protons and helium in cosmic rays results from AMS

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Solar Energetic Particles, Solar Modulation and Space Radiation New Opportunities in the AMS-02 Era

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Particle physics detector for high precision CR measurements at TeV energy

Physics goals

- \checkmark Antimatter search (|Z|>1 anti-nuclei)
- \checkmark Dark Matter (light anti-matter & γ -rays)
- ✓ Exotic signals?
- ✓ GCR astrophysics & γ-rays
- ✓ Heliophysics (long-term modulation & SEP)
- ✓ Magnetospheric physics & space radiation studies

How it will fulfill these goals?

- Large collaboration: 16 Countries, 60 Institutes and ~500+ Physicists
- Same concept (precision & capability) as the large state-of-the-art HEP detectors [but: fitting into the space shuttle & no human intervention after installation]
- Operation in space, ISS, at 400km, no backgrounds from atmospheric interactions [extensive multi-step space qualification tests]
- Collection power: geometrical factor ($\approx 0.5 \text{ m2sr}$) X exposure time (= ISS lifetime) [extensive calibration campaigns on ground]





The AMS Project

The AMS Project

AMS Collaboration

\rightarrow Steadily taking data on the ISS since May 19th 2011

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Cosmic-Ray Hadron Fluxes: a key science case

Proton and Helium spectra at high energies are revealing interesting spectral features that may offer a clue to the origin of the observed cosmic rays

- High-energy Hardening: multi-TeV energy spectra are harder than those at GeV-TeV
- *p/He anomaly*: *Helium energy spectrum seems harder than that of the Hydrogen.*
- Sharp break? Sharp transition located at 300 GV, as reported by PAMELA in 2011.

"These data challenge the current paradigm of cosmic-ray acceleration in supernova remnants followed by diffusive propagation in the Galaxy".

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Spectral features in H and He

Basic predictions (E~ 10 GeV – 100 TeV)

Based on many simplifying (and unjustified) assumptions: homogenity, isotropy, stationarity, linearity...

DSA@SNRs: power-law (α^{\sim} 2.0 – 2.2) $Q(E) \approx E^{-\nu}$ QLT: power-law diffusivity (δ^{\sim} 0.3 - 0.6) $K(E) \approx E^{\delta}$ Equilibrium spectra (E>>GeV) $\phi(E) \sim Q / K \approx E^{-(\nu+\delta)}$

Deviations from power-law are unexplained by standard models of DSA acceleration and CR transport.

1) Intrinsic acceleration effects

- Non-linear DSA
- Mach number time-evolution

2) Propagation effects

- Transport in CR-induced turbulence
- Inhomogeneus diffusion coefficient

3) Multi-component nature of CR flux

- Local SNR + Galactic ensemble
- Reaccelerated CRs in weak shocks

p/He ratio: violation of universality in CR acceleration?

- Particle-dependent injection
- Non-uniform He distribution
- Non-DSA acceleration in
- Strong unaccounted spallation

Flux Measurement

Differential flux (m⁻² sr⁻¹ s⁻¹ GV⁻¹)

$$\Phi(R) = \frac{N(R, R + \Delta R)}{\varepsilon_{Trig}(R) \times A_{Tot}(R) \times T(R) \times \Delta R}$$

- R = p/Z, rigidity; important in magnetic spectrometers & CR astrophysics
- N = *Number* of selected protons (helium) events in $R,R+\Delta R$
 - = Effective *exposure time* above geomagnetic cut-off (s)
- A_{Tot} = Total *acceptance* (m² sr) including geom factor + efficiencies
- ϵ_{Trig} = Trigger efficiency

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DATA/MC check

- Compute efficiencies
- Interaction studies

SPECTRAL UNFOLDING

- Resolution modeling
- Deconvolution algorithm

Multiple measurements of energy

Multiple measurements of charge

Acceptance

- ✓ Based on our MC simulation program.
- ✓ Detector response, signal digitization, and full analysis chain simulated.
- ✓ Data/MC corrections and several data-driven crosschecks performed.
- ✓ Role of interactions: flux attenuation in the detector material (C, Al)

Proton acceptance

Cross-sections for proton interactions off detector material (C, Al) known to few percent at 1 GV and 1.8 TV.

~0.6 – 1 % systematic errors at GV – 2 TV

Helium acceptance

Helium collisions off C and Al: cross section data exist only below 10 GV

 $\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{i}(\boldsymbol{R}_{i})$

New method to determine interactions from ISS data with AMS pointing in horizontal direction

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~1% < 200 GV increasing to ~2% at highest rigidities

Trigger Efficiency

Trigger efficiency estimation can be done using flight data, thanks to a event sample collected with a dedicated minimum-bias trigger.

 $\Phi_i(R_i) = \frac{N_i}{T_i \,\varepsilon_i \,A_i \,\Delta R_i}$

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Exposure Time

Exposure time "above cutoff" is function of rigidity It depends on the ISS orbit along the geomagnetic field

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 $\frac{T_i}{T_i \varepsilon_i A_i \Delta R_i}$

 $\Phi_i(R_i)$

Unfolding

Difference between different unfolding algorithms gives a systematic error ~0.5%

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Tracker resolution

Protons:

- Resolution function from MC simulation
- Verified with:
 - 400 GeV/c Test Beams data
 - ISS data: tracker residuals, rigidity reconstruction (L1-L8) vs. (L2-L9)

Helium:

- Resolution function from MC simulation
- Verified with ISS data:
 - Tracker residuals
 - Rigidity reconstruction (L1-L8) vs. (L2-L9)

Uncertainty on the flux < 1% below 300 GV rising to 3% at 2 TV

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Verifications: Protons

Angular dependence of measured flux at R>45 GV: to verify the systematic error assigned to the **acceptance**.

Time dependence of the high-energy flux: at R>45 GV no observable effects from solar modulation. This verifies that the **detector performance is stable**.

Flux reconstruction in different TOI entry regions of the acceptance. Verification of errors assigned to the tracker alignment.

Measured flux using **inner tracker**, i.e., with a different resolution and MDR. This verifies the errors on **rigidity resolution function and unfolding procedure**

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Verifications: Helium

Angular dependence of measured flux at R>45 GV: to verify the systematic error assigned to the **acceptance**.

Time dependence of the high-energy flux: at R>45 GV no observable effects from solar modulation. This verifies that the **detector performance is stable**.

Measured flux using different tracker patterns (inner-tracker+L1) with a different resolution and MDR. This verifies the errors on rigidity resolution function and unfolding procedure

Measured flux using **inner tracker**, i.e., with a tracker pattern of different rigidity resolution and MDR. This verifies the errors on **rigidity resolution function and unfolding procedure**

Absolute Rigidity Scale

Two contributions to the uncertainty:

1. Residual tracker misalignment $(1/\Delta)$: checked with $E_{ECAL}/R_{Tracker}$ ratio for electrons and positrons, limited by the current high energy positron statistics. Corresponding flux error: 2.5% @1 TV.

2. Magnetic field:

Mapping measurement (0.25%) and temperature corrections (0.1%). Flux error: less than 0.5% at all rigidity

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Proton Flux

Phys. Rev. Lett. 114, 171103

Proton Flux

The spectrum cannot be described by a single power-law function. We obtain a good description using a double power-law:

$$\Phi = C \left(\frac{R}{45 \,\text{GV}}\right)^{\gamma} \left[1 + \left(\frac{R}{R_0}\right)^{\Delta \gamma/s}\right]^s$$

$\gamma = -2.849^{+0.002}_{-0.002} (\text{fit})^{+0.004}_{-0.003} (\text{sys})$	low-rigidity slope
$\Delta \gamma = 0.133^{+0.032}_{-0.021} (\text{fit})^{+0.046}_{-0.030} (\text{sys})$	delta-slope
$R_0 = 336_{-44}^{+68} (fit)_{-28}^{+66} (sys) [GV]$	critical rigidity

The detailed variation of the highenergy flux can be characterized by measuring the log-slope. As shown, the proton flux experiences a progressive hardening above ~100 GV of rigidity.

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Rigidity [GEV] SOLAR MODULATION, & SPACE RADIATION-HONOLULU, OCT 2015

Helium Flux

to appear in PRL - November 2016 issue – Editors' suggestion

Helium Flux

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Helium Spectral Index

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Proton/Helium Flux Ratio

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Proton/Helium Ratio Spectral Index

Proton Flux VS Kinetic energy

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Helium Flux VS rigidity

Helium Flux VS Kinetic energy per nucleon

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p/He ratio as function of rigidity

Proton & He Spectral Index

Conclusions

The high statistics of AMS required extensive studies of the systematic errors. Many crosschecks, several independent analyses. This measurement provides the baseline for time variation studies: long-term solar modulation effects and SEP studies.

- The high precision of the measurements allow a detailed study of the variation of the fluxes spectral indices with rigidity
- The spectral index of both the proton and the helium flux increases at high rigidities, i.e. the fluxes cannot be described by a single power law
- The magnitude of the helium spectral index is different from that of the protons, but the rigidity dependence is similar.
- The spectral index of the p/He ratio above ~45 GV becomes constant: the high-rigidity p/ He ratio is well described by a single power law

The Instrument – Pre-launch Integration

The AMS-02 instrument

Low-Energy He spectrum and solar modulation

Helium spectrum from AMS data

Modulation strength from neutron monitor data (OULU station)

R. Webber et al. 1972

New phenomena in cosmic-ray propagation?

Non-linear CR transport due to self-induced turbulence

R. Aloisio et al. 1507.00594; P. Blasi et al. 1207.3706

- \rightarrow Diffusion to CR-induced turbulence at E ~1-300 GeV
- \rightarrow Advection to CR-generated Alfvèn waves at E <1 GeV
- ightarrow Diffusion to pre-existing turbulence at >300 GeV
- ✓ Flattening in all nuclei and sec/pri ratios
- ✓ Low energy Voyager-1 data.

B/C seems to require an additional primary component

New phenomena in cosmic-ray propagation?

Diffusion coefficient is not separable into energy and space coordinates \rightarrow no power-law **Shallower diffusivity in the region close to the Galactic disk** \rightarrow high-energy flattening

New [nearby-SNR] components in the CR spectrum?

- Predicted features in heavy nuclei: explanation of C/Fe and O/Fe [NT, 1509.05774 (2015)]
- **Connection with p/He ratio anomaly?** [NT in preparation] [Kachelriess et al. 1504.06472 (2015)]

Fragmentation studies: 3D CAT

He absorption in TOI

AMS Hadronic Tomography

with the cosmic-ray p/He ratio

Exposure Time: May 20 2011	- May 20 2012
Number of Protons:	3,676,863,217
Number of Helium nuclei:	620,303,906
Rigidity range:	2 GV - 2000 GV
Tomographic plane:	Z = +165 cm
XY pixel area:	1 cm^2

Tomographic reconstruction of the AMS top-of-instrument material obtained using the Proton-to-Helium flux ratio. Tiny differences in the interaction cross-section of proton and He are used to trace the material inhomogenities. Several detector elements such as screws, electronics boards, and mechanical interfaces are clearly recognizable.