# The General AntiParticle Spectrometer

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### Antideuterons and dark matter



- antideuterons are the most important unexplored indirect detection technique
- uncertainties:
  - dark matter:
    - concentrated in halo, dominant uncertainty from propagation: factor ~10
    - antideuteron coalescence: factor ~2
    - boost factors
  - background: production in galactic disk dominant uncertainty from production cross-section

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### Sensitivity to dark matter models



- different scenarios give antideuteron fluxes within sensitivity: Supersymmetry, extra dimensions
- GAPS is very effective to search for light WIMPS such as proposed to explain DAMA/LIBRA/CoGENT results



### Primordial black holes and gravitinos



#### • primary black holes:

- very small black holes could have formed in the early universe due to, e.g., initial density inhomogeneities
- might evaporate antideuterons and maybe the only chance to detect primordial black holes
- baryon asymmetry/cosmological gravitino problem:
  - hypothetical mediator of gravity: graviton 
     → superpartner gravitino
  - late decays of unstable gravitinos to standard particles would produce antideuterons

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### **Observational challenges**



antideuteron measurement with balloon and space experiments requires:

- strong background suppression
- long flight time and large acceptance
- geomagnetic location of experiment

### Novel approach for antideuteron identification

- antideuteron slows down and stops in material
- large chance for creation of an excited exotic atom (E<sub>kin</sub>~E<sub>l</sub>)
- deexcitation:
  - fast ionisation of bound electrons (Auger)
    - → complete depletion of bound electrons
  - Hydrogen-like exotic atom (nucleus+antideuteron) deexcites via characteristic X-ray transitions
- nucleus-antideuteron annihilation: pions and protons
- exotic atomic physics understood (tested in KEK 2004/5 testbeam)



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- the General AntiParticle Spectrometer is especially designed for low-energy antideuterons
- identification by stopping them in the tracker and creating an exotic atom
- (ultra) long duration balloon flights from Antarctica starting from 2017 (begin of solar minimum)

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### AMS comparison



- AMS is a multi-purpose particle physics detector using subsequent detectors and a magnetic field
- AMS antideuteron analysis challenges: geomagnetic cut-off, multiple scattering
- if AMS detects d: confirmation is needed if no detection: GAPS goes deeper
- different detection techniques are very important for rare event search
- building GAPS right now is important for timely comparison



### Prototype GAPS



#### Goals:

- demonstrate stable operation of the detector components during flight
- study Si(Li) cooling approach for thermal model
- measure background levels



altitude 32.4km mean TRK T -18.4C

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## **pGAPS** launch





raw Tof trigger rate vs. altitude



### **Detector operation**



#### well defined TOF trigger and tracker runs

- time: 245min
- ~600,000 triggers
- stable response of TOF and Si(Li)
- at float ~5%  $\alpha$  particles
- more flux analysis ongoing
- carry out in-flight calibration of Si(Li) detectors

2.5

charge |Z|

TRK average charge

double Landau fit

Z|=2 contribution

- run X-ray tube
- time: 50min
- trigger on Si(Li) detectors to study incoherent X-ray background
  - time: 29min

2

- Si(Li) shows stable X-ray operation
- NIM instrument paper submitted [arXiv:1303.XXXX] flight paper to be submitted soon

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### Thermal model

bottom TRK: layer 0, stack 0

radiato









- Si(Li) detectors were cooled down to -46°C to ensure operation during flight
- in addition bGAPS flight representative radiator and cooling pipe system tested
- unfortunately: rotator failure 

   detectors warmed up
   (64% still depleted by the end of the flight)
- **BUT** all critical parts were equipped with temperature sensors and thermal model was verified

#### cooling approach would have worked with correct pointing

|--|

### Si(Li) detector production



- GAPS will use 2875 4" Si(Li) detectors
- 2"-diameter detectors being produced at Columbia U. using simple fabrication scheme
- successfully drifted diameters from 1" to 2" with >90% yield, both 1 mm (prototype) and 2.5 mm thick

- leakage current ~1nA at -35 C
- confirmed performance with cosmic rays (MIPs) and Am-241 source (X-rays)
- FWHM at 59.5keV: 5keVeasy to improve with better mounting and preamp board
- 4" detector development underway!



X-rays from Am-241

### **Timeline for GAPS**

- 2000 first idea
- 2004/05 KEK beamtests with antiprotons
- 2006-08 design work
- 2008-12 technical validation
- 2009-12 prototype flight from Japan
- 2013-2017 detailed design and construction
- 2017 first science flight from Antarctica



pGAPS team before launch



Columbia University, UC Berkeley, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, UC Los Angeles, U Hawaii



### Conclusion

- measurement of antideuterons is a promising way for indirect dark matter search
- GAPS is specifically designed for low-energetic antideuterons
- all goals for prototype GAPS were met
- Si(Li) detector production understood
- it is the right time to start building GAPS to compare to AMS and direct searches





### Uncertainties



#### dark matter antideuterons:

- dark matter concentrated in halo
- dominant uncertainty from propagation

#### conventional antideuterons

- production in galactic disk
- dominant uncertainty from production cross-section

#### propagation:

- parameters not completely fixed
- larger diffusion sizes seem to be favored (median or best model) → flux increases
- nuclear:
  - antideuterons can be formed by  $\overline{p} \overline{n}$  pair if coalescence momentum  $p_0$  is small

$$\gamma \frac{\mathrm{d}^{3} N_{\bar{d}}}{\mathrm{d} \bar{p}_{\bar{d}}^{3}} = \frac{4\pi}{3} p_{0}^{3} \left( \gamma \frac{\mathrm{d}^{3} N_{p}}{\mathrm{d} \bar{p}_{p}^{3}} \right)^{2}; \qquad \frac{\mathrm{d}^{3} N_{i}}{\mathrm{d} \bar{p}_{i}^{3}} = \frac{1}{\sigma_{R}} \frac{\mathrm{d}^{3} \sigma_{i}}{\mathrm{d} \bar{p}_{i}^{3}}.$$

- literature discusses values from 80-240MeV (better models, collider input needed)
- dominant production at low energies:  $p+p \rightarrow \overline{d}+X$  (>17GeV) and  $\overline{p}+p \rightarrow \overline{d}+X$  (>7GeV)

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### Si(Li) detector production



GAPS needs ~3000 individual Si(Li) detector modules (4" diameter, 2mm thick)

- production technique well understood:
  - 2" diameter detector delivers good muon and X-ray resolution (close to the desired 3keV FWHM at 59.5keV)
  - low leakage currents
- ready to start building 4" detectors

