

Experiments with cold antimatter at CERN

Dr. Fredrik Parnefjord Gustafsson



How did I end up here?

PostDoc at Stefan Meyer institute in Austria (2021-2022)



Senior fellow at CERN (2023- ..)

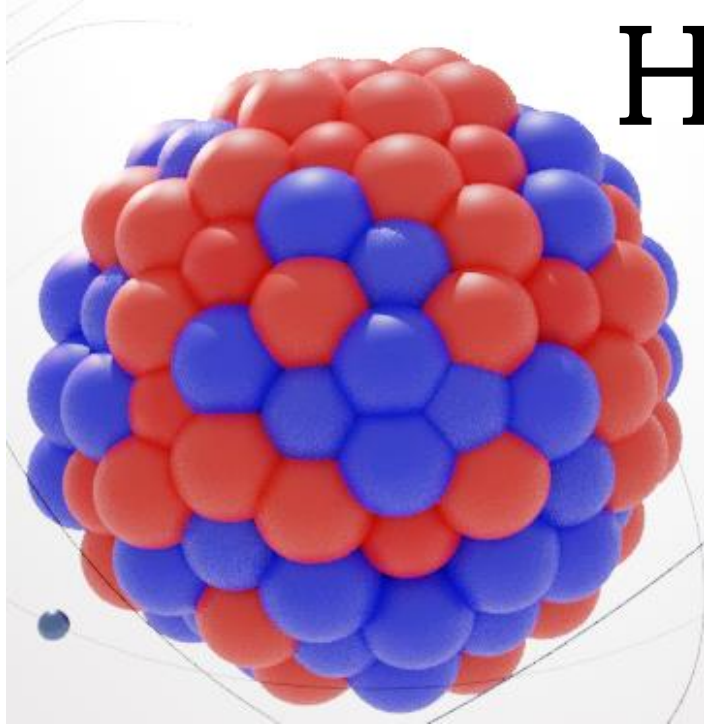
AEGIS



PhD in Nuclear physics,
KU Leuven Belgium (2017-2021)



Physics at Lund university,
Sweden (2011-2017)



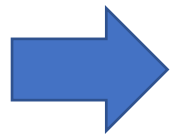
What is antimatter?

The Dirac equation (1928):

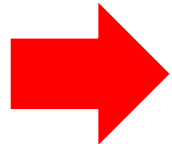
$$(i\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu - m)\psi = 0$$

$$X^2 = K$$

Two equally valid solutions:



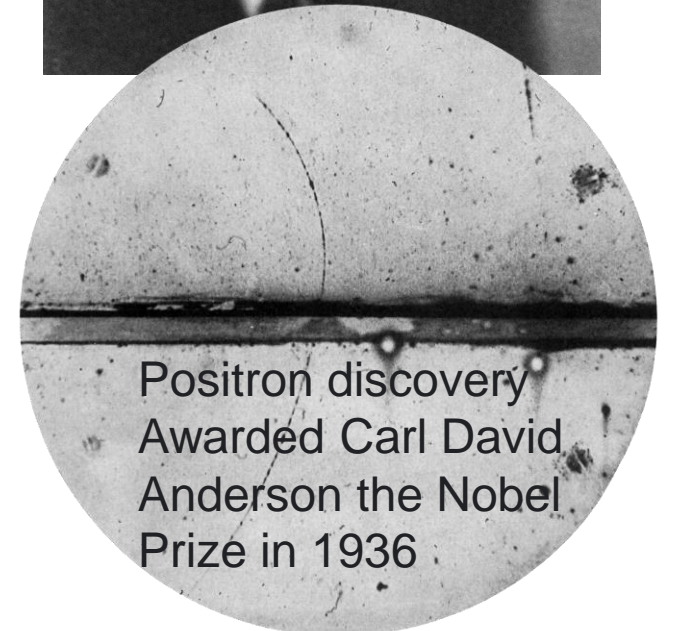
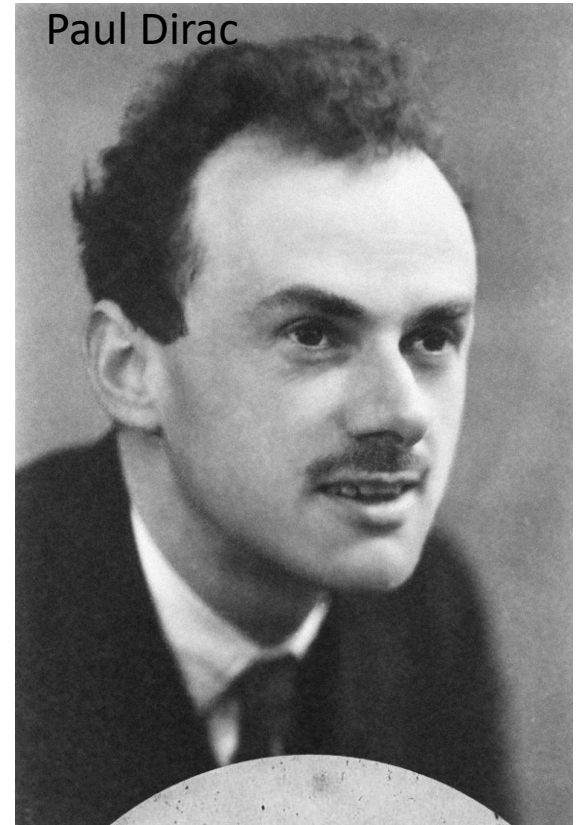
Positive energy states
consistent with matter.



Negative energy states
consistent with **anti-matter**?

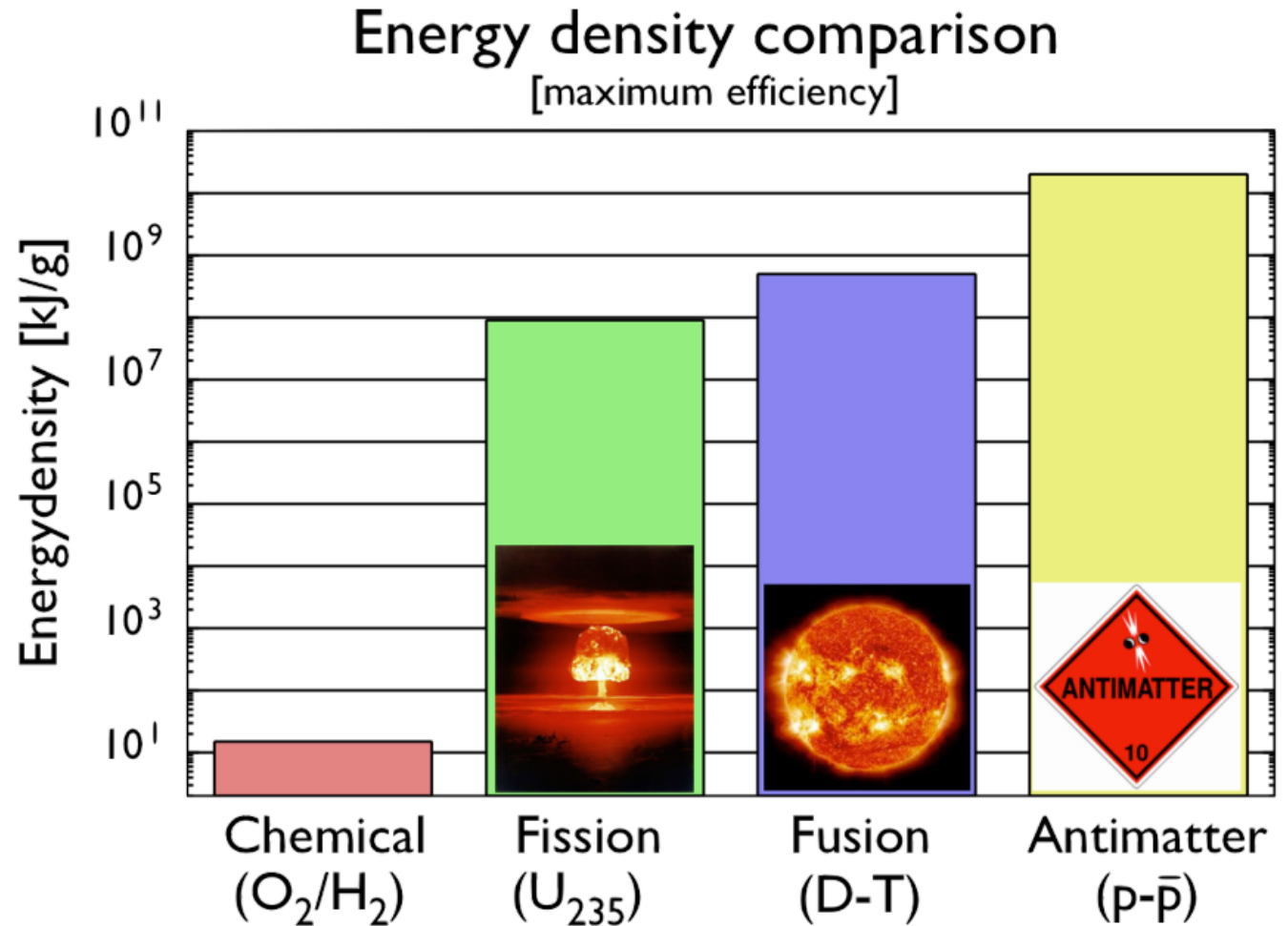
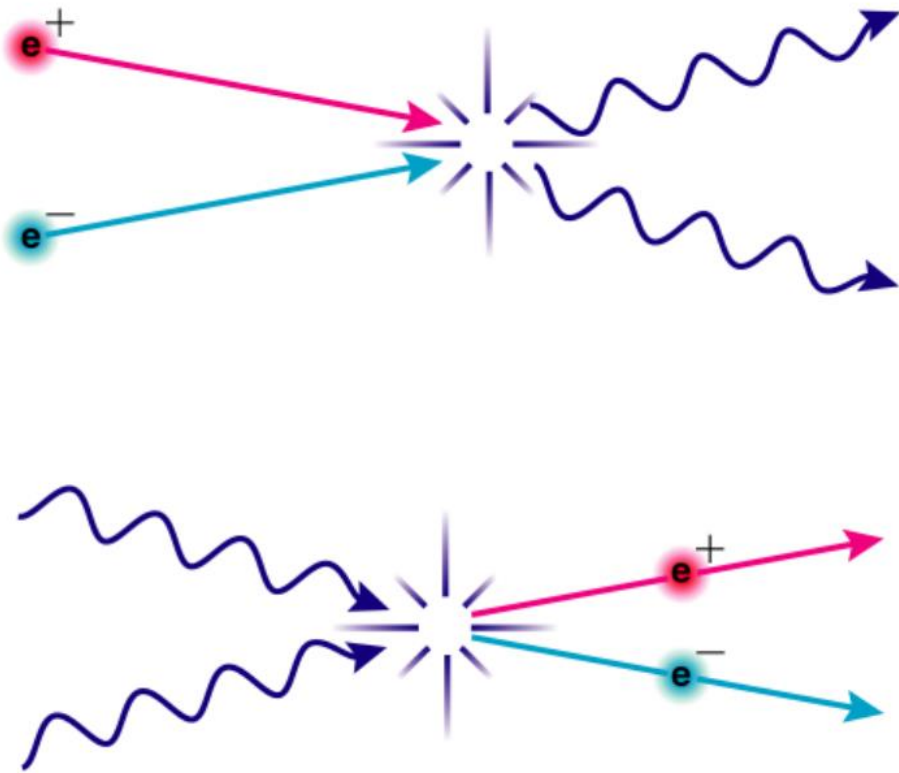
- Antimatter perfectly cancel matter in energy with an equal mass but opposite charge.
- Anti-electron (positron) discovery in 1932 proved the existence of antimatter.

Paul Dirac



Antimatter creation and annihilation

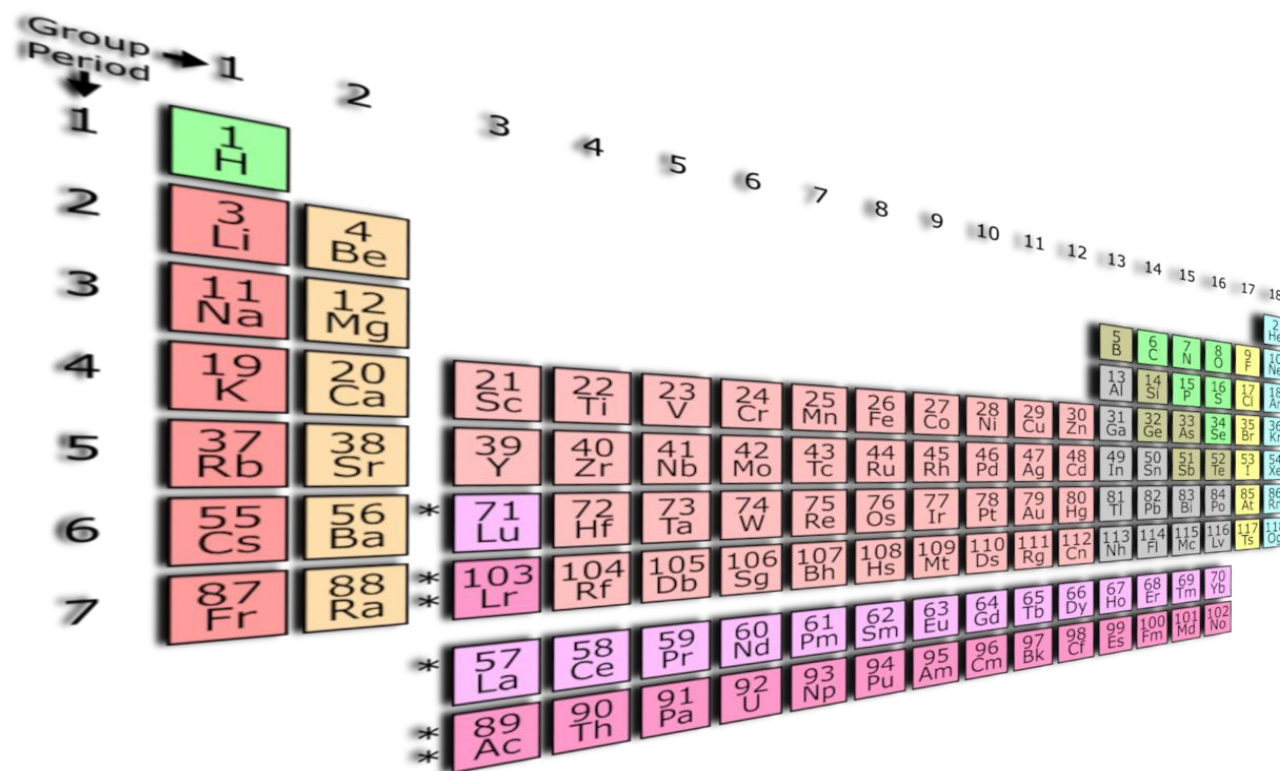
$$E = mc^2$$



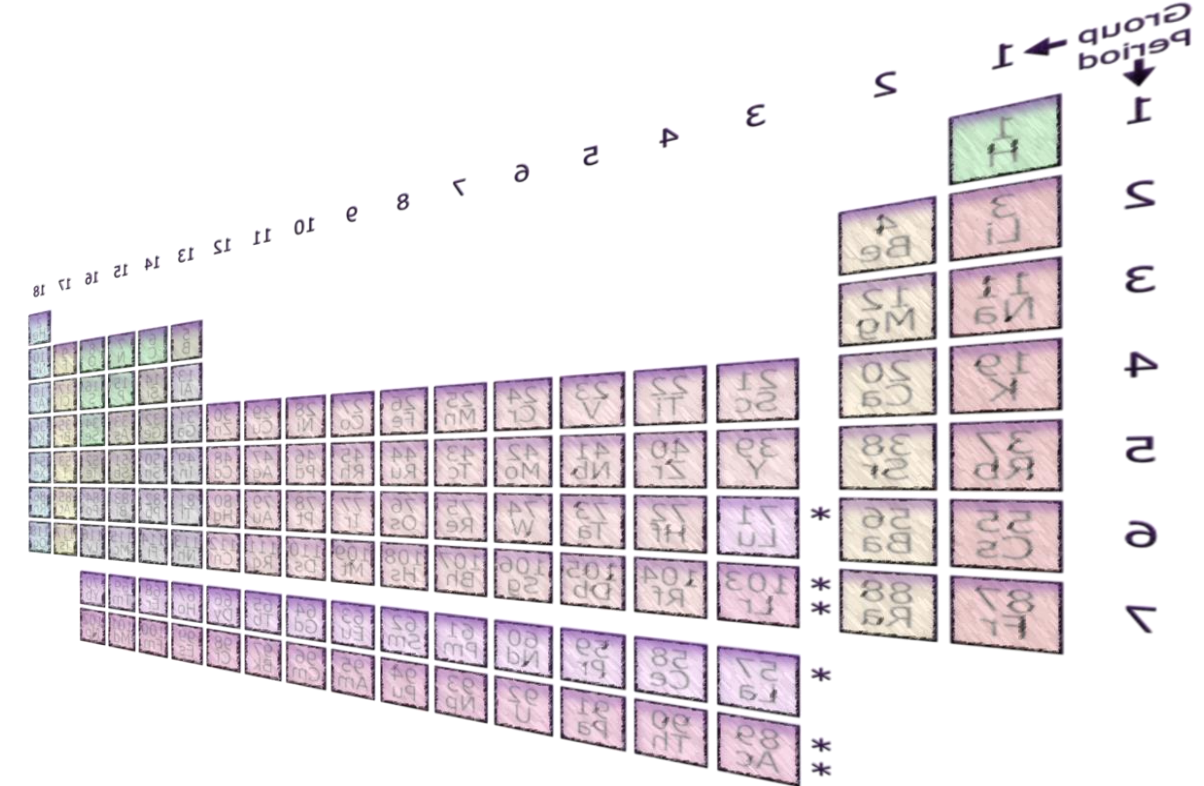
For every matter particle there is an equivalent anti-matter particle...

Elements in our universe

Anti-elements in our universe?

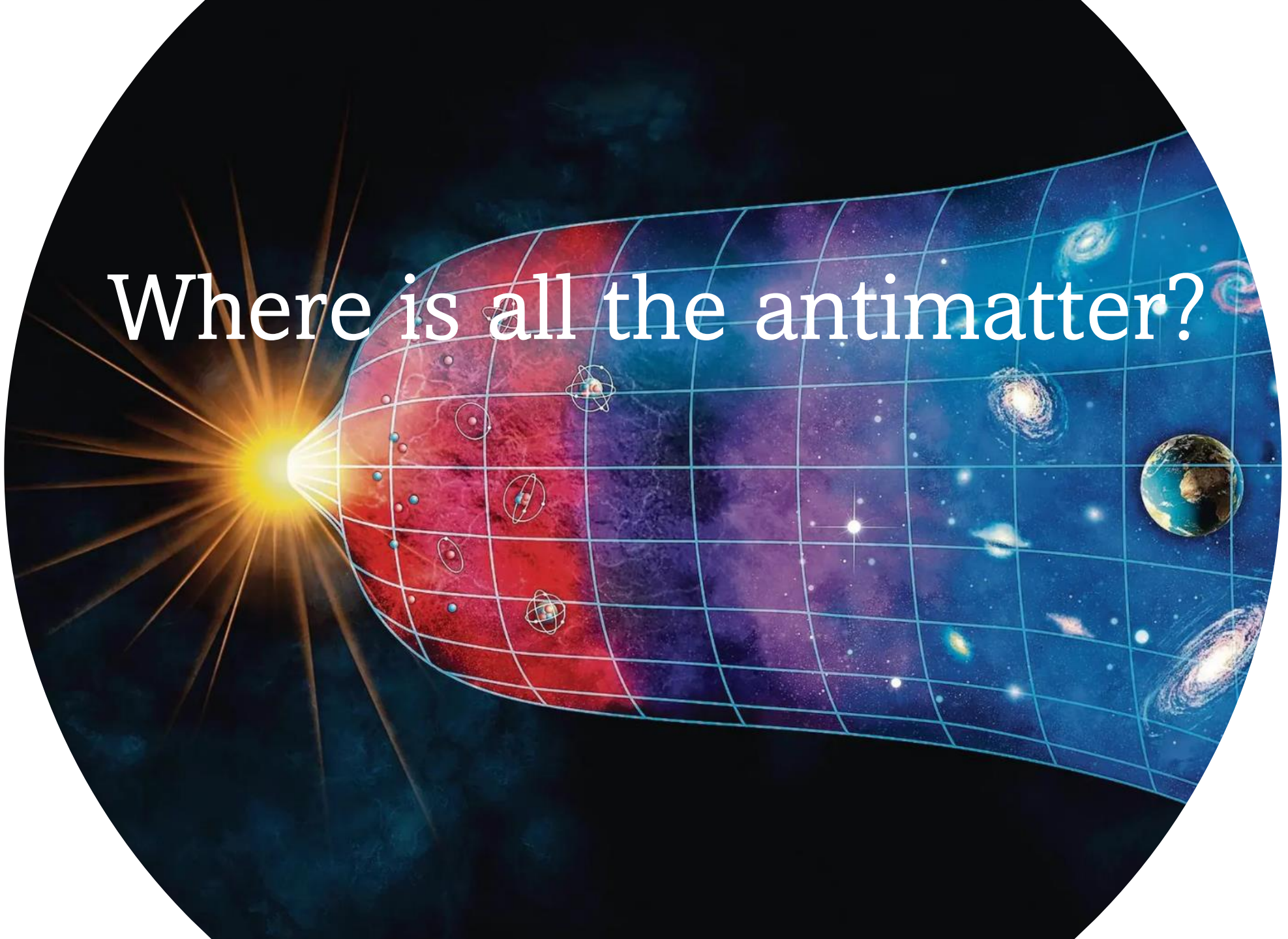


A standard periodic table of elements, oriented vertically. The vertical axis is labeled 'Group' and 'Period' with arrows pointing to the right and down respectively. The horizontal axis is labeled 'Group' and 'Period' with arrows pointing to the left and down respectively. The table contains 118 elements, each in a colored box with its atomic number and symbol. The elements are arranged in rows and columns, with the first row containing Hydrogen (1) and Helium (2). The table is color-coded by groups: Group 1 (red), Group 2 (orange), Groups 3-10 (pink), Groups 11-18 (yellow and green).



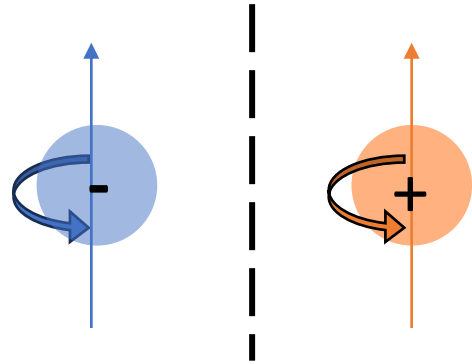
An anti-periodic table of elements, oriented vertically. The vertical axis is labeled 'Group' and 'Period' with arrows pointing to the right and down respectively. The horizontal axis is labeled 'Group' and 'Period' with arrows pointing to the left and down respectively. The table contains 118 elements, each in a colored box with its atomic number and symbol. The elements are arranged in rows and columns, with the first row containing Hydrogen (1) and Helium (2). The table is color-coded by groups: Group 1 (red), Group 2 (orange), Groups 3-10 (pink), Groups 11-18 (yellow and green).

Where is all the antimatter?



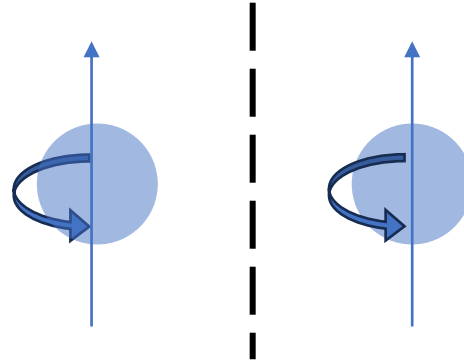
Broken fundamental symmetry?

Charge conjugation



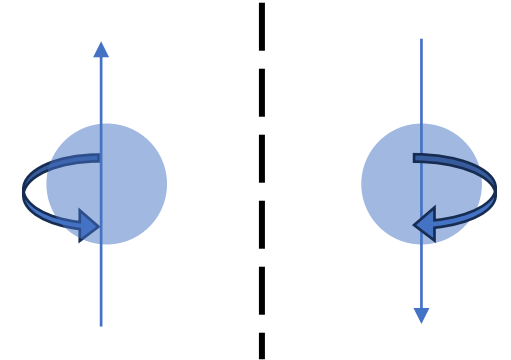
Charge changes sign

Parity inversion



**Spatial coordinate change
(mirroring)**

Time reversal

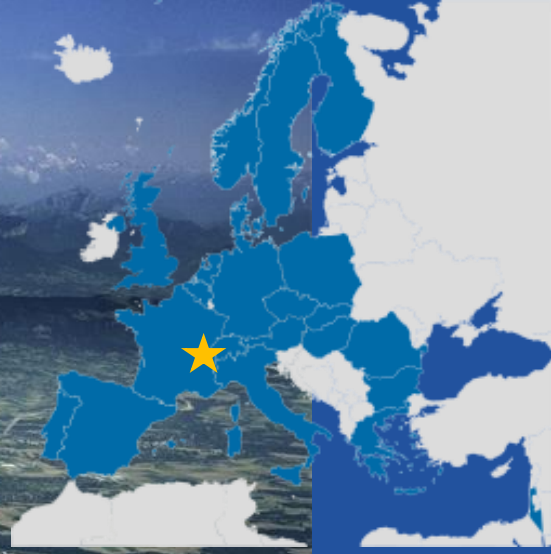


Spin changes sign

- **C**, **P**, and **CP** are each broken in the standard model (Beta decay, Kaon decay etc..) ..not sufficient to explain antimatter/matter asymmetry...
- No process has been observed to break fundamental **CPT** symmetry yet..

Example: $CPT \rightarrow (-CP)(-T) \rightarrow CPT$ (Invariant)

Where do we explore fundamental laws of nature?



SUISSE
FRANCE

CMS

LHCb

CERN Prévessin

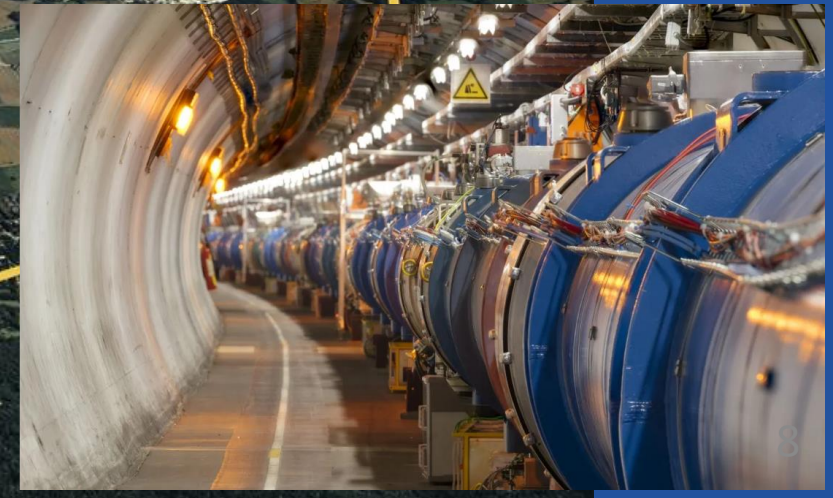
ATLAS

CERN Meyrin

SPS 7 km

ALICE

LHC 27 km



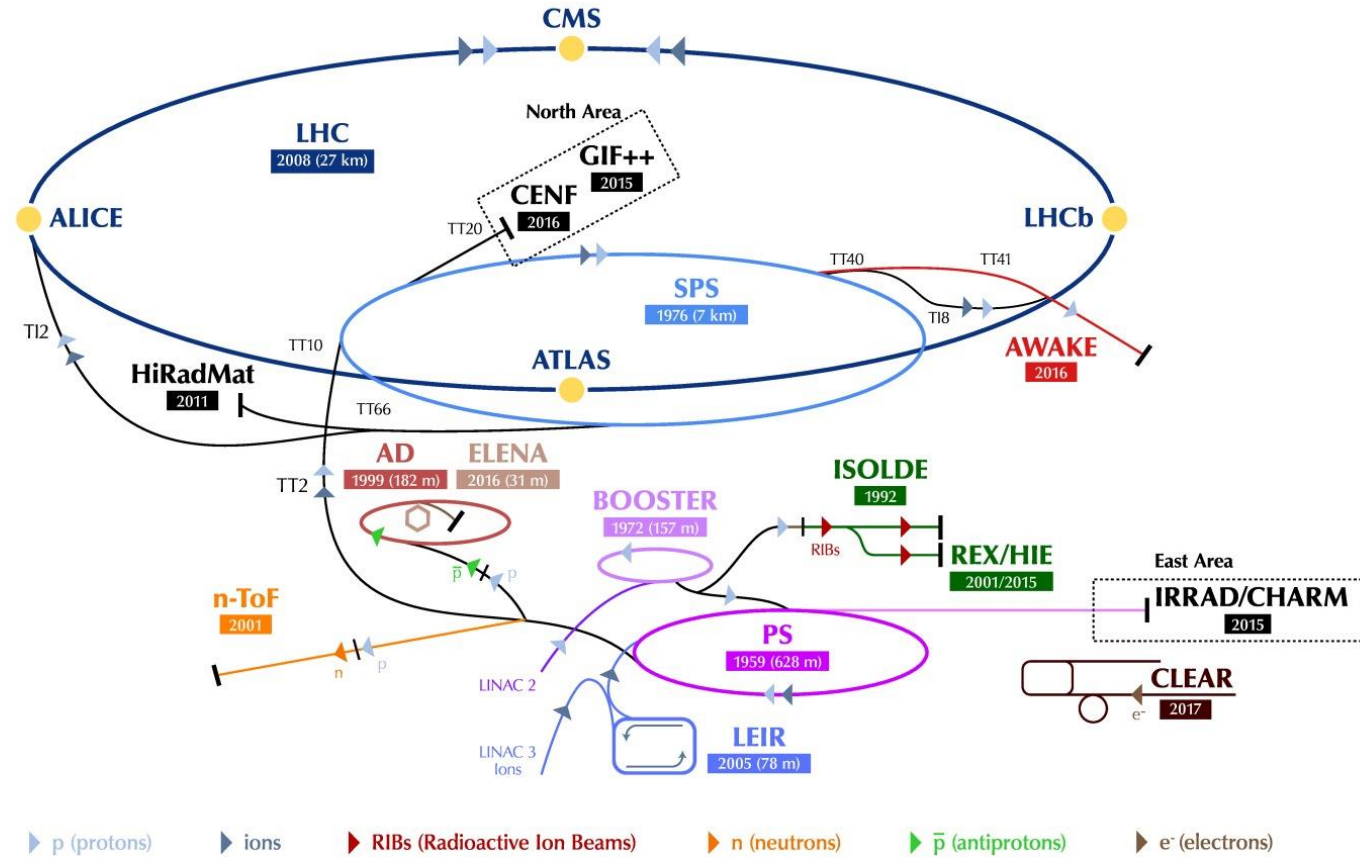
Standard Model of Elementary Particles

	three generations of matter (fermions)			interactions / force carriers (bosons)	
	I	II	III		
mass	$\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	0	$\approx 125.11 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
charge	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	0	0
spin	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0
QUARKS	u up	c charm	t top	g gluon	H higgs
	$\approx 4.7 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 96 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 4.18 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	0	
	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	0	
	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	
	d down	s strange	b bottom	γ photon	
	$\approx 0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 105.66 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.7768 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 91.19 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	
	-1	-1	-1	0	
	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	
	e electron	μ muon	τ tau	Z Z boson	
LEPTONS	$< 1.0 \text{ eV}/c^2$	$< 0.17 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$< 18.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 80.360 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	
	0	0	0	± 1	
	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	
	ν_e electron neutrino	ν_μ muon neutrino	ν_τ tau neutrino	W W boson	

GAUGE BOSONS
VECTOR BOSONS

SCALAR BOSONS

The CERN accelerator complex Complexe des accélérateurs du CERN



LHC - Large Hadron Collider // SPS - Super Proton Synchrotron // PS - Proton Synchrotron // AD - Antiproton Decelerator // CLEAR - CERN Linear Electron Accelerator for Research // AWAKE - Advanced WAKEfield Experiment // ISOLDE - Isotope Separator OnLine // REX/HIE - Radioactive EXperiment/High Intensity and Energy ISOLDE // LEIR - Low Energy Ion Ring // LINAC - LINear ACcelerator // n-ToF - Neutrons Time Of Flight // HiRadMat - High-Radiation to Materials // CHARM - Cern High energy AccelERator Mixed field facility // IRRAD - proton IRRADIation facility // GIF++ - Gamma Irradiation Facility // CENF - CErn Neutrino platForm

Search for asymmetry at the LHCb experiment



nature
physics

ARTICLES

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 30 JANUARY 2017 | DOI: 10.1038/NPHYS4021

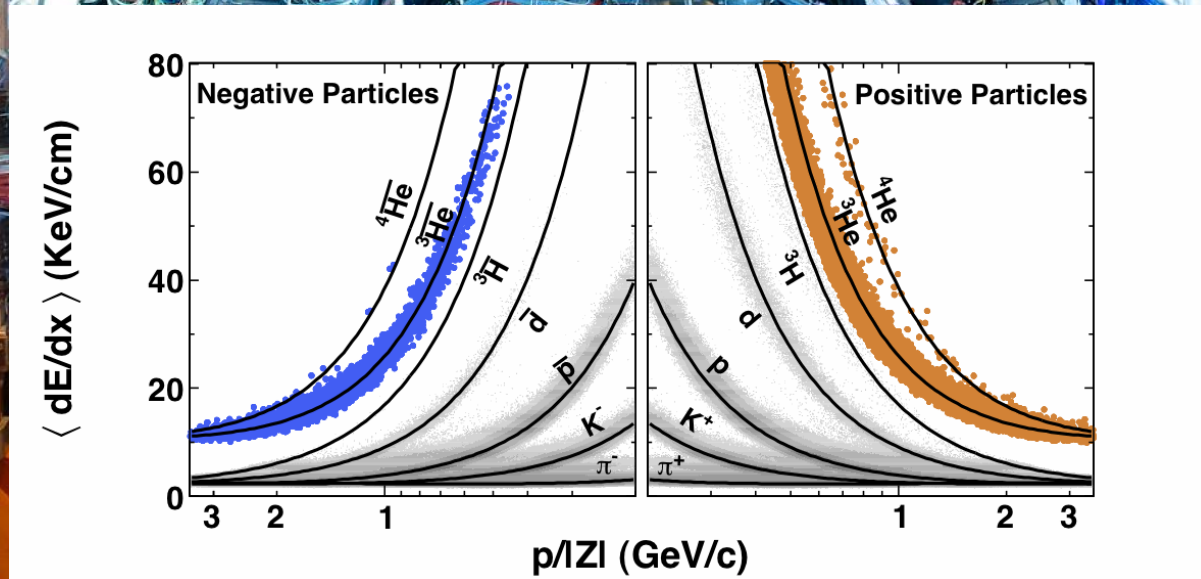
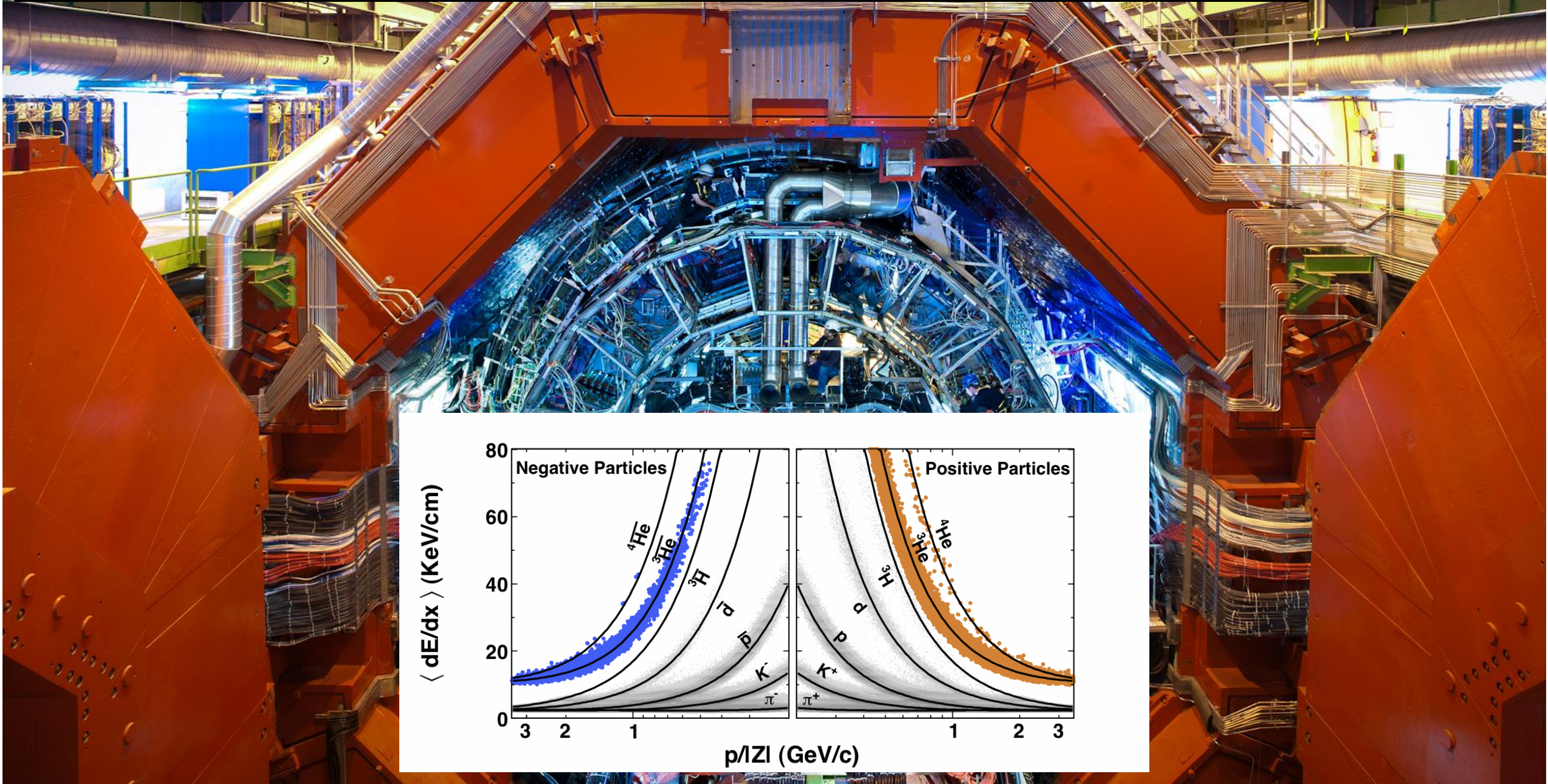
OPEN

Measurement of matter-antimatter differences in beauty baryon decays

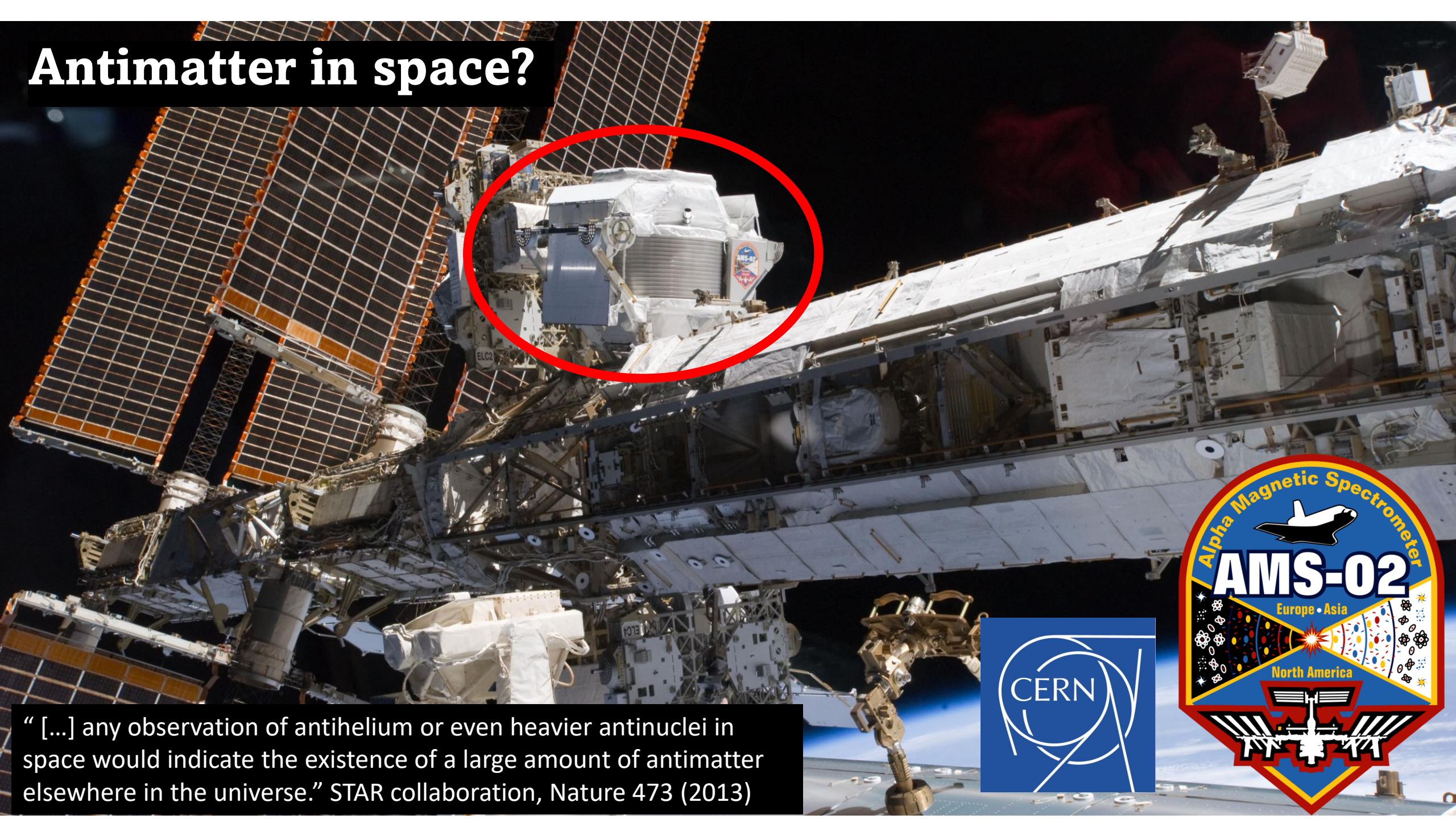
The LHCb collaboration[†]

LHCb
ГHCР

Antinuclei production at the ALICE experiment

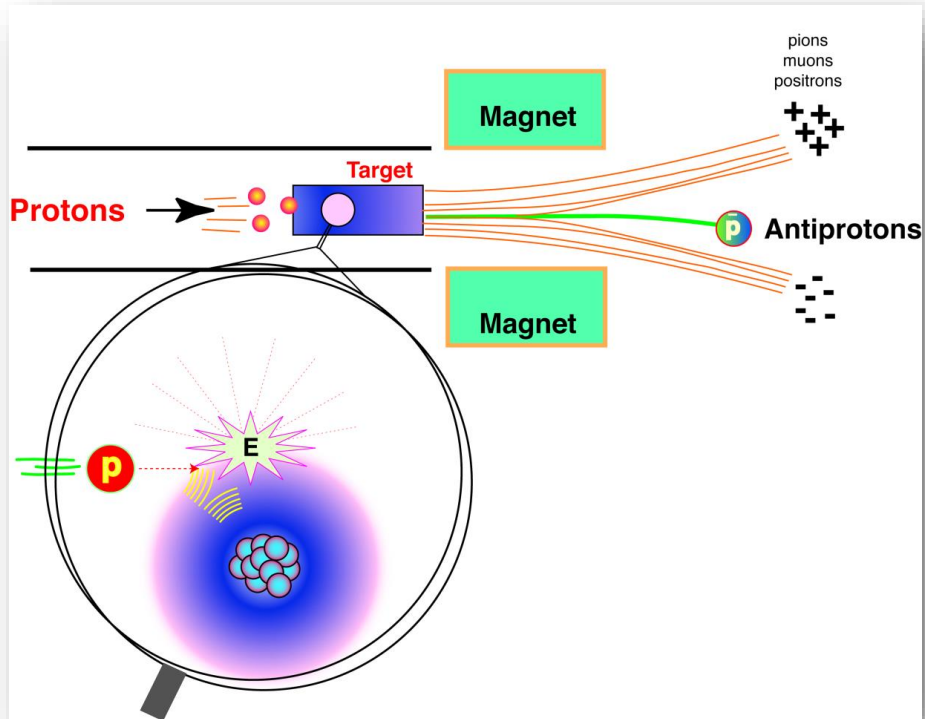
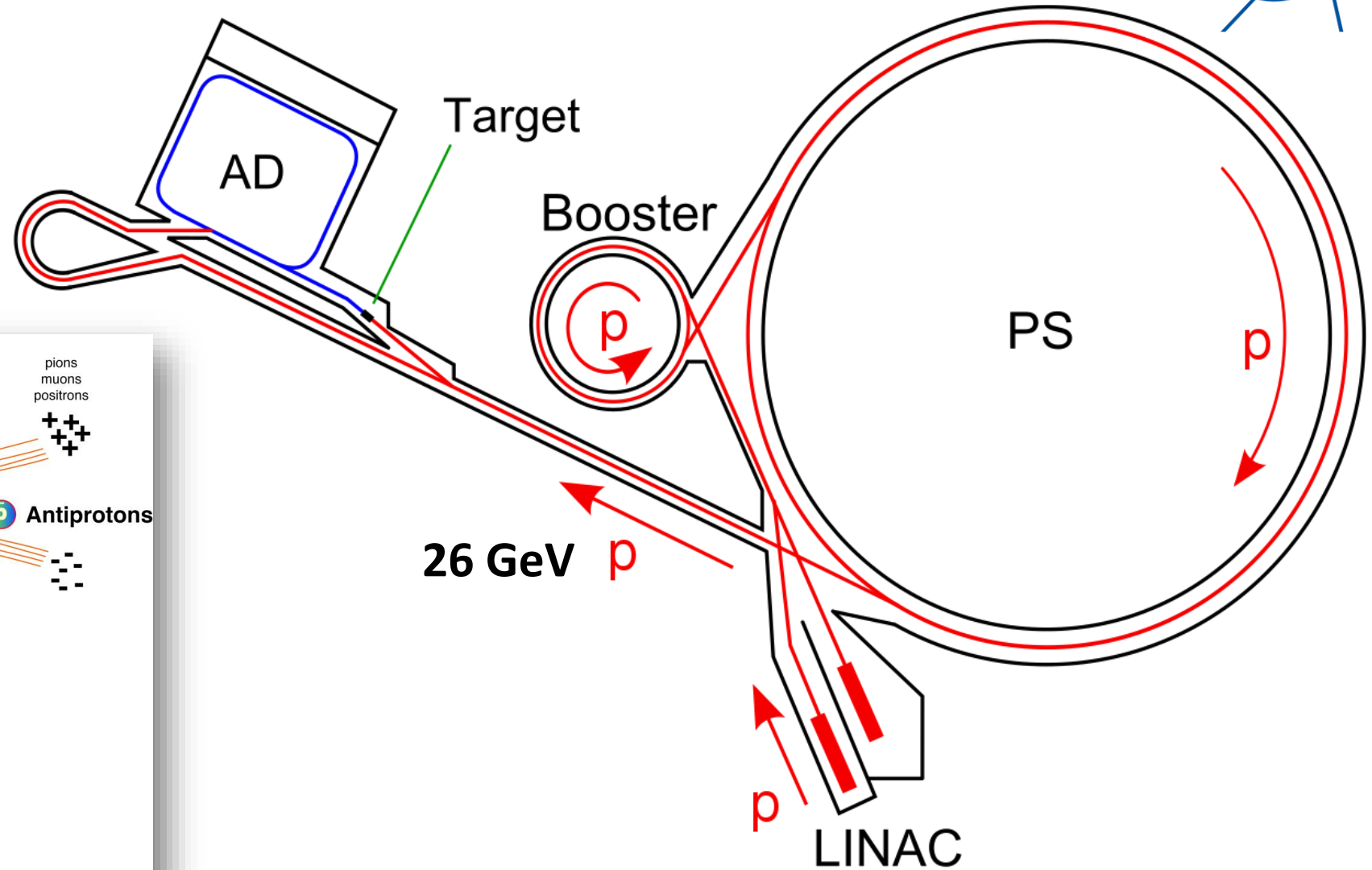


Antimatter in space?



“ [...] any observation of antihelium or even heavier antinuclei in space would indicate the existence of a large amount of antimatter elsewhere in the universe.” STAR collaboration, Nature 473 (2013)

The Antiproton Decelerator (AD) at CERN



The antimatter factory at CERN

Antiprotons from PS

Energy: 3.5 GeV

AD

Antiproton Decelerator

Start: 2000

Length: 182 m

Energy: 5.3 MeV

ELENA

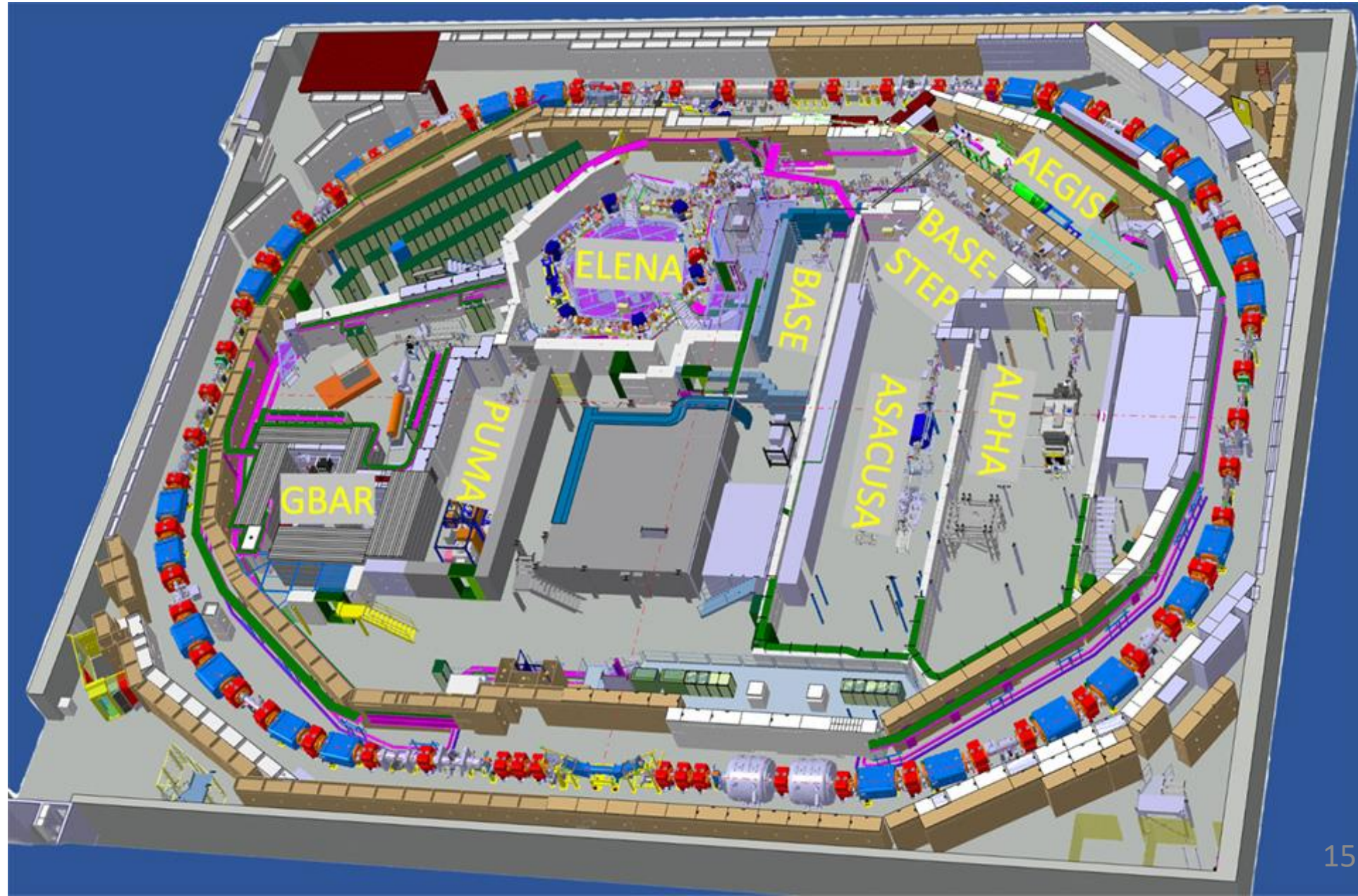
Extra Low

ENergy Antiproton

Start: 2021

Length: 30 m

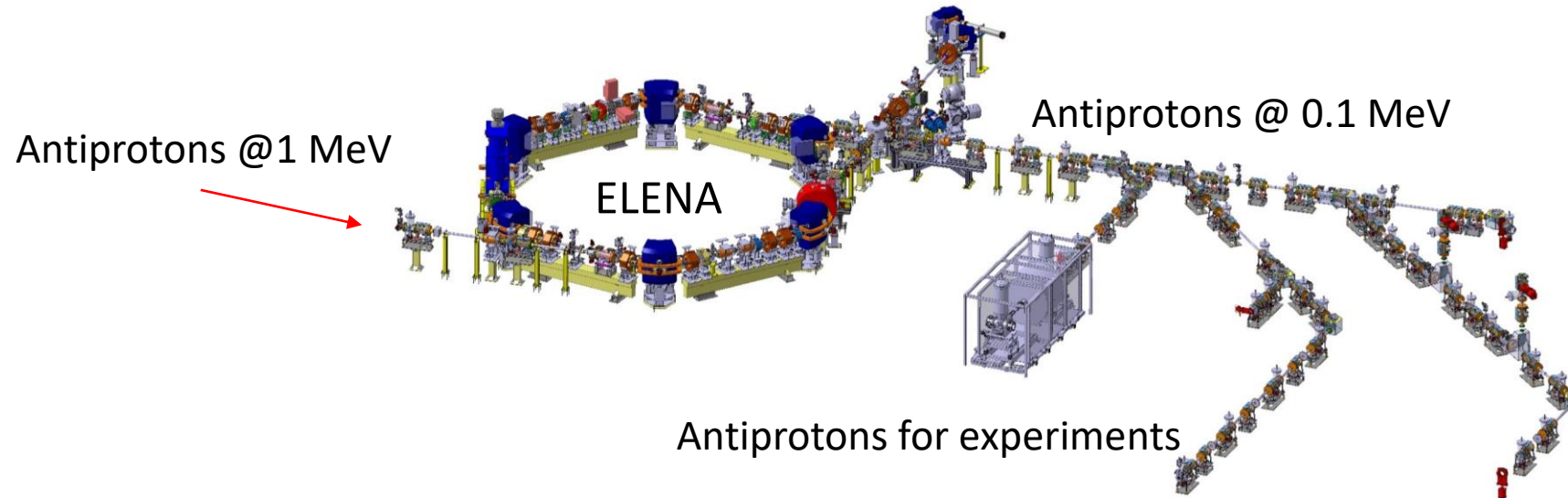
Energy: 0.1 MeV



Inside the antimatter factory at CERN



Six active experiments at AD



ALPHA



Trap

Antihydrogen trapping
Spectroscopy
Gravity

ASACUSA



Beam

Antiprotonic atoms
Collisions
Spectroscopy

AEGIS



Beam

Pulsed production
of antihydrogen
Test of gravity

Antimatter bound states

BASE



Trap

Mass spectroscopy
 \bar{p} magnetic moment

GBAR



Trap

Antimatter gravity
Lamb-shift

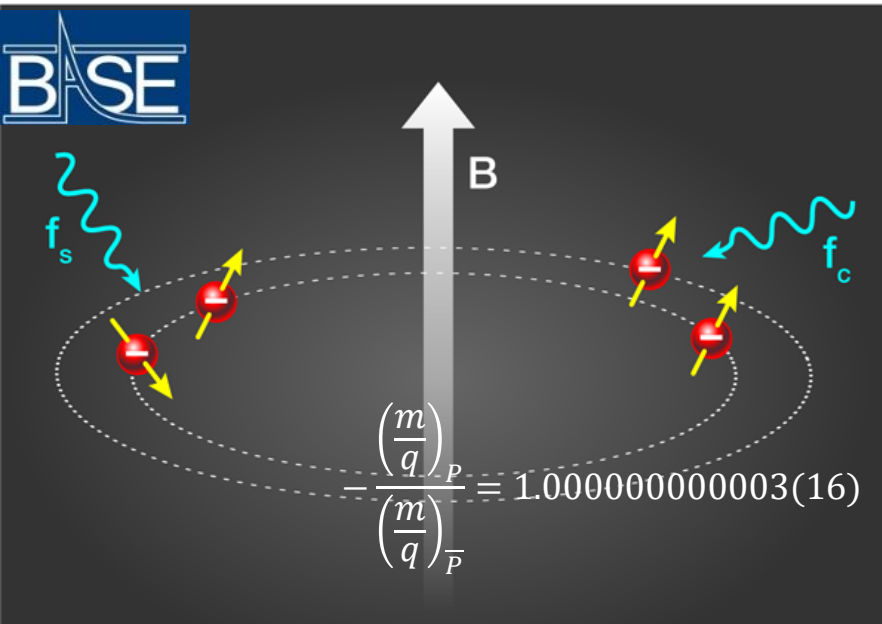
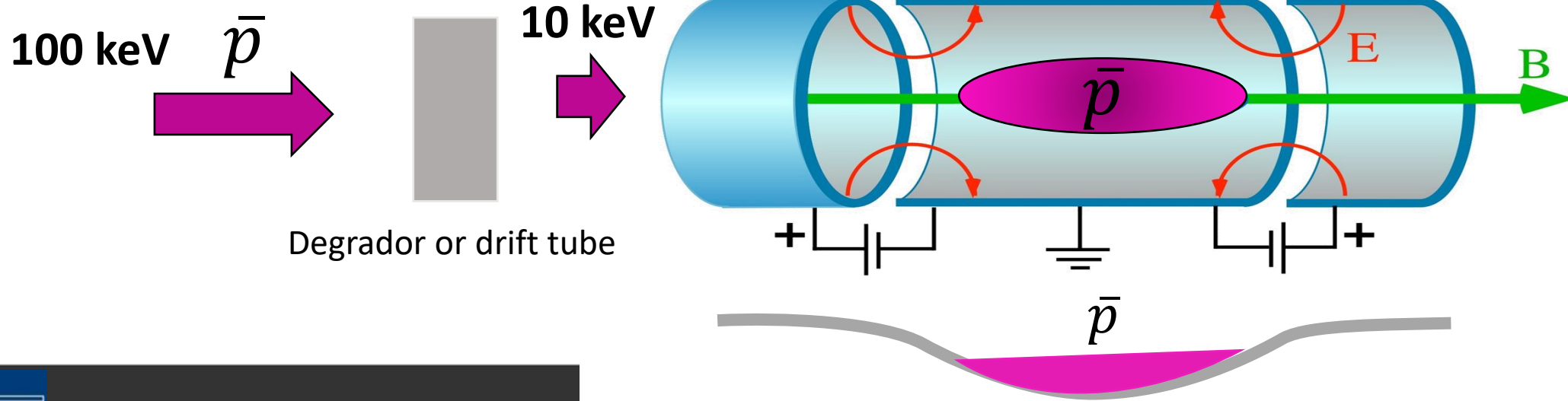
PUMA



Movable trap
for antiprotons

Study of exotic nuclei

Trapping antiprotons



Article

A 16-parts-per-trillion measurement of the antiproton-to-proton charge–mass ratio

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-04203-w>

Received: 25 May 2021

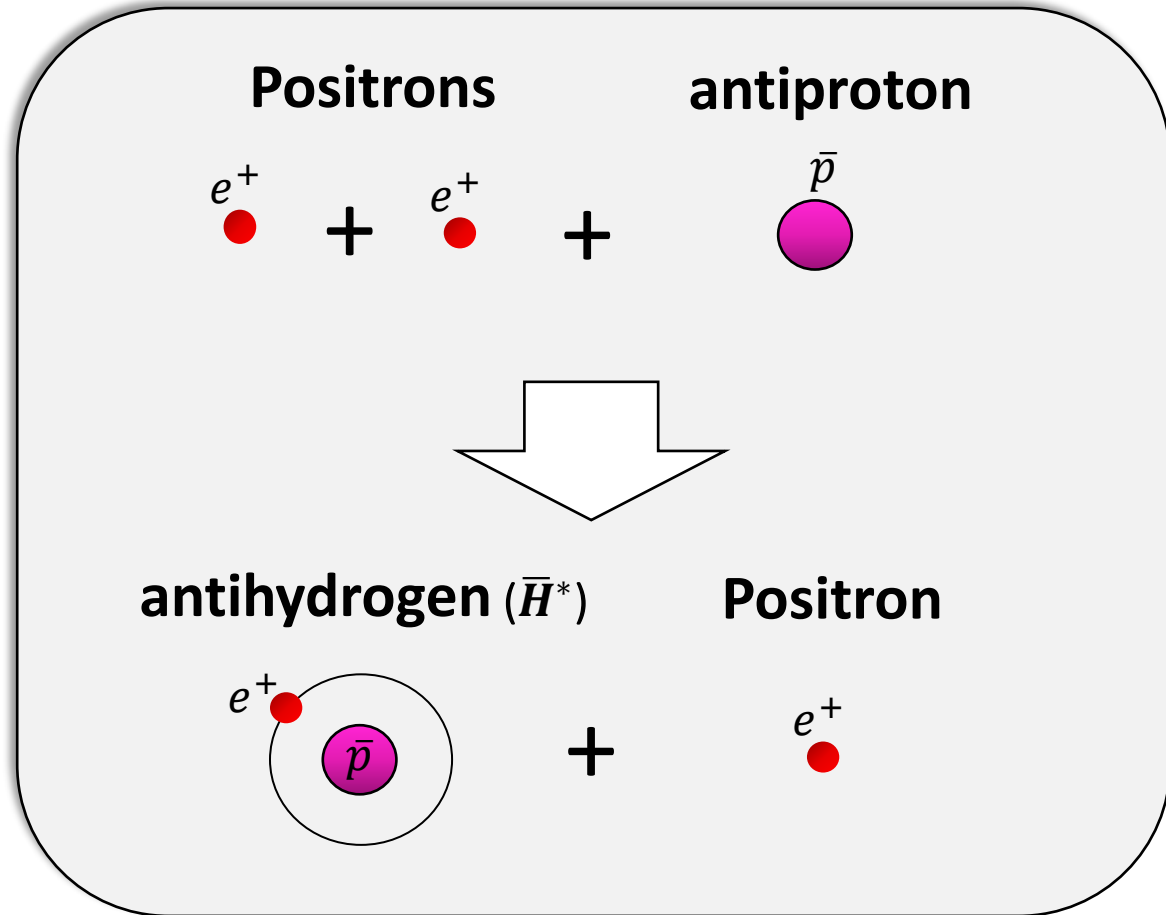
Accepted: 3 November 2021

Published online: 5 January 2022

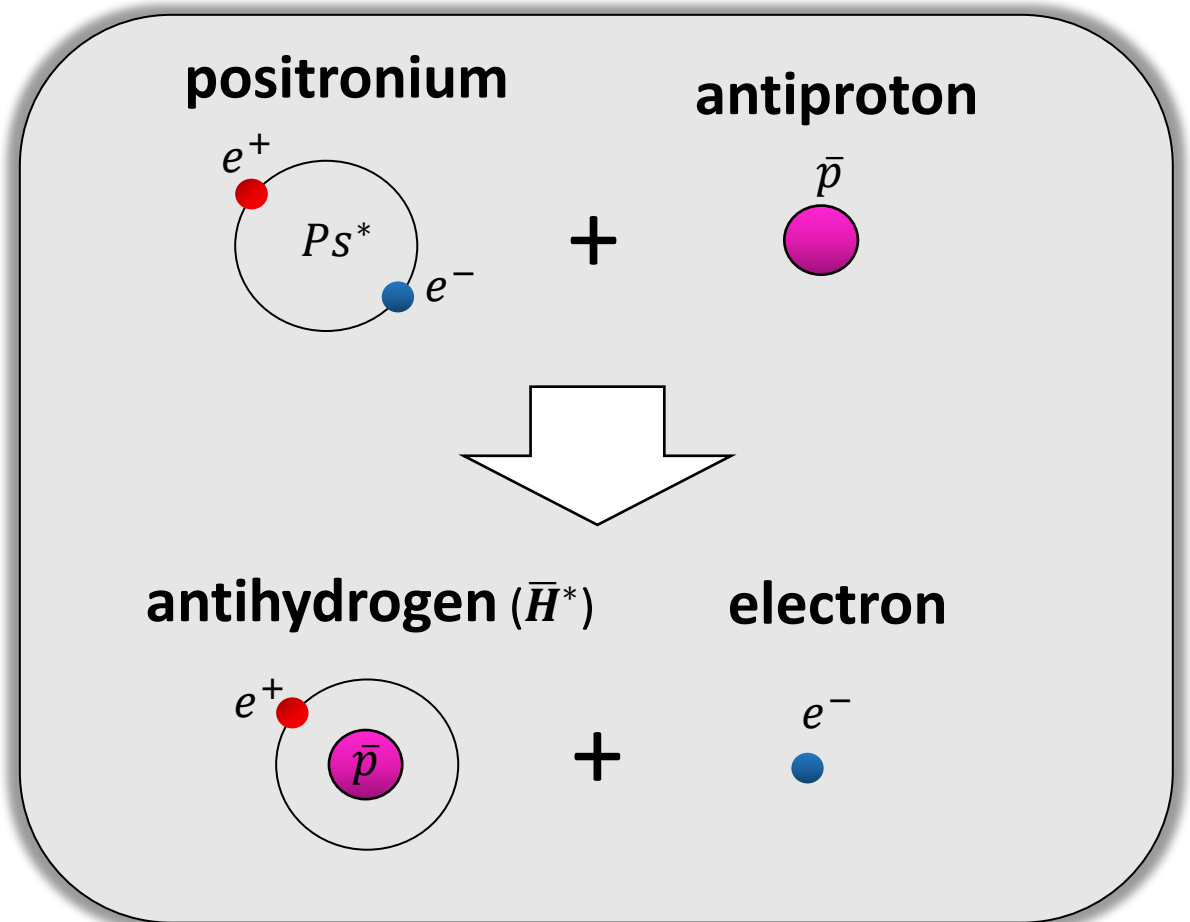
M. J. Borchert^{1,2,3}, J. A. Devlin^{1,4}, S. R. Erlewein^{1,4,5}, M. Fleck^{1,6}, J. A. Harrington^{1,5}, T. Higuchi^{1,6}, B. M. Latacz¹, F. Voelksen^{1,7}, E. J. Wursten^{1,4,5}, F. Abbass⁸, M. A. Bohman^{1,5}, A. H. Mooser⁵, D. Popper⁸, M. Wiesinger^{1,5}, C. Will⁵, K. Blaum⁵, Y. Matsuda⁶, C. Ospelkaus^{2,3}, W. Quint⁷, J. Walz^{8,9}, Y. Yamazaki¹, C. Smorra^{1,8} & S. Ulmer^{1,3}

How do we make antihydrogen?

3-body recombination



Charge-exchange with positronium



Trapping antihydrogen

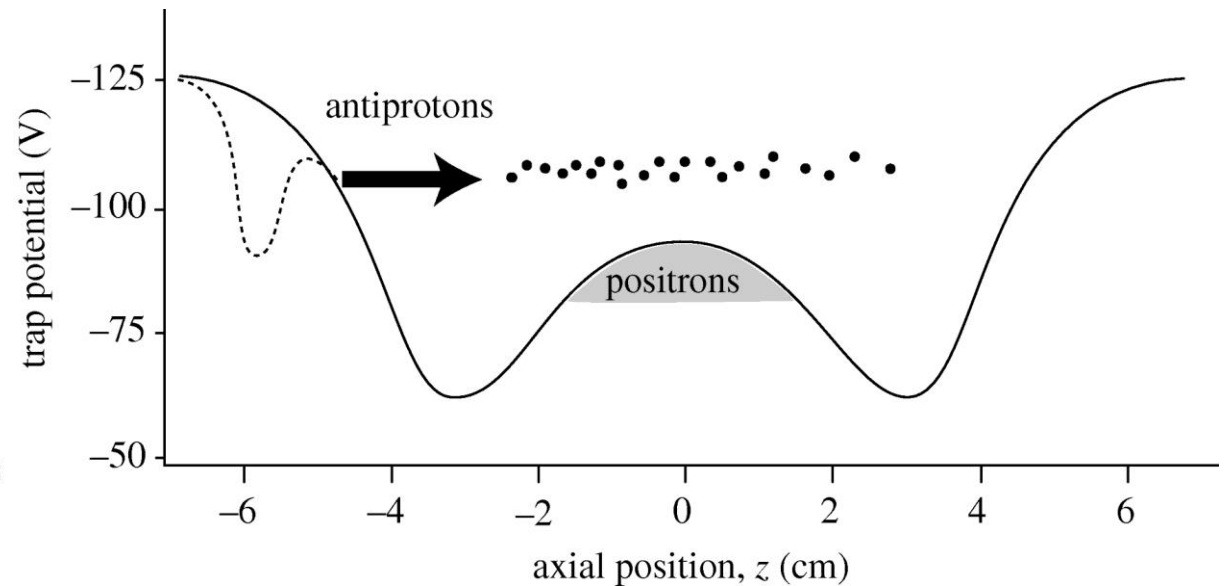
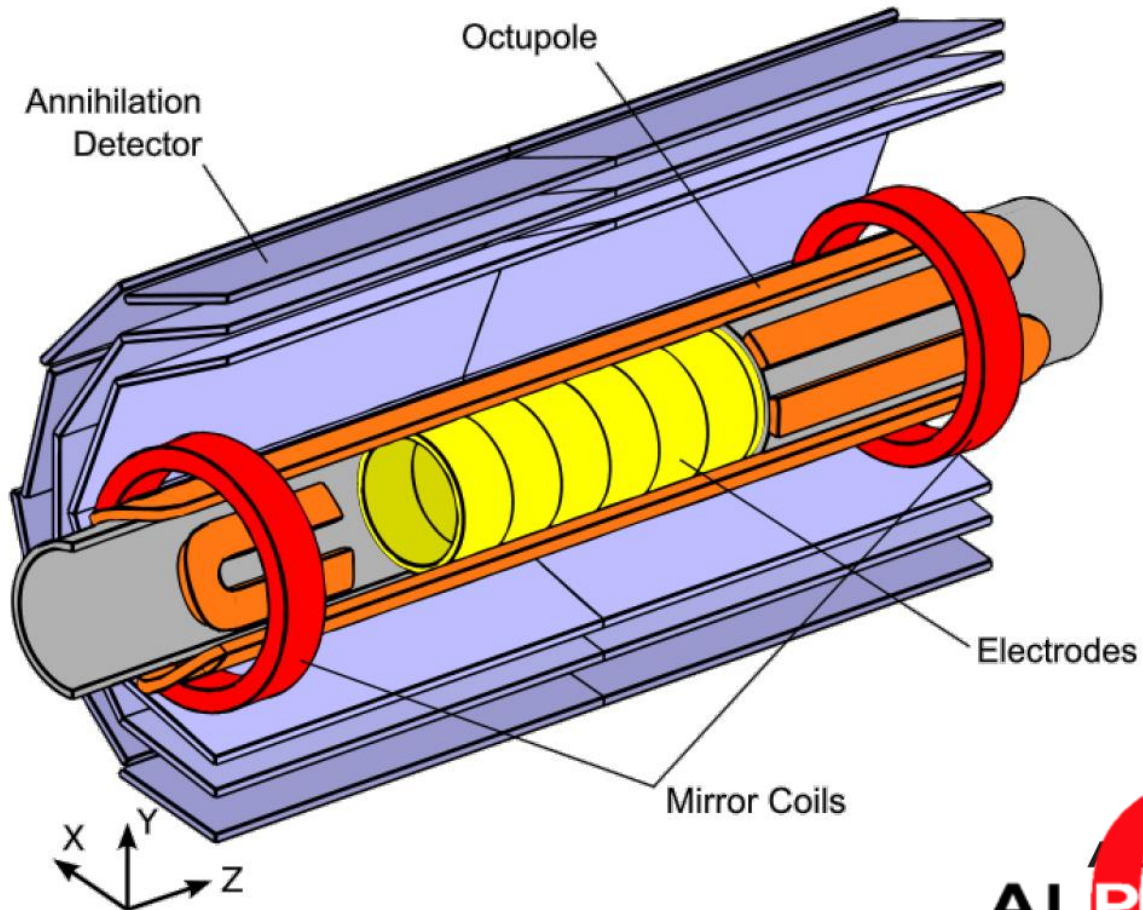
Letter | Published: 17 November 2010

Trapped antihydrogen

[G. B. Andresen](#), [M. D. Ashkezari](#), [M. Baquero-Ruiz](#), [W. Bertsche](#), [P. D. Bowe](#), [E. Butler](#), [C. L. Cesar](#), [S. Chapman](#), [M. Charlton](#), [A. Deller](#), [S. Eriksson](#), [J. Fajans](#), [T. Friesen](#), [M. C. Fujiwara](#), [D. R. Gill](#), [A. Gutierrez](#), [J. S. Hangst](#), [W. N. Hardy](#), [M. E. Hayden](#), [A. J. Humphries](#), [R. Hydomako](#), [M. J. Jenkins](#), [S. Jonsell](#), [L. V. Jørgensen](#), ... [Y. Yamazaki](#) [+ Show authors](#)

[Nature](#) **468**, 673–676 (2010) | [Cite this article](#)

Antihydrogen Laser Physics Apparatus



ALPHA α

Spectroscopy of (anti-)hydrogen

- $1S \rightarrow 2S$
- $1S \rightarrow 2P$
- $1S$ Hyperfine splitting

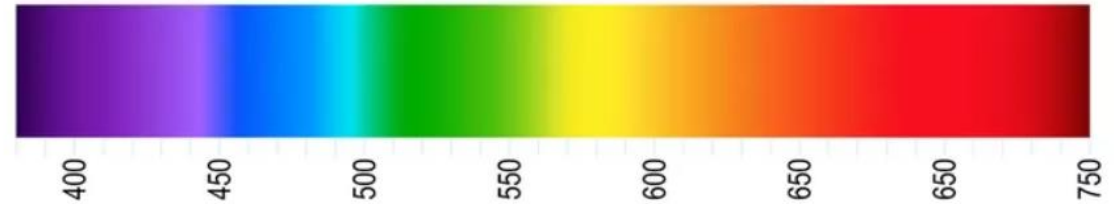
Ahmadi et al., *Nature* 548, 66 (2017)

Ahmadi et al., *Nature* 557, 71 (2018)

Ahmadi et al., *Nature* 561, 211 (2018)

Ahmadi et al., *Nature* 578, 375 (2020)

Continuous spectrum



Hydrogen Emission spectrum



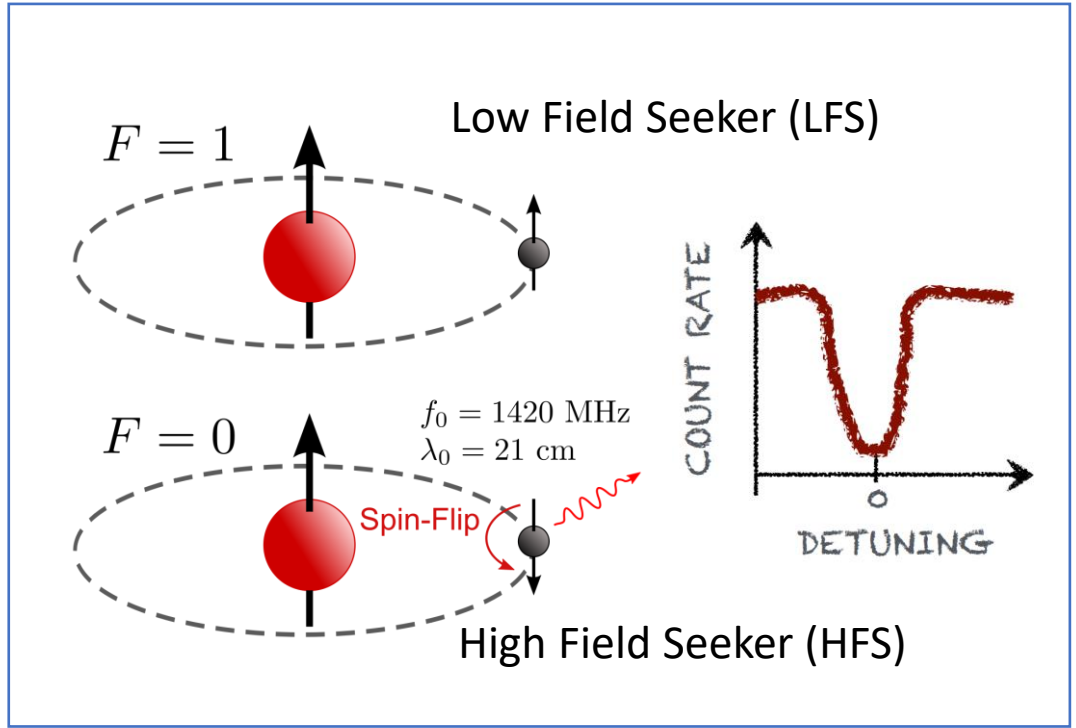
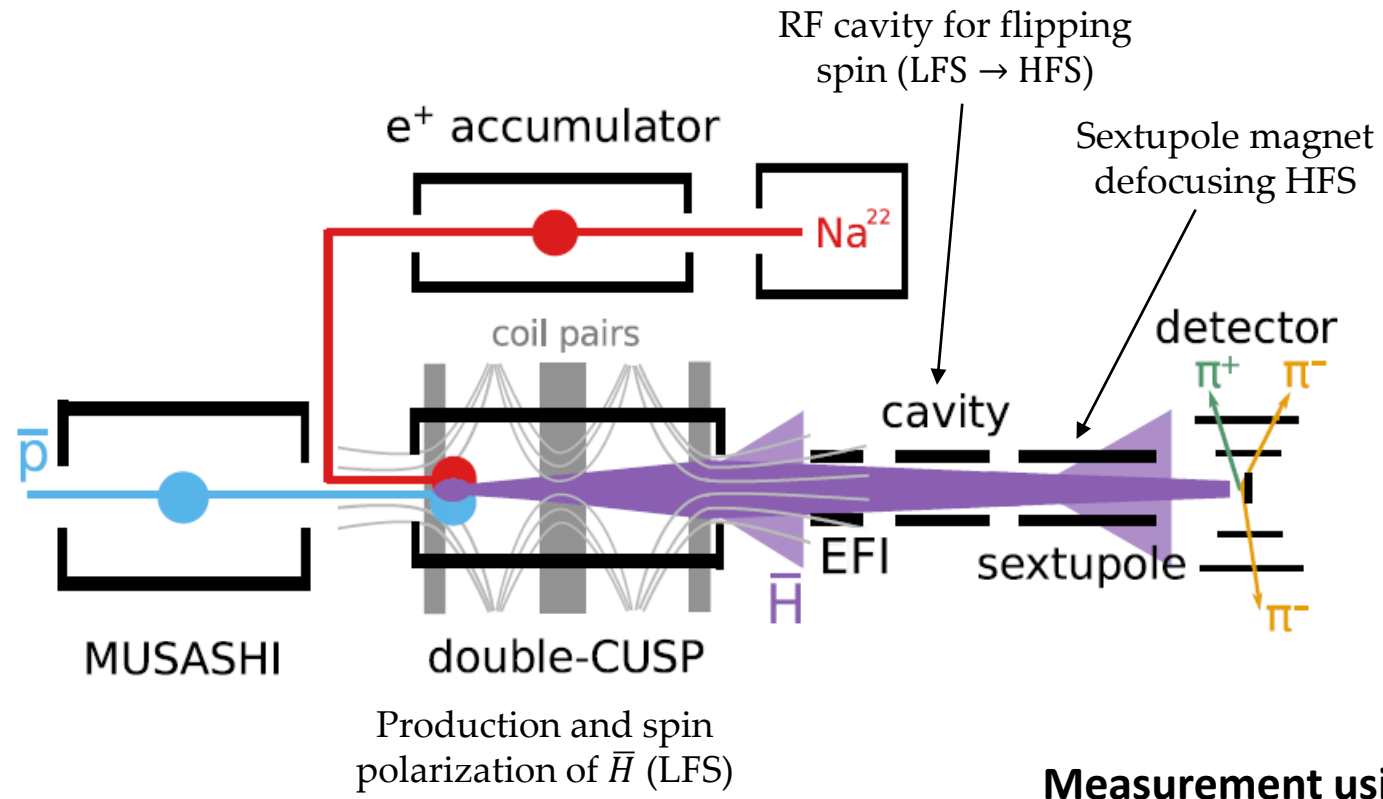
$$\nu_{\text{HFS}}(H) = 1,420.4057513768(1) \text{ MHz}$$

$$\nu_{\text{HFS}}(\bar{H}) = 1,420.4(5) \text{ MHz}$$

Goal: Measuring the ground-state hyperfine splitting in a near field-free region below 1 p.p.m



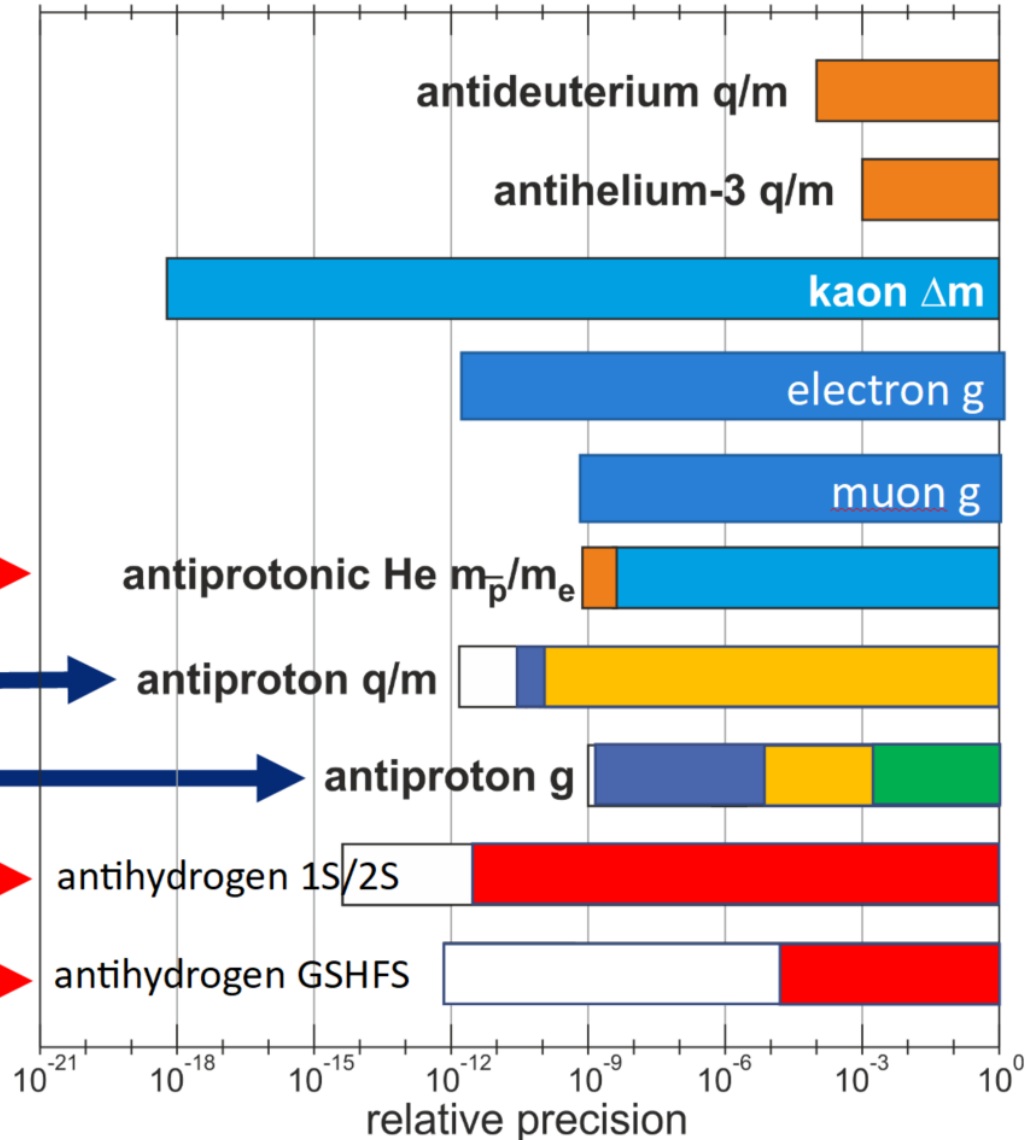
In-beam GS-HFS spectroscopy at ASACUSA



Measurement using proof-of principle setup reached p.p.b accuracy:

In-beam measurement of the hydrogen hyperfine splitting and prospects for antihydrogen spectroscopy
[M. Diermaier](#), [C. B. Jepsen](#), [B. Kolbinger](#), [C. Malbrunot](#), [O. Massiczek](#), [C. Sauerzopf](#), [M. C. Simon](#), [J. Zmeskal](#)
& [E. Widmann](#) ✉

CPT with particle/antiparticle comparisons



CERN
ALICE

Anomalous antimatter gravity?
Segregation of matter and antimatter?
Is the Weak Equivalence Principle valid?

CERN
AD






Measurement of the gravitational influence on antimatter

Article | [Open access](#) | Published: 27 September 2023

Observation of the effect of gravity on the motion of antimatter



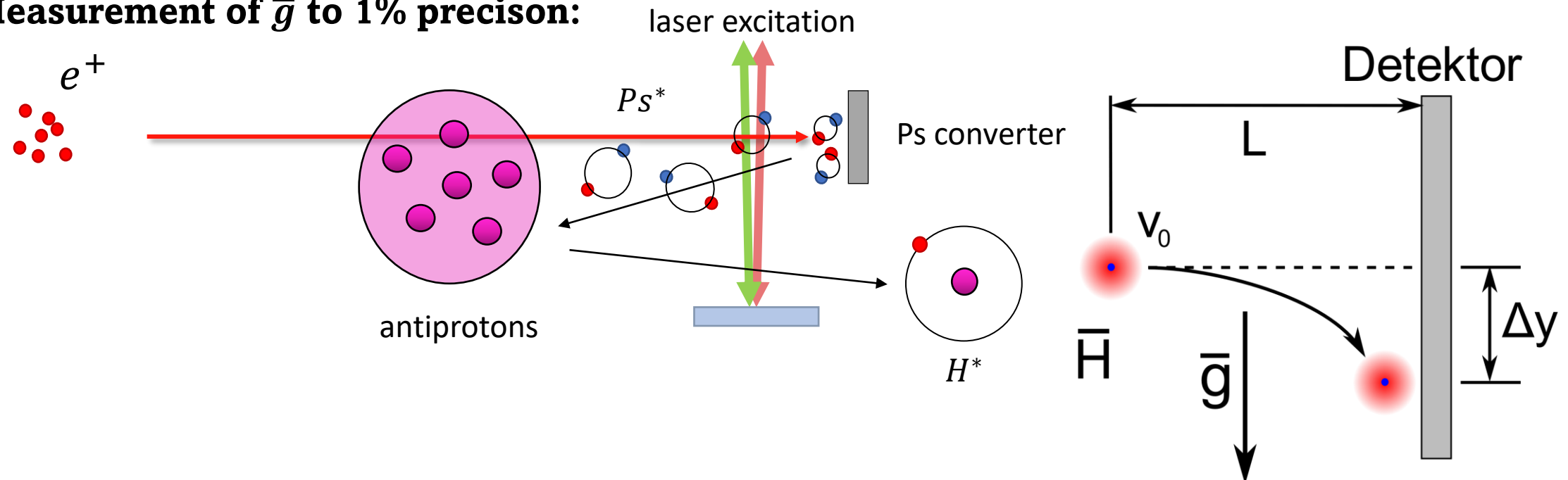
E. K. Anderson, C. J. Baker, W. Bertsche , N. M. Bhatt, G. Bonomi, A. Capra, I. Carli, C. L. Cesar, M. Charlton, A. Christensen, R. Collister, A. Cridland Mathad, D. Duque Quiceno, S. Eriksson, A. Evans, N. Evetts, S. Fabbri, J. Fajans , A. Ferwerda, T. Friesen, M. C. Fujiwara, D. R. Gill, L. M. Golino, M. B. Gomes Gonçalves, ... J. S. Wurtele  [+ Show authors](#)

Nature 621, 716–722 (2023) | [Cite this article](#)

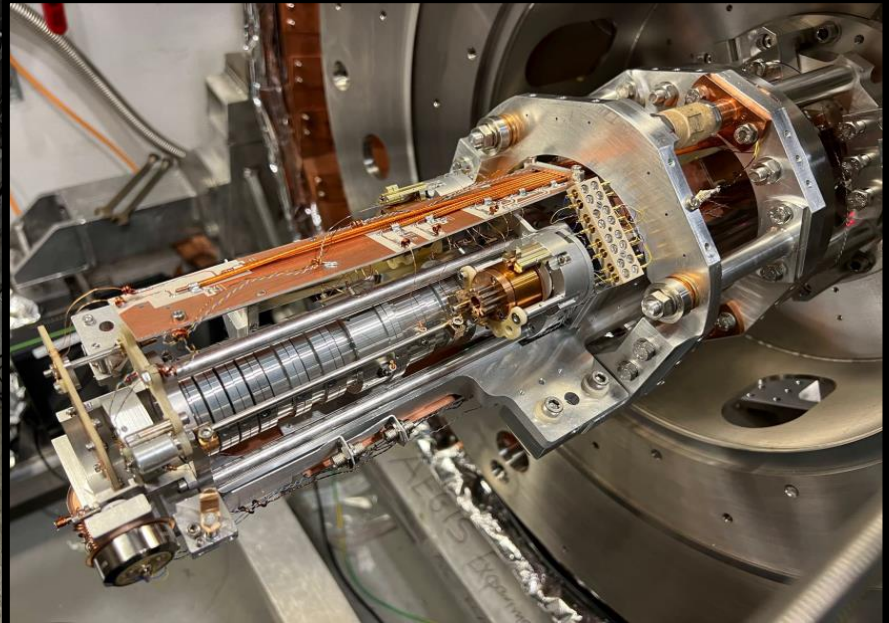
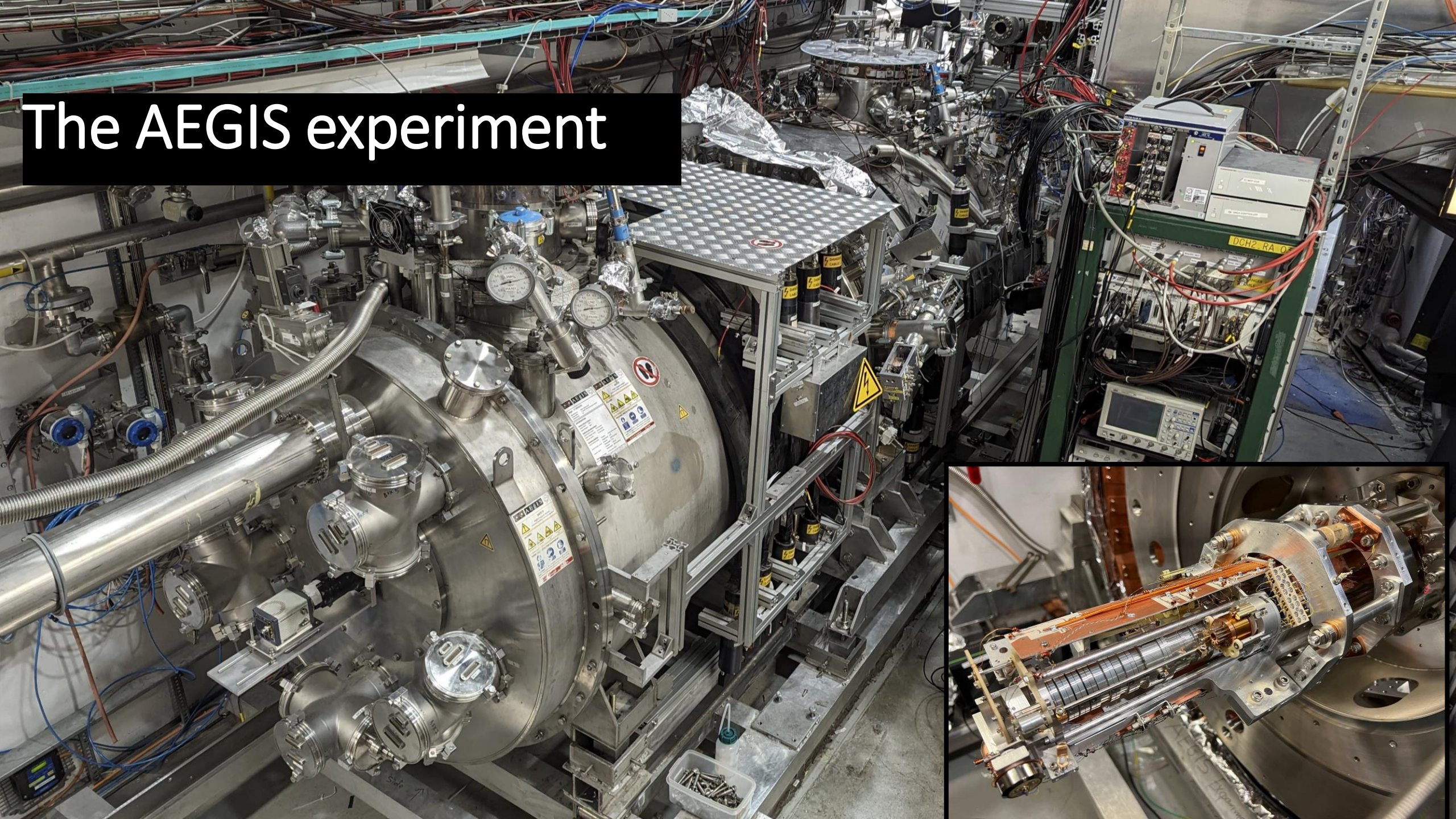
$$\bar{g} = 0.75 \pm 0.13 \text{ (stat + sys)} \pm 0.16 \text{ (sim)}g$$



Measurement of \bar{g} to 1% precision:

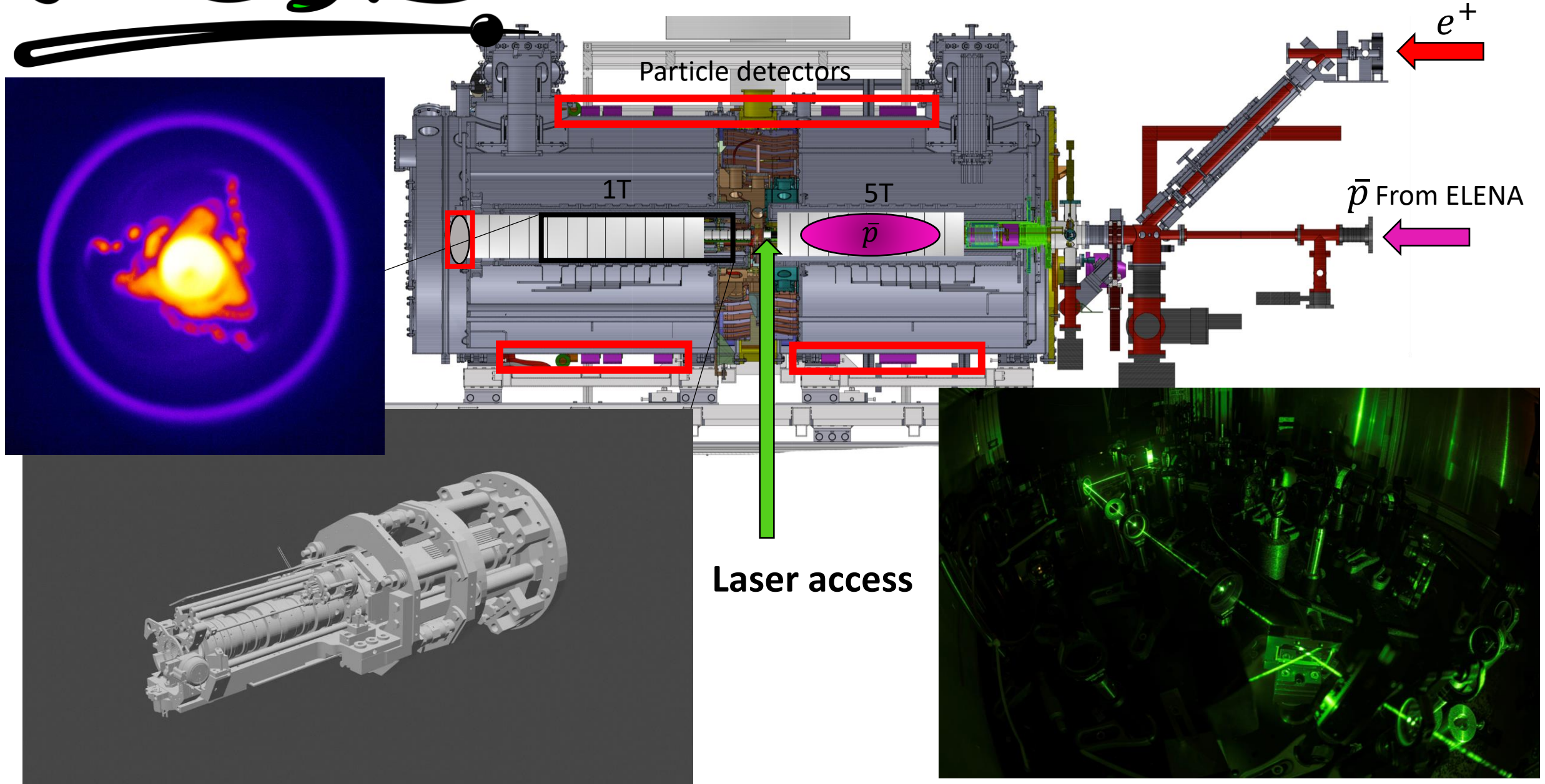


The AEGIS experiment



AEGIS

(Antihydrogen Experiment: Gravity, Interferometry, Spectroscopy)



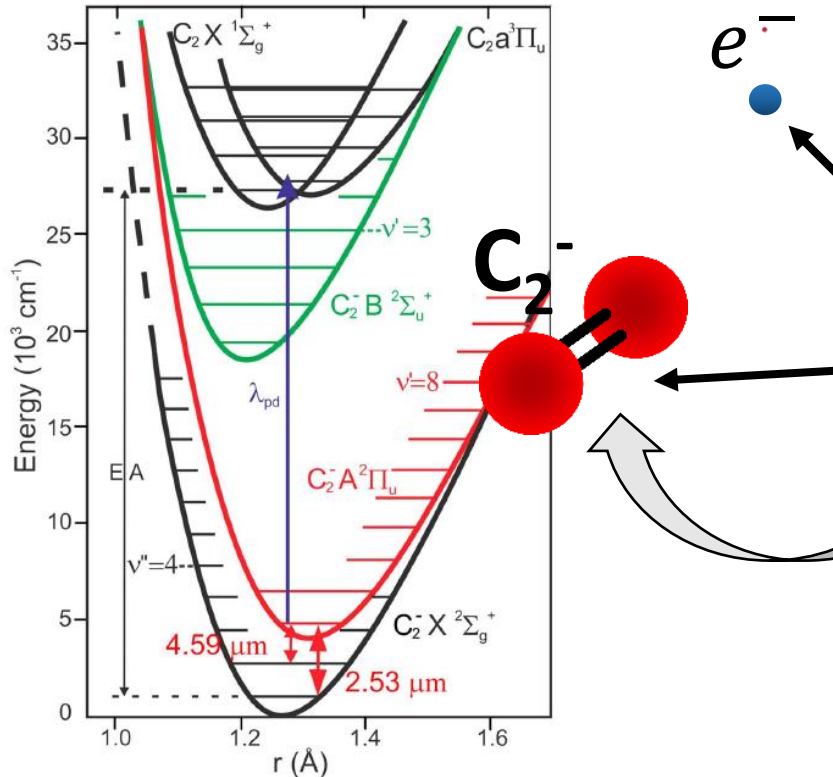
Techniques for pro

Sympathetic cooling

antiprotons:

Using electrons

or laser cooled anion

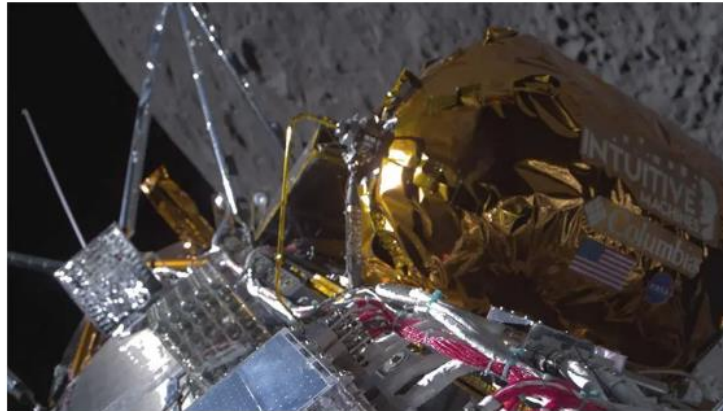


Yzombard, Pauline, et al. "Laser cooling of mole anions." *Physical review letters* 114.21 (2015): 2

NEWS

Science

Science & Environment



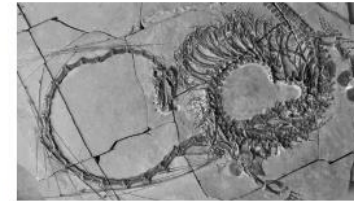
American company makes historic Moon landing

Intuitive Machines completes the first ever lunar touchdown by a privately built spacecraft.



Jonathan Amos
Science correspondent

Science & Environment · 37min



Fossil reveals 240 million year-old 'dragon'

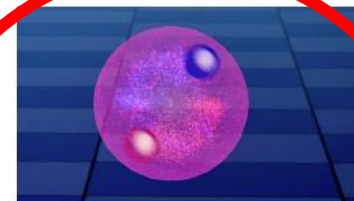
Science & Environment · 3h

Whale song mystery solved by scientists

Science & Environment · 1d

UK quits treaty that lets oil firms sue government

20h · 66
Science & Environment



Frozen antimatter may reveal origins of Universe

Science & Environment · 16h

How AI is helping the search for extraterrestrial life

Business · 1d · 285

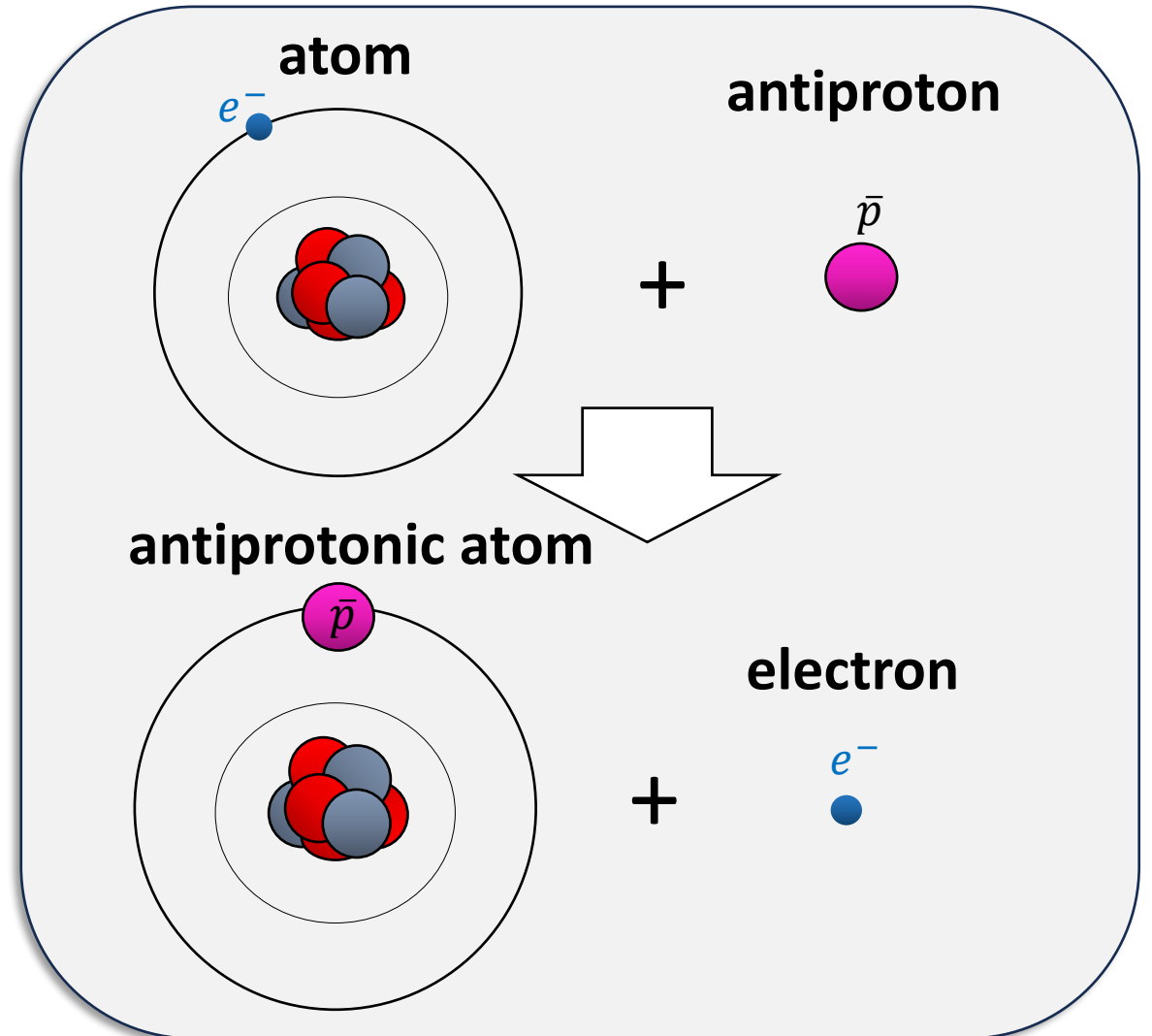
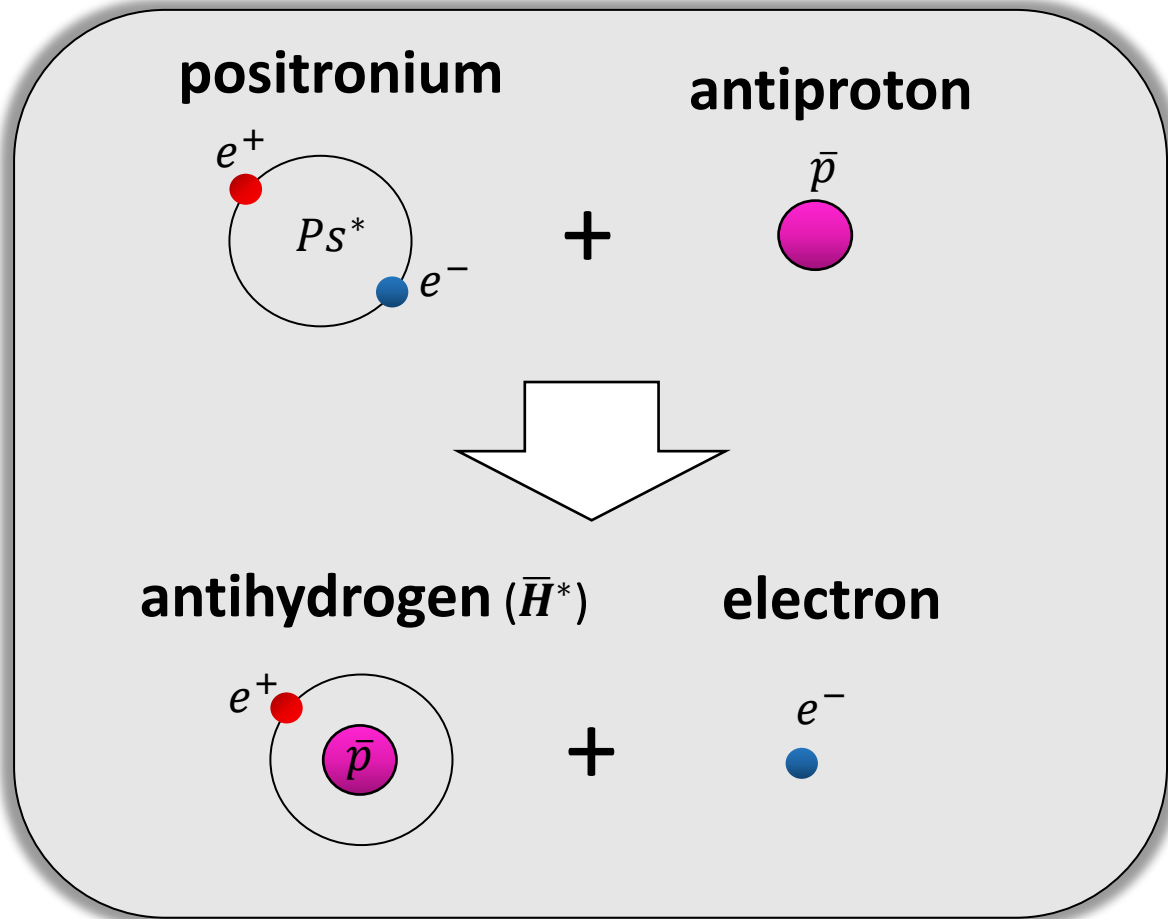
Moment giant Antarctica drone takes off

Science & Environment · 1d

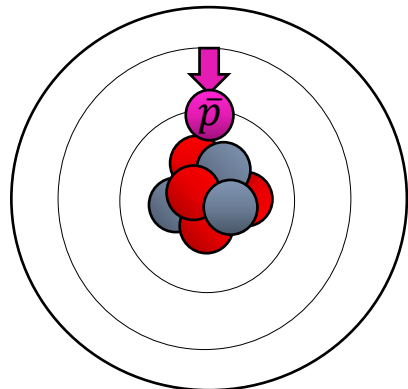
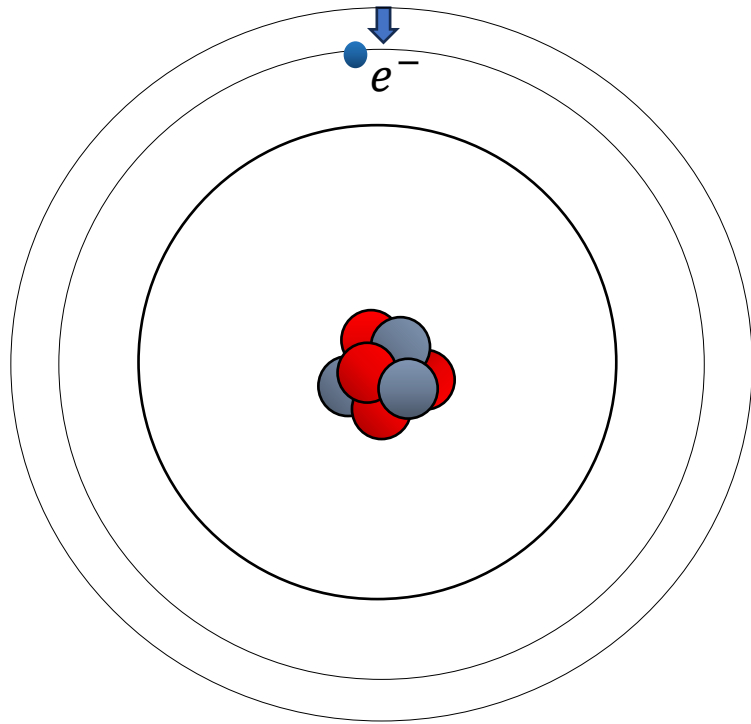
Forming matter-antimatter bound states?

Charge-exchange with atom

Charge-exchange with positronium



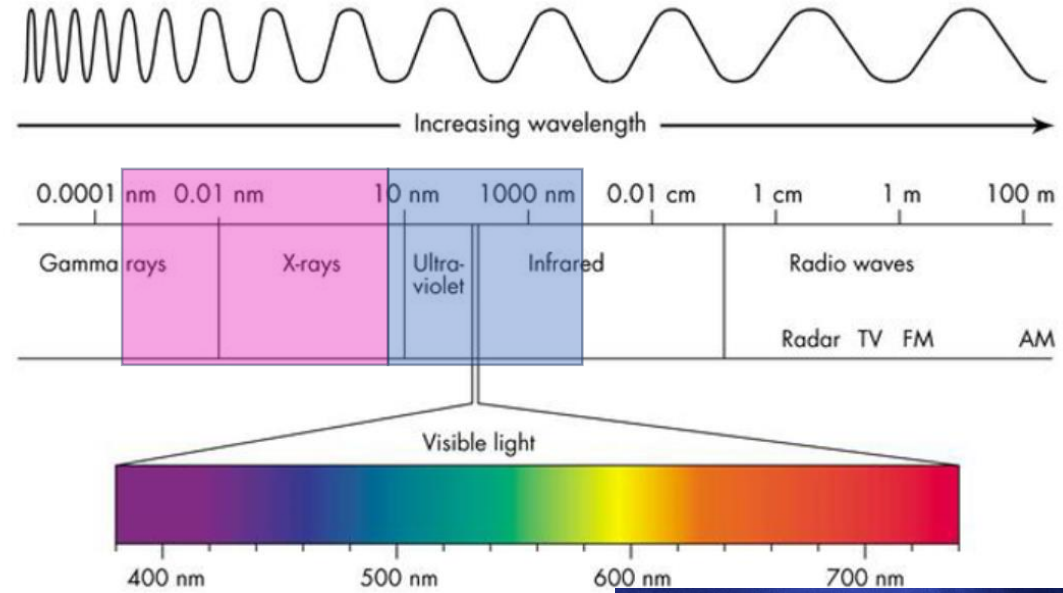
Antiprotonic bound states



$$m_{\bar{p}} = 1836m_e$$



$$r_{\bar{p}} \sim \frac{1}{1836} r_e$$



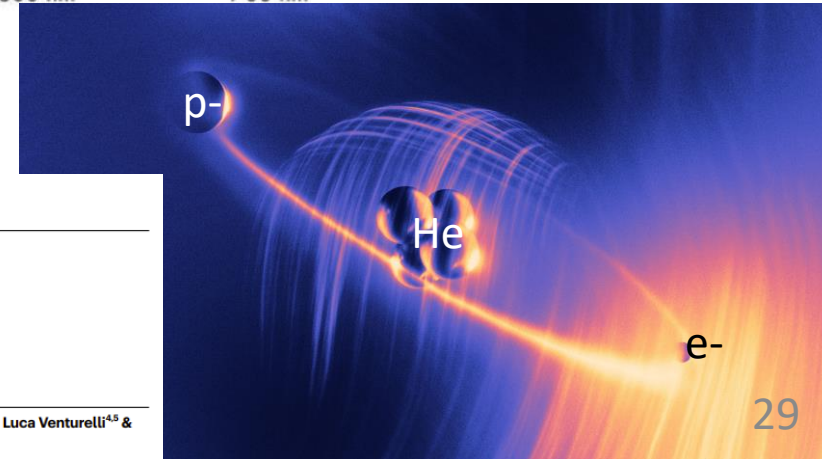
Article

High-resolution laser resonances of antiprotonic helium in superfluid ^4He

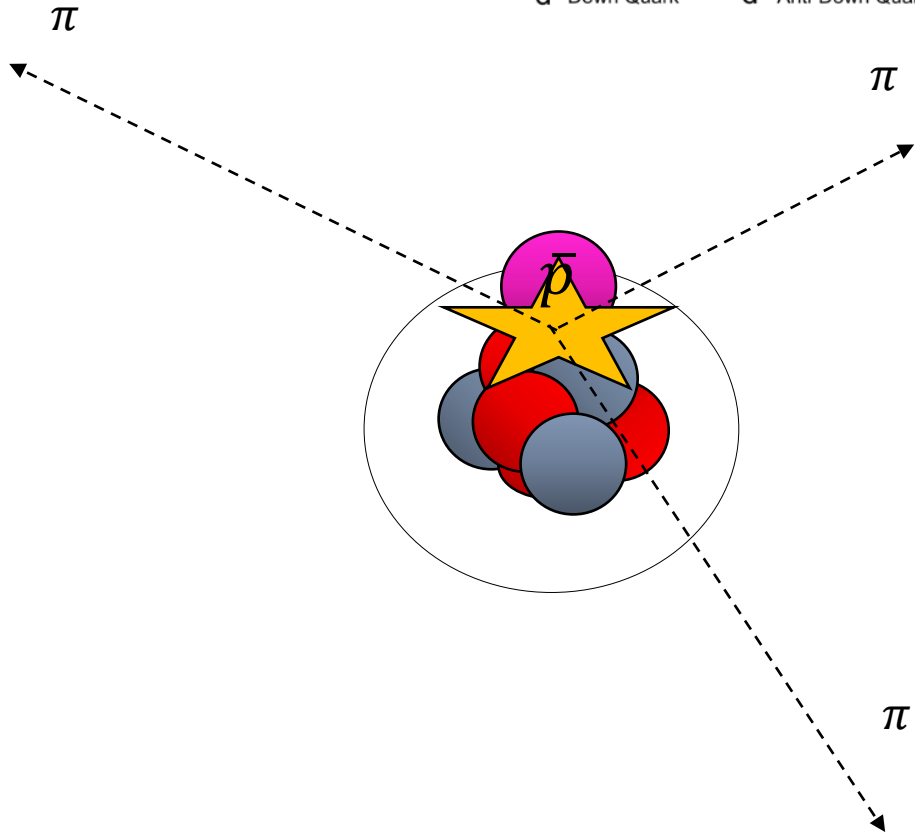
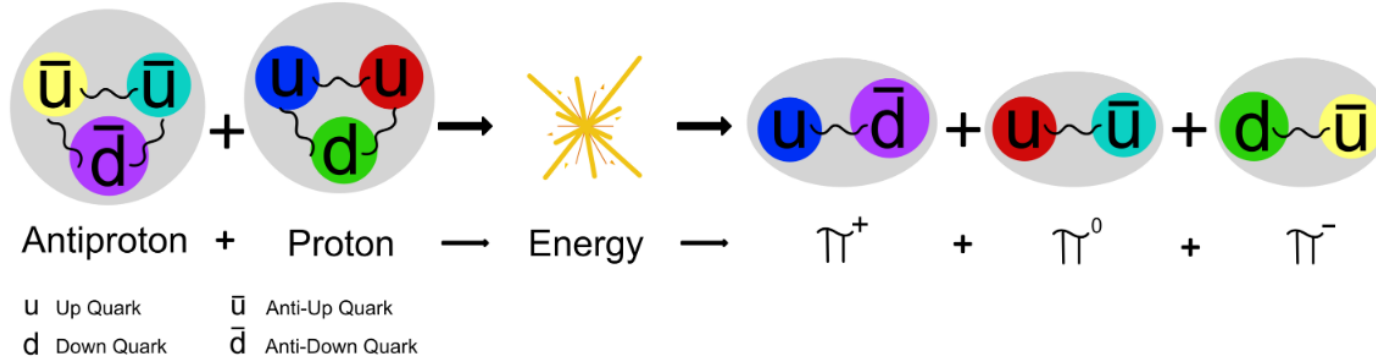
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-022-04440-7>

Received: 14 June 2021

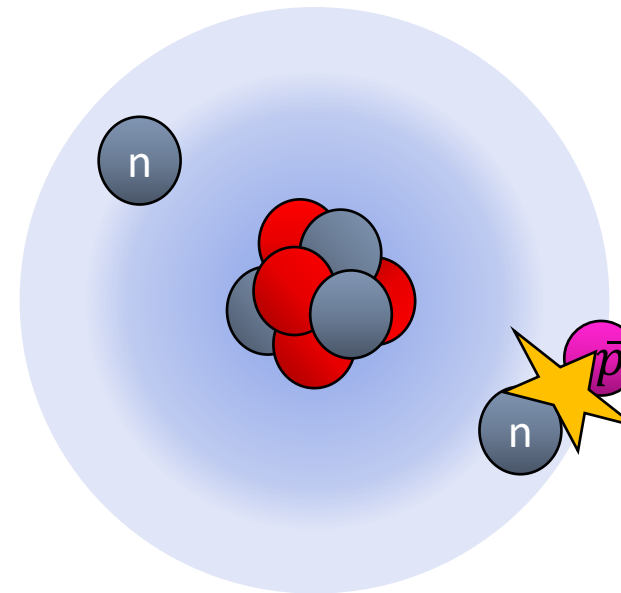
Anna Sótér^{1,7}, Hossein Aghai-Khozani^{1,8}, Dániel Barna^{2,3}, Andreas Dax^{2,9}, Luca Venturelli^{4,5} & Masaki Hori^{1,6,23}



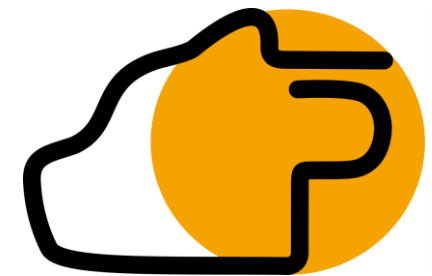
Antiproton annihilation on nucleus



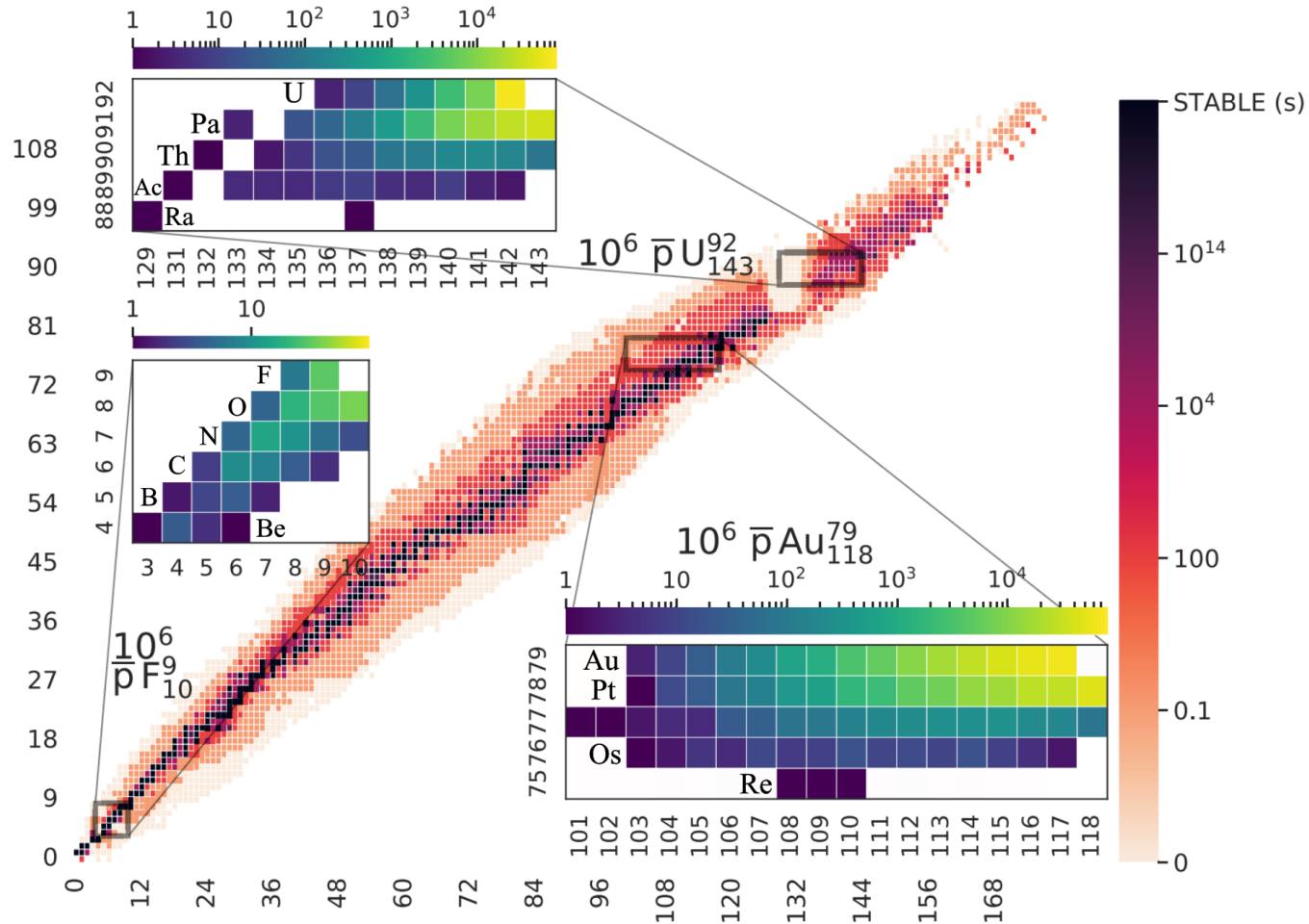
Sensitive approach for studying halo nuclei:



PUMA: antiprotons to probe the surface of radioactive nuclei

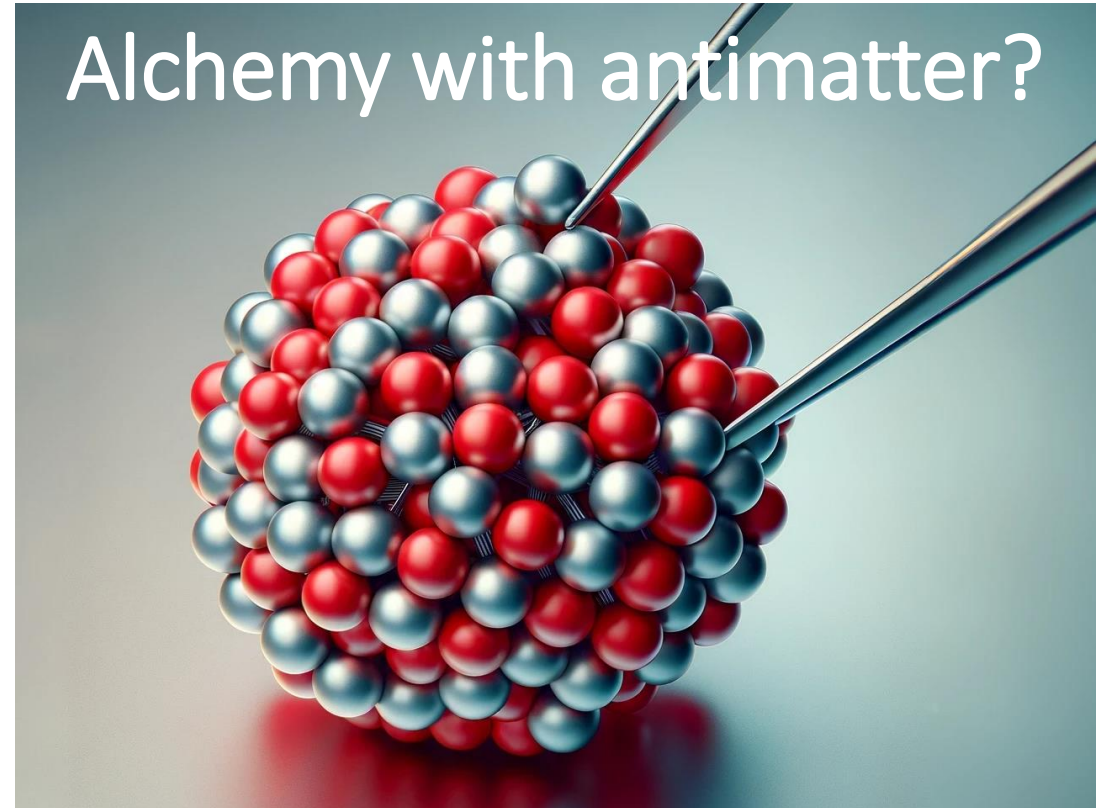


Simulation of trappable nuclear recoil fragments

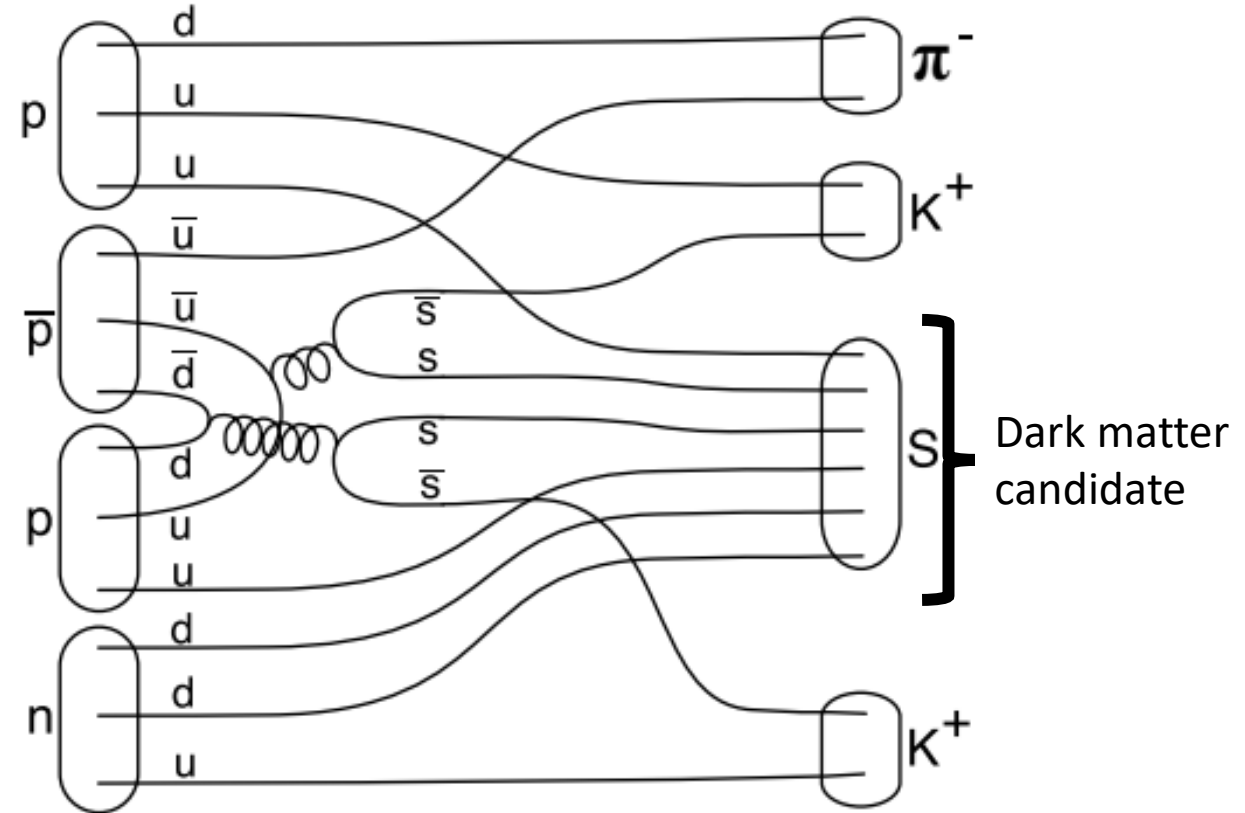
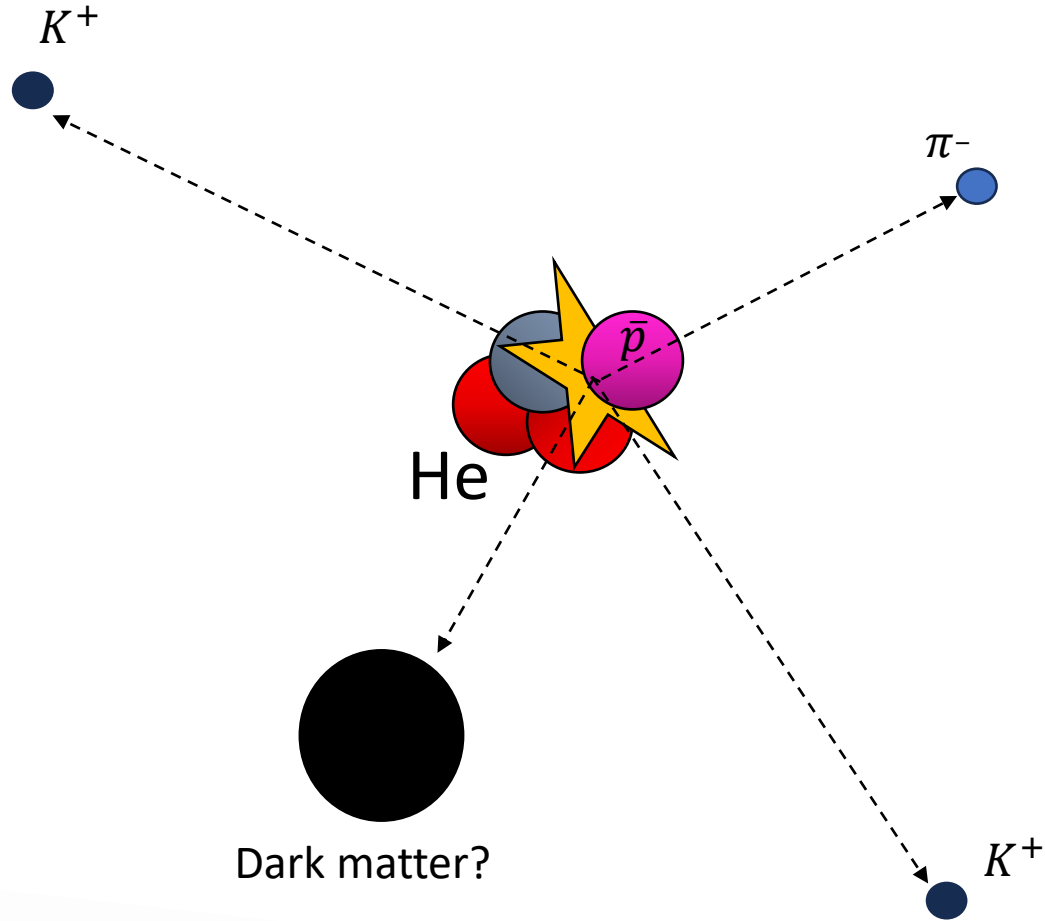


G. Kornakov et al., PRC **107**, 034314 (2023)

Novel technique for making exotic elements..



Searching for dark matter using antiprotons?



Searching for a dark matter particle with anti-protonic atoms

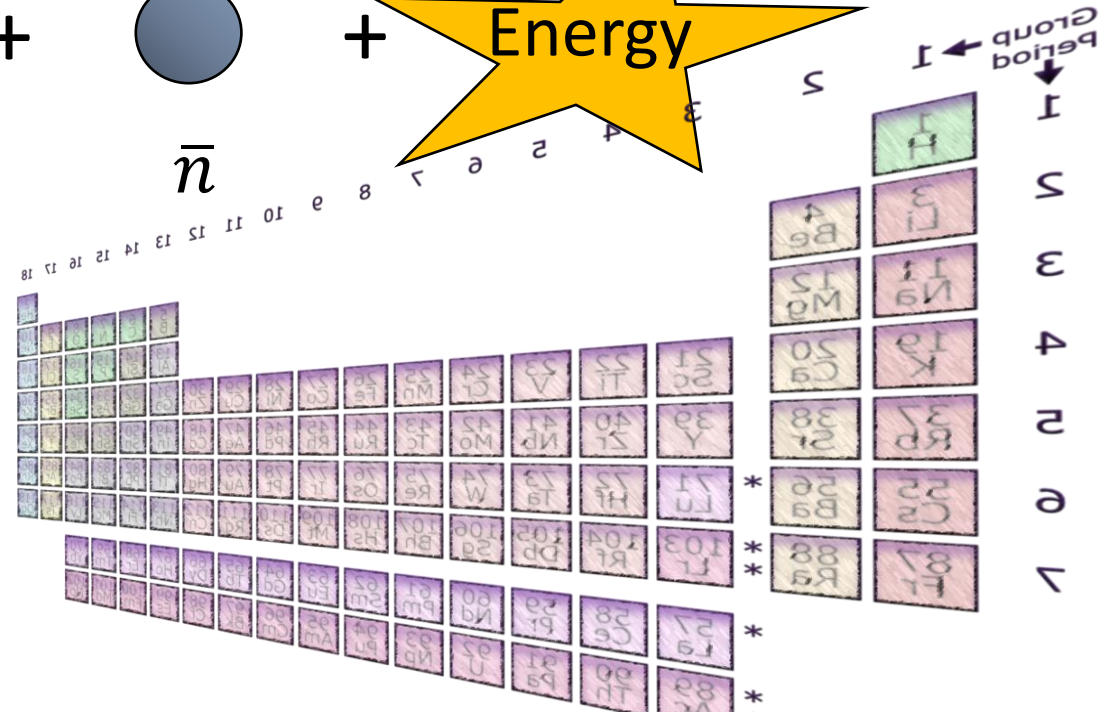
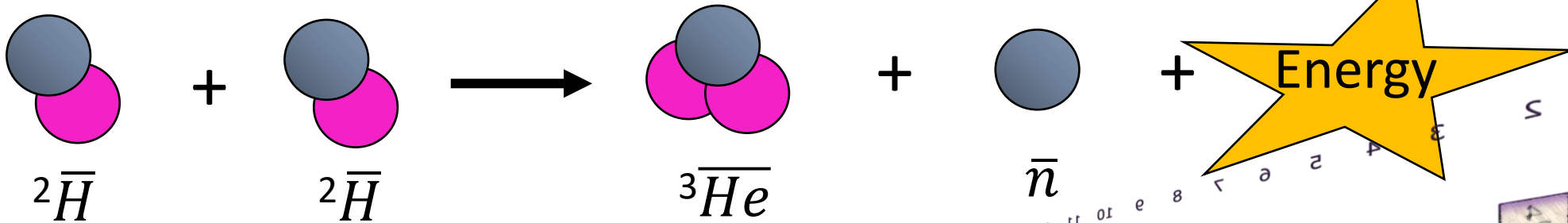
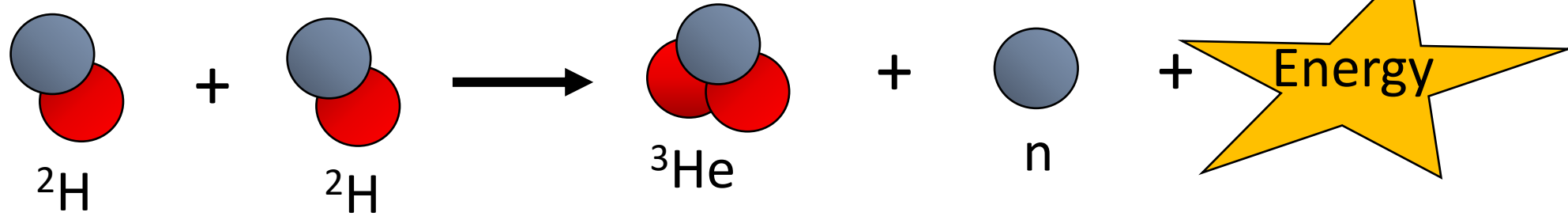
M. Doser¹, G. Farrar², and G. Kornakov³

¹CERN, Esplanade des particules 1, 1211 Geneva, Switzerland

²Center for Cosmology and Particle Physics, New York University, New York, NY, 10003, USA

³Warsaw University of Technology, ul. Koszykowa 75, 00-662 Warsaw, Poland

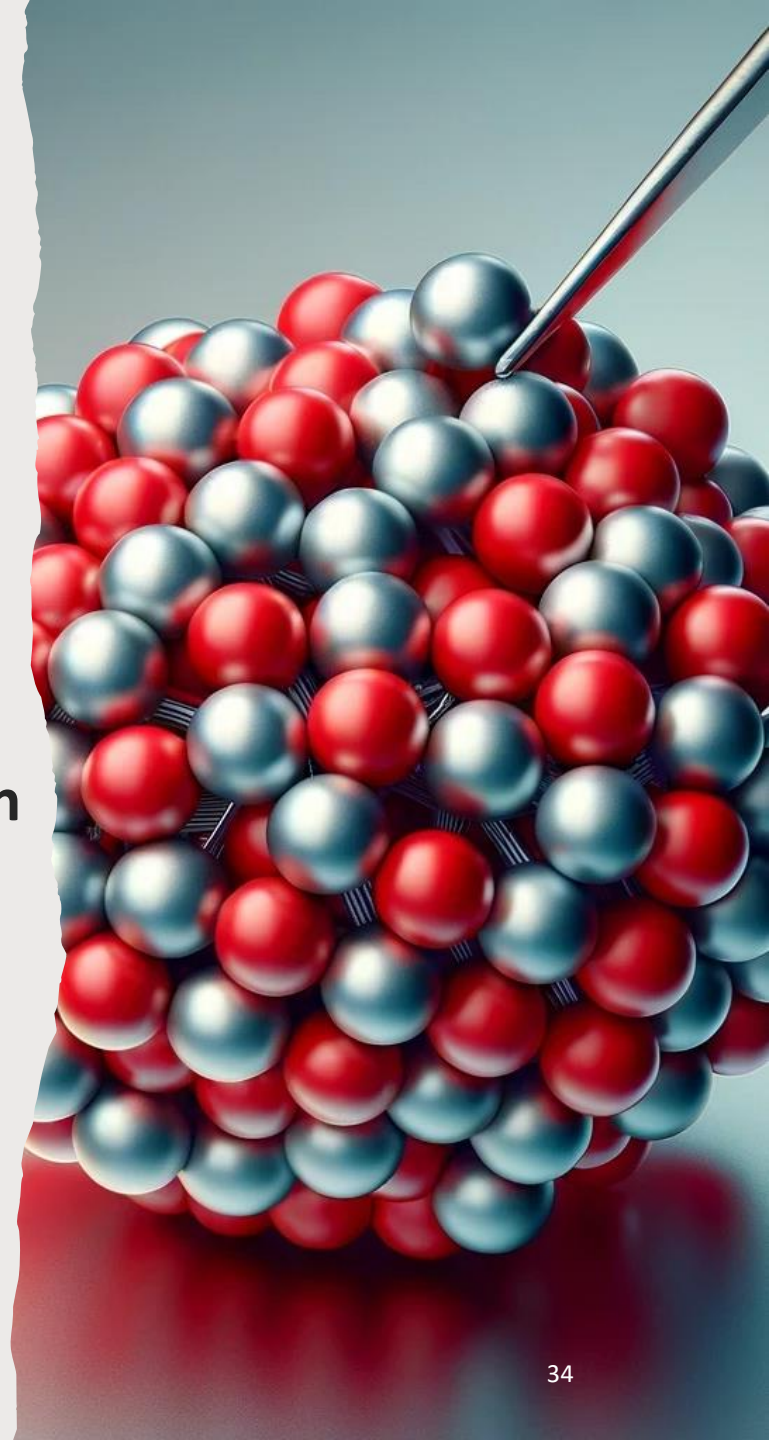
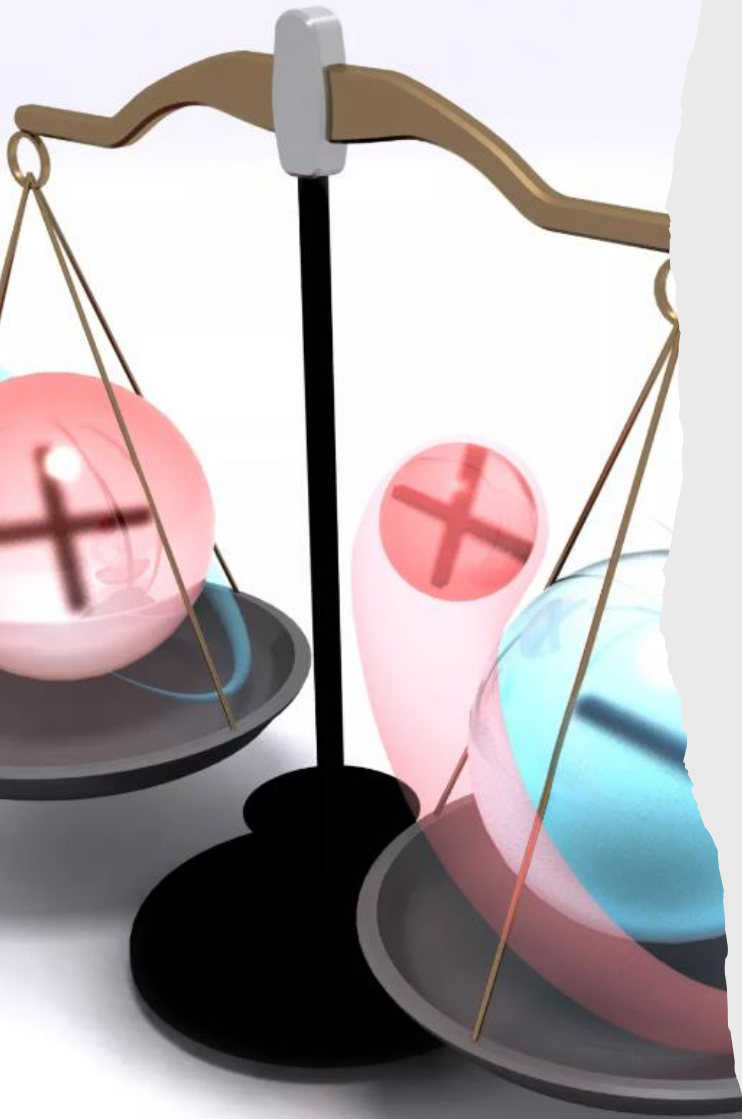
Antifusion with antideuterons?



Periodic table showing elements and their symbols, including Hydrogen (H), Helium (He), Lithium (Li), Beryllium (Be), Boron (B), Carbon (C), Nitrogen (N), Oxygen (O), Fluorine (F), Neon (Ne), Sodium (Na), Magnesium (Mg), Aluminum (Al), Silicon (Si), Phosphorus (P), Sulfur (S), Chlorine (Cl), Argon (Ar), Potassium (K), Calcium (Ca), Scandium (Sc), Titanium (Ti), Vanadium (V), Chromium (Cr), Manganese (Mn), Iron (Fe), Cobalt (Co), Nickel (Ni), Copper (Cu), Zinc (Zn), Gallium (Ga), Germanium (Ge), Arsenic (As), Selenium (Se), Bromine (Br), Krypton (Kr), Rubidium (Rb), Strontium (Sr), Yttrium (Y), Zirconium (Zr), Niobium (Nb), Molybdenum (Mo), Technetium (Tc), Ruthenium (Ru), Rhodium (Rh), Palladium (Pd), Silver (Ag), Cadmium (Cd), Indium (In), Tin (Sn), Antimony (Sb), Tellurium (Te), Xenon (Xe), Francium (Fr), Radium (Ra), Actinium (Ac), Thorium (Th), Protactinium (Pa), Uranium (U), Neptunium (Np), Plutonium (Pu), Americium (Am), Curium (Cm), Berkelium (Bk), Californium (Cf), Einsteinium (Es), Fermium (Fm), Mendelevium (Md), Nobelium (No), Lawrencium (Lr), Rutherfordium (Rf), Dubnium (Db), Seaborgium (Sg), Bohrium (Bh), Hassium (Hs), Meitnerium (Mt), Darmstadtium (Ds), Tennessine (Ts), Oganesson (Og).

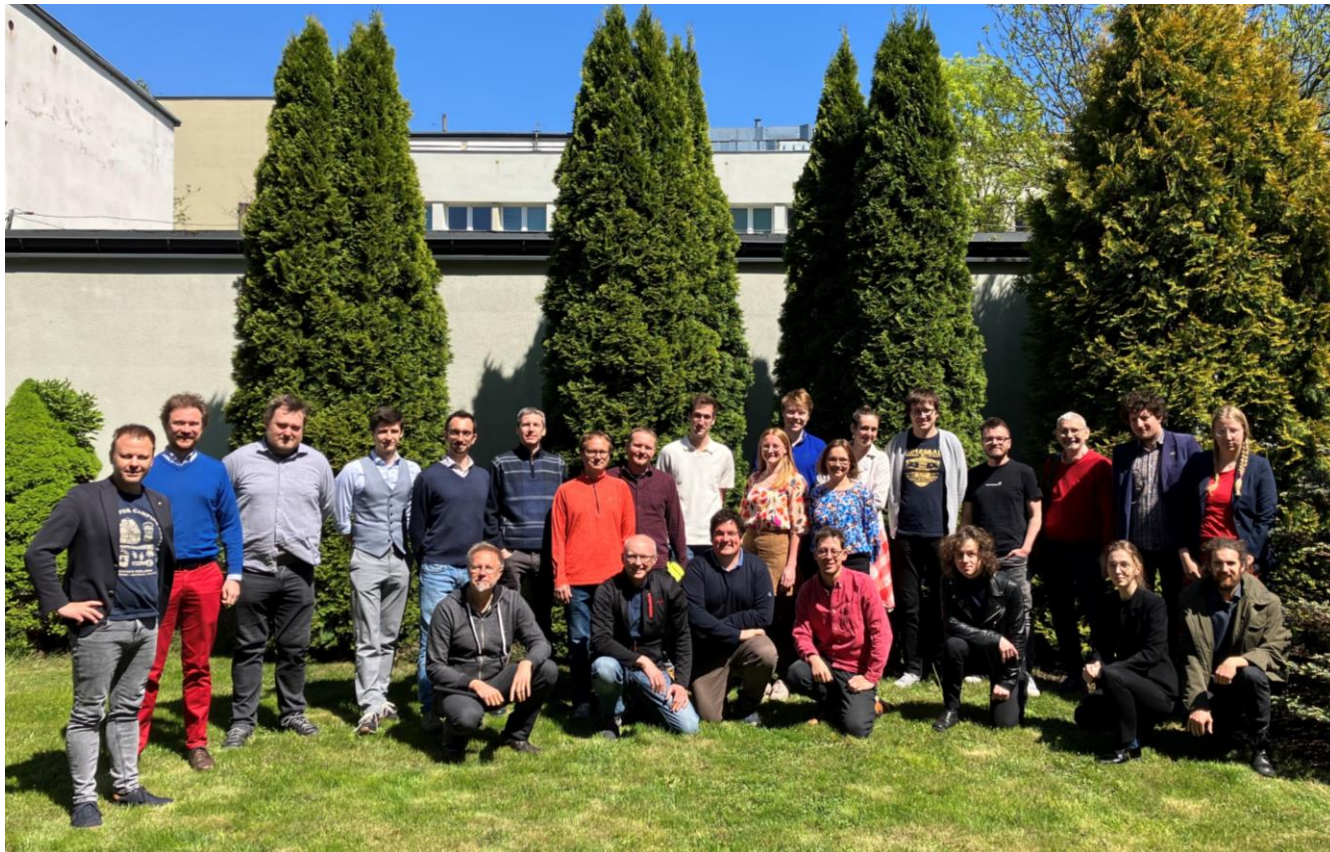
Summary and outlook

- AD is currently the **only facility in the world capable of producing cold antiprotons** for precision studies of antihydrogen.
- Multiple experiments are benchmarking the **difference between matter and antimatter**: Fundamental symmetries and gravity.
- **Antiprotonic atoms provide an avenue for precision studies** of nuclear, atomic physics and aid in the search for dark matter candidates.



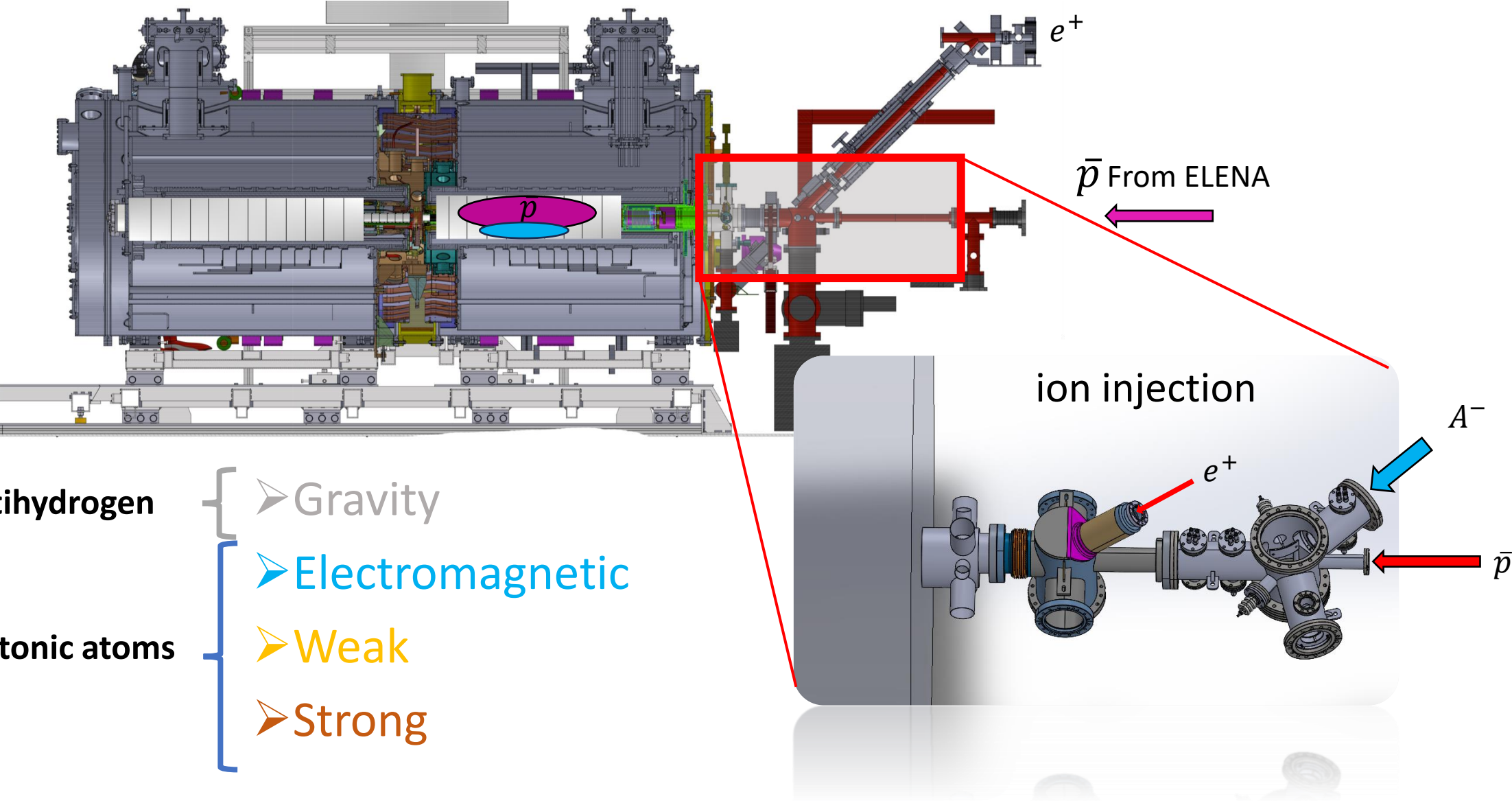
Thank you for your attention

On behalf of the AEGIS collaboration





Ongoing work for antiprotonic atom studies at AEGIS



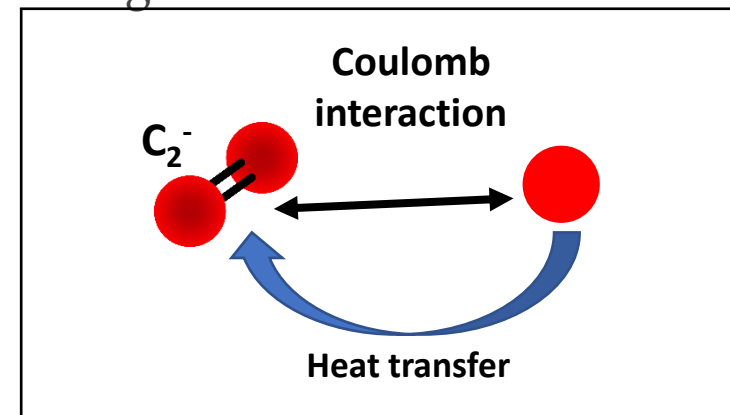
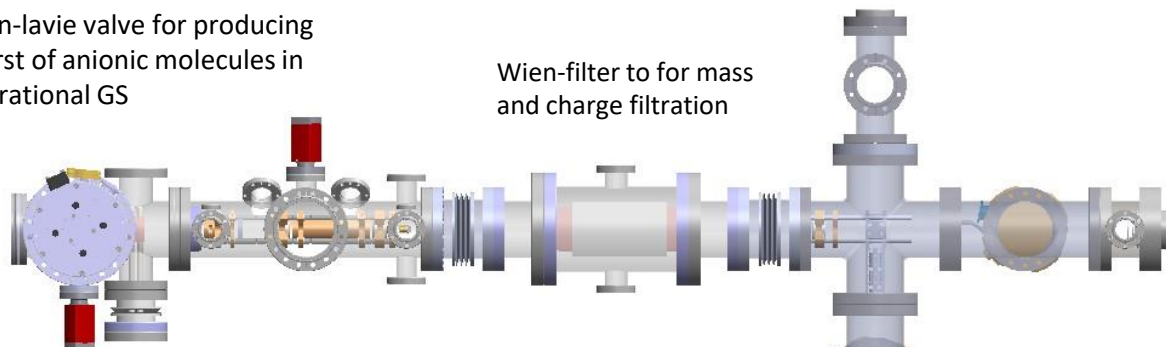
Cooling of antiprotons using anionic molecules?

The BOREALIS experiment

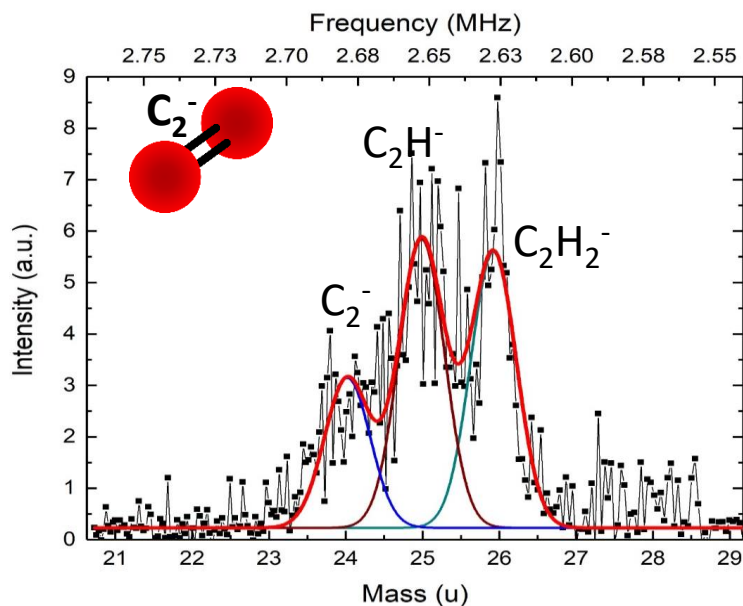
Indirect laser cooling of antiprotons to mK level and below using anionic molecules

Evin-lavie valve for producing burst of anionic molecules in vibrational GS

Wien-filter to for mass and charge filtration



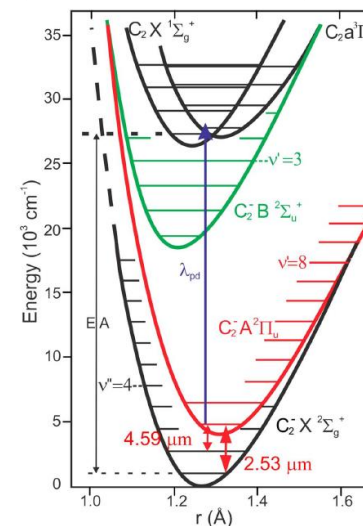
Trapping of anionic molecules achieved



Paul trap with laser access for cooling

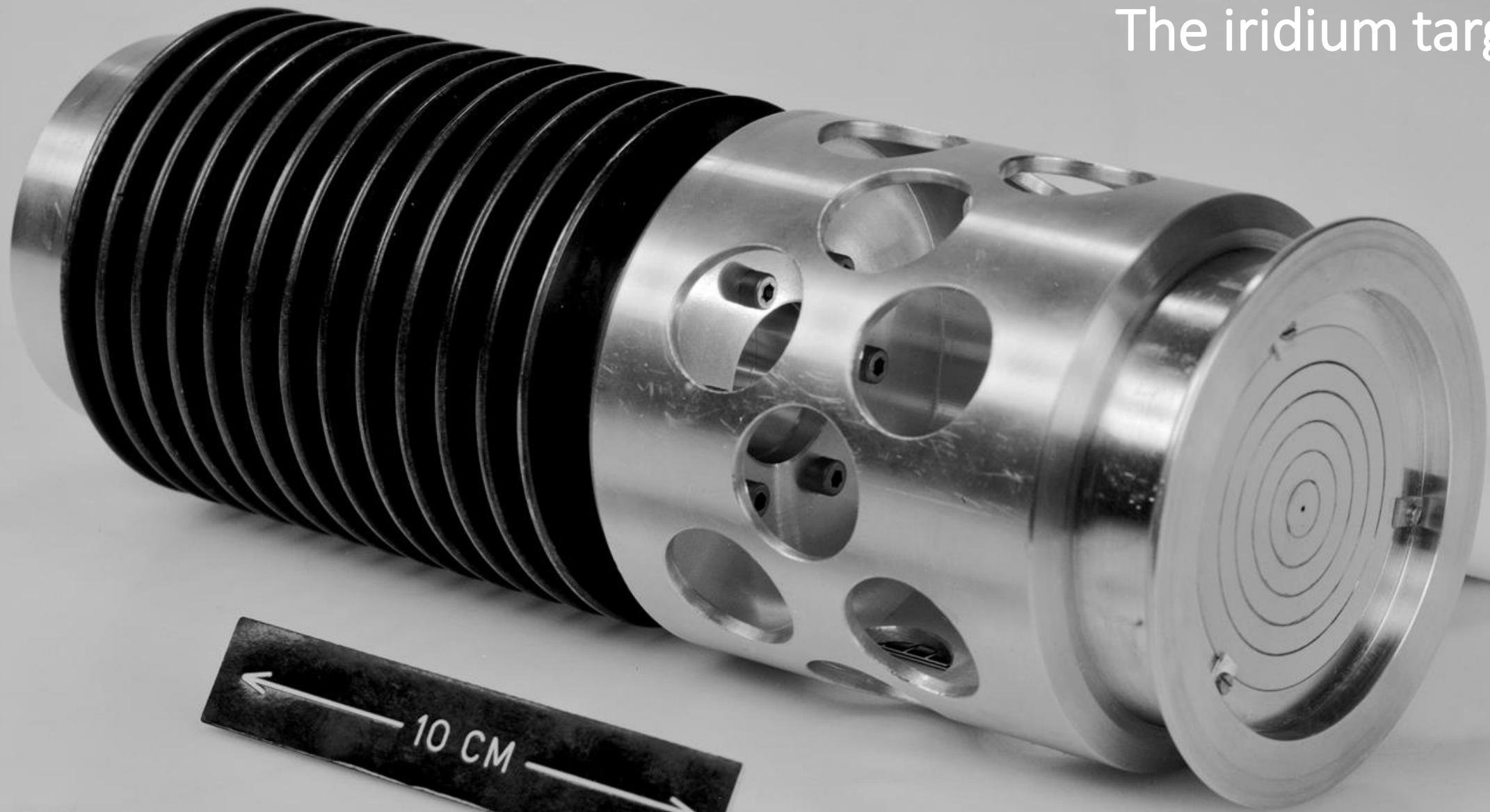


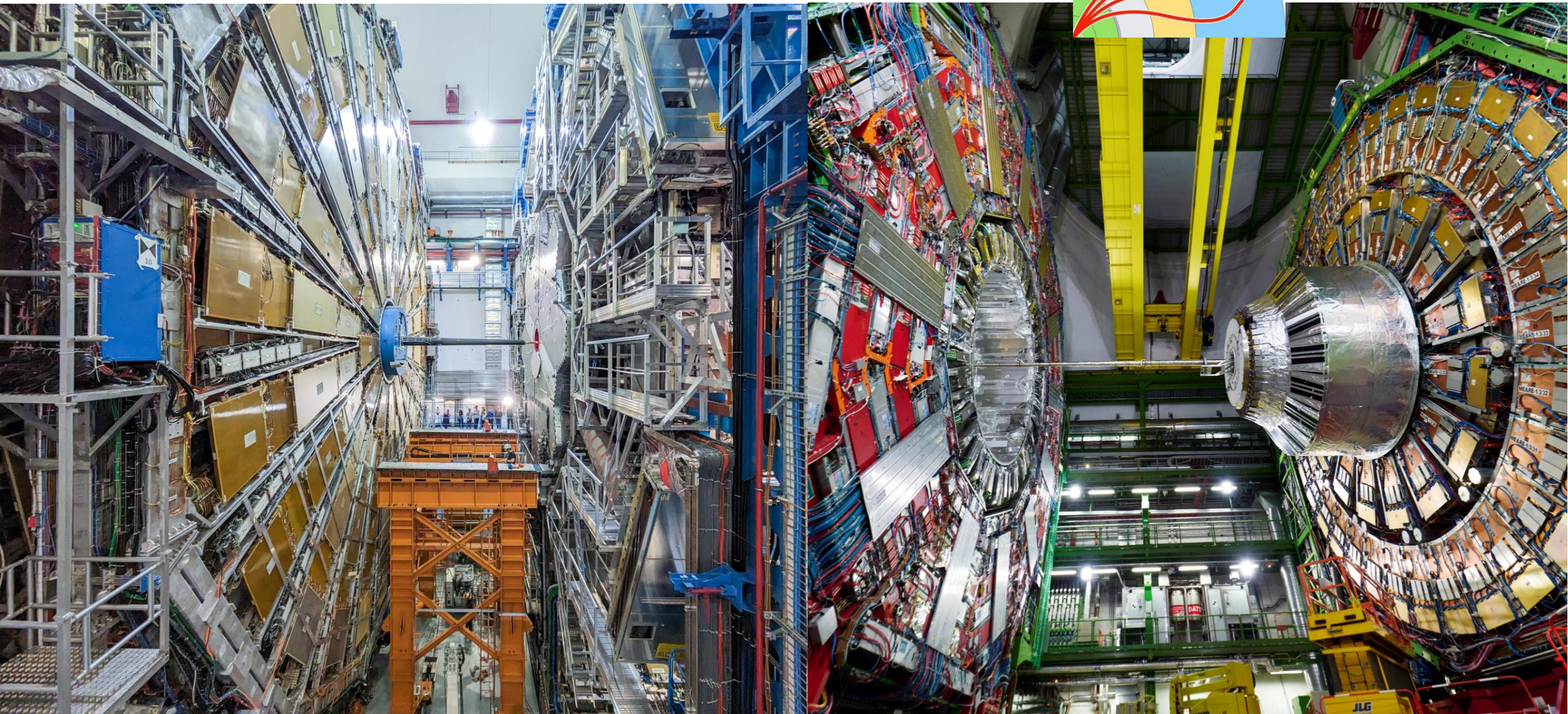
Proposed laser cooling scheme:



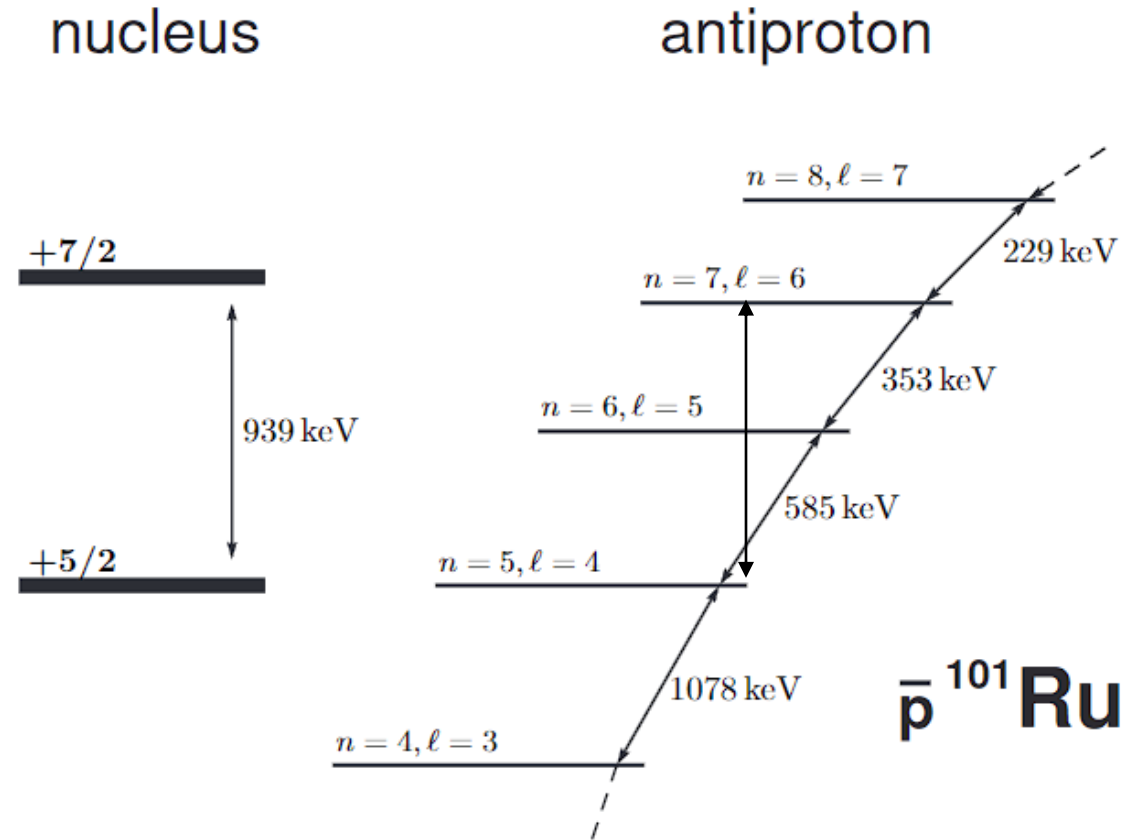
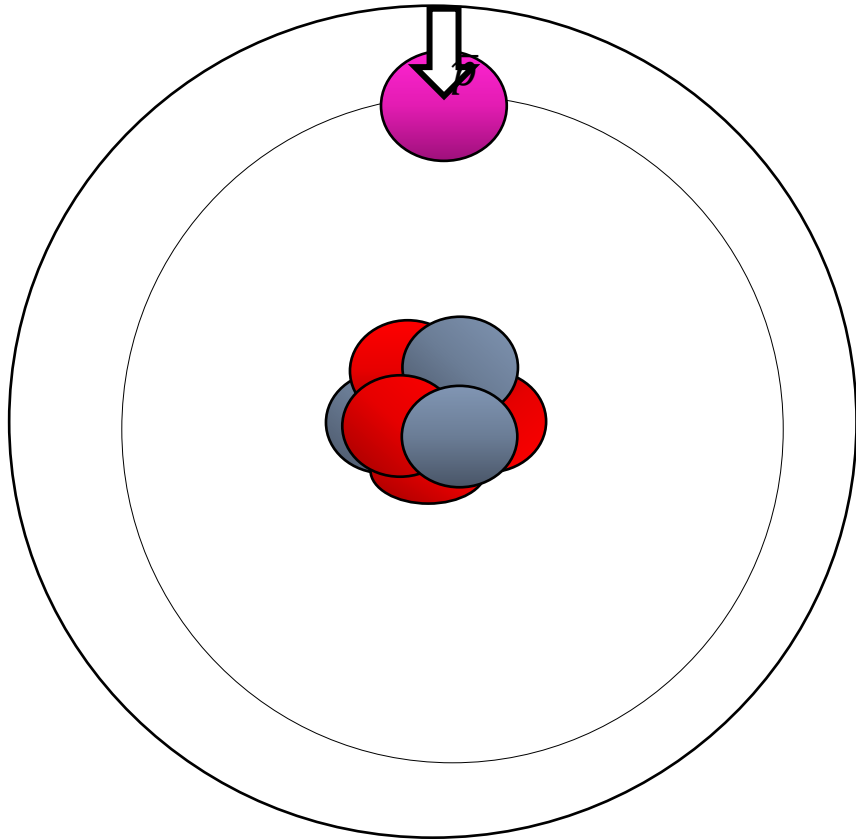
Yzombard, Pauline, et al. "Laser cooling of molecular anions." *Physical review letters* 114.21 (2015): 213001.

The iridium target





Antiprotonic atom cascade: Nuclear resonance effects for probing QCD



Gustafsson, Fredrik P., Daniel Pęczak, and Tomasz Sowiński. "The spin-flip-induced quadrupole resonance in odd- A exotic atoms." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2401.06063* (2024).

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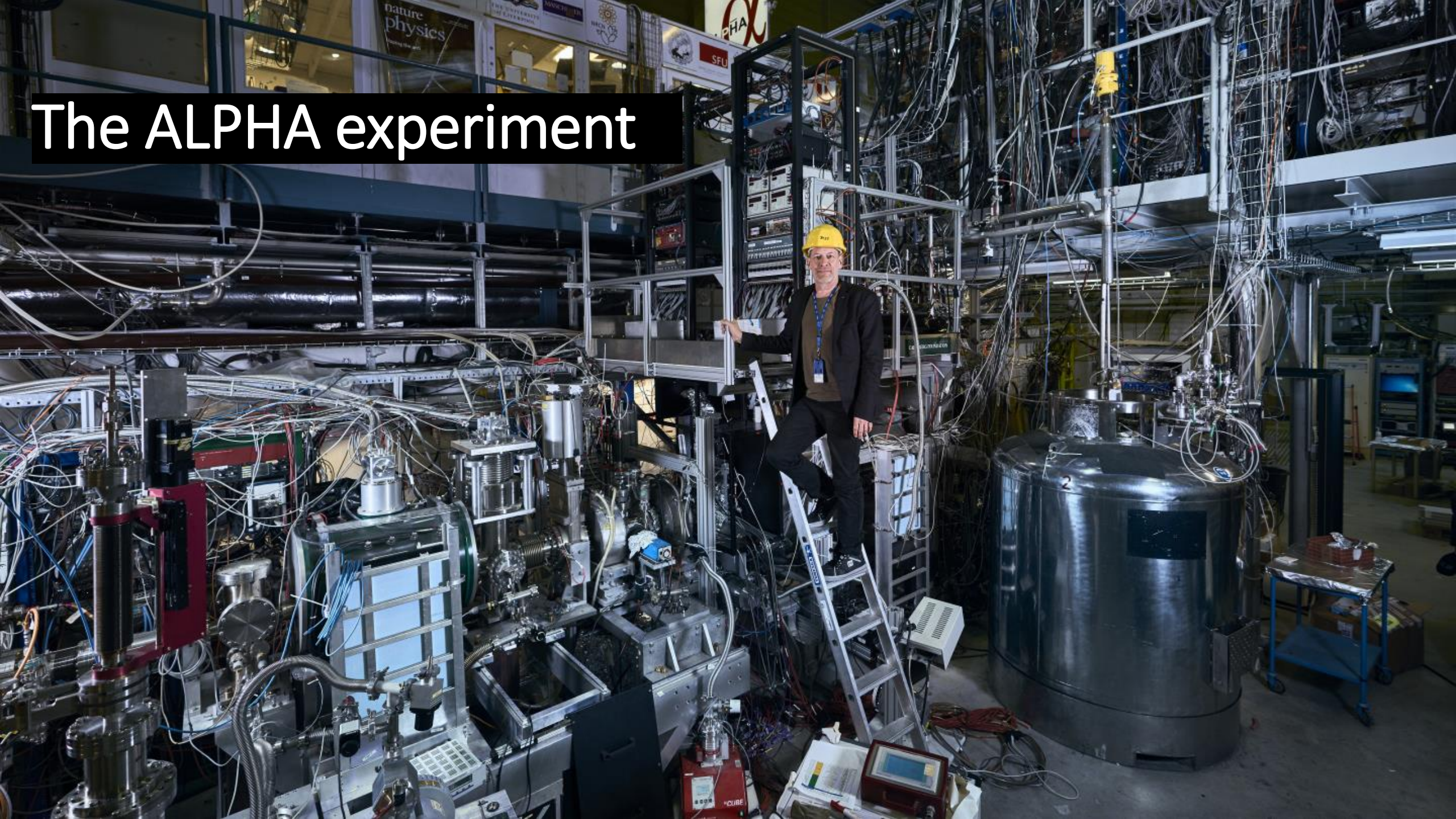


ANTIMATTER
FACTORY



ELENA

The ALPHA experiment



Forming antihydrogen

