# Teilchenphysik mit kosmischen und mit erdgebundenen Beschleunigern



#### 8. Cosmic Rays II

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# **Neutral Cosmic Rays**



# **Electromagnetic Radiation**





#### **Electromagnetic Radiation & The Atmosphere**



A+ Ay>it

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# **Emission of Electromagnetic Radiation**

- Thermal Radiation:
  - for example the sun: Emits at 5700 K (surface temperature of the sun)
  - Two-particle interactions lead to thermal equilibrium

$$\propto e^{-\frac{E}{kT}}$$

- Non-thermal radiation:
  - low density of plasma particles
  - a few particles can reach very high energies in interactions

$$\propto E^{-\gamma}$$

• Thermal and non-thermal components of a gas can exist in parallel and can interact with each other



#### **Cosmic Background**



Annu. Rev. Astron. Astrophys. 9, 89 (1991)

1. Radio background, synchrotron radiation of e<sup>-</sup> in galactic B field 2. Microwave background, 2.7 K 3. Emissions of cold interstellar dust 4. Emissions of distant galaxies 5. Hot interstellar dust 6. Optical background: scattering of sunlight on interstellar dust 7. Ionised intergalactic medium 8.X-ray background

9. Diffuse gamma background





• Central regions of the Milky Way hidden by dust









• Dust in the Milky Way transparent to IR: Observation of the galactic center



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• Combination of all wavelengths provides a detailed picture



#### An Example: Cen A



- Combined image of Centaurus A, an active galaxy at a distance of 10 Mlyr
  - visible light: white
  - sub-mm: orange
  - x-ray: blue

Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/CfA/R.Kraft et al.; Submillimeter: MPIfR/ESO/APEX/A.Weiss et al.; Optical: ESO/WFI



#### Photons: "Acceleration"

- Photons themselves are not accelerated since they are uncharged
- The energy originates from charged particles
- Acceleration of charged particles in shock fronts
- Conversion to photons through various processes
- The photons only receive a fraction of the energy of the primary particle
- Photons are substantially suppressed compared to hadrons at the same energy
- In the TeV region:

 $Flux(\gamma) \sim 10^{-4} x Flux(hadrons)$ 

A challenge for experiments: Excellent photon/hadron separation required



# **Photon Production**

- Accelerated charges emit radiation
- On circular orbits in magnetic fields: Synchrotron radiation

 Acceleration (deceleration!) in strong electric fields of nuclei: Bremsstrahlung





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- Accelerated charges emit radiation
- On circular orbits in magnetic fields: Synchrotron radiation

 Acceleration (deceleration!) in strong electric fields of nuclei:
 Bromostroblung

Bremsstrahlung

In addition: Thermal radiation!





# **Photon Production II**

 Hadronic production of photons via meson production in hadronic interactions and consecutive decay

$$p + Kern \rightarrow X + \pi^0$$
$$\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$$

 Energy increase of a photon via scattering off highly energetic electrons: (inverse Compton scattering)





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**Meson Decay** 

(2) Meson produced

(1) Proton hits nucleus

(3) Meson decays into gamma rays

#### **Expected Gamma Ray Spectrum of Sources**

Depends on the mechanism of γ creation





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#### **Gamma Creation: The General Idea**





#### **Direct Measurement: Satellites: Chandra**





#### **Direct Measurement: Satellites: Fermi**



- Satellites can cover the full sky
- Good resolution at relatively low energies

- The newest instrument: Fermi (formerly GLAST (Gammaray Large Area Telescope))
  - started on 11.06.2008



### The Fermi Sky





# Photon and Hadron - induced Air Showers





#### **Airshower Cherenkov Telescopes**



- Cherenkov light is created by electrons in showers in an altitude of ~ 10 km
- The photons are spread over an area with a radius of~120 m on ground level
- Detection with a telescope is possible within this area.



#### Large IACTs



TA+ DI>tt

#### MAGIC: A large Cherenkov Telescope

17 m mirror diameter (240 m<sup>2</sup>)

ultralight construction (carbon fiber)

Active mirror control: Correction of mechanical distortions

AA+ Ay>tt

#### MAGIC





#### **MAGIC: Separation of Photons and Hadrons**



#### **SNR IC 443**



blue: x-ray green: radio red: optical

Neutron star

Supernova remnant, 3000 to 30 000 years old, distance 1.5 kpc

Credit: Chandra X-ray: NASA/CXC/B.Gaensler et al; ROSAT X-ray: NASA/ROSAT/Asaoka & Aschenbach; Radio Wide: NRC/DRAO/D.Leahy; Radio Detail: NRAO/VLA; Optical: DSS



#### SNR IC 443 bei hochenergetischen Gammas





# Supernova Acceleration: Age & Energy

• Age dependence of cosmic accelerators



~ 1000 years needed to reach peak energy (see lecture 4)

Weakening of shock wave and magnetic fields with increasing age



# Active Galactic Nuclei: AGNs

- Supermassive black holes (10<sup>7</sup> 10<sup>10</sup> solar masses) in the center of galaxies
- Accretion of matter
  - depending on configuration a jet can be formed





# Formation of Gammas in Jets



- Electrons and protons are accelerated in shock fronts
- Synchrotron radiation in magnetic fields
- Inverse Compton processes
- Proton induced cascades resulting in photons from neutral pion decay



#### **AGN M87**





#### **Blazars: Special AGNs**

- A class of objects that exhibits strong gamma emission with pronounced time variations
  - first observation for BL Lacertae (BL Lac)
- AGN with a jet that points almost directly at earth
- Additional intensity gain due to relativistic effects
  - Time variation for example due to overtaking shock fronts that run through regions filled with matter, ...





# **AGNs: Photon Spectrum**



• Typical "double hump" structure observed



# Low Energy Cosmic Rays



# AMS

- A complete particle physics detector in space
  - The goal: Search for antimatter in cosmic rays, detailed study of the composition, search for new phenomena



# AMS





### AMS - Since 4 years on the ISS

• Successful start on May 16 2011 - Data taking since then





# **AMS - Illustration of Events**



20 GeV electron



# **AMS - Illustration of Events**





# **Composition of Cosmic Rays**

- Comparison to the isotope abundance in the solar system (known from absorption lines in the sun, meteorites)
- Agreement for medium-mass nuclei: Maxima for even Z, A: stable nuclei preferred in fusion reactions in stars
- Deviation for light nuclei: Acceleration less efficient for H, He
- Li, Be, B are "burned" in stars instantly
  - Elements heavier than Li do not occur primordially
  - these are created in cosmic rays via spallation





# **Energy Dependence of Composition**



Boron does not occur in primary cosmic rays: production via spallation, Carbon is a primary component

Boron observed predominantly at low energy!

# **Energy Dependence of Composition**

#### **CREAM 2008**



Both Oxygen and Carbon are primary particles in cosmic rays, both have Z/A = 0.5: identical energy spectrum!



# **Positrons in Cosmic Rays**

• Interesting (and unexpected!) results by PAMELA (Nature, April 2009):



arXiv:0810.4995



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#### **Possible Explanation: Dark Matter**



 Triggered a lot of activity: Several hundred papers with Dark Matter interpretations of PAMELA data within a few months

Would lead to a "Peak" in positrons, at higher energies the curve should go back to the expected behavior



#### **Dark Matter: Consequence on Positron Fraction**





# **Less Spectacular Explanation**

- There has to be another primary source of positrons!
  - Production von positrons for example in near-by pulsars: Highly energetic gamma rays produce e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup> pairs



Electrons (and positrons) quickly loose energy in the ISM via Compton scattering and synchrotron radiation → Sources for highly-energetic positrons have to be close!



#### **Electrons and Positrons from Pulsars**



 $\Rightarrow$  The PAMELA results can also be explained by a few (or a single) close pulsar, candidates do exist!



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# Confirmation by AMS and Fermi



- AMS proves: the effect is real
   also supported by Fermi results
  - Detailed analyses show (up to now) no anisotropy in the distribution of the positron
     excess - no preferred
     direction



# Positron Excess: What is it?



- Slope of the curve reaches
   0 at high energy: Maximum
   may be reached by
   experiments
- Continuation to higher

   energy crucial for
   interpretation: Dark matter
   predicts steep drop, pulsars
   would lead to a slower
   drop, and a dipole
   asymmetry



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Consistent with "particle physics origin" (Dark Matter), but other explanations can not be excluded: Pulsars, possible mistakes in propagation models, ...



# Summary

- Electromagnetic radiation is important: The combination of different spectral ranges allows detailed investigations of sources
- Highly energetic photons are observed with Cherenkov telescopes
  - Production via synchrotron radiation, inverse Compton processes and hadron decays
  - Provides insight into acceleration mechanisms
- Gamma sources in the Milky Way and beyond:
  - Pulsars
  - Active galactic nuclei, Blazars
- Composition of cosmic rays at low energy well understood primary and secondary components
- Exciting observation: Positron excess A hint of New Physics, or pulsars or shortcomings of our understanding of particle propagation in the galaxy?



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#### Next Lecture: 27.06., "Dark Matter & Dark Energy", S. Bethke

# **Topics Overview**

11.04.	Einführung / Introduction
18.04.	Erdgebundene Beschleuniger / Accelerators
25.04.	Detektoren in der Nicht-Beschleuniger-Physik / Detectors
02.05.	Kosmische Beschleuniger / Cosmic Accelerators
09.05.	Das Standardmodell / The Standard Model
16.05.	Pfingsten - Keine Vorlesung! No Lecture
23.05.	QCD und Jet Physik an Lepton Beschleunigern / QCD and Jets
30.05.	Präzisionsexperimente (g-2) / Precision Experiments
06.06.	Gravitationswellen / Gravitational Waves
13.06.	Kosmische Strahlung I / Cosmic Rays I
20.06.	Kosmische Strahlung II / Cosmic Rays II
27.06.	Dunkle Materie & Dunkle Energie / Dark Matter & Dark Energy
04.07.	Neutrinos I
11.07.	Neutrinos II

