FIRST MEASUREMENT OF ANTIPROTON PRODUCTION IN p-He COLLISIONS AT THE AMBER EXPERIMENT AT CERN

Davide Giordano
On behalf of the AMBER collaboration
19.07.2024

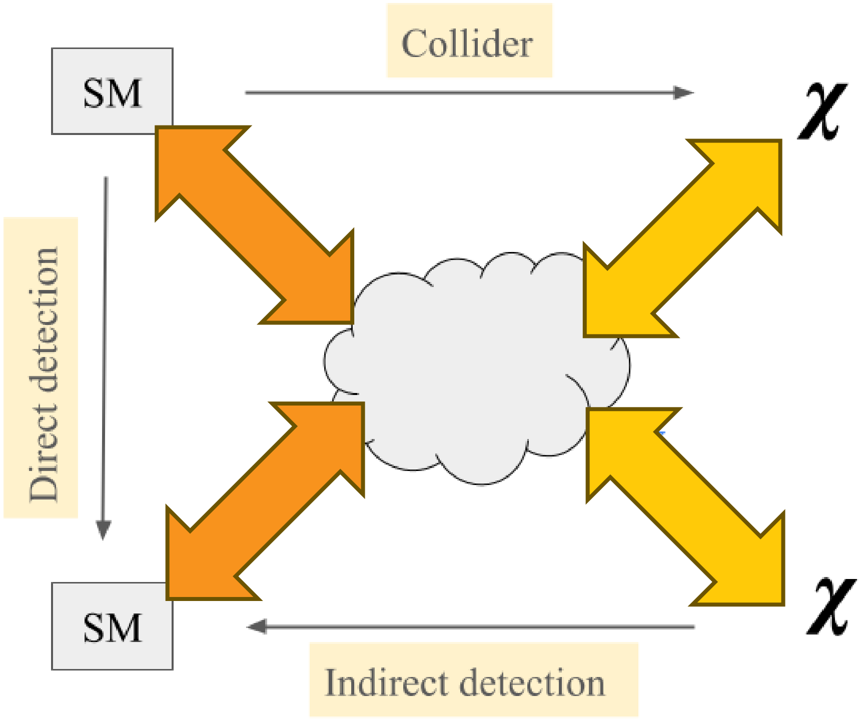
INFN

ICHEP 2024

AMBER
Apparatus for Meson and Baryon Experimental Research

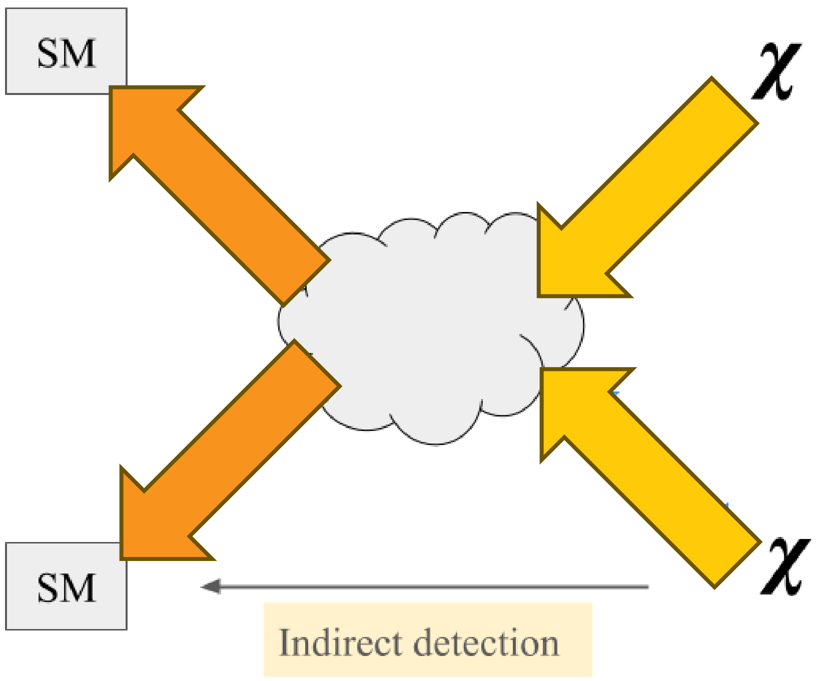
Dark Matter detection

3 COMPLEMENTARY ways to probe the particle nature of Dark Matter



Dark Matter detection - indirect

$$\chi\chi \leftrightarrow ll, qq, \dots$$



Decays into SM particles: we can detect them!
The questions are: Where, What and How?

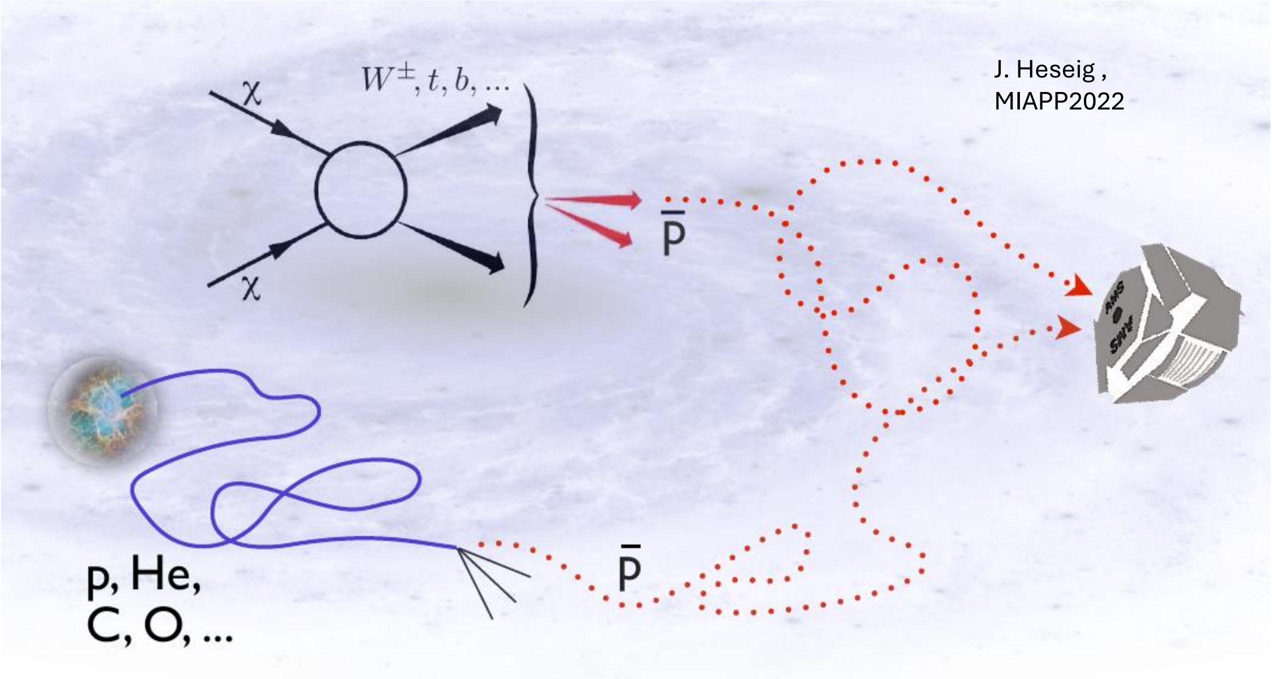
Cosmic rays

Multi-messenger CR fluxes measured by experiments are a powerful tool to test propagation models and dark matter hypotheses.

Few channels are considered “golden-probe”:

- Low-energy (anti-)nuclei (low statistic, low background)
- **Antiprotons** (high statistics, high background)

Antiproton production



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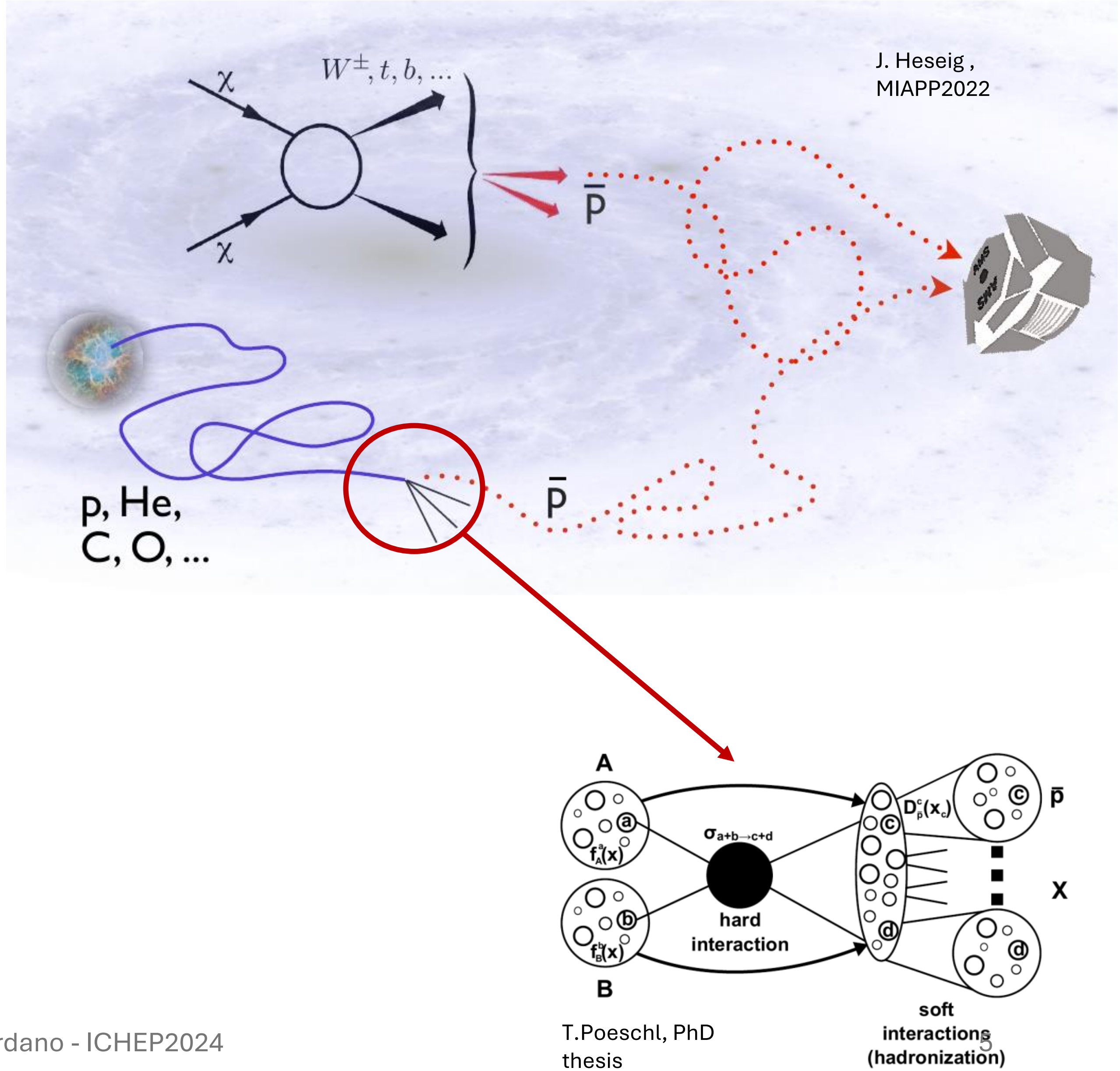

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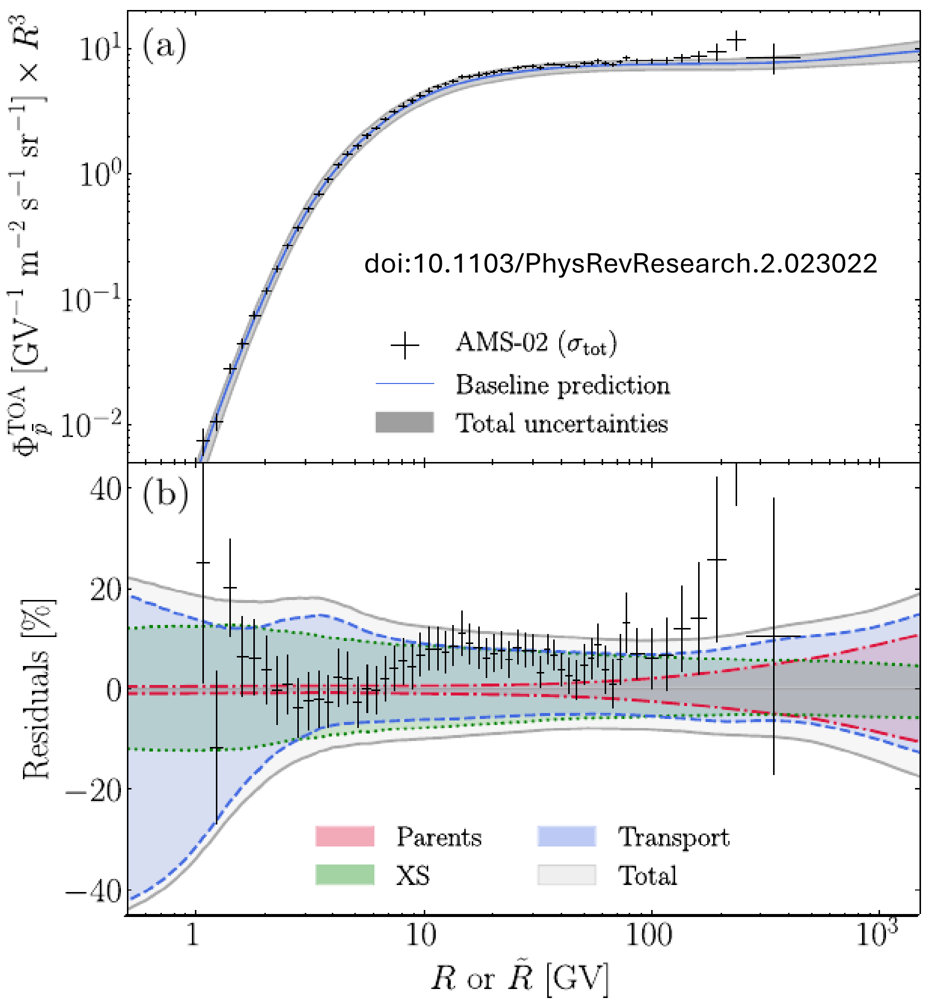
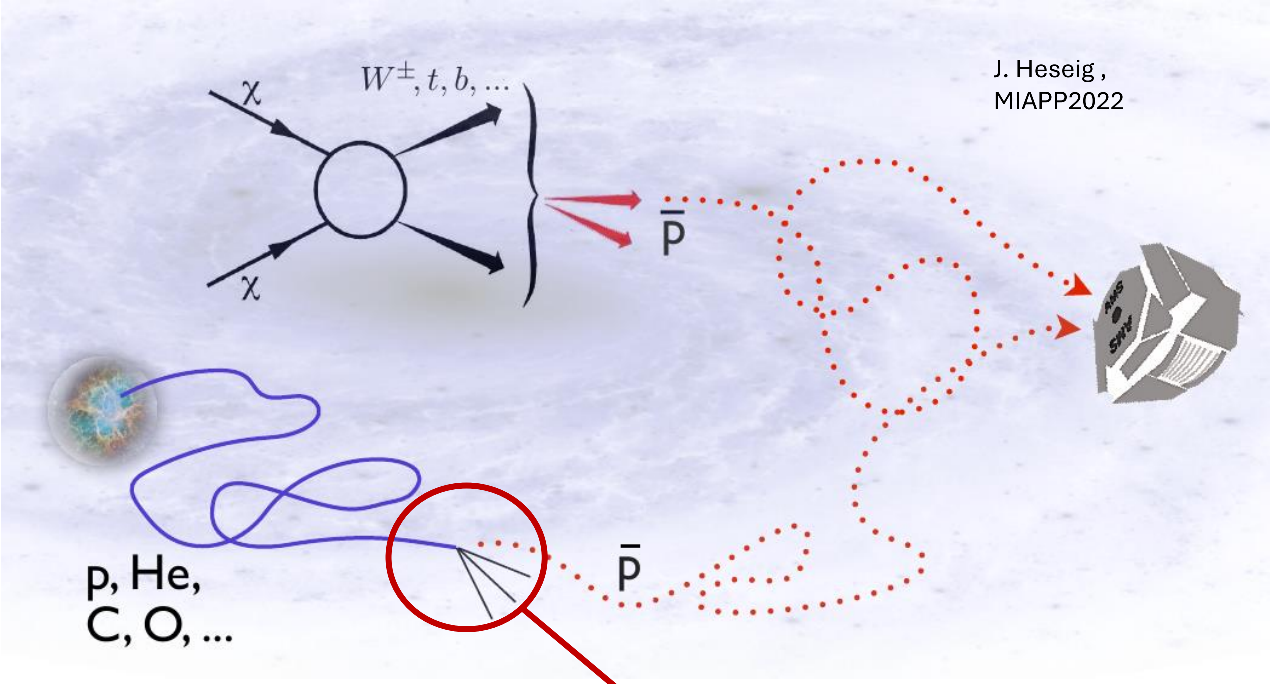
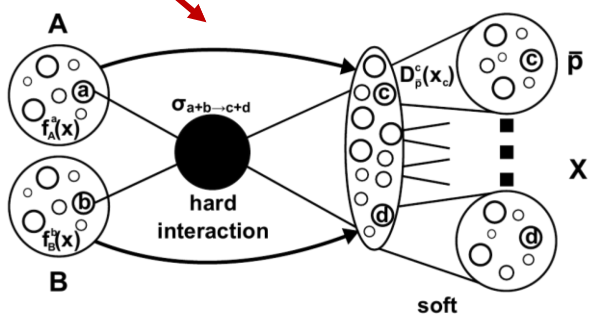


$$R = pc/Ze$$



Unprecedented results from AMS-02 at few percent level error

~Flat ratio antiproton/proton with rigidity
NO cosmic primary source.
Produced by spallation processes



T.Poeschl, PhD thesis

CR propagation equation and source term

$$\frac{\partial\psi(\vec{r},p,t)}{\partial t} = q(\vec{r},p,t) + \vec{\nabla}\cdot\left(D_{xx}\vec{\nabla}\psi - \vec{V}\psi\right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial p}p^2 D_{pp}\frac{\partial}{\partial p}\frac{1}{p^2}\psi - \frac{\partial}{\partial p}\left[\dot{p}\psi - \frac{p}{3}(\vec{\nabla}\cdot\vec{V})\psi\right] - \frac{1}{\tau_f}\psi - \frac{1}{\tau_r}\psi$$

Full propagation equation
Typically solved in stationary condition $\frac{d\Psi}{dt} = 0$

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Pure primary CR source term

$$q_i(\boldsymbol{x}, p) = q_i(r, z, R) = q_{0,i} q_{r,z}(r, z) q_R(R)$$

$$R = pc/Ze \qquad q_R(R) \propto (\mathcal{R})^{-\alpha}$$

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$$q_{ij}(T_s) = \int_{T_{\rm th}}^{\infty} dT_i\, 4\pi\, n_{{\rm ISM},j}\, \phi_i(T_i)\, \frac{d\sigma_{ij}}{dT_s}(T_i, T_s)$$

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$$i + j \rightarrow s + X$$

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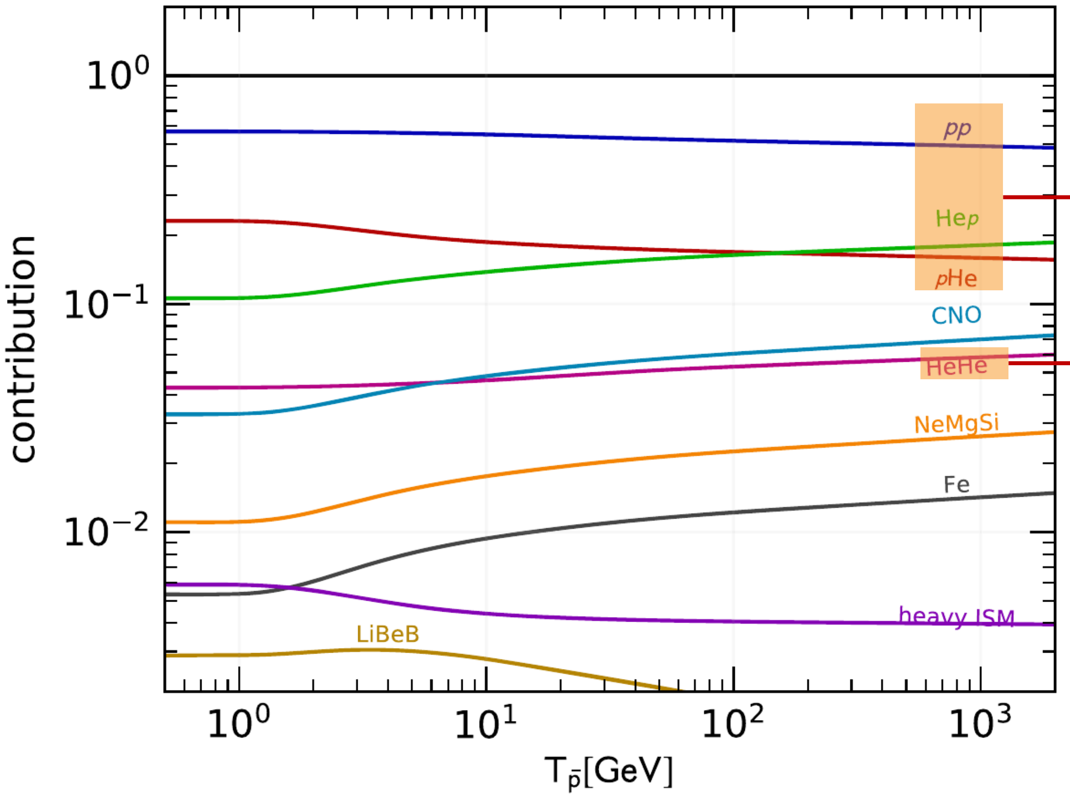
NUCLEAR PRODUCTION CROSS SECTION

$i + j \rightarrow s + X$

Antiproton production cross section

Which are the main contributor to the antiprotons production?



doi:10.1103/PhysRevD.97.103019

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$$i + j \rightarrow \bar{p} + X$$

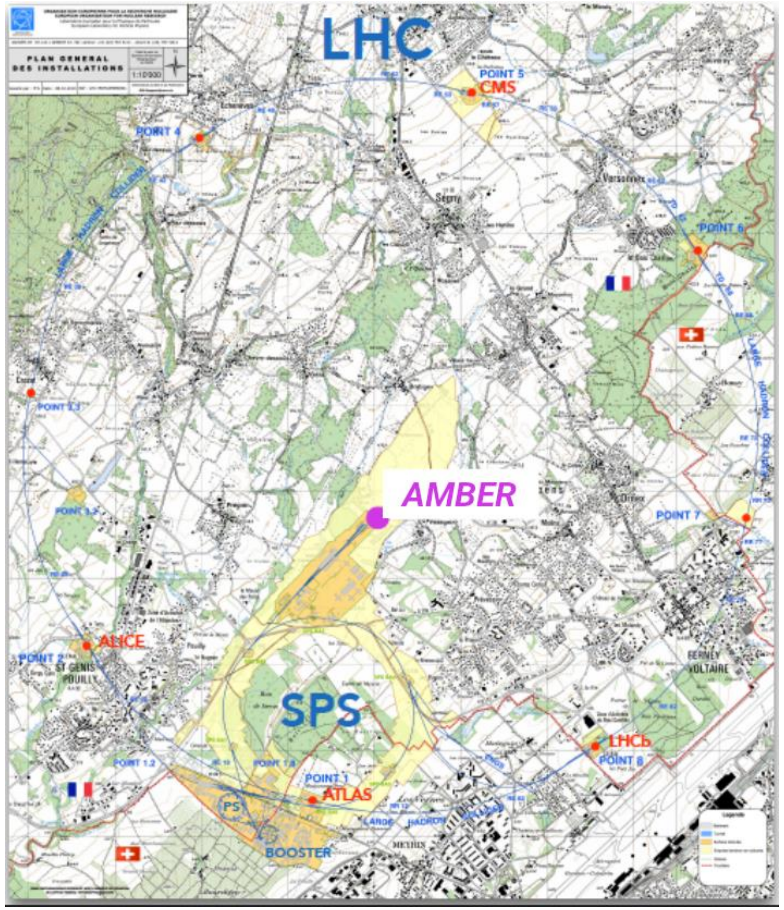
90% of the reactions involve p and Helium (main ISM component)

$\mathrm{p} + \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \bar{\mathrm{p}} + X$ NA61, NA49 $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \sim$ 6.3, 7.7, 8.8, 12.3 and 17.3 GeV;

$\mathrm{p} + \mathrm{He} \rightarrow \bar{\mathrm{p}} + X$ LHCb $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$~110 GeV (2017)
Scarcity of data, especially in the relevant energy regime for AMS-02

The AMBER experiment @CERN

In 2019 the AMBER collaboration proposes to establish a "New QCD facility at the M2 beam line of the CERN SPS" (LoI: http://arxiv.org/abs/1808.00848).



- proton radius measurement
- proton-induced antiprotons production cross sections for dark matter searches
- pion induced Drell-Yan process

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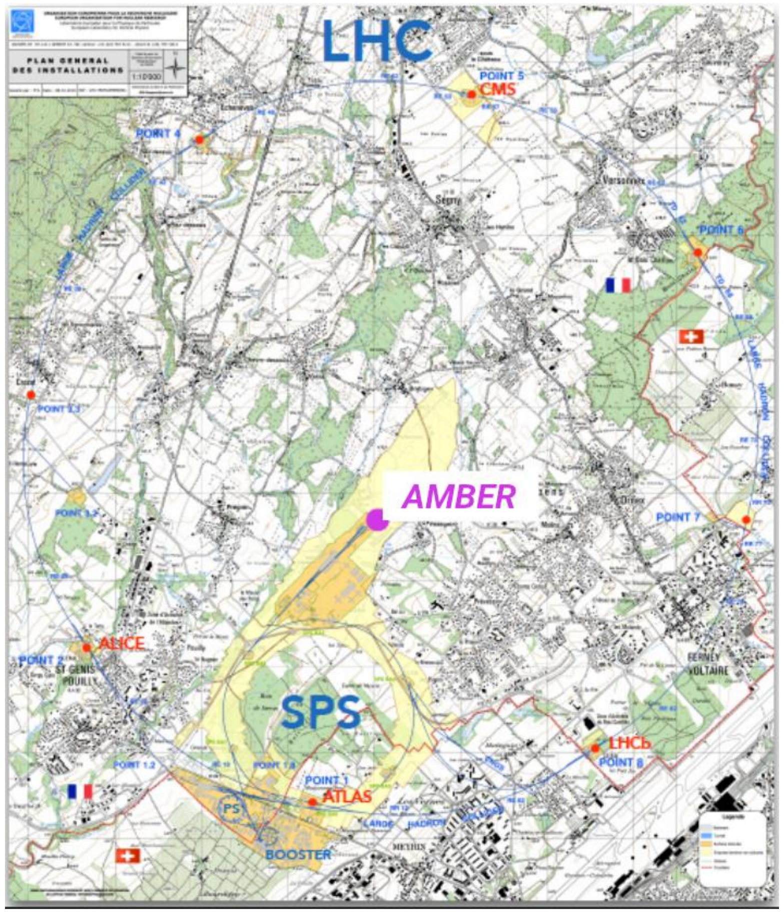

- proton radius measurement
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- pion induced Drell-Yan process

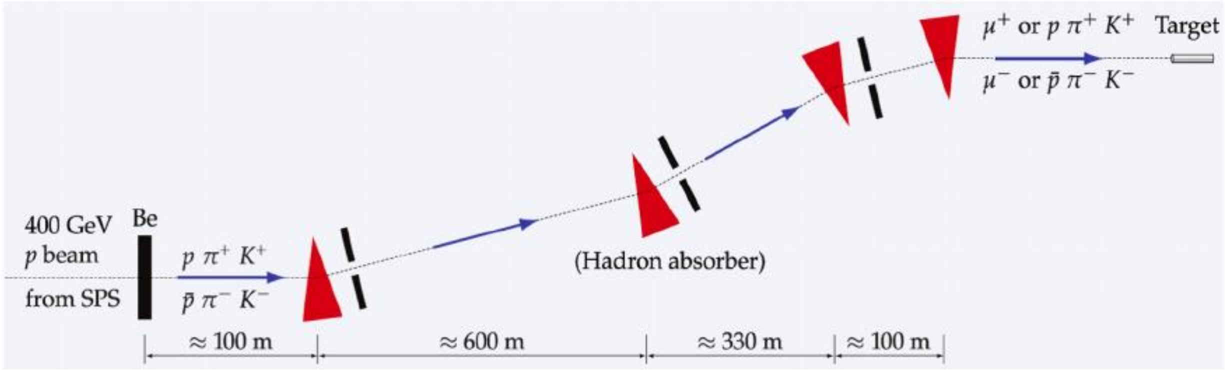
Oct 2022	May-July 2023	May-July 2024
	$\mathrm{p} + \mathrm{He} \rightarrow \bar{\mathrm{p}} + X$	$\mathrm{p} + \mathrm{H} \rightarrow \bar{\mathrm{p}} + X$ $\mathrm{p} + \mathrm{D} \rightarrow \bar{\mathrm{p}} + X$
1 week Test run APXS	Physics APXS	Physics APXS

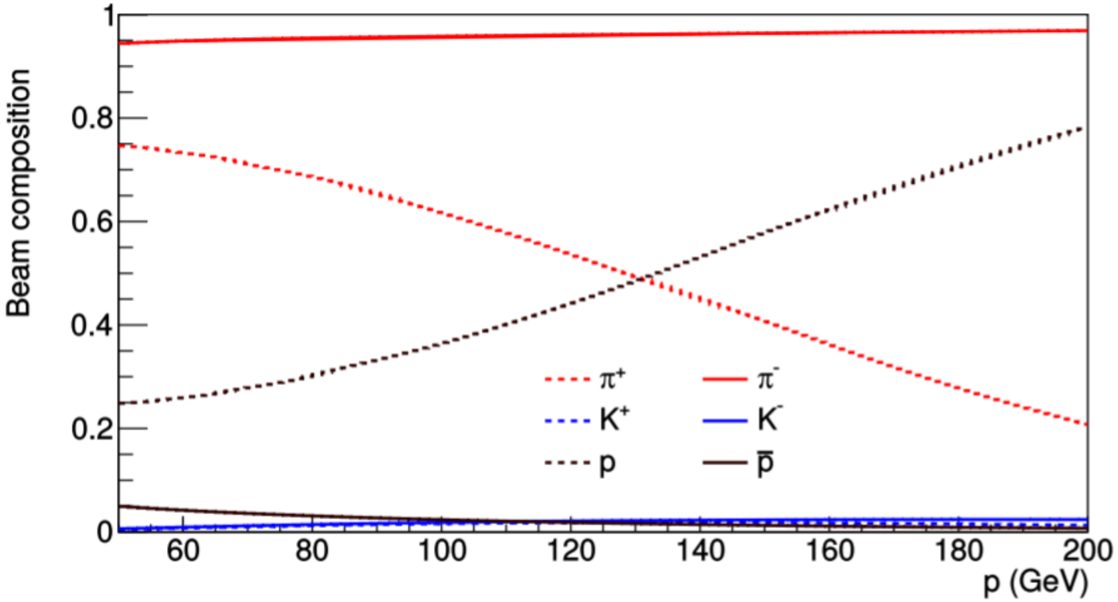
~2 months of data taking
Collected beam momenta **@60, 80, 100, 160, 190, 250 GeV/c**
Minimum bias trigger: beam trigger with veto on non-scattered beam particle

Beam @ AMBER

- Located @EHN2 → fixed target layout
- 400 GeV/c primary proton beam from SPS impinges on production target T6
- secondary beam collected (hadrons, muons or electrons) at 60-250 GeV/c
- beam PID: two CEDAR (Cherenkov light based) detectors

2023 rate ~25k particles/second
→ 130k events / spill





Beam @ AMBER

Located ~ -40 m before target

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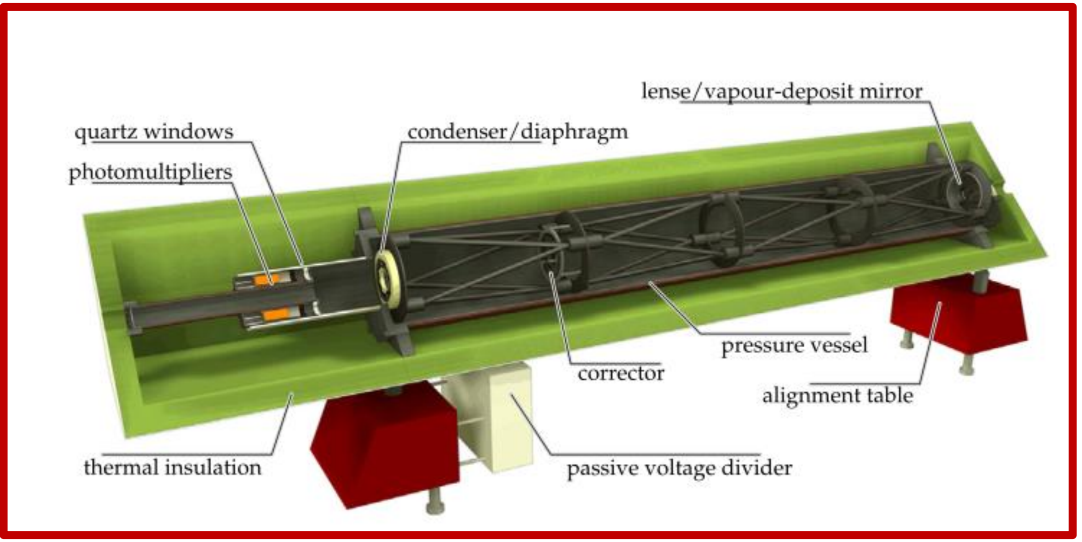

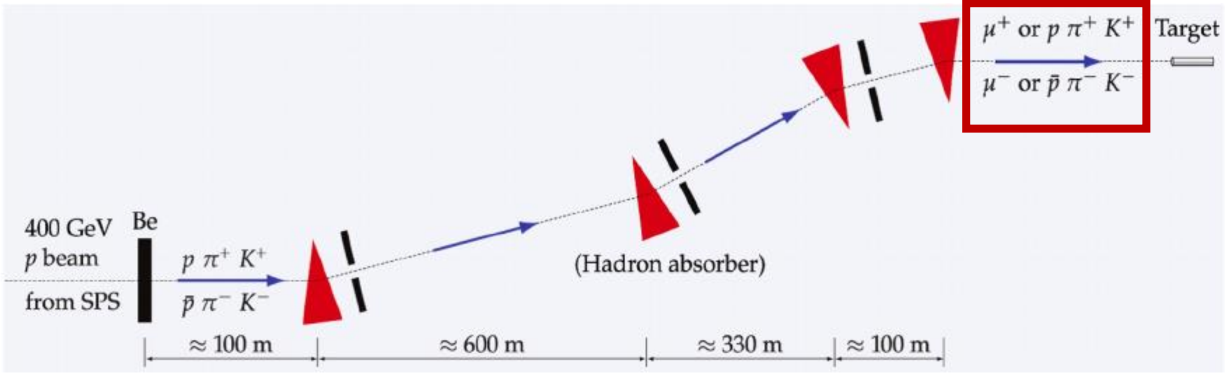

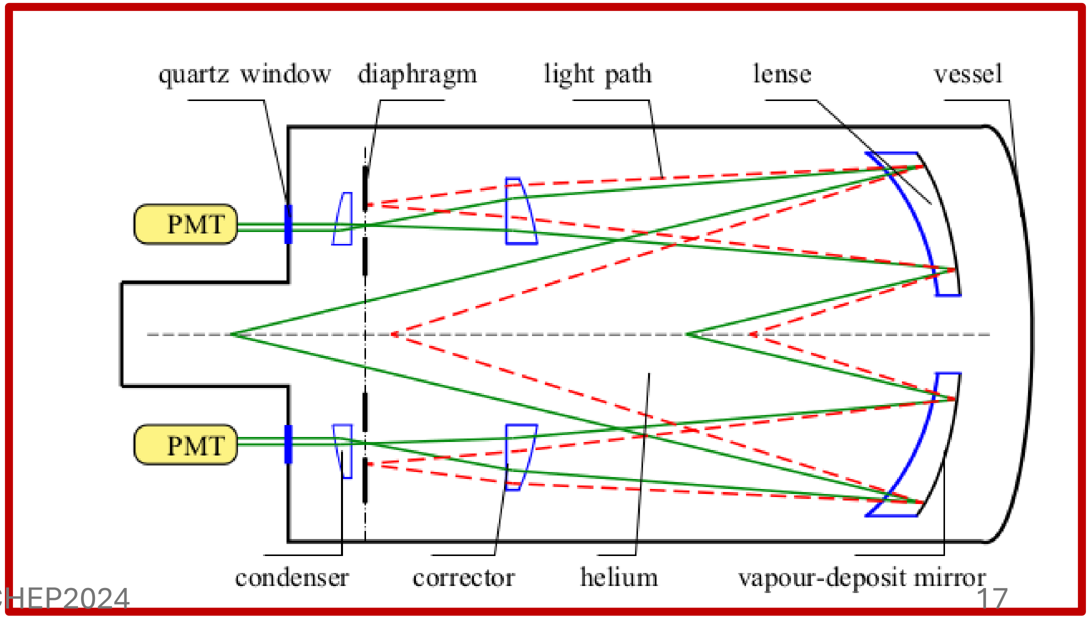

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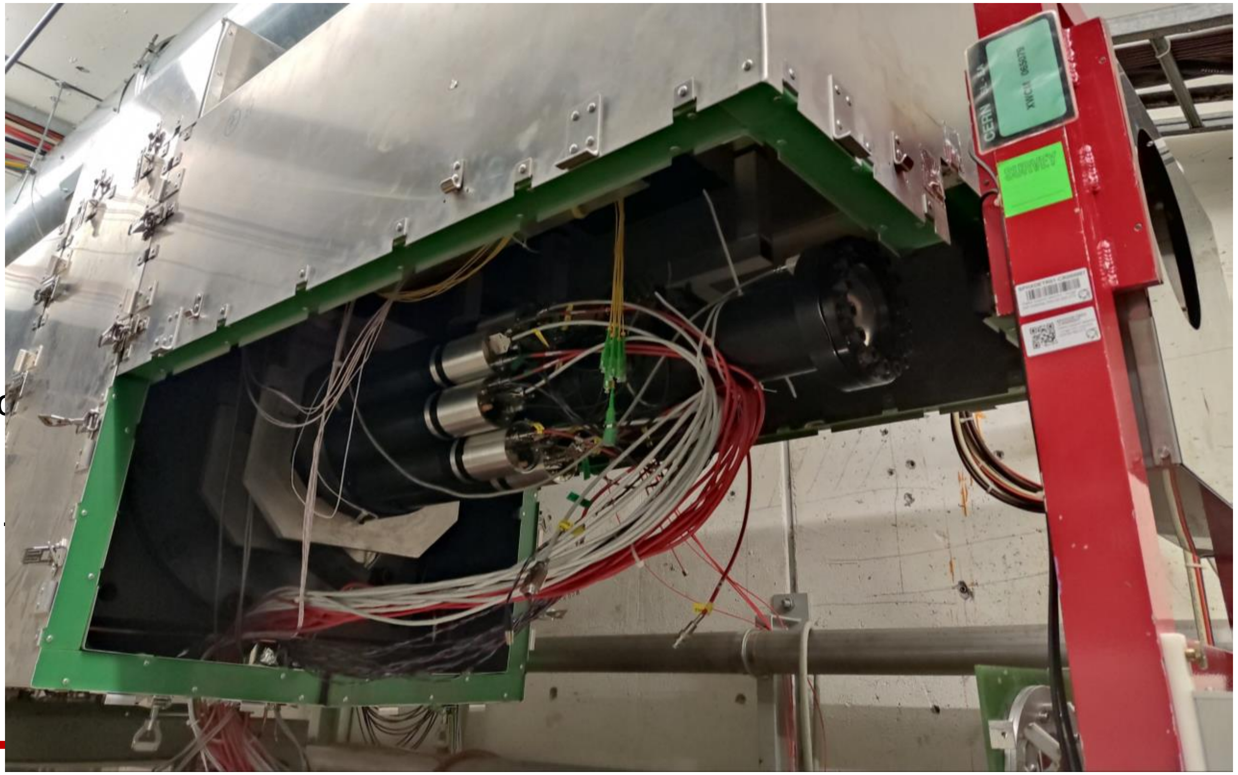

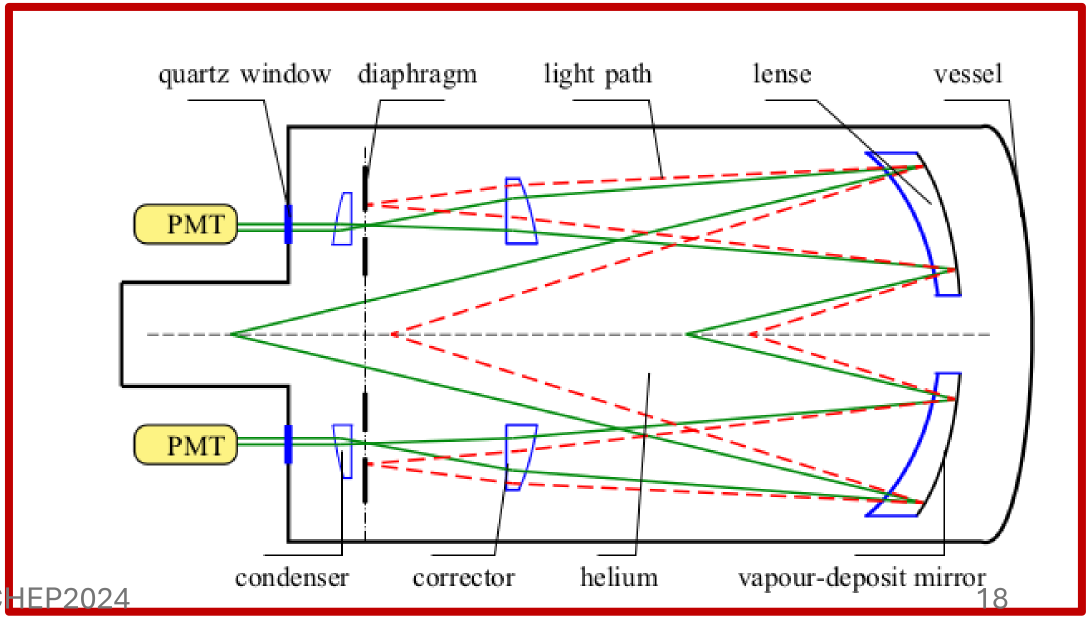

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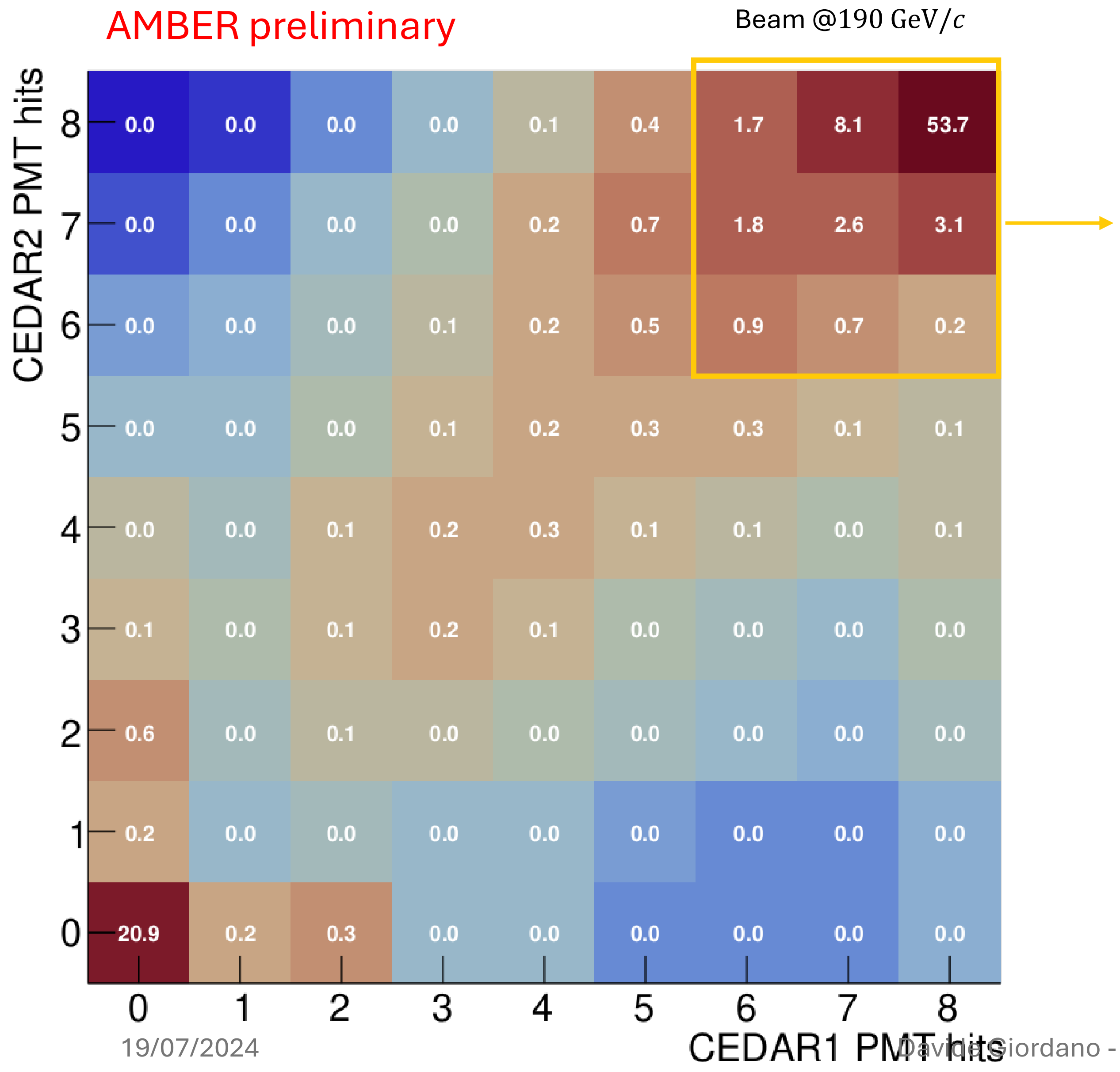
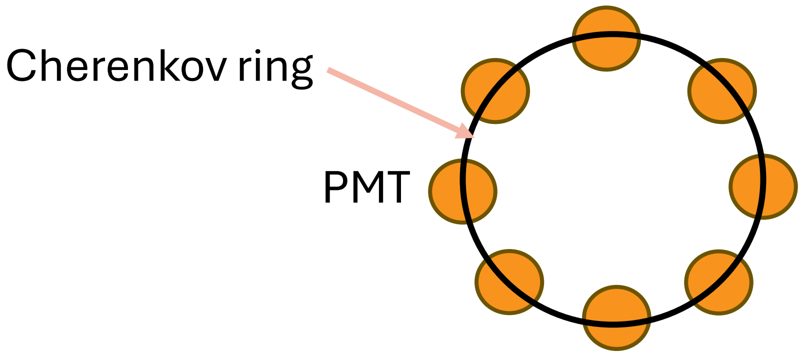


Expected fraction of protons in the beam is ~75%

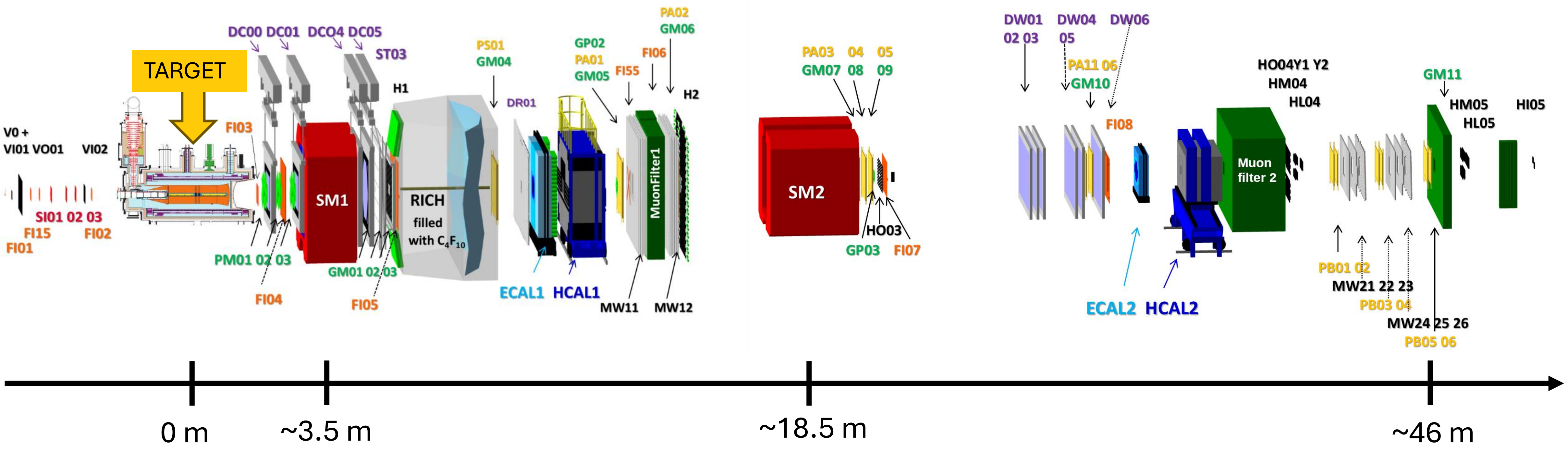
Proton signal well separated from pions and kaons

By selecting the top right region (PMT multiplicities >6 in CEDAR1 and CEDAR2) we get ~73 %

Resulting tagging efficiency of ~96% @190 GeV/c



The AMBER experiment @CERN – layout in 2023



Large Angle Spectrometer (LAS)

- Mainly small+medium size trackers
- SM1
- RICH
- Muon filter
- ECAL

Small Angle Spectrometer (SAS)

- Mainly medium+large area tracker
- SM2
- Muon filter
- ECAL

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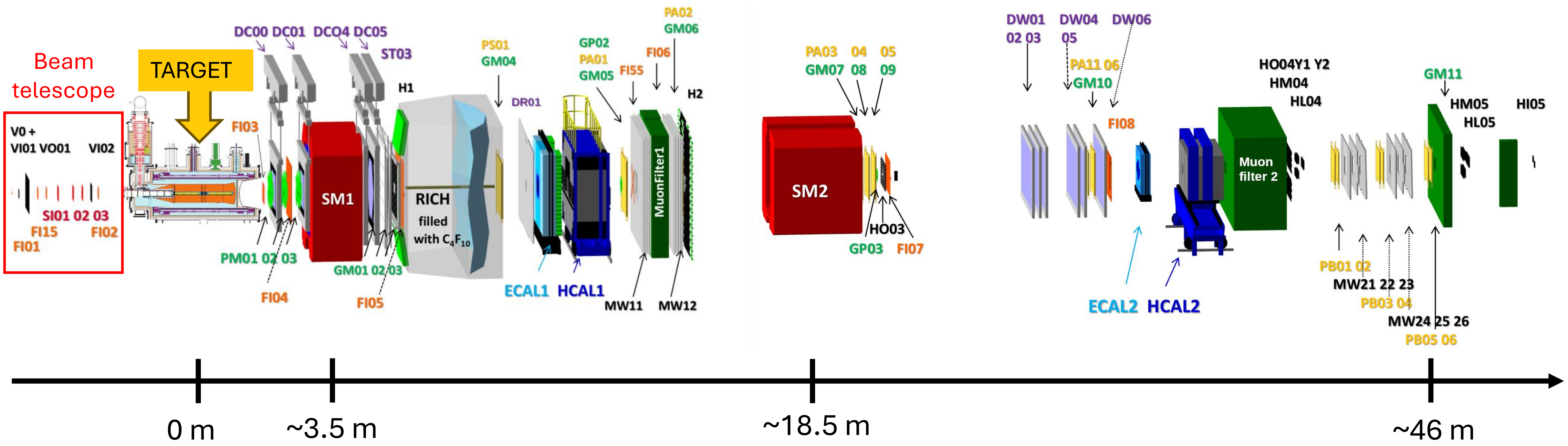

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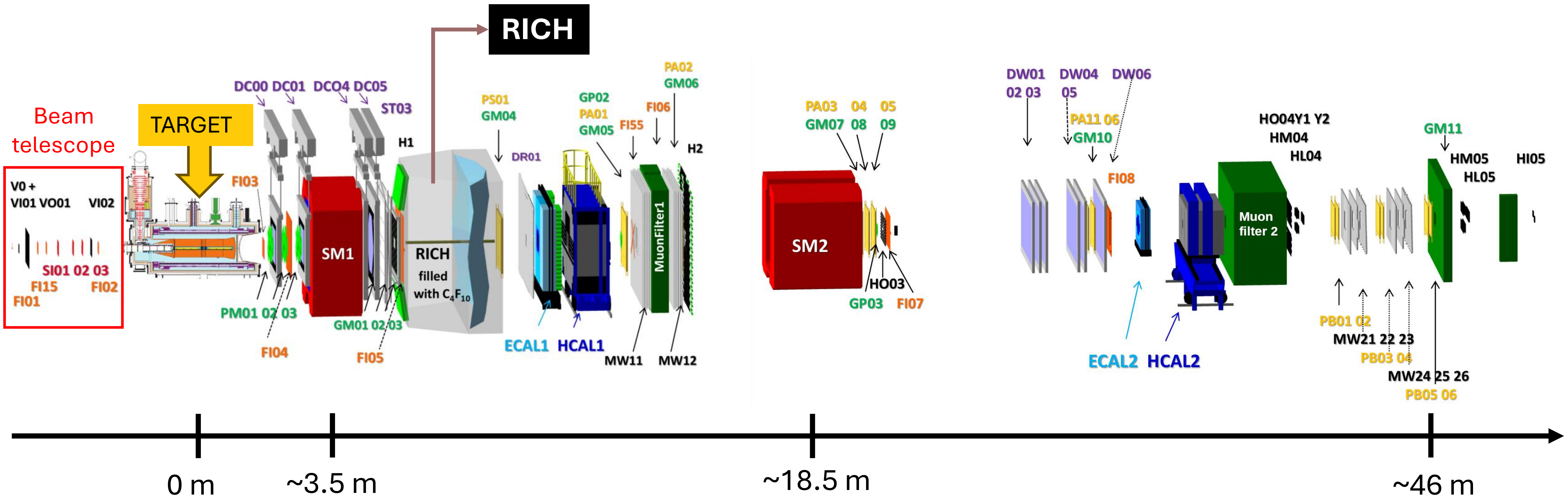

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Analysis outline

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}p\,\mathrm{d}p_{\mathrm{T}}}(\mathrm{p} + \mathrm{He} \rightarrow \bar{\mathrm{p}} + X)$$

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$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}p\mathrm{d}p_{\mathrm{T}}}(\mathrm{p} + \mathrm{He} \rightarrow \bar{\mathrm{p}} + X)$$

Alignment + reconstruction:

- > 200 tracking planes to align

Analysis outline

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}p\,\mathrm{d}p_{\mathrm{T}}}(\mathrm{p}+\mathrm{He}\rightarrow\bar{\mathrm{p}}+X)$$

target

Alignment + reconstruction:

- > 200 tracking planes to align

Analysis of the data

- Data quality (spills and runs rejection)
- Luminosity
- Lifetime DAQ+VETO
- Target position

Analysis outline

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dp\,dp_T}(p + He \rightarrow \bar{p} + X)$$

PID (p) — target (He) — PID ($\bar{p}$)

Alignment + reconstruction:

- > 200 tracking planes to align

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PID

- RICH characterization
- CEDAR PID efficiency/purity

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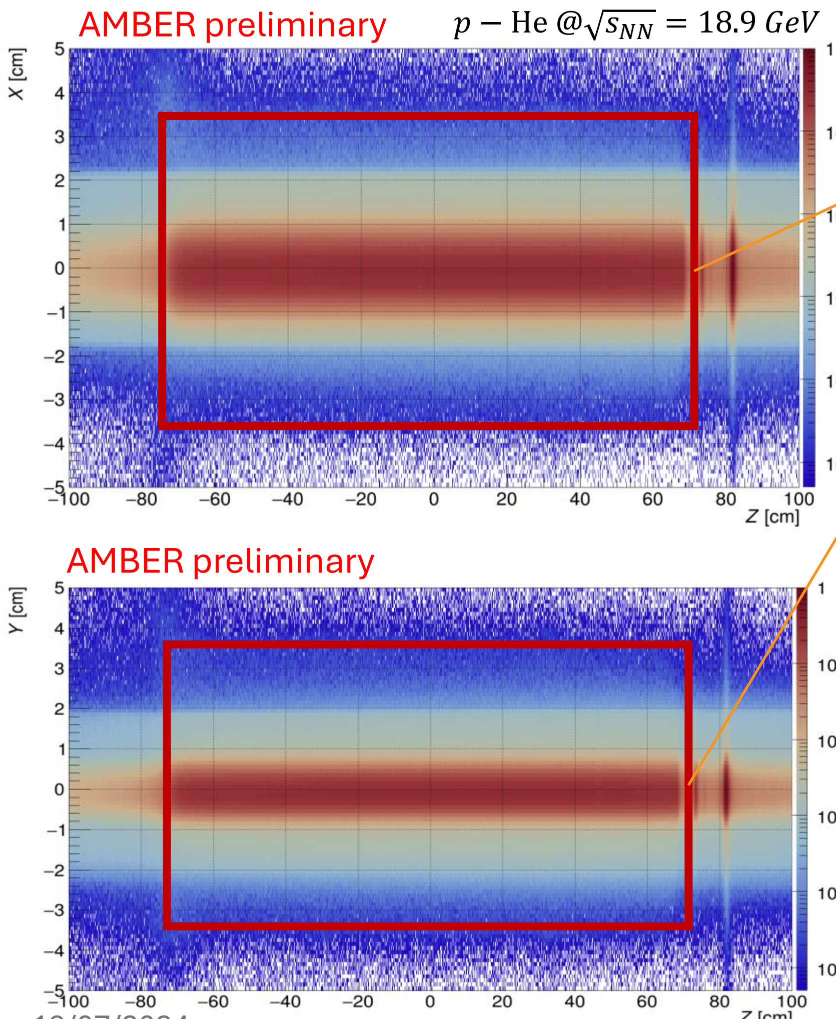
Monte Carlo

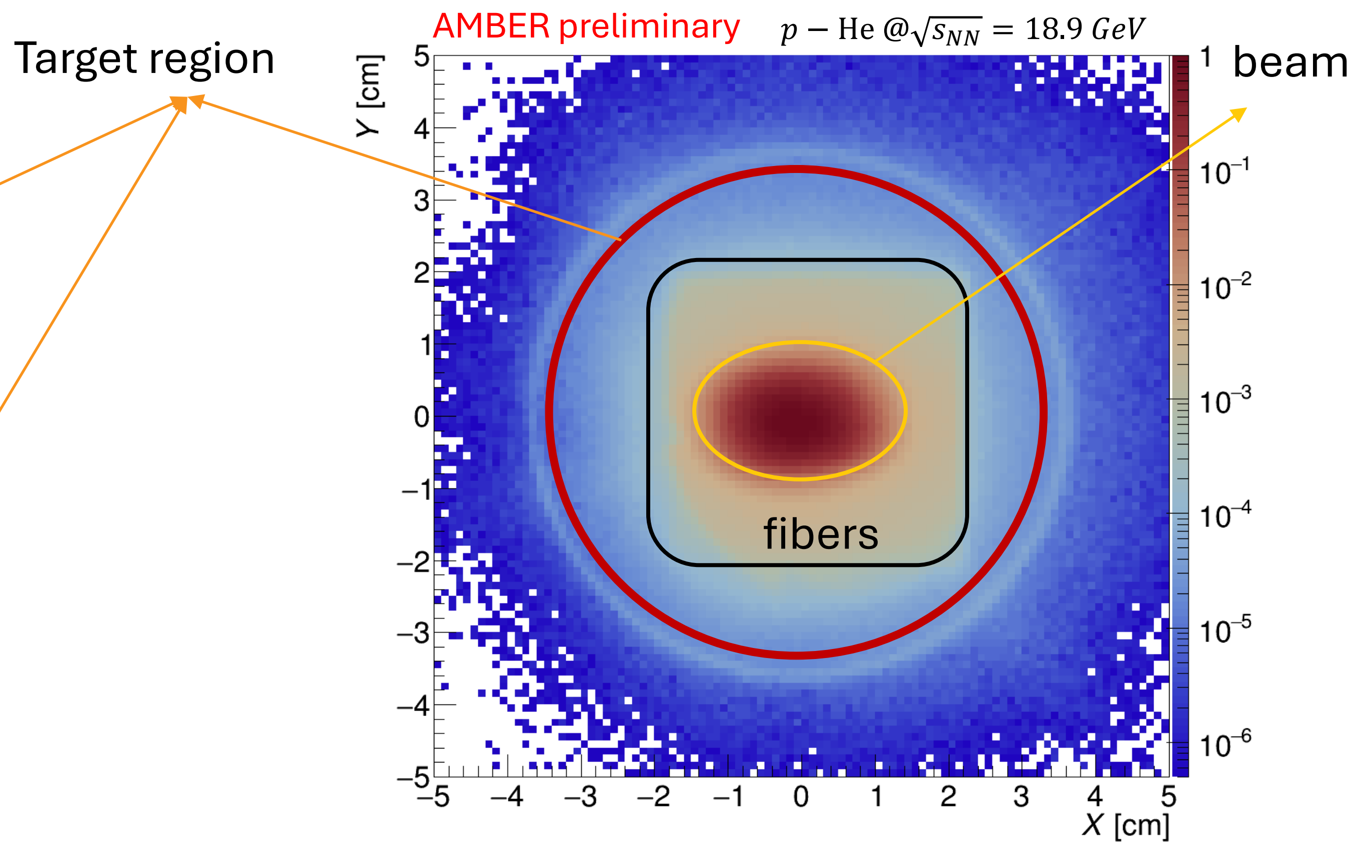
- Tune event generator
- Detector efficiencies
- Acceptance corrections
- Bins size optimization

Extraction of the hadrons spectra

- Event and tracks selection
- Corrections:
  - Acceptance
  - Re-interaction
  - RICH
  - …

Reconstructed interaction vertices in the target region





Position and dimension of the target were extracted with a dedicated study using the primary vertices distributions.

RICH-1: final state hadrons PID

The PID method relies on an extended maximum likelihood approach, based on the parametrization of the expected Cherenkov angle and the position of collected photons

$$\mathcal{L}_M = \exp\left[-\left(S_M + B\right)\right] \prod_{j=1}^{N} f_M\left(\theta_j, \varphi_j\right)$$

$$f_M(\theta, \varphi) = s_M(\theta, \varphi) + b(\theta, \varphi)$$

$$s_M\left(\theta_j, \varphi_j\right) = \frac{S_0}{\sigma_{\theta j}\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}\frac{\left(\theta_j - \Theta_M\right)^2}{\sigma_{\theta j}^2}\right] \varepsilon_D\left(\theta_j, \varphi_j\right)$$

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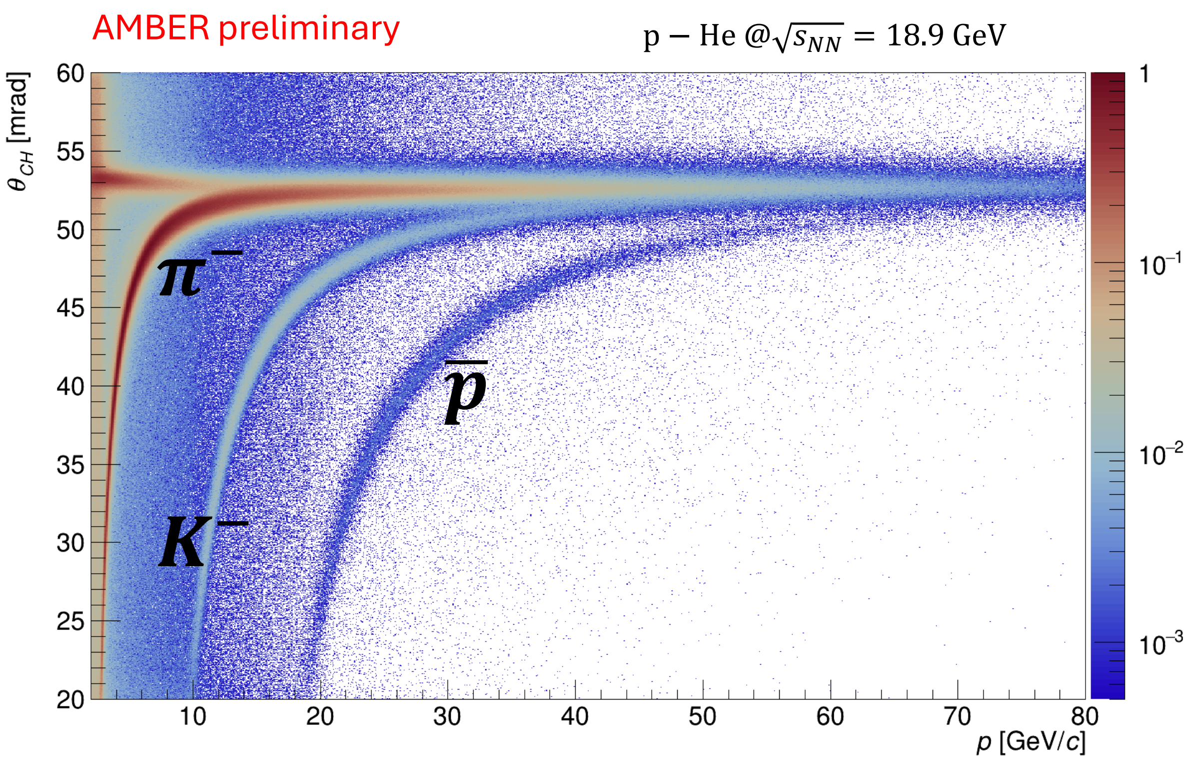

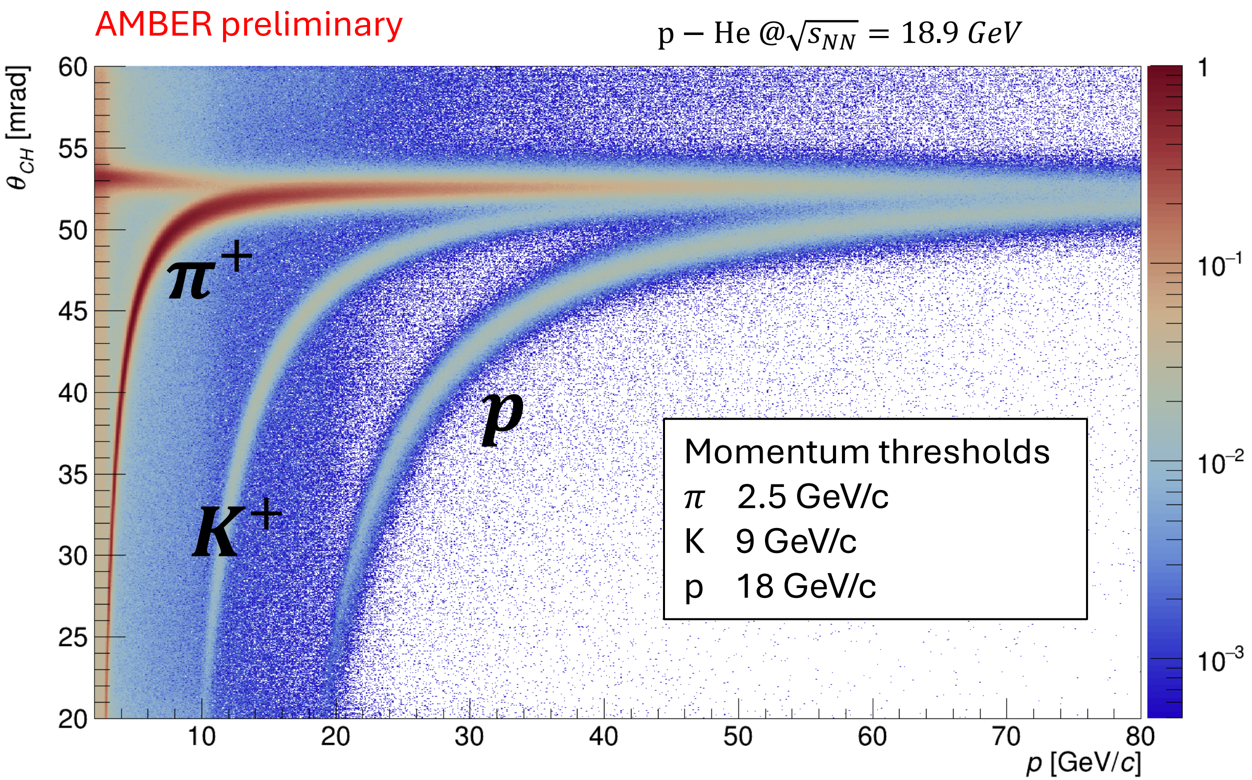

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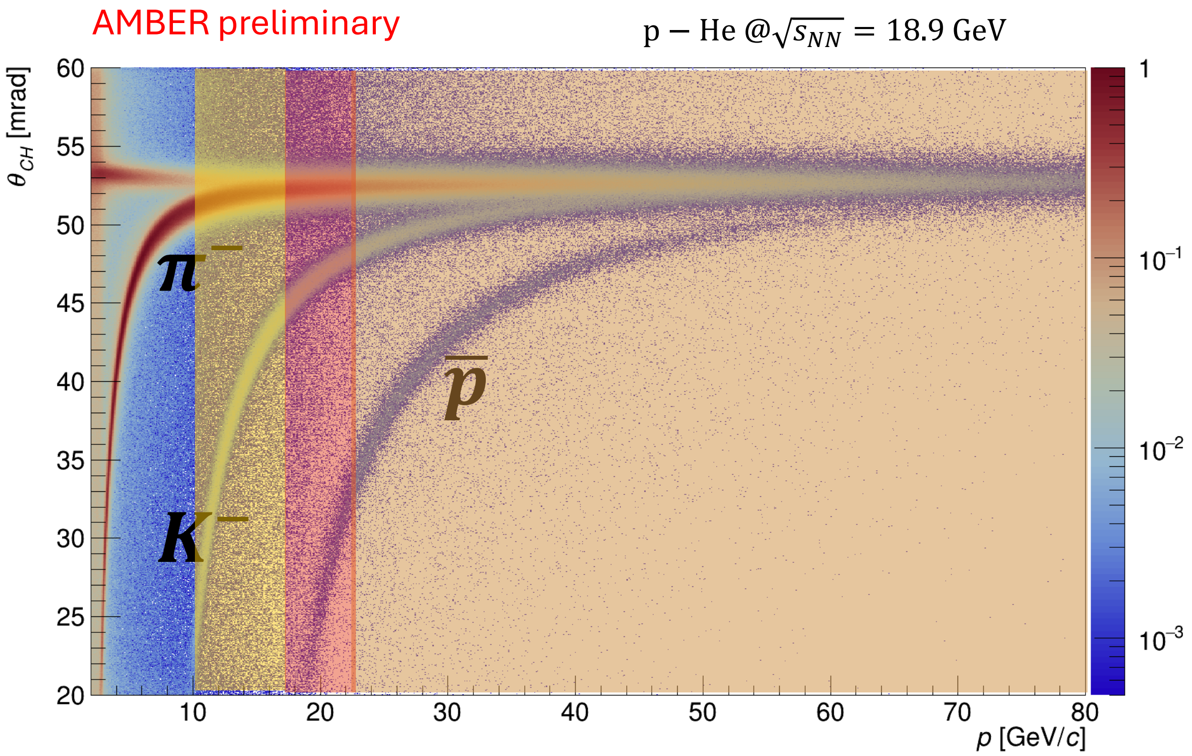
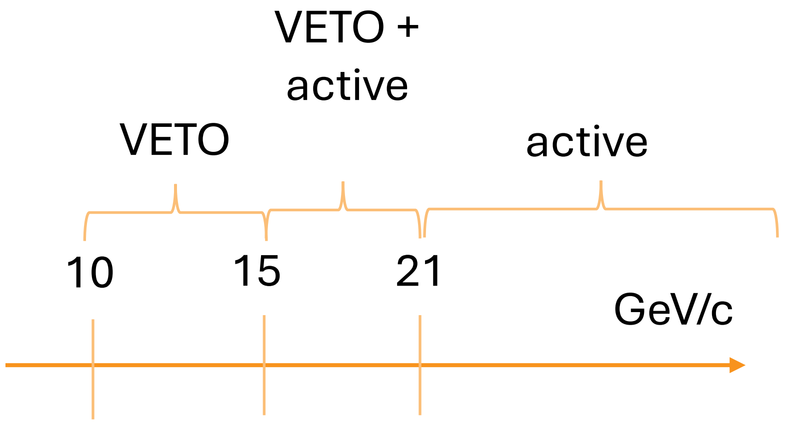


3 momentum intervals:

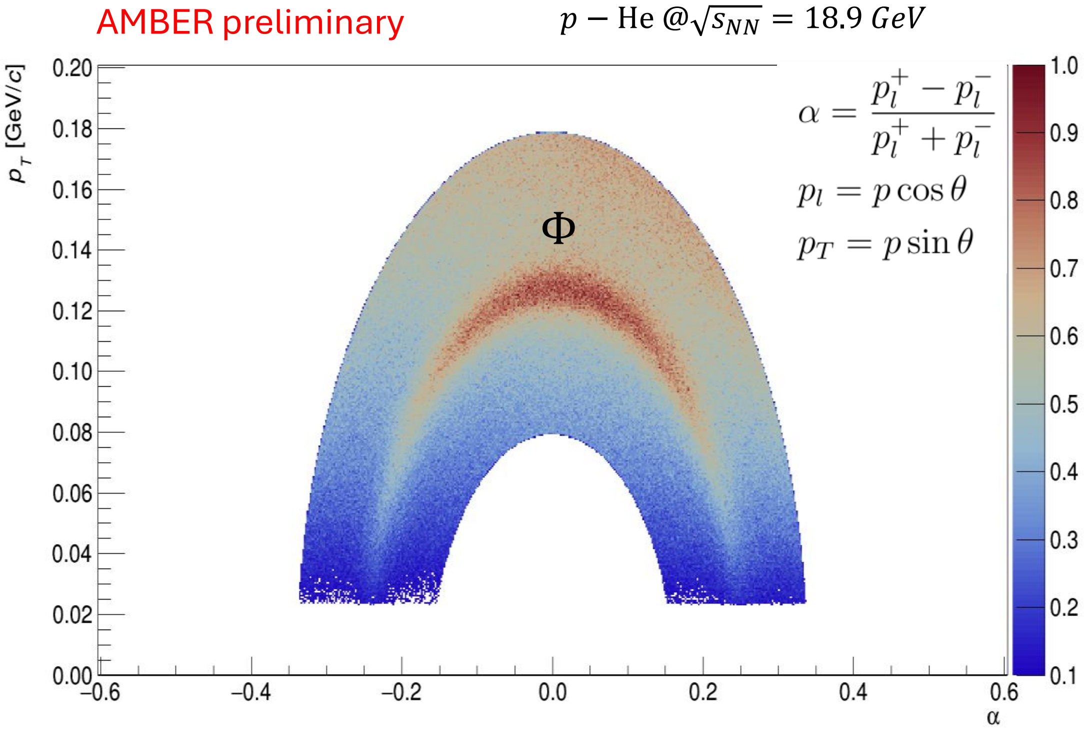


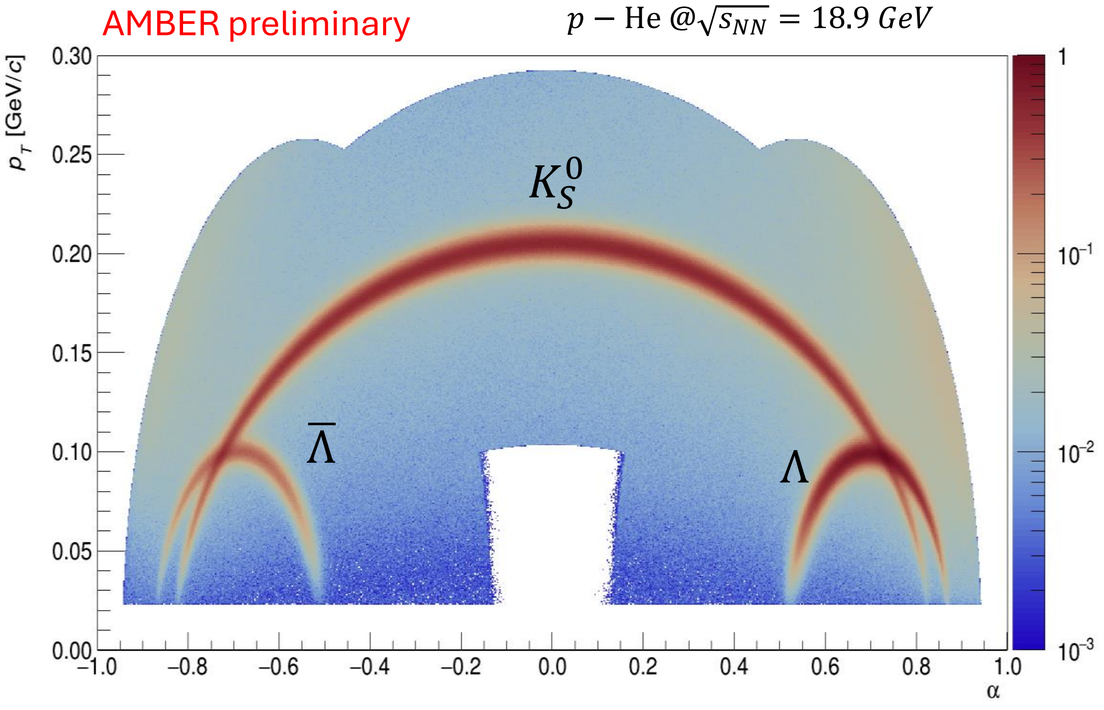
RICH-1: final state hadrons PID

RICH PID matrix estimated from real data V0s decays

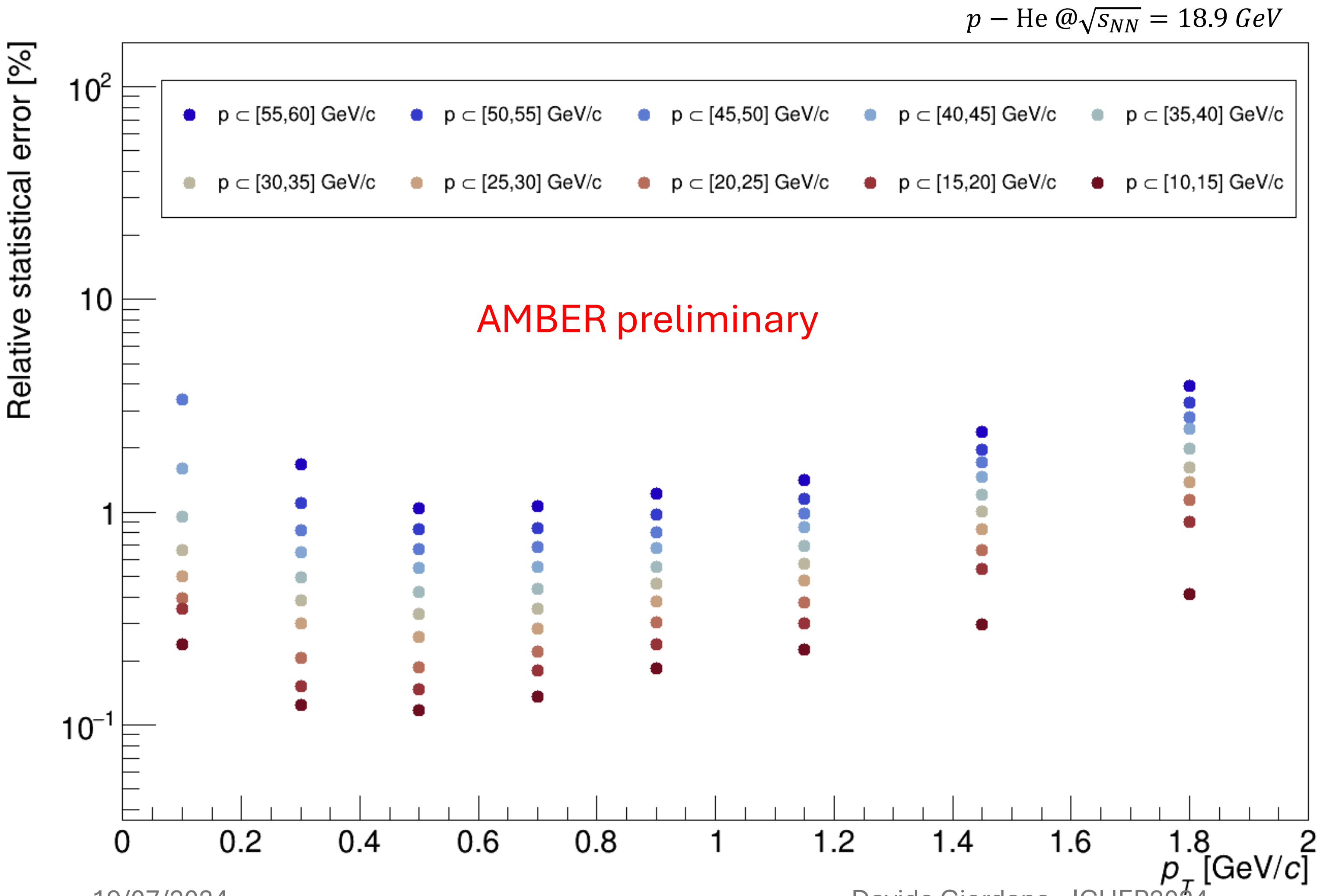
Hadrons	Decays	
	Channel	BR
K_S	$\pi^+\pi^-$	$(69.20 \pm 0.05)\%$
ϕ	K^+K^-	$(48.9 \pm 0.5)\%$
$\Lambda(\bar{\Lambda})$	$p\pi^-$ $(\bar{p}\pi^+)$	$(63.9 \pm 0.5)\%$

$$M_{RICH}^{+/-}(p,\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon(\pi \to \pi) & \epsilon(K \to \pi) & \epsilon(p \to \pi) \\ \epsilon(\pi \to K) & \epsilon(K \to K) & \epsilon(p \to K) \\ \epsilon(\pi \to p) & \epsilon(K \to p) & \epsilon(p \to p) \\ \hline \epsilon(\pi \to X) & \epsilon(K \to X) & \epsilon(p \to X) \end{pmatrix}$$





Relative statistical error on antiproton spectra



A preliminary unfolding shows that we collected ~6million antiprotons in

- p [10, 60] GeV/c
- p_T [0, 2] GeV/c

Statistical errors in most bins < 1%

Leading systematic errors expected from:

- Luminosity
- RICH unfolding

Antiproton production – decays

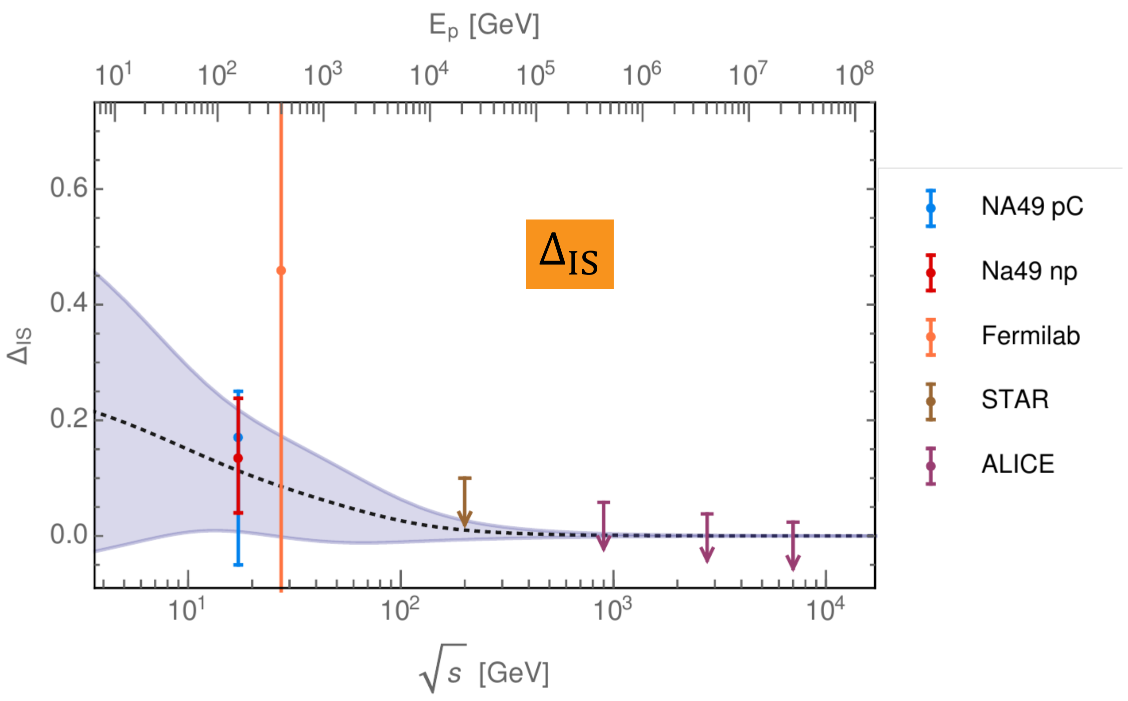
$$f = f^0_{\bar{p}} \left(2 + \Delta_{\text{IS}} + 2\Delta_{\Lambda}\right)$$

$$q_{ij}\left(T_s\right) = \int_{T_{\text{th}}}^{\infty} dT_i \, 4\pi \, n_{\text{ISM},j} \, \phi_i\left(T_i\right) \frac{d\sigma_{ij}}{dT_s}\left(T_i, T_s\right)$$

Antiproton production – decays

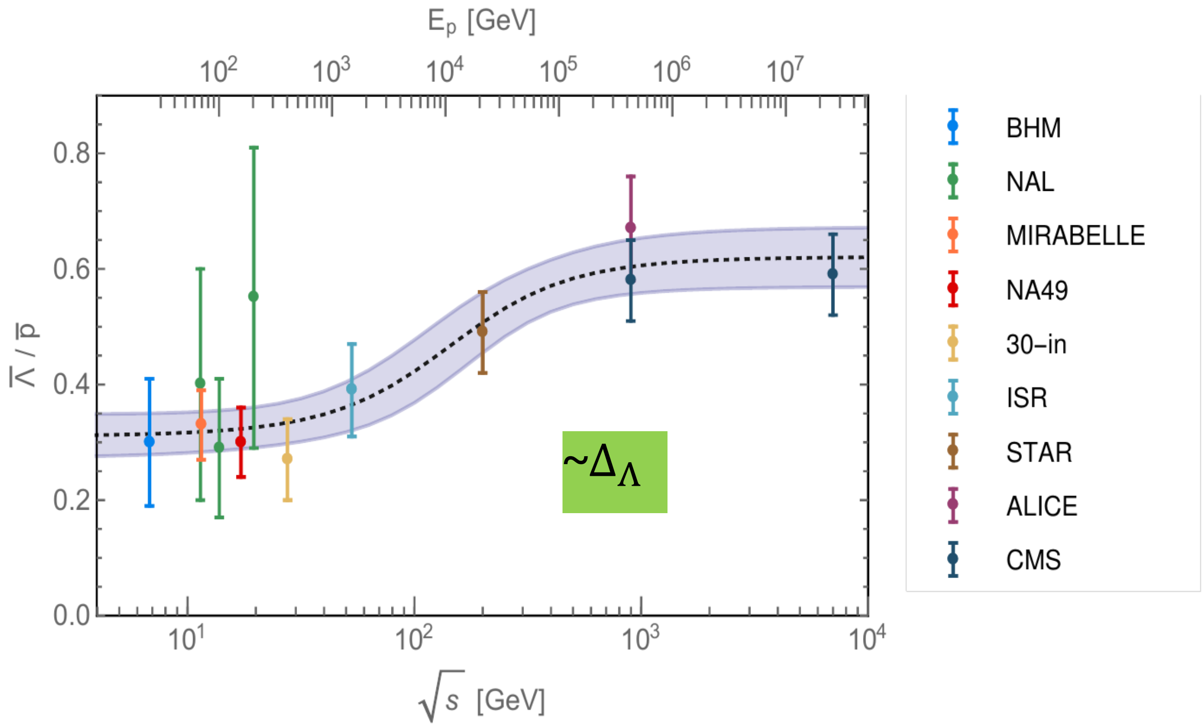
$$f = f^0_{\bar{p}}\,(2 + \Delta_{IS} + 2\Delta_\Lambda)$$

https://doi.org/10.1016/S0927-6505(01)00107-4



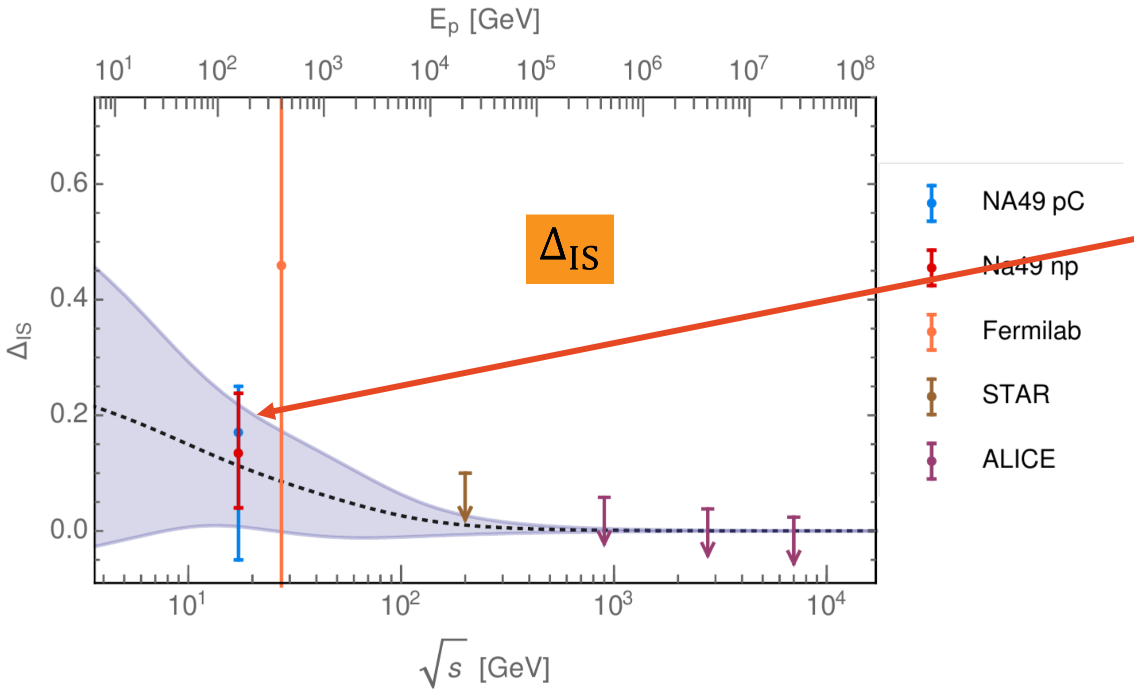
Production asymmetry $p\bar{n}/\bar{p}n$

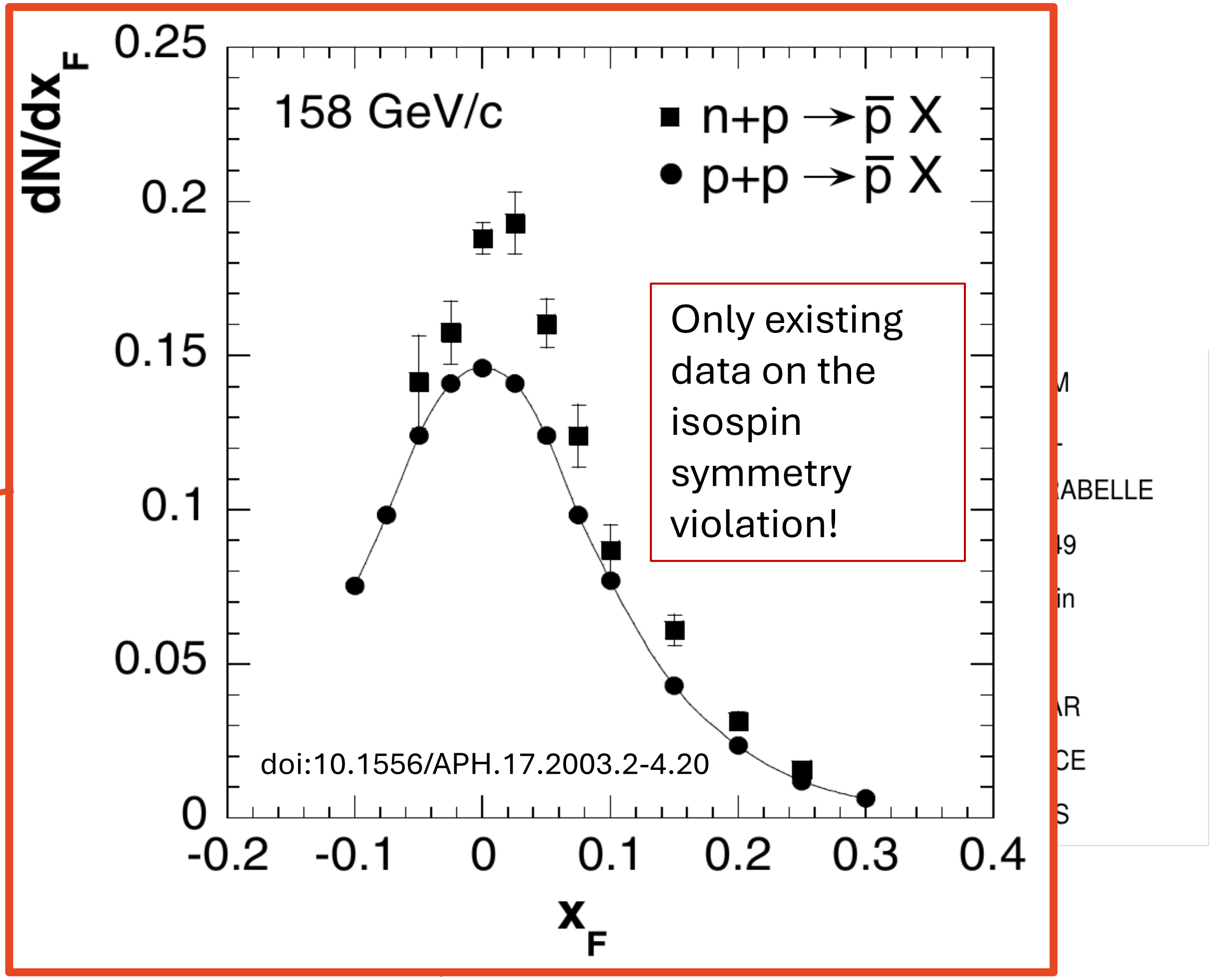
https://doi.org/10.1016/S0927-6505(01)00107-4



Antiproton production – decays

https://doi.org/10.1016/S0927-6505(01)00107-4





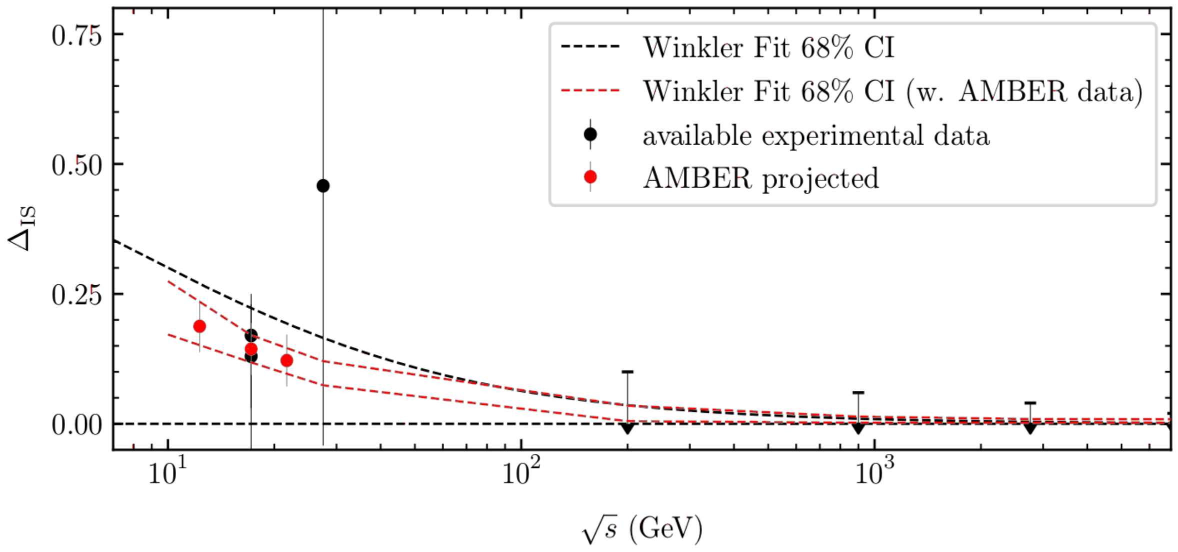
$p\bar{n}/\bar{p}n$

Data 2024 – just finished collecting!

This year running with 2 targets
1. liquid Hydrogen
2. liquid deuterium

With beam momenta @80,160,250 GeV/c

Private exchange with T. Poeschl



The data collected at the same energy with the different targets let us calculate the production rates in p-p and p-D that may confirm or not the presence of an isospin asymmetry.

In both cases, the error will be reduced and directly impact the antiproton production parametrization at low energies.

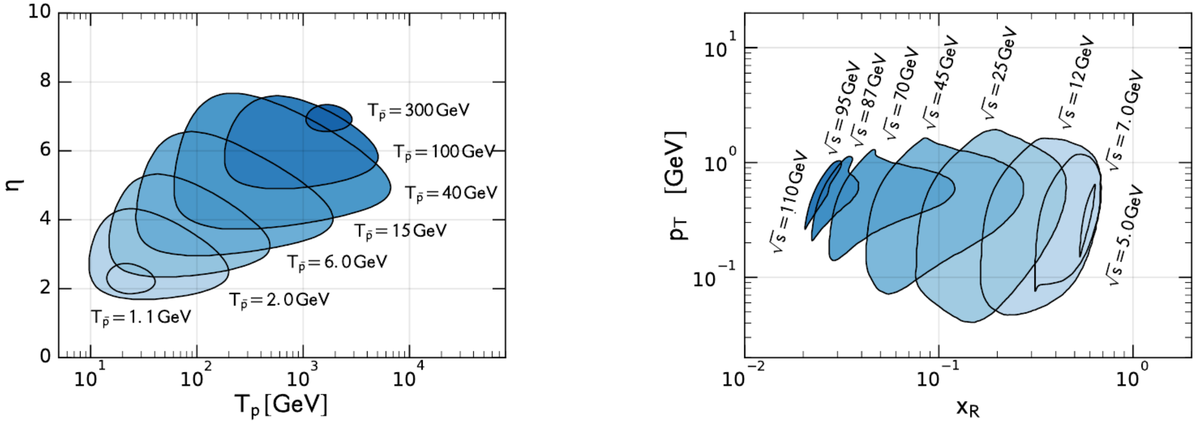
Summary

- The dark matter indirect detection reached a “precision” era thanks to very precise data by experiments and more precise models in the propagation and creation of cosmic rays
- A leading uncertainty comes from the scarcity of data in the relevant reaction channels (pp and pHe) at the cosmic “scale”
- AMBER collected data on p-He in 2023 and p-H / p-D in 2024. These dataset are expected to give a significant impact in the antiproton production modeling
- Preliminary results on 2023 p-He data are presented here. They show very good performance of the spectrometer and a very good coverage of the phase space with small statistical uncertainty between 10-60 GeV/c in momentum and 0-2 GeV/c in transverse momentum.

Analysis ongoing!

BACKUP

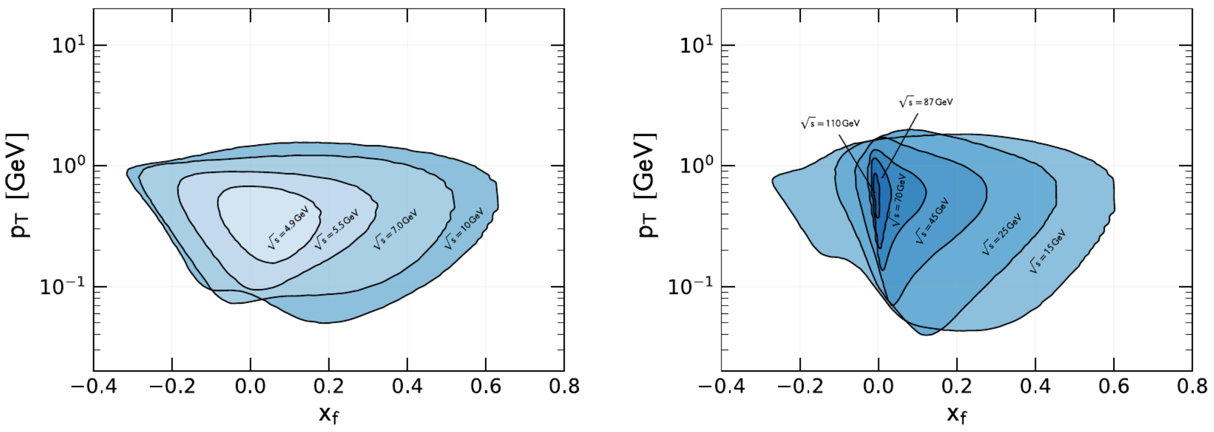
doi:10.1103/PhysRevD.96.043007



(a) LAB frame

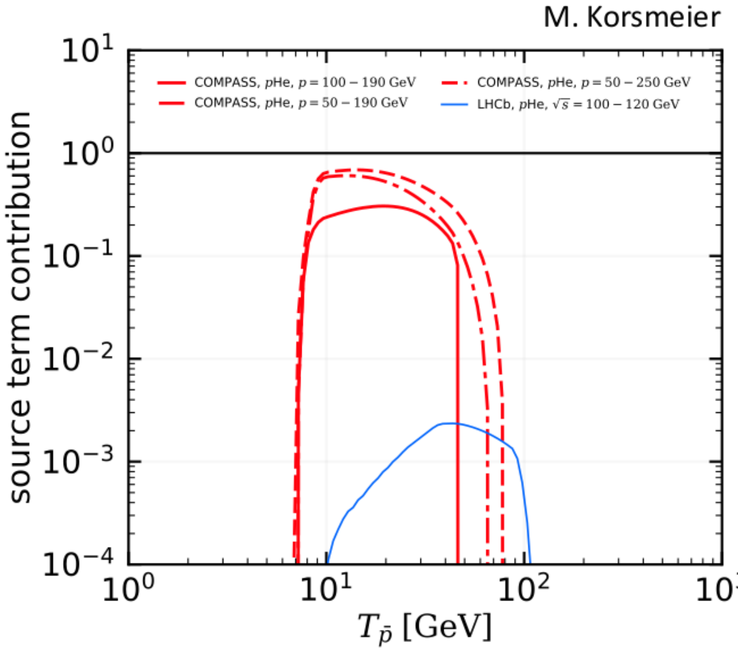
(b) CM frame

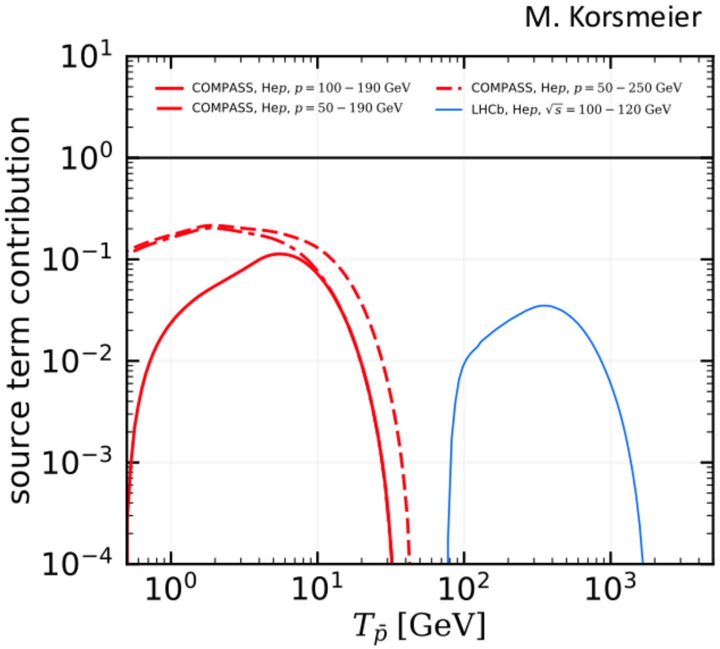
10.1103/PhysRevD.97.103019



$$x_R = \frac{E^*}{E^*_{\max}}$$

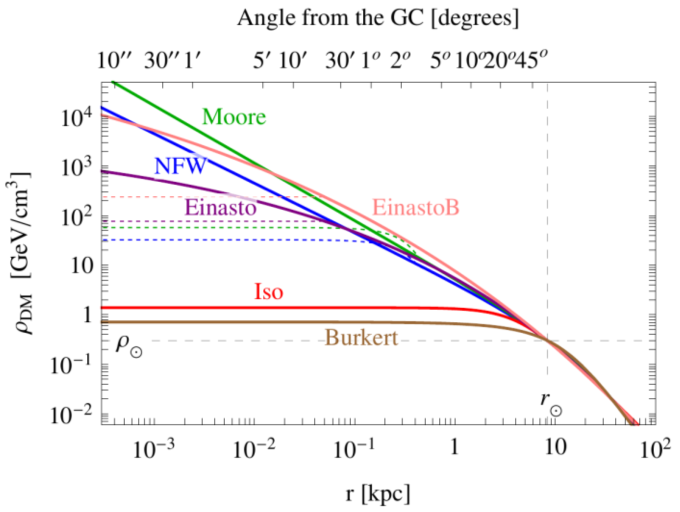
$$x_F = \frac{p^*_L}{\sqrt{s}/2}$$





How to add DM into CR flux interpretation

A Poor Particle Physicist Cookbook for Dark Matter Indirect Detection, Cirelli et al.



$$\rho_{\rm NFW}(r) = \rho_s \frac{r_s}{r}\left(1+\frac{r}{r_s}\right)^{-2}$$

r_s [kpc]	ρ_s [GeV/cm^3]
24.42	0.184

2. Choose the injection source term
(don't forget the "standard" astro-production)

$$q = \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\rho}{M_{\rm DM}}\right)^2 f_{\rm inj}^{\rm ann} \qquad f_{\rm inj}^{\rm ann} = \sum_f \langle\sigma v\rangle_f \frac{dN_{\bar p}^f}{dE}$$

$$q = \left(\frac{\rho}{M_{\rm DM}}\right) f_{\rm inj}^{\rm dec} \qquad f_{\rm inj}^{\rm dec} = \sum_f \Gamma_f \frac{dN_{\bar p}^f}{dE}$$

... and decay methods

$e_L^+e_L^-,\ e_R^+e_R^-,\ \mu_L^+\mu_L^-,\ \mu_R^+\mu_R^-,\ \tau_L^+\tau_L^-,\ \tau_R^+\tau_R^-,$

$q\bar q,\ c\bar c,\ b\bar b,\ t\bar t,\ \gamma\gamma,\ gg,$

$W_L^+W_L^-,\ W_T^+W_T^-,\ Z_LZ_L,\ Z_TZ_T,$

$hh,$

$\nu_e\bar\nu_e,\ \nu_\mu\bar\nu_\mu,\ \nu_\tau\bar\nu_\tau,$

$VV\to 4e,\ VV\to 4\mu,\ VV\to 4\tau,$

3.

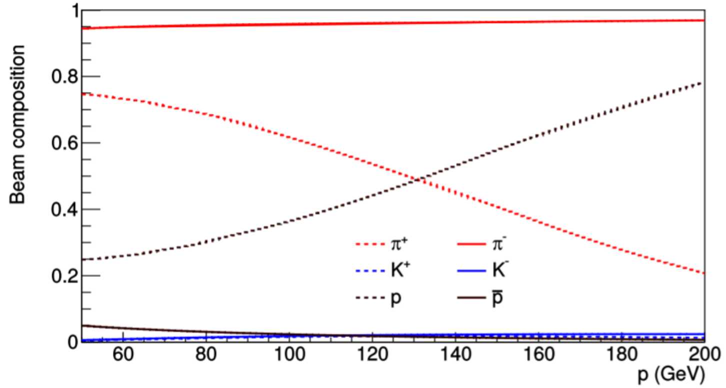
Hadronization → need input from generator (HERWIG, PYTHIA,..)
+
Numerical solution of **propagation** equation (DRAGON, GALPROP,...)

The 2023 p-He data sample

2 months of data taking
Collected beam momenta **@60, 80, 100, 160, 190, 250 GeV/c**

Minimum bias trigger: beam trigger with veto on non-scattered beam particle

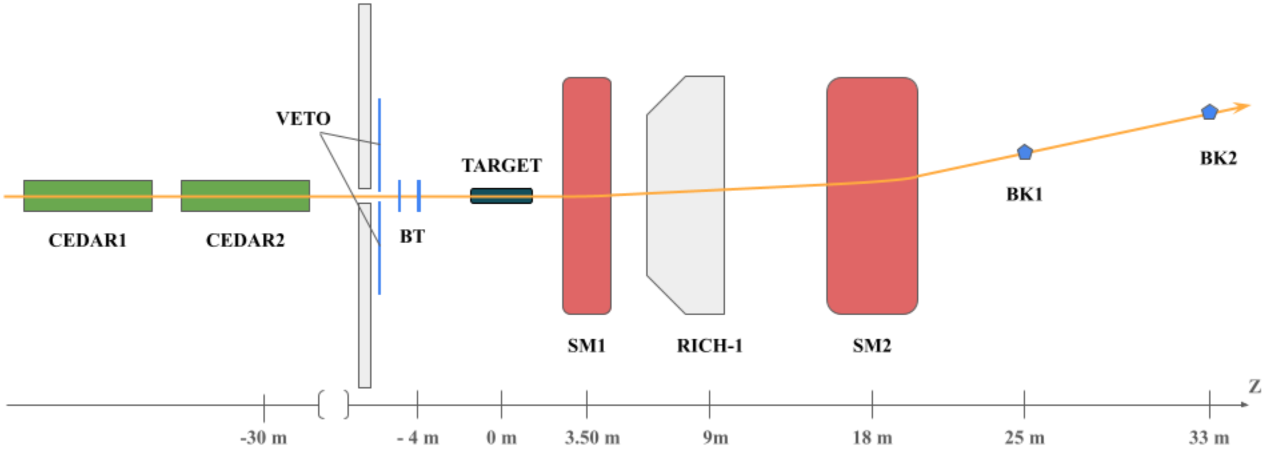
Beam mom. [GeV/c]	Collision energy $\sqrt{s_{\mathrm{NN}}}$ [GeV]	Start Date	End Date	Number of spills
60	10.7	24.05	30.05	37000
80	12.3	17.06	25.06	13400
100	13.8	01.06	11.06	13700
160	17.3	14.06	17.06	8500
190	18.9	19.05	24.05	11000
250	21.7	11.06	14.06	7300



Different number of spills per period to compensate different hadrons mixtures in the beam

@190 GeV/c ~75% protons

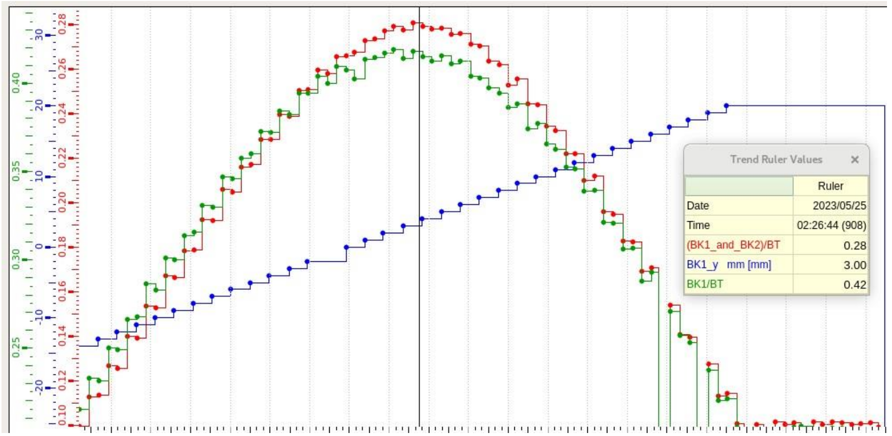
The AMBER experiment @CERN – trigger in 2023



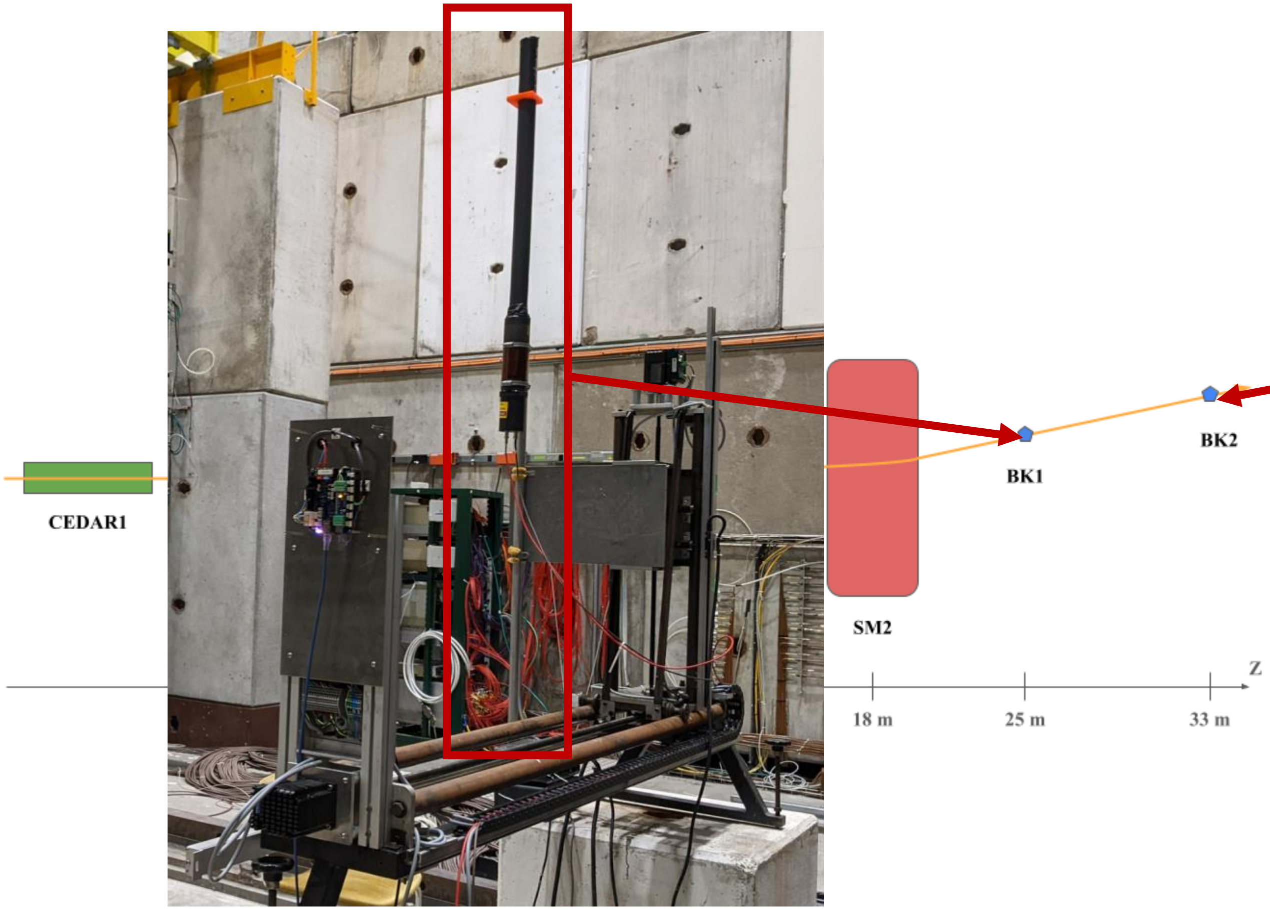
Trigger system:

- Beam trigger (BT) → tags entering beam particles
- Beam killers (BKs) → tags non-interacting beam particles
- VETO → remove unwanted beam tracks (halo + divergent)

Position of beam killer optimized with simulation and intensity scan → changes with different magnets configuration



The AMBER experiment @CERN – trigger in 2023



Trigger system:
- Bea… …am
  part…
- Bea… …cting
  bea…
- VET… …cks
  (hal…

Positio…
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