Antimatter 2 - The Sequel

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Summer Student Lectures 2005 - Part 2



Overview Lecture 2

Trapping antiparticles

Antihydrogen

ATHENA and ATRAP Making antihydrogen Future developments

Antimatter technology

PET Antiproton therapy? Rocket propulsion??

The first nine antihydrogen atoms at CERN (1996)





Press reactions (of course)

"Liberation" (France)

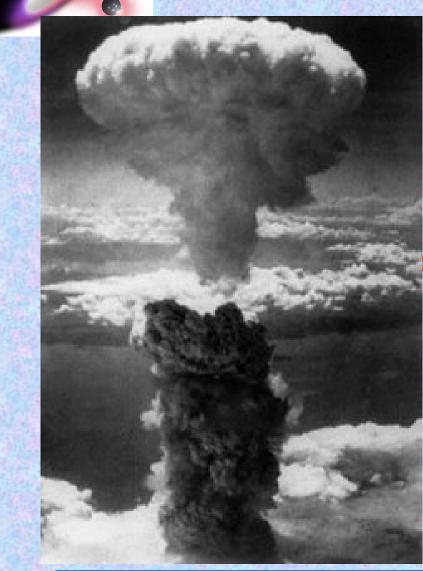


«C'est mille fois plus puissant qu'une réaction nucléaire normale»

Le Pr Oelert ne nie pas un possible usage militaire des antiatomes.

Walter Oelert, professeur à l'Institut de recherches fouipe germano-italienne réunie en 1993 qui a obtenu neuf antiatomes d'hydrogène. Built de la de

Will antimatter destroy Geneva? The Vatican?



$20 \text{ kt} \text{TNT} = 8.4 \cdot 10^{13} \text{ J}$

0.5 g antimatter + 0.5 g matter

Cost: 50,000,000 billion \$ roduction time: ~ 3 billion years



Trapped Antiprotons



A short break to think about precision measurements

Precision of a measurement increases with observation time

Presence of other particles may decrease precision

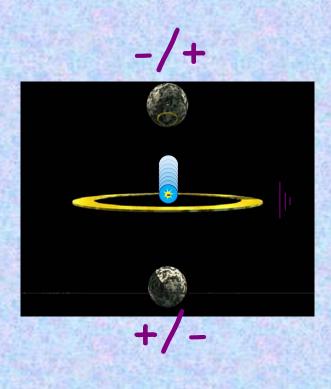
Isolate (few) particles and observe for long times:

PARTICLE TRAPS



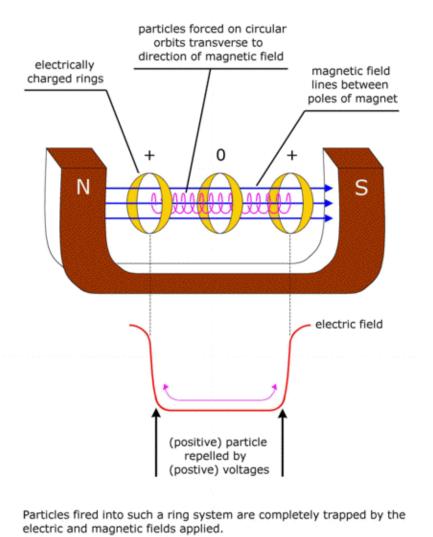
RF-trap ("Paul trap")

A radio-frequency current on the electrodes maintains an alternating electric field that confines charged particles in a small space.



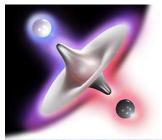


Magnetic traps



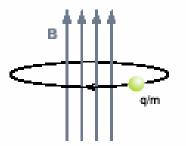
HOW A TRAP WORKS

Antimatter (2) - Summer Students 2005

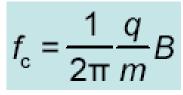


Special case: Penning trap

Motion of a charged particle in pure magnetic field:

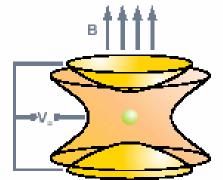


Cyclotron frequency:



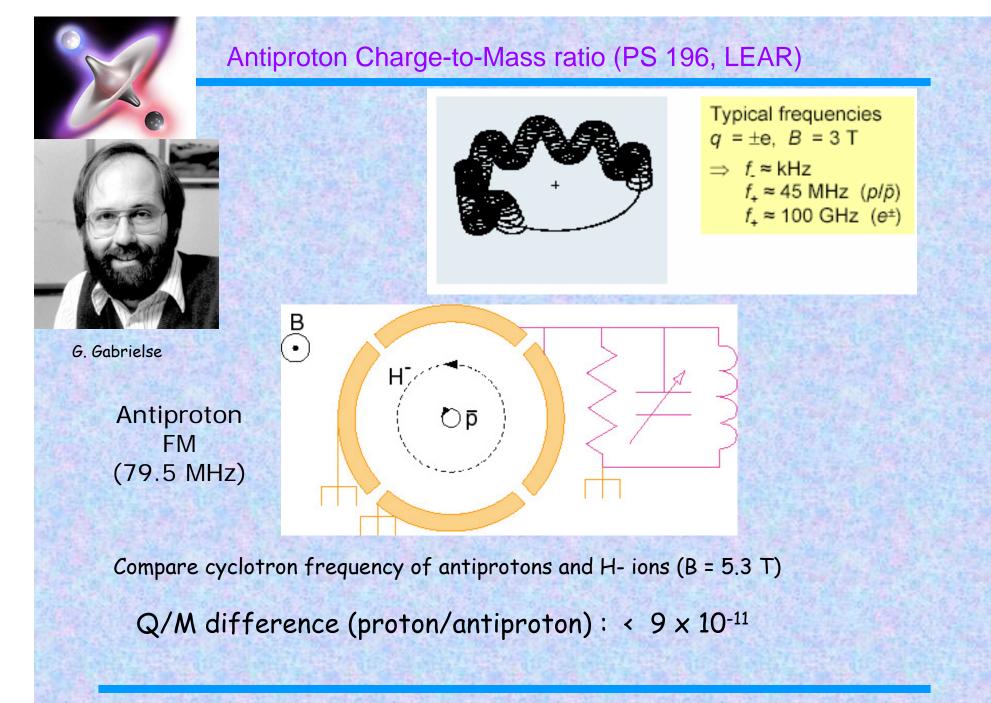
Penning trap:

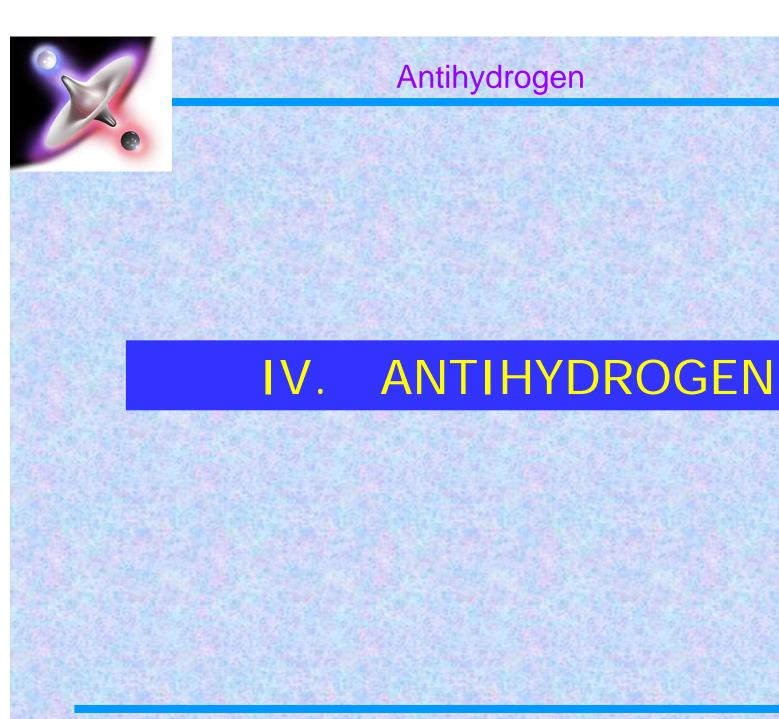
- Strong homogeneous magnetic field
- Weak electric 3D quadrupole field

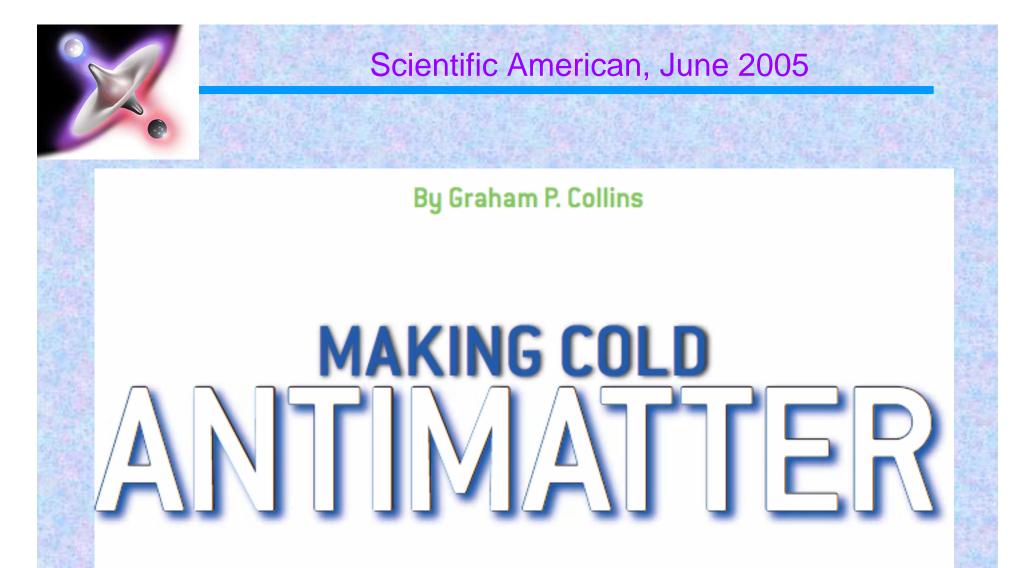


H. G. Dehmelt 1959





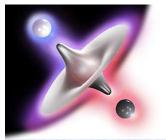




It is the nemesis of normal matter: antimatter.

Like evil twins of ordinary particles, antimatter versions mirror their mundane counterparts in every way, except for hav-

tor at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, by smashing protons into a piece of copper. The process is the reverse of



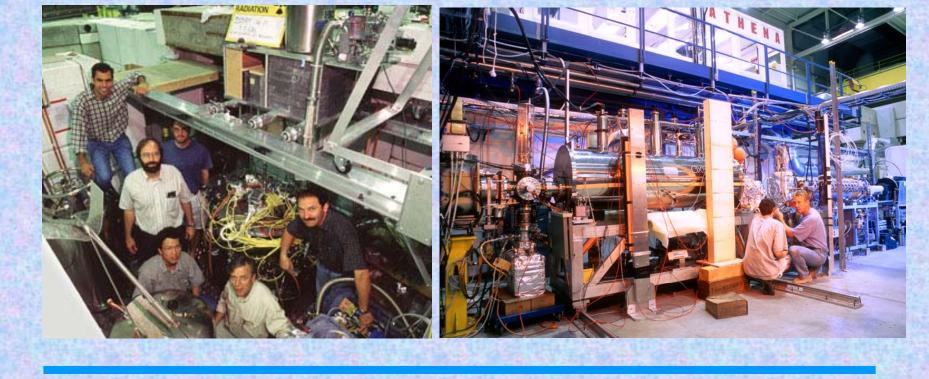
Antihydrogen

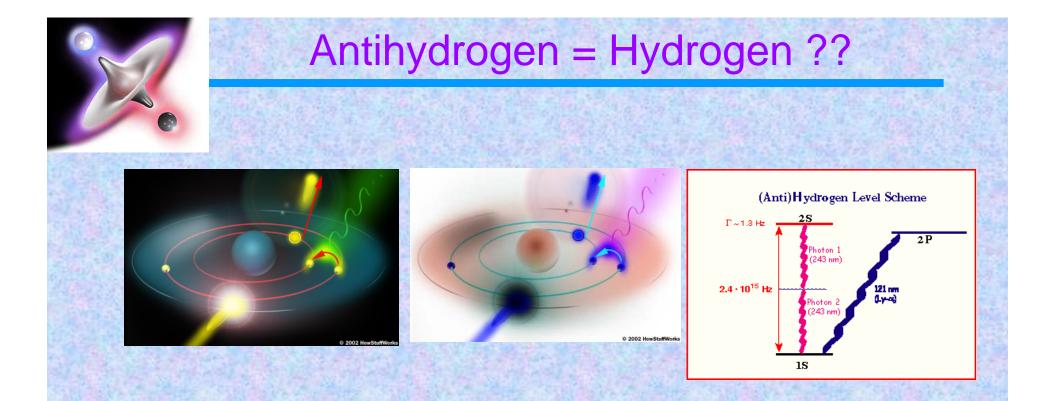
ATHENA and ATRAP - Experiments (Start 2000)

Find a way to make cold antihydrogen (done) Trap and cool antihydrogen Precision measurements

ATRAP

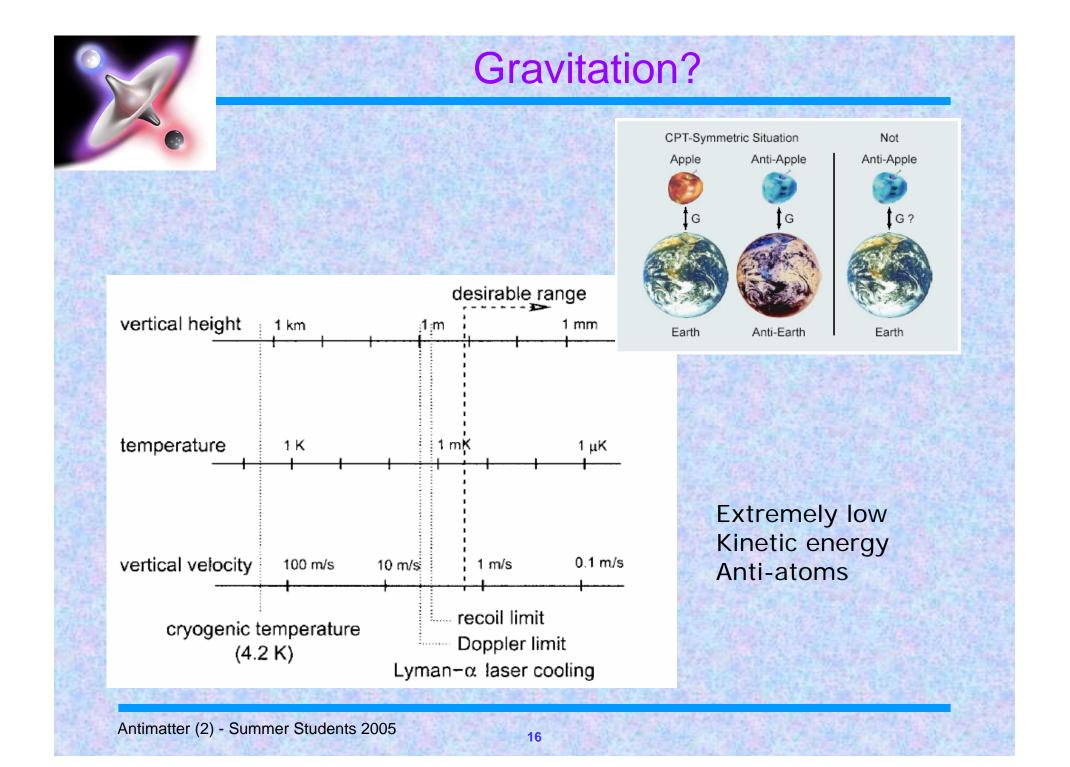
ATHENA





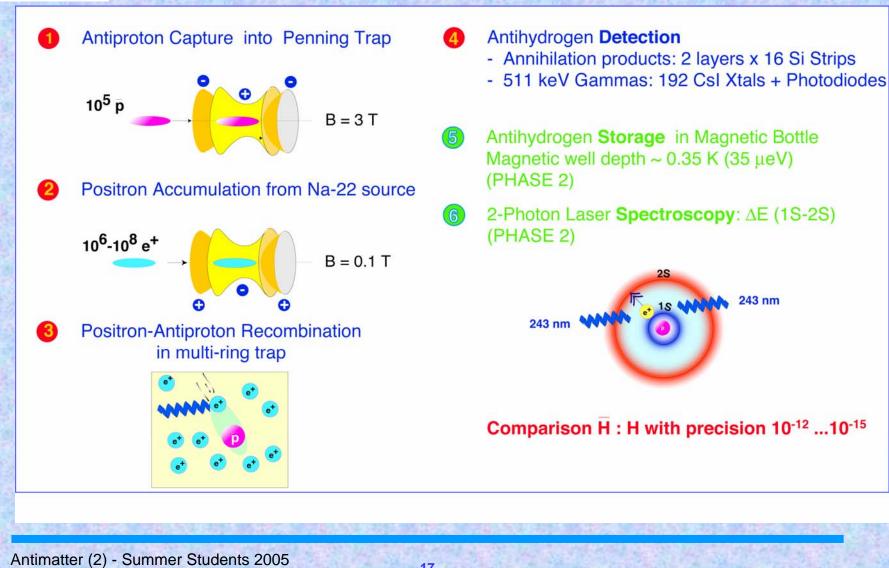
2S level is metastable (T ~ 120 ms)

→ Two photon laser-spectroscopy (1S-2S energy difference → very narrow line width = high precision: $\Delta v/v \sim 10^{-15}$ → Long observation time - need trapped (anti)atoms

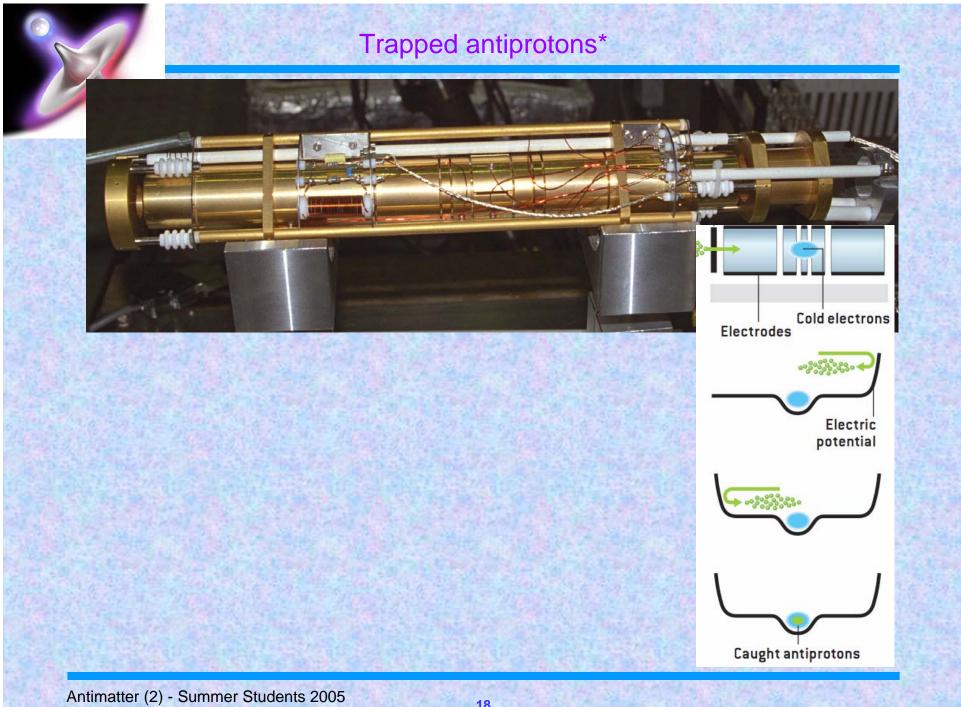


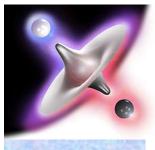


Antihydrogen milestones



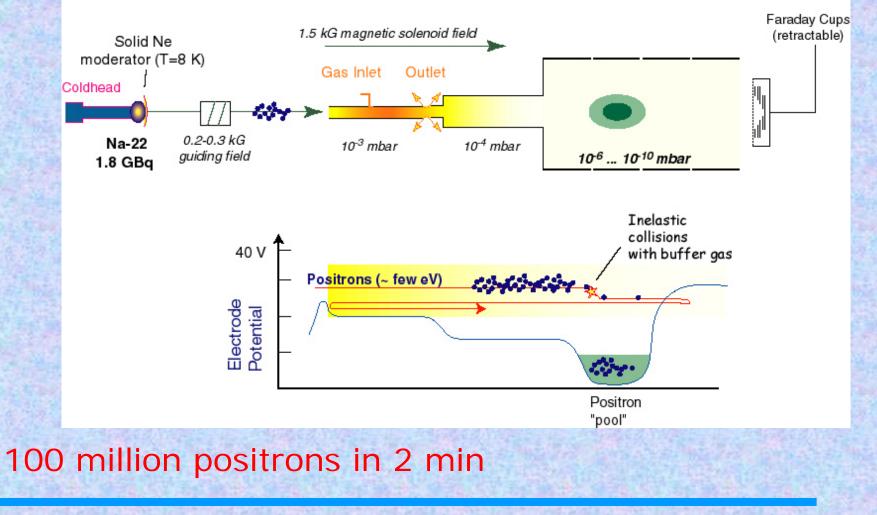
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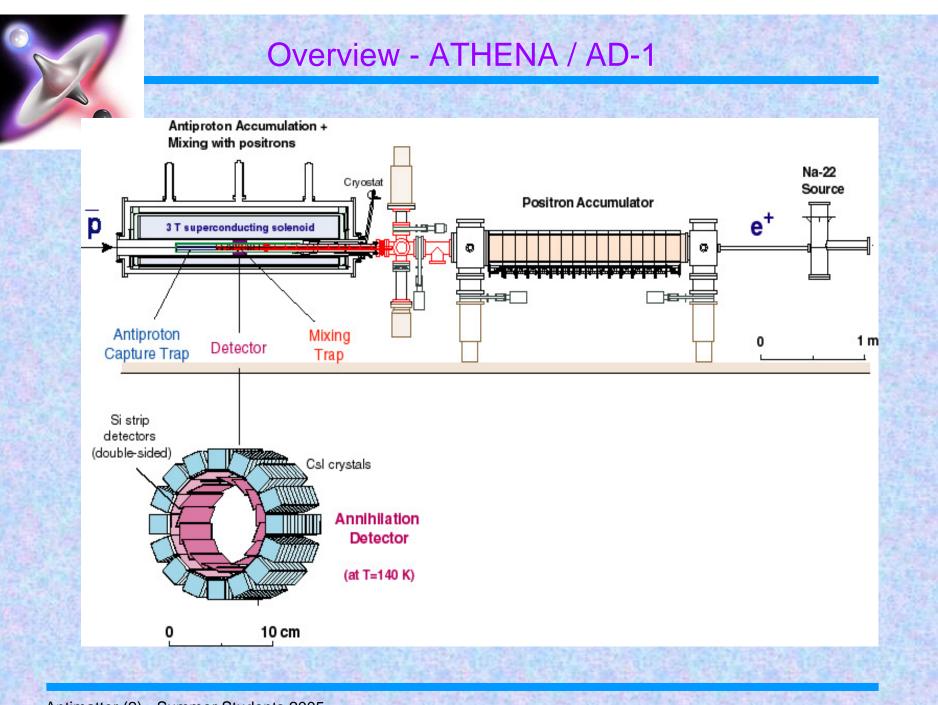


Positron Accumulation (ATHENA)

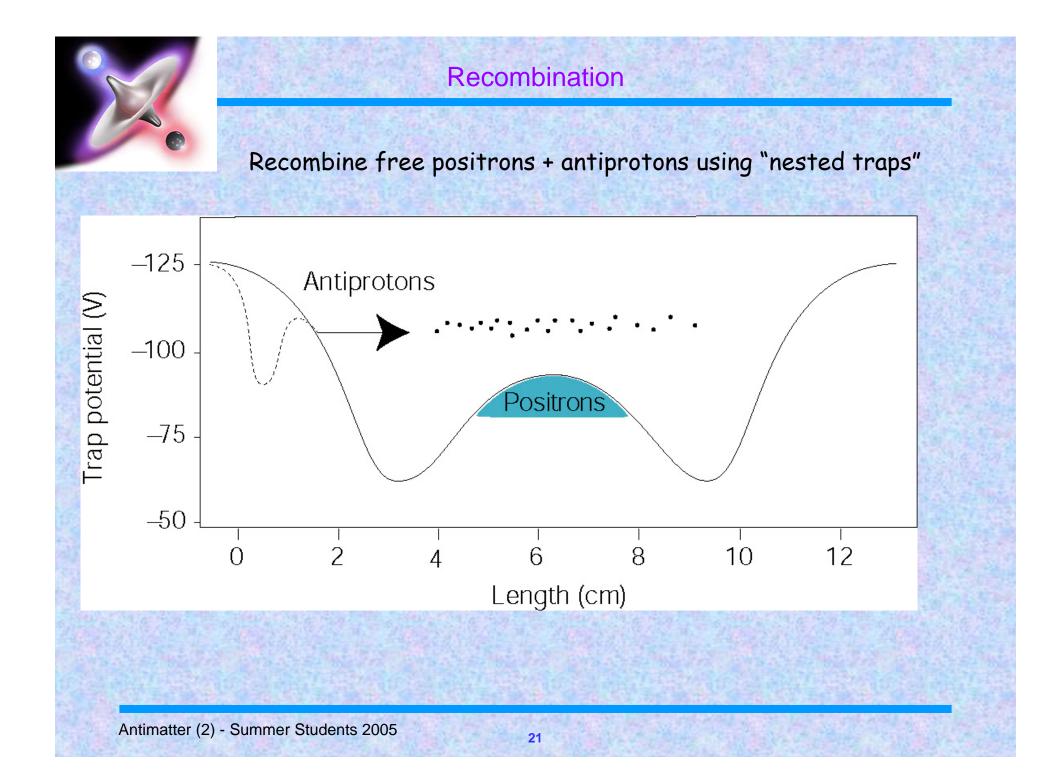
ATHENA - Positron Accumulation Scheme



Antimatter (2) - Summer Students 2005

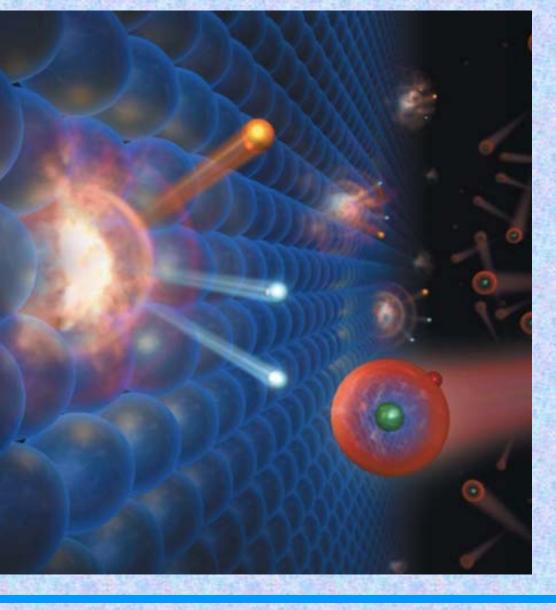


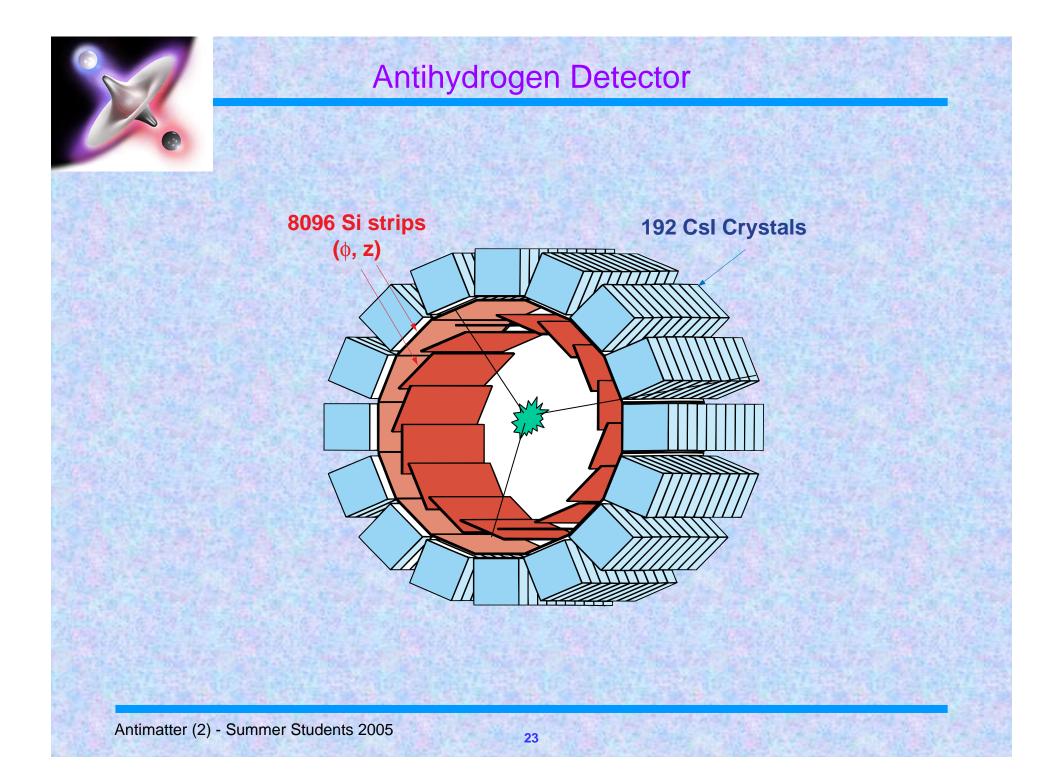
Antimatter (2) - Summer Students 2005

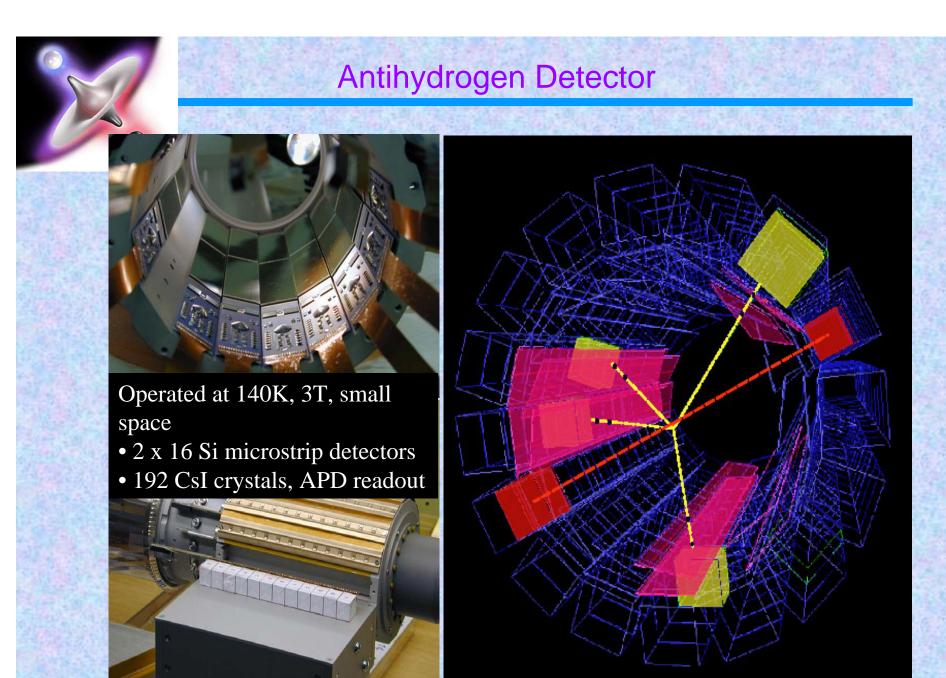


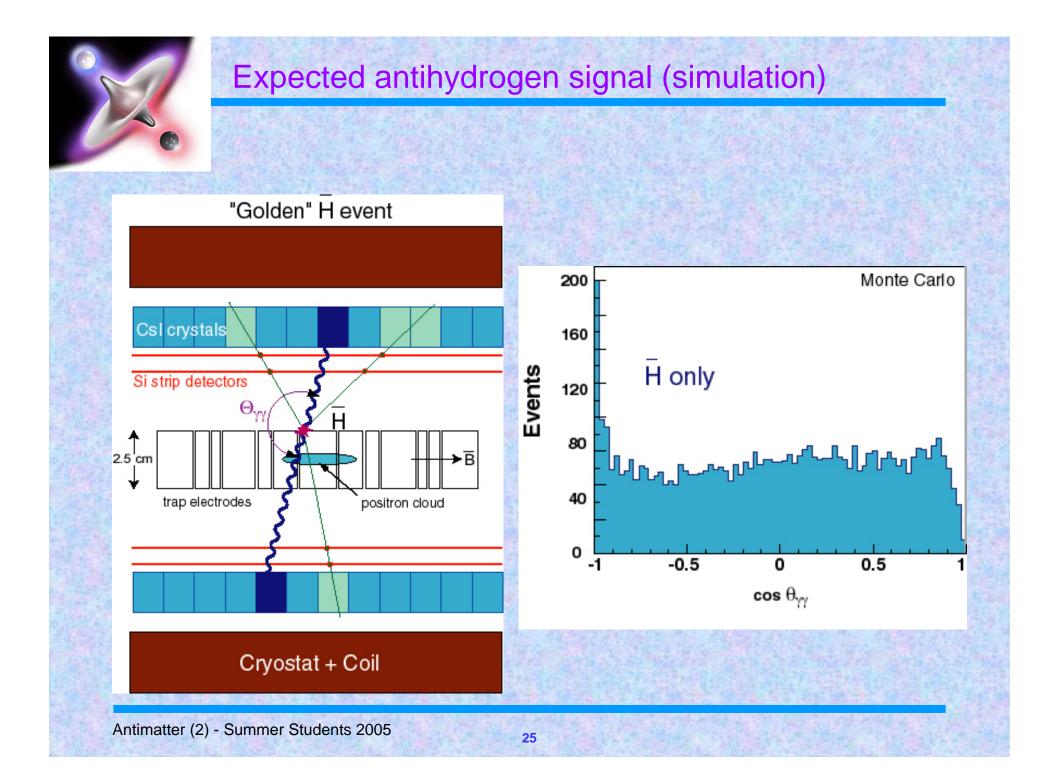


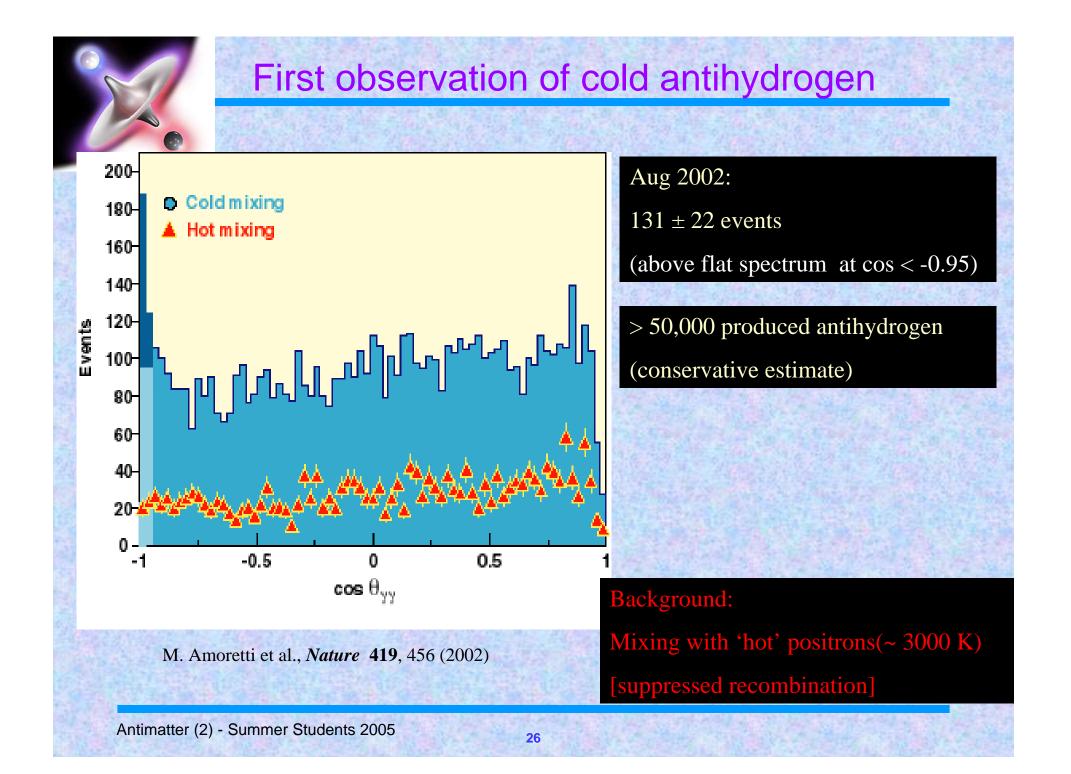
Antihydrogen Atoms are NOT captured

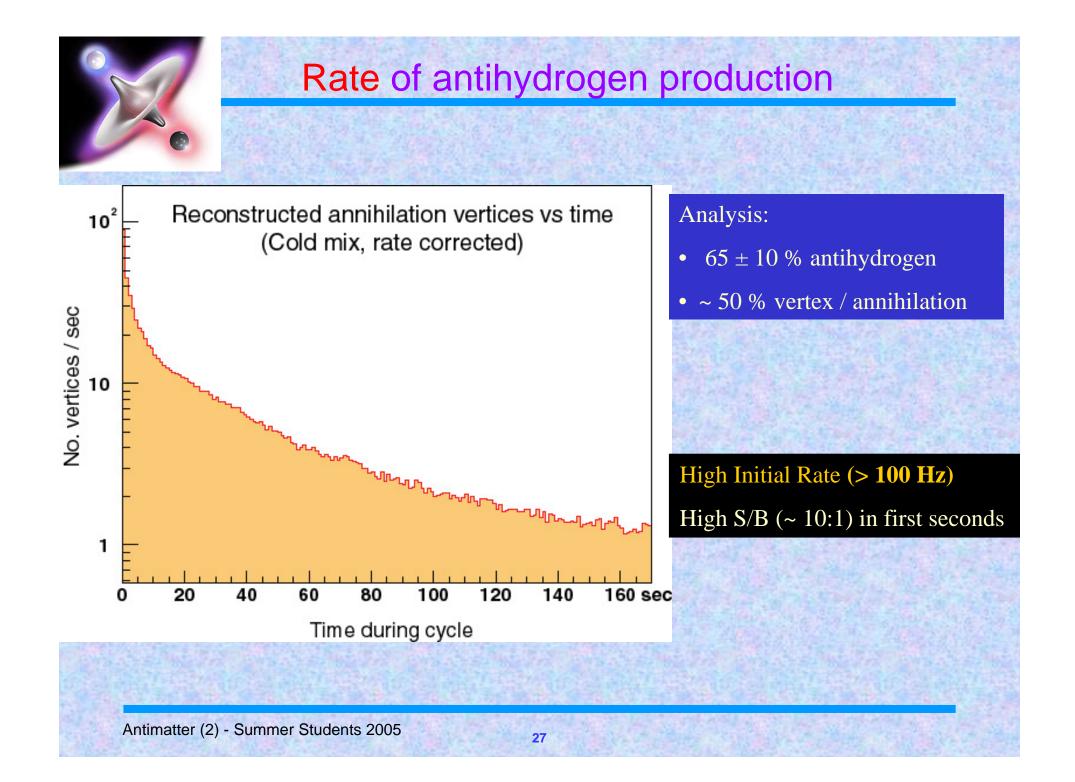






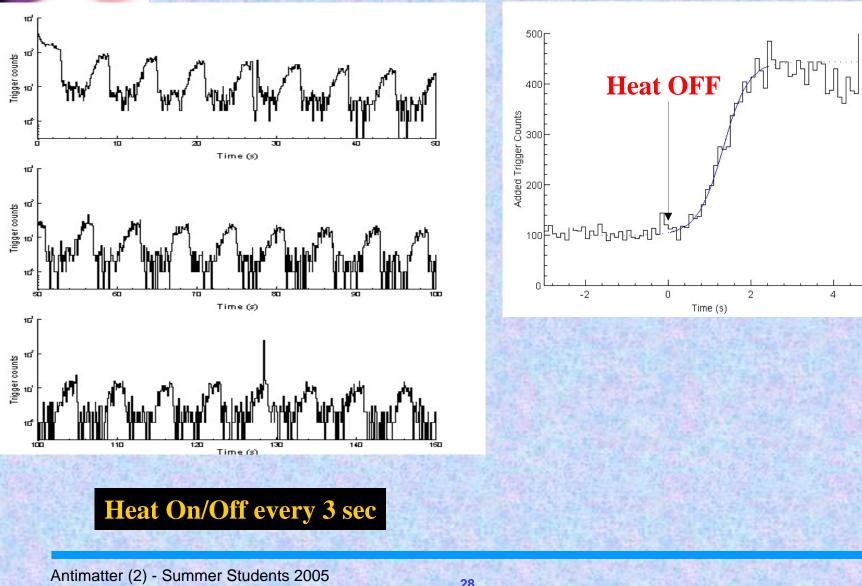


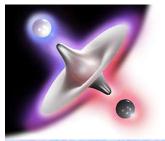






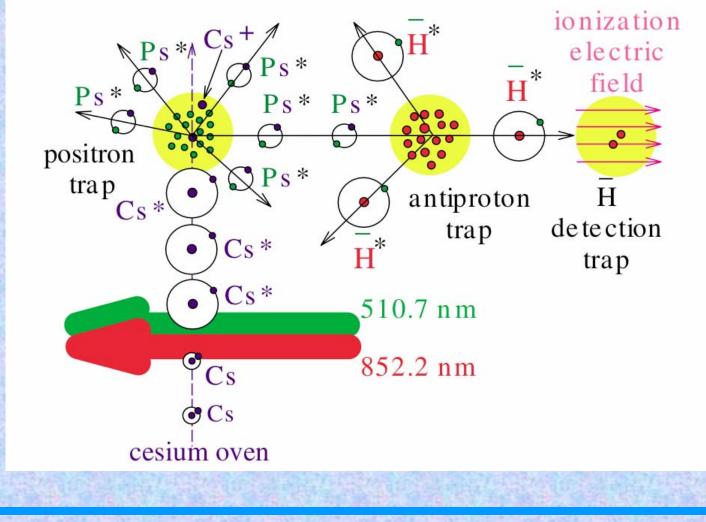
Pulsed antihydrogen production





Other ways to make antihydrogen

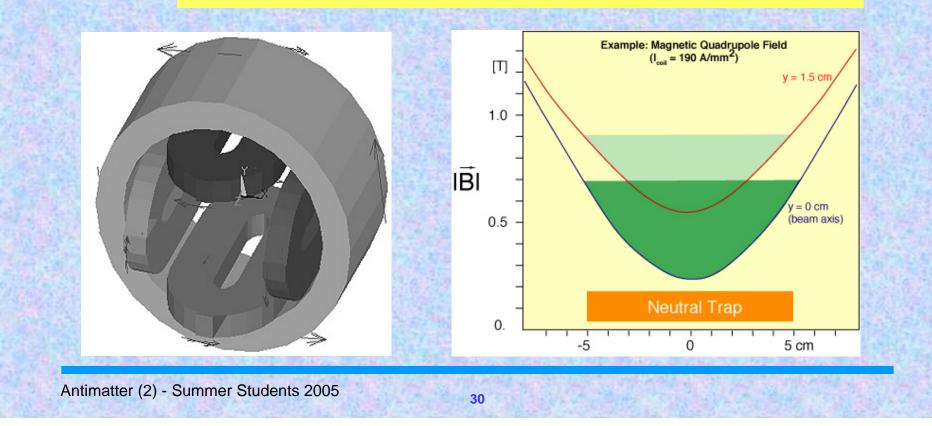
ATRAP method - colder antihydrogen (?)





Unsolved problems with antihydrogen trapping

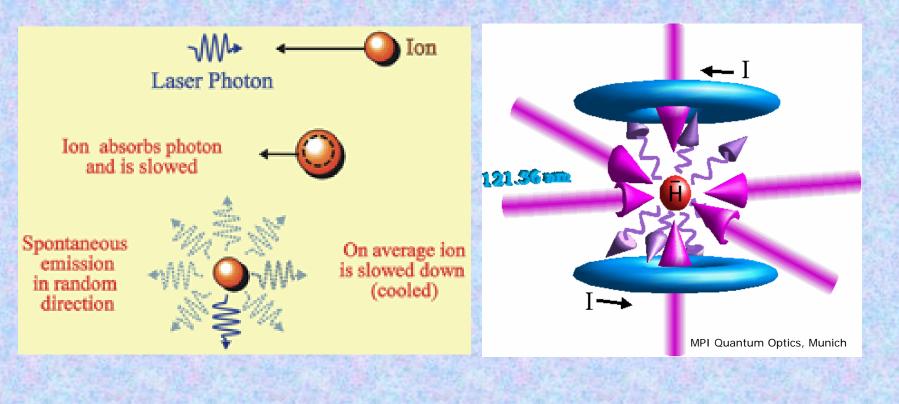
- Antihydrogen could be trapped in magnetic gradient field (quadrupole, sextupole), via magnetic moment, but:
- a) very shallow potential (~ 0.07 meV/Tesla)
- b) Anti-atoms may be too fast (>> 1 meV ?)



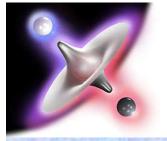


Unsolved problems with laser cooling

Antihydrogen laser cooling (121 nm) (2002: 50 nW)



Very small laser power; anti-atoms too fast



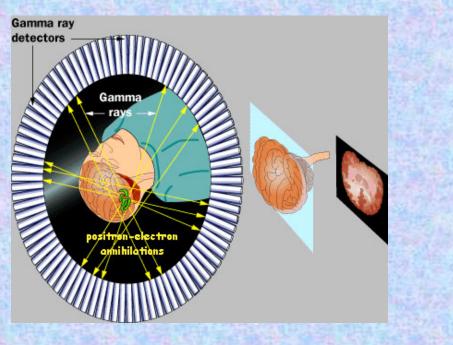
V. APPLICATIONS

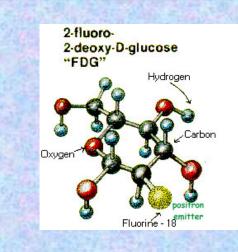


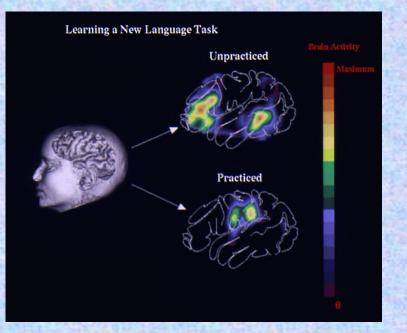
Applications of antimatter - PET

Insert e⁺ emitting isotopes (C-11, N-13, O-15, F-18) into physiologically relevant molecules (O_2 , glucose, enzymes) and inject into patient.

Study positron annihilation with crystal calorimeter (Positron Emission Tomography, PET)





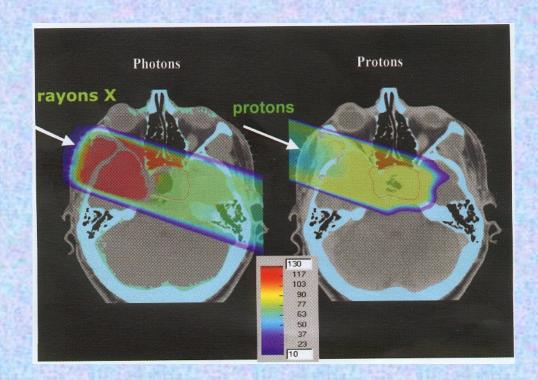


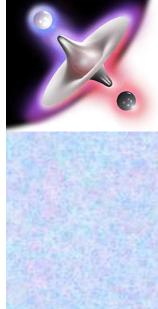


Applications of antimatter - Tumour therapy?

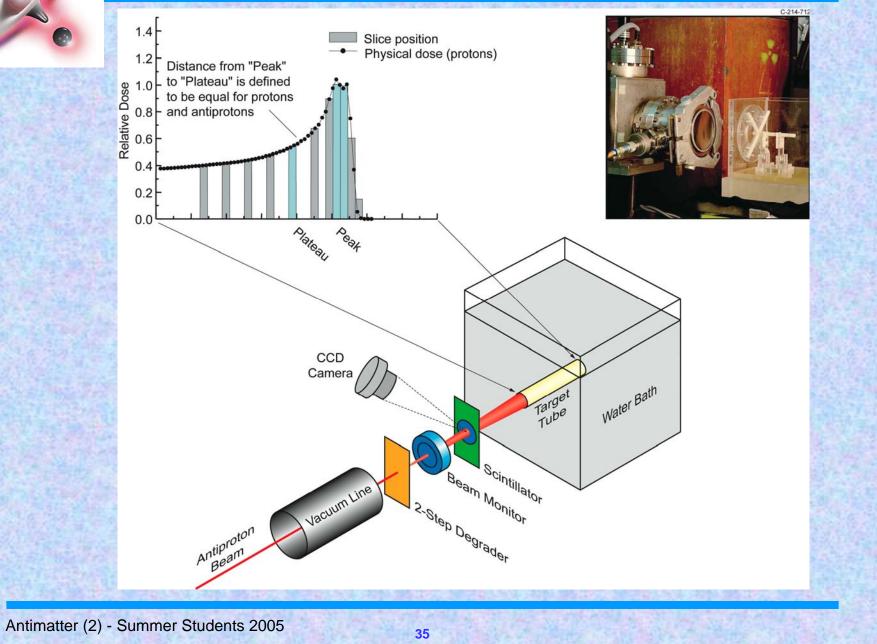
Goal: destroy tumour without (too much) harm to healthy tissue

Gammas: exponential decay (peaks at beginning) Charged particles: Bragg peak (Plateau/Peak better for high Z) Antiprotons: like protons, but enhanced Bragg peak from annihilation





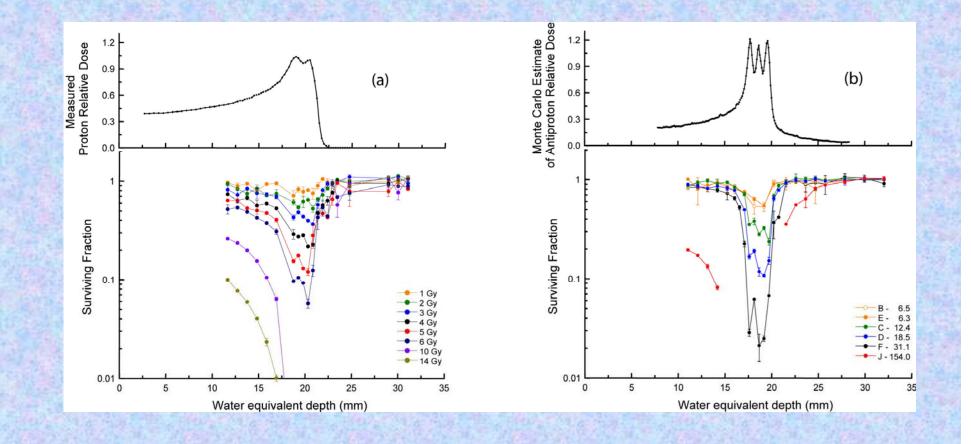
Antiproton-Cell Experiment ACE (AD-4)





Antiproton-Cell Experiment - First results

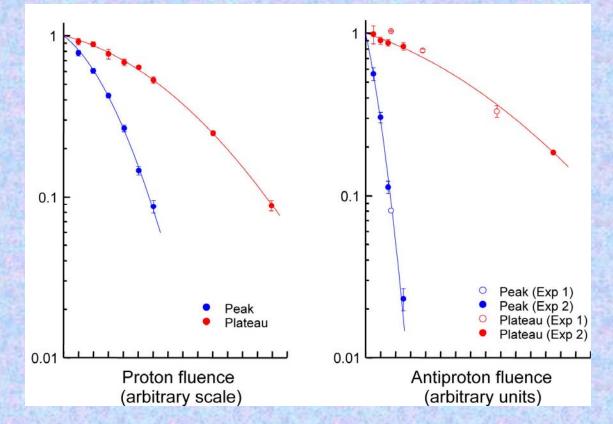
Relative biological effectiveness of antiprotons significantly higher than protons





Antiproton-Cell Experiment - First results

Same therapy effect with less radiation dose (= damage to healthy cells)

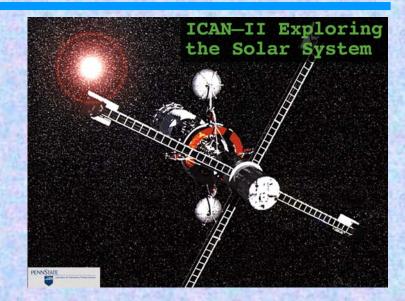


Much more work to be done, comparison with carbon ions (2005)



Antimatter driven space engines?





PROBLEMS:

- 1) Extremely low production rates (ng/yr)
- 2) Extremely low efficiency (~10⁻⁸)
- 3) Difficult storage (space charge) of antiprotons
- 4) More difficulties for antihydrogen

Until somebody finds a clever way around these problems, all this will stay fiction:

The End.