Dark Matter Searches at AMS: Precision Measurement of Charged Elementary Particles in the Cosmos

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AMS is an International Collaboration 46 Institutes from 15 Countries



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Three independent methods to search for Dark Matter

Annihilation

HESS, HAWC, VERITAS, MAGIC, IceCube, ... PAMELA, FERMI, CALET, DAMPE, AMS, ...



Dark Matter Searches at AMS

e⁺ and p̄ are rare species in cosmic rays The collision of cosmic rays with interstellar medium(ISM) will produce e⁺ and p̄



M. Turner and F. Wilczek, Phys. Rev. D42 (1990) 1001; J. Ellis 26th ICRC (1999) $\chi + \chi \rightarrow e^+, \, \overline{p} + \dots$

The collision of dark matter particles will produce additional e⁺ and \overline{p}

The excess of e^+ and \overline{p} can be accurately measured by AMS

Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer



Transition Radiation Detector (TRD)











Silicon Tracker and Magnet



1.4 kG



Maximum Detectable Rigidity(MDR) 2.0 TV for Z=1 particles

Electromagnetic Calorimeter (ECAL)



- 17 X₀, 3D measurement of the directions and energies of e[±] to TeV
- Energy scale and resolution
 measured with test beam
- Identify e[±] by 3D shower shape
- Proton rejection is above 10⁴ with ECAL and Tracker



Detector Calibration and Monte Carlo simulation

Detector calibration



Monte Carlo simulation



10,000 CPU cores at CERN + regional centers Intensive Test Beam @ CERN: Particle type: p, e[±], π[±] Energy (10–400 GeV) Position (2000)



Monte Carlo simulation:

- 1. Interactions (physics and materials)
- 2. Digitization (electronics)

Results in data-like events

In 6 years AMS has collected over 100 billion events.



AMS will continue to collect data in the life time of ISS (2024)

Positron and electron selection in AMS

Redundant particle identification using TRD, ECAL and Tracker



Positron and electron measurement in AMS

- The number of positrons and electrons are determined from a template fit in TRD Charge Confusion Estimator 2D phase space
- The e⁺ and proton template are obtained from high purity e⁻, proton data
- Charge confusion studied using e⁻ test beam and MC



Fit to Data, Positive Rigidity, 151-173 GeV



Positron Fraction: 5 years data



Electron and **Positron** spectra before AMS

- 1. These were the best data.
- 2. Nonetheless, the data have large errors and are inconsistent.
- 3. The data has created many theoretical speculations.



Electron and positron fluxes



- The electron flux and positron flux are different in amplitude and energy behavior.
- Both spectra change behavior at ~30GeV
- Rise of positron fraction from ~10GeV is due to an excess of positron

The Electron and Positron spectral indices

Traditionally, the spectrum of cosmic rays is characterized by a single power law function $\Phi = CE^{\gamma}$ where γ is the spectral index and E is the energy.

Before AMS, γ was assumed to be **constant** for the electron and positron spectra.



Electron and Positron Fluxes becomes harder at high energy Additional source of cosmic ray positron and electron

Additional source of high energy electrons and positrons



Primary source of cosmic ray positron

Additional source of high energy electrons and positrons



- The same source in the precision electron flux
- **Common source of electrons and positrons by Charge Symmetry Process**
- **Require comprehensive modelling of cosmic rays to understand its origin**₁₀

Models to explain the AMS Positron Fraction and Flux

- 1) Particle origin: Dark Matter
- 2) Modified Propagation of Cosmic Rays
- 3) Astrophysics origin: Pulsars, SNRs



The AMS results are in excellent agreement with some Dark Matter Model

Modified Propagation of Cosmic Rays

The AMS Boron-to-Carbon (B/C) flux ratio

- Supernova Remnants
- Pulsars

Examples:

R. Cowsik *et al.*, Ap. J. 786 (2014) 124, (pink band) explaining that the AMS positron fraction (gray circles) above 10 GeV is due to propagation effects.



0.4

- Modified Propagation of Cosmic Rays
- Supernova Remnants
- Pulsars



AMS-02

- Modified Propagation of Cosmic Rays
- Supernova Remnants
- Pulsars

Examples:

By 2024, AMS will distinguish Dark Matter from Pulsars



AMS Measurements on Positron, Electron anisotropy and on antiprotons will also help distinguish different models

Positron and Electron Anisotropy

- Primary source of cosmic ray positrons and electrons may induce anisotropy on their arrival direction
- Astrophysical point sources like pulsars will imprint a higher level of anisotropy than a smooth dark matter halo.





Positron and Electron Anisotropy

The fluctuations of the positron flux are isotropic in 16 < *E* [GeV] < 350.



This will help distinguish dark matter models and astrophysical models

The Comprehensive Measurements by AMS

- The precision data shows an common excess of high energy electrons and positrons
- The high energy electrons and positrons are isotropic
- The current data can be explained by Dark Matter or new astrophysical sources
- Antiproton is an independent channel to search for Dark Matter and can help to distinguish between Dark Matter and Pulsar models
- To measure antiprotons, we need to measure protons firstly.

Cosmic ray protons

- 1. Protons are the most abundant cosmic rays.
- 2. Before AMS there have been many measurements of the proton spectrum.
- 3. Traditionally, the proton spectral function was assumed to be a single power law $\phi = CE^{\gamma}$ with $\gamma = -2.7$



AMS proton flux

New information: The proton flux cannot be described by a single power law = CR^{γ}





The rigidity dependence of e⁻ and p flux are different as expected. e⁻ lose more energy in the interstellar magnetic field



Antiproton Measurement with AMS

R = -363 GV antiproton

The antiproton flux is ~1/10000 of the proton flux.

A percent precision experiment requires background rejection close to 1 in a million

Based on 65 billion cosmic rays collected in the first 4 years, 3.49 x 10⁵ antiprotons are selected for 1<|R|<450 GV

M. Aguilar et al., PRL 117, 091103 (2016)



Antiproton selection in AMS



Antiproton signal is well separated from the backgrounds

Antiproton selection at high rigidities

The number of antiprotons is determined from template fit





Unexpected results: the rigidity dependence of of e⁺, p , p are identical from ~60 to ~500 GV



Unexpected results: the rigidity dependence of of e⁺, p , p are identical from ~60 to ~500 GV

e⁻ has a different rigidity dependence.



Flux Ratio of Elementary Particles p/p is energy independent above 60 GV



The measurement accuracy is not limited by the systematics!

M. Aguilar et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 117, 091103 (2016)

AMS p/p results and modeling



Recent models of antiproton production

From collision of cosmic rays with interstellar medium:

G.Giesen, et. al., JCAP 09 (2015) 023 C.Evoli et. al., JCAP 12 (2015) 039 R.Kappl, et. al., JACP 10(2015) 034

Dark matter contribution to explain the antiproton excess around 10 GV:

A. Cuoco, et. Al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 118, 191102 M.Y. Cui, et. al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 118, 191101 (2017)



The precision and comprehensive data from AMS allows for the exploration of new phenomena



The AMS Result on the Oxygen Flux

The precision AMS nuclei data provides new parameters for cosmic ray models.



Measuring antiproton through the life time of Space Station



By collecting more data, AMS will explore to higher rigidity with better accuracy

Conclusion

- Dark Matter search is among the main physics objectives of AMS
- Positron fraction and fluxes of e⁺ and e⁻ (20M events) require an additional source of high energy e⁺ and e⁻ (e.g. DM)
- Antiproton-to-proton flux ratio (349k p
 events) is rigidity independent above 60 GV.
- Unexpected identical flux behavior for p, p
 and e⁺ from 60 to 500 GV.
- By 2024 we will collect and analyze 3 times more data will reach higher energies and greatly improve the accuracy

Physics of electrons and protons



To date, the results from AMS are unexpected and need much improved accuracy of the theoretical predictions. We work closely with theoretical community to develop a comprehensive model to explain all our observations.



There is no other magnetic spectrometer in space in the foreseeable decades.

By collecting data through 2024,

we should be able to determine the origin of many unexpected observations.

Electron, Positron and Dark Matter The collision of dark matter particles will produce additional e⁺ and p



The excess of e^+ and \overline{p} can be accurately measured by AMS

The permanent magnet



Magnetic field measurement (0.25%) and temperature corrections (0.1%) result in less than 0.5% systematic error on the flux. 3D field map (120,000 locations) Measured at CERN in May 2010

The difference between the 1997 and 2010 measurements is less than 1% (limited by the accuracy in 1997)



TRD CO2 consumption

Lifetime: 5000g / 0.44g/d = 31 years



AMS on ISS to 2024: 240 Billion Events



Separation of Positive and Negative Charges

Due to intrinsic position resolution and scattering in the Tracker, the charge sign has small probability to be measured incorrectly -> Charge confusion

At high rigidities it is particularly important to ensure that the charge sign of e+ and \overline{p} is correctly identified in the tracker.



AMS has seven instruments which independently identify different elements



Electron/Positron Flux Measurement

Isotropic flux:

$$\Phi_{e^{\pm}}(E) = \frac{N_{e^{\pm}}(E)}{A_{eff}(E) \cdot \epsilon_{trig}(E) \cdot T(E) \cdot \Delta E}$$

- Effective Acceptance: $A_{eff} = A_{geom} \cdot \varepsilon_{sel} \cdot \varepsilon_{id} \cdot (1+\delta)$
 - Estimated from MC
 - Small correction applied based on efficiency measured from Data
 - Systematic uncertainties: 2% ~ 3%
- Energy Measurement
 - Minimum effect from resolution
 - Uncertainty in the absolute energy scale: ~2% at [10, 300] GeV

~5% at 1TeV



Electron, Positron Flux Measurement

Isotropic flux: $\Phi_{e^{\pm}}(E) = \frac{N_{e^{\pm}}(E)}{A_{eff}(E) \cdot \epsilon_{tria}(E) \cdot T(E) \cdot \Delta E}$

Major Systematic Errors:

- Charge confusion:
 - Measured directly from data. Reproduced by the Monte Carlo. The difference is taken as a systematic error.
- Selection, Template definition:
 - For each energy bin, many sets of cuts (trials) were analyzed. The measurement is stable over wide ranges of the selections.
- Effective Acceptance:
 - Estimated from MC, Small correction applied based on efficiency measured from Data.
 Systematic uncertainties: 2% ~ 3%
- Energy Measurement:
 - Uncertainty in the absolute energy scale:
 ~2% at [10, 300] GeV, ~5% at 1TeV



Systematic error are smaller than statistical error (> 30 GeV for e⁺, >200GeV for e⁻)

Additional source of high energy electrons and positrons



Systematic Errors on Antiproton Measurements

- Antiproton counting $\sigma_{\!_N}$
 - Event selection
 - Knowledge of charge confusion
- Acceptance, σ_A
 - Cross sections
 - Migration matrix
 - Small correction in normalization
- Rigidity scale, σ_{R}
 - Affect positive and negative rigidity in opposite direction
- The analysis is not limited by systematic errors



Flux ratio of p/p, p/e⁺ and p/e⁺ are energy independent in the energy range ~60 to ~500 GeV



- Modified Propagation of Cosmic Rays
- Supernova Remnants
- Pulsars



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