

Violation of the equivalence principle induced by oscillating rest mass and transition frequency, and its detection in atom interferometers

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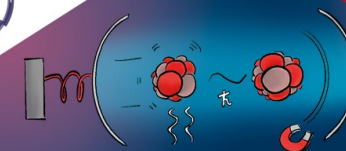
In collaboration with A. Hees, P. Wolf
(SYRTE, Observatoire de Paris)

Based on JG et al. PRD 110, 035005 (2024)



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Ultralight dark matter (ULDM) characteristics

Occupation number in phase space \longrightarrow

$$\frac{n}{n_k} \sim \frac{\rho_{DM}}{(mc^2)^4 v_{max}^3} > \mathbf{1}$$

$\rho_{DM} \leftarrow \sim 0.4 \text{ GeV}/\text{cm}^3$
 $(mc^2) \leftarrow < 10 \text{ eV}$
 $v_{max}^3 \leftarrow \sim 10^{-3} c$

P. Tourenco et al., arXiv:0407187
M. Cirelli et al., arXiv:2406.01705

...

\rightarrow ULDM with $mc^2 < 10 \text{ eV}$ must be bosonic

\rightarrow When $mc^2 \ll \text{eV}$ $\rightarrow \frac{n}{n_k} \gg 1$ and a generic scalar DM field φ can be treated **classically**

$$\varphi = \varphi_0 \cos(\omega t - \vec{k} \cdot \vec{x})$$

$|\vec{k}| = \omega v / c^2$, with v velocity of DM wave
 In Earth's inertial frame, $v \equiv v_{DM} = 10^{-3} c$

$\propto \sqrt{\rho_{DM}}$, the local DM energy density

$\hbar\omega = mc^2$ in DM rest frame

Dilaton, axion and oscillating mass and frequency

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_0(\alpha, m_e, \dots) + \underbrace{\phi}_{\text{Dilaton field}} \left(\underbrace{\frac{d_e}{4\mu_0} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}}_{\text{couplings}} + \underbrace{\frac{d_g \beta_3}{2g_s} G^{\mu\nu} G_{\mu\nu}}_{\text{QCD stress energy tensor}} + \sum_{i=e,u,d} \underbrace{(d_{m_i} + \gamma_{m_i} d_g)}_{\text{couplings}} \underbrace{m_i \bar{\psi}_i \psi_i}_{\text{Fermions fields}} \right)$$

T. Damour and T. Donoghue, PRD 82 (2010)

Interaction Lagrangian leads to variations of $\theta = \{\alpha, m_e, \hat{m}_q, \delta m_q, \Lambda_{QCD}\}$

$$\theta_i \rightarrow \theta_i (1 + d_i \phi(t, \vec{x}))$$

(remember $\phi(t, \vec{x}) = \phi_0 \cos(\omega t - \vec{k} \cdot \vec{x})$)

Rest mass and transition frequency of atoms depend on θ

$$m_A(\phi(t, \vec{x})) = m_A^0 \left(1 + \phi_0 [Q_M^A]_\phi \cos(\omega t - \vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}) \right)$$

$$\omega_A(\phi(t, \vec{x})) = \omega_A^0 \left(1 + \phi_0 [Q_\omega^A]_\phi \cos(\omega t - \vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}) \right)$$

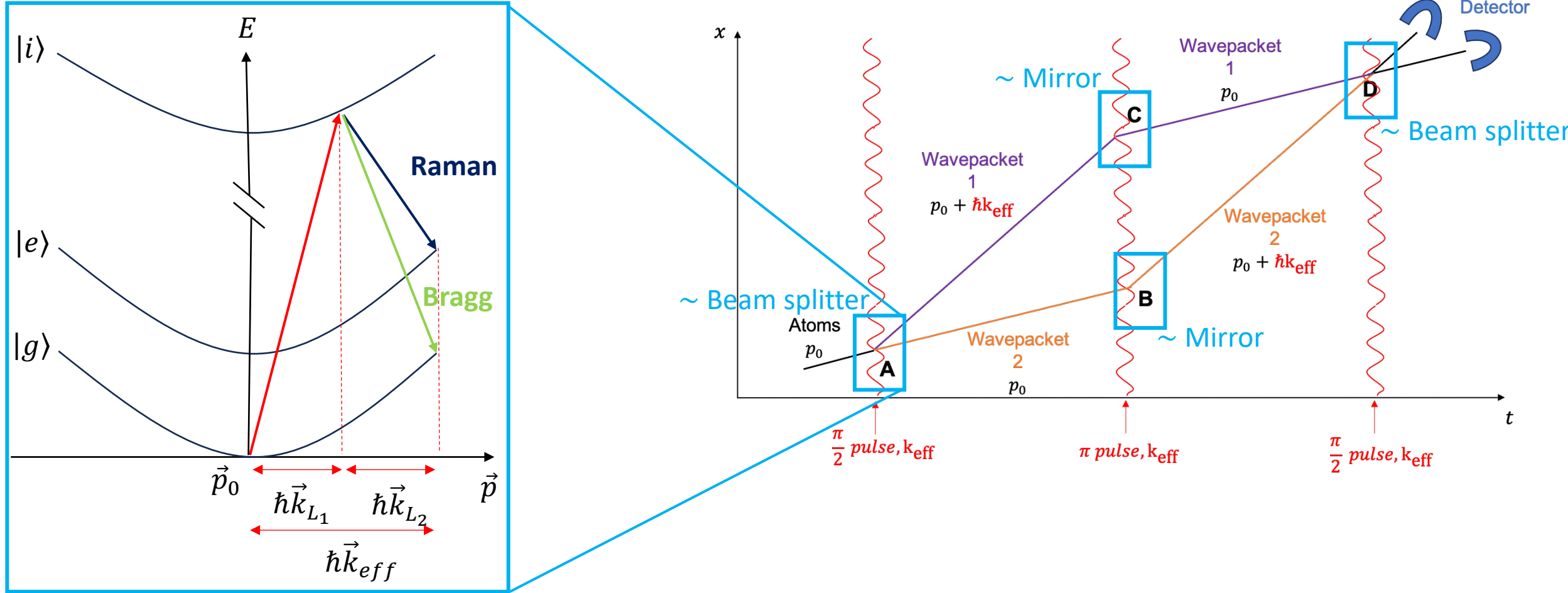
Similar oscillations arise through the axion-gluon coupling $1/f_a$

H. Kim and G. Perez, PRD 109 (2024)

→ Leads to $\vec{a}_A \propto -\vec{k}c^2 [Q_M^A]_\phi \sin(\omega t - \vec{k} \cdot \vec{x})$ which is atom dependent

→ Differential acceleration measurable in **classical tests of the UFF** and **atom interferometry** 3

Principle of atom interferometry



At the detection step, check for state population $\int dS_{det} |\Psi_I(T_d, \vec{x}_d) + \Psi_{II}(T_d, \vec{x}_d)|^2$

$$\propto 1 + \cos(\Phi_I - \Phi_{II})$$

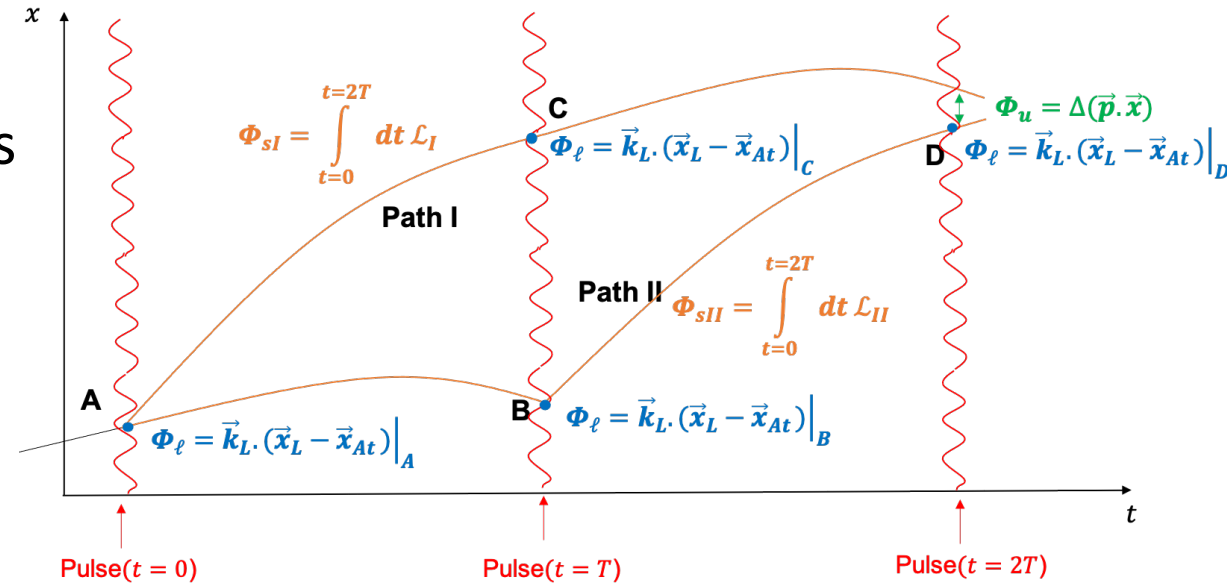
$$= 1 + \cos \Delta\Phi$$

Phase contributions

Feynman path integral to compute $\Delta\Phi$ (works only for lagrangians at most quadratic in (\vec{x}, \vec{p}))

P. Storey and C. Cohen-Tannoudji, JP2 4 11 (1994)

- Φ_s : phase accumulated by wavepackets along the trajectory
- Φ_ℓ : phase factors of laser
- Φ_u : spatial incoincidence between wavepackets



Scalar DM fields impact

- Classical trajectories of atoms
- Recoil velocity kick
- Laser reference and frequency

A. Geraci and A. Derevianko, PRL 117 (2016)

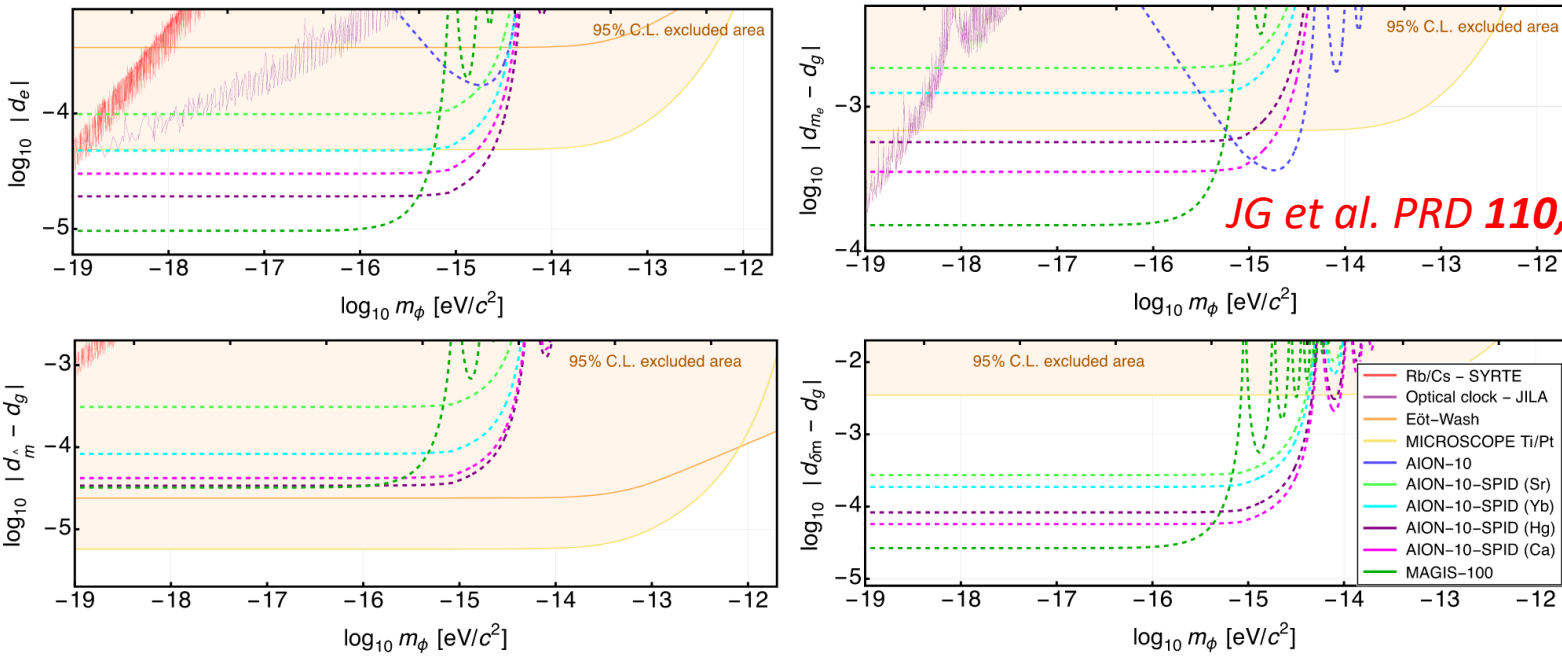
P. Graham et al., PRD 93 (2016)

L. Badurina et al., PRD 105 (2022)

→ Extends previous calculations

→ Complete picture of scalar DM signals in AI (through oscillating mass and frequency)

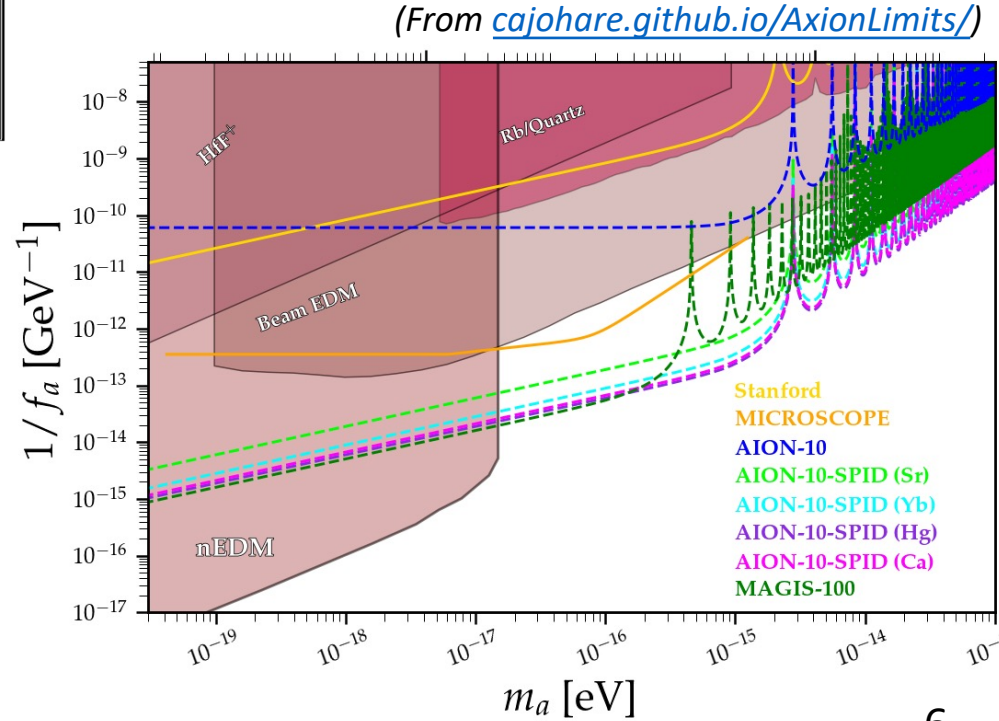
AI sensitivities to dilaton and axion couplings



JG et al. PRD 110, 035005 (2024)

- Which setup is the most sensitive to scalar DM ?
- Bragg differential (Stanford Tower) ?
 - Gradiometers (AION-10) ?
 - Single Photon Isotope Differential (MAGIS-100) ?

→ SPID is much more sensitive to DM than gradiometers, even with same experimental parameters



JG et al. PRD 110, 035005 (2024) 6

Conclusion

- ULDM scalar candidates can produce EP violating accelerations
- Those accelerations can be probed in classical tests of the UFF and AI
- Taking into account as most DM effects as possible (atoms' classical trajectories, laser frequency, recoil velocity kick), we provide analysis of expected signals in AI
- We find that setups with two colocated AI employing isotopes are much more sensitive to ULDM couplings, compared to gradiometers
- In the future, AI will be able to probe large unconstrained regions of the parameter space