

Updates on the 1S-2S spectroscopy of antihydrogen at the ALPHA* experiment at CERN

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- ★ Motivation
- ★ Making, Trapping and Laser Spectroscopy of Antihydrogen
- ★ Laser cooled data with analytical lineshape: parts in 10^{13}
- ★ Proof-of-principle for H in the same anti-H trap: parts in $10^{15,16\dots}$
- ★ Brief gravitational fall of antihydrogen
- ★ Summary and Perspectives

*ALPHA @ PSAS-2026: Abbygale G. Swadling (following talk), Edward Thorpe-Woods (talk Monday-ETH), Maria Beatriz Gomes Goncalves (poster Monday: Be⁺ cooling of e⁺)

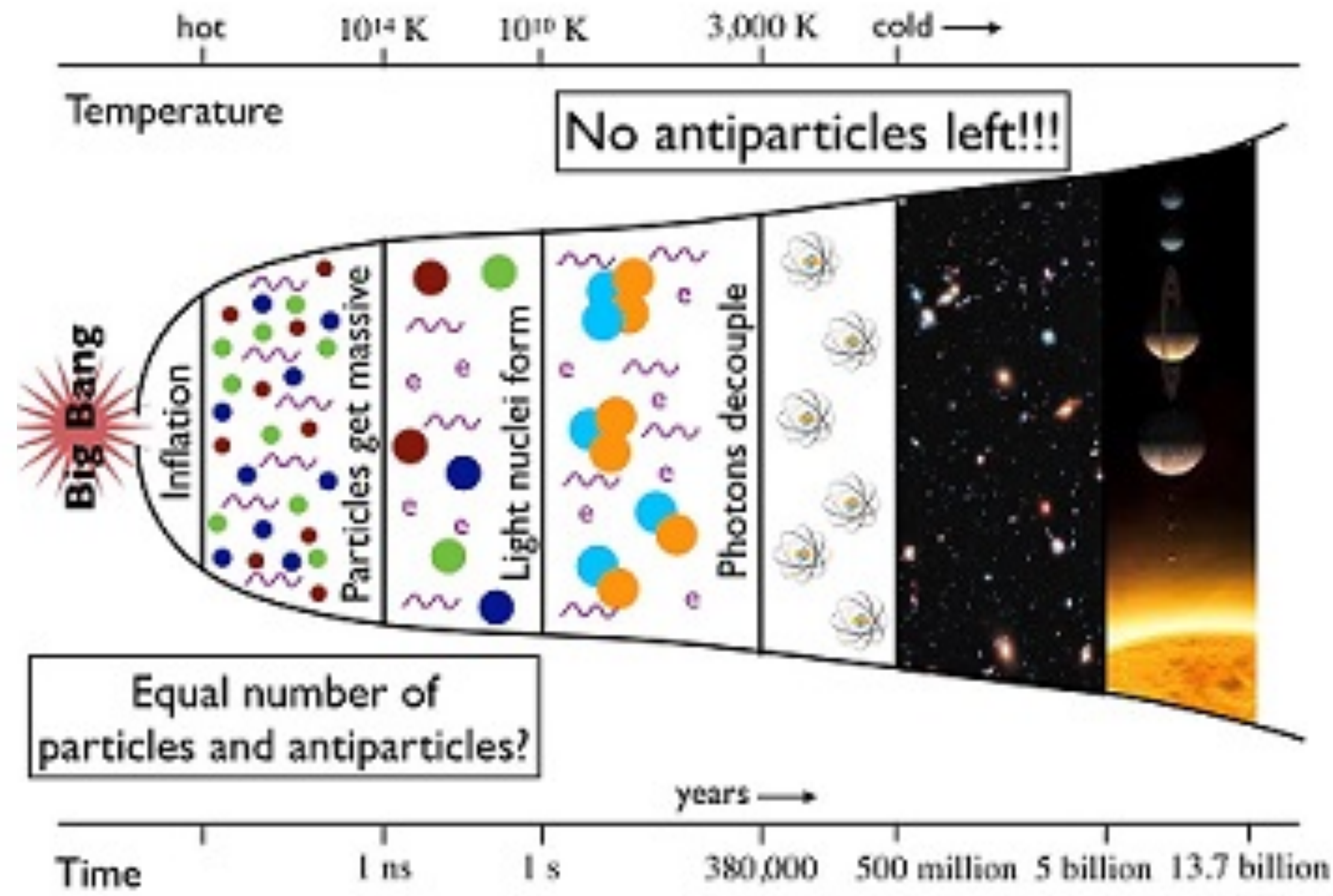
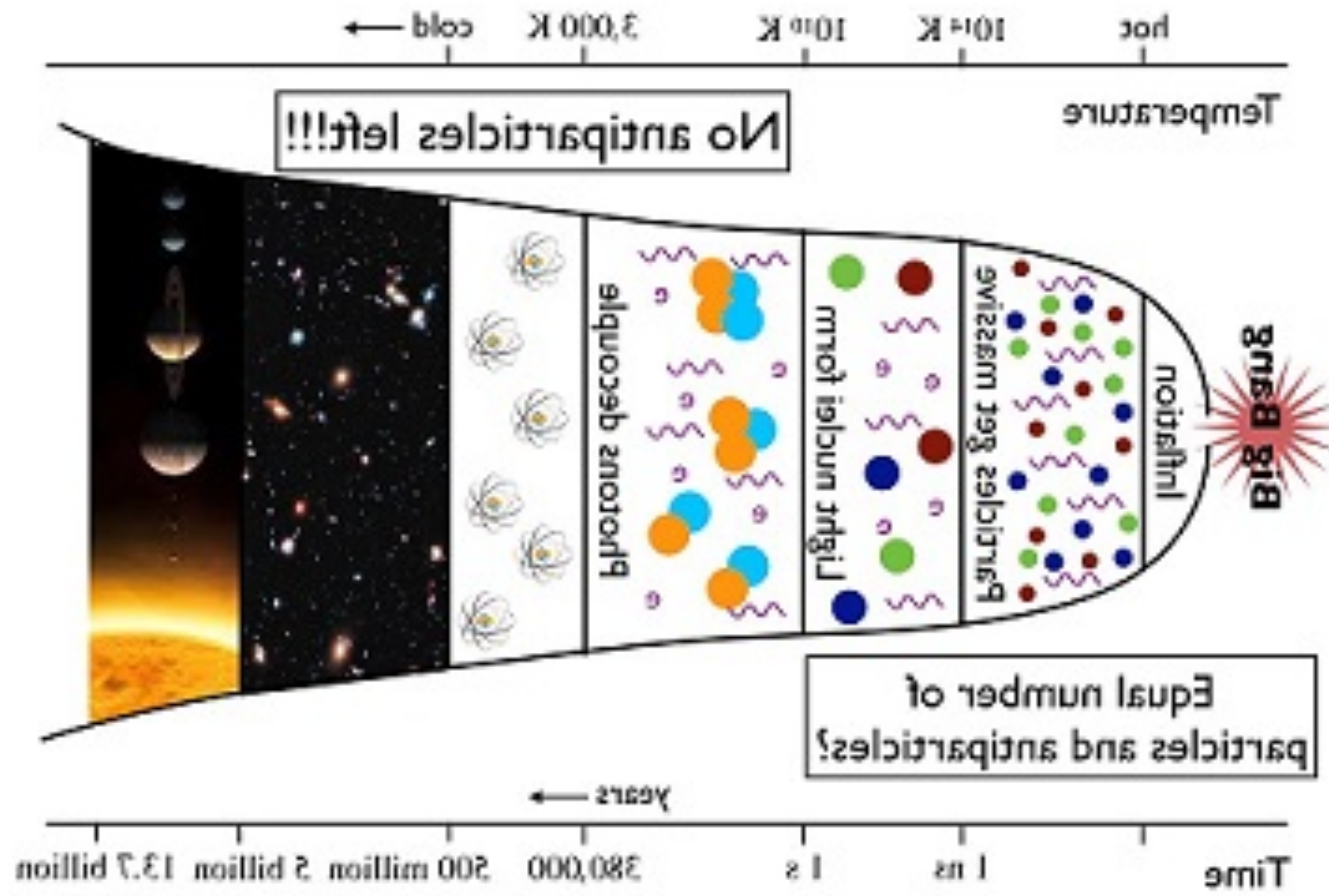
A cosmic background radiation map showing temperature fluctuations in the universe. The map features a color gradient from red (warmer) to blue (cooler), with a prominent red region on the left and a blue region on the right. The background is filled with numerous small white stars.

Let there be particles: Matter & Antimatter

**but ... the primordial
antimatter disappeared**

Mirror Universe ?? (speculation yet)

CP violation ?? (not enough seen yet)



<https://www.hmc.edu/physics/research/colloquium/why-are-we-here-matter-antimatter-asymmetry-of-the-universe/>

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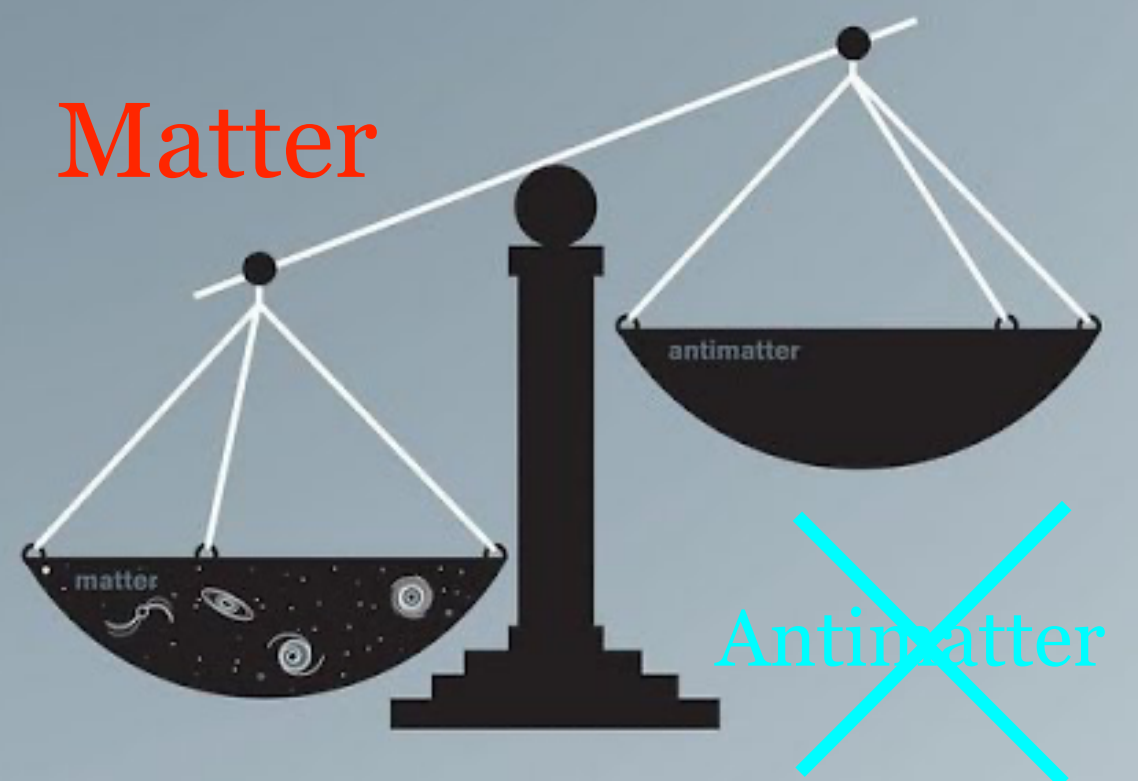
Primordial Matter

Primordial Antimatter

no good scientific explanation for our Universe devoid of primordial antimatter

10,000,000,001

10,000,000,000



CPT symmetry (base of the Standard Model)

Symmetry Operations / Background

"P" - parity, space inversion: $-r \Leftrightarrow +r$

"C" - charge conjugation: $e^- \Leftrightarrow e^+$

"T" - time reversal: $-t \Leftrightarrow +t$

P('57)



C. Yang
1957



T.D. Lee
1957

CP('80)



J. Cronin
1980



V. Fitch
1980

CPT Theorem

Quantum Field Theory
Lorentz Local invariance

Flat space

particles X antiparticles

opposite charge, but

same mass, magnetic moment, mean life, ...

atom X anti-atom

same quantum structure

CPT symmetry (base of the Standard Model)

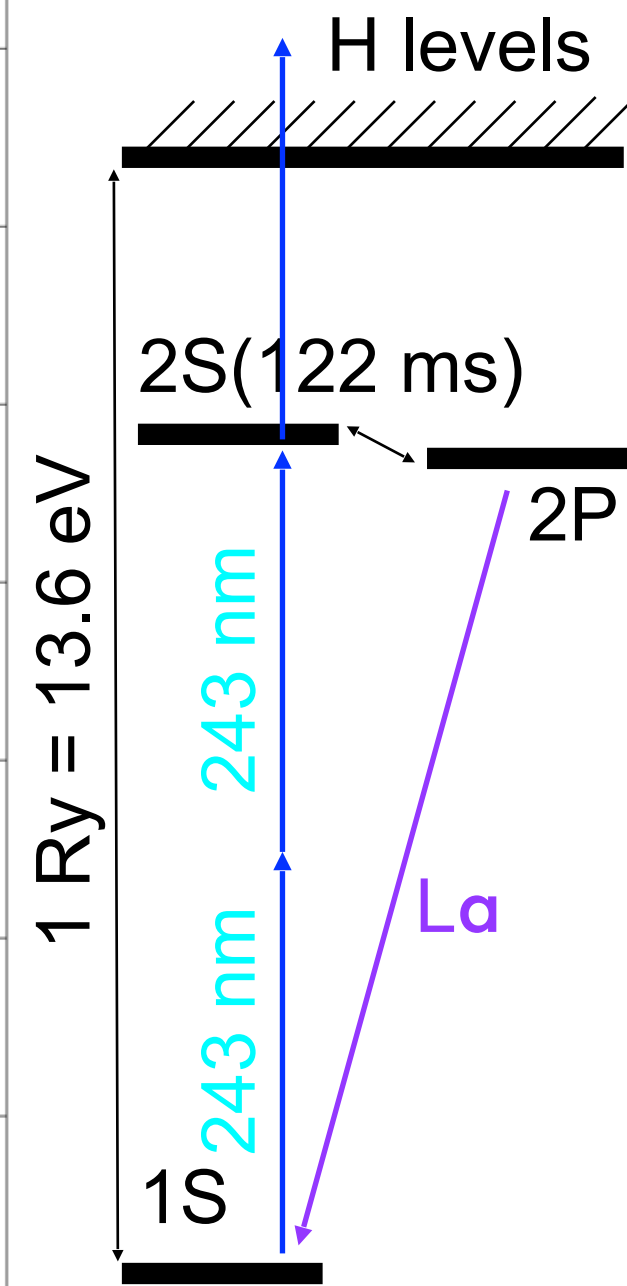
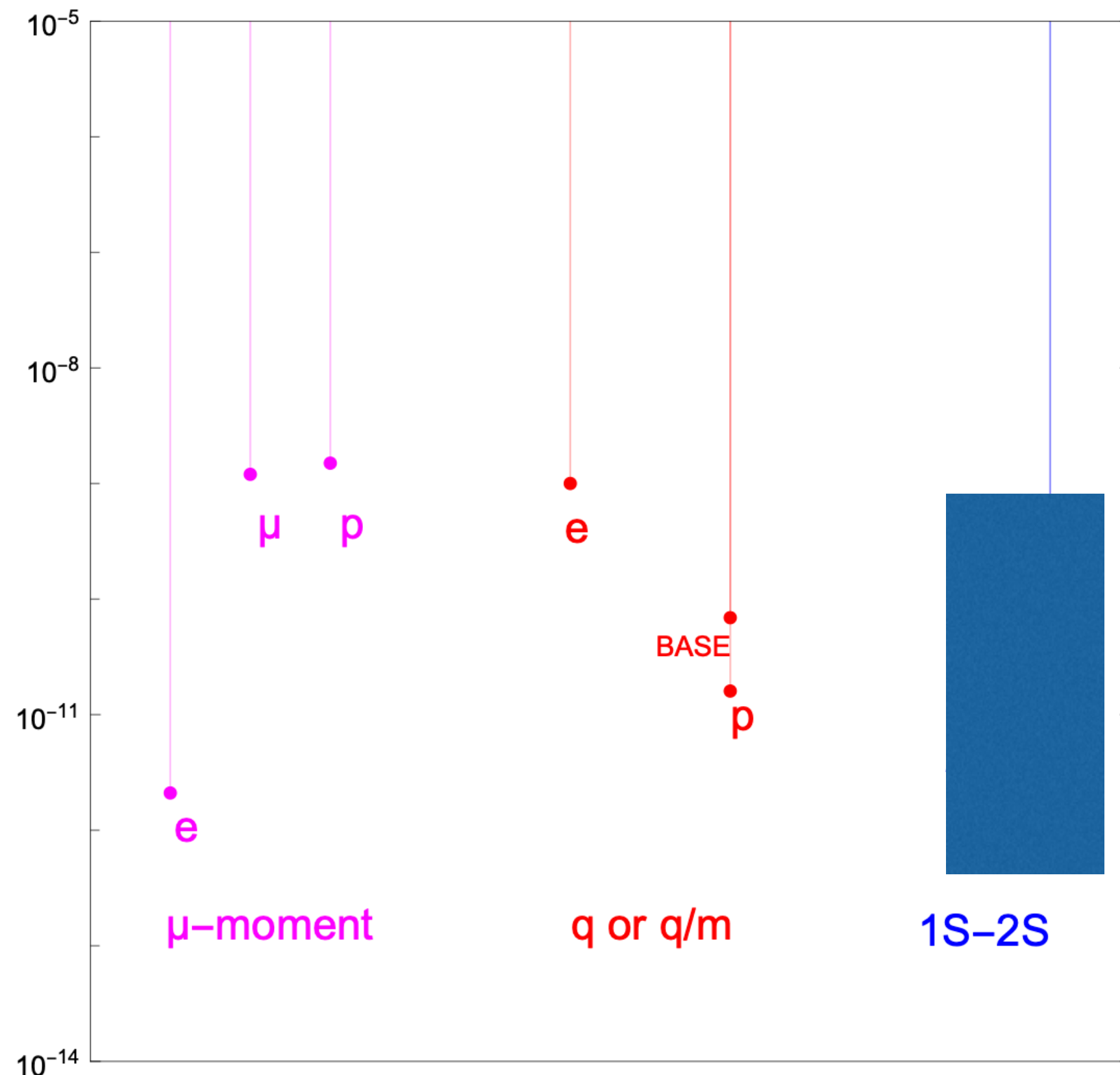
Symmetry Operations / Background

"P" - parity, space inversion: $-r \Leftrightarrow +r$

"C" - charge conjugation: $e^- \Leftrightarrow e^+$

"T" - time reversal: $-t \Leftrightarrow +t$

Fractional Precision: Matter X Antimatter



Hydrogen (1s-2s)

"Two-Photon Spectroscopy of Trapped Atomic Hydrogen", Claudio L. Cesar, Dale G. Fried, Thomas C. Killian, Adam D. Polcyn, Jon C. Sandberg, Ite A. Yu, Thomas J. Greytak, and Daniel Kleppner, John M. Doyle, PRL 77, 255 (1996)

2 parts in 10^{12} resolution

"Improved Measurement of the Hydrogen 1S-2S Transition Frequency", Christian G. Parthey, Arthur Matveev, Janis Alnis, Birgitta Bernhardt, Axel Beyer, Ronald Holzwarth, Aliaksei Maistrou, Randolf Pohl, Katharina Predehl, Thomas Udem, Tobias Wilken, Nikolai Kolachevsky, Michel Abgrall, Daniele Rovera, Christophe Salomon, Philippe Laurent, and Theodor W. Hänsch, PRL 107, 203001(2011)

4 parts in 10^{15} accuracy

SM: Any reason to doubt?

neutrinos' masses

$\mu(g-2) = ?$

(Gravity)

Dark Matter

Dark Energy

Early Universe

(primordial antimatter)

Naturalness, fine tuned?

SM parameters ?

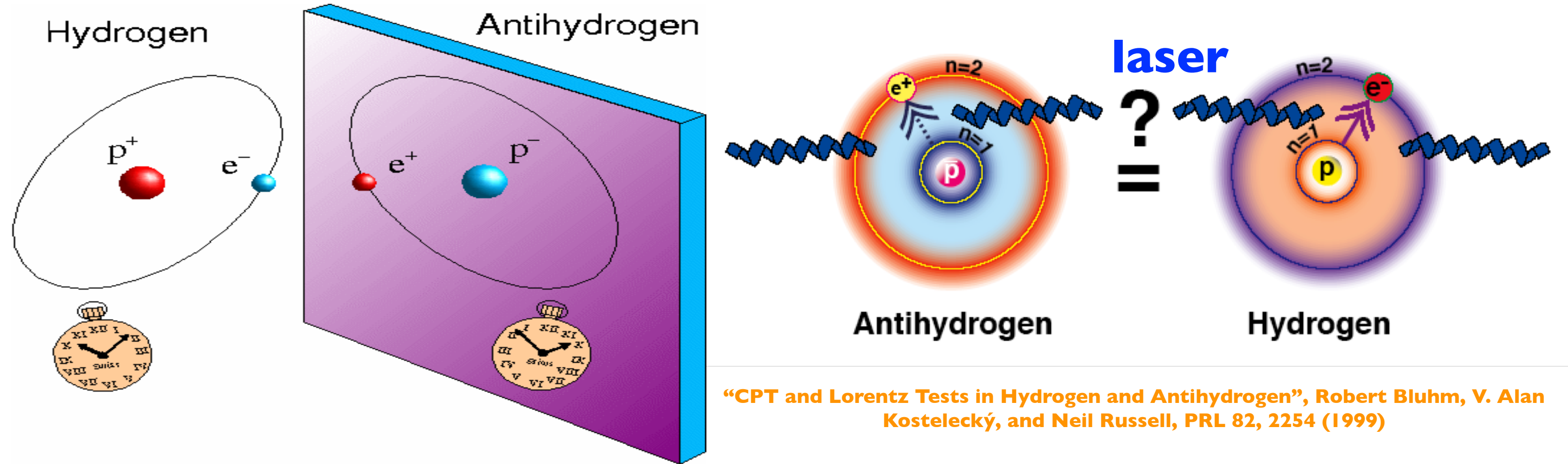
Why not test $H \times Hbar$?

- Precision Frontier -

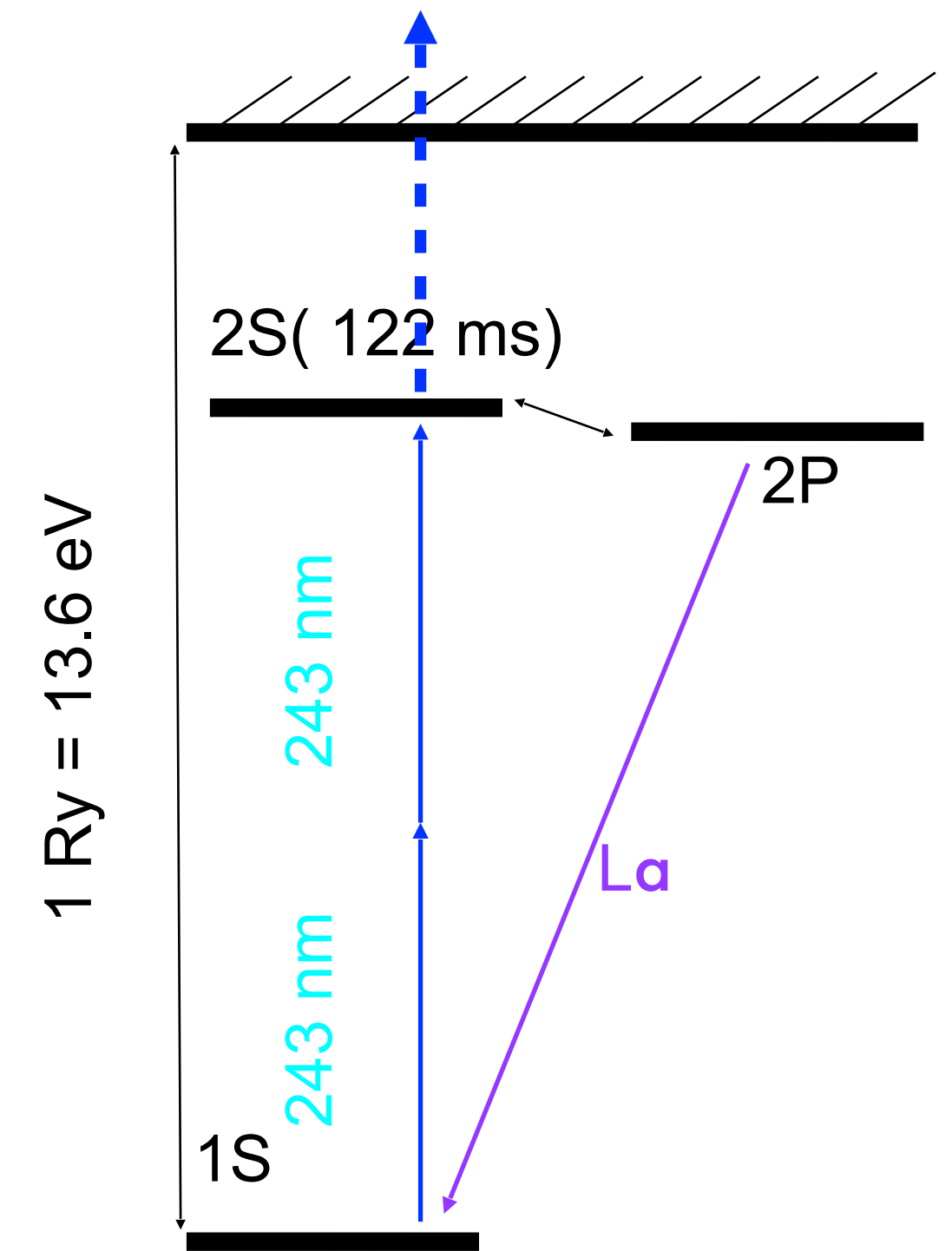
ATHENA(1997)/ALPHA(2006) Collaboration @ CERN's: Antihydrogen vs. Hydrogen

H vs. Hbar

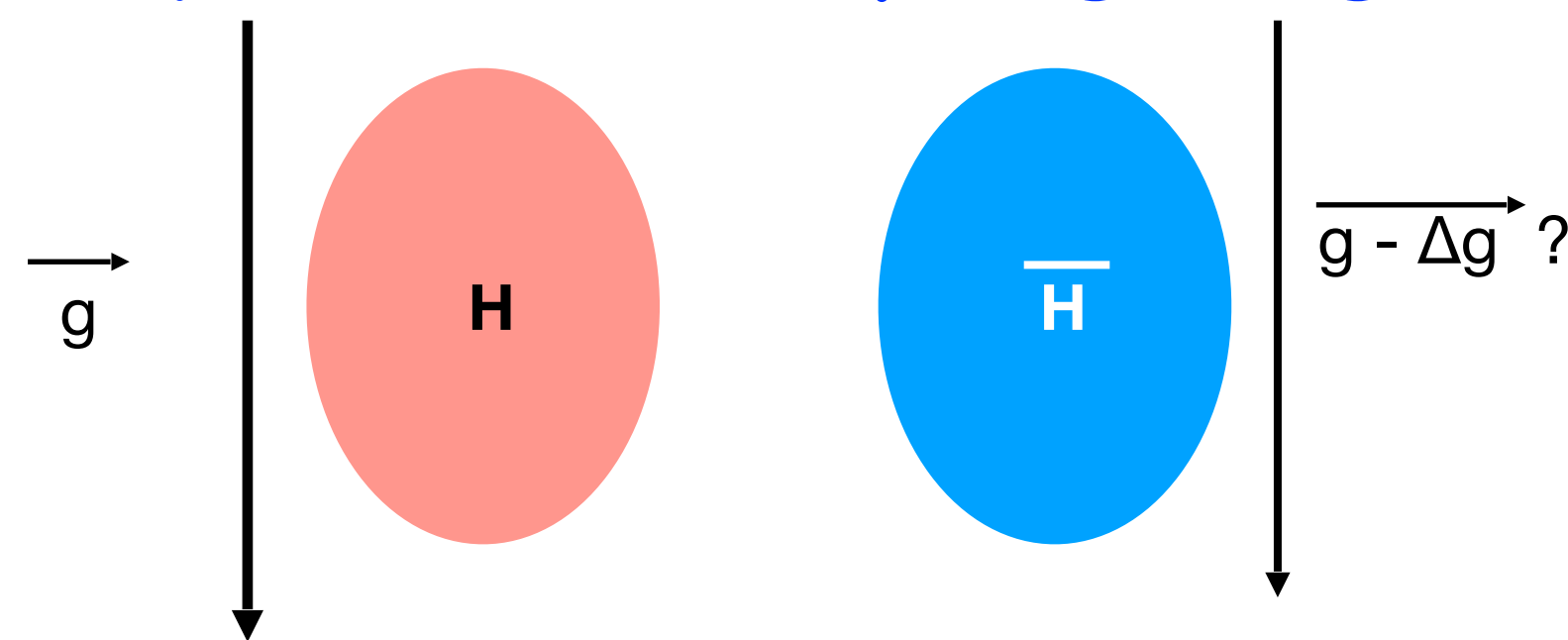
1 - CPT theorem, base of the Standard Model:



“CPT and Lorentz Tests in Hydrogen and Antihydrogen”, Robert Bluhm, V. Alan Kostelecký, and Neil Russell, PRL 82, 2254 (1999)



2 - Equivalence Principle: g , or $g + \Delta g$??



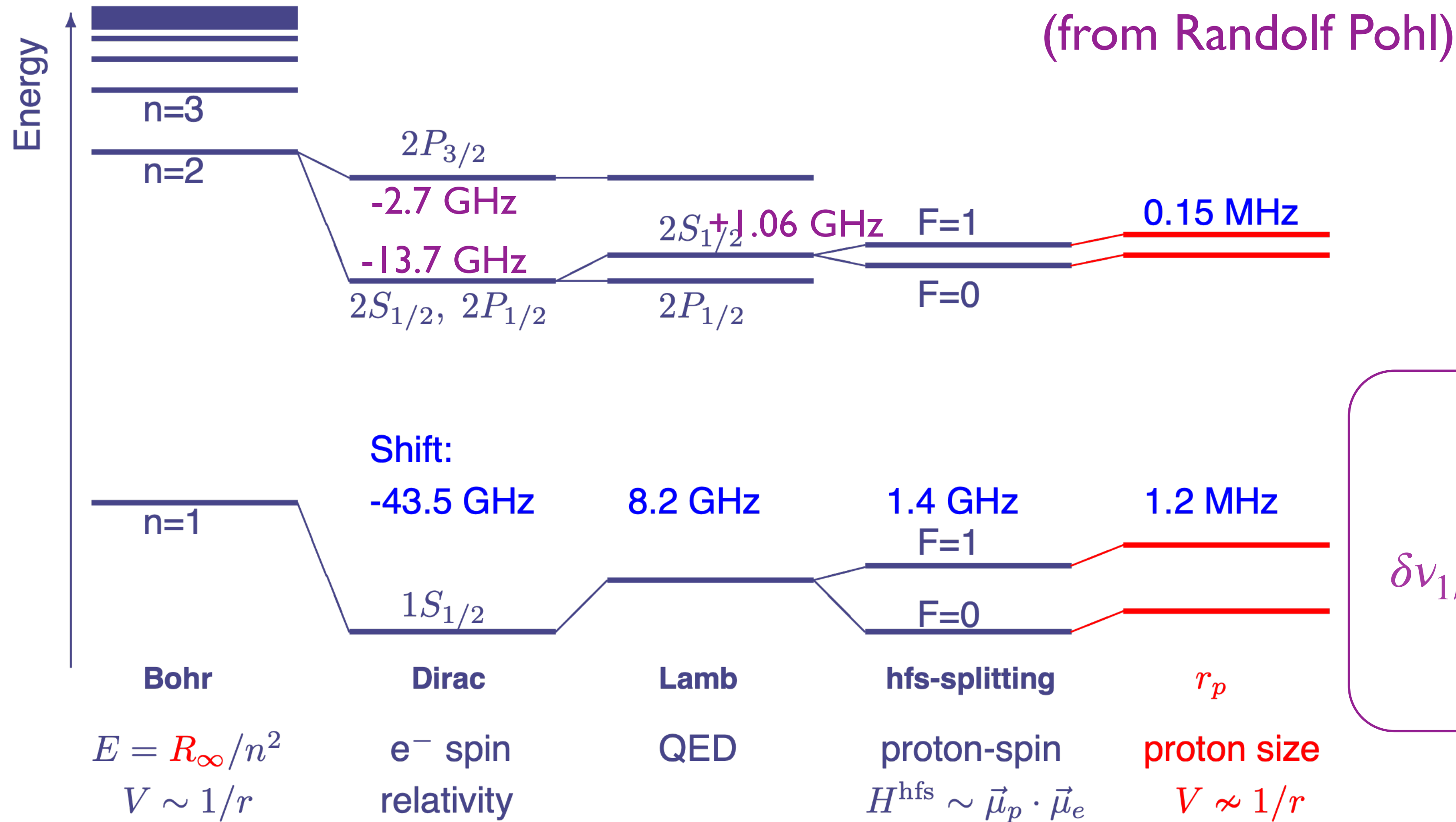
3 - Main Motivation: (Baryogenesis)

- where is the primordial antimatter?
- Beyond Standard Model physics?

beyond models/theory ...:

- neutral, cold antimatter !

Hydrogen energy levels



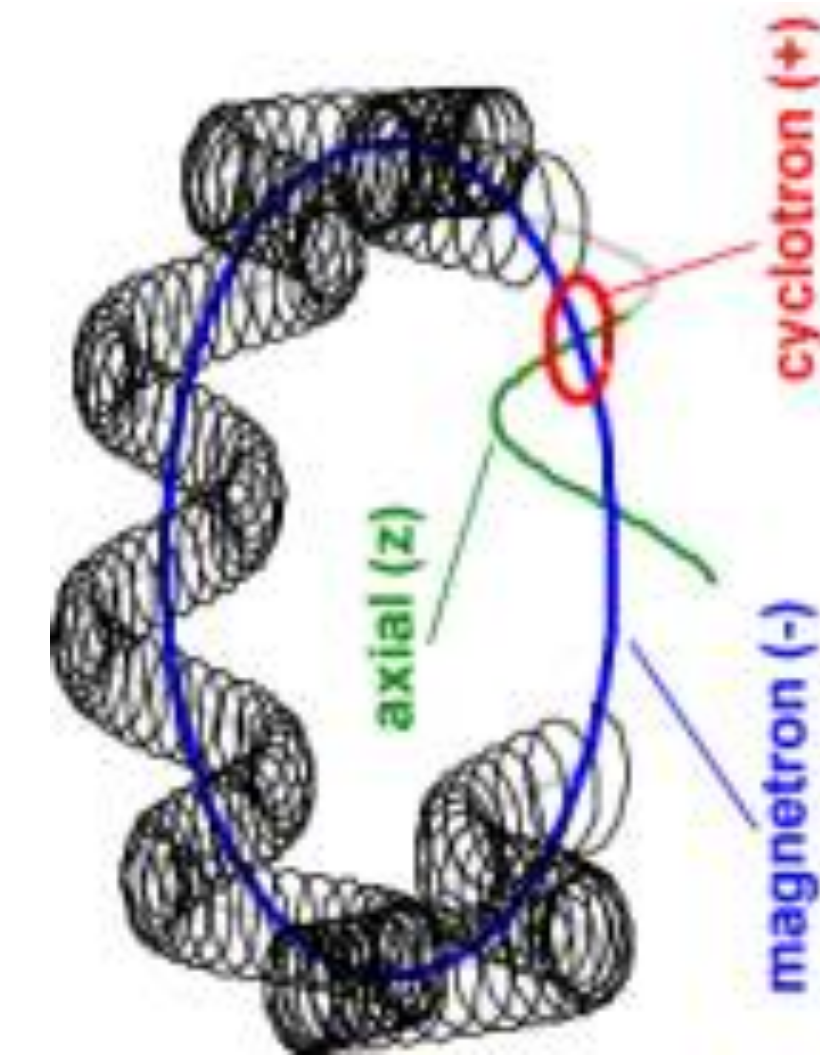
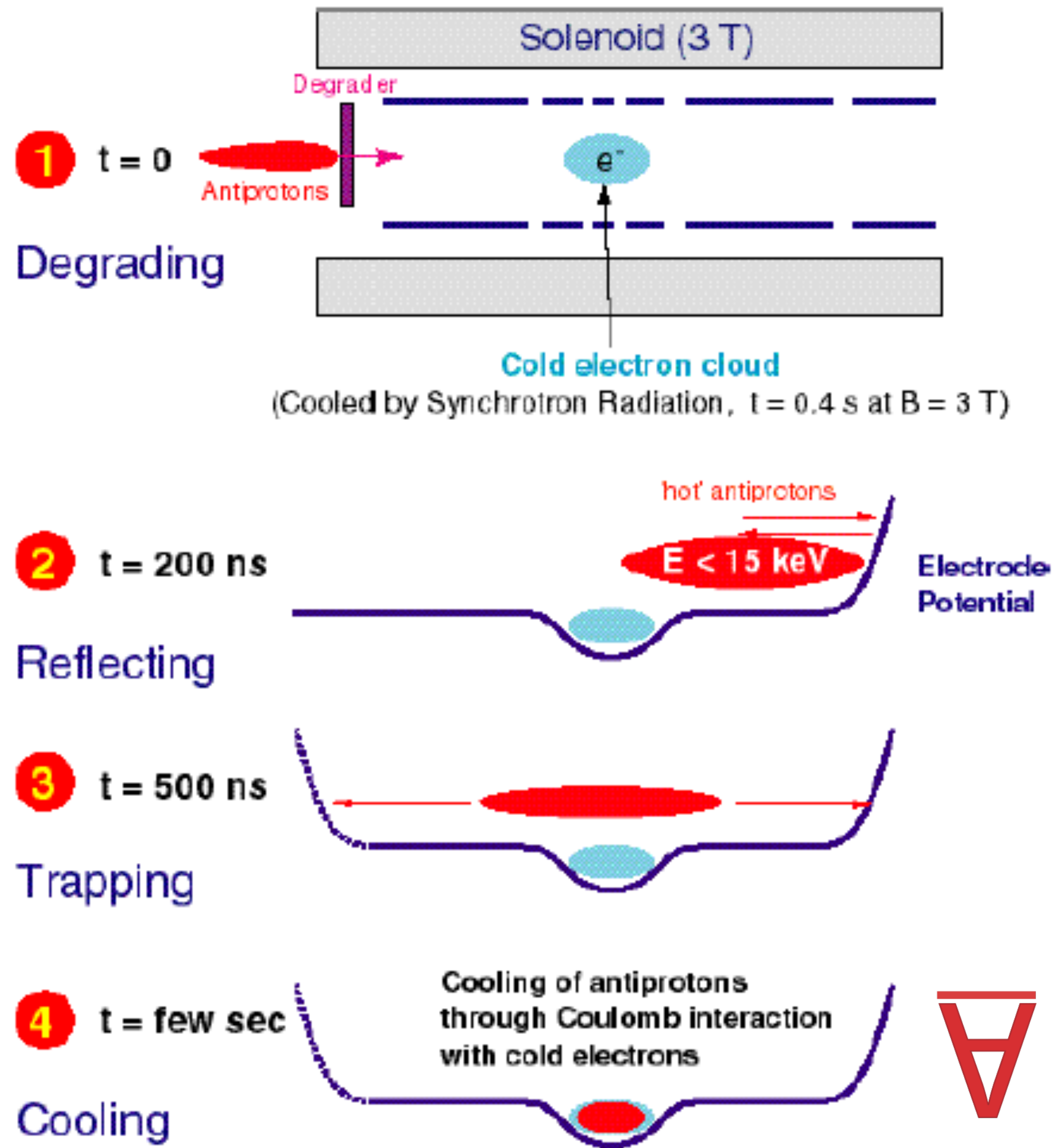
if

$$\delta\nu_{1S-2S} = 120\text{Hz} \Rightarrow$$

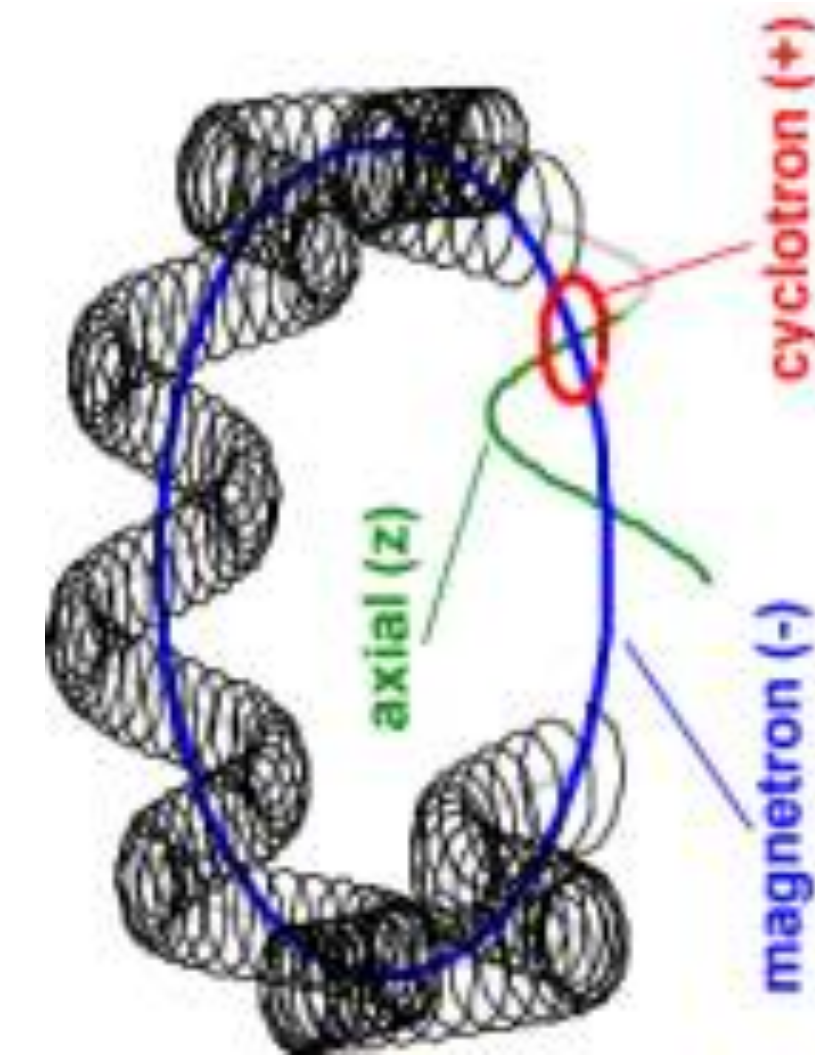
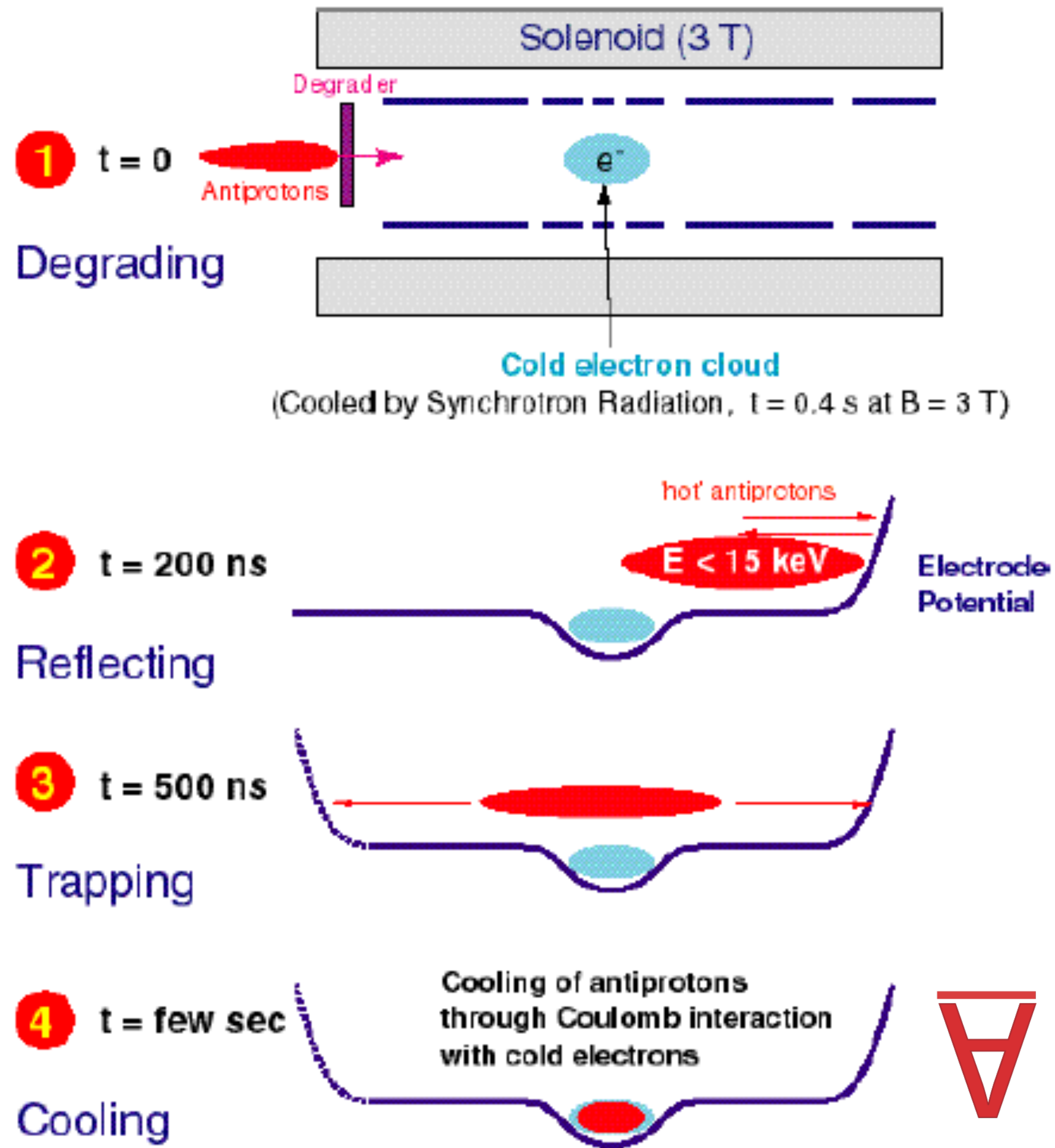
$$\delta\nu_{1S-1S}/\nu_{1S-1S} \approx 5 \times 10^{-14}$$

$$\delta r_p/r_p \approx 1 \times 10^{-4}$$

(how) Penning trapping - pbars (dynamic load)

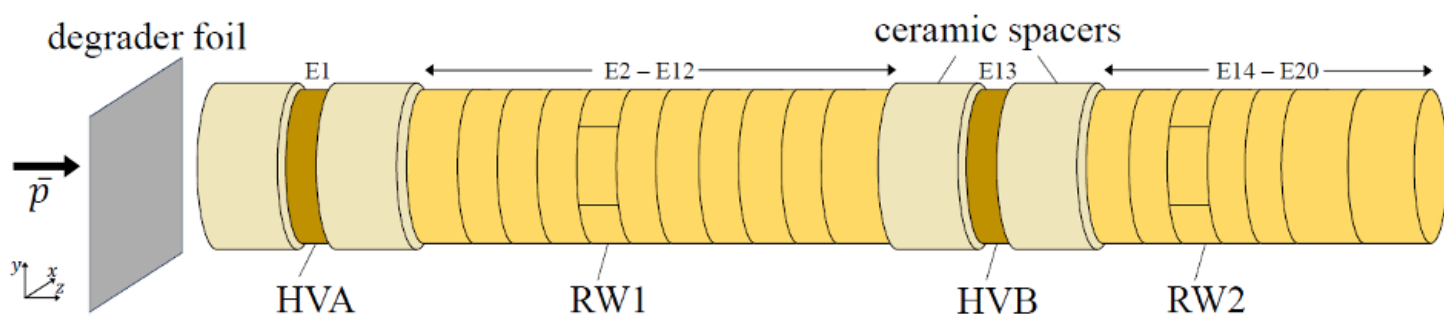


(how) Penning trapping - pbars (dynamic load)

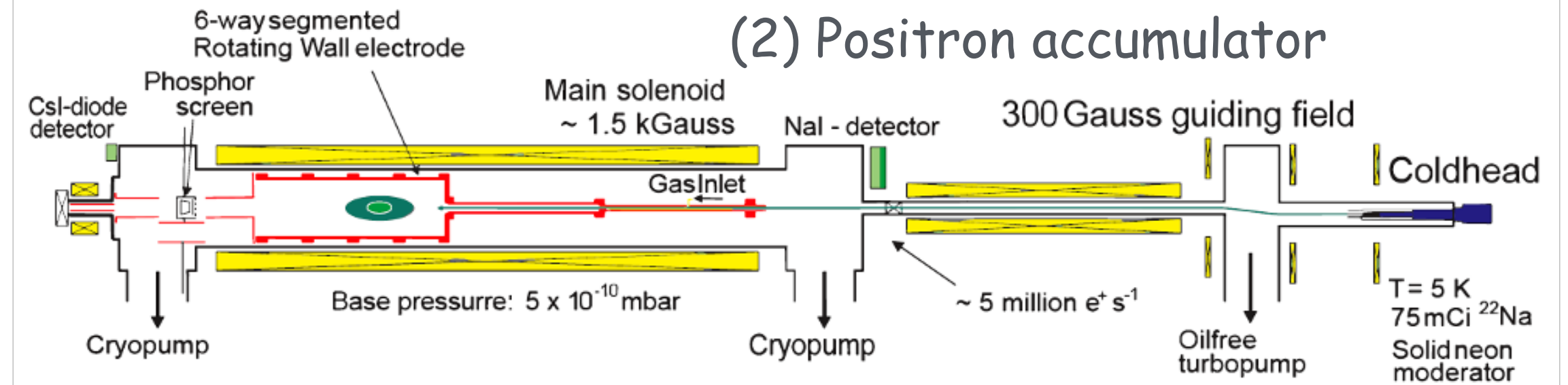


(how) Penning traps - e+ accumulator (Surko type) + Atom atom

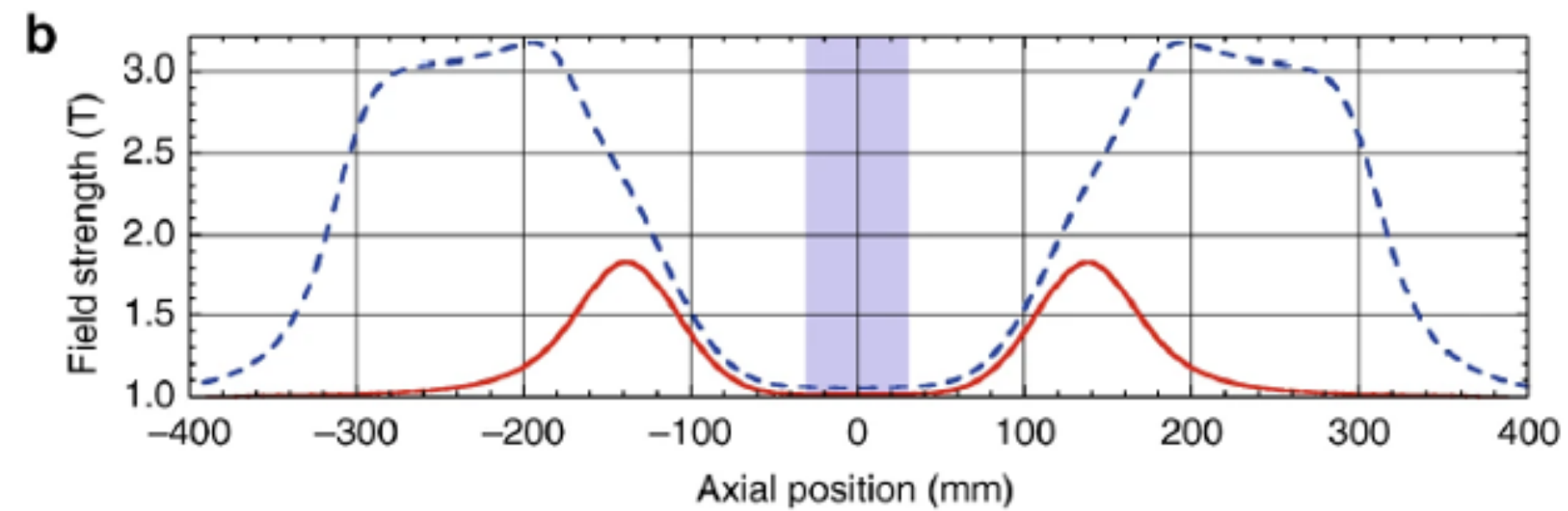
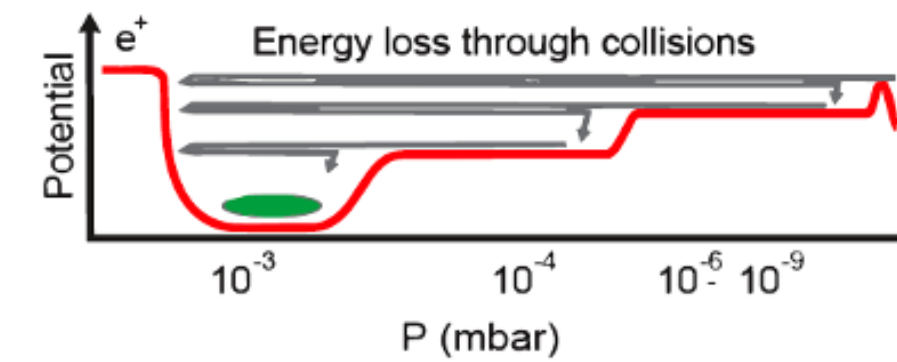
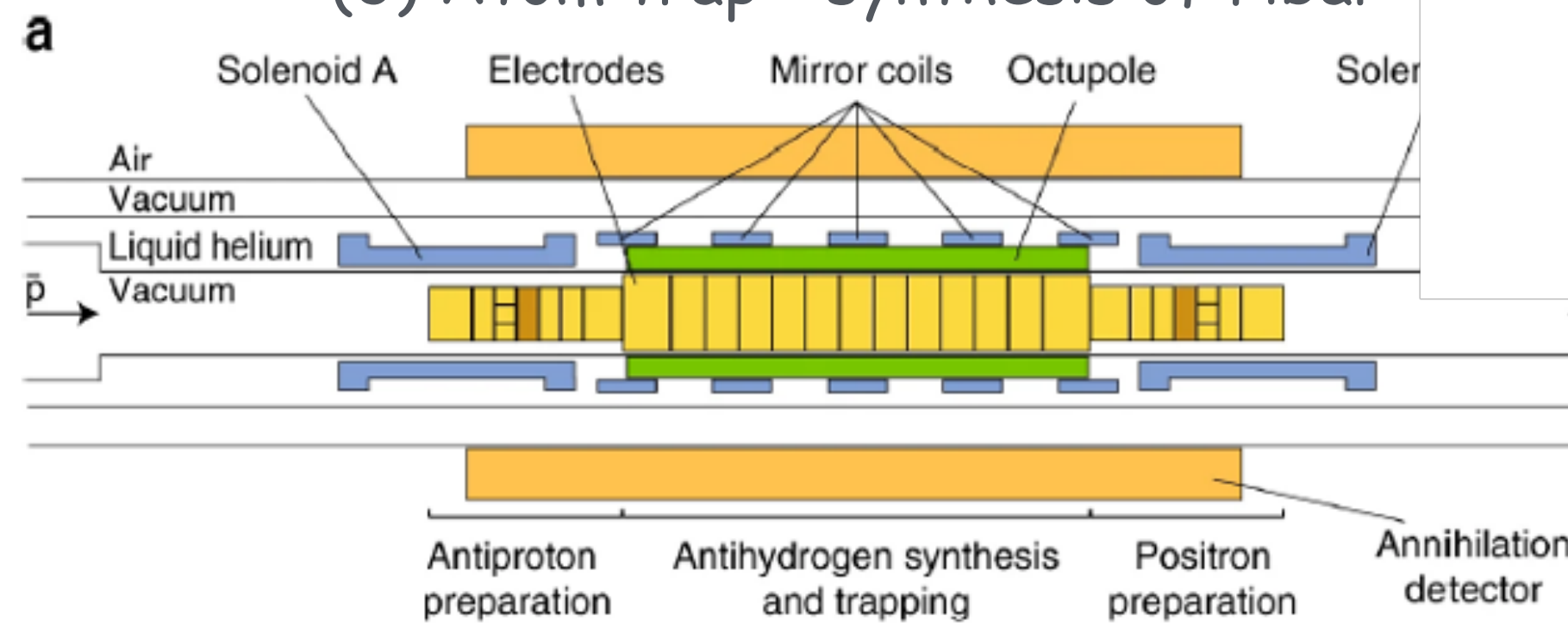
(1) Catching pbars trap



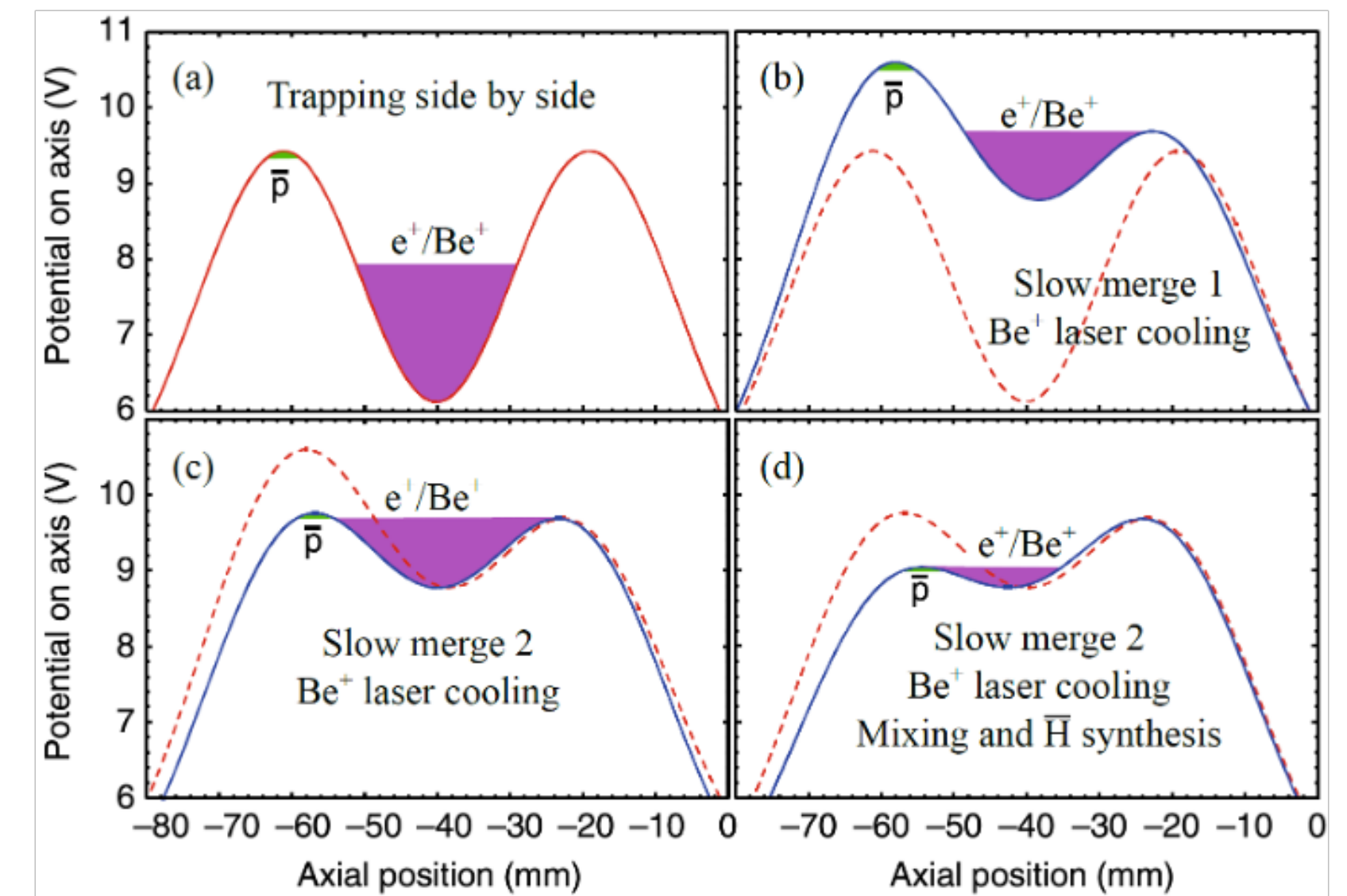
(2) Positron accumulator



(3) Atom trap - synthesis of Hbar

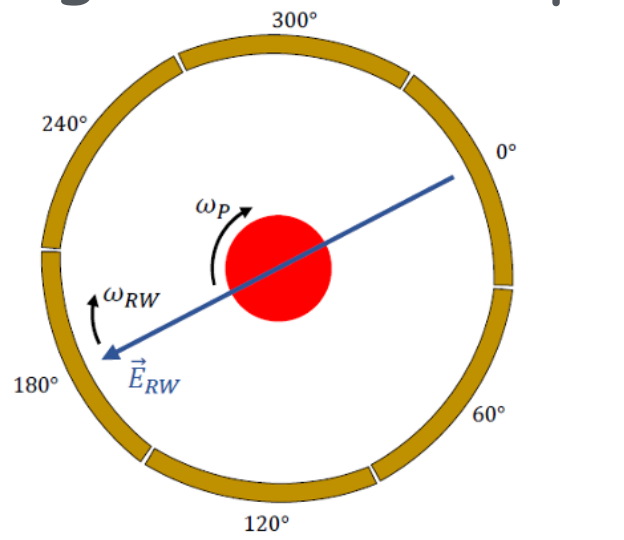


(5) Slow merge - synthesis of Hbar



(4)

Rotating wall: e+ compressing



(new) 2025: e⁺ sympathetic cooling by Be⁺ laser cooling

nature communications



Article

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-025-65085-4>

Be⁺ assisted, simultaneous confinement of more than 15000 antihydrogen atoms

Received: 28 March 2025

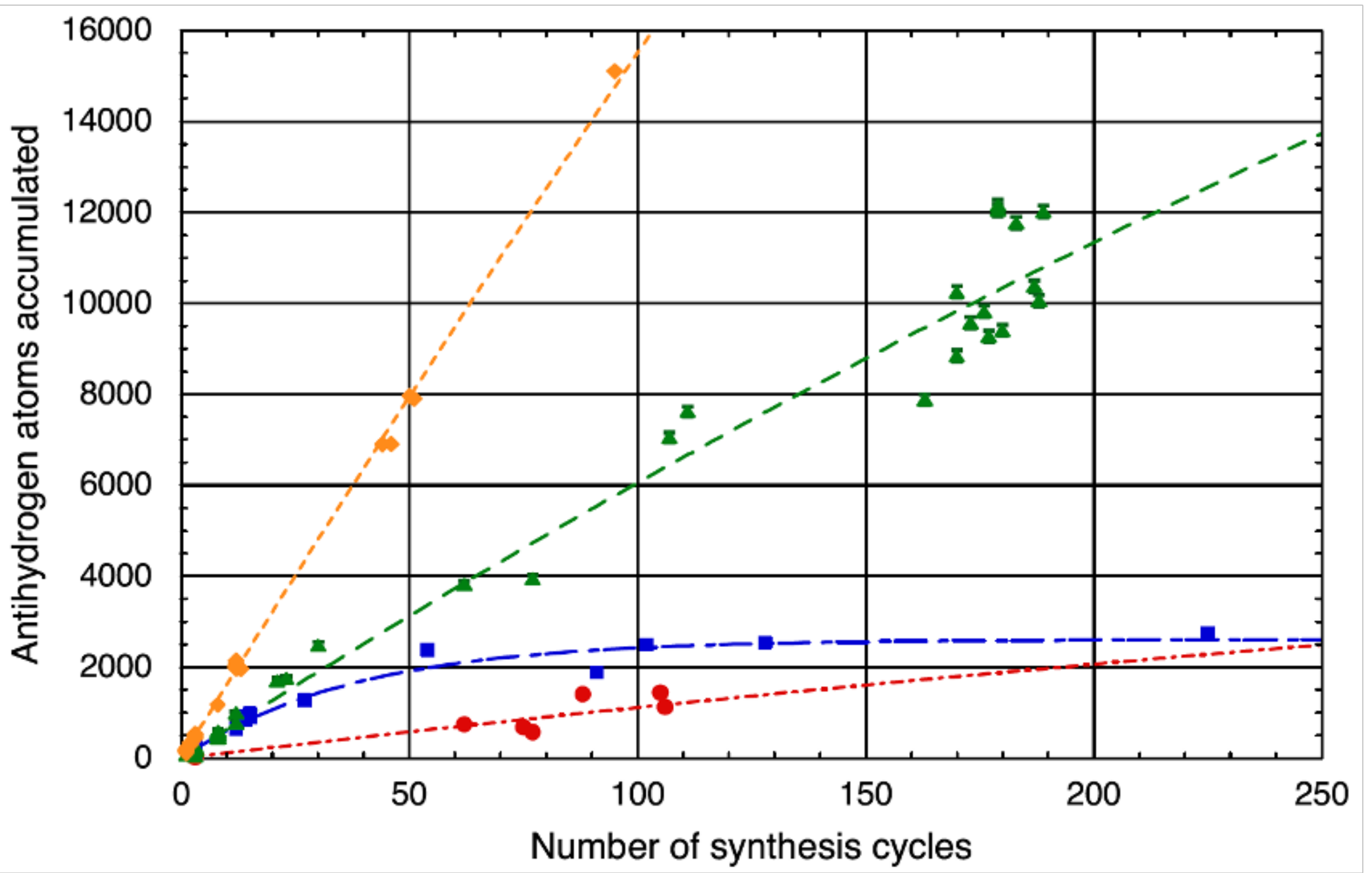
Accepted: 4 October 2025

Published online: 18 November 2025

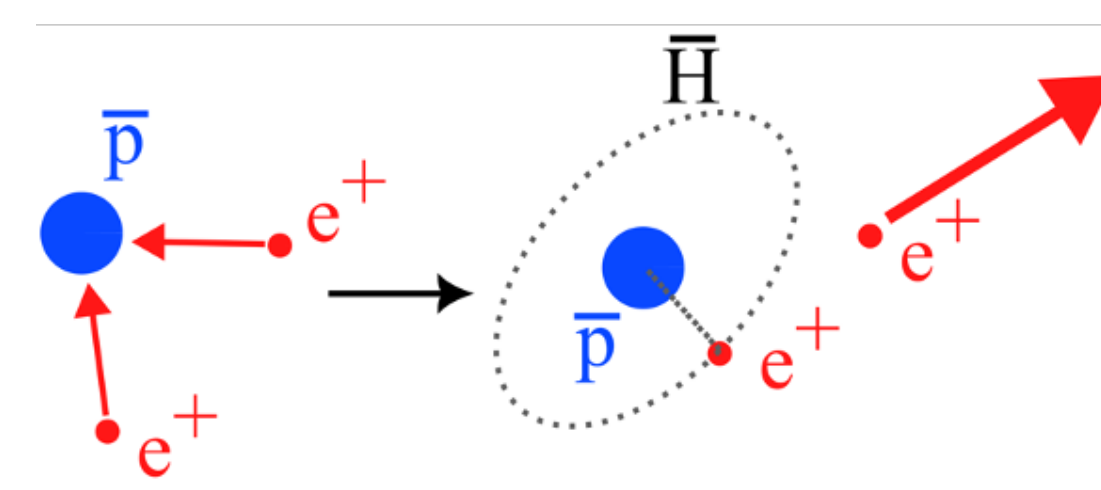
Check for updates

R. Akbari¹, L. O. de Araujo Azevedo², C. J. Baker³, W. Bertsche^{4,5}, N. M. Bhatt³, G. Bonomi⁶, A. Capra⁷, I. Carli⁷, C. L. Cesar², M. Charlton³, A. Cridland Mathad³, A. Del Vincio⁶, D. Duque Quiceno^{1,7}, S. J. Eriksson³, A. Evans^{1,7}, J. Ewins¹, J. Fajans⁸, T. Friesen⁹, M. C. Fujiwara⁷, L. M. Golino³, M. B. Gomes Gonçalves³, J. S. Hangst¹⁰ ✉, M. E. Hayden¹¹, D. Hodgkinson⁸, C. A. Isaac³, A. J. U. Jimenez⁹, S. A. Jones¹², S. Jonsell¹³, N. Madsen³ ✉, V. R. Marshall¹⁰, J. T. K. McKenna⁴, T. Momose^{1,7,14}, J. Nauta^{3,15}, A. N. Oliveira⁴, J. Peszka³, A. Powell⁹, C. Ø. Rasmussen¹⁵, T. Robertson-Brown³, F. Robicheaux¹⁶, R. L. Sacramento², E. Sarid^{17,18}, J. Schoonwater³, D. M. Silveira², J. Singh⁴, G. Smith^{1,7}, C. So⁷, S. Stracka¹⁹, J. Suh⁹, A. G. Swadling⁹, T. D. Tharp²⁰, K. A. Thompson³, R. I. Thompson^{7,9}, E. Thorpe-Woods³, M. Urioni⁶, D. P. van der Werf³, P. Woosaree⁹ & J. S. Wurtele⁸

Antihydrogen accumulation



- (Before) Be⁺ cooling
- (After) optimized Be⁺ cooling



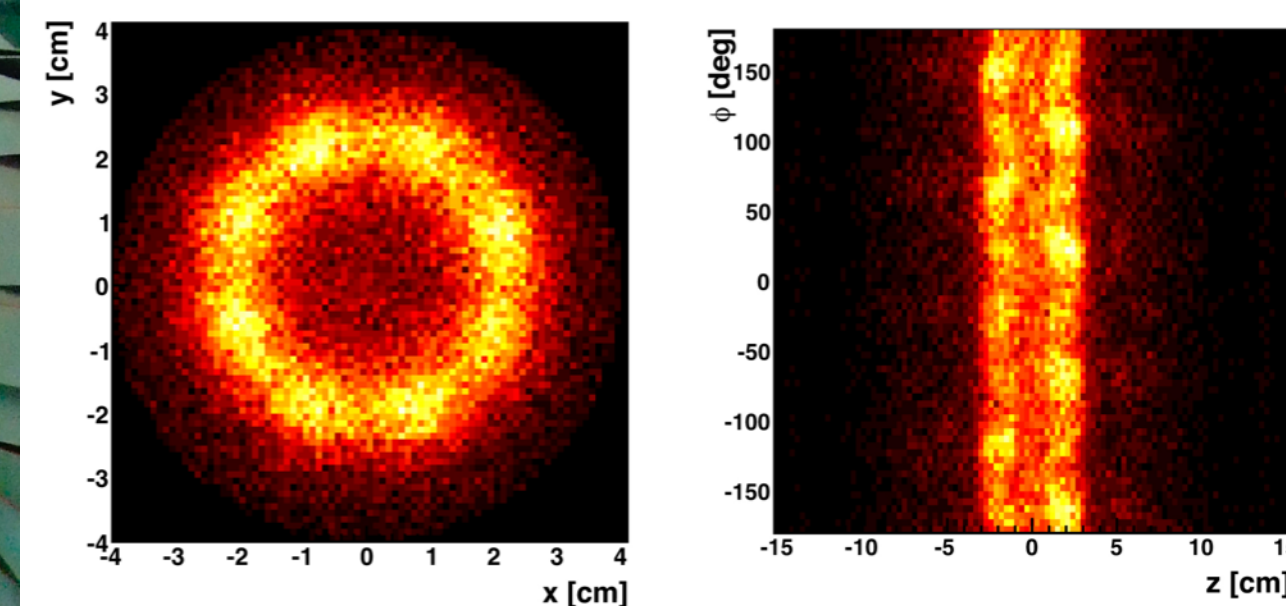
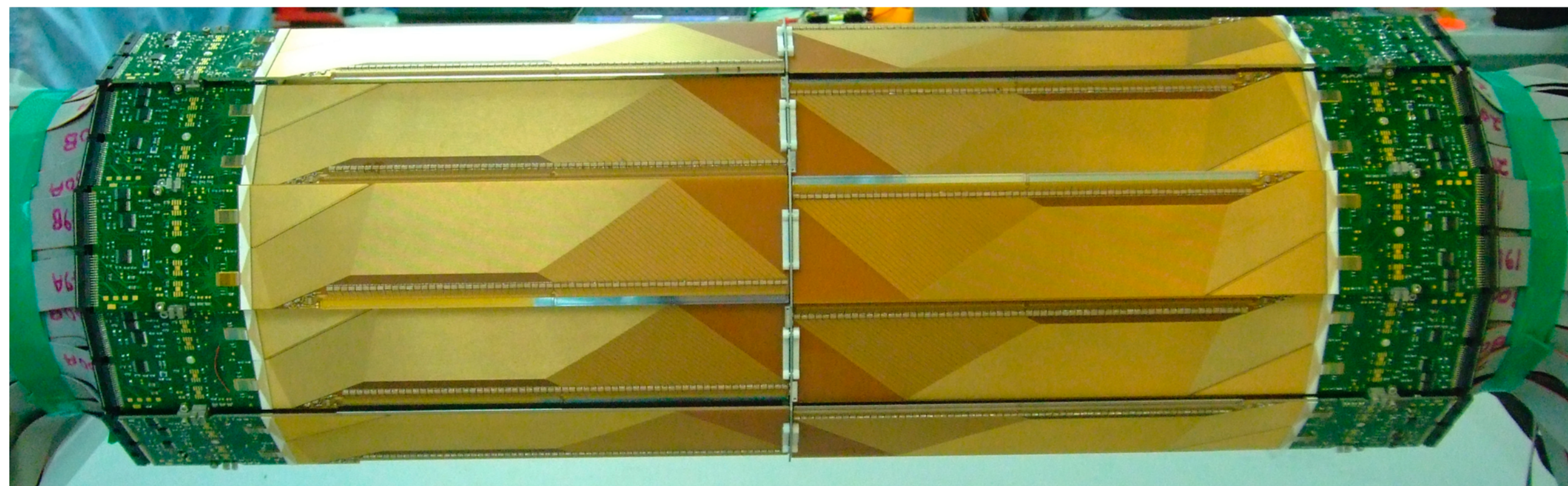
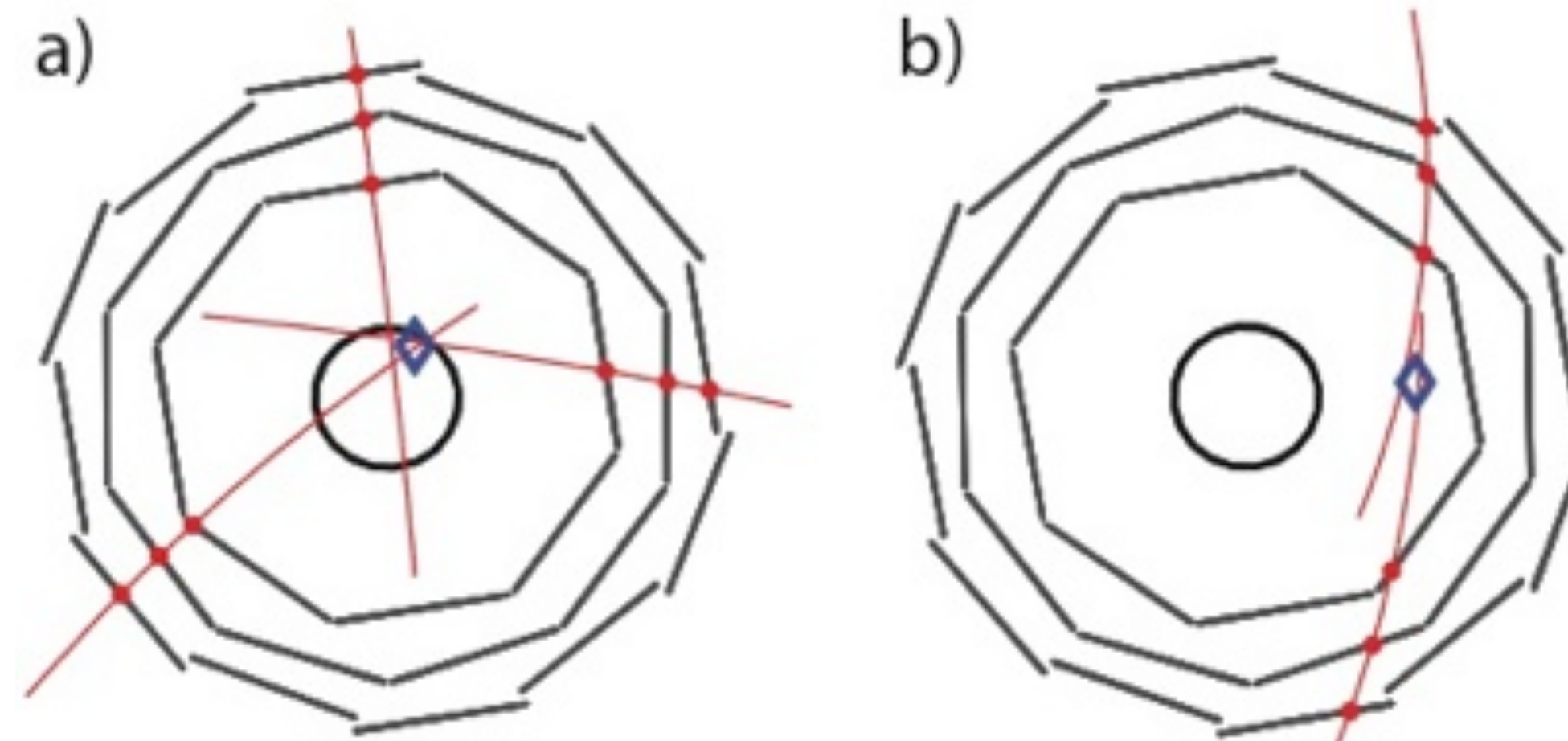
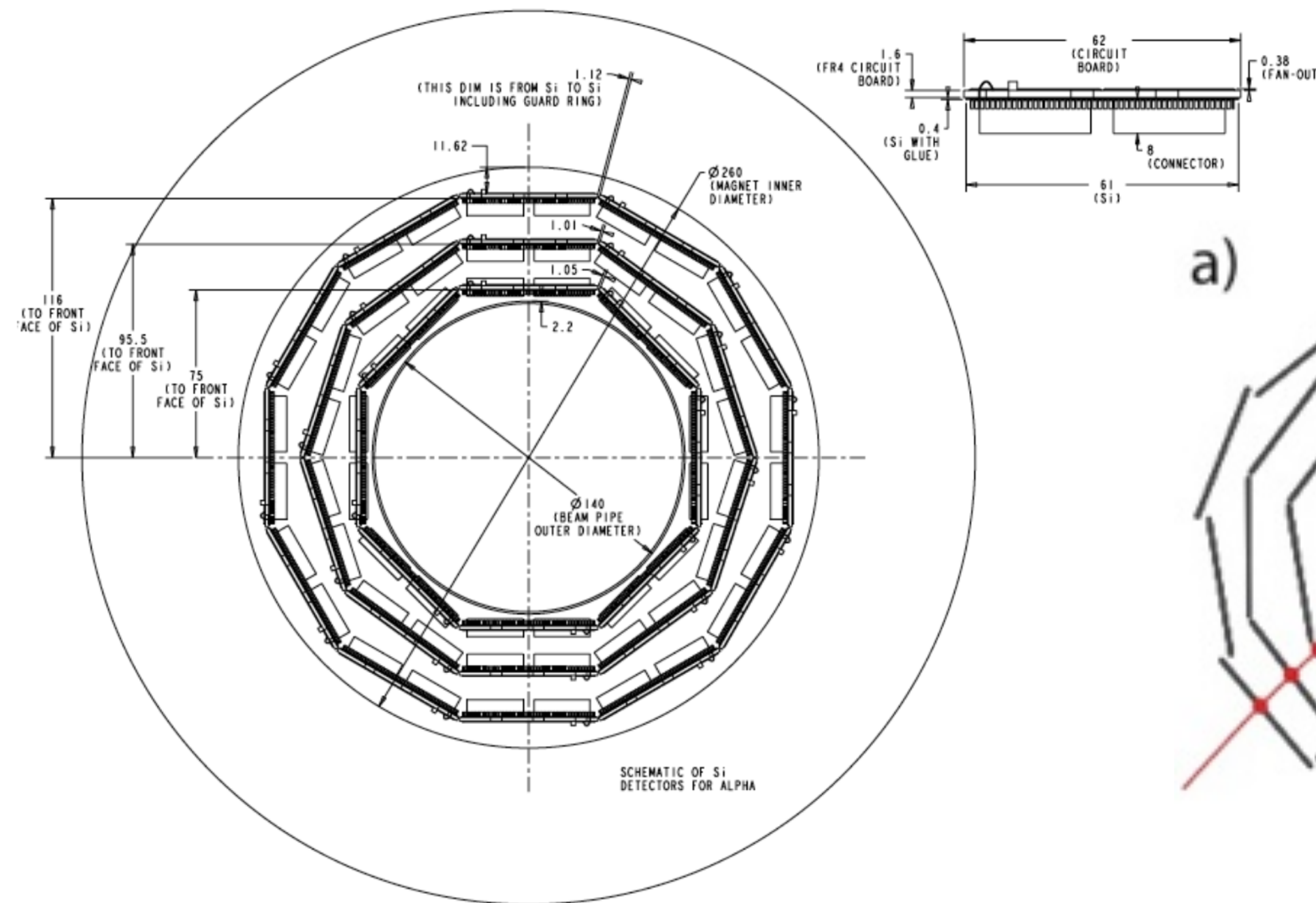
$$\Gamma_{coll} = 6 \times 10^{-12} \left(\frac{4.2}{T} \right)^{9/2} n_{e^+}^2 s^{-1}$$

G. Gabrielse et al. Hyperfine Interactions 44.1 (Mar. 1989), pp. 287–293

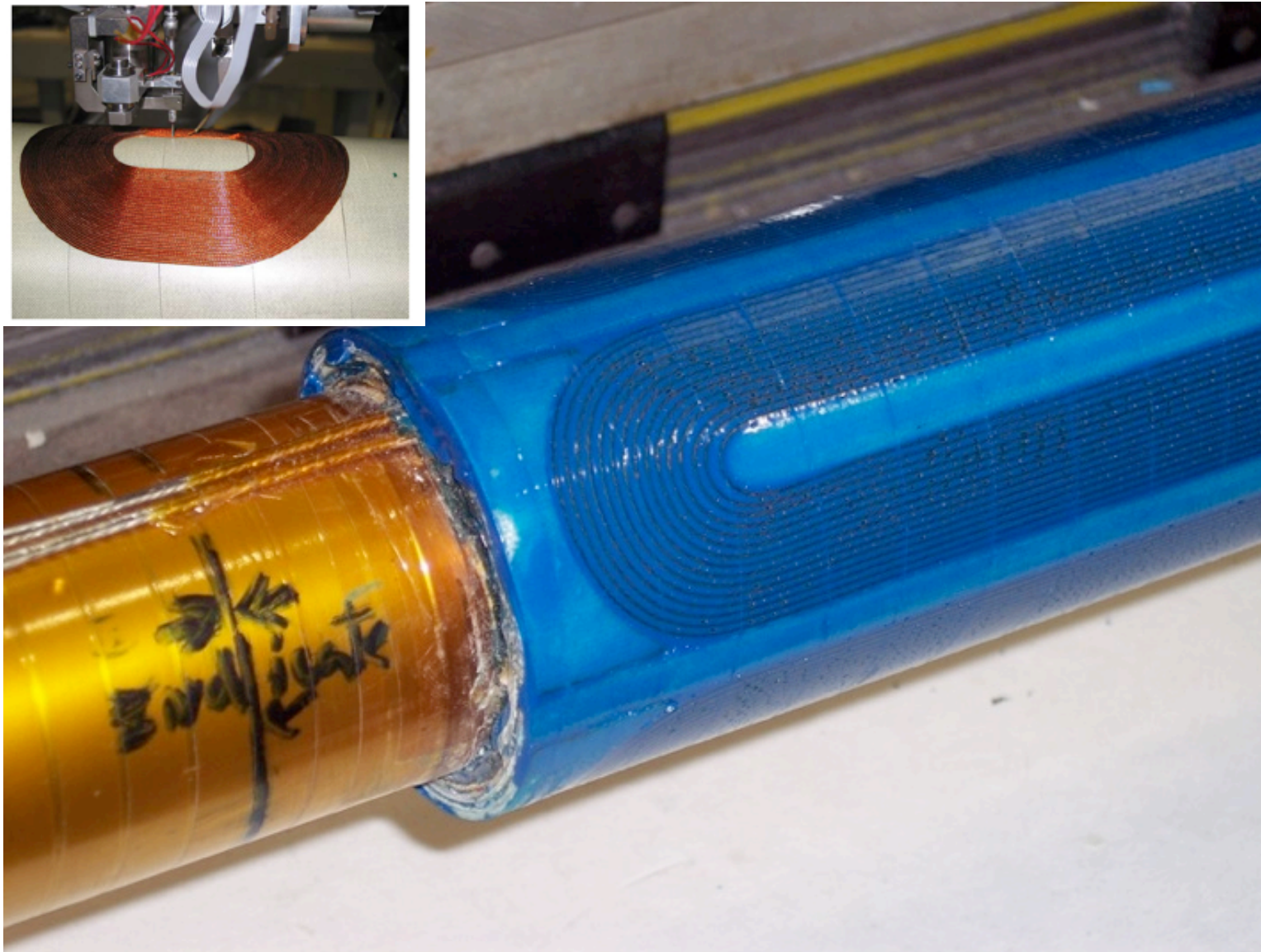
*Maria Beatriz Gomes Goncalves (poster Monday: Be⁺ cooling of e⁺)

ALPHA2: Pbar annihilation = pions imaged in a silicon vertex detector

4D tomography

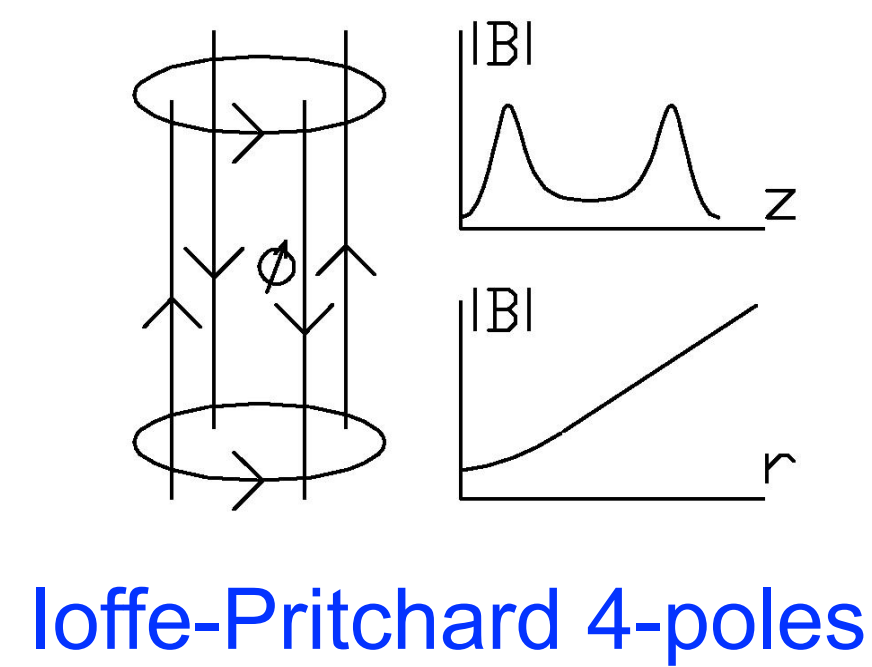
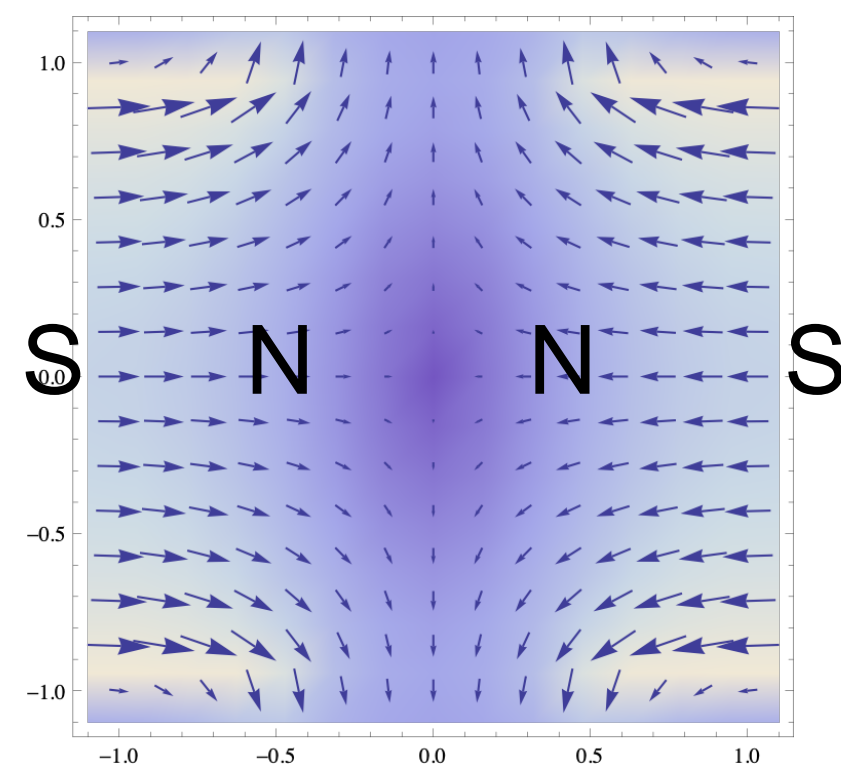
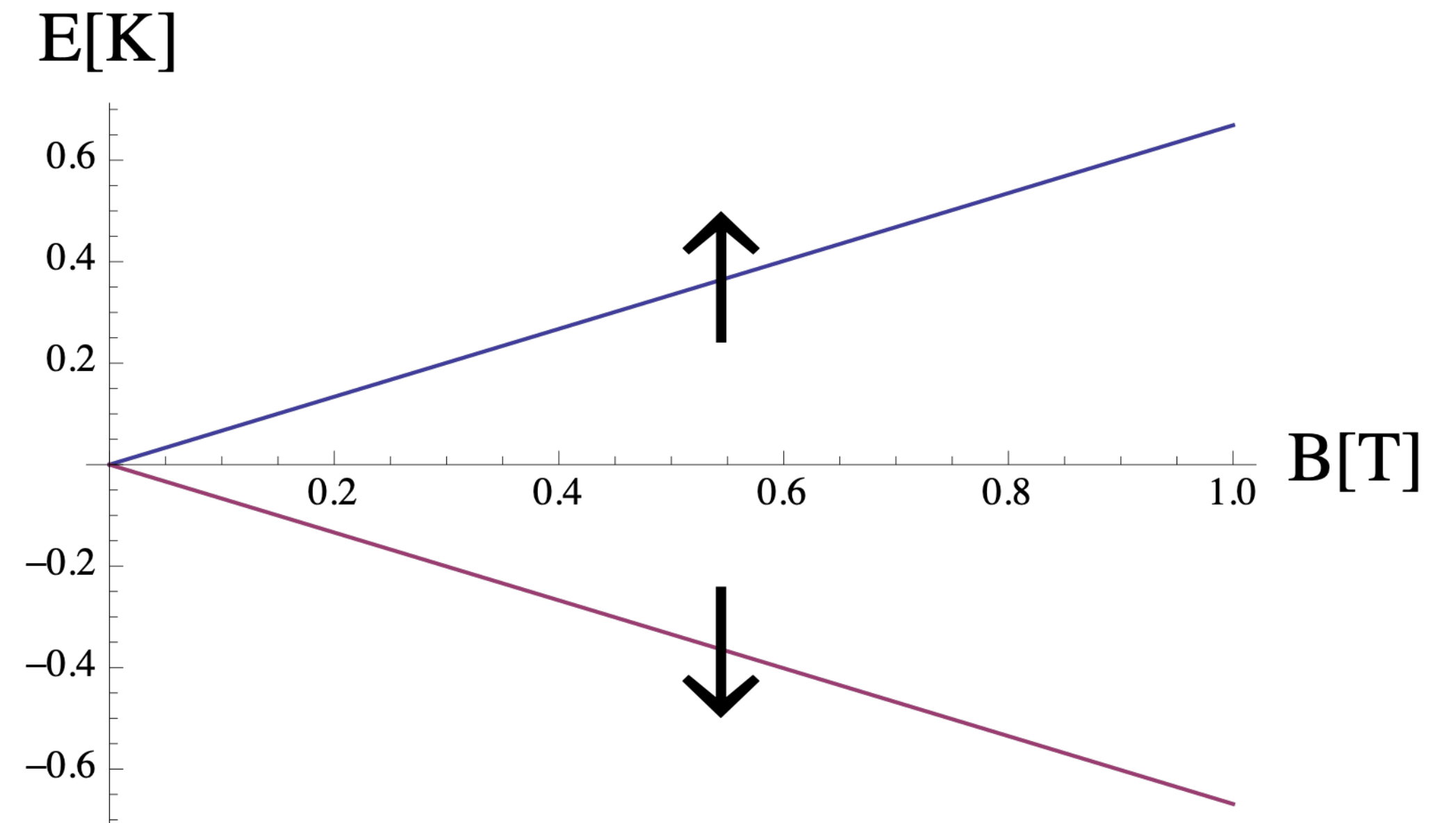


Magnetic Trap: spin = small magnet

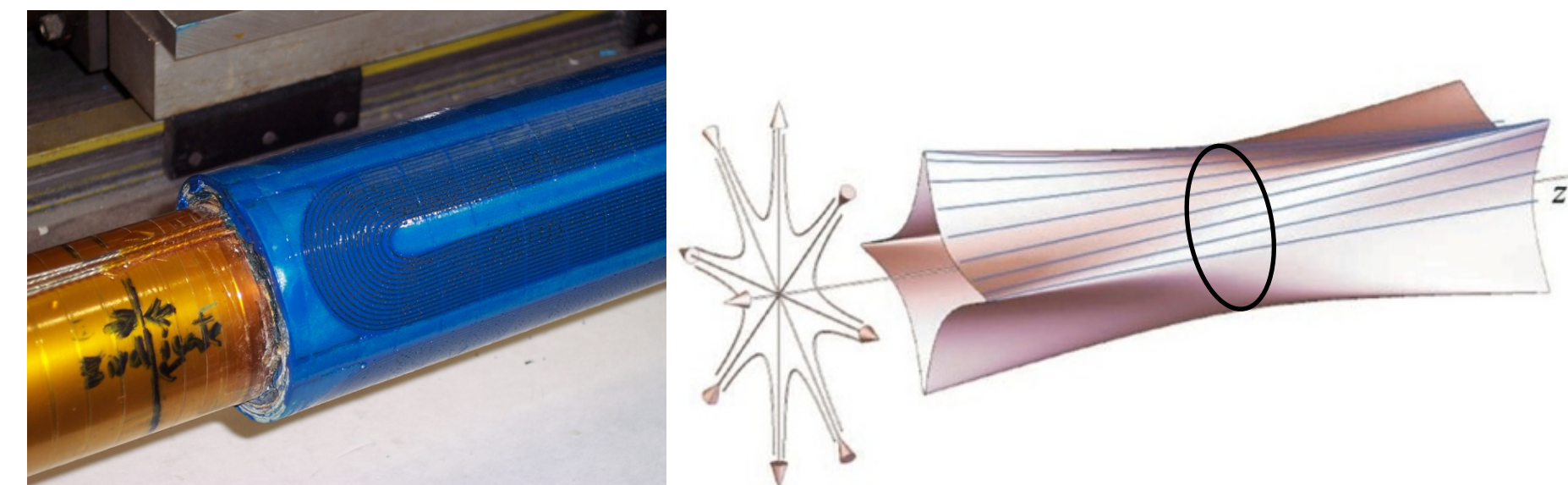


$$U = -\vec{\mu} \cdot \vec{B}$$

$$\vec{F} = -\vec{\nabla} U = \mu \vec{\nabla} B$$

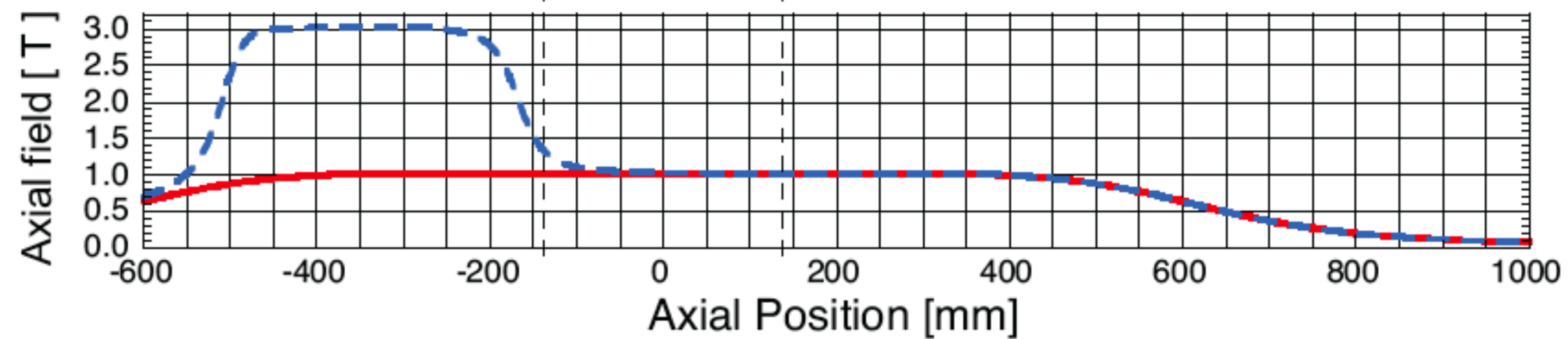
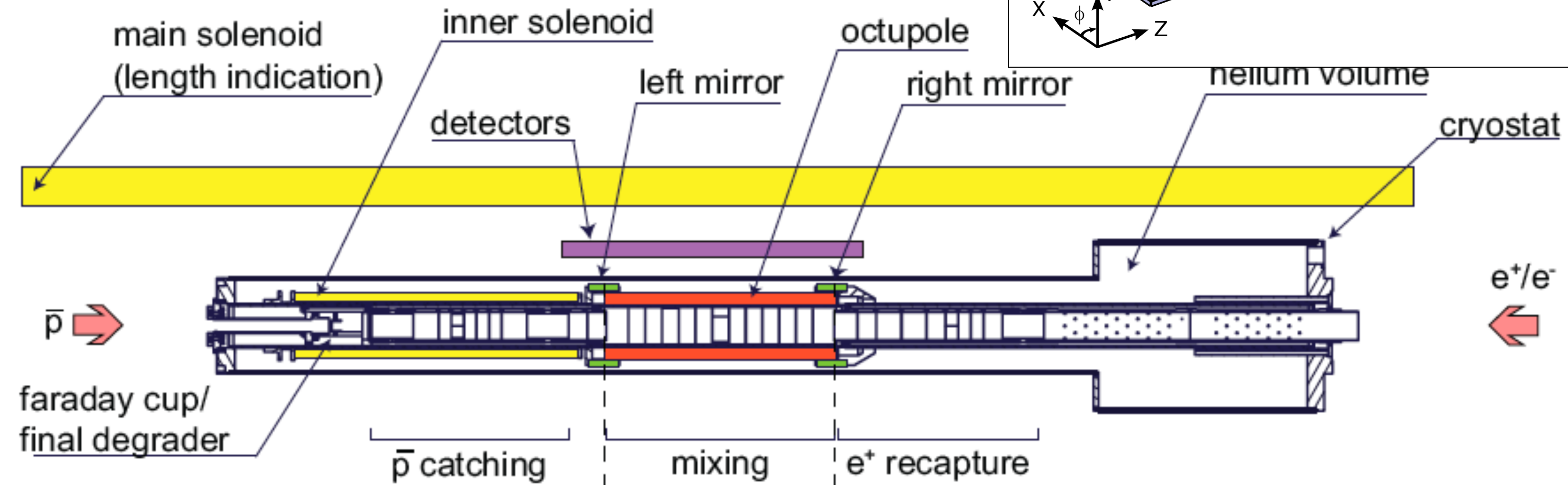
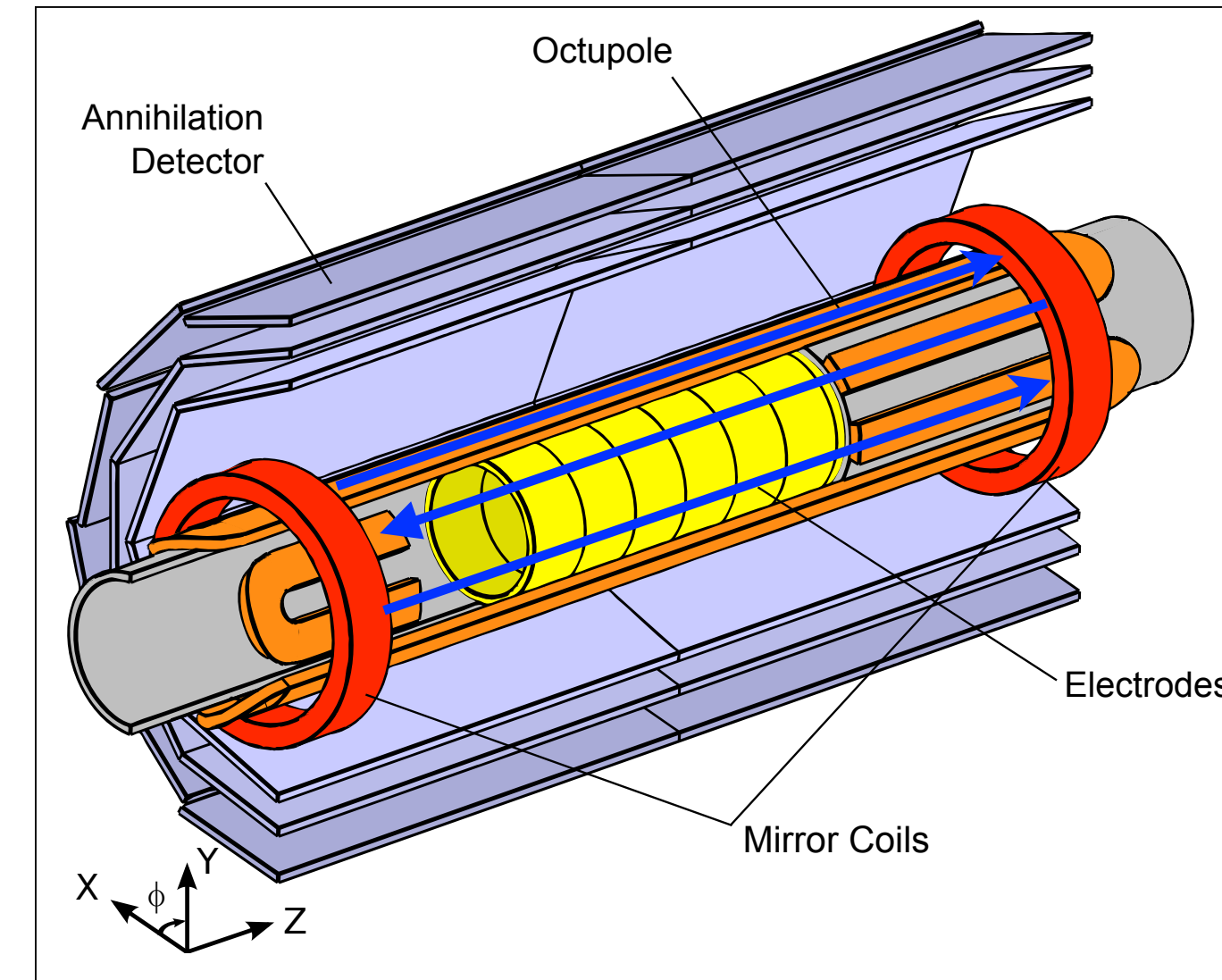
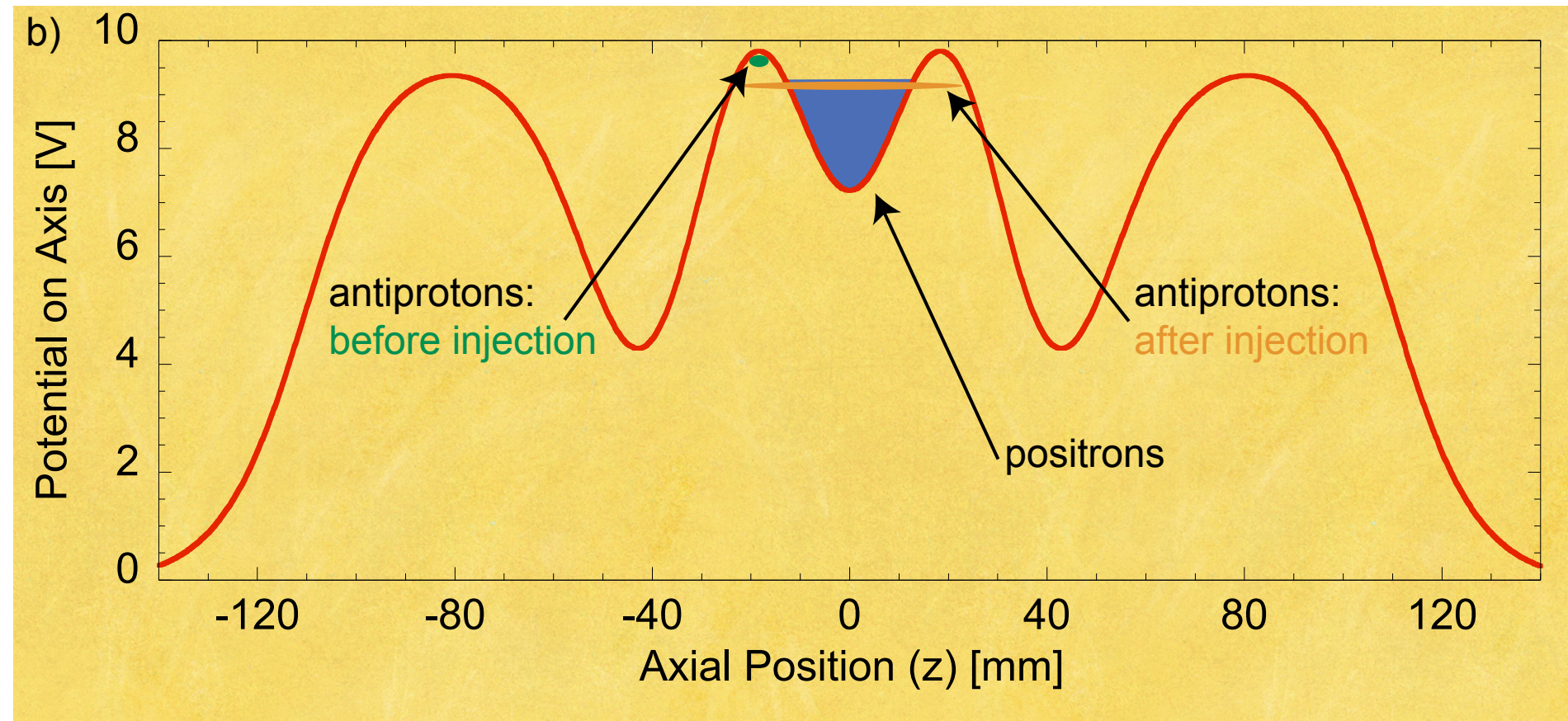


Ioffe-Pritchard 4-poles

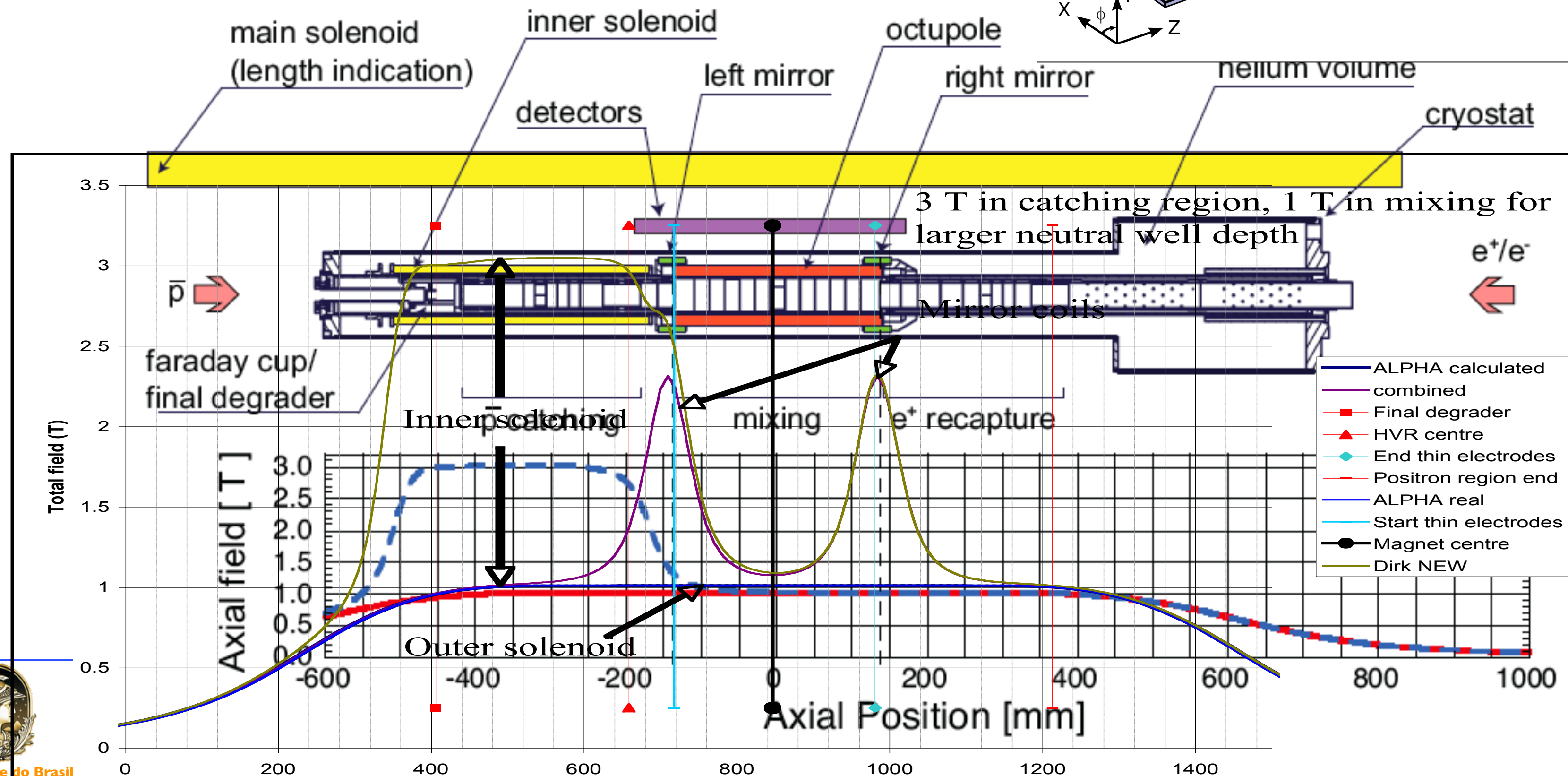
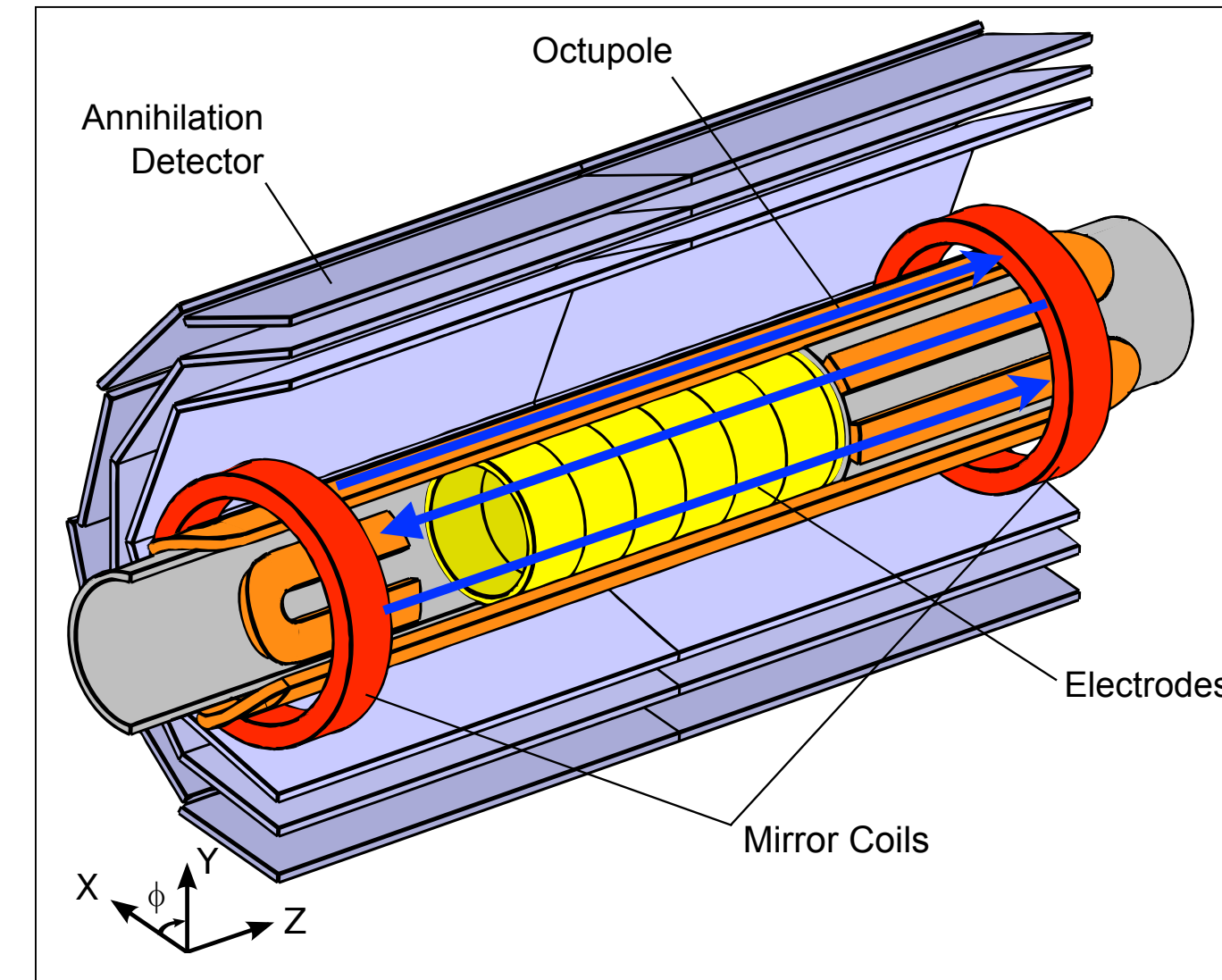
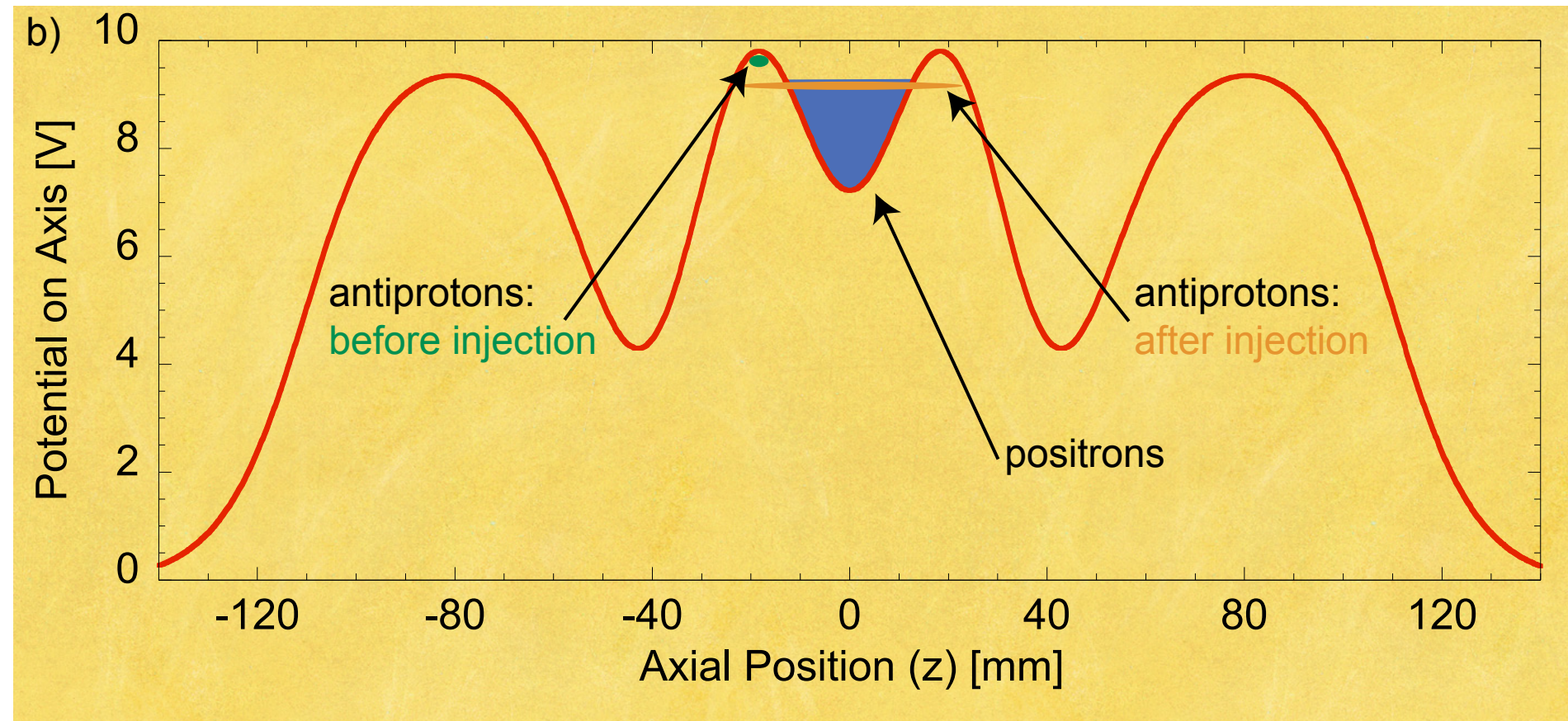


ALPHA ~ Ioffe-Pritchard 8-pole + pinch coils

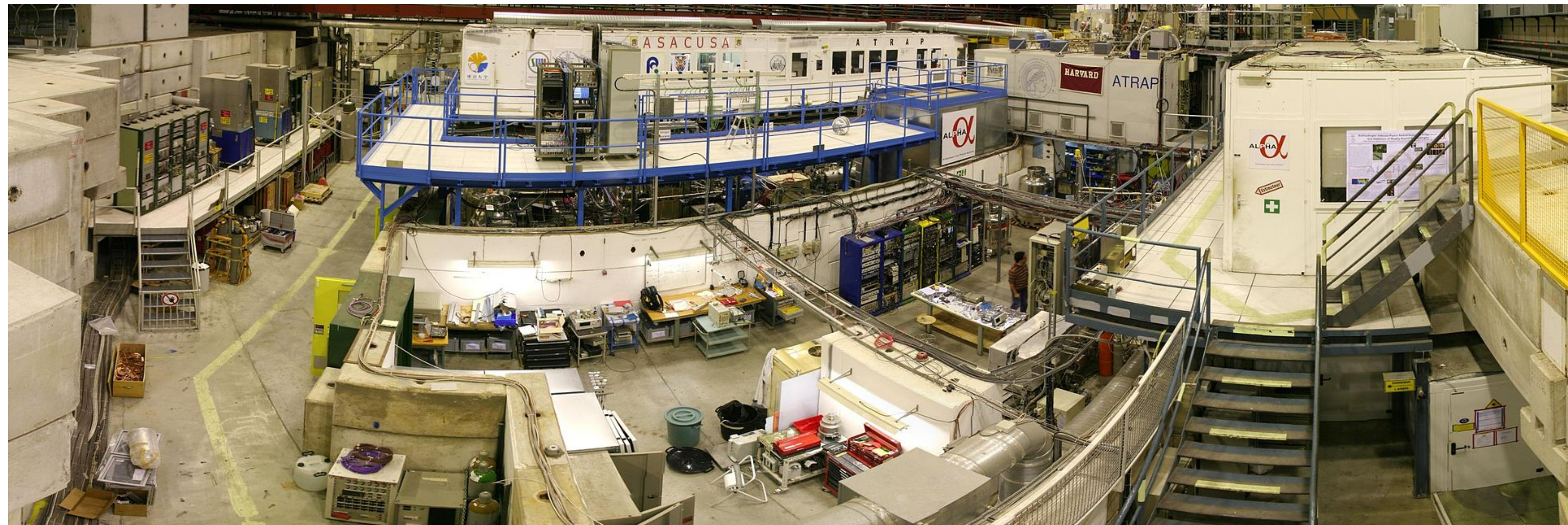
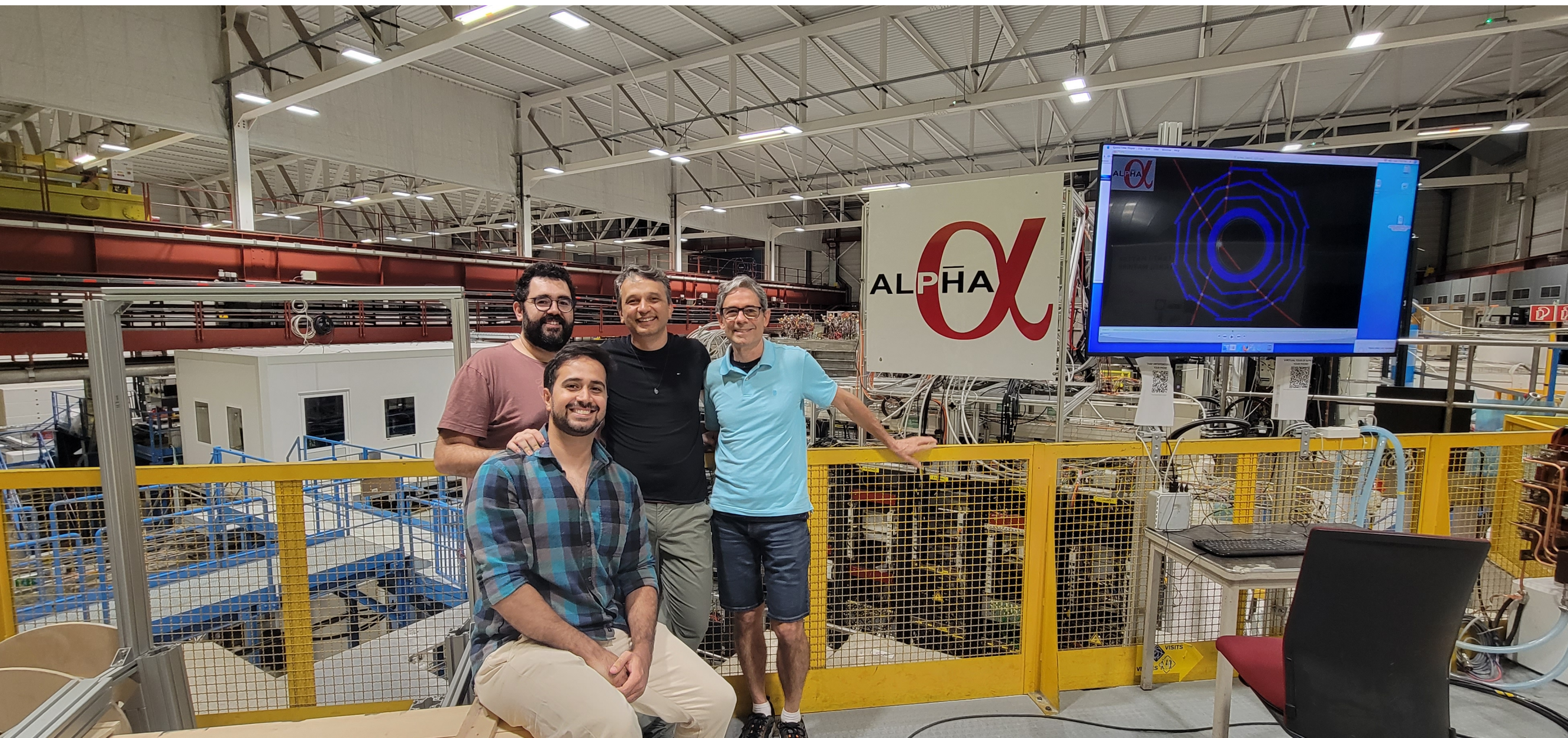
ALPHA-1 Fields' Configuration: Penning and Magnetic Trap



ALPHA-1 Fields' Configuration: Penning and Magnetic Trap



CERN's Antiproton Decelerator (AD)



Hbar formation, trapping, cooling, spectrum, falling

- 1997 Founding of ATHENA - AD (pbars @ 5.3 MeV $\sim 6 \times 10^{10}$ K)
- 2002 First synthesis of slow Hbar ~ 100 -1000 K
- 2006 Founding of ALPHA - AD
- 2010 First trapped Hbar ~ 300 mK
- 2013 1st limit on charge anomaly Hbar
- 2016 AD-ELENA : pbars @ 100 keV $\sim 10^9$ K
- 2018 First 1S-2S Hbar Spectrum $\sim 2 \times 10^{-12}$
- 2021 Laser cooling (Ly-alpha) ~ 10 mK
- 2023 ALPHA-g first gravitational fall of Hbar
- 2024 Adiabatic expansion cooling of Hbar
- 2025 Laser cooled Be+ (e+ sympathetic) higher production rate
- 2026 many results soon in the press

1 eV $\sim 10^4$ K

12 significant figures! The most accurate measurement on antimatter!

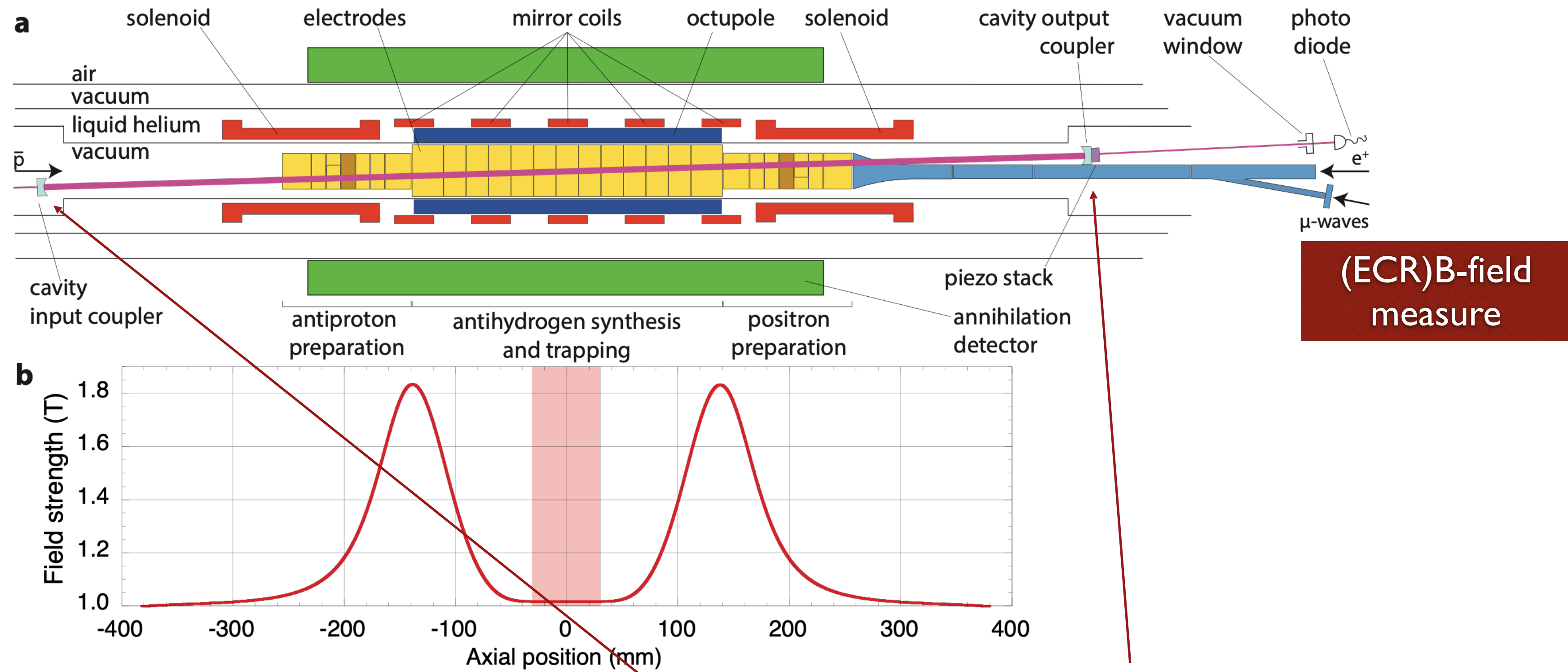
Characterization of the 1S–2S transition in antihydrogen

M. Ahmadi¹, B. X. R. Alves², C. J. Baker³, W. Bertsche^{4,5}, A. Capra⁶, C. Carruth⁷, C. L. Cesar⁸, M. Charlton³, S. Cohen⁹, R. Collister⁶, S. Eriksson³, A. Evans¹⁰, N. Evetts¹¹, J. Fajans⁷, T. Friesen², M. C. Fujiwara⁶, D. R. Gill⁶, J. S. Hangst^{2*}, W. N. Hardy¹¹, M. E. Hayden¹², C. A. Isaac³, M. A. Johnson^{4,5}, J. M. Jones³, S. A. Jones^{2,3}, S. Jonsell¹³, A. Khramov⁶, P. Knapp³, L. Kurchaninov⁶, N. Madsen³, D. Maxwell³, J. T. K. McKenna⁶, S. Menary¹⁴, T. Momose¹¹, J. J. Munich¹², K. Olchanski⁶, A. Olin^{6,15}, P. Pusa¹, C. Ø. Rasmussen², F. Robicheaux¹⁶, R. L. Sacramento⁸, M. Sameed^{3,4}, E. Sarid¹⁷, D. M. Silveira⁸, G. Stutter², C. So¹⁰, T. D. Tharp¹⁸, R. I. Thompson¹⁰, D. P. van der Werf^{3,19} & J. S. Wurtele⁷

In 1928, Dirac published an equation¹ that combined quantum mechanics and special relativity. Negative-energy solutions to this equation, rather than being unphysical as initially thought, represented a class of hitherto unobserved and unimagined particles—antimatter. The existence of particles of antimatter was confirmed with the discovery of the positron² (or anti-electron) by Anderson in 1932, but it is still unknown why matter, rather than antimatter, survived after the Big Bang. As a result, experimental studies of antimatter^{3–7}, including tests of fundamental symmetries

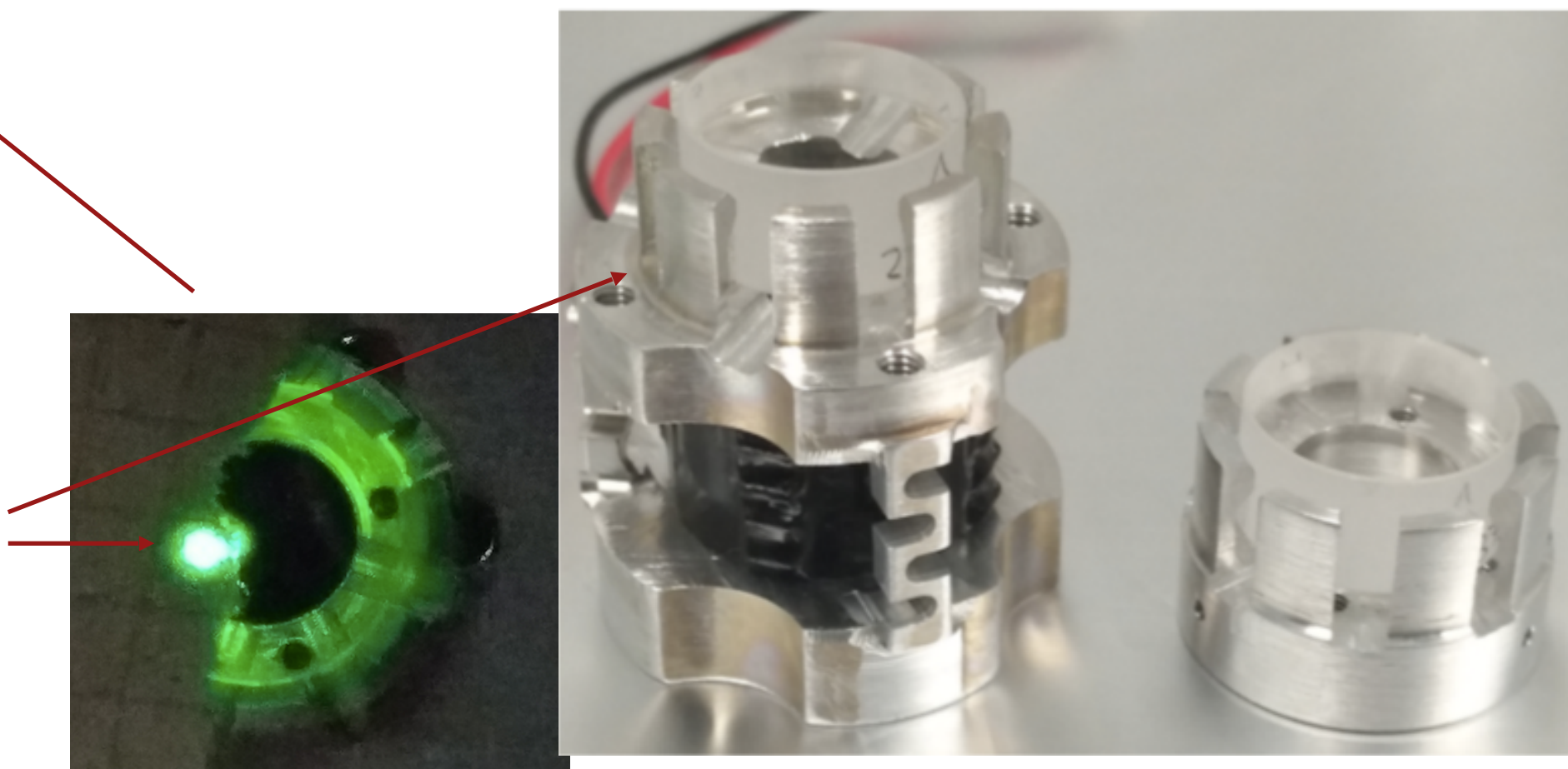
it is produced with a kinetic energy of less than 0.54 K in temperature units. The techniques that we use to produce antihydrogen that is cold enough to trap are described elsewhere^{12–14}. In round numbers, a typical trapping trial in ALPHA-2 involves mixing 90,000 antiprotons with 3,000,000 positrons to produce 50,000 antihydrogen atoms, about 20 of which will be trapped. The anti-atoms are confined by the interaction of their magnetic moments with the inhomogeneous magnetic field. The cylindrical trapping volume for antihydrogen has a diameter of 44.35 mm and a length of 280 mm.

2018

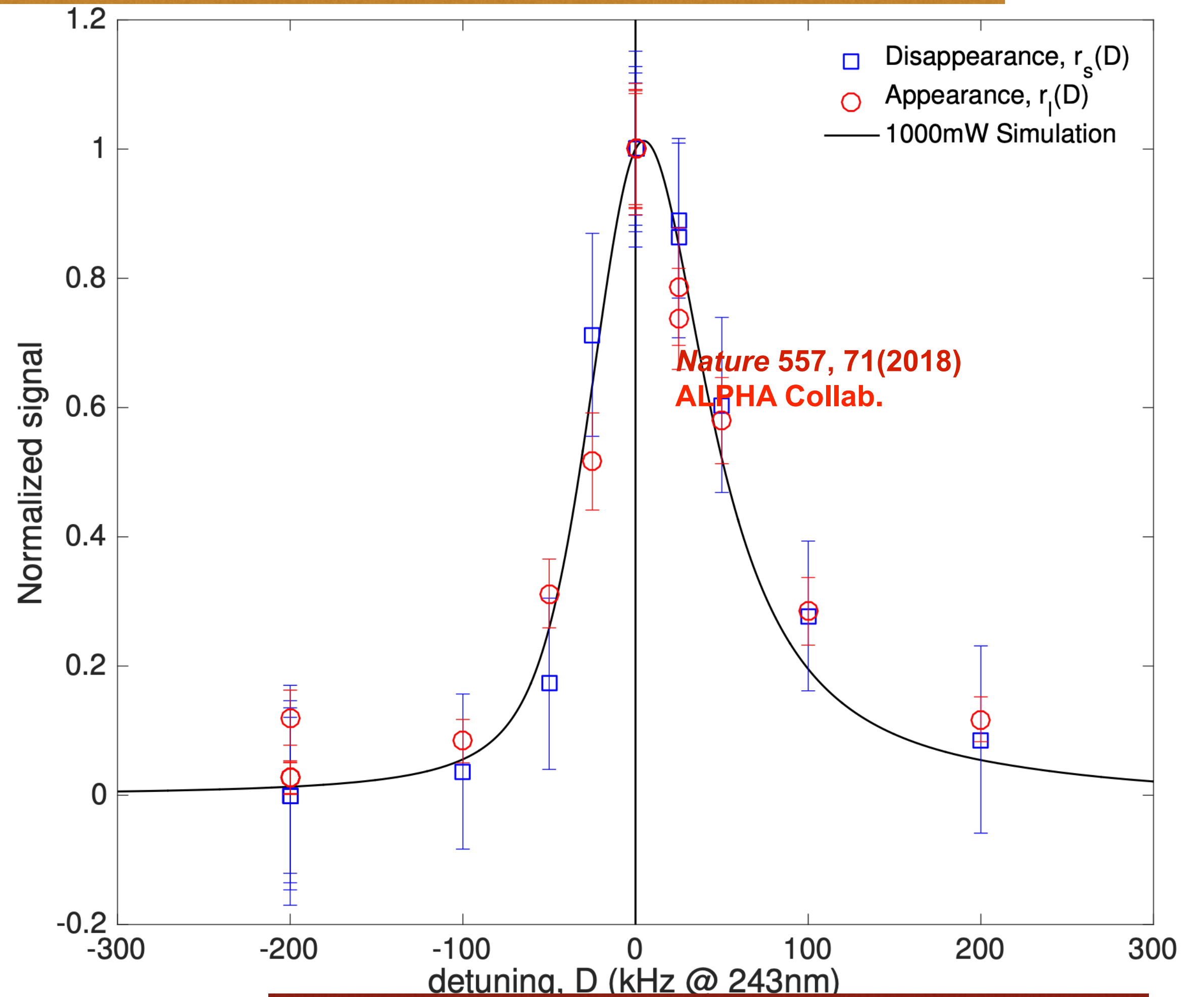
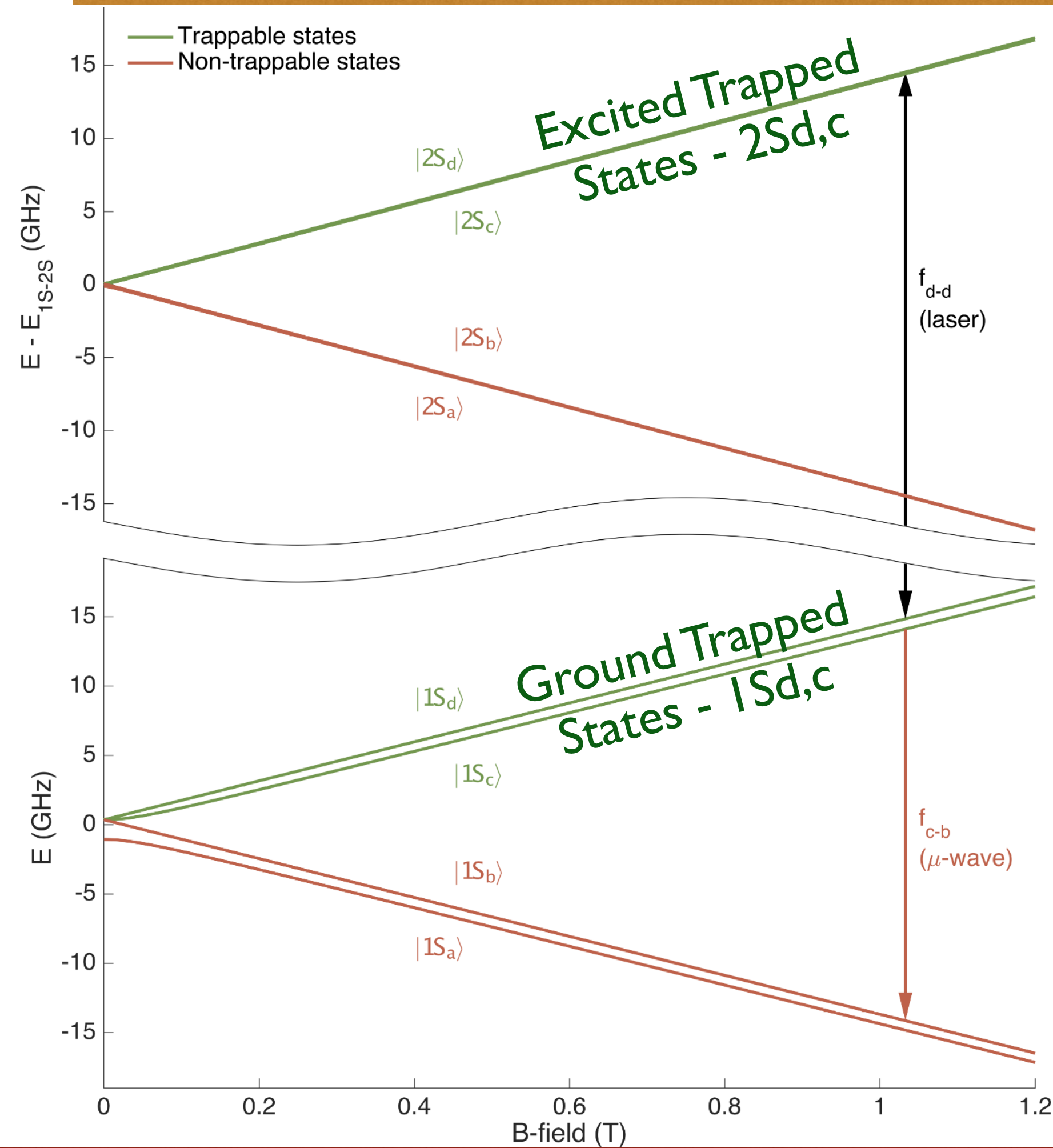


**Cryogenic Optical Cavity:
designed & made in Brasil**

26. Oliveira, A. N. et al. Cryogenic mount for mirror and piezoelectric actuator for an optical cavity. Rev. Sci. Instrum. **88**, 063104 (2017).



H vs Hbar 1S-2S comparison: 2 parts in 10¹²

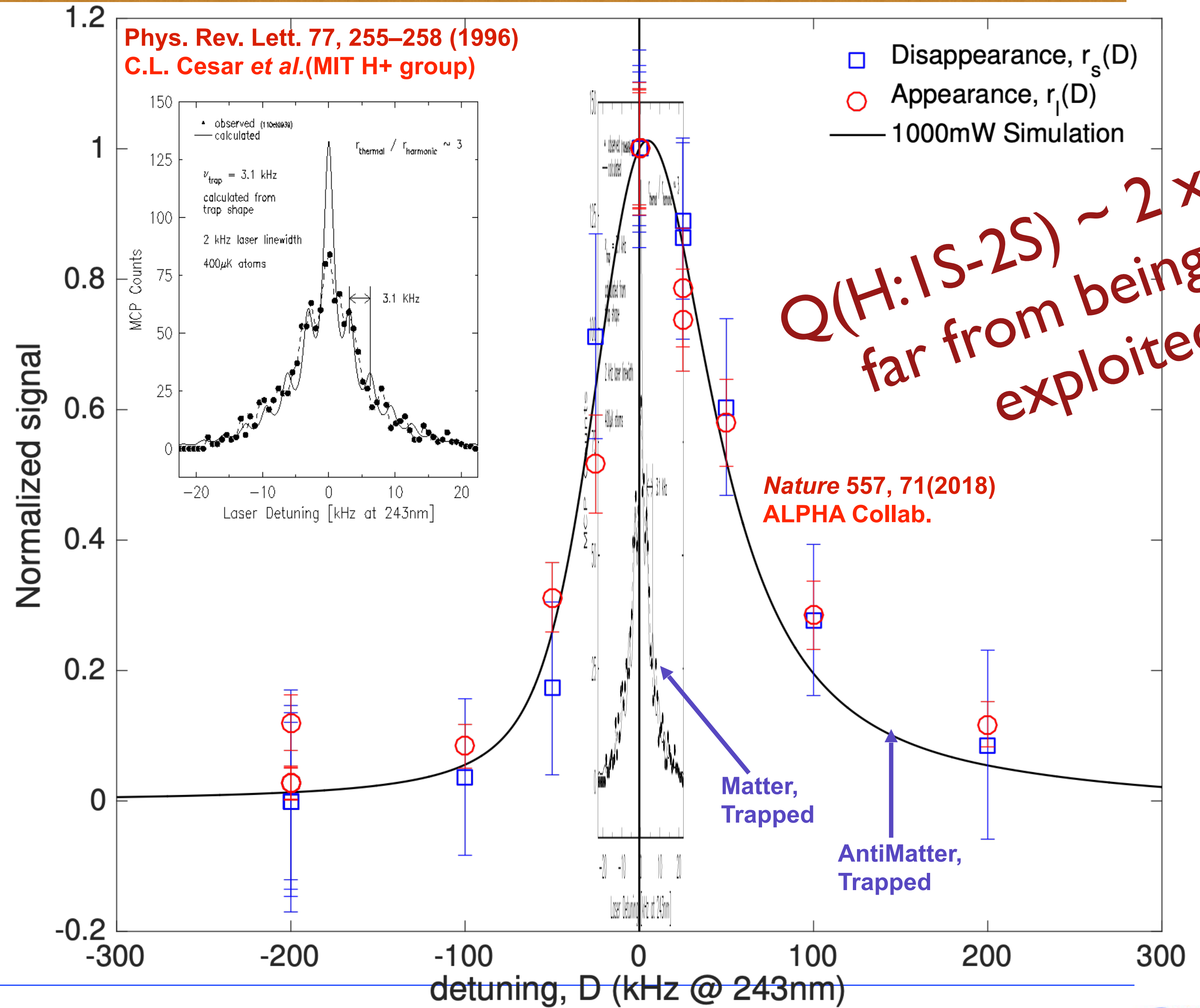


Spectrum and measured frequency:
2 x 10⁻¹² compatibility: Hbar & H(projected-Garching)

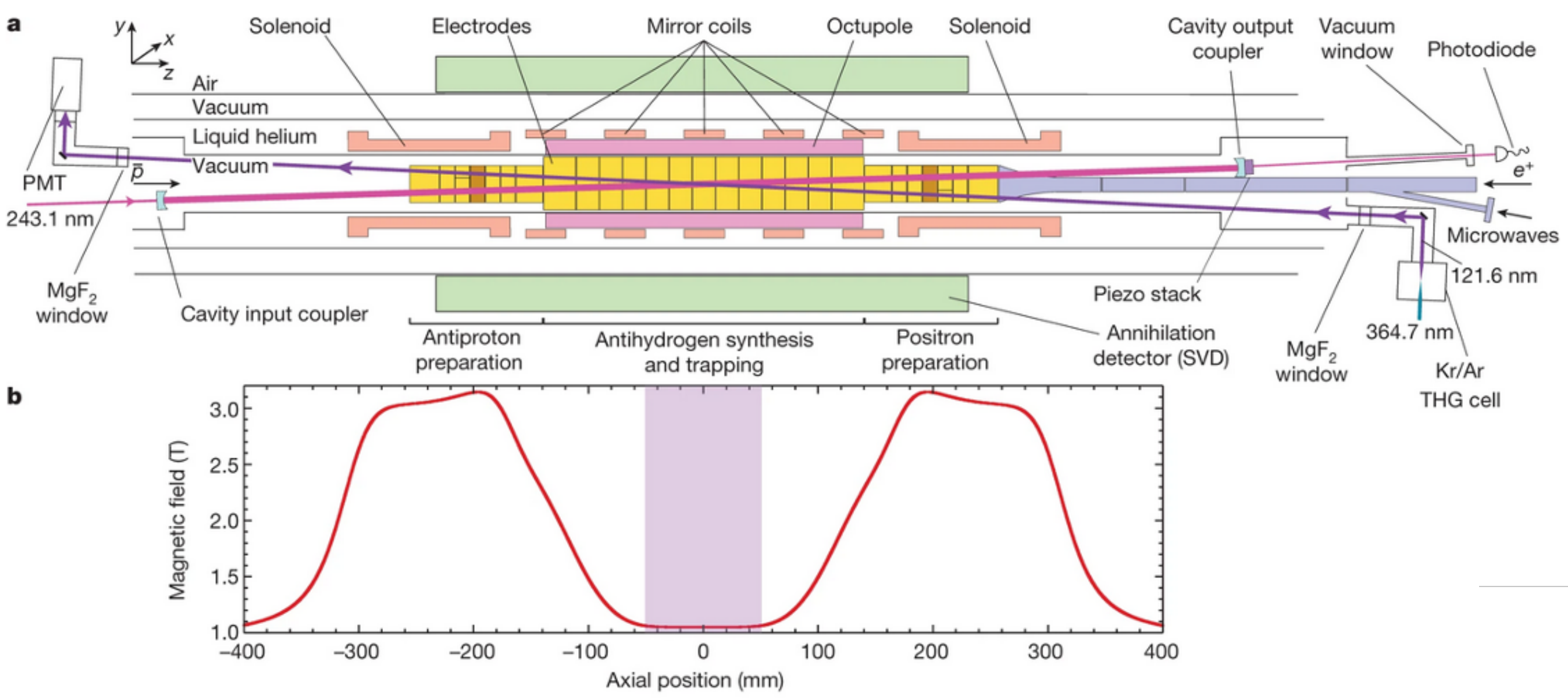
$$f_{d-d}(H) = 2,466,061,103,080.3(0.6)\text{kHz}$$

$$f_{d-d}(\text{anti-H}) = 2,466,061,103,079.4(5.4)\text{kHz}$$

Trapped Hbar (2018) in perspective: trapped H (1996)



Laser cooling of Hbar : hours of cooling!!

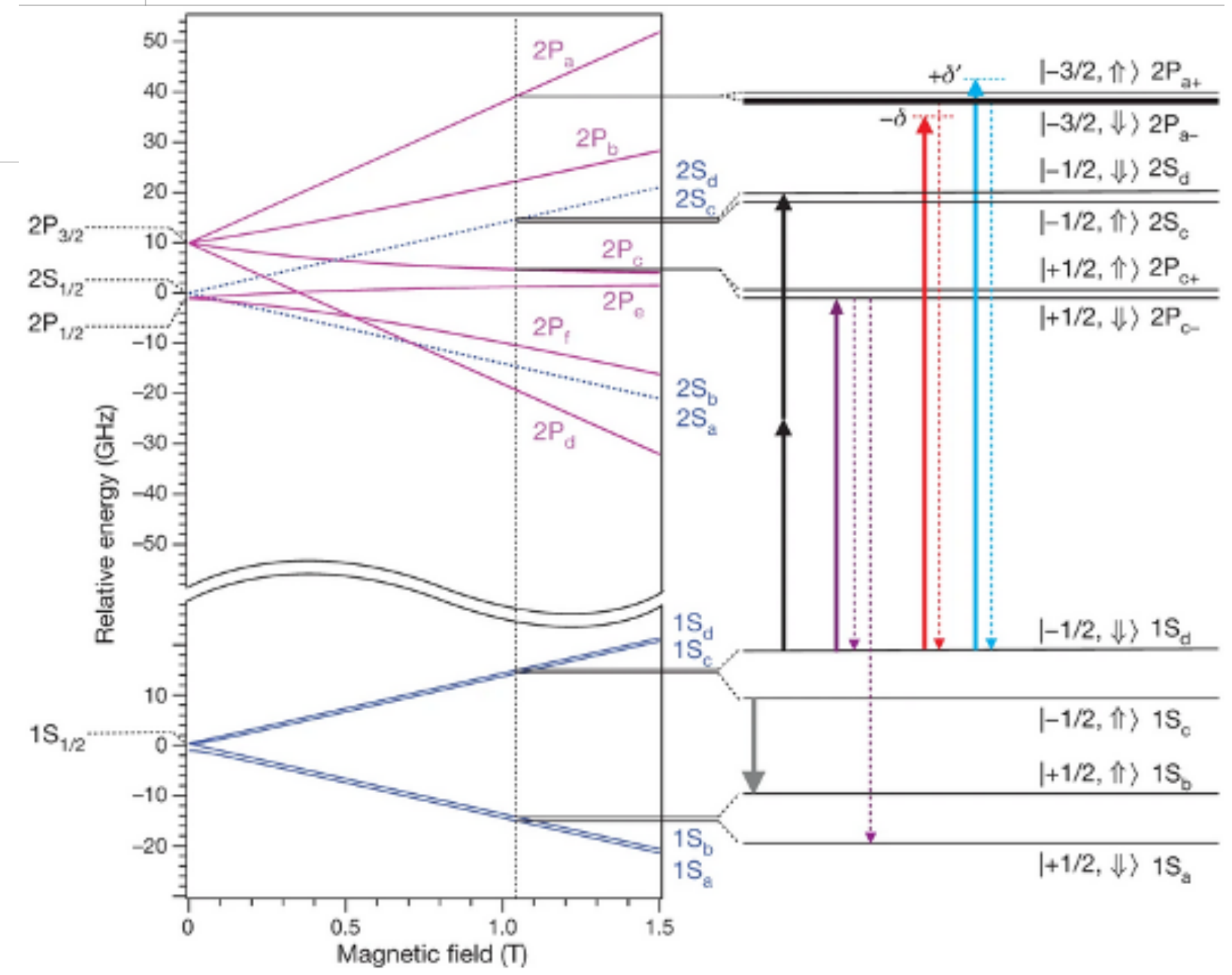
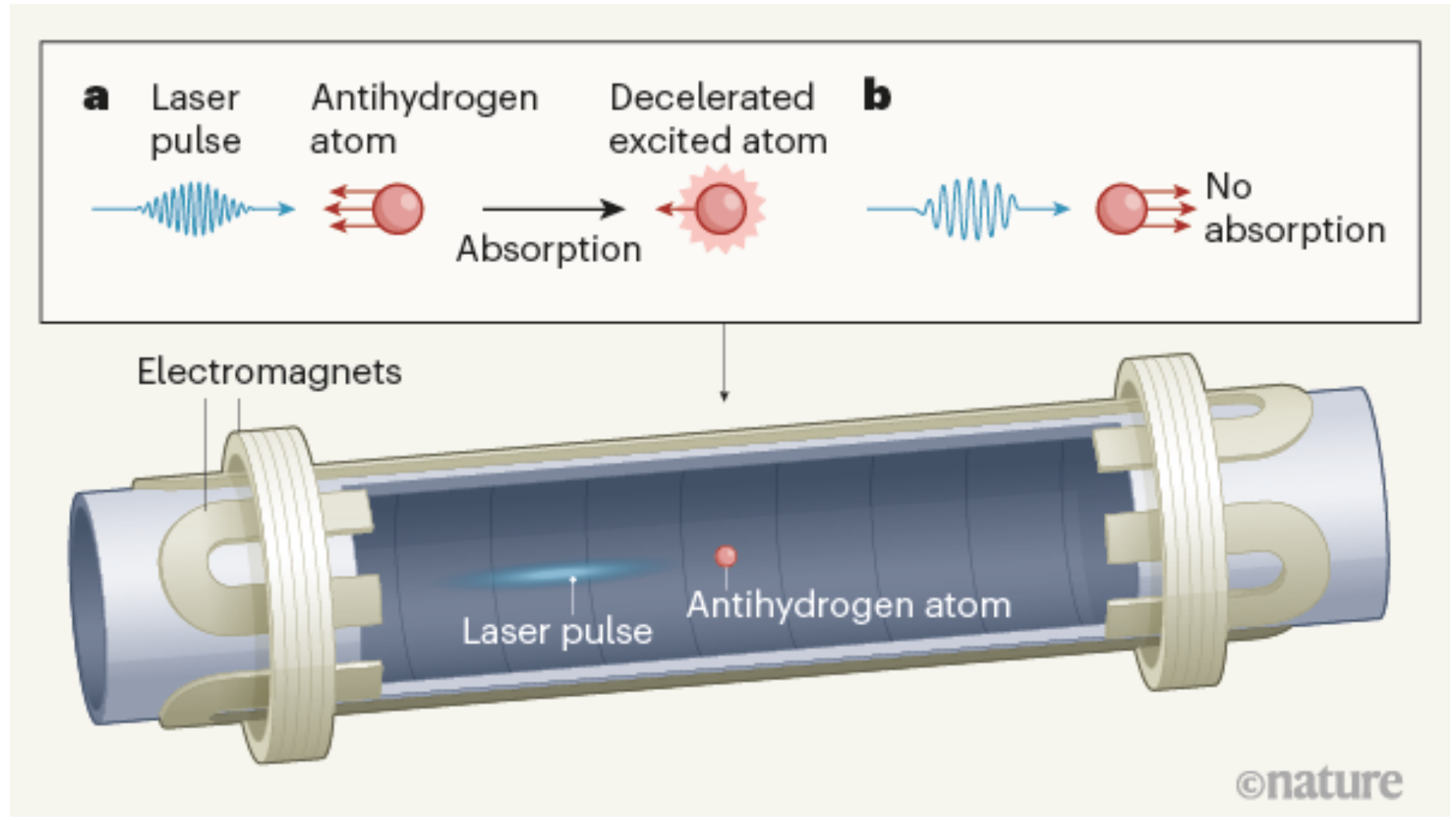


Volume 592 Issue 7852, 1 April 2021



Laser-cooled antimatter

Laser cooling — the use of photons to slow the movement of atoms — changed the face of atomic physics when it was first demonstrated 40 years ago. In this week's issue, the ALPHA collaboration takes this technique into fresh territory by successfully applying it to antimatter. Working at CERN's Antiproton Decelerator facility, the researchers trapped atoms of antihydrogen using magnetic fields and then irradiated them with carefully tuned pulses... [show more](#)



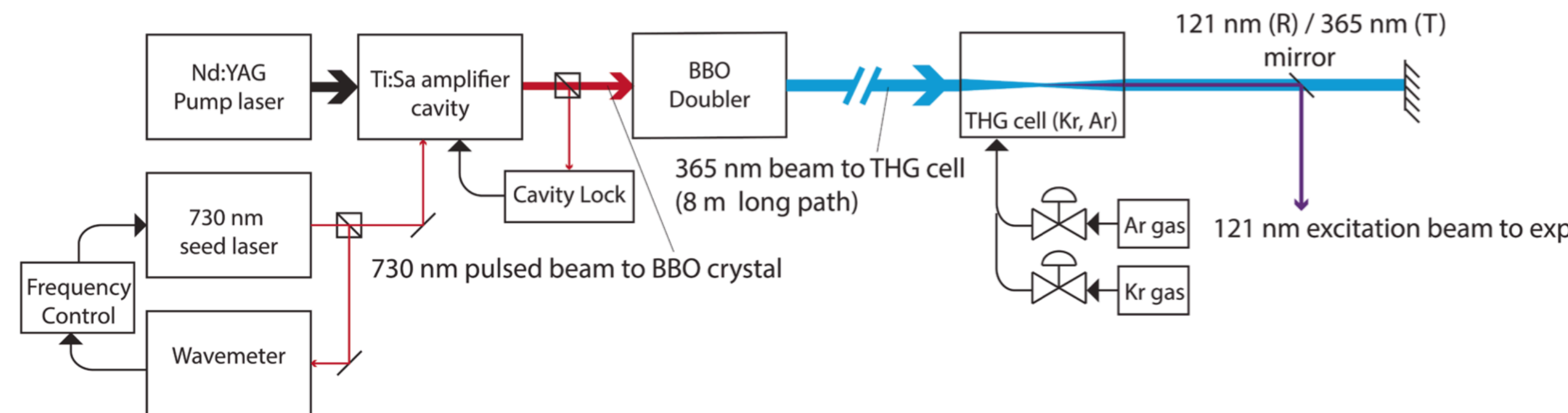
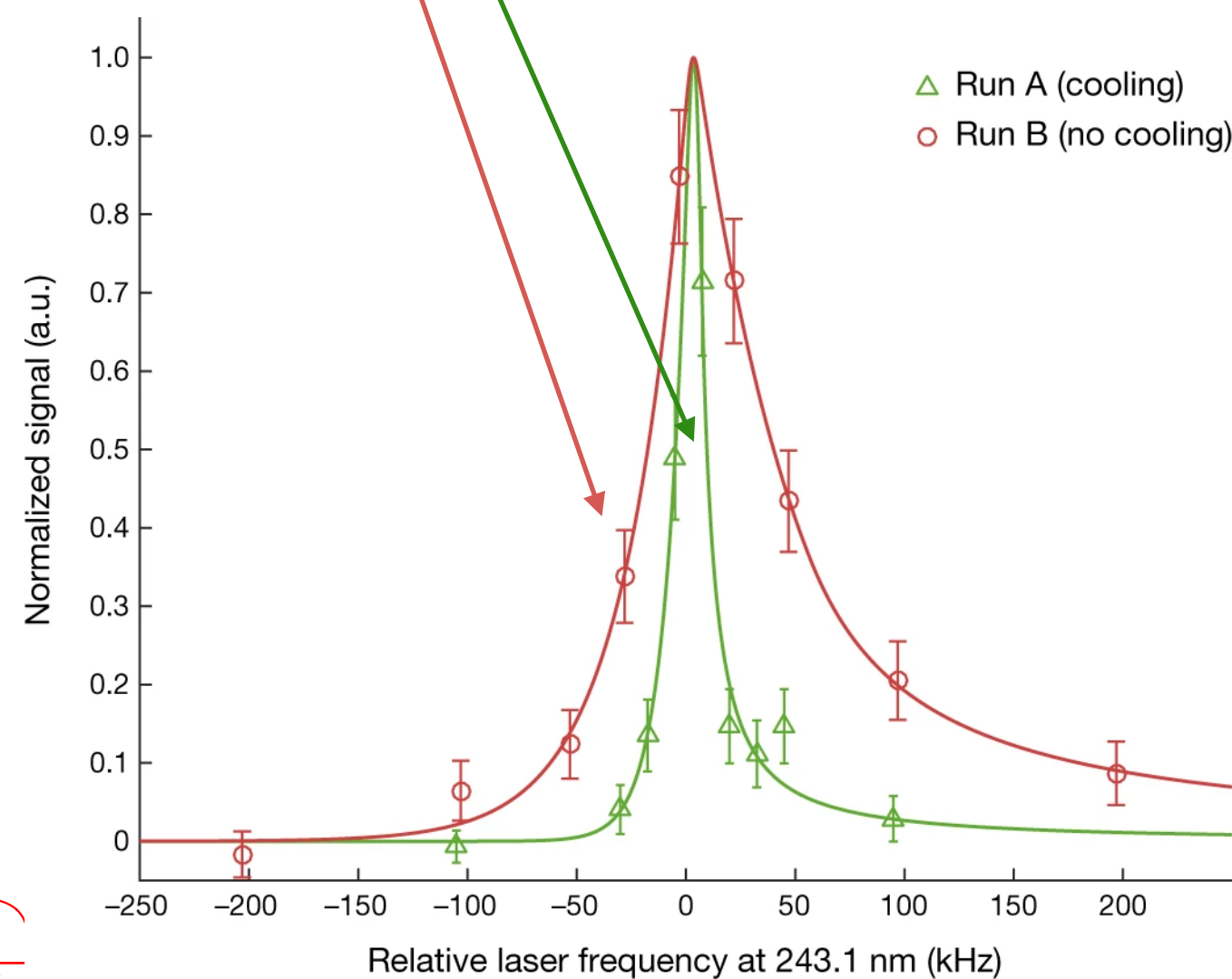
Laser cooling of Hbar: tables

Table 1 | Experimental dataset

Series	Type	1S _d → 2P _a - detuning (MHz)	Stacking phase		Cooling/heating phase		Probing phase	
			Number of stacks (approximate time)	Average pulse energy (nJ)	Number of pulses (approximate time)	Average pulse energy (nJ)	Number of pulses (approximate time)	Average pulse energy (nJ)
1	No laser	NA	30 (2 h)	NA	NA (No wait)	NA	72,000 (2 h)	1.50
2	Heating	+150	28 (2 h)	NA	72,000 (2 h)	3.5	72,000 (2 h)	0.84
3	Cooling	-240	60 (4 h)	NA	144,000 (4 h)	2.2	144,000 (4 h)	0.46
3	Cooling	-240	60 (4 h)	NA	144,000 (4 h)	1.9	144,000 (4 h)	0.65
2	Heating	+150	30 (2 h)	NA	144,000 (4 h)	1.7	144,000 (4 h)	0.47
2	Heating	+170	60 (4 h)	NA	144,000 (4 h)	1.2	144,000 (4 h)	0.34
1	No laser	NA	59 (4 h)	NA	NA (4 h wait)	NA	129,600 (3.6 h)	0.39
4	Stack and cool	-230	75 (5 h)	1.9	216,000 (6 h)	1.6	126,000 (3.5 h)	0.37
B	1S-2S No cooling	NA	150 (11.5 h)	NA	NA (no wait)	NA	NA (1.5 h)	1.3 W at 243.1 nm
A	1S-2S Stack and cool	-220	130 (9 h)	1.8	216,000 (6 h)	2.1	NA (1.8 h)	1.3 W at 243.1 nm

A list of experimental parameters for each run in the experimental series are tabulated in chronological order for the cooling experiment (series 1–4) and the spectroscopy experiment (series A and B). For series 1–4, the average pulse energy represents an estimated pulse energy of the 121.6-nm laser inside the trap. For the probing phase of series A and B, we list an estimated continuous-wave, build-up power of the 243.1-nm laser in the cavity surrounding the trap. NA, not applicable.

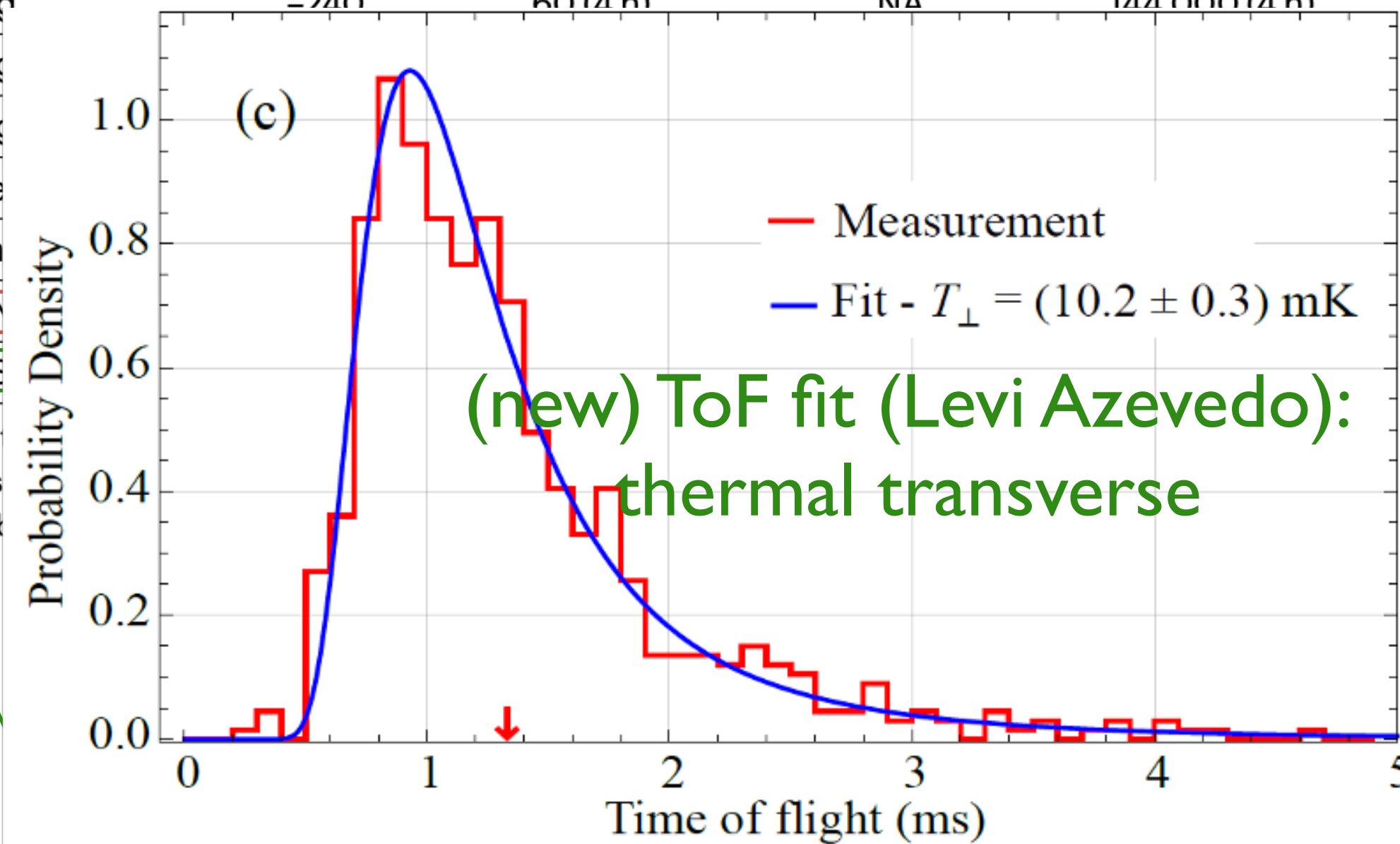
9+6 ~ 15 hr
laser cooling



Laser cooling of Hbar: tables

Table 1 | Experimental dataset

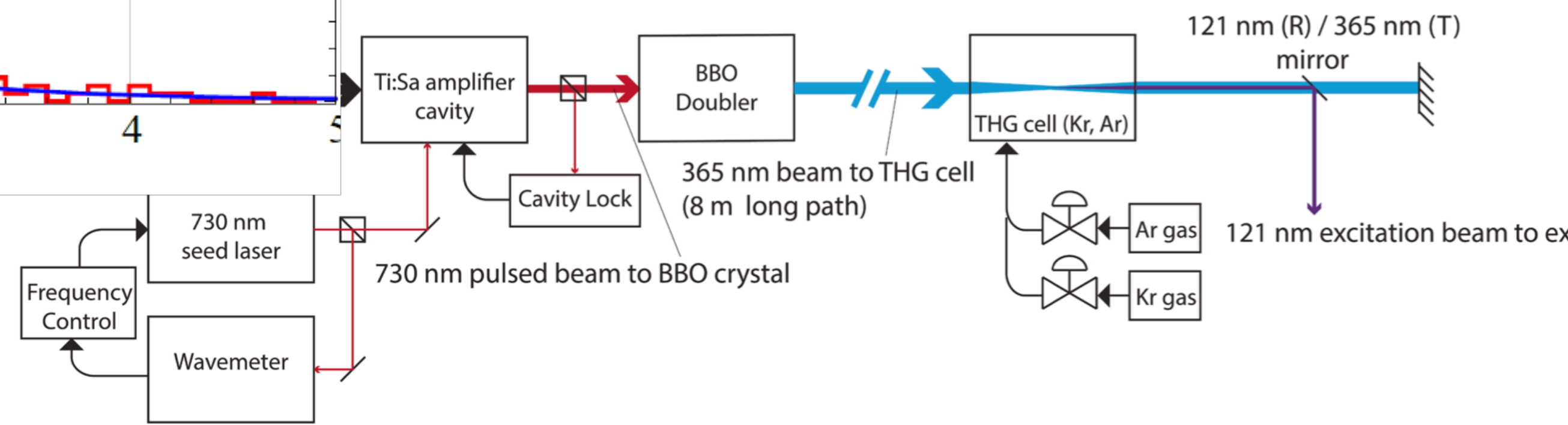
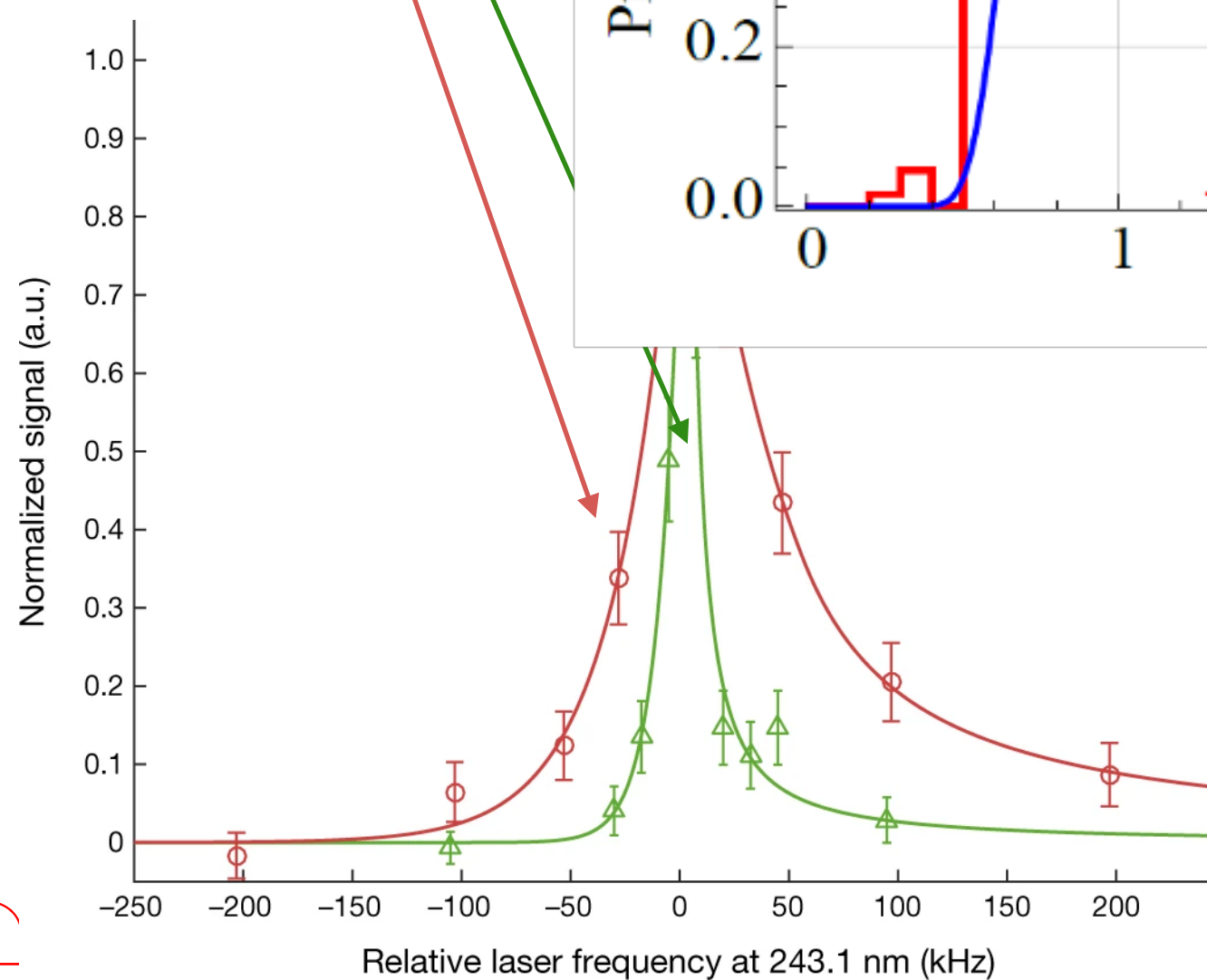
Series	Type	$1S_d \rightarrow 2P_a$ - detuning (MHz)	Stacking phase		Cooling/heating phase		Probing phase	
			Number of stacks (approximate time)	Average pulse energy (nJ)	Number of pulses (approximate time)	Average pulse energy (nJ)	Number of pulses (approximate time)	Average pulse energy (nJ)
1	No laser	NA	30 (2 h)	NA	NA (No wait)	NA	72,000 (2 h)	1.50
2	Heating	+150	28 (2 h)	NA	72,000 (2 h)	3.5	72,000 (2 h)	0.84
3	Cooling	-240	60 (4 h)	NA	144,000 (4 h)	2.2	144,000 (4 h)	0.46
3	Cooling	-240	60 (4 h)	NA	144,000 (4 h)	1.9	144,000 (4 h)	0.65
2	Heating					1.7	144,000 (4 h)	0.47
2	Heating					1.2	144,000 (4 h)	0.34
1	No laser					NA	129,600 (3.6 h)	0.39
4	Stack a					1.6	126,000 (3.5 h)	0.37
B	1S-2S					NA	NA (1.5 h)	1.3 W at 243.1 nm
A	1S-2S					2.1	NA (1.8 h)	1.3 W at 243.1 nm



(new) ToF fit (Levi Azevedo):
thermal transverse

9+6 ~ 15 hr
laser cooling

experiment (series 1-4) and the spectroscopy experiment (series A and B). For the probing phase of series A and B, we list an estimated



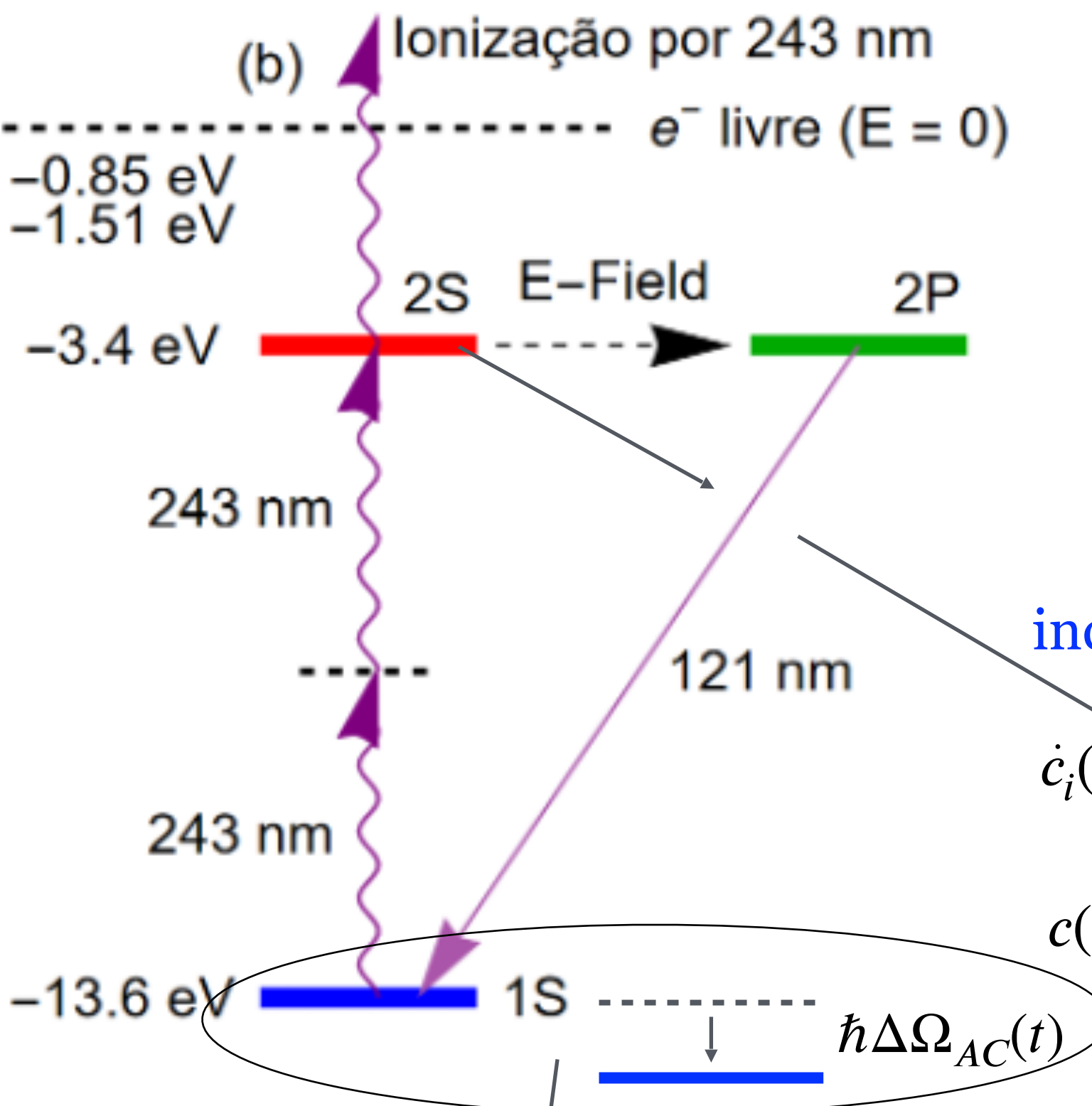
Quasianalytical Lineshape for (anti-)H 1S-2S spectroscopy

Quasianalytical line shape for the 1S-2S laser spectroscopy of antihydrogen and hydrogen

Levi O. A. Azevedo ^{ID*} and Claudio Lenz Cesar ^{ID†}

Phys. Rev. A **111**, 012807 – Published 15 January, 2025

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevA.111.012807>



include ionization

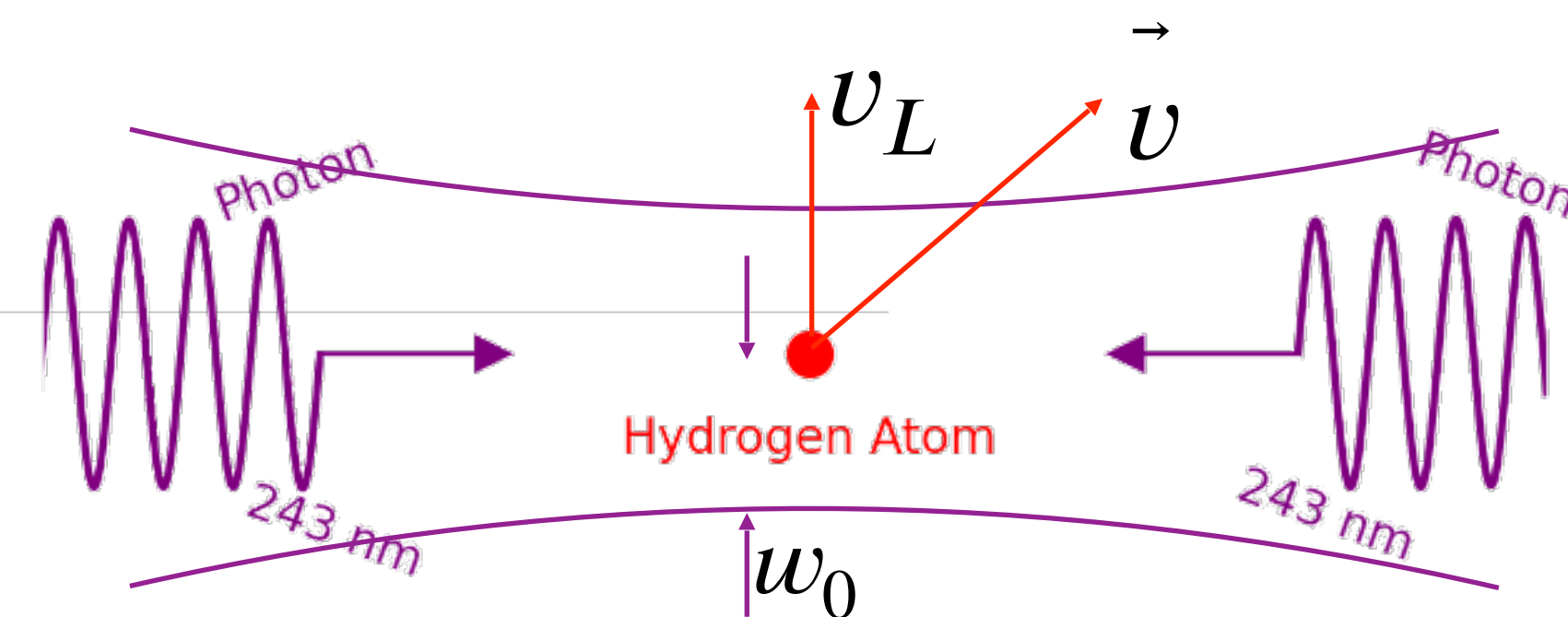
$$\dot{c}_i(t) = -\frac{\gamma_i(t)}{2}c_i(t) \Rightarrow (|c\rangle \rightarrow |2S\rangle)$$

$$c(t) = c_2(t) \text{Exp} \left(-\frac{\kappa_i w_0 \sqrt{\pi/2}}{4v_L} \left(1 + \text{Erf} \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}v_L t}{w_0} \right) \right) \right)$$

dress with laser field: ac Stark

$$\dot{a}(t') = i\Delta\Omega_{AC}(t')a(t') \Rightarrow (|a\rangle \rightarrow |1S\rangle)$$

$$a^{(0)}(t) = \text{Exp} \left(\frac{i\sqrt{8\pi}P\beta_{ac}}{v_L w_0} \left[e^{-2\frac{\rho_L^2}{w_0^2}} \left(1 + \text{Erf} \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}v_L t}{w_0} \right) \right) \right] \right)$$



Doppler-free 2 counterpropagating photons

time-of-flight broadening: F. Biraben

Magnetic trap: shift + broadening

some extra approximations

$$\Delta\omega_{AC}(\rho_L) = \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{3}} \frac{4P\beta_{AC}}{w_0^2} e^{-\frac{2\rho_L^2}{w_0^2}} \rightarrow \overline{\Delta\omega_{AC}} = \frac{8\sqrt{\pi}P\beta_{AC}}{3w_0^2}$$

$$v_{\text{ion}} = (\sqrt{8\pi}\beta_i P/w_0) e^{-2\rho_L^2/w_0^2} \rightarrow \overline{v_{\text{ion}}} = \frac{4\sqrt{\pi}\beta_i P}{\sqrt{3}w_0}$$

Quasianalytical Lineshape for (anti)H 1S-2S spectroscopy

Thermal sample in the trap: $B(z) \rightarrow \delta\omega_{ca}(z), n_{at}(z)$

$$\delta\mathcal{L}(\delta\omega_{ca}) = [n_{at}(z) \delta z] \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\rho_L \int_0^{\infty} dv_L v_L f(v_L) |C_{AC\ ion\ approx}(\delta\omega_{ca})|^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\mathcal{L}_{ion}(\delta\omega_{ca}) = & \frac{\pi \gamma^2 P^2}{2 u w_0} \left(e^{-w_0 |\delta\omega_{ca} - \overline{\Delta\omega_{AC}}|/u} - \frac{\overline{v_{ion}}}{u \sqrt{1 + (\overline{v_{ion}}/u)^2}} e^{-w_0 \sqrt{1 + (\overline{v_{ion}}/u)^2} |\delta\omega_{ca} - \overline{\Delta\omega_{AC}}|/\overline{v_{ion}}} \right. \\ & + \frac{\overline{v_{ion}}^2}{w_0 u |\delta\omega_{ca} - \overline{\Delta\omega_{AC}}|} \left(e^{-w_0 |\delta\omega_{ca} - \overline{\Delta\omega_{AC}}|/u} - e^{-w_0 \sqrt{1 + (\overline{v_{ion}}/u)^2} |\delta\omega_{ca} - \overline{\Delta\omega_{AC}}|/\overline{v_{ion}}} \right) \\ & \left. - \frac{2\overline{v_{ion}}}{\sqrt{\pi} u} \left\{ \mathcal{K}_{(0)}(w_0 |\delta\omega_{ca} - \overline{\Delta\omega_{AC}}|/u) - \mathcal{K}_{(0)}[w_0 \sqrt{1 + (\overline{v_{ion}}/u)^2} |\delta\omega_{ca} - \overline{\Delta\omega_{AC}}|/\overline{v_{ion}}] \right\} \right) n_{at}(z) \delta z \end{aligned}$$

$$u = \sqrt{\frac{2k_B T}{m_H}} \approx 128.45 \sqrt{\frac{T}{\text{Kelvin}}} \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

Validity

$$v_{L\ valid} > 0.5 \text{ ms}^{-1} \left(\frac{P}{200 \text{ mW}} \right) \left(\frac{200 \mu\text{m}}{w_0} \right),$$

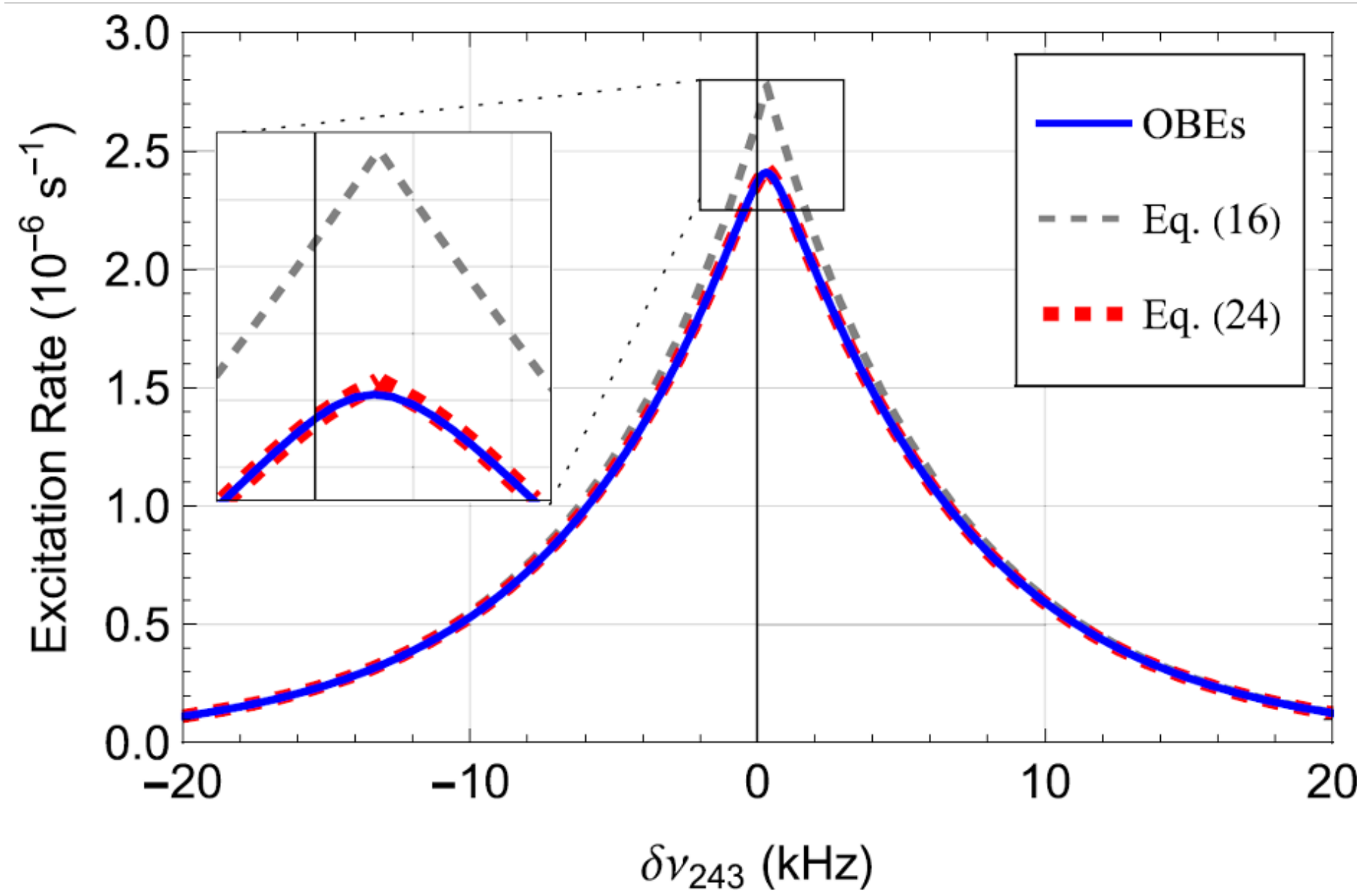
$$T_{\text{validity}} > 300 \mu\text{K} \left(\frac{P}{200 \text{ mW}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{200 \mu\text{m}}{w_0} \right)^2.$$

Lineshape theory: Levi Azevedo & CLC, [PhysRevA.111.012807](https://arxiv.org/abs/2501.12807) (2025)

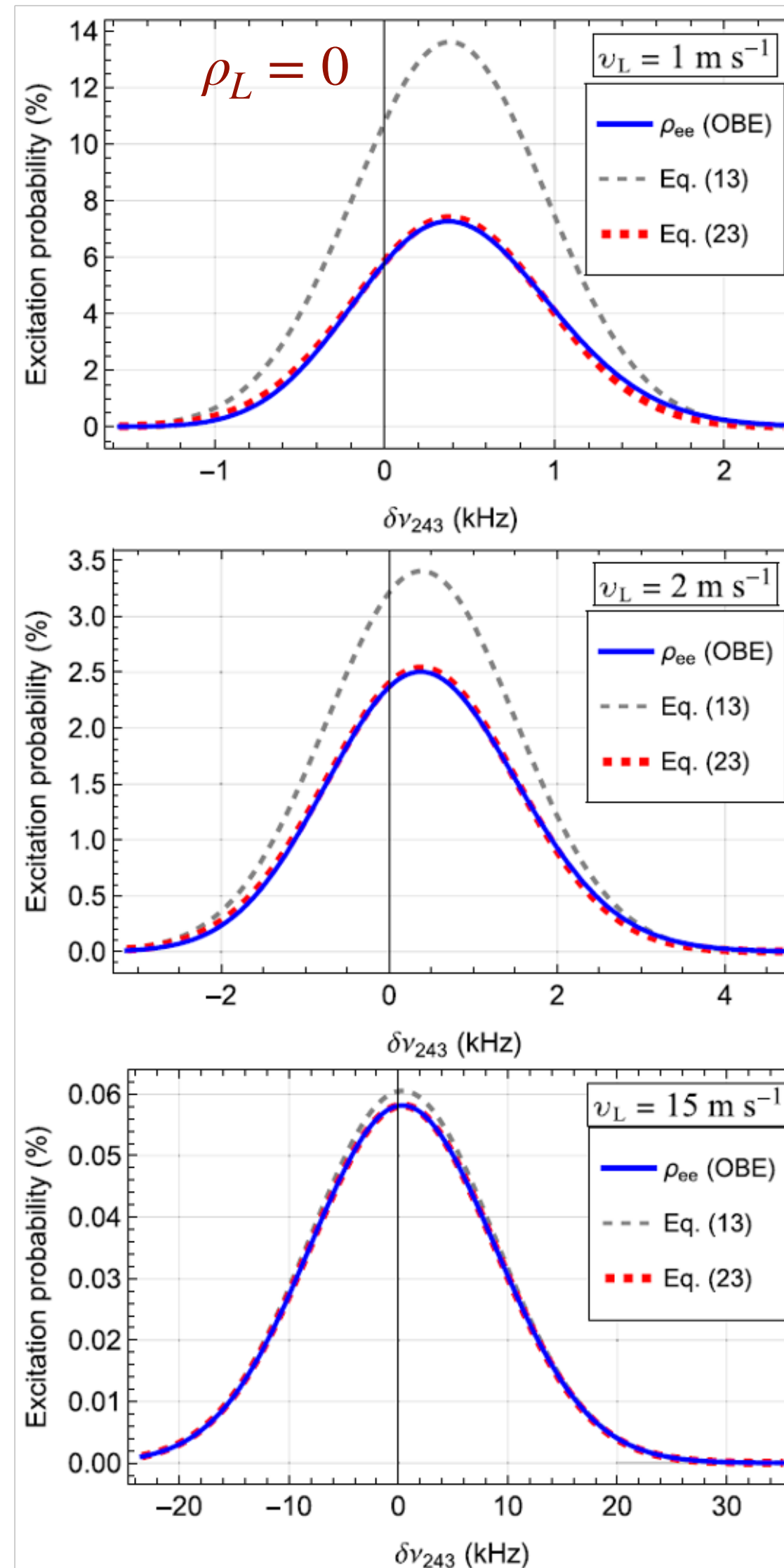
Quasianalytical Lineshape for (anti-)H 1S-2S spectroscopy

Comparison to OBEs ("gas in box")

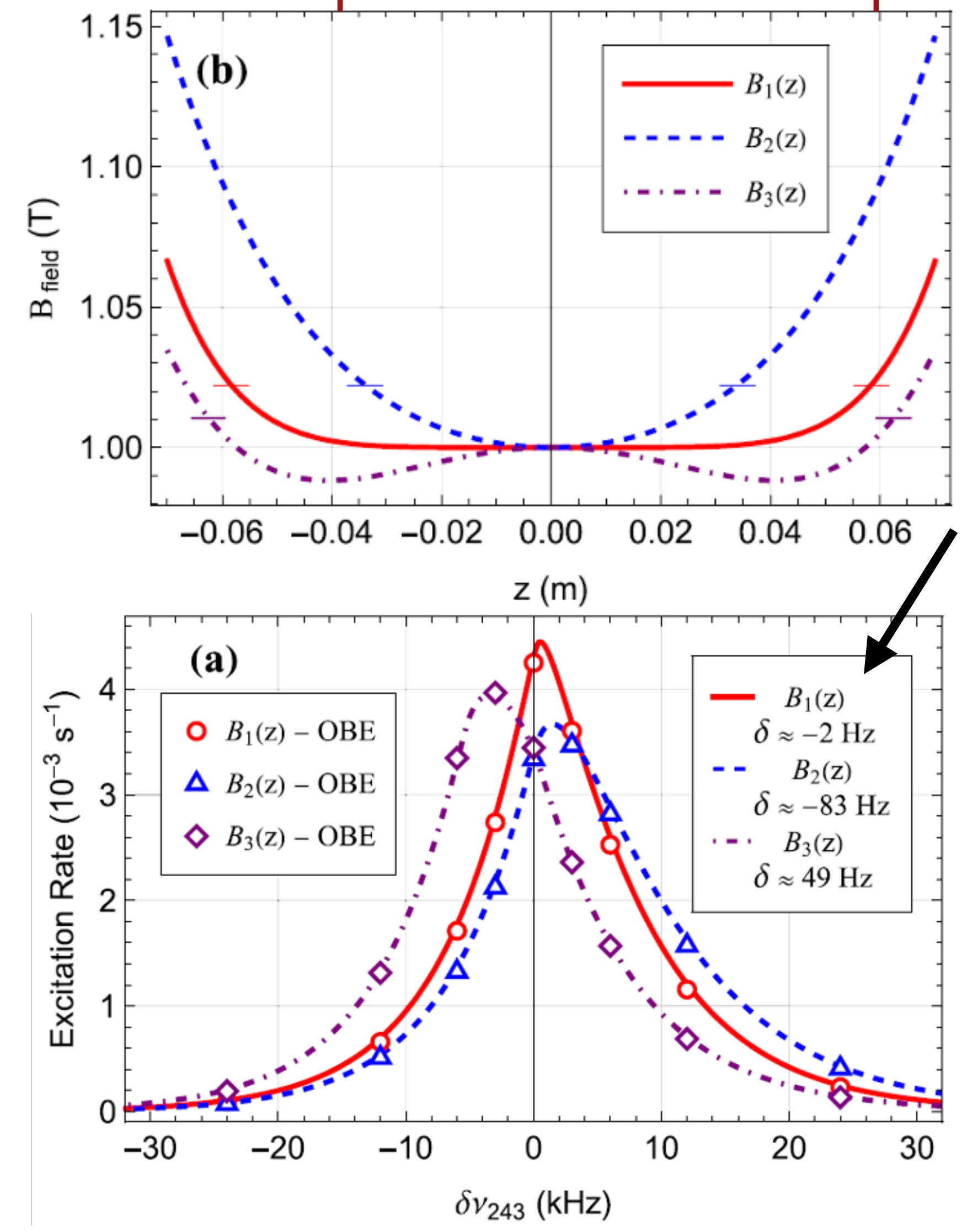
Thermal sample
 $w_0 = 196 \mu\text{m}$
 $P = 200 \text{ mW}$
 $T = 15 \text{ mK}$



Single atom crossing laser head-on



Comparison to OBEs in trap



1S-2S Hbar Spectroscopy - Simulation for blind analysis of 2023 data - laser cooled sample

1S-2S Hbar spectroscopy \Rightarrow parts in 10^{13-14} (2023 data)!!

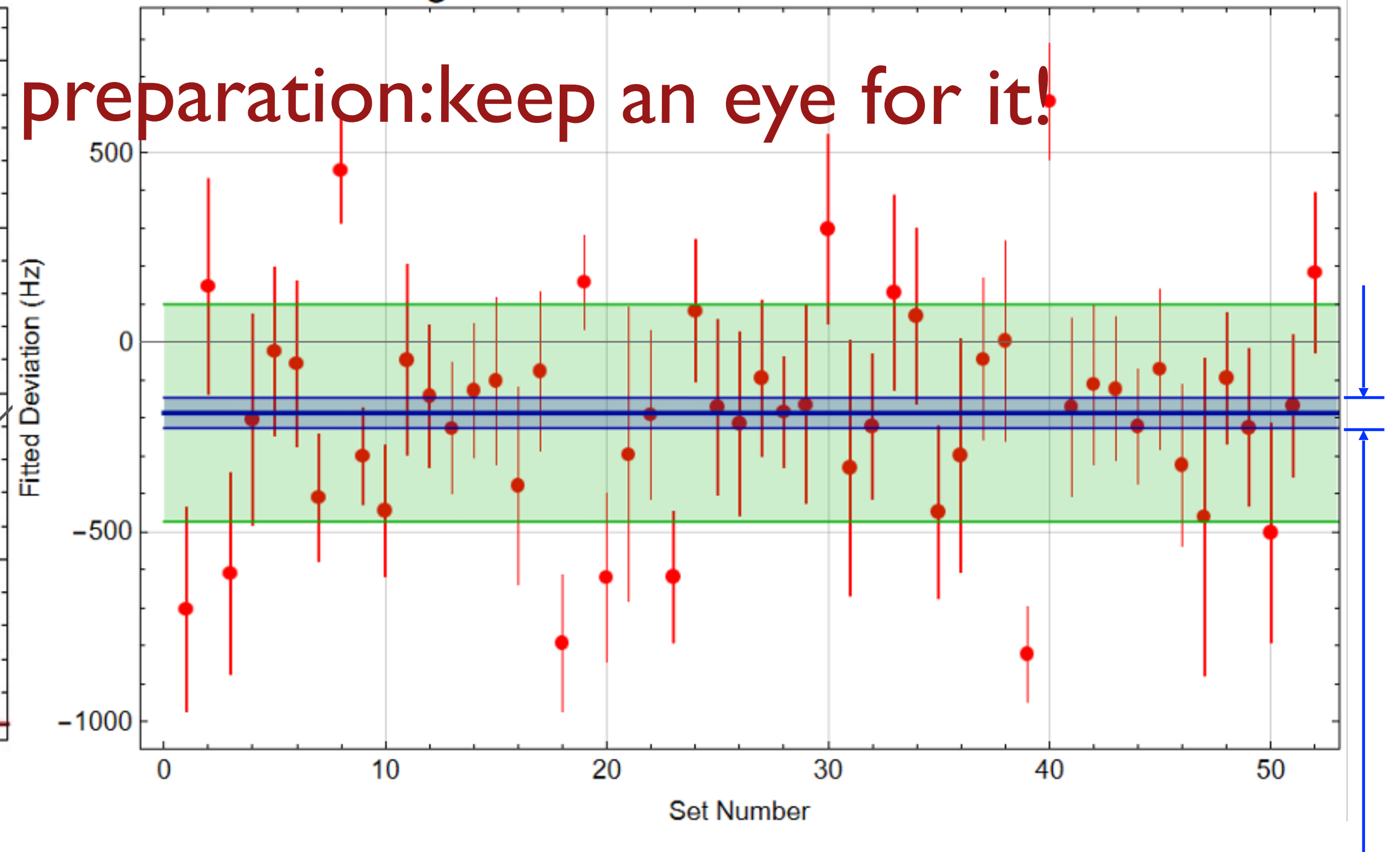
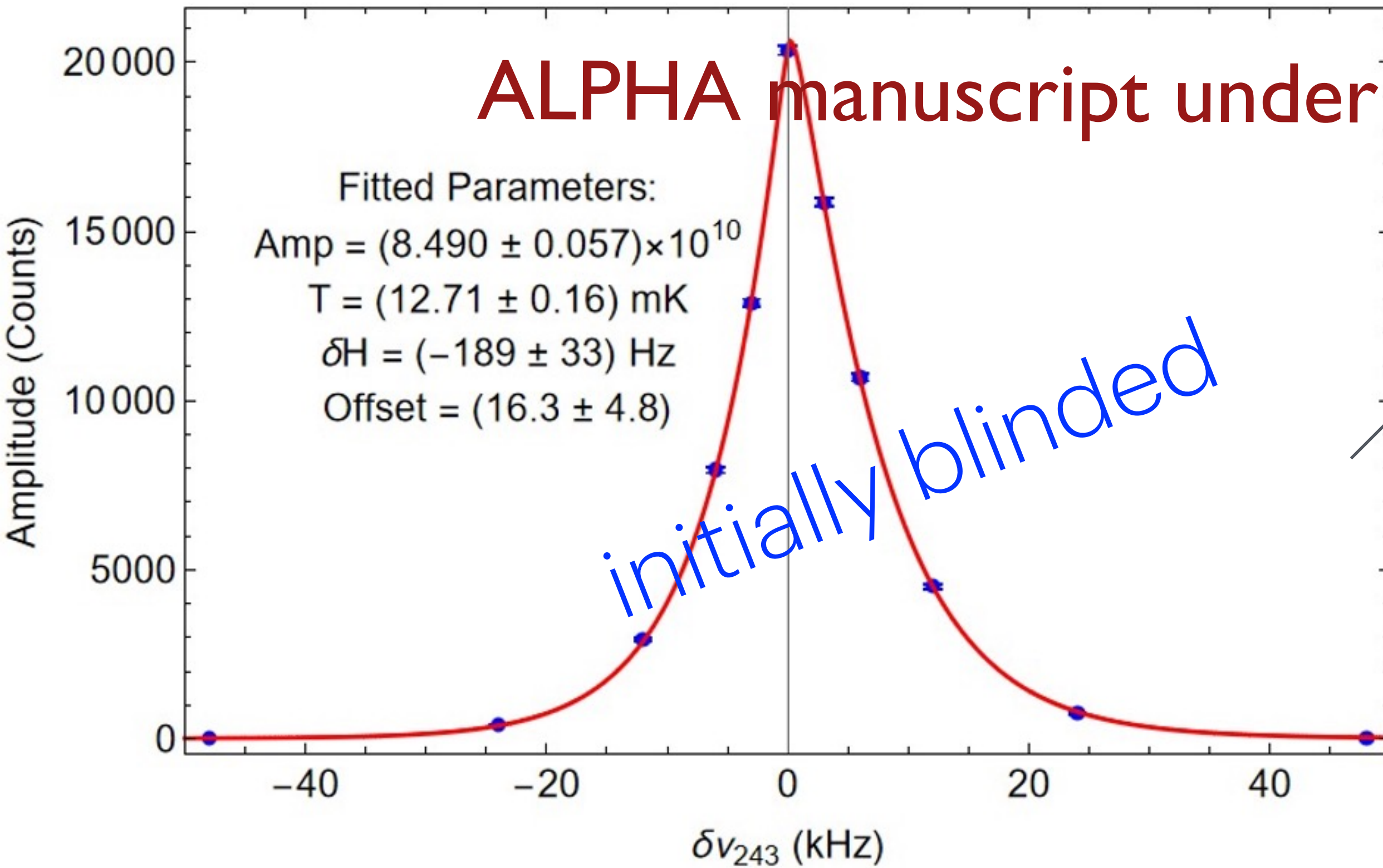
here only simulation, no meaning of central freq.!

typical ALPHA-2 laser cooled conditions

52 sets of 2750 atoms in each set

Starting from a simulation with 143683 atoms

ALPHA manuscript under preparation: keep an eye for it!

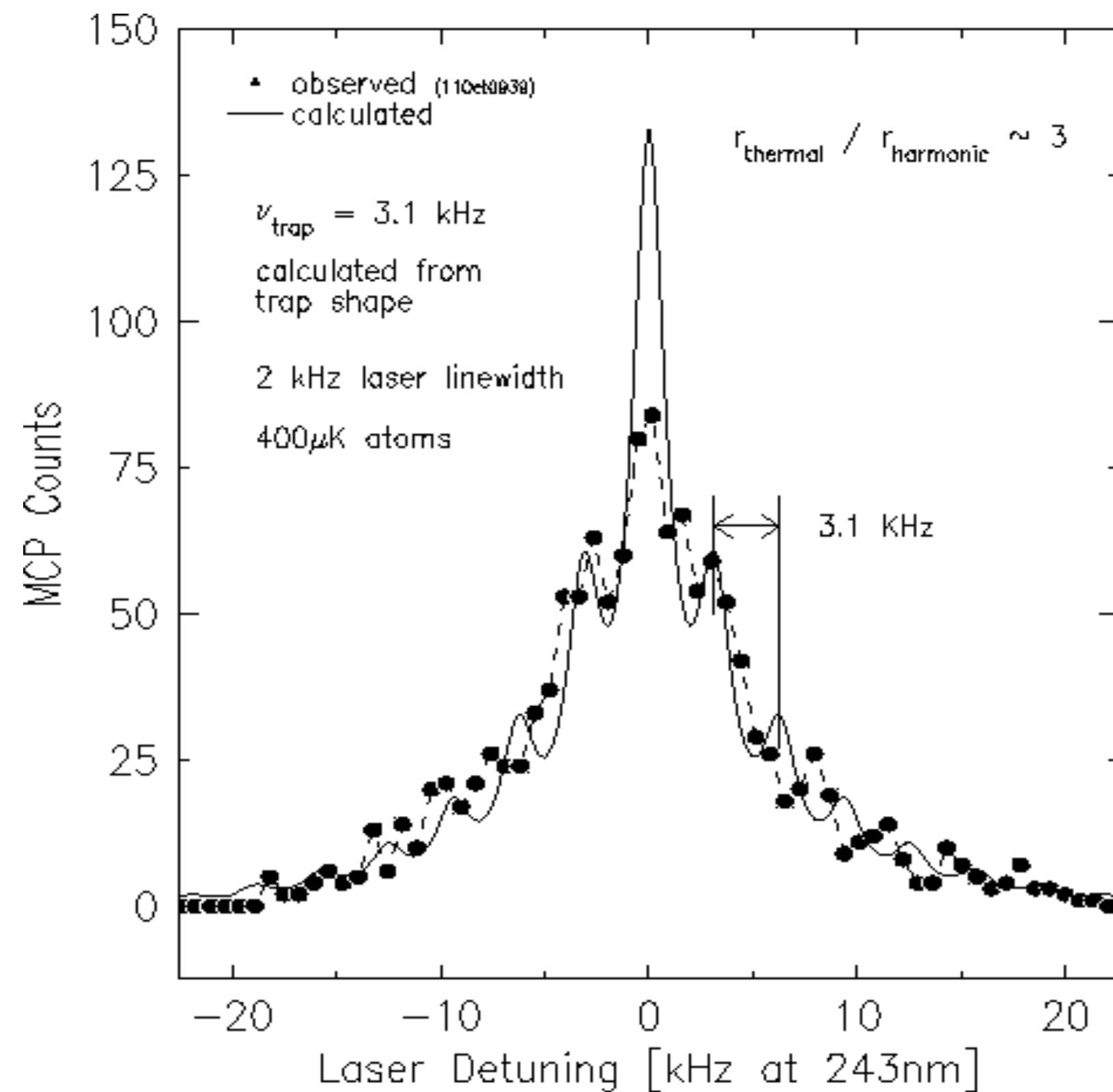


High-statistics MC Simulation (OBEs) : F. Robicheaux (ALPHA)
Lineshape Fitting theory: Levi Azevedo & CLC, [PhysRevA.111.012807](#) (2025)

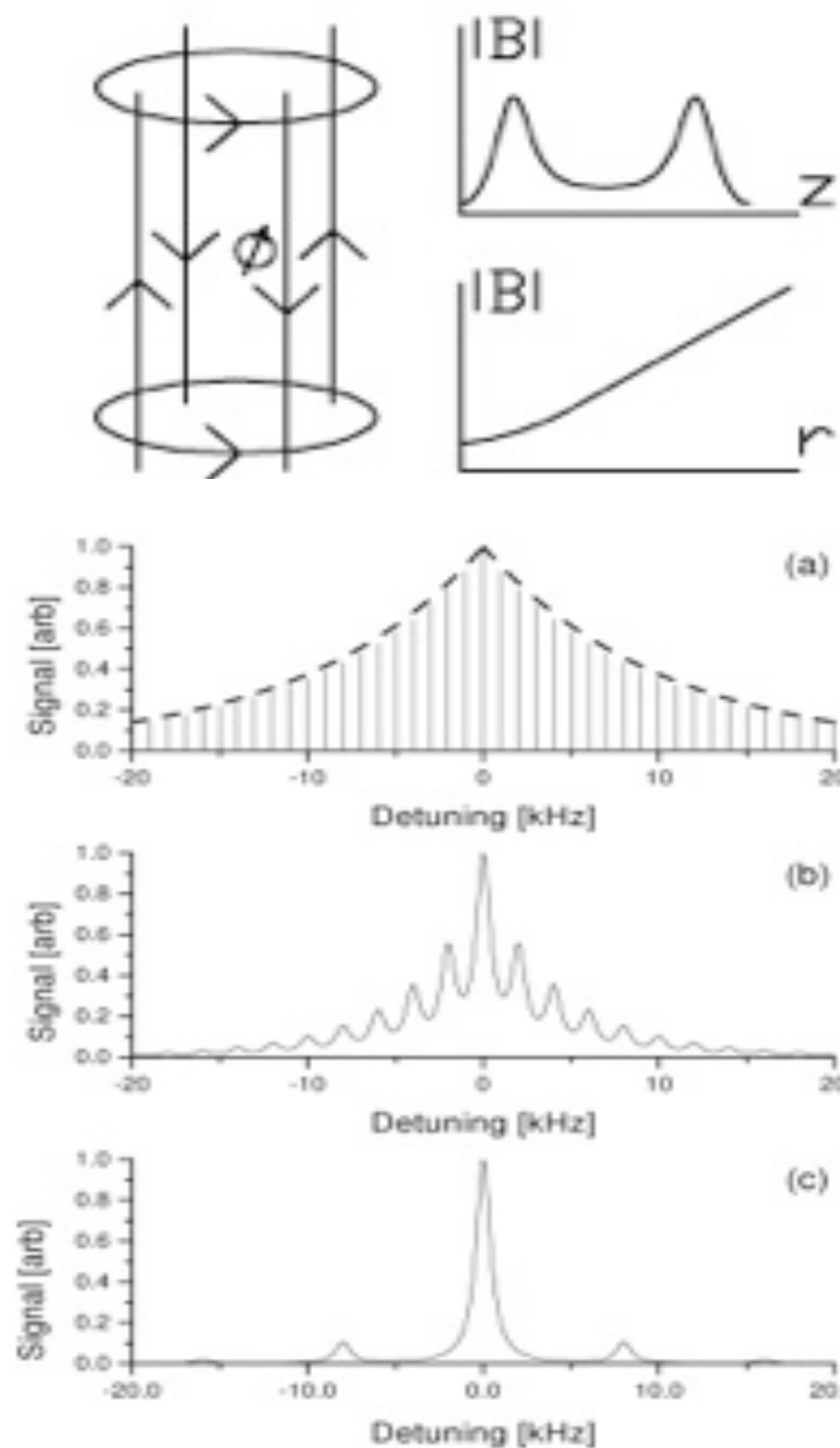
± 40 Hz
 $\Rightarrow \pm 3 \times 10^{-14}$

Hbar Spectroscopy Objectives: resemblance of trapped H!?

- ★ 2s - metastable state (122 ms)
- ★ 2-counterpropagating photons: Doppler-free
- ★ time-of-flight & Zeeman



Phys. Rev. Lett. 77, 255–258 (1996)
C.L. Cesar *et al.* (MIT H+ group)

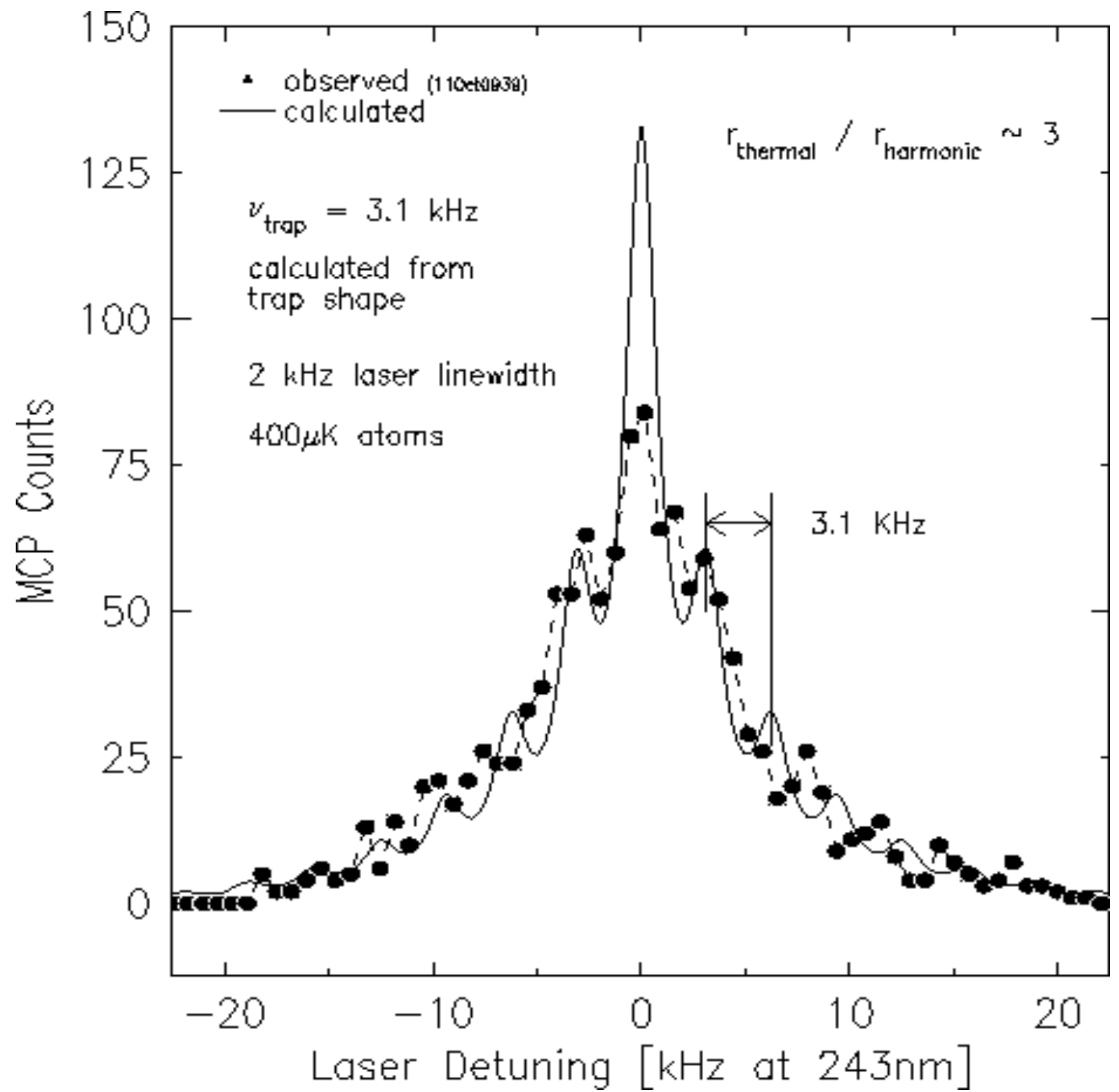


Phys. Rev. A 59, 4564 (1999)
C. L. Cesar, D. Kleppner

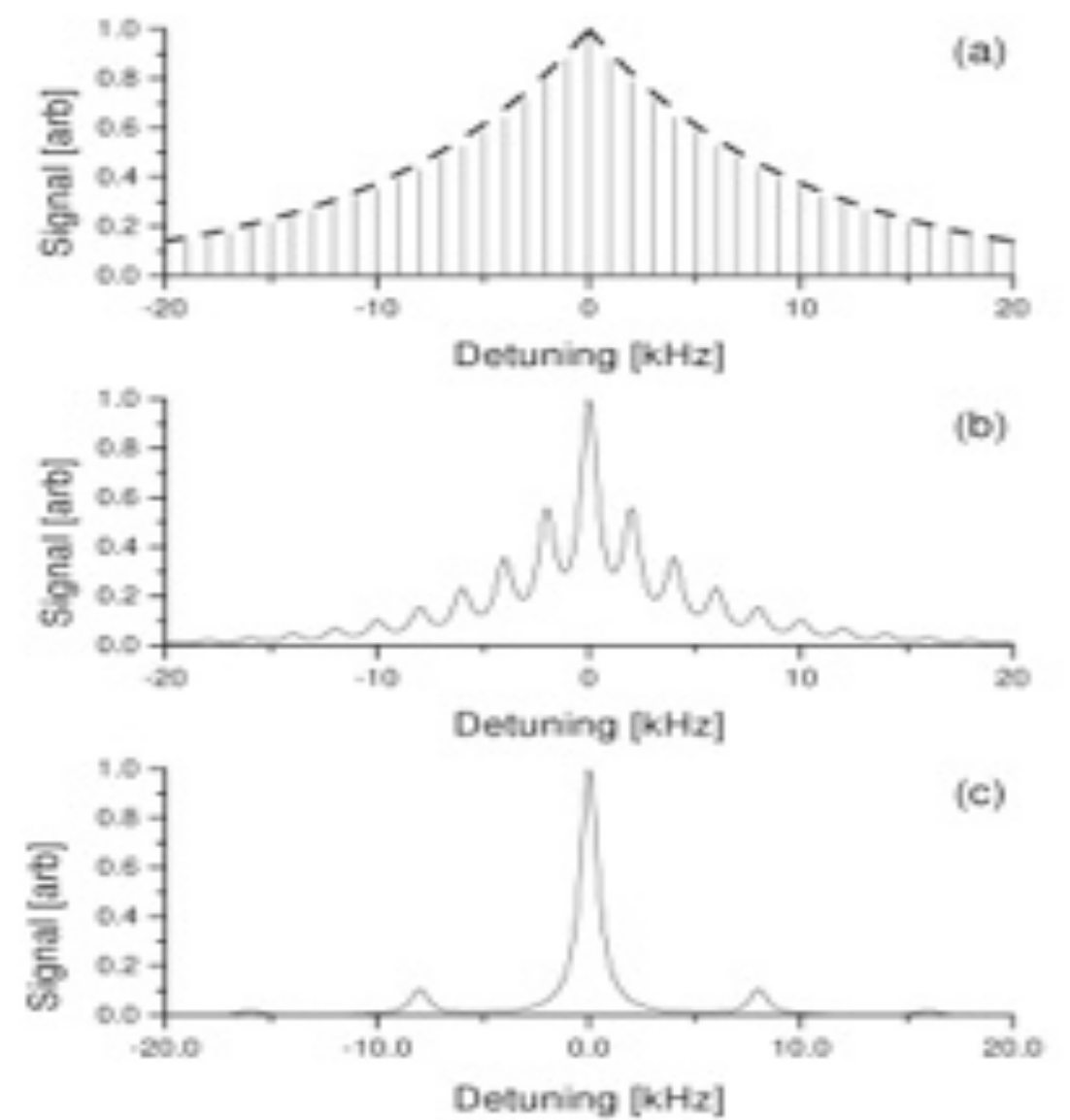
Hbar Spectroscopy Objectives: resemblance of trapped H!?

- ★ 2s - metastable state (122 ms)
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reinterpret time-of-flight
as momenta exchange
laser \leftrightarrow atom+trap



Phys. Rev. Lett. 77, 255–258 (1996)
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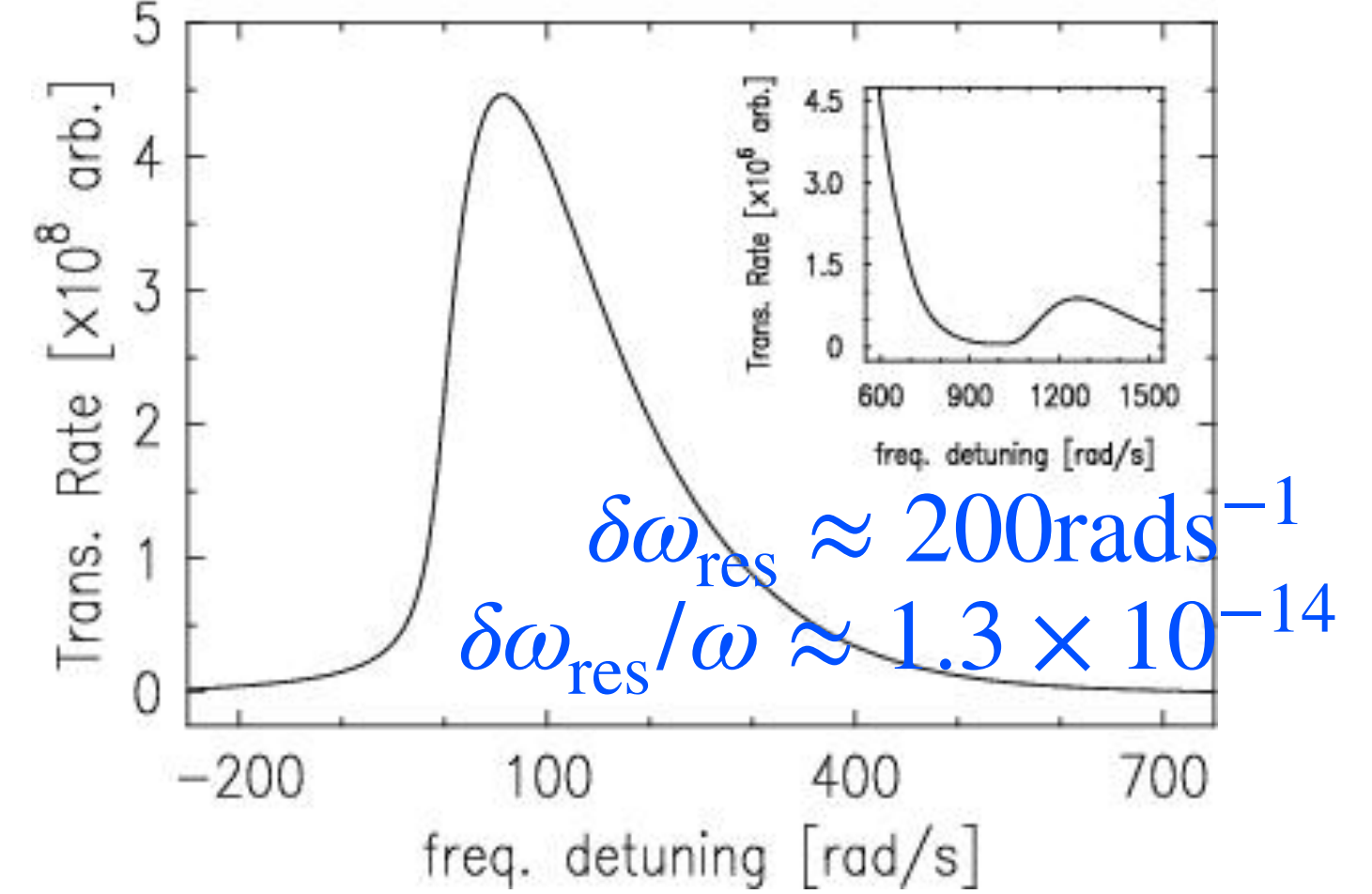
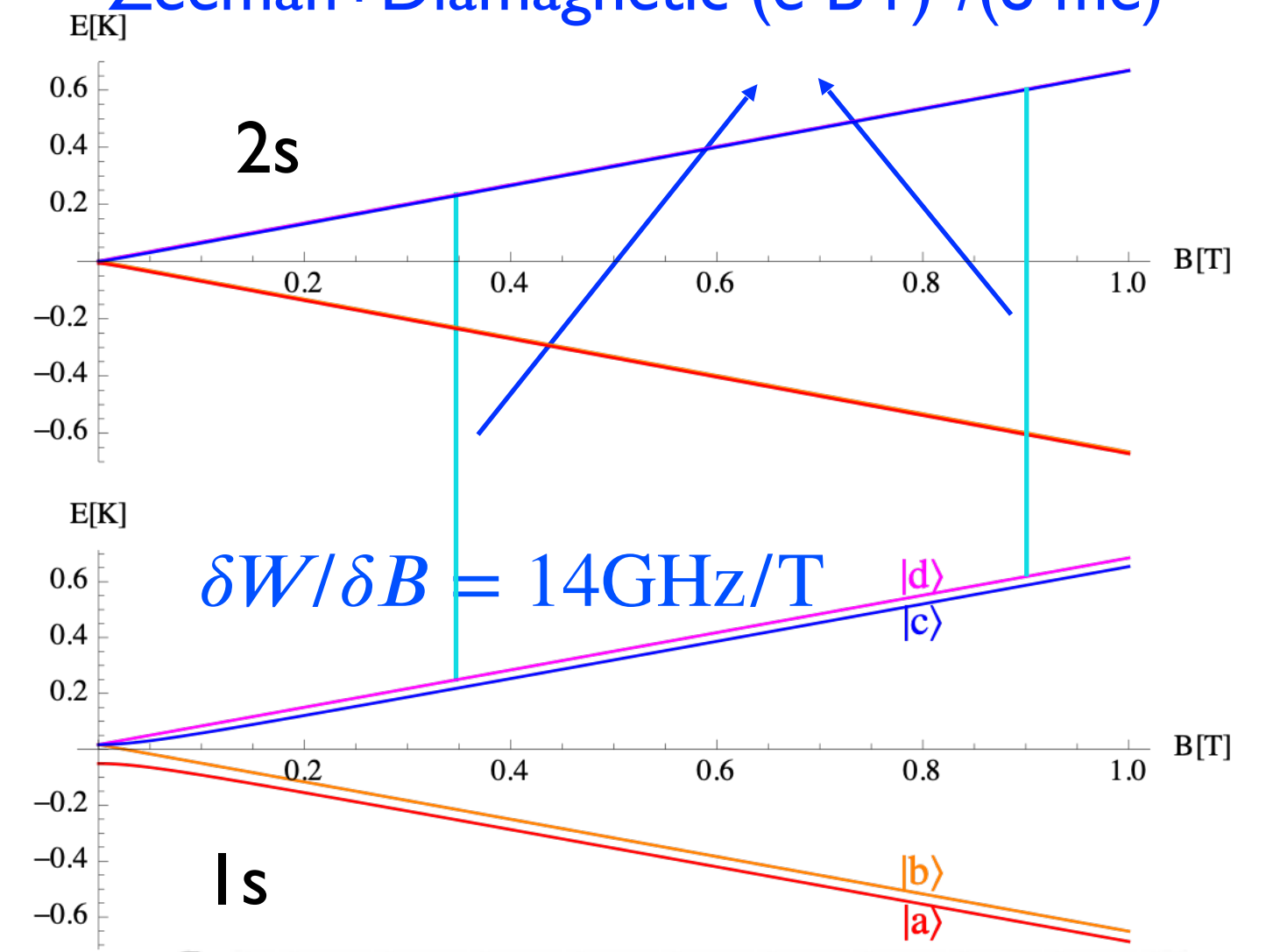
Phys. Rev. A 59, 4564 (1999)
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Hbar Spectroscopy Objectives: resemblance of trapped H!?

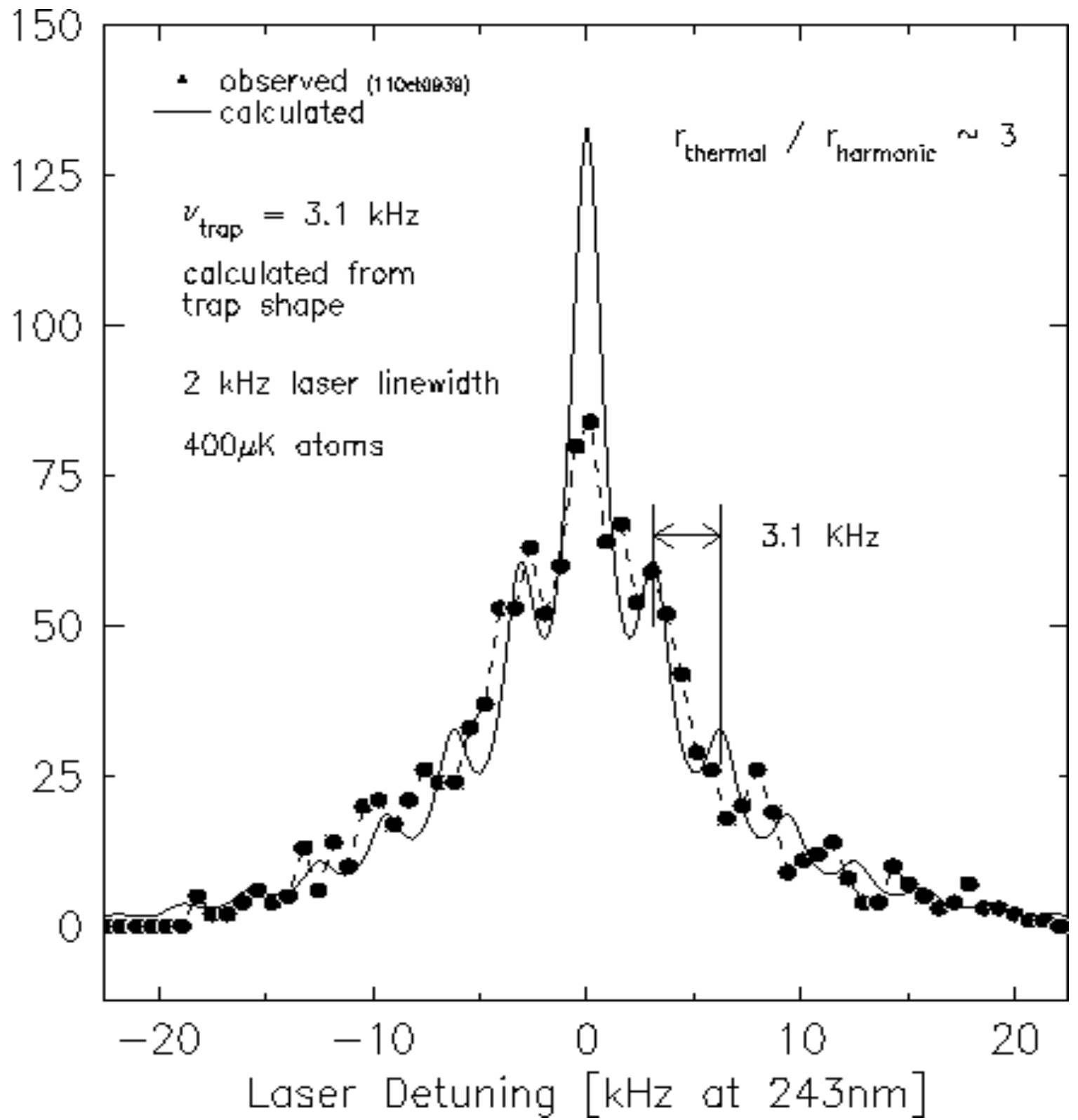
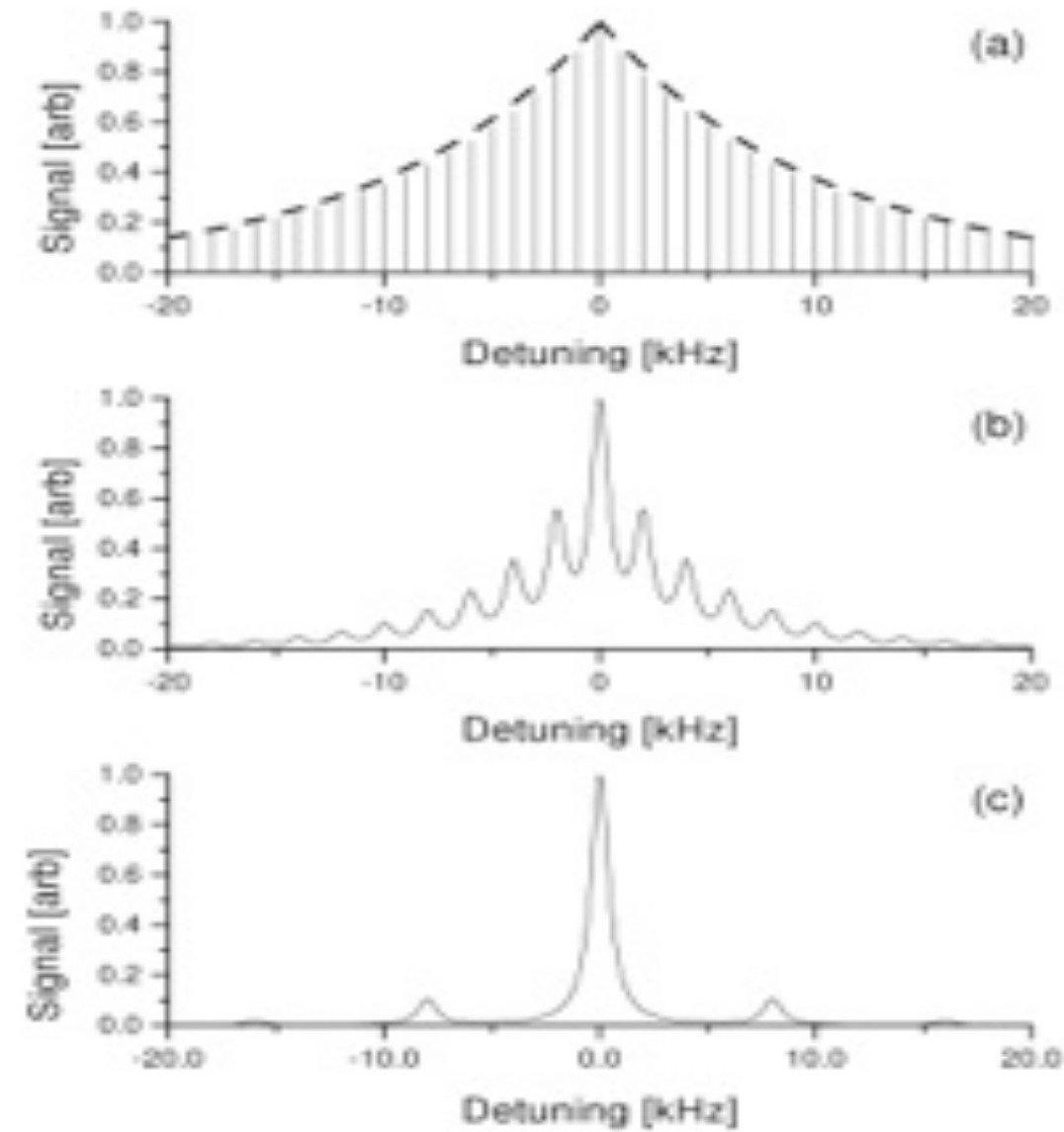
- ★ 2s - metastable state (122 ms)
- ★ 2-counterpropagating photons: Doppler-free
- ★ time-of-flight & Zeeman

$$\delta\nu_{2S-1S} = (1/2)(186\text{kHz}(B/1\text{T}) + 387\text{kHz}(B/1\text{T})^2)$$

Zeeman+Diamagnetic $(e B r)^2/(8 m e)$



reinterpret time-of-flight
as momenta exchange
laser \leftrightarrow atom+trap



Phys. Rev. Lett. 77, 255–258 (1996)
C.L. Cesar *et al.* (MIT H+ group)

Phys. Rev. A 59, 4564 (1999)
C. L. Cesar, D. Kleppner

Phys. Rev. A 64, 023418 (2001)
C. L. Cesar



Hbar Spectroscopy Objectives: resemblance of trapped H!?

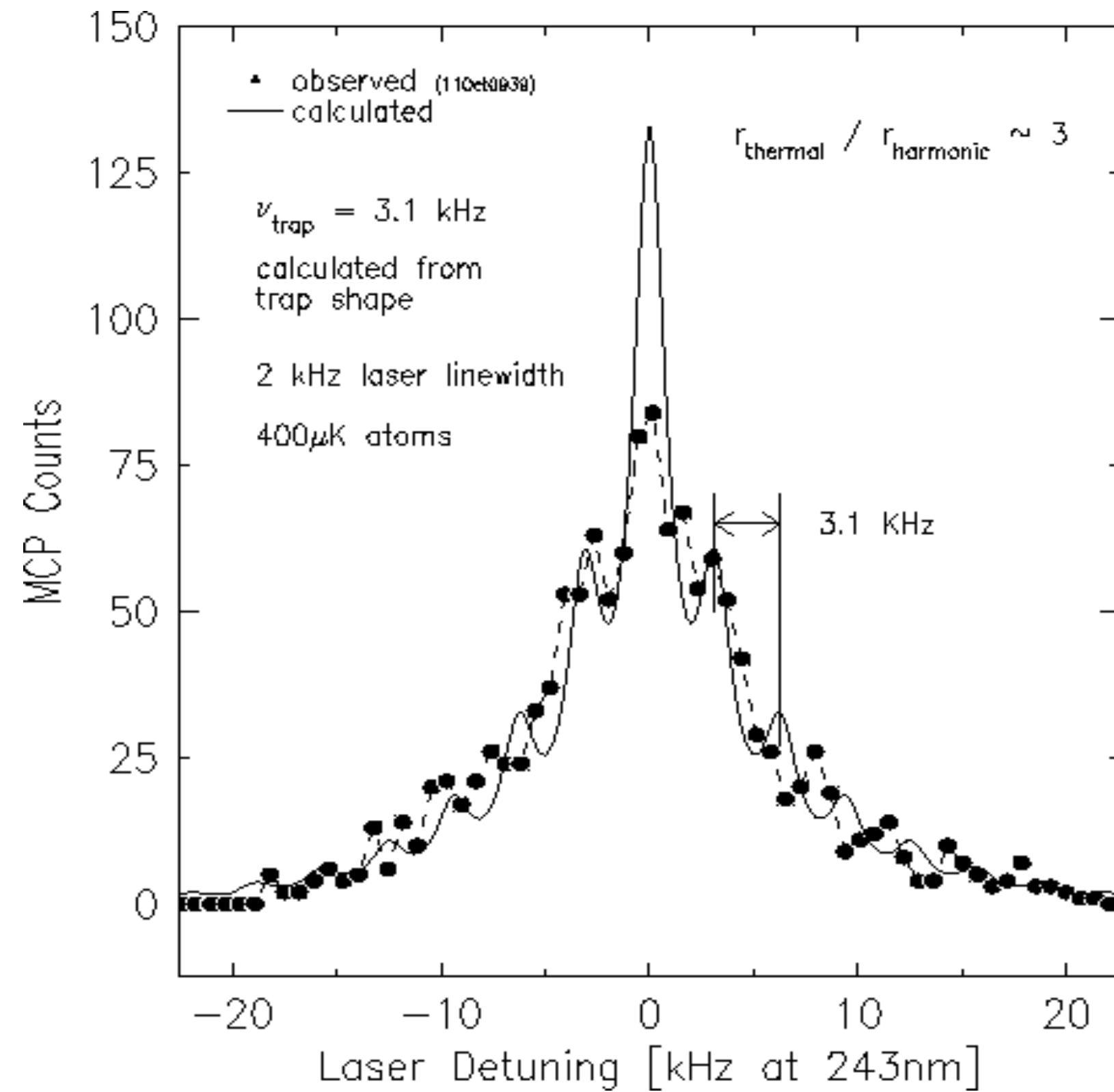
- ★ 2s - metastable state (122 ms)
- ★ 2-counterpropagating photons: Doppler-free
- ★ time-of-flight & Zeeman

$$\delta\nu_{2S-1S} = (1/2)(186\text{kHz}(B/1\text{T}) + 387\text{kHz}(B/1\text{T})^2)$$

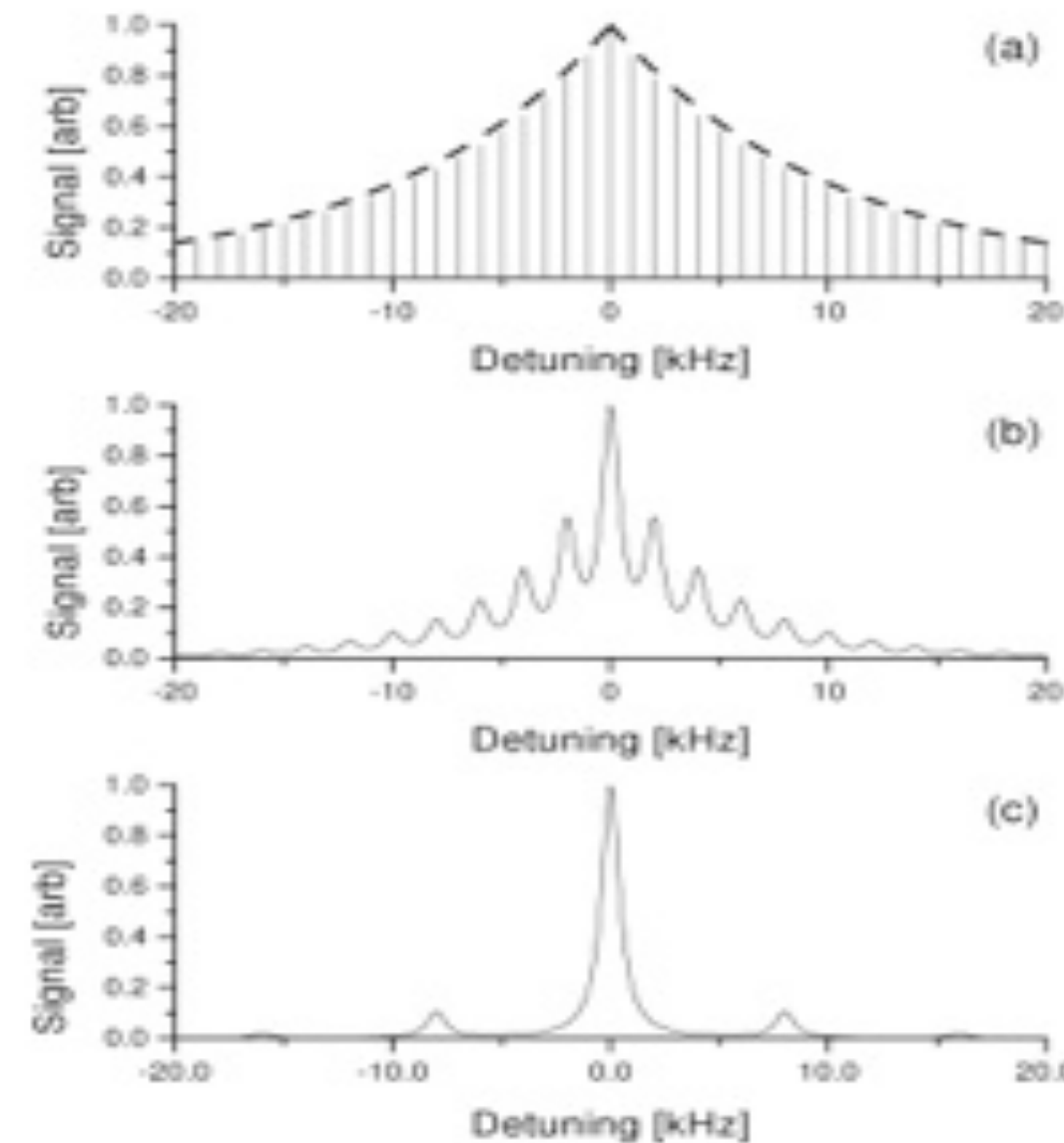
Zeeman+Diamagnetic ($e B r)^2/(8 m_e)$

reinterpret time-of-flight
as momenta exchange
laser \leftrightarrow atom+trap

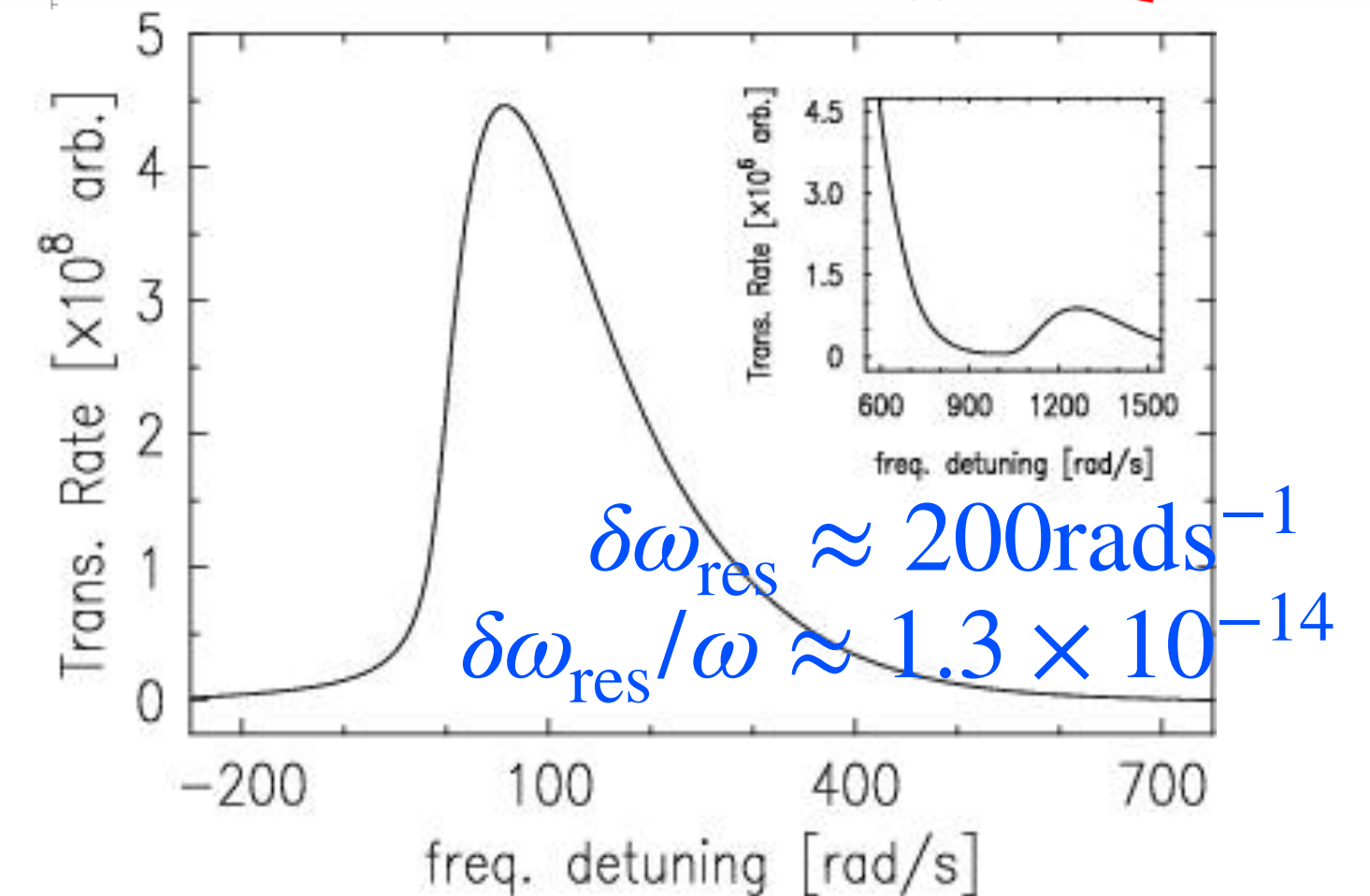
1s-2s superspectroscopy
possible with harmonically
trapped cold atoms



Phys. Rev. Lett. 77, 255–258 (1996)
C.L. Cesar et al. (MIT H+ group)

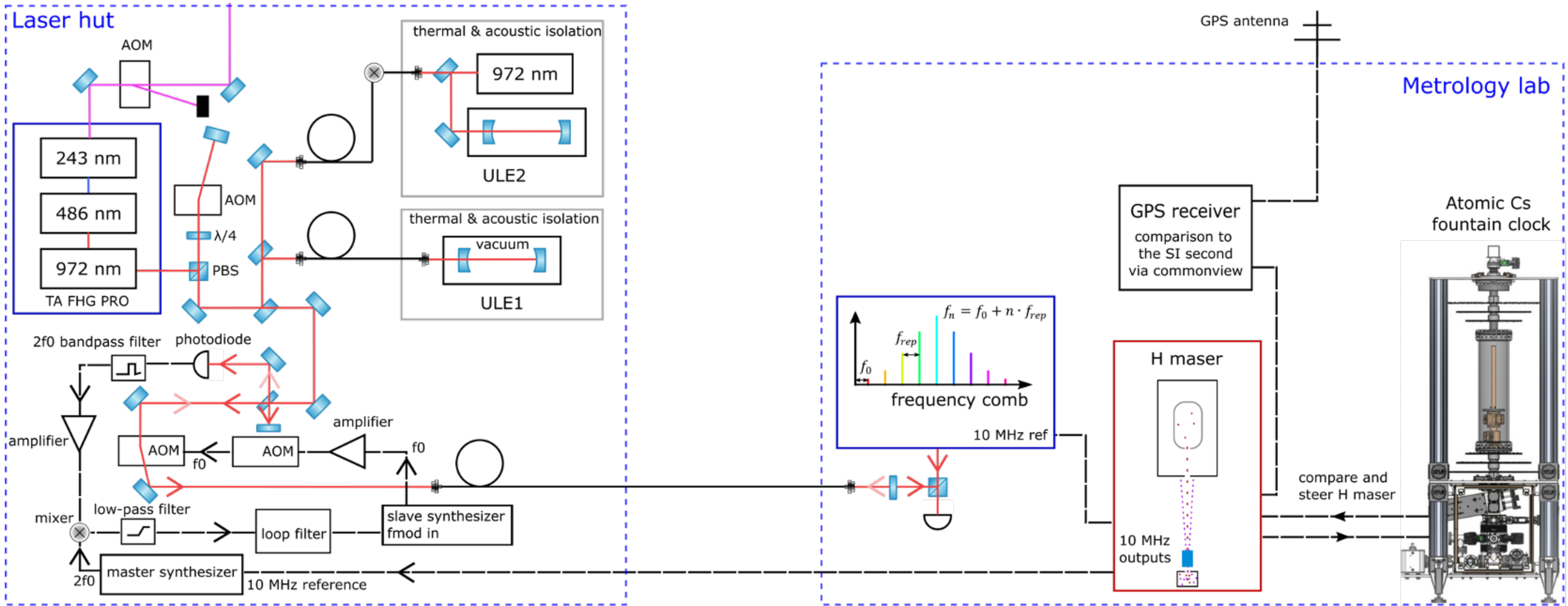


Phys. Rev. A 59, 4564 (1999)
C. L. Cesar, D. Kleppner



Phys. Rev. A 64, 023418 (2001)
C. L. Cesar

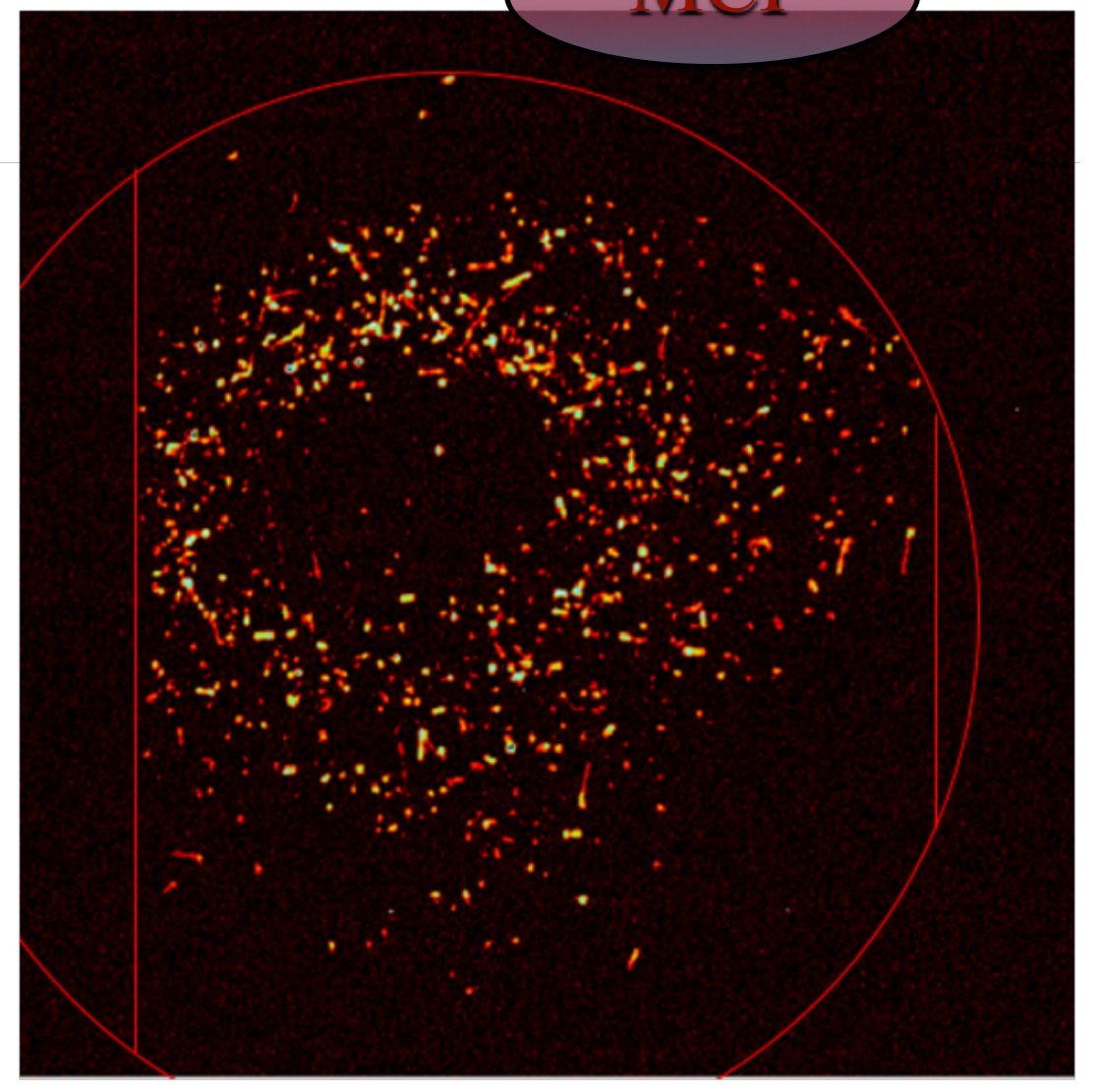
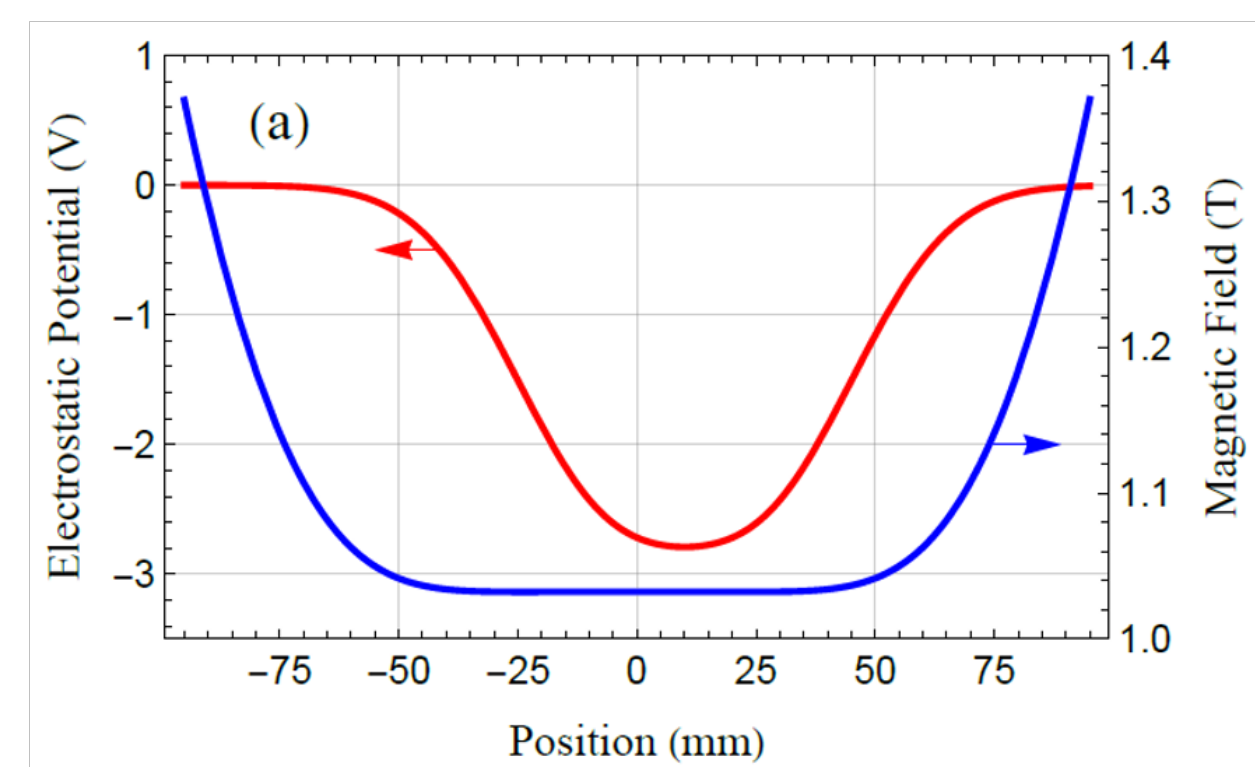
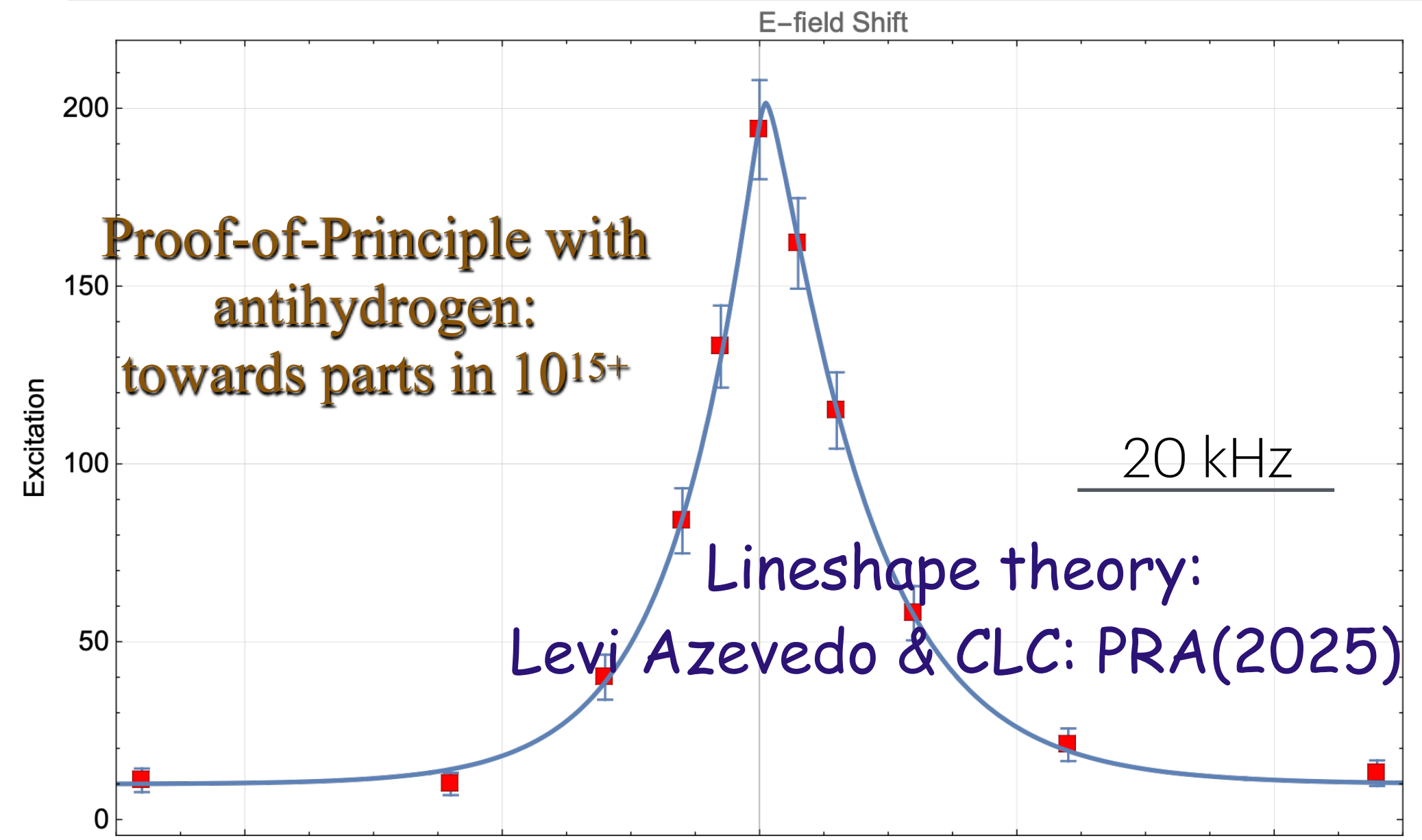
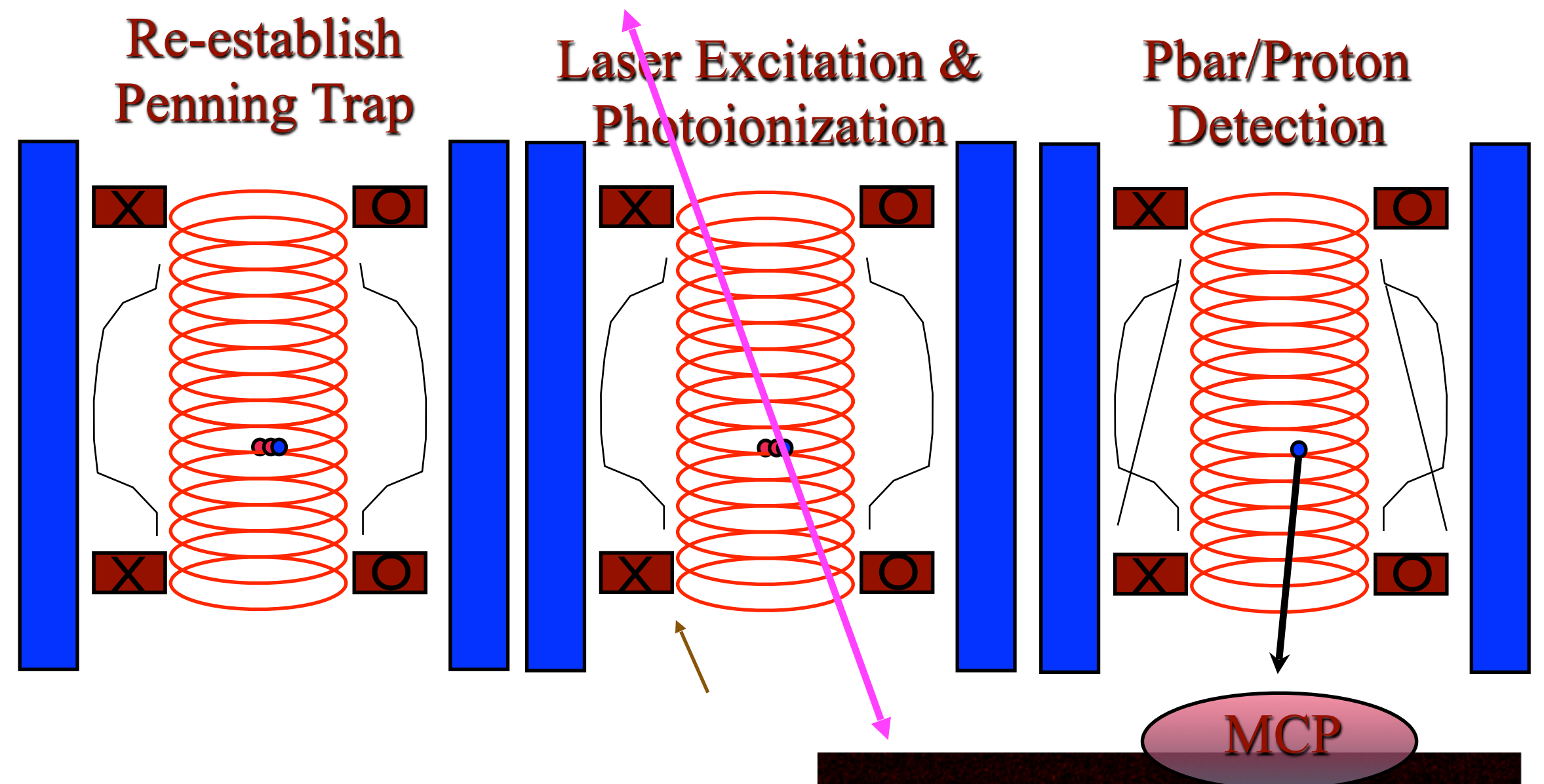
ALPHA Frequency Metrology



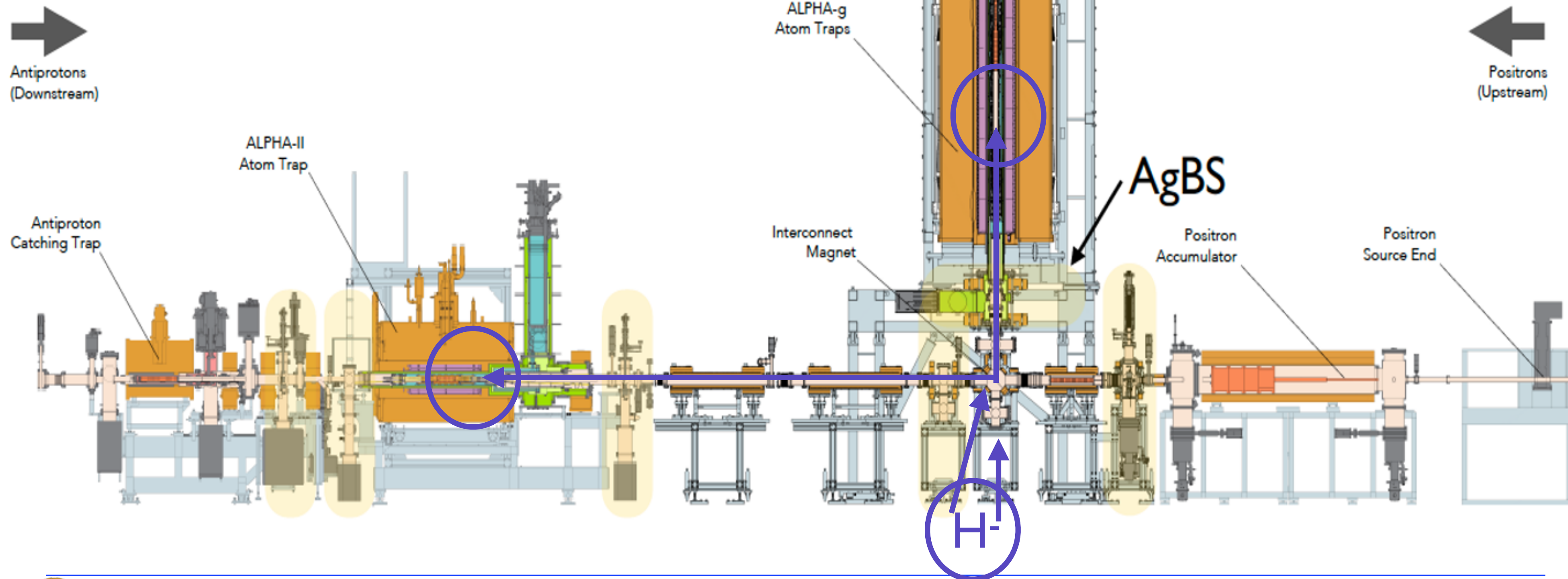
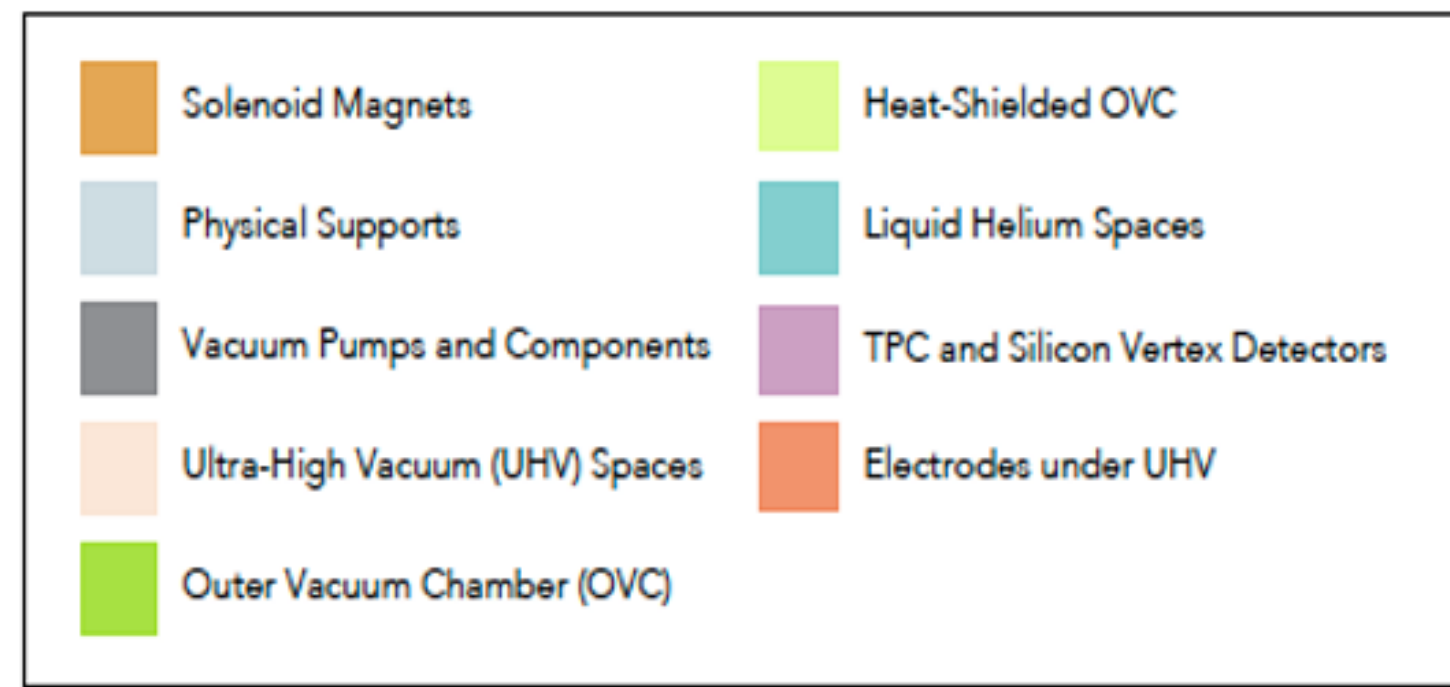
H in the same anti-H trap: direct comparison to parts in 10^{15-18}

CLC, J. Phys. B 49 (2016) 074001 (antiH issue)

PAPER
 A sensitive detection method for high resolution spectroscopy of trapped antihydrogen, hydrogen and other trapped species
 Claudio Lenz Cesar
 Published 11 March 2016 • © 2016 IOP Publishing Ltd
[Journal of Physics B: Atomic, Molecular and Optical Physics, Volume 49, Number 7](#)
[Antihydrogen and Positronium](#)
 Citation Claudio Lenz Cesar 2016 J. Phys. B: At. Mol. Opt. Phys. 49 074001
 DOI 10.1088/0953-4075/49/7/074001

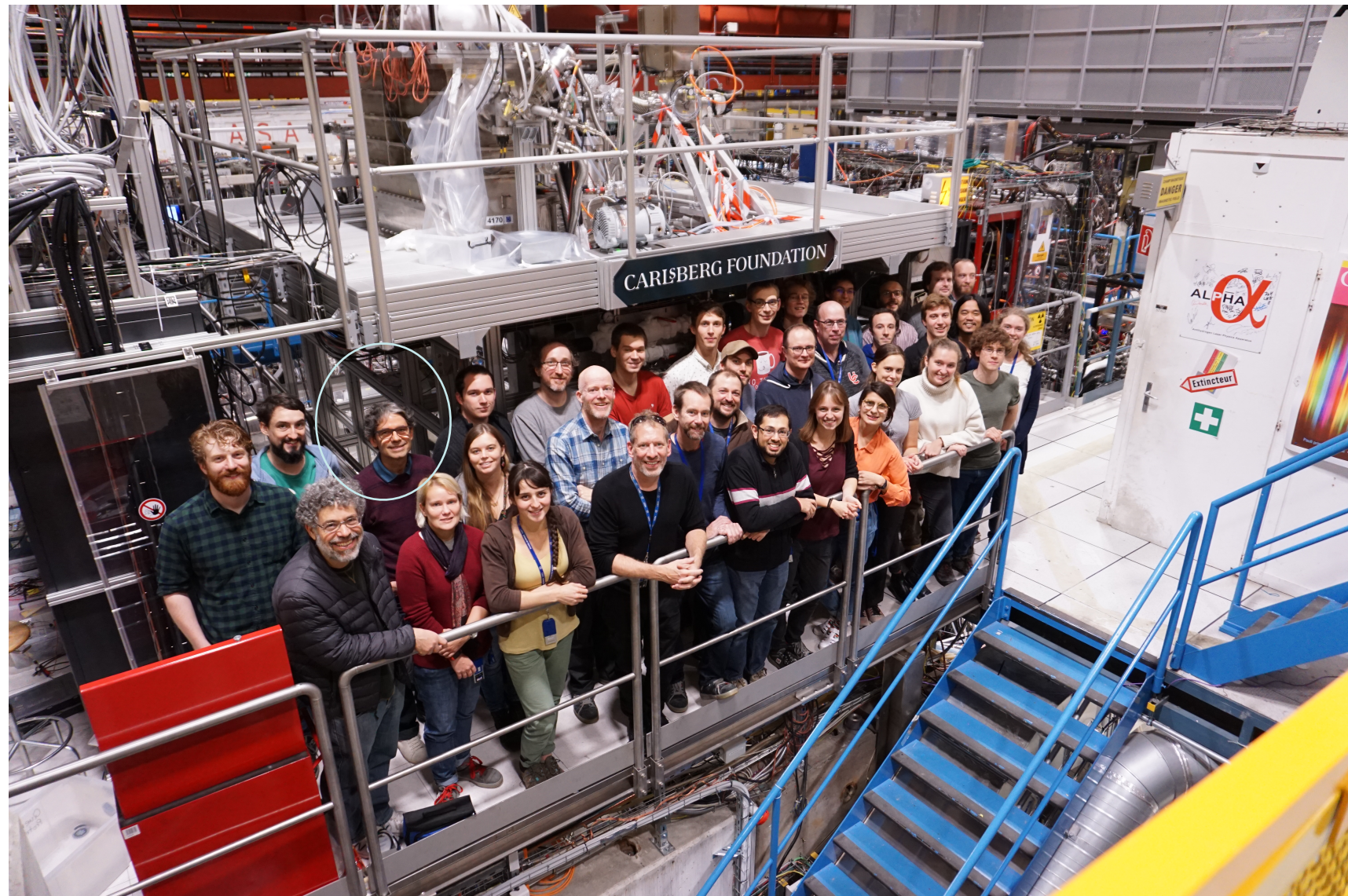
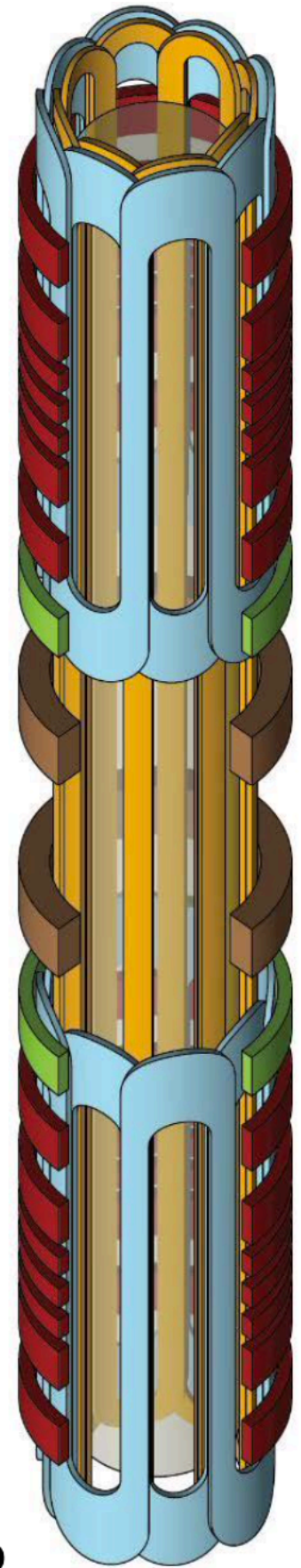


Matrix Isolation Sublimation (MISu): (PRELIMINARY) proposal: H⁻ for ALPHA Hbar trap



ALPHA-g : observe antimatter fall down

Duplicate of Analysis Trap Synthesis Trap



$$mgh = k_B T$$

$$300\text{mK} \approx 250\text{m}$$

$$\mu\delta B_{0.5\text{m}} = mg0.5$$

$$\delta B_{0.5\text{m}} \approx 9\text{gauss}$$

in 1 T bias

CLC, Hyperfine Interactions 109 (1997) 293–304

5. Determining the sign of gravity on (anti)matter

There are arguments for the possibility that anti-matter will experience a negative gravity towards the Earth [13]. While there are interesting proposals for measuring gravity to high precision with anti-protons and positrons [14], the lists of difficulties for performing such experiments clearly stand out. The main difficulties are related to stray electric fields that have to be kept under strict control.

I propose two experiments with trapped (anti)hydrogen that require only 10 m s^{-2} and just determines its sign for (anti)hydrogen. While these experiments seem rather simple when compared to the proposals mentioned above they are not. The existence of cooled trapped anti-hydrogen, which, by itself, is no trivial matter, is also at the initial level of complexity here proposed, they would measure $|g|$ to a few percent level only, rather than providing a high precision measurement.

The equivalent thermal energy for vertically displacing a hydrogen atom in the Earth's gravitational field by 1 m is 1.1 mK, which is close to the laser Doppler cooling

g

302

C.L. Cesar / Trapping and spectroscopy of hydrogen

limit. For doubly-polarized atoms this energy difference corresponds to a difference in magnetic field of $\Delta B \approx 15\text{ G}$. Such a difference in field is easily controllable even with trapped fluxes in superconducting magnets.

The first method consists of orienting the trap in the vertical direction with the two pinch coils matched to better than 15 G and separated by a few cm. Annihilation detectors located above and below the trap determine whether the anti-hydrogen atoms escape from the top or the bottom. For calibration one can use hydrogen and use laser photoionization with subsequent proton/electron detection.

The experiment consists of slowly lowering the two pinch coils together and counting how many (anti)atoms escaped from above and from below. With gravity there should be excess counts in the bottom detector while with anti-gravity it should be the opposite. Even with a perfectly balanced pair of pinch coils some particles would escape in the wrong direction because of their orbits and ergodicity time. Therefore one should use a sample cooled to a few mK for negligible statistical uncertainties. The system can be checked by applying a magnetic field gradient of 15 G/m to counteract gravity. This way one can compare gravity for composite matter and composite anti-matter.

The second experiment involves the construction of a beam of (anti)matter at very

Chukman So

Observation of the effect of gravity on the motion of antimatter

$$a_{\bar{H}} = (0.75 \pm 0.13(\text{stat} + \text{syst}) \pm 0.16(\text{sim}))g$$

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-023-06527-1>

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-023-06527-1>

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Check for updates

E. K. Anderson¹, C. J. Baker², W. Bertsche^{3,4}✉, N. M. Bhatt², G. Bonomi⁵, A. Capra⁶, I. Carli⁶, C. L. Cesar⁷, M. Charlton², A. Christensen⁸, R. Collister^{6,9}, A. Cridland Mathad², D. Duque Quiceno^{6,9}, S. Eriksson², A. Evans^{6,9}, N. Evetts⁹, S. Fabbri^{3,10}, J. Fajans⁸✉, A. Ferwerda¹¹, T. Friesen¹², M. C. Fujiwara⁶, D. R. Gill⁶, L. M. Golino², M. B. Gomes Gonçalves², P. Grandemange⁶, P. Granum¹, J. S. Hangst¹✉, M. E. Hayden¹³, D. Hodgkinson^{3,8}, E. D. Hunter⁸, C. A. Isaac², A. J. U. Jimenez⁶, M. A. Johnson^{3,4}, J. M. Jones², S. A. Jones¹⁴, S. Jonsell¹⁵, A. Khramov^{6,9,16}, N. Madsen², L. Martin⁶, N. Massacret⁶, D. Maxwell², J. T. K. McKenna^{1,3}, S. Menary¹¹, T. Momose^{6,9,17}, M. Mostamand^{6,17}, P. S. Mullan^{2,18}, J. Nauta², K. Olchanski⁶, A. N. Oliveira¹, J. Peszka^{2,18}, A. Powell¹², C. Ø. Rasmussen¹⁹, F. Robicheaux²⁰, R. L. Sacramento⁷, M. Sameed^{3,21}, E. Sarid^{22,23}, J. Schoonwater², D. M. Silveira⁷, J. Singh³, G. Smith^{6,9}, C. So⁶, S. Stracka²⁴, G. Stutter^{1,25}, T. D. Tharp²⁶, K. A. Thompson², R. I. Thompson^{6,12}, E. Thorpe-Woods², C. Torkzaban⁸, M. Urioni⁵, P. Woosaree¹² & J. S. Wurtele⁸

Einstein's general theory of relativity from 1915¹ remains the most successful description of gravitation. From the 1919 solar eclipse² to the observation of gravitational waves³, the theory has passed many crucial experimental tests. However,

19. Cesar, C. L. Trapping and spectroscopy of hydrogen. *Hyp. Interact.* **109**, 293–304 (1997).

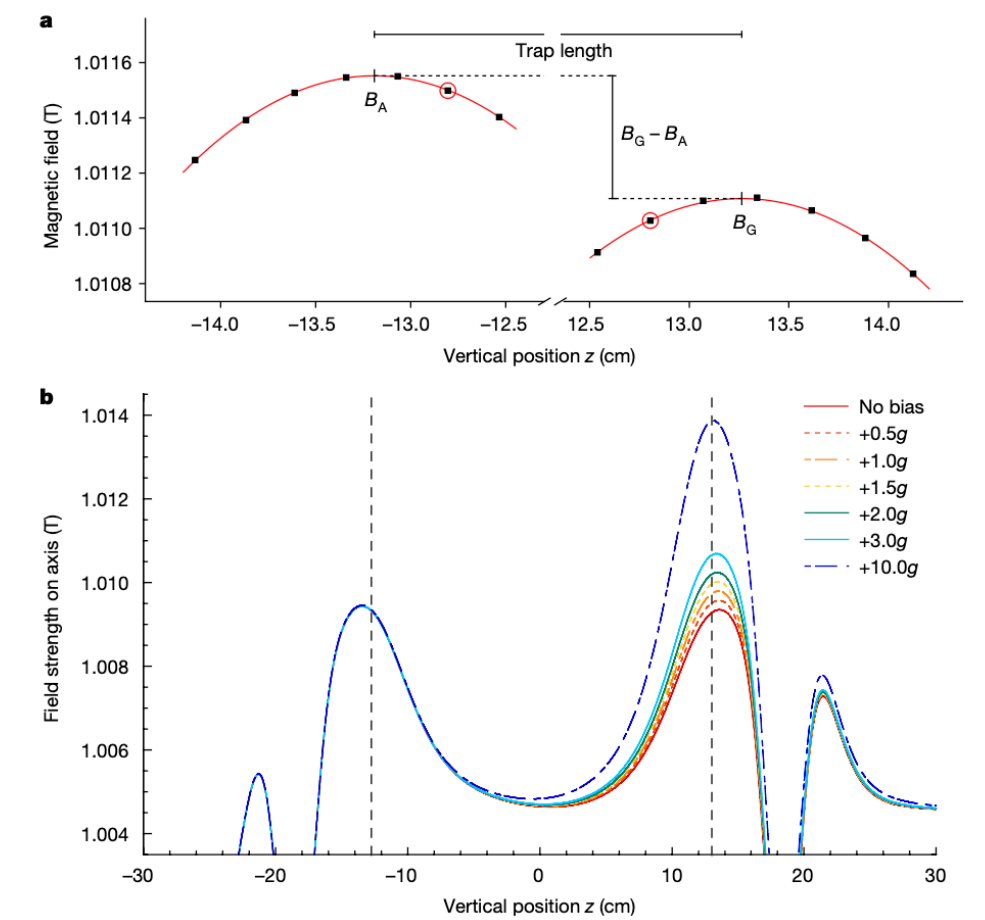


Fig. 2 | Illustrations of the magnetic bias. **a.** Expanded view of the end-of-ramp mirror coil peak regions for a bias of $-1g$ (note the discontinuous abscissa). The square points represent off-line ECR measurements carried out to determine the field profile and to find the peak field location. The points with red circles beginning and end of the mirror coil ramp-down for each gravity trial. **b.** Calculated on-axis final well shapes (after ramp-down) for the positive bias trials. The features at $|z| > 20$ cm are due to the OCB (Fig. 1) end turn windings. The vertical dashed lines represent the physical axial midpoints

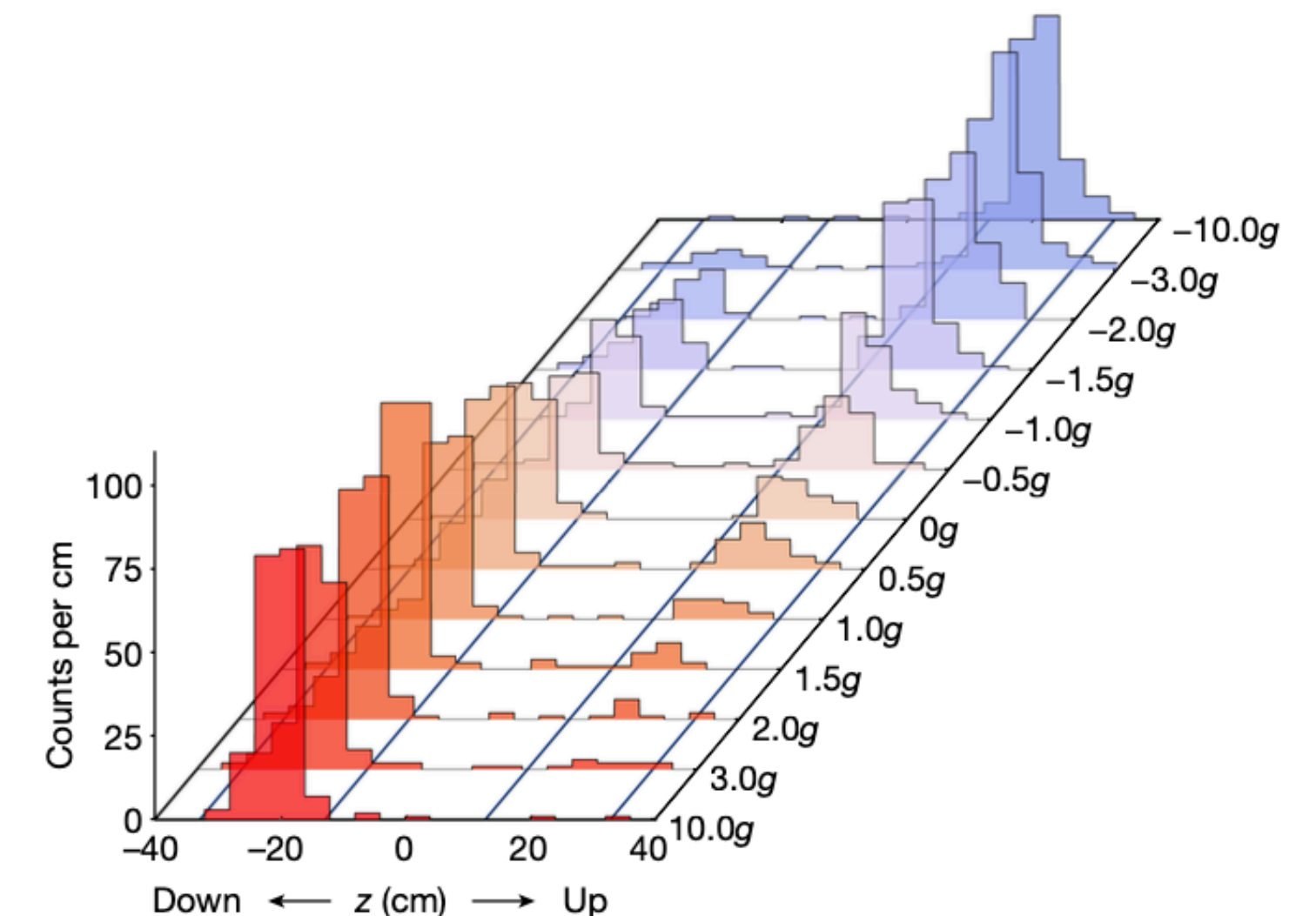
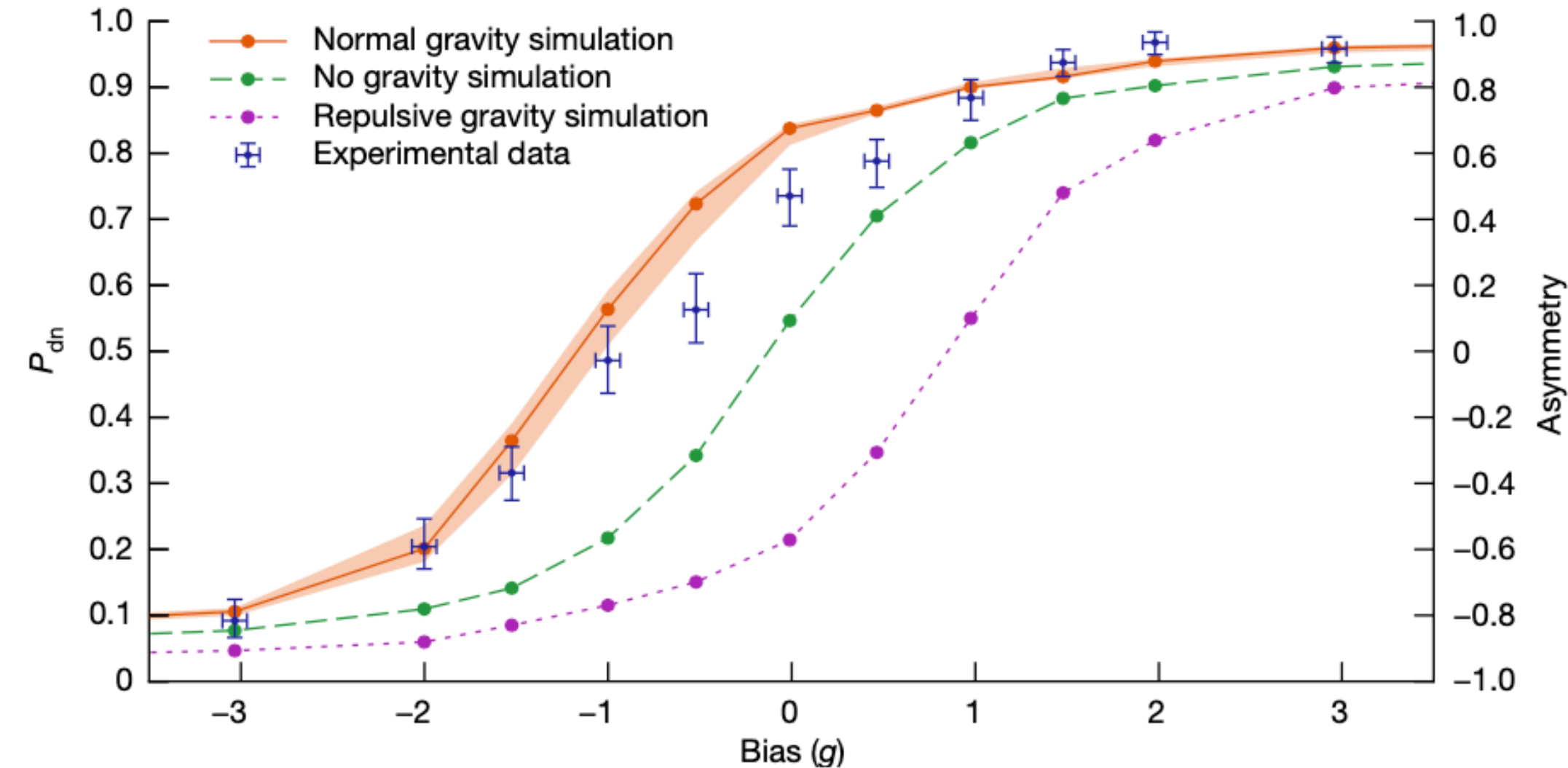


Fig. 3 | Escape histograms. The raw event z -distributions are displayed as histograms for each of the bias values, including the $\pm 10g$ calibration runs. These are uncorrected for background or detector relative efficiency. The time window represented here is 10 s to 20 s of the magnet ramp-down. The z -cut regions are indicated by the solid, diagonal lines. Explicitly, the acceptance regions in z are $[-32.8, -12.8]$ and $[12.8, 32.8]$ cm for the 'down' and 'up' regions, respectively.

Observation of the effect of gravity on the motion of antimatter

$$a_{\bar{H}} = (0.75 \pm 0.13(\text{stat} + \text{syst}) \pm 0.16(\text{sim}))g$$

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-023-06527-1>

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India-Pakistan tensions

War on Gaza

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EXPLAINER

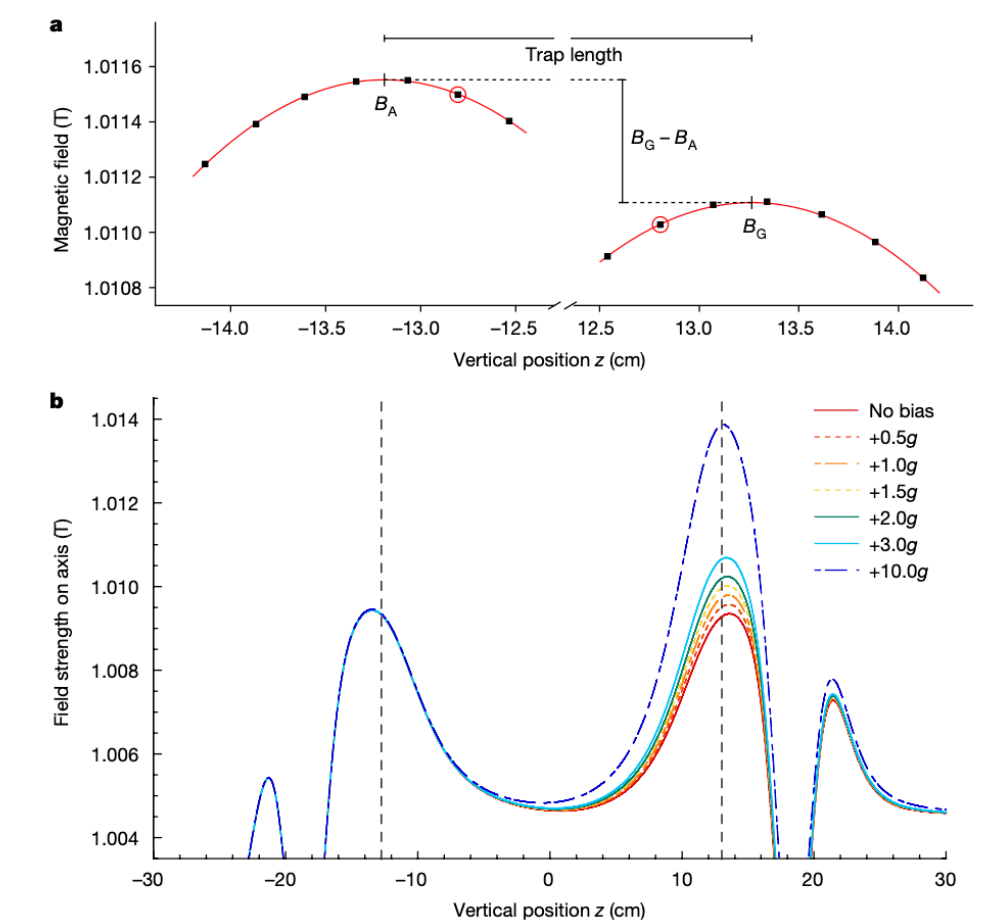
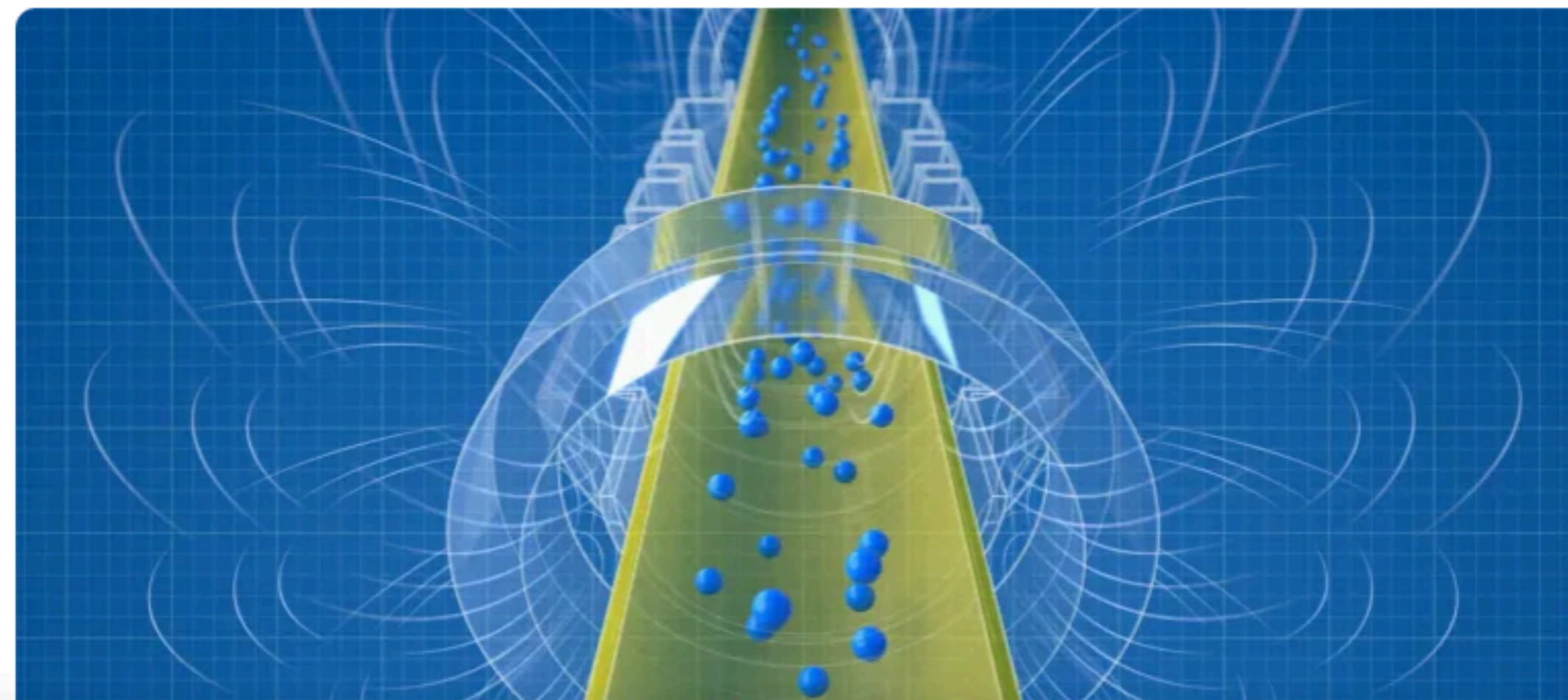
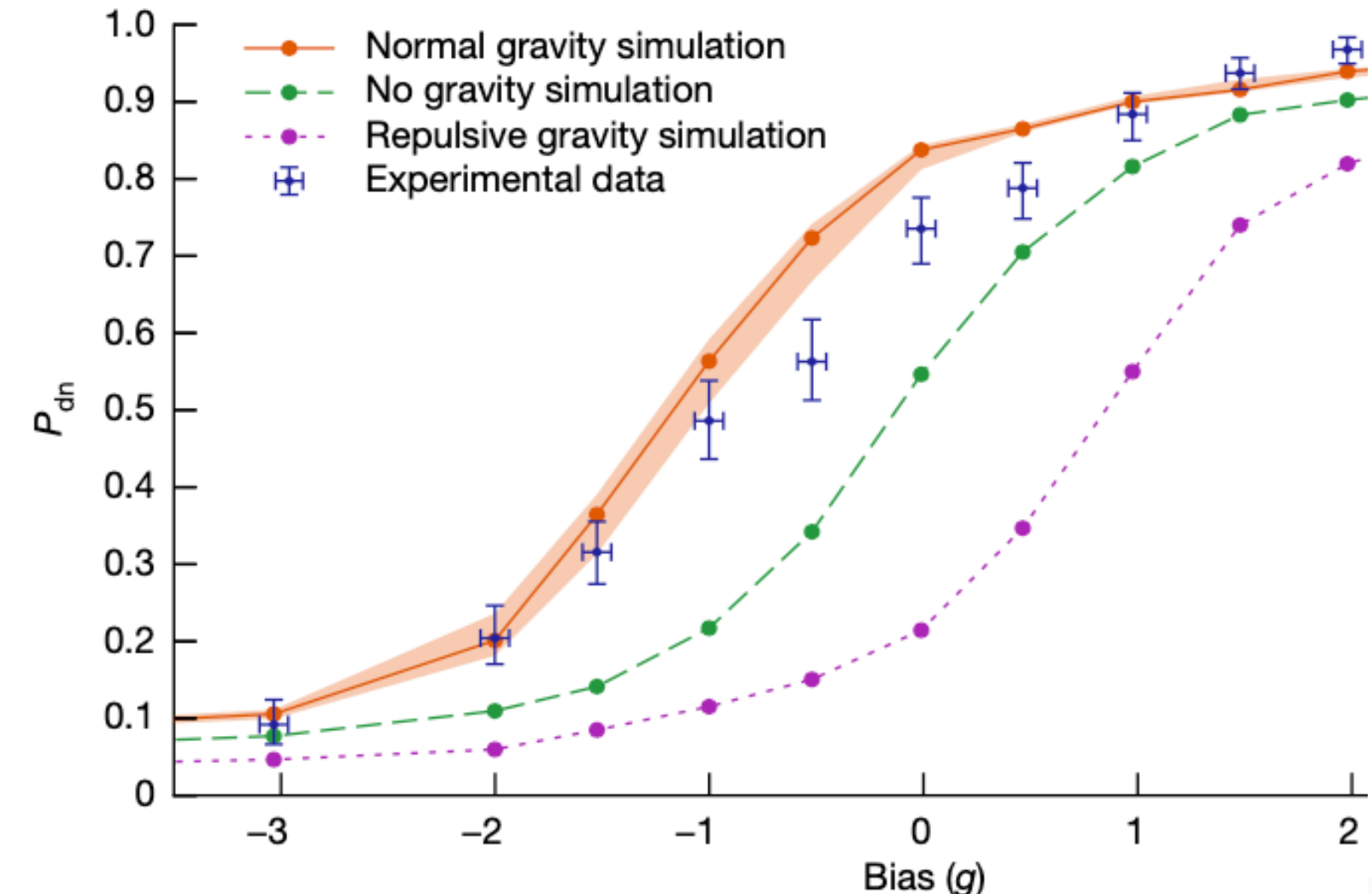
Features | Science and Technology

Gravity test: Antimatter falls down, but where did it all go?

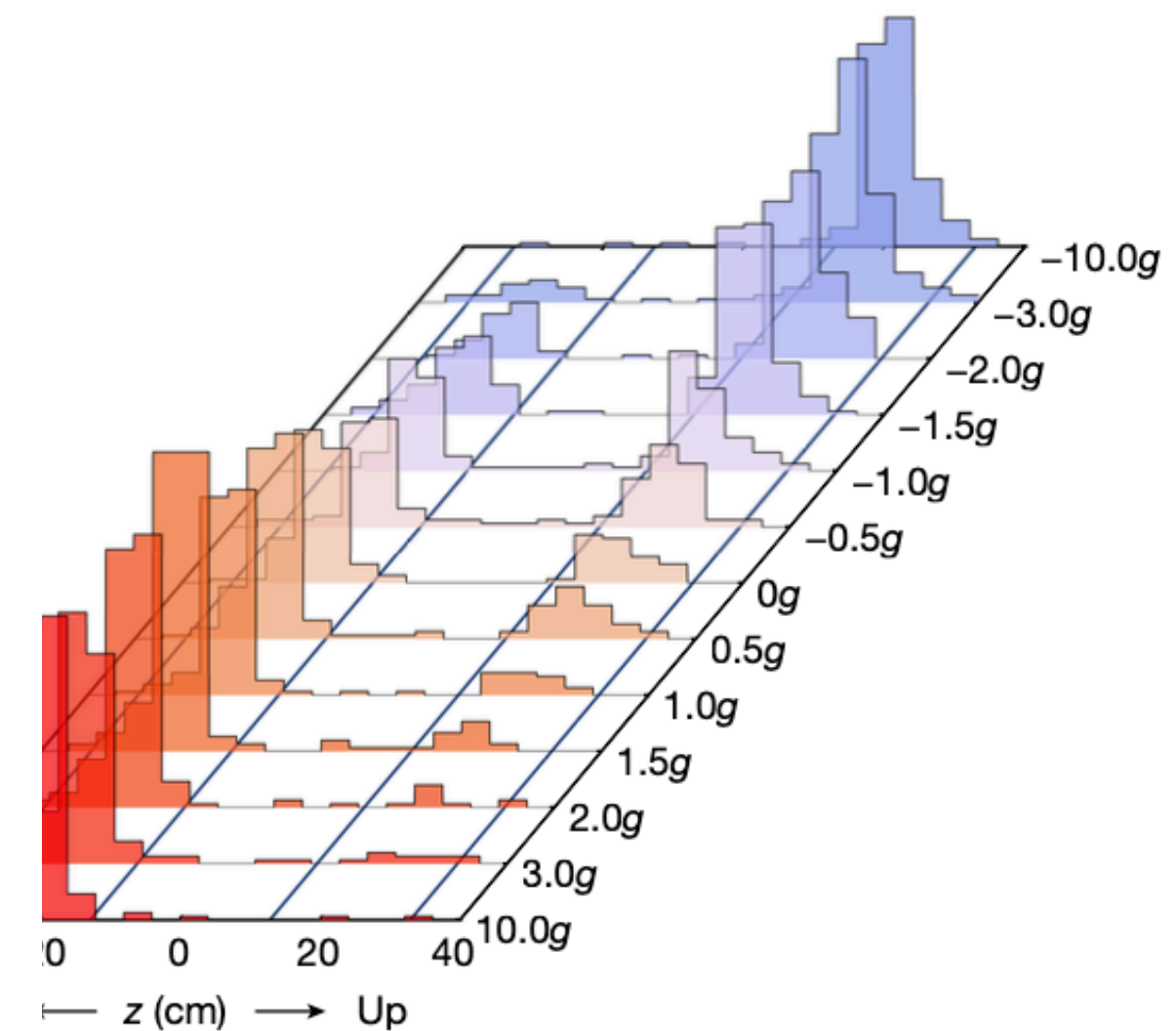
From Star Trek to PET scans, antimatter has thrilled and worried humankind. Now, scientists have resolved a key mystery.

Einstein's general theory of relativity provides a description of gravitation. From the 1910s, the theory has passed numerous tests, including the prediction of gravitational waves³, the theory has passed

19. Cesar, C. L. Trapping and spectroscopy of hydrogen. *Hyp. Interact.* **109**, 293–304 (2019).

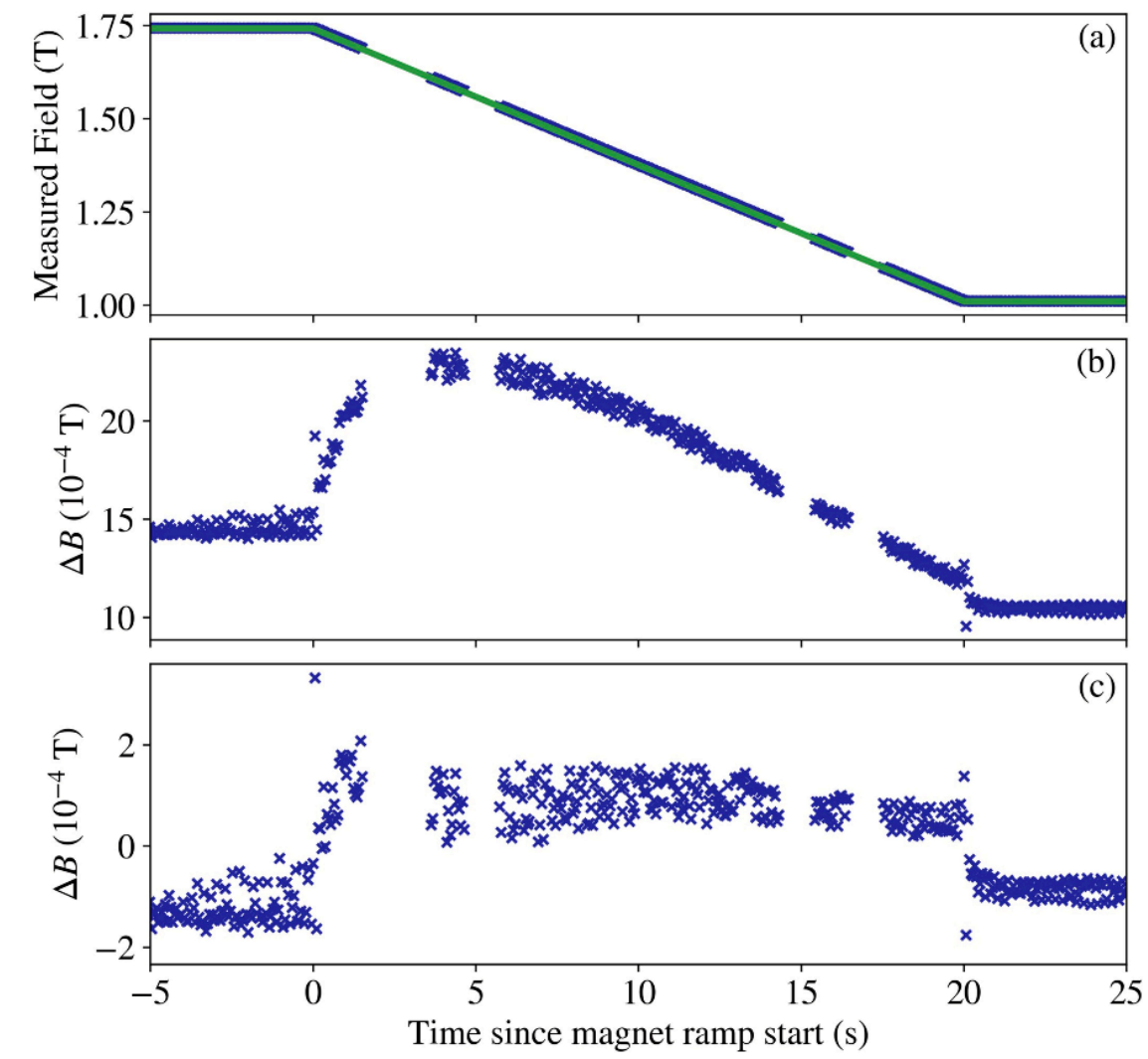


a, Expanded view of the end-of-ramp magnetic field profiles for a bias of $-1g$ (note the discontinuous abscissa). The red and black lines represent the field profiles of the main and end turn windings, respectively. The points with red circles are the locations of the ECR measurements carried out to determine the peak field location. **b**, Calculated on-axis final well shapes (after ramp-down) for the positive bias trials. The features at $|z| > 20$ cm are due to the OCB (Fig. 1) end turn windings. The vertical dashed lines represent the physical axial midpoints.

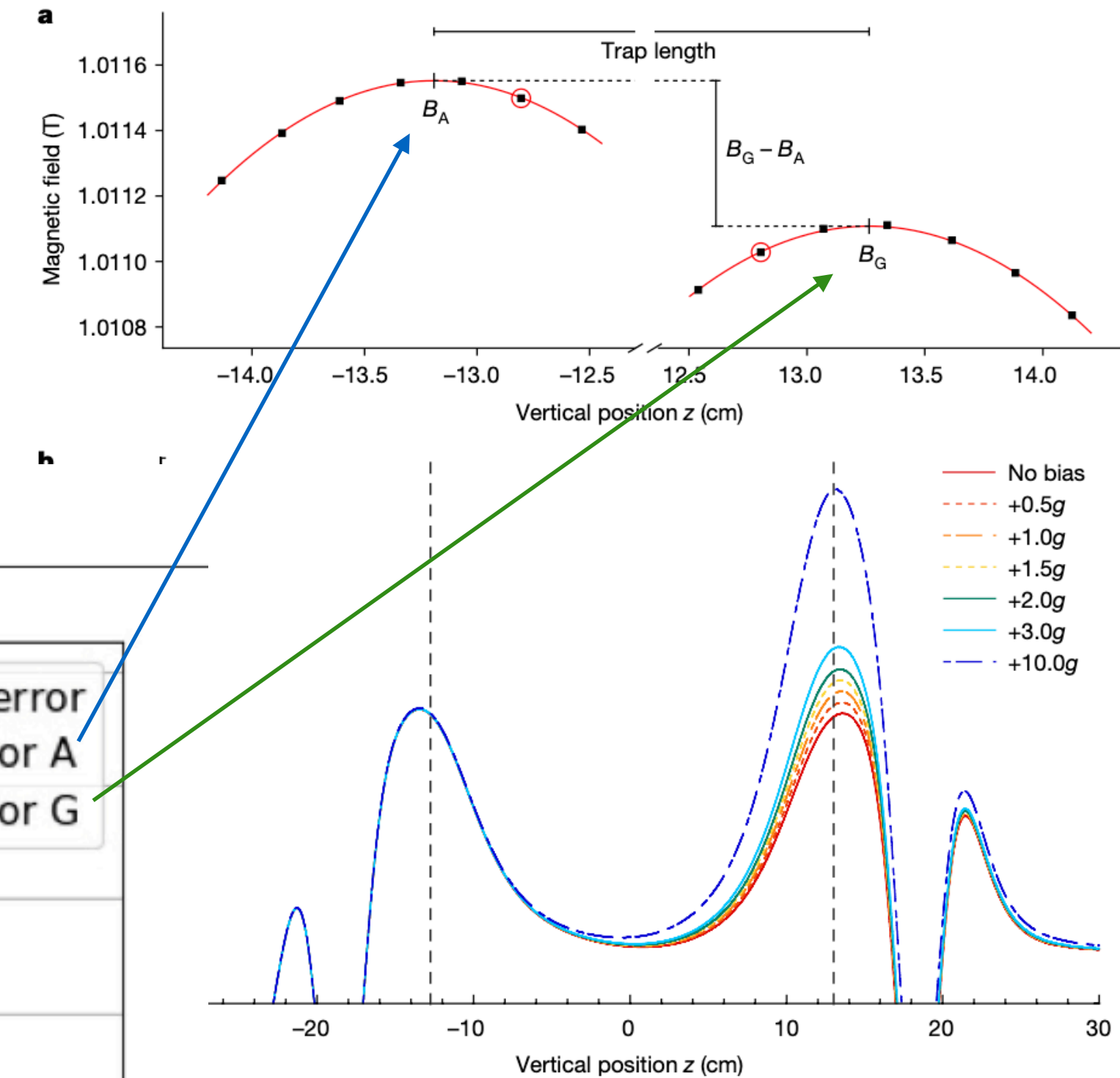


z-distributions histograms. The raw event z-distributions are displayed as histograms for each of the bias values, including the $\pm 10g$ calibration runs. The histograms are corrected for background or detector relative efficiency. The time interval here is 10 s to 20 s of the magnet ramp-down. The z-cut is indicated by the solid, diagonal lines. Explicitly, the acceptance regions are $[-32.8, -12.8]$ and $[12.8, 32.8]$ cm for the 'down' and 'up' regions, respectively.

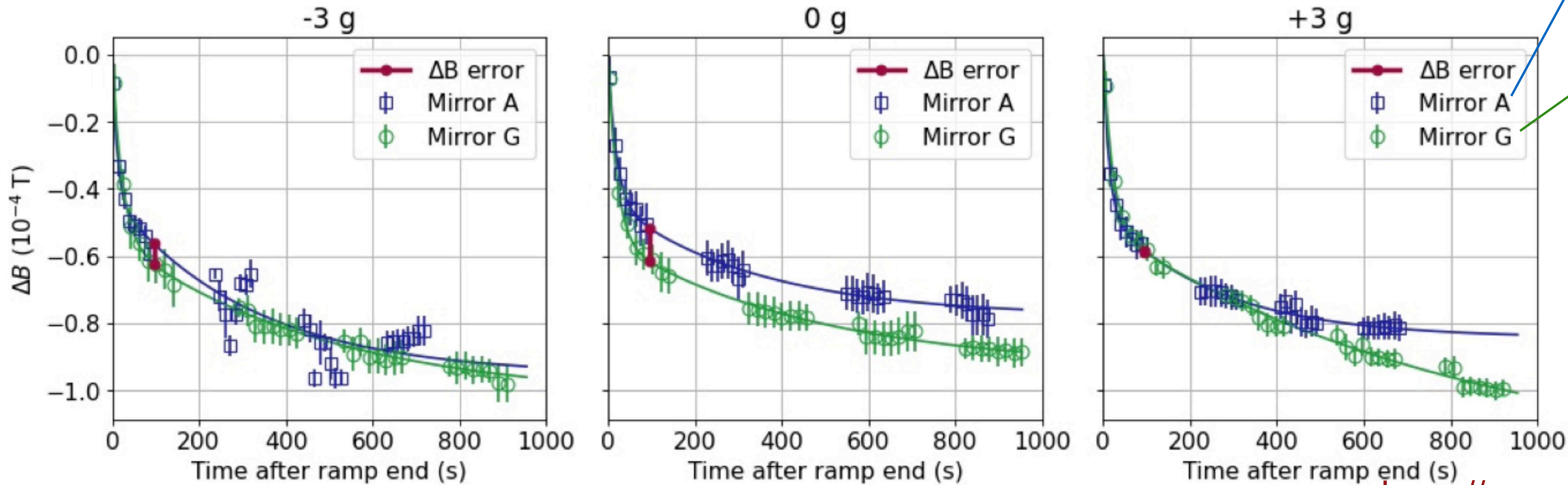
ALPHA-g observation of antimatter fall



Extended Data Fig. 7 | Magnetic field measurements via the magnetron frequency. Magnetic field measured using the magnetron frequency of electron clouds in the centre of mirror A versus time during the magnet ramp-down. **a** Raw measurements (blue) are compared to the expected linear ramp (green line). **b** The difference between the measurements and the expected linear ramp is plotted versus time. **c** Measurements after accounting for the three corrections described in Methods. The 1–2 s gaps in the data are due to a memory limitation in the FPGA that controls the electrode voltages. New voltage instructions are loaded in this time.



a, Calculated on-axis final well shapes (after ramp-down) for various bias trials. The features at $|z| > 20$ cm are due to the O-windings. The vertical dashed lines represent the positions of mirrors A and G. **b**, Expanded view of the end-of-ramp region (discontinuous abscissa). The points with red circles are measurements made at the beginning and end of the mirror coil ramp-down for the bias trials.



Extended Data Fig. 6 | Decay of persistent fields (offline measurements). The on-axis fields at the axial midpoint (Fig. 2a) of mirrors A and G, as measured by the rapid cycle ECR technique (Methods) to study the decay of persistent fields after the end of the 20 s ramp. The solid lines are fits using two exponential decay times per curve; see Methods. The three plots are for the extreme biases

$\pm 3g$ and $0g$. The red points represent the extracted systematic error in the magnetic field difference between mirror A and mirror G at each bias, and they are plotted at the approximate time of the ECR resonance in the actual gravity trials. ‘Offline’ refers to measurements taken independently of the release experiments.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-023-06527>

Conclusions/Perspectives/Acknowledgements

ALPHA @ CERN

1S-2S spectrum (2018 @ 10^{-12} , 2026 @ $10^{-13,-14}$):
(E&M, QED, QCD: $r_p \Rightarrow 1.2$ MHz while $\delta f \sim 300$ Hz)

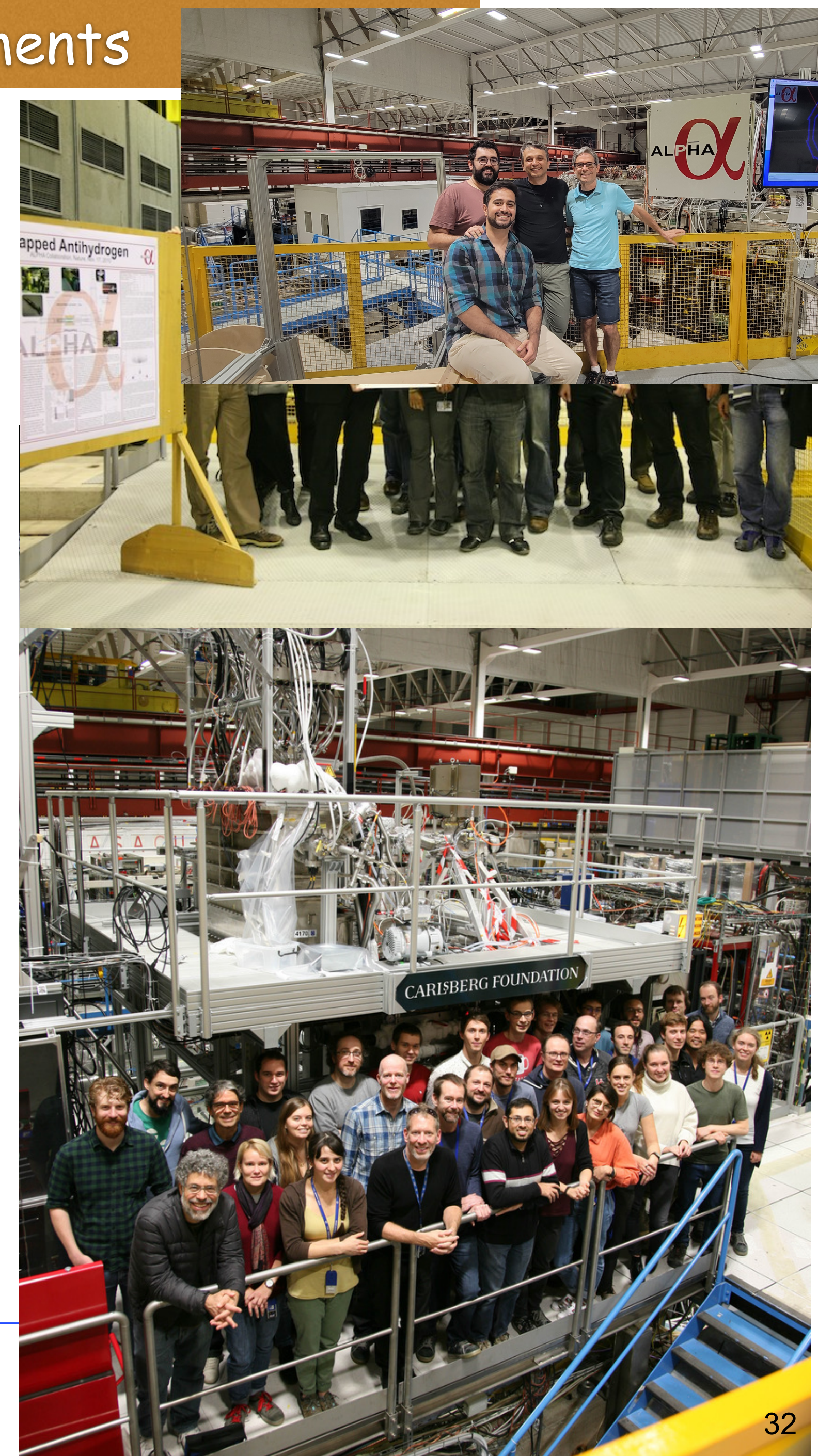
\Rightarrow very high precision $10^{-15...-18}$: Hbar & H in same trap (proof-of-principle)

laser cooling, μ W spectroscopy, hyperfine, ...

ALPHA-g gravity fall:

$$a_{\bar{H}} = (0.75 \pm 0.13(\text{stat} + \text{syst}) \pm 0.16(\text{sim}))g$$

will CPT hold ? WEP ? Nature has the answer !?





Team UFRJ - moved into new lab in Rio

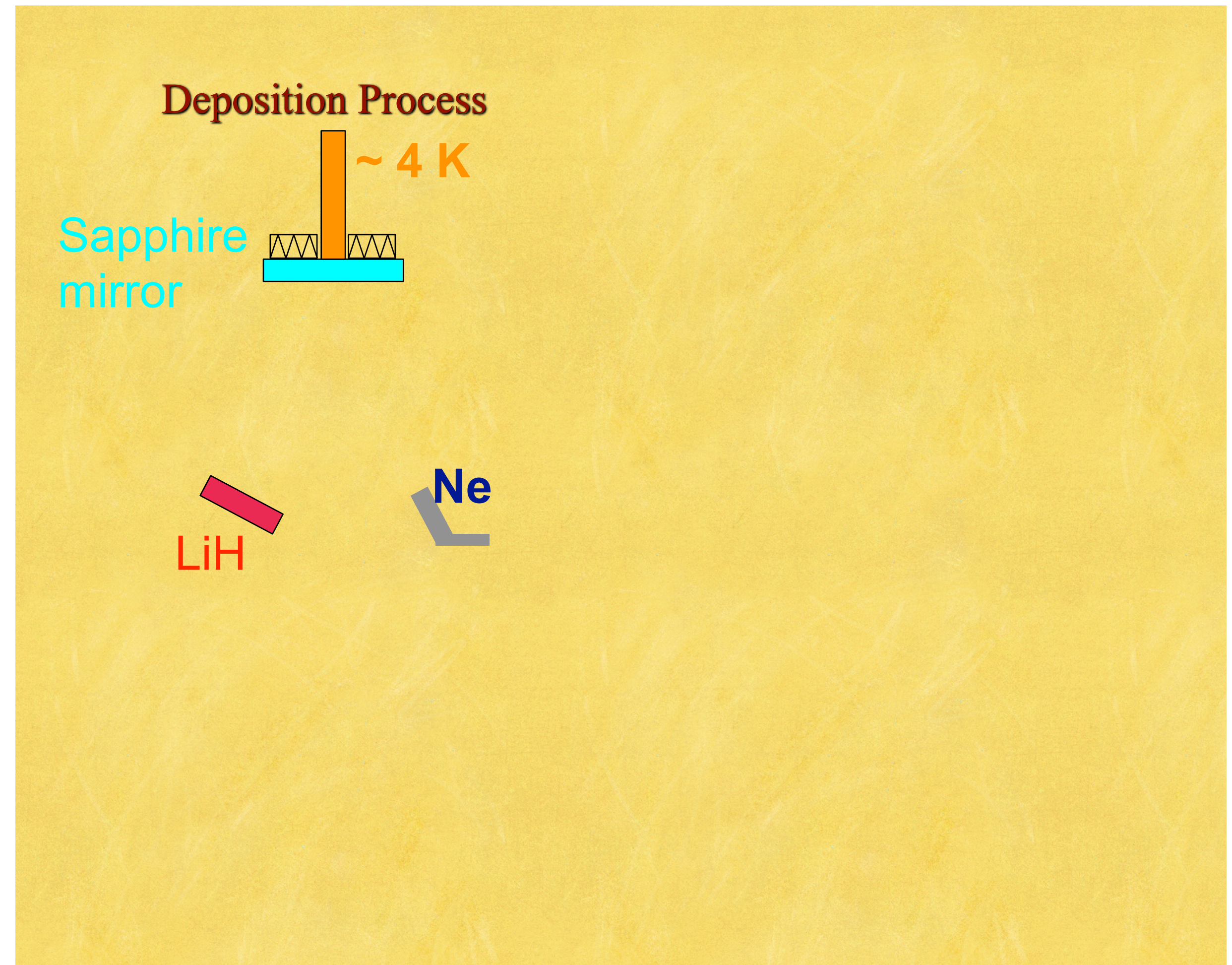
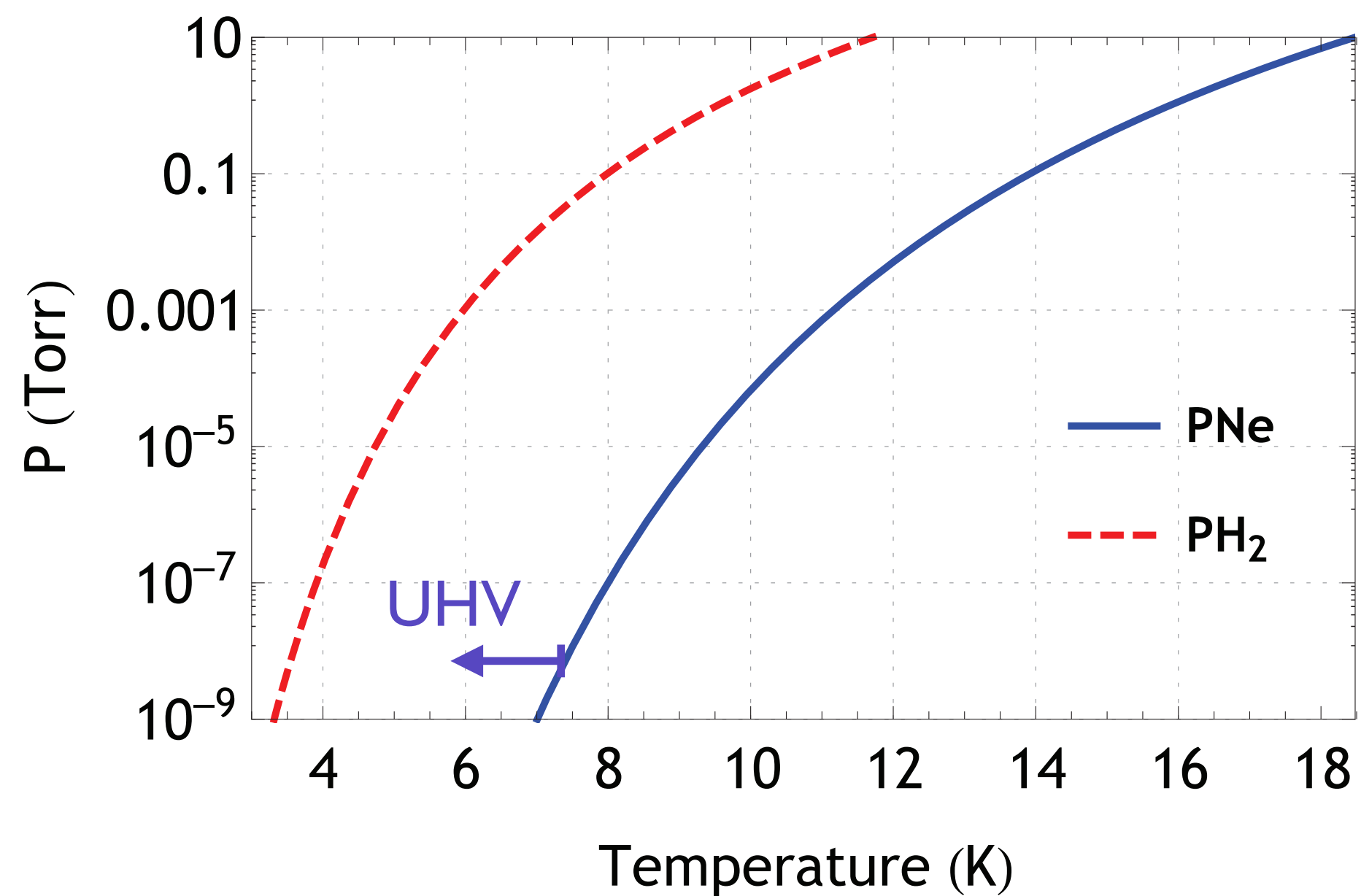


UFRJ - Matrix Isolation Sublimation (MISu): a general technique for cryogenic atoms, molecules, and ions

Ne or H₂ solid film

Implant species with laser ablation

Sublimate the matrix at cryogenic temperature

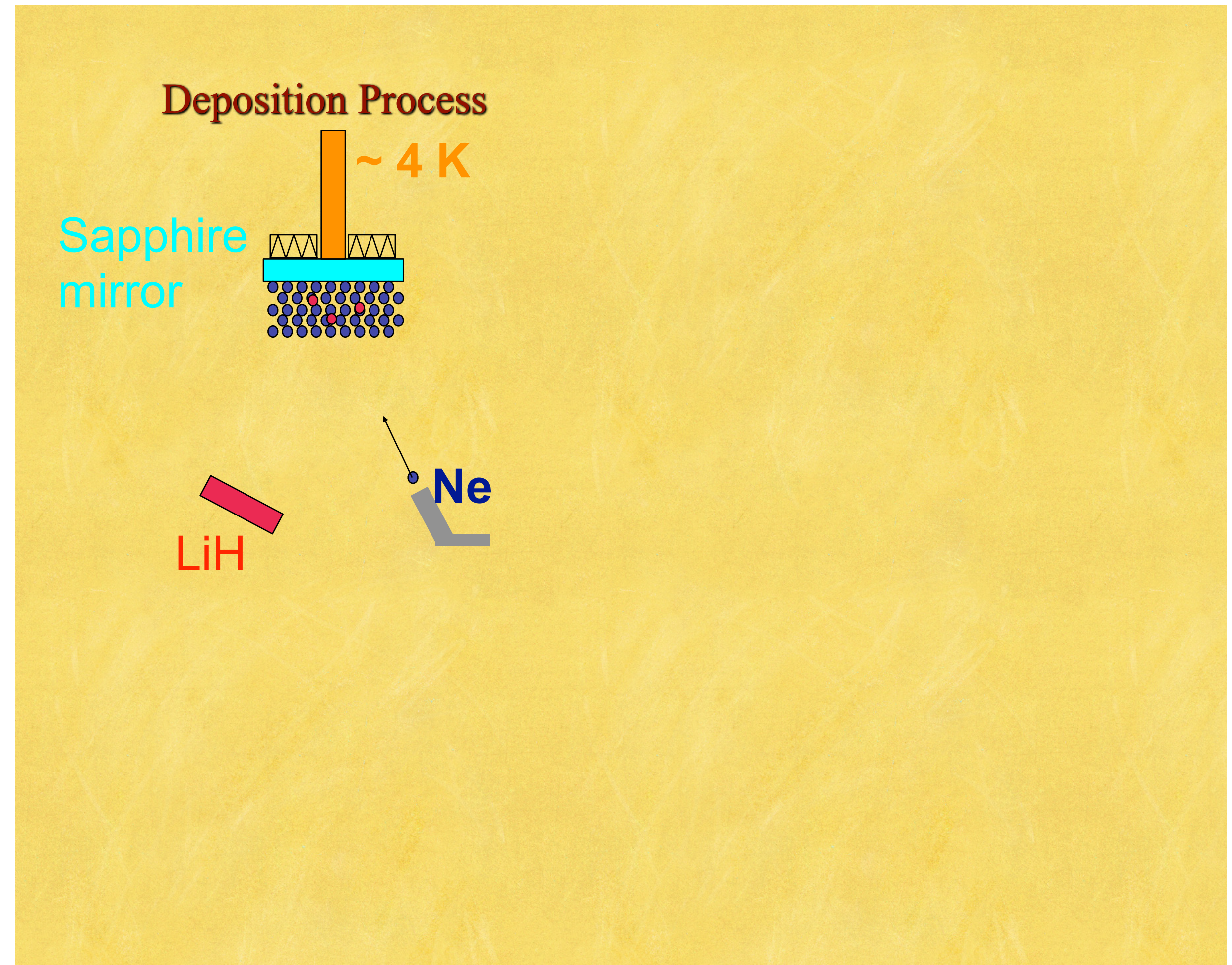
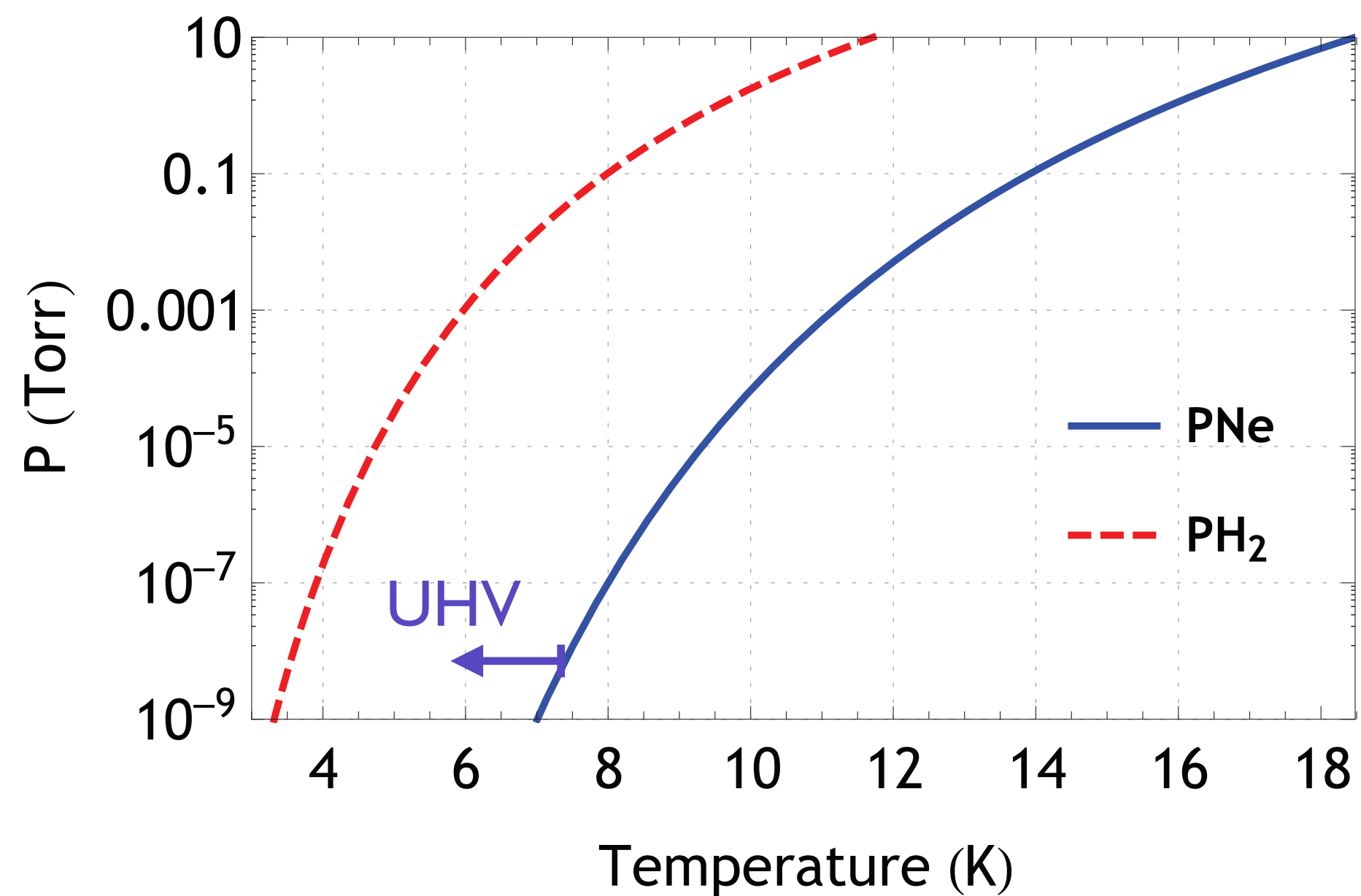


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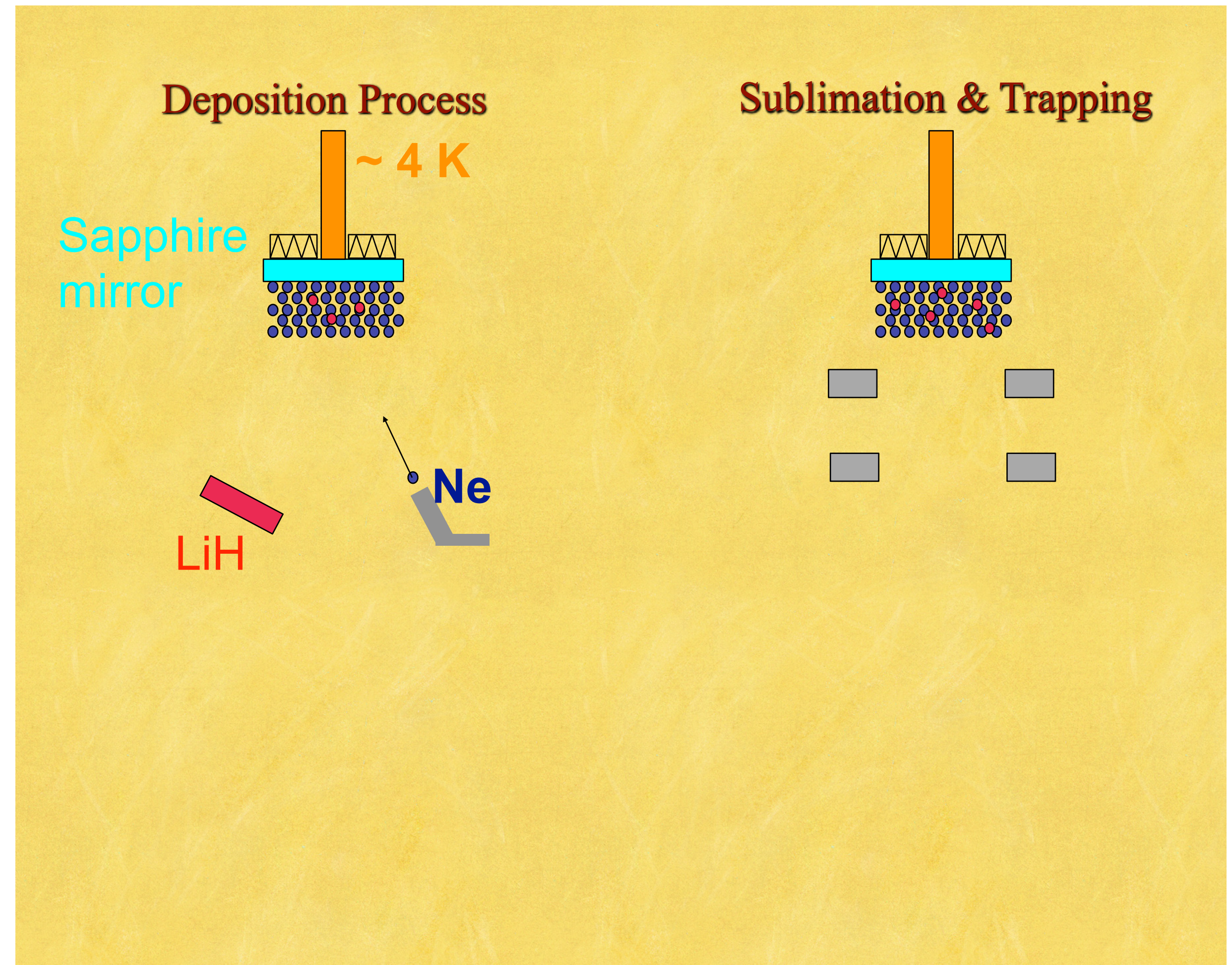
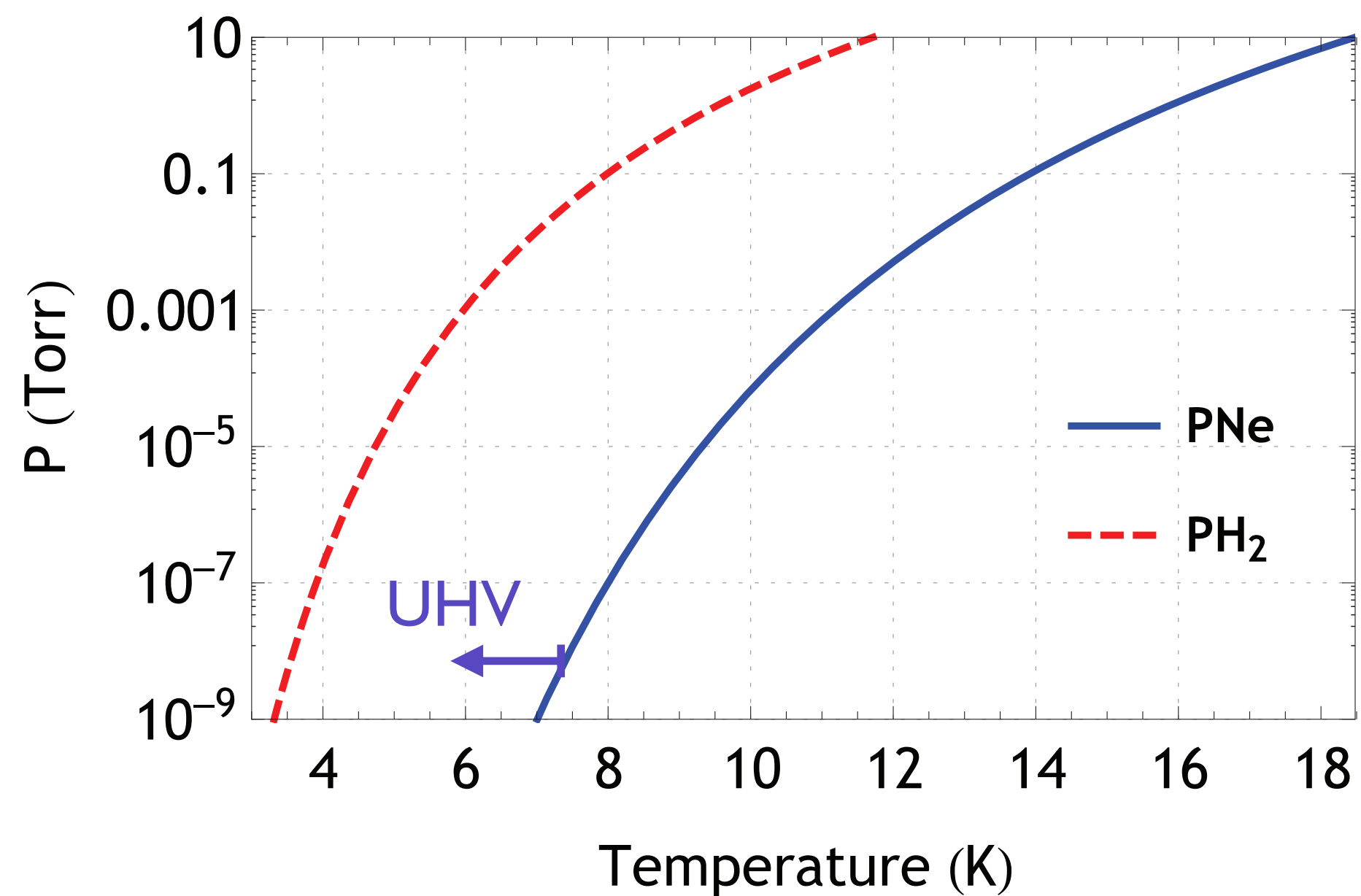


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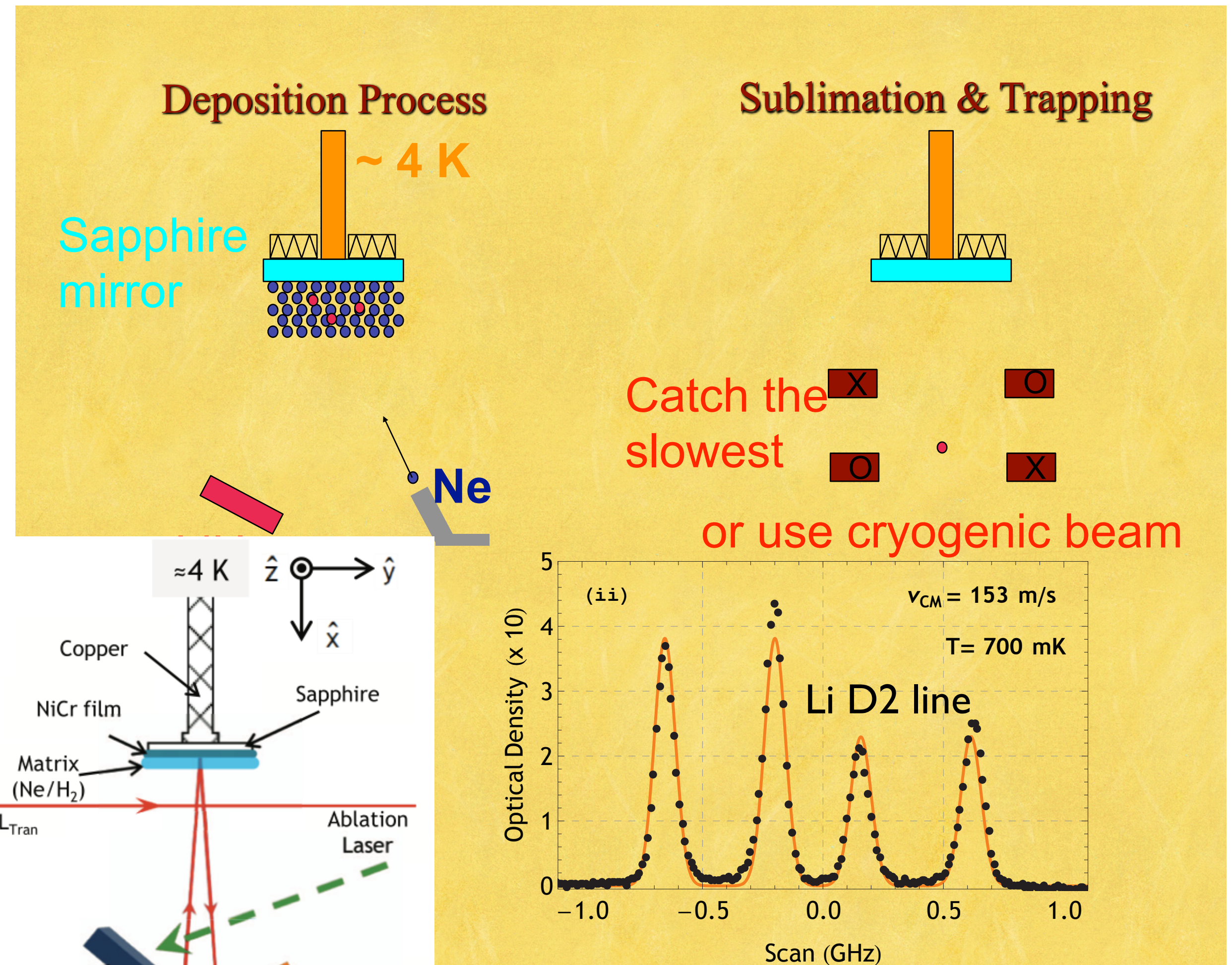
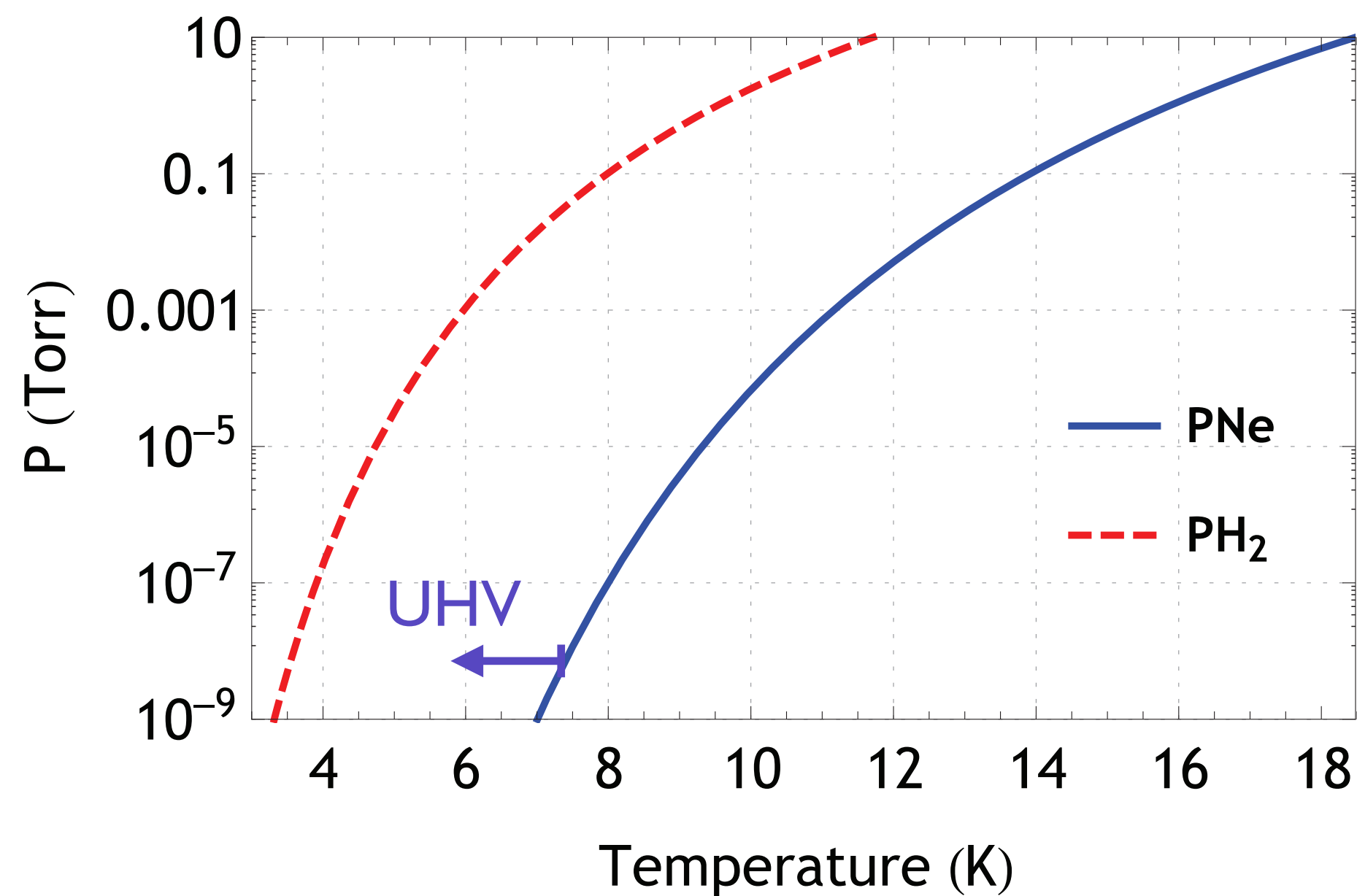
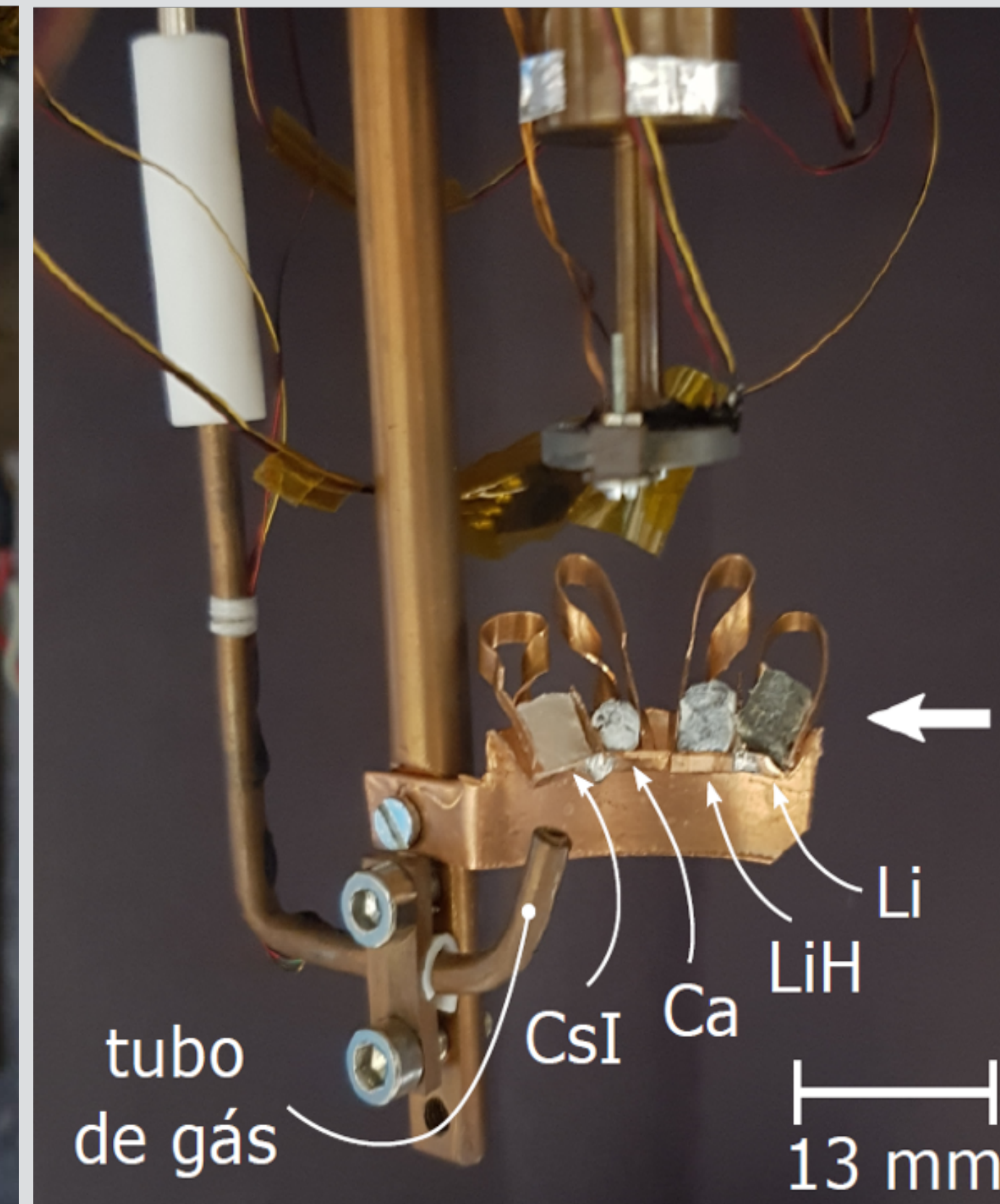
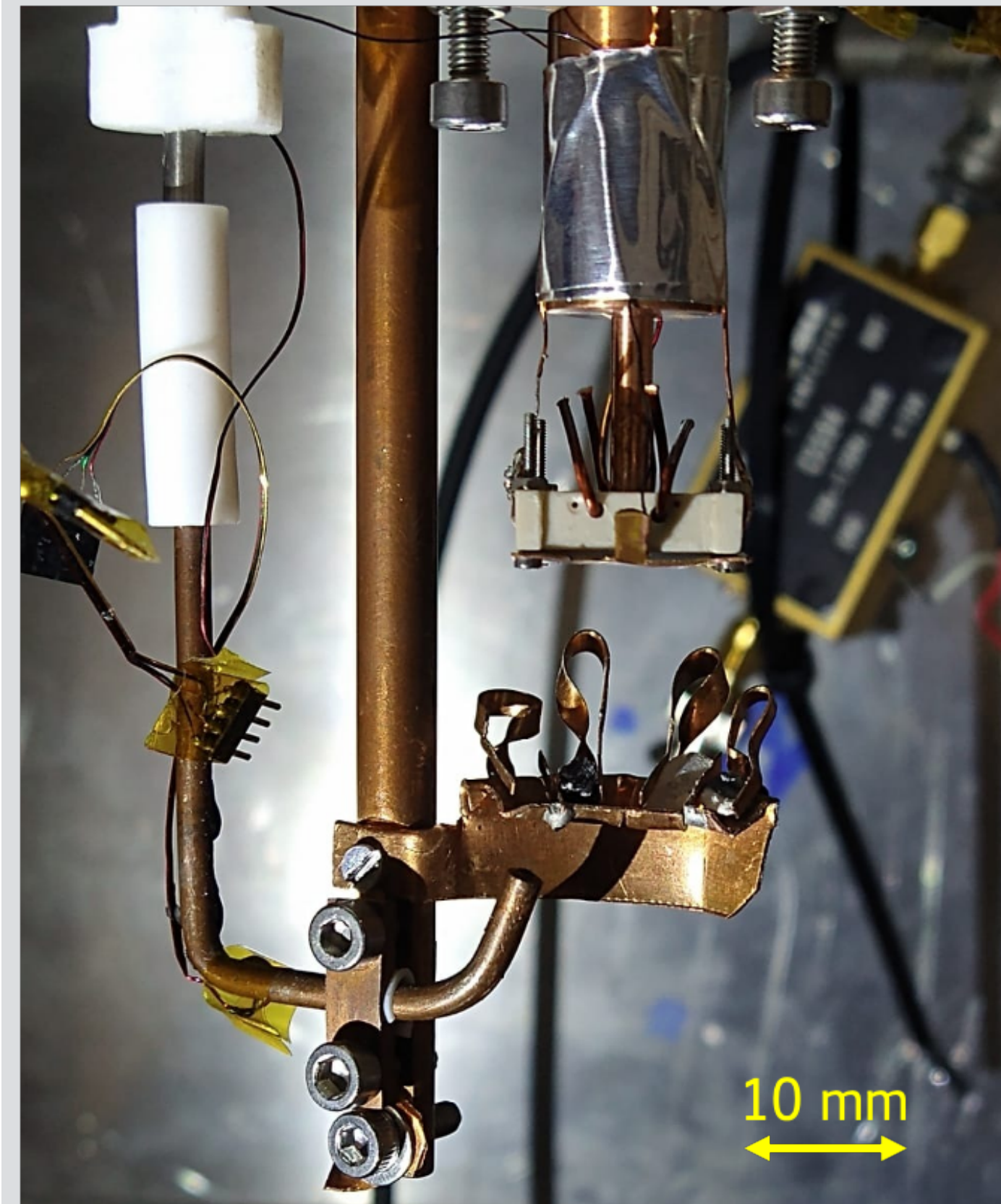
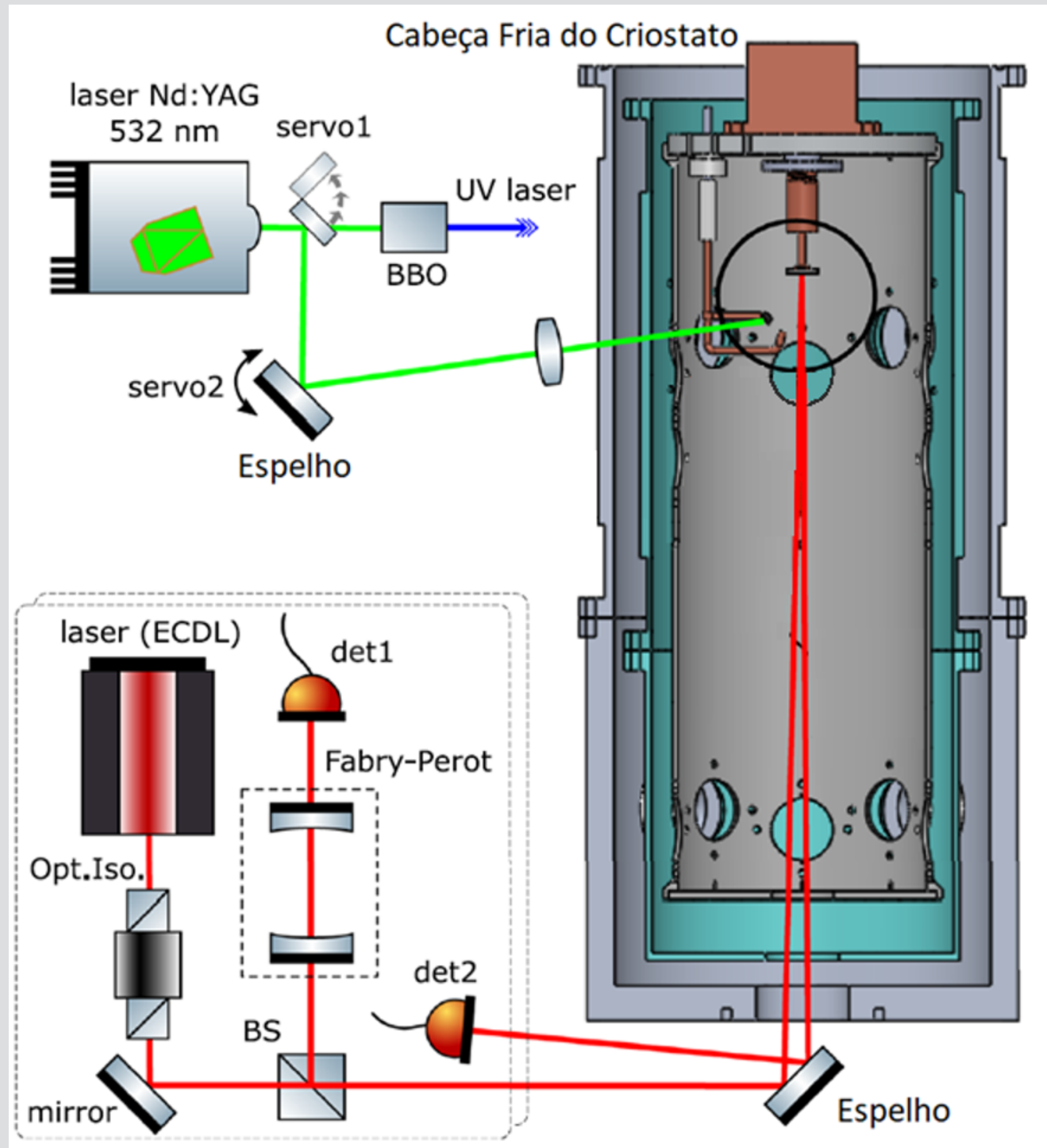
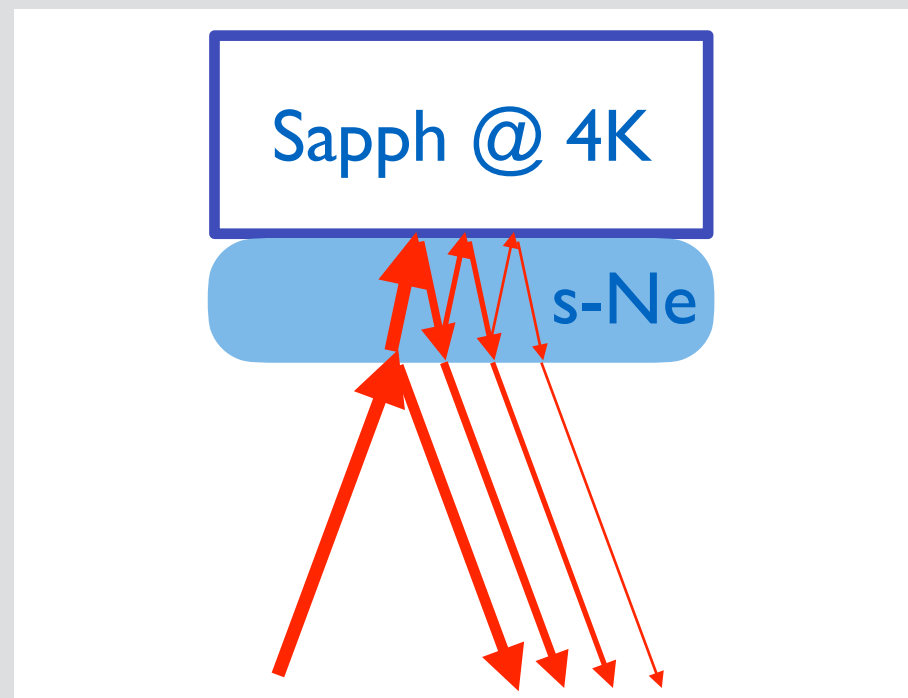


FIG. 1. Schematics of the experimental apparatus showing the sapphire sub-

Matrix Isolation Sublimation Apparatus

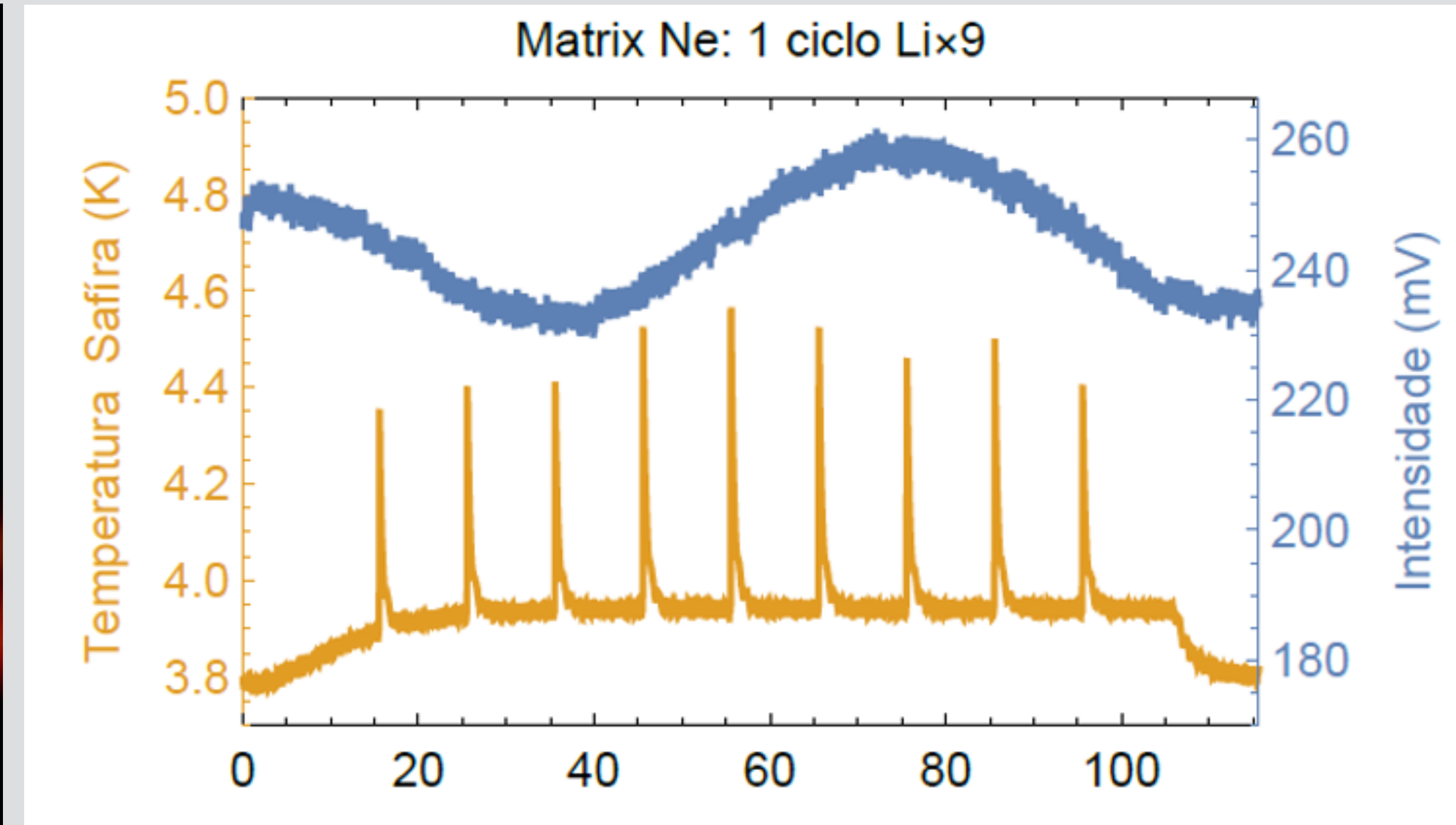
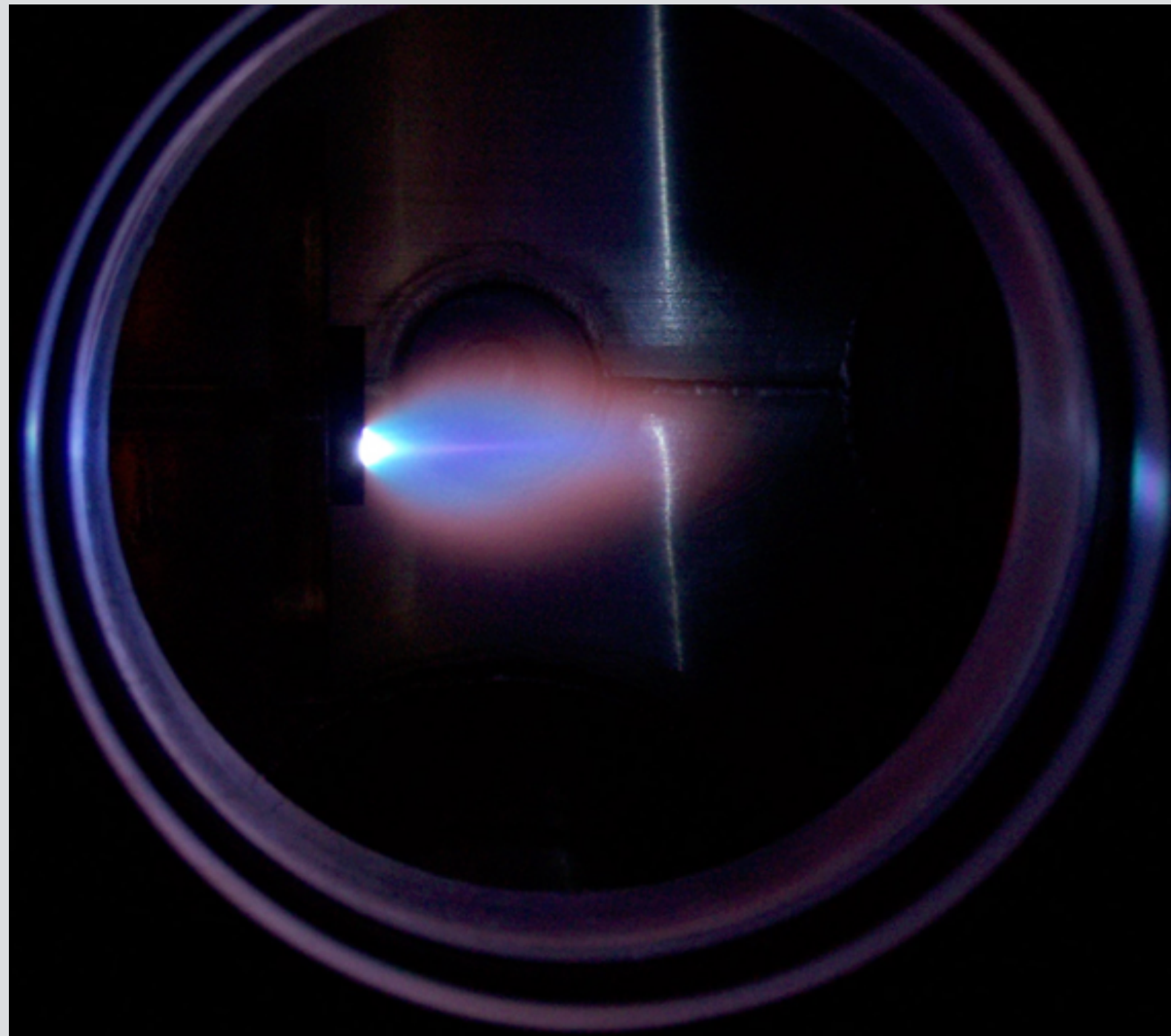


Matrix Isolation Sublimation Apparatus



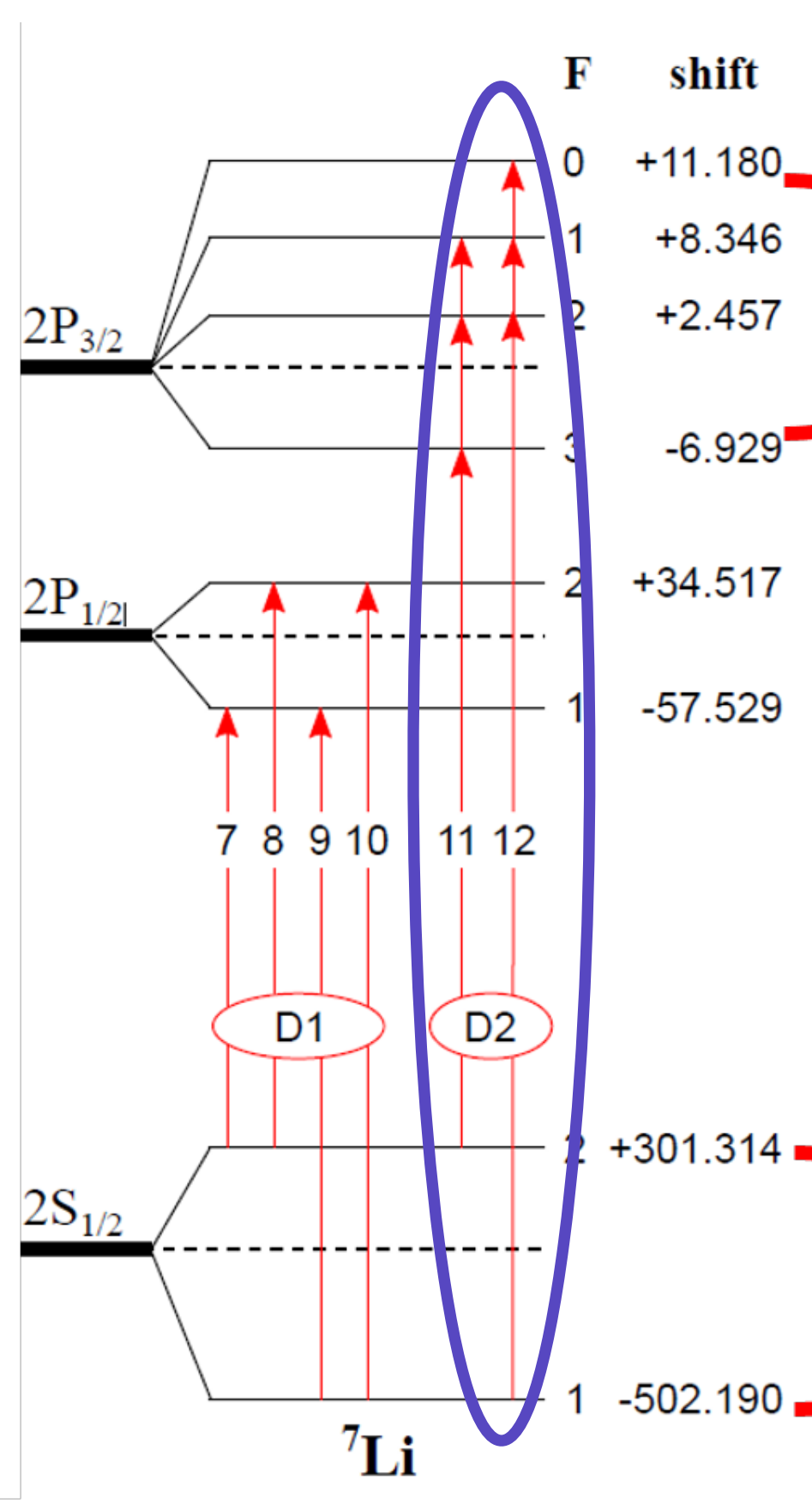
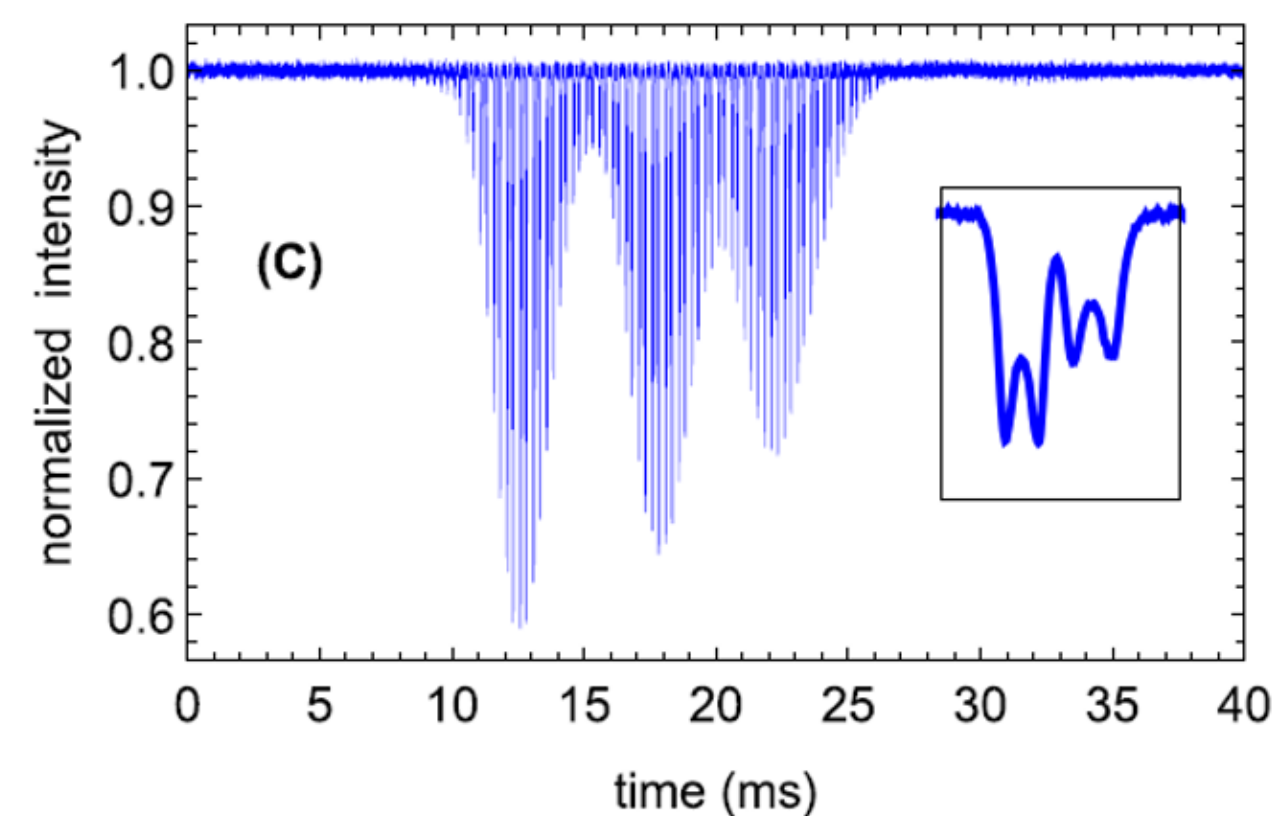
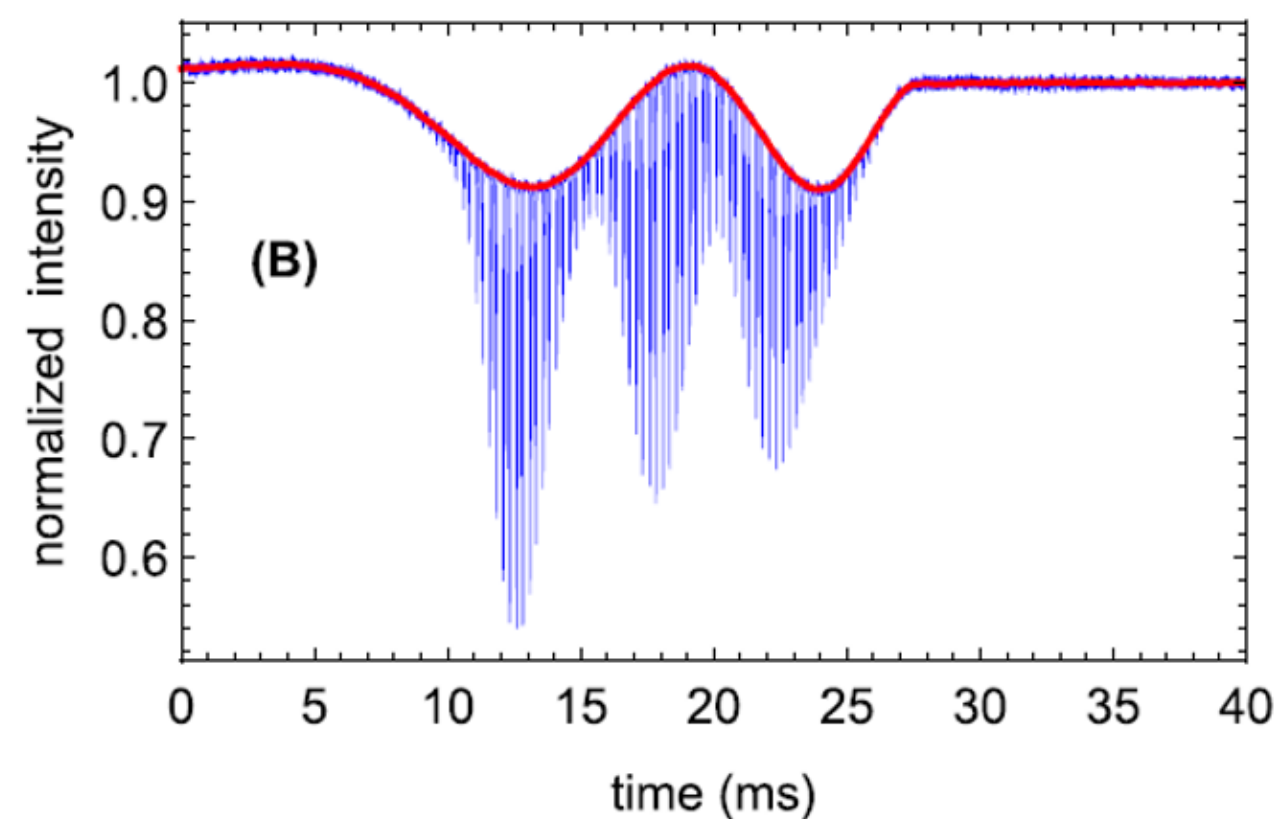
$$\text{Fresnel} : R_{NeVc} = \left(\frac{n_{Ne} - 1}{n_{Ne} + 1} \right)^2, R_{NeSa} = \left(\frac{n_{Ne} - n_{Sa}}{n_{Ne} + n_{Sa}} \right)^2$$

$$T = \frac{R_{NeVc} + R_{NeSa} + 2\sqrt{R_{NeVc}R_{NeSa}} \cos(2\pi n_{Ne} l_{Ne} 2/\lambda + \phi)}{1 + R_{NeVc}R_{NeSa} + 2\sqrt{R_{NeVc}R_{NeSa}} \cos(2\pi n_{Ne} l_{Ne} 2/\lambda + \phi)}$$



Spectra of Li-7 (D2 line)

3 spaced ablation pulses

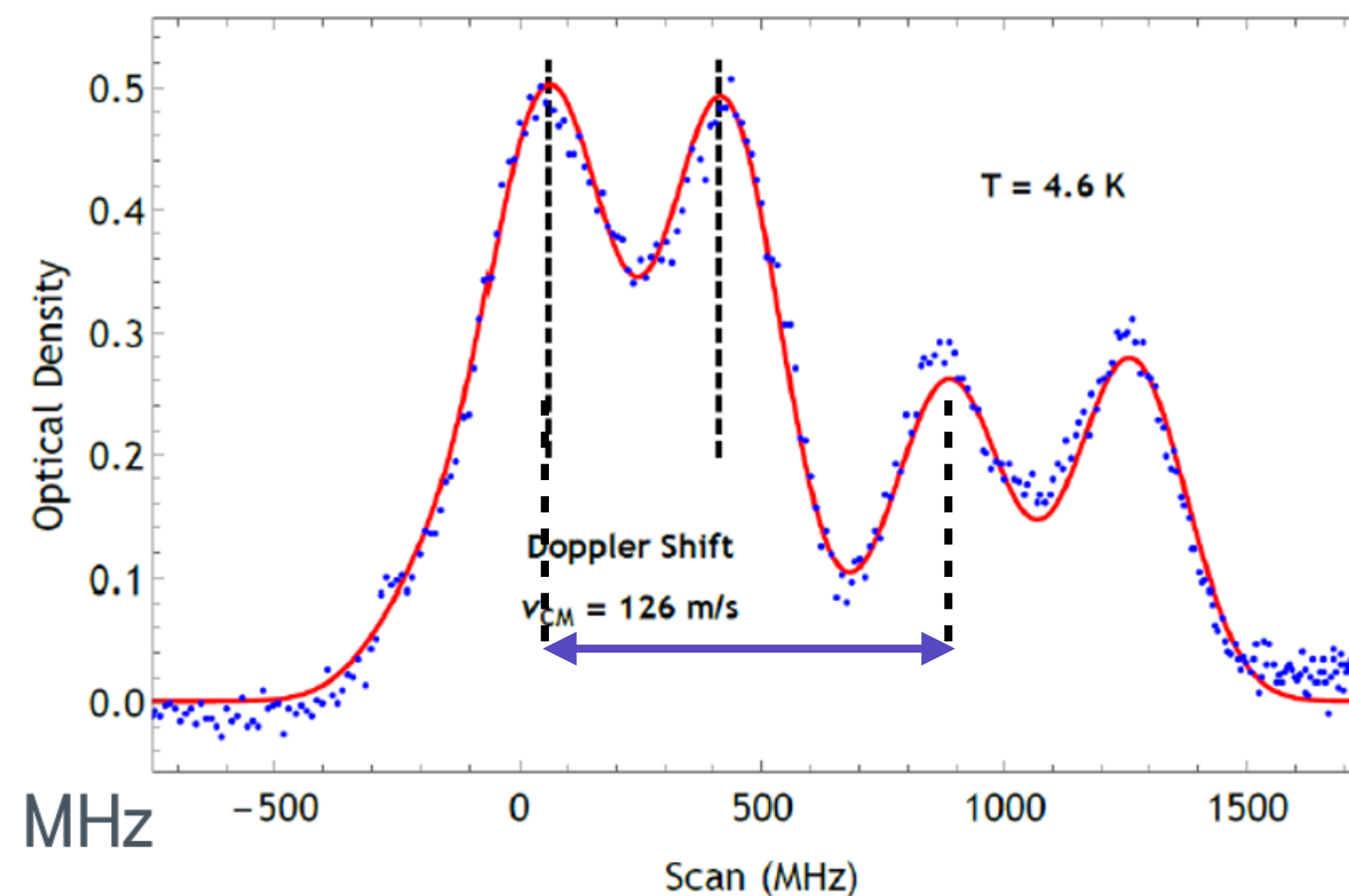


unresolved 17 MHz

803.5 MHz

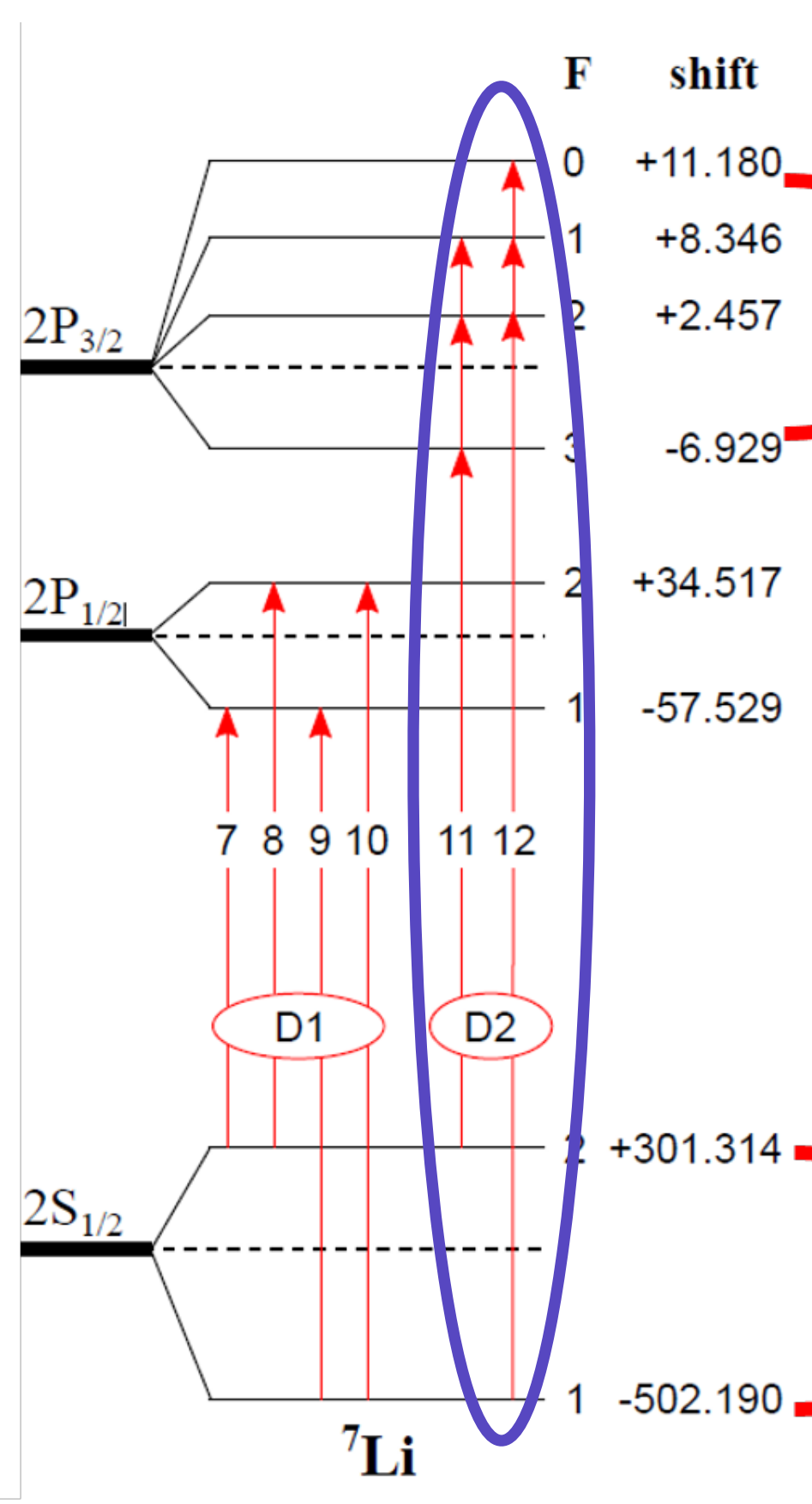
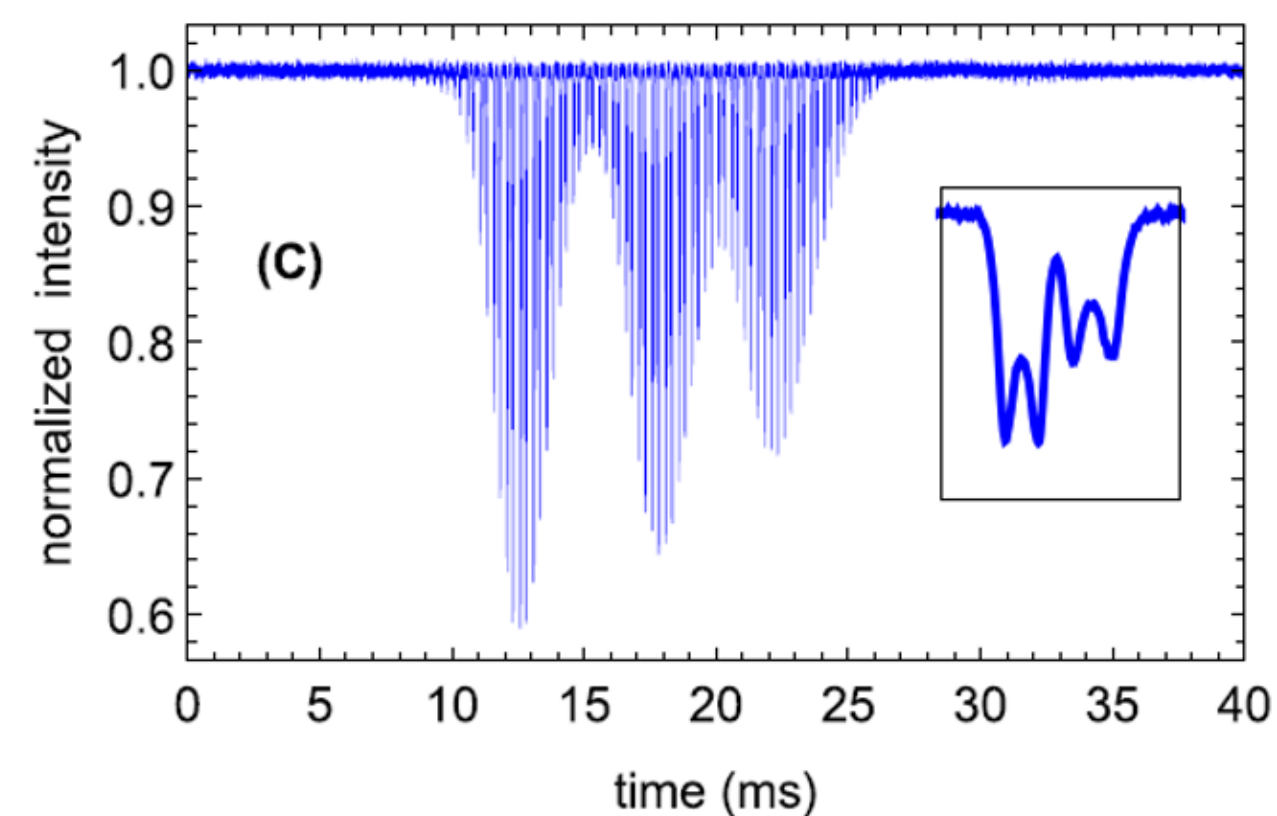
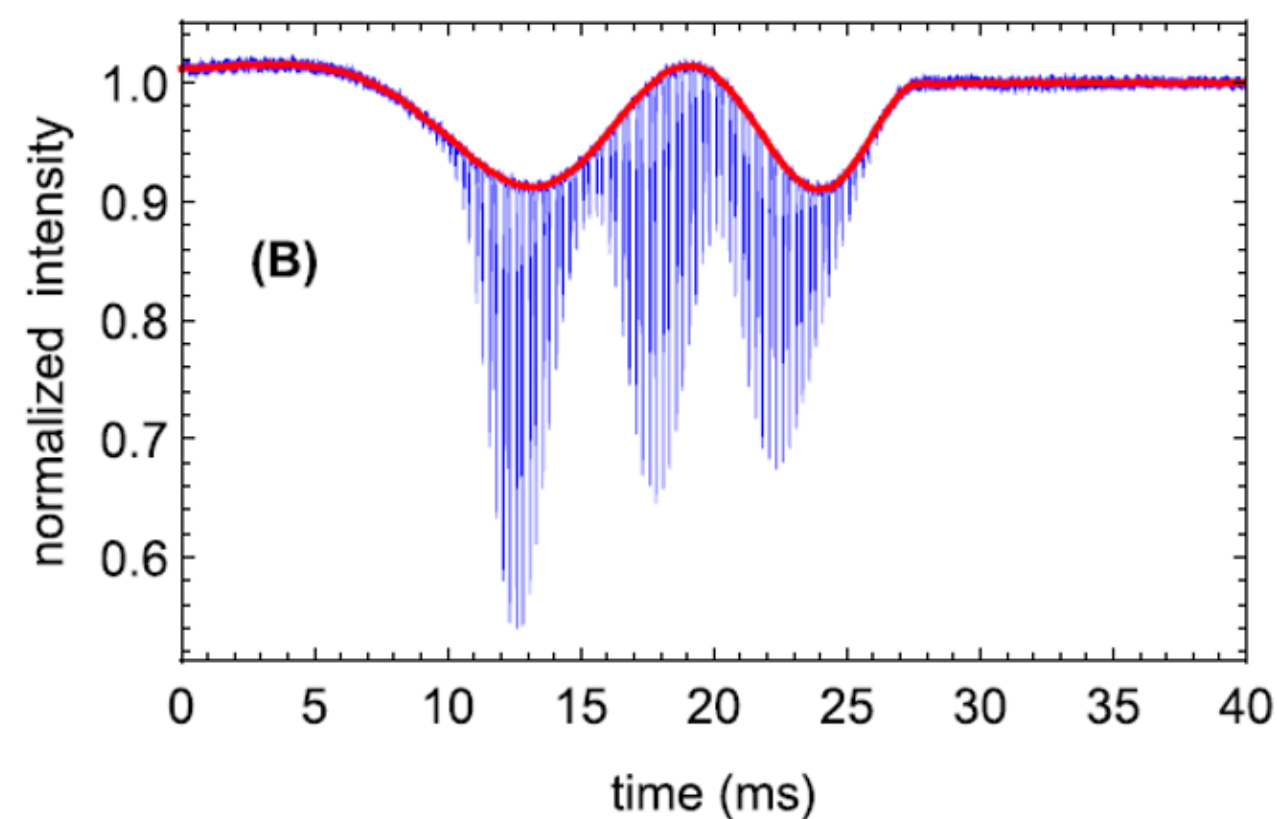
$$\text{Velocidade} \rightarrow V = \frac{\lambda \cdot \delta\omega}{2}$$

$$\text{Temperatura} \rightarrow T = \frac{m (\Delta v \cdot \lambda)^2}{k_B}$$



Spectra of Li-7 (D2 line)

3 spaced ablation pulses

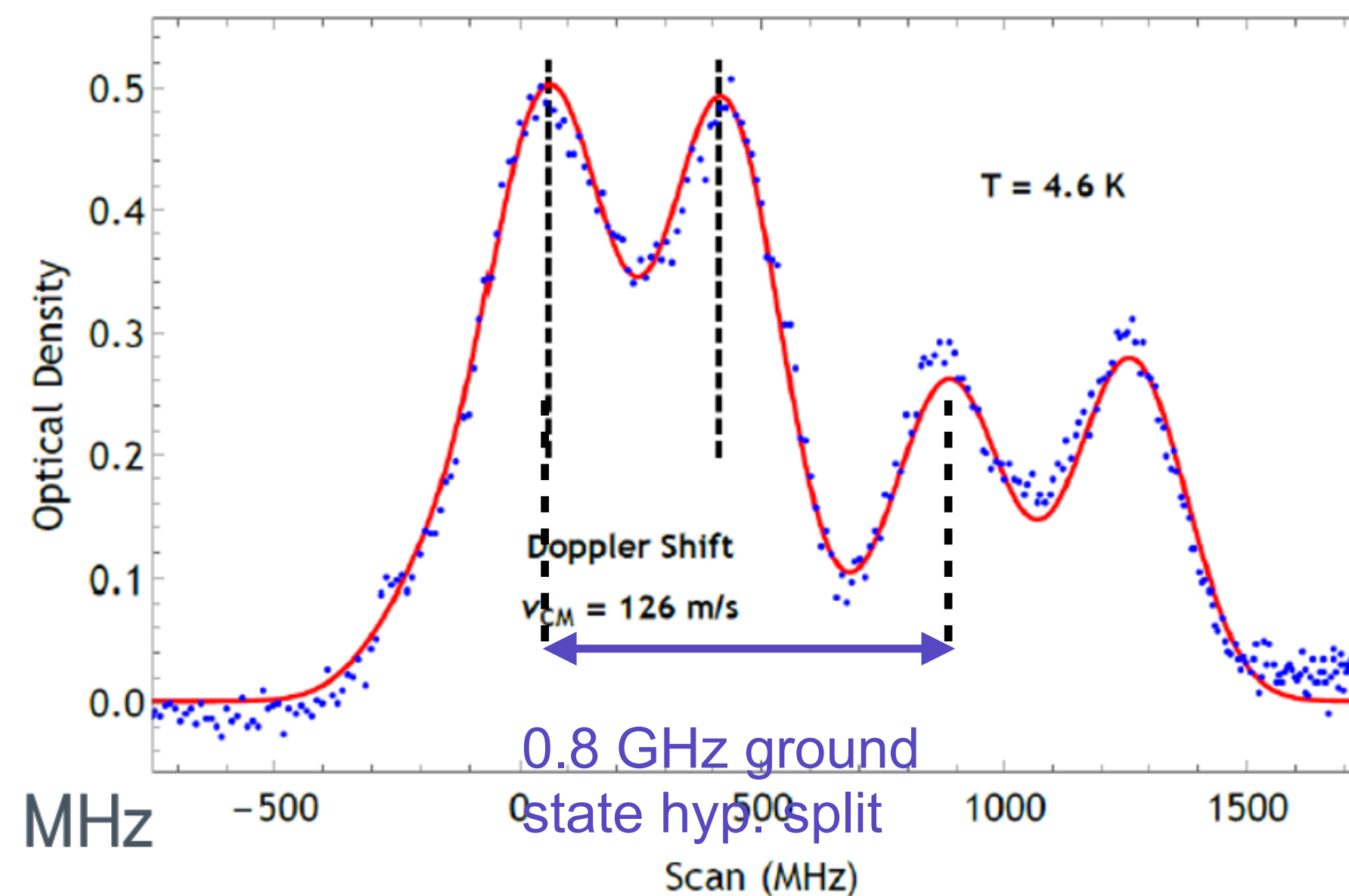


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$$\text{Temperatura} \rightarrow T = \frac{m (\Delta v \cdot \lambda)^2}{k_B}$$



Matrix Isolation Sublimation and Molecular Formation

Heteronuclear Molecules:
(magnetic dipole moment/electric dipole moment)
Formation in the matrix: possibilities for exotic and weakly bound

THE JOURNAL OF CHEMICAL PHYSICS **149**, 084201 (2018)

Heteronuclear molecules from matrix isolation sublimation and atomic diffusion

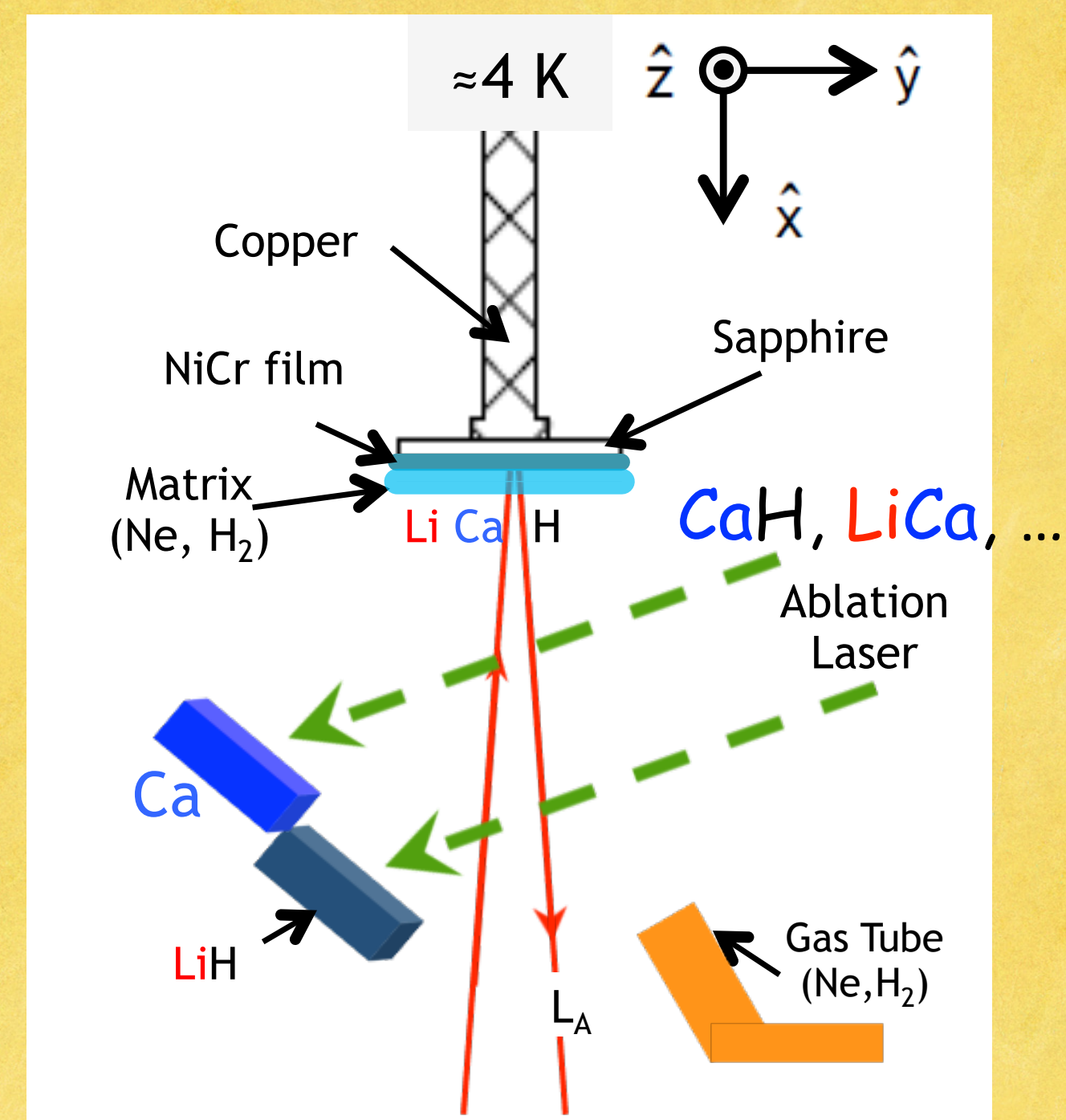
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21941-972 Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil

(Received 8 June 2018; accepted 9 August 2018; published online 30 August 2018)

We demonstrate the production of cryogenic beams of heteronuclear molecules from the matrix isolation sublimation (MISu) technique. A sapphire mirror serves as a substrate whereupon a solid Ne matrix is grown. Atoms of Li, H, Ca, and C are implanted into the matrix via subsequent laser ablation of different solid precursors such as Ca, Li, LiH, and graphite. The matrix is sublimated into vacuum generating a cryogenic beam of Ne carrying the previously isolated neutral atomic and molecular species. A compact and low energy electron source and time-of-flight mass spectrometer was designed to fit this system at low temperature. With electron ionization time-of-flight mass spectrometry, we analyze the species coming from MISu and demonstrate the formation of heteronuclear molecules in the matrix. In this first study, we produced LiCa from the sequential implantation of Li and Ca into the matrix and some clusters of C_nLi_m after Li and C ablation. Also from ablation of a single LiH pellet, we observed clusters of Li_nH_m . This novel technique



Matrix Isolation Sublimation and Molecular Formation

Heteronuclear Molecules:
(magnetic dipole moment/electric dipole moment)
Formation in the matrix: possibilities for exotic and weakly bound

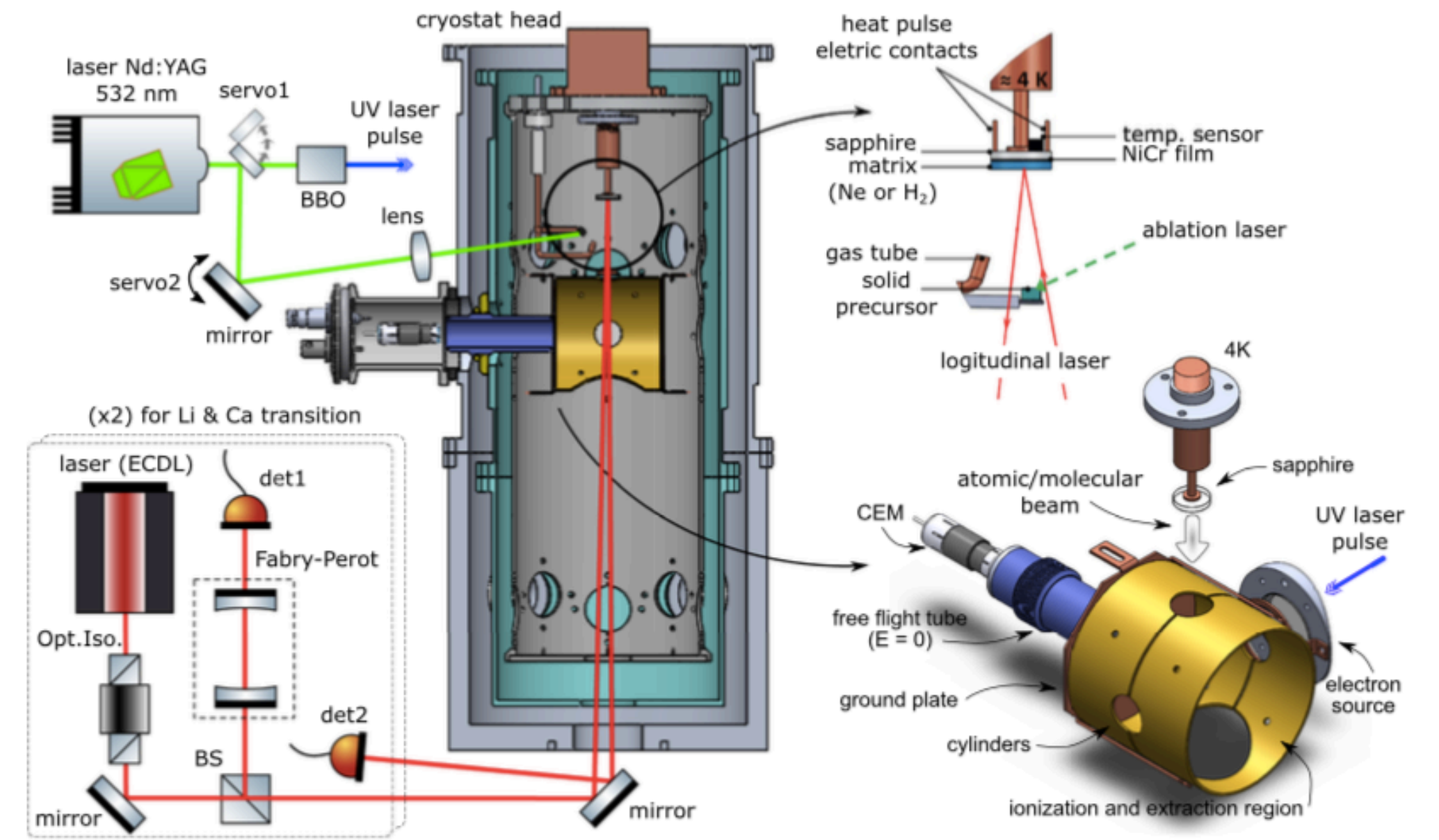
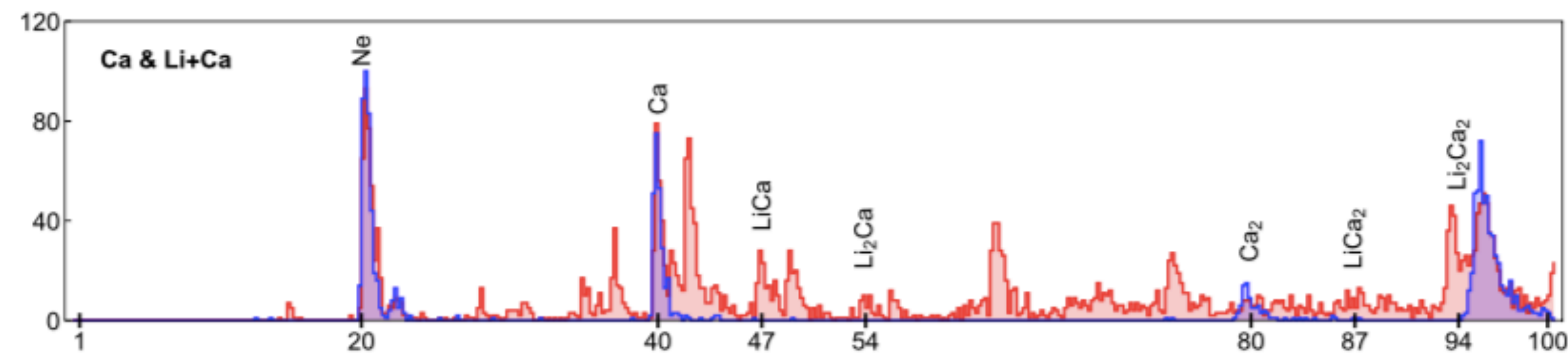
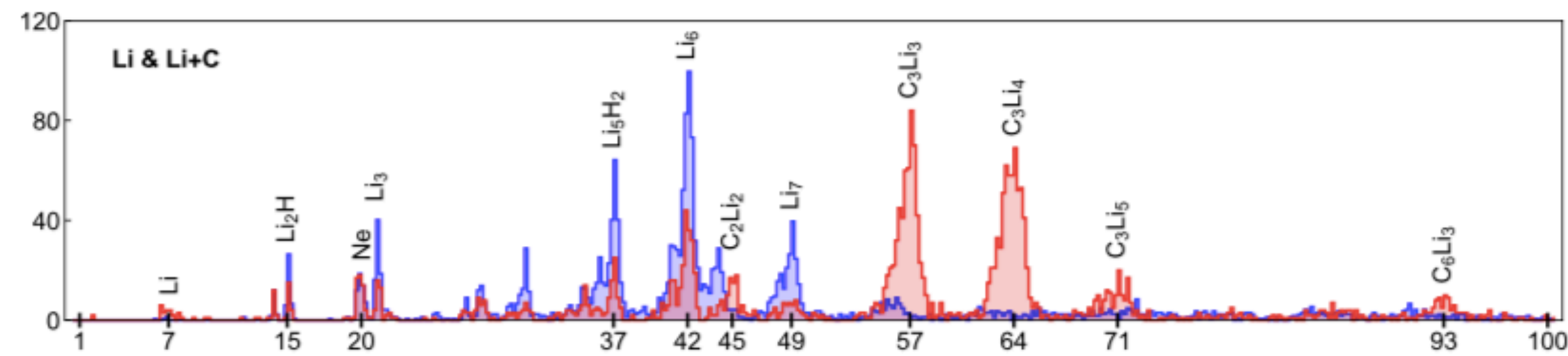
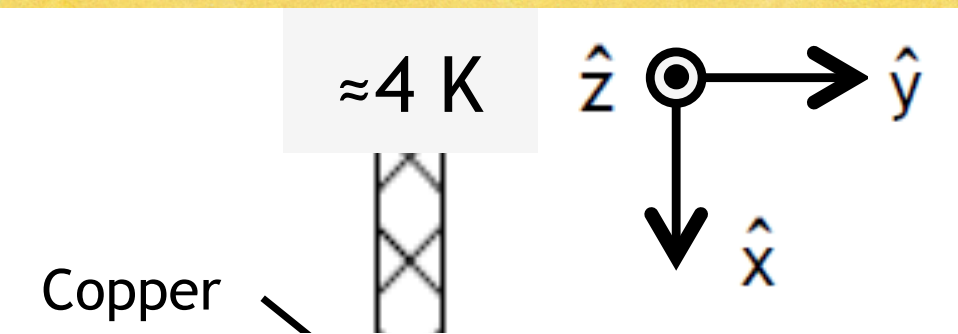
THE JOURNAL OF CHEMICAL PHYSICS **149**, 084201 (2018)

Heteronuclear molecules from matrix isolation sublimation and atomic diffusion

084201-6 Oliveira *et al.*

J. Chem. Phys. **149**, 084201 (2018) 084201-3 Oliveira *et al.*

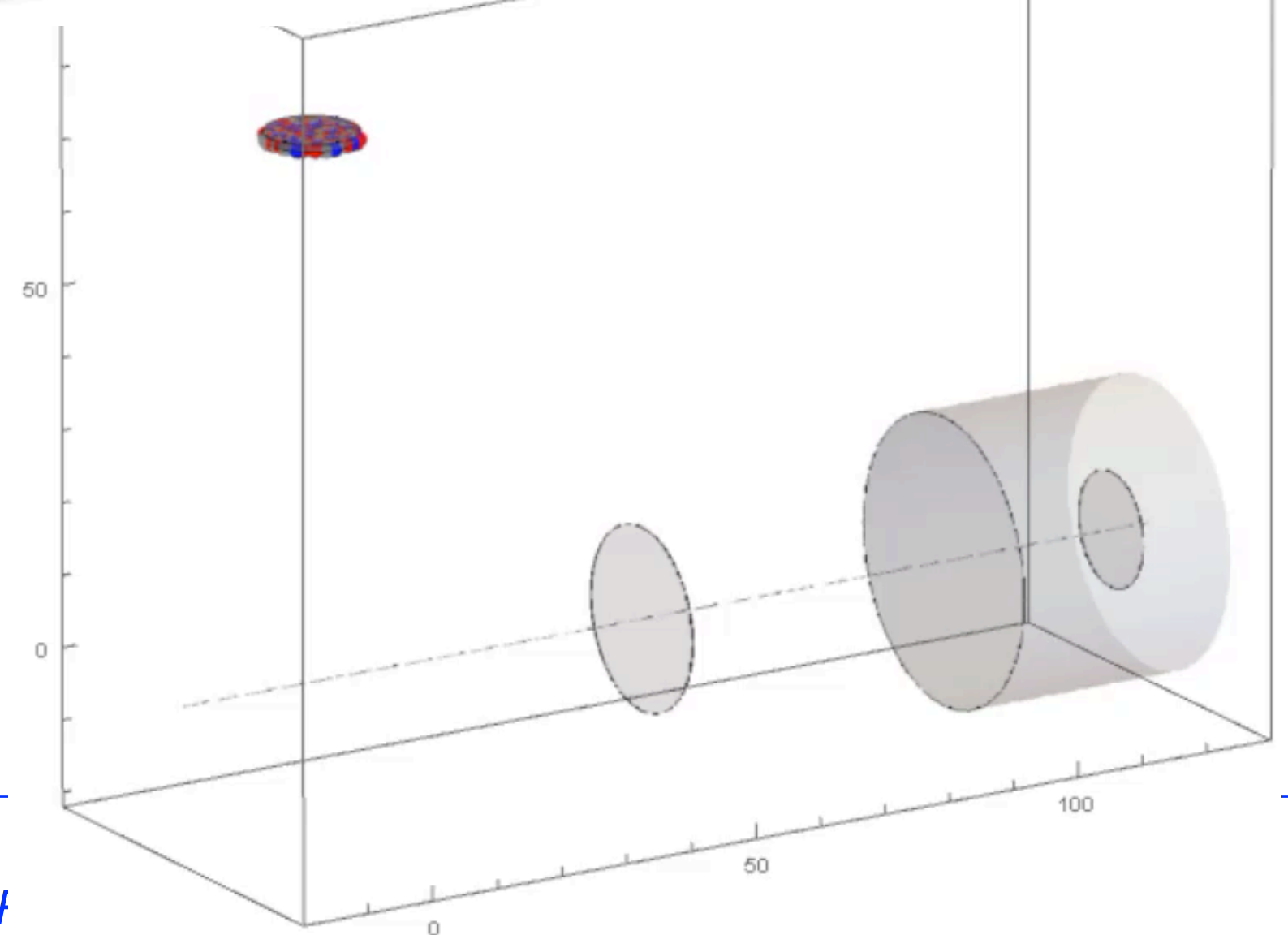
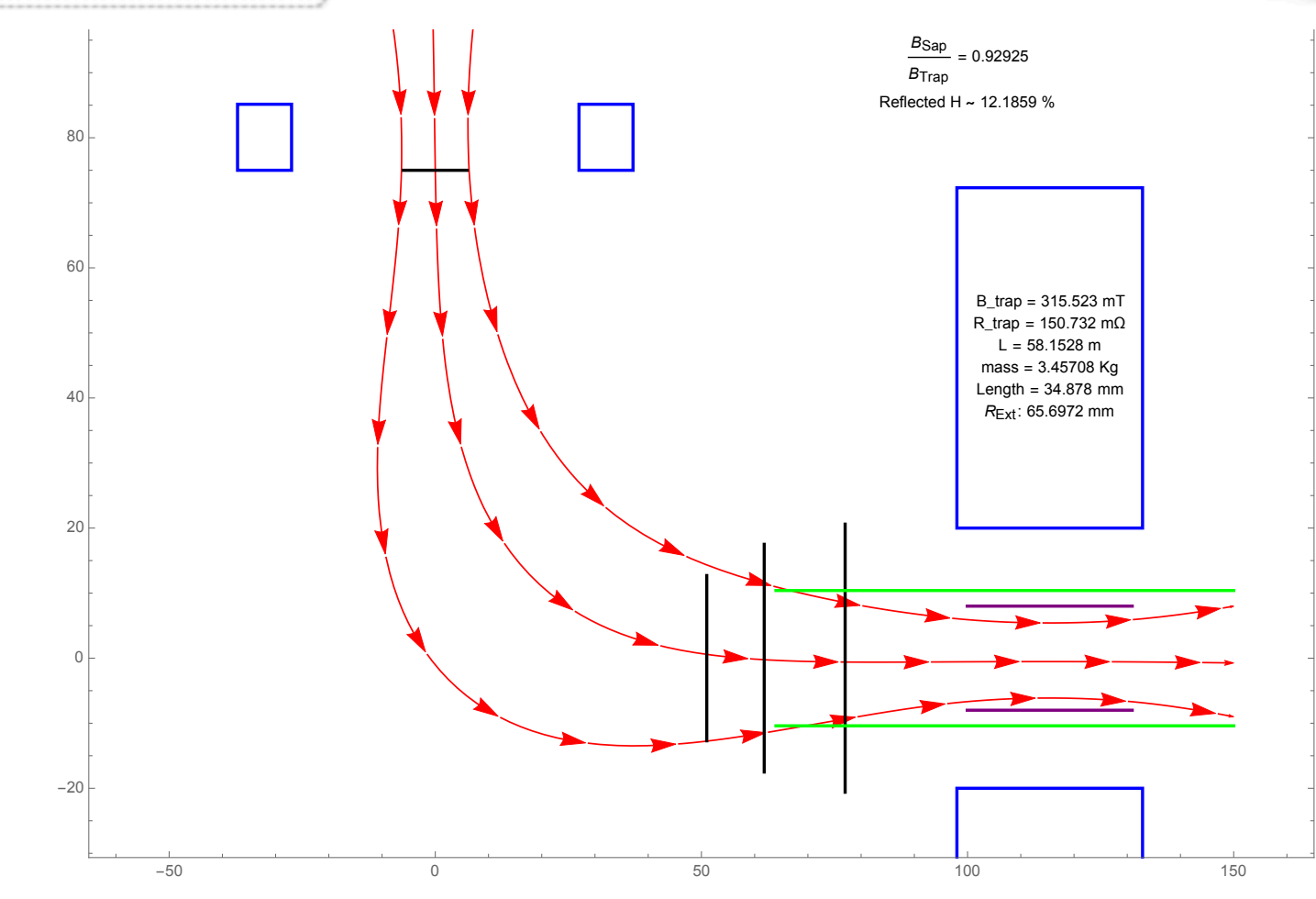
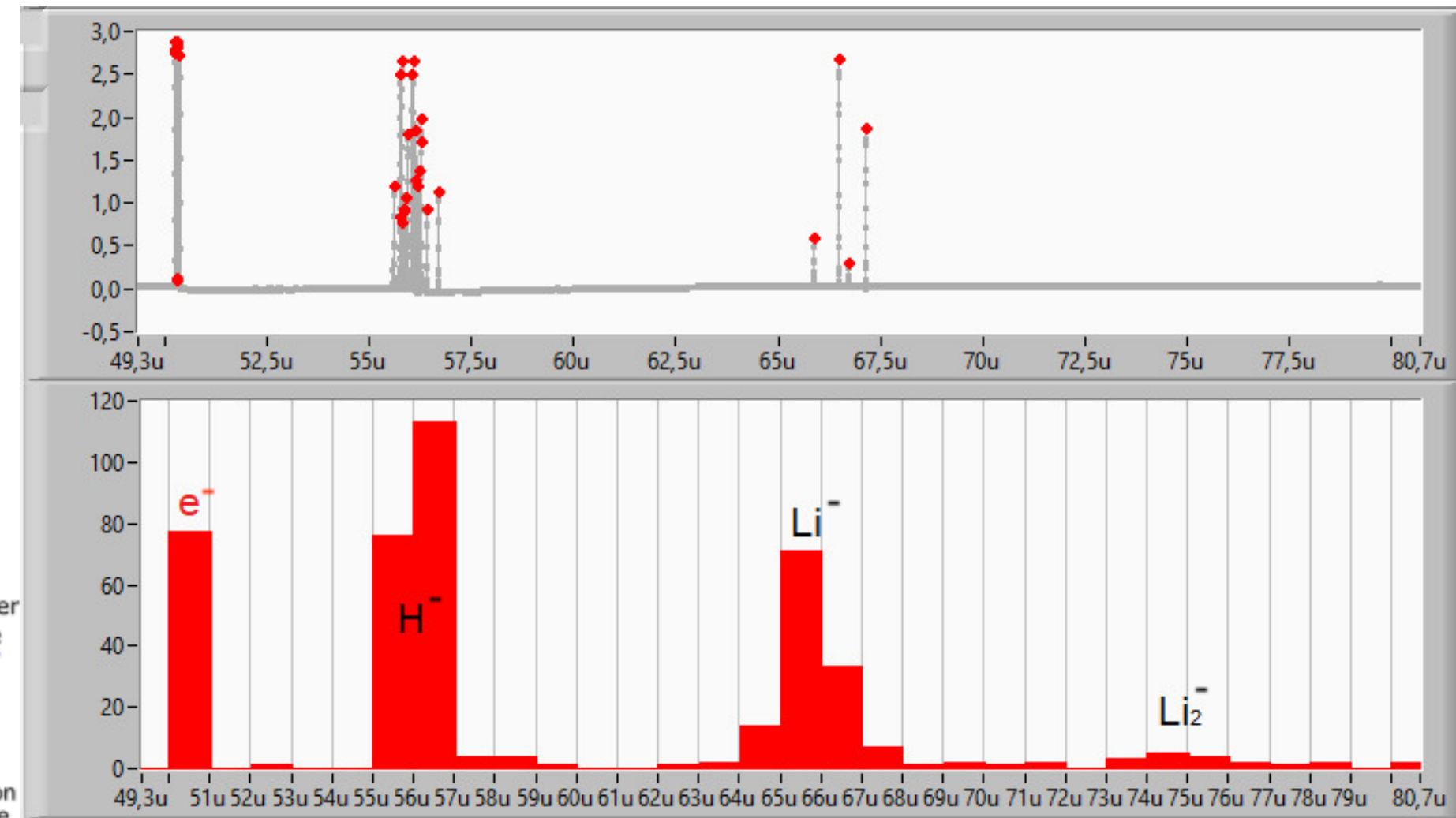
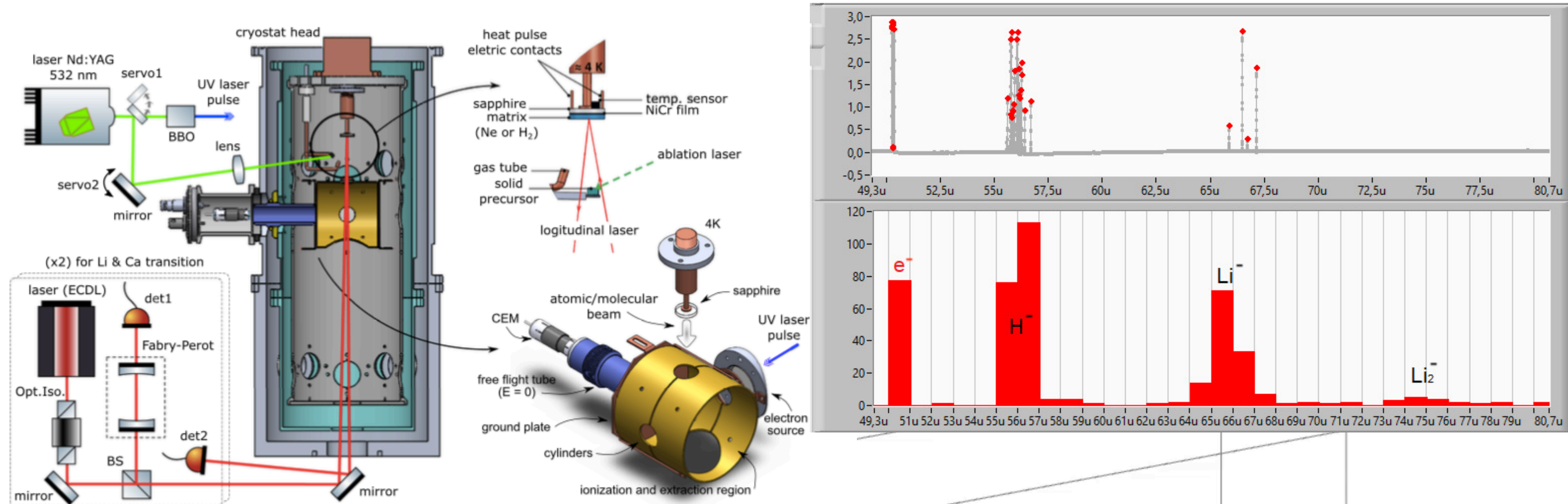
J. Chem. Phys. **149**, 084201 (2018)



Matrix Isolation Sublimation (MISu): cold anions: H⁻, Li⁻, ...

084201-3 Oliveira et al.

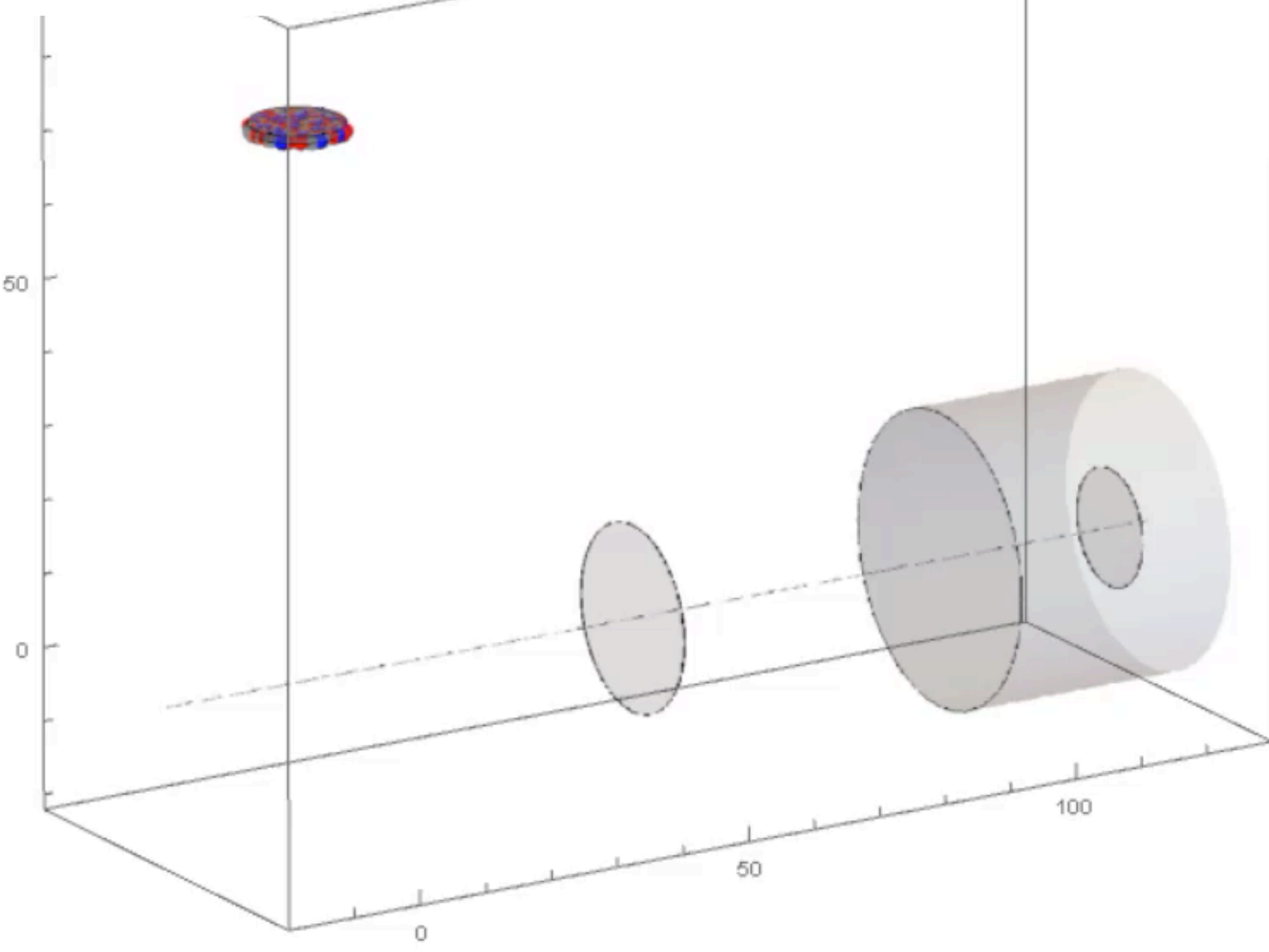
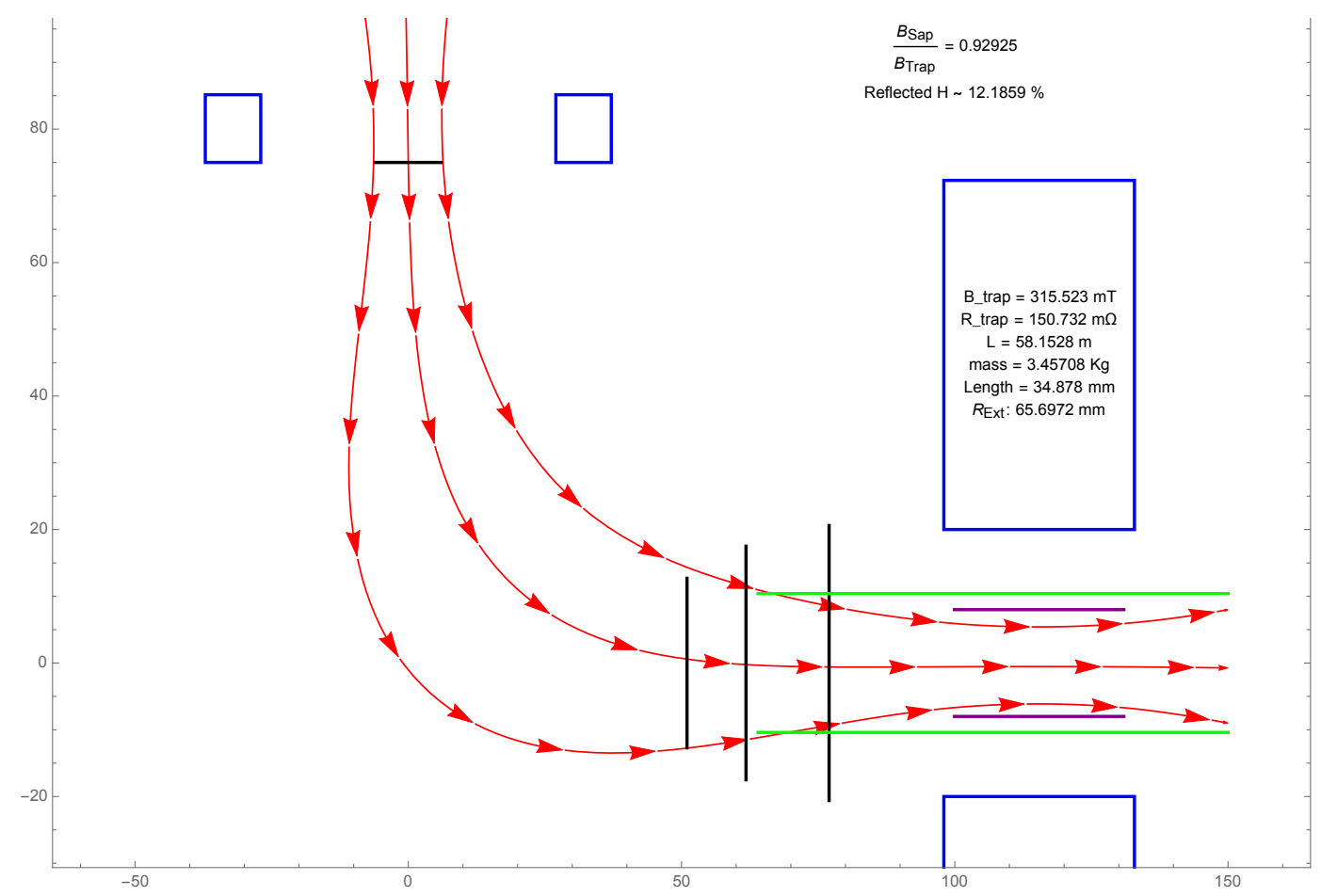
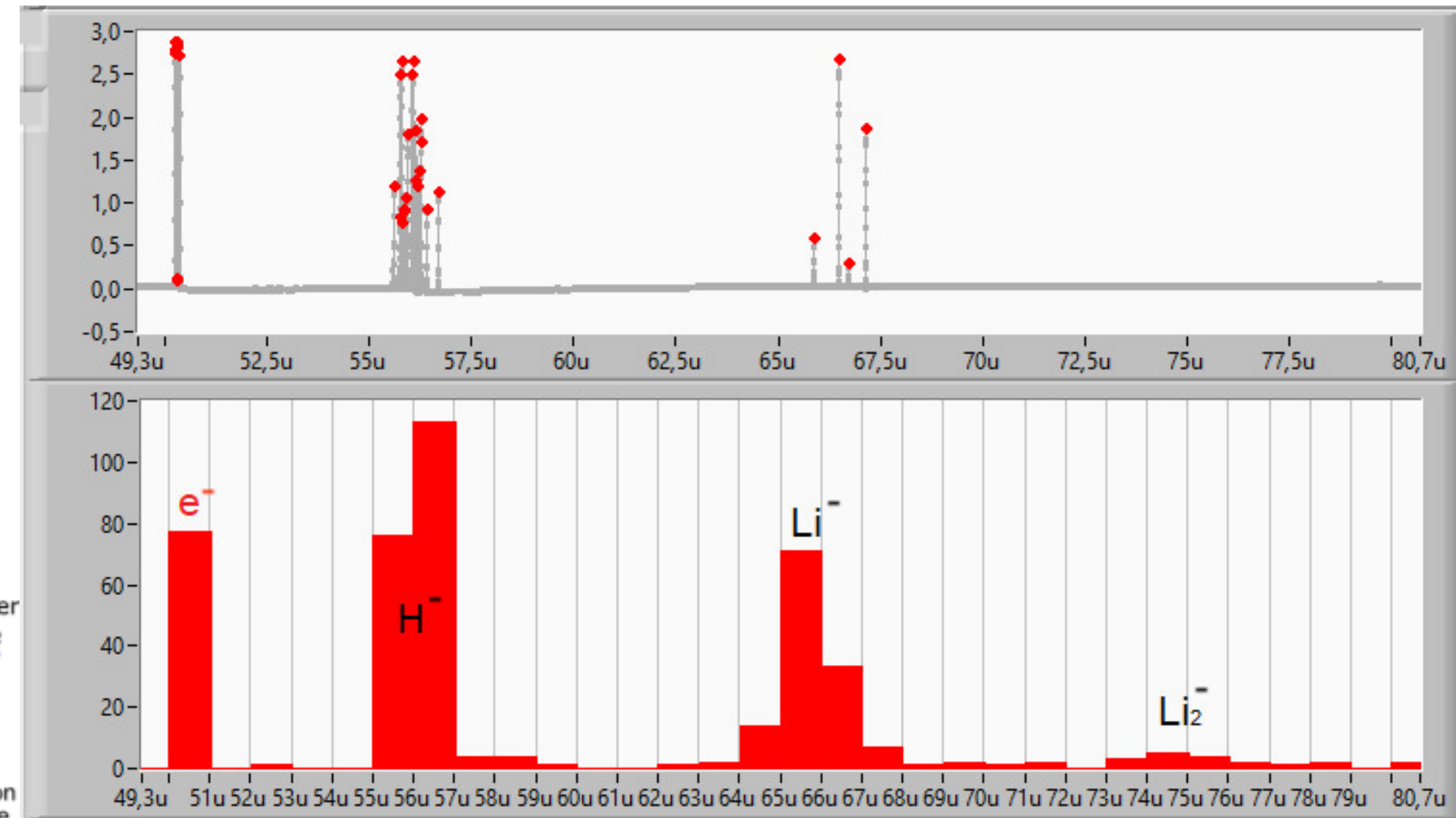
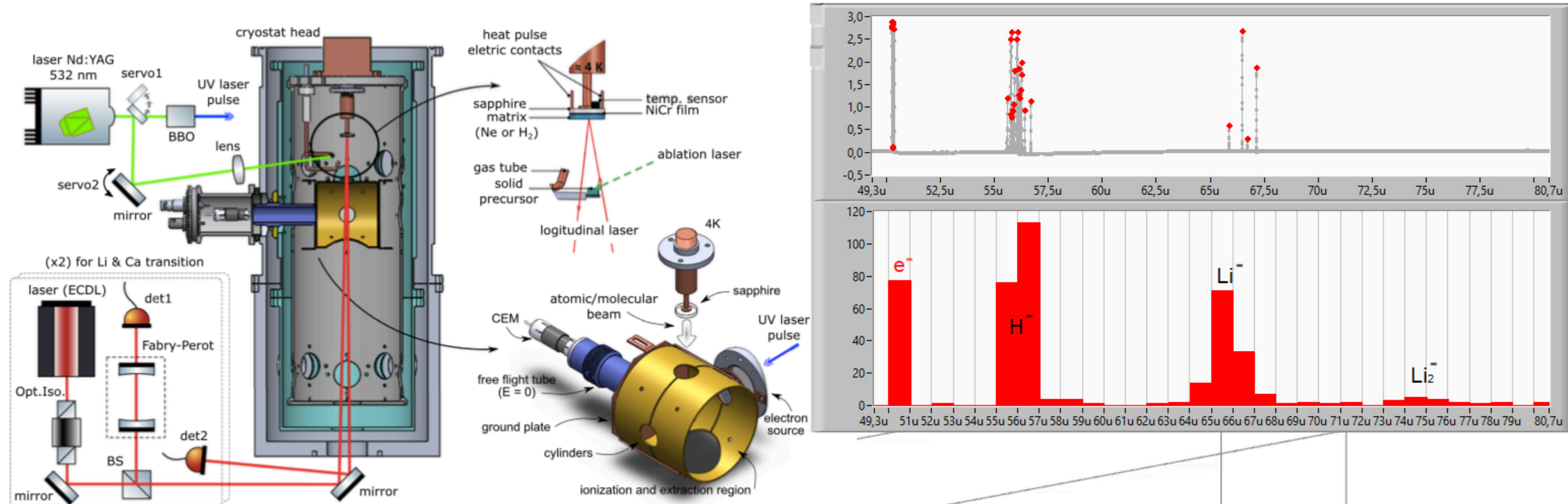
J. Chem. Phys. 149, 084201 (2018)



Matrix Isolation Sublimation (MISu): cold anions: H⁻, Li⁻, ...

084201-3 Oliveira et al.

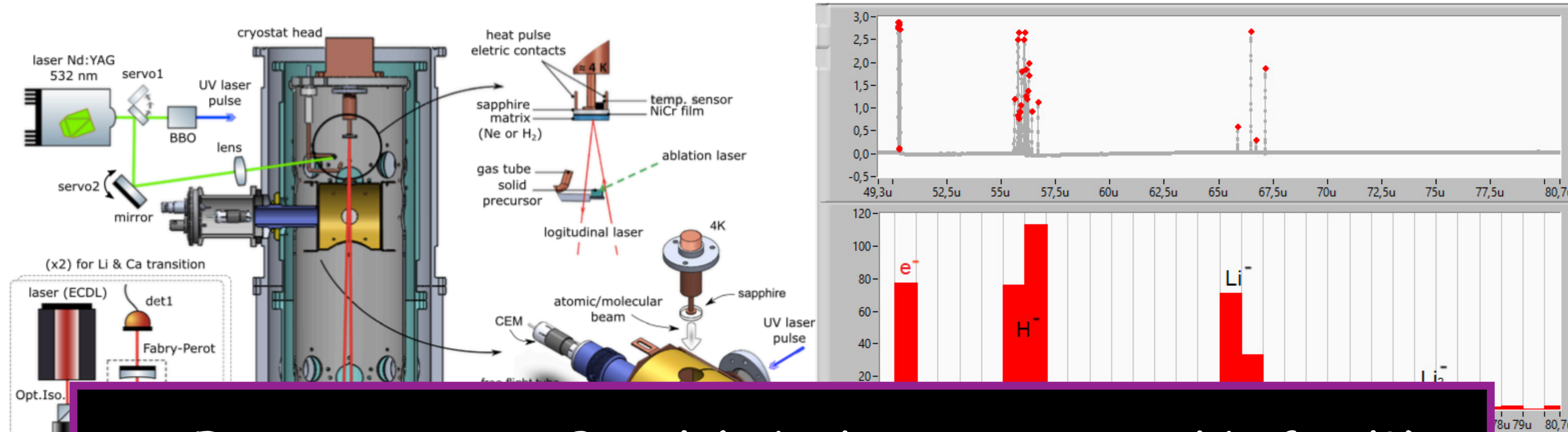
J. Chem. Phys. 149, 084201 (2018)



Matrix Isolation Sublimation (MISu): cold anions: H^- , Li^- , ...

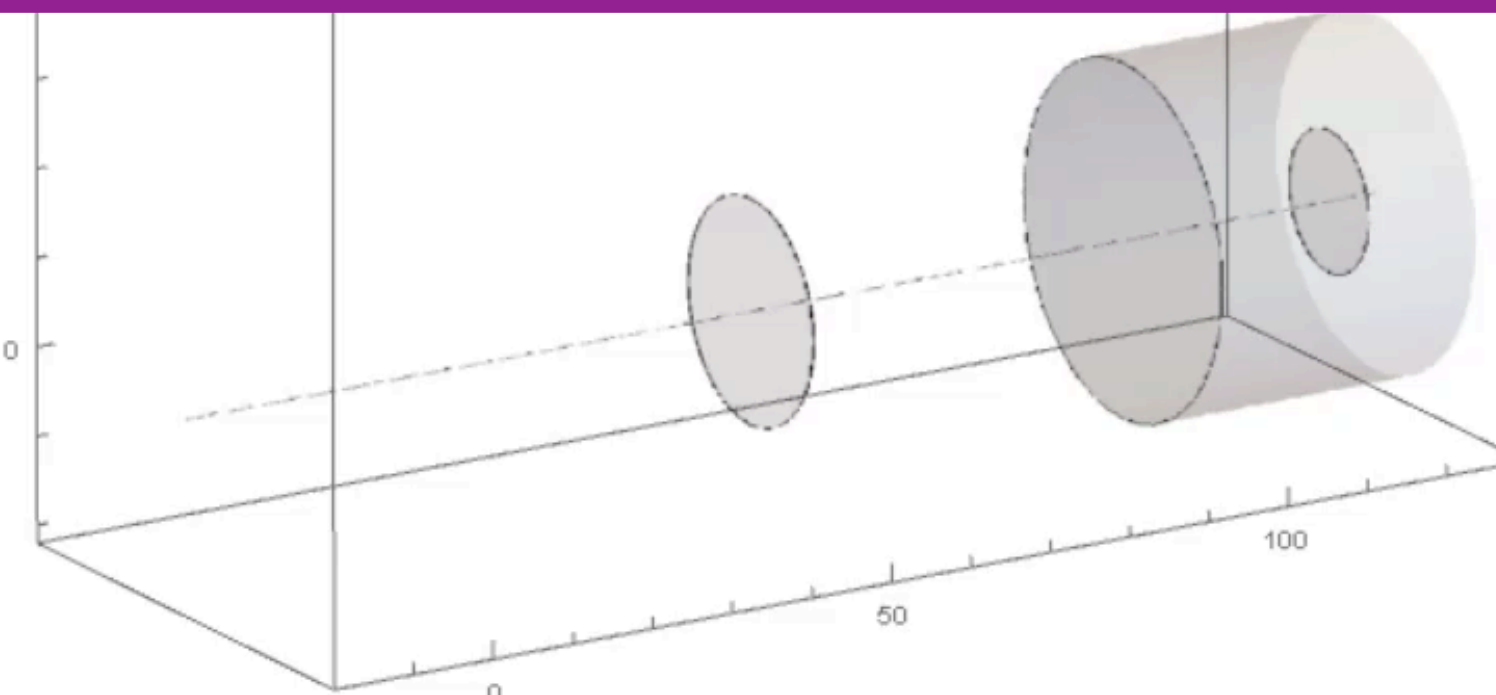
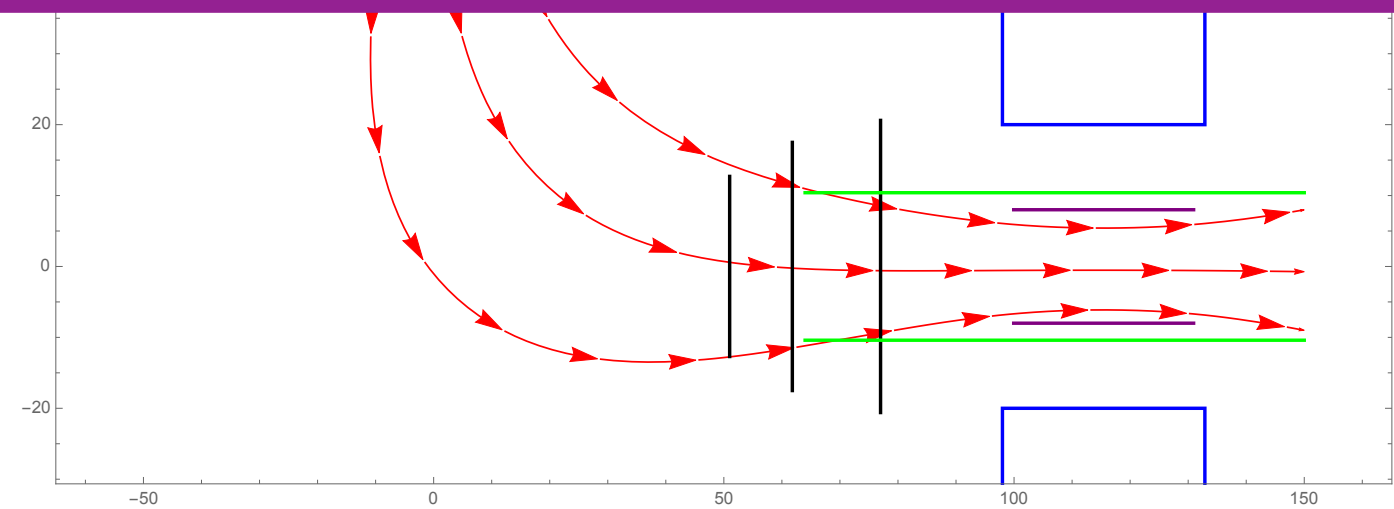
084201-3 Oliveira et al.

J. Chem. Phys. 149, 084201 (2018)



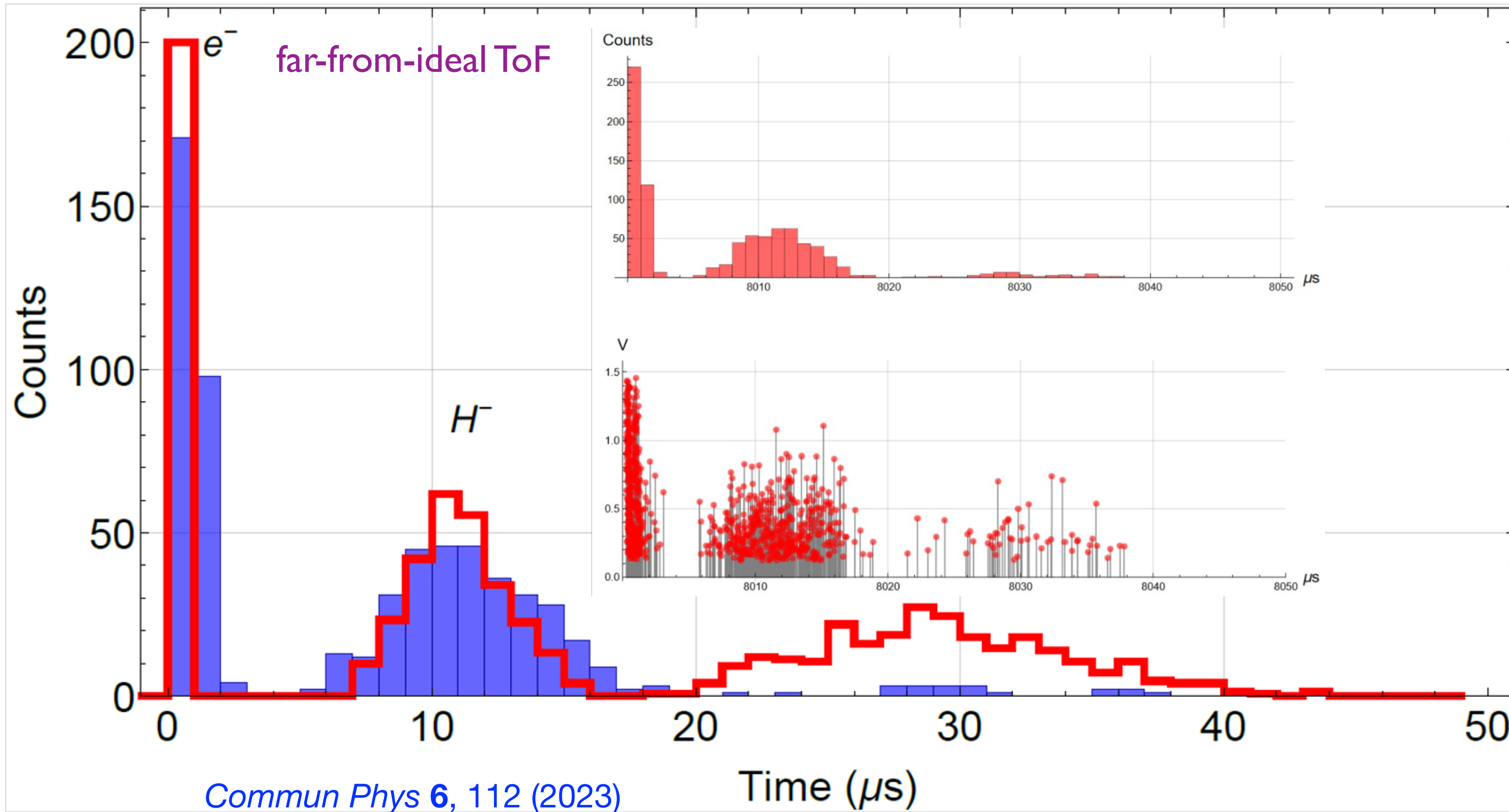
First ion-trap in Brasil (nobody got interested before!?)

- technique to generate cold cations and anions
- main interest: H^- for ALPHA
- but also: Ca^+ atom-chip-clock & Q.Computing



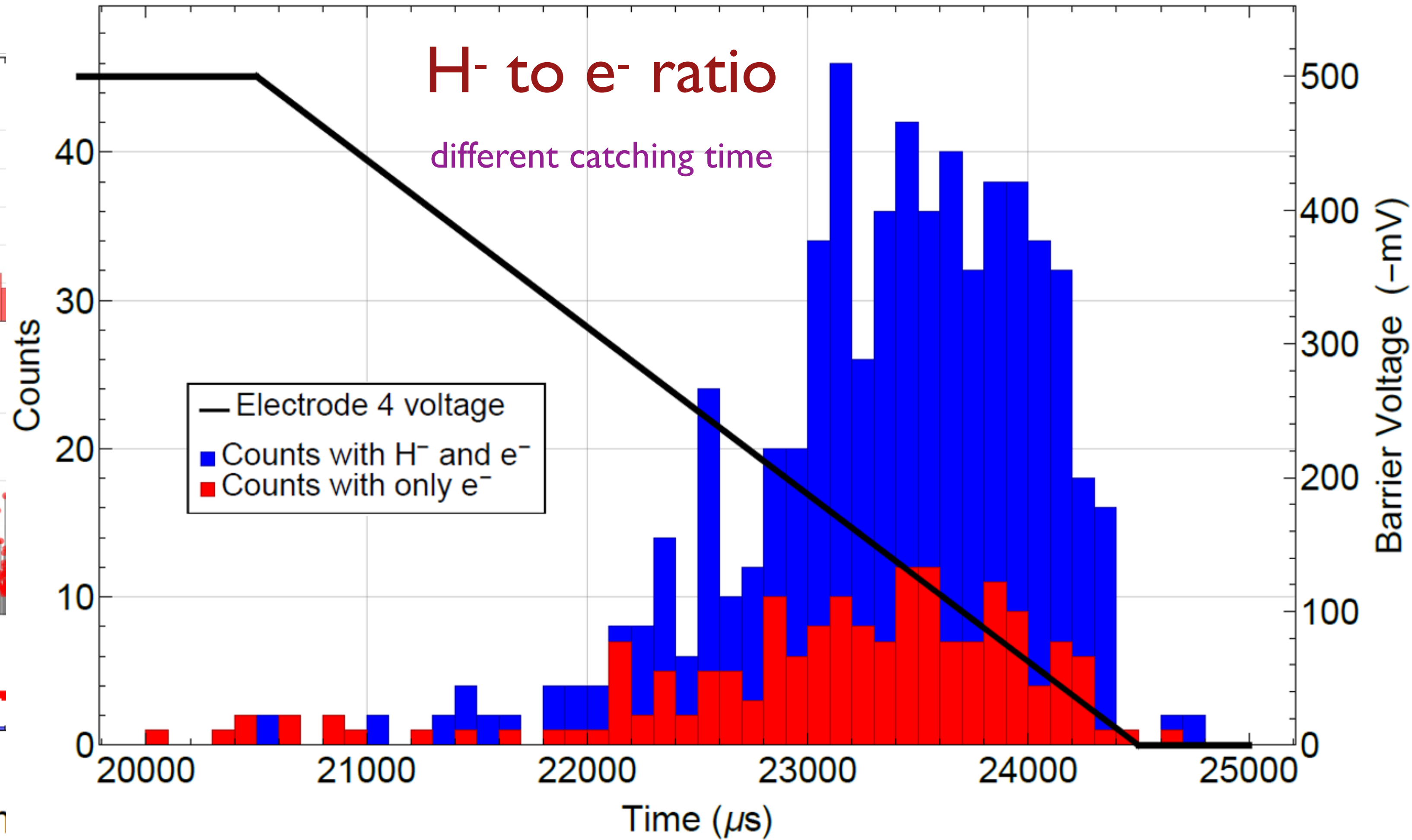
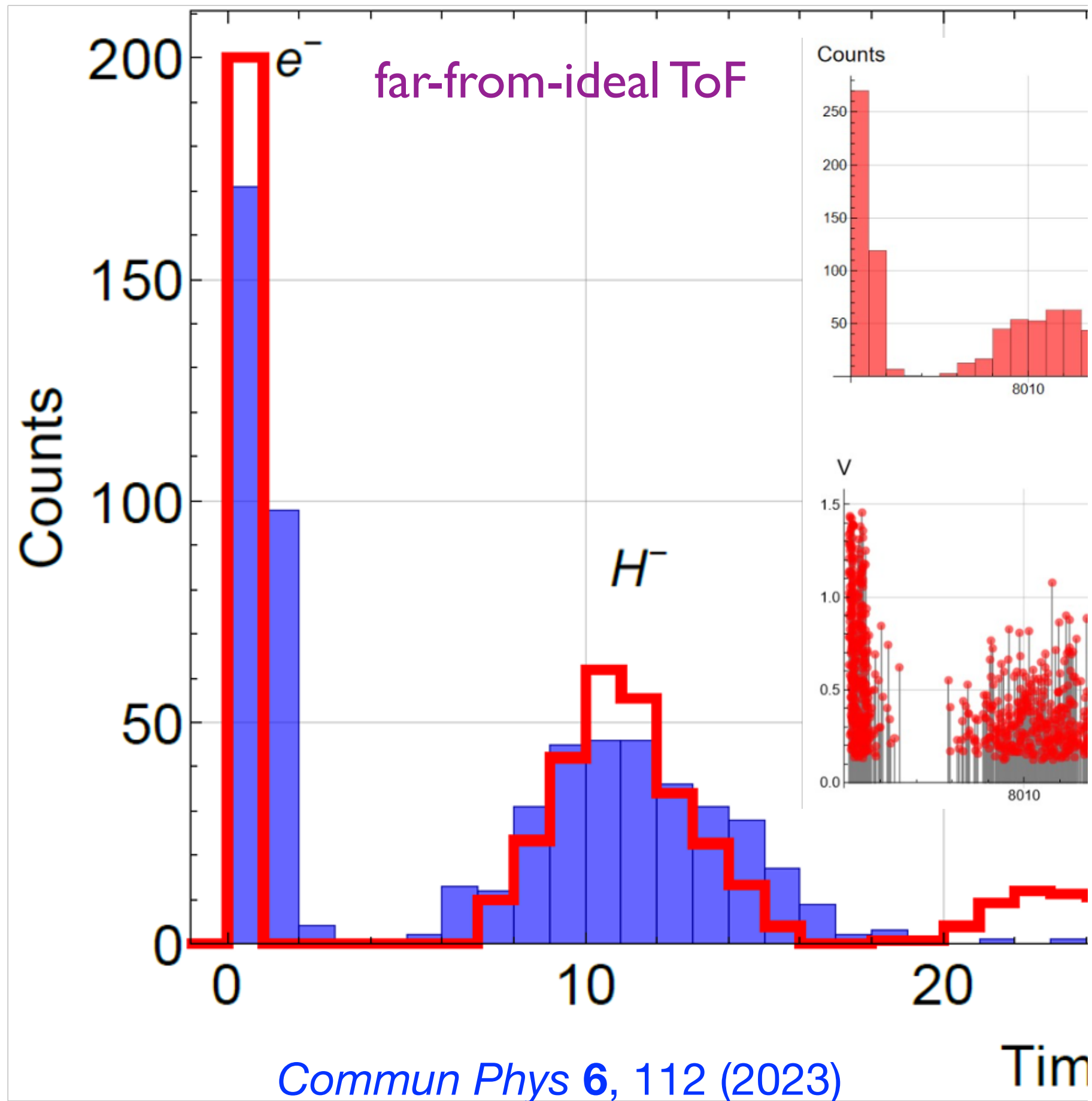
Matrix Isolation Sublimation (MISu): trapped cryogenic (mostly e^- , ...)

Results and Simulation – Negative charged particles



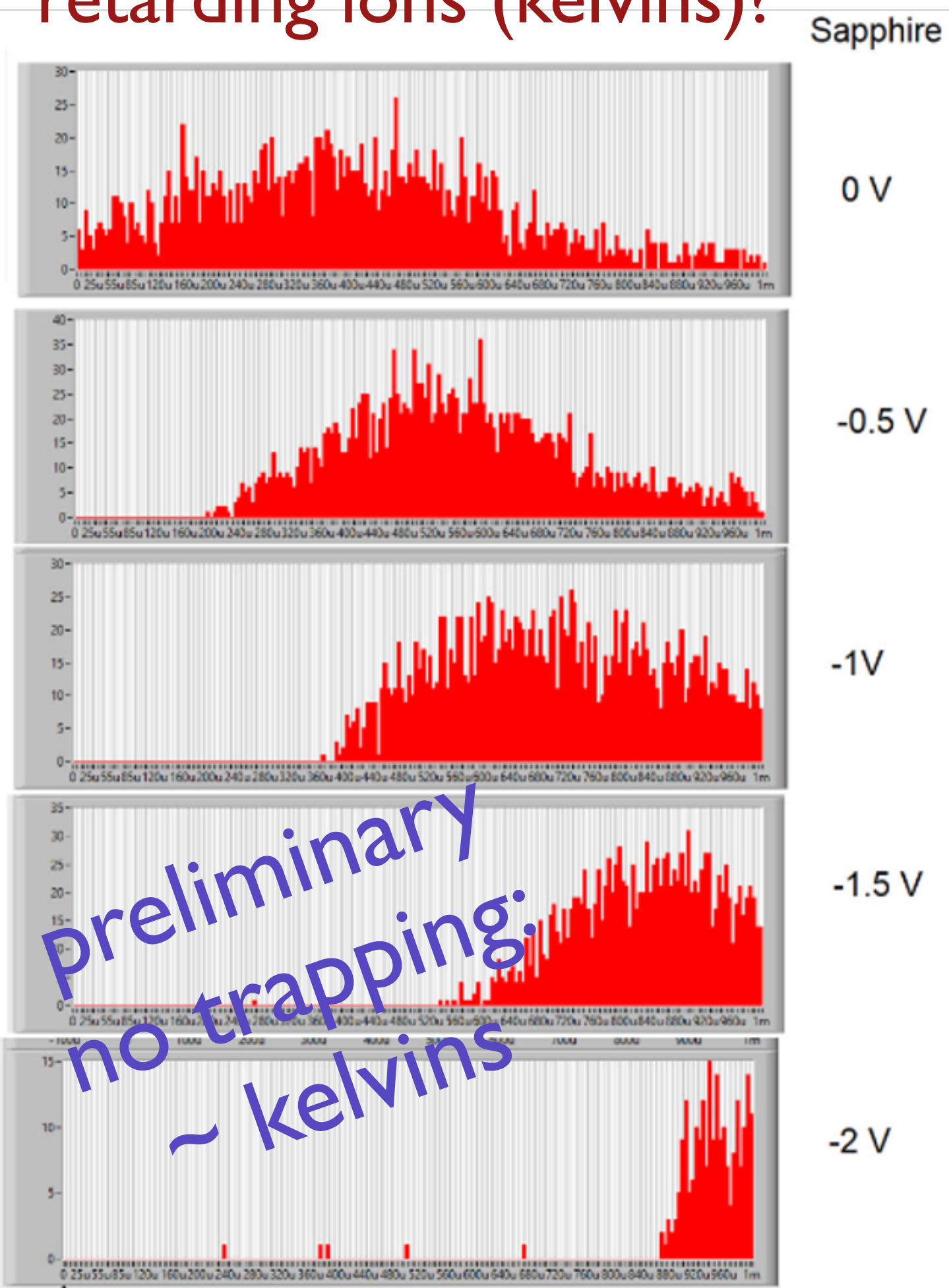
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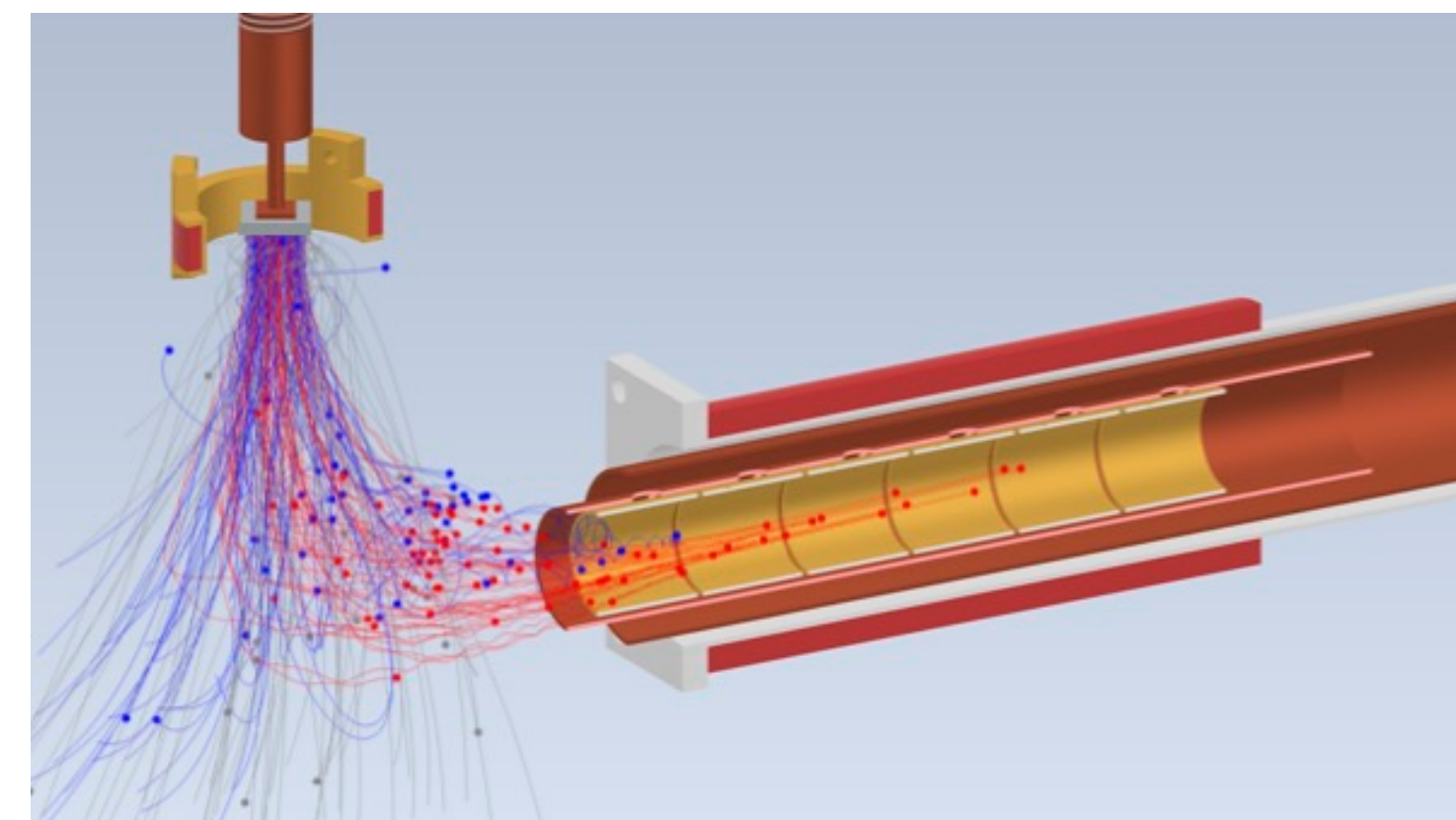


Matrix Isolation Sublimation (MISu - Rio) : cryogenic ions

retarding ions (kelvins)?



1400 μs após início do pulso de calor



to do:

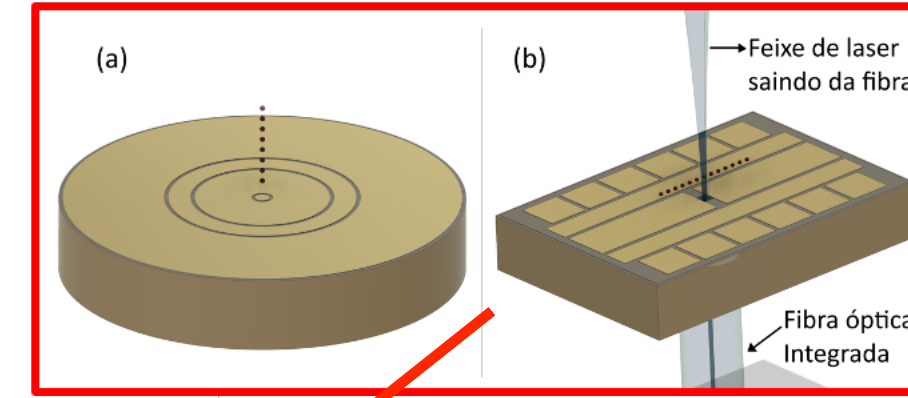
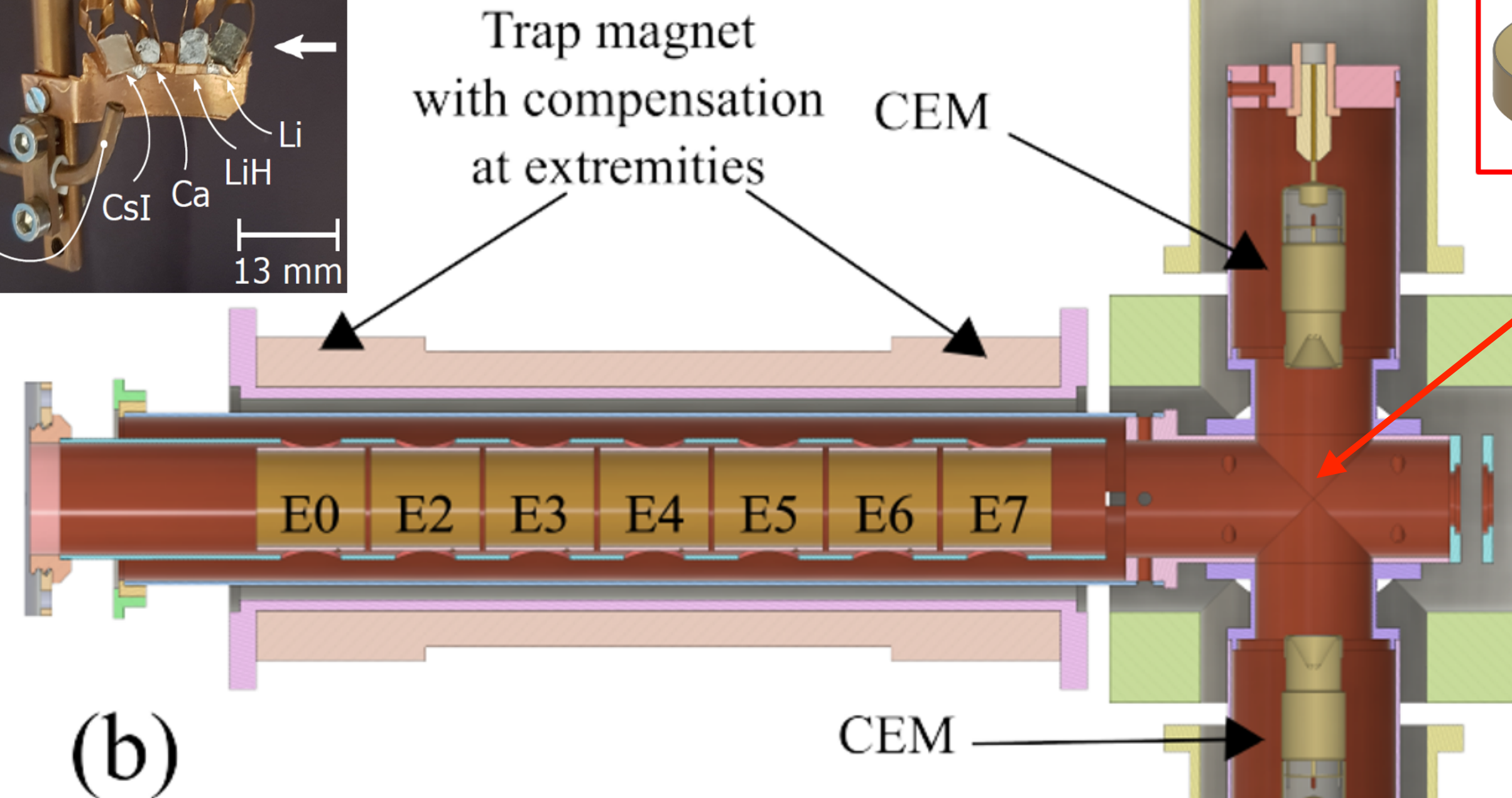
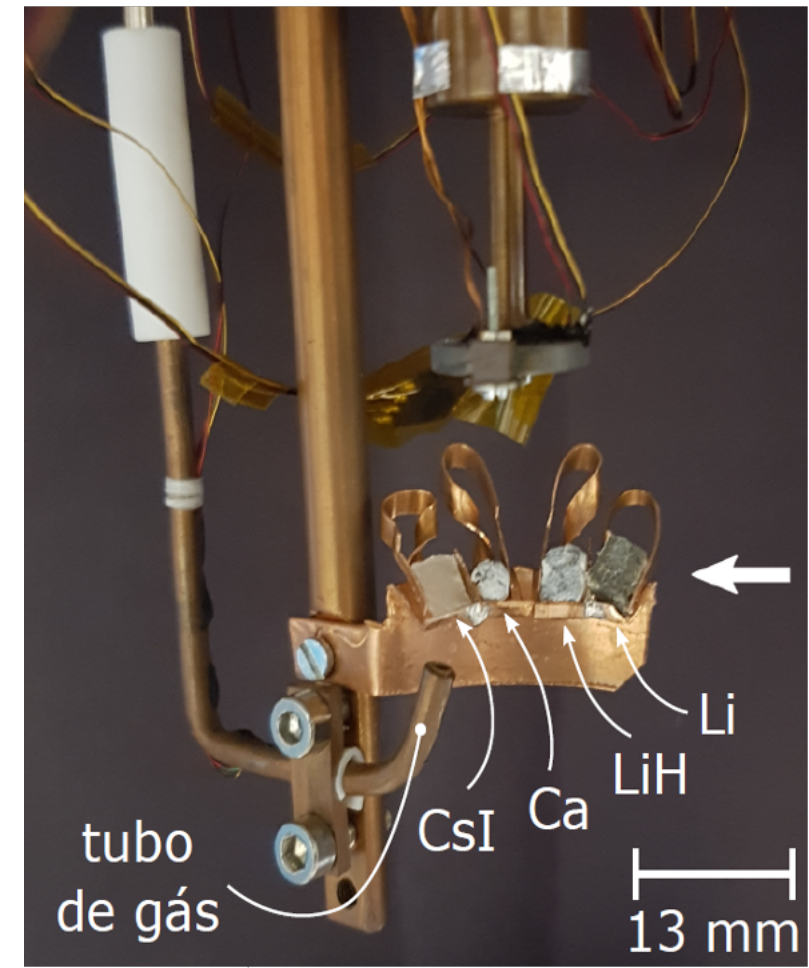
- ☆ Accumulation of H^- / Li^- (?? 40 dB# ??)
 - ☆ Axial access for Ca^+ laser spectroscopy ($T_{ions} = ?$)
 - ☆ Two CEM's: detection (-) and (+) simultaneous
 - ☆ Molecular formation (triple well) => interesting cases? ($C^{++} + A^- \Rightarrow CA^+ ?$)
 - ☆ H^- (& other) Photodetachment (in magnetic field ?)
- > H^- (& other) evaporative cooling / scale up numbers and trap time

Matrix Isolation Sublimation (MISu - Rio) : cryogenic ions

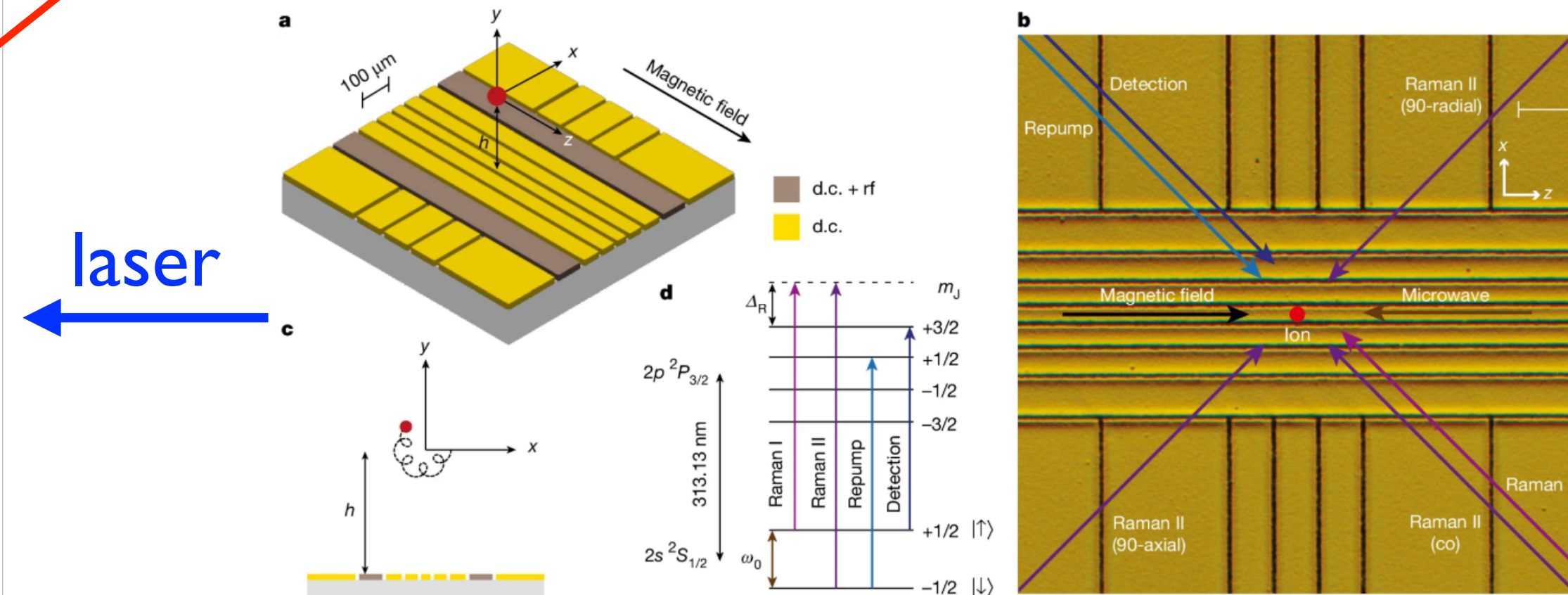
New version: 2026

Inspirations:
Zurich and Innsbruck

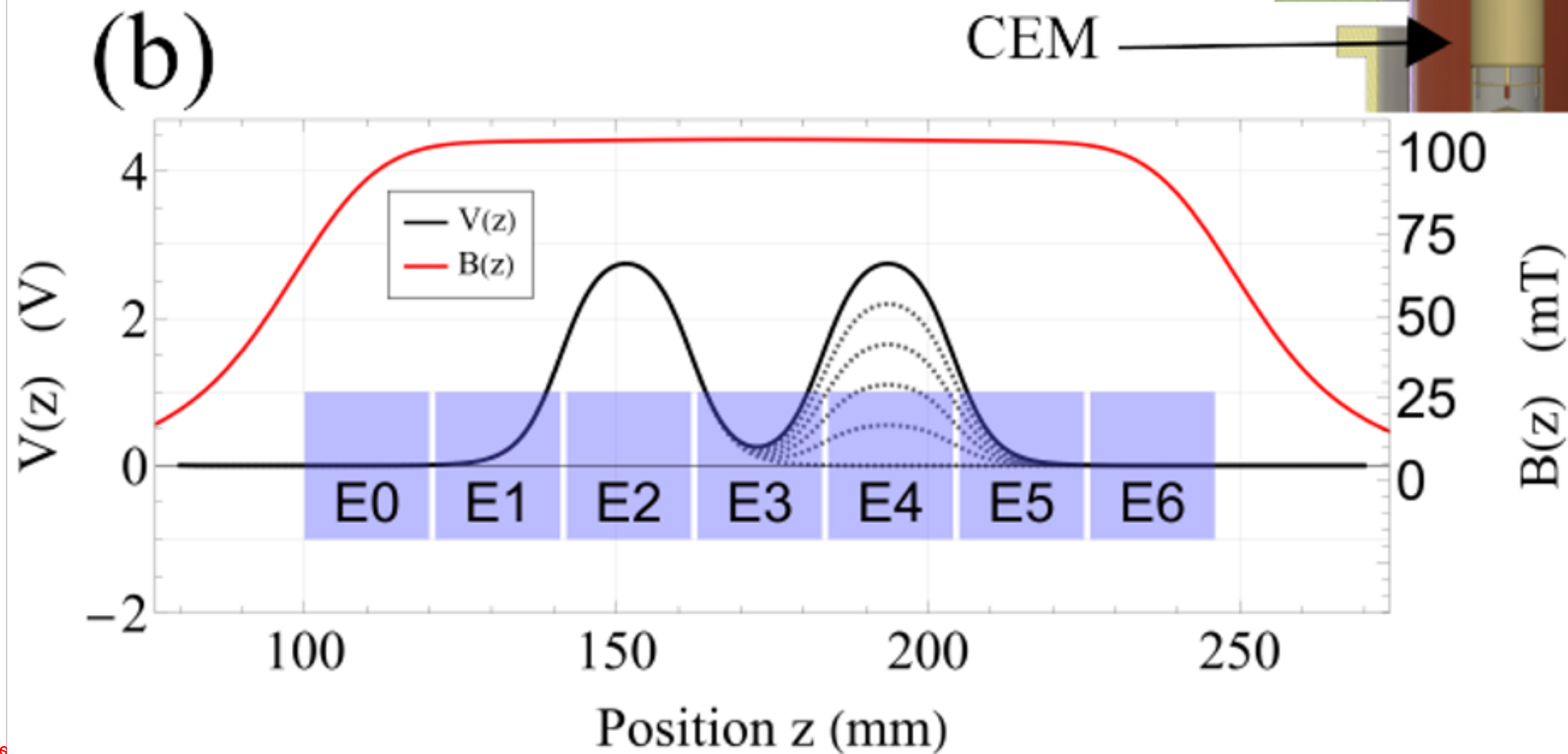
nature
ETH- Zurich



From: [Pinning micro-trap for quantum computing](#)

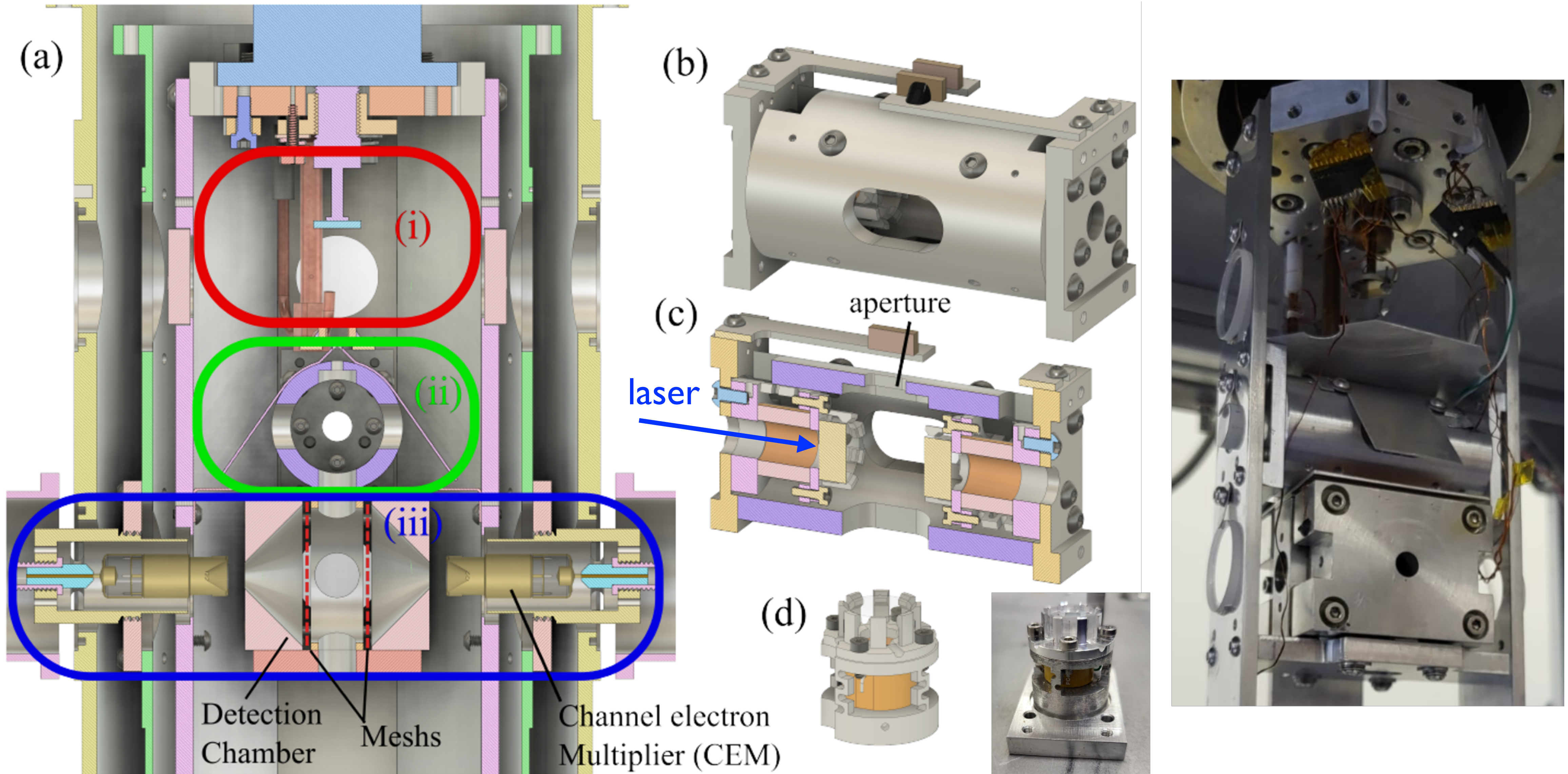


a, Schematic showing the middle section of the micro-fabricated surface electrode trap. The trap is embedded in a uniform magnetic field along the z axis, and the application of d.c. and r.f. fields is used to trap the ion. Electrodes labelled 'd.c. + rf' are used for coupling the ion to the surface. Electrodes labelled 'd.c.' are used for detection. The layout of the direction of the laser beams is shown. All laser beams run parallel to the surface of the trap. All laser beams are delivered to the ion by a horn.



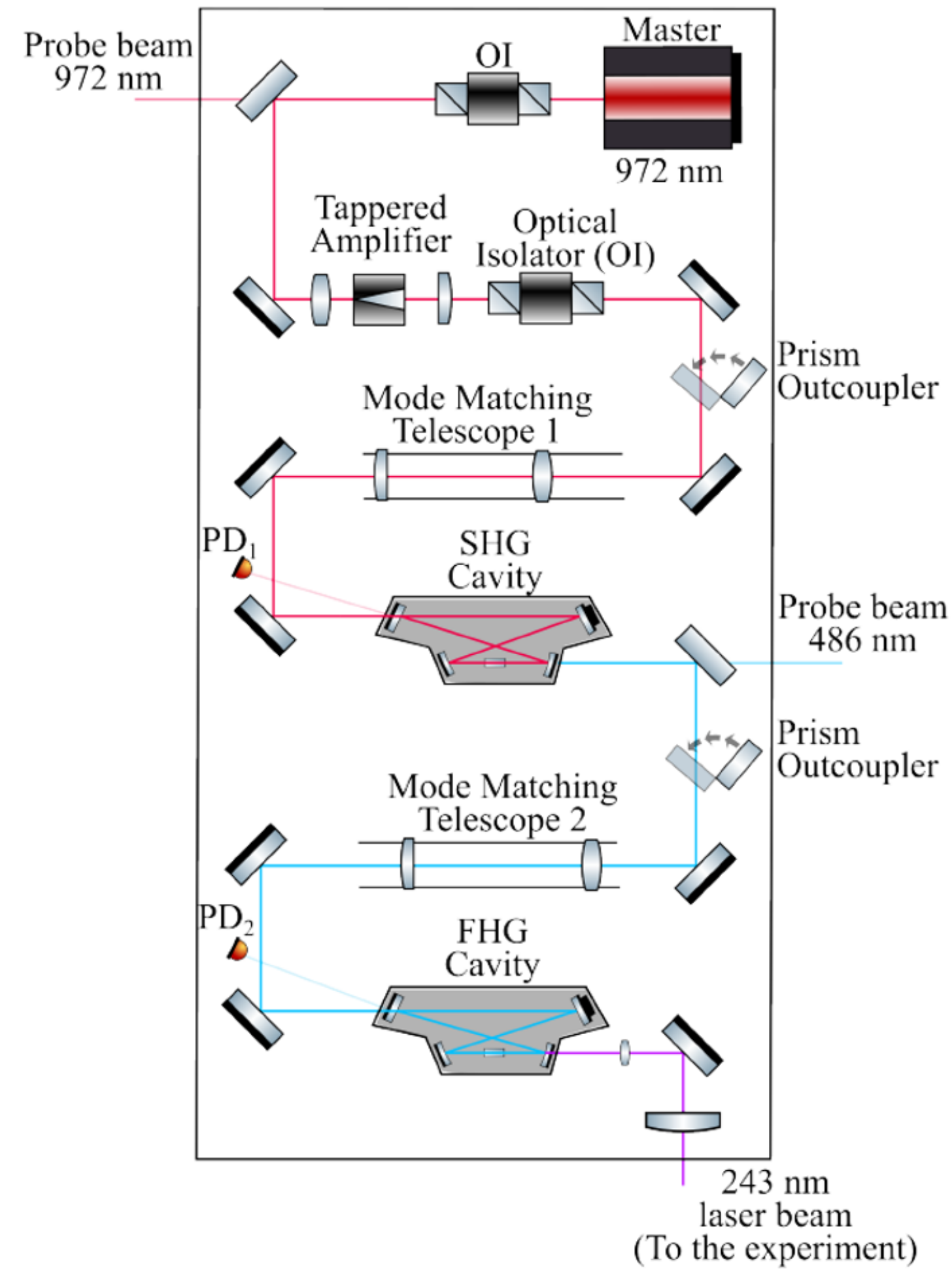
Source: © IQOQI / M. R. Knabl
The quantum computer uses trapped calcium ions as qubits

UFRJ: H(e D e T):1S-2S spectroscopy: getting ready!



UFRJ: H(e D e T):1S-2S spectroscopy: getting ready!

ULE
Cavity



WS-7 Wavemeter
Te_2 (@486 nm)
Saturated
Spectroscopy

Conclusions/Perspectives/Acknowledgements

ALPHA @ CERN

1S-2S spectrum (2018 @ 10^{-12} , 2026 @ $10^{-13,-14}$):
(E&M, QED, QCD: $r_p \Rightarrow 1.2$ MHz while $\delta f \sim 300$ Hz)

\Rightarrow very high precision $10^{-15...-18}$: Hbar & H in same trap (proof-of-principle)

laser cooling, μ W spectroscopy, hyperfine, ...

ALPHA-g gravity fall:

will CPT hold ? WEP ? Nature has the answer !?

$$a_{\bar{H}} = (0.75 \pm 0.13(\text{stat} + \text{syst}) \pm 0.16(\text{sim}))g$$

LASER @ UFRJ

MISu technique: \Rightarrow ions, H (D,T) : 1S-2S spectroscopy & trapping

Application: robust & compact Optical Gravimeter

