

# The BESS experimental astroparticle physics program

Makoto Sasaki, John W. Mitchell  
for the BESS Collaboration

## Outline:

- Overview of the BESS Program
- BESS-Polar Program
- New Results from BESS-Polar II

# Overview of the BESS Program

# BESS Collaboration

Balloon-borne Experiment with a Superconducting Spectrometer



High Energy Accelerator  
Research Organization(KEK)



National Aeronautical and  
Space Administration  
Goddard Space Flight Center



The University  
of Tokyo



University of Maryland

BESS  
Collaboration



Kobe University



University of Denver



Institute of Space and  
Astronautical Science/JAXA

# BESS Program

- **B**alloon-borne **E**xperiment
  - Steady improvement
    - Continuously upgrade and modify detector components
    - Various new scientific subjects
  - Long period of successive observations
    - Cover more than full cycle (11 years) of solar activity
  - Education/Training
    - Young people can be responsible for essential parts of the experiment (20 students/engineers awarded with Ph.D)

with a

- **S**uperconducting **S**pectrometer
  - Large acceptance
    - High statistics
  - Uniform magnetic field
    - High resolution MDR 200 – 1400 GV
  - Transparent
    - Thin Solenoid 4.4 g/cm<sup>2</sup> (2.2 g/cm<sup>2</sup>)
  - Definitive mass ID



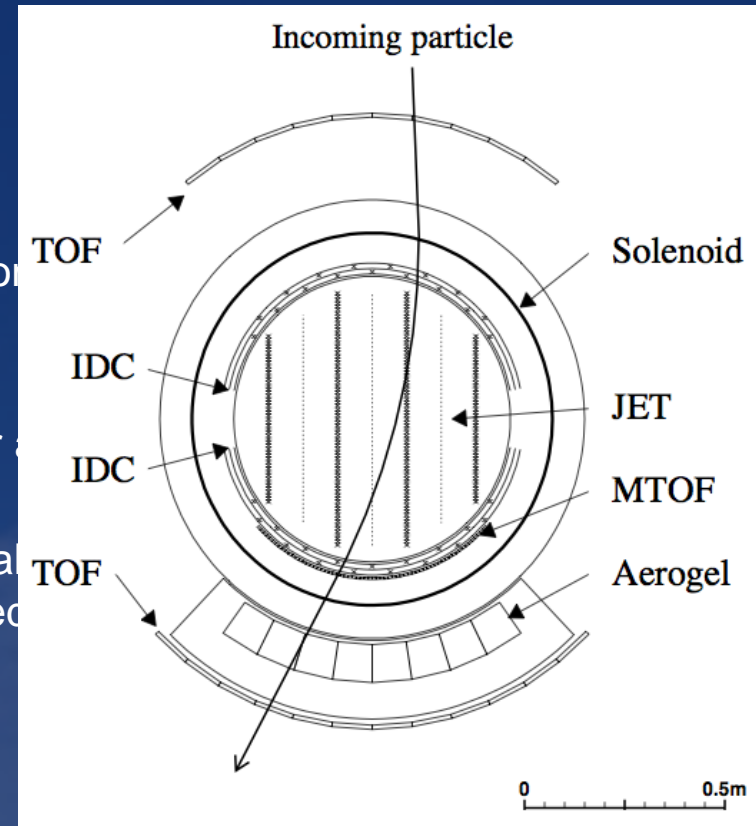
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with a

- **S**uperconducting **S**pectrometer
  - Large acceptance
    - High Statistics
  - Uniform magnetic field
    - High, uniform resolution (MDR ~ 200 GV)
  - Transparent
    - Thin Solenoid 4.4 g/cm<sup>2</sup> (2.2 g/cm<sup>2</sup>)
  - Definitive mass ID

$$m = ZeR\sqrt{1/\beta^2 - 1}$$



- JET, IDC drift chambers: **rigidity**
- Time-of-flight system (TOF): **velocity** and **charge**
- Aerogel Cherenkov detector (ACC, n=1.02/1.03): **background rejection**

# Science Objectives

- Measure cosmic-ray particles and antiparticles as a probe to study the early Universe

- Antinuclei:

- Antihelium/antiduteron; none observed in cosmic rays by any instrument

- Fundamental question: symmetry of matter and antimatter

- Antiprotons:

- $\bar{p}/p \sim 10^{-5}$  @ 1 GeV

- Mainly secondary origin; cosmic ray interactions with ISM

- Possible small primary component;

- Evaporation by Hawking radiation of primordial black holes (PBH) initially near  $\sim 5 \times 10^{14} \text{g}$ ?

- Annihilation of super-symmetric particles?

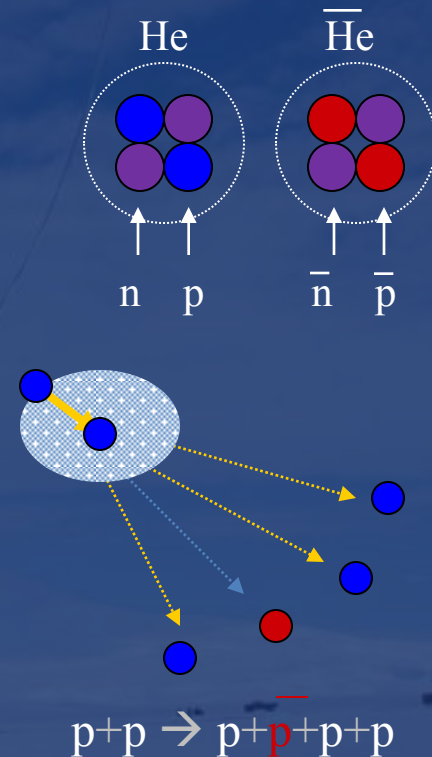
- Quantify charge-sign dependent Solar modulation

- Measure cosmic ray spectra and composition

- p, He, Li, Be isotopic and elemental spectra

- B, C, N, O elemental spectra

- Atmospheric muons



# BESS Flight History

- **Nine** northern latitude BESS flights (1+ days) 1993-2002
- **Two** Antarctic BESS-Polar flights (8.5 & 24.5 days) 2004, 2007

## Scientific observation



11 scientific balloon flights during 1993-2008



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2001-2002					2004, 2007
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Larger Vessel				Larger Vessel	No Vessel
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6, 2	43	415, 398	668, 558	147	1512, > 8000

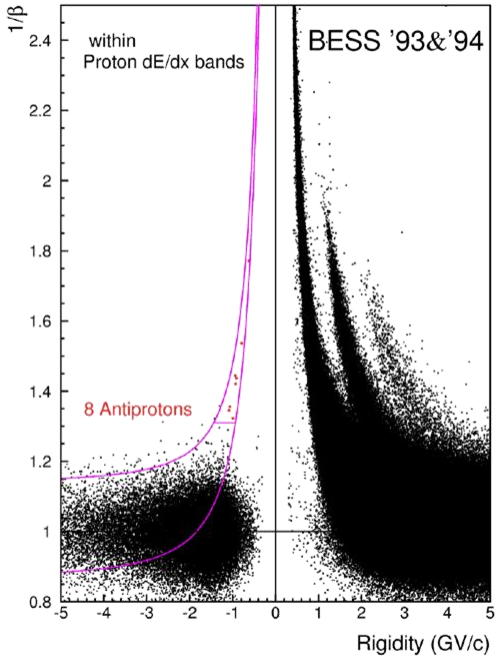
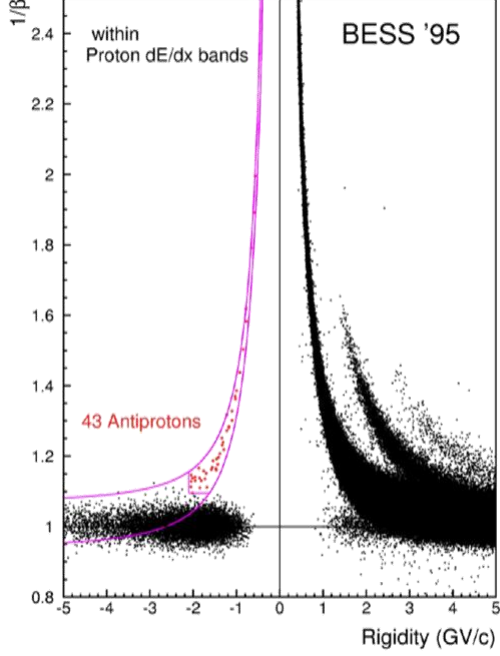
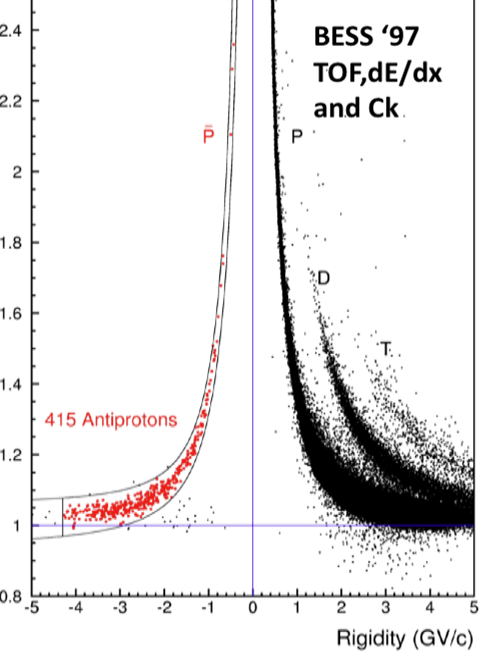


# BESS Flight History

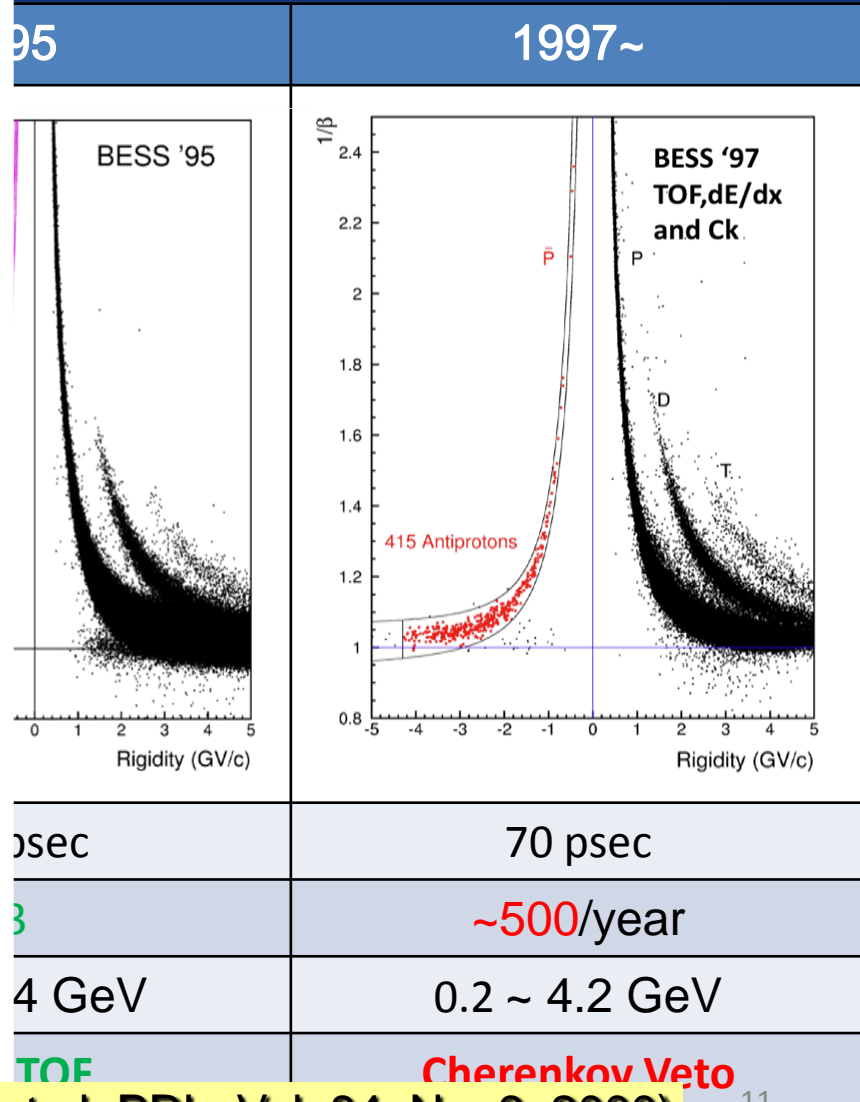
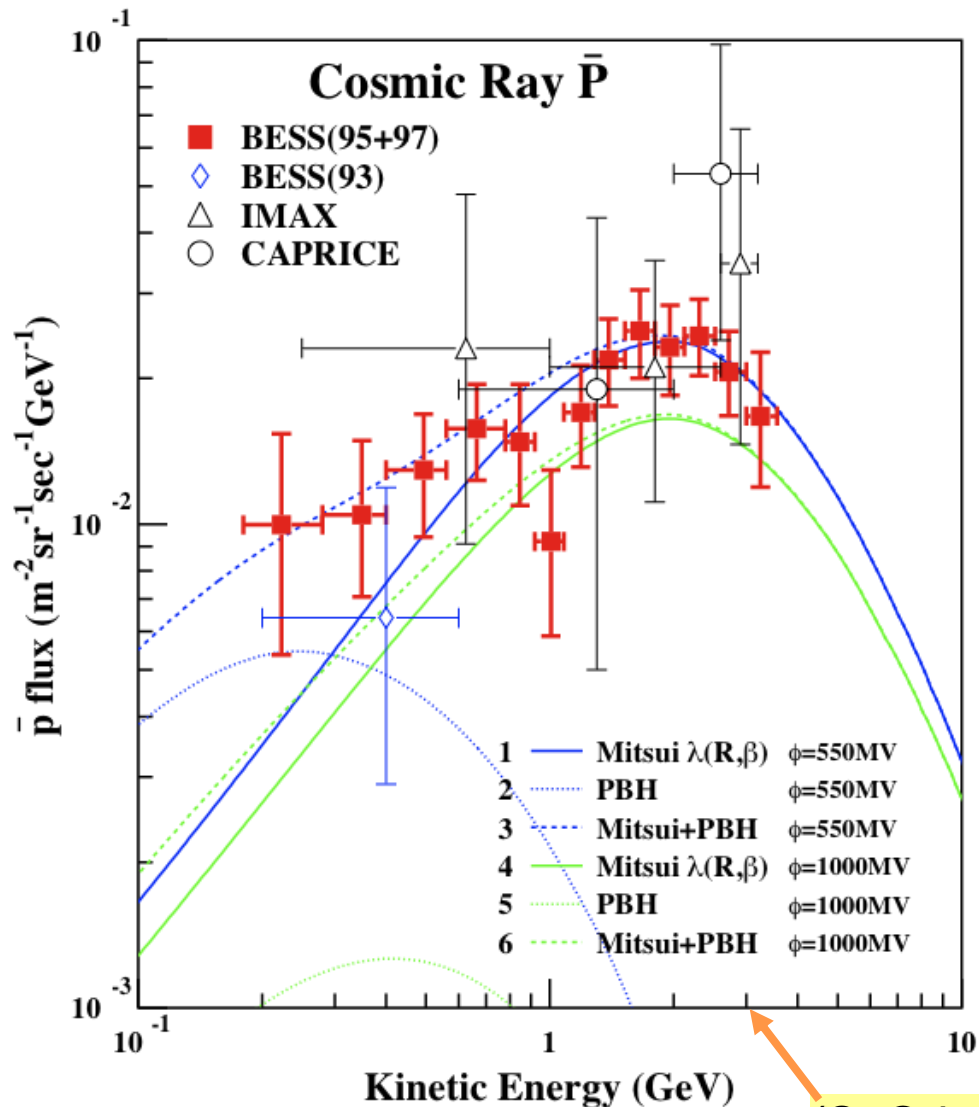
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# Evolution of the BESS Instrument

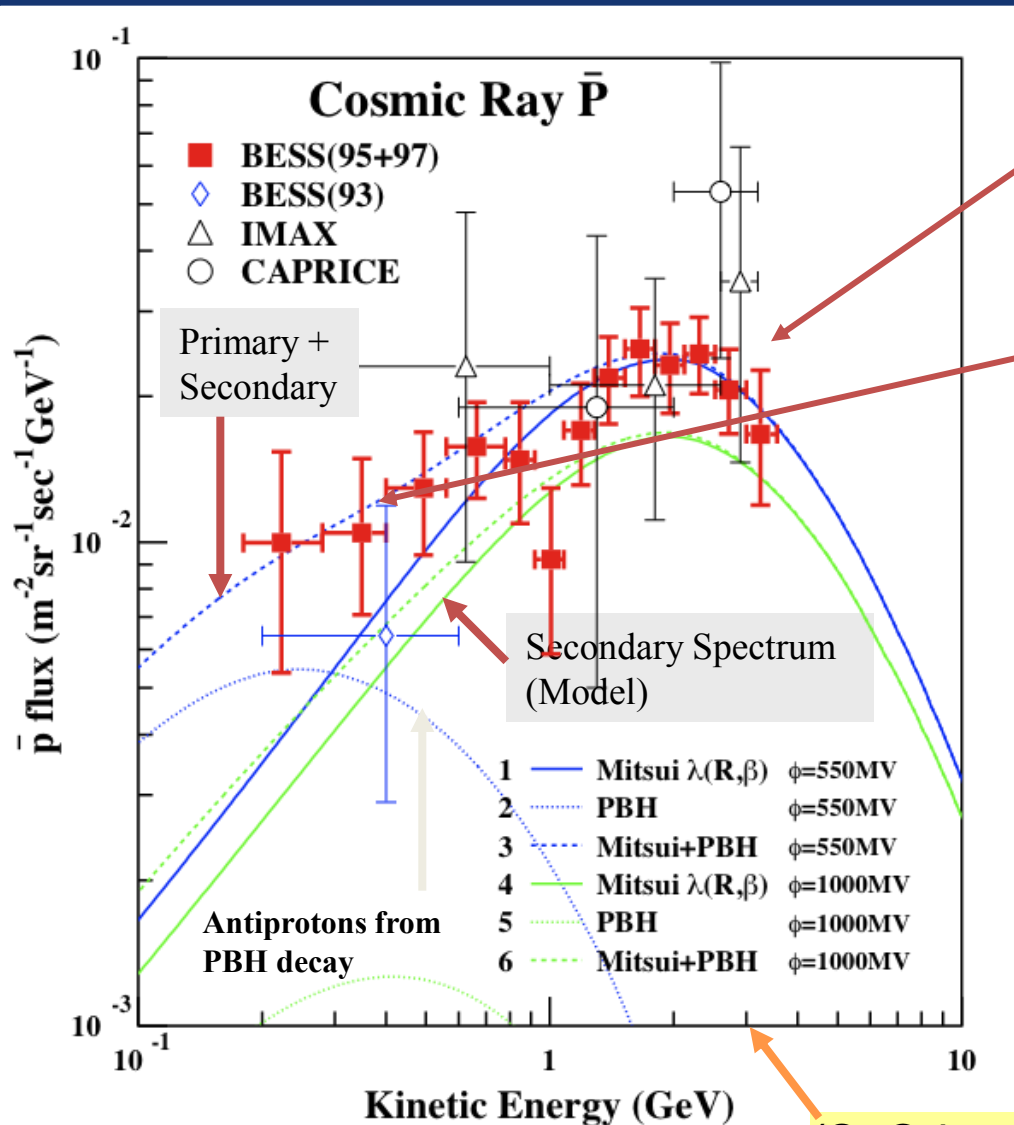
	1993 +1994	1995	1997~
	 <p>within Proton dE/dx bands BESS '93&amp;'94 8 Antiprotons</p>	 <p>within Proton dE/dx bands BESS '95 43 Antiprotons</p>	 <p>BESS '97 TOF, dE/dx and Ck. 415 Antiprotons</p>
$\sigma_{\text{TOF}}$	300 psec	110 psec	70 psec
$N_{\text{obs}}$	8	43	~500/year
$E_{\text{p}}^-$	0.2 ~ 0.6 GeV	0.2 ~ 1.4 GeV	0.2 ~ 4.2 GeV
	First mass-ID	New TOF	Cherenkov Veto

# Evolution of the BESS Instrument



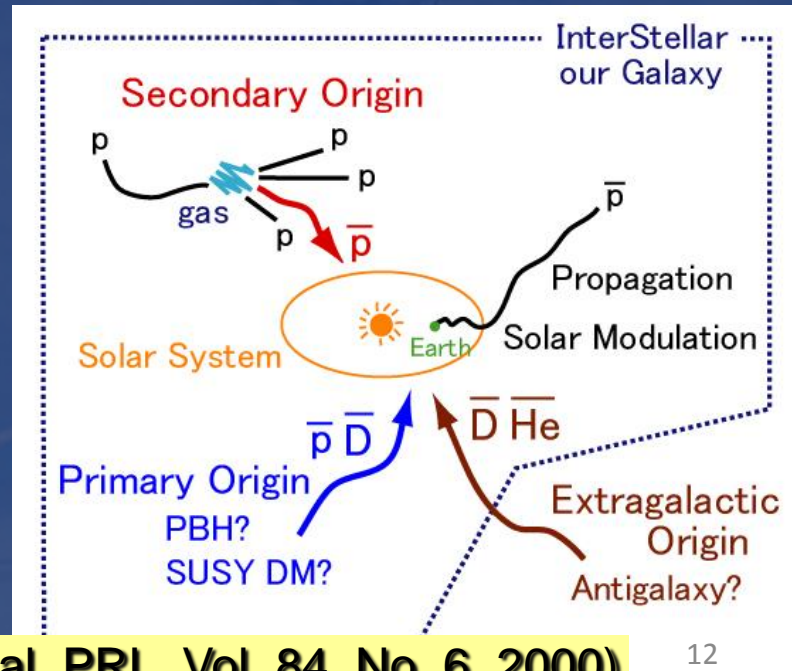
(S. Orito et al. PRL, Vol. 84, No. 6, 2000)

# Antiproton Measurement



Most antiprotons are nuclear secondaries - characteristic spectral peak  $\sim 2$  GeV


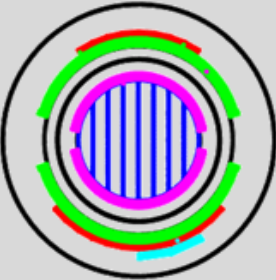


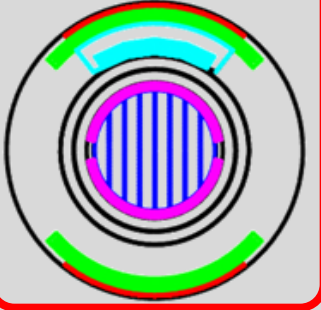

Some indication of additional component in low energy Solar minimum data!



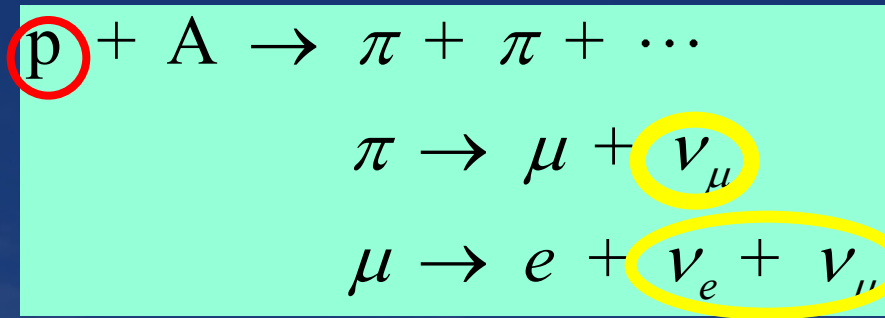
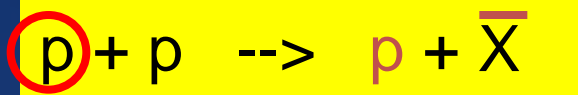
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# BESS Flight History

- **Nine** northern latitude BESS flights (1+ days) 1993-2002
- **Two** multi-day (8.5 & 24.5 days) Antarctic flights in 2004, 2007

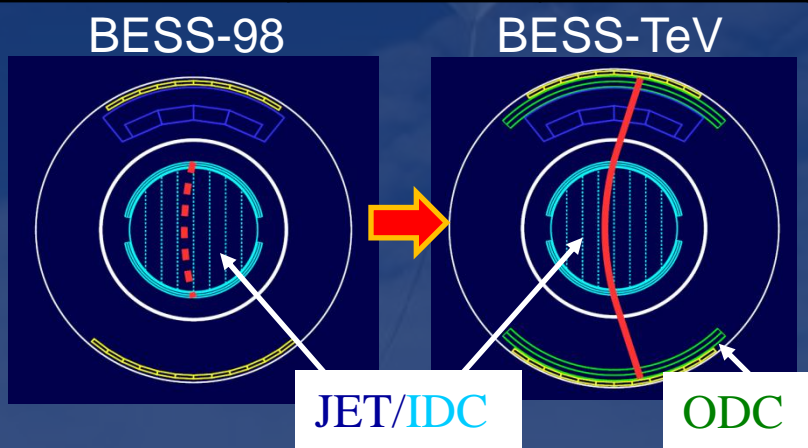
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# BESS-TeV Flight



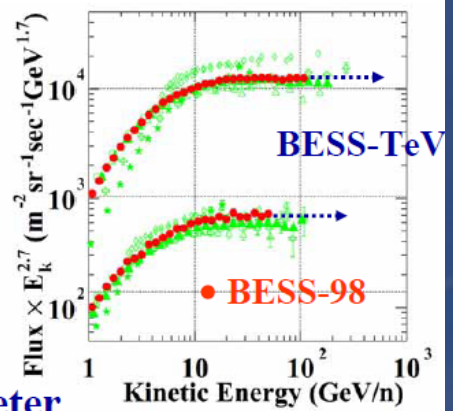
	BESS-98	BESS-TeV
JET/IDC; <b>N</b> -track( $\delta x$ )	24 (200 $\mu m$ )	52 (150 $\mu m$ )
JET/IDC/ODC; <b>L</b> -track	0.8 m	1.6 m
MDR	<b>200 GV</b>	<b>1400 GV</b>

Fundamental Data for  
 - Cosmic-ray physics  
 - Atmospheric Neutrino Calculation



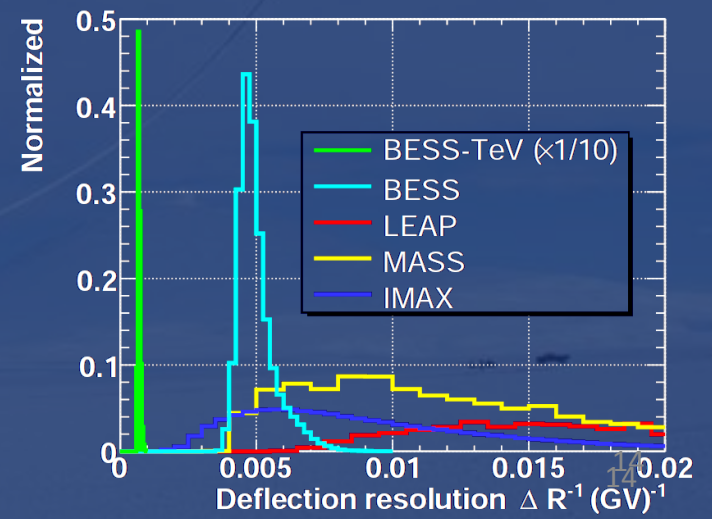
## Measurements with BESS

- Proton up to 100 GeV  
 $\rightarrow > 500 \text{ GeV}$
- Helium up to 50 GeV/n  
 $\rightarrow > 200 \text{ GeV/n}$



## Upgrade of the BESS spectrometer

Improvement of rigidity resolution  
 (Maximum Detectable Rigidity, MDR)



# BESS-TeV Flight

$$p + p \rightarrow p + \bar{X}$$

$$p + A \rightarrow \pi + \pi + \dots$$

$$\pi \rightarrow \mu + \nu_\mu$$

$$\mu \rightarrow e + \nu_e + \nu_\mu$$

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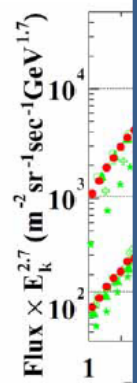


Fundamental Data for

- Cosmic-ray physics
- Atmospheric Neutrino C

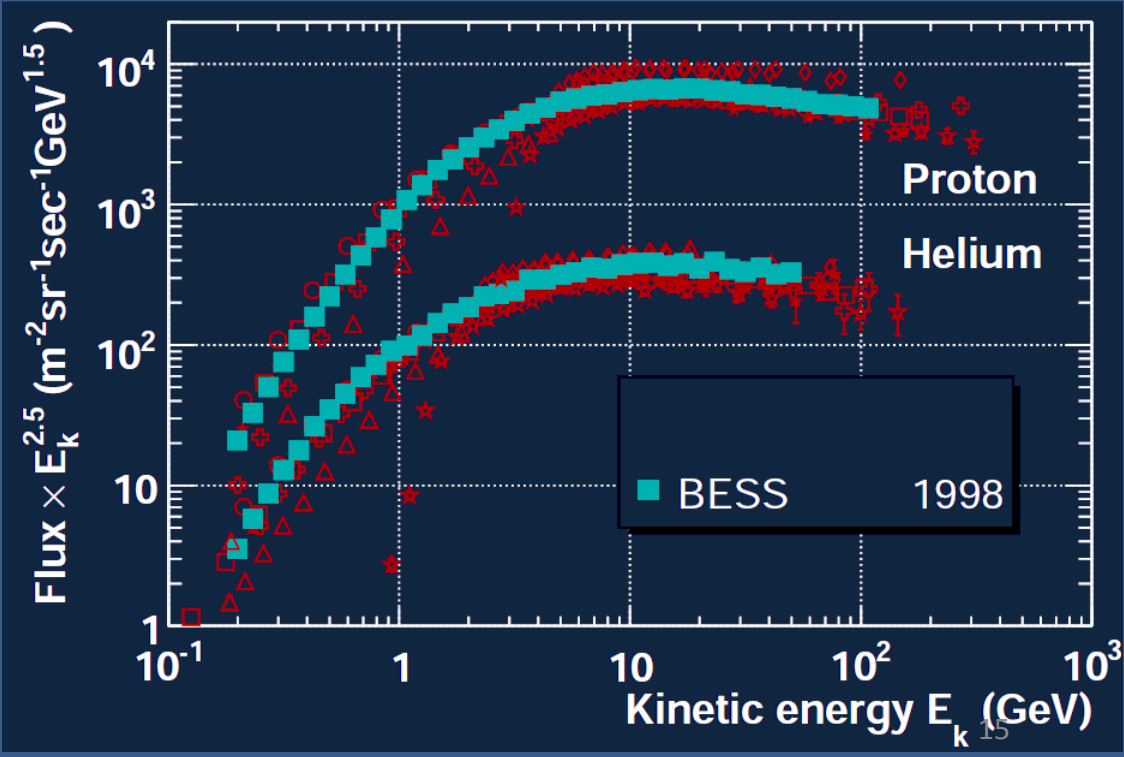
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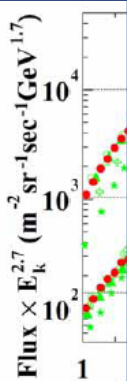


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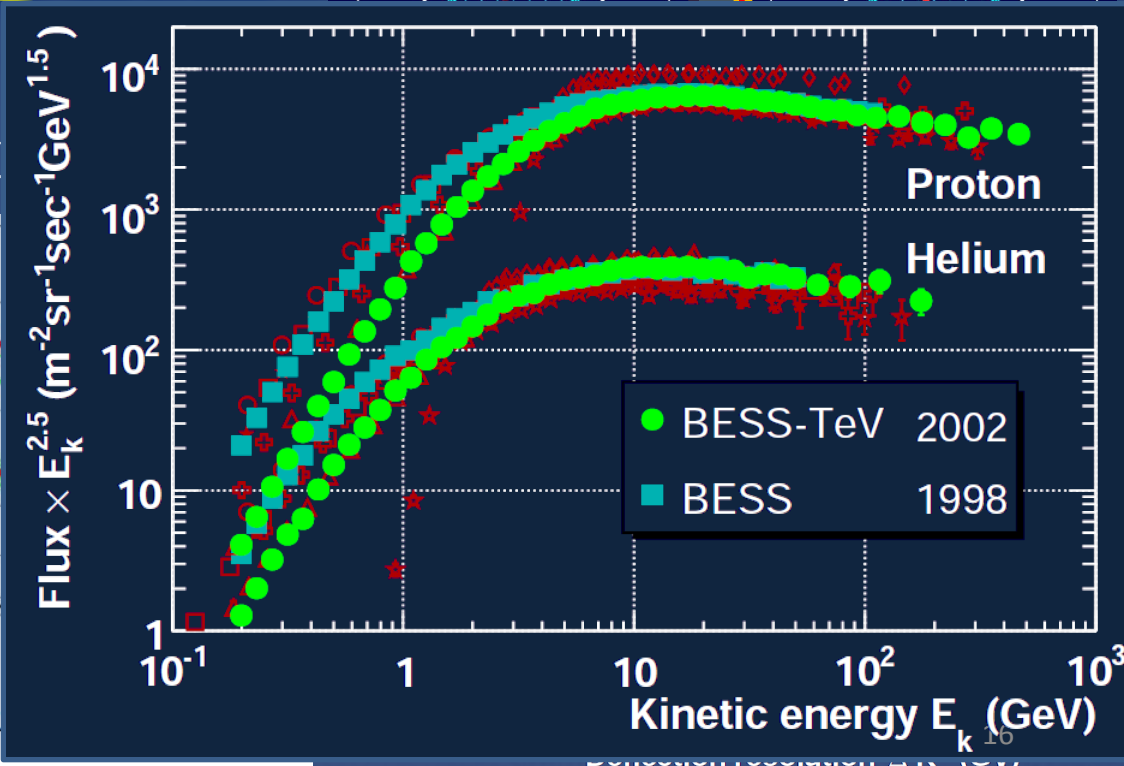
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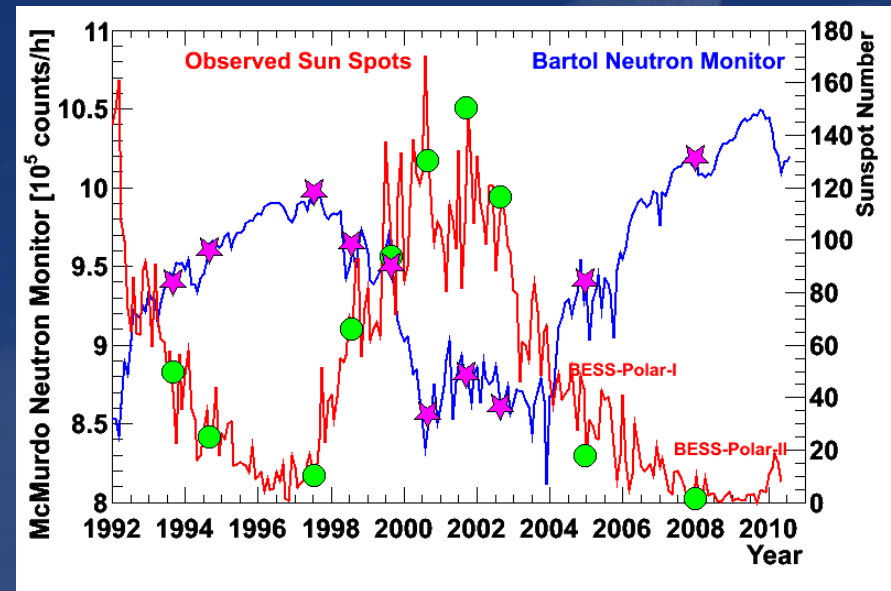
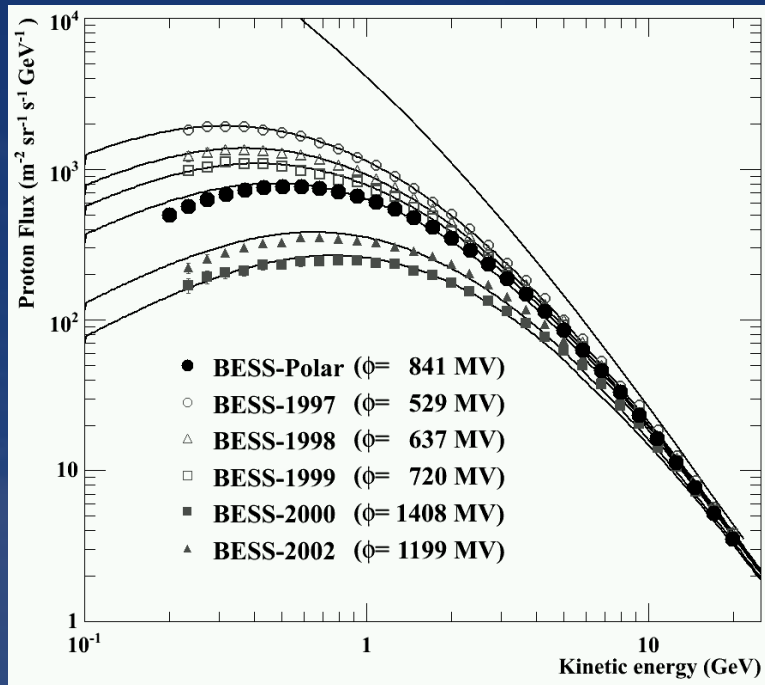
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# Proton Flux Modulation

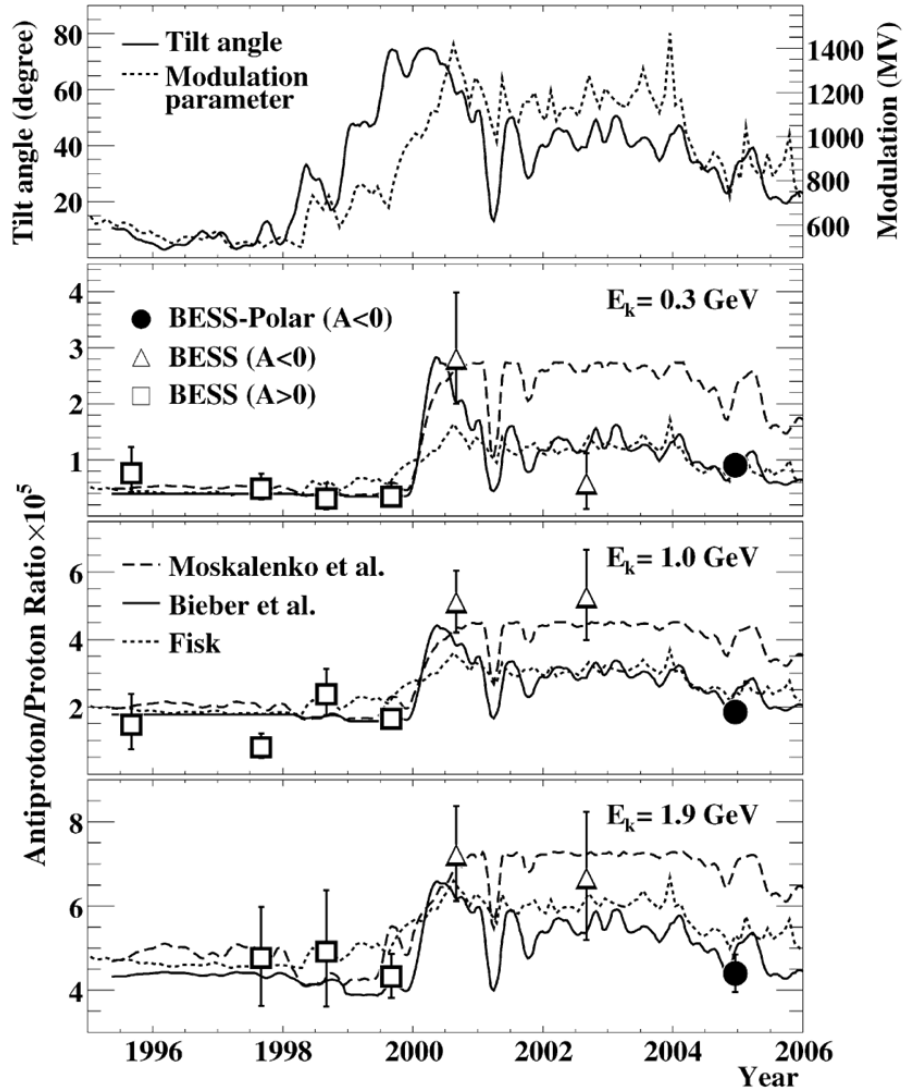
## Proton Flux



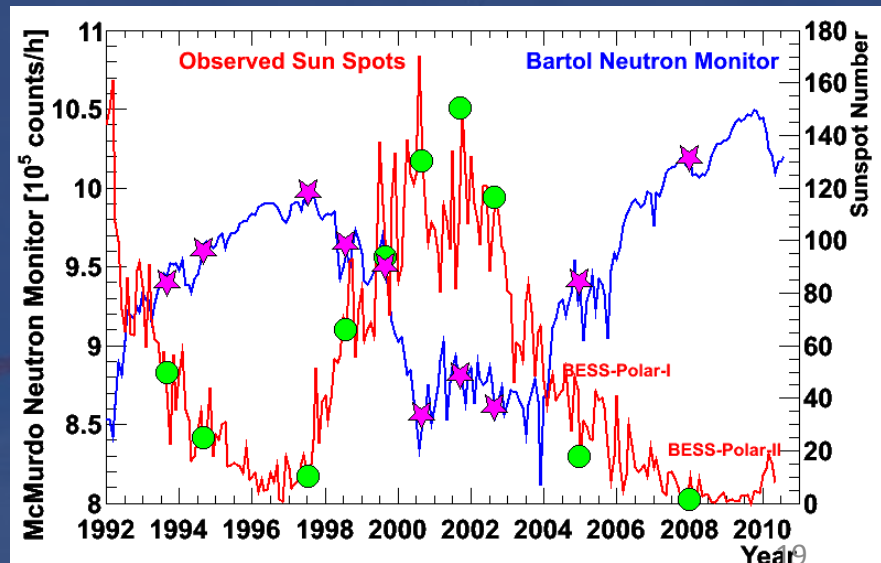
- Proton spectra measured to  $\sim 500$  GeV
- Proton spectra to 100 GeV measured for full solar cycle
- Upper solid line shows local interstellar (LIS) proton spectrum from best fit to BESS data (spectral index 2.76)
- Lower curves show the variation with time (Solar modulation) of the measured proton spectra extrapolated to the top of the atmosphere

# Solar Modulation

## Antiproton/Proton Ratio

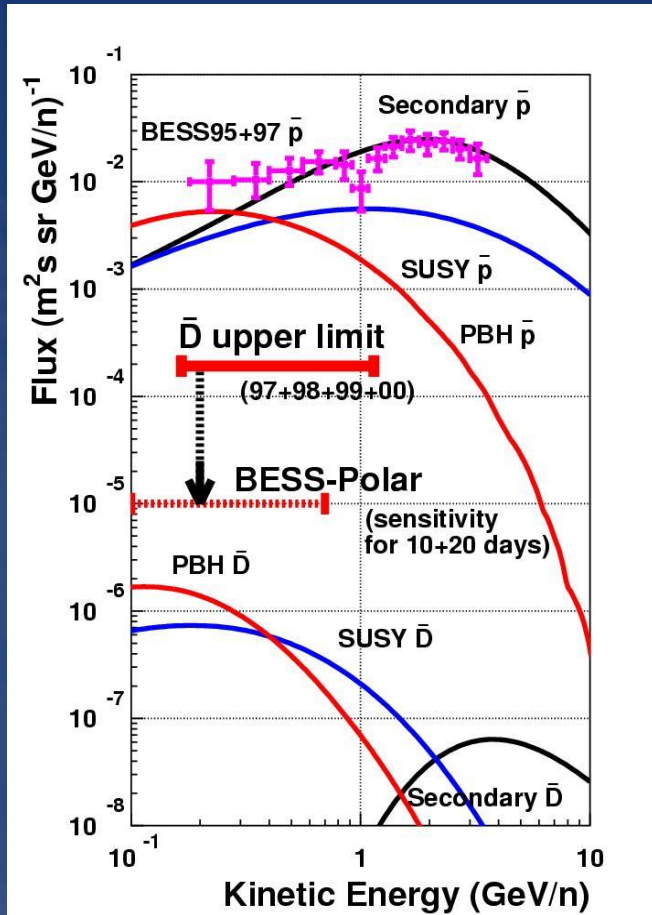


- Antiprotons and protons differ only in charge-sign
- Simultaneous measurements of proton and antiproton spectra provide a powerful test of models of charge-dependent Solar modulation of cosmic-rays (protons are most sensitive)
- More work is required in the interpretation

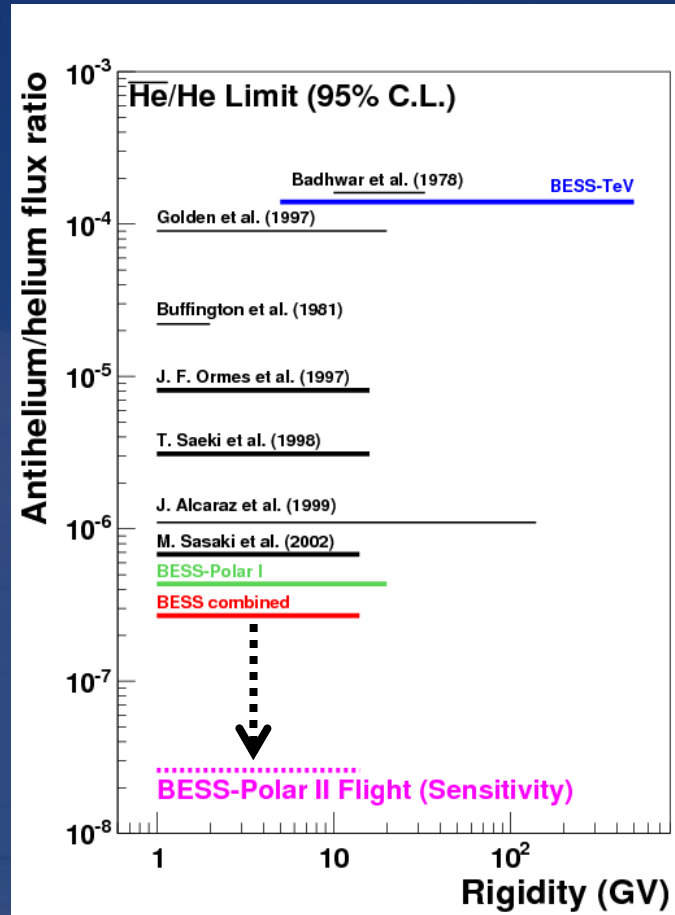


# Antimatter Search

( Expected from BESS-Polar )



Antideuteron Search  
( Search for PBH )



Antihelium Search  
( Search for antimatter domain )

- Secondary  $\bar{D}$  probability is negligible at low energies due to kinematics
- Any observed  $\bar{D}$  almost certainly has a primary origin!
- $\bar{D}$  95% C.L. upper limit (first reported)  $1.92 \times 10^{-4}$  ( $\text{m}^2 \text{s sr GeV/n})^{-1}$
- $\bar{He}$  95% C.L. upper limit BESS-TeV  
 $1.4 \times 10^{-4}$  ( 5 – 500 GV)  
 BESS-Polar I  
 $4.4 \times 10^{-7}$  ( 1 – 20 GV)  
 Combined data  
 $2.7 \times 10^{-7}$  ( 1 – 14 GV)

BESS-Polar II flight in 2007 with a sensitivity  $3 \times 10^{-8}$

# BESS-Polar Program

# BESS-Polar Program

## Very precise measurement

Antiprotons to lower energy

## Around south pole, Antarctica

Long duration flight

High latitude

## With a new spectrometer

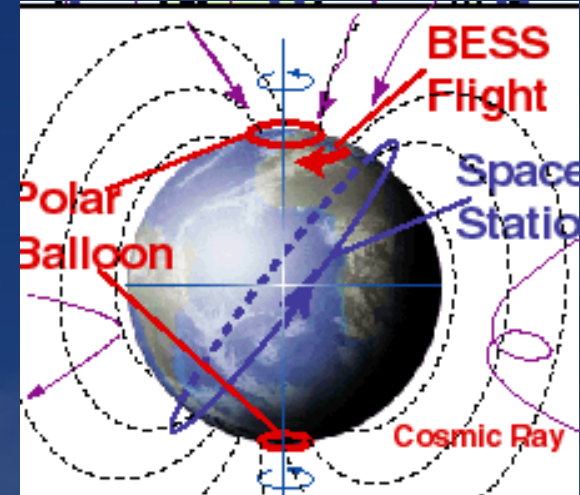
Maintain large acceptance

Minimum material in particle path

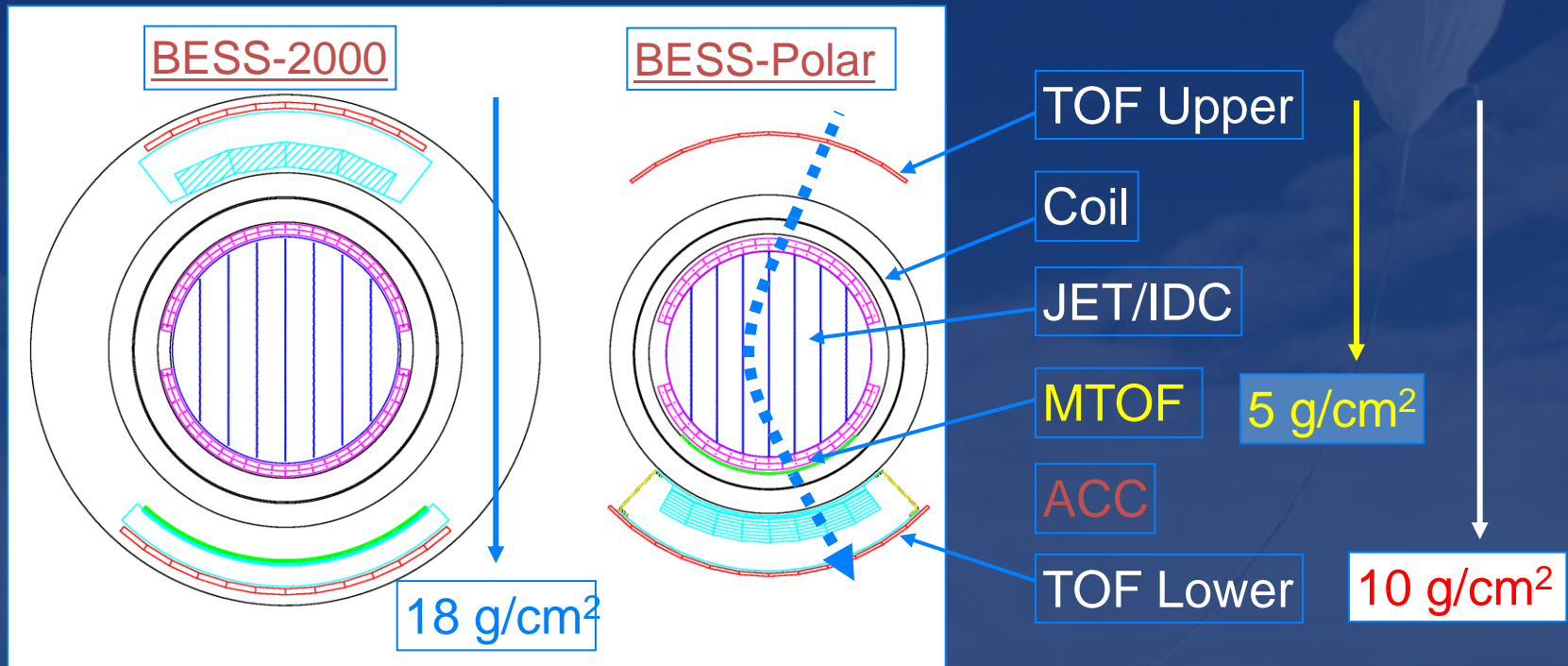
## Flown Twice

BESS-Polar I (2004)

BESS-Polar II (2007/2008)



# BESS-Polar Program



Minimize material in spectrometer  
 New detector (Middle TOF),  
 No pressure vessel



Energy range extended  
 down to 0.1 GeV

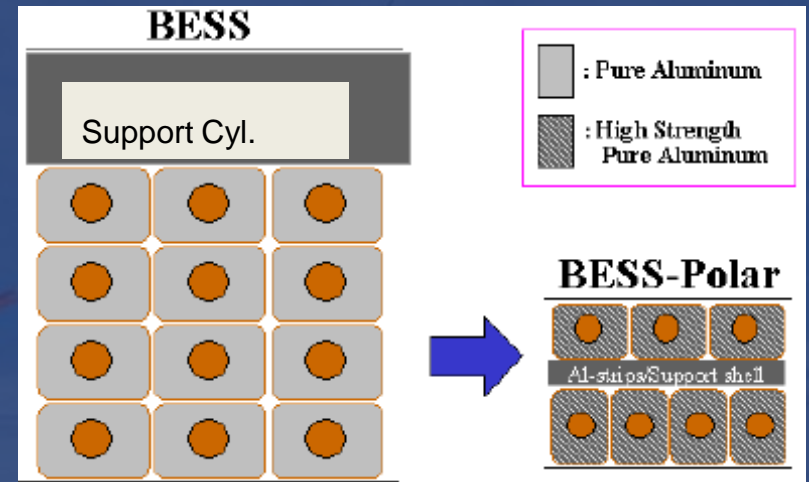
Low power electronics  
 Solar power system, Longer cryogen life, LHe



Long duration flight

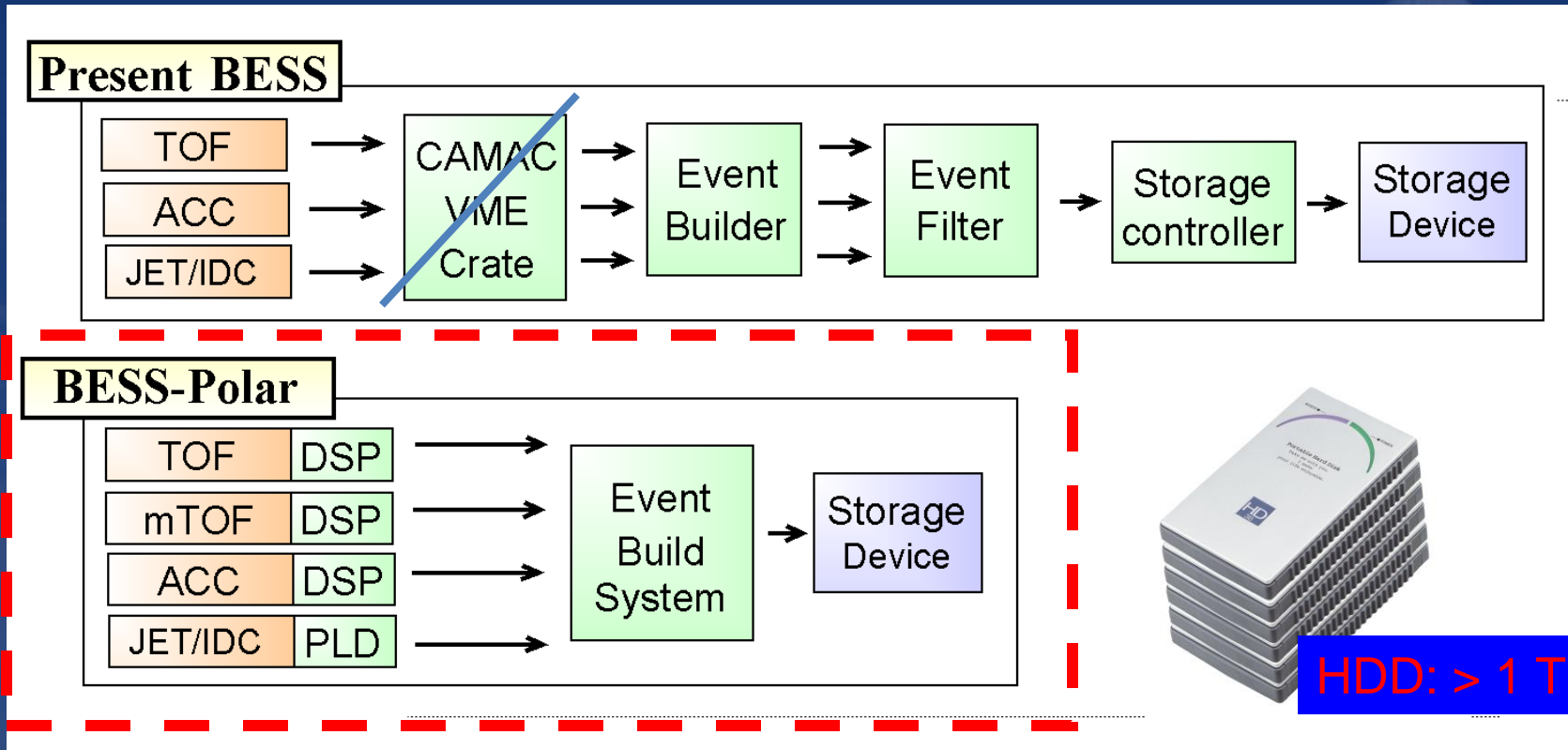
# BESS-Polar Program

After assembly





# BESS-Polar Program



- Digital events directly transfer to Event Builder for DAQ  
 >> compact, Fast and Power Saved

# BESS-Polar Program

	BESS	BESS-Polar
Geom. Acceptance:	0.3	0.3 m <sup>2</sup> •sr
Material for trigger:	18 g/cm <sup>2</sup>	4.5 g/cm <sup>2</sup>
Magnetic field	1.0 T	0.8 T
Weight	2.2	2.0 tons
Power	Battery	Solar-panel
Consumption	1.2 kW	450 W
Cryogen life	5.5	20 days

# BESS-Polar I Flight



# BESS-Polar I Flight

## Status of the BESS-Polar I Flight

Observation Time: 8.5 days

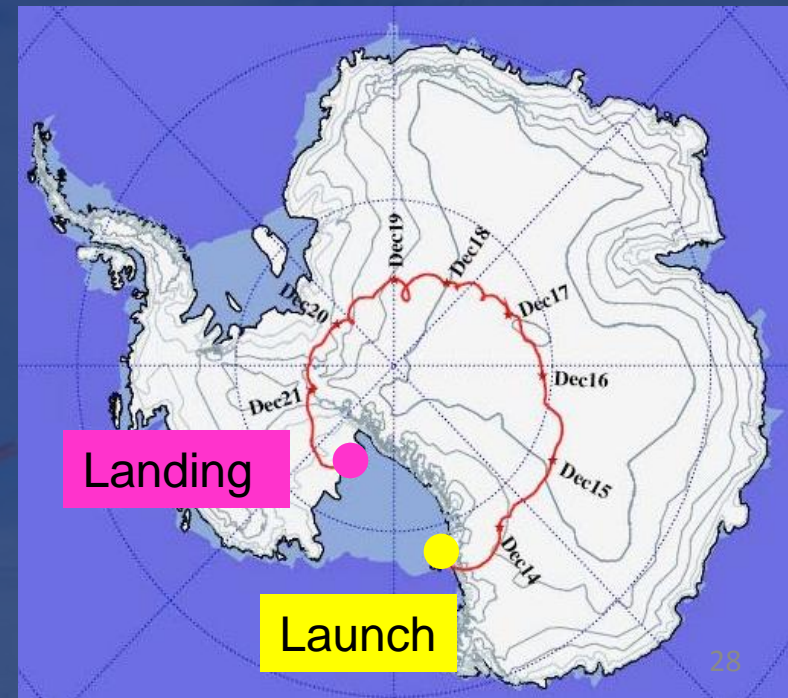
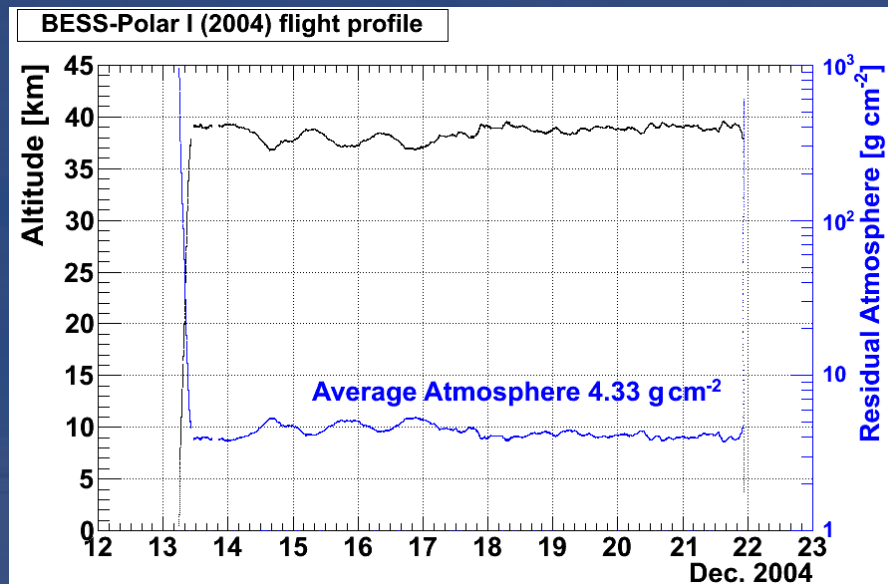
Float Time: 8.5 days (12/13/2004-12/21/2004)

Events recorded: >  $9 \times 10^8$

Data volume: ~ 2.1 terabytes

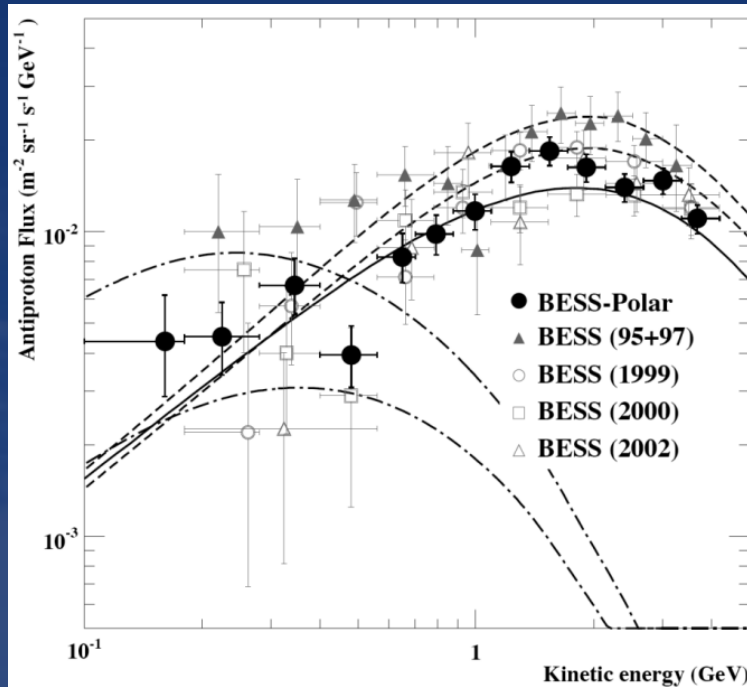
Data recovery: **completed 2004**

Payload recovery: **completed 2004**

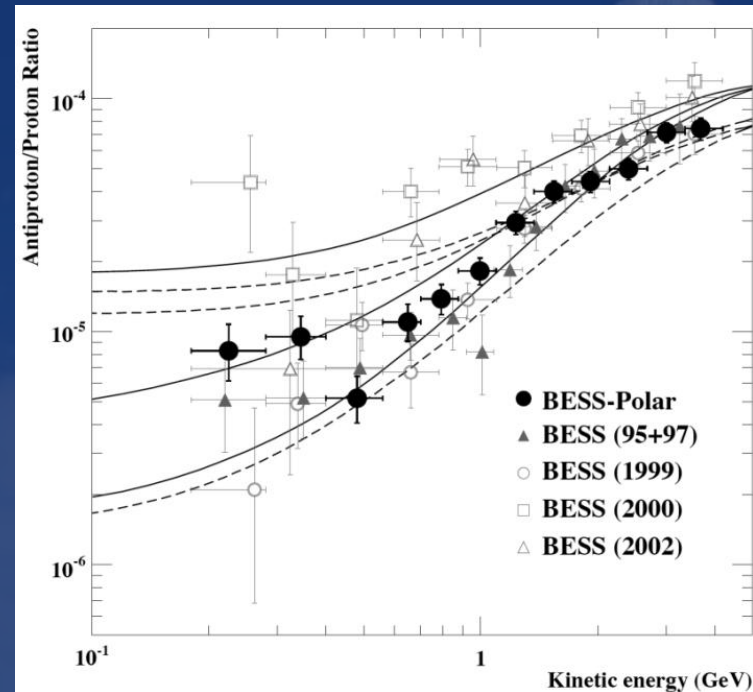


# BESS-Polar I Results

## Antiproton Flux



## Antiproton/Proton Ratio



- Upper dashed curve is leaky box calculation with spherically symmetric modulation @ 550 MV to fit BESS (95+97) data.
- BESS-Polar I data at higher solar activity (851 MV - lower dashed curve) are consistent with secondary production.
- Solid curve is diffusive reacceleration with break for 30° Solar tilt angle

# BESS-Polar II

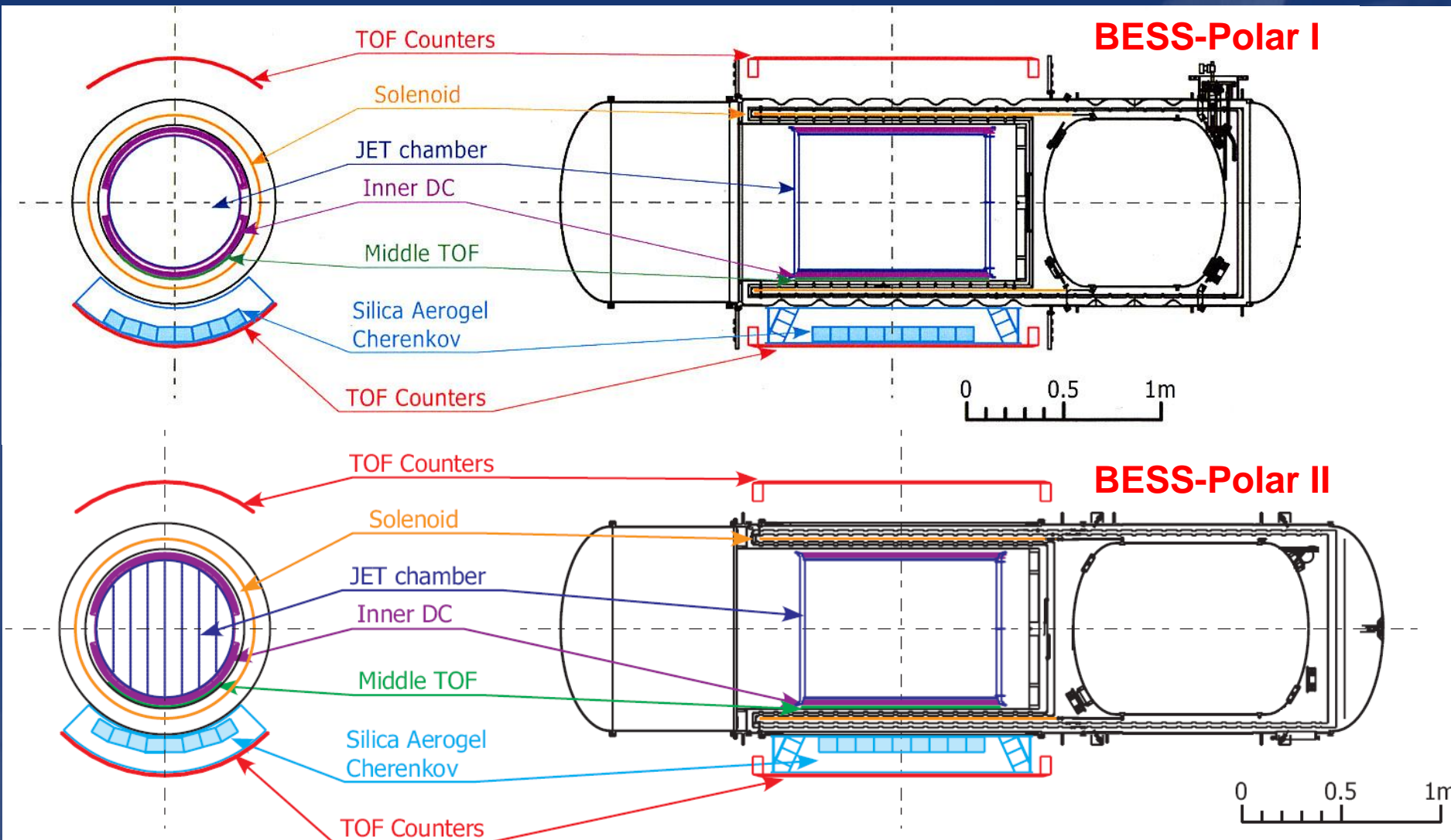
## BESS-Polar II Spectrometer improvement

- **Longer observing time** (10 days  $\rightarrow$  20 days )
  - New magnet with new cryostat
    - Larger tank, third radiation shield
  - Increase gas bottle for chamber gas
  - Increase storage size (3.6 Tbyte  $\rightarrow$  16 Tbyte)
- **Detector improvement**
  - Pressurized TOF PMT units
  - ACC rejection power
  - MTOF resolution
  - JET noise reduction



# BESS-Polar II

## BESS-Polar II Spectrometer improvement

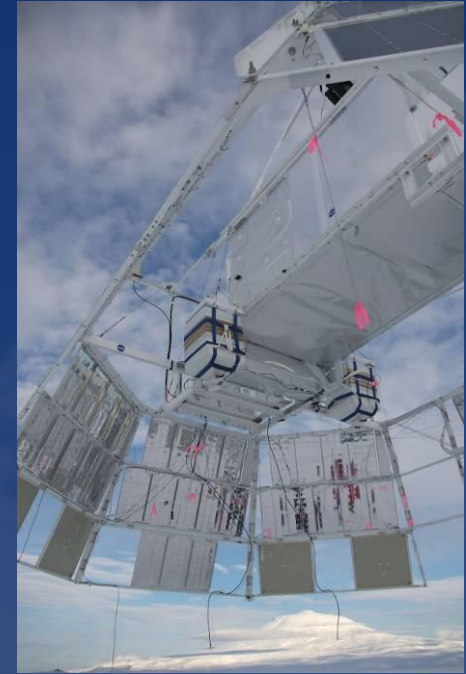


# BESS-Polar II Flight





# BESS-Polar II Flight



# BESS-Polar II Flight



# BESS-Polar II Flight

## Status of the BESS-Polar II Flight

Observation Time: **24.5** days

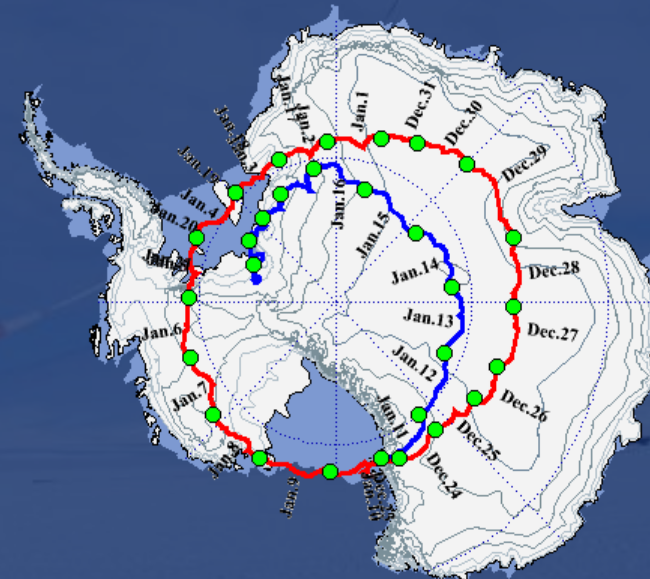
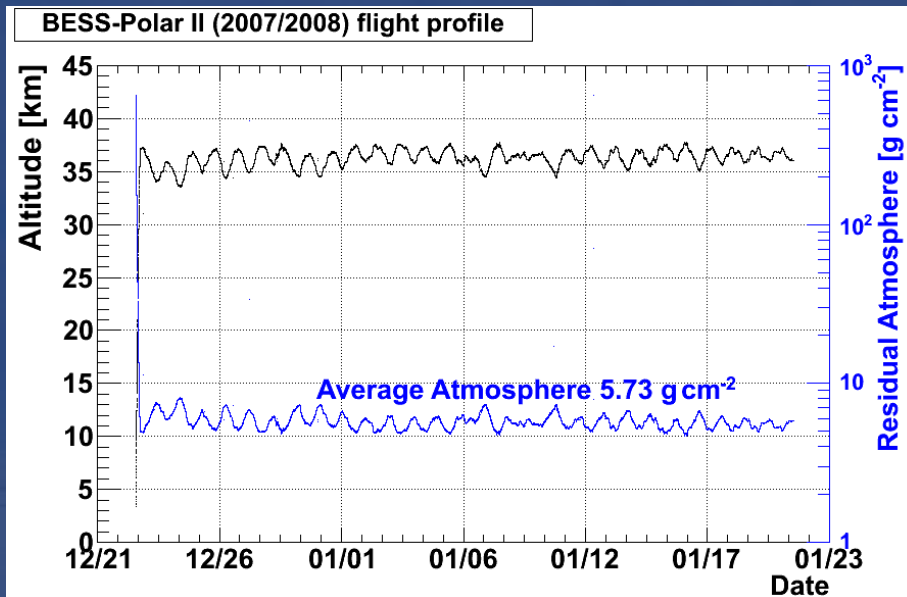
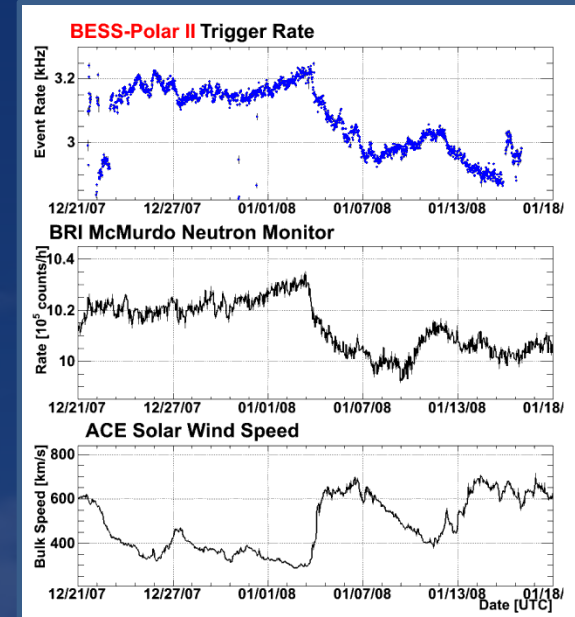
Float Time: 29.5 days (12/23/2007-01/21/2008)

Events recorded: **> 4.7 x 10<sup>9</sup>**

Data volume: **~ 13.5** terabytes

Data recovery: **completed** Feb 3, 2008

Payload recovery: **completed** Jan 16, 2010



# BESS-Polar II Flight

## BESS-Polar II Flight Termination

- Location  $83^{\circ} 51.23' S, 73^{\circ} 5.47' W$
- Instrument landed upright, with minimal damage
- Data successfully recovered February 3, 2008!



# BESS-Polar II Flight

## BESS-Polar II Recovery

- Staged from WAIS Divide/Byrd Surface Camp
- Camped on site 13 days for disassembly
- Basler (turboprop DC-3) used due to range and instrument size



# BESS-Polar II Flight

## BESS-Polar II Spectrometer Status

- Detectors are in good condition
- No additional damage incurred during recovery process and shipping
- Currently the magnet is being refurbished and reassembled in Japan
- Basic functionality test of the TOF and Cherenkov Counter indicate almost all PMTs are still operational.
- Basic functionality test of the JET chamber and IDC conducted. Applied full HV and no wire broken.



## Magnet refurbish @ TOSHIBA, Japan



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## Future Science Objectives

- Be isotope measurement
- $e^+/e^-$  measurement
- Continuation of current science objectives

Magnet refurbish @ TOSHIBA, Japan



# BESS-Polar Program

## Flight Summary

	BESS-Polar I	BESS-Polar II
<b>Total Floating Time</b>	8.5 days	29.5 days
<b>Observation Time</b>	8.5 days	24.5 days
<b>Recorded Event</b>	900 M	4700 M
<b>Recorded Data Size</b>	2.1 TBytes	13.5 TBytes
<b>Trigger Rate</b>	1.4 kHz	2.4 kHz
<b>Live Time Fraction</b>	0.8	0.82
<b>Altitude</b>	37 ~ 39 km	34 ~ 38 km
<b>Residual Air Pressure</b>	4 ~ 5 g/cm <sup>2</sup>	4.5 ~ 8 g/cm <sup>2</sup>

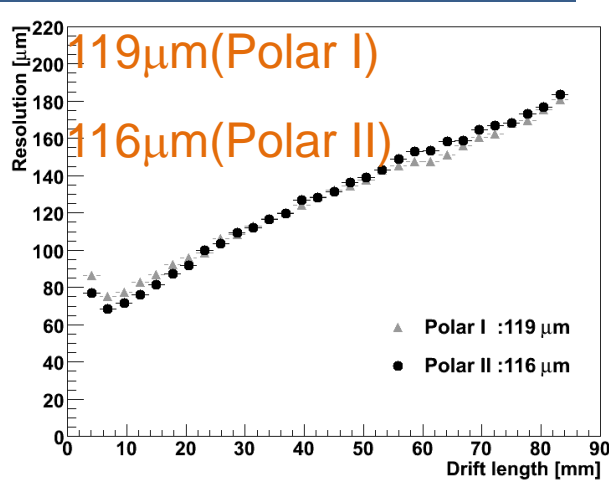


# New Results from BESS-Polar II

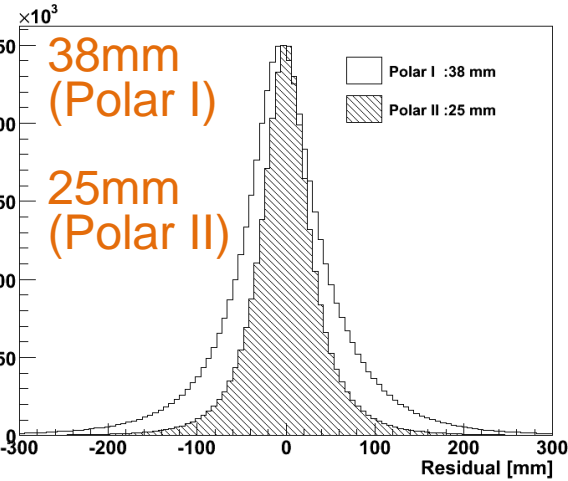


# BESS-Polar II Spectrometer

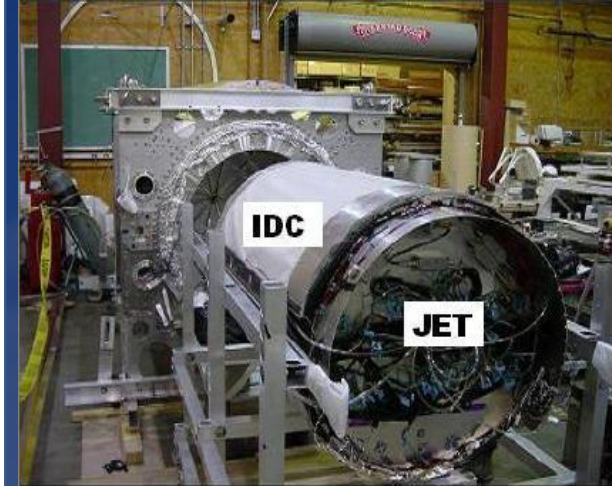
## Performance



JET position resolution in  $r$ - $\phi$  plane @ each drift length



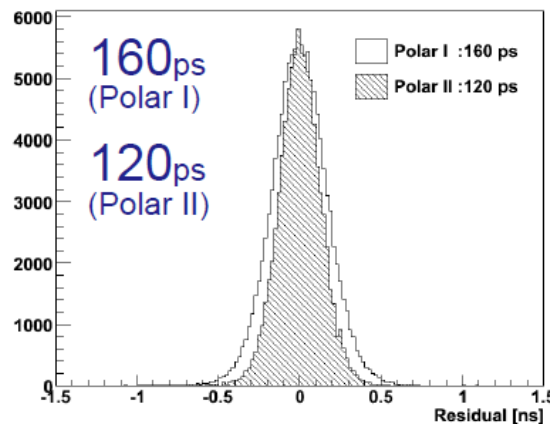
JET position resolution in  $z$  plane



### Acceptance

	BESS-Polar I	BESS-Polar II
Both-side	8/22	20/22
Single-side	10/22	2/22
Dead	4/22	0/22
Acceptance	66%	100%

List of survival TOF PMTs during Flight

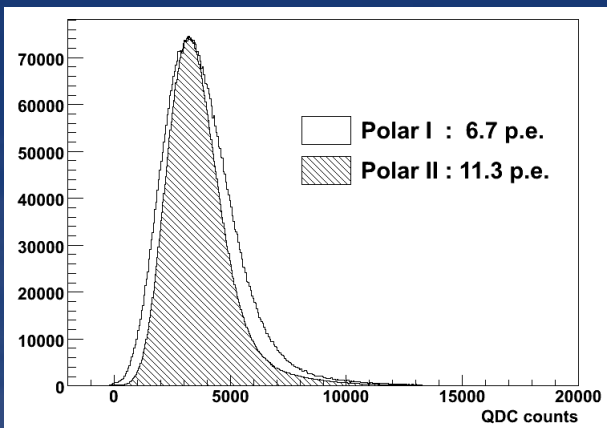


TOF timing resolution

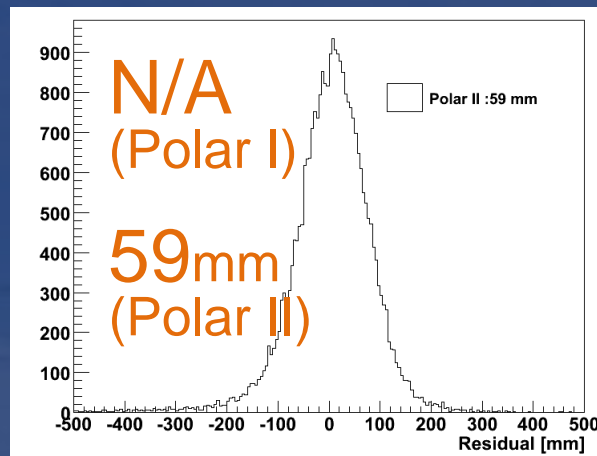
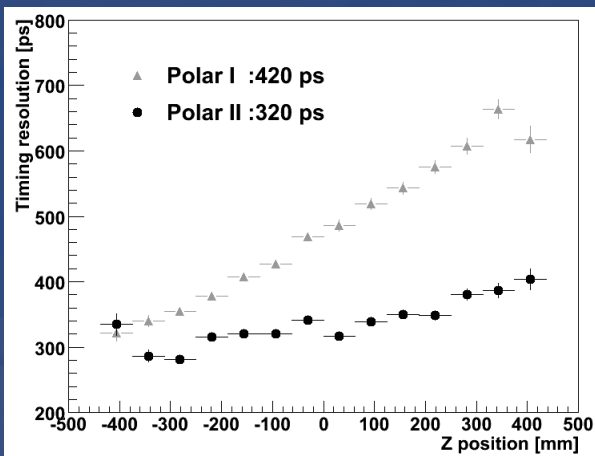
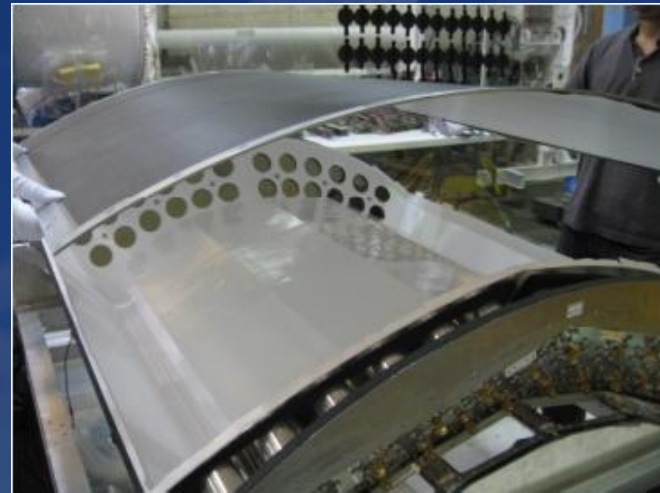


# BESS-Polar II Spectrometer

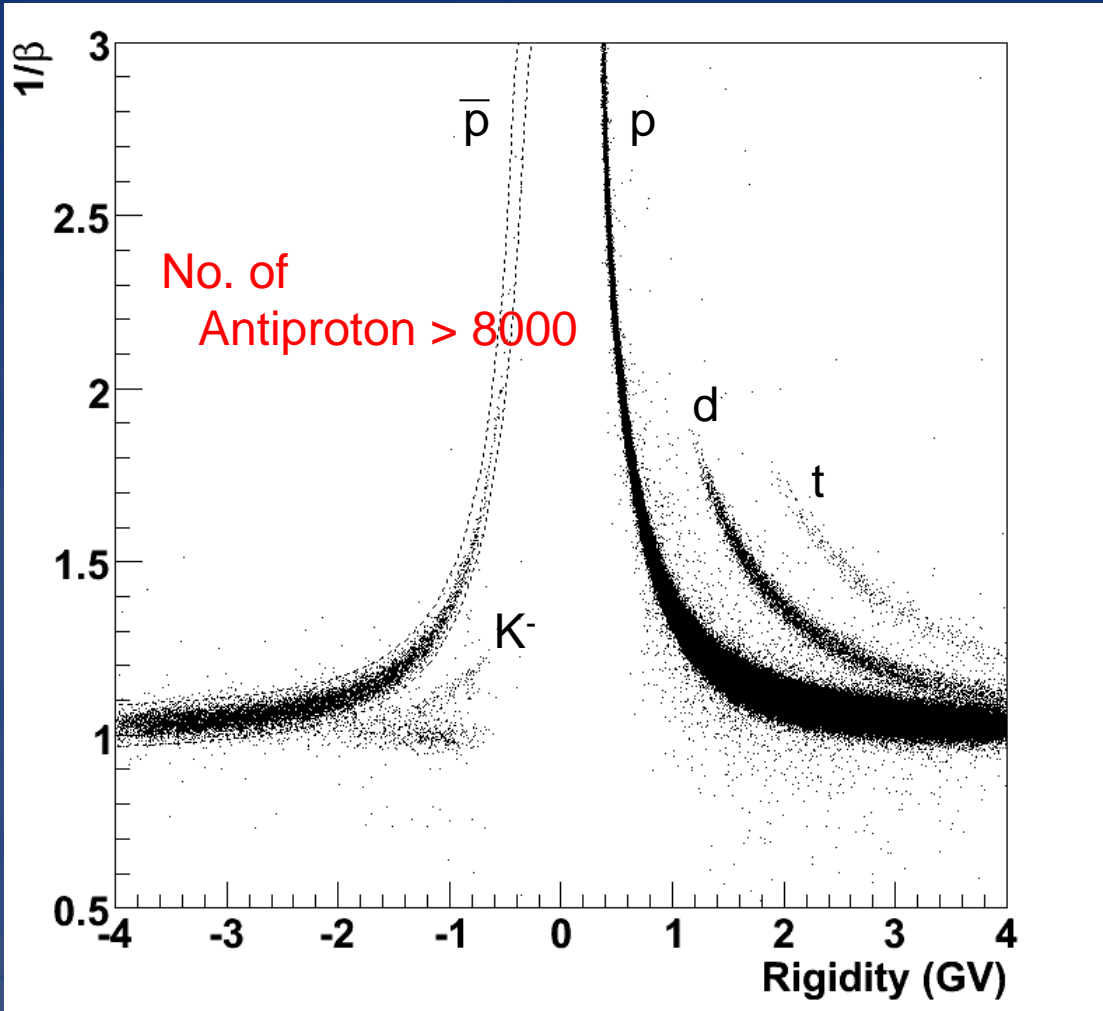
## Performance



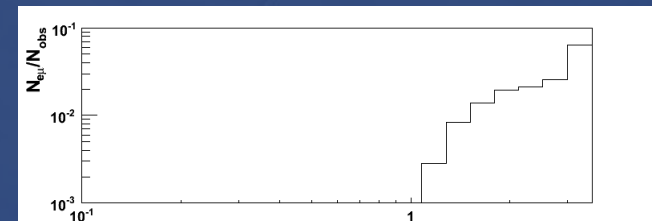
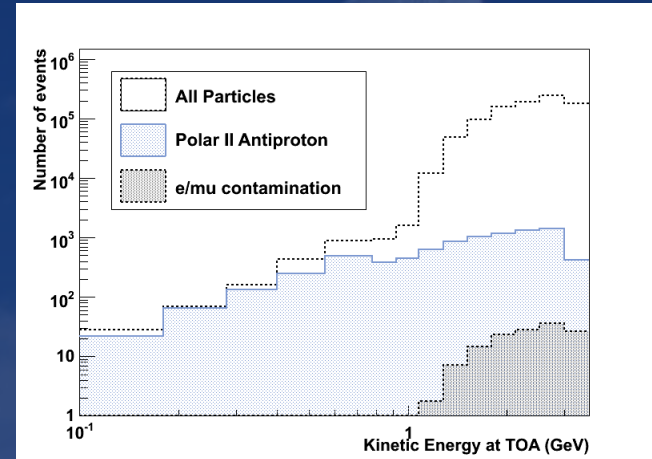
	BESS-Polar I	BESS-Polar II
Efficiency	92%	97%
Rejection power	1500	6800



# Antiproton Measurement

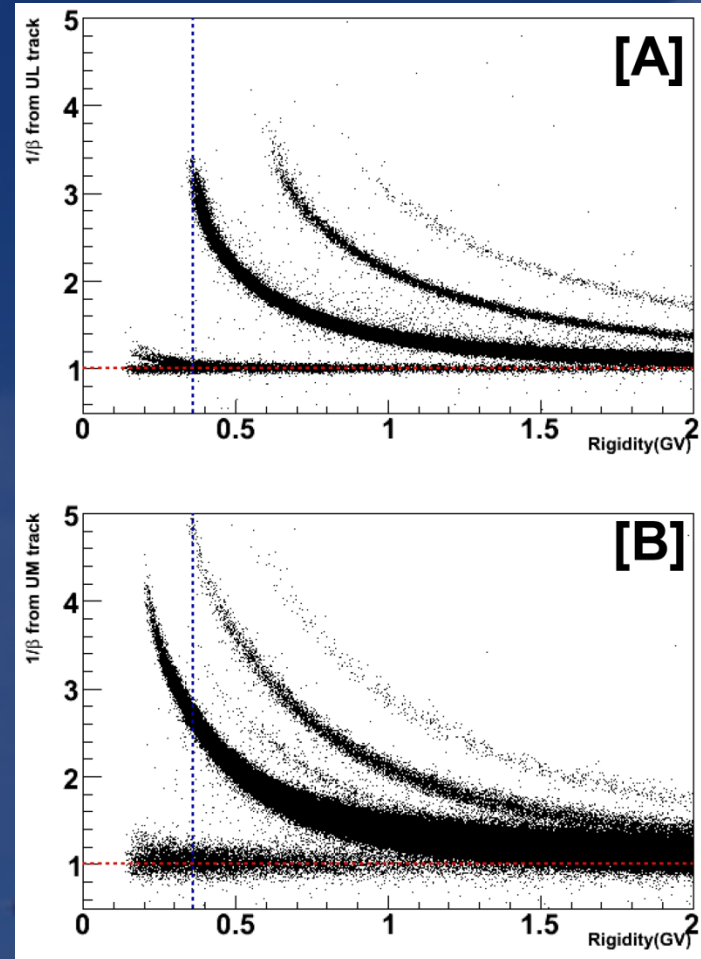
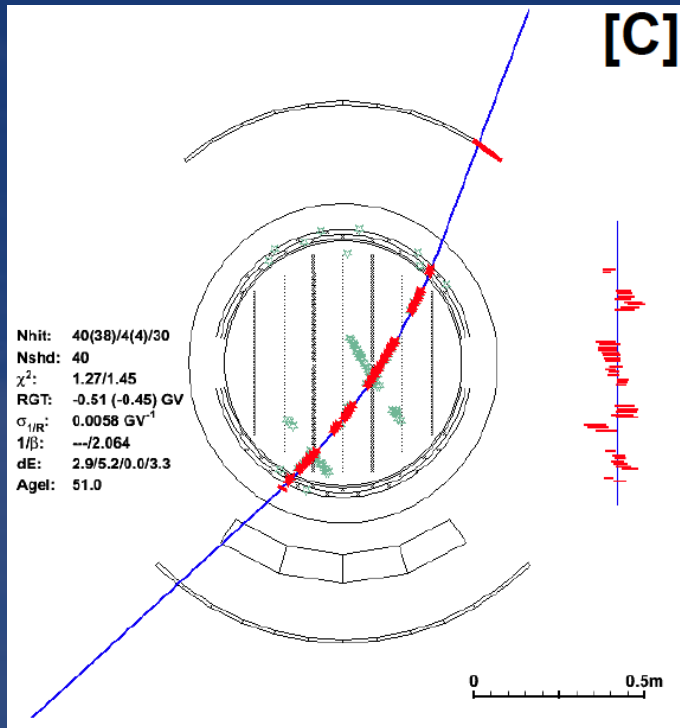


$\beta^{-1}$  vs Rigidity plots in BESS-Polar II



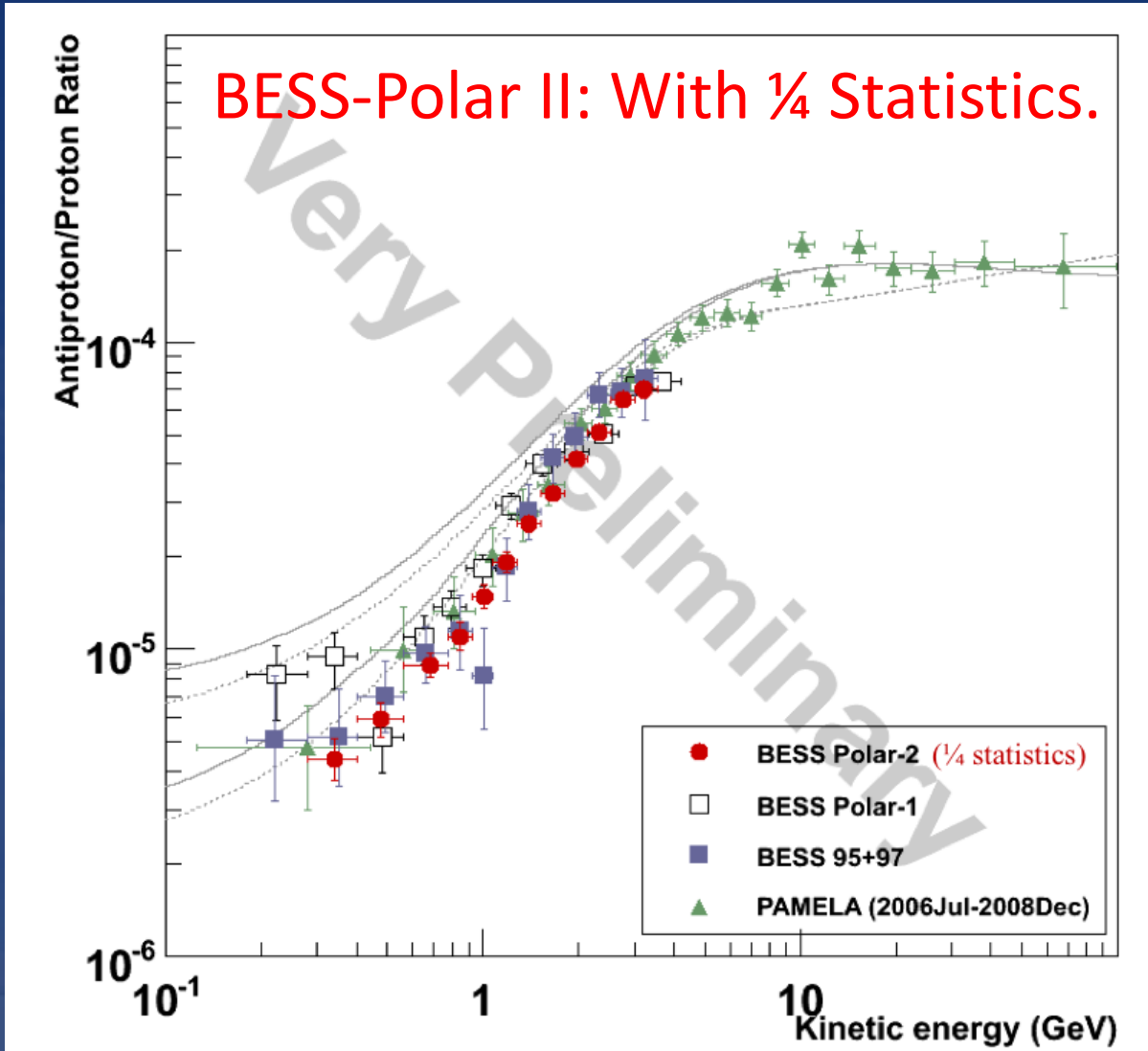
There is no background contamination below 1 GeV!

# Low Energy Antiproton with Middle TOF



The antiproton observation was extended to lower energy by using the Middle TOF. We are now finalizing this analysis.

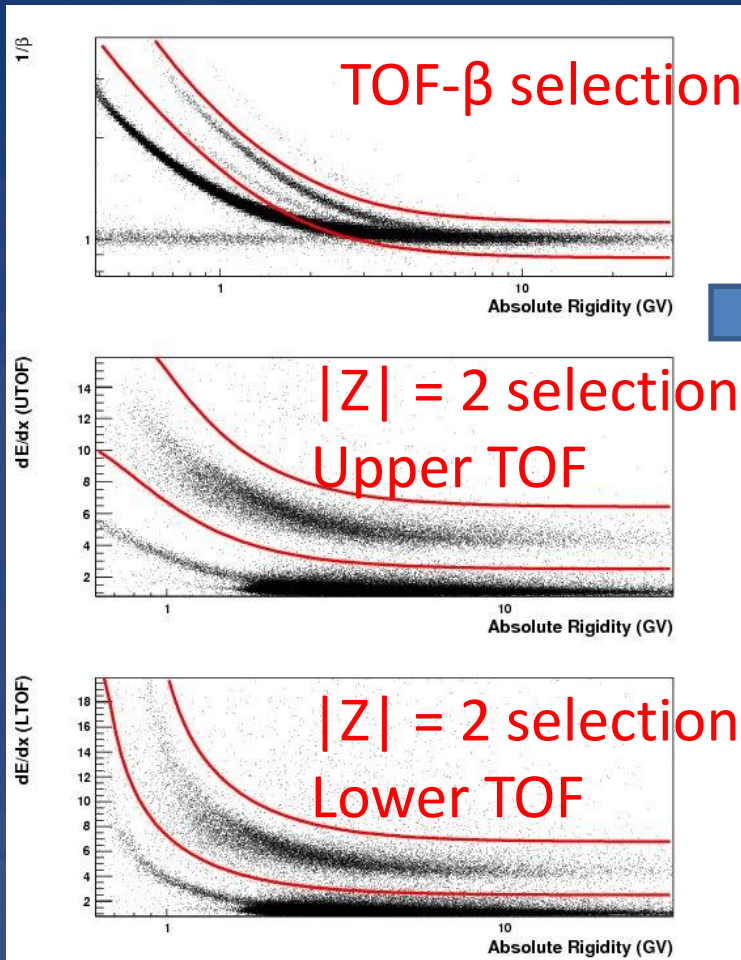
# Antiproton/Proton Ratio



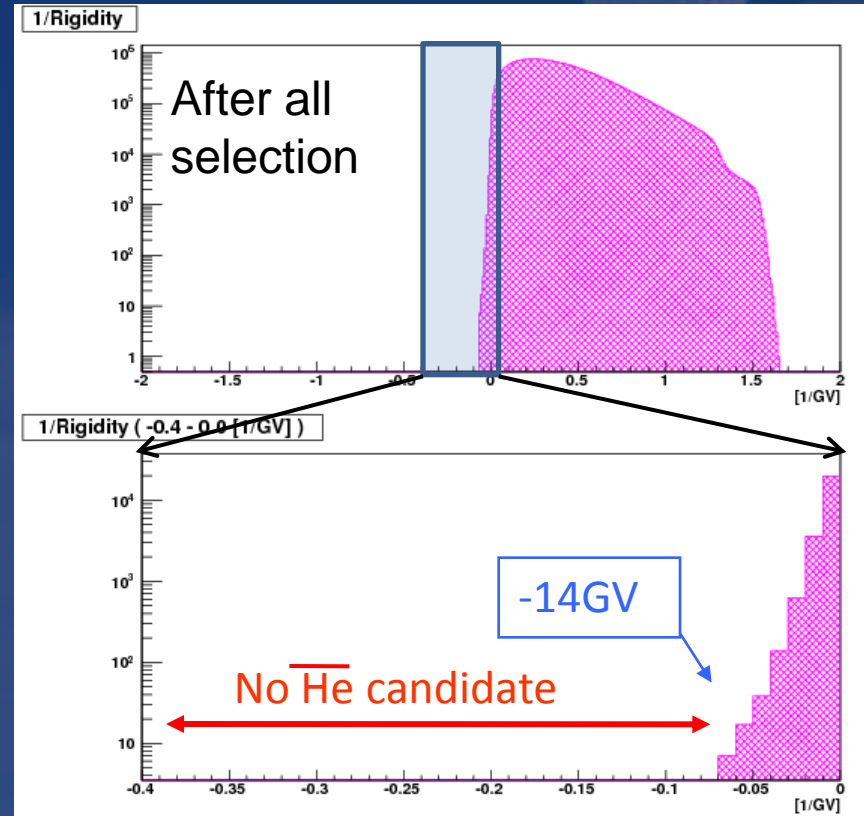
- Agree with the PAMELA data.
- We are now finalizing calibration and including MTOF information for full BESS-Polar II flight data.
- Antiproton flux will be coming soon.

# Antihelium Search

Particle Identification  
using the TOF information



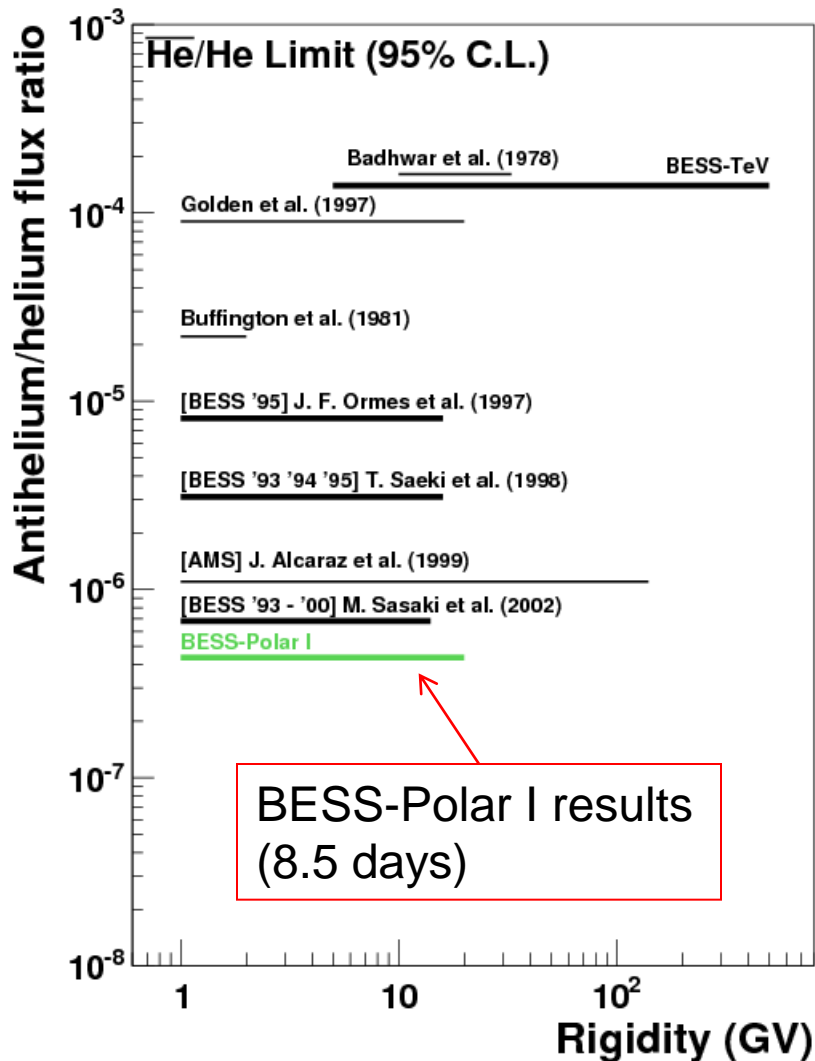
The figure below shows remaining events after all selections applied.



No antihelium candidate was found between -14 and -1 GV after all selection among  $4 \times 10^7$  Helium events.

# Antihelium Limit

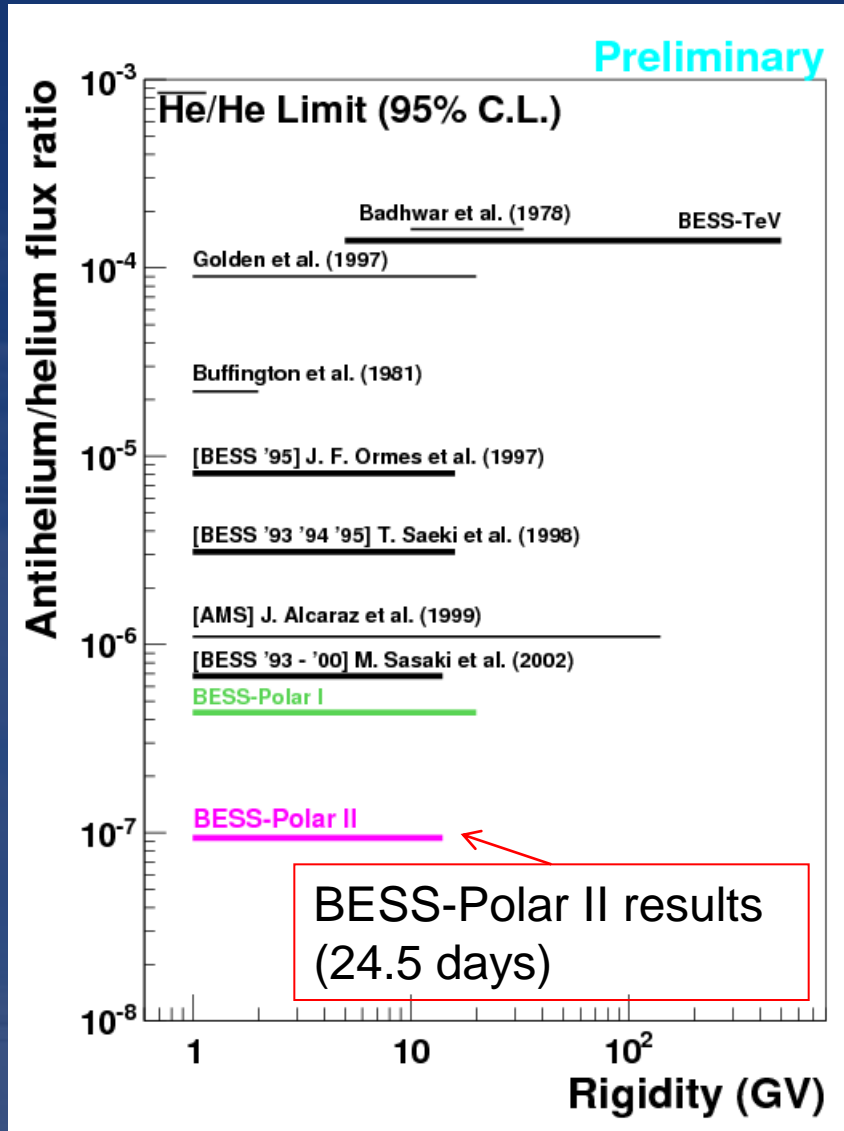
- BESS-Polar I antihelium upper limit  $4.4 \times 10^{-7}$ .





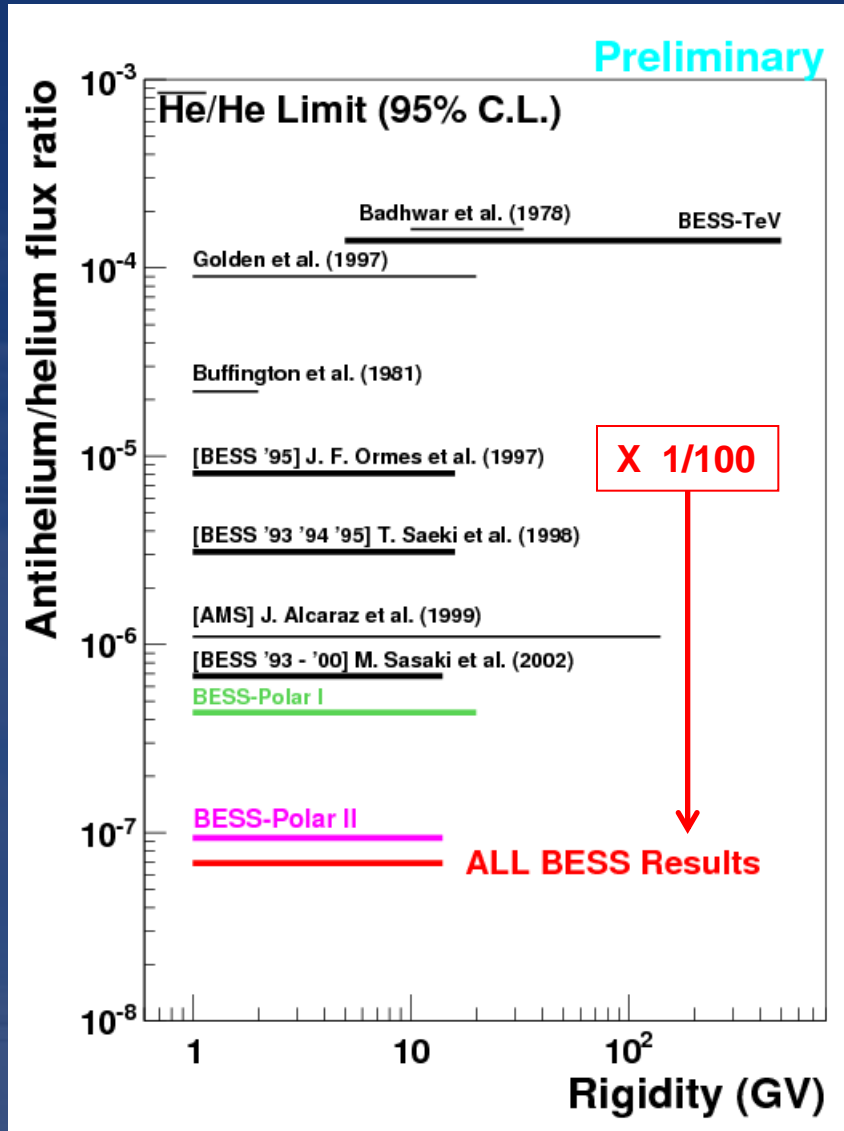
# Antihelium Limit

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# Antihelium Limit

- BESS-Polar I antihelium upper limit  $4.4 \times 10^{-7}$ .
- We set the upper limit of  $9.4 \times 10^{-8}$  by using the BESS-Polar II flight data.
- We set the upper limit of  $6.9 \times 10^{-8}$  by using all BESS flight data, which is improved by two orders of magnitude since our first report.



# Summary

- BESS-Polar II successfully gathered cosmic-ray data in the solar minimum period with **10 times** statistics of the previous solar minimum ('95 + '97) at low energy.
- BESS-Polar II Spectrometer was recovered from Antarctica and magnet is now being refurbished. Detector components are still in good shape after two winters on ice in Antarctica.
- **Antiproton/proton ratio** was reported using  $\frac{1}{4}$  of BESS-Polar II data. Analysis for full flight data is being finalized.
- We searched for antihelium in the BESS-Polar II data. No antihelium candidate was found and we set a **stringent upper limit on antihelium/helium**.

# End of the presentation



# Appendix



# BESS swam the Canadian Lake

