Geomagnetic cutoff simulations for low-energy cosmic rays

Solar Energetic Particles (SEP), Solar Modulation and Space Radiation: New Opportunities in the AMS-02 Era Honolulu, October 2015

Philip von Doetinchem

philipvd@hawaii.edu Department of Physics & Astronomy University of Hawai'i at Manoa

http://www.phys.hawaii.edu/~philipvd www.antideuteron.com



Low-energy antiprotons and antideuterons



- Low-energy cosmic-ray antiprotons and antideuterons are very interesting probes for new physics → dark matter annihilations or decay
- Antideuterons are the most important unexplored indirect dark matter detection technique!

Uncertainties

modulation by solar wind

deflection in magnetic field

scattering in magnetic fields, interaction with interstellar medium

- Dark matter annihilation or decay
- Dark matter clumping
- Antideuteron production
- Galactic propagation
- Solar modulation
- Geomagnetic deflection
- Atmospheric interactions
- Interactions in detector

proton > 10MeV red electron > 10MeV green positron > 10MeV blue neutron > 10MeV turquoise muon > 10MeV magenta photon > 10keV yellow

zoom 20GeV proton interactions with atmosphere

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Geomagnetic cutoff

Warning

This is work in progress. I highly welcome input.

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Geomagnetic cutoff

PLANETOCOSMICS

Atmospheric and geomagnetic simulations with **PLANETOCOSMICS** (Desorgher, Universitaet Bern) based on Geant4:

http://cosray.unibe.ch/~laurent/planetocosmics/ [latest version on website from 2006]

• Atmospheric interactions:

- updated to Geant 4.9.2 in 2010
 - \rightarrow plan to upgrade to Geant 4.10 soon (light nuclei physics!)
- modified code validated with various data sets
 - \rightarrow works very reliably in predicting atmospheric backgrounds

Cutoff calculations with backtracing

- IGRF geomagnetic field (+simplified/earlier models)
- added latest IGRF-12 coefficients
- just added Tsyganenko 2004
- Backtracing method: Cooke et al., Il Nuovo Cimento 14C, 213, 1991
 - trajectories of cosmic rays with different rigidities, arriving at the same observing position and from the same direction of incidence are computed backward in time using the Geant4 tracing of charged particles through magnetic fields
 - all cutoff values shown are effective cutoff rigidities R₂

Geomagnetic cutoff



Cutoff and particle direction



Geomagnetic rigidity cutoff for antiprotons in Hawaii as function of direction

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Magnetic field lines



Geomagnetic cutoff

Tsyganenko 2004 magnetosphere

- N. Tsyganenko, J. Geophys. Res. 110, A03208 (2005)
- dynamical data-based model of the inner magnetosphere, representing its structure and temporal variation during geomagnetic storms



Parameters:

• tilt angle of geomagnetic dipole

http://geo.phys.spbu.ru/~tsyganenko/modeling.html

- structure of the magnetosphere is influenced by disturbance storm index (*Dst*) index and solar wind dynamic pressure *P_{dyn}*
- B_y and B_z components of the interplanetary magnetic field
- 6 parameters describing: the total magnetic field composed of the tail field, the Chapman-Ferraro field, symmetrical ring current, the field of a partial ring current, Birkeland current systems, a penetrated component given by an "interconnection" term
- data base of all parameters as a function of time available

Time dependence of cutoff: events



Red: 0.5GV Blue: 1.0GV Magenta: 1.5GV Green: 2.0GV Cyan: 2.5GV

Reverse computation of antiproton trajectories starting at the same location in the same direction for two different times

 \rightarrow magnetic environment change changes the trajectories drastically and influences the cutoff values

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Geomagnetic cutoff

5-December-2011

Geomagnetic cutoff scanning

Sampling of geomagnetic cutoff behavior for AMS-02 operation

- study of protons and antiprotons
- every 200days
- as a function of location and direction
- use of University of Hawaii HPC cluster: so far about ~20years of CPU time

Scanning range for cutoffs:

- latitude: -90-90° [bin width: 5°]
- longitude: 0-360° [bin width: 10°]
- zenith:0-90° [bin width: 5°]
- azimuth 0-360° [bin width: 10°]
 - \rightarrow create database

Calculate cutoff for AMS-02:

- take location from AMS-02 data [1Hz sampling]
- generate isotropic random direction
- calculate cutoff for this location and direction from database by interpolation
- only use events cos(zenith) > 0.6



 \rightarrow differences for protons and antiprotons visible



19-May-2011 location of rigidity cutoffs of less than 2.5GV

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5-Dec-2011 location of rigidity cutoffs of less than 2.5GV

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22-June-2012 location of rigidity cutoffs of less than 2.5GV

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8-January-2013 location of rigidity cutoffs of less than 2.5GV

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27-July-2013 location of rigidity cutoffs of less than 2.5GV

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12-February-2014 location of rigidity cutoffs of less than 2.5GV

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1-September-2014 location of rigidity cutoffs of less than 2.5GV

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Time dependence of cutoff: efficiencies



Solar flare event: 7-March-2012



interplanetary magnetic field: $B_y = -10.65nT$, $B_z = -12.53nT$ $W_1 = 3.65$, $W_2 = 4.65$, $W_3 = 1.19$, $W_4 = 6.45$, $W_5 = 3.46$, $W_6 = 9.51$



Significant decrease of geomagnetic cutoff

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Magnetic field changes





- large-scale simulations using PLANETOCOSMICS with Tsyganenko 2004 were carried out
- geomagnetic cutoff depends on charge sign
- geomagnetic cutoff depends on the magnetospheric parameters
- during solar flares (like March 7, 2012) a strong decrease of geomagnetic cutoff is possible

\rightarrow study of low-rigidity cosmic rays (~<3GV) certainly requires to use a time dependent geomagnetic cutoff model

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Geomagnetic cutoff