Testing photon propagation and implications in astrophysics and cosmology

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Highlights of the talk

- Motivations and considerations.
- Non-linear theories (Born-Infeld, Heisenberg-Euler). Magnetar.
- The experimental state of affairs of photon mass.
- Massive photons from SuSy and LoSy breaking. One possibility.
- The de Broglie-Proca (dBP) theory, ...+ others (Schrödinger...).
- Solar wind and fast radio bursts upper limits .
- LOFAR NenuFAR OLFAR open the MHz, sub-MHz regions.
- Measurement with ACES and future for clocks .
- Investigation: non-linear electromagnetism, effective photon mass and dissipation.

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- Bonetti L., dos Santos L.R., Helayël-Neto A. J., SpallicciI A.D.A.M., 2017. Massive photon from Super and Lorentz Symmetry breaking, Phys. Lett. B., 764, 203, arXiv:1607.08786 [hep-ph]
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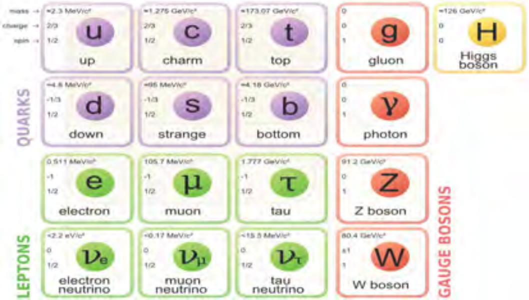
- Bonetti L., Ellis J., Mavro,matos N.E., Sakharov A.S., Sarkisyan-Grinbaum E.K.G., Spallicci A.D.A.M., 2017. FRB 121102 casts new light on the photon mass, Phys. Lett. B, 768, 326, arXiv:1701.03097 [astro-ph.HE]
- Bonetti L., Perez-Bergliaffa S., Spallicci A.D.A.M., 2017. Electromagnetic shift arising from the Heisenberg-Euler dipole, in 14^{th} Marcell Grossmann Meeting, 12-18 July 2015, M. Bianchi, R.T. Jantzen, R. Ruffini, World Scientific, in print, arXiv:1610.05655 [astro-ph.HE]
- Retinò A., Spallicci A.D.A.M., Vaivads A., 2016. Solar wind test of the de Broglie-Proca's massive photon with Cluster multi-spacecraft data, Astropart. Phys., 82, 49, arXiv:1302.6168 [hep-ph]

Investigating non-Maxwellian (nM) theories: motivations

- Though GW detection - from Sept. 2015 - understanding of the universe based on electromagnetic observations.
- As photons are the main messengers, fundamental physics has a concern in testing the foundations of electromagnetism.
- 96% of the universe is dark (unknown), and yet precision cosmology.
- Striking contrast: complex and multi-parameterised cosmology - linear and non dissipative electromagnetism from the 19^{th} century.
- Conversely to the graviton, photon mass isn't frequently assumed. The same for alternatives to GR.
- There is no theoretical prejudice against a photon small mass, technically natural, in that all radiative corrections are proportional to mass ('t Hooft).
- Electromagnetic radiation must have zero rest mass to propagate at c, but since it carries momentum and energy, it has non-zero inertial mass. Hence, for the EP, it must have non-zero gravitational mass, and so, light must be heavy ('t Hooft).
- The Einstein demonstration of the equivalence of mass and energy (wagon at rest on frictionless rails, photon shot *inside* end to end) implies a massive photon.

Investigating non-Maxwellian (nM) theories: motivations

- The photon is the only free massless particle of the Standard Model.
- The SM successful but shortcomings : Higgs is too light, neutrinos are massive, no gravitons...



nM theories: considerations

- non-Maxwellian theories are non-linear (initiated by Born and Infeld; Heisenberg and Euler) or massive photon based (de Broglie-Proca).
- Massive photon and yet gauge invariant theories include: Bopp, Laudé, Podolsky, Stueckelberg, Chern-Simons, Carroll-Field-Jackiw.
- Impact on relativity? Difficult answer: variety of the theories above; removal of ordinary landmarks and rising of interwoven implications.
- Massive photons evoked for dark matter, inflation, charge conservation, magnetic monopoles, Higgs boson, redshifts; in applied physics, superconductors and "light shining through walls" experiments. The mass can be considered effective, if depending on given parameters.

Non-Maxwellian (nM) theories: Heisenberg-Euler

- The Heisenberg-Euler Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}}{4} + \frac{e^2}{\hbar c}\int_0^\infty d\eta \frac{e^{-\eta}}{\eta^3} \cdot \left\{ i\frac{\eta^2}{2} F^{\mu\nu}F^*_{\mu\nu} \cdot \right.$$
$$\cdot \frac{\cos\left[\frac{\eta}{\mathfrak{E}_k}\sqrt{\frac{-F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}}{2} + iF^{\mu\nu}F^*_{\mu\nu}}\right] + \cos\left[\frac{\eta}{\mathfrak{E}_k}\sqrt{\frac{-F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}}{2} - iF^{\mu\nu}F^*_{\mu\nu}}\right]}{\cos\left[\frac{\eta}{\mathfrak{E}_k}\sqrt{\frac{-F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}}{2} + iF^{\mu\nu}F^*_{\mu\nu}}\right] - \cos\left[\frac{\eta}{\mathfrak{E}_k}\sqrt{\frac{-F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}}{2} - iF^{\mu\nu}F^*_{\mu\nu}}\right]}$$
$$\left. + |\mathfrak{E}_k|^2 + \frac{\eta^3}{6}\cdot F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} \right\} \tag{1}$$

$$F^*_{\mu\nu} = \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}F^{\rho\sigma} \tag{2}$$

- Photon-Photon interaction and Photon splitting since HE theory relates to second order QED.
- Vacuum polarisation occurs for $E_c > 1.3 \times 10^{18}$ V/m or $B_c > 4.4 \times 10^{13}$ G.

HE theory application to a dipole (magnetar)

Heisenberg-Euler on magnetars overcritical magnetic field. Blue or red shift depending on polarisation for a photon emitted up to similar values to the gravitational redshift.

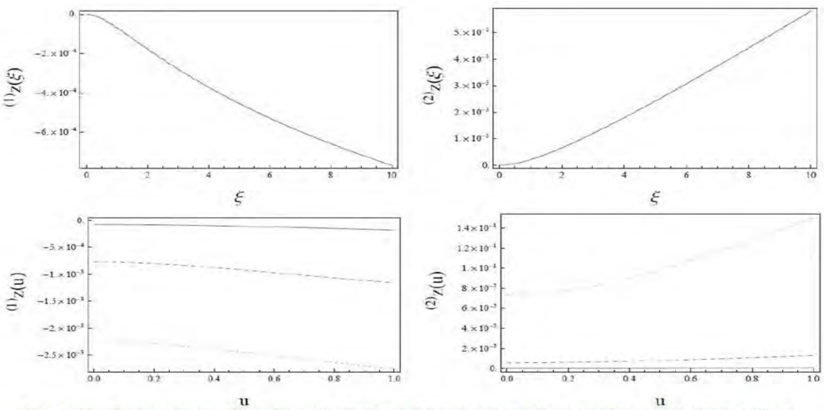
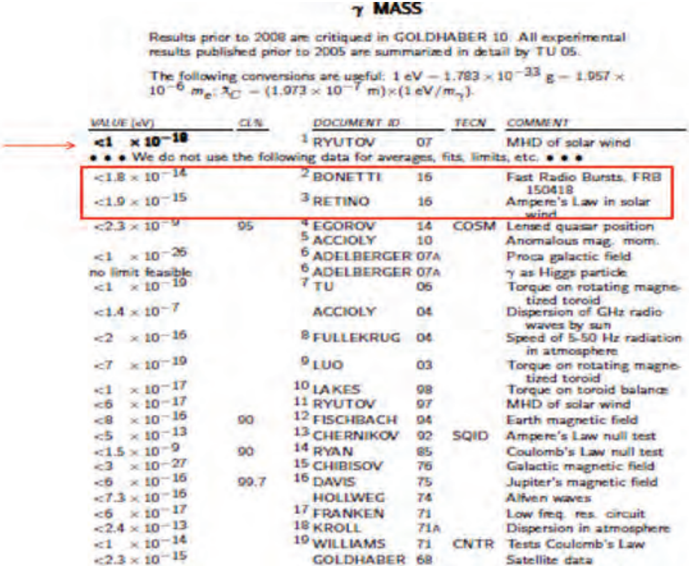


Fig.1. EMS (Electromagnetic shift) of the two photon polarisations versus the ratio of the magnetic/overcritical fields (upper panel), and the azimuthal angle (lower panel). The EMS can reach comparable values to the gravitational Einstein shift. The figure is taken from [Bonetti, Perez Bergliaffa, Spallicci, 2016].

Experimental limits 1: Particle Data Group limits, early 2017



γ MASS

Results prior to 2008 are critiqued in GOLDHABER 10. All experimental results published prior to 2005 are summarized in detail by TU 05.

The following conversions are useful: $1\ \text{eV} = 1.783 \times 10^{-33}\ \text{g} = 1.957 \times 10^{-6}\ m_e$; $\lambda\!\!\!^{-}_C = (1.973 \times 10^{-7}\ \text{m}) \times (1\ \text{eV}/m_\gamma)$.

VALUE (eV)	*CL%*	*DOCUMENT ID*		*TECN*	*COMMENT*
$<1 \times 10^{-18}$		[1] RYUTOV	07		MHD of solar wind
• • • We do not use the following data for averages, fits, limits, etc. • • •					
$<1.8 \times 10^{-14}$		[2] BONETTI	16		Fast Radio Bursts, FRB 150418
$<1.9 \times 10^{-15}$		[3] RETINO	16		Ampere's Law in solar wind
$<2.3 \times 10^{-9}$	95	[4] EGOROV	14	COSM	Lensed quasar position
		[5] ACCIOLY	10		Anomalous mag. mom.
$<1 \times 10^{-26}$		[6] ADELBERGER	07A		Proca galactic field
no limit feasible		[6] ADELBERGER	07A		γ as Higgs particle
$<1 \times 10^{-19}$		[7] TU	06		Torque on rotating magnetized toroid
$<1.4 \times 10^{-7}$		ACCIOLY	04		Dispersion of GHz radio waves by sun
$<2 \times 10^{-16}$		[8] FULLEKRUG	04		Speed of 5-50 Hz radiation in atmosphere
$<7 \times 10^{-19}$		[9] LUO	03		Torque on rotating magnetized toroid
$<1 \times 10^{-17}$		[10] LAKES	98		Torque on toroid balance
$<6 \times 10^{-17}$		[11] RYUTOV	97		MHD of solar wind
$<8 \times 10^{-16}$	90	[12] FISCHBACH	94		Earth magnetic field
$<5 \times 10^{-13}$		[13] CHERNIKOV	92	SQID	Ampere's Law null test
$<1.5 \times 10^{-9}$	90	[14] RYAN	85		Coulomb's Law null test
$<3 \times 10^{-27}$		[15] CHIBISOV	76		Galactic magnetic field
$<6 \times 10^{-16}$	99.7	[16] DAVIS	75		Jupiter's magnetic field
$<7.3 \times 10^{-16}$		HOLLWEG	74		Alfven waves
$<6 \times 10^{-17}$		[17] FRANKEN	71		Low freq. res. circuit
$<2.4 \times 10^{-13}$		[18] KROLL	71A		Dispersion in atmosphere
$<1 \times 10^{-14}$		[19] WILLIAMS	71	CNTR	Tests Coulomb's Law
$<2.3 \times 10^{-15}$		GOLDHABER	68		Satellite data

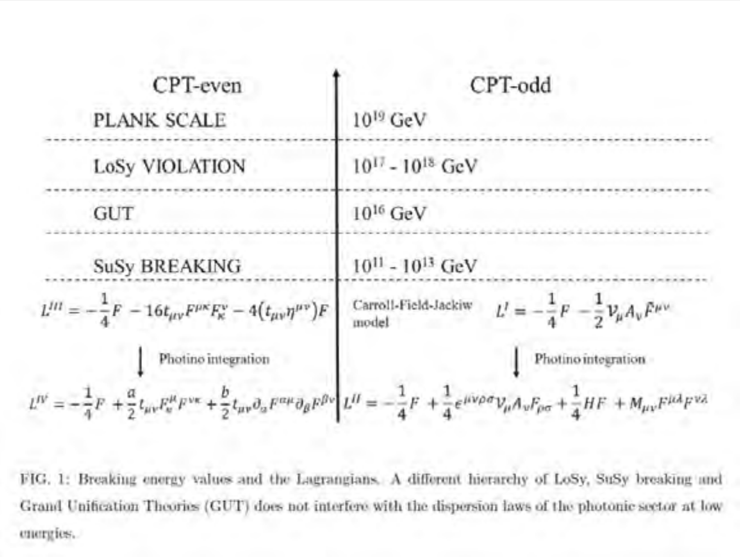
Experimental limits 3: dBP photon

- Laboratory experiment (Coulomb's law) 2×10^{-50} kg.
- Dispersion-based limit 3×10^{-49} kg (lower energy photons travel at lower speed). Note: quantum gravity affects high frequencies (GRB, Amelino-Camelia).
- Ryutov finds $m_\gamma < 10^{-52}$ kg in the solar wind at 1 AU, and $m_\gamma < 1.5 \times 10^{-54}$ kg at 40 AU (PDG value). These values come partly from *ad hoc* models. Limits: (i) the magnetic field is assumed exactly always and everywhere a Parker's spiral; (ii) the accuracy of particle data measurements (from e.g. Pioneer or Voyager) has not been discussed; (iii) there is no error analysis, nor data presentation.
- Speculative lower limits from modelling the galactic magnetic field: 3×10^{-63} kg include differences of ten orders of magnitude on same data.
- New theoretical limits from black holes stability, gravitational light bending, CPT violation.

Experimental limits 4: Warnings

- Quote "Quoted photon-mass limits have at times been overly optimistic in the strengths of their characterisations. This is perhaps due to the temptation to assert too strongly something one knows to be true. A look at the summary of the Particle Data Group (Amsler et al.. 2008) hints at this. In such a spirit, we give here our understanding of both secure and speculative mass limits." Goldhaber and Nieto, Rev. Mod. Phys., 2000
- The lowest theoretical limit on the measurement of any mass is dictated by the Heisenberg's principle $m \geq \hbar \Delta t c^2$, and gives 3.8×10^{-69} kg, where Δt is the supposed age of the Universe.

SuSy and LoSy breaking 1. Where the mass could come from?



CPT-even	CPT-odd
PLANK SCALE	10^{19} GeV
LoSy VIOLATION	10^{17} - 10^{18} GeV
GUT	10^{16} GeV
SuSy BREAKING	10^{11} - 10^{13} GeV

$$L^{III} = -\frac{1}{4}F - 16 t_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\kappa} F^{\nu}_{\kappa} - 4\left(t_{\mu\nu}\eta^{\mu\nu}\right)F$$

$\downarrow$ Photino integration

$$L^{IV} = -\frac{1}{4}F + \frac{a}{2} t_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu}_{\kappa} F^{\nu\kappa} + \frac{b}{2} t_{\mu\nu} \partial_{\alpha} F^{\alpha\mu} \partial_{\beta} F^{\beta\nu}$$

Carroll-Field-Jackiw model

$$L^{I} = -\frac{1}{4}F - \frac{1}{2} V_{\mu} A_{\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

$\downarrow$ Photino integration

$$L^{II} = -\frac{1}{4}F + \frac{1}{4}\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} V_{\mu} A_{\nu} F_{\rho\sigma} + \frac{1}{4} H F + M_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\lambda} F^{\nu\lambda}$$

FIG. 1: Breaking energy values and the Lagrangians. A different hierarchy of LoSy, SuSy breaking and Grand Unification Theories (GUT) does not interfere with the dispersion laws of the photonic sector at low energies.

SuSy and LoSy breaking 2

- Extensions of the Standard Model (SM) address issues like the Higgs boson mass discrepancy, the dark universe, neutrino oscillations and their mass.
- We focus on models involving Super and Lorentz symmetries breaking and analyse four general classes of such models in the photon sector. All dispersion relations show a non-Maxwellian behaviour for the, phenomenologically both present, CPT (Charge-Parity-Time reversal symmetry) even and odd sectors.
- In the latter, a massive photon behaviour in the group velocities emerges.
- Then, we extract a massive and gauge invariant Carroll-Field-Jackiw term in the Lagrangian and show that the photon mass is proportional to the background vector.
- The mass is lower than 10^{-18} eV or 10^{-55} kg.

de Broglie-Proca (dBP) theory 1

- The concept of a massive photon has been vigorously pursued by Louis de Broglie from 1922 throughout his life. He defines the value of the mass to be lower than 10^{-53} kg. A comprehensive work of 1940 contains the modified Maxwells equations and the related Lagrangian.
- Instead, the original aim of Alexandru Proca, de Broglie's student, was the description of electrons and positrons. Despite Proca's several assertions on the photons being massless, his work has been used.

de Broglie-Proca (dBP) theory 2: SI equations

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4\mu} F_{\alpha\beta} F^{\alpha\beta} - \frac{\mathcal{M}^2}{2\mu} A_\alpha A^\alpha - j^\alpha A_\alpha \tag{3}$$

$F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A^\nu - \partial_\nu A^\mu$. Minimal action (Euler-Lagrange) → inhomogeneous eqs.
Ricci Curbastro-Bianchi identity $\partial^\lambda F^{\mu\nu} + \partial^\nu F^{\lambda\mu} \partial^\mu F^{\nu\lambda} = 0$ → homogeneous eqs.

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} - \mathcal{M}^2 \phi \ , \tag{4}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{j} + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} - \mathcal{M}^2 \vec{A} \ , \tag{5}$$

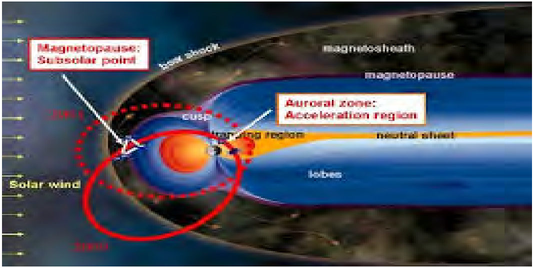
$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \ , \tag{6}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0 \ , \tag{7}$$

ϵ_0 permittivity, μ_0 permeability, ρ charge density, $\vec{j}$ current, ϕ and $\vec{A}$ potential.
$\mathcal{M} = m_\gamma c/\hbar = 2\pi/\lambda$, $\hbar$ reduced Planck (or Dirac) constant, c speed of light, λ Compton wavelength, m_γ photon mass.

Eqs. (4, 5) are Lorentz-Poincaré transformation but not Lorenz gauge invariant, though in static regime they are not coupled through the potential.

Cluster data analysis 1: the mission

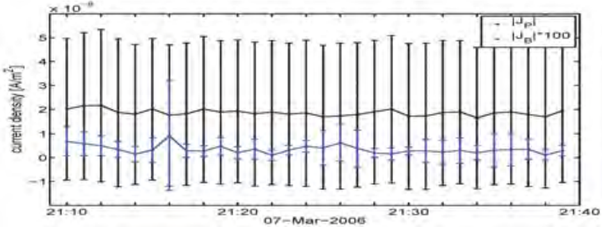


Highly elliptical evolving orbits in tetrahedron: perigee 4 $R_\oplus$ apogee 19.6 $R_\oplus$, visited a wide set of magnetospheric regions.

Inter-spacecraft separation ranging from 10^2 to 10^4 km.

Cluster data analysis 8: particle current

- The particle current density $\vec{j} = \vec{j}_P = ne(\vec{v}_i - \vec{v}_e)$ from ion and electron currents; n is the number density, e the electron charge and $\vec{v}_i$, $\vec{v}_e$ the velocity of the ions and electrons, respectively.
- An accurate assessment of the particle current density in the solar wind is difficult due to inherent instrument limitations.
- $j_P >> j_B$ (up to four orders of magnitude), mostly due to the differences in the i, e velocities, while the estimate of density is reasonable. While we can't exclude that this difference is due to the dBP massive photon, the large uncertainties related to particle measurements hint to instrumental limits.



Cluster data analysis 9: our mass limit

- $j_P = 1.86 \cdot 10^{-7} \pm 3 \cdot 10^{-8}$ A m^{-2}, while $j_B = |\nabla \times \vec{B}|/\mu_0$ is $3.5 \pm 4.7 \cdot 10^{-11}$ A m^{-2}. A_H is an estimate, not a measurement.

$$A_H{}^{\frac{1}{2}}\left(m_\gamma + \Delta m_\gamma\right) = A_H{}^{\frac{1}{2}}\left(m_\gamma + \left|\frac{\partial m_\gamma}{\partial j_P}\right|\Delta j_P + \left|\frac{\partial m_\gamma}{\partial j_B}\right|\Delta j_B\right) = k\left[(j_P - j_B)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{\Delta j_P + \Delta j_B}{2(j_P - j_B)^{\frac{1}{2}}}\right] . \qquad (8)$$

Considering j_P and Δj_P of the same order, $j_P = 0.62\ \Delta j_P$, and both much larger than j_B and Δj_B, Eq. (8), after squaring, leads to

$$A_H{}^{\frac{1}{2}}\left(m_\gamma + \Delta m_\gamma\right) \sim k\left(j_P + \Delta j_P\right)^{1/2} . \qquad (9)$$

Table: The values of m_γ (according to the estimate on A_H).

A_H [T m]	0.4	29 (Z)	637
m_γ [kg]	1.4×10^{-49}	1.6×10^{-50}	3.4×10^{-51}

de Broglie-Proca (dBP) theory 3: dispersion relations

From the Lagrangian we get $\partial_\alpha F^{\alpha\beta} + \mathcal{M}^2 A^\beta = \mu j^\beta$. With the Lorentz subsidiary condition $\partial_\gamma A^\gamma = 0$,

$$\left[\partial_\mu \partial^\mu + \mathcal{M}^2\right] A^\nu = 0 \tag{10}$$

Through Fourier transform, at high frequencies (photon rest energy $<$ the total energy; $\nu \gg 1$ Hz), the positive difference in velocity for two different frequencies ($\nu_2 > \nu_1$) is

$$\Delta v_g = v_{\mathrm{g}2} - v_{\mathrm{g}1} = \frac{c^3 \mathcal{M}^2}{8\pi^2}\left(\frac{1}{\nu_1^2} - \frac{1}{\nu_2^2}\right) , \tag{11}$$

being v_g the group velocity. For a single source at distance d, the difference in the time of arrival of the two photons is

$$\Delta t = \frac{d}{v_{\mathrm{g}1}} - \frac{d}{v_{\mathrm{g}2}} \simeq \frac{\Delta v_g d}{c^2} = \frac{d c \mathcal{M}^2}{8\pi^2}\left(\frac{1}{\nu_1^2} - \frac{1}{\nu_2^2}\right)$$
$$\simeq \frac{d}{c}\left(\frac{1}{\nu_1^2} - \frac{1}{\nu_2^2}\right) 10^{100} m_\gamma^2 . \tag{12}$$

Plasma dispersion or photon mass?, FRBs

- Such behaviour reproduces interstellar dispersion the delay in pulse arrival times across a finite bandwidth. Dispersion occurs due to the frequency dependence of the group velocity of the pulsed radiation through the ionised components of the interstellar medium. Pulses emitted at lower radio frequencies travel slower through the interstellar medium, arriving later than those emitted at higher frequencies.
- In absence of an alternative way to measure plasma dispersion, there is no way to disentangle plasma effects from a dBP photon.
- Data on FRB 150418 indicate $m_\gamma \lesssim 1.8 \times 10^{-14}$ eV c^{-2} (3.2×10^{-50} kg), if FRB 150418 has a redshift $z = 0.492$. In the future, the different redshift dependences of the plasma and photon mass contributions to DM can be used to improve the sensitivity to m_γ. .

Other investigations

- MMS four satellite data for a Cluster-like data analysis
- International collaboration for OLFAR proposed to ESA: a swarm of nano-satellites opening the 100 KHz-30 MHz window.

OLFAR nanosatellites: low frequencies and delays due to photon mass

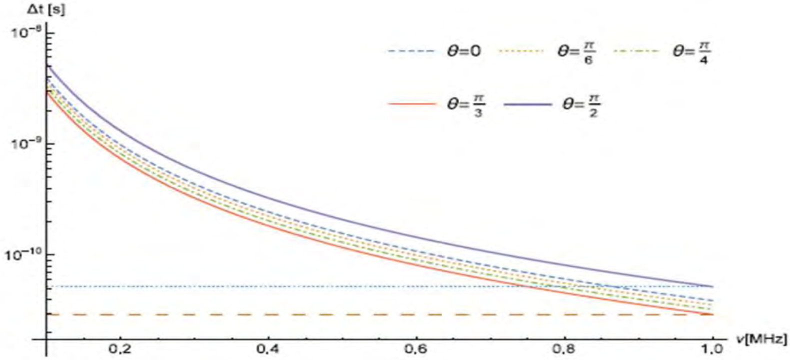


FIG. 2: For Class I, we plot the delays [s], Eq. (16), for different angles, Eqs. (12,13), using $|\vec{\mathcal{V}}| = 10^{-19}$ eV [40], versus frequency. We have supposed the source to be at a distance of 4 kpc. The frequency range 0.1 - 1 MHz has been chosen since it is targeted by recently proposed low radio frequency space detectors, composed by a swarm of nano-satellites; see [41] and references therein. There is a feeble dependence of the delays on θ. The delay is of about 50 ps at 1 MHz for $\theta = \pi/2$, Eq. (13), and around half of this value for θ approaching $\pi/2$, Eq. (12).

What about cosmology?

- Do nM theories produce redshifts that could complement the cosmological expansion? Work in progress.
- How precise are astrophysical data on distances, Hubble constant etc. to attribute redshift solely to expansion?
- What about criticism on dark energy? data SN1 consistent with constant expansion (Nielsen J.T., Guffanti A., Sarkar S., 2015, arXiv 1506.01354 [astro-ph.CO]).
- Under certain conditions, frequency dependent group velocity produces an "effective time dilation".
- For alternative cosmologies passing some tests, see 2017 Lopez-Corredoira on Foundations of Physics (Capozziello, Prokopec, Spallicci, Eds.)
- Experiment on local expansion? Kennedy-Thorndike experiment (Shamir J., Fox R., 1967, N. Cim. B, 50, 371). Work in progress.

Grazie per la vostra attenzione