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https://tabletop.icepp.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp/?page_id=365

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- 1S-2P Ps excitation experiment by shining 243 nm UV laser

Our Target: Positronium Bose-Einstein Condensation (Ps-BEC)

- Ps must be dense and cold
- High critical temperature because of Ps light mass (14K at 10¹⁸ cm⁻³)
- One of the best candidates for the first antimatter BEC
- BEC is "Atomic laser". We would like to make the first antimatter laser and perform new experiments using the coherency of Ps-BEC.



Applications of Ps-BEC for fundamental physics

1. Antimatter gravity:

Build Ps-BEC atomic interferometer to see gravitational effect on antimatter.



• Gravity could shift phase of Ps in different paths

Phys. stat. sol. 4, 3419 (2007)

Applications of Ps-BEC for applied physics

2. <u>511 keV γ-ray laser</u>



- *o*-Ps BEC to *p*-Ps by 203 GHz RF
- *p*-Ps BEC collectively decays into coherent 511 keV gamma-rays

Phys. Rev. A 92, 023820 (2015)

Two challenges to realize Ps-BEC

Main problem

Ps lifetime is only 142 ns

Two challenges

- Instant creation of dense Ps
 > 10¹⁷ cm⁻³ in < 50 ns
- Rapid cooling of Ps
 < 10 K in ~300 ns

Our new idea:

3 technologies to realize Ps-BEC

Our new idea to realize Ps-BEC

1. Positron focusing system



Our new idea to realize Ps-BEC



Our new idea to realize Ps-BEC



Combination of Thermalization and Laser cooling is efficient enough to realize Ps-BEC

1.Thermalization

Efficient at > 200 K
 Initial Ps energy is 0.8 eV =
 6000 K.

Cooling Ps down to 100 K

2.Laser cooling

Efficient at < 200 K
 Cooling Ps down to < 10 K is
 possible

 Combining these two methods is essentially important



Details of each component



Our method to achieve dense enough e⁺ bunch for Ps-BEC

Trap → 2-Stage Brightness enhancement system (BES) → Solenoid (strong B fields)



We have shown that a high-enough density for Ps-BEC could be reached by the model.

We have considered (1) space charge limited current density (Child-Langmuir law), (2) Brillouin flow, and (3) the beam envelope equation including space charge effect. (N. Oshima, ICPA-18) 2019/10/31





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We have performed a test experiment to focus positron beams at KEK-SPF (Slow Positron Facility) Tsukuba Janan



Positron focusing test experiment at KEK-SPF





Beam profiles

- Energy : 5 keV
- Intensity : $5 \times 10^5 \ e^+/s$
- Pulse repetition : 50 Hz
- Pulse width : 16 ns

We observed the image of MCP / Phosphor screen recorded by a CCD camera. This focusing lens will be used for Ps laser cooling experiment at the same beamline if it has a good enough performance.

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Silica (SiO₂) aerogel is a good candidate. Capped the surface of the aerogel by amorphous silica thin film using plasma CVD.

0.1 g cm⁻³ Silica aerogel 50 nm pores CVD 75 nm Silica aerogel 0.5 mm 100 Fransmittance (%) $\tau = 129.9 \pm 1.1$ ns ~85% at 243 nm 80 I = 13%Good for Ps Good for Ps cooler 60 generator/condenser 40 20 0 200 300 400 500 600 700 Wavelength (nm) Parallel light transmittance measured by spectrophotometer

Timing spectrum of bulk-PALS measurement using ²²Na with t=1 mm silica aerogel 2019/10/31

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with t0.5mm silica aerogel

Test experiment to Excite Ps inside the silica aerogel pores to 2P state by shining 243 nm, 3 ns pulsed UV laser.



Core process of the Ps laser cooling

- (1) Excite Ps to 2P state by shining 243 nm UV laser.
- (2) If nothing special happens...
- Ps is de-excited to 1S state with lifetime of 3.2 ns (Lymanalpha).

→Good for laser cooling

(2') If lifetime of 2P-Ps inside

pores is short as reported in

- <u>B. S. Cooper et al. PRB 97,</u> <u>205302 (2018)....</u>
- Annihilation rate to gammarays is increased.
 - \rightarrow Bad for laser cooling

Experimental setup at KEK slow positron facility (KEK-SPF) in Tsukuba, Japan



Energy	5 keV
Intensity	∼10 ⁴ e ⁺ / pulse
Repetition	50 Hz
Pulse width	16 ns
Size	Φ ~ 10 mm

Vacuum chamber

Positrons are focused to 3 mm so that it matches the laser size.

Slow component of o-Ps annihilations is observed in silica-aerogel timing spectrum without shining UV laser.



PMT signals made by annihilation gamma-rays detected by LaBr₃(Ce) scintillator (absolute signal height)



2P-Ps annihilates into gamma-rays immediately in silica aerogel.



is very difficult. Next step: Ps laser cooling in vacuum

Details of each component





Two Requirements for Ps Laser Cooling

1. Long-pulsed laser



- 6.4 ns × 50 ~ 300 ns
- Complete the laser cooling within a single 300 ns long pulse (~ Ps lifetime 142 ns)

Two Requirements for Ps Laser Cooling

2.Broadband laser : Ps light mass: 2m_e



- Doppler broadening is 30 times larger than Hydrogen
- Broadband (150 GHz) laser is necessary to cool down all the Ps.

Overview of the cooling laser system Compact system (2.0 m×1.1 m) will be moved to KEK-SPF (Slow e⁺ Facility)



Overview of the cooling laser system Compact system (2.0 m×1.1 m) will be moved to KEK-SPF (Slow e⁺ Facility)



Our beamline (KEK-SPF-B1) has been upgraded to be laser-safe.











Three technologies to develop for Ps-BEC

Stay tuned!

