Sub-keV quenching factor measurements in HPGe (80 K)

EXCESS2022

PHYSICAL REVIEW D 94, 122003 (2016)

Measurement of the low-energy quenching factor in germanium using an ${}^{88}Y/Be$ photoneutron source

B. J. Scholz,* A. E. Chavarria, J. I. Collar, P. Privitera, and A. E. Robinson[†]



high threshold, large crystal (dominated by multiple scattering)

PRL 110, 211101 (2013)

Applications of an ⁸⁸Y/Be Photoneutron Calibration Source to Dark Matter and Neutrino Experiments

J. I. Collar*



See also T. Saab's talk in this session (cryogenic Ge)

LZ added a new photo to the album: A to Z of LZ. May 4, 2020 · 🕄

Y is for YBe or Yttrium Beryllium!

LZ has a special neutron source for calibrations made from the elements yttrium and beryllium that produces almost monoenergetic neutrons. The yttrium decays and releases a gamma ray, which interacts with the beryllium to produce a single neutron of around 200keV. These low energy neutrons are useful for calibrating nuclear recoils within the expected dark matter energy range.

...

The YBe source sits inside a tungsten shield (a mock up is shown in gold) to absorb the gamma rays, since we only want neutrons to get to the detector. This is lowered down to the top of the detector through a special port on top of the water tank.

Calibration sources like this are essential for understanding what dark matter looks like in LZ!





Response of CsI[Na] to nuclear recoils: Impact on coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering

J. I. Collar,^{*} A. R. L. Kavner, and C. M. Lewis

C.M. Lewis* and J.I. Collar

Physics-based model (Birks + kinematic cutoff) works here (the exception)



anything goes for the QF at sub-keV energies?

PHYSICAL REVIEW D 103, 122003 (2021) Germanium response to sub-keV nuclear recoils: A multipronged experimental characterization

J. I. Collar⁰,^{*} A. R. L. Kavner, and C. M. Lewis⁰



Improved detector:

- x5 lower threshold
- excellent E resolution
- 1 $\text{cm}^3 \rightarrow \text{dominated by single recoils}$
- n-type (no dead + transition layers)



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Today's subject: 3) recoils from Fe filter

Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research A 574 (2007) 385–391 Design and characterization of a neutron calibration facility for the study of sub-keV nuclear recoils

P.S. Barbeau^a, J.I. Collar^{a,*}, P.M. Whaley^b









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Et voila



Internal consistency x-checks



(going back full-circle to "that ain't Lindhard")

Also tested against earlier result with higher (x 5) threshold

Paging Mr. Migdal?

1941: A.B. Migdal, J. Phys. USSR 4 449

1958: Landau and Lifshitz Vol. 3: Quantum Mechanics, sec. 41:

PROBLEM 2. The nucleus of an atom in the normal state receives an impulse which gives it a velocity v; the duration τ of the impulse is assumed short in comparison both with the electron periods and with a/v, where a is the dimension of the atom. Determine the probability of excitation of the atom under the influence of such a "jolt" (A. B. MIGDAL 1939).

~2000: DAMA invokes Migdal, "Migdal" becomes a dirty word.

"Migdal may be late, but Migdal never lets you down"



A.B. Migdal From B. loffe "Atom Projects: Events and People"



First Measurement of Pure Electron Shakeoff in the β Decay of Trapped ⁶He⁺ Ions

C. Couratin,¹ Ph. Velten,¹ X. Fléchard,^{1,*} E. Liénard,¹ G. Ban,¹ A. Cassimi,² P. Delahaye,³ D. Durand,¹ D. Hennecart,² F. Mauger,¹ A. Méry,² O. Naviliat-Cuncic,^{1,4} Z. Patyk,⁵ D. Rodríguez,⁶ K. Siegień-Iwaniuk,⁵ and J-C. Thomas³

PHYSICAL REVIEW A 97, 023402 (2018)

Electron shakeoff following the β^+ decay of ¹⁹Ne⁺ and ³⁵Ar⁺ trapped ions

X. Fabian,^{1,*} X. Fléchard,^{1,†} B. Pons,² E. Liénard,¹ G. Ban,¹ M. Breitenfeldt,^{3,‡} C. Couratin,¹ P. Delahaye,⁴ D. Durand,¹ P. Finlay,³ B. Guillon,¹ Y. Lemière,¹ F. Mauger,¹ A. Méry,⁵ O. Naviliat-Cuncic,^{1,6} T. Porobic,³ G. Quéméner,¹ N. Severijns,³ and J.-C. Thomas⁴

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(perturbation theory for pedestrians)









De rigueur selfie













Toto, we're not in Kansas anymore: for CE_VNS studies, the QF is the crux



5% uncertainty in 5-25 keV ROI Physics-based model (Birks + kinematic threshold)



2% uncertainty in >20 KeV ROI claimed (?) Linear fit (because "it isn't completely unreasonable")

We are not looking for WIMPs: we have predictable signals, from particles known to exist.

Time to start taking this subject seriously... it can make the difference between discoveries and embarrassment.



Recent developments



See also T. Saab's talk in this session

80K HPGe and 25 mK Ge bolometers... possibly pears and apples when it comes to low-E QF. \rightarrow much rich physics to investigate!

Talking about excesses...



There is no peace for the living (upcoming work at OSURR thermal beam)

Calibration of nuclear recoils at the 100 eV scale using

neutron capture

L. Thulliez,^a D. Lhuillier,^{a,*} F. Cappella,^b N. Casali,^b R. Cerulli,^{c,d} A. Chalil,^a A. Chebboubi,^c E. Dumonteil,^a A. Erhart,^f A. Giuliani,^g F. Gunsing,^a E. Jericha,^h M. Kaznacheeva,^f A. Kinast,^f A. Langenkämper,^f T. Lasserre,^{a,f} A. Letourneau,^a O. Litaize,^e P. de Marcillac,^f S. Marnieros,^g T. Materna,^a B. Mauri,^a E. Mazzucato,^a C. Nones,^f T. Ortmann,^f L. Pattavina,^{d,i} D.V. Poda,^g R. Rogly,^a N. Schermer,^f O. Serot,^e G. Soum,^a L. Stodolsky,^f R. Strauss,^f M. Vignati,^{b,k} M. Wier,^a V. Wagner^f and A. Wex^f





Will provide dramatic test of Lindhard in HPGe at 0.4 keVnr

In addition to this:

 \rightarrow attempt to reduce error bar in 0.25 keVnr datapoint

 \rightarrow improved analysis of Y/Be data with MCMC