

## Anti-Deuteron identification in Space with Helium calorimeter





**Preventivi INFN-TIFPA 2023** 

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# Anti Deuterons in Cosmic rays Anti Deuterons have been proposed as an almost background free channel for Dark Matter indirect detection



### The Anti Deuterons Flux is < 10<sup>-4</sup> of the Antiproton Flux. Additional background rejection needed

#### Helium metastable states

-In matter lifetime of stopped anti-p is ~ps
-In liquid/gas He delayed annihilation: few µs
(~3.3% of the p)(discovered @ KEK in 1991)

Observed also for  $K^-$ ,  $\pi^-$  and expected for anti-D

ASACUSA experiment at CERN use these metastable states to measure anti-P mass

#### THEORY: Phys. Lett. 9 (1964) 65 PRL 23 (1969) 63

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1) The electron is on 1s ground state, while the anti-p (or also  $\pi^-, K^-, anti-D$ ) occupies a **large n** level (~38 for anti-p) (~same bounding energy of the ejected e- ) 2) the Auger decay is suppressed as well, due to large level spacing of the remaining electron (~25 eV) compared to the small (~2 eV) n→n-1 level spacing of anti-p 3) the remaining electron in anti-p/He suppresses the collisional Stark effect (de-excitation channel for anti-p/p )



a signature for Z=-1 antimatter captures in He is a ~µs delayed energy release

### 400 bar *o* = 90cm Helium tank: space qualified





# **Composite overwrapped pressure vessel (COPV)**

### Current typical application: H<sub>2</sub> storage tanks for automotive



(150km from Trento)

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# MC exercise with a SIMPLE geometry ∞ = 90cm: Anti Deuteron He Detector (ADHD)

#### **Preliminary Geant4 simulation:**

Detector size: External ToF L = 1.5m; ToF = 110 kg (4mm scintillator thickness)

Vessel: ArianeGroup 300L@400bar = 100kgM<sub>He</sub>/M<sub>detector</sub> = 10% (very naive, no structure here)

Kinetic energy range: 50-150 MeV/n (threshold due to energy loss in vessel/ToF)



150MeV/n cross the Helium



#### Simple Concept:

HeCalorimeter (scintillator) 3xTime of Flight (segmented) layers



We need a light/thin vessel but we also want high Helium pressure and large vessel volume. This imply a large force on the vessel walls and this is the main weakness of the ADHD concept.



# MC exercise with a SIMPLE geometry: Particle Identification



3) Delayed HeCal Energy >10MeV & <10 $\mu$ s 7) HeCal E<sub>delay</sub> > 350 MeV

(reject protons or nuclei stopping in HeCal)

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# anti-p/anti-D separation: prompt signal



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# anti-p/anti-D separation: delayed signal

delayed signal amplitude is independent from Ekin: ~3 charged pion/antinucleon -ToF delayed activity classifier = #ToF delayed hits  $\oplus$  ToF delayed energy (might improve with full track topology)



Prompt & Delayed "independent" classifiers can be combined to obtain an overall "**signal classifier**" -> **possibility to detect 1anti-D/1000 anti-p** 

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#### planned sensitivity for this example (1 single $\circ$ = 90cm COPV)



AMS02-GAPS-ADHD: different techniques, similar sensitivity, complementary Ek regions **Join many signatures in a future/ultimate Antideuteron detector?** 

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# 2019-2021 "Grant-73 INFN" Preliminary measurements on a 200bar Helium Calorimeter prototype @ INFN-TIFPA



# PROTONS (70-228MeV) @ TRENTO Proton-Therapy center





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#### **Achieved energy resolution requirements**



#### Achieved time resolution requirements



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# **Measurement of Helium Scintillation Components**



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ΓΙΓΡΑ

# **PREVENTIVI: 2024 - 2025 - (2026)**



Segretariato Generale

Direzione Generale della Ricerca

#### PRIN: PROGETTI DI RICERCA DI RILEVANTE INTERESSE NAZIONALE – Bando 2022 Prot. 2022LLCPMH

Project accepted: Pressurized Helium Scintillating Calorimeter for AntiMatter Identification

#### **Requirements for INFN-TIFPA**

- 4mesi/anno da rendicontare sul progetto per Spinnato, Rashevskaya, Verroi
- laboratory space + Proton beam time
- technical support (Mechanics & Electronics) sempre più urgente un tecnico TIFPA
- amministation support (ordini per 93keuro da spendere in 2 anni)

Requirements for UniTN (additional 93keuro resp. prof. P. Zuccon)

- supervisor of PhD scholarship starting from Nov. 2023 (Short deadline HELP!)

#### expected outcomes: 2024 - 2025

Development and test of HeCal prototype Based on commercial (automotive) COPV Development and test of a COPV including a "fast" scintillating layer in the vessel

b)





### 2026: ADHD demonstrator for a balloon launch 2x2x2 ∅ = 50cm He modules



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