Cosmic-ray Antinuclei: New Inputs on Dark Matter

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A Worldwide Hunt for Dark Matter



The challenge of astrophysical searches...

Common challenge = minimize/constrain astrophysical background, maximize predicted dark matter signal



γ−rays, X−rays...

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{flux:} & \Phi_i \propto \frac{dN_i}{dE} \langle \sigma_{X\bar{X}} v \rangle ~ \frac{1}{m_X} ~ J(\Delta\Omega) \Delta\Omega \\ \mbox{annihilation:} & J(\Delta\Omega) \propto \langle \int_{l.o.s.} dl ~ \rho_X^2 \rangle_\Omega \end{array}$$

Choose high **J-factor** (GC, dwarf galaxies), low or well-constrained *predicted* astrophysical background

Charged (anti)particles

Choose low or well-constrained *predicted* background signature, need precise modelling of cosmic-ray **propagation**.





For p, D, He... additional uncertainties from hadronization, nuclear coalescence.

There have been tantalizing possible detections! But vulnerable to poorly-constrained astrophysical backgrounds

Current status: The "GeV excess"



An excess of gamma-rays at the Galactic Center, with spectrum, morphology, intensity consistent with annihilating dark matter

> e.g. Hooper, Linden (2011), Abazajian, Kaplinghat (2012), Gordon, Macias (2013), Daylan, et al. (2014), Calore, Cholis, Weniger (2014), Murgia, et al. (2015), Ackermann et al. (2017)

 Non-detection limits from dwarf galaxies weakened by Galactic and dwarf halo profiles, astrophysical background models – compatible with dark matter interpretation of Galactic Center excess

e.g. Agrawal+ 1411.2592, Karwin+ 1612.05687, Hayashi+ 1603.08046, Klop+ 1609.03509, Abazajian+ 1510.06424, Benito+ 1612.02010



Current status: The "GeV excess"



- Spectrum also consistent with millisecond pulsars
- Evidence for sub-threshold point-source contribution
- Could indicates a population of MSPs with a luminosity function and low-mass X-ray binary progenitor population quite different from those in the Milky Way disk or globular clusters



Interpretation depends on poorly-understood Galactic source (MSP) population

Current status: The "positron excess"



- Rising positron fraction observed since PAMELA 2008, confirmed to higher energies by AMS-02
 - Implies heavy TeV-scale dark matter. Need enhanced annihilation cross section and leptophilic annihilation (to avoid antiproton bounds).
- Or local pulsars...

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- Implies heavy TeV-scale dark matter. Need enhanced annihilation cross section and leptophilic annihilation (to avoid antiproton bounds).
- Or local pulsars... \downarrow
- ↓ HAWC if Galactic diffusion similar to diffusion in regions of nearby pulsars, excess cannot be due to Geminga and PSR B0656+14



← Likely implies that diffusion not uniform throughout local interstellar medium

See also: Hooper+Linden 1711.07482 (2017)

Abeysekara+ 1711.06223 Science (2017)



Interpretation depends on poorly-understood Galactic propagation (diffusion)

Current status: an antiproton excess?



Current status: an antiproton excess?



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Current status: indirect searches for dark matter





- 1. Cosmic rays are full of surprises!
- 2. Surprises are difficult to interpret due to uncertain astrophysical backgrounds
- 3. Need cross-correlation with different signatures

If interpreted conservatively, much parameter space remains for standard thermal WIMP dark matter

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See parallel talk, R. Leane
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A generic *new physics* signature with *essentially zero* conventional astrophysical background



- Probes a variety of dark matter models that evade or complement collider, direct, or other cosmic-ray searches
- GAPS first experiment optimized specifically for low-energy antinuclei signatures
- First GAPS Antarctic flight: late 2020

Review of experiment and theory: Phys. Rept. 618 (2016) 1-37

Complementary sensitivity to viable DM signatures



See also: Korsmeier, Donato, Fornengo 1711.08465 (2018), Aramaki+ 1505.07785 (2016)

• Sensitive to ~10s of GeV mass DM models, *as invoked to explain gamma-ray and antiproton observations*



• Sensitive to heavy DM models, *as invoked to explain positron observations*

The Experiments: AMS and GAPS



Rare event search and first-time measurement! Need multiple experiments with complementary systematics



- AMS has been in operation on the ISS since May 2011
- Uses magnetic spectrometry for antip, anti-D, anti-He detection
- GAPS scheduled for initial Antarctic balloon flight late 2020
- Uses exotic atom capture and decay to identify antinuclei

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The GAPS Team





















Aramaki et al., http://arxiv.org/abs/1303.3871

Aramaki et al., Astropart. Phys. 74, 6 (2016)









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- GAPS will measure >1000 antiprotons per flight, in *unprecedented low energy range*
- Reduces systematic and theoretical uncertainties for antideuteron search







GAPS also sensitive to anti-He, in complementary energy range to where AMS has reported candidate events. Ongoing work to estimate and optimize sensitivity.

> See also: Googan+Profumo 1705.09664, Blum+ 1704.05431

• GAPS will measure >1000 antiprotons per flight, in *unprecedented low energy range*

• Reduces systematic and theoretical uncertainties for antideuteron search



GAPS Detector Design



Plastic scintillator TOF

- high-speed trigger and veto
- 160-180 cm long, 0.5 cm thick
- read out both ends
- ~500 ps timing resolution







Si(Li) targets/detectors

- X-ray identification, dE/dx, stopping depth, and shower particle multiplicity
- 2.5 mm thick, 4" diameter
- 4 keV resolution for X-rays

Prototype flight (pGAPS)





100% of flight goals met!

- ✓ verify stable, low-noise Si(Li) operation at ambient flight pressure
- ✓ validate the cooling system and thermal model
- ✓ measure the background levels to validate simulation codes

Mognet et al., Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A735 (2014) 24 von Doetinchem et al., Astropart. Phys. 54 (2014) 93



GAPS will need ~1000 Si(Li) detectors!

- Low-cost fabrication scheme developed in partnership with Shimadzu Corp.
- Demonstrates required ~4 keV energy resolution at relatively high temp of -35 to -45 C
- ✓ Readout via custom ASIC







Perez+ submitted to NIM A (2018), Perez+ Proc. IEEE (2013),





TOF will use 225 scintillation counters, read out on both ends

- evaluating PMT vs SiPM
- custom DRS-4 ASIC @ 2GSps
- optimizing trigger algorithm

Oscillating heat pipe (OHP) validated on pGAPS, developed for GAPS

- small capillary tubes filled with a phase-changing refrigeration liquid
- rapid expansion and contraction of bubbles in liquid create thermo-contraction hydrodynamic waves that transport heat



Okazaki+ Conference, 2014 IEEE, 1–9 (2014). Fuke+ vol. 39 of COSPAR Meeting, 568 (2012) Okazaki+ Journal of Astronomical Instrumentation 3 (2014).

Exciting coming decade of anti-nuclei searches!



- Indirect astrophysical dark matter searches continue to uncover surprises
- The GAPS design, dedicated to anti-nuclei signatures, is timely, following candidate events from AMS-02
- Low-energy antideuterons offer a new window on dark matter parameter space, providing complementary coverage with direct detection, collider, and other indirect searches



- First GAPS flight will *improve current antideuteron limit by ~1.5 orders of magnitude*, deliver *first precision antiproton flux below 0.25 GeV/n*, and provide sensitvity to anti-He with orthogonal detection technique to AMS
- First GAPS flight in late 2020
- Subsequent Antarctic flights planned to optimize sensitivity

Backup

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Focus on novel signatures of astrophysical dark

matter processes...



Antideuteron Signal of Dark Matter





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- ...or could be pulsars:



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δ=0.33 (bas

 $=4 \times 10^3$ vi



 $\uparrow HAWC - if Galactic diffusion similar to diffusion in regions of nearby pulsars, excess cannot be due to pulsars$

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Secondary-to-primary ratio 68% and 95% posterior bands from light element (Be– Si) scan (left) The pbar/p ratio (right) indicates that using the same propagation parameters for hydrogen yields a very bad fit to the data.



Korsmeier, Donato, Fornengo (2018)



FIG. 2. Antideuteron flux for secondaries in the ISM and the potential DM signal, corresponding to generic $b\bar{b}$ annihilation from the excess in CuKrKo. We show the different propagation models MED and MAX, which are constrained to fit B/C data in Ref. [41]. CuKrKo corresponds to the propagation parameters obtained from the best fit of $b\bar{b}$ DM in [14]. All fluxes are derived in the analytic coalescence model with $p_c = 160$ GeV (left panel) and $p_c = 248$ GeV (right panel). Solar modulation is treated in the force-field approximation with a potential of $\phi = 400$ MV. Additionally, the current limit by the BESS experiment (95% CL) [55], the AMS-02 sensitivity of [21], and the expected sensitivity for GAPS (99% CL) [20] are displayed.

pGAPS Detector Results





Si(Li) Detector Performance



2"-diameter, 1 mm thick prototype detectors have been produced with the required performance!

