

## Precision measurement of electrons and positrons with AMS-02 on the International Space Station

In 8 years, 140 billion charged particles have been measured by AMS

M.Graziani/Karsruhe Institute of Technology

## THE PHYSICS OF AMS-02: COSMIC RAYS





28th May, CRATER 2018

Maura Graziani

Institute for Experimental Particle Physics

# On the Origins of Cosmic Positrons

#### Supernovae

Protons (~90%) Helium (~8%) electrons (~1%) ...

Interstellar Medium Positrons from Collisions

# On the Origins of Cosmic Positrons

#### Supernovae

Protons (~90%) Helium (~8%) electrons (~1%) ... Pulsars

Positrons from Pulsars

Interstellar Medium

Positrons from Collisions

# On the Origins of Cosmic Positrons

Positrons

from Collisions

#### Supernovae

Protons (~90%) Helium (~8%) electrons (~1%) ... Pulsars

Positrons from Pulsars

Dark Matter

Electrons

Interstellar

Medium

Positrons from Dark Matter

Dark Matter

#### AMS: a unique TeV precision, accelerator-type spectrometer in space **TRD:** Identify e<sup>+</sup>, e<sup>-</sup>, Z Particles and nuclei are measured TOF: Z, E by their charge (Z), energy (E), momentum (P) or **Rigidity** R = P/Z Magnet: ±Z Silicon Tracker: Z, P TRD TOF 5-6 7-8 RICH: Z, E TOF ECAL: E of e<sup>+</sup>, e<sup>-</sup> RICH 9 EC/ Z and P are measured independently by the Tracker, RICH, TOF and ECAL 5<sup>th</sup> June, WIN 2019, Bari Maura Graziani

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#### **Transition Radiation Detector (TRD)**







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## **Electromagnetic Calorimeter**



provides a 17 X<sub>0</sub>, TeV, 3-dimensional measurement of e<sup>+</sup>, e<sup>-</sup>, and gamma ray:





50 000 fibers,  $\phi = 1 \text{ mm}$ distributed uniformly inside 600 Kg of lead

- 1. the directions to  $\pm 1$  degree
- 2. the energy resolution of 2%
- 3. Distinguishes electrons and positrons from protons, helium, ... by a factor of 10,000



## AMS is a unique magnetic spectrometer in space





In 8 years, the detectors have performed flawlessly.

AMS is able to pick out 1 positron from 1,000,000 protons;

unambiguously separate positrons from electrons up to a trillion eV;

and accurately measure all cosmic rays to trillions of eV.

AMS was installed on the ISS in May 2011 it will continue through the lifetime of ISS

 $\begin{array}{rrrr} \rightarrow & 28.1 \times 10^6 \text{ electrons} \\ \rightarrow & 1.9 \times 10^6 \text{ positrons} \end{array}$ 

#### **Electron and Positron spectra before AMS**





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**Electron and Positron spectra after AMS** 





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Maura Graziani

Institute for Experimental Particle Physics





#### AMS-02 positron flux at high energies





## The Spectral Index of the Positron Flux as a function of energy





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## **Origins of Cosmic Positrons**



The low energy positron data can be explained by the collision of cosmic rays.



#### **Origins of Cosmic Positrons**

At high energies e<sup>+</sup> come from dark matter or new astrophysical sources





#### **Origins of Cosmic Positrons**







Consistency check:

## Positron flux with proton rejection increased by x3









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#### AMS-02 electron flux at high energies





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# Comparison of the behavior of the cosmic ray electrons and positrons







The electron flux is the sum of two power law





#### **Origins of Cosmic Electrons**



At low energies positrons come from cosmic ray collisions, electrons do not.



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#### **Origins of Cosmic Electrons**



The positron source term has a cutoff,

whereas electrons have neither source term nor the cutoff.



## **Origins of Cosmic Electrons**



#### The cosmic ray electrons originate from different sources than high energy positrons.



## Conclusions



• the measurement of the  $e^-$  flux from 0.5 GeV to 1.4 TeV based on 28.1 × 10<sup>6</sup> events and of the  $e^+$  flux from 0.4 to 1 TeV based on 1.9 × 10<sup>6</sup> event have been presented.

#### The positron flux:

- significant excess starting from ~25.2 GeV and a sharp dropoff above 284 GeV
- Is well described by the sum of a diffuse term associated with the secondary positrons production and a new source term of positrons, which dominates at high energies
- shows a finite energy cutoff of the source term of  $E \sim 810$  GeV (significance > 4 $\sigma$ )

#### • The electron flux:

- significant excess starting from ~42 GeV but the nature of this excess is different from the positron flux excess above ~25.2 GeV.
- Is well described by the sum of two power law components.
- The electron flux does not have an energy cutoff below 1.9 TeV.
- In the entire energy range the electron and positron spectra have distinctly different magnitudes and energy dependences.

 $\rightarrow$  most high energy electrons originate from different sources than high energy positrons.

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# **Back up**

#### **AMS Positron Fraction**







# New Propagation Models explaining the AMS e+ data



# The observed features of the AMS e+ data cannot be explained by standard propagation models

#### **AMS Combined positron + electron flux**



