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# Magnetic Fields Studies for Gravitational Experiments with Antihydrogen in ALPHAg

Early Career Conference on Trapped Ions (ECCTI)  
Innsbruck

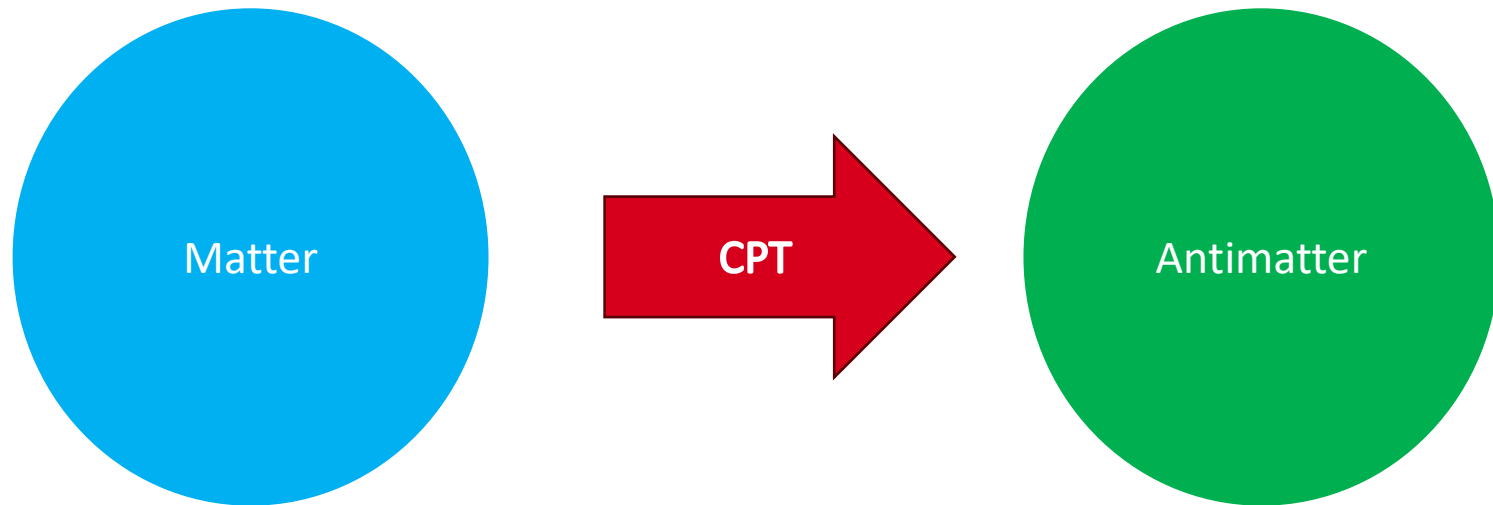
12<sup>th</sup> July 2024  
Adam Powell



# Outline

- Introduction and ALPHAg
- Results of antihydrogen free fall experiment
- “ECR” magnetometry technique
- Example magnetic field measurements
- Summary of magnetic bias uncertainty

# Antimatter and fundamental symmetries



Since a system should be invariant under CPT transformation  
**compare and look for differences**

# Where is all the antimatter?

There should be equal amounts of matter and antimatter...



...but we only see matter in the observable universe, why?

**compare and look for differences**

# Why do we use antihydrogen?

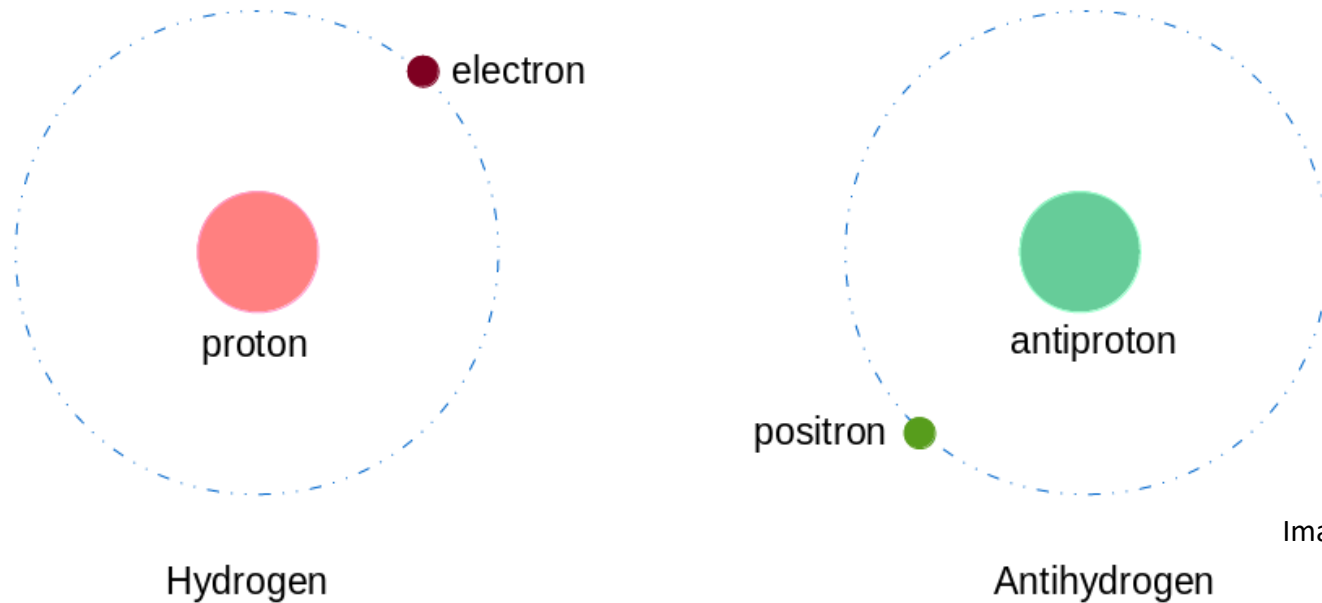
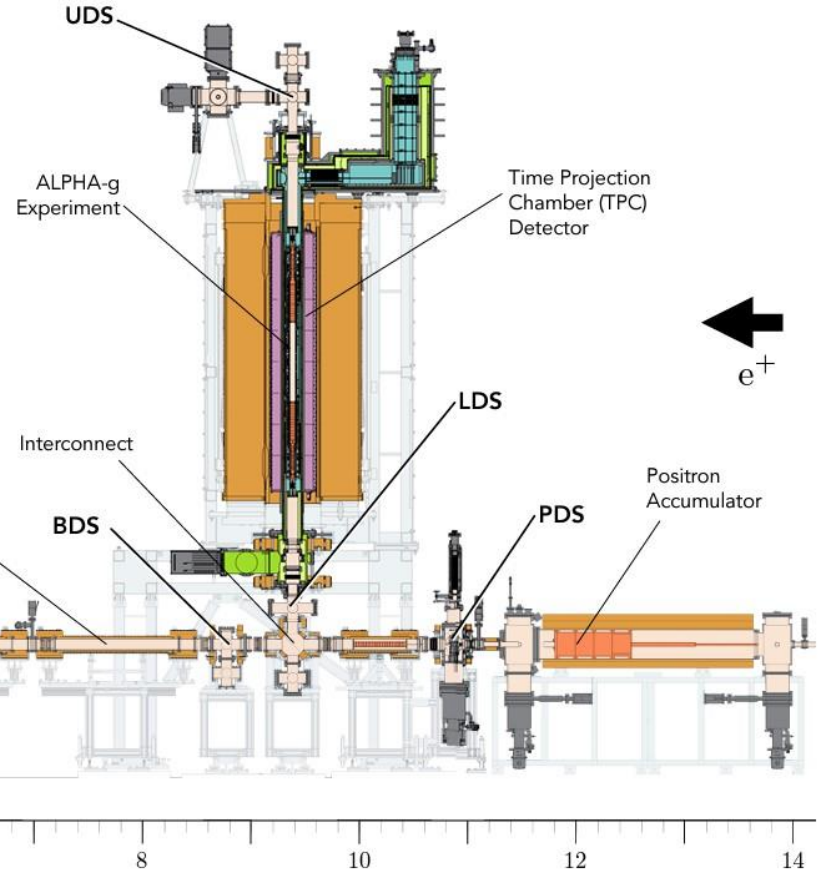
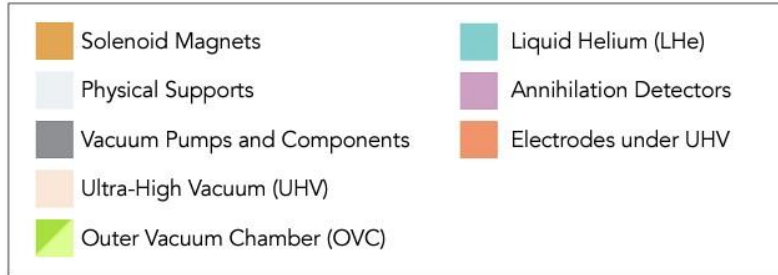


Image credit: P.Woosaree

- Hydrogen has been studied extensively through history, comparing to antihydrogen can test fundamental symmetries
- Electrically neutral and stable

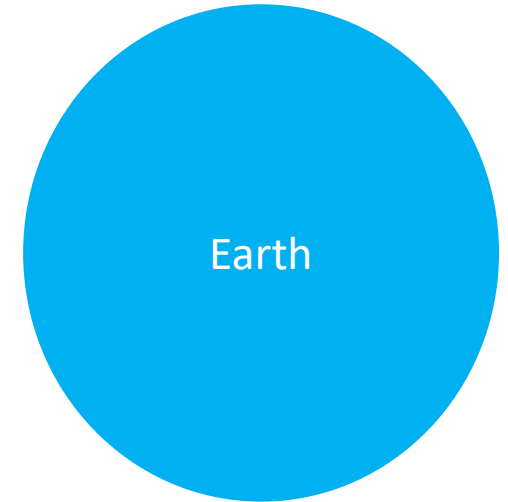


$\bar{p}$  (from AD) →

←  $e^+$

Dr. Alberto Jesus Uribe Jimenez talk next!

# Antimatter and fundamental symmetries

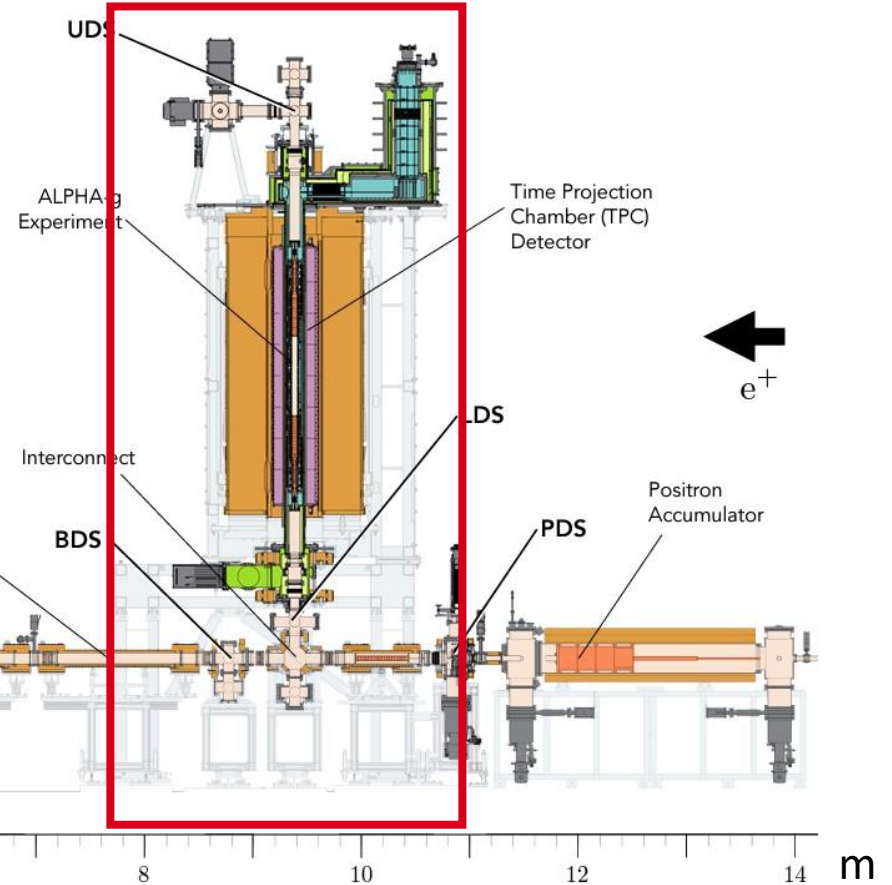
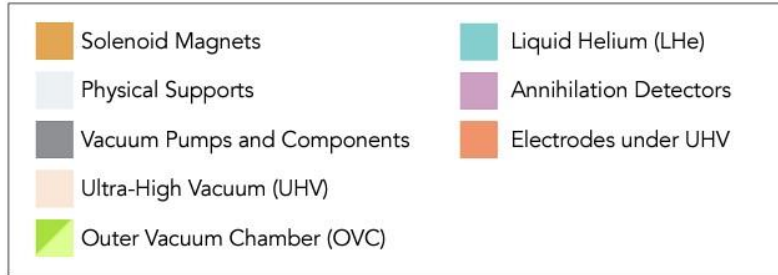


-> We can use free fall as a test of the equivalence principle

# ALPHA $\alpha$



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# ALPHAg simplified

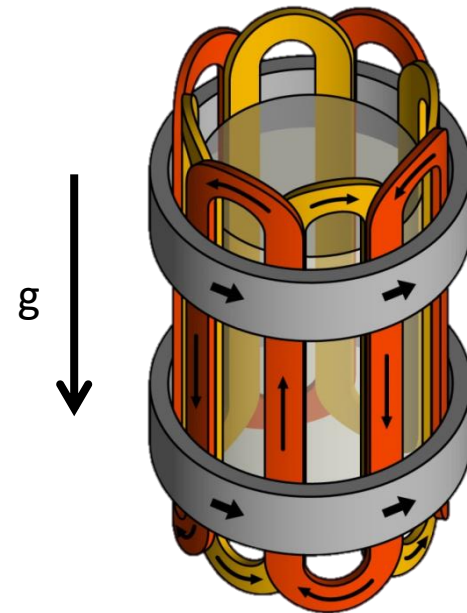
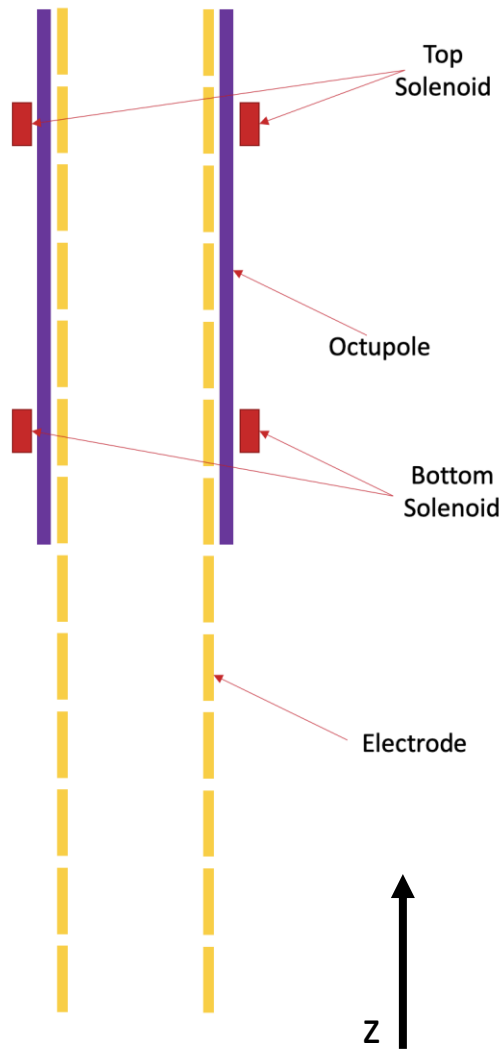
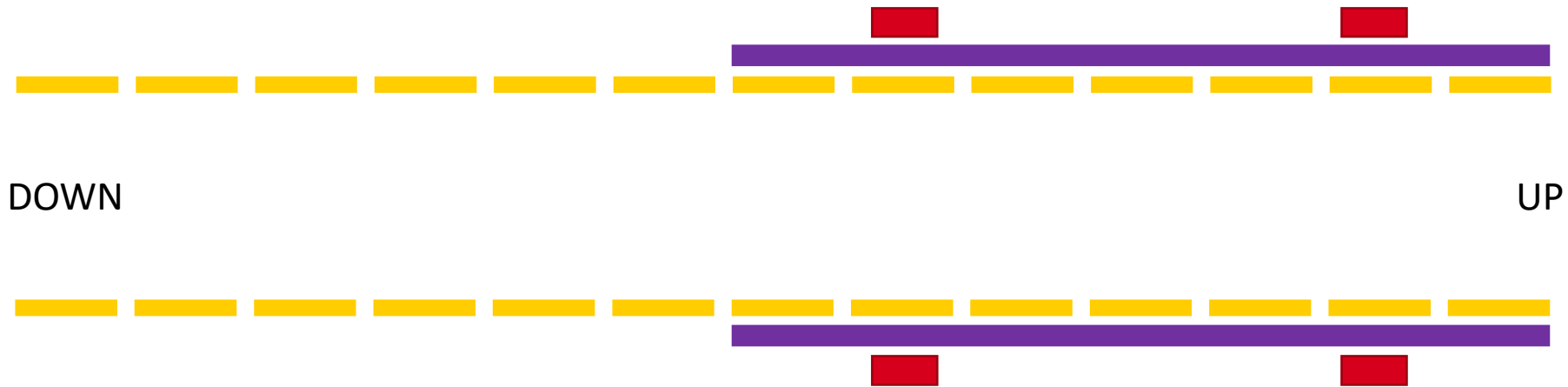


Image credit: Dr C.So, ALPHA member

# And put it in an easier orientation

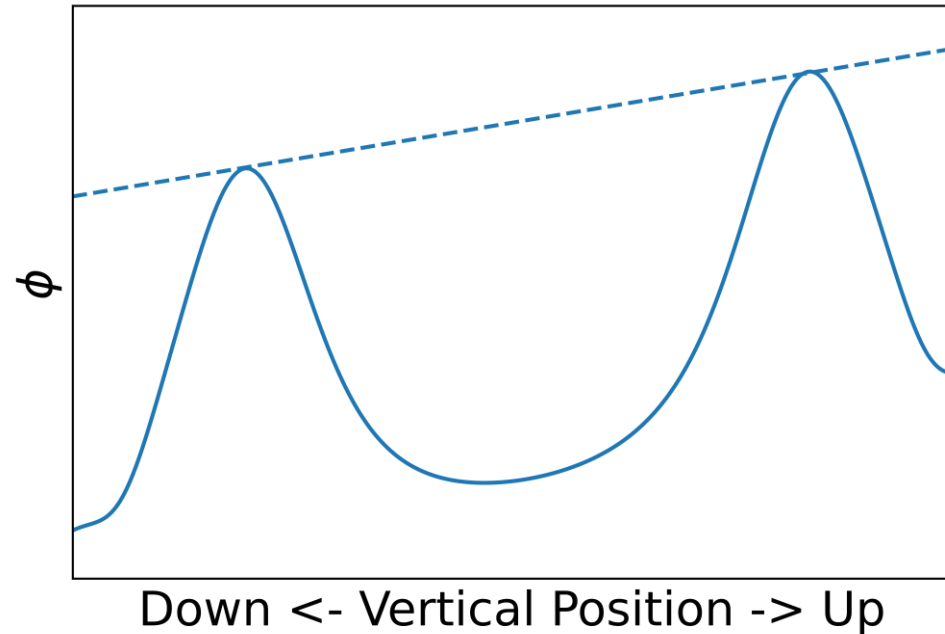


# Assuming gravity acts the same on matter and antimatter

$$\phi = \mu_B B - mgh$$

$$\Delta\phi = -mg\Delta h$$

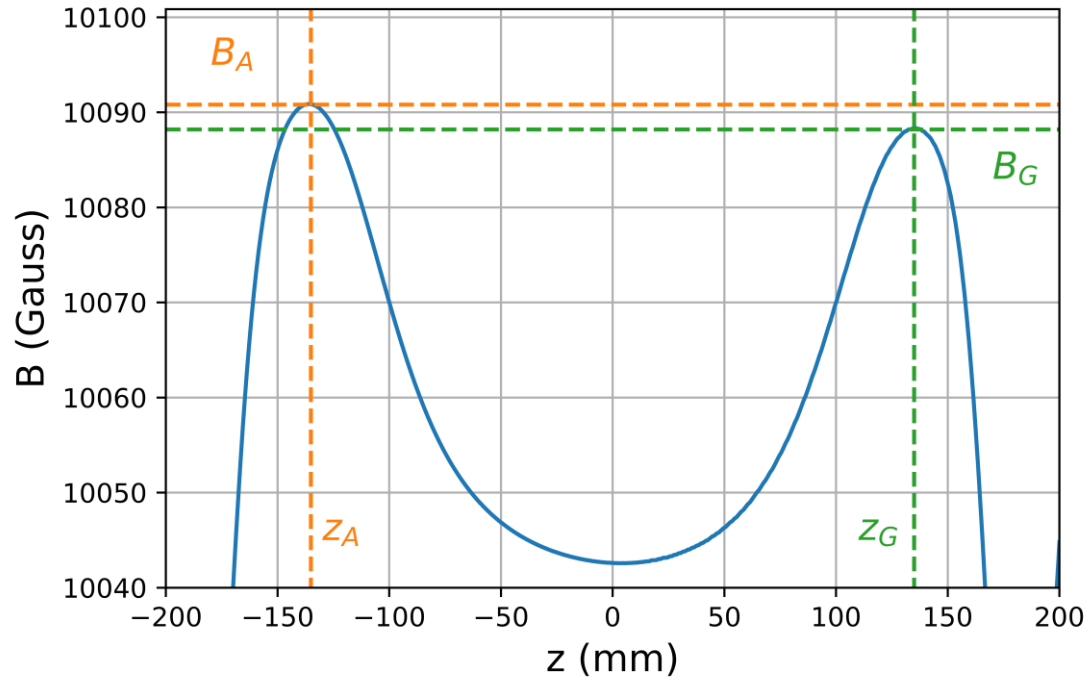
$$\equiv \Delta B \sim 5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ T}$$







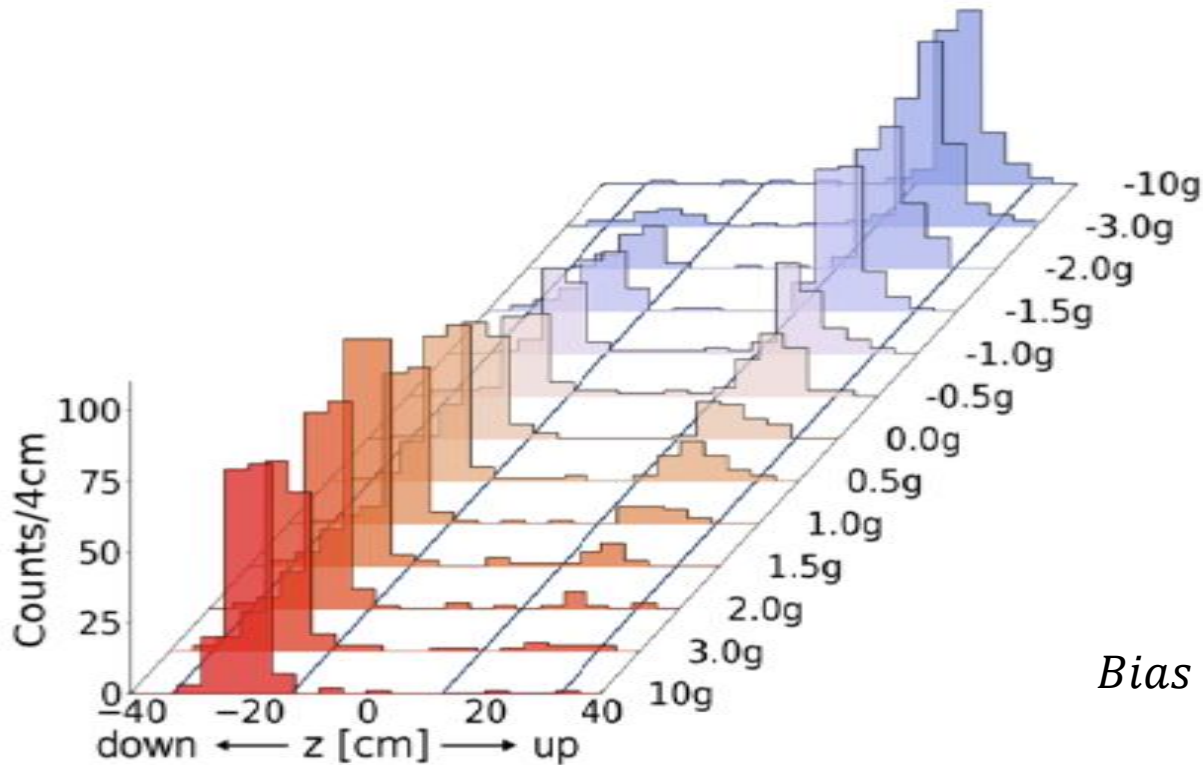
# Magnetic trap bias



$$\text{Bias} = \frac{\mu_B(B_G - B_A)}{m_H(z_G - z_A)}$$



# Annihilation distributions per bias

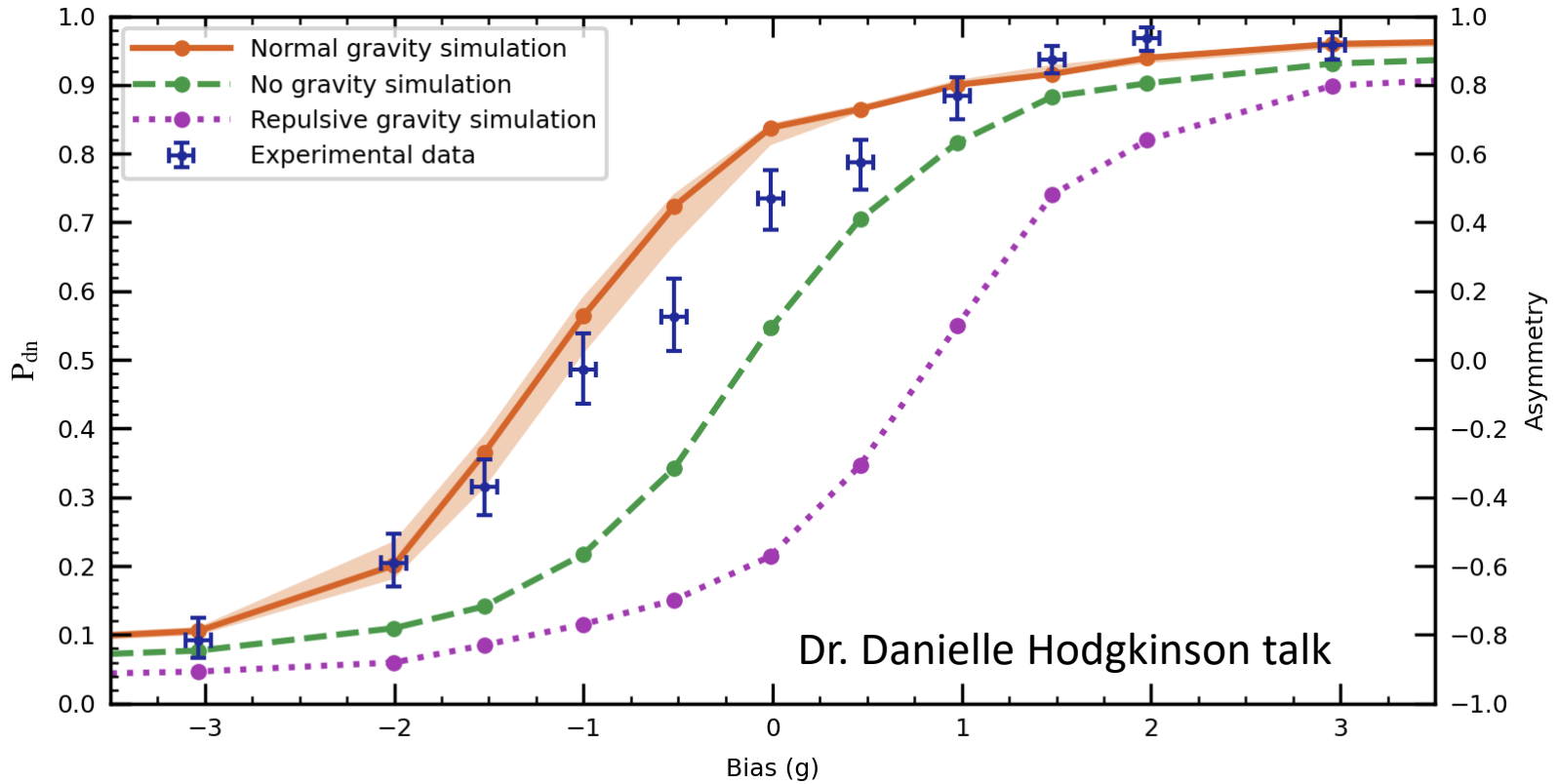


$$Bias = \frac{\mu_B(B_G - B_A)}{m_H(z_G - z_A)}$$

Observation of the effect of gravity on the motion of antimatter  
Nature volume 621, pages716–722 (2023)



# ALPHAg escape curve



$$\bar{g} = [0.75 \pm 0.13 \text{ (statistical + systematic)} \pm 0.16 \text{ (simulation)}] g$$

Observation of the effect of gravity on the motion of antimatter  
Nature volume 621, pages716–722 (2023)





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**“Adam, do you control  
and know the magnetic  
fields better than 5  
Gauss?”**

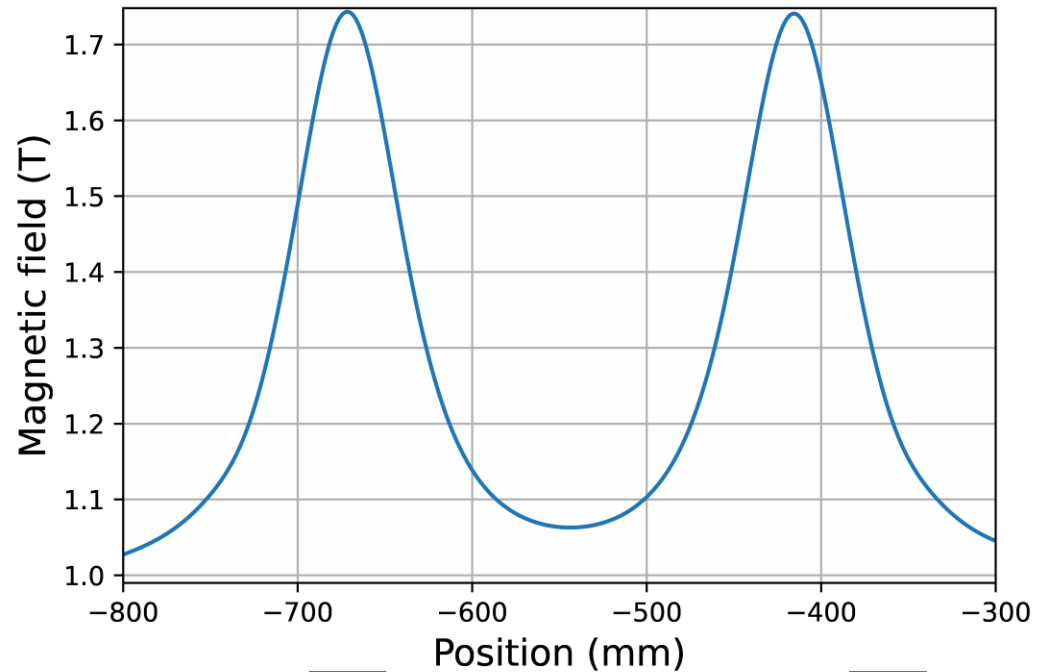
# Assuming gravity acts the same on matter and antimatter

$$\phi = \mu_B B - mgh$$

$$\Delta\phi = -mg\Delta h$$

$$\equiv \Delta B \sim 5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ T}$$

Field change from  
1.7 T to 1 T in 20 s



# Using cyclotron frequency for magnetometry

$$f_c = \frac{q |\vec{B}|}{2 \pi m}$$

$f_c$  for electrons at 1 T  $\sim$  28 GHz

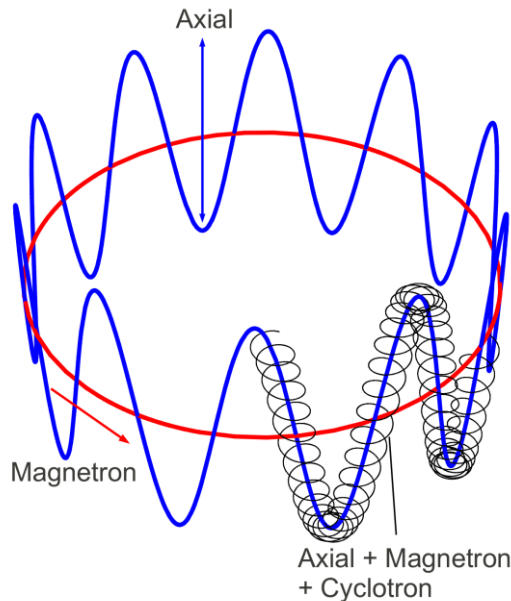


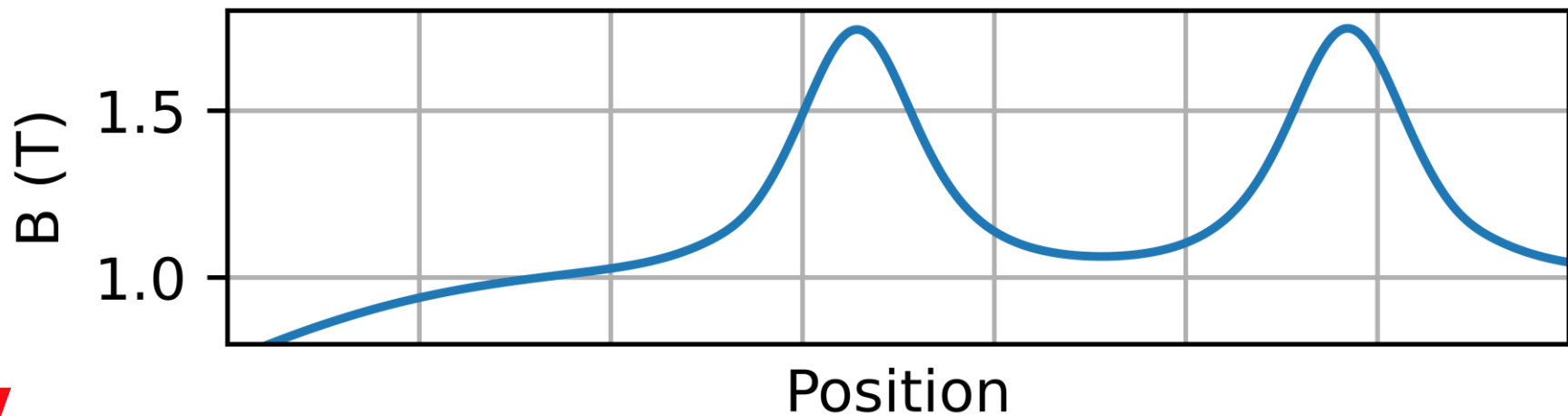
Image credit: T.Friesen

But...the cyclotron motion isn't all that happens in a Penning trap

Axial frequency  $\sim$  10 - 50 MHz

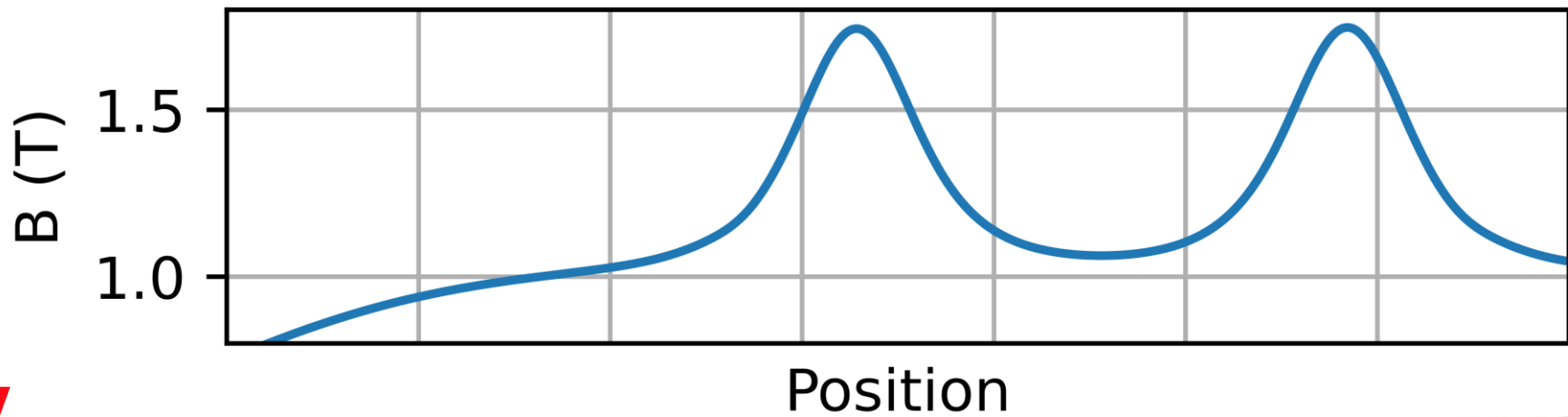
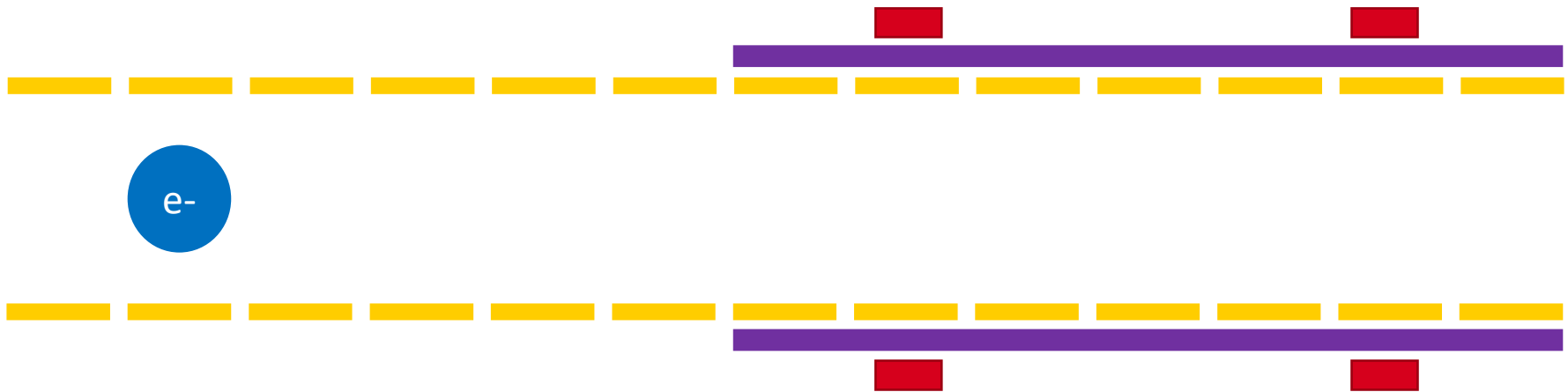
Magnetron frequency  $\sim$  100 - 300 kHz

# What is Electron cyclotron resonance magnetometry?



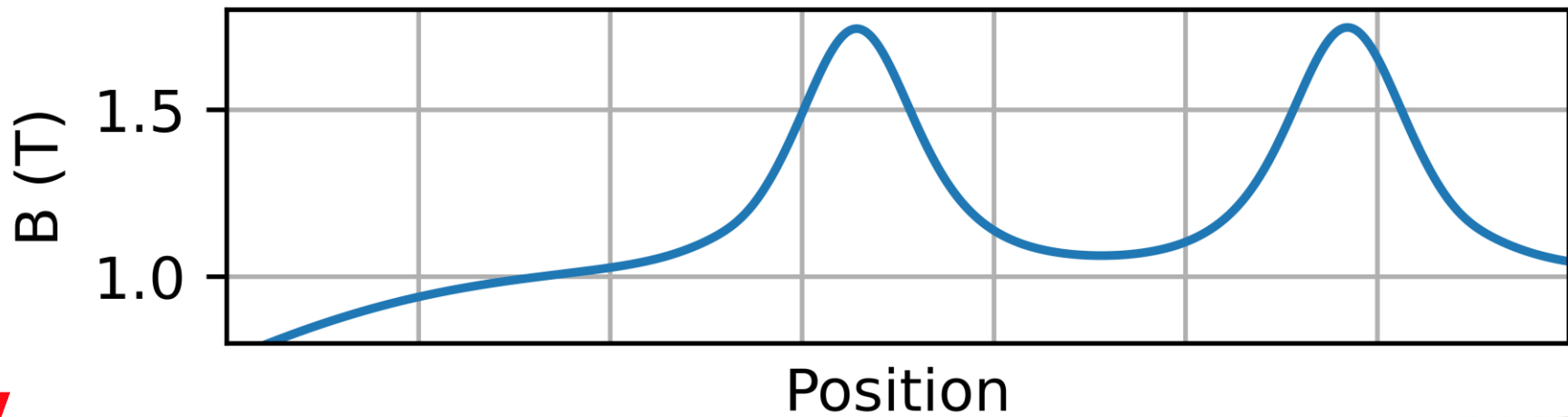
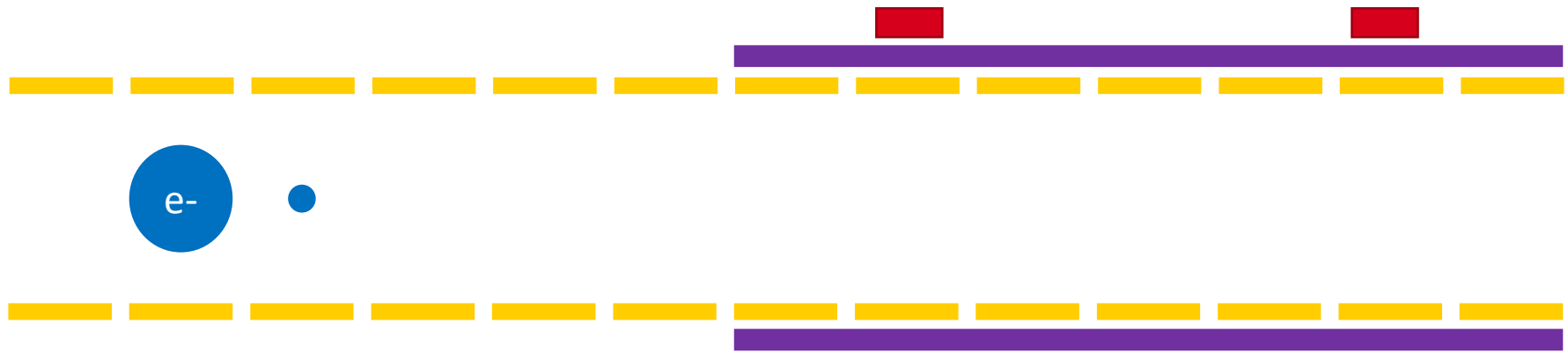


# Get an electron plasma



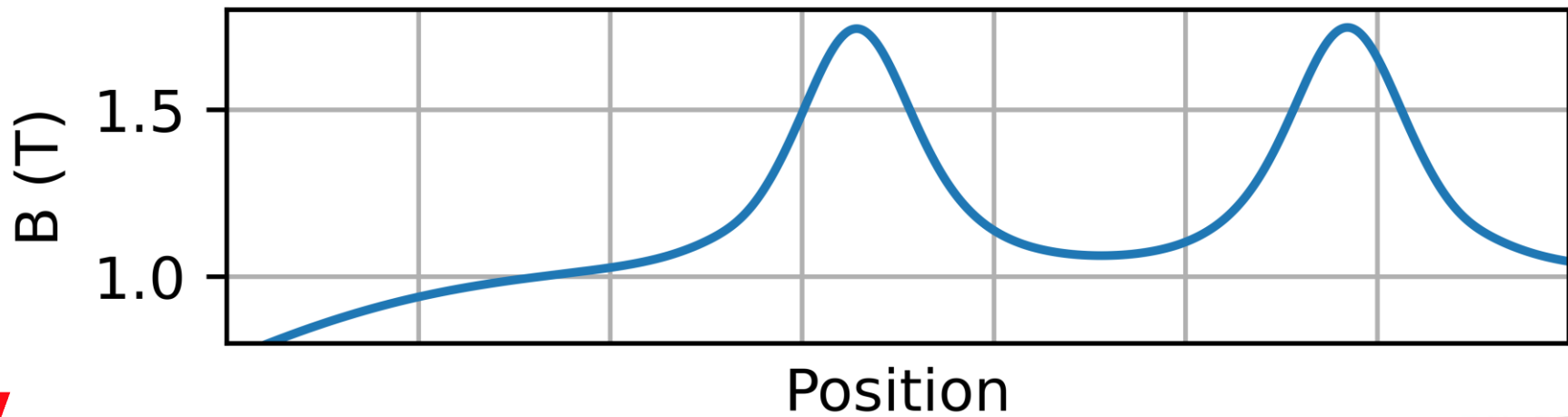
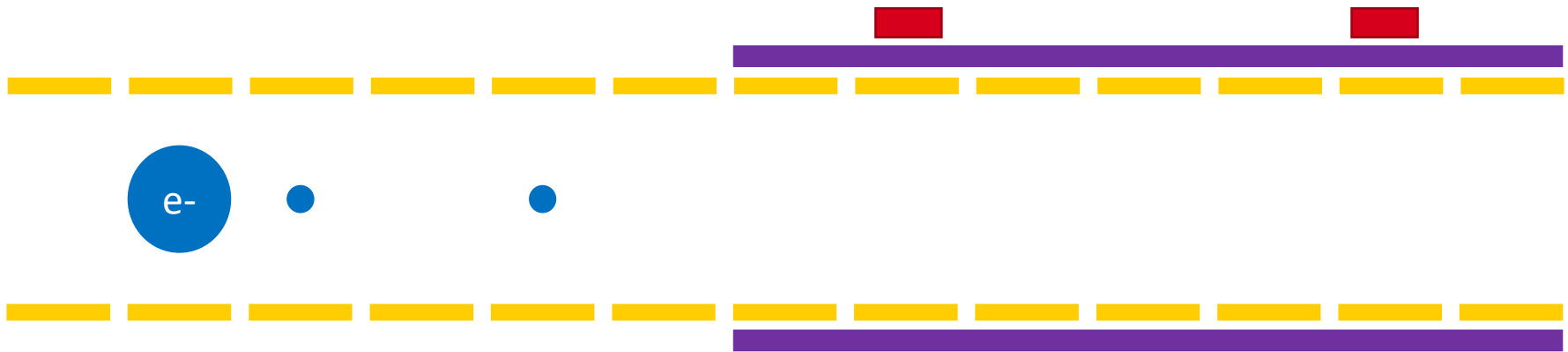


# Remove a small “scoop” of electrons



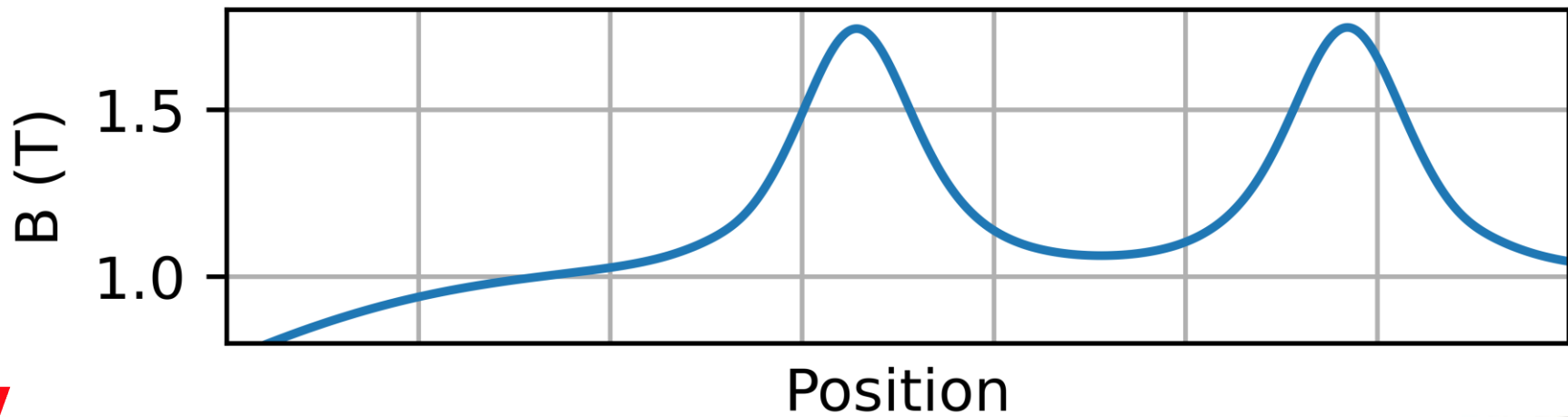
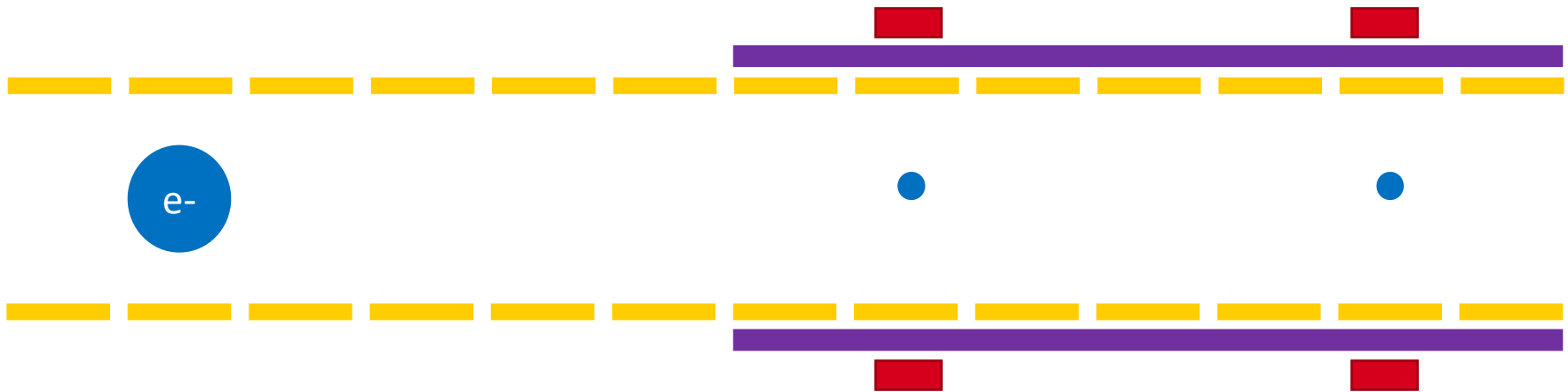


# And another





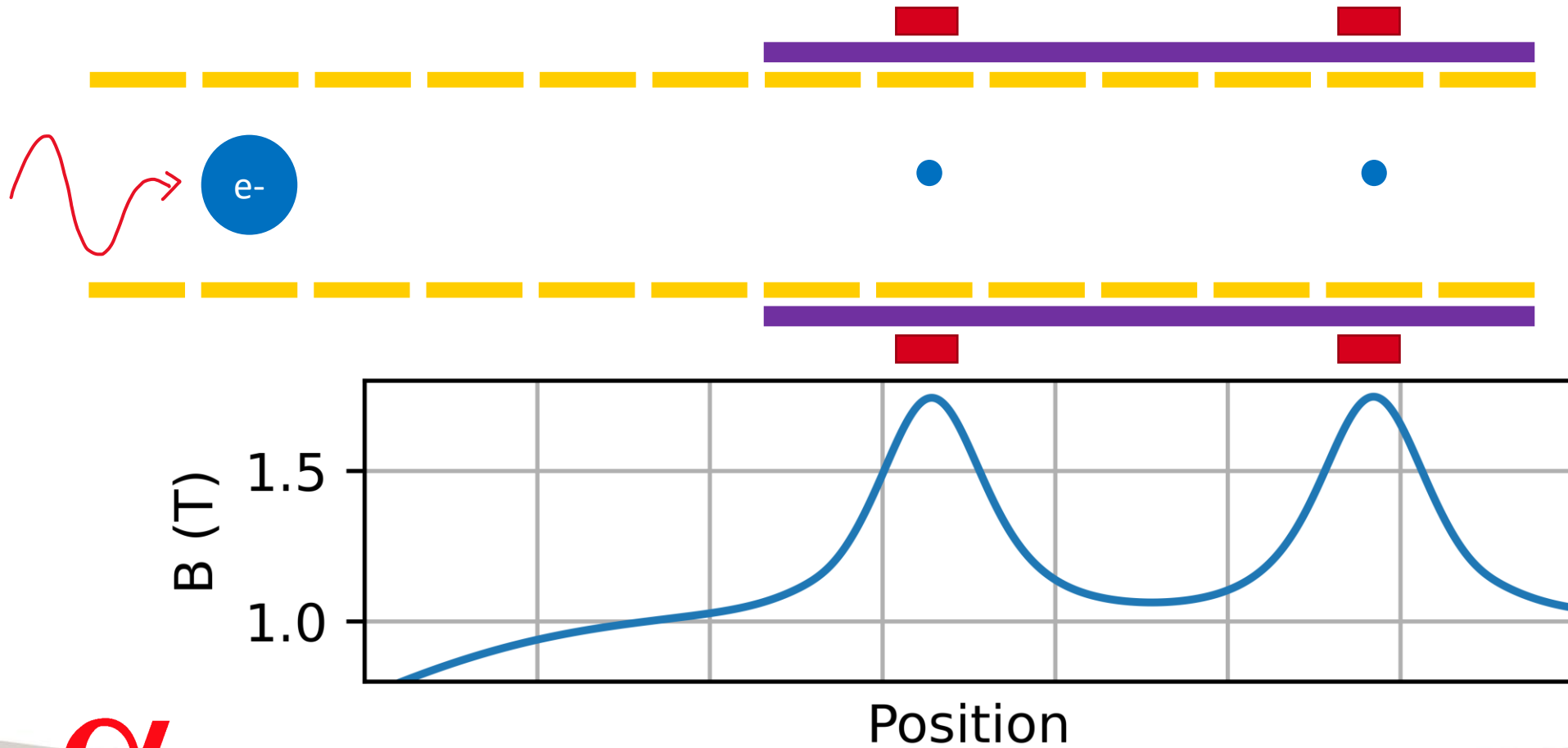
# Move to target location



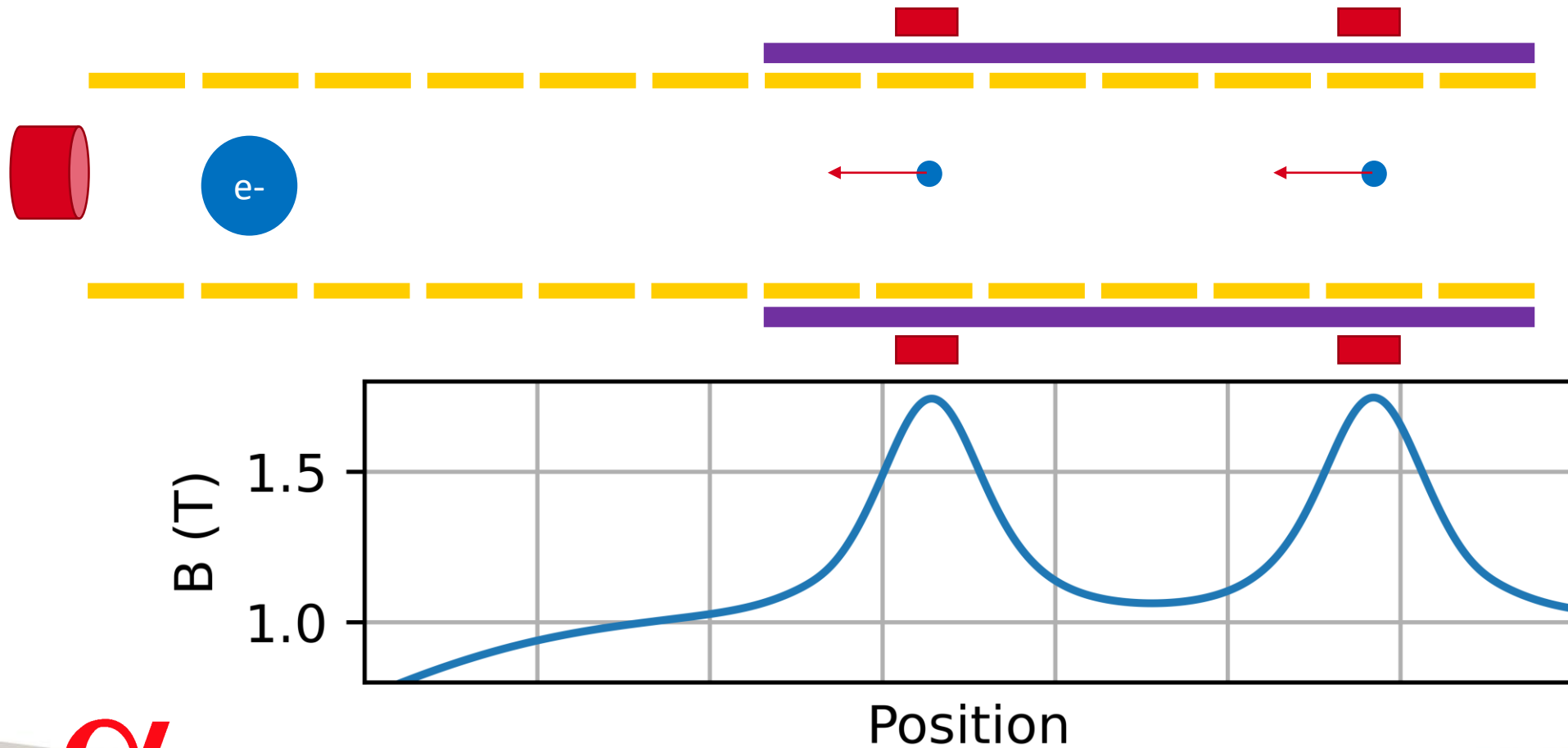




# Irradiate with a microwave pulse



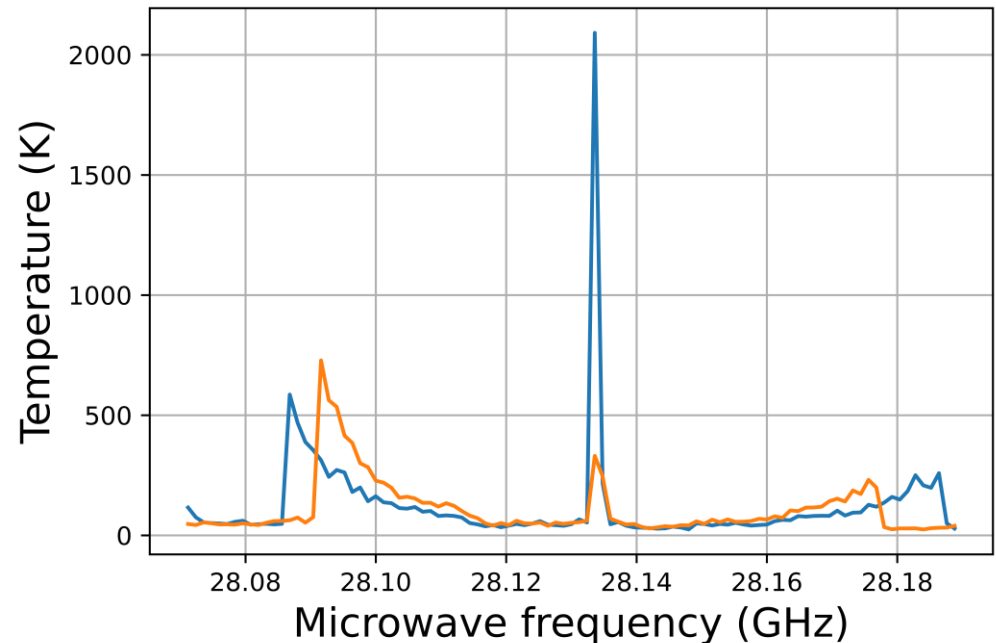
# Measure temperature of electron “scoops”





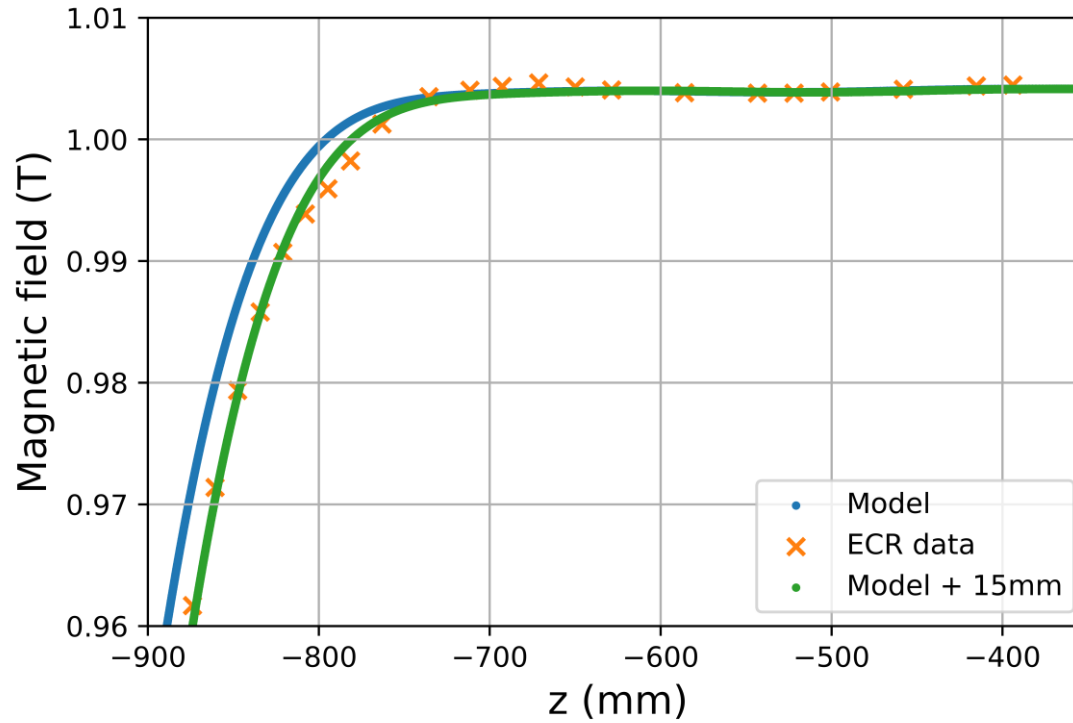
# An example of ECR spectra

- Narrow central peak =  $f_c$
- Precision related to peak width
- Broad, asymmetric sidebands from electrons axial frequency





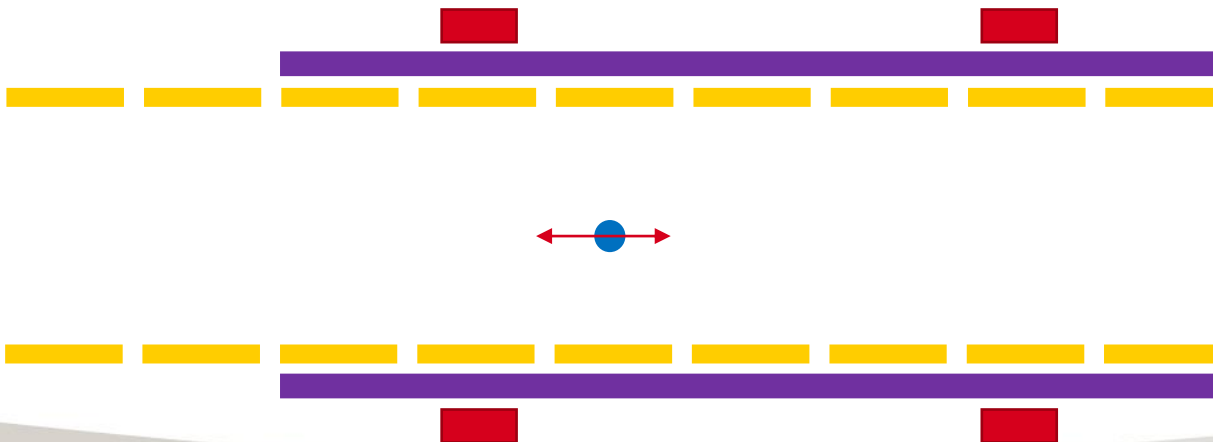
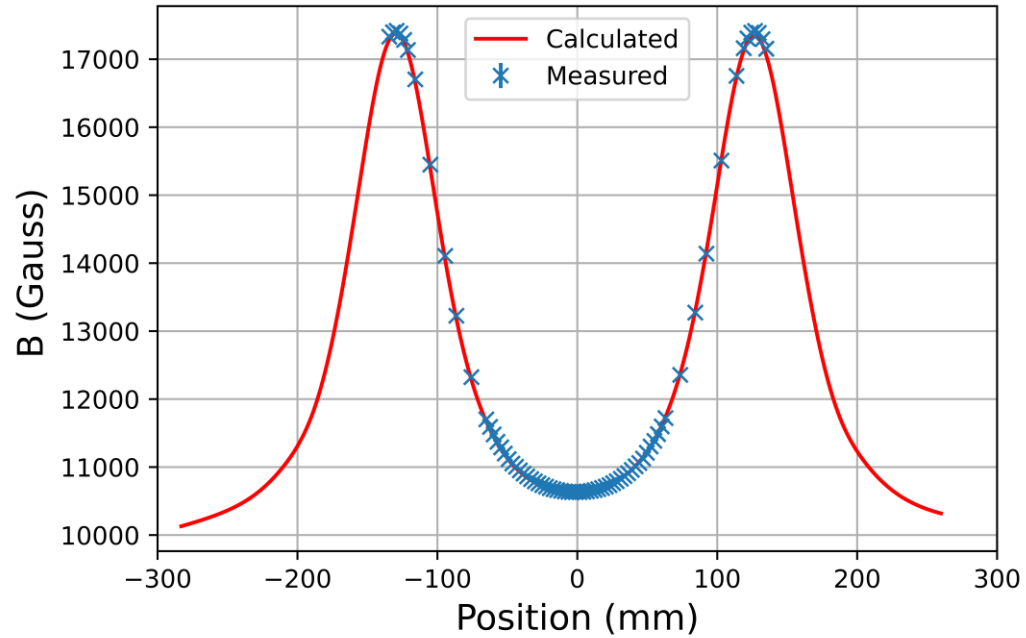
# Field mapping the background magnet



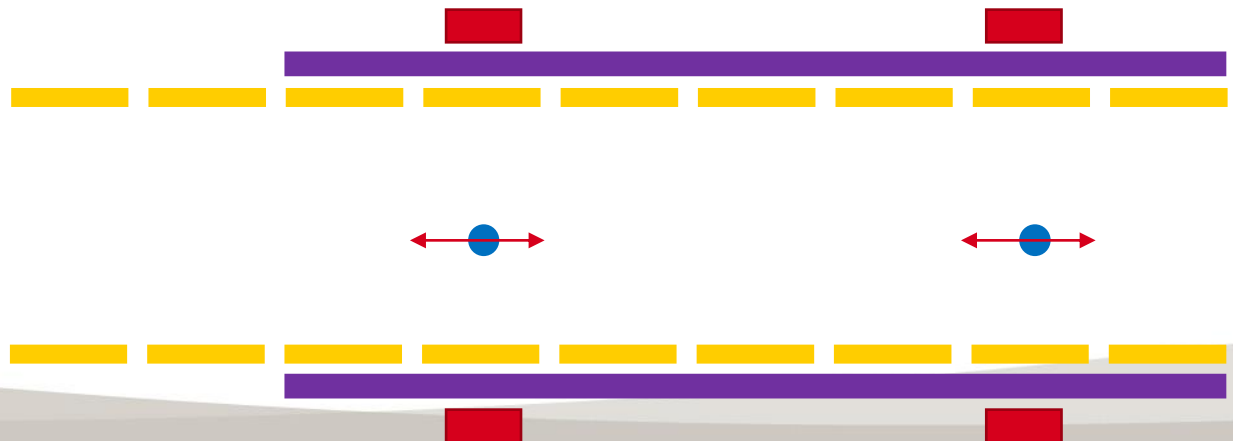
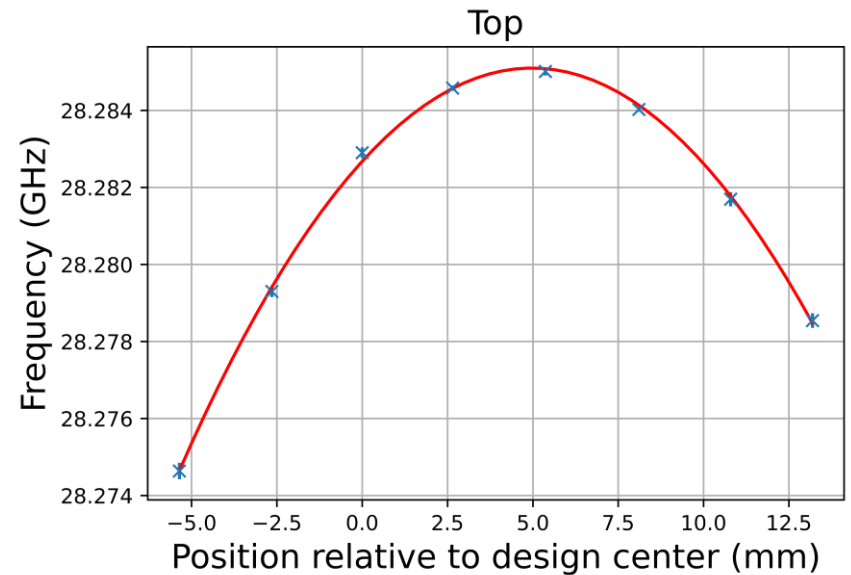
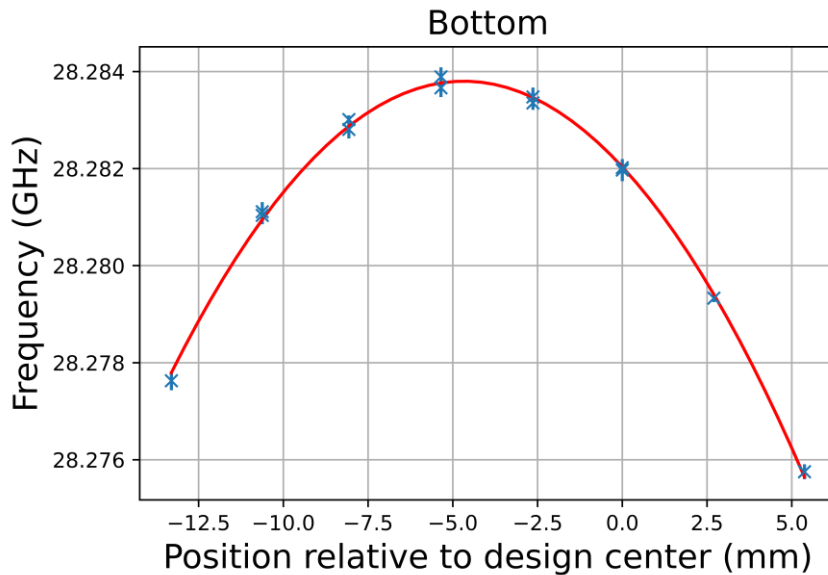
$10^{-4}$  T = 1 Gauss = 2.8 MHz



# Field mapping the magnetic trap

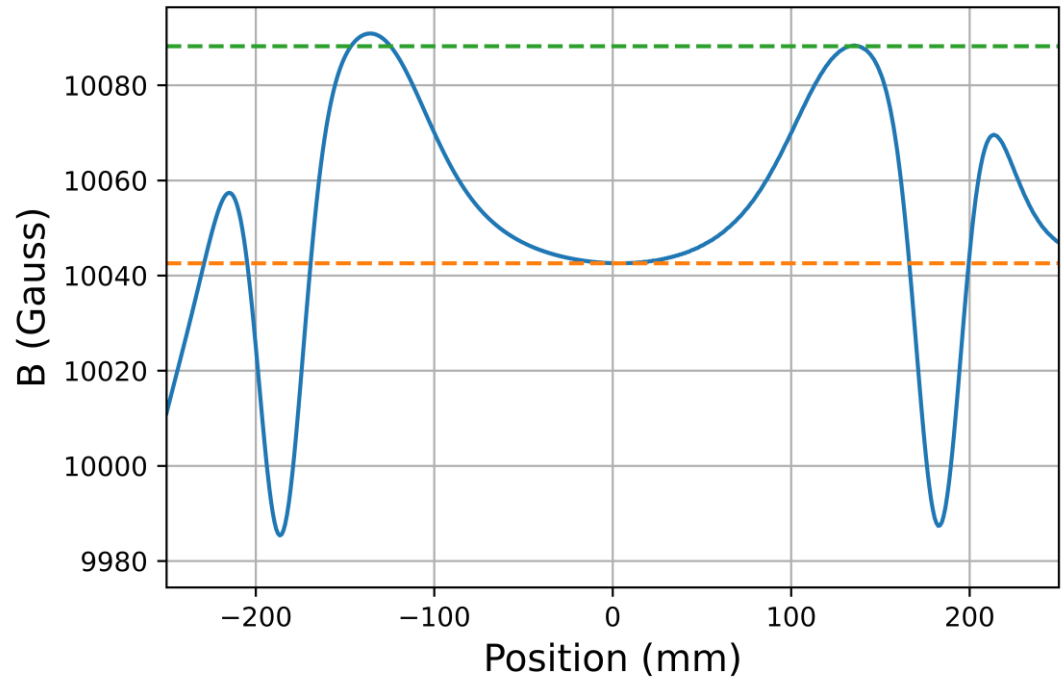


# Mapping out the on axis maxima of each solenoid



$10^{-4} \text{ T} = 1 \text{ Gauss} = 2.8 \text{ MHz}$

# Mapping out the on axis maxima of each solenoid

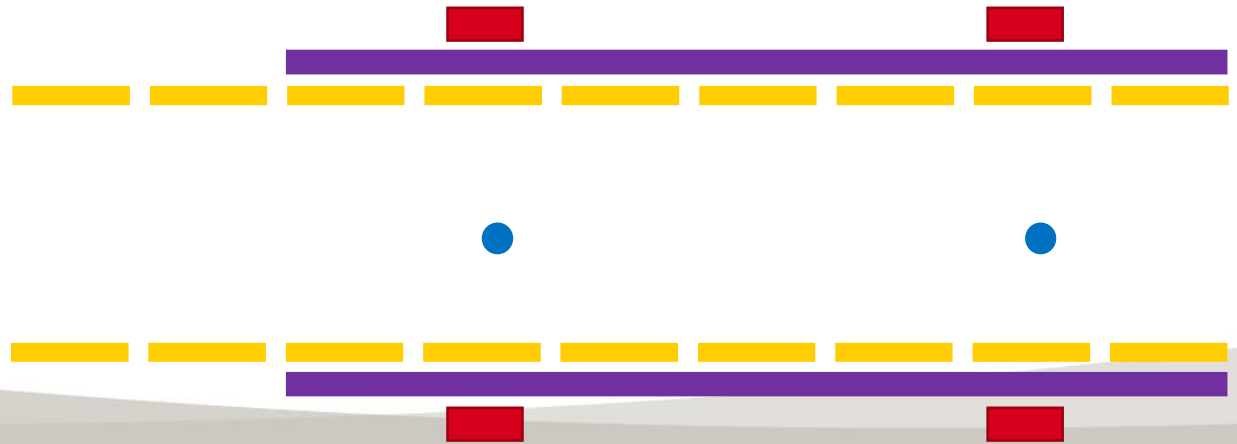
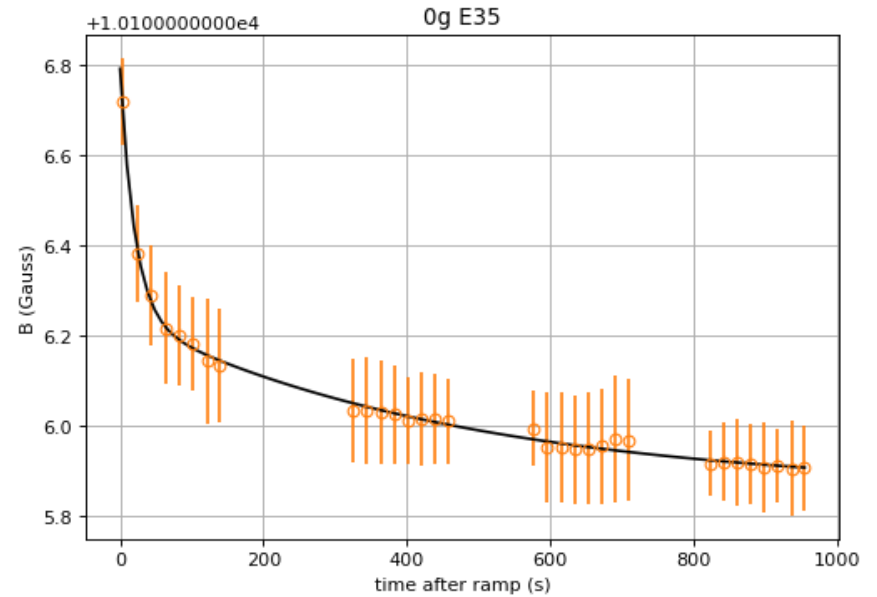
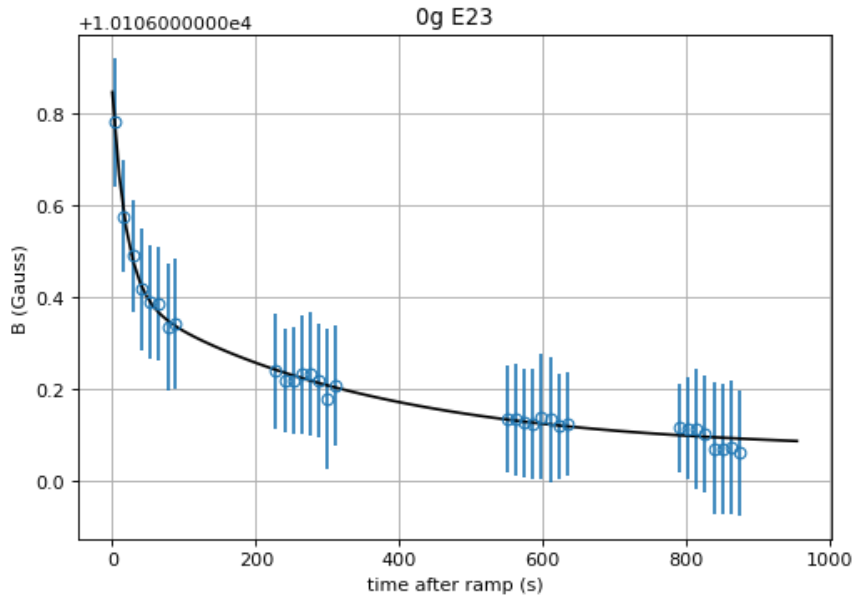


$10^{-4} \text{ T} = 1 \text{ Gauss} = 2.8 \text{ MHz}$





# Measure decaying induced fields

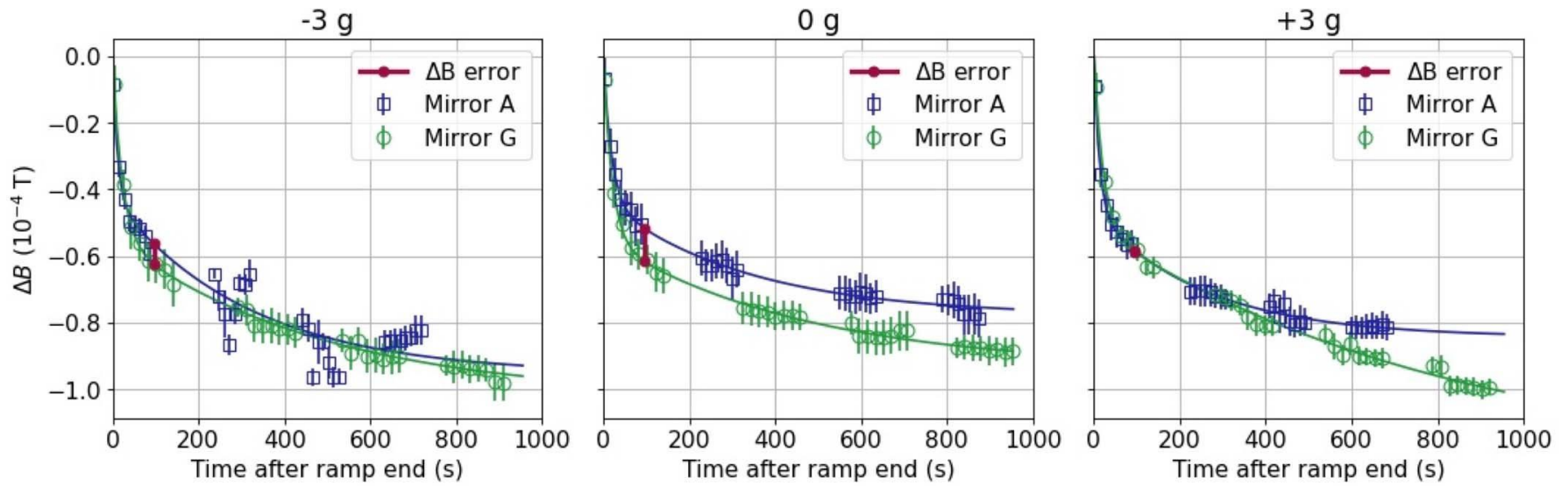


$10^{-4} \text{ T} = 1 \text{ Gauss} = 2.8 \text{ MHz}$



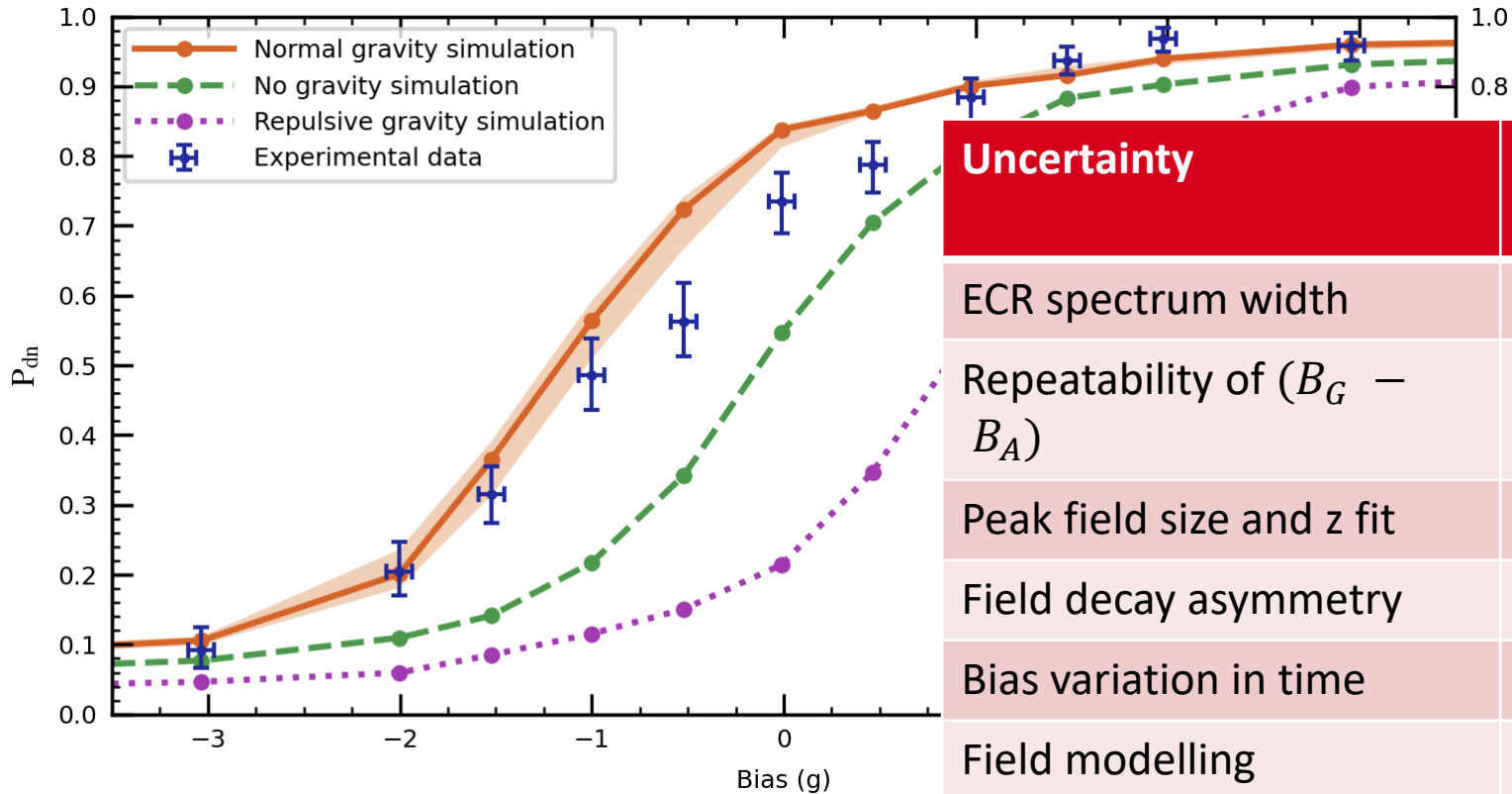


# Error from different decaying fields





# ALPHAg escape curve



$$\bar{g} = [0.75 \pm 0.13 \text{ (statistical + systematic)} \pm 0.16 \text{ (simulation)}] g$$



ECR data constrained

# Summary

- We have made the first observation of antihydrogen motion under the effect of Earth's gravity
- We have extensively studied magnetic fields in ALPHAg using ECR
- We have assigned uncertainty to the bias based on these magnetic field measurements

# Thank you for listening!



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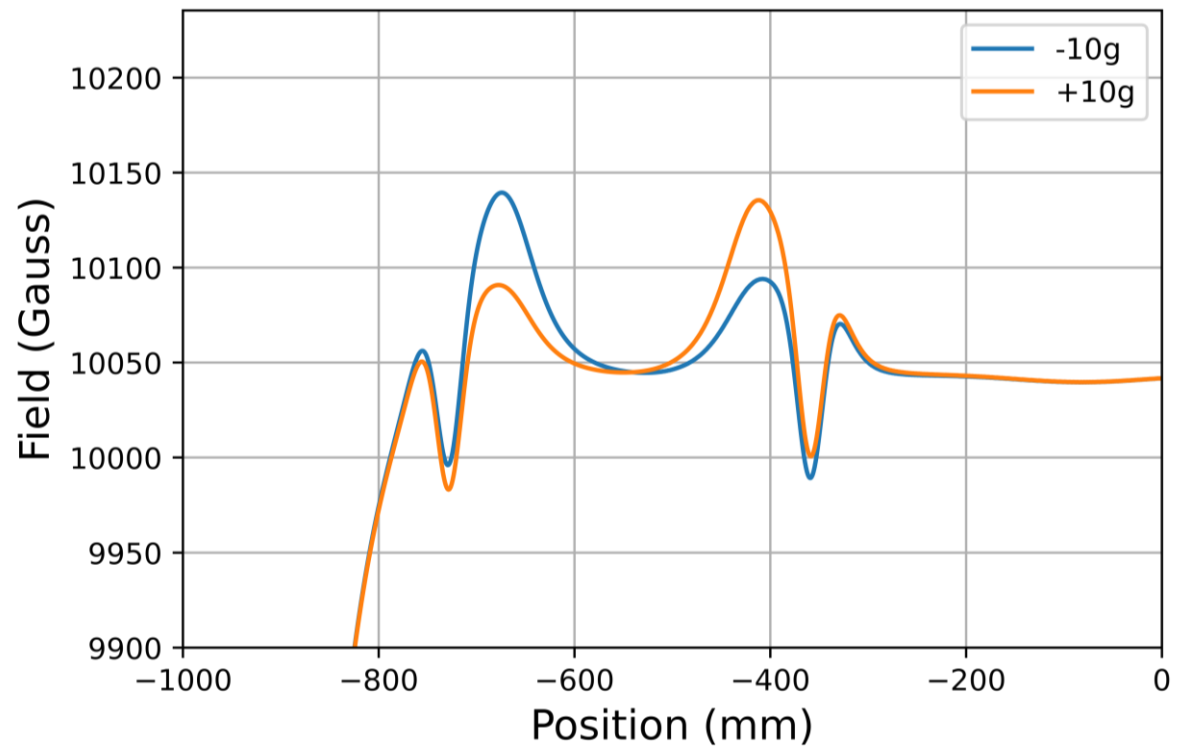
# Backup slides

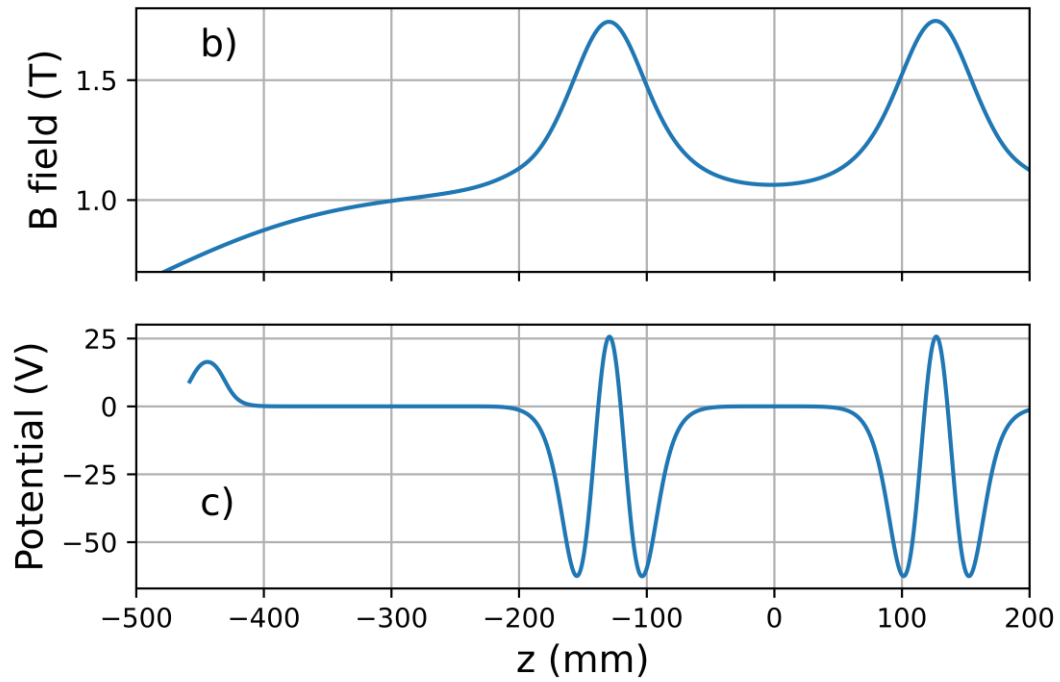
# Assuming gravity acts the same on matter and antimatter

$$\phi = \mu_B B - mgh$$

$$\Delta\phi = -mg\Delta h$$

$$\equiv \Delta B \sim 5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ T} \equiv 1 \text{ g}$$





# How do you understand the magnetic environment?

- What is the background field?
- How does the field respond to applied current for each magnet?
- Where is the maxima of each magnet?
- Are there any uncontrolled fields?

Key point: We are always interested in the differences bottom/top



# Significant improvements to ECR capabilities

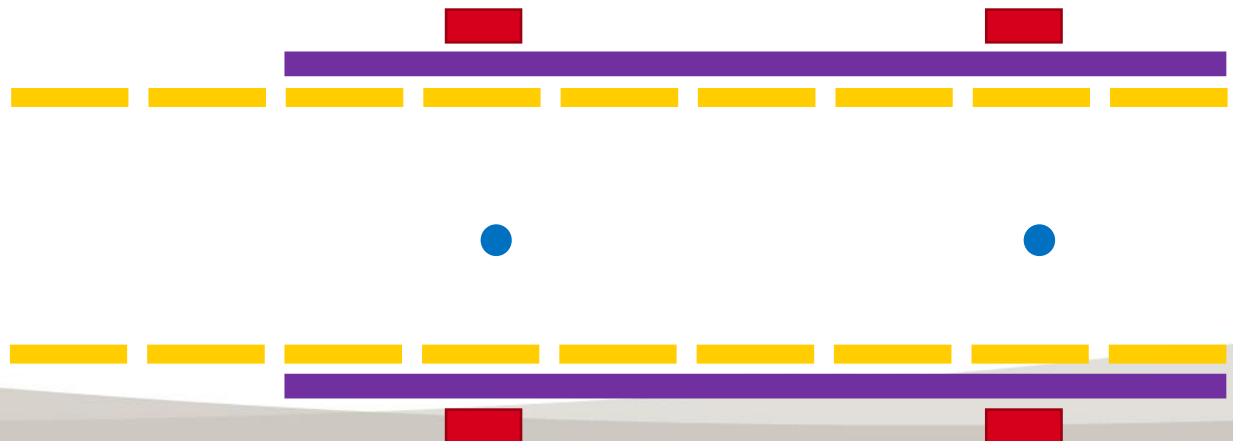
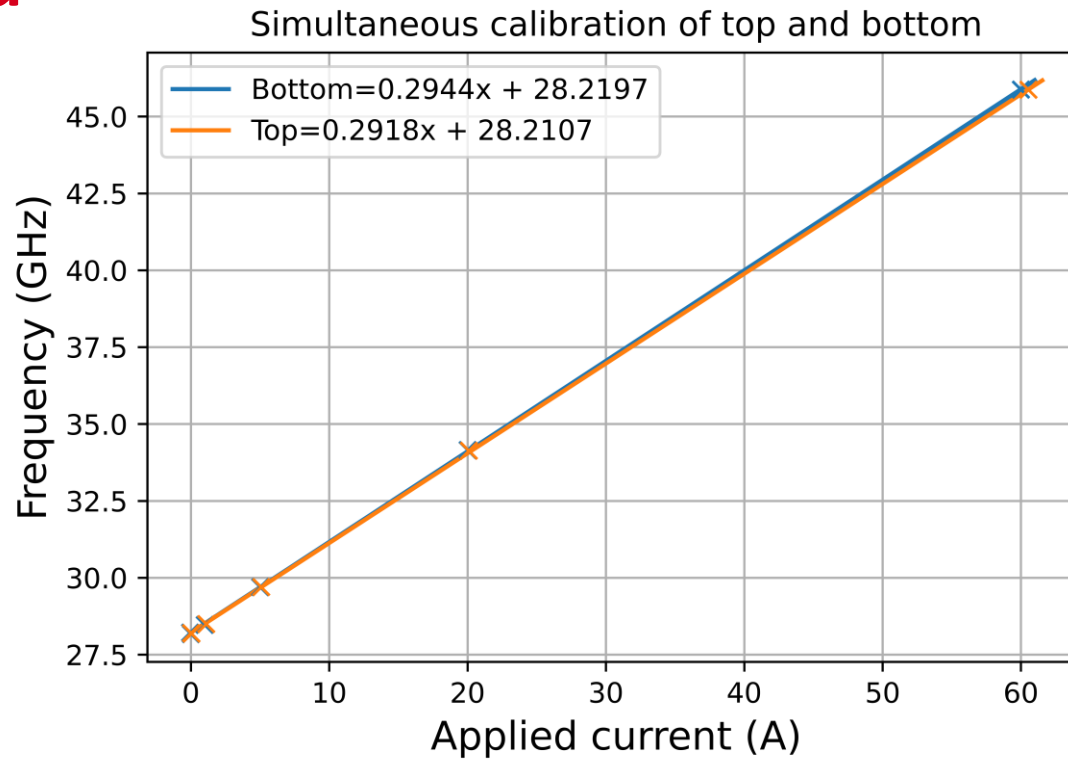
- Measure in multiple locations simultaneously
- Resolution better than  $10^{-4}$  T (even in high field gradients of a few  $10^{-4}$  T/mm)
- Stable plasmas for repeatable measurements over months
- On axis field mapping with resolution  $< 1$ mm
- Available range: 0.5 – 1.78 T (14 – 50 GHz)
  - Low frequency end not tested



# Non-neutral plasma requirements

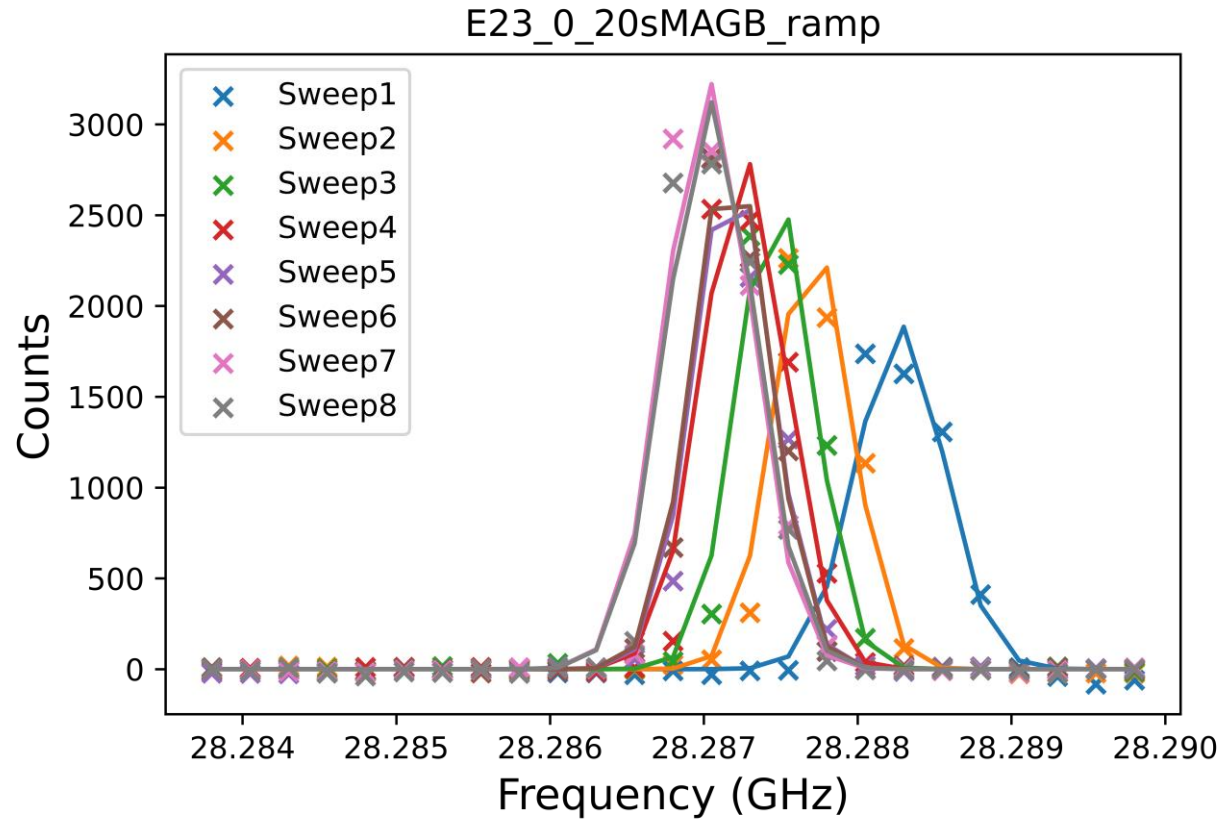
- Debye length,  $\lambda_D = \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_0 T}{n_0 e^2}}$
- $\lambda_D \ll L$
- $n_0 \lambda_D^3 \gg 1$

# Calibrating magnetic field to current applied



$10^{-4}$  T = 1 Gauss = 2.8 MHz

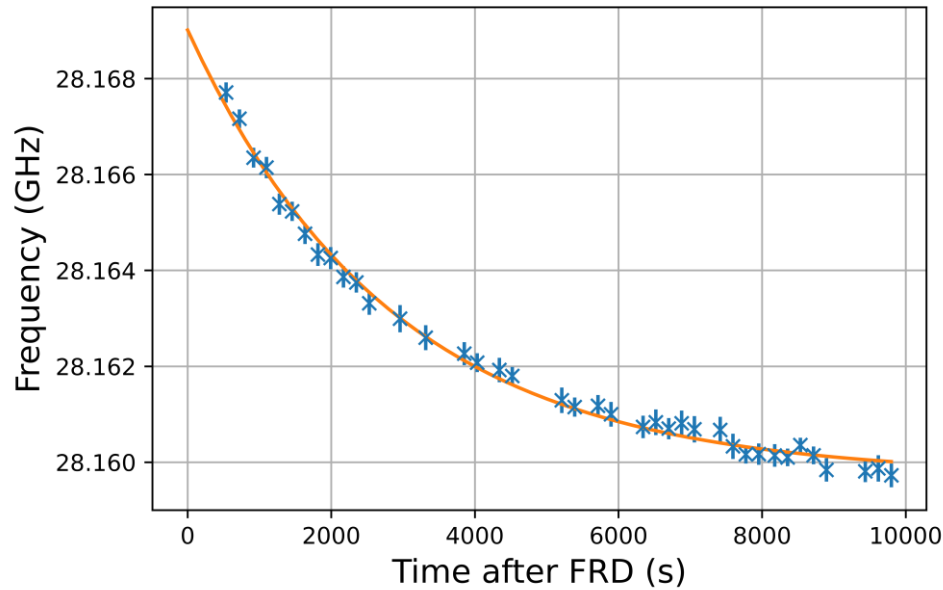
# Fast repeat ECR example



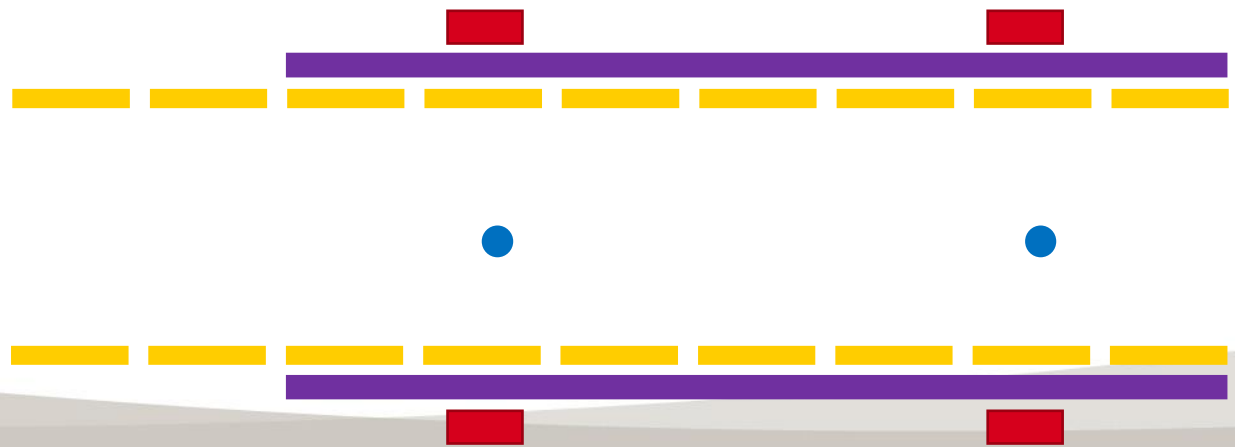
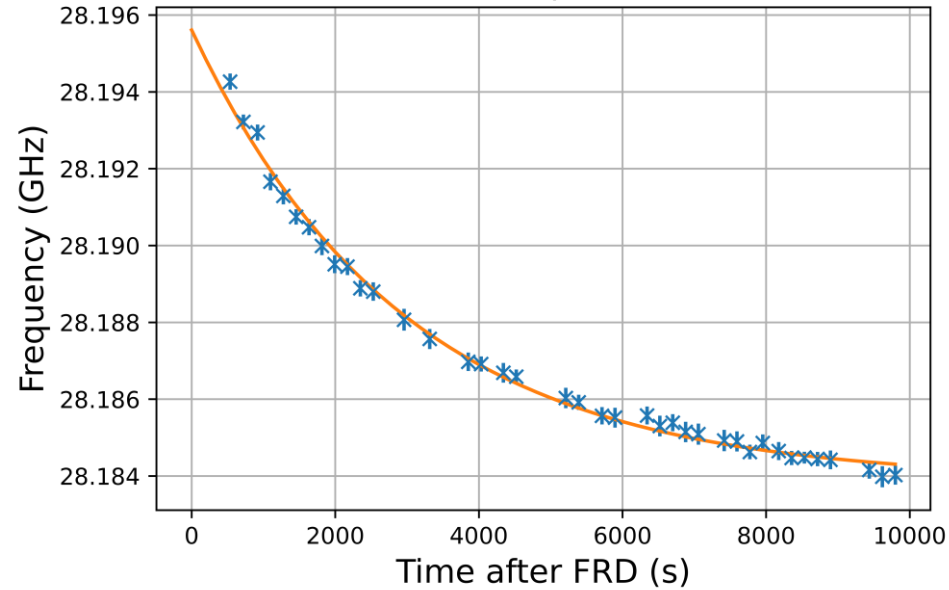


# Measure decaying induced fields

Bottom

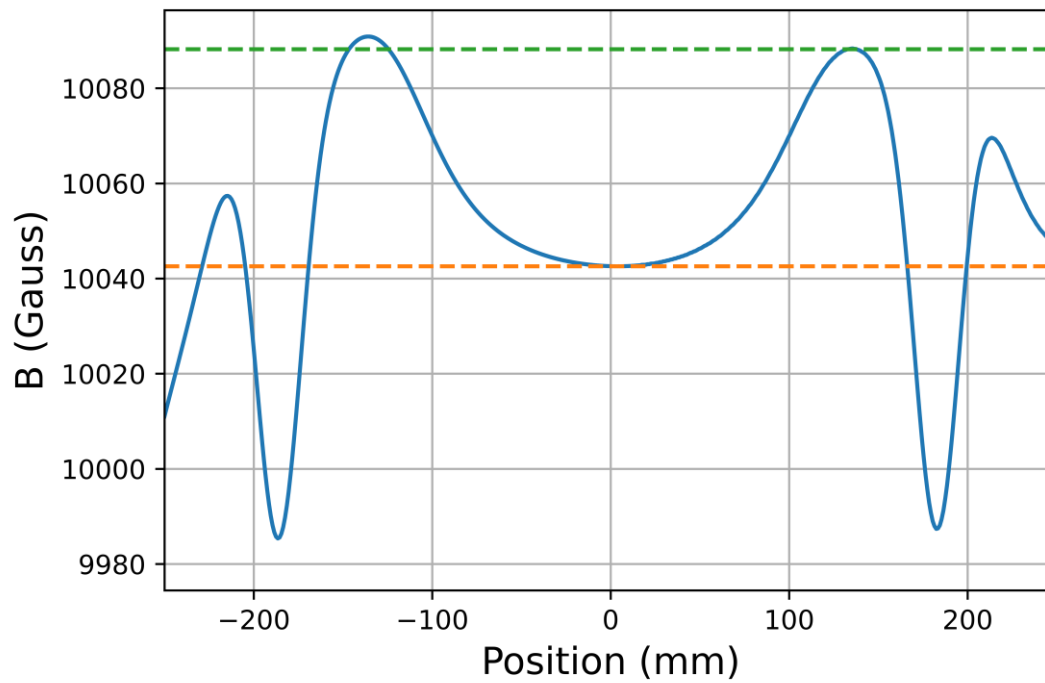


Top

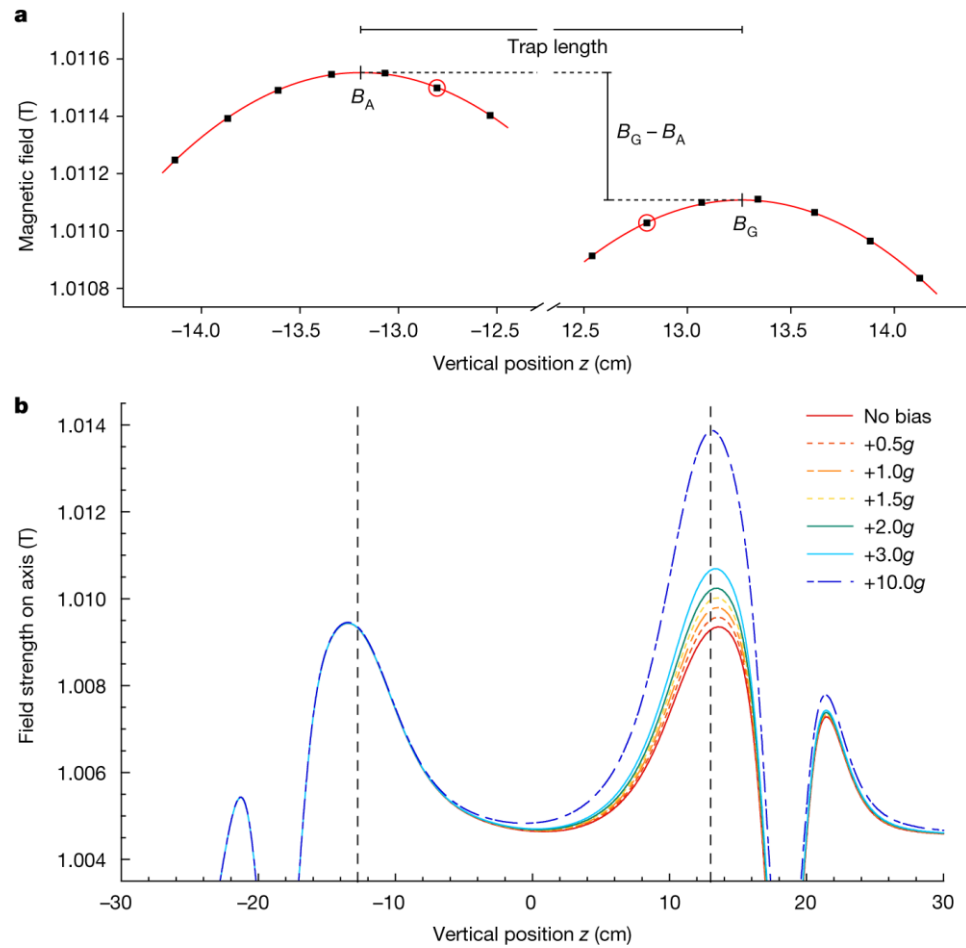


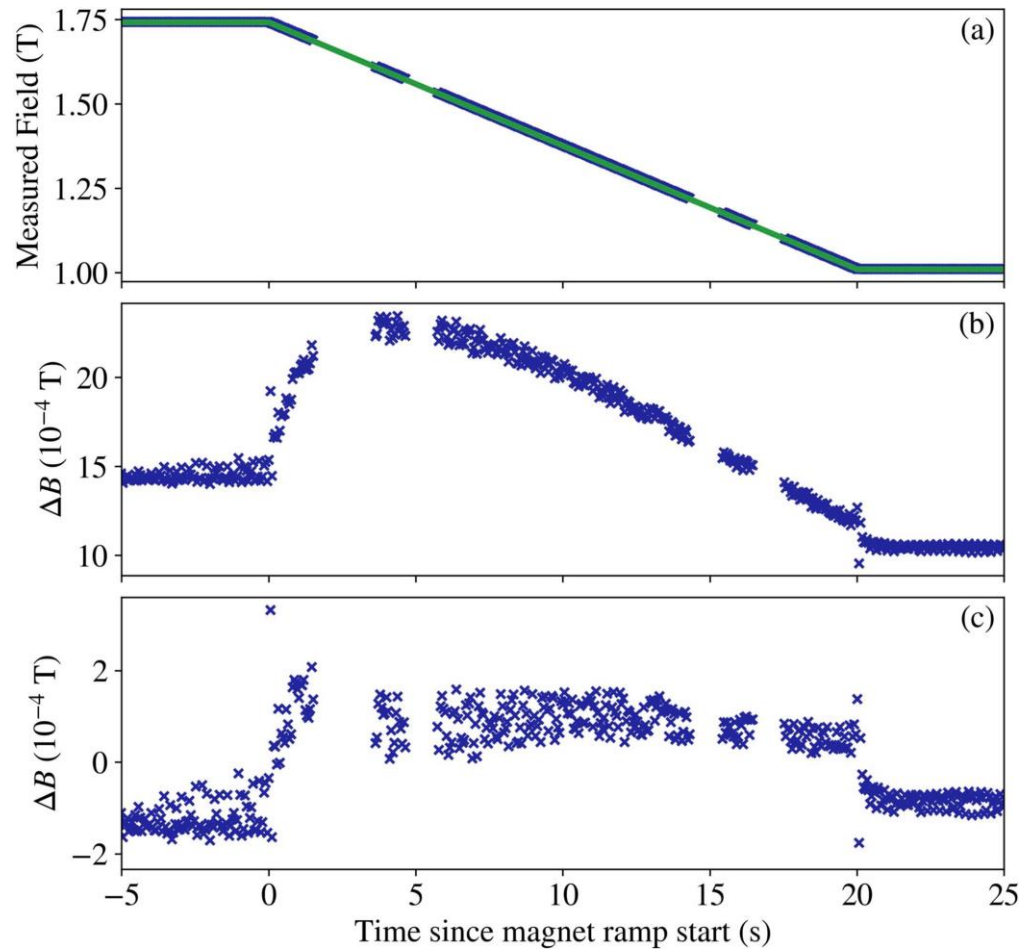
$10^{-4} T = 1 \text{ Gauss} = 2.8 \text{ MHz}$

# Final well

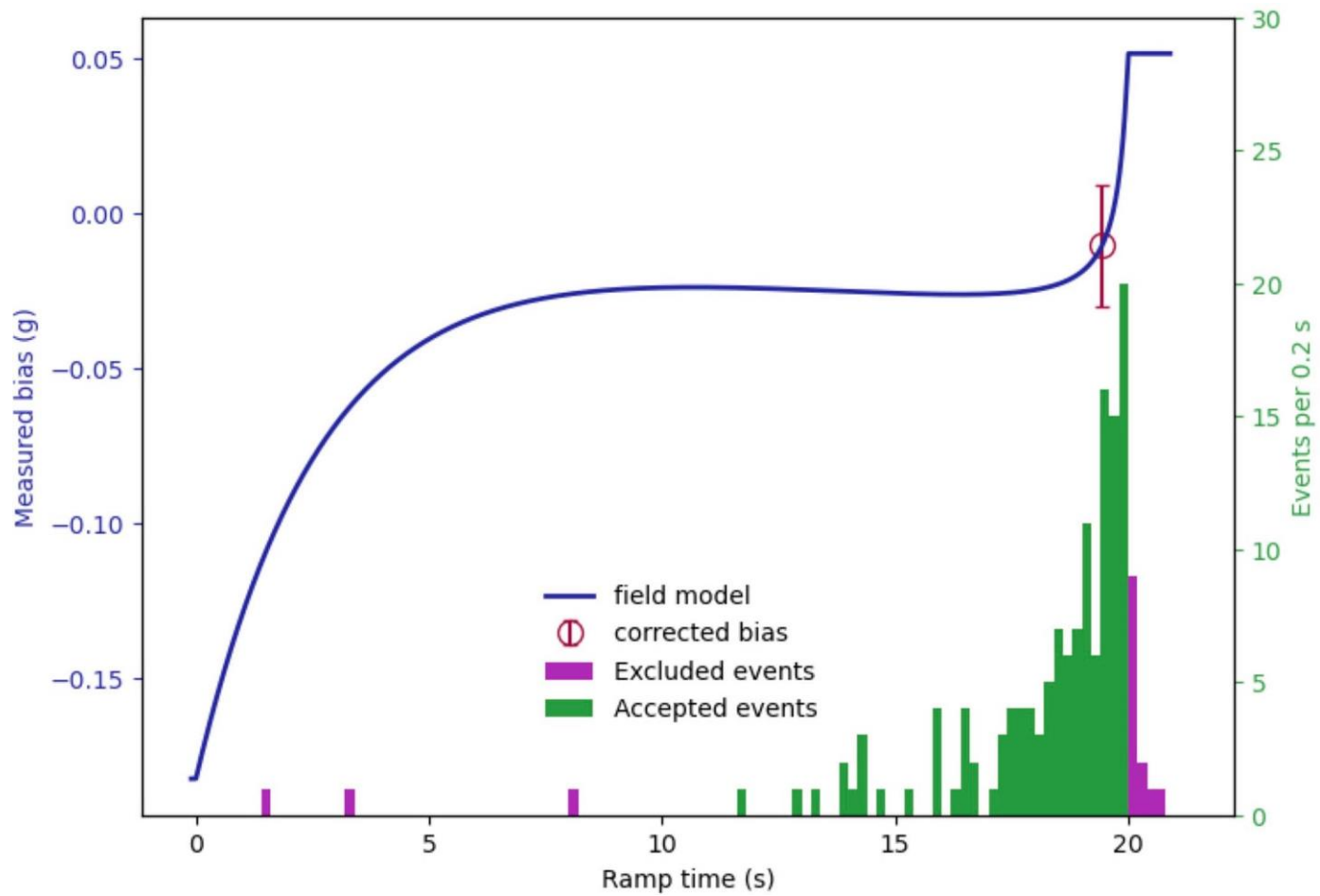


Aimed for 50 Gauss









# Systematic effects studied with ECR

- Induced currents from changing fields
- Long term stability
- Changing trap length during a ramp down
- Differences in magnet construction
- Errors in magnet winding positions

# Magnetic field uncertainties

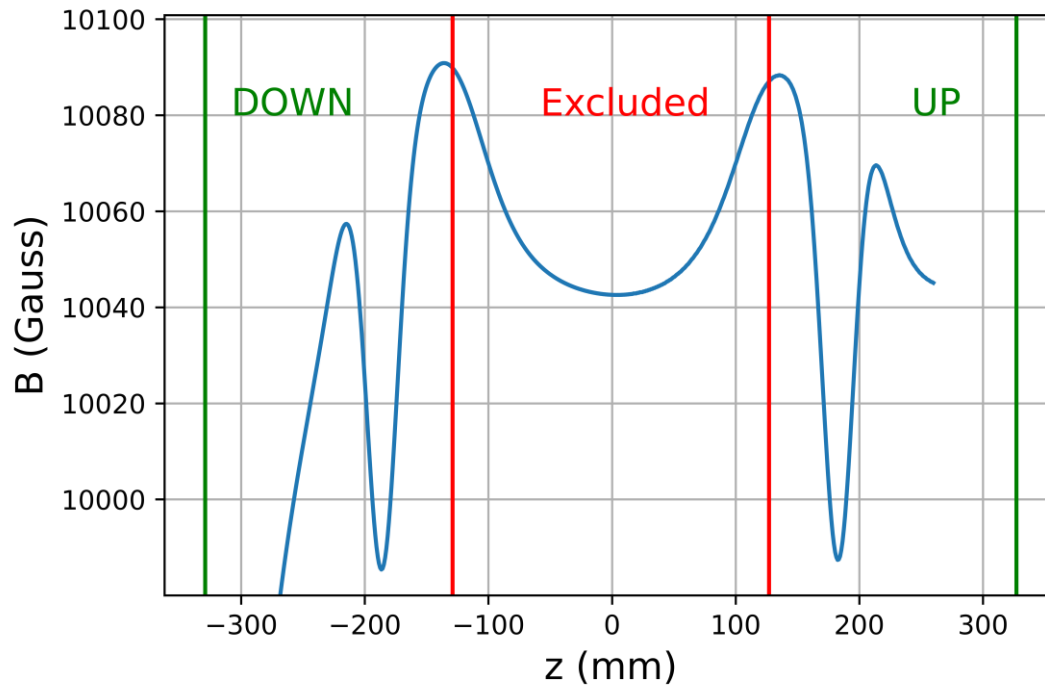
Uncertainty	Magnitude (g)
ECR spectrum width	0.07
Repeatability of $(B_G - B_A)$	0.014
Peak field size and z fit	0.009
Field decay asymmetry	0.02
Bias variation in time	0.02
Field modelling	0.05

# Contributions to g uncertainty

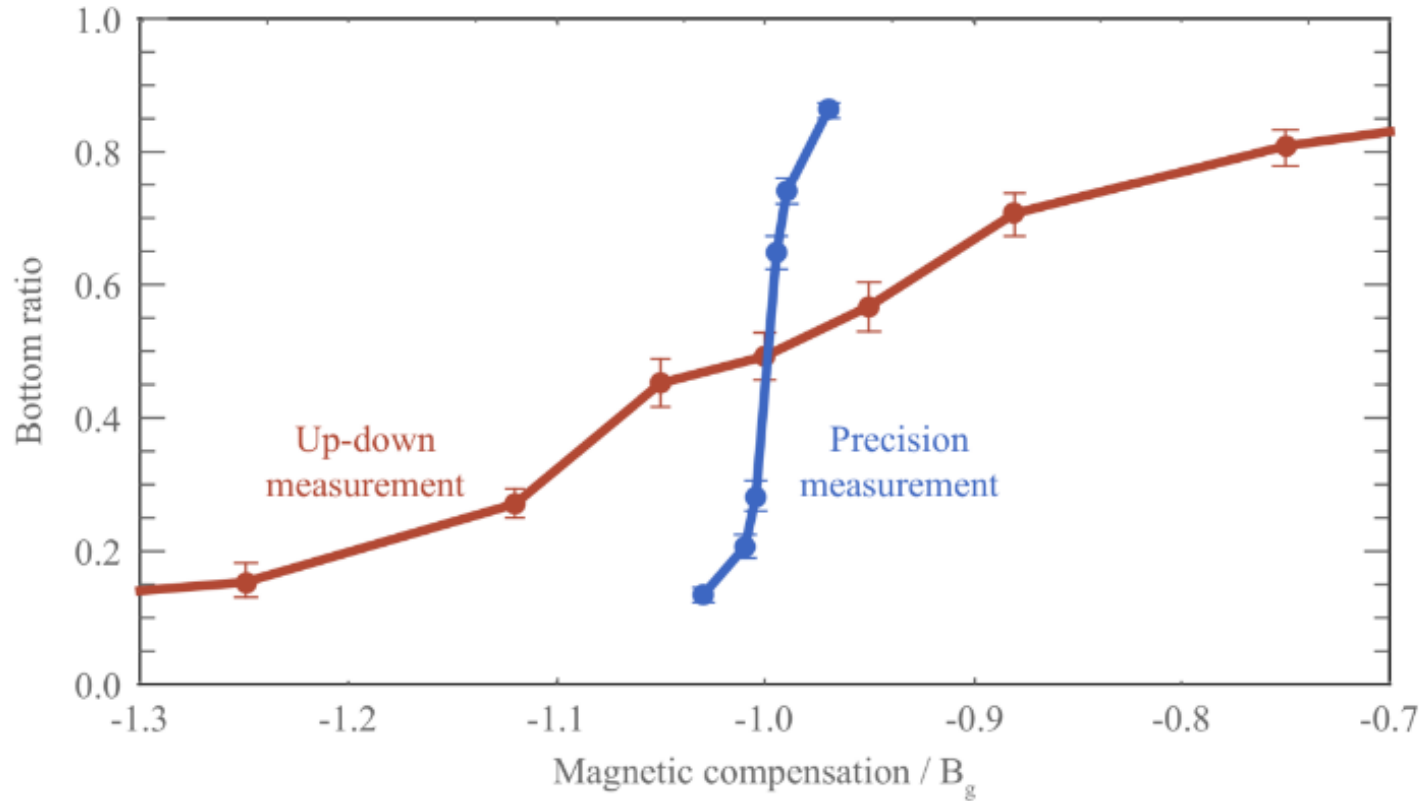
	Uncertainty	Magnitude (g)
Statistical and systematic	Finite data size	0.06
	Calibration of detector efficiencies (up vs down)	0.12
	Other minor sources	0.01
Simulation model	Modelling of magnetic fields	0.16
	Antihydrogen initial energy distribution	0.03



# How to define up and down?



# Towards 1%



# Control of coils

