PEBS: Positron Electron Balloon

Spectrometer

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Introduction

Goal:

Measure the cosmic-ray positron fraction with a balloon-borne spectrometer.

Motivation:

Indirect search for dark matter.

Requirements:

- Large acceptance:
 > 0.1m²sr for 20-day campaign
- Excellent proton suppression:

1 in 1 million

- Good charge separation
- Payload weight < 2t
- Power consumption <1000W



Prospective performance of PEBS detector



PEBS design overview

Tracker: Scintillating fibres (d=250 µm), with Silicon Photo-Multiplier (SiPM) readout; power: 260W

Solar panels: power for subdetectors, communications, data handling ~600 W



PEBS design overview



Balloons



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Tracker modules



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p 7/16

PEBS fibre module testbeam setup at CERN 06/2008



Photo electron yield of tracker module



ECAL proton rejection and energy resolution



sandwich calorimeter for 3D-shower reconstruction

TRD design



TRD superlayer in G4 simulation

Tasks:

proton suppression and tracking in non-bending plane



single TRD module

TRD reference: NIM A 558 (2006) 526-535 2 x 8 layers of fleece radiator, TR x-ray photons absorbed by Xe/CO2 mixture (80:20), in 6mm straw tubes with 30 μ m tungsten wire Design equivalent to AMS02 space experiment



AMS02 TRD octagon integrated at RWTH Aachen workshop

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TRD performance: positron/proton separation



Projected performance: mSUGRA example





Conclusion

- Design study to build a balloonborne spectrometer to measure the cosmic-ray positron fraction, in the context of indirect search for dark matter
- Scintillating fibres with SiPM readout as key components, proof of principle established in testbeams at CERN in 2006-08
- Proton rejection of O(1,000,000) could be achieved with ECAL and TRD
- Study of physics program ongoing (antiprotons, B/C, ...)



Anomaly in the positron spectrum? PEBS could answer the question!



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