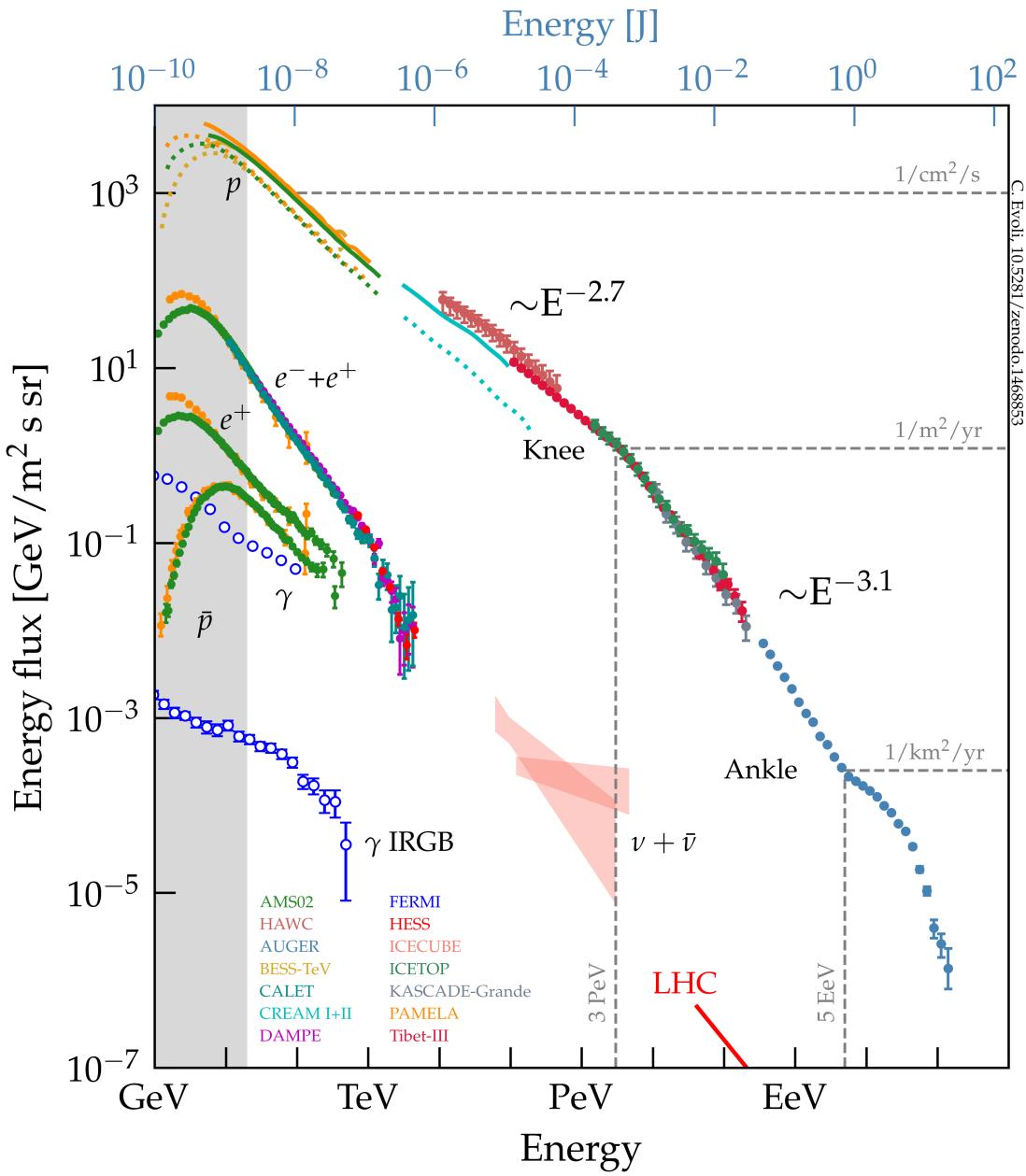


2.4 Cosmic ray Positrons

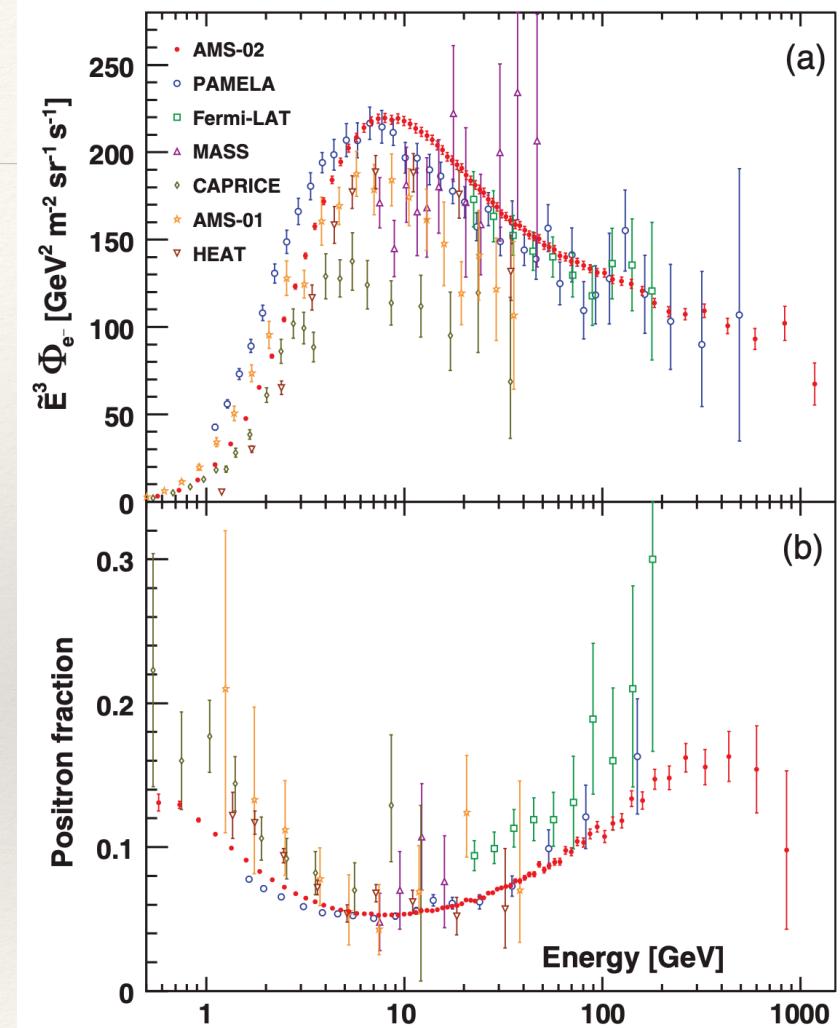
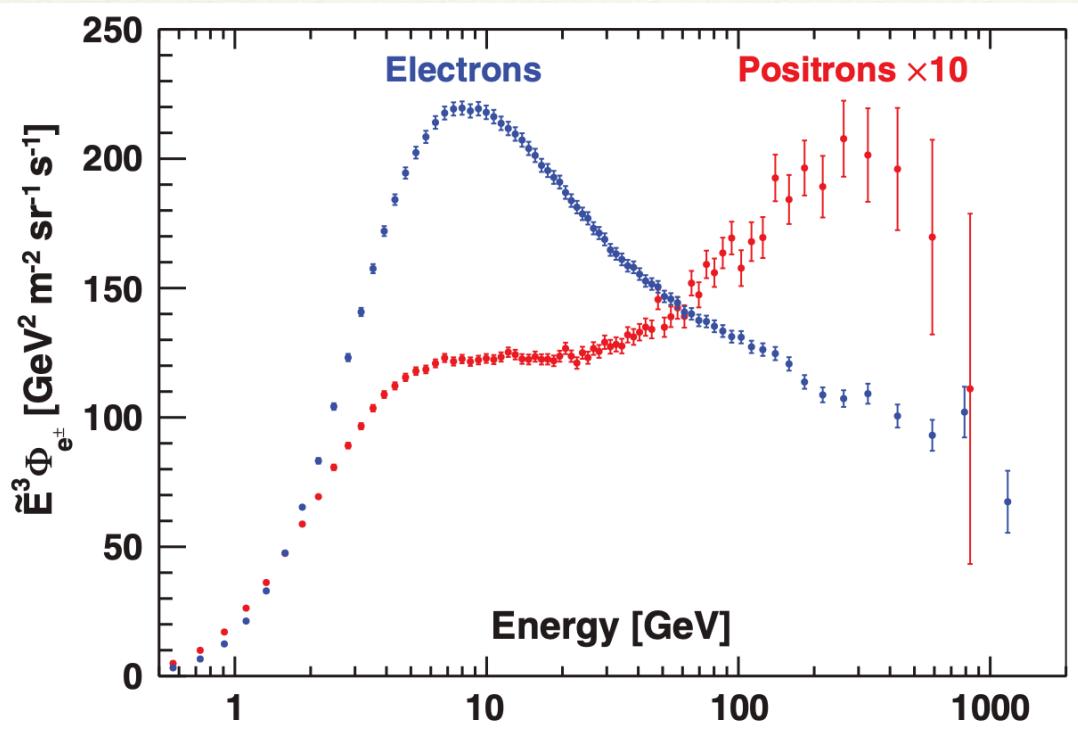
- ❖ Kenny CY Ng
- ❖ kcyng@cuhk.edu.hk
- ❖ Sci Cen North Black 345
- ❖ CUHK
- ❖ Course webpage: <https://blackboard.cuhk.edu.hk>



Positrons



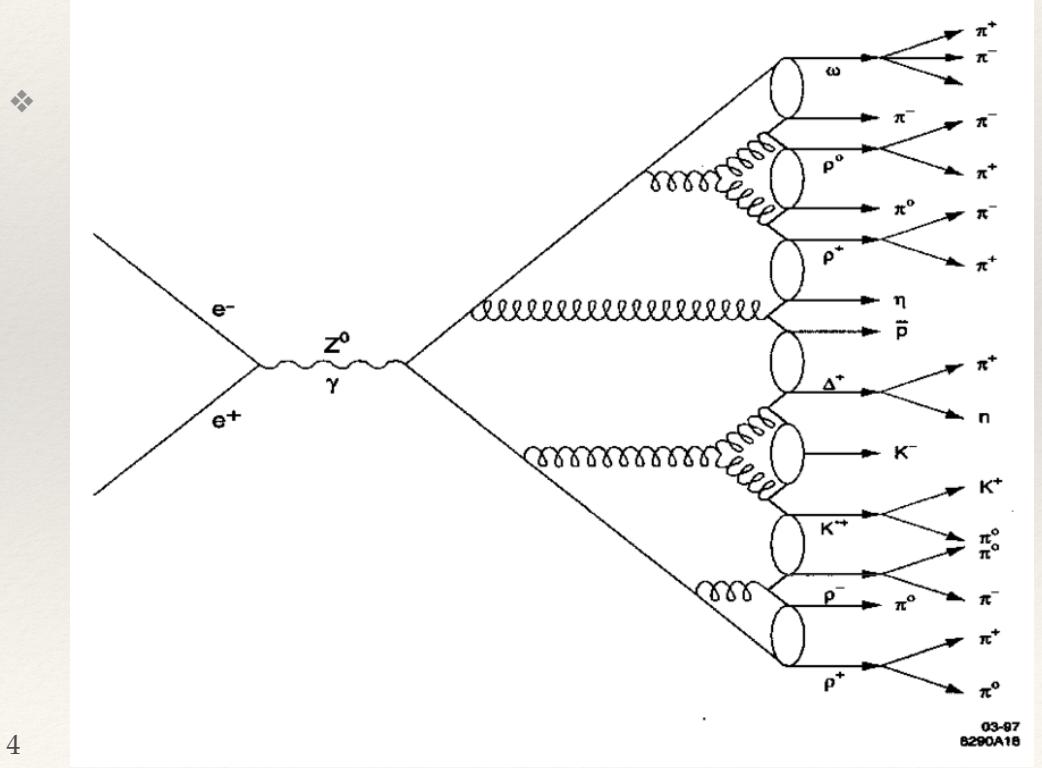
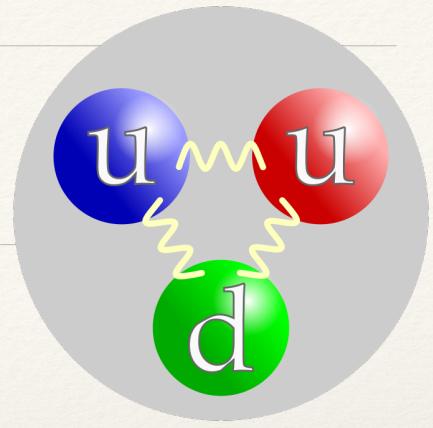
Positrons



Cosmic-ray Positrons

- ❖ Similar to anti-proton story
- ❖ There must be secondary production of positrons
- ❖ The proton-proton interactions chain
- ❖ $p + p \rightarrow (\pi^{0,\pm}) + X$
- ❖

- ❖ Some intuitions of hadronic physics
- ❖ It is extremely complicated



Cosmic-ray Positrons

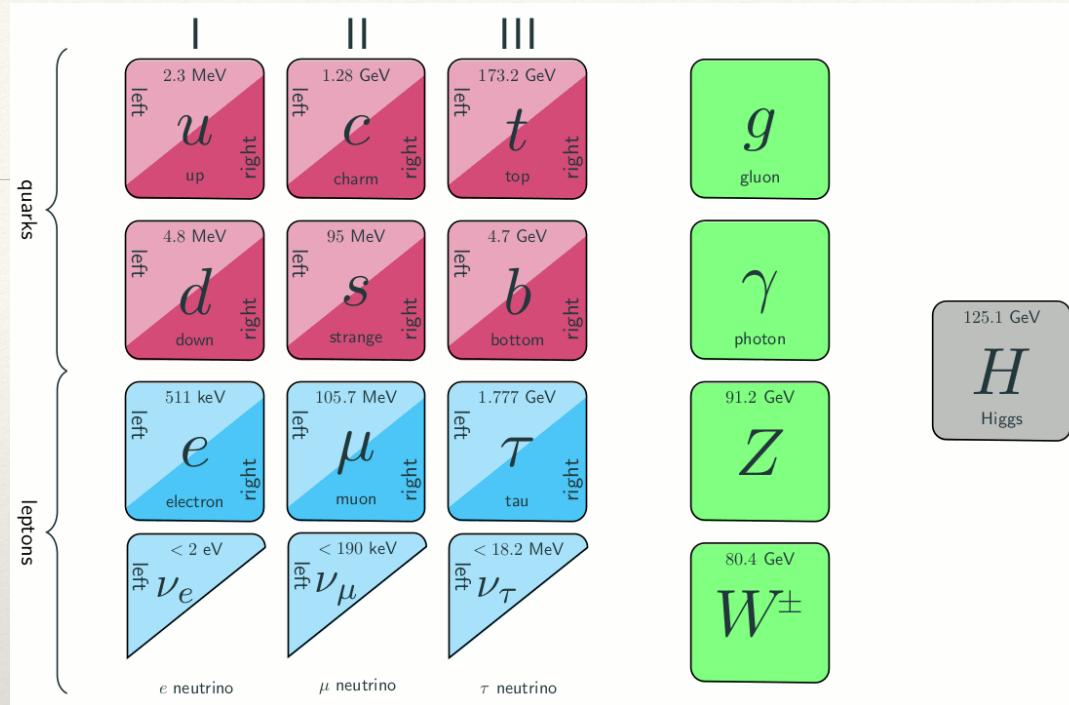
- ❖ Similar to anti-proton story
- ❖ There must be secondary production of positrons
- ❖ The proton-proton interactions chain
- ❖ $p + p \rightarrow (\pi^{0,\pm}) + X$
- ❖ Pions are the lightest hadronic states
 - ❖ Charged pions decay into muons
 - ❖ Neutron pion decay into photons

- ❖ Rule of thumbs for particle interactions
- ❖ Quantum number conservation
 - ❖ Baryon number
 - ❖ Lepton number
 - ❖ Charge

P _{II}						
Particle name	Particle symbol	Antiparticle symbol	Quark content ^[14]	Rest mass (MeV/c ²)	Mean lifetime (s)	Commonly decays to (>5% of decays)
Pion ^[1]	π^+	π^-	$u\bar{d}$	$139.570\ 39 \pm 0.000\ 18$	$2.6033 \pm 0.0005 \times 10^{-8}$	$\mu^+ + \nu_\mu$
Pion ^[1]	π^0	Self	$\frac{u\bar{u} - d\bar{d}}{\sqrt{2}}$ ^[a]	$134.976\ 8 \pm 0.000\ 5$	$8.5 \pm 0.2 \times 10^{-17}$	$\gamma + \gamma$

Cosmic-ray Positrons

- ❖ $\pi^+ \rightarrow$
- ❖ $\mu^+ \rightarrow$



Rule of thumbs for particle interactions
 Quantum number conservation

- Baryon number
- Lepton number
- Charge

CR Secondary positron prediction

- ❖
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} n_i = D \nabla^2 n_i - \frac{\partial}{\partial E} (n_i \dot{E}) + Q_i^{pri} - n_i n_{ism} \sigma_{i \rightarrow \neq i} v - n_i \frac{1}{\tau_i} + \sum_j \left(n_j n_{ism} \sigma_{j \rightarrow i} v + n_j \frac{1}{\tau_j} Br_{j \rightarrow i} \right)$$
- ❖ The production term: (similar to antiprotons)
 - ❖ $n_{\bar{p}}(T_{\bar{p}}) = \left(\int_{E_{th}} n_p(E_p) \frac{d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow \bar{p}X}}{dT_{\bar{p}}} (E_p, T_{\bar{p}}) dE_p - n_{\bar{p}} \sigma_{\bar{p} \rightarrow X} \right) \frac{X}{m}$ —— Leaky box solution
 - ❖ In the diffusion equation
 - ❖ $c n_{ism} \int_{E_{th}} n_p(E_p) \frac{d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow \bar{p}X}}{dT_{\bar{p}}} (E_p, T_{\bar{p}}) dE_p$: No. of antiprotons produced per volume per time, per energy

CR Secondary positron prediction

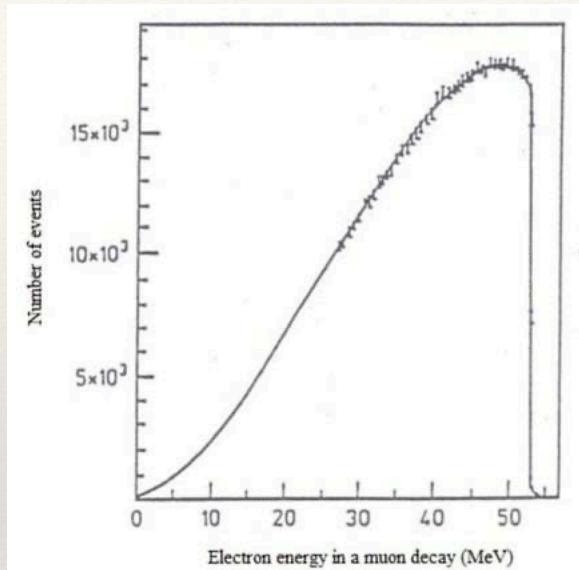
- ❖ Steps for secondary positron production
- ❖ Proton-proton interaction -> pions
- ❖ Pion decay -> muons
- ❖ Muon decay -> electron positrons

Cosmic-ray Positrons

- ❖ $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$
- ❖ $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e$
- ❖ Plus the anti-version

- ❖ Charged pion mass: 140 MeV
 - ❖ $\Gamma \sim 2.6 \times 10^{-8} \text{ s}$
- ❖ Muon mass: 106 MeV
 - ❖ $\Gamma \sim 2.2 \times 10^{-6} \text{ s}$

Electron spectrum from muon decay at rest



It is continuous => not two body decays

CR Secondary positron prediction

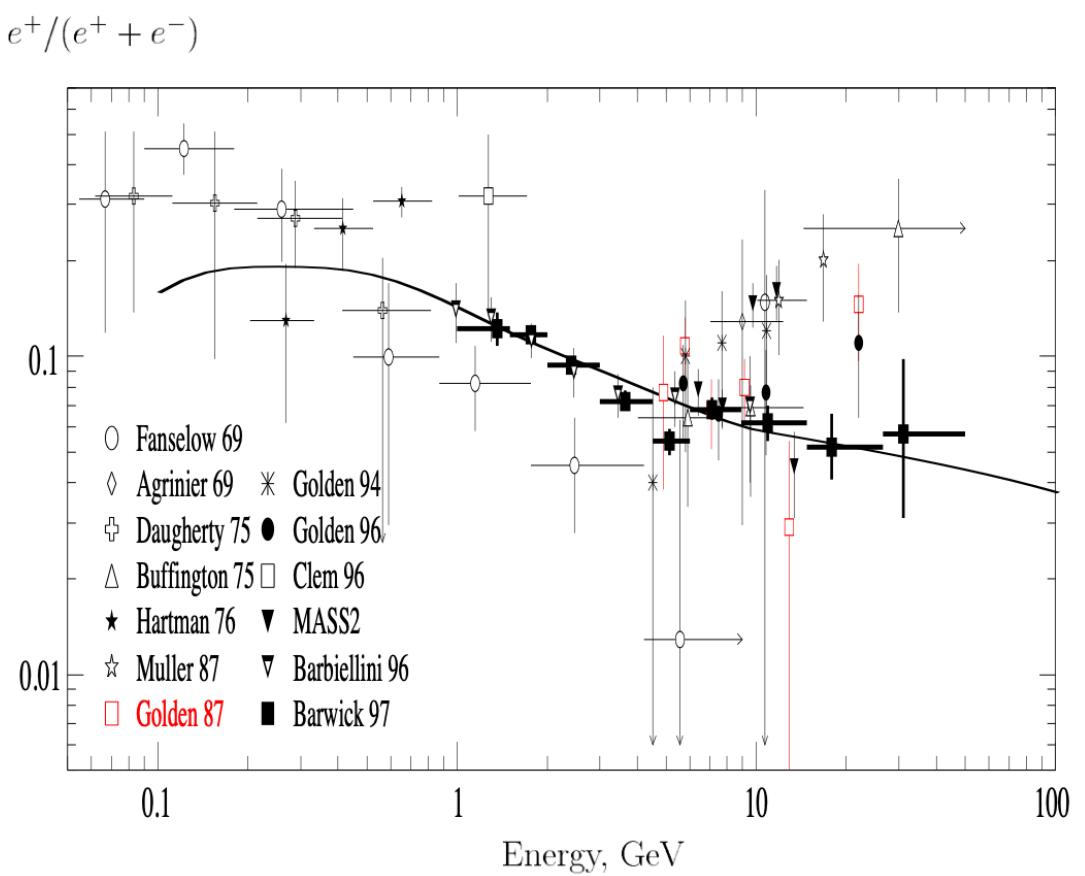
- ❖ $pp \rightarrow \pi/K \rightarrow \mu \rightarrow e^\pm$, how to model this ??
- ❖ Pion energy density distribution obtained from proton-proton interaction
$$\frac{dn_\pi}{dE_\pi} = \int_{E_{p,min}} \frac{dn_p}{dE_p} \frac{d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow \pi}}{dE_\pi} n_{ISM} c dE_p$$
- ❖ Muon energy density from the pion spectrum,
$$\frac{dn_\mu}{dE_\mu} = \int_{E_{min}} \frac{dn_\pi}{dE_\pi} \frac{dN_{\pi \rightarrow \mu}}{dE_\mu} dE_\pi$$
- ❖ Electron energy density from the muon spectrum,
$$\frac{dn_e}{dE_e} = \int_{E_{min}} \frac{dn_\mu}{dE_\mu} \frac{dN_{\mu \rightarrow e}}{dE_e} dE_\mu$$



$$\frac{dn_e}{dE_e} = n_{ISM} c \iiint \frac{dn_p}{dE_p} \frac{d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow \pi}}{dE_\pi} \frac{dN_{\pi \rightarrow \mu}}{dE_\mu} \frac{dN_{\mu \rightarrow e}}{dE_e} dE_\mu dE_\pi dE_p$$

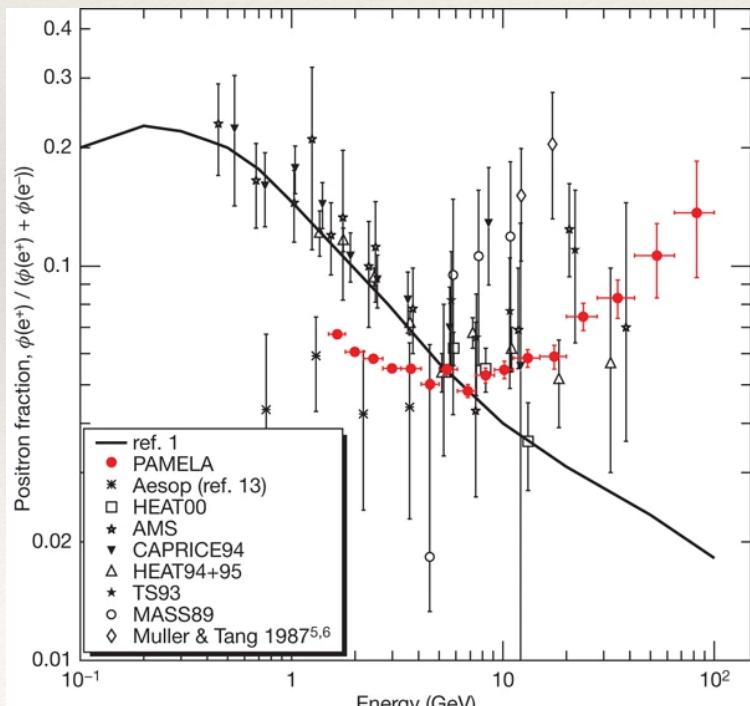
CR Secondary positron prediction

- ❖ In principle, you know how to do
 - ❖ Positron fraction (1997):



The positron anomaly

- ❖ The positron fraction is rising
- ❖ It was predicted to be falling from CR secondary production



Published: 02 April 2009

An anomalous positron abundance in cosmic rays with energies 1.5–100 GeV

O. Adriani, G. C. Barbarino, G. A. Bazilevskaya, R. Bellotti, M. Boezio, E. A. Bogomolov, L. Bonechi, M. Bonci, V. Bonvicini, S. Bottai, A. Bruno, F. Cafagna, D. Campana, P. Carlson, M. Casolino, G. Castellini, M. P. De Pascale, G. De Rosa, N. De Simone, V. Di Felice, A. M. Galper, L. Grishantseva, P. Hofverberg, S. V. Koldashov, ... V. G. Zverev + Show authors

Nature 458, 607–609 (2009) | [Cite this article](#)

4461 Accesses | 1687 Citations | 149 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

An anomalous positron abundance in cosmic rays with energies 1.5–100 GeV

PAMELA Collaboration • Oscar Adriani (Florence U. and INFN, Florence) Show All(51)
Oct, 2008

20 pages

Published in: Nature 458 (2009) 607–609

e-Print: [0810.4995](#) [astro-ph]

DOI: [10.1038/nature07942](#)

Experiments: PAMELA

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2,523 citations

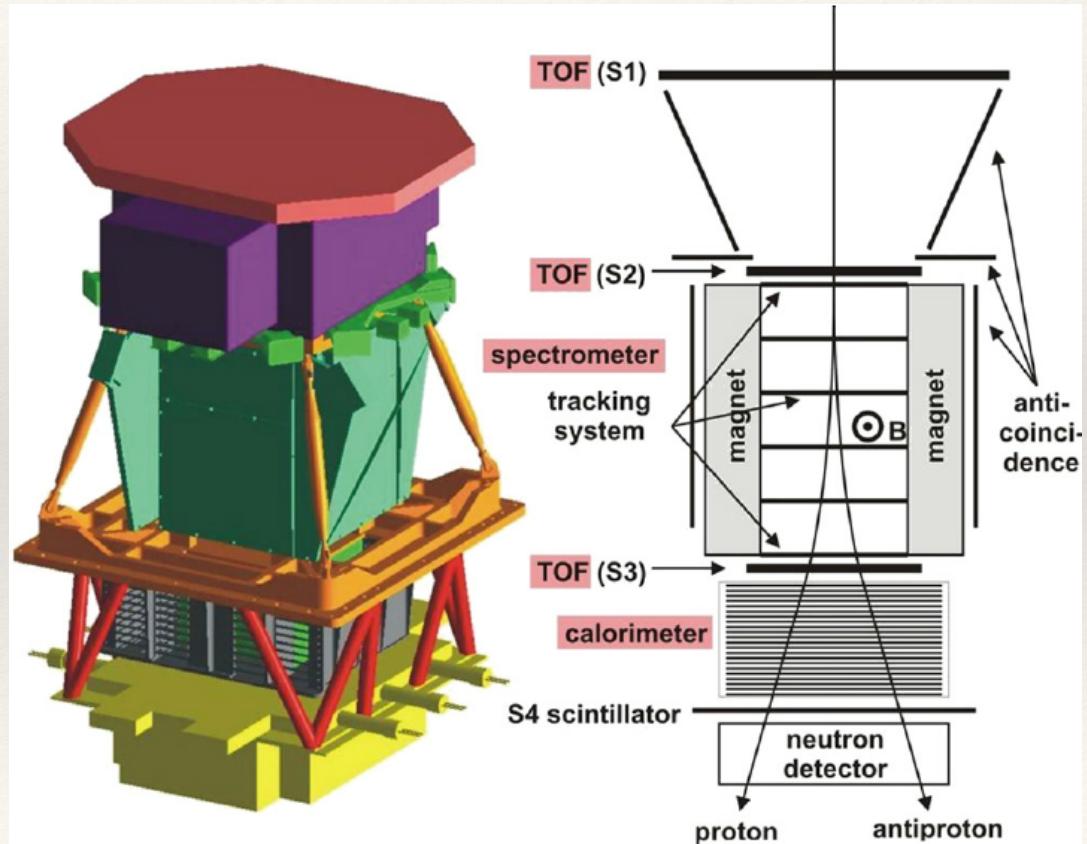
PAMELA

- ❖ PAMELA (Payload for Antimatter Matter Exploration and Light-nuclei Astrophysics)

Organization	PAMELA group
Mission Type	Cosmic Ray
Host Satellite	Resurs DK1
Launch	15 June 2006
Launch vehicle	Soyuz-FG
Launch site	Baikonur Cosmodrome
Mission duration	3 years (planned), 9 years, 7 months and 23 days (achieved)
Mission end	7 February 2016
Mass	470 kg

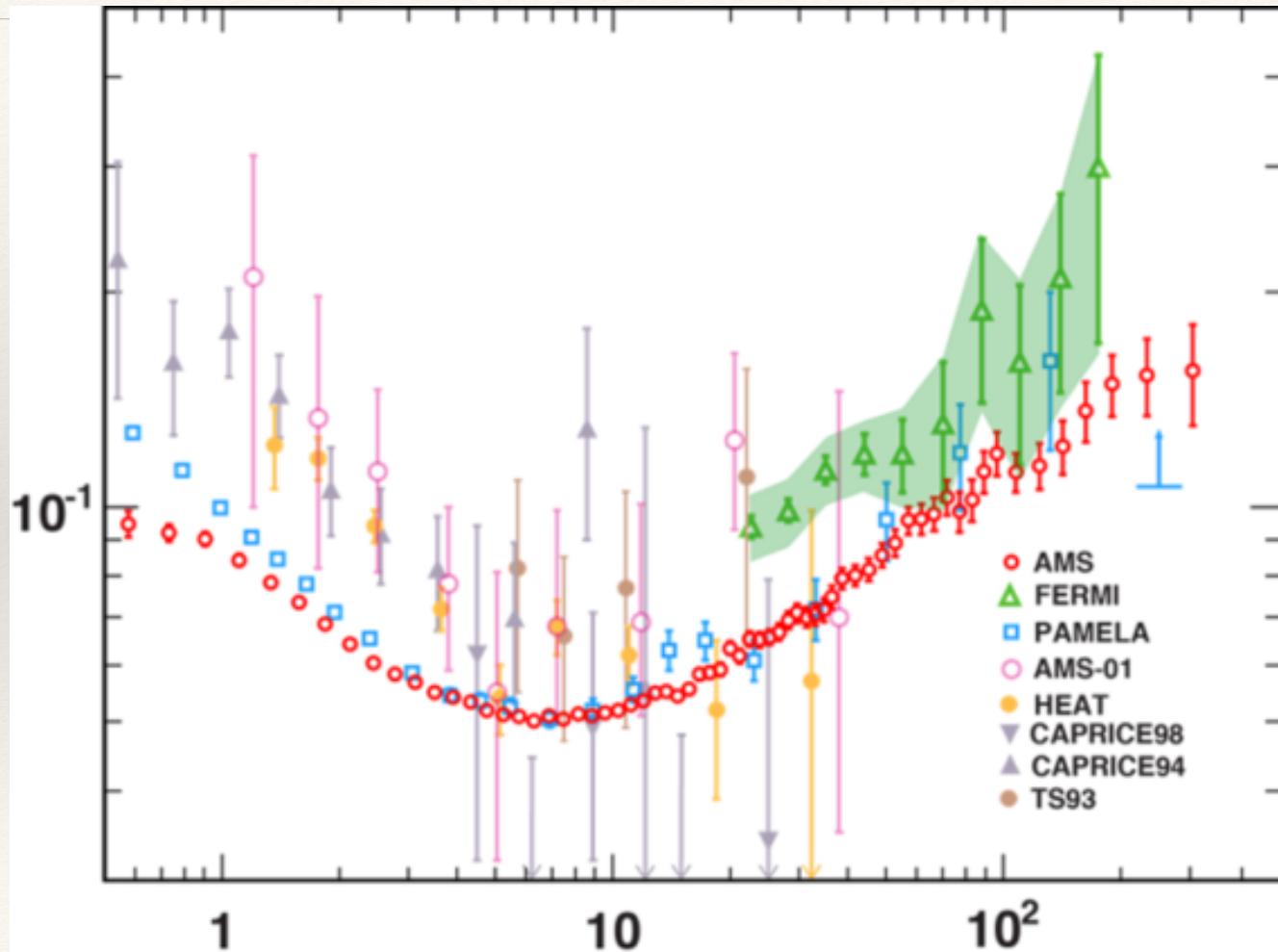


13



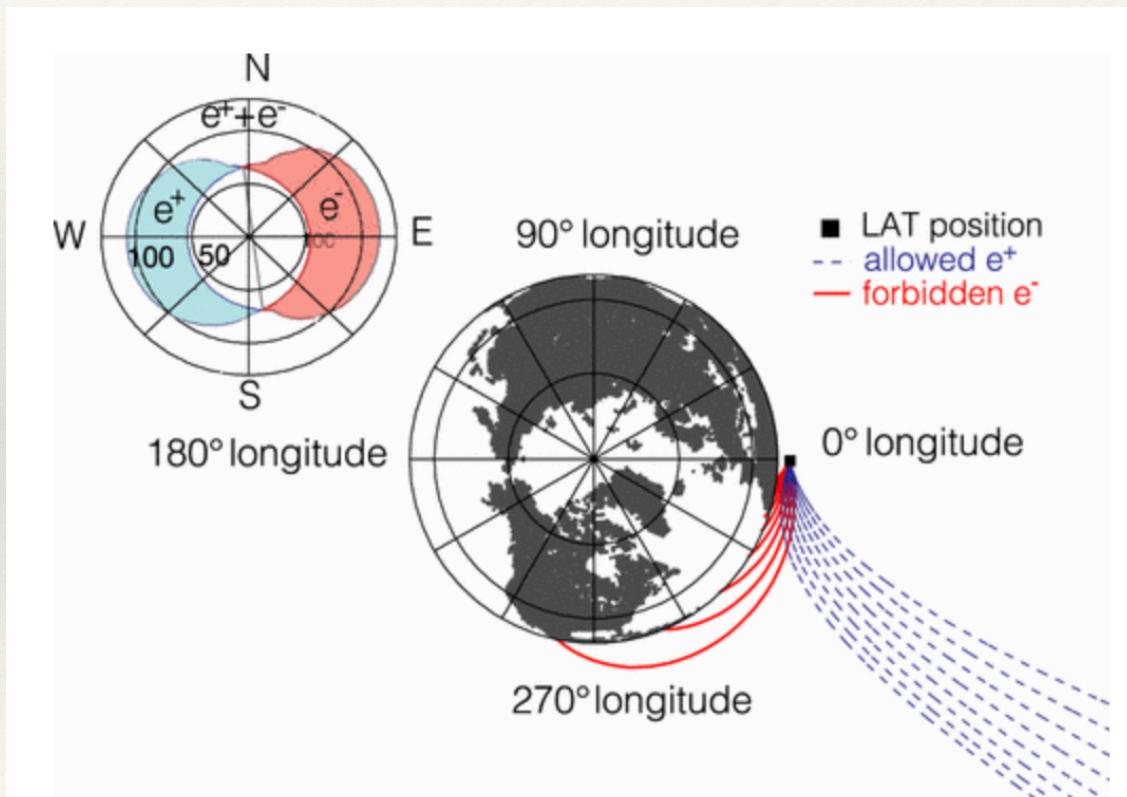
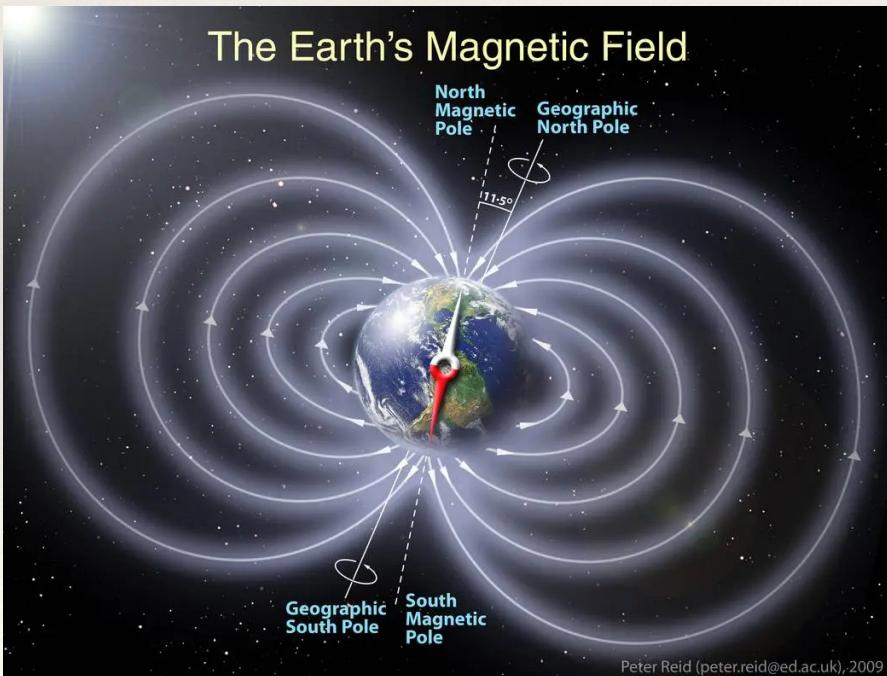
AMS and Fermi results confirms this

❖ New source?



Fermi positron detection

- ❖ Fermi doesn't have a magnetic
- ❖ How to detect positrons?



Multi-messenger Observations of a Binary Neutron Star Merger

LIGO Scientific and Virgo and Fermi GBM and INTEGRAL and IceCube and IPN and Insight-Hxmt and ANTARES and Swift and Dark Energy Camera GW-EM and DES and DLT40 and GRAWITA and Fermi-LAT and ATCA and ASKAP and OzGrav and DWF (Deeper Wider Faster Program) and AST3 and CAASTRO and VINROUGE and MASTER and J-GEM and GROWTH and JAGWAR and CaltechNRAO and TTU-NRAO and NuSTAR and Pan-STARRS and KU and Nordic Optical Telescope and ePESSTO and GROND and Texas Tech University and TOROS and BOOTES and MWA and CALET and IKI-GW Follow-up and H.E.S.S. and LOFAR and LWA and HAWC and Pierre Auger and ALMA and Pi of Sky and Chandra Team at McGill University and DFN and ATLAS Telescopes and High Time Resolution Universe Survey and RIMAS and RATIR and SKA South Africa/MeerKAT Collaborations and AstroSat Cadmium Zinc Telluride Imager Team and AGILE Team and 1M2H Team and Las Cumbres Observatory Group and MAXI Team and TZAC Consortium and SALT Group and Euro VLBI Team • B.P. Abbott (LIGO Lab., Caltech) et al. (Oct 16, 2017)

Published in: *Astrophys.J.Lett.* 848 (2017) 2, L12 • e-Print: [1710.05833](#) [astro-ph.HE]

[pdf](#) [links](#) [DOI](#) [cite](#) [claim](#)

[reference search](#) [4,125 citations](#)

#1

The Large Area Telescope on the Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope Mission

Fermi-LAT Collaboration • W.B. Atwood (UC, Santa Cruz) et al. (Feb, 2009)

Published in: *Astrophys.J.* 697 (2009) 1071-1102 • e-Print: [0902.1089](#) [astro-ph.IM]

[pdf](#) [links](#) [DOI](#) [cite](#) [claim](#)

[reference search](#) [4,115 citations](#)

#2

Fermi Large Area Telescope Third Source Catalog

Fermi-LAT Collaboration • F. Acero (AIM, Saclay) et al. (Jan 8, 2015)

Published in: *Astrophys.J.Suppl.* 218 (2015) 2, 23 • e-Print: [1501.02003](#) [astro-ph.HE]

[pdf](#) [DOI](#) [cite](#) [claim](#)

[reference search](#) [1,539 citations](#)

#3

Searching for Dark Matter Annihilation from Milky Way Dwarf Spheroidal Galaxies with Six Years of Fermi Large Area Telescope Data

Fermi-LAT Collaboration • M. Ackermann (DESY) et al. (Mar 9, 2015)

Published in: *Phys.Rev.Lett.* 115 (2015) 23, 231301 • e-Print: [1503.02641](#) [astro-ph.HE]

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[reference search](#) [1,517 citations](#)

#4

Fermi Large Area Telescope Fourth Source Catalog

Fermi-LAT Collaboration • S. Abdollahi (Hiroshima U.) et al. (Feb 26, 2019)

Published in: *Astrophys.J.Suppl.* 247 (2020) 1, 33 • e-Print: [1902.10045](#) [astro-ph.HE]

[pdf](#) [DOI](#) [cite](#) [claim](#)

[reference search](#) [1,423 citations](#)

#5

Fermi Large Area Telescope Second Source Catalog

Fermi-LAT Collaboration (Aug, 2011)

Published in: *Astrophys.J.Suppl.* 199 (2012) 31 • e-Print: [1108.1435](#) [astro-ph.HE]

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[reference search](#) [1,356 citations](#)

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Measurement of the Cosmic Ray e+ plus e- spectrum from 20 GeV to 1 TeV with the Fermi Large Area Telescope

Fermi-LAT Collaboration • Aous A. Abdo (Naval Research Lab, Wash., D.C.) et al. (May, 2009)

Published in: *Phys.Rev.Lett.* 102 (2009) 181101 • e-Print: [0905.0025](#) [astro-ph.HE]

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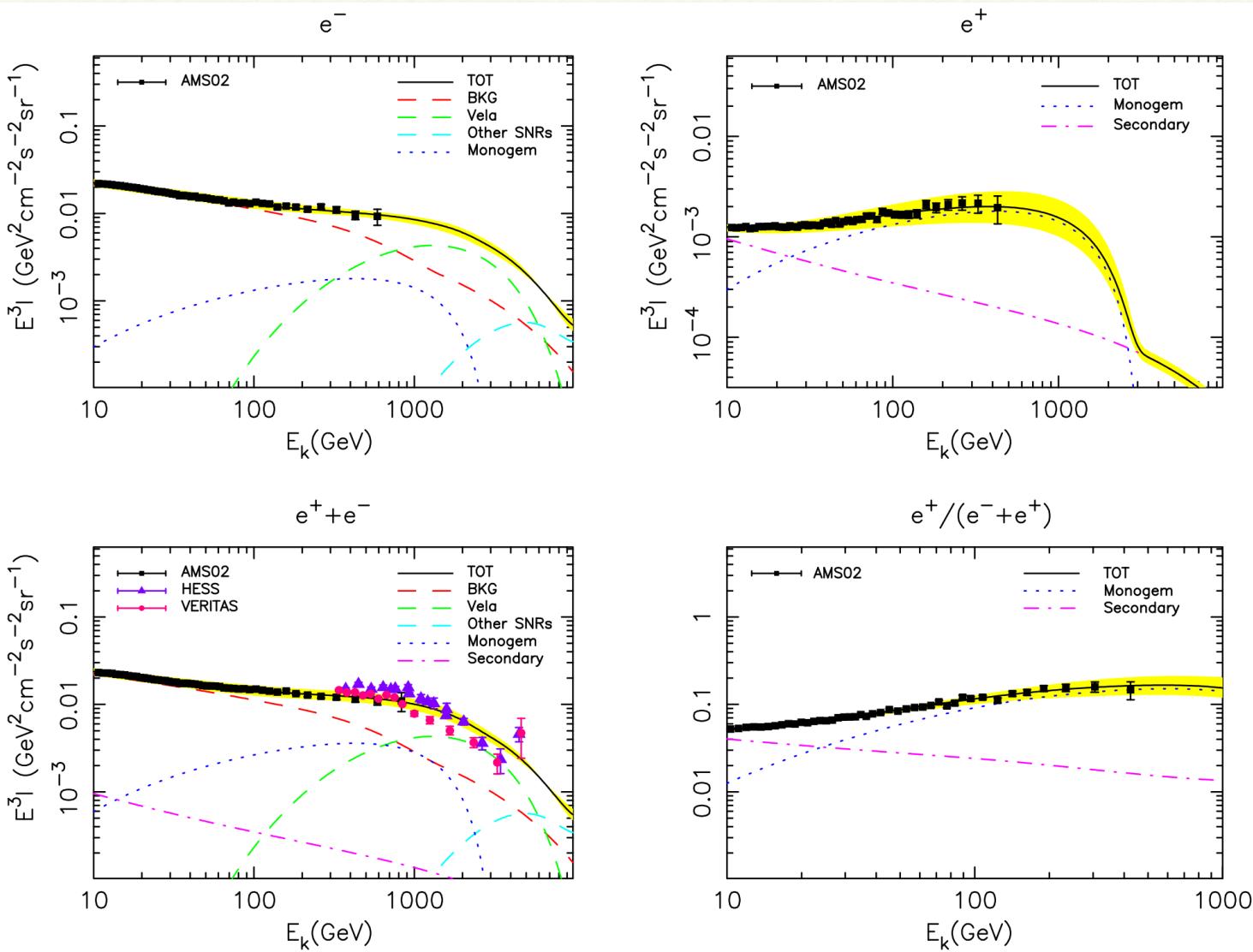
[reference search](#) [1,141 citations](#)

#7



Possible interpretation

- ❖ Supernova remnants as electron source
- ❖ Pulsar Wind Nebula as electron and positron source
- ❖ Other primaries?



Perspective on the Cosmic-ray Electron Spectrum above TeV

Kun Fang, Bing-Bing Wang, Xiao-Jun Bi, Su-Jie Lin, and Peng-Fei Yin

Key Laboratory of Particle Astrophysics, Institute of High Energy Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, China
Received 2016 December 25; revised 2017 January 19; accepted 2017 January 19; published 2017 February 17

An anomalous positron abundance in cosmic rays with energies 1.5-100 GeV

PAMELA Collaboration • Oscar Adriani (Florence U. and INFN, Florence) et al. (Oct, 2008)

Published in: *Nature* 458 (2009) 607-609 • e-Print: 0810.4995 [astro-ph]

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2,629 citation

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Published in: *Astron.Astrophys.* 594 (2016) A13 • e-Print: 1502.01589 [astro-ph.CO]

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Particle Data Group • K.A. Olive (Minnesota U.) et al. (2014)

Published in: *Chin.Phys.C* 38 (2014) 090001

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Particle Data Group • M. Tanabashi (Nagoya U. and KMI, Nagoya) et al. (Aug 17, 2018)

Published in: *Phys.Rev.D* 98 (2018) 3, 030001

links DOI cite claim

reference search 9,352 citations

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Particle Data Group • C. Patrignani (Bologna U. and INFN, Bologna) et al. (Oct 3, 2016)

Published in: *Chin.Phys.C* 40 (2016) 10, 100001

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Particle Data Group • K. Nakamura (Tokyo U., IPMU and KEK, Tsukuba) et al. (2010)

Published in: *J.Phys.G* 37 (2010) 075021

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Review of Particle Physics

Particle Data Group • R.L. Workman (George Washington U.) et al. (Aug 8, 2022)

Published in: *PTEP* 2022 (2022) 083C01

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Review of particle physics

Particle Data Group • S. Navas (Granada U., Theor. Phys. Astrophys. and CAFPE, Granada) et al. (Aug 1, 2024)

Published in: *Phys.Rev.D* 110 (2024) 3, 030001

DOI cite claim

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A Theory of Dark Matter

Nima Arkani-Hamed (Princeton, Inst. Advanced Study), Douglas P. Finkbeiner (Harvard-Smithsonian Ctr. Astrophys.), Tracy R. Slatyer (Harvard U., Phys. Dept.), Neal Weiner (New York U., CCPP) (Oct, 2008)

Published in: *Phys.Rev.D* 79 (2009) 015014 • e-Print: 0810.0713 [hep-ph]

pdf DOI cite claim

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A Model of Leptons

Steven Weinberg (MIT, LNS)

Nov, 1967

3 pages

Published in: *Phys.Rev.Lett.* 19 (1967) 1264-1266

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.19.1264

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