

Exercise 2

- a) The energy of the muon in the rest frame of the charged pion is given by

$$E_\mu = E_\pi - E_\nu = m_\pi - p_\nu$$

Since the energy is split between the two daughter particles. The last part occurs, since the pion is at rest (only mass left) and the neutrino is supposed to be massless (only momentum left).

Momentum conservation requires then $\vec{p}_\mu = -\vec{p}_\nu$. Setting $p^2 = p_\mu^2 = p_\nu^2$ one gets $\sqrt{m_\mu^2 + p^2} = m_\pi - p$. Solving for p :

$$\begin{aligned} m_\mu^2 + p^2 &= m_\pi^2 + p^2 - 2m_\pi p \\ p &= \frac{m_\pi^2 - m_\mu^2}{2m_\pi} \end{aligned}$$

- b) Lorentz-boost with velocity β of a 4-vector is given as:

$$\begin{pmatrix} E \\ p_x \\ p_y \\ p_z \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \gamma(E - \beta p_x) \\ \gamma(p_x - \beta E) \\ p_y \\ p_z \end{pmatrix}$$

for a boost in x-direction (which is arbitrary in this case). If p_x of the muon is in the same direction as the boost ($p_x > 0$) one keeps the minus sign and thus the energy becomes minimal. However, if the momentum of the muon is into the other direction ($p_x < 0$), the energy will become maximal.

- c) The muon rest frame energy is given by its mass m_μ . The boost into the lab frame then gives an energy of $E'_\mu = \gamma m_\mu$, since p_x in the above equation is zero. From this point it is impossible to get a minimum or maximum energy. If one boosts from the rest frame of the pion to the lab frame one gets

$$\begin{aligned} E_\mu &= \gamma((m_\pi - |p|) - \beta p) \\ E_\mu^{max} &= \gamma((m_\pi - p) + \beta p) = \gamma(m_\pi + p(\beta - 1)) \\ E_\mu^{min} &= \gamma((m_\pi - p) - \beta p) = \gamma(m_\pi - p(\beta + 1)) \end{aligned}$$

Here p denotes the momentum of the muon in the rest frame of the decaying pion. In the maximum case it is negative (opposite direction with respect to the boost direction). In the minimum case it is positive (same direction with respect to the boost direction)

Exercise 4

- a) "The isotope ^{10}Be predominately measures the confinement time for C, N and O." ¹

- b) Alternatives for ^{10}Be are ^{26}Al , ^{36}Cl , ^{14}C and ^{54}Mn .

¹http://www.srl.caltech.edu/ACE/CRIS_SIS/cris-ssr-paper.pdf

c) The lifetime of ^{14}C is short, compared to the others. It is approximately 5730 years. That is why it can only be observed, if it is produced by fragmentation of heavier nuclei in the neighbourhood of the solar system.
For ^{54}Mn the constraint is that the decay time has not been measured directly.

d)

$$\begin{aligned} {}^{10}\text{Be}/{}^9\text{Be} &= 0.12 \text{ now} \\ {}^{10}\text{Be}/{}^9\text{Be} &= 0.48 \text{ beginning} \\ \lambda_{esc} &= \frac{26.7 \cdot \beta \text{ g cm}^{-2}}{(\beta R/1\text{GV})^{0.58} + (\beta R/1.4\text{GV})^{-1.4}} \\ \tau_{esc} &= \lambda_{esc}/\rho_{ISM}\beta c \\ \tau_{10\text{Be}} &= 2.3 \cdot 10^6 \text{ yr} \\ \epsilon &= \rho_{ISM}/\rho_{CRIS} = ??? \end{aligned}$$

e)

$$\tau_{esc}^{phys} = \lambda_{esc}/\rho_{CRIS}\beta c = \tau_{esc} \cdot \rho_{ISM}/\rho_{CRIS} = \tau_{esc} \cdot \epsilon$$

For looking at the both ratios given in exercise d) and then assuming an exponential decay of $^{10}\text{Be} \rightarrow {}^{10}\text{Be}(t) = {}^{10}\text{Be}_0 \cdot \exp(-t/\tau)$ one can derive

$$\begin{aligned} 0.12 &= \frac{{}^{10}\text{Be} \exp(-t/\tau)}{{}^9\text{Be} + (1 - \exp(-t/\tau)){}^{10}\text{Be}} \\ &= \frac{0.48 \exp(-t/\tau)}{1 + (1 - \exp(-t/\tau))0.48} \end{aligned}$$

In the last step the initial ratio ${}^{10}\text{Be}/{}^9\text{Be} = 0.48$ is used. Solving for the time t using $\tau = 2.3 \cdot 10^6 \text{ yr}$ one gets $t = 2.546 \cdot 10^6 \text{ yr}$

f) For increasing energy I would expect shorter escape times. For higher energies the bending radii from magnetic fields become larger and a particle leaving the galactic disk with large energy has a higher probability to not being bent strong enough to re-enter the disk.