#### Soft QCD and the Production of Secondary Cosmic Rays

#### **Tanguy Pierog**

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Institut für Astroteilchenphysik, Karlsruhe, Germany



#### Midsummer School in QCD, Saariselkä, Finland July the 4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> 2024

## Outline

- EAS : Longitudinal distributions
  - → Heitler model: X<sub>max</sub>
  - Longitudinal Profile
  - Energy Deposit

- EAS : Particles at ground
  - ➡ Heitler model: N<sub>µ</sub>
  - Particles at ground
  - Muon puzzle
  - Muon production depth

- EAS : Link with hadronic interactions
  - Hadronic Observables
  - Hadronic interaction
     models for Cosmic Rays

#### **Goal of Today's Lecture...**



The complete description of hadronic interactions is universal ... my biased view !



#### What can be used as projectile/target ?

Any charged particle with sufficiently long life time can be accelerated (electrons (e<sup>-</sup>), positrons (e<sup>+</sup>), protons (p), nuclei (A), hadrons (h), leptons (l) ...):





Hadronic Models - 2024





#### What can be used as projectile/target ?

Any charged particle with sufficiently long life time can be accelerated (electrons (e<sup>-</sup>), positrons (e<sup>+</sup>), protons (p), nuclei (A), hadrons (h), leptons (l) ...):

$$e^+ vs e^- \longrightarrow Ivs p(A) \longrightarrow pvs p \longrightarrow hvs A \longrightarrow Avs A$$



- $\blacklozenge$  complex particles
- study of new particles
- multiple interactions of inner structure
- "dirty"
- very high energy possible

(~10 TeV/c)





#### What can be used as projectile/target ?

Any charged particle with sufficiently long life time can be accelerated (electrons (e<sup>-</sup>), positrons (e<sup>+</sup>), protons (p), nuclei (A), hadrons (h), leptons (l) ...):

$$e^+ vs e^- \longrightarrow lvs p(A) \longrightarrow pvs p \longrightarrow hvs A \longrightarrow Avs A$$



complex particles with short life time

- important to understand particle cascade
- fixed target only: "forward" physics
- only low energy possible
   (~10 GeV/c)





Hadronic Models - 2024



#### What can be used as projectile/target (2)?

Any charged particle with sufficiently long life time can be accelerated (electrons (e<sup>-</sup>), positrons (e<sup>+</sup>), protons (p), nuclei (A), hadrons (h), leptons (l) ...):





**Different particles = different detectors** 



#### What can be used as projectile/target (3)?

Any charged particle with sufficiently long life time can be accelerated (electrons (e<sup>-</sup>), positrons (e<sup>+</sup>), protons (p), nuclei (A), hadrons (h), leptons (l) ...):



#### Different particles = different physics = different models



#### What can be used as projectile/target (3)?

Any charged particle with sufficiently long life time can be accelerated (electrons (e<sup>-</sup>), positrons (e<sup>+</sup>), protons (p), nuclei (A), hadrons (h), leptons (l) ...):



#### Different particles = building blocks for a complete approach

scatterings

#### What is measured by detectors ?

- 2 types of scatterings
  - elastic : only momentum transfer between projectile and tartget : particle shape
  - inelastic : new particles are produced : standard model
- Only particles with long enough life time can be directly observed :
  - ➡ proton, neutron, charged pions, charged kaons, electrons, muons and photons
  - easier to measure charged particles
- Hadronic models necessary to compare theory processes with data by a proper hadronization of more fundamental particles
  - ➡ hadronization can not be calculated from first principles (non-perturbative QCD process)
  - phenomenological approach compared to data to fix (tune) parameters
    - importance of the different "building blocks"
    - different type of particle scattering

#### **"soft" Low Momentum Particle Production**

- All high energy physics analysis (top, Higgs, Electroweak, supersymmetry, ...) rely on the hadronic interaction models :
  - directly : pQCD, hadronization of top jets, particle decay, missing energy ...
  - indirectly : detector simulations, background, underlying events ...
- Different type of hadronic models
  - all based on Monte Carlo methods : intensive use of random numbers
  - High Energy Physics models (HEP) : event build around a selected hard process (can be used as minium bias event generator)
    - fast and precise
    - need data to fine tune the parameters (low predictive power for "soft")
  - Cosmic Ray models (CR) : minimum bias event generator only
    - slow and do not include very rare hard processes
    - one set of parameter to reproduce all relevant data



#### **Hadronization of Quarks**





Hadronic Models - 2024

T. Pierog, KIT - 16/50

scatterings

e<sup>+</sup> vs e<sup>-</sup> I vs p (A) p vs p h vs A A vs A

### String fragmentation and rapidity



Rapidity

$$y = \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{E + p_{\parallel}}{E - P_{\parallel}}$$

Rapidity of massless particles

$$y = \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{1 + \cos \theta}{1 - \cos \theta} = -\ln \tan \frac{\theta}{2}$$



e<sup>+</sup> vs e<sup>-</sup>

**Test at LEP** 



T. Pierog, KIT - 18/50





Hadronic Models - 2024

T. Pierog, KIT - 19/50

#### **Perturbative QCD predictions for parton densities**



Hadronic Models - 2024

#### Test of parton interactions using deep inelastic scattering

- Theory based parton distribution function (pdf)
  - pQCD based for small x and large Q<sup>2</sup>
  - Regge "soft" parametrization at small x and low Q<sup>2</sup>
  - explicit fit of data only for valence quarks
- External pdf
  - HEP models
  - fit of data (including uncertainty) for low Q<sup>2</sup>
  - pQCD based evolution for large Q<sup>2</sup>







vs p (A)

p vs p

h vs A

#### **QCD** parton model: minijets



#### Hadronic Models - 2024

T. Pierog, KIT - 23/50

#### **Solution:** Multiple parton-parton interactions (MPI)



Proton-proton cross section

ronic Models - 2024

scatterings

vsp(A)

p vs p

h vs A

A vs A

#### **MPI depends on model**

#### High Energy Physics models

- $\rightarrow$  <n<sub>iet</sub>> and cross-section (fit) are independent
- no soft multiple scattering
- no constrain from total cross-section to have independent access of inclusive class of events (Higgs, electroweak, etc ...)

#### Cosmic Ray models

- Gribov Regge Theory (GRT) used to compute total cross-section
- Parton model approach
  - In this  $\sigma_{hard}$  (pQCD) and  $\sigma_{tot}$  (data)
  - GRT using <n<sub>jet</sub>> as final goal to reach
- or <u>Pomeron approach</u>
  - first built the Pomeron from soft and hard component
  - then add corrections to the bare amplitude to fit the total crosssection using GRT
  - <n> is a consequence of the Pomeron choice and the crosssection.



l vs p (A)

p vs

h vs A

A vs A

#### **Pomeron Definition**

$$A(s,t) = \eta(\alpha(t)) \ \beta(t) \ \left(\frac{s}{s_0}\right)^{\alpha(t)}$$

Amplitude of elementary parton-parton interaction=mini-jet



Lorentz-invariant description with Mandelstam variables

$$s = (p_a + p_b)^2$$
$$t = (p'_a - p_a)^2$$

- Quasi-particle that effectively accounts for all exchanged hadronic states
- Amplitude exhibits power-law dependence on energy
- Regge trajectory of Pomeron: exchanged particles might be glue balls  $(\alpha(t))$
- Pomeron trajectory only phenomenologically known
- Large Nc-nf approximation of QCD: Pomeron corresponds to cylinder topology
- Final state configuration: leading contribution is two chains (strings) of hadrons
- Gluon-gluon scattering in pQCD corresponds to 'hard' contribution to Pomeron

Multiple exchanges & interaction of quasi-particles (Pomerons): **Gribov's Reggeon Field Theory** 





#### **Pomeron in Models**

Semi-hard Pomeron :



Test of semi-hard Pomeron with Deep Inelastic Scattering: (Parton Distribution Function from HERA)



scatterings

e⁺ vs e⁻

lvsp(A)

p vs p

/s A

#### **Gribov-Regge Based Models**



Using Gribov-Regge (GR) : cross section from optical theorem :

$$\sigma_{ine}(\sqrt{s}) = \int d^2 b (1 - \exp(-G(\sqrt{s}, b)))$$

where G(energy, impact parameter) = Pomeron amplitude

Multiple elementary scattering

 Probability for the number of elementary interactions (Pomeron) per event (Poisson)

Successful description of hadronic cross-sections But Energy conservation NOT considered between the elementary interactions G

No possibility to deduce directly particle production !

catterings

e⁺ vs e⁻

lvsp(A)

p vs p

A /

#### **Particle Production in GR based Models**



- Number of strings from GR
  - No energy conservation
- Energy sharing
  - Not consistent with cross-section
- String fragmentation
  - Proper energy conservation

## Link between cross-section and particle production not consistent !

Parton-Based Gribov-Regge Therory\* (PBGRT) developed to solve the problem : same formalisme for cross section and particle production used first in NEXUS and now in EPOS

Hadronic Models - 2024

T. Pierog, KIT - 29/50

scatterings e<sup>+</sup> vs e<sup>-</sup> I vs p (A) [p vs p] h vs A A vs A Cross Section Calculation with Energy Conservation



- Gribov-Regge but with energy sharing at parton level (Parton Based Gribov Regge Theory: H.J. Drescher et al., Phys. Rept. 350 (2001) 93)
- amplitude parameters fixed from QCD and pp cross section (semi-hard Pomeron)
- cross section calculation take into account interference term

$$\sigma_{\rm ine}(s) = \int d^2 b \left(1 - \Phi_{\rm pp}(1, 1, s, b)\right)$$

$$\Phi_{\rm pp}\left(x^+, x^-, s, b\right) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \int dx_1^+ dx_1^- \dots dx_l^+ dx_l^- \left\{ \frac{1}{l!} \prod_{\lambda=1}^l -G(x_\lambda^+, x_\lambda^-, s, b) \right\}$$
$$\times F_{\rm proj}\left(x^+ - \sum x_\lambda^+\right) F_{\rm targ}\left(x^- - \sum x_\lambda^-\right).$$

Hadronic Models - 2024

vsp(A)

[p vs p]

n vs A

A vs A

#### **Particle Production in EPOS**

m number of exchanged elementary interaction per event fixed from elastic amplitude taking into account energy sharing :

m cut Pomerons from :

$$\Omega_{AB}^{(s,b)}(m,X^+,X^-) = \prod_{k=1}^{AB} \left\{ \frac{1}{m_k!} \prod_{\mu=1}^{m_k} G(x_{k,\mu}^+,x_{k,\mu}^-,s,b_k) \right\} \Phi_{AB} \left( x^{\text{proj}},x^{\text{targ}},s,b \right)$$

m and X fixed together by a complex Metropolis (Markov chain)

➡ 2m strings formed from the m elementary interactions

energy conservation : energy fraction of the 2m strings given by X

consistent scheme : energy sharing reduce the probability to have large m

Consistent treatment of cross section and particle production: number AND distribution of cut Pomerons depend on cross section scatterings

vs p (A)

p vs p

h vs A

A vs A

#### **Number of cut Pomerons**

Fluctuations reduced by energy sharing (mean can be changed by parameters)



Hadronic Models - 2024







Hadronic Models - 2024

T. Pierog, KIT - 33/50

#### **Transition from intermediate to high energy**



#### Intermediate energy:

- $E_{lab} < 1,500 \text{ GeV}$
- $E_{cm} < 50 \text{ GeV}$
- dominated by valence quarks

Increase of effective nucleon radius due to small x partons



#### High energy regime:

- E<sub>lab</sub> > 21,000 GeV
- E<sub>cm</sub> > 200 GeV
- dominated by gluons and sea quarks



p vs p



#### Remnants

# Forward particles mainly from projectile remnant





- At very low energy only particles from remnants
- At low energy (fixed target experiments) (SPS) strong mixing
- At intermediate energy (RHIC) mainly string contribution at mid-rapidity with tail of remnants.
- At high energy (LHC) only strings at midrapidity (baryon free)

Different contributions of particle production at different energies or rapidities

#### atterings e⁺ vs e⁻ I vs p (A) p vs p h vs A A vs A Leading Particle Effect

#### **Remnant (leading particle) effect**

- Different forward production depending on the projectile
- Low energy : even the target hadronization can change "forward" distributions











Hadronic Models - 2024

T. Pierog, KIT - 37/50

l vs p (A)

p vs p

![](_page_37_Picture_5.jpeg)

#### **Nucleus Interactions**

![](_page_37_Figure_7.jpeg)

#### Glauber model

- Simple non-coherent approach
- all collisions taken independently
- works well for rare hard processes which will happen only once per participant
- cross-section calculation with some corrections

### Gribov Regge extension to nuclei

- coherent approach
- energy conservation can be taken into account
- good for cross-section and multiplicity
- special care for hard processes

![](_page_37_Figure_18.jpeg)

scatterings

## **High Density Core Formation**

#### Heavy ion (HI) collisions :

the usual procedure has to be modified, since the density of strings will be so high that they cannot possibly decay independently : core
energy density [GeV/fm3] (x=0, tau= 0.6fm) C1

![](_page_38_Figure_9.jpeg)

lvsp(A)

p vs p

h vs A

A vs A

### **Core Hadronization**

#### 2 types of hadronization

- Corona (low density = pp ?) : standard string hadronization (in vacuum)
- Core (high density = HI ?) : collective (thermal) hadronization (in medium)

#### Thermal hadronization

- Good description of all particle yields in a central heavy ion collision with 2 parameters (temperature and chemical potential)
- Apply to extended source and based on conservation laws only.
- Energy/system/centrality evolution fixed by core/corona ratio !
  - No need to change hadronization of a given system (color reconnection ?)

![](_page_39_Figure_15.jpeg)

scatterings

![](_page_40_Picture_5.jpeg)

#### **Collective Hadronization**

 One decade of RHIC experiments (heavy ion, pp, and dAu scattering, up to 200 GeV)

#### heavy ion collisions produce matter which expands as an almost ideal fluid

mainly because azimuthal anisotropies (particle correlations) can be explained on the basis of ideal hydrodynamics (mass splitting, ridge, etc ...)

# LHC pp results: first signs for collective behavior as well ... ?

### **Global Approach**

#### Moving from projectile/target to energy density (particle number)

- New point of view on particle production
- Continuity in particle ration evolution between pp, pPb and PbPb
- No model can reproduce every thing
  - PYTHIA : string only
  - DIPSY : overlapping strings with modified parameters
  - EPOS LHC : core/corona

![](_page_41_Figure_9.jpeg)

Nature Letters DOI: 10.1038/NPHYS4111

![](_page_41_Figure_11.jpeg)

### **Global Approach : Core+Corona**

#### Moving from projectile/target to energy density (particle number)

- New point of view on particle production
- Good description achieved with core/corona + hadron reinteractions (hadron gas)
  - Same physics for all systems but different mixtures of the 2 components (low + high energy density hadronization)

![](_page_42_Figure_11.jpeg)

p vs p

![](_page_43_Picture_4.jpeg)

### **Global Approach : EPOS**

#### **Detailed description can be achieved**

identified spectra

 $\rightarrow$  p<sub>t</sub> behavior driven by collective effects (statistical hadronization + flow)

 $\rightarrow$  large effect for multi-strange baryons (yield AND <p\_>)

![](_page_43_Figure_10.jpeg)

#### **Particle Densities in Air Showers**

Is particle density in air shower high enough to expect core formation ?

- Core formation start quite early according to ALICE data
- Cosmic ray primary interaction likely to have 50% core at mid-rapidity ... but forward can be different !

![](_page_44_Figure_4.jpeg)

### **Core-Corona appoach and EAS**

To test if a QGP like hadronization can account for the missing muon production in EAS simulations a core-corona approach can be artificially apply to any model

- Particle ratios from statistical model are known (tuned to PbPb) and fixed : core
- Initial particle ratios given by individual hadronic interaction models : corona
- Using CONEX, EAS can be simulated mixing corona hadronization with an arbitrary fraction  $\omega_{core}$  of core hadronization:

$$N_i = \omega_{\rm core} N_i^{\rm core} + (1 - \omega_{\rm core}) N_i^{\rm corona}$$

![](_page_45_Figure_6.jpeg)

Hadronic Models - 2024

Ref: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1902.09265>

#### **Evolution of hadronization from core to corona**

The relative fraction of  $\pi^{0}$  depends on the hadronization scheme  $\rightarrow$  Change of  $\omega_{core}$  with energy changes  $c = \frac{N_{\pi^{0}}}{N_{mult}}$  or  $R(\eta) = \frac{\langle dE_{em}/d\eta \rangle}{\langle dE_{had}/d\eta \rangle}$ 

which define the muon production in air showers.

![](_page_46_Figure_3.jpeg)

Hadronic Models - 2024

Ref: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1902.09265>

#### **Results for z-scale**

![](_page_47_Figure_1.jpeg)

Hadronic Models - 2024

Ref: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1902.09265>

T. Pierog, KIT - 48/50

#### **Complete Picture and Muon Puzzle**

![](_page_48_Figure_1.jpeg)

Hadronic Models - 2024

Ref: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1902.09265>

T. Pierog, KIT - 49/50

### **High Energy Hadronic Interactions**

![](_page_49_Figure_1.jpeg)

References : Ralph Engel PhD Thesis (1997) K. Werner, Phys.Rept. 232, Nos. 2-5 (1993) 87-299 K. Werner, arXiv:hep-ph/0206111v1

### **References for High Energy Models (new)**

#### DPMJET III

- J. Ranft, R. Engel, S. Roesler, Nucl. Phys. B Proc. Suppl.122, 392 (2003)
- A. Fedynitch, Cascade equations and hadronic interactions at very high energies. PhD thesis, KIT, Karlsruhe, Dept.Phys. (2015)
- A. Fedynitch, R. Engel, 14th Inter-national Conference on Nuclear Reaction Mechanisms:Varenna, Italy, p. 291. CERN, Geneva (2015)

#### EPOS LHC

T. Pierog at al., Phys. Rev. C92 (2015) 034906 arXiv:1306.0121 [hep-ph]

#### QGSJETII-04

- S. Ostapchenko, Phys. Rev. **D83** (2011) 014018
- S. Ostapchenko, Phys. Rev. **D89** (2014) 074009

#### SIBYLL 2.3d

F. Riehn et al. Phys. Rev. **D102** (2020), 063002 arXiv:1912.03300 [hep-ph]

#### **References for High Energy Models (old)**

- DPMJET II
  - → J. Ranft, Phys. Rev. **D51**, 64 (1995)
- EPOS 1.99
  - → K. Werner et al., Phys. Rev. **C74** (2006) 044902
  - ➡ T. Pierog et al., ICRC 2009 Proceedings
- QGSJET 01
  - N.N. Kalmykov et al., Nucl. Phys. B (Proc. Suppl.) 52B (1997) 17
- QGSJETII-03
  - S. Ostapchenko, Phys. Rev. **D74** (2006) 014026
  - → Nucl. Phys. B (Proc. Suppl.) 151 (2006) 143 & 147
- SIBYLL 2.1
  - R. Engel et al., Proc. 26th ICRC (Salt Lake City) 1 (1999) 415
  - → E.-J. Ahn et al., Phys. Rev. **D80** (2009) 094003

![](_page_52_Figure_0.jpeg)

Core-corona = mixing of the two for proton-proton, hadron-Air, ...

![](_page_53_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Figure_4.jpeg)

**EPOS LHC** 

#### **EPOS LHC**

#### Effective flow treatment

![](_page_54_Figure_8.jpeg)

Hadronic Models - 2024

T. Pierog, <u>KIT - 55/50</u>

### **EPOS LHC**

- Detailed description can be achieved
  - identified spectra
  - → p<sub>t</sub> behavior driven by collective effects (statistical hadronization + flow)

![](_page_55_Figure_10.jpeg)

Hadronic Models - 2024

T. Pierog, KIT - 56/50

#### Parton densities not known at very low x

![](_page_56_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### HERA measurement range

#### **Dependence on transverse momentum cutoff**

![](_page_57_Figure_2.jpeg)

Cross section of new interaction process of minijet production cannot simply be added to cross section from soft interactions

#### From cut Pomerons to hadrons: string fragmentation

planar representation of a cylindrical semihard Pomeron

![](_page_58_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Figure_4.jpeg)

#### **Are fragmentation parameters universal ?**

#### In principle yes but ...

- Only EPOS (Pythia) uses LEP data
  - Without remnant and statistical hadronization of high density regions (Pythia) : NO
  - If everything is taken into account : YES (it seems ...)
- QGSJET and SIBYLL use hadronic interaction data at low energy to fix parameters for string fragmentation
  - possible bias due to remnant contribution
- String fragmentation models
  - Lund fragmentation function (Pythia)
  - Area law (EPOS)

![](_page_60_Figure_0.jpeg)

classical GRT: energy conservation not taken into account at this level

atterings e⁺vse⁻ Ivsp(A) pvsp hvsA AvsA

#### **Particle Production from Pomerons**

number n of exchanged elementary interaction per event fixed from elastic amplitude (cross section) :

$$P(n) = \frac{(2\chi)^n}{n!} \cdot \exp(-2\chi)$$

- no energy sharing accounted for (interference term)
- ✤ 2n strings formed from the n elementary interactions
  - energy conservation : energy shared between the 2n strings
  - particles from string fragmentation
- $\blacksquare$  inconsistency : energy sharing should be taken into account when fixing n
  - alternative approach with energy conservation from the beginning (EPOS)

#### Scattering of quarks and gluons: jet production

![](_page_62_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### Interpretation within perturbative QCD

![](_page_63_Figure_2.jpeg)

Hard interaction: large momentum transfer ( $|t| > 2 \text{ GeV}^2$ )

#### Simplest case: e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup> annihilation into quarks

![](_page_64_Figure_2.jpeg)

scatterings

/s p (A)

p vs p

Avs

### **Fragmentation function (SIBYLL)**

String characterized by momentum fractions of partons at ends

![](_page_65_Figure_7.jpeg)

scatterings

#### A vs A

## **Event-by-Event Energy Density : AuAu**

- Bumpy structure of energy density in transverse plane, but translational invariance
  - pseudorapidity extension of flux tubes (strings)

![](_page_66_Figure_9.jpeg)

Initial energy density in the transverse plane for two different  $\eta_{r}$ 

![](_page_67_Picture_5.jpeg)

### **Event-by-Event Energy Density : pp**

- Random azimuthal asymmetries of initial energy density but translational invariance
  - pseudorapidity extension of flux tubes (strings)

![](_page_67_Figure_9.jpeg)

Initial energy density in the transverse plane for two different  $\eta_{\mbox{\tiny e}}$