FERMILAB-SLIDES-23-173-SQMS



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, National Quantum Information Science Research Centers, Superconducting Quantum Materials and Systems Center (SQMS) under contract number DE-AC02-07CH11359

Ultra-high Q cavity-based search for the Dark Photon: new exclusion limit from Dark SRF phase 1 and step forward for phase 2

PATRAS 2023, 7/7/2023

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Romanenko et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 130, 261801 (2023)

Dark Photon

Massive vector boson that interacts through kinetic mixing with the SM photon



Hz

kHz

MHz

GHz

THz

eV

keV

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mHz

Light-Shining-through-Wall searches



B. Giaccone I Dark SRF: phase 1 results and steps forward for phase 2 3

Advantage of using high Q cavities







LHe vertical test stand facility at Fermilab







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Dark SRF: phase 1 \rightarrow measurement protocol

- 1.3GHz single cell cavities sitting in LHe at 1.3-2 K
- Cavities were characterized using accelerator style measurements and calibration
- Want to match the cavities frequency to sub-Hz level using tuner on emitter
- Many tests of frequency monitoring were conducted for both cavities to assess their stability
- HEMT on receiver P_t line \to cryo amplifier to raise signal above Room Temp background

6 B. Giaccone I Dark SRF: phase 1 results and steps forward for phase 2



Dark SRF: phase 1 \rightarrow measurement protocol

- 1. Excite emitter to desired field and match its frequency to receiver
- Search for Dark photon for ~30min
- 3. Verify frequency matching
- 4. Cross-talk check
- 5. Thermal background check





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Cavity tuning

stepper motor

- LCLS II double lever tuner to tune "transmitter" cavity
- Tuner mounted on emitter cavity and preloaded
 - Stepper motor: coarse tuning with Δx =2mm or Δf =5MHz, and δx =5nm or δf =12Hz resolution
 - Piezo: fine tuning, Δx =3um or Δf =8KHz, and δx =0.05nm or δf =0.1Hz resolution





Pischalnikov et al., doi:10.18429/JACoW-SRF2019-TUP085



Step 1 & 3: check frequency alignment before and after search -40 018 - Before 1st search 020 - After 1st search -60 -60 Amplitude (dBm) -80 -80 Amplitude (dBm) 100 -120 120 -140 1298.10760 1298.10765 Frequency (MHz) -140 Example of good frequency alignment maintained -160 through search (~35min). 1298.1073 1298.1074 1298.1075 1298.1078 1298.1079 1298.1076 1298.1077 Frequency (MHz)

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11

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Step 4: cross-talk check

- If peak of excess power found in the receiver cavity: what is its origin?
- Send RF power without exciting emitter (phase locked loop open)
- Does peak in receiver follows frequency of RF signal generator?
 - If yes \rightarrow peak due to cross-talk
 - If no → more investigation needed





Step 5: thermal background

- RF signal generator is turned off
- Measure receiver power spectrum
- Any peak measured?
 - During 2019 run: yes, due to RT photons leaking from receiver input line



Step 5: thermal background

- RF signal generator is turned off
- Measure receiver power spectrum
- Any peak measured?
 - During 2019 run: yes, due to RT photons leaking from receiver input line
 - Later: no, we added -30dB attenuation on input line



Limit derived from **Dark photon search** in LHe with 1.3GHz high Q cavities



Expected signals

Dark photon fields radiated from emitter cavity deposits power in receiver: $Q_{0.em}=4.5 \times 10^{10}$

$$P_{\rm rec} = \epsilon^4 \left(\frac{m_{\gamma'}}{\omega} \right)^4 |G|^2 \ \omega \ Q_{\rm rec} \ U_{\rm em}$$

with G form factor.

Advantage of using Longitudinal mode!

Dominant noise is thermal:

$$SNR = \frac{P_{rec}}{P_{th}} \sqrt{\delta \nu t_{int}} = \frac{P_{rec}}{k_B T_{eff}} \sqrt{\frac{t_{int}}{\delta \nu}}$$
number of independent measurements

Romanenko et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 130, 261801 (2023) B. Giaccone I Dark SRF: phase 1 results and steps forward for phase 2



Dark photon search at 6.2 MV/m (=0.6 J stored energy)



Dark photon search at 6.2 MV/m (=0.6 J stored energy)



Dark SRF: phase 1 \rightarrow results

$$\vec{E}_{\text{receiver}}(\vec{r},t) = -\frac{Q_{\text{rec}}}{\omega} \left[\frac{\int d^3 x \vec{E}_{\text{cav}}^*(\vec{x}) \cdot \vec{j}(\vec{x})}{\int d^3 x |\vec{E}_{\text{cav}}(\vec{x})|^2} \right] \vec{E}_{\text{cav}}(\vec{r}) e^{i\omega t}$$
$$|G|^2 \equiv \frac{1}{\epsilon^4} \left(\frac{\omega}{m_{\gamma'}}\right)^4 \left[\frac{\int d^3 x \vec{E}_{\text{cav}}^*(\vec{x}) \cdot \vec{j}(\vec{x})}{\omega \int d^3 x |\vec{E}_{\text{cav}}(\vec{x})|^2} \right]^2$$

Cavities in LHe: need to consider effects of non perfect frequency matching, drift and jittering. Conservatively modeled as:

$$|G|^2 \to \frac{\omega^2}{\omega^2 + 4\delta_\omega^2 Q_{\rm rec}^2} |G|^2$$

(more on next slides)



Dark SRF: phase 1 \rightarrow results



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20 B. Giaccone I Dark SRF: phase 1 results and steps forward for phase 2



Dark SRF: phase 1 \rightarrow limits to expected sensitivity

$\begin{array}{l} \text{Ultra-high } Q \rightarrow \text{ultra narrow} \\ \text{bandwidth!} \end{array}$

- Q_{0,emitter}=4.5x10¹⁰, Q_{0,receiver}=3.0x10¹⁰
- To account for frequency drifts and microphonics → derived very conservative limit!
- Drifts → accounted as constant frequency mismatch at 5.7Hz and 3.0Hz
- Microphonics → modeled as constant mismatch at 3.1Hz for each cavity
- We are working on improving frequency stability and live monitoring, and on proper microphonics modeling Plot fr



Plot from Z. Liu, presented at "Prospecting for New Physics through Flavor, Dark Matter, and Machine Learning", Aspen Center for Physics, March 2023

Dark SRF phase 2



Dark SRF: phase 2 \rightarrow 2.6GHz cavities in DR

- Deploy Dark SRF in dilution refrigerator (DR) to reduce thermal background
- Emitter cavity on additional 4K plate, receiver on mK plate with JPA on P_t
- Modifications of experimental setup for DR:
 - ✓ Change cavity frequency to 2.6GHz due to size limitation
 - ✓ Modify tuner system (piezo only!)
 - Verify frequency matching and stability with new tuner
 - □ Reduce crosstalk
 - □ Move entire setup to dilution refrigerator



Dark SRF: phase 2 \rightarrow current status and steps forward

- New piezo-based tuner system, troubleshooted through LHe runs
 - Initially measured without feedback loop: huge drifts on both cavities (emitter at 15MV/m: 650Hz in 1 hour!)
 - <u>Emitter</u>: implemented f-based loop to control piezo voltage → removed slow drift: frequency AVG stable at 0.1Hz/hr, with 1.5Hz RMS
 - <u>Receiver</u>: frequency signal not constantly available (silent cavity!) → removed piezo stacks, made cavity more rigid to minimize frequency shifts: 1.7Hz/hr



Conclusions

- Realized 1st proof of concept SC cavity-based LSW experiment
- Addressed many challenges to operate ultrahigh Q cavities in this regime!
- Pathfinder Dark SRF 1.3GHz run \rightarrow extended dark photon exclusion limit in broad range of m_{y'} and ϵ
- Working on Dark SRF 2.6GHz to run in dilution refrigerator
 - Reduce receiver thermal background
 - Improve on frequency matching, stability
 - Improve microphonics modeling
 - Implement phase sensitivity and much more



THANK YOU!

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Search for Dark Photons with Superconducting Radio Frequency Cavities

A. Romanenko, R. Harnik, A. Grassellino, R. Pilipenko, Y. Pischalnikov, Z. Liu, O. S. Melnychuk, B. Giaccone, O. Pronitchev, T. Khabiboulline, D. Frolov, S. Posen, S. Belomestnykh, A. Berlin, and A. Hook Phys. Rev. Lett. **130**, 261801 – Published 26 June 2023







