

# Novel Low Workfunction Semiconductors for Dark Matter, Neutrino Phenomena, and Particle Physics

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Weakly bound semiconductor materials, Cs<sub>3</sub>Sb and Ag-O-Cs (photocathodes), have low electron-hole pair energies  $=E_g+E_a$ . These semiconductors in shapes and volumes could be used as detectors for: (1) low energy depositions, with thresholds as low as  $\sim 50$  eV depositions when cooled to  $\leq 4$  K (Ag-O-Cs), and (2) applications of Cs<sub>3</sub>Sb to calorimetry or tracking, with a pair energy 1.8-2 eV, but with far lower thermal noise than Si since  $E_g \sim 1.6$  eV. Progress in Atomic Layer Deposition has been shown to deliver large area ( $\sim m^2$ ) films and  $\sim$  few mm thicknesses. Applications of semiconductor detectors with low pair-energy thresholds range over detecting dark matter interactions, low energy (sub-MeV, coherent) neutrino interactions, neutrino-less double-beta decay, and neutrino interactions from the cosmos or sun. Cs<sub>3</sub>Sb and Ag-O-Cs materials are radiation resistant for high resolution particle flow sampling calorimeters with more ion pairs and mobility larger than Si.

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