Monte-Carlo based performance assessment of ASACUSA's antihydrogen detector

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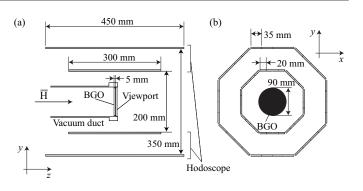
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<page-header>¹Departmento di Ingegneria dell'Informatione. Università in threscau DESCAURE (1990) **1 Oppopping Charles (1990) 1 Astraci**An antihydrogen detector consisting of a thin BGO disk and a surrounding plastic scintillator hodoscope has been developed. We have characterized the two-dimensional positions sensitivity of the thin BGO disk and energy deposition into the BGO was and energy deposition into the BGO was and energy deposition into the BGO or simulated antiporton events, and for measured and of the angles between the tracks and the energy deposition in the BGO for simulated antiporton events, and for measured and the BGO and the particle tracks. The cosmic ray background was limited to 12 mHz with a detection efficiency of 81 %. The signal-to-noise ratio was improved from 0.22 s^{-1/2} obtained with the detector in 2012 to 0.26 s^{-1/2} in this work. *Exponence 1. Introduction*Recently, antihydrogen (f) atoms have been produce (1) fin fight hypering particle tracks. The cosmic ray background was limited to 12 mHz with a detection efficiency of 81 %. The seen ratio was improved from 0.22 s^{-1/2} obtained with the detector in 2012 to 0.26 s^{-1/2} in this work. *Exponence 1. Introduction*Recently, antihydrogen (f) atoms have been produce (1) fin fictor of the detector on site is reported in [8, 9, 10]. In 2012, the ASACUS are tracks. The cosmic have been produce (1) fin fictor of the Hartestor atoms to the serie deposition in the BGO atime detector in the BGO atom the serie was able to reject cosmic backgrounds with a sing fais fictors (PMT) has been replaced by a multi-anode PMT has been replaced by a multi-anode PMT has been replaced by a wuelayer hodoscope materiate. *Determine Determine Determine*



ness of 5 mm and is housed on the vacuum side (10^{-7} Pa) of a UHV viewport. The front surface of the BGO disk was coated with a carbon layer of thickness 0.7 μ m to reduce multireflections of the light from scintillation on the surface. It was found that the carbon coating improved the position resolution by a factor of ~ 2 in our previous device [13]. To achieve a position sensitive readout, 4 MAPMTs (Hamamatsu H8500C) each having 8×8 anodes with effective area of 49 mm \times 49 mm

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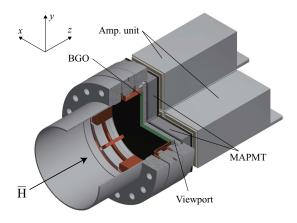


Figure 2: Three quarter section view of the 2D sensitive BGO detector.

were directly placed on the view port glass as shown in Fig. 2. The output of 8×8 anodes were amplified, digitized and stored by an amplifier unit (Clear Pulse 80190) which was a dedicated model for the H8500C and included 8×8 charge amplifiers and analogue-to-digital converters with 12 bit resolution.

The hodoscope consists of two layers of 32 plastic scintillator bars arranged in an octagonal configuration [12]. The scintillator bars are 300 mm × 20 mm × 5 mm for the inner layer and 450 mm × 35 mm × 5 mm for the outer. With face to face distances of 200 mm and 300 mm respectively for the inner and outer layers (see Fig. 1(a)). The solid angle covered by the scintillator bars in units of 4π seen from the center of the BGO is $\omega \sim 80 \%$. Silicon photomultipliers (SiPM, KETEK PM3350TS) were connected to both ends of each bar. The output pulses from the SiPMs was amplified by dedicated front end modules described in detail elsewhere (see ref [14]) and recorded by 128 channels waveform digitizers (CAEN V1742).

3. 2D distribution of cosmic rays

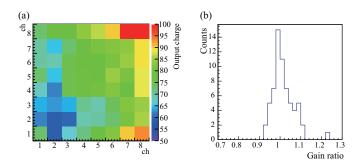


Figure 3: (a) Example of a 2D map of averaged output charges of one of the 4 MAPMTs investigated by LED light. (b) Distribution of the gain ratio between the measured values and the data sheet values for each channel.

To obtain the relative sensitivity of each channel, 4 MAPMTs were assembled and irradiated by pulsed (200 ns width) light from a LED with the peak wavelength of 470 nm (see also Ref. [13]), the peak emission wavelength of the BGO scintillation light was 480 nm. The voltages applied to the MAPMTs were

adjusted such that the total output charge of each MAPMT were equal.

Figure 3 (a) shows an example of a 2D map of output charges from one of the 4 MAPMTs averaged over 10^4 pulses of LED light. The channel with the maximum output charge is arbitrarily set to 100 and all other channels are scaled accordingly. The relative gain of the channels of each MAPMT are evaluated using this mapping. This result was compared with the data sheet from the manufacturer where a tungsten filament lamp was used for calibration. By taking the ratio between the measured values and those from the data sheet for each anode, the distribution of the gain ratio as shown in Fig. 3 (b) was obtained. The standard deviation of this distribution is around 5%.

Figures 4 (a) and (b) show the 2D charge distribution for two example cosmic rays events after offline gain matching of the individual MAPMT channels described above. In these examples, the BGO surface has been penetrated nearly perpendicular (a) or parallel (b). These figures demonstrate that position sensitive readout has been successfully implemented using 2D MAPMTs.

In order to reconstruct particle tracks (to be discussed in detail later), we define the position of a hit on the BGO as the center of the anode giving the highest output charge. When the hit positions observed in the 2D distribution are outside of the BGO, such events are removed in the analysis because they are probably Čerenkov light generated in the glasses of the MAPMT or the viewport when high energy charged particles pass through them. The total charge Q is obtained by summing the charges from all channels (see Figs. 4 (a) and (b)).

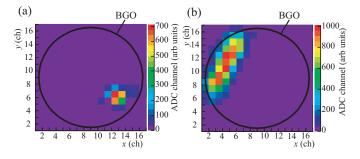


Figure 4: Examples of 2D charge distributions of cosmic rays events where the BGO surface has been penetrated nearly perpendicular (a) or parallel (b).

4. Energy calibration of the BGO detector

For the energy calibration, cosmic rays were measured and the charge distribution f(Q) was compared with the energy deposition distribution g(E) calculated by a Monte-Carlo simulation using the GEANT4 toolkit⁵ [15]. Blue solid circles in Fig. 5 show f(Q) for cosmic rays events when more than 2 inner hodoscope bars are hit in any coincident combination. A bar is considered to be 'hit' when there is a coincidence between the signals of the upstream and downstream SiPMs connected to the bar.

⁵Geant4.9.6 Patch-02 was used.

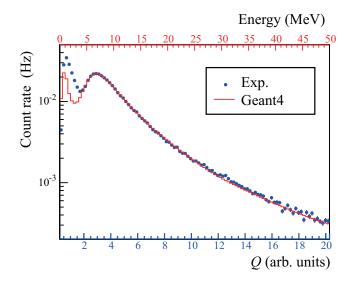


Figure 5: The blue solid circles show the total measured output charge of cosmic ray events. The red line show the simulated energy deposition distributions. The integral of events with $E \ge 50$ MeV was 3 % of those with $E \ge 4.5$ MeV.

The simulation includes, the BGO detector together with the viewport and the vacuum duct. Cosmic rays are generated by the CRY package [16], however, Čerenkov light is not taken included. g(E) is convoluted with the energy resolution which is assumed to be proportional to \sqrt{E} [17], i.e.,

$$G(E) = \int g(E') \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(\alpha \sqrt{E'})^2}} e^{-(E-E')^2/2(\alpha \sqrt{E'})^2} dE'$$

where α is a fitting parameter. To compare f(Q) and G(E), the relation $E = \eta Q + E_c$ is assumed, where η and E_c are fitting parameters. E_c corresponds to the contribution of Čerenkov light generated in the BGO and the glass. G(E) is fit to f(Q) using a least square method in the energy range from 4.5 to 50 MeV with 3 free parameters α , η and E_c . The result is shown by the red line in Fig. 5. The goodness of fit is given by $\chi^2/ndf = 1.65$ for $\alpha = 0.52 \sqrt{MeV}$, $\eta = 2.5$ in units proportional to charge over energy and $E_c = 0.50$ MeV.

The cosmic ray flux distribution is known to follow $\cos^2 \theta_z$, where θ_z is the zenith angle. In this case, the average path length of cosmic rays in the BGO is evaluated to be approximately 8 mm. Considering that the energy deposited by a minimum ionizing particle (MIP) in the BGO is 9.0 MeV/cm [18], the peak at around 7 MeV in Fig. 5 is attributed to MIPs. As explained below (see subsection 5.3), only events for $E > E_{th} = 15$ MeV are considered in the following sections.

5. Identification of H atoms and cosmic ray suppression

Figure 6 shows a simplified back view of the \overline{H} detector where the signals from the 4 MAPMTs (shown in the square in the center) and the hodoscope bars (the outermost octagonal arrangement) for a typical cosmic event in the experiment are overlaid.

In this example, a spot like pattern is seen on the BGO. Green-colored hodoscope bars are simultaneously hit by the cosmic ray. The red shaded area in the upper left side shows the possible spatial range of the trajectory of the charged particle.

As a best guess, the bisector of the shaded area is taken to define a track which is shown by the thick black line. In the lower right side, 2 neighboring hodoscope bars are hit, in this case, the red shaded area is defined from the edges of the neighboring hodoscope bars and the BGO hit position. The particle track is also defined by a bisector of the shaded area. In this example, the number of tracks is k = 2.

Solid and dashed lines in Fig. 7 show the exprimental and simulated results of cosmic ray count rate n_k^c as a function of k. The highest n_k^c is observed for k = 2 and decreases by more than one order of magnitude for each additional unit of k. The track number analysis for simulations of antiprotons (\bar{p}) irradiating the BGO disk uniformly with the typical count rate of the \bar{H} atoms in the experiment $I_{\bar{p}} = 0.1$ Hz results in the chain curve $(n_k^{\bar{p}})$.

In this simulation, the CHIPS model was used in Geant4 for \bar{p} annihilation. This model was previously tested with respect to the energy deposition analysis for \bar{H} annihilation in the BGO [1, 11]. The multiplicity of annihilation products from \bar{p} annihilation was studied using an emulsion detector and agreed with CHIPS results except for annihilation with heavy atoms ⁶ [19].

The distribution of the chain curve line shows a maximum again, but it decreases weakly as a function of k. When a \bar{p} annihilates with a nucleus, approximately 3 charged and 2 neutral pions are produced on average [20]. Taking into account the charged pions and the solid angle ω covered by the hodoscope, $n_2^{\bar{p}}$ is estimated to be $3\omega^2(1-\omega)I_{\bar{p}} \sim 0.04$ Hz which can be compared to $n_2^{\bar{p}} \sim 0.03$ Hz in Fig. 7.

As will be discussed in subsection 5.4, n_k^c can be decreased considerably from the dashed line and is around 5×10^{-3} Hz as shown by the open circles in Fig. 7 for k = 1, 2 and 3.

Alternatively, $n_k^{\bar{p}}$ does not decrease very much as seen from the open triangles. In these cases, n_k^c is well below $n_k^{\bar{p}}$. Further to this, n_4^c is more than one order of magnitude lower than the open circles and is negligibly small. Therefore we can assume that events for $k \ge 4$ can be reasonably attributed to \bar{p} annihilation. In the following subsections, the events for k = 2, k = 3and then k = 1 are considered.

5.1. *Events for* k = 2

To analyze 2-track events, the track direction is defined by the angle measured anticlockwise from a horizontal line on the x - y plane as shown in Fig. 8. The tracks are numbered in ascending ordered with increasing angle. The corresponding angles of the 1st and the 2nd tracks are named θ_1 and θ_2 ($\theta_1 < \theta_2$), respectively. Further we define $\theta_{12} = \theta_2 - \theta_1$.

Figures 9 (a) and (b) compare the 2D distribution of cosmic events as a function of θ_1 and θ_{12} as obtained from experiment and simulation, respectively.

⁶ It is noted that there are no systematic studies of both multiplicity of annihilation products, and their energy deposition for \bar{p} annihilation at rest. To investigate this, fragmentation studies of antiproton-nucleus annihilation are being performed using a Timepix3 detector within ASACUSA collaboration.

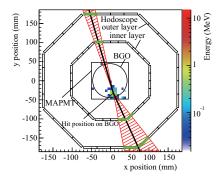


Figure 6: Example of a cosmic ray event with k = 2 tracks. The circle surrounded by the square in the center show the BGO disk and the total area covered by the 4 MAPMTs, respectively. The external octagonal configuration show the inner and outer hodoscope layers.

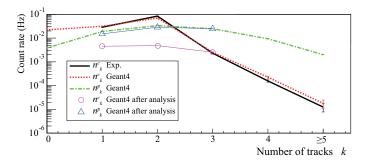


Figure 7: Solid and dashed lines show experimental and simulated results of cosmic ray count rate n_k^c as a function of k, respectively. The chain curve shows the simulation result of the annihilation count rate $n_k^{\bar{p}}$ when $\bar{p}s$ irradiate the BGO disk uniformly with a rate of $I_{\bar{p}} = 0.1$ Hz. Only events depositing more than 15 MeV in the BGO were considered for both cosmics and $\bar{p}s$ in the simulated and experimental data. The open circles and triangles show the simulated data of n_k^c and $n_k^{\bar{p}}$ for k = 1-3 obtained from the analysis described in the subsection 5.4, respectively.

It can be seen that the simulation result reproduces the experimental result well. A strong ridge is observed at $\theta_{12} \sim 180$ degrees which corresponds to cosmic rays passing straight through the detector. On the other hand, in θ_1 direction, the distribution spread widely, centered at 90 degrees, which reflects the cosmic ray flux following a $\cos \theta_{\tau}^2$ distribution.

Figure 10 (a) shows the result of simulation of the 2D distribution of $n_2^{\bar{p}}$ as a function of θ_1 and θ_{12} . The distribution is very broad, as is expected from \bar{p} annihilations at low energy.

The n_2^c background can be decreased by removing events inside an ellipse defined by semi-minor axis $\Delta \theta_2$ and semi-major axis of 90 degrees in θ_{12} and θ_1 , respectively (see Fig. 9). For example, the n_2^c background is reduced by one order of magnitude for $\Delta \theta_2 = 10$ degrees. Using the same cut, only about 10 % of the $\bar{p}s$ are removed because of the different distributions of Fig. 9 and Fig. 10.

It is noted that in both Figs. 9 (a) and (b), we observe an additional small peak at $\theta_1 \sim 270$ degrees and $\theta_{12} \sim 40$ degrees. Investigating the corresponding events in the simulation, it was found that energetic γ rays in the BGO produce electron-positron pairs and form this peak. The fraction of these events is 1% of the total events in Fig. 9 (a) and (b).

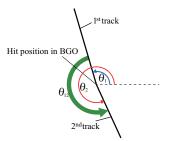


Figure 8: Definitions of θ_1 , θ_2 and θ_{12} .

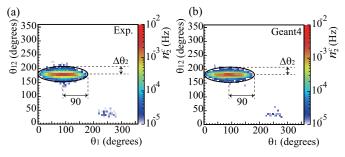


Figure 9: (a) Experimental result of the 2D distribution of n_2^c as a function of θ_1 and θ_{12} . (b) Simulation result of n_2^c as a function of θ_1 and θ_{12} . In both figures, $E_{th} = 15$ MeV. The bin widths are 6 degrees on both axes. The ellipse is defined by semi-minor axis $\Delta \theta_2$ and semi-major axis of 90 degrees in θ_{12} and θ_1 , respectively, and is used for background suppression.

In comparison, although the distribution of n_2^p in Fig. 10 (a) is very broad, it has a peak at $\theta_{12} \sim 180$ degrees as shown in Fig. 10 (b) which is the projection of (a) onto the θ_{12} axis.

The preference at 180 degrees can be explained if we consider a specific type of event, one with three charged pions. When two charged pions hit the hodoscope, with the third pion escaping in a direction close to the beam axis, momentum conservation will favour θ_{12} around 180 degrees.

5.2. *Events for* k = 3

The track directions for k = 3 are defined in the same manner in the case of k = 2. Because 3 tracks are involved, there are 3 ways to choose track pairs, which can then be described in an equivalent manner to 2-track events as shown in Figs. 11 (a)-(c).

Figures 12 (a) and (b) show the experimental and simulated results of the 2D distributions of n_3^c , obtained by summing 3 distributions of θ_{12} vs. θ_1 , θ_{13} vs. θ_1 and θ_{23} vs. θ_2 , i.e. every event is represented by 3 points corresponding to Figs. 11 (a)-(c) on the plot to conveniently summarize them. The simulation reproduces the experiment very well.

A peak at $\theta_{ij} \sim 180$ degrees is observed, which is broader than the peak in Fig. 9 (a) and (b). By investigating the corresponding events in the simulation, it was found that a cosmic ray from above generates recoil electrons emitted downward in the BGO which forms the broad peak (see Fig. 11 (a) and (b)). Another peak is seen at $\theta_i \sim 270$ degrees which is formed by the recoil electron together with the incident cosmic ray (see Fig. 11 (c)).

Figure 13 shows the simulation result of $n_3^{\bar{p}}$ as per Figs. 12 (a) and (b) for n_3^c . The event distribution is much broader than

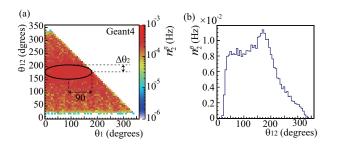


Figure 10: (a) Experimental result of 2D distribution of $n_2^{\bar{p}}$ as a function of θ_1 and θ_{12} with $E_{th} = 15$ MeV. The bin widths are 6 degrees on both axes. (b) Projection of (a) onto θ_{12} axis. The ellipse is defined like in Fig. 9.

k = 2.

Equivalently to the case of k = 2, the cosmic ray events are expected to be reduced by removing events inside the ellipse (see Fig. 12) defined by semi-minor axis $\Delta\theta_3$ and semi-major axis of 90 degrees in θ_{ij} and θ_i , respectively. Whilst simultaneously not decreasing $n_3^{\bar{p}}$. It is noted that the peak at $\theta_i \sim 270$ degrees in Figs. 12 (a) and (b) is not present when the events inside the ellipse are removed.

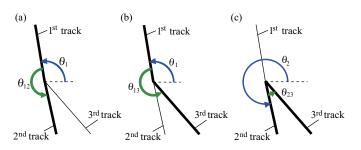


Figure 11: Combinations of 2 out of 3 tracks. Angles θ_1 , θ_2 , θ_{12} , θ_{13} and θ_{23} are defined.

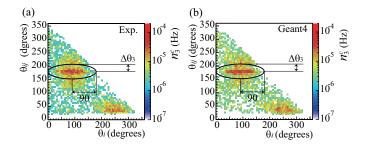


Figure 12: (a) Experimental results of n_3^c obtained by summing 3 distributions of θ_{12} vs. θ_1 , θ_{13} vs. θ_1 and θ_{23} vs. θ_2 . (b) Simulation result of the same distributions as in (a). In both figures, $E_{th} = 15$ MeV. The bin widths are 6 degrees on both axes. The ellipse is defined by semi-minor axis $\Delta \theta_3$ and semi-major axis of 90 degrees in θ_{ij} and θ_i , respectively, and is used for background suppression.

5.3. Signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) for $k \ge 2$

The total rate of cosmic events after the data cut was obtained by taking the sum of n_k^c for k and is defined by $N_i^c = \sum_{k \ge i} n_k^c$. Figures 14 (a) and (b) show the experimental and simulated results of the 2D distributions of N_2^c , respectively, as a function of $\Delta \theta_2$ and $\Delta \theta_3$.

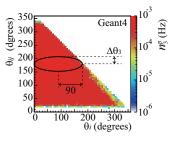


Figure 13: Result from simulations of $n_3^{\bar{p}}$ obtained by summing 3 distributions of θ_{12} vs. θ_1 , θ_{13} vs. θ_1 and θ_{23} vs. θ_2 with $E_{th} = 15$ MeV. The bin widths are 6 degrees on both axes. The ellipse is defined as in Fig. 12.

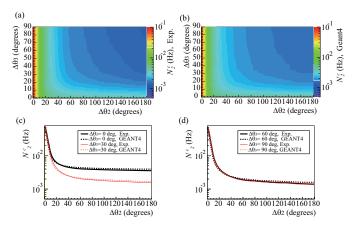


Figure 14: (a) Experimental result of the 2D distribution of N_2^c as a function of $\Delta \theta_2$ and $\Delta \theta_3$. (b) Corresponding simulation result for N_2^c . The bin widths in Figs. (a) and (b) are 1 degree on both axes. (c) and (d) Experimental and simulated results of N_2^c as a function of $\Delta \theta_2$ for $\Delta \theta_3 = 0$, 30, 60 and 90 degrees. In these figures, $E_{th} = 15$ MeV.

The simulations reproduce the experimental data well. To evaluate the difference between the data and the simulation quantitatively, Figs 14 (c) and (d) show experimental and simulated results of N_2^c as a function of $\Delta \theta_2$ for $\Delta \theta_3 = 0$, 30, 60 and 90 degrees. The difference between the experimental and simulated results is less than 10%. In the later discussion, we analyze the simulation data.

Figure 15 (a) shows the simulation result of the detection efficiency of $\bar{p}s \epsilon_2$ defined by $\epsilon_i = N_i^{\bar{p}}/I_{\bar{p}}$ as a function of $\Delta\theta_2$ and $\Delta\theta_3$, where $N_i^{\bar{p}} = \Sigma_{k\geq i}n_k^{\bar{p}}$. It is shown that ϵ_2 decreases as $\Delta\theta_2$ and $\Delta\theta_3$ increase. We define the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) by $x_i = \frac{N_i^{\bar{p}}}{\sqrt{N_i^{\bar{p}} + N_i^c}}$. Figure 15 (b) shows the 2D distribution of x_2 as a function of $\Delta\theta_2$ and $\Delta\theta_3$. The maximum x_2 is 0.24 s^{-1/2} at $\Delta\theta_2 = 16$ degrees and $\Delta\theta_3 = 0$ degrees with $N_2^c = 6.9$ mHz and $\epsilon_2 = 65$ %. As is seen in Fig. 15 (b), to maximize $x_2, \Delta\theta_3$ should be 0 for all values $\Delta\theta_2$. This suggests that all events of $n_3^{\bar{p}}$ can be identified as $\bar{p}s$. It is noted that this fact and the optimization of the SNR depend on $I_{\bar{p}}$.

Figure 16 shows x_2 as a function of E_{th} , x_2 has a maximum at $E_{th} = 15$ MeV, but varying only within 1 % in the range of 5 MeV < E_{th} < 20 MeV. Therefore E_{th} is not critical to the

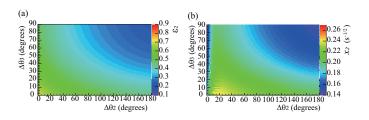


Figure 15: (a) The simulation result of 2D distribution of ϵ_2 as a function of $\Delta \theta_2$ and $\Delta \theta_3$. (b) The simulation result of x_2 as a function of $\Delta \theta_2$ and $\Delta \theta_3$. In these figures, $E_{th} = 15$ MeV. The bin widths are 1 degree on both axes.

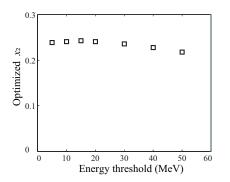


Figure 16: x_2 as a function of E_{th} , where x_2 is optimized for each E_{th} using the procedure described in Section 5.3.

optimization of x_2 in this range.

5.4. Events for k = 1 and SNR

Figure 17 (a) shows the 2D distribution of n_1^c as a function of the deposition energy in the BGO *E* and θ_1 . We observe a ridge at $E \sim 7$ MeV which corresponds to the MIP peak. In the θ_1 direction, the distribution spreads widely with a center at 90 and 270 degrees and its shape is attributed to the cosmic ray flux distribution of $\cos \theta_z^2$. The shape of the ridge appears to be an ellipse. However, the tail of the ridge seems to be more a triangular. Figure 17 (b) shows the 2D distribution of $n_1^{\tilde{p}}$ as a function of *E* and θ_1 . The distribution is very broad. n_1^c is expected to be reduced by removing events inside the triangle defined by ΔE and the base of 180 degrees as is seen in Fig. 17.

Figures 18 (a) and (b) show the 2D distributions of N_1^c and ϵ_1 ($k \ge 1$), respectively, as a function of $\Delta \theta_2$ and ΔE . It is seen that N_1^c and ϵ_1 decrease gradually as $\Delta \theta_2$ and ΔE increase. Figure 18 (c) shows x_1 as a function of $\Delta \theta_2$ and ΔE . The maximum of x_1 reached 0.26 s^{-1/2} at $\Delta \theta_2 = 14$ degrees and $\Delta E = 93$ MeV with $N_1^c = 12$ mHz and $\epsilon_1 = 81$ %. This is larger than the maximum value of x_2 , therefore, the analysis including the events for k = 1 improves the SNR. Comparing with the \bar{H} detector developed in 2012 with x = 0.22 s^{-1/2} with the cosmic count rate of 4 mHz and the detection efficiency of 50 % for $I_{\bar{p}} = 0.1$ Hz, the detector described in this work improves upon the SNR and the detection efficiency.

6. Conclusion

We have developed a \tilde{H} detector consisting of a thin BGO disk and a hodoscope. We have measured hit positions of cos-

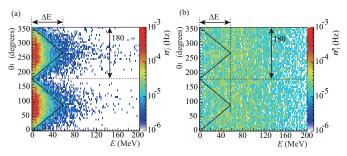


Figure 17: (a) Simulation result of the 2D distribution of n_1^c as a function of *E* and θ_1 . (b) Simulation result of the 2D distribution of $n_1^{\bar{p}}$ as a function of *E* and θ_1 . The bin widths in horizontal and vertical axes are 1 MeV and 6 degrees, respectively.

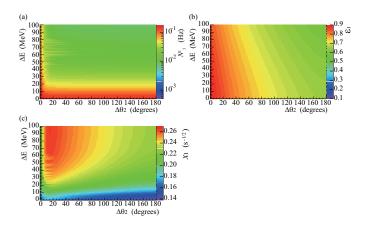


Figure 18: (a) Simulation result of 2D distributions of N_1^c as a function of $\Delta \theta_2$ and ΔE . (b) ϵ_1 as a function of $\Delta \theta_2$ and ΔE . (c) x_1 as a function of $\Delta \theta_2$ and ΔE . In these figures, E_{th} for $k \ge 2$ is 15 MeV. The bin widths are 1 degree on both axes.

mic rays in the BGO disk and confirmed that the thin disk with a 2D readout by MAPMTs enables position sensitivity. The energy deposition in the BGO was calibrated by comparing cosmic ray data with Geant4 simulations. Charged particle tracks were determined by connecting the hit position on the BGO and hits on hodoscope bars. By removing the cosmic rays passing through the detector using the cut on ΔE , $\Delta \theta_2$ and E_{th} , the background was reduced efficiently to $N_1^c = 12$ mHz with a detection efficiency of $\epsilon_1 = 81$ %. The SNR was improved to $x_1 = 0.26 \text{ s}^{-1/2}$ which was compared to $0.22 \text{ s}^{-1/2}$ for the detector used in 2012.

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