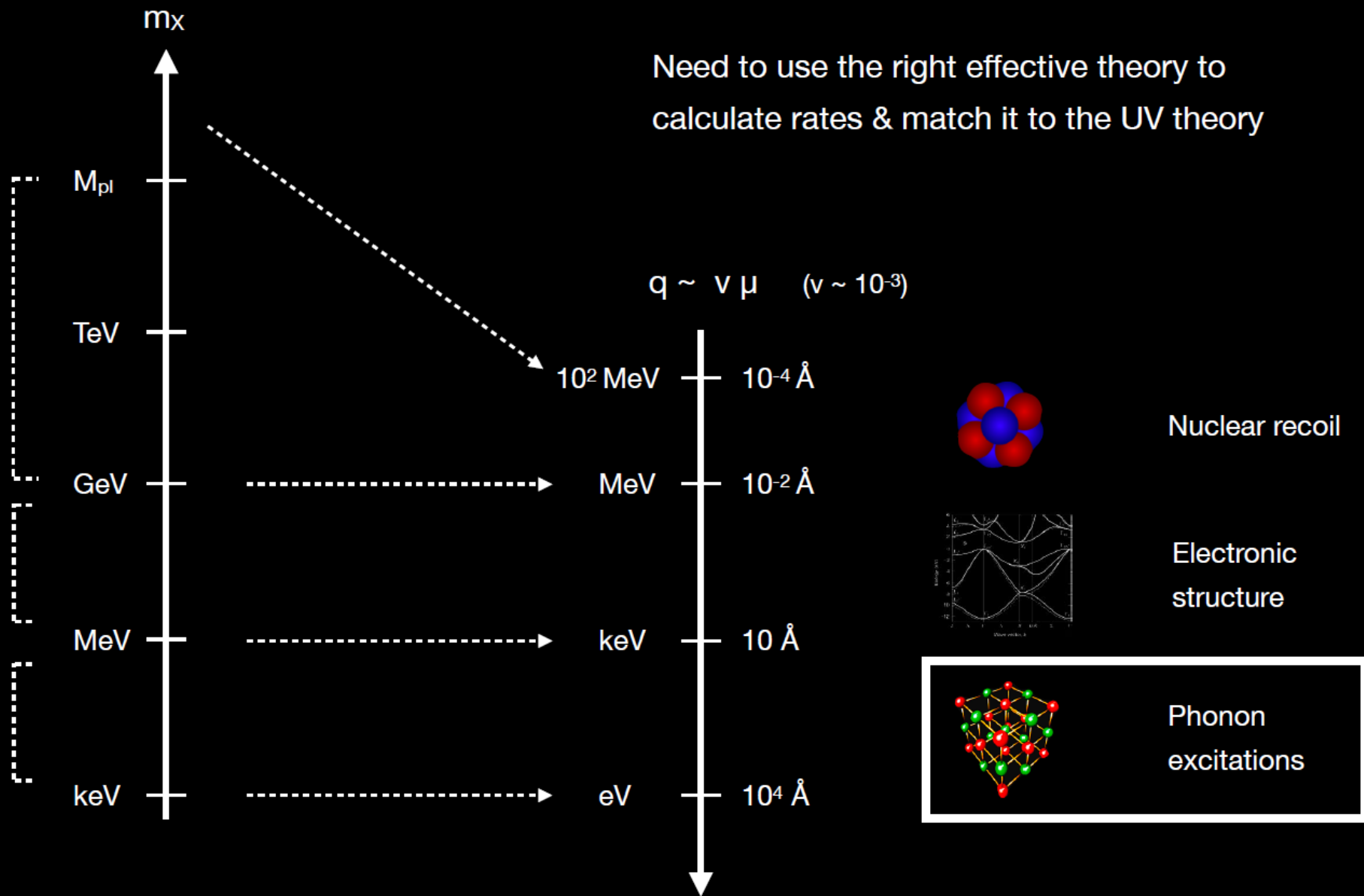
2

Derivation of Multiphonon scattering

3

Results!

# The need for theory



# Phonons

Very complicated system of coupled harmonic oscillators

## Acoustic Phonons

- Coherent motion of the lattice atoms
- Wavelength  $\rightarrow 0$  corresponds to displacement of the crystal

## Optical Phonons

- Out of phase motion of the lattice atoms
- If material is polar, couples to EM field

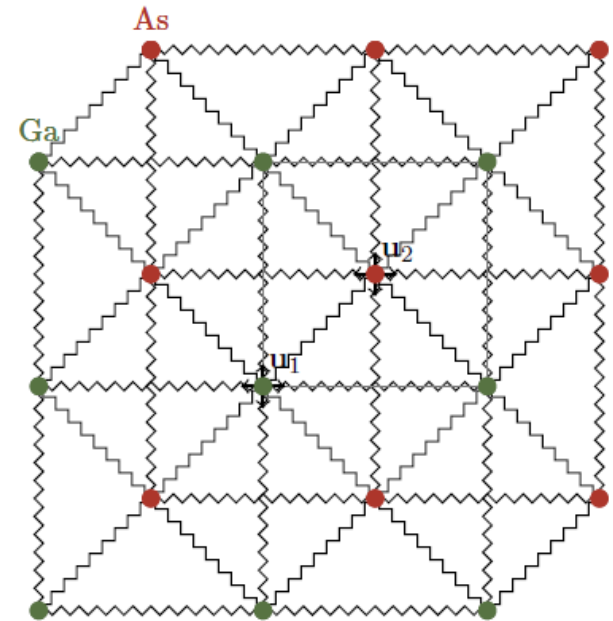


Figure from S. Knapen

# Outline

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# DM-Multiphonon Expansion

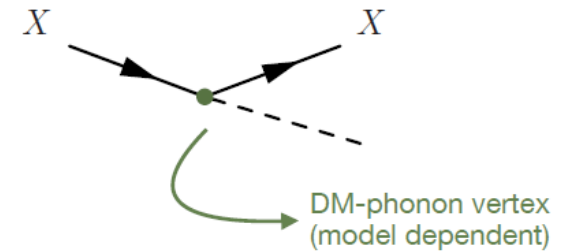
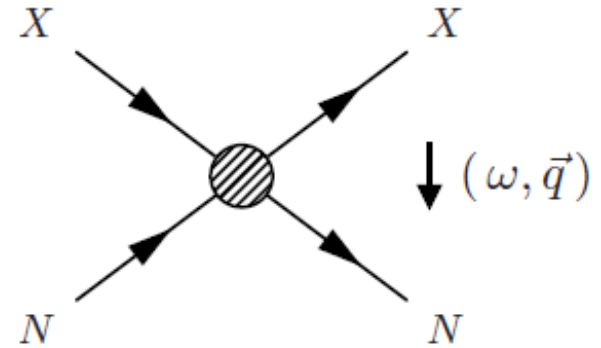
Nuclear Recoil:

$$\omega = \frac{q^2}{2m_N}$$

Phonon Regime:

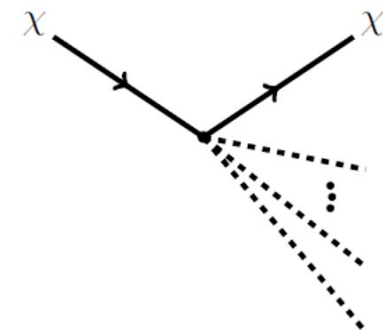
$$q \ll \sqrt{2m_N\omega}$$

- Momentum is a good expansion parameter
- Single phonon vs multiphonon



$$\mathcal{O}(q), \mathcal{O}(q^2) \text{ or } \mathcal{O}(q^4)$$

(Depends on DM model & phonon branch)



$$\mathcal{O}(q^{2n})$$

S. Knapen, T. Lin, M. Pyle, K. Zurek: 1712.06598

S. Griffin, S. Knapen, T. Lin, M. Pyle, K. Zurek: 1807.10291

B. Campbell-Deem, P. Cox, S. Knapen, T. Lin, T. Melia: 1911.0348

B. Campbell-Deem, S. Knapen, T. Lin, E. Villarama: 2205.02250

# Multiphonon Rate

*Fermi's Golden Rule*

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d^3q d\omega} \sim \sum_{i,f} \sum_d^N \left\langle \lambda_f \left| \mathcal{O}(q) e^{iq \cdot r_d} \right| \lambda_i \right\rangle^2 \delta(E_f - \omega)$$

$\lambda_i$  &  $\lambda_f$  denote initial & final spin & phonon states

$d$  labels each atom in the crystal

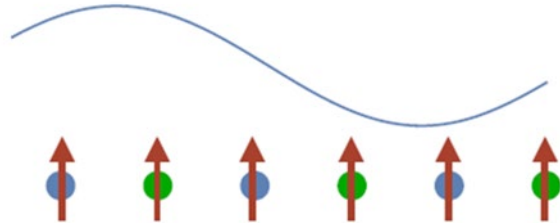
$\mathcal{O}(q)$  is some spin dependent operator

$r_d$  is the position of each atom

$\mathcal{O}(q) = 1$  is spin independent  
(already been done: 2205.0225)



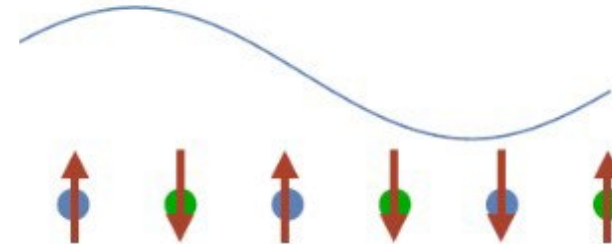
# Spin Dependent Interactions



Nuclear Spin Polarized

Similar to spin independent case, with a form factor correction

(see T. Trickle et. al. 2009.13534)



Nuclear Spin Unpolarized

Cross section doesn't average away:

$d = d'$  (incoherent) terms contribute  $\sim \langle S_N^2 \rangle$

Modify spin independent calculation!

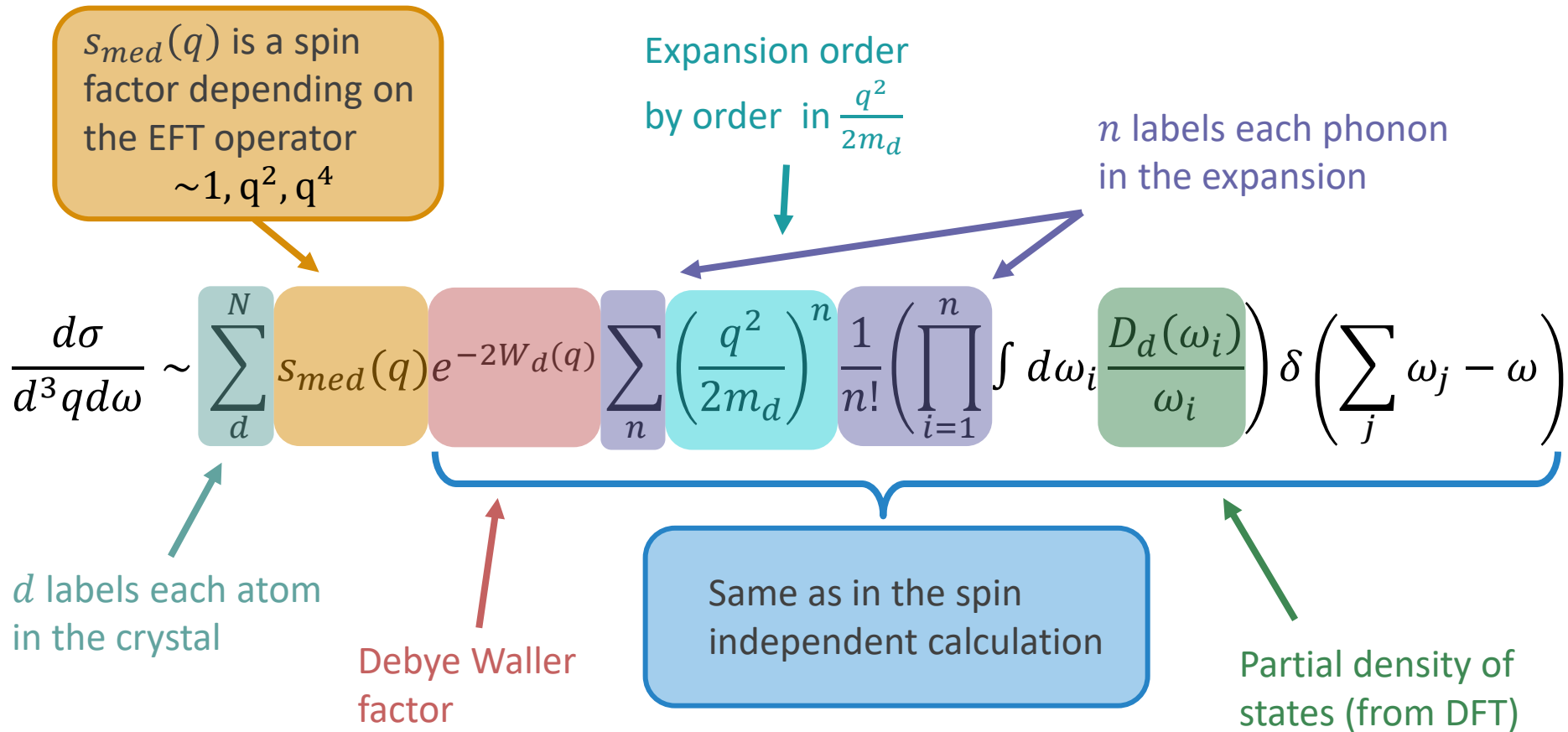
Figures by S. Knapen

# Approximations

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- Harmonic Approximation:
  - Decompose into a sum of harmonic oscillators weighted by the phonon density of states
  - Good for crystals with few anharmonicities
- Isotropic crystal
- Nuclei spins are distributed spherically symmetrically

# Multiphonon Rate



# Outline

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Why phonons + DM

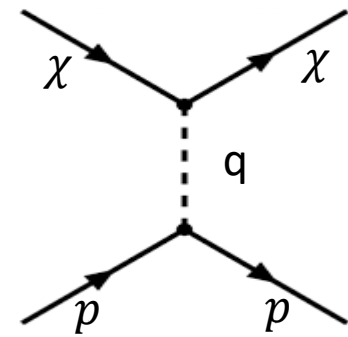
2

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# Model Dependence: EFT operators



Scalar mediator  $\phi$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset g_\chi \phi \bar{\chi} \chi + g_p \phi \bar{N} \gamma^5 N$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{NR} \sim (q \cdot S_N)$$



$$s_\phi \sim \frac{q^2}{m_N^2} \left( f_d^2 \langle S_d^2 \rangle \right)$$

Pseudoscalar mediator  $a$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset g_\chi a \bar{\chi} \gamma^5 \chi + g_p a \bar{N} \gamma^5 N$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{NR} \sim (q \cdot S_N)(q \cdot S_\chi)$$



$$s_a \sim \frac{q^4}{m_N^2 m_\chi^2} \langle S_\chi^2 \rangle \left( f_d^2 \langle S_d^2 \rangle \right)$$

Pseudovector mediator  $A'_\mu$

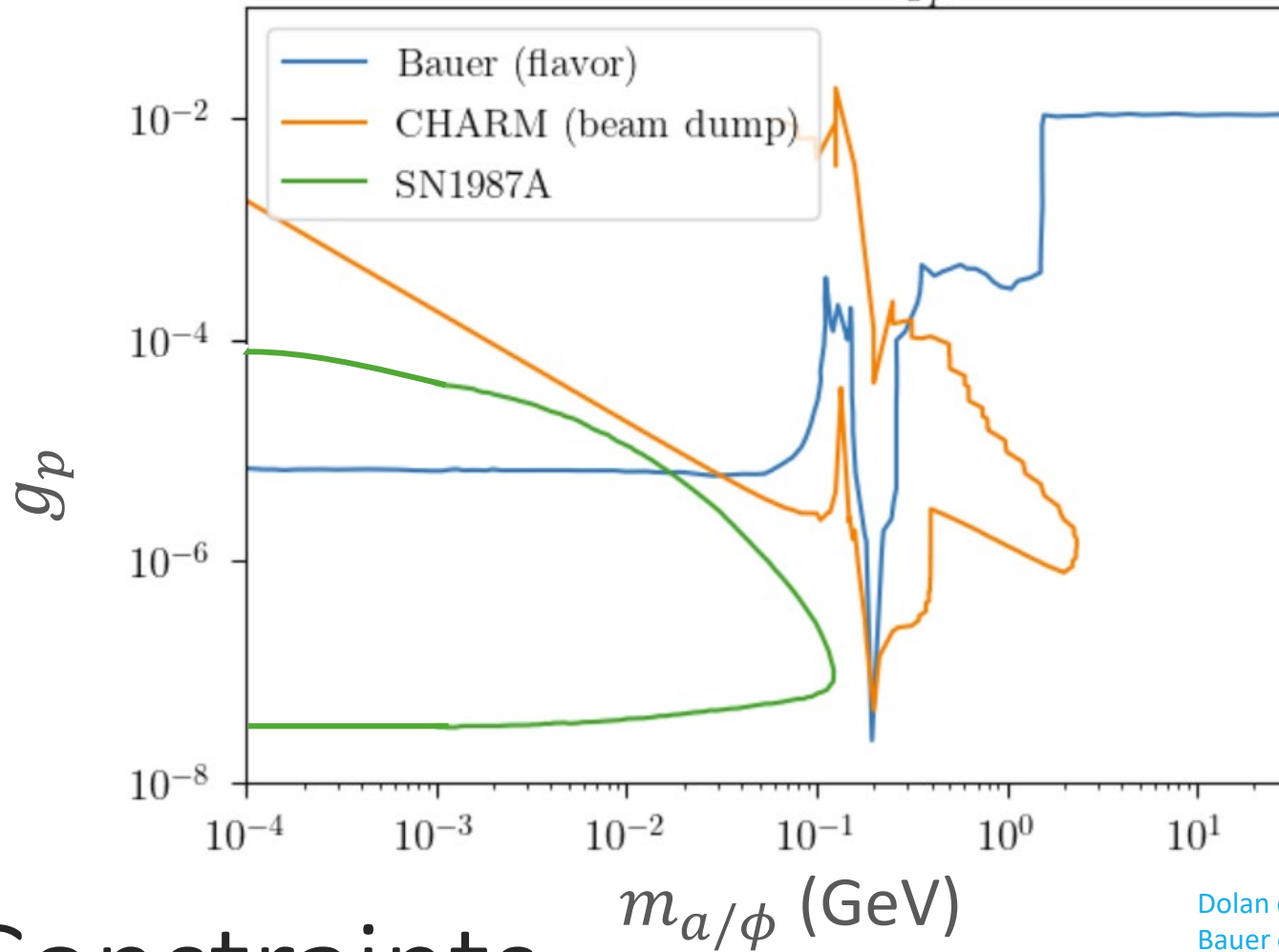
$$\mathcal{L} \supset g_\chi A'_\mu \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \chi + g_p A'_\mu \bar{N} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 N$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{NR} \sim (S_N \cdot S_\chi)$$



$$s_{A'_\mu} \sim \langle S_\chi^2 \rangle \left( f_d^2 \langle S_d^2 \rangle \right)$$

## Constraints on $g_p$

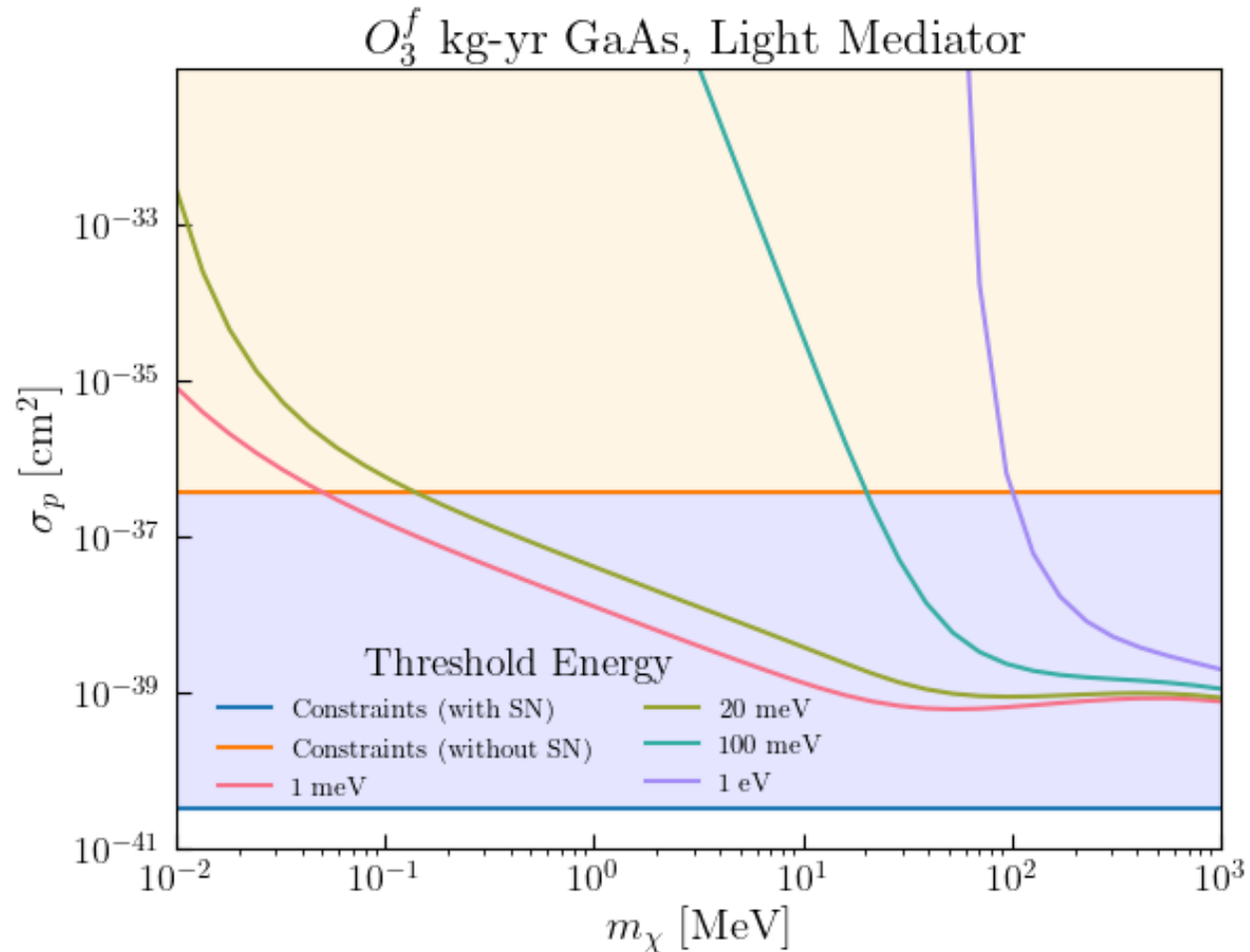


# Constraints

[Dolan et. al: 1412.5174](#)  
[Bauer et. al: 2110.10698](#)  
[Chang et. al: 1803.00993](#)

# Results

- Most optimistic reach curves:  $O_3^f$  (scalar mediator)
- Beaten by supernovae constraints at light mediator masses (see shaded in area)

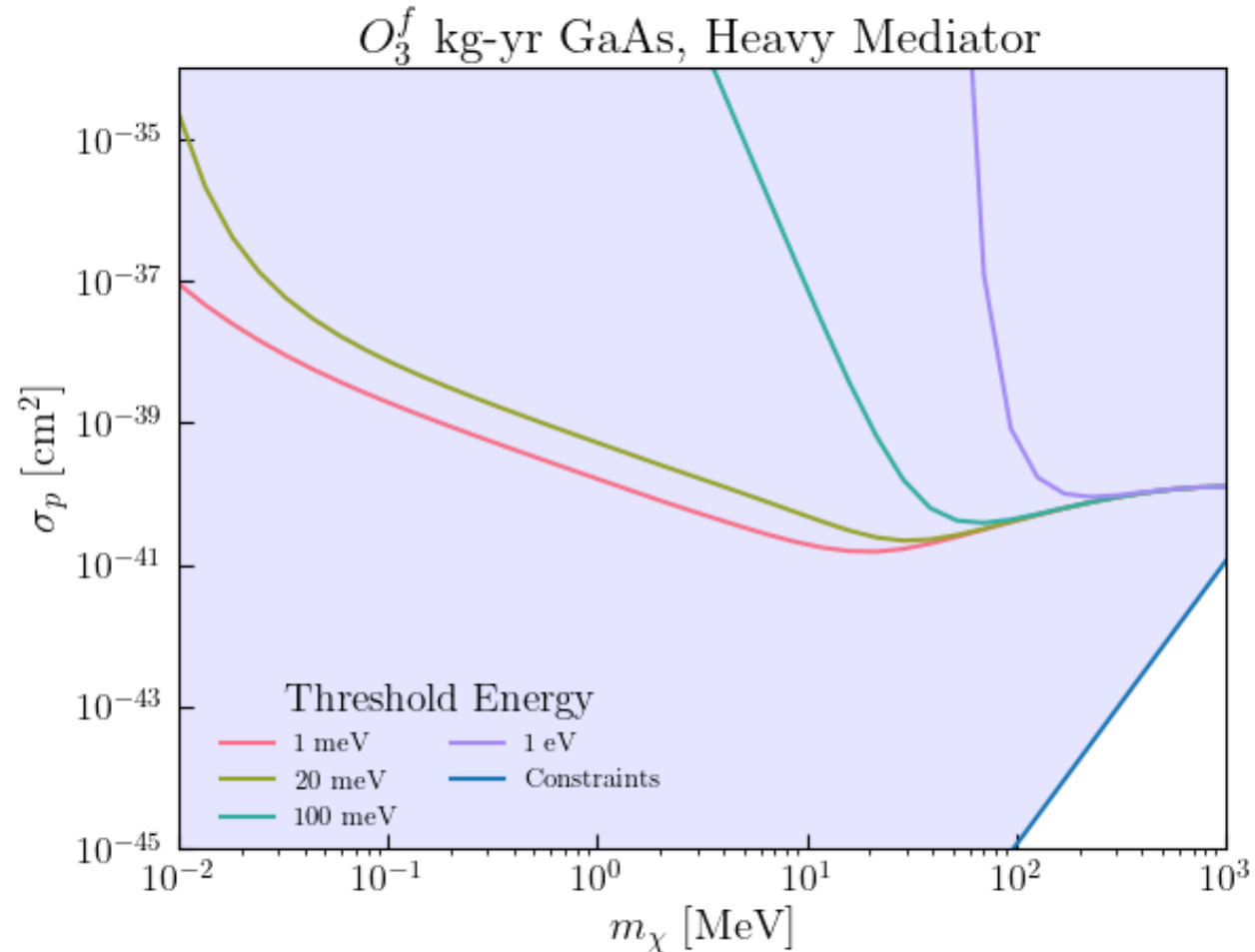


Cross sections needed for 3 events/kg-year rate for GaAs using several threshold energies

# Results

- Most optimistic reach curves:  $O_3^f$  (scalar mediator)
- Beaten by supernovae constraints at light mediator masses (see shaded in area)
- Beaten by flavor constraints at heavy mediator masses

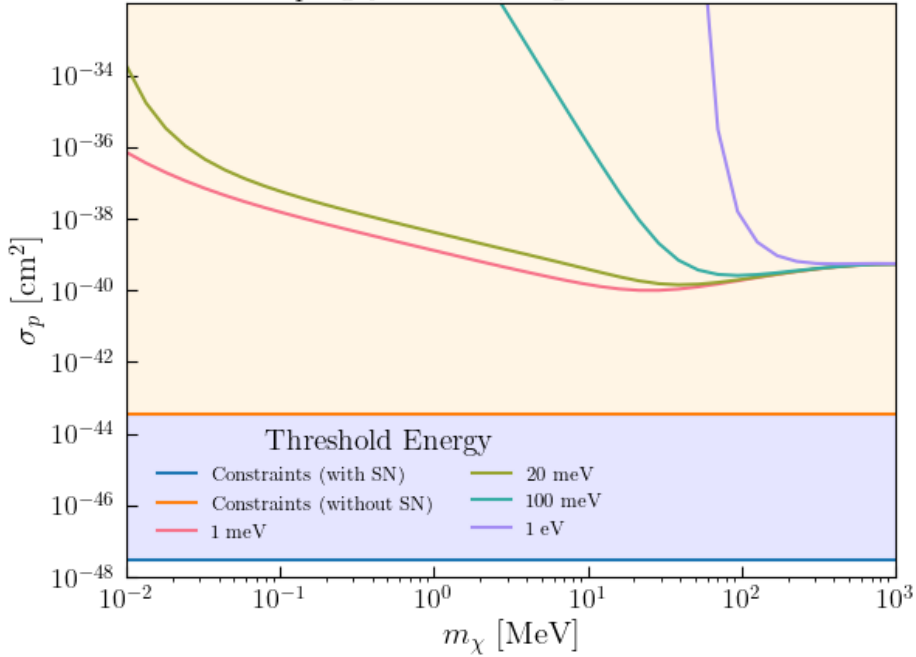
$$\sigma_p \sim 10^{-61} - 10^{-41} \text{ cm}^2$$



Cross sections needed for 3 events/kg-year rate for GaAs using several threshold energies

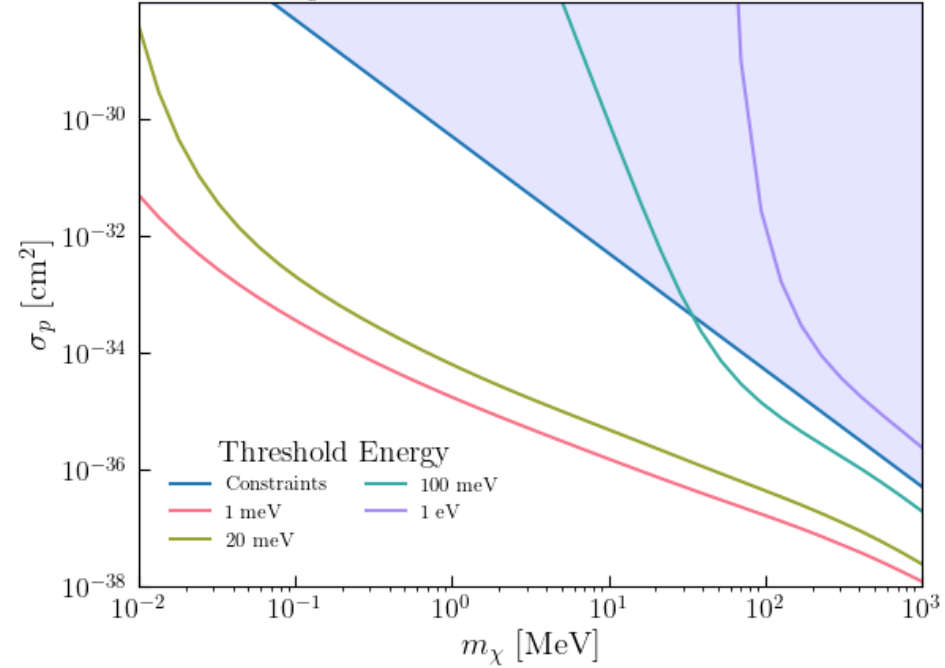


$O_4^f$  kg-yr GaAs, Light Mediator



Light pseudoscalar mediator

$O_8^f$  kg-yr GaAs, Light Mediator

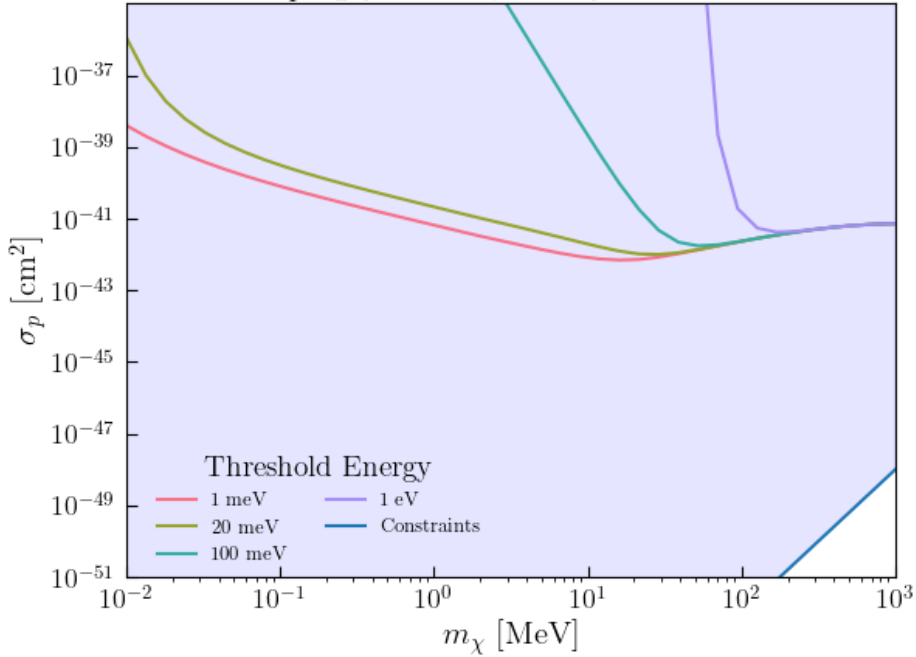


Light pseudovector mediator

# Results

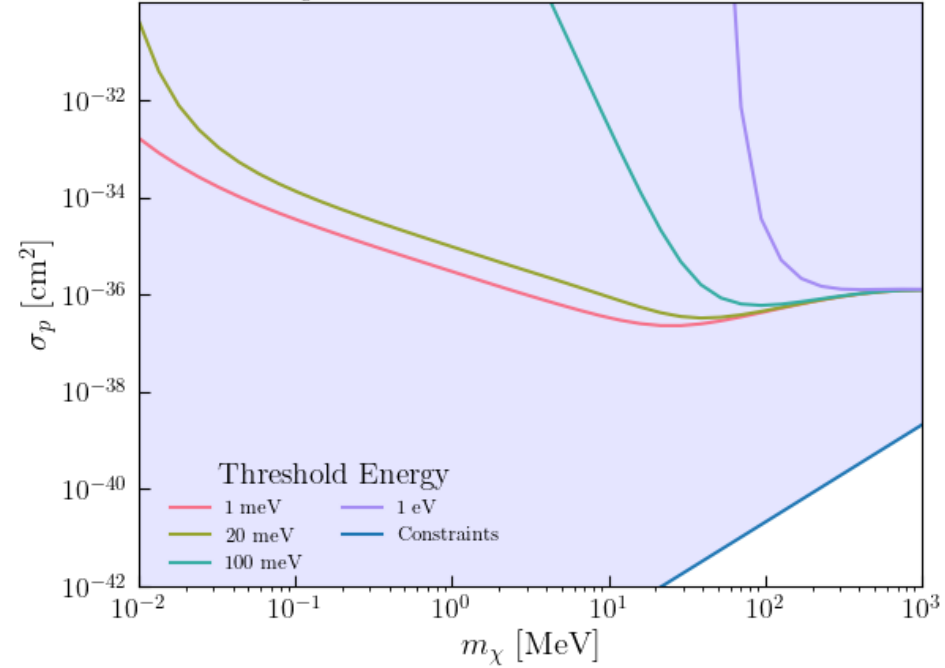
Cross sections needed for 3 events/kg-year rate for GaAs using several threshold energies

$O_4^f$  kg-yr GaAs, Heavy Mediator



Heavy pseudoscalar mediator

$O_8^f$  kg-yr GaAs, Heavy Mediator



Heavy pseudovector mediator

# Results

Cross sections needed for 3 events/kg-year rate for GaAs using several threshold energies

## Summary

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Multiphonon – DM interactions cover intermediate DM mass ranges between nuclear recoil and single phonon detection

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Spin dependent multiphonon scattering utilizes similar methods as spin independent when crystal spins are randomly distributed

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The reach of multiphonon experiments falls well short of current limits on spin dependent DM interactions (SN, mesons, etc), except in a few possible cases

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Thus, repurposing a spin independent multiphonon experiment (like Tesseract) may not be the best way to reach new spin dependent parameter space. Sorry Experimentalists!



Questions?

# Backup Slides

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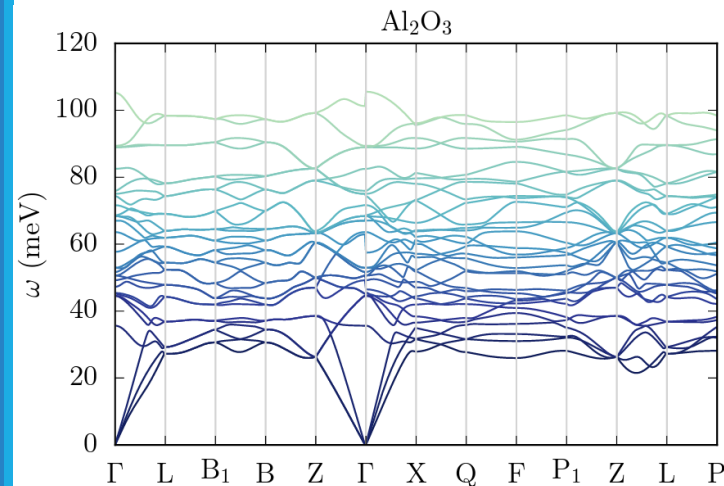
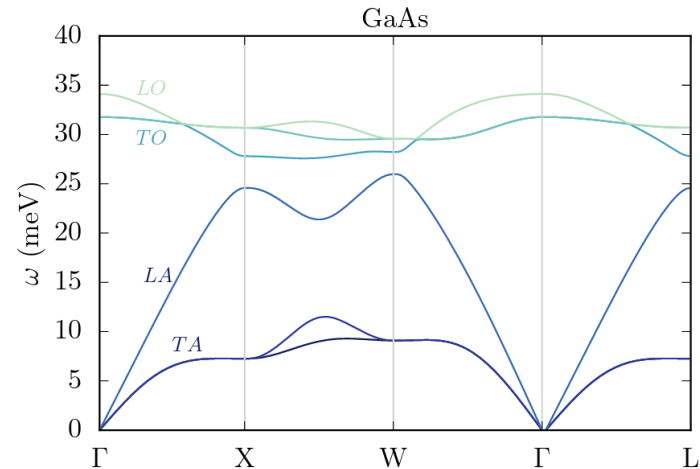
# Acoustic vs Optical

- Low momentum transfer = only excite acoustic phonon in 1<sup>st</sup> Brillouin zone

$$\omega = c_s |q| \approx 2c_s v m_X$$
$$\sim 7 \text{ meV} \times \frac{m_X}{100 \text{ keV}}$$

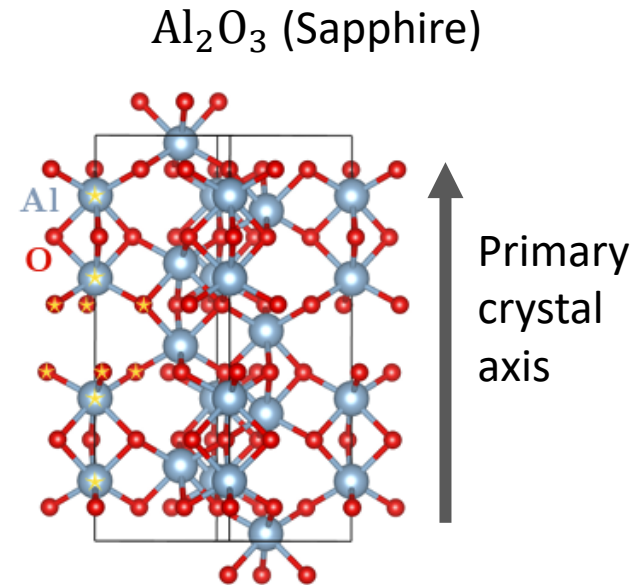
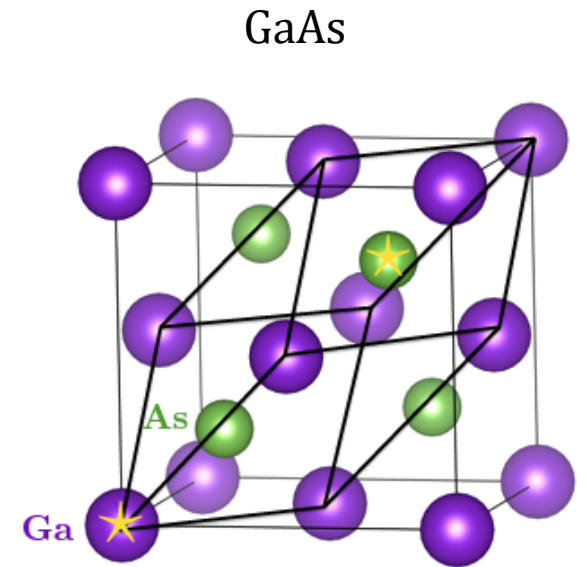
- Best threshold is in 10 – 100 meV range, so difficult or impossible to detect
- Optical modes don't have this scaling:

$$\omega \sim 30 \text{ meV as } |q| \rightarrow 0$$



# Polar Materials

- At least two different atoms with **different** effective charges
- Each unit cell forms an electric dipole
- E field or dark photon causes vibrations
  - → Optical phonons
- GaAs
  - 2 atoms in unit cell
  - 3 acoustic phonons, 3 optical phonons
- Sapphire
  - 10 atoms in unit cell
  - 3 acoustic phonons, 27 optical phonons



# Benefits of Polar Materials

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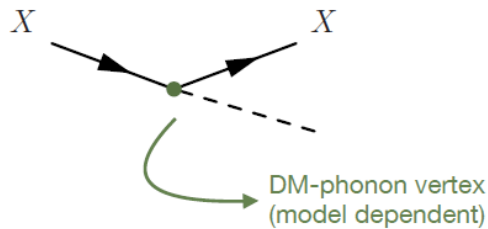
- Gapped dispersion of optical phonons
  - Single or multiphonon
- Anisotropic crystal structures
  - Daily modulation in rate
- Low screening
  - Required: few free electrons, high polarizability
  - Gap for electronic excitations  $\sim O(1 - 10 \text{ eV})$
  - Kinetic mixing with dark photon couples to dipole moment
- Easy to fabricate

S. Griffin, S. Knapen, T. Lin, M. Pyle, K. Zurek: 1807.10291



# DM-Multiphonon Expansion

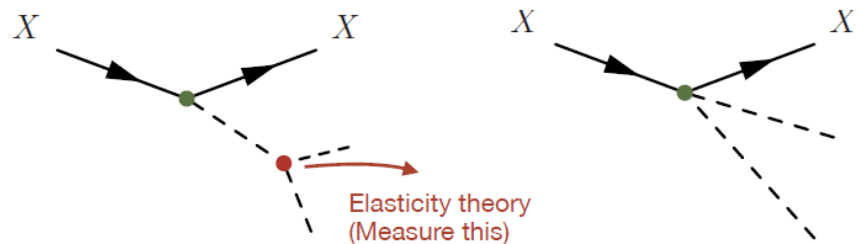
LO



$$\mathcal{O}(q), \mathcal{O}(q^2) \text{ or } \mathcal{O}(q^4)$$

(Depends on DM model & phonon branch)

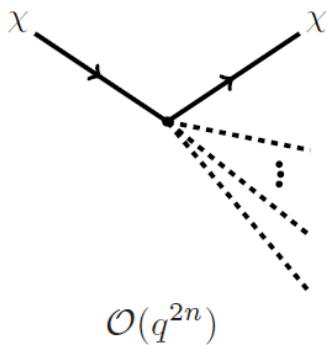
NLO



$$\mathcal{O}(q^4)$$

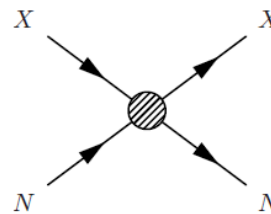
B. Campbell-Deem, P. Cox, S. Knapen, T. Lin, T. Melia: 1911.0348

N<sup>n</sup>LO



$$\mathcal{O}(q^{2n})$$

N<sup>∞</sup>LO = nuclear recoil



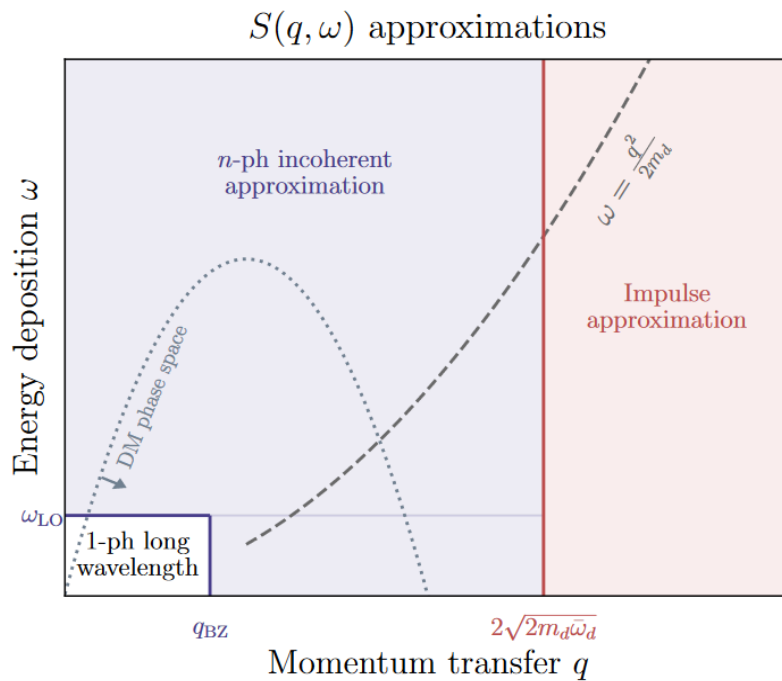
$$\sim \delta\left(\omega - \frac{q^2}{2m_N}\right)$$

B. Campbell-Deem, S. Knapen, T. Lin, E. Villarama: 2205.02250

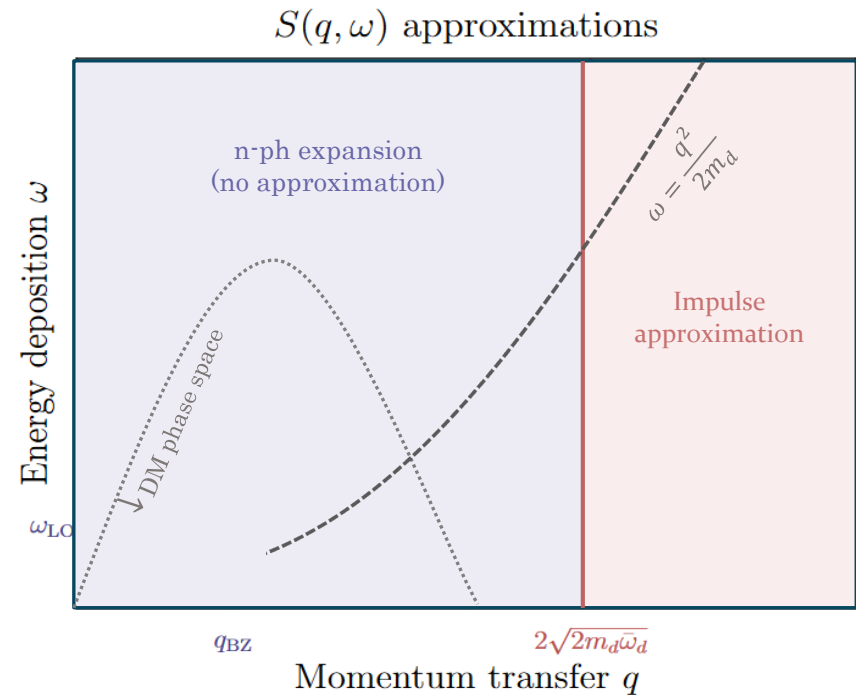
Figures from S. Knapen

# Approximations

## Spin Independent



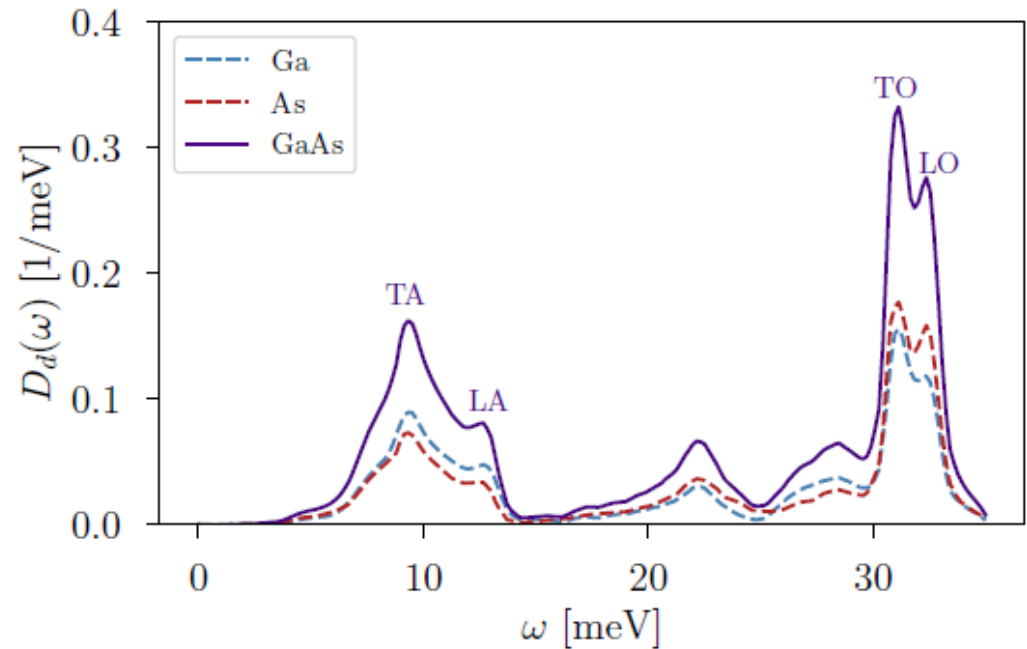
## Spin Dependent



B. Campbell-Deem, S. Knapen, T. Lin, E. Villarama: 2205.02250

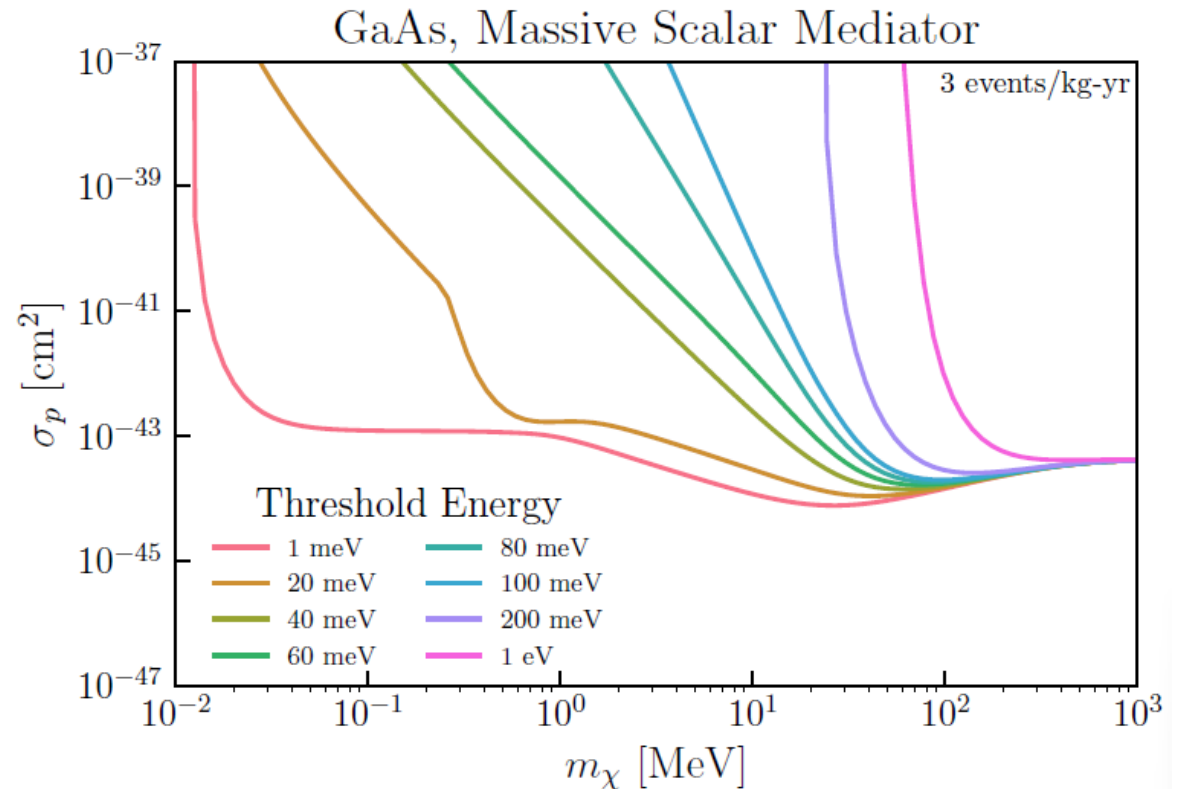
# Density of States

- The peaks from each phonon are visible
- The partial density of states are calculated using Density Effective Theory where data is not yet taken
- Many materials' density of states can be taken from the Material Project data



# Spin Independent Results

- Assumes a coupling  $\sim A_d$
- Isotropic approximation
- Anharmonic corrections around  $m_\chi \sim 1 - 10 \text{ MeV}$ : 2309.10839



B. Campbell-Deem, S. Knapen, T. Lin, E. Villarama: 2205.02250

# Multiphonon Rate (SI)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d^3q d\omega} \sim \sum_d f_d^2 e^{-2W_d(q)} \sum \left( \frac{q^2}{2m_d} \right)^n \frac{1}{n!} \left( \prod_{i=1}^n \int d\omega_i \frac{D_d(\omega_i)}{\omega_i} \right) \delta \left( \sum_j \omega_j - \omega \right)$$

$$q \gg \sqrt{2\omega m_d}$$

Impulse Approximation

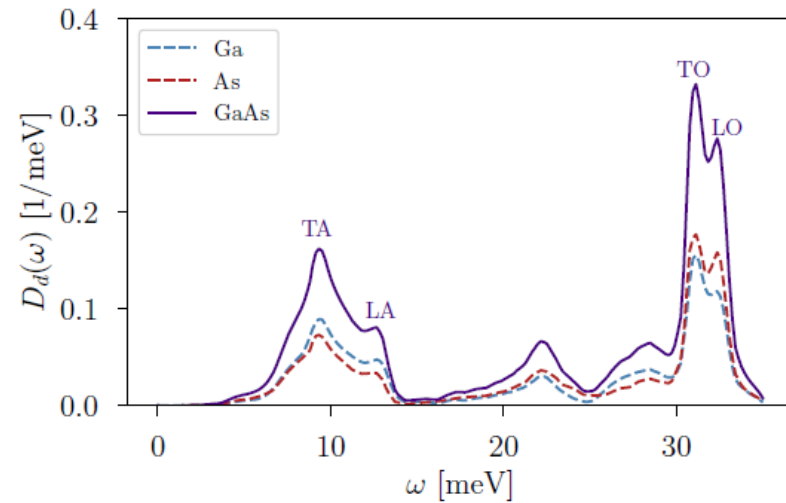
Partial density of States

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d^3q d\omega} \sim \sum_d f_d^2 \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{\Delta_d^2}} \exp \left( -\frac{\left( \omega - \frac{q^2}{2m_d} \right)^2}{2\Delta_d^2} \right)$$

$$q \gg \gg \sqrt{2\omega m_d}$$

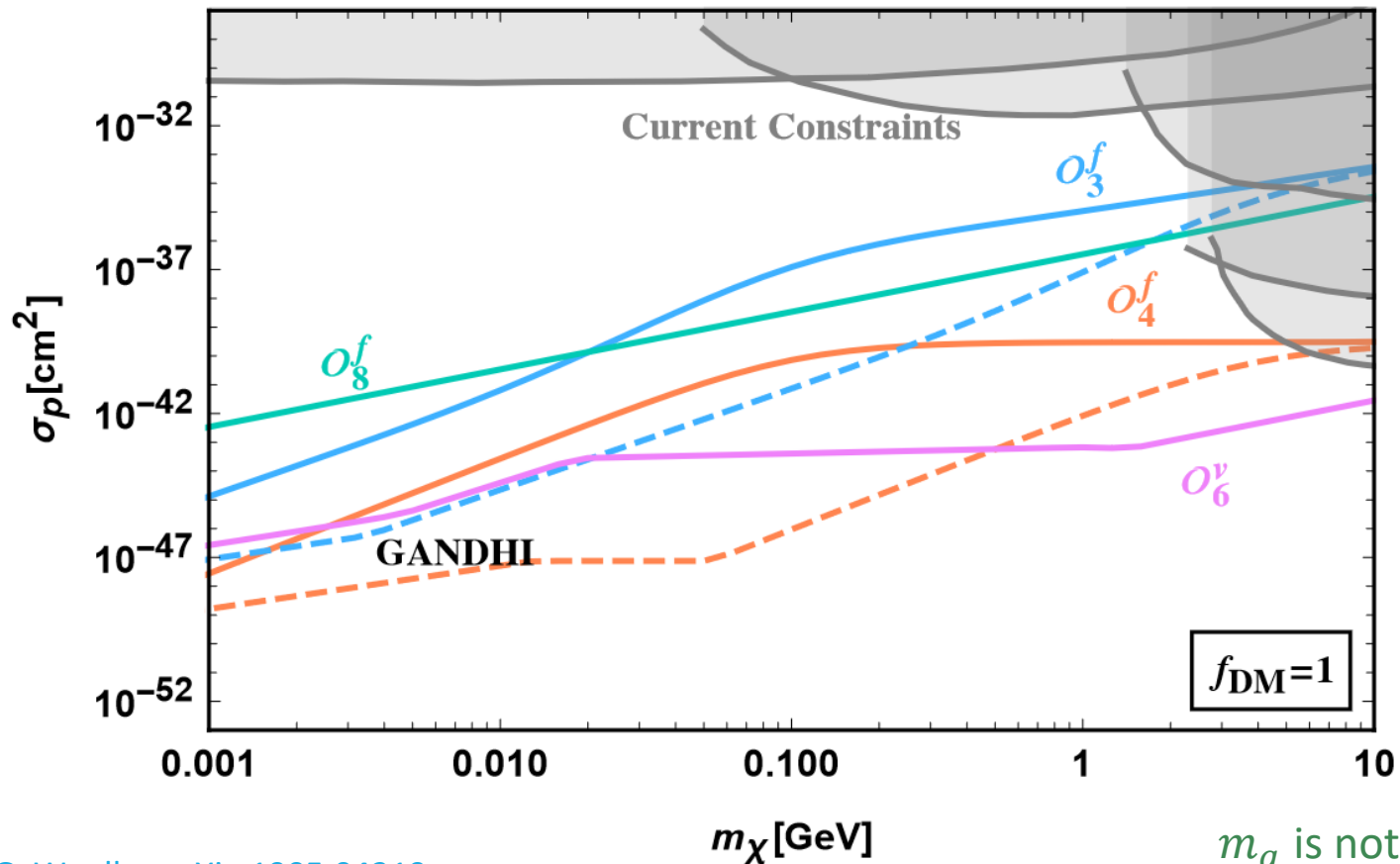
$$\frac{d\sigma}{d^3q d\omega} \sim \sum_d f_d^2 \times \delta \left( \omega - \frac{q^2}{2m_d} \right)$$

Free nuclear recoil limit!



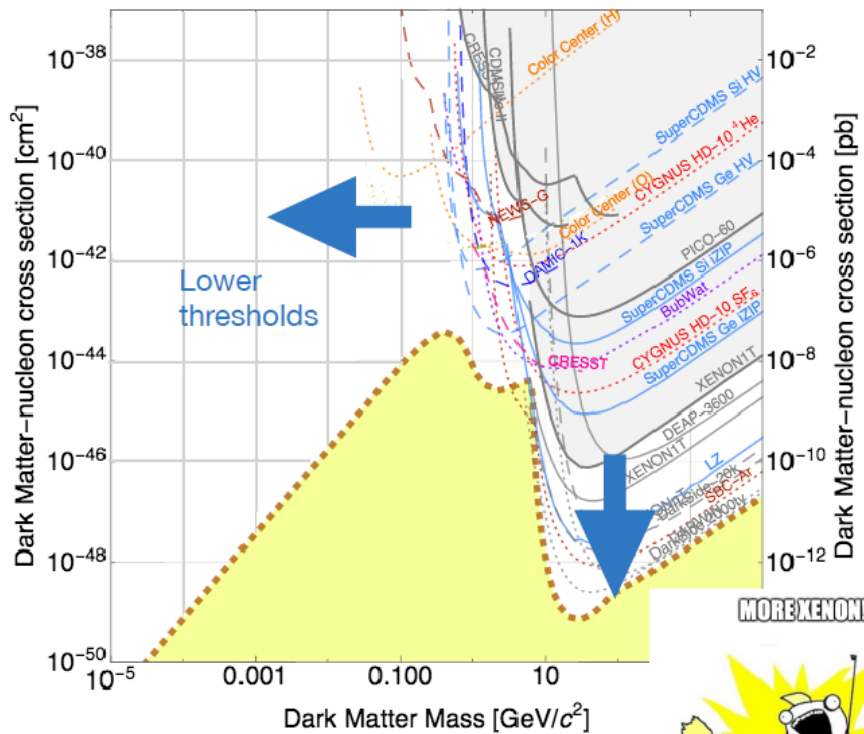
B. Campbell-Deem, S. Knapen,  
T. Lin, E. Villarama: 2205.02250

# Spin Dependent Constraints

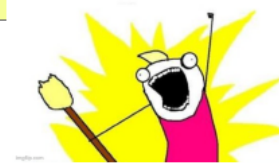


# Light Dark Matter Direct Detection

What do we need?

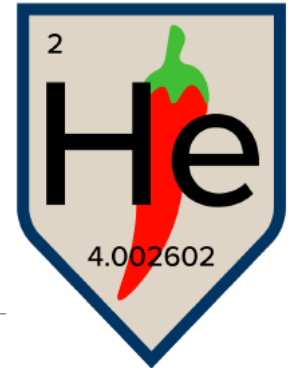


Ultra-low threshold calorimeters:  
Transition Edge  
Sensors

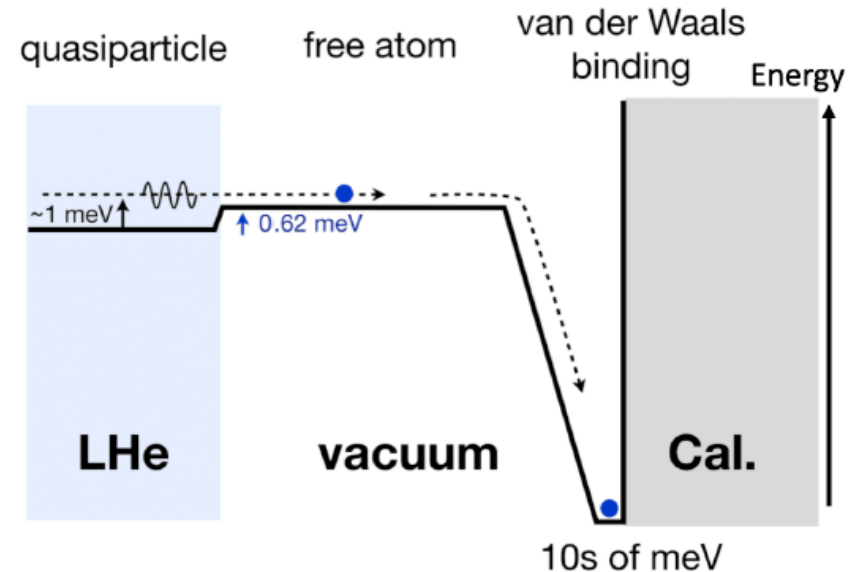
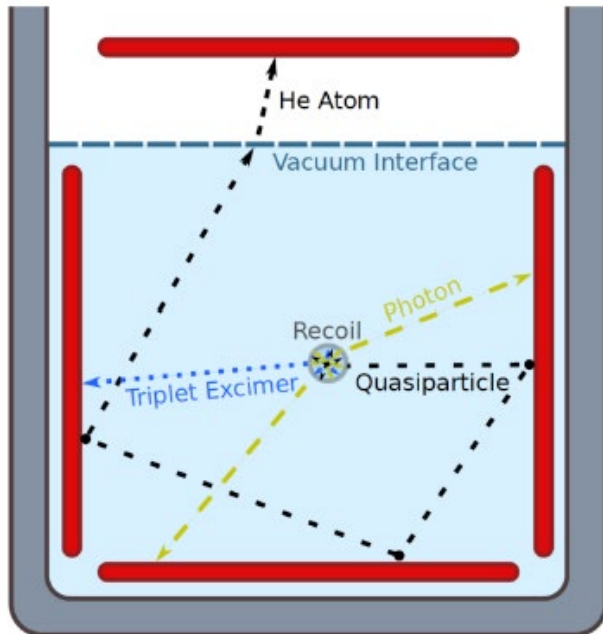


M. Battaglieri: 1707.04591  
Meme credit: S. Knapen

# Phonon Detector: HeRALD



SPICE / HeRALD  
TESSERACT

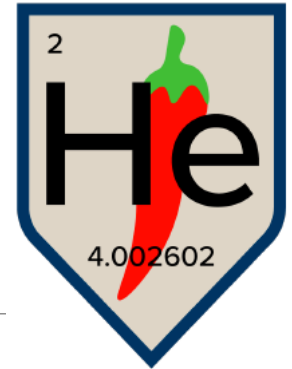


- Calorimeters with TES readout
- Quantum evaporation of He atoms

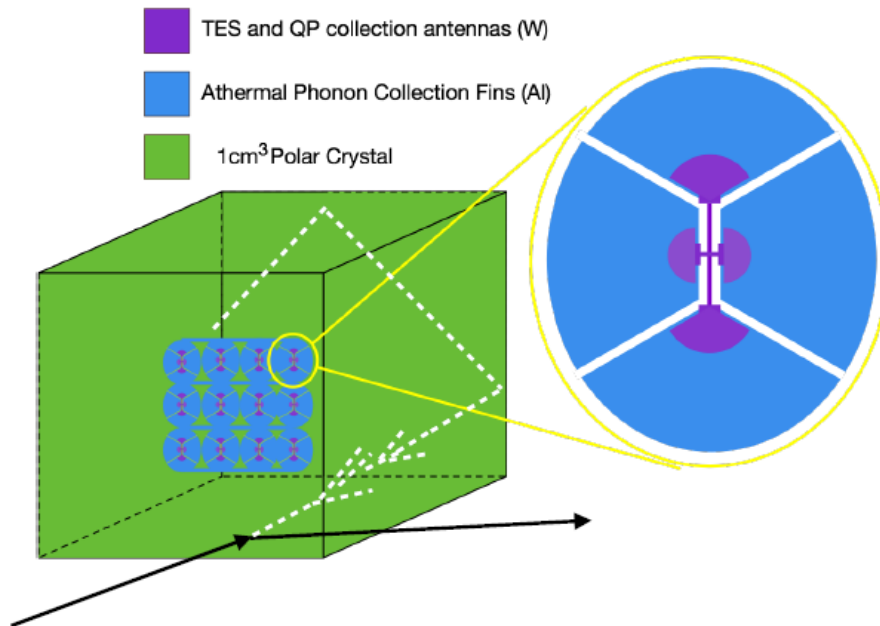
S. Hertel, A. Biekert, J.Lin, V.Velan, & D. McKinsey arXiv:1810.06283  
Figures from J. Lin slides



# Phonon Detector: SPICE



SPICE / HeRALD  
TESSERACT



- Polar Materials: GaAs or Sapphire
- Scintillation & phonons
  - Background discrimination!
- Low energy TES

~ 10 meV threshold

3" sapphire detector



Figure from M. Pyle  
Picture from TESSERACT Website

# Transition Edge Sensors (TES)

- Superconducting film acting at the phase “transition edge”
- Large change in resistance with tiny shifts in temperature
- Smaller band widths → lower threshold energies

