

ATHENA / AD-1



First production and detection of cold antihydrogen atoms

ATHENA Collaboration

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CERN

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LONG TERM PHYSICS GOALS

Antihydrogen | = | Hydrogen | ?
CPT Gravity











PRODUCTION AND DETECTION OF **COLD ANTIHYDROGEN**



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A multi-disciplinary team :

Athena / AD-1

Particle Traps + Control

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Precision lasers

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Positron Plasma

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Detector + Analysis

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Overview - ATHENA / AD-1





ATHENA - Photo



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V Principal achievements before Summer 2002

Ingredients for 'cold antihydrogen' production ready:

10⁴ antiprotons captured, cooled and transferred to mixing trap 150 million positrons accumulated per 5 minute cycle 75 million positrons transferred to mixing trap and stored for several hours Antihydrogen detector fully commissioned and working Antiproton vertex resolution $\sigma \sim 3-4$ mm ("antiproton tomography") 511 keV peak from positrons observed *in situ* A

Antiproton Decelerator (1)





Antiproton Decelerator (2)





Interlude: Trapped Particles

HOW A TRAP WORKS



Particles fired into such a ring system are completely trapped by the electric and magnetic fields applied.

Antiprotons - Capture and Cooling

5.0 MeV antiproton bunch ($2 \cdot 10^7$) from AD



- 5. Transfer to mixing trap:
 - 10,000 cold antiprotons / AD shot



Segmented Si (67 μ) beam counter



Antiproton Capture Trap

Technique developed by TRAP collaboration at LEAR (1985)



ATHENA - Positron Accumulation Scheme



Scheme of ATHENA Positron Accumulator

(concept by C. Surko et al., Non-neutral plasmas Vol. 3, 3-12; AIP 1999)



Positron Accumulation (2)

Accumulated positrons vs time



Accumulation rate ~ $10^6 e^+/sec$

• 150 million positrons / 5 min

Positron Transfer



- Transfer positrons from accumulator into mixing trap (ϵ ~ 50 %)
- Positrons cool by synchrotron radiation at B=3T: 75 million cold positrons
- Non-destructive diagnostics gives plasma parameters:

R = 2.0 mm L = 32 mm n = 2.5 · 10⁸ cm⁻³ • Life time ~ many hours



Mixing procedure



Scheme proposed by G. Gabrielse et al. - Phys.Lett. A129, 38 (1988)

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V Antiproton-Positron Interaction - dE/dx



From: Spitzer, Physics of fully ionized gases (1953); for non-magnetized plasmas

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V Antiproton cooling by 75 million positrons



Positron cooling using 0.25 M positrons: G. Gabrielse et al. - Phys.Lett. B507,1 (2001)

Combination processes (1)





Combination processes (2)







	Radiative	Three-body
Cross-section [cm ²]	10 ⁻¹⁶ (1 K)	10-7 (1 К)
T dependence	T ⁻¹	T-5
Final state	n < 10	n >> 100
Stability (re-ionization)	high	low
Expected rates	~ Hz	???



Antihydrogen Detector

GOAL

Vertex from tracking of charged particles Identification of 511 keV gammas Time- and space coincidence of tracks + gammas

DESIGN

Compact (radial thickness ~ 3 cm)

Large solid angle (> 70 %)

High granularity (8 K strips, 192 crystals)

Operation at T ~ 140 K, B = 3 Tesla



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Antihydrogen Detector - R&D, Installation



Full detector installed: August 2001 All photodiodes replaced with APDs: Spring 2002 Much effort into R&D, because :

- low temperature (~ 140 K)
- high magnetic field (3 T)
- low power consumption
- Light yield of pure CsI crystals ?
- expansion coefficients (kapton, silicon, ceramics)
- electronic components (capacitors, amplifiers)





Si strips



Antihydrogen Detector - Antiprotons only

Antiproton Annihilation (example)

- into three charged particles
- hits on strips (r-phi) and pads (z), inner/outer layer
- 3 crystals hit by tracks
- vertex reconstruction ~ 3-4 mm (curvature @ 3 T)







Z Position Calibration Method



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Z Position Calibration



Electrode position [cm]

Evolution of Antiproton Annihilation

Capture antiprotons + electrons:

Tracking of antiproton annihilations ->

Real-time imaging of plasma dynamics





CsI - Photon Energy Resolution



Antihydrogen Annihilation



Antihydrogen signal

- within time resolution ~ few μ sec:
- charged vertex, determine position
- identify two converted 511 keV gammas
- plot $\cos \Theta$ between 2 photons as seen from vertex
- identify peak at $\cos \Theta = -1$







511 keV background



511 keV background from antiproton annihilation

- Antiproton annihilation produces neutral pions
- Decay gammas (5-500 MeV) convert in magnet
- Secondary positrons stop and annihilate
- Homogeneous 511 keV photon background
- Can produce (fake) 2×511 keV photon events
- BUT: No angular correlation!



Production of Antihydrogen

1. Fill positron well in mixing region with $75 \cdot 10^6$ positrons;

allow them to cool to ambient temperature (15 K)

- 2. Launch 10⁴ antiprotons into mixing region
- 3. Mixing time 190 sec continuous monitoring by detector
- 4. Repeat cycle every 5 minutes take data for 165 cycles



For comparison:

"hot" mixing = continuous RF heating of positron cloud

(suppression of recombination)

V

Analysis Procedure



- Reconstruct annihilation vertex
- Search for 'clean' 511 keV-photons: exclude crystals hit by charged particles + its 8 nearest neighbours
- · '511 keV' candidate =

400... 620 keV no hits in any adjacent crystals

- Select events with two '511 keV' photons
- Reconstruction efficiency ~ 0.25 %



511 keV Multiplicity Distribution





Antihydrogen Signal

Opening angle between two 511 keV photons (seen from charged particle vertex)



Comparison of width with MC





Background measurements

Opening angle between two 511 keV photons (seen from charged particle vertex)



Histogram:

Antiproton-only data (99,610 vertices, 5,658 clean 2-photon events plotted).

Dots:

Antiproton + cold positrons, but analyzed using an energy window displaced upward so as not to include the 511 keV photo-peak

Distribution of annihilation points

Distribution of annihilation vertices when antiprotons are mixed with ...



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Annihilation rate versus time



Very high initial rate (t < 10 sec), then exponential decrease

Rate is dominated by antihydrogen annihilation

Ionizing field at positron plasma boundary: antihydrogen in n 55

Time dependence of signal events

TIME EVOLUTION - COMPARISON





Positron temperature

PLASMA MODES DIAGNOSTICS



Non-destructive measurement: (1,0), (2,0), line shape Plasma parameters: n, , r, z T from frequency shifts

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Summary

- 1 cycle = 10^4 antiprotons mixed with ~ 10^8 cold positrons (every 5 minutes)
- 131± 22 "golden" antihydrogen events reconstructed (~ 1 / cycle)
- Annihilation events are mostly antihydrogen (> 1000 / cycle)
- Antihydrogen production rate initially > 100 Hz
- Back-to-back signal not present when

positrons are hot

only antiprotons in mixing trap (annihilating on wall)

- Antihydrogen production can be switched off by RF heating of positrons
- ANTIHYDROGEN PRODUCTION AT T > 300 K CLEARLY OBSERVED



Outlook

Antihydrogen



Formation process

More ...

Increase formation rate (more antiprotons)

Trapping and cooling

Anti-Hydrogen at E < 0.05 meV ?

Dense plasmas in magnetic multipole fields?

Laser cooling? Collisions with ultra-cold hydrogen atoms?

Spectroscopy

High precision comparison 15-25 Hyperfine structure

Gravitational effects

E ~ 0.000 1 meV

A new precision tool for science

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