# Searches for Light New Physics with BABAR



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(on behalf of the BABAR collaboration)

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### **BABAR** collected ~ 531 fb<sup>-1</sup> of $e^+e^-$ collisions around the Y(4S) in 1999–2008



♦ BABAR data sample: ~120M Y(3S) [ 10x Belle, 25x CLEO ] and ~100M Y(2S) [12x CLEO]



# Why search for light new physics? Light Higgs





## Why search for light new physics? Dark matter, dark sector, dark forces

 $Y(nS) \rightarrow invisible$  (invisible =  $\chi_{dm} \overline{\chi}_{dm}$  dark matter pair via dark photon coupling, BF ~ 10<sup>-3</sup>)

- McElrath, PRD 72 (2005) 103508
- significant enhancement over SM prediction, e.g.  $Y(1S) \rightarrow \nu \overline{\nu} \sim 10^{-6}$

Light dark sector particles decaying into leptons

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma A', \quad A' \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-$$
 (A' dark photon)

- N. Arkani-Ahmed et al., PRD 79 (2009) 015014
- Nomura/Thaler, PRD 79 (2009) 075008 (axion-like particle decaying into muons)
- $e^+e^- \rightarrow A' \rightarrow W'W', W' \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-$  (W' dark-sector secluded gauge boson)
  - N. Arkani-Ahmed et al., PRD 79 (2009) 015014
  - Batell/Pospelov/Ritz, PRD 79 (2009) 115008



# Y(nS) resonances





**Light Higgs Searches** 



$$Y(2S, 3S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, \quad A^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$$

### Event selection

- ▶ photon with  $E_{\gamma}$  > 0.2 GeV and two tracks, at least one identified as muon
- $\mu^+\mu^-\gamma$  system must be compatible with decay of Y(2, 3S) in luminous region

### Major backgrounds

- ►  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-\gamma$  QED radiative di-muons
- ►  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \rho \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\gamma$   $\rho$  production specific rejection
- ►  $e^+e^- \rightarrow Y(1S)\gamma$  ISR events
- ►  $e^+e^- \rightarrow Y(2,3S) \rightarrow \chi_b(1,2P)\gamma$ ,  $\chi_b(1,2P) \rightarrow Y(1S)\gamma$  specific rejection
- ♦ Signal efficiency: 25–50% over the searched A<sup>0</sup> mass range (0.212–9.3 GeV)
- Signal yield
  - ► fit expected **peak** in reduced mass  $m = \sqrt{m_{\mu\mu}^2 4m_{\mu}^2}$ 
    - subtract both continuum background from sidebands and expected peaking backgrounds
  - ▶ scan A<sup>0</sup> mass range 0.212–9.3 GeV in 1951 2–5 MeV steps







### signal fit yield significance distributed as statistically expected for no signal





$$Y(2S, 3S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, \quad A^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$$



### A.Lusiani (INFN & SNS, Pisa)



$$Y(3S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, \quad A^0 \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$$

BABAR, PRL 103 (2009) 181801

### Event selection

- ▶ photon with  $E_{\gamma} > 0.1$  GeV and two tracks from 1-prong tau pair decays into  $ee, \mu e, \mu \mu$
- eight discriminating variables: Etot, PT, missing mass/angle, angle photon-lepton plane, angle track-lepton, track-track or track-photon, angle tracks
- optimization in 5 overlaping regions (reduce discontinuities in efficiency)

### Major backgrounds

- ►  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-\gamma$  QED radiative tau pairs
- ►  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \rho \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\gamma$   $\rho$  production specific rejection
- ▶  $e^+e^- \rightarrow 4$  leptons Higher order QED
- ►  $e^+e^- \rightarrow Y(2,3S) \rightarrow \chi_b(1,2P)\gamma$ ,  $\chi_b(1,2P) \rightarrow Y(1S)\gamma$
- ♦ Signal efficiency: 10–26% depending primarily on photon energy
- Signal yield
  - fit expected peak in photon energy distribution
  - subtract both continuum background from sidebands and expected peaking backgrounds
  - ► scan A<sup>0</sup> mass range 4.03–10.10 GeV



$$Y(3S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, \quad A^0 \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$$







- Search for  $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \gamma$  + invisible in  $\Upsilon(2S)$  $\rightarrow$  Y(1S)  $\pi\pi$  decays
- Resonant  $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \gamma + A^0 (\rightarrow \text{invisible, BF} \sim 10^4)^1$ or  $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \gamma \chi \overline{\chi}$  (BF~10<sup>-5</sup>-10<sup>-4</sup>)<sup>2</sup>
- $A^0 \rightarrow \chi^0 \chi^0$  can be dominant decay in some NMSSM scenarios with a light neutralino (LSP)
- Signature:
  - two pions and one photon (> 0.15 GeV)
  - missing energy and momentum
- Used a Neural Network discriminant to suppress the main background, trained in MC and Off-peak data

Main background comes from:

Analysis



- peaking background:  $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \gamma K^0 L K^0 L$  and  $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \gamma n \overline{n}$ 









 $R_{\tau\mu}[Y(1S)] = 1.005 \pm 0.013 \pm 0.022$ 

(CLEO:  $R_{\tau\mu}[Y(1S)] = 1.02 \pm 0.02 \pm 0.05$  SM:  $R_{\tau\mu}[Y(1S)] = 0.992$ )



### Light Higgs constraints on Dermisek/Gunion/McElrath, PRD 76 (2007) 051105





## Dark Matter secluded sector light particle searches



Dipion Recoil Mass (GeV/c<sup>2</sup>)





# $Y(3S) \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-Y(1S), Y(1S) \rightarrow invisible$

### BABAR, PRL 103 (2009) 251801

#### Fit procedure

- Extended unbinned maximum likelihood fit of recoil mass M<sub>rec</sub>
- Signal and peaking background
  Crystal-Ball function
- Non-peaking background
  - 1<sup>st</sup> order polynomial

#### Signal efficiency ~ 18%

#### Results

Yield (fit)	2326 ± 105
Background	2444 ± 123
Signal	-118 ± 105 ± 124

#### Upper limit (90% CL)

 $BF(Y(1S) \rightarrow invisible) < 3.0 \times 10^{-4}$ 



#### Previous measurements $BF(Y(1S) \rightarrow invisible)$

CLEO:	BF < 3.9 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> @ 90% CL	PRD 75 (2007) 031104
Belle:	BF < 2.5 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> @ 90% CL	PRL 98 (2007) 132001



## Search for $e^+e^- \rightarrow A'^* \rightarrow W'W' \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-\ell^+\ell^-$

BABAR prelim. arXiv:0908.2821 [hep-ex]

- Signature: 4 leptons (4e,2e+2µ,4µ) with zero total charge carrying the full beam momentum where the two dilepton invariant masses are equal (bkg from 4-lepton QED processes)
- Look for a narrow peak in the mass distribution of W' in the mass range from 0.24 and 5.3 GeV
- Signal extraction by a cut-and-count analysis in bins of m<sub>w</sub> (10MeV step)

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No significant signal observed-->Set UL (90%CL)
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# Conclusions

• no evidence for light new physics found by BABAR in  $e^+e^-$  collisions at and around the Y(4S)

- no evidence of light Higgs found
- no evidence of light Dark Matter sector particles found
- former upper limits on exotic Y(nS) decays (typically by CLEO) improved by factor ~10
  - → significant constraints on several NP model predictions
- additional analyses are ongoing in BABAR, the quest continues

### End of the presentation