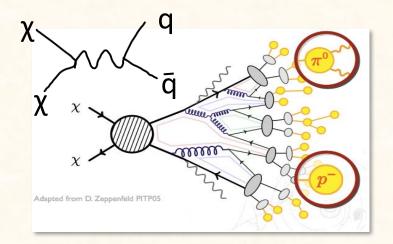




# Dark matter searches with cosmic-ray antiprotons





Pedro de la Torre Luque --- pedro.delatorre@uam.es Juan de la Cierva fellowship (IFT/UAM - Madrid)

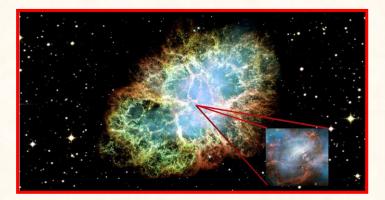
@ JENAA, CERN - 19/08/2024

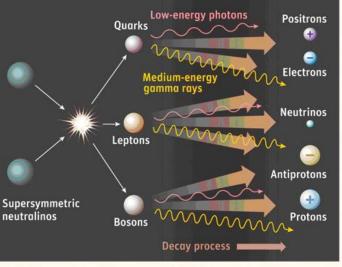
# CR Antiprotons in the Galaxy

Cosmic rays (CRs) are ionized nuclei that are accelerated in astrophysical shocks (supernova remnants, pulsars, etc) and propagate in the Galaxy, interacting with gas and magnetic field

Antiprotons must be produced as secondary CRs that can be detected by our experiments

Antiprotons have long been considered critical channel for indirect DM searches: Many simple extensions of the SM lead to well-motivated dark matter candidates such as the bino, neutral wino or neutral Higgsinos expected to couple to quarks





## Antiprotons as a tool to identify signals of BSM physics

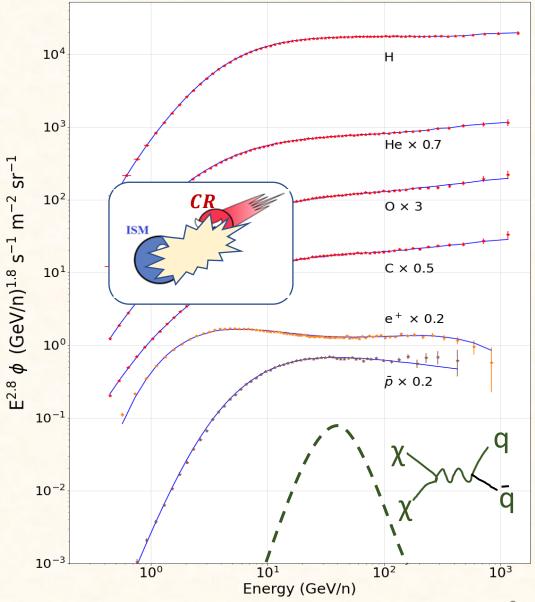
See talk by A. Oliva

High precision data for the fluxes of CR nuclei allow us to accurately model the production of CR antiparticles and uncertainties related.

The antiproton spectrum allows us to strongly constrain the existence of BSM physics due to the expected low production and uncertainty in their modelling.

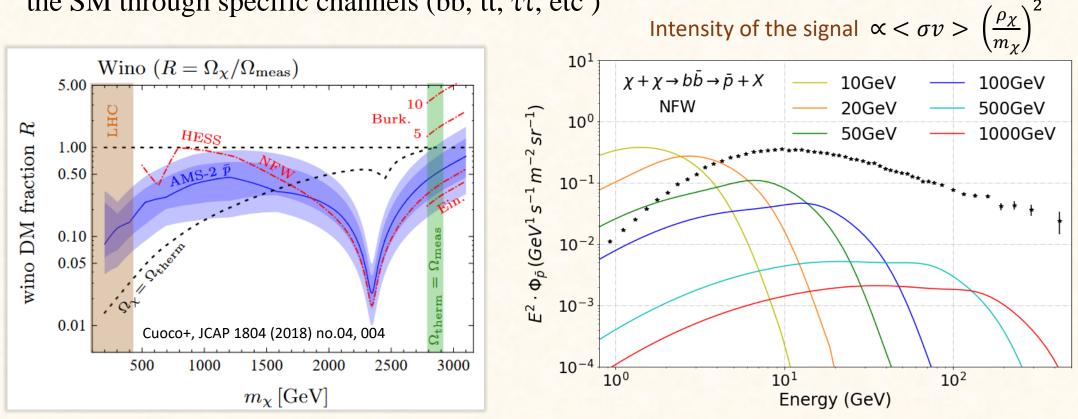
Specially, well-motivated **WIMPs**  $(M_{\chi} \sim O(100 \text{ GeV}))$  are expected to leave imprints in the GeV energy region.

#### Flux of CR nuclei and antiparticles (data from AMS-02)



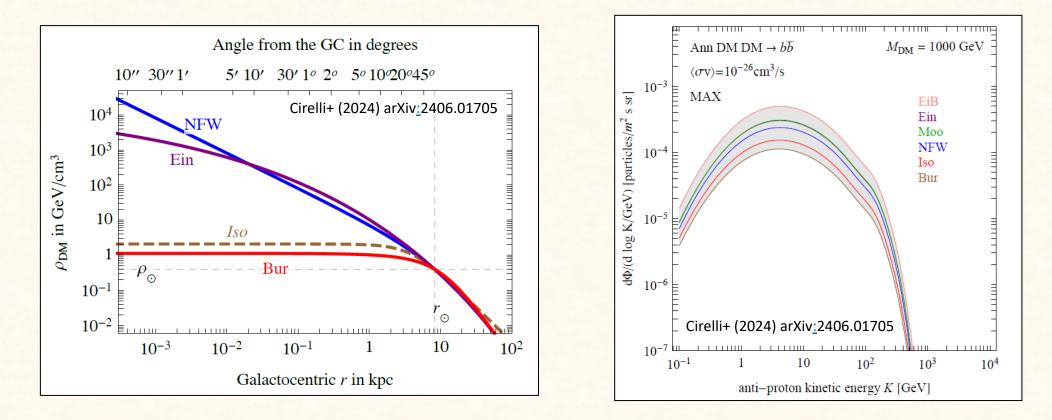
## DM production - primary antiprotons

Indirect DM searches with antiprotons (similarly to what happens with other astroparticles) are either intended for specific particle models (wino, Higgsino, etc) or for a generic WIMP that is modelled as a neutral-colorless resonance that couples to the SM through specific channels (bb, tt,  $\tau\tau$ , etc.)



## DM production - primary antiprotons

The uncertainty in the galactic DM distribution affects the predicted fluxes, roughly independently of energy. The difference between the flux for a cored and a peaked profile is ~ factor of a few for annihilating DM, and much smaller for decaying DM.

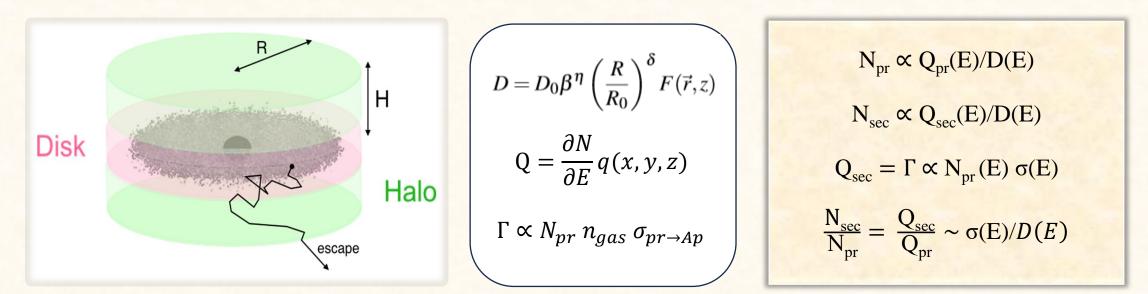


# Antiprotons and propagation

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} \cdot (-D \,\nabla N_i - \vec{v}_{\omega} N_i) + \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left[ p^2 D_{pp} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left( \frac{N_i}{p^2} \right) \right] &= Q_i + \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left[ \dot{p} N_i - \frac{p}{3} \left( \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}_{\omega} N_i \right) \right] \\ &- \frac{N_i}{\tau_i^f} + \sum \Gamma_{j \to i}^s (N_j) - \frac{N_i}{\tau_i^r} + \sum \frac{N_j}{\tau_{j \to i}^r} \end{aligned}$$

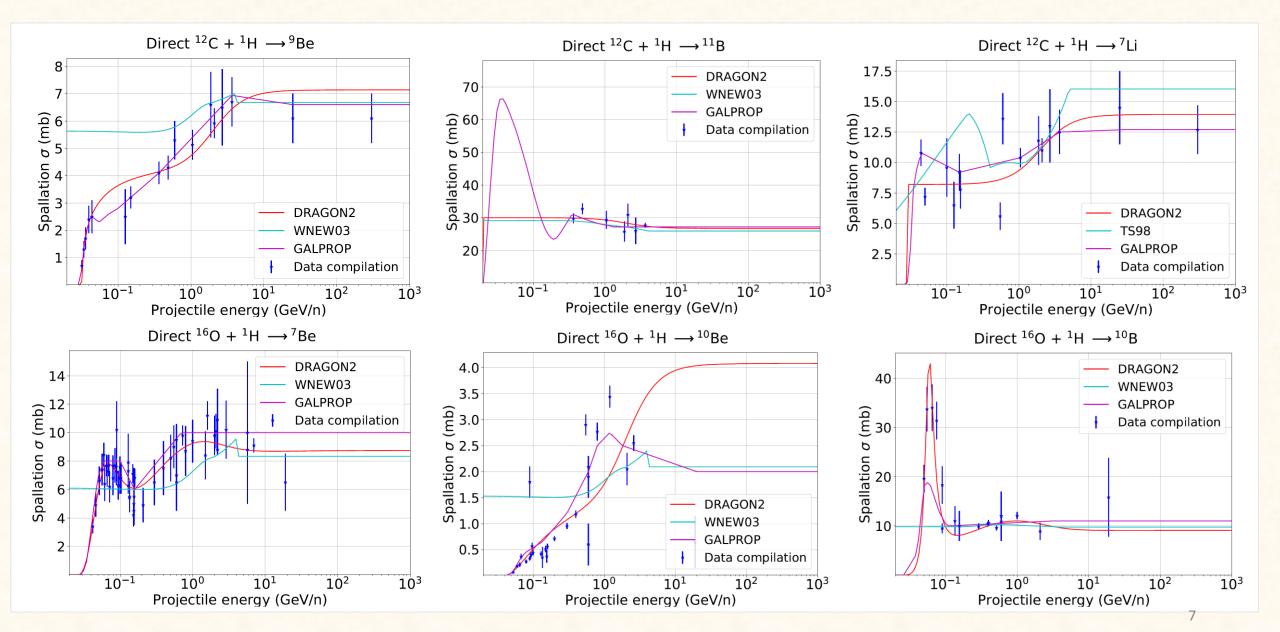


Secondary-to-primary ratios (e.g. B/C) are key to evaluate the propagation parameters



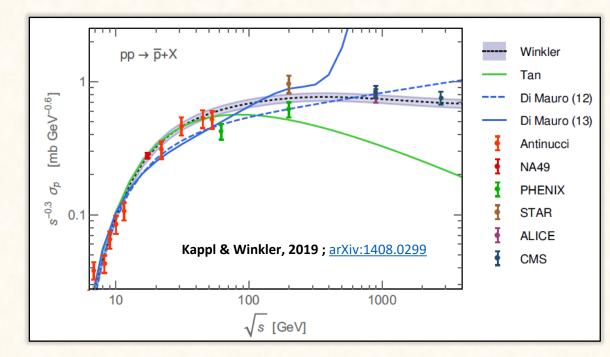
A precise estimation of the antiproton flux requires a careful analysis of several CR species and nuclear cross sections

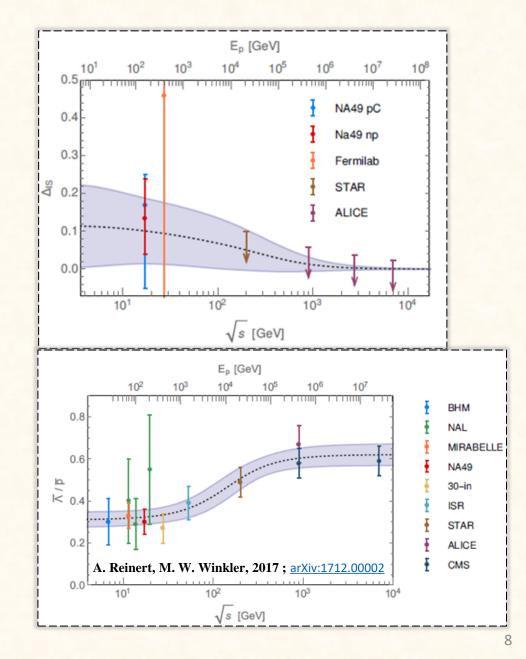
#### **Cross sections parameterizations for secondary CRs**



#### **Antiproton cross sections**

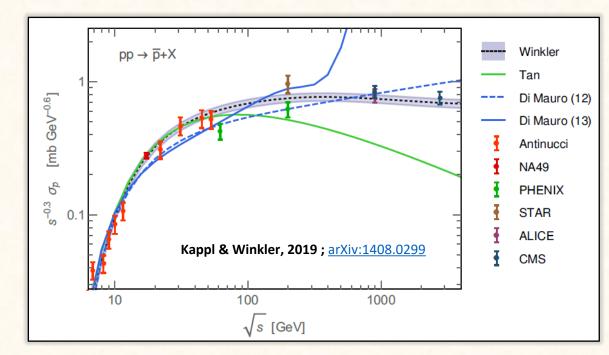
$$\left(E\frac{d^3\sigma}{dp^3}\right)_{pp\to\bar{p}} = \left(E\frac{d^3\sigma}{dp^3}\right)_{pp\to\bar{p}}^{\text{prompt}} \cdot (2 + \Delta_{IS} + 2\Delta_{\Lambda})$$

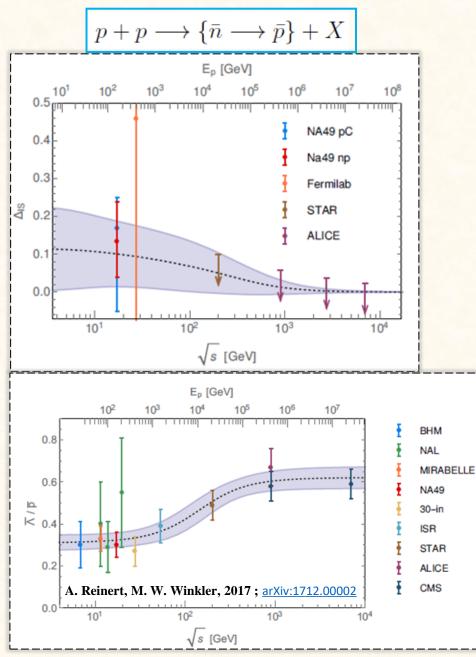




#### **Antiproton cross sections**

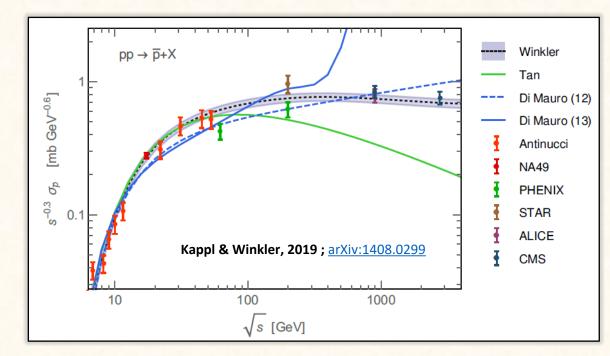
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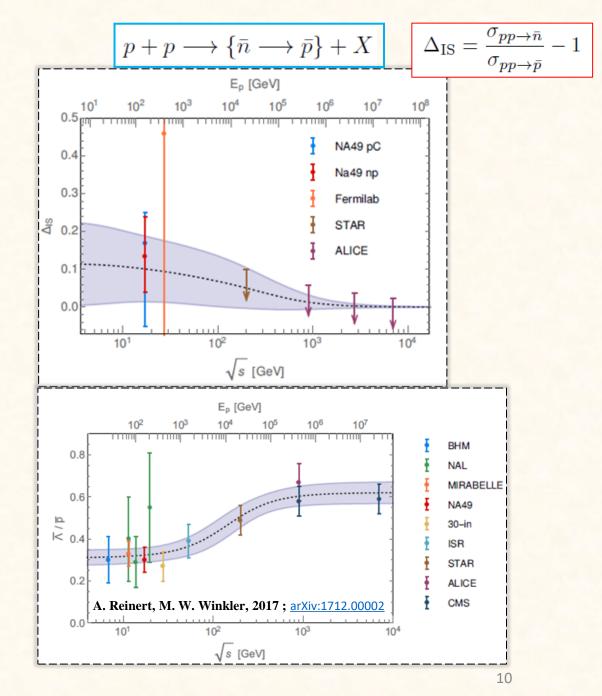


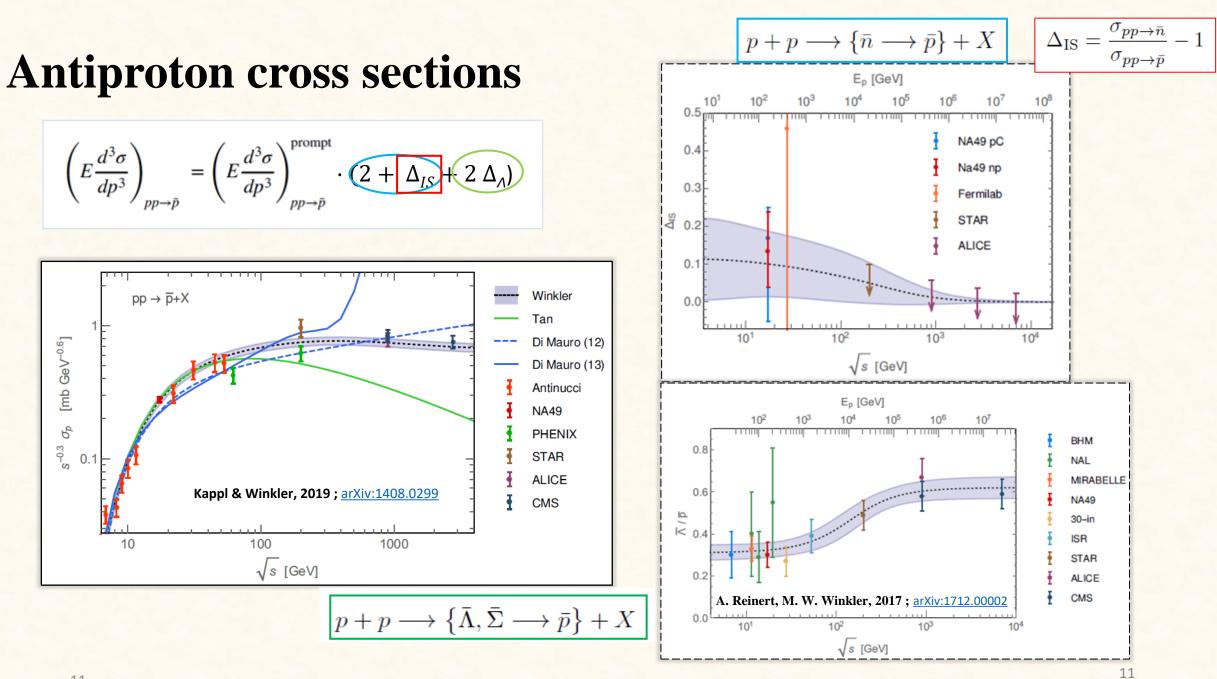


#### **Antiproton cross sections**

$$\left(E\frac{d^{3}\sigma}{dp^{3}}\right)_{pp\to\bar{p}} = \left(E\frac{d^{3}\sigma}{dp^{3}}\right)_{pp\to\bar{p}}^{\text{prompt}} \cdot (2 + \Delta_{IS} + 2\Delta_{\Lambda})$$

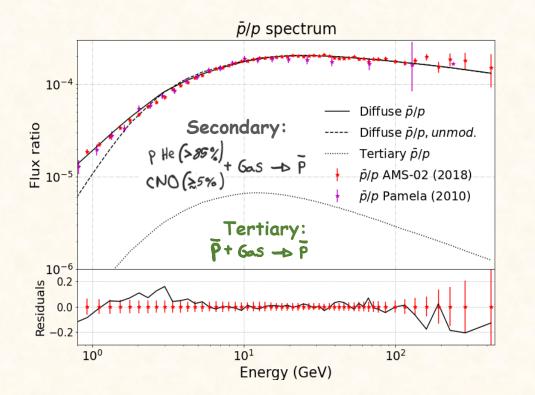


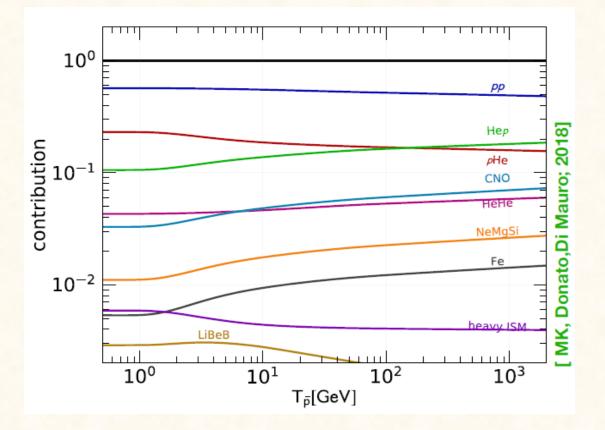




### **Channels of secondary antiproton production**

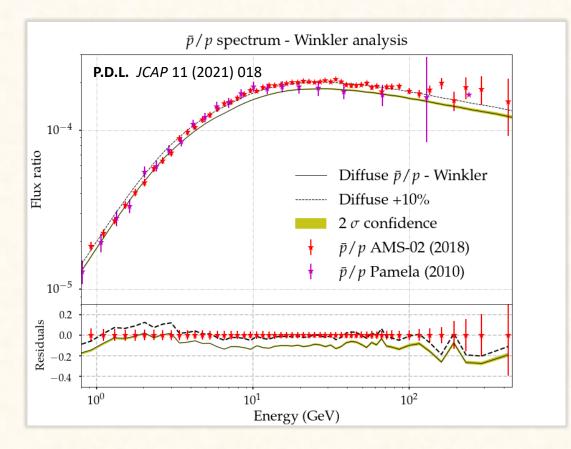
 $p + p \rightarrow p + p + p + \overline{p}$  (High energy protons produce lower energy antiprotons)



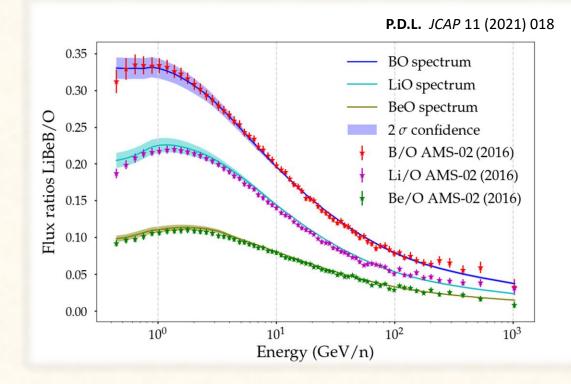


Different evaluations vary by tens of percent -parameterizations seem more precise than current event generators, with **uncerts ~ 12% Heavy CRs may have a contribution > 7%** 

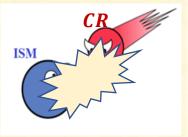
# Secondary antiprotons – The grammage excess



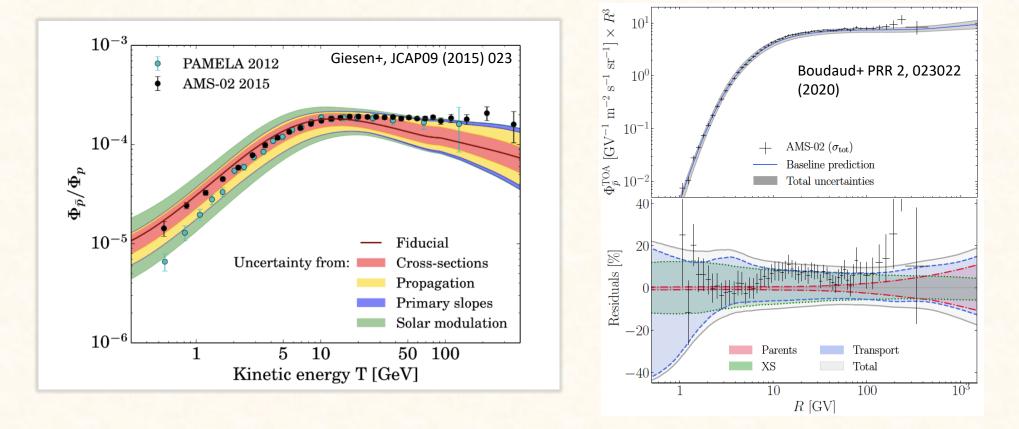
The spectrum of antiprotons is easily reproduced simultaneously with B, Be and Li allowing for a small (<10%) rescaling of cross sections Diff. coeff. predicted by the flux-ratios of B, Be and Li underpredicts the antiproton flux by a 10-20%  $\rightarrow$  Grammage tension



# **Secondary antiprotons**



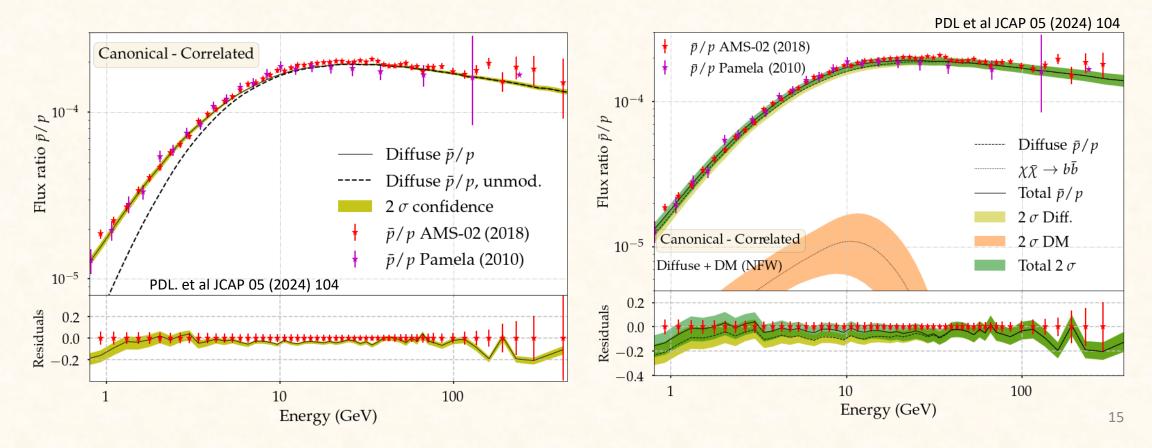
Recent analyses demonstrate that **antiproton observations are fully compatible with a secondary origin** and all secondary CRs can be well explained considering cross sections and propagation uncertainties



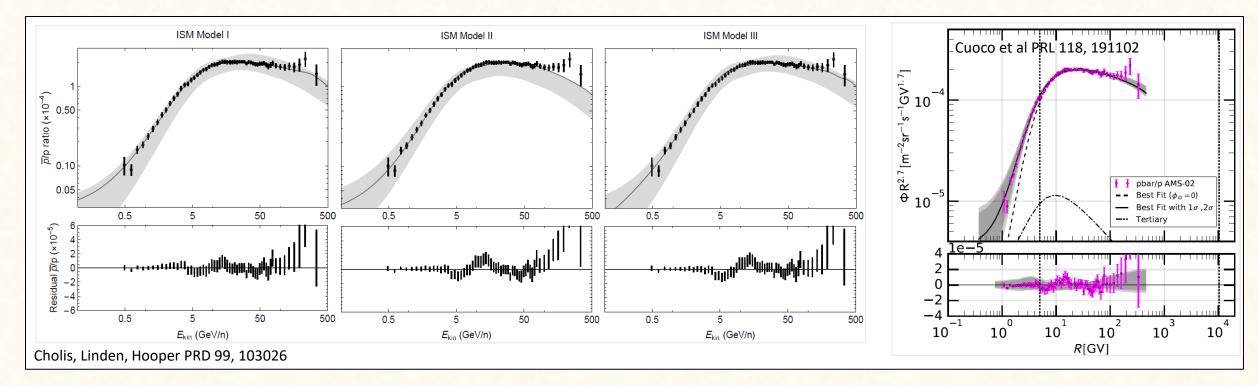
 $p_{CR} + p_{ISM} \rightarrow \bar{p}$ 

#### **AMS-02 reveals the origin of antiprotons**

Recent analyses demonstrate that **antiproton observations are fully compatible with a secondary origin** and all secondary CRs can be well explained considering cross sections uncertainties – However, including also DM production is still preferred in the fit for a WIMP with mass around 70 GeV with annihilation rate close to the thermal relic one...



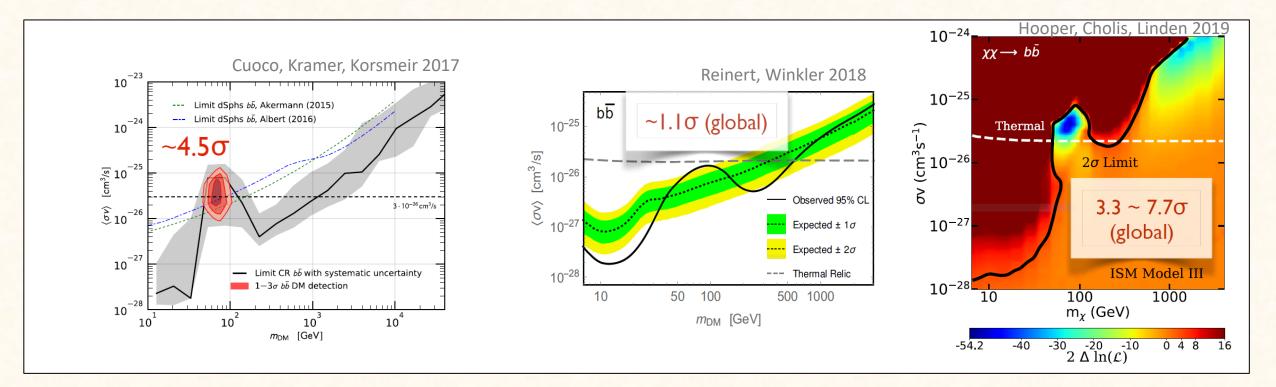
Recent studies have claimed the possibility of an **excess** of data over the predicted flux **at around 10-20 GeV**, which can be the **signature of dark matter** annihilating or decaying into antiprotons

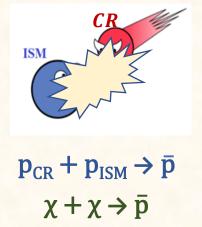


 $p_{CR} + p_{ISM} \rightarrow \bar{p}$  $\chi + \chi \rightarrow \bar{p}$ 

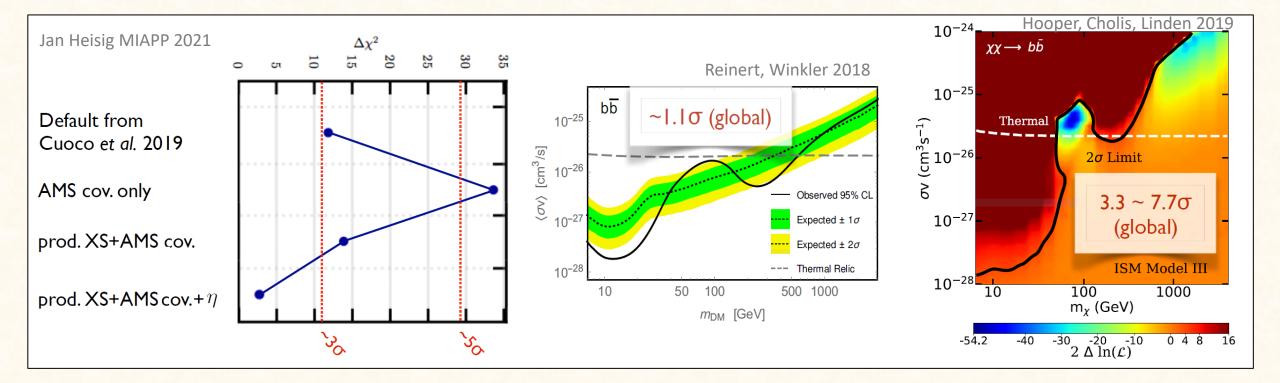
ISM

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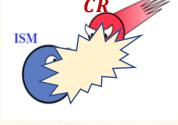




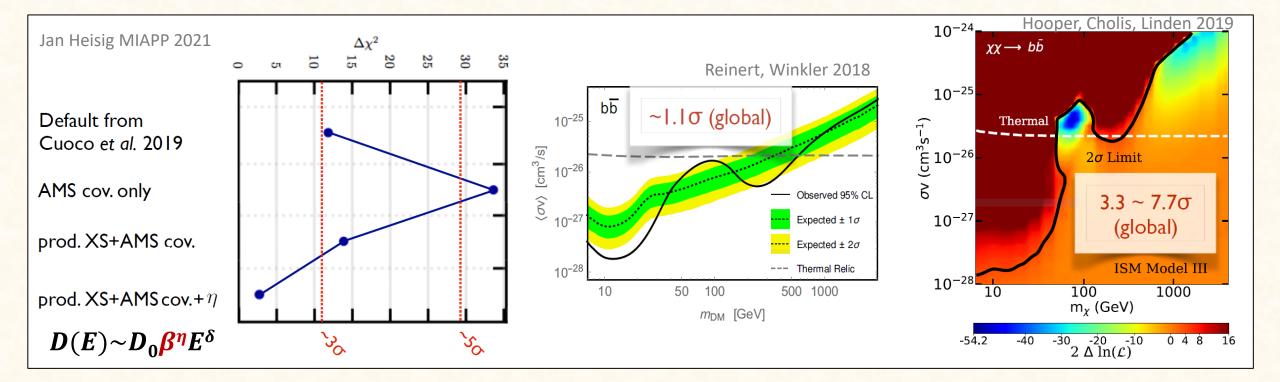
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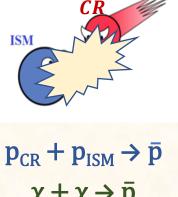


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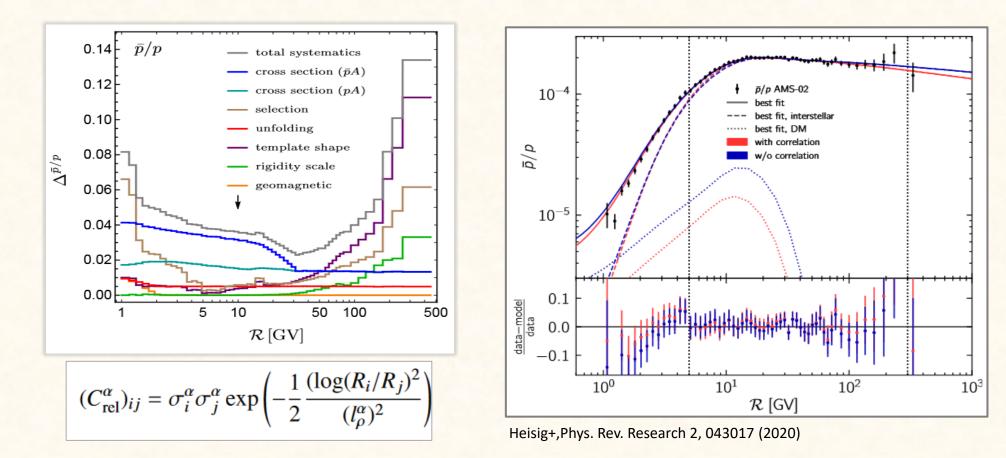




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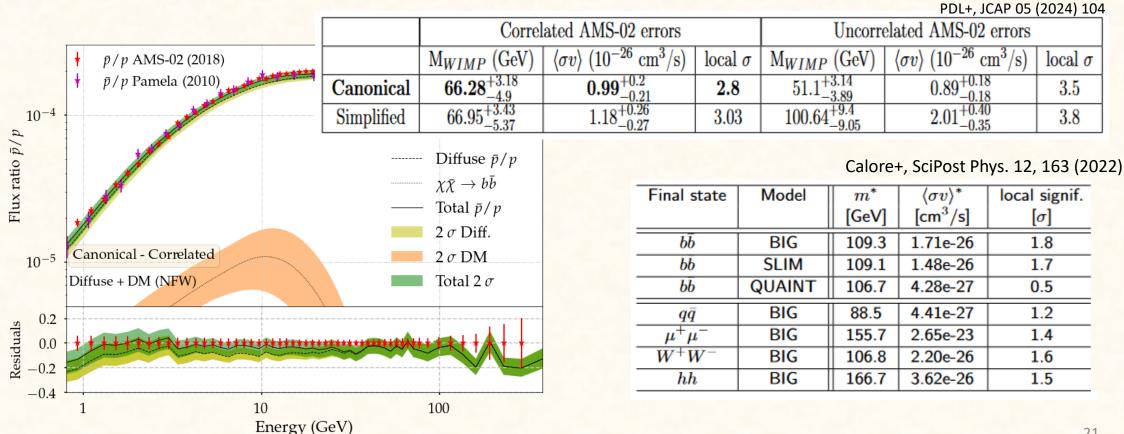
# Systematics in AMS-02 data

Including the correlation of AMS-02 systematic errors sizeably affects significance and properties of the DM signal  $\rightarrow$  Need of covariance matrices!

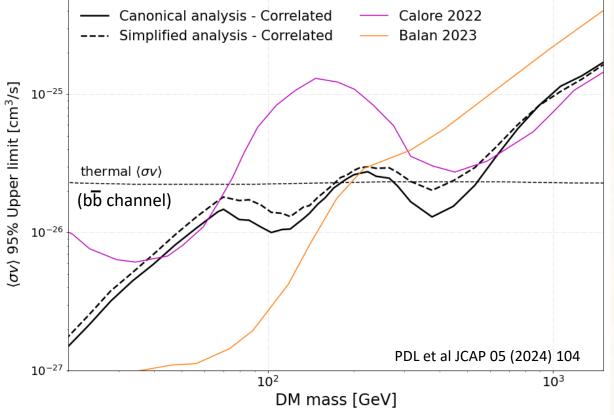


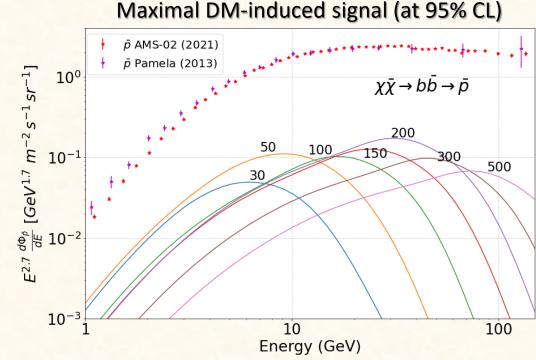
#### From "excesses" to just fluctuations

Detailed DM searches found different sources of uncertainties difficult to avoid in current studies: Cross sections, correlated errors, diffusion model ... A statistical evaluation of the signal shows that there is no significant excess in the data (maximum of 1.8 o global)



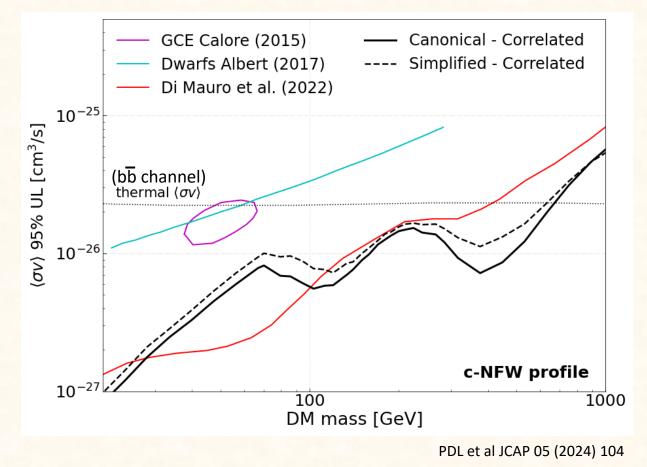
### Dark matter bounds from antiproton analyses

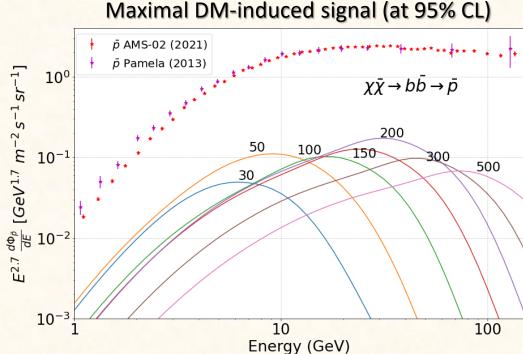




No excess found in the latest  $\overline{p}$  analyses Leading constraints for WIMPs annihilating into hadronic final states, and able to rule out the thermal relic cross sections for masses below ~200 GeV

#### Dark matter bounds from antiproton analyses



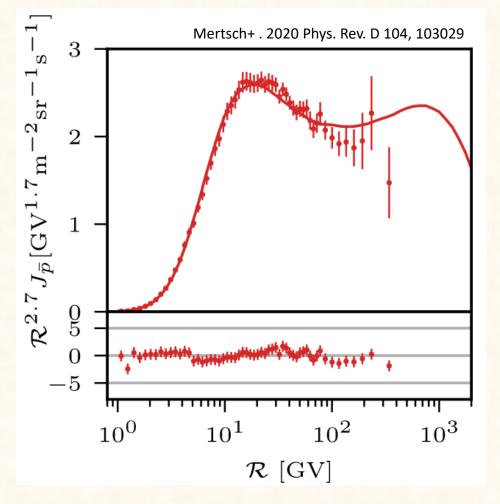


#### Leading constraints for WIMPs annihilating into hadronic final states,

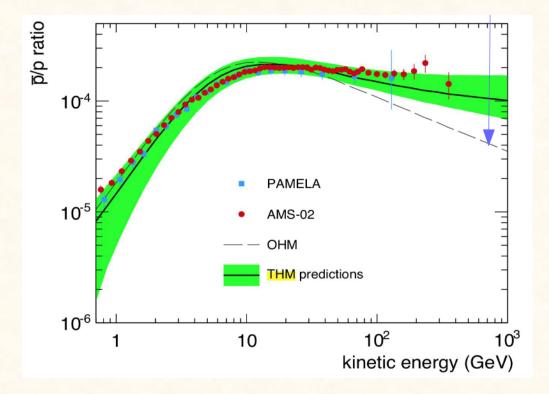
Compatible with GCE? See Di Mauro, Winkler PRD 103, 123005 (2021)

# **Antiprotons in the Galaxy** – *More possibilities*

#### **SNRs** accelerating antiprotons



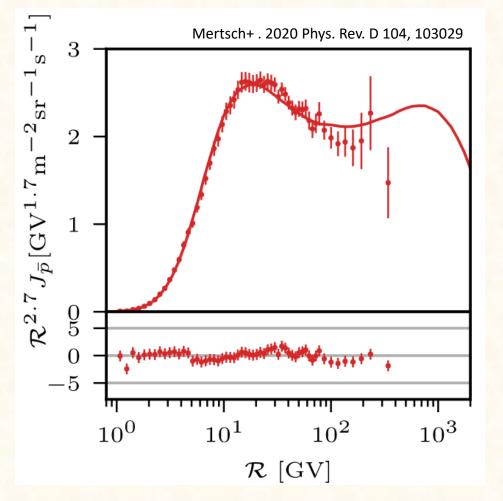
#### Inhomogeneous diffusion coefficient



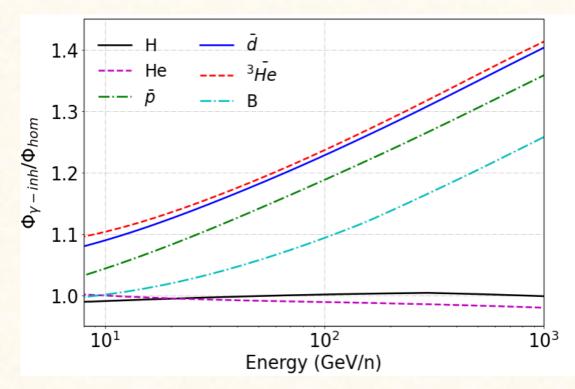
Feng+ PRD 94, 123007 (2016) (Also: Zhao+ arXiv:2109.04112)

# Antiprotons in the Galaxy – More possibilities

#### **SNRs** accelerating antiprotons



#### Inhomogeneous diffusion coefficient



Tovar-Pardo, PDL, Sanchez-Conde arXiv:2405.12918

# Conclusions

Dark matter searches with cosmicray antiprotons

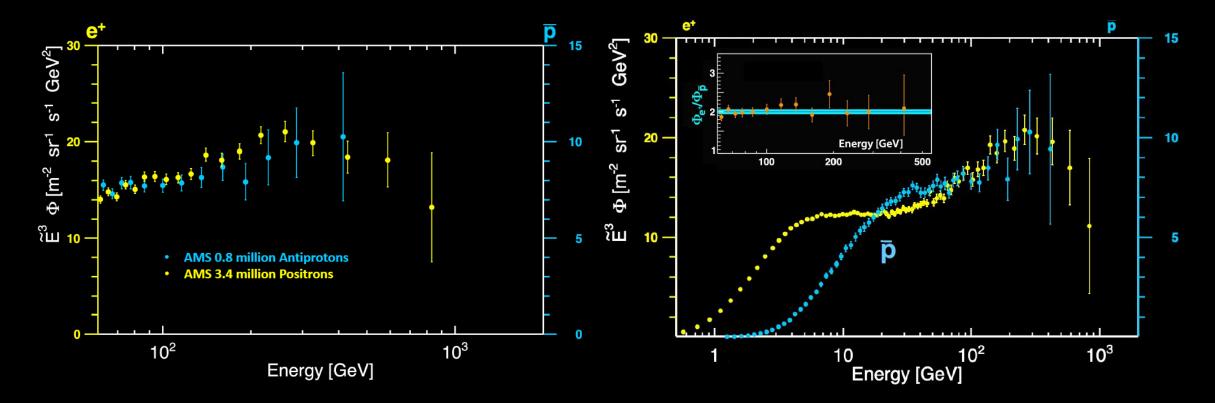
- Antiproton observations seem to be in good agreement with the rest of CRs
- Uncertainties in the modelling of secondary antiprotons can be significantly reduced with better cross sections models
- No significant excess favouring a DM signal is found, with largest significance of around 1.8  $\sigma$  Publication of AMS-02 correlation matrix is needed!
- AMS-02 Antiproton measurements allow us to set strongest constraints at GeV masses for WIMPs coupling to quarks
- A clear detection of a DM signal is not easy with antiprotons... Anti-nuclei can offer a much cleaner window for their study

Pedro de la Torre Luque – 19/08/2024 pedro.delatorre@uam.es



# **BACK UP**

## An open question related to antiprotons



Paolo Zuccon MIAPP 2021

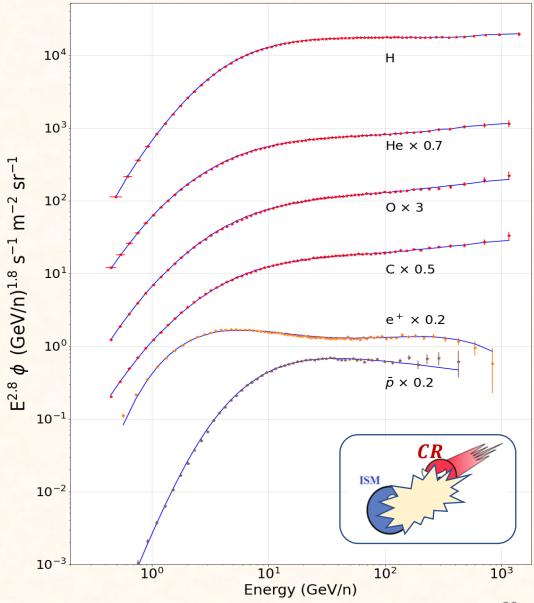
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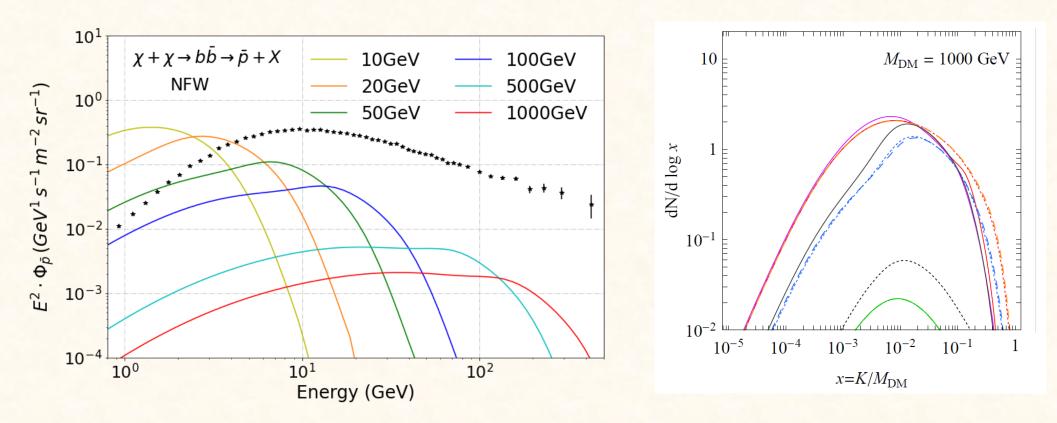
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#### Flux of CR nuclei and antiparticles (data from AMS-02)



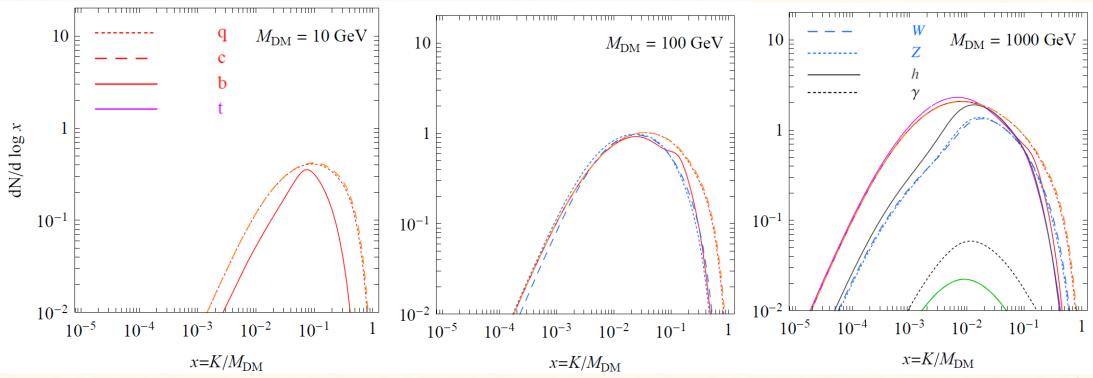
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Indirect DM searches with antiprotons (similarly to what happens with other astroparticles) are either intended for specific particle models (wino, Higgsino, etc) or for a generic WIMP that is modelled as a neutral-colorless resonance that couples to the SM through specific channels (bb, tt,  $\tau\tau$ , etc.)



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# The DRAGON2 code

The basic idea is that primary particles are accelerated in astrophysical sources (namely SNRs) and propagate throughout the Galaxy during millions of years, due to scattering with plasma waves. Occasionally, they interact with gas and produce secondary nuclei through spallation.

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left( -D \nabla N_i \right) + \vec{v}_{\omega} N_i \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left[ p^2 D_{pp} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left( \frac{N_i}{p^2} \right) \right] = Q_i + \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left[ \dot{p} N_i - \frac{p}{3} \left( \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}_{\omega} N_i \right) \right] \\ - \frac{N_i}{\tau_i^f} + \sum \Gamma_{j \to i}^s (N_j) - \frac{N_i}{\tau_i^r} + \sum \frac{N_j}{\tau_{j \to i}^r}$$

$$D = D_0 \beta^{\eta} \left(\frac{R}{R_0}\right)^{\delta} F(\vec{r}, z)$$

 $D_{pp} \propto$ 

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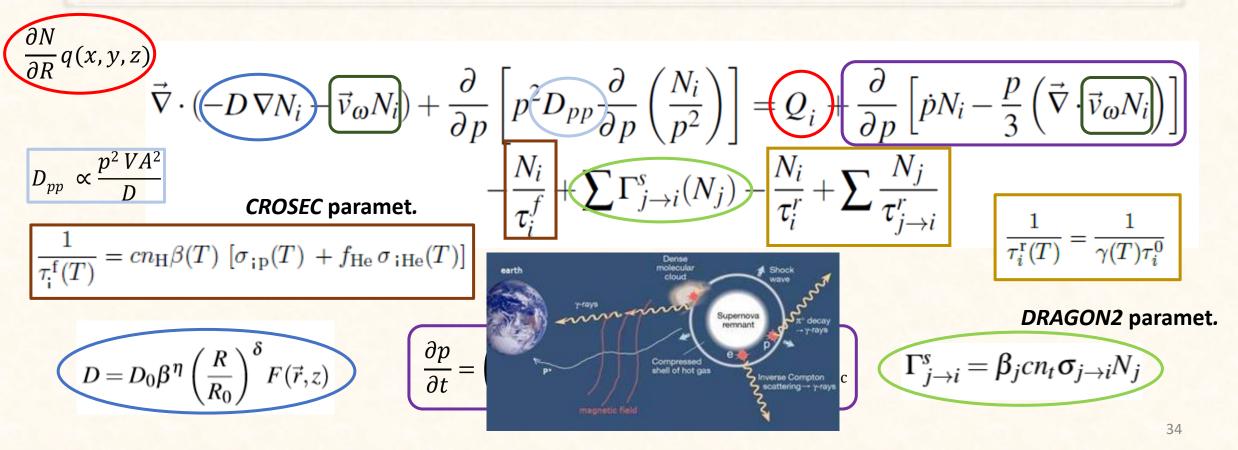
$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left( -D \nabla N_{i} - \vec{v}_{\omega} N_{i} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left[ p^{2} D_{pp} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left( \frac{N_{i}}{p^{2}} \right) \right] = Q_{i} + \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left[ \dot{p} N_{i} - \frac{p}{3} \left( \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}_{\omega} N_{i} \right) \right]$$
$$- \frac{N_{i}}{\tau_{i}^{f}} + \sum \Gamma_{j \to i}^{s} (N_{j}) - \frac{N_{i}}{\tau_{i}^{r}} + \sum \frac{N_{j}}{\tau_{j \to i}^{r}}$$

Galacinds

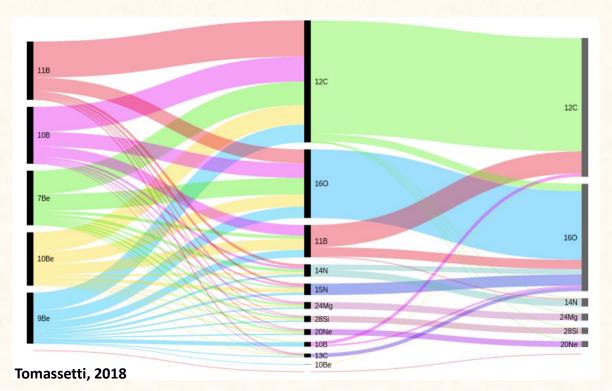
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Cross sections → Secondary CRs  
$$Q_{sec}(E) \propto \sum^{pr} J_{pr}(E) \sigma_{pr \to sec}(E)$$



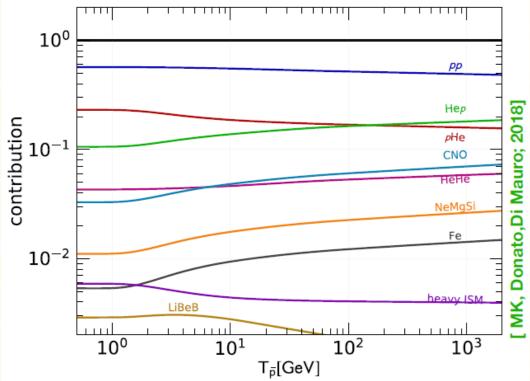
**Complexity of the CS network** 

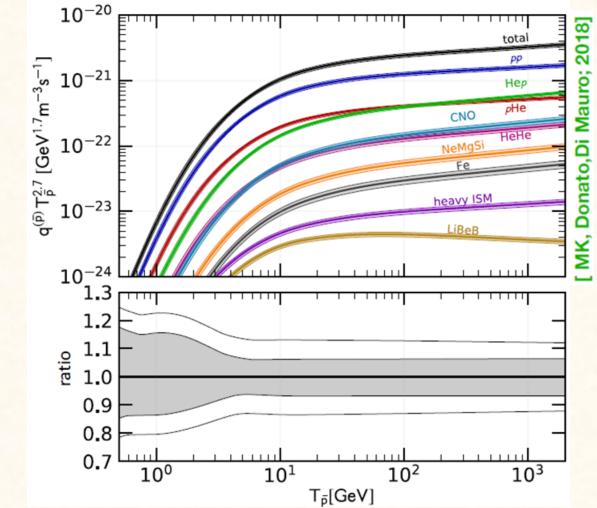
**Production of secondary CRs** 

- Main spallation channels: O and C
- Secondary channels (N, Ne, Mg, Si & Fe) are very important for Li and Be (< 50%)
- Tertiary channels also matter:
  e.g. <sup>11</sup>B + gas → <sup>10</sup>B + X

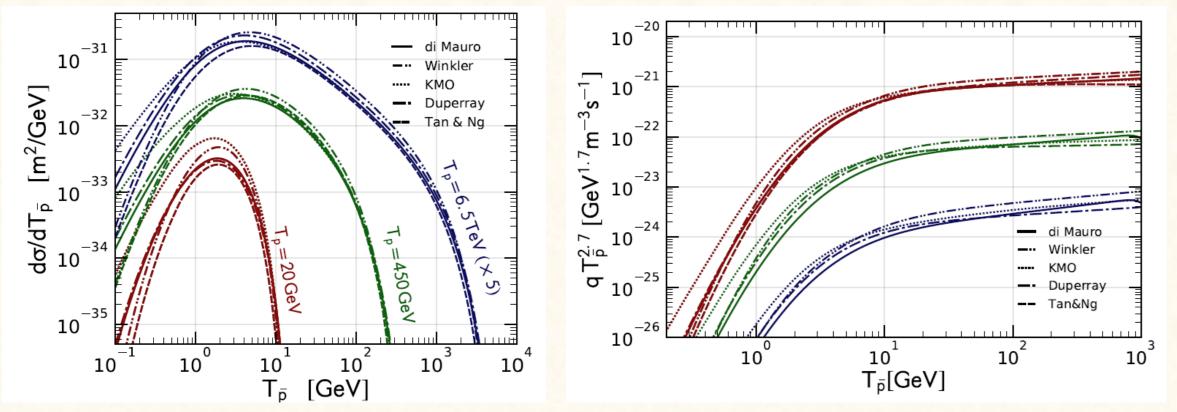
Genolini et al. 2019 ; <u>arXiv:1803.04686</u> Tomassetti, 2018 ; <u>arXiv:1707.06917</u>

# **Channels of secondary antiproton production**



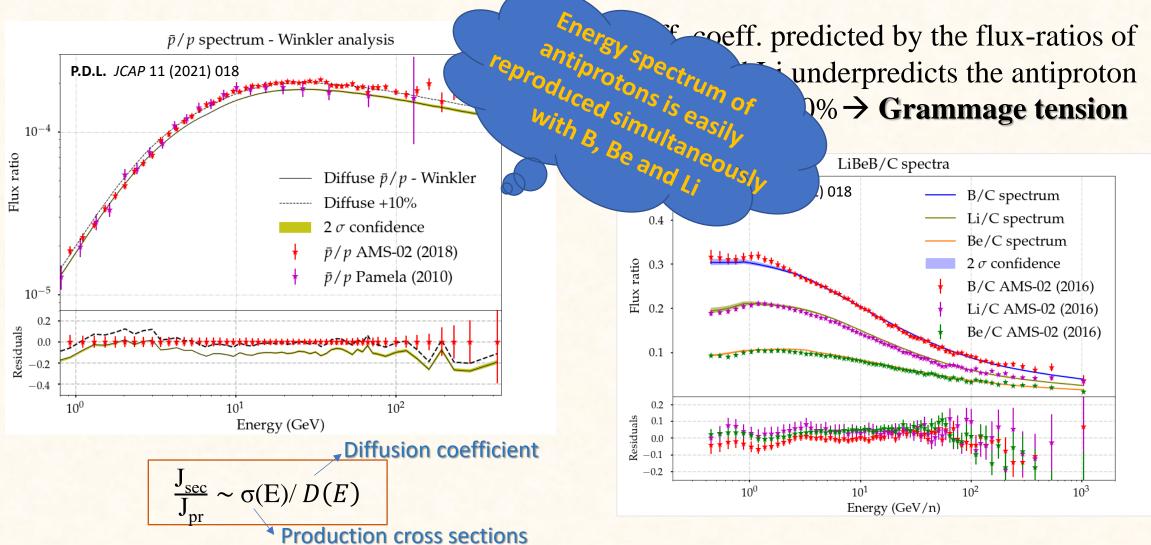


### Antiproton parameterizations

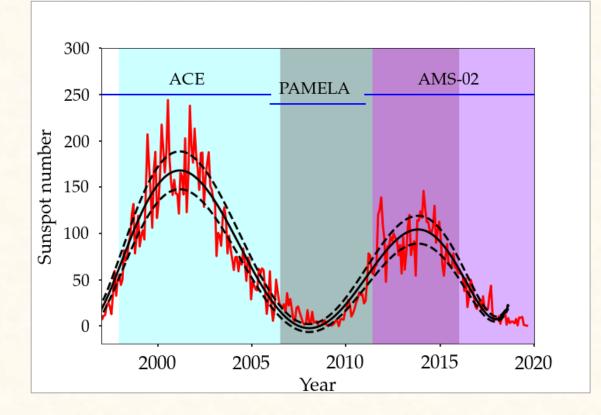


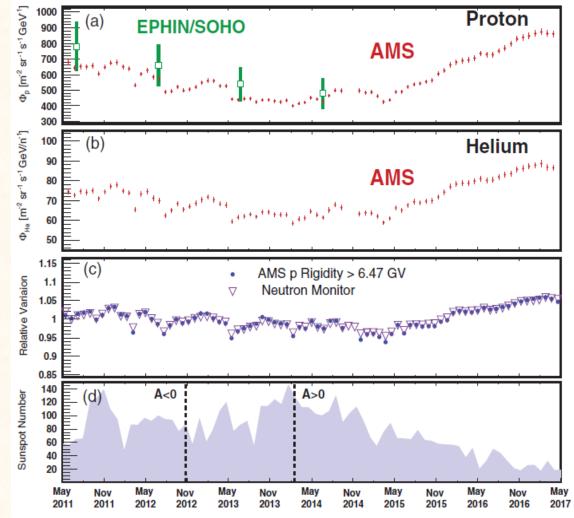
Phys. Rev. D 96, 043007 (2017)

# Antiproton excesses – The grammage excess



# **Solar modulation**

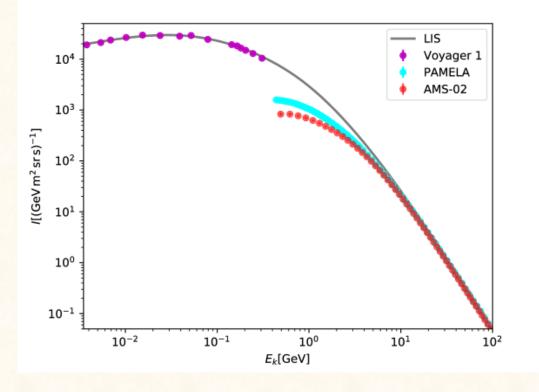


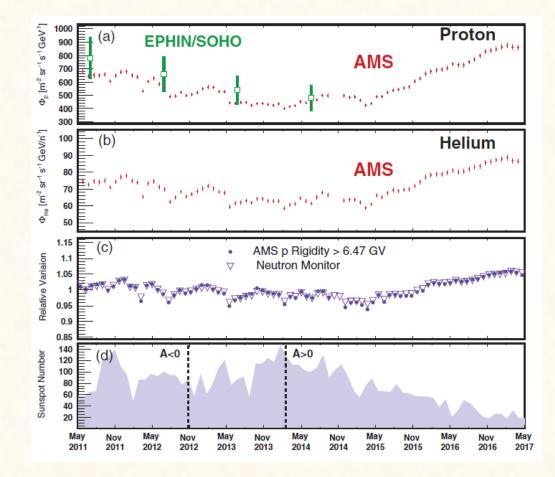


 Detailed heliospheric simulations or Force-Field approximation

Neutron monitor experiments + Voyager-01 data

# SOLAR MODULATION





- Force-Field approximation
- Neutron monitor data + Voyager-01 data
- Cholis-Hooper-Linden (<u>arXiv:1511.01507</u>) correction

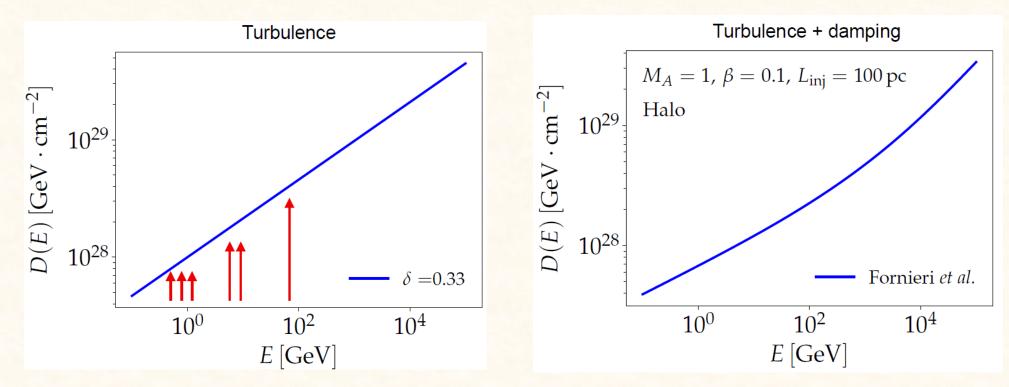
$$\Phi^{\text{TOA}}(T) = \frac{2mT + T^2}{2m\left(T + \frac{Z}{A}\phi\right) + \left(T + \frac{Z}{A}\phi\right)^2} \Phi^{\text{IS}}(T + \frac{Z}{A}\phi)$$

$$\phi^{\pm}(t,\mathcal{R}) = \phi_0(t) + \phi_1^{\pm}(t) \mathcal{F}\left(\frac{\mathcal{R}}{\mathcal{R}_0}\right)$$

# Non-uniform diffusion: Inhomogeneous diffusion

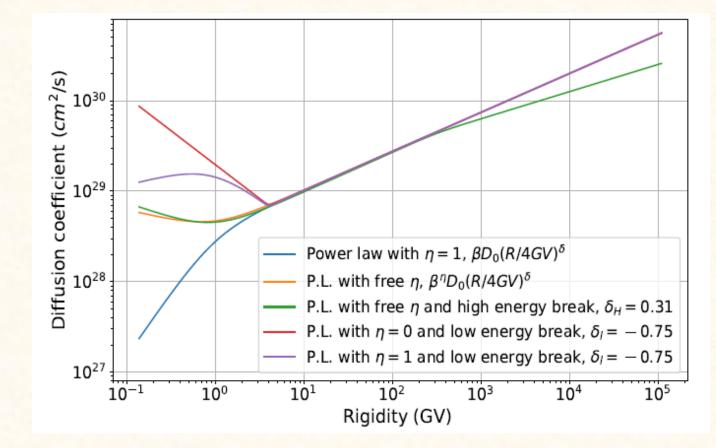
Importance of the implementation of diffusion coefficients which are calculated in different ways, beyond standard parametrizations

#### Change in the slope of D at low energies revealed by different analyses of AMS-02 data



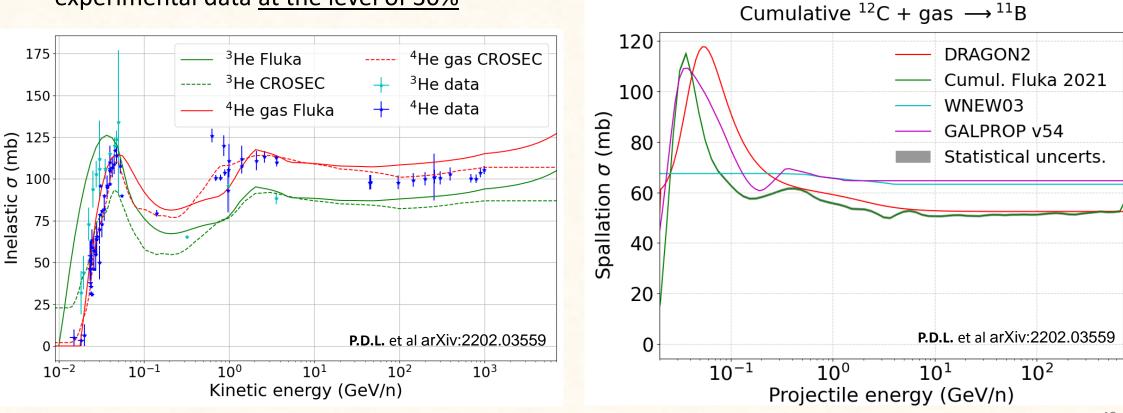
Fornieri, **P.D.L.** et al *MNRAS* 502 (2021) 4, 5821-5838

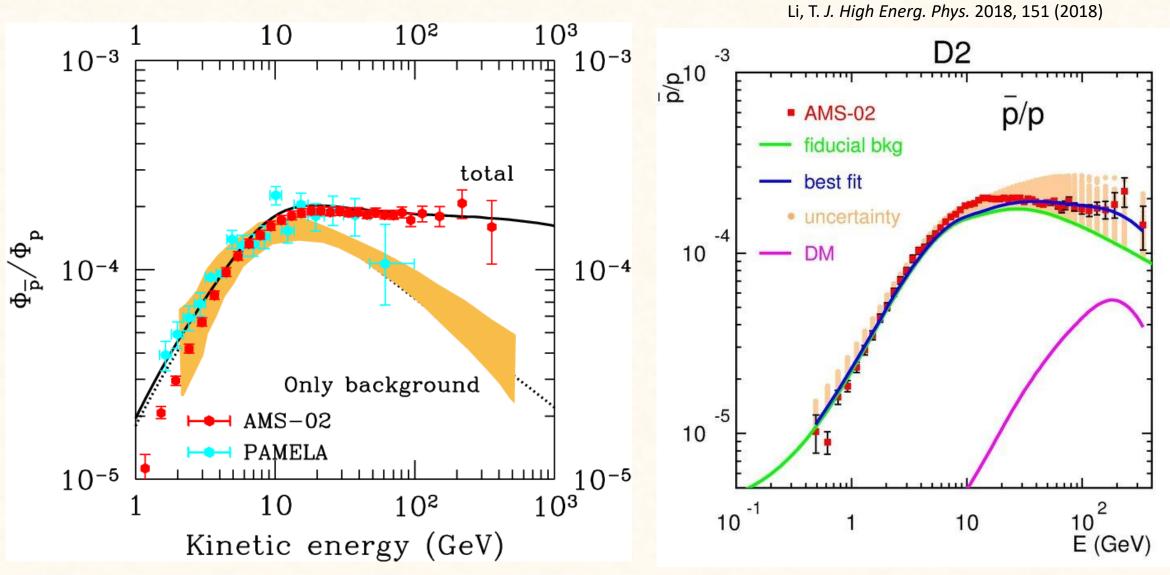
### **Diffusion coefficient parametrization**



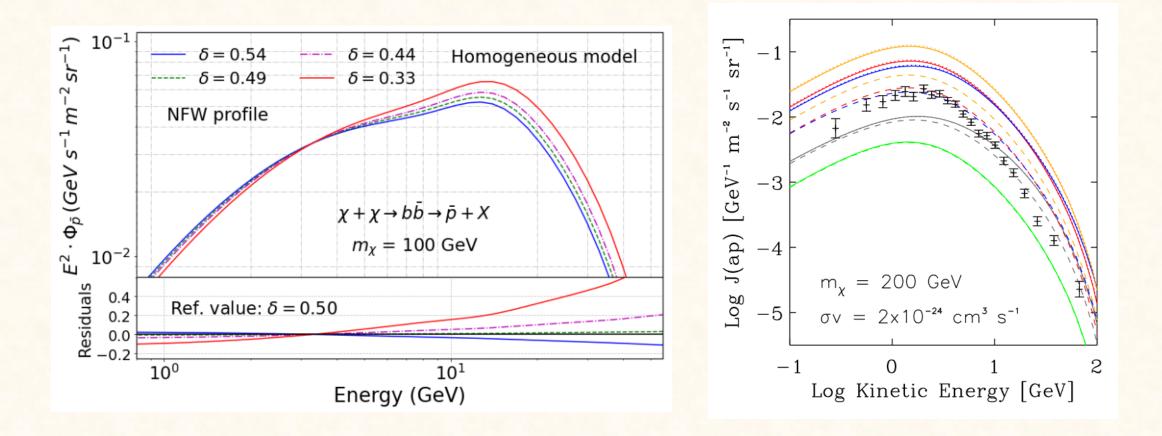
### **Precise studies of secondary CRs:** New set of Cross sections (FLUKA)

Inelastic and inclusive (spallation) <u>cross sections computed from *FLUKA* for</u> all nuclei until Z=28 (Fe). <u>Agreement</u> with dedicated parametrizations and experimental data <u>at the level of 30%</u> http://www.fluka.org/fluka.php



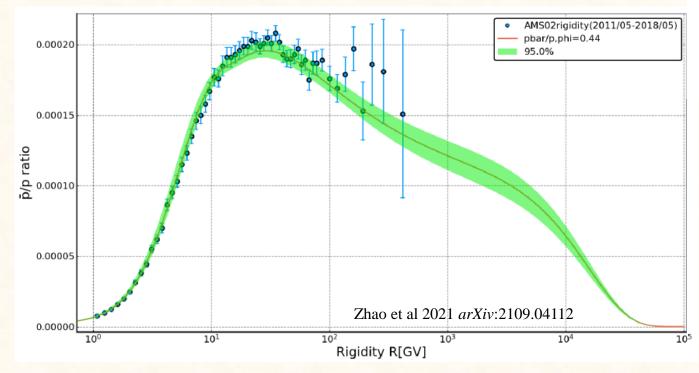


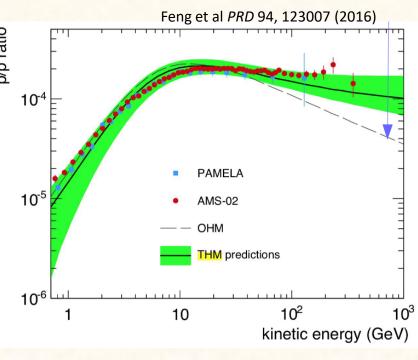
### **Primary antiprotons – The effect of diffusion**



# Non-uniform diffusion: Inhomogeneous diffusion

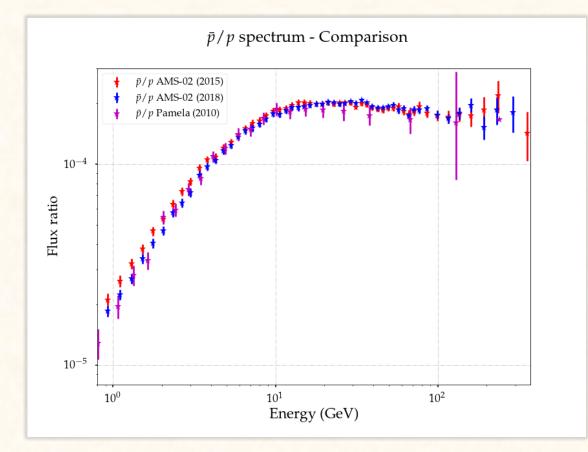
Two-zone diffusion model (halo + disk) tuned from secondary to primary ratios is able to predict an antiproton flux in agreement with AMS-02 data without need of adding dark matter

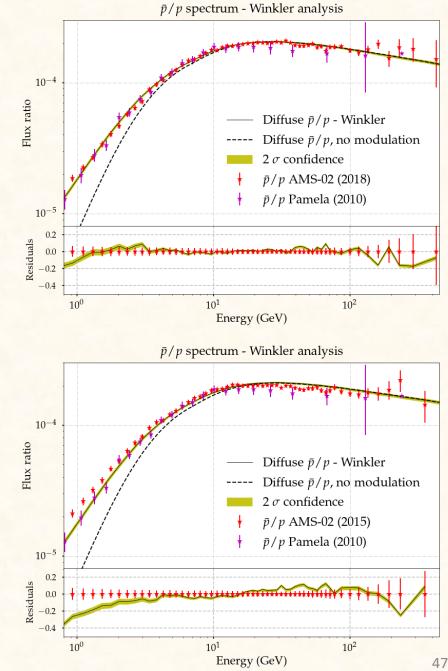




It can offer an explanation for the dipole anisotropy

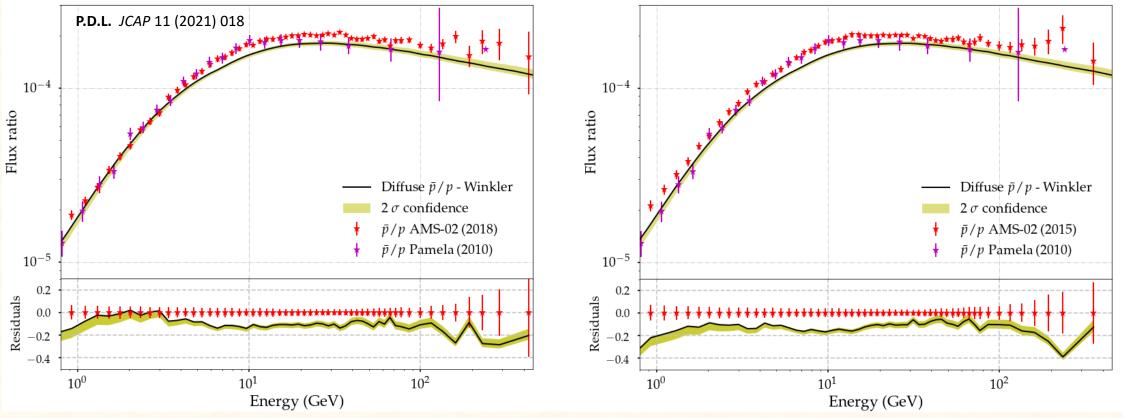
# Systematics in AMS-02 data





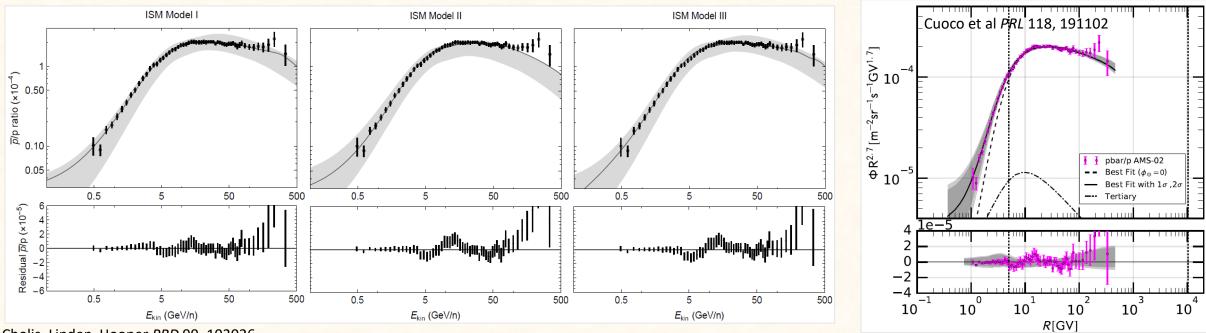
# Systematics in AMS-02 data

Including the correlation of AMS-02 systematic errors sizeably affects significance and properties of the DM signal  $\rightarrow$  Need of covariance matrices!



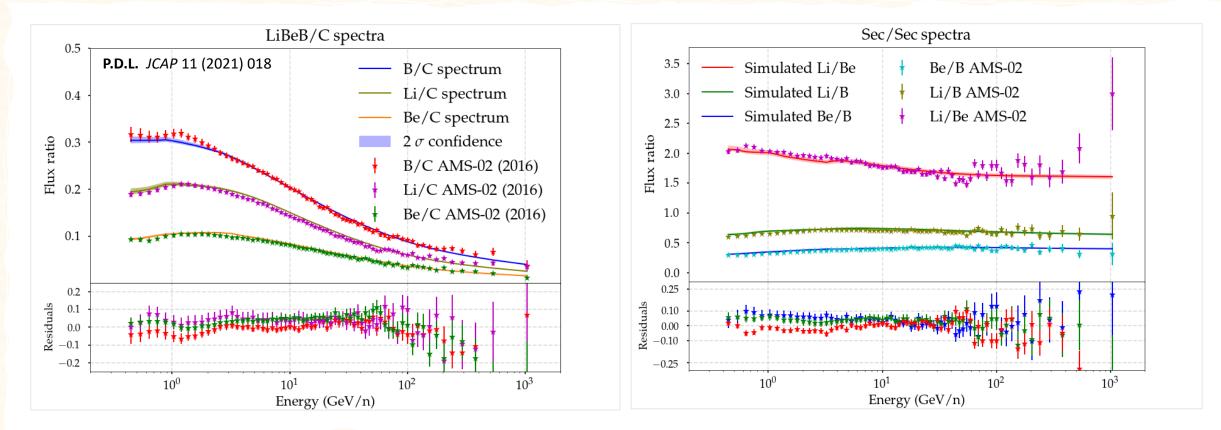
I. Amount of grammage predicted by the flux-ratios of B, Be and Li underpredicts the antiproton flux by a  $10-20\% \rightarrow$  Grammage tension

II. Recent studies have claimed the possibility of an **excess** of data over the predicted flux **at around 10-20 GeV**, which can be the **signature of dark matter** annihilating or decaying into antiprotons

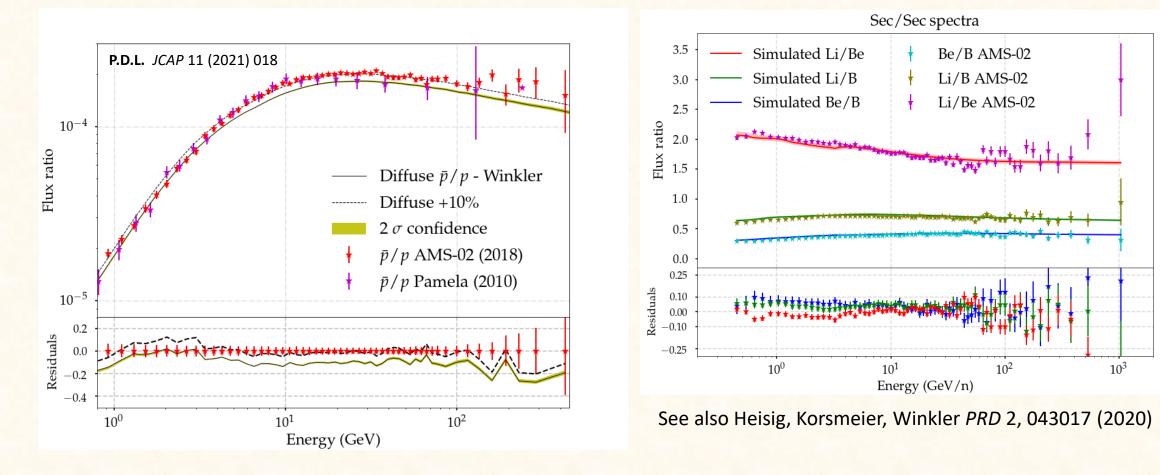


Cholis, Linden, Hooper PRD 99, 103026

- DRAGON2 cross sections for heavy secondary CRs - Winkler (2017) cross sections for antiprotons B/C, B/O, Be/C, Be/O, Ap/p (Propagation parameters) <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be, <sup>10</sup>Be/Be (H), Be/B, Li/B, Li/Be (Scale factors, S<sub>X</sub>)

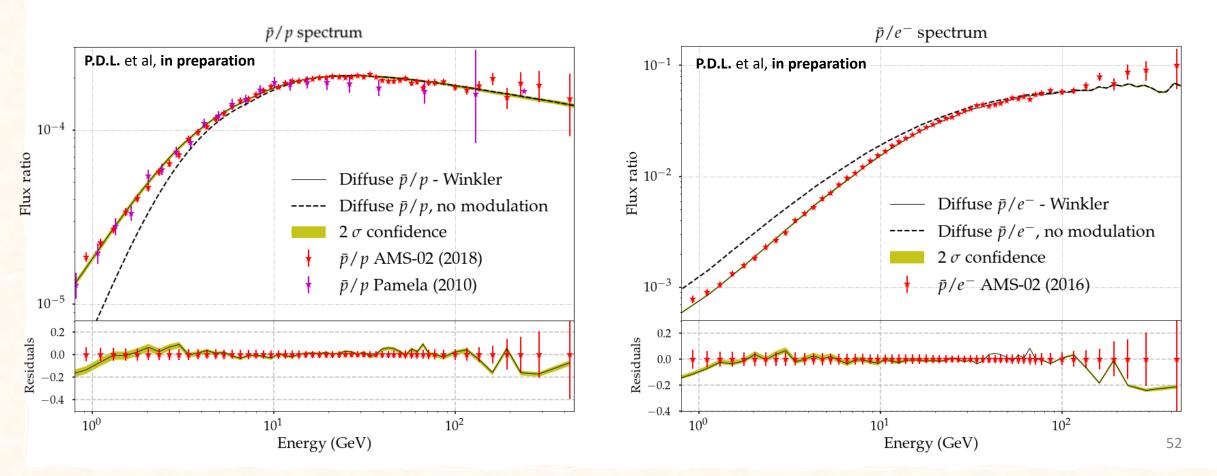


There is a set of propagation parameters that reproduce the energy dependence of the antiproton and the other secondary CRs (B, Be and Li) !!



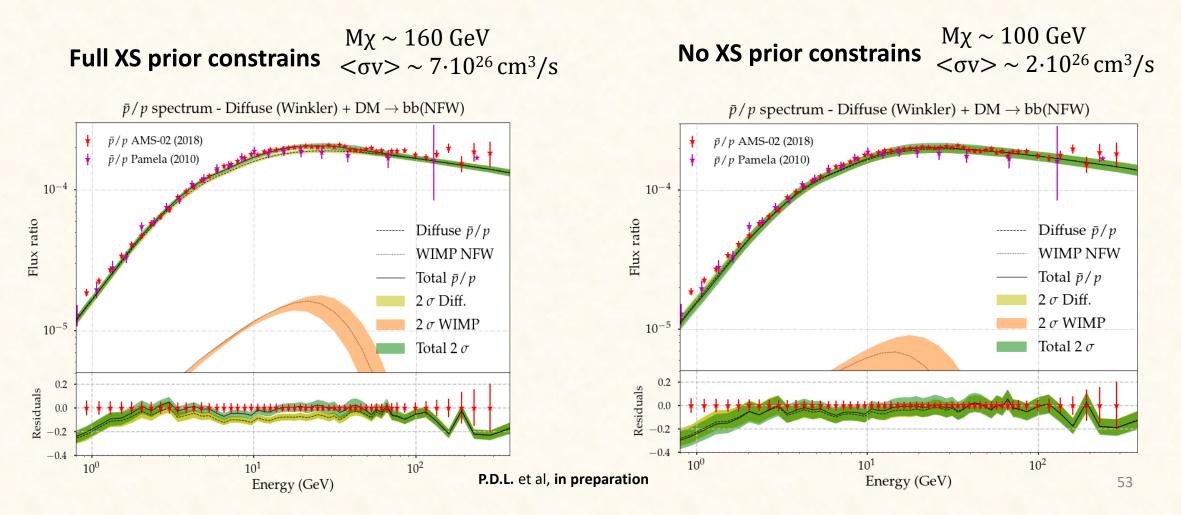
Prior constraints on antiproton cross sections are included in different ways: Dark matter component is still statistically preferred

B/C, B/O, Be/C, Be/O, Ap/p (Prop. parameters) <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be, <sup>10</sup>Be/Be (H), Be/B, Li/B, Li/Be (S<sub>X</sub>)



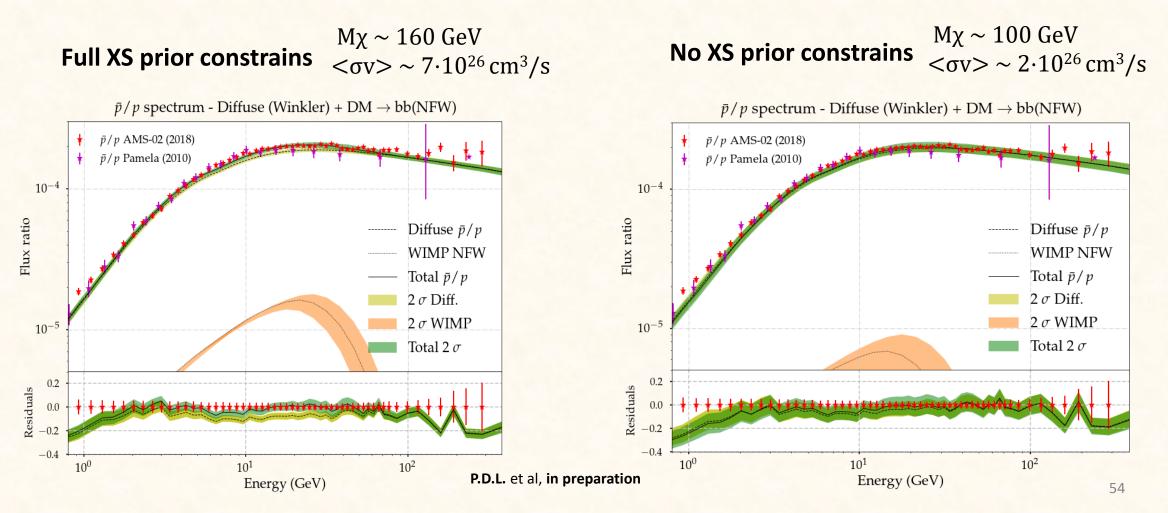
Two extreme cases:

Full XS constraints (Antiproton prior constraints ~ B prior constraints) vs No prior constraints



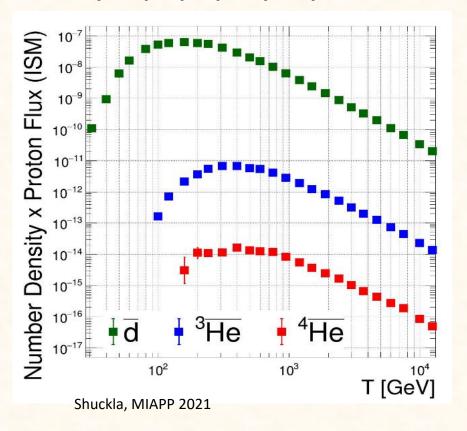
# Antiproton excess

<u>DM globally favoured</u>. The way to asses the antiproton uncertainties affect the properties of the DM candidate reproducing the signal. <u>Significance below 2</u> $\sigma$ 

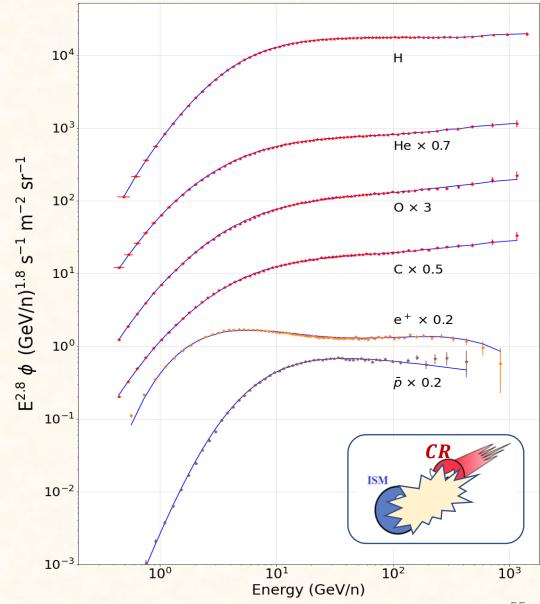


### Potential of anti-nuclei to reveal the existence of BSM physics

 $P + p \rightarrow p + p + p + ap + ap + an$ 

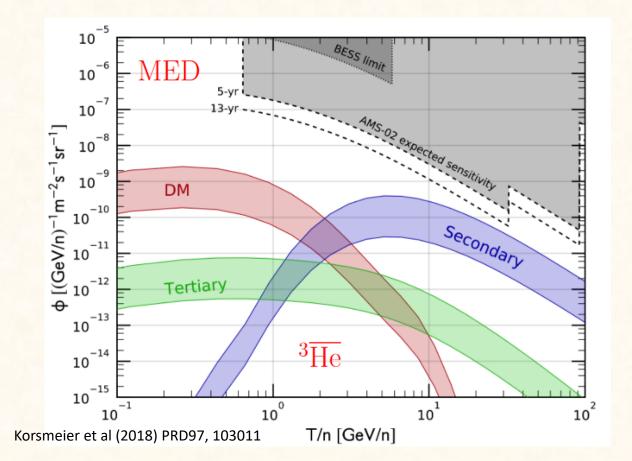


Flux of CR nuclei and anti-nuclei (data from AMS-02)



### Anti-nuclei as the dark matter smoking gun

The window to prove (or disprove) many possible astrophysical excesses



For kinematical reasons, the production of anti-nuclei from CR interactions is not important at energies below the GeV, offering a **clear way to spot the production of anti-nuclei from dark matter** (at least for masses below ~hundreds of GeV)

Secondary anti-nuclei produced from homologous interactions as for  $\overline{p}$ , but highly suppressed (due to coalescence)!