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Photon sector analysis of Super and Lorentz symmetry breaking: effective photon mass, bi-refringence and dissipation

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Abstract Within the standard model extension (SME), we expand our previous findings on four classes of violations of Super-Symmetry (SuSy) and Lorentz Symmetry (LoSy), differing in the handedness of the Charge conjugation-Parity-Time reversal (CPT) symmetry and in whether considering the impact of photinos on photon propagation. The violations, occurring at the early universe high energies, show visible traces at present in the Dispersion Relations (DRs). For the CPT-odd classes (V_μ breaking vector) associated with the Carroll–Field–Jackiw (CFJ) model, the DRs and the Lagrangian show for the photon an effective mass, gauge invariant, proportional to $|V|$. The group velocity exhibits a classic dependency on the inverse of the frequency squared. For the CPT-even classes (k_F breaking tensor), when the photino is considered, the DRs display also a massive behaviour inversely proportional to a coefficient in the Lagrangian and to a term linearly dependent on k_F . All DRs display an angular dependence and lack LoSy invariance. In describing our results, we also point out the following properties: (i) the appearance of complex or simply imaginary frequencies and super-luminal speeds and (ii) the emergence of bi-refringence. Finally, we point out the circumstances for which SuSy and LoSy breakings, possibly in presence of an external field, lead to the non-conservation of the photon energy-momentum tensor. We do so for both CPT sectors.

1 Introduction, motivation and structure of the work

For the most part, we base our understanding of particle physics on the standard model (SM). The SM proposes the Lagrangian of particle physics and summarises three interactions among fundamental particles, accounting for electromagnetic (EM), weak and strong nuclear forces. The model has been completed theoretically in the mid seventies, and has found several experimental confirmations ever since. In 1995, the top quark was found [1]; in 2000, the tau neutrino was directly measured [2]. Last, but not least, in 2012 the most elusive particle, the Higgs Boson, was found [3]. The associated Higgs field induces the spontaneous symmetry breaking mechanism, responsible for all the masses of the SM particles. Neutrinos and the photon remain massless, for they do not have a direct interaction with the Higgs field. Remarkably, massive neutrinos are not accounted for by the SM.

All ordinary hadronic and leptonic matter is made of Fermions, while Bosons are the interaction carriers in the SM. The force carrier for the electromagnetism is the photon. Strong nuclear interactions are mediated by eight gluons, massless but not free particles, described by quantum chromo-dynamics (QCD). Instead, the W^+ , W^- and Z massive Bosons, are the mediators of the weak interaction. The charge of the W-mediators has suggested that the EM and weak nuclear forces can be unified into a single interaction called electroweak interaction.

We finally notice that the photon is the only massless non-confined Boson; the reason for this must at least be questioned by fundamental physics.

SM considers all particles being massless, before the Higgs field intervenes. Of course, masslessness of particles

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would be in contrast with every day experience. In 1964, Higgs and others [4–6] came up with a mechanism that, thanks to the introduction of a new field - the Higgs field - is able to explain why the elementary particles in the spectrum of the SM, namely, the charged leptons and quarks, become massive. But the detected mass of the Higgs Boson is too light: in 2015 the ATLAS and CMS experiments showed that the Higgs Boson mass is $125.09 \pm 0.32 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ [3]. Between the GeV scale of the electroweak interactions and the Grand Unification Theory (GUT) scale (10^{16} GeV), it is widely believed that new physics should appear at the TeV scale, which is now the experimental limit up to which the SM was tested [7]. Consequently, we need a fundamental theory that reproduces the phenomenology at the electroweak scale and, at the same time, accounts for effects beyond the TeV scale.

An interesting attempt to go beyond the SM is for sure Super-Symmetry (SuSy); see [8] for a review. This theory predicts the existence of new particles that are not included in the SM. The interaction between the Higgs and these new SuSy particles would cancel out some SM contributions to the Higgs Boson mass, ensuring its lightness. This is the solution to the so-called gauge hierarchy problem. The SM is assumed to be Lorentz¹ Symmetry (LoSy) invariant. Anyway, it is reasonable to expect that this prediction is valid only up to certain energy scales [9–15], beyond which a LoSy Violation (LSV) might occur. The LSV would take place following the condensation of tensor fields in the context of open Bosonic strings.

The aforementioned facts show that there are valid reasons to undertake an investigation of physics beyond the SM and also consider LSV. There is a general framework where we can test the low-energy manifestations of LSV, the so-called Standard Model Extension (SME) [16–19]. Its effective Lagrangian is given by the usual SM Lagrangian, modified by a combination of SM operators of any dimensionality contracted with Lorentz breaking tensors of suitable rank to get a scalar expression for the Lagrangian.

For the Charge conjugation-Parity-Time reversal (CPT) odd classes the breaking factor is the V_μ vector associated with the Carroll–Field–Jackiw (CFJ) model [20], while for the CPT-even classes it is the k_F tensor.

In this context, LSV has been thoroughly investigated phenomenologically. Studies include electron, photon, muon, meson, baryon, neutrino and Higgs sectors [21]. Limits on the parameters associated to the breaking of relativistic covariance are set by quite a few experiments [21–23]. LSV has also been tested in the context of EM cavities and optical systems

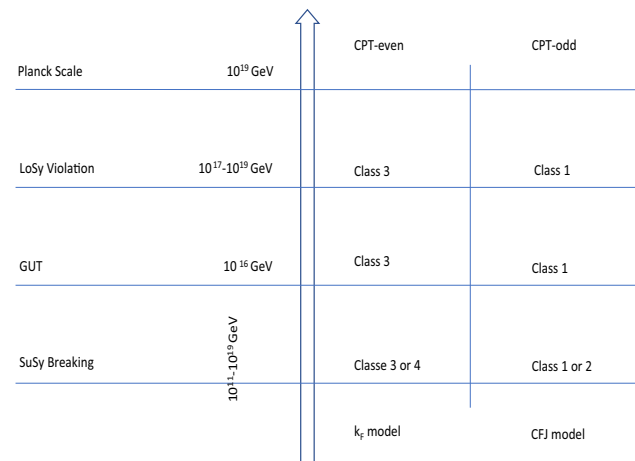


Fig. 1 We show the energy scales at which the symmetries are supposed to break, referring to the model described in [55]. At Planck scale, 10^{19} GeV , all symmetries are exact, unless LoSy breaking occurs. This latter may intervene at a lower scale of 10^{17} GeV , but anyway above GUT. Between 10^{11} and 10^{19} GeV , we place the breaking of SuSy. In our analysis, we assume that the four cases of SuSy breaking occur only when LoSy has already being violated. Interestingly, at our energy levels, we can detect the reminiscences of these symmetry breakings

[24–30]. Also Fermionic models in presence of LSV have been proposed: spinless and/or neutral particles with a non-minimal coupling to a LSV background, magnetic properties in relation to Fermionic matter or gauge Bosons [31–42].

More recently, [43,44] present interesting results involving the electroweak sector of the SME.

Following [45–54], LSV is stemmed from a more fundamental physics because it concerns higher energy levels of those obtained in particle accelerators. In Fig. 1, we show the energy scales at which the symmetries are supposed to break, referring to the model described in [55]. At Planck scale, 10^{19} GeV , all symmetries are exact, unless LoSy breaking occurs. This latter may intervene at a lower scale of 10^{17} GeV , but anyway above GUT. Between 10^{11} and 10^{19} GeV , we place the breaking of SuSy. In our analysis, we assume that the four cases of SuSy breaking occur only when LoSy has already being violated. Interestingly, at our energy levels, we can detect the reminiscences of these symmetry breakings.

Indeed, we adopt the point of view that the LSV background is part of a SuSy multiplet; see for instance [55].

Since gravitational wave astronomy is at its infancy, EM wave astronomy remains the main detecting tool for unveiling the universe. Thereby, testing the properties of the photons is essential to fundamental physics and astrophysics has just to interpret the universe accordingly.

A legitimate question addresses which mechanism could provide mass to the photon and thereby how the SM should be extended to accommodate such a conjecture. We have set up a possible scenario to reply to these two questions with a single answer.

¹ Usually, the Lorentz transformations describe rotations in space (J symmetry) and boosts (K symmetry) connecting uniformly moving bodies. When they are complemented by translations in space and time (symmetry P), the transformations include the name of Poincaré.

Non-Maxwellian massive photon theories have been proposed over the course of the last century. If the photon is massive, propagation is affected in terms of group velocity and polarisation.

This work is structured as follows. In Sect. 2, we summarise, complement and detail the results obtained in our letter [56], with some reminders to the appendix. Within the unique SME model, we consider four classes of models that exhibit LoSy and SuSy violations, varying in CPT handedness and in incorporating - or not - the effect of photino on the photon propagation. The violation occurs at very high energies, but we search for traces in the DRs visible at our energy scales. In the same Section, we confirm that a massive photon term emerges from the CPT-odd Lagrangian. We discover that a massive photon emerges also for the CPT-even sector when the photino is considered. We also point out when i) complex or simply imaginary frequencies and super-luminal speeds arise. In Sect. 3, we look for multi-fringe. In Sect. 4, we wonder if dissipation is conceivable for wave propagation in vacuum and find an affirmative answer. In Sect. 5, we propose our conclusions, discussion and perspectives. The appendix gives some auxiliary technical details.

1.1 Reminders and conventions

We shall encounter real frequencies sub- and luminal velocities but also imaginary and complex frequencies, and super-luminal velocities.²

In this work, see the title, we intend photon mass as an effective mass. The photon is dressed of an effective mass, that we shall see, depends on the perturbation vector or ten-

² A velocity v larger than c is associated to the concept of tachyon [57, 58] and implies an imaginary relativistic factor γ . If wishing (relativistic) energy E and (relativistic) mass m to remain real, rest mass m_0 must be imaginary

$$E = mc^2 = \gamma m_0 c^2 = \frac{m_0 c^2}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}. \quad (1)$$

Similarly, wishing measured frequency f to remain real, frequency f_0 must be imaginary in the rest frame

$$f = \frac{f_0}{\gamma} = v_0 \sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}. \quad (2)$$

Alternatively, letting rest mass and rest frequency real, mass and energy become imaginary. In the particle view, recalling that $E = h\nu$, we recover both interpretations. An imaginary frequency implies an evanescent wave amplitude, and thereby tachyonic modes are associated to transitoriness. Complex frequencies present the features above for the imaginary part, and usual properties for the real part. Finally, few scholars consider causality not necessarily incompatible with tachyons [59–66].

Nevertheless, we are cautious in differentiating an effective from a real mass. The Higgs mechanism gives masses to the charged leptons and quarks, the W and Z bosons, while the composite hadrons (baryons and mesons), built up from the massive quarks, have most of their masses from the mechanism of Chiral Symmetry (Dynamical) Breaking (CSB). It would be epistemologically legitimate to consider such mechanisms as producing an effective mass to particles which, without such dressing mechanisms, would be otherwise massless. What is then real or effective? The feature of being frame dependent renders surely the concept of mass unusual, but still acceptable to our eyes, being the dimension indeed that of a mass.

We adopt natural units for which $c = \hbar = 1/4\pi\epsilon_0 = \mu = 1$, unless otherwise stated. We adopt the metric signature as $(+, -, -, -)$. Although more recent literature adopts k_{AF}^μ and $k_F^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}$ for LSV vector and tensor, respectively, we drop the former in favour of V^μ for simplicity of notation especially when addressing time or space components and normalised units.

Finally, we omit to use the adjective angular, when addressing the angular frequency ω .

1.2 Upper limits on V_μ vector and photon mass m_γ

Ground based experiments indicate that $|\mathbf{V}|$, the space components, must be smaller than 10^{-10} eV = 1.6×10^{-29} J from the bounds given by the energy shifts in the spectrum of the hydrogen atom [67]; else smaller than 8×10^{-14} eV = $1,3 \times 10^{-32}$ J from measurements of the rotation in the polarisation of light in resonant cavities [67]. The time component of V_μ is smaller than 10^{-16} eV = 1.6×10^{-35} J [67]. Instead, astrophysical observations lead to $|\mathbf{V}| < 10^{-34}$ eV = 1.6×10^{-53} J. We cannot refrain to remark that such estimate is equivalent to the Heisenberg limit ($\Delta m \Delta t > 1$) on the smallest measurable energy or mass for a given time t , set equal to the Universe age. The actual Particle Data Group (PDG) limit on photon mass [68] refers to values obtained in [69, 70] of 10^{-54} kg or 5.6×10^{-19} eV/c², to be taken with some care, as motivated in [71–73].

2 LSV and two classes of SuSy breaking for each CPT sector

We summarise and complement in this section the results obtained in [56].

2.1 CPT-odd sector and the V_μ vector: classes 1 and 2

The CFJ proposition [20] introduced LSV by means of a Chern-Simons (CS) [74] term in the Lagrangian that represents the EM interaction. It was conceived and developed out-

side any SuSy scenario. The works [75] and later [55] framed the CFJ model in a SuSy scenario. The LSV is obtained through the breaking vector V_μ , the observational limits of which are considered in the CFJ framework. For the origin, the microscopic justification was traced in the fundamental Fermionic condensates present in SuSy [55]. In other words, the Fermionic fields present in the SuSy background may condensate (that is, take a vacuum expectation value), thereby inducing LSV.

In the following, the implications of the CS term on the propagation and DR of the photon are presented.

2.1.1 Class 1: CFJ model

The Lagrangian reads

$$L_1 = -\frac{1}{4}F^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}V_\mu A_\nu F_{\sigma\rho}, \quad (3)$$

where $F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu$ and $F^{\mu\nu} = \partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial^\nu A^\mu$ are the covariant and contravariant forms, respectively, of the EM tensor; $\varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}$ is the contravariant form of the Levi–Civita pseudo-tensor, and A_μ the potential covariant four-vector.

We observe the coupling between the EM field and the breaking vector V_μ . The Euler–Lagrange variational principle applied to Eq. (3) leads to

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} + V_0 \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{E} = \partial_t \mathbf{E}, \quad (4)$$

where the three-vector $\mathbf{V}$ represents the space components of V_μ , and $\mathbf{B}$ and $\mathbf{E}$ the magnetic and electric fields.

From the Fourier transformation of the curl of the electric field ($\nabla \times \mathbf{E}$) equation, we obtain $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}$ in terms of $\tilde{\mathbf{E}}$, magnetic and electric field in Fourier domain, respectively

$$\tilde{\mathbf{B}} = \frac{\mathbf{k}}{\omega} \times \tilde{\mathbf{E}}, \quad (5)$$

where the four-momentum is $k^\mu = (\omega, \mathbf{k})$ and where $k^2 = (\omega^2 - \mathbf{k}^2)$. Inserting Eq. (5) into the Fourier transform of Eq. (4), we get

$$(\omega^2 - \mathbf{k}^2)\tilde{\mathbf{E}} + (\mathbf{k} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{E}})\mathbf{k} = i(V_0 \mathbf{k} \times \tilde{\mathbf{E}} - \omega \mathbf{V} \times \tilde{\mathbf{E}}). \quad (6)$$

Equation (6) can be arranged in the form

$$R_{ij}\tilde{E}_j = 0, \quad (7)$$

where R_{ij} is the matrix

$$R_{ij} = i\mathbf{k}^2\delta_{ij} + ik_ik_j - V_0\varepsilon_{ijk}k_k + \varepsilon_{ijk}\omega V_k. \quad (8)$$

Imposing $\det R_{ij} = 0$, we derive the DR, Eq. (3) in [56], known since the appearance of [20]

$$(k^\mu k_\mu)^2 + (V^\mu V_\mu)(k^\nu k_\nu) - (V^\mu k_\mu)^2 = 0. \quad (9)$$

2.1.2 Class 2: Supersymmetrised CFJ model and SuSy breaking

We can study the effect of the photino on the photon propagation. For accounting for the effects of the photino, according to [55], we have to work with the Lagrangian that follows below

$$L_2 = -\frac{1}{4}F + \frac{1}{4}\varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}V_\mu A_\nu F_{\rho\sigma} + \frac{1}{4}HF + M_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\lambda}F_\lambda^\nu, \quad (10)$$

where $F = F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}$; furthermore, H is a scalar defined in [55], the tensor $M_{\mu\nu} = \hat{M}_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{4}\eta_{\mu\nu}M$, and $\hat{M}_{\mu\nu}$ depends on the background Fermionic condensate, originated by SuSy; $\hat{M}_{\mu\nu}$ is traceless, M the trace of $M_{\mu\nu}$, and $\eta_{\mu\nu}$ the Minkowski metric. The Lagrangian, Eq. (10), is rewritten as [55]

$$L_2 = -\frac{1}{4}(1 - H - M)F + \frac{1}{4}\varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}V_\mu A_\nu F_{\rho\sigma} + \hat{M}_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\lambda}F_\lambda^\nu. \quad (11)$$

In [76] it is shown that the DR is equivalent to Eq. (9), but for a rescaling of the breaking vector. The latter is obtained by integrating out the Fermionic SuSy partner, the photino. The following DR comes out (Eq. (6) in [56])

$$(k^\mu k_\mu)^2 + \frac{(V^\mu V_\mu)(k^\nu k_\nu)}{(1 - H - M)^2} - \frac{(V^\mu k_\mu)^2}{(1 - H - M)^2} = 0. \quad (12)$$

The background parameters are very small, being suppressed by powers of the Planck energy; they render the denominator in Eq. (12) close to unity, implying similar numerical outcomes for the two dispersion relations of Classes 1 and 2. Consequently, we shall derive and work with group velocities and time delays, for Classes 1 and 2 in a single treatment.

2.1.3 Group velocities and time delays for Classes 1 and 2

Zero time component of the breaking vector.

We pose $V_0 = 0$ and rewrite Eq. (9) as

$$\omega^4 - \mathcal{A}\omega^2 + \mathcal{B} = 0, \quad (13)$$

having defined

$$\mathcal{A} = 2|\mathbf{k}|^2 + |\mathbf{V}|^2 \quad \mathcal{B} = |\mathbf{k}|^4 + |\mathbf{k}|^2|\mathbf{V}|^2 - (\mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{k})^2.$$

The dispersion relation yields

$$\omega^2 - |\mathbf{k}|^2 = k^\mu k_\mu = \frac{|\mathbf{V}|^2}{2} + p|\mathbf{V}| \left(\frac{|\mathbf{V}|^2}{4} + |\mathbf{k}|^2 \cos^2 \theta \right)^{1/2}, \quad (14)$$

where $p = \pm 1$ and θ is the angle between $\mathbf{V}$ and $\mathbf{k}$.

For $p = -1$ and $\cos \theta \neq 0$, we get $k^\mu k_\mu < 0$, that is k_μ space-like and tachyonic velocities. Still for $p = -1$, but $\cos \theta = 0$, that is the wave propagating orthogonally to $\mathbf{V}$, we obtain $\omega^2 = |\mathbf{k}|^2$ and thus a Maxwellian propagation, luxonic velocities, in this specific direction.

Instead, $p = 1$ leads to $k^\mu k_\mu = m_\gamma^2$, that is k_μ time-like and bradyonic velocities associated to a massive photon.

Specifically in the massive photon rest frame, $\mathbf{k} = 0$, we get $m_\gamma^2 = |\mathbf{V}|^2$. Rearranging Eq. (13,) we get $|\mathbf{k}|$ in terms of ω^2

$$|\mathbf{k}|^2 - \omega^2 = -\frac{1}{2}|\mathbf{V}|^2 \sin^2 \theta \pm |\mathbf{V}| \left(\frac{|\mathbf{V}|^2}{4} + \omega^2 \cos^2 \theta \right)^{1/2}. \quad (15)$$

Now the plus sign yields $\omega^2 - |\mathbf{k}|^2 = k^\mu k_\mu < 0$, whereas the minus sign is compatible with causal propagation. We rewrite Eq. (15) as

$$\frac{|\mathbf{k}|^2}{\omega^2} = 1 - \frac{|\mathbf{V}|^2}{2\omega^2} \sin^2 \theta + q \left(\frac{|\mathbf{V}|^4}{4\omega^4} \sin^4 \theta + \frac{|\mathbf{V}|^2}{\omega^2} \cos^2 \theta \right)^{1/2}, \quad (16)$$

with $q = \pm 1$. If $q = 1$, we recover the case associated with $p = -1$, while for $q = -1$ the case associated with $p = 1$. Given the anisotropy introduced by $|\mathbf{V}|$, we no longer identify the group velocity as

$$v_g = \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial |\mathbf{k}|}, \quad (17)$$

and instead compute the components of v_g

$$v_{gi} = \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k_i}, \quad (18)$$

and thereby have

$$|\mathbf{v}_g|^2 = v_{gi} v_{gi}. \quad (19)$$

having used summation on the i index. Deriving Eq. (13) with respect to k_i , we get

$$v_{gi} = \frac{k_i}{\omega} + \frac{\mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{k}}{2\omega^2 - 2|\mathbf{k}|^2 - |\mathbf{V}|^2} \frac{V_i}{\omega}, \quad (20)$$

and using Eq. (14), we are finally able to write

$$\mathbf{v}_g = \frac{\mathbf{k}}{\omega} + p \frac{|\mathbf{k}|}{\omega} \frac{\cos \theta}{(|\mathbf{V}|^2 + 4|\mathbf{k}|^2 \cos^2 \theta)^{1/2}} \mathbf{V}, \quad (21)$$

and

$$|\mathbf{v}_g| = \frac{|\mathbf{k}|}{\omega} \left[1 + 2p|\mathbf{V}| \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{(|\mathbf{V}|^2 + 4|\mathbf{k}|^2 \cos^2 \theta)^{1/2}} + |\mathbf{V}|^2 \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{|\mathbf{V}|^2 + 4|\mathbf{k}|^2 \cos^2 \theta} \right]^{1/2}. \quad (22)$$

Through Eq. (16), and recalling the conditions $p = 1$ or $q = -1$ for k_μ time-likeness ($k^2 > 0$), Eq. (22) may be cast as function of ω^2 . We consider special cases, starting with $\cos \theta = 0$ and have after some computation

$$|\mathbf{v}_g| = \left[1 - \left(\frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{\omega} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{\omega} \right)^2 + \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{\omega} \right)^4, \quad (23)$$

while for a parallel or anti-parallel propagation to the LSV vector, we get

$$|\mathbf{v}_g| = 1 - \frac{1}{8} \left(\frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{\omega} \right)^2 + \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{\omega} \right)^4. \quad (24)$$

If we consider experiment based limits on $|\mathbf{V}|$, see Sect. 2.1.3, they determine that the ratio $|\mathbf{V}|/\omega$ is around unity at 1 MHz. Instead, for observation based limits, the ratio is around 10^{-24} still at 1 MHz.

Exploring the general DRs Having caught a glimpse of what might happen, we now look at a more general DR. When $V_0 \neq 0$, for convenience and without loss of generality, we impose light propagating along the z axis ($k_1 = k_2 = 0$) that is along the line of sight of the source. Incidentally, the group velocity has only a single component, and thus being unidimensional, there is no need to determine $|\mathbf{v}_g|$. We get from Eq. (9)

$$\omega^4 - (2k_3^2 + V_1^2 + V_2^2 + V_3^2) \omega^2 + 2V_0 V_3 k_3 \omega + k_3^4 + (V_1^2 + V_2^2 - V_0^2) k_3^2 = 0. \quad (25)$$

There are some interesting combinations of parameters to consider. The linear term impedes reduction to a quadratic equation. Hence, the components V_0 and V_3 will be inspected closely.

Non-zero time component of the breaking vector We pose V_0 , V_1 and V_2 , different from zero, while $V_3 = 0$. In this case, we have³

$$\bar{\omega}^2 = \frac{2\bar{k}_3^2 + 1 \pm \sqrt{1 + 4\bar{V}_0^2 \bar{k}_3^2}}{2}, \quad (27)$$

where we have rescaled the quantities as

$$\bar{\omega} = \frac{\omega}{|\mathbf{V}|}, \quad \bar{V}_0 = \frac{V_0}{|\mathbf{V}|}, \quad |\bar{k}_3| = \frac{k_3}{|\mathbf{V}|}, \quad (28)$$

and where

$$|\mathbf{V}| = (V_1^2 + V_2^2)^{1/2}. \quad (29)$$

For the plus sign, the right-hand side of Eq. (27) is always positive, and thus we take the square root of this expression, derive and obtain the group velocity

$$v_{g+} = \frac{\bar{k}_3 \left(1 + \frac{\bar{V}_0^2}{\sqrt{1 + 4\bar{V}_0^2 \bar{k}_3^2}} \right)}{\sqrt{\bar{k}_3^2 + \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 + 4\bar{V}_0^2 \bar{k}_3^2}}{2}}}, \quad (30)$$

Under the same positive sign condition on Eq. (27), the group velocity v_{g+} is never super-luminal, and frequencies are always real.

For the minus sign, the group velocity is

$$v_{g-} = \frac{\bar{k}_3 \left(1 - \frac{\bar{V}_0^2}{\sqrt{1 + 4\bar{V}_0^2 \bar{k}_3^2}} \right)}{\sqrt{\bar{k}_3^2 + \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 + 4\bar{V}_0^2 \bar{k}_3^2}}{2}}}. \quad (31)$$

Under the minus sign condition in Eq. (27), care is to be exerted. For a time-like breaking vector

$$V_0^2 > |\mathbf{V}|^2 \Rightarrow \frac{V_0^2}{|\mathbf{V}|^2} = \bar{V}_0^2 > 1, \quad (32)$$

imaginary frequencies arise, from Eq. (27), if

$$\bar{k}_3^2 < \bar{V}_0^2 - 1, \quad (33)$$

³ If we take $V_0 = 0$ in Eq. (27), the solution reads

$$\bar{\omega}^2 = \frac{2\bar{k}_3^2 + 1 \pm 1}{2}. \quad (26)$$

and real frequencies occur, from Eq. (27), for

$$\bar{k}_3^2 \geq \bar{V}_0^2 - 1. \quad (34)$$

When $\bar{k}_3$ is real, then $\bar{k}_3^2$ is positive; thus, for a space-like or light-like breaking vector, frequencies stay always real.

Still for the minus sign in Eq. (27), we work out the group velocity in terms of ω , keeping $V_3 = 0$. Using Eq. (25), we write

$$2\omega_{\pm}^2 = 2k_3^2 + |\mathbf{V}|^2 \pm |\mathbf{V}|^2 \sqrt{1 + 4 \frac{V_0^2}{|\mathbf{V}|^4} k_3^2}. \quad (35)$$

However, k_3 is small if we are interested in the low frequency regime and $\frac{V_0^2}{|\mathbf{V}|^2} \ll 1$ can be assumed for a space-like V^μ ; thus

$$2\omega_{\pm}^2 \sim 2k_3^2 + |\mathbf{V}|^2 \pm |\mathbf{V}|^2 \left(1 + 2 \frac{V_0^2}{|\mathbf{V}|^4} k_3^2 \right), \quad (36)$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_{\pm} &= \left[k_3^2 + \frac{|\mathbf{V}|^2}{2} \pm \left(\frac{|\mathbf{V}|^2}{2} + \frac{V_0^2}{|\mathbf{V}|^2} k_3^2 \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \left[\left(1 \pm \frac{V_0^2}{|\mathbf{V}|^2} \right) k_3^2 + \frac{|\mathbf{V}|^2}{2} \pm \frac{|\mathbf{V}|^2}{2} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

Therefore, one root is

$$\omega_+ = \left(\alpha k_3^2 + |\mathbf{V}|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad \alpha = 1 + \frac{V_0^2}{|\mathbf{V}|^2}, \quad (38)$$

where we have a dispersive behaviour with the parameter $|\mathbf{V}|$ acting once more as the mass of the photon, or else

$$\omega_- = \left(1 - \frac{V_0^2}{|\mathbf{V}|^2} \right)^{1/2} |k_3|, \quad (39)$$

that is a dispersionless behaviour. When setting $V_0 = 0$, such that the parameter α reduces to unity, we recover the Maxwellian behaviour.

For the group velocities, from Eq. (38), k_3 can be explicitly written as

$$k_3 = \frac{\omega_+}{\alpha^{1/2}} \left(1 - \frac{|\mathbf{V}|^2}{\omega_+^2} \right)^{1/2}, \quad (40)$$

thus

$$\begin{aligned} v_{g+} &= \frac{d\omega_+}{dk_3} = \frac{\alpha k_3}{\omega_+} = \alpha^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(1 - \frac{|\mathbf{V}|^2}{\omega_+^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \alpha^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(1 - \frac{|\mathbf{V}|^2}{2\omega_+^2}\right) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{\omega}\right)^4. \end{aligned} \quad (41)$$

The other solution yields⁴

$$v_{g-} = 1 - \frac{V_0^2}{|\mathbf{V}|^2}. \quad (42)$$

We emphasise the domain of Eqs. (41, 42) cease when high frequencies and a time-like LSV vector are both considered.

Here we obtain similar solutions to Eqs. (23, 24), differing by a factor depending on the time component of the CFJ breaking vector. However, this coefficient is not trivial, and it offers some quite interesting features.

The group velocity from Eq. (42) is never super-luminal if V_μ is space-like. However, since $\alpha = 1 + \frac{V_0^2}{|\mathbf{V}|^2}$, there is such a chance for the group velocity associated with Eq. (41). It occurs for

$$\sqrt{2}\omega_+ > \frac{|\mathbf{V}|^2}{|V_0|} \left(1 + \frac{V_0^2}{|\mathbf{V}|^2}\right)^{1/2}. \quad (43)$$

This is not surprising since it has been shown that V_0 might be associated to super-luminal modes. Setting $V_0 = 0$, we enforce luminal or sub-luminal speeds.

Presence of all breaking vector components and V^μ light-like. When all parameters differ from zero in Eq. (25), it is obviously the most complex case. Nevertheless, we can comment specific solutions.

We suppose the vector V^μ being light-like.

Thereby, we have $V^2 = 0 \Rightarrow (V^0)^2 = |\mathbf{V}|^2 \Rightarrow |V^0| = |\mathbf{V}| \Rightarrow V^0 = \pm|\mathbf{V}|$ (we choose $V^0 = |\mathbf{V}|$, without loss of generality). The DR from Eq. (9) and from Eq. (12) for $H, M \rightarrow 0$ reads

$$k^4 + V^2 k^2 - (V \cdot k)^2 = (k^2)^2 - (V \cdot k)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow |k^2| = |V \cdot k|. \quad (44)$$

When considering $k^2 \geq 0$, thus $|k^2| = k^2$, part of the tachyonic modes are excluded, but others survive, as shown below. We have

$$k^2 = \omega^2 - |\mathbf{k}|^2 = |V \cdot k| = |V^0 \omega - \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{k}|. \quad (45)$$

⁴ Setting $V_0 = 0$, this result equals that of Eq. (14) for $p = -1$ and $\theta = \pi/2$ that is propagation along the z axis.

Hence, two cases arise, for the positiveness of $k^2 \geq 0$:

- Case 1: $V^0 \omega - \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{k} \geq 0 \Rightarrow \omega^2 - |\mathbf{k}|^2 = V^0 \omega - \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{k}$,
- Case 2: $V^0 \omega - \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{k} \leq 0 \Rightarrow \omega^2 - |\mathbf{k}|^2 = -V^0 \omega + \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{k}$.

For case 1, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \omega^2 - V^0 \omega - (\mathbf{k}^2 - \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{k}) \\ = \omega^2 - V^0 \omega - |\mathbf{k}| (|\mathbf{k}| - |\mathbf{V}| \cos \theta) = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

the solutions of which are

$$\omega_1 = \frac{V^0}{2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{V^0}{2}\right)^2 + |\mathbf{k}| (|\mathbf{k}| - |\mathbf{V}| \cos \theta)}, \quad (47)$$

and since $V^0 = |\mathbf{V}|$, we finally get

$$\omega_1 = \frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{2}\right)^2 + |\mathbf{k}| (|\mathbf{k}| - |\mathbf{V}| \cos \theta)}. \quad (48)$$

We consider only a positive radicand and exclude negative frequencies.

Similarly for case 2, we have the following equation and solutions

$$\begin{aligned} \omega^2 + V^0 \omega - (\mathbf{k}^2 + \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{k}) \\ = \omega^2 + V^0 \omega - |\mathbf{k}| (|\mathbf{k}| + |\mathbf{V}| \cos \theta) = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

$$\omega_2 = -\frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{2} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{2}\right)^2 + |\mathbf{k}| (|\mathbf{k}| + |\mathbf{V}| \cos \theta)}, \quad (50)$$

having excluded negative frequencies.

We now discuss the current bounds on the value of the breaking vector in Sect. 1.2 in SI units. In the yet unexplored low radio frequency spectrum [77], a frequency of 10^5 Hz and a wavelength λ of 3×10^3 m results in $|\mathbf{k}| \hbar c = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \hbar c \sim 6.3 \times 10^{-30}$ J, while in the gamma-ray regime, a wavelength λ of 3×10^{-11} m results in $|\mathbf{k}| \hbar c = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \hbar c \sim 6.3 \times 10^{-16}$ J. Spanning the domains of the parameters $\mathbf{V}$ and $\mathbf{k}$, we cannot assure the positiveness of the factor $|\mathbf{k}| - |\mathbf{V}| \cos \theta$ in Eq. (48). Moving toward smaller but somewhat less reliable astrophysical upper limits, we insure such positiveness. The non-negligible price to pay is that the photon effective mass and the perturbation vector decrease and their measurements could be confronted with the Heisenberg limit, see Sect. 1.2. This holds especially for low frequencies around and below 10^5 Hz.

For case 1, for a positive radicand, we have

$$\sqrt{\left(\frac{\mathbf{V}}{2}\right)^2 + \mathbf{k}^2 - \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{k}} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\mathbf{V}}{2} - \mathbf{k}\right)^2} = \left|\frac{\mathbf{V}}{2} - \mathbf{k}\right|, \quad (51)$$

and the allowed solutions for ω_1 are

$$\omega_{1a} = \frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{2} - \left| \frac{\mathbf{V}}{2} - \mathbf{k} \right|; \quad \omega_{1b} = \frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{2} + \left| \frac{\mathbf{V}}{2} - \mathbf{k} \right|. \quad (52)$$

For case 2 the allowed solutions for ω_2 is only

$$\omega_2 = -\frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{2} + \left| \frac{\mathbf{V}}{2} + \mathbf{k} \right|. \quad (53)$$

For Case 1 group velocity, by Eq. (46) we get

$$2\omega d\omega - V^0 d\omega - 2k_i dk_i + V_i dk_i = 0 \quad (54)$$

and thereby

$$v_{gi} = \frac{d\omega}{dk_i} = \frac{k_i - \frac{V_i}{2}}{\omega - \frac{V^0}{2}}; \quad (55)$$

$$\mathbf{v}_g = \frac{\mathbf{k} - \frac{\mathbf{V}}{2}}{\omega - \frac{V^0}{2}} = \frac{\mathbf{k} - \frac{\mathbf{V}}{2}}{\omega - \frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{2}}. \quad (56)$$

From the expressions of $\omega_{1a,b}$ we write

$$\omega_{1a,b} - \frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{2} = \pm \left| \frac{\mathbf{V}}{2} - \mathbf{k} \right|, \quad (57)$$

and evince that the absolute value of the group velocity is equal to unity. For Case 2 group velocity, by Eq. (49) we get

$$2\omega d\omega + V^0 d\omega - 2k_i dk_i - V_i dk_i = 0 \quad (58)$$

and thereby

$$v_{gi} = \frac{d\omega}{dk_i} = \frac{k_i + \frac{V_i}{2}}{\omega + \frac{V^0}{2}}; \quad (59)$$

$$\mathbf{v}_g = \frac{\mathbf{k} + \frac{\mathbf{V}}{2}}{\omega + \frac{V^0}{2}} = \frac{\mathbf{k} + \frac{\mathbf{V}}{2}}{\omega + \frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{2}}. \quad (60)$$

From the expressions of ω_2 we write

$$\omega_2 + \frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{2} = \left| \frac{\mathbf{V}}{2} + \mathbf{k} \right|, \quad (61)$$

and evince once more that the absolute value of the group velocity is equal to unity. We thereby conclude that even when the frequency differs from $|\mathbf{k}|$, the group velocity is Maxwellian, for a light-like V^μ .

The most general case represented by Eq. (25) should be possibly dealt with a numerical treatment.

Time delays. For better displaying the physical consequences of these results, we compute the time delay between two waves of different frequencies [78]. In SI units, for a source at distance l (Eq. (16) in [56])

$$\Delta t_{CFJ} = \frac{l|\mathbf{V}|^2}{2c\hbar^2} \left(\frac{1}{\omega_1^2} - \frac{1}{\omega_2^2} \right) x. \quad (62)$$

where $\hbar$ is the reduced Planck constant (also Dirac constant) and x takes the value 1 for Eq. (23), 1/4 for Eq. (24) or $\alpha^{1/2}$ for Eq. (41). Obviously, other values of x are possible, when considering more general cases.

As time delays are inversely proportional to the square of the frequency, we perceive the existence of a massive photon, in presence of gauge invariance, emerging from the CFJ theory. Its mass value is proportional to the breaking parameter $|\mathbf{V}|$. The comparison of Eq. (62) with the corresponding expression for the de Broglie-Proca (dBP) photon [78]

$$\Delta t_{DBP} = \frac{l m_\gamma^2 c^3}{2\hbar^2} \left(\frac{1}{\omega_1^2} - \frac{1}{\omega_2^2} \right), \quad (63)$$

leads to the identity (Eq. (18) in [56])

$$m_\gamma = \frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{c^2} x. \quad (64)$$

We recall that Class 2 is just a rescaling of Class 1, where the correcting factor $1/(1 - H - M)^2$ is extremely close to unity.

Finally, given the prominence of the delays of massive photon dispersion, either of dBP or CFJ type, at low frequencies, a swarm of nano-satellites operating in the sub-MHz region [77] appears a promising avenue for improving upper limits through the analysis of plasma dispersion.

2.1.4 A quasi-de Broglie-Proca-like massive term

A quasi-dBP-like term from the CPT-odd Lagrangian has been extracted [56], but without giving details. Indeed, the interaction of the photon with the background gives rise to an effective mass for the photon, depending on the breaking vector V^μ . As we will show, this can be linked to the results we obtained from the DR applied to polarised fields.

We cast the CPT-odd Lagrangian, Eq. (3) in terms of the potentials

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \frac{1}{2} (\nabla\phi + \dot{\mathbf{A}})^2 - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \times \mathbf{A})^2 + V_0 \mathbf{A} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) \\ &\quad - \phi \mathbf{v} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) - \mathbf{v} \cdot (\mathbf{A} \times \dot{\mathbf{A}}) - (\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{A}) \cdot \nabla \phi \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\nabla\phi + \dot{\mathbf{A}})^2 - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \times \mathbf{A})^2 + V_0 \mathbf{A} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) \\ &\quad - 2\nabla\phi \cdot (\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{A}) - \mathbf{V} \cdot (\mathbf{A} \times \dot{\mathbf{A}}). \end{aligned} \quad (65)$$

The scalar potential ϕ always appears through its gradient, implying that $\nabla\phi$ is the true degree of freedom. Further, in absence of time derivatives of this field, there isn't dynamics. In other words, ϕ plays the role of an auxiliary field, which can be eliminated from the Lagrangian. We call

$$\nabla\phi = \mathbf{S}, \quad (66)$$

and rewrite the CPT-odd Lagrangian as

$$L = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{S} + \dot{\mathbf{A}} - 2\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{A})^2 - 2(\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{A})^2 + 2\dot{\mathbf{A}} \cdot (\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{A}) - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \times \mathbf{A})^2 + V_0 \mathbf{A} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) - \mathbf{V} \cdot (\mathbf{A} \times \dot{\mathbf{A}}). \quad (67)$$

Defining χ as

$$\chi = \mathbf{S} + \dot{\mathbf{A}} - 2\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{A}, \quad (68)$$

we get

$$L = \frac{1}{2} \chi^2 - 2(\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{A})^2 + \mathbf{V} \cdot (\mathbf{A} \times \dot{\mathbf{A}}) - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \times \mathbf{A})^2 + V_0 \mathbf{A} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}). \quad (69)$$

Passing through the Euler-Lagrange equations, we derive $\chi = 0$. Therefore χ is cancelled out, and we are left with

$$L = \mathbf{V} \cdot (\mathbf{A} \times \dot{\mathbf{A}}) - 2(\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{A})^2 - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \times \mathbf{A})^2 + V_0 \mathbf{A} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}). \quad (70)$$

Since the vector potential $\mathbf{A}$ does not appear with derivatives, further elaboration leads to

$$L = \mathbf{V} \cdot (\mathbf{A} \times \dot{\mathbf{A}}) - 2M_{kn}(\mathbf{V}) A_k A_n - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \times \mathbf{A})^2 + V_0 \mathbf{A} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}), \quad (71)$$

where

$$M_{kn}(\mathbf{V}) = |\mathbf{V}|^2 \delta_{kn} - V_k V_n. \quad (72)$$

which is a symmetric matrix, thereby diagonalisable

$$-2M_{kn}(\mathbf{V}) A_k A_n = -2A^T M A = -2A^T R^T R M R^T R A, \quad (73)$$

where $R \in SO(3)$ diagonalises M and A^T being the latter the transposed potential vector. We label

$$\tilde{M} = R M R^T = \begin{pmatrix} m_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m_3 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (74)$$

and get

$$\det \tilde{M} = 0 \Rightarrow m_1 = 0, \quad (75)$$

$$\text{Tr } \tilde{M} = m_1 + m_2 + m_3 \Rightarrow m_2 = m_3 = |\mathbf{V}|^2. \quad (76)$$

Therefore the term

$$\tilde{A}_i \tilde{M}_{ij} \tilde{A}_j = |\mathbf{V}|^2 \tilde{A}_2^2 + |\mathbf{V}|^2 \tilde{A}_3^2, \quad (77)$$

is a dBP term as we wanted (Eq. 21 in [56]). The role of the mass is played by the modulus of the vector $\mathbf{V}$. A remarkable difference lies in the gauge independency of the CFJ massive term.

2.2 The CPT-even sector and the k_F tensor: classes 3 and 4

For the CPT-even sector, in [55] the authors investigate the k_F -term from SME, focusing on how the Fermionic condensates affect the physics of photons and photinos.

In the k_F tensor model Lagrangian, the LSV term is

$$L_3 = (k_F)_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} F^{\mu\nu} F^{\alpha\beta}, \quad (78)$$

where $(k_F)_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}$ is double traceless. The k_F tensor, see Appendix A, is written in terms of a single Bosonic vector ξ_μ which signals LSV

$$(k_F)_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} (\eta_{\mu\alpha} \kappa_{\nu\beta} - \eta_{\mu\beta} \kappa_{\nu\alpha} + \eta_{\nu\beta} \kappa_{\mu\alpha} - \eta_{\nu\alpha} \kappa_{\mu\beta}), \quad (79)$$

being

$$\kappa_{\alpha\beta} = \xi_\alpha \xi_\beta - \eta_{\alpha\beta} \frac{\xi_\rho \xi^\rho}{4}. \quad (80)$$

As it is mentioned in Appendix A, in Eqs. (A.1, A.2), we choose k_F to be given according to the non-birefringent Ansatz, as discussed in [23, 79].

2.2.1 Class 3: k_F model

Following [55, 76], the DR for the photon reads (Eq. (8) in [56])

$$\omega^2 - (1 + \rho + \sigma)^2 |\mathbf{k}|^2 = 0, \quad (81)$$

where

$$\rho = \frac{1}{2} \bar{K}_\alpha^\alpha, \quad (82)$$

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{2} \bar{K}_\alpha^\alpha \bar{K}^{\alpha\beta} - \rho^2, \quad (83)$$

$$\bar{K}^{\alpha\beta} = t^{\alpha\beta} t^{\mu\nu} \frac{k_\mu k_\nu}{|\mathbf{k}|^2}, \quad (84)$$

being $t^{\mu\nu}$ a constant symmetric tensor corresponding to the condensation of the background scalar present in the background super-multiplet that describes k_F -LoSy breaking.

This tensor is related to the k_F term of Eq. (2.2) in a SuSy scenario; its origin is explained in [55]. It is worthwhile recalling that for such a tensor, the absence of the time component excludes the appearance of tachyons and ghosts. Therefore, in Eq. (84) we take only the ij components

$$\bar{K}^{ij} = t^{ij} t^{mn} \frac{k_m k_n}{|\mathbf{k}|^2}, \quad (85)$$

Moreover, the tensor t is always symmetric, hence we can always diagonalise it.

The simplest case occurs when the breaking tensor is a multiple of the identity. Then, Eq. (85) becomes

$$\bar{K}^{ij} = t^2 \delta^{ij} \delta^{mn} \frac{k_m k_n}{|\mathbf{k}|^2} = t^2 \delta^{ij}. \quad (86)$$

This means that both ρ and σ are independent of $\mathbf{k}$ or ω and that the factor in front of $\mathbf{k}^2$ in Eq. (81) carries no functional dependence. Therefore, we have a situation where the vacuum acts like a medium, whose refraction index is given by

$$n = (1 + \rho + \sigma)^{-1}. \quad (87)$$

The most general case occurs when t^{ij} is diagonal and not traceless. Then, we have

$$t^{ij} = t_i \delta^{ij}, \quad (88)$$

where we have left aside the Einstein summation rule. Equation (85) is rewritten as

$$\bar{K}^{ij} = t_i \delta^{ij} \left(t_m \delta^{mn} \frac{k_m k_n}{|\mathbf{k}|^2} \right), \quad (89)$$

where the term within the round brackets is

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{|\mathbf{k}|^2} \text{tr} \left[\begin{pmatrix} t_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & t_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & t_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} k_1^2 & k_1 k_2 & k_1 k_3 \\ k_2 k_1 & k_2^2 & k_2 k_3 \\ k_3 k_1 & k_3 k_2 & k_3^2 \end{pmatrix} \right] \\ &= \frac{t_1 k_1^2}{|\mathbf{k}|^2} + \frac{t_2 k_2^2}{|\mathbf{k}|^2} + \frac{t_3 k_3^2}{|\mathbf{k}|^2} := P(\mathbf{k}) = t_i \frac{k_i^2}{|\mathbf{k}|^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (90)$$

Now, using Eq. (82), Eq. (83) is transformed into

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\bar{K}^2) - \left(\frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \bar{K} \right)^2. \quad (91)$$

Since

$$\frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \bar{K} = \frac{1}{2} P(\mathbf{k}) (t_1 + t_2 + t_3), \quad (92)$$

and

$$\text{tr}(\bar{K}^2) = P^2(t_1^2 + t_2^2 + t_3^2) := P^2(\mathbf{k}) F^2, \quad (93)$$

Equation (91) becomes

$$\sigma = \left[\frac{F^2}{2} - \frac{(t_1 + t_2 + t_3)^2}{4} \right] P^2(\mathbf{k}). \quad (94)$$

Discarding the negative frequency solution, from Eq. (81), we are left with

$$\omega = (1 + \rho + \sigma) |\mathbf{k}|, \quad (95)$$

which explicitly becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \omega &= \left\{ 1 + \left[\frac{1}{2} (t_1 + t_2 + t_3) + \frac{F^2}{2} - \frac{(t_1 + t_2 + t_3)^2}{4} \right] P \right\} |\mathbf{k}| \\ &:= (1 + C P) |\mathbf{k}|, \end{aligned} \quad (96)$$

where C depends exclusively on the t_i parameters. The dependency on $\mathbf{k}$ goes through P , Eq. (90). Considering the anisotropy represented by the eigenvalues t_i of Eq. (88), we compute the group velocity along the i^{th} space direction

$$v_{gi} = \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k_i}, \quad (97)$$

and thereby, we find

$$v_{gi} = \frac{k_i}{|\mathbf{k}|} \left(1 + 2C t_i + C t_j \frac{k_j^2}{|\mathbf{k}|^2} \right), \quad (98)$$

where summation does not run over i (i fixed), but over j .

Finally, we get the group velocity

$$|\mathbf{v}_g|^2 = 1 + 6C t_i \frac{k_i^2}{|\mathbf{k}|^2} + \mathcal{O}(t^2), \quad (99)$$

where summation runs over the index i .

This shows a non-Maxwellian behaviour, $|\mathbf{v}_g| \neq 1$, whenever the second left-hand side term differs from zero. We observe that there is a frequency dependency, but absence of mass since, Eq. (96), $|\mathbf{k}| = 0$ implies $\omega = 0$. The frequency never becomes complex, while super-luminal velocities may appear if $C t_i k_i^2$ in Eq. (99) is positive. The parameters t are suppressed by powers of the Planck energy, so they are very small. This justifies the truncation in Eq. (99). The value depends on the constraints of such parameters.

2.2.2 Class 4: k_F model and SuSy breaking

As we did for Class 2, we proceed towards an effective photonic Lagrangian for Class 4, by integrating out the photino sector. The resulting Lagrangian reads [55]

$$L_4 = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{r}{2}\chi_{\mu\nu}F_k^\mu F^{\nu k} + \frac{s}{2}\chi_{\mu\nu}\partial_\alpha F^{\alpha\mu}\partial_\beta F^{\beta\nu}, \quad (100)$$

The $\chi^{\alpha\beta}$ tensor is linearly related to the breaking tensor k_F , as it has been shown in the Appendix B of [55]. Also, according to the results of Sects. 2, 4 of the same reference, the - mass⁻² - parameter s corresponds to the (scalar) condensate of the Fermions present in the background SuSy multiplet responsible for the LoSy violation, where r is a dimensionless coefficient, estimated as $r = -32$ [55]. The term with coefficient s in L_4 corresponds to a dimension-6 operator and, in a context without SuSy, it appears in the photon sector of the non-minimal SME [21, 80]. More recently [81], an analysis of causality and propagation properties stemming from the dimension-6 term above was carried out.

The DR reads (Eq. 10 in [56], see Appendix A $s\chi k^4 - (1 - r\chi + s\chi^{\alpha\beta}k_\alpha k_\beta)k^2 + 3r\chi^{\alpha\beta}k_\alpha k_\beta = 0$, (101) where $\chi = \chi^\mu_\mu$.

Similarly to Class 2, the tensor $\chi_{\alpha\beta}$ is symmetric and thus diagonalisable. If the temporal components linked to superluminal and ghost solutions are suppressed ($\chi^{00} = \chi^{0i} = 0$), we get

$$\chi = \chi_1^1 + \chi_2^2 + \chi_3^3 := \chi_1 + \chi_2 + \chi_3 \quad (102)$$

where again, we disregard Einstein summation rule for the i index. For

$$\chi^{\alpha\beta}k_\alpha k_\beta = -\chi_1 k_1^2 - \chi_2 k_2^2 - \chi_3 k_3^2 := D(k), \quad (103)$$

we get

$$s\chi(\omega^2 - |\mathbf{k}|^2)^2 - (1 - r\chi + sD)(\omega^2 - |\mathbf{k}|^2) + 3rD = 0. \quad (104)$$

Expanding for ω

$$s\chi\omega^4 - (1 - r\chi + 2s\chi|\mathbf{k}|^2 + sD)\omega^2 + s\chi|\mathbf{k}|^4 + (1 - r\chi + sD)|\mathbf{k}|^2 + 3rD = 0. \quad (105)$$

Rather than solving the fourth order equation, we derive the group velocity at first order in χ_i

$$v_{gi} = \frac{k_i}{\omega} - (3r + s|\mathbf{k}|^2)\chi_i \frac{k_i}{\omega} + s\omega\chi_i k_i + \mathcal{O}(\chi^2), \quad (106)$$

where there isn't summation over the index i . Finally, we get

$$|\mathbf{v}_g|^2 = \frac{|\mathbf{k}|^2}{\omega^2} + \frac{2(3r + s|\mathbf{k}|^2)D}{\omega^2} - 2sD + \mathcal{O}(\chi^2), \quad (107)$$

The behaviour with frequency of the group velocity is also proportional to the inverse of the frequency squared, as for the dBP massive photon.

Conversely to Class 3, here the integration of the photino leads to a massive photon, evinced from $\omega \neq 0$ for $k = 0$, Eq. (105). This was undetected in our previous work [56]. The photon mass comes out as

$$m_\gamma = \left(\frac{1 - r\chi}{s\chi}\right)^{1/2}. \quad (108)$$

In [80, 81], there isn't any estimate on the s -parameter. In [21], besides assessing the dimensionless k_F as 10^{-18} , the authors present Table XV of the estimates on the parameters associated to dimension-6 operators. They are based on observations of astrophysical dispersion and bi-refringence. Considering our DR of Eq. (101), the PDG [68] photon mass limit of 5.6×10^{-19} eV/c² and the estimate in Appendix B of [55], for $\chi = \sqrt{k_F}10^{-9}$, $\sqrt{1/s}$ is evaluated as 1.8×10^{-24} eV/c².

Super-luminal velocities may be generated and ω^2 becomes complex if, referring to Eq. (106)

$$(1 - r\chi + sD)^2 - 12rs\chi D < 0. \quad (109)$$

3 Bi-refringence in CPT-odd classes

For CPT-odd classes, the determination of the DRs in terms of the fields provides a fruitful outcome, since it relates the solutions to the physical polarisations of the fields themselves. This approach must obviously reproduce compatible results with those obtained with the potentials. However, the physical interpretation of said results should be clearer in this new approach.

We consider the wave propagating along one space component of the breaking vector V^μ . Without loss of generality, we pose $\mathbf{V} = V\hat{\mathbf{z}}$ and $\mathbf{k} = k\hat{\mathbf{z}}$. The fields ($\mathbf{e}$, $\mathbf{b}$ of the photon) are then written as

$$\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{e}_0 e^{i(kz - \omega t)}, \quad (110)$$

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b}_0 e^{i(kz - \omega t)}, \quad (111)$$

where $\mathbf{e}_0$ and $\mathbf{b}_0$ are complex vectors

$$\mathbf{e}_0 = \mathbf{e}_{0R} + i\mathbf{e}_{0I}, \quad (112)$$

$$\mathbf{b}_0 = \mathbf{b}_{0R} + i\mathbf{b}_{0I}, \quad (113)$$

the subscripts R and I standing for the real and imaginary parts, respectively. The actual fields are the real parts of $\mathbf{e}$ and $\mathbf{b}$

$$\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{e}_{0R} \cos(kz - \omega t) - \mathbf{e}_{0I} \sin(kz - \omega t), \quad (114)$$

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b}_{0R} \cos(kz - \omega t) - \mathbf{b}_{0I} \sin(kz - \omega t). \quad (115)$$

From the field equations [20], the following relations emerge

$$\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{e}_{0R} + \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{b}_{0I} = 0, \quad (116)$$

$$\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{e}_{0I} - \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{b}_{0R} = 0, \quad (117)$$

$$\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{e}_{0R} = \omega \mathbf{b}_{0R}, \quad (118)$$

$$\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{e}_{0I} = \omega \mathbf{b}_{0I}, \quad (119)$$

$$\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{b}_{0R} = \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{b}_{0I} = 0, \quad (120)$$

$$-\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{b}_{0R} - V_0 \mathbf{b}_{0I} + \mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{e}_{0I} = \omega \mathbf{e}_{0R}, \quad (121)$$

$$-\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{b}_{0I} + V_0 \mathbf{b}_{0R} - \mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{e}_{0R} = \omega \mathbf{e}_{0I}. \quad (122)$$

From the above relations, recalling that both $\mathbf{k}$ and $\mathbf{V}$ are along the $\hat{\mathbf{z}}$ axis, we obtain that $\mathbf{e}_{0R}$ and $\mathbf{e}_{0I}$ are transverse. They develop longitudinal components only if $\mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{b}_{0R}$ and $\mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{b}_{0I}$ are non vanishing.

Dealing with a transverse $\mathbf{e}_0$, we consider a circularly polarised wave

$$\mathbf{e}_{0R} = e_0 \hat{\mathbf{x}}, \quad (123)$$

$$\mathbf{e}_{0I} = \xi e_0 \hat{\mathbf{y}}, \quad (124)$$

implying

$$\mathbf{e}_0 = e_0 (\hat{\mathbf{x}} + i \xi \hat{\mathbf{y}}), \quad (125)$$

with $\xi = \pm 1$ indicating right- (+1) or left-handed (-1) polarisation. Using Eqs. (118, 119, 121–124), the following dispersion is written

$$\omega^2 + \xi V \omega - k^2 - \xi V_0 k = 0, \quad (126)$$

from which a polarisation dependent group velocity can be attained

$$v_g = \frac{1}{2\omega + \xi |\mathbf{V}|} \sqrt{(2\omega + \xi |\mathbf{V}|)^2 + V_0^2 - |\mathbf{V}|^2}. \quad (127)$$

Up to Eq. (126), we have not specified the space-time character of the background vector V_μ . However, Eq. (127) shows $v_g > 1$, if V_μ is time-like. So, to avoid super-luminal effects, we restrict V_μ to be a space- or light-like four-vector. In the former case $v_g < 1$, in the latter $v_g = 1$.

The group velocity dependency on the two value-handedness is known as bi-refrindexence. Incidentally, the group velocity from Eq. (127) can be expressed in terms of the wave number k

$$v_g(k) = (2k + \xi V_0) \left[(2k + \xi V_0)^2 - V_0^2 + V^2 \right]. \quad (128)$$

For a situation of linear polarisation ($\mathbf{k}$ and $\mathbf{V}$ being parallel), if we consider V^μ light-like, we have

$$\mathbf{e}_{0R} = e_0 \hat{\mathbf{x}}, \quad (129)$$

$$\mathbf{e}_{0I} = 0. \quad (130)$$

In this case, Eqs. (116–122) lead to

$$\mathbf{b}_{0I} = 0, \quad (131)$$

$$\mathbf{b}_{0R} = \frac{k}{\omega} e_0 \hat{\mathbf{y}}, \quad (132)$$

and the group velocity turns out to be

$$v_g = 1, \quad (133)$$

showing that to the linear polarisation is associated a different v_g .

One might be persuaded, as we initially were, that this result entails the property of tri-refrindexence, because with the same wave vector as in the case of circular polarization, we get a different v_g , namely, $v_g = 1$. And tri-refrindexence actually means three distinct refraction indices for the same wave vector. However, the linear polarisation and the result $v_g = 1$ correspond to a light-like V_μ , whereas for the circular polarization and bi-refrindexence, we have considered V_μ space-like. We then conclude that, since we are dealing with different space-time classes of V_μ , triple refraction is not actually taking place.

4 Wave energy loss

4.1 CPT-odd classes

In the CFJ scenario, we now study an EM excitation of a photon propagating in a constant external field. The total field is given by

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}_B + \mathbf{e}, \quad (134)$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B}_B + \mathbf{b}, \quad (135)$$

where $\mathbf{E}_B$ ($\mathbf{B}_B$) is the external electric (magnetic) field. We first take the external field as uniform and constant, and thus

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{e} - \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{b} = P, \quad (136)$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{e} = -\partial_t \mathbf{b}, \quad (137)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0, \quad (138)$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{b} - V_0 \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{e} = \partial_t \mathbf{e} + \mathbf{J}, \quad (139)$$

where

$$P = \rho - \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{B}_B, \quad (140)$$

being ρ the external charge density, and the other term the effective charge due to the coupling between background and external field. Similarly $\mathbf{J}$ is the total current given by

$$\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{j} + V_0 \mathbf{B}_B - \mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{E}_B, \quad (141)$$

in which $\mathbf{j}$ is the external current density and the other terms are the effective currents due to the field coupling. From these equations, we get

$$\begin{cases} (\nabla \times \mathbf{e}) \cdot \mathbf{b} = -\partial_t \left(\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{b}^2 \right) \\ (\nabla \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{e} - V_0 \mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \partial_t \left(\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{e}^2 \right) + \mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{e}. \end{cases} \quad (142)$$

Subtracting the first to the second, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & (\nabla \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{e} - (\nabla \times \mathbf{e}) \cdot \mathbf{b} - V_0 \mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{b} \\ &= \partial_t \left(\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{e}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{b}^2 \right) + \mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{e}. \end{aligned} \quad (143)$$

The first two terms can be rewritten as

$$(\nabla \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{e} - (\nabla \times \mathbf{e}) \cdot \mathbf{b} = \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{e}) = -\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{e} \times \mathbf{b}). \quad (144)$$

Rewriting $\mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{b}$ as

$$\mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{b} = -\frac{1}{2} \partial_t (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}) + \nabla \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{e} - \frac{1}{2} \phi \mathbf{b} \right), \quad (145)$$

where $\mathbf{a}(\phi)$ is the magnetic (electric) potential of the excitation, it yields the non-conservation of the energy-momentum tensor

$$\begin{aligned} & \nabla \cdot \left(\mathbf{e} \times \mathbf{b} - V_0 \phi \mathbf{b} + \frac{1}{2} V_0 \mathbf{a} \times \dot{\mathbf{e}} \right) + \partial_t \left(\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{e}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{b}^2 - \frac{1}{2} V_0 \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} \right) \\ &= -(\mathbf{j} + V_0 \mathbf{B}_B - \mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{E}_B) \cdot \mathbf{e}. \end{aligned} \quad (146)$$

We observe that even when $\mathbf{j} = 0$, there is dissipation, due to the coupling between the LSV background and the external field. Thereby, in the CFJ scenario accompanied by an external field, the propagating wave $(\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{b})$ loses energy.

Since in Eq. (146) the background vector V_μ , and the external field, which is treated non-dynamically, are both space-time-independent, they are not expected to contribute to the non-conservation of the energy-momentum tensor, for they do not introduce any explicit x_μ dependence in the CFJ Lagrangian, Eq. (3). However, there is here a subtlety. The LSV term, which is of the CS type, depends on the four-potential, A_μ . By introducing the constant external fields, E_B and B_B , and performing the splittings of Eqs. (134, 135), an explicit dependence on the background potentials, ϕ_B and $\mathbf{A}_B$, appear now in the Lagrangian. But, if the background fields are constant, the background potentials must necessarily display linear dependence on x_μ ($A_B^\mu = \frac{1}{2} F_B^{\mu\nu} x_\nu$); the translation invariance of the Lagrangian is thereby lost. Then the LSV term triggers the appearance of the term $V_0 \mathbf{B}_B - \mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{E}_B$ in the right-hand side of Eq. (146).

The above results may also be presented in the covariant formulation. We profit to include a non-constant external field in our setting, generalising the results above. On the other hand, we retain V^μ constant over space-time, to appreciate whether dissipation emerges with a minimal set of requirements on the LSV vector. We start off from

$$\partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} + V_\mu {}^* F^{\mu\nu} = j^\nu, \quad (147)$$

where ${}^* F^{\mu\nu}$ is the dual EM tensor field. We note the splitting

$$F^{\mu\nu} = F_B^{\mu\nu} + f^{\mu\nu}, \quad (148)$$

where $F_B^{\mu\nu}$ stands for the background electromagnetic field tensor and $f_{\mu\nu}$ corresponds to the propagating wave $(\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{b})$, both being x_μ dependent. We write the energy-momentum for the photon field ($f^{\mu\nu}$) as

$$(\theta_f)^\mu{}_\rho = f^{\mu\nu} f_{\nu\rho} + \frac{1}{4} \delta_\rho^\mu f^2 - \frac{1}{2} {}^* f^{\mu\nu} a_\nu v_\rho, \quad (149)$$

where ${}^* f^{\mu\nu}$ is the dual EM tensor photon field. The first two terms of Eq. (149) are Maxwellian, whereas the third originates from the CFJ model. The photon energy-momentum tensor continuity equation reads as

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_\mu (\theta_f)^\mu{}_\rho &= j^\mu f_{\mu\rho} - V_\mu F_B^{\mu\nu} f_{\nu\rho} - (\partial_\mu F_B^{\mu\nu}) f_{\nu\rho} \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} {}^* f^{\mu\nu} a_\nu \partial_\mu v_\rho. \end{aligned} \quad (150)$$

Equation (149) shows that the energy-momentum tensor, in presence of LSV terms, is no longer symmetric, as it had been long ago pointed out [17,20]. In this situation, θ^{00} describes the field energy density; θ^{i0} represents the components of a generalised Poynting vector, while θ^{0i} is the true field momentum density.

If we denote the energy density by u and the generalised Poynting vector as $\mathbf{S}$, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t u + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{S} &= -\mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{e} - V^0 \mathbf{E}_B \cdot \mathbf{e} - (\partial_t \mathbf{E}_B) \cdot \mathbf{e} \\ &\quad + (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}_B) \cdot \mathbf{e} - (\mathbf{B}_B \times \mathbf{e}) \cdot \mathbf{V}. \end{aligned} \quad (151)$$

Besides the external current j^μ , external electric and magnetic fields (space-time constant or not) are sources for the exchange of energy with the propagating $\mathbf{e}$ — and $\mathbf{b}$ — waves. In the special case the external $\mathbf{E}_B$ — and $\mathbf{B}_B$ — fields are constant over space-time, their coupling to the components of the LSV vector are still responsible for the energy exchange with the electromagnetic signals.

4.2 CPT-odd and CPT-even classes

Let us consider the field equation with both V_μ and k_F space-time dependent; the Lagrangians Eqs. (3, 78) yield the field equations

$$\partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} + V_\mu * F^{\mu\nu} + \left(\partial_\mu k_F^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} \right) F_{\kappa\lambda} + k_F^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} \partial_\mu F_{\kappa\lambda} = j^\nu. \quad (152)$$

We perform the same splitting as above

$$F_{\mu\nu} = (F_B)_{\mu\nu} + f_{\mu\nu}. \quad (153)$$

We compute the energy-momentum tensor θ_ρ^μ and its conservation equation for the propagating signal $f_{\mu\nu}$

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_\rho^\mu = & f^{\mu\nu} f_{\nu\rho} + \frac{1}{4} \delta_\rho^\mu f^2 - \frac{1}{2} * f^{\mu\nu} a_\nu V_\rho \\ & + k_F^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} f_{\kappa\lambda} f_{\nu\rho} + \frac{1}{4} \delta_\rho^\mu k_F^{\kappa\lambda\alpha\beta} f_{\kappa\lambda} f_{\alpha\beta}, \end{aligned} \quad (154)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_\mu \theta_\rho^\mu = & j^\nu f_{\nu\rho} - (\partial_\rho F_B^{\mu\nu}) f_{\nu\rho} - V_\mu * F_B^{\mu\nu} f_{\nu\rho} \\ & - \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu V_\rho) * f^{\mu\nu} a_\nu + \frac{1}{4} \left(\partial_\rho k_F^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} \right) f_{\mu\nu} f_{\kappa\lambda} \\ & - \left(\partial_\mu k_F^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} \right) F_{B\kappa\lambda} f_{\nu\rho} - k_F^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} (\partial_\mu F_{B\kappa\lambda}) f_{\nu\rho}. \end{aligned} \quad (155)$$

The conservation equation of the energy-momentum corresponds to taking the θ_0^μ component of the continuity equation, Eq. (155).

The background time derivative terms $(\partial_t F_B^{\mu\nu}) f_{\mu\nu}$ and $k_F^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} (\partial_t F_{B\kappa\lambda}) f_{\mu\nu}$ may account for a deviation from the conservation of the energy-momentum tensor of the propagating wave, whenever one of the fields $\mathbf{E}_B$, $\mathbf{B}_B$ is not constant.

4.2.1 Varying breaking vector V_μ and tensor k_F without an external EM field

We deal with both CPT sectors at once. Indeed, we start off from the Lagrangian

$$L = -\frac{1}{4} (F^{\mu\nu})^2 + \frac{1}{4} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} V_\mu A_\nu F_{\kappa\lambda} - \frac{1}{4} (k_F)_{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} F^{\mu\nu} F^{\kappa\lambda}, \quad (156)$$

with V_μ and k_F both x^μ dependent, and n_μ a constant four-vector. This Lagrangian is a combination of contributions from the breaking terms V_μ and k_F . The resulting field equation is

$$\partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} + V_\mu * F^{\mu\nu} + \partial_\mu [(k_F)^{\kappa\lambda\mu\nu} F_{\kappa\lambda}] = 0. \quad (157)$$

From Eq. (157), the equation on energy-momentum follows

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_\rho^\mu = & F^{\mu\nu} F_{\nu\rho} + \frac{1}{4} \delta_\rho^\mu F^2 - \frac{1}{2} (*F^{\mu\alpha} A_\alpha V_\rho) \\ & + (k_F)^{\kappa\lambda\mu\nu} F_{\kappa\lambda} F_{\nu\rho} + \frac{1}{4} \delta_\rho^\mu (k_F)^{\kappa\lambda\alpha\beta} F_{\kappa\lambda} F_{\alpha\beta}, \end{aligned}$$

as well as its non-conservation

$$\partial_\mu \theta_\nu^\mu = -\frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu V_\nu) * F^{\mu\rho} A_\rho + \frac{1}{4} \left(\partial_\nu k_F^{\mu\rho\kappa\lambda} \right) F_{\mu\rho} F_{\kappa\lambda}. \quad (158)$$

Equation (158) confirms that, if V_μ and k_F are coordinate dependent, there is energy and momentum exchange, and thereby dissipation even in absence of an external EM field. The LSV background introduces an explicit space-time dependency in the Lagrangian so that the energy and momentum of the propagating electromagnetic field are not conserved.

If we take the energy density $\theta_0^0 := u$ and the generalised Poynting vector $\theta^{0i} = \mathbf{S}$, we write, from Eq. (158)

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t u + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{S} = & -\frac{1}{2} (\partial_t V_0) \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{A} - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla V_0 \cdot \mathbf{B}) \Phi \\ & - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla V_0 \times \mathbf{E}) \cdot \mathbf{A} + \frac{1}{4} \left(\partial_t k_F^{\mu\rho\kappa\lambda} \right) F_{\mu\rho} F_{\kappa\lambda}. \end{aligned} \quad (159)$$

Therefore, it becomes clear that the CPT-odd term contributes to the breaking of the energy-momentum conservation through the V_0 component; on the other hand, the CPT-even k_F tensor affects the energy continuity equation only if its components exhibit time dependency. If $k_F^{\mu\rho\kappa\lambda}$ are only space dependent, then there is no contribution to the right-hand side of Eq. (159).

Recalling that $\theta^{\mu\nu}$ is no longer symmetric in presence of a LSV background, if we consider the continuity equation for the momentum density of the field, described by θ^{0i} , it can be readily checked that the space component of V_μ , $\mathbf{V}$, through its space and time dependencies, and the space dependency of the k_F components will be also responsible for the non-conservation of the momentum density carried by the electromagnetic signals.

4.2.2 The most general situation: LSV background and external field x_μ -dependent

In this section, we present the most general case to describe the energy-momentum continuity equation for the photon field ($f^{\mu\nu}$). By starting off from the field equation

$$\partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} + V_\mu * F^{\mu\nu} + \left(\partial_\mu k_F^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} \right) F_{\kappa\lambda} + k_F^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} \partial_\mu F_{\kappa\lambda} = j^\nu, \quad (160)$$

and using

$$*f^{\mu\rho}f_{\rho\nu} = -\frac{1}{4}\delta_\nu^\mu *f \cdot f = -\frac{1}{2}\delta_\nu^\mu \partial_\rho (*f^{\rho\lambda}a_\lambda), \quad (161)$$

$$(\partial_\mu *f^{\kappa\lambda})f_{\kappa\lambda} = *f^{\kappa\lambda}(\partial_\mu f_{\kappa\lambda}) = \partial_\mu \partial_\kappa (*f^{\kappa\lambda}a_\lambda), \quad (162)$$

$$k_F^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}f_{\kappa\lambda}\partial_\nu f_{\mu\rho} = -\partial_\rho \left(\frac{1}{4}k_F^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}f_{\mu\nu}f_{\kappa\lambda} \right) + \frac{1}{4}(\partial_\rho k_F^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda})f_{\mu\nu}f_{\kappa\lambda}, \quad (163)$$

we present the photon energy-momentum tensor

$$\theta_\rho^\mu = f^{\mu\nu}f_{\nu\rho} + \frac{1}{4}\delta_\rho^\mu f^2 - \frac{1}{2}V_\rho *f^{\mu\nu}a_\nu + k_F^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}f_{\kappa\lambda}f_{\nu\rho} + \frac{1}{4}\delta_\rho^\mu k_F^{\kappa\lambda\alpha\beta}f_{\kappa\lambda}f_{\alpha\beta}, \quad (164)$$

and its non-conservation

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_\mu \theta_\rho^\mu &= j^\nu f_{\nu\rho} - (\partial_\mu F_B^{\mu\nu})f_{\nu\rho} - V_\mu *F_B^{\mu\nu}f_{\nu\rho} \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu V_\rho) *f^{\mu\nu}a_\nu + \frac{1}{4}(\partial_\rho k_F^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda})f_{\mu\nu}f_{\kappa\lambda} \\ &\quad - (\partial_\mu k_F^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda})F_{B\kappa\lambda}f_{\nu\rho} - k_F^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}(\partial_\mu F_{B\kappa\lambda})f_{\nu\rho}. \end{aligned} \quad (165)$$

The right hand-side of Eq. (165) displays all types of terms that describe the exchange of energy between the photon, the LSV background and the external field, taking into account an x^μ -dependence of the LSV background and the external field.

In Eq. (165), the first two right-hand side terms are purely Maxwellian. Further, since θ_ν^μ is not symmetric in presence of LSV terms, when taking its four-divergence with respect to its second index, namely $\partial^\nu \theta_\nu^\mu$, contributions of the forms $\partial^\nu k_F^{\kappa\lambda\nu\rho}F^{\kappa\lambda}f^{\rho\mu}$ and $\partial^\nu k_F^{\kappa\lambda\mu\rho}F_{\kappa\lambda}f_{\rho\nu}$ appear. Thus, even when $k_F^{\kappa\lambda\mu\rho}$ is only space dependent, though not contributing to $\partial_\nu \theta^{\nu 0}$, it does contribute to $\partial_\nu \theta^{0\nu}$. We observe that the roles of the perturbation vector and tensor differ, the latter demanding a space-time dependence of the tensor or of the external field, conversely to the former.

As final remark, the energy losses would presumably translate into frequency damping if the excitation were a photon. Whether such losses could be perceived as 'tired light' needs an analysis of the wave-particle relation.

5 Conclusions, discussion and perspectives

We have approached the question of non-Maxwellian photons from a more fundamental perspective, linking their appearance to the breaking of the Lorentz symmetry. Despite massive photons have been proposed in several works, few

hypothesis on the mass origin have been published, see for instance [82], and surely there is no comprehensive discussion taking form of a review on such origin, see for instance [83]. It is our belief that answering this question is a crucial task in order to truly understand the nature of the electromagnetic interaction carrier and the potential implications in interpreting signals from the Universe. Given the complexity of the subject, we intend to carry on our research in future works.

The chosen approach concerns well established SuSy theories that go beyond the Standard Model. Some models originated from SuSy:⁵ see for instance [55,75,86] determined dispersion relations, but the analysis of the latter was unachieved. We also derived the dispersion relations for those cases not present in the literature and also for those we charged ourselves with the task of studying the consequences in some detail. We did not intend to cover all physical cases, and we do not have any pretense of having done so. Nevertheless, we have explored quite a range of both odd and even CPT sectors.

We stand on the conviction that a fundamental theory describing nature should include both CPT sectors. The understanding of the interaction between the two sectors is far from being unfolded and one major question remains open. If we are confronted with a non-Maxwellian behaviour for one sector, or worse for two sectors, how would a two-sector theory narrate the propagation? Would the two contributions be simply additive or would there be more interwoven relations? The answers to these questions would prompt other stimulating future avenues of research.

Starting from the actions representing odd and even CPT sector, for both we have analysed whether the photon propagation is impacted by its SuSy partner, the photino. Though the SuSy partners have not been experimentally detected yet, it is possible to assess their impact. Indeed, the actions of Eqs. (10, 100), describe effective photonic models for which the effects of the photino have been summed up at the classical level, that is without loop corrections. Thus, the corresponding DRs include SuSy through the background of the Fermionic sector accompanying the V^μ and k_F breaking vector and tensor, respectively. It would be worth to draw from the constraints on the SME coefficients the estimates of the background SuSy condensates. The latter when related to the SuSy breaking scale and thereby to the masses of the SuSy partners, and specifically the photino. This is a relevant issue for investigating the connection between the SuSy breaking scale, associated to the condensates of the Fermionic partners in the LSV background, and the constraints on the SME.

For the CPT-odd case, we study the super-symmetrised [55,75] Carroll–Field–Jackiw model [20], where the Lorentz-

⁵ Other models are outside SuSy. Identical results are found in [84,85].

Poincaré symmetry violation is determined by the V_μ four-vector. The resulting dispersion relation is of the fourth order.

For the next conclusions, we do not distinguish between classes with respect to photino integration.

In short, the major findings can be summarised as follows. For the effective photon mass:

- Whenever an explicit solution is determined, at least one solution shows a massive photon behaviour. It is characterised by a frequency dependency of the type ω^{-2} like the classic de Broglie-Proca photon.
- The mass is effective and proportional to the absolute value of the Lorentz symmetry breaking vector. The ground based upper limits [67] are compatible with state of the art experimental findings on photon mass [68].
- The group velocity is almost always sub-luminal. Superluminal speeds may appear if the time component of the breaking vector differs from zero. They appear beyond a frequency threshold.
- The photon mass is gauge invariant as drawn by the Carroll–Field–Jackiw model, conversely to the de Broglie-Proca photon.
- Bi-refrignce accompanies the CPT-odd sector.

Other notable features are

- When the time component of the LSV breaking vector differs from zero, imaginary and complex frequencies may arise.
- We have determined group velocities in the following cases: when the time component or the along the line of sight component of the breaking vector vanishes. The most general case, all components being present, was analysed for V^μ light-like.
- The solutions feature anisotropy and lack of Lorentz invariance, due to the dependency on the angle between the breaking vector and the propagation direction, or else on the chosen reference frame.
- Since two group velocities for the CPT-odd handedness were found except for V^μ light-like, we pursued an analysis of the dispersion relation in terms of the fields, in well defined polarisations. We have determined the existence of bi-refrignce.

Having recorded for almost all CPT-odd cases, a massive-like behaviour, we have explained this phenomenology tracing its origin back to the Carroll–Field–Jackiw Lagrangian. We have recast it in a non-explicit but still covariant form, introducing the photon field components. The electric potential is not a dynamical variable and we eliminated it from the Lagrangian. In the latter, a term that has the classic structure of the de Broglie-Proca photon mass arises, where the breaking vector playing the role of the mass. This is consistent

with what we had previously seen in the dispersion relations. It gives us a more fundamental reason for which the mass of the photon would be linked to the breaking vector.

For the CPT-even sector, we adopt the k_F breaking tensor model [55]. From the dispersion relations, we evince

- Generally, being the propagation of the photon affected by the action of the breaking tensor, we have a tensorial anisotropy and thereby a patent lack of Lorentz invariance. The main consequence is that the speed of light depends on the direction. The correction goes like the breaking components squared. As the components are tiny, since they represent the deviation from the Lorentz invariance, also the correction to c will be limited to small values.
- Nevertheless, if the breaking tensor is proportional to the Kroeneker’s delta, the dispersion relation looks as a light ray propagating through a medium. The vacuum assumes an effective refraction index due to the interaction of the photon with the background.
- From the Class 3 Lagrangian, it follows that no mass can be generated for the photon. Indeed, the dispersion relation yields $\omega = 0$ whenever $\mathbf{k} = 0$. Instead, for Class 4, there may take place a photon mass generation, due to the b-term which represents higher derivatives in the Lagrangian. Thus, the DR includes the possibility of a non-trivial ω -solution even if we take a trivial wave vector.

Possibly, the most remarkable result concerns energy dissipation for both odd and even CPT sectors.

- In the odd sector, the coupling of a constant external field, with a constant breaking vector, determines an energy loss even in absence of an external current. This is revealed by the breaking of the continuity equation (or conservation) of the photon energy-momentum tensor. If the photon is coupled to the LSV background and/or an EM external field which explicitly depend on the space-time coordinates, then translational symmetry is broken and the energy-momentum tensor is no longer conserved. This means that the system under consideration is exchanging energy (loosing or even receiving) with the environment.
- Still in the odd sector, in absence of an external field, but in presence of a space and/or time dependency of the time component of the breaking vector, energy loss occurs.
- Finally, we have considered odd and even CPT sectors together. We found if V_μ and k_F are coordinate dependent, there is dissipation in absence of an external EM field.

The relation between dissipation and complex, or simply imaginary, frequencies naturally arises. Perspectives in research stem from the issues below.

Dissipation occurs in both odd and even CPT sectors when the associated breaking factors are not constant over space-time (for the following considerations, we neglect any external field). However, in the odd sector, even if V_μ is constant, complex frequencies may arise since the dispersion relation is quartic in frequency. This is due to the Carroll–Field–Jackiw model which does not ensure a positive-definite energy, and thereby we may have unstable configurations. This leads to complex frequencies. Imaginary frequencies imply damping which is associated to dissipation, and we don't feel having cleared the issue sufficiently.

The CPT-even sector does not get in trouble with the positiveness of the energy, and thereby complex frequencies associated to unstable excitations are absent. So, the CPT-even sector may yield dissipation, when k_F is non-constant, even if it does not exhibit complex frequencies.

In short, future analysis of dissipation will have to tackle and possibly set boundaries towards imaginary frequencies and super-luminal velocities, knowing that dissipation might very well occur for sub-luminal propagation.

We shall be analysing these and related issues, in connection with the conjectures of tired light in forthcoming works, also in the frame of a classic non-linear formulation of electromagnetism. We take note of different but otherwise possibly converging efforts [87].

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Appendix A: On CPT-even classes

We intend to write the k_F tensor in terms of a single Bosonic vector ξ_μ which signals LSV. This field is supposed to be part of a chiral field of which the Fermionic condensates generate the LSV. For achieving this purpose, we start by neglecting the fully anti-symmetric part in $(k_F)_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}$, since it would only account to a total derivative in the action (we exclude the component yielding bi-refringence, in this manner). Exploiting the Ansatz in [23, 79], we write for

$$\kappa_{\alpha\beta} = \xi_\alpha \xi_\beta - \eta_{\alpha\beta} \frac{\xi_\rho \xi^\rho}{4}, \quad (\text{A.1})$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} (k_F)_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} &= -(k_F)_{\nu\mu\alpha\beta} = -(k_F)_{\mu\nu\beta\alpha} = (k_F)_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\eta_{\mu\alpha} \kappa_{\nu\beta} - \eta_{\mu\beta} \kappa_{\nu\alpha} + \eta_{\nu\beta} \kappa_{\mu\alpha} - \eta_{\nu\alpha} \kappa_{\mu\beta}) \\ &:= K_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.2})$$

$$\bar{K}_{\alpha\beta} = K_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \bar{k}_\mu \bar{k}_\nu, \quad (\text{A.3})$$

$$\bar{k}^\mu = \frac{k^\mu}{|\mathbf{k}|}. \quad (\text{A.4})$$

This, in turn, implies a Lagrangian in the form

$$L_3 = \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{1}{2} \xi_\mu \xi_\nu F_\alpha^\mu F^{\alpha\nu} + \frac{1}{8} \xi_\rho \xi^\rho F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \right). \quad (\text{A.5})$$

These simplifications are legitimate. In fact, had we taken into account the full complexity of the k_F term, then we would have had to deal with a higher spin super-field. Its appearance is instead avoided thanks to transferring the effects to the ξ^μ vector.

The Lagrangian in Eq. (100) is obtained carrying out the super-symmetrisation of Eq. (A.5) taking into account that ξ^μ defines the SuSy breaking field.

We are interested in obtaining an effective photonic Lagrangian by integrating out the photino sector (and all others SuSy sectors as well). The resulting Lagrangian reads [55] as Eq. (100). Since the DR for this theory is not present in literature, we proceed to its derivation. The steps are as usual the following: (i) write the Lagrangian in terms of the fields; (ii) get the Euler–Lagrange equations; (iii) perform the Fourier transform.

The Lagrangian in terms of the potential is [55]

$$\begin{aligned} L_4 = \frac{1}{2} A^\mu &\left[\left(\square - r \chi^{\alpha\beta} \partial_\alpha \partial_\beta \right) \eta_{\mu\nu} - (\partial_\nu - r \chi_{\nu\alpha} \partial^\alpha) \partial_\mu \right. \\ &+ r \chi_{\mu\alpha} \partial^\alpha \partial_\nu + \chi_{\mu\nu} \square (-r + s \square) - s (\chi_\nu^\alpha \partial_\mu + \chi_\mu^\alpha \partial_\nu) \square \partial_\alpha \\ &\left. + s \chi_{\alpha\beta} \partial^\alpha \partial^\beta \partial_\mu \partial_\nu \right] A^\nu. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.6})$$

Varying with respect to A^μ and performing the Fourier transform, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\left[k^2 \delta_\mu^\nu - r \chi^{\alpha\beta} k_\alpha k_\beta + r \chi_{\mu\alpha} k^\alpha k^\nu - \chi_\mu^\nu k^2 (r + s k^2) \right. \\ &\left. + s \chi_\mu^\alpha k^2 k_\alpha k^\mu \right] \tilde{A}^\mu = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.7})$$

having chosen the Lorenz gauge

$$k_\nu \tilde{A}^\nu = 0. \quad (\text{A.8})$$

This shows that we have a matricial equation in the form

$$M_{\mu\nu} \tilde{A}^\nu = 0, \quad (\text{A.9})$$

which has non-trivial solutions only if

$$\det M_{\mu\nu} = 0. \quad (\text{A.10})$$

By rearranging the terms, we see that

$$M_{\mu}^{\nu} = k^2 \left[\delta_{\mu}^{\nu} - r \left(\chi^{\alpha\beta} \frac{k_{\alpha} k_{\beta}}{k^2} \delta_{\mu}^{\nu} - \chi_{\mu\alpha} \frac{k^{\alpha} k^{\nu}}{k^2} \right) - \chi_{\mu}^{\nu} (r + s k^2) + s \chi_{\mu}^{\alpha} k_{\alpha} k^{\nu} \right] \quad (\text{A.11})$$

has the structure of the identity plus something small, since the parameters r and s are dependent upon the symmetries violating terms which are extremely small. Therefore

$$\det M_{\mu}^{\nu} = \det (\mathbb{I} + X) = e^{\text{tr}[\ln(\mathbb{I}+X)]}, \quad (\text{A.12})$$

with X small. Expanding the logarithm,

$$\begin{aligned} \det (\mathbb{I} + X) &\sim e^{\text{tr}\left[X - \frac{X^2}{2}\right]} \\ &= e^{\text{tr}X - \frac{1}{2}\text{tr}X^2} \\ &\sim 1 + \text{tr}X - \frac{1}{2}\text{tr}X^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\text{tr}X)^2 + O(X^3). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.13})$$

Using Eq. (A.11) we finally obtain, at first order

$$s \chi k^4 - (1 - r \chi + s \chi^{\alpha\beta} k_{\alpha} k_{\beta}) k^2 + 3r \chi^{\alpha\beta} k_{\alpha} k_{\beta} = 0, \quad (\text{A.14})$$

where $\chi = \chi_{\mu}^{\mu} = \chi_0^0 + \chi_i^i$. If we consider $\chi^{00} = \chi^{0i} = 0$, then $\chi = \chi_1^1 + \chi_2^2 + \chi_3^3 = \chi_1 + \chi_2 + \chi_3$. We point out here that Eq. (A.14), taken with $r = 0$, $s = 2\eta^2$ and $X_{\mu\nu} = D_{\mu\nu}$ reproduces the DR given in Eq. (29) of [81], once the latter is linearised in the tensor $D_{\mu\nu}$ and taken with $\theta = 0$.

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