



Studies involving antimatter at
low (sub-MeV) energy

ALPHA (CERN) with anti-hydrogen

- BRESCIA/PAVIA

AEGIS (CERN) with anti-hydrogen

- TRENTO, MILANO, BRESCIA/PAVIA

ASACUSA (CERN) with anti-hydrogen

- BRESCIA/PAVIA, MILANO

PSYCO with positronium

- TRENTO

QUPLAS with positronium

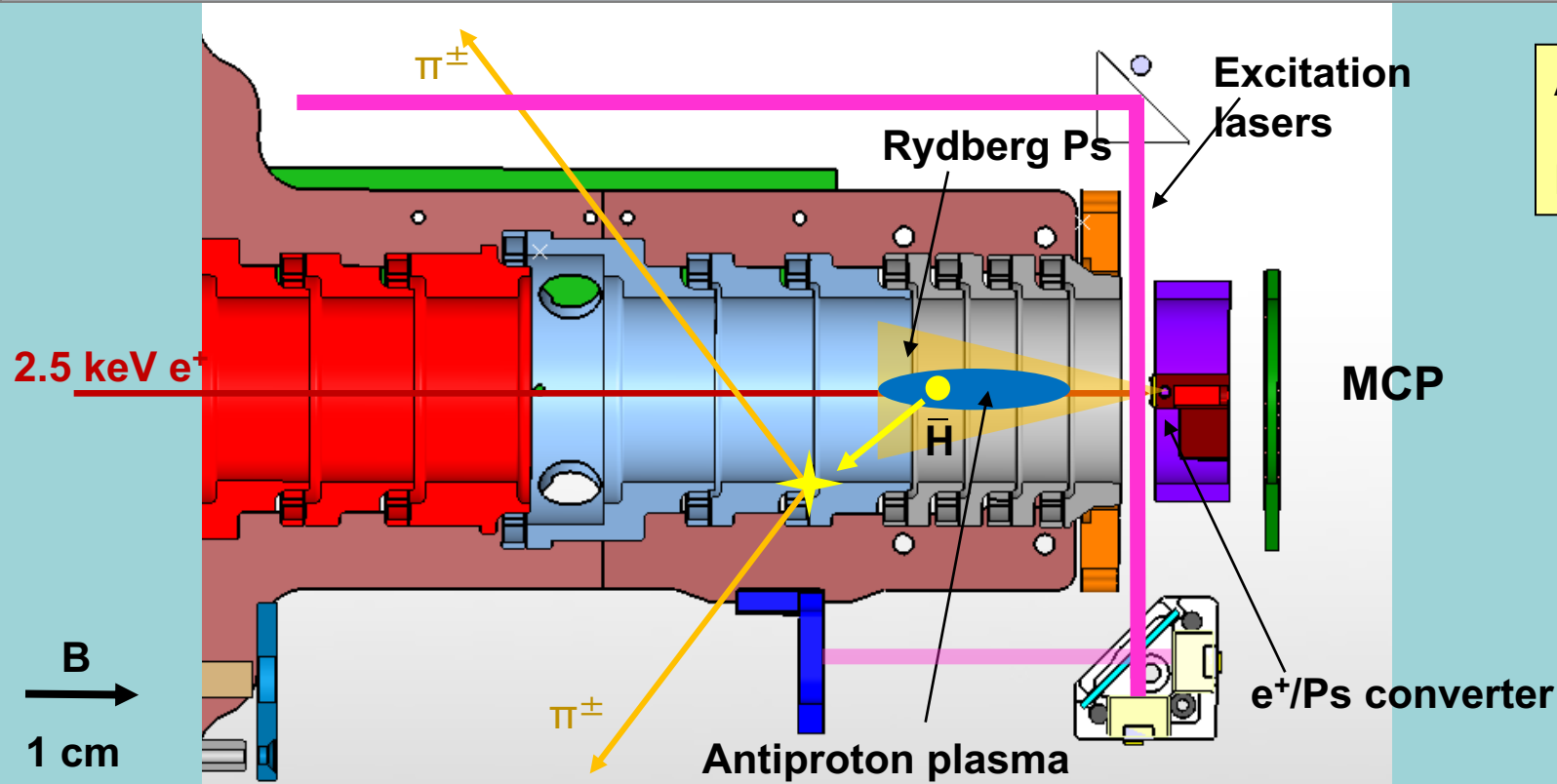
- MILANO, FIRENZE, BRESCIA/PAVIA

AEGIS

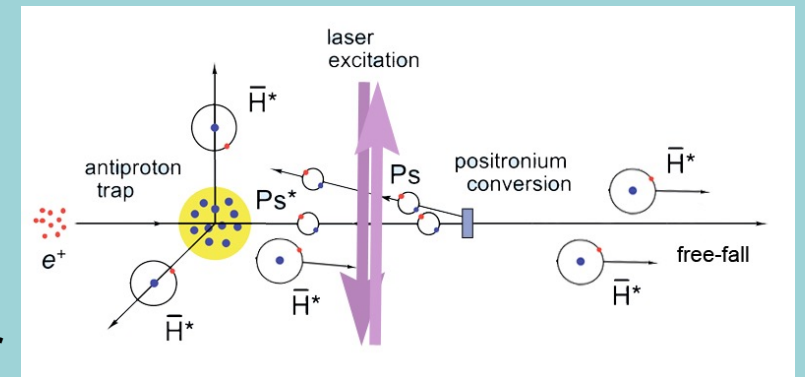
QUANTUM INTERFEROMETRY AND GRAVITATION WITH POSITRONS AND LASERS

Recall: the AD/ELENA accelerator system provides for low-energy antiprotons

External Scintillation Detector Array (ESDA)

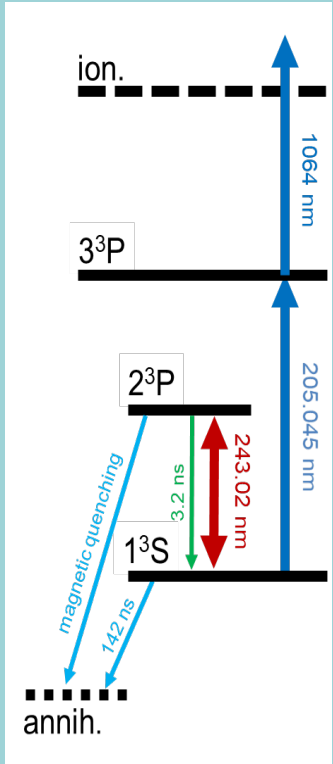


Accumulation of 10 millions antiprotons
Detection of H-bar formation



External Scintillation Detector Array (ESDA)

Laser cooling of positronium

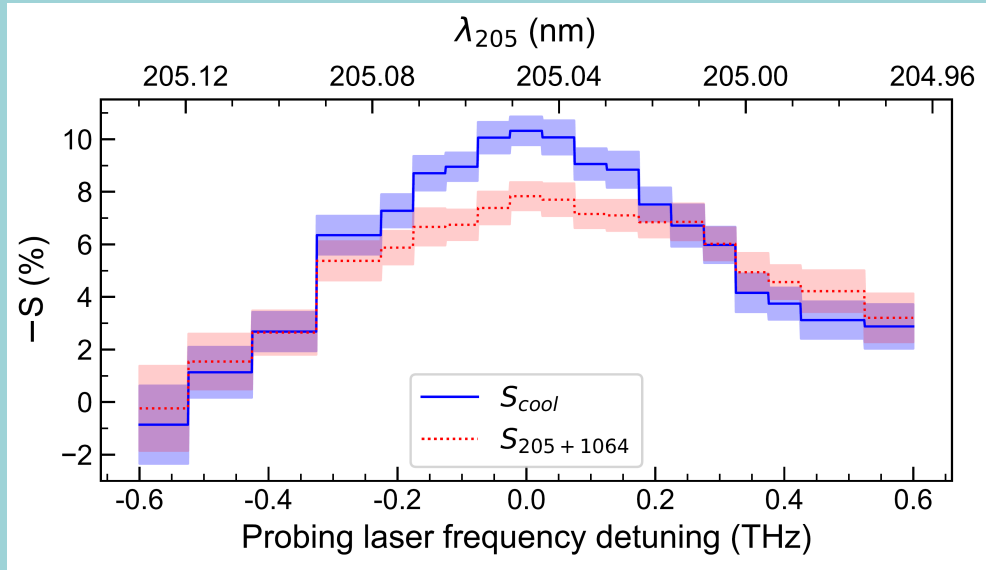


Results:
narrowing of the $1^3S - 3^3P$ line

Probing transition
($1^3S \rightarrow 3^3P \rightarrow \text{Ion}$)

Cooling transition
($1^3S \leftrightarrow 2^3P$)

Ps cloud cooled from 380 K to 170 K



The screenshot shows the BBC News website. The main headline is "Antimatter: Scientists freeze positronium atoms with lasers". The page includes navigation links for Home, News, Sport, Earth, and Reel. A secondary navigation bar lists various news topics like Israel-Gaza war, War in Ukraine, Climate, Video, World, UK, Business, Tech, and Science. The Science section is highlighted.

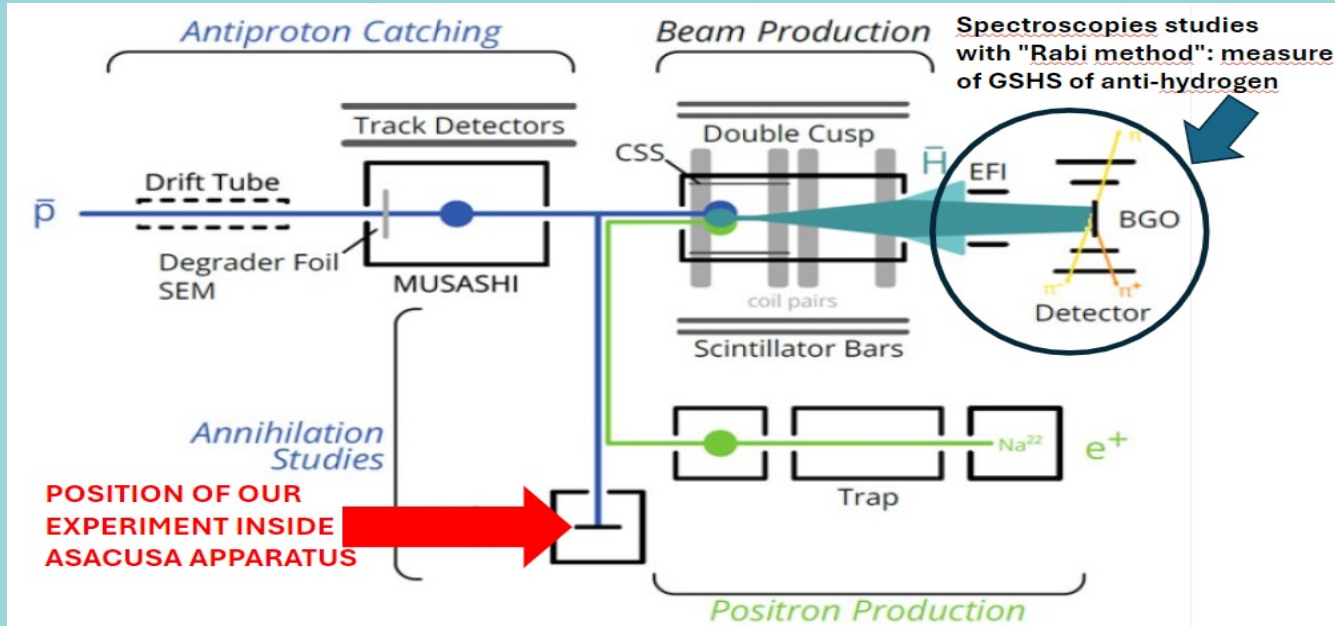
L.T. Glogger et al.,
Positronium Laser cooling via the 1^3S - 2^3P Transition with a Broadband Laser Pulse
Phys. Rev. Lett., 132, 083402 (2024) doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.132.083402

1. CIRCUS: an autonomous control system for antimatter, atomic and quantum physics experiments
EPJ Quantum Technology 11, 10 (2024) doi.org/10.1140/epjqt/s40507-024-00220-6
2. TALOS: (Total Automation of Labview Operations for Science): a framework for autonomous control systems for complex experiments
Review of Scientific Instrument accepted
3. Real-time antiproton annihilation vertexing with sub-micron resolution
Nature Communication – submitted

Conference	location	date	speaker	subject
ICSLS 2024 26th International Conference on Spectral Line Shapes	Otsu, JAPAN	2 - 7 Jun.	R. Caravita	Ps cooling
EXA/LEAP : INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EXOTIC ATOMS AND RELATED TOPICS AND CONFERENCE ON LOW ENERGY ANTIPROTONS	Vienna- Austria	26 - 30 Aug	R. Caravita	Antiprotons in AEgIS
SIF	Bologna	9 - 13 Sep.	R. Caravita	Ps cooling
Seminar at the Tokio University	Tokio University-Japan	12 June	R. Caravita	Ps Cooling

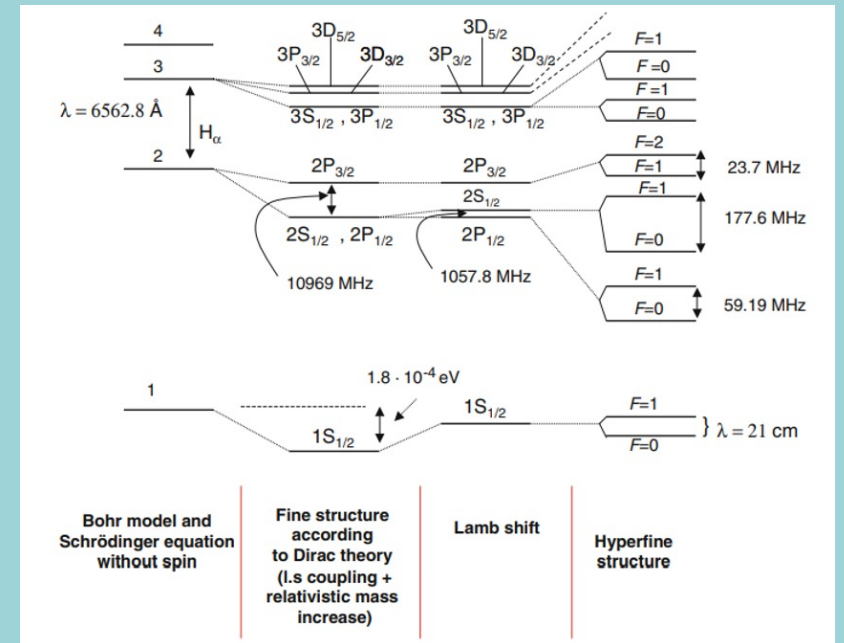
ASACUSA

QUantum interferometry and gravitation with Positrons and LASers



Physics in the CUSP
Rabi method to measure
GSHS

Historically known for Antiprotonic Helium
Anti-hydrogen physics part focused on
GSHS of H-bar (CPT test)



Tuned up with hydrogen
(best result ever, except
with MASER)

Antiprotons

10^7 caught per AD/ELENA shot

10^6 successfully trapped/cooled in the CUSP

High density ($10^7/\text{cm}^3$)

5×10^5 anti-hydrogen atoms at 300 K

E.D. Hunter et al.

SDR, EVC, and SDREVC: Limitations and Extensions
Journal of Plasma Physics 89 (2023) 935890501

D. Murtagh et al.

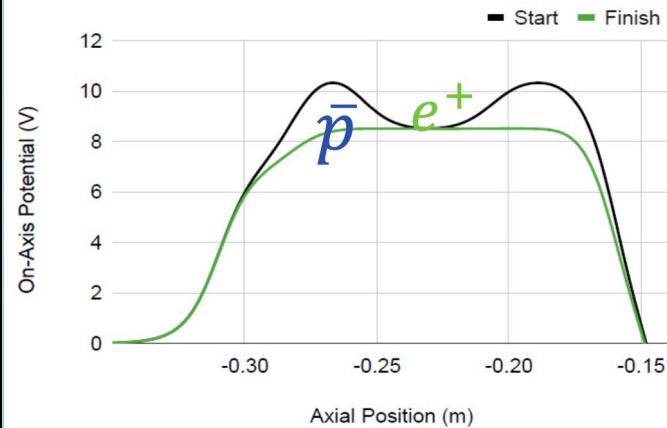
Slow positron production and storage for the ASACUSA-Cusp experiment

Journal of Plasma Physics 89 (2023) 905890608

A. Lanz et al.

Upgrade of the positron system of the ASACUSA-Cusp experiment

Submitted J. Plasma Phys.



Positrons (Stacker built in Milano)

3×10^7 confined in the CUSP

Obtained temperature of 25 K

Papers

C. Amsler et al.

Injection and capture of antiprotons in a Penning-Malmberg trap using a drift tube accelerator and degrader foil, NIMA 2014

Papers- submitted or in preparation

C. Amsler et al.

Antiproton annihilation at rest in thin solid targets and comparison with Monte Carlo simulations, submitted to EPJA

Conference, seminars (by Italian people)

2 talk at FuPhy 2024

1 Invited talk at EXA/Leap 2024

2 posters at EXA/Leap 2024

For LEA (including ASACUSA): 1 invited talk at INFN2024

1 invited talk at SIF2024

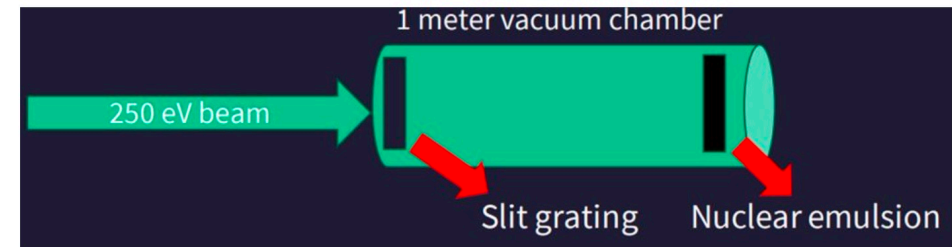
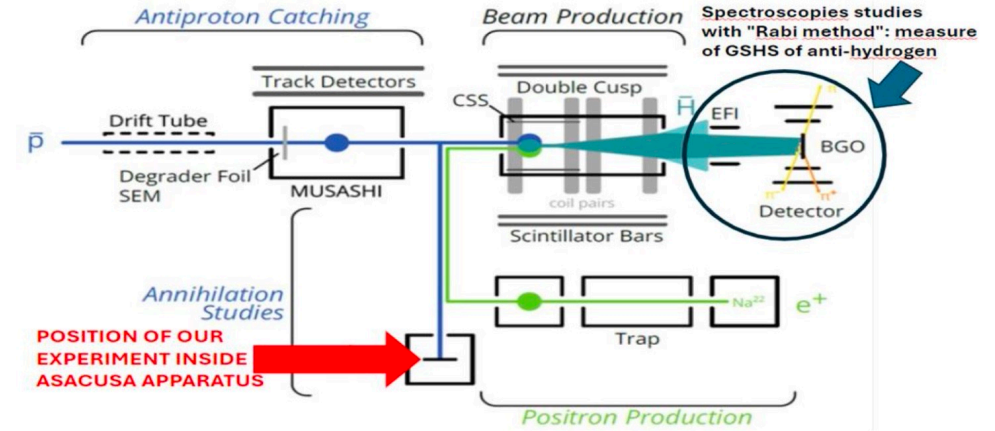
INTERFEROMETRY WITH ANTIPROTONS

Motivations for Interferometry with antiproton:

- Never done before
- Towards the Aharonov-Bohm experiment with antiproton

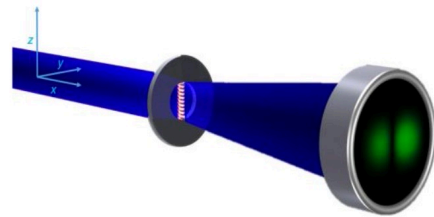
Program

- 2024 – Exposure test of emulsions
- 2025 – Realization of Interferometer
- 2025 – Exposure for Interferometry

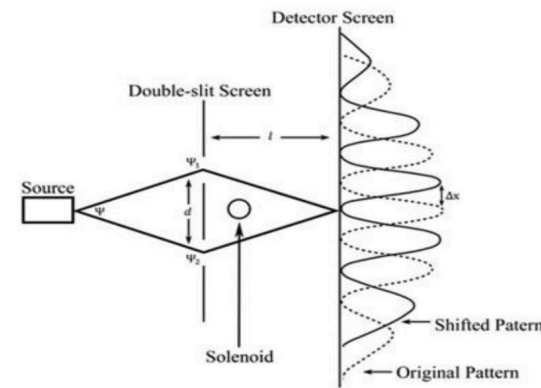


Motivations for Aharonov-Bohm experiment with antiproton:

- Never done with particles different from e^-
- Clarification of the potential role in quantum physics
- Existence of the «quantum force»?

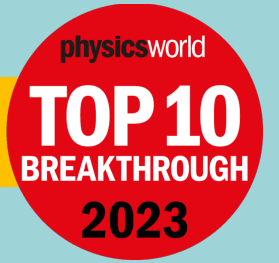


Left-right asymmetry seen by the Batelaan group (with e^-)



Antimatter Gravitation with Ps

The [Alpha Collaboration](#)'s recent study on the interaction of antimatter with gravity.



Antigravitation

- Not a very sound theoretical basis
- A phenomenological motivation

Excluded in a very effective way by the ALPHA measurement

Lorentz violation (→ WEP violation, maybe CPT)

- A very sound theoretical basis (almost a must!)

Most complete Effective Model: SME

- 1) The coefficients driving Ps gravitation in the SME are DIFFERENT than the ones driving (anti)Hydrogen g
- 2) The SME being an “effective theory” misses the fundamental level of Ps being made by SM fermions (while the antiproton being a “wave function” primarily made of the QCD color field).
- 3) Ps gravitation is directly linked to ONE coefficient of Lorentz Violation in the SME (antihydrogen gravitation depends on the combination of 6 parameters)

Positronium Gravitation

$$\frac{\delta g}{g}(Ps) = \frac{8}{3}c_e$$

QUPLAS

QUantum interferometry and gravitation with Positrons and LASers

Physics with positrons
(single particle mode)

QUPLAS-0
(completed)

QUPLAS
Microwave

QUPLAS
Aharonov-Bohm

Ps- production
for Gravitation

Gravitational Physics
with positronium (Ps)

QUPLAS-Gravitation

QUPLAS-I:
demonstration of
Ps interferometry

QUPLAS-II:
measurement of g
with Ps interferometry

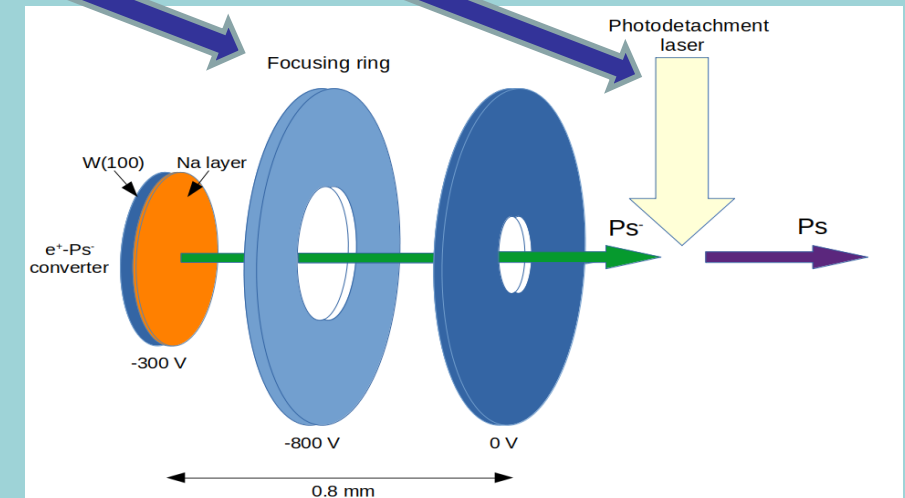
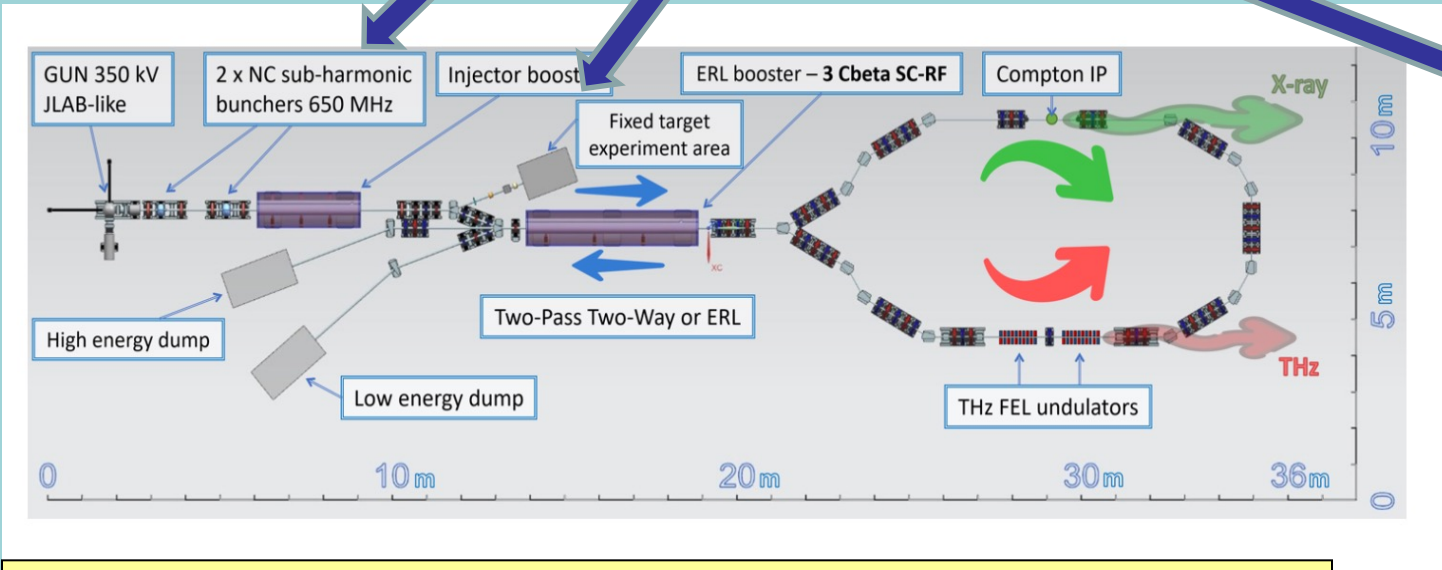
Terminology

Update of the CDR

Positronium Gravitation strategy

The formation of a High Intensity Collimated neutral Ps beam

Possible with the Na-22 source but the optimal solution would be a LINAC
 $e^- \text{ beam} \rightarrow e^+ \text{ beam} \rightarrow \text{Ps}^- \text{ beam} \rightarrow \text{Ps beam} \rightarrow \text{Ps interferometry}$



The possible use of a high-intensity electron beam (e.g. BriXSinO)

Ps ion (Ps^-) intermediate state

Milano – Como

Problema della sorgente in fase di soluzione

Produzione di Ps- I studio

Firenze

Cavità per il photodetachment in fase di sviluppo

Articoli pubblicati

F. Castelli et al., Loss and revival of coherence in the interaction between a positron beam and a photon field - *Journal of Plasma Physics* 89 (2023) 935890603

G. Vinelli et al., A large-momentum-transfer matter-wave interferometer to measure the effect of gravity on positronium - *Classical and Quantum Gravity* 40 (2023) 205024

M. Sacerdoti et al., Montecarlo simulations towards the formation of a positronium coherent beam - submitted and [/arxiv.org/abs/2307.12894](https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.12894)

Presentazioni conferenze

R. Ferragut "16th International Workshop on Slow Positron (SLOPOS-16)" Orleans, France (July 16th – 21st, 2023). Positronium interferometry to measure the effect of gravity.

- M. Giammarchi – De Broglie Foundation Paris 2023 – Antimatter Interferometry
- M. Giammarchi – XXI Lomonosov Conference on Elementary Particle Physics Moscow (Russia) Antimatter Gravitation and Fundamental Laws



References

- [1] Davisson C and Germer L H 1927 *Phys. Rev.* **30** 705
- [2] Sala S, Ariga A, Ereditato A, Ferragut R, Giammarchi M, Leone M, Pistillo C and Scamporrì P 2019 *Sci. Adv.* **5** eaav7610
- [3] Rauch H, Treimer W and Bonse U 1974 *Phys. Lett. A* **47** 369
- [4] Cronin A D, Schmiedmayer J and Pritchard D E 2009 *Rev. Mod. Phys.* **81** 1051
- [5] Arndt M, Nairz O, Vos-Andreae J, Keller C, Van der Zouw G and Zeilinger A 1999 *Nature* **401** 680–2

	LEA	QUPLAS	ASACUSA	AEGIS	LEA MILANO 2025
Castelli	80%	40%	-	40%	
Ferragut	90%	60%	30%		
Bayo	100%	60%	40%		
Consolati	40%	-	-	40%	
Giammarchi	70%	50%	20%		
Maero	50%	20%	30%		
Prelz	20%	-	-	20%	
Romè	50%	20%	30%		
Toso	20%	10%	10%		
Assegnista	100%	100%	-	(bando di concorso uscito)	
Dottorando (?)	100%	-	100%	(partecipa sia a Milano che a Bs – ASACUSA)	

	LEA	QUPLAS	ASACUSA	AEGIS
C. Apparati	32	25	7	
Missioni	34.5	8	17	9.5

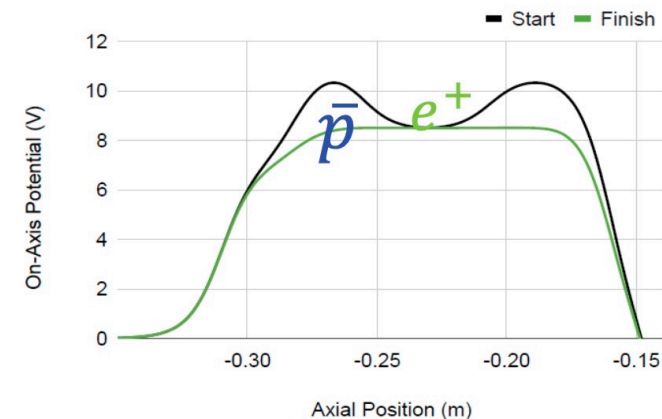
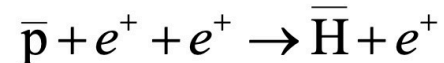
Backup slides

2023 main results 2/2

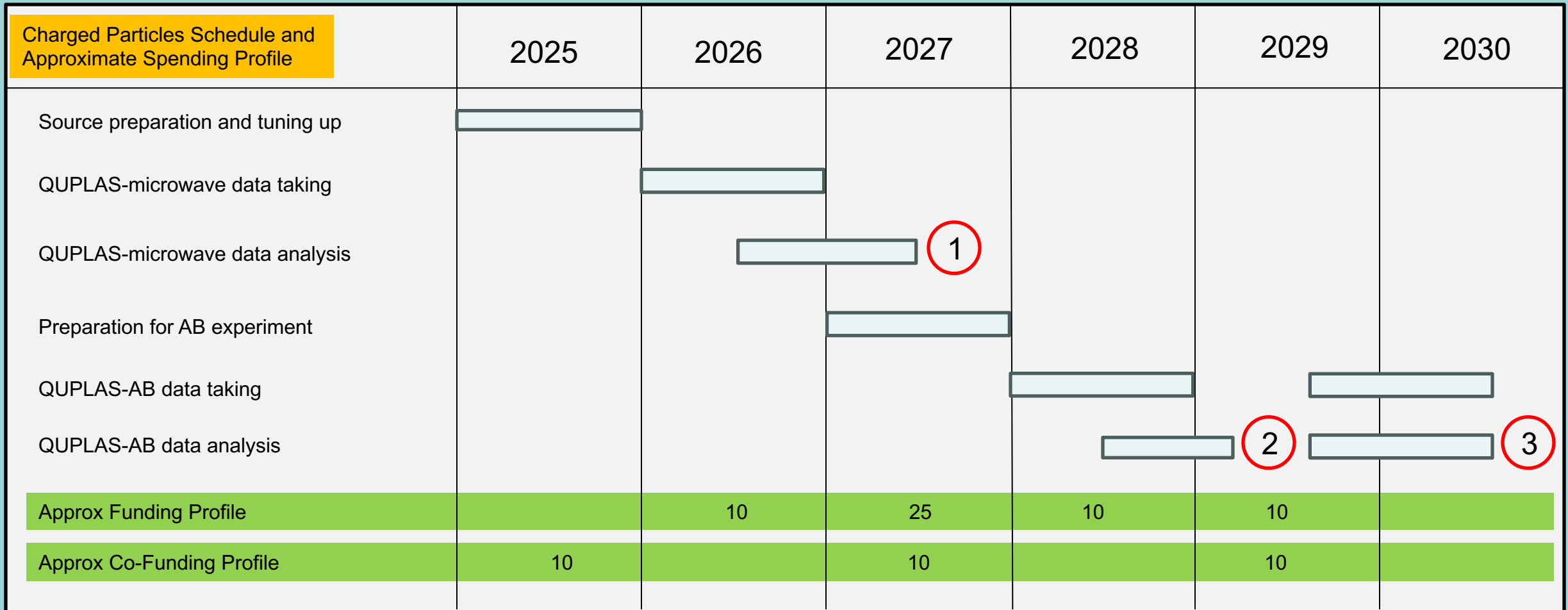
MIXING AND ANTIHYDROGEN PRODUCTION

- rotating wall is used to tune densities: $1 \times 10^7 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ for antiprotons and $2 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ for e^+ .
This antiproton density is among the highest so far reported (partly due to the large number of antiprotons, 10^6)
- **e^+ temperature = 25 K** (maintained throughout the 60 s mixing cycle).
- **Up to $3 \times 10^7 e^-$ have been cooled to 25 K** in the Cusp. However, only $4 \times 10^6 e^+$ were used for mixing in 2023 because the stronger Na-22 source not yet arrived. (With the old source, it takes over an hour to accumulate $3 \times 10^7 e^+$ in the Cusp.)
- antiprotons and e^+ are then merged by slowly ramping the trapping voltages
- In ASACUSA developed new methods **to reduce the e^+ temperature** (2 times better than ALPHA-2)

ALPHA-like “slow merge” scheme employed in 2023 for antihydrogen production. Antiprotons begin in the left well and are gradually pushed into the positrons at -0.23m



- **antihydrogen yield** monotonically increases with mixing time, from **50% for 500 ms** mixing to **80% for 60 s** mixing (250 - 400 k antihydrogen atoms)
- **total antihydrogen yield is at least 5 times greater than has been reported elsewhere** (due to the number of antiprotons is higher than before, 4×10^5 after evaporative cooling)



Measurements

- 1) Observation of the Quantum Revival Effect
- 2) Observation of the Aharonov-Bohm Effect for the positron
- 3) Detection of the “quantum force”

Formation of a Ps (high intensity, good collimation, neutral)

Positrons

Ps Ion ($e^+ e^- e^-$)
(0.5 ns lifetime)

Ortho-Ps
(142 ns lifetime)

BriXinO Injector

Converter

Moderator + Na layer

Photo-detachment cavity

Electrodes



Electrodes



$10^6/s$

e^- beam

e^+ beam

Ps⁻

Ps beam

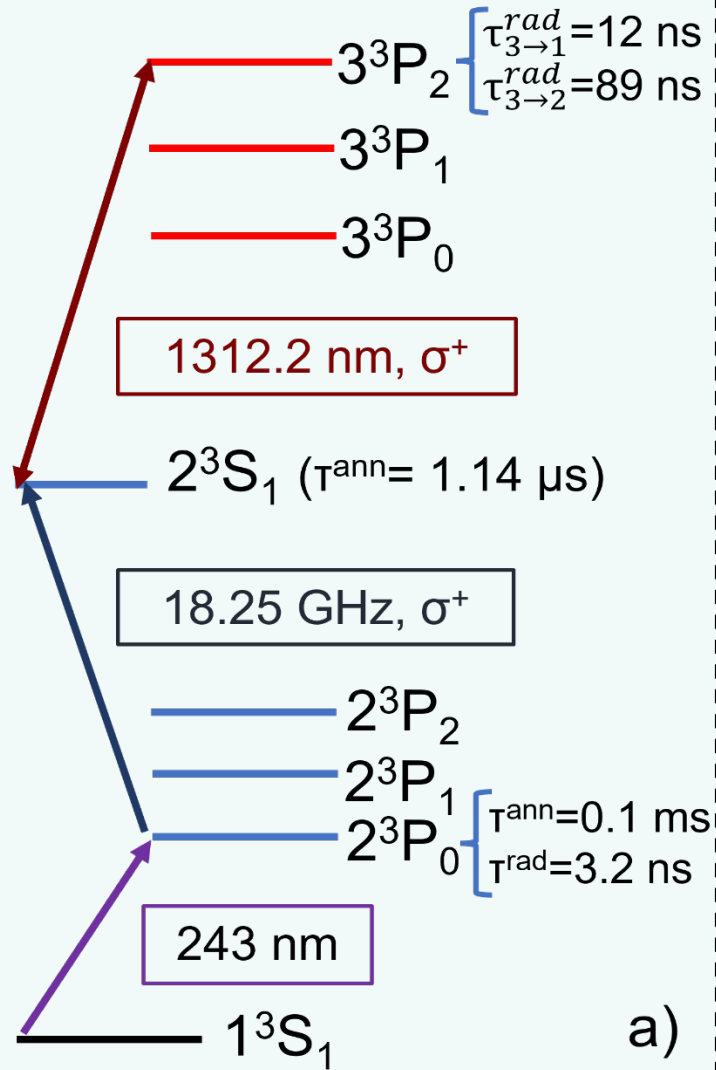
$$v_{\min} = 5 \times 10^6 \text{ m/s}$$

$$v_{\max} = 1.2 \times 10^7 \text{ m/s}$$

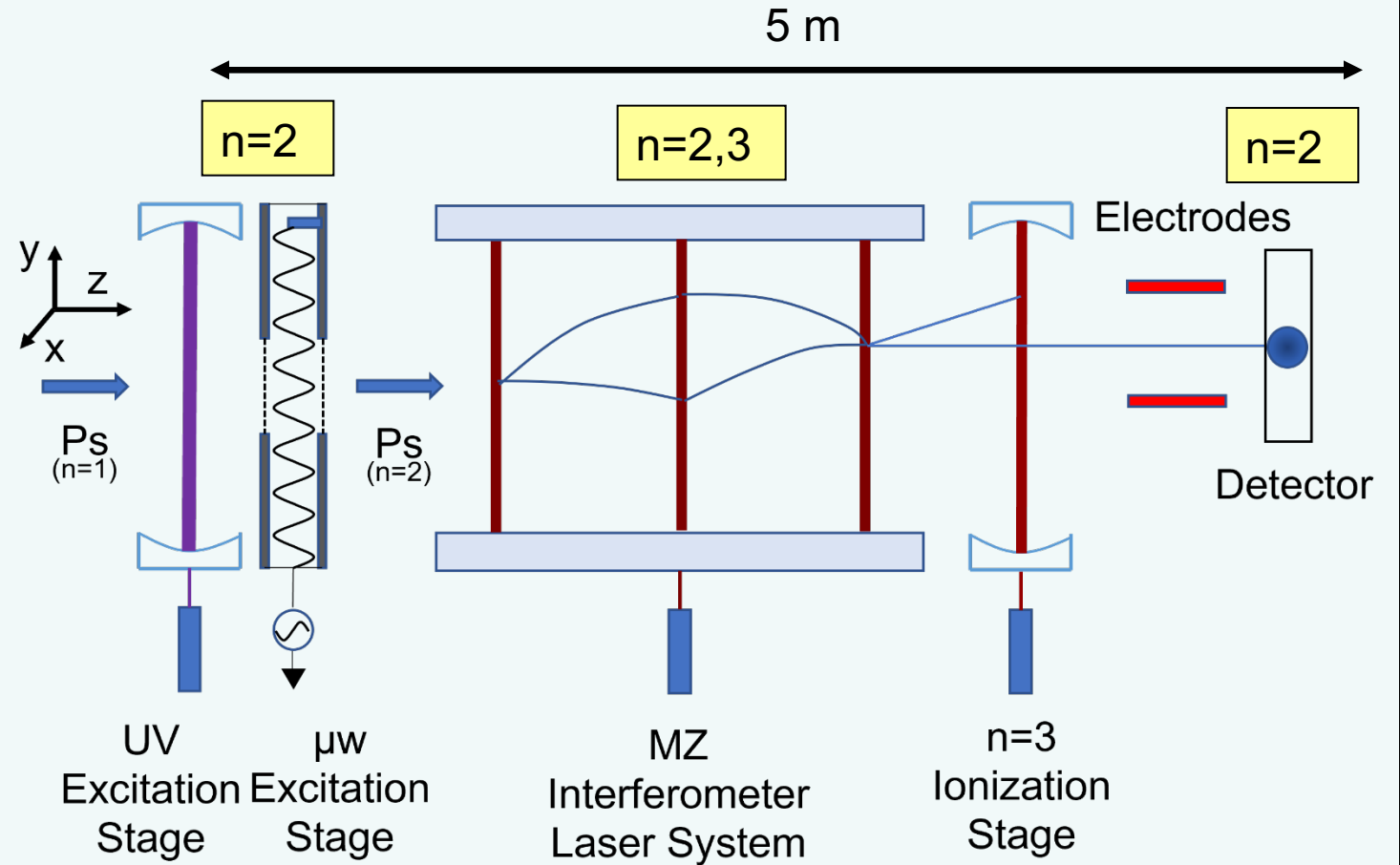
Laser system for Photodetachment

Gravitation: the LMT – Interferometer

$$\Delta\phi = k_{\text{eff}} g T^2$$



a) b)



G. Vinelli et al., Classical and Quantum Gravity 40 (2023) 205024.

The effect of Gravitation is «written» on the phase of the wave function governing the oscillation between n=2 and n=3 states

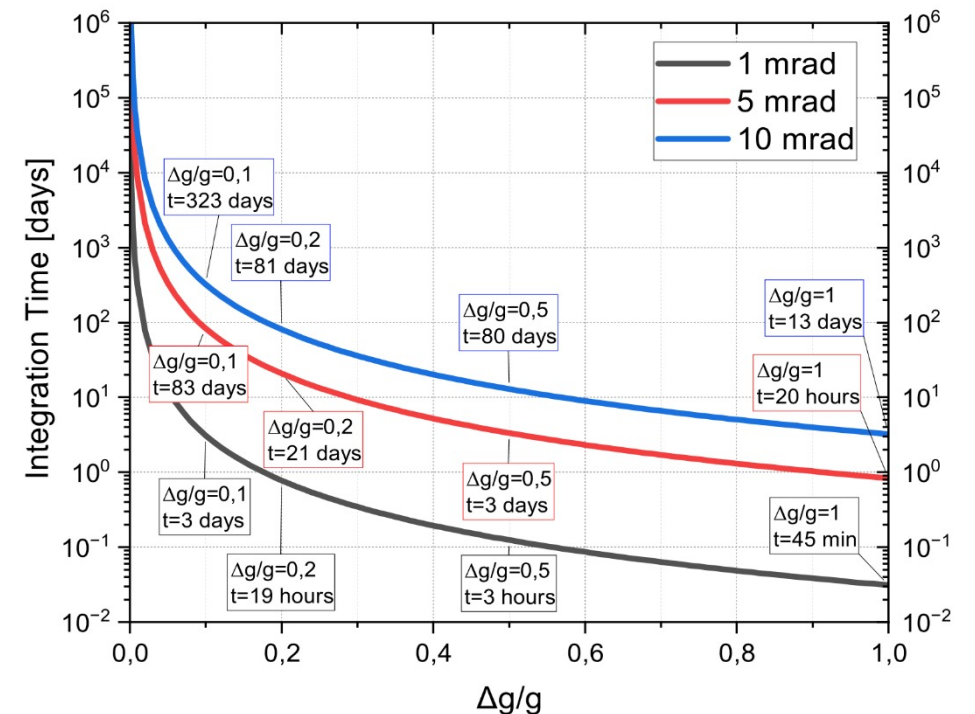
$$\Delta\phi = k_{\text{eff}} g T^2$$

The very same technique was used by our group in the MAGIA experiment to measure gravitation with atoms

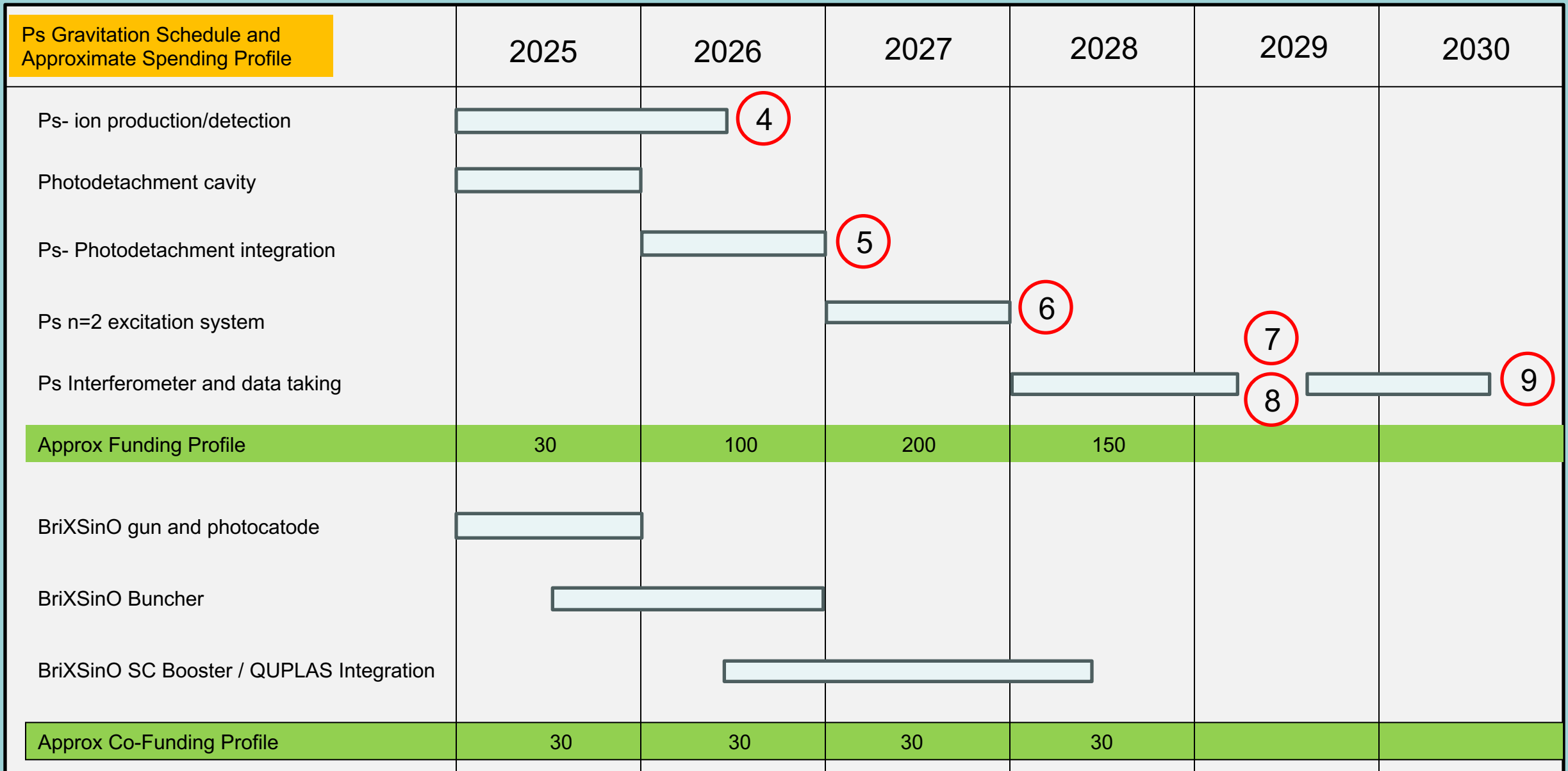
G. Rosi et al., Nature 510 (2014) 518

Key measurements

- 4) Demonstration of Ps- ion production
- 5) Demonstration of photodetachment
- 6) n=2 excitation system
- 7) Development of the LMT Mach-Zehnder interferometer
- 8) Ps interferometry demonstration
- 9) Ps gravitation measurement



Sensitivity diagram as a function of the collimation of the final Ps beam



QUPLAS

QUPLAS/LEA INFN Group (~4-5 FTE)

Politecnico di Milano @ Como

R. Ferragut, M. Bayo, M. Leone

Univ di Milano & Infn

1 Ass Ric! 1 Phd?

F. Castelli, M. Giammarchi, G. Maero, M. Romé, V. Toso

Univ Firenze & LENS

G. Rosi, L. Salvi, G.M. Tino, G. Vinelli

Univ Bescia, Infn Pavia

S. Migliorati, L. Venturelli

External collaborating Groups

CNR – Istituto Fisica Plasmi Milano

A. Simonetto

Univ Napoli Federico II & LGS

G. De Lellis, N. Dambrosio

A. Asada

Tohu University - Japan

Univ Modena-Reggio, CNR Nanoscience

M. Beleggia, G. Gazzadi, V. Grillo, S. Frabboni, G. Pozzi

INFN BriXinO group at the
LASA Laboratory

A. Bacci, S. Cialdi, I. Drebot, D. Giove,
B. L. Serafini, M. Rossetti-Conti

QUPLAS 2024

- Sblocco sj di 35 kEuro + cofinanziamento per sorgente
- 35 + 15 (Polimi-cofin) + 11 (cofin)
- 13.5 kEuro sblocco per Ps- (su 30 richiesti)
- 2 kEuro missioni

Milestone 2024 (end of the year)

Aggancio della cavità per il photodetachment (bassa potenza)

QUPLAS 2025

Missioni

Milano 8 kE:

- 1) Viaggi a LNGS attività emulsioni 4 kEuro
- 2) PostDoc viaggi a Firenze 4 kEuro

Firenze: 2 kE viaggi

Apparati

Milano: 25 kE

- 1) Pompa ionica obsolescente 15
- 2) Ottica per diagnostica Ps- 10

Firenze: 12 kE

- 1) 2 Traslatori verticali

Milestones to be reassigned

Completamento cavità photodetachment

Prima evidenza Ps- ?