#### The GBAR experiment



#### Dirk van der Werf



## principle



## principle



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#### How?



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• Produce  $\overline{H}^+$  via two reactions:

 $\overline{p} + Ps \rightarrow \overline{H} + e^{-}$  (1)  $\overline{H} + Ps \rightarrow \overline{H}^{+} + e^{-}$  (2)

 Trap it in a Paul trap and sympathetically cool the anti-ion with Be<sup>+</sup>

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- Detach the second positron with a laser pulse and let the H "fall"

## Schematic



# **GBAR** Layout



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# Drift tube



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# Multi-Reflection Time-of-Flight separator (Electrostatic Ion Beam Trap)





## Schematic



#### Test experiment at Saclay





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## Production of moderated positrons



• Present work on a new linac for Cern installation: 18 MeV, 300 Hz, 2  $\mu$ s, 200 mA peak

• New W moderator designed; Ne moderator to be studied

# Positron trapping - MRT



#### Interaction area

- Positrons are converted into positronium
- Part of the Ps atoms will be excited (see later), i. e. laser radiation needs to be introduced
- Antiprotons will "shoot" through the positronium cloud to form  $\overline{\mathrm{H}}^+$



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## Overall $\overline{H}^+$ formation cross sections





## Schematic



# **Cooling challenge**



## Catching & precision traps



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The GBAR experiment

#### Photo detachment

 $\overline{H}^+$  binding energy 0.76 eV =>  $p_{\gamma} \sim 0.76 \text{ eV/c}$  close to threshold Recoil due to absorption:  $v_{recoil} = p_{\gamma} / m_H = 0.2 \text{ m/s} \Rightarrow 4 \text{ cm for } 0.2 \text{ s fall}$ Recoil due to e<sup>+</sup> emission  $E_{c} = E_{\gamma} - 0.76 \Longrightarrow V_{recoil} = \sqrt{\frac{2m_{e}E_{c}}{m_{rr}}} \sim 0.3 \text{ m/s for } E_{c} = 1 \text{ } \mu\text{eV}$ v recail (m/s)  $\sigma$  (cm^2) 3.0 3.5 ×10<sup>-22</sup> 2.5 3.×10<sup>-22</sup> 2.5×10<sup>-22</sup> 2.0 2.×10-22 1.5 1.5×10<sup>-22</sup> 1.0 1.×10<sup>-22</sup> 0.5 5.×10<sup>-23</sup> AE (neV) AE (neV) 20 40 60 80 100 20 40 60 80 100

1 W laser, 150 µs shots, 99% efficiency

## Detection



Background rejection through event topology

Scheme under design: TPC with micromegas chamber (as in T2K near detector)





## **Quantum Reflection**



### **GBAR** timeline

Letter of Intent SPSC-2007-038		Research Board AD-7		ELENA BPPC			
2007	2011	2012/05	5 2012/06	2012/09	2012/	'11	2013
	Proposal SPSC-P-34	2	ADUC	ADUC			
GBAR GBAR off development commissi		-line oning	GBAR installation	GBAR on-line commissioning		Run?	
2013 <b>2014</b>			2015	2016		2017	
GBAR MoU			ELENA installation	ELENA commissio	ning		



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The GBAR experiment

Bern 14 November 2013

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