# Silicon in Space





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### Si spectrum in cosmic rays

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### Cosmic ray flux and composition



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# Silicon detectors: from the laboratory to space





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G. Ambrosi strong bias (μstrip detector) too much information in one talk



# Silicon detectors: from the laboratory to space



### The experimental challenge



### Tracking in space: Spectrometer vs Calorimeter

Magnetic spectrometer

Calorimetric detector



Spatial resolution:  $3 - 10 \ \mu m$ 

Spatial resolution:  $30 - 70 \ \mu m$ 



surface AND solid angle





### Space



#### Short missions (days)/ Larger payloads



**AMS-01 on Discovery** (8 days, 1998)



Long missions (years) **Small payloads** Low energies...

IMP series < GeV/n ACE-CRIS/SIS Ekin < GeV/n VOYAGER-HET/CRS < 100 MeV/n ULYSSES-HET (nuclei) < 100 MeV/n ULYSSES-KET (electrons) < 10 GeV CRRES/ONR < (nuclei) 600 MeV/n HEAO3-C2 (nuclei) < 40 GeV/n



Long missions Large payloads











### The DAMPE detector (calorimeter)



- Charge measurement (dE/dx in PSD, STK and BGO)
- Tungsten converter (pair production)
- Precise tracking (silicon strips)
- Thick calorimeter (BGO bars)
- Hadron rejection (neutron detector)

γ-ray, electron and cosmic ray telescope

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## FERMI (2008)





### strip pitch 230 µm readout pitch 230 µm





73 m<sup>2</sup> surface 9216 sensors 2304 ladders 221kchannels

### AMS-02: A TeV precision, multipurpose spectrometer









MAGNET

z,







## The DAMPE Silicon TracKer (2015)



strip pitch 120 µm





### AMS-02 Silicon Tracker (2011)

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0

readout pitch 1

F

strip pitch 27



### Tracker signals and charge ID (AMS-02)



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### STK in excellent condition since launch, for more than 7 years!

<sup>24</sup> 



In 7 years detector position shifts in z are within 100  $\mu$ m, < 1% of the support tray thickness

Re-align every 2 weeks to track long term shift

Intrinsic position resolution 30 -40  $\mu$ m, better than 70-100  $\mu$ m required

 STK is the "backbone" of experiment allowing to link precisely all the sub-detectors for alignment, calibration, particle identification, event classification, ...

### STK p/He MIP measurement stability: 2016 - 2022 yearly data



- 7 yearly histograms overlayed, not adjusted for live time!
  - Excellent stability: not only the charge measurements, but also the full chain of mission operation
  - Achieved also thanks to the robust STK calibration and alignment procedures running routinely
- Higher charge calibration in progress
  - More challenging due to readout ASIC nonlinearity and saturation

## the (far) future is in L2, a nice place in space



i 🔒 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_objects\_at\_Lagrangian\_points

] … ⊘ ☆

#### tarted

#### L2 [edit]

L<sub>2</sub> is the Lagrangian point located approximately 1.5 million km from Earth in the direction opposite the Sun.

#### Past probes [edit]

- NASA's Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe (WMAP) observed the cosmic microwave background from 2001 until 2010. It was moved to a heliocentric orbit to avoid posing a hazard to future missions.
- NASA's WIND from November 2003 to April 2004. The spacecraft then went to Earth orbit, before heading to L1.
- The ESA Herschel Space Observatory exhausted its supply of liquid helium and was moved from the Lagrangian point in June 2013.
- At the end of its mission ESA's *Planck* spacecraft was put into a heliocentric orbit and passivated to prevent it from endangering any future missions.
- CNSA's Chang'e 2<sup>[1]</sup> from August 2011 to April 2012. Chang'e 2 was then placed onto a heliocentric orbit that took it past the near-Earth asteroid 4179 Toutatis.

#### Present probes [edit]

• The ESA Gaia probe

#### Planned probes [edit]

- The joint Russian-German high-energy astrophysics observatory Spektr-RG
- The ESA Euclid mission, to better understand dark energy and dark matter by accurately measuring the acceleration of the universe.
- The joint NASA, ESA and CSA James Webb Space Telescope (JWST), formerly known as the Next Generation Space Telescope (NGST)
- The ESA PLATO mission, which will find and characterize rocky exoplanets.
- The JAXA LiteBIRD mission.
- The NASA Wide Field Infrared Survey Telescope (WFIRST)
- The ESA ARIEL mission, which will observe the atmospheres of exoplanets.
- The ESA Advanced Telescope for High ENergy Astrophysics (ATHENA)
- The NASA Advanced Technology Large-Aperture Space Telescope, which would replace the Hubble Space Telescope and possibly the JWST.

#### Cancelled probes [edit]

- The ESA Eddington mission
- The NASA Terrestrial Planet Finder mission (may be placed in an Earth-trailing orbit instead)

### Aladino

#### AntimatterLargeAcceptanceDetectorInOrbit

supercoducting coils: magnet



### Aladino

Acceptance: 3 m<sup>2</sup>sr

MDR > 20 TV

#### AntimatterLargeAcceptanceDetectorInOrbit

supercoducting coils: magnet



- ${\sim}5\,\mu m$  for orthogonal tracks
- ~15  $\mu m$  for 60° incident angles

### AMS-100





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# HERD Silicon Charge Detector



![](_page_31_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Figure_0.jpeg)

### First MAPS pixel tracker in space

![](_page_33_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### Based on the MAPS developed for ALICE experiment

HEPD 2

#### Tracker integration steps

![](_page_33_Figure_4.jpeg)

### **PAN detector modules**

• 5 tracker modules, 2 TOF modules, 2 pixel modules

![](_page_34_Figure_2.jpeg)

- 2 StripX: 25 μm readout pitch, 150 μm thick, 2 μm resolution, to measure both bending radius and bending angle, 40k channels, total power budget 8W
- 1 stripY: 500 μm readout pitch, 150 μm thick, high dynamic range ASIC for Z = 1 26, trigger signal, time stamp (<100 ps resolution), 1k channels, total ~1 W
- TOF module
  - 3 mm thick scintillator, read out on all sides by SiPM: trigger, particle counter (max. ~10 MHz), charge measurement (Z = 1 -26), time (<100 ps), total ~1 W</li>
- Pixel module
  - Avoid measurement degradation for high rate solar events
  - Issue to be resolved: total (static) power consumption ~2-4 W, for ~190 cm<sup>2</sup>

# the near future: AMS-02 LO upgrade

![](_page_35_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Picture_2.jpeg)

AMS-02 Layer1

### the near future: AMS-02 LO upgrade

DATA ACOUISITION ~ 8 m<sup>2</sup> surface 768 sensors 72 ladders 72 kchannels ~ 120 W to be ready by early 202-

![](_page_36_Picture_2.jpeg)

AMS-02 Layer1

## the near future: AMS-02 LO upgrade

### the basic element of the detector

charge measurement: high dynamic range FE

spatial resolution: 110 μm readout pitch

![](_page_37_Picture_4.jpeg)

### vibration test of a silicon detector

![](_page_38_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Picture_2.jpeg)

# AMS-02 LO upgrade

![](_page_39_Picture_1.jpeg)

### LO detector performance (ion beam test)

![](_page_40_Figure_1.jpeg)

the measured signal can properly identify the ions 41

# wire bonding

![](_page_41_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Picture_3.jpeg)

### wire bonds vibration test

![](_page_42_Picture_1.jpeg)

### wire bonds vibration test

![](_page_43_Picture_1.jpeg)

# Conclusions

- Almost 100 m<sup>2</sup> of silicon tracking detector are taking data in orbit
- Silicon microstrip detector are playing a crucial role in running experiments:
  - tuning of spatial resolution vs power is simple (strip pitch)
  - excellent dE/dx measurement for ion identification
  - low power per active unit surface
- Although the technology is 'from last century' it is still optimal for future detector in space
- It is (not!) difficult to put a Silicon Detector in space!

![](_page_45_Picture_0.jpeg)