## Abstract Submitted for the MAR16 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Resistance noise spectroscopy across the thermally and electrically driven metal-insulator transitions in  $VO_2$  nanobeams<sup>1</sup> ALI AL-SAQQA, COLIN KILCOYNE, SUJAY SINGH, State Univ of NY - Buffalo, GRE-GORY HORROCKS, PETER MARLEY, SARBAJIT BANERJEE, Texas AM University, College Station, G. SAMBANDAMURTHY, State Univ of NY - Buffalo — Vanadium dioxide  $(VO_2)$  is a strongly correlated material that exhibits a sharp thermally driven metal-insulator transition at  $T_c \sim 340$  K. The transition can also be triggered by a DC voltage in the insulating phase with a threshold  $(V_{th})$  behavior. The mechanisms behind these transitions are hotly discussed and resistance noise spectroscopy is a suitable tool to delineate different transport mechanisms in correlated systems. We present results from a systematic study of the low frequency (1 mHz < f < 10 Hz) noise behavior in VO<sub>2</sub> nanobeams across the thermally and electrically driven transitions. In the thermal transition, the power spectral density (PSD) of the resistance noise is unchanged as we approach  $T_c$  from 300 K and an abrupt drop in the magnitude is seen above  $T_c$  and it remains unchanged till 400 K. However, the noise behavior in the electrically driven case is distinctly different: as the voltage is ramped from zero, the PSD gradually increases by an order of magnitude before reaching  $V_{th}$  and an abrupt increase is seen at  $V_{th}$ . The noise magnitude decreases above  $V_{th}$ , approaching the V = 0 value. The individual roles of percolation, Joule heating and signatures of correlated behavior will be discussed.

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