

# Results from the AMS experiment on low-energy cosmic rays

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**Time-dependence of cosmic-ray fluxes  
Implications for solar modulation studies**



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29 August.2017 - Moscow

18th Lomonosov Conference on Elementary Particle Physics  
24-30 August 2017 – Moscow, Russia



# Outline

- The **AMS** project and physics goals
- **Low-energy** cosmic rays and **solar** physics
- Time-dependence of **proton** and **helium** fluxes
- Time-dependence of **electron** and **positron** fluxes
- **Solar modulation** of cosmic rays in the Heliosphere

# The AMS Project

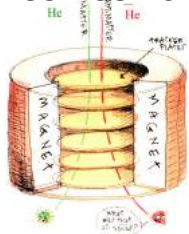


## AMS Collaboration

- 16 countries
- 60 institutes
- 500+ physicists
- 20 years

## Project timeline

1994 CONCEPT



1997  
AMS-01  
PROTOTYPE

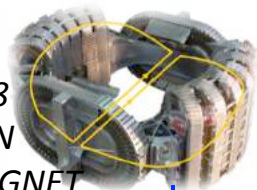
1998: STS-91



2000 @CERN  
AMS-02 CONSTRUCTION



2008  
@CERN  
SC MAGNET  
BEAM TEST



2010  
TVT @ ESA (NL)



2010  
@CERN  
SC -> PM  
NEW BEAM TEST



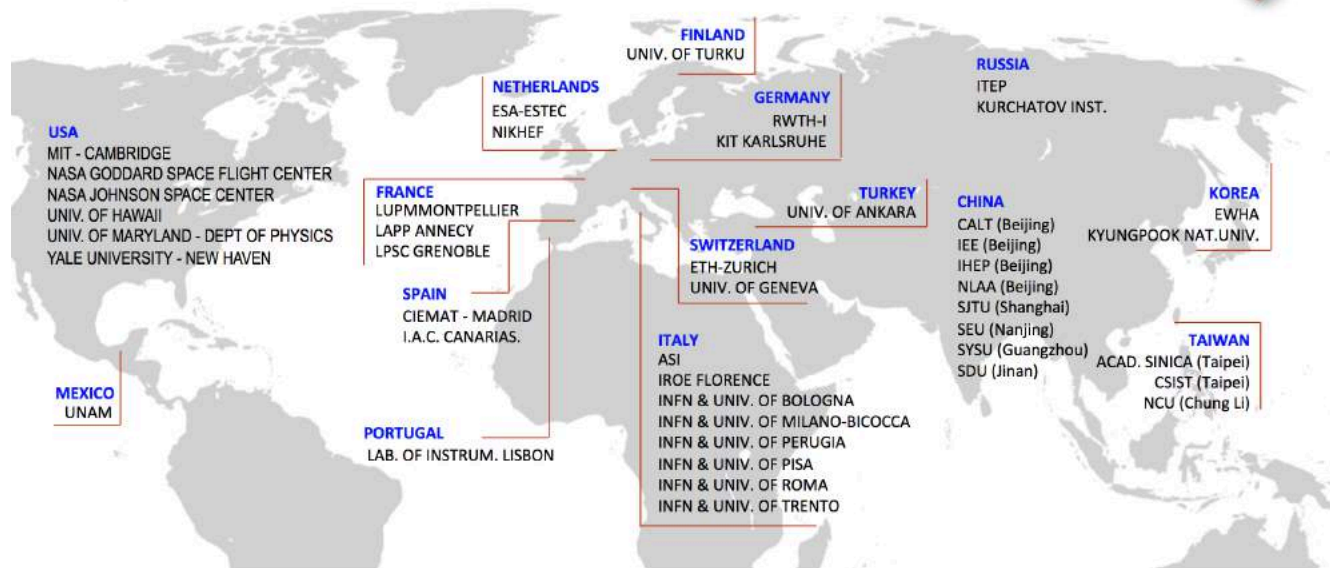
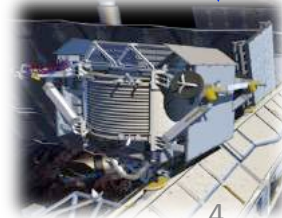
2011  
@KSC  
INTEGRATION & CR- $\mu$  RUN



MAY 2011  
STS-134  
FLIGHT



ON THE ISS



→ Steadily taking data on the ISS since May 19<sup>th</sup> 2011

# The AMS Project



**Particle physics experiment operating in the International Space Station**  
**Precision measurement of primary cosmic rays at TeV energies**

## Physics goals

- ✓ **Antimatter search ( $|Z| > 1$  anti-nuclei)**
- ✓ **Dark Matter (light anti-matter &  $\gamma$ -rays)**
- ✓ **Exotic signals?**
- ✓ **GCR &  $\gamma$ -rays astrophysics**
- ✓ **Solar Physics (solar modulation & SEP)**
- ✓ **Magnetospheric physics**

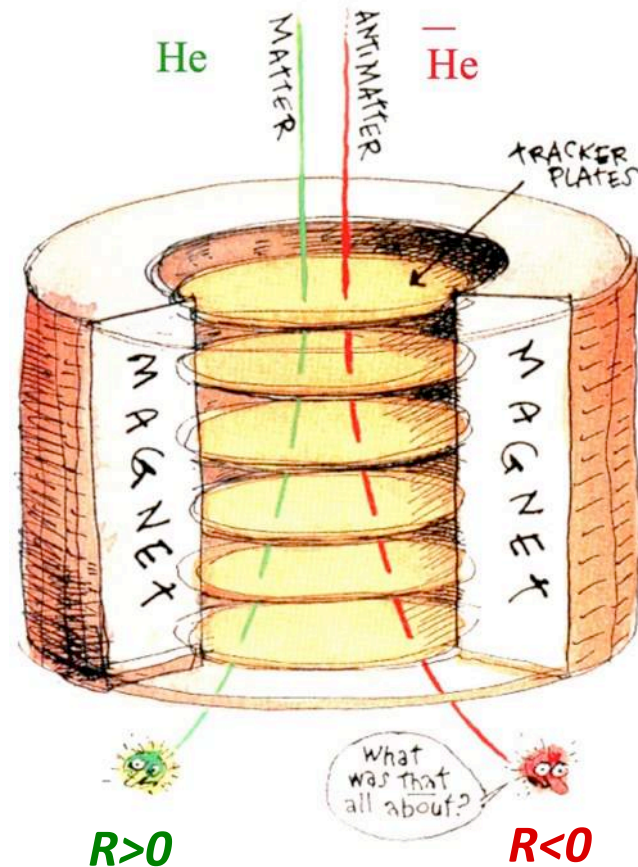


## How it will fulfill these goals?

- **Large collaboration: 16 Countries, 60 Institutes and ~500+ Physicists**
- **Same concept (precision & capability) as the large state-of-the-art HEP detectors [but: fitting into the space shuttle & no human intervention after installation]**
- **Operation in space, ISS, at 400km, no backgrounds from atmospheric interactions [extensive multi-step space qualification tests]**
- **Collection power: geometrical factor ( $\approx 0.5 \text{ m}^2\text{sr}$ ) X exposure time (= ISS lifetime) [extensive calibration campaigns on ground]**

# Measurement concept

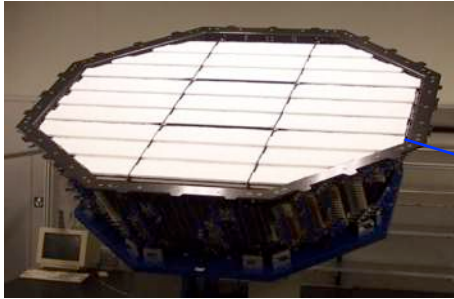
The eventual discrimination between matter and antimatter is provided by the measurement of their charge-sign



# The AMS-02 sub-detectors

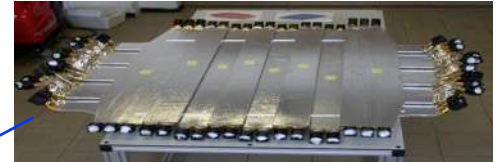


**TRD**  
Identify  $e^+$ ,  $e^-$

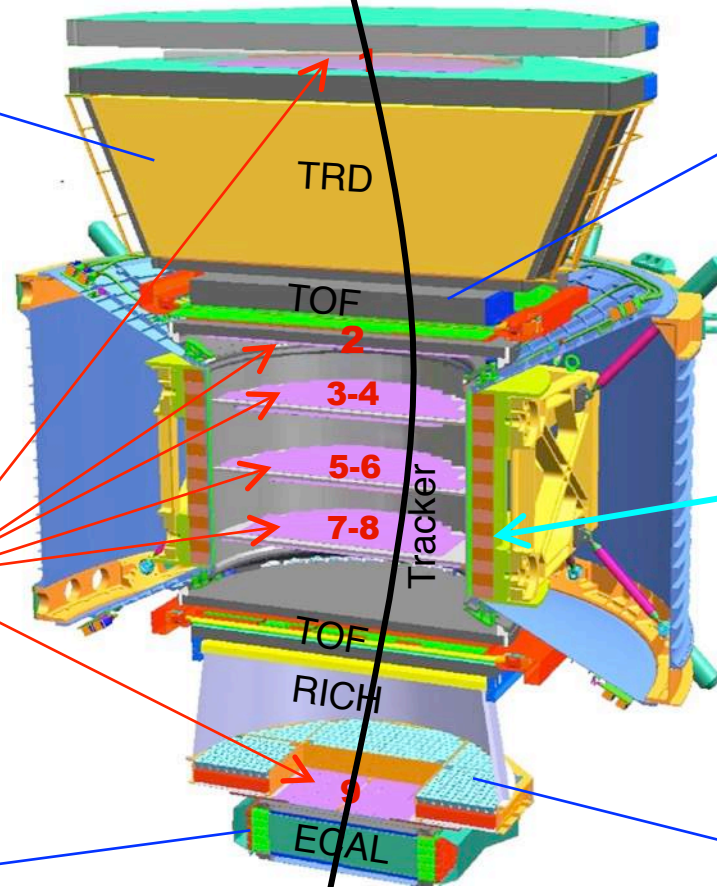
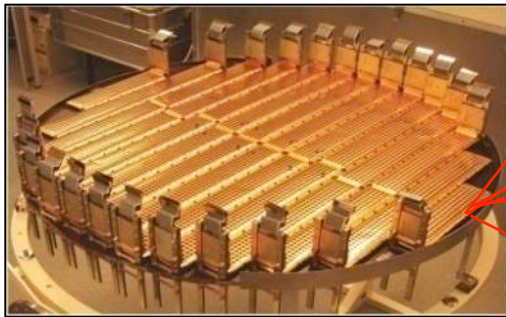


Particles and nuclei are defined by their charge ( $Z$ ) and energy ( $E \sim P$ )

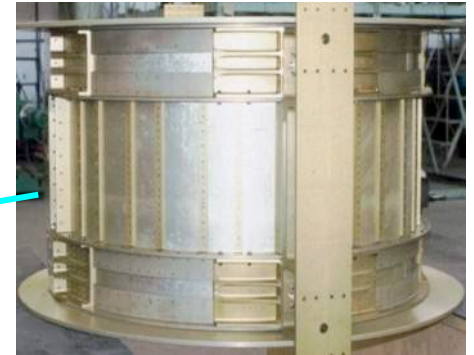
**TOF**  
 $Z, E$



**Silicon Tracker**  
 $Z, P$



**Magnet**  
 $\pm Z$



**RICH**  
 $Z, E$



**ECAL**  
 $E$  of  $e^+$ ,  $e^-$ ,  $\gamma$

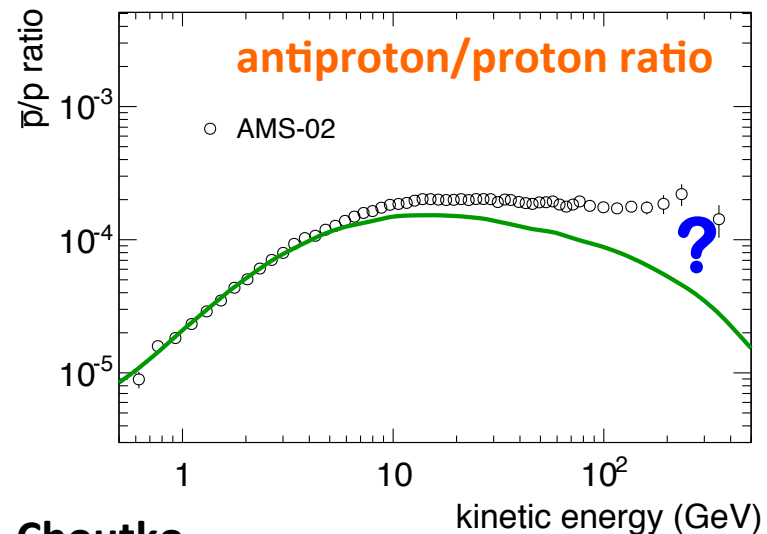
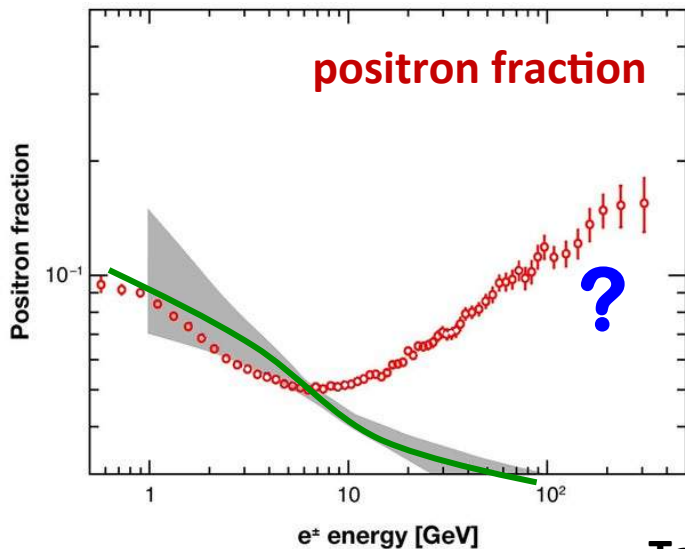
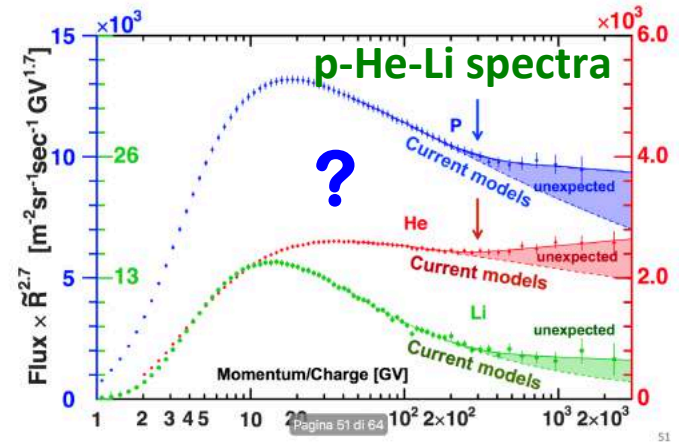
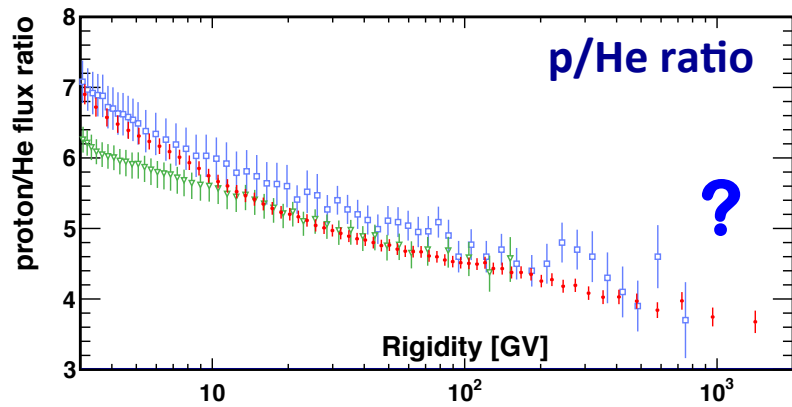


*$Z, P$  are measured independently from Tracker, RICH, TOF and ECAL*

Talk by V. Choutko

# High-energy measurements: puzzling results

- Decrease of proton/helium ratio
- High-energy hardening of all nuclei
- Puzzling excess of high-energy positrons
- Unexpectedly flat antiproton/proton ratio





# Why low-energy, why solar modulation

Measurements of CR spectra brings valuable information on the origin and propagation of these particles, along with the nature of dark matter

When entering the Heliophere, primary cosmic rays encounter the magnetized solar wind, which *modulates* their flux low energy

**Solar modulation provokes significant modifications in the shapes of cosmic-ray spectra up to the energies of several tenths of GeV/n. This effect is:**

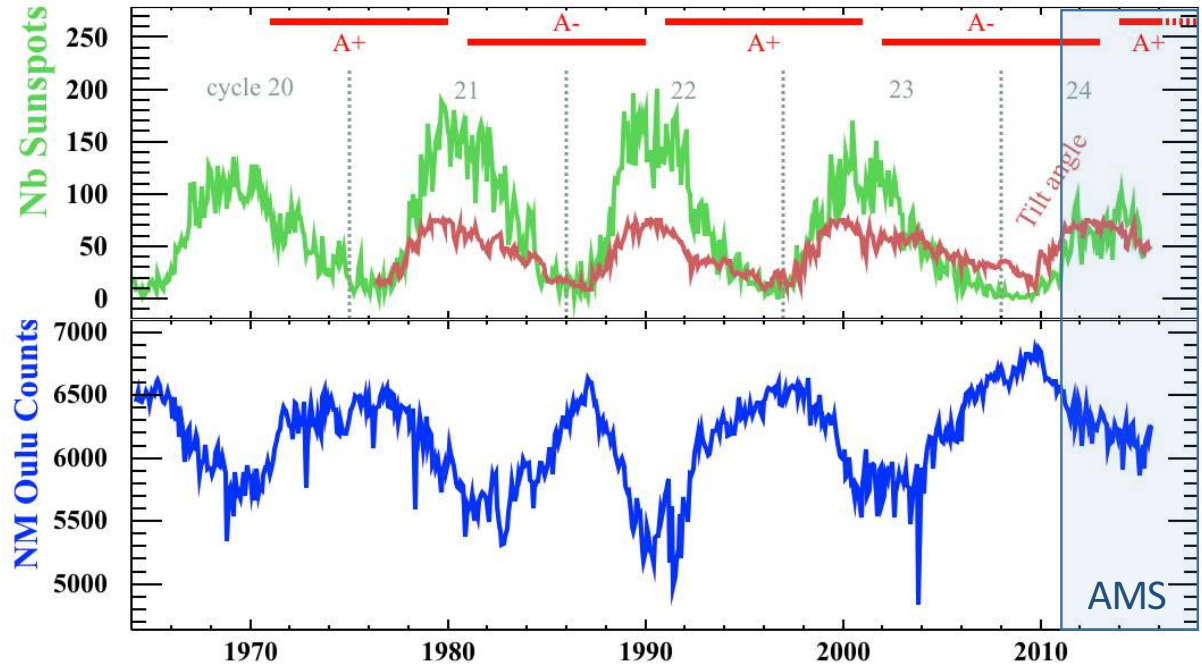
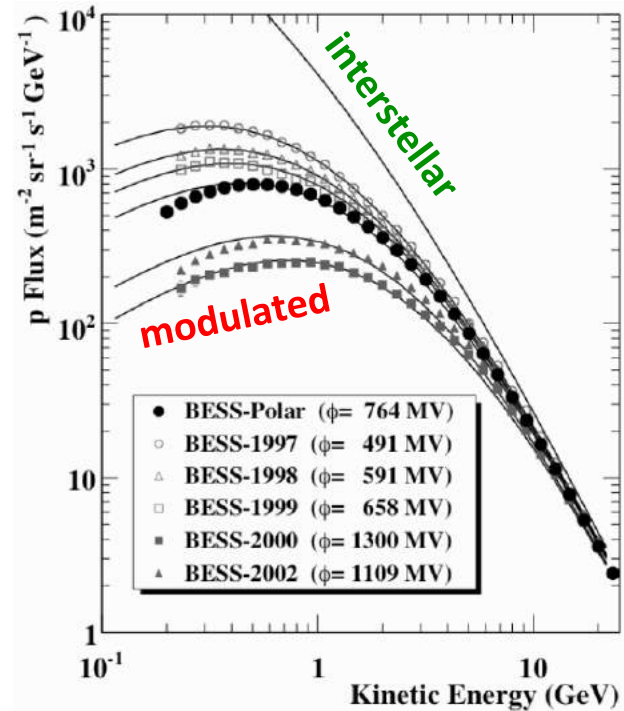
- ✓ Time dependent
- ✓ Energy dependent
- ✓ Space dependent
- ✓ Particle dependent

**A comprehensive description of the cosmic radiation must account for the transport of these particles in the heliosphere**

**Measurement requirements:**

- **LOW-ENERGY**, because the modulation effect decreases with increasing energy
- **TIME-REOLVED**, because the effect depends upon the evolving solar activity
- **MULTI-CHANNEL**, because solar modulation depends on charge-sign dependent processes

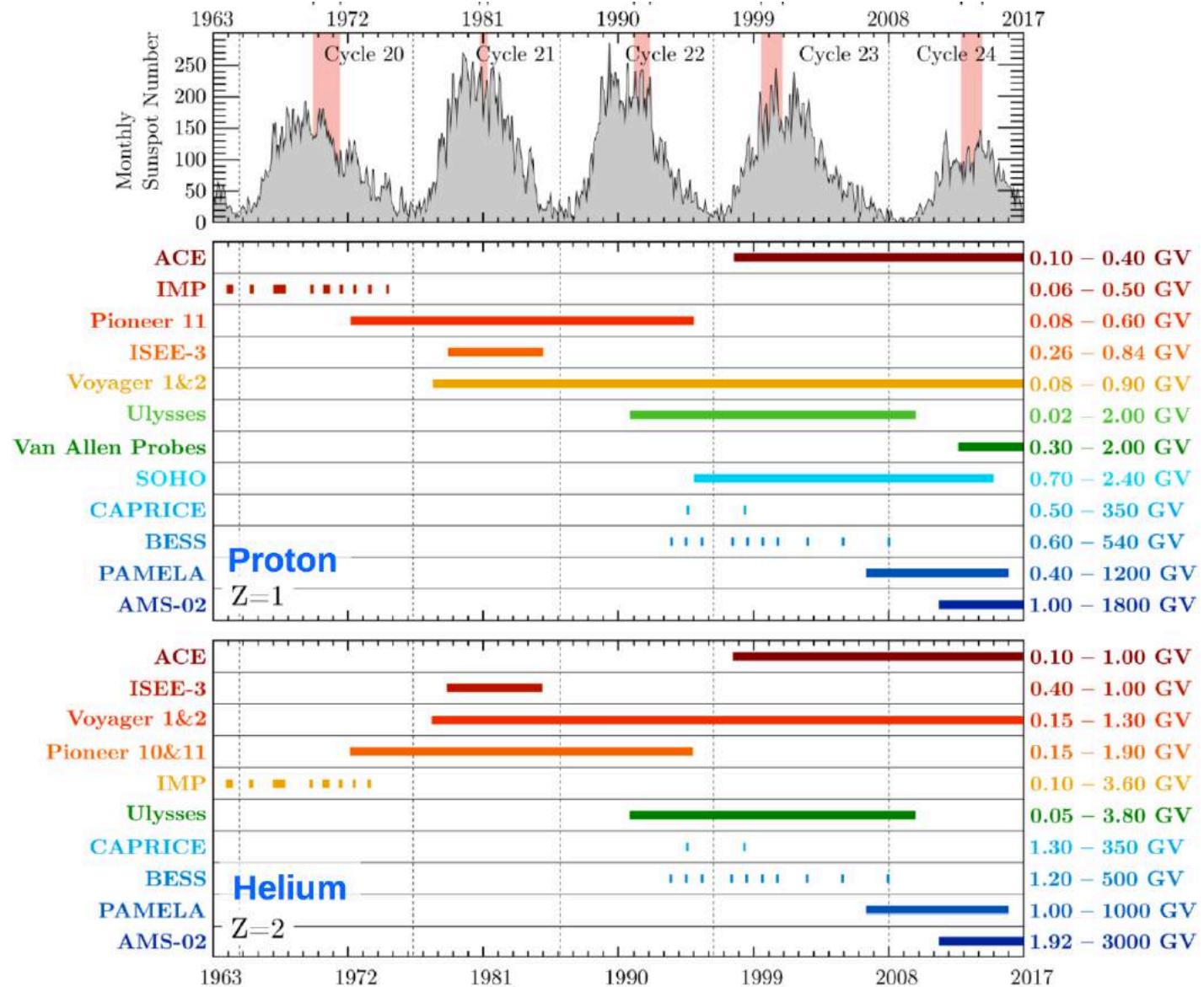
# Why low-energy, why time-resolved



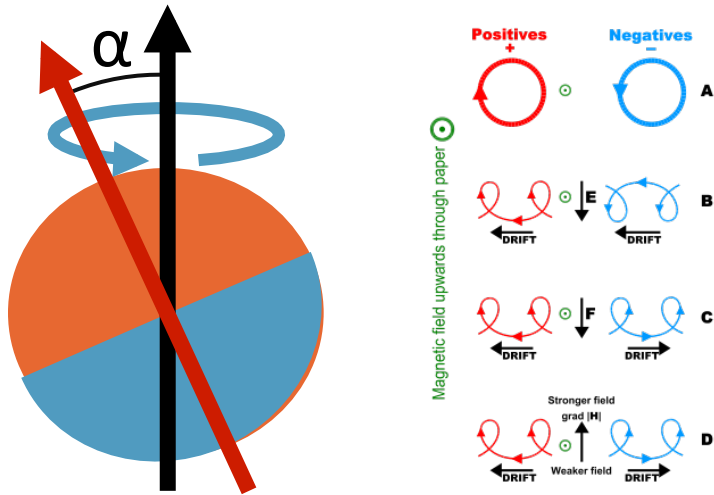
When the Sun activity is higher, the heliospheric B-field provides stronger shielding against cosmic rays coming from outer space, before they reach our planet.

To study solar modulation, data on time-dependence of the cosmic-ray flux at monthly timescale are needed

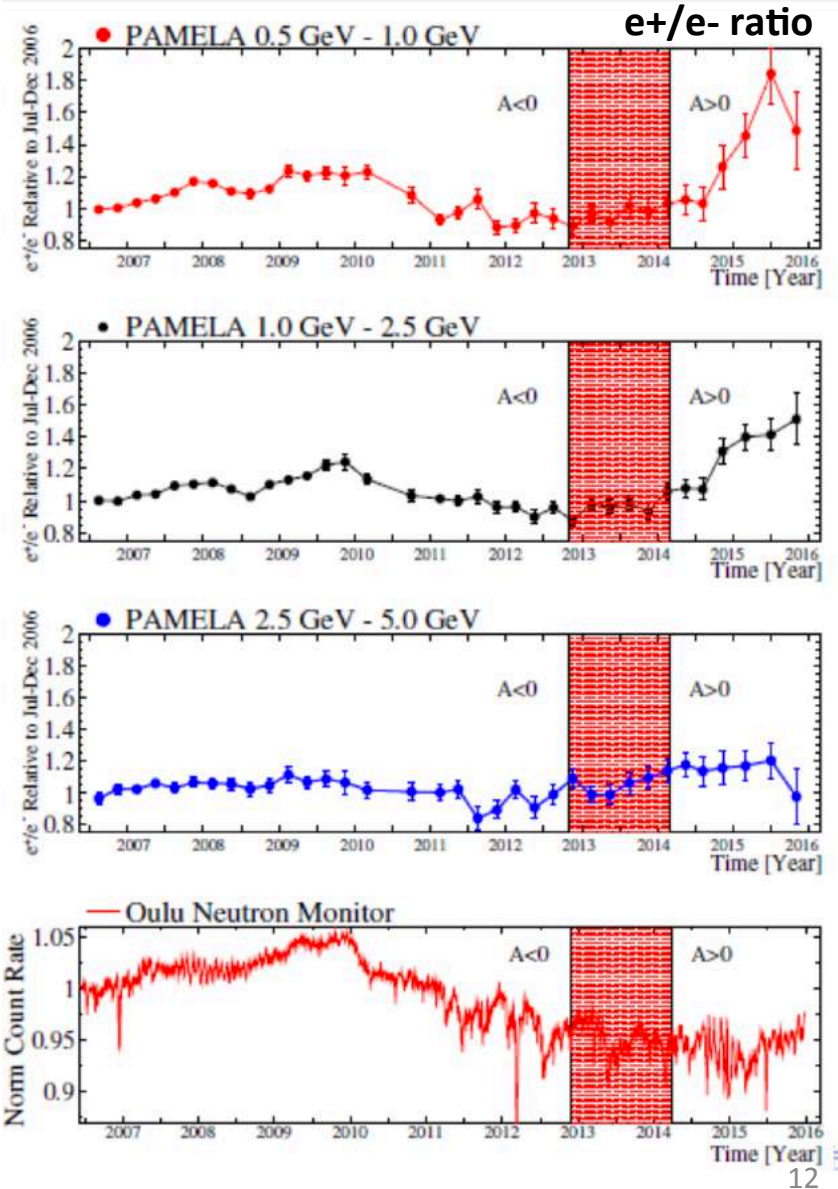
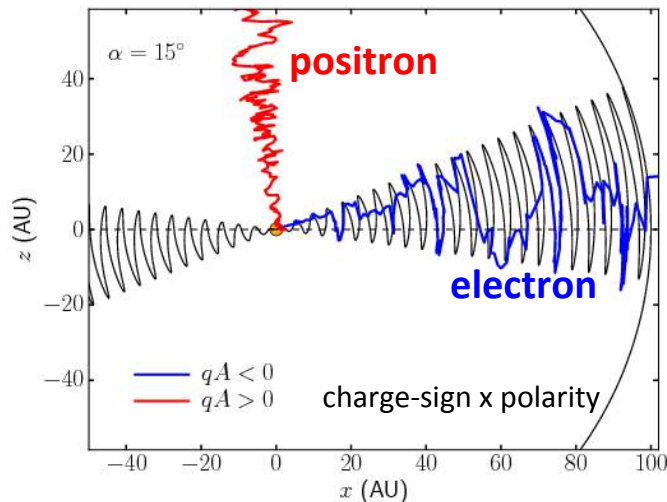
# Measurements of CR modulation in space



# Solar modulation: charge-sign dependence



- ✓ Drift motion across the regular B-field
- ✓ Different trajectories for particles & antiparticles
- ✓ Interchanged role with B-field reversal (T=11-yrs)

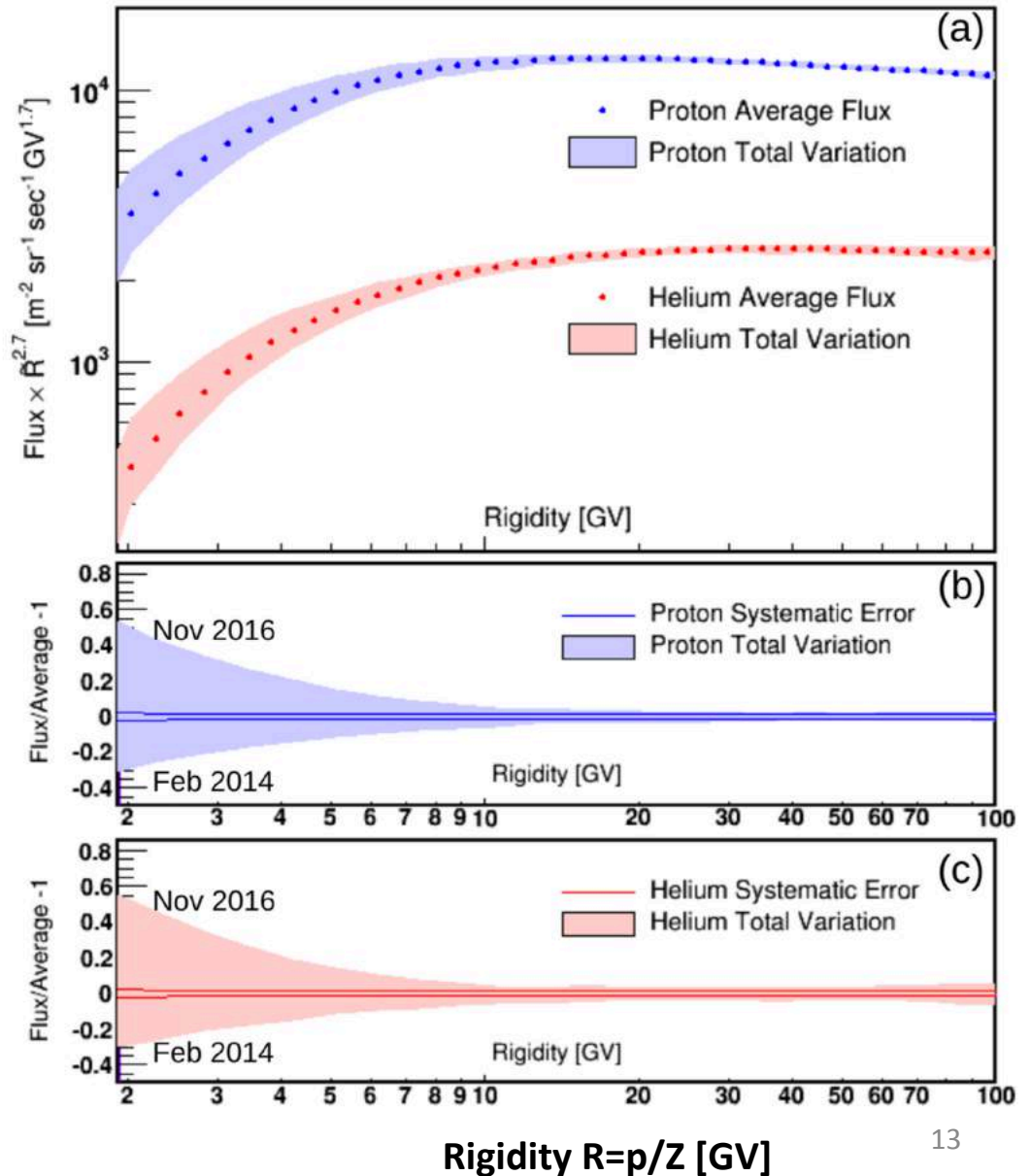


# AMS Results: proton & Helium in 5.5 years

## Proton and helium fluxes

Rigidity range:  $R=1-100$  GV  
Total exposure time: 5.5 yr  
Period: May 2011 – Nov 2016  
Time-resolution: 27-days

The flux of CR protons and helium measured over half a solar cycle show significant variations



# AMS results

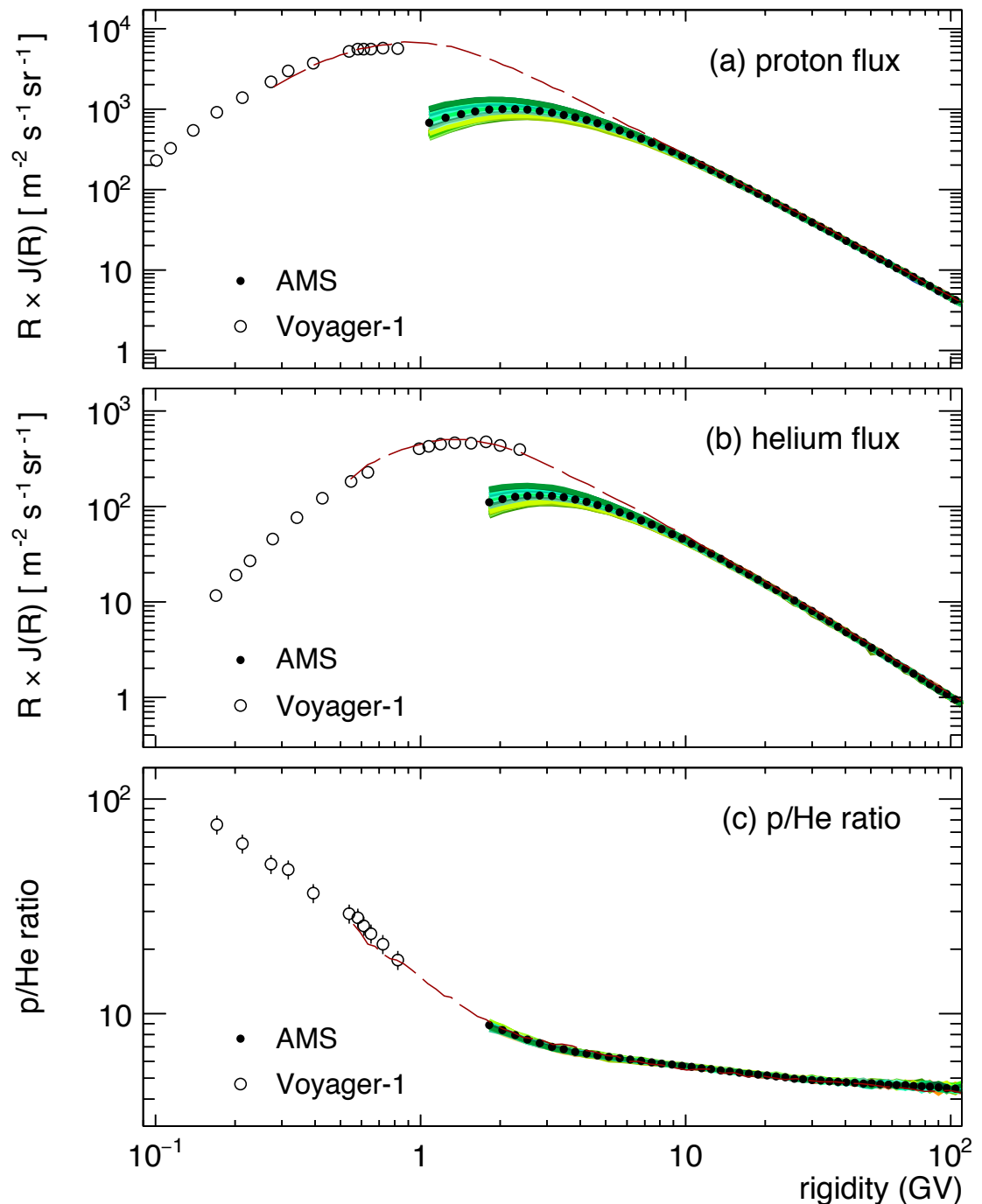
## Proton and helium fluxes in cosmic rays

### AMS + Voyager-1 data comparison

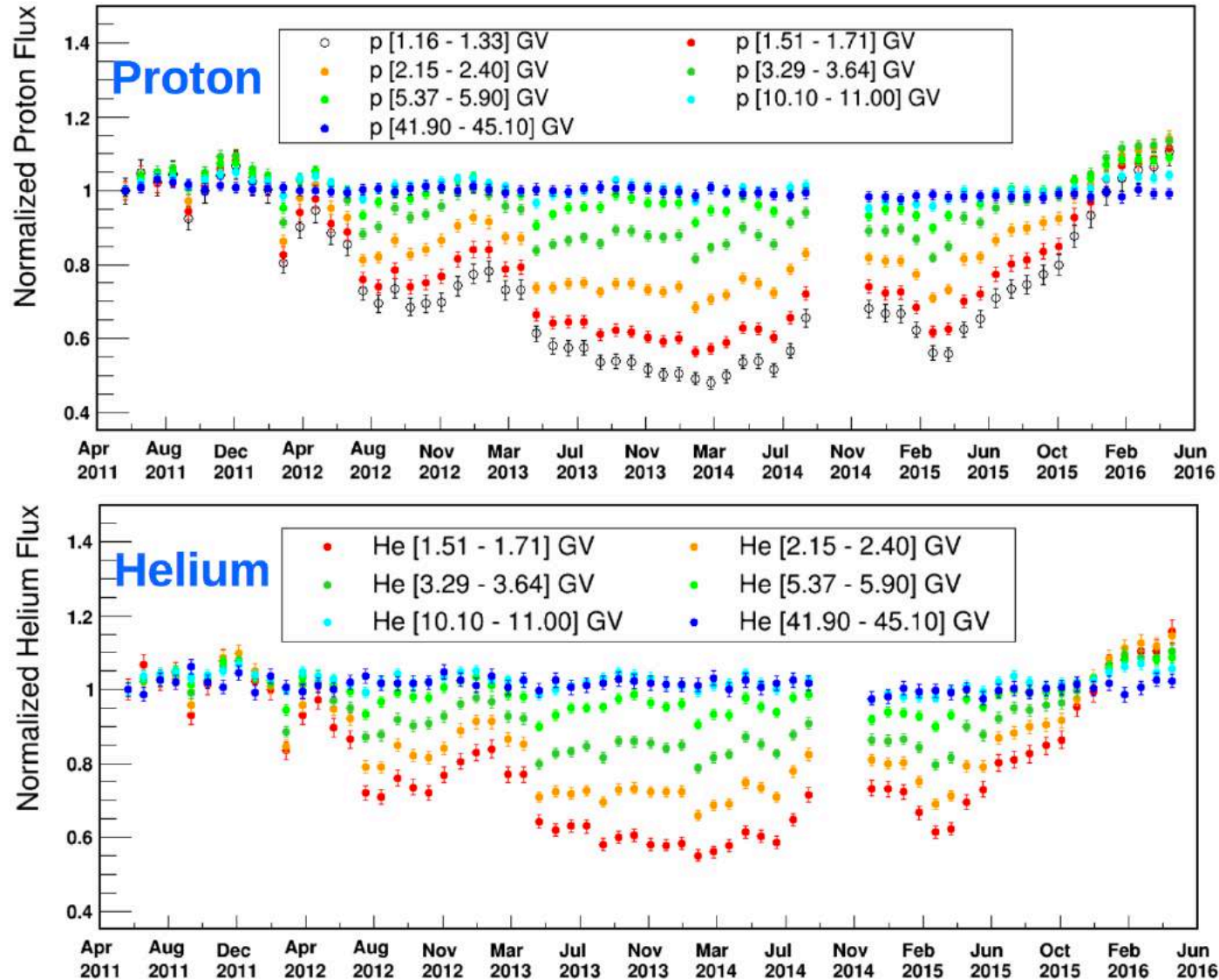
AMS has measured the proton/helium ratio as function of rigidity  $R=p/Z$ .

The AMS p/He ratio, measured inside the Heliosphere around the solar maximum, is found **not to vary** with time.

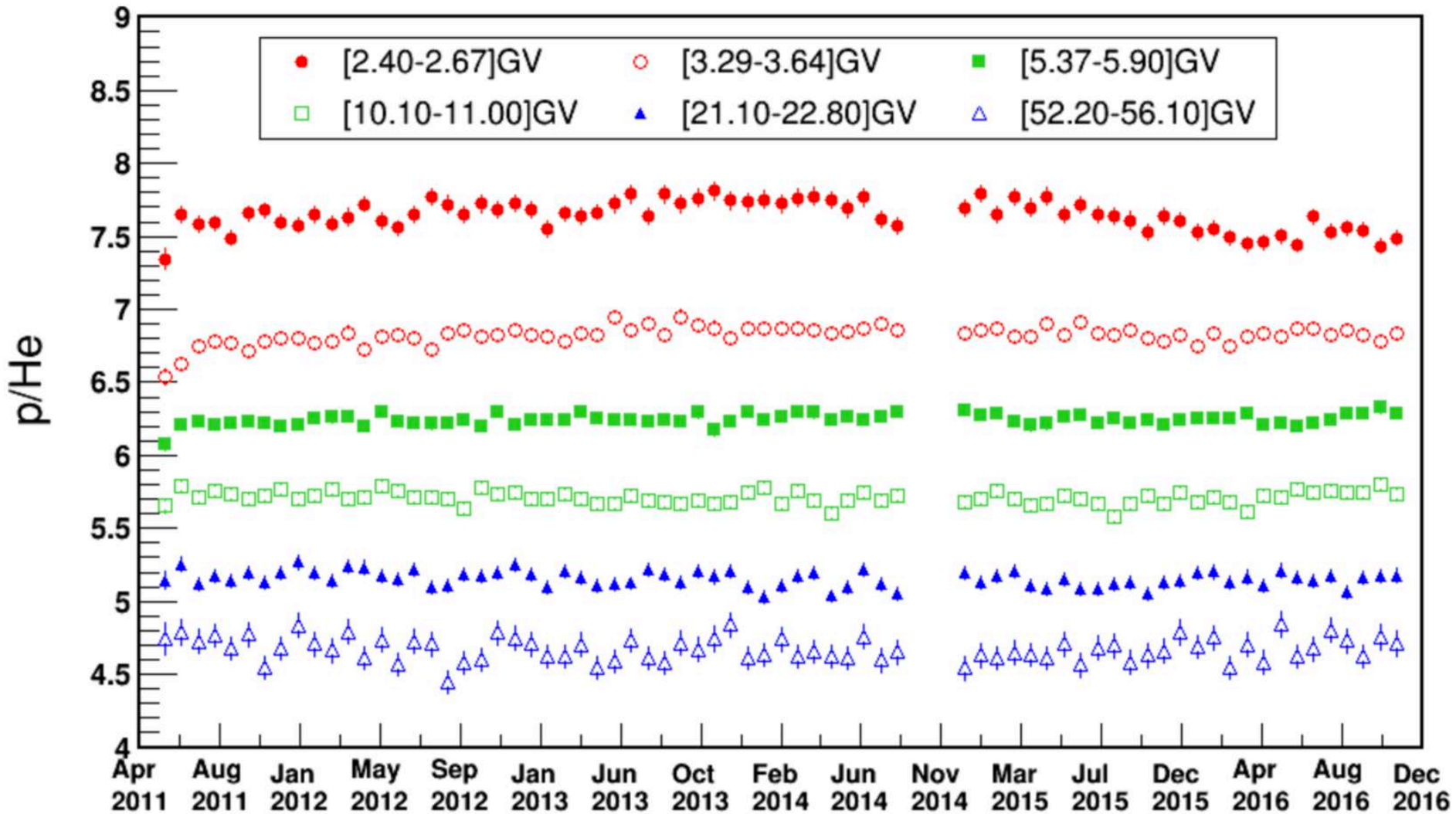
Apparently, this ratio is representative of its **interstellar** value (measured by Voyager-1).



# Time profiles of proton and helium fluxes



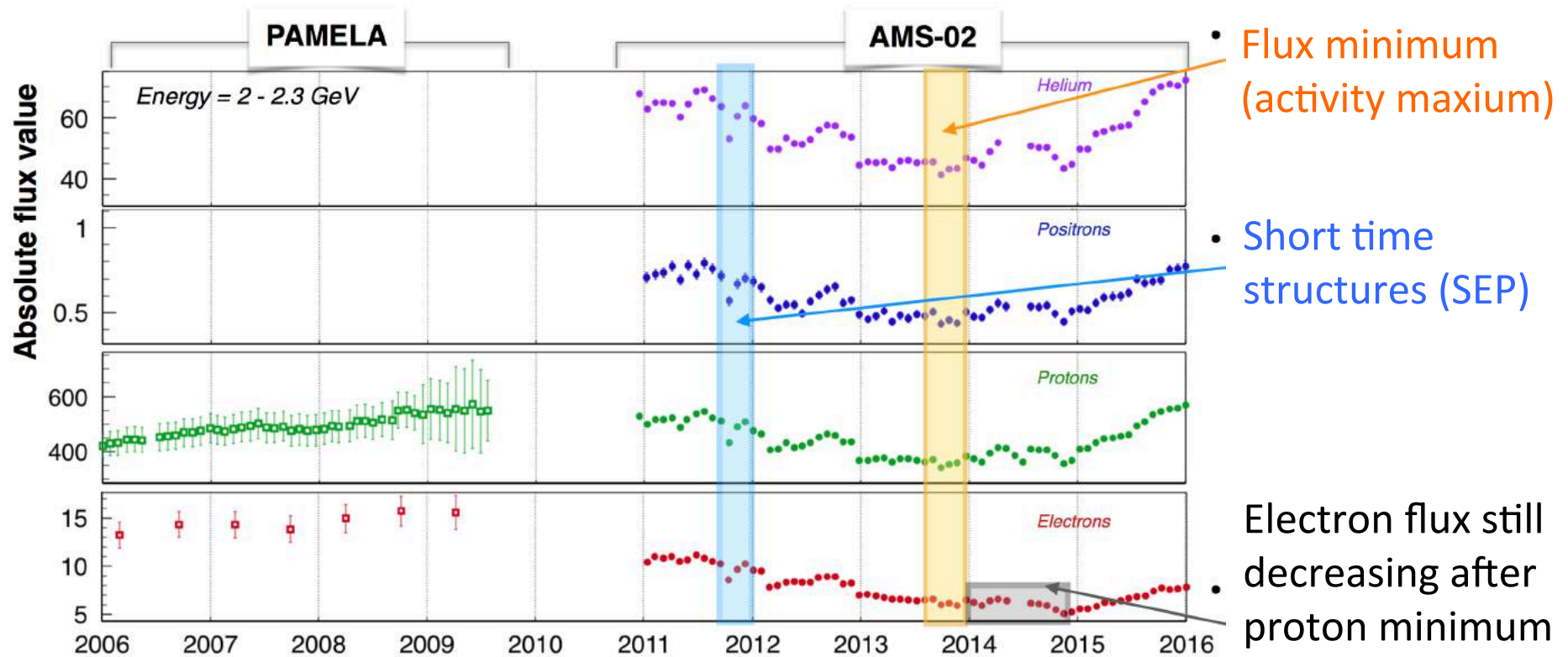
# Time profile of the proton/helium ratio





# Multichannel time profiles: p, He, e<sup>+</sup>, e<sup>-</sup>

All species show similar time profiles, with peculiar structures and small differences



A better inspection can be done using positive/negative and positive/positive ratios

# Time profiles of pos/pos and neg/pos ratios

## Neutron monitor rates

Monthly and daily counting rates from neutron monitor detectors at ground level.

## Proton flux VS time

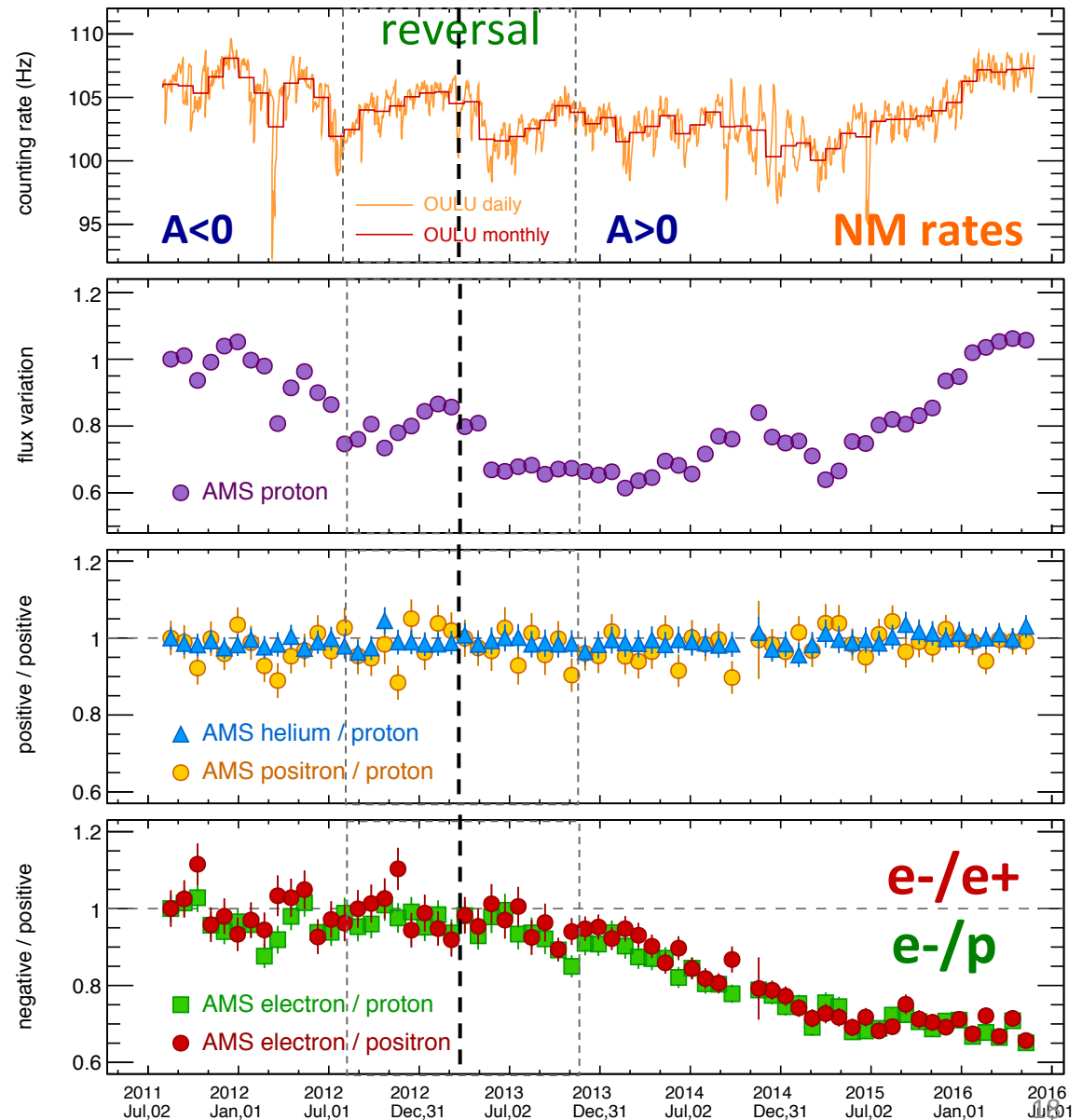
Evolution of the proton flux between 2011 and 2017 at different energies.

## Pos/Pos ratios vs time

Time evolution of particle ratios with same charge sign. No particular features.

## Neg/Pos ratios vs time

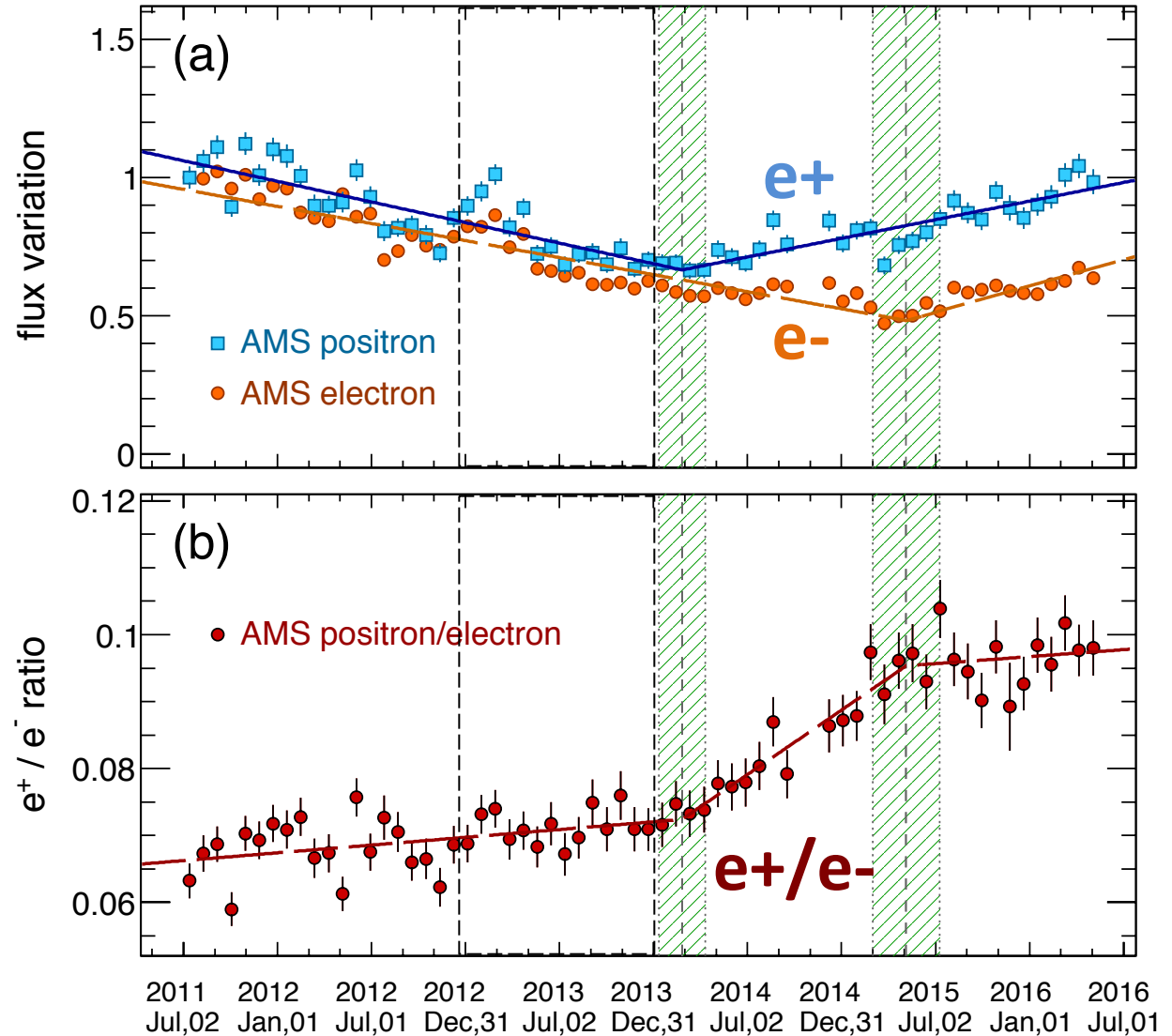
Time evolution of particle ratios with opposite charge sign. Puzzling features have been observed. They seem to be connected with the reversal of the Sun's B field.



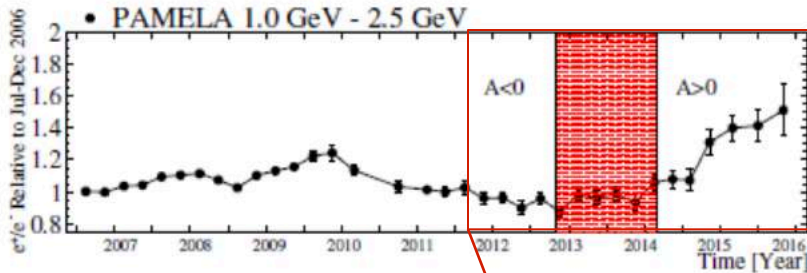
# Multichannel investigation of solar modulation with AMS

The fluxes of CR particles with different charge sign are seen to evolve in different ways during the Sun's magnetic reversal.

The response of positive and negative particles to change in solar activity (and polarity) may have different timescales.



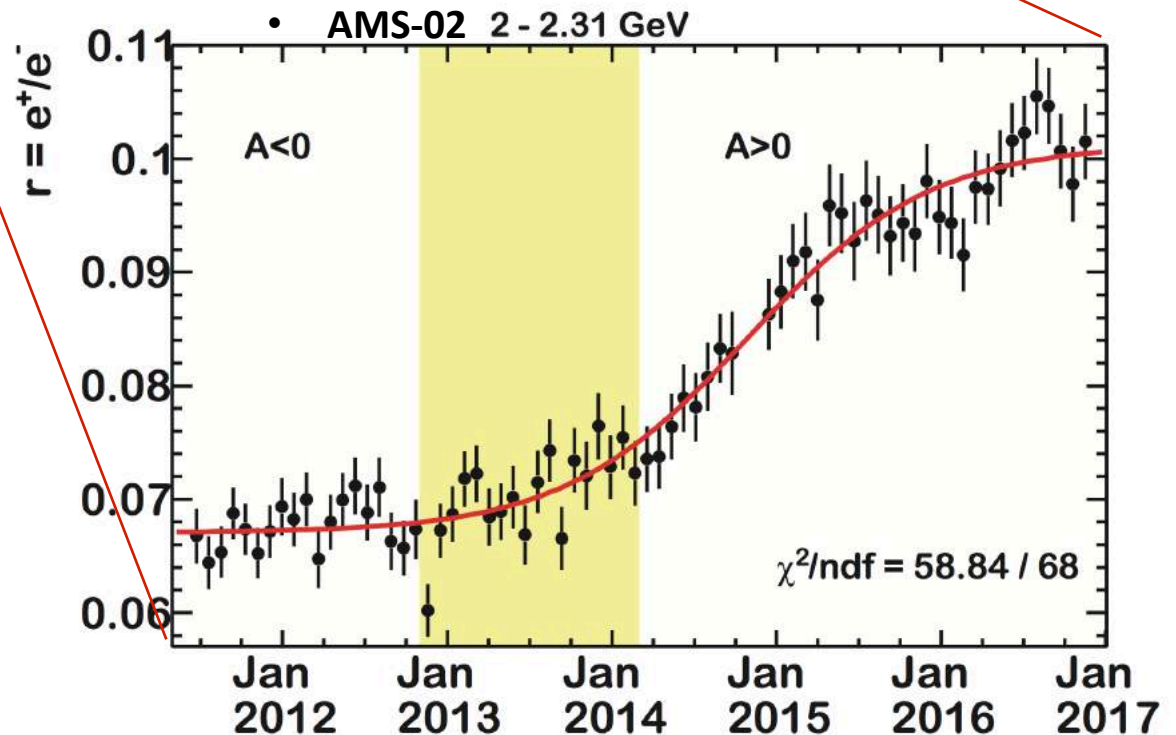
# Evidence for charge-sign dependent modulation



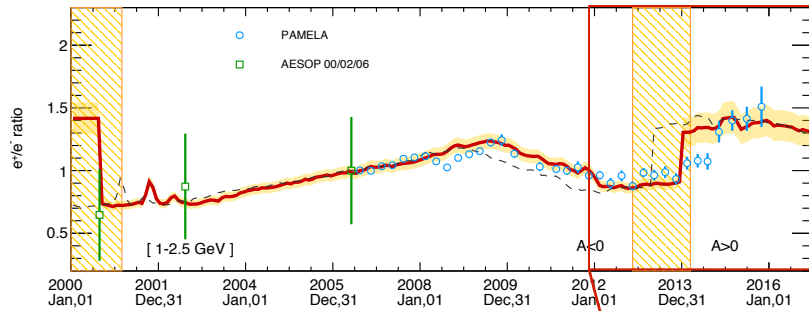
*Adriani et al. PRL 2016*

The fluxes of CR particles with different charge sign are seen to evolve in different ways during the Sun's magnetic reversal.

Multichannel cosmic-ray collected during this period are essential to understand and fully characterize the dynamics of magnetic reversal.



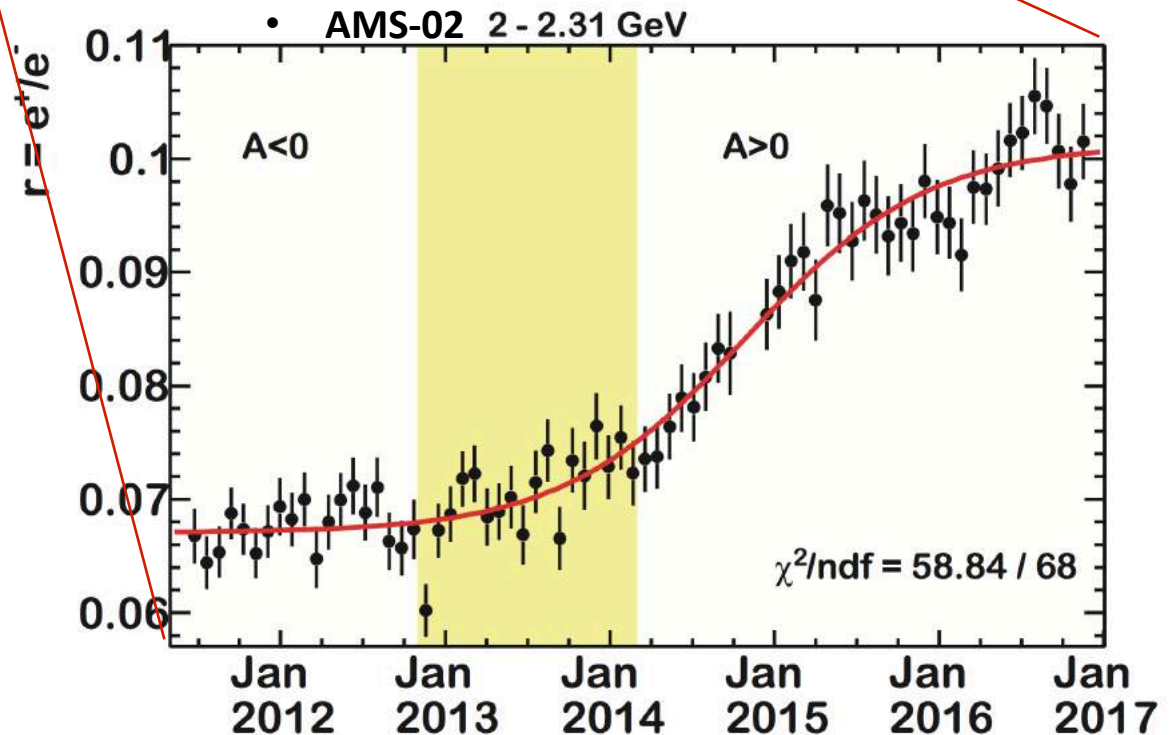
# Evidence for charge-sign dependent modulation



NT+ arXiv:1707.06916

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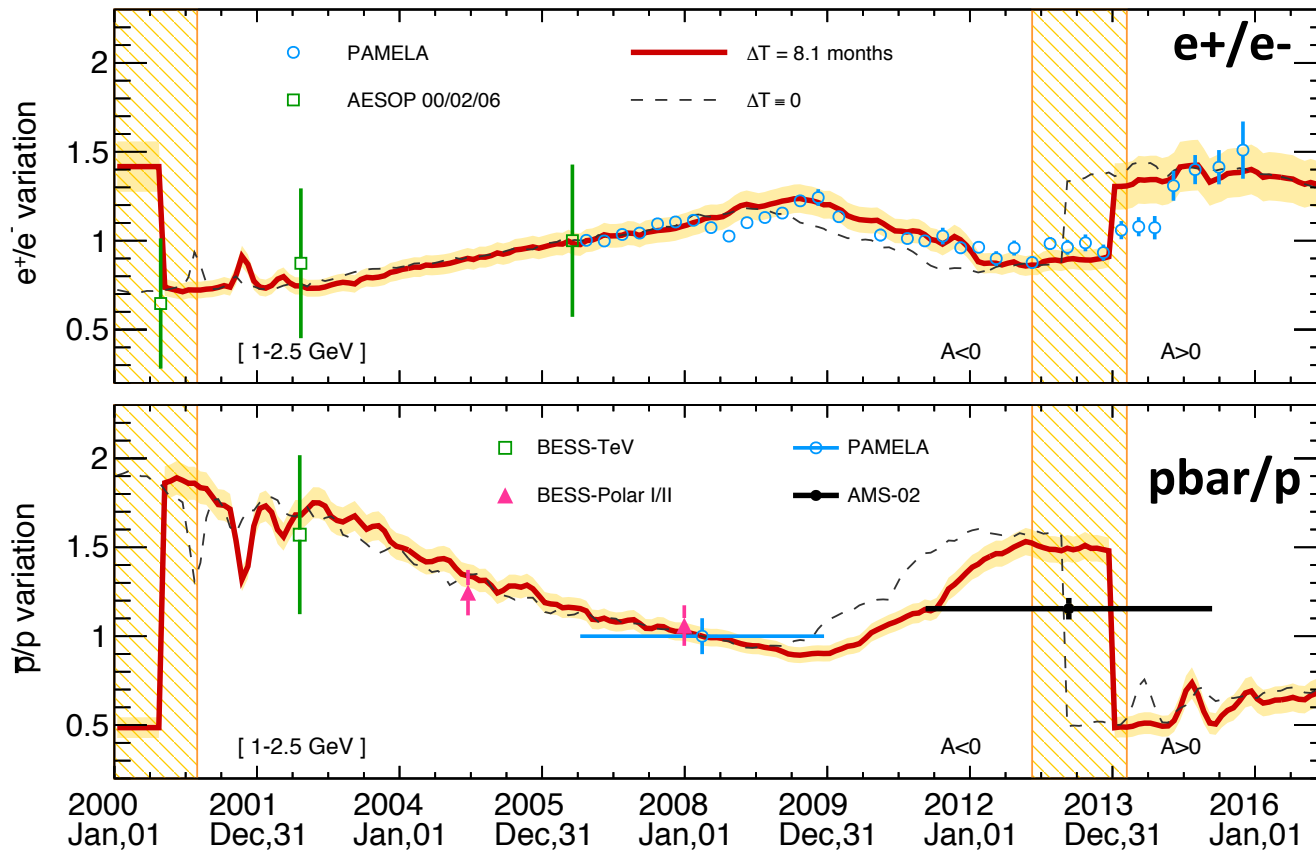
Multichannel cosmic-ray collected in this period are essential to understand and fully characterize the dynamics of magnetic reversal.



# Evidence for charge-sign dependent modulation

Data-driven model prediction  
using solar-activity data as inputs

*polar B-field reversal*

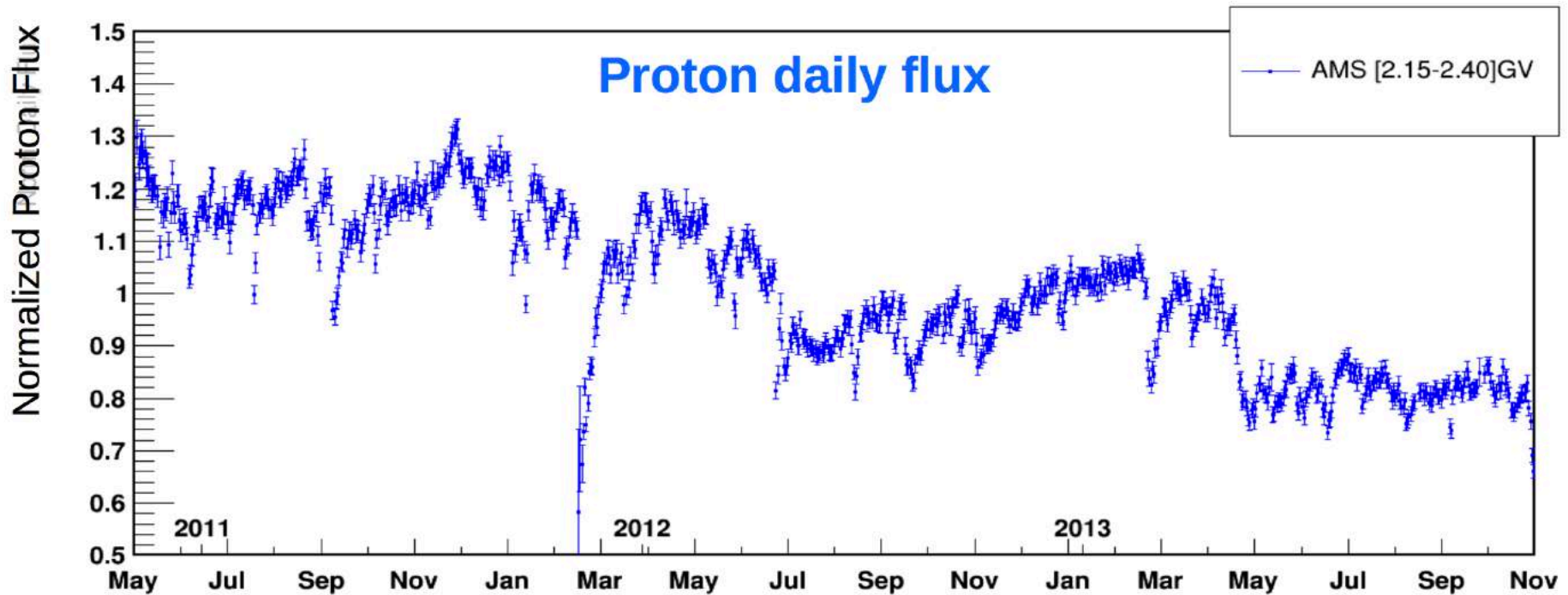


AMS-02 measurements  
of the antiproton/proton  
ratio are ongoing...

- Increase of the positron / electron ratio
- Decrease of antiproton/proton ratio
- Time-lag of  $\sim 8.1$  month w.r.t. solar-activity data

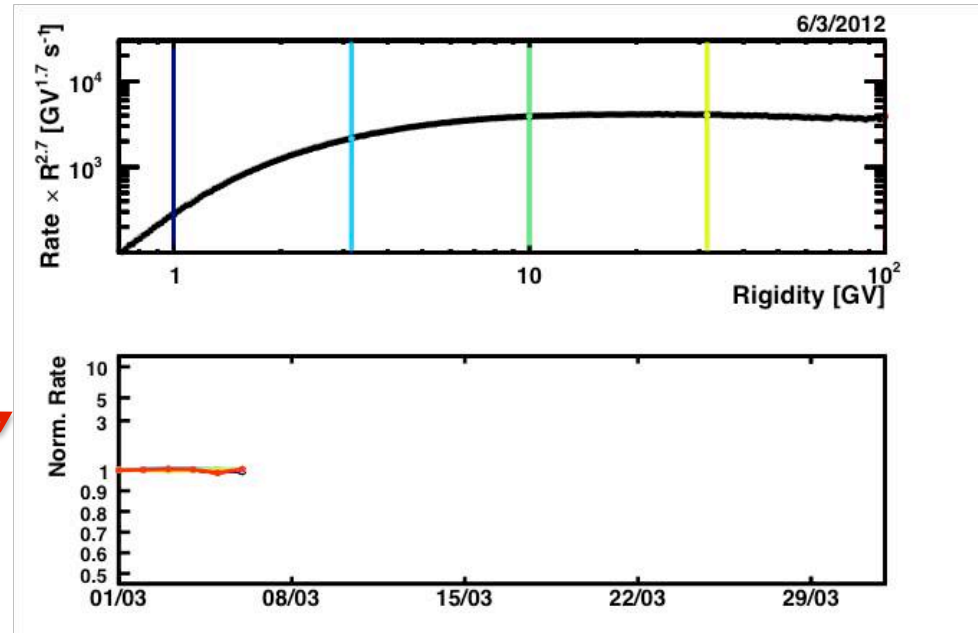
# Daily flux of cosmic-ray proton

A detailed study of the fluxes evolution with time is needed in order to develop and test

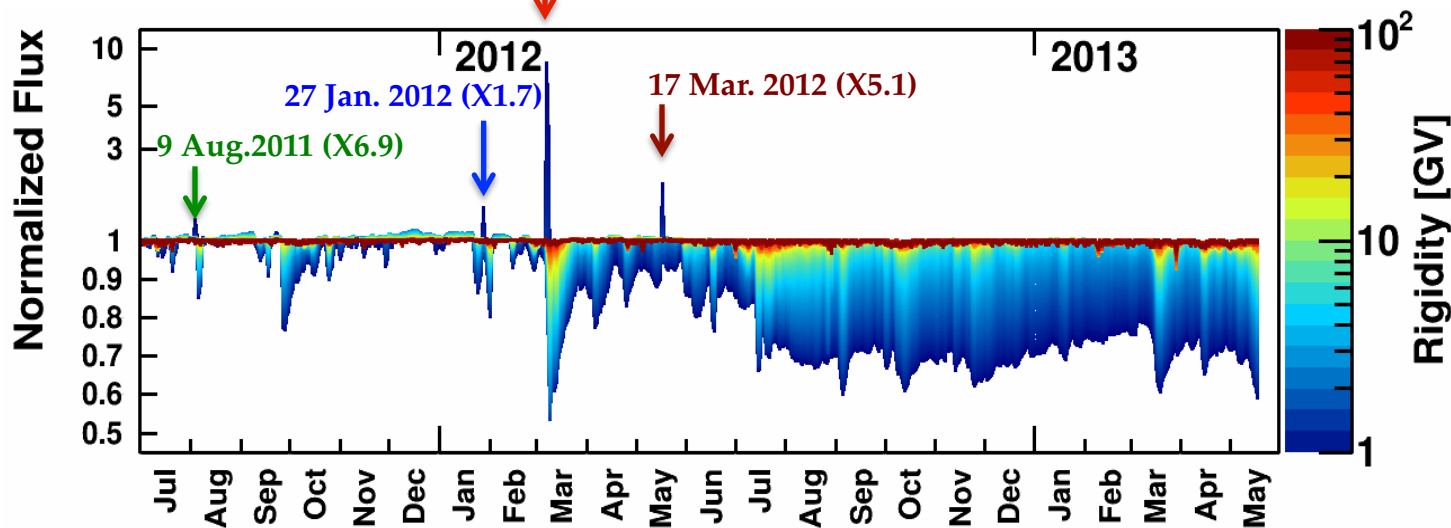


# Solar modulation study at small time-scale

- AMS gives us the opportunity to monitor the solar modulation effect over an entire solar cycle and more.
- The time variation of the proton spectrum is currently studied on daily basis.
- Solar energetic particle events can be detected and studied (flux intensity, spectral shape, composition)



7 Mar 2012 (M5.4)



animated slide  
set full screen



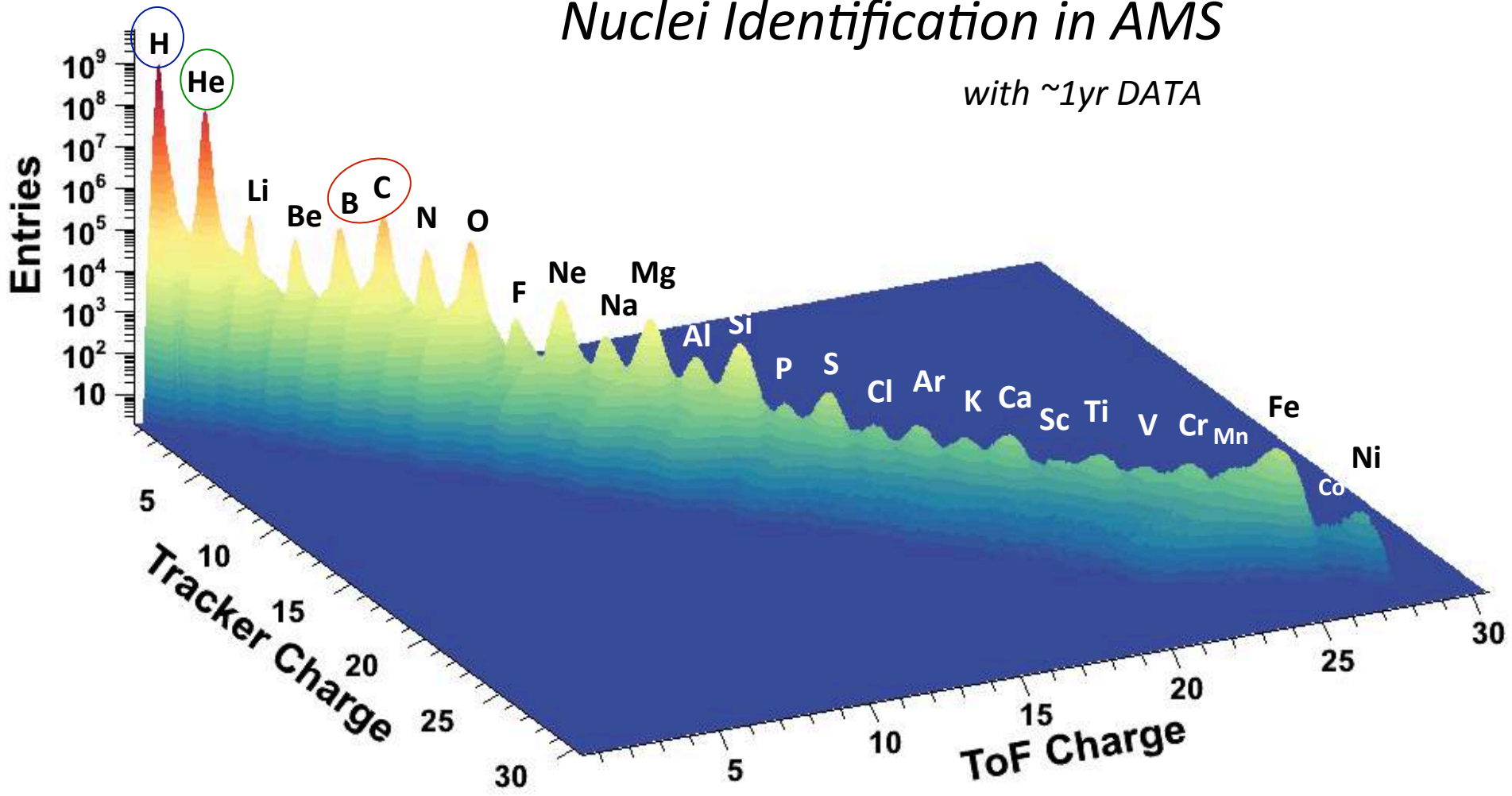
**Thank you**

**Спасибо за внимание**

# Identification of nuclei with AMS

## *Nuclei Identification in AMS*

*with ~1yr DATA*



# Modeling cosmic-ray transport in Heliosphere

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial f}{\partial t}}_{\text{Flux}} = \underbrace{\nabla \cdot [\mathbf{K} \cdot \nabla f]}_{\text{Diffusion}} - \underbrace{V \cdot \nabla f}_{\text{Convection}} - \underbrace{\langle \mathbf{v}_D \rangle \cdot \nabla f}_{\text{Particle drift}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{3} (\nabla \cdot V) \frac{\partial f}{\partial \ln p}}_{\text{Adiabatic losses}} + \underbrace{Q(r, p, t)}_{\text{Source / LIS}}$$

**Krymsky – Parker Equation, 1964**

# Modeling cosmic-ray transport in Heliosphere

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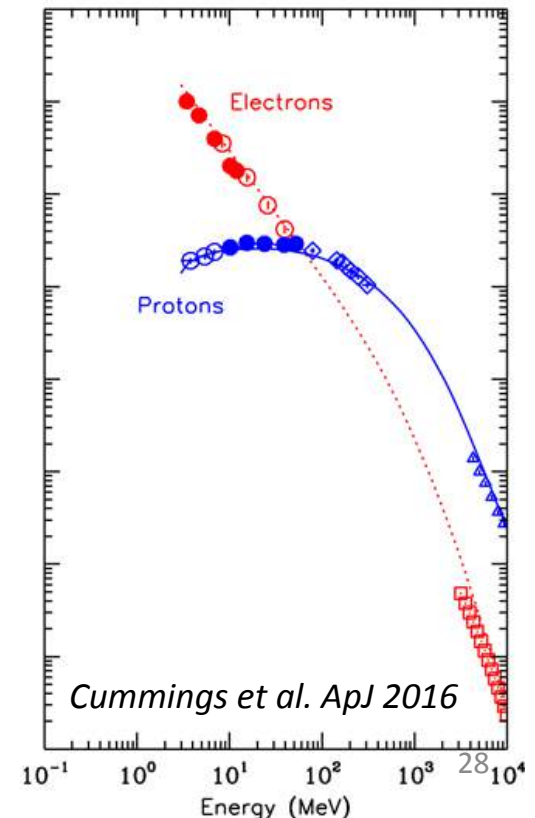
## Essential input: Local interstellar spectra

- Low-energy ( $E < \text{GeV}$ ): Strong constraints from Voyager-1, which is now sampling the interstellar space.
- High-energy ( $E > 20 \text{ GeV}$ ) constraints from AMS-02

**Protons and electrons:** direct constraints from Voyager-1 (*Cummings et al. 2016*) + AMS (*Aguilar et al. 2014 & 2015*)

**Antiprotons and positrons:** from calculations of secondary CR production in the interstellar medium (NT PRD 2015)

In practice, the LIS input states the boundary conditions of the problem



# Modeling cosmic-ray transport in Helisophere

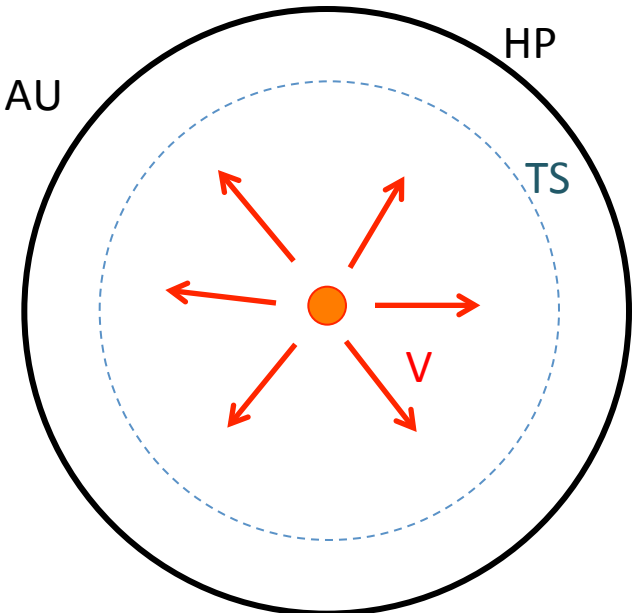
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## Convection and energy losses due to Solar Wind

Radially outflowing from the Sun with speed  $V = 400 \text{ km/s}$

Change to subsonic speed beyond termination shock @  $r = 85 \text{ AU}$

Vanishing at the Heliopause boundary @  $r = 122 \text{ AU}$



# Modeling cosmic-ray transport in Heliosphere

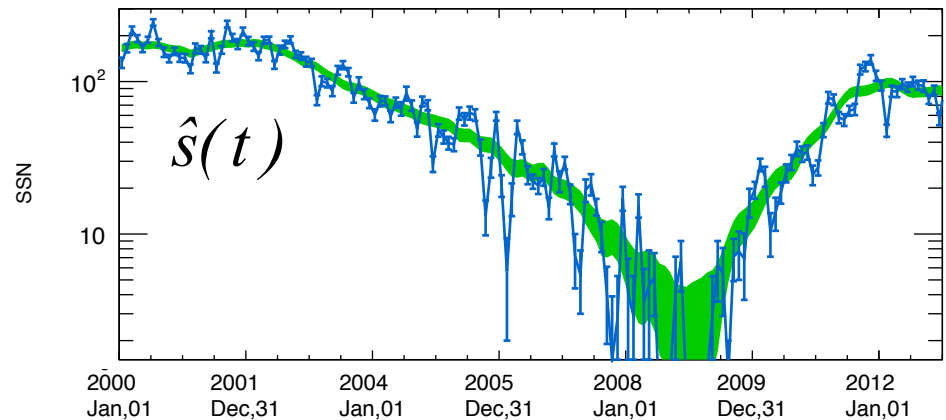
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$$\begin{cases} K_{\perp} = 0.02 \cdot K_{\parallel} \\ K_{\parallel} = k^0(t) \frac{10^{22} \cdot \beta p / \text{GeV}}{3B / B_0} \end{cases}$$

- ✓ Adimensional normalization factor
- ✓ Time-dependent & related to solar activity

$$k^0(s) = a \cdot \log_{10}(s) + b$$

↓  
S = measured sunspot number



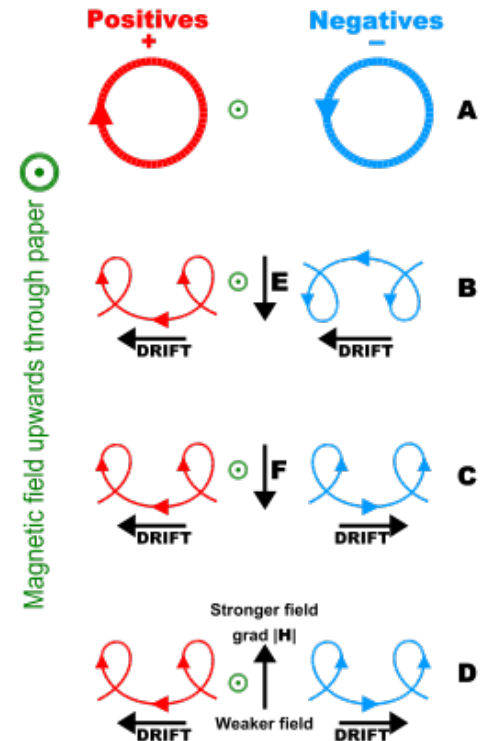
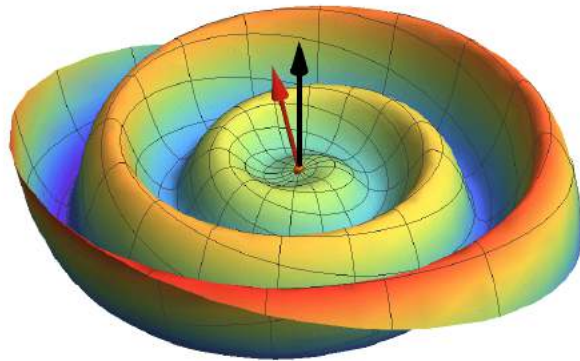
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## Drift motion along the B-field spiral

- ✓ Charge-sign dependent effect.
- ✓ Important in the Heliospheric Current Sheet

$$\langle \mathbf{v}_{\text{dr}} \rangle = \frac{\beta P}{3} \nabla \times \frac{\mathbf{B}}{B^2}$$



- ✓ The HCS “waviness” depends on *tilt-angle*  $\alpha$

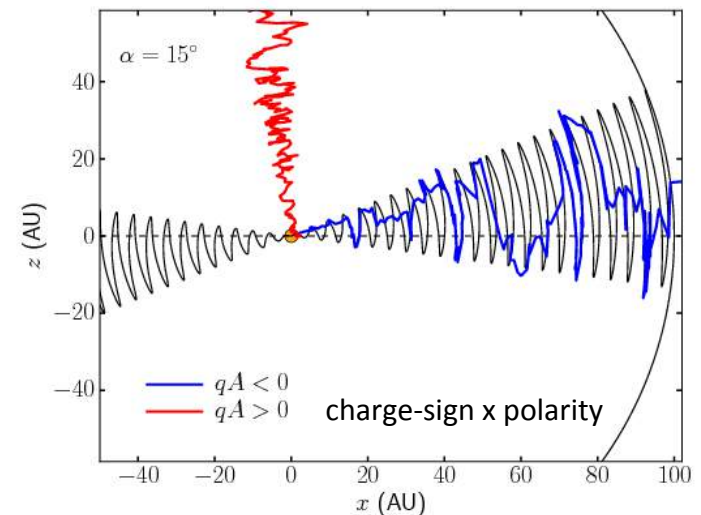
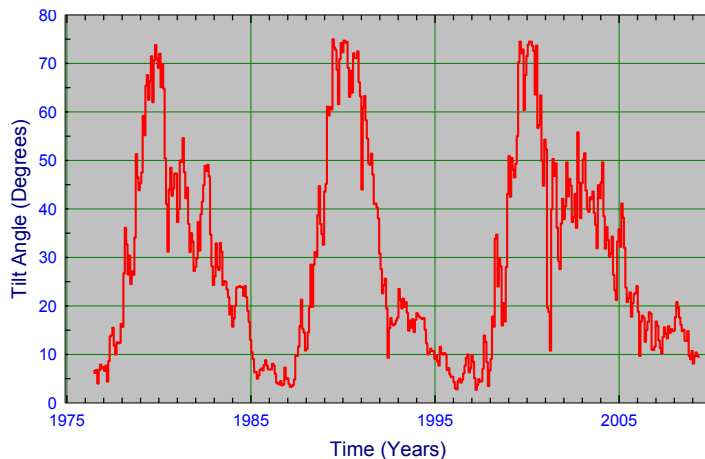
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## Drift motion along the B-field spiral

- ✓ Charge-sign dependent effect.
- ✓ Important in the Heliospheric Current Sheet
- ✓ Different trajectories for particles & antiparticles
- ✓ Interchanged role with B-field reversal (T=11-yrs)

Tilt angle reconstruction from WSO



To investigate the effects, time-resolved flux data on particles and antiparticles are needed