



#### First Results of the CASCADE Experiment Nathan Woollett

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#### -The Hidden Sector

The hidden sector photon(HSP) refers to the spin 1 gauge boson associated with an additional U(1) field.



The HSP couples weakly to SM U(1) through kinetic mixing similar to neutrino flavour oscillations.

To be observable the HSP needs to have mass.



## -Shining Light Through a Wall

- HSPs can transport energy to regions forbidden to photons.
- This allows the HSP to excite the EM field inside a perfectly shielded box.
- Conversely a box shielded to contain an electric field can lose energy via the HSP field.
- This allows us to experimentally search for the HSP by using a light shining through a wall experiment.
- At microwave frequencies UWA, Yale and CERN have experiments and at optical frequencies ALPs is the leading experiment. (apologies to anyone I've missed)





### -The Opportunity

The Cockcroft Institute of Accelerator Science and Technology routinely tests superconducting RF structures. CASCADE is designed to take advantage of these tests, acting as a detector.

Upcoming Tests\*,

- 1.3 GHz Superconducting 2015/16
- 704 MHz Superconducting 2017/18
- 8 GHz Superconducting 2015
- 3 GHz Normal conducting 2015
- 12 GHz Normal conducting TBC

\*Dates are provisional



### -Building CASCADE

RF cavities were designed specifically for CASCADE:

- Operation in the TM010 mode.
- Resonant at 1.3GHz.
- A tuning screw for easy adjustment.
- Coupled through a simple stud.
- Q ≈ 10<sup>4</sup> at room temperature, limited by the copper quality.







-Cavity Optimisation





#### -CASCADE Amplifers

The expected signal is expected to be below -200dBm. The internal noise of the signal analyser ~-160dBm. A large amount of amplification is needed to overcome the difference.

We used 2 Miteq ASF3 CR amplifiers.

Spec sheet values:

- Gain: 38dB.
- Gain Flatness: +/-1dB.
- Noise Figure: 0.6dB Max.





#### -CASCADE Amplifiers





#### -Expected Exclusion

- Before data taking was performed an estimated exclusion was calculated.
- Cavity simulations were performed using CST Microwave Studio to estimate expected Q and quantify field distortions caused by the coupler.
- An analytical framework was built in Mathematica.





0.5

0.0

100

#### -Expected Exclusion





#### -CASCADE Schematic



#### \*Not to scale









#### -First Results





#### -Cryo Run

Cooling the experiment is expected to improve performance through:

- Increased Q factor of the cavities from 10500 to 13500.
- Increased amplification: +2dB.
- Reduced Noise Figure: -0.4dB .
- Reduced thermal noise.





#### -Cryo Amps





#### -Expected Cryo Exclusion





#### -Actual Cryo Exclusion





#### -The Damage



The shielding box buckled whilst cooling.



#### -The Damage



A number of co-axial connections had ruptured during cooling.



#### -Coupling Longitudinally

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#### -Longitudinal Exclusion



#### -PHARAOH

The group is not only pursuing conventional RF LSW experiments:

- In 2014 a paper introduced the concept of a photonic structure based LSW.
- The experimental plan being known as PHAROAH.
- Some questions were raised so we have had a masters student work on addressing some of these questions.

#### Hidden-sector photon and axion searches using photonic band gap structures

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#### -Loss Tangent Simulations





#### -Whats next

This stage of CASCADE was always meant to be a proof of principal experiment, so where are we going next?

- Complete longitudinal analysis giving us the strongest bounds in the 10<sup>-5.2</sup> to 10<sup>-5.8</sup>eV mass range.
- A paper on the results is in preparation and expected to be out late summer 2015.
- Repair the damage from the first cryo-run for future runs.
- Improve the shielding design to minimise leakage.
- Implement electro-optic links.
- Customised read-out chain.
- Follow up paper to PHAROAH expected in 2016.









# Thanks For Listening Any Questions?



#### -Introduction

The standard model is a successful description of the particle physics we have observed however there are many phenomena that cannot be explained.

- The strong CP problem
- Solar coronal heating
- Transparency of the universe at high energies.



One solution to the above observations is the Hidden Sector Photon(HSP)

