Testing gravity on accelerators

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1508.04377: Gravitational mass of positron from LEP synchrotron losses

1506.08063: Gravitational mass of relativistic matter
and antimatter

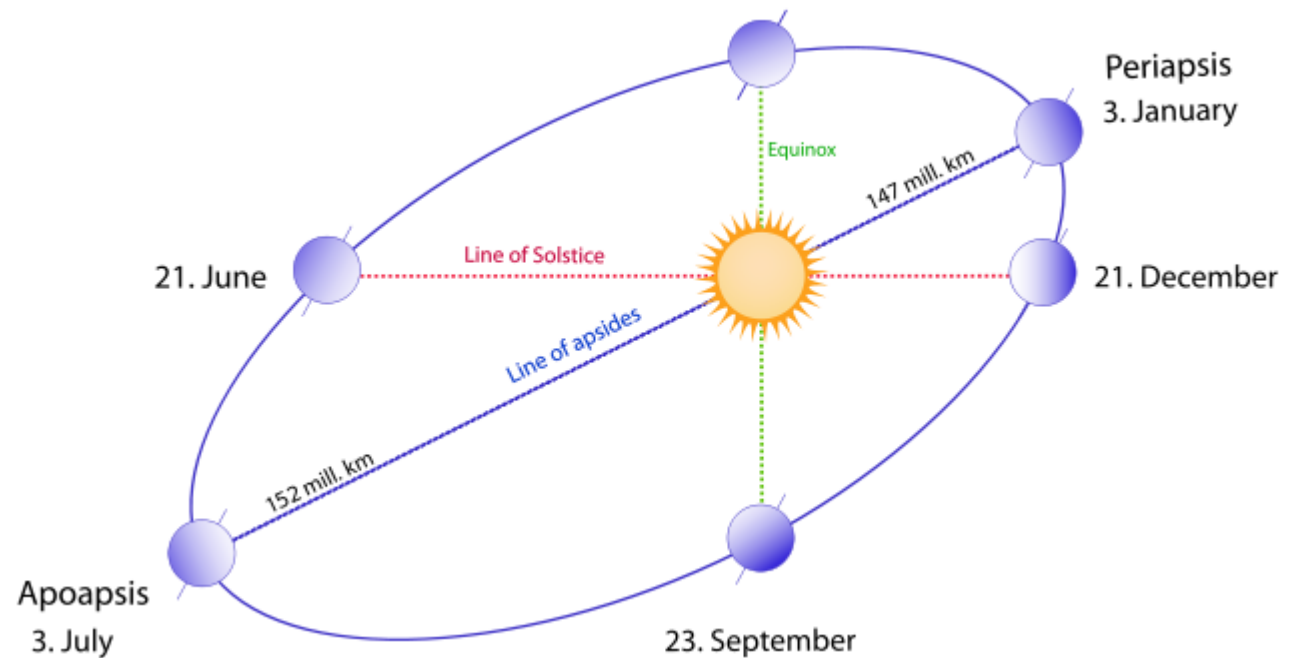**1506.01963**: Testing general relativity on accelerators

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Motivation

- **Tests of gravity at high energies**

- **Antimatter gravity** $\left(-65 < m_g^{\bar{H}}/m^{\bar{H}} < 110\right)$

How?
Perform tests on the isotropic Lorentz violation at two different days of the year.

C. Amole et al. [ALPHA Collaboration], Nature Commun. 4, 1785 (2013).

Theory in brief

Gravitational field around the accelerator:

$$ds^2 = \mathcal{H}^2 dt^2 - \mathcal{H}^{-2}(dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2)$$ **where** $\mathcal{H}^2 = 1 + 2\Phi$

For a massive particle (in our case ultrarelativistic electron or positron)

$$\Phi_m = \Phi\,\frac{m_{e,g}}{m_e}\,, \qquad\qquad \mathcal{H}_m^2 \equiv 1 + 2\Phi_m$$
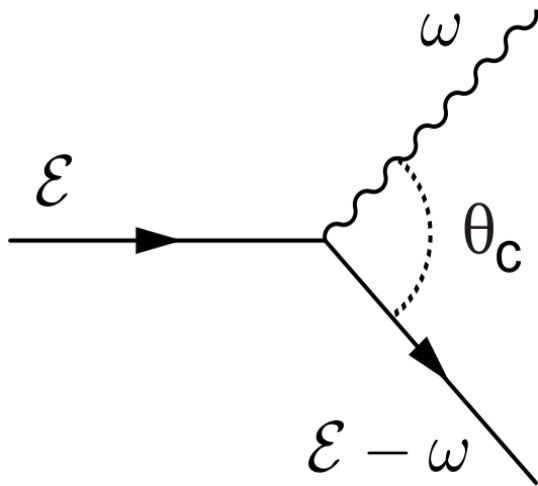
which will modify the dispersion relation of the particle and the relation between energy and mass (we assume the speed of light to be universal)

$$\mathbf{p}^2 = (1 - 2\kappa)\left(\mathcal{E}^2 - m_e^2\right), \qquad \mathcal{E} = \frac{m_e \mathcal{H}^{-1}\mathcal{H}_m}{\sqrt{1 - \mathcal{H}^4 \mathcal{H}_m^{-4}\mathbf{v}^2}}$$

where $\kappa = 2\Phi\Delta m_e / m_e, \ \ \Delta m_e = m_{e,g} - m_e.$

Imagine that $|\kappa| < \kappa_{1,2}$ **for two experiments, then** $\left|\dfrac{\Delta m_e}{m_e}\right| < \dfrac{\kappa_1 + \kappa_2}{2\Delta\Phi}$

1. Vacuum Cherenkov radiation

Threshold energy:
$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{th}} = \frac{m_e}{\sqrt{-2\kappa}}$$
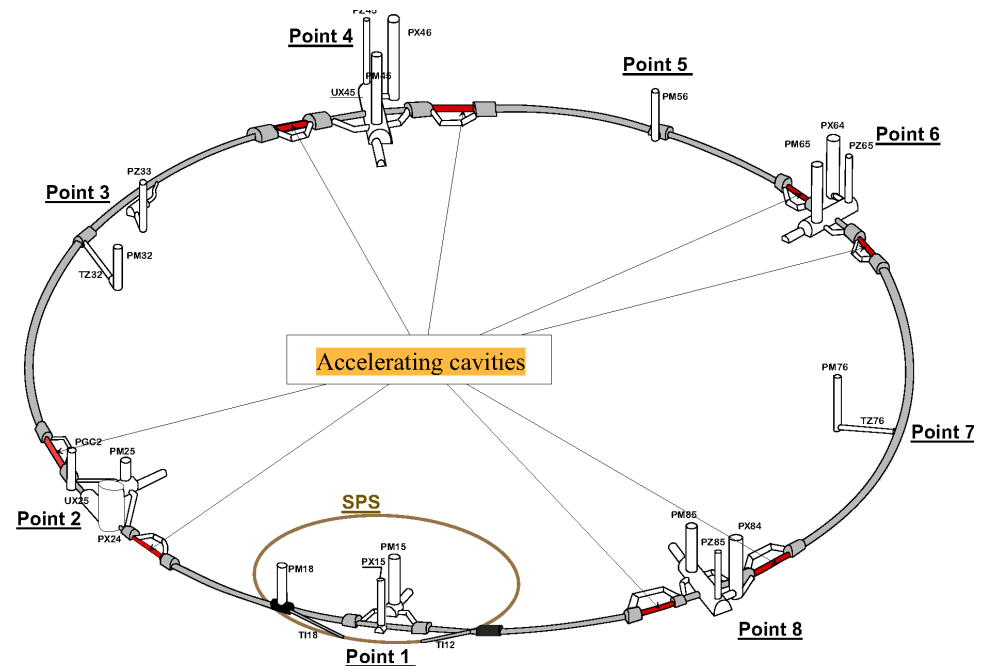
Emission rate:
$$\Gamma_C = \alpha\, m_e^2\, \frac{(\mathcal{E} - \mathcal{E}_{\text{th}})^2}{2\mathcal{E}^3}$$

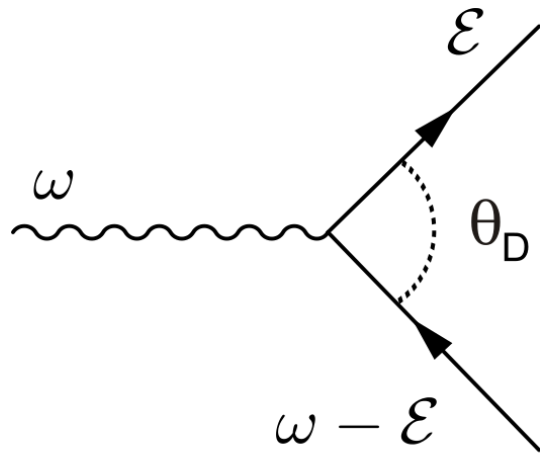**Let us take E = 104.5 GeV electrons and positrons at LEP.**

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{th}} = 100\,\text{GeV}$$

Compare: 1.2cm (decceleration distance) vs 6 km (approximate distance between accelerating RF systems).

$$\kappa > -1.3 \times 10^{-11}$$

2. Photon decay

Threshold energy:

$$\omega_{\text{th}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\kappa}} m_e$$

Decay rate:

$$\Gamma_D = \frac{2}{3}\alpha\,\omega\,\frac{m_e^2}{\omega_{\text{th}}^2}\left(2 + \frac{\omega_{\text{th}}^2}{\omega^2}\right)\sqrt{1 - \frac{\omega_{\text{th}}^2}{\omega^2}}$$
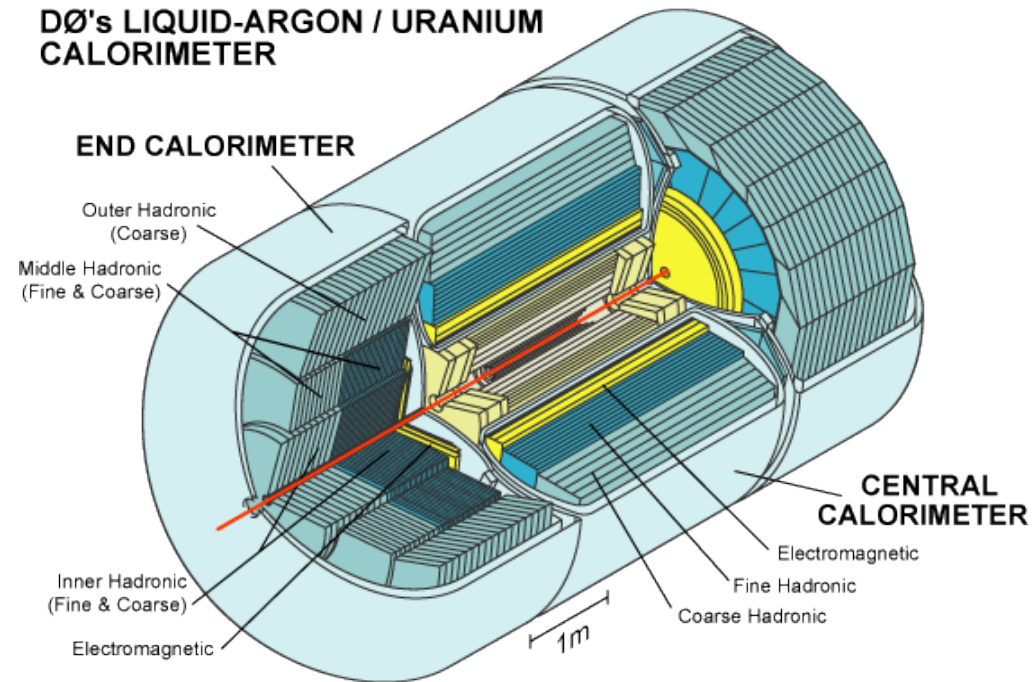
Let us take E = 340.5 GeV photons at Fermilab's Tevatron.

$$\omega_{\text{th}} = 300\,\text{GeV}$$

Compare: 0.1 mm (decay distance) vs 78 cm (minimal path from interaction point to the central calorimeter of D0 detector).

$$\kappa < 5.8 \times 10^{-12}$$

DØ's LIQUID-ARGON / URANIUM CALORIMETER

3. Synchrotron radiation

Radiation power without gravity

$$P = \frac{2}{3}\frac{e^2\dot{\mathbf{v}}^2}{c^3}\left(\frac{\mathcal{E}}{m_e}\right)^4$$

Modification of the gamma-factor leads to

$$\Delta P/P = 4\kappa\gamma^2$$


electron beam

synchrotron radiation

LEP E = 80 GeV electrons and positrons.
Energy was estimated by 3 methods: NMR and flux-loop magnetic field measurement; spectrometry; synchrotron tune vs RF voltage fit.
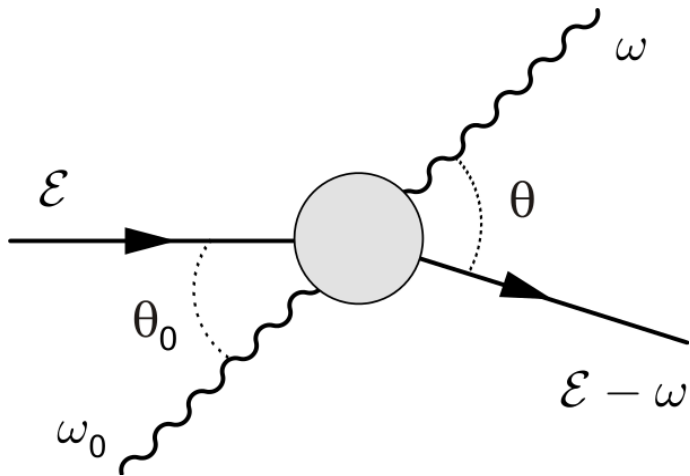
$$Q_s^4 = \left(\frac{\alpha_c h}{2\pi}\right)^2\left\{\frac{g^2 e^2 V_{RF}^2}{E^2} + Mg^4 V_{RF}^4 - \frac{U^2}{E^2}\right\}$$

One can reinterpret it as a fit to *U* and possible uncertainty in the synchrotron losses

$$|\kappa| < 9\times 10^{-15}$$ **for two experiments (13 Aug & 15 Sep 1999)**
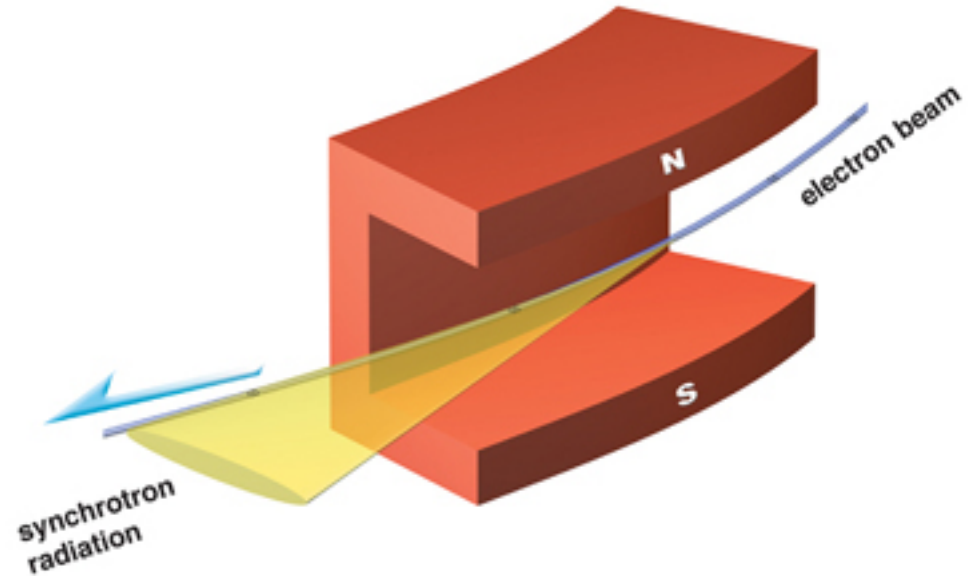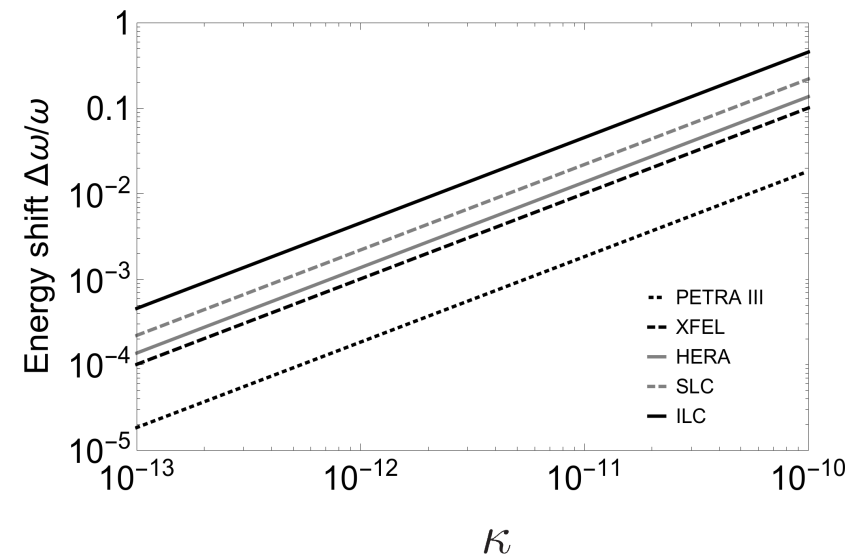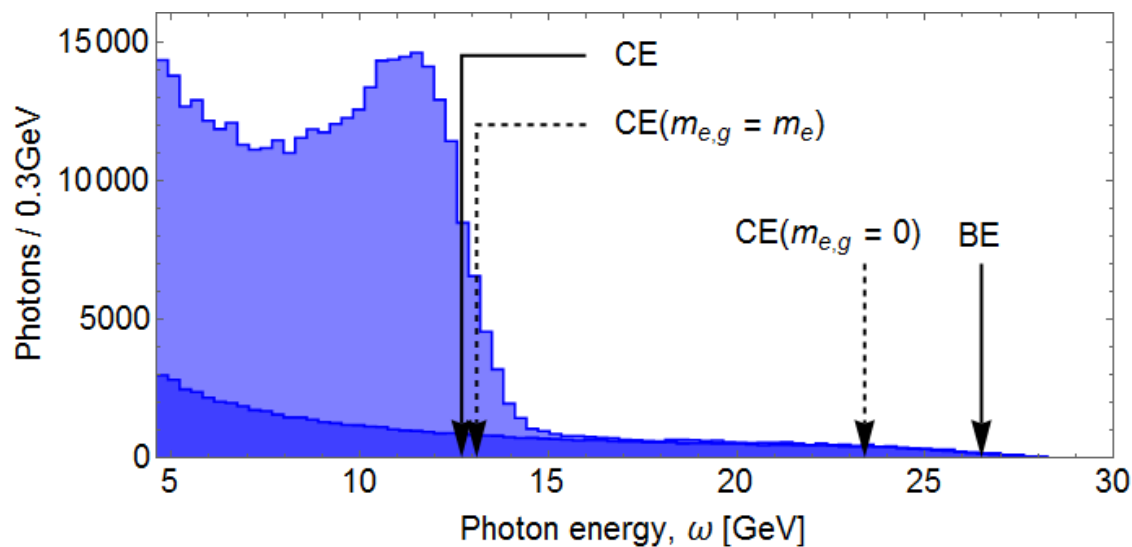
4. Compton scattering

Shifts in the Compton edge give

$$\left|\frac{\Delta m_e}{m_e}\right| < \frac{\Delta\omega_1 + \Delta\omega_2}{\omega_{max}} \cdot \frac{m^2(1+x)^2}{4\mathcal{E}^2|\Delta\Phi|}$$

where $\quad x \equiv 4\mathcal{E}\omega_0 \sin^2(\theta_0/2)/m_e^2$

Results

- **Absence of vacuum Cherenkov radiation at LEP and photon stability at Tevatron give 4% limit on the difference between the gravitational and inertial masses of the electron/positron at GeV energies.**

- **Synchrotron radiation at LEP reduces it to 0.13%**

- **Compton scattering can provide a similar or better precision if performed at ILC/CLIC twice: when Earth is at the aphelion and perihelion of its orbit.**

At the beginning of the 21st century, we are finally able to rule out antigravity and confirm weak equivalence principle for the high-energy matter and antimatter.