

# RDC8 - Pairbreaking detectors

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# Initial comments

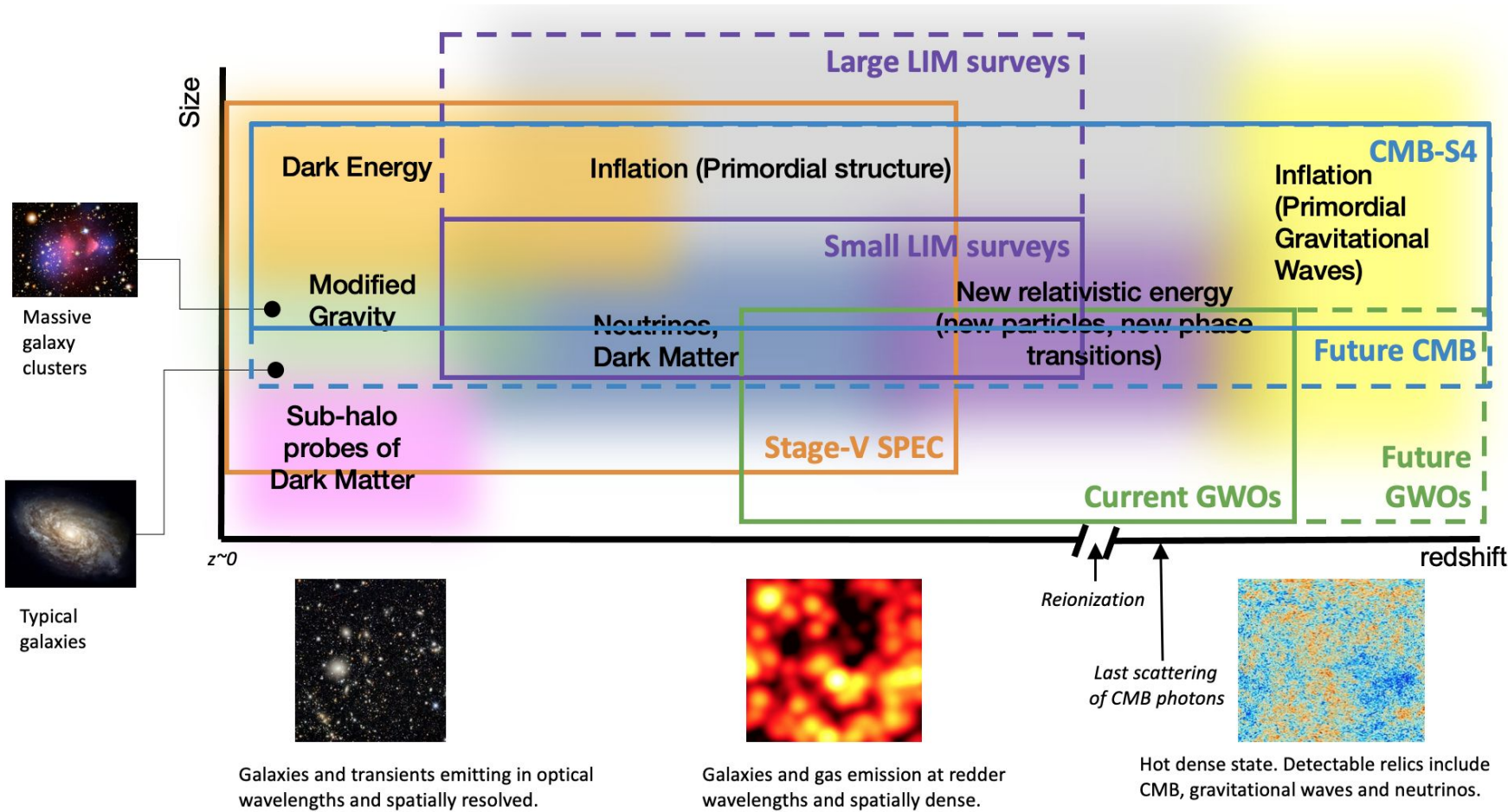
- Very broad topic!
  - Varied (and growing) technical approaches
  - Growing list of applications
- “Pair breaking”
  - Refers to detection schemes where signal power is dissipated at the key sensing element
  - Contrast to sensing schemes that coherently amplify, upconvert, mix, etc... prior to power dissipation

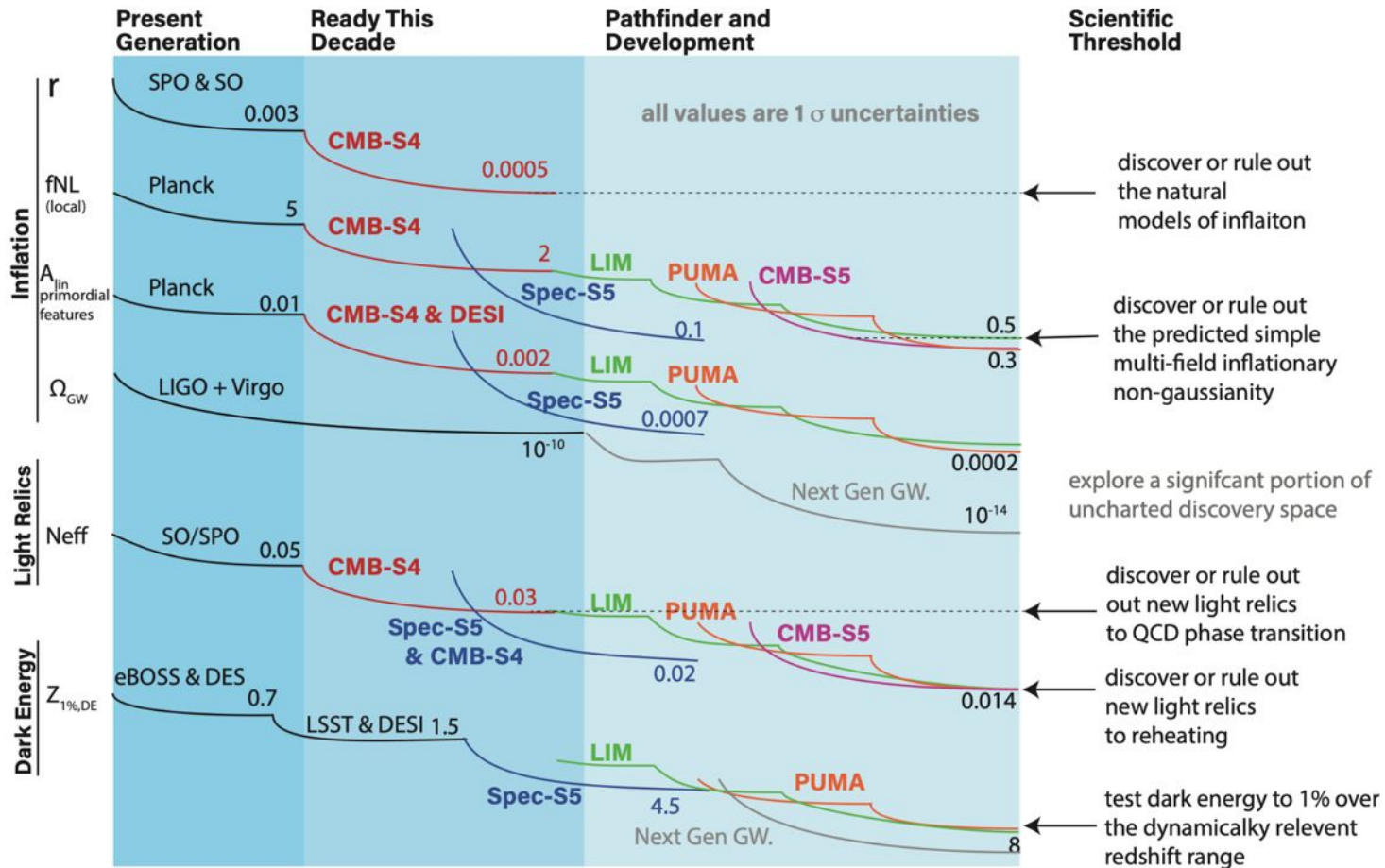
# Outline

- Brief overview of HEP science drivers
- Breakdown by broad classes of technologies
  - TES
  - MKIDs
  - Junction-based devices (qubits, QCD, etc...)
  - S"N"SPDs

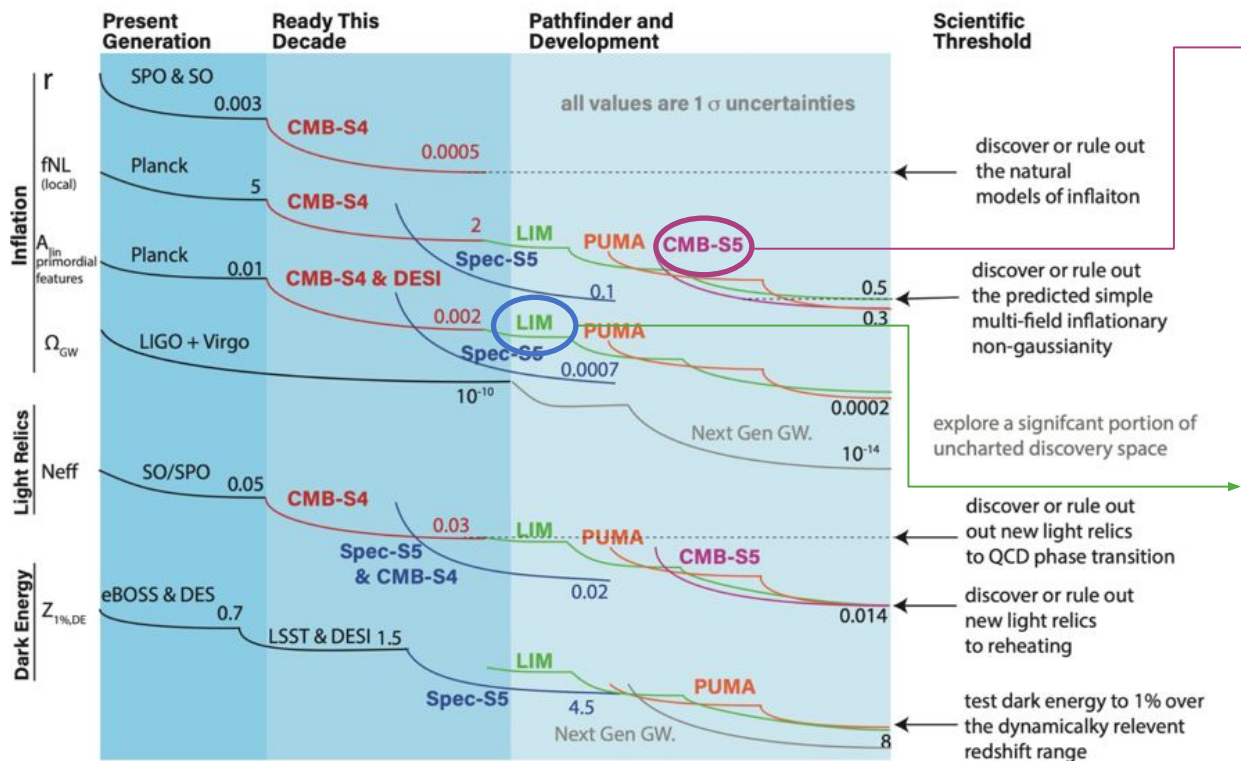
Science drivers

# Cosmological Surveys



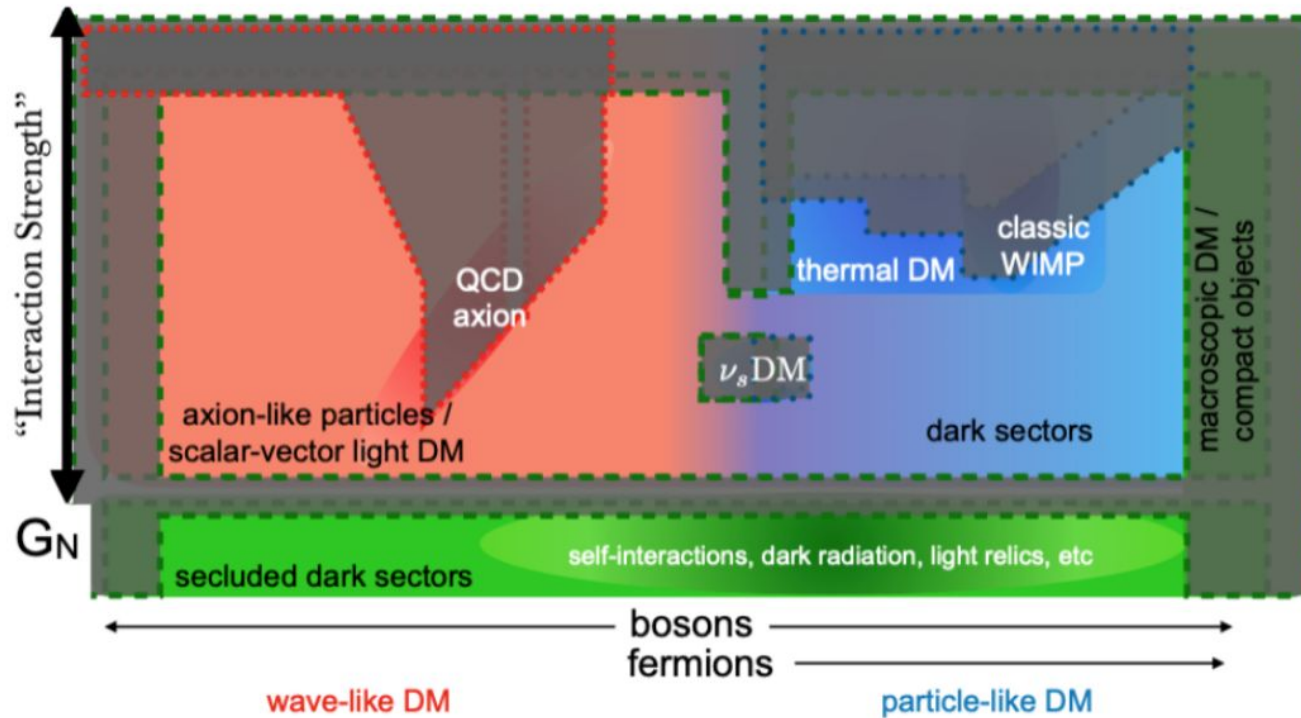


# MM-WAVE COSMOLOGY



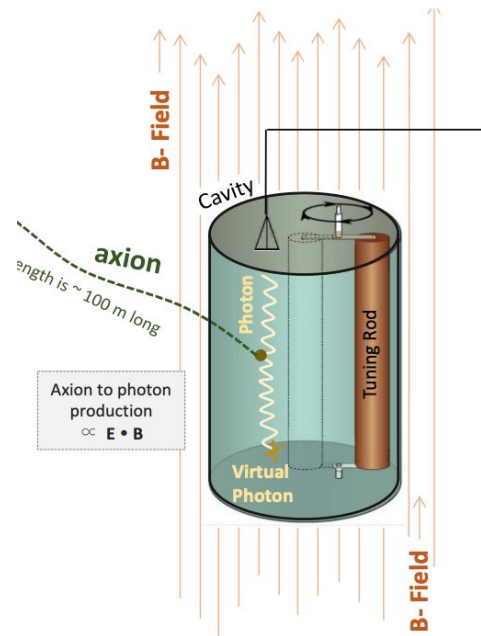
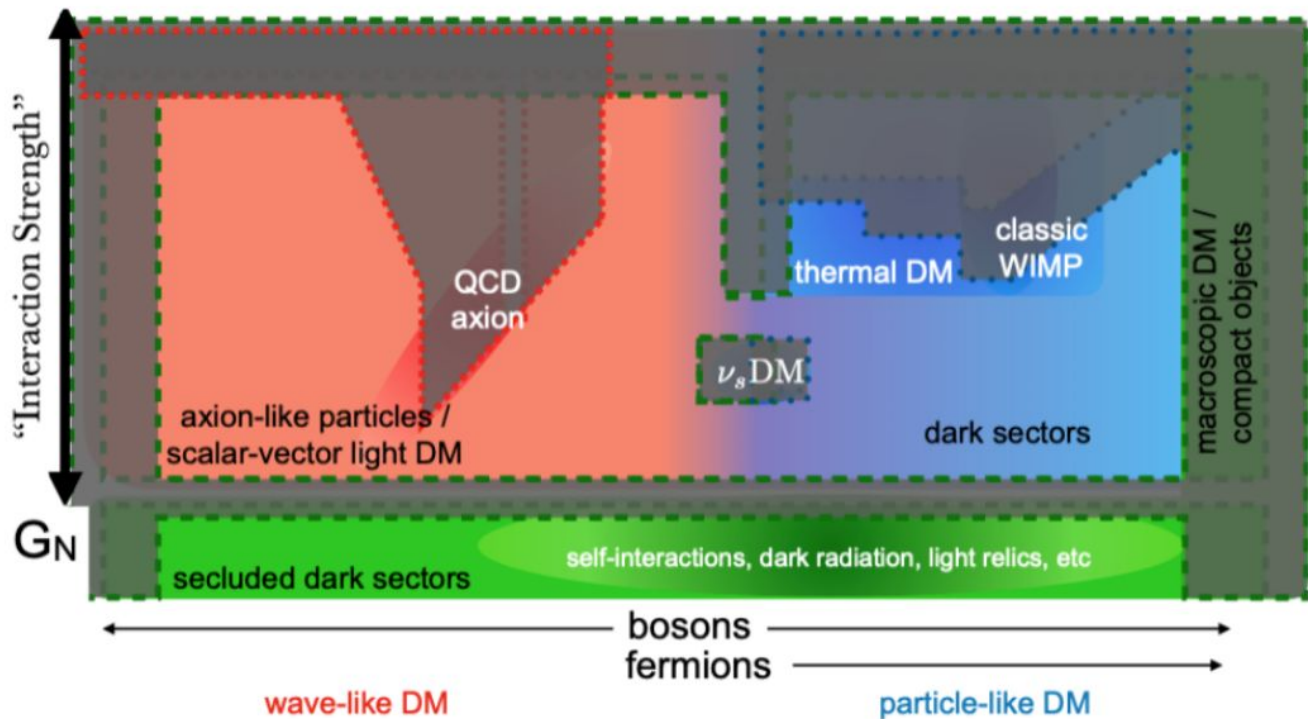
- CMB imaging at higher frequencies & resolution
  - New CMB scattering (kSZ, Rayleigh)
  - Requires 10x increase in densities typical for CMB experiment
- Mm-wave spectroscopy for Line Intensity Mapping
  - 3D survey of large volume universe
  - Requires >100x current densities for CMB experiment

# Dark Matter

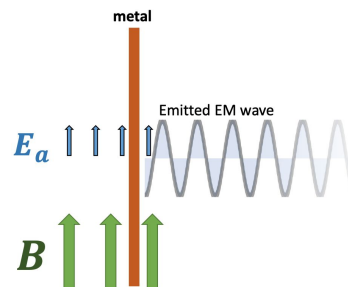




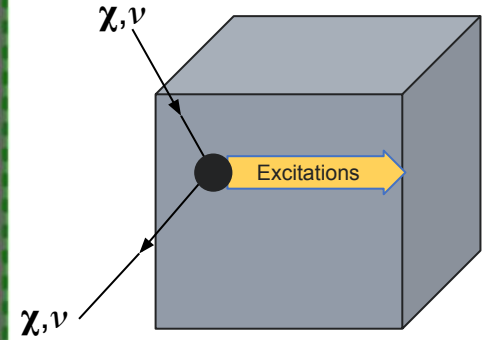
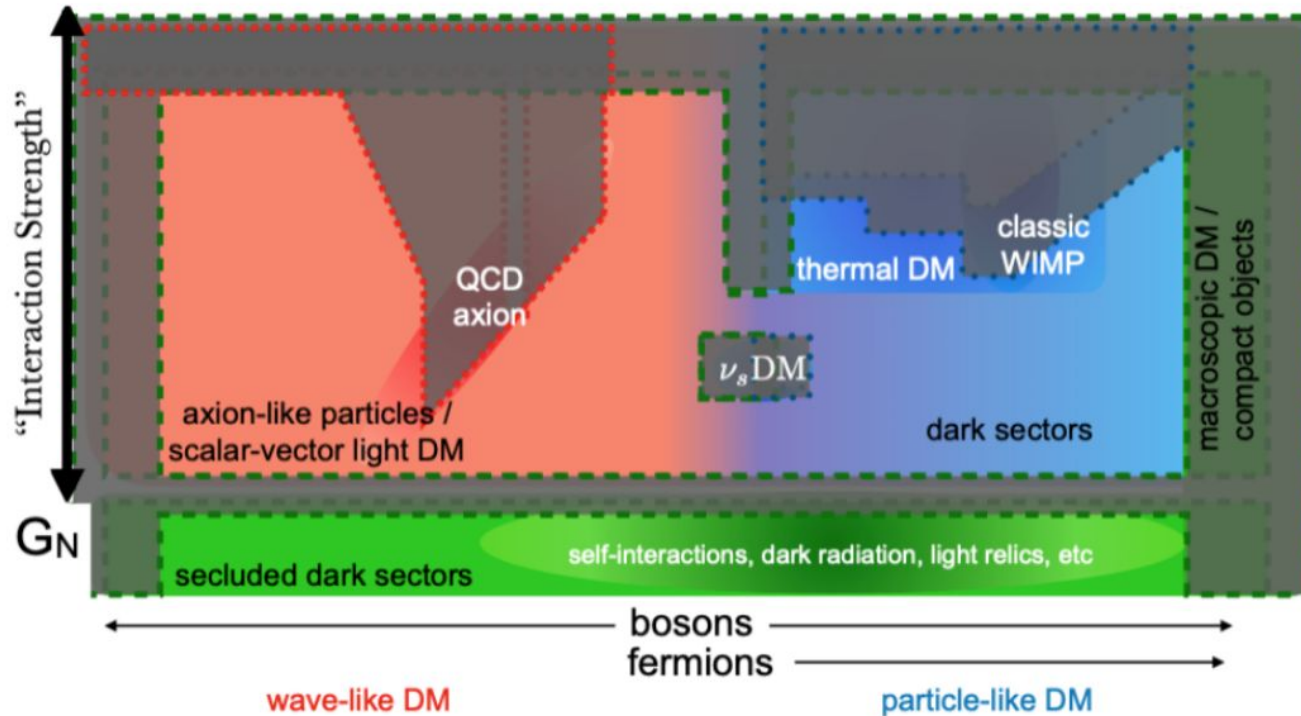
# Dark Matter



Convert to a “non-dark” excitation (e.g. photon) w/ frequency corresponding to DM mass. Detect these excitations.



# Dark Matter



Scatter off target material. Recoil spectrum rises toward lower energies. Measure events and this recoil spectrum.

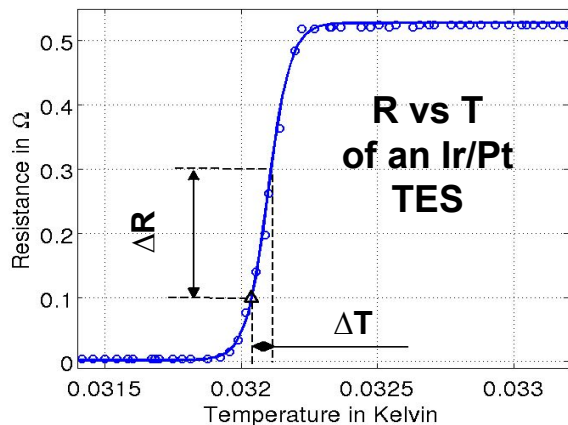
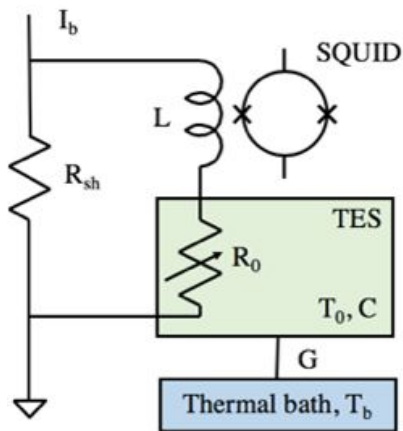
- Optimizing low-threshold neutrino detectors:** The work here aims to expand the ever-growing CEvNS program and to fully exploit the physics reach of CEvNS in the next decade. It includes not just lowering energy thresholds but improving background rejection techniques, understanding detector responses at the eV-scale, and moving toward larger detector masses. Enabling technologies have many synergies with direct neutrino mass measurements and recoil-imaging directional dark matter detectors.

# Critical HEP science

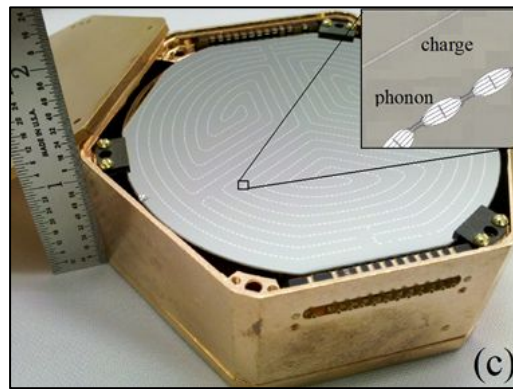
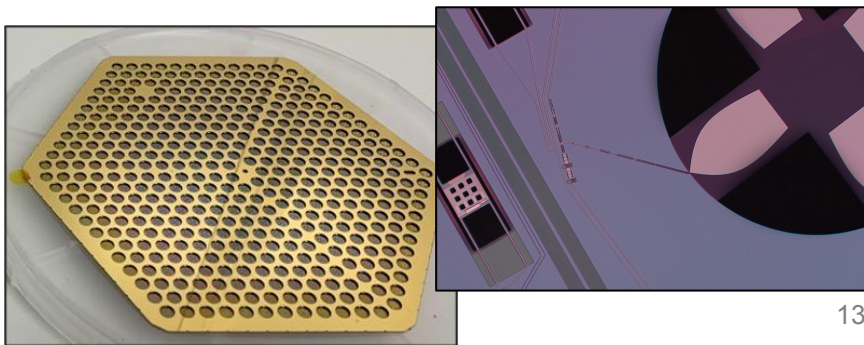
- Largest science drivers currently from Cosmic Frontier
  - Detectors for future large cosmological surveys (longer wavelengths)
  - Dark Matter
    - Low mass wave and particle candidates
- Signals from these science experiments are below the cut-off of Si/semiconductor gaps
- Broader HEP applications already being explored
  - Low energy neutrinos via CEvNS
  - Initial investigations of response to high energy particles

# Technology overview

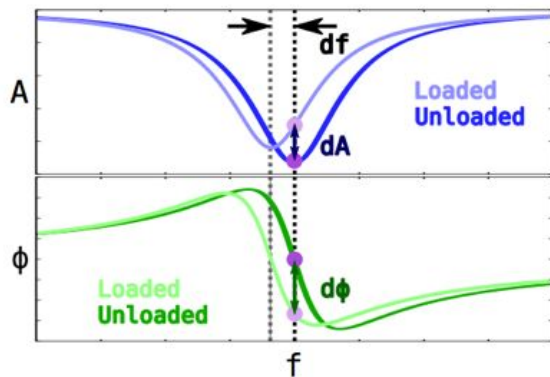
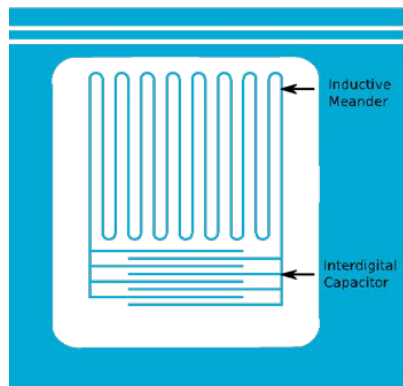
# Transition Edge Sensors (TES)



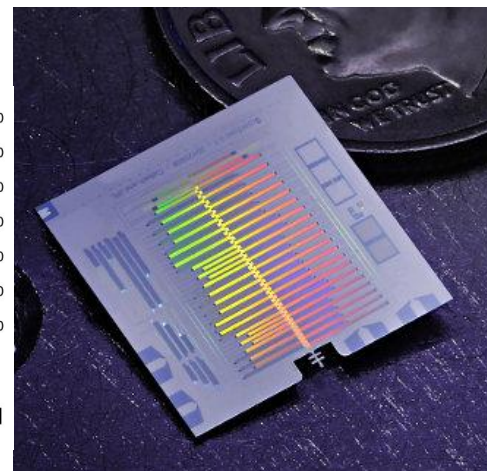
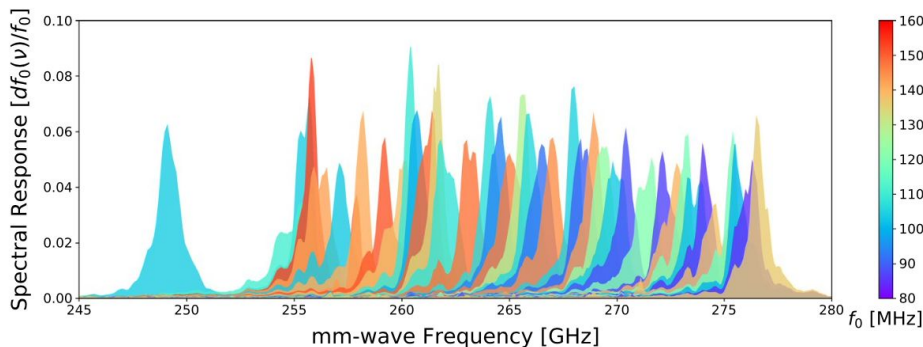
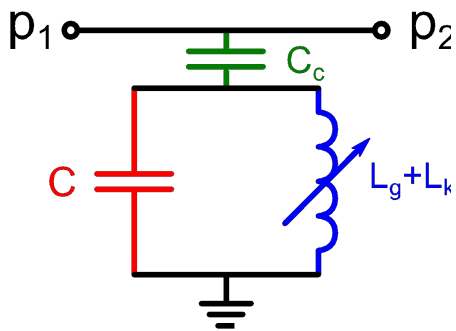
- Sense temperature with weak thermal link
- Voltage-bias establishes negative feedback
  - linearizes response, increase bandwidth
  - suppresses readout noise
- Signal current measured by low-impedance low-noise SQUID amplifiers
  - SQUID-based multiplexing enables operation of large arrays
- Sensitivity dominated by thermal fluctuation noise
  - Well understood theory of noise and operation
  - At low temperatures scales as  $T^n$ ,  $n \sim 3-5$



# Microwave Kinetic Inductance Detectors (MKIDs)

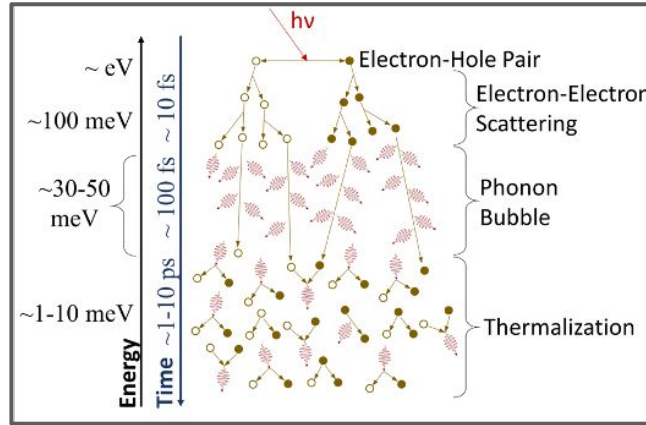
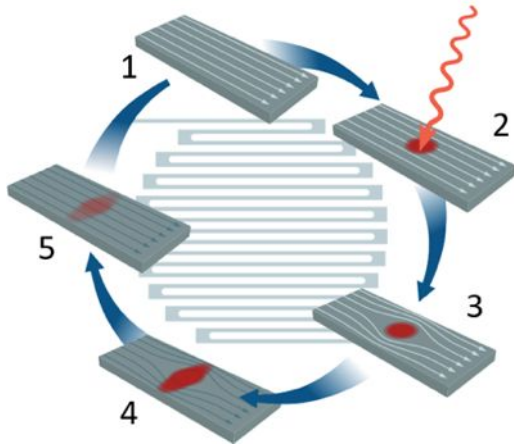


- Superconducting thin films
  - Kinetic inductance from Cooper pairs
  - Dissipation from quasiparticles
- Cooper pair vs quasiparticle distribution depends on coupled energy
- Measurable shift in resonant properties
- Intrinsically multiplexed.

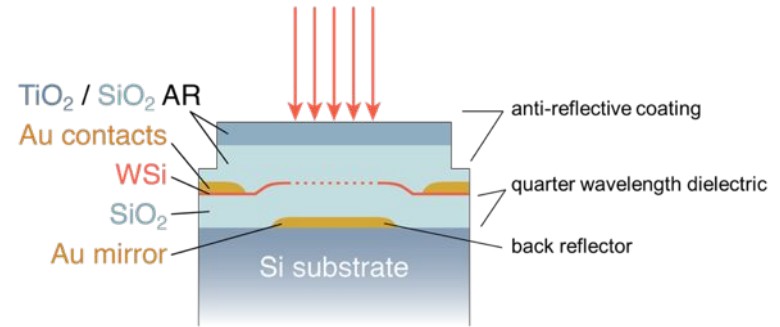
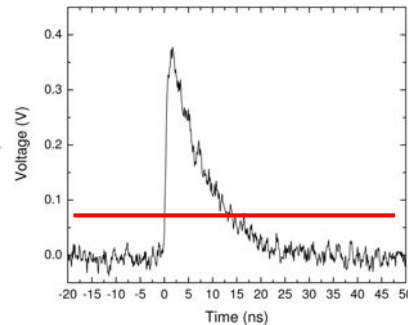
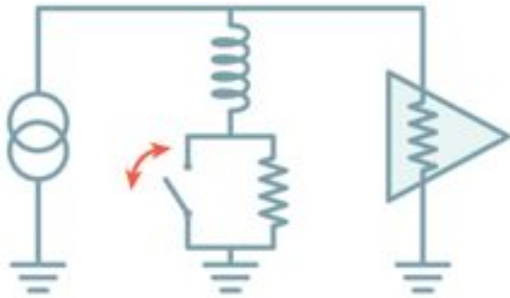




# Superconducting Nanowire Single Photon Detectors



- Time-resolved single photon counting from UV to mid-IR
- Truly digital detection mechanism – reduced drift and zero read noise
- World-leading detector performance
- Operating temperature 1-4 K in most cases



# Superconducting Nanowire Single Photon Detectors

nature

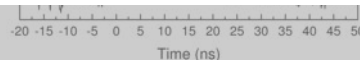
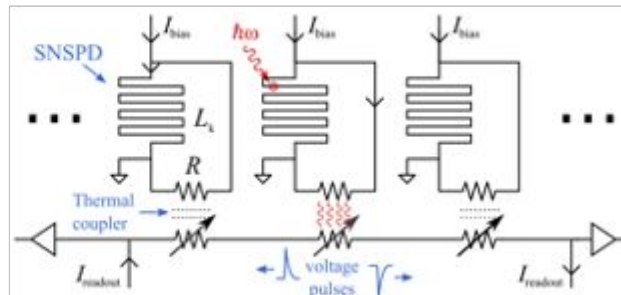
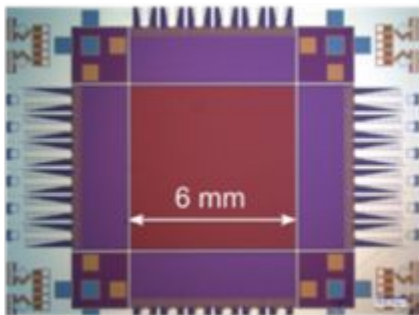
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## A superconducting nanowire single-photon camera with 400,000 pixels

[B. G. Oripov](#) , [D. S. Rampini](#), [J. Allmaras](#), [M. D. Shaw](#), [S. W. Nam](#), [B. Korzh](#) & [A. N. McCaughan](#)

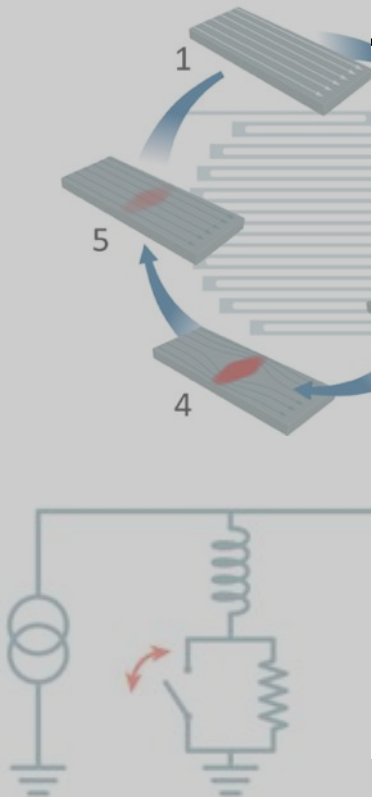
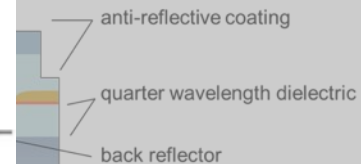


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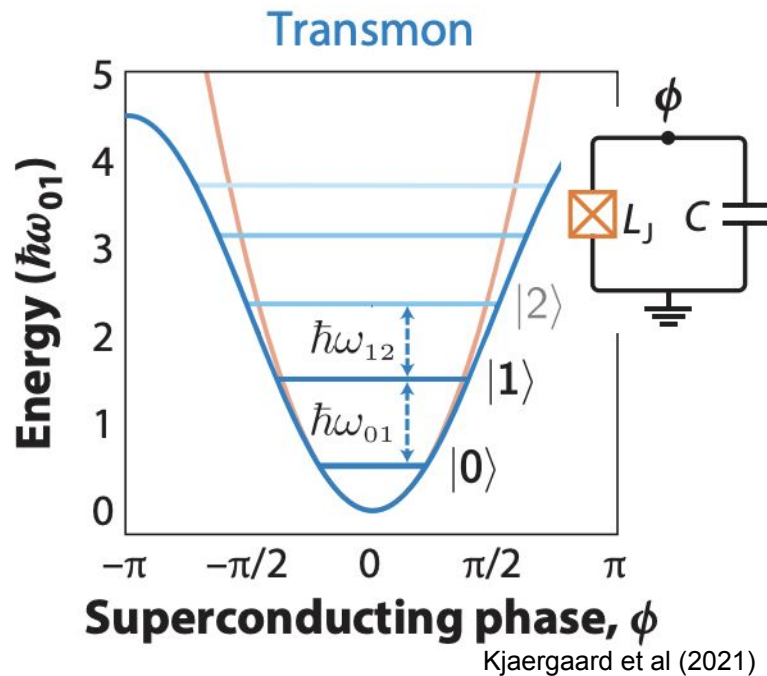
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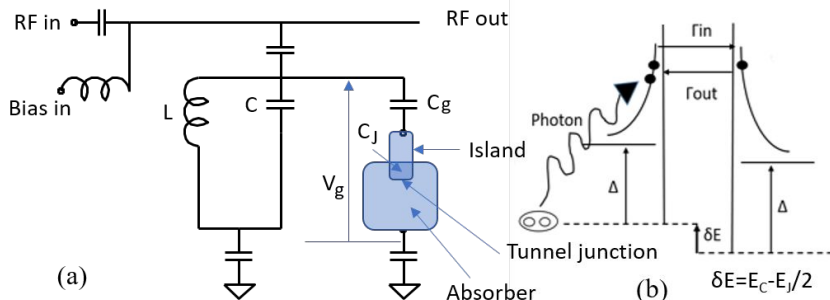


# Superconducting Qubits as Microwave Photon Detectors

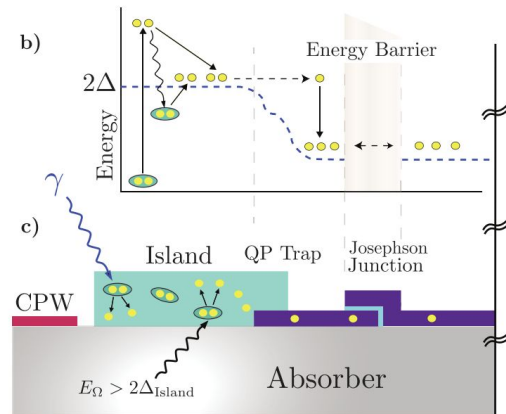
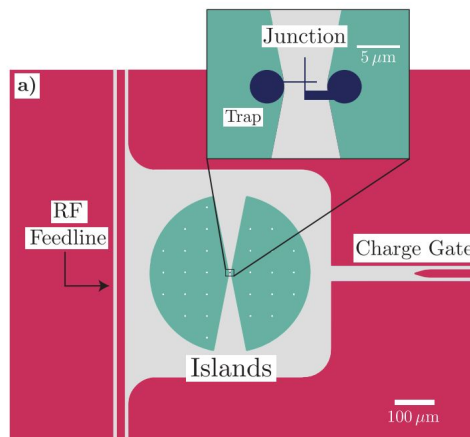
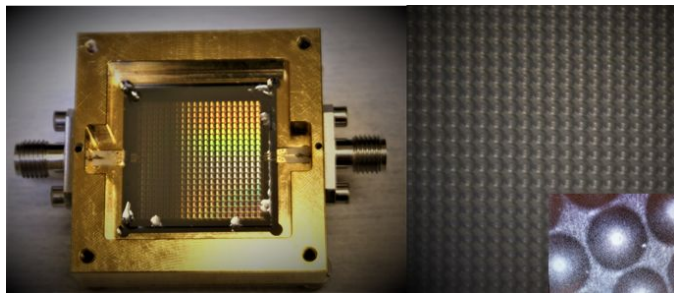
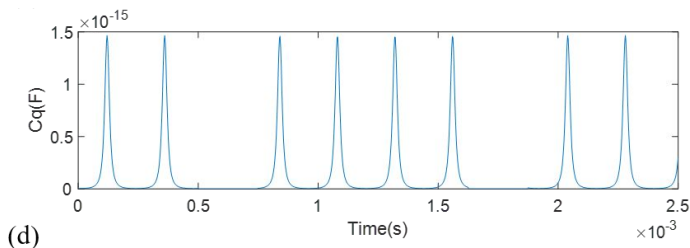
- Superconducting qubits are “artificial atoms” which obey the same Jaynes-Cummings Hamiltonian as natural atoms
- The presence of a single microwave photon can switch the qubit state, which can be probed later using a dispersive readout
- Work is currently ongoing to couple superconducting qubits to high-Q microwave cavities



# Superconducting Qubits as Quasiparticle Detectors



- The single cooper-pair box (charge qubit) is not often used for quantum computing because of its extreme sensitivity to non-equilibrium quasiparticles
- This bug becomes a feature when using the SCB as a quasiparticle detector
- This “quantum capacitance detector” is single-photon sensitive down to 1.5 THz (200  $\mu\text{m}$ , 6.2 meV)
- Large arrays have been demonstrated (21x21) with efficient optical coupling via mesh absorbers and microlens arrays
- Transmon versions are also under investigation at SLAC



Fink et al, arXiv (2023)

# Pair-breaking Detector Applications in HEP

## SNSPD

- Low-noise Time-resolved single photon counting from 0.1 – 29  $\mu\text{m}$
- Photon detection for wave-like dark matter
- Readout of GaAs and LHe scintillator targets for particle-like dark matter
- NP and collider applications

## MKID

- Far-infrared optical detectors, multiplexed to large arrays
- Phonon detection, multiplexed to large channel count for dark matter
- Cosmic surveys via sub-mm imaging and mm-wave LIM
- Energy-resolving/number-counting optical detection

## TES

- Millimeter-wave measurements of cosmic microwave background
- Low-threshold phonon/bolometric detection for dark matter and neutrinos (CEvNS, NLDBD)
- Energy-resolving/number-counting optical detection

## Qubit-based Technologies

- Single-photon detection for axion detection at microwave frequencies
- Terahertz single photon counting for axion detection (Quantum Capacitance Detector)

**Different pair-breaking detectors have complementary strengths and weaknesses**

# Provocative Questions

- Are there technologies we are not representing in this taxonomy?
- Can the four detector types on the previous slide form four RDC work packages?
- What are the strengths/weaknesses of different collaboration models?
  - Project/experiment driven: typically includes integrated systems, but a narrow range of technologies
  - Broader technology collaborations(?): share ideas across various technologies, address common issues, does this adequately address gaps/integration? Sufficiently develop a path to full experiment?
- What facilities for materials and processing are critical for exploring and realizing new detector technologies?