LABORATORI NAZIONALI DEL GRAN SASSO

SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT

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Matter-antimatter transformation via neutron-antineutron oscillation: status review and new searches with cold neutrons

Observation of violation of baryon number B is a crucial component for understanding of matter-antimatter asymmetry of the universe and the physics beyond the Standard Model. One perspective experimental approach for detection of baryon number violation is a search for matter to antimatter transformation using neutrons (Delta_B=2). I will review and comment on the interpretation of recent N-Nbar search results from Super-K and SNO; on unsatisfactory theoretical situation with the estimate of the intranuclear suppression of NNbar, and on advantages of NNbar search with free neutrons in vacuum. In particular, I will discuss a recent proposal to use a dedicated source of Very Cold Neutrons that can be built with Project X spallation target at Fermilab. In the new experiment the sensitivity of N-Nbar search can be increased from the present limits by 3 orders of magnitude. Due to the unique signature of the antineutron annihilation, in a backgroundless detector one observed event can be a discovery.

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