



Beginner course

INTA, Madrid
April 15-19, 2024

First of all...

Many thanks to **Andres, Maite and Paula** (INTA) for the organisational effort!

Course website: <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1352709/>

2024 FLUKA.CERN beginner course - Madrid

15–19 Apr 2024
Europe/Zurich timezone

Enter your search term

Overview

Timetable

Registration

Contact



Introduction

The 2024 FLUKA Course for beginners will take place from 15 to 19 April in the premises of INTA, the Spanish National Institute for Aerospace Technologies.

Slides for lectures + exercises,
as well as exercise input files
(and solution files in due time...)



Introduction to FLUKA

Where we come from

- FLUKA was born in the 60's at **CERN** with Johannes Ranft
- It was further developed in the 70s and 80s in a collaboration between **Leipzig University**, **CERN** and **Helsinki University of Technology** for applications, e.g., at CERN's high energy accelerators, and in the 90s with **INFN**, among others for the design of SSC and LHC
- From 2003 until August 2019 maintained and developed under a **CERN & INFN** agreement
- From December 2019, new **CERN** distribution aiming to ensure FLUKA's long-term sustainability and capability to meet the evolving requirements of its user community, welcoming contributions by both established FLUKA contributors as well as new partners within an **international collaboration**.
- Presently a joint development & management team based in the **CERN Accelerators and Technology Sector and Radiation Protection Group and at ELI-Beamlines (Prague)**, with contributors from the CERN Research and Computing Sector, JRC-Geel, ANL, and STFC, is in place.

FLUKA.CERN distribution

<https://fluka.cern>



[HOME](#) [DOWNLOAD](#) [DOCUMENTATION](#) [FLAIR](#) [SUPPORT](#)

Release of FLUKA 4-0.1
2020-08-24 - [Release](#)

FLUKA online training for
beginners (Sept/Oct 2020)
2020-08-01 - [Event](#)

Release of FLUKA 4.0 and Flair 3.1
2020-06-30 - [Release](#)

FLUKA online training in autumn
2020
2020-06-29 - [Event](#)

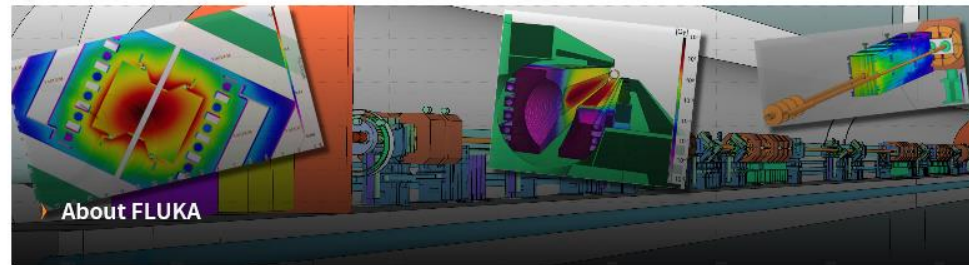
[more](#)

FLUKA 4-0.1, 2020-08-24

Flair 3.1-2nd, 2020-07-10

Registration problems? Enquiry about a
commercial license? Enquiry about an
institutional license for accessing the
source code? Feedback to the website?

Use the [contact form](#).



Installing, Running and Runtime Errors
Category for questions related to installing and running FLUKA and Flair

Flair
Category for questions related to the graphical user interface Flair.

Source Definition
Category for questions concerning built-in source options, like particle beams, hadron-hadron collisions or radioactive sources.

Geometry and Materials
Category for material and geometry-related questions including topics like transformations and lattices.

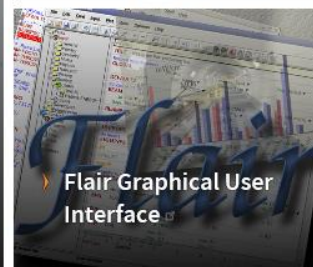
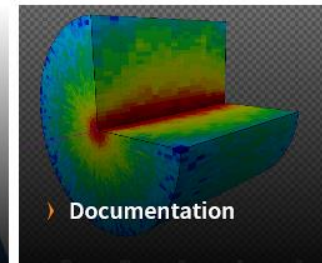
Scoring and Biasing
Category for questions related to built-in scoring and biasing options.

Physics, Transport and Magnetic Fields
Category for physics-related questions, as well as questions on transport and magnetic field settings.

Advanced Features and User Routines
Category for questions on user routines and other advanced features.

Applications
Category for application-related questions, including those with the FLUKA website.

[User Forum](#)



Licensing Scheme

Registration options

FLUKA Single User License Agreement

Affiliates of institutes with a FLUKA Institutional License Agreement

CERN Staff members and Fellows

Affiliates of institutes which signed the FLUKA Memorandum of Understanding

Companies which purchased a FLUKA Commercial License Agreement

Includes access to:

source code

development version

- **Licenses are free** except for commercial use
- They are granted for **non-military use** only
- For **central FLUKA installations on computing clusters** of universities/institutes it is not necessary to obtain an Institutional FLUKA Licence. However, it is mandatory that all FLUKA users register on this website and accept the Single User Licence Agreement.

Recent developments of FLUKA.CERN

FLUKA 2011-3 *December 2019*

FLUKA 4-0 **June 2020**

FLUKA 4-0.1 *August 2020*

FLUKA 4-1 **November 2020**

FLUKA 4-1.1 *February 2021*

FLUKA 4-2 **October 2021**

FLUKA 4-2.1 *December 2021*

FLUKA 4-2.2 *March 2022*

FLUKA 4-3 **September 2022**

FLUKA 4-3.1 *December 2022*

FLUKA 4-3.2 *March 2023*

FLUKA 4-3.3 *May 2023*

FLUKA 4-3.4 *September 2023*

FLUKA 4-4 **February 2024**

Coherent transport effects for charged particles in **bent crystals**; electric field in vacuum; electronuclear reactions; direct (p,n) reactions.

Compound nucleus spin and parity accounted for in evaporation and Fermi break-up; **new generation source routine** for users.












Low-energy **deuteron interaction** model; proton reaction cross section refinement; ICRP116 and ICRU95 dose equivalent conversion coefficients; simplified out-of-the-box usage of multiple magnetic fields

Point-wise treatment for **low-energy neutron** interactions; **synchrotron radiation** emission during charged particle tracking

Proton nuclear elastic scattering improvement at low energies; gamma cascade improvement for thermal neutron capture; (d,2n) improvement on heavy targets

The most recent reference

New Capabilities of the FLUKA Multi-Purpose Code

 C. Ahdida¹,  D. Bozzato^{1,2},  D. Calzolari¹,  F. Cerutti^{1*},  N. Charitonidis¹,  A. Cimmino³,  A. Coronetti^{1,4},  G. L. D'Alessandro¹,  A. Donadon Servelle^{1,5},  L. S. Esposito¹,  R. Froeschl¹, R. García Alía¹, A. Gerbershagen¹, S. Gilardoni¹, D. Horváth³, G. Hugo¹, A. Infantino¹, V. Kouskoura¹, A. Lechner¹, B. Lefebvre³, G. Lerner¹, M. Magistris¹, A. Manousos^{1,6}, G. Moryc¹, F. Ogallar Ruiz^{1,7}, F. Pozzi¹, D. Prelicpean^{1,8}, S. Roesler¹, R. Rossi¹, M. Sabaté Gilarte¹, F. Salvat Pujol¹, P. Schoofs¹, V. Stránský³, C. Theis¹, A. Tsinganis⁹, R. Versaci³, V. Vlachoudis¹, A. Waets⁴ and M. Witorski¹

ORIGINAL RESEARCH article

Front. Phys., 27 January 2022 | <https://doi.org/10.3389/fphy.2021.788253>

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⁶Department of Physics, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

⁷Department of Atomic, Molecular and Nuclear Physics, University of Granada, Granada, Spain

⁸Department of Physics, Technical University of Munich (TUM), Munich, Germany

⁹European Commission, Joint Research Centre (JRC), Geel, Belgium

- Please always check the FLUKA.CERN website for the updated [list of references](https://fluka.cern/documentation/references) that should be cited in publications: <https://fluka.cern/documentation/references>

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Data Availability Statement

Author Contributions

Conflict of Interest

Publisher's Note

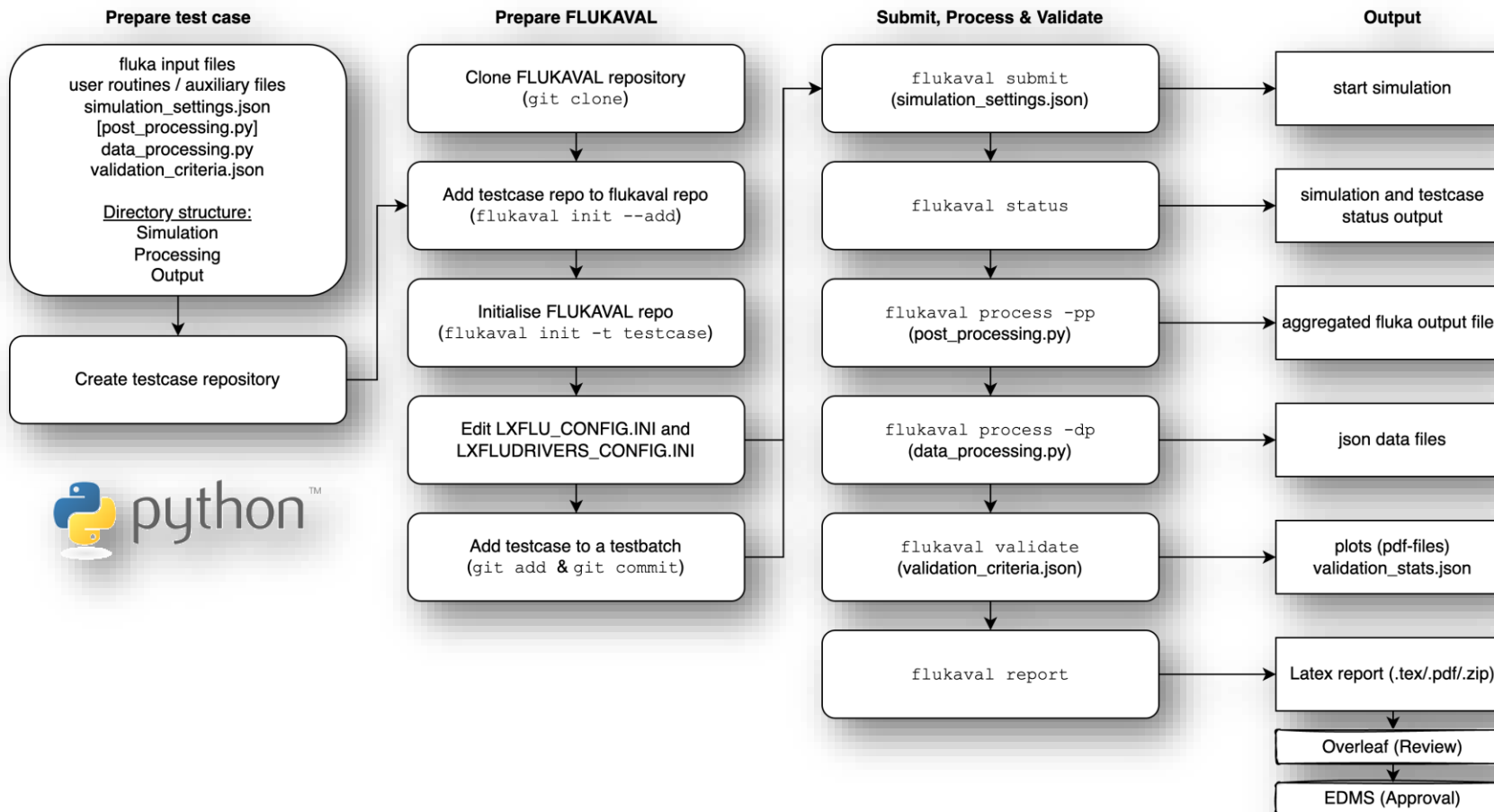
Acknowledgments

Footnotes

References

Code validation: FLUKAVAL

Confirm that each release candidate FLUKA version yields consistent results compared to a reference version for a set of test cases, and produce a formal validation report



- Semi-automatic batch submission, processing and validation of test cases and report generation
- Any FLUKA input and dedicated tests having access to the FLUKA code at the model level can be integrated in a few steps
- Optimised for the submission of a large number of test cases to the CERN Batch Service, or any cluster running HTCondor
- Routinely used to validate new versions before release
- Python-based command line application
- Using the **git version control system** to store simulation and reference data

User Support

FLUKA User Forum

<https://cern.ch/fluka-forum>

Note: an independent one-time registration is required to be able to participate

FLUKA Training

<https://indico.cern.ch/category/9178>

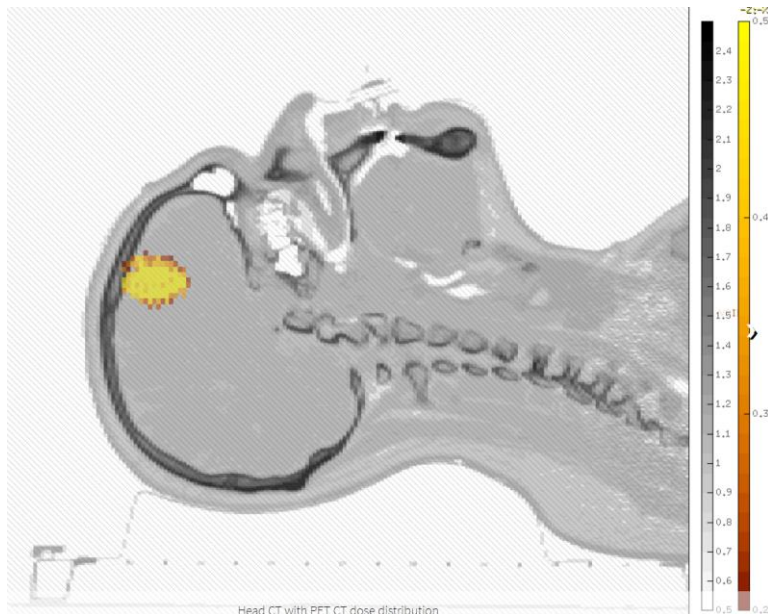
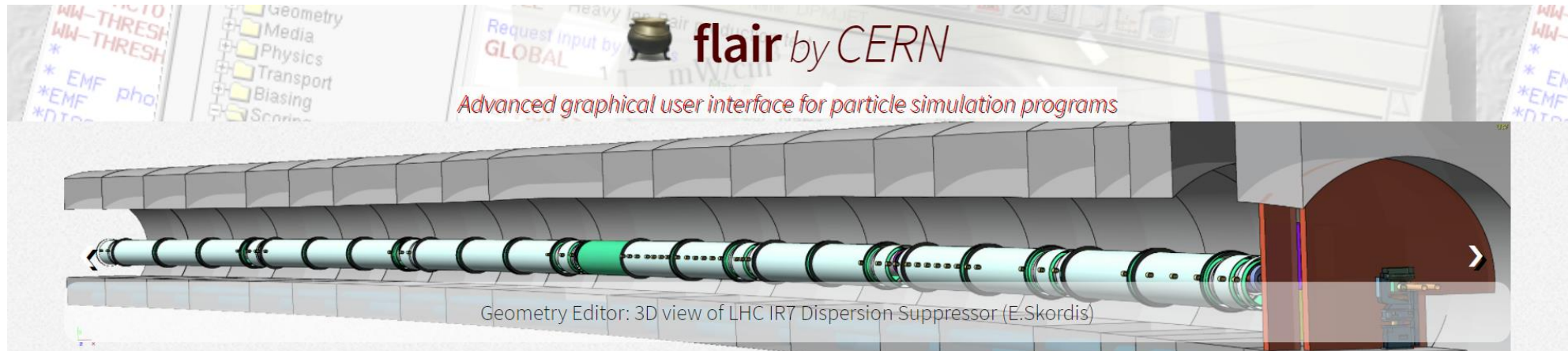
- Three Beginner Online Training courses were held in 2020 and one in 2021
- In-person beginner courses in 2022 (Brussels), 2023 (Paris), and 2024 (Madrid)
- One advanced course held spring 2023 in person in the US (Chicago)



The screenshot shows the FLUKA User Forum interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the FLUKA logo and navigation icons. Below the header, the forum title "FLUKA User Forum" is displayed, along with a description: "Discussion forum for users of the FLUKA Monte Carlo code and its graphical user interface Flair distributed by CERN on fluka.cern and cern.ch/flair." The interface includes a search bar, a "New Topic" button, and a list of categories. The categories are listed with their respective topic counts and unread counts. The "Latest" column shows the most recent posts in each category.

Category	Topics	Latest
Announcements As of December 2019, this discussion list represents the official forum for users of the FLUKA Monte Carlo code and its graphical user interface Flair, distributed by the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN).	7	No Random file available ■ Installing, Running and Runtime Errors 10h
Installing, Running and Runtime Errors Category for questions related to installing and running FLUKA and Flair.	26 2 unread	Software requirements of FLUKA and Flair ■ Installing, Running and Runtime Errors 3 1d
Flair Category for questions related to the graphical user interface Flair.	27 1 unread	Bugs in FLAIR 3.0-8a ■ Staff 6 1d
Source Definition Category for questions concerning built-in source options, like particle beams, hadron-hadron collisions or isotropic sources.	2 3 unread	Nothing provides python3-imaging-tk issue while installing geoviewer on centos 8 ■ Flair 6 1d
Geometry and Materials Category for material and geometry-related questions including topics like transformations and lattices.	8 7 unread	Number of processed DETECT cards ■ Scoring and Biasing 2 3d
Scoring and Biasing Category for questions related to built-in scoring and biasing options.	10 3 unread	Gnuplot errors or warnings found ■ Flair 5 5d
Physics, Transport and Magnetic Fields Category for physics-related questions, as well as questions on	12 11 unread	Make: /usr/local/fluka/flutil/fff: Command not found ■ Advanced Features and User Routines 4 5d
		Installation of FLAIR and the geoviewer on Mac OS Catalina with Home-brew L 2 6d

<https://flair.cern>



Authors

authors: Vasilis Vlachoudis (*lead author*)
Christian Theis
Wioletta Kozłowska

Current Version

- Latest version: **3.3-1**
- Released on: **Tue 05-Mar-2024**
- Powered by python3, tkinter, gnuplot, pydicom

Features

- modern and intuitive design
- Input editor for error free inputs
- Interactive geometry editor, photorealistic ray tracer and debugger
- run and monitor the simulation
- back-end for post-processing of results
- I/O of other simulation formats (MCNPX,GDML,...)
- Medical file importing, DICOM, RT-PLAN,DOSE,...
- extended material library

Microscopic process modeling for macroscopic quantity assessment

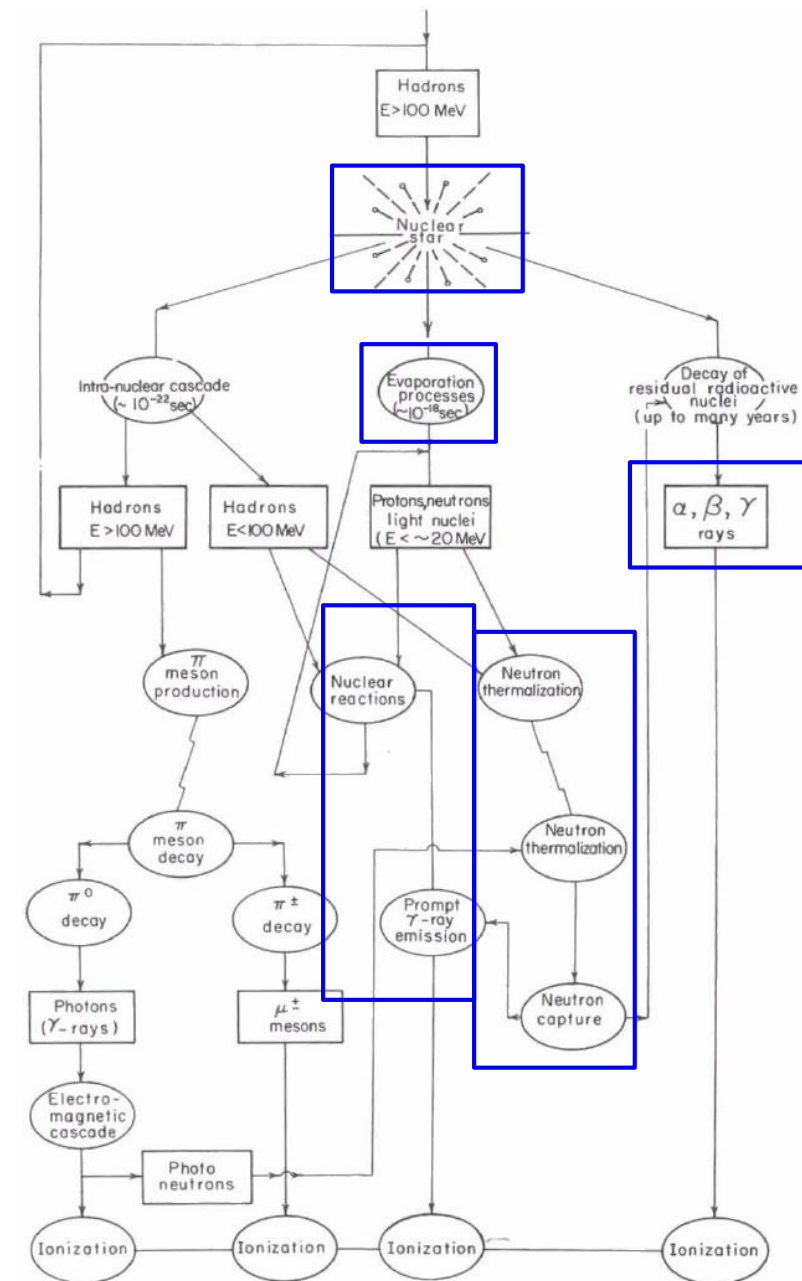
A (hadronic) shower implies a lot of different physics processes, touching a very broad energy [time-space] scale

Its description relies on the organic integration of diverse **theories and models**, and requires as essential pieces of **information**:

- reaction cross sections
- exclusive fragment production
- nuclide structure and decay data
- evaluated quantities of neutron induced reactions

Monte Carlo simulation is an effective way to calculate **macroscopic quantities** (such as energy deposition, dpa, particle fluence, activation and residual dose rate) with an accuracy reflecting the quality of the implementation of critical processes

Multipurpose codes are widely available: FLUKA, GEANT4, MCNP, PHITS, MARS...



FLUKA capabilities

- hadron-hadron and hadron-nucleus interactions
- nucleus-nucleus interactions (including deuterons!)
- photon interactions (>100 eV)
- electron interactions (> 1 keV; including electronuclear)
- muon interactions (including photonuclear)
- neutrino interactions
- low energy (<20 MeV) neutron interactions and transport
- particle decay
- ionisation and multiple (single) scattering (including all ions down to 1 keV/u)
- coherent effects in crystals (channelling)
- magnetic field, and electric field in vacuum
- combinatorial geometry and lattice capabilities
- voxel geometry and DICOM importing
- analogue or biased treatment
- on-line build-up and evolution of induced radioactivity and dose
- built-in scoring of several quantities (including DPA and dose equivalent)

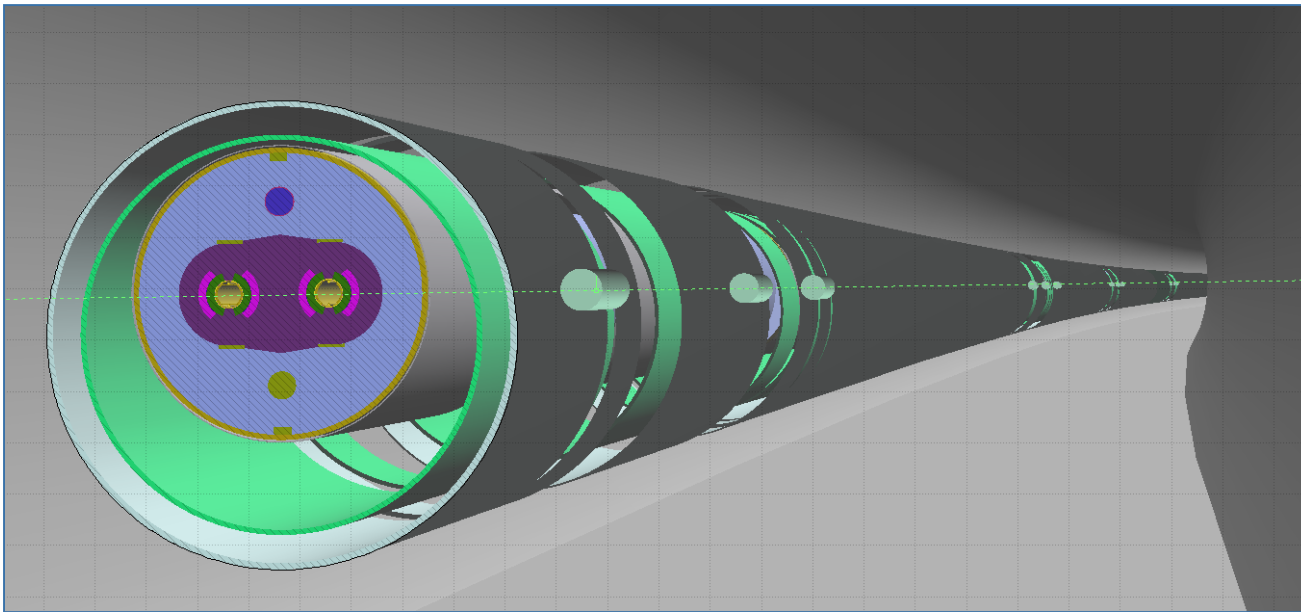
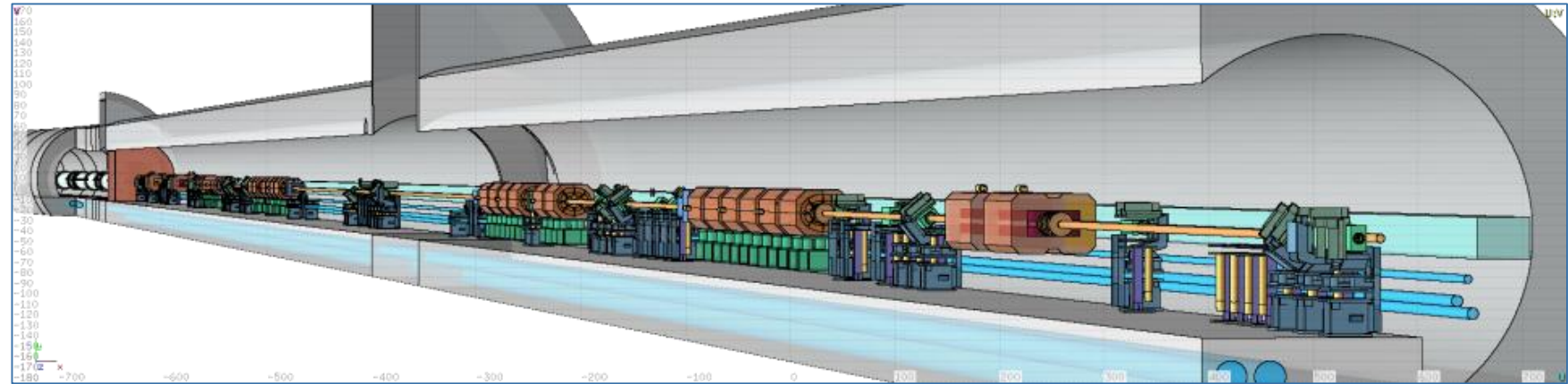
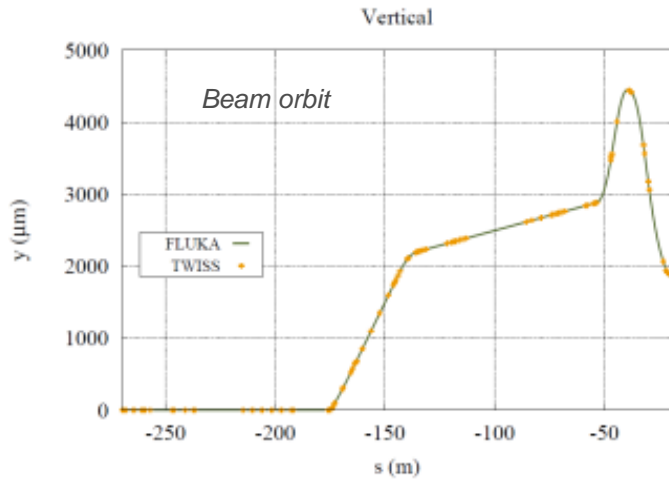
In support of a
wide range of applications

- ✓ Accelerator design
- ✓ Particle physics
- ✓ Cosmic ray physics
- ✓ Neutrino physics
- ✓ Medical applications
- ✓ Radiation protection (shielding design, activation)
- ✓ Dosimetry
- ✓ Radiation damage
- ✓ Radiation to electronics effects
- ✓ ADS systems, waste transmutation
- ✓ Neutronics

Some examples

Accelerator geometries

LHC IR7 long straight section



From **detailed models of accelerator components with associated scoring** and the **element sequence and respective magnetic strengths**, as given in the **machine optics (twiss) files**...

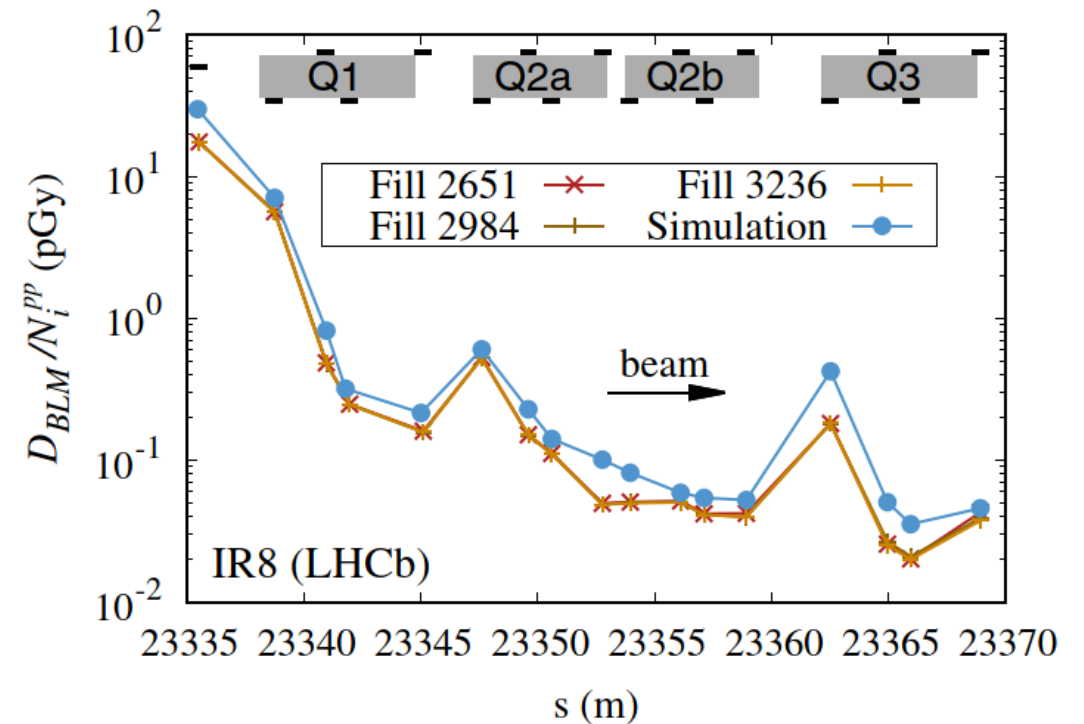
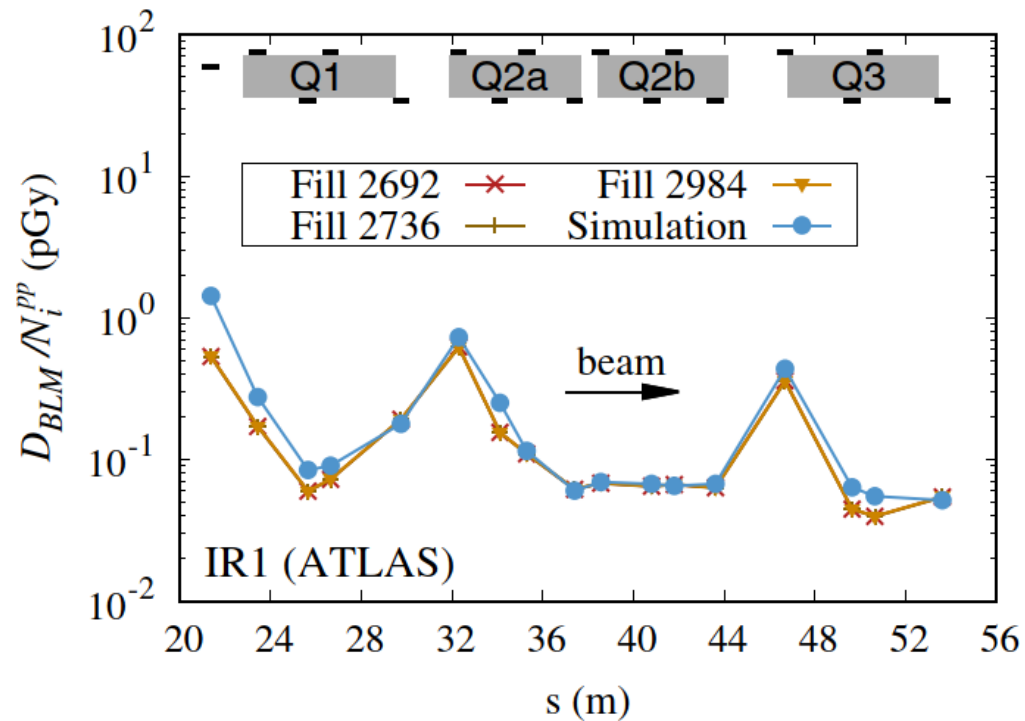
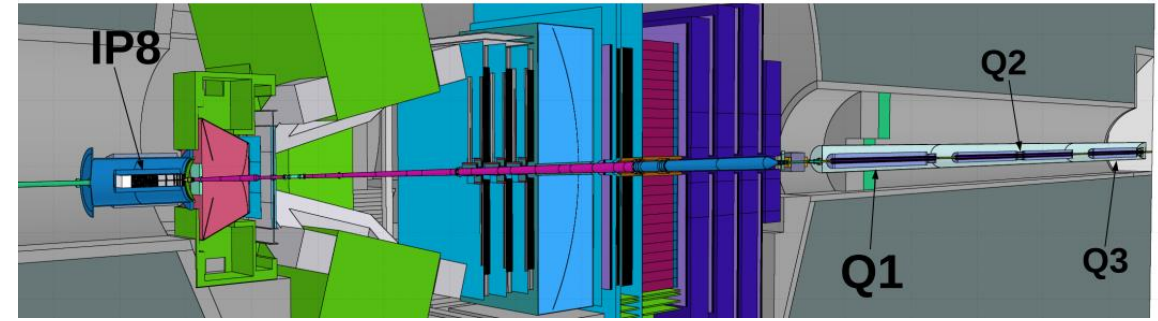
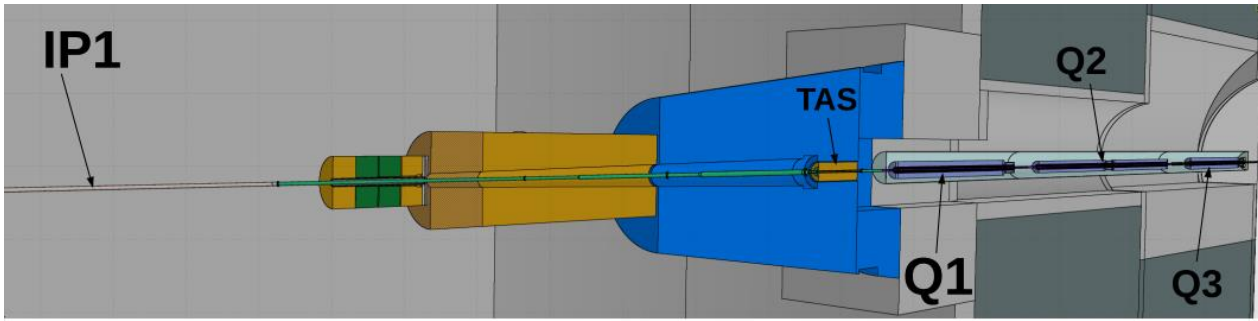
...the **automatic construction of complex beam lines**, including collimator settings and element displacement (BLMs), is achievable, profiting from roto-translation directives and replication (lattice) capabilities.

LINE BUILDER

[A. Mereghetti et al., IPAC2012, WEPPD071, 2687]
cds.cern.ch/record/1481554

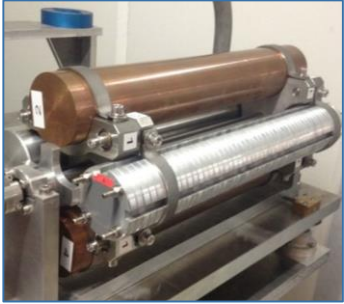
Beam loss description at the LHC

[A. Lechner et al.,
Phys. Rev. AB 22 (2019) 071003]



Activation benchmarking

@ CERN SHIELDING BENCHMARK FACILITY (24 GeV/c p)

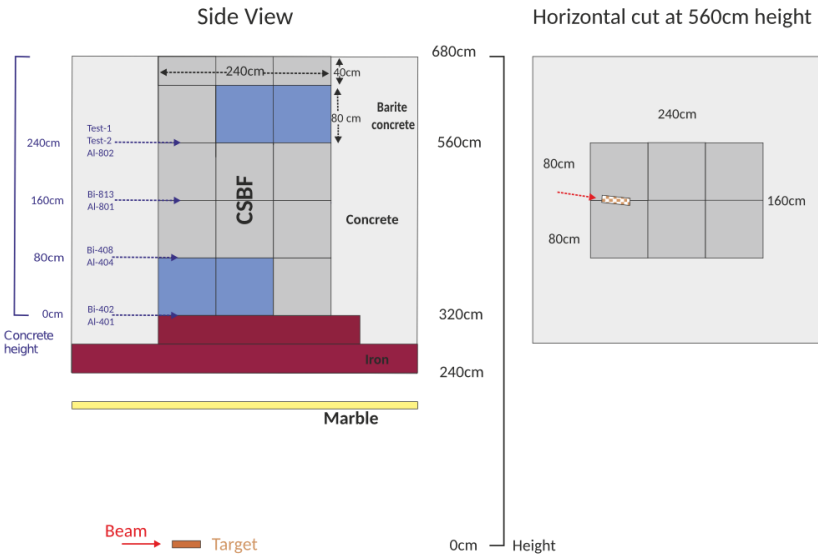


@ CHARM (CERN High energy **A**ccelerator **M**ixed field facility, to study radiation effects on electronic components)

5 x 10¹¹ protons/pulse, 350ms pulse length, max. average beam intensity 6.6 x 10¹⁰ p/s
three 50cm long 8cm diameter targets: Copper, Aluminum, Aluminum with holes

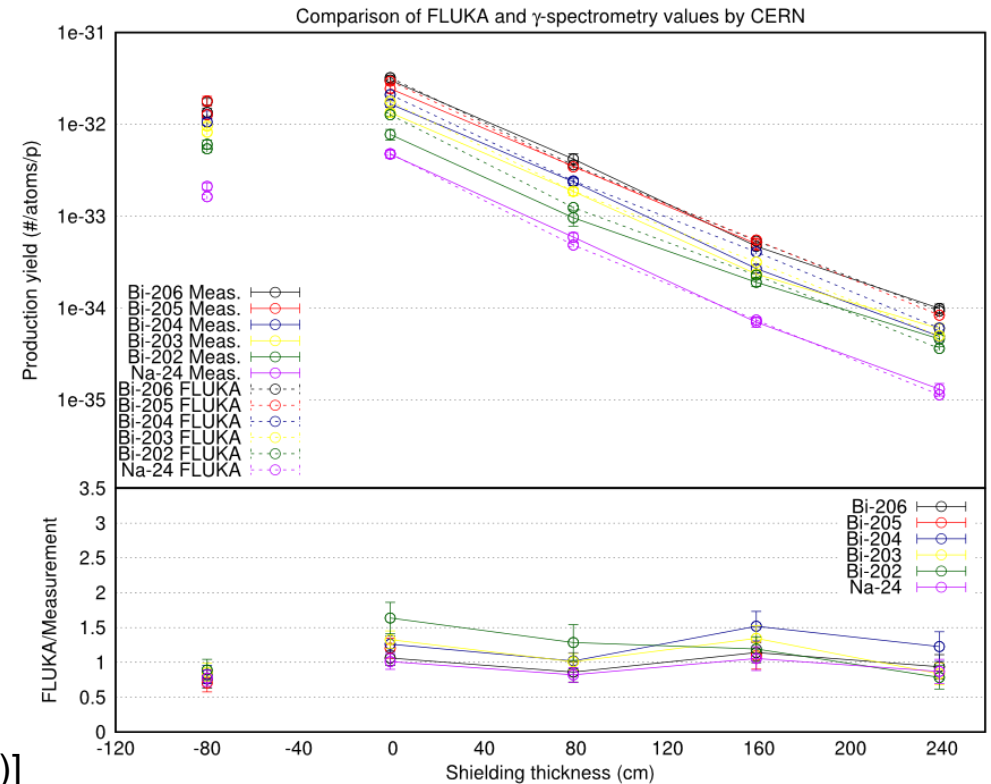
Situated laterally above the CHARM target for deep shielding penetration studies (Detector calibration, Detector inter-comparison, Activation)

360cm of concrete and barite concrete plus 80cm of cast iron

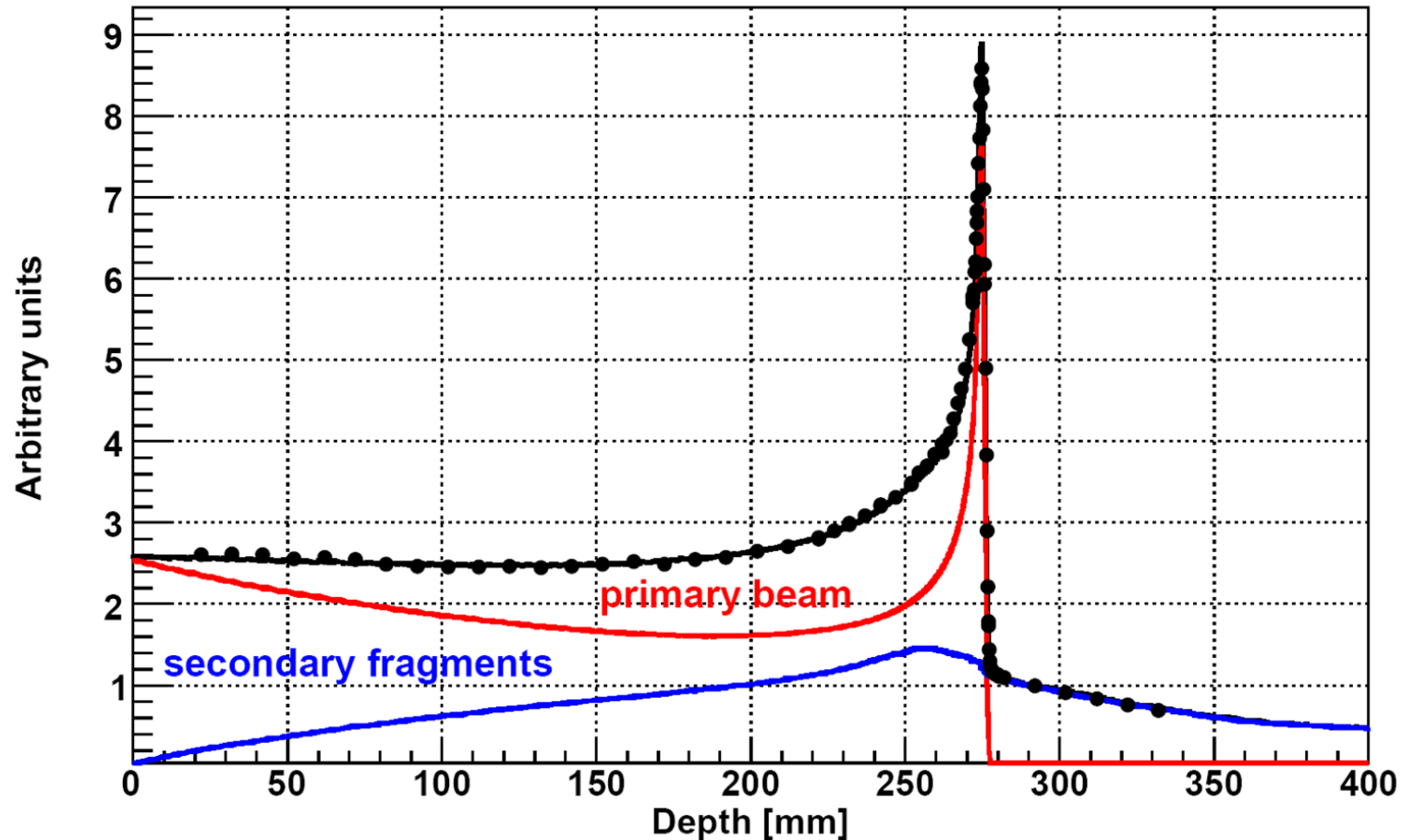


11 Bismuth and Aluminum samples at different heights in CSBF and also inside CHARM (@ -80cm) →

[E. Iliopoulou et al., J. Phys. Conf. Ser. 1046 012004 (2018)]



Medical physics: radiotherapy



Bragg peak in a water phantom
400 MeV/A C beam:
The importance of fragmentation

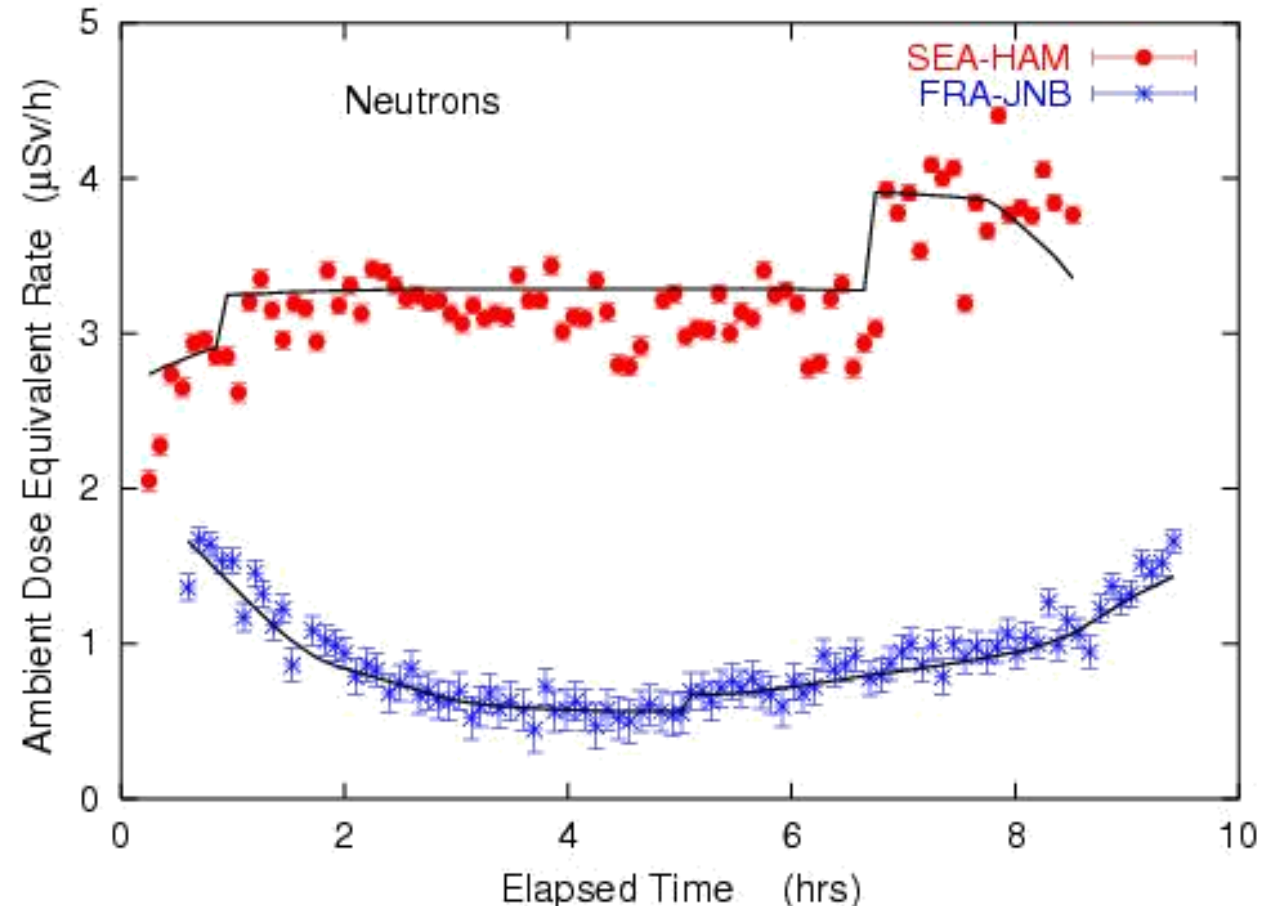
[Exp. Data (points) from Haettner et al, Rad. Prot. Dos. 122 (1-4) (2006) pp 485-487

Simulation: A. Mairani PhD Thesis (2007) and G. Battistoni et al., Nuovo Cimento C 31 (2008) pp 69-75]

Dosimetry and cosmic rays

- Complete simulation of **cosmic ray** interactions in the atmosphere, by means of a **dedicated CR package available to users**
- Model of airplane geometry
- Response of dosimeters

Ambient dose equivalent from neutrons at solar maximum on commercial flights from Seattle to Hamburg and from Frankfurt to Johannesburg



[Data: V. Mares, et al., NIM A 476 (2002), pp 341–346

Solid lines: FLUKA simulation

S. Roesler et al., Rad. Prot. Dosim. 98 (2002) pp 367-388]

Course programme

Course programme

- A very **hands-on** course
- Almost all lectures come with an attached **exercise** session
- The course is **Flair-based**
- Plenty of opportunities to practice the workflow
- The entire teacher team is available to offer assistance during the exercise sessions
- All exercise solutions are explained and provided

Schedule of the week (times may vary slightly)

8:30 Registration	8:30 Geometry editor	8:30 EM interactions and thresholds	8:30 Neutrons	8:30 Radioprotection / Activation
8:45 Introduction to FLUKA	9:15 Exercise Geometry editor	9:15 Exercise EM int. / thresholds	9:30 Exercise Neutrons	9:30 Exercise Radioprotection / Activation
9:30 Students introduction	10:15 Coffee break	10:15 Coffee break	10:30 Coffee break	10:30 Coffee break
9:50 MC Basics	10:45 Scoring I	10:45 Scoring II	11:00 Biasing	11:00 Wrap-up exercise
10:50 Coffee break	11:40 Exercise Scoring I	11:45 Exercise Scoring II	11:45 Exercise Biasing	12:00 W-U exercise solution
11:15 Basic input & Flair				
12:45 Lunch	12:45 Lunch	12:45 Lunch	12:45 Lunch	12:30 Lunch
14:00 Geometry	14:00 Sources & preprocessor	14:00 Geometry II	14:00 Source routine	13:30 Course evaluation
15:00 Exercise Geometry	14:45 Exercise Sources & preprocessor	14:45 Exercise Geometry II	14:45 Exercise Source routine	14:00 Overview of advanced topics
16:00 Coffee break	16:00 Coffee break	15:45 Coffee break	15:45 Coffee break	15:00 Coffee break and END
16:30 Materials	16:20 Electric & magnetic fields	16:15 Hadron Physics	16:15 Standard output & errors	
17:00 Exercise Materials	16:50 Exercise electric & magnetic fields		17:00 Exercise Standard output & errors	
18:00 END	18:00 END	17:00 END	18:00 END	
→ 20:30 Social Dinner				

Restaurante "Chacabuco"
Av. de la Constitución 205, Torrejón de Ardoz

In conclusion...

- While a beginner course, by the end of the week you will be able to tackle even not-so-simple problems
- Let us know of any technical/installation problems ASAP
- Do not hesitate to ask questions and to ask for help! 😊

