

## Antiproton Decelerator (AD)

Only source of slow antiprotons

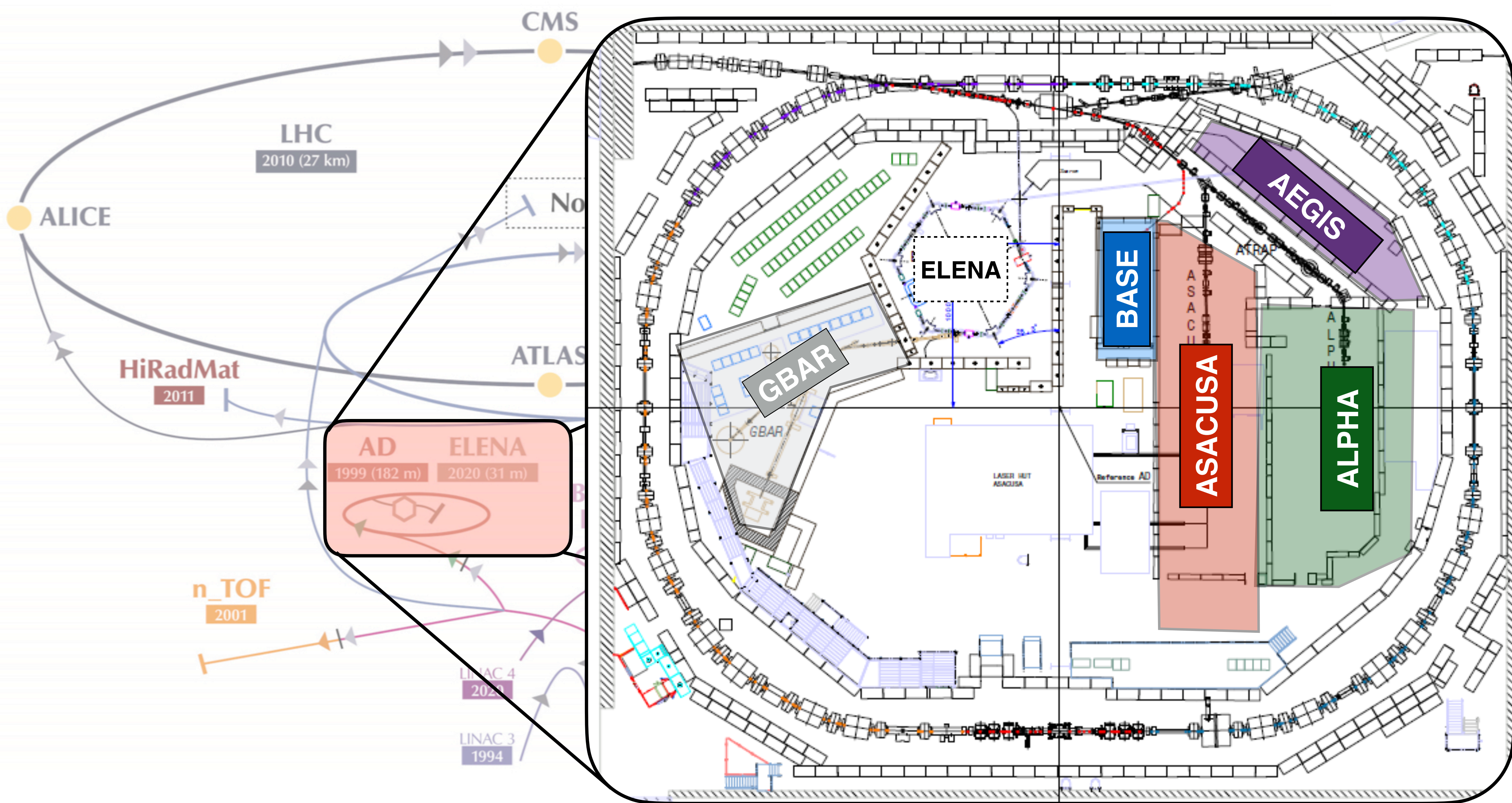
26 GeV/c PS beam onto Ir target

~30 million antiprotons

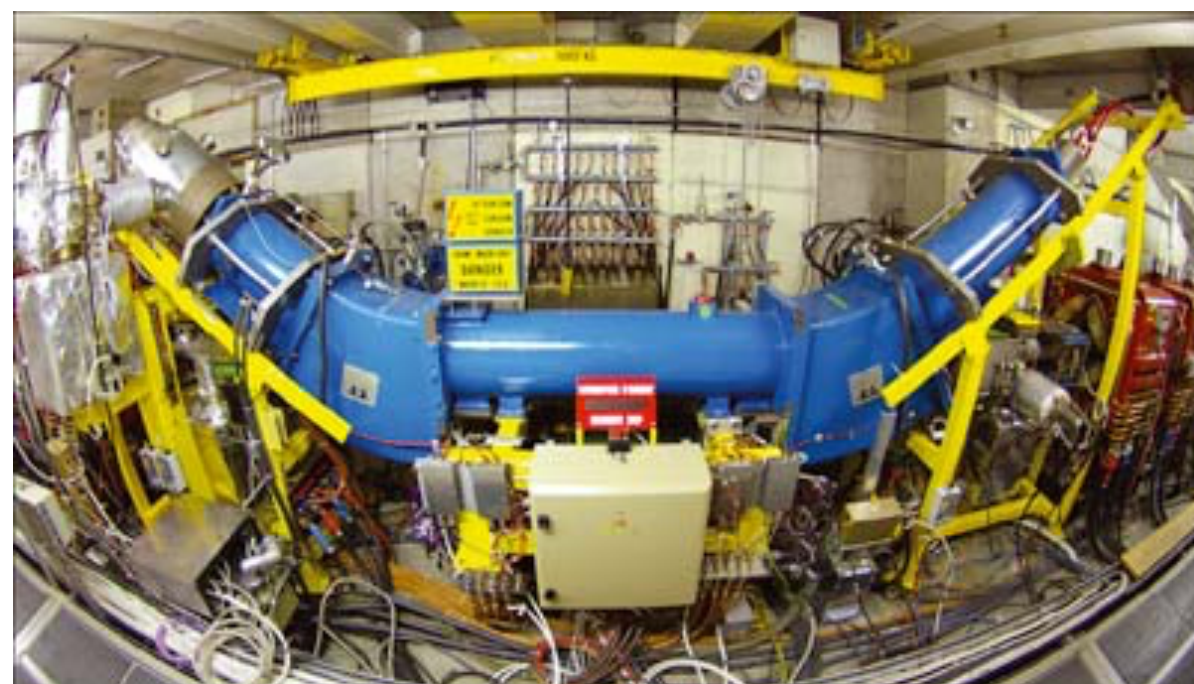
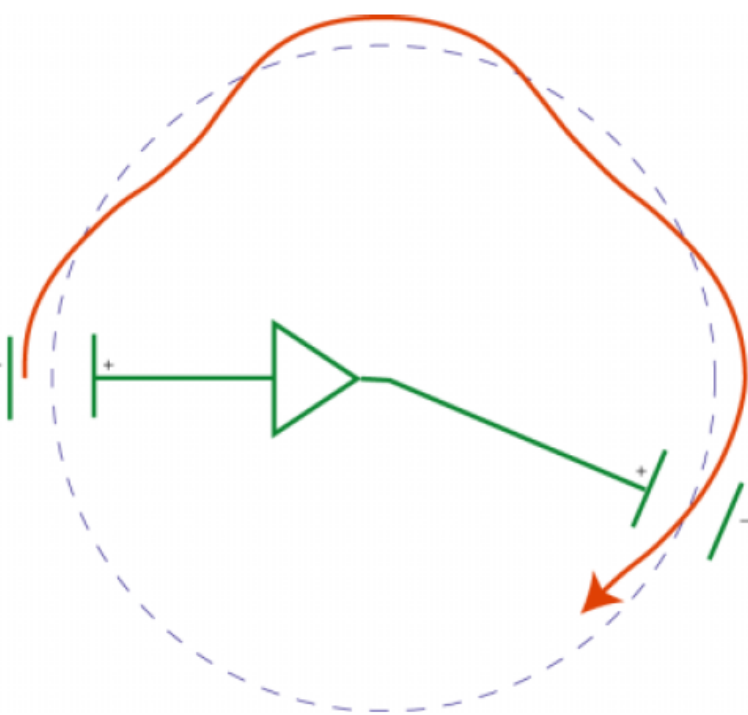
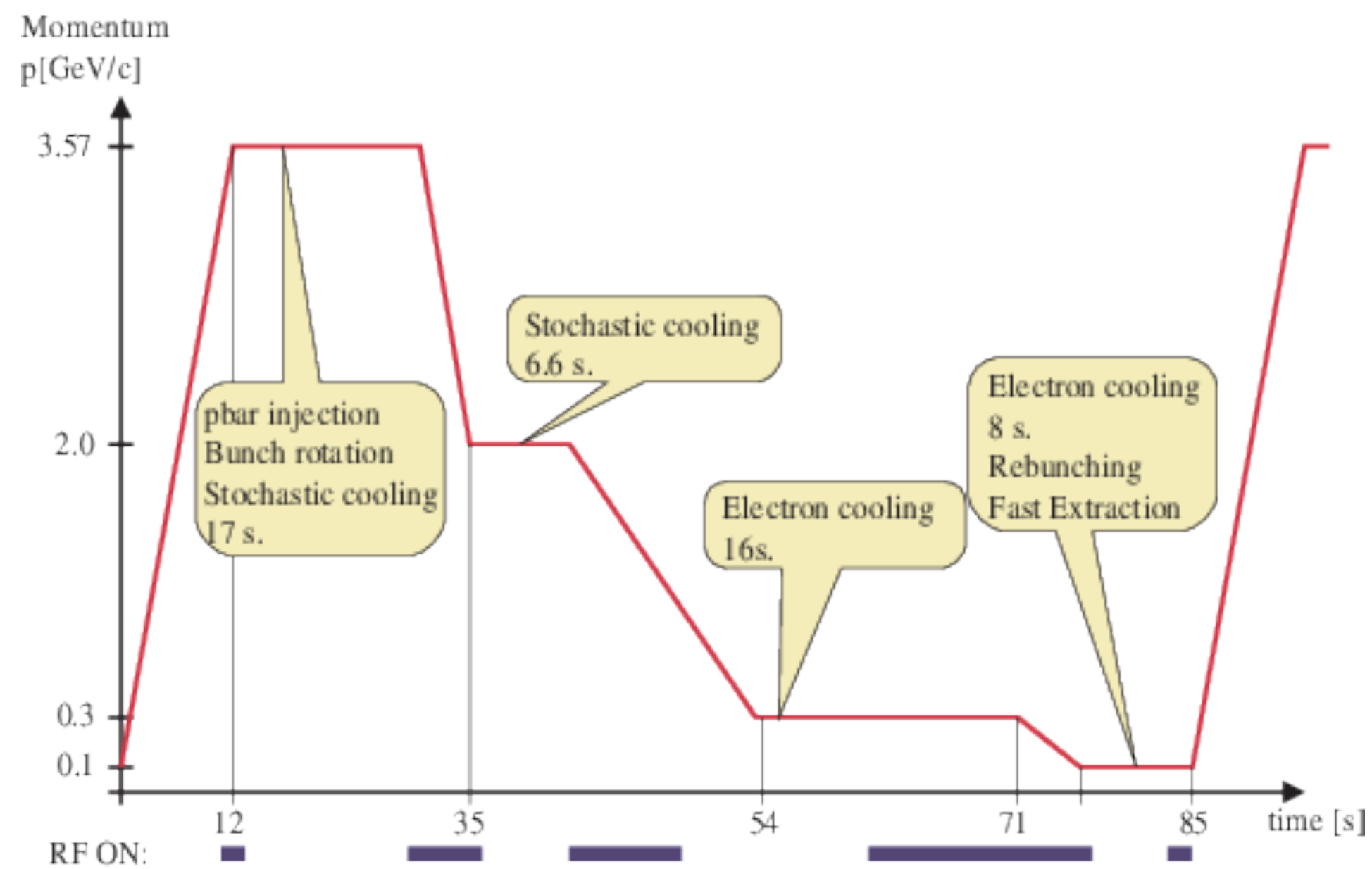
5.3 MeV kinetic energy (100 MeV/c)

every 120s







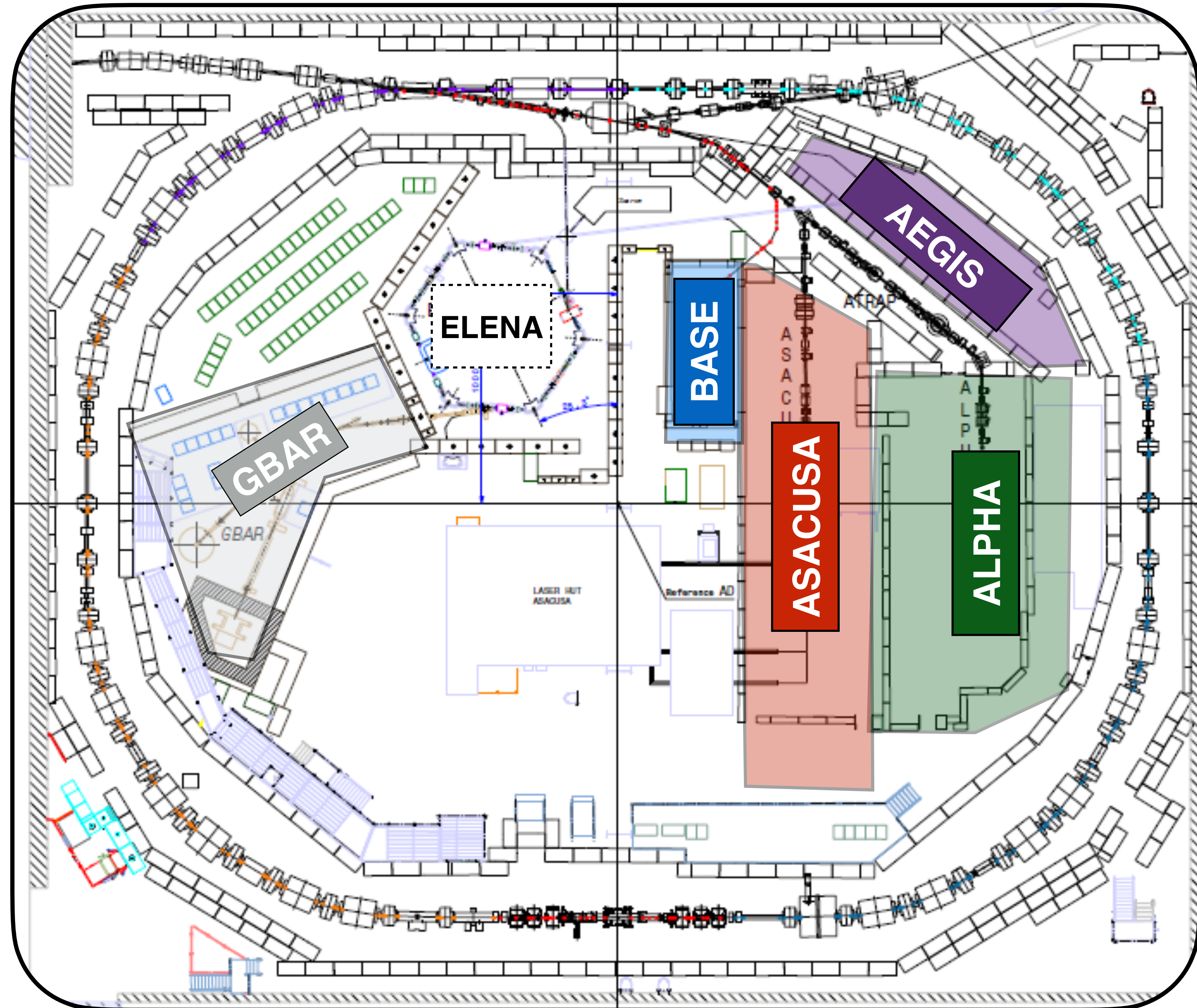


$$\Delta p/p \sim 0.07\%$$

$$\epsilon = 3 - 4 \pi \text{mm} \cdot \text{mrad}$$

$$\Delta p/p < 10^{-4}$$

$$\epsilon < 1 \pi \text{mm} \cdot \text{mrad}$$





# ELENA: a boost to the AD physics programme

## AD:

$\bar{p}$  caught in Penning traps using degraders  
 → 99.9% are lost

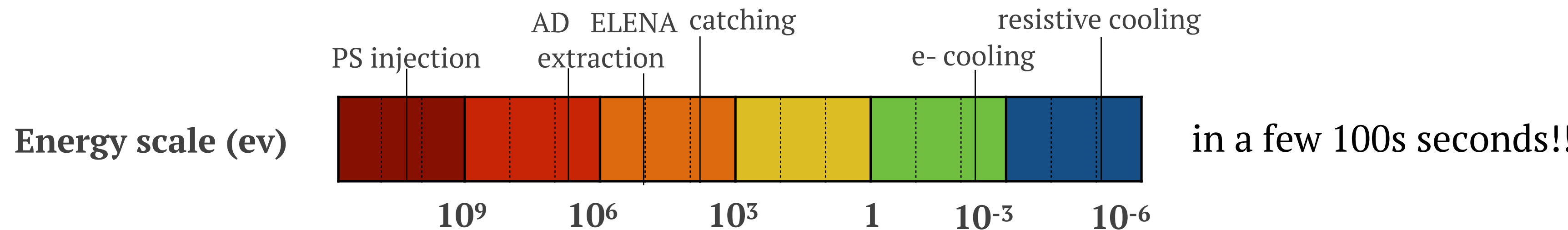
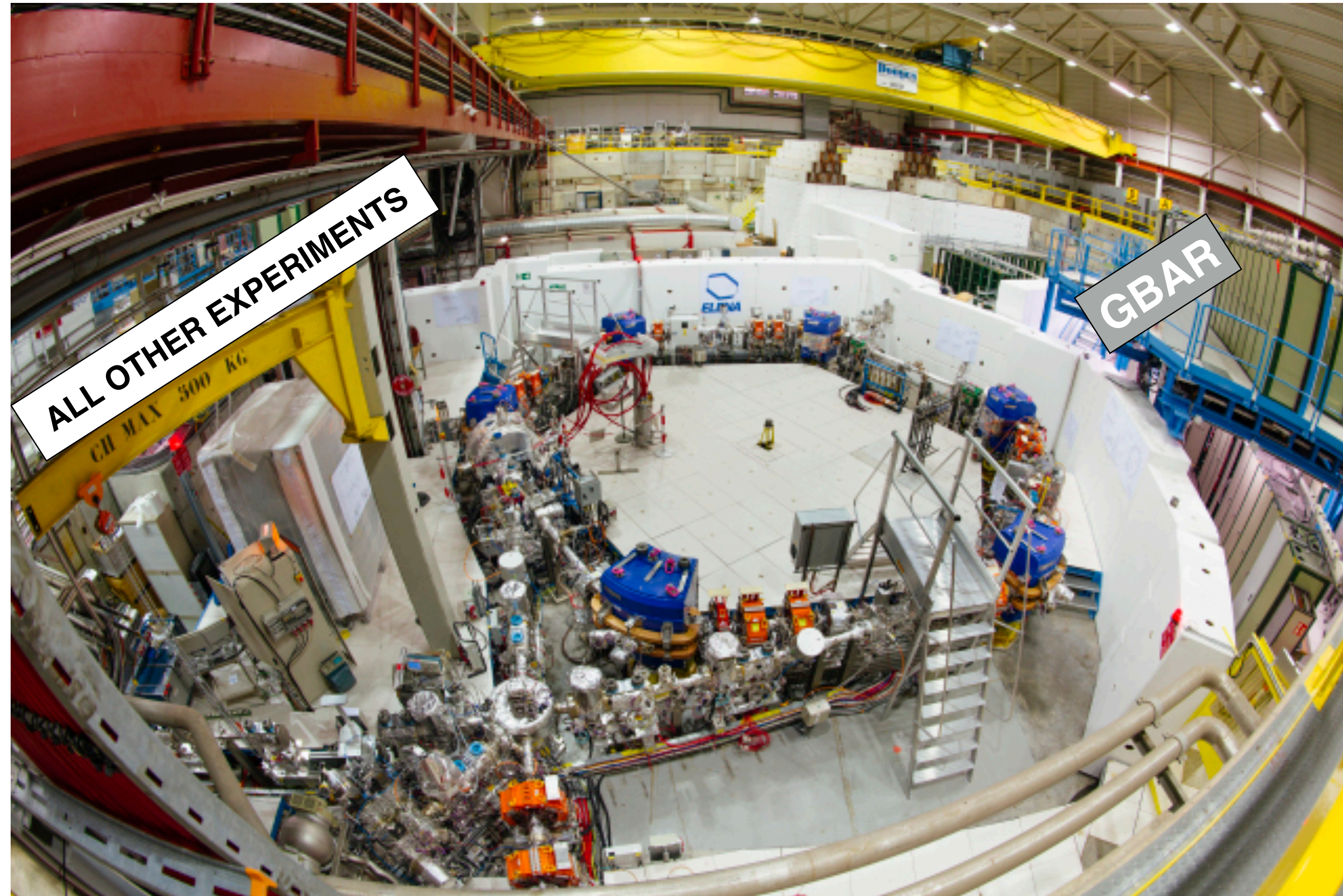
## ELENA:

$\bar{p}$  at 100 keV at improved beam emittance

all experiments gain a factor 10-100  
 in trapping efficiency (degrading at low particle energies is  
 more efficient)

“simultaneous” delivery to almost all experiments  
 → Gain in total beam time

additional experimental zone







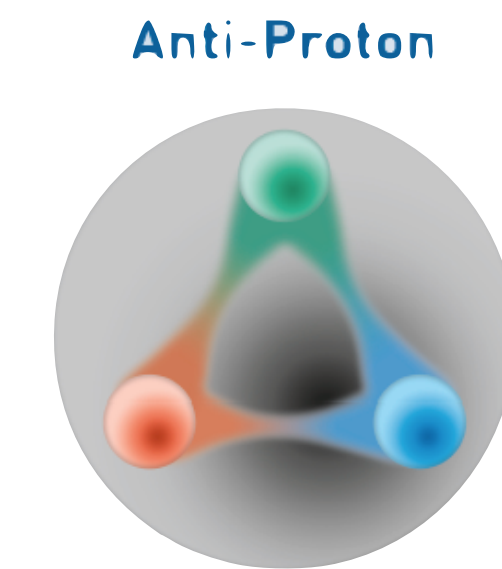
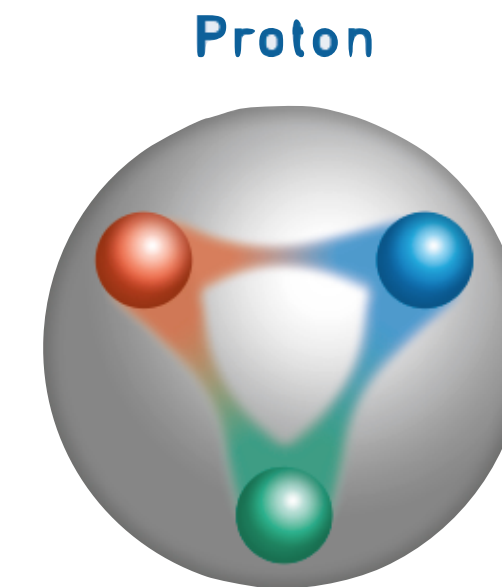
# Variety of searches for new physics with low energy antiprotons

  BASE/STEP ( $\bar{p}$  in Penning trap), ASACUSA ( $\bar{p}\text{He}$ )  
Fundamental properties of the antiproton

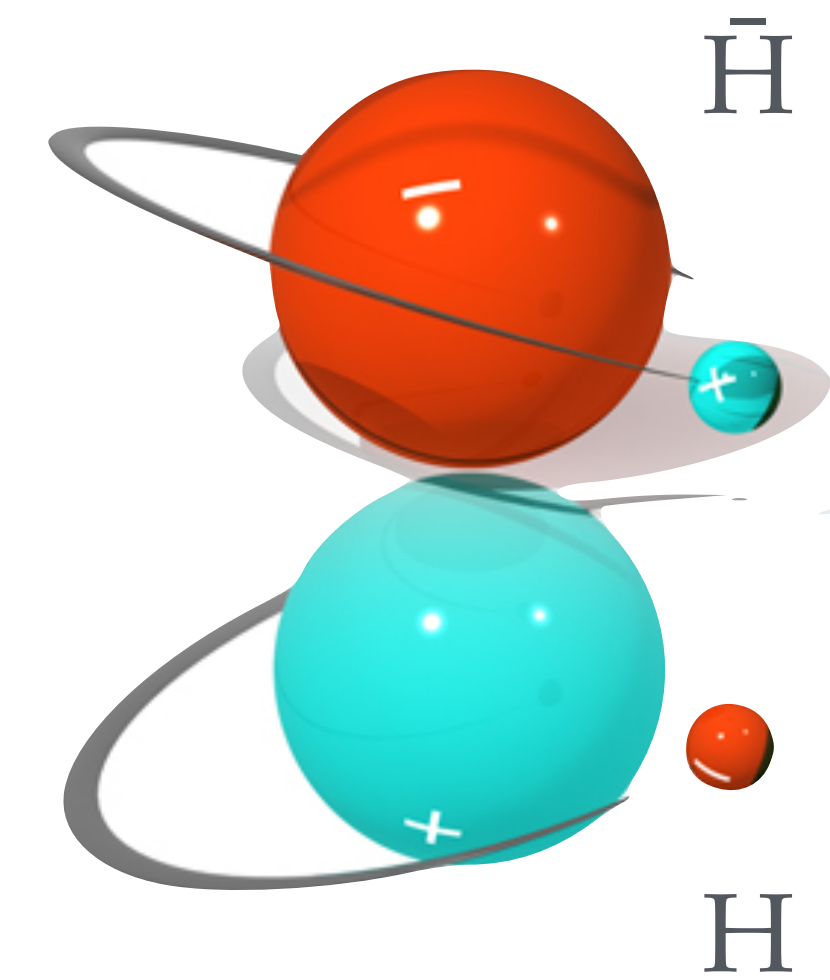
 ALPHA  
Spectroscopy of 1S-2S in antihydrogen

  ASACUSA, ALPHA  
Spectroscopy of GS-HFS in antihydrogen

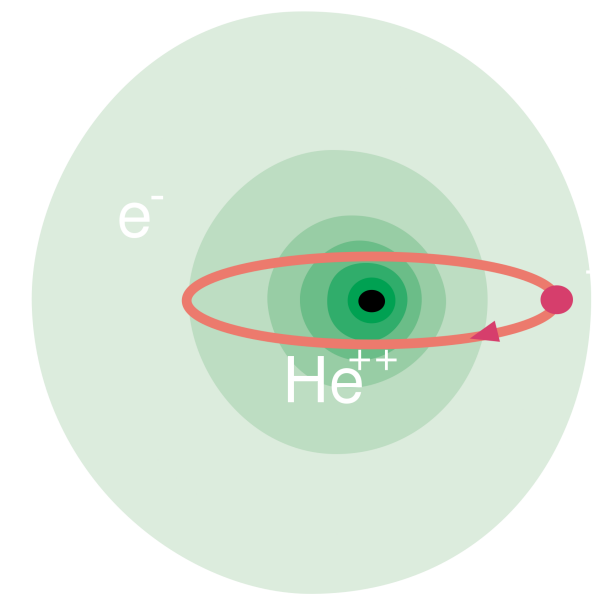
  ALPHA, AEGIS, GBAR  
Test free fall/equivalence principle with antihydrogen



antiproton



antihydrogen



antiprotonic  
helium



AD community: ~60 research institutes/universities - 400 researchers - 5 collaborations (+1 : connection to ISOLDE with the PUMA exp.)

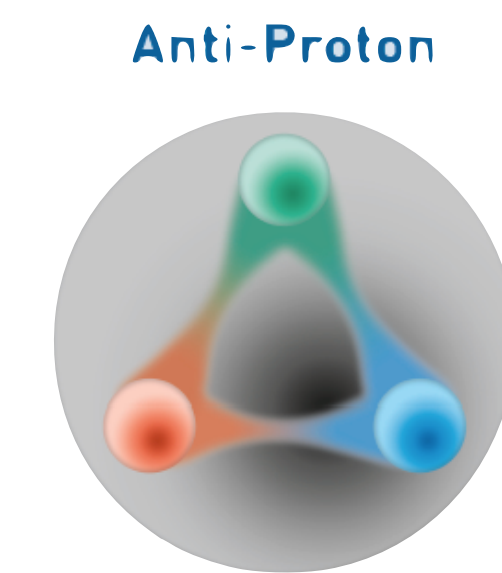
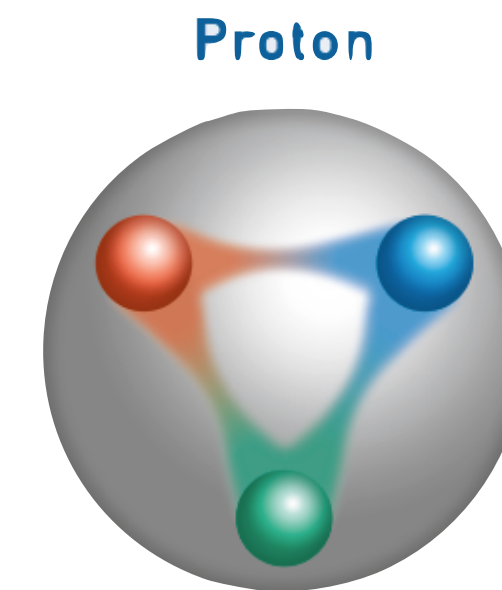


# Variety of searches for new physics with low energy antiprotons

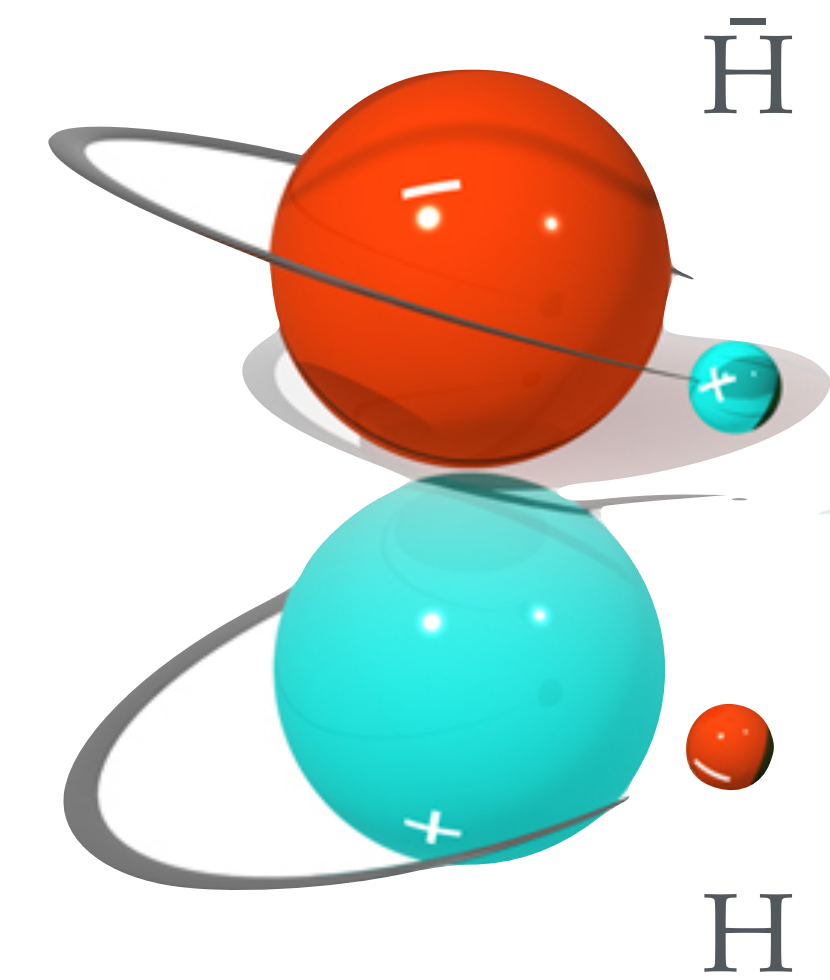
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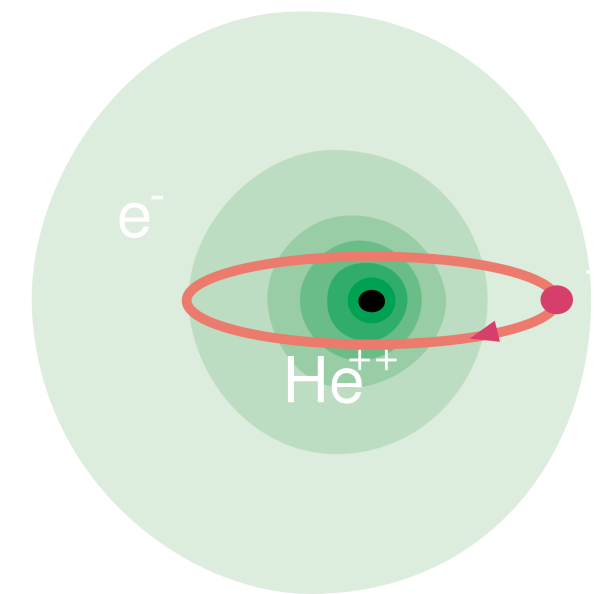
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antiproton



antihydrogen



antiprotonic  
helium

  ALPHA  
ALPHA, AEGIS, GBAR  
Test free fall/equivalence principle with antihydrogen

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# Motivations for testing gravity with antihydrogen atoms

## Gravity with matter scrutinized via different experimental methods

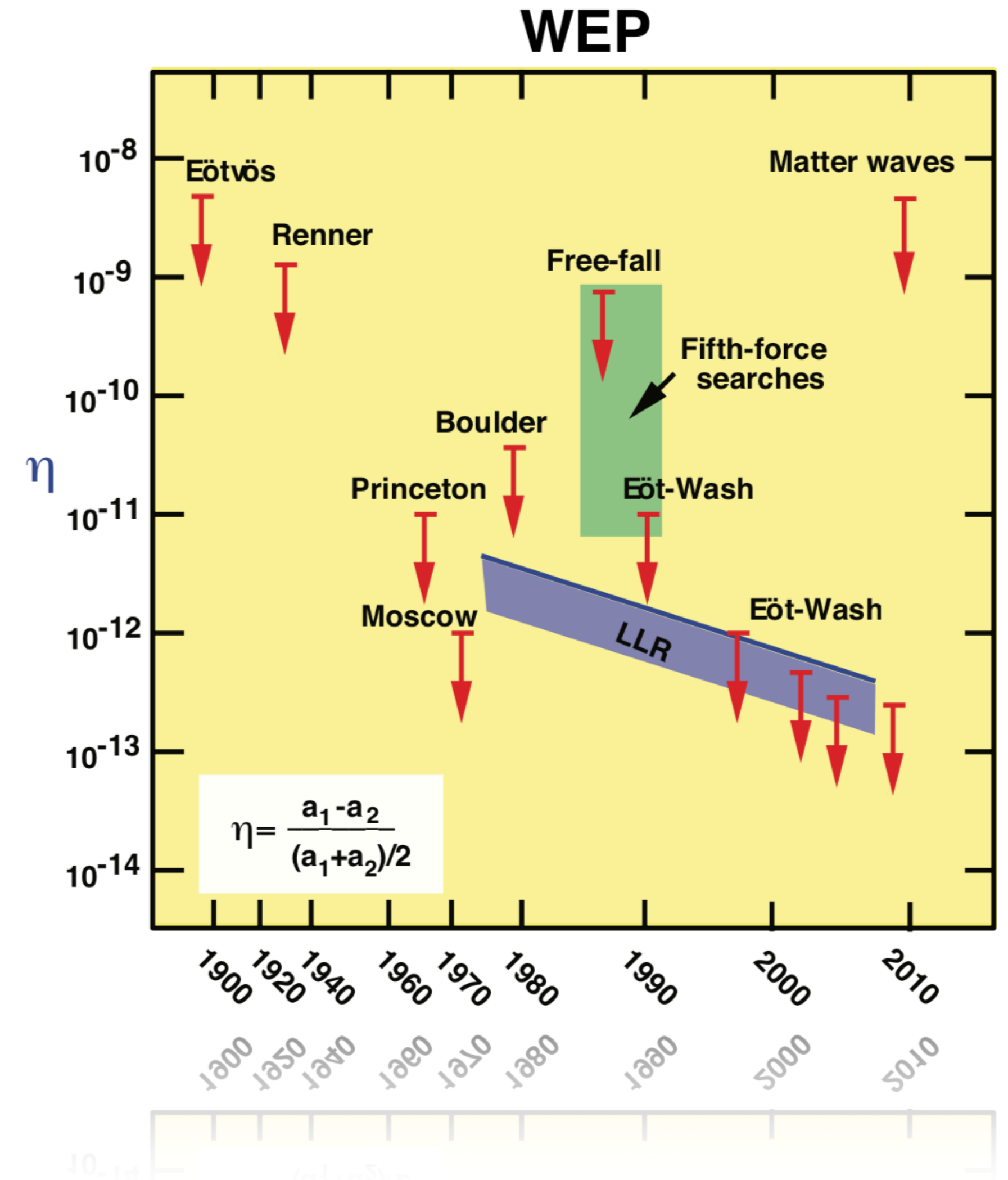
- Universality of free-fall established by Galileo (~450 years go) and Newton
- Weak equivalence principle starting point for Einstein's theory of general relativity (~100 years ago)

Einstein's equivalence principle (EEP) extensively tested experimentally

- WEP

Torsion balance:

$$\eta = \frac{a_1 - a_2}{(a_1 + a_2)/2} > 10^{-13}$$





# Motivations for testing gravity with antihydrogen atoms

## But gravity is a peculiar force

Very weak force

Lack of consistent quantum treatment

## Gravity on antimatter has “never” been directly tested

“Peculiarity” of antimatter :

non detection of primordial antimatter

&

lack of experimental hints for the justification of baryon asymmetry

## Need for a free-fall experiment on antimatter

electric field:

gravitational field:

$\mathbf{F} = q \cdot \mathbf{E}$	$\mathbf{F} = m \cdot \mathbf{G}$
$ \mathbf{E}  \propto \frac{Q}{r^2}$	$ \mathbf{G}  \propto \frac{M}{r^2}$
$ \mathbf{a}  \propto q$	$ \mathbf{a}  = \text{const}$



# Motivations for testing gravity with antihydrogen atoms

## What implications if antimatter behaves differently than matter in a gravitational field?

- GR and WEP would have to be broken?

validity well tested on matter but not on antimatter

accelerating expansion of the universe requires dark energy (composition of the universe) but could it be a sign for the need of revised theory?

- New forces : scalar or vector mediators would not necessarily invalidate GR (if similar magnitude cancellation for matter-matter but not for matter-antimatter)

Example:

$$V = -\frac{Gm_1m_2}{r} (1 \mp a e^{-r/v} + b e^{-r/s})$$

a: Gravivector, b: Gravisclar

- attractive (matter-matter)

+: repulsive: matter-antimatter

matter experiments:  $|a-b|$

antimatter:  $a+b$



# Motivations for testing gravity with antihydrogen atoms

## Existing indirect bounds

Michael Martin Nieto, T. Goldman,  
Physics Reports, Volume 205, Issue 5, 1991, Pages 221-281,  
[https://doi.org/10.1016/0370-1573\(91\)90138-C](https://doi.org/10.1016/0370-1573(91)90138-C).

Mark Fischler, Joe Lykken, Tom Roberts  
[arXiv.org > hep-th > arXiv:0808.3929v1](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/0808.3929v1)

GR effect of gravitational redshift

i.e. clocks frequency appear different for an observer in a gravitational potential

cyclotron frequencies of particles are like clocks, so if  $\bar{g} \neq g$ , the cyclotron frequency (of  $\bar{p}$  and  $p$  for example) experimentally observed will be different by  $(1 - \frac{\bar{g}}{g}) \frac{GM}{Rc^2}$

cyclotron frequencies of antiproton and proton measured to ppb precision but :

- “arbitrariness” of the definition of the “absolute gravitational potential” (which sets the upper bound on anomalous antimatter gravity)
- assumes CPT invariance

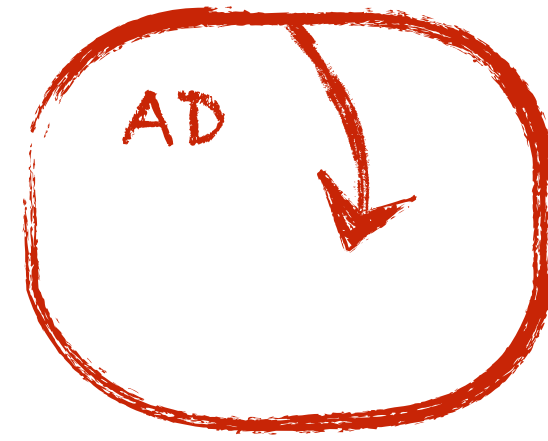
## Need for a free-fall experiment on antimatter

an experiment that drop, throw or deflect and measure resulting force  
(i.e. independent of framework)

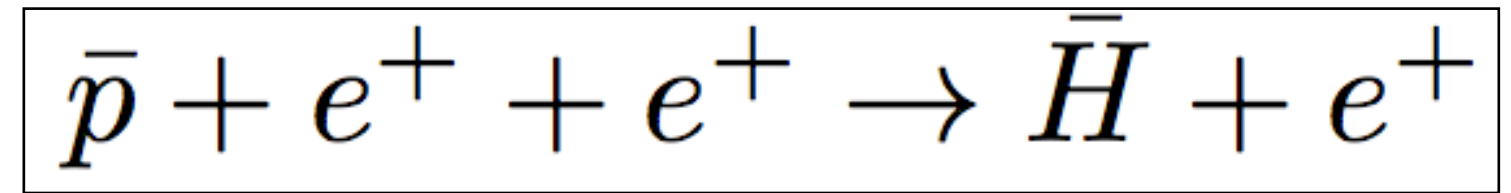
Need antimatter!  
preferentially long-lived, “easily” produced :  $\bar{p}$ ,  $e^+$   
Attempted on those (charged) but too difficult to control  
stray-fields at a high enough level of precision  
 $(F_G/F_{EM} \sim 10^{-36})$   
**anti-neutrons?**  
Cannot be easily cooled like neutrons (at  $T \sim 1K$ ,  $v \sim 140 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ )



# Formation of antihydrogen atoms: several approaches

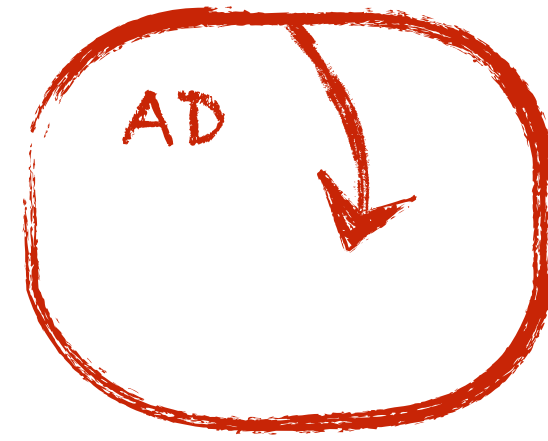


$\bar{p}$

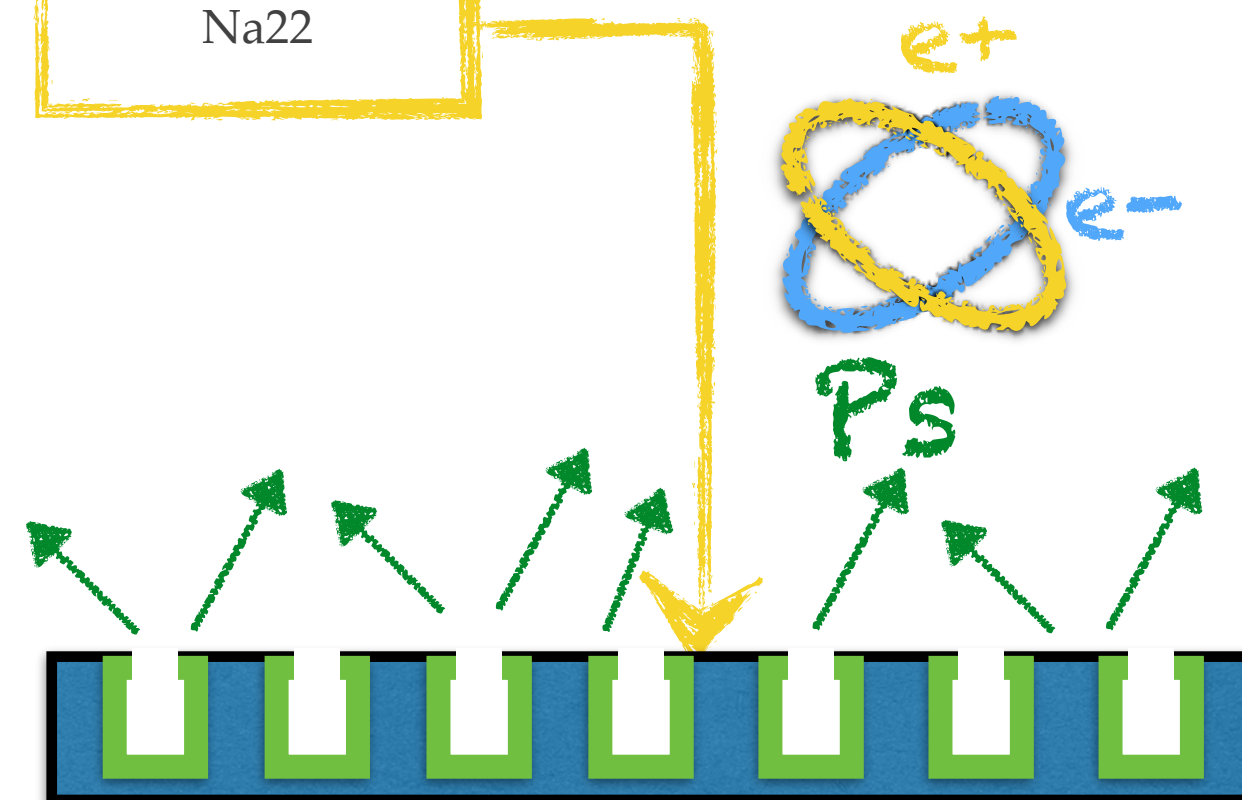
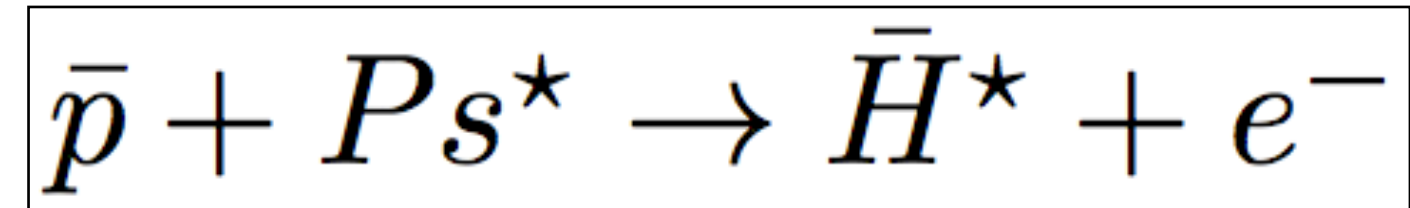
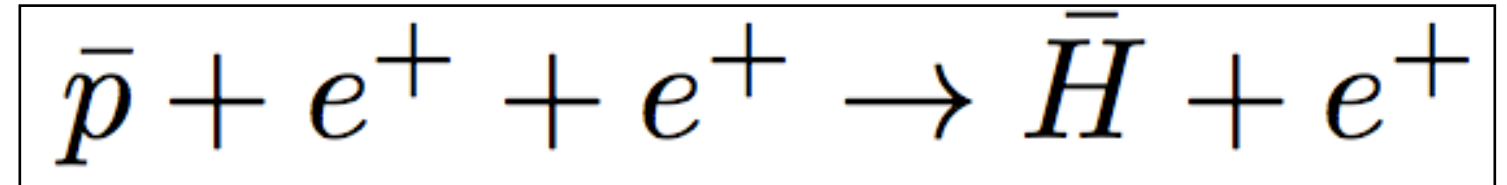




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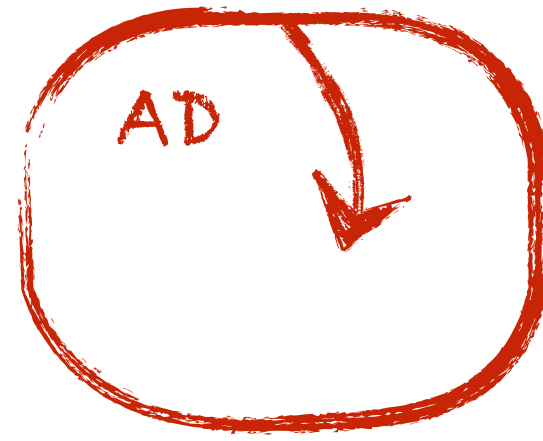


$\bar{p}$

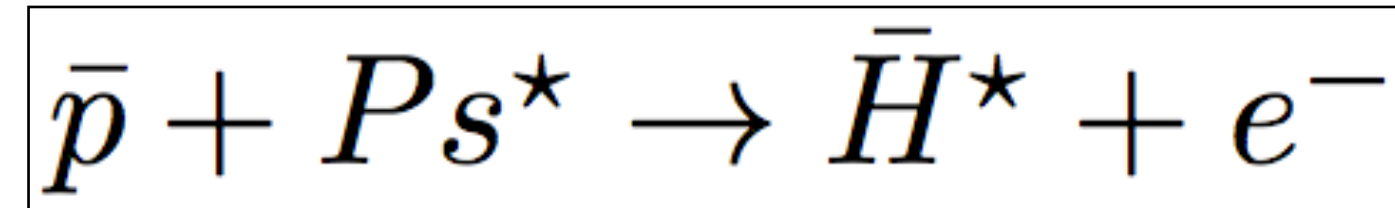
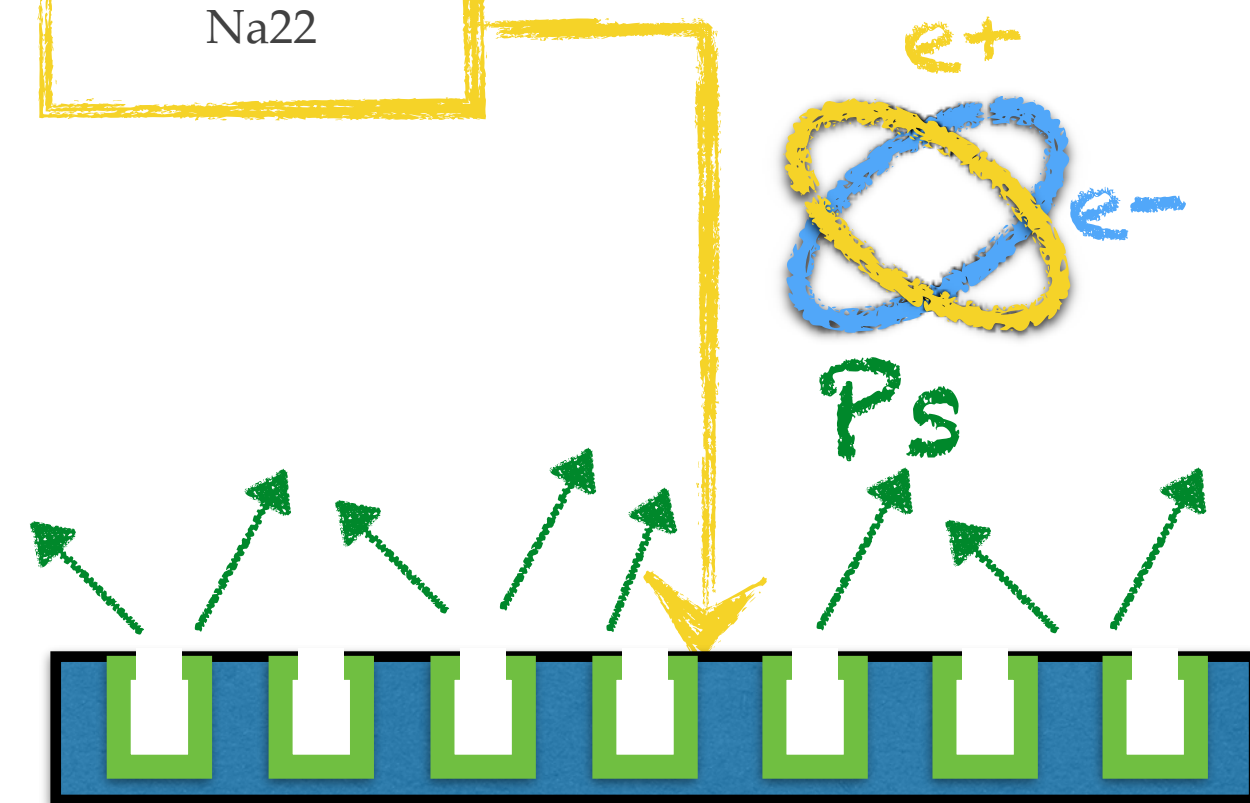
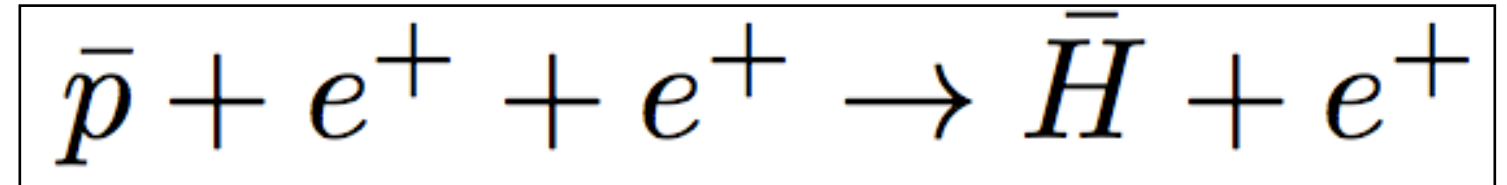




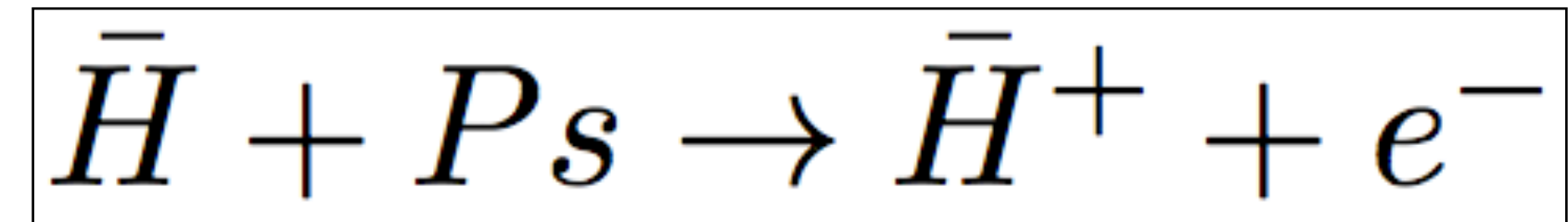
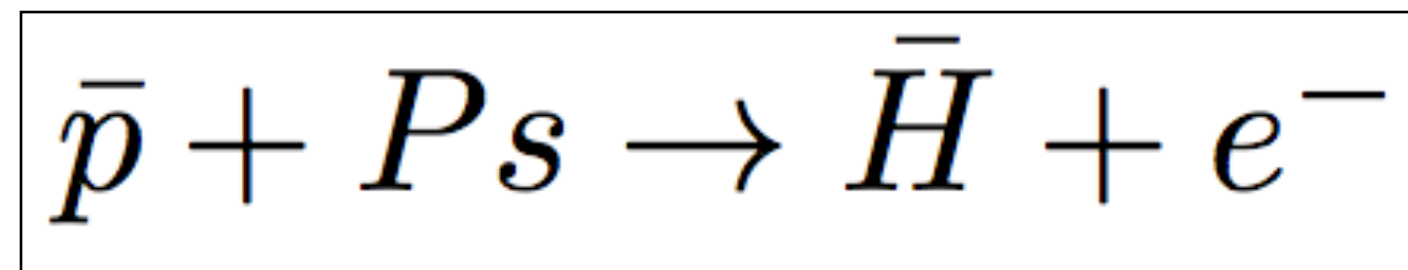
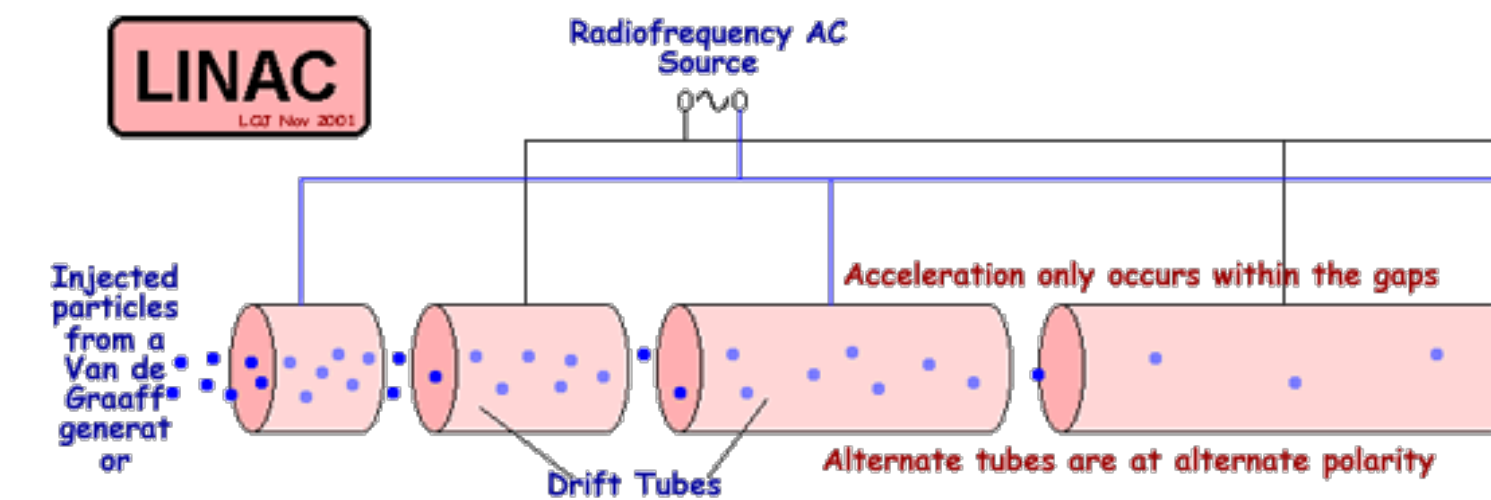
# Formation of antihydrogen atoms: several approaches



$\bar{p}$



Antihydrogen ION !

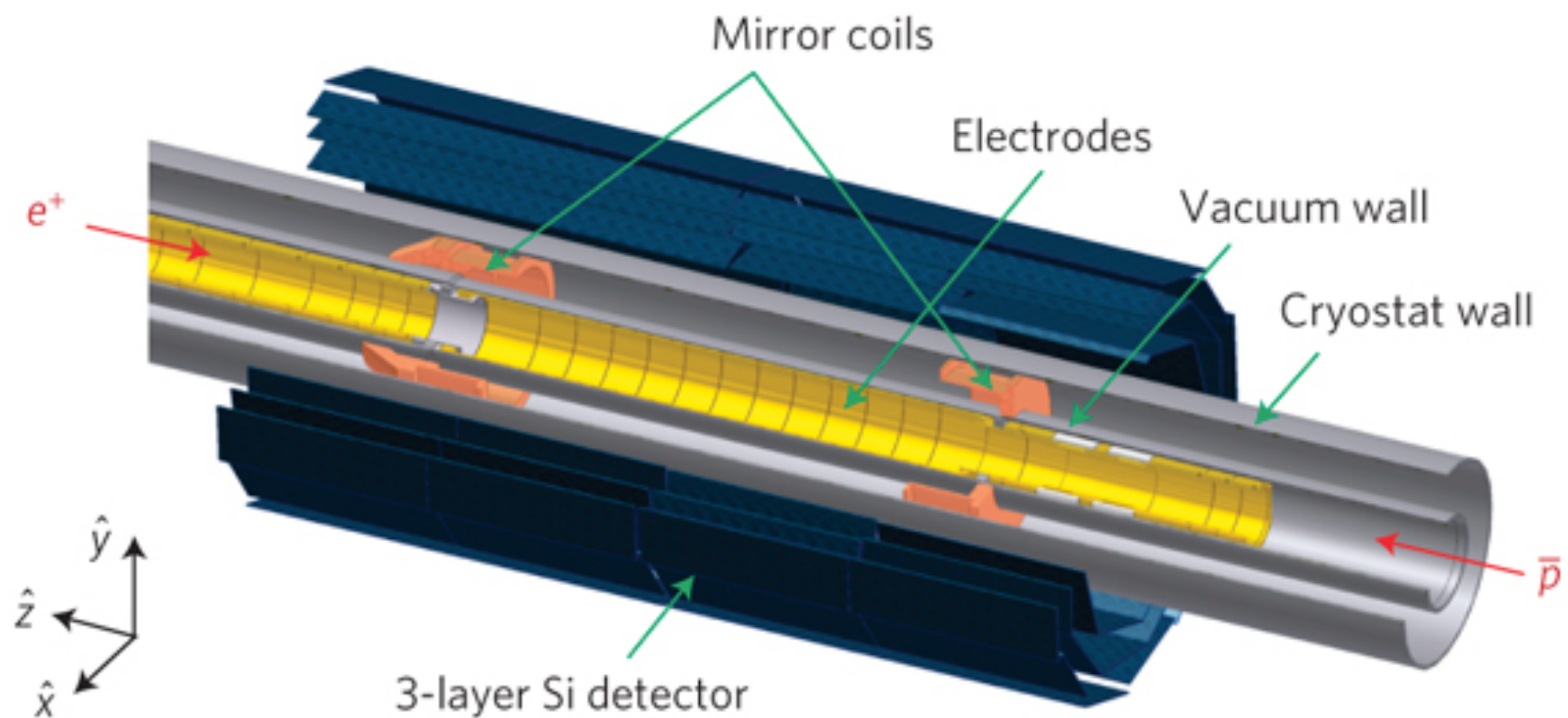




# Status of the field

ALPHA

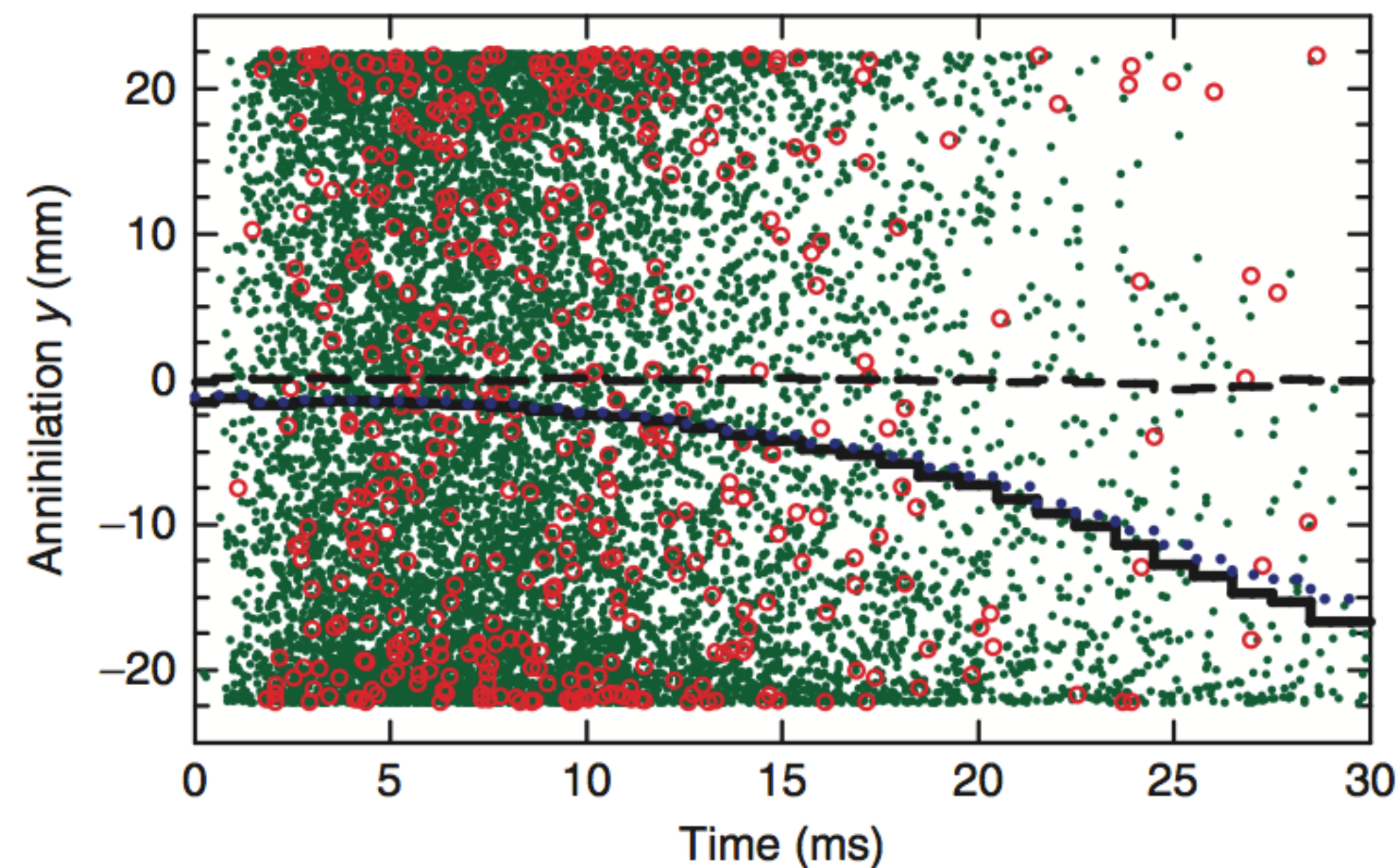
First direct measurement in 2012 (in a magnetic trap!)



$$-65 < g/\bar{g} < 110$$

C. Amole et al. Nature Communications 4, 1785 (2013)

Vertical position of annihilation vertex during release of trapping field



Green dots---simulated annihilations

Red circles---434 Observed annihilations

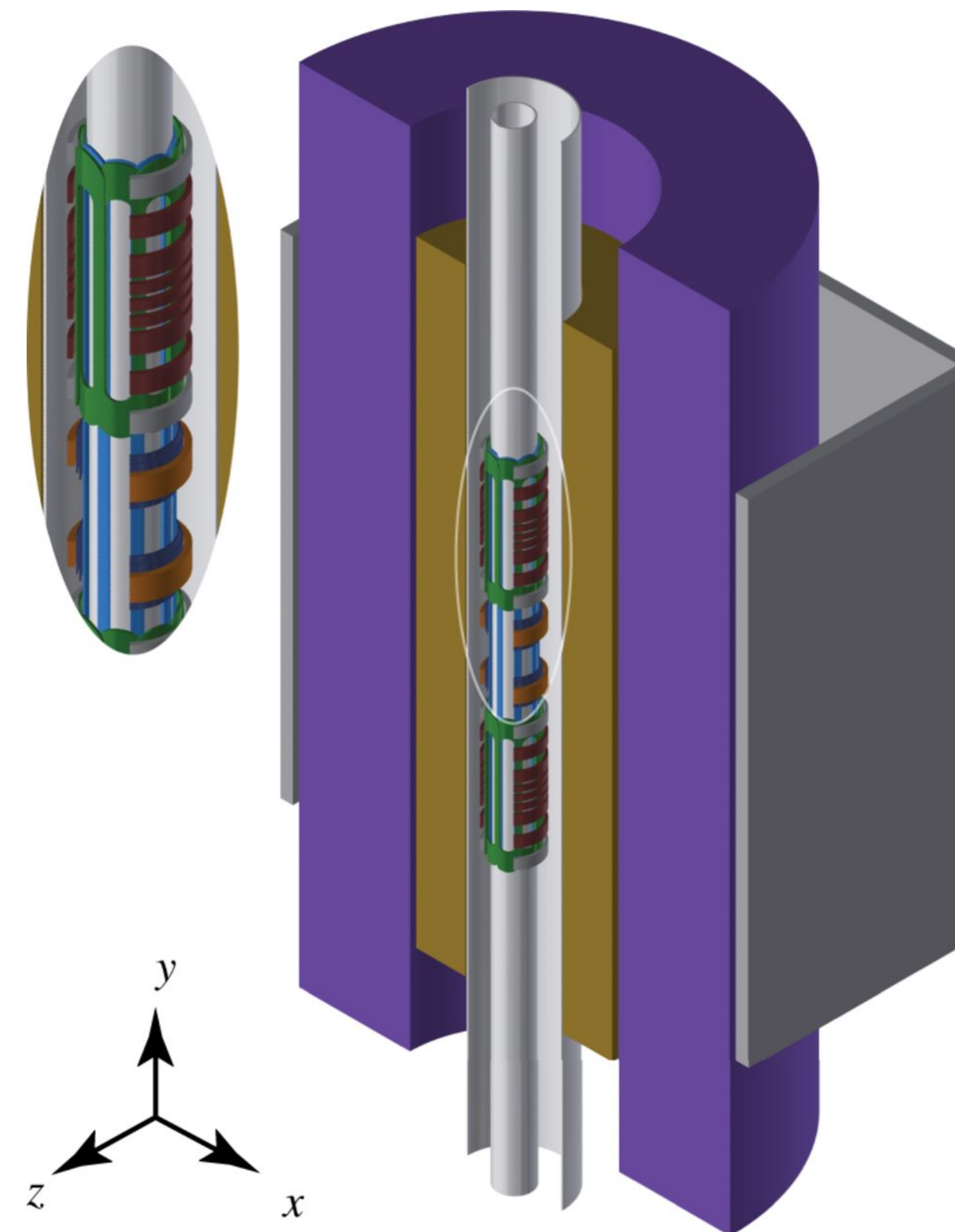


# Status of the field

Now commissioning a VERTICAL TRAP

- increase sensitivity in up/down direction (up to 1.3m trapping range)
- much improved field control

**Sign measurement** planned rapidly  
1% targeted  $\bar{H}$  cooling to  $\sim 20$  mK  
and advanced magnetometry



## Article

# Laser cooling of antihydrogen atoms

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-03289-6>

Received: 21 July 2020

Accepted: 26 January 2021

Published online: 31 March 2021

Open access

 Check for updates

ARTICLE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-021-26086-1>

OPEN

Sympathetic cooling of positrons to cryogenic temperatures for antihydrogen production



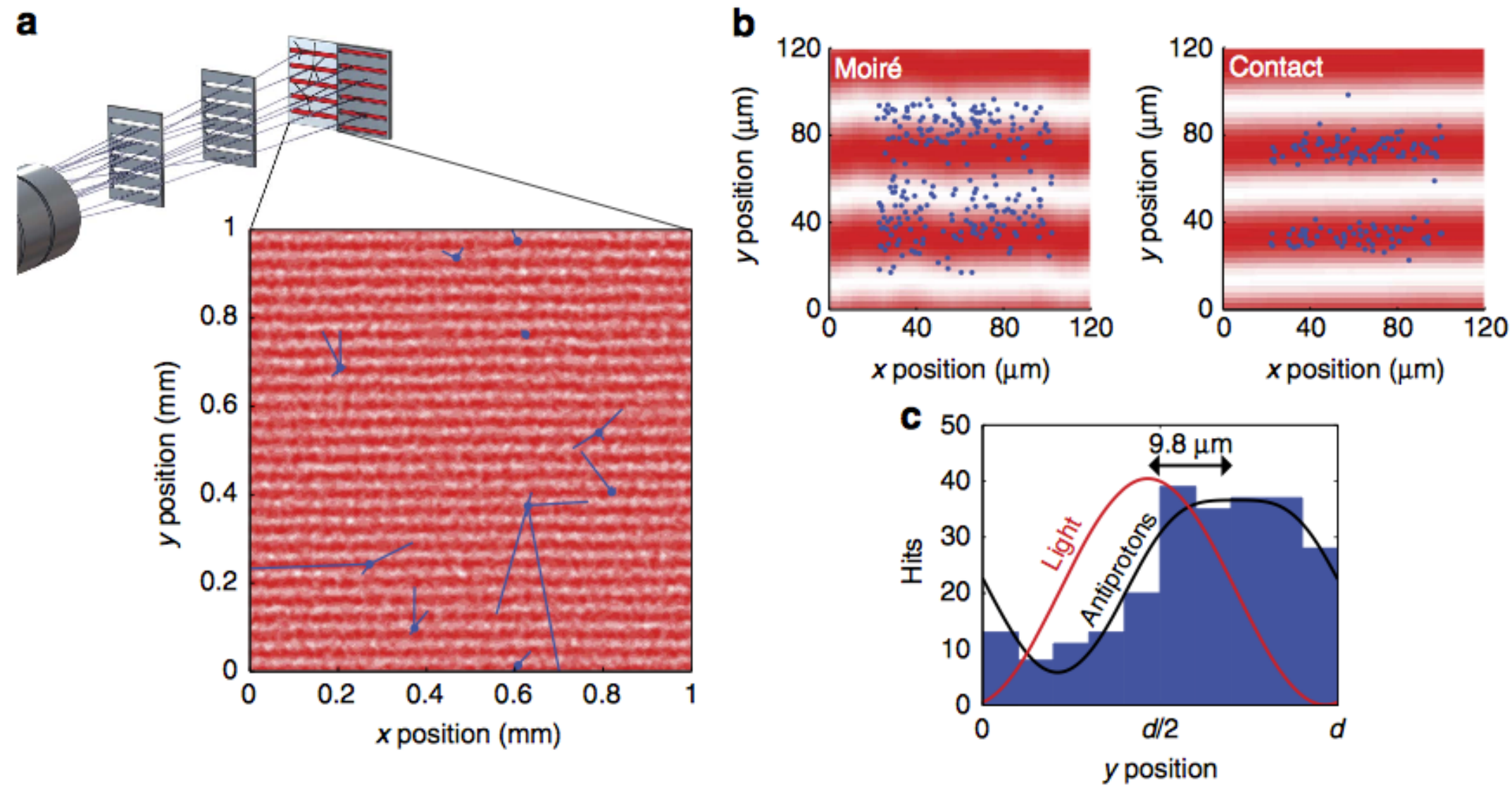
W. A. Bertsche *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. A* 2018 376 20170265; DOI: 10.1098/rsta.2017.0265. (2018)



# Status of the field

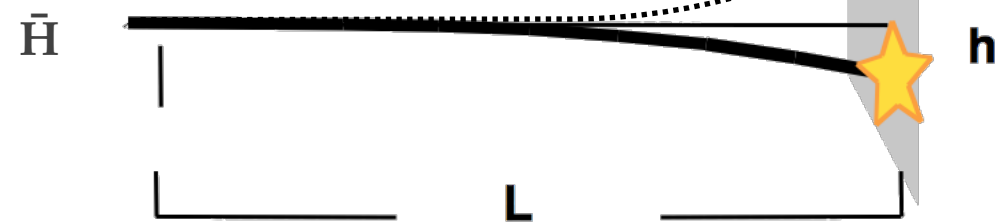
## AEGIS : DEFLECTOMETER

S. Aghion et al. Nature Communications 5 (2014) 4538



$$h = \frac{g}{2} \cdot \left( \frac{L}{v_h} \right)^2$$

$\sim 1-10\%$



Sensitivity to  $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$  deflection needed

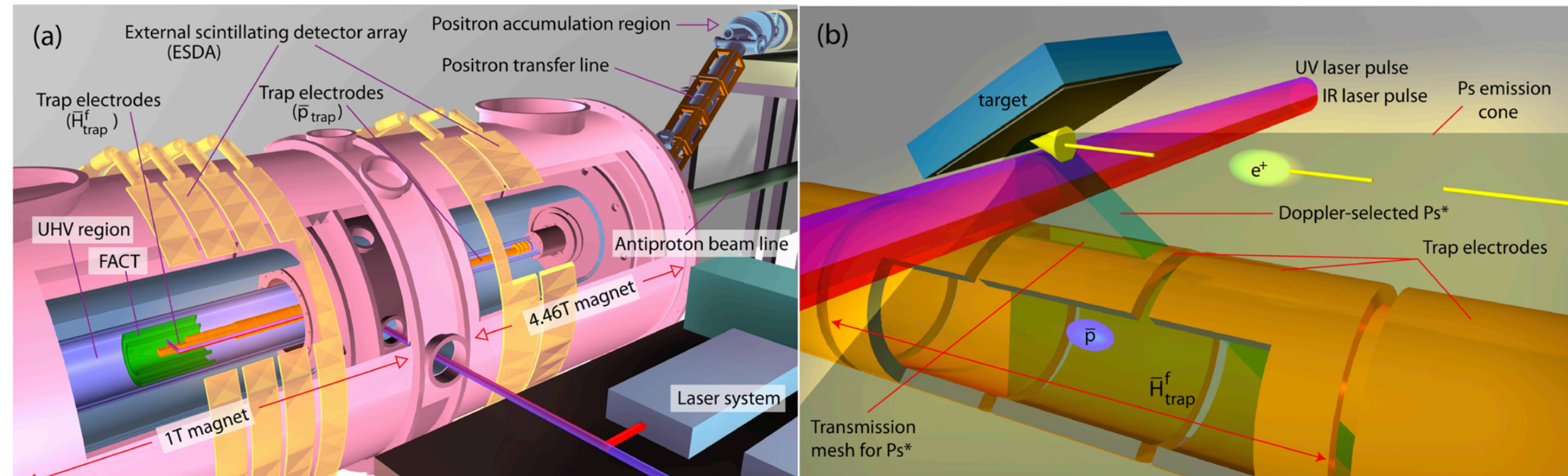
## Cold $\bar{H}$ production relying on sympathetic cooling of $\bar{p}$ via laser cooled anions or molecules

E. Jordan et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 115 113001 (2015)

P. Yzombard et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 114 213001 (2015)

## Recent demonstration of pulsed formation of $\bar{H}$

Communications Physics, volum 4, Article number: 19 (2021)



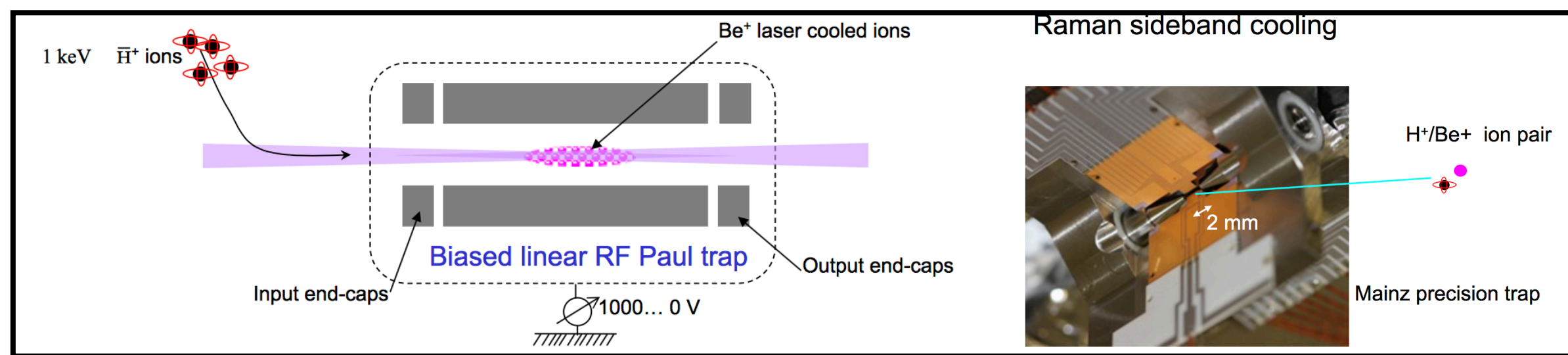


# Status of the field

## GBAR : USING $\bar{H}^+$

- will produce first ever  $\bar{H}^+$  ion
- will bring antimatter to the coldest temperature ever achieved (by several orders of magnitude)

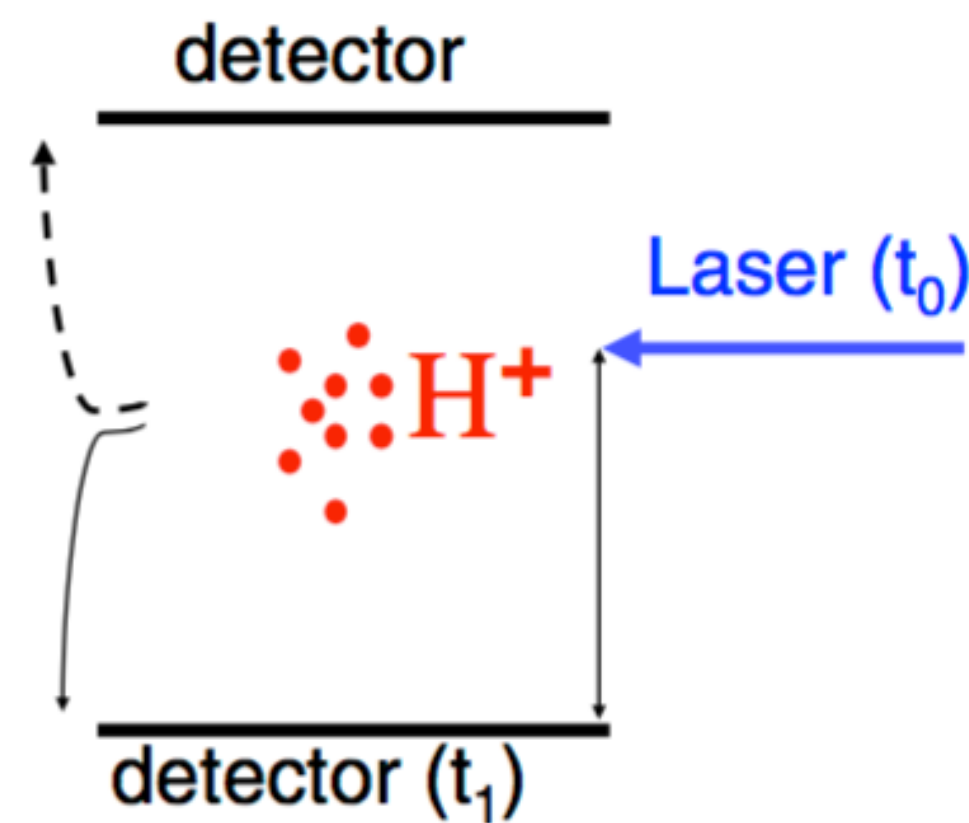
## Cooling below 1 m/s : Sympathetic cooling of $\bar{H}^+$



## GBAR : DROPPING EXPERIMENT

$\sim 1\%$

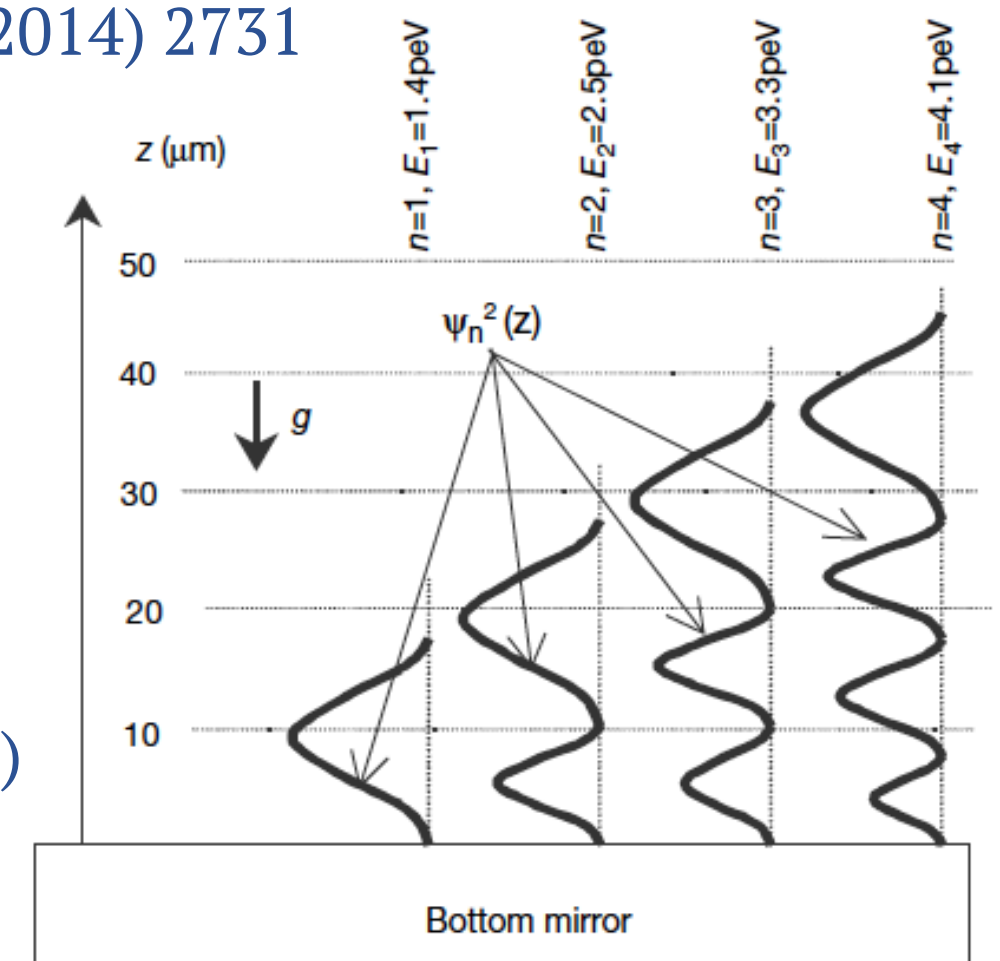
gravity



CASIMIR EFFECT (QUANTUM REFLECTIONS)  
 ---> spectroscopy of gravitational states!

$\sim 0.1\%$

G. Dufour et al., Eur. Phys. J. C 74 (2014) 2731



**Figure 1** Wavefunctions of the quantum states of neutrons in the potential well formed by the Earth's gravitational field and the horizontal mirror. The probability of finding neutrons at height  $z$ , corresponding to the  $n$ th quantum state, is proportional to the square of the neutron wavefunction  $\psi_n^2(z)$ . The vertical axis  $z$  provides the length scale for this phenomenon.  $E_n$  is the energy of the  $n$ th quantum state.

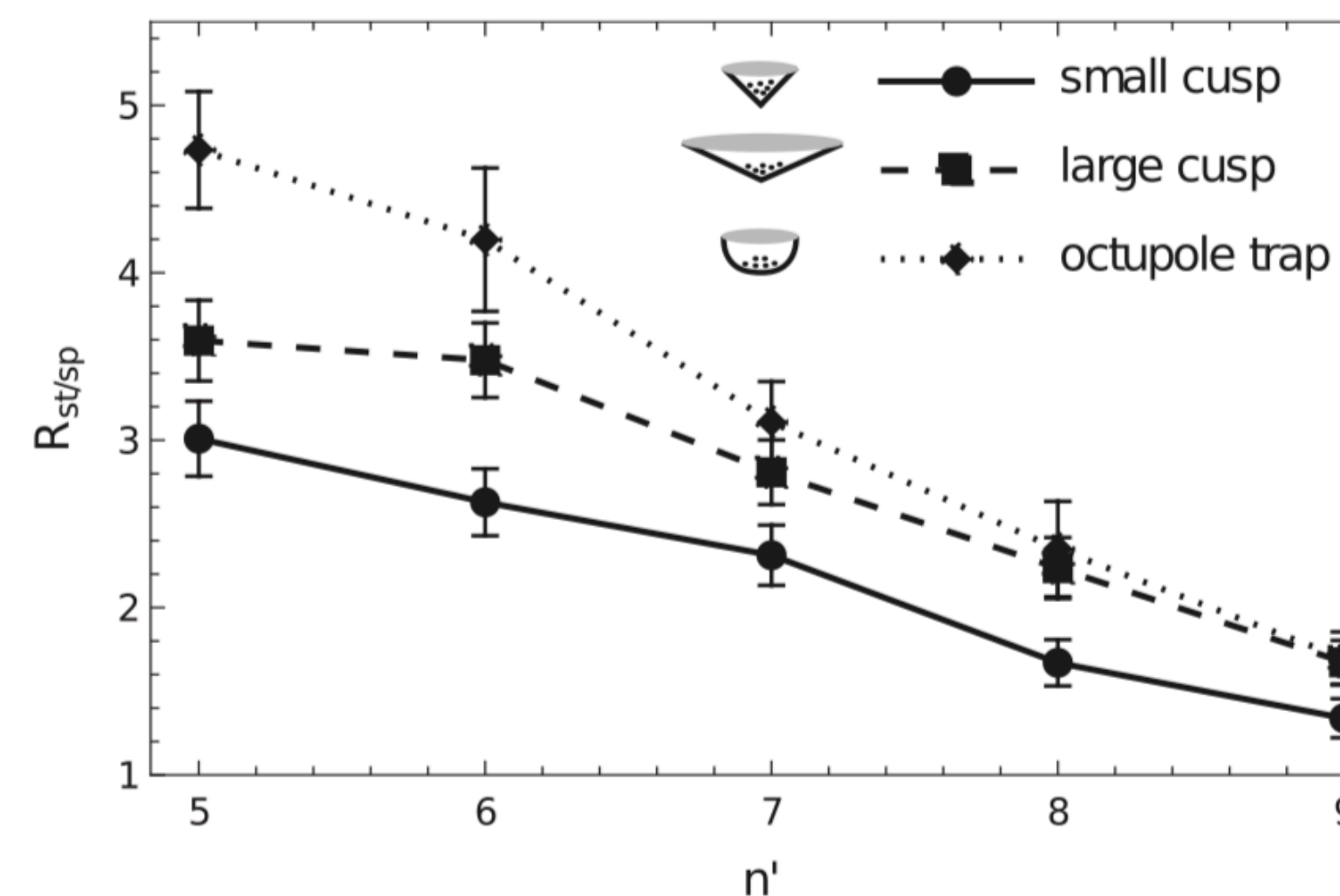
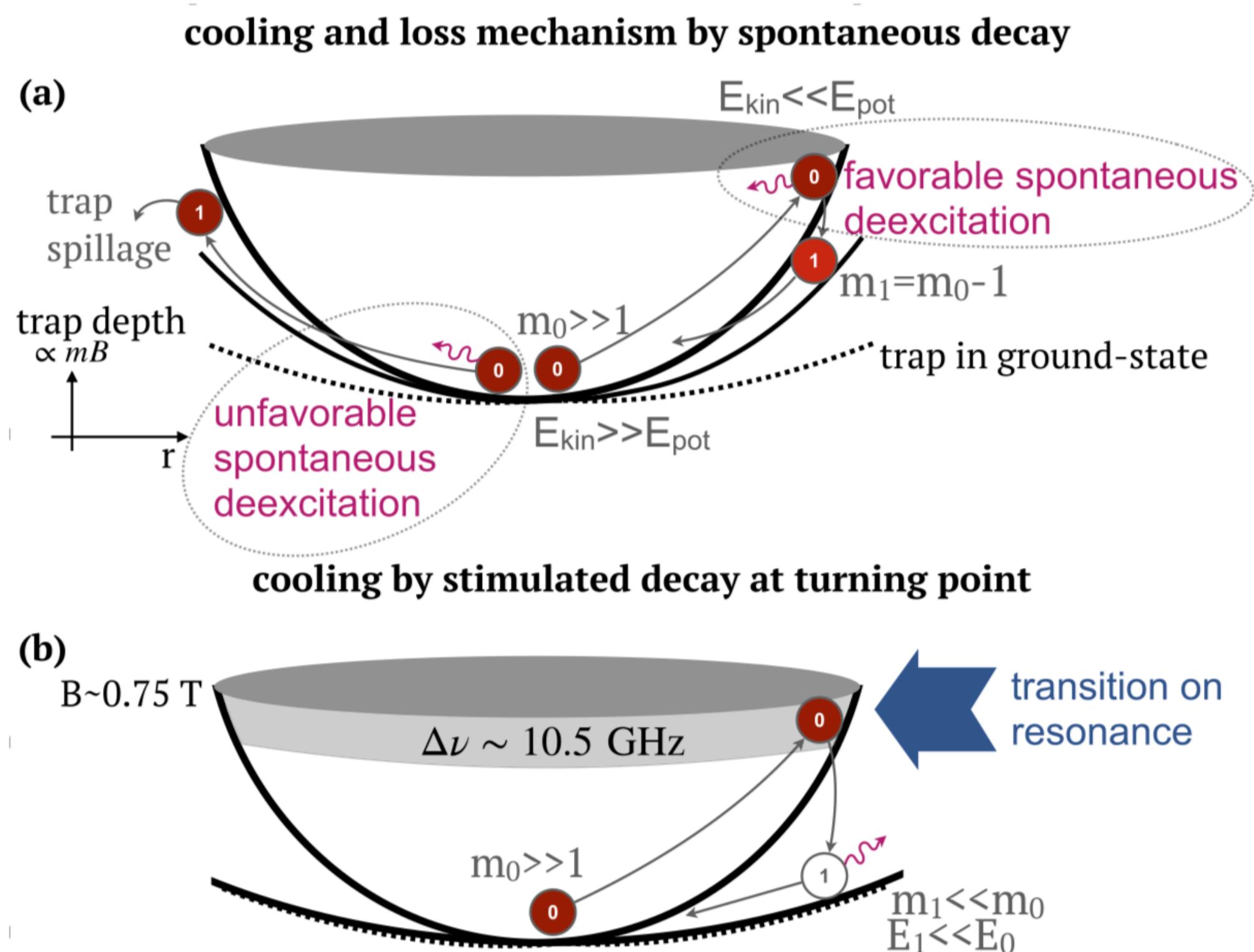
Already observed in cold neutrons

V. Nesvizhevsky et al., Nature, 415, 17 (2002)



# Status of the field

Study of alternative cooling mechanism in a neutral atom trap



**Figure 4.** Ratio of trapped atoms with and without THz-stimulated decay ( $R_{st/sp}$ ) as a function of  $n'$  for different trap configurations. The stimulated rate is  $\Gamma = 4 \times 10^7 \text{ s}^{-1}$ . The lines are a guide for the eye.

Adiabatic-like cooling by acting on the internal structure of the atoms at an appropriate place in the trap - increase the phase space density



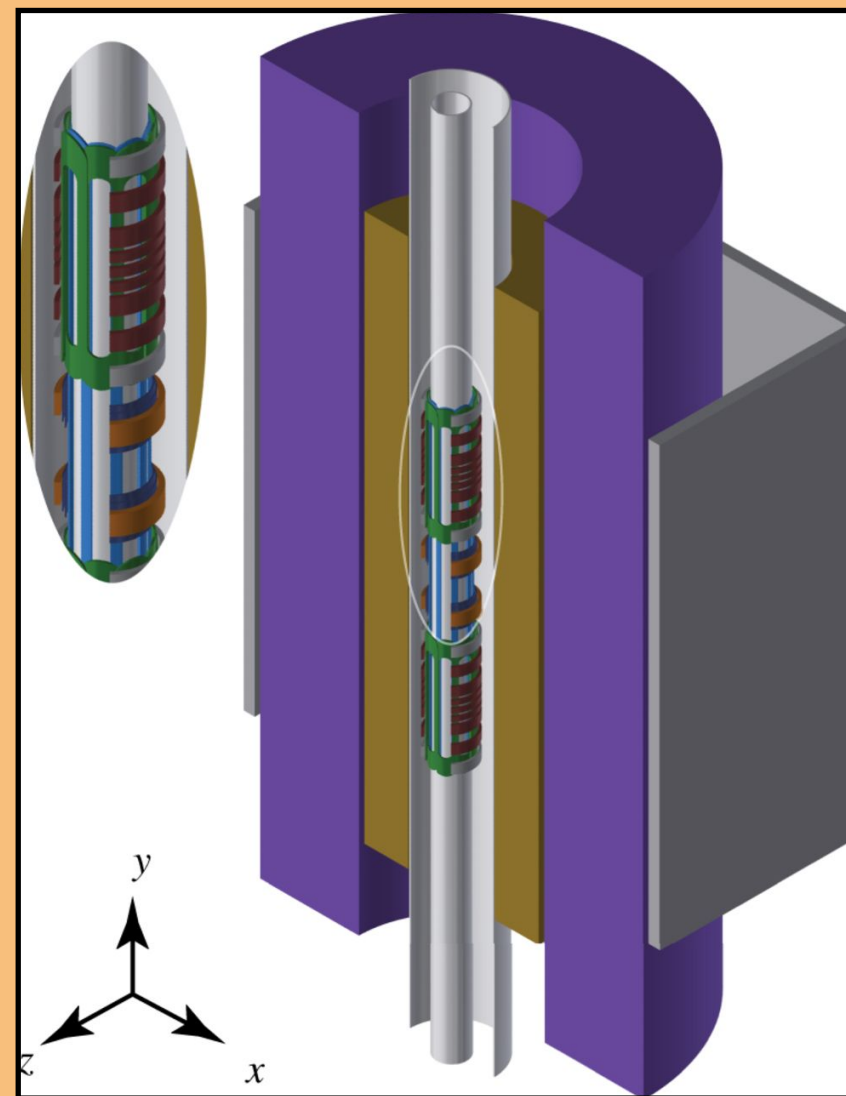
# Planned gravity measurements with antihydrogen atoms

## Plurality of approaches

### VERTICAL TRAP

- increase up/down sensitivity (up to 1.3m trapping range)
- much improved field control

**Sign measurement** planned soon  
1% targeted  $\bar{H}$  cooling to  $\sim 20$  mK and advanced magnetometry

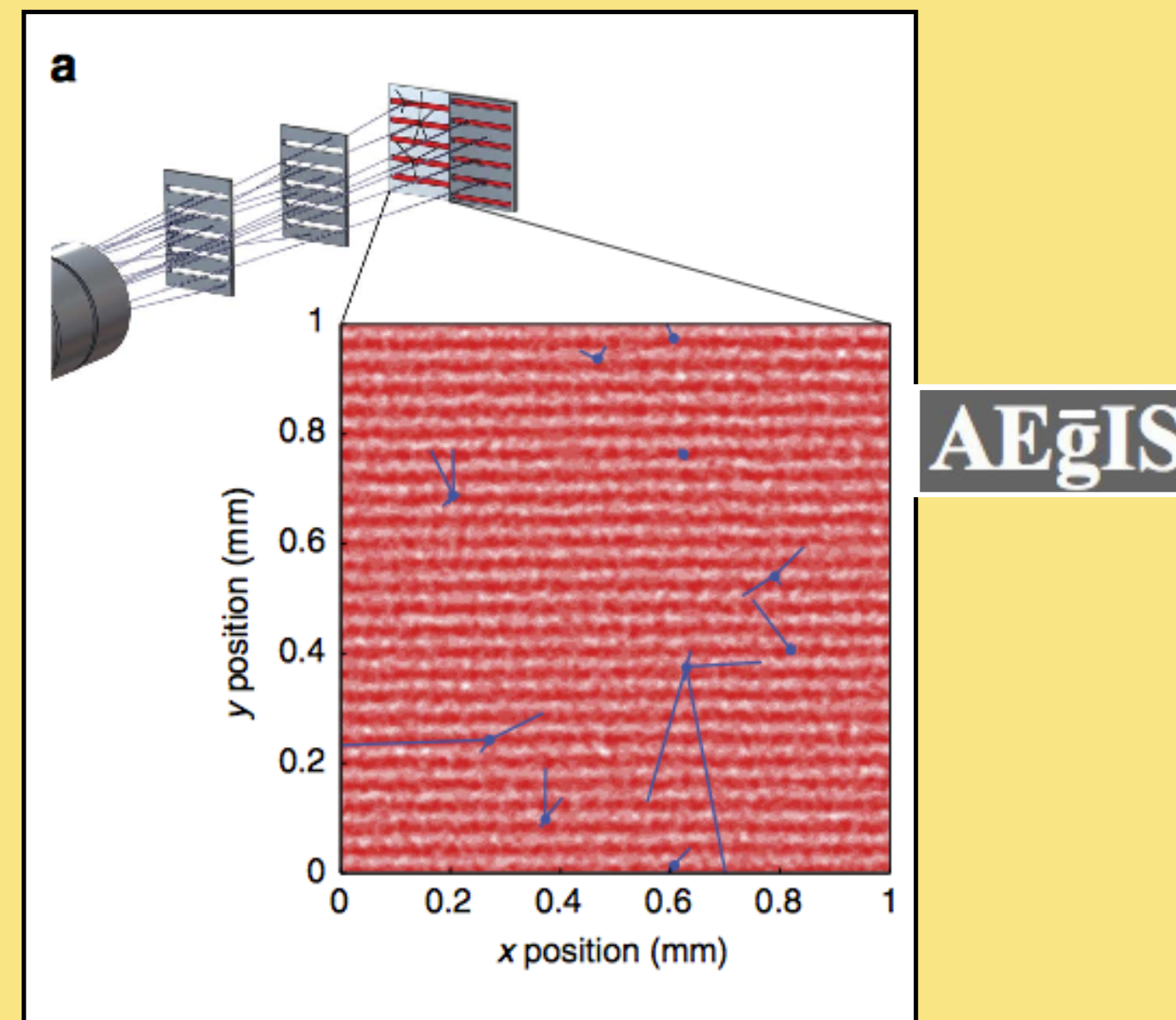


ALPHA  $\alpha$   
(ALPHA-g)

### $\bar{H}$ BEAM

- Sensitivity to  $\sim 10$   $\mu\text{m}$  deflection needed
- cold antiproton translates in cold  $\bar{H}$  thanks to CE mechanism

**Sign measurement** targeted

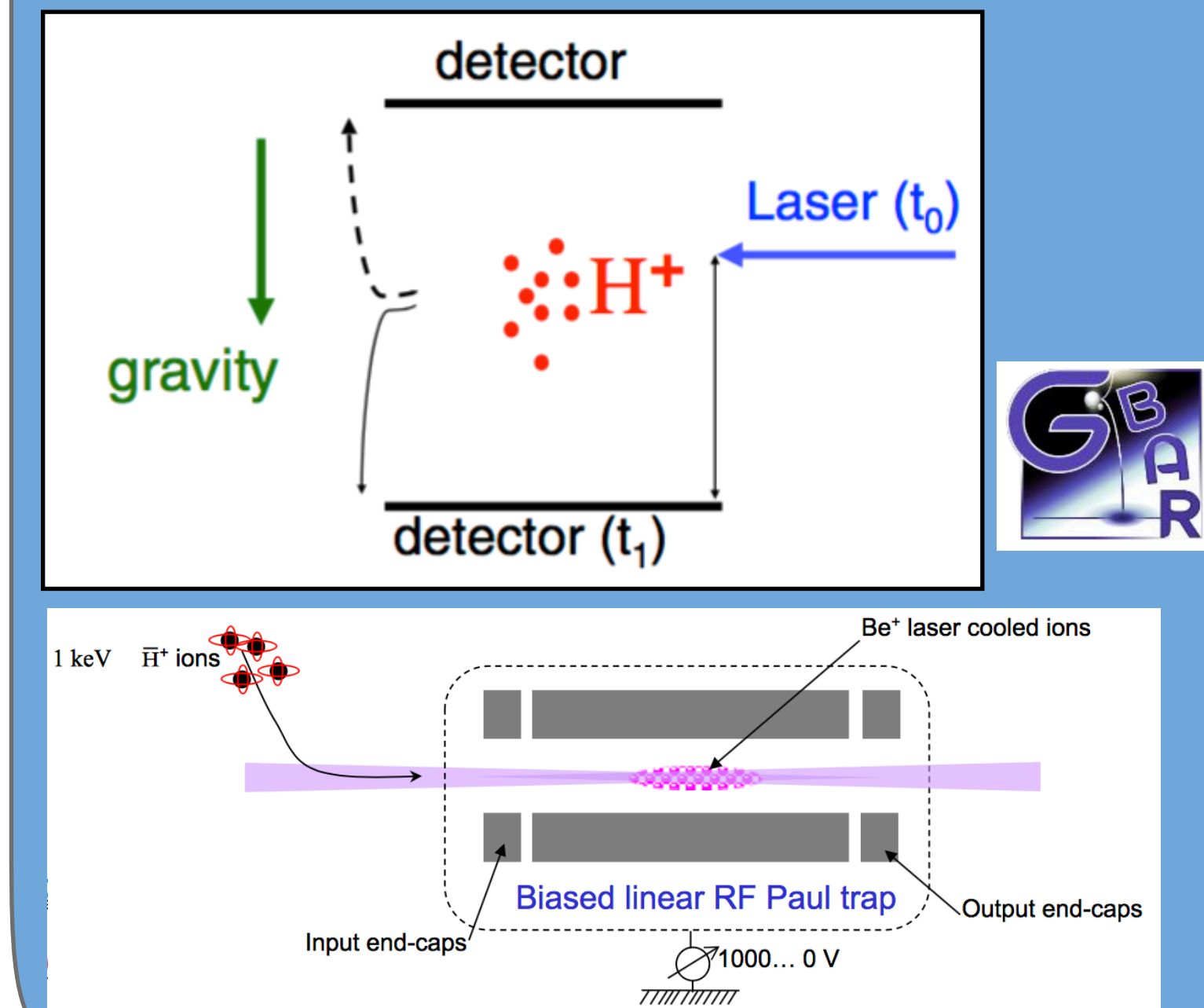


S. Aghion et al. Nature Communications 5 (2014) 4538

### $\bar{H}^+$ BEAM

- Cooling below 1 m/s : Sympathetic cooling of  $\bar{H}^+$
- opens new horizons

**1% measurement** targeted



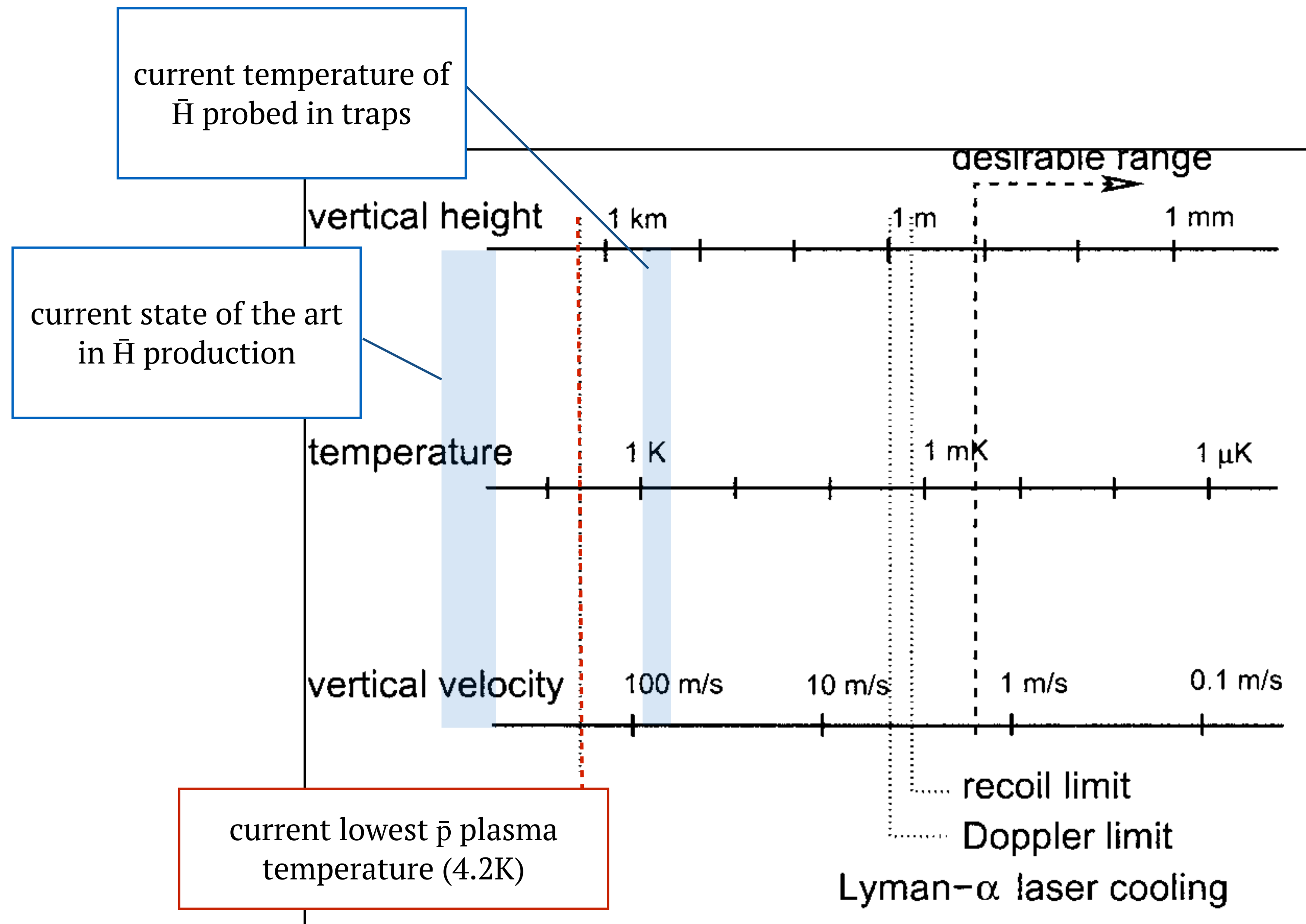
e.g.: The GBAR antimatter gravity experiment  
P. Pérez et al., Hyperfine Interactions 233, 21-27 (2015)





# Planned gravity measurements with antihydrogen atoms

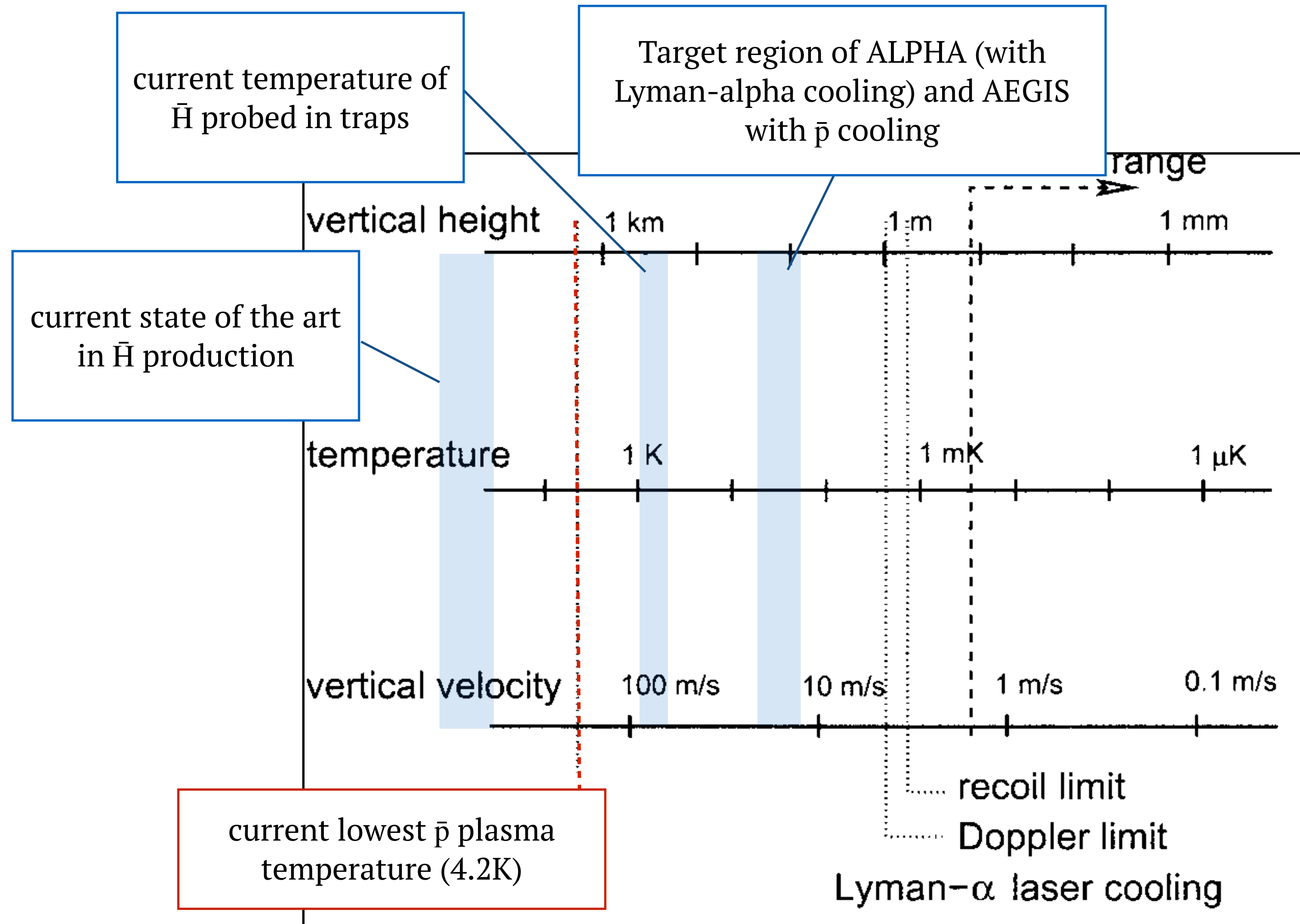
Some numbers to set the scale





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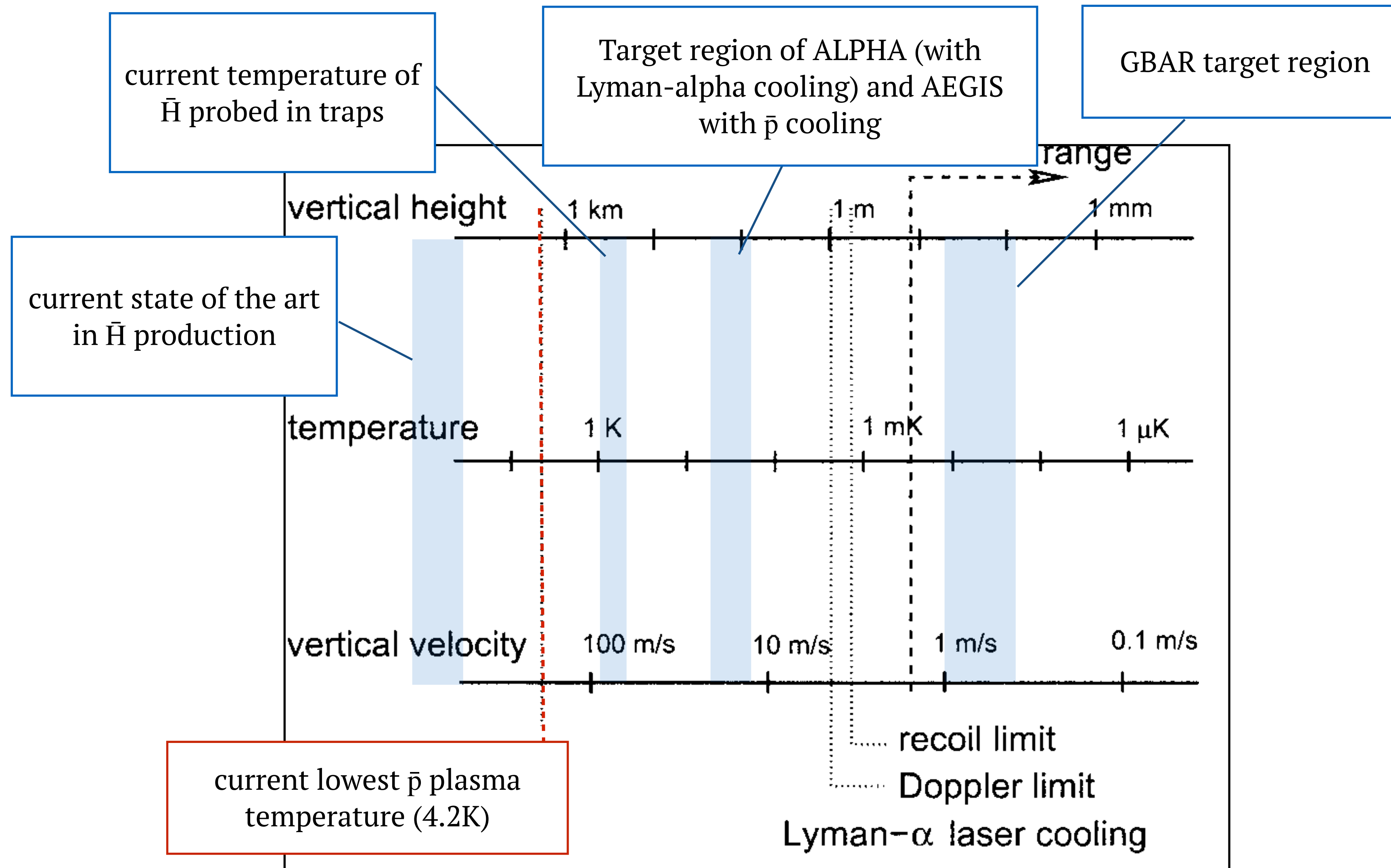
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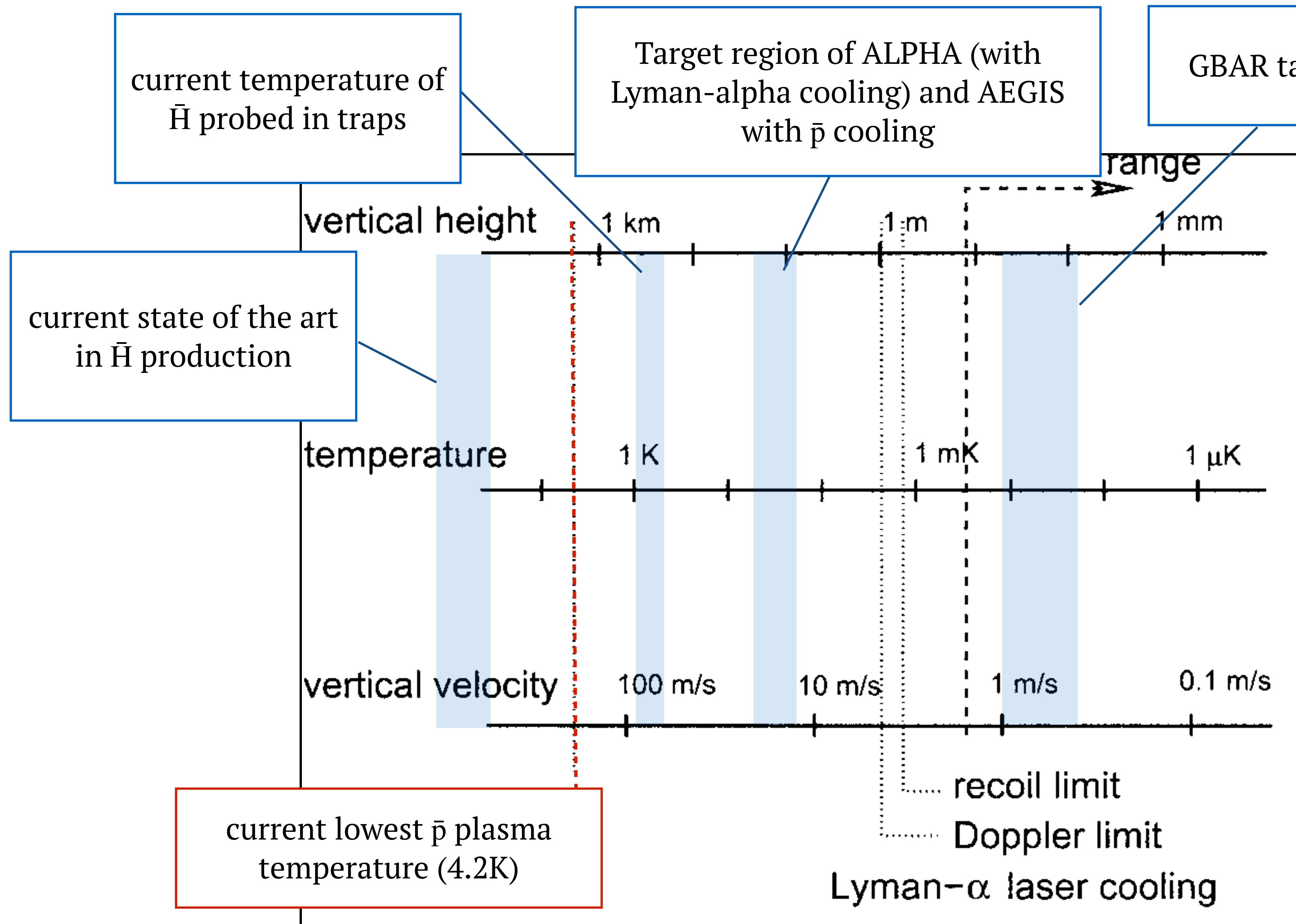
Some numbers to set the scale



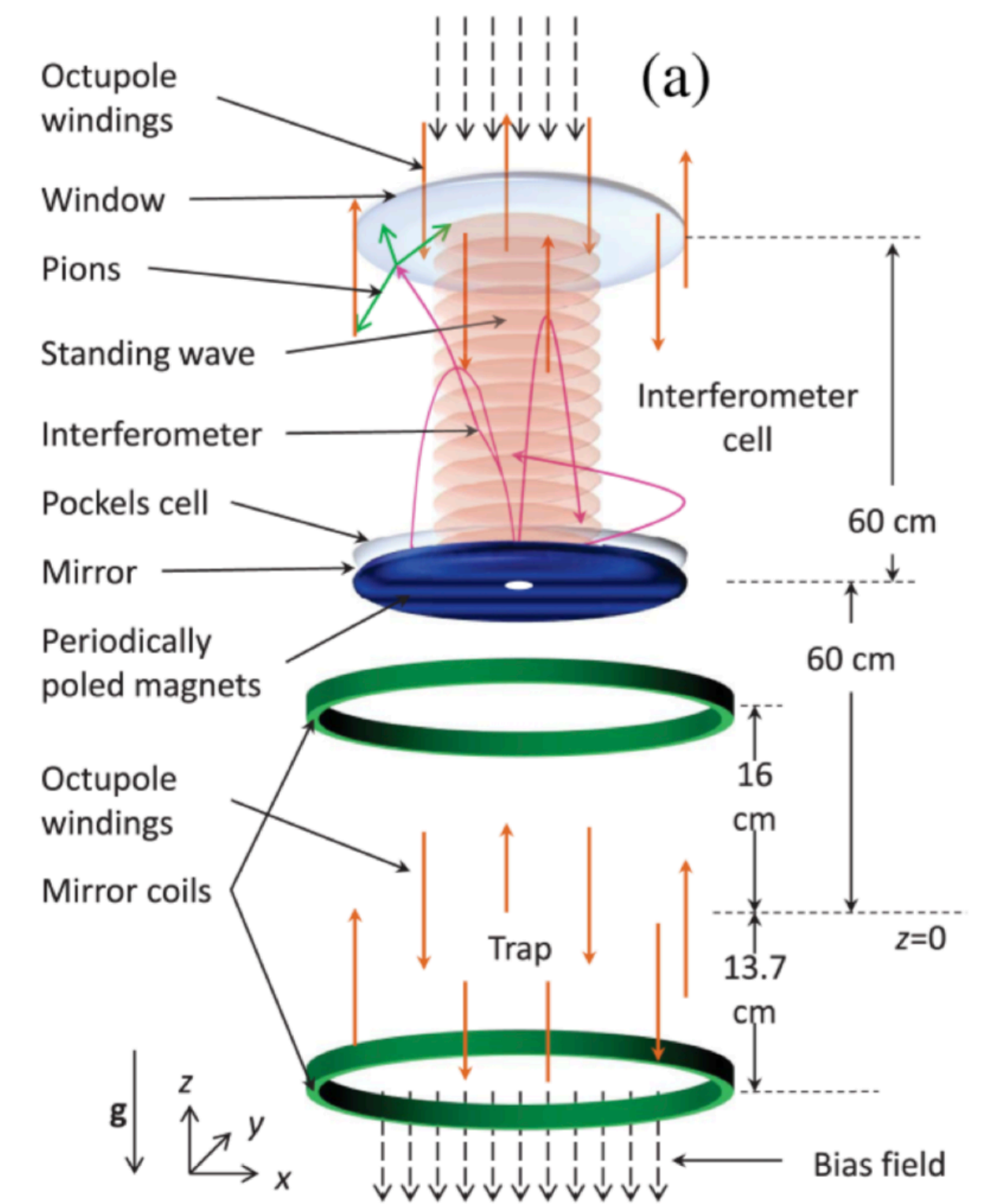


# Planned gravity measurements with antihydrogen atoms

Some numbers to set the scale



## Fountains Interferometry



DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.112.121102

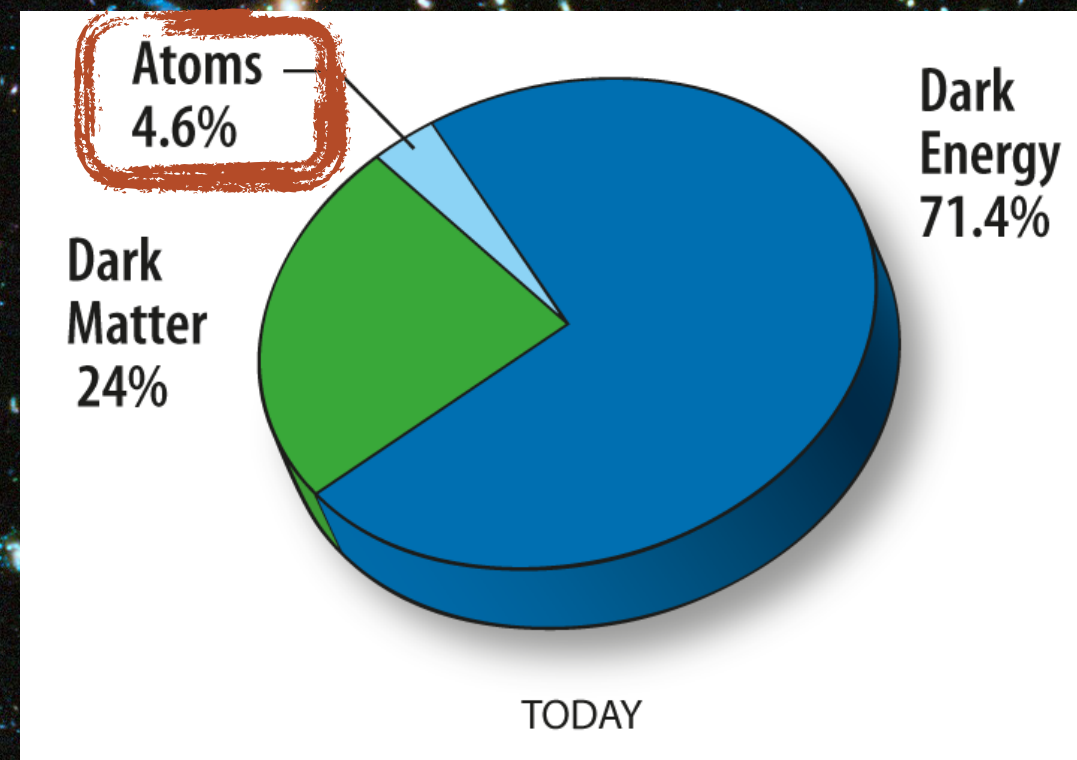
# Summary

- Uniqueness of the physics question addressed
- Calls for a direct measurement
- $\bar{H}$  is a tool of choice for such a measurement
- Three collaborations at CERN/AD are taking on the challenge
- A sign measurement is expected soon (~2022/2023)
- Diversity of approaches aims at tackling different sensitivities (with different systematics)
- Typical time-scales involved for new experiments and precision measurements are long (typically >10 years)
- Other “gravity” endeavours with antimatter : muonium ( $\mu^+e^-$ ), positronium ( $e^+e^-$ )  
Testing leptonic matter-antimatter systems  
Mu: Testing systems containing 2nd generation particles!



# Variety of searches for new physics with low energy antiprotons

Where are the anti-atoms??



## Strong baryon asymmetry in the universe

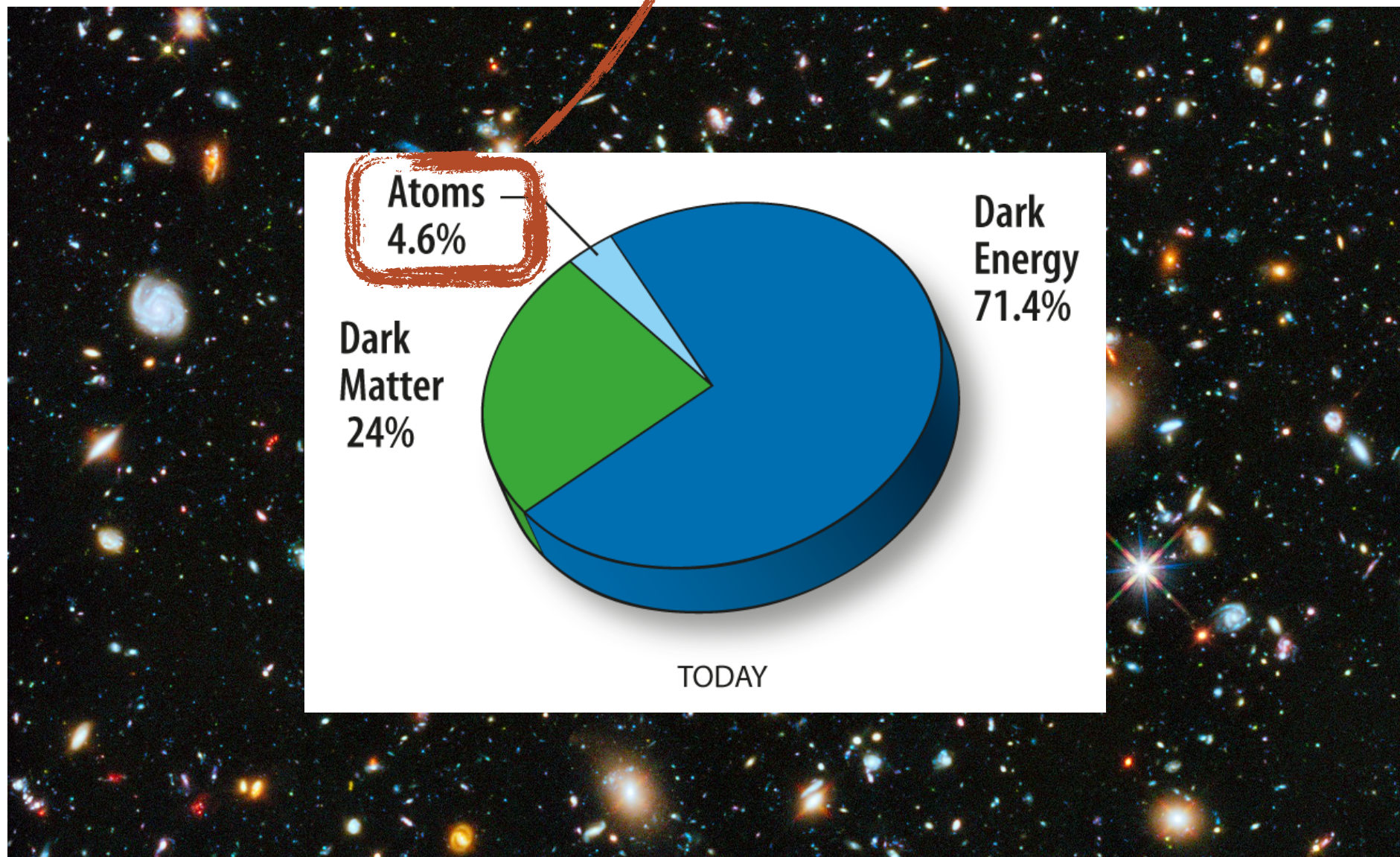
originating from a  $\sim 10^{-10}$  imbalance

CP violation in the SM is by far not enough to explain this imbalance



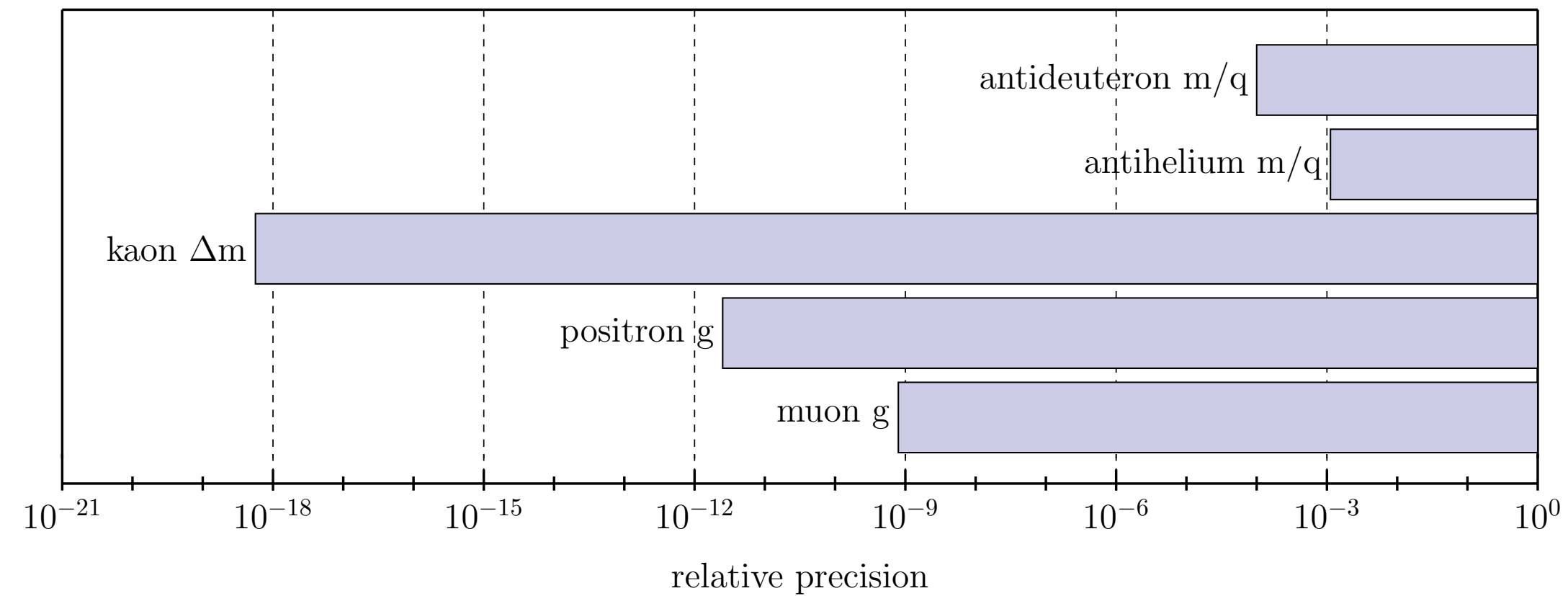
# Variety of searches for new physics with low energy antiprotons

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## baryon asymmetry:

Comparison of fundamental properties of simple baryonic and anti-baryonic systems at low energy and with high precision



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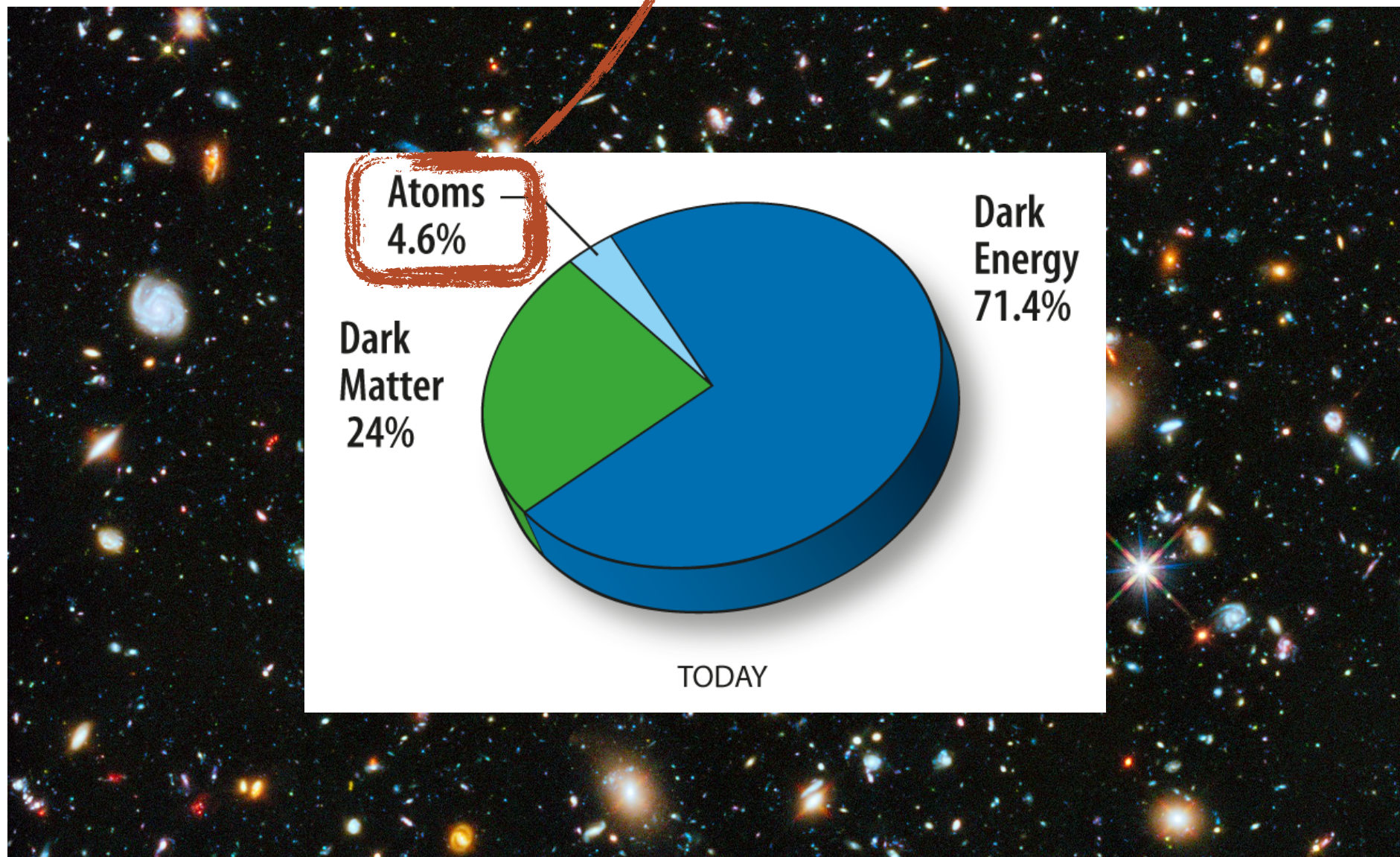
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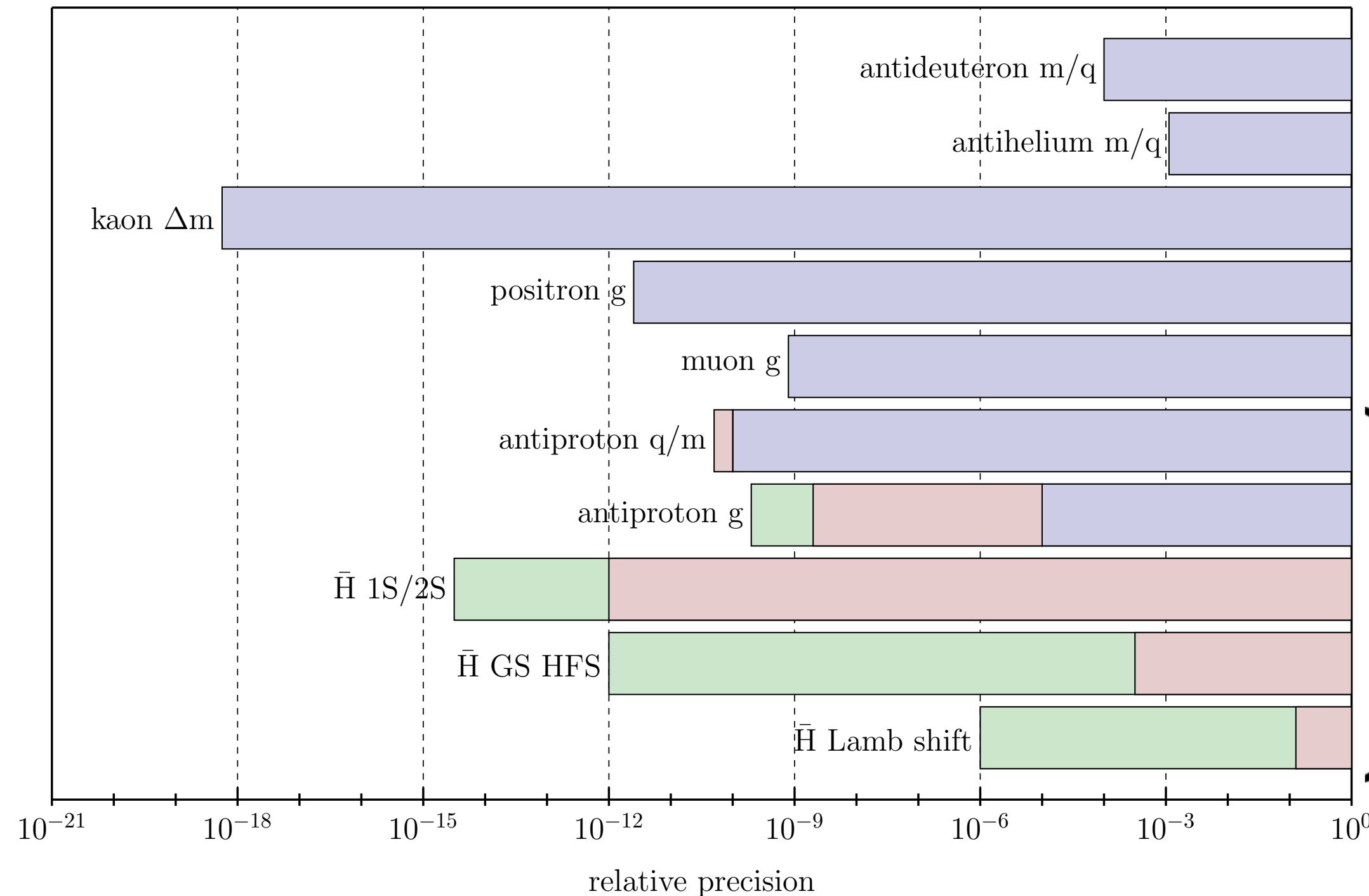
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## baryon asymmetry:

Comparison of fundamental properties of simple baryonic and anti-baryonic systems at low energy and with high precision



	relative precision	energy resolution [ev]
Kaon	$\sim 10^{-18}$	$\sim 10^{-9}$
$\bar{p}$ Q/M	$\sim 10^{-10}$	$\sim 10^{-18}$
$\bar{H}$ 1S-2S	$\sim 10^{-12}$	$\sim 10^{-11}$
$\bar{H}$ GS-HFS	$\sim 10^{-4}$	$\sim 10^{-10}$

In the SME framework absolute energy resolution matters  
A. Kostelecky and A. Vargas, Phys. Rev. D 92, 056002 (2015)

AD

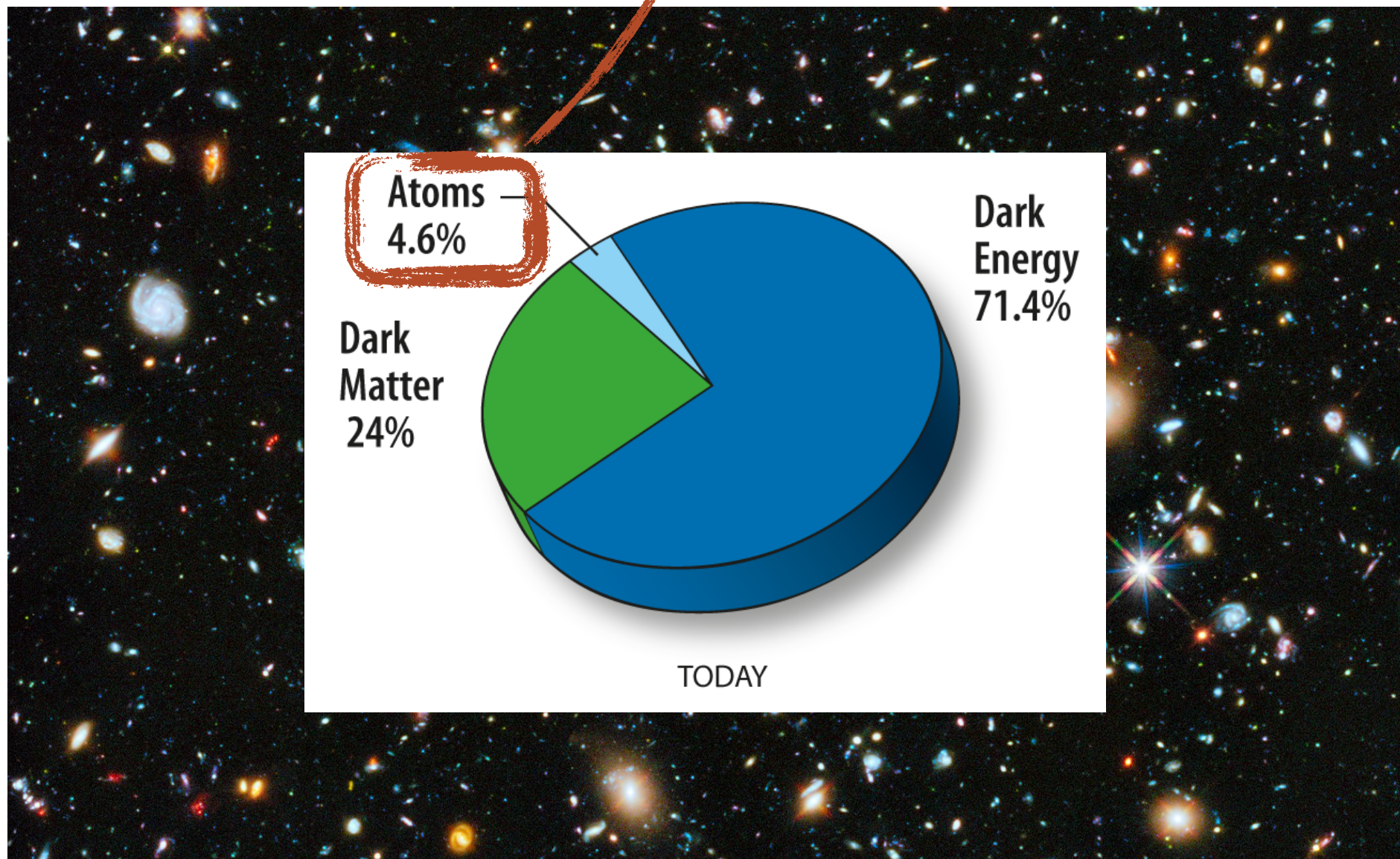
Precision reached on **hydrogen and proton**

Experimental knowledge prior 2015  
Measurements (2015-2020)



# Variety of searches for new physics with low energy antiprotons

Where are the anti-atoms??



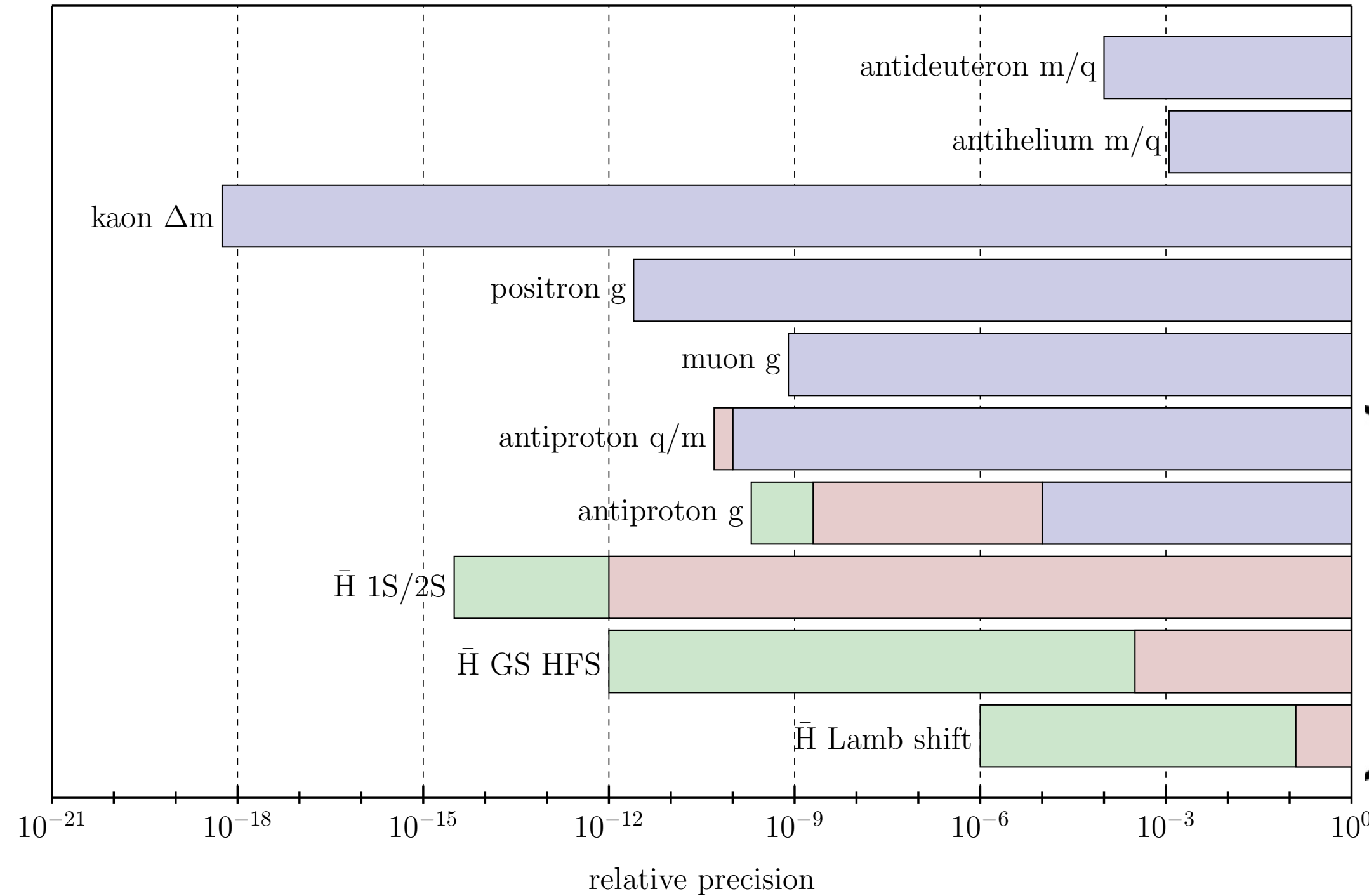
**Strong baryon asymmetry in the universe**

originating from a  $\sim 10^{-10}$  imbalance

CP violation in the SM is by far not enough to explain this imbalance

## baryon asymmetry:

Comparison of fundamental properties of simple baryonic and anti-baryonic systems at low energy and with high precision



	relative precision	energy resolution [ev]
Kaon	$\sim 10^{-18}$	$\sim 10^{-9}$
$\bar{p}\ Q/M$	$\sim 10^{-10}$	$\sim 10^{-18}$
$\bar{H}\ 1S-2S$	$\sim 10^{-12}$	$\sim 10^{-11}$
$\bar{H}\ GS-HFS$	$\sim 10^{-4}$	$\sim 10^{-10}$

In the SME framework absolute energy resolution matters  
A. Kostelecky and A. Vargas, Phys. Rev. D 92, 056002 (2015)

AD

Precision reached on **hydrogen and proton**

Experimental knowledge prior 2015  
Measurements (2015-2020)

## antimatter & gravity

Attempted measurements with charged antiparticles ( $e^+$  in  $\sim 1967$ ,  $\bar{p}$  in  $\sim 1985$ )

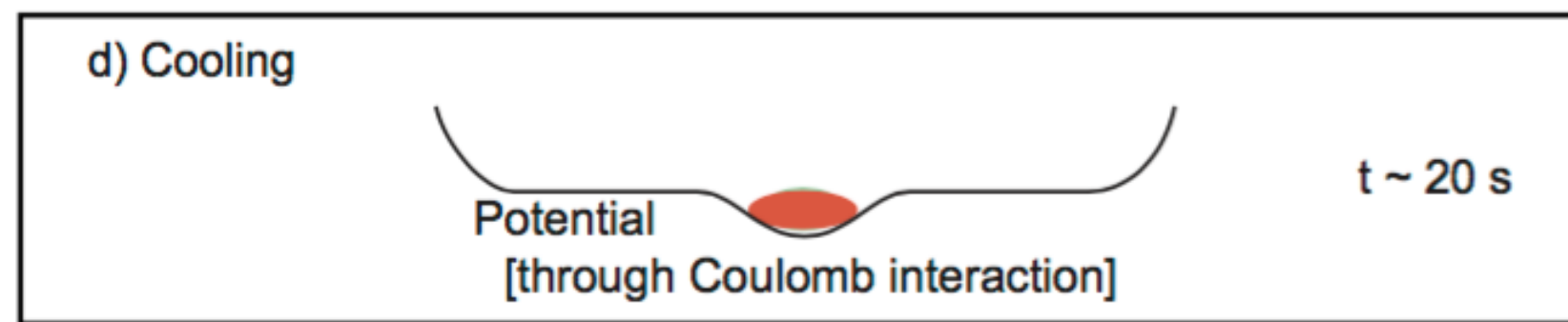
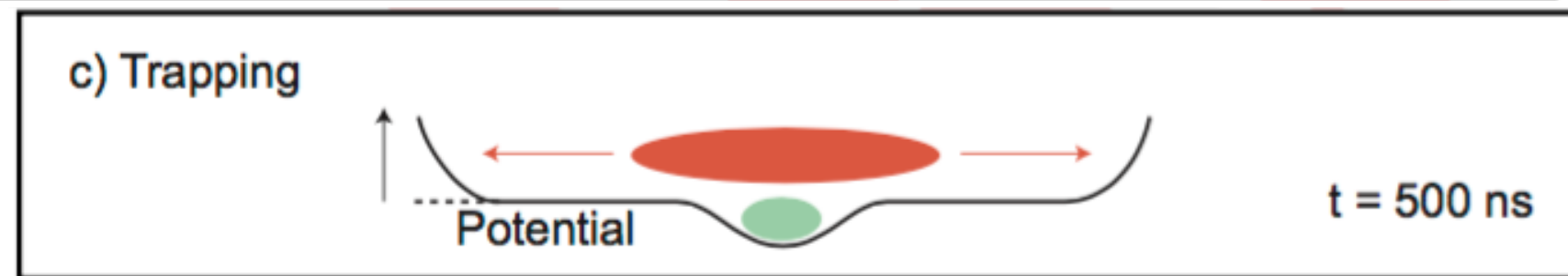
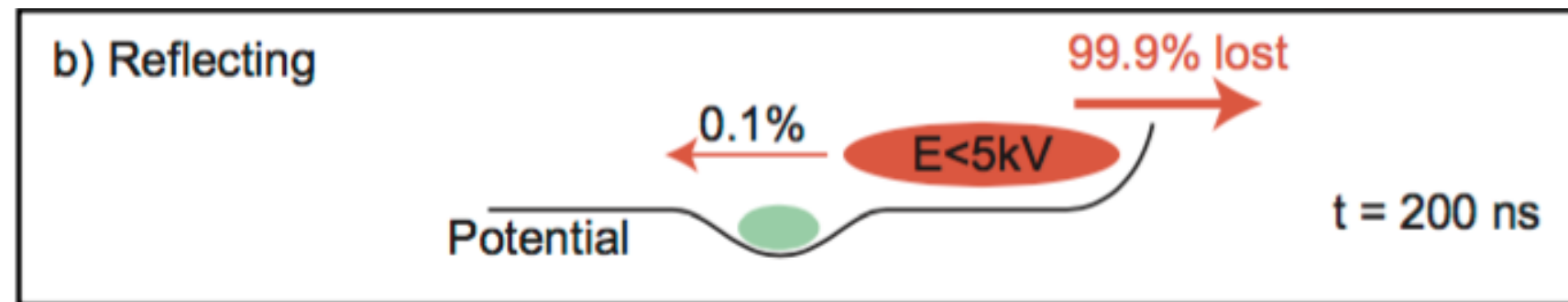
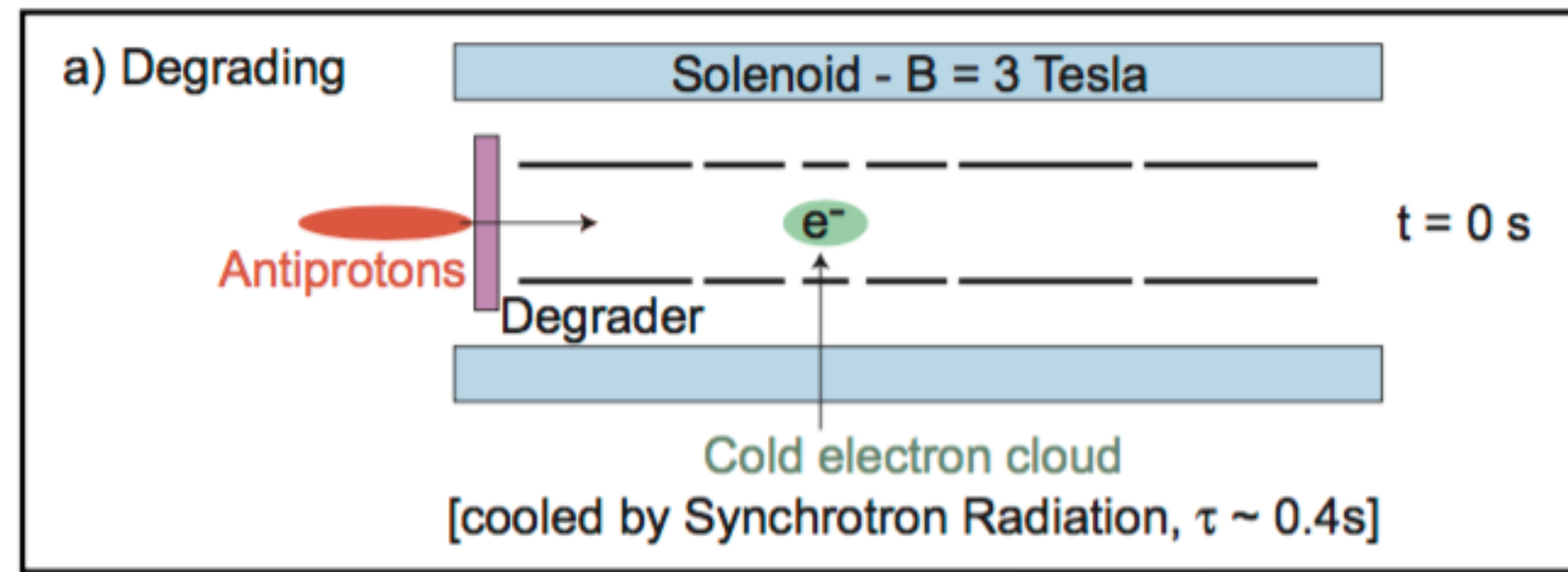
Indirect limits exists

Universality of free-fall never tested directly on antimatter



# Low energy antiprotons for tests of baryon asymmetry

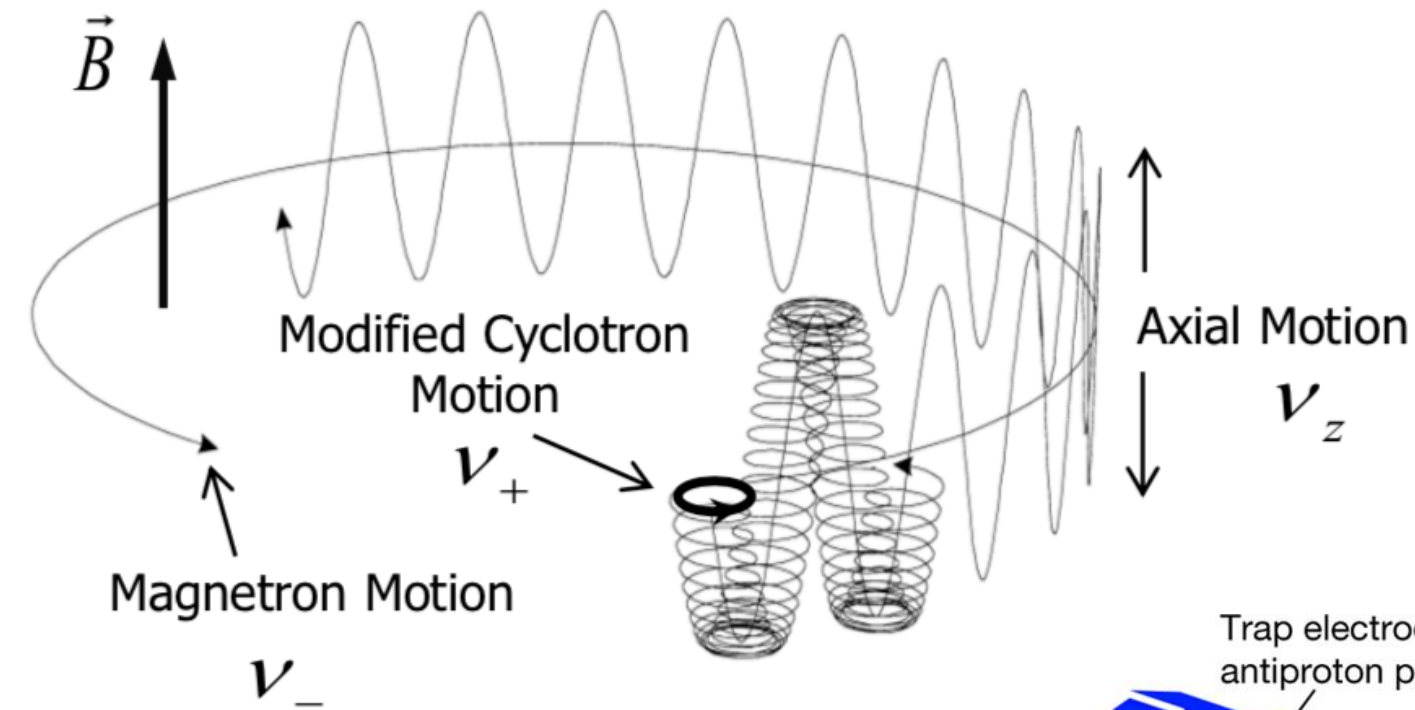
## Workhorse Penning trap:



Long trapping times require good vacuum!

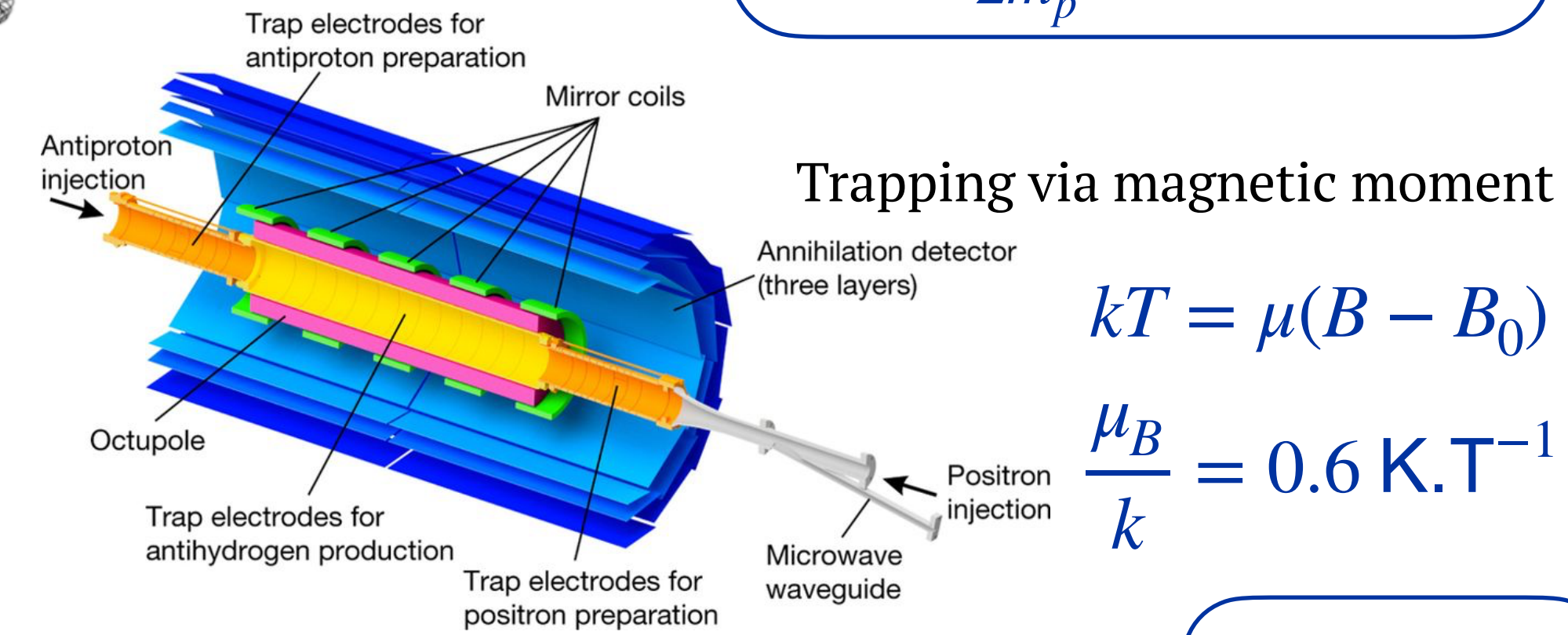
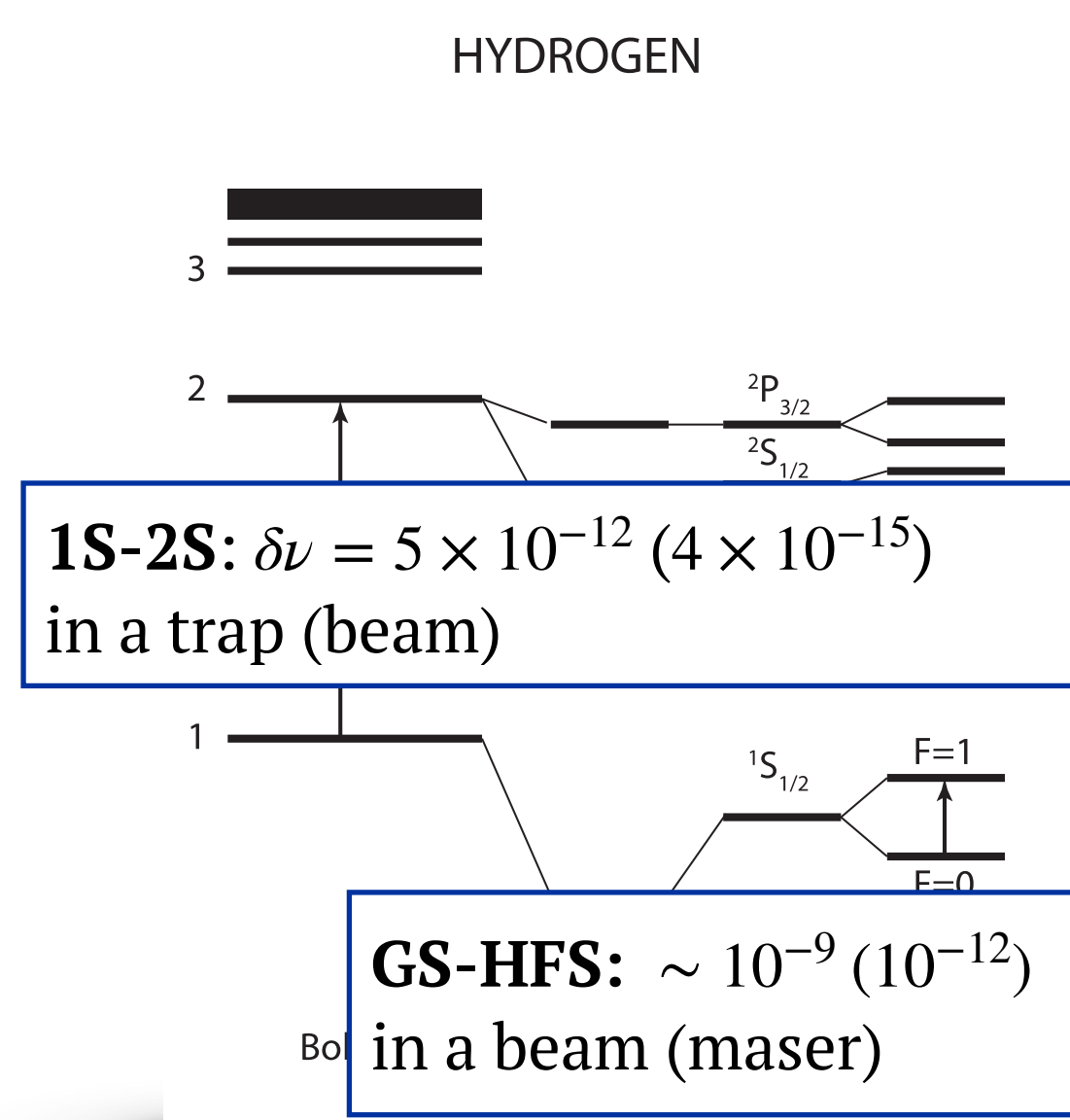
BASE experiment:  $P < 2 \cdot 10^{-18}$  mbar

$\tau(\bar{p}) > 10.2$  years



$$\omega_c = \frac{Q_{\bar{p}}}{m_{\bar{p}}} B \quad \text{charge-to-mass ratios}$$

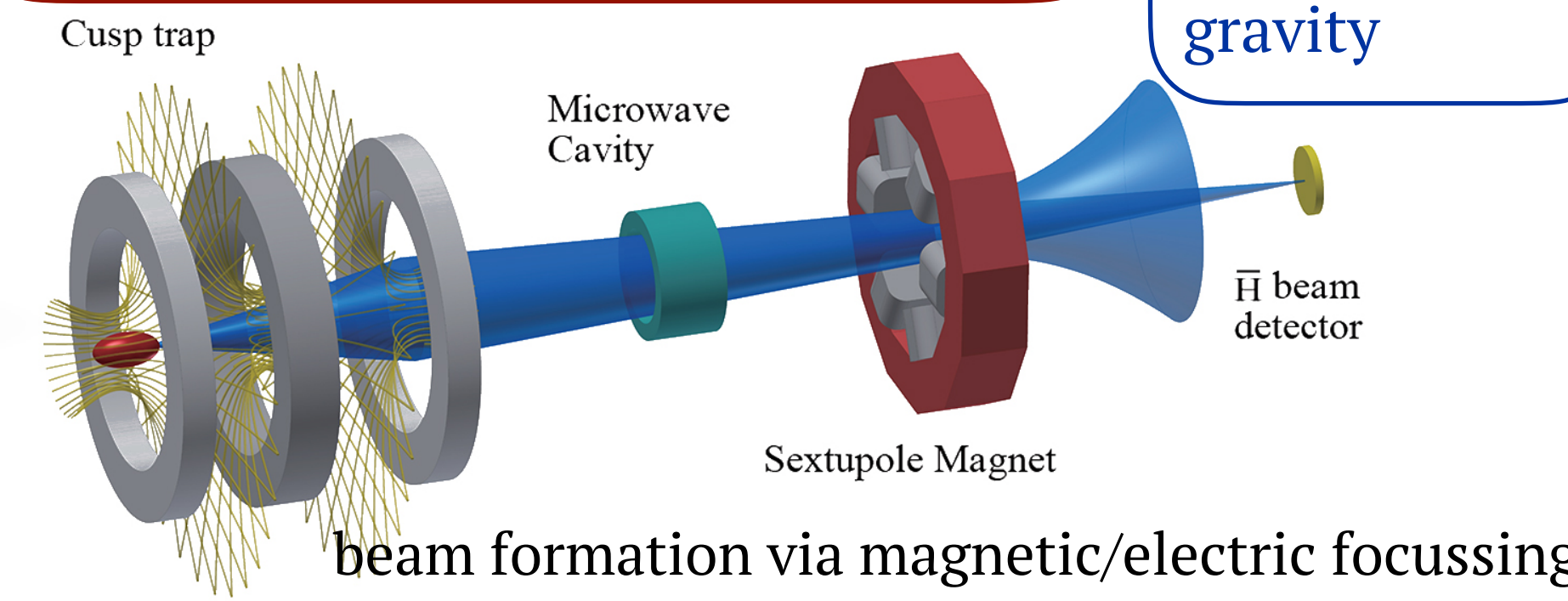
$$\omega_L = g \frac{Q_{\bar{p}}}{2m_{\bar{p}}} B \quad \text{magnetic moments}$$



**CHALLENGES**

- ↑ Temperature limit, inhomogeneous fields
- ↓  $\bar{H}$  rate, presence of excited states

spectroscopy  
1S-2S  
GS-HFS  
gravity

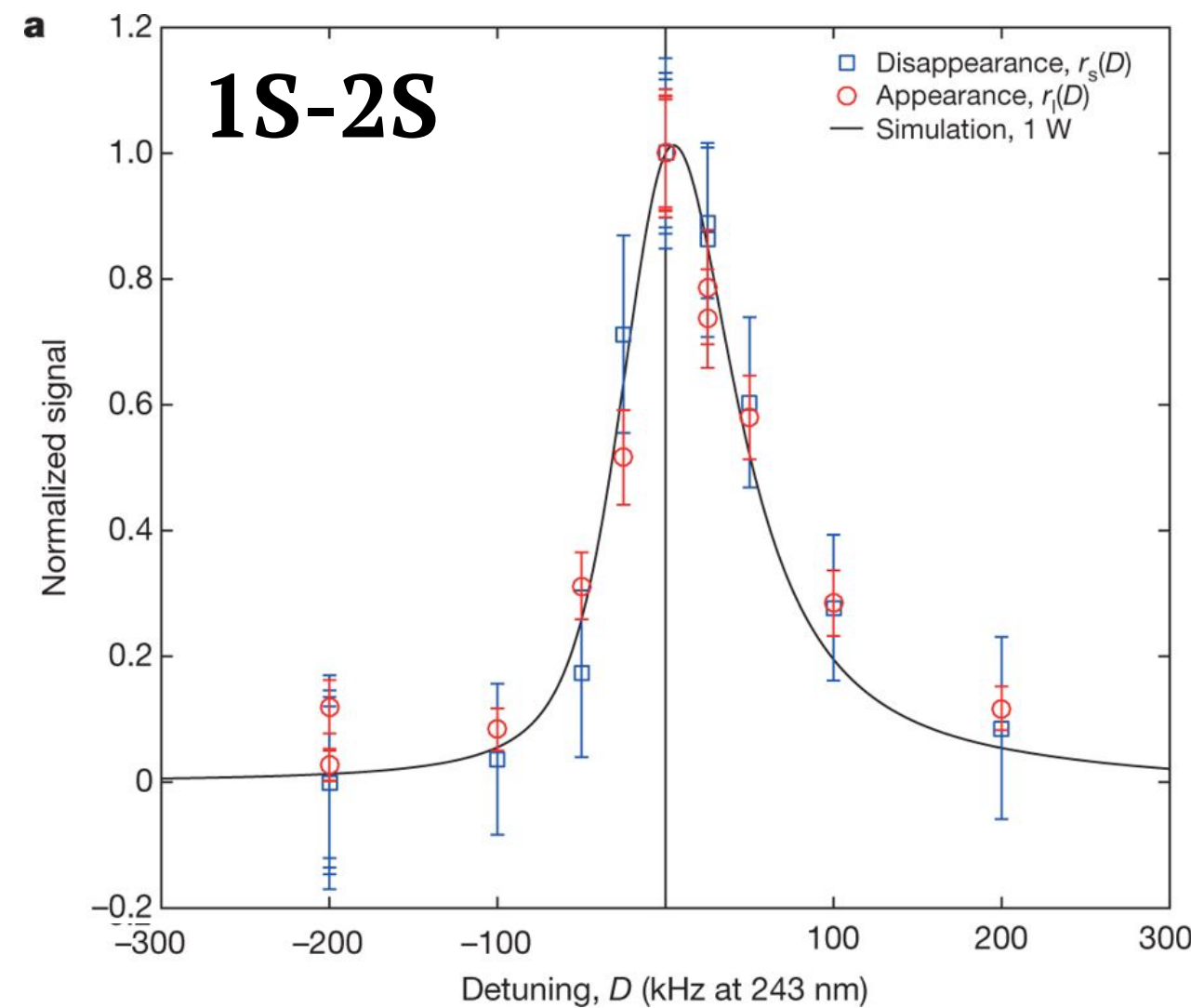




# Some spectroscopy highlights with antihydrogen

In a TRAP:

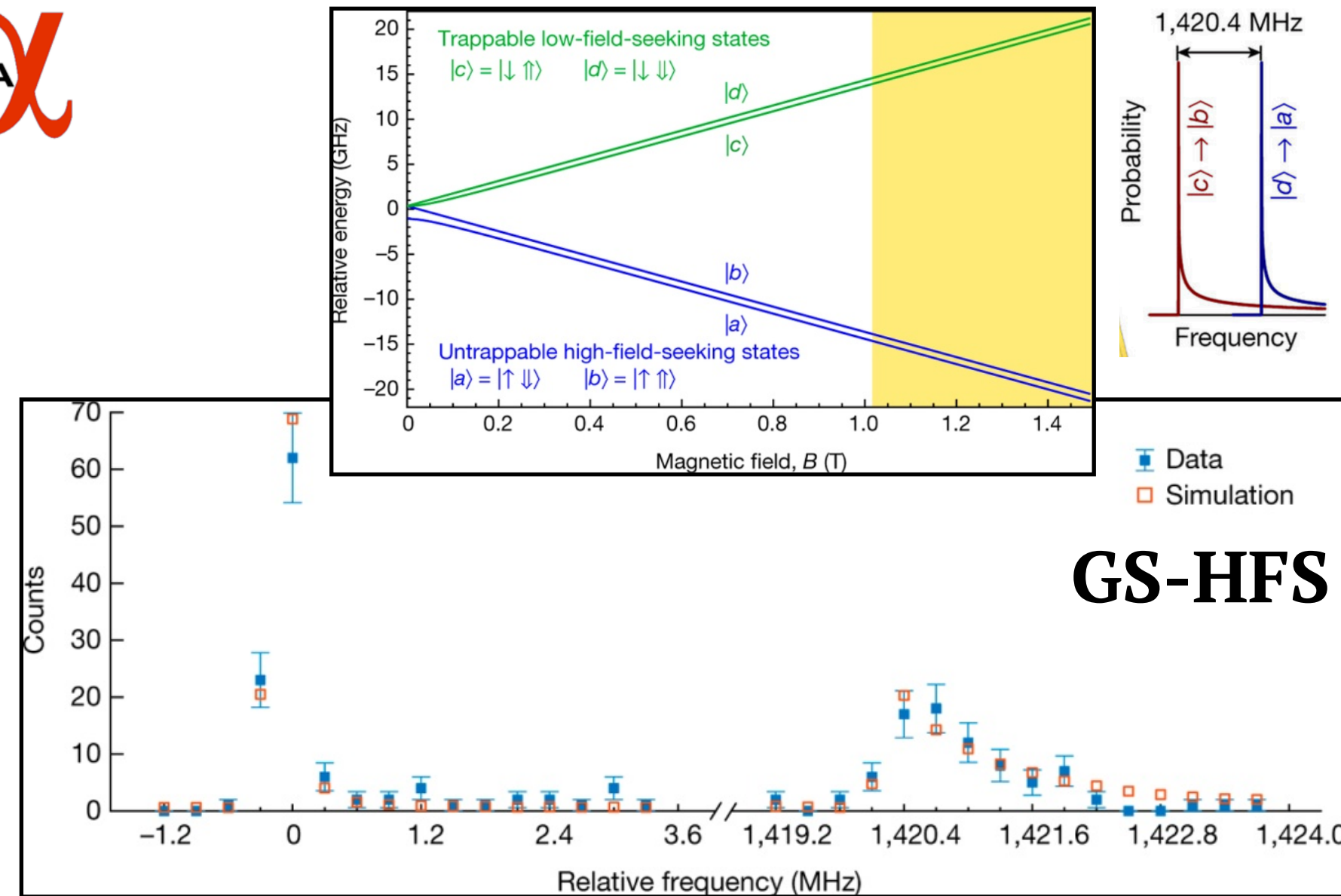
Relative precision obtained :  $2 \times 10^{-12}$  (~ 5 kHz)



M. Ahmadi et al., Nature 557 71–75 (2018)

In a TRAP:

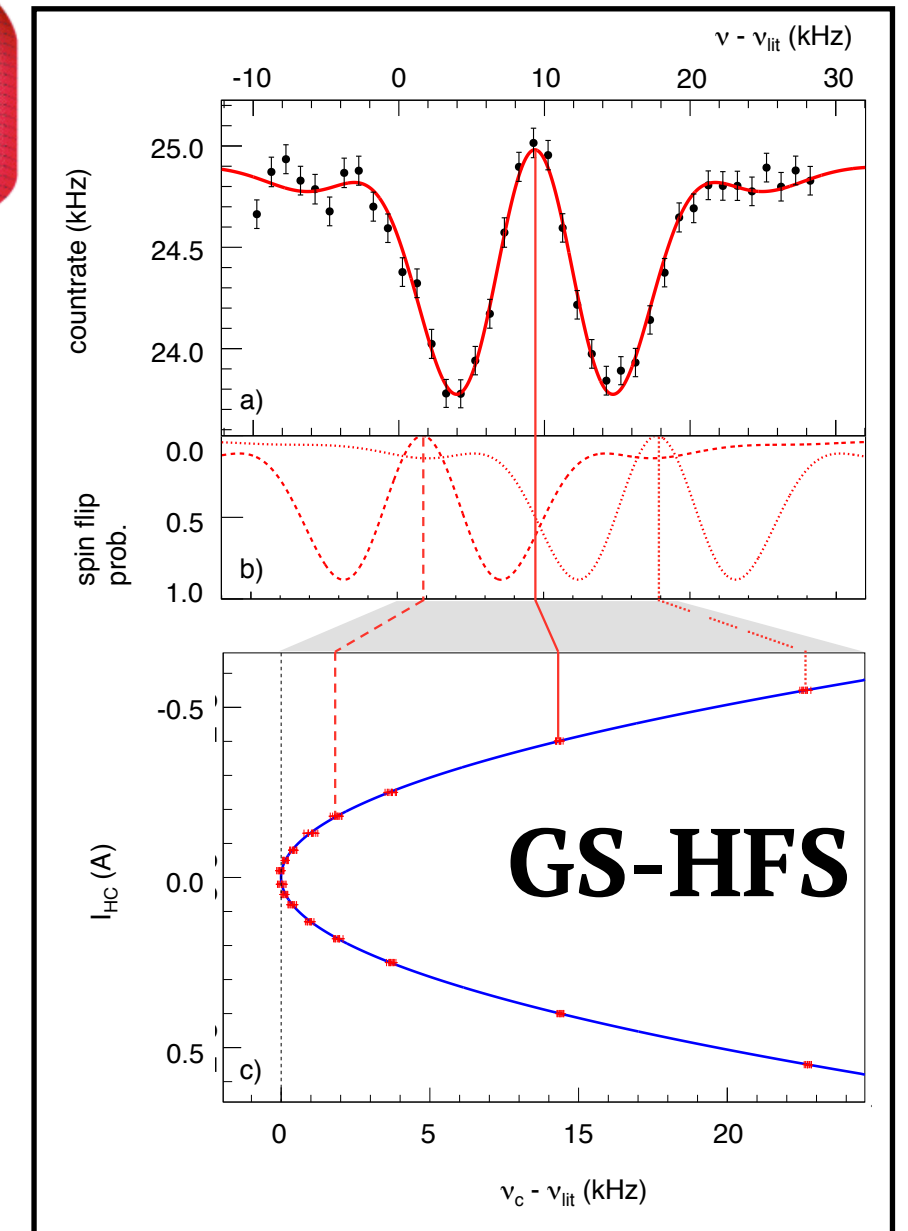
Precision of  $4 \times 10^{-4}$  (500 kHz)



M. Ahmadi et al. Nature 548, 66–69 (2017)

In a BEAM:

Precision of  $4 \times 10^{-9}$  (~3Hz) on HYDROGEN



M. Diermaier et al. Nature Communications 8, 15749 (2017)

In a TRAP:

Investigation of the **FINE STRUCTURE** of antihydrogen (~10% precision)

Toward antimatter only determination of the antiproton charge radius (together with 1S-2S precision spectroscopy above)!

M. Ahmadi et al., Nature 578, 375–380 (2020)

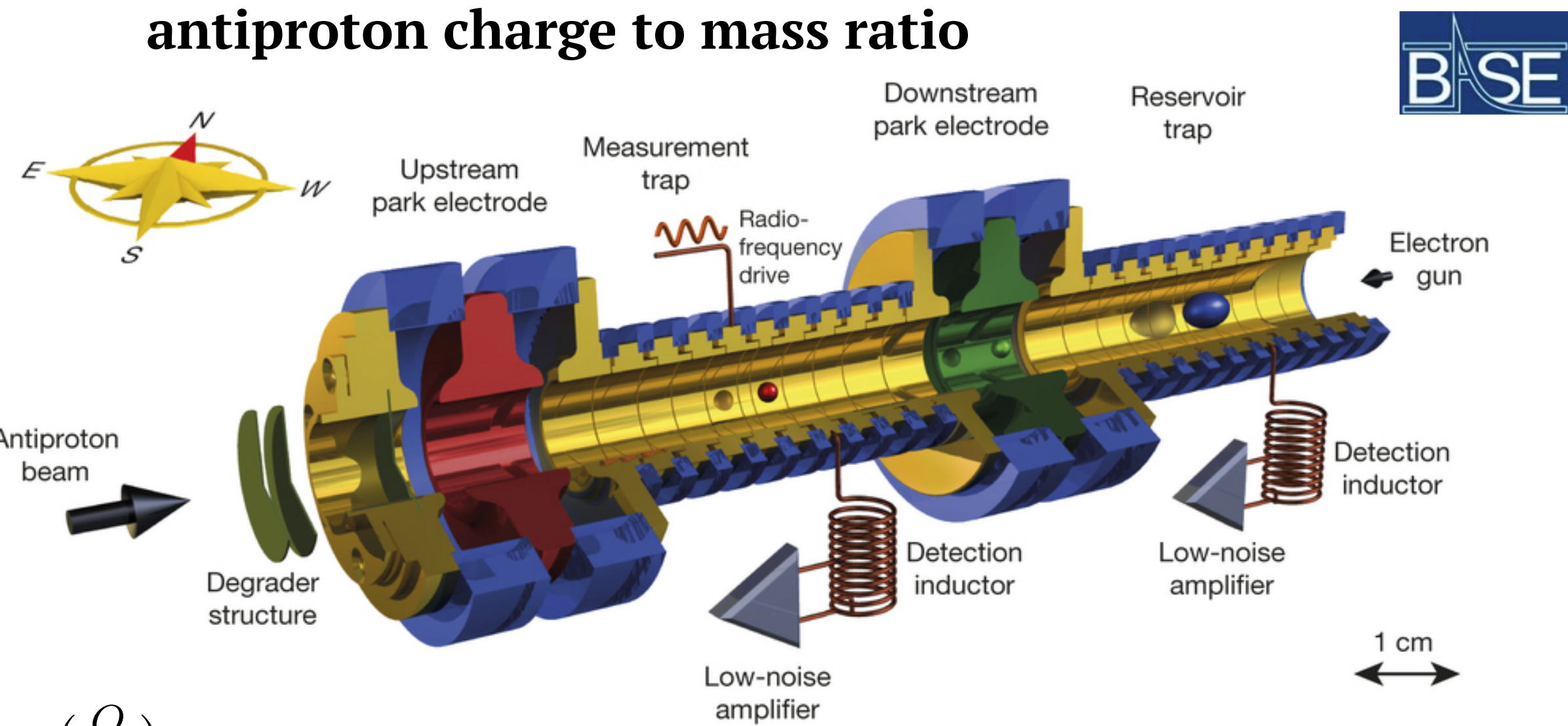
$$\nu_{HF} = \frac{16}{3} \mathcal{R}_y \alpha^2 c \left( \frac{m_{\bar{p}}}{m_{\bar{p}} + m_{e^+}} \right)^3 \frac{m_{e^+} \mu_e \mu_{\bar{p}}}{m_{\bar{p}} \mu_B \mu_N} (1 + \delta_{str} + \delta_{QED})$$

$$\Delta\nu(\text{Zemach}) = \nu_{HF} \frac{2Z\alpha m_e^+}{\pi^2} \int \frac{d^3p}{p^4} \left[ \frac{G_{E(\bar{p})}(p^2) G_{M(\bar{p})}(p^2)}{1 + \kappa} - 1 \right]$$



# Some highlights on antiprotons

## antiproton charge to mass ratio



$$\frac{\left(\frac{Q}{M}\right)_{\bar{p}}}{\left(\frac{Q}{M}\right)_p} - 1 = 1(69) \times 10^{-12}$$

S. Ulmer et al., Nature 524, 196–199 (2015)

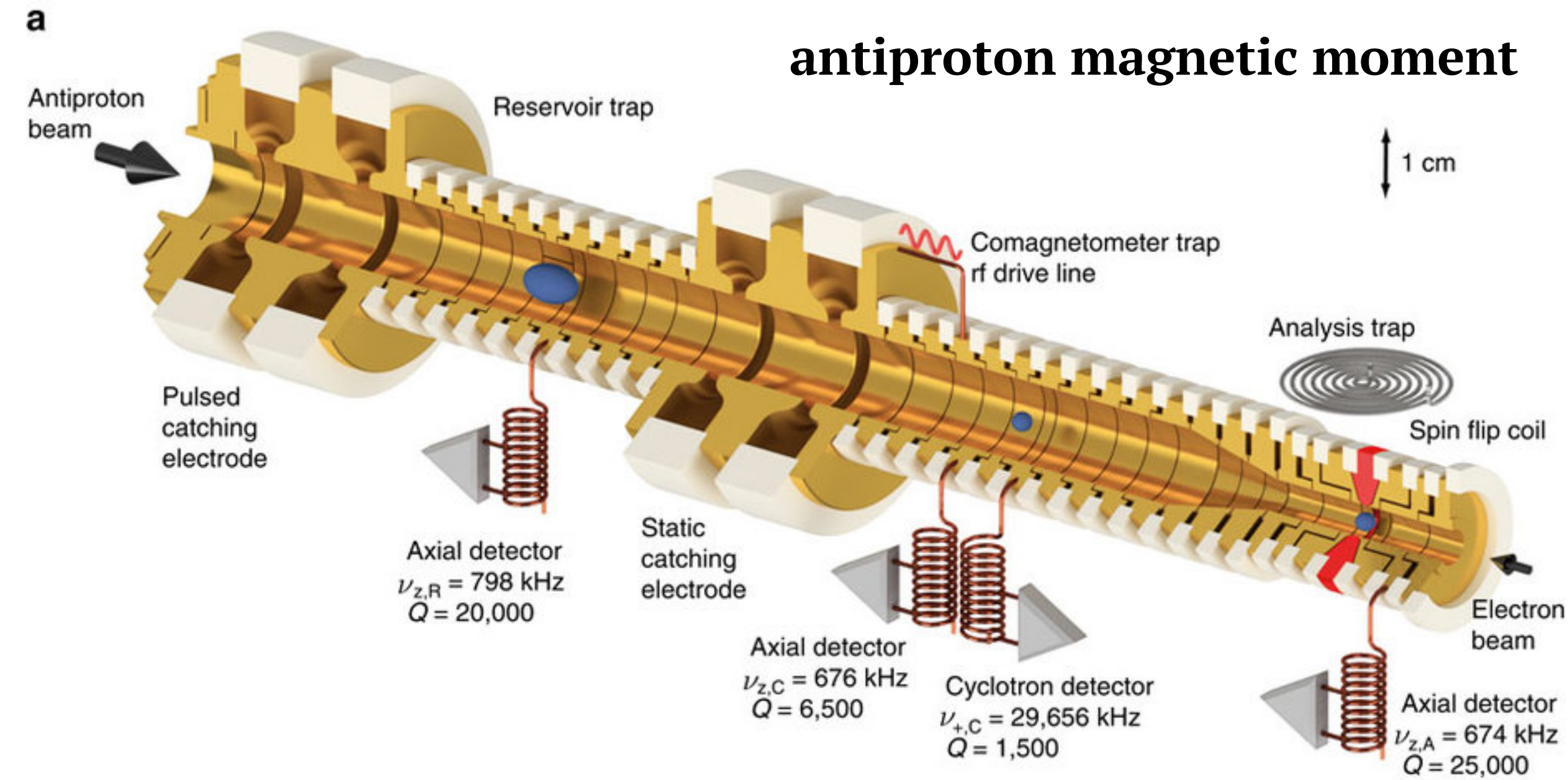
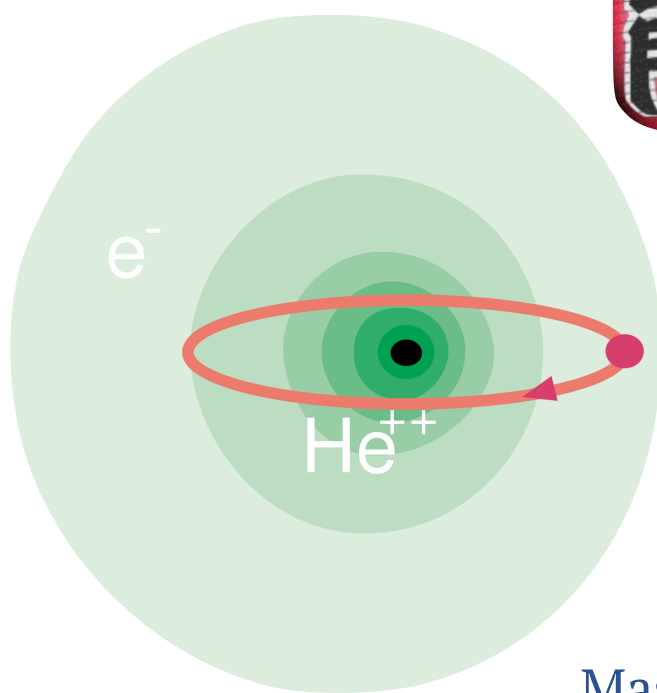
## antiproton to electron mass ratio



$$\frac{m_{\bar{p}}}{m_{e^-}} = 1836.1526734(15)$$

$\bar{p}$ -He cooled to ~1.5K (buffer-gas cooling)

Masaki Hori et al. Science Vol. 354, 6312, pp. 610–614 (2016)

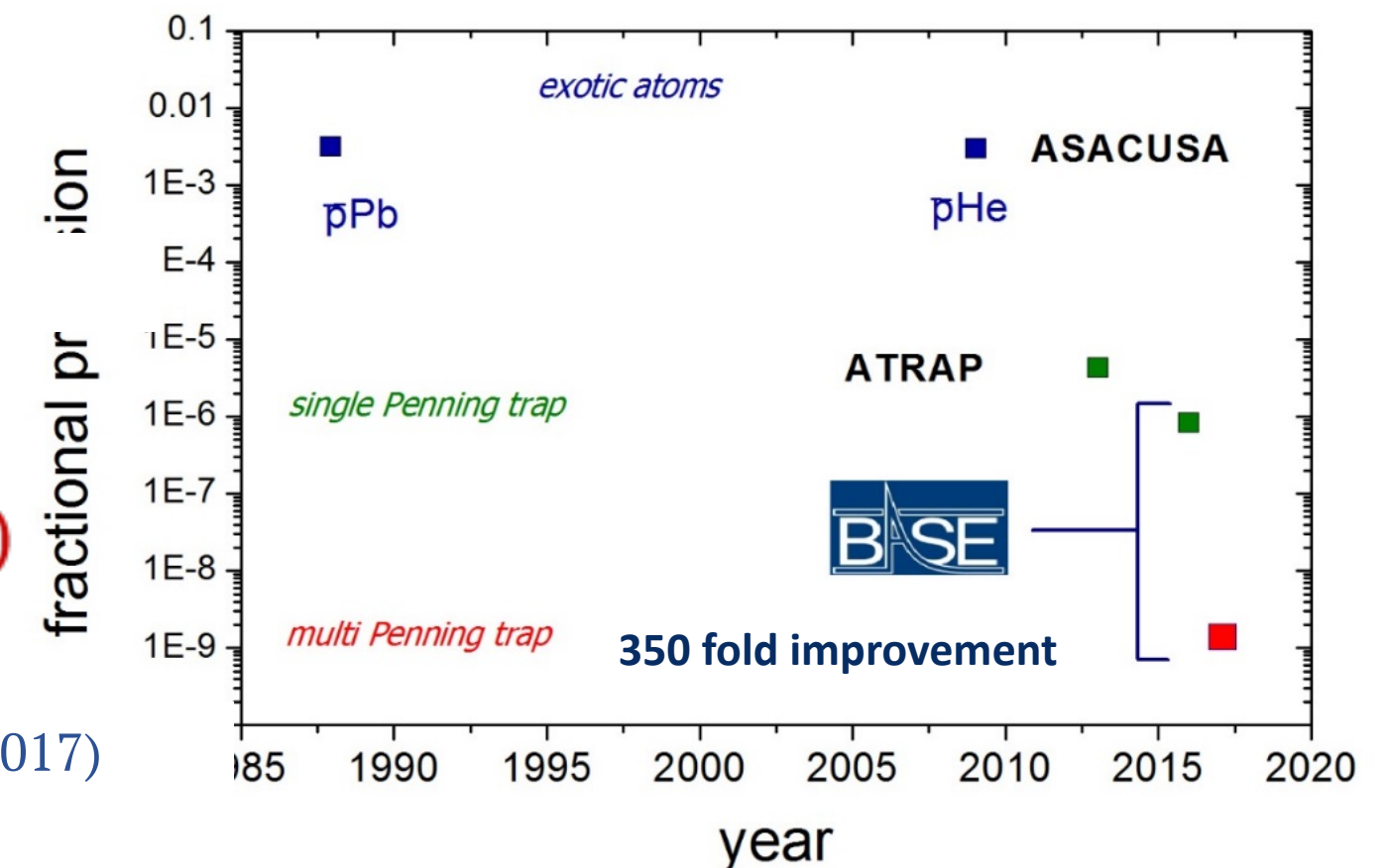


$$\frac{g_{\bar{p}}}{2} = 2.792\,847\,344\,1(42)$$

C. Smorra et al., Nature 550, 371 (2017)

$$\frac{g_p}{2} = 2.792\,847\,344\,62(82)$$

G. Schneider et al., Science 358, 1081 (2017)



first measurement more precise for antimatter than for matter