

10 years of AMS on the International Space Station

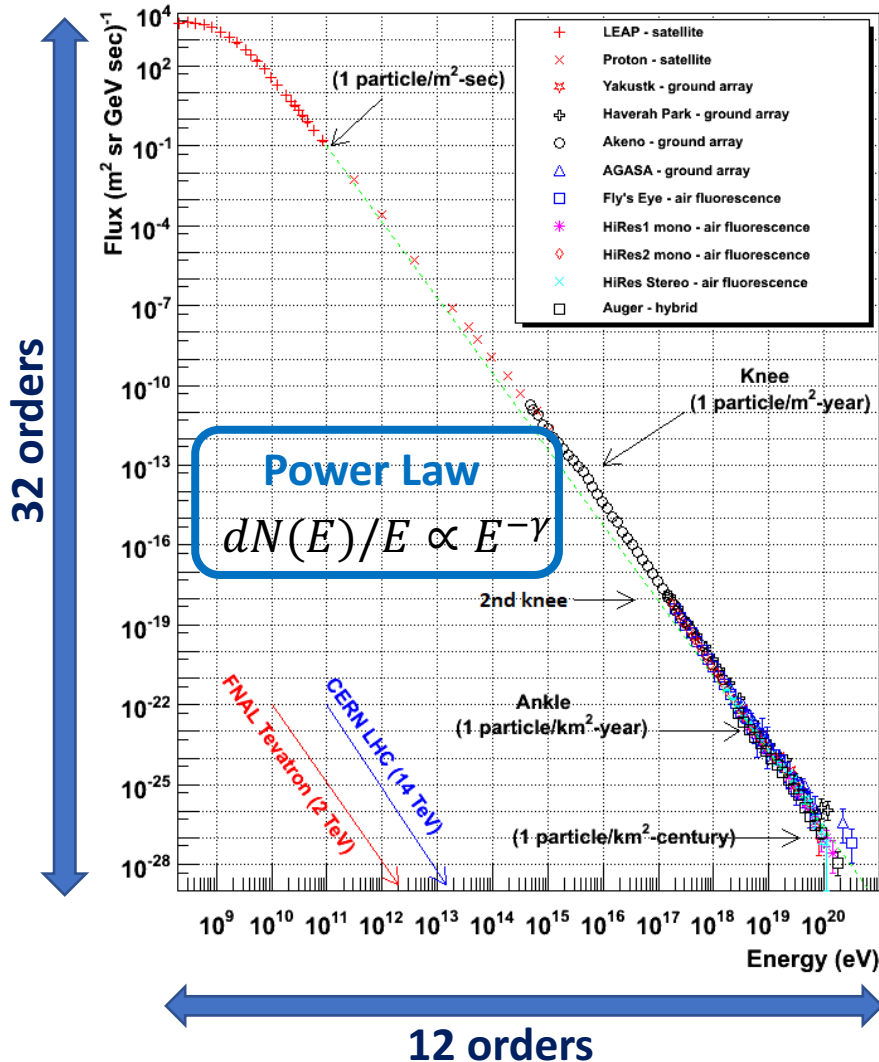


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June 7, 2022

Cosmic Rays Spectra

<https://www.physics.utah.edu/~whanlon/spectrum.html>



Chemical Composition

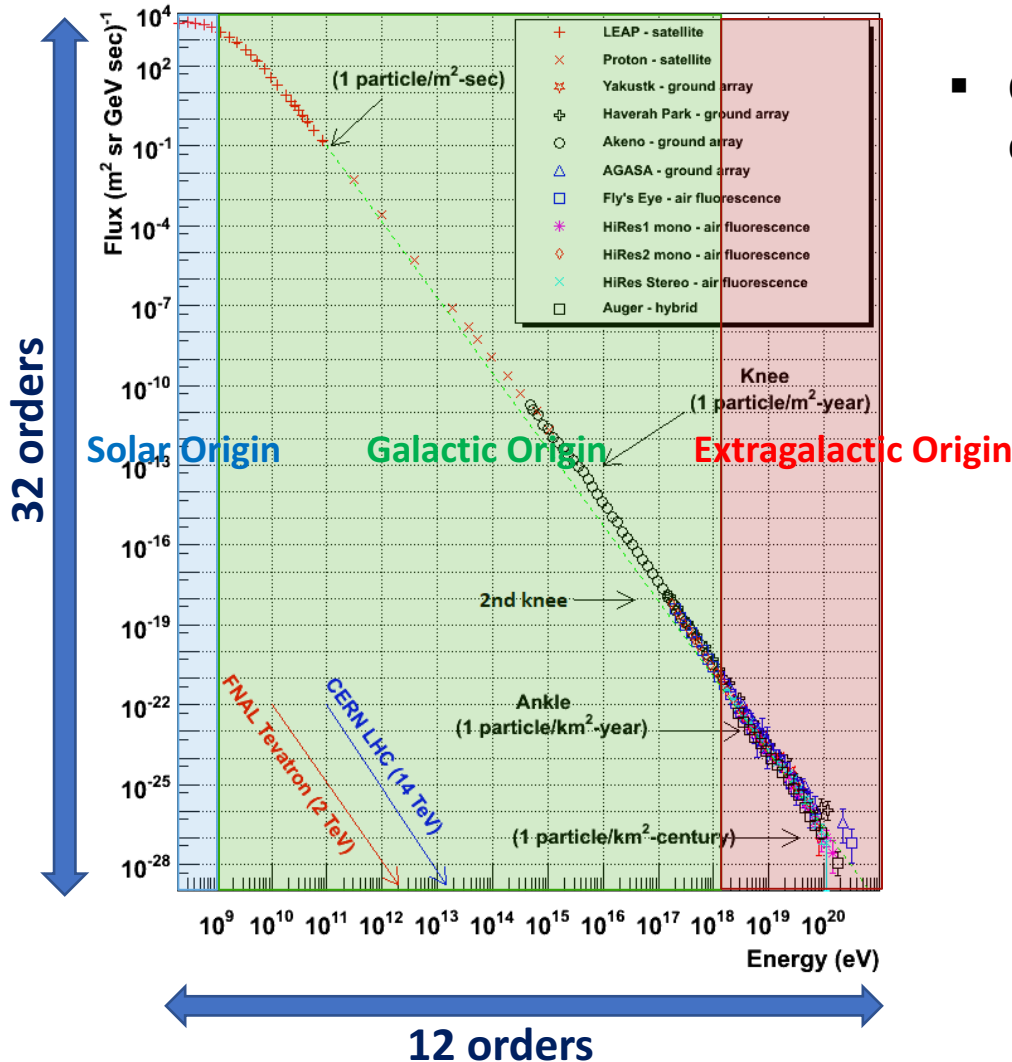
- Charged cosmic rays (CRs) are mainly formed by:
 - Protons(86%)
 - Helium (11%)
 - Heavy Nuclei (1%)
 - Electrons (2%)
 - Small fraction of antimatter

Energy Spectra

- The energy spectra show different changes in the spectral index γ :
 - Knee
 - 2nd Knee
 - Ankle
 - Suppression

Cosmic Rays Spectra

<https://www.physics.utah.edu/~whanlon/spectrum.html>



- Charged cosmic rays can be classified depending on their origin:

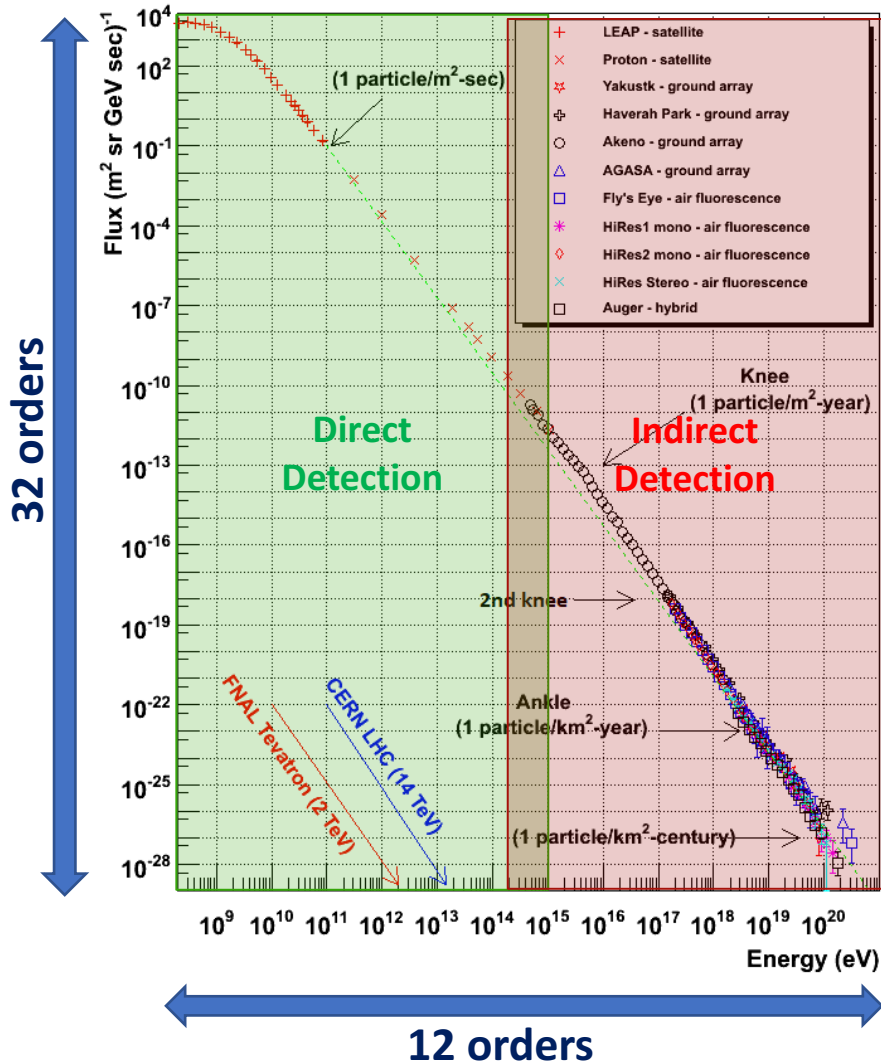
-**Solar Origin:** Charged particles that constitute the solar wind

-**Galactic Origin:** Produced in astrophysical sources within the Galaxy (SNRs)

-**Extragalactic Origin:** Produced in astrophysical sources out of our Galaxy (AGN, GRBs)

Cosmic Rays Spectra

<https://www.physics.utah.edu/~whanlon/spectrum.html>



- Different techniques have been used to measure the cosmic rays spectra:

-Direct Detection (space-borne/balloon-borne detectors)

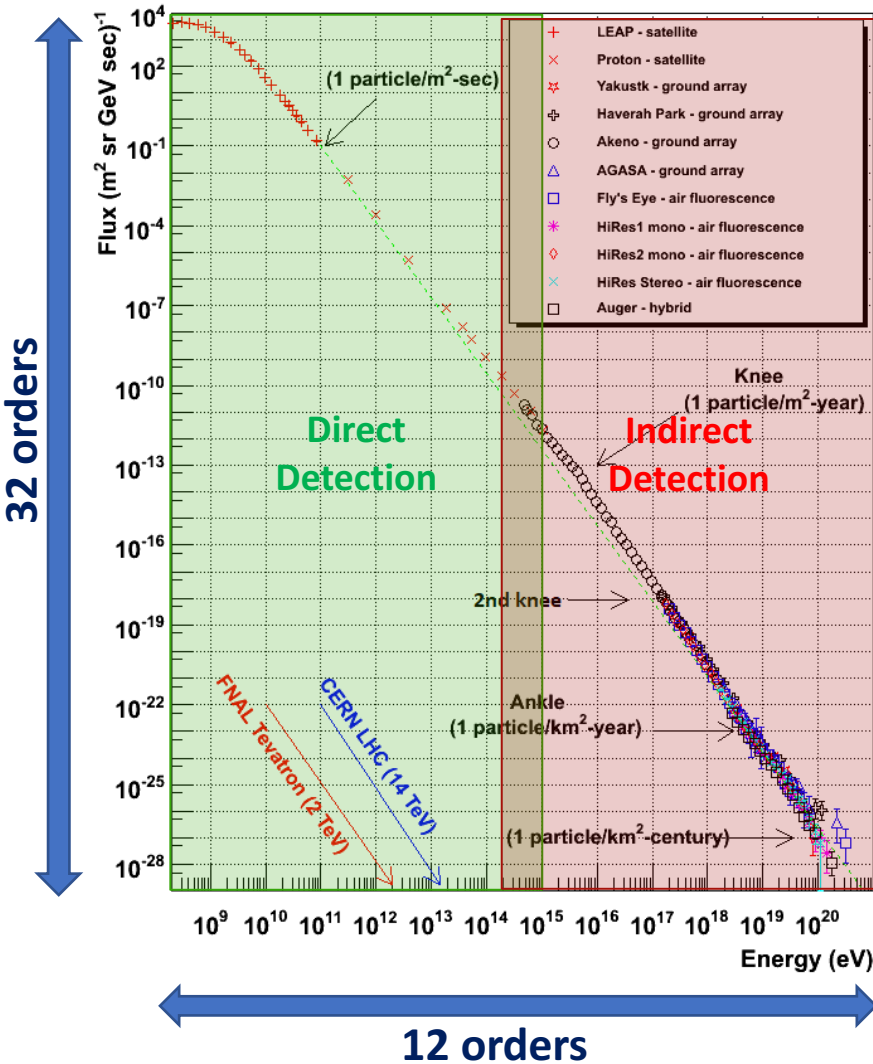
- Good particle identification
- Size/weight constraints

-Indirect Detection (ground-based detectors)

- Reaches the highest energies of the spectra
- Poor particle identification

Cosmic Rays Spectra

<https://www.physics.utah.edu/~whanlon/spectrum.html>



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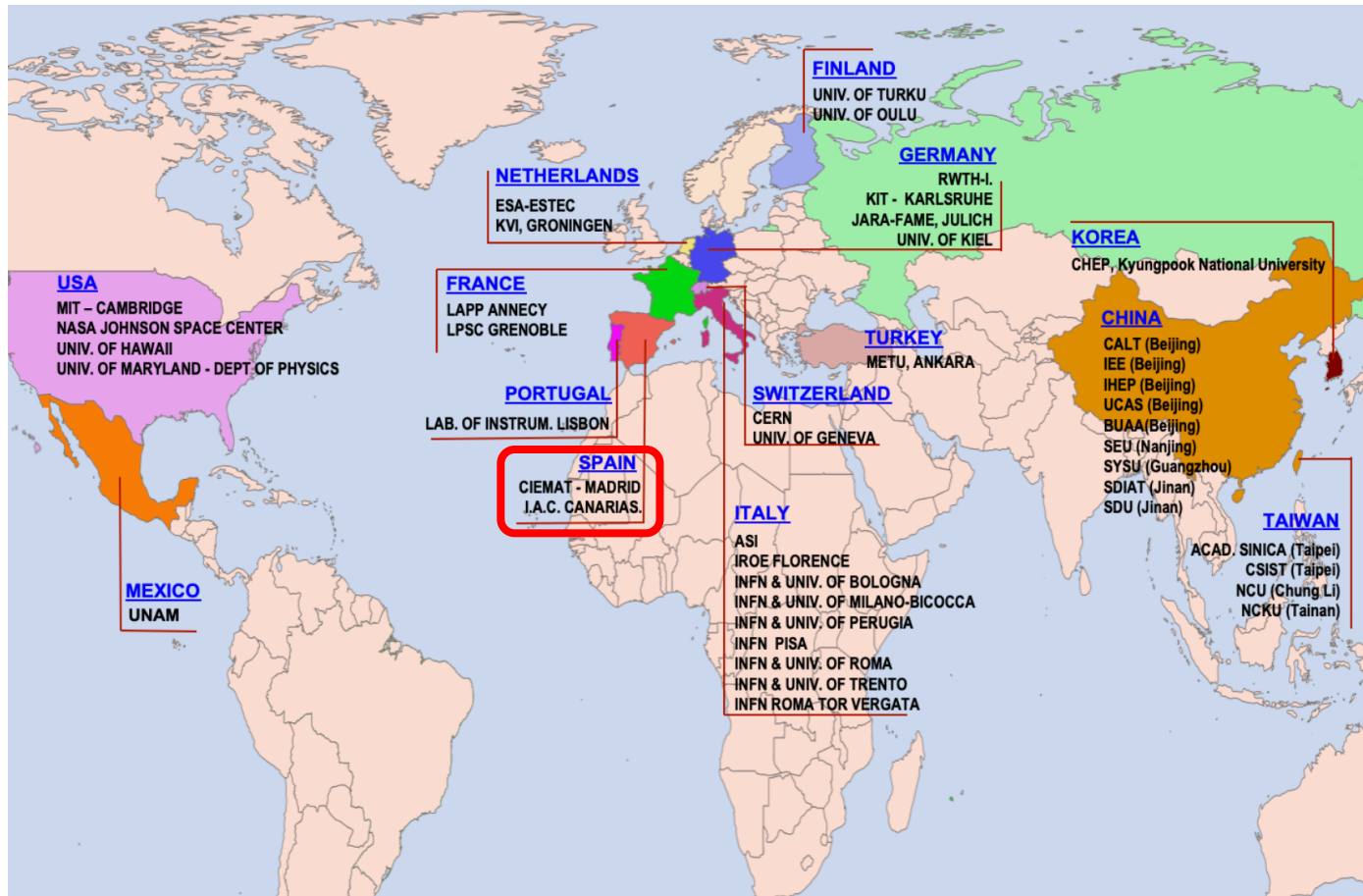


AMS-02



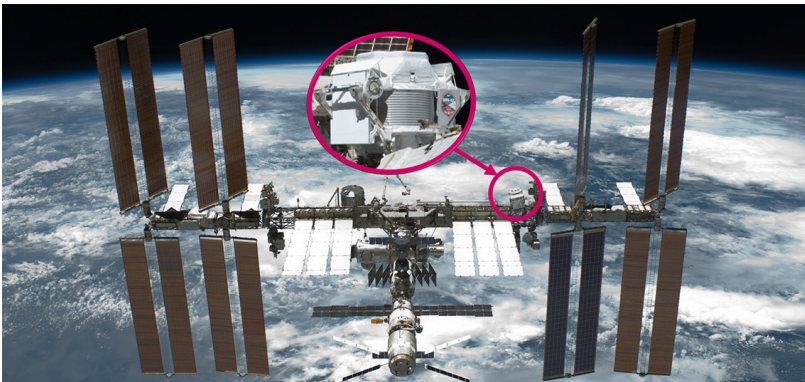
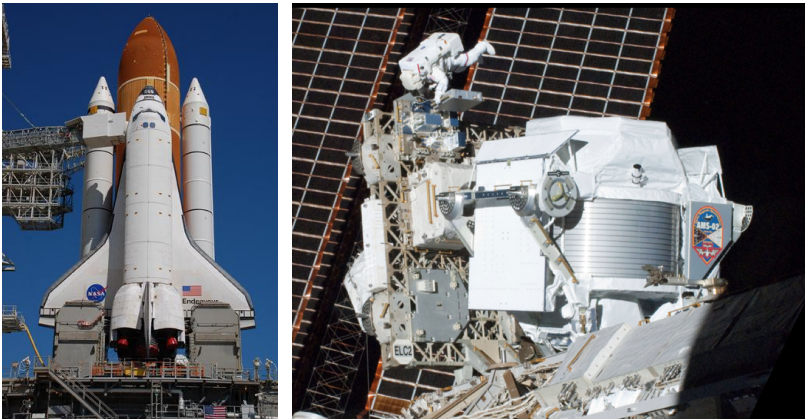
The AMS Collaboration

AMS is an international collaboration of 44 institutions from America, Europe and Asia



The AMS-02 Experiment

AMS-02 is a multipurpose particle physics detector that was installed onboard the International Space Station (ISS) in May 2011 to carry out a long-term mission of fundamental physics research in space

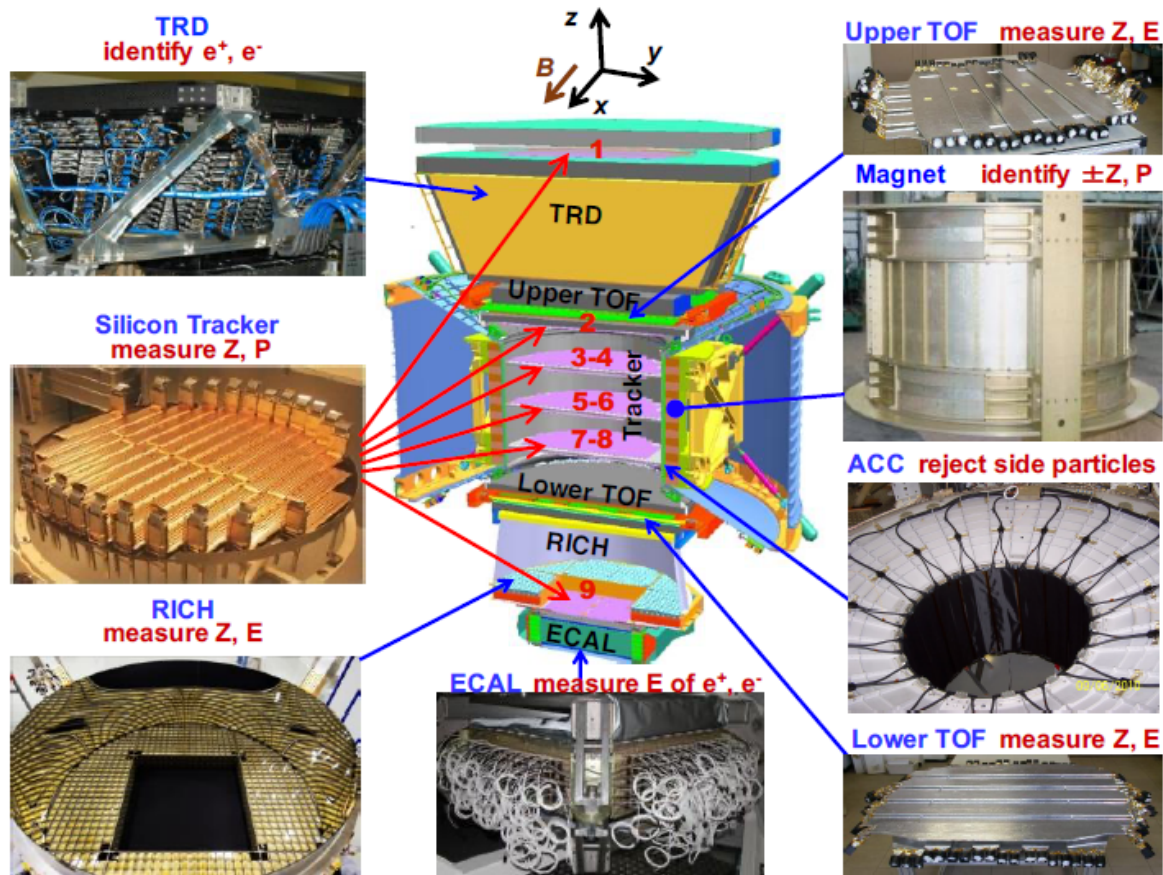


The physic objectives of the experiment include:

- Indirect searches of Dark Matter
- Searches of Primordial Antimatter
- Origin and propagation of charged cosmic rays

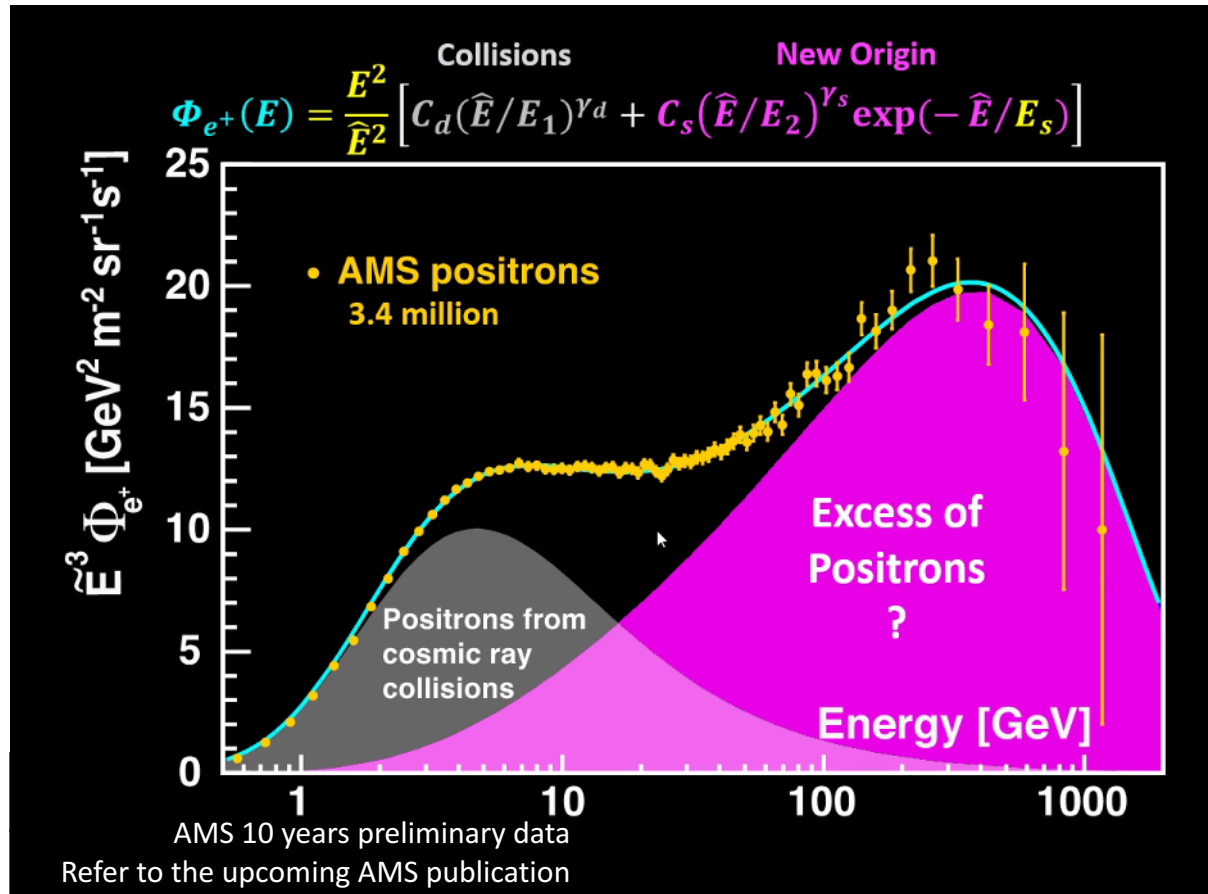
The AMS-02 Detector

AMS-02 is composed of a **permanent magnet** and **6 subdetectors** to provide redundant measurements of the incoming particle properties



Positron Flux

The positron flux measured by AMS-02 shows an **excess at high energies** that is **not consistent with a purely secondary production**

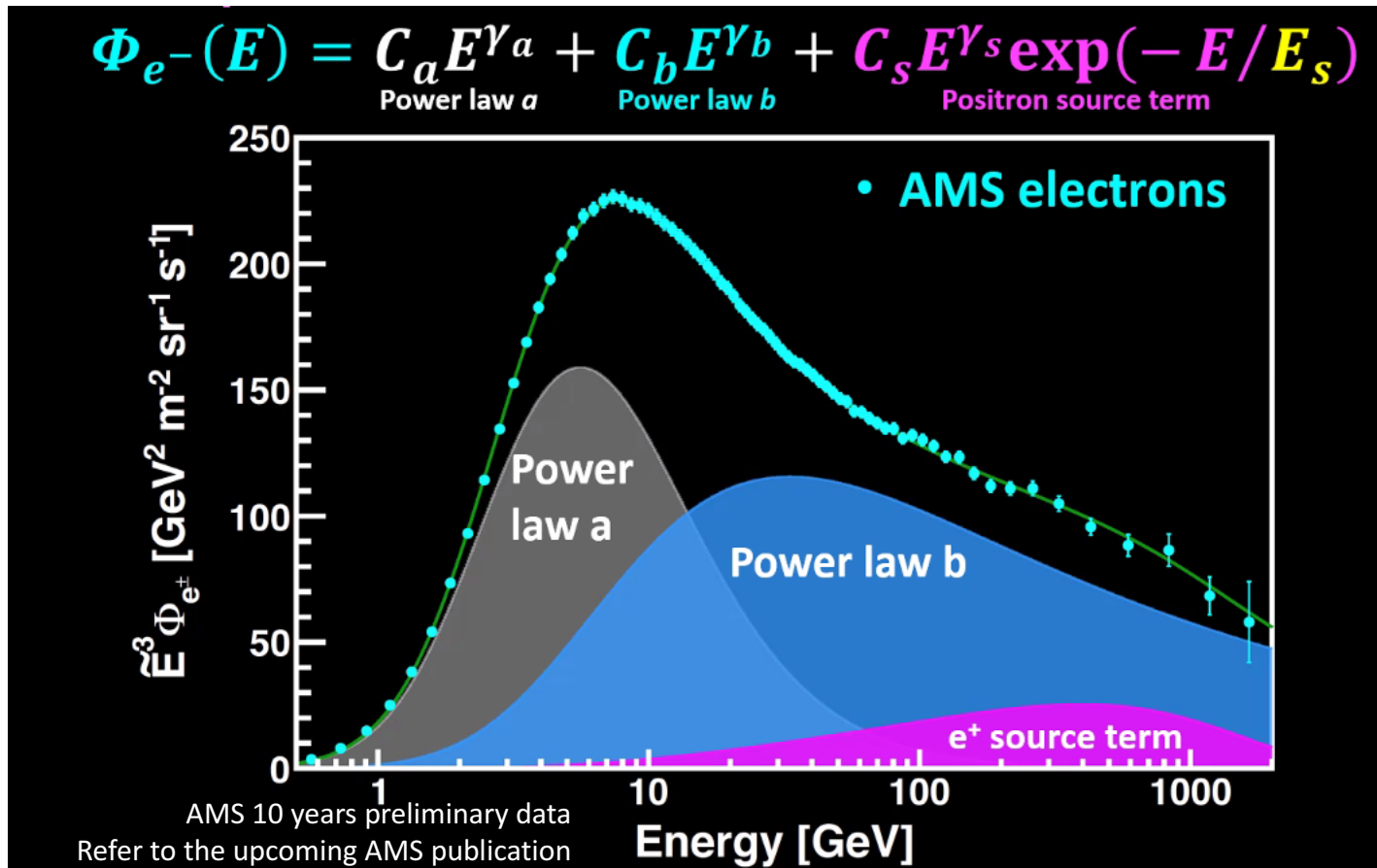


The source term at high energies is typically classified in two scenarios:

- Dark Matter
- Pulsars

Electron Flux

The electron flux measured by AMS-02 shows an **excess above 42 GeV** that is **not consistent with low energy trends**

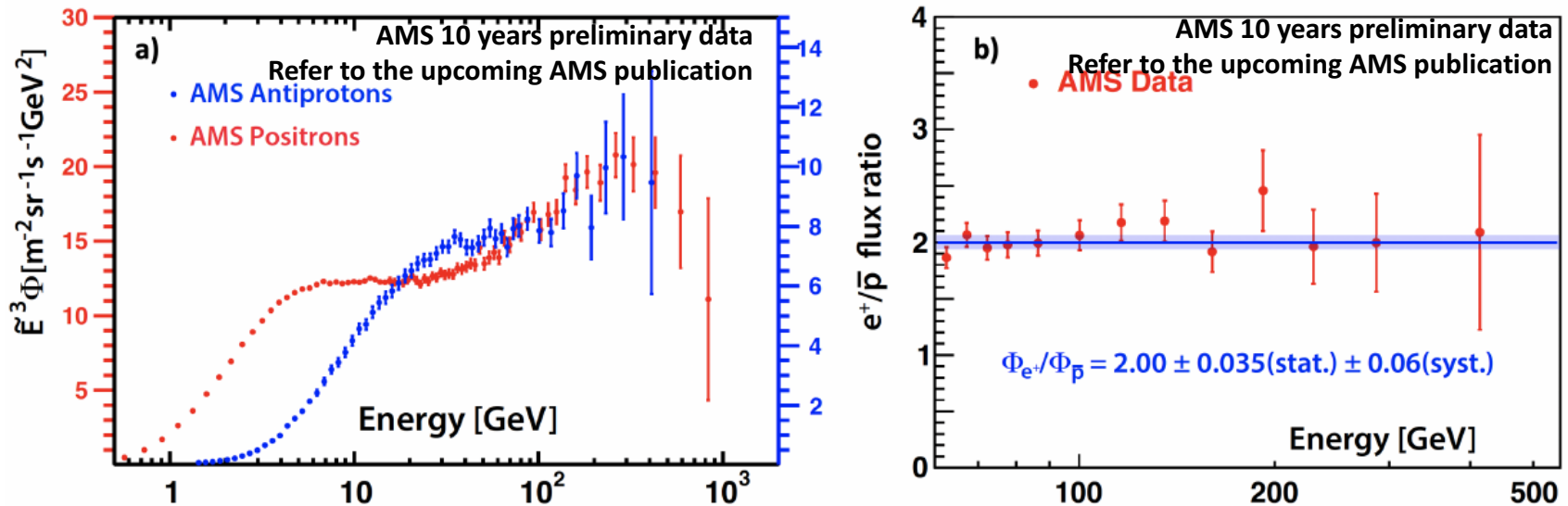


The electron spectrum has a contribution from a positron-like source term

Antiproton vs Positron Flux

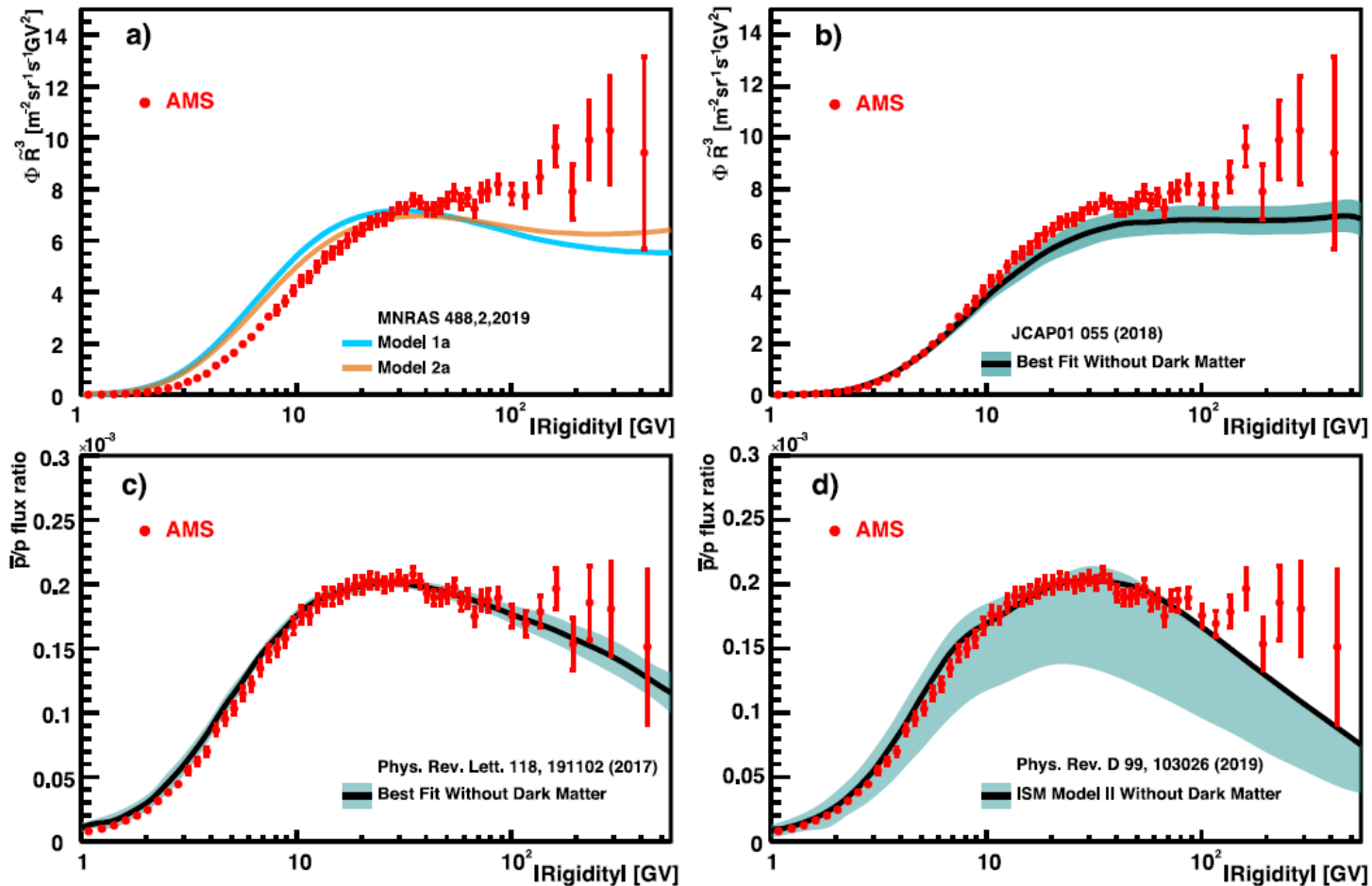
The measurement of the antiproton flux could help to understand the origin of the positron excess:

- Antiprotons are not produced in pulsars
- An excess in the antiproton flux could indicate the presence of dark matter



Above 60 GeV the positron and antiproton fluxes have a similar behavior

Origin of the Antiproton Flux

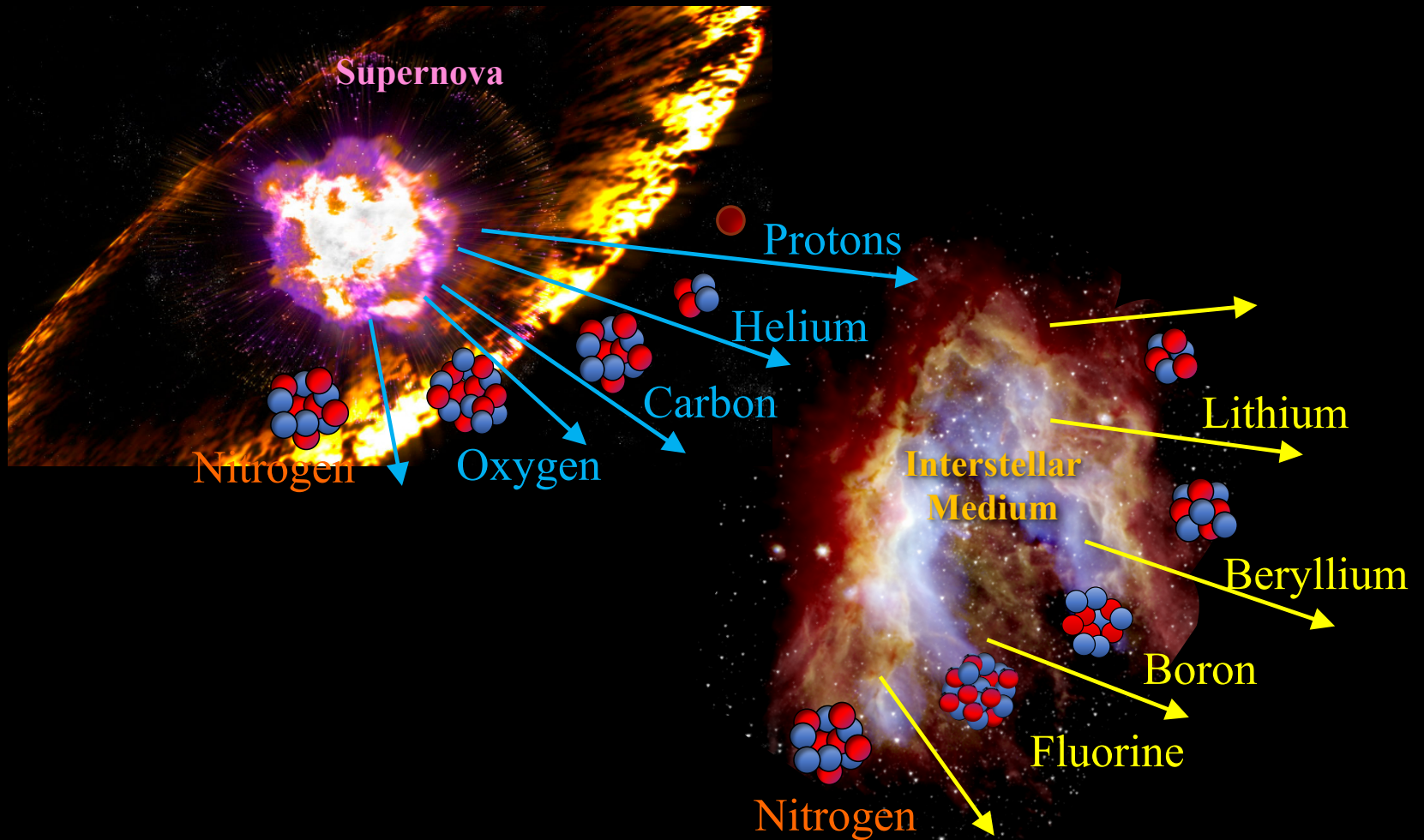


The **uncertainties in the propagation models** do not provide a definitive interpretation about the origin of antiprotons

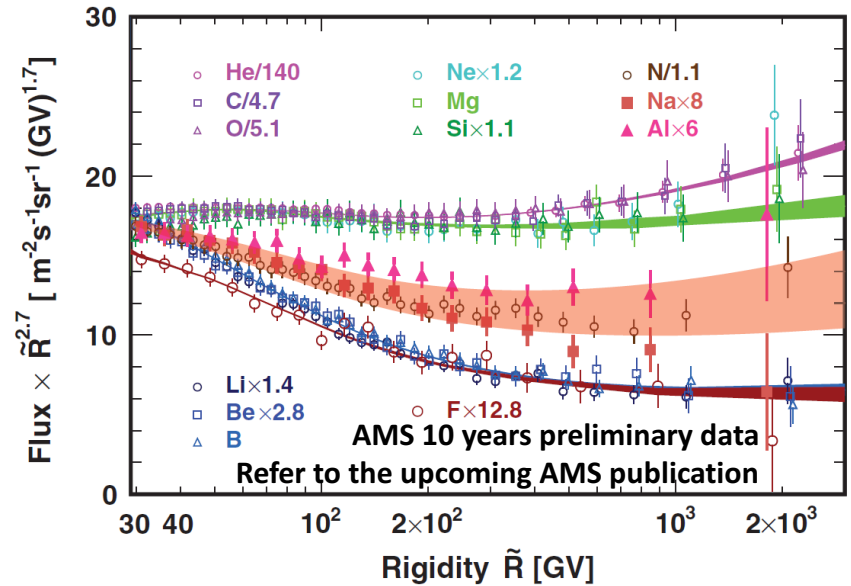
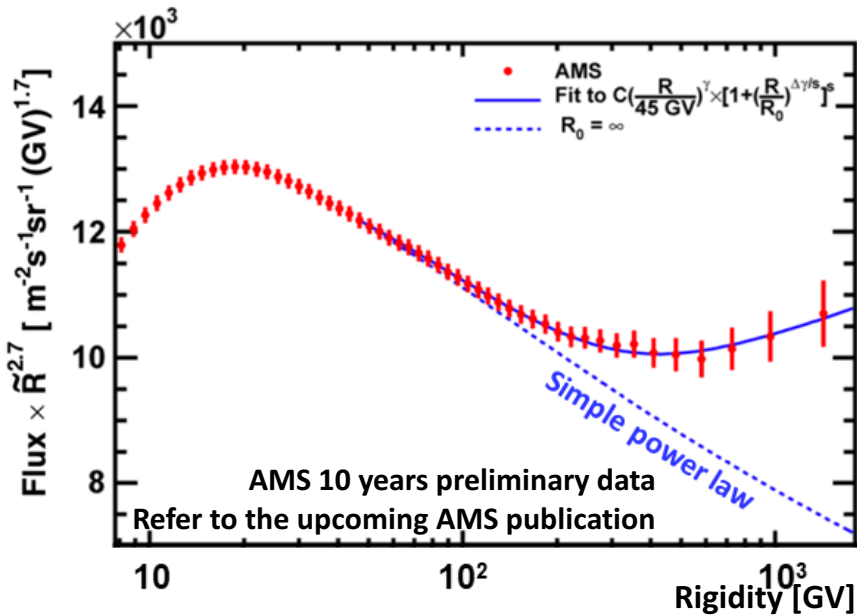
⇒ precise measurement of the **primary and secondary cosmic rays**

Primary + Secondary Cosmic Rays

The precise measurement of the primary and secondary cosmic rays provide information about the sources, the propagation and the interstellar medium



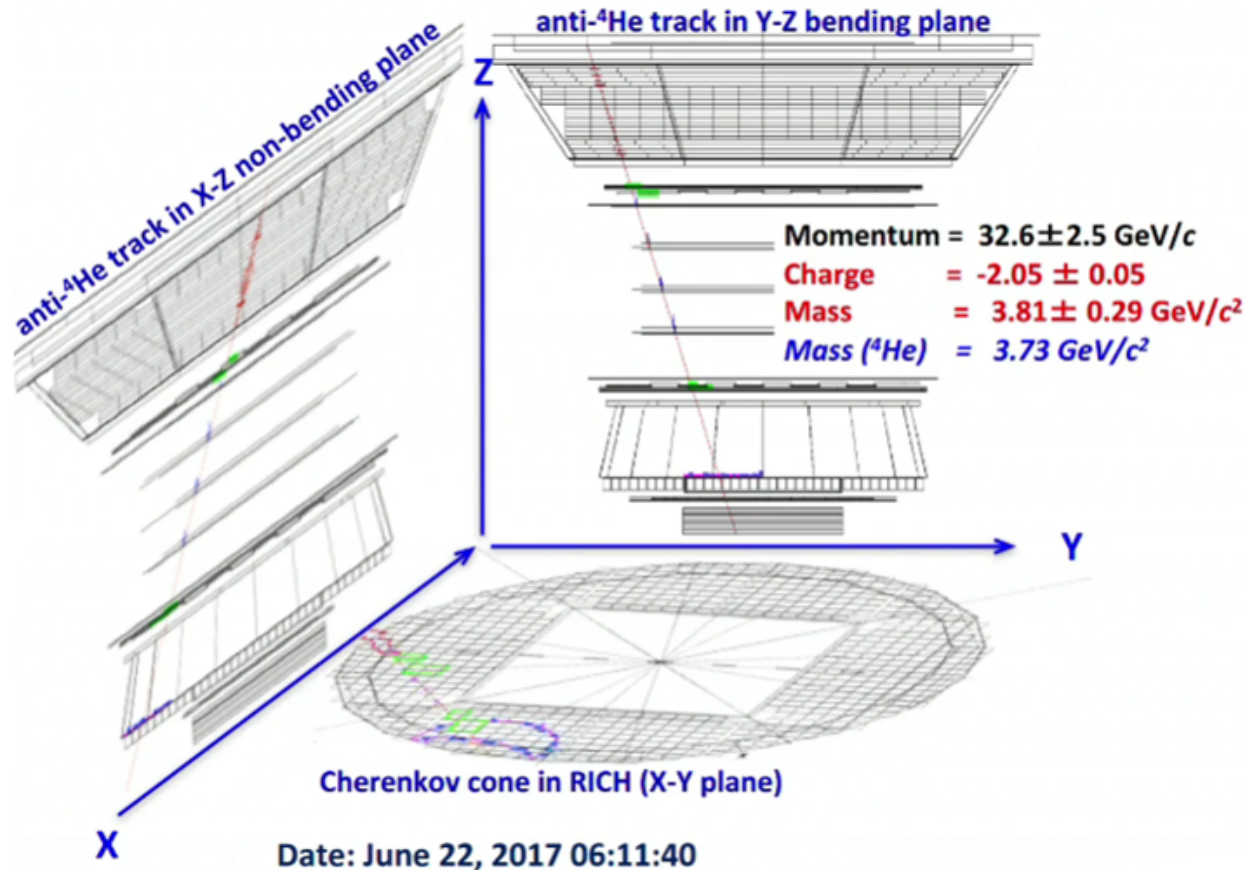
Primary + Secondary Cosmic Rays



All nuclei progressively deviate from a single power law at high rigidities

Searches of primordial antimatter

AMS-02 has observed a few antihelium candidates with charges and masses consistent with ${}^3\text{He}$ y ${}^4\text{He}$



The fraction of antihelium events over the background is of ~ 1 over 100 million of helium
 \Rightarrow the response of the detector needs to be understood

Conclusions

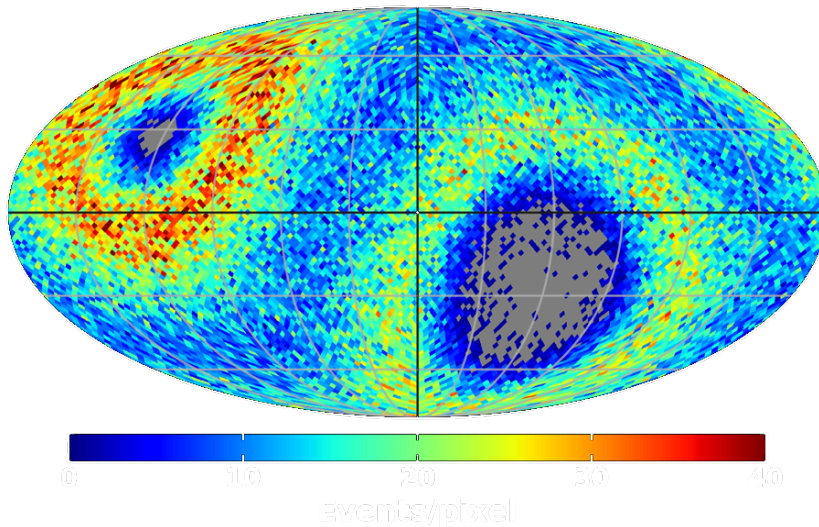
- **AMS-02 is a unique detector in space that has provided unexpected results**
- **The measurement of light antimatter (positrons and antiprotons) with AMS-02 has revealed unexpected features in the fluxes that challenge the traditional models. This allows to perform searches of dark matter**
- **The precise measurement of the primary and secondary cosmic rays helps to understand the acceleration and propagation models**
- **The detection of antinuclei with AMS-02 could indicate the presence of antimatter domains in the Universe**
- **AMS-02 has been continuously measuring cosmic rays for more than 10 years and it will continue until the end of the ISS (2030)**

Origin of the positron excess: Anisotropies

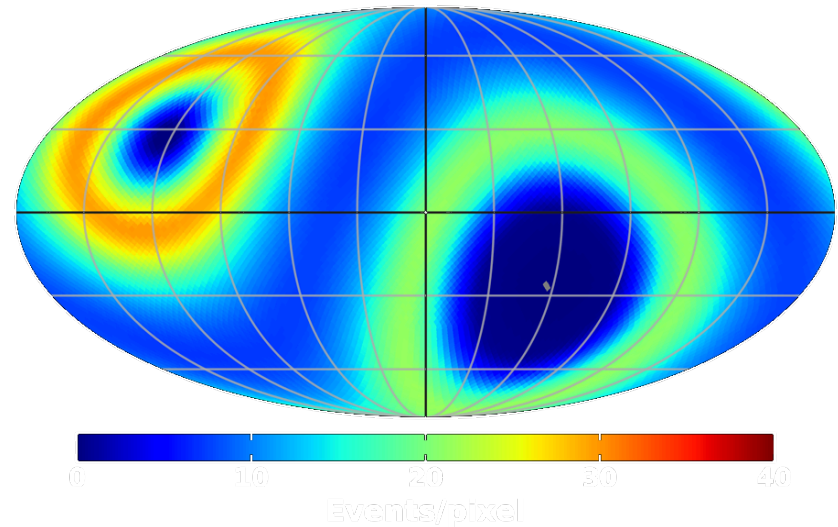
How to distinguish between pulsars and dark matter to explain the positron excess?

- Positrons injected by pulsars would have a directionality of ($\sim 1\%$) which would be more intense than for the dark matter

Positron map of the arrival directions in galactic coordinates



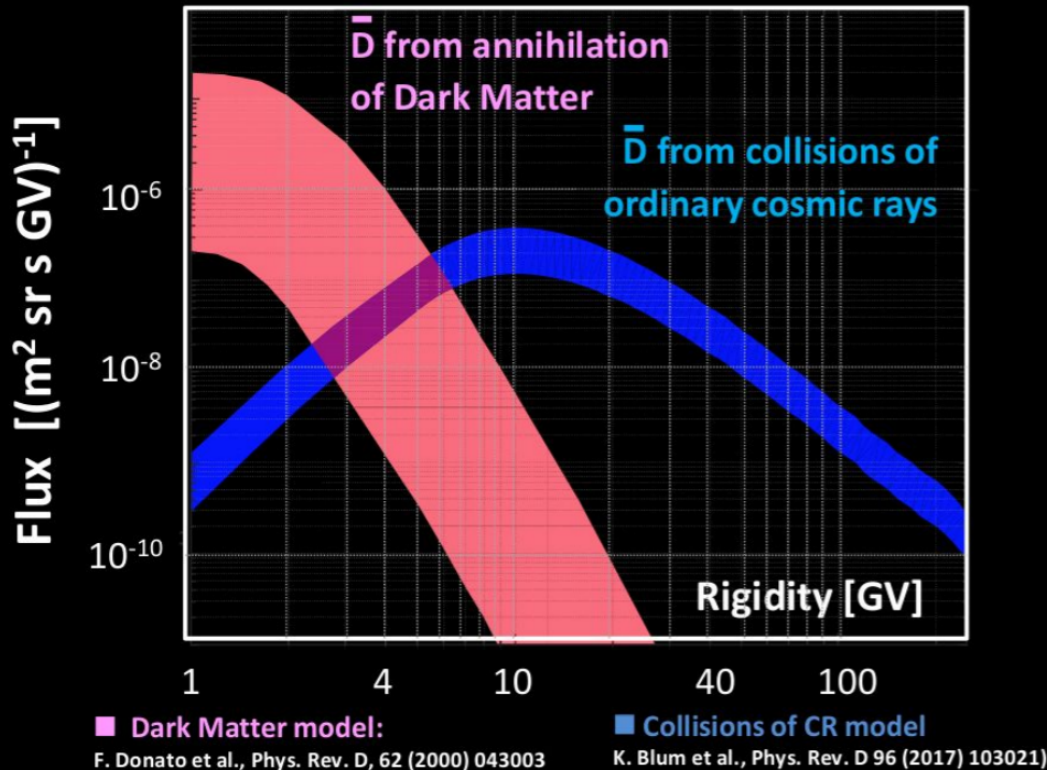
Reference map under the hypothesis that positrons are isotropic



- No deviations from isotropy have been found
- The measurement of the anisotropy until the end of the ISS would allow to explore anisotropies at the 1% level

Searches of Dark Matter: Antideuteron Flux

The measurement of **antideuterons** may serve as an almost background-free channel
⇒ provides an additional channel in the **searches of dark matter**

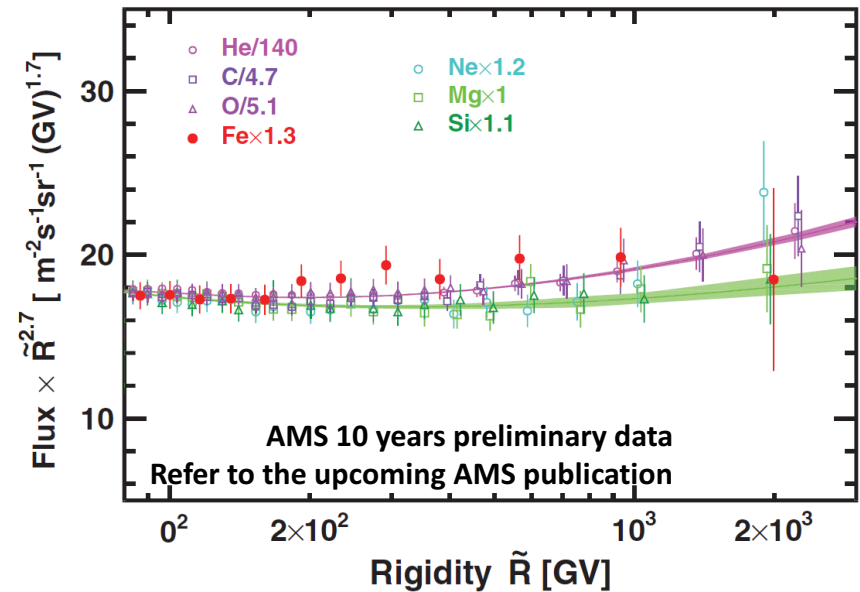
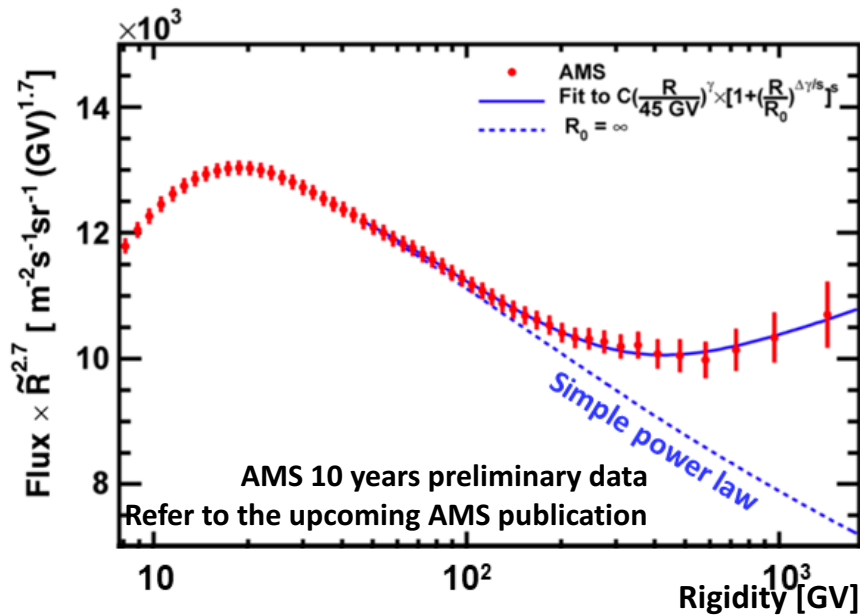


The antideuteron flux is much lower than the antiprotons flux

Primary Cosmic Rays

The fluxes show different features:

- All deviate from a single power law at high rigidities
- Light nuclei (He, C and O) have an identical rigidity dependence
- Heavy nuclei (Ne, Mg and Si) have a different behavior from the light nuclei
- The iron flux has an identical behavior than the light nuclei



Secondary Cosmic Rays

The fluxes show different features:

- All deviate from a single power law at high rigidities
- They have a different behavior than the primary cosmic rays
- Two group of secondaries are observed:
 - Li, Be, B
 - F

