

CYLINDRICAL PENNING TRAPS WITH ORTHOGONALIZED ANHARMONICITY COMPENSATION *

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ABSTRACT

Compensated Penning traps with cylindrical ring and compensation electrodes and flat endcaps are considered as alternatives to high precision traps with hyperbolic ring and endcap electrodes. Cylindrical and flat electrodes can be more easily and precisely constructed, especially for the very small traps which are desirable for ion trapping. They are easily studied since Laplace's equation can be solved by a series expansion which is discussed in most electricity and magnetism textbooks. A central new result is that a judicious choice of the height-to-diameter ratio for a cylindrical trap makes the axial oscillation frequency of a trapped particle independent of adjustments in the compensation potential, just as has been recently proposed for hyperbolic traps. Other properties of such orthogonalized cylindrical traps appear to be adequate for particle trapping so that properly designed cylindrical traps are promising alternatives for high precision work, ready for laboratory testing. Whether or not cylindrical traps will be able to replace hyperbolic traps entirely for the highest precision work, a major point of this paper is that orthogonalized traps can be built with any reasonable electrode geometry. Special access traps with orthogonalized anharmonicity compensation are thus completely feasible, though numerical calculations will be generally required for their design.

1. INTRODUCTION

A single electron was first trapped in a Penning trap 10 years ago [1]. Subsequent progress [2] led to measurements of the magnetic moments of both the electron [3] and positron [4] to accuracies within 5×10^{-11} . The measurements of the magnetic moment anomalies are the most stringent tests of quantum electrodynamics which has recently been used to calculate the anomalies to the order α^4 [5]. Comparison of the electron and positron magnetic moments provides an unprecedented test of the invariance of the

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electron/positron system under CPT (symmetry under charge conjugation, parity, and time reversal). An experiment now underway has already produced the most accurate proton/electron mass ratio with great improvements expected when a single proton is trapped [6]. Another experiment is underway to improve the measurement of the magnetic moment of the electron to 10^{-12} or better [7].

All of the precision experiments mentioned were made in compensated Penning traps with hyperbolic ring and endcap electrodes [8]. The electrostatic properties of such traps [9] and the effect of radiofrequency potentials on the endcaps [10] have already been investigated via relaxation calculations. These calculations showed that a judicious choice of hyperbolic endcap and ring electrodes makes the axial oscillation frequency of a trapped particle independent of changes in the compensation potential [9]. A better understanding of the electrostatic properties of hyperbolic traps suggested that the ratio of minimum distances between the endcap and ring electrodes was much more important than the hyperbolic contours themselves. It seemed that hyperbolic electrodes might be less necessary for precision work than had been earlier assumed.

Compensated Penning traps with cylindrical ring and compensation electrodes and flat endcap electrodes are considered here as alternatives to hyperbolic Penning traps. Uncompensated cylindrical traps have long been used for particle containment when only a crude quadrupole potential is required [11], most commonly in ion pumps, for example. We investigate here the possibility of improving the quadrupole potential within such traps by the addition of compensation electrodes and by a judicious choice of trap dimensions so that they can be used for high precision experiments of the type mentioned above. Cylindrical electrodes have the important practical advantage that they can be machined to much greater accuracy in much less time than can hyperbolic electrodes, especially for the very small traps which may be desirable for ion trapping. The theoretical study of cylindrical traps is also much easier than the relaxation calculation used for hyperbolic traps. Laplace's equation is readily solved for a cylinder with flat ends using standard techniques discussed in most electricity and magnetism textbooks. The series solutions converge rapidly and can be evaluated with a programmable calculator.

The notation used (Sect. 2) is deliberately similar to that used earlier for hyperbolic traps [9] to facilitate a comparison of their properties. The general discussion of anharmonicity compensation is left to the earlier paper with only a brief summary provided in Sect. 2. Two cylindrical traps are considered. The first (Fig. 1 and Sect. 3) has a single cylindrical ring electrode and two flat endcaps. It can only be mechanically tuned to reduce anharmonicities. The second (in Fig. 2 and Sect. 4) is the cylindrical analog of the

successful hyperbolic traps. Compensation electrodes are included next to the endcaps and the potential on these is varied to reduce anharmonicities. A notable new result is that a judicious choice of the height-to-diameter ratio makes the axial oscillation frequency of a trapped particle independent of the compensation potential, just as occurs for the proposed orthogonalized hyperbolic trap design [9]. This is a considerable improvement over the hyperbolic traps used for the precision experiments mentioned above. Many other properties of cylindrical traps, including the axial damping by a resistor between the endcaps (Sect. 5) [10], are comparable with or superior to those for hyperbolic traps.

Perfect hyperbolic trap electrodes would certainly produce the desired quadrupole potential over a much larger trapping volume than is possible with the cylindrical geometry studied here. There is growing evidence, however, that the usable trapping volume within existing hyperbolic traps is limited by electrode misalignments and imperfections along with holes and slits in the electrodes (to admit particles and various radiofrequency and microwave drives). The extent to which this is true, and thus the extent to which a cylindrical trap can provide a comparable trapping volume, must now be tested experimentally. Whether or not cylindrical traps are capable of replacing hyperbolic traps for precision work, a major point of this paper is that orthogonalized, compensated Penning traps can be constructed for any reasonable electrode geometry. The orthogonalized configuration of hyperbolic electrodes has been determined earlier by a relaxation calculation [9]. The orthogonalized configuration of cylindrical electrodes is calculated here using well-known electrostatic techniques. Other electrode configurations, to permit special access for lasers or particle transfer, for example, are certainly possible. Determining the orthogonalized configuration will generally require a numerical calculation which is tedious but completely manageable.

2. CYLINDRICAL PENNING TRAPS

The two cylindrical Penning traps to be considered are represented in Figs. 1 and 2. Both traps are symmetric under rotations about the z axis (which is aligned along a homogeneous magnetic field) and under reflections across the xy plane. Flat grounded endcaps at potential $V_0/2$ are perpendicular to the z axis and are located at $z = \pm z_0$. Stacked cylindrical ring electrodes of radius ρ_0 complete the traps. For both configurations, the potential of the central electrode (called the ring) is $-V_0/2$ so that $V = 0$ is midway between the potentials of the endcaps and ring electrodes. This same convention was used for hyperbolic traps [9]. Compensation electrodes at potential V_c and height Δz_c are inserted next to the flat endplates in the trap

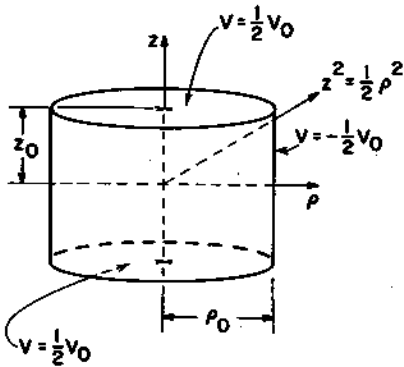


Fig. 1. Simple Penning trap with flat endcaps at $z = \pm z_0$ with potential $V_0/2$ and a single cylindrical ring electrode of radius $\rho = \rho_0$ and potential $-V_0/2$. The asymptote $z^2 = \frac{1}{2}\rho^2$ for the desired quadrupole potential is also shown. To tune out anharmonicities, z_0 could be slightly adjusted during an experiment.

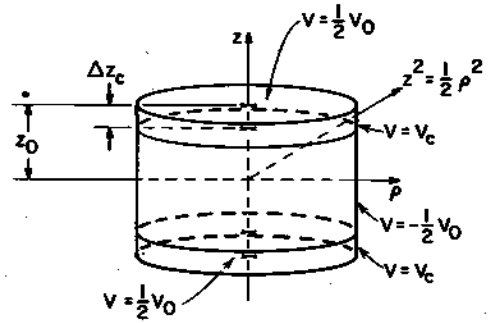


Fig. 2. Electrically compensated cylindrical trap.

of Fig. 2. The compensation potential V_c is varied to improve the potential near the center of the trap.

Complete knowledge of the potential V within these traps is generally not required because particles are typically trapped near the center of the trap. In this region (at position $[r, \theta, \phi]$ in spherical coordinates with $r \ll d$) the potential can be expanded in a familiar way in even powers of the small ratio r/d multiplied by even order Legendre polynomials $P_k(\cos \theta)$.

$$V = \frac{1}{2} V_0 \sum_{k_{\text{even}}=0}^{\infty} D_k \left[\frac{r}{d} \right]^k P_k(\cos \theta) \quad (1)$$

The distances are scaled by the characteristic trap dimension d defined in the earlier paper [9] by

$$d^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left[z_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \rho_0^2 \right] \quad (2)$$

The D_k expansion coefficients are exact counterparts of the C_k used for hyperbolic traps except that D_2 corresponds to $1 + C_2$. For an ideal quadrupole trap, all the D_k vanish except for D_2 .

The lowest order coefficients in expansion (1) are most important for particle trapping since $r \ll d$. These are discussed in detail in ref. 9. To summarize, D_0 is unobservable and is thus ignored. The second coefficient, D_2 , relates the axial oscillation frequency ω_z for the trapped particle of charge q and mass m to the trapping potential V_0 .

$$\omega_z^2 = \frac{qV_0}{md^2} D_2 \quad (3)$$

Higher-order D_k quantify trap anharmonicities. Certainly, D_4 is the most important and its most important consequence is a very undesirable amplitude-dependent shift in ω_z [12].

$$\frac{\Delta\omega_z}{\omega_z} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{D_4}{D_2} \frac{E_z}{m\omega_z^2 d^2} \quad (4)$$

The ratio of energies involves the axial excitation energy E_z and the axial well depth $m\omega_z^2 d^2$ and is typically very small. The consequences of D_6 are typically smaller still and can be included by replacing D_4 in Eq. (4) with

$$\tilde{D}_4 = D_4 + \frac{5}{2} D_6 \frac{E_z}{m\omega_z^2 d^2} \quad (5)$$

Traps are tuned to minimize amplitude-dependent shifts and/or broadening of the axial resonance. Uncompensated traps with hyperbolic electrodes [13,14] have been constructed with $|\tilde{D}_4| \approx 10^{-2}$ to 10^{-3} . Compensated traps have produced $|\tilde{D}_4| < 10^{-4}$ when carefully tuned.

To achieve very low values of D_4 , it is important to make changes, ΔD_4 , while an experiment is in progress. For the mechanically tuned trap of Fig. 1, this is accomplished by adjusting ρ_0/z_0 . For the electrically compensated trap of Fig. 2, this is accomplished by adjusting the compensation potential, V_c . Such adjustments, however, will generally also produce a change ΔD_2 (and hence a highly undesirable change in ω_z) as well. A quality factor γ was defined earlier to quantify this trade-off [9]. For our purposes

$$\gamma \equiv \frac{\Delta D_2}{\Delta D_4} \quad (6)$$

with ΔD_2 and ΔD_4 both resulting from the same anharmonicity adjustment. Ideally, γ would vanish so that ω_z is completely unaffected by anharmonicity adjustments. The orthogonalized hyperbolic trap proposed in ref. 9 and its cylindrical counterpart in Sect. 4 allow the ideal value of $\gamma = 0$ to be realized in principle. As a reference value, all of the precision measurements referred to earlier were done with asymptotically symmetric Penning traps with hyperbolic electrodes and electrical frequency compensation for which $\gamma \approx 0.56$.

3. MECHANICALLY COMPENSATED TRAP

The simplest cylindrical Penning trap in Fig. 1 has only a single cylindrical ring electrode. A series solution for the potential within this trap

$$V = V_0 \left[\frac{1}{2} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n J_0[ik_n \rho] \cos[k_n z] \right] \quad (7)$$

is readily obtained by standard techniques which are discussed in most textbooks. The constants

$$k_n = \frac{[n + \frac{1}{2}] \pi}{z_0} \quad (8)$$

are defined so that the cosine factors (which are even under the reflections $z \rightarrow -z$) vanish on the endcaps. The zero-order Bessel function suffices because of invariance under rotations about the z axis. Despite its imaginary argument, this function is real and easily evaluated from the well-known expansion

$$J_0(ix) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(j!)^2} \left[\frac{x}{2} \right]^{2j} \quad (9)$$

Inverting Eq. (7) by integrating over the trap electrodes in the standard way yields

$$A_n = 4 \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{(2n+1) \pi J_0[ik_n \rho_0]} \quad (10)$$

which, along with Eq. (7) comprises a complete and unique solution to Laplace's equation for the boundary conditions in Fig. 1.

For particle trapping, we are interested in the coefficients D_k for expansion (1) for small r/d . The D_k of Eq. (1) can be simply related to the A_n of Eq. (7) by evaluating both expansions on the z axis. Equating coefficients of z^k yields (for $k > 0$ and even)

$$D_k = 2 \frac{(-1)^{k/2}}{k!} \left[\frac{\pi}{2} \right]^k \left[\frac{d}{z_0} \right]^k \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (2n+1)^k A_n \quad (11)$$

Substituting the A_n for the simple trap of Fig. 1 yields (again for $k > 0$ and even)

$$D_k = \frac{(-1)^{k/2}}{k!} \frac{\pi^{k-1}}{2^{k-3}} \left[\frac{d}{z_0} \right]^k \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1} (2n+1)^{k-1}}{J_0[ik_n \rho_0]} \quad (12)$$

Observe that the D_k are functions of only ρ_0/z_0 as might be expected and that the series converges rapidly since, for large arguments, $J_0(ix)$ goes as $e^x/(2\pi x)^{1/2}$.

The series expression for D_k in Eq. (12) can be evaluated with a hand calculator. Figure 3 shows D_2 , D_4 and D_6 as functions of ρ_0/z_0 . Observe that D_4 vanishes at

$$\rho_0 \approx 1.203 z_0 \quad (13)$$

For this choice, $D_2 \approx 1.126$ and $D_6 \approx -0.095$. Achieving small values of D_4 in a laboratory trap will be much more likely if D_4 can be tuned during an

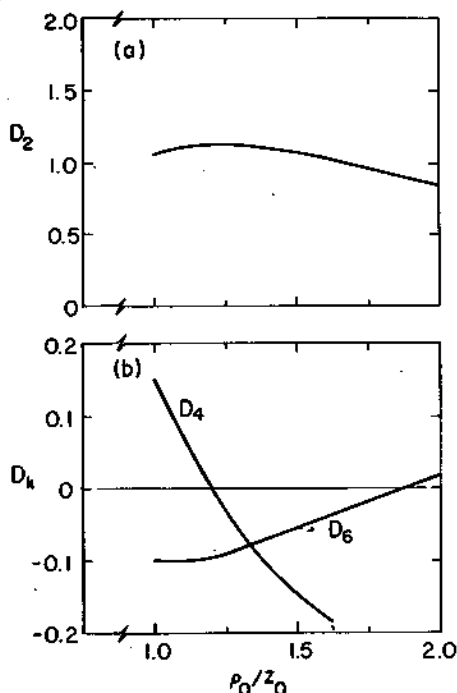


Fig. 3. Lowest order D_k for the simple trap of Fig. 1 as a function of ρ_0/z_0 .

experiment. The most feasible adjustment for the trap of Fig. 1 is a small change in ρ_0/z_0 [from the value in Eq. (13) which makes $D_4 = 0$ for a perfect trap] by sliding an endcap in or out of the ring slightly. Such mechanical anharmonicity compensation is characterized by the derivative

$$\frac{\partial [D_4/D_2]}{\partial [z_0/\rho_0]} \approx 0.81 \quad (14)$$

and by the very respectable quality factor

$$\gamma \approx -0.095 \quad (15)$$

because D_2 is near a maximum. Notice, however, that to reduce $|\tilde{D}_4|$ below 10^{-4} (as has been done in electrically compensated traps with hyperbolic electrodes) requires adjusting z_0/ρ_0 to within 10^{-4} of the optimal value, which makes $D_4 = 0$. This is a very rigorous requirement, especially considering the high vacuum and low temperature environments often used for precision experiments.

4. ELECTRICALLY COMPENSATED CYLINDRICAL TRAPS

The electrically compensated trap of Fig. 2 is the cylindrical counterpart of the highly successful hyperbolic traps. Anharmonicity compensation (i.e.

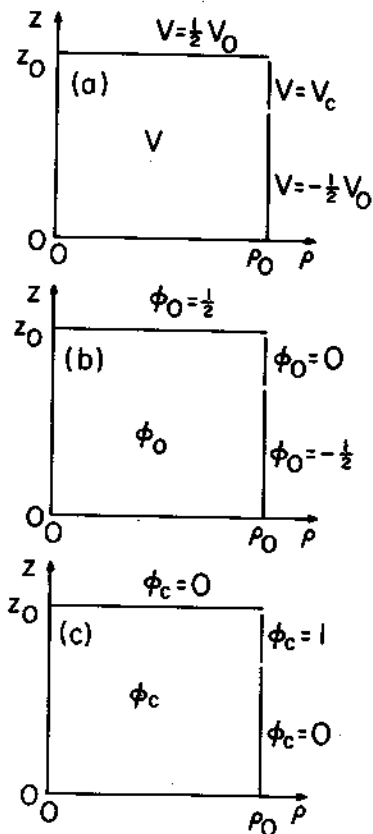


Fig. 4. Boundary conditions for the electrically compensated cylindrical trap of Fig. 2 in (a) and for the solutions to Laplace's equation ϕ_0 and ϕ_c in (b) and (c). Symmetry under rotations about the z axis and under the reflection $z \rightarrow -z$ are assumed.

the reduction of the magnitude of D_4) is accomplished while an experiment is in place by tuning the compensation potential V_c . The properties of the cylindrical traps are compared with the properties of the hyperbolic traps. This is possible because the properties of the latter have been established quantitatively by a relaxation calculation [9]. To facilitate the comparison, the notation in the next several paragraphs is exactly analogous to that discussed in more detail in ref. 9.

The boundary conditions for the trap of Fig. 2 [repeated in Fig. 4(a) for $\rho \geq 0$ and $z \geq 0$] are a superposition of the boundary conditions in Fig. 4(b) and (c). Solutions to Laplace's equation, ϕ_0 and ϕ_c , are defined by these latter boundary conditions and by the invariance of these solutions under the reflection $z \rightarrow -z$. Thus the potential within the trap is given by

$$V = V_0 \phi_0 + V_c \phi_c \quad (16)$$

and, as a result, each D_k in the expansion (1) for small r/d is again the sum of two terms

$$D_k = D_k^{(0)} + \left[V_0 \frac{\partial D_k}{\partial V_c} \right] \frac{V_c}{V_0} \quad (17)$$

The $D_k^{(0)}$ pertain to a compensation potential $V_c = 0$ which is midway between the endcap and ring potentials. A non-zero compensation potential V_c produces the second term which can be used to cancel the first and thus eliminate a troublesome D_k , typically D_4 . The constants $V_0 \partial D_k / \partial V_c$ are called the tunabilities for D_k because they quantify a trap's ability to tune out the D_k .

It is important to realize that the dimensionless constants $D_k^{(0)}$ and $V_0 \partial D_k / \partial V_c$ are actually properties only of the trap geometry and are independent of V_0 , V_c and d . These constants are, in fact, the expansion coefficients for the expansion of ϕ_0 and ϕ_c in r/d with

$$\phi_0 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k_{\text{even}}=0}^{\infty} D_k^{(0)} \left[\frac{r}{d} \right]^k P_k(\cos \theta) \quad (18)$$

and

$$\phi_c = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k_{\text{even}}=0}^{\infty} \left[V_0 \frac{\partial D_k}{\partial V_c} \right] \left[\frac{r}{d} \right]^k P_k(\cos \theta) \quad (19)$$

The earlier paper contains a more detailed discussion of these expansions [9].

Both ϕ_0 and ϕ_c can be solved analytically using the standard techniques reviewed in Sect. 3. Solving for ϕ_0 yields (for $k > 0$ and even)

$$D_k^{(0)} = \frac{(-1)^{k/2}}{k!} \frac{\pi^{k-1}}{2^{k-3}} \left[\frac{d}{z_0} \right]^k \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1} (2n+1)^{k-1} \cos^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} k_n \Delta z_c \right]}{J_0 [ik_n \rho_0]} \quad (20)$$

Solving for ϕ_c yields (again for $k > 0$ and even)

$$V_0 \frac{\partial D_k}{\partial V_c} = \frac{(-1)^{k/2}}{k!} \frac{\pi^{k-1}}{2^{k-3}} \left[\frac{d}{z_0} \right]^k \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n (2n+1)^{k-1} 2 \sin^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} k_n \Delta z_c \right]}{J_0 [ik_n \rho_0]} \quad (21)$$

Notice that, in the limit, the compensation electrode goes to zero height (i.e. $\Delta z_c \rightarrow 0$), the tunabilities $V_0 \partial D_k / \partial V_c$ vanish term by term and the $D_k^{(0)}$ become the D_k in Eq. (12), which pertain to the simple trap of Fig. 1. More generally, the D_k for the simple trap of Fig. 1 are equal to the sum of $D_k^{(0)}$ and $-1/2(V_0 \partial D_k / \partial V_c)$ as must be by Eq. (17) when the compensation potential V_c is equal to the ring potential $-V_0/2$.

The quality factor γ of Eq. (6) is given for electrically compensated traps by [9]

$$\gamma = V_0 \frac{\partial D_2}{\partial V_c} / V_0 \frac{\partial D_4}{\partial V_c} \quad (22)$$

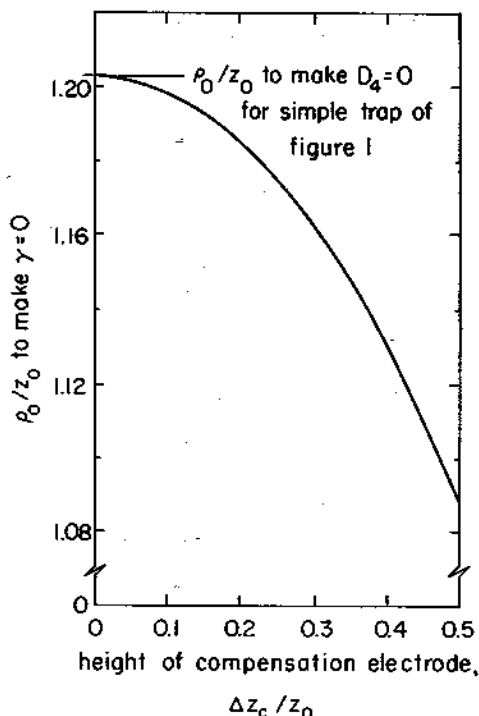


Fig. 5. The ratio ρ_0/z_0 required to make the axial oscillation frequency ω_z of a particle trapped in the trap of Fig. 2 independent of the compensation potential V_c applied to a compensation electrode of height Δz_c .

Thus, γ can be evaluated from Eq. (21) as a function of ρ_0/z_0 and $\Delta z_c/z_0$. From Eq. (6), $\gamma = 0$ means that the necessary adjustments of the compensation potential V_c , to tune out anharmonicities, produce no corresponding changes in the axial oscillation frequency ω_z . The required ρ_0/z_0 is plotted in Fig. 5 as a function of $\Delta z_c/z_0$. It changes by only 10% for $\Delta z_c/z_0$ ranging from 0 to 1/2. Notice that the ratio ρ_0/z_0 required to make $\gamma = 0$ varies around the value

$$\rho_0 \approx 1.16z_0 \quad (23)$$

which is precisely the ratio required to make $\gamma = 0$ in a hyperbolic trap [9]. Notice also in Fig. 5 that in the limit $\Delta z_c \rightarrow 0$, the ratio ρ_0/z_0 required to make $\gamma = 0$ goes to the limiting value which makes $D_4 = 0$ for the simple trap of Fig. 1. To see how this comes about, observe that $V_0 \partial D_k / \partial V_c$ and its first derivative with respect to Δz_c both vanish as $\Delta z_c \rightarrow 0$. Setting the second derivative of $V_0 \partial D_2 / \partial V_c$ equal to zero (to make $\gamma = 0$ in the limit $\Delta z_c \rightarrow 0$) produces the same condition on ρ_0/z_0 as does setting D_4 [of Eq. (12)] equal to zero for the trap of Fig. 1.

Mechanical imperfections in ρ_0/z_0 for laboratory traps with cylindrical and hyperbolic electrodes will, of course, prevent $\gamma = 0$ from being realized exactly. For cylindrical traps constructed to have $\gamma = 0$ (by choosing ρ_0/z_0 from Fig. 5)

$$\frac{\partial\gamma}{\partial[\rho_0/z_0]} \approx 2.66 \quad (24)$$

to within 1% for $\Delta z_c/z_0$ ranging from 0 to 1/2. A realizable imprecision of 10^{-3} in ρ_0/z_0 , for example, thus means that $|\gamma| \approx 2 \times 10^{-3}$, which is still very much better than the $|\gamma| \approx 0.56$ for asymptotically symmetric traps with hyperbolic electrodes. The orthogonalized (i.e. $\gamma = 0$) traps with hyperbolic electrodes are more sensitive to imprecisions in ρ_0/z_0 than are the cylindrical traps. For example, the hyperbolic trap with $\gamma = 0$ described in Fig. 13 of ref. 9 has

$$\frac{\partial\gamma}{\partial[\rho_0/z_0]} \approx 20 \quad (25)$$

which is a factor of seven more sensitive to imprecisions in ρ_0/z_0 .

The tunabilities $V_0\partial D_k/\partial V_c$ for $k > 2$ are typically several orders of magnitude greater for cylindrical traps than for hyperbolic traps because the compensation potential is not so severely screened by the endcap and ring electrodes. As a result, anharmonicity compensation in a cylindrical trap differs from a hyperbolic trap in that a much smaller change in the compensation potential is required to change D_4 by a given amount. Figure 6 shows $V_0\partial D_4/\partial V_c$ for cylindrical traps with $\gamma = 0$ as a function of the height of the compensation electrode, $\Delta z_c/z_0$. For $\Delta z_c = 0$, this tunability vanishes as it must. By $\Delta z_c/z_0 = 0.3$, however, $V_0\partial D_4/\partial V_c$ is already equal to -0.18 or several orders of magnitude larger (in magnitude) than is typical for hyperbolic traps. To tune this particular cylindrical trap to make $|D_4| < 10^{-4}$ (as has been accomplished in compensated traps with hyperbolic electrodes) thus requires an adjustment of V_c/V_0 to within 5×10^{-4} of its optimum value. Figure 6 also shows $V_0\partial D_6/\partial V_c$. Although this tunability is also much larger than for hyperbolic traps, the ratio of $V_0\partial D_6/\partial V_c$ to $V_0\partial D_4/\partial V_c$ is approximately the same.

The $D_k^{(0)}$ for a cylindrical trap are also much larger than those calculated for a perfect hyperbolic trap because the trap electrodes are much less along equipotentials of the desired quadrupole potential. For small enough energy E_z in the axial oscillation, only $D_4^{(0)}$ is important and it can be compensated. The required compensation potential to make $D_4 = 0$ in Eq. (4) is given by the ratio of $-D_4^{(0)}$ and $V_0\partial D_4/\partial V_c$. This ratio is plotted in Fig. 7. The required compensation potential is thus approximately given by $V_c/V_0 \approx -1/3$, which is still conveniently between the endcap and ring potentials.

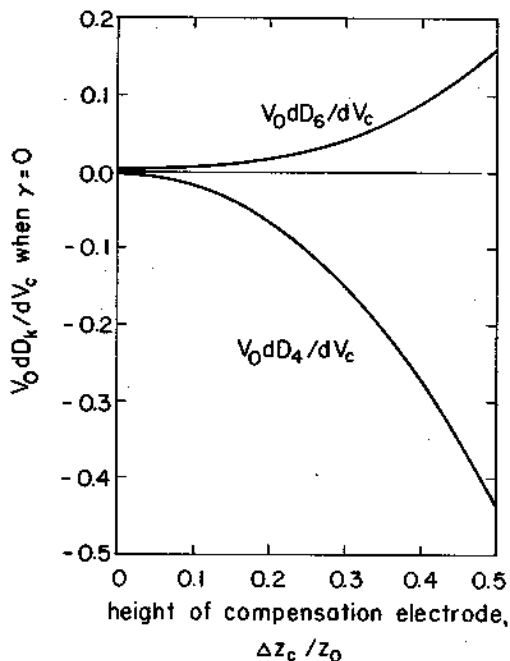


Fig. 6. The tunabilities $V_0 \partial D_4 / \partial V_c$ and $V_0 \partial D_6 / \partial V_c$ as a function of $\Delta z_c / z_0$ for the trap of Fig. 2 when ρ_0 / z_0 is chosen (from Fig. 5) to make $\gamma = 0$.

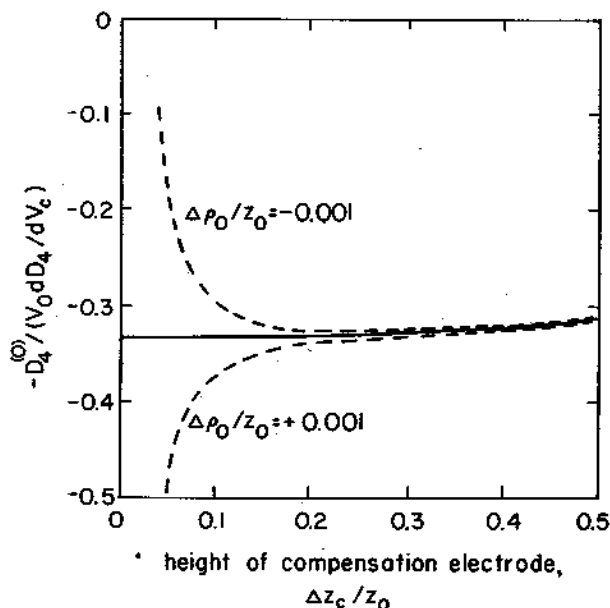


Fig. 7. The ratio of $-D_4^{(0)}$ to $V_0 \partial D_4 / \partial V_c$ as a function of $\Delta z_c / z_0$ for the trap of Fig. 2 when ρ_0 / z_0 is chosen (from Fig. 5) to make $\gamma = 0$ (solid lines) and for ρ_0 / z_0 slightly larger and smaller than these values (broken lines). For perfectly aligned electrodes with no holes, slits, or imperfections, the vertical scale is the normalized compensation potential V_c / V_0 required to make D_4 vanish.

The broken lines are included in Fig. 7 to emphasize the sensitivity to imprecisions in ρ_0/z_0 for thin compensation electrodes. They represent departures of $\pm 10^{-3}$ from the value of ρ_0/z_0 required to make $\gamma = 0$ and are not very important for $\Delta z_c/z_0 > 0.2$.

Figure 7 must be interpreted carefully because misalignments, holes, slits and imperfections modify $D_4^{(0)}$ (and higher order $D_k^{(0)}$) so that the plotted values must be regarded as limiting values to be approached in the limit of a perfect cylindrical trap. As an example, one hyperbolic trap tuned at $|V_c/V_0| \approx 10$, which corresponds to $|D_4^{(0)}| \approx 0.04$. Another was disassembled and reassembled and $D_4^{(0)}$ changed by approximately 0.003 in the process, presumably because of different electrode alignment. In both cases, the calculated values of $D_4^{(0)}$ were much smaller [9]. We must expect similar variations from the values plotted in Fig. 7 for cylindrical traps. The perfect trap estimates could be much better than was the case for hyperbolic traps, however, because the calculated $D_4^{(0)}$ is several orders of magnitude greater and thus might even dominate the contributions from imperfections. Even if it turns out that $D_4^{(0)}$ cannot be predicted accurately (as for hyperbolic traps), it will still be possible to tune V_c to make $D_4 = 0$. For small E_z , cylindrical traps are as good as hyperbolic traps.

For larger axial excitations, the contributions of D_6 to $\Delta\omega_z$ [as given in Eq. (5)] must also be considered. These contributions are quadratic in $E_z/m\omega_z^2 d^2$. For a compensation potential which makes $D_4 = 0$, these contributions are substantial, as may be seen from Fig. 8. Fortunately, for a single trapped particle, the effect of D_6 may also be compensated by a slight additional adjustment of the compensation potential. To get a rough idea of how this comes about, consider the compensation potential which makes $\Delta\omega_z = 0$ in Eqs. (4) and (5).

$$\left[\frac{V_c}{V_0} \right]_{\tilde{\delta}_4=0} \approx \frac{-D_4^{(0)}}{V_0(\partial D_4/\partial V_c)} \left[1 + \frac{1}{2} D \frac{E_z}{m\omega_z^2 d^2} \right] \quad (26)$$

The leading term is just the ratio plotted in Fig. 7 and discussed above. The factor in square brackets represents a small amplitude dependence in the compensation potential required to minimize amplitude-dependent shifts in ω_z . The constant D is given by

$$D = \frac{D_6^{(0)}}{D_4^{(0)}} - \frac{V_0(\partial D_6/\partial V_c)}{V_0(\partial D_4/\partial V_c)} \quad (27)$$

and Eq. (26) presupposes that both terms comprising D are not large. In Fig. 9, D is plotted and is of order unity for $\Delta z_c/z_0 > 0.2$. Even for an imperfect trap for which $D_4^{(0)}$ and $D_6^{(0)}$ differ substantially from the values for a perfect trap, it may be reasonable to suppose that their ratio, and hence D , will not

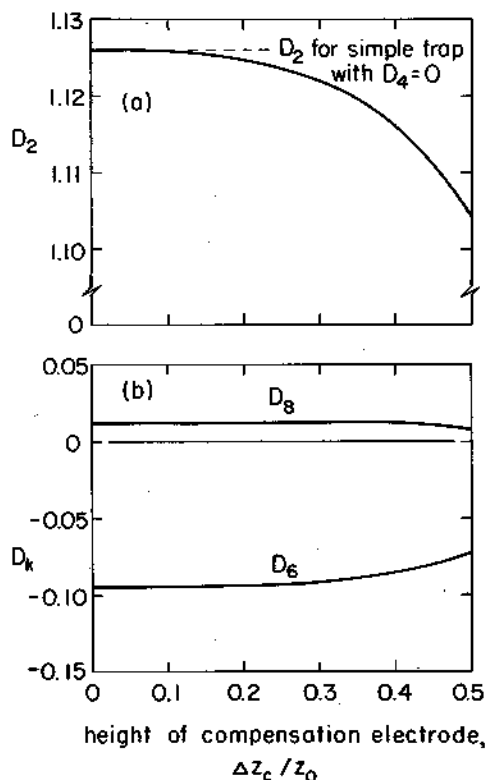


Fig. 8. The net D_4 , D_6 and D_8 for the trap of Fig. 2 when ρ_0/z_0 as chosen (from Fig. 5) to make $\gamma = 0$ and the value of V_c/V_0 (from Fig. 7) is applied to make $D_4 = 0$.

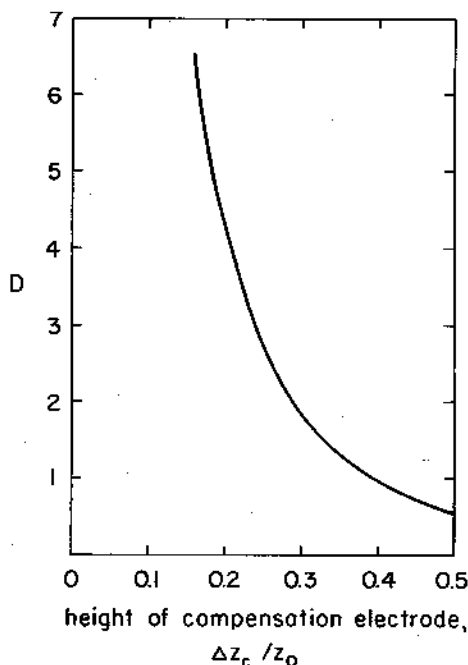


Fig. 9. The constant D which describes the amplitude dependence of the compensation potential which is required to minimize anharmonicities.

differ substantially from unity. For a single particle with $E_z/m\omega_z^2 d^2$ of order 10^{-3} as claimed in ref. 3, the amplitude dependence should be very small.

The scenario presented for compensating D_6 may well be too optimistic. Trap imperfections which are not symmetric under $z \rightarrow -z$ and thermal noise potentials will certainly complicate matters. While perfect hyperbolic electrodes would certainly provide a larger harmonic trapping volume than would perfect cylindrical trap electrodes, there is growing evidence that holes, slits, misalignments and imperfections are presently limiting the harmonic trapping volume for existing hyperbolic traps. To what extent this is true, and thus to what extent a cylindrical trap will be useful for precision work, must now be tested experimentally.

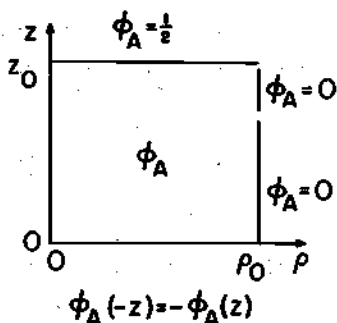


Fig. 10. Boundary conditions which uniquely determine the solution to Laplace's equation ϕ_A along with axial symmetry about the z axis and antisymmetry under the reflection $z \rightarrow -z$.

5. DAMPING AND DRIVING THE AXIAL RESONANCE

Damping and driving the axial oscillation was discussed earlier by Wine-land and Dehmelt [15]. More recently, a relaxation calculation was used to calculate the key constants for hyperbolic traps [10]. Rather than repeat these discussions, we shall simply state the results for cylindrical traps. They do not differ substantially from the hyperbolic case.

The required solution to Laplace's equation is called ϕ_A as in ref. 10. It is defined uniquely by its boundary conditions in Fig. 10 and by its antisymmetry under reflections $z \rightarrow -z$. For small r/z_0

$$\phi_A = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k_{\text{odd}}=1}^{\infty} B_k \left[\frac{r}{z_0} \right]^k P_k(\cos \theta) \quad (28)$$

As in the earlier paper [10], distances are scaled here by z_0 rather than by d because for large ρ_0/z_0 the solution ϕ_A , and hence the B_k , approach limiting values which are independent of ρ_0 .

The lowest order coefficient, B_1 , is certainly the most important for particles trapped near the center of the trap, where $r/z_0 \ll 1$. In this region, $\phi_A \approx B_1 z/2z_0$ so that B_1 is the measure of a uniform electric field at the center of the trap. A small potential, V_{DC} , applied across the endcaps produces an axial force $\partial(qV_{\text{DC}}\phi_A)/\partial z$ on a trapped particle. The potential V_{DC} can be oscillatory as long as its wavelength is much larger than the trap dimensions. One consequence is that a small static potential V_{DC} applied across the endcaps moves the center of the axial oscillation from $z = 0$ to the metastable equilibrium value of

$$z_e = \frac{d^2}{2z_0} B_1 \frac{qV_{\text{DC}}}{m\omega^2 d^2} \quad (29)$$

Such potentials have been used in hyperbolic traps. A resistor, R , connected between the endcaps will damp the axial oscillation with damping constant [10,15].

$$\Gamma_z = \frac{1}{m} \left[\frac{qB_1}{2z_0} \right]^2 R \quad (30)$$

Notice that Γ_z goes as the square of B_1 .

An explicit expression for the B_k is easy to obtain by solving for $\phi_A - z/2z_0$ using the standard techniques reviewed in Sect. 3. The result is (for $k > 0$ and odd)

$$B_k = \delta_{k,1} + \frac{2(i\pi)^{k-1}}{k!} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n n^{k-1}}{J_0[in\pi\rho_0/z_0]} \quad (31)$$

The B_k are easily evaluated. The first three are plotted in Fig. 11 as a function of a much wider range of $\rho_0^2/2z_0^2$ than is useful for trap design so that limiting values are clearly exhibited. For large ρ_0/z_0 , B_1 goes to 1 and all other B_k vanish. This corresponds to a constant electric field between two infinitely extended capacitor plates. As the ring is pulled in toward the center of the trap, electric field lines increasingly terminate on the ring rather than penetrating through the center of the trap so that B_1 decreases. Then, B_3 and B_5 increase in magnitude to compensate. For smallest ρ_0/z_0 , exponential screening sets in and all the B_k go rapidly to zero.

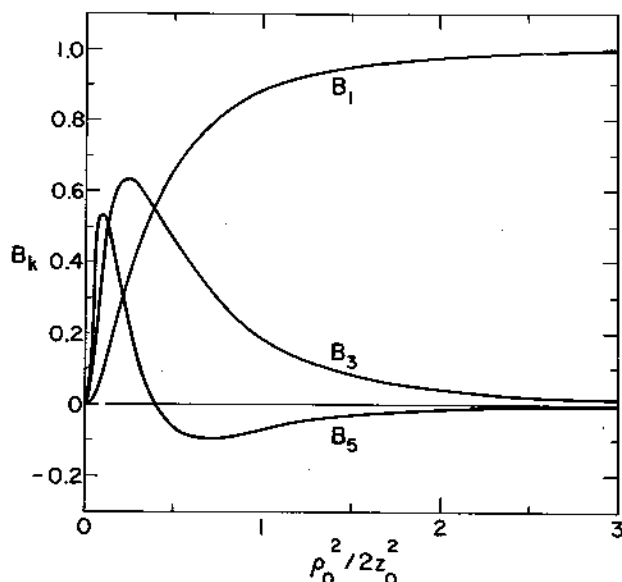


Fig. 11. Lowest-order expansion coefficient B_k for ϕ_A as a function of $\rho_0^2/2z_0^2$.

6. CONCLUSION

Penning traps with flat endcap and cylindrical ring electrodes are shown to be promising alternatives to the existing traps with hyperbolic electrodes, even for precision work. The electrostatic potential within such traps is calculated using standard series solutions to Laplace's equation. Coefficients which are important for particle trapping are discussed and plotted to facilitate trap design.

An important new result is that a judicious choice of the relative dimensions of the electrically compensated, cylindrical trap makes the axial oscillation frequency of a trapped particle completely independent of adjustments in the potential applied to the compensation electrodes. Such adjustments are required to make the motion of the particle more harmonic. The "magic" geometry which produces such orthogonalized anharmonicity compensation has now been found for hyperbolic and cylindrical traps. It has also become clear that such orthogonalized anharmonicity compensation will be possible for other trap configurations as well, to permit special access to the center of the trap, though numerical computations will generally be required to identify the "magic" dimensions.

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