Decaying Dark Matter and the PAMELA anomaly

Alejandro Ibarra

Technische Universität München





In collaboration with Wilfried Buchmüller, Gianfranco Bertone, Laura Covi, Michael Grefe, Koichi Hamaguchi, Tetsuo Shindou, Fumihiro Takayama, <u>David Tran</u>, Andreas Ringwald, Christoph Weniger, Tsutomu Yanagida.

> ULB Brussels 27th March 2009



- Introduction.
- Anomalies in the cosmic ray fluxes.
- Astrophysical interpretation of the anomalies.
- Decaying dark matter as the origin of the cosmic ray anomalies.
- A particularly interesting candidate for decaying dark matter: decaying gravitinos.
- Conclusions.









Introduction Dark matter exist v (km/s) observed 100 Dark Energy 73% Matte

Observations indicate that the dark matter is a particle which is:

- Non baryonic
- Weakly interacting
- Slow moving ("cold" or perhaps "warm")
- Long lived (not necessarily stable!)

All these evidences for dark matter are of gravitational origin

Impossible to determine the nature and properties of the dark matter particle from these observations

Independent (non-gravitational) evidences for dark matter are necessary

Direct detection

DM nucleus \rightarrow DM nucleus



Direct detection

DM nucleus \rightarrow DM nucleus



World Wide WIMP Search



-rom Laura Baudis

Direct detection

DM nucleus \rightarrow DM nucleus



Indirect
detectionDM DM $\rightarrow \gamma\gamma$, e+e-... (annihilation)DM $\rightarrow \gamma X$, e+X,... (decay)

Collider searches $pp \rightarrow DM X$

Direct detection DM nucleus \rightarrow DM nucleus

Indirect detection DM DM $\rightarrow \gamma X$, e⁺X... (annihilation) DM $\rightarrow \gamma X$, e⁺X,... (decay) Collider searches $pp \rightarrow DM X$



There have been indications in the past for dark matter annihilation/decay

Extragalactic flux of gamma rays



Many open questions:

- Extraction of the signal from the galactic foreground
- Is the signal isotropic/anisotropic
- Precise shape of the energy spectrum
- Does the excess really exist? Stecker, Hunter, Kniffen

Positron Fraction



Positron Fraction



Spectacular experimental progress over the last months

Observation of an anomalous positron abundance in the cosmic radiation

O. Adriani,^{1,2} G. C. Barbarino,^{3,4} G. A. Bazilevskaya,⁵ R. Bellotti,^{6,7} M. Boezio,⁸ E. A. Bogomolov,⁹ L. Bonechi,^{1,2} M. Bongi,² V. Bonvicini,⁸ S. Bottai,² A. Bruno,^{6,7} F. Cafagna,⁷ D. Campana,⁴ P. Carlson,¹⁰ M. Casolino,¹¹ G. Castellini,¹² M. P. De Pascale,^{11,13} G. De Rosa,⁴ N. De Simone,^{11,13} V. Di Felice,^{11,13} A. M. Galper,¹⁴ L. Grishantseva,¹⁴ P. Hofverberg,¹⁰ A. Leonov,¹⁴ S. V. Koldashov,¹⁴ S. Y. Krutkov,⁹ A. N. Kvashnin,¹⁵ V. Malvezzi,¹¹ L. Marcelli,¹¹ W. Menn,¹⁶ V. V. Mikhailov,¹⁴ E. Mocchiutti,⁸ S. Orsi,¹⁰ G. Osteria,⁴ P. Papini,² M. Pearce,¹⁰ P. Picozza,^{11,13} M. Ricci,¹⁷ S. B. Ricciarini,² M. Simon,¹⁶ R. Sparvoli,^{11,13} P. Spillantini,^{1,2} Y. I. Stozhkov,¹⁵ A. Vacchi,⁸ E. Vannuccini,² G. Vasilyev,⁹ S. A. Voronov,¹⁴ Y. T. Yurkin,¹⁴ G. Zampa,⁸ N. Zampa,⁸ and V. G. Zverev¹⁴ ¹Physics Department of University of Florence, I-50019 Sesto Fiorentino, Florence, Italy ²INFN, Sezione di Florence, I-50019 Sesto Fiorentino, Florence, Italy ³Physics Department of University of Naples "Federico II", I-80126 Naples, Italy ⁴INFN, Sezione di Naples, I-80126 Naples, Italy ⁵Lebedev Physical Institute, Leninsky Prospekt 53, RU-119991 Moscow, Russia ⁶Physics Department of University of Bari, I-70126 Bari, Italy ⁷INFN, Sezione di Bari, I-70126 Bari, Italy

28 Oct 2008

v:0810.4995v1 [astro-oh]

⁸INFN, Sezione di Trieste, I-34012 Trieste, Italy









LETTERS

An excess of cosmic ray electrons at energies of 300–800 GeV

J. Chang^{1,2}, J. H. Adams Jr³, H. S. Ahn⁴, G. L. Bashindzhagyan⁵, M. Christl³, O. Ganel⁴, T. G. Guzik⁶, J. Isbert⁶, K. C. Kim⁴, E. N. Kuznetsov⁵, M. I. Panasyuk⁵, A. D. Panov⁵, W. K. H. Schmidt², E. S. Seo⁴, N. V. Sokolskaya⁵, J. W. Watts³, J. P. Wefel⁶, J. Wu⁴ & V. I. Zatsepin⁵



Figure 3 | ATIC results showing agreement with previous data at lower energy and with the imaging calorimeter PPB-BETS at higher energy. The

H.E.S.S. Collaboration

The energy spectrum of cosmic-ray electrons at TeV energies

F. Aharonian^{1,13}, A.G. Akhperjanian², U. Barres de Almeida⁸ A.R. Bazer-Bachi³, Y. Becherini¹², B. Behera¹⁴, W. Benbow¹, K. Bernlöhr^{1,5}, C. Boisson⁶, A. Bochow¹, V. Borrel³, I. Braun¹, E. Brion⁷, J. Brucker¹⁶, P. Brun⁷, R. Bühler¹, T. Bulik²⁴, I. Büsching⁹, T. Boutelier¹⁷, S. Carrigan¹, P.M. Chadwick⁸, A. Charbonnier¹⁹, R.C.G. Chaves¹, A. Cheesebrough⁸, L.-M. Chounet¹⁰, A.C. Clapson¹, G. Coignet¹¹, L. Costamante^{1,29}, M. Dalton⁵, B. Degrange¹⁰, C. Deil¹, H.J. Dickinson⁸, A. Djannati-Atai¹². W. Domainko¹, L.O'C. Drury¹³, F. Dubois¹¹, G. Dubus¹⁷, J. Dyks²⁴, M. Dyrda²⁸, K. Egberts¹, D. Emmanoulopoulos¹⁴, P. Espigat¹², C. Farnier¹⁵, F. Feinstein¹⁵, A. Fiasson¹⁵, A. Förster¹, G. Fontaine¹⁰, M. Füßling⁵, S. Gabici¹³, Y.A. Gallant¹⁵ L. Gérard¹², B. Giebels¹⁰, J.F. Glicenstein⁷, B. Glück¹⁶, P. Goret⁷, C. Hadjichristidis⁸, D. Hauser¹⁴, M. Hauser¹⁴, S. Heinz¹⁶, G. Heinzelmann⁴, G. Henri¹⁷, G. Hermann¹, J.A. Hinton²⁵ A. Hoffmann¹⁸, W. Hofmann¹, M. Holleran⁹, S. Hoppe¹, D. Horns⁴, A. Jacholkowska¹⁹, O.C. de Jager⁹, I. Jung¹⁶, K. Katarzyński²⁷, S. Kaufmann¹⁴, E. Kendziorra¹⁸, M. Kerschhaggl⁵, D. Khangulyan¹, B. Khélifi¹⁰, D. Keogh⁸, Nu. Komin¹⁵, K. Kosack¹, G. Lamanna¹¹, J.-P. Lenain⁶, T. Lohse⁵, V. Marandon¹², J.M. Martin⁶, O. Martineau-Huynh¹⁹, A. Marcowith¹⁵, D. Maurin¹⁹, T.J.L. McComb⁸, C. Medina⁶, R. Moderski²⁴, E. Moulin⁷, M. Naumann-Godo¹⁰ M. de Naurois¹⁹, D. Nedbal²⁰, D. Nekrassov¹, J. Niemiec²⁸, S.J. Nolan⁸, S. Ohm¹, J.-F. Olive³, E. de Oña Wilhelmi¹², K.J. Orford⁸, J.L. Osborne⁸, M. Ostrowski²³, M. Panter¹, G. Pedaletti¹⁴, G. Pelletier¹⁷, P.-O. Petrucci¹⁷, S. Pita¹², G. Pühlhofer¹⁴, M. Punch¹² A. Quirrenbach¹⁴, B.C. Raubenheimer⁹, M. Raue^{1,29}, S.M. Rayner⁸, M. Renaud¹, F. Rieger^{1,29}, J. Ripken⁴, L. Rob²⁰, S. Rosier-Lees¹¹. G. Rowell²⁶, B. Rudak²⁴, C.B. Rulten⁸, J. Ruppel²¹, V. Sahakian², A. Santangelo¹⁸, R. Schlickeiser²¹, F.M. Schöck¹⁶, R. Schröder²¹ U. Schwanke⁵, S. Schwarzburg¹⁸, S. Schwemmer¹⁴, A. Shalchi²¹, J.L. Skilton²⁵, H. Sol⁶, D. Spangler⁸, L. Stawarz²³, R. Steenkamp²² C. Stegmann¹⁶, G. Superina¹⁰, P.H. Tam¹⁴, J.-P. Tavernet¹⁹, R. Terrier¹², O. Tibolla¹⁴, C. van Eldik¹, G. Vasileiadis¹⁵, C. Venter⁹, J.P. Vialle¹¹, P. Vincent¹⁹, M. Vivier⁷, H.J. Völk¹, F. Volpe^{10,29}, S.J. Wagner¹⁴, M. Ward⁸, A.A. Zdziarski²⁴, and A. Zech⁶ ¹ Max-Planck-Institut f
ür Kernphysik, P.O. Box 103980, D 69029 Heidelberg, Germany ² Yerevan Physics Institute, 2 Alikhanian Brothers St., 375036 Yerevan, Armenia ³ Centre d'Etude Spatiale des Rayonnements, CNRS/UPS, 9 av. du Colonel Roche, BP 4346, F-31029 Toulouse Cedex 4, France ⁴ Universität Hamburg, Institut für Experimentalphysik, Luruper Chaussee 149, D 22761 Hamburg, Germany ⁵ Institut für Physik, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Newtonstr. 15, D 12489 Berlin, Germany

24 Nov 2008

⁶ LUTH Observatoire de Paris CNRS Université Paris Diderot 5 Place Jules Janssen 02100 Meudon France

The very large collection area of ground-based γ -ray telescopes gives them a substantial advantage over balloon/satellite based instruments in the detection of very-high-energy (>600 GeV) cosmic-ray electrons. Here we present the electron spectrum derived from data taken with the H.E.S.S. system of imaging atmospheric Cherenkov telescopes. In this measurement, the first of this type, we are able to extend the measurement of the electron spectrum beyond the range accessible to direct measurements. We find evidence for a substantial steepening in the energy spectrum above 600 GeV compared to lower energies.





Over the month of November a series of experiments have reported evidences for the existence of a primary source of positrons: - New astrophysics? - New particle physics? Dark matter?

Paméla



Pamela lon Calo Another revolution? November revolution Over the m ments have reported primary HESS

11th November 1974



Discovery of a Narrow Resonance in e^+e^- Annihilation*

J.-E. Augustin, † A. M. Boyarski, M. Breidenbach, F. Bulos, J. T. Dakin, G. J. Feldman,

G. E. Fischer, D. Fryberger, G. Hanson, B. Jean-Marie, † R. R. Larsen, V. Lüth,

H. L. Lynch, D. Lyon, C. C. Morehouse, J. M. Paterson, M. L. Perl.

B. Richter, P. Rapidis, R. F. Schwitters, W. M. Tanenbaum,

and F. Vannucci‡

Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305

and

G. S. Abrams, D. Briggs, W. Chinowsky, C. E. Friedberg, G. Goldhaber, R. J. Hollebeek, J. A. Kadyk, B. Lulu, F. Pierre, § G. H. Trilling, J. S. Whitaker,

J. Wiss, and J. E. Zipse

Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory and Department of Physics, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720 (Received 13 November 1974)

We have observed a very sharp peak in the cross section for $e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$, e^+e^- , and possibly $\mu^+\mu^-$ at a center-of-mass energy of 3.105 ± 0.003 GeV. The upper limit to the full width at half-maximum is 1.3 MeV.

Experimental Observation of a Heavy Particle *J*⁺

J. J. Aubert, U. Becker, P. J. Biggs, J. Burger, M. Chen, G. Everhart, P. Goldhagen, J. Leong, T. McCorriston, T. G. Rhoades, M. Rohde, Samuel C. C. Ting, and Sau Lan Wu Laboratory for Nuclear Science and Department of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

and

Y. Y. Lee

Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York 11973 (Received 12 November 1974)

We report the observation of a heavy particle J, with mass m = 3.1 GeV and width approximately zero. The observation was made from the reaction $p + \text{Be} \rightarrow e^+ + e^- + x$ by measuring the e^+e^- mass spectrum with a precise pair spectrometer at the Brookhaven National Laboratory's 30-GeV alternating-gradient synchrotron.

The Nobel Prize in Physics 1976

"for their pioneering work in the discovery of a heavy elementary particle of a new kind"



Burton Richter



Samuel Chao Chung Ting



Pulsars <u>are</u> sources of high energy electrons & positrons

Atoyan, Aharonian, Völk; Chi, Cheng, Young; Grimani





B0656+14

Hooper, Blasi, Serpico

We know around 1800 pulsars in our Galaxy





The combined positron emission from all of them could also produce a sizable primary flux





- No fundamental objection to this possibility, provided $\tau_{\rm DM}$ >10¹⁷ s.
- Not as thoroughly studied as the case of the dark matter annihilation.

Possible reason: the most popular dark matter candidates are weakly interacting (can be detected in direct searches and can be produced in colliders). If the dark matter is a WIMP, absolute stability has to be normally imposed.






Supersymmetry

Requires a suppression of the coupling of at least 22 orders of magnitude!



Supersymmetry

Simplest solution: forbid the dangerous couplings altogether by imposing exact R-parity conservation. The lightest neutralino is absolutely stable WIMP dark matter is not the only possibility: the dark matter particle could also be <u>superweakly interacting</u>



Sketch of a <u>superWIMP</u> dark matter model:



SuperWIMPs are <u>naturally very long lived</u>. Their lifetimes can be larger than the age of the Universe, or perhaps a few orders of magnitude smaller.



Beyond the SM

It is enough a moderate suppression of the coupling to make the superWIMP a viable dark matter candidate. SuperWIMPs are <u>naturally very long lived</u>. Their lifetimes can be larger than the age of the Universe, or perhaps a few orders of magnitude smaller.



Beyond the SM

It is enough a moderate suppression of the coupling to make the superWIMP a viable dark matter candidate.

Eventually the dark matter decays!

Candidates of decaying dark matter

• Gravitinos in R-parity breaking vacua. Interactions doubly suppressed by the SUSY breaking scale and by the small R-parity violation.

Takayama, Yamaguchi; Buchmüller, et al.; AI, Tran; Ishiwata et al.

- Hidden sector gauge bosons/gauginos. Chen, Takahashi, Yanagida; Interactions suppressed by the small kinetic AI, Ringwald, Weniger; mixing between U(1)_{hid} and U(1)_y. AI, Ringwald, Weniger;
- Right-handed sneutrinos in scenarios with Dirac neutrino masses. Pospelov, Trott Interactions suppressed by the tiny Yukawa couplings.
- Hidden sector fermions. Arvanitaki et al.; Hamaguchi, Shirai, Yanagida Interactions suppressed by the GUT scale.
- Bound states of strongly interacting particles_{Hamaguchi} et al.; Interactions suppressed by the GUT scale. Nardi et al

Positron fraction from decaying dark matter: model independent analysis

AI, Tran



The injection spectrum of positrons depends just on two parameters: the dark matter mass and lifetime.

The positrons travel under the influence of the tangled magnetic field of the Galaxy and lose energy \rightarrow complicated propagation equation





Too flat to explain the steep rise in the spectrum observed by PAMELA





The PAMELA results on the positron fraction can be explained by the decay of a dark matter particle provided:

- Has a mass larger than ~300 GeV,
- Has a lifetime around 10²⁶ seconds,
- Decays preferentially into leptons of the first or second generation.

The decay of dark matter also predicts a flux of

- Antiprotons
- Gamma rays
- Neutrinos

Additional constraints to the scenario!

Antiproton flux from PAMELA



Expectations from spallation



Good agreement of the theory with the experiments: no need for a sizable contribution to the primary antiproton flux. Purely leptonic decays (*e.g.* $\psi \rightarrow e^+e^-\nu$) are favoured over decays into weak gauge bosons.

Antiproton flux from dark matter decay

Propagation mechanism more complicated than for the positrons. We neglect in our analysis reacceleration and tertiary contributions

The predicted flux suffers from huge uncertainties due to degeneracies in the determination of the propagation parameters



 $\Psi \rightarrow Z^0 \nu$



 $\psi {\rightarrow} W^{\pm} e^{\mp}$



Extragalactic gamma ray flux from EGRET



Hint for an exotic contribution in the extragalactic gamma ray flux











$$\psi{\rightarrow}\tau^{+}\tau^{-}\nu$$









$$\psi{\rightarrow}\tau^{+}\tau^{-}\nu$$

Better measurements will be available soon









Future observations in gamma rays will provide crucial tests to the scenario of decaying dark matter.

Gamma rays do not diffuse and point directly to the source!



Future observations in gamma rays will provide crucial tests to the scenario of decaying dark matter.

Gamma rays do not diffuse and point directly to the source!

It will be possible to distinguish between annihilating dark matter and decaying dark matter





From B. Moore

Future observations in gamma rays will provide crucial tests to the scenario of decaying dark matter.

Gamma rays do not diffuse and point directly to the source!

It will be possible to distinguish between annihilating dark matter and decaying dark matter



Moreover, the decaying dark matter scenario makes a very definite prediction of the angular map of gamma rays



Bertone et al.

Moreover, the decaying dark matter scenario makes a very definite prediction of the angular map of gamma rays



Bertone et al.

Summary of fermionic dark matter decay:

 $\Psi \rightarrow Z^0 \nu$ Not promising. Positron spectrum too flat.

 $\begin{array}{ll} \Psi \rightarrow W^{\pm} \ell^{\mp} & \\ W \rightarrow W^{\pm} \ell^{\mp} & \\ \text{Iarger than } \sim 300 \text{GeV. A signal at Fermi} \\ \text{is predicted!} \end{array}$

 $\psi \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^- \nu$ Promising if $\ell = e, \mu$, and the DM mass is larger than ~300GeV. No signal at Fermi.

Decaying gravitinos as dark matter candidate

Very well motivated scenario for decaying dark matter. Interesting with independence of the cosmic ray anomalies. (in fact, it was proposed before the results from PAMELA appeared) The gravitino is present in any theory with local SUSY. When the gravitino is the lightest supersymmetric particle, it constitutes a very interesting (and promising!) candidate for the dark matter of the Universe.

The relic abundance is calculable in terms of few parameters: $\Omega_{3/2}h^2 \simeq 0.27 \left(\frac{T_R}{10^{10} \,\text{GeV}}\right) \left(\frac{100 \,\text{GeV}}{m_{3/2}}\right) \left(\frac{m_{\tilde{g}}}{1 \,\text{TeV}}\right)^2 \begin{array}{c} \text{Bolz, Brandenburg, Buchmüller} \\ \text{Pradler, Steffen} \end{array}$

NICELY COMPATIBLE WITH LEPTOGENESIS! (T_R >10⁹ GeV) The ultimate goal is to construct a consistent thermal history of the Universe.

With strict R-parity conservation, there seems to be a conflict between these three paradigms:

- Supersymmetric dark matter
- Big Bang Nucleosynthesis
- Leptogenesis (T_R >10⁹ GeV)

The extremely weak interactions of the gravitino can be very problematic in the early Universe. If R-parity is conserved, the NLSP can only decay into gravitino and Standard Model particles, with a decay rate strongly suppressed by M_p .

$$\Gamma_{\rm NLSP} \simeq \frac{m_{\rm NLSP}^5}{48\pi m_{3/2}^2 M_P^2} \longrightarrow \text{Very long lifetimes}$$
If R-parity is conserved, the NLSP can only decay into gravitino and Standard Model particles, with a decay rate strongly suppressed by M_p .

$$\Gamma_{\rm NLSP} \simeq \frac{m_{\rm NLSP}^5}{48\pi m_{3/2}^2 M_P^2} \longrightarrow \text{Very long lifetimes}$$
The leptogenesis constraint (T_R >10⁹ GeV) requires for ravitino dark matter m_{3/2}>5 GeV. Then
$$\tau_{\rm NLSP} \simeq 2 \operatorname{days} \left(\frac{m_{3/2}}{5 \operatorname{ GeV}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{150 \operatorname{GeV}}{m_{\rm NLSP}}\right)^5$$

g

The NLSP is present during and after BBN. The successful predictions of the Standard BBN scenario could be jeopardized.

This is in fact the case for the most probable candidates for the NLSP!

- •Neutralino: hadro-dissociation of primordial elements.
- •Stau: formation of bound states with ⁴He, catalyzing the production of ⁷Li.

This is in fact the case for the most probable candidates for the NLSP!

•Neutralino: hadro-dissociation of primordial elements.

•Stau: formation of bound states with ⁴He, catalyzing the production of ⁷Li.

A simple solution to the problem: accept a small amount of R-parity violation. The NLSP decays into SM particles before the onset of BBN. This is in fact the case for the most probable candidates for the NLSP!

•Neutralino: hadro-dissociation of primordial elements.

•Stau: formation of bound states with ⁴He, catalyzing the production of ⁷Li.

A simple solution to the problem: accept a small amount of R-parity violation. The NLSP decays into SM particles before the onset of BBN.

With R-parity violation, the gravitino is no longer stable (e.g. $\psi_{3/2} \rightarrow v \gamma$) but still long lived. Takayama, Yamaguchi Moreover, the requirement of successful baryogenesis *implies* that the gravitino is long lived enough to be the dark matter. Buchmüller, Covi, Hamaguchi, AI, Yanagida



The energy spectrum of electrons and positrons from gravitino dark matter decay depends mainly on the gravitino mass and lifetime (with a milder dependence on other SUSY parameters)



Status <u>before</u> PAMELA AI, Tran, arXiv:07 Covi Grefe AI Tr

AI, Tran, arXiv:0709.4593, 0804.4596 Covi, Grefe, AI, Tran, arXiv:0809.5030



Status <u>after</u> PAMELA

Positron fraction from gravitino decay



Antiproton flux from gravitino decay



Diffuse gamma ray flux from gravitino decay



Signatures at the LHC

In the scenario of gravitino dark matter (without imposing R-parity) the next-to-lightest supersymmetric particle is predicted to have a lifetime larger than a nanosecond (short in cosmological scales, but long at collider).

If the stau is the NLSP, it decays $\tilde{\tau} \rightarrow e \nu_{\tau}$, $\tau \nu_{e}$ with identical branching ratios.

$$c\tau_{\tilde{\tau}}^{\text{lep}} \sim 15 \text{ cm} \left(\frac{m_{\tilde{\tau}}}{400 \text{GeV}}\right)^{-1} \left(\frac{\lambda_{313}}{10^{-8}}\right)^{-2}$$

Long heavily ionizing charged track, followed by an electron track or a jet. A very spectacular signal at colliders.

$$\tau_{3/2} \sim 10^{26} \mathrm{s} \left(\frac{m_{3/2}}{150 \mathrm{GeV}}\right)^{-3} \left(\frac{m_{\tilde{\tau}}}{400 \mathrm{GeV}}\right) \left(\frac{\tau_{\tilde{\tau}}}{10^{-8} \mathrm{s}}\right)$$

$$\tau_{3/2} \sim 10^{26} \mathrm{s} \left(\frac{m_{3/2}}{150 \mathrm{GeV}}\right)^{-3} \left(\frac{m_{\tilde{\tau}}}{400 \mathrm{GeV}}\right) \left(\frac{\tau_{\tilde{\tau}}}{10^{-8} \mathrm{s}}\right)$$



$$\tau_{3/2} \sim 10^{26} \mathrm{s} \left(\frac{m_{3/2}}{150 \mathrm{GeV}}\right)^{-3} \left(\frac{m_{\tilde{\tau}}}{400 \mathrm{GeV}}\right) \left(\frac{\tau_{\tilde{\tau}}}{10^{-8} \mathrm{s}}\right)$$



$$\tau_{3/2} \sim 10^{26} \mathrm{s} \left(\frac{m_{3/2}}{150 \mathrm{GeV}}\right)^{-3} \left(\frac{m_{\tilde{\tau}}}{400 \mathrm{GeV}}\right) \left(\frac{\tau_{\tilde{\tau}}}{10^{-8} \mathrm{s}}\right)$$



Conclusions

 Recent experiments have confirmed the existence of an excess of positrons at energies larger than ~7GeV.
 Evidence for a primary component: New astrophysics? New particle physics?

• Decaying dark matter could explain the positron excess observed by PAMELA provided the mass is larger than ~300 GeV, the lifetime is around 10^{26} s, and the particle decays preferentially into electrons or muons.

• Decaying gravitinos as dark matter are a particularly interesting possibility. They provide a consistent thermal history of the Universe and can explain the PAMELA anomaly.