



Search of Dark Matter in Cosmic-Ray Antimatter

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> IDM 2024, L'Aquila, Italy July 11th 2024

Origin and propagation of the cosmic radiation

Apparent absence of cosmological Antimatter

Nature of the Dark Matter that pervades the Universe

Cosmic Rays and Anti-Particles



Cosmic Rays and Anti-Particles



Cosmic-ray antiprotons



Cosmic-ray antiprotons



Antimatter and Dark Matter Research

MASS - 1,2 (89,91)
TrampSI (93)
CAPRICE (94, 97, 98)
PAMELA (2006-2016)

BESS (93, 95, 97, 98, 2000)
Heat (94, 95, 2000)
IMAX (96)
BESS LDF (2004, 2007)
AMS-01 (1998) AMS-02 (2011-)

V GAPS (2024-)

Image credit: NASA (cropped)

Subnuclear Physics Techniques in Space Experiments



CR antiparticles



What do we need?

Measurements at higher energies

□High statistic

Better knowledge of background

□Continuous monitoring of solar modulation

Long Duration Flights

Launch: 15 June 2006 – Stopped in January 2016

Quasi-polar elliptical orbit 70 degree inclination 350/610 km. Allows to measure low energy particles (70 MeV electrons)

Long flight duration: 10 years of data Allows to test model over different period of solar activity





Пуск РН «Союз-У» с КА «Ресурс-ДК1». 15 июня 2006 год.

The PAMELA instrument

24 bars of plastic scintillator arranged in six plane, S11, S12, S21, S22, S31, S32: velocity, absolute charge Z<8.

Six planes of double side microstrip silicon detectors inside a magnetic cavity: rigidity, absolute charge Z<6, charge sign.

44 planes of Si detector interleaved with 22 tungsten planes, 16.3 radiation length: hadron lepton separation.



GF: 21.5 cm2 sr Mass: 470 kg Size: 130x70x70 cm Power budget: 360 W

(CAS, CARD e CAT) nine planes of plastic scintillator around the apparatus: reject false triggers or multiparticle events.

36 proportional counters filled with 3He: improve hadron rejection.

PAMELA: Antiproton / positron identification



PAMELA Antiparticle Results: Antiprotons



PAMELA Antiprotons and DM limits





m_{DM} [GeV]

M. Cirelli & G. Giesen, JCAP 1304 (2013) 015

Fornengo, Maccione, Vittino, JCAP **1404** (2014) 04, 003

PAMELA Results: Positrons



AMS-02: The Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer

The prototype, AMS-01, flown in 1998. AMS-02 has been designed and built in 2000-2011. Installed in 2011 on the ISS. Takes data continuously since then. AMS-02 has collected more than 230 billion cosmic rays up to now.

International Space Station (ISS)Altitude~ 400 kmInclination61°Period93 minConstruction1998 - ...

Dimensions $73 \times 109 \text{ m}^2$ Weight 420 t

Courtesy of A. Oliva



AMS-02: A TeV Multi-Purpose Spectrometer

Courtesy of A. Oliva

AMS-02 separates hadrons from leptons, matter from anti-matter, chemical and isotopic composition from fraction of GeV to multi-TeV.



AMS-02: A TeV Multi-Purpose Spectrometer



AMS-02: Positrons



AMS-02: antiprotons



M. Aguilar et al., Phys. Rep. 894 (2021) 1-116

A. Kounine, **PAW'24**, 2023

Anomaly in the AMS-02 antiproton flux?



A. Cuoco et al: "A deeper examination of such a potential signal would require a more accurate determination of the antiproton production cross-section, to constrain the flux of secondary antiprotons, as well as an accurate modeling of solar modulation at low rigidities of less than about 5 GV."

The AMS-02 Upgrade (AMS-02.2)



The AMS-02 Upgrade (AMS-02.2)



A New Tracking Layer (Layer-0)

The increase of 300% in the acceptance will allow for the best use of the time left on the ISS, allowing higher rate in data collection for many analysis channels (positrons, nuclei, ...).

AMS-02 present layout



Future measurements with AMS-02 upgrade: positrons



A. Kounine, PAW'24, 2023

Background "free" Signals? Antinuclei

See also today 14:00-16:00 session in GSSI, Sala Rossa

Antideuteron: a background free signal?



BESS-Polar II: Lower Energy, High Statistics



- Longer Observing Time
 - ~30 days of data taking
 - 16 TB data storage
 - Total events ~4.7 x 10⁹
- Improved Reliability
 - Pressurized TOF PMT units
 - Improved electronics efficiency
- Improved Performance
 - ACC rejection power
 - Middle TOF resolution
 - Outer TOF resolution
- ~22 times present solar-minimum p statistics



BESS-Polar II: Anti-deuteron limit (and antiproton data)



K. Sakai et al., PRL 132 (2024) 131001

Current Status with 11 Years of AMS Data: Antideuterons in 5.7<|R|<9.3 GV



• Future AMS upgrade will provide additional measurement point to antideuterons.

• Improve analysis techniques, further MC study to better understand the background.

The GAPS Experiment



GAPS compatibility test at CSBF facility, Palestine, Texas, July 1, 2024



The General AntiParticle Spectrometer is the first experiment dedicated and optimized for low-energy cosmic-ray antinuclei search

 Requirements: long flight time, large acceptance, large identification power, flight at lowgeomagnetic cutoff location

 First flight in December 2024 from McMurdo base, Antarctica



GAPS detection tecnique



GAPS: Antideuteron sensitivity

- □ GAPS will search for antideuteron over the kinetic energy region 100-250 MeV/n
- Expected astrophysical d background heavily suppressed at these energies
- Over three Long Duration Balloon flights for a total of ~100 days of data taking.
- Antideuteron sensitivity more than one order of magnitude below the current best limits, probing a variety of DM models across a wide mass range
- GAPS will also measure p, p, d, and He fluxes



T. Aramaki et al, AstroPart. Phys. 74 (2016) 6

GAPS: Antiproton Sensitivity Precision Spectrum at Unexplored Energies

- □ GAPS will provide a precision p spectrum in the previously unexplored energy range <250 MeV/n</p>
- Expected ~500 p per LDB flight
- Validate the GAPS technique using flight data
 - ✓ First cosmic-rays detected using exotic atoms for particle identification
 - \checkmark Reconstruction of exotic atoms
 - ✓ X-rays from de-excitation
- Test models of atmospheric attenuation and production
- Probe light DM models and local primordial black hole evaporation



F. Rogers et al, AstroPart. Phys. **145** (2023) 102791

AMS-02: Anti-helium

2018: "To date, we have observed eight events...with Z = -2. All eight events are in the helium mass region." – S. Ting (La Palma, AMS overview)



GAPS will provide sensitivity to He3 with orthogonal instrumental systematics compared to AMS-02

❑ GAPS will extend the energy coverage to low energy (0.1-0.3 GeV/n)



N. Saffold. et al., AstroPart. Phys. 130 (2021) 102580

Conclusions

Cosmic-ray physics is a fascinating field, fertile and rich in scientific potential.

State-of-art experiments are directly measuring cosmic rays and their antimatter component.

Intriguing results have already been published, and more are coming that may shed light on the origin of this component.

