Physics Department Seminar

Friday March 14th, 2003 11:00am in PhSc 105

"Experimental Exploration of the Quantum Vacuum through the Casimir Force"



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green laser

Abstract:

"Dark Energy"

Quantum theory predicts that the vacuum (empty space) is filled with virtual particles also referred to as zero point energy. H.B.G.Casimir, calculated an extraordinary property, that two uncharged metallic plates placed parallel in vacuum, would experience an attractive force due to the alteration of the zero point electromagnetic energy. Some of the fascinating aspects of the force, its implications and its measurements will be discussed.