



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA



Auto-calibration from response function

BULLKID-DM Collaboration Meeting
Ferrara, 1-2 July 2025

Davide Quaranta, 1st July 2025



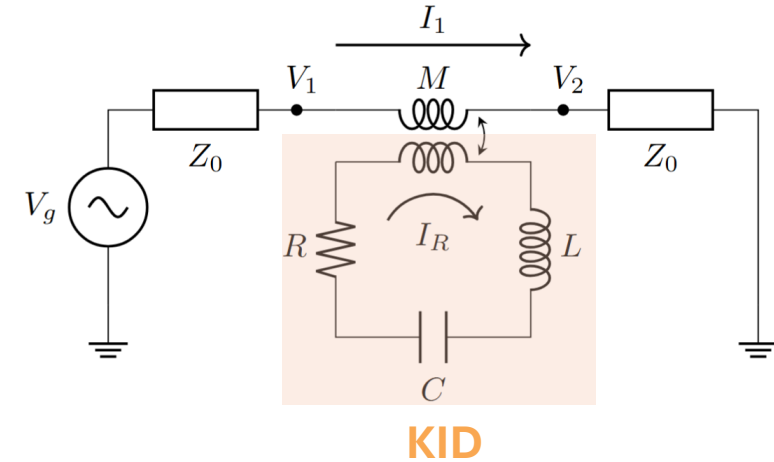
Basics of KID readout

- The key observable of a KID coupled to a transmission line is the **complex transmission function**

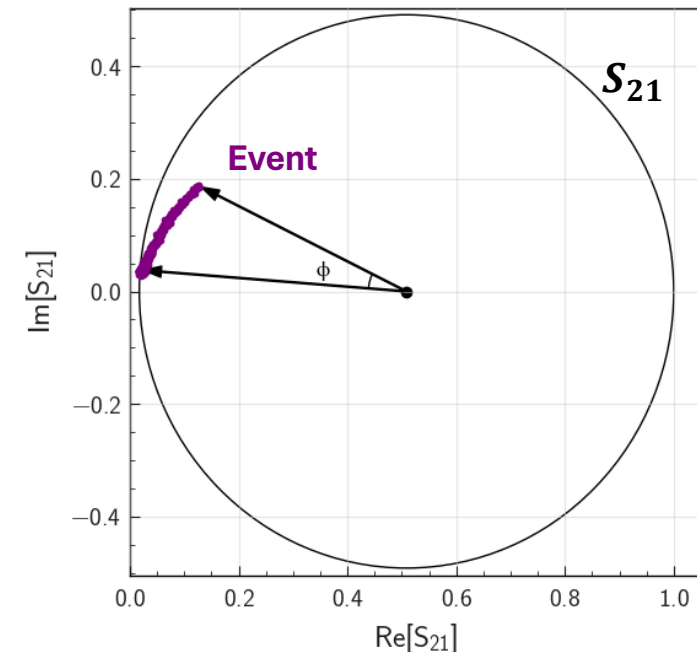
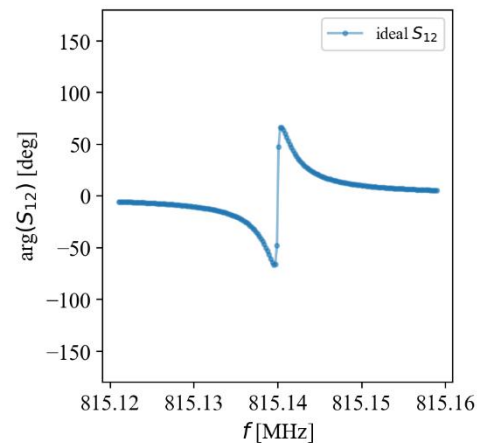
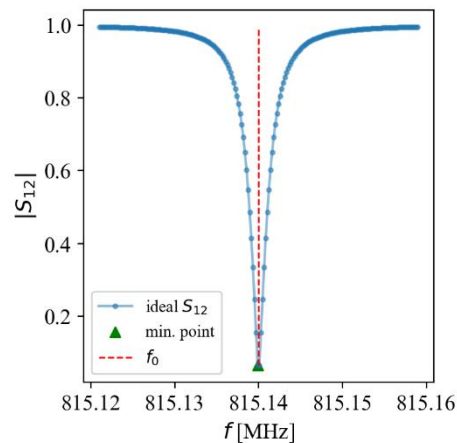
$$S_{21}(f) = \frac{V_2^-}{V_1^+} = 1 - \frac{Q}{Q_c} \frac{1}{1 + 2jQx}$$

Fractional Frequency Shift

$$x = \frac{f - f_0}{f_0}$$



- As a function of x , S_{21} describes a **circle** in the complex plane:
 - **VNA scan** : f variable, f_0 fixed
 - **Acquisition** : f_0 variable, f fixed



BULLKID-DM KID Readout

- Event amplitude reconstructed using **calibrated phase**
→ Central angle from the working point
- Using the BCS theory, the **phase responsivity** is:

$$\frac{d\phi}{dE} = \underbrace{\frac{\eta\alpha S_2(\omega_0, T)}{N_0 V \Delta^2}}_{\text{Material properties}} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{Q}{1 + 4y^2}}_{\text{Resonator Properties}} \quad y = Qx$$

- However, this quantity presents few problems:

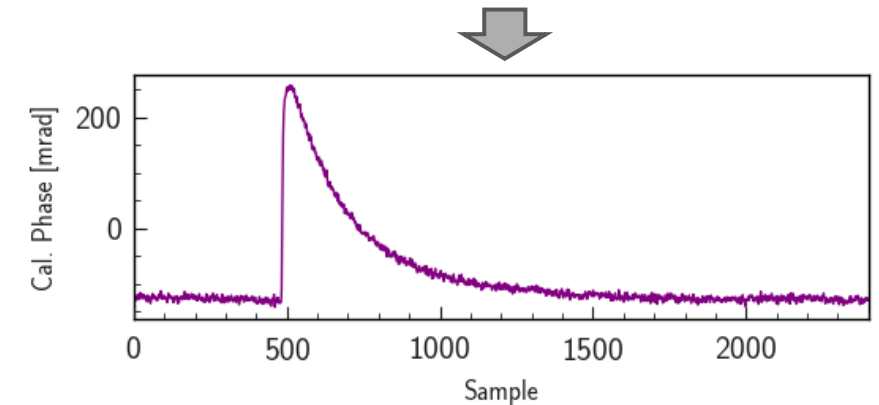
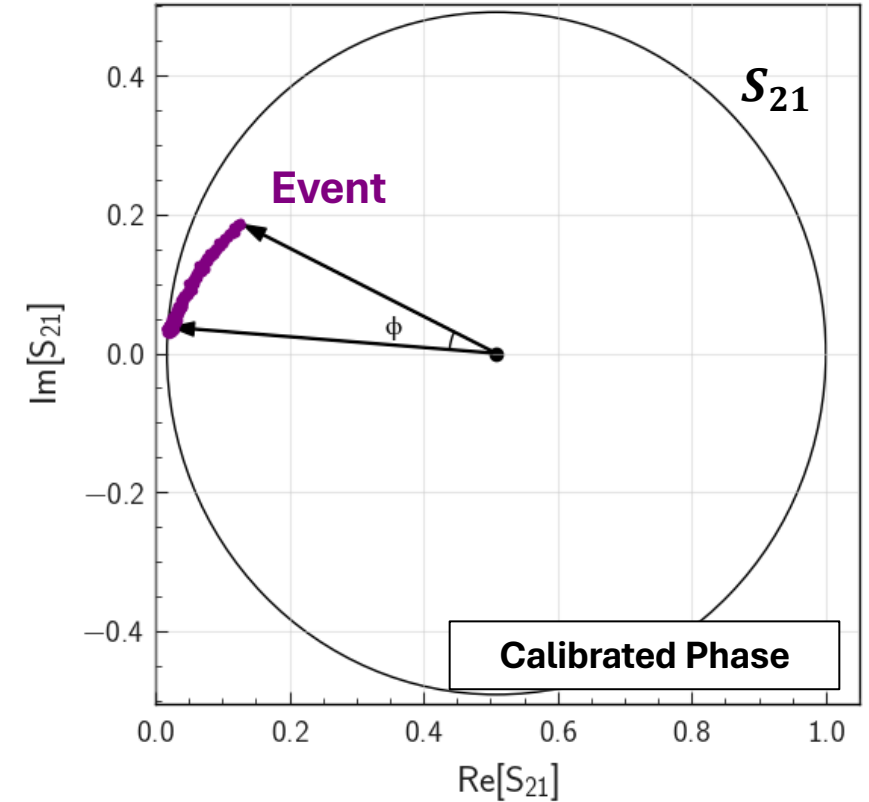
- Resonator-specific (Q dependance)
- Non-linearity (y dependance)
- Power-dependence (non-linearity of L_k)

[L.J. Swenson et al, J. Appl. Phys. 113, 104501 \(2013\)](#)
[M. Vignati et al, arXiv:2102.09431](#)

$$\longrightarrow y = y_0 \cdot z + \frac{a_0 z^3}{1 + 4y^2}$$

Key Idea

Use response function to build a variable which has equal responsivity among KIDs.



Fractional Frequency Shift

- The responsivity in **Fractional Frequency Shift** is given by:

$$\frac{dx}{dE} = \eta \frac{\alpha S_2(\omega_0, T)}{4N_0 V \Delta_0^2}$$

«No» resonator-specific dependence

How do we measure x?

1. Re-compute Q at each sample $Q = 2Q_c R$ (R = radius)



2. Compute y from S21

$$y = \frac{Q}{2jQ_c(1 - S_{21})} + \frac{j}{2}$$



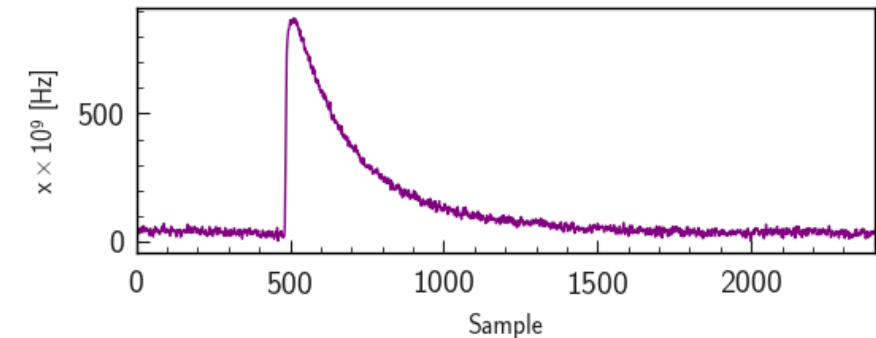
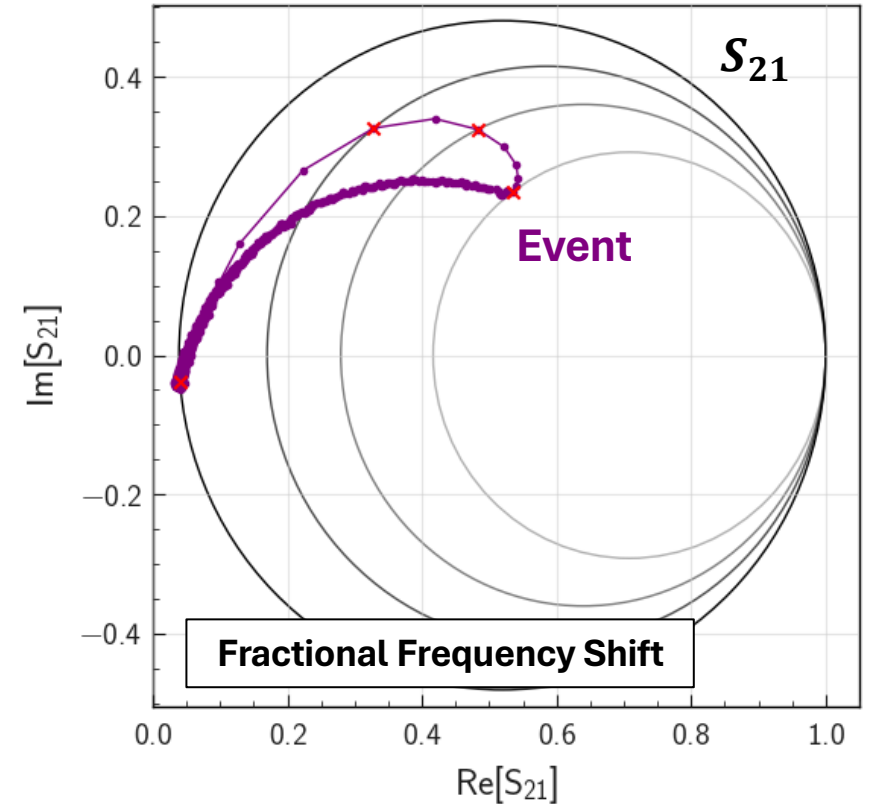
3. Correct y for bias power

$$y_0 = \frac{y}{z} - \frac{a_0 z^2}{1 + 4y^2}$$



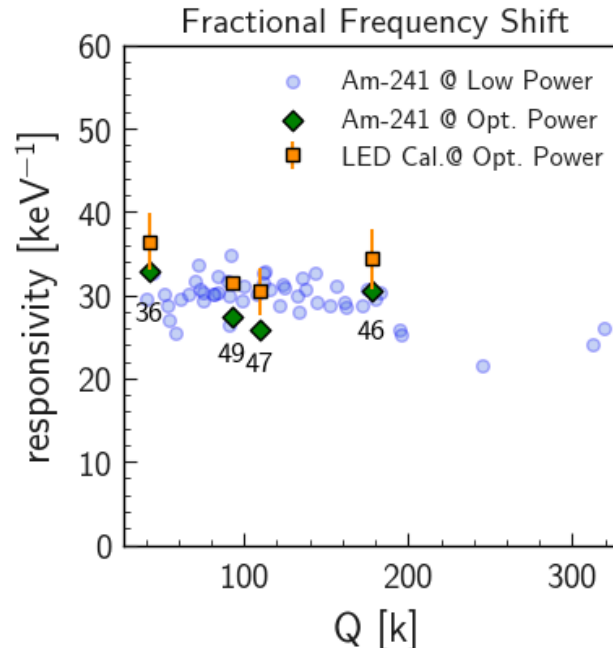
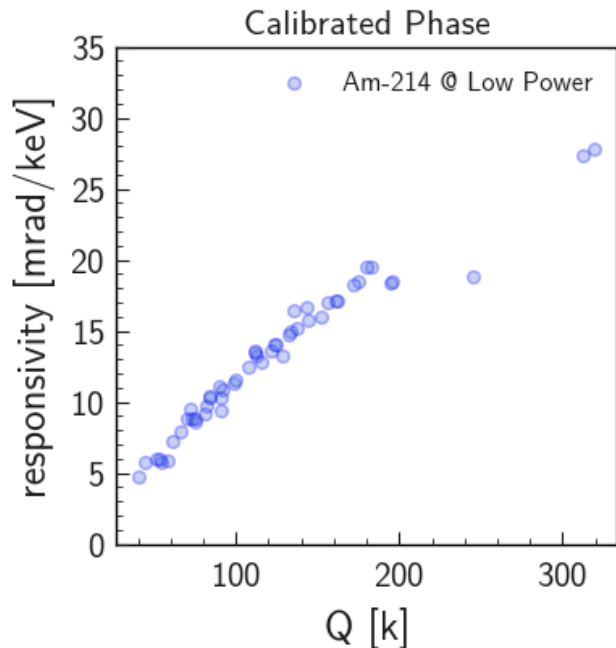
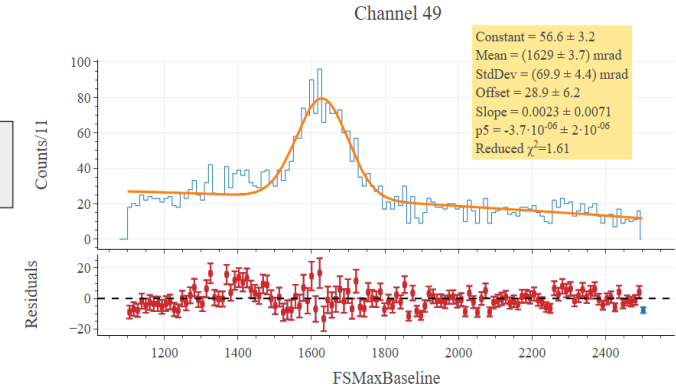
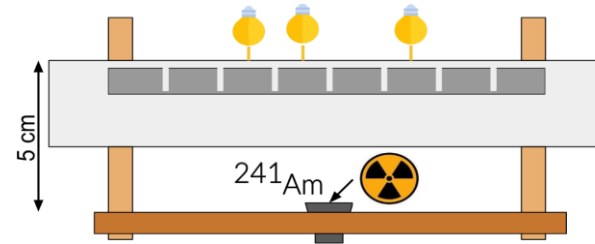
4. Compute x

$$x = \frac{y_0}{Q}$$



Whole Wafer Test with Am-241

- STACK-04 was illuminated with an **Am-241 source** placed just below internal Aluminum Pot
- 3 low-power runs to acquire whole wafer (50 pixels)
- Responsivity from gaussian fit of Am-241 **60 keV peak**
→ *Thus no estimation of non-linearity*

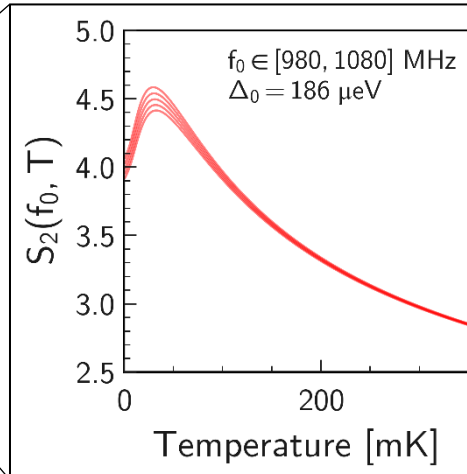


- Double-checks done on 4 selected channels:
 - **Am-241 @ Optimum Power**
 - **Usual LED Calibration**
- Efficient KID response equalization was observed among all dice under test:
 - *average responsivity : 29.7 keV⁻¹*
 - *better than 10% agreement*

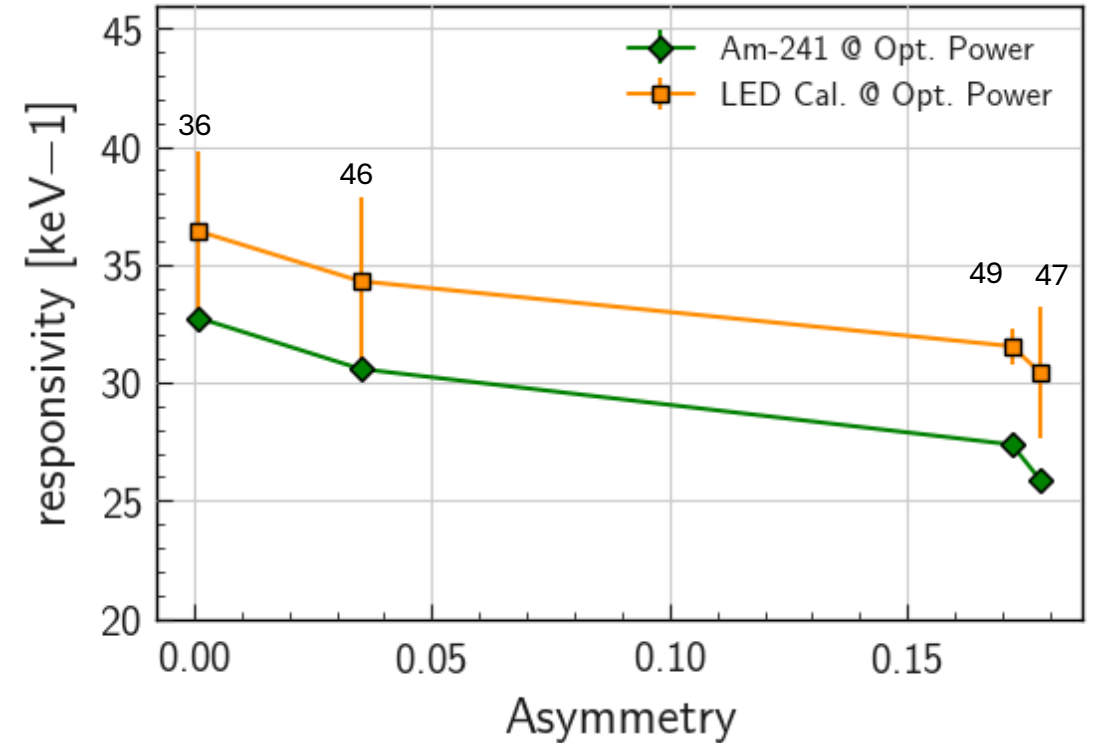
Effect of KID heating

- Responsivity decreases with increasing asymmetry (a)
→ *Observed on the 4 selected channels*
- Ascribed to Power-Induced Quasiparticles Creation
→ *Readout wave energy breaks Cooper pairs*
→ *Leads to increased quasiparticle density*
- Effect equivalent to a temperature increase
→ *Effectively “heats” the KID*
[J. Gao et al, J Low Temp Phys \(2008\)](#)
- $S_2(T)$ decreases with temperature
→ *Responsivity diminishes*

$$\frac{dx}{dE} = \eta \frac{\alpha S_2(\omega_0, T)}{4N_0 V \Delta_0^2}$$



$$a = \frac{2Q^2}{Q_c} \frac{P_g}{\omega_r E_*}$$



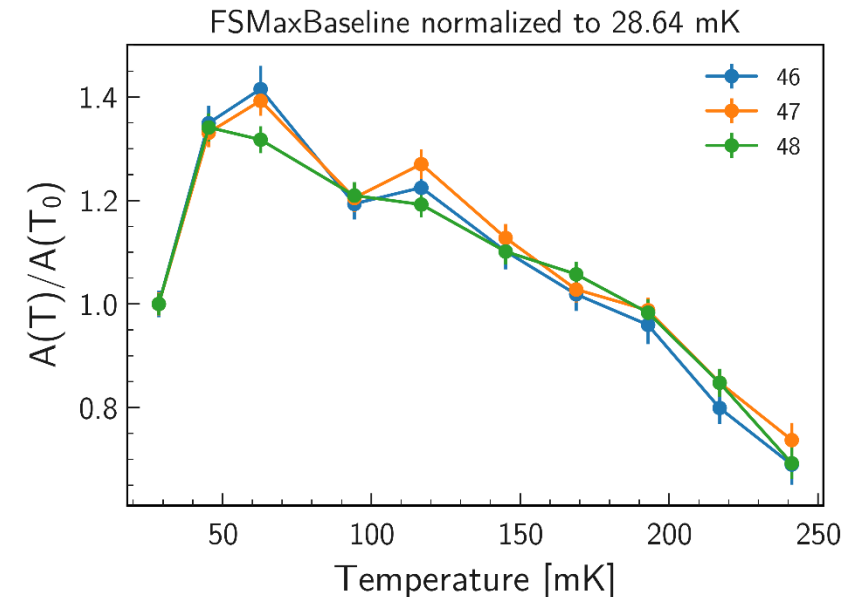
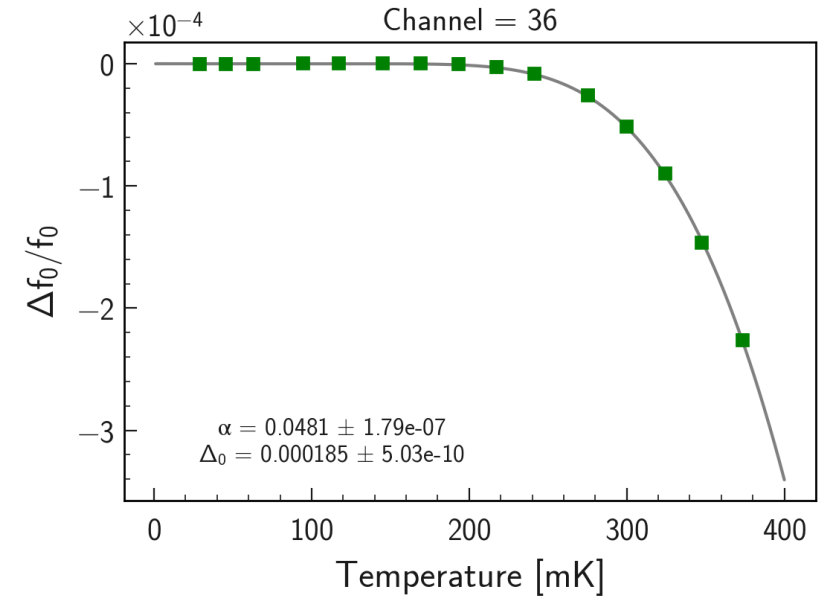
Effect of KID heating

- We performed a temperature scan between 35 and 375 mK
→ At each T , measure f_0 shift
- LED pulse fired at each temperature
→ Intermediate energy, around 250 mrad
- Compute amplitude ratio w.r.t base temperature
→ Obtain ratio of S_2
- Express responsivities w.r.t base temperature

$$\frac{A_{LED}(T)}{A_{LED}(T_0)} = \frac{r(T)}{r(T_0)} = \frac{S_2(f_0, T)}{S_2(f_0, T_0)}$$



$$r(T_0) = r(T) \left(\frac{A_{LED}(T)}{A_{LED}(T_0)} \right)^{-1}$$

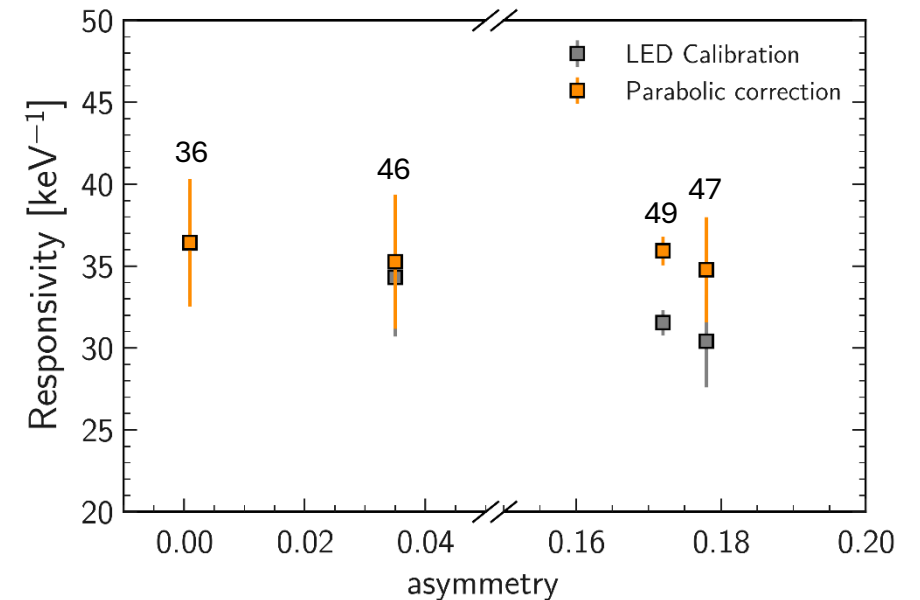
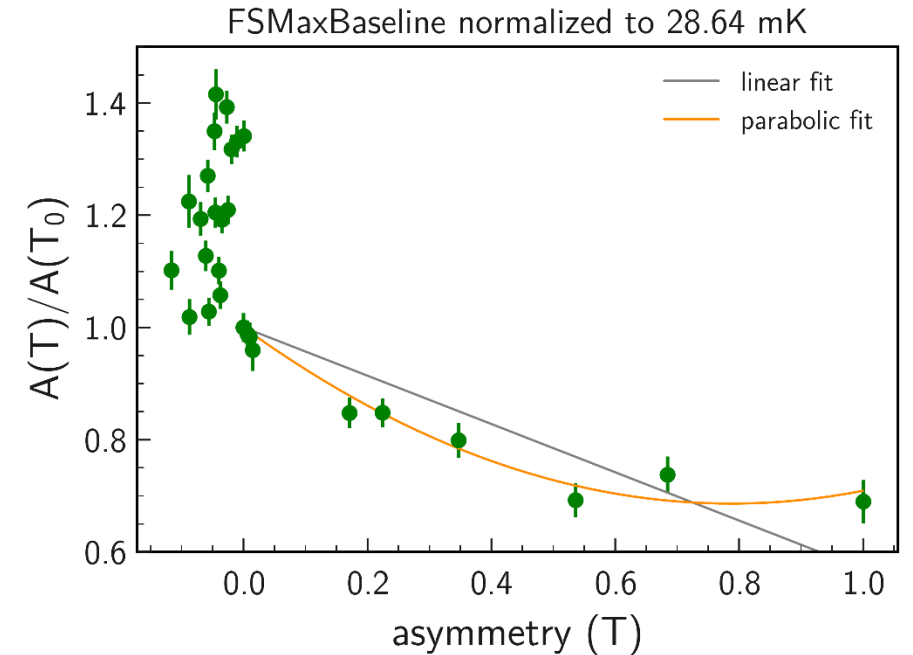


Effect of KID heating

- At each T, compute the value of the “asymmetry”
→ *To do this we use:*

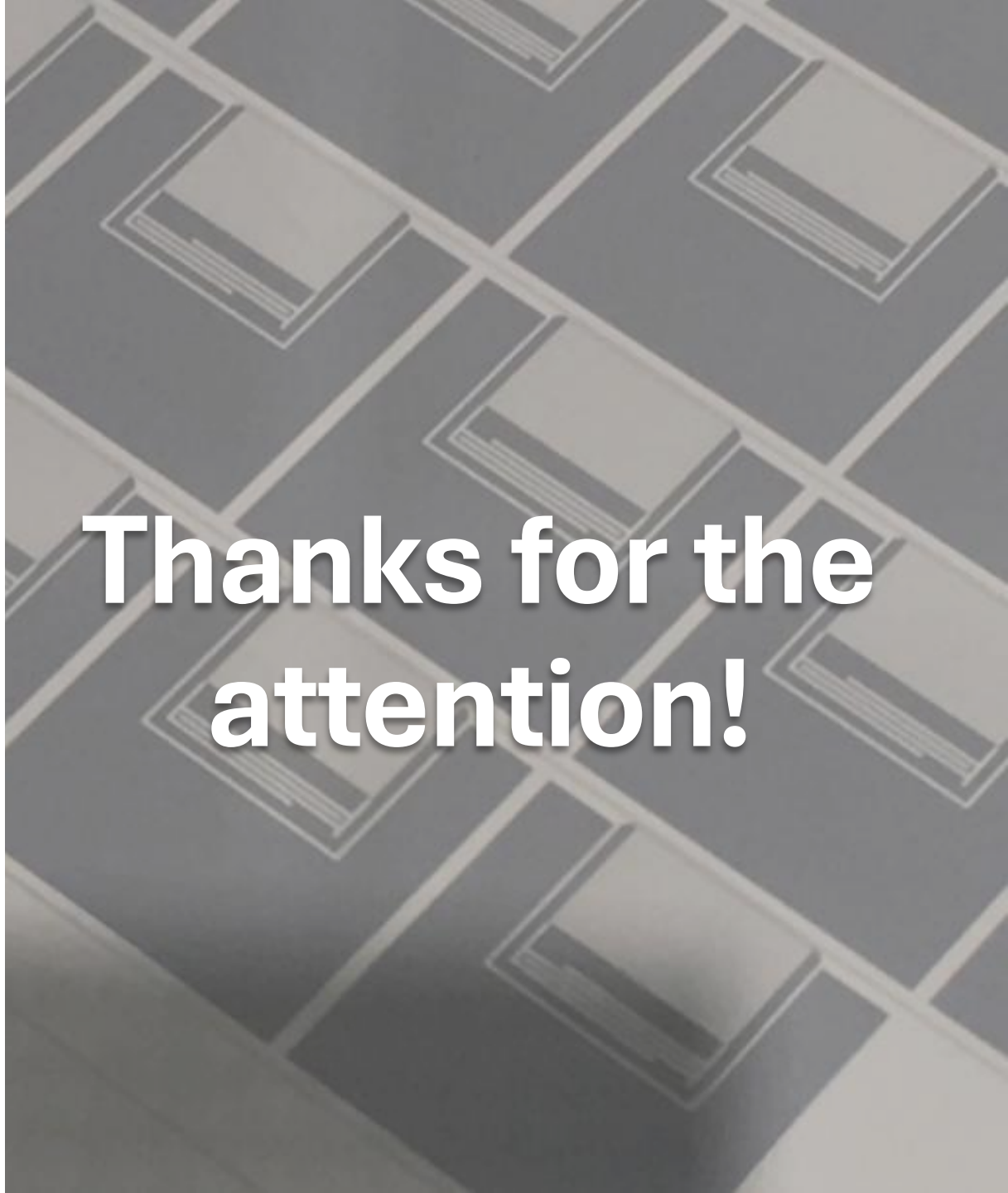
$$a(T) = -y_0|_{min} = -Q \frac{\Delta f_0}{f_0}(T)$$

- Fit the amplitude ratio vs asymmetry plot
→ *simple parabola in absence of a model*
- Apply the correction to the previous responsivities
→ *Given the asymmetry from the circle fit*
- The correction seems to go in the correct direction
→ *Improvement of responsivity uniformity*



Conclusions

- We developed an algorithm to reconstruct the **Fractional Frequency Shift** of events in the BULLKID detector
- In contrast with Calibrated Phase, this variable allows to obtain **similar responsivities** between different KIDs
- We demonstrated that the knowledge of the response function allows equalization of KID response down to **< 10% level**
- Residual dependence of bias power has been accounted for exploiting the equivalence of temperature change and external pair breaking
- Any suggestion or comment on the presented procedure is greatly appreciated!

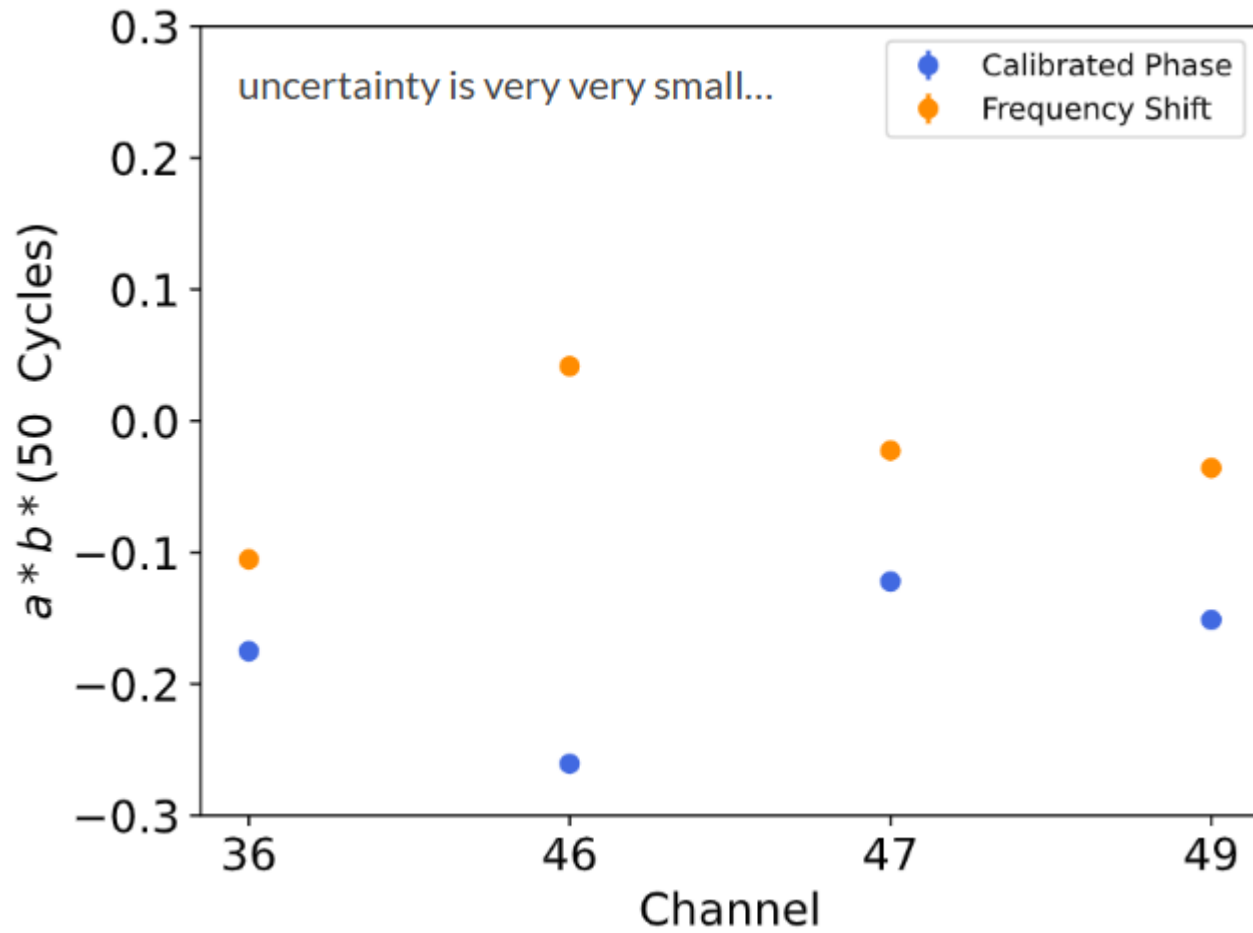
An aerial photograph of a city grid, showing a pattern of streets and building footprints. Overlaid on this image is the text "Thanks for the attention!" in a large, white, sans-serif font. The text is centered horizontally and vertically on the right side of the image.

Thanks for the
attention!

The background features a dark, textured surface with a repeating pattern of light-colored rectangular frames, each containing a stylized icon of a book. In the bottom-left corner, there is a detailed illustration of a fountain pen nib.

Backup Slides

Non-linearity



- To compare non-linearity of CP and FS:
 - Fit to : $a*\text{Cycles}*(1+b*a*\text{Cycles})$
 - Compute $b*a*\text{Cycles}$ @ 50 Cycles

