

Search for Antihelium with the BESS-Polar Spectrometer

K. Abe, H. Fuke, and S. Haino *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 108, 131301 (2012)

2012/06/13

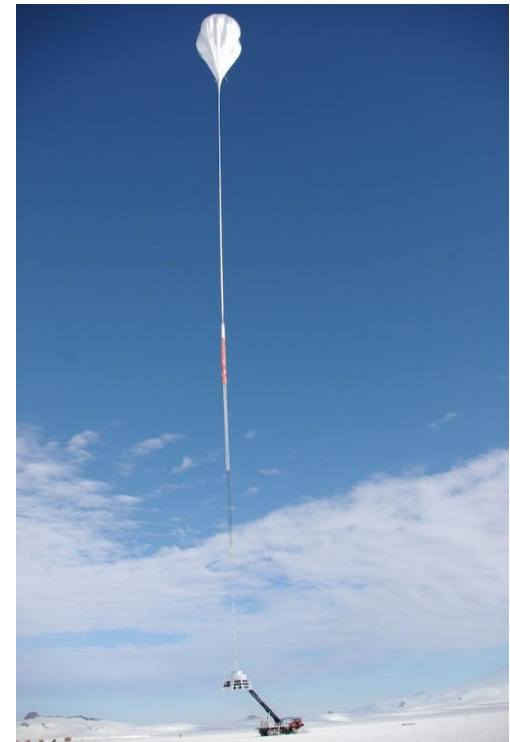
Zenmei Suzuki

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Introduction

- BESS means “the **B**alloon-borne **E**xperiment with a **S**uperconducting **S**pectrometer”.
- BESS-Polar is the experiment to search for antiparticle.
- BESS-Polar was launched from Williams Field near McMurdo Station at Antarctica.



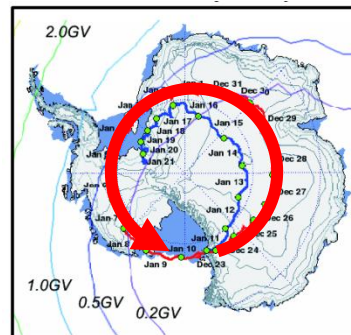
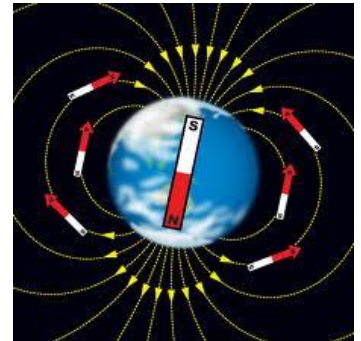
Introduction

Why was this launched?

- To reduce the effect by an interaction with the atmosphere.

Why was this conducted in Antarctica?

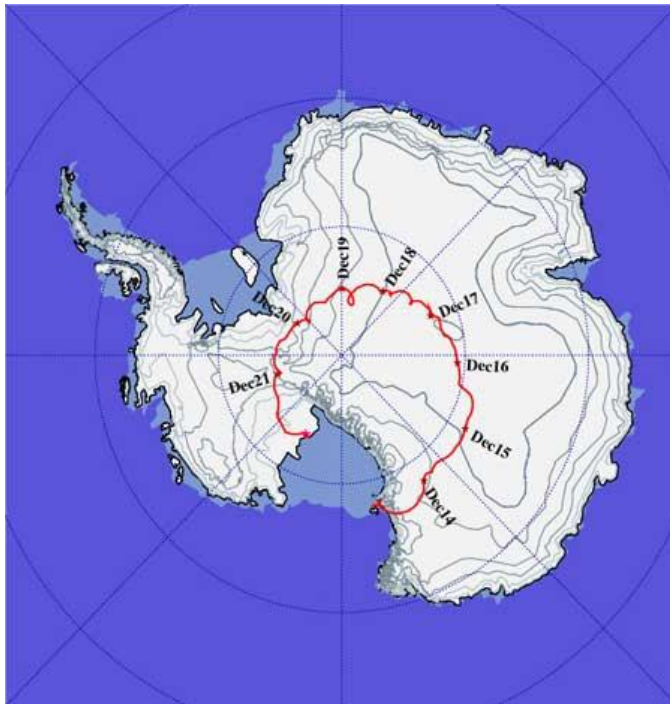
- To reduce the cutoff by geomagnetic effect.
- A solar battery is available due to the midnight sun. (Li battery is too heavy.)
- A balloon can move around Antarctica by the wind.



Introduction

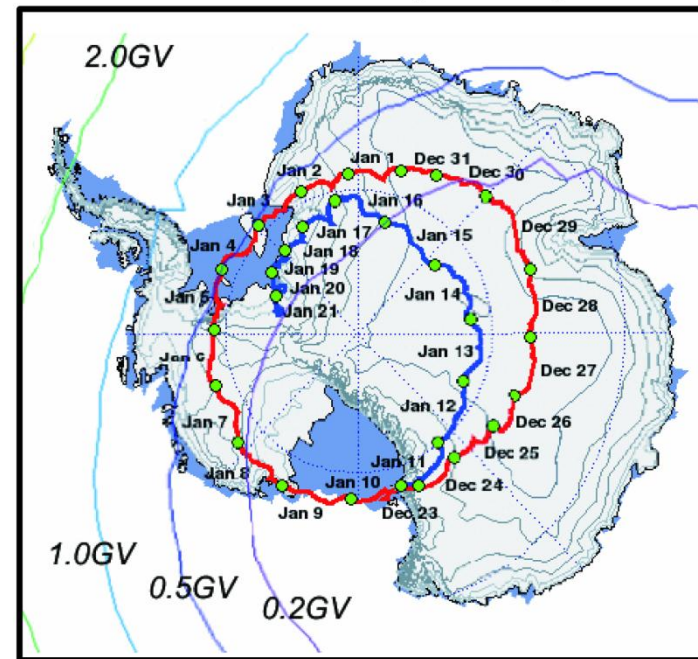
BESS-Polar I

2004/12/13 ~ 12/22



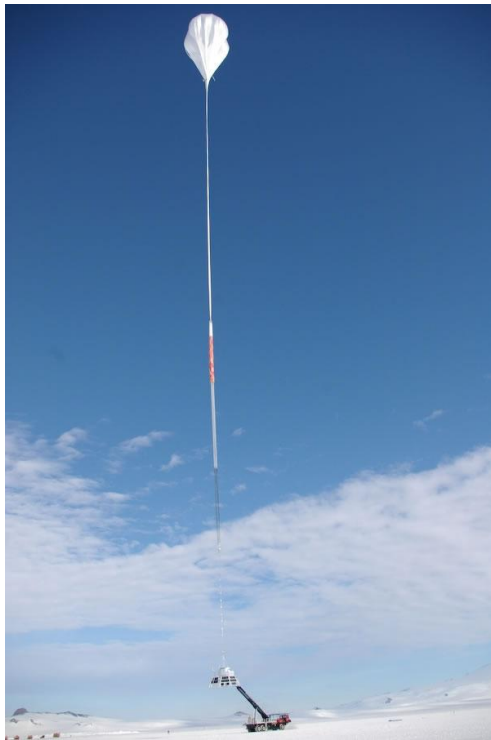
BESS-Polar II

2007/12/23 ~ 2008/1/21

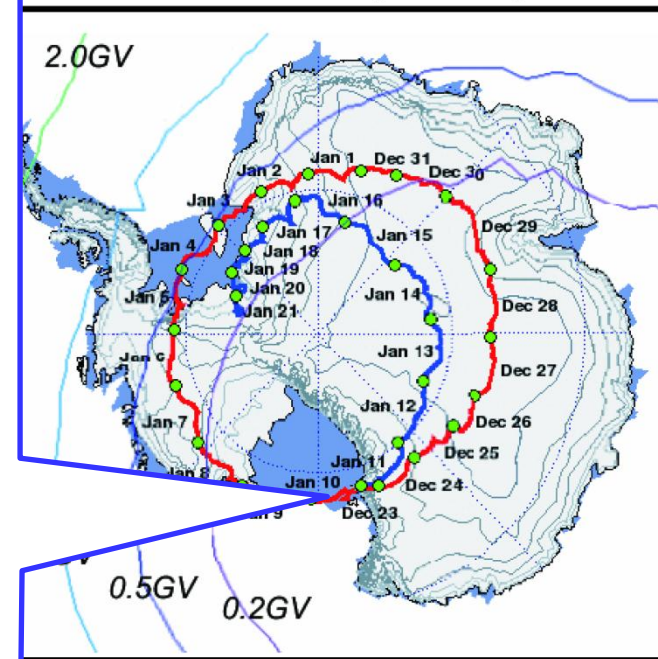


Introduction

Launch



BESS-Polar II
2007/12/23 ~ 2008/1/21



Introduction

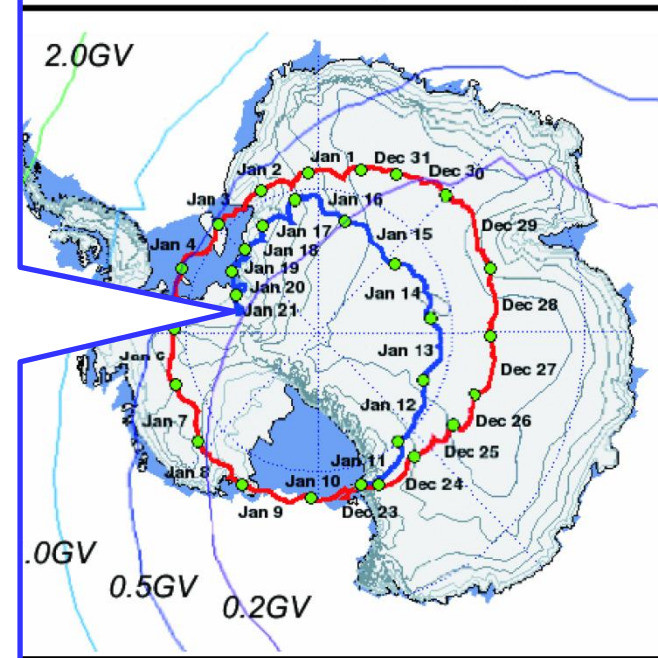
Recovery (2 years later)



2 years later ...



BESS-Polar II
2007/12/23 ~ 2008/1/21



Motivation

The universe around us is composed from the matter.
One of the source of this asymmetry is CP-violation.



The CP-violation which is measured is not enough to explain the asymmetry.

The anti-matter dominant domain may exist in this universe.

Motivation :

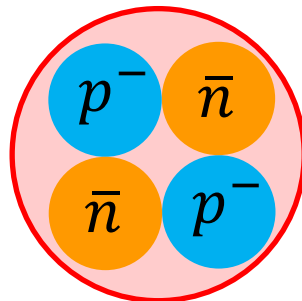
To detect anti-particles from such domains.

anti-proton

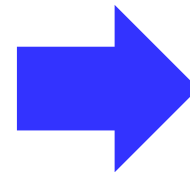


is produced by the interaction of cosmic radiations.

anti-Helium



is not produced.



Search for \overline{He}

Detectors

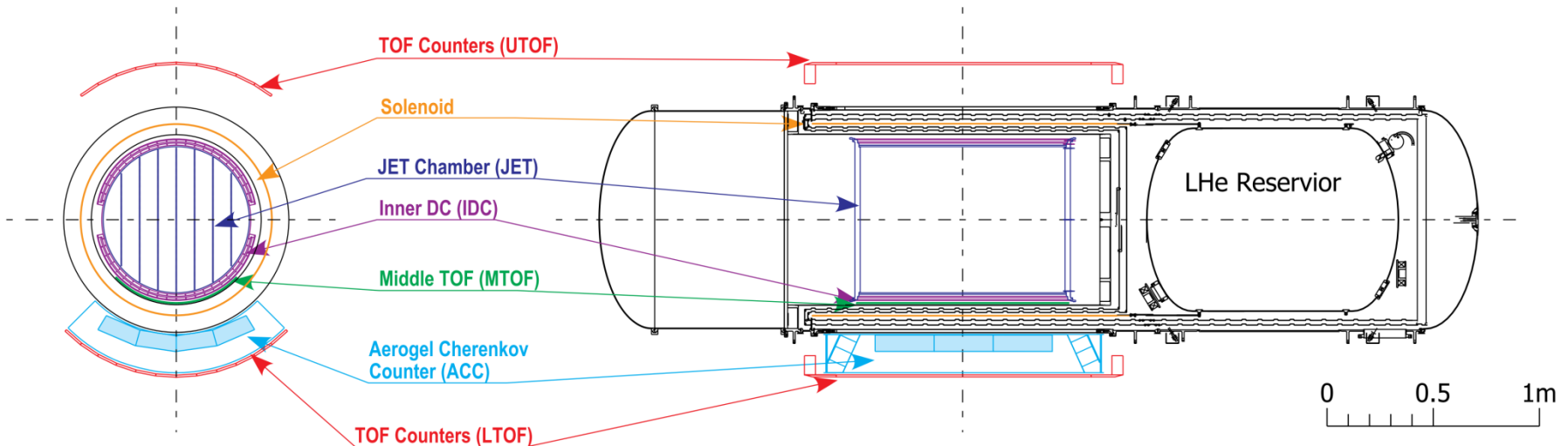


FIG. 1 (color online). Cross-sectional and side views of the BESS-Polar II Spectrometer.

Time Of Flight Counters (UTOF & LTOF)

- The TOF is composed from 10 upper TOF (UTOF) scintillators and 12 lower TOF (LTOF) scintillators.
- Measure flight time ($\sigma \sim 120\text{ps}$) and energy deposit (dE/dx).
- Determine the axial position of trajectories initially.
- Trigger events by the UTOF in coincidence with LTOF.

Detectors

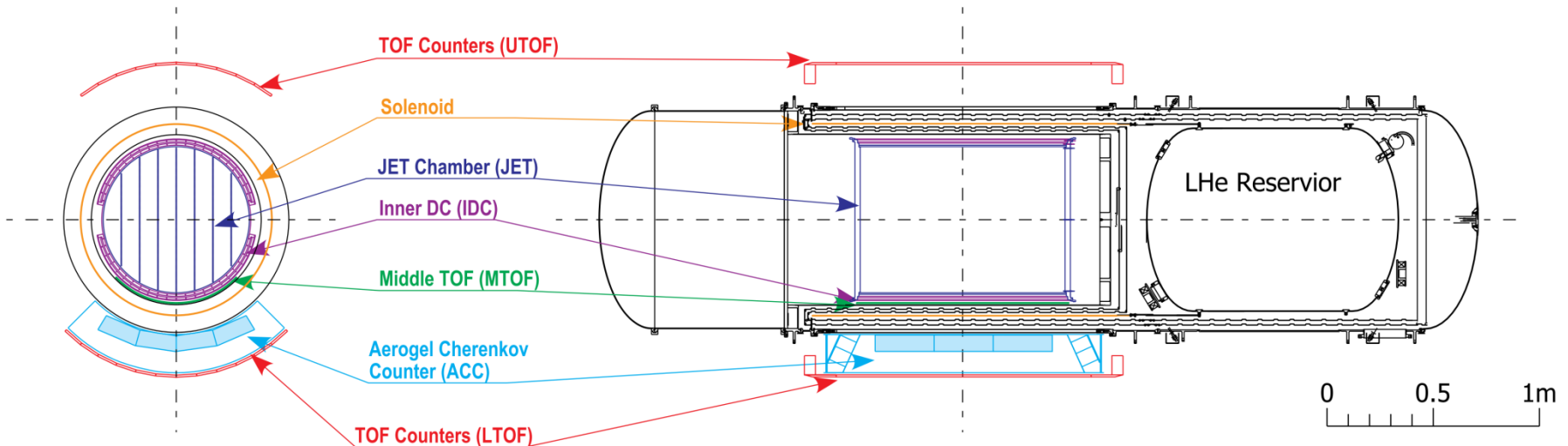


FIG. 1 (color online). Cross-sectional and side views of the BESS-Polar II Spectrometer.

Solenoid

- Provide a uniform magnetic field (0.8 T) which is parallel to the axis of cylinder.
- The magnetic field bend trajectories of incident particles for the measurement of the charge and the momentum.
- The solenoid is kept at superconducting state using liquid He.

Detectors

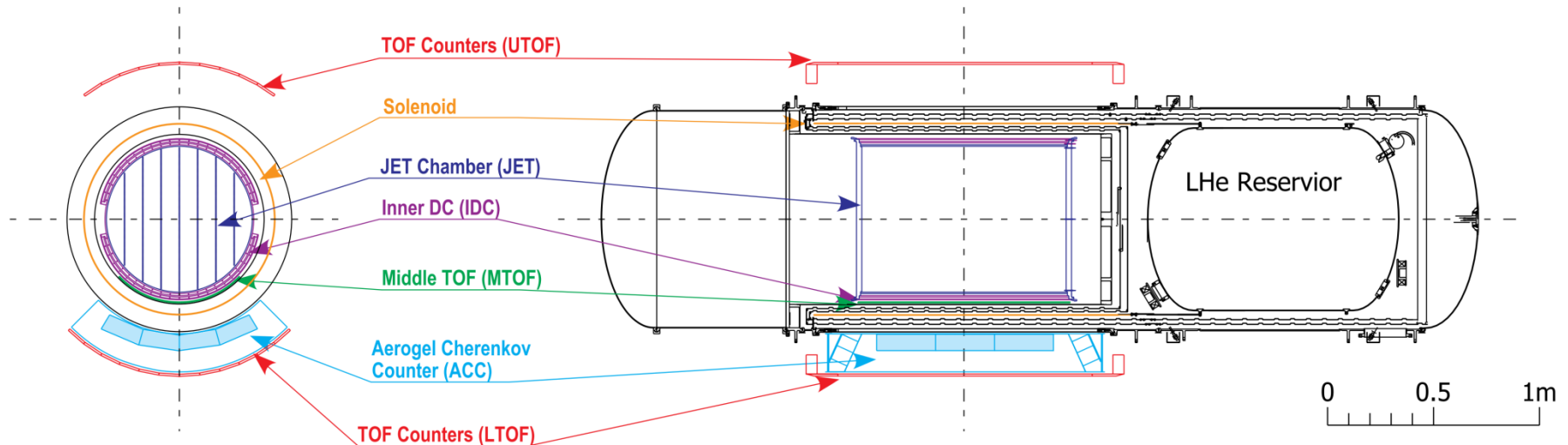



FIG. 1 (color online). Cross-sectional and side views of the BESS-Polar II Spectrometer.

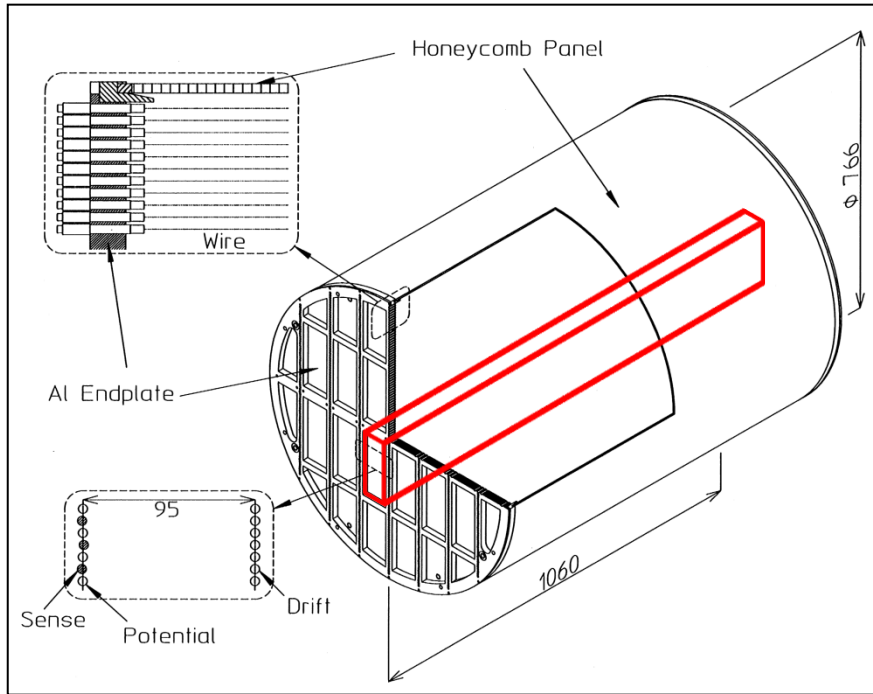
Jet-cell type drift chamber (JET)

Inner Drift Chamber (IDC)

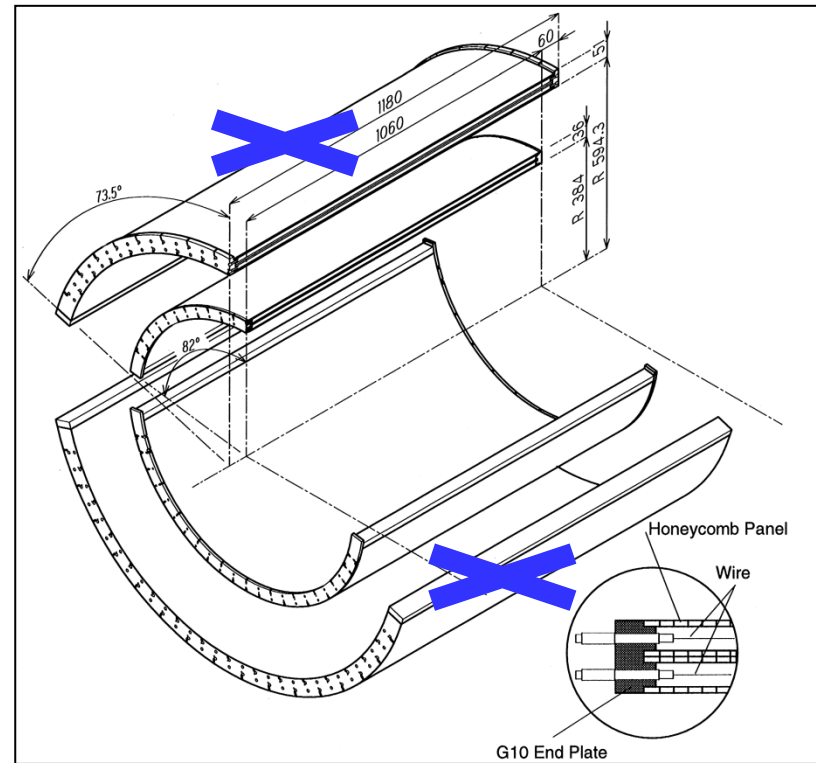
- The central drift chamber is composed from JET & IDC.
- Used Gas is CO₂.
- Particle trajectories are fitted using up to 52 points ($\sigma \sim 140 \mu\text{m}$).
-  Measure the magnetic-rigidity ($\sigma \leq 0.4\%$).
- JET measure dE/dx also.

Detectors

JET chamber



IDC chamber



These figure show BESS detector.

There is no outer drift chamber (ODC) in BESS-Polar detector.

Detectors

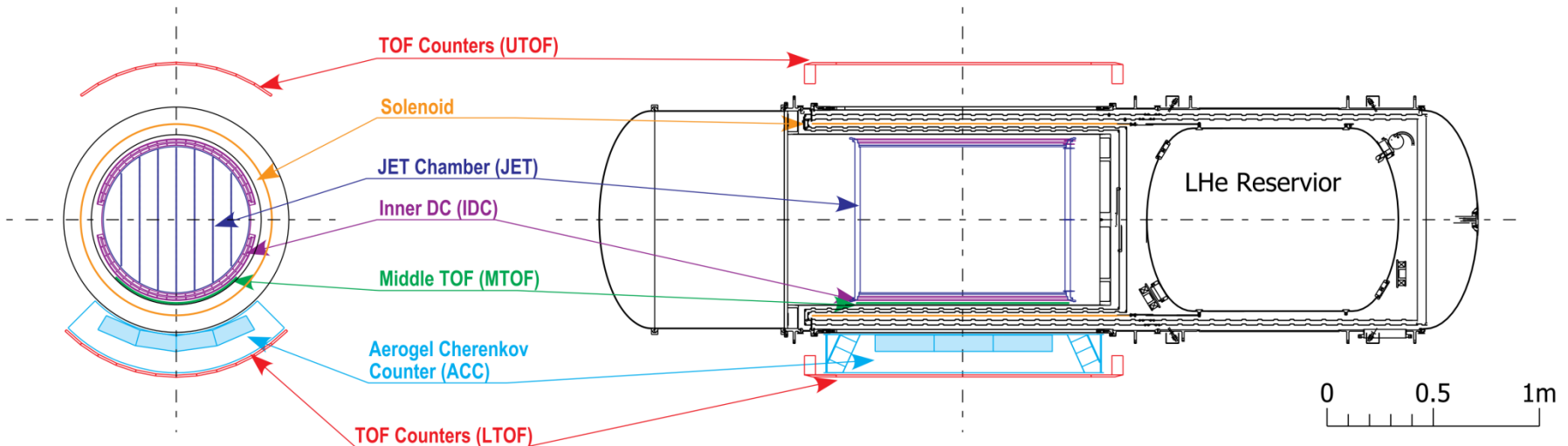


FIG. 1 (color online). Cross-sectional and side views of the BESS-Polar II Spectrometer.

Middle TOF (MTOF)

- MTOF is to detect low energy particles that cannot penetrate the lower magnet wall (and LTOF).
- Low energy events are triggered by the UTOF in coincidence with MTOF.
- MTOF is not used for the anti-He search.

Detectors

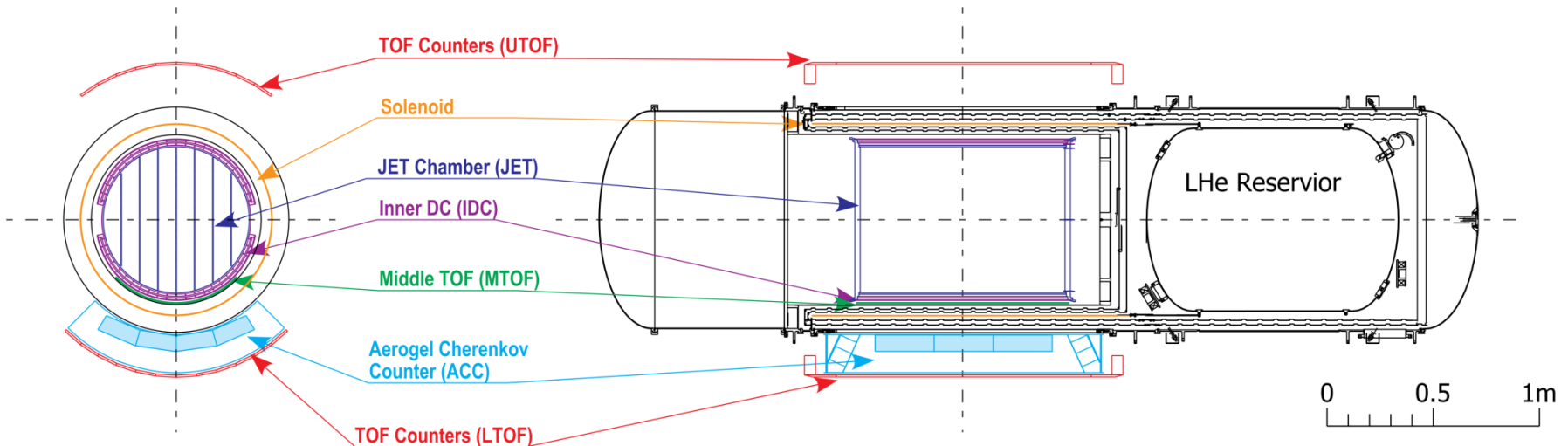


FIG. 1 (color online). Cross-sectional and side views of the BESS-Polar II Spectrometer.

Aerogel Cherenkov Counter (ACC)

- ACC is a detector for particle identification by checking whether a particle emit Cherenkov light.
- This ACC can separate p^- events from e^- and μ^- background.
- ACC is not used for the anti-He search.

Event selection

$He(\overline{He})$ are identified by $M^2 = R^2 Z^2 \left(\frac{1}{\beta^2} - 1 \right)$

M : mass The mass of He is understood precisely.

$R \equiv p/Z$: magnetic-rigidity p : momentum, Z : electric charge

R is measured as the radius of particle trajectories.

$R = p/Z = Br$ B : magnitude of magnetic field
 r : radius of particle trajectory

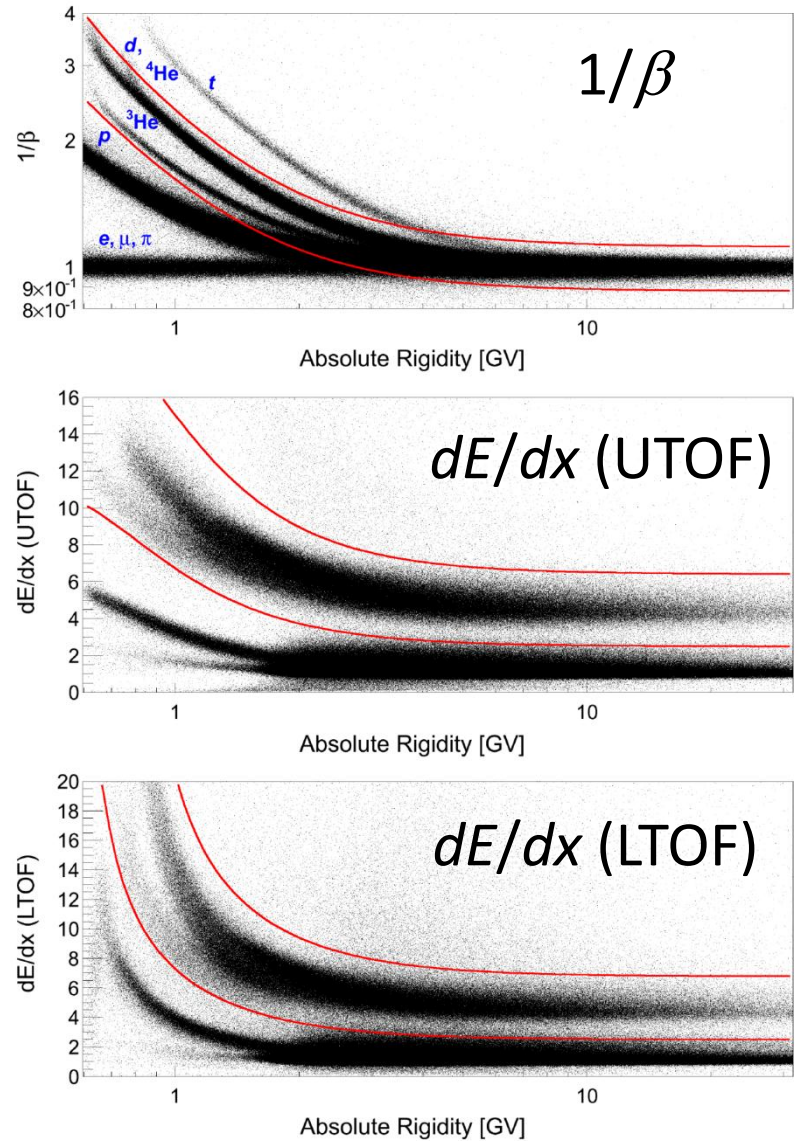
β : velocity β is determined by TOF.

Z : electric charge $|Z|$ is determined by β and dE/dx .

Bethe-Bloch Formula $-\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = K z^2 \frac{Z}{A} \frac{1}{\beta^2} \left[\frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2 T_{\max}}{I^2} - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta(\beta\gamma)}{2} \right]$

Event selection

- Events with single track are chosen.
- Trajectory fits with $\chi^2 \leq 2.5$, detected track ≥ 500 mm.
- $1/\beta$ and dE/dx band cuts are used to select He (\overline{He}).
- A similar cut is applied to dE/dx measured by the JET.
- $1.0 < R < 20$ GV (BESS-Polar I)
 $1.0 < R < 14$ GV (BESS-Polar II)



Result & Consideration

Observed $|Z|=2$ events

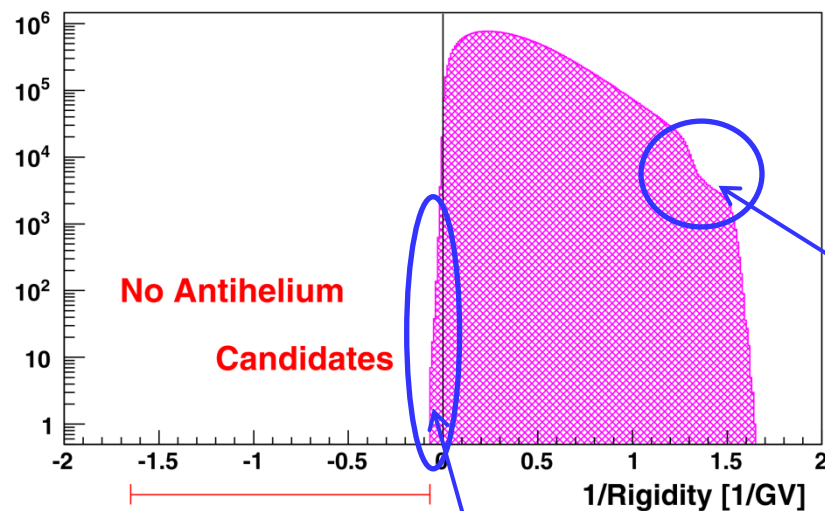
BESS-Polar I : 8.4×10^6 events

BESS-Polar II : 4.0×10^7 events



No anti-He candidates were found.

R^{-1} distribution of the BESS-Polar II



$|Z|=2$ data with all selections applied.

due to differing ^4He and ^3He .

due to miss-id of high rigidity He.

Result & Consideration

The ratio of \overline{He}/He is calculated as follows.

$$R_{\overline{He}/He} = \frac{\int N_{Obs,\overline{He}} / (S\Omega \bar{\eta} \bar{\epsilon}_{sn\bar{g}l} \bar{\epsilon}_{dE/dx} \bar{\epsilon}_{\beta} \bar{\epsilon}_{DQ}) dE}{\int N_{Obs,He} / (S\Omega \eta \epsilon_{sn\bar{g}l} \epsilon_{dE/dx} \epsilon_{\beta} \epsilon_{DQ}) dE}$$

$N_{Obs,He}(\overline{He})$: differential intensity of observed $He(\overline{He})$.

$S\Omega$: geometric acceptance

$\eta(\bar{\eta})$: survival probability of $He(\overline{He})$ traversing the atmosphere.

$\epsilon_{sn\bar{g}l}(\bar{\epsilon}_{sn\bar{g}l})$: single track efficiency

$\epsilon_{dE/dx}(\bar{\epsilon}_{dE/dx})$: dE/dx selection efficiency

$\epsilon_{\beta}(\bar{\epsilon}_{\beta})$: β selection efficiency

$\epsilon_{DQ}(\bar{\epsilon}_{DQ})$: data quality selection efficiency

In this search, there are no anti-He candidates ($N_{Obs,\overline{He}} = 0$).



It is necessary to calculate the upper limit.

The energy dependent efficiencies for anti-He is needed.

Result & Consideration

Two different assumptions are considered for anti-He energy spectrum.

(i) *Same spectral shape for anti-He as for He.*

The energy spectrum of anti-He is the same as for He.

- $\int N_{Obs, \overline{He}} dE < 3.1$ (at 95% confidence with a null detection and no background)
- $\epsilon_{dE/dx} / \bar{\epsilon}_{dE/dx}$, $\epsilon_{\beta} / \bar{\epsilon}_{\beta}$, and $\epsilon_{DQ} / \bar{\epsilon}_{DQ}$ are canceled.



$$R_{\overline{He}/He} < \frac{3.1}{\int N_{Obs, He} \bar{\eta} \bar{\epsilon}_{sngl} / (\eta \epsilon_{sngl}) dE}$$

- $\eta, \bar{\eta}, \epsilon_{sngl}, \bar{\epsilon}_{sngl}$ are determined by Monte Carlo simulation.

Bess-Polar I : $R_{\overline{He}/He} < 4.4 \times 10^{-7}$ ($1.0 < R < 20$)

Bess-Polar II : $R_{\overline{He}/He} < 9.4 \times 10^{-8}$ ($1.0 < R < 14$)

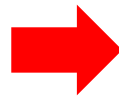
Combined : $R_{\overline{He}/He} < 6.9 \times 10^{-8}$ ($1.0 < R < 14$)

Result & Consideration

(ii) *No assumed anti-He spectrum.*

The most conservative upper limit is obtained.

- The energy spectrum of anti-He is not assumed.
- The lowest efficiency within the search range is used.
- Only $S\Omega$ is canceled.



$$R_{\overline{\text{He}}/\text{He}} < \frac{3.1 / [\bar{\eta} \bar{\epsilon}_{\text{sngl}} \bar{\epsilon}_{dE/dx} \bar{\epsilon}_{\beta} \bar{\epsilon}_{DQ}]_{\text{MIN}}}{\int N_{\text{Obs,He}} / (\eta \epsilon_{\text{sngl}} \epsilon_{dE/dx} \epsilon_{\beta} \epsilon_{DQ}) dE}$$

Bess-Polar I : $R_{\overline{\text{He}}/\text{He}} < 5.3 \times 10^{-7}$ ($1.5 < R < 20$)

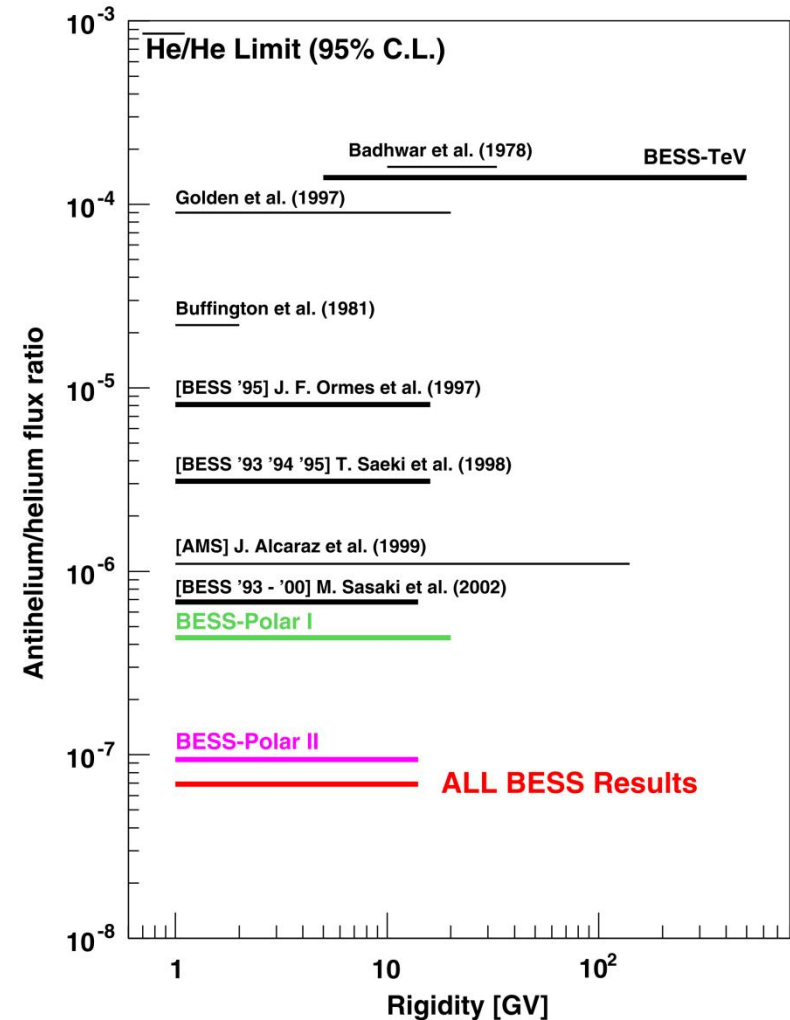
Bess-Polar II : $R_{\overline{\text{He}}/\text{He}} < 1.2 \times 10^{-7}$ ($1.6 < R < 14$)

Combined : $R_{\overline{\text{He}}/\text{He}} < 1.0 \times 10^{-7}$ ($1.6 < R < 14$)

Only about 25% higher than assumption (i).

Conclusion

- BESS-Polar is the experiment to search for antiparticle.
- Anti-He was searched to investigate whether there are anti-matter dominant domain in the universe.
- 4.8×10^7 He(anti-He) candidates were detected.
- No anti-He candidates were found.
- The upper limit of ratio of anti-He/He was obtained as 6.9×10^{-8} .



Back up

Event selection

$He(\overline{He})$ are identified by

$$M^2 = R^2 Z^2 \left(\frac{1}{\beta^2} - 1 \right)$$

M : mass, p : momentum, Z : electric charge,
 β : velocity, $R \equiv p/Z$: magnetic-rigidity

Absolute charge ($|Z|$) is determined from β and dE/dx .

Bethe-Bloch Formula

$$-\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = K z^2 \frac{Z}{A} \frac{1}{\beta^2} \left[\frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2 T_{\max}}{I^2} - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta(\beta\gamma)}{2} \right]$$

