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AEgIS

The AEgIS experiment at CERN

Germano Bonomi University of Brescia & INFN Pavia

on behalf of the AEgIS collaboration

The 2nd international conference on particle physics and astrophysics

10-14 October 2016 Milan Hotel Europe/Moscow timezone

Overview

Bulletin n. 1 Scientific Programme

Call for Abstracts

View my Abstracts
 Submit Abstract

Timetable (preliminary)

Participant List

Visas

Financial Supports

Conference Venue

Conference proceedings

Remote session via AdobeConnect

The previous ICPPA conference

Conference Poster

Support icppa2016@mephi.ru





The 2nd International Conference on Particle Physics and Astrophysics (ICPPA-2016) will be held in Moscow, Russia, (from the 10th to 14th of October). The conference is organized by the National Research Nuclear University "MEPh1". The aim of the Conference is to promote contacts between scientists and to develop new ideas in fundamental research. Therefore we will bring together experts and young scientists working in experimental and theoretical aspects of nuclear physics, particle physics (including astroparticle physics), and cosmology. ICPPA-2016 aims to present the most recent results in astrophysics and collider physics from the main experiments actively taking data as well as any upgrades for the methods of experimental particle physics. Furthermore, one special workshop will be held within the framework of this conference: «SiPM development and application». The working language of the conference is English.

Physics motivations

Germano Bonomi AEgIS Collaboration

- The primary scientific goal of AEgIS is the direct measurement of the gravitational acceleration (g) on antihydrogen in the earth field [test of the WEP]

Such measurement would represent the first precise direct determination of the gravitational effect on antimatter

Weak equivalence principle (WEP) -Cornerstone of Einstein Theory of Relativity

Universality of free fall established by Galileo and Newton

 Unique benavior: 	
electric field:	gravitational field:
$\mathbf{F} = q \cdot \mathbf{E}$	$\mathbf{F} = m \cdot \mathbf{G}$
$ \mathbf{E} \sim rac{Q}{r^2}$	$ \mathbf{G} \sim \frac{M}{r^2}$
$ \mathbf{a} \sim q$	$ \mathbf{a} \neq \mathcal{F}(m), a = const.$

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 $m_i = m_g$

[Antimatter was discovered after Theory of Relativity]

- Long term goal (phase 2): test of CPT (anti-hydrogen spectroscopy)

Scientific goal

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- Our attempts for a quantum theory of gravity typically result into new interactions • which may violate the WEP (ex. Kaluza-Klein theory) Int. J. Mod. Phys. D18, 251-273 (2009)
- Some open questions (like dark matter and baryogenesis) could benefit from a Astrophys. Space Sci. 334, 219–223 (2011) direct measurement JHEP 1502, 076 (2015)
- Some studies explicitly talk about "anti-gravity"
- WEP violation is not excluded and no direct measurements are available ...
- Previous attempts:
 - 1967: Fairbank and Witteborn tried to use positrons

Phys. Rev. Lett. 19, 1049 (1967)

1989: PS-200 experiment at CERN tried to use (4 K) antiprotons

Nucl. Instr. and Meth. B, 485 (1989)

- Both **unsuccessful** because of stray E and B fields Highest precision reachable with neutral antimatter
- **2013**: ALPHA experiment at CERN set limit on m_g/m_i for H Nature Communications 4, 1785 (2013) m_q/m_i > 110 excluded at 95% CL

WEP for antimatter: why to test it

G. Chardin - Phys.Lett. B282 (1992) 256-262

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The Antiproton Decelerator (AD - Antimatter factory @ CERN)



- AD slows down \overline{p} to ~100 MeV/c in a 100 s cycle
- Approximately 3 x $10^7 \overline{p}$ delivered each cycle to the experiments



The Antiproton Decelerator (AD - Antimatter factory @ CERN)



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AEgIS overview

- AEgIS measurement overview
- Produce a beam of antihydrogen, let it fly and measure its "fall" [see details below]



It would be the first precise (few %) direct measurement for antimatter
 -> with no theoretical assumptions

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AEgIS procedure

Capture of antiprotons from the CERN-AD Positronium (e^+e^-) production by e^+ on SiO₂

Cooling of the trapped antiprotons

Ps laser excitation to Rydberg state

Interaction of Ps* with the antiproton cloud

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

Positronium charge exchange reaction

[conceptually similar to a charge exchange technique based on Rydberg cesium performed by ATRAP C. Storry et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 93 (2004) 263401]

ADVANTAGES

- Large cross section $\mathbf{\sigma} \propto (n_{\text{Ps}})^4$

- Narrow and well defined band of final states $(n_H \approx \sqrt{2n_{Ps}}, \text{ with a rms of few units})$

Antihydrogen is then accelerated and fly toward the moiré deflectometer



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fall detection - moiré deflectometer



beam

the first two gratings, an image of the collimation gratings is formed. At this position, a third identical probe grating is placed. Its translation along the indicated direction leads to a periodic modulation of the transmitted intensity.





the **AEgIS** apparatus













First results



Small-scale test of the moiré deflectometer with \overline{p} was performed

Moiré

gravity measurement proof of principle

Mini-moiré deflectometer

- distance 25 mm
- •slit 12 μ m, pitch 40 μ m, 100 μ m thick
- pbar beam $E \sim (100 \pm 150)$ keV traversing IT magnet
- •light reference:Talbot-Lau
- •emulsion detector



gravity measurement proof of principle

g 146 antiprotons recorded (emulsion detector with 1-2 um resolution!)



 $\Delta y = 9.8 \pm 0.9(stat) \pm 6.4(syst) \mu m$

- $F = 530 \pm 50 \text{ aN} \text{ (stat.)} \pm 350 \text{ aN} \text{ (syst.)}$
- consistent with a B \sim 7.4 G

 $B \sim 10$ G measured at the moiré position

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positronium production

Positronium (Ps) production by implanting e+ in a nanochanneled Si target

e⁺/Ps converter



nanochanneled Si (5-100 nm range, depth 2 um)

[S. Mariazzi et al., Phys. Rev. B 81 (2010) 235481]



Single Shot Positron Annihilation Lifetime Spectroscopy (SSPALS) measurement [D. B. Cassidy et al. NIMB 508 (2007) 1338]

Positrons impinging: (a) passive surface (MCP) (b) nanochanneled Si

Comparing the two spectra and measuring the decay time of the signal showed that Ps was formed

demonstration of Ps n=3 laser excitation



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ICPPA '16 Moscow 11 October 2016

antiprotons manipulation

electrons compressed (4MHz final RW step)



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antiprotons manipulation

 Observation of electron & antiproton centrifugal separation

 -> expected effect in our experimental conditions

- Observation of antiproton ring decay through vortices





Moscow 11 October 2016 | ICPPA '16

Goal

Results

Conclusions and future plans

- AEgIS aims at probing the WEP on antimatter
 - No precise direct measurement so far
- AEgIS is taking data
- The working principle tested using antiprotons
- Antiprotons are routinely trapped and "manipulated" in the traps
- Positronium have been formed and excited to Rydberg states
- Future plans
- A production expected to be achieved this/next year
- First gravity measurements planned for the next years
- Longer term plans also include H-H spectroscopy (in particular HFS)

