

Measurements of Cosmic Rays



Alexey Yushkov*

*FZU — Institute of Physics of the Czech Academy of Sciences

The Pierre Auger Collaboration, Av. San Martín Norte 304, 5613 Malargüe, Argentina

<http://www.auger.org>



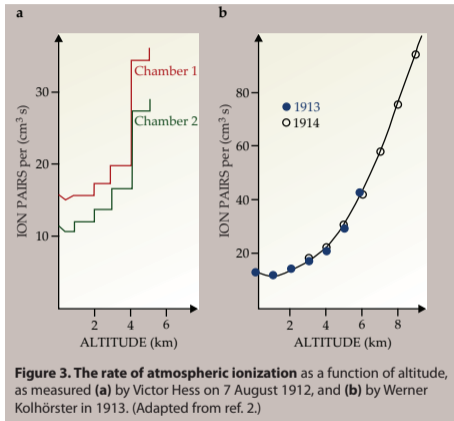
Faculty
of Science

Palacký University
Olomouc



Discovery of cosmic rays

Victor Franz Hess, balloon flights (1912): cosmic origin of radiation explaining discharge of electroscopes



Nobel Prize (1936)

“... new vistas for the understanding of the structure and origin of matter”

Early days and new particles

Dmitri Skobeltsyn (1927): cloud-chamber photo of cosmic ray tracks

Robert Millikan (1928): name “cosmic rays”

Werner Kolhörster and Walther Bothe (1929): coincidence in Geiger–Müller counters interlaid with 4 cm of gold

Arthur Compton (1932): corpuscular nature of the radiation

Bruno Rossi (1932, 1933): cosmic rays traverse one meter of lead, cosmic radiation is mostly positive

Carl Anderson (1932): discovery of positron (Nobel Prize (1936) together with Hess)

Carl Anderson, Seth Neddermeyer (1936): discovery of ‘meson’ (mass between electron and proton) → muon

Marcel Schein (1940): cosmic rays should be mostly protons

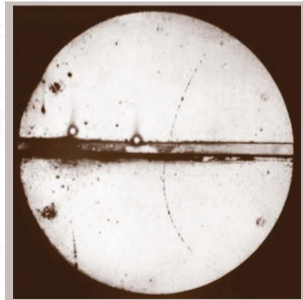
George Rochester and Clifford Butler (1947): discovery of neutral K meson

Cecil Powell (1947): discovery of pion (Nobel Prize 1950)

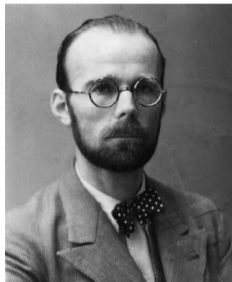
Discovery of Λ hyperon (1947)

Cecil Powell (1948): discovery of positive K meson

Cosmic rays contain not only protons but also heavier nuclei (1947)



Discovery of extensive air showers



Pierre Victor Auger (1938)

cascades of particles produced by cosmic rays in the atmosphere

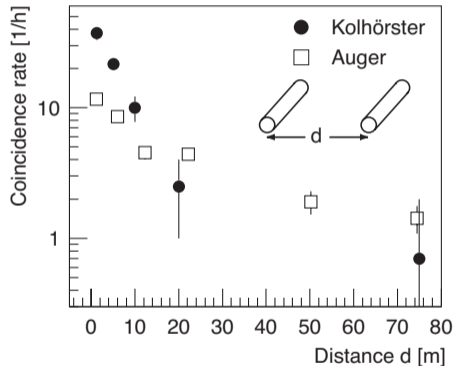
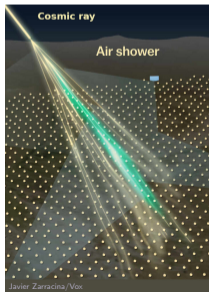


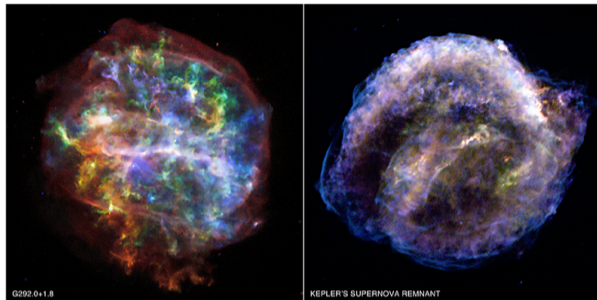
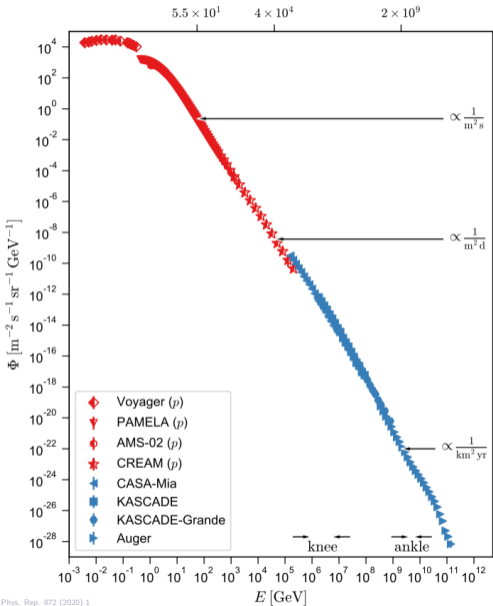
FIGURE 7. *Left:* Coincidence rate as a function of the distance between two Geiger-Müller counters as obtained by W. Kolhörster [23] and P. Auger [24]. *Right:* P. Auger measuring air showers at the Jungfrauoch in Switzerland [25].



Cosmic rays below 100 TeV

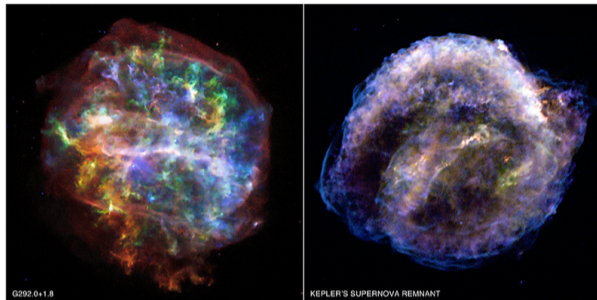
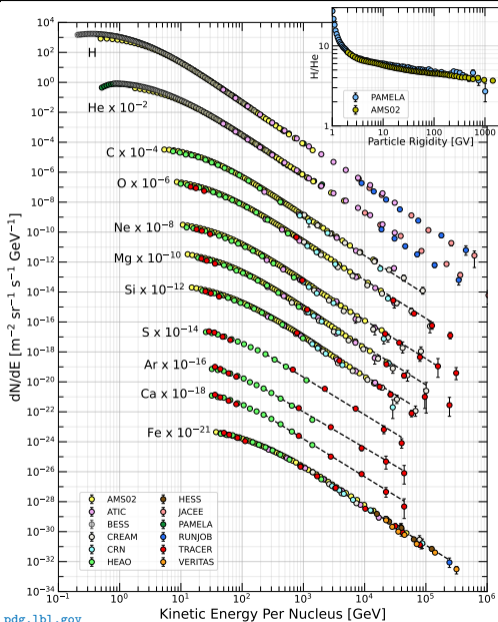
direct measurements

Energy spectrum of nuclear species: direct measurements



Cosmic rays \equiv charged particles
 mostly atomic nuclei $\approx 90\%$ H, 9% He, 1% 'metals' ($Z > 2$),
 with small amount of electrons, positrons, antiprotons

Energy spectrum of nuclear species: direct measurements

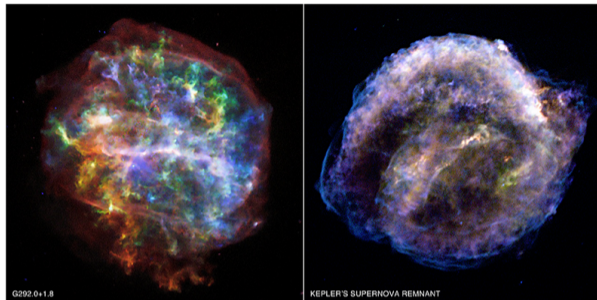
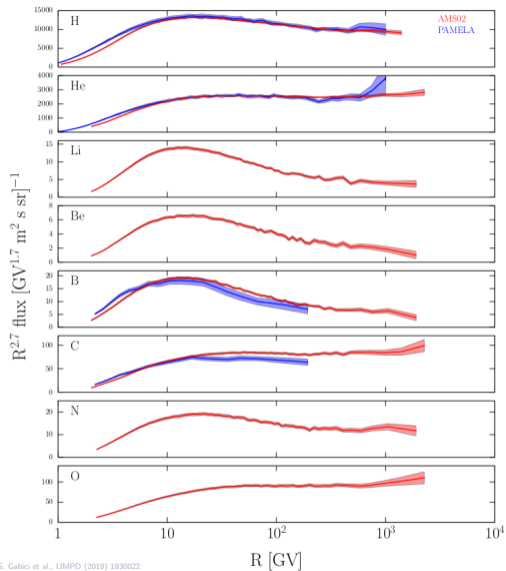


Cosmic rays \equiv charged particles

mostly atomic nuclei \approx 90% H, 9% He, 1% 'metals' ($Z > 2$),
with small amount of electrons, positrons, antiprotons

Energy spectra: featureless power laws for $E \gtrsim$ few $\times 10$ GeV?..

Energy spectrum of nuclear species: direct measurements

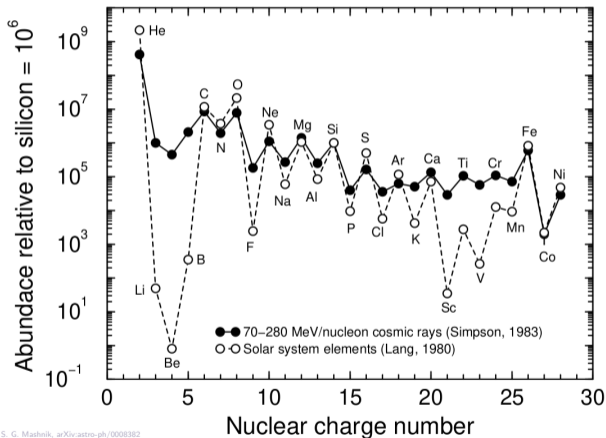


Energy spectra: featureless power laws for $E \gtrsim \text{few} \times 10 \text{ GeV}?$

Roughly $\propto R^{2.7}$ for rigidity $R \gtrsim 10 \text{ GV}$, but

- ◇ evidently spectra of LiBeB are remarkably softer
- ◇ much more is happening here!

Elemental abundances in solar system and cosmic rays



Solar system: $\text{CNO}/\text{LiBeB} \approx 10^6$

Cosmic rays (CR): $\text{CNO}/\text{LiBeB} \sim 10$

Spallogenic nucleosynthesis

direct channel



reverse channel



S. G. Mashnik, arXiv:astro-ph/0008382

hydrogen abundance is about $10 \times$ helium

Dynamics of Interstellar Molecular Clouds (IMC)

- IMCs are star formation regions
- dynamics and evolution of IMC/protoplanetary disks depends on gas ionization (magnetic pressure support against gravity, turbulence)
- IMCs are cold & diluted, but with a complex chemistry (water, ammonia, ethyl alcohol, sugar and amino acids)
catalyst: protonated hydrogen H_3^+ from the H_2 ionization

IMC temperatures are only from 10 K to 30 K
what keeps them slightly (10^{-7}) ionized?



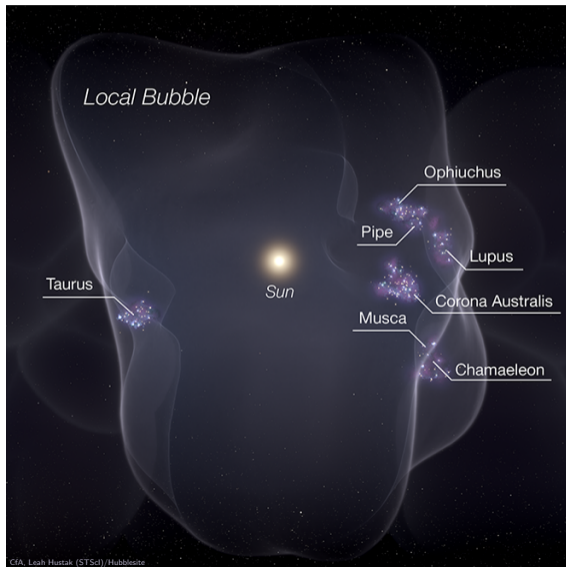
Low energy CR is the only agent able to penetrate to the densest ICM parts and influence their dynamics

A few immediate questions

- ◇ what are the sources of low-energy cosmic rays?
- ◇ are sub-GeV and higher energy particles produced by the same sources?
- ◇ is the low-energy CR flux same over the entire Milky Way?

The Local Bubble

The low-energy CR flux measured by us can be a local feature



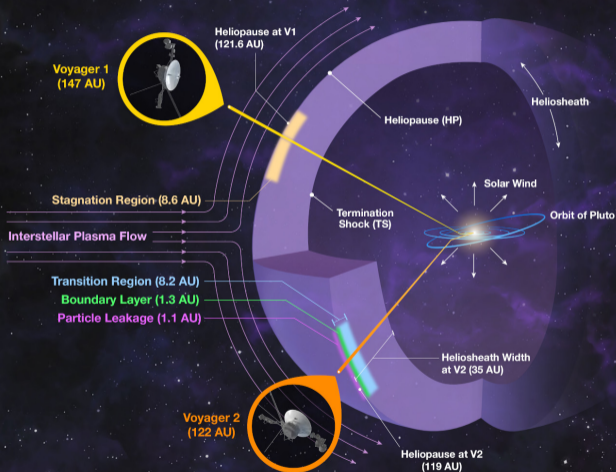
The Local Bubble

“a cavity of low-density, high-temperature plasma surrounded by a shell of cold, neutral gas and dust”

- around 1000 light years wide
- started around 14 Myr ago
- the Sun entered into the Bubble around 5 Myr ago
- around 15 supernovae explosions sweeping gas to the shell
- surface is rich in star formation regions
- low-energy CR fluxes can be different in local bubbles

Interstellar CR spectra

HELIOSPHERE FROM VOYAGER 1 AND 2



Leaving heliosphere

Voyager 1 in 2012

Voyager 2 in 2018

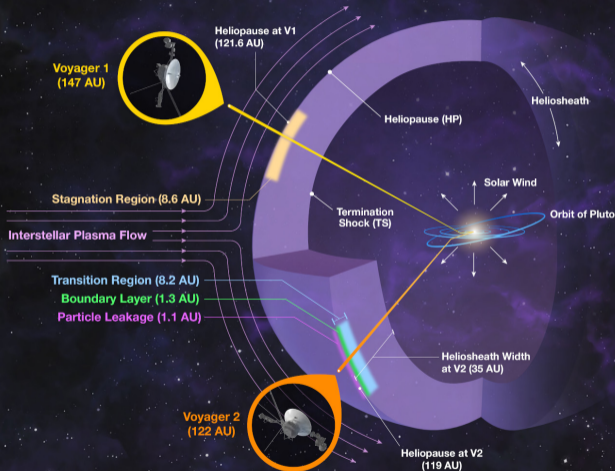
Astrospheres



LL Orionis: B2, Cam, and Mira (NASA/HST/R. Capallegno/GALEX)

Interstellar CR spectra

HELIOSPHERE FROM VOYAGER 1 AND 2



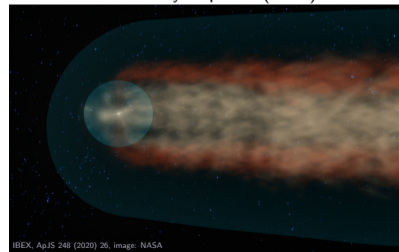
Leaving heliosphere

Voyager 1 in 2012

Voyager 2 in 2018

Heliosphere

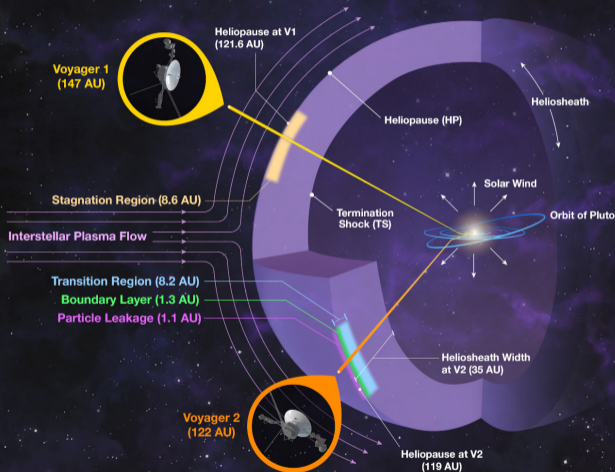
Interstellar Boundary Explorer (2020)



IBEX, ApJS 248 (2020) 26, image: NASA

Interstellar CR spectra

HELIOSPHERE FROM VOYAGER 1 AND 2



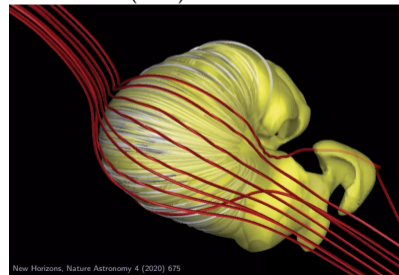
Leaving heliosphere

Voyager 1 in 2012

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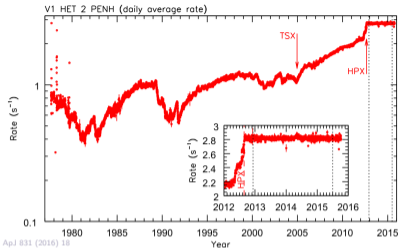
Heliosphere

New Horizons (2020)



New Horizons, Nature Astronomy 4 (2020) 675

Interstellar CR fluxes



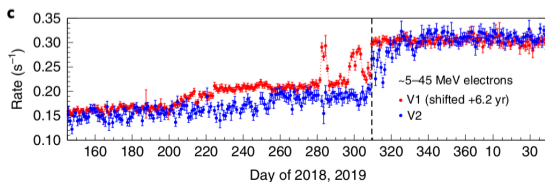
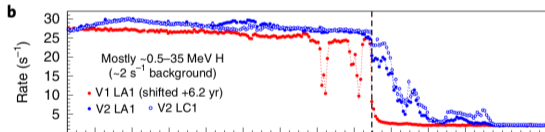
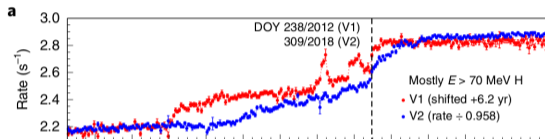
Voyager 1 counting rate (mainly protons > 70 MeV)
 Heliopause crossing is marked with HPX
 11-year solar cycle is clearly seen in data before 1995

Voyager 1 & 2 counting rates near HPX

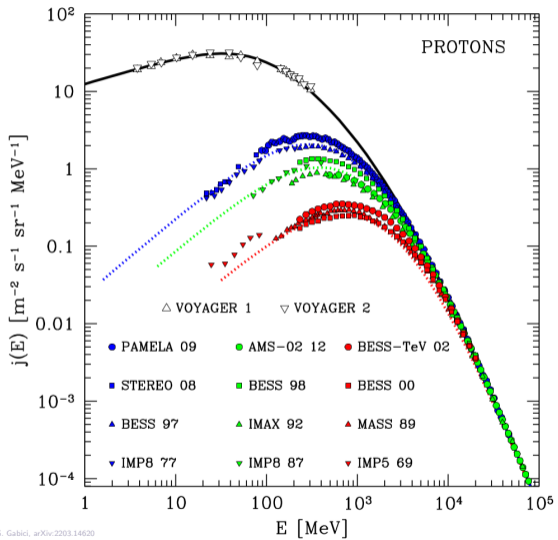
b. Anomalous CRs (mostly solar system H)

Voyager 1: two jumps before HPX due to interstellar flux invasions

Fluxes are stable after HPX



Solar modulation of CR spectra



S. Gabici, arXiv:2203.14620

Near-Earth (1 au) data for different solar activity periods

minimum

intermediate

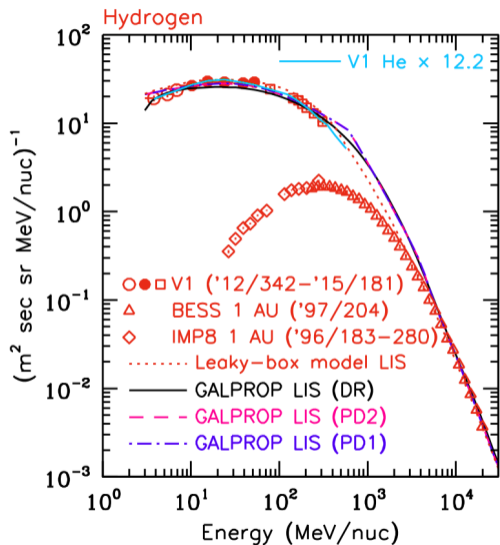
maximum

Solar wind affects fluxes of $R \lesssim 10$ GV particles

demodulation of fluxes is complicated and uncertain

Voyager data provide possibility to determine the modulation potential

Proton to helium ratio from Voyager 1

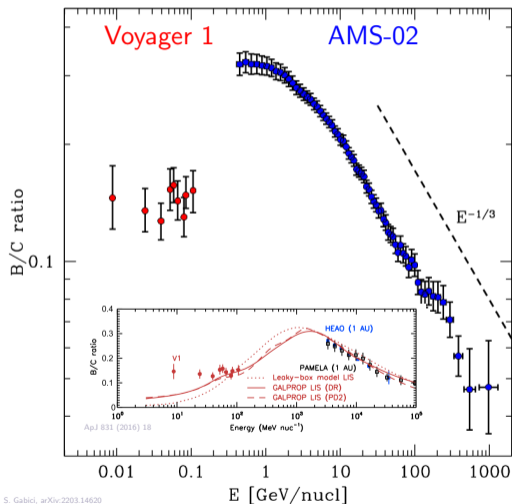


p/He is nearly constant ≈ 12.2

would not be the case for rigidity-dependent solar modulation
for unclear reasons above tens of GeV, H spectrum
is slightly softer than He spectrum

CR residence time in the Milky Way

Boron comes from spallation C, O \rightarrow B



B/C depends on

- ◇ confinement time of B in Galaxy (energy-dependent)
- ◇ spallation time of B to lighter elements

Voyager data is difficult to interpret (see inset plot)

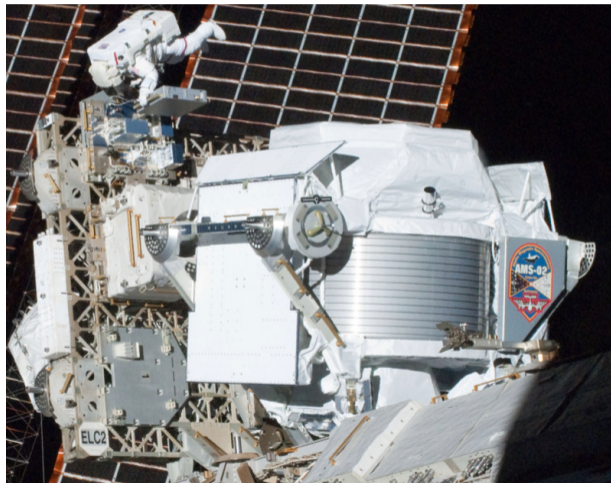
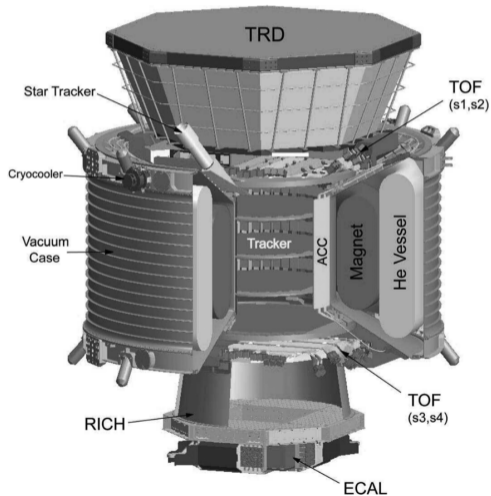
from AMS-02 data (at 10 GeV/nucleon energy)

- ◇ residence time in ISM 4 Myr (grammage of 7 g cm^{-2})

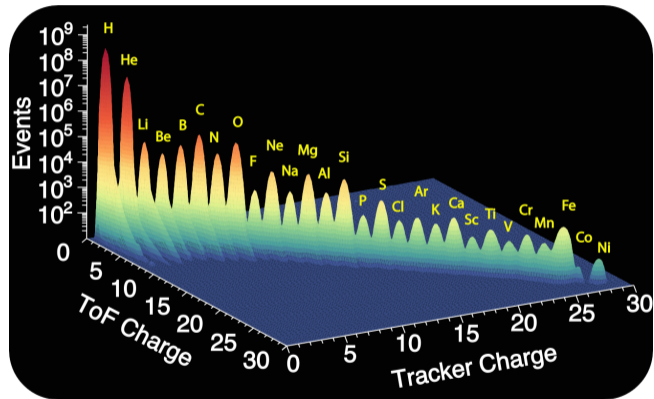
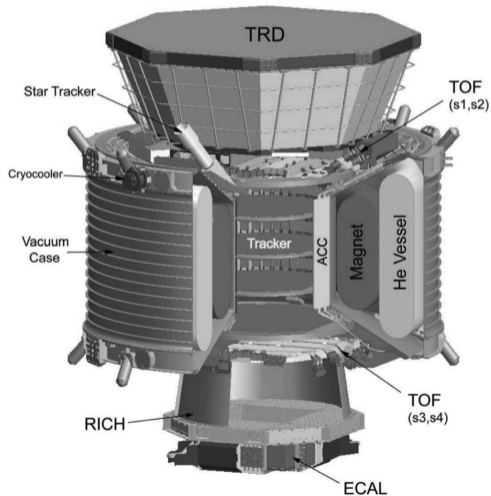
$^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ($< 1 \text{ GeV/nucleon}$) measurements

- ◇ CRs escape time $\approx 100 \text{ Myr}$
- ◇ CRs stay most of time in Galactic halo (not in ISM)

Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer on the International Space Station

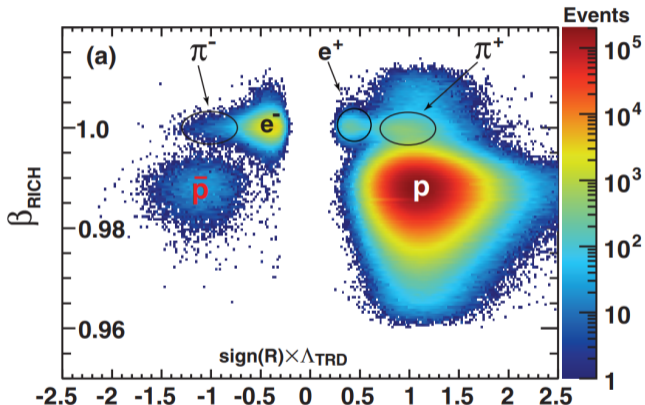
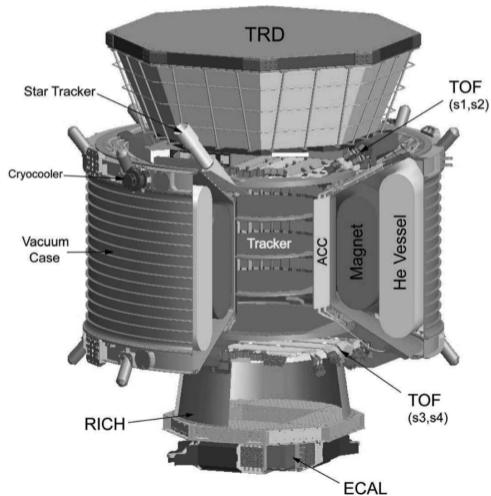


Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer on the International Space Station



excellent energy and charge resolution...

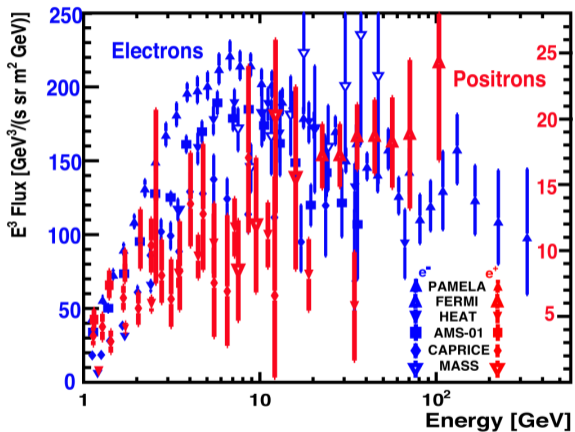
Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer on the International Space Station



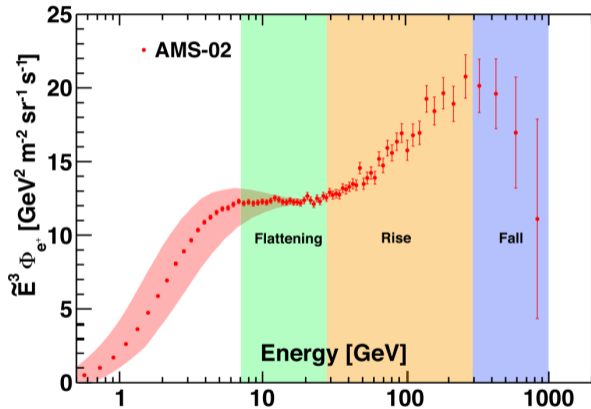
and matter-antimatter discrimination

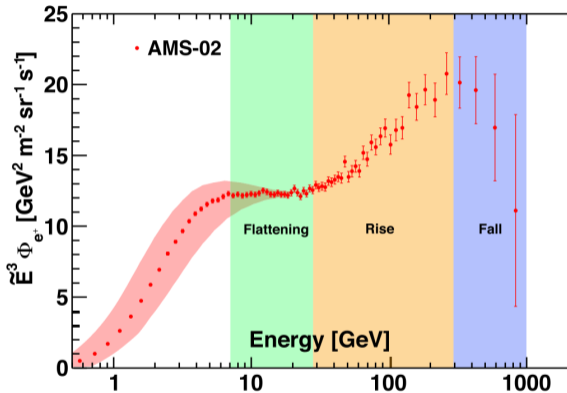
AMS-02 positron spectrum

Before AMS-02



AMS-02, note the energy range





- Positron production mechanisms**
- diffuse
 - ◇ CR interactions with ISM
 - 'source'
 - ◇ acceleration in astrophysical objects
 - ◇ dark matter annihilation (?)

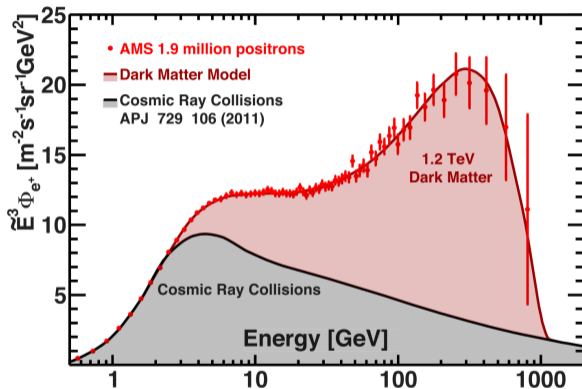
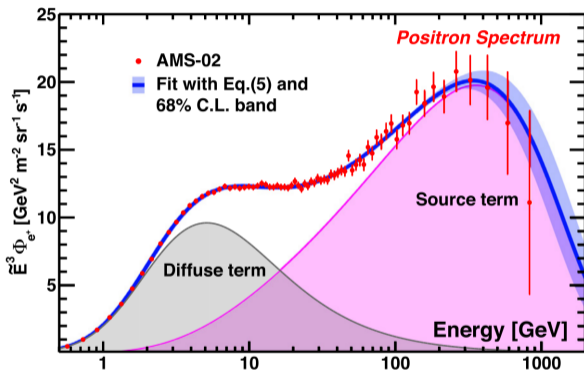
Spectral features

hardening at 25.2 ± 1.8 GeV

drop-off at 284_{-64}^{+91} GeV

energy cutoff of 'source' contribution 810_{-180}^{+310} GeV
(with a significance $> 4\sigma$)

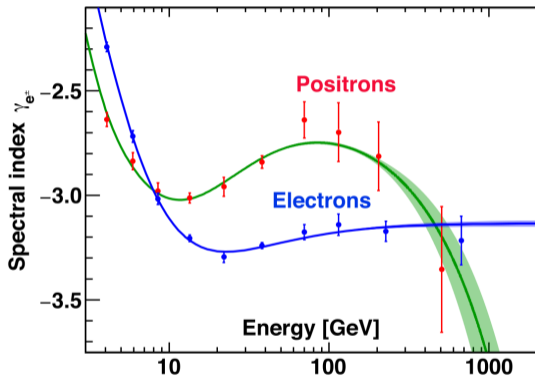
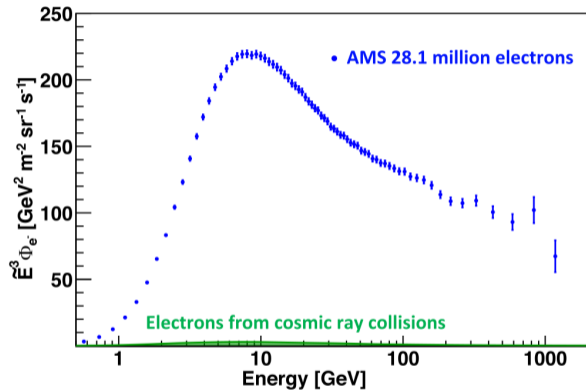
Diffuse and 'source' contributions



positron flux is found to be consistent with isotropy (expected in case of the dark matter origin)

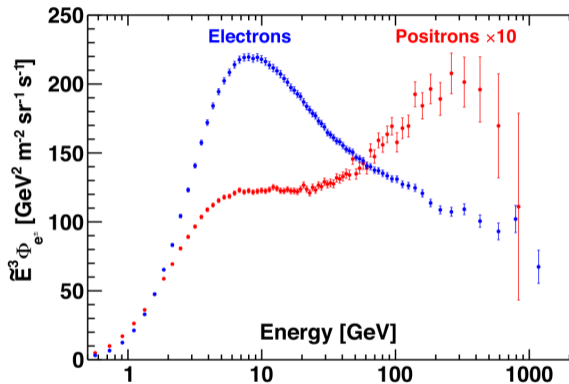
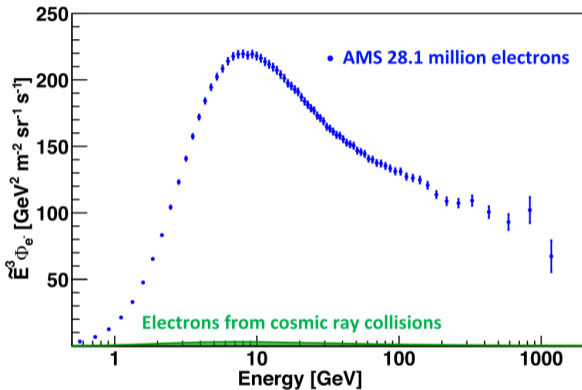
- ◇ more statistics at higher energies needed to test the dark matter hypothesis
- ◇ no consistent description of positron, antiproton, Be/C, B/C, Be/O, B/O et al. data exists yet

Diffuse contribution is minor



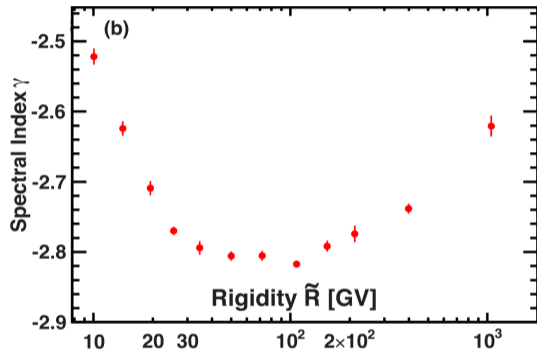
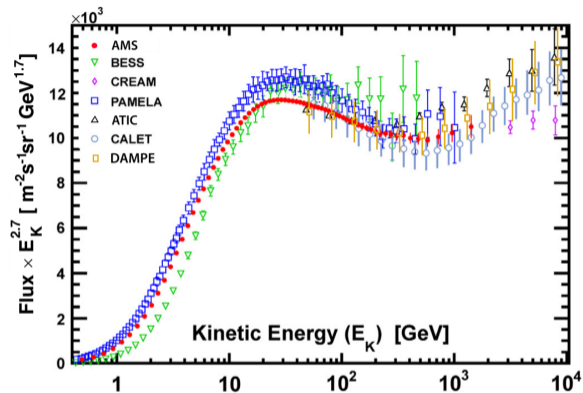
- ◇ electron spectrum is described well with two power laws
- ◇ cutoff for $E < 1.9 \text{ TeV}$ is excluded at the 5σ
- ◇ high-energy electrons and positrons come from different sources

Diffuse contribution is minor



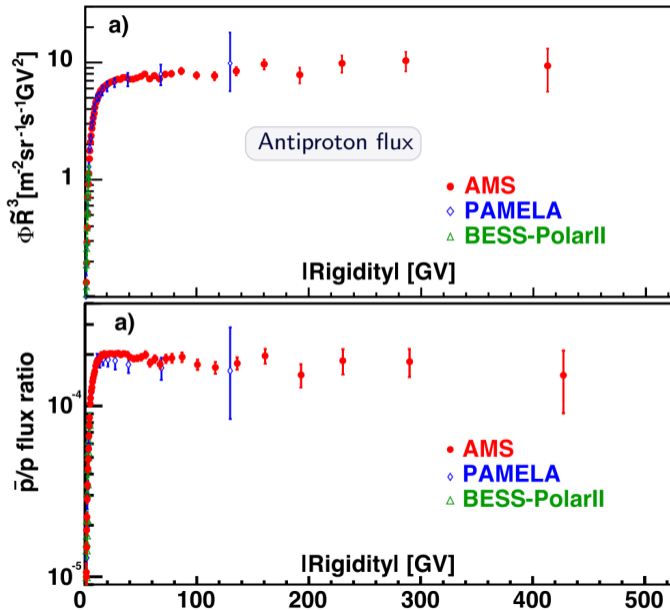
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Proton spectrum below 10 TeV



- ◇ not a single power law for $R > 45$ GV (where solar modulation is negligible)
- ◇ spectrum is becoming progressively harder for $R > 200$ GV
- ◇ other changes above 10 TeV?

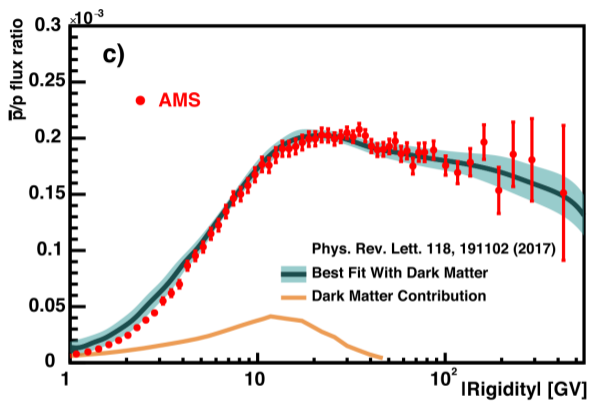
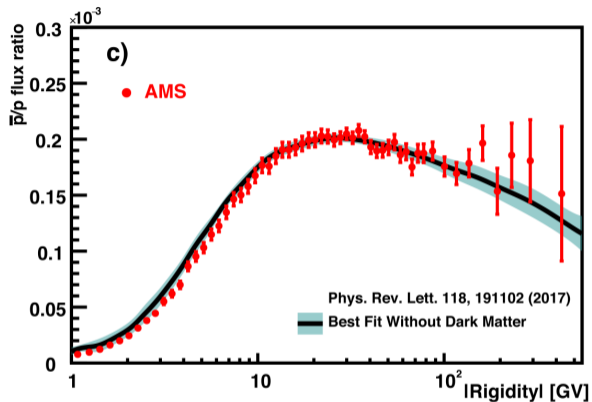
Antiprotons



p and \bar{p} fluxes have similar shapes

not expected if antiprotons come only from CR interactions with ISM

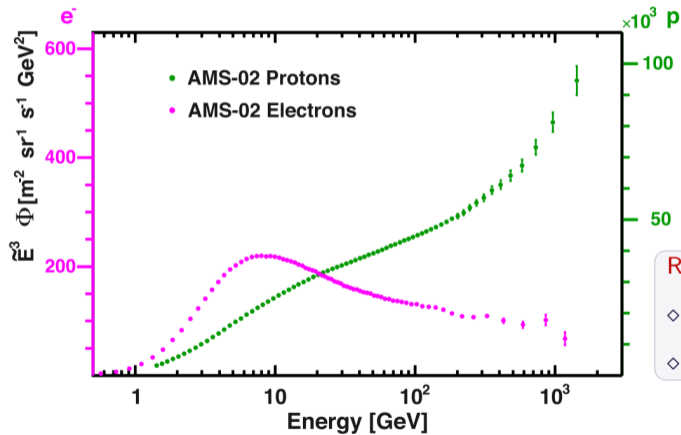
Dark matter contribution to antiproton flux?



- ◇ qualitative description can be achieved with/without dark matter contribution
- ◇ cutoff at high energies is expected in case of the dark matter origin
- ◇ successful astrophysical model should describe data on p , \bar{p} , e^{\pm} , nuclei

Protons vs electrons

Electrons and protons are mostly primary cosmic rays

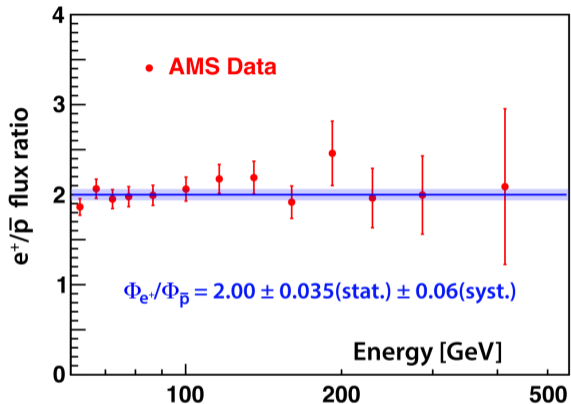
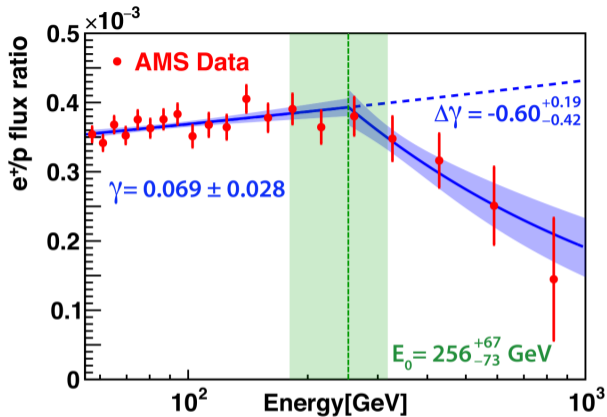


Remarkably different behavior

- ◇ electron flux is described well with two power laws
- ◇ proton flux has varying power index

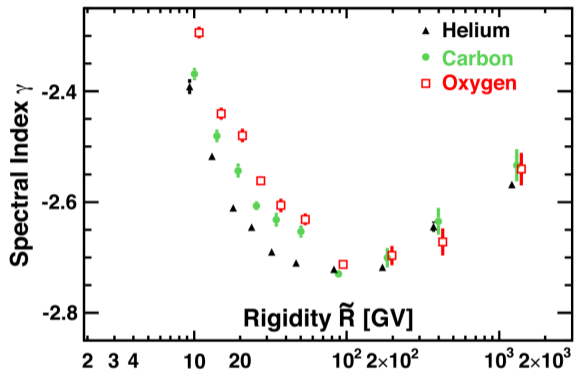
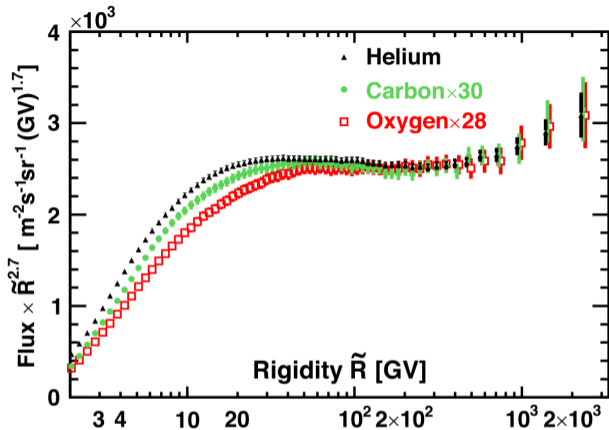
softer electron spectrum is expected due to larger energy losses in ISM

Protons, antiprotons, electrons, positrons



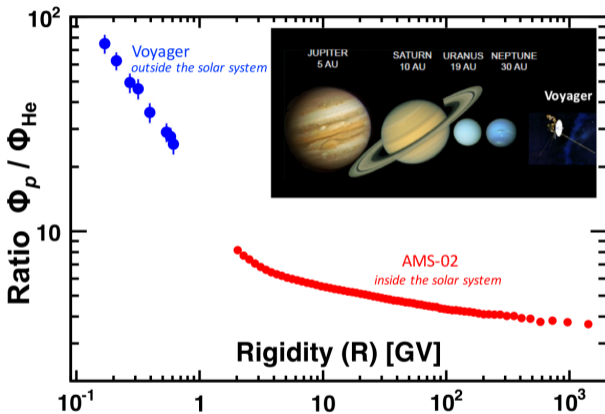
- ◇ p and \bar{p} : similar shapes ($E < 400$ GeV) — not expected if \bar{p} are only secondary
- ◇ electron spectrum for $E > 10$ GeV is softer than proton spectrum — propagation effect
- ◇ positron spectrum is harder than proton spectrum for 60 – 260 GeV
- ◇ positron to antiproton ratio is compatible to const for 60 – 400 GeV — common source?

Spectra of helium, carbon, oxygen



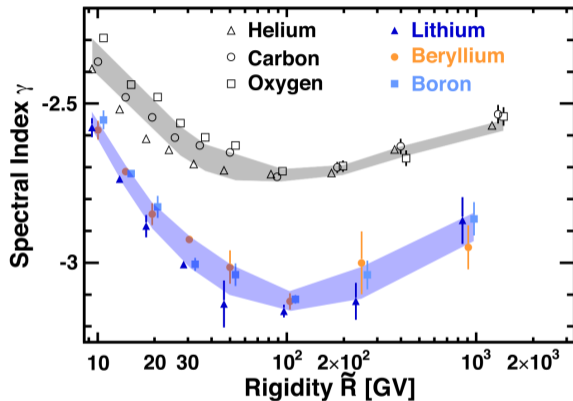
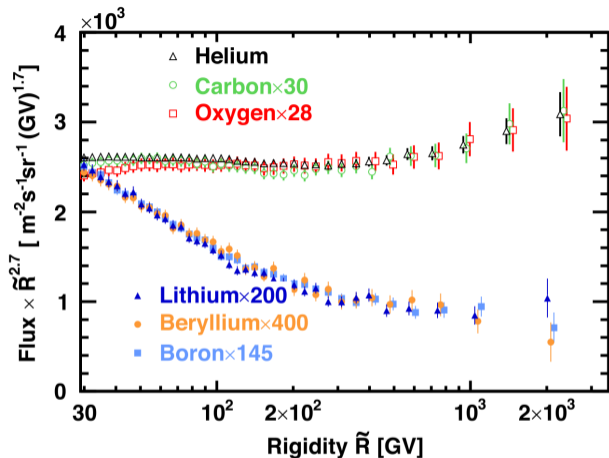
- ◇ nearly same behaviour for $R > 60$ GV
- ◇ unexpected/unexplained hardening for $R > 200$ GV

Proton to helium ratio



- ◇ above 3.5 GV, p/He is decreasing as $A + C(R/3.5 \text{ GV})^\Delta$; $\Delta = -0.3$
- ◇ becoming constant ≈ 3.15 at highest rigidities
- ◇ are protons composed from soft and hard components?

Secondary nuclei

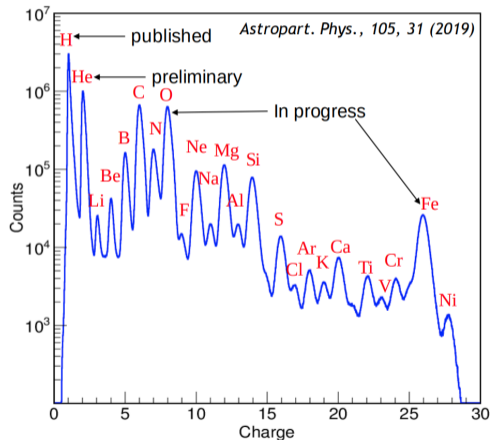
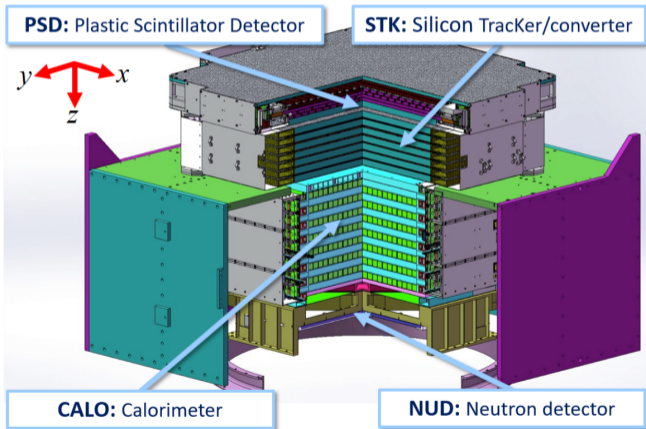


- ◇ similar rigidity dependence of LiBeB fluxes for $R > 30$ GV
- ◇ strangely, spectral hardening of LiBeB is by $\Delta\gamma \approx 0.14$ larger than of HeCO

more results (other nuclei, isotopes etc.): [Physics Reports 894 \(2021\) 1–116](#)

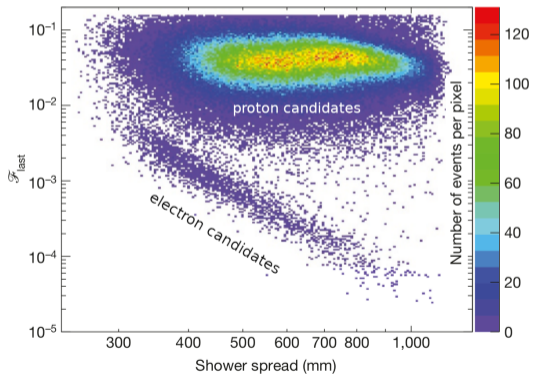
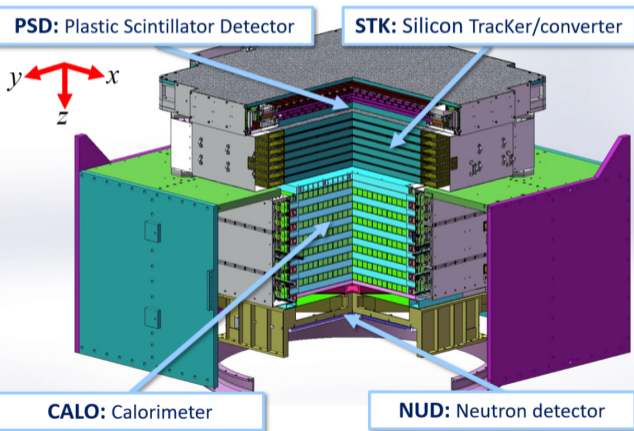
DARk Matter Particle Explorer *aka* Wukong at 500 km orbit

Energy ranges: γ -rays/electrons (5 GeV – 10 TeV), protons/heavy nuclei (50 GeV – 100 TeV)

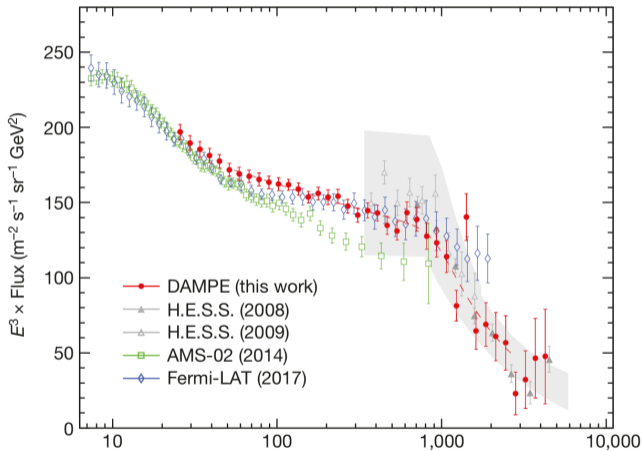


DARk Matter Particle Explorer *aka* Wukong at 500 km orbit

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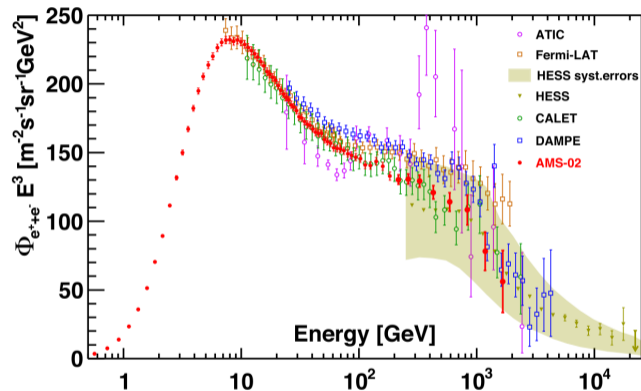


Electron + positron spectrum (530 days of observation)



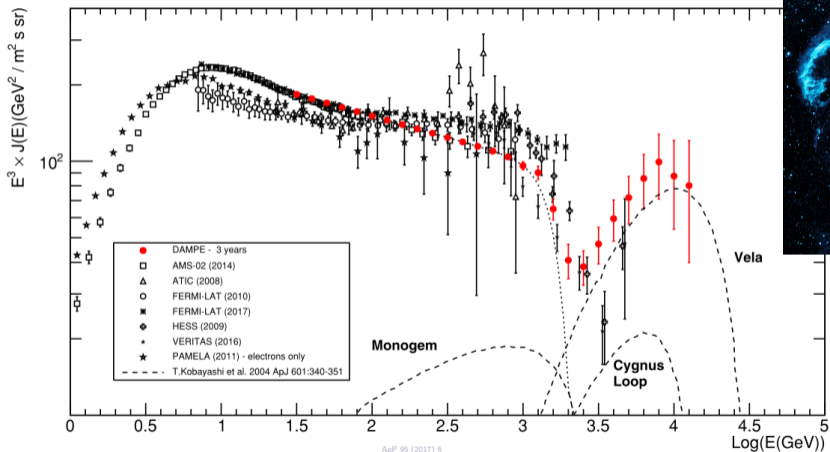
- ◇ 55 GeV to 2.63 TeV: good fit with a smoothly broken power law
- ◇ break at 0.9 TeV (observed by H.E.S.S., but not by Fermi-LAT): γ changes from 3.1 to 3.9.
Energy cutoff in pulsars/SNRs?
Linked to dark matter properties?

Electron + positron spectrum (530 days of observation)

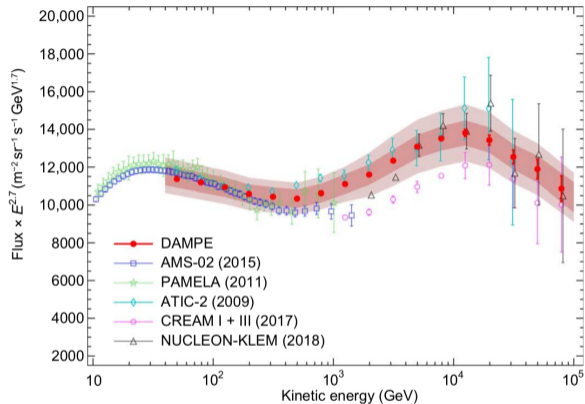


- ◇ 55 GeV to 2.63 TeV: good fit with a smoothly broken power law
- ◇ break at 0.9 TeV (observed by H.E.S.S., but not by Fermi-LAT): γ changes from 3.1 to 3.9.
Energy cutoff in pulsars/SNRs?
Linked to dark matter properties?
- ◇ (AMS-02, CALET, HESS) and DAMPE do not agree well (energy scale systematics?)

Expectations: electrons/positrons from nearby supernova remnants



Proton spectrum

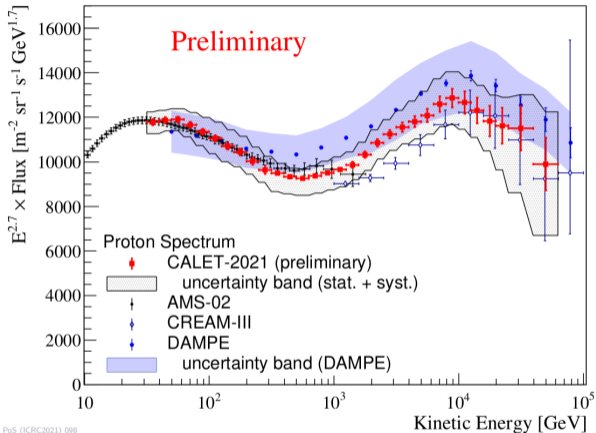


- ◇ spectral hardening at a few hundred GeV
- ◇ strong evidence of a softening at ≈ 13.6 TeV, γ changes from 2.60 to 2.85

Possible reasons of 10 TeV softening

- energy cutoff for a particular CR population
- local source
- presence of various types of sources

Proton spectrum



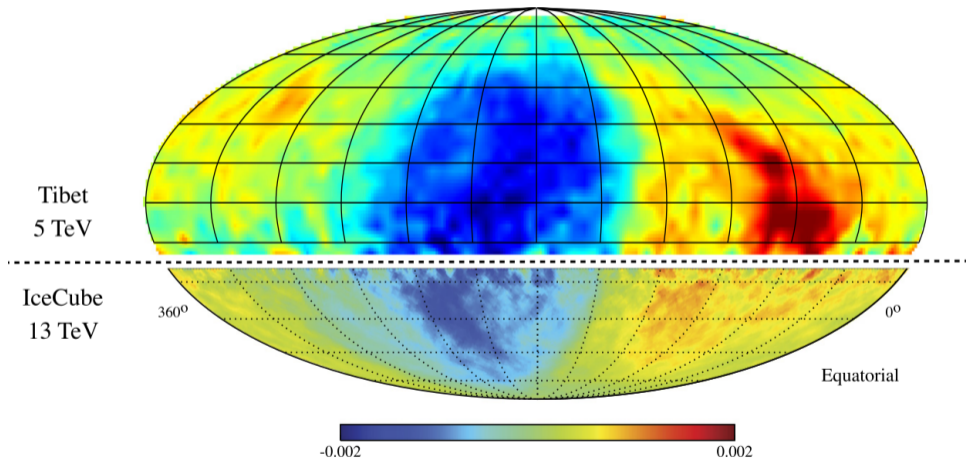
- ◇ spectral hardening at a few hundred GeV
- ◇ strong evidence of a softening at ≈ 13.6 TeV, γ changes from 2.60 to 2.85
- ◇ observed as well by CALET and CREAM-III

Possible reasons of 10 TeV softening

- energy cutoff for a particular CR population
- local source
- presence of various types of sources

Anisotropies in arrival directions (air-shower observatories)

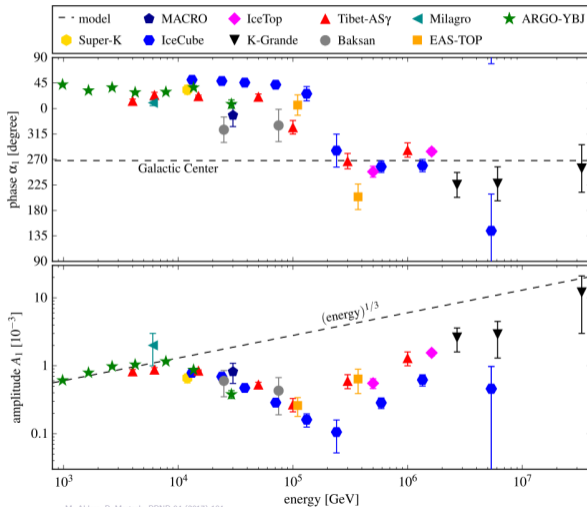
- ◇ Isotropic diffusion & SNR-(pulsar-)like source distribution: dipole aligned with the Galactic center (R.A. 266°)
- ◇ Anisotropic diffusion: dipole aligned with the magnetic field direction



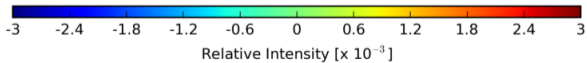
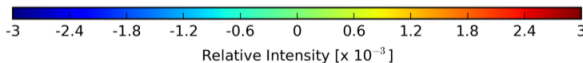
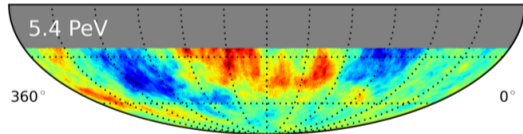
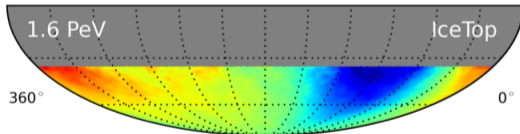
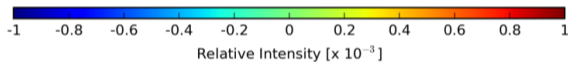
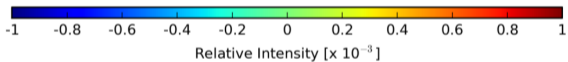
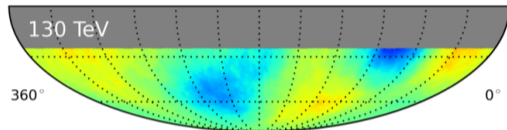
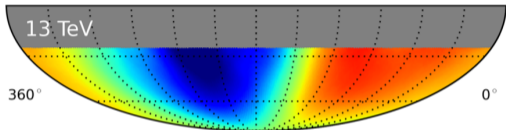
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Anisotropies in arrival directions (air-shower observatories)

Phase flips towards the Galactic center above 100 TeV, amplitude starts growing

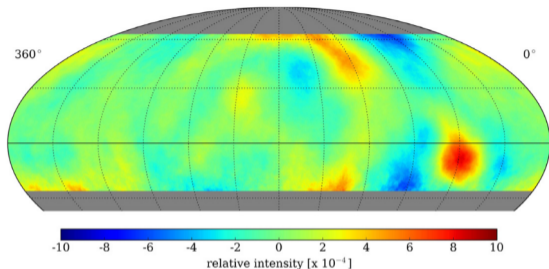


Visualisation of the amplitude and phase change with energy

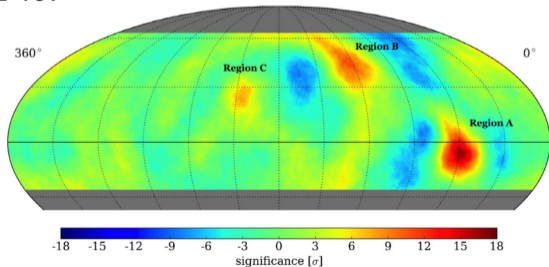


Small scale anisotropies from HAWC

Relative intensities after subtracting dipole, quadrupole and octupole terms



2 TeV



Regions A, B

observed as well by Milagro, Tibet AD γ , ARGO-YBG

Region C

observed as well by ARGO-YBG

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Local effects in heliosphere

Non-diffusive propagation

Non-uniform pitch-angle diffusion

Turbulent magnetic fields

Exotics (strangelets, dark matter)

- + Hardening of nuclei spectra at $R \sim 300$ GV
- + Difference in slopes of proton and helium spectra
- + Nearly same slopes of protons, antiprotons and positrons at $E > 10$ GeV
- + Break at ~ 1 TeV in the electron spectrum
- + Rise of positron fraction at $E > 10$ GeV
- + Small scale anisotropies
- + Isotropic CR flux up to very high energies
- + Anisotropy phase pointing away from Galactic center at $E < 100$ TeV

for more details see S. Gabici et al., IJMPD (2019) 1930022