Esperimento LEA (Low Energy Antimatter): Antimateria a bassa energia

Quinto Incontro Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso 9-11 maggio 2022



Luca Venturelli - Università di Brescia & INFN Pavia



LEA Collaboration

A. Alexandrov¹, T. Asada², G. Baù^{3,4}, G. Bonomi^{4,5}, R.S. Brusa^{6,7}, A. Calloni¹¹ R. Caravita⁷,
F. Castelli^{8,9}, M. Cialdi^{8,9}, G. Costantini^{3,4}, G. Consolati^{9,10}, N. D'Ambrosio², G. De Lellis¹,
R. Ferragut^{9,11}, M. Ferrari^{3,4}, V. Ferrari^{3,4}, S. Frabboni¹², G.C. Gazzadi¹³, M. Giammarchi⁹,
G. Gosta^{3,4}, V. Grillo¹³, M. Leali^{3,4}, G. Maero^{8,9}, S. Mariazzi^{6,7}, V. Mascagna^{4,14}, S. Migliorati^{3,4},
E. Pasino^{8,9}, L. Penasa^{6,7}, L. Povolo^{6,7}, F. Prelz⁹, G. Pozzi^{15,16}, M. Romé^{8,9}, G. Rosi¹⁷, L. Salvi^{17,18},
S. Sharma⁷, A. Simonetto²¹, L. Solazzi^{4,5}, F. Sorrentino¹⁹ S. Stracka²⁰, G. Tino^{17,18}, V. Tioukov¹,
V. Toso^{9,11}, M. Urioni^{4,5}, L. Venturelli^{3,4}, G. Vinelli^{17,18}, M. Volponi^{6,7,22}, N. Zurlo^{4,23}

- 46 researchers
- 26 FTE
- 40% of FTE due to young people (PhD or post-doc) paid by institutes/univeristies

¹ Dipartimento di Fisica dell'Università di Napoli Federico II and INFN Napoli, Italy.

 2 Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, Laboratorio Nazionale del Gran Sasso, Assergi, Italy

³ Dipartimento di Ingegneria dell'Informazione, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Brescia, Italy

⁴ Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, sez. di Pavia, Pavia, Italy

 5 Dipartimento di Ingegneria Meccanica e Industriale, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Brescia, Italy

- 6 Department of Physics, University of Trento, 38123 Povo, Trento, Italy
- ⁷ TIFPA/INFN Trento, 38123 Povo, Trento, Italy
- 8 Università degli Studi di Milano, Milano, Italy
- 9 Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, sez. di Milano, Milano, Italy
- ¹⁰ Department of Aerospace Science and Technology, Politecnico di Milano, 20156 Milano, Italy
- ¹¹ Politecnico di Milano, Milano, Italy
- 12 Università degli Studi di Modena e Reggio-Emilia, Italy

- 13 CNR Istituto di Nanoscienze
- Modena, Italy
- ¹⁴ Dipartimento di Scienza e Alta Tecnologia, Università degli Studi dell'Insubria, Como,Italy
- 15 Dip. di Fisica e Astronomia, Università di Bologna, Bologna, Italy
- 16 Ernst Ruska-Centre for Microscopy and Spectroscopy with Electrons and Peter Grünberg Institute, Forschungszentrum Jülich, Germany
- 17 Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, sez
. di Firenze, Firenze, Italy
- 18 Dipartimento di Fisica e Astronomia e LENS, Università di Firenze, Firenze, Italy
- 19 Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, sez. di Genova, Genova, Italy
- 20 Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, sez. di Pisa, Pisa, Italy
- ²¹ Physics Department, CERN, 1211 Geneva 23, Switzerland
- 22 Department of Civil, Environmental, Architectural Engineering and Mathematics, University of Brescia, 25123 Brescia, Italy



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LEA project

New project: approved by CSN3 in 2021 and started in 2022

Goal: to group **new** and already **existing experiments** working on low-energy antimatter:

- **AEgIS** funded by INFN since 2010
- ALPHA new (for INFN)
- ASACUSA funded by INFN since 2005
- PsICO spin-off of AEgIS (+ long-term expertise on e+ from UniTN)
- QUPLAS spin-off of AEgIS-ASACUSA (+ long-term expertise on e+ from PoliMI)

LEA Experiments





EXPERIMENTS AT CERN

AEgIS ALPHA ASACUSA

Antiproton Decelerator (AD) & ELENA @ CERN



The only low-energy \overline{p} source

AD: 5.3 MeV Pulsed beam: $3x10^7 \overline{p}$ every ~ 100 s ELENA: 5.3 MeV \rightarrow 100 keV

- 6 collaborations
- 60 research institutes/universities
- 350 researchers
- Fundamental properties of \overline{p} (BASE)
- Spectroscopy of antihydrogen (ASACUSA, ALPHA)
- Test free fall/equivalence principle with antihydrogen (ALPHA, AEgIS, GBAR)
- Antiprotonic helium spectroscopy (ASACUSA)
- Nuclear physics (ASACUSA, AEgIS)

ELENA from 2021 full operation

ADVANTAGES: \succ x 10-100 \overline{p} trapped per experiment

4 experiments run in parallel (24h/day)

PHYSICS MOTIVATIONS

Why study antihydrogen?

1) Precise matter/antimatter comparison

 \rightarrow test of CPT symmetry



Spectroscopy of \overline{H}

2) Measurement of the gravitational behaviour of antimatter

 \rightarrow test of WEP



CPT theorem

The **CPT** theorem (1954): 50's – Pauli, Schwinger, Lüders, Jost

"Any Lorentz-invariant local quantum field theory is invariant under the successive application of C, P and T "

Assumptions:

- flat space-time, Lorentz-invariance, local interactions, unitarity, point-like particles

Consequences:

- particle/antiparticle: equal mass, lifetime; equal and opposite charge and magnetic moment
- atom/antiatom: identical energy levels

CPT invariance is inside the Standard Model

In string theory (and quantum gravity): assumptions non valid \rightarrow CPT violations as a signature of string theory?

No measurement of CPT violation exists

CPT tests: relative & absolute precisions



Where CPT violation might appear is unknown

CPT violation in Standard Model Extension

Indiana group, Kostelecky et al. (since 1997)

Standard Model can be extended with CPT violation

Standard Model Extension (SME) is an effective field theory which contains:

- General Relativity
- Standard Model
- Possibility of Lorentz Invariance Violation
- CPT violation comes with Lorentz violation



- a & b have energy dimensions (\rightarrow absolute comparisons are important)

- No quantitative prediction

H and \overline{H} spectroscopy

Benefits: - In principle direct experimental test (no model is required)

- Hydrogen is one of the best measured system



- Trapping antihydrogen <-- done (ALPHA. 1000 s)
- Antihydrogen beam <--- done (ASACUSA)

(very recent) results from ALPHA

GS-HFS rel. precision 4 x 10^{-4} Nature (2017) 1S–2P Lyman- α rel. precision 5 x 10^{-8} Nature (2018) 1S–2S rel. precision 2 × 10^{-12} Nature (2018)

WEP and Antimatter

The Weak Equivalence Principle of general relativity (UFF - Universality of Free Fall):

"two bodies of different compositions and/or mass fall at the same rate in a gravitational field "

Newtonian version

With matter

Many tests

On Earth with torsion balances: relative precision $\sim 10^{-13}$

In Space (MICROSCOPE mission): relative precision $\sim 10^{-14}$

Class. Quantum Grav. 2019



WEP and Antimatter

With antimatter

- From General relativity no difference expected
- Quantum gravity theories may allow differences
- From SME: WEP violation results from Lorentz and CPT violation

• No precise direct measurements

PS200 (LEAR-CERN) with p and \overline{p} : g never measured

ALPHA-g with \overline{H} : $-65 < \frac{m_g}{m_i} < 110$



AEgIS

Antihydrogen Experiment: Gravity, Interferometry and Spectroscopy

AEgIS collaboration

16 Institutions 35 Researchers



Funded by INFN since 2010

INFN contact person: Roberto Brusa (Tn)

The scientific coordinator of the experiment is an INFN member

INFN groups have responsabilities on:

- Antiprotons traps
- Positron beam
- Positronium formation
- Lasers for Ps excitation
- External Detector

AEgIS : Overview of the experiment

Physical goal: measurement of the gravitational interaction between matter and antimatter

$$\overline{p} + (Ps)^* \rightarrow \overline{H}^* + e^-$$







AEgIS apparatus



AEgIS results

- Trapping and storage \bar{p}
- Pulsed Ps formation into vacuum
- Excitation of Ps in Rydberg states
- Pulsed production of \overline{H} in Rydberg states (\overline{H}^*)



Pulsed production of antihydrogen 2018 Communication Physics-Nature- (2021)

• 2021 \overline{p} run:

- many modifications to the apparatus (tested)
- automated control system commissioned
- e+ beam performances recovered after re-mounting
- antiproton degrading and trapping validated

Steps towards \overline{H} free fall measurement

- Increase of pulsed production of \overline{H}^{*}
- \overline{H}^* Stark acceleration
- Ballistic beam of \overline{H}
- characterization of the \overline{H}^* beam
- Deflectometry (moiré deflectometer)
- \overline{H}^* de-excitation in \overline{H}
- Measure of \overline{H} free fall

Expected Results (2022-2025)

AEgIS									
	AEgIS ACTIVITIES	20	22	20	23	2024		20	25
	Nominal catching pbar from ELENA	Х							
	Cooling and trapping pbar in 1T		Х						
	Formation Hbar			х					
	Beam formation of Hbar in Rydberg state				X				
	Characterization of Hbar in Rydberg states				Х				
	Increasing number of Hbar					х			
	Study of inertial sensing scheme for Rydberg	Х	Х	Х	х				
	Hbar								
	Moirè – Mach Zehnder deflectometer				X	х			
	construction								
	Testing Moirè – Mach Zehnder deflectometer:						Х		
	Hbar interaction with grids								
	Gravity test							x	X
	Implementation of position sensitive detector for			х	Х				
	Hbar								
	Test of Positronium cooling	х		х					

N.B. LS3 will start on 2026

ALPHA

Antihydrogen Laser Physics Apparatus

17 institutes, ~ 50 researchers



INFN contact person: Germano Bonomi (Bs-Pv)

ALPHA apparatus

ALPHA adopted a modular design, in which the antiproton-catching Penning trap is separated from the atomic-measurement regions

Two measurement sectors:

Antiprotons

(Downstream)

Antiproton

Catching Trap

a horizontal one primarily dedicated to optical spectroscopy measurements (ALPHA-2)

a vertical one for gravitational and hyperfine spectroscopy measurements (ALPHA-g)



Antiproton beam from **ELENA**

ALPHA results

SOME RESULTS ON ANTIHYDROGEN CONFINEMENT AND SPECTROSCOPY

o) "Trapped antihydrogen" - Nature 468.7324 (2010)
o) "Confinement of antihydrogen for 1,000 seconds" - Nature Physics 7.7 (2011)
o) "Resonant quantum transitions in trapped antihydrogen atoms" - Nature 483.7390 (2012)
o) "Observation of the hyperfine spectrum of antihydrogen" - Nature 548.7665 (2017)
o) "Observation of the 1S-2S transition in trapped antihydrogen" - Nature 541.7638 (2017)
o) "Characterization of the 1S-2S transition in antihydrogen" - Nature 557.71 (2018)
o) "Observation of the 1S-2S transition in antihydrogen" - Nature 561.7722 (2018)
o) "Observation of the fine structure of antihydrogen" - Nature 578.375 (2020)
o) "Laser cooling of antihydrogen atoms" - Nature 592.35 (2021)

SHORT-MID TERM GOALS

- The highest priority for the next years will be **the first experiments on antimatter gravity** In particular: at first to determine the **sign of the gravitational force**; then measure the **intensity**
- Improvement of a factor of 10 in 1S-2S precision (thanks to laser cooling and metrology)

Expected Results (2022-2025)

ALPHA

	ALPHA		22	20	23	23 20		2025	
	ELENA beamline and pbar trapping commissioning	X							
•	First measurement of matter-antimatter gravitational interaction (sign of g)	X	X	X	X				
	Metrology upgrades (hydrogen maser and cesium fountain clock) to achieve 10^{-13} absolute frequency accuracy	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Improvements of the Lyman-alpha laser cooling (to achieve antiproton temperatures below 20 mK)			X	X	X	X	X	X
<	Precise measurements of matter-antimatter gravitational interaction (up to 1% accuracy)			X	X	X	X		
	Improvement of the 1S-2S transition measurement (x10)			X	X	X	X		
,	Measurement of the d to c hyperfine [NMR - nuclear magnetic resonance] transition					X	X		
	Improvement of the 1S-2P transition measurement					X	X		

N.B. LS3 will start on 2026

ASACUSA

Atomic Spectroscopy And Collisions Using Slow Antiprotons

INFN contact person: Luca Venturelli (Bs-Pv)

15 Institutions 40 Researchers



- antiprotonic helium atoms with laser spectroscopy to test CPT
- antihydrogen ground-state hyperfine structure to test CPT.
- atomic and nuclear collision cross sections of antiprotons at low energies.

Funded by INFN since 2005

ASACUSA in-beam HFS spectroscopy

• Goal

• In-beam measurement of ground-state hyperfine structure of antihydrogen to ppm-level and below



- Method
 - Produce polarized Hbar beam
 - Measure σ_1 (and/or π_1) at several B's, extrapolate to B=0
 - Achievable precision 10⁻⁶ for T~50 K
 - > 100 Hbars/s in 1S state into 4 π needed
 - Event rate 1/min ; bkg from cosmics, upstream annihilations



ASACUSA Setup





ASACUSA results and improvements

Antihydrogen

Main results of ASACUSA on antihydrogen

- First antihydrogen formed in a cusp trap (PRL 2010)
- First antihydrogen beam (Nature Comm. 2014)
- Best hyperfine spectroscopy with hydrogen beam (2.7 10⁻⁹) (Nature Comm. 2017)
- 40×10^6 particles cooled to T<30 K (2021 to be published)

Needed:

• Increase the antihydrogen production rate and lowering the quantum states of antihydrogen

Parasitic experiments

planning to create a secondary parasitic beam line to have a **slow** extraction of low-energy antiprotons from MUSASHI.

The continuous antiproton beam will allow to perform several other experiments (fragmentation studies of antiproton-nucleus annihilations, measurement of the cross sections of Pontecorvo reactions, antiproton interferomery, ...).



Expected Results (2022-2025)

ASACUSA

			2022		2023		2024		2025	
JSA		Matter experiments (pbar & e+)	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х
Antihydrogen		New e+ source	х	x						
experiment		Antihydrogen beam interaction with MW		х	х	х				
		Antihydrogen GS-HFS measurement (1ppm resolution)			Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х
	Î	Installation of parasitic beamline		х	х	х				
Nuclear physics		Pbar-nuclei annihilation products in 4 π sr detector			х	х	х	х		
	ļ	Building new detector for Pontecorvo measurement					х	х	х	х

N.B. LS3 will start on 2026

PsICO and QUPLAS

Physics motivation for e+ and Ps studies

Fundamental Physics with positrons/electrons and the most fundamental atom: Positronium

- Historically: tests of higher-order radiative QED correction (mass, lifetime...)
- Studying CPT (LIV) and the WEP physical with fundamental fermions, implying a direct violation of the
- Standard Model at the level of the Dirac terms:

$$(i\gamma^{\mu}\partial_{\mu} - eA_{\mu}\gamma^{\mu} - a_{\mu}\gamma^{\mu} - b_{\mu}\gamma_{5}\gamma^{\mu} - m)\psi = 0,$$

LEA 9-11/5/2022 Quinto Incontro di Fisica Nucleare

• Sensitive to different operators of the Standard Model Extension than hadronic systems.



PsICO

Positronium Interferometry and Correlation Observations

INFN contact person: Sebastiamo Mariazzi (Tn)



INFN/TIFPA INFN-Milano

Trento Institute for Fundamental Physics and Applications



TIFPA



Main goals of PsICO:

1) inertial sensing measurements with the purely leptonic system

2) entanglement of the 3γ coming from the annihilation of Ps prepared in selected quantum states



Pulsed production of monochromatic **positronium in the metastable state** via laser excitation.

PHYSICAL REVIEW A 94, 012507 (2016)

Laser excitation of the n = 3 level of positronium for antihydrogen production

PHYSICAL REVIEW A 98, 013402 (2018)

Producing long-lived 2 ³S positronium via 3 ³P laser excitation in magnetic and electric fields

PHYSICAL REVIEW A 99, 033405 (2019)

Velocity-selected production of 2³S metastable positronium

PHYSICAL REVIEW A 100, 063414 (2019)

Efficient 2 ³S positronium production by stimulated decay from the 3 ³P level

Main goals

1) inertial sensing measurements with the purely leptonic system

• Optimization of the already demonstrated 2³S Ps beam

Vol. 137 (2020)

ACTA PHYSICA POLONICA A

Techniques for Production and Detection of 2^3S Positronium

• Experiments of deflectometry and interferometry to measure forces, including gravity, exerted on a pulsed monochromatic metastable positronium beam.



2) entanglement of the 3γ coming from the annihilation of Ps prepared in selected quantum states

Production of pulses of 2³S with defined magnetic quantum number via 1³S-3³P-2³S two-step laser excitation with polarized laser pulses.



Study of the entanglement of the 3γ as a function of the Ps quantum numbers.



Measurement of the polarization of the 3γ generated by the $2^{3}S$ Ps annihilation.

(the polarization is mainly perpendicular to the plane containing the momenta of the primary gamma ray and of the Compton scattered)

Expected impacts: - Transport of quantum information; -Polarization surveys of gamma emitters in astrophysics; -PET application; - Fundamental studies on C,P,T or CP or CPT

violations

APPARATUS

@ TIFPA-UniTN

For both the goals

New pulsed e+ beam



Expected Results (2022-2025)

PsICO		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	Construction and assembly positron Surko trap	х	х						
	Installation laser system for n=3 and IR		х	х					
	Testing positron bunched beam, Ps formation and Ps excitation to 2^3S and Rydberg			х	х				
	Development of the detector for measurement of gamma ray polarization	x	х	x	х				
	Measurement of polarization of Ps annihilation gammas					х	х		
\longrightarrow	Test of entanglement of gamma polarization						х	х	х
	Tests of transmission of material gratings with 2^3S and Rydberg Ps beams				х	х	х		
	Development of a classical deflectometer for 2^3S Ps					х	х		
\longrightarrow	Inertial sensing measurement of magnetic or laser dipole forces on 2^3S Ps							х	х

QUPLAS

(QUantum interferometry and gravitation with Positrons and LASers)

INFN contact person: Marco Giammarchi (Mi)

- Started in 2015: a phased approach to LIV, CPT and WEP studies with e-, e+, Ps
- Based on a CONTINUOUS BEAM, interferometers and high-resolution detectors
- Home of the experiment: Positron Lab of the Politecnico di Milano in Como:

QUPLAS is a continuous SINGLE-PARTICLE interference experiment

- QUPLAS-0: Positron interferometry
- QUPLAS-I: Positronium Interferometry
- QUPLAS-II: Positronium Gravitation

QUPLAS-0 is the antimatter version of the Merli-Missiroli-Pozzi experiment

First demonstration of Antimatter Quantum Interferometry

S. Sala, A. Ariga, A. Ereditato, R. Ferragut, M. Giammarchi, M. Leone, C. Pistillo, P. Scampoli Science Advances 5 eaav7610 (2019) doi: 10.1126/sciadv.aav7610



) | quantum mechanics



M

Antimatter quantum interferometry makes its debut 05 May 2019 Isabelle Dumé



Left, schematics of the apparatus (positron beam, collimators, SiN gratings and emulsion detector. A HpGe detector is used as beam monitor). Right, single-particle interference visibility as a function of the positron energy is in agreement with quantum mechanics (blue) and disagrees with classical physics (orange dashed). Courtesy: Politecnico di Milano

Application of Quplas-0

The Microwave experiment

- Technique: use the «usual» Quplas configuration and add a **microwave cavity** after the second grating.
- Quantum decoherence study
- Measure the (single) Fermion phase shift due to e.m. interaction



E(V/m)

The Aharonov-Bohm experiment

- Pure quantum-mechanical effect
- Goal: first demonstration of the AB effect with a particle different from e⁻





QUPLAS-I (and II) design

QUPLAS-I: Positronium Interferometry QUPLAS-II: Positronium Gravitation



Expected Results (2022-2025)

QUPLAS

		2022		202	2023		4	2025	
	Quantum Revival with Microwaves	Х	Х	Х					
	Aharonov-Bohm experiment				Х	Х	Х		
	QUPLAS-I Ps- Beam formation in Como	Х	Х	Х					
	Photodetachment cavity operational in Florence	Х	Х	Х					
	Integration in Como (Photodetachment)				Х	Х			
C	QUPLAS-I Quantum Interferometry					Х	Х		
	QUPLAS-II Slow Ps Beam formation							Х	Х

LEA EXPERIMENTS

The 5 experiments have different technologies and methodologies

- AEgIS and ASACUSA use H beams
- ALPHA captures H
- **PsICO** uses pulsed beams of e+ and Ps
- **QUPLAS** uses continuous beams of e+ and Ps

but many synergies are possible ...

LEA SYNERGIES

QUPLAS expertise on interferometry \rightarrow antiproton interferometry in ASACUSA

Mi/Co group from QUPLAS has designed and built the new positron accumulator for ASACUSA

AEgIS-ASACUSA cooperation to study rapid **de-excitation of antihydrogen** Rydberg atoms

e+/Ps converter studied by AEgIS can be shared with other groups

Optical gratings used by QUPLAS can be shared with other groups

AEgIS-QUPLAS cooperation for using light grids for interferometry and deflectometry

Virtual Monte Carlo developed by ALPHA can be shared with other groups

Machine learning techniques can be shared between ASACUSA and ALPHA

CONCLUSIONS

- the presented research activities are of increasing interest (CERN and institutes investments, more researchers, publications on high IF journals, ...)
- the 5 experiments are underway and have already produced significant results
- the union of the 5 experiments under a single INFN project allows to increase the effectiveness of the activities by increasing the possible synergies