

# Fundamental Physics with Antihydrogen

 **ANTIMATTER  
FACTORY** 

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Mainz, 02.08.2023

# A bit of anti-history

1928 Dirac predicts the existence of antiparticles

1932 Discovery of positron C.A.Anderson

Quite some time....

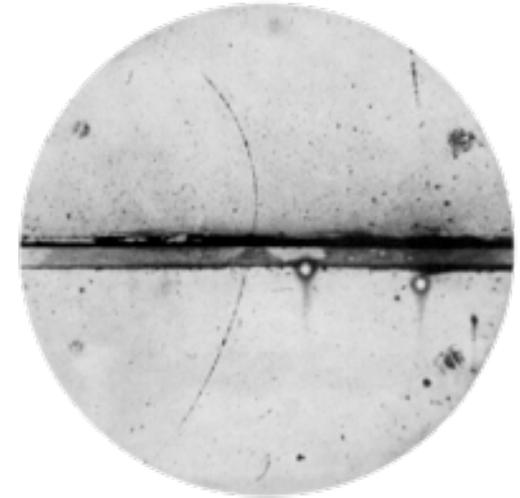
1955 Discovery of the antiproton  
at the Bevatron E. Segrè & O. Chamberlain

A long time....

1995 First antihydrogen detected (beam)

2002 First “useful” antihydrogen formed  
(low energy).

2010 First trapped antihydrogen



# Fundamental Physics

- In addition to spacetime translations we have some discrete transformations: charge conjugation (C), parity (P) and time reversal (T)
- In a Local, Lorentz Invariant (LLI) quantum field theory (QFT), the combined transformation (CPT) is an exact symmetry
- The Standard Model of particle physics is an example of a LLI QFT
- E.g. If CPT invariance holds the energy of bound states of antihydrogen and hydrogen are the same, so a measurement of transitions between energy levels in hydrogen and antihydrogen test CPT invariance.

In general, antimatter experiments test these principles.

# So what's wrong ?

Predictions of the baryon to photon ratio are **inconsistent by about 9 orders of magnitude**

## Sakharov conditions

(for an asymmetric universe)

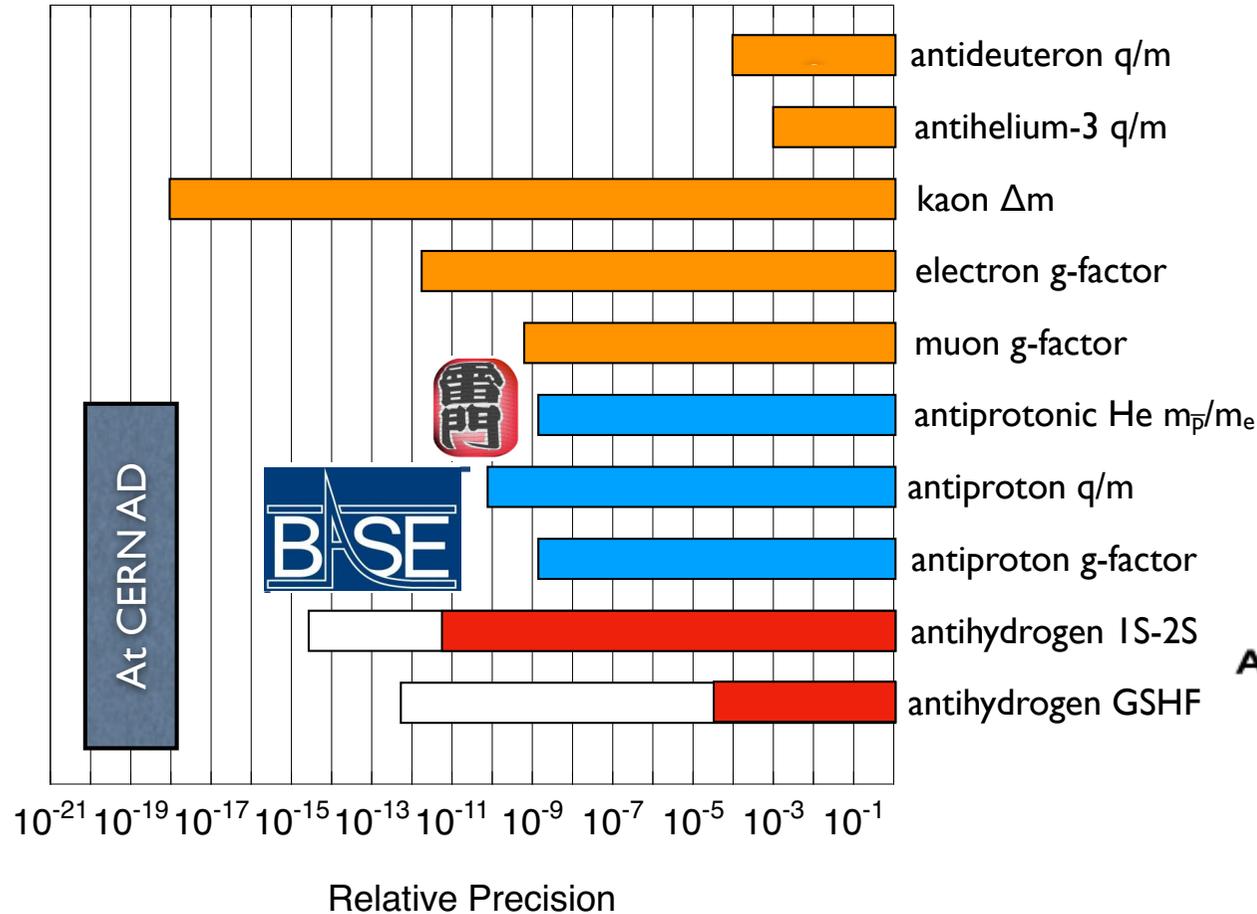
- 1) Baryon number violation (!?)
- 2) CP-violation (observed, but too small)
- 3) Out of thermal equilibrium (!?)

## Alternatives ?

- 1) CPT violation
- 2) 5th forces
- 3) your favorite violation

Precise comparisons of simple antimatter/matter conjugate systems could be sensitive to CPT violations, and speculatively even 5th forces.

# Particle/antiparticle CPT tests

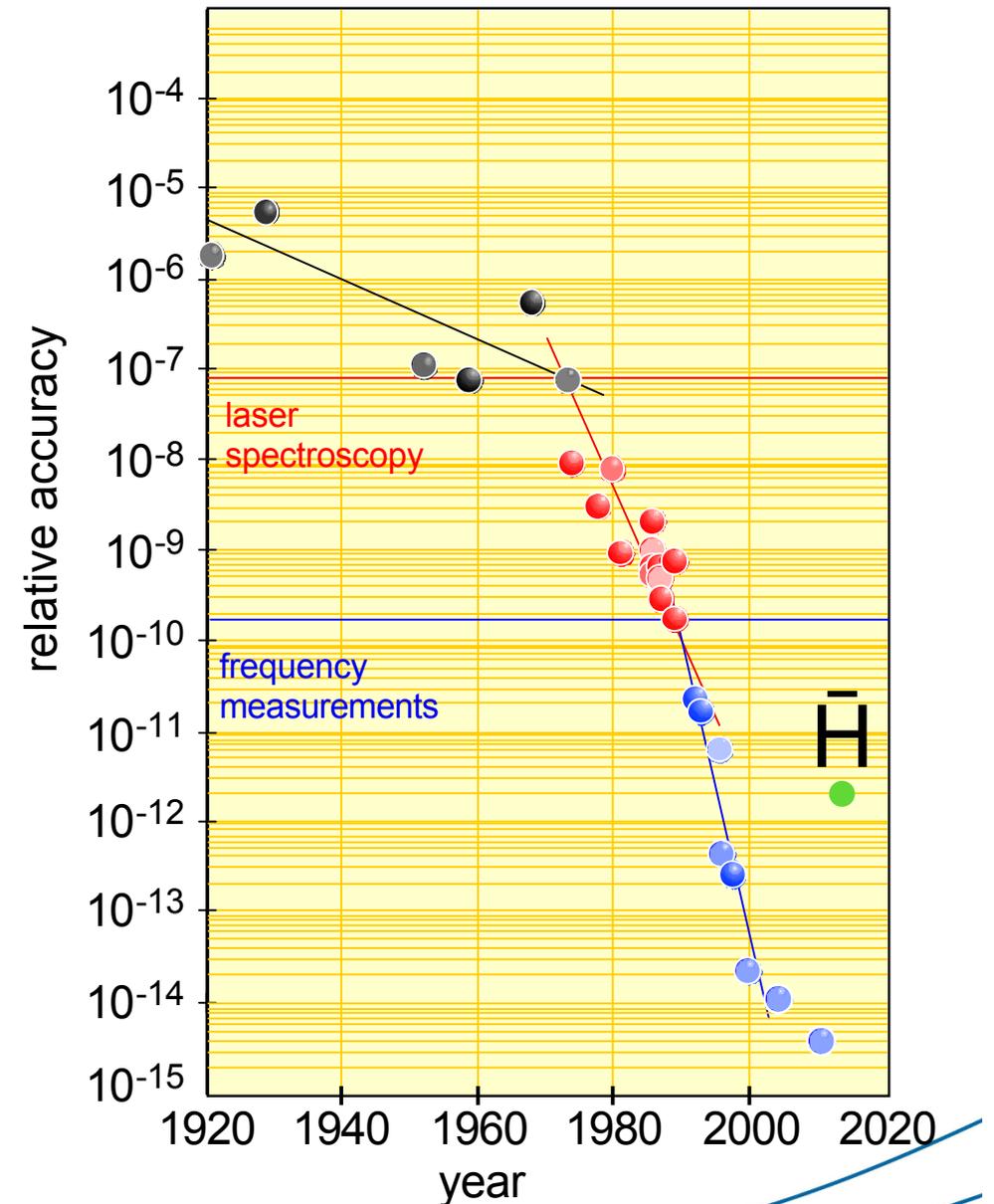


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# How does antihydrogen help ?

- Only pure antimatter system so far!
- Antihydrogen is neutral! [makes gravity possible]
- Spectroscopic techniques can be brought to bear.
- Ex:  $H-\bar{H}$  comparison by 1s-2s two photon spectroscopy.



# Einsteins Equivalence principles

## General Relativity (GR)

- Strong equivalence principle : In a local inertial frame, the laws of physics take their special relativistic form.
- Weak equivalence principle (WEP) :
  - WEPff : Universality of free-fall - all (anti)particles fall with the same acceleration in a gravitational field.
    - Free fall measurements of antihydrogen (AEGIS, GBAR, ALPHA)
  - WEPc: Universality of clocks - all dynamical systems that can be viewed as clocks measure the same time dilation independently of their composition (e.g. atomic clocks).
    - Antiproton g-factor (ATRAP, BASE)
    - Transitions in antihydrogen (ALPHA, ASACUSA, GBAR)

# Reference frames

- It's not enough just to measure a number!

Article | [Published: 05 January 2022](#)

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

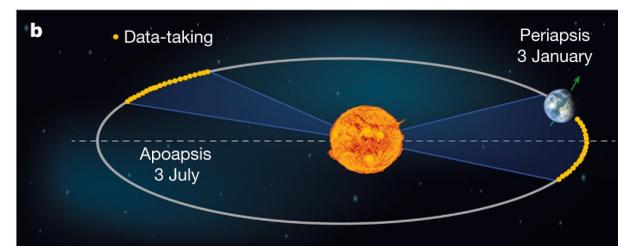
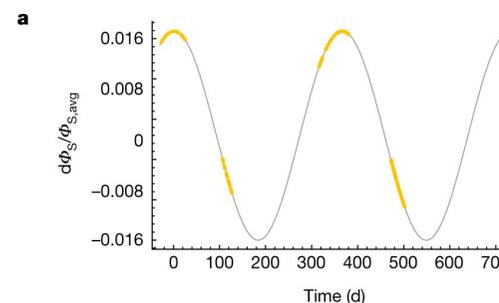
[M. J. Borchert](#), [J. A. Devlin](#), [S. R. Erlewein](#), [M. Fleck](#), [J. A. Harrington](#), [T. Higuchi](#), [B. M. Latacz](#), [F. Voelksen](#), [E. J. Wursten](#), [F. Abbass](#), [M. A. Bohman](#), [A. H. Mooser](#), [D. Popper](#), [M. Wiesinger](#), [C. Will](#), [K. Blaum](#), [Y. Matsuda](#), [C. Ospelkaus](#), [W. Quint](#), [J. Walz](#), [Y. Yamazaki](#), [C. Smorra](#) & [S. Ulmer](#) 

*Nature* **601**, 53–57 (2022) | [Cite this article](#)

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$$|\alpha_{g,D} - 1| < 0.030 \text{ (CL 0.68)}$$

(BASE)



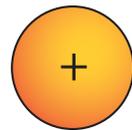
- Reference, time & place are key!
- Experimentalist: No model - so do best possible job - and try to make your measurement model independent.

# Antiprotons

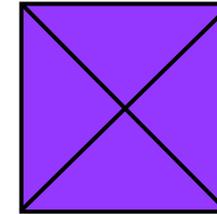
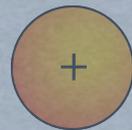
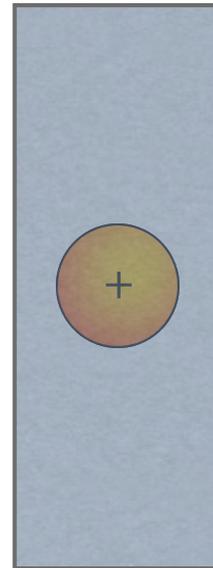
- Energetic proton creates Proton/Antiproton pair
- Charge/Mass selected



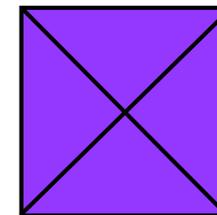
Cern Proton Synchrotron



26 GeV/c



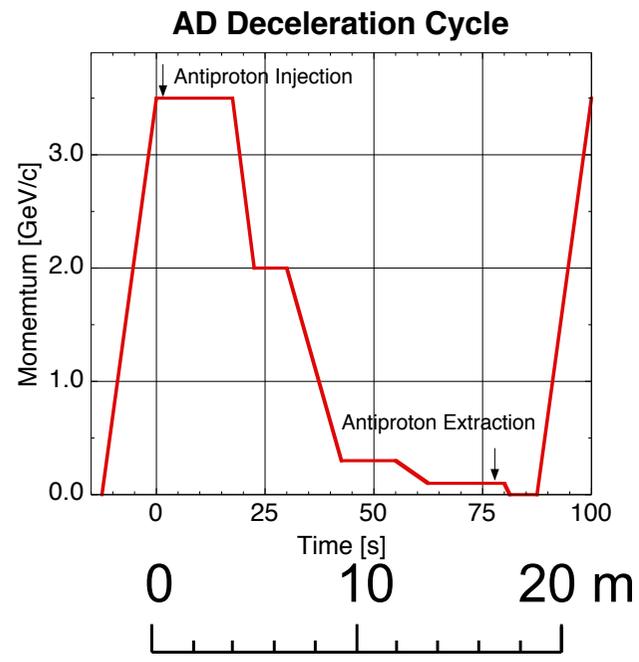
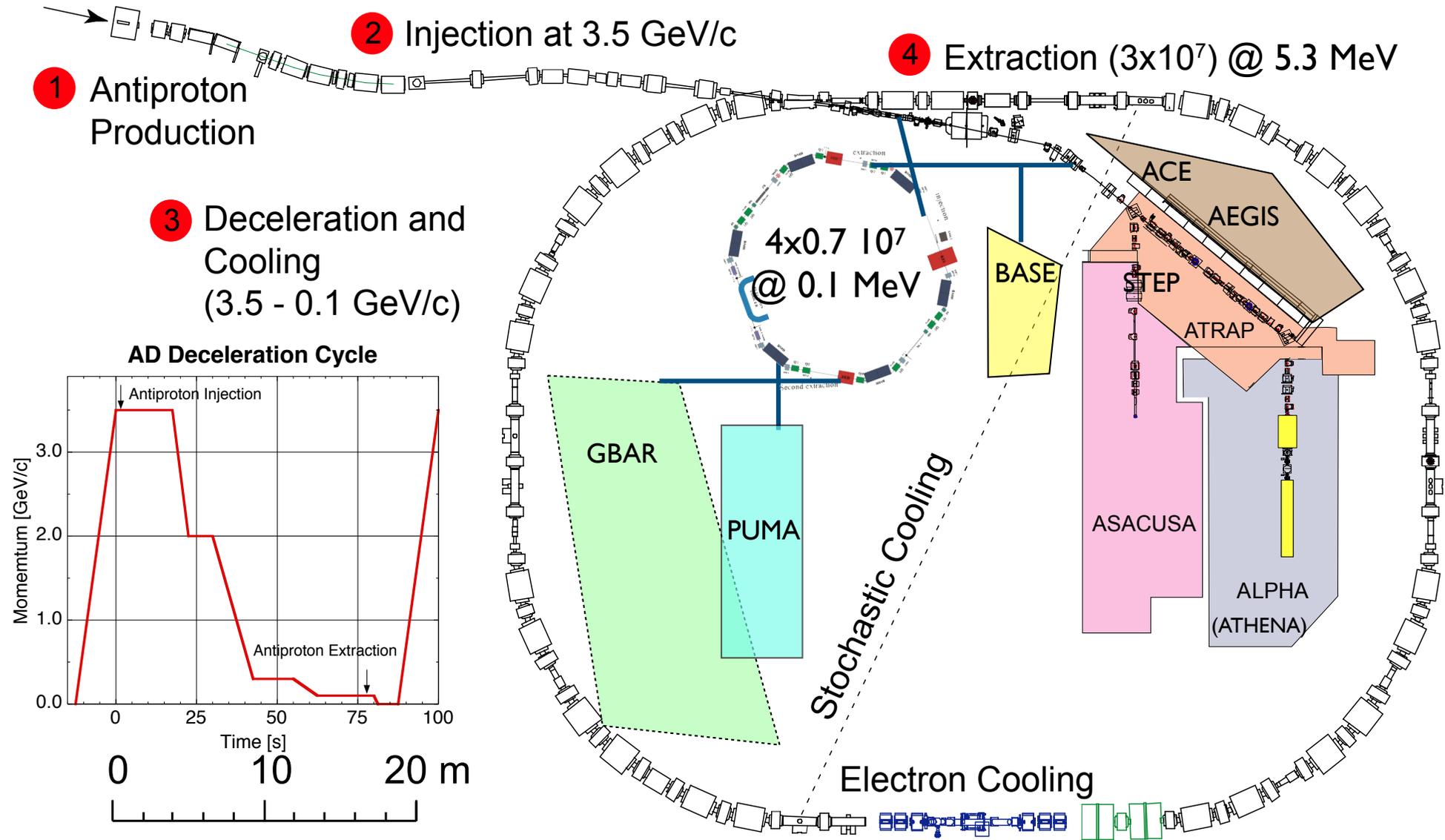
3.7 GeV/c



(and other stuff)

$1.5 \times 10^{13}$  protons result in  $3 \times 10^7$  antiprotons in the AD  
ELENA : ~8M antiprotons per shot per experiment

# Antiproton Decelerator



# AD Experimental Area

GBAR

AEGIS

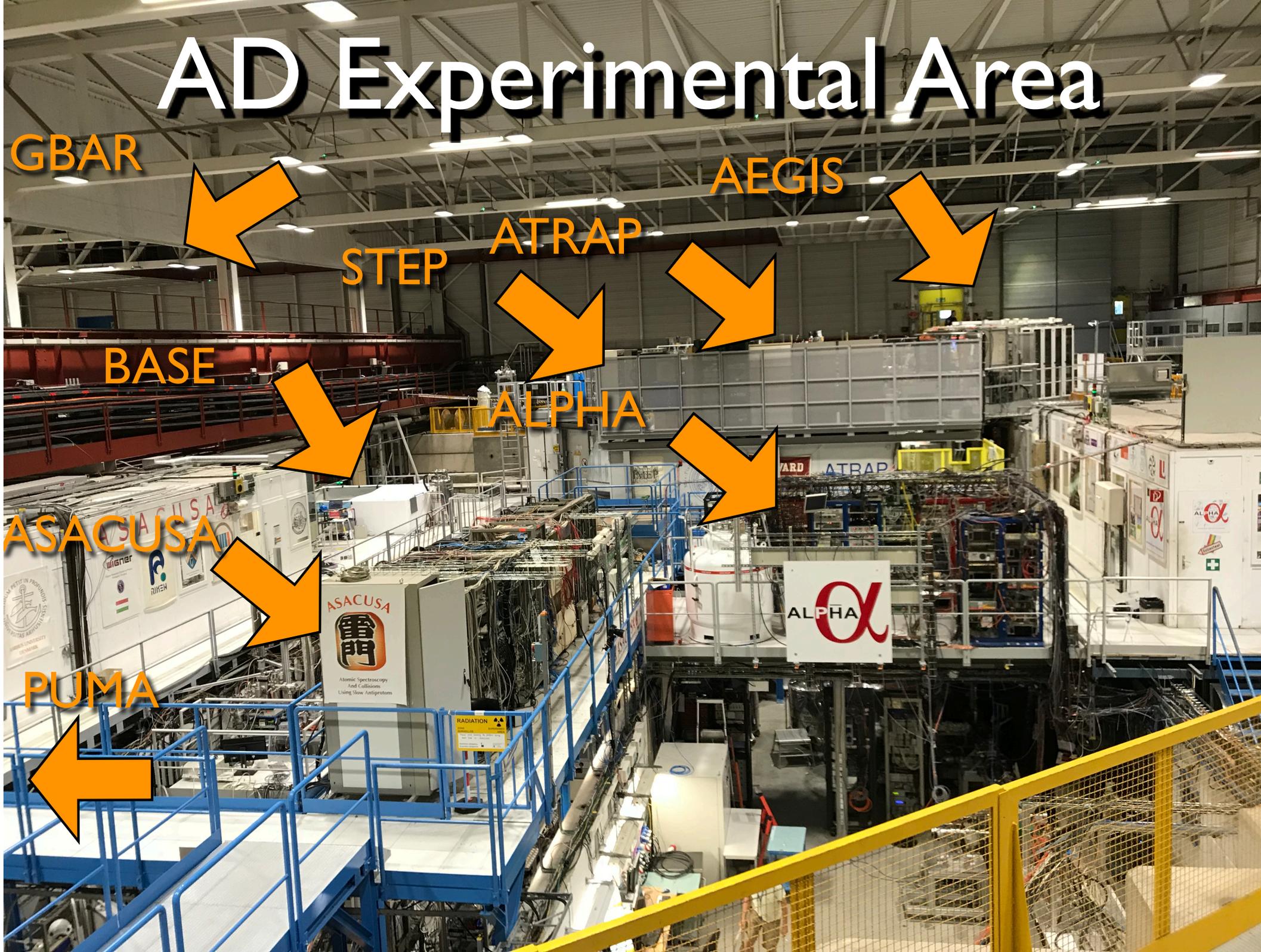
STEP ATRAP

BASE

ALPHA

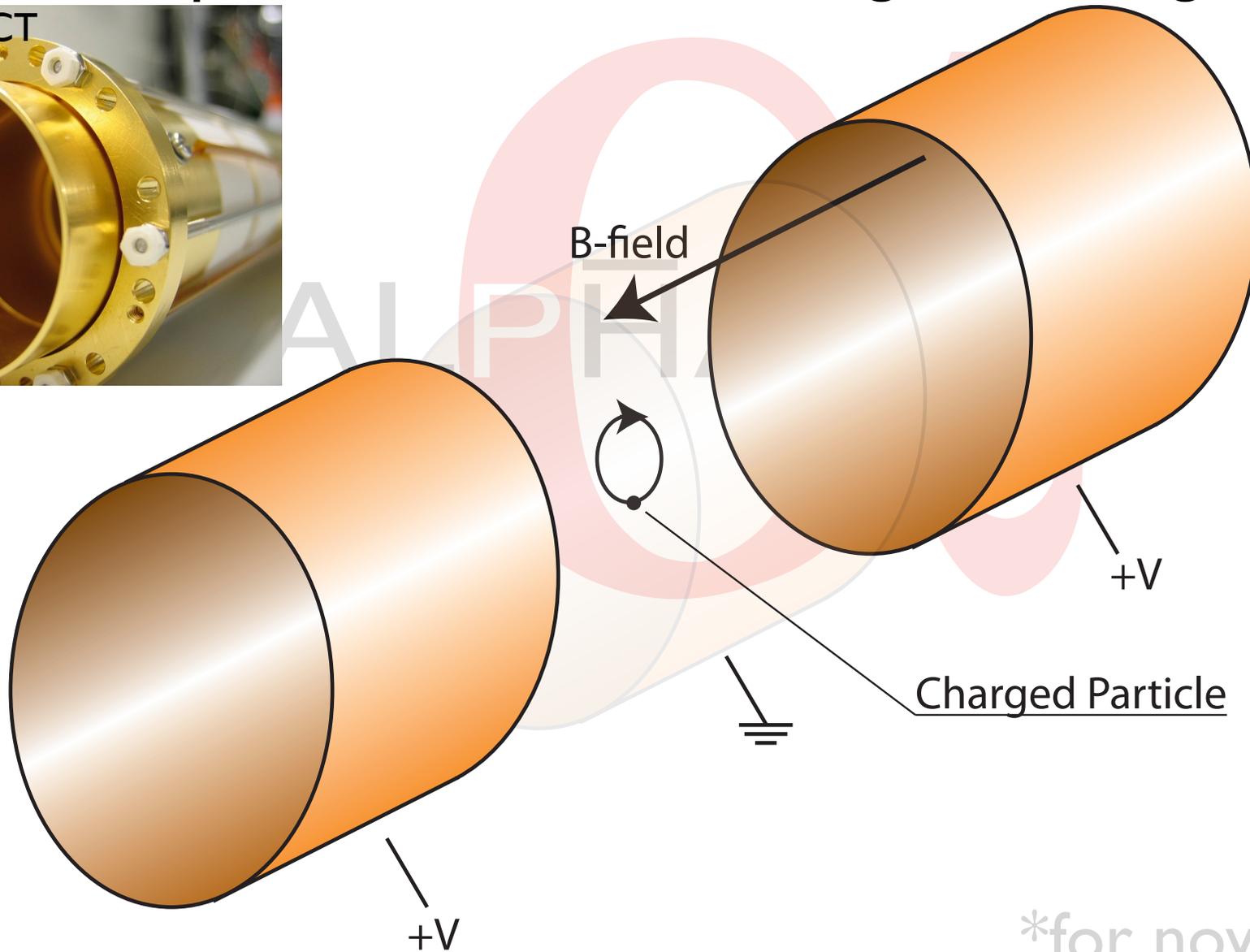
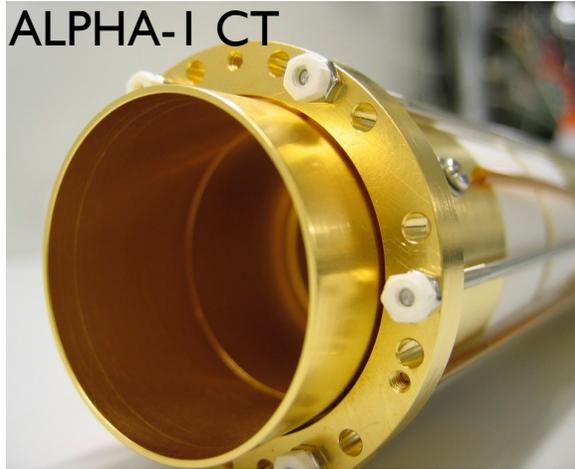
ASACUSA

PUMA



# Charged Particle Traps

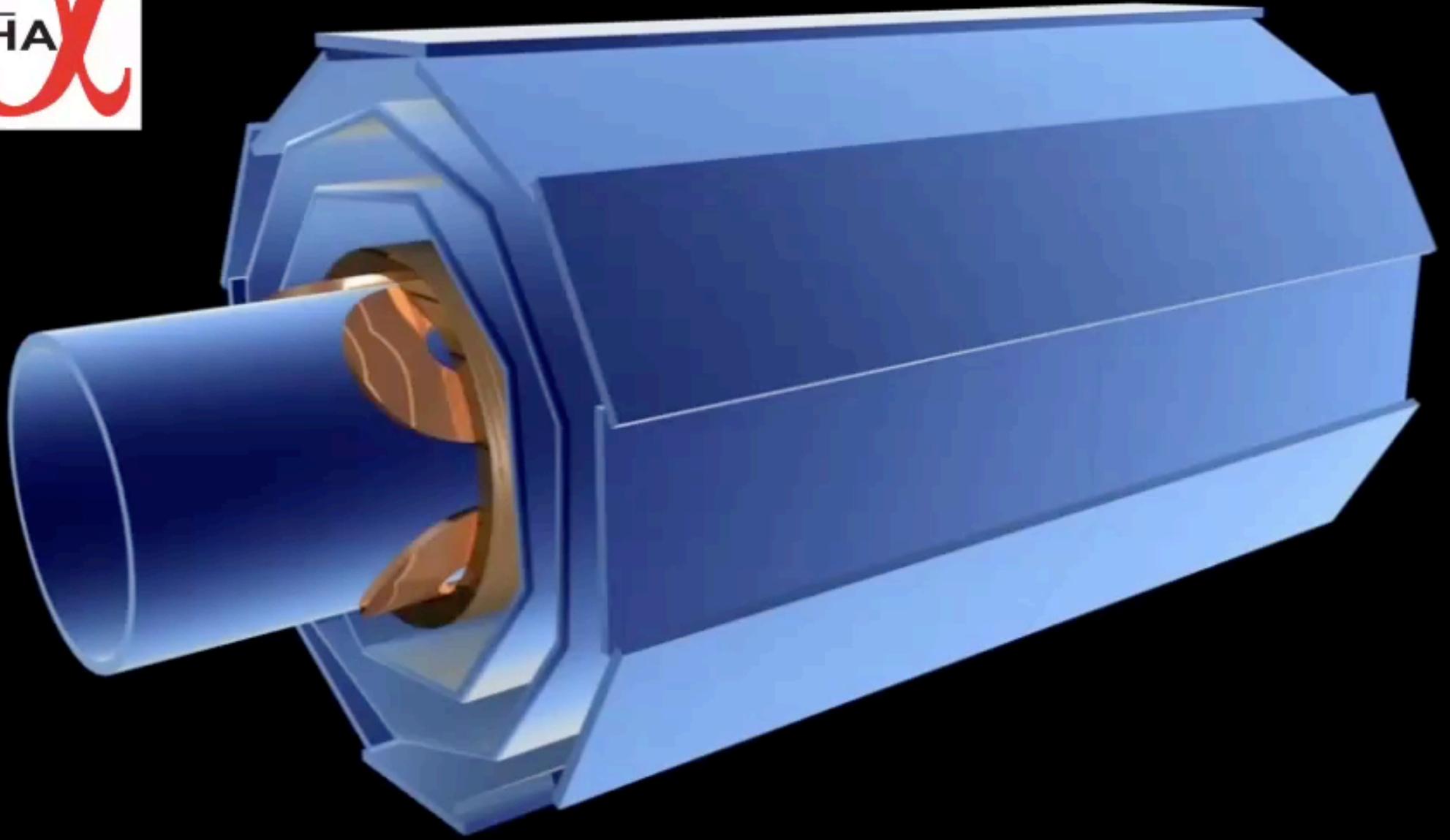
All C.P. traps at the AD are Penning-Malmberg traps\*



\*for now - I think

# Antihydrogen work

- AEGIS (2012-) : Antihydrogen gravity with a cold beam of  $\bar{\text{H}}$ .
- ALPHA (2005-) : Antihydrogen spectroscopy and gravity using **trapped** antihydrogen.
- ASACUSA (1999-) : Antihydrogen micro-wave spectroscopy using an cold beam of  $\bar{\text{H}}$ .
- ATRAP (1999-2018) : Antihydrogen production and **trapping**.
- GBAR (2018-) : Antihydrogen gravity and spectroscopy using a low-energy beam of  $\bar{\text{H}}$  and  $\bar{\text{H}}^+$ .



# Experiments with $\sim |\bar{H}$

- Hold for 15 minutes  $\rightarrow$  ground state.

Nature Physics **7**, 558 (2011)

- Spin-flip transition observed

Nature **483**, 439 (2012)

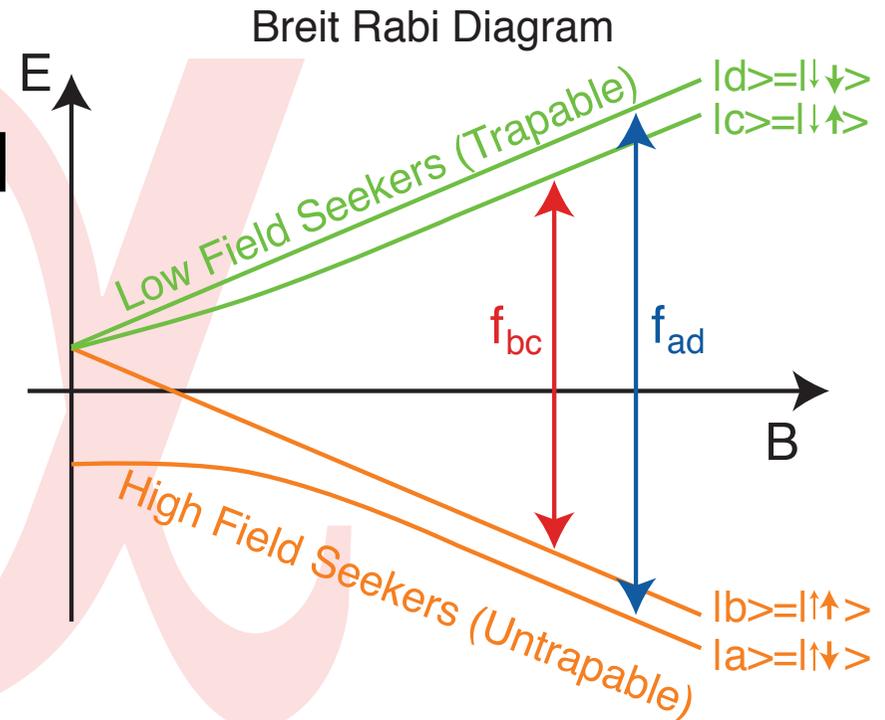
- Demonstration of gravitational measurement.

$$|M_{\text{gravity}}/M_{\text{inertial}}| < 75$$

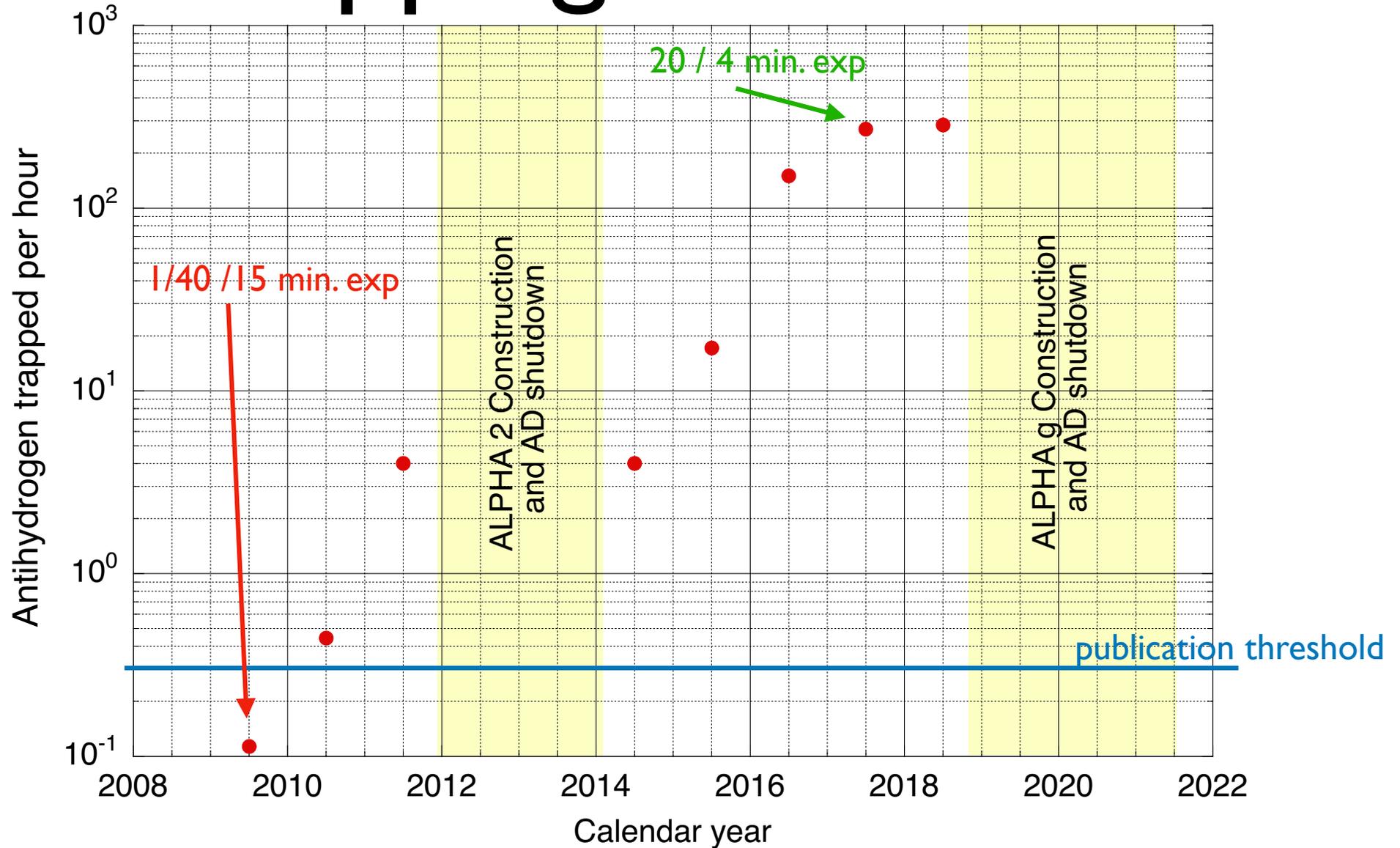
Nature Comm. **4**, 1785 (2013)

- Charge of  $\bar{H}$  measured  $|Q| < 0.7$  ppb at 68% conf.

Nat. Comm. **5**, 3955 (2014), Nature **529**, 7585 (2016)



# Trapping evolution



Seems predominantly linked to  $e^+$  temperature

# 1s-2s in Antihydrogen

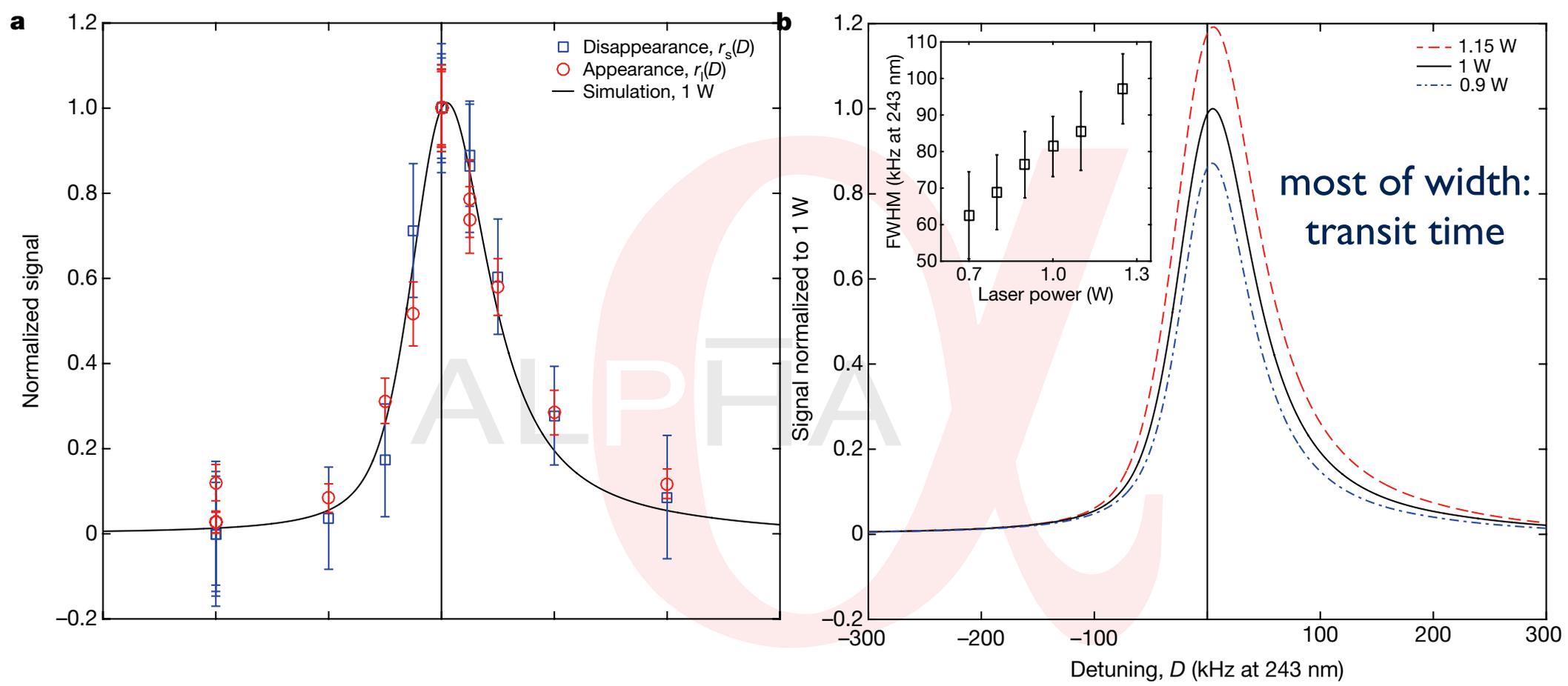
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- Density of  $\bar{H}$  low ( $\sim 14/\text{exp}$ , trap of  $28\text{cm} * \varnothing 4\text{cm} = 0.4\text{L}$ )
- “High” temperature (short transit time).
- Needs lots of laser intensity - so laser small - and (as it turns out) must be cavity enhanced
- Excite 2s ( $|c\rangle$  and  $|d\rangle$ ) - photo-ionise, Lyman-alpha not detectable (and spin-flip not quite frequent enough).
- Disappearance : Need to hit both hyperfine states (cc/dd)
- Appearance (observe “lost”  $\bar{p}/\bar{H}$ ): large background...
- Need  $\sim 100\text{s}$  to interact...



# 1S - 2S Excitation

# Spectral Lines of $\bar{H}$



- Appearance scaled response detuning  $D$ :  $L(D)/L(0)$  ( $L$  = lost  $\bar{H}$ )  
 Disappear. :  $[S(-200\text{kHz})-S(d)]/[S(-200\text{kHz})-S(0)]$  ( $S$  = survived)
- Fit result:  $P1=1135(50\text{mW})$ ,  $P2=904(30)\text{mW}$ ,  $P3=1123(43)\text{mW}$ ,  
 $P4=957(31)\text{mW}$  and  $df = -0.44 \pm 1.9\text{kHz}$  (@ 243nm)

# Result

---

- At a magnetic field of 1.03285(63) T :
- $f_{d-d}^{\text{exp}} = 2,466,061,103,079.4(5.4)$  kHz
- $f_{d-d}^{\text{calc}} = 2,466,061,103,080.3(0.6)$  kHz
- Consistency to  $2 \times 10^{-12}$
- Hydrogen precision state of the art :  $4.2 \times 10^{-15}$
- Used  $\sim 15000$  antihydrogen atoms.
- The most precise and accurate measurement on antimatter to date.

# Uncertainties

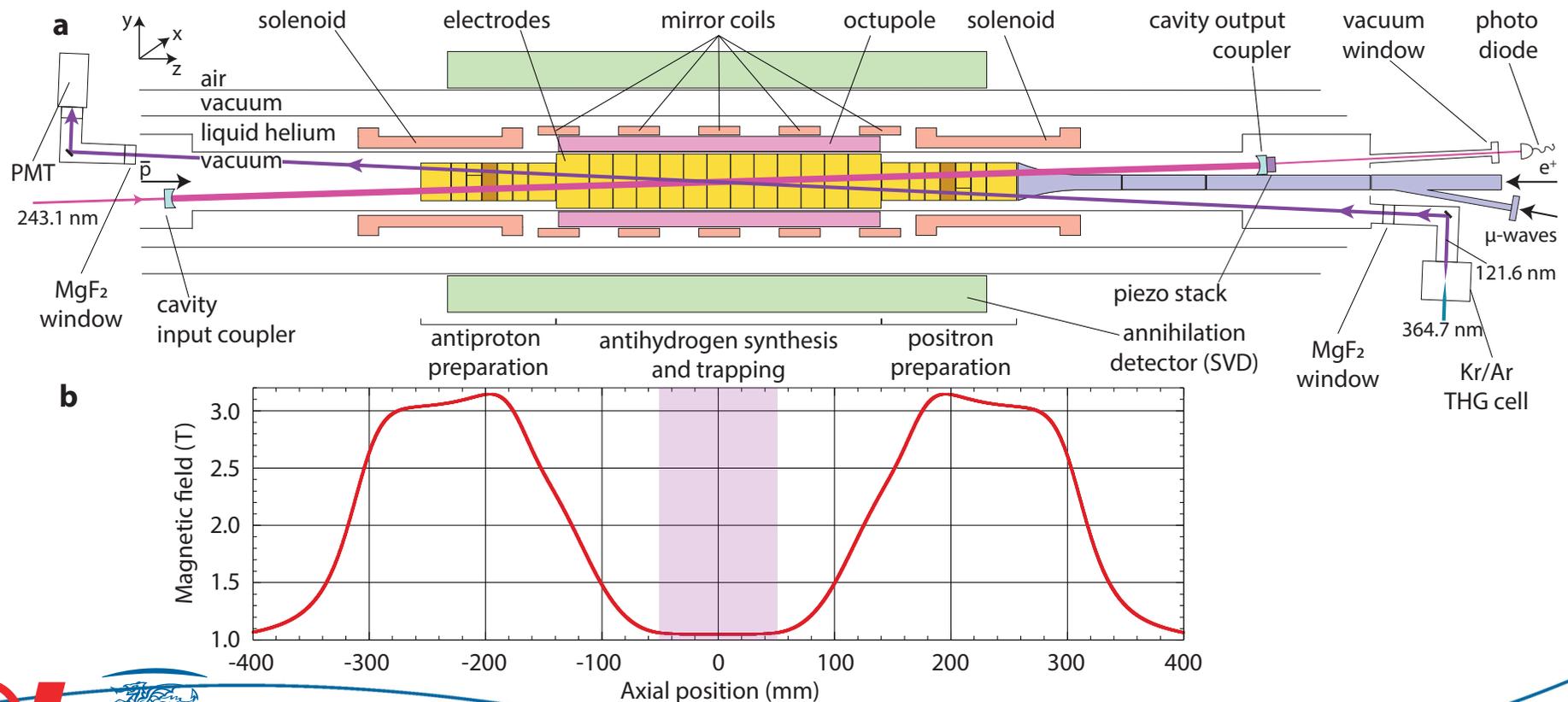
**Table 3 | Summary of uncertainties**

Type of uncertainty	Estimated size (kHz)	Comment
Statistical uncertainties	3.8	Poisson errors and curve fitting to measured data
Modelling uncertainties	3	Fitting of simulated data to piecewise-analytic function
Modelling uncertainties	1	Waist size of the laser, antihydrogen dynamics
Magnetic-field stability	0.03	From microwave removal of $1S_c$ -state atoms (see text)
Absolute magnetic-field measurement	0.6	From electron cyclotron resonance
Laser-frequency stability	2	Limited by GPS clock
d.c. Stark shift	0.15	Not included in simulation
Second-order Doppler shift	0.08	Not included in simulation
Discrete frequency choice of measured points	0.36	Determined from fitting sets of pseudo-data
Total	5.4	

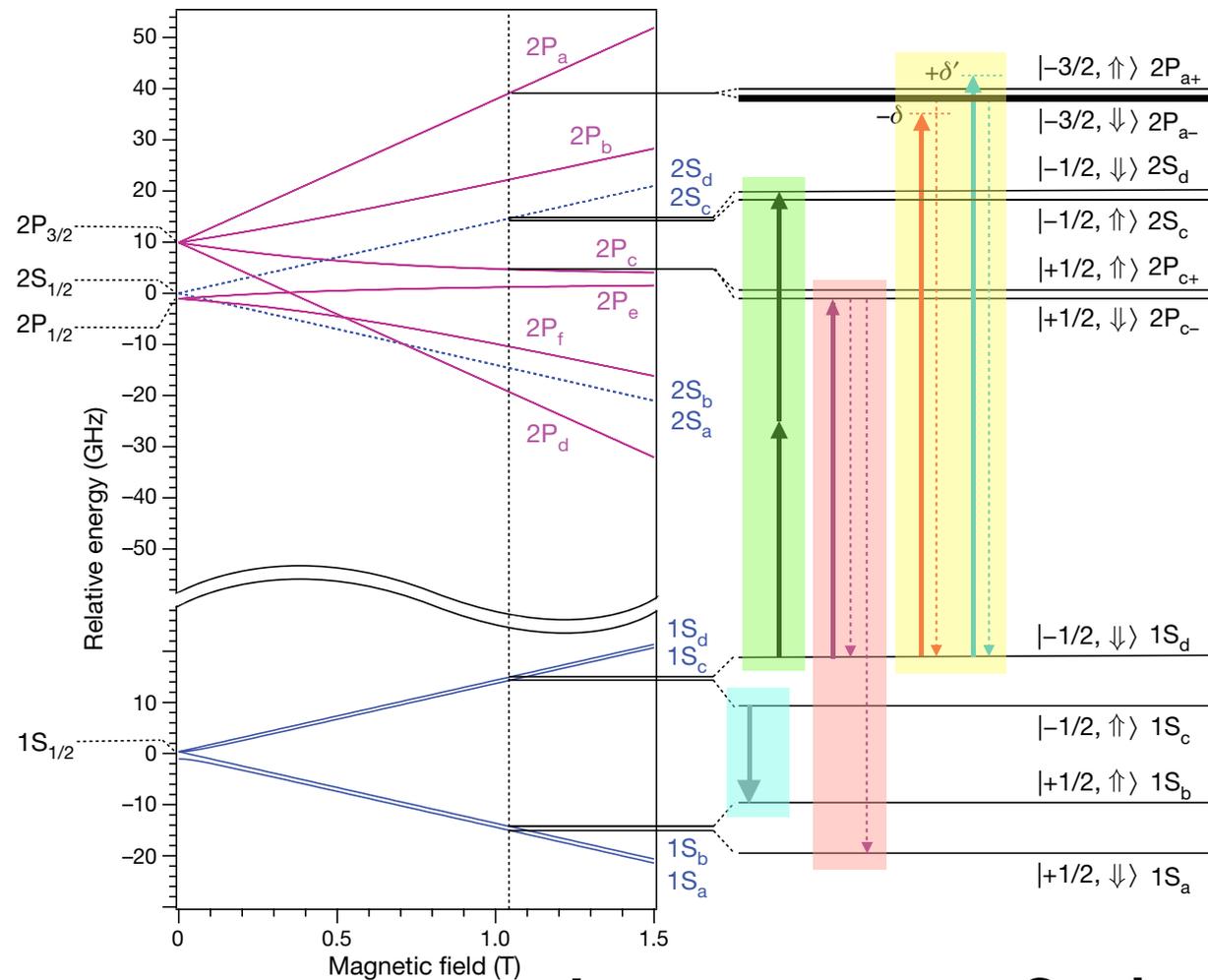
The estimated statistical and systematic errors (at 121 nm) are tabulated.

# Laser-cooling

- We can exchange photons of 121nm with antihydrogen - they carry momentum.
- So at least 1D-laser-cooling should be possible if we can avoid spin-flips.



# Laser-cooling - transitions



Cooling/heating

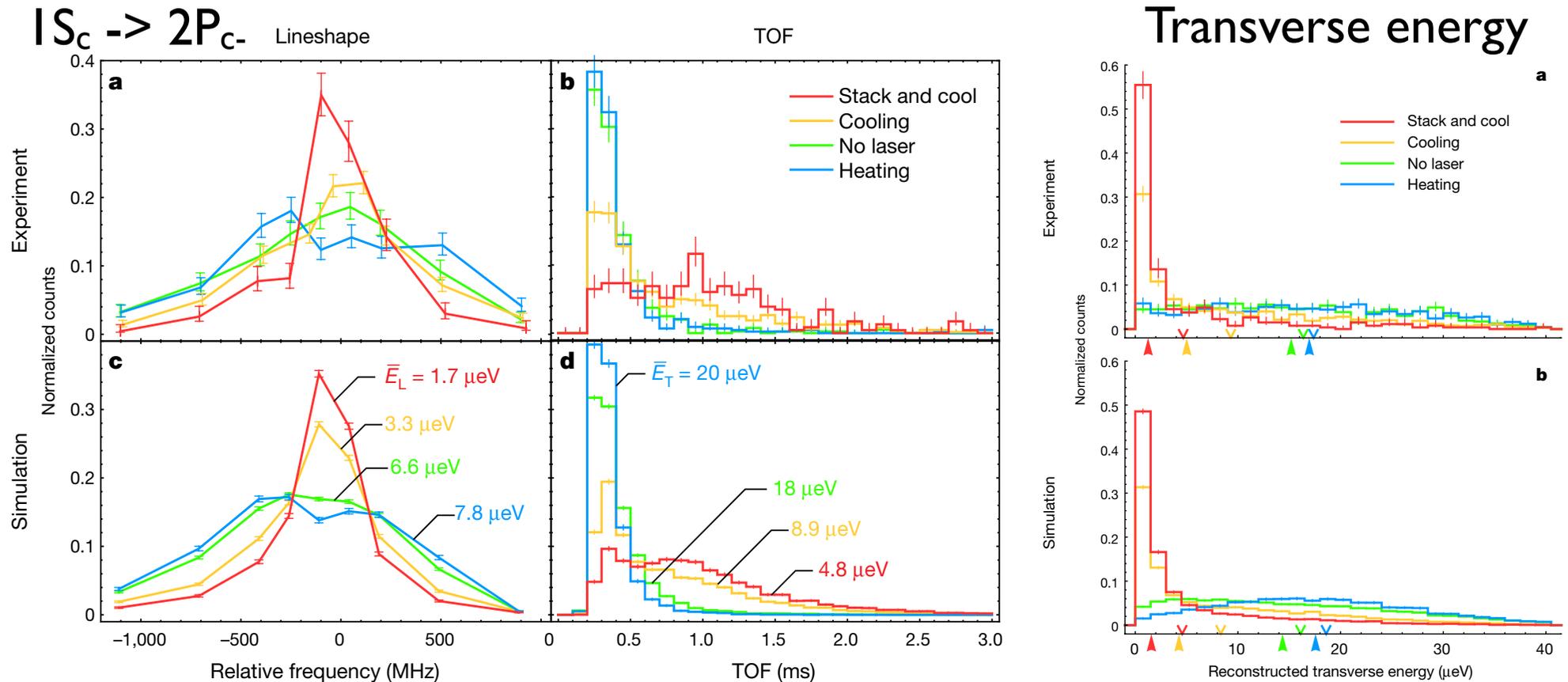
Ly- $\alpha$  probe

IS-2S Probe

$\mu$ -wave probe

Low power : So laser-cooling is 6h long!

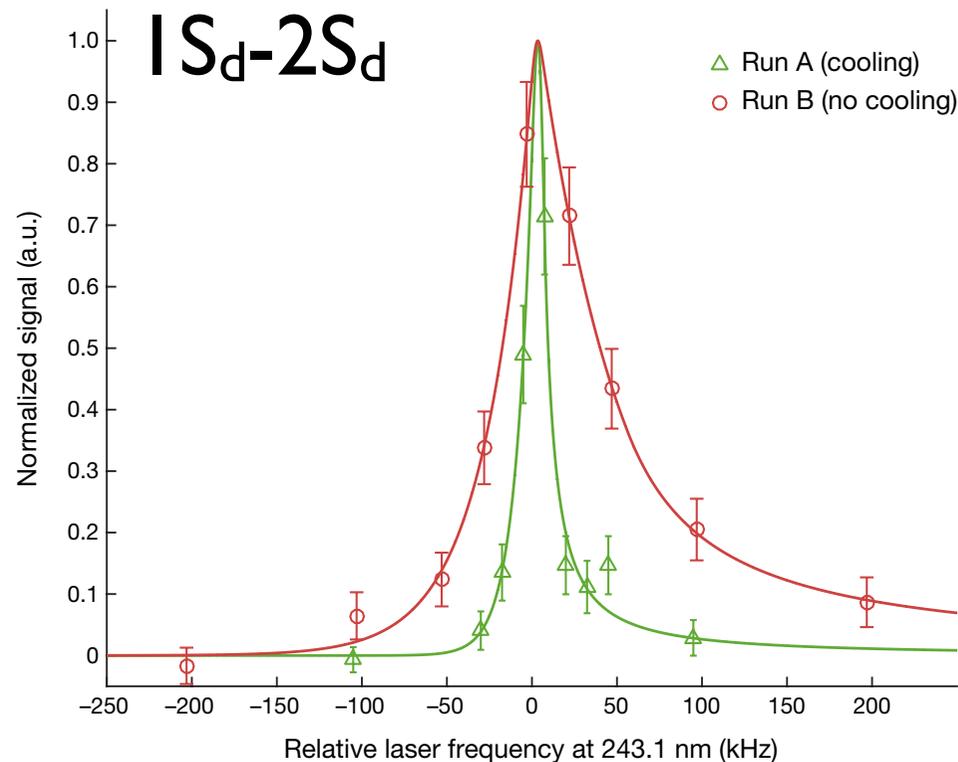
# Laser cooling - Ly-a probe



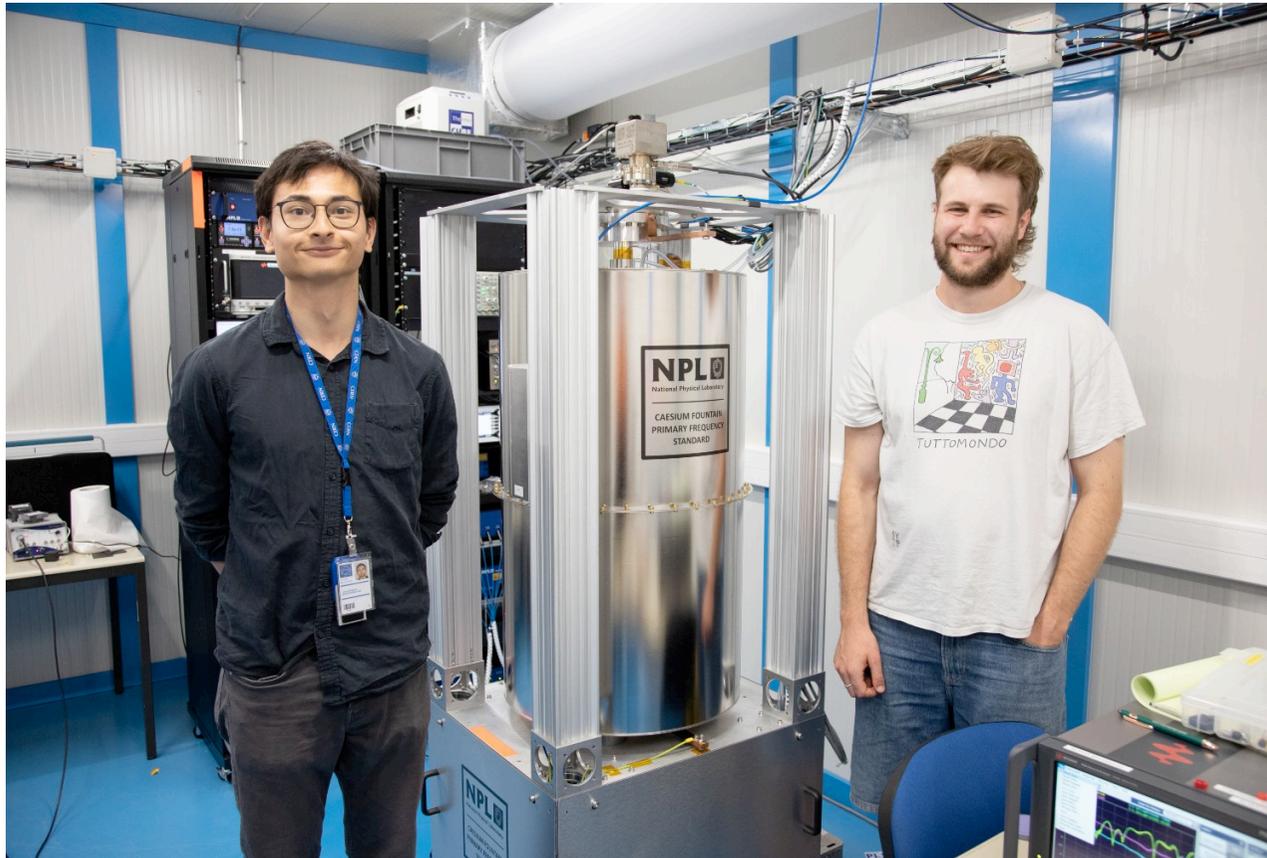
Line shape narrowing & lower  $\langle E_{\text{kin}} \rangle$  observed (and understood)  
 Demonstrated continuous cooling while stacking & much longer stacking (1 day)

# Spectroscopy 2.0: w. laser-cooling

- With the full-day stacking we have 1000-2000  $\bar{H}$  - and we can do the line shape in “one” go - by quickly doing multiple stepped sweeps across the transition.



# Spectroscopy 2.0: Reference

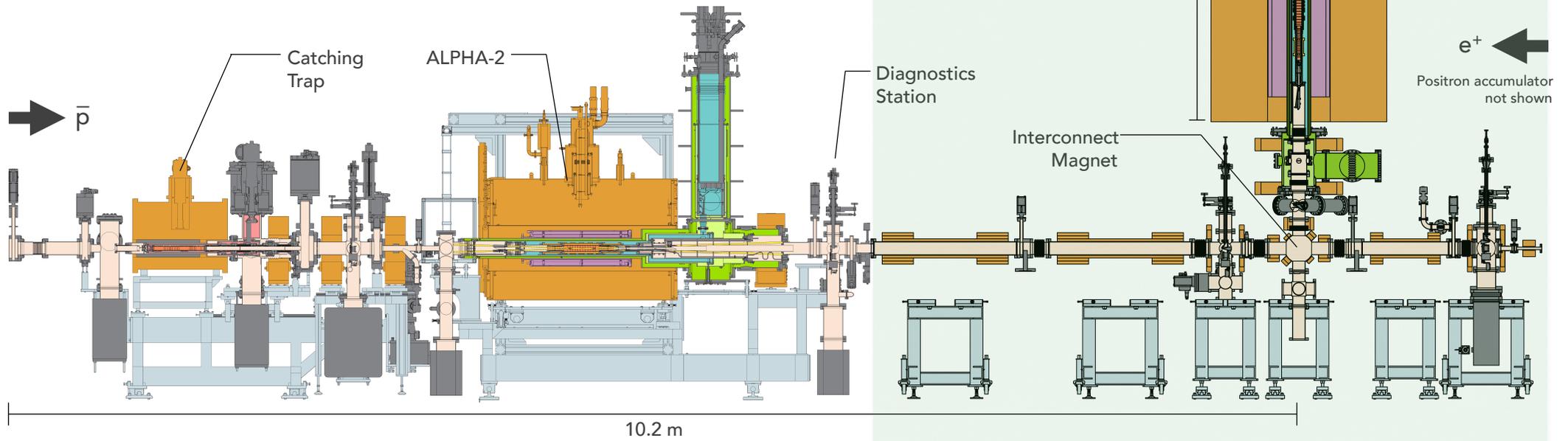


- Cs-fountain installed and “ticking” at CERN, guiding an active hydrogen maser :  $10^{-16}$  freq. reference

# $\bar{H}$ Gravity: Alpha-g

Addition of gravity experiment (vertical trap)  $e^+/\bar{p}$  beam line was needed

- Magnets
- Outer Vacuum Chamber (OVC)
- UHV Space
- OVC (Heat Shielded)
- Physical Supports
- Liquid Helium Space
- Electrodes under UHV
- TPC / Silicon Detector Volumes



# $\bar{H}$ Gravity in ALPHA-g

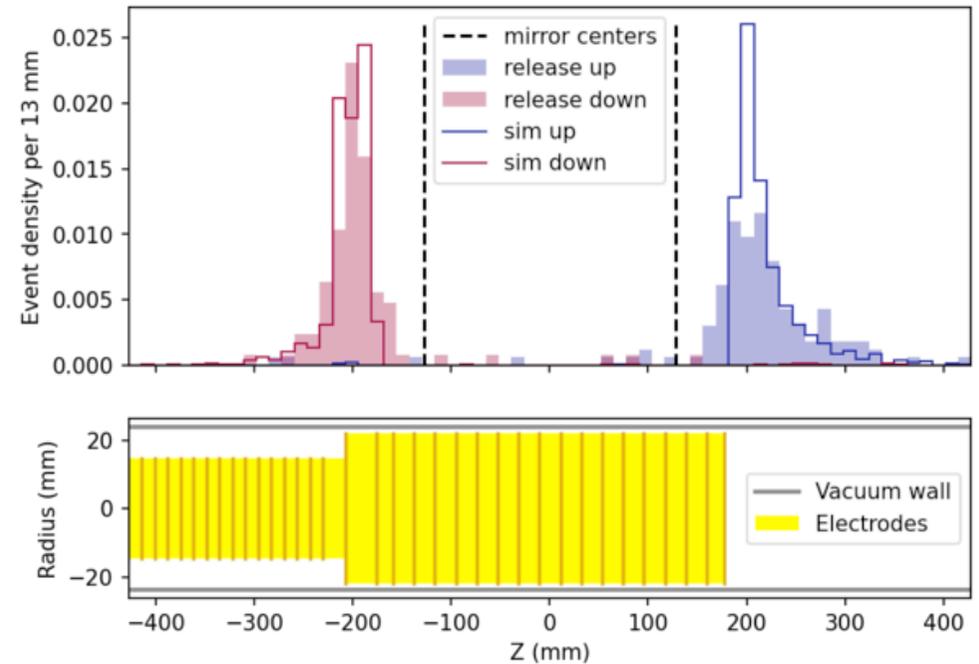
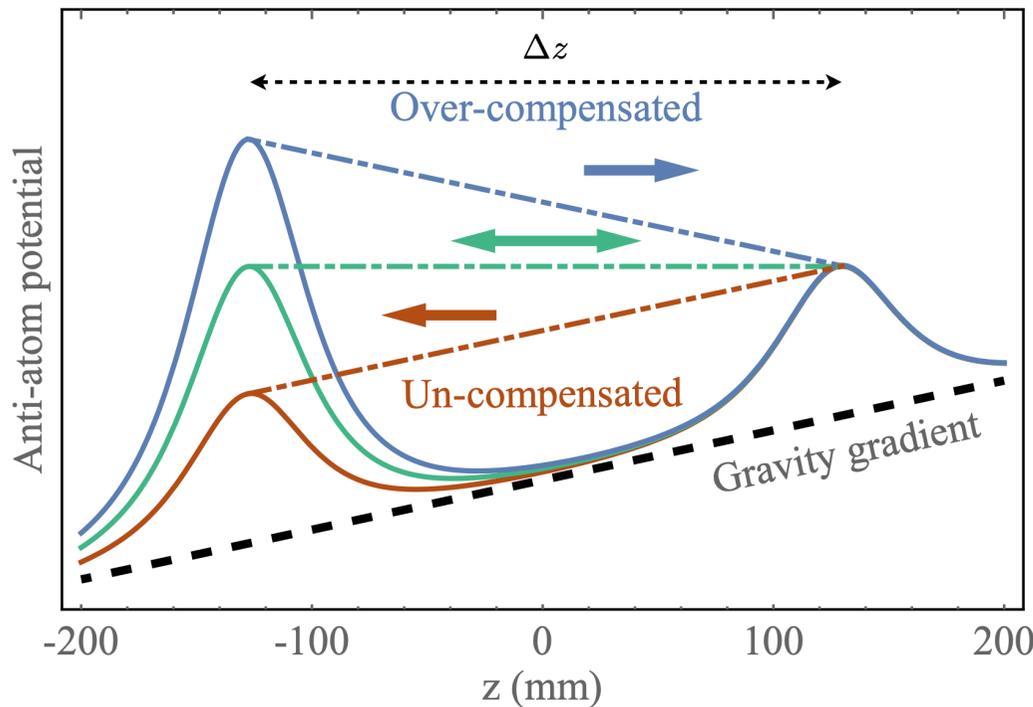
- A trapped (GS)  $\bar{H}$  experiences a potential equal to :

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}) = \mu_B |\mathbf{B}(r)| - m_{\bar{H}} \bar{\mathbf{g}} \cdot \mathbf{r}$$

- The gravitational potential difference over 1 meter corresponds with a potential difference arising from a 17 Gauss change in the magnetic field.
- So, a priori, avoid B-fields (e.g. AEGIS & GBAR)... but we can trap them, so we will start from that.
- With identical B in a vertical apparatus, they would tend to fall our the bottom of the trap (assuming “normal” gravity). Quantitatively were expect 70% to fall out the bottom and 30% top.

# $\bar{H}$ Gravity in ALPHA-g

- We can add a bias field :  $B_g = m_{\bar{H}} \bar{g} \Delta z / \mu_B$  to the bottom



- 2022: ALPHA-g operational and trapping antihydrogen. Analysis of gravity measurement attempts ongoing.

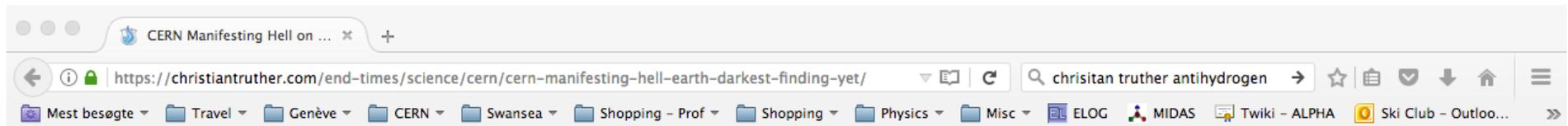
# Outlook

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- Antihydrogen gravity
- Improved resolution of  $1S-2S$  and cc component\* (with laser-cooling!).
- Observing first photons from antihydrogen.
- Rydberg constant, Lamb shift, antiproton charge radius... ( $1S \rightarrow 3S?$ ,  $2S \rightarrow 3S?$ ,  $2S \rightarrow 4S?$ )
- Further improvements of GS HF splitting
- More  $\bar{H}$  with sympathetically cooled positrons

\*cc component tentatively observed in 2018

# Thank you for listening...



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Up until recently, scientists were in the dark regarding the composition of antimatter, but now researchers at CERN have shined a light on it.



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