## The Heavy Photon Search @ JLab

Maurik Holtrop - University of New Hampshire for the HPS Collaboration.

Art: http://yonnicolas.nl

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The literature has many terms for basically the same things:

- Heavy Photon = A'
  - = Dark Photon = U-boson = Dark Force

= Light Dark Gauge Boson = ...

Dark Sector = Hidden Sector = Secluded Sector

Coupling strength:  $\epsilon^2 = k^2 = \chi^2 = \alpha'/\alpha$ 

## Dark Sector Gauge Boson

- Dark matter ⊂ dark sector, few portals to SM physics.
- Lots of theoretical motivation for an additional U(1)' symmetry  $\subset$  dark sector  $\Rightarrow$  new vector boson A'
- A' will mix with SM photon through kinetic mixing.

Holdom '86

 $\Delta \mathcal{L}_{kin.mix} = \frac{\epsilon}{2} F'_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}_Y$ 



## Heavy Photons

Photon mixing with A' is equivalent to ordinary charged matter acquiring a milli-charge under the A'



## Where could it be?



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## "Natural\*" Coupling and Mass

#### \* Depends on the model



Mass inherited from "electro-weak" scale

$$m_{A'}^2 \sim \epsilon M_W^2$$

$$m_{A'}^2 \sim \frac{eg_D}{16\pi^2} M_W^2$$

or

or Stückelberg mechanism: m<sub>A'</sub> ~ meV



Neil Weiner, Intensity Frontier WS 'I I

Natural  $\varepsilon$  could be ~ I (tree level) Or I <  $\varepsilon$  < 10<sup>-8</sup> (loops) or "anything" ...

Leading to:  $M_{A'} \sim {
m MeV} - {
m GeV}$ 

See: R. Essig et al, Intensity Frontier WS '11 summary paper.

### **Can mediate DM decay & scattering**

## DM decays through intermediate A'



## A' mediates DM scattering



Arkani-Hamed, Finkbeiner, Slatyer, Weiner

## Hints from astrophysics?

PAMELA, FERMI Energetic e+/e- cosmic rays from DM annihilation through A'

### DAMA/LIBRA,... A' mediated DM transitions



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## Where could it be?



## Lots of interest = many papers

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A lot of papers,

A lot of interest,

## How to search? MA/>1MeV

Wherever there is a photon there is a dark photon...

Collider  $\sigma \sim \frac{\alpha^2 \epsilon^2}{E^2} \sim O(10 \ fb)$  $O ab^{-1}$  per decade nth

**Fixed Target** 



...but much higher backgrounds

BEST: Bjorken, Essig, Schuster, Toro, Phys.Rev. D80 (2009) 075018

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## Fixed Target Searches

### Look for radiated A' decay to $e^+e^-$ , ( $\mu^+\mu^-$ )



Bump Hunt: Look for signal over background.

#### Bump Hunt + Vertexing:

Look for signal over background, reduce background with vertexing.

BEST: Bjorken, Essig, Schuster, Toro, Phys.Rev. D80 (2009) 075018

## Background



σ<sub>B-H</sub> very large ≫ σ<sub>Rad</sub>.But kinematically distinct →
Use clever trigger to separate.



## A' lifetime

$$\gamma c \tau \propto \left(\frac{10^{-4}}{\epsilon}\right)^2 \left(\frac{100~{\rm MeV}}{m_{{\rm A}'}}\right)^2$$

Lower  $\epsilon$ , lower mass  $\rightarrow$  longer lifetime

Background is all prompt Lower coupling can be reached using vertexing.





## HPS Collaboration

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# About 50 members from 16 institutions.



## Heavy Photon Search



Momentum & Vertex

Trigger and Particle ID

High rate, high acceptance, high mass & vertex resolution detector. "Table top" size.

Use Jefferson Lab e<sup>-</sup> beam in Hall B.

JLAB PAC37 January 2011 - conditional approval.

Received DOE funding to build test run apparatus.

Test run this Spring!

## Jefferson Lab

High intensity e- accelerator Superconducting cavities.

Currently Up to ~6 GeV. (n x 1.1 GeV)

Upgrade 2012-2014 to ~11 GeV (n x 2.2 GeV)



#### http://www.jlab.org

## **Beam Quality in Hall-B**



- Very low halo = low background Tight beam spot helps
- $I_{beam} = 1$  to 500 nA



## **Calorimeter & Trigger**

Hybrid design = recycles 460 existing PbWO4 crystals, 96 LeadGlass crystals.

Flash-ADC readout @ 250 MHz continuous.

FPGA based trigger logic: Reduces two cluster background trigger rate from ~4 MHz to ~20 kHz, by using unique A' signature.



### Tracker

#### **Requirements:**

\*Forward angular coverage
gives large acceptance
(1000x two spectrometers)
\*High Rate capable = 25 MHz
\*Thin (reduce M.S.)
\*Robust, movable, replaceable,
operate in vacuum
\*Excellent hit resolution
\*Cost is acceptable.



 $\pm 1.5 \text{ mm Gap for beam} = \pm 15 \text{ mRad}$ Small "dead zone" in acceptance.

### Using:

Si Microstrip detectors (106, thin, leftover from Tevatron run IIb) AVP25 readout chip (67840 channels, from CMS, S/N~25, timing ~ 2ns) Cooling outside tracking volume. (~0.5% X<sub>0</sub> per layer)

## **Tracker Acceptance**

- \* At small A' mass, dead zone limits acceptance
  \* At large A' mass, limited by size of layers 5,6
- Increased z-vertex
   displacement increases
   dead zone





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∆z ~I - 4 mm

Mass resolution dominated by M.S.

Beat down prompt tails to  $\sim 0$ Tails dominated by fake tracks.



### Reach



### Test Run

- \*Test the equipment & methods before building full system
- \*Cheaper & Faster to build.
- \*Reduced size tracker and calorimeter (no muons)
- \*Verify background estimates, SVT & Ecal occupancies,
  - trigger algorithm, DAQ performance.
- \*Run before Jlab 12 GeV upgrade this summer.



## **Test Run Reach**



**Green dashed:** 2.2 GeV, 200 nA 0.125% X<sub>0</sub> target ~1 week of data.

Yellow green band is the region favored by a A' explanation of the g<sub>µ</sub>-2 anomaly.

Pospelov '08

## **Other Experiments...**



APEX - Jlab Hall-A & Mainz A1 ~ same region as APEX. Using spectrometers.

### **DarkLight** - Jlab FEL Using internal "active" target recoil detector.

Not shown: VEPP-3, BABAR, BELLE, KLOE, BES, SuperB, D0, Atlas, CMS,...

## Conclusions

\* The Heavy Photon Search at Jlab is an ambitious experiment looking for the A', a heavy U(1) vector boson.

Tracker module

- \* Challenging experiment.
- \* Excellent reach.
- \* Test run being mounted, stay tuned!

