# Plasma Tools for Antimatter Physics\*

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## Antimatter Basics

- All known particles have an antiparticle
  - Equal mass, but opposite charge (q = -q)
  - Example: Antiprotons, positrons (antielectrons)
- Created during high energy processes when  $E > mc^2$ 
  - Radioactive decay
  - High energy accelerators
- Annihilates with it's matter counter part

# **Positron Applications**

- Positron beams to probe surfaces
- Creation of antihydrogen at CERN to test CPT symmetry
- Positron atomic physics

## Future...

- Bose-Einstein condensed positronium
- Gamma ray laser
- Plasma diagnostics (test particle)

# Current Limitation: Positron Sources

Low energy positron sources are weak, I ~ pA

## Solution: Positron Trapping

Collect large numbers of positrons in charge particle traps

# Outline

- High Field positron trap
- Beams
  - Extraction method
  - Predictions and results
- Attractive features
  - Cold beams
  - Narrow beams
  - Multiple beams
- Electrostatic beams

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# Penning-Malmberg Trap



-Uniform density  $(n_0)$  rigid rotor (E × B drift)

$$f_E \propto n_0$$

-Confined in state of thermal equilibrium -Infinite confinement times -Thermal equilibrium with walls

(Dubin, Rev. of Mod. Phys. '99)

# High Field Trap

← 120cm →

-B = 5 T

 $-T_{elec} \sim 10 \Leftrightarrow 300 \text{ K}$ -Screen & Camera

-"Rotating Wall"





#### "Rotating Wall" Compression\*







 $V = V_{RW} \cos[(2\pi f_{RW}) t + \theta]$ 

"Strong Drive" regime

X.-P. Huang, et. al., *PRL* '97. Danielson, et. al., *PRL* 05; 07; *Phys. Pl.* '06.

## **Trapping Parameters Achieved**

- N~10<sup>10</sup>
  T < 20 meV</li>
  n~5 × 10<sup>10</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup>
  τ~days

# High Quality Beams from Trap?

- Most positron applications require high quality beams (narrow, bright, and cold)
- Future applications hinge on beam quality

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# Extraction Method



Danielson, et. al., *Appl. Phys. Lett.*, 2007. Weber, et. al., *Phys. Plasmas*, 2008.



#### **Beam Measurements**



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#### Beam Model

$$v_{z\min}(r) = \sqrt{-\frac{2e}{m_e} \left[ V_E - \phi_o(r) \right]}$$



#### Beam Model



Beam Profile Theory  

$$\sigma_{b}(r) = \int_{v_{z}} f_{p} d^{3} \vec{v} d\theta dz \approx \sigma_{0} \exp\left[-\left(\frac{r}{2\lambda_{D}}\right)^{2} + \frac{e\Delta\phi(r)}{T}\right]$$
Gaussian beam  $\longrightarrow \Delta\phi(r) \approx \Delta\phi(0) + \frac{eN_{b}}{L_{p}}\frac{r^{2}}{\rho_{b}^{2}}$ 



## **Test Predictions**





# Beam Number Equation: $N_b(V_E)$ $N_b = \int_{v_z > v_{zmin}(r)} f_p d^3 \vec{r}$

$$v_{z\min}(r) = \sqrt{-\frac{2e}{m_e} \left[ V_E - \phi_o(r) + \Delta \phi(r) \right]}$$

$$\Delta \phi(r) \approx -\frac{eN_b}{L_p} \left[ \gamma + 2\log\left(\frac{R_W}{\rho_b}\right) + \Gamma\left(\frac{R_W^2}{\rho_b^2}\right) - \frac{r^2}{\rho_b^2} \right]$$

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$$N_b = A(V_E, \text{ plasma parameters})$$

## Test Predictions



Weber, et. al., Phys. Plasmas, 2009.

# **Energy Distribution Function**



NOT a thermal beam (i.e., Non-Maxwellian)

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#### **Energy Spread Trends**



Low energy spreads ~ 4 K achievable!

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#### Narrow Beams

 $\xi = 0.5$ 



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#### Multiple Beams: Plasma Recovery



## Multiple Beams Results



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#### Electrostatic Beam

- Beam in B=0 region
- Applications include:
  - Microbeams through electrostatic focus and remoderation
  - Atomic physics scattering experiments
- Require extraction from the 5 T field



# Single particle motion

•For slow extraction, particles stayed "glued" to field lines and maintain adiabatic invariant

$$\frac{E_{\perp}}{B} = const \; .$$

•Fast extraction, particles leave field lines and conserve canonical angular momentum with  $\theta$  "kick"

$$L_z = const . = rp_\theta + qrA_\theta$$



#### Slow Extraction



#### Slow Extraction



as  $B_f \rightarrow 0$   $\Delta E_{\parallel} = \sqrt{3/2T}$   $\Delta E_{\perp} = 0$  $\Delta E = \sqrt{3/2T}$ 

#### Fast Extraction



 $\rho_{bf} = \rho_{bi}$ 

#### Fast Extraction



 $\rho_{bf} = \rho_{bi}$ 

 $\Delta E_{\perp} \propto B^2 \rho_b^2 = \Delta E_{\parallel} \propto B^2 \rho_b^2 = \Delta E = \sqrt{3/2T}$ 

## New Experiment



#### The Beam Line



# A First Experiment



$\Delta E_{\perp} ({\rm eV})$	0.1	$2.1 \times 10^{-5}$	0.45	4.65
$\Delta E \ (\mathrm{eV})$	0.24	0.24	0.24	6.58
$ ho_{ m b}~({ m cm})$	$6.5 \times 10^{-3}$	0.45	0.45	0.14
$(\mathrm{cm}\sqrt{\mathrm{eV}})$	$2.1 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.1 \times 10^{-3}$	0.3	0.3

0

# Advantages of Trap Based Positron Beams

- High brightness and low emittance
  - Rotating Wall
  - Cyclotron cooling to  $T_W$
- Reproducible
- Efficiently use most trapped positrons
- Electrostatic beams

# Conclusions

- Positrons have many exciting applications but require bright, energy resolved sources
- Penning-Malmberg trap has a great potential as a future positron source
- Demonstrated ability to confine large numbers, and extract tailored, high quality beams
- Electrostatic beam has been demonstrated
- Exciting new tools to drive positron research!

#### References:

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J. R. Danielson, T. R. Weber, and C. M. Surko, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* 90, 081503 (2007).

#### http://positrons.ucsd.edu

