Status of the GAPS simulation and analysis development

Achim Stoessl for the GAPS collaboration dbar19, Los Angeles Thursday, 03/28/2019









Korsmeier et al,, 2017 arXiv:1711.08465,

GAPS sensitive energies
 ~20 MeV - 230 MeV/n

assumption: cosmic-rays from dark matter annihilation follow different kinematics than conventional production

peak/bump/shoulder on top of conventional spectrum

Anti-deuteron search channel benefits from extremely low conventional production!





Long duration flight planned from McMurdo Station, Antarctica

High latitude ➤ low geomagnetic cut-off

Input from Simulation needed to model Exotic atom X-rays & hadronic interactions

<u>Rare event search:</u> Rejection power of 10⁴ for antiprotons and 10¹⁰ for protons required





particle/anti-deuteron flux ratios



GAPS - experimental setup



Balloon-borne experiment with Si(Ll) tracker and time-of-flight system

Total acceptancance ~25m² (trigger on 1 cube + 1 umbrella hit)

➤ See S. Quinn's talk





GAPS detector assembly

 Red: antideuteron primary
 Blue: secondary pions from annihilation star
 Dashed: leptons

<u>Well reconstructable antideuteron</u> 4 pion event, with well reconstructable tracks



Hadronic annihilation products





Total number of charged pions independent of individual channel, Si-pbar/Si-dbar interactions at rest.

Larger nuclei expected to produce more pions.

Simulation of hadronic annihilation processes under control! 🗸

Studying final states of annihilation with
Geant4 - validation with pbar data at rest
➤ close collaboration with Geant4 developers

Some fixes already included in Geant10.5

Some channels already in good agreement, others need more work, integrated distributions look as expected





Characteristic X-rays





anti-nucleus, similar to muonic atom

Characteristic cascade of X-rays

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



Characteristic X-rays



Ongoing efforts to implement predicted X-ray spectrum from exotic atoms in Geant4

Previously: all exotic atoms were treated as muonic atoms

- First step implement correct
 mass
- Second step adjust the yields (ongoing)



X-ray simulation (almost) under control! 🗸





Reconstruction methods under active development, multiple methods available for track fitting and vertex finding

In general multi-step process:

- First try to reconstruct primary Track
- Iteratively add hits and find the interaction Vertex
- Quality parameters available to assess reconstruction quality

Example Event

Dbar Event with beta = 0.35

Emulating digitization by smearing the true Mc values with Gaussians with expected resolution ➤ Use smeared values for reconstruction

Reconstruct primary mainly with TOF information, reconstruction in tracker utilizes Hough transform methods.





Event reconstruction





Vertex reconstructed for annihilation events within 8 cm

Velocity reconstruction uses TOF timestamps

TOF timing resolution ~400ps

Velocity reconstruction within 4% for primary track, resolution incorporates TOF timing resolution (~400ps) and spatial resolution due to extension of the TOF paddles.

> accurate velocity reconstruction is crucial for identification analysis

Reconstruction under control! ✓ (will get included in analysis soon)



particle/antiparticle

discriminatior

charge/mass discrimination

Event discrimination



Discirimination categories

Interaction characteristics

- number of tracks from vertex total hits
- characteristic X-rays
- energy deposition within sphere around vertex

Primary track characteristics:

- penetration depth
- column density
 - total energy deposition on
 - primary track



T.Aramaki, et al, 2015, arXiv:1506.02513

Track characteristics depend strongly on beta ➤ investigate every variable in dependence of beta



Suppression of proton events



Utilize above discussed particle/antiparticle discriminators

 Searching for annihilation stars vs clean tracks

Number of hits on inner TOF correlates very good with number of tracks from interaction vertex

 Excellent discrimination, as shown in antiprotons (signal) vs protons (background)

Cutoff at 4 hits due to trigger



Proton background can be suppressed effectively even without any reconstruction

 $ar{p}$ remain dominant background for $ar{d}$ search



Energy deposition on primary track





Energy deposition (dE/dx) on primary track - one of the most powerful variables

Can be verified with proton/deuteron with high statistics

Antiprotons expose kinematic cut-off



Primary column density





Integrated column density of material that the primary particle traversed before stopping

Antideuteron requires more material at same beta to get stopped

Can be calibrated with p/d with high precision







Multiply the pdfs and interpret a s likelihood

$$\mathcal{L}^{ar{p}/ar{d}} = \sqrt[n]{\prod_i^n P_i^{ar{p}/ar{d}}}$$

P_{i:} : individual pdfs

Calculate classifier as likelihood to be deuteron over the number of all events

$$L = \frac{\mathcal{L}^{\bar{d}}}{\mathcal{L}^{\bar{d}} + \mathcal{L}^{\bar{p}}}$$





Identification acceptance



Identification exploits the fact that antideuterons "turn on" earlier for most of the variables

Acceptance ratio of 10⁵ antideuteron/antiproton required in each bin

Transition between stopping events and in-flight annihilation (deep inelastic scattering) is happening at about beta=0.4

Ongoing:

Identification based on stopping position in the tracker
➤ This can increase identification power significantly by mitigating geometric effects



Stopping acceptance vs velocity







threshold

Sensitivity: ~2·10⁻⁶(GeV/n m²sr s)⁻¹



Measuring the $ar{p}$ -spectrum





Identification technique can be validated using much more abundant protons, deuterons, and antiprotons

Antiproton search with same technique - protons as singular background.

GAPS will detect ~1400 antiprotons per 30 day flight (order of magnitude more than BESS Polar II)

Antiprotons are essential to: Validate the identification technique

Compare with other experiments

Estimate antideuteron background

Antiprotons are sensitive to various DM models: Neutralinos, LZP Gravitinos, primordial black holes



³He capabilities





 ${}^{3}He$ "Hot topic" - AMS-02 reports on candidates [*see talk by* Alberto Oliva], however d missing yet (as predicted by coalescence models)

 ${}^3{
m He}$ identification similar to $ar{d}$ identification, with $ar{d}$, & $ar{p}$ as dominant background

Challenge for GAPS:

High individual energy deposition in the tracker (up to 100 MeV) - high dynamic range required (X-Rays in keV regime!) - GAPS ASIC can do it.





Most simulation challenges under control 🗸

Working reconstruction \checkmark

Variables for discrimination of antideuteron/antiproton provide large enough rejection power 🗸

Prospect of very competitive antideuteron limit

High statistics, low energy antiproton measurement expected

Exploring He3 capabilities

