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## Dark forces and light Higgs searches at BABAR

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We present searches for exotic new particles, including light weakly-interacting gauge bosons, low-mass Higgs bosons, and dark-matter candidates, performed with the BABAR detector and the PEP-II asymmetric B-Factory. Such particles appear in extensions of the Standard Model that attempt to explain recent astro-particle data and fix the hierarchy problem of the Standard Model Higgs sector. The searches are performed in the data samples collected by BABAR near the  $Y(4S)$  resonance, as well as at the narrow  $Y(2S)$  and  $Y(3S)$  resonances.

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