

GBAR status report 2023

<u>GBAR / Irfu</u>

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<u>Outline</u>

- Installation and first tests
- 2022 run & improvements for 2023-2024
- Future

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16 institutes, 59 members France, Germany, Japan, Poland, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, United Kingdom Me



- Produce antihydrogen atoms $\overline{p} + Ps \rightarrow \overline{H} + e^{-}$ ions $\overline{H} + Ps \rightarrow \overline{H}^{+} + e^{-}$
- Cool \overline{H}^+ to 10 μ K and photo detach —> ultra cold \overline{H}
- Measure \overline{H} free fall
- Measure \overline{H} Lambshift —> radius of antiproton











Positron production

3×10⁵

Positrons per pulse 5×10^5

10

9 MeV, 300 mA, 2.85µs, 1-300 Hz

1mm W target water cooled + W mesh moderator

Linac accelerating cavity exchanged Feb 2022

Higher current acceptance without RF power reflection

Same Energy and Beam Current at lower RF level

Lower stress for RF elements

7.3 MW —> 5.5 MW, can use other klystron types

Exchange of klystron Oct. 2022

 $3 \times 10^7 e^+ / s$ in 2022



M. Charlton et al., NIM, A 985 (2021) 164657



CSTD Irfu 22 March 2023



Focusing beams to targets







 $e^+ \rightarrow Ps$ conversion



oPs conversion eff \gtrsim 18% (expected 20%)



Antiproton beam line in 2022





\overline{p} deceleration





-6080.0

Additional flux return



\overline{p} beam steering





\overline{p} transport at 10 keV

Adjustment of voltages on optical elements

- using MCP signals and images
- signals from scintillators along beam line
- guidance from beam transport simulation





CSTD Irfu 22 March 2023



Hydrogen beam

10% of Hin2Sstate (0.12 s lifetime) \Rightarrow study of Lambshift measurement systematics







B. Ohayon et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 011802 (2022)

Measure quenched fraction as a function of microwave frequency

<u>At PSI with H</u>

--> resonance 1087.4 ± 4.8 MHz (meas.) 1088 MHz (th.)

—> Lamb shift 1057.4 ± 4.8 MHz (meas.) 1057.8341 ± 0.0002 MHz (th.)

Syst. 100 kHz

At CERN with H

- --> resonance 1080.1 ± 13.5 MHz (meas.)
- -> Lamb shift 1050.5 ± 13.5 MHz (meas.)





Antiproton trap

Expected improvements

Flexibility (accumulation, extraction)

Beam divergence

Extraction energy and energy spread

Buncher for extraction





Now in temporary location

With $\approx 2 \times 10^5 \overline{p}$ incident:

40-70% trapping efficiency (dep. well length)

Cooling time with $10^5\overline{p} + 10^7e^-$ at 5T: 15 s from 6 keV to 100 eV



100 l LHe / 2 months



Antiproton beam line (planned 2023)



Antihydrogen production scheme in 2022



- Positronium cloud produced at flat nanoporous SiO₂ target (19x19 mm)
- \overline{p} pass in front of target and pass through a collimator/deflector (Ø 5mm)
- static electric fields used to deflect charged particles
- Neutral particles (antihydrogen) on straight trajectory
- Background (π^{\pm} , γ) from \bar{p} annihilation, mostly earlier
- Background from o-Ps annihilation is negligible



Detectors (2022)

- Main detector: multichannel plate (MCP) with fast phosphor and fast camera
 - Analysis are based mostly on the electrical signal
 - Image analysis is difficult but gives complementary information
- Further MCPs with phosphor screen are used in beam diagnostics
- Detection of annihilation products by fast scintillation detectors (PbWO₄, plastic) and CsI detectors (positron beam) is used for beam diagnostics
- Faraday cups (or MCPs used as Faraday cups) with charge sensitive amplifiers are used to calibrate e⁺ pulse intensity
- Micromegas trackers are available but can not be used yet (high background from antiproton annihilation) – will be used for free fall measurements or others when the bgd. is low





Time of arrival of antihydrogen



- Time of arrival on MCP is measured by the direct antiproton beam
- Measured expected time-of-flight:
 - $t_{\rm TOF} = 5.37$ $\sigma = 0.096 \,\mu s$
 - Detection window: $\pm 2 \sigma$
- This time window is used in antihydrogen detection (MCP electrical signal, camera trigger)



Antihydrogen production campaign – Analysis of electrical signal



- \overline{p} only: 8468 spills
 - main background due to charged pions from \overline{p} annihilations upstream
 - Ps background negligible
- Mixing: 6897 spills
 - Both antiprotons and ortho-positronium

- Expected production rate at 6keV
 - 1.1 \pm 0.4 $\overline{\mathrm{H}}$ per 100 spills
 - $N_{Ps} = (9 \pm 3) \times 10^6 Ps$
 - $N_{\overline{p}} = (2.2 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{6} \overline{p}$

Preliminary results from 2022



- Antihydrogen signal with > 3σ confidence level
- Final analysis ongoing
- Results consistent with cross-section and estimated geometrical acceptance

2 talks at Moriond (March 2023)

Comparison between proposal and performance in 2022

Item	Proposal	2022						
Positrons								
Slow positron rate	2.8x10 ⁸ e ⁺ /s	3x10 ⁷ e ⁺ /s						
Positron storage	2.1x10 ¹⁰ e ⁺ /110 s	1.7x10 ⁸ e ⁺ /110s						
Ps number in interaction	7.4 x 10 ⁹ e⁺/110 s	9x10 ⁶ o-Ps/110 s						
Ps density	7.4x10 ¹¹ e ⁺ /cm ² (cavity)	3.6x10 ⁶ e ⁺ /cm ² (flat target)						
Antiprotons								
from ELENA	6x10 ⁶ /110 s	7x10 ⁶ /110 s						
on target	4.8x10 ⁶ /110 s	3x10 ⁶ /110 s						
Antihydrogen								
Antihydrogen	3.9x10 ² /110 s	0.01 /110 s						
Antihydrogen ion								
Antihydrogen ion	0.32 / 110 s	Not detected						

Improvements in 2023

Improvement	Expected gain	Time, responsible						
Positron line								
Use (improved) cavity instead of flat target	x 5 more positronium in interaction	May 2023, IRFU						
Use SiC in buffer gas trap	x 3 more positrons trapped	April 2023, IRFU						
Run linac at full power (300 Hz)	x 1.3 more positrons	March 2023, NCBJ, IRFU						
Improve positron transport between the high field trap and the target	X1.5 more positrons on target	June 2023, IRFU						
Paint electrodes in the high field trap with colloidal graphite	Better plasma stability, better transport to conversion target	April 2023, IRFU						
Antiproton line								
Better tuning,		2023						
Install antiproton trap in final position	Commissioning (gain later)	To be decided Korean group, IRFU, IJCLab						
Commission Lyman-α setup		ETHZ group						

Novel SiC remoderator-based buffer gas trapping scheme

- High quality SiC single crystal remoderator replaces the nitrogen gas in the first stage
- Approximately three times higher trapping efficiency (defined as trapped e⁺/e⁺ flux from the source)
- Might be higher with well adapted hardware
- Commissioning in 2023:
 - New electrode stack
 - Solution to transfer trapped e+ to third stage (SiC blocks the way)





10⁻⁴ mbar

Cooling through collisions w/ CO₂

10⁻⁸ mbar

New SiC remoderator-based buffer gas scheme)

10⁻³ mbar



Old buffer gas scheme (nitrogen gas in the 1st stage)

Improved target cavity

Present construction:

- Two sides are made of fused silica (laser window)
- 2x10 mm² entry window (30 nm Si₃N₄)
- 2022: only flat target was used

Improved cavity:

- Longer entry window
- Three walls are made of nanoporous silica on Si (no laser window)







Improvement of the high field trap and the e⁺ transport between the high field trap and the reaction chamber

- Problem:
 - Trapping more positrons in the HFT, with the same plasma density
 - focusing the positron pulse on the target cavity (transport from 5 T to ~zero field)

2023

- Improved transition to the low-field zone
- Accelerator drift tube extended (longer pulse possible)
- Improvements in the high field trap (colloidal graphite paint)

2024 or later

 redesign of the transport optics, based on simulation (simulation is being improved)





Improvement of the primary moderator (2024)

- At present: •
 - flat moderator 20x20 mm², with 18 layers of 20 μ m thick tungsten mesh (150 wires/inch)
 - Annealed at ~2400°C by Joule heating in ultra high vacuum
- The SiC-based buffer gas scheme allows larger beam spot with broader energy distribution \rightarrow possibility to enlarge primary moderator
- Planned improvement in 2024:
 - Truncated cone added in front of the present moderator
 - Expected gain: 1.5-2x (or more if more cones)
- Changes needed:
 - Modified moderator holder
 - Possibility to anneal 5-10 times more moderator mesh
 - z:y:x {z>11 & z<70 & x<50 & y<50} -+) New moderator Possible modification in the transport line (larger beam spot)











210218

203217(22)

Improvement of antiproton transport

- Aim: focusing on smaller spot (cavity)
- Improvements of the incoming beam (ELENA) at present, emittance is about 2.5 x design value
- Many parameters to tune, charging effect
- Substantial improvement is expected after commissioning of the antiproton trap





Antihydrogen Lamb shift measurement

(responsible: ETHZ group, leader: Paolo Crivelli)



- Towards determination of the antiproton charge radius test of CPT symmetry
- At 6 keV 16 % of produced antihydrogen is in 2S state
- At the end of 2023 detection of 2S states
- First measurement in 2024



Milestones

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
pbar	LS	52	pbar	pbar	pbar	pbar	pbar	LS3		pbar

- End of 2023
 - 1 antihydrogen / antiproton pulse
 - background measurement for 2S antihydrogen production (towards Lamb shift measurement)
 - cross section measurement (first reaction)
 - Antiproton trap: commissioning
- End of 2024
 - 10 antihydrogen/antiproton pulse
 - First Lamb shift measurement
- End of 2025
 - Detection of first antihydrogen ions

Human resources

DPhP

- Pauline Comini (~50 % on ANR SPHINX), Pascal Debu, Laszlo Liszkay (chef de groupe), Bruno Mansoulié, Patrice Pérez (spokesperson), Boris Tuchming, Bertrand Vallage (until summer 2023)
- Yves Sacquin (conseiller scientifique)
- 3 persons permanently at CERN (Patrice Pérez, Pauline Comini, Bruno Mansoulié)
- ~5 FTE (2023)
- Thesis works (Barbara Latacz 2019, Samuel Niang 2020; both have CERN contract now, on other projects)

DIS

- Jean-Yves Roussé (chef de projet IRFU)
- Slow control (Paul Lotrus, student)
- Cabling (very limited availability)

DEDIP

- Draftsman (Daniel Desforge until his retirement)
- Antenne Saclay (~1 FTE/year) VERY IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION

Urgent need

- Draftsman
- DAQ, software integration
- Electrician (reg.)

Budget

- The present budget is based on the assumption that the experiment is fully commisioned in 2022 and only maintenance costs are needed later
- Experience shows that the performance of the instrumentation can be increased step-by-step (while the present achievements are very competitive in international comparison)
- Improvements require investments into new instrumentation we ask for support for investment
- Sufficient travel funds are needed to finance work in Geneva for those based in Saclay

Competition: ALPHA-g experiment

- well developped experiment at AD with proven technology to trap antihydrogen atoms
- Results in antihydrogen spectroscopy etc.
- First limit for ratio between gravitational and inertial mass of antihydrogen -65 < F < 75 (95 % confidence level)



Competition: ALPHA-g: 2022 results

a)

Upper MCI

Main Solenoid

Barrel Scintillator

Time Projection Chamber

Penning Trap Electrodes

Liquid Helium

Lower MCP &

Electron Source

Volume

- Accumulate antihydrogen
- With a « magnetic bias » ramp down magnetic field
- Detect up/down annihilations
- Repeat for different bias

- "The first ALPHA-g trap is fully commissioned and capable of systematic investigations of the effect of gravity on antimatter." (SPSC meeting)
- No information on the results
- Challenge: control and measurement of the magnetic field at the mirror coils



Competition: AEgIS experiment

- Proposal: 100,000 pbar at 100 mK for 1 % precision
- Results in Rydberg positronium production, pulsed antihydrogen production in an antiproton plasma
- No new results in antiproton cooling
- No significant new results in 2022 (mostly development work)

https://doi.org/10.1038/s42005-020-00494-z OPEN

Pulsed production of antihydrogen



Key finding: 0.05 \overline{H}^* produced every 2 mins (with 1.0.10⁶ antiprotons)

Competition

- Existing measurements:
 - ALPHA limits (Nature Comm. 4,1785 (2013)) -65 < F < 75 (95 % confidence level)
 - BASE, indirect measurement (Nature 601,53 (2022)) (cyclotron frequency comparison) « we constrain the differential WEPcc-violating coefficient to less than 0.030"
- The expected precision of ALPHA-g, AEgIS and GBAR is 1 %
- GBAR has the potential to increase the precision by orders of magnitude (gravitational quantum states)
- Trapped, ultracold antihydrogen ion gives opportunity for further experiments





• Objectives

$\overline{H} + Ps \rightarrow \overline{H}^+ + e^-$

Confront theoretical cross section calculations to experimental values > validation of theoretical calculations Provide better estimations of antihydrogen ion production in GBAR and motivate the choice of a Ps excited state

Outside the scope of GBAR: application of the validated cross sections to Ps formation in the ISM



Cross sections with excited Ps much lower than expected



• Principle

Measure for $H + Ps \rightarrow H^- + e^+$

ELENA provides every 15 s a pulsed beam of H^- in between antiproton pulses > Easy to neutralise Set-up integration without disturbance to GBAR but requires positron resources:

- SPHINX can run before antiproton beamtime (~1 month)
- during "antiproton only" studies in GBAR (typically 8h / day) \checkmark
- just after antiproton ejection (then takes ~10% of positrons) \checkmark



• Planning

2023: Neutral beam formation and characterisation, first data for H(1s) + Ps(1s)

2024: Continue H(1s) + Ps(1s), Beam deceleration down to 1 keV before the target, Measurement for H(1s) + Ps(3d)2025: Continue H(1s) + Ps(3d)

2026: LS3, no H⁻, but still proton gun & carbon foil > possibility to test H(2s) + Ps(1s)



Antihydrogen atoms & ions yield in the future

- Foreseen evolution on the positron part
 - Before LS3:
 - o Ps cavity and converter exchange
 - o Linac at 300 Hz > x1.3
 - o SiC scheme > x3
 - o W mesh moderator improvement > x1.5
 - o Longer accumulation time
 - o Transport optimisation
 - LS3
 - Moderator upgrade > x2
 - o SiC in HFT > x1.5
 - o Smaller cavity
- Foreseen evolution on the antiproton part
 - In addition to continuous improvements from ELENA:
 - o Cooled antiproton
 - o Longer accumulation time / recycling
- 2025: 1st detection of \overline{H}^+



Further improvements depending on SPHINX outcome:

- Ps excitation, 3D or n=2.
- If no Ps excitation: hot Ge Ps converter > x4



• CERN planning (from the Summary of the LHC "Chamonix" Workshop in Feb. 2023)





- Main project: precision measurement of the gravitational acceleration of antimatter on Earth
 - 2027-2028: below 10 % g measurement with >30 detected cold antiatoms PRA 105, 022821 (2022)



Hardware design adapted accordingly



- Main project: precision measurement of the gravitational acceleration of antimatter on Earth
 - 2027-2028: below 10 % g measurement with >30 detected cold antiatoms PRA 105, 022821 (2022)



Velocity distribution after photodetachment



Horizontal polarisation to avoid obstacles

Photodetachment laser study and provision: ANR PhotoPlus



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G4 geometry Simulation of detector acceptance & vertex reconstruction precision



MM trackers on the side

> Improved vertex reconstruction

May 2021

Event reconstruction ✓ Mechanical study ✓ Vacuum study ✓

> Ready for fabrication

Simulation on g determination precision now includes simulated precision on vertex reconstruction in addition to photo-detachment details

Enter the reflection of antihydrogen on mirror surface and gravitational quantum states...



GBAR plans for after LS3: free fall

- Main project: precision measurement of the gravitational acceleration of antimatter on Earth
 - 2027-2028: below 10 % g measurement with >30 detected cold antiatoms PRA 105, 022821 (2022)
 - Then: at least 1 % precision with QGS* interferometry (>10 detected events)
 - With potential for sub 10⁻⁵ precision EPJD 76, 209 (2022)



+ GBAR collaborators involved in "mirror" measurement with Hydrogen (in GRASIAN collaboration) *QGS: originally demonstrated with neutrons <u>Nature 415, 297 (2002)</u>



GBAR plans for after LS3: antihydrogen production, spectroscopy, GQS

- Continuity of ongoing side-projects
 - Lamb shift precision measurement and antiproton charge radius <u>PRD 94, 052008 (2016)</u> Based on production of 2 $\overline{H}(2S)$ per cycle:

> 10⁻⁴ precision on Lamb-shift, 10 % on antiproton radius already in 2025 (3.10⁻⁶ in Hydrogen, 1 % on proton radius <u>Science 365, 1007 (2019)</u>)

- Cross sections measurements (\overline{H} , \overline{H}^+) at low energies
- X-ray spectroscopy of antiprotonic atoms PRL 126, 173001 (2021)

• Other projects under discussion and ideas

- Further in-flight antihydrogen spectroscopy (n=2 fine structure)
- First production of \overline{H}_2^-

Intra-beam collisions between \overline{H} - \overline{H} or \bar{p} - \overline{H}^+

Competition looking to make \overline{H} - \overline{H} in trap

Motivation: Antihydrogen molecular ion spectroscopy PRA 98, 010101(R) (2018)

- Further investigation of the QGS, like spectroscopy, for another way to measure g
- Ultracold antihydrogen in optical trap (Hyp. Int. 214, 60 (2020)) / atom chip trap, for single anti-atom spectroscopy







 $\overline{p} + Ps \rightarrow \overline{H} + e^{-}$



 $\overline{H} + Ps \rightarrow \overline{H}^+ + e^-$





Back-up: Sub-Doppler cooling

- Main project: precision measurement of the gravitational acceleration of antimatter on Earth
 - 2027-2028: below 10 % g measurement with >30 detected cold antiatoms PRA 105, 022821 (2022)



NJP 24, 043028 (2022)

Demonstration on Ca⁺, to be done on Be⁺

53



• Taking advantage of GBAR specificities

