Extended Glauber Model of Antiproton-Nucleus Annihilation for All Energies and Mass Numbers

Teck-Ghee Lee$^1$ and Cheuk-Yin Wong$^2$

$^1$Department of Physics, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849, U.S.A. and $^2$Physics Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN 37831, U.S.A.

Previous analytical formulas in the Glauber model for high-energy nucleus-nucleus collisions developed by Wong are utilized and extended to study antiproton-nucleus annihilations for both high and low energies, after taking into account the effects of Coulomb and nuclear interactions, and the change of the antiproton momentum inside a nucleus. The extended analytical formulas capture the main features of the experimental antiproton-nucleus annihilation cross sections for all energies and mass numbers. At high antiproton energies, they exhibit the granular property for the lightest nuclei and the black-disk limit for the heavy nuclei. At low antiproton energies, they display the effect of antiproton momentum increase due to the nuclear interaction for light nuclei, and the effect of magnification due to the attractive Coulomb interaction for heavy nuclei.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Recently, there has been interest in the interaction of antimatter with matter, as it is central to our understanding of the basic structure of matter and the matter-antimatter asymmetry in the Universe. On the one hand, the land-based Facility for Antiprotons and Ions Research (FAIR) at Darmstadt$^{[1,2]}$ and the Antiproton Decelerator (AD) at CERN$^{[3]}$ have been designed to probe the interaction of antiprotons with matter at various energies and environments. The orbiting Payload for Antimatter Matter Exploration and Light-Nuclei Astrophysics (PAMELA)$^{[4]}$ and the Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer (AMS)$^{[5]}$ measure the intensity of antimatter in outer space. They have provided interesting hints on the presence of extra-terrestrial antimatter sources in the Universe. In support of these facilities for antimatter investigations, it is of interest to examine here the antiproton-nucleus annihilation cross sections that represent an important aspect of the interaction between antimatter and matter.

To date, significant experimental and theoretical efforts have been put forth to understand the process of annihilation between $\bar{p}$ and various nuclei across the periodic table from low energy to high energies. On the experimental side, annihilation cross sections for $\bar{p}A$ collisions, $\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\bar{p}A}$, have been measured at the Low-Energy Antiproton Ring (LEAR) at CERN$^{[6]-[21]}$ and compiled in Ref.$^{[3]}$ and at the Detector of Annihilations (DOA) at Dubna$^{[22]}$. A surprising difference in the behavior at high and low energies has been detected. In light nuclei (H, $^2$H and $^4$He), the $\bar{p}A$ annihilation cross sections at $\bar{p}$ momenta below 60 MeV/c have comparable values, whereas at momenta greater than 500 MeV/c the $\bar{p}$-nucleus annihilation cross sections increases approximately linearly with the mass number $A$ for the lightest nuclei$^{[2,3]}$. On the other hand, for collisions with heavy nuclei at low energies, the annihilation cross section exhibits large enhancements that are much greater than what one would expect just from the geometrical radii alone$^{[3]}$.

On the theoretical side, a theoretical optical potential based on the Glauber model$^{[23,24]}$ has been developed by Kuzichev, Lepikhin and Smirnitsky to investigate the antiproton annihilation cross sections on Be, C, Al, Fe, Cu, Cd, and Pb nuclei in the momentum range 0.70-2.50 GeV/c$^{[25]}$. In this range of relatively high antiproton momenta, the Glauber model gives a good agreement with the experimental data, with the exception of the deviations at the momentum of 0.7 GeV/c for heavy nuclei. Their study suggested that the $A$ dependence of the annihilation cross sections is influenced by Coulomb interaction at low momenta. In another analysis, Batty, Friedman, and Gal have developed a unified optical potential approach for low-energy $\bar{p}$ interactions with protons and with various nuclei$^{[23,26]}$. Starting with a simple optical potential $\hat{v}$ determined by comparison with $\bar{p}$-p experimental data, a density-folded optical potential $V_{\text{opt}} = \hat{v} \rho$ was formulated for the collision of the $\bar{p}$-nucleus system. They found that even though the density-folding potential reproduces satisfactorily the $\bar{p}$ atomic level shifts and widths across the periodic table for $A>10$ and the few annihilation cross sections measured on Ne, it does not work well for He and Li. They attributed this discrepancy to the spin and the isospin averaging and the approximations made in the constructions of the optical potentials. An extended black-disk strong-absorption model has also been considered to account for the Coulomb focusing effect for low-energy $\bar{p}$ interactions with nuclei and a fair agreement with the measured annihilation cross sections was achieved$^{[26]}$.

There are many puzzling features of the $\bar{p}A$ annihilation cross sections that are not yet well understood. With respect to the mass dependence, why at high antiproton incident momenta do the cross sections increase almost linearly with the mass number $A$ for the lightest nuclei, but with approximately $A^{2/3}$ as the mass number increases? Why in the low antiproton momentum region do the annihilation cross sections not rise with $A$ as antic-
ipated but are comparable for $p$, $^2\text{H}$, and $\text{He}$, and become subsequently greatly enhanced as $A$ increases further into the heavy nuclei region? With respect to the energy dependence, how does one understand the energy dependence of the $\bar{p}A$ annihilation cross sections and the relationship between the energy dependence of the $pp$ cross sections and the $\bar{p}A$ cross sections? In what roles do the residual nuclear interaction and the long-range Coulomb interaction interplay in the cross sections as a function of charge numbers and antiproton momenta? We would like to design a model in which these puzzles can be brought up for a close examination.

In order to be able to describe the collision with all nuclei, including deuterum, it is clear that the model needs to be microscopic, with the target nucleon number $A$ appearing as an important discrete degree of freedom. Furthermore, with the conservation of the baryon number, an antiproton projectile can only annihilate with a single target nucleon. The annihilation process occurs between the projectile antiproton and a target nucleon locally within a short transverse range along the antiproton trajectory. This process of annihilation occurring in a short range along the antiproton trajectory is similar in character to the high-energy $pA$ reaction process in which the incident projectile $p$ interacts with target nucleons along its trajectory. In the case of high energy collisions, the trajectory of the incident projectile can be assumed to be along a straight line, and the reaction process can be properly described by the Glauber multiple collision model [22, 23, 27, 28].

Previously, analytical formulas for high-energy nucleon-nucleus and nucleus-nucleus collisions in the Glauber multiple collision model have been developed by Wong for the reaction cross section in $pA$ collisions as a function of the basic nucleon-nucleon cross section [27, 28]. The analytical formula involves a discrete sum of probabilities whose number of terms depend on the number of target nucleons as a discrete degree of freedom. They give the result that the $pA$ reaction cross section is proportional to $A$ for small $A$, and approaches the black-disk limit of $A^{2/3}$ for large $A$, similar to the mass-dependent feature of the $\bar{p}A$ annihilation cross sections at high energies mentioned earlier. Hence, it is reasonable to utilize these analytical formulas and concepts in the Glauber multiple collision model [28] to provide a description of the annihilation process in $pA$ reactions.

As the analytical results in the Glauber model [27, 28] pertain to high-energy nucleon-nucleus collisions with a straight-line trajectory, the model must be extended and amended to make them applicable to low-energy $\bar{p}$-nucleus annihilations. The incident antiproton is subject to the initial-state Coulomb interaction [22, 23]. The antiproton trajectory deviates from a straight line in low-energy collisions. Before the antiproton comes into contact with the nucleus, the antiproton trajectory is pulled towards the target nucleus, resulting in a magnifying lens effect (or alternatively a Coulomb focusing effect [22, 26]) that enhances greatly the annihilation cross section. Furthermore, the antiproton is subject to the nuclear interaction that changes the antiproton momentum in the interior of the nucleus. The change of antiproton momentum is especially important in low energy annihilations of light nuclei because of the strong momentum dependence of the basic $pp$ annihilation cross section. It is necessary to modify the analytical formulas to take into account these effects so that they can be applied to $\bar{p}$-nucleus annihilations for all energies and mass numbers. Success in constructing such an extended model will allow us to resolve the puzzles we have just mentioned.

This paper is organized as follows. In Sec. II, we review and summarize previous results in the Glauber model for high-energy nucleon-nucleus collisions, to pave the way for its application to $\bar{p}$-nucleus collisions. Analytical formulas are written out for the $\bar{p}$-nucleus annihilation cross sections in terms of basic $\bar{p}$-nucleon annihilation cross section, $\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\bar{p}-\text{nucleon}}$. We use the quark model to relate $\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\bar{p}-\text{nucleon}}$ to $\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\bar{p}p}$ so that it suffices to use only $\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\bar{p}p}$ to evaluate the $\bar{p}$-nucleus cross section. In Sec. III, we represent the basic $\bar{p}p$ annihilation cross section by a $1/v$ law. In Sec. IV, we extend the Glauber model to study antiproton-nucleus annihilations at both high and low energies, after taking into account the effects of Coulomb and nuclear interactions, and the change of the antiproton momentum inside a nucleus. In Sec. V, we compare the results of the analytical formulas in the extended Glauber model to experimental data. We find that these analytical formulas capture the main features of the experimental antiproton-nucleus annihilation cross sections for all energies and mass numbers. Finally, we conclude the present study with some discussions in Sec. VI.

II. GLAUBER MODEL FOR $\bar{p}$-NUCLEUS ANNIHILATION AT HIGH ENERGIES

We shall first briefly review and summarize the analytical formulas in the Glauber multiple collision model [27, 28] for its application to $\bar{p}$-nucleus annihilations at high energies. The Glauber model assumes that the incident antiproton travels along a straight line at a high energy and makes multiple collisions with target nucleons along its way. The target nucleus can be represented by a density distribution. The integral of the density distribution along the antiproton trajectory gives the thickness function which, in conjunction with the basic antiproton-nucleon annihilation cross section $\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\bar{p}p}$, determines the probability for an antiproton-nucleon annihilation and consequently the $\bar{p}$-nucleus annihilation cross section [23, 24, 27, 28].

To be specific, we consider a target nucleus $A$ with a thickness function $T_A(b_A)$ and mass number $A$, and a projectile antiproton with a thickness function $T_B(b_B)$ and a mass number $B=1$. The integral of all thickness functions are normalized to unity. For simplicity, we shall
initially not distinguish between the annihilation of a proton or a neutron. Refinement to allow for different annihilation cross sections will be generalized at the end of this section.

According to Eq. (12.8) of [28], in general, the thickness function \( T(b) \) for the annihilation between the projectile antiproton \( B \) and a nucleon in the target nucleus \( A \) at high energies along a straight-line trajectory at the transverse coordinate \( b \) is given by

\[
T(b) = \int db_A \int db_B T_A(b_A) T_B(b_B) t_{\text{ann}}(b - b_A + b_B),
\]

where \( t_{\text{ann}}(b - b_A + b_B) \) is the annihilation thickness function, specifying the probability distribution at the relative transverse coordinate \( b - b_A + b_B \) for the annihilation of a target nucleon at \( b_A \) with an antiproton at \( b_B \).

The thickness function \( t_{\text{ann}}(b) \) for \( \bar{p}p \) annihilation at \( b \) can be represented by a Gaussian with a standard deviation \( \beta_{\bar{p}p} \),

\[
t_{\text{ann}}(b) = \frac{1}{2\pi \beta_{\bar{p}p}^2} \exp\left\{ -\frac{b^2}{2\beta_{\bar{p}p}^2} \right\}.
\]

The cross section for a \( \bar{p}p \) annihilation is then given by

\[
\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}} = \int db (\pi b^2) t_{\text{ann}}(b) = 2\pi \beta_{\bar{p}p}^2,
\]

where \( db = 2\pi db \). Therefore, the standard deviation \( \beta_{\bar{p}p} \) in the \( \bar{p}p \) annihilation thickness function is related to the \( \bar{p}p \) annihilation cross section by

\[
\beta_{\bar{p}p}^2 = \frac{\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}}{2\pi}.
\]

In a \( \bar{p}-A \) collision at high energies, the probability for the occurrence of an annihilation is \( T(b) \sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}} \). The probability for no annihilation is \( [1 - T(b) \sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}] \). With \( A \) target nucleons, the annihilation cross section in a \( \bar{p}A \) collision at high energies, as a function of \( \sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}} \), is therefore

\[
\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}(\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}) = \int db \left\{ 1 - [1 - T(b) \sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}] A \right\}.
\]

It should be noted that \( \sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}} \) depends on the magnitude of the antiproton momentum relative to the target nucleons. For example, in our later applications to extend the Glauber model to low energies, the antiproton momentum at the moment of \( \bar{p} \)-nucleon annihilation may be significantly different from the incident antiproton momentum, and it becomes necessary to specify the momentum dependence \( \sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}} \) explicitly.

For brevity of notation, we shall not write out the momentum dependence explicitly except when it is needed to avoid momentum ambiguities.

Analytical expressions of \( \sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}(\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}) \) can be obtained for simple thickness functions [24, 28]. If the thickness functions of \( T_A \) and \( T_B \) are Gaussian functions with standard deviation \( \beta_A \) and \( \beta_B \) respectively, then Eq. (1) gives

\[
T(b) = \frac{1}{2\pi \beta^2} \exp\left\{ -\frac{b^2}{2\beta^2} \right\},
\]

where

\[
\beta = \beta_A^2 + \beta_B^2 + \beta_{\bar{p}p}^2.
\]

For this case with Gaussian thickness functions, Eq. (4) then gives the simple analytical formula [27, 28]

\[
\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}(\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}) = 2\pi \beta^2 \left( \frac{1}{n!} - (1 - f))^n \right),
\]

where

\[
f = \frac{\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}}{2\pi \beta^2} = \frac{\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}}{2\pi \beta_A^2 + \beta_B^2 + \beta_{\bar{p}p}^2}.
\]

To check our theory, we apply the results first to the case of \( A = 1 \), and we obtain

\[
\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}} = 2\pi \beta^2 \left( \frac{1}{f} - (1 - f))^1 \right) = \sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}},
\]

as it should be. Next, for \( \bar{p}^2H \) collisions where \( A = 2 \), we have

\[
\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}(\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}) = 2\pi \beta^2 \left( \frac{1}{f} - (1 - f))^1 \right) = \sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}},
\]

which exhibits the granular property of the nucleus when the basic antiproton-nucleon cross section is much smaller than the radius of the nucleus.

In actual comparison with experimental data, we use \( \beta_B = 0.68 \) fm, and we parametrize \( \beta_A = \beta_0 \alpha A^{1/3}/\sqrt{3} \). The standard root-mean-squared radius parameter \( \beta_0 \) is of order 1 fm (see Table I below). The \( \bar{p}p \) annihilation cross section \( \sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}} \) is about 50 mb at \( p_{\text{lab}} = 2 \) GeV/c and about 1000 mb at \( p_{\text{lab}} = 50 \) MeV/c. Thus, \( f \ll 1 \) for \( p_{\text{lab}} = 2 \) GeV/c and \( f \sim 1 \) for \( p_{\text{lab}} = 50 \) MeV/c. If the Glauber model remains valid for the whole momentum range, then one expects that

\[
\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}(\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}) \sim 3/2 \sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}.
\]

The experimental data indicate

\[
\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}(\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}) \sim \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 2 & \text{for high } \bar{p} \text{ momenta;} \\ 3/2 & \text{for low } \bar{p} \text{ momenta.} \end{array} \right.
\]

The predicted ratio of \( \sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}(\sigma_{\bar{p}p}^{\text{ann}}) \) appears correct for the high-energy region. However, for low-momentum \( \bar{p} \)
annihilations, we shall see that there are important modifications that must be made to extend the Glauber model to the low-momentum region, and these modifications will alter the $\sigma_{ann}^b/\sigma_{ann}^p$ ratio in that region.

As the nuclear mass number $A$ increases, the density distribution of the nucleus become uniform. The thickness function for the collision of $\bar p$ with a heavy nucleus can be approximated by using a sharp-cut-off distribution of the form (see Ref. [27, 28])

$$T(b) = \frac{3\sqrt{(R_c^2 - b^2)}}{2\pi R_c^3} \theta(R_c - b),$$  \hspace{1cm} (16)

where the contact radius can be taken to be

$$R_c = R_A + R_B + R_{\bar pp}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (17)

With this sharp-cut-off distribution, Eq. (16) leads to the cross section given by [27, 28]

$$\sigma_{ann}^{\bar p}(\sigma_{ann}^p) = \pi R_c^2 \times \left(1 + \frac{2}{F^2} \left[1 - (1 - F)^A + 2 \left(1 - (1 - F)^{A+1} \right) \right] \right),$$  \hspace{1cm} (18)

where $F$ is a dimensionless ratio,

$$F = \frac{\sigma_{ann}^p}{2\pi R_c^2/3}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (19)

The $\bar pp$ annihilation radius $R_{\bar pp}$ in Eq. (17) can be calibrated to be $R_{\bar pp} = \sqrt{(3\sigma_{ann}^p/2\pi)}$ by using the above equation (18) for the case of $\bar pp$ collision as point nucleons.

In the foregoing discussions, we assume that $\sigma_{ann}^{\bar p}$ and $\sigma_{ann}^p$ are the same. They actually differ by about 20%. We can take into account different annihilation cross sections and thickness functions $T_{\bar pp}$ and $T_{\bar pn}$ for protons and neutrons. Equation (16) can be generalized to become

$$\sigma_{ann}^{\bar p}(\sigma_{ann}^p) = \pi R_c^2 \times \left(1 + \frac{2}{F^2} \left[1 - (1 - F)^A + 2 \left(1 - (1 - F)^{A+1} \right) \right] \right),$$  \hspace{1cm} (18)

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The experimental value for the ratio $(\sigma_{ann}^p)/(\sigma_{ann}^p)$ is determined by Kalogeropoulos and Tzanakos [13] to be 0.745 ± 0.016 and 0.863 ± 0.016 for $\bar p$ at rest and in flight, respectively, giving an average of 0.804±0.022, in approximate agreement with the prediction from the naive quark model. We shall use the relation Eq. (24) in our subsequent analysis. By relating $\sigma_{ann}^{\bar p}$ with $\sigma_{ann}^p$ using Eq. (24), the evaluation of the $\bar pA$ annihilation cross section will require only the basic $\sigma_{ann}^{\bar p}$ annihilation cross section.

From the quark model, a proton $p$ consists of $ud$, a neutron $n$ consists of $udd$, and a $\bar p$ is $\bar u\bar d\bar u$. If only flavor and antiflavor can annihilate, one would expect the probability of $\bar p$-$n$ annihilation equals $(4/5)$ times the probability of $\bar p$-$p$ annihilation, that is,

$$\sigma_{ann}^{\bar p} = (4/5)\sigma_{ann}^p.$$  \hspace{1cm} (24)

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In our previous theoretical study in connection with the annihilation lifetime of matter-antimatter molecule, we note that the experimental data of the $\bar pp$ total cross
section and the $\bar{p}p$ elastic cross section as a function of the antiproton momentum for a fixed proton target, $p_{\text{lab}}$, are related by \[ \sigma_{\text{tot}} = \sigma_{\text{elastic}} + \frac{\sigma_0}{v} \] (25)

where $v$ is the velocity of the antiproton

$$ v = \frac{p_{\text{lab}}}{\sqrt{p_{\text{lab}}^2 + m^2_{\bar{p}}}} $$ (26)

As the difference of the experimental total cross section and the elastic cross section, the second term in Eq. (25) represents the $\bar{p}p$ inelastic cross section. It is essentially the annihilation cross section as the latter dominates among the inelastic channels. The $\bar{p}p$ annihilation cross section can therefore be parametrized in the form

$$ \sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\bar{p}p} = \frac{\sigma_0}{v}. $$ (27)

In the present work, we use the experimental $\bar{p}p$ annihilation cross sections directly to fine-tune the parameter $\sigma_0$. We find that

$$ \sigma_0 = 43 \text{ mb} $$ (28)

gives a good description of the experimental $\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\bar{p}p}(p_{\text{lab}})$ data as shown in Fig. 1. For brevity of notation, the quantity $p_{\text{lab}}$ will be abbreviated as $p_{\text{lab}}$ in all figures.

Figure 1 indicates that the $\bar{p}p$ annihilation cross section has a strong momentum dependence. It decreases by an order of magnitude as the antiproton momentum increases from 30 to 600 MeV/c.

It should be pointed out that the $1/v$ law, Eq. (27), for the inelastic (or annihilation) cross section of slow particles is well known. It was first obtained by Bethe \[29\] and is discussed in text books \[30-32\] and other related work \[33\]. It arises from multiplying the $S$-wave partial cross section, $\pi/k^2$, by the transmission coefficient $T_0$ in passing through an attractive potential well, and the transmission coefficient $T_0$ is proportional to $k$ at low energies. While the $1/v$ behavior is essentially an $S$-wave result, higher-$l$ partial waves will gradually contribute as the antiproton momentum reaches the GeV/c region. It is nonetheless interesting to note that the simple $1/v$ law of Eq. (27) continues to provide a reasonable and efficient description of the experimental data even in the GeV/c region \[29\].

Recently, an elaborate and model-independent coupled-channel partial-wave calculation, solving the problem from first principle, has been used to determine $\bar{p}p$ scattering cross sections for momenta below 0.925 GeV/c. The calculation yields excellent agreement with the experimental $\bar{p}p$ annihilation cross section for energy ranging from 0.200 to 0.925 GeV/c \[32\]. Refinement of the present $\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\bar{p}p}$ description can be made, if desired, but with additional complications.

**IV. EXTENDING THE GLAUBER MODEL TO LOW ENERGIES**

The results in Sec. II pertains to annihilation of the antiproton at high energies with straight-line trajectories. To extend the range of the application to low energies, it is necessary to forgo the assumption of straight-line trajectories. We need to take into account the modification of the trajectories due to residual Coulomb and nuclear interactions that are additional to those between the incident antiproton and an annihilated target nucleon.

The residua Coulomb and nuclear interactions affect the annihilation process in different ways. The Coulomb interaction is long-range, and the trajectory of the antiproton is attracted and pulled toward the target nucleus before the antiproton makes a contact with the nucleus [Fig. 2(a)]. It leads to a large enhancement of the annihilation cross sections at low energies \[34\]. The nuclear interaction is short-range, and it becomes operative only after coming into contact with the nucleus. The interactions modify the antiproton momentum as it travels in the nuclear interior in which $\bar{p}$-nucleon annihilation takes place. As the basic antiproton-nucleon annihilation cross section $\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\bar{p}p}$ as given by (27) is strongly momentum-dependent, we need to keep track of the antiproton momentum along the antiproton trajectory.

We shall work in the $\bar{p}$-$A$ center-of-mass system and shall measure the antiproton momentum in terms of the relative momentum $p_{\bar{p}A}$ defined as

$$ p_{\bar{p}A} = \frac{m_A p_{\bar{p}} - m_p p_A}{m_p + m_A}, $$ (29)

where in the center-of-mass system with $p_{\bar{p}} + p_A = 0$, we have $p_{\bar{p}} = p_{\bar{p}A}$.

**A. Initial-State Coulomb Interaction**

We consider the collision of an antiproton with a nucleus in the $\bar{p}A$ center-of-mass system with a center-of-mass energy $E$. The initial antiproton momentum $p_{\bar{p}A}$ is related to $E$ by

$$ E = \frac{p_{\bar{p}A}^2}{2\mu}. $$ (30)

After the projectile antiproton travels along a Coulomb trajectory, it makes contact with the nucleus at $r = R_c$ with a momentum $p'_{\bar{p}A}$ determined by

$$ E = \frac{|p'_{\bar{p}A}|^2}{2\mu} + V_c(R_c), $$ (31)

where $V_c(R_c)$ is the Coulomb energy for the antiproton to be at the nuclear contact radius $R_c$,

$$ V_c(R_c) = \frac{(Z_A - 1)\alpha}{R_c}, $$ (32)

and $Z_A$ is the target charge number.
FIG. 1. (Color online) Antiproton-nucleus annihilation cross sections as a function of the antiproton momentum in the laboratory, \( p_{\text{lab}} \equiv p_{\overline{p}\text{lab}} \), for different nuclear targets. The solid curve for the proton target nucleus is the \( \sigma_0/v \) phenomenological representation of the \( \overline{p}p \) annihilation cross section in Eq. (27). The other curves are the results from the extended Glauber model using the basic \( \overline{p}p \) annihilation cross section as input data. The solid curves are for Gaussian density distributions and the dashed curves are for uniform density distributions. The high-momentum data points are from [22]. The other experimental data points are from the compilation of [6], where the individual experimental sources can be found.
The $\bar{p}p$ annihilation cross section arises from the nuclear and Coulomb interaction between the antiproton and a target proton. By employing $\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\bar{p}p}$, as the basic element in the multiple collision process in the extended Glauber model of Eq. (5), the parts of the Coulomb and nuclear interaction that are responsible for the $\bar{p}p$ annihilation have already been included. Therefore in Eq. (31) for $\bar{p}$-nucleus annihilation, we are dealing with residual interactions that are additional to those between the antiproton and the annihilated nucleon. Hence, Eq. (32) for the residual Coulomb interaction contains the coefficient $(Z_A - 1)$.

From angular momentum conservation, we have

$$p_{\bar{p}A}b = p_{\bar{p}A}'b'.$$  \hspace{1cm} (33)

We obtain

$$b = \frac{p_{\bar{p}A}'b'}{p_{\bar{p}A}}.$$ \hspace{1cm} (34)

From Eq. (31), we have

$$p_{\bar{p}A}' = p_{\bar{p}A} \sqrt{1 - \frac{V_c(R_c)}{E}},$$ \hspace{1cm} (35)

which is the relative momentum of the antiproton in the $\bar{p}A$ system at the nuclear contact radius $R_c$.

Starting now from the transverse coordinates $b'$ at nuclear contact at $r = R_c$, one can follow the antiproton trajectory in the nuclear interior. This trajectory will be modified by residual interactions. One can evaluate a thickness function $T'(b')$ by integrating the nuclear density along the modified trajectory. As the thickness function $T'(b')$ is governed mainly by the geometry of the target nucleus, we therefore expect that $T'(b')$ will be characterized by a length scale that will not be too different from the length scale in the thickness function $T(b')$ without residual interactions. To the lowest order, it is reasonable to approximate $T'(b')$ by $T(b')$. With such a simplifying assumption, the $\bar{p}A$ annihilation cross section at an initial antiproton momentum $p_{\bar{p}A}$ is

$$\Sigma_{\text{ann}}(p_{\bar{p}A}) = \int db' \left\{ 1 - \left( 1 - T_{\bar{p}p}(b') \right) \sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\bar{p}p}(p_{\bar{p}A}') \right\}^Z \times \left\{ 1 - T_{\bar{p}A}(b') \sigma_{\text{ann}}(p_{\bar{p}A}') \right\}^N,$$ \hspace{1cm} (36)

where we use a new symbol $\Sigma$ to indicate that this is the result in an extended Glauber model for $\bar{p}$-nucleus annihilation, modified to take into account the Coulomb interaction that changes the antiproton momentum from initial $p_{\bar{p}A}$ to $p_{\bar{p}A}'$ at the nuclear contact radius $R_c$. We can carry out a change of variable

$$\Sigma_{\text{ann}}(p_{\bar{p}A}) = \int db' \frac{bdb}{b'db'} \left\{ 1 - \left( 1 - T_{\bar{p}p}(b') \right) \sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\bar{p}p}(p_{\bar{p}A}') \right\}^Z \times \left\{ 1 - T_{\bar{p}A}(b') \sigma_{\text{ann}}(p_{\bar{p}A}') \right\}^N,$$ \hspace{1cm} (37)

From Eqs. (33) and (35), the above Eq. (37) becomes

$$\Sigma_{\text{ann}}^A(p_{\bar{p}A}) = \left[ \frac{p_{\bar{p}A}'}{p_{\bar{p}A}} \right]^2 \int db' \left\{ 1 - \left( 1 - T_{\bar{p}p}(b') \right) \sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\bar{p}p}(p_{\bar{p}A}') \right\}^Z \times \left\{ 1 - T_{\bar{p}A}(b') \sigma_{\text{ann}}(p_{\bar{p}A}') \right\}^N \left\{ 1 - \frac{V_c(R_c)}{E} \right\} \int db' \left\{ 1 - \left( 1 - T_{\bar{p}p}(b') \right) \sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\bar{p}p}(p_{\bar{p}A}') \right\}^Z \times \left\{ 1 - T_{\bar{p}A}(b') \sigma_{\text{ann}}(p_{\bar{p}A}') \right\}^N \right\}.$$ \hspace{1cm} (38)

From the results in Eq. (33), the above equation becomes

$$\Sigma_{\text{ann}}^A(p_{\bar{p}A}) = \left\{ 1 - \frac{V_c(R_c)}{E} \right\} \sigma_{\text{ann}}^A \left( \sigma_{\text{ann}}(p_{\bar{p}A}') \right).$$ \hspace{1cm} (39)

FIG. 2. (Color online) Schematic picture of the bending of the antiproton trajectories $s$ as the antiproton approaches the nucleus: (a) Under the action of the attractive $\bar{p}$-nucleus Coulomb interaction, the impact parameter $b'$ in the nuclear interior is magnified to the initial impact parameter $b$. (b) Under the action of a repulsive Coulomb interaction in heavy-ion collisions, the initial impact parameter $b'$ in the nuclear interior is reduced to the initial impact parameter $b$ which determines the reaction cross section.

With the above formulation, the initial-state Coulomb interaction can be incorporated into the extended Glauber model as a mapping of the initial impact parameter $b$ to the impact parameter $b'$ at nuclear contact. It
can be pictorially depicted as a lens effect in Fig. 2. The attractive Coulomb interaction between the antiproton and the nucleus acts as a magnifying lens that magnifies the impact parameter $b'$ at the contact radius $R_c$ to turn it into the initial impact parameter $b$, with which the reaction or annihilation cross section is measured [Fig. 2(a)]. The magnifying lens effect for the attractive Coulomb interaction with $b > b'$ leads to a $\bar{p}$-nucleus annihilation cross section greater than the geometrical cross section for heavy nuclei in low-energy collisions, behaving as $[1 - V_c(R_c)/E] \sigma_{\text{ann}}(\sigma_{\text{ann}}(\bar{p}_A))$ as given in Eq. (52), where $V_c(R_c)$, the Coulomb energy at the nuclear contact radius $R_c$, is negative.

It is interesting to note in contrast that in heavy-ion collisions, the repulsive Coulomb initial-state interaction acts as a reducing lens that reduces the impact parameter $b'$ at contact to become the initial impact parameter $b$ with $b < b'$ as illustrated in Fig. 2(b). The lens effect for a repulsive Coulomb interaction leads to a reaction cross section reduced from the geometrical cross section $\pi R_c^2$ to $[1 - V_c(R_c)/E] \pi R_c^2$, where $V_c(R_c)$ is the Coulomb energy at the Coulomb barrier and is positive [34, 35, 37]. Therefore, one obtains the unifying picture that for both the $\bar{p}$-nucleus and heavy-ion collisions, the initial-state Coulomb interaction act as a lens, leading to the same Coulomb modifying factor $[1 - V_c(R_c)/E]$.

B. Change of the Antiproton Momentum in the Nucleus Interior

Because the basic $\bar{p}p$ annihilation cross section is strongly momentum dependent, there is, however, an additional important amendment we need to make. In the presence of the nuclear and Coulomb interactions in the nuclear interior, the antiproton momentum $p'_{\bar{p}A}$ at the contact radius is changed to the momentum $p''_{\bar{p}A}$ in the interior of the nucleus. The $\bar{p}p$ annihilation occurs inside the nucleus at a momentum $p'_{\bar{p}A}$. It is necessary to modify $\Sigma_{\text{ann}}$ in Eq. (50) to take into account this change of the antiproton momentum by replacing $p'_{\bar{p}A}$ with $p''_{\bar{p}A}$.

The antiproton momentum $p''_{\bar{p}A}$ is a function of the radial position $r$ and is related to $p'_{\bar{p}A}$ by the energy condition:

$$E = \frac{p_{\bar{p}A}^2}{2\mu} = \frac{(p'_{\bar{p}A})^2}{2\mu} + V_c(r) + V_n(r).$$

In order to obtain an analytical formula for general purposes for our present approximate treatment, it suffices to consider average quantities and use the root-mean-square average $\langle (p'_{\bar{p}A})^2 \rangle^{1/2}$ given by

$$E = \frac{\langle (p'_{\bar{p}A})^2 \rangle}{2\mu} + \langle V_c(r) \rangle + \langle V_n(r) \rangle,$$

where $\langle V_c(r) \rangle$ and $\langle V_n(r) \rangle$ are the average interior Coulomb and nuclear interactions, respectively. From the above equation, we can then approximate $p''_{\bar{p}A}$ by the average root-mean-squared momentum $\langle (p'_{\bar{p}A})^2 \rangle^{1/2}$ in the interior of the nucleus,

$$p''_{\bar{p}A} \sim p_{\bar{p}A} \sqrt{1 - \frac{\langle V_c(r) \rangle + \langle V_n(r) \rangle}{E}}.$$  

The $\bar{p}$-nucleus annihilation cross section $\Sigma_{\text{ann}}^{pA}$ is therefore modified by changing $p'_{\bar{p}A}$ in Eq. (50) to $p''_{\bar{p}A}$ to become

$$\Sigma_{\text{ann}}^{pA}(p'_{\bar{p}A}) = \left\{ 1 - \frac{V_c(R_c)}{E} \right\} \sigma_{\text{ann}}^{pA}(\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{pA}(p''_{\bar{p}A})),$$  

The experimental data of $\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{pA}$ and $\Sigma_{\text{ann}}^{pA}$ are presented as a function of $p_{\bar{p}\text{lab}}$ for a fixed proton or nucleus target at rest. Accordingly, we convert the antiproton momenta in the center-of-mass system in the above Eq. (51) to those in the laboratory system with fixed targets as

$$p'_{\bar{p}A} = \frac{A}{A + 1} p_{\bar{p}\text{lab}},$$  

$$p''_{\bar{p}A} = \frac{A}{A + 1} p_{\bar{p}\text{lab}},$$  

and Eq. (52) gives

$$p_{\bar{p}\text{lab}} = p_{\bar{p}\text{lab}} \sqrt{1 - \frac{\langle V_c(r) \rangle + \langle V_n(r) \rangle}{E}}.$$  

Therefore, the antiproton-nucleus annihilation cross section $\Sigma_{\text{ann}}^{pA}(p_{\bar{p}\text{lab}})$ in the extended Glauber model for an antiproton with an initial momentum $p_{\bar{p}\text{lab}}$ is given in the following compact form

$$\Sigma_{\text{ann}}^{pA}(p_{\bar{p}\text{lab}}) = \left\{ 1 - \frac{V_c(R_c)}{E} \right\} \sigma_{\text{ann}}^{pA}(\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{p\bar{p}}(p_{\bar{p}\text{lab}})),$$  

where $\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{pA}(\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{p\bar{p}}(p_{\bar{p}\text{lab}}))$ is given by Eq. (53) for light nuclei with a Gaussian thickness distribution, and by Eq. (18) for heavy nuclei with a sharp-cut-off thickness function, with the basic quantity $\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{p\bar{p}}$ in Eqs. (40) or (41) evaluated at $p_{\bar{p}\text{lab}}$ given in terms of $p_{\bar{p}\text{lab}}$ by Eq. (46). The Coulomb energy at contact $V_c(R_c)$ is given by Eq. (54), and the average $\langle V_c(r) \rangle$ in the interior of the nucleus $(Z_A, A)$ with a radius $R_A$ in Eq. (41) is given by

$$\langle V_c(r) \rangle = -3(Z_A - 1) \alpha \left( \frac{5R_c^2 - R_A^2}{10R_c^2} \right).$$  

In our application of the extended Glauber model, concepts such as the contact radius $R_c$ and $\langle V_c(r) \rangle$ are simpler for a uniform density distribution. For the evaluation of these quantities in the case of small nuclei with a Gaussian thickness function, we shall approximate the Gaussian as a uniform distribution [only for the purpose of calculating $R_c$ and $\langle V_c(r) \rangle$ in Eqs. (54), (55), and (56)] with an equivalence between $R_c$ and $\beta$. We note that the dimensionless quantity $f$ in Eq. (57) for a Gaussian thickness function and the quantity $F$ in Eq. (58) for the
sharp-cut-off distribution have the same physical meaning. It is reasonable to equate the corresponding quantities \(2\pi\beta^2\) in Eq. (12) with the corresponding quantity \(2\pi R^2\beta^2/3\) in Eq. (11), leading to the approximate equivalence

\[ R_c(\text{for Gaussian distribution}) \sim \sqrt{3}\beta, \quad (49) \]

and similarly,

\[ R_A(\text{for Gaussian distribution}) \sim \sqrt{3}\beta_A. \quad (50) \]

These equivalence relations enable us to obtain the Coulomb factor \(1 - V_c(R_c)/E\) in Eq. (17) and the antiproton momentum change from \(p_{\text{lab}}\) to \(p'_{\text{lab}}\) in Eq. (16), for light nuclei with Gaussian thickness functions.

V. COMPARISON OF THE EXTENDED GLAUBER MODEL WITH EXPERIMENT

The central results of the extended Glauber model consist of Eq. (13) or (17) and their associated supplementary equations. With the basic \(\bar{p}p\) annihilation cross section \(\sigma_{\bar{p}p_{\text{ann}}}^{\text{pp}}\) and its momentum dependence well represented from experimental data by Eq. (27), as discussed in Sec. III, it is only necessary to specify the residual nuclear interaction \(\langle V_N\rangle\) and the nuclear geometrical parameters in Eq. (43) to obtain the \(\bar{p}\)-nucleus annihilation cross section. For light nuclei (with \(A < 40\)), we use a Gaussian density distribution with the Gaussian thickness function in Eq. (51), with geometrical parameters \(\beta_A = r_0^A A^{1/3}/\sqrt{3}\) and \(\beta_B = 0.68\). We find that \(1.10 < r_0^A < 1.20\) fm gives a good description. For the heavy nuclei (with \(A > 40\)), we use a uniform density distribution with the sharp-cut-off thickness function in Eq. (46) and the corrections due to the Coulomb and nuclear interactions are small for high-energy collisions. At these high energies, the antiproton makes multiple collisions with target nucleons and probes the granular property of the nucleus when the spacing between the nucleons is large compared with the dimension of the \(\bar{p}\) probe, similar to the additive quark model in meson-meson collisions \(38, 39\). The experimental \(\Sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\text{pp}}/\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\text{pp}}\) is consistently slightly greater than the theoretical prediction of \(\Sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\text{pp}}/\sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\text{pp}} \approx 2\). This indicates that while the Glauber model for the antiproton annihilation of the deuteron may be approximately valid, future investigations will

| Nuclei | Gaussian \(r_0^G(\text{fm})\) | Uniform \(\langle V_n\rangle\) (MeV) |
|--------|----------------|------------------|
| H      | 1.04           | -35.0            |
| He     | 1.20           | -6.0 MeV         |
| Ne     | 1.10           | -25.0            |
| Al     | 1.04           | -30.0            |
| Cu     | 1.04           | -30.0            |
| Cd     | 1.04           | -35.0            |
| Sn     | 1.04           | -35.0            |
| Pt     | 1.04           | -35.0            |
| Pb     | 1.04           | -35.0            |

FIG. 3. (Color online) \(\bar{p}\) annihilation cross sections of (a) \(p\) and \(D\) nuclei and (b) \(^4\)He nucleus. The experimental data are from Ref. 3. The \(\bar{p}\) curve is from the \(\sigma_0/v\) representation of Eq. (27), and the other curves are from the extended Glauber model.
need to include additional refinements to get a better description for the antiproton-deuteron annihilation. There are not many high-momentum data points for \( ^4 \text{He} \), and the only high-momentum data point at 600 MeV/c gives reasonable agreement with the Glauber model results.

As the number of nucleons increases in high-energy annihilations, the Glauber model results of Eqs. (8) or (21) for \( \sigma_{pp}^{\text{ann}} \) and [21] or (22) for \( \sigma_{pp}^{\text{ann}} \) give a \( pA \) annihilation cross section proportional to \( \beta^2 \) for a Gaussian thickness distribution and to \( R_c^2 \) for a uniform density distribution. Both \( \beta^2 \) and \( R_c^2 \) vary as \( A^{2/3} \). Hence, the \( pA \) annihilation cross approaches the black-disk limit of \( A^{2/3} \) limit as the nuclear mass number increases. The comparison in the high-energy region in Fig. 1 shows that the experimental data agree with predictions for nuclei across the periodic table, indicating that the experimental data indeed reach this black-disk limit of \( A^{2/3} \) in the heavy-nuclei region. However, there are discrepancies for Pb at 700 MeV/c, which may need need to be re-checked experimentally, as the other data points for large nuclei appear to agree with theoretical predictions.

Experimentally, for low-energy annihilations \( \Sigma^{\beta^2 H} / \sigma_{pp}^{\text{ann}} \) is of order unity. In the extended Glauber model, the reduction of the ratio \( \Sigma^{\beta^2 H} / \sigma_{pp}^{\text{ann}} \) arises from the combination of two effects: (i) the increase of the antiproton momentum inside the nucleus due to the attractive residual interactions and (ii) the momentum dependence of the basic \( \sigma_{pp}^{\text{ann}} \) decreases sensitively as a function of an increase in antiproton momentum. The combined effects bring the ratio \( \Sigma^{\beta^2 H} / \sigma_{pp}^{\text{ann}} \) from 3/2 to about unity. In Fig. 3, we show the variation of the \( \beta^2 H \) and \( \beta^4 \text{He} \) cross sections as a function of \( p_{\text{lab}} \) for different residual nuclear interactions \( \langle V_N \rangle \). There is a great sensitivity of the \( p \)-annihilation cross section on \( V_N \) in the low-energy region for the lightest nuclei for which the Coulomb interaction is weak. However, as the target charge number increases, the Coulomb interaction becomes stronger and the \( \beta \)-annihilation cross section becomes less sensitive to the strength of the nuclear interaction \( \langle V_N \rangle \), as shown in Fig. 4 for \( p \text{C}, p\text{Ne}, \) and \( p\text{Al} \) collisions.

As the target charge number \( Z \) increases further in the low-energy region, the cross section increases substantially. For example, the cross section reaches a value of about 9000 mb for the Pt nucleus, corresponding to an

![FIG. 4.](image1.png)

**FIG. 4.** (Color online) \( \bar{p} \) annihilation cross sections of (a) C nucleus, (b) Ne nucleus, and (c) Al nucleus. Solid curves give results from the extended Glauber model and the data points are from the compilation of Ref. 8.

![FIG. 5.](image2.png)

**FIG. 5.** (Color online) \( \bar{p} \) annihilation cross sections on Ni, Sn and Pt nuclei at \( p_{\text{lab}} = 100 \text{ MeV/c} \). The solid curve gives results from the extended Glauber model and the data points are from Ref. 8.
annihilation radius of \( R_{\text{ann}} = (\sigma_{\text{ann}}^A / \pi)^{1/2} = 17 \text{ fm} \). Again, such a large annihilation radius arises from the Coulomb magnifying lens effect that magnifies the nuclear radius of Pt as seen by the incoming antiproton. The attractive Coulomb interaction as well as the nuclear interaction also changes the momentum of the antiproton inside the nucleus. The combined effect of the Coulomb initial-state interaction, the change of the antiproton momentum inside a nucleus, together with the Glauber multiple collision process of individual antiproton-nucleon annihilation, give a good description of the cross sections for the heaviest nuclei at low energies, as shown in Figs. 1 and 5.

There are only a few cases where the experimental data points deviate from the general trend and the theoretical predictions. In particular, there are discrepancies for \( \bar{p}^2\text{H} \) at \( p_{\text{lab}} \sim 260-600 \text{ MeV}/c \), \( \bar{p}^3\text{He} \) at 55 MeV/c, \( \bar{p}\text{Pb} \) at 700 MeV/c, and \( \bar{p}\text{Be} \) at high momenta. It will be necessary to examine the origins for the discrepancies by theoretical refinements or experimental remeasurements for these cases in the future.

VI. SUMMARY AND DISCUSSIONS

We have extended the high-energy Glauber model to low-energy annihilation processes after taking into account the effects of Coulomb and nuclear interactions, and the change of the antiproton momentum inside a nucleus. The result is a compact equation [47] [or the equivalent [43]] with supplementary equations that capture the main features of the annihilation process and provide a simple analytical way to analyze antiproton-nucleus annihilation cross sections.

We can properly respond to the specific questions we raised in the Introduction. With respect to the mass dependence at high antiproton incident momenta, the cross sections increase almost linearly with the mass number \( A \) for the lightest nuclei, but with approximately \( A^{2/3} \) as the mass number increases because the basic process is a Glauber multiple collision process of the antiproton passing through a target of individual nucleons. In the low antiproton momentum region, the annihilation cross sections do not rise with \( A \) as anticipated but are comparable for \( p \), \( ^3\text{He} \), and \( \text{He} \), because the residual nuclear interaction causes an increase in the antiproton momentum inside the nucleus and the increases in antiproton momentum leads to a decrease in the basic \( p \)-nucleon annihilation cross section. As the charge number \( Z \) increases, the initial-state Coulomb interaction magnifies the target nucleus and the \( p\text{A} \) annihilation cross section at low energies become subsequently greatly enhanced in the heavy nuclei region. With respect to the energy dependence, the energy dependence of the \( \bar{p}\text{A} \) annihilation cross sections is intimately related to the energy-dependence of the \( \bar{p}\bar{p} \) cross sections.

The simple picture we have presented can be refined, and individual nuclear properties can be revealed, with new data that fill in the gaps in Fig. 1. The deviations of experimental data with theoretical predictions for a few cases also call for a reexamination of both the experimental measurements as well as theoretical refinements.

The extended Glauber model may find future applications in similar problems such as in the collision of mesons or baryons with nuclei at high energies as well as low energies.

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