Precision studies of gravitational properties of antimatter

G. Dufour, P. Debu, A. Lambrecht, V.V. Nesvizhevsky, S. Reynaud, A.Yu. Voronin, *Shaping the distribution of vertical velocities of antihydrogen in GBAR*, Europ. Phys. J. C 74 (2014) 2731





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- Produce H⁺
- Capture H⁺ in a trap
- Cooling H⁺ with Be⁺ \rightarrow 10 μ K
- Photodetachment of one excess e⁺
- Time of flight

 $\mathbf{H}^{+} = \mathbf{p} \, \mathbf{e}^{+} \mathbf{e}^{+}$



J.Walz & T. Hänsch, General Relativity and Gravitation, 36 (2004) 561. Uncertainty dominated by the temperature of H ⁺



Future installation at CERN





Future installation at CERN

Ser.

JUTIO





Precision? -> Gravitational Spectroscopy !



- **Electrical neutrality (usually the gravitational** interaction for an object above a surface is much weaker than other interactions)
- 2) Long life-time 3) Small mass $\left(\Delta v \cdot \Delta x \approx \frac{\hbar}{\Delta \tau}\right)$ $\left(\Delta E \approx \frac{\hbar}{\Delta \tau}\right)$
- 4) Energy (effective temperature) of UCN, or an atom, is extremely low; it is not equal to the surface temperature (the effective temperature of a particle in gravitational quantum states is ~10 nK)

A particle avobe a mirror in the gravity field: An ultracold neutron (V.I. Luschikov, A.I. Frank « Quantum effects occuring when ultracold neutrons are stored on a plane », JETP Lett. 28 (1978) 759 and ... an anti-hydrogen atom (A.Yu. Voronin, P. Froelich, V.V. N. « Gravitational quantum states of antihydrogen », Phys. Rev. A 83 (2011) 032903

Energy of quantum states, in the Bohr-Zommerfeld approximation, equals :

$$E_n \approx \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{9 \cdot m}{8}\right) \cdot \left(\pi \cdot \hbar \cdot g \cdot \left(n - \frac{1}{4}\right)\right)^2}$$

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Comparison of neutron and antihydrogen quantum states

Yesterday's sensation is today's calibration and tomorrow's background [Richard Feynman]

NEUTRONS FOR SCIENCE



Matter / Anti-matter



but aimed at, for instance, in GBAR project at CERN



?..?..

Illustration for quantum motion of a matter object and an anti-matter object above a mirror in a gravitational field.

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Choosing a quantum system

- 1) A neutron is reflected from the nuclear optical potential of a matter due to averaging of the neutron interaction with a huge number of nuclei
 - An anti-matter (matter) atom is reflected from the sharply-changing (negative) van der Waals/ Casimir-Polder (vdW/CP) potential step (originating from vacuum fluctuations) A.Yu. Voronin, P. Froelich, B. Zygelman, Phys. Rev. A 72 (2005) 062903

A(n) (anti)-particle avobe a mirror in the gravity field

2)

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Gravitational quantum states of antihydrogen



TABLE I. The eigenvalues, gravitational energies, and classical turning points of a quantum bouncer with the mass of (anti)hydrogen in the Earth's gravitational field.

n	λ_n^0	E_n^0 (peV)	$z_n^0 (\mu \mathrm{m})$
1	2.338	1.407	13.726
2	4.088	2.461	24.001
3	5.521	3.324	32.414
4	6.787	4.086	39.846
5	7.944	4.782	46.639
6	9.023	5.431	52.974
7	10.040	6.044	58.945

A(n) (anti)-particle avobe a mirror in the gravity field

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\frac{d^2}{dz^2} + V_{CP}(z) + Mgz - E \end{bmatrix}\Psi(z) = 0 \\ \Psi(-\infty) = 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\frac{d^2}{dz^2} + Mgz - E \end{bmatrix}\Psi(z) = 0 \\ \frac{\Psi(0)}{\Psi'(0)} = -\frac{a_{CP}}{l_g} \approx i0.005$$

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- Spectroscopy: induced transitions between gravitational quantum states
- Interference: temporal and spatial oscillations of annihilation signal of a superposition of gravitational states
- Temporal and spatial resolution of free-fall events: mapping of the momentum distribution in gravitational states into time-offall or spatial distribution





Antihydrogen in magnetic field

 $\widehat{T}_{z} + Mgz + \widehat{H}_{c} + \frac{\alpha_{HF}}{2} (F^{2} - \frac{3}{2}) + B(z,t)(\mu_{B} \widehat{s}_{e} + \mu_{p} \widehat{s}_{p}) + \widehat{H}_{st}$

Center-of-mass fall

 α_{HF}

Ε

Coulomb **HF** splitting

d

С

b

а

F=1, M=1

F=1, M=0

F=1, M=-1

Field-magnetic moment interaction

Effective Stark-effect

 $\frac{\alpha_{HF}}{\hbar} \cong 1420 \ Mhz$

 $\varepsilon_{grav} \ll \mu B \ll \alpha_{HF}$

$$E_{a,c} = E_{1s} - \frac{\alpha_{HF}}{4} \mp \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\alpha_{HF}^2 + |(\mu_B - \mu_{\bar{p}})B(z,t)|^2}$$

$$E_{b,d} = E_{1s} + \frac{\alpha_{HF}}{4} \mp \frac{1}{2} |(\mu_B + \mu_{\bar{p}})B(z,t)|.$$

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F=0, M=0



Interference of gravitational states

 $\Psi = \sum_{i=1}^{N} C_{i} \Psi_{i}$ $j(z,t) = \frac{i\hbar}{2m} \left| \Psi(z,t) \frac{d\Psi^*(z,t)}{dz} - \Psi^*(z,t) \frac{d\Psi(z,t)}{dz} \right|$ $\frac{dF_{12}}{dz} = -\frac{\Gamma}{\hbar} \exp(-\frac{\Gamma}{\hbar}t) \left(1 - \cos(\omega_{12}t)\right) \qquad \omega_{12} = \frac{E_2 - E_1}{\hbar} \quad \hbar \Gamma^{-1} \approx 0.1s$







Mapping of momentum distribution

AL PART

$$\Psi(z,t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\hbar}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ipz/\hbar} G(p,t,p') F_0(p') dp dp$$

- ALLAN

$$G(p,t,p') = \exp\left[-\frac{it}{2m\hbar}(p^2 - Mgpt + M^2g^2t^2/3)\right]\delta(p - Mgt - p')$$

$$\Psi(z,t) \approx \sqrt{\frac{m}{t}} e^{\frac{imz^2}{2t\hbar} + -\frac{it^3 M^2 g^2}{2m\hbar}} F_0(p_0 - Mgt); \ p_0 = (z + \frac{gt^2}{2})\frac{m}{t}$$

$$|\Psi(z,t)|^{2} \approx \frac{m}{t} |F_{0}(k)|^{2}$$

1) $z = z_{0} : k = mg(t - t_{0}), t_{0} = \sqrt{2g/z_{0}}$
2) $t = t_{0} = L/v : k = \frac{m(z - z_{0})}{t_{0}}$





Phase monitoring

 $\Psi = \Psi_1 + Exp(-i\omega_{21}t)\Psi_2$







A. Yu. Voronin, P. Froelich, and B. Zygelman, Phys. Rev. A 72, 062903 (2005).

<u>G. Dufour, A. Gérardin, R. Guérout, A. Lambrecht, V. V. Nesvizhevsky, S.</u> <u>Reynaud, A. Yu. Voronin</u> Phys. Rev. A 87, 012901 (2013)



1. Precision spectroscopic and interferometric measurements (0.01% and better).

- 2. Compact experimental design, thus cheap setup. 3. We can profit form major expertise gained in
- 3. We can profit form major expertise gained in analogous experiments with ultracold neutrons (UCNs).
- 4. An option of one-to-one prototyping antihydrogen experiments using, for instance, UCNs in GRANIT spectrometer in ILL, Grenoble.
- 5. Constraints for extra short-range fundamental interactions between matter and antimatter.



1. The goal of GBAR : to measure precisely the acceleration of gravity for antimatter 2. Precision depends on the dispersion of vertical velocities and on the control of their distribution 3. A new method for shaping and controlling the distribution of vertical velocities of antihydrogen 4. We estimate statistical and systematical uncertainties as better than 0.1 %



Shaping the distribution of vertical velocities of antihydrogen in GBAR



Here, we limit ourselves to simple (*quasi*)classical description of the new scheme for shaping the distribution of vertical velocities of antihydrogen

Rigorous *quantum* description is available in the publication cited on the front page

This scheme is a first step towards quantum experiment

By considering classical->quantum limit, we show that quantum experiment will provide better statistical sensitivity, smaller systematical uncertainties, more compact design and cheaper setup *simultaneously*

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Photo-detachment: START

Annihilation: STOP

Η

$\overline{g} = Mg/m$

 \overline{H}^+

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$\Box = \frac{\hbar}{2}$ Photo-detachment: START

 $(\Delta \bar{g}/\bar{g}) = 2(\Delta t/t)$

$v_H = \sqrt{2\bar{g}H} \quad t_H = \sqrt{2H/\bar{g}}$

H

$$\frac{\Delta t}{t_H} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\zeta}{2H}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\upsilon}{\upsilon_H}\right)^2} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\zeta}{2H}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\hbar}{2m\upsilon_H\zeta}\right)^2}$$
Annihilation: STOP
$$\zeta_{opt} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar H}{m\upsilon_H}} \qquad \left(\frac{\Delta t}{t_H}\right)_{opt} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\upsilon_HH}}$$

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 $\zeta_{opt} \approx 88 \, \mu m$

Photo-detachment: START

H = 0.3 m $v_H \approx 2.4 m/s t_H = \sqrt{2H/g}$

Annihilation: STOP

$$\begin{split} &(\Delta t/t_0)_{opt} \approx 2.0 \cdot 10^{-4} \\ &(\Delta \bar{g}/\bar{g})_{opt} \approx 4.0 \cdot 10^{-4} \\ &N_{tot} \approx 2.6 \cdot 10^4 \end{split}$$

$$\frac{\Delta \bar{g}_{opt}}{\bar{g}_{\sqrt{N_{opt}}}} = \sqrt{\frac{2\hbar}{m\nu_H H N_{tot}}} \approx 2.5 \cdot 10^{-1}$$

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BUT: 0.22 $\mu m > \zeta > 0.07 \mu m$ that is 3 orders of Photo-detachment: START magnitude smaller

 $H = 0.3 m \quad v_H \approx 2.4 m/s$

thus the resolution is limited by the large dispersion of initial velocity $\frac{\Delta \overline{g}}{\overline{g}\sqrt{N_{tot}}} = \frac{2v}{v_H\sqrt{N_{tot}}}$

 $N_{tot} \approx 2.6 \cdot 10^4$

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V.V. Nesvizhevsky

Annihilation: STOP



 To take into account the possibility of antigravity, the setup should be reversed « upside-down »; 2) The shaping device has to be coupled with the Paul trap;
 Position-sensitive and time-resolving detectors for counting annihilation events; 4) Cylindrical symmetry.

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To start: r tends to zero, R tends to infinity, losses are negligible. Then $\frac{N}{N_{tot}} = \frac{\Delta v}{v} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} \qquad \Delta v = \sqrt{2\overline{g}h}$

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The limit of large h: Restricted only by the maximum radius R (because of antihydrogen losses) 0,1v = 4.2 cmh = 3 mm N $\approx 8 \cdot 10^3$ $\Delta g/g \approx 1.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$ $r < 5.2\sqrt{\epsilon} mm$

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The limit of purely quantum behaviour: $h < 50 \ \mu m$ $N \approx 1.1 \cdot 10^3$ $\Delta g/g \approx 0.9 \cdot 10^{-3}$ $1.4\sqrt{\epsilon} mm$

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A new scheme for shaping the distribution of vertical NEUTRONS velocities of antihydrogen in GBAR



Estimation of systematic effects (all well below 0.1%):
Uncertainty of shaping/measuring the distribution of vertical velocity components;
Finite position- and time- resolution of the detectors;

- Correction for the time spent in the shaping device; Diffraction of antihydrogen on the mirror edges;
- Residual electromagnetic effects;
- « Patch effects » on mirror surfaces;
- Inclinations of the disks and the reference plate; Finite precision of production and adjustment of optical elements;
- Vibrations causing parasitic transitions between gravitational quantum states.

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CONCLUSION



1. We propose a new method for shaping and controlling the distribution of vertical velocities of antihydrogen 2. We estimate statistical and systematical uncertainties as better than 0.1 % 3. Statistical uncertainty decreases for smaller slit sizes, thus for better defined vertical velocities: the range of vertical velocities « overweights » the loss in statistics 4. Systematical uncertainties decrease even more dramatically for smaller heights of the slit between the two disks 5. The « vertical temperature » of antihydrogen in the proposed scheme is as low as about 10 nK.

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