



# Simple sources and preprocessor

# Outline

## 1. Simple source definition

- Definition of simple beams
  - Beam parameters
  - Beam visualisation
  - Beam rotation
- Volumetric sources
- Further possibilities

## 2. The FLUKA preprocessor

# 1. Simple sources

BEAM & BEAMPOS cards | Visualisation | Volumetric sources

# Required cards

- In the *Basic input & Flair introduction* lecture we already saw two cards related to defining a beam in FLUKA, namely the **BEAM** and **BEAMPOS** cards:

## **BEAM**

$\Delta p$ : Flat ▼  
Shape(X): Rectangular ▼

Beam: Momentum ▼

$\Delta p$ :  
 $\Delta x$ :

$p$ :

$\Delta\phi$ : Flat ▼

Shape(Y): Rectangular ▼

Part: ▼

$\Delta\phi$ :  
 $\Delta y$ :

## **BEAMPOS**

$x$ :  
COSX:

$y$ :  
cosy:

$z$ :  
Type: POSITIVE ▼

# The BEAM card

## ☀ **BEAM**

$\Delta p$ : Flat ▼

Shape(X): Rectangular ▼

Beam: Momentum ▼

$\Delta p$ :

$\Delta x$ :

p:

$\Delta\phi$ : Flat ▼

Shape(Y): Rectangular ▼

Part: ▼

$\Delta\phi$ :

$\Delta y$ :

- The **BEAM** card allows to specify the following parameters:
  - Particle type
  - Momentum or kinetic energy
  - Momentum distribution
  - Angular distribution
  - Shape in the X-Y plane

# The BEAM card: particle type

## ☀ **BEAM**

$\Delta p$ : Flat ▼

Shape(X): Rectangular ▼

Beam: Momentum ▼

$\Delta p$ :

$\Delta x$ :

p:

$\Delta\phi$ : Flat ▼

Shape(Y): Rectangular ▼

Part: ▼

$\Delta\phi$ :

$\Delta y$ :

Select particle type from the dropdown menu

*Default particle:* **PROTON**

Non-standard particles:

- **HEAVYION**: Ion beams heavier than  $^4\text{He}$  – Requires a **HI-PROPE** card.
- **ISOTOPE**: Radioactive isotope sources – Requires the **HI-PROPE** and **RADDECAY** cards.  
See the *Activation* lecture

# The BEAM card: momentum/energy definition

## \* BEAM

$\Delta p$ : Flat ▼  
Shape(X): Rectangular ▼

Beam: Momentum ▼      p:  
 $\Delta p$ :       $\Delta\phi$ : Flat ▼  
 $\Delta x$ :      Shape(Y): Rectangular ▼

Part: ▼  
 $\Delta\phi$ :  
 $\Delta y$ :

Select **Momentum** or **Energy** from the dropdown menu

Enter the **value** in the input field next to it

*Default value: 200 [GeV/c]*

**Note:** In the case of advanced sources, setting the momentum slightly higher than the maximum momentum used in those sources is **crucial**, since this value is used to initialise the cross section data tables.

(See the *Source routine* and *Advanced sources* lectures)

# The BEAM card: momentum and angular distributions

☀ **BEAM** Beam: Momentum ▼

$\Delta p$ : Flat ▼	$\Delta p$ :	$p$ : $\Delta\phi$ : Flat ▼	Part: ▼
Shape(X): Rectangular ▼	$\Delta x$ :	Shape(Y): Rectangular ▼	$\Delta y$ :

## Momentum distribution types:

- **Flat**: Full width of a rectangular **momentum** distribution centred at beam momentum [GeV/c]
- **Gaussian**: FWHM of a Gaussian **momentum** distribution [GeV/c]

**IMPORTANT**: This is always momentum distribution, even if **Energy** was selected

## Angular distribution types:

- **Flat**: Full width of a rectangular angular distribution centred at the beam axis [mrad]
- **Isotropic**: Isotropic distribution
- **Gaussian**: FWHM of a Gaussian angular distribution centred at the beam axis [mrad]



# The BEAM card: beam shape in the X-Y plane

## ☀ BEAM

$\Delta p$ : Flat ▼

Beam: Momentum ▼

$p$ :

Part: ▼

$\Delta p$ :

$\Delta\phi$ : Flat ▼

$\Delta\phi$ :

Shape(X): Rectangular ▼

$\Delta x$ :

Shape(Y): Rectangular ▼

$\Delta y$ :

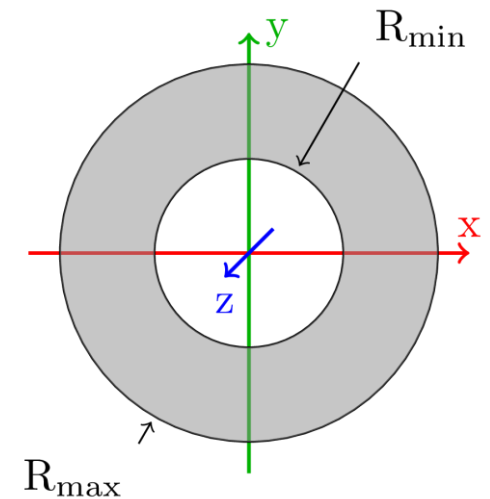
Distribution type:

- **Rectangular**: Full beam width in **x/y** direction centred at the beam axis [cm]
- **Gaussian**: FWHM of a Gaussian distribution in **x/y** direction centred at the beam axis [cm]

*Default:*  $\Delta x = 0.0$ ,  $\Delta y = \Delta x$

- **Annular** distribution can be selected in the dropdown menu of **Shape(X)**

- **Rmin** and **Rmax** are the radii of the distribution
- The beam particle position is uniformly sampled on the **x-y** plane between **Rmin** and **Rmax**
- For circular beam use **Rmin = 0.0**



# The BEAMPOS card: beam position and direction

## BEAMPOS

x:	y:	z:
cosx:	cosy:	Type: POSITIVE ▼

### Position:

The beam position is defined with its **x**, **y** and **z** coordinates [cm]

*Default:* Origin of the coordinate system

### Direction:

The beam axis is defined via direction cosines with respect to the x and y axes

The third direction cosine (**cosz**) is automatically calculated by FLUKA

Note that this is not enough for an unequivocal direction definition; the sign of **cosz** has to be provided as well. Select **POSITIVE** or **NEGATIVE** from the *Type* dropdown

*Default:* Positive z direction

# Default beam

- What happens if the **BEAM** and **BEAMPOS** cards are not filled in or are missing?
- FLUKA will use the built-in default (*note: may change in the future*):
  - Protons at 200 GeV/c momentum
  - Pencil beam: No divergence, zero radius
  - Starting from the origin of the coordinate system
  - Directed along the positive z axis
- This is almost never what you want!
- Always complete the relevant information in the **BEAM** and **BEAMPOS** card
- It is good practice to confirm what source you have defined by checking the FLUKA output (see the *Standard output* lecture)

# Beam visualisation

- The easiest way to check whether the beam parameters are set correctly is to visualise the beam
- There are two ways to do this:
  - Use the Geoviewer's BEAM object
  - Use standard FLUKA scorings (See the *Scoring* lectures) with **BEAMPART** as particle type
    - USRBIN for particle location and direction
    - USRBDX for energy spectrum (with a closed surface surrounding the source location)

# Beam visualisation

- **Example 1:** 1 GeV Gaussian beam | 0.1 GeV/c FWHM momentum distribution | 0.4 rad flat angular distribution | rotated around the y axis by  $-30^\circ$

**BEAM**

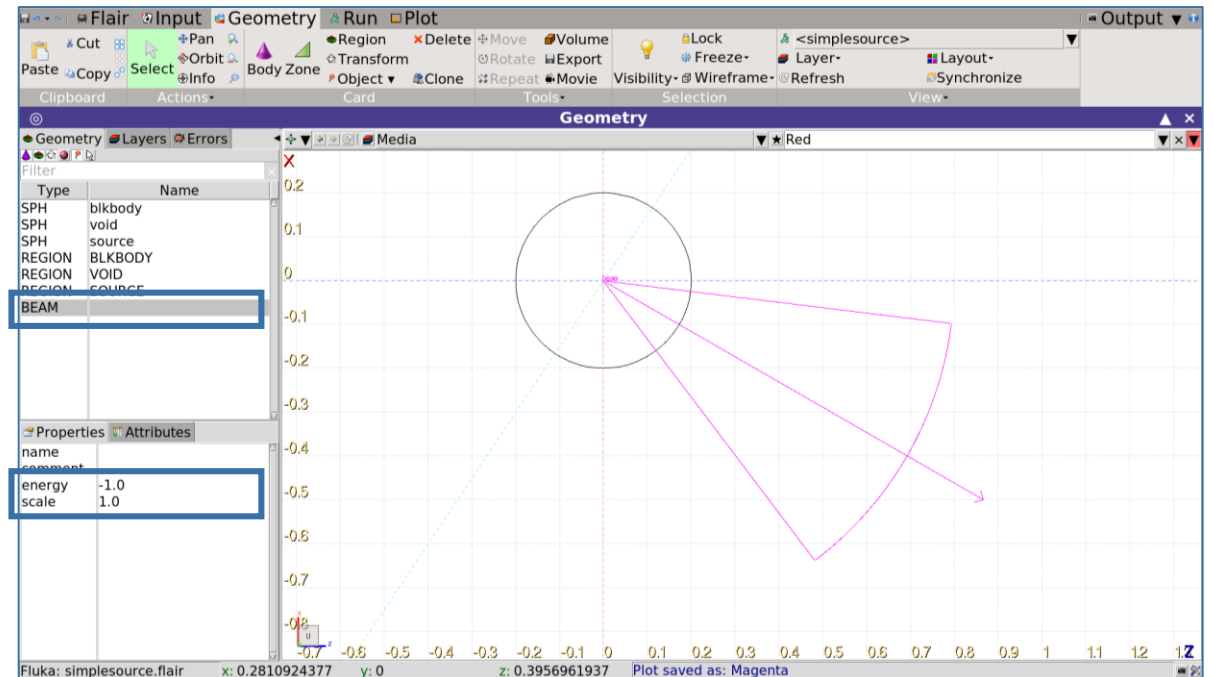
Beam: Energy ▾	E: 1.0	Part: ▾	
$\Delta p$ : Gauss ▾	$\Delta p$ (FWHM): 0.1	$\Delta\phi$ : Flat ▾	$\Delta\phi$ : 400.0
Shape(X): Rectangular ▾	$\Delta x$ :	Shape(Y): Rectangular ▾	$\Delta y$ :

**BEAMPOS**

x: 0.0	y: 0.0	z: 0.0
cosx: -0.5	cosy: 0.0	Type: POSITIVE ▾

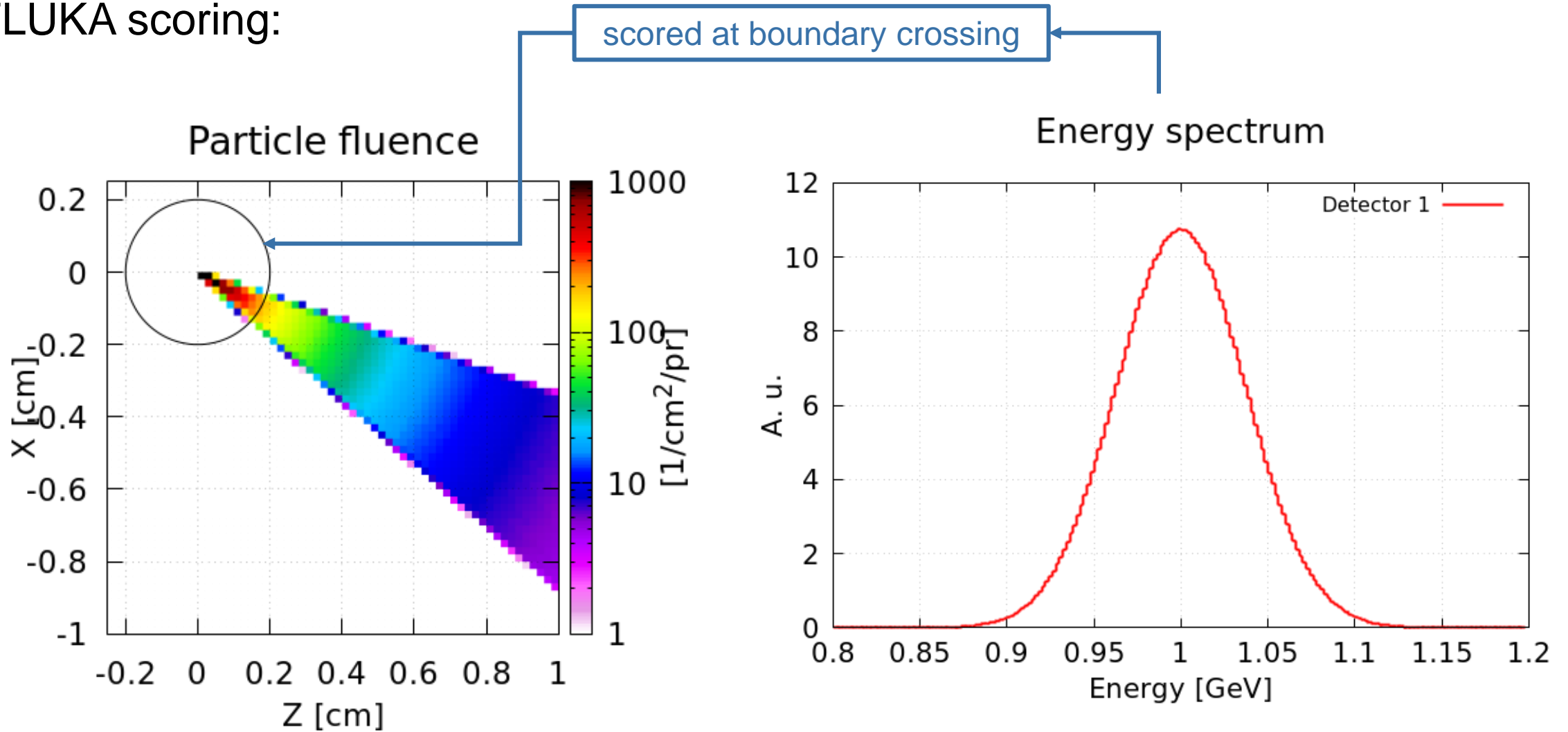
- Geoviewer **BEAM** object:

- Starting point
- Direction
- Angular distribution
- Beam mean energy
- Default scale: 1 GeV(/c) = 1 cm  
Can be changed with the scale parameter



# Beam visualisation

- FLUKA scoring:



# Beam rotation

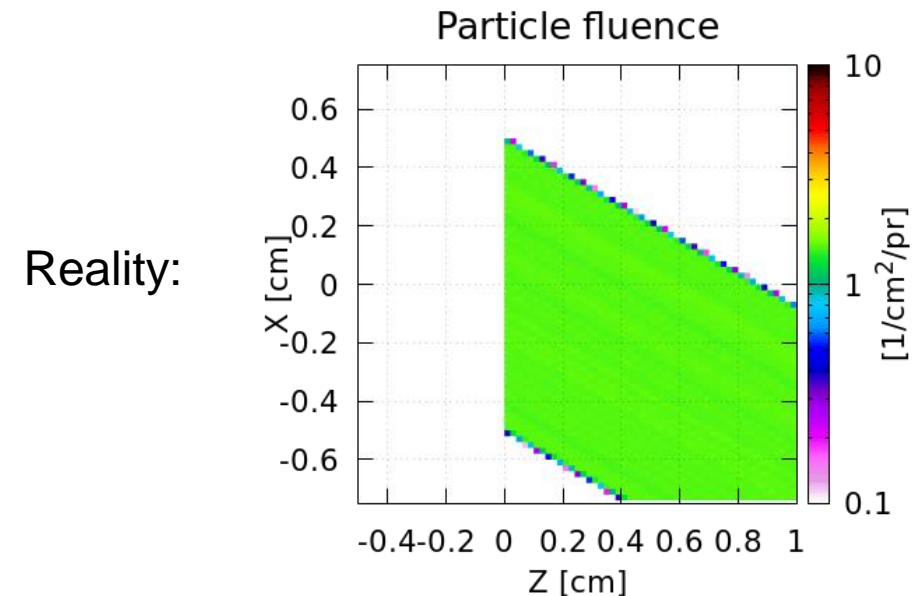
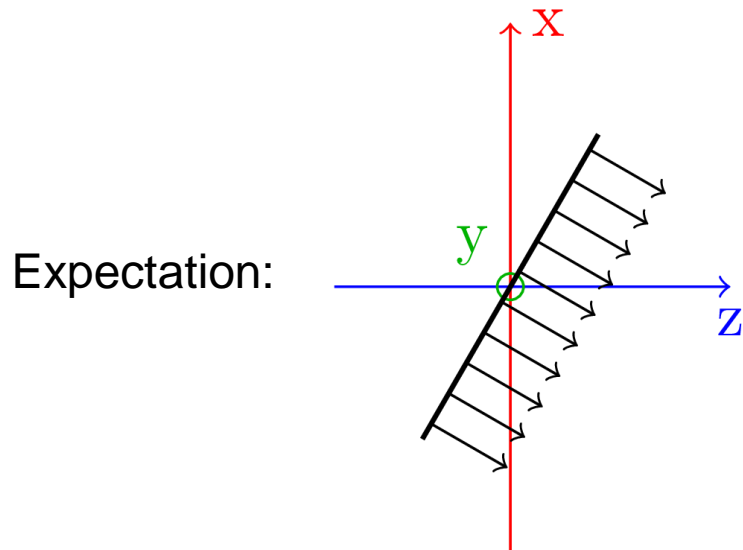
- **Example 2:**  $R = 0.5$  cm cylindrical beam | zero divergence | rotated around y axis by  $-30^\circ$

**BEAM** Beam: Momentum ▾

$\Delta p$ : Flat ▾  $\Delta p$ :  $R_{min}$ : 0.0  $R_{max}$ : 0.5  $\Delta\phi$ : Flat ▾ Part: ▾

Shape(X): Annular ▾  $x$ : 0.0  $y$ : 0.0  $z$ : 0.0

**BEAMPOS**  $\cos x$ : -0.5  $\cos y$ : 0.0 Type: POSITIVE ▾



- *Remember:* the **BEAM** card sets the X-Y shape of the beam, which is not influenced by the beam direction set in the **BEAMPOS** card... so how can we rotate the beam?

# Beam rotation

- Input card: **BEAMAXES**

## **BEAMAXES**

cosBxx:

cosBxy:

cosBxz:

cosBzx:

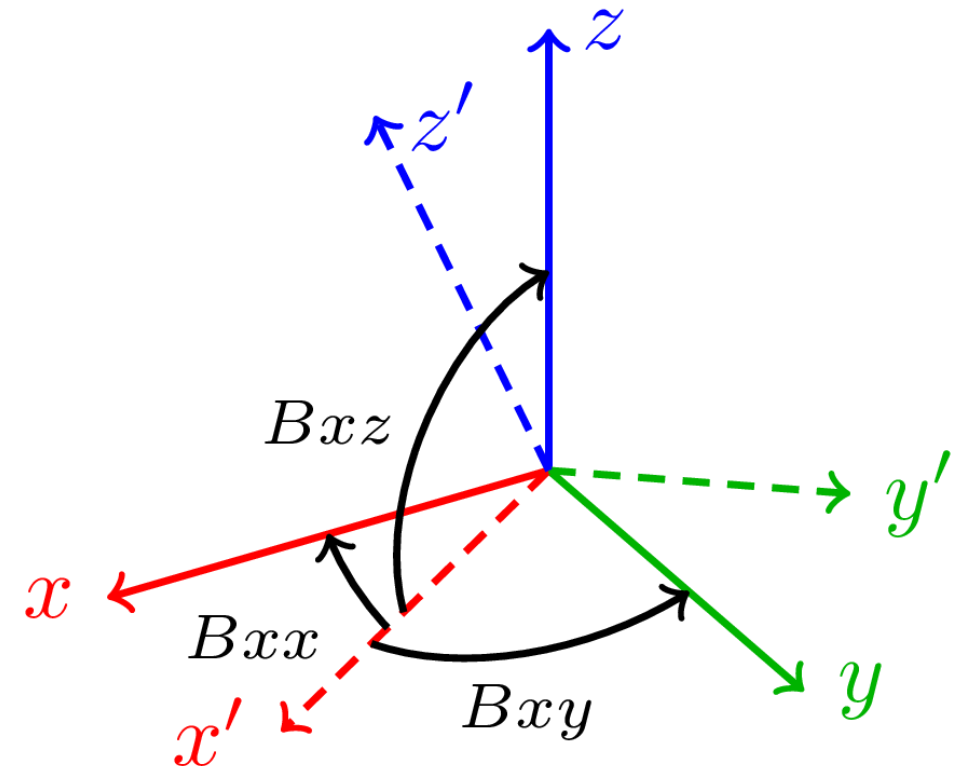
cosBzy:

cosBzz:

Defines the beam coordinate system ( $\mathbf{x}'$ ,  $\mathbf{y}'$ ,  $\mathbf{z}'$ ) with respect to the geometry one ( $\mathbf{x}$ ,  $\mathbf{y}$ ,  $\mathbf{z}$ )

Input fields:

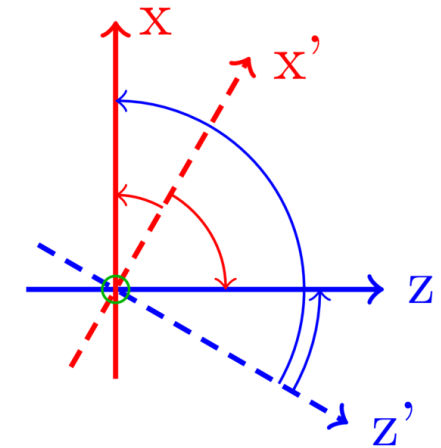
- **cosBxx**: cosine of the angle between  $\mathbf{x}'$  and  $\mathbf{x}$
- **cosBxy**: cosine of the angle between  $\mathbf{x}'$  and  $\mathbf{y}$
- **cosBxz**: cosine of the angle between  $\mathbf{x}'$  and  $\mathbf{z}$
- **cosBzx**: cosine of the angle between  $\mathbf{z}'$  and  $\mathbf{x}$
- **cosBzy**: cosine of the angle between  $\mathbf{z}'$  and  $\mathbf{y}$
- **cosBzz**: cosine of the angle between  $\mathbf{z}'$  and  $\mathbf{z}$



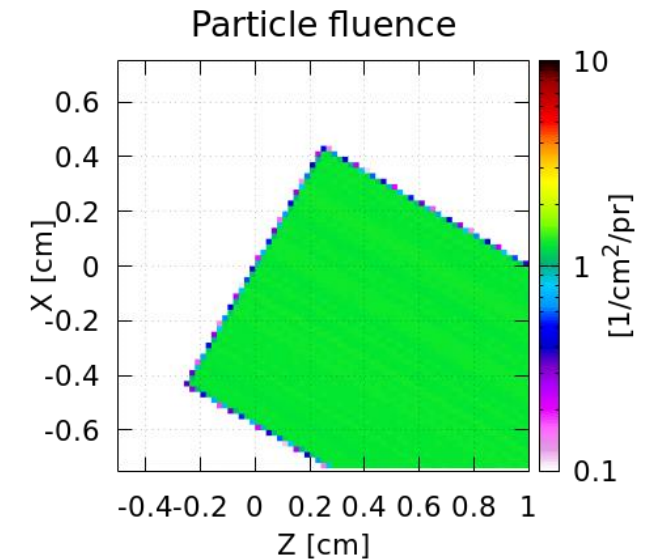


# Beam rotation

- **Example 2:** R = 0.5 cm cylindrical beam | zero divergence | rotated around y axis by  $-30^\circ$



WHAT	Beam axis	Geo axis	Angle [°]	Cos(Angle)
cosBxx	x'	x	30	~0.866
cosBxy	x'	y	90	0
cosBxz	x'	z	-60	0.5
cosBzx	z'	x	120	-0.5
cosBzy	z'	y	90	0
cosBzz	z'	z	30	~0.866



**BEAMAXES**     
 cosBxx: 0.86602540378     
 cosBxy: 0.0     
 cosBxz: 0.5  
 cosBzx: -0.5     
 cosBzy: 0.0     
 cosBzz: 0.86602540378

# Volumetric sources

Volumetric sources can be defined with a second **BEAMPOS** card:

- Available types:
  - Spherical shell (**SPHE-VOL**)
  - Cylindrical shell (**CYLI-VOL**)
  - Cartesian shell (**CART-VOL**)
  - Spherical surface (**FLOOD**)
- Volumetric sources are centred around the position defined in the first **BEAMPOS** card
- The location inside the volume is sampled uniformly
- The particle direction and angular distribution set in the first **BEAMPOS** card and the **BEAM** card are still applied
- **Warning:** The spatial distributions specified in the **BEAM** card will be disregarded

# Volumetric sources – *Spherical shell*

 **BEAMPOS**

Rin:

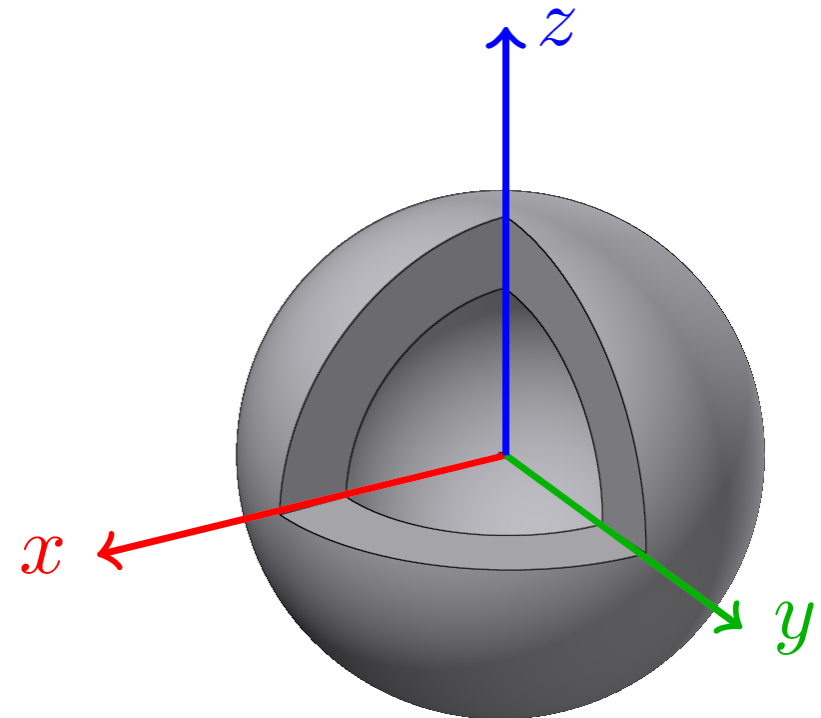
Rout:

Type: SPHE-VOL ▼

Specifies a spherical shell shaped source

Input fields:

- **Rin**: Inner radius [cm]
- **Rout**: Outer radius [cm]



# Volumetric sources – *Cylindrical shell*

 **BEAMPOS**

Rin:  
Hin:

Rout:  
Hout:

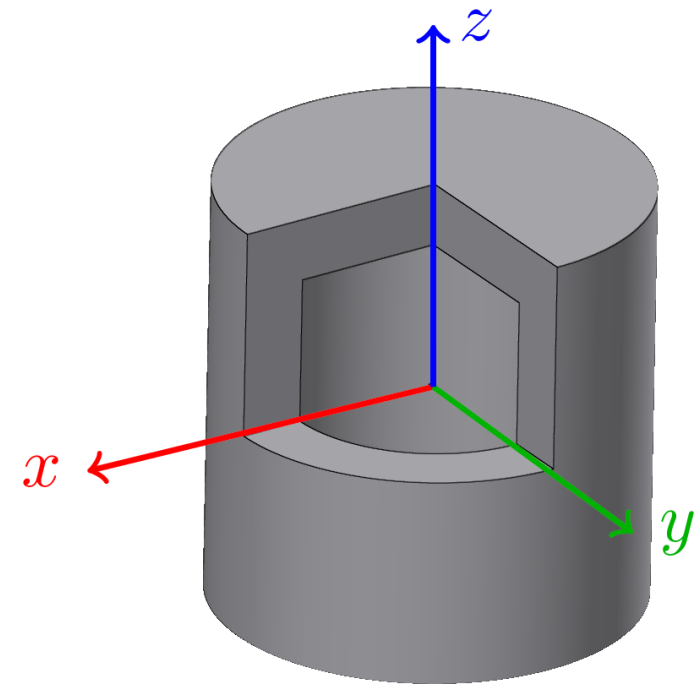
Type: CYLI-VOL ▼

Specifies a cylindrical shell shaped source around the  $z$  axis of the geometry

Input fields:

- **Rin**: Inner radius [cm]
- **Rout**: Outer radius [cm]
- **Hin**: Inner height [cm]
- **Hout**: Outer height [cm]

**Note:** The reference coordinate system can be changed with the **BEAMAXES** card



# Volumetric sources – *Cartesian shell*

 **BEAMPOS**

Xin:

Yin:

Zin:

Xout:

Yout:

Zout:

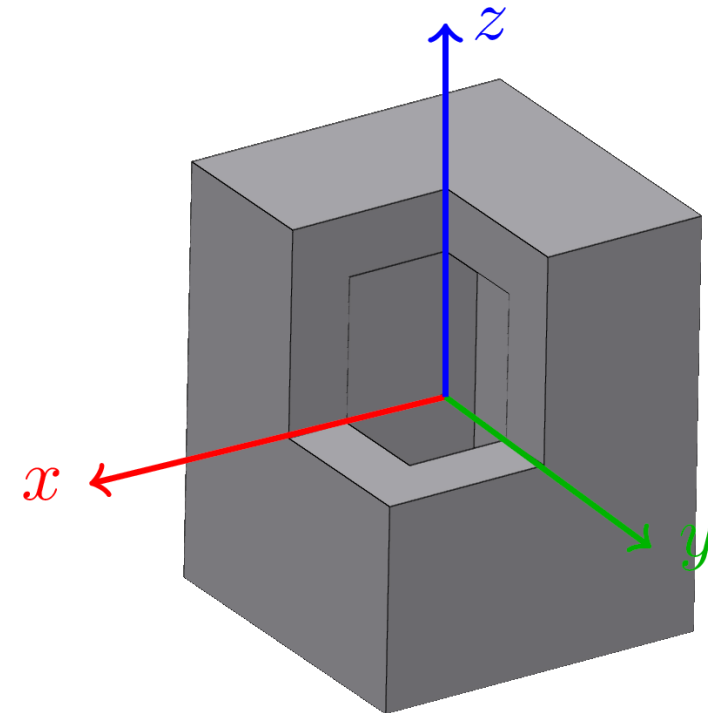
Type: CART-VOL ▼

Specifies a Cartesian shell shaped source along the axes of the geometry

Input fields:

- **Xin & Xout:** Inner & outer length of the **x**-sides
- **Yin & Yout:** Inner & outer length of the **y**-sides
- **Zin & Zout:** Inner & outer length of the **z**-sides

**Note:** The reference coordinate system can be changed with the **BEAMAXES** card



# Volumetric sources – *Spherical surface source*

 **BEAMPOS**

R:

Type: FLOOD ▼

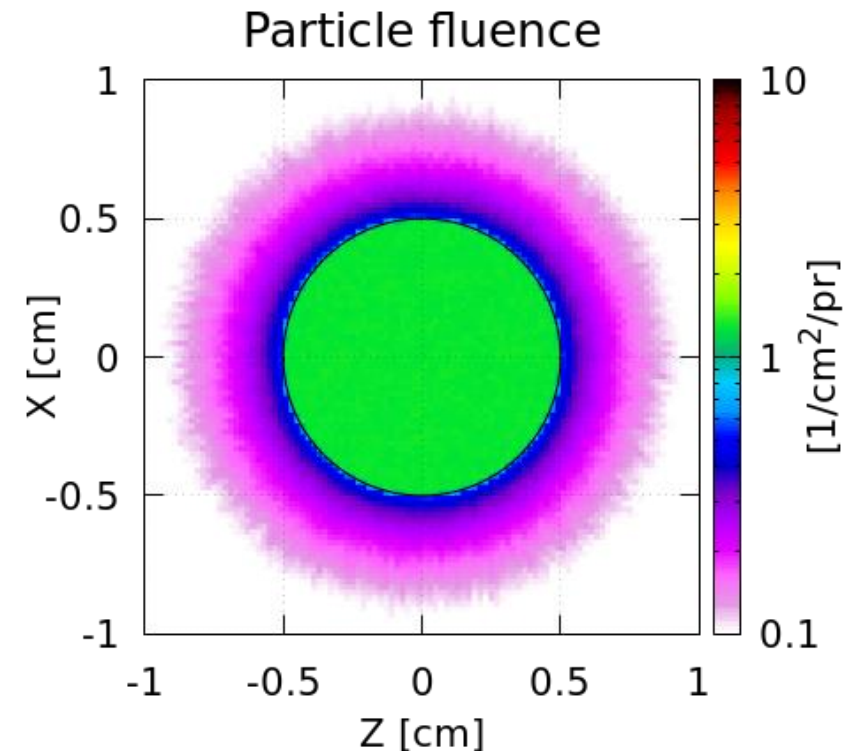
Specifies a spherical surface source in a way that the fluence inside the sphere is **uniform** and **isotropic**

The value of the generated fluence is:  $\frac{1}{\pi R^2} \text{ cm}^{-2}$

Input fields:

- R: Radius of the sphere [cm]

**Warning:** The particle direction and angular distribution set on the first **BEAMPOS** and the **BEAM** card are disregarded



# Further possibilities

Sometimes the **BEAM**, **BEAMPOS**, and **BEAMAXES** cards are not enough

- Special sources available in FLUKA

- Colliding beams
- Synchrotron radiation
- Cosmic rays
- Multiple beam spots
- USRBIN source

(See the *Advanced sources* lecture)

- Program your own custom sources

(See the *Source routine* lecture)

## 2. The FLUKA preprocessor



# The FLUKA preprocessor

- A limited, “C”-like preprocessor
- Manipulates the input before execution using directives
  
- 3 type of directives (starting with: #):
  - Definition:  
`#define, #undef`
  - Conditional:  
`#if, #elif, #else, #endif`
  - Include:  
`#include`

# FLUKA preprocessor - *Definition*

## Directive: `#define`

- Identifiers without numerical or character value:

④ `#define identifier_name :`

- Used in conjunction with conditional directives (`#if identifier_name ... #endif`)
- *identifier\_name* can be up to 40 character long

- Identifiers with numerical or character value:

④ `#define identifier_name : value`

- The *value* can be used in any other input card by referencing `$identifier_name` and can be up to 40 characters long
- Can also be used in conjunction with conditional directives

## Directive: `#undef`

④ `#undef identifier_name ▼`

- Deletes a previously defined identifier

# FLUKA preprocessor - *Definition*

- Identifiers can be *defined* and *referenced* anywhere in the input file
- Example:

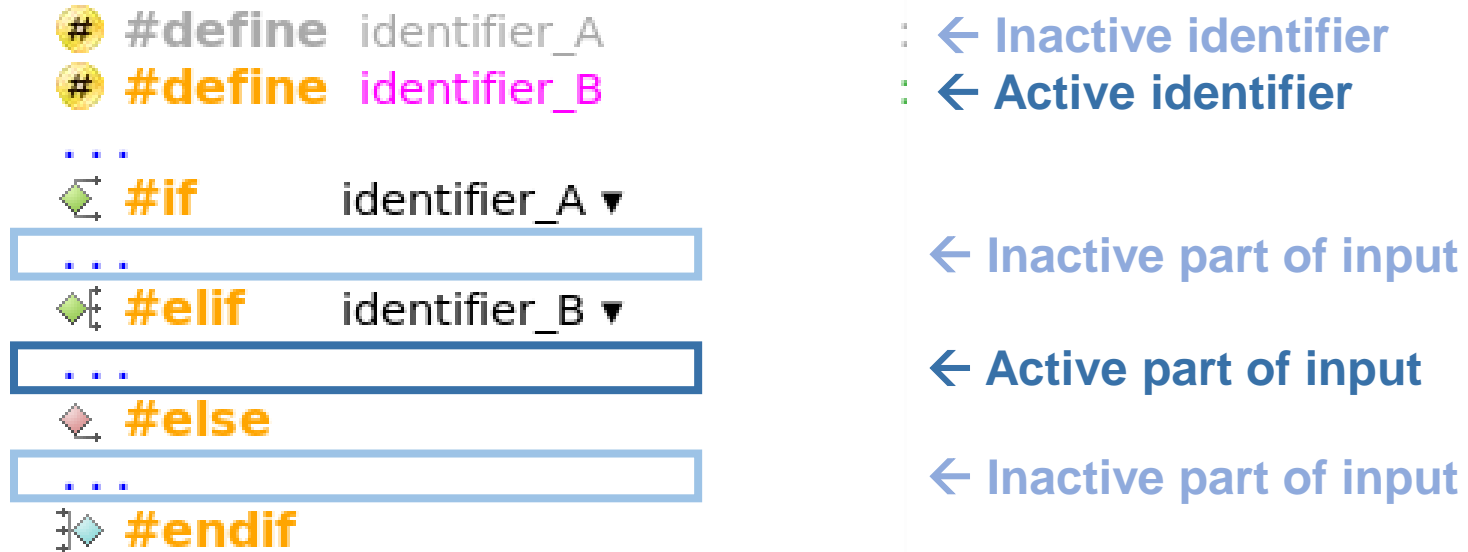
```
# #define Momentum           : 0.1
# #define Particle           : PROTON
* BEAM           Beam: Momentum ▼
    Δp: Flat ▼           Δp:
Shape(X): Rectangular ▼ Δx:
                                p: $Momentum           Part: $Particle ▼
                                Δφ: Flat ▼           Δφ:
                                Shape(Y): Rectangular ▼ Δy:
```

- **Note:** It is possible to redefine an identifier with a second `#define` directive
  - This is **NOT RECOMMENDED**
  - If an identifier is redefined, the new value is only applied to cards below
  - The output and error files will contain warning messages

# FLUKA preprocessor - *Conditional*

**Directives:** `#if`, `#elif`, `#else`, `#endif`

- To include or exclude parts of the input in conjunction with the `#define` directives



- They work similarly to any programming language
  - Limitation:** Cannot compare values, only test if an identifier is defined or not
- Can be nested
  - Limitation:** Maximum of 10 nesting levels can be used

# FLUKA preprocessor - *Conditional*

```
# #define NeutronBeam      :  
...  
# #if NeutronBeam ▼  
  * BEAM Beam: Energy ▼ E: 0.1 Part: NEUTRON ▼  
    Δp: Flat ▼ Δp: Δφ: Flat ▼ Δφ:  
    Shape(X): Rectangular ▼ Δx: Shape(Y): Rectangular ▼ Δy:  
# #else  
  * BEAM Beam: Energy ▼ E: 0.05 Part: PHOTON ▼  
    Δp: Flat ▼ Δp: Δφ: Flat ▼ Δφ:  
    Shape(X): Rectangular ▼ Δx: Shape(Y): Rectangular ▼ Δy:  
# #endif  
...  
# #if NeutronBeam ▼  
  * ASSIGNMA Mat: CONCRETE ▼ Reg: SHIELD ▼ to Reg: ▼  
    Mat(Decay): ▼ Step: Field: ▼  
# #else  
  * ASSIGNMA Mat: LEAD ▼ Reg: SHIELD ▼ to Reg: ▼  
    Mat(Decay): ▼ Step: Field: ▼  
# #endif
```


# FLUKA preprocessor - *Conditional*

```
# #define NeutronBeam      :  
...  
#if NeutronBeam ▾  
  # #define Energy        : -0.1  
  # #define Particle      : NEUTRON  
  # #define ShieldMa     : CONCRETE  
#else  
  # #define Energy        : -0.05  
  # #define Particle      : PHOTON  
  # #define ShieldMa     : LEAD  
#endif
```

```
...  
* BEAM          Beam: Energy ▾          E: $Energy          Part: $Particle ▾  
  Δp: Flat ▾      Δp:                    Δφ: Flat ▾          Δφ:  
  Shape(X): Rectangular ▾  Δx:          Shape(Y): Rectangular ▾  Δy:  
...  
* ASSIGNMA     Mat: $ShieldMa ▾          Reg: SHIELD ▾      to Reg: ▾  
  Mat(Decay): ▾      Step:                    Field: ▾
```

# FLUKA preprocessor - *Include*

## Directive: `#include`

 **#include** <path>/filename.inp ▼

- Includes the specified file to the input
  - Can be nested at multiple levels
- 
- The path can be:
    - Relative to the **main input** file
    - Absolute
- 
- Use cases:
    - Split large input files into multiple smaller ones
    - Reuse same input section (beam definition, scoring, etc.) in multiple input files

