



Quantum gases, Fundamental
interactions and Cosmology

Gravity tests with antimatter: the AEGIS experiment

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On behalf of the AEGIS collaboration

Outline

- Precision measurements on antimatter systems
- Motivations of the AEGIS experiment
- Overview of AEGIS
 - anti-H production
 - Antiproton cooling
 - Positron system
 - Charge exchange reaction with positronium
 - Anti-H detection
 - Gravity measurement with moiré deflectometer
- Recent results and perspectives



AEgIS Collaboration



University of
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University
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and CNRS



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Pavia



Czech Technical
University, Prague



University of
Trento



Stefan Meyer Institute, Vienna



ETH Zurich

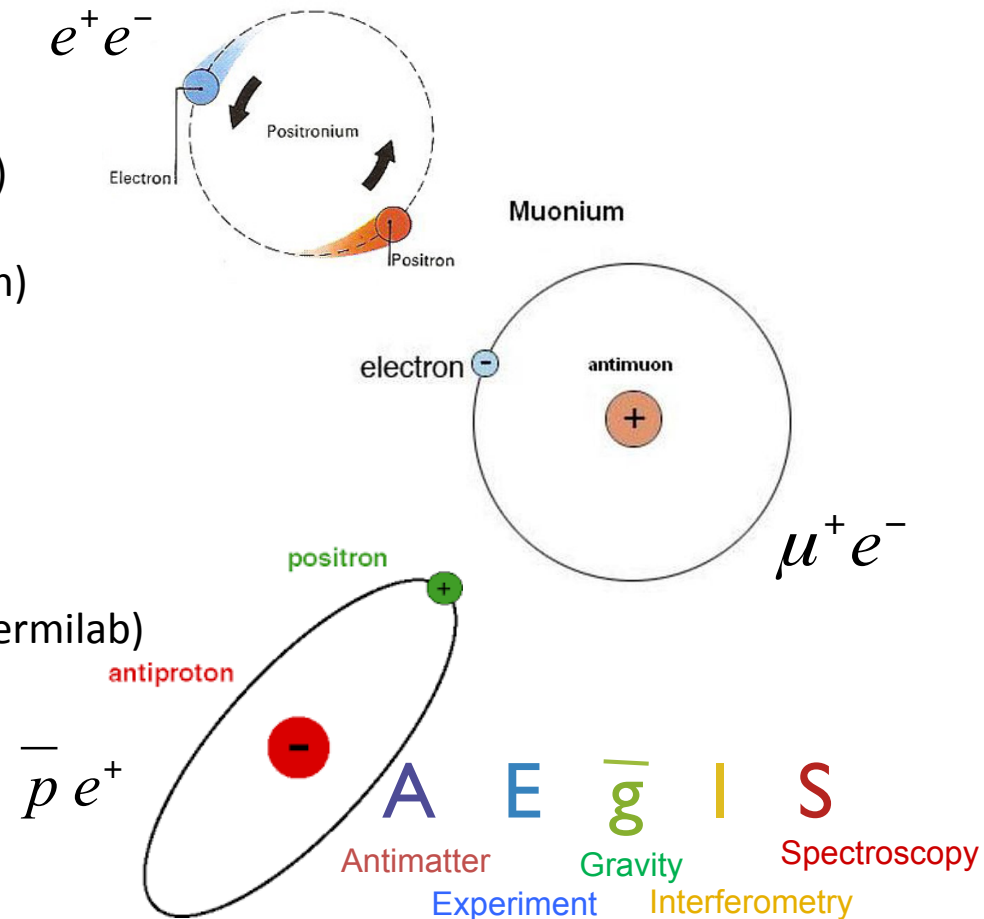


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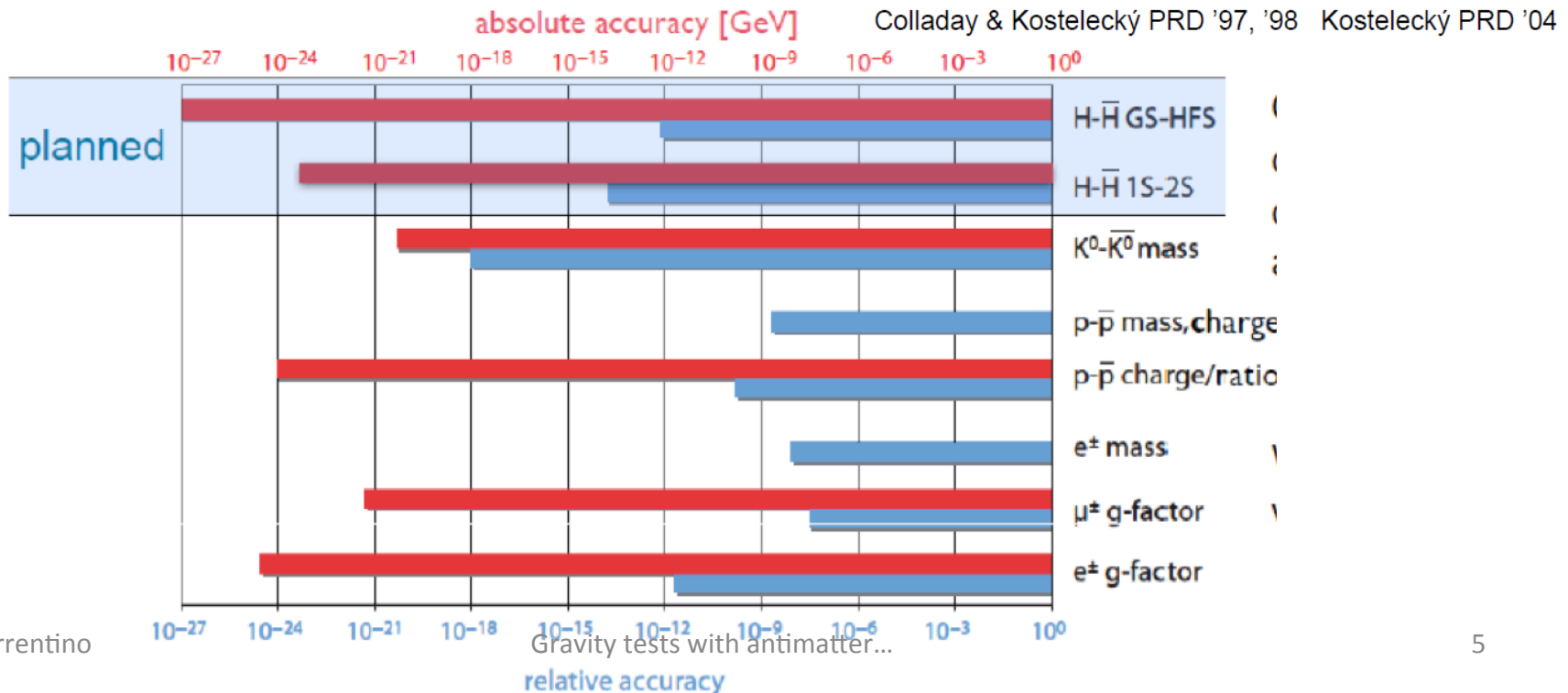
Experimental physics with antimatter

- Charged antimatter
 - 1932 positrons e^+ in cosmic rays (Anderson 1932)
 - 1955 antiprotons \bar{p} (Segré, Chamberlain, Wiegand)
- Neutral antimatter
 - Positronium
 - 1951 Discovery (Deutsch)
 - A. Mills (Univ. California Riverside)
 - P. Crivelli te al. (Univ. Zurich)
 - S. Hogan & S. Cassidy (ETH-London)
 - Tokyo University
 - AEGIS
 - Muonium
 - K. Kirch (ETH-PSI)
 - Antihydrogen
 - 1991 High-energy anti-H (CERN, Fermilab)
 - 2002 Cold anti-H (ATHENA)
 - 2011 Anti-H trapping (ALPHA)
 - 2013 Anti-H beam (ASACUSA)



Precision measures on neutral antimatter

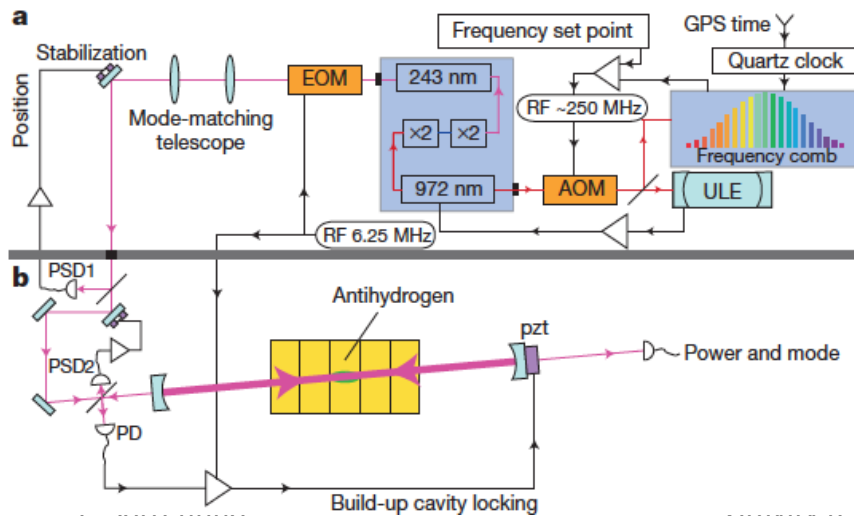
- spectroscopy
 - Local, unitary and Lorentz-invariant quantum field theories must respect CPT
 - mass, magnetic moment, transition frequency in matter-antimatter system must be equal
 - Breaking of Lorentz invariance appears in theories beyond the Standard Model
 - Standard-Model extension (SME): low energy framework to describe effects of a theory at Planck scale: effective theory which contains General Relativity (GR) & Standard Model (SM), covariant, arbitrary coordinate independent CPT & Lorentz violating terms (LV)



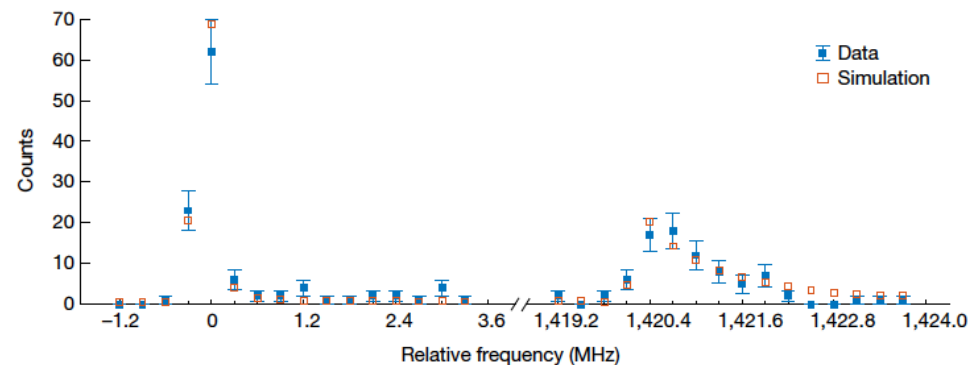
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 - Recent results from ALPHA experiment: 1S-2S spectroscopy and GS-HFS in anti-hydrogen

M. Ahmadi et al., Nature 541, 506 (2017)

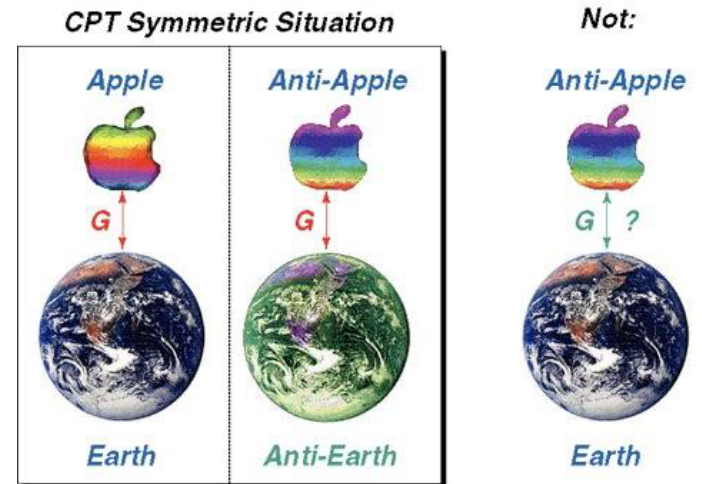


M. Ahmadi et al., Nature 548, 66 (2017)



Precision measures on neutral antimatter

- g measurement
 - WEP test
 - e.g. in SME: WEP violations results from Lorentz and CPT violations
 - no direct measurements so far on antimatter:
 - e^+e^- dominated by systematic effects [PRL **19**, 1049, 1967]
 - proposal for repeating it in space [Gen. rel. Grav. **36**, (2004)]
 - experimental bound $|g_{\text{bar}}| < 100$ g from proof of principle (ALPHA)



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a subset of the SME lagrangian with gravity¹

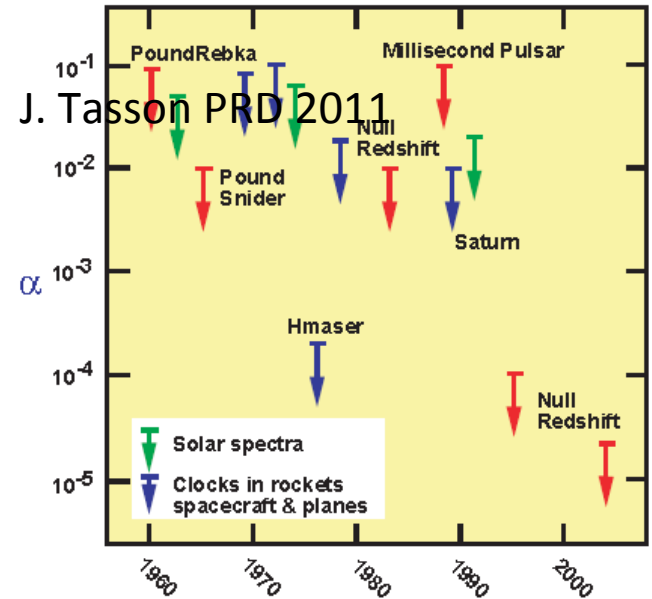
$$L_{\text{fermion}} = \frac{1}{2} i e^{\mu}_a \bar{\psi} (\gamma^a - c_{\nu\lambda} e^{\nu a} e^{\lambda}_b \gamma^b - e_{\nu} e^{\nu a}) \overleftrightarrow{D}_{\mu} \psi - \bar{\psi} (m + a_{\mu} e^{\mu}_a \gamma^a) \psi + \dots$$

coefficients for Lorentz violation
• particle-species dependent

• vierbein – gravitational effects

evades constraints

Adapted from J. Tasson WAG 2013



J. Tasson PRD 2011

$$L = \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{(m + \frac{5}{3} N^w m^w \bar{c}_{TT}^w)}_{m_{i,\text{eff}}} v^2 - g z \underbrace{(m + N^w m^w \bar{c}_{TT}^w + 2\alpha N^w (\bar{a}_{\text{eff}}^w)_T)}_{m_{g,\text{eff}}}$$

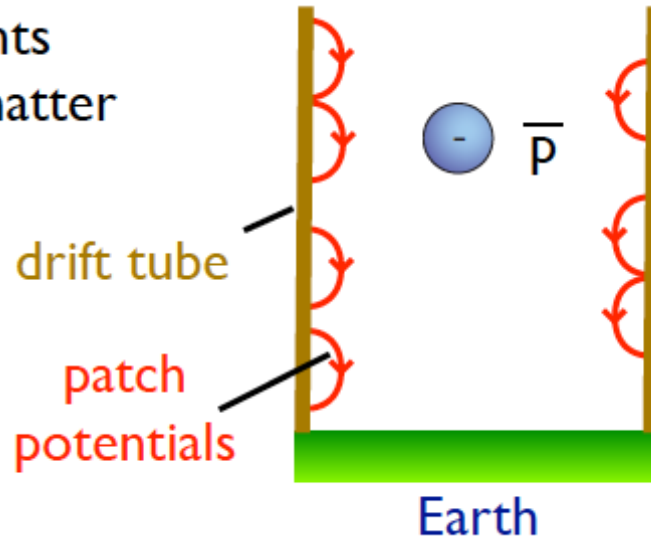
matter $m_{i,\text{eff}} = m_{g,\text{eff}}$
 $\bar{\mathbf{a}} = \mathbf{g}$

Gravity tests with antimatter..

$m_{i,\text{eff}} \neq m_{g,\text{eff}}$
 $\bar{\mathbf{a}} = g \left(1 - \frac{4m^w N^w \bar{c}_{TT}^w}{3m} \right)$ **antimatter**

Why anti-Hydrogen?

Free-fall experiments with charged antimatter (e^+ , \bar{p}) failed:



$$F_{\text{gravity}} \ll F_{\text{electromagnetic}}$$

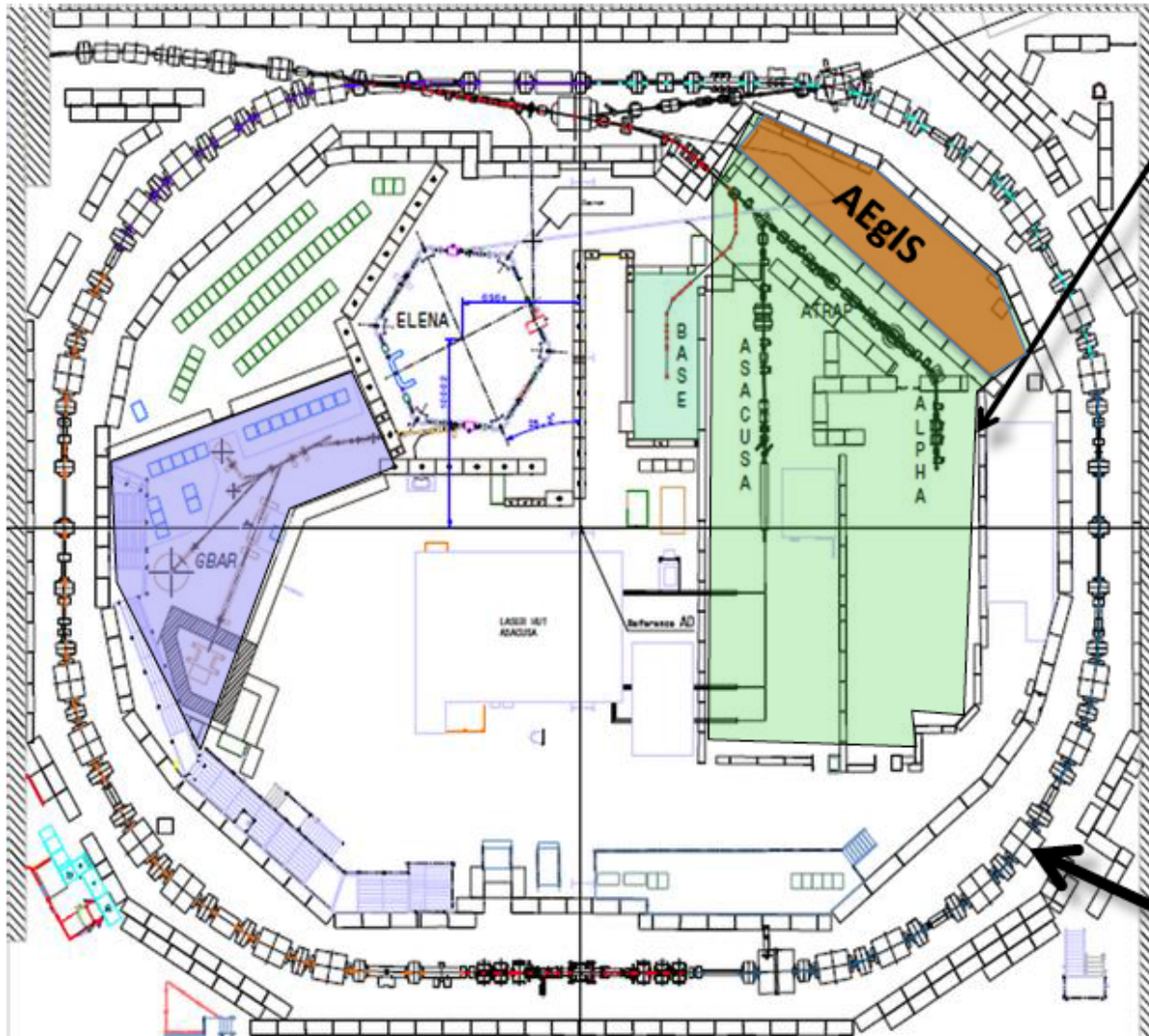
Requires:

$$e^+ \quad E < 10^{-12} \text{ V/m}$$
$$\bar{p} \quad E < 10^{-7} \text{ V/m}$$

Not possible: due to patch effect.

- AntiH and Ps are among the simplest neutral systems of antimatter
- Ps low mass \rightarrow large RMS velocity \rightarrow hard to make precision acceleration measurements

Antimatter experiments @ CERN: AD



Experiments @ AD

- ACE
- **AEGIS**
- ALPHA
- ASACUSA
- ATRAP
- BASE
- More in the future (GBAR)

AD beam specs:

~ 3×10^7 anti-protons/shot

~ 5 MeV

~200 ns bunch length

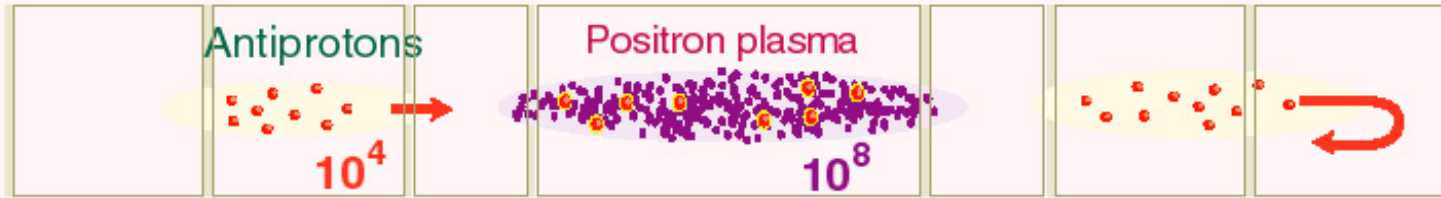
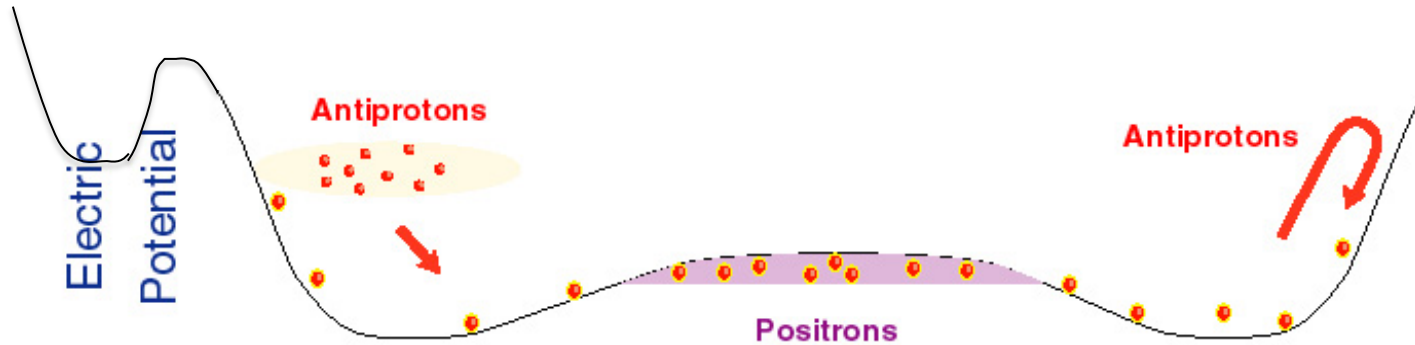
~100 s repetition

From 2017: ELENA

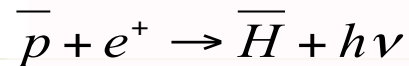
~100 keV, 4 bunches



Hbar production: ATHENA



a) Radiative recombination



Populate low n ($n < 10$)

$$R \propto n_{e^+} T_{eff}^{-1}$$

Mixing Trap Electrodes

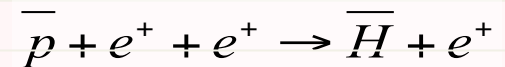
10^4 - 10^5 antiprotons

10^7 - 10^8 e+

10^4 K

15% of the pbar recombines

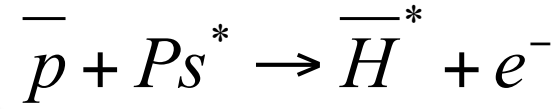
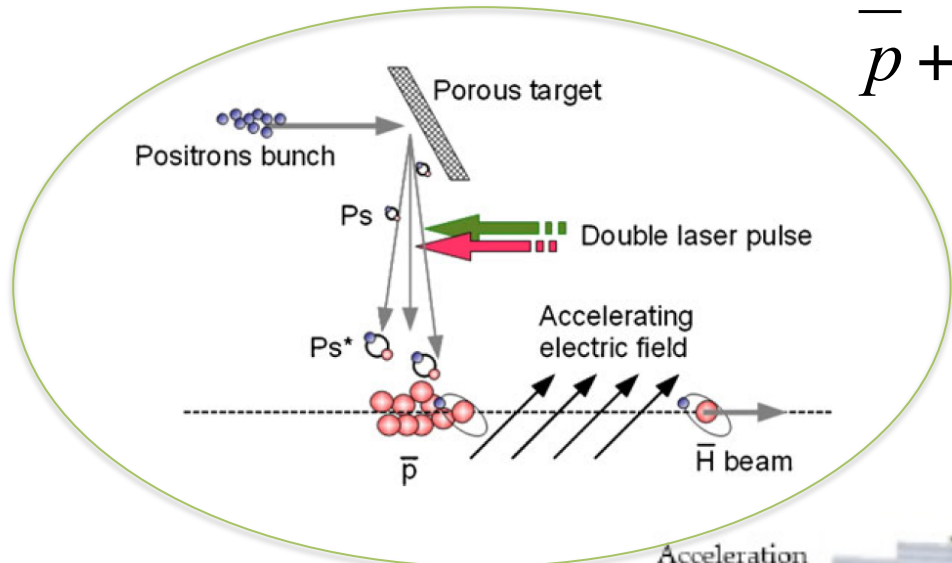
b) 3 body recombination



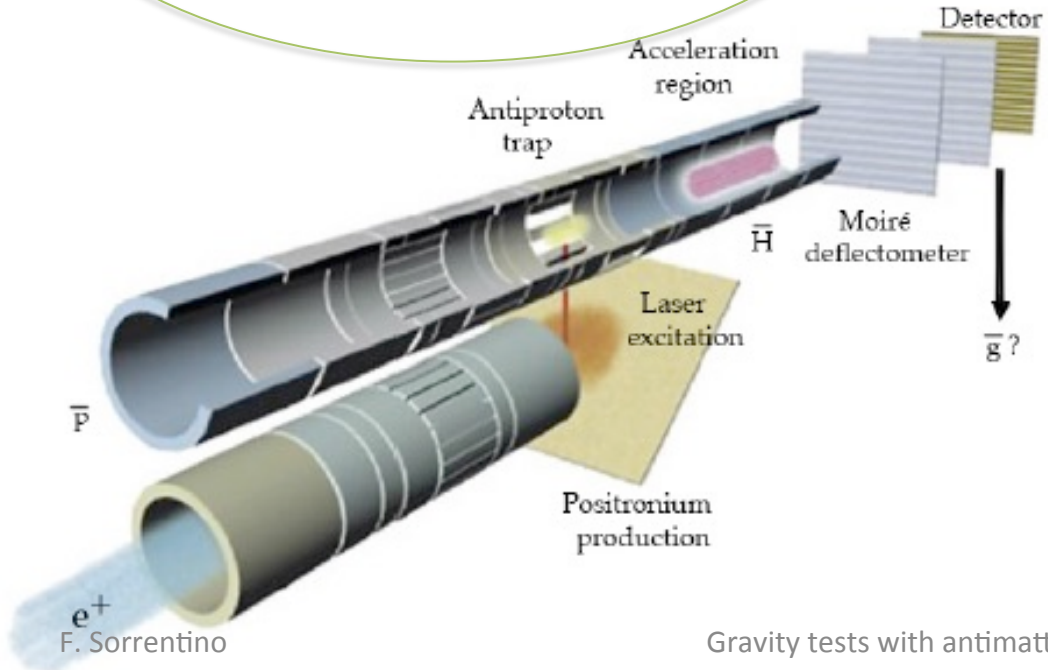
Populate high n, ionization by collisions and field ionization

$$R \propto n_{e^+}^2 T_{eff}^{-9/2}$$

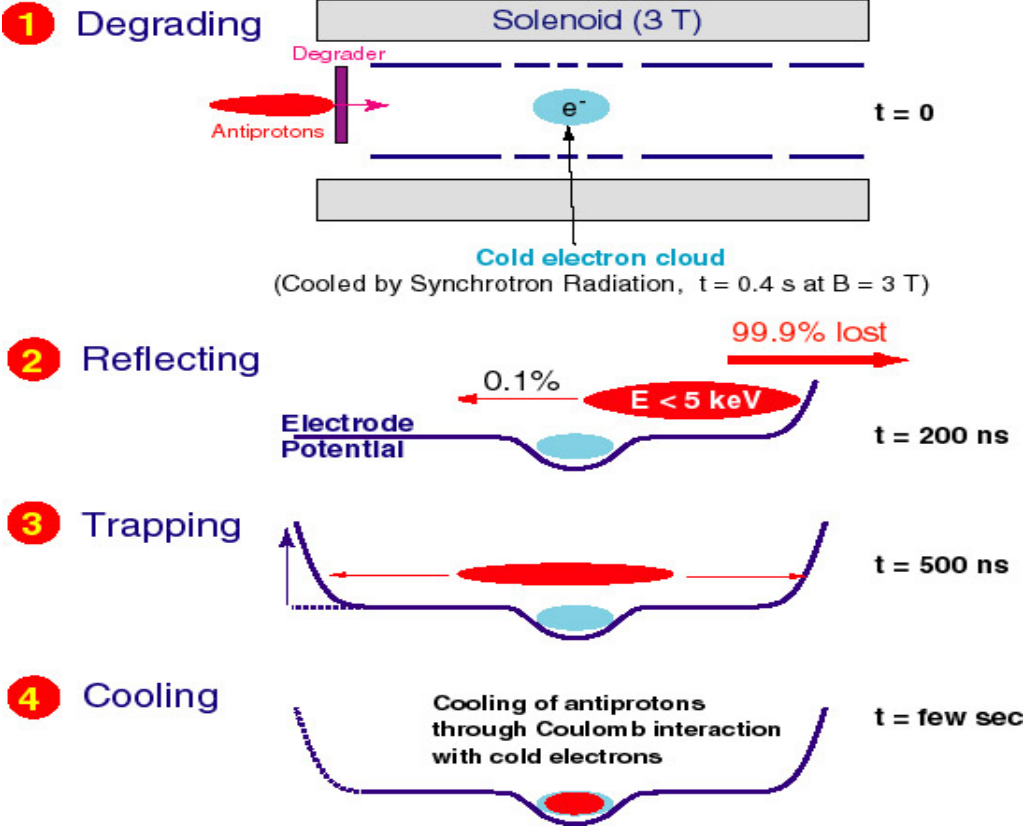
High flux, cold Hbar: the AEgIS recipe



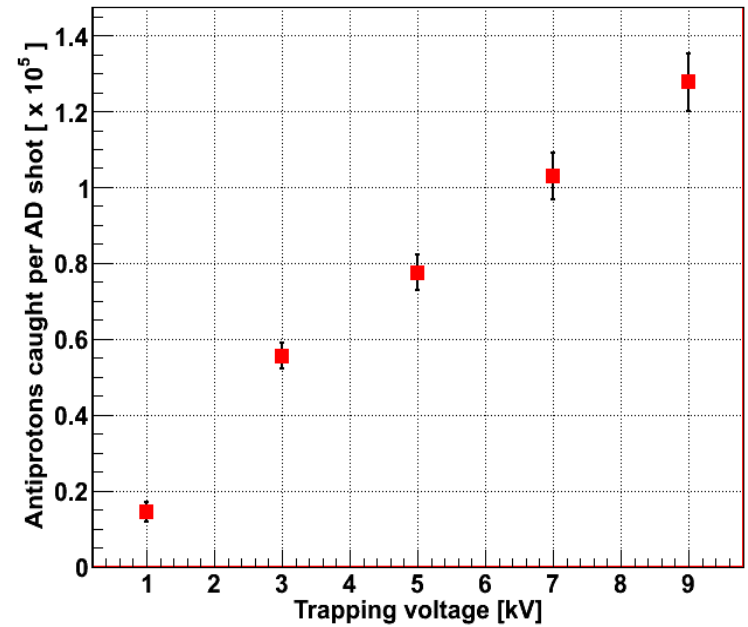
- 1) Catch pbar from AD (CERN), cool, store
 - Pbar ultracooling
- 2) Accumulate e+;
- 3) Form Ps
 - launch e+ toward a e+ to Ps converter (nanoPorous target);
- 4) Excite Ps to Rydberg states
 - laser pulses
- 5) Produce Rydberg Hbar
 - Pbar + Ps charge transfer reaction
 - pulsed production
- 6) Form the beam
 - electric field gradient
- 7) Measure gravity
 - moiré deflectometer
 - time-position sensitive detector



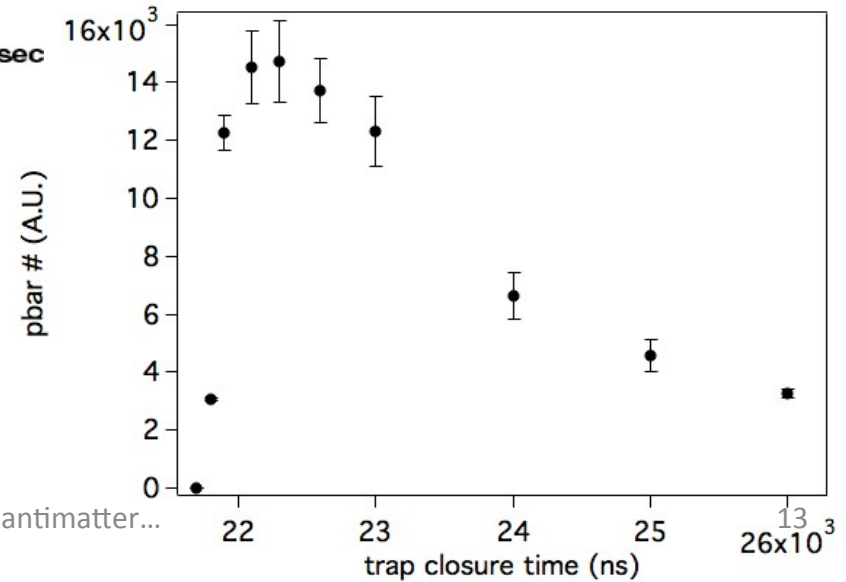
AEgIS: pbar trapping



Antiproton catching vs applied high voltage

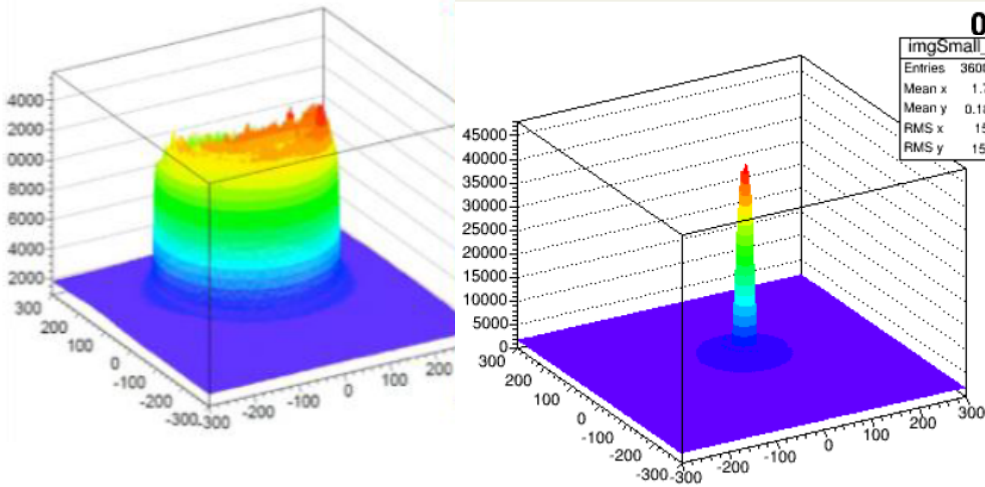


Trap in flight after traversing a degrader
 Pulsed electrodes (several KV) in few tens ns

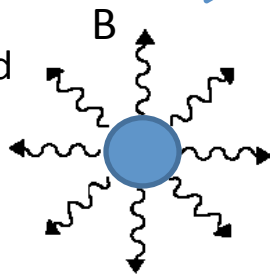


AEGIS: pbar compression & cooling

Radial compression of the Trapped plasma with RF field: Rotating Wall



e- (and also positrons) Radiation in high magnetic field (cyclotron cooling)



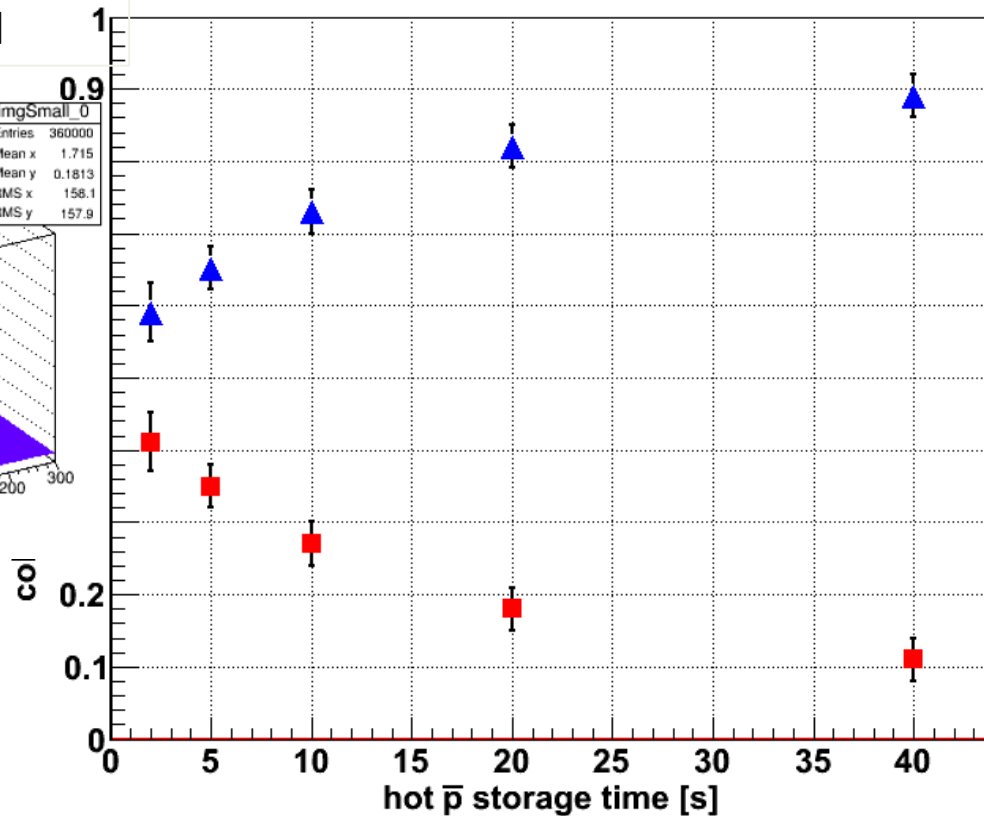
$$T = T_{iniz} e^{-t/\tau_{rad}} + T_{trap}$$

$$\tau_{rad} \propto \frac{m^3}{B^2}$$

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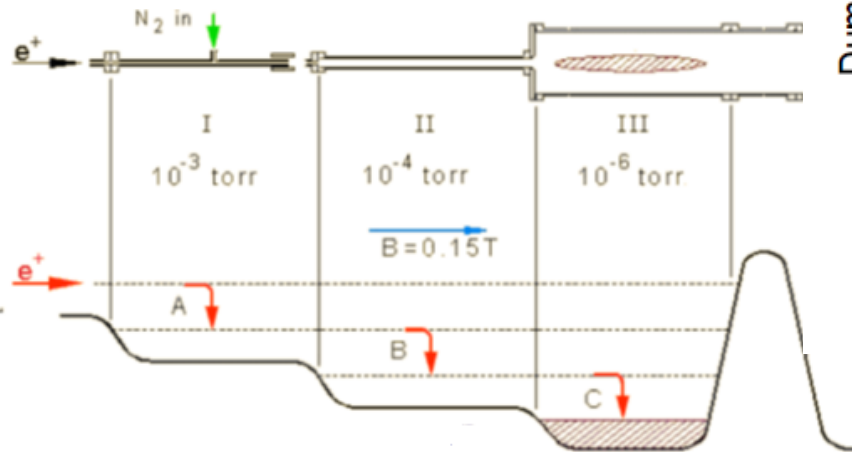
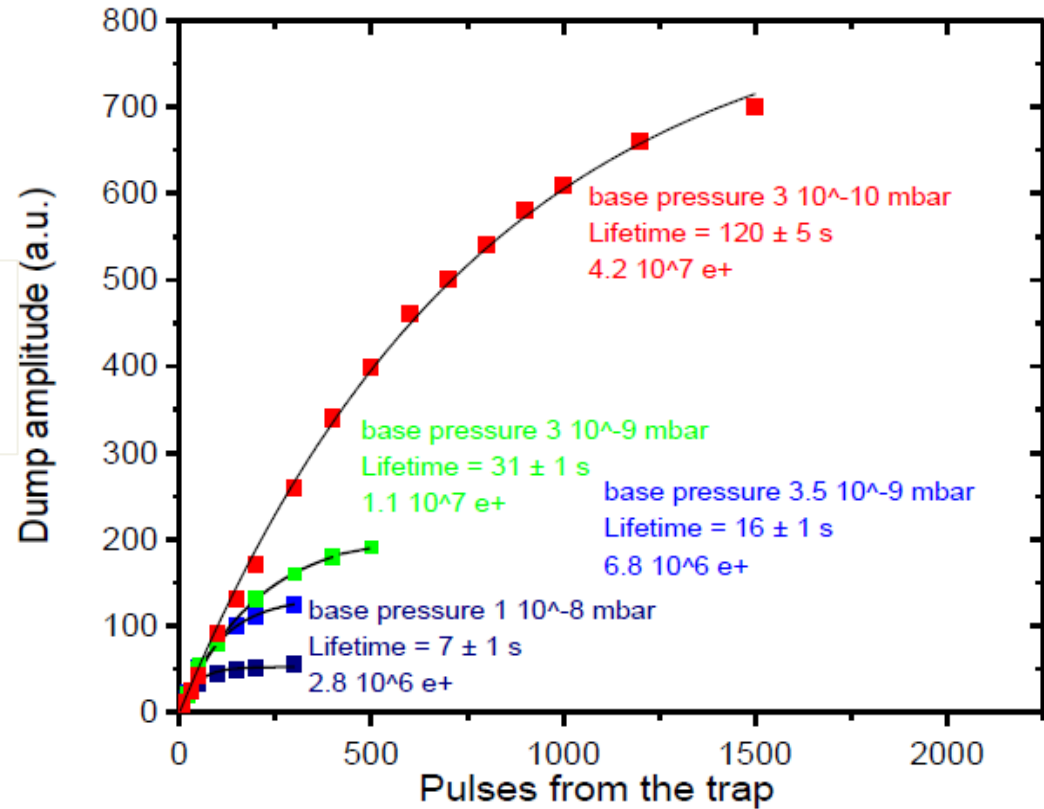
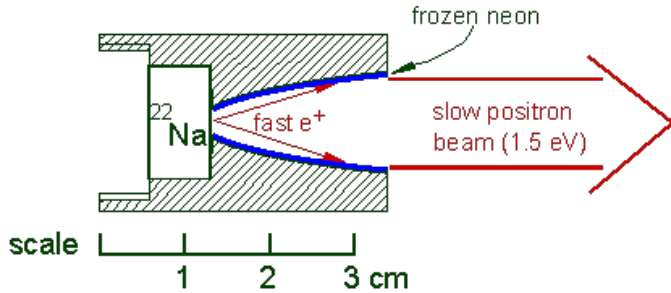
e^-, e^+	$\tau_{rad} \cong 0.1 \text{ sec} @ 5T$
\bar{p}	$\tau_{rad} \cong 10^9 \text{ sec} @ 5T$

Cold and hot antiproton fractions vs time of cooling



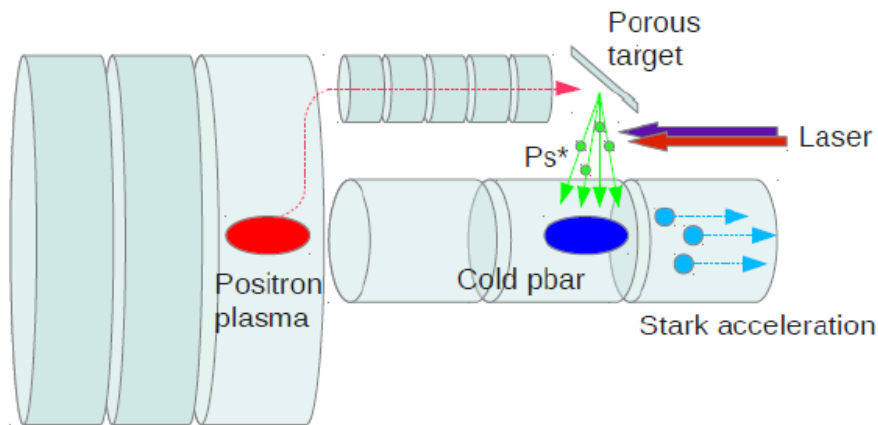
Cyclotron radiation + Coulomb collisions = thermal equilibrium for e- and pbar
 Final energy estimation: about 100 K
 Further cooling methods: resistive cooling, sympathetic cooling with negative ions

AEgIS: positrons



- Source activity ≈ 14 mCi
- Up to 1.2×10^8 e⁺ with 50 mCi source

AEGIS: Ps formation

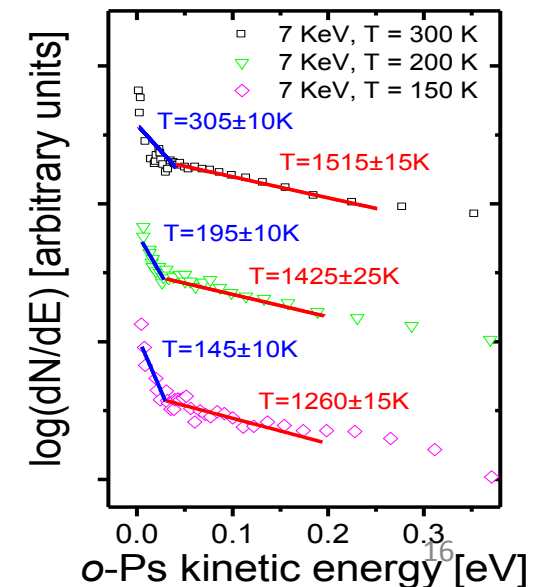
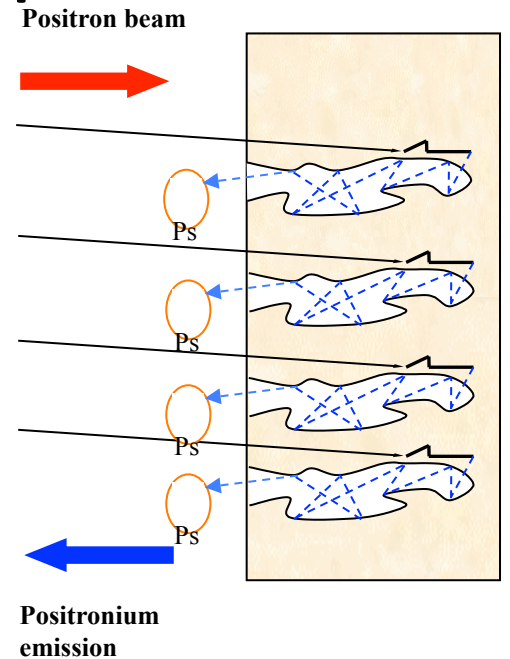


- Implantation of e^+ in a nanoporous material (converter) SiO_2 on Si substrate
- Tunable nanochannel size: few nm to few tens ns
- Formation of Ps (eV energy)
- Cooling inside the pore and the channels
- at 7 keV 27 % of implanted positrons escape into the vacuum as o -Ps
- Ordered and disordered channels studied in AEGIS

Observed cooling by collisions with pore walls

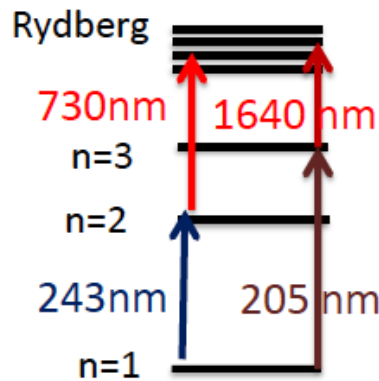
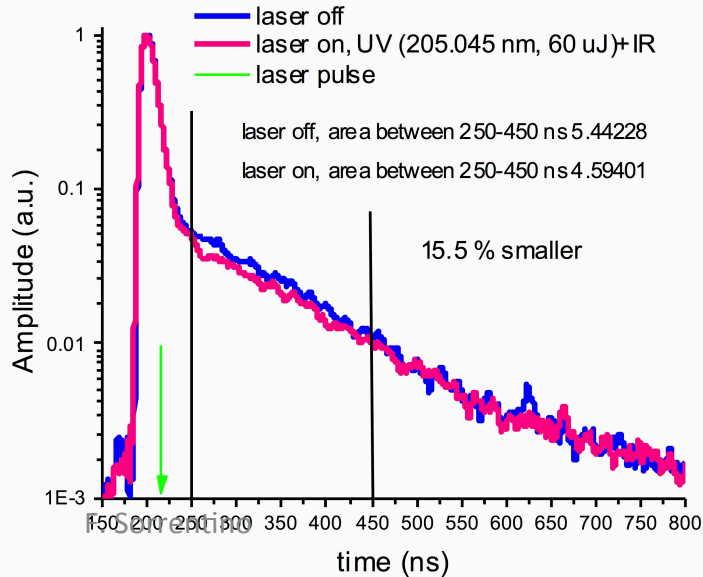
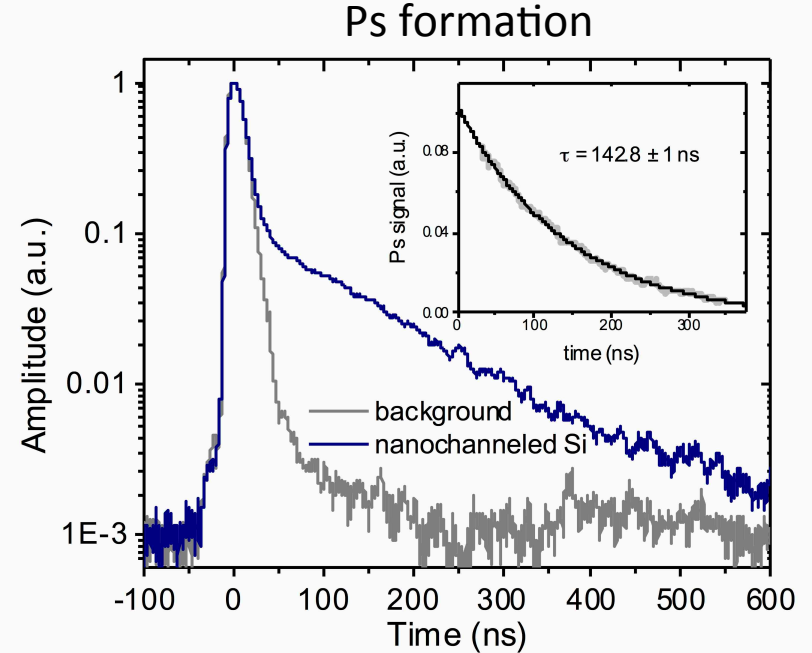
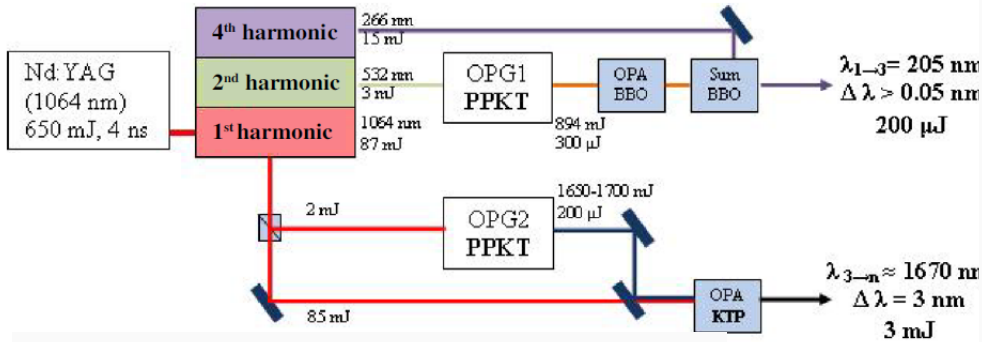
5-8 nm channels, 2-3% Ps thermalized with the target

[Mariuzzi S. et al., *Positronium cooling and emission (...)*, PRL 104 (2010) 243401]

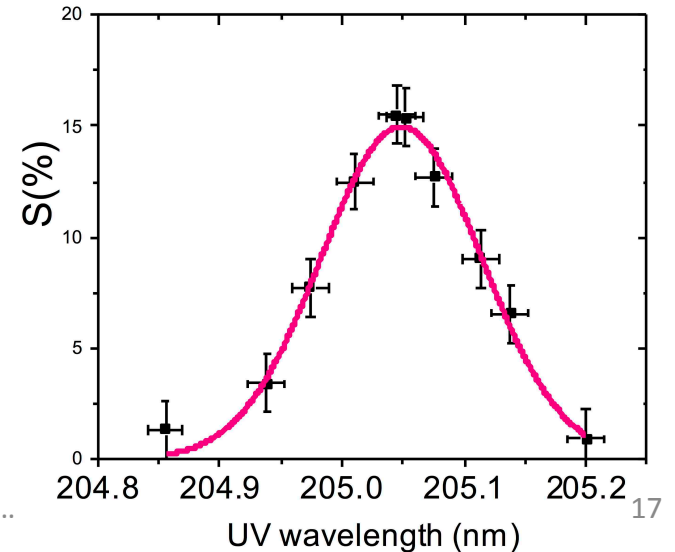


AEgIS: Ps excitation tests

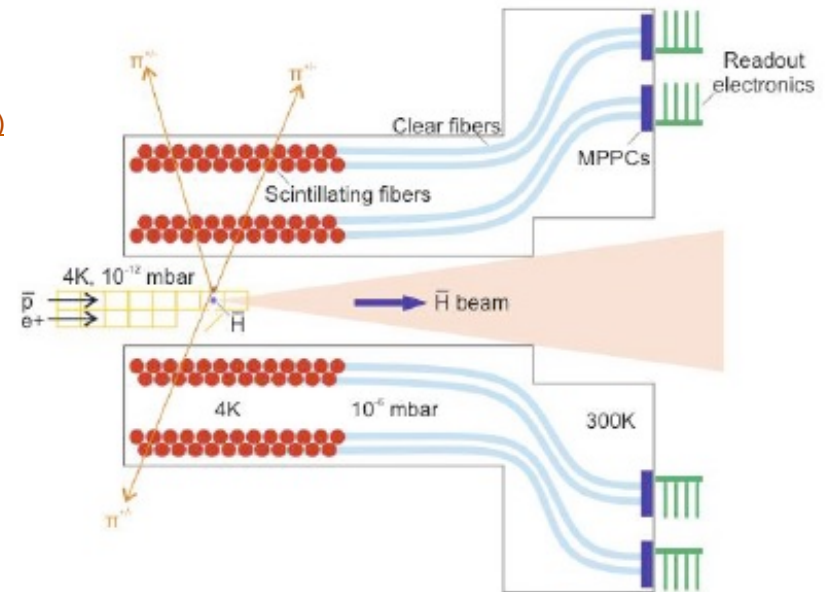
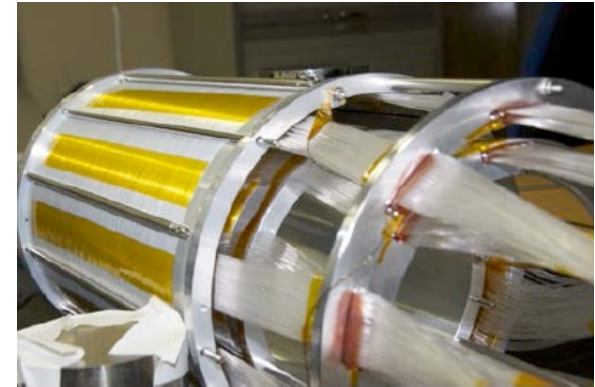
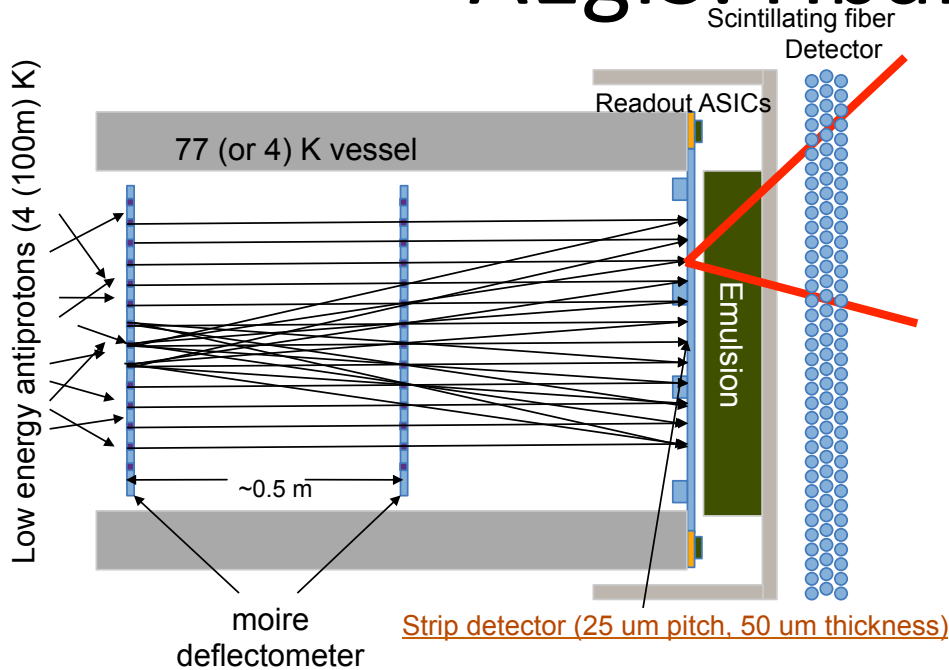
- Test on Ps formation & excitation
- Laser excitation to $n=3$ demonstrated by photoionization measurements



Gravity tests with antimatter...



AEGIS: Hbar detector



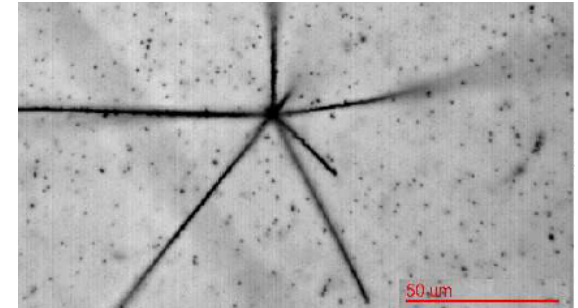
Fast Annihilation Cryogenic Tracker (FACT) Particle Tracking resolution ≈ 2 mm

- 4 K operating temperature, in high vacuum @1 T
- power dissipation < 10 W.
- 800 scintillating fibers (4 layers 1mm diameter)
- coupled to clear fibers
- z sensitivity (beam formation): 2.1 mm resolution
- Read out by Multi Pixel Photon Counters (MPPC)
- Operated at 4 K, 1 Tesla, dissipation 10W
- Volume with vacuum separated from the main trap vacuum
- Counts thousands annihilations in about 1ms

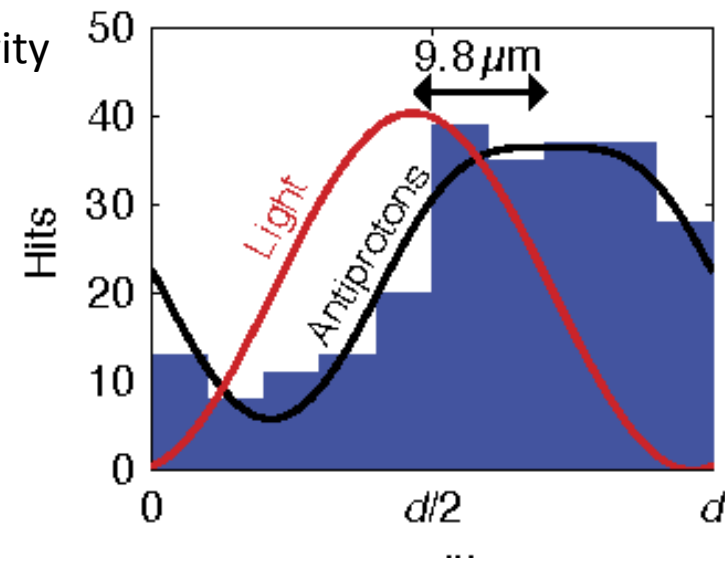
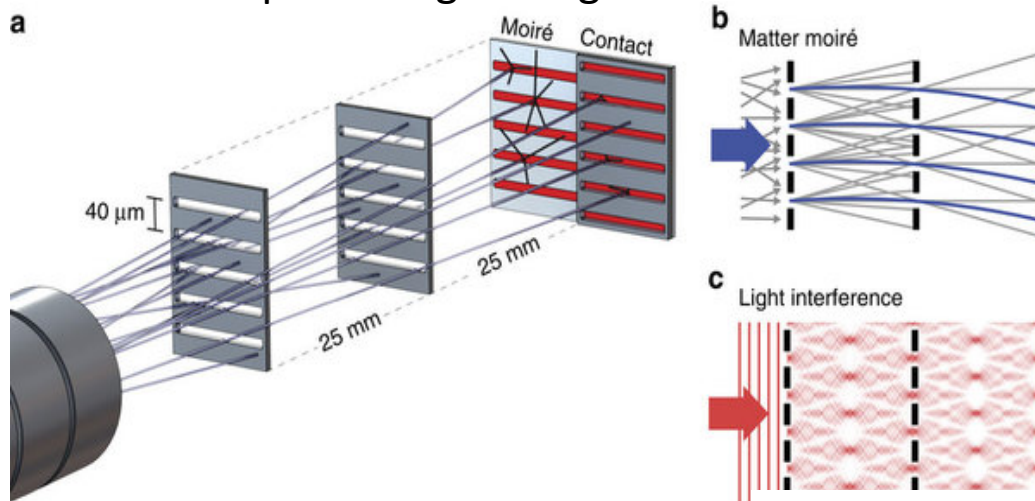
J. Storey et al (AEGIS Coll.) NIMA 732 437 (2013)

AEGIS: moiré deflectometer

- Direct g measurement with light-pulse atom interferometry would require sub-mK temperatures
- In AEGIS g will be measured with a moiré deflectometer
 - grating period: few tens of μm
 - high resolution position detector: few μm
 - shift of periodic pattern due to vertical forces (gravity)
- Tested with “slow” antiprotons (~ 100 keV)
 - deflectometer prototype on small distances, using emulsions for detecting antiprotons
 - shift of pbar vs light fringes: ~ 500 aN force sensitivity



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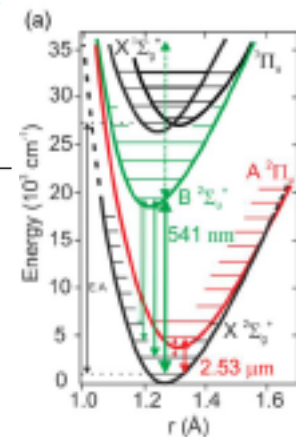
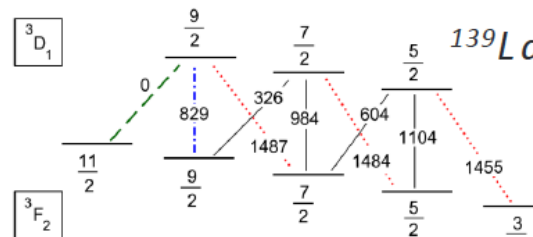
Medium- and long-term perspectives

- Improved antiproton source: ELENA
- Ps generation in transmission targets
- Ultracold anti-hydrogen
 - Antiproton cooling
 - Laser cooling of positronium
 - Laser cooling of anti-hydrogen

Antiproton cooling

- Cold antiprotons to maximize flux
- Final goal: $T \sim 100$ mK, 1st phase $T \sim 7$ K
- Cooling mechanisms
 - Radiative electron cooling
 - Evaporative / adiabatic antiproton cooling
 - Sympathetic resistive cooling of antiprotons with electrons cooled by resistive cooling
- Sympathetic laser cooling with negative ions
 - E. Jordan et al., PRL 115 113001 (2015)]

- Sympathetic cooling with C_2^-
 - P. Yzombard et al., PRL 114 213001 (2015)



Conclusions

- Exciting tests of fundamental physics expected from precision measurements on Hbar
- AEGIS commissioning
 - pbar trapping & cooling achieved
 - e+ trapping achieved
 - Ps produced on nanoporous materials
 - preliminary work on Ps excitation
 - Hbar detector ready
 - moiré deflectometer tested on pbar
 - cold Hbar at reach in the near future