

PAMELA – a satellite experiment studying antiparticles in the cosmic radiation

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KTH, Department of Physics

AlbaNova Instrumentation Seminar, 2007-05-03

Overview

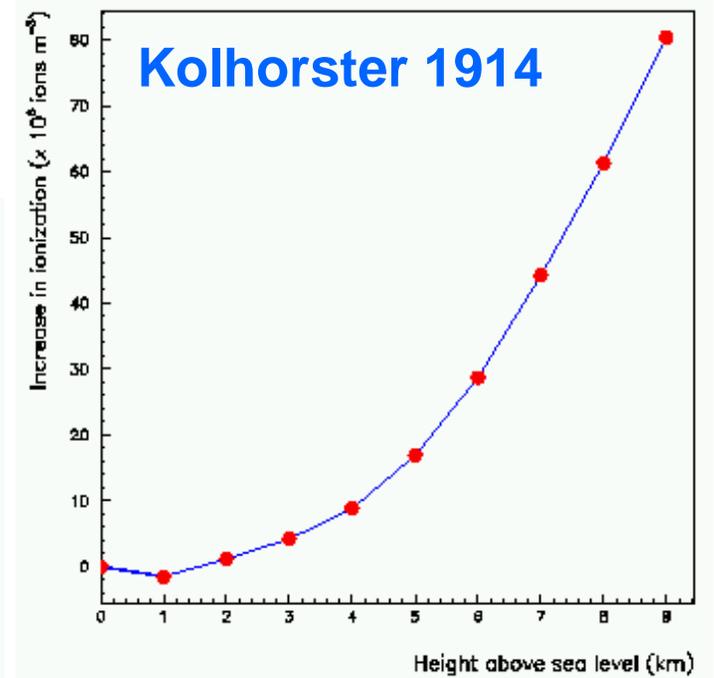
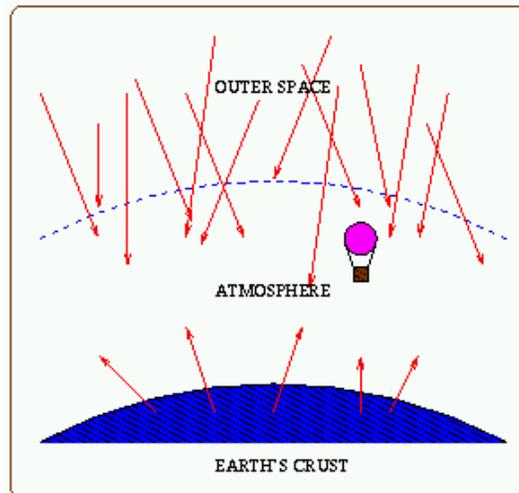
- Cosmic rays (briefly...)
- PAMELA science programme
 - Indirect searches for dark matter with antiparticles
- Description of PAMELA instrument and performance
- Status since launch (15th June 2006)
- A first look at flight data
 - Orbital environment
 - Charge separation
 - Matter / antimatter separation
- Summary

The discovery of cosmic rays

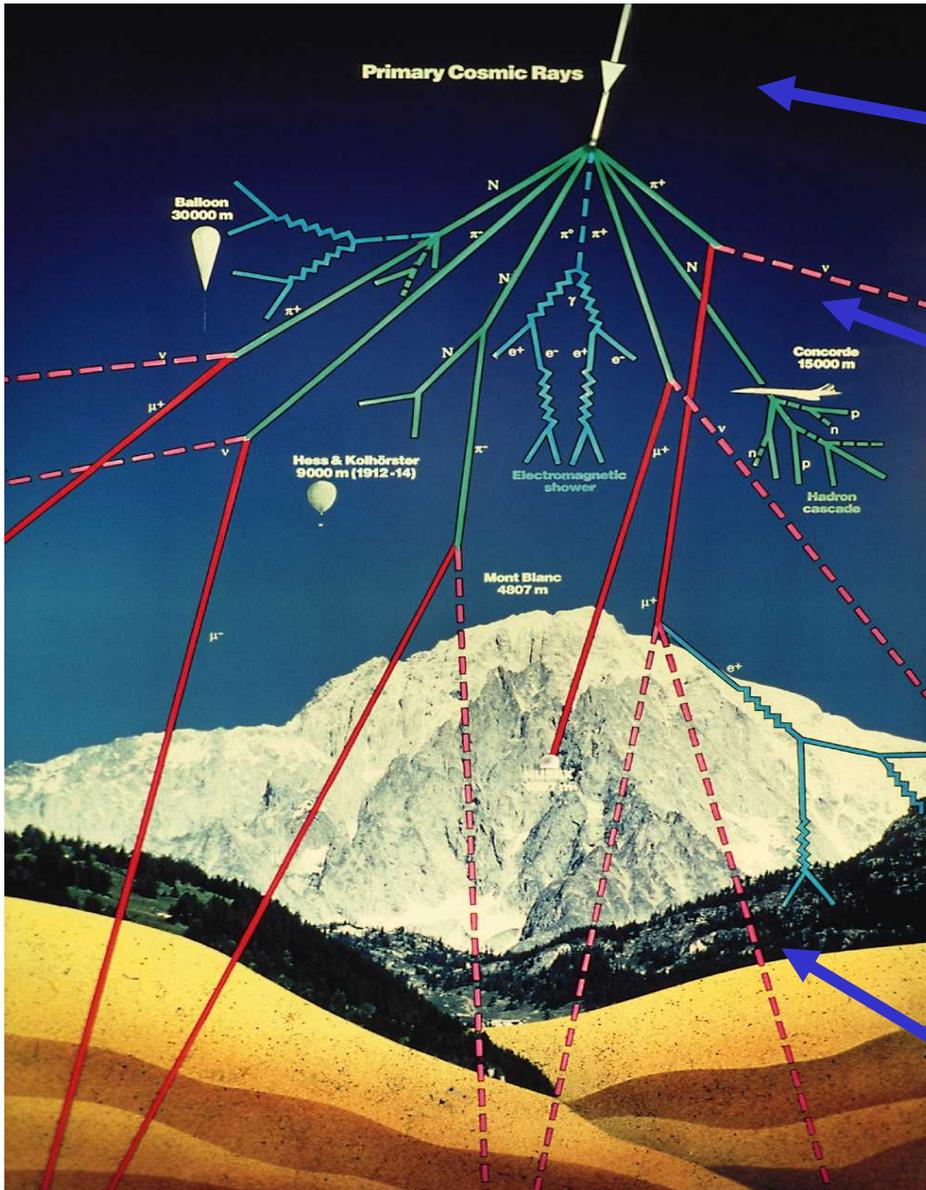


- Victor Hess ascended to 5000 m in a balloon in 1912
- Noticed that his electroscope discharged more rapidly as altitude increased
- Not expected, as background radiation was thought to be terrestrial

- NPP 1936 (with Carl 'e+' Anderson)



Investigating cosmic rays



In space (>40km) \Rightarrow nuclei, protons, electrons and neutrinos (and antiparticles)

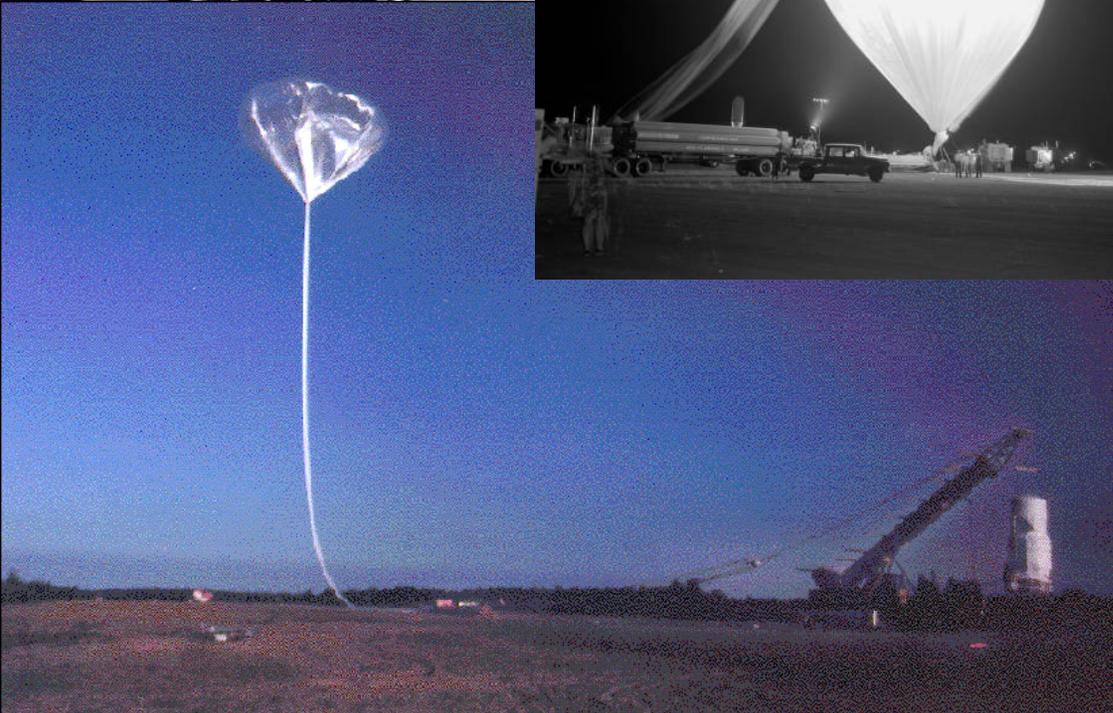
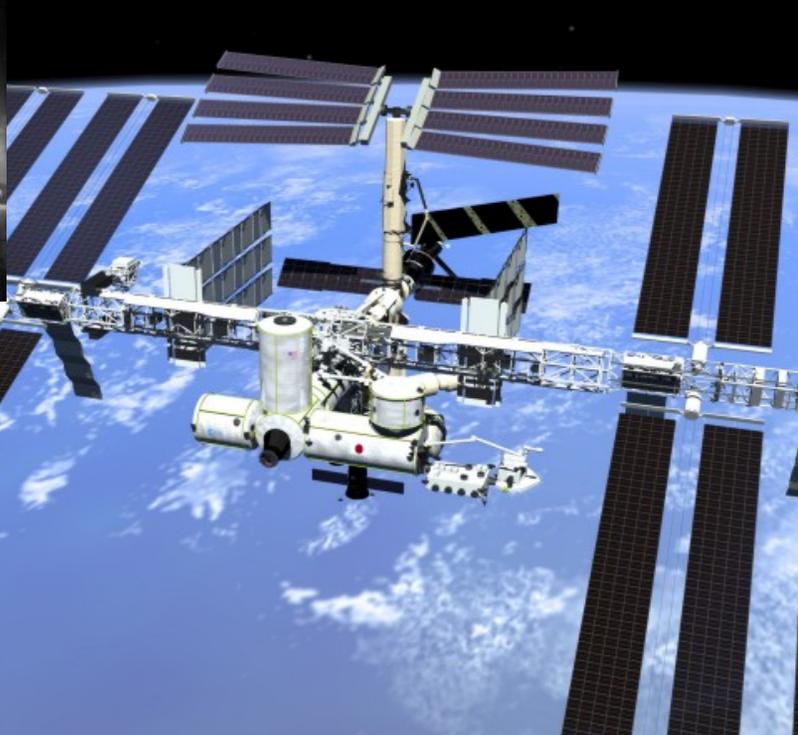
Smaller detectors but long duration.
PAMELA!

In balloons (~40km) \Rightarrow nuclei, protons, pions, electrons, muons and neutrinos (and antiparticles)

Larger detectors but short duration.
Atmospheric overburden $\sim 5 \text{ g/cm}^2$.
Almost all data on cosmic antiparticles from here.

On ground \Rightarrow mostly muons and neutrinos. (UHECR experiments).

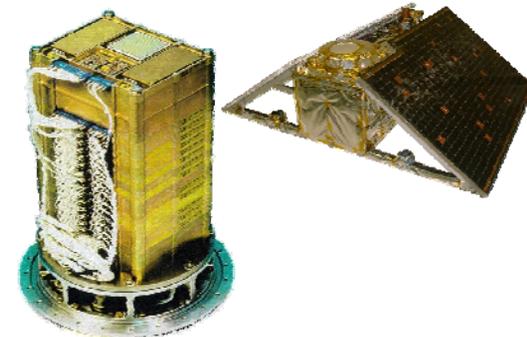
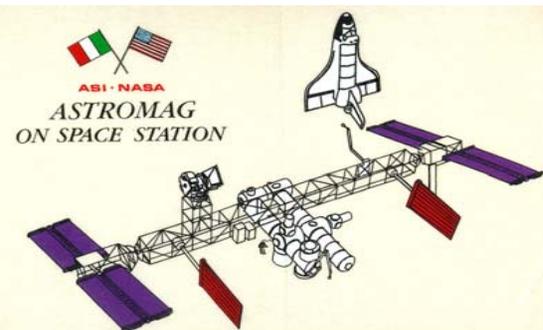
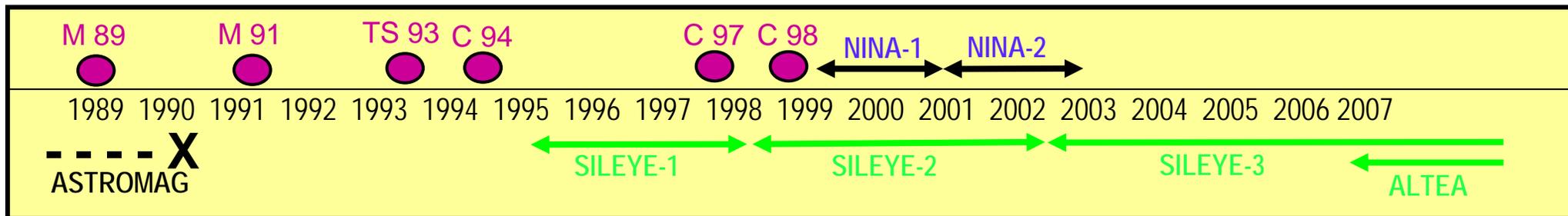
'Infinite' size and duration but atmospheric overburden $\sim 1000 \text{ g/cm}^2$!



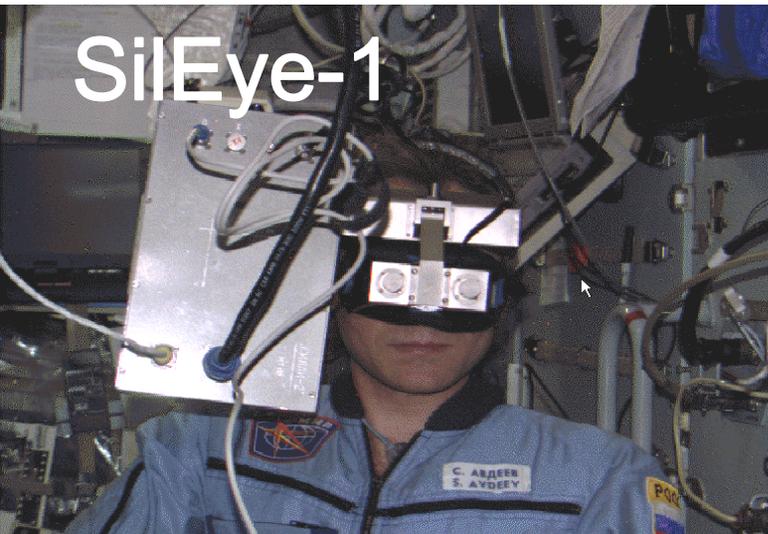
PAMELA pre-history

- Astromag/WiZard project (PAMELA precursor) on board of the Space Station Freedom – cancelled (Challenger disaster and 1st Gulf War)
- Meanwhile, balloon-borne experiments: MASS-89,91 TS-93 CAPRICE-94,97,98 (in collaboration with NASA) and then, space experiments*: NINA-1,2 SILEYE-1,2,3 ALTEA (building links to Russian Space Agency).

(*study of low energy nuclei and space radiation environment)



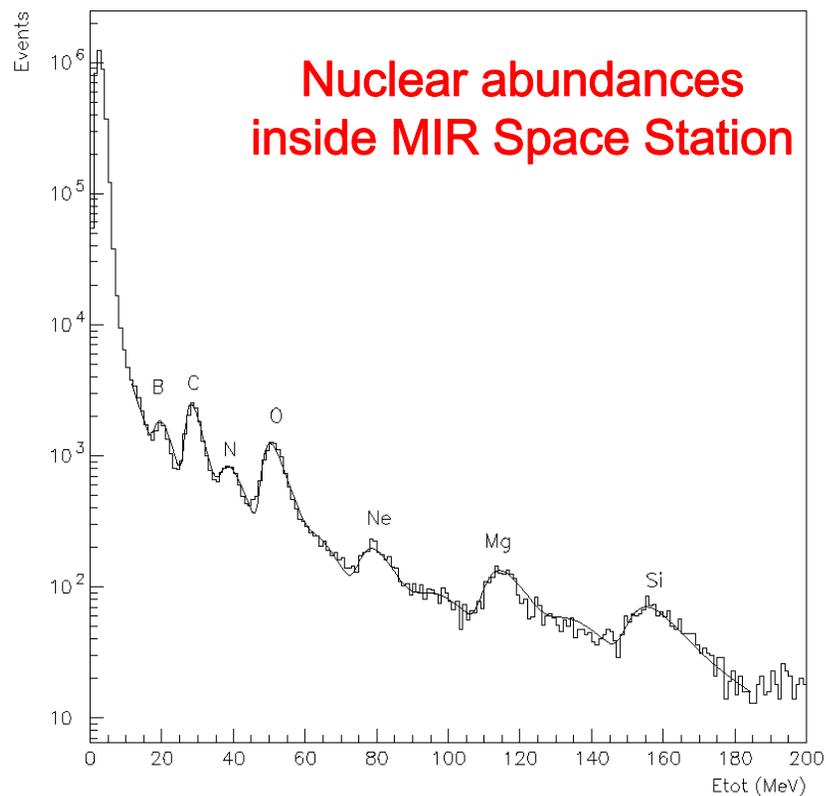
SilEye-1



SilEye-2



SilEye-3



PAMELA Collaboration

Italy:



Bari



Florence



Frascati



Naples



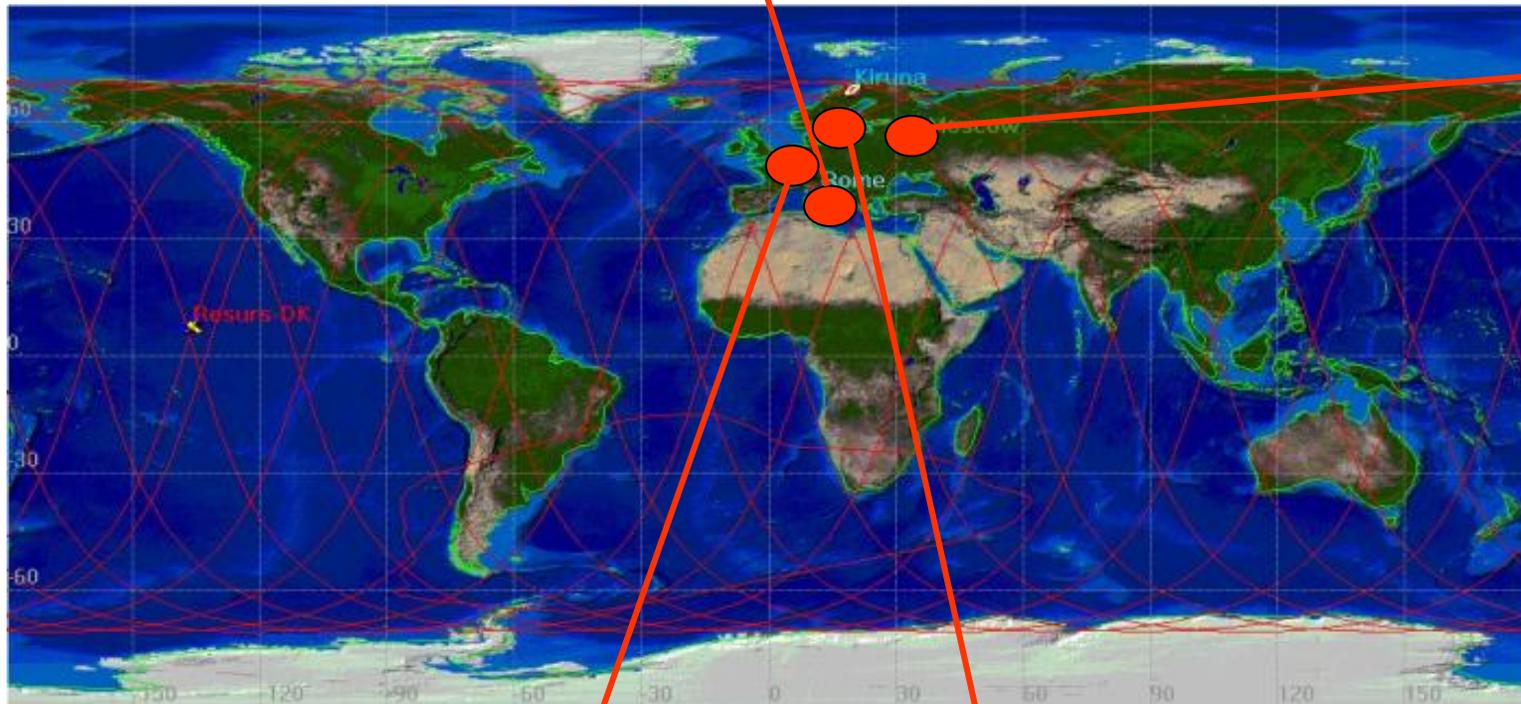
Rome



Trieste



CNR, Florence



Russia:



Moscow
St. Petersburg

Germany:



Universität
Gesamthochschule
Siegen

Siegen

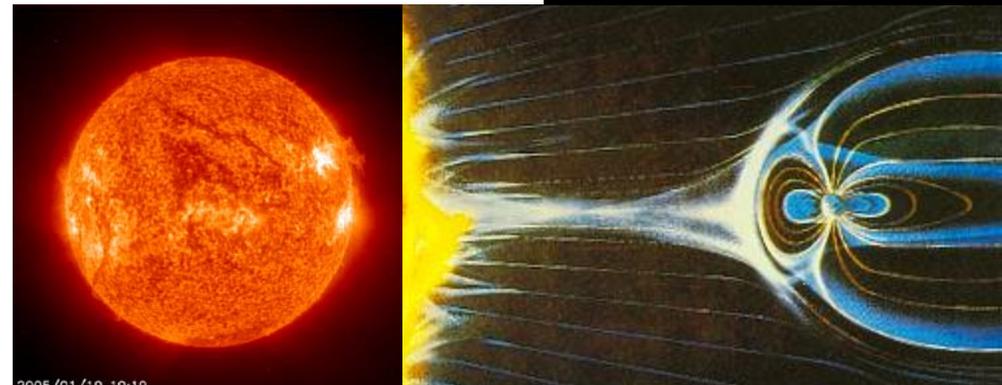
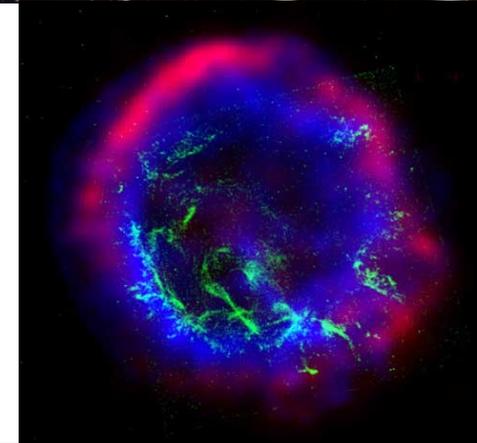
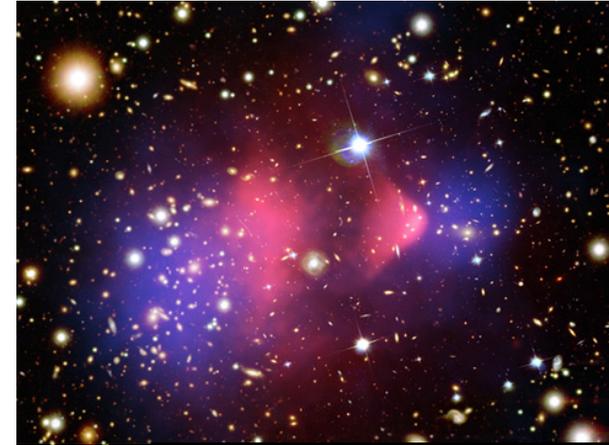
Sweden:



KTH, Stockholm

PAMELA science programme

- **Search for dark matter**
- **Search for antimatter**
- Study of cosmic-ray propagation
- Study solar physics and solar modulation
- Study of electron spectrum (local sources?)
- Study terrestrial magnetosphere



PAMELA sensitivity

	Energy range	Particles/3 years
Antiproton flux	80 MeV - 190 GeV	$>3 \times 10^4$
Positron flux	50 MeV – 270 GeV	$>3 \times 10^5$
Electron flux	up to 400 GeV	6×10^6
Proton flux	up to 700 GeV	3×10^8
Electron/positron flux	up to 2 TeV (from calorimeter)	
Light nuclei (up to Z=6)	up to 200 GeV/n He/Be/C:	$4 \times 10^{7/4/5}$
Antinuclei search	Sensitivity of 3×10^{-8} in He-bar/He	

→ Unprecedented statistics and new energy range for cosmic ray physics

→ e.g. contemporary antiproton & positron energy, $E_{\max} \approx 40$ GeV

→ Simultaneous measurements of many species

Comparison to balloon experiments

Taking into account live time and geometrical factors:

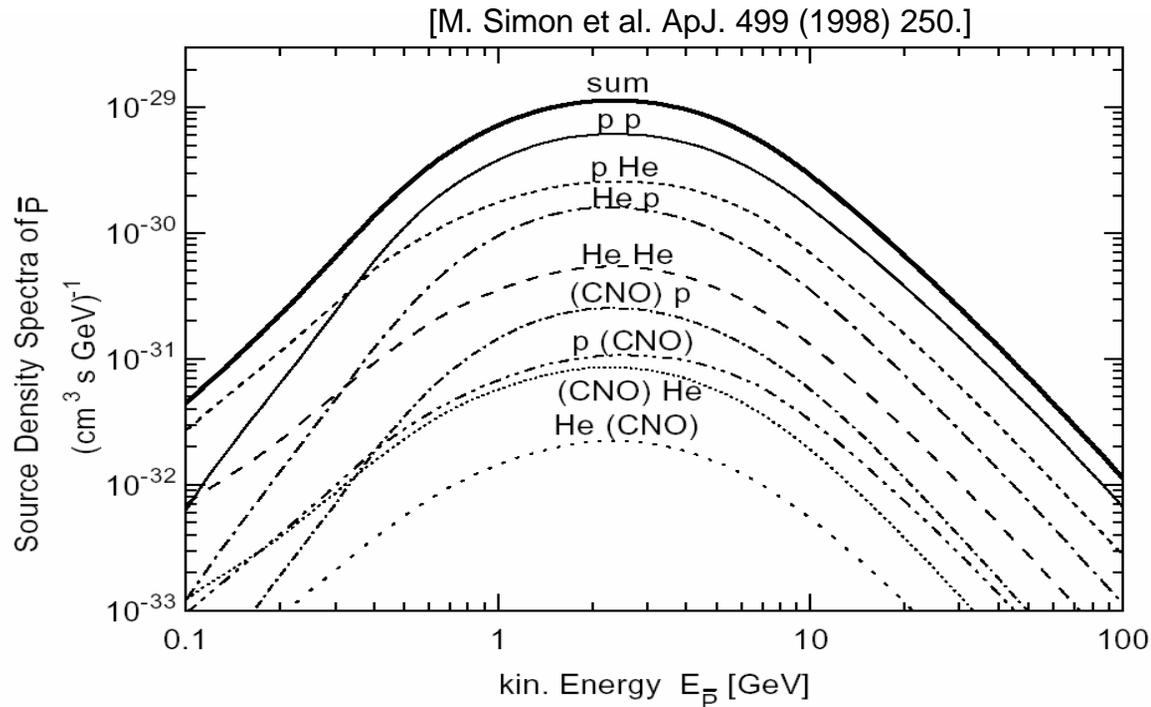
1 HEAT-PBAR flight ~ 22.4 days PAMELA data

1 CAPRICE98 flight ~ 3.9 days PAMELA data



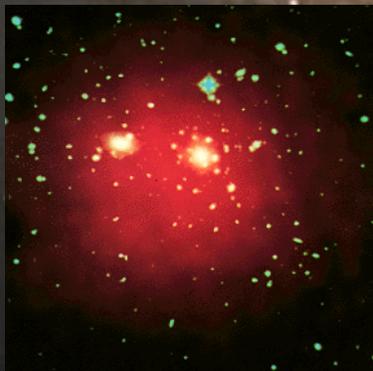
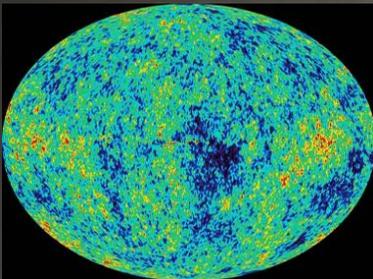
Antiparticles in cosmic rays

$$p_{CR} + p_{ISM} \rightarrow \bar{p} + p + p + p$$



$$p_{CR} + p_{ISM} \rightarrow \pi^+ + X; \pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu; \mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \nu_e + \bar{\nu}_\mu$$

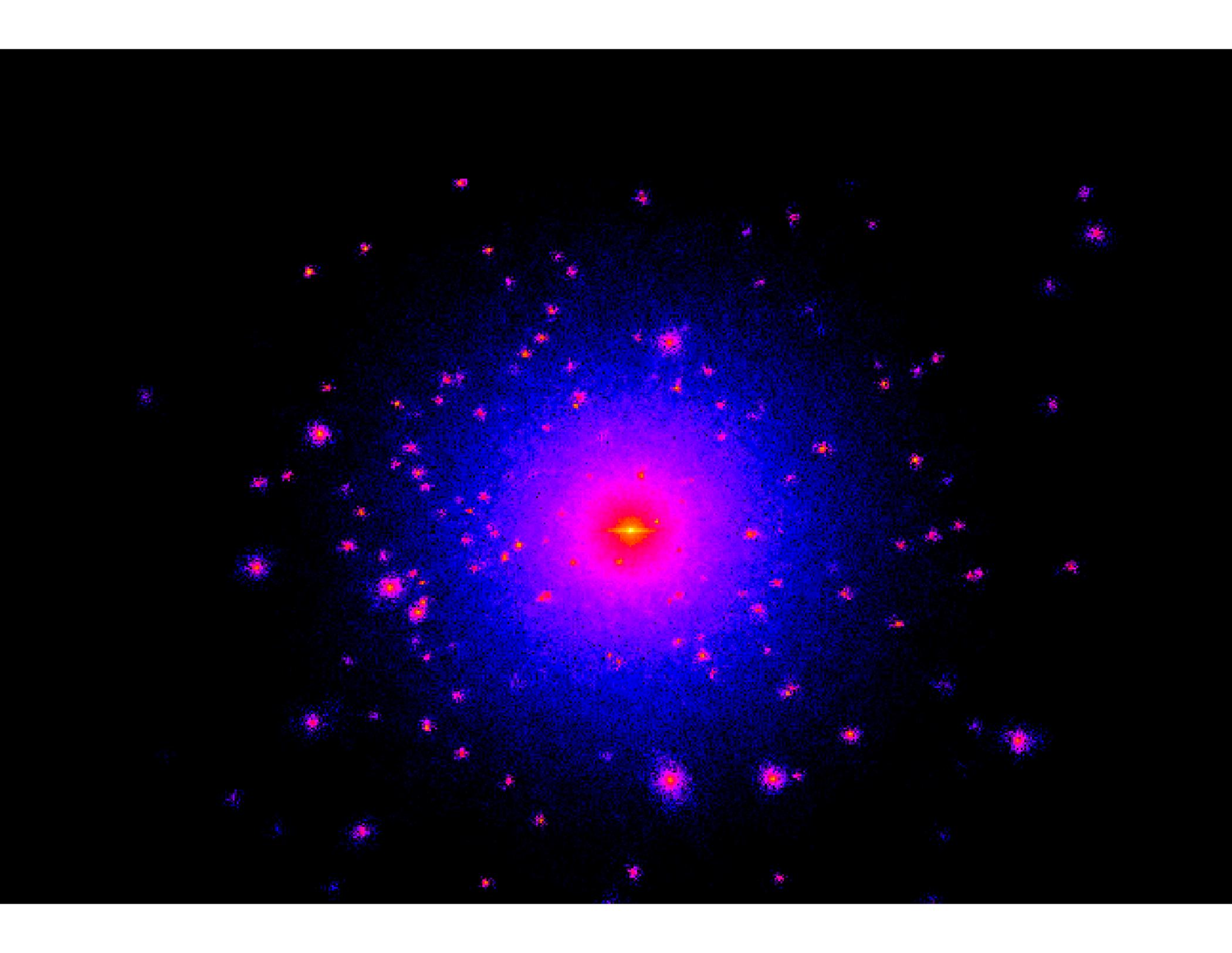
$$p_{CR} + p_{ISM} \rightarrow \pi^0 + X; \pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma; \gamma \rightarrow e^+ + e^-$$



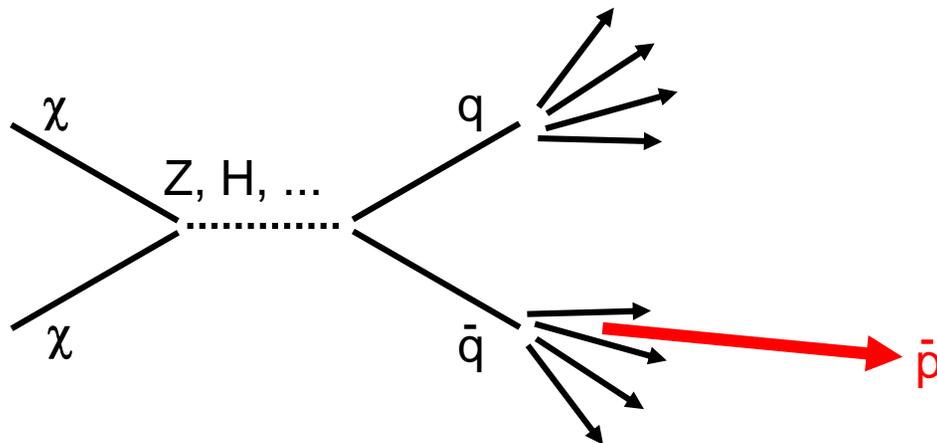
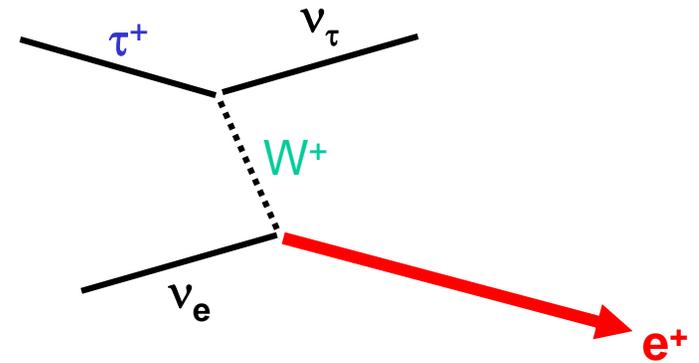
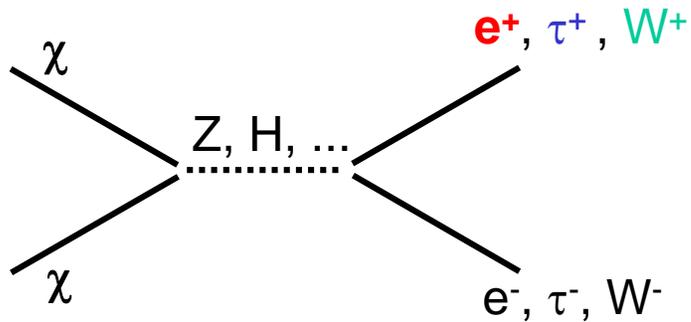
[Late 2007+ ϵ]



[June 2006]



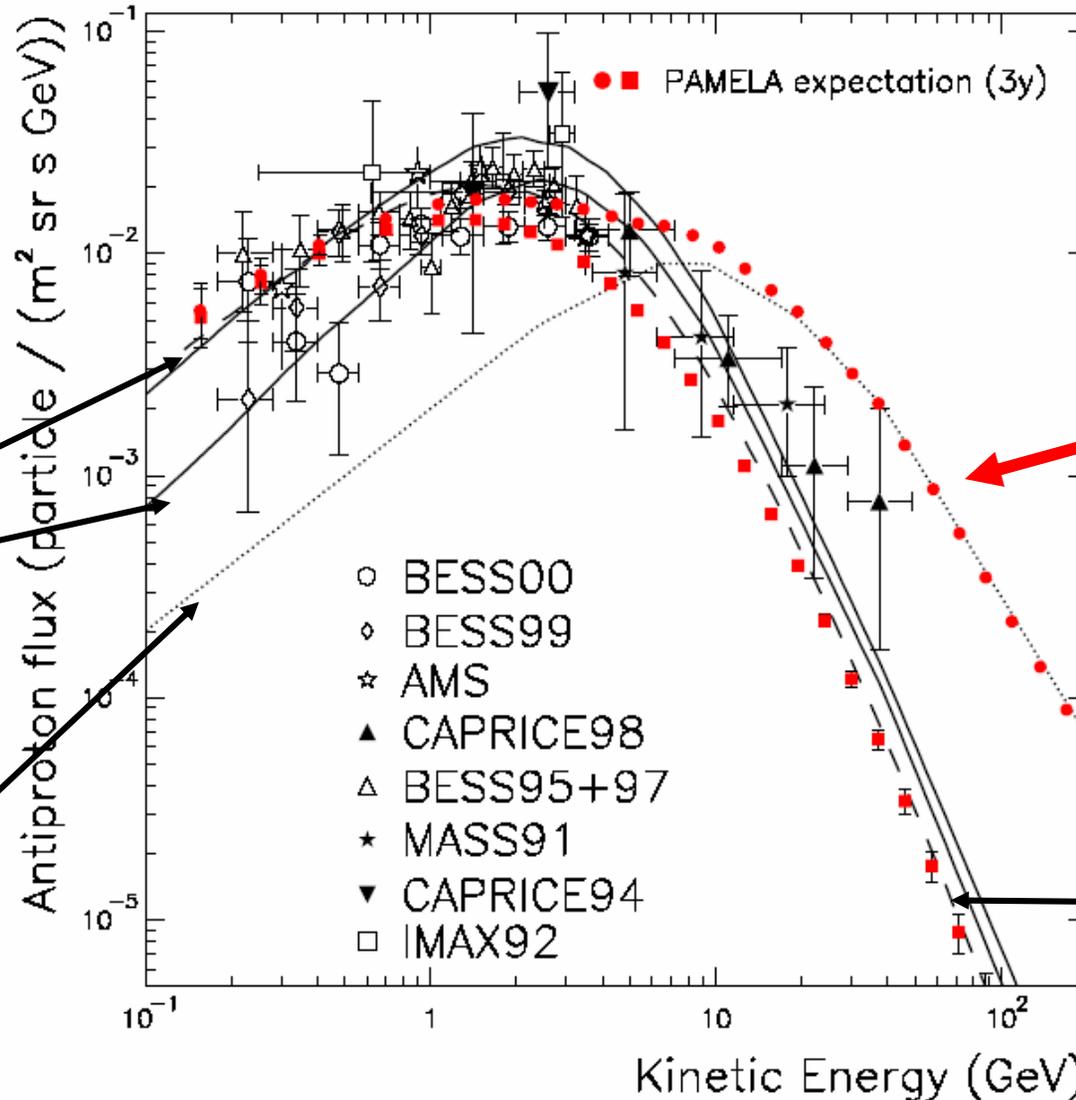
Antiparticles as probes of dark matter



Aim: search for distortions in the antiproton and positron energy spectrum expected from purely secondary production

Antiprotons

AMS-01: space shuttle, 1998



Secondary production
(upper and lower limits)
Simon et al. ApJ 499 (1998) 250.

Primary production from $\chi\chi$ annihilation
($m(\chi) = 964$ GeV)
Ullio : astro-ph/9904086

PAMELA
Secondary production
'C94 model' + primary $\chi\chi$ distortion

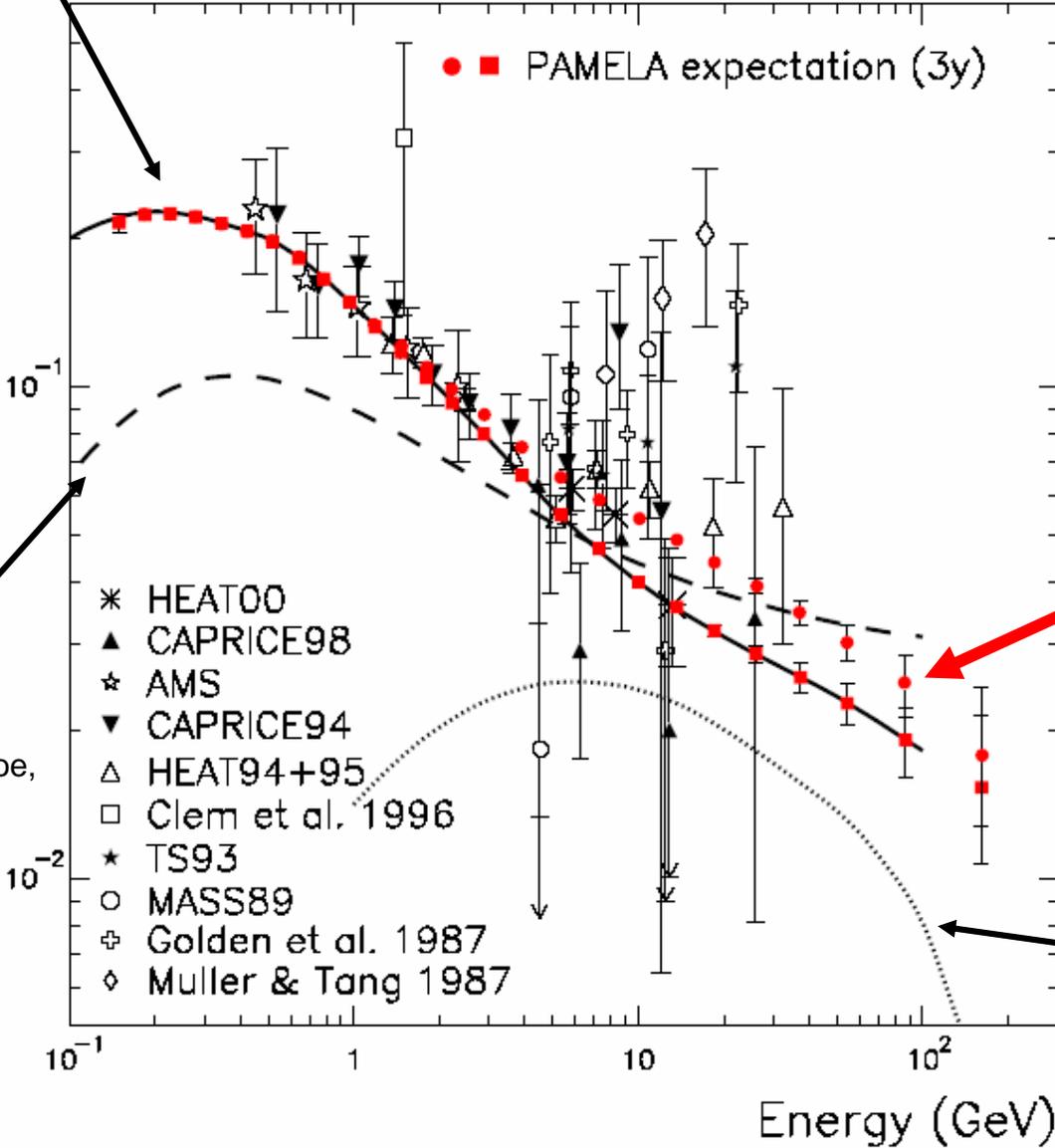
Secondary production
(CAPRICE94-based)
Bergström et al. ApJ 526 (1999) 215

Positrons

Secondary production

'Moskalenko + Strong model'
without reacceleration. ApJ 493
(1998) 694.

Charge ratio (e^+/e^-+e^-)



● ■ PAMELA expectation (3y)

- * HEAT00
- ▲ CAPRICE98
- ☆ AMS
- ▼ CAPRICE94
- △ HEAT94+95
- Clem et al. 1996
- * TS93
- MASS89
- ⊕ Golden et al. 1987
- ◇ Muller & Tang 1987

PAMELA
Secondary production
 'M+S model' +
primary $\chi\chi$ distortion

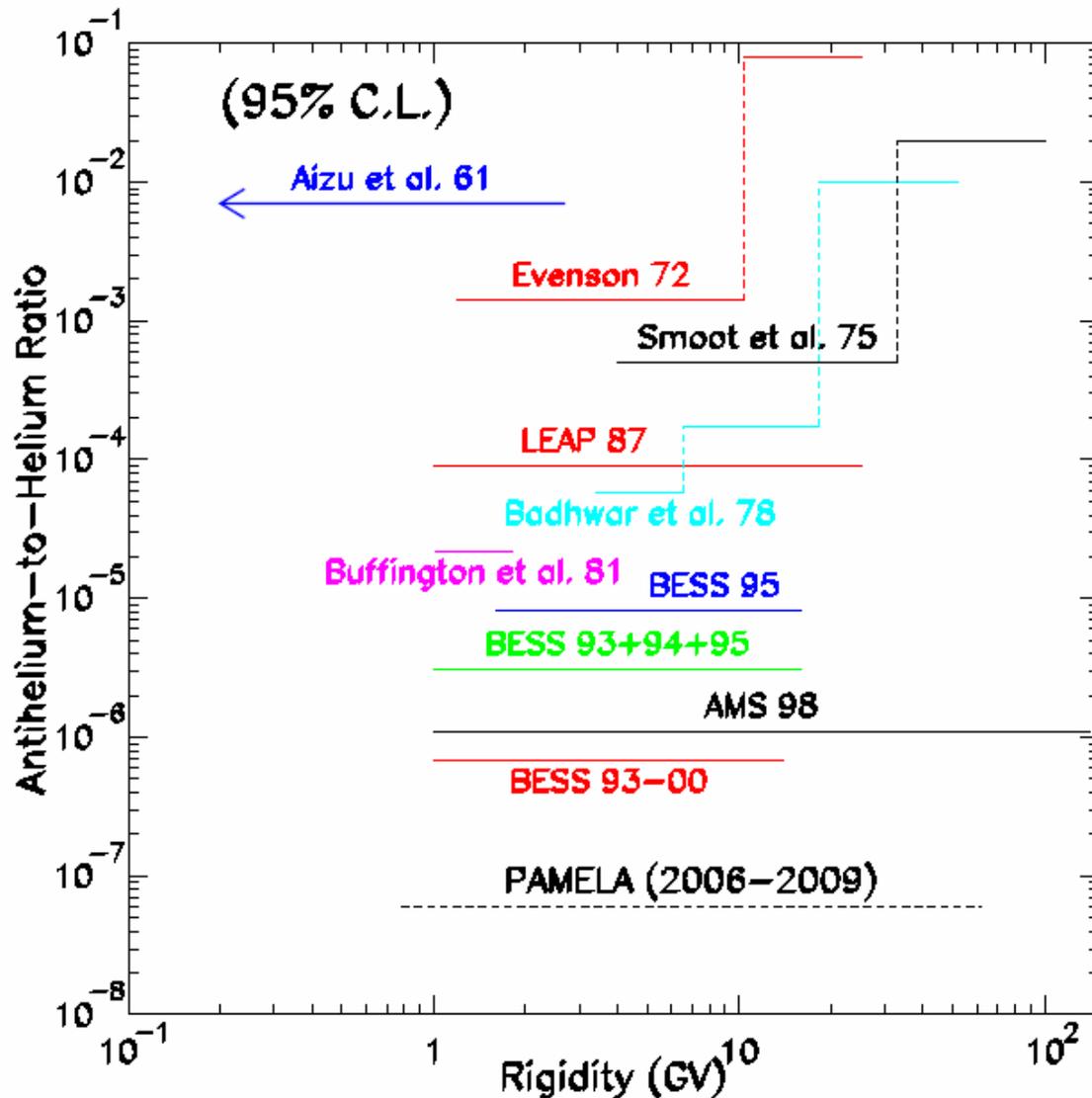
Secondary production

'Leaky box model' R. Protheroe,
ApJ 254 (1982) 391.

Primary production
 from $\chi\chi$ annihilation
 ($m(\chi) = 336$ GeV)

Baltz + Edsjö, Phys Rev D59
(1999) 023511.

Cosmic-ray Antimatter Search

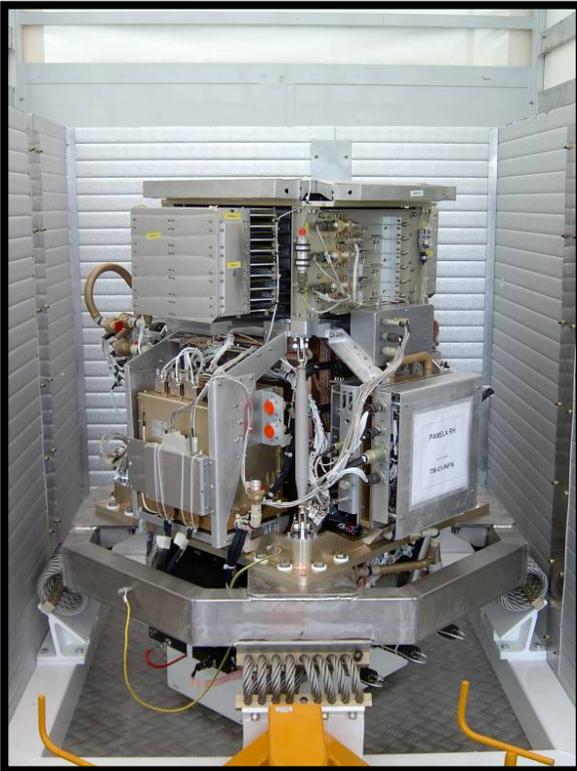


“We must regard it rather an accident that the Earth and presumably the whole Solar System contains a preponderance of negative electrons and positive protons. It is quite possible that for some of the stars it is the other way about”

P. Dirac, Nobel lecture (1933)



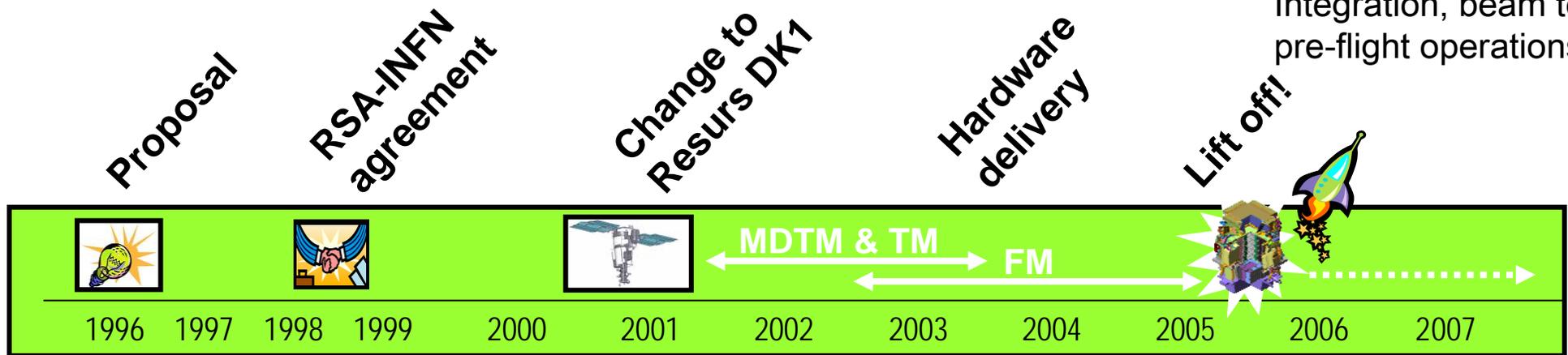
Mass & Thermal Model
Vibration / shock / transport tests



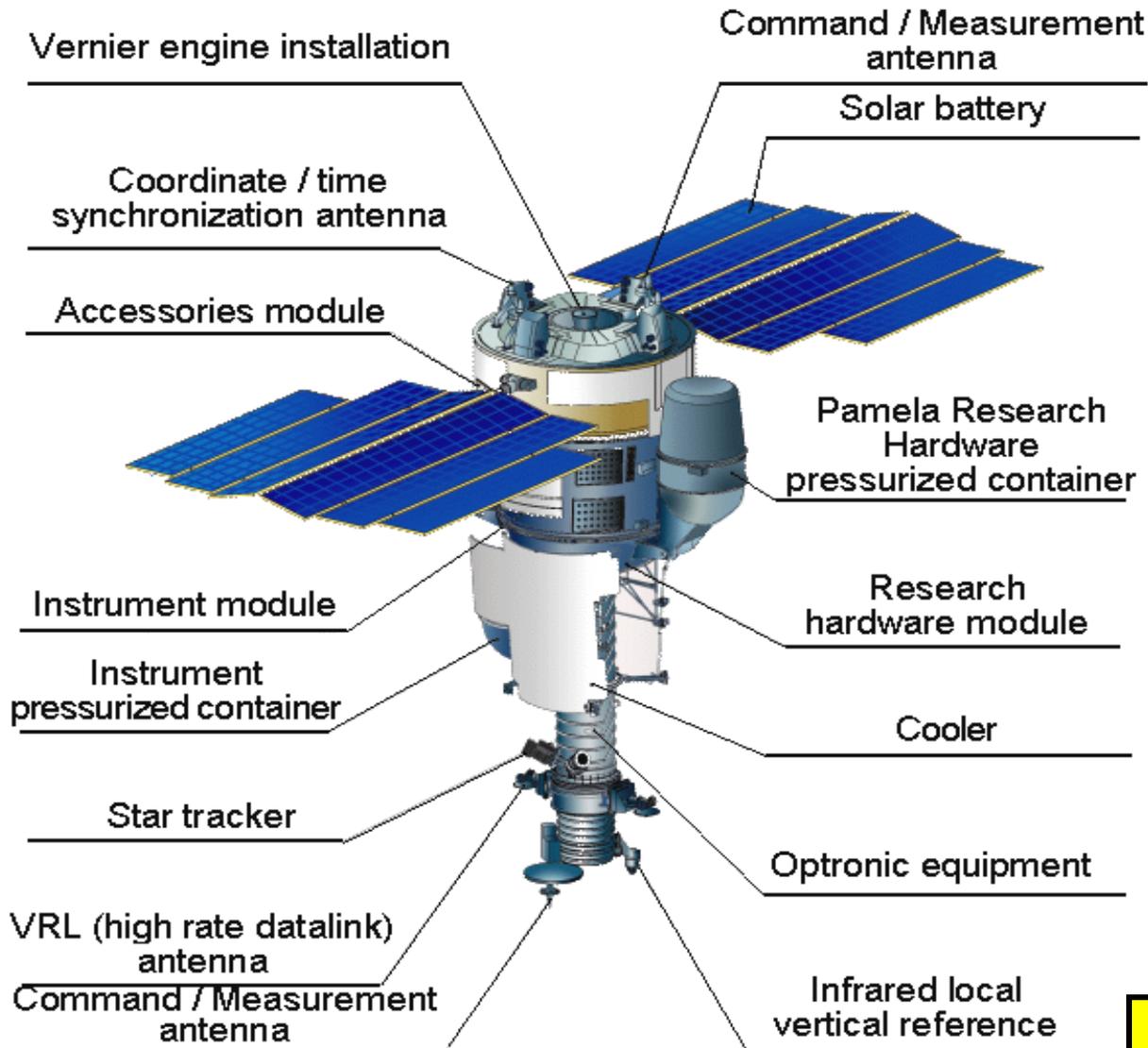
Technological Model
Preliminary acceptance tests with EGSE: power on/off, telecommands, data transmission through adapter; magnetic tests



Flight Model
Integration, beam tests; pre-flight operations

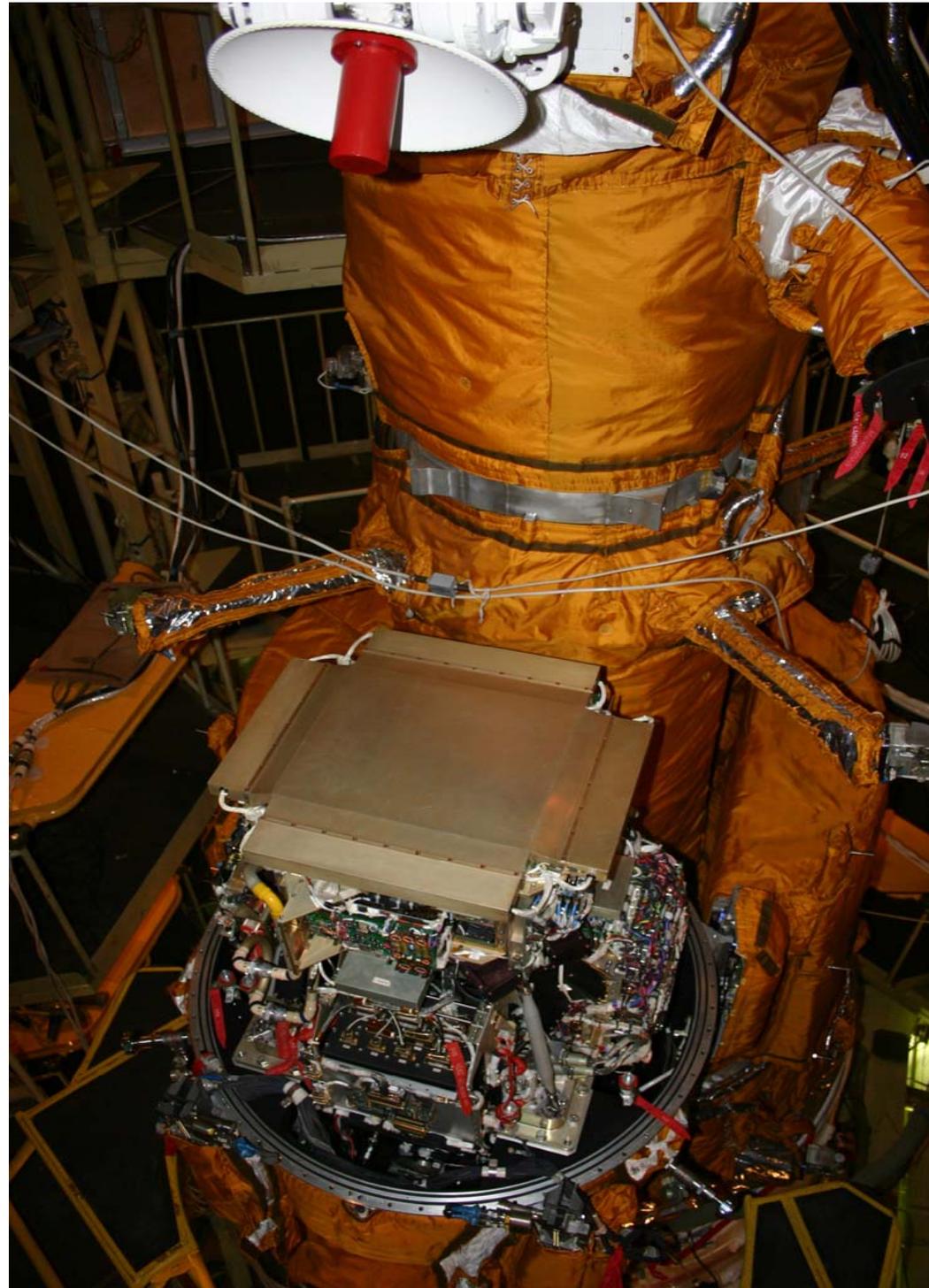
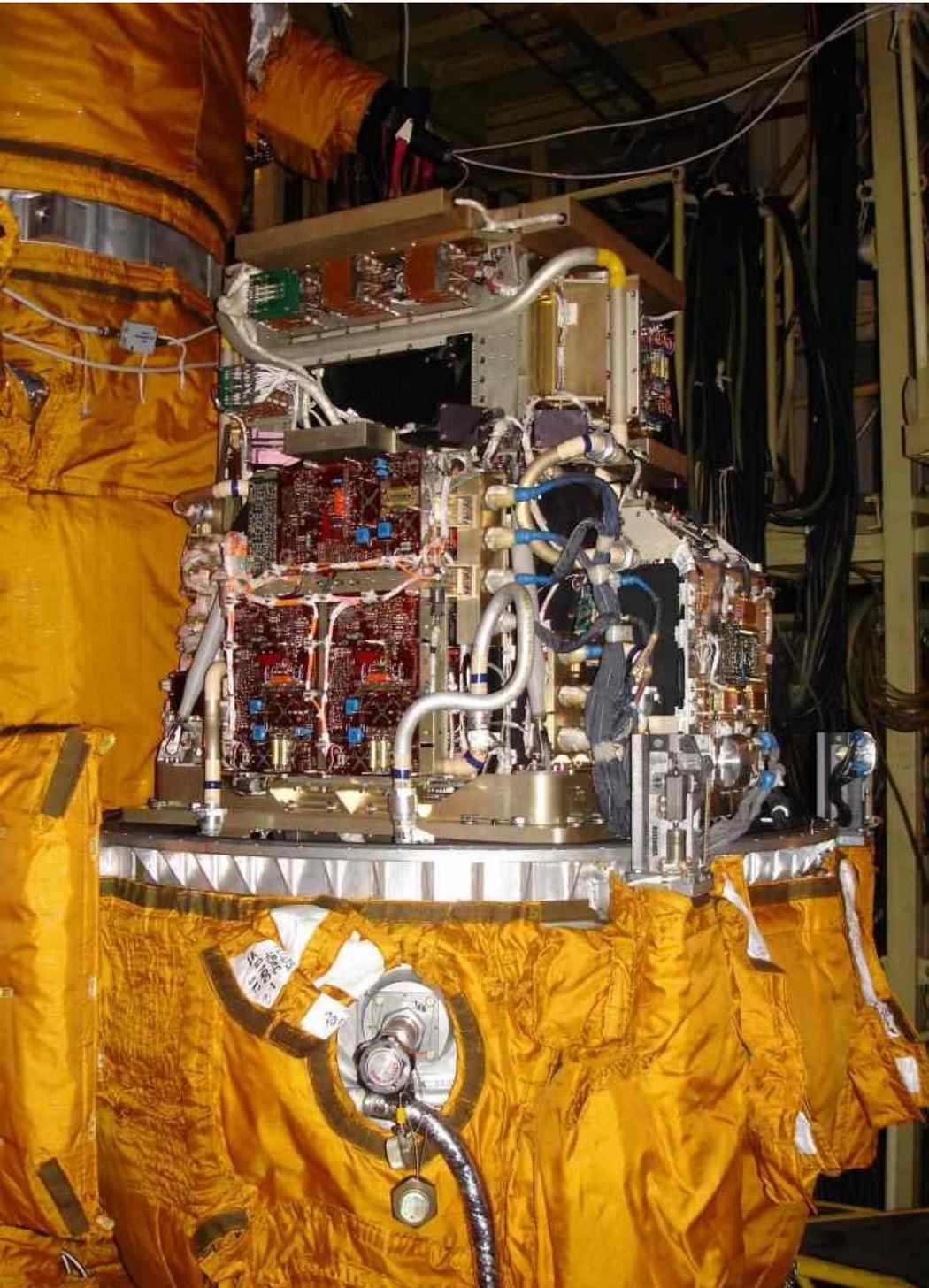


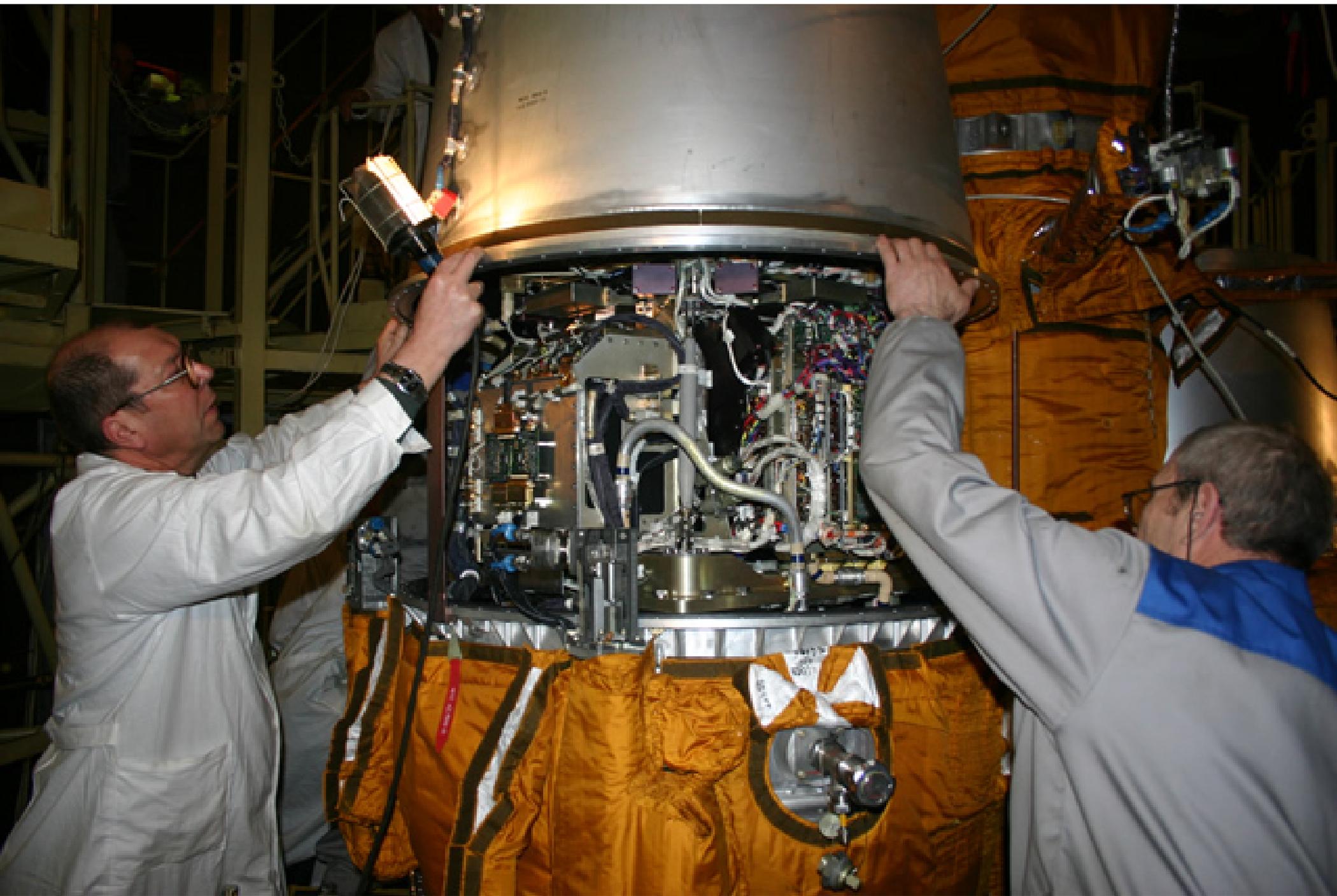
Resurs-DK1 Satellite



- Main task: multi-spectral remote sensing of earth's surface
- Built by TsSKB Progress in Samara (Russia)
- Active life >3 years
- Data transmitted to ground via radio downlink
- PAMELA mounted inside a pressurized container

Mass: 6.7 tonnes
Height: 7.4 m
Solar array area: 36 m²









© 1992 MAGELLAN Geographix, Santa Barbara, CA



ГАГАРИНСКИЙ
СТАРТ

12th April 1961

T - 1 day



Launch: 15th June 2006



Launch: 15th June 2006



Launch: 15th June 2006



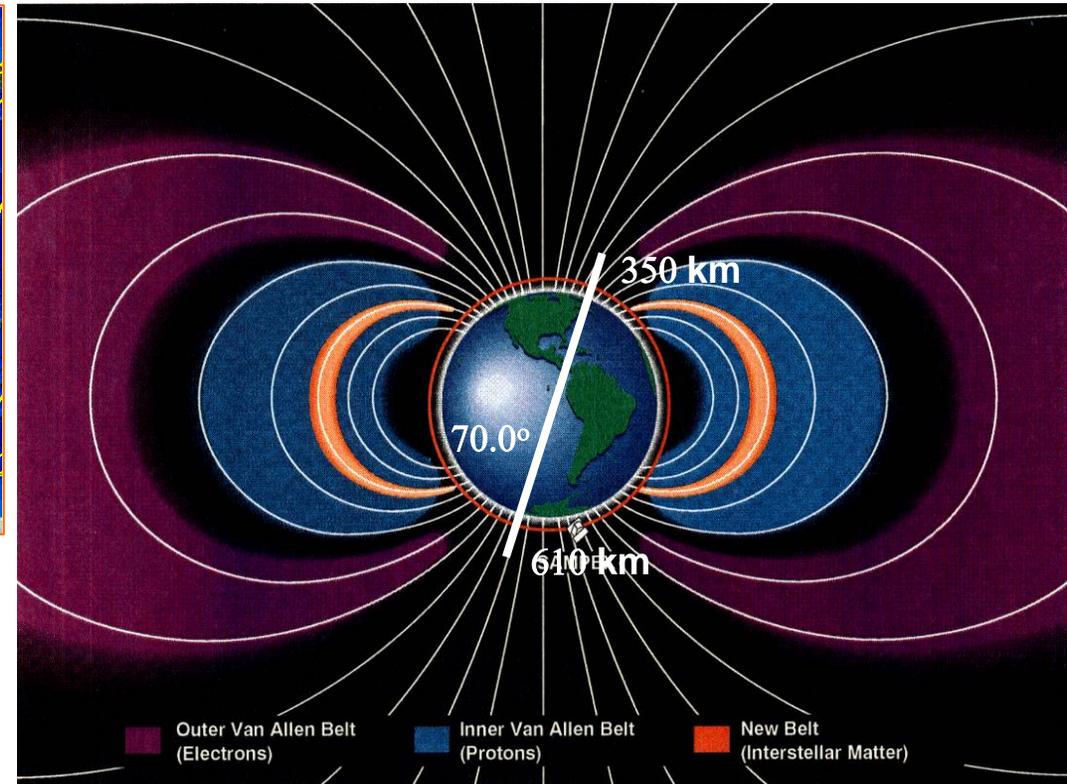
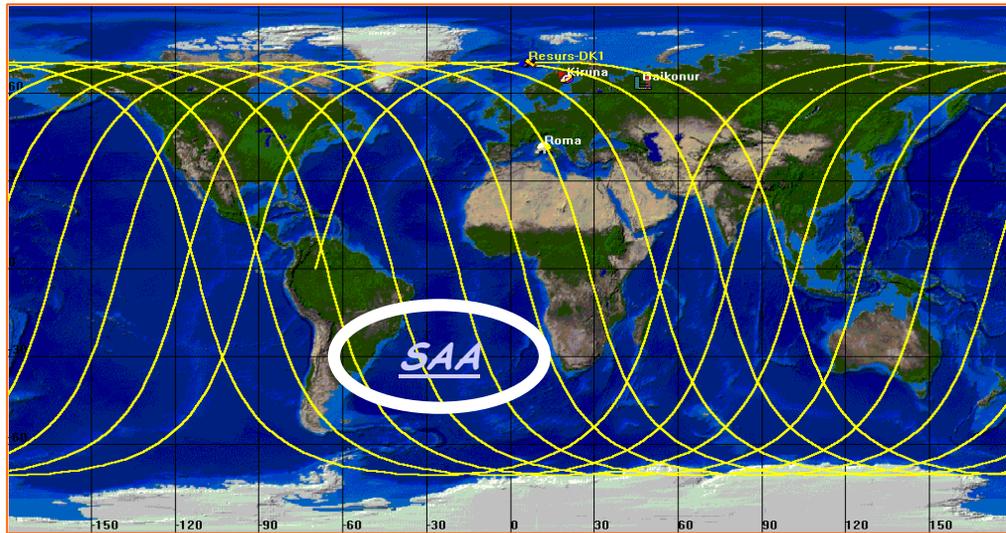
Launch: 15th June 2006



Launch: 15th June 2006



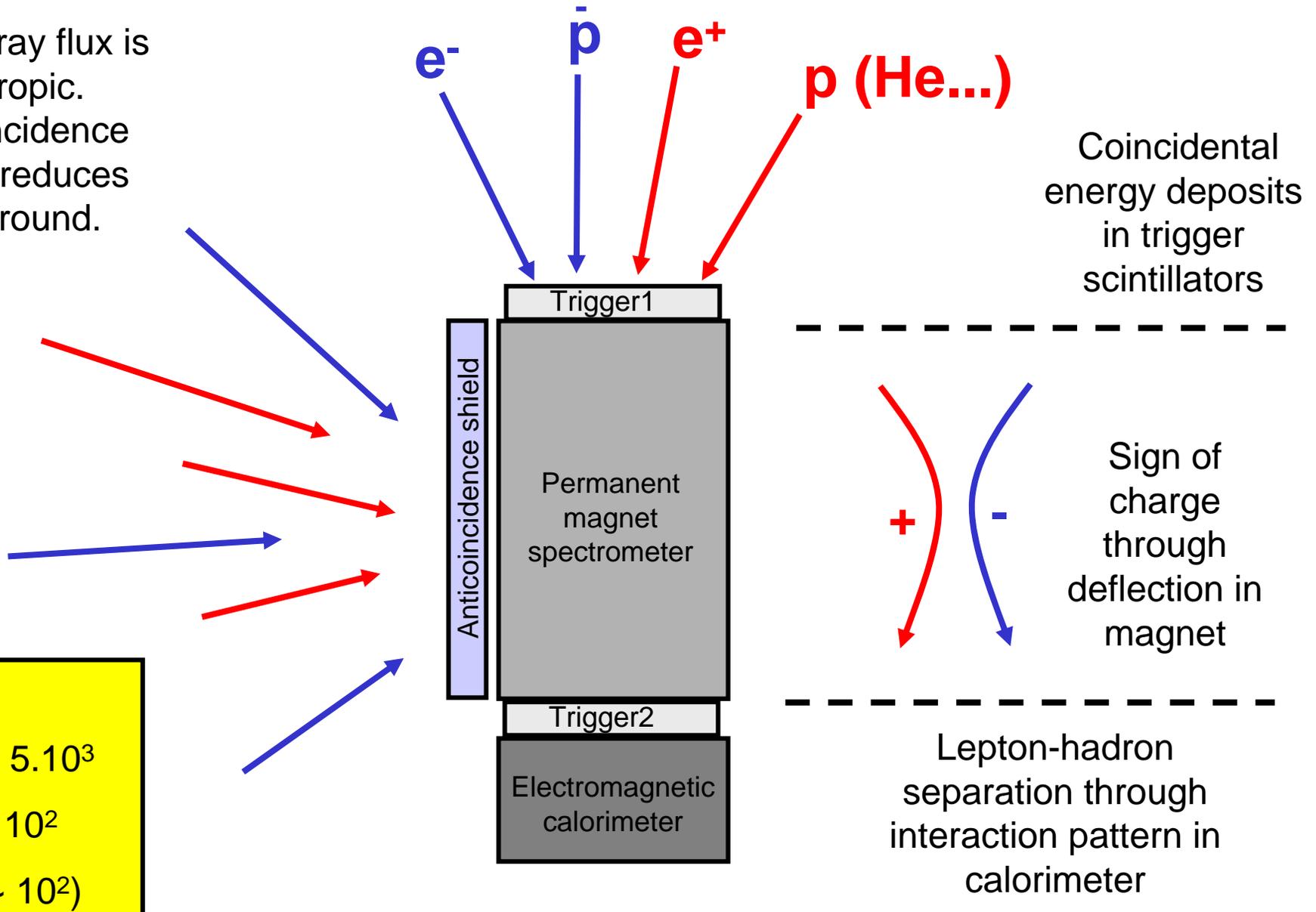
Orbital characteristics



- Quasi-polar (70.0°)
- Elliptical (350 km - 600 km)
- PAMELA traverses the South Atlantic Anomaly
- At the South Pole PAMELA crosses the outer (electron) Van Allen belt
- Orbital tracking via on-board GLONASS or **NORAD** (used!)

Principle of operation

Cosmic ray flux is
~isotropic.
Anticoincidence
system reduces
background.



Coincidental
energy deposits
in trigger
scintillators

Anticoincidence shield

Permanent
magnet
spectrometer

Trigger2

Electromagnetic
calorimeter

Sign of
charge
through
deflection in
magnet

Lepton-hadron
separation through
interaction pattern in
calorimeter

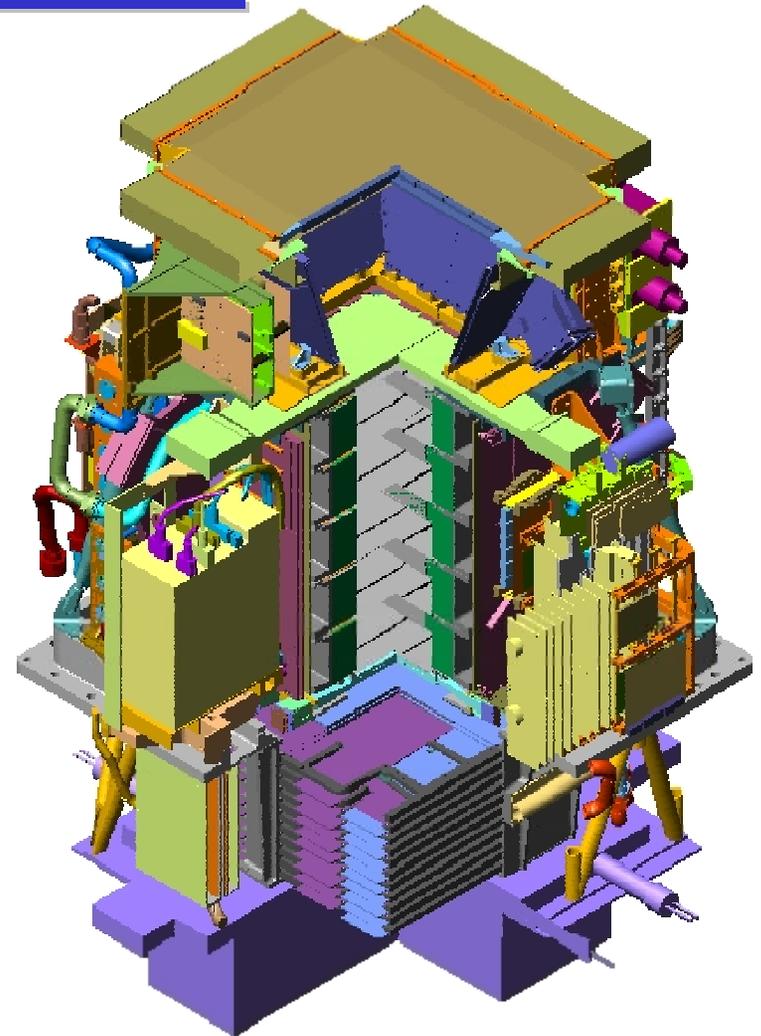
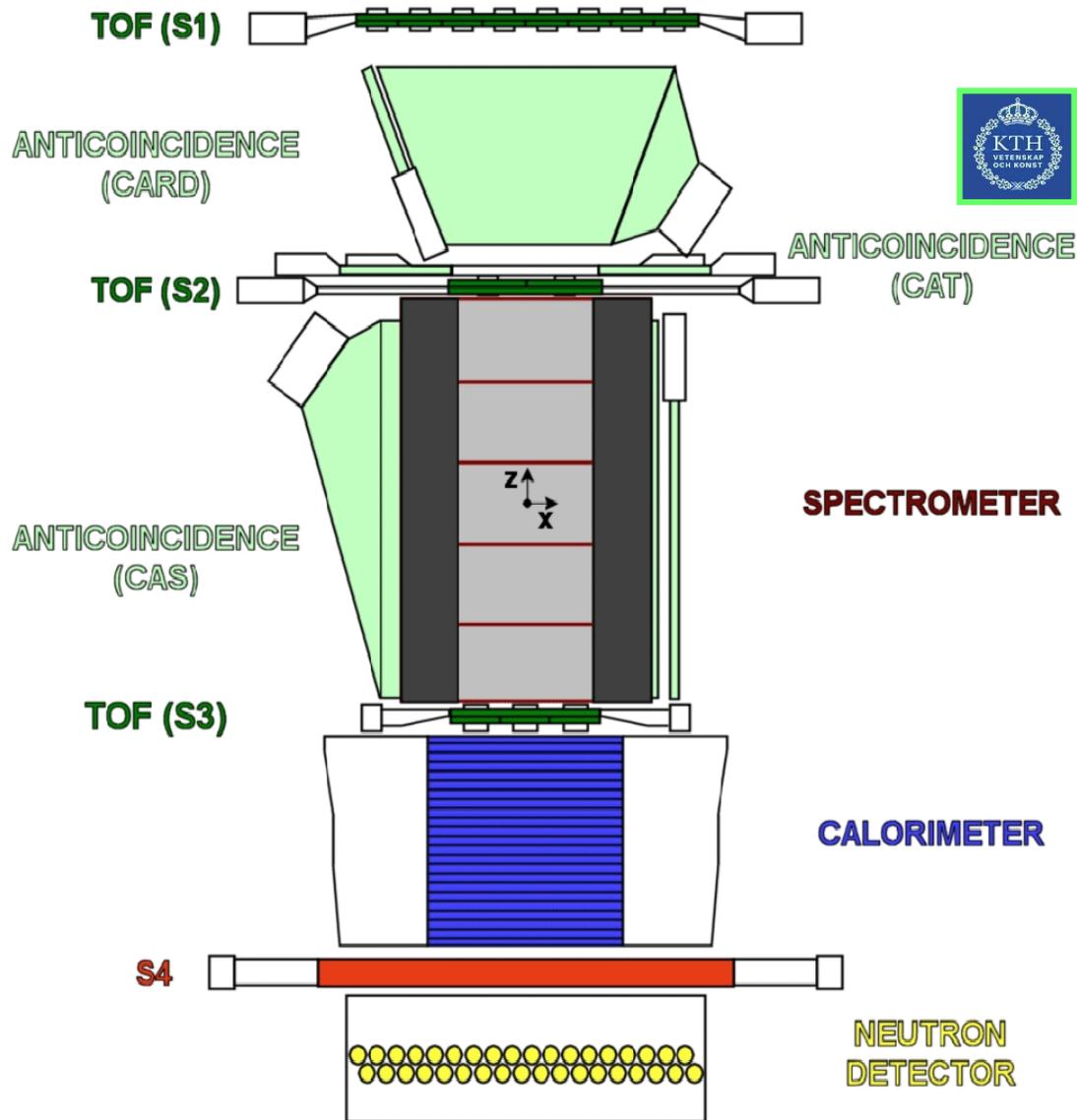
At ~10 GeV:

$$N(p) / N(e^+) \sim 5 \cdot 10^3$$

$$N(e^-) / N(\bar{p}) \sim 10^2$$

$$(N(p) / N(e^-) \sim 10^2)$$

PAMELA apparatus

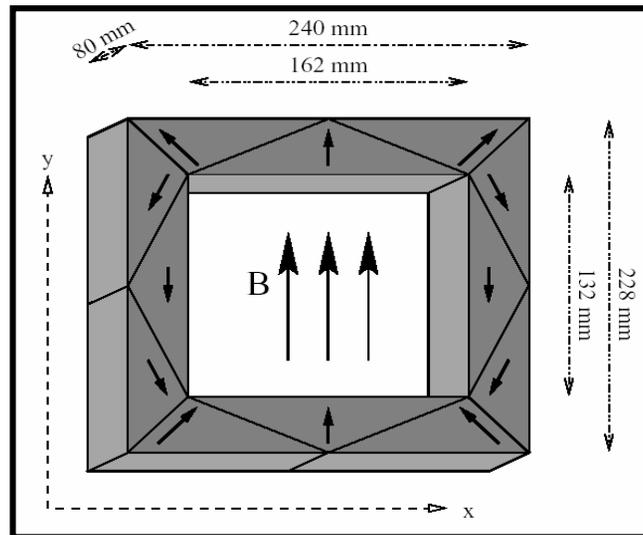
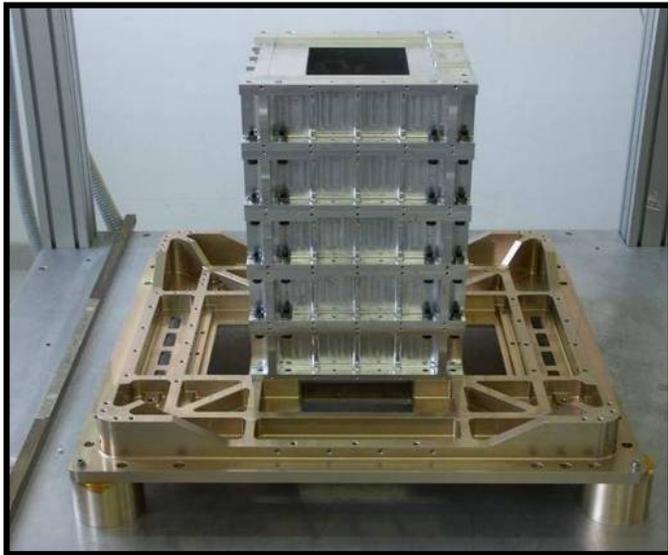


GF: 21.5 cm² sr
Mass: 470 kg
Size: 130 x 70 x 70 cm³
Power budget: 360 W

The magnet

Characteristics:

- 5 modules of permanent magnet (Nd-B-Fe alloy) in aluminum mechanics
- Cavity dimensions (162 x 132 x 445) cm³
→ GF ~ 21.5 cm²sr
- Magnetic shields
- 5mm-step field-map on ground:
 - B=0.43 T (average along axis),
 - B=0.48 T (@center)



The tracking system

Main tasks:

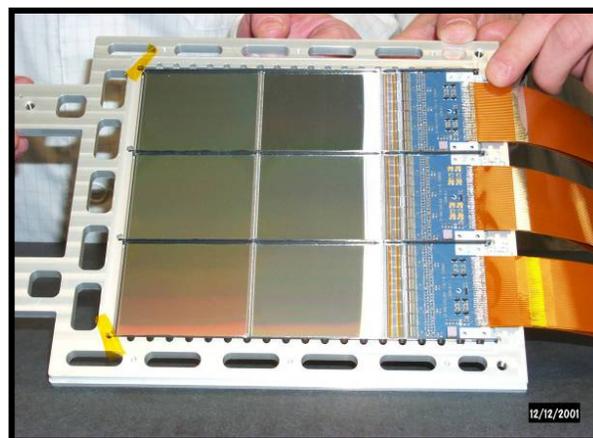
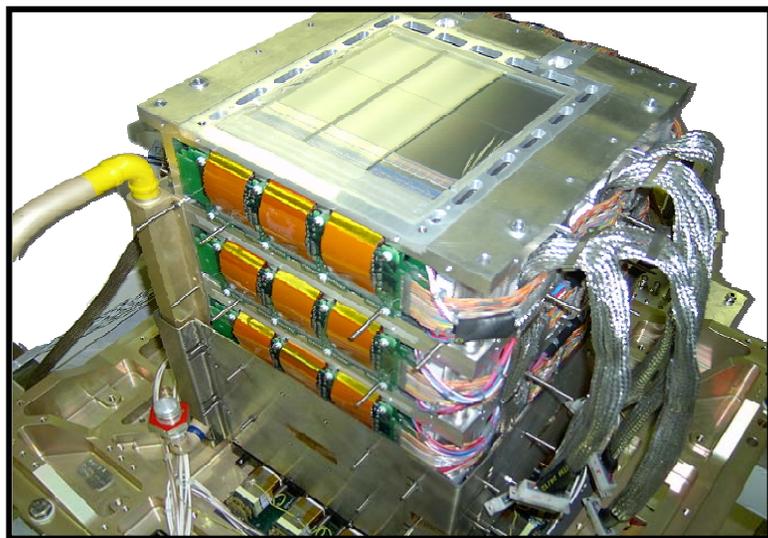
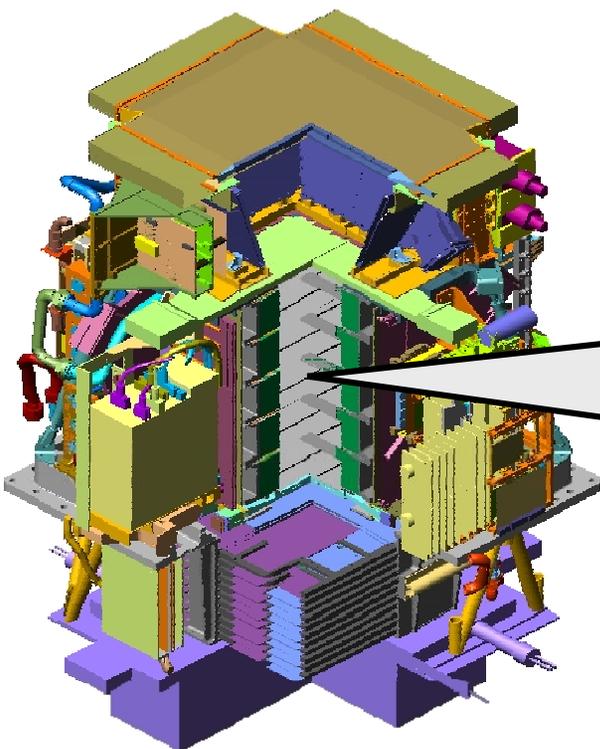
- Rigidity measurement
- Sign of electric charge
- dE/dx (ionisation loss)

Characteristics:

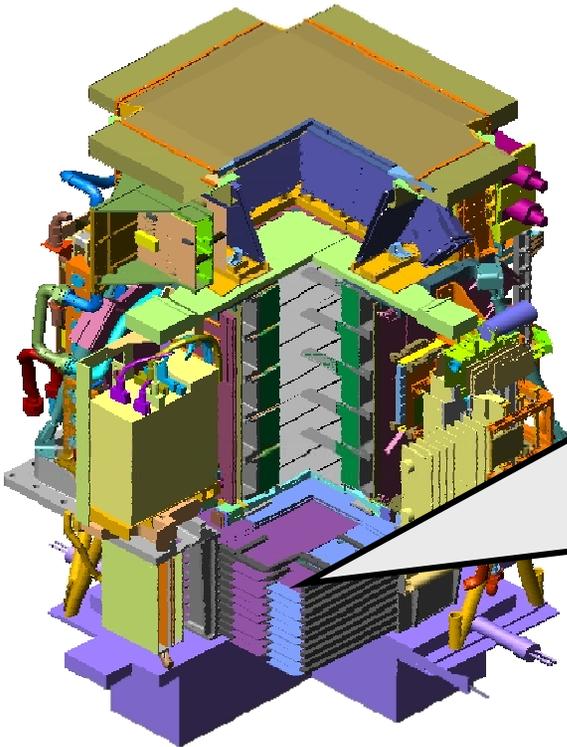
- 6 planes double-sided (x&y view) microstrip Si sensors
- 36864 channels
- Dynamic range: 10 MIP

Performance:

- Spatial resolution: $\sim 3 \mu\text{m}$ (bending view)
- MDR $\sim 1 \text{ TV/c}$ (from test beam data)



The electromagnetic calorimeter



Main tasks:

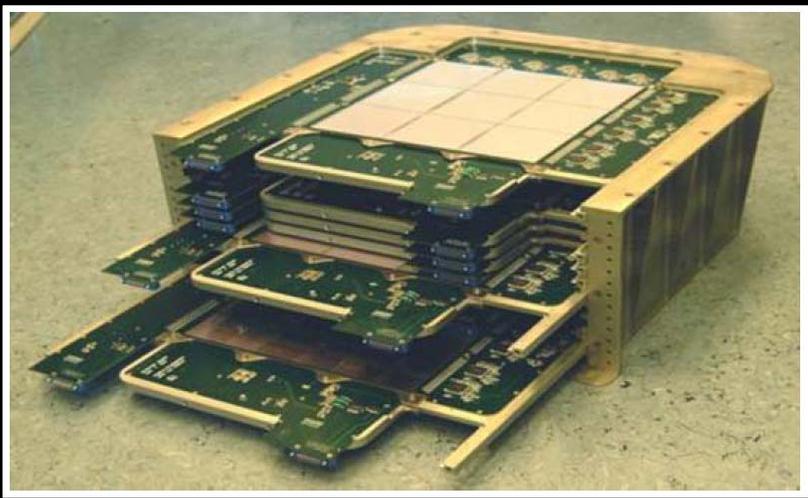
- lepton/hadron discrimination
- $e^{+/-}$ energy measurement

Characteristics:

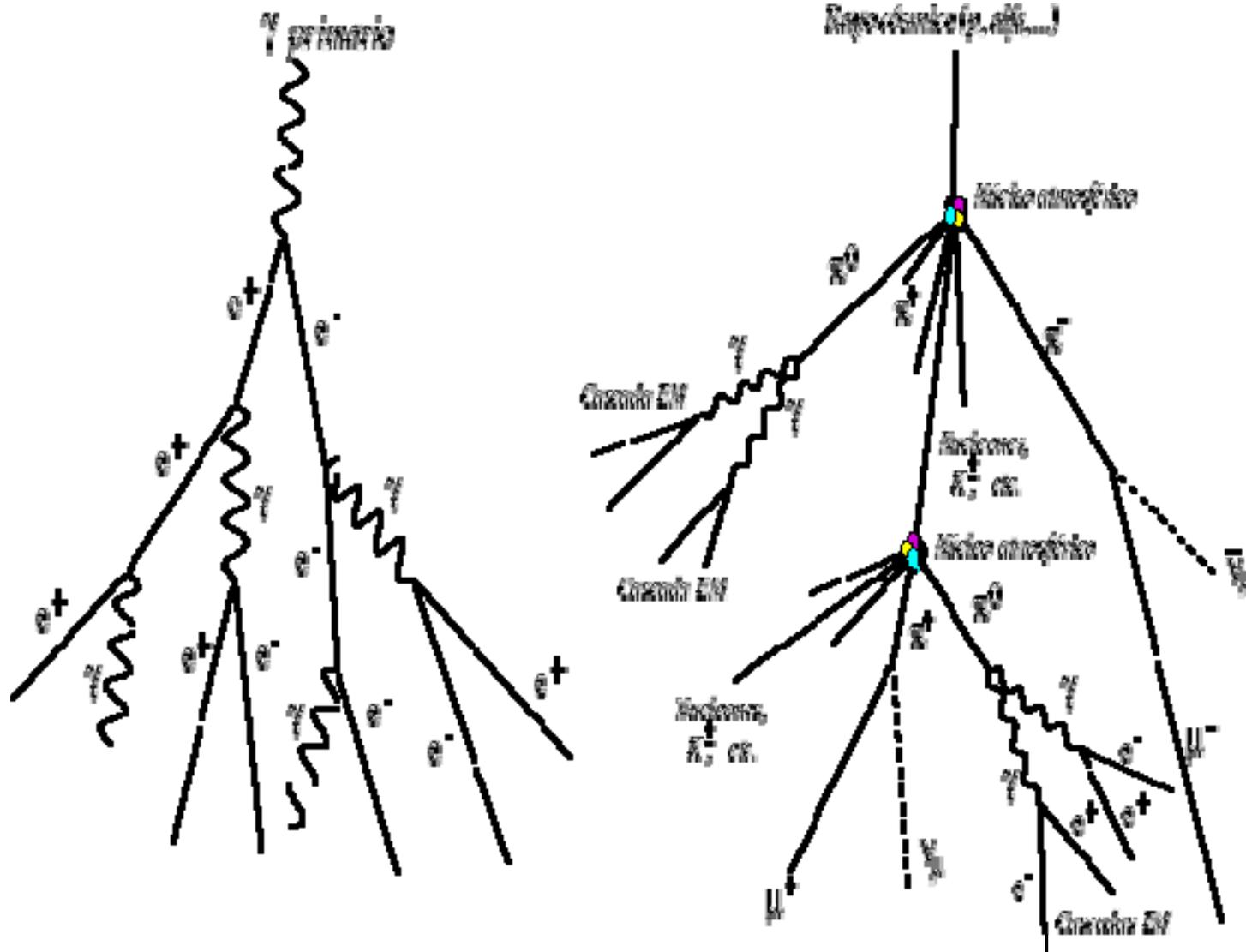
- 44 Si layers (X/Y) + 22 W planes
- $16.3 X_0 / 0.6 \lambda_L$
- 4224 channels
- Dynamic range: 1400 mip
- Self-trigger mode (> 300 GeV; $GF \sim 600$ cm² sr)

Performance:

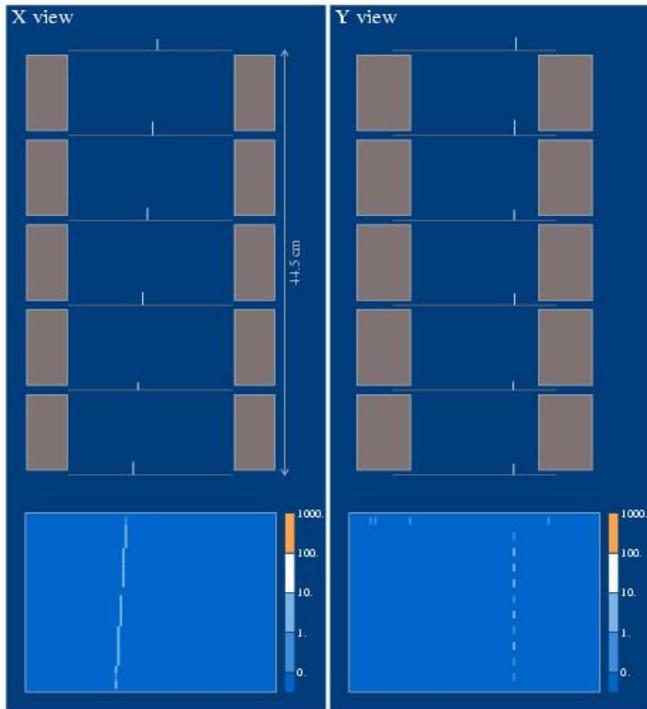
- p/e^+ selection efficiency $\sim 90\%$
- p rejection factor $\sim 10^6$
- e rejection factor $> 10^4$
- Energy resolution $\sim 5\%$ @ 200 GeV



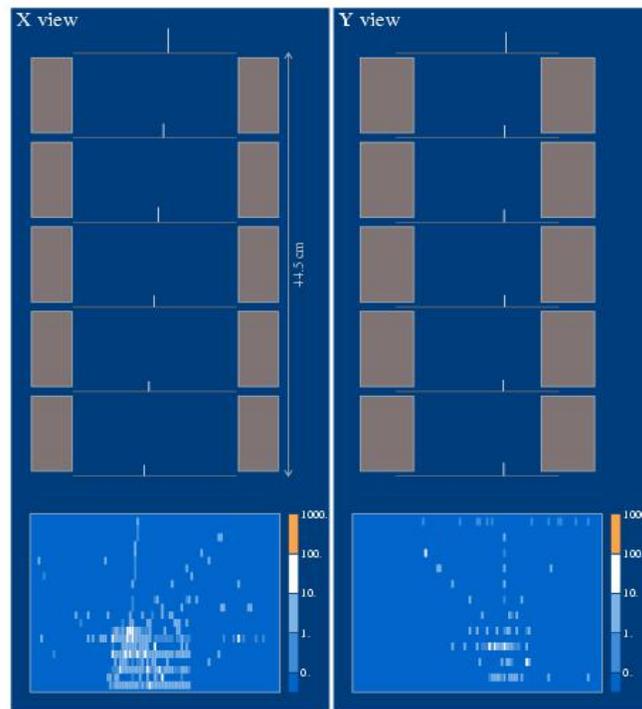
Electromagnetic and hadronic showers



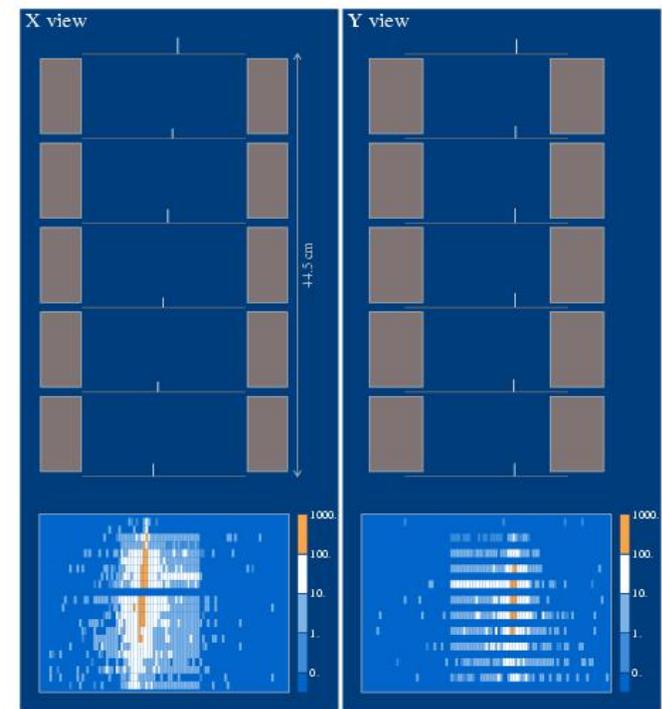
Combined tracker + calorimeter performance



Non-interacting p 100 GeV/c



Interacting p 100 GeV/c



Interacting e⁻ 100 GeV/c

(CERN SpS testbeam 2003)

The time-of-flight system

Main tasks:

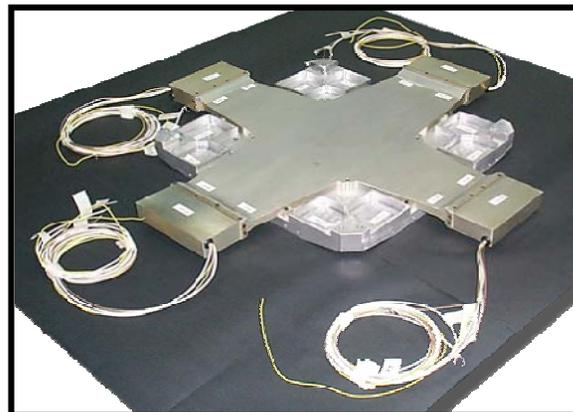
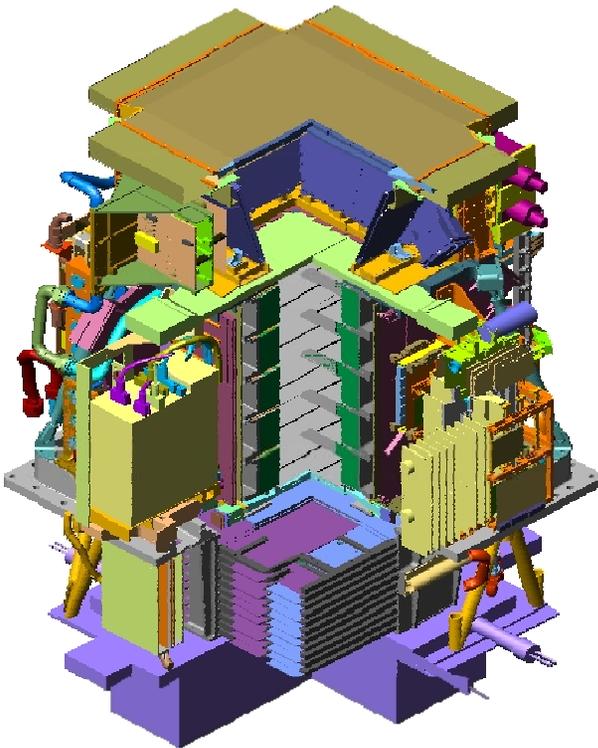
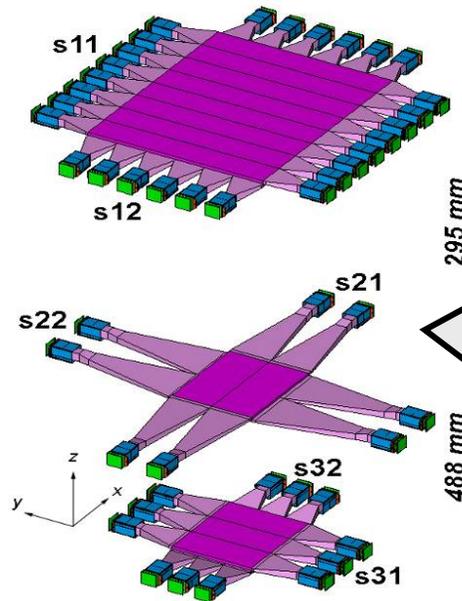
- First-level trigger
- Albedo rejection
- dE/dx (ionisation losses)
- Time of flight particle identification ($<1\text{GeV}/c$)

Characteristics:

- 3 double-layer scintillator paddles
- X/Y segmentation
- Total: 48 Channels

Performance:

- $\sigma(\text{paddle}) \sim 110\text{ps}$
- $\sigma(\text{ToF}) \sim 330\text{ps}$ (for MIPs)



The anticounter shields

Main tasks:

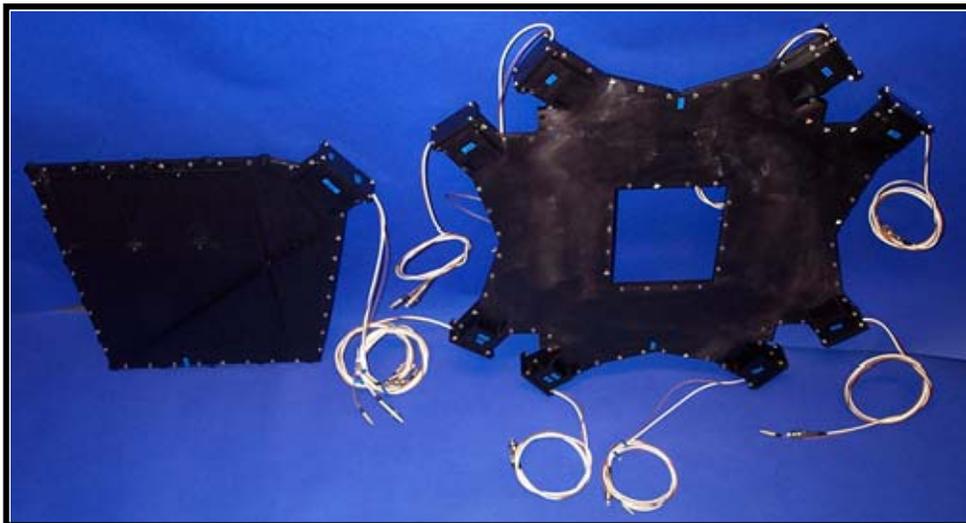
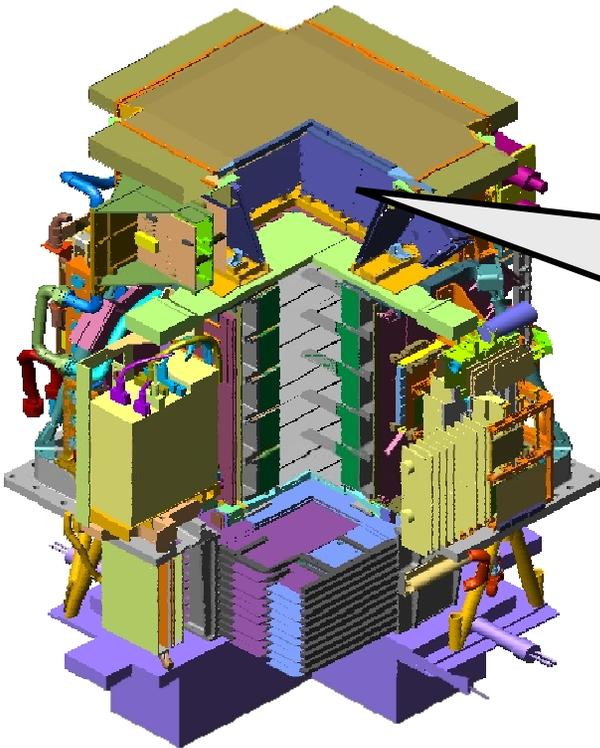
- Rejection of events with particles interacting with the apparatus (off-line and second-level trigger)

Characteristics:

- Plastic scintillator paddles, 8mm thick
- 4 upper (CARD), 1 top (CAT), 4 side (CAS)

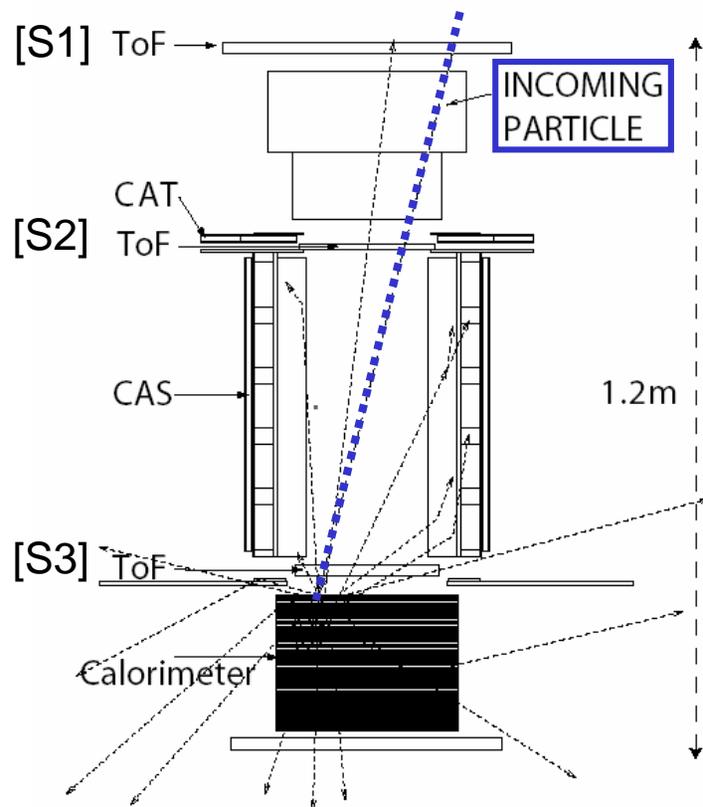
Performance:

- MIP efficiency > 99.9%

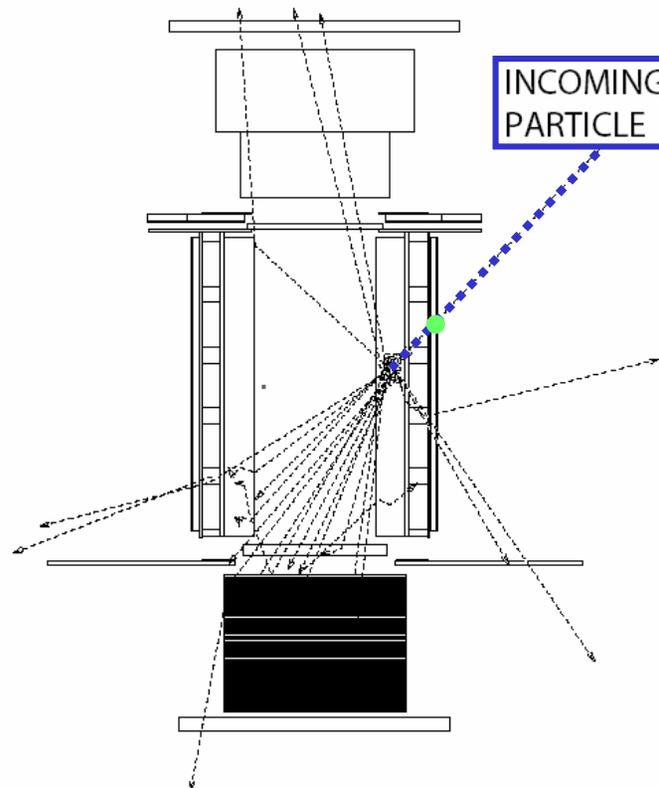


Anticounter purpose

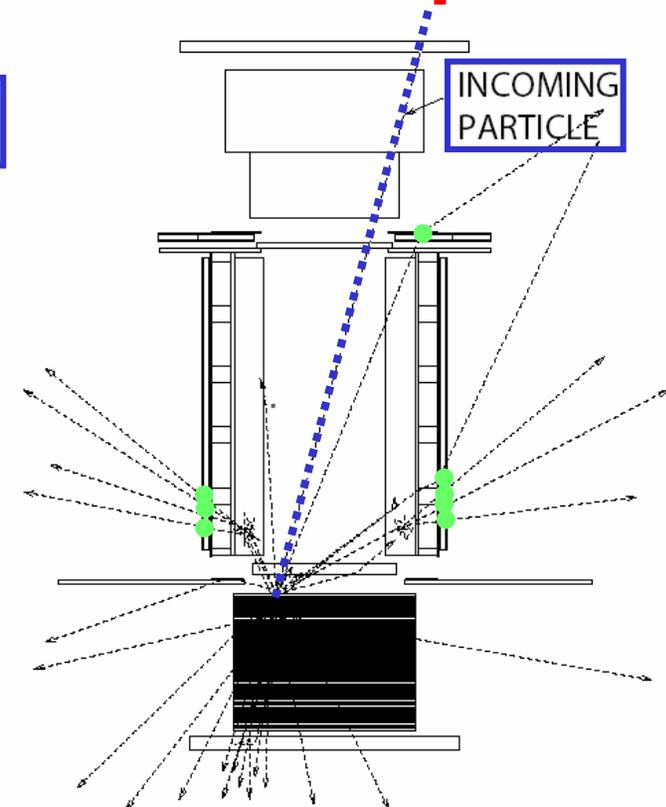
[Good trigger]



[False trigger]



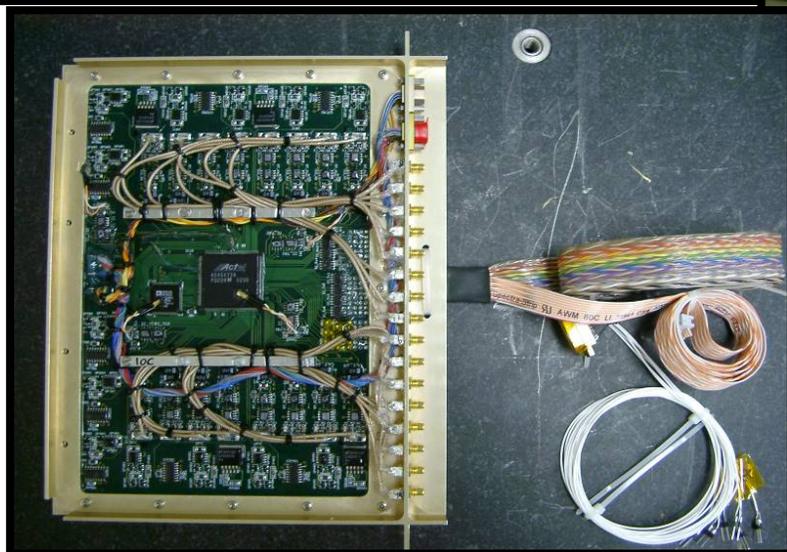
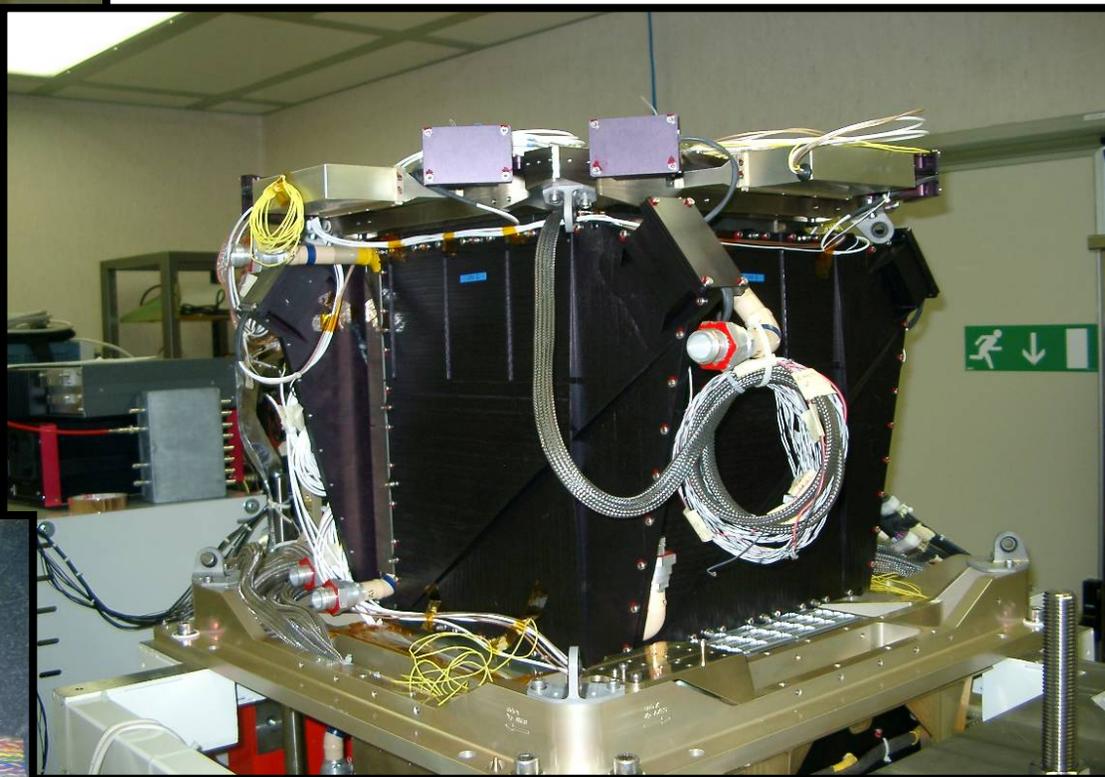
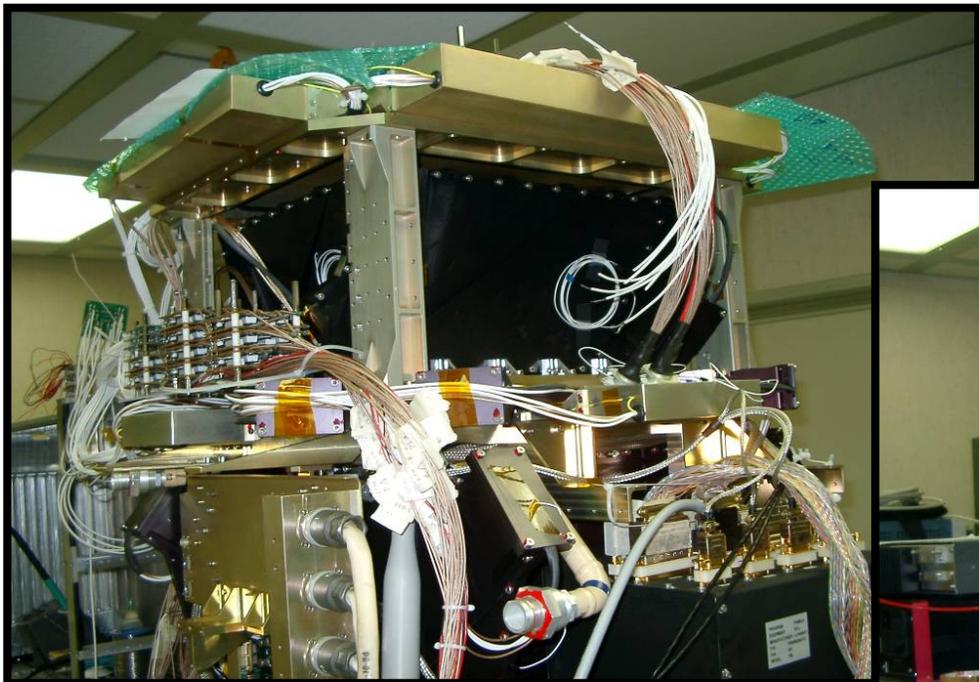
[Good trigger with AC self-veto]



- Main trigger = S1 .and. S2 .and. S3

- Use AC offline or in L2 trigger to reduce false triggers
- **NB:** background from self-veto

Anticoincidence systems



Examples of qualification tests

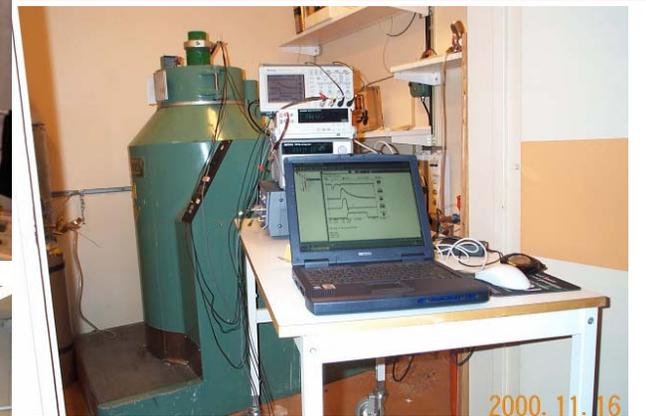
[QA]



[Beam tests]



[Irradiation]



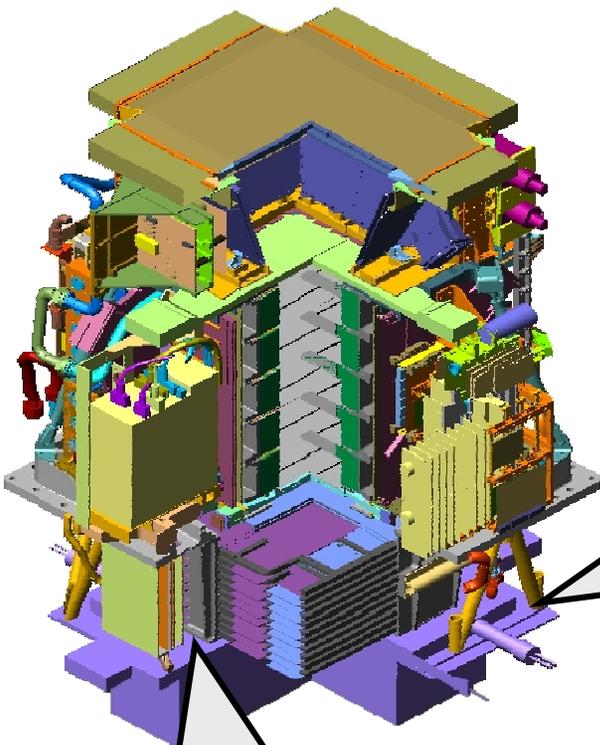
[Thermal, burn in]



[Vibrations]



[On-ground]



Neutron detector

Main tasks:

- e/h discrimination at high-energy

Characteristics:

- 36 ^3He counters:
- $$^3\text{He}(n,p)\text{T} \rightarrow E_p=780 \text{ keV}$$
- 1cm thick polyethylene moderators
 - n collected within 200 μs time-window

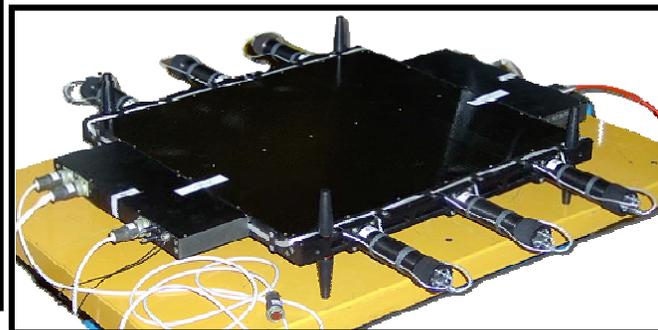
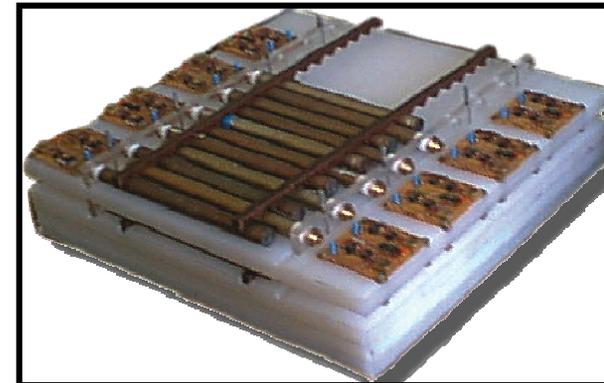
Shower-tail catcher

Main tasks:

- Neutron Detector trigger

Characteristics:

- 1 plastic scintillator paddle, 1 cm thick



PAMELA milestones

- **Launch from Baikonur:** June 15th 2006.
- **‘First light’:** June 21st 2006, 0300 UTC.
- Detectors operated as expected (i.e.: no problems due to the launch).
- Tested different trigger and hardware configurations
- **Commissioning phase ended successfully on July 11th 2006**
- **PAMELA in continuous data-taking mode since then**

- As of ~now:
 - PAMELA has acquired data for ~220 days
 - 4 TB of raw data downlinked
 - ~480 million triggers recorded

Data acquisition details

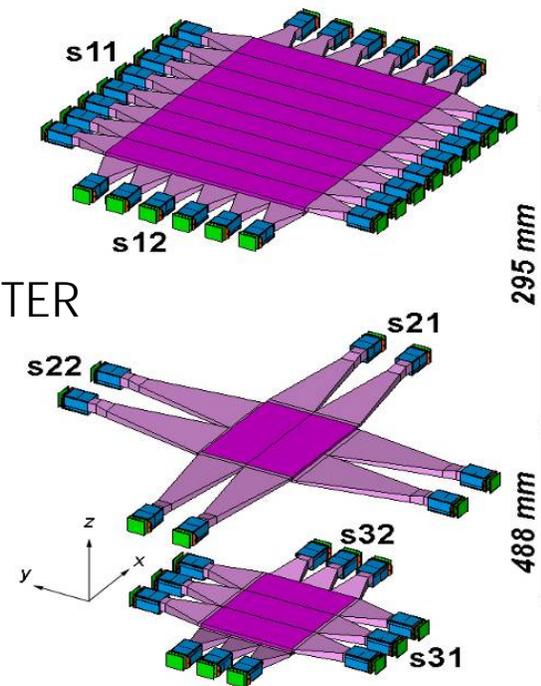
- Trigger configurations:

- High-radiation environment

- (S21 AND S22) AND (S31 AND S32) + CALORIMETER

- Low-radiation environment

- (S11 OR S12) AND (S21 OR S22) AND (S31 OR S32) + CALORIMETER



- Trigger rate* ~25Hz

- Fraction of live time* ~ 75% (*outside radiation belts)

- Event size (compressed mode) ~ 5kB

- 25 Hz x 5 kB/ev ~ 10 GB/day

Ground station

- **Main Station:** Research Centre for Earth Operative Monitoring “NtsOMZ” (Moscow, Russia);
 - Collected data stored in PAMELA mass-memory (2GB)
 - Download (PAMELA → satellite): 7-8 per day → 14-16 GB
 - Downlink (satellite→ ground) 2-3 sessions per day
 - Bit Error Rate $<10^{-9}$
 - Real time ‘Quicklook’ at NtsOMZ
 - **Corrective uplinks are possible**
- Data distributed to MePHI (Moscow Engineering and Physics Institute) and then onto Europe via GridFTP.

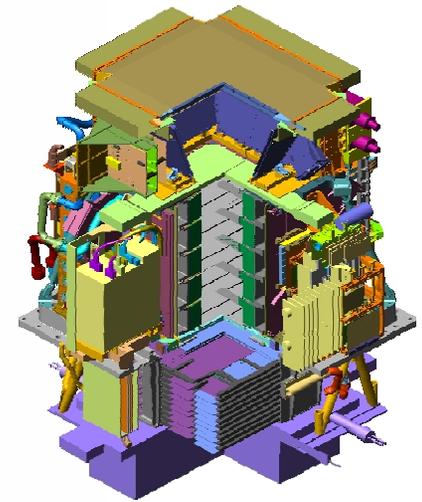
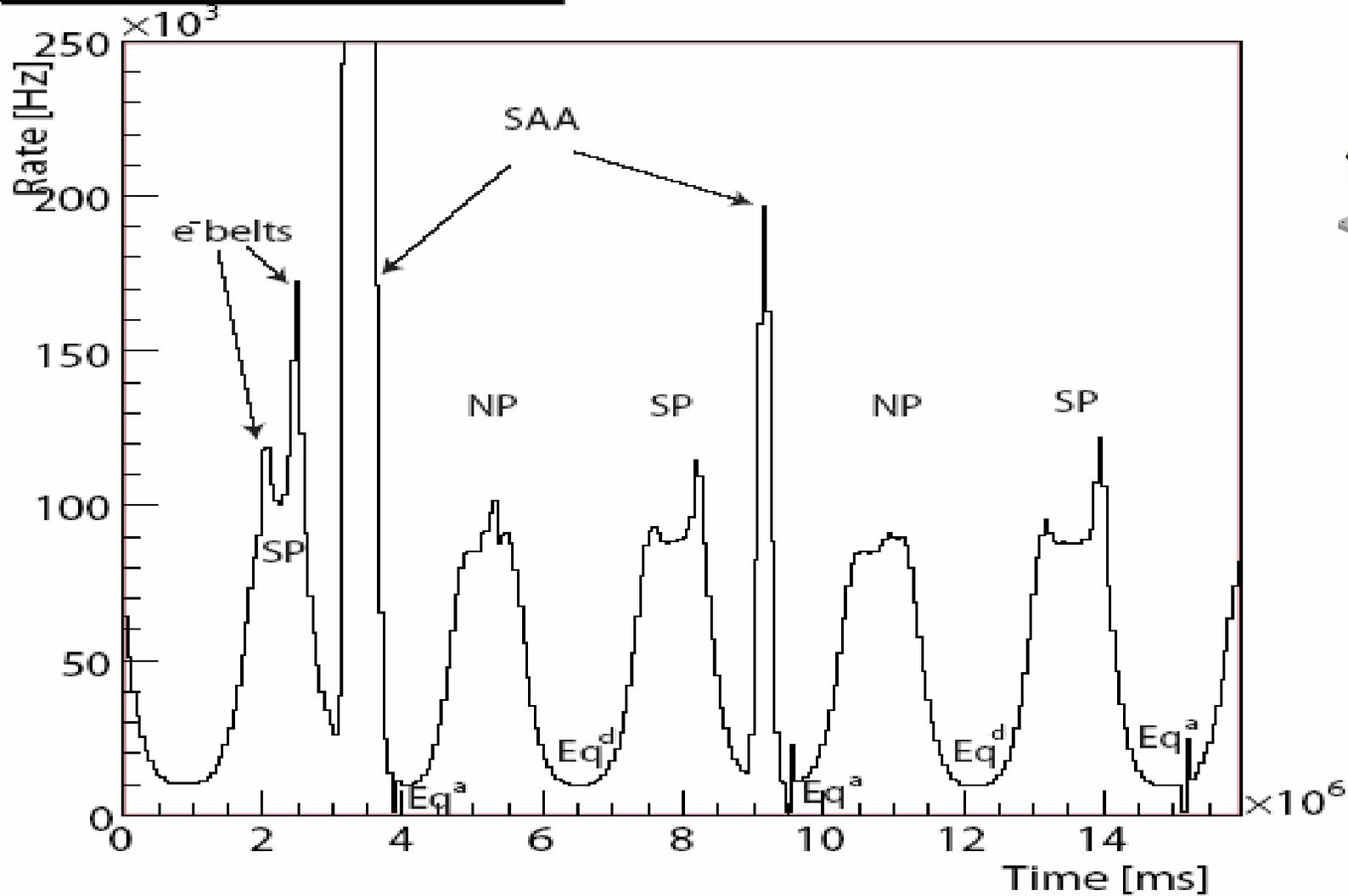


Main antenna in NTsOMZ

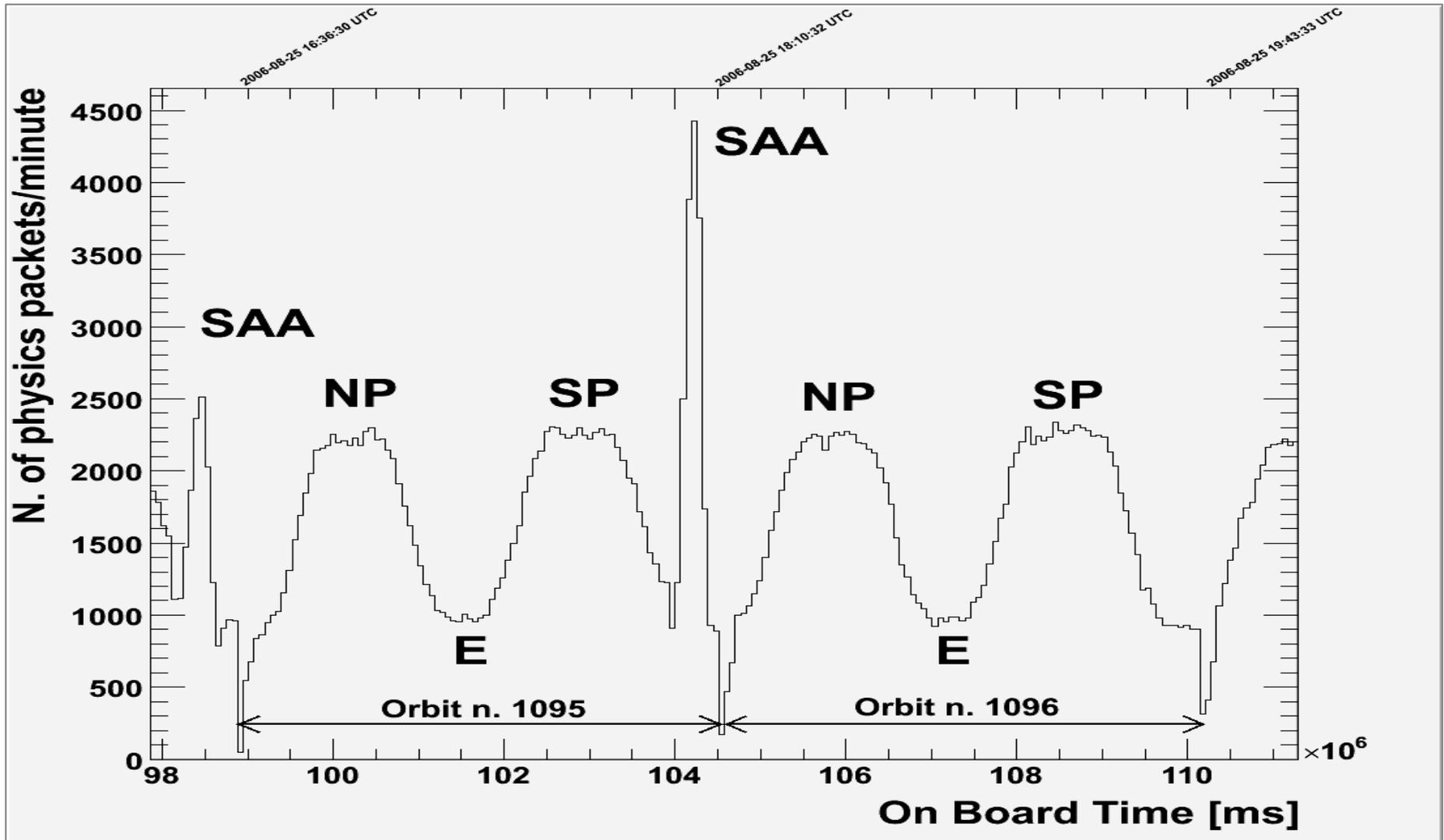
Orbital environment

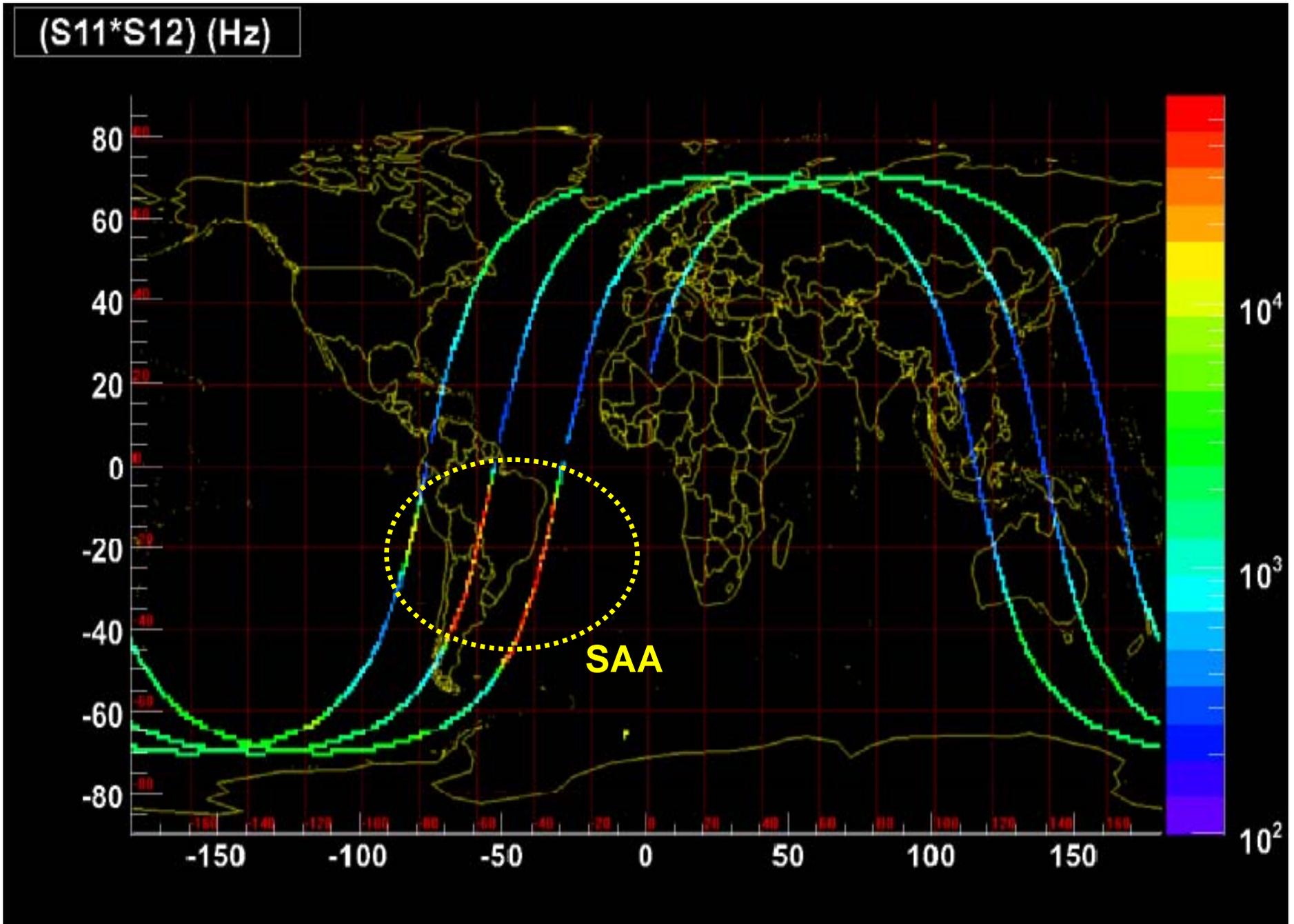
Anticoincidence counting rate

Singles rate CAS1

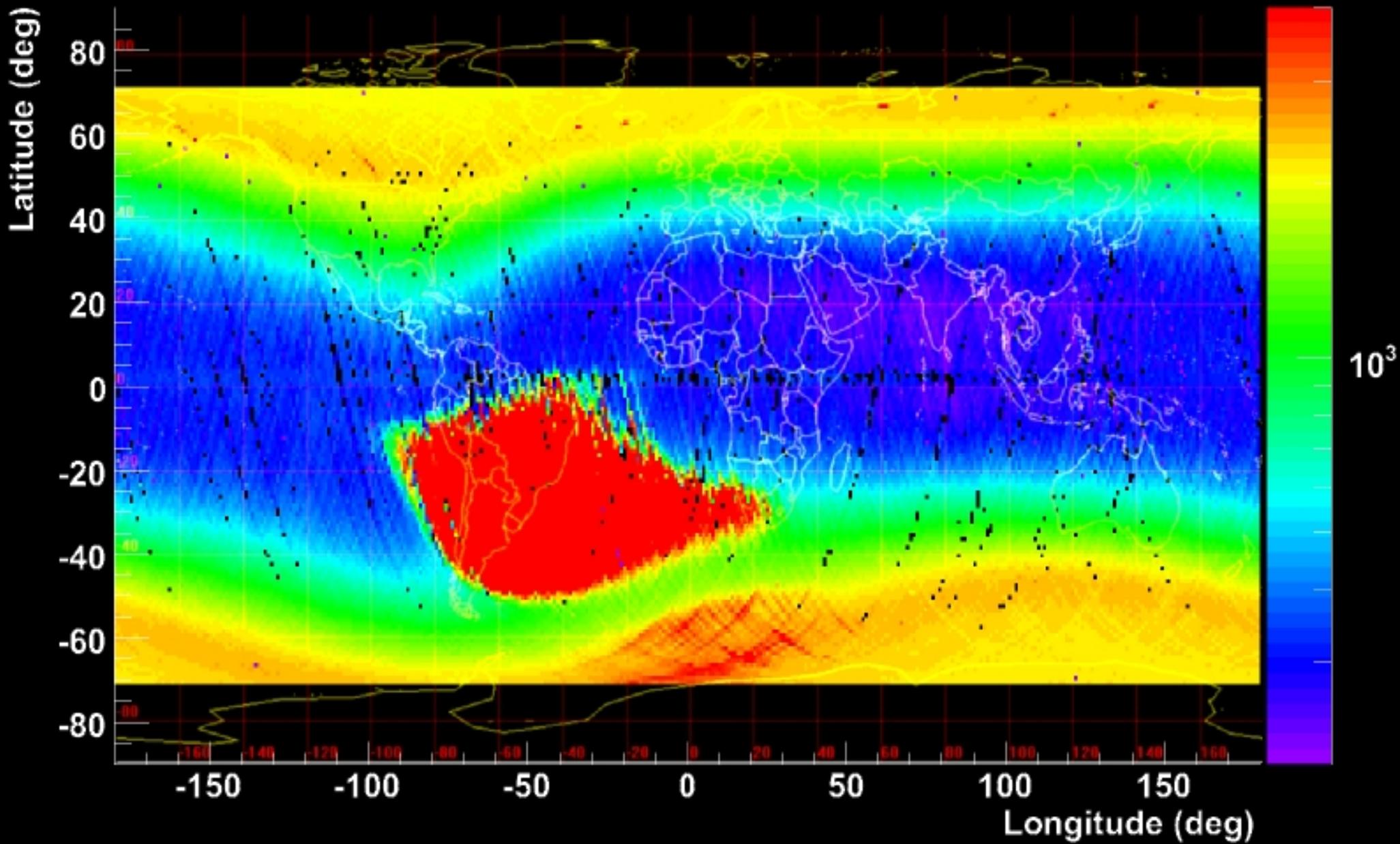


Trigger rate

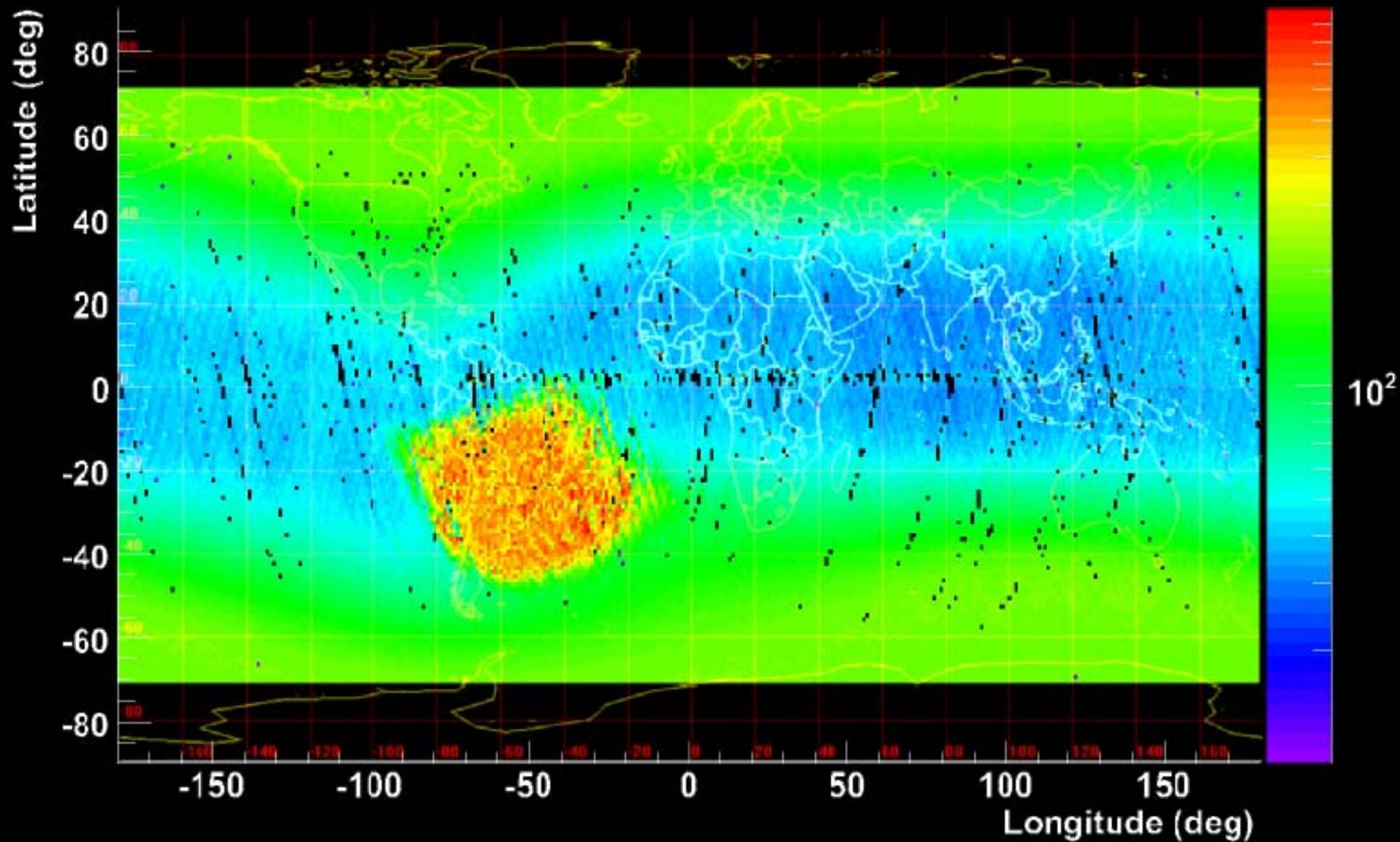




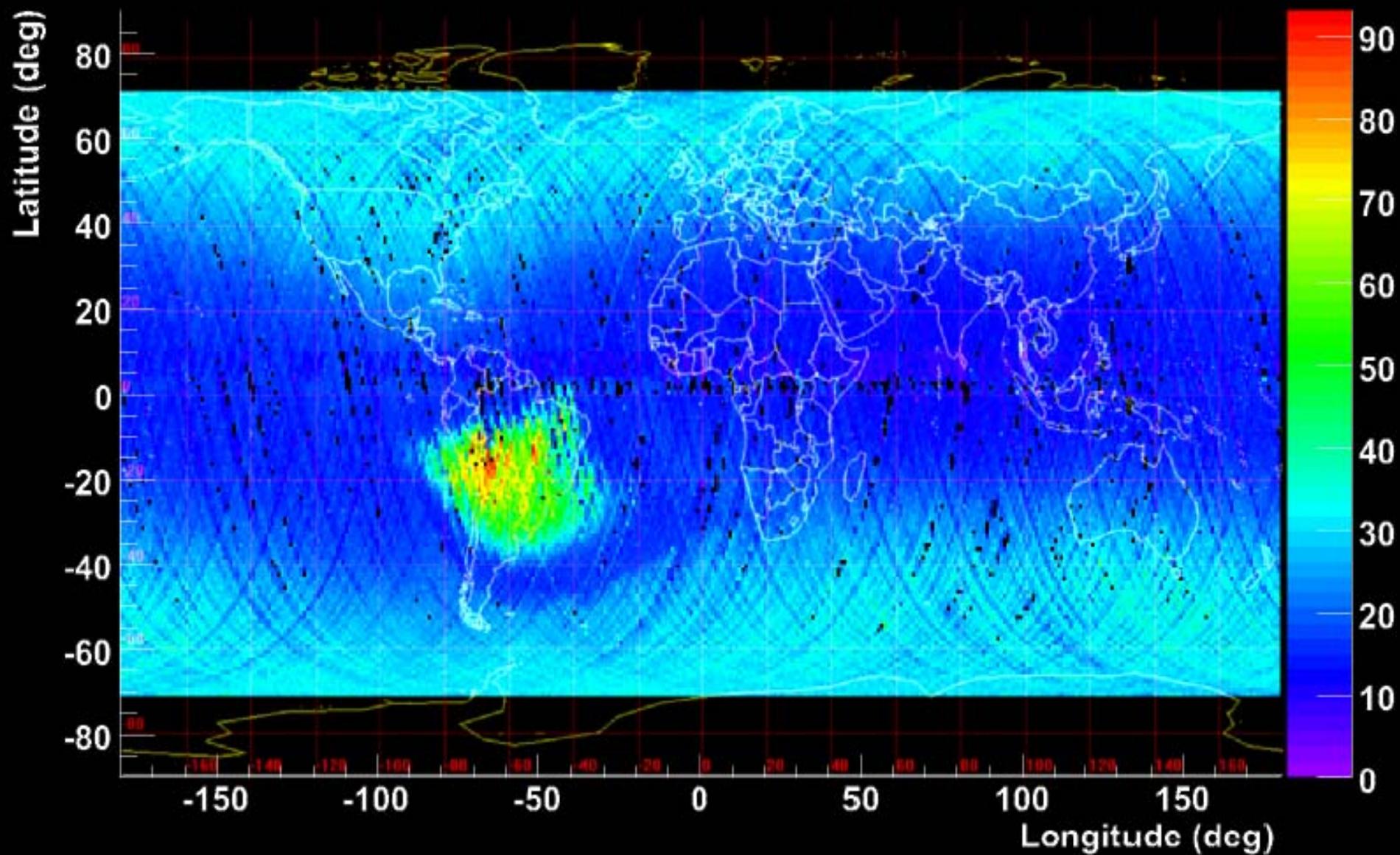
(S11*S12) [hit/time]



(S12*S21*S22) [hit/time]



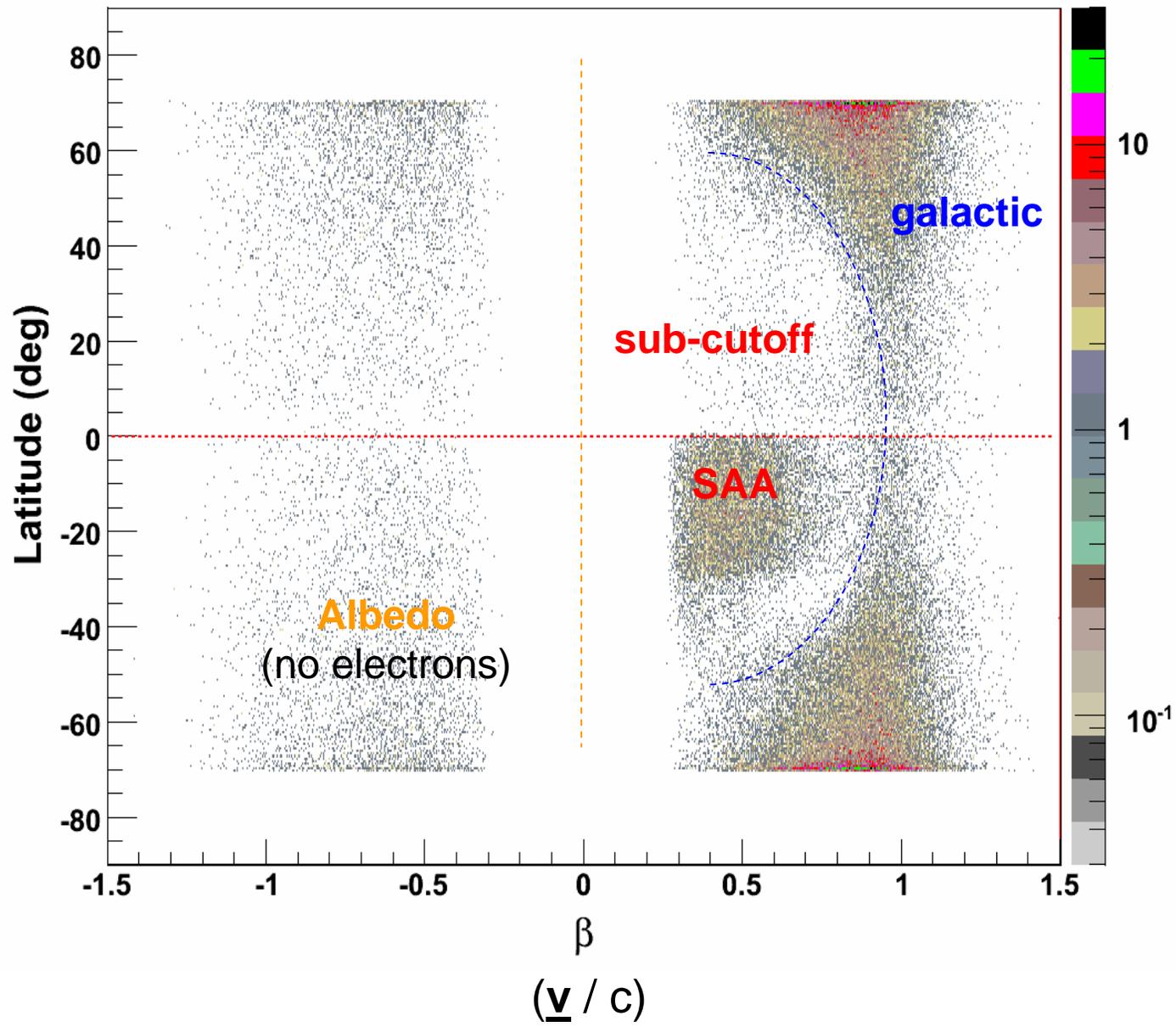
$(S11+S12)*(S21+S22)*(S31+S32)$ [hit/time]



Time-of-flight

Latitude -vs- beta (Z=1)

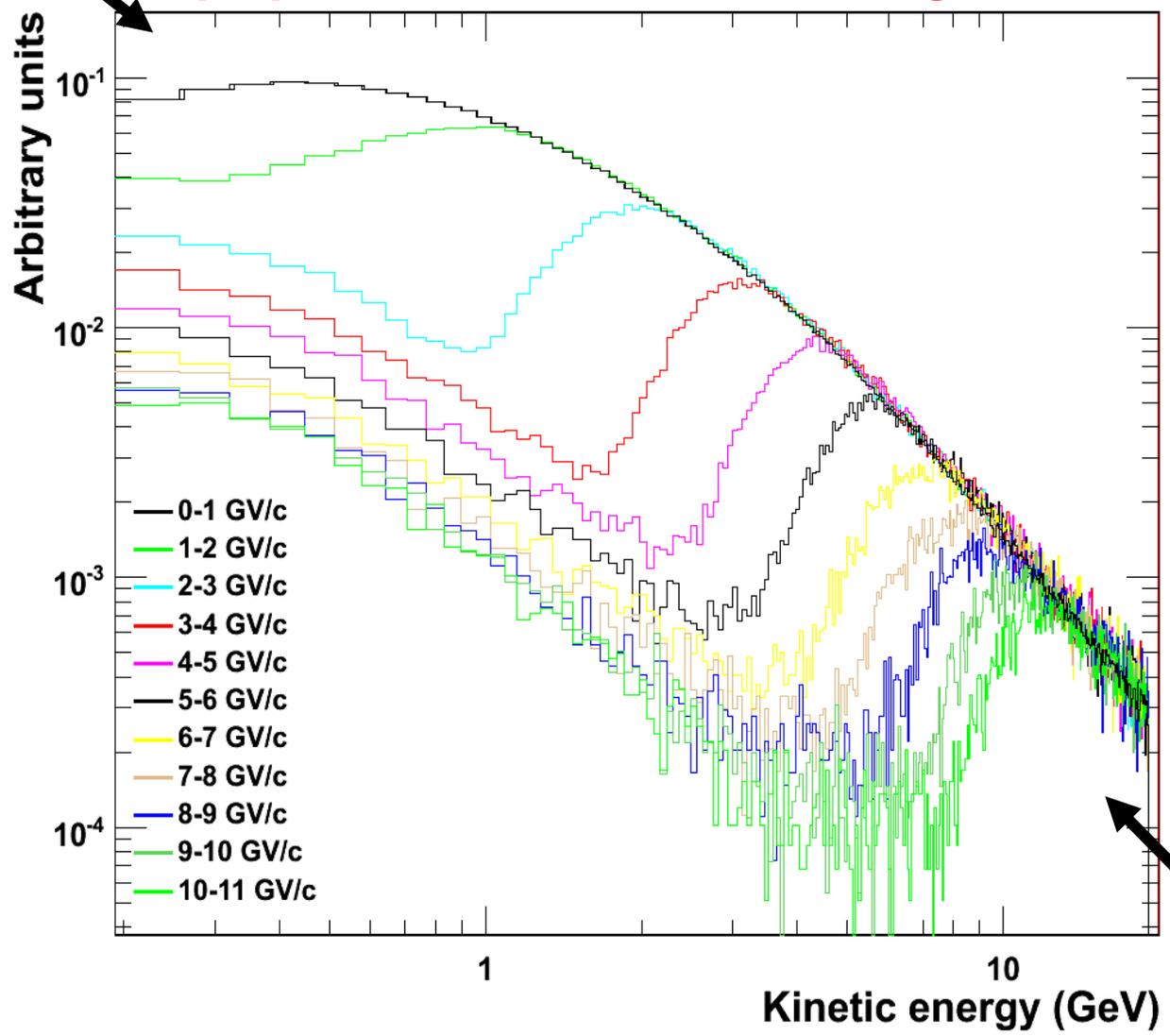
Preliminary !!!



Polar regions

p spectra @ different cut-off rigidities

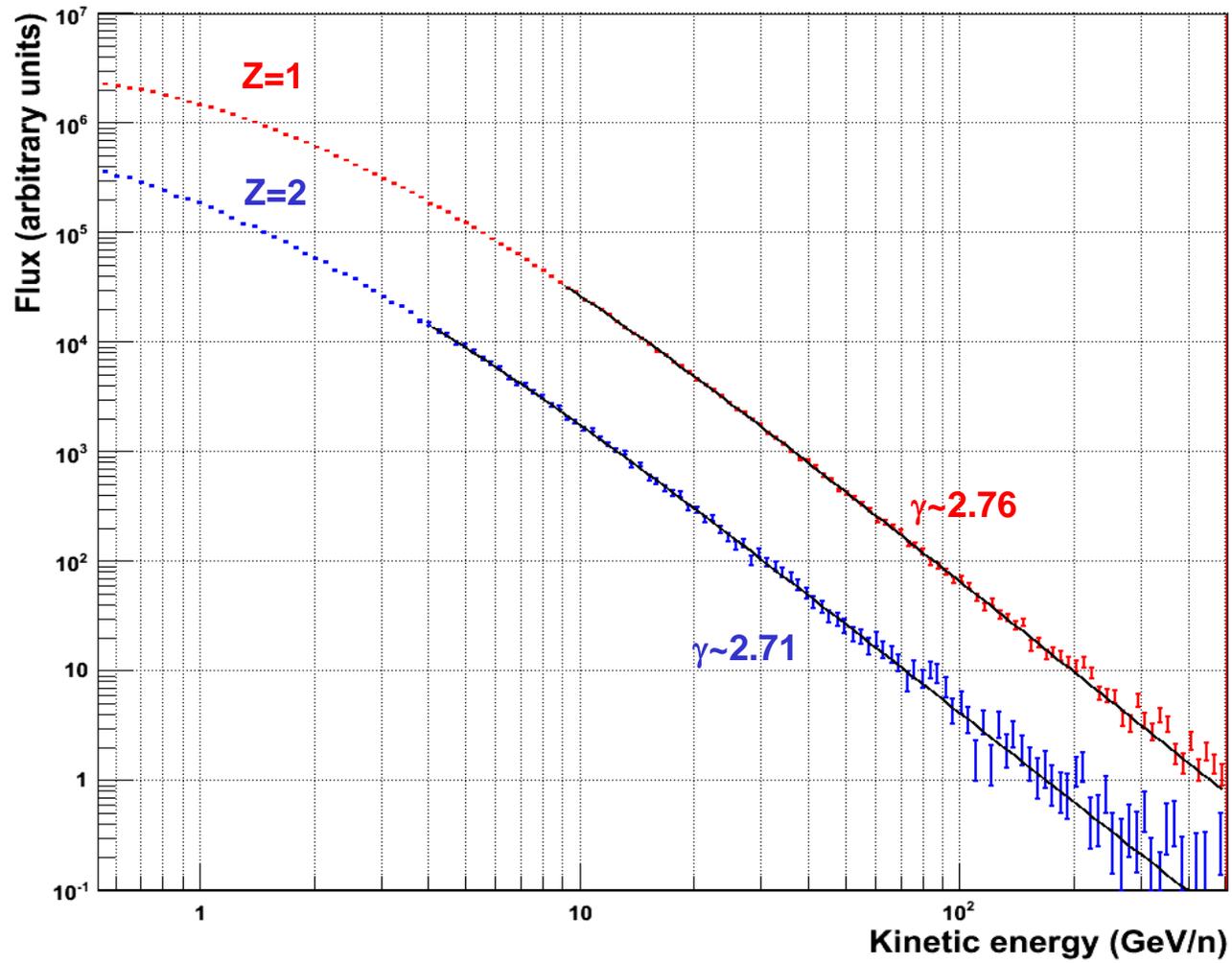
Preliminary !!!



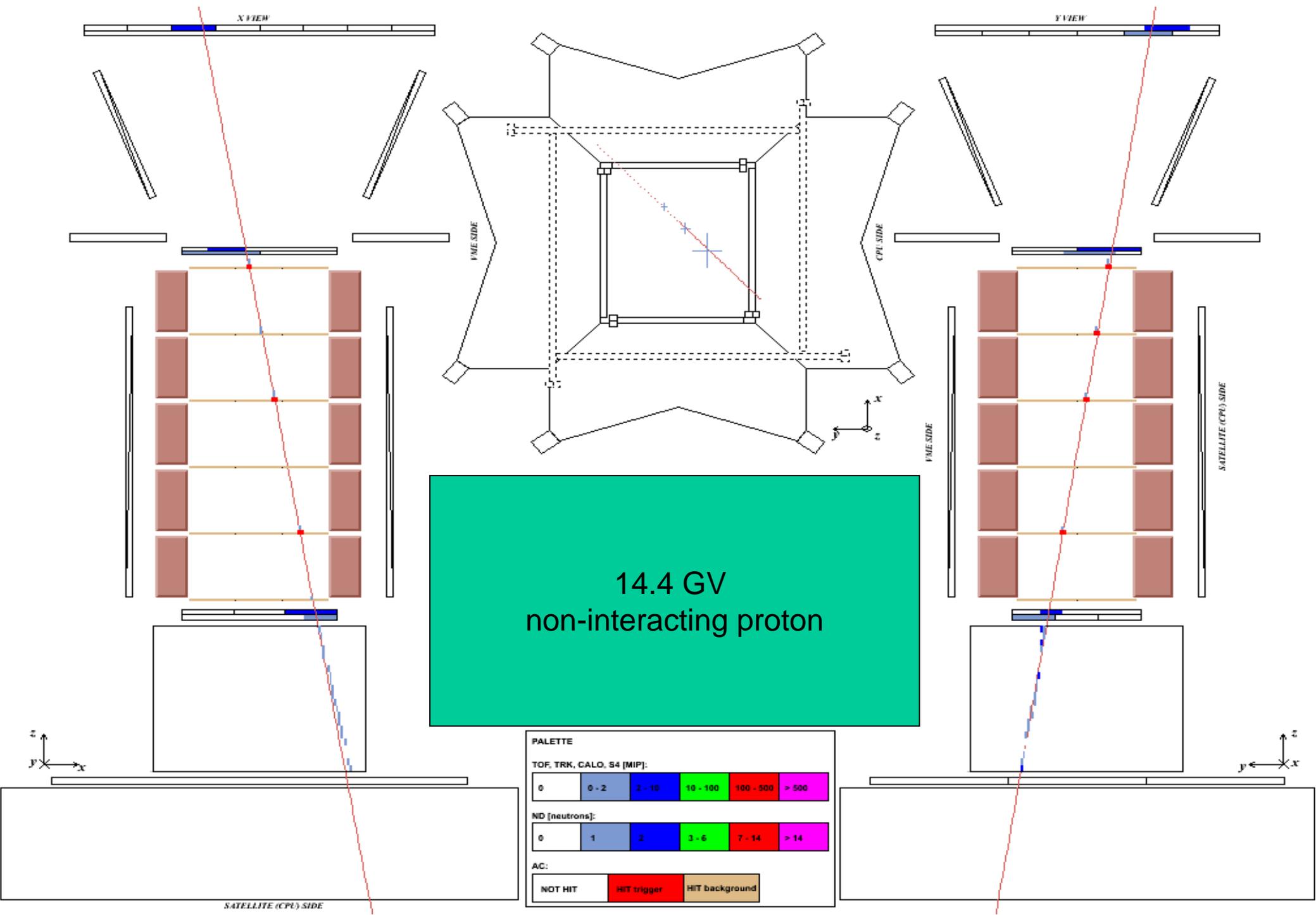
Equatorial regions

Galactic p and He spectra

Preliminary !!!



Charge separation



PALETTE

TOF, TRK, CALO, S4 [MIP]:

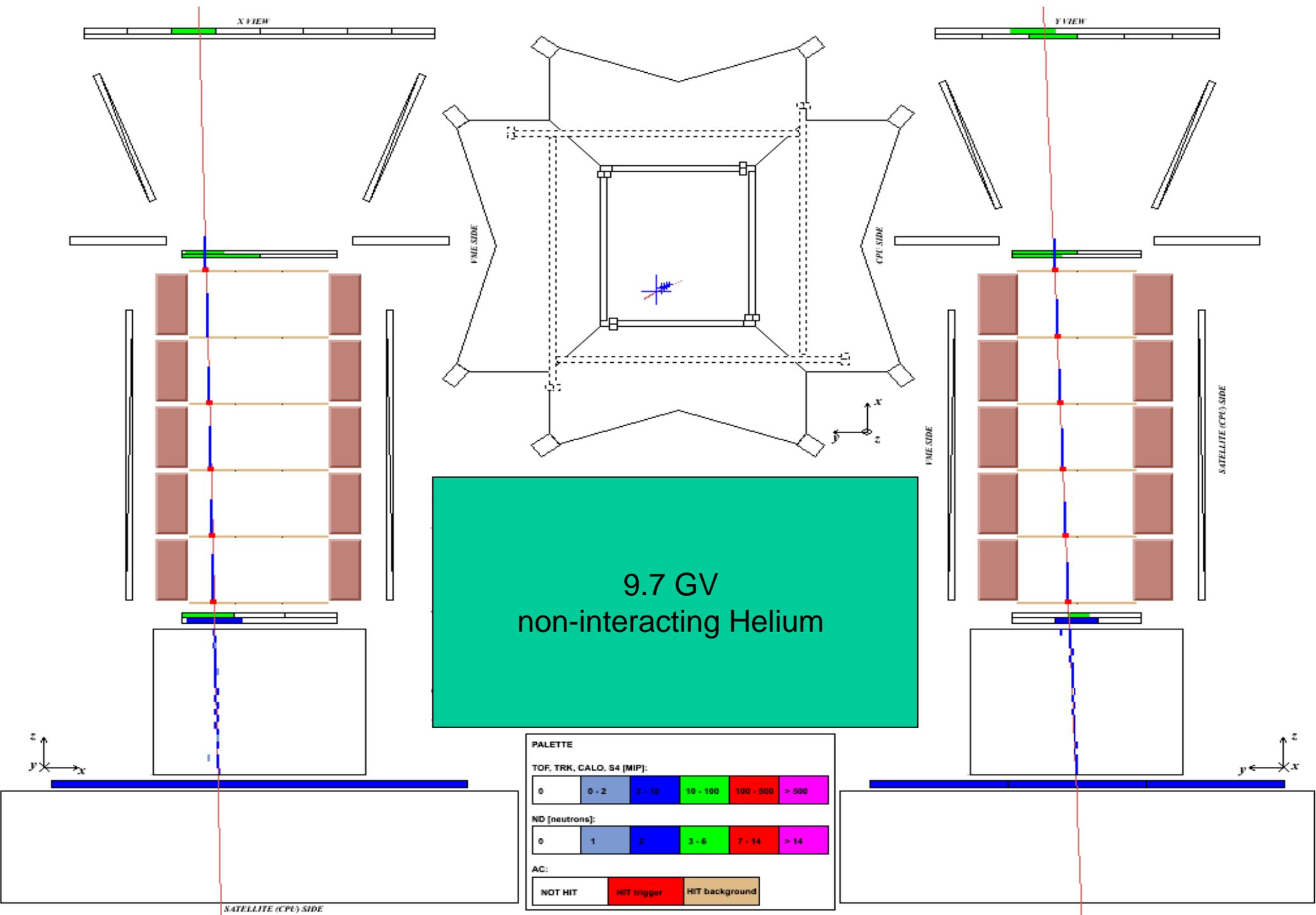
0	0 - 2	2 - 10	10 - 100	100 - 500	> 500
---	-------	--------	----------	-----------	-------

ND [neutrons]:

0	1	2	3 - 6	7 - 14	> 14
---	---	---	-------	--------	------

AC:

NOT HIT	HIT trigger	HIT background
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PALETTE

TOF, TRK, CALO, S4 [MIP]:

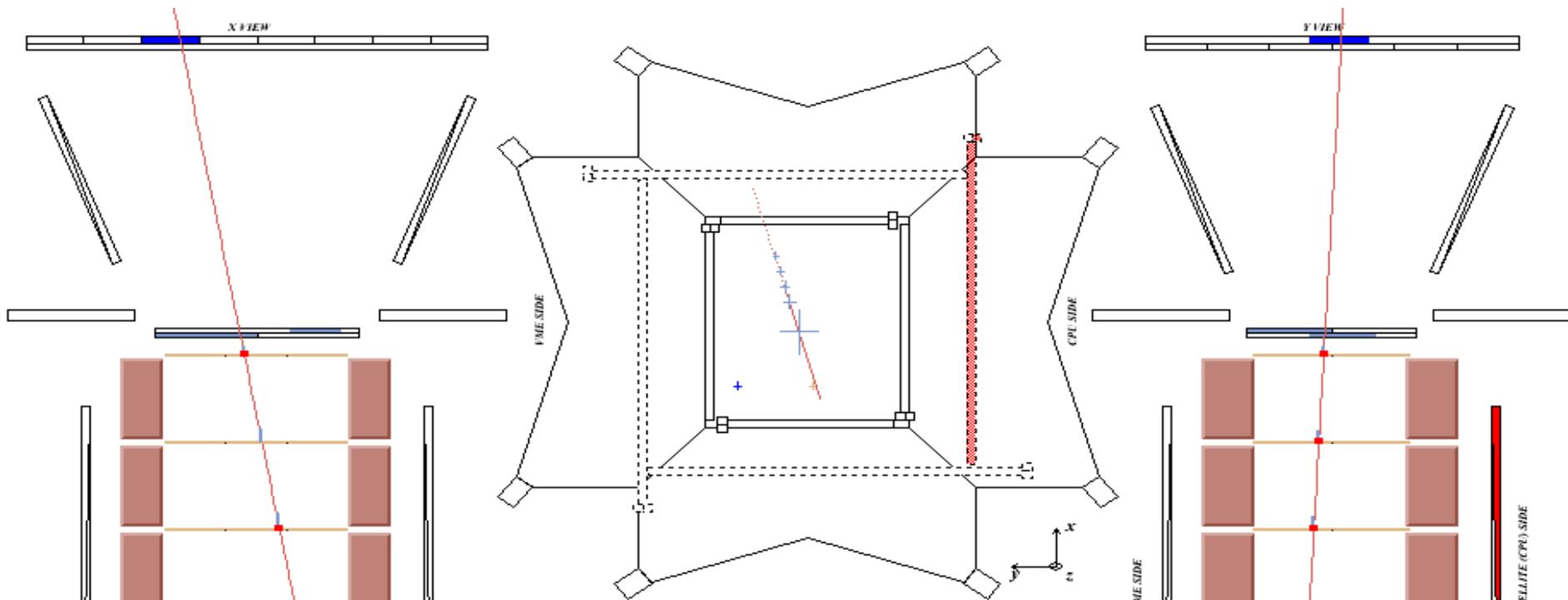
0	0 - 2	2 - 10	10 - 100	100 - 500	> 500
---	-------	--------	----------	-----------	-------

ND [neutrons]:

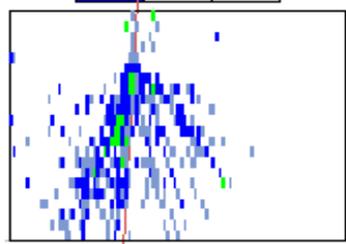
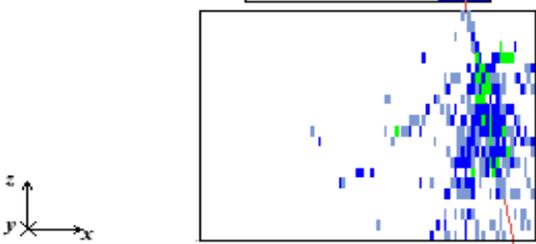
0	1	2	3 - 6	7 - 14	> 14
---	---	---	-------	--------	------

AC:

NOT HIT	HIT trigger	HIT background
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36 GV
interacting proton



PALETTE

TOF, TRK, CALO, S4 [MIP]:

0	0 - 2	2 - 10	10 - 100	100 - 500	> 500
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ND [neutrons]:

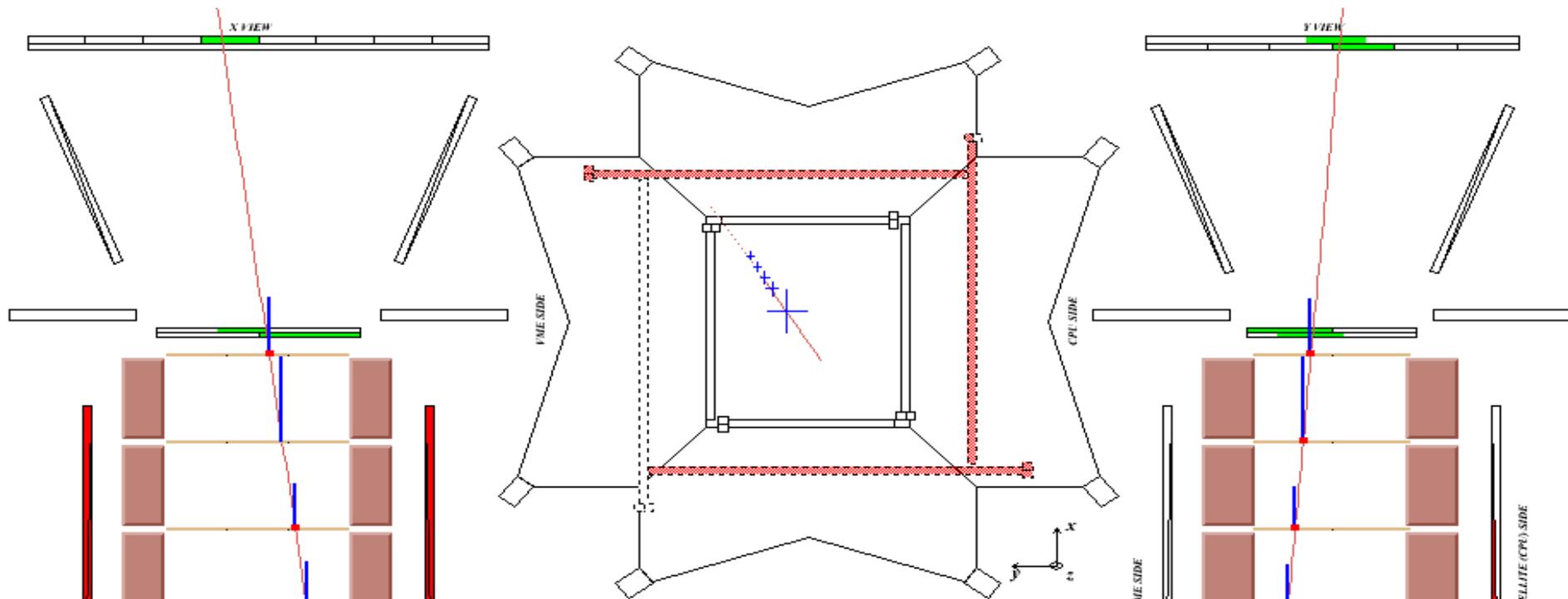
0	1	2	3 - 6	7 - 14	> 14
---	---	---	-------	--------	------

AC:

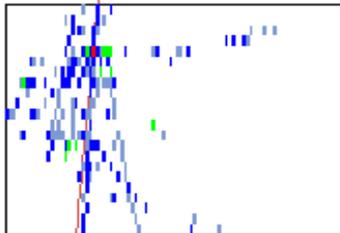
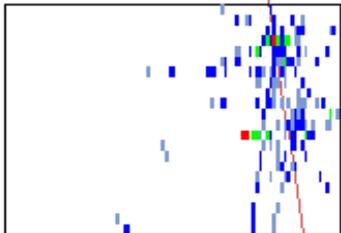
NOT HIT	HIT trigger	HIT background
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SATELLITE (CPU) SIDE

SATELLITE (CPU) SIDE



13 GV
Interacting Helium



PALETTE

TOF, TRK, CALO, S4 [MIP]:

0	0 - 2	2 - 10	10 - 100	100 - 500	> 500
---	-------	--------	----------	-----------	-------

ND [neutrons]:

0	1	2	3 - 6	7 - 14	> 14
---	---	---	-------	--------	------

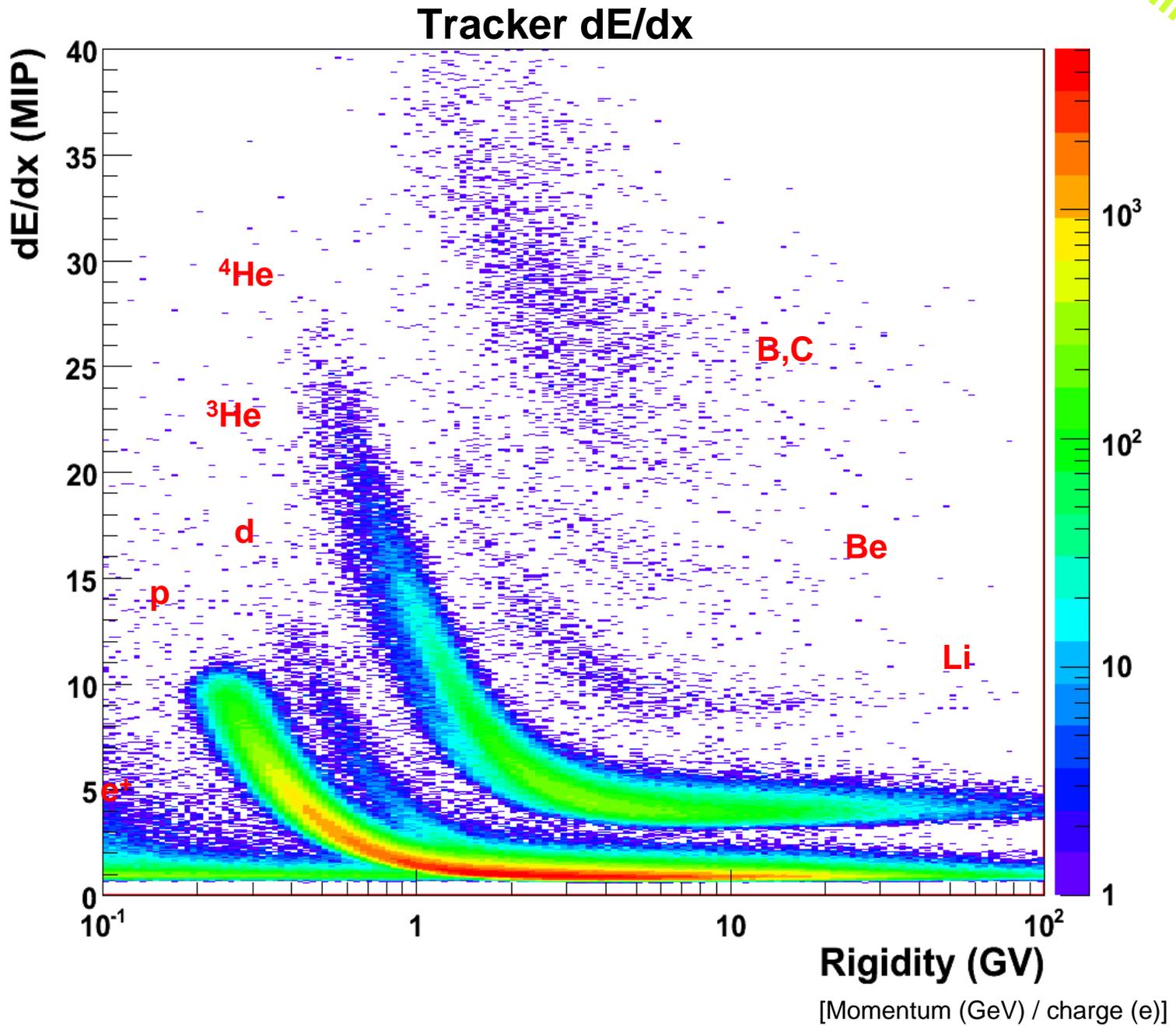
AC:

NOT HIT	HIT trigger	HIT background
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SATELLITE (CPU) SIDE

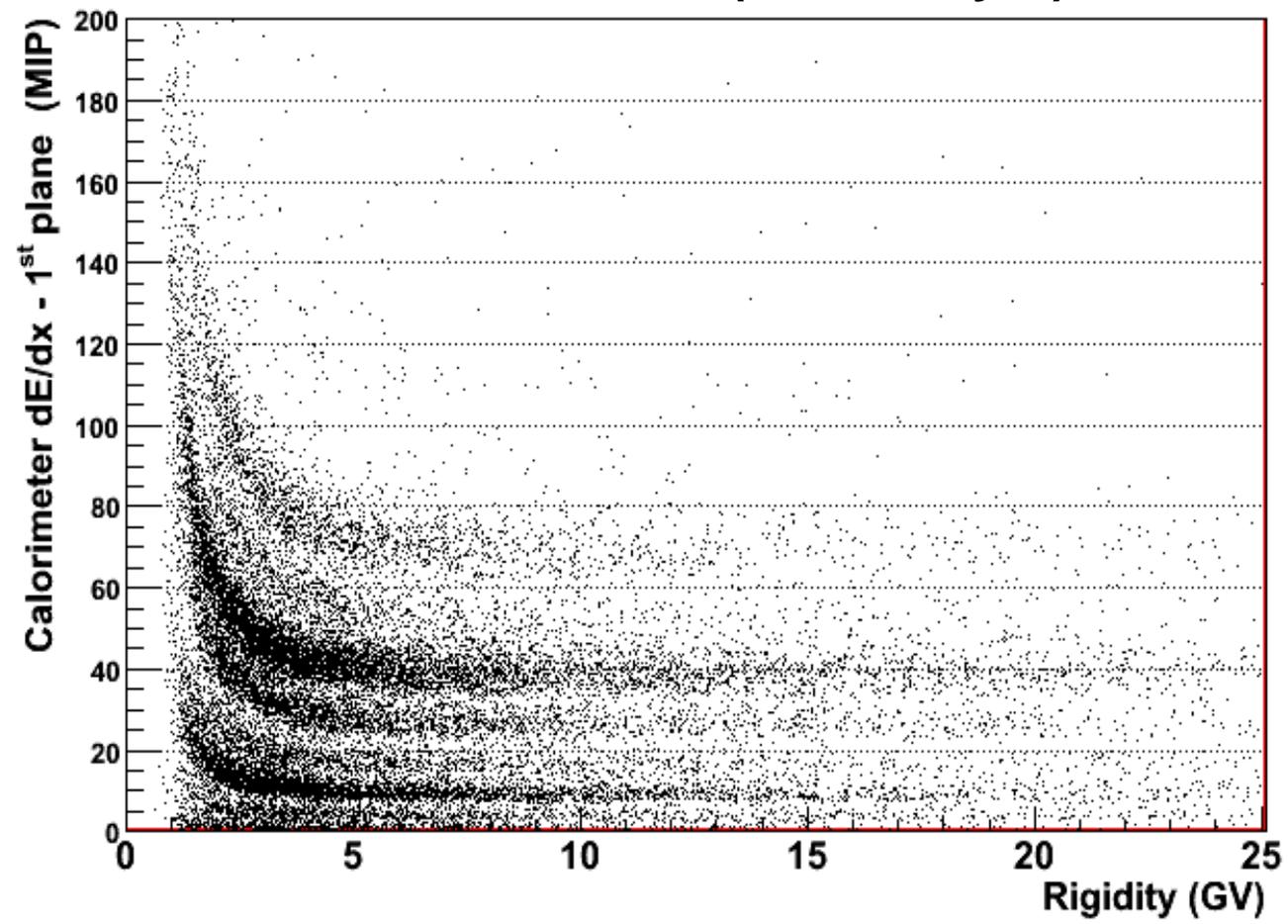
SATELLITE (CPU) SIDE

Preliminary !!!



Preliminary !!!

Calorimeter dE/dx (first Si-layer)



O
N
C
B
Be
Li^e

14.7 GV
Interacting nucleus
(Z~8)

PALETTE

TOF, TRK, CALO, S4 [MIP]:

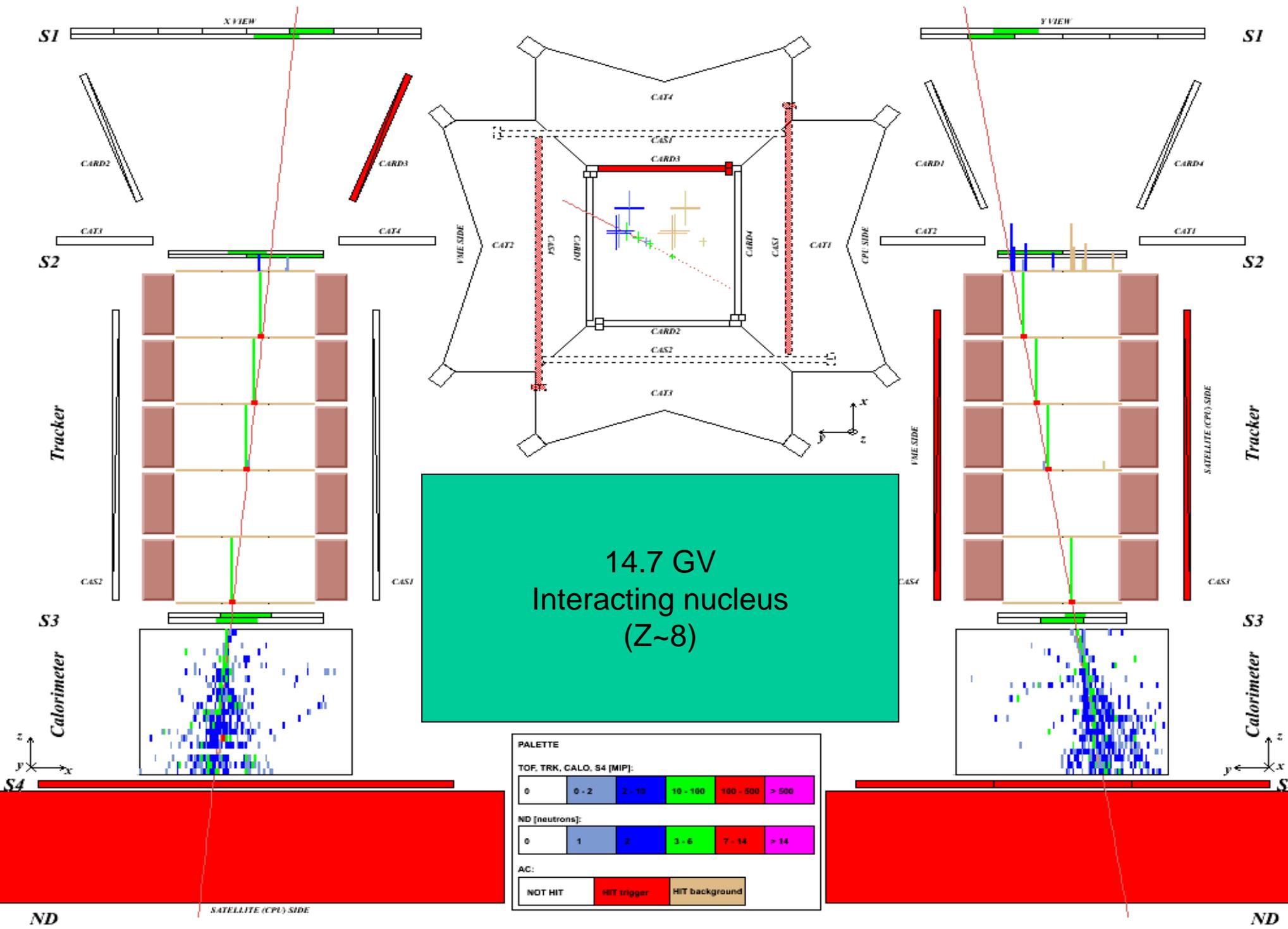
0	0 - 2	2 - 10	10 - 100	100 - 500	> 500
---	-------	--------	----------	-----------	-------

ND [neutrons]:

0	1	2	3 - 6	7 - 14	> 14
---	---	---	-------	--------	------

AC:

NOT HIT	HIT trigger	HIT background
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S1 X VIEW

Y VIEW S1

S2

S2

Tracker

Tracker

S3

S3

Calorimeter

Calorimeter

S4

S4

ND

ND

SATELLITE (CPU) SIDE

SATELLITE (CPU) SIDE

1.92 GV
Stopping nucleus
(Z~8)

PALETTE

TOF, TRK, CALO, S4 [MIP]:

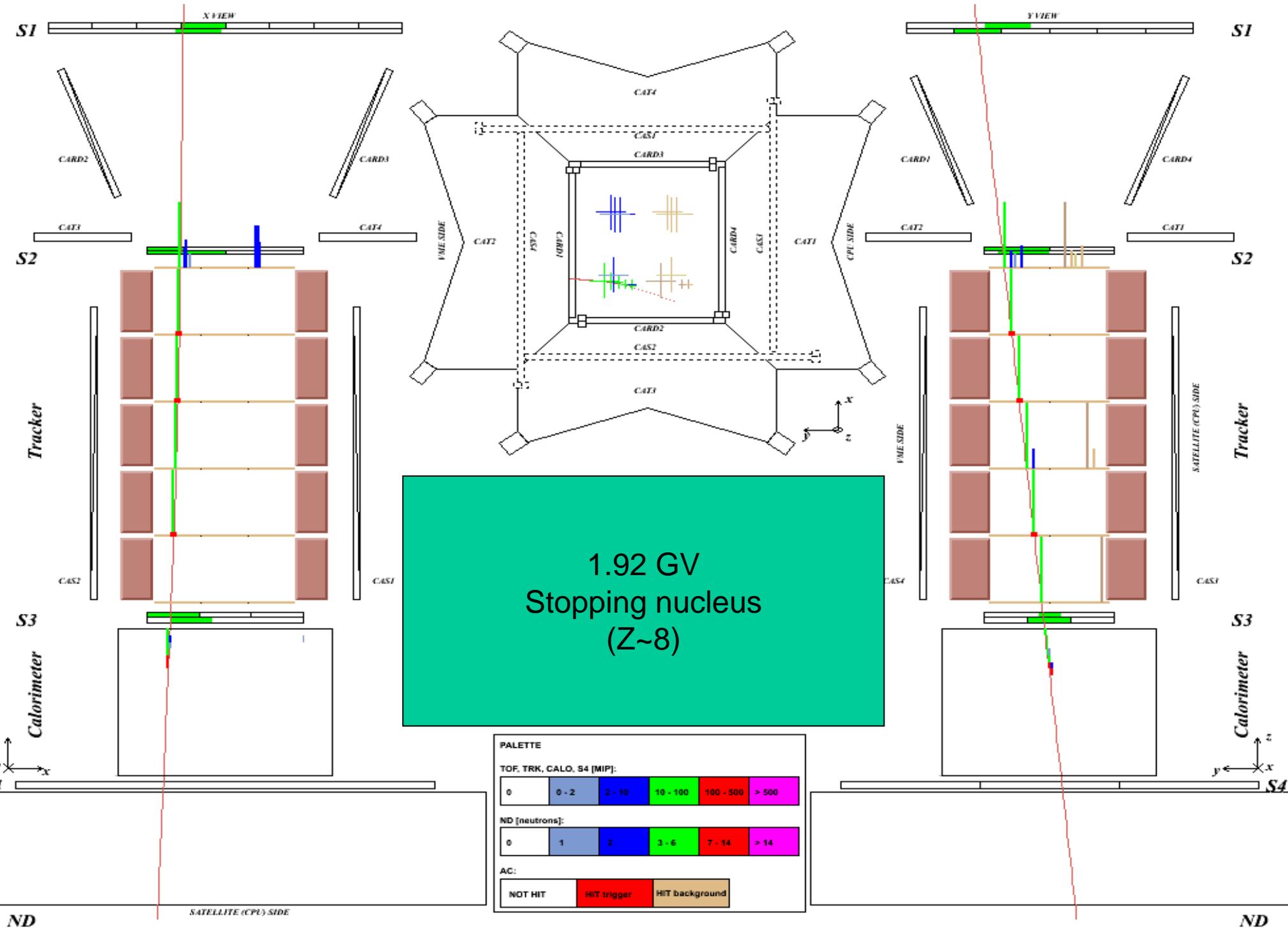
0	0 - 2	2 - 10	10 - 100	100 - 500	> 500
---	-------	--------	----------	-----------	-------

ND [neutrons]:

0	1	2	3 - 6	7 - 14	> 14
---	---	---	-------	--------	------

AC:

NOT HIT	HIT trigger	HIT background
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Matter / antimatter
identification

18 GV
non-interacting anti-proton

PALETTE

TOF, TRK, CALO, S4 [MIP]:

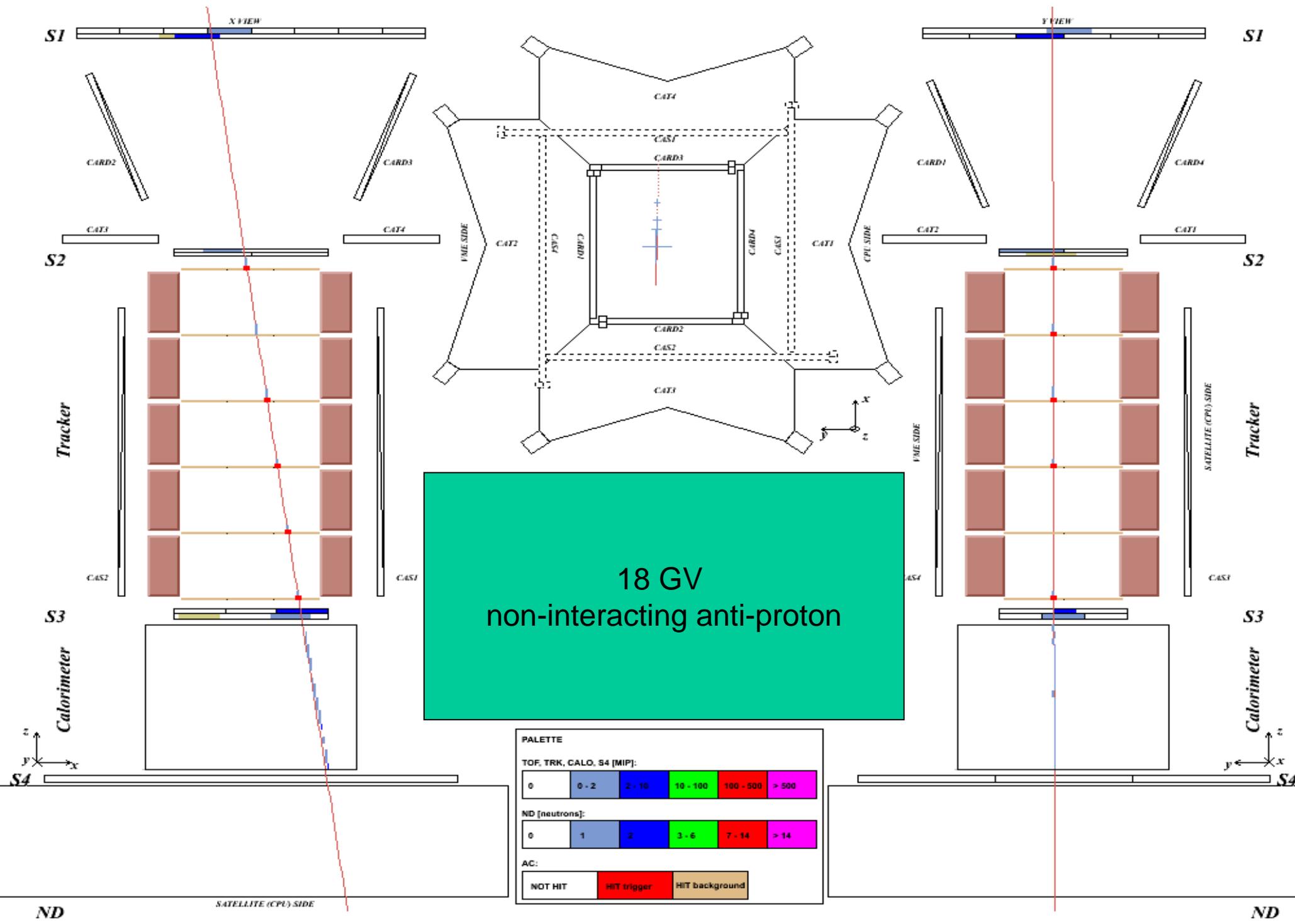
0	0 - 2	2 - 10	10 - 100	100 - 500	> 500
---	-------	--------	----------	-----------	-------

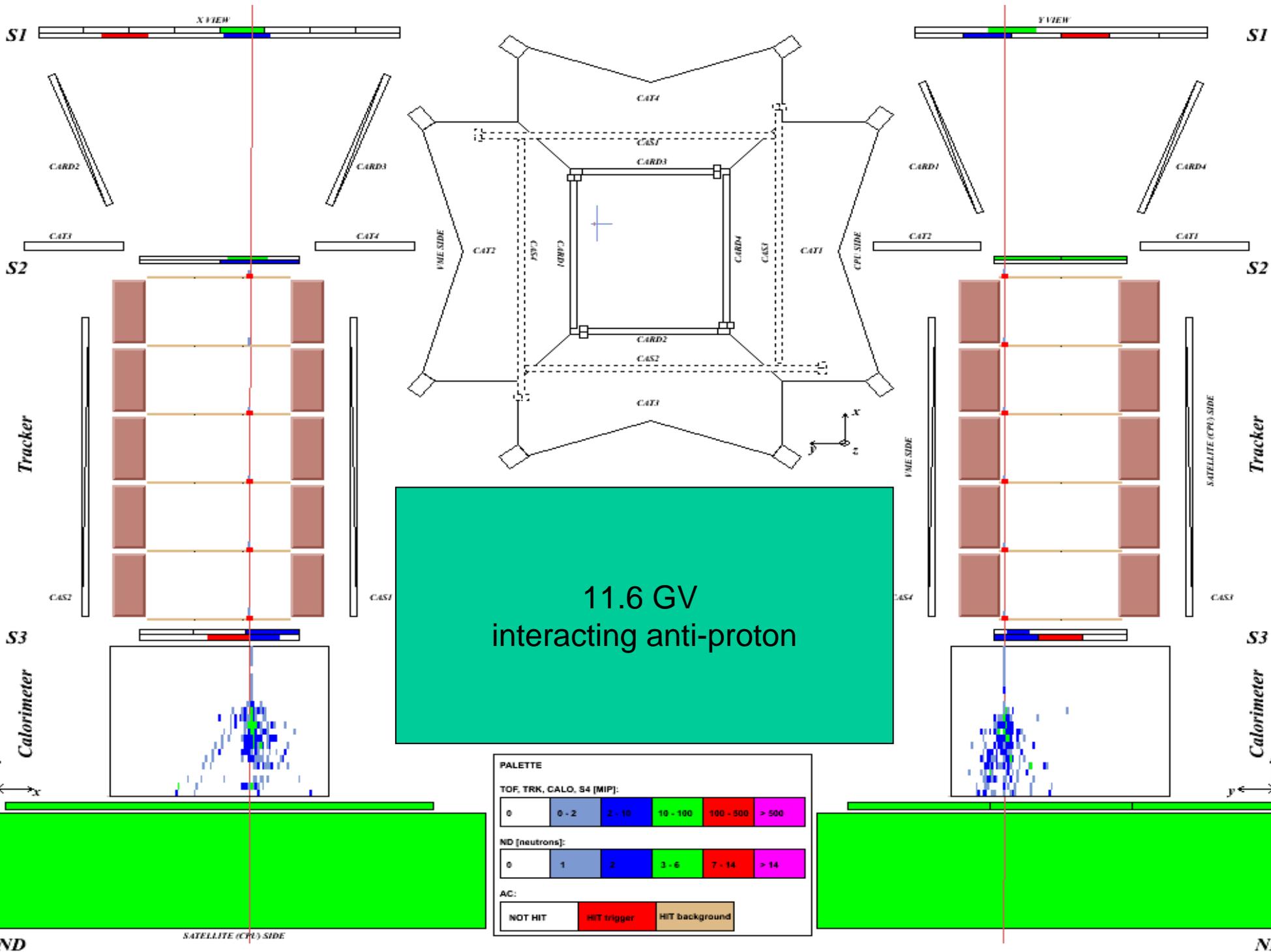
ND [neutrons]:

0	1	2	3 - 6	7 - 14	> 14
---	---	---	-------	--------	------

AC:

NOT HIT	HIT trigger	HIT background
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1.09 GV positron

PALETTE

TOF, TRK, CALO, S4 [MIP]:

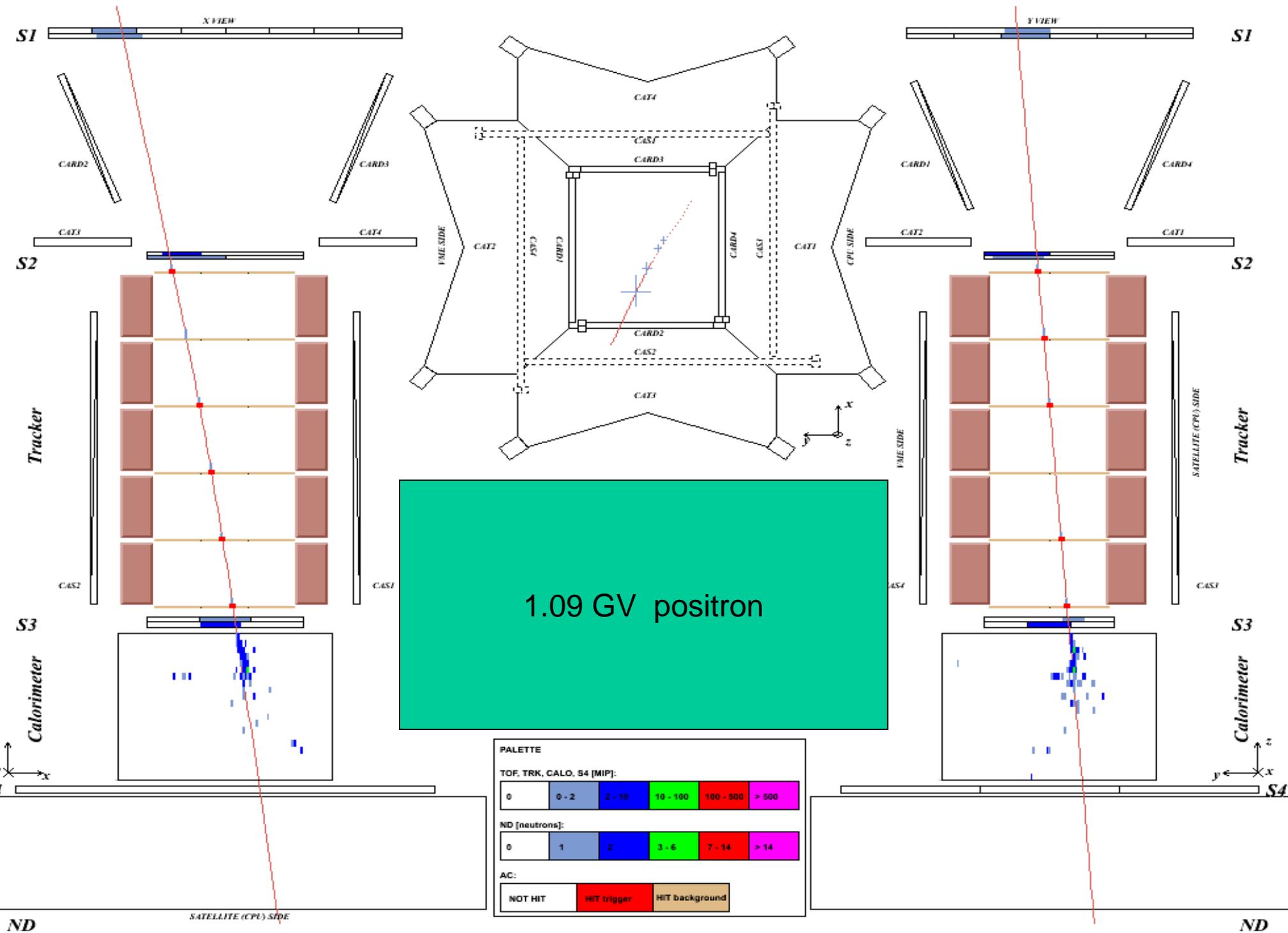
0	0 - 2	2 - 10	10 - 100	100 - 500	> 500
---	-------	--------	----------	-----------	-------

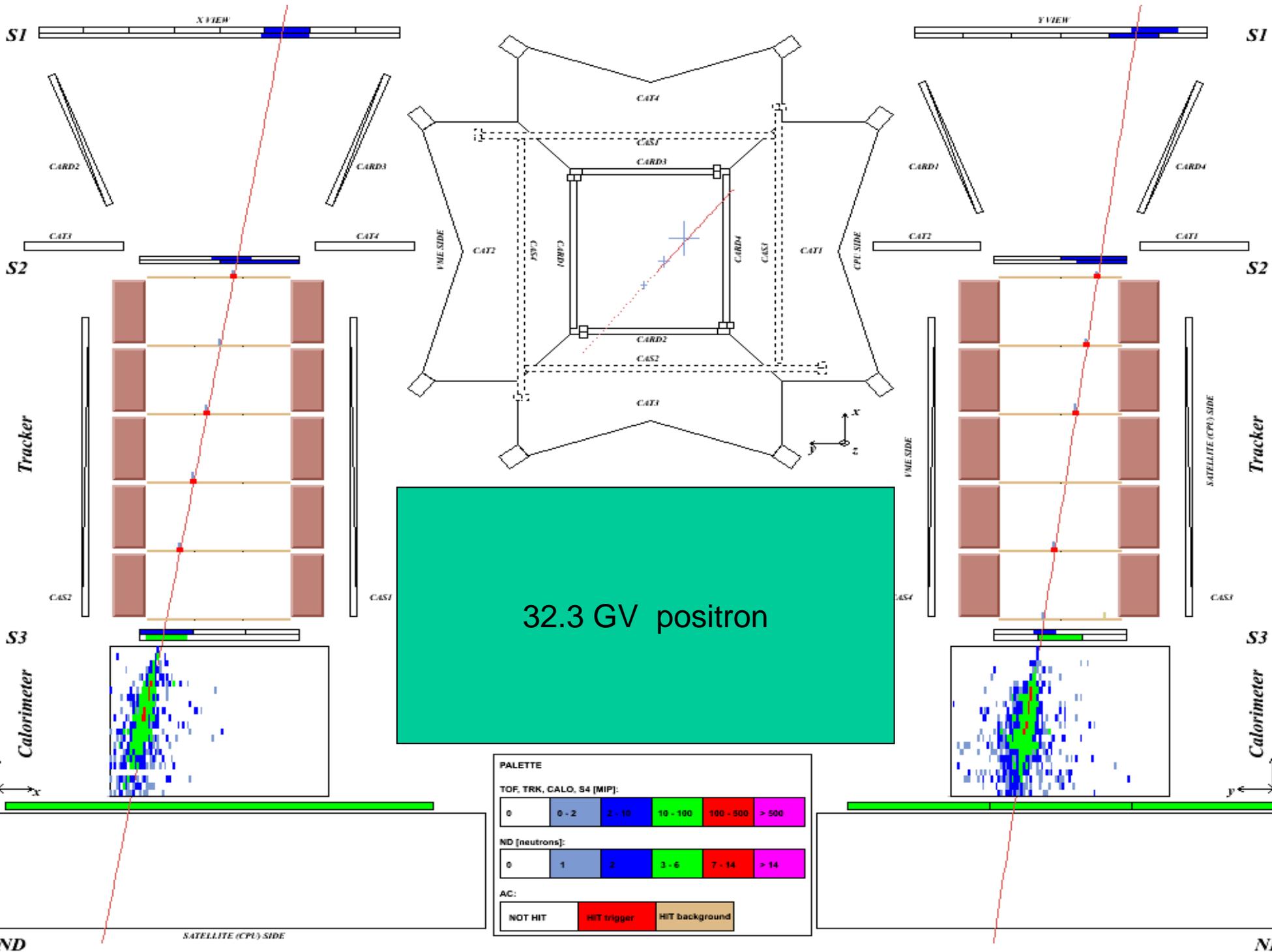
ND [neutrons]:

0	1	2	3 - 6	7 - 14	> 14
---	---	---	-------	--------	------

AC:

NOT HIT	HIT trigger	HIT background
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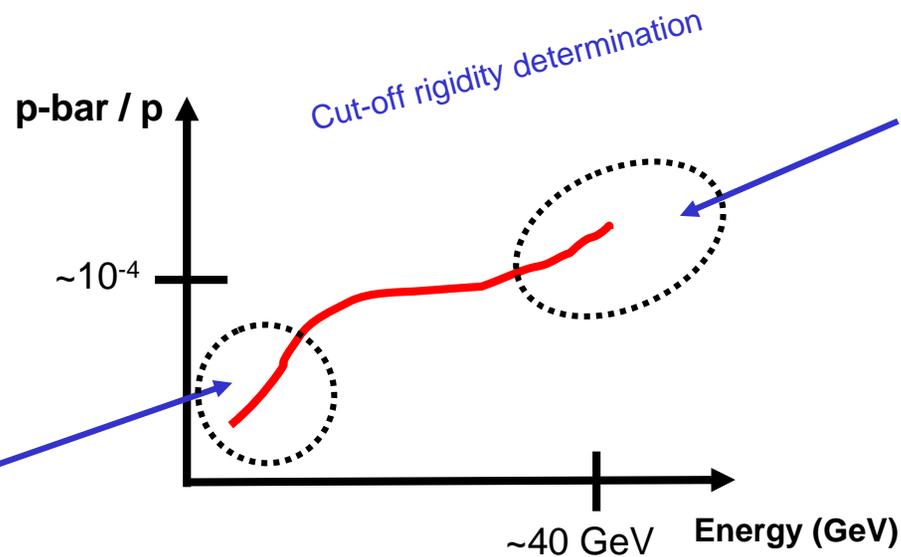
ND

SATELLITE (CPU) SIDE

ND

Antiparticle data analysis

- Data analysis is currently in full swing. **Top priority:** to reconstruct the energy spectra of antiprotons and positrons
- An experimental challenge!
 - e.g. – reconstructing the antiproton flux ratio:



- Contamination from locally produced π^- (use ToF system!)

- Alignment of silicon planes in spectrometer
- Determination of MDR
- Spillover limit for p-bar
- Purity of lepton-hadron separation (neutron detector)

Summary

- **PAMELA** is currently conducting an indirect search for dark matter using antiparticles in the cosmic radiation.
- Other scientific goals being actively pursued include a search for antihelium, tests of cosmic ray propagation, and solar-terrestrial physics
- **PAMELA** is a complex instrument built by a European consortium which has gone through a progression of prototyping, tests with particle beams and space qualification tests, prior to production of the flight hardware
- Launched on June 15th 2006. In-orbit commissioning tests concluded successfully. **PAMELA** has been in continuous data taking mode since 11th July 2006. ~4 TB of data downlinked.
- Data analysis is on-going. We expect to air first public results (probably antiparticle flux ratios) after the summer.

