

Abstract Submitted
for the DAMOP08 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Searching for Massive Photons with Ion Interferometry¹ DALLIN DURFEE, BRIAN NEYENHUIS, DAN CHRISTENSEN, Brigham Young University — We will discuss an ion interferometer under construction that should enable the detection of a possible photon rest mass more than 100 times smaller than previous laboratory experiments. In the apparatus a beam of $^{87}\text{Sr}^+$ ions will be split and recombined using stimulated Raman transitions inside of a conducting cylinder. Deviations from Coulomb's law can then be detected by measuring the phase shift of the interferometer as the potential applied to the conducting cylinder is changed. We will discuss both the details of the device and the theory connecting deviations from Coulomb's inverse-square law to a theory of massive photons.

¹This project is funded by the National Institute of Standards and Technology and by Brigham Young University.

Dallin Durfee
Brigham Young University

Date submitted: 30 Jan 2008

Electronic form version 1.4