

AMS-02 and more: Direct Measurements of Cosmic Rays

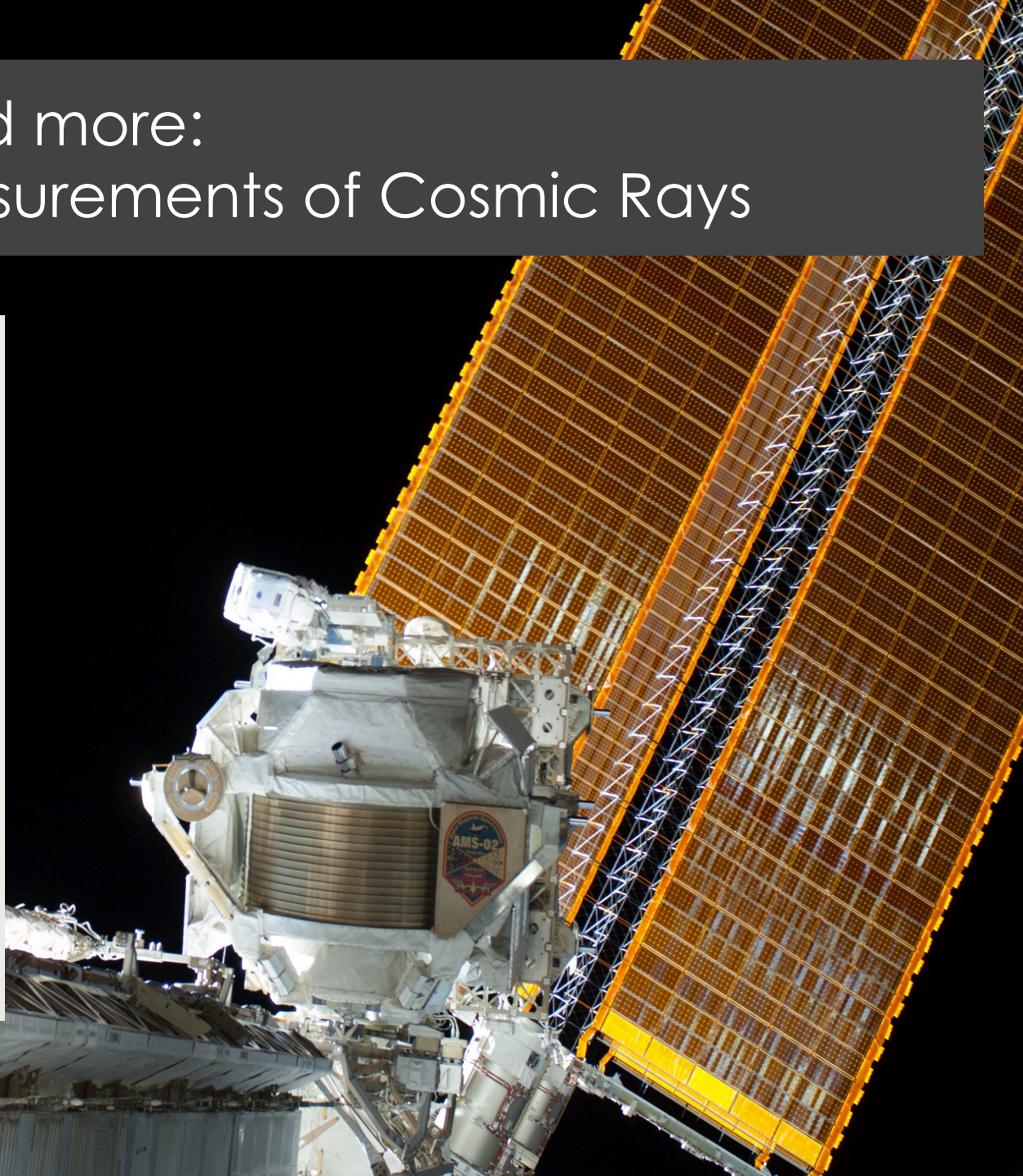
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I. Physics Institute B,
RWTH Aachen University,
Aachen (Germany)



RWTHAACHEN
UNIVERSITY

Astroteilchenphysik in
Deutschland – Status und
Perspektiven

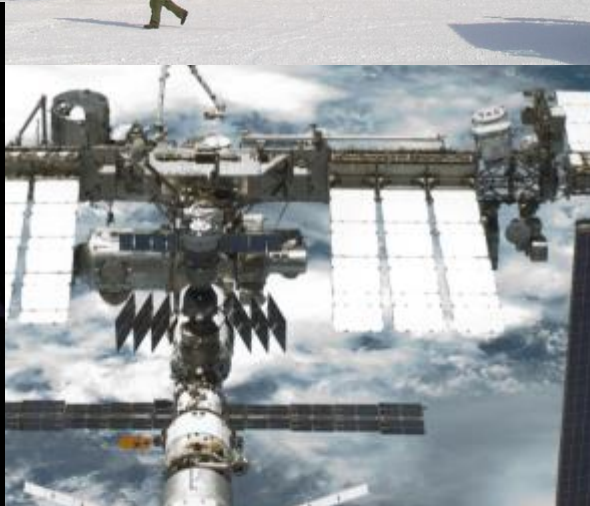
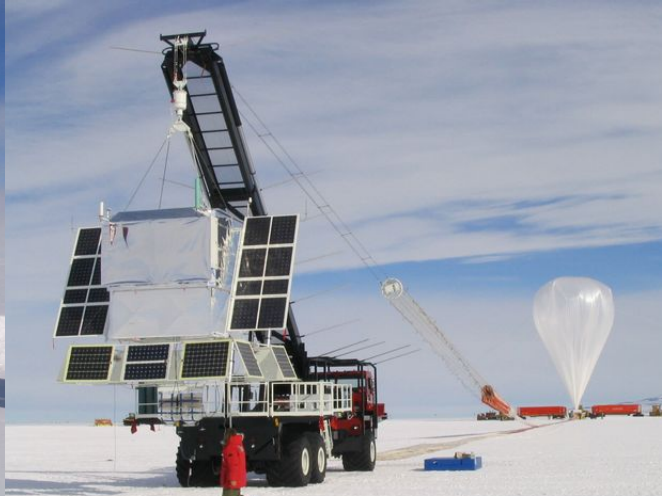
Karlsruhe,
September 30th, 2014



Direct Measurements of CR

- Conducted above the atmosphere
- Balloon or Space Experiments
- Limited: Size, Time, Weight, Power
- But: good Energy resolution, elemental or even isotopic detail





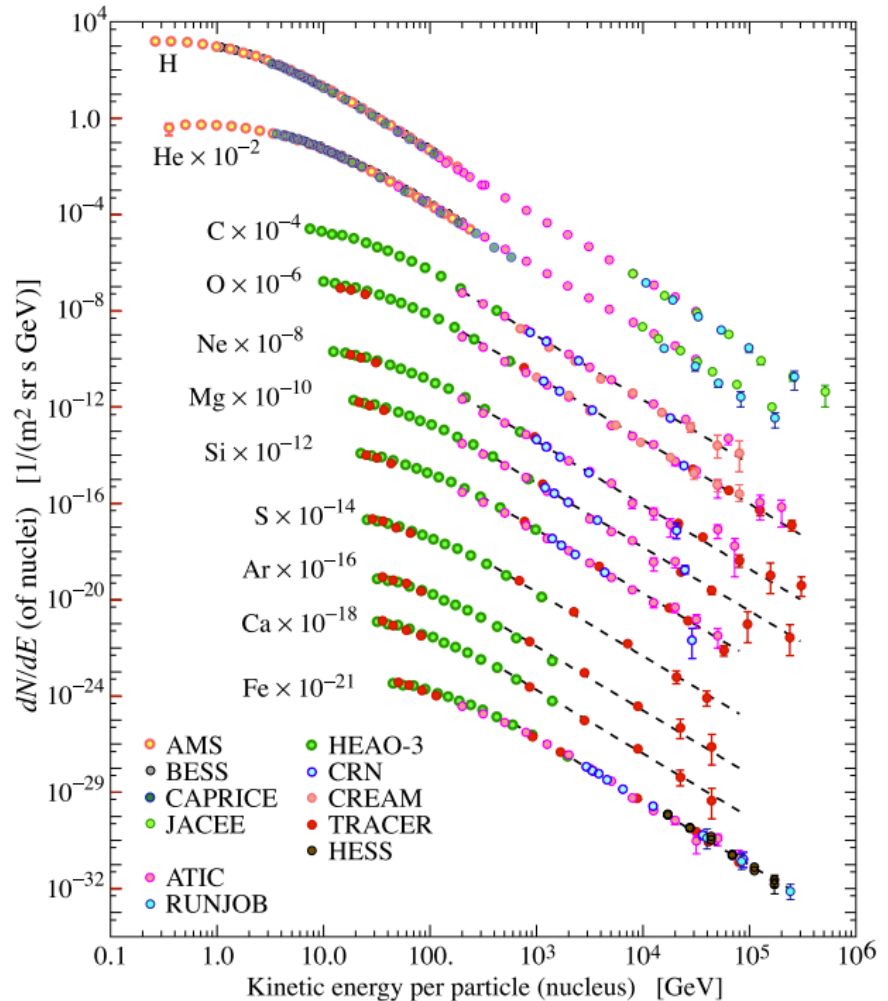
Achievable Exposure

- Record circumpolar flight time (LDB): 52 days (Super-TIGER)
- Total Exposure: $\sim 350 \text{ m}^2 \text{ sr days}$
- ULDB Flights might double that
- Expected Exposure for AMS-02 (10 years of operation time): $200 \text{ m}^2 \text{ sr days}$
- To reach 50 TeV/nucleon in energy spectra one needs about $4000 \text{ m}^2 \text{ sr days}$



The recent History: Energy Spectra

- Energy spectra of individual CR elements from H to Fe
- Up to a total energy of 10^5 GeV
Oxygen: 6 TeV/nucleon
Iron: 4 TeV/nucleon
- Energy measurement with ECAL, TRD, magnetic Spectrometers, Cherenkov, direct Cherenkov (ICTs)

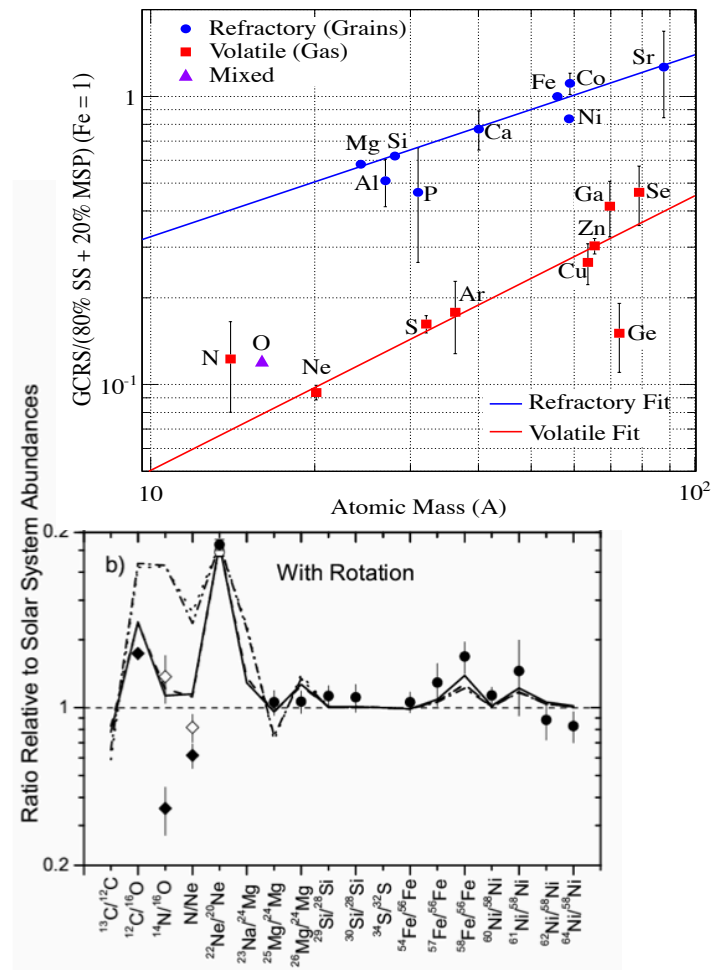


P. Boyle & D. Müller, Particle Data Book (2011)



The recent History: TIGER/ACE-CRIS: OB origins

- Measured the relative abundance of CR elements/isotopes compared to the Solar System
- Abundances arrange themselves nicely when 20% admixture of heavy star ejecta is assumed
- Possible preferred origin of CR in OB associations

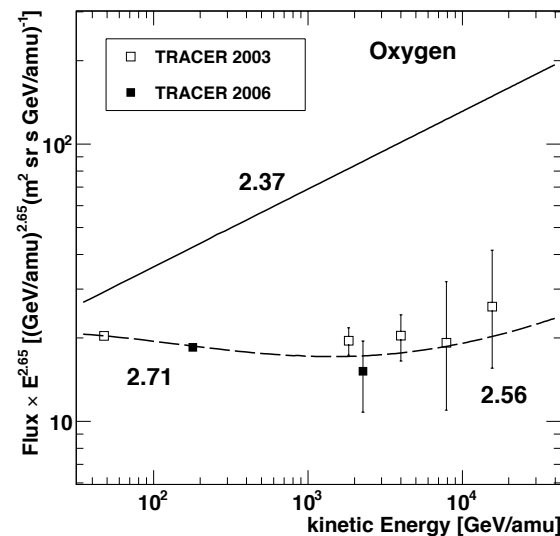
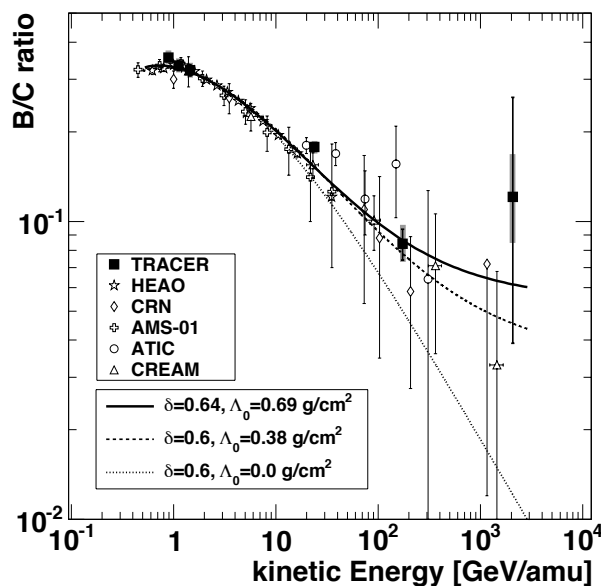


B. Rauch et al., ApJ (2009) and W. Binns et al., Space Science Reviews (2007)



The recent History: TRACER: Galactic Propagation

- B/C ratio drops not to zero
- Residual path length or “nested” propagation models are preferred
- Impact on shape of source spectra

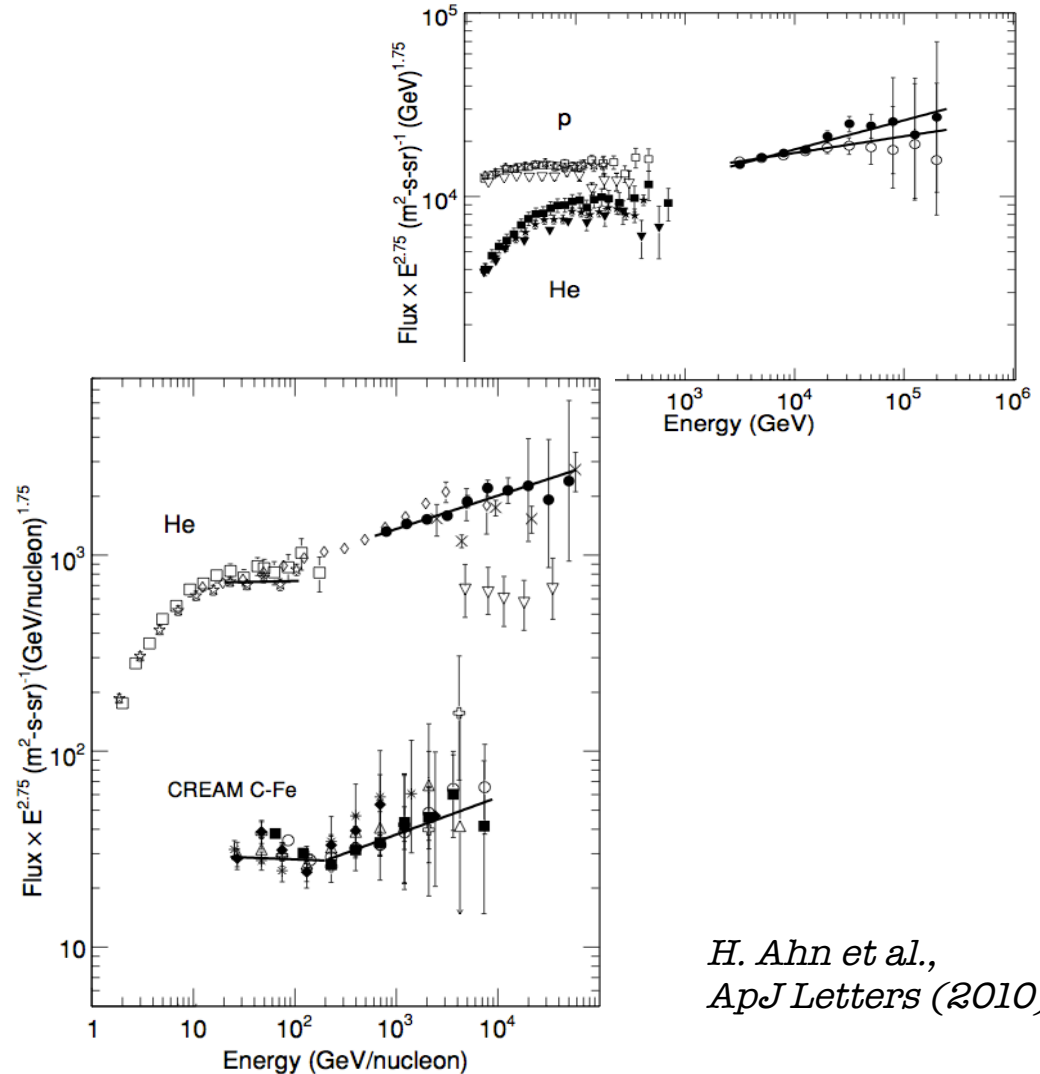


A. Obermeier et al., ApJ (2011) and (2012)



The recent History: CREAM: “Discrepant” Hardening

- Different spectral indices for p and He at high energies
- Break in spectra of heavy nuclei at ~ 200 GeV/nucleon
- Hints at complex acceleration process at various sources

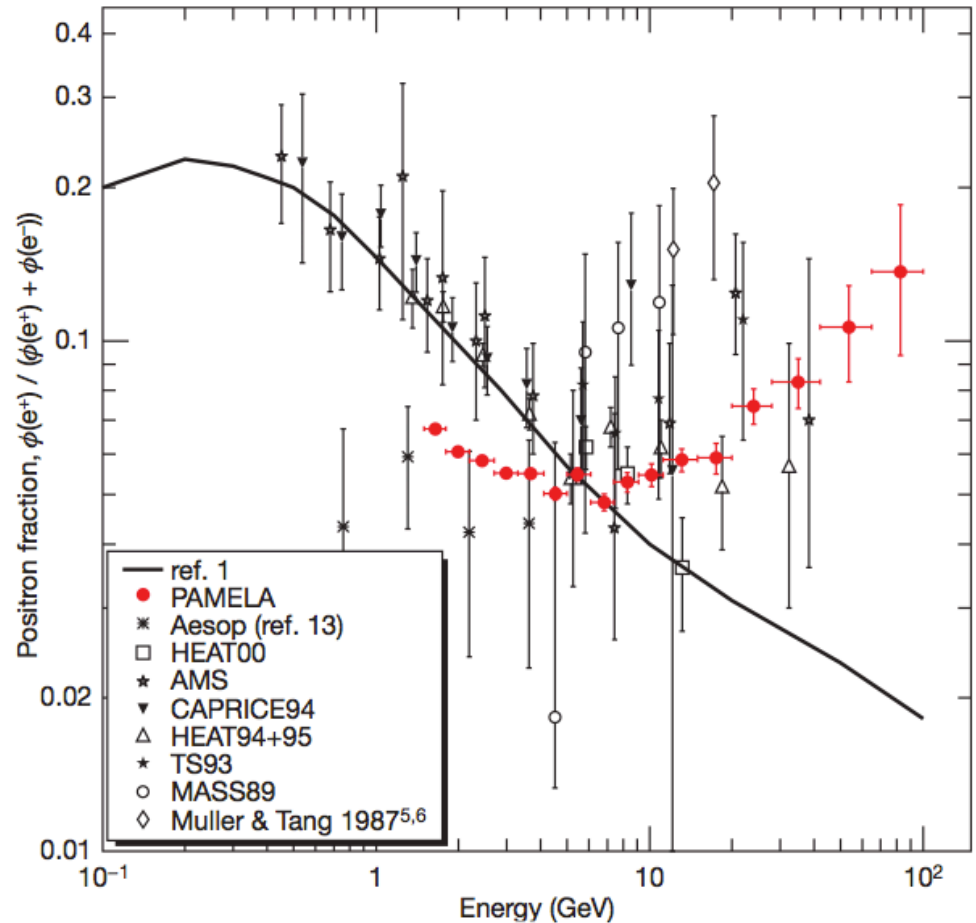


*H. Ahn et al.,
ApJ Letters (2010)*



The recent History: PAMELA: The Positron Fraction

- The Positron Fraction rises with energy
- Hinted at by previous experiments (e.g. HEAT), but first conclusive measurement by PAMELA
- Very difficult to explain by secondary production
- Possible primary sources: Pulsars or Dark Matter
- Sparked over 1000 citations!
- **German contribution to PAMELA from Siegen University**



O. Adriani et al., Nature (2009)

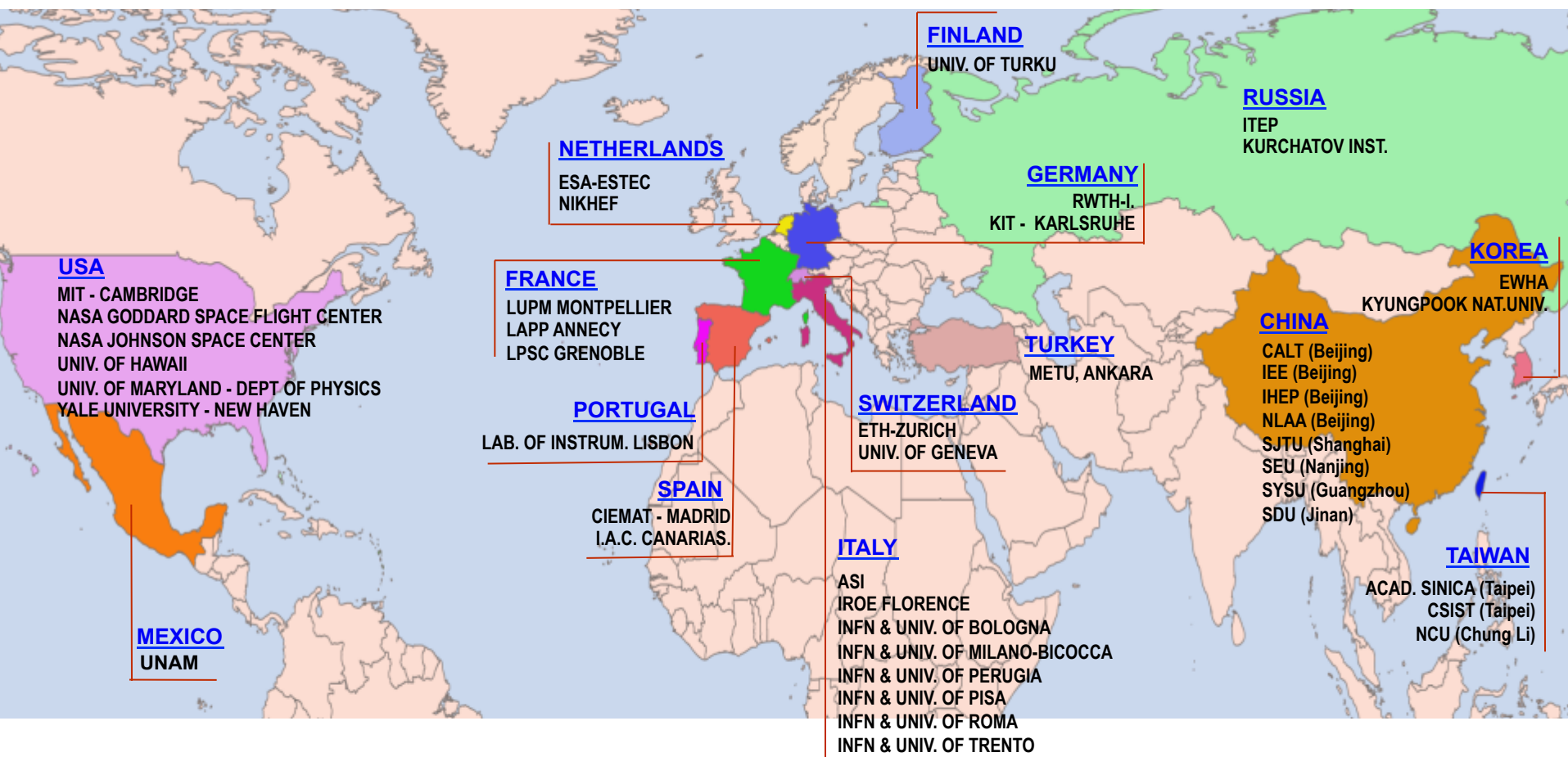


AMS-02 and the Positron Fraction

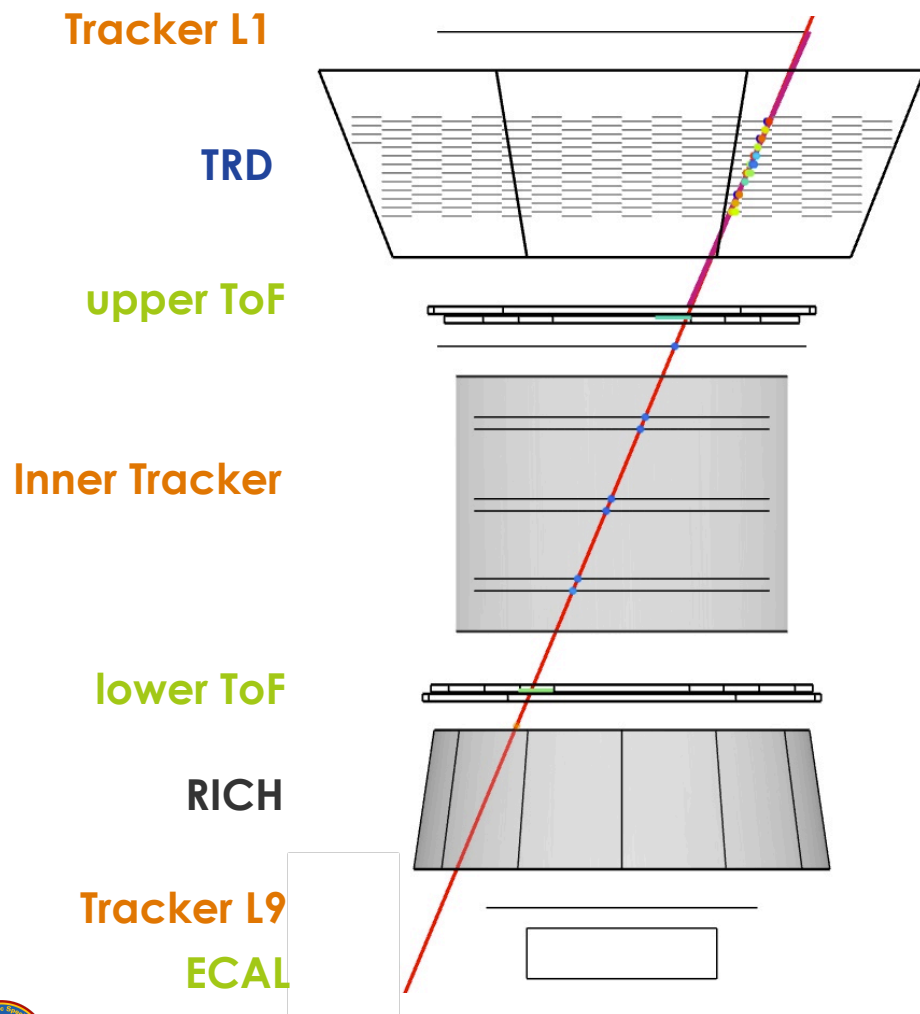
- For its first publication AMS-02 determined the positron fraction
- Now, 3 years of data are analyzed
- Results include:
 - the Positron Fraction up to 500 GeV,
 - the positron flux,
 - the electron flux
 - the combined flux of positrons and electrons
- **German contribution to AMS from RWTH Aachen and KIT Karlsruhe**



The AMS Collaboration



The AMS-02 Detector

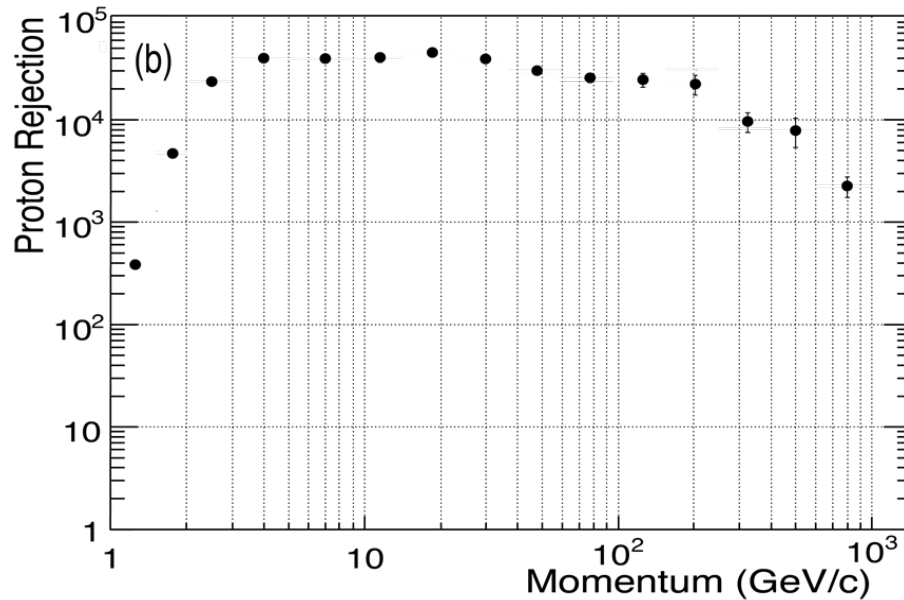


- ToF
 - Trigger, Velocity, Charge
- TRD
 - Heavy/light separation
- Tracker
 - precision Tracking, Charge, Charge-sign, Rigidity
- RICH
 - Velocity, Charge
- ECAL
 - Energy, heavy/light separation

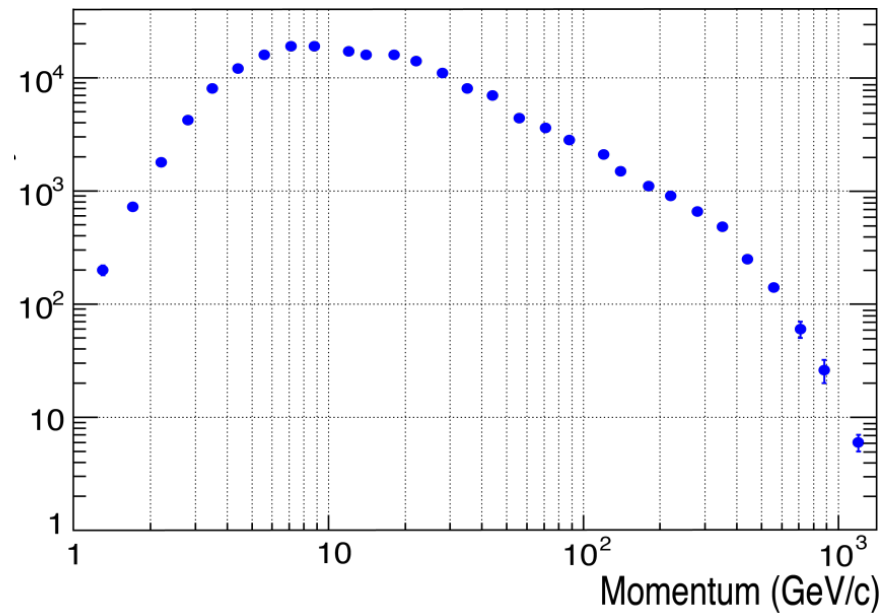


Proton Rejection of AMS-02

ECAL



TRD

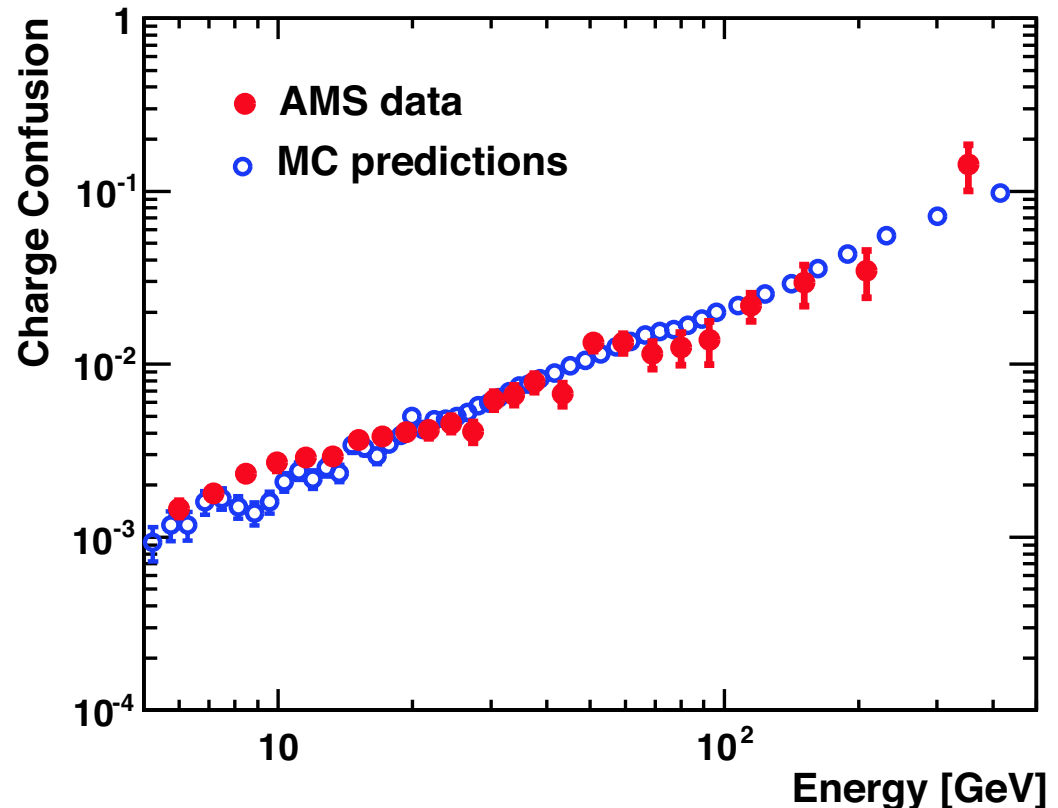


- At 90% electron efficiency
- Combined: Above 10^6 up to 500 GeV



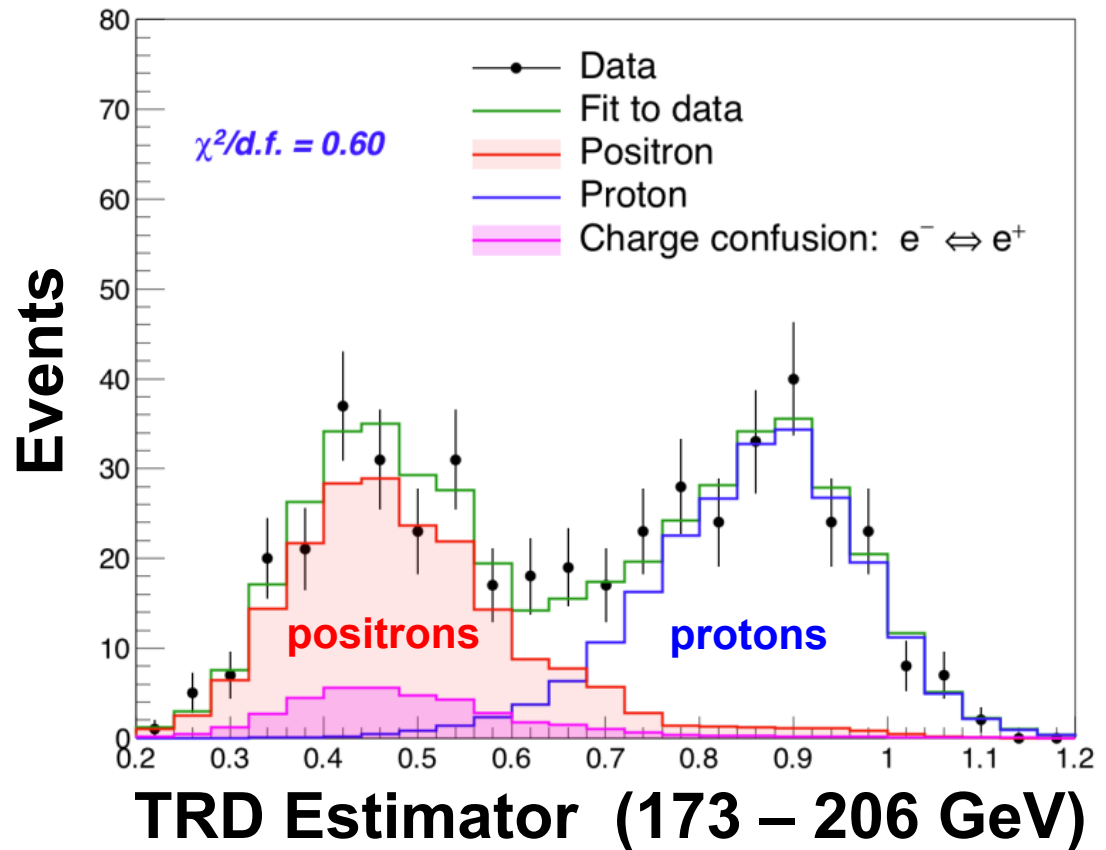
Most important systematic: Charge Confusion

- Only the tracker determines the charge sign
- Electrons incorrectly identified as positrons
- Due to:
 - Elastic or inelastic scattering
 - Tracker resolution
- Largest systematic uncertainty at high energies

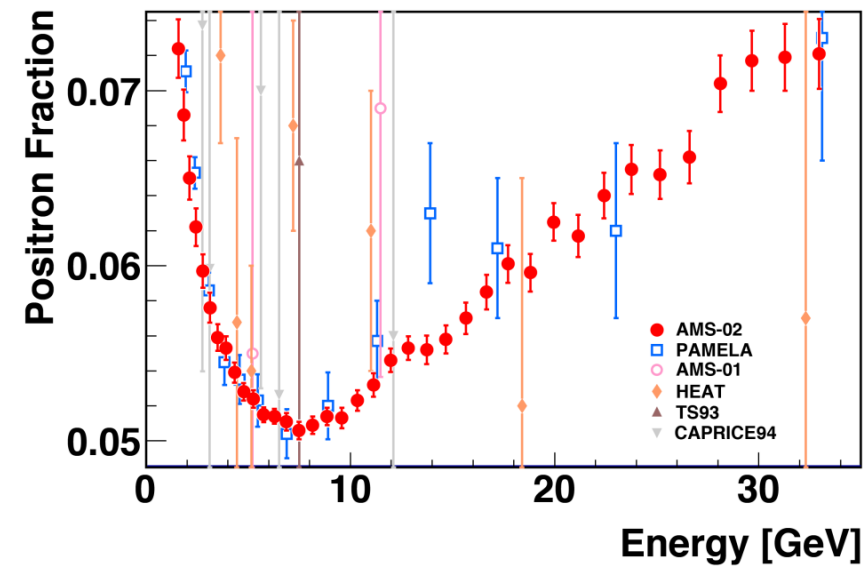


Analysis based on Template Fits

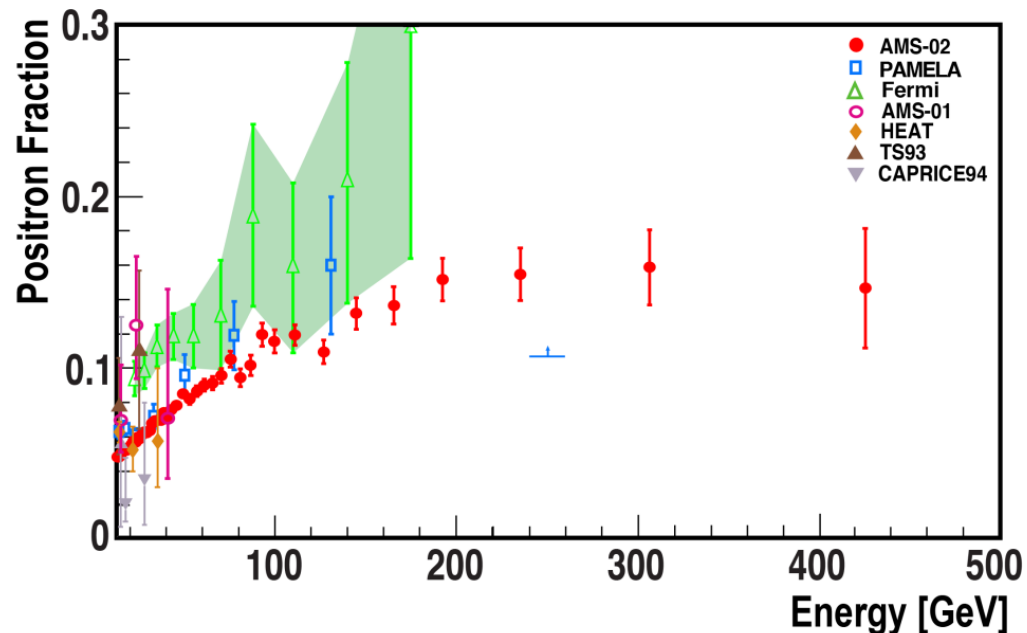
- 2D Template Fits in ECAL Estimator and TRD Estimator space
- Projection onto TRD Estimator is shown
- Charge Confusion fixed
- Efficient and background free determination of the number of positrons/electrons



The Positron Fraction



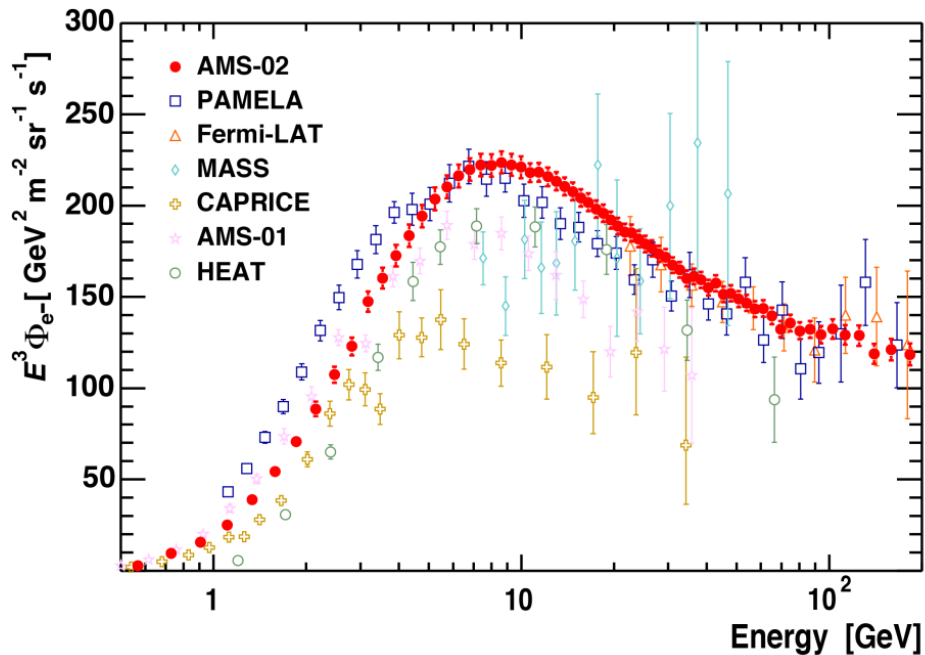
- Positron Fraction measured up to 500 GeV
- Increase confirmed
- Hint at an end to the increase



*M. Aguilar et al., PRL (2013) with
already more than 200 citations;
And L. Accardo et al., PRL (2014)*

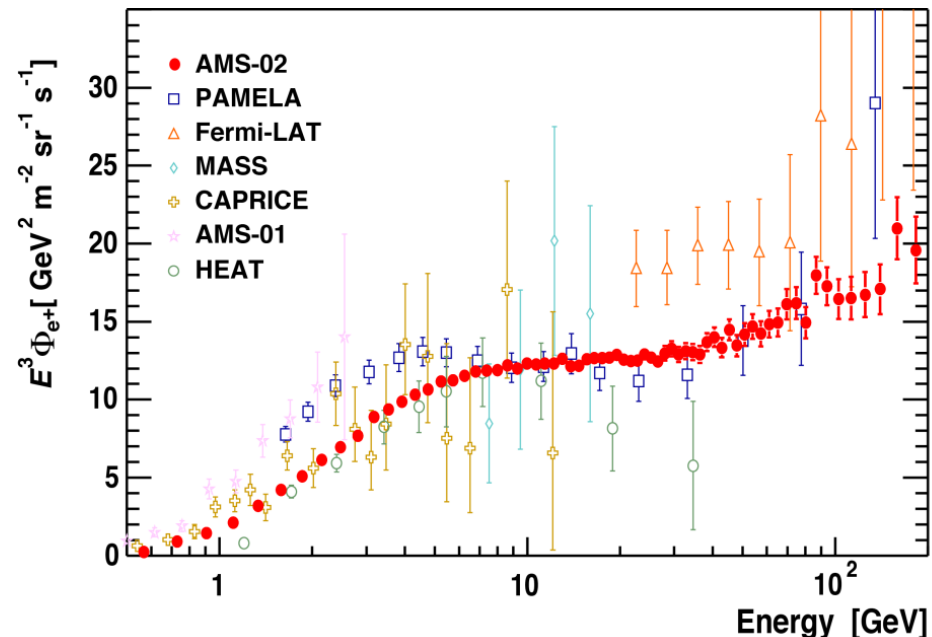


The Electron and Positron Flux

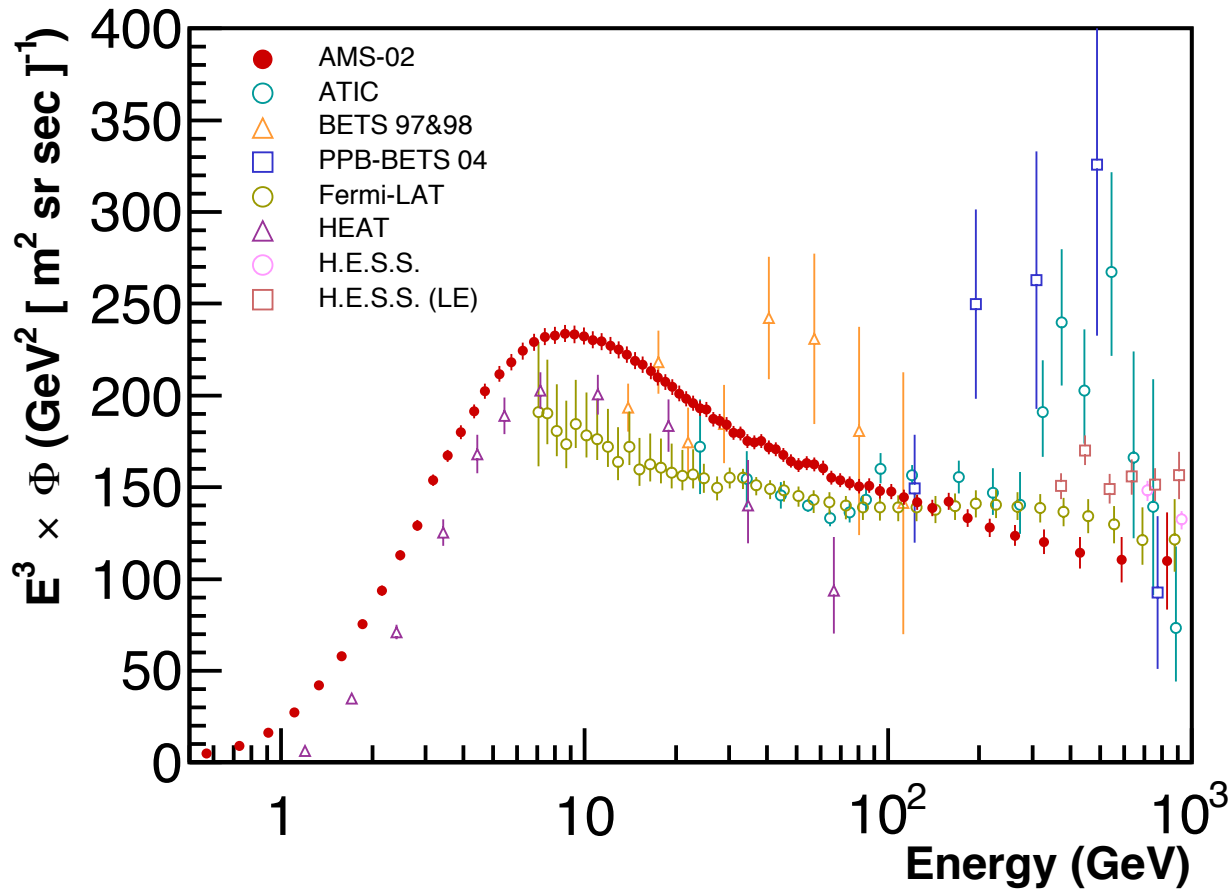


- Individual Fluxes measured up to 200 GeV
- Smooth development with energy
- Different shape for electrons and positrons

M. Aguilar et al., PRL (2014)



The Electron + Positron Flux

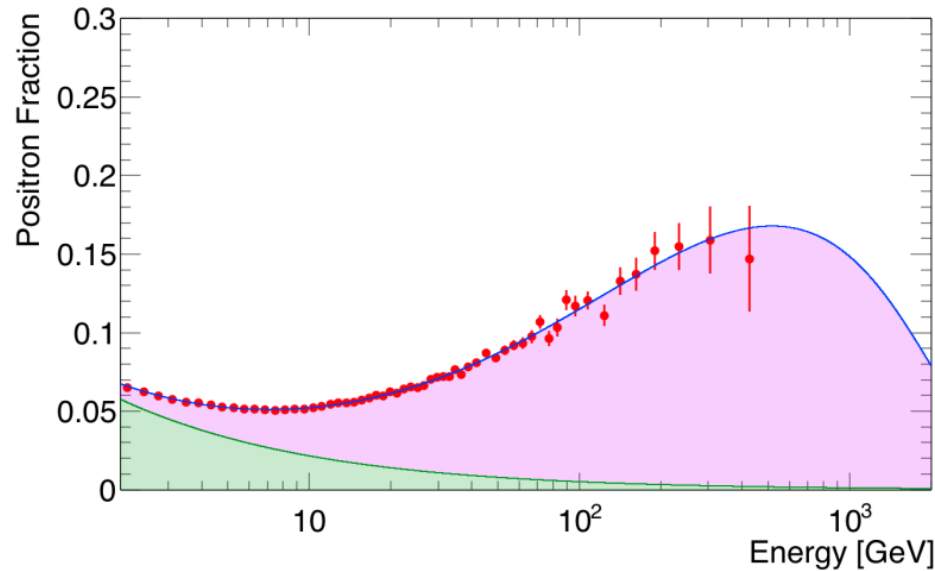


- Combined Flux measured up to 1 TeV with more than 10 million events!
- No small scale features

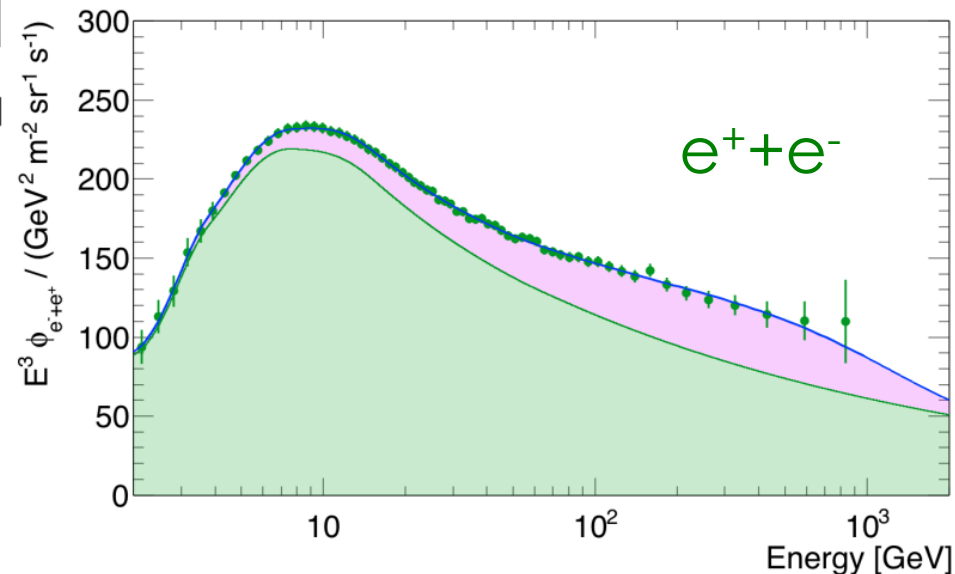
M. Aguilar et al., PRL (2014), submitted



Fitting a minimal Model to Positron Fraction and Combined Flux



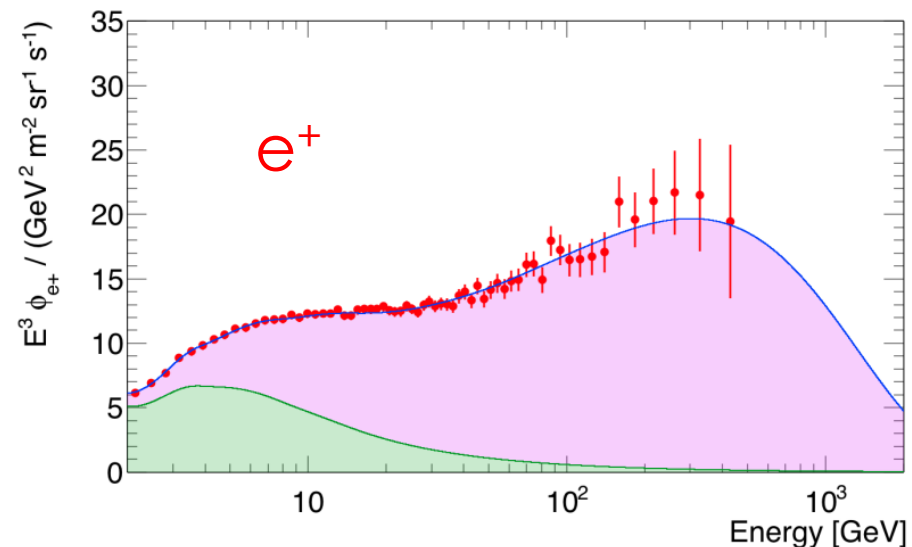
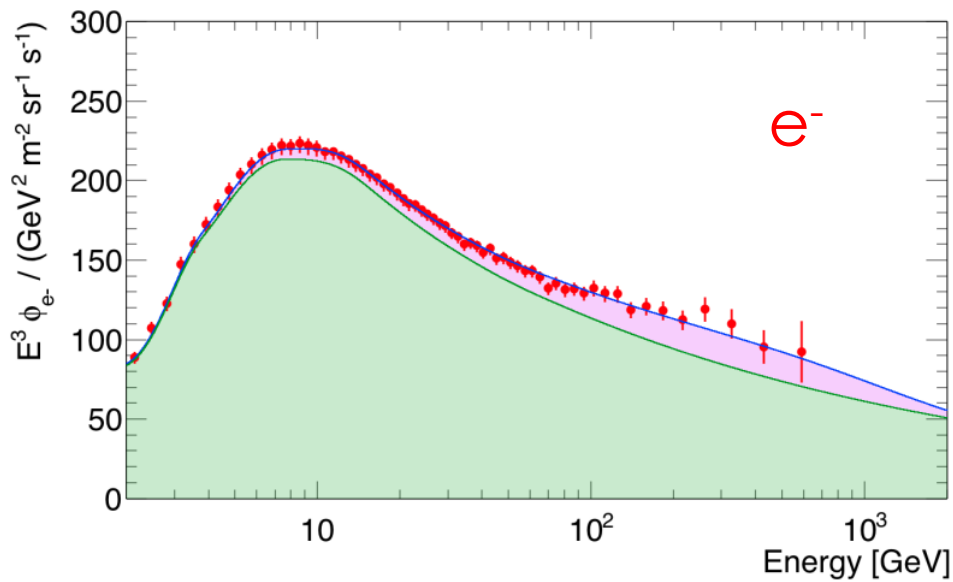
$$\begin{aligned}\Phi_{e^+} &= \underbrace{C_{e^+} E^{-\gamma_{e^+}}}_{\text{Diffuse Flux}} + \underbrace{C_s E^{-\gamma_s} e^{-E/E_s}}_{\text{Source Flux}} \\ \Phi_{e^-} &= \underbrace{C_{e^-} E^{-\gamma_{e^-}}}_{\text{Diffuse Flux}} + \underbrace{C_s E^{-\gamma_s} e^{-E/E_s}}_{\text{Source Flux}}\end{aligned}$$



Courtesy of A. Kounine



The Fit Result in the individual Fluxes



Courtesy of A. Kounine

Outlook

Future AMS-02 Science Program

- Energy spectra of protons and helium
- Spectra of heavy nuclei
- B/C ratio
- Anti-protons, anti-helium
- Isotopes at low-energies
- Anisotropies, time dependent fluxes
- Strange unexpected things...

Other Experiments: Active and Planned

- **Super-TIGER:** Balloon-borne, 52 day Antarctic flight; Measurement of ultra-heavy CR
- **ISS-Cream:** Planned for installation on ISS for 3 years; Measurement of elemental spectra
- **Calet:** Designed for ISS to explore highest energies electrons
- **GAPS:** Balloon-borne, will be flown to search for anti-deuterons



Conclusion

- Direct measurement of cosmic radiation is a vital component of cosmic ray research.
 - It provides elemental information and can even resolve isotopes. This has led to important insights in the past and will continue to do so.
 - The challenge to reach higher exposure factors needs new ideas. This is exciting!
 - In Germany only few institutes take part in direct measurements, although the cost of ballooning is small and it is a great opportunity to train young scientists.
-
- Future Experiments will need to focus on areas not covered by AMS-02. E.g. Isotopes and beyond 1 TeV/nucleon
 - Vernon Jones at COSPAR 2014: “There is enough ballooning capacity for more and new astrophysics payloads.”

