Quantifying the Impact of Microphonics in High-*Q* Experiments for Dark Sector Searches

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What is Dark SRF?

A dark photon search experiment using state-of-the-art superconducting radiofrequency (SRF) cavities, with quality factors (*Q)* of 10¹⁰

Oscillating EM fields are a source of dark photons and vice versa

$$
\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4} F^{\prime \mu \nu} F^{\prime}_{\mu \nu} + \frac{1}{2} m_{A'}^2 A^{\prime \mu} A^{\prime}_{\mu} + \frac{1}{\epsilon e A^{\prime \mu} J_{\mu}^{EM}} \text{ Interaction \n | \n | \n | \nDark photon \nKinetic mixing parameter
$$
\n\nM/ordinary

Experimental setup: Light-shining-through-wall (LSW) experiment

"Walls" are impenetrable to ordinary light, but penetrable to dark photons After passing through the wall, some dark photons convert back to ordinary photons observed by a detector

SRF for Dark Photon

Power it up:

- 40 MV/m (26 J stored energy)
- \sim 10²⁵ photons

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SM photon does not penetrate the superconducting wall. But dark photons can!

Dark photon field:

$$
\vec{E}'(\vec{r},t) \simeq -\epsilon \, m_{\gamma'}^2 \int_{V_{\rm emitter}} d^3x \; \frac{\vec{E}_{\rm cav}(\vec{x})}{4\pi |\vec{r}-\vec{x}|} \; e^{i(\omega t - k|\vec{r}-\vec{x}|)}
$$

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$$

Induced effective current

$$
\vec{\jmath}(\vec{r})e^{i\omega t} = -\frac{i\epsilon}{\omega}\left(m_{\gamma'}^2\vec{E'} - \vec{\nabla}(\vec{\nabla}\cdot\vec{E'})\right)
$$

Receiver field:

$$
\overrightarrow{E}_{\text{receiver}}(\vec{r},t) = -\frac{Q_{\text{rec}}}{\omega} \left[\frac{\int d^3x \vec{E}_{\text{cav}}^*(\vec{x}) \cdot \vec{\jmath}(\vec{x})}{\int d^3x |\vec{E}_{\text{cav}}(\vec{x})|^2} \right] \vec{E}_{\text{cav}}(\vec{r}) e^{i\omega t}
$$

Dark SRF: **Pathfinder** results

Our pathfinder run results already explore new territory!

Dark SRF: **Pathfinder** results

Our pathfinder run results already explore new territory…

But it could be even better!

High-*Q* cavities: Finicky friends

SRF Applications: accelerators, cavities, quantum computing architectures, free electron lasers

Advantages

- ➢ High energy storage with minimal power loss to cavity walls
- ➢ Narrow bandwidth for precision experiments

Disadvantages

- \triangleright Vulnerable to frequency drift
- ➢ Vulnerable to microphonics *SRF technology*

$$
Q \propto \frac{\omega}{\gamma} \approx \frac{\text{energy stored}}{\text{energy dissipated per cycle}}
$$

Microphonics and frequency drift

$$
G|^2 \rightarrow \frac{\omega^2}{\omega^2 + 4\delta_\omega^2 Q_{\text{rec}}^2} |G|^2
$$

Hz **Initial conservative estimate of** frequency drift and microphonics:

- δω = 7.8 Hz, fixed offset from $ω_0$
- Power suppression: 7.7x10⁻⁶

> 100,000-fold loss of signal!

Is the true penalty from microphonics this severe?

Let's try to model microphonics more accurately and find out

A Deceptively Simple Model: Driven, Damped Oscillator

$$
\ddot{x}(t) + 2\gamma \dot{x}(t) + (\omega_0 + \delta \omega(t))^2 x(t) = \frac{F_0}{m} e^{i\omega_F t}
$$

- \triangleright ω_0 : natural frequency of the receiver cavity (without microphonics)
	- γ : damping factor
- \triangleright ω_F : driving frequency (emission cavity frequency sourcing dark photons)
- \triangleright $\delta\omega(t)$: microphonics perturbations to the receiver frequency
	- τ : jittering time

Initial Results: 10,000-fold better than estimated!

Rate of jittering has a huge impact

Z

M

Summary and Conclusions

- SRF cavities offer great precision and sensitivity for dark sector searches, but are vulnerable to frequency instability due to microphonics
- The precise impact of microphonics in dark SRF experiments had not previously been quantified
- Correct microphonics modeling could improve SNR by **10⁵**
- Microphonics effects may be dictated by the accumulated relative phase between the receiver and the dark photon source

Thank you!

Dark photon Lagrangian

$$
\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} (f_{\mu\nu} f^{\mu\nu} + f'_{\mu\nu} f'^{\mu\nu} - 2\varepsilon f_{\mu\nu} f'^{\mu\nu}) + \frac{1}{2} m_{\gamma'}^2 a'_{\mu} a'^{\mu} - e a_{\mu} j^{\mu}_{EM},
$$

$$
\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} (F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + F'_{\mu\nu} F'^{\mu\nu}) + \frac{1}{2} m_{\gamma'}^2 A'_{\mu} A'^{\mu} - e J^{\mu}_{EM} (A_{\mu} + \varepsilon A'_{\mu}),
$$

where A_{μ} and A'_{μ} are of course linear combinations of a_{μ} and a'_u . The propagating mass eigenstates are the transverse photon and hidden-photon modes $|A_T\rangle$ and $|A_T\rangle$, along with the longitudinal hidden-photon mode $|A'_i\rangle$ (there is no longitudinal mode for the massless photon). In this basis, the linear combination $|A_T\rangle + \varepsilon |A_T\rangle$ directly interacts with charges, while the linear combination $|A'_T\rangle - \varepsilon |A_T\rangle$ is sterile.

Equations of Motion (Maxwell and Proca)

The equations of motion for the photon and hiddenphoton fields, in the mass basis, follow from Eq. (2) , and are given by

$$
(\partial_t^2 - \nabla^2)V = \varrho_{EM} \qquad (\partial_t^2 - \nabla^2)\vec{A} = \vec{j}_{EM} \qquad \vec{V} + \nabla \cdot \vec{A} = 0,
$$
\n(3)

$$
(\partial_t^2 - \nabla^2 + m_{\gamma'}^2)V' = \varepsilon \varrho_{EM} \qquad (\partial_t^2 - \nabla^2 + m_{\gamma'}^2)\vec{A}' = \varepsilon \vec{j}_{EM}
$$

$$
\dot{\vec{V}}' + \nabla \cdot \vec{A}' = 0.
$$
 (4)

of Lorenz gauge). Equations (4) are the Proca equations for a massive vector. They show that the massive hiddenphoton field is sourced by electric charge density ρ_{EM} and current \vec{j}_{EM} in the same way as the massless photon field, but suppressed by a factor of ε . The final part of Eqs. (4) is a constraint equivalent to conservation of electric charge.

Any setup that produces ordinary electric and magnetic fields will, through Eqs. (4), also source hidden-photon fields at $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)$. In turn, the Lorentz force on charged particles receives an ε -suppressed contribution from these hidden-photon fields,

$$
\vec{F} = q[(\vec{E} + \varepsilon \vec{E}') + \vec{v} \times (\vec{B} + \varepsilon \vec{B}')] \n(modified Lorentz force).
$$

[Graham, et. al., 2014]

E and B Fields

A. General prescription for an arbitrary experimental geometry

Take $\vec{E}(\vec{r},t) = \vec{E}_{em}(\vec{r})e^{i\omega t}$ and $\vec{B}(\vec{r},t) = \vec{B}_{em}(\vec{r})e^{i\omega t}$ to be the (known) E - and B -fields of the cavity mode that is driven inside the emitter cavity. The emitter cavity then radiates a hidden-photon field, with the hidden electric field \vec{E}' given by

$$
\vec{E}'(\vec{r},t) = -\varepsilon m_{\gamma'}^2 \left[\int_{em} d^3x \frac{\vec{E}_{em}(\vec{x})}{4\pi |\vec{r} - \vec{x}|} e^{-ik|\vec{r} - \vec{x}|} \right] e^{i\omega t}.
$$
 (24)

Here the integral is over the interior of the emitter-cavity,

The hidden-photon fields penetrate the receiver cavity, where they excite a resonant response of the matching receiver-cavity mode. After allowing $\sim 2\pi Q$ cycles for the resonance to ring up, the observed signal fields within the receiver cavity are given by⁶

$$
\vec{E}_{\text{observed}}(\vec{r}, t) = -\frac{Q}{\omega} \left[\frac{\int_{\text{rec}} d^3x \vec{E}_{\text{cav}}^*(\vec{x}) \cdot \vec{j}_{\text{eff}}(\vec{x})}{\int_{\text{rec}} d^3x |E_{\text{cav}}(\vec{x})|^2} \right] \vec{E}_{\text{cav}}(\vec{r}) e^{i\omega t}
$$
\n(25)

$$
\vec{B}_{\text{observed}}(\vec{r},t) = -\frac{Q}{\omega} \left[\frac{\int_{\text{rec}} d^3x \vec{E}_{\text{cav}}^*(\vec{x}) \cdot \vec{j}_{\text{eff}}(\vec{x})}{\int_{\text{rec}} d^3x |E_{\text{cav}}(\vec{x})|^2} \right] \vec{B}_{\text{cav}}(\vec{r}) e^{i\omega t}
$$
\n(26)

$$
\vec{j}_{\text{eff}}(\vec{x}) \equiv -\frac{i\varepsilon}{\omega} [m_{\gamma'}^2 \vec{E}'(\vec{x}, 0) - \vec{\nabla}(\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}'(\vec{x}, 0))]. \quad (27)
$$

E & B Fields: Transverse vs Longitudinal Modes

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\vec{J}_{\text{eff}}(\vec{x}) \equiv -\frac{i\epsilon}{\omega} [m_{\gamma'}^2 \vec{E}'(\vec{x}, 0) - \vec{\nabla}(\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}'(\vec{x}, 0))]. \quad (27)
$$

The function $\vec{j}_{eff}(\vec{x})$ appearing above deserves further attention, since it captures the key result of this paper. If the radiated hidden-photon field is purely transverse, then by definition $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}' = 0$, whereas if it is purely longitudinal
then $\vec{\nabla}(\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}') = -k^2 \vec{E}'$. In both cases \vec{j}_{eff} simplifies, and we can write

$$
\vec{J}_{\text{eff}}(\vec{x}) = -\frac{i\varepsilon}{\omega} \vec{E}'(\vec{x}, 0) \times \begin{cases} m_{\gamma'}^2 & \text{(Pure transverse)}\\ \omega^2 & \text{(Pure longitudinal)} \end{cases}.
$$
\n(28)

Comparing the two cases, we immediately see the parametric enhancement of the signal from the longitudinal mode over the transverse mode in the small mass limit.

Longitudinal Mode: Epsilon, mass dependence

The mode will thus go through the wall, and since it is directly coupled to electromagnetic currents, it can be detected on the other side. In this setup, the dependence on m_{γ} appears because both the production amplitude of longitudinal modes, and the strength of their effect on electric charges, scales as² $m_{\gamma'}/\omega$. Hence, if the longitudinal mode is utilized, the signal in the experiment would scale as $\epsilon^2 m_\nu^2/\omega^2$, more favorably than the transverse mode. This makes such experiments capable of covering significant new parameter space beyond current bounds (see Fig. 2).

$$
\text{SNR} \simeq \frac{P_{\text{signal}}t_{\text{int}}}{T} \simeq \frac{\omega B_{\text{rec}}^2 V_{\text{cav}}}{Q} \frac{t_{\text{int}}}{T}.
$$

In[24]= ListPlot[{Table[{Arg[(xBCList[i+1]+I*vBCList[i+1]/omega0)*Exp[I*(omega0)*(i*tjit)-I*Pi/2]],(Abs[xBCList[i+2]]-Abs[xBCList[i]]])},{i,0,num-2}]}]

Relative Phase Change (tjit dependence)

Initial Results: 10,000-fold better than estimated!

Estimated Power Retention: 0.0001%

Power Retention: 14.67%

Rate of jittering has a huge impact

The Model: Driven, Damped Oscillator

$$
\delta\omega(t) = \begin{cases}\n-\alpha, & 0 < t < \tau_1 \\
0, & \tau_1 < t < \tau_2 \\
\alpha, & \tau_2 < t < \tau_3\n\end{cases}
$$

A simple starting point: consider discrete time intervals (on the order of 20-30 milliseconds) with constant frequency mismatch **Plan:** Obtain a solution for a single time interval explicitly in terms of

boundary conditions, and then stitch the solutions together

Intermediate steps

- Solve the homogeneous equation for a single time interval
- Obtain a particular solution for the sourced (inhomogeneous) equation
- Write the general solution as a sum of the particular solution and a linear combination of the homogeneous solution set

Analytic Solution for a Single Interval

Homogeneous Equation:

Inhomogeneous Equation:

$$
\ddot{x} + 2\gamma \dot{x} + (\omega_0 + \delta \omega)^2 x = 0
$$

$$
\ddot{x}(t) + 2\gamma \dot{x}(t) + (\omega_0 + \delta \omega)^2 x(t) = \frac{F_0}{m} e^{i\omega_F t}
$$

We use the complex ansatz $x_{tr}(t) = Ce^{-i\omega t}$

We consider an ansatz of the form: $x_{ss}(t) = Ae^{i(\omega_0 t + \phi)}$

Solution:

$$
x_{tr}(t) = \psi_{+}e^{-i\omega_{+}t} + \psi_{-}e^{-i\omega_{-}t}
$$

$$
\omega_{\pm} = -i\gamma \pm \sqrt{(\omega_{0} + \delta\omega)^{2} - \gamma^{2}}
$$

Solution:

$$
\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2\gamma\omega_0}{(\omega_0 + \delta\omega)^2 - \omega_0^2}\right)
$$

$$
x_{ss}(t) = Ae^{i(\omega_0 t + \phi)}
$$

=
$$
\frac{F_0}{m} \frac{1}{\sqrt{((\omega_0 + \delta \omega)^2 - \omega_0^2)^2 + 4\gamma^2 \omega_0^2}} e^{i(\omega_0 t - \theta)}
$$

Analytic vs. Numerical Comparison

Parameters:

- omega0= omegaF=100
- gamma=0.1
- \cdot tjit=0.1
- delOmega=3
- Microphonics: RandomVariate[NormDist[0,3],nu m]
- Time: 100 s (1.66 min)
- # of intervals: 1000 **Numerical**

Analytic Physical Model:30 min runs

 $\{6.48016\times10^{10}, 2.30133\times10^{-12}\}$ $\{1., 0.108222\}$

Analytic Physical Model (1 hr runs)

Average Power Suppression Factor: 0.13-0.14

Why? What is driving the power suppression? Why is the suppression tjit-dependent?

Tjit-Dependence (5 min runs); Rand[NormDist[0,3]]

Tjit-Dependence (5 min runs); Rand[NormDist[0,3]]

Fixed Offset– Power Suppression

 ${8.10041\times10^9}$, 1.01703 $\times10^{-11}$

 ${8.10041\times10^9}$, 7.49701 $\times10^{-17}$

1.

Phase vs Power, Tjit Dependence

ZW

Tjit Dependence of Relative Phase

Tjit Dependence of Relative Phase

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